SIX TIMES A CHAMPION

Photo by Tony Rees, Hassle

finest equipment by John Jaques
Cometh the hour

To recover from being 1-3 down in the Federal German tournament of Munster and win 4-3 to inflict not only defeat but demotion on their hosts, speaks volumes for the fighting spirit of England's team in the Super Division of the European League.

Up to their meeting with Czechoslovakia, at Horwich Leisure Centre, Bolton, on January 19, the chances of England maintaining contact with the elite seemed remote indeed. But that 6-1 win over the Czechs, unbelievable as it was, created the necessary morale boost.

It could have had its effect in Portsmouth, where the English team, under the guidance of Brian Rush and Krieger, won by 5-2, but, in a match brought forward from Mar 3, accounted for Austria 6-1 in Galway on Feb 17. Only in the final set of this latter engagement did Ireland relax their grip when Kevin Evans succeeded to Gunter Müller, Scores: —

1: N. v. Slobbe lost to G. Müller -12, -16, -15; —
2: M. Constantini lost to J. Zeman -19, -19, -20; —
3: S. Bosi bt P. Mitev -12, -19; —
4: P. Mitev bt D. Constantini -15, -14; —
5: S. Bosi lost to G. Müller -18, -18, -17; —
6: N. v. Slobbe lost to G. Müller/Grepper -11, -11, -14; —

All scores in these matches were -21, -12, -10, -14, -12, -11 -18 -22 -19.

To recover from being 1-3 down in the German league, England beat Poland away in their final match to stay in touch with Luxembourg for the title. At 4-3, Poland would win if they beat England, but, in a match brought forward from Mar 3, England, unbeatable as it was, created the necessary morale boost.

The former champions went down to their fifth defeat of the season, beaten 5-2 by France in the Super Division of the European League. The fifth defeat of the season, beaten 5-2 by France on Feb 10, only after the decisive 4-0 lead did France allow their appetites into the picture when, in the mixed, Anton Stipancic and Enezet Secretin triumphed over Dragutin Surbek and Dragutin Srurcek. By this stage, England were down 3-0, with only one match left to play. The match was played in front of a sell-out crowd of 4,500.

The match ended in a 3-3 draw, with England winning the second singles, 19, 17, over Andree Hartmann. But only after the fifth defeat of the season, beaten 5-2 by France in the Super Division of the European League

DEFIANCE CREATED

Although at pains to preserve their unbeaten record in the Super Division of the European League, Hungary's 4-3 win over England (reported elsewhere in this issue) should have created the incentive for them to defeat Czechoslovakia in their final match and take over the title from Yugoslavia.

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The match ended in a 3-3 draw, with England winning the second singles, 19, 17, over Andree Hartmann. But only after the
Barbara Kierney, the Australian WS winner, has produced African coaches in conjunction with the ITTF. It organised a Coaches' Seminar in Egypt to improve the level and standard of performance of African coaches. The Chinese, the ATTF realised the importance of coaches to many African countries on a technical level. This has helped to raise the standard of African Table Tennis. The ATTF has also sent assistance programmes to Africa. This has helped to raise the standard of African Table Tennis.

In the auspices of the Supreme Council of Sports in Luxembourg, Switzerland, Spain, and Japan, the ATTF has sent coaches to Africa. This has helped to raise the standard of African Table Tennis.

In conclusion, the ATTF appreciates the contribution of the People's Republic of China, who have within the last four years sent coaches and officials to many African countries on a technical assistance programme. This has helped to raise the level and standard of performance of African coaches. As a supplement to the efforts of the Chinese, the ATTF realised the importance of producing African coaches. It organised a Coaches' Seminar in Egypt last August. This year's seminar will be held in Senegal and Nigeria, the former under the auspices of the ITTF. The latter is under the auspices of the Supreme Council of Sports in Africa.

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TTN

Page 3
According to the photographs, the event was held at a local country club. A recent table tennis international between Holland and Ireland was held near the Silverwood estate, and after the match, Keane, 17 years old and current Irish No. 1, would have no hesitation in playing again in England as he regards Ireland's best ever player. Kevin Ireland's greatest ever lady player.

A spokesman for the Dutch said: "We certainly think Ireland was second to none, with respect to playing, but it took the Dutch side just 75 minutes to demolish the Irish squad. Jimmy Langan was beaten in three sets by Dutchman Bert van Der Helm, and Kevin Keane was no match for Nico van Sloke who won in straight games."

The player who really shone was 16-year-old Bettine Vischoop who disposed of Karen Senior in straight games. Bettine raced to a 21-3 victory in the first game and won the second 21-16.

CONTROVERSY

by John Ford

Any sort of breakthrough for table tennis in the popular national press is more than welcome, so let us hope that Chester Barnes's witty, chatty column in "The Sun" is here to stay, even after the World Championships. Chester and "The Sun" are clearly seeking stories that will give table tennis readers a second reason for buying the newspaper other than the popular photographic reproductions on Page 3.

Chester and myself are, as far as I know, the only two scribblers who have been able to handle the game's news into a digestible form. The two columns are now updated daily. Chester's words are the over-riding factor.

Despite all the sweat, toil, tears and trouble, I believe the World Championships now almost here, is going to be the greatest success ever seen in table tennis. From every angle, especially financial, the latest ticket sales indicate it could even be a sell-out for every day's play from the start. The enormous and successful support for Chester during the World Championships was the result of his view shared by many that the greatest problem will be the power of perception, a man of great experience in world events. Having seen officially, working 18 hours a day at Sarajevo and Munich with considerable success, the army of administrators may not be large enough.

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Page 4
Serving up a style of play that belied his 32 years and augurs well for the forthcoming World Championships, Denis Neale, for a record sixth time, won the men's singles title of the Norwich Union English Championships, at Woking Leisure Centre, on February 19, beating Desmond Douglas, the defending champion and 11 years his junior, by 3 games to 1.

Only after going into a 2-0 lead did Neale allow himself a breather before reasserting his dominance that had prevailed throughout the opening games, particularly the second. The threat posed by Carol Knight to deny Jill Hammersley a fifth successive win in the women's singles duly came about although it took the Cleveland girl five games to clinch the issue and let out a shriek of delight.

Time and again in a protracted final Mrs. Hammersley returned the ball at a height convenient for Miss Knight to employ her powerful loop drive which, otherwise than when she overhit, often left her opponent stranded.

Not so in the women's doubles when more co-ordinated play brought a retention of title for Jill and Linda Howard over Carol and Melody Laid. The only other title to be retained was the men's doubles, Douglas and Neale, combining their talents to finally dispose of a game Nicky Jarvis and Jimmy Walker.

Youth triumphed over experience in the final of the mixed doubles, played on the Friday evening, when 18-years-old Paul Day and Mrs. Howard beat Neale and Mrs. Hammersley, in truth, it was a lobbing performance by the older pair who, as second seeds, had their way cleared by the removal of the title holders, Douglas and Miss Howard, also by Day and Laid.

It was quite a tournament for the Bradford girl who, in the quarters of the women's singles, came back from two very decisive reverses, and from being 13-17 down in the fifth, to beat Linda Howard. Linda was seeded No. 4 and Karen Witt at No. 3, also fell at the same stage to the honest endeavours of Susan Lisle.

Seeds of note not to reach their allotted positions in the semi-finals of the men's singles were Paul Day (3), who fell to Andy Barden, and John Hilton, who gave second best to Douglass Johnson. But it was Jarvis, bad back and all, who came through in Hilton's quarter to put paid to the ambitions of the young Warwickshire defender and put up quite a show before surrendering to Douglas.

Neither Douglas nor Neale dropped a game in reaching the final, Neale, in top gear from the outset, disposing of Maxwell Crimmins, "Cosmo" Graham, Chris Rogers, Alan Fletcheer and Barden, Douglas had the benefit of a walk-over, with Tony Clayton an absentee, before getting down to business against David Tan, Bob Porson, Nigel Eckersley and the brave Jarvis.

One interesting result from the qualifying competition was the win of 12-years-old Mark Oakley over Keith Buckle, the Press Secretary of P.A.T.T.

Results:

Men's Singles—Round 3
D. Douglas (Wa) bt R. Potter (E') 17, 12, 19.
N. Eckersley (Ch) bt J. Walker (Cv) 18, 12, 15.
N. Jarvis (Cv) bt M. Mitchell (Mi) 21, 12, 17, 14, 18.
D. Johnson (Wa) bt J. Hilton (Ch) 17, 16, 17, 13.
P. Day (Ca) bt D. Munro (Wa) 9, 8, 11, 13.
A. Barden (Mi) bt J. Kitchener (80) 14, 13, 15, 20.
A. Fletcher (Y) bt J. Horsham (Es) 20, 6, 15.
D. Neale (Cv) bt C. Rogers (Le) 15, 18, 11.
Quarters—Finals
Douglas bt Eckersley 16, 12, 21.
Jarvis bt Johnson 15, 20, 19.
Barden bt Day 15, 14, 17.
Neale bt Fletcher 12, 8, 15.
Semi—Finals
Douglas bt Jarvis 16, 12, 21.
Neale bt Barden 16, 17, 21.
Final
NEALE bt Douglas 10, 17, 19.
Women's Singles—Round 2
J. Hammersley (Bu) bt S. Hunt (Le) 19, 6, 14, 7.
S. Vasson (Bv) v. J. Williams (Cv) scr.
M. Laid (Ch) bt A. Gordon (Es) 9, 11, 13, 20.
K. Witt (Bk) bt J. Mitchell (Sy) 12, 18, 11.
L. Howard (Sy) bt A. Stevenson (Le) 20, 12, 10.
M. Laid (Y) bt B. Chamberlain (Bu) 10, 15, 15.
S. Jones (By) bt K. Mashford (MD) 15, 15, 18.

GET THAT CHAMPION TACKINESS FEELING
C. Knight (Cv) bt A. Mitchell (Mi) 17, 18, 14.

Quarter-finals

Hammersley bt Hession -16, 17, 14, 14.
Lisle bt Witt 11, -17, 18, 19.
Liddle bt Howard 7, -9, 18, 21.
Knight bt Jones 7, 10, 7.

Semi-finals

Hammersley bt Lisle 16, 12, 12.
Knight bt Liddle 17, 6, 10.

Final

Knight bt Hammersley 14, -19, 13, -19, 14.

Men's Doubles—Quarter-finals

Douglas/Neale bt D. Issatt (E)/Mitchell 15, 14, 11.
Kitchener/Tan (Mi) w.o., Hilton/C. Sewell (Av) scr.
Jarvis/Walker bt Johnson/D. Munt (Wa) 18, 15, 19.
Barber/Day bt D. Newman (E)/D. Reeves (Bk) 10, 14, 16, 14.

Semi-finals

Douglas/Neale bt Kitchener/Tan 17, 13, 11.
Jarvis/Walker bt Barber/Day 24, -18, 17, 18.

Final

DOUGLAS/NEALE bt Jarvis/Walker 15, 11, 15.

Women's Doubles—Quarter-finals

Hammersley/Howard bt L. Barrow (E)/M. Walker (Mi) 7, 22, 14.
Lisle/Stevenson bt Chamberlain/Gordon 14, 14, 14.
A. Mitchell/Witt w.o., Mashford/C. Reeves (Bk) scr.
Knight/Liddle w.o., first round opponents both scratched.

Semi-finals

Hammersley/Howard bt Lisle/Stevenson 13, 9, 10.
Knight/Liddle bt Mitchell/Witt 20, 14, 9.

A kiss for Carole Knight, winner of the Women's Singles, from the E.T.T.A's Deputy Chairman, George Yates. Photo by Allan Batchelor, Cranleigh, Surrey.

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Ron Crayden (left) receives the Geoffrey Hargreave Trophy from two former world champion, Johnny Leach. Photo by Allan Batchelor, Cranleigh, Surrey.

I feel I must take him to task on a statement he makes that exceeds descriptive licence. He writes about players returning shots some 60 feet behind the table and carrying on a breathtaking rally. A full international arena is rarely more than 10 feet long with a run-back that is around the 20 feet mark! This is, however, only a small point in an otherwise first-class presentation that is well worth seeing and it is laced with commonsense, easy to read and is studied with sound logic. He has resisted the temptation to shock his readers or even to contradict modern thinking on the game.

Personally, I would have liked more space to do justice to the players prepared to serve. The tension could almost be heard, seen and felt as Denis went 10-18 and then 20-19. One point for three-all with Denis to the fore. The moment will live for a long time in the minds of everyone present and come! That moment will live for a long time in the minds of everyone present.

With the match fee covered by I.B.M., Ltd., the Portsmouth League showed a handsome profit for a still very successful campaign, but I do believe they would have sacrificed it all for the opportunity to cheer an England victory.

Scores:

D. Neale lost to G. Gergely 15 - 14, -15.
D. Douglas bt I. Jonyer 14, 15.
C. Knight lost to J. Magos 18, -9.
D. Douglas bt G. Gergely 15, 16.
D. Douglas bt G. Gergely 15, 16.
D. Neale bt Jonyer 19, -21, -17.
D. Douglas bt Gergely 15, 16.

BOOK REVIEW
ADVANCED TABLE TENNIS
TECHNIQUES
by Chester Barnes
Published by Anns & Robertson (U.K.) Ltd.

If this book is a guide to character then Chester Barnes, for so long 'enfant terrible' of English table tennis, has matured, or at least is charting a course that runs strangely parallel with the establishment. Drawing on his vast experience of international play, Chester has written a book that is laced with commonsense, easy to read and is studied with sound logic. He has resisted the temptation to shock his readers or even to contradict modern thinking on the game.

Personally, I would have liked more space to do justice to the players prepared to serve. The tension could almost be heard, seen and felt as Denis went 10-18 and then 20-19. One point for three-all with Denis to the fore. The moment will live for a long time in the minds of everyone present and come! That moment will live for a long time in the minds of everyone present.

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D. Neale bt Jonyer 19, -21, -17.
D. Douglas bt Gergely 15, 16.
There was more than the usual enthusiasm from spectators at the 11th National School Team Championship finals—organised by the English Schools' Table Tennis Association and sponsored by Stiga AB—held at Lea Green, Matlock, on Saturday, February 12th.

Several of the 21 teams involved were well supported and mention must be made of Aston Manor School, Birmingham who, although they finished third in the Boys' Under-13 event, were supported by no less than 10 members of staff!

Millom School stole the headlines, winning two more events Boys' U-19 and Girls' U-16) to add to their previous two different titles. This feat must rank them as the premier school club in the country.

Four of the seven events (for 4-a-side teams) were being defended but none of the holders met with any success and there were first national titles for Shropshire (Meole Brace Modern, Shrewsbury), Devon (Littleham Junior, Exmouth) and West Yorkshire (Wibsey Middle, Bradford).

Tolworth Girls', who were so narrowly defeated in last year's final, found more than adequate compensation by winning the Senior Girls' Trophy. London, neighbours, Lister Comprehensive, maintained the London Borough of Newham's tremendous record of a winner in every finals since the inaugural competition in 1967, although Brampton Manor's two teams were both defeated.

This was the third consecutive year that the finals had taken place at Lea Green and thanks are extended to the Principal, Peter Townend, and his staff, for their cooperation and hospitality.

Over 50 players stayed overnight to take part in a coaching course under the direction of E.S.T.T.A. Staff Coach, Peter Hirst.

**Boys' Under-13**

1. MİLŁO'M (Cumbria)
   - Chris Reed, Neil Smith, Ian Reed, Declan Grey.

2. Beverley Boys' New Malden (Surrey Metropolitan)
   - Stephen Boxall, Peter Brunton, Muhammad Ramji, David Hillson, Peter Manning.

3. Washwood Heath, Birmingham (West Midlands)

**Girls' Under-13**

1. TOLWORTH GIRLS' (Surrey Metropolitan)

Continued on Page 12

**Malcolm Green, of Meole Brace Modern School, Shrewsbury, receives the President's Trophy (for the boys' best performance) from E.S.T.T.A. Vice-President and Press Officer, David Lomas. Malcolm was unbeaten throughout all stages of the competition.**

**Stiga Marketing Executive, Martin Fouster, presents Stephanie Jones, of Highfields School, with the 'Stiga Award' for the best girls' performance.**

**First-ever West Yorkshire winners, Wibsey Middle School, Bradford, who were presented with the Hartshill Cup by Lea Green's Principal, Peter Townend.**
**Photographic Coverage by John O'Sullivan.**

Continued from Page 10

2. Highfields, Wolverhampton (West Midlands)
   (Stephen Jones, Beverley Pike, Frances Carr, Elizabeth Ford, Janine Allerton).
3. Roundhay, Leeds (West Yorkshire)
   (Cathryn Haworth, Jane Guanaria, Carole Ingram, Susa Timothy).
4. Highfields, Roundhay 5, Tolworth 6
   (Ivor Wegee, Keith Collins, John Cleary, Stephen Duddell).
5. Queen Elizabeth's Boys', Highfields, Wolverhampton
   (Adam Proffitt, Nicholas Iron, Mark McCarthy, Simon Mortimer).
6. Allerton Grange, High, Leeds (West Yorkshire)
   (David Roseman, David Gee, Ivan, Lewis, Neil Edgecock, David Aspinall).
7. Lister Comprehensive, Newbury
   (Adam Sanchez, John Fox, Sam O'Brien, Alex Smith).
8. Millom
   (Gail Smith, Elaine Mathie, Jan Sephton, Bella Gray).
9. Highfields, Wolverhampton (West Midlands)
   (Siân Watson, Shirley Cain, Joanne Chubb, Kathryn Hayhurst, Lucy Taylor).
10. Highfields, Wolverhampton (West Midlands)
    (Siân Watson, Shirley Cain, Joanne Chubb, Kathryn Hayhurst, Lucy Taylor).
11. Brampton Manor Comprehensive, Newham
    (Maxine Abbott, Janice Collings, Sharon Deal, Jeannette Watts).
12. Highfields, Brampton Manor 1, Millom 2
    (Theresa Ainsworth, Jeanette Watts).
13. Lister Comprehensive, Newham
    (Stephen Edwards, Ian Attridge, Terry Pasei, Sultán Zuberti, Kamlesh Pithia).
14. The King's School, Grantham (Lincolnshire)
    (Christopher Bryan, Simon Fuller, Richmond Measures, Timothy Breeden).

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NO MORE JOKES
It is very hard to know where to start replying to Mr. Woodford, so full of holes are his arguments. His column headed "Controversy" seems to have been taken over by the Establishment if Mr. Woodford's enthusiasm with all they do is anything to go by, and his support for the fast-talking Tom Blunn is evidence of his confusion. Far from my point on the balance of trade being wrecked by Tom's "answer", it is actually strengthened. Maybe the gift of cash and goods is not an import, but to say it is "equivalent to an export" makes me wonder whether Tom thinks all the table tennis public are morons. For Mr. Woodford to accept this nonsense does him no credit.

Both Tom Blunn and John Woodford rely heavily on the suggestion that the players to whom I have spoken were not given "the interpretation of both sides" and "the correct version", but as I said in my last letter, there were no details available from the E.T.T.A., or contained in Tom's article, upon which any right-minded person could form a conclusion.

It is remarkable how people such as Mr. Woodford, who are used to lashing out in view of an attack on them, I have stood back at my letter, but apart from a little hyperbole, I do not appear to have said anything nasty about anybody. Would Mr. Woodford pull up all criticism of himself from the E.T.T.A.? He even dredged up out of my letter something that was not in it and proceeded to make what he obviously believed to be a very amusing riposte. There is something about his mind that is a suggestion, but a suggestion, which I defy him to disprove, that I 'meet many more players than Mr. Woodford'.

The last word on this Stiga v Jaques controversy was spoken to me by my Essex colleague, Graham Blomfield. He said: "Ask John Woodford whether he thinks that if the World Championships were to be held in Stockholm they would use Jaques tables!"

If I may be permitted a few more times to answer Ron Vine, I would comment that he must have a very poor sense of humour if he saw my little joke about Eastbourne as "unprovoked offensive remarks". On the basis of what he said in the December issue when he was himself arguing with John Woodford, he has little interest in the World Championships. As it happens, Ron, I have nothing against Eastbourne the Town, or Sussex the County. I went to school in Hove and have been a fanatical supporter of Sussex County Cricket Club and Brighton and Hove Albion since I was 10 years old. However, I am sorry if I upset you and in the future will not make jokes about Sussex.

ALAN SHEPHERD.

A NEW WELSH JUNIOR OPEN
As part of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Celebrations, the Welsh Association will run its first Welsh Junior Open Tournament, at the National Sports Centre, Cardiff, venue of the highly successful Stiga Welsh Open.

The date is Saturday, June 11th, when all five events—boys' and girls' singles and doubles and mixed—will be played throughout the day.

Special Silver Jubilee Medals will be awarded, in addition to valuable prizes. The event is sponsored by Wills Faber & Co.,

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SCOTLAND: Coaches will be given video films also available. There will be a tournament with good quality

DATES
Players can book for either one, two or three weeks, 25th to 30th July, 1st to 6th August, or 8th to 13th August. Players are asked to arrive at the Castle for lunch 12.30 p.m. on Monday and departures will be after breakfast on Saturday. Further details including how to apply for grant aid are available from Alan Ransome, Courte Green, Tees Sport Summer School, 6 Baker Street, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, 24 hour answering service on Middlesbrough 34960.

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No Losers
by Geoff Newman

In a match between Essex and the International Club, in aid of mentally handi-
capped children, played at Athlon Boys' Club, Walthamstow, on February 28, six of the younger boys players in the county fiercely competed against. Throughout the match there just wasn't a dull moment.

Every player tried his utmost, and as it turned out, all of them had a measure of success. For the record it was a close success for the Essex team (3-4) but on this occasion there were no losers. All six players deserve every plaudit for some really fantastic table tennis. Individual scores (Essex names first) were:

Bob Botton bt John Kitchener -21, 14; bt Mark Mitchell 13, 19; lost to Martin Shuttle 14, -13, 20;

Dave Newman bt Kitchener -17, 10, 18; lost to Mitchell -22, -14; bt Shuttle 22, 19;

Kevin Caidon lost to Kitchener -19, -18; bt Shuttle 15, -18, 19; lost to Mitchell -19, -20.

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Brian Burn

Nicky Jarvis
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SQUAD

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Excellent accommodation is provided in the beautiful and historic surroundings of Durham University. The standard of meals is extremely high being served in the Great Hall of the Castle which projects an atmosphere all its own. The bedrooms have been allocated in the most luxurious section of the University's accommodation. Play will take place in the large Sports Hall which is a few minutes walk from the Castle with Butterfly top grade tables in use.

SQUAD

There is something about his mind that is a suggestion, but a suggestion, which I defy him to disprove, that I 'meet many more players than Mr. Woodford'.

Ransome, Course Director, Tees Sport Summer School, 8 Baker Street, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, 24 hour answering service on Middlesbrough 34960.

TEES SPORT PRESENTS, in co-operation with Durham University, the Northern Region Sports Council and the Northumbria Tourist Board.

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COUNTY NOTES SUPPLEMENT

LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES

by Joan Robinson

The Senior County Team suffered a further setback in their Counties' Cup quest, losing 4-6 at Newcastle. Lincoln, succumbing to a spirited performance by Brian Allison winning his first County set. However, three other sets were decided in the third game, but all went to the home team.

The Junior 2nd team have completed their County fixtures in this their first season. Whilst only winning one match, the experience gained by the youngsters is invaluable. Their last match, against Hunt's, saw defeat for Michael Bradford (Bramford) and Debra Brown (Louth). The main highlight, which resulted in a win to Hunts 6-2, was the great performance by 12-year-old Carole Exton (Grantham) who played exceptionally well to beat Rachel Pickford 6-3, 6-0, 6-3.

Junior Girls, tin Idala Chamberlain 19-10, 10-6, 10-2.

The female side of Linca has the edge over the men, with Suzanne Hunt (Grantham) ranked in the Junior Girl List, 102nd, and U-13. The main highlight was a fantastic performance by Carole Exton (Grantham) who played exceptionally well to beat Rachel Pickford 6-3, 6-0, 6-3.

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NORTHANTS NOTES

by Dennis Millman

UNUSUAL SITUATION

As briefly reported in the February issue, Northamptonshire is currently enjoying the unusual situation of leading in two of the County Championships Divisions, thanks to some starring performances from the women, supported by Gary Alden and Keith Nicoll.

The First Team holds a slender lead in Div. 3 (East) and only needs to beat Beds, in the final fixture, to confirm promotion. In the Second Division, the Harrow team faces a qualifying fixture with Beds and Beds. The winners of this fixture will be promoted, and the runners-up will be relegated.

The positions at the top of the major leagues have changed somewhat of late, with the holders of the top divisions now certain to retain their titles. The Wellingborough Junior Competition’s attempt to discipline a lax Compton Nomads side by suspending each of the Nomads players in turn has produced an unfortunate turn of events. The subsequent rigorous schedule has so strengthened the Nomads side that they, not Wellingborough, could now take the title. However, Holtborough, beaten for the first time in four seasons, by Compton, have countered the scholastic by elevating Keith Nicoll to the ‘A’ side and this move could just tilt the scales at the end of the season.

THE SUFFOLK SCENE

by R. C. Langridge

SENIORS IN LINE FOR PROMOTION

With a most workmanlike 9-1 victory over Ipswich II, Belltree A have greatly enhanced their chances of gaining promotion from Div. 2 and another 7-3 win against the Over 35s at Ipswich II, solidified their position in the division.

In a fine all-round team performance, Debbie Wooton, our only loser, was a shade unfortunate to find her opponent, Ruth Newman, really playing at the peak of her form. John Stitteringham, Robert Holladay, Mick Palmer and Janet Falace, all superbly in
The Leatherhead and Epsom tournament, produced some stirring finals, despite the non-appearance of Shuttle and Crimmings, and final results were:

- M. F. David Hannah vs Brian Windett
- S. Lines (MK) vs J. Thomas (S) 15, 19.

**BUCrINGHAMSHIRE NOTES**

By Christopher Hillan

**ELUSIVE WIN**

Saturday, January 29, was the best find yet for our County teams for three seasons, when our first team "whitewashing" Camdenbridge 10-0 and, even more significantly, our senior first team gaining that elusive first win of the season in beating Cambus 6-4. Both matches were staged by the Aylesbury House at Maidenhead School, and the more superstitious members of our fold could well have come down for future use. But seriously, the main reason for our good form, from strugglers to winners lies in the improved form shown by our Established first team of Leslie and his confident team-mates, who keep a clean sheet in both Junior and Senior matches.

In the Junior match our confidence in fluctuated in the first two games, Leslie's clean sweep of wins during the first set, with the highlight being the success of the Harmer/Leslie 19, 17.

The Seniors hardly got off to the best of starts, but were determined to regain the title and by our staff side, who kept a clean sheet young Leslie, the defending champion, showed that he was not putting on a 'whitewash'. In fact, even his opponents were out of the picture as early as the third round, with the top seeds, a clean sheet and the highlight being the success of the Harmer/Leslie 19, 17.

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Polo registered another good away win when they beat Swindon 7-2. Abbott and Bonhman set them on the right road in the opening sets with victories over Frank Halley and Ken Harrison respectively. Karl Bushell pulled one back for Swindon when he beat Newman in the second set, but Polo took the next two with Abbott beating Harrison and Davies beating Bushell.

Bushell again applied the brake with a win over Robinson but the remaining three sets all went against the visitors. Weston, at home to Bristol, just managed it 5-4 from being 2-3 down. Jim Andrews and Joe Garland taking the last two sets.

A final reminder re the Open, to be held on April 28, at Chelmaun Sports Ground. Note we close on April 3 and forms can be had from me at 29 Cantrburhie Road, Newport, Mon. (Phone: Newport 1184).

**DERBYSHIRE NOTES**

Derbyshire had mixed fortunes in the first batch of County Champions at Alfreton on Bank Holiday Monday. The senior 1st team lost 3-7 to Grimsby, the women, Mandy Miller and Jackie Billington. Sadly the men were completely outclassed.

The senior 2nd team went to Newcastle and came away with a 6-1 win. 14-year-old Jill was one of the top juniors in the country and 10-year-old Ali recorded a 10, 10 win over her mother, Peggy.

For the third time in a row, the senior 3rd team lost 3-0 to Grimsby. The women, Marjory Terry, Marilyn Ainsworth and Alan Morrice completely outclassed the home side. Tony Hunt being the sole loser.

By the second round of the National Club Competition, on Saturday, met Evelyn Newlands, Paul Evans and Janice Hilditch, all from Lewes, who had Newman in great trouble. Both of them have been entered in the main event at last, but the two previous times they have gone either way at the scores indicate. If the final shows, the big question on the cards is which of the two main women teams will be the one to take the title.

For the third consecutive season, The Malcolm E. Scott Memorial Tournament (reserved) resulted in wins for Mrs. P. E. F. Wilson and Jill Harman at Poole. Mrs. Sugarbaker proved difficult to beat, but left out to bear hot temperatures (Wolverhampton). In the final, Sue Ford and 14-year-old Jill recorded a 10. 10 win over her mother, Peggy.

The County Closed Tournament, at Northwood, Stokenchurch-Triplets, are so far unbeaten, while Pottery 'B', Cannock 'A', Stone 'C', Stafford Vets and Lichfield 'B' are propelling the five divisions in that order. Much development.

The Malcolm E. Scott Memorial Tournament (reserved) resulted in wins for Mrs. P. E. F. Wilson and Jill Harman at Poole. Mrs. Sugarbaker proved difficult to beat, but left out to bear hot temperatures (Wolverhampton). In the final, Sue Ford and 14-year-old Jill recorded a 10. 10 win over her mother, Peggy.
I. Warner bt E. Hall 11, 17.

Final sound attacking shots, gained a lead, and success it was.

D. Yallop bt D. Foulds 12, 12.

M. MELLOR bt J. Billington 15, 16.

Women's Doubles-Final
YALLOP bt Warner 20, 16.

came through to win 21-16.

Women's Singles-Final
GREEN bt D. Yallop 21, 16.

fighting all the way, couldn't quite get into final without much difficulty. In the first game both players started off very hesitantly, had to be changed and the final outcome was Holmes was on top for an and never looked anything but a winner in beating Jane Raynor 14 and 8, and Eric Hall bt Maurice Askham 16, 10.

as expected, both players reached the final without much difficulty. In the first half, Ivor started off the most confidently and obtained a creditable draw. Continuing their youth policy, the County included the cost of both travel and entry die tails or a ticket should contact Mr. Viv.

COUNTY EARN FIRST POINT
Shropshire Sports Advisory Councils will hoped that table tennis events will be included in the list of school and the home team gained revenge, winning their doubles, whilst Eric Watts won two for Stroud. The writer lost both his singles, one of them 14, -16, -19 to Keith Winton who placed 1st. The return match was played at Thirlestane Hall, thanks to Chelsea Building Society, where Little again won two, Pouler and Mandle each won one, the former winning the doubles 11 and 16. Steve Munton won one as did Dave Chellens, the latter also winning their doubles, whilst Eric Watts won two for Shortlands.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE GALLERY
by Dave Foulser

Sylvia Giles was in stupendous form, winning her singles, whilst June Hall also beat Byrns. Sylvia Foulser, who was suffering from flu, Cathy Robb beat Mrs. J. Watts 15, 17, 15.

Shropshire juniors travelled to Avon and obtained a credible draw. Continuing their youth policy, the County included four juniors. Dave Harvey won his two first year title last month but the star of the evening was Martin Lane, whose combined ages exceed 100 years. The Mixed Doubles was won by Thomas and Grace Gee, who beat Chris Neal and 14-year-old Tracey Powell in the final.

Grace Gee won the Women's title for the third successful year in a row by over Tracey Powell. Albert Hiscock entered the English Open Cup at the first time, although eligible to partake many years ago, and duly beat last year's winner, Graham Chesham, in the final.

During the forthcoming summer, the Shropshire Sports Advisory Councils will again be organizing mini-Olympics. It is hoped that table tennis events will be included.

Table Tennis will also feature in the New Sports Festival to which will take place in March, April and May. The competing towns are Devizes, Dorkinh Sho, Tewkesbury and Telford.

THE RETURN OF THE CHAMPIONS
Although 16-year-old Malcolm Green had little success against Lane, Goode or Hodge, he very nearly caused a sensation, losing to Jane 19, -15, -19. Nick Matthews and Eric Watts had little success against Lane, Goode or Hodge.

Cheltenham's "B" also played two friendlies against Stroud B, drawing at home and winning 6-4 away. Clive Little was in superb form in the away match, beating both Willsher and Byrns.

Grace Gee, who beat Chris Neale 14, -8, and Eric Hall bt Maurice Askham 16, 10.

as teaming up with yours truly to take three for the home team. The return match was played at Thirlestane Hall, thanks to Chelsea Building Society, where Little again won two, Pouler and Mandle each won one, the former winning the doubles 11 and 16. Steve Munton won one as did Dave Chellens, the latter also winning their doubles, whilst Eric Watts won two for Shortlands.

The tournament was very well organized by the Shropshire Sports Centre and Arthur Morgan for the hard work put in to make the success it was.

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NORTHUMBERLAND NOTES  
by Pauline Jackson

VARIEe TORIES  
Saturday, January 26, proved to be a day of varying fortunes for the three Northumber­
land County teams.

The good news was that the first team finally dispelled any fears of relegation by
winning their own match against Lancashire at Poulton-le-Fylde with a 7-1 win. 

Britain's changing fortunes were highlighted by a draw between Cumbria Junior I and II teams.
Cumbria Junior I got back into their quarter-final win over the No. 3 seed, 
John Willis in the quarters. Ian Reed was the Clwyd No. 1, Alan Williams.

Their first win in the County Championships was gained at the Newcastle Schools' League Junior tournament.

The men's team, with morale sky-high after two successive victories to make this their most successful season for some years, were brought sharply back to earth by a competitive Derbyshire II side, losing by 9-1 in an afternoon match at the same venue.

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Junior Promotion Challenge, which could have meant some bad defeats for the team.

In the mixed, the local pair overcame the very young but confident of David Sharpe and
Joanne Palmer. The Fisher twins won the boys' doubles over Richer Jermyn and

HUNTINGDONSHIRE NOTES  
by David Defler

JUNIORS TO THE FORER

The County Junior's league lead the way this month with their first County win of the season and some good performances at the South East Midland League Junior tournament. 

Their first win in the County Championships was gained at the Newcastle Schools' League Junior tournament.

The pair won the Men's Doubles final, however, to No. 2 seed Kirkpatrick and
Stewart O'Neill (Carlisle). Jennifer O'Hara (Carlisle) and Miranda Gray were all unbeaten
in their singles against Tony Hunt, but the
Lancashire players figured in 5 of the
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CUMBRIA COMMENT  
by John Taylor

UP THE SCHOOL

Congratulations to Millom School who increased their number of National School titles to five in the past three seasons when their U-19 Boys' and U-16 Girls' teams carried off the Norman Cook and the Mick Batts Memorial Cups in the E.T.T.A. Finals at Les Green on February 12.

The Boys' U-19 team had two clear-cut victories and in their first match defeated Washwood Heath, Birming­ham; 6-2 and
then followed this with a 7-1 win in the title holder, Beverley School.
N. Maudlin. 

This latter match, as notable for
Chris Reed's victory, 21 in the third, over
England-ranked Junior, Stephen Boxall, who had beaten Chris in their three
previous meetings going to the semi-final of the E.U.-14 Championships three years ago.

The Girls' final match was a much closer affair, as any of the many Millom support­ers who made the long journey to cheer on the teams will testify to, and it was not until the very last game of the final set that Bella Gray, the youngest team member, 

The pair lost the Men's Doubles final, however, to No. 2 seed Kirkpatrick and
Stewart O'Neill (Carlisle). Jennifer O'Hara (Carlisle) and Miranda Gray were all unbeaten
in both games, whilst Ian Beophilia, playing very cautiously for safety, 

Some of the boys' doubles took place.

Belinda Chamberlain appeared in

the Centre for the S.E.M.L. Junior tournament which had provisionally been arranged
for April 16, at Hilton Square Recreation Centre.

The Northumberland Senior Closed tournament has now been completed and I am sure all players and officials would like to join me in thanking Phil Clark for the tremendous effort and hard work which he put into making this League the success it has proved. Leading finallists who went well were:

Senior League

Royal Grammar 8 1 1 0 99 21 17
Heaton 8 1 1 0 69 17 16
Benfield 8 1 1 0 27 23 13
St. Cuthbert's 8 1 1 0 71 26 12
Longbenton 8 1 1 0 36 34 10

Intermediate League

Royal Grammar 9 0 0 0 69 1 38
St. Cuthbert's 9 0 0 0 41 14

Junior League

Royal Grammar 5 4 0 1 35 15 9
St. Cuthbert's 5 3 1 1 12 18 7

The final Girls' league table was shown in the January issue.
THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE SCENE
by Leslie Constable

SEVERE SETBACK

Cambs. surprised all with their performance against Bedford, the county's longstanding nemesis. In the 5th round, they were faced with desperate efforts from Bedford, including Michael Harper, the defending champion. However, Cambs. staged a comeback to win 3-2 against Bedford's strong lineup, which included the likes of Steve Palmer and Keith Richardson.

In the Junior Division, Peterborough had a thrilling win over Ipswich, with a close score of 3-2 in favor of Peterborough. Peterborough's victory was led by Sally Hirst and Martin Murdien, while Ipswich's team was composed of Peterham, Belinda Chamberlain, and Karen Wooding. Peterborough's win was significant as they move towards the top of the league table.

Despite the losses, both teams look capable of avoiding relegation. Soham III pulled clear of relegation with a 2-1 win over Wisbech. They will be hoping to maintain their momentum in the upcoming rounds.

In the Women's Division, Cambridge Woman's League had an exciting weekend, with matches taking place at various locations. Cambridge's team comprised Speller, Jim Keynes, and Roughton, a promising young star, had two singles wins with the Men's Section.

Suffolk 7-3 in their vital relegation match against Ipswich. Cambridgeshire 2000 closed the season with a win against Ipswich, maintaining their position in the top division.

The Mid and West Counties League Tournament will be held at St. Neots on August 11.

SUSSEX NOTES
by John Woodford

STILL THE SUPREMO

Although the threat to Roger Chandler's supremacy continues, his success is evident in the recent performance of the Y.M.C.A. club in the East Anglian League. Chandler's team has won several matches, including a close 5-2 victory over Ipswich in the Men's Section.

Chandler remains the dominant force in the league, with a strong lineup of players such as G. A. Hirst and P. L. Smedley. His team's consistent performances over the past year have solidified their position at the top of the division, convincing many of his potential to surpass the formidable Kettering team.
strongly in the last game, but fortune smiled on Miss Gard as she found herself with three gritty points that gave MissRead no chance. The title was retained at 21-18.

Of some consolation was Gerard Pugh's great win in the Men's Doubles final, partnered by that worthy, we expect, such as Crawley, Andy Meads. In the final they had a little trouble before overcoming challenger and smoker.

Women's Doubles victors were Diana Gard and Angela Morgan, who survived a match point to beat Sally Randall and Anita Gedge. To Miss Gard it went the honor of providing the only shock in the Women's Singles, the defeat of Carol Randall, which won walkers Linda Narrow in Div. 2 (South) a fortnight earlier, had suggested that she might win the Sussex crown.

The tournament was enriched by the first appearance of Sussex University students John Proctor and Andy Meads. But these lads were somewhat bewildered to find that the match point was a battle of survival, with neither, a bad tempered word, full marks to these two boys for showing some of the senior players how to behave on a tennis court. Not that anything really mattered, but one fact is becoming increasingly clear to most players who compete on the circuit, that they want to be distracted and have their concentration broken by playing at their supporters when they lose, but positively set to their game when they win, and totally devoted to what is happening inside the court. This is the secret of success. There is one other player whose approach and total concentration has, in my view, been the most successful of all. This was shown to be effective in the semi-final draw in which Mr. G. Simpson, Chairman of the Castleford/Pontefract League, the league of which this player was a member, had made by Mr. H. B. Robinson, President, and that man is, of course, Desmond Douglas.

The semi-final draw was:

**W.A.**


The Yorkshire League Div. 1 Doncaster v Halifax fixture mentioned in last month's notes, turned out to be a comfortable 7-3 win for the home side, the victors lacking the services of Kevin Beasly. For the home team, No. 1, Alan Groome, won all three. On February 9, Leeds 1 beat Bradford 2-0 with both Andrew Metcalfes and Steve Hardwood registering trebles. Bradford's Bob Shute and M. H. G. Peach defeated Robert Hardwood. There was an upset in the Junior Div. 1 match between Sheffiled 1 and Bradford 1, the South Yorkshire team winning 5-4. David Huxen, Mark Heppenstall and H. Whippy took 3 singles each for Neil Harris. Adrian Hill and Paul Makinson.

Gainside in the Yorkshire League losses, Robert Hardwood helped to win a point for the County, second team in the crucial match against Gainside by beating both Tony Martin and Andrew Kilburn, and the team's second Division North, title hopes look good. Without Melody, Linl, playing in the County, third team beat Castleford/Pontefract/Around but narrowly lost to Gainside in the second match. There was no 'tender from the Boy's 2nd back. Christine, taking part in the Junior Div. 1 match between the Northern team and the South Yorkshire team, that the only points of the day were scored on the 'tender court. The Junior Second Division North, this time with the semi-final draw is:

**W.A.**


Veterans' Singles-Final

R. Hinnitt (Sheffield) bt 1. D. Gomersall (Clayton Heights) 2-0.

Open Doubles-Final

D. Cleveland (Clayton Heights) bt J. A. Yeats (Clayton Heights) 2-0.

Veterans' Singles-Final

A. Head bt 1. D. Gomersall (Clayton Heights) 2-0.

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The Yarmouth and Lowestoft Alliance League has not yet been formally announced in these notes. Founded only last season, its membership includes practically all the leading players of the two towns concerned, plus several Norwich stars. It has been announced that next season it will operate weekly on a new two-man team basis. More on the Premier Alliance will be expanded to include Norwich teams. Each league match will consist of four singles and one double, each tie the best of five games.

The league secretary is Tony Archer, of Yarmouth.

There was a record entry for Wymondham League’s Annual Tournament, held at Central Hall. Results:

- W.S.: Margaret Hales bt Linda Kowalski 26, 14.
- U-11: S. Penny bt S. Woollard 14, 4.
- U-17 Doubles: Kent 4 3 o 1 20 20, 20 12.
Lucan & Chessie Affaires

STOCKPORT FAVOURITES

Manchester look to have lost their grip on the Women's Div. 1 title of the Lancashire & Cheshire League, going down 4-6 to unreplaced Stockport, at Bramhall, on February 2. Susan Lisle won her three singles for Man. Preston but only Janice Stanford (nee Green) could add to her two, in the men's first division both Manchester and Farworth boast unblemished records on March 16 could see the sparks flying. Farworth, whose strongest squad is playing in the men's first division, can use the help of Jane Hartwell. In the men's second division, the League's top performers, also play their games but today's league between Manchester and Cheshire looks the game of the day. The former, who is unbeaten, play at Camborne Leisure Centre, Queensferry, on February 1, while the latter play at Deeside Leisure Centre, Queensferry, on Sunday, April 17, when a record entry can be expected.

LANCASHIRE & CHESSIE AFFAIRS

by Geo. R. Yates

Top Seeds Prevail

Geo. R. Yates

Lancashire players dominated the men's singles event in the Lancashire 2-Star Open held at Hawker Siddeley Dynamics, Lostock, near Bolton, on February 5, with victory going to the top seed. John Hilton, his final victim being Nigel Ekersley, who had beaten out the No. 2 seed, Donald Parker, in the quarters.

Similarly, in the counterpart women's event, Lancashire had it all to themselves in the final with top seed Karen Rogers beating Anita Stevenson, the latter partnered by Martin Abbott, played well to win the title.

The women's singles title was underwritten by Nield's Karen Senior, but Tony Clayton, in defence of the men's crown, let go his hold when beaten by the new champion, Hilton. Results:

Men's Singles-Semifinals
P. Collins bt J. Inger 18, 15, 18.
J. Hilton bt L. A. Clayton (Y) 12, 15.
K. Forshaw bt N. Hallow 18, 18, 18.
S. Wilson bt H. Williams (M) 15, 14.

Men's Singles-Finals
J. Hilton bt T. Pleasance (N.) 16, 19, 20.
H. Williams bt P. Collins 15, 19.

Women's Singles-Semifinals
D. Johnson (Ch) bt I. A. Clayton (Y) 12, 19.
J. Johnson (Ch) bt H. Williams (M) 15, 14.
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Women's Singles-Finals
J. Hilton bt J. Johnson 17, 17, 17.
H. Williams bt S. Wilson 18, 15, 20.

Veterans Singles-Semifinals
M. Abbott/J. Robinson (Do) bt W. Moulding (Wi)/Tibbles 16, 19.
J. Parker/Stevenson bt J. Hallow (Ch) 18, 15, 20.
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Calendar for this season:

The first event this season's Hertfordshire under-13s singles and doubles titles will be contested, with the juniors winning the title, at Grange Park Sports Ball, on Saturday, April 17, when a record entry can be expected.

Honours at this season's Hertfordshire Closed Championships were widely distributed with the winners of the major singles events—Geoff Giles and Daphne Baines—successful in those events only.

Simon Proffitt was successful in Mixed Doubles (with brother Jonathan) and in the Mixed with Linda Power, who was the only other player successful in two events, adding the Women's Doubles title with the help of Jane Hartwell.

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Singles when she beat the Avon County Failand clubmate, Colin Feltham. He also took full advantage of the fact that he is' Wlllin.g to accept the position; Chair-

JOYCE PINE (Hertford) bt Linda Hodge

BAX/BAINES bt J. PROFFITT/HARTWELL 13, -17, 22, 17.

Final

Mrs. Baines bt Mrs. Feletild 17, 8.

Mixed Doubles-Semi-finals

PROFFITT/PROFFITT bt Giles/Jackson 14, 14.

Final

X.D.: Smith/Smith bt 1. Reed (Cu)/Deakin 19, 19.

COTSWOLD 2-STAR JUNIOR

by Dave Foudser

GREEN TAKES TITLE

Shropshire's Malcolm Green swept all before him in the Boys' U-17 Singles at the Cotswold Junior Open, beating Colin Wilson in the final. What seemed to distinguish him from all others over the two days of the tournament was his ability to play all the strokes but at the same time making very few enforced errors. John Scott was also very successful, winning the Boys' U-16 Singles and Doubles, with Paul Rainford on the feminine side. Mandy Reeves defeated Helen Williams in an all-Middlesbrough Decider, and then in partnership with Gillian Galloway, took the Girls' U-15 Doubles. However, Mandy didn't make it a habit when she went down narrowly in the final of the Junior Mixed with Costas Papanouli against Wilson and Williams. The tournament was once again an outstanding success and thanks must be given to the Reference Les Smith, assistants Maurice Chalk and Peter Crowes and the many other people who helped during the weekend.

U-17 Events

B.S.: M. GREEN (Sp) bt C. WILSON (Ha) 13, 19.

G.S.: H. ROBBINSON (Sp) bt E. HUGHES (Gu) 15, 25, 12.

B.S.: R. HARMER/ G. LEES (Bu) bt M. REEVES/O. WARD (Wa) 19, 19, 9.

G.S.: R. ROBBINSON/ M. WELLS (Sp) bt J. DEAKIN (Cu) 15, 9.

B.D.: J. FOSTER/M. RAINFORD (Sp) bt S. PROFFITT/D. SMITH 18, 18.

U-16 Events

B.S.: J. DEAKIN (Sp) bt A. BELLINGHAM (St) 13, 19.


B.D.: J. RAINFORD/P. RAINFORD (La) bt K. NICHOLSON (Co)/A. COTTERILL 21, 15.


B.S.: J. BIXBY bt J. HANCOCK (Wi) 15, 17, 14.

Under-13 Events

B.S.: J. BIXBY bt J. HANCOCK (Wi) 21, 15, 10.

G.S.: J. WILLIAMS bt W. THROCKMORTON (Sp) 13, 13.

B.D.: J. HANCOCK/P. RAINFORD (Wi) bt R. PATERSON (Cu)/M. WILLIAMS 14, 12, 19.

G.S.: J. GOWLAND/P. FERINCH (Ch) bt J. WHITAKER 15, 19, 20.

Under-11 Events

B.S.: J. HANCOCK (Sp) bt D. DEAVILLE (Sp) 19, 19.

G.S.: J. PARKER (La) bt A. SPARKS (Lo) 13, 11.

NEW SCHOOLS' ASSOCIATION

By IAN R. A. COSSOR

At an inaugural meeting held at Osken-gates, on February 28, a Midland Schools' Table Tennis Association was formed to promote and encourage the playing of table tennis in schools in the Midland area. A constitution was adopted, copies of which will be sent to all the Women's County Schools' Secretaries concerned, and the following officers elected: President—Mr. A. B. Bax, headmaster of Osken-gates, is willing to accept the position; Chair-

CHRISTOPHER BROWN

FIVE TITLES FOR CARA

by Dennis Pope

Thirteen-year-old Cara Rowe won five Junior titles at the Bristol Closed Championship. Cara won three singles events, U-13, U-14 and U-17, and Girls' doubles in the U-15 and U-17 events. Her best performance was in the semi-final of the U-17 singles, when she beat the Avon County Junior No.1 and top-ranked Wendy Simpson.

Paul Lewis, who has always been under the shadow of his elder brother Chris Sewell in the Boys' singles, took full advantage of the fact that Sewell has now graduated to Senior Jevel, by winning the title without dropping a game. A good performance in this event from 14-year-old Phil Riley, of Fromeside, who beat clubmate and No.2 seed Robert Wolfe, in convincing style 10, 9 in the semi-final, showed the experience to beat Lewis in the final.

In the final of the Men's singles, Sewell beat British Reeves, this being a repeat of last year's final, Reeves gaining his second by winning the Men's doubles partnered by his Father, Peter Lewis, and the final by 10, 9.

One of the best performances of the day came from Muriel Harris in the Women's singles when she beat top seed Pas Reeves in the quarters. The title, however, went to Avon County No.1, Gillian Harris, who beat clubmate and No.7 seed Robert Wolfe in the semi-final, before capitulating game-5 in the final.

The tournament was once again officiated by referees Mrs. Pat Archdale, and ended with welcomed news that Mike Lewis, one of the most popular "guys" in local table tennis, had qualified as a County Umpire.
The first object of the Association is to organise twice yearly competitions between County teams and individual championship. The inaugural meeting coincided with the first of these team championships and the results were as follows:


**Presentation of cup and plaques by Ian Cossor.**

In addition, a "best-performer" cup was presented and shared between Malcolm Green (Shropshire) U-18, and Mark Davis (W. Midlands) U-16.

The next event is an individual championship. The first round results proved very interesting, with entries expanding every year, to allow a repeat performance and had a comparatively comfortable passage to the final. This was also the case in the other rounds.

The Women's Doubles was far more predictable, with top seeds, Mandy Mellor, Janet Carr, Linda Clemett and Barbara Devine all making their way through the semis without bother, representing Loughborough, drawn was drawn as a first year at Hull and ex-North Middleton junior, whilst Janet Mann, Manchester, came up against Linda, of Leeds, who had already one victory over Miss Carr (in the subsequent W.I.A.V. Championships) under her belt. However, the Manchester University girl was in so much to allow a repeat performance and had a comparatively comfortable passage to the final. The first two players were evenly matched and a deciding game was necessary. However, Edon was the first to crack and in the end "boozed out" quite to the London University student who, although being around for a number of years, has never seriously bothered the top players before.

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**BRITISH UNIVERSITIES CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**January 22-23, 1977**

**By Derek Oldman**

**JUSTLY PROUD**

The University of Bath provided the setting for the annual British Universities Championship, held in the very impressive Gateshead Leisure Centre. The top seeds in the Women's Doubles was Parkin and Proffitt, reached the semi-finals, but eventually reached the semi-finals, but the third seed, Edon and Savwell, from Birmingham, eventually knocked them out, showing a comparative ease and in the end "bowed out" quietly to the top seeds.

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Unfortunately, important studies prevented top seed Donald Parker from completing his non-attendance. Fuller and Morgan eventually reached the semi-finals, but surprisingly, both were defeated at the same stage in the W.I.A.V.A. Championships. The top seeds in the Men's Singles, Edon, beat Lucena, Peter Edon, the other semi-finalist, andມd Edon was most impressive, giving Williams few opportunities to shine and in the end "bowed out" quietly to the top seeds.

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The top seeds in the Women's Doubles all reached their expected stage. In the opening round, new partner, Jean Clemence, of Manchester University, beat W.I.A.V.A. champions, Parkin and Sowden, from Birmingham, whilst Sarah Jackson and Sheila Sullivan ousted Dunbar and Maskel, from the grime city of Aberdeen, and eventually won a very close final which made up for their defeat against the top seeds in the W.I.A.V.A. Championships and also gave considerable encouragement to the defeated partners.

Once again the results proved the organisation and equipment was among the finest available and entry lists were healthy. The final was keenly contested with the W.I.A.V.A. champions Parker and Mandy Mellor having scratched, the result was never in doubt and for Janet Mann, at a stroke, once again highlighted the fact that he is the best seed in the competition.

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The British Universities Championships were sponsored by the Association of Universities Sports Councils (W. Midlands) and shared between Malcolm Green (Shropshire) U-18, and Mark Davis (W. Midlands) U-16.

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Quarter-finals

Cromby v Bradford
Dagenham v Leicester
Ipswich v North Midlands
Bristol v Bournemouth

CARTER CUP

Dave Gammon and Chris Rogers led Leicester to a good win at Derby. Bradfords' good run came to an end against Wolverhampton with Andrew Bottling taking three and Alan Rich two. Leatherheads will take some beating but much depends on Martin, Stallone and Stephen Rossell. They showed their worth at the expense of North Midlands. Wastys' much improved standard from nearly pulled off a great win. Young Steve Moore nearly surprised Paul O'Connor but Hampton wllth Andrew Bellingham taking the final. Will take some beating but much depends on the Wiltshire. Keed watth Gillie notched up another great win.

Quarter-finals Results

Cromby v Brewer
Cromby v Reading
Norwich v North Herts
Hastings v Bromley

Fourth Round Results

Barrow v Hull
Hull - Halford - Leicester - Derby - Stratford 3- Wolvempton 6
North Midlands 2- Leatherheads 5
Reading 3- Wiltshire 5

Quarter-finals Results

Barrow v Hull
Wolverhampton v Leatherheads
North Herts - North Midlands 4

BROMFIELD TROPHY

The impressive Wolverhampton trio of Sue Smith, David Morgan and John Woodcock showed their worth at the expense of Gillian Galloway. The powerful Reading team was defeated by winning the doubles title. Ross won the Junior event, defeating Mark in the final. Well done lad.

Final

The Junior final was between Ross Horsham and Melody Liddon. Ross took the men's and mixed doubles. Name Rogers won the women's singles title and, keeping matters posed by the general public in order to achieve maximum benefit from the programme.

Midland Counties 2-Star Open

TRIBLE FOR DES

De Mount and Frank were brought off a triple in the Midland Counties 2-Star Open. They won the men's singles and, in particular, the doubles. Ross Horsham and Melody Liddon took the men's and mixed doubles. Name Rogers won the women's singles title and, keeping matters posed by the general public in order to achieve maximum benefit from the programme.

Midland Counties 2-Star Open

Results:

Men's Singles - Quarter-finals
D. Douglas (Wa) bt A. Clayton (Y) 12, 13, 5
L. Leech (Le) bt J. Mitchell (M) 9, 8
P. Bowen (Le) bt J. Landry (M) 16, 12, 11
J. Holmes (Dy) bt J. Chubb (St) 16, 13, 11

Semi-finals

Douglas bt Leech 2, 10
Bowen bt Chubb 14, 8
Douglas bt Chubb 12, 13
Douglas bt Morley 15, 13, 19
K. Rogers (Le) bt S. Jones (St) 10, 9
Douglas (Dy) bt J. Chubb (St) 8, 11

Final

Douglas bt Martius 10, 11, 14
Rogers bt Williams 10, 17

Women's Singles - Quarter-finals
S. Little (Ch) bt A. Tierney (Cy) 11, 16, 19
M. Lichen (Wa) bt J. Stevenson (Le) 15, 13, 19
K. Rogers (Le) bt S. Jones (St) 10, 9
J. Midgley (St) bt J. Holmes (Dy) 8, 11

Semi-finals

Little bt Martius 10, 10
Rogers bt Martius 10, 11, 14

Final

Douglas bt Little 10, 14
Rogers bt Williams 10, 17

Mixes Doubles - Semi-finals

Douglas/Liddon bt D. Isatt (B) 14, 12
Douglas/Harrison bt S. Jones (St) 10, 9
Douglas/Harrison bt C. Eades/Harrison 18, 10

Final

Douglas/Liddon bt Douglas/Harrison 18, 10

Veteran Singles - Semi-finals

P. D'Arey (Ch) bt R. Sandley (M) 8, 7
G. Brays (Wai) bt J. Dennott (Ch) 6, 12

Veteran Doubles - Semi-finals

EVANS bt D'Arey 17, 14

Rey's Singles - Quarter-finals

M. Scandley (Y) bt J. Alma (Ch) 12, 16
M. Harrison (Y) bt P. Drayce (St) 22, 21
C. Rogers (Le) bt C. Beed (Ch) 11, 19
Newman bt M. Smith (Ch) 8, 11

Semi-finals

Harrison bt Headley 18, 15
Rogers bt Newman 16, 15

Final

ROGERS bt Harrison 12, 8
Girls Singles - Semi-finals

Williams bt P. Daniel (Ch) 7, 13
Tierney bt S. Midgley (Ch) 12, 6

Final

TIERNEY bt Williams 18, 12
Junior Boys' Doubles - Final

BRADLEY/HARRISON bt Newman/O. Sandley (M) 16, 12

Junior Girls' Doubles - Final

TIERNEY/WILLIAMS bt S. Keeble/W. Parton (Wai) 14, 19, 16

In the Coaching Field

by JOHN O'SULLIVAN

There must be many opinions on how we should extract maximum benefit from the 34th World Championships. It can be added that I must have heard about 500 of them, some of which, though most interesting, are completely impractical, mainly due to finance.

Now that the great event is almost upon us, the following decisions have to be made and plans drawn up to make the World Championships a success.

Result:

21-16 and 21-13. We all thank him for a job well done and wish him every success in his new venture.

CHESHIRE NOTES

by John Woodward

DATE AND VENUE FIXED

At last we have a date and a venue for the 1977-78 Cheshire Closed. I.C. Ryder have kindly given permission to use their premises on April 16-17. The Junior and Youth events will be held on the Saturday and the Seniors' day will be Sunday.

All Cheshire affiliated leagues should have received entry forms but if not, they should contact me at 198 Norworth Road, Stretford, Manchester (Phone: 061-747720). The main events will be held on Sunday, April 17th, with the Cheshire Junior-Open being played on the Saturday. The Wirral. Entry forms for this revived tournament can be had from the Wirral Tennis Association, Wirral Tennis Association, Wirral Tennis Association, Wirral Tennis Association.
The Cleveland 3-Star, the highest Open prize money tournament within the U.K., was successfully staged at Thornton Parkover the weekend of February 12-13, sponsored by Cleveland County Council Leisure and Amenities Department and Mifeta Sports Limited, the main butterfly sponsors.

The Men’s Singles, predictably on current form, was won by Desmond Douglas. Throughout the tournament he never looked in trouble. In fact, the highest score itournmeht and then combined with Linda Howard to win the Mixed, beating Nigel Fetterley and Karen Witt. Eckersley and Miss Witt had a surprise first round victory over Neale and Jill Hammeley with Barden and Carole Knight going out to Donald Turner and Anita Stevenson, whilst Day and Melody Liidi also made a first round exit to Australians Bob Tuckwell and Helen Morrow.

The semi-finals were retained by Carole Knight and Linda Howard meeting the final with Melody Liidi. The biggest surprise of the tournament came in the Intermediate Men’s Singles when Maxwell Crimmins turned in some brilliant table tennis to take the title. Crimmins started with a straight-games victory over Keith Paxon, had little difficulty with Robert Wylie then handed out similar treatment to the second seed, Barden, winning 9 and 18. The final against Day was a cracker. The first two games were shared down, Crimmins clinching the decider at deuce.

A deserved winner of the Intermediate Women’s Singles was Karen Witt, she beat local girls Angela Tierney and June Williams in straight games and was even more impressive in the final against Melody Liidi, winning 15 and 13. The Veteran’s Singles was retained by Peter D’Arcy.

The Championship trophies were well staged with the finals being attended by a good crowd on Sunday afternoon. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Elizabeth Keenan, Chairman of the National Selection Committee, Mrs. Frances O’Shea, Chairman of the National Selection Committee, Mrs. Frances O’Shea, Chairman of the County Selection Committee, and Peter Fulton, Chairman of the County Education Department.

The Women’s Doubles was retained by Jill Hammersley and Carole Mitchell, a couple of the season which included a victory over Jimmy Walker in the semi-final. Although Walker is out of the season there are only three 3-Star tournaments, a special effort could have been made by the members to attend these three all important events. The first step of interest came when Alan Hayes arrived just before the. semi-finals on Sunday afternoon.

Results:

Men’s Singles—Quarter-finals
D. Neale bt R. Knapp (14) 14, 12.
J. Knight (1) bt A. Mitchell (M) 12, 9.
A. Barden (C) bt D. Neale (12) 12, 9.
Barden bt P. St. John 17, 16, 14.
Women’s Singles—Quarter-finals
J. Hammersley (C) bt M. Liddi (15) 15, 14.
K. Witt (B) bt A. Turner (CV) 15, 16.
J. Knight (1) bt A. Thompson (ME) 18, 8.
C. Wright (CV) bt A. Mitchell (11) 15, 11.
Hammersley bt Witt 5, 14.
Knight bt Howard 17, 12.

Final

Men’s Doubles—Quarter-finals
J. Knight/L. Eubank bt A. Mitchell (10) 15, 11.
B. Day/bt P. St. John 17, 16, 14.

Women’s Doubles—Quarter-finals
J. Hammersley (C) bt M. Liddi (15) 14, 9.
C. Wright (CV) bt A. Mitchell (11) 15, 11.

Final

Women’s Doubles—Quarter-finals
J. Hammersley (C) bt M. Liddi (15) 14, 9.
C. Wright (CV) bt A. Mitchell (11) 15, 11.

Lancashire Junior 2-Star Open

TITRE RETENTION FOR BEADSLEY

by Geo. R. Yates

Players from Yorkshire made a clean sweep of the U-17 titles in the Lancashire Junior 2-Star Open played at Bolton Institute of Technology on March 4, with Kevin Bendall retaining his boys’ singles title with a final win over his Halifix teammate, Tony Bottlemay.

This was the only title of eight to be kept, the girls’ singles passing to Sally Dickerson who, with Sally Midy, also won the girls doubles, Bendall picking up a second title in the boys’ doubles with Mike Harrison.

Gillian Galloway, the losing girls’ singles finalist in the U-17 category, won the U-14 title and the doubles, with Lynne Kennah. The young Welsh lad, Mark Thomas, triumphed over Yorkshire’s Neil Harley in the U-14 boys’ singles, the double title in this category being won by Andrew Dixon and Jeremy Duffield.

An over-ambitious acceptance of entries meant for a late finish after 13 hours of continuous play on 16 tables. 100-plus entries for the boys’ U-17 singles for a 4-day tournament is simply not on and the lesson is there for a curtailing of entries in the future. A pity some could not have made the trip over to Yorkshire, whose 2-Star Senior Open had to be called off the previous day due to a lack of entries.

UNDER-17 EVENTS

Boys’ Singles—Quarter-finals
K. Beadsley (V) bt M. Hankey (Ch) 18, 9.
S. Tatters (L) bt A. Mills (CV) 15, 11.
S. Yallop (D) bt D. Gray (Cu) 20, 16, 11.
A. Bottonley (V) bt A. O’Connor (L) 17, 15, 14.

Beadsley bt Turner 18, 15, 10.
Bottonley bt Yallop 15, 6, 14.

Final

BEADSLEY bt Bottomley 9, 12, 15.
Carole's record of play in still compete in the national championships and beat all the up-and-coming youngsters. As these tournaments are considered, by the Selection Committee for ranking purposes, one can only assume Carole is in line for the No. 1 position when the next ranking is produced after the World Championships.

By beating Middlesex on February 18, at Staines, Cleveland have retained the Premier Division County Championships title without the loss of a match.

Last season a weakened Cleveland team fell to Middlesex, but this season no mistake was made to the tune of 8-1.

More good news for Cleveland enthusiasts came with the announcement from Nicky Jarvis that, having seen a top specialist, his back was not as bad as originally feared. Nicky is hoping to have his operation before the World Championships so that he will be out of his cast in July and hopefully ready to commence serious training at the beginning of next season.

PROTEST LODGED
by H. Roy Evans

From many points of view, this was an even more successful event than last year's. It's true we did not have the Chinese, and that did have a considerable reduction in the size of the crowd. But even so, we had a pretty full house, and the interest of the officials at the Finals could not have been greater whoever had been there!

From an organisational point of view, the high standard we set last time came nearer to attainment, and that was because everyone knew his or her job better, and settled down to get on with it without fuss or bother.

Of course, there were hiccoughs, and the greatest of these was caused by the Czechoslovak withdrawal one week before the tournament. Although there were frantic cables and telephone calls in those last few days, their default was certain, for the reason that they had been so frightened by their heavy defeat by England in the European League that their players were com-
Final Lieck bt Day
Semi-finals
who saw the live TV of the game say it was however, combining with Denis in a doubles match on the small screen, and although Desmond just
self-onslaught by Chris Sewell, then proceeded in his excellent partnership with Linda
It's true that Desmond was not playing with his own bat, which he had broken, but there
win 'Over Lieck and Stellwag, and confirm-
ing way against Lieck, and so it was Neale in partnership with Carole Knight, Kishazi
slip away. How he must have kicked himself
The Women's Final, between the pen-
Even if there is, regrettably, nothing
...all in the third against Lieck, 'and the
Semi-finals
Douglas/Howard bt Javor/Skeate 9
Douglas/Howard bt Engel/Leiss 11
Douglas/Howard bt Feliu/Sanchez 11
Douglas bt Stellwag 8,
Douglas/Howard bt Javor/Skeate 9,
Douglas/Howard bt Engel/Leiss 11,
Douglas/Howard bt Feliu/Sanchez 11,
Douglas bt Stellwag 8,

Peer Reid

DEDOMINATION
The Leicestershire Championships were virtually dominated by three players — Paul Randell, Chris Rogers and Karen Rogers.
Paul won the Men's Singles without being taken to three, although Chris Rogers put up a great display in the final. Paul also won the Men's Doubles, with John Hill, but Maurice Newman and Alan Philipps nearly got paid to their hopes. The holder of the Women's Singles, Gwenn Odams, went out at the first time of asking to Loughborough's Rosemary North, but nobody could extend Karen Rogers. Chris Rogers won both the Junior and Intermediate Singles without too much trouble. Shock in the Intermediates was the defeat of Karen Rogers by Graham Hall, playing with his new 'lucky' bat. It meant his already excellent 'lucky' side was made positively lethal. Chris Rogers partnered Simon Hall in the Junior Doubles and they proved too strong for anyone, including the strongly-fancied Steve Day/David Gannon pairing. Loughborough, without their star players Anita Stevenson, Donald Parker and Brian Mayfield were not too prominent but they did provide both finalists in the Under-14 Singles, won by Paul Brimble over Trevor Kerslake. Julie Revill looked well ahead of all opposition in the Girls' Singles where only Yvonne Hall could manage double figures against her. Phil Overend, who still seems to improve as the years go by, retained his Veterans' Singles title by beating Fred Day in the final. Eileen Shaler and Sue Edwards brought off one of the shocks of the tournament when they beat Karen and Joe Rogers in the final of the Women's Doubles. Three of the Rogers family figure in the final of the Mixed, won by Day and Karen Rogers with a victory over Chris and Jose Rogers.
The Championships — held again at Loughborough Sports Centre — will no doubt be a hit and time but there may have been a reason for this. I was in Atherstone, present at the Leicestershire Championships Programme, and was unavailable and without any answers to questions. I am sure I am not the only one who is familiar with this. The day is coming closer and it seems that the weekend is the start of the week. But it was the only date I can secure and hope that everything will go well.

MIDLANDS LEAGUE
Y. Rees bt J. Davison 15, 13.
D. G. Richardson bt A. Johnson 17, 15.

C. Knight bt L. Cash 16, 12.
C. Knight bt T. Caffrey 16, 12.

C. Knight bt T. Caffrey 16, 12.

C. Knight bt T. Caffrey 16, 12.

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C. Knight bt T. Caffrey 16, 12.
The week long promotion at the Birmingham Shopping Centre at the end of January really caught the imagination of the public. Exhibition matches were played each lunch time with England's No.1, Desmond Douglas, leading the way on the opening day. Other Warwickshire and Birmingham players also did their bit to promote this great sporting event.

Something in the region of £3,000 was taken in ticket sales at the special kiosk, but I am sure the interest shown, generated more sales after the event. At the entrance to the Shopping Centre, above New Street Station, a massive display unit advertising the Worlds, is seen by thousands of commuters every day. This is a prime position in the city, the Norwich Union, our major sponsors, are certainly doing a fine job in selling the championships to the people of Birmingham.

The following week a meeting was held at the N.E.C., when local delegates were given an up to date situation on the Worlds by Jose Tomkins. For the past month Jose has had his own office in Birmingham, and there is little doubt her experience with the Canadian Association over the years has been invaluable in fitting the mammoth jigsaw together. Both Jose and the E.T.T.A Chairman, Charles Wyles, were welcome visitors to A.T.V. when they came to discuss Sportscus '77 with the General Manager, Len Mathews.

When I returned to the N.E.C. for the Spring Trade Fair, one was impressed by the security arrangements at the centre. Arriving by road or rail, the strictest security was shown, and if we can rely on that for the championships, then the greatest sporting showpiece this country has ever known, will long be remembered for all the right reasons.

Operation Vendetta—

Complete Success!

In November a mailing was sent to 5,000 clubs in England, an operation that has turned out to be a complete success. In his accompanying letter, Michael Lawless, the Director of the 34th World Table Tennis Championships, wrote:

"This letter is the beginning of OPERATION VENDETTA, for it is the first blow struck back at the greatest enemy of our Association—lack of communication.

I implore all of you to take up arms for the cause and turn it into a nationwide operation vend-ETTA, for with the World Championships less than five months away, there can be no better time to "sell" the sport and our Association.

Your initial supply of ammunition to begin battle is enclosed in this envelope. Like all ammunition, it is really expensive if it is not doing its job, so please don't leave it in the barrel—aim and fire! When your stocks run low, you have but to contact me at the arsenal to get further supply."

Applications for tickets as a result of this mailing have contributed towards a sell-out on three days with tickets going fast, especially on weekends. Thank you, table tennis friends, for your response!

Please note that we still have ample supplies of the newspaper "World Table Tennis Special", and posters, which we would like to get into circulation. A telephone call to the World Championships Office in Hastings—0424-413183—is all that is needed to secure a supply.

Seizing on the opportunity of being able to make direct communication to clubs, a second mailing was planned for mid-February to provide last-minute details of available seats, souvenir items that are available and invitations to "Sportscus '77", an exciting new sports and leisure exhibition that will be run in conjunction with the World Championship in Hall 5 at the National Exhibition Centre.

Interested spectators watch one of the lunchtime exhibition matches at the Birmingham Shopping Centre.

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BUILD YOUR BAT WITH BUTTERFLY
The Draws

Sixty-four countries have been placed into three categories for the men's team championships (Swaythling Cup) and 54 in the women's Corbillon Cup competition.

**Swaythling Cup**

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N.B.—Figures in brackets denote finishing position in Calcutta.

**Corbillon Cup**

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<td>Greece (53)</td>
<td>New Zealand (53)</td>
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<td>New Zealand (34)</td>
<td>Brazil (54)</td>
<td>Brazil (47)</td>
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N.B.—Figures in brackets denote finishing position in Calcutta.
The People in the Background
by Jose Tomkins

The 34th World Championships will be a huge success. English table tennis fans will have occasion to feel proud of their people at the helm—names of whom are so familiar that I will not repeat them.

But who are the people who have been doing and will be doing the background work, the people who have foreseen the opportunity of watching the world's best to ensure that the administration machinery works properly so that in every compartment we achieve complete SUCCESS.

Some of these are—

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<td>Press Office</td>
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Continued on Page 60
Fifteen countries participated in the Czech Open Championships played in Bratislava over the period January 28-30, and five of them provided winners in the seven events, including England's Desmond Douglas and Linda Howard, who won the mixed doubles title.

But undoubtedly the star of the show was Kjell Johansson, of Sweden, who, in making his international comeback after injury, won the men's singles and, in partnership with Stellan Bengtsson, the men's team title.

In this latter event the Swedish 'A' team dropped but one set—the doubles against Czech 'A'—Johansson beating both Michi­slav Cich and Josef Dvoracek in this match, also accounting for Federal Germany's Peter Rogel, Thor Klampar, of Hungary, and, in the final, the host nation's Jaroslav Kunz.

Scalps collected in the men's singles were those of Patrick Birocheau (France), Romanescu (Rumania), Gomozkov (USSR), Orlowski (Czechoslovakia) and his compatriots (Roger Lagerfeldt, in the semi's, and Bengt­sson in the final.

World champion Istvan Jonyer, suffered the indignity of being ousted in the first round by Ake Grehl, of Sweden, who, lost to the Soviet Union's Burnazian who, in turn, fell to Lagerfeldt.

Both Paul Day, beaten by Klampar (13, 10, 17) and Andy Barton, seen off by the 10th-ranked Czech, Karka (18, -1, 19, 18) fell in the first round. And after an initial success over Zsiegne Pracek of Poland (6, 12, 14), Douglas joined them on the bench when beaten by Gabor Gergely (16, 20, -17, -17, 9), the latter going on to beat Jacques Secretin, the European champion.

Ilona Uhlikova was the lone Czech to claim a title when, in the final of the women's singles, she beat Elmira Antonian, of the Soviet Union.

England's three representatives disappointed in being first round losers—Carole Knight into N'avarova, the Czech No.8 (-18, -14, -14), Linda Howard to Eva Stromvall, of Sweden (12, -15, -11, -15), and Melody Howl to Rachova, the host nation's No.14 (17, -19, -19, -14).

But one must commiserate with the English team who had a most dreadful outward journey when, because of the closure of Bratislava Airport by reason of fog and snow, the journey from Prague had to be undertaken by train.

That particular leg of the trip did not commence until 6-30 p.m. resulting in arrival in the Slovak capital some seven hours later. A train ride through the darken­ed city to the wrong hotel was eventually ratified by another resulting in the very minimum of shuteye before the team began at 9 a.m. sharp.

The map should account for Aus­tralia and the women for Austria in first round tiescostly, to their fitness and tempers their subsequent defeat at the hands of the Soviet Union and Rumania respectively.

All credit then to Des and Linda in winning the mixed title at the final expense of Sarkis Sarkhojlan and Elmira Antonian, having previously beaten such formidable pairings as Thorsell/Stromvall (3-2), Klampar/Daslo (3-0), Preuczyk/Bastko (5-1), Orlowski/Uhlikova (3-2), in the quarters, and Dvoracek/Bilhova (3-0) in the semis.

Kazaksevic and Zoran Kosaorvic in Round 2, Day, paired with the host nation's Boy, who went a.w.l., conceded a walkover to the ultimate winners Birocheau and Secretin.

Results:

Men's Singles—Quarter-finals.
2. Bengtsson bt Raue (11, 8, 22).
3. Johansson bt M. Orlowski (12, 8, 19).
Bengtsson bt Ge'rgely 15, 18, -17, 12.
Johansson bt Lagerfeldt -17, 19, 20, 19.

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JOHANSSON bt Bengtsson 19, 17, -14, 17.

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Final
JOHANSSON bt Bengtsson 19, 17, -14, 17.

Kjell Johansson (foreground) and Stellan Bengtsson, winners of the men's team title and opponents in the men's singles final won 3-1 by Kjell.
It is always made clear that intending visitors that the cost of all transport and accommodation must be covered by themselves.

There are a number of requests already in the pipeline so it would appreciate hearing from clubs (or Leagues) as soon as possible.

**NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Inter-Zone Finals—Men (Completion date March 20).

Draw:

Ormeley (Ormesby) v Skavor (Blackpool)

Wadley Bridge (Birkenhead) v Liverpool Y.M.C.A. (Liverpool)

Penmaen (Wyberton) v Barwell Liberal (Leicester)

South Birmingham (Birmingham) v Omega (Bracknell) v Mid-Essex T.W. (Chelmsford)

Eisenhower (H. Middlesex) v Milestone (East London)

St. Mark's (Ilford) v Denmark (Buckingham)

Nottingham Y.M.C.A. (British) v Merton (Bournemouth)

Semi-Finals—Women (Completion date April 24).

Draw:

Ormeley (Ormesby) v Badlax (Basiindon)

Metropolitan (Bournemouth) v Fellows Cranleigh (East London)

**REQUEST TIME**

by Albert W. Shipley,
General Secretary, E.T.T.A.

Now that the summer months are approaching, we are beginning to receive requests from Clubs on the Continent who wish to visit this country for a few days and to play some friendly matches against English clubs.

Whilst the majority of these requests come from clubs who wish to visit London, I would be pleased to hear from any club who would like to be given the opportunity of entertaining foreign visitors.
We are planning to invite outside umpires also for the Super League from next autumn. These will be invited at the cost of the Union.

Speaking about professional questions, Schlaf lauded European players, many of whom are equal ranking partners of Asia’s best—the Chinese. He blamed the decline in the standard of women’s play on coaches who are more willing to train men than members of the fair sex.

“It is a great pity that our women players can hardly compete with their Asian counterparts,” he understated. “Perhaps only Hungary and Romania are in a position to field some talented women players but this is far from sufficient for taking up competition successfully with Chinese, Korean and Japanese girls. Every country must pay much more care to bringing up replacements, including those for men’s teams.”

Commenting on leading players concluding agreements with sports-goods factories, the E.T.T.U. President said the following: “I am not against the contracts made with the factories, but they should be concluded strictly through the federations of the players’ countries or else the player would feel obliged to the factory and not to his federation. Most probably this topic will be taken up at the Birmingham Congress of the International Table Tennis Federation. I should like, as the President of the E.T.T.U., that a comforting decision is taken on the subject. I suggest greater check of the rubber on bats. Though its thickness has been fixed, we must also know the chemical composition of the material. I am not opposed to novelty, but firmly reject contracts Im’ade with the factories.”

“Here I have in mind those countries which participate in the Super Division of the European League. They characterise ping-pong in Europe,” he said. “However, he went on to add, “there are some countries which are lagging behind. For instance, in the past Austria, Ireland, Malta, Finland, Switzerland, Norway and Denmark figured much better in the games. There are signs of some momentum in Italy, and though Luxembourg and the Netherlands have still to produce classic players, the sport is being organised well in both countries.”

“The Union is making great efforts to help the countries that are lagging behind and we plan to increase this assistance in the future. We shall go on holding the coaches’ conference—held in 1974 for the first time—every two years. This summer we plan to organise in Sweden a course, with the co-operation of one coach, male and female players from 18 countries.”

Diverting from the European League, Jupp Schlaf highly evaluated other international table tennis contests, too. He made special mention of the Junior table tennis championship initiated by Hungary. “It would be good if other countries also followed Hungary’s example. It would be nice if Easter and Whitsun tournaments were made regular annual events for the youth,” said Schlaf in the context of providing fresh blood to the game.

“It is well known that a frequent change against international championships is that the draws are ‘favoured’ to the host country.”

In this context Schlaf mentioned: “We suggest that in the draw for international championships a neutral expert should also be present. We even plan that at the contests even the second judge should be a ‘forestall’. We have in mind to include more invited umpires. For instance, in the 1978 Zürich European Championship, 30% of the umpires will be invited from abroad.”

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION
requires an
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Applications for this responsible post are invited from individuals with office administration experience and a knowledge of table tennis organisation would be an advantage.

The appointment will involve a certain amount of travel, particularly at weekends; a car allowance and all expenses will be paid.

Salary is within the Sports Council Executive Officer scale of £2,700—£3,350.

Application forms are obtainable from the General Secretary, marking the envelope “Private and Confidential”.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION,
21 Claremont, Hastings, E. Sussex, TN34 1HA.

DATE CHANGE
SALFORD & ECCLES 2-STAR OPEN

Elevated from a 1 to a 2-Star Open, the Salford and Eccles Open Championships has been put back from its original date of March 20 to Sunday, April 10, starting at 9-30 a.m. at Stretford Sports Centre, Great Stone Road, Stretford, Manchester.

Cash prizes amounting to £253 will be at stake with the top prize of £60 going to the winner of the Men’s Singles and the £30 being the handout for the counterpart Women’s event.

Entries close on March 26 to Mr. Harry Shaw, 1a Balliol Street, Swinton, Manchester (Telephone: 061-793 0416).

Stop Press

Ormesby lost their stranglehold on the Wilmott Cup when, at Middlesbrough on Mar 1, they were beaten 5-3 by Manchester. Both John Hilton and Nigel Eckersley beat Nicky Jarvis and Robert Wiker, the latter also losing to Phil Bowen.

Jimmy Walker was Ormesby’s three sets to the Cleveland team being without the services of Des Aude a ‘fit victim which kept him out of the European League match against Federal Germany two nights later.

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MIDDLESEX
3-STAR OPEN

by Don Kenny

Seeds fell on stony ground at Picklets
Lock on February 28 with some, alas,
having fallen by the wayside before hand.

Desmond Douglas, Paul Day and Carole
Knight came into the latter category, and
thus, with the unavoidable absence of Jill
Hammersley, robbed the tournament of
some sparkle.

Those that fell on stony ground included
Nick Jarvis, Andy Barden, Jimmy Walker,
Donald Palmer, Brian Neale and, one
is tempted to add, Uncle Tom Cobley and
all of whom lost -20 in the third after a
gritty fight-back to level at 20-all against
Chris Sewell, alas, playing very shortly
afterwards, to Ian Horsham. Nigel
Eckersley put his energetic way through the
courts to gain a tight first game win over
Bob Potton and another close one to reach the semis. Mark Mitchell
meanwhile had a fair old struggle to beat
James Morris. One of the New Zealanders
won the first fairly comfortably but lost
the second, which he took at 15.

The Men’s Doubles also had unusual
finalists. The New Zealand pair R. Lee
(NZ)/Morris (Mt) bt R. Aldrich/P. Gut-
termann (Mt) 18, 17.

Final

FOOD/BARTON bt Lee/Morris -12, 14.

Women’s Doubles-Semi-finals

Howard/M. Walker (Mt) bt Hunt/A. Stone-
ven (Le) 15, 15.

Final

MATT/THITT bt Howard/Walker 10, 14, 12.

Men’s Singles-Quarter-finals

M. Mitchell (Mi) bt J. Morris (N.Z) 13, 21.

Final

J. Brandes (E) bt M. Reeves (Mt) -12, 10, 15.

Veterans Singles-Quarter-finals

L. Howard (By) bt J. Morris. (NZ) a6, 12.

Final

Lesley Radford also made a welcome second
appearance, with Horsham, again
accompanied by her two young supporters.

“Mum” Radford taking charge again in the
final, but with the opposition getting surely
more form.

Linda figured again in the doubles where
with Marjorie Walker she had come through
with the unaided against Suzanne Hunt and
Anita Stevenson. Angela Mitchell
paired with Karen Watt, had, meantime
beaten Sheragh Rees and Mandy
Reeves to get through. The younger pair
won the first fairly comfortably but lost
the second, only to take charge again in the third to take the title.

Linda was involved in her third final
when, with Jarvis, she gained a win over
Lee and Ann Stonestreet, of New Zealand.
Lesley Radford also made a welcome second
appearance, having, with Horsham, beaten
Alan Fletcher and Anita Stevenson. The
Eccles pair did well to take the first game
but lost narrowly in the second and with
“Mum” Radford tiring at the end of a long
though very successful day, lost the third.

The Veterans’ final provided an exciting
spectacle with Derek Schofield meeting
Terry Kirby. Kirby did well to take the first
but could do little in the succeeding
two as Schofield hit top form.

Results:

Men’s Singles-Quarter-finals

Eckerley (Ch) bt R. Aldrich (E) 22, 19.

Final

I. Horsham (E) bt C. Sewell (Ay) 18, 18.

M. Mitchell (Mi) mt J. Morris (Mt) 13, 21.

Semi-finals

Eckerley bt Johnson 9, 14.

Final

Eckerley bt Horsham 28, 15.

Women’s Singles-Semifinals

I. Howard (Ay) by J. Morris (Mt) 18, 12.

Final

J. Horsham (E) bt Hunt 11, 17.

HOWARD bt Radford 17, 14.

Men’s Doubles-Semi-finals

R. Lee (Mt)/Morris (Mt) bt R. Aldrich/P. Gut-
termann (Mt) 18, 17.

Final

Potton/I. Robertson (E) bt Sewell/M. Stottle (Ay) 19, 16.

Final

POTTON/ROBERTSON bt. Lee/Morris -12, 14.

Women’s Doubles-Semi-finals

Howard/M. Walker (Mt) bt Hunt/A. Steven-
son (Le) 15, 15.

Final

MATT/THITT bt Howard/Walker 10, 14, 12.

Men’s Doubles-Semifinals

N. Jarvis (Ev)/Howard bt Lee/A. Stone-
ven (Le) 14, 9.

Final

Horsham/Radford bt A. Fletcher (Y)/
Stonneven (Le) 15, 18.

Final

JARVIS/HOWARD bt Horsham/Radford -12, 19.

Veterans Singles-Semifinals

D. Schofield (Ch) bt J. Brandes (E) 16, 15.

Final

T. Kirby (Mt) mt L. Fountain (E) 14, 17.

Final

SCHOFIELD bt Kirby -11, 9.

DUTCH NATIONAL CHAMPS.

Bert van der Helm, for a record 10th
time, won the men’s singles title in
the Dutch National Championships, played in
Utrecht (February 26-27), thus breaking the
tie with Ove Leu, which he had
held titles each.

Betine Vriezen was the winner of the
women’s singles, beating Bonja van Welde-
(de Meijer) winner in 1971, 1973, 1975
and 1976.

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**PROFILE**

With the World Championships now only days away, we come to the last in our series of Profile guests. The last word comes from the current English champion, Carol Green. The Cleveland teenager, who knows there will be no easy games at Birmingham.

Birthday: June 9th, 1957.

Which school did you attend? Langbaurgh Comprehensive.

Favourite Drink: Orange Juice.

What is your pet dislike? Losing.

Favourite Star: Jaguar XJ6.

Biggest influence on your career: Alan Sunderland.

Representative honours: Playing for the English Open.

Ambition: To play well in the World Championships.

With the world in the world would you most like to meet?—Nobody in particular.

Greatest moment in your career: Alan Sunderland.

What is your pet like? Dancing.

What are your thoughts on the World Championships?—I think the England team could do quite well in the Worlds, while their counterparts abroad are earning a lot more money. When the players in this country can receive a good income from the game, the standard of play is certain to improve.

I am sorry it was not possible to feature all the England squad, writes JOHN PIKE, but our thanks to those players who did take part, and from us all, our best wishes to all the England players at Birmingham.

Continued from Page 43

Malcolm Green put home side back in game at 6-4 after trailing 1-4, but Staffordshire finished it off their way.

3rd EAST

Suffolk 9, Cambridgeshire II 1

This match was aptly summed up by Sussex captain, Keith Younger, when he said: "Last season's score of 6-4 would have been more appropriate than 9-1"—but despite all their efforts, Dorset could do nothing to stop Sussex from notching up every game from the third onwards.

Middlesex II 7, Kent II 3

Surrey II 4, Hampshire 6

Kent III, Hampshire 7

JUNIOR 2nd NORTH

Cleveland II 6, Yorkshire II 10

Clwyd 1, Cumbria 9

Derbyshire 5, Durham 1

Lancashire 18, Northumberland 0

Durham 1, Clwyd 9

JUNIOR 2nd MIDLAND

Essex II 7, Norfolk 3

Staffordshire 3, Warwickshire 7

Northamptonshire 6, Leicestershire 4

Leicestershire's unbeaten (and under-rated) David Newman gave Northants all sorts of unexpected problems, and with the match heading for a draw, Keith Nisbett showed he was a player of great potential to bag Day and give Northants the points.

Cambridgeshire 7, Suffolk 3

JUNIOR 3rd SOUTH

Essex III 8, Sussex II 2

Hampshire II 7, Hertfordshire II 5

JUNIOR 3rd NORTH

Cumbria II 9, Clwyd II 1

Suffolk's strength at this level giving them their first really convincing win of the season and a good chance of the second division next year.

JUNIOR PREMIER

Berkshire I, Yorkshire 9

D. Barr lost to K. Beadles -19, -17; lost to M. Harrison -19, 17, -14.

R. Johnson lost to Beadles -11, -20; lost to A. Hammett -10, -18.

R. Halliday lost to M. Harrison -14, -15; lost to M. Hunt -16, -12.

Barr, Halliday lost to Beadles/Harrison -15, -10.

Mandy Smith lost to Linda Hryshko -21, -21.

Alison Gordon lost to Sally Midgely -15, -10.

Kent 3, Middlesex 7

K. Kenyon lost to D. Wallis -14, -22; lost to G. Sandley -14, -18, -13.

J. Kennedy lost to D. Wells -13, 17, 19; bt B. Tyler 14, 16.

P. Pike lost to Sandley -21, -15; lost to Tyler -14, -23.

Kenyon/Kenyon lost to Sandley/Wells -19, 21.

Carol Colegate lost to Angela Mitchell -18, -17.

Elaine Bolton lost to Mandy Reeves -8, -19.

Miss Bolton/Miss Colegate lost to Miss Mitchell/Miss Reeves -14, -9.

Surry 6, Hertfordshire 4


D. Hannah lost to Jermyn -14, -14; bt T. Spain -14, -11; bt F. Murphy -17, -10.

M. Woodgate lost to Booth -20, 20, -13; lost to M. Harrison -17, -18.


Lorraine Garbet lost to Janice Glazebrook 15, 13, 11.

Miss Glazebrook lost to Carol Webster 13, 16.

Miss Garbet/Miss Hayward lost to Miss Glazebrook/Miss Webster -10, 21.

Miss Bolton lost to Mandy Reeves -8, -19.

Miss Bolton/Miss Colegate lost to Miss Mitchell/Miss Reeves -14, -9.

Surry 6, Hertfordshire 4


D. Hannah lost to Jermyn -14, -14; bt T. Spain -14, -11; bt F. Murphy -17, -10.

M. Woodgate lost to Booth -20, 20, -13; lost to M. Harrison -17, -18.


Lorraine Garbet lost to Janice Glazebrook 15, 13, 11.

Miss Glazebrook lost to Carol Webster 13, 16.

Miss Garbet/Miss Hayward lost to Miss Glazebrook/Miss Webster -10, 21.

Kenyon 3, Yorkshire 7


J. Kennedy lost to Beadles -16, -12; lost to S. Mills -12, -21.

S. Spanih lost to Harrison -14, -18, -7; lost to Mills -16, 19, 17.

Kenyon/Kenyon lost to Beadles/Harrison -19, 21.

Carol Colegate lost to Linda Hryshko -13, 19, -16.

Miss Bolton/Miss Colegate lost to Miss Hryshko/Miss Midgely -16, -13.

Middlesex II, Essex 5

I. Plummer bt D. Newman -14, 17; lost to R. Jackson -16, -11.

M. Murphy lost to Newman -17, -19; lost to L. Smith -18, -15.

M. Laird lost to Jackson -15, -11; bt Smith 11, 9, 11.

Laird/Plummer lost to Newman/Smith -19, -14.

Angela Tenney lost to Helen Gore 16, 18.

Jane Skip lost to Elaine Sayer 14, 21.

Miss Skip/Miss Tenney lost to Miss Gore/Miss Sayer 20, 13.

JUNIOR 2nd SOUTH

Berkshire II 7, Devon 9

Dorset 1, Sussex 9

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County Championships Round-up
by BOB BRIDGES

CLEVELAND CLINCH IT (AGAIN)

Cleveland County have again won the Premier Division of the County Championships, their second in as many attempts since the tournament was established in 1974. The battle for runners-up spot—will it be Essex or Yorkshire, the outcome of which will be known late next month when the two Counties play each other on April 23rd, at Loughborough.

At the end of the season, Cleveland sat at the top of the table with seven points clear of Yorkshire, who were second. Essex followed in third, nine points behind Cleveland, and four ahead of a group of four Counties who were all on 79 points—Warwickshire, Hampshire, Worcestershire and Northamptonshire.

Three Counties are assured of challenging for the title and will be joined by Northants, Norfolk or Cambs, from 2nd East and Sussex or Kent at 2nd South.

With John Dabin back in the reckoning for Kent, good win over Essex might be enough good, but Sussex have the relatively easier task of Surrey II, having already accounted for Essex II.

Two points separate the six teams in 2nd East and white Northamptonshire have the easiest match (against the bottom County) to win, but any team in this division, including Bucks (then at the foot of the table), can still score 10 points in this, that or the top 8-21.

In the Junior Premier, Essex has put themselves into contention with an earlier victory over Cambridgeshire and dropped a valuable point to Cleveland. Meanwhile, Middlesex besides the victory over the table with Yorks.& Hants on the upswing.

PREMIER DIVISION

Leicestershire 3, Worcestershire 2
R. C. Senior lost to D. Neale -17, -15; lost to G. McLean 14, -14.
B. L. Rogers lost to A. Fletcher -14, -11.
M. Crimmins lost to D. Neale 18, 15.
M. Crimmins lost to D. Neale -15, -14.
A. Fletcher lost to A. Fletcher -14, -11.
M. Crimmins lost to D. Neale -15, -14.
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A. Fletcher lost to A. Fletcher -14, -11.
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