KOHNO THE KING

Photo by Tony Ross, Hessie

finest equipment by John Jaques
**Roll of Honour**

**Men’s Singles**

MITSUI KOHNO (Japan)

**Women’s Singles**

PAK YUNG SUN (Korea DPR)

**Men’s Doubles**

LI CHEN-SHIH and LIANG KE-LIANG (China)

**Women’s Doubles**

PAK YONG OK (Korea DPR) and YAN YING (China)

**Mixed Doubles**

JACQUES SECRETIN and CLAUDE BERGERET (France)

**Swaithling Cup**

China

**Corbillon Cup**

China

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**Korean Cool and French Dressing**

by GEORGE R. YATES

In winning the women’s singles title at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham on April 5, Pak Yong Sun of Korea DPR, became the first woman to retain the world title for 22 years. The last female player to do so was Angelica Rosman of Romania, who won the G. Geist Prize, presented by Dr. Gaspár Geist, President of the Hungarian Association in 1931, six times in succession between 1929 and 1935.

It was a repeat of the final in Calcutta two years ago when Chang Li, of the People’s Republic of China, did not give of her best. The same was not true of this occasion, as the 21-15, 24-22, 22-20 scoreline indicates. The North Korean, though, was much more mature and her controlled temperament played an important part in her victory.

The only discordant note came when, with Pak Yong Sun having established a two game lead and the score standing at 18-all in the third, Chang Li was fouled by Maddeness umpire, Jack Metock, for shielding the ball from his sight when serving.

Two similar calls, by John Masters, went against the defeated Chinese, men’s third seed, Ken Yoo-hwa, in his second game against Mitsuru Kohno of Japan who, having lost the first, came back strongly to take the next three and the title. Kohno, now aged 30, was the defeated Chinese men’s finalist, Ko Yung Sun over five games in the first round of the women’s singles.

Norwich Union, the major sponsors, presented Chang with a magnificent trophy and a £200 holiday voucher which should take her far from her native Cleveland.

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**Champion Out**

Jonyer was the defending champion and top seed in the men’s singles and having performed exceptionally well in the Swaithling Cup competition, especially against China in which match he beat Ken Yoo-hwa and Huang Liang. It came as a shock when he was ousted in the third round.
The Opening Ceremony at the NEC.

Prior to, in Round 3, Neale gave second best to Kubo and Douglas, the pride of Birmingham, disappointed his countless fans when ousted by the wily Secretin who, after winning the first two games took a breather in the third, which Douglas won at 8, to storm home in the fourth at 11.

Meanwhile the other big names of Europe moved into the quarters headed by former world champion Stefan Bengtsson of Sweden who, in the fourth round, was taken to the very brink of defeat by the emerald-shirted Wilfried Lenz of Federal Germany who had left in his wake

Miroslav Scrien (Czechoslovakia), Bui and Kosanovic.

Prior to main draw, last sixteen were Dragutan Surbe of Yugoslavia, whose helicopter forehands had 'splintered' the blades of Fraczyk, Christian Martin (France) and Wang Chien-chang of China. Gergely who, prior to ousting Johansson, had beaten Holger Luxmers (Federal Germany) and Stefan Backman of the Soviet Union and, from Hungary, Tiber Klarpar whose victim was Damir Juric (Yugoslavia), Joselue Kus (Czechoslovakia) and Anton Stipancic of Yugoslavia.


did it do the Frenchman any good either for

As with the Grand National at Aintree, it was an autocratic charge for the first fumie at the NEC with the Soviet Union's Bagrat Burnazian, beaten by Ake Liljegren of Sweden, and Lu You-shing of China, beaten by Japan's Loo Nukandaker, among the fallers. And, for a refusal, Wang Chuan of China conceded a walkover to Ion Movaru of Romania, a country not recognized by the Chinese.

England had four successful jumpers, not perhaps in the Red Rum class, but sufficiently trained to clear the first hurdle. This was accomplished by Denis Neale, who beat Thomas Buns of Switzerland, by Paul Day, who beat Stefan Morara of Romania, by Desmond Douglas, who showed a clean pair of heels to Byroard Cachanski of Poland, and by Jimmy Walker who went 'nurs' against Manocel Timor of Brazil.

But brought down were qualifiers Deegge Johnson, by Stefan Boal of Italy, Robert Willey by Zoran Kosanovic of Yugoslavia, and Andy Barden, surprisingly by Stanislaw Fraczyk of Poland.

Round 2 brought the fall of seeded Li Ching-lin, to Kueo Shih, to Kosanovic, Raisiak Ah of Japan, to Li Kuang T'int of Hong Kong, Ulf Thorne of Sweden, to Wang Chien-chang of China, and Ake Greweul of Sweden, to Titoio Tanaka of Japan. And with such illustrious performers went Day, beaten by Masshiro of Japan and Walker, trodden on by Antole Strekovic of the Soviet Union.

But still there with the diminishing pack were Neale, victor over Graham Lasenby of New Zealand, and Dougals, after shaking off a first game deficit against Poland's Andrey Gubash. It was at this stage, in the third round, that Bircham set the typewriters buzzing in the press room which again cluttered when, in Round 4, such thoroughbreds as European champion, Secretin, fell to Huang Liang, and the prodigal Johansson of Sweden, probably playing in his last world championships, was ousted by Gabor Gergely of Hungary.
only seeded player to fall in the first round but accompanying Carole into the dressing room were England's Linda Howard, beaten by Chung Hyeon Seok of South Korea, and Susan Lisle who had given her all against European "Top 12" champion Beatriz Kishazi of Hungary, victory by 21 in the fifth and deciding game.

Jill Hammersley, England's reigning European champion, made light of her meeting with Romania's Liana Mihut in that first round but, subsequently plagued by the recurrence of an old injury, she lost, in an increasingly distressed state, to Japan's youngest competitor, 19-years-old Kayoko Kawai in the second round.

It was a sad state of affairs as Jill was fully expected to reach the quarters at least and a crack at the defeated finalist Chang Li. The round also saw the elimination of other seeds in the top half of the draw Pak Yung Sun, after straight games by Kim Soon Ok of South Korea, and Susan Lisle who had the last say.

The brothers Danny and Ricky Seemiller, of the United States, did well to reach the quarters their finest hour coming with the defeat of Kun Yau-hao and Lino Fung.

Gerzely and Jonyer, who won the title in Calcutta, were not paired together in Birmingham. Gerzely, with the Czech, Orlowska, would in Hengst and Johansen, and Jonyer, with his other compatriot Klampa, facing to Huang Liang and Lu Yuan-sheng.

A place in this event was found for Cheshire's John Hilton, out-in-out reserve, who, with Jimmy Walker, fell in the second round to the Serbians.

NEALE'S BRICK BATS

Denis Neale, the English champion, claimed the Chinese had an unfair advantage with their special bats and Desmond Neale were easily beaten by the unseeded Huang Liang and Lu Yuan-sheng.

The bats have two different surfaces which makes it difficult to read the return of a ball when the bat is consistently turned over during a rally, Neale said: "I think the time has come for bats to be standardised otherwise this game will be turned into a complete joke. We were made to look like a couple of ordinary league ping pong boys. You could play for 100 years and still not be able to beat them. That was not table tennis as the rest of the world knows it.

"If they had given us 20 points start we would still not have beaten them. I feel sorry for the people who pay to watch. It is no longer just a matter of skill. At one time, I felt like offering them the chance of playing with our type of bats."

Tony Brooks, the ITTF Secretary-General said: "There is always cause for concern over service, not necessarily over Chinese bats but a concern that the game would remain a contest between players. The game would be turned into a complete joke with the recurrence of an old injury, she lost, in an increasingly distressed state, to Japan's youngest competitor, 19-years-old Kayoko Kawai in the second round.

Well that's it then. The only European players to win a title French pair Jacques Secretin and Claude Bergeret, leave the table after their mixed doubles final successes.

BUST PERFORMANCE

By far the best home performance was put up by Douglas and Neale in the men's doubles in which event they reached the quarter-finals but lost in the rIrst round proper to Lee Ailesa of England's UPlayer of the Championships" Carole Knight with John McDonnell, Public Relations Manager, Norwich Union Insurance.
doubles in which Chang Li and Ke Hsin-li topped the draw. But neither pair succeeded in reaching the final.

Disappointingly the English girls took their departure in the first round when beaten by Cilia Van Kuijl and Li Ming, the top seeds surviving to the penultimate stage, where they lost to the eventual winners Pak Yong Ok and Yang Ying.

The whole event was dominated by players from Asia only three European pairs reaching the quarters at which stage a fond farewell was afforded Ann-Christin Hellman and Eva Stromvall, Weronika Sikora and Jolanta Szatko.

In the lower half of the draw Karen Rogers provided with Neale but after losing the first eight points of their opening set, to Gergely and Magda, had to retire to bring the curtain down on the host nation's far from stunning acts.

But Europe, in the persons of Secretin and Claude Bergeret, provided the "new faces" on the snratri after their most comfortable final victory over Tasaka and Yokota. Prior to the French pair had been troubled only by Huang Liang and Wei Li-chien.

Major shock in this event was the first round elimination of the holders, Gomazkov and Rudnova, by Errol Caetano and Maculap Domenes of Canada. But the last smile was reserved for Jean Mercier, the proud Frenchman of them all.

Thus came to an end the five days of the Championship, 20, 11, 6;

**Women's Singles — Pak Yong Sun (Korea) (CHN) 20, 18, 11.**

Round 3: bt Lee Sang Kuk/Lee Ki Won (KOR) 18, 17, 14;

Round 2: bt E. Ferenczi/B. Vriesekoop (RUM) 11, 11, 20;

Q.F.: bt S. Bengtsson/K. Johansson (SWE) 10, 14, 8;

Final: bt Huang Liang/Lu Yuan-sheng (CHN) 20, 18, 11.

**Women's Doubles — Pak Yong Ok/Yang Ying (KOR) (CHN) 20, 11, 6.**

Rd. 1: bt M. S. Bajaj/M. Due (IND) 11, 11, 20;

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**Men's Doubles — Li Chen-shih/Liang Ke-liang (China) (CHN) 20, 11, 6.**

Rd. 3: bt M. Alexandru (RUM) 10, 14, 8;

Rd. 2: bt Yen Kuei-li (CHN) 18, 18, -27, 17;

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England's Jill Hammersley confides in NPC Peter Simpson that she simply cannot continue.  
"Photo by Don Morley, Morden.

Here's one for the road by England's Desmond Douglas.  
"Photo by Geoff Schofield, Leicester.

Patrick Birocheau (France) defeated defending champion Jonyer in Round 3.  
"Photo by Tony Ross, Hessle.

Gone to the end. Kjell Johansson of Sweden, beaten by Hungary's Gabor Gergely.  
"Photo by Don Morley, Morden.

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E.T.T.U. EQUIPMENT ADOPTIONS

The following equipment has been adopted for use in the European League for Squash 1977/78:

Dunlop Super Balls for ALL Divisions, Senior Tables for all Divisions, Senior Jocks Tables for Division 1, 2, 3, and 4. Scottish and Northern Ireland Championships, Middlesex Cup, Cheshire Silver Jubilee, Chiddingfold Nets for ALL Divisions.

Attention is drawn to the following Rule:

"Host Associations not using Adopted Equipment shall lose 2 League points." Attention is also drawn to the Rule which imposes a Fine of 100 Swiss Frana on Associations Not complying with the Rule on the scoring of Results.

Entries for the European Club of Champions competition close on 1st July, 1977. It is a rule that NO club can enter the Fair Cities Cup unless the national representatives are entered in the European Club of Champions competition.

CLEVELAND VIEW

by Alan Rassone

Following the successes of the County Table Tennis Association, other sports bodies in the Cleveland area have been encouraged to follow suit and some very good results have been achieved by the County Council's Leisure and Amenities Committee.

A meeting was held at the Royal Oak to discuss the 1977/78 competition, and it was decided that a special event should be arranged to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Cleveland Table Tennis Association. The event was to be held on 1st September and was attended by over 200 people, including many of the former players who had competed in the early days of the Association.

The event was a great success, and it was decided to make it an annual event. The Cleveland Table Tennis Association was formed in 1927, and it has been a great success ever since. The Association has been running for almost 50 years, and it has been a great success.

The Association has been running for almost 50 years, and it has been a great success. The Association has been running for almost 50 years, and it has been a great success.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS — POSTSCRIPT

CHESHIRE JOIN LEICS.

Winning three sets against Essex at Buckhurst Hill last year’s runners-up, into the second division.

The Cheshire team played a great match, but were beaten by the eventual winners. Essex won 3-2, and the match was a great success.

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GLENRIFF, CO. CORK, IRE.
We should keep a sense of proportion and remember millions watching the box splendidly qualified and fully possible winners.

The vast majority of the spectators—the players, the officials, the press, the fans—were visibly shocked and confused, Chang Li was visibly embarrassed, repeating the same penalised action again and again, Pak was visibly embarrassed. Only Kohno kept his cool. At least what happened was a pity. The matches were matched. They became as unimportant as an excellent eleven days. Only the discipline, disciplined conduct of those affected spared us worse.

The incidents at Birmingham I refer to here are the repeated calling for faults of two of the finalists, both Chinese, Kuo and Chang Li. It would be easy, and mistaken in my view, to exaggerate their bad effect and say that the titles were thereby necessarily devalued and the thousands in the hall and the millions watching the box grievously disappointed. We should keep a sense of proportion and remember that these incidents are the repeated calling for faults of two of the finalists, both Chinese, Kuo and Chang Li. It would be easy, and mistaken in my view, to exaggerate their bad effect and say that the titles were thereby necessarily devalued and the thousands in the hall and the millions watching the box grievously disappointed.

We should keep a sense of proportion and remember millions watching the box splendidly qualified and fully possible winners.

The fact was, however, that these incidents occurred in the singles final, it is in its spirit of criticism. Scandal hunting is the worst and most meaningless of occupations. Most misunderstandings, like disasters in the air, are the result of perfectly natural causes being bits of bad luck or maybe faulty communications. It is easy for the locker-upper, consulting his tome and reflecting under no time pressure, to come up with a conclusion that some other course would have been adopted. hindsight is a great help, and should not be taken as reflecting any discreditable whatsoever on those charged with arriving at necessarily quick decisions under tremendous pressure of events. (Don't I know this, who have lived in plenty of glue-houses in my time, and have been concerned in much worse errors, and that in world championship finals too, where history has so far fortunately kept dark.) The only good object of discussion of the past is to clear ways for improvement in the future.

The incidents at Birmingham I refer to here are the repeated calling for faults of two of the finalists, both Chinese, Kuo and Chang Li. It would be easy, and mistaken in my view, to exaggerate their bad effect and say that the titles were thereby necessarily devalued and the thousands in the hall and the millions watching the box grievously disappointed. We should keep a sense of proportion and remember that these incidents are the repeated calling for faults of two of the finalists, both Chinese, Kuo and Chang Li. It would be easy, and mistaken in my view, to exaggerate their bad effect and say that the titles were thereby necessarily devalued and the thousands in the hall and the millions watching the box grievously disappointed.

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When asked on TV whether players had been pulled up for any fault I shall be using this example from earlier in the tournament, the excellent referee, Mr Wright, was, exactly as I would have been expected to have done in any such off-the-cuff interview, somewhat cautious in the precise wording of his reply. The Times newspaper said next day that some players had been. We can, of course, accept that this was the case. But I think all of us had, as I did, whole Chinese team matches in which this practice had never been faulted, and e.g., on the day immediately preceding, had occurred one or more beautiful of all matches in the championship. (And one of the best I have seen in over 30 years of watching and playing, in which the very same player as was pulled up in the Enfield-Köppel-allowed to be used to those services throughout all five games against his adversary, Klampfer without any demure, Surely these facts alone would have justified pre-filial explanations and clarification measures. It seems too early to have been assumed that these penalised faults must be faults according to the present wording of the laws, but perhaps the player will forgive me if I invite them to accompany me on a little philological exploration of this point. The relative rules are two: Law 3.7.3 ("the server shall then project the ball upwards within 45 degrees of the vertical, by hand only and without imparting spin, so that the ball is visible to the umpire and so that it visibly leaves the palm") and 3.7.4 ("As the ball is then visibly descending from the height of its trajectory, the server shall strike it so that . . . ").

To the proponents of penalty for partial body-masking in these circumstances it appears that, as Gertrude Stein might have said: "visible is the visible, visible the palm," but that is all there is, not indeed the case, not in the English language any way. And, indeed, it could not be the case, it can only be said by the umpire, if he places himself, as he easily can, in a suitable position to do so.

None of this definition is in the least true of the services where this was designed to prevent: the holding of the throw by curling of the fingers; the finger-tip or palm-tip projections against the racket-blade, the palm-turning to prevent the hand gripping the racket, even the gripping of the ball so that it has not left contact with the hand before the throw. - all these truly at times suspected but which cannot be seen at all by the umpire because they happen so close to the blade that he cannot see, or infer. That they have not taken place wherever he may station himself.

We shall try another, a considerably fuller definition, the Shorter English Dictionary, O.U.P. 1933. (I will spare you the complete OED because there the variety of meaning of visible is even more numerous). But here the most relevant ones are: 1. Capable of being seen, perceptible by the sense of sight. 2. That may be mentally perceived or recognised, clearly or readily evident; manifest, obvious."

Again all this is completely applicable to the new service. Notice particularly the O'I'a's second definition being a usage with "visible" not needing to mean actually seen or wholly seen, but valid where observation makes it so obvious that it can be properly inferred. This particularly holds true now in English, the O'I'a dates it from 1667. But, not anybody thinks that therefore this meaning is nowadays archaic, outmoded. No longer, let the reader ask himself whether, as he read it, he noticed anything strange in the use of "visibly" above in the third paragraph from the beginning of his article.

EMBARRASSMENT

Yet there it was used in this sense and I let it pass it not appear strange at all. Of course we could not directly "see" confusion, bewilderment or embarrassment from which these could be inferred. Therefore it was both usual and correct to describe them as "visible." This is exactly what the Law says they must see the whole). In fact did see, with their own eyes and in spite of their position, enough to know that the ball had been correctly thrown and correctly hit; if it had had finger-tip imparted, if the impelling hand had not been flat and if the ball had not ascended to its great height close to the vertical, it could not possibly have fallen near enough to the same straight line to be hit in service.

Therefore in calling this service a fault they were penalising something they themselves knew, from the sufficient evidence of their own eyes, that had been executed correctly far as throws and hits were concerned. Which, to understand, makes it not very satisfactory.

Before I finish with this point of philology I want to stress that I have made it — not as conclusive in the question (I am about to come to something else that I hope will be convincing on this) — but as one more very weighty reason, why, at an international event, care must be taken to avoid every possibility of misunderstanding. The English wording of this rule is capable of several interpretations particularly because it is in simple-sounding language. There is always a conflict in law-drafting between the desire to make rules precise even if this involves complexity of wording, and the desire to make them simple, often without realising that words in common usage can have (and without being dangerously diverse) meanings. The art is to combine in the formulation the maximum of clarity with the maximum of precision. I am too old to remember but I hope I did not draft this one. It is at least clear that to mean whatever it does mean it could be drafted a bit better. And, in the meantime, who knows how it has been translated into e.g., Chinese, Korean or Japanese.

Translate "visibly" as "obviously," which might happen from any dictionary, and this would account for any amount of confusion. The W.F.T. Constitution 1.4 lists as Object No. 1.4.2 "to check the accuracy . . . of translations into other languages." I wonder what the SeD has done with translations into, e.g., Chinese and Korean. Which further emphasises the importance in international events of warning, explanation and understanding before penalisation.

CONVINCING

But, finally and surely convincing, even as late as when the first penalty had been given, I cannot understand why it apparently did not occur to the umpire to move his far side, or to anybody else in his position to move, into a position from which the whole of the otherwise good service would have been easily and constantly seen by him. No Table Tennis rule prescribes that the umpire must sit on one side of the table rather than the other. Common-sense principles that his position should be the one from which he can best judge what is going on.

Lawes are for man (which includes even players), not man for laws. Laws are to assist a referee or an umpire to do equal justice to everybody, and their duty to interfere as little as possible while seeing, from the best viewpoint, that there is no cheating or unfair advantage taken — not to tell players how to play the game tactically or strategically so that they themselves may be enabled to sit permanently enthroned in dignity like General Stonebottom.

Artificers at other sports are mobile enough. Referees and linesmen at football normally run where they can best observe the happenings. Cricket is an even closer parallel. Here the bowler’s wicket, the one behind square-leg, but the one which he wants to have as clear as possible, because he wants the ball to be visible to the umpire and so that it visibly leaves the wicket. I am about to come to something else that I hope will be convincing on this, but at the present time I want to summarize the principle of mobility of umpires has long been

Page 13
Semi-Finals:

Men's Singles: 18-year-old Carol Dalrymple defeated Kerry Thompson to win Group 1 and Grace McKay beat Ann Middleton in Group 2 but lost to Angela Mitchell who won the group.

Final:

MITCHELL bt Morrow 13, 6, 18, 10.

Women's Doubles-Final:

MITCHELL/J. MARSH bt Dalrymple/Morrow 17, 6, 20.

Mixed Doubles-Final:

KNAPP/J. MIDDLETON bt Tucker/Morrow 12, -8, 17, 16, 10.

Veteran's Singles-Final:

D. WALL (Canada) bt H. Kerr 17, 15.

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Australia I 4, Scotland II 1

Knapp/Javor bt McCulloch/McKay 14, 19.

Javor/Mcculloch bt Reeves/Shuttle 14, 19.

Javor bt Reeves 12, 9.

Shuttle bt McCulloch 19, 18, 11.

Thompson bt Mitchell 5, 15, 19.

Pinkewich bt McLean 14, 19, 20.

Tuckett/Morrow bt Weir/Fleming -18, -16.

Tuckett/Morrow bt McCulloch/McKay 19, 19.

Team Scotland 1 3, Australia II 4

Mitchell bt Mclean 14, 13.

D. Tuckett bt Weir 20, -21, 10.

L. Thompson bt Heasley 12, 15.

R. Yule bt Weir 12, 19.

Javor/Mcculloch bt Reeves/Shuttle 14, 19.

Javor bt Reeves 12, 9.

Shuttle bt McCulloch 19, 18, 11.

Thompson bt Mitchell 5, 15, 19.

Pinkewich bt McLean 14, 19, 20.

Tuckett/Morrow bt Weir/Fleming -18, -16.

Tuckett/Morrow bt McCulloch/McKay 19, 19.

Team Australia II 7, Northern Ireland 2

Pinkewich bt Heasley 7, 10.

P. Pinkewich bt Yule 10, 14.

Thompson bt Heasley 23, 19.

Sutherland bt Heasley 23, 19.

Tuckett/Morrow bt Weir/Fleming -18, -16.

Tuckett/Morrow bt McCulloch/McKay 19, 19.

Team Northern Ireland 2 3, Australia II 5

Pinkewich bt Heasley 7, 10.

P. Pinkewich bt Yule 10, 14.

Thompson bt Heasley 23, 19.

Sutherland bt Heasley 23, 19.

Tuckett/Morrow bt Weir/Fleming -18, -16.

Tuckett/Morrow bt McCulloch/McKay 19, 19.

Team Australia I 7, England 0

Pinkewich bt Heasley 7, 10.

P. Pinkewich bt Yule 10, 14.

Thompson bt Heasley 23, 19.

Sutherland bt Heasley 23, 19.

Tuckett/Morrow bt Weir/Fleming -18, -16.

Tuckett/Morrow bt McCulloch/McKay 19, 19.
TACKINESS C FOR DEFENCE - SPIN WITH CONTROL
Some local leagues who crib at the doubtful regular county play. However, any increase why the county did not now run a second senior unfortunate as at the moment I consider there are enough players who have agreed to pay all their expenses if a second team is entered. Would younger players agree to such an arrangement if a second senior team were entered next season? Now is the time to tell the County officials if this arrangement would find favour.

In the inter-county league, Bournemouth again won the major titles. Their mixed team retained the title with an unbeaten record with Portsmouth as runners-up. Basingstoke retained the men's division but only scraped through on sets average from Southampt on, with both teams unbeaten. The Junior first division was won for the fourth successive year by Bournemouth with an unbeaten record. The second junior division is not yet decided with Gossip the favourites to rep. Southampt on's "A", Bournemouth's "A", unbeaten winners of the veterans' division, plied the lopped understatement.

A quick round-up of the local leagues from which I have received reports.

No trouble in this respect in receiving information from Bournemouth as Harold Pearce sends me his excellent "21 up" magazine. In the individual championship Steve Wilson beat Chris Pickford for the premier title 15, 28. Janet New beat Betty Bratton for the women's singles. John Robinson won the U-17 junior, Janet Crosse the U-15 and Cheryl Cassell the U-13. The men's doubles went to Trevor Smith and Steve Wilson with Julie Hudson and Janet New winning the women's doubles. Robinson helped Janet New win her third title in the mixed, with Cyril Rushe winning the veterans. Unbeston Merton "A" took set to retain their veteran division title from Bournemouth. W.M.C.A. I am told to hear Joyce Coop is giving up the General Secretary's job of the Bournemouth Association. How they will replace her is anyone's guess for as Harold Pearce says "No one person can be expected to perform all the duties and tasks that Joyce has carried out".

Gossip successfully staged their finals on a Saturday occasion for the first time. Kitcher won the men's singles beating Kevin Brett 15, 16 in the final. A disappointment for the large crowd was the non-appearance of Kenneth Howell in the women's singles and mixed final. Why enter a tournament if you cannot attend the finals? This year's open was held in London. The women's doubles winning team was seen as the team to beat. Steve Wilson and Janet New winning the mixed, with Cyril Rushe winning the veterans. Unbeston Merton "A" look set to retain their veteran division title from Bournemouth. W.M.C.A. I am told to hear Joyce Coop is giving up the General Secretary's job of the Bournemouth Association. How they will replace her is anyone's guess for as Harold Pearce says "No one person can be expected to perform all the duties and tasks that Joyce has carried out".

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The veterans, as expected, clinched the West Division with a win over Wilshire and a foray to the play-off; I was asked recently how the county did not score even a second senior title. The simple answer is finance. This is understandable seeing the season I consider there are enough players who would jump at the chance of playing in a senior title. However, income in county fees to enable another team to be entered would, quite reasonably, receive criticism from some local leaguists who crib at the doubtful honour of being affiliated even at current fees.

Quite a lot has happened since my last report so I will gloss over some of the news. The county senior team continued its losing way with defeats (2-8) at the hands of Essex II and (3-9) to Middlesex II, although their 7-3 win over Surrey II, with the aid of two forfeited sets, may still mean they will avoid relegation. I consider the county need to rethink on their policy for selection for next season. Either they must concentrate on up-and-coming young stars and preserve a foray to the play-off; I was asked recently how the county did not score even a second senior title. The simple answer is finance. This is understandable seeing the season I consider there are enough players who would jump at the chance of playing in a senior title. However, income in county fees to enable another team to be entered would, quite reasonably, receive criticism from some local leaguists who crib at the doubtful honour of being affiliated even at current fees.

The answer is perhaps the approach made by veteran players who have agreed to pay all their expenses if a second team is entered. Would younger players agree to such an arrangement if a second senior team were entered next season? Now is the time to tell the County officials if this arrangement would find favour.

Proud champions — Suffolk!

With a cheerful 7-3 victory over their runners-up, Norfolk II, at the "No. 1" tournament Loddon, George Phillips, and Gary Longland were chosen as the two runners-up. Both runners-up had a number of local tournaments this season and made up for the season leading to the "No. 1" tournament. Loddon, George Phillips, and Gary Longland were chosen as the two runners-up. Both runners-up had a number of local tournaments this season and made up for the season leading to the "No. 1" tournament. Loddon, George Phillips, and Gary Longland were chosen as the two runners-up. Both runners-up had a number of local tournaments this season and made up for the season leading to the "No. 1" tournament. Loddon, George Phillips, and Gary Longland were chosen as the two runners-up. Both runners-up had a number of local tournaments this season and made up for the season leading to the "No. 1" tournament. Loddon, George Phillips, and Gary Longland were chosen as the two runners-up. Both runners-up had a number of local tournaments this season and made up for the season leading to the "No. 1" tournament. Loddon, George Phillips, and Gary Longland were chosen as the two runners-up. Both runners-up had a number of local tournaments this season and made up for the season leading to the "No. 1" tournament. Loddon, George Phillips, and Gary Longland were chosen as the two runners-up. Both runners-up had a number of local tournaments this season and made up for the season leading to the "No. 1" tournament. Loddon, George Phillips, and Gary Longland were chosen as the two runners-up. Both runners-up had a number of local tournaments this season and made up for the season leading to the "No. 1" tournament. Loddon, George Phillips, and Gary Longland were chosen as the two runners-up. Both runners-up had a number of local tournaments this season and made up for the season leading to the "No. 1" tournament. Loddon, George Phillips, and Gary Longland were chosen as the two runners-up. Both runners-up
The Silver Jubilee of the Association is to be celebrated at a social function to be held on Friday, 1st July, at Holt Fleet Hotel, Holt Heath, near Wroxham. It is very much hoped to see many of the past officials and players.

THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE SCENE

by Leslie Constable

NOT SUFFICIENT

Cambs beat Hunts 6-4 in their final match to Div 2 East of the County Championships, but it was not sufficient to win the title for the third successive season. As it is they finish, top on 9 points, with Hunts who beat Northants 6-2, taking the title on sets average, having 28 to 24. Pudding Day won both his singles beating Richard Jumma and J. Proffitt but in partnership with Michelle they lost to J. and S. Proffitt. Another vital win to see Pudding, L. Staff and J. Proffitt that these two double became final. Keith Richardson played well to win both the singles, against Jumma and S. Proffitt, but Sally Hirsh was well beaten by Diplofa Haines and Valerie Scribbs lost to Miss Hartwell.

Gamba II lifted themselves from bottom position in Div 3 East by beating Hunts 6-4. Former County Champion Tony Littleton made a good return to the County scene by beating Jim Sizer and Gen Abson, David Tiplady also beat Sizer and completed a fine double with a good win over Hunts No. 3 Alan Longden. Valerie Parker and Ruth Newman gave good support by beating Bethany Puts and Malene Ringrose respectively.

Sisk II proved too good for Cambs in a Junior Div 2 Midlands match on March 2nd. Jose Hunt, a last minute replacement for indisposed Rachel White, had a good win over Lynne Chamberlain, while the ever-consistent Andy Withers gained his usual win by beating Desmond Chart. David Birtner of Walsall had a marvellous debut in the Junior match against Hunts by winning both his singles against Michael Ringrose and Carl Heidlbut was unable to save his side from going down 3-7.

In the South East Midlands League Cambridge have won the Men’s Section (Div 2) East and will again be operating in the top right next season match to the rest of all remaining. Both the Veterans who come two of their section have to face no enquiring, and the other teams in the next season. Cambridge juniors were quite to lose to second-placed Repton in a semi Div 2 match and the 4-6 defeat involved seven games that went to 15. Keith Richardson, Robert Venn and David Searl each won a singles and Randell and Venn picked up a double. The Juniors gained their biggest success of the season when they knocked out Topley 3-0, but then went on to a further step to defeat Hurst Central II (Div 4). These two top sides, although coming too late to gain promotion, should stand them in good stead and next season should see them going all out to get back to Div 1. An extraordinary situation has arisen in the County. The League where it is possible that all three University teams may be playing in Div 2 next season. The first team who operate in Div 1 are deemed to defeat relegation but the other two who are in Divs 3A and 2 are top and should then both gain promotion then all three will meet up in the same division next season. Cambridge 3 is still ahead in Div 1 and must surely take the title. The Cambridge University Institute will make them fight all the way.

In the Cambs K.O. Handicap Trophy, Sisams 1 (the Holdens) are the only team in Divs 1 and 2 left in the competition. They beat N.C.I. III in the quarter-finals 2-3, after being 0-2 down, 20 points against in a 31 point match. Two wins from John Pudding and the draw from Roy Stunt kept the N.C.I. in the match for the first 6 sets but the Holdens had won 3, two sets to the 3rd. Martin Burt won the final in 1608 a set 6-1 6-3 against Tony Bell of Ipswich. Sisk I won against the N.C.I. in the final set to clinch the silverware. General Almon, a proud thrall against Howard Malby and at
Cumbria's Junior 1st team almost certainly lost the chance of going forward to the Junior Premier Cup when they went down 4-0 to division leaders Yorks at Millen in their final match of the season.

This encounter promised so much for Cumbria early in the match when they went 1-0 up at No. 1. However, the visitors took the other two singles and drew level by winning the opening doubles. The following two sets went to Yorks, the final one being a cliff-hanger with Chris narrowly narrowly winning.

CUMBRIA COMMENT

by John Taylor

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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE NOTES

by Christopher Hill

BRIGHT PROSPECTS

To say that the story of our team in the recent seasons has been one of "rags to riches" may be a slight overstatement, but the temperament shown has been little short of remarkable, as is borne out by the results of the league this year. The improvements have been so marked that the majority of the team are now regulars in the first team and the bright-looking prospects for next season are many, and will be put into greater detail next month.

Having been somewhat fortuitously re-instated in the league, our Senior First Team went on to win the Championship of Buckinghamshire for the first time in our history. This was no fluke, and the team will be looking to retain the title next season.

This match, played at Wotton-under-Edge, saw a remarkable comeback in the semi-finals against the leaders, Oxford. The Oxford team were seen as favourites by many, but the Buckinghamshire team pulled off the upset of the season.

The Junior 2nd team finished their season on a high note with a dramatic win against Daventry in the final. The team were down 3-0 against Daventry and drew 3-3 with Lancaster.

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Andrew Pochin has supported well throughout the season. His form was just beginning to come into his own towards the latter end and winning three out of four singles. Success for the girls has been fairly limited with ever present Elodie Mathis just gaining the one singles against Gay. Jan Heptin made a promising debut in the Oswal match by taking the doubles with Elodie and narrowly losing her singles. She then followed up with an undoubted show against Cleveland.

Joe Naser. The aforementioned boys' doubles season in that category after having failed to come into their own towards the latter end and winning three out of four singles. Success for the girls has been fairly limited with ever present Elodie Mathis just gaining the one singles against Gay. Jan Heptin made a promising debut in the Oswal match by taking the doubles with Elodie and narrowly losing her singles. She then followed up with an undoubted show against Cleveland.

The Senior team went down 3-7 in their re-arranged fixture with Darlington 1st at Darlington. Rens Townley gained one of the singles and Roger Stewart the other. Trowell and David Kirkpatrick (who were undoubted winners against Darlington) have taken most of the side's points between them so far and former No. 1 Tony Willis, would in the first to admit he had a pretty black season.

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K. J. Robertson bt S. Hession 8, 18, 21.
M.D.: D. Brown/Horsham bt Eadie/D. Iszatt
Final: Radford bt Robertson 14, 17.
W.D.: L. Barrow/Hession bt L. Budd/M. Nash.
Final: Potton bt Horsham 9, 7.

Still on the tournament front the Essex Open
ment was staged at the Ilford Ltd. Canteen,
the Hampshire match both coming in as late
of the order of play. In the women's singles
Leith bt J. Cooper 19, 19.

The junior tournament was dominated in the
ents as expected by Dore Newman and Helen
were a few surprises in the singles events
B. Chatterjee bt Catchpole 14, 13.
Brian Richardson and together had a comfortable
for their involvement and sponsorship of this
tournament. Basley Eves are the largest estate agents in
country with branches in every town.

Our Junior team are flying high at present and
from their first match to the fore as Kent won
boys were on the right end of a 7-3 reca./

The Junior team consisted of Alan Lampbell, Allen
put the Junior girls' doubles into the final. Malene
The boys' singles, the only section
Chatterjee bt Sayer 16, 17.

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SURREY NOTES
By Ted Simkin

A record entry of 100 participants, an excellent setting in the new Binham Leisure Centre at Walton, and a highly efficient and generous provision of tables, surrounds, and balls by H.C. and L. had all contributed to a highly successful Closed recently. Norman Hope, his helpers worked hard and added greatly to the success of the County for their efforts. There were 115 entries in the 1-17 section, with a notable attempt by Martin & Richard Cross to reach the Closed semi-finals. Following his win over the title holder (for the third time!) 110 in the U-14, in which Mark Oakley triumphed over Glen Brockway, Pauline Jackson found no challenge in the tables, and with Peter Ward and Peter Packham there were no trouble in taking the title over Northglen.

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day:-Trevor Bunn took the Men's title, which
X.D.: Bennett/Ribbans bt Archer/Pearce
urday, Feb. 12, and the Seniors

V.S.: Daves Hardy bt Brian Loveday (Holder)

U:17- Nigel Howseum by Paul Brown 14, 12.
14: Chris Aseran at Edward Holman 19- 19, 11.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE GALLERY

by Dave Foulser

COUNTY FINISH BOTTOM

Regrettably the Gloucestershire County team finished bottom in 3rd Division West of the County Championship. Gloucestershire's form in the last two competitions has been poor and there is no doubt that things will improve. A visit to Bristol where they won both rounds, including a thrilling 10-0 victory. The competition includes a number of clubs who have been successful in previous years.

D17: Nigel Howseum bt Paul Brown 14, 12.

DEVEN NOTES

by Keith Ponting

JUNIORS DOMINATE

If evidence, were needed of the strength of junior table tennis in Plymouth, the place to be was at the Devonport Guildhall on Sunday, Feb. 20, the event being the Devon Junior County Championships. Of the five finals played, including the Devonshire Cup, junior players were prominent in three. The most notable performance, I feel, was that of Michael Sharman who, in the Boys' Doubles, defeated 'wily campaigners' Barry Davis and Adrian Wright in the final, and on the way did well to reach the semi-finals against Martin and Andrew, each with 17-15 in the second set, and 15-13 in the third. The other semi-final between Cambridge and Walsall was equally entertaining with Martin and Andrew winning seven and drawing two of their last nine matches. The team comprised Gill Little, Adam Berry, myself and Norman Malcolm. They had finished in third place in Div. 2 for two consecutive seasons and have now made it into the top three.

Div. 1 in Cheltenham has been won for the first time by Asquith, who comprise John Cameron, Bernie Clements, Adrian Vokes, Steve Moreman, Ray Dillon and Pat Funge. It is encouraging to note that Colin "A"'s young talent, Martin Lane and Martin Cain, did well to reach the semi-final but lost to Mike Darlington, of Exeter. His opponent, Martin Lane, was defeated by Barry Davis and Adrian Wright in the final.

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LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES

by Joan Robinson

DOUBLE DEFEAT

The Lincolnshire County Championship was won by Nottinghamshire United who defeated the Lincolnshire team 3-0. The match was played on 24th June at the Leicestershire Cricket Club and was attended by a good crowd. Nottinghamshire won the first rubber 6-4, the second 6-4, and the third 4-6.

WILTSHIRE NOTES

by Lucy Sabey

YOUNG CHAMPIONS

Two 17-year-olds were crowned king and queen of Wiltshire table tennis and both are eligible to compete in the national championships that will be held in September. The king is Kevin Edwards, who won the men's singles title, while the queen is Suzanne Smith, who won the women's singles title.

SUSSEX NOTES

by John Woodford

TITLE CAPTURED

Sussex, having captured the Division 7 (South) title, were one of the top teams in the county. They were placed second in the County Championship play-off matches at St. Neots, and this time the strength of the opposition will not be underestimated.

NORTHANTS NOTES

by Dennis Millman

“BRIAN RIX” CONDITIONS

Black Ado About Nothing and not “As You Like It” was the choice for the important County Junior match staged at Lings Theatre, Weston Favell, when Northants were the victors. The match was attended by a good crowd.

Page 23
Thomas partnered veteran "M.otto" Jones to be Shropshire’s No. 2 county player, and county player Heather Flint beat junior Tracey Powell.

**Telford T;TA’s Closed tournament were very successful:**
- MS: A. Hiscock bt N. Thomas 10, 16.
- U-14 Singles: A. Parker bt T. Cardwell.
- U-17 Singles: S. Chew bt G. Ball 21, 11.

**borough although hard press d by Compton**

**extremely open with the seeding committee**

**situation to take the second without being**

**in our neighbouring County at the N .E. C.**

**TOURNAMENTS**

**Table Tennis Club, St. James Institute, Stour­**

**and also the first by an Oxfordshire Junior for**

**Staffordshire Notes**

**By Alan Cavell**

**Tournaments**

The finalists in the various events of the Telford TIA’s Closed tournament were very much predicted. In the finals veteran Albert Hinchoc early beat junior Nigel Thomas, who is Scratchy and county player Heather Flint beat junior Tracey Powell. Both the county singles titles and county player and partner veteran Wally while he had combined to take the doubles, they engaged in their customary, almost predictable singles final, with Anne taking the first, Mark finding back to level in the second, before Jamie’s extra energy and determination, gave her a deserved advantage and victory in the third.

**Results:**
- M.S.: G. Alden bt D. Smith 13, 16.
- V.S.: Dennis Millin bt T. Burton 17, 15, 17.
- J.D.: A. Hiscock bt N. Thomas 10, 16.

**Derbyshire notes**

**By Anne Fearnemough**

**NO BREAD FOR JUNIORS**

In the last County match of the season, the 1st team played Cheshire 2nds away. The match finished 3-5 with David Yallon and Neil Marples beating Derek Schofield, and with the women winning their three as usual.

In the Potteries Closed, Isaac took the Flinchen Cup in the men’s final, beating Eddie Wilson in a match through from an unseeded position. Wilson won the junior title from Mark Evans, and in the women’s final, Miss E. Parry to win the Baker Cup. Other winners were Trevor Burrows and Paul Steele (D.D.), Mrs. Brookes and Miss Dancy (W.D.), Burrows and Miss K. Waite (mixed) and R. Booth (veterans). The Stafford Closed men’s title was again won by John Taylor, who, with Barry Donnelly, also retained the doubles trophy. David Wright was in winning mood, taking the intermediate, handicap and consolation events.

**Derbyshire Notes**

**By Anne Fearnemough**

**NO BREAD FOR JUNIORS**

In the last County match of the season, the 1st team played Cheshire 2nds away. The match finished 3-5 with David Yallon and Neil Marples beating Derek Schofield, and with the women winning their three as usual.

In the Potteries Closed, Isaac took the Flinchen Cup in the men’s final, beating Eddie Wilson in a match through from an unseeded position. Wilson won the junior title from Mark Evans, and in the women’s final, Miss E. Parry to win the Baker Cup. Other winners were Trevor Burrows and Paul Steele (D.D.), Mrs. Brookes and Miss Dancy (W.D.), Burrows and Miss K. Waite (mixed) and R. Booth (veterans). The Stafford Closed men’s title was again won by John Taylor, who, with Barry Donnelly, also retained the doubles trophy. David Wright was in winning mood, taking the intermediate, handicap and consolation events.

**Merton Junior Open**

Originally scheduled for 17th April, the Merton Junior Open will now take place on Sunday, May 8th. Entries can be had from Miss Julie Hadson, the Tournament Secretary, at 23 Green Road, New Milton, Hants. This event is in the Merton Table Tennis Club, St. Andrew’s Rd, Southsea, Bournemouth.

**Cotswold 2-star Junior**

In the match between the U/12 U.S. and T.P. the U/12 U.S. was beaten by the T.P. The match was won by the T.P. who were the winners of the match by a score of 3-0. The T.P. were the winners of the match by a score of 3-0.
Unlike previous occasions in Singapore, Cardiff and Melbourne, when England swamped the proceedings, it was Hong Kong who dominated the 4th Commonwealth Championships played at the Beau Sejour Leisure Centre, St. Peter Port, Guernsey over the period March 16-23 winning six of the seven titles at stake and, for good measure, taking the men’s consolation singles as well.

England, although not represented by their best players, managed the other main title, namely the women’s doubles, won by Melody Ludi and Karen Witt, the Berkshire lass also winning the women’s consolation singles beating Elaine Smith of Scotland in the final.

But the player of the Championships was undoubtedly the men’s singles winner Li Kuang Tsu of Hong Kong who, in the men’s team event, was the only player to finish with an unblemished record.

England’s Andy Barden, runner-up in the singles, suffered just one reverse in the team contest and that to Lii Kuang Tsu whose use of differing rubbers and constant twisting of his bat baffled all and sundry.

In both team events England finished in second place and might well have finished first in the female category but for surrendering a 2-1 lead established over Hong Kong.

Not so the men who were well beaten 3-2 by Hong Kong in their final first stage match in which Barden and Jimmy Walker claimed the successes both at the expense of Chen Scheng Shien, the latter taking his revenge by eliminating Walker in the second round of the men’s singles.

Walker, who lost his other two sets in the Hong Kong encounter, was also beaten by Stephen Knapp of Australia who finished in third position.

In the women’s team matches was the impressive form of Melody Ludi and Karen Witt as a doubles pair their only loss in seven sets being to Leow Hock Moi and Tan Kek Hiang of Singapore, 17 in the third.

Neither John Hilton nor Donald Parker advanced their stock in the team events but the Cheshire man came good in the individuals only losing to Barden, 13 in the fifth, in the semi-finals of the men’s singles. Parker going out to Knapp in the quarters.

John Kitchener, who played only in the individual events, also got through to the quarters at which stage he let slip a 2-0 lead over Errol Costant of Canada.

In the counterpart women’s event Karen Rogers and Angela Mitchell reached the quarts, the former losing to Siu Kit Man of Hong Kong and the latter to Rupa Banerjee, formerly of India and now of Canada.

Chang Siu Ying was the winner with a final victory over her compatriot Siu Kit Man, Barden and Hilton had a tremendous win over Cheng Ke Yick and Li Kuang Tsz of Hong Kong in the quarter of the men’s doubles but disappointed in losing to Paul Fishwick and Robert Tuckett of Australia in the semi-finals. The event was won by Chen Sheng Shien and Wong Ju Yung.

Melody and Karen Witt had run in wins over Irena Cordas/Marianne Domonkos (Canada) and Indu Puri and Shailaja Salokhe (India) prior to beating Banerjee and Violette Nesukaitis (Canada) in the final of the women’s doubles.

In the mixed Andy and Melody advanced to the final only to be beaten by Li Kuang Tsz and Siu Kit Man in straight games.

President Horace Mellett and the Guernsey Association are to be congratulated on their
Men's Doubles: Quarter-finals:
Barden/HHton bt Cheng Ke Yick/Li Kuang Tsu
Chang Siu Ying bt Banerjee 19, 20, -16, 15.

R. Banerjee (CAN) bt A. Stevenson (ENG)
Chang Siu Ying bt Senior 12, 15, 18:
Siu Kit Man bt Rogers 10, -16, 17, -25, 17;
K. Senior (IRE) bt M. Ludi (ENG) 14, 21, 13;
A. Mitchell (ENG) bt K. Thompson (AUL) 14, 4, 14;

Quarter-finals:
K. Rogers (ENG) bt S. Hunt (ENG) 16, 19, 10;
Siu Kit Man (HKG) bt A. Middleton (AUL) 11, 8, 12;
S. Salokhe (IND) bt H. Morrow (AUL) 19, 6, 6;

Final:
Women's Singles: Round 3:
Li Kuang Tsu bt Chen Scheng Shien 16, 14, 17.

Semi-finals:
Hilton bt Cheng Ke Yick 11, -15, 23, 13;
Quarter-finals:
R. Yule (SCO) bt G. Davies (WAL) 17, -19, 15, 17;
S. Knapp (AUL) bt D. Parker (ENG) 15, 13, -20, -21, 12;

Chen Scheng Shien bt Caetano -16, -12, 19, 8, 20.

Mixed doubles, also from Hong Kong. Wong to Veng (left) and Chen Scheng Shien.

Mixed doubles winners, also from Hong Kong. Wong to Veng (left) and Chen Scheng Shien.

Photo by Camera Centre, Guernsey.
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I have recently moved to Essex from Yorkshire, but before I moved I played 3 matches for Harrogate Juniors in the Yorkshire Junior Division 2 when I was also undefeated. Also, Neil Eglock wasn't playing the day we played Leeds IV.

However, in the March edition of TT NEWS it says that only Neil Eglock and Trevor Watson are undefeated in Yorkshire Junior Division 2 when I was also undefeated.

Gregory Clement

14 Dalewood Avenue, Emerson Park, Hornchurch, Essex, RM11 3PJ
The East of England Championships were again held as High Ridge Sports Hall, Scunthorpe sponsored by Scunthorpe Borough Council.

No.1 seed in the Men's Singles was Chris Sewell, but he departed in the quarter-finals at the hands of 'evergreen' Derek Schofield. But success was short lived as Alan Fletcher accounted for him in the semi-final. The other men's semi saw Nigel Eckersley account for Phil Bowen and then win the final.

The Women's Singles lost its top seed Suzanne Hunt without a ball being struck, when she was unable to get from a tournament the previous day in time for the event. The semifinals were Linda Hicks who beat Cheryl Buttery and Jo White, whose defence was too much for Linda Hryszko. The final saw Linda play Jo at her own game and win a close straight.

The Men's Doubles furthered the Eckersley back balance, when he partnered his singles opponent Fletcher to see off Juniors Kevin Beardsley and Mike Harrison.

Linda Hryszko took command of the remaining women's events with a hat trick, beating Women's Champion Linda Holmes in the Girls' Singles, and partnered by Mrs. Shields and Beardsley, won the Women's and Mixed Doubles.

The Boys' Singles produced the shocks with both top seeds being beaten before the final. Mark Hankey had a well-deserved win over Beardsley at Rd. 4, before the semi match against the eventual winner Stephen Cowley, whose opponent was the final was Glen Stredrer who reached the final at the expense of Harrison and Steven Mills, both England-ranked Juniors.

The 'Veterans' Singles witnessed the defeat of the holder Peter D'Arcy by his arch rival Schofield after he partnered Finals for Lincolnshire's top veteran Peter Skerratt and Matt Sheader respectively.

Prize Money for the Tournament was donated by one of Lincolnshire's Vice-Presidents, Mr. R. P. Rusin, and the President Mr. A. J. Riggott, whose assistance is greatly appreciated. Over 300 sets were played in nearly 12 hours and we hope all taking part enjoyed themselves as much as the Organisers enjoyed staging the Tournament.

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As I saw Birmingham

by JOHN WOODFORD

★ BIRMINGHAM 1977 was my third world championship. It will surely never feature in my memory box as eleven days in a sapphirine hanger. My previous world's were at Middlesbrough and Sanjuaro where both venues were existing stadia. However, on this occasion the whole thing in general was that it was a success. Those magnificently new world championships are acclaimed must bring a lump in the throats of many present. Those magic moments I would travel a long way to see - now some of the other countries can have the worry, England's share is over, mercifully, for perhaps a generation.

★ Most of the complaints from the paying spectators concerned the high price of the food at the N.E.C. restaurants, although most had been warned. No doubt, the N.E.C. organisation can defend their prices - many of the events staged there are trade exhibitions with most people on firm's expense. The distance the staff have to travel is another factor, the cost of constructing such an enormous complex of exhibition halls can only be staggering. I would think, if the N.E.C. food prices were frozen for a year from now it would become more reasonable.

★ Anything new seems possible for Carole Knight now she has taken the world champion as far as 21-15 in the 18. See how most of the Asians dislike heavy loop - Joney's successes in the team events and now Surbeck's fine run in the men's singles. Pat Yung Sun clearly had the points on his side in the final. I am informed the photographers' seats were 56 bauau, as against a requirement at least for cameras of 66. But apparently, there were few complaints from the players on that issue.

★ There is no doubt that England's army of administrators did a tremendous job and did the army of umpires. There are still some people who do not know the reason why John Masters and Jack McNick took action after the event. The reason was, of course, that the ball was shielded by the body on the serve. Full marks for courageous action, which might not have been taken by umpires from other countries. It would be unfair to single out the N.E.C. restaurant although most had been warned, Pat Ferrier, a member of the same Committee. All together the prize money totalled £110.

★ I doubt if there ever has been, or ever will be, a world event where all the facilities and playing conditions will suit everybody. The floor at the N.E.C. was of the non-slip variety but it was certainly tiring and very hard on the feet. The height in the No. 2 arena was, in my view, extremely poor. I am informed the photo- graphic's sector seating was 90 bauau, as against a requirement at least for cameras of 66. But apparently, there were few complaints from the players on that issue.

★ There is no doubt that England's army of administrators did a tremendous job and did the army of umpires. There are still some people who do not know the reason why John Masters and Jack McNick took action after the event. The reason was, of course, that the ball was shielded by the body on the serve. Full marks for courageous action, which might not have been taken by umpires from other countries. It would be unfair to single out the N.E.C. restaurant although most had been warned, Pat Ferrier, a member of the same Committee. All together the prize money totalled £110.

★ Finally, the spirit of friendship shown throughout at Birmingham by all concerned was exceptionally good. One or two tempers became frayed, but that was inevitable. Mike Lawless's job as the event looked relatively easy, but then he had, I am sure, put in thousands of hours work in the 1982 months, and that is how it should be. Ending on a personal note, I managed to bury two hat-hats — former enemies acquired from my battles in my CONTROVERSEY column. This shows that personal contacts reap more rewards than chills with pens and typewriters. Two new friends made out of enemies and then watching the tears of emotion flow from Misuira Kohni at the Press interview fifteen minutes after the crowning, made it for me, all worthwhile.

FOR EXTRA LIFE SPRAY WITH SIMONAL - ONLY FROM MILETA

MIDDLESBOROUGH CHAMPIONSHIPS

by ALAN RANSOME

Linda Walker was the surprise winner of the Middlesbrough Championships played at Brancepeth School, Middlesbrough, on 17th April, beating Denis Neale in the final.

For the second successive year the Championships were sponsored by Middlesborough Council's Recreation and Amenities Committee and were divided into two groups, the Open section, which was for players from all parts of Cleveland, and Closed section which was restricted to members of the Middlesbrough and District League.

In the final Walker took the opening game comfortably with Neale not quite looking his normal self. The second game followed suit with Walker leading 14-2 when Neale suddenly recovered with 10 successive points, only for Walker to come back in the latter stages and take the second narrowly.

Walker took his second title when partnered by Tony Martin beating Neale and Carole Knight in the Doubles final.

As could be anticipated, Carole Knight retained the Women's Singles title, although Angela Tremain did put it a good display in the final. She came into her own in the Junior Girls Singles in which she beat her fellow England ranked junior June Willmott over 3 games in the final.

Another seeding upset came in the Junior Boys Singles when County No. 1 Jan Piuterton was beaten by Michael Laid in 3 games.

The prises were presented by Councillor Walker Ferrier, Chairman of Middlesborough Council's Recreation and Amenities Committee, and his wife Counsellor Pat Ferrier, a member of the same Committee. All together the prize money totalled £110.

LANCASHIRE NOTES

by George Yates

PROMOTION FOR JUNIORS

Lancashire's juniors did well at Burnt to win the Promotion Challenge, with wins over Staffs (8-2). Devon (6-4) and a draw (5-5) against Surrey. Devon will accompany Lancashire into next season's Junior Premier Division.

The AGO of the Lancs TTA and the Lancs and Ches League will take place on May 30 at Leigh Library, the League AGM starting at 7.30 p.m.

In the Lancs and Cheles League Manchester took the 1st Division title with a 109 per cent record although their final match away to Porth at first did not take place, as the home team had forgotten to book the venue.

Div. 2 (North) winners were Blackburn although Salford/Eccles, the other contestants, had lodged a protest. Div. 2 (South) was won by St. Helen's who have also captured Div. 4 (S) and the Women's Div. 2. The Women's Div. 1 title was won by Stockport and the Junior first division by Barrow, Wigan won the Youth Division.

WANTED

Zdenko Ubojicic of Zagreb, Yugoslavia, helped a great deal with material for the ITTF's 50th Anniversary souvenir brochure in which material was also used from Richard Bergmann's book "ITTF Up!". Although now out of print Zdenko would like to acquire a copy for which he is willing to pay. Please contact The Editor if you can oblige.
SATHE-EAST MIDLANDS LEAGUE CLOSED TOURNAMENT

Richard Jermyn of North Herts was successful in winning the men's singles title when he defeated Keith Richardson of Ely in two close games. Jermyn is playing very finely now although he had a close one in the semi against Lee Wooding of Milton Keynes. Results:-

M.S. Semi-Finals:

K. Richardson bt R. Marchant (Wellingborough) 17, -11, 19; R. Jermyn bt L. Wooding 19, 11, 19.

Final:

Jermyn bt Richardson 19, 19.
W.S.: M.S. Jermyn bt M. Rin­

grose (Hunts Central) 19, 17.

M.D.: T. Clark (Milton Keynes)/Wooding bt H. Richardson (Ely)/Richardson 13, -13, 17.

Div. 2 Men's Singles:

D. Tiplady (Cambridge) bt K. Green (Cam­

bridge) 10, 12.

CHAMPIONS ALL

Men’s Div. 1 Winners—Ely

Men’s Div. 2 Winners—Cambridge

Junior Div. 1 Winners—North Herts

Veterans Div. 1 Winners—St. Neots

Reserve Division Winners—Northampton.
Study Groups at the Worlds

by GORDON STEGGALL
Chairman, ETTA Coaching and Schools Committee

The Coaching scheme operates in England through the services of over 1900 Coaches who in the main give their time completely free for the benefit of other players. They occasionally get some financial reward but this is usually spent on travelling expenses when ferrying some of their young players to tournaments etc. To assist them in the instruction of players at Basic level a Coaching Manual was prepared and placed on the market last year. This has been received with great acclaim and has accelerated improvements immensely. With the advent of the World being held in England, the Coaching Committee felt that it was necessary, to supplement the Manual, a Study group should be set up to analyse play and report back any variations or recommendations so that standards can be improved in the intermediate and advanced areas.

The Group comprised:-
Gordon Steggall (Chairman Coaching Committee) Peter Berez (National Coach) Peter Clarth (Selection Committee) D. Parker (Loughborough College) J. Clarke T. Flett A. Woolven (Video) D. Richards (Video)

The Sport was split up into four main headings and work has and at this moment is being carried out on the project.

1. PSYCHOLOGICAL SURVEY. Under this each item as the following were studied. Motivation, Mental attitude and performance - mental stimulation - mental preparation - mental rest - dedication - confidence - the role of a Captain - the way in which Team Members - used response, situation response - mental practice. Results are to be published as soon as practice and improvement of skills.

2. TECHNICAL
A. Grip, Effects on strokes - changes within rally etc.
B. 3 Stages of stroke production, both backhand and forehand.
C. Stage 1. Strokes receive and generally holding play tight.
D. Stage 2. Intermediate all rallying strokes, top spins, counter hits, switching play, etc.
F. Length of Strokes - relation to table - relation to width of net.
G. Timings early peak, late in relation to various stages of stroke required and received.
H. Recovery positions in relation to target areas taken.

3. PHYSICAL
A. Physical
B. Nutritional
C. Technical Stroke physical

Unfortunately, the main part of a player's physical preparation should have taken place before arriving at Birmingham but nevertheless there was ample scope in studying such items as:

1. Length of sleep, time of getting up, time of arriving at Birmingham but nevertheless there was ample scope in studying such items as:
2. Diet and eating habits
3.维生素 and minerals
4. Training and fitness
5. Rest and relaxation
6. Traveling expenses when ferrying some of their young players to tournaments etc.

In addition to the Study Group, over forty representatives were selected for the Commonwealth Championships at the Beau Sejour Leisure Centre, Guernsey, the Classification Committee chaired by Denis George of Scotland, issued the following revised rankings.

COMMONWEALTH Rankings

Meeting after the 4th Commonwealth Championships at the Beau Sejour Leisure Centre, Guernsey, the Classification Committee chaired by Denis George of Scotland, issued the following revised rankings.

Man
1. Li Kang Tian (HKG)
2. A. Barden (ENG)
3. Chen Sheng Shien (HKG)
4. Yang Yu Teng (HKG)
5. D. Timings early peak, late (Percentages taken).
6. J. Milon (ENG)
7. Guernsey TTA, was elected Chairman for the weekend of July 1-3 and full discussion together with video back-ups will be presented.
8. R. Yule (SCO)
9. R. Banerjee (CAN)
10. R. Tupton (AUL)
11. S. How (AUL)
12. R. Yule (SCO)
13. L. Morris (NEZ)

Women
1. Chang Sui Ying (HKG)
2. Sue Re (SSG)
3. R. Benterne (CAN)
4. R. Senior (ENG)
5. K. Wirt (ENG)
6. S. Subhakar (IND)
7. K. Rogers (ENG)
8. M. Lod (ENG)
9. I. Lauren (CAN)
10. A. Mitchell (ENG)
11. M. Lowman (CAN)
12. G. McKeown (SCO)
13. J. Part (NZD)
14. V. Woodward (AUL)
15. A. Shoneyev (AUS)
16. Tan Reik (SIN)

COMMONWEALTH COMMITTEE

At the B.D.M. of the Commonwealth Championships in Guernsey Mr Horace Mailert of the Guernsey TTA was elected Chairman for the next two years, in succession to Mr Keith Bowler of Australia Mr Bowler succeeded in the year 1972.

The ETTA's Deputy Chairman, George R. Yates, was returned to the Management Committee along with Denis George of Scotland as the European representatives.
When B.B.C., T.V.'s engineering manager first peeped inside the N.E.C., half big enough to hide a fleet of jumbo jets he said: "It can't be done!" His shake of the head was a further indication that putting the 34th World (Table Tennis) Championship onto the nation's television screens was going to stretch the elasticity of nerves and equipment to the very limits.

To produce 33 hours of television with only five cameras to cover four main tables AND another studio in like playing conditions with a hall that explodes on the 12th stroke! It sharpened the concentration wonderfully, but plays havoc with the digestion.

It had been 20 odd years since the championships had last graced our shores, and while spares outside broadcasting had developed in the meantime into a highly skilled, highly costly and very sophisticated form of television, the public interest in the game itself had diminished. Long gone were the days when table tennis could attract crowds of 8,000 to the King's Park Woolwich. So what sort of audience could we expect if we put the game onto the silver screen?

That was the much debated question before the decision was finally taken not to cover the world championships, but to saturate the nation's television screens with the game. It was almost a Wimbledonian operation, but the thrill of seeing the action filmed with an hour's highlights each evening. The difference was that while Wimbedon is a well-tried and tested annual event, with a large number of experienced personnel, the table tennis was to be a one-off event produced by a handful of staff.

Apart from the riggers, camera men and other technical assistants, the official make-up for the B.B.C. operation was an engineer, Paul Long, two producers, Bob Duns and John Shrewsbury, a video-editor, John Vigui; three girl programmers' assistants, and four commentators, myself, Peter Walker, Alan Ransome and Johnny Leach.

A not a lot of people to produce the equivalent of seven Saturday Grandstands. It is not until a couple of weeks after a programme has been screened that we know how many people actually took the trouble to tune in.

With the benefit of hindsight and the baffling intricacies of audience research we know that in television terms at least, the 34th World Championships were a great success.

Delays for the three hours of 'live' table tennis each afternoon numbered upwards towards the one million mark and a half million watching on the Sunday afternoon.

For the evening highlights programmes the audience rose steadily throughout the championships, from one million up to almost one and a half million, until on semi-finals day, Tuesday, April 8th when there were on the air on B.B.C. 2 at the slightly earlier time of 9.20 p.m., it reached the staggering figure of TWO MILLION!

Now at first glance these figures might seem small when you compare them say with an audience of nine million for National Week or Match of the Day. But don't forget this was on B.B.C. 2 and the time was a new one to the majority of viewers. At the time of writing I don't yet know what the audience figures were for finals day, but it is reasonable to anticipate that they might be even higher. We had felt that public interest would be higher for the individual competitions than for the team championships, but no one could have predicted that we would reach two million people and then be hoping for even more.

The next logical question is why were the championships so successful on T.V.? Well there can be no doubt that the standard of play and skill took many people's breath away. I have never been involved in any sporting event in which so many people have approached me afterwards and wanted to talk about it. This was the greatest array of table tennis skills that had ever been assembled. In one of our programmes I said that the game had entered a new dimension, and that even seeing was sometimes not following. It was like peeping through a keyhole at super beings from a different planet. Enthusiasts like the one in which Johansson and Li Chen Shih exchanged 36 winners in 20 seconds just defied belief.

But what a marvellous advert for the game.

Paul Long, the editor, and I had felt that part of our job at the start of the championships was to re-equip the public about table tennis. There was hardly a man, woman or child in the British Isles who hadn't held a table tennis bat at some time. But for most of them it was still a game remembered from youth club days, or a pleasant pastime to idle away a spot of time in a camp. In their minds it was and always would be, ping-pong. We set out to tell them that it wasn't any longer and show them the pictures to prove it.

MILESTONE

Am I selling the case too hard if I suggest that a wave of post-championships enthusiasm might have turned. Perhaps in a few weeks time the table tennis manufacturers will tell us that a wave of post-championships enthusiasm has increased sales of bats and profit.

But what of the long term? Even now, in some dusty church hall a gritty nine-year-old hand might have a hand clasped around a battered old bat in the first act of producing a future world champion. I hope so. I wouldn't wish to castigate our current players of the importance of it. Nor do we match the iron will of the Eastern bloc countries. We haven't the financial rewards that encourage players like Bengtsson and Johansson, and should we complain?

I have a lasting memory of Bengtsson during his quarter-final match with Mitsuhiro Kohno of Japan. Bengtsson's eyes were haunted by the importance of it.

I have many memories of Birmingham. I enjoyed every minute of it. But two things astounded me during the championships. One was the rip-off approach of the N.E.C. where a sandwich and a can of coke after work was £1.30, and the other was the predominance of newspaper headlines about the rows and disputes among the English team.
In the absence of Iris Mews, who did much of the preparatory work with umpires, and to whom much thanks is due, the umpire were under the control of Duncan Stanstead, Fred Green, and Harvey Webb. All did a splendid job throughout. Len Pilditch, Tony Chartwin and Gordon Lightbody, the three Assistant Referees, also earned the thanks of the Association for seeing the tournament progressed smoothly to its conclusion.

Then the umpires and table controllers. Ranging from the very young to the “mature”, from “green” to very experienced, from newly qualified to holders of the International Umpire qualification, they all gave their best, mostly without complaint. Make no mistake about it: it was these people who were really in charge and a fine job they made of it!

The mention of umpires brings me to my last topic, and to two umpires in particular: John Masters and Jack Melnick, who, respectively, controlled the Men’s and Women’s Singles finals.

That both are personal friends of mine does not enter into this; that both are experienced and have the highest qualification is more important; that both are excellent umpires is the reason for this paragraph. No umpire wants to “fail” a player, but one who does not call a service which is foul, or which he is unable to see, is, quite simply, not doing his job. No blame can be attached to an umpire should a player produce a bad or hidden service as a tactical point; the call must be made whether at love-all in the first or at 24-25 in the fifth. The reaction of sections of the crowd to officials doing their job, and doing it well, was quite deplorable.

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BEWARE OF INFERIOR IMITATIONS

Letter to the Editor

MAKE NO MISTAKE

I would like to thank a number of people for the assistance they gave me in connection with the World Championships. Although Mike Watts was not a member of the Technical Committee, he and his staff had to work closely with us on the production of result sheets and other bulletins. His patience and co-operation were much appreciated.
Finalists were all county players and with total preparations for the World Championships, the BS: C. Rogers (Le) bt D. Bennett (Nk) 13, 11. WS: L. Barrow (E) bt C. Buttery (Li) 12, 22.

A chance for another title was lost by Crimmins when with Graham Sandley he went down in the men’s doubles final to Alan Croome and Brian Hill. This was another upset, for Croome and Hill had been seeded 4, with beaten finalists 3. Crimmins and Sandley had put top seeds Eckersley and Mick Harper.

There was a disappointment in the women’s singles event with top seed and former winner Karen Rogers unable to take part because of a pulled stomach muscle. Cheryl Buttery surprisingly got through to the final, but then this unseeded 17-year-old went down to No. 2 seed Linda Barrow.

Like Crimmins in the men’s section, Mrs. Barrow also failed when she appeared in the doubles. With Tina Pickard the top seeds went down to teenagers Alison Gordon and Helen Williams. But the visiting Australian, Vicki Woodward, lost to Sue Little in the semi of the women’s singles and, at the same stage both in the women’s doubles and the mixed when partnered by Wendy Shaw and Eckerley.

Top seed Chris Rogers beat No. 2 seed Linda Holmes to take the girls’ title. Top seed Chris Rogers beat No. 2 seed Linda Holmes to take the girls’ title. Top seed Chris Rogers beat No. 2 seed Linda Holmes to take the girls’ title. Top seed Chris Rogers beat No. 2 seed Linda Holmes to take the girls’ title.

SALFORD/ECCLES 2-STAR OPEN

 Omega on the Horizon

On completion of their own premises midway through the 1975/76 season, Omega TTC was formed with approximately 20 playing members ranging between the ages of 11 to 21. Being an ambitious club, they have set themselves an “elite” policy.

Drawing on juniors throughout the County, Peter Charles and Big Hart, almost had one of their dreams realised in their first season. The women’s team comprising Alison Gordon, Jill Pullen, Caroline Rees, Mandy Smith and Karen Witt narrowly lost to Ormskirk, in the final of the National Club competition for women, in a fiercely contested final. This reverse at the ultimate stage of the competition followed a fine win against Fellows Cruachan, one of the favourites.

On the men’s side Omega have reached the last eight after beating some of the strongest club sides in the south of England. Spearheading the team is David Reeves, the current English Junior champion, and he is ably assisted by Andy Wellman, Simon Heaps, Jim Cloos and Mark Wellman to name but a few.

For the past two seasons Omega have supplied virtually all members of the Berkshire Senior Country side and about 75% of the Junior team. This is almost certain to climb into the England rankings and, currently through to the quarter-finals of the National Club competition. Pictured (from left to right):- Andy Wellman, Dave Reeves and Simon Heaps.
National Leagues
Championships
by Keith Panting

Shock result of the Quarter-finals in the Wilmott Cup was the 5-3 defeat of the holders, Olnnesby, at Manchester. Ormesby have dominated this competition for many years and this was their first defeat since the 1968-69 season, a tremendous record by any standards. Denis Nade had to withdraw from the visitors' team with a bout of flu and was replaced by Nicky Jarvis, far from fit owing to an injured back, but sport is all about taking your chances when they come and Manchester's Nigel Ekersley, Phil Brown and John Hilton did just that, and good luck to them. Ekersley and Hilton won two each and against Ormesby were gained by Jimmy Walker. Birmingham must now be considered favourites to take the title and against Chesterfield had little trouble in a 7-2 win, with Derek Munt unbeaten, the remaining wins coming from Bob Brown and Paul Judd. Maurice Billington won the two for Chesterfield. Dagenham have done well this season and a fine maximum from Kevin Caldon plus two from Ian Robertson gave them a 5-2 win at St. Albans whose Firoz Nilam and Les Wooding scored one each.

ROSE BOWL

Ormesby's spirits were lifted two days later with a 5-2 win against Bradford. New English Open and Closed Champion Carole Knight led the way with a fine maximum, although taken to three by Melody Ludi. Angela Tierney and June Williams notched one set each. North Middlesex gained a good win at Ipswich thanks to unbeaten Angela Mitchell, Helen Williams and Sue Tyler.

CARTER CUP

After their fine win against Ormesby in the previous round, Barrow's progress was halted by visitors Hull, Joe Nser, Chris Pindar and Michael Harrison were in top form and have done well to reach this stage of the competition. Barrow's wins were recorded by Neil Smith and Chris Reed. Another superb display by Leicester's Chris Rogers stopped Wolverhampton in their tracks when they had taken the first two sets and again led 3-1, Chris, as usual, held Barrow together, along with Steve Dave and Dave Garnison and brought off a thrilling 3-4 win. Andrew Rich and Paul Draney won two each for Wolverhampton. The West Wilts team of Kevin Edwards, Duncan Cleveland and Kevin Batchell have had an outstanding season but had to take second place to the more experienced Bromley team, of Paul O'Connor, Ian Kettley and Joe Kennedy and lost at home 1-5 with Satchell gaining their only success.

BROMFIELD TROPHY

Wolverhampton's hopes were dashed by holders Ormesby who won 5-1. June Williams, Angela Tierney and Jane Skipp did the damage for the visitors whilst Stephanie Jones scored the lone win for the Midlanders.

RESULTS AND DRAWS

Wilmott Cup Quarter-finals:
Manchester 5 - Olnnesby 3
Chesterfield 2 - Birmingham 7
St. Albans 2 - Dagenham 5
Bristol 3 - Brighton 1
Semi-final draw (Competition date 17.4.77)
Birmingham v. Manchester
Bristol v. Dagenham
J.M. Rose Bowl Quarter-finals:
Ormesby 5 - Bradford 2
Leicester 3 - Poplar 2
St. Albans 2 - Dagenham 5
Bromley 3 - Brighton 1
Semi-final draw (Competition date 17.4.77)
Ormesby v. Chesterfield
N. Middlesex v. Dagenham
Wiltons v. Bournemouth
Carter Cup Quarter-finals:
Barrow 2 - Hull 7

Winning teams will go forward to the Finals which will take place on Saturday, May 22 at a venue yet to be announced.

Somerset Closed
by Dennis Pope

Jill Wilson of Bridgwater won three titles in the Somerset Closed played at Taunton Y.M.C.A. Seed No. 1, Jill won the Women's singles and doubles, partnered with Ian Reeves, and mixed with Bridgwater team-mate Graham Green.

The men's singles final between John Hartry and Brian Reeves went to expeditor at 6-3 in the second, with Hartry finally winning the title two-straight. Fifteen-year-old Paul Hoale of Failand won the Boys' Under-17 Singles title.

Results:
M.S.: J Hartry bt B Reeves (Failand) 11, 12.
W.S.: J Wilson bt Pat Reeves (Failand 13, 9, 11.
M.D'.: Reeves/Colin Feltham (Failand) bt Hartry/ Ray Philpott (Weston) 12, 6, 14.
X.D'.: G Green/Wilson bt Reeves/Reeves 16, 12, 15.
V.S.: Les Bridges (Bridgwater) bt Desmond Carter (Taunton) 19, 17.
B.S.: U-17 P. Hoale bt Benjamin Peer 20, 17.
An absorbing struggle with veteran Gary Alden leading Northants' efforts, but with the boys at 8.45 even as expected the result hinged on the girls events which Suffols took without any

Suffolk, Norfolk

Suffolk off to a flying start, but a 5-0 lead quickly became 3-all and the home side realised they had a fight on their hands.

Warwickshire, Leicestershire

VETERAN EAST


A very entertaining match with five sets requiring five-decider but Kent only getting theirs after the seventh set. Florence Birkbeck did well requiring the decider but Kent only getting their's

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JUNIOR 2nd SOUTH

Devon 7, Dorset 1, Hampshire 8, Wiltshire 2

JUNIOR 3rd EAST

Shropshire, Gloucestershire 3, Wiltshire 2, Dorset 1, Norfolk 2

JUNIOR 3rd SOUTH

Herefordshire 2, Essex II 8, Hertfordshire 1, Dorset 1, Wiltshire 2

JUNIOR 2nd EAST

Buckinghamshire 2, Bedfordshire 1, Cambridgeshire II, Huntingdonshire 7

JUNIOR 3rd WEST

Gloucestershire 5, Wiltshire 4, Somerset 6

VETERAN MIDLAND

Essex, Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Gloucestershire

JUNIOR 3rd MIDLAND - FINAL TABLE

Herefordshire 5 1 2 2 23 27 4

Hampshire 7, Wiltshire 2

WHERE STO", London

JUNIOR 1st SOUTH

Hertfordshire 1, Dorset 1, Wiltshire 2, Buckinghamshire 2, Bedfordshire 1

JUNIOR 2nd WEST

Devon 7, Dorset 1, Hampshire 8, Wiltshire 2

JUNIOR 1st EAST

Essex II, Kent II, Essex II 8, Hertfordshire 1, Dorset 1, Wiltshire 2

JUNIOR 2nd NORTH

Yorkshire II 7, Oxfordshire 7, Cambridgeshire 8, Glamorgan 2, Merseyside 2, Dorset 1, Wiltshire 2

Hampshire 7, Wiltshire 2

JUNIOR 3rd EAST

Shropshire, Gloucestershire 3, Wiltshire 2, Dorset 1, Norfolk 2

JUNIOR 3rd SOUTH - FINAL TABLE

Essex II 8, Hertfordshire 1, Dorset 1, Wiltshire 2

JUNIOR 1st NORTH

Cheshire 5, Yorkshire II 7, Oxfordshire 7, Cambridgeshire 8, Glamorgan 2, Merseyside 2, Dorset 1, Wiltshire 2

JUNIOR 3rd MIDLAND - FINAL TABLE

Staffordshire 7, 3 1 49 21 11, Essex II 8, Hertfordshire II, Buckinghamshire 7, Bedfordshire 1, Huntingdonshire 7

JUNIOR 3rd WEST - FINAL TABLE

Essex II 8, Hertfordshire II, Buckinghamshire 7, Bedfordshire 1, Huntingdonshire 7

VETERAN WEST

Devon 7, Wiltshire 4, Wiltshire 4, Oxfordshire 7, Hampshire 7, Wiltshire 2

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS CONFERENCE

John Waddell's bit of 'Controversy' last month about the Junior Premier county which gained promotion last season and won an even in trouble at the foot of the Division (a couple of hypotheses prior to publication) could be湮没 by a Regulation alteration proposed by Hertford- shire in that the players playing in junior play-offs must be juniors in the following season.

Herts. have put forward some other proposals which deal with Senior and Junior promotion play-offs and introduce the concept of Second Division play which hinders promotion against the two relegated Premier Division Counties.

 Worcestershire and Suffolk have a similar theme in the reinstatement of Mixed Doubles into the County match, the former wanting it over the whole competition while Suffolk want it just for conference. If so to be held on Saturday, June 11 at the Bournemouth Hotel, Northampton.

Conference is to be held on Saturday, June 11 at the Bournemouth Hotel, Northampton.

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SLEEPLESS NIGHTS

A question mark still hangs over the outcome at the foot of the Premier Division, but I imagine some sleepless nights in the Surrey camp after Constance Eckersley took the No. 1 with a 3-2 win over Essex — also putting Essex in an untenable position of possible relegation candidates, only three wins, a poor sets average and two matches to go against Yorkshire and Cleveland.

Surrey’s original match at Yorkshire was curtailed with Surrey leading 1-0 after “Combi” Warren’s car broke down on the way north and the teams arrived some three hours late (Linda Howard was already at Huddersfield and she had played Melody Lloyd). The initial Yorkshire reaction was CLAIM, but within two days a new date for completion of the match was agreed.

At least the promotion contenders have sorted themselves out and five Counties will play for the two available places in the Premier Division next season at St. Neots on April 30-May 1.

Gloucestershire produced the closest performance (losing 3-4 to Warwickshire II) if they wish to impress their states, while Buckinghamshire can thank inconsistent Northants for their place in the playoffs. Two months ago, Bucks. were amazingly crushed 8-2 by Surrey in an 8-2 defeat by Yorkshire were down 22-20, 23-21! the other was the boys’ doubles.

Hertfordshire fortunate to chalk up first win of the season, but Cleveland saw two sets go the wrong way — Mark Murphy was 2017 up in both games against Terry Pleasance, and went down 22-20, 23-21! the other was the boys’ doubles.

The final match in the Junior Premier will be played on Sunday at the following venue.

3rd MIDLAND
Northern II, Staffordshire II
A comfortable win for Staffs who won the first five sets without being extended, Northants rallied well but with Steve Deming and Andrew Rich (on senior debut) Staffs had little trouble.

Shropshire, Leicestershire, Staffordshire

Malcolm Green secured three of Saipo’s four points in page 39.

3rd EAST
Cambridgeshire II, Huntingdonshire II

3rd WEST
Avon II, Dorset

Gloucestershire, Herefordshire

JUNIOR PREMIER
Hertfordshire 6, Cleveland 4
H. Jermyn bt J. Plummer 18, 18; bt M. Murphy -9, 9, 9.
G. Booth bt Plummer -18, 17, 14; bt M. Laird 14, 14.
T. Pleasance bt Murphy 20, 21; lost to Laird 19, -20, -15.
Booth/Jermyn bt Plummer/Planner, 18, -19, 18.
Jamie Gaskin lost to Angela Tierney -13, -10.
Carol Webster lost to June Williams -13, -13.
Bill Smith/Miss Webster lost to Miss Tierney/Miss Williams -17, -13, -13.

Hertfordshire fortunate to chalk up first win of the season, but Cleveland saw two sets go the wrong way — Mark Murphy was 20-17 up in both games against Terry Pleasance, and went down 22-20, 23-21! the other was the boys’ doubles.

Susan 10, Kent 0
D. Newman bt J. Kennedy 17, 13; bt P. Ptok 11, 12.
K. Jackson bt Kennedy 16, 13; bt P. O’Connor 14, 14.
L. Smith bt Ptok 13, 17; bt O’Connor 24, 15.
Newman/Smith bt Kennedy/Planner 16, 10, 10.
D. Gore/Miss Sayer lost to Miss Plack -4, -4.
Miss G. Mills/Miss Sayer bt Miss Plock/Miss Collins 25, 17.

Herefordshire 7, Berkshire 3
R. Jenner bt D. Barr 3, 13; bt J. Johnson 15, 12.
G. Booth bt Barr 14, 15; bt D. Gower 9, 9.
T. Pleasance bt Johnson 19, 21; bt Gower 19, 19, 19.
Booth/Jermyn bt Johnson/Barr 19, 10, 10.
Janice Glazebrook lost to Mandy Smith -13, -16.
Carol Webster lost to Alison Gordon -11, -7.
Miss G. Smith/Miss Webster lost to Miss Goodwin/Miss Smith -11, -13.

Herefordshire high spirits continuing from the earlier match against Cleveland where Jermyn, Booth and Pleasance were unbeaten in boys’ games.

Middlesex, Cleveland 4
Sandley/Baxter bt Plummer 16, 24; bt M. Laird 13, -19, 12.
T. Pleasance bt Murphy 17, 12, 22; bt Laird 15, -23, 14.
Sandley/Wells lost to Laird/Plummer -20, -16.
Mandy, Reeves lost to Angela Tierney -6, -10.
Helen Williams lost to June Williams -12, -21.
Miss Brown/Miss Williams lost to Miss Tierney/Miss J. Williams 14, 22, -18.

Yorkshire 8, Surrey 2
K. Headley lost to S. Bowal 21, 16, -18; lost to D. Haisman -19, -15.
M. Harris bt Bowal 19, 18; bt S. Holloway -12, 19, 17.
S. Hillier bt Howson 18, 17; bt Holloway -16, 16, 14.
Beasley/Harrington bt Bowal/Howson 16, 19.
Linda Hynko by Lorraine Garnett 17, 11.
Sally Midgeley bt M. Howard 11, 10.
H. Hynko/Miss Midgeley bt Miss Garnett/Miss Howard 16, 16.

This was an excellent win for the home side, but the result did not in any way show how evenly the teams were matched. Special mention for Steve Holloway making his debut, but is obviously going to make an impression in the division in the future.

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