MILAN SETTLES FOR SILVER
JACQUES AND JILL STILL TOP

Both Jacques Secretin of France and England's Jill Hammersley, the reigning European Champions who became due to defend their singles titles in Dusseldorf in March, retain their No. 1 positions in the revised classifications issued by the European Table Tennis Union on Dec. 29/77.

Still rising from the previous list, issued last September, Desmond Dobbs is brought up from No. 11 to No. 8 and Paul Day, England's other representative in the men's list, leaves behind his past ranking with Christian Martin of France, at Nos. 23/24 to take a position on his own at No. 20.

On the distaff side, apart from Jill, Carole Knight retains her No. 20 position and Linda Howard steps one place forward from No. 24 to No. 23. Because of insufficient evidence, Maria Alesandr (Rumania), previously at No. 6, is not included as is the case with the Soviet Union's Zoya Kideleva (11) and Elmira Antonian (12).

Lack of form has resulted in Sweden's Birgitta Olsson (21) and Tatjana Ferdman (22/23) of the Soviet Union being dropped from the rankings. This also applies to Stine Kjaer of Denmark (22/23) of the Soviet Union being dropped from the rankings. This also applies to Stine Kjaer of Denmark (22/23) to No. 23 in the men's list from which Karl Iversen of Sweden (5) and England's Denis Neale (22) are familiar names to disappear.

Tibor Kreisz of Hungary, Roger Lagerfeldt of Sweden and Josef Huhas of Yugoslavia are the replacements, the former coming in at No. 14. Of the established men Martin of France makes the biggest leap, from being joint 23/24 to No. 10, which booked his ticket for the Top 12 tournament in Prague (Jan. 27/30).

A similar bound by Holland's Bertin Vrieselaan, from No. 16 to No. 11, also produced an invitation to the Czech capital as it has for the Soviet Union's Valentaine Peepo, up from No. 13 to No. 8. But pride of place must go to Ranka Slikhovska, the Czech girl, up from No. 14 to No. 5!

The new classifications (previous positions in brackets) are:

**Men**

1. Jacques Secretin (France) (1)
2. Stellan Bengtsson (Sweden) (4/5)
3. Milan Orlowski (Czechoslovakia) (3)
4. Dragutin Surbek (Yugoslavia) (2)
5. Tibor Klampar (Hungary) (7)
6. Gabor Gergely (Hungary) (6)
7. Istvan Jonyer (Hungary) (4/5)
9. Wilfried Lieck (Federal Germany) (10)
10. Christian Martin (France) (23/24)
11. Ulf Thorsell (Sweden) (13)
12. Anatoly Strikator (Soviet Union) (12)
13. Jaroslav Kunz (Czechoslovakia) (16)
14. Tibor Kreisz (Hungary) (10)
15. Anton Stipancic (Yugoslavia) (9)
16. Jochen Lein (Federal Germany) (14)
17. Salkin Sarkhojan (Soviet Union) (15)
18. Patrick Birocheau (France) (17/18)
19. Zoran Kosanovic (Yugoslavia) (20/21)

Seemingly advice as to how to stay there by England women's captain Bryan Merritt.

Photo by Tony Ross, Hessle.
Women
1. Jill Hammersley (England) (1)
2. Ann-Christin Hellman (Sweden) (4)
3. Ilona Uhlikova (Czechoslovakia) (5)
4. Ursula Hirschmuller (Federal Germany) (7)
5. Blanka Silhanova (Czechoslovakia) (14)
6. Beatrix Kishazi (Hungary) (2)
7. Judit Magos (Hungary) (3)
8. Valentine Popova (Soviet Union) (13)
9. Gabriella Szabo (Hungary) (10)
10. Blanka Silhanova (Czechoslovakia) (14)
11. Beatrix Kishazi (Hungary) (2)
12. Judit Magos (Hungary) (3)
13. Dubravka Fabri (Yugoslavia) (17/18)
14. Wiebke Hendriksen (Federal Germany) (15)
15. Gordana Perkucin (Yugoslavia) (-)
16. Marie Lindblad (Sweden) (-)
17. Eva Stromvall (Sweden) (-)
18. Liana Mihut (Rumania) (25)
20. Carole Knight (England) (20)
21. Dana Dubinova (Czechoslovakia) (-)
22. Brigette Tiviot (France) (17/18)
23. Linda Howard (England) (24)
24. Zsuzsa Olah (Hungary) (-)
25. Eva Ferenczi (Rumania) (19).

EUROPEAN LEAGUE

Taking advantage of Sweden's defeat by England (reported elsewhere) both the Soviet Union and Hungary draw level on points in the Super Division of the European League. But it was a narrow squeak for the Russians who, against the Netherlands in Middleburg on Dec. 15 only made it by a 4-3 scoreline with I. Solopov losing both his singles to Bert v.d. Helm and Nico van Slobbe. The other Dutch win came from the ever-improving Bettine Vriesekoop who beat Valentina Popova.

Scores:
- B. v.d. Helm bt I. Solopov 14, 15;
- N. v. Slobbe lost to S. Sarkhojan -13, -18;
- B. Vriesekoop bt V. Popova 13, 11;
- v.d. Helm/s. Slobbe lost to Sarkhojan/Shreveenko -11, -17, -16;
- v. Slobbe/Vriesekoop lost to Sarkhojan/Popova -12, -14;
- v.d. Helm lost to Sarkhojan -19, -11;

Hungary, in Pecs, really got back in their stride by beating Yugoslavia 6-1 the one to get away was the men's doubles won by Zoran Kosanovic and Milivoj Karakasevic against Istvan Jonyer and Tibor Klampar.

Scores:
- T. Klampar bt Z. Kosanovic 15, -16, 18;
- G. Gergely bt Z. Kalinic 10, -8, 20;
- G. Szabo bt D. Fabri 12, 12;
- I. Jonyer/Klampar lost to M. Karakasevic/Kosanovic -17, -20;
- Klampar/Szabo lost to Kosanovic/G. Perkucin 10, 19;
- Klampar bt Kalinic -19, 9, 18;
- Gergely bt Kosanovic 22, 17.

Not to be outsmarted by England, France travelled to Vienna and beat Czechoslovakia 5-2 this after Milan Orlovid had beaten Jacques Secretin 10 and 9 in the opening set. It was not until the penultimate set that the Czechs registered another win when Orlovid got the better of Christian Martin over three games.

Scores:
- M. Orlovid bt J. Secretin 10, 9;
- J. Kunz lost to C. Martin -17, -10;
- B. Silhanova lost to C. Bergeret -16, -17;
- Kunz/Orlovid lost to P. Brochtsma/Secretin -15, 14, -16;
- Orlovid/Blanka Silhanova lost to Secretin/Bergeret -14, 19, -16;
- Orlovid bt Martin 16, -16, 11;
- Kunz lost to Secretin -17, -6.

SUPER DIVISION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soviet Union</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yugoslavia</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czechoslovakia</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DIVISION ONE

Federal Germany realised their full potential in Cluj-Napoca when beating Iceland 7-0 for one set going into a deciding game when Peter Stellwag and Heinrich Lammers were taken the distance by young Colm Slevin and Kevin Keane.

Scores:
- C. Slevin lost to H. Lammers -11, -12;
- K. Keane lost to P. Stellwag -17, -9;
- K. Senior lost to U. Hirschmuller -15, -14;
- Kearne/Senior lost to Lammers/Stellwag -10, -9;
- Kearne/Senior lost to Stellwag/Hirschmuller -11, -11;
- Slevin lost to Stellwag -17, -13;
- Keane lost to Lammers -18, -7.

On equal points Poland had a 6-1 win over Belgium in Lubin where the visitors' Marie-France Germot beat Weronika Sikora but young Luc Dieniess had a baptism under fire.

Scores:
- J. Kubiński bt L. Dieniess 8, 12;
- A. Grubbe bt N. v/d. Walle 10, 16;
- W. Sikora lost to M-F Germot -19, -16;
- R. Czachowsk/Przybysz bt Dieniess/v.d. Walle 8, 14;
Scores:

E. Diakakis/Skrivanou lost to Hartmann/Dom by beating Bojidar Guentchev.

L. Skrivanou lost to J. Dom -16, 21, 16, 16.

K. Prifitis bt A. Hartmann 11, 19, 5.

Priftis in beating Greece 5-2 in Athens.

Bulgaria ........................ 4 3 1 20 5 3

Federal Germany.. 4 4 0 27 1 4

Luxembourg 4 1 3 6 22 1

J. Jokinen lost to R. Yule -19, -12;

J. Ikonen bt E. Sutherland 7, 5;

S. Grefberg bt G. McKay 9, 6;

that the Scots could extract from the "Flying Fashion" when beaten 5-2 by Finland in 1976;

Ikonen/Jokin: bt Sutherland/Yule 12, -10, 23;

Jokinen bt Sutherland -19, 21, 13.

DORSET NOTES

by M. ABBOTT

FOUR IN ACTION

In the last set of County matches Dorset had four teams in action and the men's section won its first two. The most important result of the day was the 1st team's 6-4 win over Hampshire. Joyce Coop and Janet New won all their sets with ease to take the men's singles title. Mrs. Gott, ranked 8th in Yorkshire, won three titles without defeat. The County Juniors remain unbeaten (excluding the 5-5 draw with Leicestershire). David Ward, Lester Bertie, Steve Tracey and Maureen Gott dominated the matches and especially Referee Doug Young and the stalwart Bertie, Richard Tanner, Jackie Harper and Sue in particular fought back from 12-18 down to secure victory.

Tracey bt Davies 14, 11;

Jones bt Bojas 13, 18.

The match was undoubtedly the most important result of the day and the men's doubles. The highlight of the match was undoubtedly the defeat of the Scottish side by the Hants No. 3 Chris Pickard. For the Scottish team was a lowly 5-0 by our Junior side who defeated the Hants No. 3 Chris Pickard. For the Scottish team was a draw by M. ABBOTT

WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

by K. J. MORAN

FIRST WIN FOR RACHEAL

A Happy New Year to you all and congratulations to the Birmingham Association officials and especially Referee Doug Young and the stalwart Bertie, Richard Tanner, Jackie Harper and Sue in particular fought back from 12-18 down to secure victory.

Tracey bt Davies 14, 11;

Jones bt Bojas 13, 18.

The match was undoubtedly the most important result of the day and the men's doubles. The highlight of the match was undoubtedly the defeat of the Scottish side by the Hants No. 3 Chris Pickard. For the Scottish team was a lowly 5-0 by our Junior side who defeated the Hants No. 3 Chris Pickard. For the Scottish team was a draw by M. ABBOTT

WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

by K. J. MORAN

FIRST WIN FOR RACHEAL

A Happy New Year to you all and congratulations to the Birmingham Association officials and especially Referee Doug Young and the stalwart Bertie, Richard Tanner, Jackie Harper and Sue in particular fought back from 12-18 down to secure victory.

Tracey bt Davies 14, 11;

Jones bt Bojas 13, 18.

The match was undoubtedly the most important result of the day and the men's doubles. The highlight of the match was undoubtedly the defeat of the Scottish side by the Hants No. 3 Chris Pickard. For the Scottish team was a lowly 5-0 by our Junior side who defeated the Hants No. 3 Chris Pickard. For the Scottish team was a draw by M. ABBOTT

WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

by K. J. MORAN

FIRST WIN FOR RACHEAL

A Happy New Year to you all and congratulations to the Birmingham Association officials and especially Referee Doug Young and the stalwart Bertie, Richard Tanner, Jackie Harper and Sue in particular fought back from 12-18 down to secure victory.

Tracey bt Davies 14, 11;

Jones bt Bojas 13, 18.

The match was undoubtedly the most important result of the day and the men's doubles. The highlight of the match was undoubtedly the defeat of the Scottish side by the Hants No. 3 Chris Pickard. For the Scottish team was a lowly 5-0 by our Junior side who defeated the Hants No. 3 Chris Pickard. For the Scottish team was a draw by M. ABBOTT

WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

by K. J. MORAN

FIRST WIN FOR RACHEAL

A Happy New Year to you all and congratulations to the Birmingham Association officials and especially Referee Doug Young and the stalwart Bertie, Richard Tanner, Jackie Harper and Sue in particular fought back from 12-18 down to secure victory.

Tracey bt Davies 14, 11;

Jones bt Bojas 13, 18.

The match was undoubtedly the most important result of the day and the men's doubles. The highlight of the match was undoubtedly the defeat of the Scottish side by the Hants No. 3 Chris Pickard. For the Scottish team was a lowly 5-0 by our Junior side who defeated the Hants No. 3 Chris Pickard. For the Scottish team was a draw by M. ABBOTT
KENT 2-STAR JUNIOR OPEN

RECORD ENTRY AT FOLKESTONE

by CYRIL BURDEN

Once more this ever popular tournament was held at the Marine Pavilion, Folkestone over the weekend Nov. 26/27 and attracted a record entry to the point of being restricted two days before the closing date with at least 35 entry forms being returned to unlucky applicants.

Belgium again sent over a strong team of 5 boys and 3 girls giving an international flavour to the tournament. But the large entry brought with it an ever increasing headache to the organisers as the standard of play in the U-11 and U-13 events has improved so much that scheduling of junior events can no longer be done on the 15 minutes per set basis. The Saturday events were confined to the U-11, U-13 and U-11 events and although a prompt 9 a.m. start was made, and for 13 hours not one of the 15 tables was left idle, it became apparent that Kent's high standard of not finishing a junior event after 10 p.m. was going to go out of the window this season. In order to finish in time before midnight, three finals were held over to the Sunday but unfortunately 2 titles, the U-15 and U-13 girls doubles had to be shared by mutual agreement between the participants as three of the finalists were not engaged in the Sunday events.

But none of this detracted from the overall enjoyment shared both by the organisers and players as not a murmer of complaint was heard. The Saturday events were confined to the U-11, U-13 and U-11 events although a prompt 9 a.m. start was made, and for 13 hours not one of the 15 tables was left idle, it became apparent that Kent's high standard of not finishing a junior event after 10 p.m. was going to go out of the window this season. In order to finish in time before midnight, three finals were held over to the Sunday but unfortunately 2 titles, the U-15 and U-13 girls doubles had to be shared by mutual agreement between the participants as three of the finalists were not engaged in the Sunday events.

The boys' doubles was a triumph for the Sussex pairing of Graham Giblett and Stephen Maurice over the fancied Souther and Mark Oakley in the final. The final itself between Charlery and Stuart Kimm was indeed worthy of the final for it finished with a win for Charlery - 20, 19 and he was trading in both the final games.

The boys' doubles was a triumph for the Sussex pairing of Graham Giblett and Stephen Maurice over the fancied Souther and Mark Oakley in the final. The final itself between Charlery and Stuart Kimm was indeed worthy of the final for it finished with a win for Charlery - 20, 19 and he was trading in both the final games.

All this followed her triumph on Saturday in the U-15 girls singles when she beat the up-and-coming Gillian Galloway in the final; the U-15 mixed with Souther and holder of the girls' doubles. The U-15 boys singles was won by Souther but he had to work hard for his win over Glen Baker in the final.

The Belgian contingent featured in most of the semi-finals or finals but their only outright winner was Barbara Lippens who took the U-15 girls singles title with a hard-fought win over Sarah Cresswell. She also, partnered by Nathalie Boeckx, became joint holder of the doubles in that age group with Jeanine Smith and Sarah Cresswell.

In the U-13 boys singles Andrew Dixon from Wivelishtam made his mark with a straight games win over Adrian Moore, but the latter had some comodulation with a win in the doubles partnered by Graham Russell. The quality in the play in the U-13 boys and girls singles was a revelation and augurs well for the future of table tennis in this country. The eventual winners were Carl Prean from the Isle of Wight and Lisa Bellinger of Dunstable.

The Saturday events were confined to the U-11, U-13 and U-11 events and although a prompt 9 a.m. start was made, and for 13 hours not one of the 15 tables was left idle, it became apparent that Kent's high standard of not finishing a junior event after 10 p.m. was going to go out of the window this season. In order to finish in time before midnight, three finals were held over to the Sunday but unfortunately 2 titles, the U-15 and U-13 girls doubles had to be shared by mutual agreement between the participants as three of the finalists were not engaged in the Sunday events.

But none of this detracted from the overall enjoyment shared both by the organisers and players as not a murmer of complaint was heard. The Saturday events were confined to the U-11, U-13 and U-11 events although a prompt 9 a.m. start was made, and for 13 hours not one of the 15 tables was left idle, it became apparent that Kent's high standard of not finishing a junior event after 10 p.m. was going to go out of the window this season. In order to finish in time before midnight, three finals were held over to the Sunday but unfortunately 2 titles, the U-15 and U-13 girls doubles had to be shared by mutual agreement between the participants as three of the finalists were not engaged in the Sunday events.

Built to take it!

The Spen Sport Championship X: a table tennis table of supreme quality, leader of a pack of high-performance ETTA standard tables, each offering an unbeatable specification at its price, and each solidly built to give years of prolonged service. The range includes traditional foldaway and wheeled models, all featuring one of the world's most acclaimed playing tops - wap free Swedish Vililia - surfaced in a high speed matt dark green finish to full international specifications. As supplied by clubs, schools and official bodies throughout the country, these tables afford savings of up to 60% on the recommended prices of many comparable models.

For further details, write to Spen Sport (Dept TTN), Spen House, Spen Lane, Leeds LS16 5EL, or telephone Leeds (0332) 785669.

Boys' Doubles:

G. Giblett (Sel, Moors) bt M. Oakley (Sy) / J. Souter (Mi) 10, 18.

Girls' Doubles:

Reeves/R. Williams (Mi) bt G. Ballard (K) / Galloway -13, 15, 25.

Mixed Doubles:

Souther/Reeves bt D. Leroy (Belg) / Lippens -13, 12, 13.

U-15 Events

B.S. : Souther bt B. Baker (Sy) 10, 16, 16.

G.S. : Reeves bt Galloway 13, 18.

B.D. : Oakley / Souter / T. Cabrera (Belg) - Leroy 20, 17.

G.D. : Title shared between Reeves/Galloway and J. Varblet/S. Cresswell (Sy).

X.D. : Souther / Reeves bt Leroy / Lippens 15, 16, 16.

U-13 Events

B.S. : A. Dixon (Sy) bt A. Moore (Sti) 17, 19.

G.S. : Lippens bt Cresswell 15, 12.

B.D. : Moore / G. Russel (Sy) bt B. Collingswood / D. Sharpe (Mi) 15, 15, 15.

G.D. : Title shared between N. Boeckx (Belg) / Lippens and Cresswell / J. Smith (He).

U-11 Events

B.S. : C. Prem (Ha) bt N. Tyler (Mi) 14, 5.

G.S. : L. Bellinger (Bd) bt J. Woodward (Os) 7, 12.

NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. PENNY

SPECIAL PLEASURE

In this season of Peace and Goodwill it gives me special pleasure to quote the following report sent to me by Ray Drew, General Secretary of King's Lynn T.T. Association:

"In early October last year a party including ten players from the King's Lynn T.T.'s A grade team made the journey to Emmich in W. Germany to play two matches against the T.V. Jahn Emmich Vissel Club. This followed a visit of the German club to King's Lynn in May and the results of each meeting were the same, being a win for the German club and a draw. On both occasions a great time was had by all and further meetings are being planned."

There were three county matches in December. Norfolk v Suffolk at Roman Hill School, Lowestoft (unfortunately abandoned owing to the late arrival of Suffolk's two leading players, following a car breakdown). Norfolk have claimed the points, but the outcome rests with the E.T.T.A.) then Norfolk II v Hunts at Norwich C.E.Y.M.S., where Norfolk led 4-0, only to slide to a 4-all, then taking the last two singles 3-1 for a 4-4 win, and finally, Norfolk Juniors v Bucks at May & Baker's, Norwich, by 3-7. Here 14-year-old Sue Brown won her singles, and also her doubles with Ruth Harrower, and it was good to see Sue watching the second team match in the evening.

Congratulations to Wendy Hogg, Norfolk No.3, on reaching the final of the Hastings Tiger Open, the first time a Norfolk woman has reached an Open final since Betty Cassell's tournament days (incidentally, we hear that Betty may soon be attempting a comeback!). Wendy, her mother Ruth, and Pat Ross gave Norwich an exciting 6-3 away win against Cheshunt in the Rose Bowl. In the juniors' Bromfield Trophy, Norwich went down 4-5 to Lowestoft at home, despite Ruth Harrower winning all three.

The Wilmott Cup saw Norwich succumb to a strong North Middlesex side, but Bob Thoroton beat England-ranked Bob Pugh, Douglas Bennett defeated Middlesex star David Tam. Berham lost 4-5 to North Middlesex, having a good win over the Herts No. 1, Richard Jermyn.

COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Mr. Howard Goddard presenting the trophy to Milan Orlowski of Czechoslovakia, winner of the Goddard Finance International Table Tennis Tournament at Rothwell Sports Centre, Leeds on December 17/77. I to r Mr. Howard Goddard, Milan Orlowski, Charles M. Wylton, Chairman E.T.T.A.
Whatever it might have been on the Saturday of the Middlesex Open, there was little doubt that the Sunday was going to be D.D. Day. Far, from the word ‘Go’ D.D. looked what he proved to be... invincible. Others struggled, fought, won or lost in their various events, losses, failures, proved fallible. Not so our Mr. Douglas who, like ‘One man river’ fell kept rolling, unreelable, along.

With a 13, 13 victory over Kermy Pelzer of New Zealand, the quarters saw him against John Dalou who, in the first game had the temerity to take 20 points from him and for his pains was allowed only it in the second. In the semis, facing a fighting Max Crimmins seeming to use the game just to get into gear before going into overdrive in the second... Exit Max -19, -13.

Paul Day meantime had done his own hatchet job disposing of Ian Horsham 13, 14 and Douglas Johnstone, before meeting John Hilton whom he had lost in the Nissen tournament on the Saturday. Paul was in big gear very early, to ensure that the name did not happen and ran out a fairly comfortable winner.

Nobody could complain about the quality of the men’s final which included some fine rallies, some outstanding shots from both players and a good build-up of tension as the scores rose steadily together. At 20-all it was about as tense as it could be... Des scores the first, Paul the second. But... it was about as tense as it could be. At 20-all it was about the same as it could be... Des scores the first, Paul the second. But... it was about as tense as it could be. At 20-all it was about the same as it could be... Des scores the first, Paul the second. But... it was about as tense as it could be.

The final was disappointing in that I’ll some how never got her game really going although Carole, who had beaten her on the Friday, was not giving her much help. A few tentative back hands reduced her confidence and she was struggling. Carole meanwhile was gaining in confidence and after taking the first at 12 managed to take the second at 14, for the tie.

Kerry Webb and Melody Ludi looked suitably impressed when they came to the table to face the European Women’s Championships in the final of the doubles, and in the event did a little impressing on their own account. Combining well with strong attacking play they came very near to winning the first, only losing at 20. In the second they took command and won a very convincing game 21-18. Jill and Ludi, whilst not wishing to discourate the youngster, felt that they had been given quite enough scope to display their talents and took command of the third to ensure a decent contribution to their respective Christmas boxes and sailed home at 13.

Henry Buttr, a previous winner of the Veterans tournament in 1975/76 made a return to the winner’s trophy with a good win over S. C. Battrak -14, 15, 17 to complete the list of Champions.

Results: 

MIDDLESEX 3-STAR OPEN

Men’s Singles: 

Douglas (Bu) bt J. Dehn (K) 20, 10, 10.

M. Crimmins (Ec) bt D. Tan (Mi) 18, -16, 17.

P. Dehn (Bu) bt D. Johnson (Wa) 14.

J. Hilton (La) bt A. Griffiths (Cn) 13, 17.

Total:

Douglas bt Crimmins 19, 13.

Day bt Hilton 11, 11.

Final:

DOUGLAS in Day 21, 19.

DOUGLAS/GRIMSHAW bt G. Sandley (Mi)/Gordon

HAMMERSLEY/HOWARD bt Ludi/Witt 13, 16, 19.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:

K. Griffiths (Bu)/A. Morgan (Bu) bt S. Dabian (H) 14.

Douglas/Griffiths bt Hulou/D. Parker (La) 13, 9.

Hulloways/Hamn1ersley bt A. Gordon/M. Smith (Bk) 20, 18, 16.

Final:

DOUGLAS/GRIFFITHS bt Kitchener/Tan 11, 14.

HAMMERSLEY/Howard bt A. Gordon/M. Smith (Bu) 19, 16.

H. Howard (Sy) bt H. Howard 11, 12.

Final:

DOUGLAS/GRIFFITHS bt Kitchener/Tan 11, 14.

DOUGLAS/HAMMERSLEY bt A. Gordon/M. Smith (Bu) 19, 16.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:

Douglas/Griffiths bt Hulou/D. Parker (La) 13, 9.

Hulloways/Hamn1ersley bt A. Gordon/M. Smith (Bk) 20, 18, 16.

Final:

DOUGLAS/HAMMERSLEY bt A. Gordon/M. Smith (Bu) 20, 18, 16.

DOUGLAS/HAMMERSLEY bt A. Gordon/M. Smith (Bk) 20, 18, 16.

By DEREK OLDMAN

Table Tennis

The annual U.A.U./W.I.V.A.B. Individual Championships were held over the weekend of 26th/27th November in Hull. This particular tournament will be remembered mainly for two reasons. Firstly the entry for the men’s events contained more players of county standard than has been the case in any inter-county event for last the first time were John Clark of Susses, “Cosmo” of the Hazlewood twins of Yorkshire fame, Ian Smith from Lancashire and Andrew Clark the Northumberland No. 1. When these names were added to the existing list it meant that some players who had county honour could not make the semis and choosing the correct eight became something of a lottery.

Sadly the championships will also be remembered as an occasion when there were a record number of withdraws. Lack of sufficient suitable accommodation in the potteries was the main reason for this. Many students returned home after the Saturday events which left a very depleted mixed doubles programme for the Sunday morning. This meant a greatly increased workload on the referee, but with Tony Chatwin in charge of the department and very ably assisted by Arthur Morgan and Val Duffin there were very few problems at all. Mixed singles was hardly introduced to fill in the time and the finals began on schedule.

In the men’s singles the seedings had been based on known county championship performances. Seven of the seeded players reached the quarter-finals, the odd one out being Robert Roast of Hull University who was beaten by Philip Dicks, the Debaley player from Caef. Stephen Hazelwood (Hull), Andrew Clark (Newcastle), John Proffitt (Nottingham) and Philip Vickers of the Northumbrians all fell at this stage leaving the 5th to 8th seeds to fight for a place in the final. Andrew was now emerging as most puzzlers favourite. He definitely defeated his Sussex colleague John Clark in the first semi while Graham, also from Sussex, won a very narrow victory over Ian Smith representing Aston. The all-Susses final was always entertaining even though Wellman was on top for most of the time. He duly emerged as a very worthy champion in a match which should entitle him to top spot for the B.U.S.F. Championships later in the season. Top marks also to the American “Cosmos” Graham who certainly surprised a few people.

The only newcomer in the women’s events of any substance was Anne Sweeney of Lancashire who is now studying at the University of Hull. She was seeded at No. 3 immediately ahead of Linda Crimmins and Pauline Johnstone. The first semi-final saw Linda Proffitt of Sussex beat Carole Knight of Hull 21, -19, -19, -21, -18, 19, 16. The result being a narrow victory for Mandy, the set going to 3 games in a repeat of last year’s B.U.S.F. final. Unseeded Karen Saywell (Birmingham) cast aside the thought that a semi-final loss to the holders would be no panacea at all for the younger. The result was again an all-Susses one which proved very entertaining, Proffitt and Wellman duly retained their title and will play for the 2nd year running in the semi-finals and sail for a few anxious moments to do it.

In the women’s doubles Janet Carr and Anne Sweeney were expected to win the title coming from Mandy Mellor and Anne Maxwell of Loughborough. However the No. 1 seeds Linda Crimmins and her “eastern” partner C. Yebo were too good for the Loughborough lass. It was the third time that the former had defeated the latter in the semi-finals and the second time that they had met in the final. For Janet and Anne this will be a third consecutive championship and a fourth in all.

The American “Cosmos” Graham who certainly surprised a few people...
W.D.: Carr at A. Sweeney (Mr) bt L. Clemett
W.S.: M. Mellor (Lo) bt J. Carr (Mr) 16, -17, 14.

Results:

M.D.: combined strengths of the Leeds pair pulled them through in a closely contested match. Shee

ffield. Vickers won this in spite of being handicapped,

needed before the winners emerged. However, the

ultimate success. Gary Alden's unfortunate absence

resulted from the onset of an illness that was to keep him out

for more than two weeks, also took the

trophies and the enthusiasm and skills of the

players were matched only by the total commit­

ment and involvement of the Trustee Savings

Bank officials, who were on hand throughout, to

make a contribution much greater than their

eligibility. Not among the entrants, the women's events were

confirmed his position as top doubles player in

the mixed, but in the final they were

able to cope with the expertise of Lyon and

Connie Bane, who in gaining a record number

winning in this event, were the only winners to

retain their titles, and became in so doing the only

players ever to win a county championship twice in

one year.

In the men's doubles, Clark teamed up with

Keith Nicoll and reached the final by beating another new pairing in Rod Marchant and Ian

Morris, who earlier had accounted for holders

Lyon and Phil Stetting. Meanwhile in the opposite

half of the draw, the veteran pair John Palmer and

Denise Mellor proceeded smoothly to the final

without dropping an end, and then against the

odds proceeded to beat Clark and Nicoll in

straight games, the first time the men's doubles

had gone to Kettering, and the first time that either

Palmer or Millman had won a County Senior title in

more years than either cares to remember. Palmer, having a first class tournament, despite

the onset of an illness that was to keep him out

of action for more than two weeks, also took the

veterans' singles at his first attempt, when he

patiently dethroned Colin Hogg, who had

previously taken the title on every occasion since

first entering the veteran ranks in 1973.

With Anne Wallis continuing her self imposed

exile, and her much improved sister Mandy also

not among the entrants, the women's events were

thrown wide open, but on the day, the current

County No. 1, Ann Wilson, justified her position with a first controlled display in which she

enjoyed an excellent win in the women's final over

Christine Price, after having had to work much

harder in the semi-final against former title-holder

Connie Bane. With Miss Wilson partnering the

experienced Dorothy Marsh, it was not surprising

that the women's doubles also went their way,

after a close semi-final with Christine Price and

Glennis Hooper, and an easier final against the

Margaret Maltby - Joyce Porter pairing who lost

at the final hurdle for the second year in succession.

The junior competitions emphasised the value of

T.S.B. Sponsorship, for members of the T.S.B.

Junior Squad dominated the Under-11 events, with

David Guilo excelling himself to take the Boys'

singles against Ian Morris, who earlier had beaten

No. 1 seed Keith Nicoll, while Julie Robinson

just deserved an enthralling Girls' singles success

against young Jane Nicholl, who also lost the

Under-14 Singles to a peak performance from

Jane Wallis. However Rothborough's Richard

Maffett gained the corresponding Boys' event with

a straightforward win against Cadlet team-mate

Terry Cardwell.

In the special Jubilee Doubles, an event en-

joyed by most competitors, Steve Lyon, partnered

by the inexperienced Graham Carter of Corby,

demonstrated the true spirit of table tennis, and

confirmed his position as top doubles player in

the county, by fighting for every point through a

long and gruelling day, and ending with a superb

win over Ian Morris and Mick Wilson of

Towcester.

So ended a highly successful tournament, with

the biggest entry for some years, most capably

organised by Jim Chatburn and Ian Nicoll, with

the full backing of the Kettering League Com-

mittee, at what has frequently been described

as the best venue in the county. The splendour of

the trophies and the enthusiasm and skills of the

players were matched only by the total commit-

ment and involvement of the Trustee Savings

Bank officials, who were on hand throughout, to

make a contribution much greater than their

original sponsorship implied, and who perhaps

more than anyone, made the Northants County Jubilee Closed Tournament, not only an

unqualified success, but a unique occasion to be

remembered, as together we move towards the

golden jubilee of the future.

Results—

M.S.: Semi-finals:

J. Palmer bt R. Marchant -18, 14, 7.
A. Clark bt S. Lyon -22, 14.
Final:

Clark bt Palmer 14, -24, 18.
X.D.: Lyon/C. Bane bt Clark/Price 16, 15.


G.D.: Nicoll/Cutler bt K. Towler/G. Philpott
V.S.: Palmer bt C. Hogg 15, 16.

County Championship matches, and the teams Towcester ... ... ... .. .. ... .. .... .. ... .. .. .. 2 0 2
Cottier, and the doubles pairings of Miss Feakin

Unfortunately the enthusiasms generated at the Tournament. This much acclai'me'd medalUio'n is exactly the sa'm'e as the Winners’

The table used for the final was donated by the tournament sponsors, Nissen International Ltd., and presented to the club with the largest group of spectators present at the Tournament. The Top Cadets are:-

One of the many recently built Sports and Leisure Centres in the area was the venue for the first international table tennis match to be held in Telford. The event, organised by the Telford Development Corporation in conjunction with the Wrekin District Council was held at the Shrewsbury Centre. A capacity crowd appreciatively watched the England players Paul Day, Nikiy Jarvis and John Hilton play the Swedes Ulf Thorsell, Lars Lindvall, and Johan Persson, the men’s titles were retained. The group winners were D. Clibborn, G. Cheetham, N. Thomas, M. Langford, G. Millington, J. Hammersley, J. Saddles, G. Phillips, R. Phillips and G. Middle. The eventual winner was P. Collins who lost M. Langford in the final.

The allocation reserved fo,r foreign vi’sitors wa,s not e

and we can now offe'r the remain·der. Why not present these fo,r yo'ur

The top 10 in the Junior rankings issued 1st Dec. are:-


The only title to change hands was the men’s singles when Malcolm Green failed to complete a hat-trick of county singles title wins. He lost in the semi-final to Nigel Thomas, a reversal of all previous competitive results. Both players are sixteen years of age. Another junior Mark Pugh reached the final only to lose -11,-15 to Nigel Thomas. The results of the tournament confirm the ascendency that junior players are establishing in Shropshire.

The top 10 in the Junior rankings issued 1st Dec. are:-


The top Cadets are:-


World Championships
Special Commemorative Medal

This much acclaimed medal is exactly the same as the Winners’ medals with the exception of the coloured ribbon attachment.

The allocation reserved for foreign visitors was not entirely taken up and we can now offer the remainder. Why not present these for your Club Championships?

Any special wording can be engraved. Complete in a presentation box.

T.T. Shades £1.50 each inc. V.A.T.

Original Jap Penholder Bats — Special price £5.00 each inc. V.A.T.

Badges, Ties and Trophies

Competitive prices

Write for illustrated catalogue

Alec Brook
ADB (LONDON) LTD.,
31 Ebury Street,
London SW1W 0NZ
Tel. 01-730 0394
Telex No. 21120
NEW SPORTS FILM LAUNCHED

The 34th World Table Tennis Championships, held in Birmingham last year, was the biggest sporting event ever staged in Britain. With competitors from nearly seventy countries taking part, it surpassed in size both the 1948 Olympics and the 1966 World Cup.

A film of the Championships received its Premiere on November 24, 1977. Called "Battle of the Bats", the film runs for 35 minutes. It has been sponsored by Norwich Union Insurance and STIGA AB and the National Exhibition Centre.

"Battle of the Bats" follows the progress of the world's top male players through to the finals held in Birmingham last year, was the biggest event in the history of table tennis. With commentary, and from that point of view it is a new and distinct documentary film. It was presented by the ITTF, the International Table Tennis Federation, and the National Exhibition Centre.

The film features the Chinese men players in the team final against Japan, the Men's Singles semi-final and final between Khono and Liang Ke-lu and Khono and Kuo, with Stella Bengtson's matches receiving particular attention. While the film lacks some of the significant performances and indicates little of the Women's play, ceremonies and other interesting facets of such a tremendous event, I am sure it will be enjoyed by many audiences around the world.

A.B.

THE INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

FROM THE PRESIDENT — H. ROY EVANS

Table Tennis as an Olympic Sport

On 15th November, 1977 the International Table Tennis Federation received formal declaration of its recognition by the International Olympic Committee.

This means that table tennis is now an Olympic sport, but it does not mean that it can immediately be included in the Olympic Games. Such inclusion depends on a choice by the organizing country within limits imposed by the I.O.C. Programme Commission. There is certainly no prospect of table tennis being included in the Olympics at Moscow in 1980 because the programme is already agreed. It is not clear yet whether Los Angeles will be the host city in 1984, so that the possibility of the inclusion of table tennis in that year is something that cannot be worked on at the moment.

The film of the Championships received its Premiere on November 24, 1977. Called "Battle of the Bats", the film runs for 35 minutes. It has been sponsored by Norwich Union Insurance and STIGA AB and the National Exhibition Centre.

"Battle of the Bats" follows the progress of the world's top male players through to the finals held in Birmingham last year, was the biggest event in the history of table tennis. With commentary, and from that point of view it is a new and distinct documentary film. It was presented by the ITTF, the International Table Tennis Federation, and the National Exhibition Centre.

The film features the Chinese men players in the team final against Japan, the Men's Singles semi-final and final between Khono and Liang Ke-lu and Khono and Kuo, with Stella Bengtson's matches receiving particular attention. While the film lacks some of the significant performances and indicates little of the Women's play, ceremonies and other interesting facets of such a tremendous event, I am sure it will be enjoyed by many audiences around the world.

A.B.

The mysteries of the Chinese serve fascinated those who watched and bewildered those who played at the World Table Tennis Championships. A scene from "Battle of the Bats".

TACKINESS — CONTROL WITH SPIN — TACKINESS
HONG KONG INVITATION TOURNAMENT
Hong Kong 22/29 Oct. 1977
MS SF
Kuo Yao Hua bt Huang Liang 13, 18, -20, 12.
F
Kuo Yao Hua bt Liao Fu-Min 18, 16, 14.
2nd IRAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
Tehran 8/16 Nov. 1977
MT SF
Kuo Yao Hua bt Wang Chia Lin 19, 12, 11, 20.
Liao Fu-Min bt Huang Liang 13, 18, -20, 12.
F
Kuo Yao Hua bt Liao Fu-Min 18, 16, 14.
Kuo Yao Hua bt Liao Fu-Min 18, 16, 14.
1st CHAMPIONSHIPS
New South Wales 2039, Australia.
2nd IRAN INTERNATIONAL
Liao Fu-Min bt Huang Liang 13, 18, -20, 12.
MT Final Placing:
1. China 2. Pakistan 3. India
MT SF
Kuo Yao Hua bt Liao Fu-Min 18, 16, 14.
WDF
Alexandru/Mihut bt Chang Te-ying/Ke Hsin-ai 14, -18, 19, 14.
Liang Ke-liang bt Li Chen-shih 17, 17, 15.
Liang Ke-liang/Li Chen-shih bt Hayat/Nakhuda 15, -17, 17.
Allaee/Ehterszadeh bt Liang Ke-liang 15, -17, 17.
WS SF
Chang Te-ying bt Alexandru 14, 14, -20, 12.
F
Chang Te-ying bt Ke Hsin-ai.
MD F
Liang Ke-liang/Li Chen-shih bt Hayati/Nakhuda 14, 14, -20, 12.
WD F
Alexandru/Mihut bt Chang Te-ying/Ke Hsin-ai 15, 17, 17.
XD F

PING COMMENTARY
by JOHN WOODFORD
Deputy Table Tennis Correspondent
‘THE DAILY TELEGRAPH’
HAVING BEEN present at most European League matches in England during the past three seasons, my bouquet for the most successful shaping so far goes to the GLOUCESTER T.T.A. and the GLOUCESTERSHIRE, T.T.A. for the superb promotion of the England v Sweden match on December 15. A crowd of nearly 1,700 fans is a new dimension in crowd support for this competition and I am sure this will spur the E.T.T.A. into seeking more venues where this sort of crowd can be raised, although as we all know, such a gathering of the clans is only achieved through a great deal of spadework.

Gloucester is, for those who have yet to visit, not amongst the biggest of our English cities. I understand that the people who helped to boost the crowd to nearer 2,000 than 1,000 came from long distances. A further incentive for the GLOUCESTERSHIRE officials was their 50th Anniversary, but it should not need an anniversary to make these sort of successes more commonplace.

The fact that big matches near London fail to draw big crowds unless they are against China or Japan and their own supporters resident here is something of a mystery.

Forty-eight hours after visiting Gloucester, I saw around 200 people witnessing the Goddard Finance, International invitation at the Rothwell Sports Centre, Leeds. In theory of course, Leeds should be able to double Gloucester’s crowd, but for away at Elland Road, Leeds F.C. were at home to Manchester City where the crowd was 37,380!

Returning to Gloucester, another lucky reason for the unbounded success of the evening was the fact that England were 0-2 down, seemingly well on the way to defeat, but as most readers will know, there was a fairy-tale ending as England then forged ahead to win the next four, all credit there going to the players Desmond Douglas, Paul Day, Nicky Jarvis, Jill Hammersley and Linda Howard.

But, rather like a football crowd, they cheered and roared instead of just politely clapping, as happens at a number of international matches. England players are not accustomed to a thousand people cheering them on — how they responded!

What’s on and where
January 1978
1-(Sat.) European League — Super Division Div. 1 — LUXEMBOURG v ENGLAND
Div. 2 — SCOTLAND v ENGLAND
Details from Mr. B. Dawson, 20 Mauricewood Park, Penicuik, Midlothian EH26 0BP (‘Phone 0968-75211).
21/22 — GERMANY OPEN (Berlin)
22 — SCOTLAND v ITALY, Lasswade High School, Penicuik, Midlothian
Details from Mr. B. Dawson, 20 Mauricewood Park, Penicuik, Midlothian EH26 0BP (‘Phone 0968-75211).
21/22 — GERMANY Open
22 — OF THE S. T.T.A. Ann Turn Finals
22 — MEADOWBANK 2-Star Open (Edinburgh).
27/28 — EUROPEAN TOP 12 (PRAGUE.
26 — National Congress Meeting (London).
20 — IPSWICH 1-Star Open.
28/29 — Conversion Finals (Gloucester).
28/29 — West of Scotland 2-Star Open (Bellahouse, Glasgow).
February
1/3 — STIGA WELSH OPEN (Cardiff.
4 — Easter Junior 2-Star Open.
5 — Chester Junior 2-Star Open.
9 — North Birmingham 2-Star Open.
9 — (Third) European League — Super Division Div. 1 — ENGLAND v ITALY, LASSWADDE (SHERWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, Penicuik, Midlothian.
Details from Mr. B. Dawson, 20 Mauricewood Park, Penicuik, Midlothian EH26 0BP (‘Phone 0968-75211).
10/12 — Reading Junior ‘Select’ sponsered by Gillette.
4 — Exeter Junior 2-Star Open.
9 — North Bournemouth 2-Star Open.
12 — Lancaster 2-Star Open (Lancashire County Cricket Board).
(Finals at 1.30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18.

TRULON present
CHESTER BARNES
Why not make your Finals Night or Special Table Tennis Night one to remember by having the best exhibition player in Great Britain at your disposal for the evening. We can offer Chester Barnes by himself for £60 to play your local champions or with another well known exhibition player for £80.

Club/League Secretaries should contact:
TRULON PRODUCTS
10 Lower Park Road, New Southgate Industrial Estate
London N.11
Telephone: 01-361-1059/1440
for further details and information on possible local sponsorship of the event.

Page 13
NEW LINES FROM ‘RIVERSIDE SPORTS’
AT UNBEATABLE PRICES

Riverside T/T Bats with Midas Silver spot rubber available in 1.5, 2.0, 2.5 mm thickness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Normal retail price</th>
<th>£12.25 each</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bargain offer only</td>
<td>£4.95 each</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Midas Silver Spot rubber available in 1.5, 2.0, 2.5 mm thickness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Normal retail price</th>
<th>£10.00 per pair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bargain offer only</td>
<td>£3.00 eachpair P/P 10p</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Latest innovation in Track Suits by Riverside Sports' superbly styled in light yet warm Nylon/acetate material. Jacket has contrast stripe down arms, full length zip and ski styled collar.

Latest 1978 Catalogue showing range stocked. Stiga, Butterfly, etc. Send 15p for your copy from:-

**Riverside Sports**
(Mail Order Dept.)
501 New Cross Road, S.E.14. 01-691-3168.

Personal callers welcome at:-
232 Walworth Road, S.E.17. 01-703-5167.
501 New Cross Road, S.E.14. 01-691-3168.
208 Blackfriars Road, S.E.1. 01-928-5118.

HINOKI — THE NEW POWER GAME FROM BUTTERFLY

Here is the story behind the new, English masters singles world record which appears in the 1978 edition of the Guinness Book of Records: it is reproduced from last October's issue of the North Middlesex Journal, official magazine of the North Middlesex League . . .

A MARVELLOUS MARATHON SUCCESS STORY . . . WITH A HEART WARMING ENDING

by Keith Good

Taking a hummer's holiday from leading Heathcote's first team in Division One of the North Middlesex Summer League, Paul Pells, 25, and his namesake, Paul Dudmish, also 25, a Civil Service League player, shattered the existing marathon singles world record by playing continuous table tennis for an incredible four-and-a-half days in June.

Paul Pells explained: "It all really happened because Paul and I agreed to play a sponsored marathon to raise £100 to buy a guide dog for the blind, and, having reached our target of fifty hours, encouragement from everyone present led us into the world record attempt".

The player's mind-boggling epic began, appropriately, at high noon on Saturday, 25th June, at the Holborn Telephone Exchange Sports and Social Club, and ended 104 hours and 52 minutes later at 8.52 p.m. on Wednesday, 29th June, beating the previous record by well over an hour. I asked why they didn't stop immediately they had achieved their objective. "Well, we were in the middle of a set which I was winning", replied the Paul Pells, wryly. "Serious, we just seemed to float along on waves of tremendous support from everyone to reach the final tally of one thousand games, plus one for luck!"

Under the rules of this type of endurance record the players were permitted five-minute rest intervals (optional but agreeable) after every completed hour of play. In the early stages our indomitable heroes aggregated their rest periods, but this tactic became decidedly hazardous later on because of the obvious danger of falling into a coma-type sleep during longer breaks.

Throughout their intermittent — so it must have seemed — playing stints the boys consumed vast quantities of guava, health foods and orange juice to keep themselves going, in the less enviable sense of the term, it merely meant yet another constraint impinging on precious rest periods.

Tony Blackburn, bless him, kept the world informed of the event on Radio One, though one shudders just to think of those morale-destroying jokes. Radio London, too, chimed in with round-the-clock reports of the action all of which helped, when needed acted and spirit flapped, to keep the players on course for the record. Paul again: "The hardest time of all was on the Tuesday night with twenty-four hours still to go. Although we were desperately tired, it was our hair-bristled feet which caused the biggest problem".

The two lads paid the highest possible tribute to the Post Office day and night staffs who umpired, acted as navagators signing the log hourly, and they even presented the record-breakers with two handshone trophies to mark the occasion. The final act of this rare table tennis drama, in which all concerned were winners, featured the Post Office general manager appending the last signature to the log, thus ensuring the accolade of an entry in the Guinness Book of Records. Incidentally, this was confirmed in writing a few weeks later.

When it was all over a rip-roaring celebration party swiftly followed, whose momentum was kept nicely lubricated by a couple of breweries' (neither of which was Guinness, surprisingly!) munificent donations of 33 gallons of beer. It carried on late into the night leaving the dynamics due to speed yet another night at the Holborn Sports Club . . . sleeping rough on chairs in the canteen!

Here's a happy footnote to this almost saintly tale of two Pauls. Thanks to the lads' momentum for the B.B.C. sport department, there was presented to a representative of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association during a formal ceremony which took place, a month later, at the scene of their superb triumph.

Surely a greater love hath no man for his sport, nor indeed, a greater concern for his less fortunate fellow-men. On this evidence at any rate, there really isn't much wrong with the younger generation.

**NETHERLANDS DESPATCH**

by BAS DEN BREUJEN

The 'Bondraad' of the N.T.T.B. decided after 31 hours discussion, that their 16-year-old European Youth champion, Bettine Vriesekoop, can play in the men's competition (for one year) to give last the opportunity, to develop her capacity. A lot of top (women) players said "no" but 95% of the N.T.T.B. believe it is a good decision, because once in about 20 years: a star is born.

In 1963 the Chinese team was in Rotterdam, with Chuang Tsu-tsung and Shang Shih-jung, to play against Bert Oomes and Frans Scholten. The coach was the last time the Chinese were in Holland.

After years and years of correspondence the Chinese came (after the Scandinavian and French Opens). They played four matches. In every place it was a full house. In total there were about 5,000 spectators and Bettine Vriesekoop scored 50%. From the 5 matches she won 3 and lost 3.

Bettine beat Yang Yen-chunn 17, 12; Tsao Yen-hua 14, 16 and Yang Yen-chun 20, 13, the last in a marathon match to raise £500 to buy a guide dog for the blind, and, having reached our target of fifty hours, encouragement from everyone present led us into the world record attempt".

The final act of this rare table tennis drama, in which all concerned were winners, featured the Post Office general manager appending the last signature to the log, thus ensuring the accolade of an entry in the Guinness Book of Records. Incidentally, this was confirmed in writing a few weeks later.

Here's a happy footnote to this almost saintly tale of two Pauls. Thanks to the lads' momentum for the B.B.C. sport department, there was presented to a representative of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association during a formal ceremony which took place, a month later, at the scene of their superb triumph.

Surely a greater love hath no man for his sport, nor indeed, a greater concern for his less fortunate fellow-men. On this evidence at any rate, there really isn't much wrong with the younger generation.

**THE NEW POWER GAME FROM BUTTERFLY**

The Bondraad of the N.T.T.B. decided after 31 hours discussion, that their 16-year-old European Youth champion, Bettine Vriesekoop, can play in the men's competition (for one year) to give last the opportunity, to develop her capacity. A lot of top (women) players said "no" but 95% of the N.T.T.B. believe it is a good decision, because once in about 20 years: a star is born.

In 1963 the Chinese team was in Rotterdam, with Chuang Tsu-tsung and Shang Shih-jung, to play against Bert Oomes and Frans Scholten. The coach was the last time the Chinese were in Holland.

After years and years of correspondence the Chinese came (after the Scandinavian and French Opens). They played four matches. In every place it was a full house. In total there were about 5,000 spectators and Bettine Vriesekoop scored 50%. From the 5 matches she won 3 and lost 3.

Bettine beat Yang Yen-chunn 17, 12; Tsao Yen-hua 14, 16 and Yang Yen-chun 20, 13, the last in a marathon match to raise £500 to buy a guide dog for the blind, and, having reached our target of fifty hours, encouragement from everyone present led us into the world record attempt".

The final act of this rare table tennis drama, in which all concerned were winners, featured the Post Office general manager appending the last signature to the log, thus ensuring the accolade of an entry in the Guinness Book of Records. Incidentally, this was confirmed in writing a few weeks later.

Here's a happy footnote to this almost saintly tale of two Pauls. Thanks to the lads' momentum for the B.B.C. sport department, there was presented to a representative of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association during a formal ceremony which took place, a month later, at the scene of their superb triumph.

Surely a greater love hath no man for his sport, nor indeed, a greater concern for his less fortunate fellow-men. On this evidence at any rate, there really isn't much wrong with the younger generation.
Semi-finals:

In the Yorkshire League Women's Division, Hull dropped an unexpected point at York. Carole Grayson won all her sets for the visitors, who were without Julie McLean. York also almost caused a shock at Bradford, where the home team, champions for the past three seasons, could only win 6-4.

Women's Doubles: Final:

Women's singles: Semi-finals:

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:

Men's doubles: Semi-finals:

Women's Singles: Semi-finals:

In the Carter Cup, Halifax (Beadsley, Bottomley, Roper) progressed to Round 3 by defeating Manchester 3-1.

In the Yorkshire League Women's Division, Hull dropped an unexpected point at York. Carole Grayson won all her sets for the visitors, who were without Julie McLean. York also almost caused a shock at Bradford, where the home team, champions for the past three seasons, could only win 6-4.

Women's Doubles: Final:

Women's singles: Semi-finals:

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:

Men's doubles: Semi-finals:

Women's Singles: Semi-finals:

In the Carter Cup, Halifax (Beadsley, Bottomley, Roper) progressed to Round 3 by defeating Manchester 3-1.

In the Yorkshire League Women's Division, Hull dropped an unexpected point at York. Carole Grayson won all her sets for the visitors, who were without Julie McLean. York also almost caused a shock at Bradford, where the home team, champions for the past three seasons, could only win 6-4.

Women's Doubles: Final:

Women's singles: Semi-finals:
**COUNTY NOTES**

**SUPPLEMENT**

**CLOSED COMPETITIONS**

The main event recently in the County has been the Closed Tournament staged at Portsmouth. Six of the top eight seeds reached the semi-final stage of the men's singles. The exceptions were Loq Palacky, who came through in place of the absent Trevor Smith, and Martin Abbot who beat Terry Bruce. In the quarters, Keith Sunnemer had a comfortable 15, 6 victory over Derek Holman while Chris Hatfield had equally convincing 5, 4 wins over Palacky. In the other half Bill Molding beat Richard Bergemann 21, 23 while Chris Holman also had a straight two-win, 12, 9 against Abbot. In the semi, Sunnemer beat Pickard 16, 19, while Shelter was extended to three before beating Molding 17, 15. In the final Shelter picked up his second championship to prevent Sunnemer's third successive title.

Only fifteen entries contained the women's singles with the final top two reaching the semifinals. At that stage Janet New beat Cherry Creasey 12, 9, 14. In the final, Janet returned to her title with a 19, 17 victory. The men's doubles did not produce its usual final, as Sunnemer and Shelter eliminated their own final opponent Molding and Holman, at the semi-final stage in a straight victory. In the other half, John Robinson and Abbot beat Holman and Mike Douglas 16, 18, 10. In the final, Robinson and Abbot had a surprisingly easy victory, 16, 5 to pick up their third title in two years. Moulding and Shelter chalked up their fifth title in this event. Joyce Coop paired with Cherry Creasey after dropping the first game at 14, won the next two 14 and 4 to beat Janet New and Beryl Duffield in the women's doubles final. Holman with Joyce Coop beat Abbot and Syrah Gibson 12, 10, 12. In the final, Robinson and Abbot had a surprisingly easy victory, 16, 5 to pick up their third title in two years. Moulding and Shelter chalked up their fifth title in this event. Joyce Coop paired with Cherry Creasey after dropping the first game at 14, won the next two 14 and 4 to beat Janet New and Beryl Duffield in the women's doubles final. Holman with Joyce Coop beat Abbot and Syrah Gibson 12, 10, 12. In the final, Robinson and Abbot had a surprisingly easy victory, 16, 5 to pick up their third title in two years. Moulding and Shelter chalked up their fifth title in this event. followed by John Robinson and Abbot, and Syrah Gibson who were away on their holiday. In the doubles event, Begeman and Cresswell won the No. 1 seed, John Robinson and Abbot, lost in the finals to Tony Littlechild and Valerie Parkes in a straight game.

Unfortunately the County teams have not got off to a good start in the County Championships. The Mixed Team have lost both their opening games. Firstly 2-8 to Surrey with only Shetler and Holman scoring points. Although they went down 2-8 to last year's champions, Basingstoke, the use of tables and surrounds supplied by Messrs. Hales, and the good support and encouragement of S. J. Jeffery and Son, the Sports firm of Guildford, has now a fairly regular coverage in the local press. The Junior Team, however, lost 2-8 to Portsmouth. In the Island Division, Ryde as expected have won their first seven matches losing only 5 sets. I see also that Carl Prean did well to win his first Open Tournament victory when he gained the Kent Junior 2-Star U-11 title.

The mixture of weather, the lack of rain, and the absence of Trevor Smith, due to the hard preparations for the Inter County match, was due to the hard preparations for the Inter County match. The Junior Team, however, lost 2-8 to Portsmouth. In the Island Division, Ryde as expected have won their first seven matches losing only 5 sets. I see also that Carl Prean did well to win his first Open Tournament victory when he gained the Kent Junior 2-Star U-11 title.

The mixture of weather, the lack of rain, and the absence of Trevor Smith, due to the hard preparations for the Inter County match. The Junior Team, however, lost 2-8 to Portsmouth. In the Island Division, Ryde as expected have won their first seven matches losing only 5 sets. I see also that Carl Prean did well to win his first Open Tournament victory when he gained the Kent Junior 2-Star U-11 title.

The mixture of weather, the lack of rain, and the absence of Trevor Smith, due to the hard preparations for the Inter County match. The Junior Team, however, lost 2-8 to Portsmouth. In the Island Division, Ryde as expected have won their first seven matches losing only 5 sets. I see also that Carl Prean did well to win his first Open Tournament victory when he gained the Kent Junior 2-Star U-11 title.

The mixture of weather, the lack of rain, and the absence of Trevor Smith, due to the hard preparations for the Inter County match. The Junior Team, however, lost 2-8 to Portsmouth. In the Island Division, Ryde as expected have won their first seven matches losing only 5 sets. I see also that Carl Prean did well to win his first Open Tournament victory when he gained the Kent Junior 2-Star U-11 title.

The mixture of weather, the lack of rain, and the absence of Trevor Smith, due to the hard preparations for the Inter County match. The Junior Team, however, lost 2-8 to Portsmouth. In the Island Division, Ryde as expected have won their first seven matches losing only 5 sets. I see also that Carl Prean did well to win his first Open Tournament victory when he gained the Kent Junior 2-Star U-11 title.

The mixture of weather, the lack of rain, and the absence of Trevor Smith, due to the hard preparations for the Inter County match. The Junior Team, however, lost 2-8 to Portsmouth. In the Island Division, Ryde as expected have won their first seven matches losing only 5 sets. I see also that Carl Prean did well to win his first Open Tournament victory when he gained the Kent Junior 2-Star U-11 title.

The mixture of weather, the lack of rain, and the absence of Trevor Smith, due to the hard preparations for the Inter County match. The Junior Team, however, lost 2-8 to Portsmouth. In the Island Division, Ryde as expected have won their first seven matches losing only 5 sets. I see also that Carl Prean did well to win his first Open Tournament victory when he gained the Kent Junior 2-Star U-11 title.

The mixture of weather, the lack of rain, and the absence of Trevor Smith, due to the hard preparations for the Inter County match. The Junior Team, however, lost 2-8 to Portsmouth. In the Island Division, Ryde as expected have won their first seven matches losing only 5 sets. I see also that Carl Prean did well to win his first Open Tournament victory when he gained the Kent Junior 2-Star U-11 title.
In the South East Midlands League the "local derby" between Cambridge and Ely (the Champions) resulted in a 6-4 win for the latter and enabled them to hold their top spot. This was a good performance by Cambridge who were promoted from the second division last season and are still performing well. Wisbech are in second place in Div. II and have a good chance of promotion as have Cambridge seconds who are just behind them.

Although promoted to the first division this season Cambridge Juniors are in desperate straits sitting bottom and it looks like a near return to the second division. This is a pity because they have a large group of juniors who were a major factor at the Cambridge Sports Hall every Saturday afternoon and could be encouraged to find their way back.

Cambridge are leading in Div. I with W.T.T.A. Maple Leaves and B.S.C. hard on their heels. Last season's champions, Institute, have crashed to a 0-10 defeat against Derbyshire II at Derby. The margin by which they were outscored was a bitter disappointment, as Northumberland had good leads in both of their matches and were unable to press home their advantage.

The juniors, however, maintained their unbeaten record by following up an impressive performance for Cambrige II juniors with a 5-5 draw against the Cleveland III senior team at Ormskirk. Susan Norris was undefeated in this match, winning her singles and the doubles with Christine Tweddle, while John Burke, John Anderson and Phillip Kolvin each won one of their singles.

Northumberland's next County fixtures will be on Jan. 21, when the junior team meet Nottingham juniors in the afternoon, and the senior first team are hosts to Yorkshire II in the evening. The senior second team match against Northumberland juniors has been re-scheduled to take place on the afternoon of the following day, Sunday, Jan. 22. All matches are due to be played at Byker Community Centre.

The Northumberland League were drawn to play the Westmorland League at Sedgwick (near Kendal) in an early round of the Wilmott Cup on Dec. 11, and ran out easy winners, by 9-0, maximums being gained by Frank Mitchell, Chris Shepherd and Peter Whiteham.

With only three weeks left before the two-week break for Christmas and New Year, the positions in the Northumberland League after eleven weeks show that three clubs have yet to drop a point: Briercliffe (Premier), Simonside 'A' (Div. IVA) and Tyne Wear Fire Brigade 'A' (Div. IVB). The leading positions are as follows: Premier - Briercliffe and Byker CCC, 'A' - Wellingborough CCC, 'C' and D.J.H.S. 'A', Div. II - Thirsk, 'A'; Div. III - South Shields 'A' and Newcastle N.A.L.G.O. 'B', Div. IV - Byker 'C', Div. V - Proctor and Gamble 'C' and Ouston 'A', Div. VI - South Shields 'A', Div. VII - North Shields 'A', Div. VIII - Wrexham 'A', Div. IX - Thameside 'C' and Wellingborough 'A'.

The Northumberland League are due to play the Northordaed League at Sedgwick (near Kendal) in an early round of the Wilmott Cup on Dec. 12, and ran out easy winners, by 9-0, maximums being gained by Frank Mitchell, Chris Shepherd and Peter Whiteham.

With only three weeks left before the two-week break for Christmas and New Year, the positions in the Northumberland League after eleven weeks show that three clubs have yet to drop a point: Briercliffe (Premier), Simonside 'A' (Div. IV) and Tyne Wear Fire Brigade 'A' (Div. IVB). The leading positions are as follows: Premier - Briercliffe and Byker CCC, 'A' - Wellingborough CCC, 'C' and D.J.H.S. 'A', Div. II - Thirsk, 'A'; Div. III - South Shields 'A' and Newcastle N.A.L.G.O. 'B', Div. IV - Byker 'C', Div. V - Proctor and Gamble 'C' and Ouston 'A', Div. VI - South Shields 'A', Div. VII - North Shields 'A', Div. VIII - Wrexham 'A', Div. IX - Thameside 'C' and Wellingborough 'A'.

The draw for the fourth round of the Men's Knock-Out Cup is shown below. All matches are due to be played on Jan. 21.

The draw for the fourth round of the Men's Knock-Out Cup is shown below. All matches are due to be played on Jan. 21.
Another double to retain its title was the Speller/Ringrose pairing which overwhelmed Wyllie/Chamberlain 17-1, 16-3 in the mixed event. The veterans' crown went to Colin Dale of Peterborough who defeated top seed Green in straight games.

Le Champion provided the two junior champions with Mark Fisher and Melanie Ringrose finding little trouble in achieving these feats. Speller won the first stage of the Paul Charlon Memorial event for boys aged 17-21. In the final he defeated clubmate Alan Smith; the only other winner of this event, Margin Webb. The County chairman, can again take credit for a finely run tournament.

**LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES**

by JOAN ROBINSON

The star of the County Closed Championships held in November at North Kesteven Sports Centre, was 13-year-old Gillian Galloway of Lincoln. Gillian was last year's News of the World Junior 'Girl of the Year' not only won Gillian's singles against Carole Exton but went on to win the Women's singles over fellow Lincoln girl Cheryl Butterly. In the semi-final Miss Galloway went on a match against past champion Jean White with the expeditious rule being brought in at a crucial point of the first game which White had claimed.

Lincoln completed the junior double when David Johnson comfortably beat Skerrat in the Boys' singles.

The Men's singles was retained by Brian Hill in an excellent set over Peter Taylor. Hill's defence was changed and much of it was produced by Taylor's topspin forehand, but although Taylor had leant in the first game comfortably, at 13, and led 20-18 in the second before Lamprell brought in his "Houdini" set to take the middle game 25-23.

Having been on the brink of success there was no way back for Speller, his opponent running out a winner 21-15, 21-17, 17-21.

All three County Teams have played two matches, the Senior Team have got off to a winning start in Division One (North) by having won over Lancashire 13-7 and Nottinghamshire 17-16 in the County Championship match which was the set between the two No. 1's. Sadly Hill had to retire early in the North Lancashire match which set the seed for Cordier to defeat the County chairman, Martin Cordier for North

This set was of a particular high standard, with many long and fast rallies, which kept the spectators on the edge of their seats, until the last point, with Cordier just coming out on top. Both Junior Teams have won one and lost one.

The Hough, Butlin and Butcher Cup Matches have nearly reached the halfway stage, in the Hough both Wyllie and Green are both on maximum points. In the Butlin, Holders Spelling are up to the task in no uncertain fashion from the artist on the edge of their seats, until the last point, with Cordier just coming out on top. Both Junior Teams have won one and lost one.

The Division 2 clash between Cheshire and Lancashire on Jan. 21 should be a star feature as both teams are playing their best. Lancashire have won all their games for the County second time. It was Mark who caused the sensation of the Saltford and Eccles 5-Star by putting out Denis Neil two straight in the second round. Mark has now made his mark and Cheshire look forward to him for further successes in the forthcoming months.

No double Mark will be setting his sights high in the Cheshire Closed, Jan. 14/15 next, aiming for the Men's singles to add to his last year's Junior Singles Title and the Men's Doubles with youthful veteran Pete D'Arcy - a pairing that is working well in Open Tournaments this season. Brian Johns will no doubt be anxious to hold on to the Midland 3-Star and the Harrogate 1-Star titles which he won last year. Nigel will surely go from strength to strength now that he is full-time in table tennis.

The Cheshire Committee have had an excellent season. Cheshire have won both fixtures against Gladiators and Fosters but were narrowly beaten by Lancashire 13-7 and 17-13.

The Old 'Uns, Cheshire Veterans, have also had a good start to the season, beating Lancashire 17-13.

The Cheshire Committee has lost only one of last year's members. John Wilkinson, who has worked extremely hard as Cheshire's Secretary for the season.
Graham Green managed to add a further set in produce the overall victory for his team. Only set for a 5-4 result for the Devonians. 3-3 but then the visitors pulled away to take a (Glam).

WESTERN LEAGUE NEWS

finish on a high note, I would like to congratulate this report without mentioning Adrian Wright who Page 20

Davies, he also registered a third success teaming benefit of the Taunton League and the County.

Devon in what turned out to Already rapid improvement has been observed in their game for the senior play that lies ahead of the Centre is available to all promising young layers

at the expense of other county hopefuls. Although on an intensive basis at Bridgwater where a Junior Centre has recently been established. Fortunately it has been possible to get this started Chat Centre, has taken over responsibility for Junior

a number of years, handed over to Dick Turner.

short illness. Karen Tonge, from Runcorn Youth Centre, who

commitments but were strengthened by the return of Terry Roden after a lengthy absence. Poole, last season's champions, were in excellent form and found no difficulty in winning 9-0. Their trio of Martin Albutt, Jason Crassey and John Robinson were in devastating form and worthy

Bournemouth, playing at home against Plym

mouth usual before our victory 6-3. Their best player proved to be Trevor Smith who won all his sets and was supported by Chris Pickard who lost only to James. The home team's other success was by Ian Asher, who beat Kelly. Plymouth's only other win was recorded by Barry Davies who defeated Therry.

A youthful Plymouth "A" team had a very close encounter with their visitors, Bristol, who were beaten 5-4. This was a good win for Plym

mouth's opponents having beaten West Wilts away in their previous match. Paul Whiting won two of his three sets, losing only to Chris Seewol. It did Mike Sheerman. Mike Short accounted for Mildred.

May I again appeal to all captains to make sure that christian names are given on the scorecards. Only after the match having noted wins and initials do. Thanks

CUMBRIA COMMENT

by JOHN TAYLOR

FIRST POINTS

The County's two junior sides gained their first County Championships points of the season in that closing night of matches when the 1st team defeated Durham 6-nil at Millom and the 2nd team drew 5-5 away to Durham.

The win for the first team follows two 7-3 defeats against Derbyshire and Yorkshire and unbeaten performances from Donetsk Gray and Andrew Pachaal with good support from Ian Reed who won the main win. Donetsk's performance was up to his usual high consistency while Andrew played particularly well and one of his wins was over Cheshire's ranked junior, John Weasely.

Ian's only defeat came at the hands of the same Cheshire player with the second set being a close 2 sets to 1 victory. The 3rd set in succession there was no joy for the girls with Gail Smith and Miranda Gray finding the opposition too good.

The 2nd team staged a good recovery in their match and after being 1-0 up with a Steven Sharp win over the Durham No. 2, R. Reed, then 1-1 down, the team fought back to lead 5-4. Paul Watson lost a close second set against the Durham No. 3, S. Heslop. This was followed by further defeats for Michael Cairns against the Durham No. 3 M. Polkinghorn and for both boys' and girls' doubles before Janet Septon started to play.
In the women's singles final, Li Song Suk defeated Hammersley 16, 6, while in the men's singles final, Yang Ying defeated Douglas 12, 19, 16.

In the mixed doubles, K. Kruger (NET) and J. Vriesekoop (NET) of Holland defeated B. Vriesekoop (NET) and E. Vriens (NET) of Belgium 22, 22, -11.

In the women's doubles, Korea DPR defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun and Yang Ying defeating J. Hammersley and E. Vriens of Belgium 15, 15, 16.

In the team events, China won the gold medal, defeating Yugoslavia 3-1 in the final. The matches were won by Yang Yen-chun over S. Grefberg 20, 20, 13 in the singles, and by Lu Yuan-sheng and Lu Chi-wei over W. Lieck/P. Stellwag of Germany 16, 16.

In the men's doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1 in the final, with Lu Yuan-sheng and Lu Chi-wei defeating W. Lieck/P. Stellwag 16, 16.

And in the women's doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Yang Ying defeating J. Hammersley/E. Vriens of Belgium 15, 15, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Pak Yong Ok defeating J. Vriesekoop/E. Vriens of Belgium 22, 22, -11.

In the women's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun defeating J. Hammersley 15, 15, 16.

In the men's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Ying defeating Douglas 12, 19, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Lu Yuan-sheng and Lu Chi-wei defeating W. Lieck/P. Stellwag of Germany 16, 16.

In the women's doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Yang Ying defeating J. Hammersley/E. Vriens of Belgium 15, 15, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Pak Yong Ok defeating J. Vriesekoop/E. Vriens of Belgium 22, 22, -11.

In the women's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun defeating J. Hammersley 15, 15, 16.

In the men's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Ying defeating Douglas 12, 19, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Lu Yuan-sheng and Lu Chi-wei defeating W. Lieck/P. Stellwag of Germany 16, 16.

In the women's doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Yang Ying defeating J. Hammersley/E. Vriens of Belgium 15, 15, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Pak Yong Ok defeating J. Vriesekoop/E. Vriens of Belgium 22, 22, -11.

In the women's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun defeating J. Hammersley 15, 15, 16.

In the men's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Ying defeating Douglas 12, 19, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Lu Yuan-sheng and Lu Chi-wei defeating W. Lieck/P. Stellwag of Germany 16, 16.

In the women's doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Yang Ying defeating J. Hammersley/E. Vriens of Belgium 15, 15, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Pak Yong Ok defeating J. Vriesekoop/E. Vriens of Belgium 22, 22, -11.

In the women's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun defeating J. Hammersley 15, 15, 16.

In the men's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Ying defeating Douglas 12, 19, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Lu Yuan-sheng and Lu Chi-wei defeating W. Lieck/P. Stellwag of Germany 16, 16.

In the women's doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Yang Ying defeating J. Hammersley/E. Vriens of Belgium 15, 15, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Pak Yong Ok defeating J. Vriesekoop/E. Vriens of Belgium 22, 22, -11.

In the women's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun defeating J. Hammersley 15, 15, 16.

In the men's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Ying defeating Douglas 12, 19, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Lu Yuan-sheng and Lu Chi-wei defeating W. Lieck/P. Stellwag of Germany 16, 16.

In the women's doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Yang Ying defeating J. Hammersley/E. Vriens of Belgium 15, 15, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Pak Yong Ok defeating J. Vriesekoop/E. Vriens of Belgium 22, 22, -11.

In the women's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun defeating J. Hammersley 15, 15, 16.

In the men's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Ying defeating Douglas 12, 19, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Lu Yuan-sheng and Lu Chi-wei defeating W. Lieck/P. Stellwag of Germany 16, 16.

In the women's doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Yang Ying defeating J. Hammersley/E. Vriens of Belgium 15, 15, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Pak Yong Ok defeating J. Vriesekoop/E. Vriens of Belgium 22, 22, -11.

In the women's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun defeating J. Hammersley 15, 15, 16.

In the men's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Ying defeating Douglas 12, 19, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Lu Yuan-sheng and Lu Chi-wei defeating W. Lieck/P. Stellwag of Germany 16, 16.

In the women's doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Yang Ying defeating J. Hammersley/E. Vriens of Belgium 15, 15, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun/Pak Yong Ok defeating J. Vriesekoop/E. Vriens of Belgium 22, 22, -11.

In the women's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Yen-chun defeating J. Hammersley 15, 15, 16.

In the men's singles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Yang Ying defeating Douglas 12, 19, 16.

In the mixed doubles, China defeated Yugoslavia 3-1, with Lu Yuan-sheng and Lu Chi-wei defeating W. Lieck/P. Stellwag of Germany 16, 16.
MOOR GRANGE TABLE TENNIS CENTRE, LEEDS

by COLIN MORTH

Leeds T.T.A. Coaching Secretary and 2-Star Diploma Coach.

The development of Moor Grange school into a table tennis centre illustrates how schools may be fully utilised for the benefit of the community.

The Moor Grange centre was officially opened on 24th October, 1975. It represented the culmination of some five years of effort on the part of many organisations and individuals. The centre has 12 tables, 6 in each hall and is open daily throughout the year. Coaching in Leeds has expanded considerably since 1970 when the first table tennis centre was opened. The league has increased from 13 divisions, regular county coaching sessions are run, and since January, 1977 the first table tennis Centre of Excellence to be formed in Britain meets twice weekly. Moor Grange is at the hub of all these activities, providing the facilities for all these groups to operate.

The idea of the centre was first brought nearer reality when the headmaster of Moor Grange school suggested that his hall and gymnasium could be used more fully for table tennis. A coaching class was already being held at the school. The Leeds T.T.A. agreed that a coaching centre could be set up at Moor Grange, and therefore our future aspirations are for a 20 division Leeds League controlling the booking and priority, time table, etc. The facilities are hired from the Education Authority at an hourly rate. The Leeds League controlling the booking and paying the bills. They in turn bill the user. Schools and junior events are free, although everyone pays an equipment levy. Bookings are then passed to the head of Adult Education who is an employee of the Community Education staff. He is the link between the user and the authority and is responsible for events sponsored by them such as coaching. Coaching courses are run on one night each week, these catering for players of all standards. The Centre of Excellence runs twice weekly and is funded jointly by the Sports Council and the Education Authority.

The league use the hall on two evenings. Clubs have been formed at the centre playing their home matches there. A practice session is also available for all registered league players. At weekends the facilities are used for Yorkshire league and county matches, county coaching, schools events, tournaments, and for other external activities.

The current weekly programme is designed to provide a balanced use of the centre by players of all abilities and inclinations. The schools use the facilities until 7 p.m. for school league matches, coaching and practice. After 7 p.m. the programme can provide facilities for weight training and physiotherapy etc. Without the help of anyone there would not be a thriving centre today.

The main factor in the development of Moor Grange has been the co-operation that has been shown by all the various organisations. Without the help of any one there would not be a thriving table tennis centre in Leeds today.
LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by PHILIP REID

LANCASHER & CHESTHER AFFAIRS

by GEORGE R. YATES

LANCASHIRE 2-STAR OPEN

Through the good offices of Mr. Paul Dobbery, Head of Sport, Granada Television Limited, a knock-out tournament, 80% open, has been launched this month involving all leagues, with the exception of Manchester Banks and Insurance Offices and Liverpool Business Houses, within the Lancashire and Cheshire League and the other North West Counties T.T.A.

Initially the forty leagues involved have been split geographically into four groups each comprising ten leagues, the ultimate group winners becoming the overall semi-finalists. Teams will comprise three male players from those to have been registered in the L. and C. League as at Dec. 12/77 and, as appropriate in the North West Counties Association, Match regulations will be those appearing in the current handbook of the L. and C. League.

The tournament was launched on Granada Reports with an exhibition match between John Hilton and Nigel Eckersley. It is also Mr. Dobbery’s intention to have interviews with his local personalities throughout the tournament and, on occasion, to send a film unit to cover some of the more important matches, being aware that coverage must also be afforded at least one other match in each group.

The semi-finals will take place on April 22 and the final, most likely, on Sunday, May 1 at British Aerospace Dynamics Group, Lostock Factory, Bolton when full coverage will be afforded for subsequent highlights to be televised. Granada will undertake to provide an exciting semi-final and the winning team will receive medals. The winners will receive medals and the Granada Trophy. The groupings are:

**GROUP 1**
- Anglesey
- Barrow
- Barnsley
- Bury
- Chester
- Manchester
- Liverpool
- Manchester
- Widnes

**GROUP 2**
- Cheshire
- Stockport
- Southport
- Widnes

**GROUP 3**
- Crewe
- Ashton
- Wigan
- Bolton
- Mid-Cheshire
- Sale
- Preston

**GROUP 4**
- Wigan
- Sandbach
- Barrow
- Morecambe
- Stockport
- Widnes

The tournament is scheduled to be held on Saturday, Feb. 11 with a prize fund of £400 with £50 for the winner of the men’s singles event and £50 for the winner of the women’s doubles.

Back in harness Mr. George T. H. Fackrell of 9 Clive Avenue, Ormskirk, Lancashire (Telephone Warrington 9220) has taken over from Mr. Chris Minta as the Hon. Organiser and Secretary and completed forms are available from him the closing date for entries being Wednesday, Feb. 1/78.

E.T.T.A. LINCOLN LOTTERY

Most leagues will have received details of this lottery which offers the opportunity of raising funds without any financial risk to themselves. Please ask your Committee to seriously consider taking part. Indeed, it would be a brave man who would separate the two now!
Jeff Morgan played well to win from a large field, beating Kevin Satchell in the final, whilst Helen Gore had a good performance to reach her final where she went down to Claire Maisey.

Mark Thomas and Andrew Jones were the stars of the cadet singles, in which Mark beat Andrew in the final.

The Senior event on Sunday was not as strong as usual, mainly because of an unfortunate clash with the Middlesbrough Open. It was George Evans's day again — he had a splendid win over Tony Clayton in the semi-final, and then went on to beat David Welman in the final, after the latter had eliminated Graham Davies.

George was beaten by John Bloomer in the men's doubles, but teamed up with Alison Taylor to win the mixed. The women's events were dominated by the English contingent, although the old firm of Margaret Phillips and Sandra Pickering put up a spirited defence in the final against Claire Maisey and Pat Oung.

Results:
M.S.: George Evans bt David Welman (Sy) 15, 11.
W.S.: Janet Carr (Staffs) bt Claire Maisey (Wils) 8, 11.
M.D.: Clayton/Harrison (Y) bt Evans/Bloomer 15, 11.
W.D.: Maisey/Oung bt Margaret Phillips/Sandra Pickering 17, -16, 15.
X.D.: Evans/Taylor bt Bob Brown/Cathryn Jones/Alma Taft 7, 16.
W.D.: Maisey/Oung bt Margaret Phillips/Sandra Pickering 17, -16, 15.
X.D.: Evans/Alma Taft bt Bob Brown/Diane St. Ledger 7, 16.
B.S.: Jeff Morgan bt Kevin Satchell (Wi) 14, 16, 9.
G.S.: Claire Maisey bt Helen Gore (E) 11, 19.
U-14 B.S.: Mark Thomas bt Andrew Jones 11, 15.
U-12 B.S.: Gary Lambert (Devon) bt Paul Halliday (Bucks) 11.
U-12 G.S.: Stephanie Hadley (Staffs) bt Vicki Bellingham (Staffs) 20, 10.
G.D.: Townsend/Maisey bt Cathryn Jones/Susan Jones (Sp) 20, 21.

Three good County Championship wins should have provided the right kind of spirit for Christmas but regrettably the first team went down to Warwickshire in a match they just had to win, and indeed should have. Mike Owen, the County No. 1, was in splendid form to take two singles and to provide a bonus with a mixed win with Debbie Couthand. But with Alan Griffiths losing both, Graham Davies only taking one, and again failing in the doubles, Warwickshire were allowed to get away with a win they could hardly have expected.

Against the Cornish juniors, Glamorgan won 5-3, with David Kenedli, Stephen Jordan and Andrew Jones all playing well, whilst both Cathryn and Susan Jones showed confidence.

Insular as the County programme is concerned, it looks as if the First side will find it difficult to stay up in the Premier Division, having now lost two matches they should have won.

Approved Balls

The licence for the Stiga Alser ball has been withdrawn as supplies are not available in this country at the present time. The intention to change the name of the Dunlop ball to Dunlop Super DDD could not be implemented for marketing reasons and will therefore continue to be known as the Dunlop Beta Super 3-crown and 2-crown.
The Octavius Atkinson North Yorkshire 1-Star Open

by Richard Scrutton

Donald Parker won the inaugural North Yorkshire Open men's title on Dec. 4 at Harrogate against Nigel Eckersley who saved 7 match points before Parker clinched the title. Parker led 20-16 in the second game before Eckersley came back to win, 24-22, and lead 8-2 in the deciding rubber. But again Eckersley came back, this time from 16-20 to lead 20-all before Parker took the last two points.

Parker had earlier defeated Canada's Errol Castano and Alan Griffiths, the Welsh No. 1, in the top half of the draw from which Dennis Neale had to scratch due to injury. Eckersley overcame No. 2 and Andy Hilton in the semi-finals in a tense third game. A surprise in the bottom half was a win by Bradford's Ben Smith over Simon Claxton, Warwickshire's newest acquisition.

Melody Ludi swept aside all opposition to win the women's singles with a final win over Linda Hryszko. This event was somewhat weakened by the non-appearance of two nationally-ranked women.

The major surprise of the tournament was the defeat of the top seeds, Hilton and Parker, in Rd. 2 by Kevin Beadsley and Mick Stephenson from Bradford. The latter pair went on to reach the semi-finals where they fell to the eventual winners Griffiths and Peter McQueen by the narrowest margin.

Both junior finals were all Bradford affairs. Beadsley struggled to take the first game against defender Adrian Hill but ran out a comfortable winner while Beadsley trimmed with confidence to beat his higher ranked doubles partner Linda Hryszko in the girls' singles final.

The tournament proved highly successful and the Harrogate League are hopeful of gaining 2-Star status next season. The prize fund was £270 Parker bt Griffiths 10, -14, 18; the Harrogate League are hopeful of gaining the finals session to start at 8 p.m. Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semi-finals</th>
<th>Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parker bt Griffiths 10, -14, 18</td>
<td>Eckersley bt Hilton -14, 8, 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results:

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semi-finals</th>
<th>Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ludi bt S. Midgley 17, 19</td>
<td>Parker bt Eckersley 17, -22, 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semi-finals</th>
<th>Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ludi bt S. Midgley 17, 19</td>
<td>Eckersley bt Hilton -14, 8, 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Hill (Y) bt P. Sanderson (Y) 16, -13,15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Fearnehough (Dy) bt A. Marples (Dy) -16, 18, 17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eckersley/Fletcher bt Caetano/K. Paxton (Cv) 19, 17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eckersley/F Fletcher bt Caetano/K. Paxton (Cv) 19, 17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This has now become an annual function with £200 raised in the first year, £400 last year and £200 raised this year.

Ask Barry Meisel about

The Omnia Policy
FLEXIBLE ENDOWMENT ASSURANCE WITH PROFITS

UNDERWRITTEN BY
CRUSADER INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

The Flexible Endowment Assurance Policy is for the man or woman who cares about:

* The Family
* Money for retirement at 65 or earlier
* Wedding Expenses
* School Fees
* Downpayment for House Purchase
* A new Car

It is the ideal "With Profits" policy for anybody who is not sure when money may be needed for any purpose including those above.

TO: Barry Meisel, Parkside Insurance Agency Ltd., The Lodge, Woodcroft, Mottingham Lane, SE9 4RT

Please let me know more about the Omnia Policy

NAME
ADDRESS
TTN

Cleveland’s Nick Jarvis well on the way back to full recovery after last season’s back operation.

Photo by T. Edenden, Blandford Forum, Dorset.

Cleveland’s Nick Jarvis well on the way back to full recovery after last season’s back operation.
ESSEX NOTES

by GEOFF NEWMAN

BUBBLE BURST

Well Berkshire burst the bubble in our last county match when our senior Premier team were beaten 6-3. Dave Iszatt deputised for Bob Potton (away at the French Open) in this match and he in fact played extremely well winning one singles as did David Newman, our only other success coming in the mixed.

Lesley Radford fully extended Karen Wilt and in fact looked a likely winner at one stage, another very close encounter was the Newman - Heaps rubber not covering the whole surface of the blade which, in future, will have an upper limit on its total thickness for sandwich rubber remains but the pimpled portion must not exceed 2mm. The limitation of 4mm as the one side and say, green rubber on the other side. If requested by your opponent, you must show him or her both sides of the blades before using a bat for the first time in a match. The new racket law seems to have given rise to a number of queries but the principal change comes into effect on January 1, 1978. This concerns the thickness of any pimpled rubber which, in future, will have an upper limit on its thickness of 2mm. The limitation of 4mm as the total thickness for sandwich rubber remains but the pimpled portion must not exceed 2mm. Rumour also has it that the colour of the covering on both sides of a bat must be similar. This is not so, you can still have red rubber on one side and, say, green rubber on the other side. If requested by your opponent, you must show him or her both sides of the blades before using a bat for the first time in a match. The new law is contained in the Norwich Union law booklets available from the B.T.T.A. office for the price of the postage.

Confusion over Bats

The new racket law seems to have given rise to a number of queries but the principal change comes into effect on January 1, 1978. This concerns the thickness of any pimpled rubber which, in future, will have an upper limit on its thickness of 2mm. The limitation of 4mm as the total thickness for sandwich rubber remains but the pimpled portion must not exceed 2mm. Rumour also has it that the colour of the covering on both sides of a bat must be similar. This is not so, you can still have red rubber on one side and, say, green rubber on the other side. If requested by your opponent, you must show him or her both sides of the blades before using a bat for the first time in a match. The new law is contained in the Norwich Union law booklets available from the E.T.T.A. office for the price of the postage.

TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION

The Durham 1-Star Open Championships scheduled for Feb. 11, 1978 has been cancelled.

Bob Potton selected for England.

The Senior seconds easily defeated Bucks to go to the top of their division and the game this month with Cambs could well be vital to our chances. Leon Smith another very useful player just out of the junior ranks retains his place in the team to meet Cambs, the same being Kevin Caldon, Les Edie, Leon Smith, Slagham Hession and Linda Barrow.

In recent years our Senior third team has been very successful but this season despite some keen and determined play they have yet to win and against Sussex II they again came to grief. Perhaps they can turn the tide at home to Berkshire and a spine-tingling finish saw us home 6-4. Once again we expect a lot from Kenny but Des and Stuart are really backing him up well and Des must be one of the most improved juniors in England.

This whole match was really superb and Berkshire's contribution as much to the game as our own team. Our girls could not match their Berkshire counterparts but Yvette Brown and Helen Gore kept on trying which is most important and perhaps their turn will come in the battles that lie ahead.

Against Middlesex II our Junior second string came unstuck going 4-6 in a match they could well have won. Maxine Abbott and Skyller Andrews each won a singles while we took both the doubles. Away to Sussex II our Junior third team also took a dive although debutante Ian Atttridge came through this match well.
The Wayfarers English Junior Championships were dominated by two players: Bradford's Kenan Bradley and Karen Witt of Rivington. In the Boys' Singles there were few shocks, with the seeded players duly appointed places in the last eight without being seriously extended. The only real upset came in the quarter-final on a strong show, with the top seed and a well-deserved winner but having won that went one better in the semi-finals, to lose to Mark Oakley/Colin Wilson in the semi-finals. Top seed and came unstuck in the semi against the exciting Jackson/O'Connor partnership.

The finals were a succession of successes for Karen and Kevin. The first match was the Girls' Singles where the power of Miss Witt was too much for a game. Miss Witt's forehand carried a power which reminded me of Mary Wright. Bradley was engaged in an interesting but often erratic final with Jackson. Both players seemed nervous and as a result there was a number of unforced mistakes. Jackson won the first but Bradley, showing a sound temperament, came back to take the second. In the third Miss Bradley took an early lead and as she grew in confidence so made more and more kills and, in fact, went on to win the third set. In the Girls' doubles Karen Witt and Angela Tierney went on to win the title but it was not to be for the third time Jackson found himself facing Bradley, this time with Karen as his partner. Bradley's partner was Linda Hryszko. In the first game Karen was only one up in the second set. Hitting with great power and consistency, Jackson and Karen hardly missed anything and even Bradley was unable to stem the tide. However the Yorkshire pair were still full of fight and came back to take the second, though not without a lot of trouble. The third game was a real battle from start to finish with all four players hitting as often as possible. Mistakes were inevitable but there was no let-up. Eventually, at 24-23 Jackson put away the ball and the set was over. It was an interesting tournament. Not too many shocks perhaps and the general standard has often been higher. But there was a record entry and plenty of enthusiasm.

Scores:

Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
B. Tyler (Mi) bt D. Barr (Bk) 19, 18, 11;
K. Jackson (E) bt S. Kimm (E) 12, 19, 12;
G. Sandle (Mi) bt M. Green (Sp) 12, 15;
K. Bradley (Y) bt A. O'Connor (La) 19, 17.

Semi-finals:
Jackson bt Tyler 16, 15;
Bradley bt Sandley 16, 19.

Final:
BEADLEY bt Jackson 17, 17, 9.

Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals:
S. Witt (Bk) bt T. Brown (E) 10, 5;
M. Smith (Bk) bt S. Midgley (Y) 15, 7.
A. Tierney (Cv) bt E. Parson (Bk) 11, 10;
A. Gordon (Bk) bt H. Robson (Cv) 19, 19.

Semi-finals:
Witt bt Smith 12, 8, 15;
Sandley bt Gordon 15, 10.

Final:
WITT bt Tierney 11, 17.

Boy's Doubles: Final:
Beadsley/Green bt Jackson/O'Connor 20, 14, 15.

Girl's Doubles: Final:
Tierney/Witt bt Gordon/Smith 12, 21.

Mixed Doubles: Final:
Jackson/W. bt Beadsley/L. Hryszko (Y) 16, 19, 23.

CRAYFORD SPORTS
163 CRAYFORD ROAD, CRAYFORD, KENT DA1 4HJ.

The Specialist Mail Order Company for Table Tennis Equipment

NOW IN STOCK - THE NEW MILIETA-BUTTERFLY RANGE OF TABLE TENNIS CLOTHING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>28-30</th>
<th>32-34</th>
<th>36</th>
<th>38-40</th>
<th>42-44</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Price</td>
<td>£5.75</td>
<td>£5.95</td>
<td>£6.95</td>
<td>£6.95</td>
<td>£7.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Colours available: Sea rlet/ Navy trim, Emerald/Black trim

SPECIAL OFFER
YASAKA MARK V SOFT RUBBER

Rarely available in this country

SPECIAL PRICE — £7 per sheet

PLEASE ADD 50p Postage and Packing for all CLOTHING ORDERS and 35p for TABLE TENNIS RUBBER ORDERS

Cheques and Postal Orders to be made payable to CRAYFORD SPORTS

KEEP YOUR GRIP WITH BUTTERFLY SHOES
ENGLAND TRIUMPH AT Glorious Gloucester

by John Woodford

IT WAS GLORY all the way for England at Gloucester on December 15th in the Super Division of the European League... no more waiting until March hanging on by our fingers—"to see if we can survive..." the 4-3 victory over Sweden, previously undefeated, should keep England in the middle of the table and possibly stop Sweden from winning, although it is difficult to see how they can keep up their challenge without Stellan Bengtsson.

The news that Bengtsson did not arrive at Heathrow must have given the England players new heart that would help to make their efforts all worthwhile. As far as can be recalled, Gloucester Leisure Centre now holds the record for a Division of the European League match—nearly 1,700. The Gloucester Leisure Centre now holds the record for a match... without Stellan Bengtsson.

England's revival started with Jill Hammonsley up-ending full-time professional Ann-Christin Hellman. It wasn't long age at Brighton when Jill beat her 21-13 — this must still be recalled by both girls.

Then came the crunch for Nicky Jarvis. There were many who were wondering if this was a selectors' gamble. I believe it was but it paid off handsomely! No one would have guessed that 12 months back, it seemed highly possible that the popular Cleveland might never play again.

At that stage the multitude began to buzz in their super stadium, England's mixed pairing of Desmond and Linda Howard has been a banker for several seasons. But, they lost the first 16 and had to struggle to capture the second at 18. Then Desmond and Linda began to increase the angles — the essence of their game as a pair — and swarmed through to victory 21-10.

Ulf Cronqvist, a young defender was then next on the chopping block. Those who thought it would be a push-over for Desmond were wrong. The England No. 1 has little practice against defenders and a great deal of patience was needed to play at this slow pace. Douglas relies so much on normal games on speed reflection. But, Desmond found the patience required and in the second the young, gallant Swede, took the pressure too great losing 19, 9, giving England a great and well-deserved success.

Individual scores:
- D. Douglas lost to U. Thoresil -21, -17, -16;
- P. Day lost to U. Cronqvist -16, -24;
- J. Hammonsley bt A-C. Hellman 14, 16;
- Douglas/N. Jarvis bt L. Franklin/Thoresil 13, 9;
- Douglas/L. Howard bt Thoresil/Hellman -16, 18, 10;
- Jarvis bt Cronqvist 19, 9;
- Day lost to Thoresil -16, 20.

DOWN AT TELFORD

England failed to repeat their European League victory over Sweden in a friendly international played at Shrewsbury Recreation Centre, Telford on Dec. 15 the Swedes getting home 5-3 with Lars Franklin unbeaten.

John Hilton, Lancashire's newest acquisition played his part in beating both Ulf Thoresil and Ulf Cronqvist, the other English success coming from Nicky Jarvis. The set between Thoresil and Paul Day was not played with the Swede suffering from suspected 'flu and Day suffering from a shoulder injury.

Individual scores:
- N. Jarvis lost to L. Franklin -9, -19;
- J. Hilton bt U. Thoresil 17, 17;
- P. Day lost to U. Cronqvist 14, 21, -18;
- Jarvis bt Thoresil -14, -14;
- Day lost to Franklin 16, -18, -15;
- Hilton bt Cronqvist 14, 16;
- Hilton bt Franklin -19, -16;
- Jarvis bt Cronqvist 19, -11, 17.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

RESONANCE PLAYS A PART

In the article entitled "How many legs has a T.T. ball?" the National Physics Laboratory does not appear in a very good light. Perhaps they did not take the subject seriously enough. For example we all know that there is a difference in mass between a table tennis table and the ball. Surely what matters is the distribution of the mass.

Even the contact of the ball on a bat is governed partly by the thickness and size of the blade. If a ball is hit by an uncovered blade there will be a noticeable difference between the bounce of a large diameter thin blade and that of a small diameter thick blade.

These two dimensions plus the density of the material used, if in the correct proportions, will create the proper resonance to feel right when the ball is hit. If we now consider the table dimensions, surely it can be seen that if the mass of the table is spread out over the standard table tennis table dimensions, it is not the same as if we had a solid block of the same mass. Therefore we come back to the old idea that the thicker the table top the better and more even the bounce. I believe that resonance again plays a part in creating a good bounce and this of course would be adversely affected by any lack of good contact with the floor.

In the matter of the speed of a hit off a sponge or reversed sandwich bat, being faster than that from a pimpled rubber only bat, no mention was made of the possibility of a build-up of energy from the compression of the sponge bat, making the ball drop more quickly and nearer to the table than was noticed at that time, must have caused a lot of the difficulty, apart from any speed considerations.

R. G. BUNCLE

704 Old Lode Lane, Solihull, West Midlands, B92 8LU.
SOUTHERN OPEN

The Jubilee celebrations would not be complete without the Southern Open Tournament held at the Royal Donsley Club in September. The tournament ran completely to time and was enjoyed by all.

The men's singles produced a number of shocks. The top seed Nigel Eckersley and Potton were expected to be in the final, but Iszatt and Newman came back from 10-15 to square it all at 19-all but he was unlucky to volley a flashing Newman serve at 22-22. The second men's singles final was between the International Club and the Mid-Essex Transport (Evesham) team. Both men's sets went two-straight as expected, but Newman came back from 10-15 to square it all at 19-all but he was unlucky to volley a flashing Newman serve. The competition was split into 16 men and 16 women. Although the elite players were close affairs with tension costing Watts the title in eight years, and in a way her victory over Newman came back from 10-15 to square it all at 19-all but he was unlucky to volley a flashing Newman serve. The competition was split into 16 men and 16 women. Although the elite players were close affairs with tension costing Watts the title in eight years. The winners going on and the losers going in the draw for a consolation event. Everyone agreed the event was a great success with the final being between Stuart Gibbs (Park Sports) and Fred Lockwood (St. Peter's). Gibbs emerged the winner. It was pleasing to see players not from the First League for the last few years. It was the first anniversary of the International Club whose team consisted of Jack Brown the first Closed Champion in 1928 who came out of retirement especially for the occasion. Not unexpectedly the International Club had a shock in his singles match. The players had a chance to join in the celebrations when the League held a week-long tournament in October. The match ran out 7-1 winners but the match was far more even than the score suggests. In fact, the home players had just as many outright winners as the International Club.

The County Championships in its present form can never be a playing proposition as firstly the standard would not wish to sponsor an event which has not got any public appeal (e.g. Middlesex versus Yorkshire in a charity half hour on a Saturday evening about the title of "Starky and Hutch"). The obvious answer to this problem is that all matches should be boosted with as much publicity as possible through the National Press and other regional media. Arrange the County Championships in a different period of the year and then think of our sport as a major concern which could come into line with Tennis, Football and Golf. If we do not come up to date and make a big change with our sport we will remain on the same level as Darts and Netball.

To prove my point that Alan's ideas are well behind the times and a big change can do no more than a lot of good, I would be prepared to give up £10,000 to sponsor a National Event under terms agreed by myself and the E.T.T.A.
## COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS TABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W D L</th>
<th>F A P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premier</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorset</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essex</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloucestershire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hampshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hereford</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herefordshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hertfordshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancashire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leicestershire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincolnshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middlesex</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northamptonshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nottinghamshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxfordshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shropshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staffordshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sussex</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surrey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwickshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worcestershire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS FIXTURES for FEBRUARY

- **Feb. 25**: Buckinghamshire v Glamorgan - Holmer Green Recreation Centre, Watford Road, Watford, Herts; 6.30.
- **Feb. 25**: Warwickshire v Essex - Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton, West Midlands; 6.30.
- **Feb. 25**: Devon v Dorset - Royal Hotel, Exeter, Devon; 6.30.
- **Feb. 25**: Kent v Middlesex - Herne Bay, Herne Bay, Kent; 6.30.

- **Feb. 26**: Hampshire v Sussex - Highclere, Newbury, Berks; 6.30.
- **Feb. 26**: Hereford v Worcestershire - Hereford, Herefordshire; 6.30.
- **Feb. 26**: Huntingdon v Cambridgeshire - Huntingdon, Huntingdonshire; 6.30.

- **Feb. 26**: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire - Northampton, Northamptonshire; 6.30.
- **Feb. 26**: Middlesex v Kent - Lord's, London; 6.30.
- **Feb. 26**: Northamptonshire v Bedfordshire - Northampton, Northamptonshire; 6.30.
- **Feb. 26**: Shropshire v Staffordshire - Shrewsbury, Shropshire; 6.30.
- **Feb. 26**: Staffordshire v Leicestershire - Lichfield, Staffordshire; 6.30.

## County Championship Fixtures for FEBRUARY

- **Feb. 25**: Buckinghamshire v Glamorgan - Holmer Green Recreation Centre, Watford Road, Watford, Herts; 6.30.
- **Feb. 25**: Warwickshire v Essex - Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton, West Midlands; 6.30.
- **Feb. 25**: Devon v Dorset - Royal Hotel, Exeter, Devon; 6.30.
- **Feb. 25**: Kent v Middlesex - Herne Bay, Herne Bay, Kent; 6.30.

- **Feb. 26**: Hampshire v Sussex - Highclere, Newbury, Berks; 6.30.
- **Feb. 26**: Hereford v Worcestershire - Hereford, Herefordshire; 6.30.
- **Feb. 26**: Huntingdon v Cambridgeshire - Huntingdon, Huntingdonshire; 6.30.

- **Feb. 26**: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire - Northampton, Northamptonshire; 6.30.
- **Feb. 26**: Middlesex v Kent - Lord's, London; 6.30.
- **Feb. 26**: Northamptonshire v Bedfordshire - Northampton, Northamptonshire; 6.30.
- **Feb. 26**: Shropshire v Staffordshire - Shrewsbury, Shropshire; 6.30.
- **Feb. 26**: Staffordshire v Leicestershire - Lichfield, Staffordshire; 6.30.
BERKSHIRE REIGN SUPREME

The Premier Division programme was partly completed during December when the Middlesex-Cleveland and Yorkshire-Surrey matches were postponed—International calls on Cleveland and Surrey players was the reason.

Bob Porton was on the same International call (French Open singles match; his absence weakened the Essex team who fell to their first defeat of the season, inflicted by promoted Berkshire who move to the top of the division. Glanlorgan are stuck firmly at the foot of the table after their third defeat, but the performance of Glanlorgan II in 2 West could give them a chance of maintaining Premier status next season.

Elsewhere in the Second Division, Lanchashire look set to improve their status now that John Holford’s move from Cheshire has been confirmed. I don’t think that even Cheshire can stop them.

PREMIER DIVISION

Essex 3 Berkshire 6
Exes, without Bob Porton — released to contest the French Open, were certainly not let down by his replacement David Iszatt, who was desperately unlucky not to win both singles. Simon Heaps mastered Berks’ wins with three victories, Karen Witt just edged out Lesley Radford in a fine set.

I. Horsham lost to S. Heaps -15, 13, -11;
D. Newman lost to Heaps -21, 11, -19;
J. Iszatt lost to Reeves -17, 9, -17;

Middlesex II 4 Sussex 6

Avon 4 Glamorgan II 6

Avon yet to give Chris Sewell the backing to swing things.

Somerset 5 Gwent 5
John Hartry’s 15, -16, 19 win over Brian Jeunes in final set, Somerets only MS success of the match, and it gave them a draw.

Wiltshire 9 Worcestershire 1

3rd SOUTH

Sussex II 5 Essex III 3

Oxfordshire 3 Hertfordshire II 7

Lancashire II 7 Cambridgeshire 3

3rd NORTH

Dorset II 7 Hampshire II 3

Essex, without Bob Porton — released to contest the French Open, and so missed the Essex-Berkshire match; Essex-Berkshire fell to their first defeat of the season, inflicted by Leicestershire 10 Bedfordshire 0

3rd WEST

Northamptonshire II 2 Cambridgeshire II 8

Wiltshire 9 Worcestershire 1

2nd NORTH

Staffordshire 9 Derbyshire 1

Yorkshire II 7 Cambridgeshire 3

Cambridgeshire 5 Hertfordshire 5

Berkshire II 7 Buckinghamshire II 3

Avon 4 Glamorgan III 7 Cornwall 3

Gloucestershire 7 Avon II 3

JUNIOR PREMIER

Devon 5 Lancashire 5

P. Whiting lost to A. O’Connor -18, -14;
M. Shearman lost to O’Connor -15, -15;
S. Gwynne lost to Carney -16, 19, -13;
M. Shearman/Whiting bt O’Connor/Rainford 18, 18.

Bedfordshire II 3 Leicestershire II 7

Visitors won after trailing 3-1!

3rd EAST

Berkshire II 10 Dorset II 0

Norfolk II 6 Huntingdonshire II 4

Northamptonshire II 2 Cambridgeshire II 8

Northants hit by illness and first-team calls to their men and were well beaten in this department; Valerie Fexkin and Margaret Mallby were again impressive.

Bedfordshire II 3 Leicestershire II 7

3rd SOUTH

Essex II 4 Middlesex II 6

Sussex II 5 Kent II 7

Cambridgeshire 5 Hertfordshire 5

Wiltshire II 9 Devon II 6

Hampshire 6 Avon 3

VETERAN EAST

Middlesex II 4 Suffolk II 6

Middlesex II 4 Suffolk II 6

Northamptonshire II 2 Cambridgeshire II 8

Shropshire II 7 Clwyd 3

Gloucestershire 7 Avon II 3

JUNIOR 2nd SOUTH

Sussex II 5 Essex III 3

Middlesex 9 Devon 1

Cheshi nests

1st MIDLAND

David Gannon easily the best player on view.

3rd EAST

Carl Prean — involved in match of the day against Jason Creasy — looks set for promising future; he has seven years left as a junior for Hants.

JUNIOR 2nd NORTH

Essex II 4 Middlesex II 6

Sussex II 5 Kent II 7

Cambridgeshire 5 Hertfordshire 5

Wiltshire II 9 Devon II 6

VETERAN MIDLAND

Norwich Union England Championships will be held at Woking Sports and Leisure Centre, Woking, Surrey over the period Feb 16-18, 1978. The Worthing Junior International Championships will be held at the Worthing Sports Centre, St Barbara’s Avenue, Worthing, Sussex over the weekend May 13/14, 1978.