Mr. Personality - That's Derek

Photo by courtesy of the Stockport Express

T.T. equipment — best buy

John Jaques
ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT

by THE EDITOR

BON VOYAGE

Although not everyone would have subscribed to the selection, it would be churlish not to wish England's team all good luck and bon voyage to one and all.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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THE ROAD TO PYONGYANG

Players from some 59 countries will contest the men's team championship for the Swyftthing Cup in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang from April 26/30 and only four less (54) will have representation in the counterpart women's event for the Marcel Corbillon Cup, both trophies being held by the People's Republic of China. In Birmingham 56 men's teams and 46 women's competed.

From Wednesday, May 2, until Sunday, May 6, the battles for the five individual events will be fought with the men's singles title, underlined by Japan's Kataoka, gaining the greatest attention worldwide. But, as going for her third consecutive title in the women's, it is now highly probable that the nation's Pak Yong Sun, will doubtless have the greatest nationalistic following. And, at this juncture, it would be if she were to bring it off in her own country.

In Birmingham, it will be recalled, England, in the men's team event, finished 10th, two places in front of their finishing position in Calcutta and the women dropped two places from India in finishing 7th at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre in 1977.

Both teams are, of course, still in the first category which, for the men in Pyongyang, has been increased from 16 teams to 18, the latter number still applying to the women, as in Birmingham.

Newcomers in the men's first category are Hong Kong and the United States, represented by the Seemiller brothers, both countries on promotion, plus North Korea who were not represented at Birmingham, and Denmark who just finished in 15th position and might otherwise have joined Indonesia in a drop to the second category.

On the detail side, the newcomers to the top category are the Netherlands, with their up-and-coming star, Bettine Vriesekoop, and the United States, both countries on promotion, taking over from demotes Belgium and Indonesia who finished 17th and 18th in Birmingham.

Categories in Pyongyang (previous positions in brackets) arc-

MEN

CATEGORIE ONE

Group A

China (1)

Hungary (4)

Yugoslavia (8)

France (9)

Poland (12)

Rumania (13)

U.S.A. (18)

Korea DPR (-)

CATEGORIE TWO

Group A

Indonesia (16)

India (21)

Great Britain (25)

Israel (26)

Egypt (29)

Switzerland (30)

Malaysia (33)

Group B

Japan (1)

Sweden (3)

Czechoslovakia (6)

U.S.S.R. (7)

England (10)

Korea R (11)

Australia (14)

Hong Kong (17)

DENMARK (15)

CATEGORIE ONE

Group A

Singapore (34)

Poland (36)

Pakistan (37)

Bulgaria (19)

Italy (20)

Canada (23)

Austria (24)

Luxembourg (27)

Scotland (28)

Finland (35)

Norway (36)

Group B

New Zealand (37)

Cyprus (38)

Vietnam (41)

Macao (42)

Togo (44)

Syria (47)

Japan (4)

Korea DPR (3)

Hungary (5)

U.S.S.R. (6)

Hong Kong (7)

England (11)

Finland (15)

Czechoslovakia (19)

Italy (30)

Australia (36)

Belgium (38)

Spain (47)

CUBA (49)

GROUP D

Spain (41)

Trinidad & Tobago (45)

Bonaire (13)

Vietnam (41)

Macao (42)

Togo (44)

Syria (47)

Japan (4)

Korea DPR (3)

Hungary (5)

U.S.S.R. (6)

Hong Kong (7)

England (11)

Finland (15)

Czechoslovakia (19)

Italy (30)

Australia (36)

Belgium (38)

Spain (47)

CUBA (49)

GROUP THREE

Group A

Belgium (17)

Malaysia (22)

New Zealand (26)

Cuba (28)

Singapore (29)

Ireland (30)

Finland (35)

Group B

Indonesia (18)

Luxembourg (21)

Canada (25)

Switzerland (28)

Singapore (29)

Ireland (33)

Finland (35)

Group C

Trinidad & Tobago (39)

Cuba (41)

New Zealand (42)

Nigeria (43)

Macao (50)

Philippines (52)

Jordan (58)

India (41)

Group B

Vietnam (41)

Ecuador (43)

Nigeria (43)

Macao (50)

Philippines (52)

Jordan (58)

India (41)

Group C

Malaysia (49)

Peru (51)

Colombia (53)

Syria (54)

India (51)

Group A

Indonesia (18)

Luxembourg (21)

Canada (25)

Switzerland (28)

Singapore (29)

Ireland (30)

Finland (35)

Group B

Malaysia (49)

Peru (51)

Colombia (53)

Syria (54)

India (51)

Group C

Malaysia (49)

Peru (51)

Colombia (53)

Syria (54)

India (51)
THE PYONGYANG GYMNASIUM, VENUE OF THE 35th WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS.

In the women’s singles Jill Hammersley, seeded No. 6, has a first round engagement with Kim Chang Ai of Korea. In the next round she could meet the winner of the match between Maehara of Japan and Kim Wan of Korea, to whom she lost in Calcutta but only over five games.

Karen Witt will have to be on top form if she is to get past the first hurdle in the person of Yugoslav’s Erzebet Palatinus and then there is Yang Ying of China to contend with!

Like Hilton, Anita Stevenson has first to qualify, from a group of nine, and then a meeting with Mie Vriesekoop of Holland!

In the men’s doubles, Douglas and Jarvis have been drawn to meet Camille Putz and Andre Hartmann of Luxembourg in a quarter in which Giraud and Guergueltcheva of Bulgaria and Ranguelova and Guergueltcheva of Bulgaria.

Nicky and Anita in the mixed have been drawn to play Grubba and Nowacka of Poland in the top half whilst in the bottom half Hilton and Jill meet qualifiers, their on-going opponents being likely to be Stellan Bengtsson and Eva Stromvall of Sweden.

In the qualifying groups, Des and Karen should be a safe bet to come through but Paul, paired with Karen Senior of Ireland, will have it harder with the likes of Sweden’s Lars Franklin and Marie-France Germiat of Belgium to contend with.

The singles draws are:

35th WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS DRAW

MEN’S SINGLES

1st Quarter

NO. 1 ZHENG JUN (CHN)

Bye

NO. 2 E. TROUPE (FRA)

Bye

NO. 3 S. ZHANG (CHN)

Bye

NO. 4 R. HIRANO (JPN)

Bye

2nd Quarter

NO. 5 C. LEISS (FRA)

Bye

NO. 6 R. RENVERSE (FRA)

Bye

NO. 7 Z. BOUM (NED)

Bye

NO. 8 G. EZZ (EGY)

Bye

3rd Quarter

NO. 9 Z. BOHM (FRA)

Bye

NO. 10 L. CAHN (FIN)

Bye

NO. 11 W. VAN DER HEM (NET)

Bye

NO. 12 S. KRAPPE (AUS)

Bye

4th Quarter

NO. 13 D. POLAK (ISR)

Bye

NO. 14 J. LEISS (FRA)

Bye

NO. 15 E. HUGIN (FRA)

Bye

NO. 16 T. KROEZE (HOL)

Bye

The People’s Palace of Culture, Pyongyang.
A gymnastic display inside the Pyongyang Gymnasium.

CZECH CHAMPIONS, ENGLAND THIRD

Czechoslovakia, in maintaining their unbeaten record, duly won the Super Division championship title of the European League when, in Komeno on March 8 they defeated Yugoslavia 5-2. The Czechs take over from France and bridged a gap of six years since last they won the title back in season 1971/72.

Both Milan Orlövsky and Josef Dvoracek won both their singles in Komeno with Jana Orlövsky also successful against Erzebet Palatas.

Individual scores:
M. Orlövsky bt Z. Kosanovic 16, 22; J. Dvoracek bt Z. Kalinc 12, 14; I. Uhlíková bt E. Palatinus 15, 16; Ž. Orlövsky bt P. Farkas bt Kalinc/Kosanovic 14, 15; I. Uhlíková bt Kosanovic/Palatinus 20, 19; Orlövsky bt Kalinc 19, 16, 14; Dvoracek bt Kosanovic 20, 19, 18.

As respected elsewhere England finished off their campaign with a resonating 6-1 victory over the Soviet Union at Southend which placed them third in the final reckoning— their best ever finishing position in the top flight. It was also a victory that brought relegation for the Russians who, in the halcyon days of Gorozkov and Zoya Rudnova, thrice won the championship in seasons 1967/68, 68/69 and 72/73.

Hungary, the runners-up this season, concluded their returns beating Sweden, in Borlange, 5-2. The Czechs take over from France and with Tibor Klampar figuring in three wins. Stefan Bengtsson, with a victory over Tibor Kreisz, and Malgorzata Urbanska.

Scores:
U. Carlsson lost to T. Krise -13, 8, -19; S. Bengtsson lost to T. Klampar -15, 16; A.C. Hallman bt G. Szabo 13, 15; Bengtsson/Carlsson lost to G. Gergely/Szabo 19, -19, 12; Bengtsson/E. Palatinus bt T. Klampar -20, 19, 15; C. Risch bt D. Joannidou 18, 20; F. Waldhausl lost to M. Constantini 13, -19, -17; G. Stebens lost to N. Kostopoulos 14, 6; H. Gootzen bt S. Fraczyk -15, -16, -11;

Poland, in beating the Netherlands 6-1 in Huizen on Mar. 8, championed Division 1 without losing and, next season, will replace the Soviet Union in the Super Division. Brigitte Kooter of the Avanti club was the only Dutch winner beating Malgorzata Urbanska.

Scores:
B.v.d. Helm lost to A. Grubba -18, -15; H. Gootzen lost to S. Fraczyk -15, -16; A. Hartmann/Putz lost to Mandilas/Priftis 19, 15; C. Putz bt K. Priftis 13, 18; C. Putz bt K. Priftis 20, 16, 17; Anlplatz/Gropper lost to Constantini/Milic 19, -19, 20; Malgorzata Urbanska/Bozkova bt G. Gergely -5, -17; Bengtsson lost to Fraczyk -20, 19, 15; G. Stebens bt H. Gootzen -15, -16, -11.

Italy, as reported by Willie Walsh in his Irish Notes, took their departure from this division when beaten 6-1 in Belfast by Bulgaria, the runners-up. Ireland will be replaced by Turkey next season.

In Langenlois, Austria had a fine 4-3 win over Italy with Massimo Constantini doing his best in the absence of Stefano Bosi for the Italians who had Paolo Cangelosi making his debut.

Scores (note the women's singles):

Jeroen ten Hove, in Belgium, also did well to beat Greece 5-2 with Camille Putz figuring in three of the home wins. Scores:
C. Putz bt K. Priftis 13, 18; A. Hartmann bt D. Joannidou 18, 20; C. Putz bt J. Journoudou 20, 12; Putz bt Kostopoulos 14, 15; Journoudou lost to Priftis 15, 21, -16.

Scotland are not at all happy about their demotion from Division 2 with four teams— Denmark, Wales, Norway and Sweden—being moved up from Division 3 making a complement of eight. The Scots are maintaining there should be some kind of play-off.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE — FINAL TABLES

SUPER DIVISION

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Cover Photograph

Derek Schofield was named as Sports Personality of the Year at the Stockport Sports Council annual dinner at the Deanswater in February. O.B.E., was the other glittering star for a brilliant speech which brought a standing ovation and an unanimous claim for "More!"

Indeed, it is difficult to separate the two for the main honours of a highly successful and thoroughly enjoyable table tennis evening which received a generous acclaim as the best of the Sports Council dinners to date.

For these two top-class stars in their respective fields outshone a fully representative assembly of 200 people supporting their respective sports and a number of civic dignitaries.

For Derek Schofield, the outstanding table tennis player in Stockport for a number of years, it was a personal triumph at the third nomination. And, as our Table Tennis correspondent, Dave Harrop said "The trophy couldn't have gone to a nicer chap!" A statement with which we all heartily agree.

For Derek has been a model sportsman, a tremendously competitive opponent, but a gracious winner and an equally gracious loser. He is also ever-ready to pass on his extensive knowledge and expertise to any of the younger generation who may seek assistance.

The presentation was made by B.B.C. Commentator Eddie Waring and there was tremendous applause when Derek's name was called out. Although as Peter Howarth, Sports Council Secretary, remarked he wasn't at all sure that the nomination shouldn't have gone to Derek's wife, Doreen.

So it was third time lucky for this immensely talented and popular table tennis player as he was in the last six on the two previous occasions the award was made. Glibly accepting the trophy Derek said he was sorry to be busy and prepared a speech. "I didn't honestly think I'd win," he said, "so I prepared a little speech beforehand, but first the time and I had prepared a little speech then, but I haven't done so this time.

"But I'm delighted. Although I have won hundreds of trophies throughout the years, none of them will mean as much to me as will the possession of this trophy for the next twelve months."

Pictured on the front (from l to r) are: Peter Howarth, Derek and Derek Schofield, Eddie Waring, Joe Mercer and Mike Lye. Story and Picture by courtesy of the Stockport Express.
GLOBAL OPEN TOURNAMENT

INTO ORBIT

by JOHNNY WOODFORD

Global Table Tennis climbed into orbit at Greenwich Baths on March 3-4 with as much style as possible at the venue which clearly has its limitations. Whether Barry Meisel’s team will in due course attain the much higher objectives of world prominence remains to be seen. I can only report the event as I saw, trying to be as unbiased as possible and knowing which hat to wear.

To receive entries from the top twenty men was a definite achievement, although there were several withdrawals on the day, it was crystal-clear that the players enjoyed themselves fighting for the balance of the prize money, after Desmond Douglas had taken his £1,000 and Jill Humsley secured her £310 for winning the A and B events.

The conditions were good for the players with Stiga tables (six on the Saturday and five on the Sunday), plenty of light etc. There was a shortage of light-blue blazed umpires at times. Had it been possible to provide two officials for the Open event for each game, the presence of scoring machines would have brought the same close to, say, the English championships.

On the control there were enough experienced hands available, Mike Ellis, Lou Hoffman and Mike Johns to make sure that the events ran smoothly. At 4 p.m. on Sunday it was pointed out to me that things were right on time.

The spectators seemed to enjoy themselves, there were about 250 at the finals session that included a table tennis cabaret and even Bunny girls! The crowd enjoyed all of the ballyhoo of the cabaret that the players enjoyed themselves fighting for.

Here are some of the highlights.

The TIMES THEY ARE-A-CHANGING

by KEN BAKER

At last a tournament with big prize money and plenty of razzamataz actually got off the ground when the Global Table Tennis Promotions National Tournament took place recently at Greenwich.

LARGEST PRIZE MONEY EVER

The old idea of graded events was given a new meaning by the awarding of £1,195, being the largest ever prize money for a tournament. There were six events and the Open event was open to all players of all standards — all £1,000 prizes with all England ranked players — the “B Grade” barred players of County First standard and above. All 3 events were open to women, regardless of their standard.

Results

Above all else the tournament proved to be a huge success and should by now have silenced those pessimistic critics that were around before the “B Grade” barred players of County First standard and above. All 3 events were open to women, regardless of their standard.

For sheer style the tournament couldn’t be faulted — even the programme was in full colour. However, the events preceding the finals were anything but disappointing, and can only be described as a sheer joy.

The money is around — it just needs people to entertain the 600 strong audience and entertain them did they! The act included John Hilton, Phil Bowen and the unforgettable Brian Ken, who combined playing with a funny man with some quickfire impressions of Benny Hill, Harold Wilson, Margaret Thatcher and Columbo.

To come to think of it, the funny man might have come in handy when he played Jill. Hilarious is the word that springs to mind to describe the antics of the Table Toppers, who were nosey nobs for two gorgeous Bunny girls, yet the luck of table tennis prowess did not somehow seem to matter at all.

For sheer style the tournament couldn’t have been faulted — even the programme was in full colour.

WHAT NEXT?

Who knows? Already some 10 separate concerns have expressed an interest in providing substantial sponsorship. Global intend to produce bigger and better events and some far-reaching groundwork has already been laid. The next scheduled event takes place in the City of London from August 31st to September 2nd.

The money is sacred — it just needs people with drive and a little flair to go out and get it.

THANKS

Global would like to thank all their helpers — in particular Barry’s secretary Ruth Miller, Mike Johns, Lou Hoffman, Jim Pemberton, Marian Ellerjan and perhaps most of all Geoff Owens and Mike Ellis whose expertise in scheduling and running the control table ensured the tournament’s smooth running.

TABLE TENNIS TABLES

A COMPLETE RANGE OF TABLES FROM OUR 12mm POPULAR TO THE EXCEL (ILLUSTRATED) WITH 24mm BIRCH PLY TOP. AFTER SOME YEARS OF MANUFACTURE, COUPLED WITH ECONOMIC PRODUCTION, WE ARE ABLE TO OFFER FIRST CLASS PERFORMANCE. ALL MODELS CONFORM TO E.T.T.A. SPECIFICATIONS FOR BOUNCE AND CAN BE FITTED WITH CONCEALED WHEELS.

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GLOBAL

TO E.T.T.A. SPECIFICATIONS FOR BOUNCE AND CAN BE FITTED WITH A COMPLETE RANGE OF TABLES FROM OUR 12mm POPULAR TO THE ABLE TO OFFER FIRST CLASS PERFORMANCE. ALL MODELS CONFORM TO E.T.T.A. SPECIFICATIONS FOR BOUNCE AND CAN BE FITTED WITH A COMPLETE RANGE OF TABLES FROM OUR 12mm POPULAR TO THE
KERRY PACKER

Naturally the media have pounced on "Kerry Packer" theme but Goibl would prefer to be compared, if comparisons must be made, to Jack Kramer and what he did for lawn tennis.

Global have no wish to alienate the E.T.T.A. and would indeed very much prefer to have the blessing of the National body with all future plans. They sincerely hope that a format can be worked out where both sides can quickly and definitely agree to get on with the job at last getting some real promotional effort into our sport — not next year or even next month — but NOW — For in the words of Bob Dylan's famous song: "Your old road is rapidly aging, so get out of the new one if you can't bend a hand, for the tracks are a-changin'."

OPEN SINGLES

Quarter-finals:
J. Hilton bt P. Day 16, 19;
N. Jarvis bt D. Constantine 10, 19;
D. Douglas bt C. Wilson 7, 6;
J. Walker v K. Jackson 13, 15, 18.

Semi-finals:
J. Hilton bt R. Tilling -11, 15, 14;
S. Heaps bt D. Wells 24, 14.

Final:
J. Hilton bt N. Jarvis 12, 16, 12.

"A" SINGLES

Quarter-finals:
D. Wells v S. Hoare 24, 14;
Mrs. J. Hammersley v I. Robertson 17, 17;
B. Keane bt G. Blomfield 7, 13;
M. Johns bt J. Kennedy -17, 14, 19.

Semi-finals:
Mrs. Hammersley bt Wells 21, -17, 16;
M. Johns bt Johns -17, 14, 19.

Final:
H. Hammersley bt Keane 18, 17, 8.

"B" SINGLES

Quarter-finals:
Mrs. Hammersley bt T. Fujioka -12, 19, -14;
J. Payne bt T. Campbell 11, 20;
I. Collins bt I. Ludi 15, 14;
B. Mitchell bt G. Blomfield -20, 18, 13.

Semi-finals:
Mrs. Hammersley bt Payne 18, 13;
Collins bt Mitchell 15, 18, 13.

Finals:
Mrs. Hammersley bt Collins 14, 9, 5.

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW FROM EILEEN KOUTIKOFF

The promoters of the first Global Tournament, Barry Meisel and Danny Kinnard ably assisted by Ruth Miller should be delighted with the immense entertainment, glamour, precision organisation and the National media on their first professional event. The only seeds who failed to reach their allotted quarter-finals was Jill's old friend and ex-International Ellerman, who ran her legs off all day. Barry Meisel and Danny Kinnard ably assisted by Ruth Miller should be delighted with the immense...
A PEAK PERFORMANCE TONIGHT

Last month's article examined the role of the coach and the various areas he should be concentrating on at different stages in order to produce technical improvement and a peak performance. The role of a non-playing captain is slightly different in that his job is to make sure his players play well, realise their true potential, on the night.

Indeed this was the subject of an article I was asked to write in the programme of the European League match between England and Federal Germany. Under the heading "A Peak Performance Tonight" it read:-

"It goes without saying that with there being so much at stake this evening, both teams will be hoping to do well. Over the last few years most of these players have played each other several times and have both beaten and lost to each other. With this being the case it is a reasonable theory to assume that it is not necessarily the best player who wins this evening but the best prepared player.

An individual may have a high skill level and yet lose to a player with a lower skill level who performs well. A player producing his optimum performance, playing at his best, is said to be 'peaking'. One of the classical examples in recent sporting history were the achievements of Lasse Virtanen in the last Olympics. When it really mattered Virtanen was able to produce his best performance. Tonight is one of those occasions and all the players will be hoping to produce a peak performance. If this match were to be replayed in four weeks time there would almost certainly be a different result but it is tonight that counts.

Undoubtedly the most important factor affecting performance in table tennis is skill. However, as already mentioned, all these players are capable of beating each other, and, therefore, at this level perhaps skill is not as decisive a factor as is often considered. To reiterate and emphasise the above-mentioned point, it is not always the best player who wins but the best prepared player.

The main task for Peter Simpson and Christoper Johansson, the two respective non-playing captains, has been to prepare their players to "peak" at the right time, i.e., this evening. Training for a peak performance requires much more than natural ability in a player. It requires organised technical, psychological, physical and tactical aspects of the game that will give their players the maximum possible chance of producing a peak performance.

You will see this evening the players receiving advice from their captains during the games and to the spectator there is a tendency to understandably believe that this is the only responsibility of the captain. Whilst this tactical advice given by the captain can be, and often is, of the utmost importance it is only part of his job, the second part being the preparation of his players technically, psychologically, physically and tactically so that they are able to play well. A player who is playing well but is given the incorrect tactical advice will not produce a peak performance. Likewise, a player given the correct tactical advice but who has had a poor preparation for the game will also not produce a peak performance.

It would therefore seem that the captain's job is more skillful than it appears to the spectators' eye. However, to keep things in perspective it is the declared policy, in as far as we have the ability to do so, to direct the players' peak performance, as directed by the captain, the players who have to cope with the various psychological pressures on them and ultimately it is the players who decide the result at the end of the evening.

The point I have attempted to get over in this relatively short article is that the captain's job is twofold, firstly the visually obvious tactical advice and secondly the preparation of his players for a peak performance, the latter being the one that is often overlooked".

---

**ADDED CONFIDENCE**

Our much improved performance in the European League, and a recent good performance against the strong Middlesbrough team in the County Championships give the Welsh team an added confidence for the long trip to Pyongyang for the World Championships.

The draw made in Pyongyang on March 14/15 shows Wales in the best position Group C in the 3rd Category. With us we have Mexico, Pakistan, Ghana, Mongolia and Egypt, and we ought to be able to survive those tests. We should then figure in a four team play-off for promotion to Category 2, and although it is hard to predict who could expect Nigeria and Singapore to head one could expect Northern Ireland to be the best in Group B, and Scotland should come through in Group D. With two teams to be promoted we thus have a good chance to move up into Category 2.

With such a strong entry in the individual events, it is hardly surprising that none of our men are in the first round proper of the men's singles. There are 29 groups of up to 8 players in a group. Alan Griffiths is in a group of seven, along with players from Nigeria and Spain to name the strongest, but he should come through this first test.

David Weismann finds himself with a North Korean to contend with that could be very difficult for the winner should qualify. Graham Davies next Thailand player in the first round, and there are strong Egyptian and Austrian players who in his group. George Evans has Egyptian and Mexican players in his section, but Hansen from Denmark is probably the strongest here.

In the doubles, David and George have a bye in the first qualifying round, but have an excellent chance of being one of the 8 qualifiers - that is if they can take care of a North Korean pair.

Griffiths and Davies have a hard group, which includes pairs from North Korea, New Zealand, Sweden and the Soviet Union. They would do well to come through here.

Before the World Championships, the same team, under the Captaincy of Brian Everson, will play in the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, and we have every hope of improving on our results in Guernsey. Last year 5 of our girls - Stephanie Jones and Cathryn Jones, with Beth Gray as their non-playing captain, are also scheduled for Edinburgh, but are not coming on to Pyongyang.

Our World Championship party, accompanied by Chairman Eddie Thomas, will join the English and other Commonwealth teams on the charter flight from Geneva on April 21.

Although I believe the exploit will be reported in the account of the Lancashire Junior Open, we must record with great pleasure that our Rhyll junior star Mark Thomas took the singles title at that event, whilst he and Mark Byles were runners-up in the doubles. Well done, indeed.

The Welsh Association has arranged a holiday training course in Guernsey in August 22-29 using the facilities provided by the Guernsey Lions club. Sixteen places are available and no difficulty is expected in filling them.
Cleveland Junior 'Select'

RANKINGS CONFIRMED

by Alan Ransome

England Champions Graham Sandley of Middlesex and Mandy Smith of Berkshire confirm their national rankings in the Cleveland Junior 'Select' Championships at Eston Leisure Centre on March 23/24 by winning the boys' and girls' singles respectively.

Sandley never looked in trouble throughout the event, being reached by former English champion, Derek Hill. He beat Andrew Bellingham in the semi-final and the England No 5 John Souter, also of Middlesex, in the final. Both victories were in straight games. Colin Wilson was a non-starter.

Sandley also won the boys' doubles partnered by his Ellendon club colleague, Philip Bradbury.

The girls' singles was a different affair with the England No 1, Mandy Smith, having to struggle all the way to win the title. In the final she beat Mandy Reeves 22-20 in the decider and also dropped a game in the semi-final against another Middlesex starlet, Helen Williams.

Miss Smith did well in the doubles events winning both titles, setting up a triple crown. Partnered by her England colleague, Alison Gordon, she scored a further victory over Miss Reeves and Miss Williams in the final of the girls' doubles, then in the mixed, partnered by Skipton ace Andrew Mould, Mark Oakley and Lorraine Garbet of Surrey.

The only upset to form in the finals was when Andrew Dixon of Staffordshire beat Adrian Moore of Sussex in the cadet boys' event. Dixon played particularly well in the deciding game to run out a 21-9 winner.

After a slow start, Jackie Bellingham of Bedford beat her 11-year-old sister, Lou, in the cadet girls' final. They combined to take the cadet mixed doubles.

The Championships, sponsored by Cleveland County Leisure Services, received a massive entry of almost 200 competitors which included virtually every England-ranked player. The prizes were presented by County Councillor Jim Tatchell, the Chairman of Cleveland County Council and Coun. Mrs. Pat Zoryk, the Mayor of County Leisure Services, receiving a massive entry of every England-ranked player. The prizes were presented by County Councillor Jim Tatchell, the Chairman of Cleveland County Council and Coun. Mrs. Pat Zoryk, the Mayor of Cleveland.

'Select' Results:

Boys' Singles-Quarter-finals:
1. Andrew Mould (Mi)
2. Mandy Smith (Mi)
3. Mandy Reeves (Mi)
4. Helen Williams (Mi)

Boys' Doubles-Semifinals:
1. Andrew Bellingham/David Sharpe (Mi/Mi)
2. Sander Seeley/Trevor Sharp (Mi/Sx)
3. Scott Kranz/David Bingham (Mi/St)
4. Andrew Mould/Mark Oakley (Mi/Mi)

Girls' Singles-Quarter-finals:
1. Mandy Smith (Mi)
2. Mandy Reeves (Mi)
3. Helen Williams (Mi)
4. Sarah Keates (Mi)

Girls' Doubles-Semifinals:
1. Andrew Bellingham/Helen Williams (Mi/Mi)
2. Mandy Smith/Mandy Reeves (Mi/Mi)
3. Sarah Keates/Helen Williams (Mi/Mi)
4. Sarah Keates/Mandy Reeves (Mi/Mi)

Cleveland Junior 'Select' Results:

Boys' Singles-Final:
Andrew Mould bt Mark Oakley 16, 8.

Girls' Singles-Final:
Mandy Smith bt Mandy Reeves 16, 14, 20.

Boys' Doubles-Final:
Andrew Bellingham/David Sharpe bt Scott Kranz/David Bingham 12, 19.

Girls' Doubles-Final:
Andrew Bellingham/Helen Williams bt Sander Seeley/Trevor Sharp 14, 9.

Boys' Doubles-Quarter-finals:
1. Sander Seeley/Trevor Sharp (Mi/Sx)
2. Scott Kranz/David Bingham (Mi/St)
3. Andrew Bellingham/Helen Williams (Mi/Mi)
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Girls' Doubles-Quarter-finals:
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Andrew Bellingham/Helen Williams bt Sander Seeley/Trevor Sharp 14, 9.
Final: So the final was all-Middlesex with Graham getting the edge on her Middlesex namesake, his revenge over Colin for beating him in the Cadet Giris' Semi-finals:

Junior Boys
Reeves bt Williams 16, 10.

Final: A. Dixon (St) bt G. Lambert (Dv) 13, -20, 16.

SMITH bt Reeves 17, 18.

Creasey of Dorset in the Cadet Girls' final, not delight to watch, with Berkshire Mandy having the other half. Skylet Andrew ousted John Souter in the quarter-final, but could not quite manage to take over. The surprises were Sarah Grundy of Lancashire and Alison Gordon of Yorks; and the semi-finals went according to plan.  

Scores at Lytham were:

LANCASHIRE NOTES
by George R. Yates

HILTON BOWS TO LO

Lancashire's Division 2 (North) campaign came to a miserable end at Lytham. St. Annes on March 31 when they were beaten 6-4 by Yorkshire II. Once again the team had to be changed from the original selection but, even so, the loss by John Hilton to Colin Lo and his subsequent defeat in the doubles, when partnered by Nigel Hallows, was not in keeping with a world championships player.

Dorothy Creane of Dorset was beaten in the final of the Cadet Boys' event with John Grundy of Lancashire taking 2nd place and Costas Papantoniou of Middlesex finishing as runner-up.

Apart from the scratching of Alison Gordon of Berkshire, the results in the Junior Girls' event were almost as expected. The surprises were Sarah Grundy of Lancashire taking 1st place in the group and Joy Grundy of Lancashire finishing as runner-up.

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S. Turner lost to Harrison -13, 15, -14.
D. Johnson bt H. Shields -10, 17, 12.
J. Grundy lost to J. McLean -15, -12.
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LANCASTRIAN NOTES

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Boroughbridge bt Yorks 6-3.
Schools from Cornwall and Dorset were amongst the winners for the first time when the Finals of the National School Team Championships took place at Lea Green, Matlock, Derbyshire, on March 10.

It was a good day for the Midlands and West Region for four of the seven winners came from that Region whilst the North's only victors were Millom and the South and East's winners came from the well-established London Borough of Newham (Lister Comprehensive) and the new faces from Merton (Hillcross Middle, Morden).

Close results came in the Girls' and Boys' Under-13 events. The three Girls' teams drew 4-all with each other and out came the slide rules and the verdict that Callington School, Cornwall came out on top on "games ratio". In the Boys' event a "sudden-death" doubles meant victory for Hillcross over Idsall (Salop).

Results:

Boys' Under-19
(The Norman Cook Cup)
1. MILLOM (Cumbria) (Diccon Gray, Ian Reed, Andrew Pachul, Tina Pachul).
2. Swanley (Kent County) (Raymond Raynes, Ian Grampton, Russell McCre, Chris Priestell).

Penlee 2 Swanley 6
Millom 8 Penlee 0
Swanley 2 Millom 6
Millom cruised to a convincing win. Their leading players, Diccon Gray and Ian Reed were making their fifth consecutive appearance in National Team Finals.

Girls' Under-19
(The Claud Kichenside Cup)
1. BOURNEMOUTH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS (Dorset) (Rachel Mackriell, Sally New, Joanna Bush, Judith Fairhall).
2. Branlpton Manor, Newham (Essex Metropolitan).
3. Millom (Cumbria) (Gail Snith, Jan Sephton, Bella Gray, Pam Bickerdike).

Bournemouth 6 Branlpton Manor 2
Branlpton Manor 5 Millom 3
Bournemouth 5 Millom 3
Millom's shock defeat by old campaigners Branlpton Manor gave Bournemouth their chance of a first-ever Dorset number one place; in seizing their opportunity they relegated Millom to third place.

Boys' Under-16
(The Leach-Carrington Cup)
1. TAMAR SECONDARY, PLYMOUTH (Devon) (Colin Bunch, Ian Holman, Gary Wiltshire, Andy Pachul).
2. Riley High, Hull (Humberside) (Sean Madden, Neil Barley, Alan Platten, Steven Waterson).

Riley 5 Hereward 3
Hereward 2 Tamar 6
Tamar 5 Riley 3
Paul Whiting and Gary Wiltshire were unbeaten for Tamar who only needed a draw against Riley to ensure victory.

Girls' Under-16
(The Mick Betts Memorial Cup)
1. LISTER COMPREHENSIVE, NEWHAM (Essex Metropolitan) (Julie Askem, Deborah Taylor, Margaret Wilson, Tina Cook).
2. Callington (Cornwall) (Shirley Collins, Alison Hancock, Tracey Munton, Pat Green).
3. Thornes House, Wakefield (West Yorkshire) (Julie Ferby, Gail Watson, Janet Oxer, Susan Gill).

Thornes House 3 Callington 5
Lister 4 Thornes House 4
Callington 3 Lister 5
Some close results in this event. Deborah Taylor unbeaten for Lister whose win is Newham's 23rd title in 13 years — not a bad record!

(continued on page 14)
(continued from page 12)

Boys' Under-13
(The T. Austin Harrison Cup)
1. HILLCROSS MIDDLE, MORDEEN (Surrey Metropolitan)
   Andrew Sexton, Martin Jones, Neil Sutton, Trevor Quinton.
2. Idsall, Telford (Salop)
   (Martin Tuft, Janie Ksu, Mark Perkins, Simon Dyson).
3. Southcoates Junior High, Hull (Humberside)
   (Graham Morris, Gary Clixby, Stuart Leggetter, Kathryn Dickinson).

Boys' Under-13 (continued from page 12)
1. CALLINGTON (Cornwall)
   (Sarah Perry, Kay Barrillall, Anita Heath, Julia Redwood).
2. Conyngham, Ramsgate (Kent County)
   (Sharon Clark, Claire Snowdon, Dawn Williams, Dennie Whalen).
3. Sandal Endowed C.E. Middle, Wakefield
   (West Yorkshire)
   (Karen Arnold, Debra Tomsin, Bridget Leggetter, Kathryn Dickinson).

Boys' Singles:
Men's Doubles:
Women's Doubles:
Veteran Singles:
Women's Doubles:
Men's Doubles:
Women's Singles:
Men's Singles:


Girls' Under-13
(The Hurst Hill Cup)
1. CALLINGTON (Cornwall)
   (Sarah Perry, Kay Barrillall, Anita Heath, Julia Redwood).
2. Conyngham, Ramsgate (Kent County)
   (Sharon Clark, Claire Snowdon, Dawn Williams, Dennie Whalen).
3. Sandal Endowed C.E. Middle, Wakefield
   (West Yorkshire)
   (Karen Arnold, Debra Tomsin, Bridget Leggetter, Kathryn Dickinson).
4. Idsall, Telford (Salop)
   (Martin Tuft, Janie Ksu, Mark Perkins, Simon Dyson).

Girls' Under-13:

Surrey pair of Sexton and Jones made no mistake in the deciding doubles against Tuft and Rea, winning 21-17, 21-9.

Not only were the match scores close but several of the sets and games were also.

Durham 1-star Open

HEADECHE FOR ORGANISERS

by Don Charlton

The first Durham 1-Star Open to be held for 3 years, was held on Feb. 25 at Eastington Leisure Centre. A large entry was received consisting of 116 M.S., 112 B.S. and 89 M.D. pairs, which indeed was a headache for the organising committee.

After many meetings at a time of atrocious weather conditions, the draw was completed, but due to the large entry our Referee, Richard Scruton, advised a 9 a.m. start.

Due to the efforts of Mr. G. Purvis, Manager of the Leisure Centre, and of course his staff, some of whom were working until 2 a.m. to have the venue ready, we of the County Association are indebted to them and of course the Eastington District Council for their contribution.

The first sets were played at 9.10 a.m. on 12 tables in ideal conditions and continued without a break for 13 hours, the finals finishing at 11 p.m.

The smooth running of the tournament, was due to the efforts of the organising committee, referee Richard Scruton and, of course, all our helpers at control, umpires, and table stewards, who worked non-stop.

Results:

Girls' Singles:
J. Woodcock (Cv) bt A. Smith (Du) -16, 17, 8.

Boys' Singles:
J. Weatherby (Ch) bt N. Edgcock (Y) -15, 15, 16.

Veteran Singles:
A. Warents (Nd) bt D. Lawrence (Du) -14, -15, 15.

Women's Doubles:
J. Williams/K. Powton (Cv) bt L. Bainbridge/S. Gelder -16, 17, 10.

Men's Doubles:
C. Lewis/R. Rowensons (Y) bt D. Svenson/I. Svenson (Du) -9, 10, 14.

Women's Singles:
Williams bt L. Holmes (Du) -18, 21, 16.

Men's Singles:
A. Gelder (Du) bt W. Reay (Du) 23, 19.
Two main events have been staged this month, with the Wellingborough League Closing coming first on the calendar. Now established as the largest in the County, the overdue prize was paid, with a well after midnight finish causing many Cinderellas to miss the final proceedings, as they were brought to a close, with Gary Alden winning his fourth consecutive Men's Singles, thereby equalising their record of Rod Marchant.

Alden's opponent in the final was Keith Nicholl, who made no more impact on Alden, than his six previous opponents, all of whom were economically despatched in straight games. However in the corresponding women's event, Anne Wallis's winning his fourth consecutive Men's Singles, paid, with a well right to the end.

As anticipated, the Wallis sisters took the Women's Doubles for the fifth year in succession — the seventh for Anne — but their customary final opponents Christine Price and Glennis Hooper fought hard to keep the result in doubt until the last point, thereby equalling their record of Rod Marchant.

The final chapters were written on this season's TSB County League, when at Kettering Recreation Centre, Kettering faced Towcester, and Northampton met Wellingborough in the final series of matches, with all except Towcester capable of taking the title at the eleventh hour.

With the teams at full strength, Kettering would have been favourites, but when Palmer and Anne Wallis withdrew, and Mandy Wallis became an absentee from the Wellingborough side, Northampton was left with a comfortable task, which they duly executed, despite some stern opposition from Alden, Mark Haws and Stan Galkowski. Steve Lyon gave Northampton an early lead, when he beat Marsh, but Wellingborough fought back as first Alan beat Keith Jones, and Haws gained a splendid 29, -11, 19 win over Romano Gallo.

However from this point onwards, Northampton took a firm grip on the match, by winning seven of the remaining eight sets, with Chamberlain and Margaret Malby-schoening, and Jones hanging on to beat Haws 13, -11, 26, and Gallo upsetting the County rankings by accounting for March 20, and 19. Wellingborough's only other success came from the incomparable Alden who beat Lyon 18, 15, followed by a hat-trick of County League Championships, at the expense of a Kettering side which just failed to complete a clean sweep against Towcester, when Joyce Porter salvaged a solitary point by beating Ann Lenton in a close third game. In the remaining encounters, Keith Nicoll, Steve West, Ken Nicoll and Dennis Millman swept aside the Towcester challenge with a series of confident wins in straight games.

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England rounded off their best-ever European League campaign at the splendid Cliffs Pavilion, Southend on March 8 with a tidy 6-1 victory over the Soviet Union.

As few people seem to know, the Russians have now been relegated almost certainly because of the second-long suspension of Strokov and Sarkhoz. So the Soviet Union clearly decided there was only one course open — to blood one of the youngest teams ever seen in Europe.

England opened with Desmond Douglas in typically electric form stopping Michael Orlovich. No further details of that encounter here because of the E.T.A.A.'s policy of allowing the time of the match start to be decided according to the arrival of the Mayor — consequently, played at nearly 7.45 p.m. forcing journalists to write over 300 words for the early editions of the national dailies on this one set!

The Soviet youngsters, a quiet but talented bunch, fell back in scoring terms only once when Valery Shvchenko proved too strong for Nicky Jarvis. From then until the end it was England all the way, all in straight games. Jill Hammersley had some trouble with the tall Ludmila Bakschutova who had ideas about taking Jill to decide the issue. But Jill is too good against this type of plot and sent it back to her opponent.

There was yet another fine mixed doubles win by Desmond and Linda Howard, whose return to the No. 3 ranking seems to suggest that the selectors are admiring their errors. The last two singles were mere ten-minute formalities, Douglas beating Shvchenko and Jarvis making amends by stopping Ovcharov.

Records for the Shropshire T.T.A.'s Junior Tournament at the Games Hall for the full day — instead of a 2 p.m. start, so that the finals can be played at a reasonable time in front of a decent crowd.

Not much success to report on the County Championships scene, but at least the Junior seconds beat Herefordshire 8-2 with Paul Jackson, Tony Cheetham and Alison Lowe all unbeaten in singles and doubles.

The Seniors, with one or two players not available (as an all too common occurrence this season), and others giving below par performances, struggled in both their matches.

The seconds were overwhelmed by Cheshire II, and the firsts lost 3-7 at Wolverhampton against Staffordshire despite Malcolm Green beating Andrew Bellingham and Tony Isaac then teaming up with a below form Nigel Thomas to win the doubles.

This letter defiantly undoubtedly spells relegation, which is a pity because I feel that we are a better team than results have shown.

Letters to the Editor

WIDEST AGE RANGE

I was interested to read Mr. K. Green's letter about the 14-year-old Richard Wells who has become a qualified county umpire. It is good to see somebody so young taking such an interest in the "running" of table tennis.

In a previous issue we had a letter about Mr. K. Wandorff of South London still playing table tennis at the age of 71 years. I thought we were doing quite well at our club where we have a 66 and a 65-year-old respectively playing regularly. Any advice on 71 years and over? Should we be the first to run a competition for Senior Citizens?

With primary school children tiring of playing so well table tennis must be the game with the widest age range of all and now that we have playing facilities in so many countries than any other sport let us sort out the service troubles and the types of bats and surfaces allowed.

Mrs. I. Williams,
54 Victoria Road, Trowbridge, Wilts.

MUCH APPRECIATED

May I take this opportunity of thanking all my friends who acquired after my health, and those who sent cards of good wishes or telephoned. This was very much appreciated in the circumstances.

I have now returned to my new home, with a little difficulty in walking and, for the moment, a useless right arm and a new voice. No doubt matters will improve in time, meantime I hope to see you all in the near future.

Charles M. Wyles,
5 Orchard Close, Littlebourne, Nr. Canterbury, Kent.
The March rankings produced interesting reading and some controversy, not least when the lower placings amongst the girls were considered. Such controversy is not a bad thing if it inspires the effort necessary to change the ranks’ mind when the next review comes round.

**Counties:**
- **Men's Singles:**
  - Martin Jones (11)
  - Mark Handcock (12)
  - Jennifer Deeks (13)
- **Women's Singles:**
  - Sally Taylor (12)
  - Paulina Kathuria (13)
- **Men's Doubles:**
  - Andrew Crammond (11)
  - Brian Garroway (21)
- **Women's Doubles:**
  - Connie Warren (10)
  - Michele Hams (10)

**MIP FOREST AWARD**
The first-ever Gloucestershire Schools Individual Championships has drawn an entry of over 120 players, and Gloucestershire will be represented in the Men's and Boys' singles finals with Archer and Dixon.

**COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS**
The County Senior team are still looking for their first win of the season after losing 3-4 to both Hampton Manor, Essex and Bournmouth School. Bournemouth's Bells Grey had a good day however and she remained unbeaten throughout.

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**LEAGUE TABLE**

<table>
<thead>
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**WINNERS:**
- **Men's Singles:**
  - Dixon
- **Women's Singles:**
  - Hams

**NOMINATIONS:**
- **Prize-winners:**
  - Ted Simpkin
- **Best Talented Youngster:**
  - Mike Hammond

**CUMBERLAND COMMENT by John Taylor**
**EIGHTH TITLE IN FIVE YEARS**
Millon School reinforced their claim to be England's most successful school club in recent years when their senior boys' team won the U-19 team championship (the Norman Cash Cup) at the recent E.S.T.T.A. National Finals at Lea Green. The boys, Dixon, Gray, Reed, Andrew and Tim, defeated with two good wins in each match, the girls' U-19 team also qualified for the finals at Lea Green but could only finish third in their group after losing 3-4 to both Hampton Manor, Essex and Bournemouth School. Bournemouth, Bella Grey had a good day however and she remained undefeated with two good wins in each match, the other successes coming from Gaia Smith and Faiva Bicknell with one win each.

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE NOTES**

**FIRST-EVER**
The first-ever Gloucestershire Schools Individual Championships have drawn an entry of over 120 players, and Gloucestershire will be represented in the Men's and Boys' singles finals with Archer and Dixon.

**INTER-LEAGUE COMPETITION**
Westmorland completed their campaign with a comfortable 12-0 win over Millon. Stephen Dixon, David Archer, Charles Usher and Charles Jones were the unbeaten players for Westmorland and only one set was won by the Cheshire pair in the final.

**LEAGUE TABLE**

<table>
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**WINNERS:**
- **Men's Singles:**
  - Dixon
- **Women's Singles:**
  - Hams
the final league tables will be published next month. Lancashire and had to face a very strong side, had a very good game against Hilton and only stage a 4-1 lead. The veterans continued their surprising form winning 9-1, Brian AliisoIl; and score-sheets posted.

and Wyberton had won 7-3.

especially Chris Bryan and Simon Pullen who each proved the turning point in the match for Grimsby in the third set that cost us the match was the quite inexplicable defeat of current England No. 7 Matthew Smith by Sue Lines. Mrs. Stocks had in the previous round reached the quarters in the women’s singles, narrowly losing to Gloria Stocks (Yorkshire) 19 in the third. Mrs. Stocks had in the previous round beaten Sally Midgley. Angie Gunther was partnered by Carol Judson competed in the semi-finals of the women’s doubles.

Other notable performances by local players in this tournament were Cheryl Bithery reaching the semi-final of the women’s and Matt Shoness reaching the semi-finals in the Vets. In the junior events Brian and Paulen were defeated in the quarters of the boys’. Simon losing to the eventual winner Adrian Hill 17 in the third. These two also reached the quarters in the men’s doubles, losing to the West over Alan Grifiths and George Eves. Debra Brown once again beat her Castor teammate Gillian Sharp to meet Sally Midgley in the semi of the girls’.

Finally congratulations must go to Chris Bryan and Gillian Sharp on getting into the junior rankings. Both have recently obtained sponsorship from Jaques and the latest rankings place Chris at No. 7 in the cadets and Gillian in the A squad in the girls.

**Lincolnshire Notes**

by P. Taylor

**Double for Wyberton**

Wyberton won both the Haigh and Butcher Cup when they defeated their nearest rivals Grimsby in the first round. In the Hay Cup, Grimsby got off to a great start when Steve Morley beat Paul Halldar 6-1, 6-2, his first defeat in this competition for many years. However, Mike East levelled the match score by beating Mark Newbould and then Jim Brewster put Wyberton in the lead. Nigel Hallows reached the last rubber of the night. This win proved the turning point in the match for Grimsby only being allowed to 7-3.

In the Butcher Cup, Wyberton beat Grimsby 6-4. Dave Skerratt won all three singles for Wyberton and it was into this game that proved to be the deciding factor and win the Cup for Wyberton. The Butcher Cup is still undecided as yet and the final league tables will be published next month when the Haigh Cup matches have been played and score-sheets posted.

On the county’s personnel congratulations must go to our Junior 2nd team who ensured promotion with a 4-0 victory over Huddersfield, a major factor in this success has been the performance of our boys, especially Clive Payne with some breathtaking rallies. The visitors for a shock victory. Jim Stokes beat Sam Harmer but “match of the day” saw Harmer beat Oliver Payne with some breathtaking rallies.

The second team went down 4-6 to Bucks. This was an unexpected result and lost to our visitors for a shock victory. Jim Stokes beat Sam Harmer but “match of the day” saw Harmer beat Oliver Payne with some breathtaking rallies. The set that cost us the match was the quite inexplicable defeat of current England No. 7 Matthew Smith by Sue Lines. The Junior 2nd team concluded a black Saturday for the county by losing 3-7 at Milton Keynes to Bucks. The win came over Simon Vallis and Jenny Collins who took their singles comfortably and then combining well to win the doubles. The Selectors have taken the chance to blood some younger players this season. Simon Rowland was playing his third county match, and Paul Halliday, who was making his debut, both show promise of better things to come.

**Berkshire Notes**

by Brian Halliday

**Example to Copy**

The absence of Karen Witt probably cost Berkshire the away match against Cheshire. Karen who had played in Plymouth, against the USSR the proceeding evening was not available for a match where a good result was vital if the County are to challenge for the Promoter Divisions next season. With our other top women players not available the selectors gave an unexpected chance to Alison Burke who was drafted in at very short notice from a junior girl team to compete against the very experienced pair from a junior girls team. Alison Burke not only coped made a superb effort to win class experience at present and she failed to open her account in this match, but it is worth recording that her manner and approach to the game is an example that every young player on our team could copy with advantage. The County went down 1-9, our only win coming from Dave Reeves.

The second team went down 4-6 to Bucks. This was an unexpected result but all credit to our visitors for a shock victory. Jim Stokes beat Sam Harmer but “match of the day” saw Harmer beat Oliver Payne with some breathtaking rallies. The set that cost us the match was the quite inexplicable defeat of current England No. 7 Matthew Smith by Sue Lines. The Junior 2nd team concluded a black Saturday for the county by losing 3-7 at Milton Keynes to Bucks. The win came over Simon Vallis and Jenny Collins who took their singles comfortably and then combining well to win the doubles. The Selectors have taken the chance to blood some younger players this season. Simon Rowland was playing his third county match, and Paul Halliday, who was making his debut, both show promise of better things to come.

**Derbyshire Notes**

by Malcolm Allop

**Titles Retained**

A record entry competed in the Derby League’s Closed Championships played over two days at the Derby Headquar ters, with Derbyshire champions Philip Vickers and Linda Holmes retaining their men’s and women’s titles.

Brian Bennett and Karen Payne won the under-17 boys’ and girls’ singles titles, and the Championship aroused considerable interest with the Derby Evening Telegraph running six articles in four days.

The competition, in Derbyshire has been fought out and Derby for too long, but that could change if the Burton League champions were to be retained. Vets which have been bringing younger players into the League for coaching and match play, attended an event for student and club coaches at Hill Street P.R. Centre, and this has proved the turning point in the match for Grimsby only being allowed to 7-3.

Squash Club and Wirksworth 1st are fighting out the first division championship of the Matlock Lea North County Officers “A” their closest challengers.
There are no alterations to the last published lists of county rankings although there are two additions to the boys junior list. Shane Kirsten and Andrew Nash, both products of the Bracknell League Coaching set-up are listed at Nos. 10 and 11. The number leaguers in Berkshire have received requests for nominations for the regional under-14 tournament and the absence of a county cadets ranking list has caused some embarrassment. It is understood that the rankings committee is to rectify the situation in the near future.

The league season has now ended and at the time of writing it looks as if Omegas will win the Reading Championship with Woodland and this following them home. The Maidenhead League should see in Div. 1 title success for Springfield Kentworths with Legon Tigers in second position. The Bracknell Championship has still to be resolved and the title now lies between Wokingham 'A' and Woodley 'A' with the odds in favour of the former.

Judy Heaps, the ex-international and Berkshire County star got married recently. All her many friends and with her husband every happiness in the future.

Four of the Maidenhead teams competing in the Bucks inter-league competition have the opportunity to win their respective divisions.

In Men's Div. 1 Maidenhead are a point behind Wycombe in their next match which could decide the title, and also have to play bottom side Slough.

In Div. 2 Maidenhead move above Slough following their 7-3 victory over Chiltern. John Vassell was unseeded with Chris Webb winning two singles and Pat Maher one. Webb and Vassell combined to win the doubles.

Both the junior boys' and girls' teams at present trail the leaders in their divisions, but with matches in hand cannot be ruled out of the title chase.

The girls' side improved their chances when they beat Chiltern 5-2 with Elspeth Blackburn and Susan Collier represented Maidenhead.

Bucks League tables:­

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<th>Division</th>
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Footnotes:­

Saffron Walden I beat Torchbearers IV 6-3. Torchbearers were without their popular Secretary Ralph Rust who was sick but did not concede the match. The other Saffron Walden's victory came from a walk-over against University III by beating Tydd and Bury Cars are now pushing Palimmon's owners very hard and it should be a very close thing at the end of the season. With Thurles being able to play in the Zone Finals in both of the National Competitions. The boys lost to a strong Dunham team 1-3 with Frost winning the one and the girls 'lost' in the Bracknell Trophy 3-4 to Chesham with Jane Hunter winning two and her sister Ruth one. Georgia Calvert was the third player.

PROFIE

The name of Geoff Walters in Cambs. Table Tennis Circles is highly rated. He joined the Cambridge League in the 1963-64 season and is currently captain for the Cambridge Evening News in Div. 7. He originally played in the Sheffield League before coming to Cambridge and helped the "Cambridge Evening News" to get to the 1st division of the League. Although being one of the original clubs to close in 1976 the club has been revived and plays in Div. 3 of the League. Geoff is a keen supporter of the club and has been involved in all aspects of it, such as transporting teams to their various destinations, attending selection committee and Executive meetings with regularity and promptness. His presence at any function makes it a success. Being a County player he also attends in this field of many, matches. He has made a great contribution to the Club and has been a useful club player. Keith will be as much loved when he decides to relinquish his offices - maybe that be in the distant future. Truly a man of the hour.

Obituary

KEITH PUDDIC

Cambs' table tennis players and fans will have learned with regret of the death, at the age of 45, of Keith Puddick. In his younger days he played for the YMCA, and Torchbearers and he also represented Cambridge in the South East Midlands League. He was probably better known, however, as a player and official of the Cambridge University Press Team of the last 12 years. In the last five years he had become more concerned with the administration of the game, being a member of the County Selection Committee. Our thoughts at this time go to his wife Judy and to his daughter Judy who at one time was Cambs. County Secretary and also a useful club player. Keith will be greatly missed, especially by those who were closely in contact with him.

Leslie Costable.

Leading positions:­

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>P</th>
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<td>5</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 19
Ely are at the head of the Men’s section and at the present time they hold a lead over their nearest rivals Milton Keynes. Bedford are in a precarious position at the foot of the table with Cambridge just above them. Wellington are in a good position at the top in Div. II with K.A.F. and Bedford II several points behind them. Kettering easily lead Div. III and had a resounding win over Towcester 10-0 in a recent match. Wellington are romping away in the Women’s Division with a four point lead over Northampton. Dunstable, Bedford and March are in the three bottom positions with the latter team in deep trouble for the “wooden spoon”. There is a great fight in the Division 1, where Milton Keynes, March and Kettering are all in the running and in Div. II Peterborough are in the lead with St. Neots and North Herts challenging strongly. Cambridge are very well in the lead in the “Veterans” Division and Peterborough look like runners-up. St. Neots are at the head of the Girls’ Division and at this stage are in a very strong position.

### Leading positions:

**Max Division 1**

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**Women Division 1**

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### WARWICKSHIRE NOTES by K. J. Moran

**WHAT A YEAR!**

Dougall Dougall - Dougall - oil oil oil

With the Warwickshire Men’s Final over and a year 1979 is turning out to be for Dougall Johnson. First of all the news that Kevin Kinnear is known as the Desmond Dougall of German fame to give you a hoot up to No. 5 in the English Senior Rankings and when Max Crumlish stepped down to drop out of the recent friendly v Russia at Plymouth who stepped into the breach? Those who went to see the Warwickshire Closed Tournament were well rewarded. Two magnificent singles wins by our hero, and England “B” scored their first victory in these hands. Back onto his bike, and off to Nuneaton went Dougall for the following night’s County Premier Division match v Surrey.

Both sides fielded reserves, Surrey having Steve Nunn in for Crumlish (incidentally is a funny thing) and Pat Green stepped in for Warwickshire. Pat was in form and won the Men’s Doubles. Derek also won one singles, both Warwickshire defenders falling to Dave Weisman who’s style proved very efficient against them.

The real stars of the match proved to be “Izzy” the Penfold and Karen Groves not content with winning the Mixed Doubles with Pat, Karen went on to win her second successful Premier Division Women’s Singles. Karen, from victory in the County’s Star Open, showed once again that she is one of the top ranked women she is a force to be reckoned with.

And so to the volaile Mr. Kinnear, plainly not overawed by the occasion, Pat won both his singles to repeat the success of his last Premier Division appearance five years previously!

It all added up to a 7-2 victory which exactly reversed the result of the previous match v Cheshire where the league leaders in favourable conditions (though we were at home!) proved too strong. We had the consolation of winning the best of the game of the night when D. and D. beat Eckersley and Mike Johns in three sets to take the men’s doubles, Karen Groves had the only singles success to herald her good form to come.

Non-playing captain Phil Burwell unashamed after the defeat v Cheshire was buoying after Surrey’s demise. With matches against Yorkshire, Glamorgan and Essex to come Phil is confident of a final position at the top end of the table, which will put the pre-season forecasters of relegation firmly in their place.

The Coventry Open should be reported elsewhere in the magazine but related to the Warwickshire Closed has been re-arranged for the 8th of April to should appear in next month’s issue.

### STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES by Jack Chalkey

**SAME AGAIN**

For the second year running the star of the Staffs Closed Tournament was England ranked Andrew Bellingham, again winning all four of the events in which he entered — almost certainly a record in the County, but I will wait with interest any claims to the contrary. Tournament play demands all-round fitness, especially to achieve this sort of performance which enabled playing 21 sets throughout a long day of over 12 hours. One or twice he nearly slipped up, as when he was 20-19 down in the third against Paul Burrows in the semi-final of the intermediates and 11-5 down against Andrew Dixon in the juniors final. Three other players, clockwise from Bellingham, were Mark Evans who got through to the Kent event, Hallam and young Steve Willhers took a game off Andrew in the singles and a point in the doubles with their partner, Andrew (‘Mr. A.C.T.’) Rich, only one game was dropped. Rich also had a successful day, reaching three finals and a semi (Mark Evans beat him in the intermediates) and winning two trophies, but the other achievement of the day was by Shirley Cain who reached her county’s singles final, although she had to take second place in three of them.

Janet Carr took the Women’s Singles for the third year in succession, but without some nervous moments in the final against Shirley Cain, who was the only player to take a set off her in the area. Janet would have to make little impression on Rich and the final was a repeat of last year with Bellingham winning in two.

In the Under-14 events, Dixon proved far too strong for any of the other juniors, but Fiona Elliott upset the seeds of her county’s juniors to win the final. The girl from East Stafford not being ranked nationally, Jill Harris justified the County ranking by a straight games win over Shirley Cain, No. 12 in England.

**Results:**

- **Men’s Singles:** A. Bellingham bt A. Rich 17, 14.
- **Women’s Singles:** J. Carr bt S. Cain 12, 18, 16.
- **Boys’ Singles:** Bellingham bt A. Dixon 14, 11, 15.
- **Girls’ Singles:** J. Harris bt S. Cain 19, 9.
- **Boys’ Doubles:** Dixon bt J. Ford 9, 11.
- **Individual Singles:** Bellingham bt M. Evans 18, 14.
- **Vets’ Singles:** R. White bt S. Booth -15, 9.
- **Mar’s Doubles:** Rich/Bellingham bt S. Denning/K. Elliott 10, 12.
- **Girls’ Doubles:** Carr/J. Chalby bt Harris/Cain 12, 15, 19.
Steve Willis as being unbeaten in the Meaford "A" conceded the semi-final to Wolverhampton, and Callaghan. Mrs. Pat Brookes won the Women's Mixed Doubles: Doulton's Tom Ball also undefeated, the second Potteries Closed at the Northwood Centre and the Walsall. Both leagues are represented by teams with M. Wass and M. Turner (Women's).

The fate of our Senior and Junior 1st teams will hang in the balance until the week-end of March 31/April 1 but we hope that at least one of them will gain the title.

The Middlesex Junior Authorised (a report of which appears elsewhere in this edition) proved to happen again. Shows go on.

The Middlesex No. 18 in England while qualifications are due to Stuart Palmer who won the Boys' Singles at the Forest 2 Star.

In the Suffolk Schools championships the young-ones have flourished for the first time in many years and go on to play at Gloucester in April. Winners were-

U-13: Kevin Scott
U-12: Andrew Bentinck

The T.S.R. Norfolk Junior Closed Championships were held at Neatherd High School, Dereham on Sunday, Feb. 11. These resulted as a tie for 17-year-old Andrew Buckingham, who beat the County No. 1 Junior, David Uwins, 24-22 in the third to take the U-17 title, and, as expected, took the boys' doubles with David. Then the
ANNUAL TOURNAMENTS

The past month has seen all three member leagues staging their annual tournaments. Responses in all three look to be good news for more matches as at the 1982-83 season.

Placed on the second Saturday in March the Potton League Cup at Wisbech, several reaching semi-finals. John海关 and Peter Berna in the semi-finals were the strong Dorel contingent that left with both of the trophies, winning the overall scoring title, and with the players on both teams by 21-14 and 21-8.

Considering our weakened strength Avon did well to finish runners-up, but it was a different story in the Junior event where both Creed and Riley did the county proud in an all-Avon final, to clinch the points for the Team Trophy. It was, in fact, an excellent day for Creed who also reached the semi-final of the senior event beating Graham Green (Somerset) and Heath Robinson (Gorret) in his path. Results in brief were:-

Men’s Singles:
Abbott (Do) bt Smith (Do).
Women’s Singles:
New (Do) bt Mackrell (Do).
Boys’ Singles:
Creed (Av) bt Riley (Av).

Also, that day, Martin Smith was away playing at the Select ranking tournament and whilst losing to one lower-ranked player he was reasonably expect to remain in the top 20 of the Junior List.

February is the time for closed championships in this area and it was also the time for Bath to put their computerised ranking system into operation. At the championships the punched cards were true to form whilst one of the features was the emergence of Julie Cruse who took home both the singles and doubles titles.

Although the crowd attendance at the finals was disappointing the number of entrants rose again to 120, which is reaching saturation level if the current vein continues to be used. Among the competitors was the University student Jeremy Manning whose home is in Bath and who is at present working on his day out in Bournemouth, Jeremy showed that he can still take the local talent, beating John Chandeler in emphatic style in the final of the Chronicle Cup.

RESULTS

Men’s Singles:
K. Satchell bt J. Higa.
Women’s Singles:
J. Creed bt Shirley O’Brien.
Men’s Doubles:
Satchell/i Smth bt Riley/Paul Hewitt.
Women’s Doubles:
Crone/Inderfill bt O’Brien/Sally Hartley.
Mixed Doubles:
Veteran Singles:
Mike Baker bt John Cleveland.
Boys’ Singles:

Next in my report of events is the Avon Schools Individual Championship, which were held at St. George’s School, rapidly becoming a popular venue.

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LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES
by Phillip Craig

CHAMPIONS AGAIN

Leicestershire have once again topped the 2nd Division (Midland) of the County Championships beating their old rivals Staffordshire to win the Premier Division for the second year running. On the way they crushed Cheshire 10-0 and easily disposed of the other teams to win the Premier Division championship with a convincing 10-0 win over Cheshire. The Leicester League first division looks certain to be won by Barwell Liberal Club. They won their vital match with Great Glen despite an inspiring maximum by Gary Alden for Glen. Steve Kenney’s team Bromleyook lost to top Div. 2, Kenney has had a good season and is the Loughborough League’s men’s singles champion.

For Loughborough, no news that Dick Johnson is again well — take things easy and get well Dick. Mike Hall (Heckney) had recently qualified as a County Umpire. We are not very well off in this direction and Mike’s inclusion in the ranks will certainly be welcomed.

Andie Stevenson’s inclusion in the team for the World Championships in North Korea has of course been warmly welcomed in Leicestershire. A netted doubles player Andia plays or trains every day and is still as modest as when she first took up table tennis.

A new face has recently appeared at representative matches in Leicester. Dean Johnson — official chairman of the Dave Gannon Supporters Club — turned up in successive matches with bright ginger hair, snow white hair and jet black beard. But these team 12 where he plays with modest success! Still at sixteen he’s got time to reach Division 1.

WESTERN LEAGUE NOTES
by Grove Motlow

SELL SAVES ‘WHITSWASH’

Newport, at home to Exmouth at Littleham School, had Graham Solley in goal. But two minutes into the game the diabolical start of a total defeat when in the fifth set he was beaten by Paul Stone 18 and 20. Chris Gannon was always very Exmouth whose Gary Lambert and Paddy Shepherd replied with a comfortable victory.

Bristol, away to Weston-super-Mare, had to come back from a 2-4 deficit to win 5-4. John Crabtree, with a win over Graham Green, likewise victorious over Chris Costi, but Weston 0 to a girl from the match score was echoed when Andy Reed beat Joe Garrod over three games and Brown was just better than Green.

But away went Weston again in the next two sets with Crabtree losing Costi (2), (3) and Wilman. Garrod accounting for Costi (1), (7), (11). Against each of these two, the club have given Bristol much hope of making a second comeback.

NIGEL A WINNER IN PORTUGAL

Cheshires continued on their route to the Premier Division championship with a convincing 8-1 win over Berkshire, in spite of the absence of Nigel Eckardt who was busy defeating another Cheshire player Mark Hankey in the final of the Portuguese Open. Nigel again overcame a 1-6 first set to win 17-20 down in the third game. Nancy Kirsop had a 17-16 victory over Alison Marples, but of the remaining singles, Pauline Jackson, who recently received her second representative display for the veterans and with only the result of the game to reach Division 1.

In the league tournament Derek Schofield retained his title as did Derek Abbott in Macaulfield. Pauline Jackson became Crewe champion, whilst Terry Taylor tied for the title in Hyde. Full details of the County results and League tournaments will be given in the next issue.
How wrong can you be for young Creed got the better of Green and Brown had a similar 2-1 straight victory over Gaunt leaving the stage set for the battle royale between Crabtree and Cull.

And this was a corker with Cull taking the first game, 18, losing the second 13-20 but winning the decider 21-17 to give Crabtree the victory. What a finish!

WILTSHIRE NOTES
by Laurie Selby

TERRIER TRIO

Bethell's terrific trio of Graham Gillett, Stephen Moore and Adrian Moore continue to strike fear into the heart of all opponents. Their latest triumphs are an amazing win in the Wiltshire inter-town championships on Saturday, 5-4 over a side from home at Brackley in the first-qualifying round of the Carter Cup.

Brighton fielded three senior Sussex county players of considerable experience - John Clarke, Robin Stace and "Cosmo" Graham. These three were smothered 9-0! Only one set went three games, recording the biggest surprise scoreline ever in the history of the inter-town championships.

The three lads stuck again when they overcame thecombined force of a Kevin Jermyn maximum and reached the semi-finals of the Carter Cup. Who would be the Sussex senior selector faced with the task of compiling a new ranking list - they might well leave that task until the start of next season.

It now looks as though Kent will win Division 2 (South) retaining Sussex's title, Sussex's title and the G. Davies Challenge Trophy in the junior tournament.

The champions were held at the Cheltenham Town Centre headquarters and 49-years-old Derek Schofield eventually folded to superb defensive play. Derek also came from behind to win his quarter and semifinal, to beat 15-years-old John Weatherby and 21-years-old, Eccles Y.C. player Ron Vose who suffered the same fate.

In the women's events a new name will appear in the record books, that of young Janet Deakin, the up-and-coming Urnston player. 16-years-old Janet defeated Kath Holmes in the singles final and then teamed up with Derek Sadler to win the mixed against Kath and Dave Holmes.

McFarlane gained some consolation for his semi-final loss in the men's singles by winning the junior final against Craig Johnson, and then joined brother Ron to win the men's doubles. Schofield also retained his singles title.

Cherel Buttery ran true to form as No. 1 seed and local hero Keith Richardson who had a thrilling encounter with Paul Randall, with Keith coming out on top in overall strength. Jermyn accounted for Les Eadie (No. 1 seed), and the semi-finals saw a number of players defeated.

Richard Jermyn took the £75 first-prize money in the men's singles at the Fenland 2-Star on March 4. With top players missing to play at the Global tournament, we missed a lot of real top-class competition, but the men's singles semi-finals and final were really a joy to watch.

Jermyn accounted for Les Eadie (No. 1 seed), and the semi-finals saw a number of players defeated.

The standard of play was tremendous, especially from the young players who showed skills and temperament beyond their years. It is however refreshing to know that with players like Derek Schofield still winning, table tennis is not necessarily only a young man's sport.

Men's Singles:

P. EARD (Slough) bt S. Bradle (Sloinh)/B. Beachside (High Wycombe) 19, 18.

Women's Singles:

Miss A. FINLAY (Sloinh)/Miss S. LINES (Milton Keynes) bt Long/Ribby 21, -19, 18.

Men's Doubles:

HARMAN/LINES bt J. Haines (Milton Keynes)/Ribby 17, 16.

Boys' Singles:

HAINES bt Bradbury (Milton Keynes) -19, 9, 17.

Girls' Singles:

RIBBY bt Long 15, 19.

Junior Doubles:

BRADBRAY/HAINES bt L. Pratt (Aylesbury) 16, 20.

R.S.:

V. McCarthy (Slough) bt A. Maude (Sloinh) 18, -14, 16.

FENLAND 2-STAR

JERMYN SUPREME

by David Brammer

Richard Jermyn took the £75 first-prize money in the men's singles at the Fenland 2-Star on March 4. With top players missing to play at the Global tournament, we missed a lot of real top-class competition, but the men's singles semi-finals and final were really a joy to watch.

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Men's Singles:

R. HARMAN (Milton Keynes) bt A. Watson (High Wycombe) 19, 18.

Women's Singles:

Miss A. LONG (Milton Keynes) bt Miss D. Ribby (Milton Keynes) 7, -20, 18.

Men's Doubles:

P. EARD (Slough)/WATSON bt S. Bradle (Sloinh)/B. Beachside (High Wycombe) 19, 18.

Women's Doubles:

Miss A. FINLAY (Sloinh)/Miss S. LINES (Milton Keynes) bt Long/Ribby 21, -19, 18.

Mixed Doubles:

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Junior Doubles:

BRADBRAY/HAINES bt L. Pratt (Aylesbury) 16, 20.

R.S.:

V. McCarthy (Slough) bt A. Maude (Sloinh) 18, -14, 16.

Mixed Doubles Semi-finals:

Richardson/Wallis bt P. Durrant/W. Hogg (Ns) 12, 15.

J. Deakin (A. Rudd) bt M. Jackman/J. Edge (Ca) 14, 13.

Final:

RICHARDSON/WALLIS bt Davies/Rudd 14, -11, 14.

Boys' Singles Final:

S. PALMER bt S. Swift (Ct) -17, 14, 11.

Girls' Singles Final:

M. KINGROSE (Ho) bt Cameron 18, 12, 18.
Mr. Julius Darham, a Gibraltar businessman who is Managing Director of Rock Motor Parts Limited, announced on Wednesday, 7th March, 1979 that his company would be sponsoring for three years the English Under-21 Championships and the English International Under-21 Championships.

The introduction of this new type of tournament was prompted by market research which has shown a discernable gap between the Junior and Senior Championships. Mr. Michael Malgrejo, a first table tennis player, commented that "This new class is what the sport needs as many players who make the junior ranking list do not possess the experience and skill to transfer to the senior list. As a result, they lose interest and are lost to the sport. These competitions could be the answer to breed a new generation of World Champions".

The English International Under-21 Championships will be held on May 26/27 at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre. The English International Under-21 Championships will be held during the summer.

Two such championships will offer players very substantial prize money. This generous sponsorship beg the question - Who is Julius Darham? and why has Rock Motor Parts chosen to help the sport of table tennis?

Julius was a prominent Gibraltar sportsman — runner-up to the Sportsman of the Year in 1959 when he was an amateur bowling Champion of Gibraltar. He also played football, billiards, table tennis and water polo.

Ten years ago he left the Rock of Gibraltar to seek his fortune in the Mother Country where he set up Rock Motor Parts. He now lives in London, Shepperton, Middlesex. The headquarters of Rock Motor Parts is located near the House of Commons where it was decided to house the company for which King John signed the Magna Carta.

Julius Darham explained how Rock Motor Parts came to sponsor table tennis. "As a family man I became attracted to table tennis as a sport which bridges both the generations gap and does not discriminate between sexes. This became even more apparent when members of my family began to beat me at table tennis. I consider that the revival of interest in table tennis for worthwhile prizes in the intermediate age range. But this is just the first of two Championships which will be held each year. This tournament, the Under-21 English Championships will be open to national players but in the season the first ever Under-21 International Championships will be staged and it is hoped to attract a very large overseas entry to a tournament which is intended to emerge as one of the most prestigious in the International calendar."

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Mr. Julius Darham, a Gibraltar businessman who is Managing Director of Rock Motor Parts Limited, has announced that his company would be sponsoring for three years the English Under-21 Championships and the English International Under-21 Championships. The introduction of this new type of tournament was prompted by market research which has shown a discernable gap between the Junior and Senior Championships. Mr. Michael Malgrejo, a first table tennis player, commented that "This new class is what the sport needs as many players who make the junior ranking list do not possess the experience and skill to transfer to the senior list. As a result, they lose interest and are lost to the sport. These competitions could be the answer to breed a new generation of World Champions".

The English International Under-21 Championships will be held on May 26/27 at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre. The English International Under-21 Championships will be held during the summer.

Two such championships will offer players very substantial prize money. This generous sponsorship beg the question - Who is Julius Darham? and why has Rock Motor Parts chosen to help the sport of table tennis?

Julius was a prominent Gibraltar sportsman — runner-up to the Sportsman of the Year in 1959 when he was an amateur bowling Champion of Gibraltar. He also played football, billiards, table tennis and water polo.

Ten years ago he left the Rock of Gibraltar to seek his fortune in the Mother Country where he set up Rock Motor Parts. He now lives in London, Shepperton, Middlesex. The headquarters of Rock Motor Parts is located near the House of Commons where it was decided to house the company for which King John signed the Magna Carta.

Julius Darham explained how Rock Motor Parts came to sponsor table tennis. "As a family man I became attracted to table tennis as a sport which bridges both the generations gap and does not discriminate between sexes. This became even more apparent when members of my family began to beat me at table tennis. I consider that the revival of interest in table tennis for worthwhile prizes in the intermediate age range. But this is just the first of two Championships which will be held each year. This tournament, the Under-21 English Championships will be open to national players but in the season the first ever Under-21 International Championships will be staged and it is hoped to attract a very large overseas entry to a tournament which is intended to emerge as one of the most prestigious in the International calendar."

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

For many years now the English Table Tennis Association has been aware of a gap in the competitive play provided for the players who are no longer eligible for the junior tournaments and yet not good enough to make much progress in the senior tournaments. They have been called the intermediate players. The Under-21 is very grating therefore that the ROCK Motor Parts Events are directed towards this particular group who have for so long been the Cinderellas of table tennis. The first event of the closed, will be very much welcomed by the younger players who have been climbing steadily in the ranking list but not quite ready for senior status.

Those players who are still at school or at college find it particularly difficult to finance themselves in their endeavours to progress up the ladder and the substantial prize money now on offer will be a great incentive to them. In fact these Under-21 events will offer players more prize money than any previous championships organised by the English Table Tennis Association.

The introduction of this middle range of tournament between the existing junior and senior events now provides a progressive range of national and international competition straight through from the cadets (under 14 years) to the top international players. The English Table Tennis Association is very grateful to Julius Darham for his interest in the sport and for the practical way in which he has shown it.

Bob Blunt, Chairman.

REGULATIONS FOR THE 1979 UNDER-21 ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. The tournament will be held under E.T.T.A. and I.T.T.F. regulations and the current laws of table tennis for international competitions. All players must be registered with, or members of, a club affiliated to the E.T.T.A. Entrants affiliated to the E.T.T.A. must give details of their affiliation on their entry forms.

2. All events will be the best of three games. Each match will be controlled by an umpire whose decision will be final on point of fact. The referee's decision shall be final on point of law.

3. All events are open to all men and women, as indicated in each case, who are under the age of 21 prior to the 1st of July, 1979. Events 6 and 7 are restricted to those players who have not been ranked on the senior or in the top ten of the Junior National ranking list since the 1st of September, 1976.

4. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to restrict or refuse entries and to hold a qualifying competition, or competition, as may be necessary. The right is also reserved to hold senior events for which fewer than 8 entries are received. Entries will be ignored without notification unless they are accompanied by the full amount of fees due.

5. Entries will be automatically acknowledged. A list, not receiving such acknowledgment by Thursday the 3rd May should telephone the Hon. Referee at 01-445 6512.

6. The draw will take place at the Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London on Friday, 6th May commencing at 9.30 a.m.

7. The scheduled time for each match for every round of each event in which a player may be
concerned, will be given to him before the tournament commences, but the referee reserves the right to alter the scheduled time of any match. Players absent at any time when called upon to play will render themselves liable to disqualification.

8. Nittaku 3-star balls (white) will be used and Stiga tables, each in a court not less than 40 feet by 20 feet.

9. A player's number will be issued and must be worn at all times during play. A deposit of £1 will be required for each number, repayable upon the safe return of the number prior to the end of the tournament.

10. A player's clothing must conform to the regulations applicable to international competitions. A copy of these regulations will be sent to each player upon request. No track suit (or part) shall be worn during play except with the specific permission of the referee.

11. Play will commence at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday and 9:00 a.m. on Sunday.

INFORMATION ON ROCK MOTOR PARTS LIMITED

At a time when it is fashionable to denigrate both the United Kingdom and sterling, it is refreshing to find a Briton who is adamant that his business must be connected with the Union Jack. Such has been the success of this partnership that the gross turnover of this business will have grown in six years from £50,000 to one million pounds.

In 1969 Mr. Julius Darham as a result of the Spanish Government's economic blockade of the crown colony of Gibraltar, had been forced to leave the Rock because it had affected his livelihood as a taxi driver.

In Gibraltar Julius had become a local character both as an entrepreneur and sportsman. He had been one of the first to see the Rock's potential as a tourist resort and had introduced commercial water skiing to Gibraltar waters. Indeed such was the fame of his conducted tours in his taxi that many tourists on arrival asked for him by name. He learnt from practical experience the benefit of personal recommendations. He represented Gibraltar on many occasions as a middleweight boxer.

Mr. Darham had no hesitation in choosing to emigrate to the United Kingdom where he soon found the opportunity to capitalise upon his talents as a salesman. He joined the sales staff of Williams supermarkets and by 1970 had become its top salesman. Although he enjoyed the challenge of selling in this competitive area his latent entrepreneurial talents sought an opportunity to start his own business.

This arrived early in 1971 and from the first day he was determined to link his products with both the Union Jack, representing the Mother Country, and the Rock on which he had been born and had spent the years of his youth and early manhood.

Mr. Darham provides his sales force with the opportunity to win two competitions a year — the prizes are a holiday for two at the luxury Rock Hotel in Gibraltar.

WHAT DOES ROCK MOTOR PARTS DO?

Rock Motor Parts supplies the Motor and Engineering trades with all maintenance parts. These range from a packet of nuts and bolts (£5) to a set of sophisticated tools (£30).

HOW DOES ROCK MOTOR SELLS?

A fleet of 46 mobile shops, carrying almost the total range of some 1,000 parts, maintains a regular service — fortnightly or monthly — to all clients. All of England and Wales is covered and part of Scotland.

The prime advantage of a mobile shop calling on a client is that there is no delay. The order is fulfilled on the spot but the client does not have to pay for his purchase there and then. He is invoiced in the normal way and enjoys the customary credit facilities.

In the simple concept of the mobile shop can be found the key to the dramatic growth of Rock Motor Parts Limited. Mr. Darham said, "in Gibraltar, as it is so small, no one has to wait for anything. Any order is fulfilled whilst one waits. When I arrived in England I was both amazed and appalled by the delays in delivering the most fundamental products.

I saw that the way to provide a service to the motor and engineering trades would be to buy in bulk, repackage at home and then offer for sale in a mobile shop. As the Company grew I was
Linda Howard (extreme left) and, on the right, Douggie Johnson and Karen Witt offer their assistance.

Photo by D. Edmund-Jones, Photosport, Chobham, Surrey.

How does Rock Motors sell itself

Highly motivated team of individuals. This is not a contradiction in terms as everyone in Rock Motors forms part of the team but at the same time an individual. Salesmen do not sell according to a Rock Motors manual but, within certain guidelines, use their own abilities to make sales and to obtain new customers.

Perhaps the best introduction to new clients is as a result of personal recommendations of highly satisfied existing customers.

History of Rock Motor Parts Limited

February 1971

The company was incorporated in February 1971 to sell motor component parts to the Motor and allied trades.

It was a one man business operating out of Mr. Durham's home in Twickenham. The small third bedroom was the office with the garage as the storeroom. But with the help of his wife who operated as packer, secretary and telephonist, Mr. Durham was able to process purchases of 3.6 tons of component parts at a time.

August 1971

The volume of sales was such that the business had to move to bigger premises in St. Margaret's, Twickenham. This consisted of rented three linked garages. One person was employed and 26 tons of component parts were ordered at a time.

August 1971

Growth necessitated another move to Teddington where the stores and offices were merged into a single building. Another person joined and so the total work force numbered three.

September 1972

The sales exceeded the most optimistic forecast and precipitated another move to larger premises at Spring Garden, Islington. By now the staff had increased to about 20.

September 1976

A dramatic and steady increase in turnover over the four years resulted in a move to the new headquarters at Englefield Green. This is a freehold building of some 17,000 square feet.

1977

This was a year of consolidation linked to controlled expansion. The staff was increased to 50 and a greater penetration was achieved of the United Kingdom.

1978

The expansion continued. Negotiations were entered into with a view to arranging a reverse takeover to alter the status of the holding company into that of a public company with a stock market quotation. The staff increased to 75. Penetration of the whole of England and Wales was achieved. Subsidiary companies were established in Malta and Gibraltar.

The English Table Tennis Association presents

The Rock under 21 English Table Tennis Championships

at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, Norwood, London SE19

May 26th - 27th, 1979

Finals

Sunday, May 27th, 1979

 Tournament Committee: Referee: L. C. PILDITCH (NR)
Aast. Referee: Mrs. A. P. ARCHIDOLE (NR)
Organiser: R. D. TAMMADGE
Members: G. M. DANIELS, Mrs. J. D. LOVE,
Miss J. MOSS, J. A. PACITTO,
Mrs. D. M. STANNARD, M. D. WATTS, H. WEBB,
J. M. WRIGHT.

Last date for receipt of entries — TUESDAY, 1st MAY, 1979

Sponsored by: Rock Motor Parts Ltd.

Friendly Win Over U.S.S.R.


The young Russian team were out to win, but were out-played by an equally young English team in front of a crowd of 1,200.

Individual scores—
G. Sandley bt Shevchenko 18 -17, 10;
D. Parker bt Shevchenko 18 -17, 19;
K. Witt bt Bakshtova 18, 19;
D. Johnson bt Kreeris 17, 9;
Sandley lost to Shevchenko -17, -19;
Parker/Sandley lost to Kreeris/Shevchenko -18, -17, -12;
Parker/A. Stevenson lost to Popova -18, -19;
Johnson bt Ovcharov 16, 19, 21;
Parker lost to Kreeris -12, -19.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Summer Practice

As Organiser of table tennis in Pontesbury, a very attractive country village situated eight miles south west of Shrewsbury, I am finding great difficulty in obtaining some variety in practice for our best junior player, 12-year-old Ivan Smith, during the summer months.

I am sure that other youngsters are in a similar position. In an effort to improve the situation I am planning to offer free accommodation at their home to any suitable applicant for a weekend of table tennis during May, June, July or September.

Any interested youngsters should address his reply to John Morris, Pontesbury T.T. Club, 2 School Bank, Pontesbury, Shrewsbury (Phone: Pontesbury 303) giving details of age, playing ability and possible dates.
EDINBURGH HOSTS 15 COUNTRIES

Fifteen countries will participate in the 5th Commonwealth Championships being played at Meadowbank, Edinburgh over the period April 12-18.

They have been split into two groups, for both men and women, in the team championships which will start on proceedings over the three days – Thursday, April 12 to Saturday, April 14. The groupings are (previous positions in brackets):

**MEN**

1 Hong Kong (1) 1 England (2)
2 India (3) 2 Canada (4)
3 Australia (5) 3 Scotland (7)
4 Nigeria (6) 4 N. Ireland (8)
5 Trinidad/Tobago (8) 5 N. Ireland (10)
6 Ghana (—) 6 Grenada (—)
7 Jersey (12) 7 Uganda (—)
8 Grenada (—)

**WOMEN**

1 Hong Kong (1) 1 England (2)
2 Canada (3) 2 Canada (4)
3 Scotland (7) 3 Scotland (7)
4 Nigeria (6) 4 N. Ireland (8)
5 Trinidad/Tobago (8) 5 N. Ireland (10)
6 Ghana (—) 6 Grenada (—)
7 Jersey (12) 7 Uganda (—)
8 Grenada (—)

**Match Programme**

**Thursday, April 12**

09.00 1 v 2, 3 v 4, 5 v 6 1 v 2, 3 v 4, 5 v 6
13.00 1 v 3, 2 v 4, 5 v 6 1 v 3, 2 v 4, 5 v 6
20.00 1 v 3, 2 v 4, 6 v 7 1 v 3, 2 v 4, 6 v 7

**Friday, April 13**

09.00 1 v 2, 3 v 4, 5 v 6 1 v 2, 3 v 4, 5 v 6
13.00 1 v 2, 3 v 4, 5 v 6 1 v 2, 3 v 4, 5 v 6
19.00 1 v 6, 2 v 7, 4 v 5 1 v 6, 2 v 7, 4 v 5

**Saturday, April 14**

09.00 Classification play-offs — A v B2, A3 v B3

3.00 Final — Winner Group A v Winner Group B.

**INDIVIDUAL EVENTS**

Both holders of the singles titles, Li Kuang Tsu of Hong Kong and Chang Siu Ying of Hong Kong will be defending their crowns, the seeds in draw order being:

**MEN**

1 Li Kuang Tsu (HKG)
2 Lit (Aus)
3 Chen (AUS)
4 Huang (AUS)
5 Shi (Ind)
6 Li (HKG)
7 Walker (Eng)

**WOMEN**

1 Mrs. Gordon (Eng)
2 Li (HKG)
3 Peng (Ing)
4 Li (HKG)
5 Huang (AUS)
6 Sheng Shien (HKG)
7 Howard (Eng)

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ESSEX NOTES

by Geoff Newman

STRIKE HALTS CLOSED

Our Closed Championships had to be cancelled at a late hour owing to the NUPEC industrial dispute which organisers Vic Russell's challenge. Happily the Essex Senior Open Championships were not affected.

BAIRSTOW EVES and BARCLAYS BANK LTD. for their sponsorship of our Open Championships which without their support would be impossible to run and our members much appreciate the help from these companies.

A change in tournament policy by the E.T.T.A. for next season, involving major alterations to the Tournament Calendar, certainly seems to have favoured Essex. Both our open tournaments move forward please!

In the County Championships we have at least 14 teams, 12 of which are entered for the first time. Our Closed Championships had to be cancelled but will be held when the season is in full swing, but will give the Tournament Committee a chance to see the quality of our players and to test them under the pressure of competition.

Scores:

**Men's One**
- Dagenham 5 28
- Harlow 5 26
- Southend 5 24
- Romford 5 22

**Women's One**
- Colchester 5 31
- Chelmsford 5 29
- Basildon 5 23
- Wallingtowm 5 21

**Mixed**
- Chelmsford 5 41
- Romford 5 32
- Dagenham 5 24
- Wallingtowm 5 24
- Ilford 5 17

**Veteran's One**
- Dagenham 5 32
- Billericay 5 31
- Colchester 5 24
- Romford 5 23
- Southend 5 22

**Juniors' One**
- Dagenham 5 36
- Billericay 5 34
- Colchester 5 33
- Basildon 5 23
- Silverton 5 14
- Romford 5 14

**YORKSHIRE NOTES**

by Tony Ross

CHANGES AHEAD

With the impending retirement of our long-serving Chairman Harry Flintoff, who is also Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, and President of the 'Yorkshire Table Tennis Association' and Secretary of the Section, many congratulations on your very high national Junior rankings. Steve Tracey, in his second season as Secretary, is doing well the pair of you. Details of the Herts match:

- T. Penney bt J. Proffitt 14, 17;
- I. Robertson lost to F. Nilan 16, 18;
- Penney lost to Jermyn 19, 16;
- Robertson Smith bt A. and J. Proffitt 17, 17;
- Sayer lost to Pickard 18, 8;
- Smith lost to Nilan 17, 18;
- Glassock lost to Towler 14, 16;
- Charlery bt Ogle 7, 19, 15;
- Thacker bt Bardwell 12, 8, 16;
- Andrew lost to Seaholme 15, 16, 16.

The Veterans have also returned to winning ways with the first team defeating Leinster 6-3 while the second team won by the maximum route over Essex.

Our vast inter-league programme is in its final stages and positions in the top divisions are:

- Played
- Points

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Women's One

- Dagenham 5 28
- Harlow 5 26
- Southend 5 24
- Romford 5 22

Women's Two

- Colchester 5 31
- Chelmsford 5 29
- Basildon 5 23
- Wallington 5 21

Mixed

- Chelmsford 5 41
- Romford 5 32
- Dagenham 5 24
- Wallington 5 24
- Ilford 5 17

Veteran's One

- Dagenham 5 32
- Billericay 5 31
- Colchester 5 24
- Romford 5 23
- Southend 5 22

Juniors' One

- Dagenham 5 36
- Billericay 5 34
- Colchester 5 33
- Basildon 5 23
- Silverton 5 14
- Romford 5 14

**GREAT NEWS**

by Stephen Gibbs

UNBEATEN SEASON

With an 8-2 win over Cornwall, Gwent's senior side concluded an unbeaten season in Division 1 West of the County Championships. This means that the Gwent team are promoted to Div. 2 after only twelve months in the third. For the match versus Cornwall, team Manager Basil Evans recalled Michael Nocivelli, who replaced the unavailable Kevin Bousfield, Nocivelli, who has indicated only mild interest in County selection in recent seasons, showed that he was equal to the occasion and easily won his two events. Andrew Evans suffered his only defeat of the season in County matches when he succumbed to a hard bat player. Cornwall's only other win came in the women's doubles when Sandra Pickering and Brenda Annand were beaten. However, both their doubles and again both have managed to win three of their five singles events throughout the season. This is a considerable improvement on past seasons when unfortunately the women's play left an unsatisfactory impression.

By entering the captaining of the side to John Bloomer, Basil has ensured that every player has given a 100% effort. Bloomer, winner of 8 of his 10 singles, has teamed up with Andrew Evans to win all five doubles.

With a 9-1 over Avon, 6-4 over Dorset, 9-1 over Somerset, 7-3 over Glamorgan, plus the fine win in their County Championship, Gwent's side has amassed a total of 39 sets of 50. Basil's main concerns now...
LANCASHIRE & CHESHIRE LEAGUE
by George R. Yates

Beating Farnworth 10-0 in their final match Preston won the Division 1 title of the Lancashire and Cheshire League taking it over from their victims at Barmer Bridge on Mar. 16.

A much depleted Farnworth, lacking the services of 8st victim Clive Hign and Brian Clements, proved no match for the home trio of Donald Parker, Steve Turbitt and Paul Rainford.

Manchester, represented by Phil Bowen, Mark Haskey and Brian Kean, had a 9-1 win over St. Helen's which gave them the runners-up position. Helen's was the Mancunian to shed a set when beaten by Brian John. Top positions (Final):

Preston ........................................... P   W   D   L   F   A

Farnworth ........................................... P   7   5   2   0   35   15

Manchester ........................................... P   7   4   1   2   33   19

Manchester won the 3rd place.

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Next Month’s Issue
Owing to the Editor’s attendance at the World Championships in Pyongyang, the next issue of T.T. News will be published late May/early June.

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STOP PRESS
Global Table Tennis Promotions Ltd., are pleased to announce that due to Chester Barnes withdrawing from his £1,000 winner-take-all challenge match against Jill Hammersley (see page 38), Dennis Neale, England’s former No.1. has confirmed he will take up this challenge at Whitehead and Co. Sports and Banqueting Hall, Chevall Street, Motegire, London E2. Tickets at £1.50 are available from Global Table Tennis Promotions Ltd., 39 Green Lane, Chislehurst, Kent.

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19 COLSON DRIVE, MIDDLETOWN, MANCHESTER
The Newest Table Tennis Company with the Biggest Discounts

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LETTERS . . .
TO THE EDITOR

LET DOWN

Having helped for many seasons in the Fenland 2-Star Tournaments with the King’s Lynn T.T.A. and the Wisbech T.T.A., I would like to say how disappo-
tunted I am with the attitude of the E.T.T.A. and Mr. Meisel concerning the Global National Tournament organised by Mr. Barry Meisel. All Open Tournam-
ent organisers are aware of the amount of hard work, time and money involved in making a successful Tournament and one of the attractions for local leagues is the chance to see and play against some of the country’s top players. But this season Mr. Meisel arranged his Tournament on the same weekend as the Yorkshire 2-Star and Fenland 2-Star with the approval of the E.T.T.A. Straight away you lose the top players and the Tournament loses much of its appeal to both spectators and players.

Sponsorship keeps these Tournaments alive but what chance do we have when the main attraction is removed? Part of the last paragraph of the E.T.T.A. guide to Sponsorship states — “Make sure you deliver what you promise”. How can we promise class players, knowing that they may be attracted elsewhere.

The Tournament Calendar is compiled more than 12 months in advance, but Mr. Meisel’s Tournament was approved by the E.T.T.A. at their Council meeting at the end of January — 6 weeks before it was held! Why does he not have to conform like the rest of us? Next season’s provisional calendar has been issued already with no mention of the Global National Tournament. Does this mean that the same thing will happen next season? I have nothing against Mr. Meisel or the top players. Good luck to them all! What I am concerned about is the way the E.T.T.A. have let the local leagues down by their attitude over this matter.

Tournament Organisers beware! If this arrangement with Mr. Meisel is allowed to continue, it may well be ourselves on the other hand, may be any one of you!

RAY DREW,
General Secretary,
King’s Lynn and Dist. T.T.A.
21 Meadow Way,
West Lynn,
King’s Lynn, PE34 3JZ.

UNFAIR COMPETITION

With regard to the Global tournament held on the weekend of Mar. 4/5 I must first point out that personally I feel that cash being put into Table Tennis could be better spent than on the freelance system. I have previously said that I feel that the ranking system is rather unfair.

Having said that I and my Association’s Committee have decided to support Mr. Meisel’s Tournament.

I am not aware of the intentions of the E.T.T.A. which is really what the magazine is issued for. Also I have seldom seen in your columns any constructive criticism from the players. If you have any please write to Barry Meisel at Global Table Tennis Promotions Ltd., St. Green Lane, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 6AQ.

BARRY MEISEL,
Director.

HOLLOW LAUGHTER

With the greatest of respect to Mrs. O’Carroll and Mr. Dyke, is it not a bit of a joke to talk about players faulted for illegal services having their concentration destroyed or broken? The point which escapes these good folk is that players must be taken to know the Laws, and if they choose to ignore them they deserve no sympathy.

The “statement” by Tony Wickens about junior “Select” tournaments has caused much hollow laughter among the regulars on the circuit. What do the “Select” tournaments mean? The Selection Committee has decreed that all results other than those obtained in the Select Tournaments plus the “Open” and “Closed” will virtually be ignored. The point is, does the E.T.T.A. propose to accord “Select” status to events graded as “2-Star” irrespective of their merit?

Everybody knows that the Essex and Cleveland Junior events have a very high standard, equivalent to the senior “3-Star” rating, but that few others come anywhere near to this. Incredibly enough, a player must be given a “Select” status to go on the all-age list of lettings clubs and player know quite a lot and that is really what the magazine is issued for.

Harry Walker,
Hon. Life Member.
14 Braybrooke Road,
Hastings, TN34 1TA.

NOT UNDERSTOOD!

I would refer to the articles written in the magazine every month by Donald Parker on PERIODISATION and to ask the reason for them at all.

I am not a player but I have tried to understand them — with the aid of dictionaries — and do not understand a word. If they are intended for our younger player — I am sorry for them.

A college of mine finds the articles quite incredible and suggests that if Donald was to write an article each month on different aspects of coaching in easily understandable language, together with action photos it would be more useful.

At the present moment I cannot see any reason to continue printing them.

HARRY WALKER,
Hon. Life Member.
4 Braybrooke Road,
East Suton,
TN41 1HA.

FOR INFORMATION

I have thought for some time that it would be useful if the annual Council Meetings were published in TABLE TENNIS NEWS. As you know, at the present time copies go to Councillors and County Secretaries and are not sent to counties if requested. As you know the minutes of Council meetings in the U.S. are published in a magazine - “TABLE TENNIS TOPICS” and I can see no reason why we should not do it in the case of confirming minutes of sub-committees could be made for information.

I feel that this would improve the confidence of clubs and individuals to know what is happening in the country and greatly assist in future tournaments. Often wondered why the Development Committee had not considered it as it would be of great value. It would not be necessary to send copies to counties for their distribution. In brief it is a way of letting clubs and players know quite a lot and also they can accept that I could hardly be expected to explain to sponsors that all the best players have gone to another tournament. Finally, we have received the 1979/80 draft copy of tournaments. It seems that John’s complaint stems from a difficulty in getting results quickly. It also seems that he has no problems in this respect at the “more sophisticated” English tournaments. John and other Premenus were accommodated right next to the referee and the results section, and although there may have been a weakness, not entirely our fault, it was put right as soon as reported. Inciden-

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I often wonder if Table Tennis takes technique to the game sufficiently seriously. Yet realism demands that they should. No one is perfect and there is room for improvement, and enlightenment can often come from the most unexpected quarters. Players therefore have nothing to lose and something to gain by taking note of such matters. Written text appears not only for acquisition of theoretical knowledge but for practical follow-up also. And since these observations are based on actual experiences of top players in the world, there is no justification for the players to hesitate in taking advantage of them.

It is ironic that when physical fitness is becoming a fetish with top-class Table Tennis players, some are now carried away by the emphasis on extra physical training. Readers would like to note that Tony Grint, the ex-captain of English cricket is prone to epileptic attacks.

Hence, I personally am quite perturbed to find that, now-a-days, there is a lot of talk and emphasis on physical training by officials and governing bodies at the cost of harder "over-the-table"-organised training. For the players also, it is supposed to be the "in" thing to do while playing this game. Quite a few of our building players now think that without enough hours spent on physical training that some of them destroy the entire effort they have put into learning the racket. While this trend could be a hangover of the past, the need to blend physical practice partners available at all levels of play, during or out of season should be appreciated. The offseason should be "the time" to take stock of the body weight that each player is required to have to carry while moving from rally to rally. While this becomes a real wastage of energy, it is this obsession which you normally train, then you have to control if you have 2 kg. weight more than the weight with which you normally train, then you have to control. Therefore, their approach to become quick should be like, rather than die of shame to let go a ball past them, without reaching it or even touching it.

And in addition to this, there is one more very important factor of physical training which has been lost sight of or possibly not even known to many of these players. And that is, after they put in the required efforts practice-wise, and then to their physical training, they still do not become quick to say, automatically. It is a strong notion that physical training and quickness is equally as important as the will of the player to move and try to reach each and every ball during his practice. The secret of becoming quick is in understanding this aspect of the game. Unless, therefore, a player cultivates an intense desire from deep down within his heart, to move and reach each and every ball that comes to him, no amount of physical training can make a player quick. And what is required in present day Table Tennis is super-quick reflexes and quick-silver feet movement. Therefore, their approach to become quick should be like, rather than die of shame to let go a ball past them, without reaching it or even touching it.

And talking of quickness, one regrets to notice that even today after so much international experience, so many of our top players do not really believe that flat-footed stance considerably hampers their movements and thereby their total progress. Let me explain. Some of them do stand on their toes or on the ball of their feet at the start of a rally or during the early stages of the game. But then, they gradually progress, or the game advances towards the closing stages, you will notice that, instead of move-flat-footed when it really matters. This is because, while moving, their thighs become so stiff that they cannot carry their weight forward all the time on their toes and with little or no movement for longer periods. This is mainly due to lack of awareness of the importance of this aspect of training! It is only when these players understand what an important part this will-to-move and "playing-on-toes" plays in improving their quickness, that they will be able to improve their body weight and with the ball past them, without touching it.

...
A stunning display of power driving and counter-hitting gave England No. 1 Damo protruding Douglas his second men's singles title in the Norwich Union English Championships at Woking Leisure Centre on Feb. 24.

But there were shocks in abundance in the later rounds of the men's singles. Biggest surprise of all was a tremendous performance by 21-year-old Dougie Johnson, the losing finalist who, like Douglas, hails from Birmingham.

Douglas headed a list of shockmakers as he moved through to the final with John Hilton and Mark Mitchell among his victims. In the 24-minute final, however, Johnson's defences finally crumpled under an onslaught of sheer power from Douglas who triumphed 14, 8, 7. Among earlier shocks which worried the England selectors was the defeat of Paul Day, the holder, to Mitchell.

**NEALE FAILS**

Little known Tottenham player David Wells was the shock quarter-finalist as he stopped Denis Neale.

E.T.T.A. selectors were satisfied with the results of the women's singles. Karen Witt, 17, tried hard in the final but Mrs. Hammersley's defences have reached a new peak of perfection and there never seemed to be a way through for Miss Witt, who has, for the moment, secured her England No. 2 ranking.

The doubles events provided more successes for Douglas. He won the Triple Crown lifting the men's doubles title with Jimmy Walker and the mixed with Linda Howard who also took the women's doubles with Mrs. Hammersley.

**RESULTS**

**Men's Singles Round 3**

Douglas/Walker bt Johnson (Cv) 18, 14, 14; 15, 14, 15; 18, 17, 17; 10, 8, 8; 10, 8, 8.

Douglas/Johns bt Midgley/Ludi 11, 17, 11, 17, 17; 11, 17, 17, 11, 11; 11, 17, 17, 11, 11.

Douglas/Howard bt Johns/Ludi 17, 17, 17, 17, 17; 17, 17, 17, 17, 17.

Douglas/Howard bt Johnson 14, 8, 7.

**Women's Singles Round 2**

Hunt/Rogers walk-over L. Barrow (E)/C. Hilton (La) scr.

B. Johnson (Wa)/Johnson bt J. Kennedy (K)/R. Potton (E) 11, 14, 14, 14.

Crimmins/Wells bt Johnson/Johnson 8, 21, 16.

Hammersley bt Witt 11, 17, 11, 17, 17; 11, 17, 17, 11, 11.

Stevenson bt Midgley 10, 14, 9.

**Men's Doubles Quarter-finals**

DOUGLAS/WALKER bt Crimmins/Wells -20, 16, 9, 15.

Douglas/Howard bt Johnson/Ludi 17, 17, 17, 17; 17, 17, 17, 17.

**Final**

DOUGLAS/WALKER bt Hammersley/Hunt 12, 16, 16, 16.

**Women's Doubles Quarter-finals**

Hammersley/Howard bt Hunt/Rogers 13, 15, 15; 13, 15, 15.

Douglas/Walker bt Crimmins/Wells 9, 14, 14.

Douglas/Walker bt Johnson/Johnson 17, 17, 17, 17; 17, 17, 17, 17.

**Final**

DOUGLAS/WALKER bt Cramb/Morris 19, 17, 17, 17, 17.

**Mixed Doubles Quarter-finals**

DOUGLAS/WALKER bt Crimmins/Wells 15, 15, 15, 15; 15, 15, 15, 15.

DOUGLAS/WALKER bt Johnson/Johnson 17, 17, 17, 17; 17, 17, 17, 17.

**Final**

DOUGLAS/HAMMERSLEY bt Hunt/Mitchell 15, 15, 15, 15.

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For speed, spin and control

For use in attack

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**OFFER CLOSES MAY 31st**
**IRISH NOTES**

by WILLIE WALSH

**IRISH DROP**

Ireland dropped down to the second division without a whimper, after losing 2-3 to Bulgaria in the Mayfield Complex, Belfast. The large crowd were stunned to a 'deafening' silence as the superbly fit visitors won the first three sets without dropping a game and won the other four sets in the third game.

This was the first European 1st Division match ever played in Belfast, and great credit is due to Eddie Linnegran, Chairman of the Ulster Branch, Mrs. Pat Hunter, their hard working Hon. Secretary and the other members of the organising committee for the excellent arrangements, before, during and after the match. It was sponsored by the Ulster Milk Marketing Board and received tremendous coverage by the B.B.C., U.V.I., Radio and Press. Both teams were accorded a civic reception by His Worship the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Ald. Cooke, and taken on a tour of the historic City Hall which made a tremendous impression on the Bulgarians.

C. Slevin, 18, 12, in a rather tame encounter.

**COVENTRY 1-Star OPEN**

MAX JUSTIFIES HIS SEEDING

by K. J. Moran

After experiencing various troubles during their first venture into open tournaments last year, the Coventry and District T.T.A. showed how quickly they can learn by staging an excellent 2nd Coventry Open. Played once again in the first class surroundings of Ernford Grange Community College, Referee Geoff Taylor L.I., Chairman Jack Elliott and their loyal followers provided the organisation, and local industry again came up to the mark. The mixed event was another two gamer, Ireland again dropped down to the second division.

The mixed was another 3 gamer, Ireland again dropped down to the second division. The second second to being a set in the Irish Mixed Doubles. Miss Stoinov led 9-16, and 11-19 before Stoinov won 21-14. In the 3rd Senior led all the way to win 11.

Karen Senior and Anne Leonard had no difficulty in winning the women's doubles, beating Derek Kilpatrick and Liz Cash.

Slevin and Keane had to fight all the way in the men's doubles final and edged past Weir and Glynn. Weir and Glynn won the first 19, and only lost the second -20. Slevin and Keane won the 3rd 16. An unusual feature of the championships was a team event of 2 men and 1 woman. This replaced the Mixed Doubles event and proved very popular among the competitors. The winning team was Allister Cairns, Derek Weir and Karen Senior. Runners-up were Colum Slevin, Kevin Keane and Anne Leonard.

**Results**

Men's Singles Semi-finals:

- C. Slevin bt A. Cairns 23, -17, 15.
- D. Weir bt K. Keane -12, -13, 17.

Final:

C. Slevin bt D. Weir 15, 15.

Women's Singles Final:

- K. Senior bt A. Leonard 7, 21, 11.

Men's Doubles Final:

Slevin/Keane bt Hickey/Glynn -19, 20, 16.

Women's Doubles Final:

Senior/Leonard bt Cash/Kilpatrick 8, 16.

**IRISH RANKINGS**

The selectors in drawing up a new Irish Ranking list did not consider Jim Langton, who recently announced his retirement, or Karen Senior or Derek Kilpatrick who did not play in at least 4 of the 7 listed tournaments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Woman</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Colum Slevin</td>
<td>1. Anne Leonard</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Derek Weir</td>
<td>2. Dolores Keeler</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Kevin Keane</td>
<td>3. Mary Sheehan</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Tommie Caffrey</td>
<td>4. Liz Cash</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Alastair Cairns</td>
<td>5. Kathleen Murray</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Martin Kenella</td>
<td>7. Martin Kenella</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Tom Heasley</td>
<td>8. Tom Heasley</td>
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**COVENTRY 1-Star OPEN**

MAKES USE OF HIS SEEDING

by K. J. Moran

After experiencing various troubles during their first venture into open tournaments last year, the Coventry and District T.T.A. showed how quickly they can learn by staging an excellent 2nd Coventry Open. Played once again in the first class surroundings of Ernford Grange Community College, Referee Geoff Taylor L.I., Chairman Jack Elliott and their loyal followers provided the organisation, and local industry again came up to the mark.

The O.C. Phillips Group sponsored men's singles saw Max Crammas justify his top seeding when he overcame David Wells, his county teammate, seeded No. 4, in an exciting three game final. Ranked No. 4 in England at the time of the tournament, Crammas dropped only one game, to David Wells in the quarters, on his way to a scheduled meeting with Nigel Eccles in the semi. Unhappily Crammas's pocket-Hercules had to be pulled out, after looking really impressive beating No. 8 seed Andrew Bellingham in his quarter-final.

In the other half of the draw Mike Johnson, seeded No. 5, put second seed Graham Sandley, the previous year's runner-up, 13 in the third. Sandley had previously put out Warwickshire's top junior Lester Bertie in straight games. Wells made it to the last semi-final place by beating Ferox Ninham who was responsible for the departure of last year's
champion Paul Randall of Leicestershire in Round 4.

With Eckersley withdrawn Crimmins had a walk-over into the final where he met Welman. Despite a lapse of concentration in the second game, Crimmins powered his way to the title with some fine attacking shots played away from the table.

The weather defeated defending champion Cheryl Battery before the start of the Coventry Industrial Pankop work's women's singles, and the day free on local favourite Eileen Shaler to progress to the final. Eileen, Leicestershire No. 3, and seeded No. 3; had a good semi-final win over Jackie Harper Warwickshire's No. 2. Top Warwickshire women Karen Groves, seeded No. 4, played superbly to beat No. 2 seed Janet Carr in another close run final. This brought to an end an exciting and smoothly-run tournament. Requests for entry (again!) in the Lenton and Sons women's doubles match against Holland in Alkmaar on Mar. 31/79.

The team should also benefit from an Anglo-Dutch Training Camp on the following day.

Gina Pritchard of Devon down two places in the Girls' Rankings. Photo by Leo Black, London.

REVISITED JUNIOR AND CADET RANKINGS

DRAMATIC JUMP FOR SKYLET

The National Selection Committee have issued a revised ranking list both in respect of Juniors and Cadets. In the Junior Boys, Skylet Andrew of Essex has made a dramatic jump to No. 3 from No. 13 following his success in the Coventry Junior 'Select' plus a win over the top Junior, Graham Sandley in a County Championships match. The ever fluctuating form of young players is reflected in the more modest changes amongst the girls and Cadet rankings.

New positions (previous places in brackets):

Boys
1. Graham Sandley (Mi) (1)
2. Colin Wilson (Mi) (2)
3. Skylet Andrew (E) (16)
4. Desmond Charlery (E) (5)
5. John Souter (Mi) (9)
6. David Barr (Ib) (3)
7. Andrew Bellingham (Sb) (6)
8. Graham Gillett (Sb) (8)
9. Paul Whiting (Dv) (11)
10. Kevin Saitth (W) (4)
11. Corin Pynsentworth (Mi) (7)
12. Stephen Holloway (St) (10)
13. Peter Pushawk (Sv) (14)
14. Sam Harner (Sv) (12)
15. Mark Galey (Sv) (A)
16. Stephen Moore (Sv) (20)
17. Peter Broonshaw (Hb) (A)
18. Martyn Smith (Av) (15)
19. Paul Randford (Lb) (13)
20. Dienne Gray (Ca) (A)

Girls
1. Mandy Smith (Bl) (1)
2. Mandy Reeves (Mi) (3)
3. Helen Williams (Mi) (5)
4. Sally Midgley (Yi) (2)
5. Lorraine Garbett (Sy) (7)
6. Alison Gordon (Bk) (4)
7. Joy Grundy (La) (10)
8. Gina Pritchard (Dv) (6)
9. Elaine Bollom (Bk) (6)
10. Julie Revill (Lb) (11)
11. Carol Rusel (Bk) (A)
12. Shirley Cain (Sb) (12)
13. Lyne Fainal (Ch) (8)
14. Clare Mansley (Wb) (A)
15. Sarah Glosen (Dv) (A)
16. Janet Deakin (Chb) (—)

GROUP A
(Alphabetical order)

Boys
Glen Baker (Sy) (A)
Leslie Bester (Wa) (17)
Philip Bradbury (Bk) (A)
Andrew Golding (Sy) (—)
Julian Hall (Sk) (18)
Aidrian Hill (Y) (39)
Mark Illingworth (Y) (—)
Gary Lambert (Dv) (12)
Martin Lee (Mi) (A)
Aidrian Moore (Sy) (A)
Stuart Palmer (Sb) (A)
Ian Rend (C) (—)
Paul Stratorgan (Mi) (A)
Robert Swift (Ca) (A)
Alan Withers (Sy) (A)
Jackie Bellinger (Bk) (—)
Eleanor Hughes (Ch) (A)
Kilm Modde (E) (—)
Jean Parker (La) (A)
Jill Parsonb (Bk) (A)
Carolyn Scoucroft (La) (A)
Gilliss Sharp (Bk) (—)

Girls
No longer listed are: Alan Berenczy (K), Paul Handler (C) and David Hughes (C), of the boys, and Julie Dewott (Lb) of the girls.

CADETS

Boys
1. Adrian Moore (Sy) (1)
2. Andrew Dixon (Sy) (10)
3. Gary Lambert (Dv) (2)
4. Eddie Gorniak (Mi) (4)
5. Carl Price (Sb) (6)
6. JeremyLambert (Y) (5)
7. Christopher Brain (Lb) (12)
8. David Sharpe (Bd) (7)
9. Dave Illingworth (Y) (10)
10. Graham Russell (Sy) (—)
11. John Sparks (E) (11)
12. Ray Nunleyb (K) (9)
13. Dan Grafton (Ge) (—)
14. Ellis Taylor (Cv) (—)
15. Bruce Collingwood (Mi) (9)

Girls
1. Jackie Bellinger (Bk) (2)
2. Cherry Cieewley (Bk) (1)
3. Lisa Bellinger (Bk) (4)
4. Lesley Breamhead (Y) (6)
5. Sarah Crewe (Sy) (9)
6. Jean Parker (La) (5)
7. Helen Hardwick (He) (5)
8. Amanda Fudd (Ca) (—)
9. Laura Goldsmith (Mi) (11)
10. Melanie Seaton (Y) (10)
11. Michelle Williams (Ms) (—)
12. Joanne Revils (Y) (7)
13. Mary Denbow (Ou) (—)
14. Yvonne Hall (Le) (12)
15. Jackie Myers (La) (8)

The National Selection Committee have taken the opportunity to give International experience to players not quite at the top of the ranking lists, but their proven ability means the selectors have chosen a team to win in a Junior International match against Holland in Alkmaar on Mar. 31/79.

Team:
Skylet Andrew (E), Andrew Bellingham (Sb), John Souter (Mi), Alison Gordon (Bk) and Sally Midgley (Y). N.P.C.: Dimal Parker

The team should also benefit from an Anglo-Dutch Training Camp on the following day.
### Point Overlooked

How nice to see a letter from my old Basildon team mate and Southend League committee colleague Stan Thaker in Table Tennis News. Surely certain players have attained an importance which clearly is not in the best interests of the sport.

However, one point seems to be overlooked by many umpires. It is the duty of the umpire to satisfy himself that the service is good. If the ball has been correctly projected upwards (in the view of the umpire) and the latter has seen that the ball is falling where he says it is, then the service is good. If the umpire says it is bad, then he must prove his point.

Colin Clement made this point well in the January 1979 edition of Table Tennis News. He stated, "If the umpire says it is bad, he must prove his point."

Clement also wrote, "If the umpire says it is bad, then he must prove his point."

One other point on the high services. Sometimes the ball is not projected to the highest part of the server, whereupon the server catches the ball. This is a lost point. Service commences when the server projecting the ball by the hand, and the ball is in play from that moment.

PETER EDWARDS, C.U.

Soughton Meadows, Southmead Road, Oxhey, Oxhey.
LITTERED BATTLE GROUND

As I prepare these notes, the end of the County Championships season is only a few short weeks away and the battleground is littered with many matches abandoned by the severe travelling conditions to which the large band of faithful and hard-working volunteers have succumbed. By the time these notes are read many more matches will have been completed hopefully with only the Promotion Challenges to Senior and Junior Premier Divisions to be completed. The Veteran Challenge is the first to be completed, breaking from tradition and being decided on April 7 at the Barnet Centre - one month ahead of its regular slot, at the request of regular contributors who had to compete with the F.A. Cup final. The season's line-up sees two new Counties playing for veteran honours - Avon and Lincolnshire - against Nottinghamshire and reigning Champions Middlesex who have dropped only three sets (from 45 all season). Now the suggestion being bandied around is: "Is it time to form a Veteran Premier Division?"

Wiltshire are almost certain contenders for promotion to the Premier Division with Kent and Leicestershire certain (or to participate) while Cleveland look set to take the championship of 2 North. From 2 East, Hertfordshire look set for another try for promotion.

In the Junior section, Devon are strong enough to return to the Junior Premier but opposition at the junior challenge will be tough. Any two from Cumbria, Croydon or Lancashire will qualify from Junior 2 North, Junior 2 Midland is also wide open.

While half of the Championships divisions have been decided, Junior 3 West has produced the tightest finish. Avon and Devon II ended level on points and sets but games ratio (Avon 75-38; Devon 71-43) gave Avon the advantage. However, Hampshire are two matches behind and could overtake both, if just as easily join them in calculating games ratio.

Divisional champions decided.

PREMIER DIVISION

Cheshires 8 Berkshire 1
Leaders of the division, Cheshire, had been concerned by the absence of Nigel Ekeren (at the Pettenne Championships) for this clash, but without him they stormed into a 4-0 lead before David Reeves beat John McNeely.


Yorkshire pulled back a 3-0 deficit but the home side scored a creditable 5-2 win. Andy Bellingham and John Dabin outstanding for Kent, but Sussex narrowly missed the promotion to the Premier Division with Kent and Devon.

(continued on page 38)