The Magnificent Seventh

Photo by James Dunlop, Pinner, Middlesex

finest equipment by Jaques
Prophet Without Honour

Once again the lure of Federal German money is tempting Jill Ham­
mersley to engage in another contrac­
tional obligation to commute, this time to
and from Kiel.

Last season's staggering financial
deficit incurred by the ETTA, cannot be
made good overnight and with monies
still owing to the City of Bir'minghalm in
European theatre of operafrions. And so
ships, the Association simply cannolt
stretch Bengtsson and Carlsson to a third
game decider before conceding defeat.
OUT FROM KIEL

There is little doubt that Jill, by her
own success has cont'ributed largely to
their own success. And yet, unUke a cr'icke'ling bene­
player. Professionalism, so far as table tennis
is concerned in this country, is far
removed from the lucrative income of a
top golfer, lawn tennis, snooker or darts
player.

Yet players who have propelled
England to within grasping distance of
the Jupp Schlaf Cup as winne,rs of the
Supervision of the European League
must, perforce, seek their fortunes (!)
elsewhere.

ONE MORE RIVER

Following up their magnificent 4-3 win
over Sweden, in Boras on Feb. 11, England
have just one more river to cross to become
the champions, for the first time, of the
Super Division of the European League.

But that final river will need some ford­
ing as it will involve the division's only other
unbeaten team, Hungary, who with the likes
of Tibor Klampar, Istvan Jonyer, Gabor
Gergely, Judit Magos and Zsuzsa Olah to
call on form a formidable barrier.

Still, the visit to Sweden was not under­taken without trepidation. But to and
behind look what we did with Desmond
Douglas at his demon best beating both
Stefan Beharison and Ulf Carlsson and
then combining with Linda Jarvis to win
the mixed against Bengtsson and Marie
Lindblad, this after Jill Hammer­
sley had
the mixed against Bengtsson and Marie
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Meantime, in Budapest, Hungary came
back from a 2-3 deficit to beat neighbours
Czechoslovakia 4-3 those last two wins
coming from Klampar, who beat Milan
Orlowski, and from Tibor Klampar, who
beat Josef Dvoracek, both in three games.

SCORES

Klampar bt J. Dvoracek 13, -23, 17;
T. Kreisz lost to M. Orlowski 19, -14, -16;
J. Magos bt M. Hrachova 5-13;
I. Jonyer/Klampar lost to Orlowski/J.
Pansky 22, -16, -11, -13;
Kreisz/B. Kishazi lost to Pansky/Hrachova
-17, -16;
Klampar bt Orlowski -10, 15, 9;
Kreisz bt Dvoracek 10, -30, 17.

At the bottom end of the scale Federal
Germany brought relief to their Associ­ation
by beating the Soviet Union 6-1 in Hamburg
the "whitewash" being saved, but very little
else, in the last set when Valerij Shevchenko
beat Peter Stellwag.

SCORES

B. Wolik bt V. Shevchenko 15, 16;
P. Stellwag bt I. Solopov 12, 13;
T. Kreisz bt Dvoracek 10, -30, 17;
R. Wosik bt V. Shevchenko 15, 16;
K. Kreisz lost to M. Orlowski 19, -14, -16;
I. Poghosov/Shevchenko 17, 17;
Wolik/Kamiruru bt Solopov/P. Bulatova 8, 19;
Wolik bt Solopov 13, 18;
Stellwag lost to Shevchenko -16, -19.

Against Yugoslavia, in Varazdin, France
paid the penalty of not calling on Jacques
Secretin for singles and were beaten 5-2
with Christian Martin their only singles

Hungary's ace doubles men Tibor Klampar (1) and Istvan Jonyer.
Photo by Graham Duncan, Tooting Bec, London.

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England's Karen Witt who reached the final of the women's singles in the Czech Open in Prague losing to Ann-Christin Hellman of Sweden.

Photo by Malcolm Anderson, Cicero, Ill., USA.

Hartmann/Maas lost to Dryzel/A. Jakubowicz -15, -17; Hartmann/Riecht lost to Dryzel/Urbakanta 15, -20, -19; Hartman lost to Grubba 19, -18, -16; Maas lost to Dryzel -17, -17.

on the same night, in far away Helsinki, the Finns took on and beat the Netherlands, with the three doubles evading the home team with Annie Vlieg and Patrick Swer beating Jutka Ikonen and Jarmo Jokinen.

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J. Ikonen lost to Swer/Vlieg 19, -12; Jokinen/Greber lost to Swer/de Kruiff 18, 14; Ikonen lost to Swer -19, 10, 16; Jokinen lost to Vlieg 18, -19, 19.

Bulgaria, away to Austria in Stockerau, won 5-2 but despite having lost only one match, when beaten by Poland, have no chance of the title with their set analysis showing both Poland and Finland.

SCORES in Stockerau were:
C. Bar bt I. Stoyanov 16, -15, 18; E. Amplatz lost to D. Hassanov -16, -11, -11; D. Petter lost to D. Guergueltcheva -16, -18; Amplatz bt I. Stoyanov/Zikos 12, -18; Muller Petter bt Stoyanov/Gueragueltcheva 17, -18, -10; Bar lost to Hassanov -19, -19; Amplatz lost to Stoyanov -18, 14, -13.

Greece pulled off their second win of the season in beating Italy 4-3 in Parma where, for the visitors, Dimitrios Zikos won the last vital set against Paolo Bargagli.

DIVISION ONE
Poland must be grateful that their last match, against Finland, is on Polish soil for just one set separates them with Poland unbeaten and the Finns having lost but once... to Bulgaria.

On Feb. 12 away to Luxembourg in Grevenmacher, Poland dropped two sets when Malgorzata Urbanska was beaten by Carine Risch and Stefan Dryszel and Maja Urbanska were beaten in the mixed by R. Suk and M. Jokinen. But in men's singles the Poles remain supreme (beating the Andy) Grubba and unbeaten.

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Wilson, Andre Hartmann and Miss Risch. But in
to send umpires should bear in mind that there are now over 600 ITTF qualified International Umpires in the world from 36 Associations, and it is clearly not possible for more than a fraction of them, to be invited to any one World Championship.

SUSPENSION
The Mexican Federation announce that their player Roberto Otero Cuseo has been suspended from national and international play for one year.

HONOUR
Mr. Dick Raask, President of the Auck- land Table Tennis Association and Vice-President of the New Zealand Table Tennis Association, has been awarded the MBE for services to sport, in particular table tennis.

REVIEWED WORLD RANKINGS
A revision of the world rankings under­ taken by the Classification Committee of the ITTF in Novi Sad has resulted in a new world champion, John Hilton, being demoted from No. 5 to No. 6.

This follows the Mancunian’s lack of success both in the European League, and ‘finishe,d twelfth and last.

Patriot Ge Xinai.

3.2 Peter Stellwag (GFR) (21)

“to send umpires should bear in mind that Associations” and it is clearly not possible invited to anyone World Championships. Illegal under ITTF Regulations.

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and find that it has less than 10 pimples per

A revision of the world rankings under­

taking of all ETTU member Associations, will take place at 9.30 a.m., on Sunday, April 19, in the same hall as will be used for the First Session of the ITTF Congress on the
day after, and with the use of the same simultaneous translation system.

No proposals for changes in Rules or Regulations can be dealt with at this meeting, but there will be plenty of opportunity for informal discussion on various points.

European Associations are reminded in
course of the Mancunian’s lack of success both in the European League, and ‘finishe,d twelfth and last.

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those results when they are up against better opposition. This was the case when they entertained the M.O. team, M.O.’s ran out comfortable 7-3 winners despite a fine dis­play by Peter Jones in winning his two singles. Come on Vikings, sort this problem out. People want to see the youngsters back on court but they are not going to let you without a fight.

Oxford and District League
Kidlington Forum (CZE) has obtained a lead at the top of the division with maximum points from two consecutive victories over two of the division’s front runners, Kingston and Basingstoke, which gave her teammates hope. This league is being dominated by M. G. Athletic who are in fact the defending champions. It had been hoped that this kind of domination would not occur in this league. However, this term’s play seems to have no doubt contributed to the present anomaly.

Vikings “B” team always threaten to over­

run their opponents but cannot produce the results which are required to place them in the top half of the league. However, they continue to show enough confidence but should be able to build on this

Reigning world champion, Seiji Ono of

Kamizuru (GFR) (23), Pak Yong Ok (KDR) (36), Janos Takacs (HUN) (25), Lu Qiwei (CHN) (39).

Antonian (USS) (32), Claude Bergeret

with defending champions Thomas Valley Police, are currently
testing top spot.

The closure of the tour was highlighted in

an exciting match between TVP and Jesters F. The first six sets went to a third game.

decider and Trevor Smith put an end to Mary Denton’s unmerited win as they levelled the second and third games on “deuce”. The outcome of the match was an 8-2 win for Justice. This was the only match played with a close finish and the泃nes league is now on the top spot.

National Club Championships
Oxford League champions Kidlington

Forum were in charge of one of the most

Exciting matches to have been staged in the area for many years when they hosted the Slough League champions Cippenh­am. The quality, spirit and competitiveness of the table tennis produced by these two teams was a terrific advertisement for the sport. In the early stages it was Chelmsford who

Beckett won the all-important seventh set which gave her teammates hope. Peter Crab, Alison Hine and then Nigel Hughes won the remaining sets.

Helen suffers badly from a lack of confi­


dence but should be able to build on this fine personal win and the contribution she has made to the Junior II team.

The Junior first team won for the first time this season by beating Middlesex 6-1 on Feb. 7 in a re-arranged match. Despite fighting back strongly in the first set this season Richard Denbow won both his singles in fine style giving his less experienced boys a struggle. Fortunately the girls had the

The forum, however, haven’t had things easy as the positions indicate. Members of their team have suffered from injuries and ailments which have led to a number of scramble teams.

Vikings Sports Club decided to split their top players between two flights which meant many people, myself included, were disappointed by this decision as by holding their top three players in one team they would have been very strong title contender.

Witney League
Witney have a way of throwing up a close finish to the season and this one looks as close as being heading for another title defence. Three teams, Jeders X and Y together with defending champions Thanes

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X and Y and together with defending champions Thanes
Welsh Corner

H. ROY EVANS

ANTI-CLIMAX

Coming soon on the Stiga Welsh Open, the Glamorgan Open on Feb. I was perhaps something of an anti-climax, and indeed there was no significant "outside" entry. Nevertheless there was plenty of good table tennis and some surprises.

The title went to No. 2 Dave Weisman, who beat Nigel Thomas in a final which might conceivably have gone the latter's way. Nigel had done well to beat George Whiting and Mike Shearman in the doubles, and his win was worthy enough, but the latter has to eradicate unforced errors in her game if she is to succeed in the top bracket. This was Stephanie's problem hitherto, but she seems to have lightened up this aspect of her game.

Bob Bishop and Tony Healan, after a good win against top seeds Griffiths and Evans, went on to beat Jeff Morgan and Brian Jeenes, and then survived a first game loss against Gary Wilkins and Andrew Jones to take the next two and the title. Stephanie Jones was partnered with veteran Audrey Coombs-Jones in the doubles, and they hit it off to such effect in the final against Lesley Tyler and the latter has to eradicate unforced errors in her game if she is to succeed in the top bracket. This was Stephanie's problem hitherto, but she seems to have lightened up this aspect of her game.

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As expected Mark Thomas took the boys' title, with a two-straight win over Wilkins which was no reflection of the excellent play that had preceded it. Mark had survived a hard battle with Andrew Jones. As expected Mark Thomas took the boys' title, with a two-straight win over Wilkins which was no reflection of the excellent play that had preceded it. Mark had survived a hard battle with Andrew Jones.

Another North Wales win came when Sue Powell beat Susan Jones in the girls' final. Sue has been seen on many occasions, and was seldom more impressive than in the women's event. She was very much on top in her second meeting, and attacked really well for a well deserved title.

Held Cotter, playing well all day, beat Jayne Sully in the cadet girls', and the final four included those two Welsh prospects for the future. Mark Freeman won his first title when a set of great "ups and downs" brought Anthony Jones within his way.

BOYS' SINGLES FINAL: M. THOMAS bt G. Wilkins 18, 15.

GIRLS' SINGLES FINAL: POWELL bt Susan Jones 12, 16.

CONSOLATION GIRLS' SINGLES: H. COTTER bt J. Sully 18, 19, 17.

GLAMORGAN OPEN

RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES SEMI-FINALS:
WELSMAN bt Thomas 24, 16.
WEISMAN bt Thomas 24, 17.

WOMEN'S SINGLES FINAL:
STEPHANIE JONES/L. GOLDSMITH (M) bt Hardy/S. Peakman 17, 20, 16.

BOYS' SINGLES FINAL:
M. THOMAS bt G. Wilkins (Wa) 12, 19.

GIRLS' SINGLES FINAL:
FRITCHARD bt Goldsmith 11, 7.

CONSOLATION BOYS' SINGLES:
N. TYLER bt M. Freeman 16, 14.

CONSOLATION GIRLS' SINGLES:
GOLDSMITH bt J. Sully 12, 8.

HOW'S YOUR I.Q.?

by TOM MATTHEWS

President, English Schools' TTA

With a slight sense of mischief and a tongue in cheek approach, I once set a written assignment to some thirty B.A.Hons. students who were going a three year course in Games, Leisure Services and Administration. These students were in fact following at this time a ten hour introductory course to Table Tennis. The title I gave them was: "Bat and ball games, in the main, are for physical, are not, characteristics of the average or below average person.

In Table Tennis a very small light ball (38mm diameter and 2.4g in weight) has to be hit accurately and correctly with a quite small striking implement - 150mm wide, 150mm long and total weight about 6oz. This requires skill, speed and exquisite timing. Co-ordination between eye, mind and muscle has to be of the highest quality.

How easy to boast a soccer ball, the relation of which in size to a table tennis ball is like that of the sun to the earth.

There is a great variety of possible skills in bat and ball games, much more so than say rugby union which has only two - kicking, running and passing. I was almost tempted to include scrummaging as a skill, but I fear it stretches the meaning of the word too far. In Table Tennis there are at least twenty four basic strokes, each of which can be played in ten or so different ways. Such subtleties as 'middle' or defensive play with push, chop, block, reflective and deflective, and high lob retrieving have to...
noticeably lacking both in memory and flair.

Powerful and lightning memory. To choose Lawn Tennis are 'slow reward games' - sets in their schools. Practically all were seconds, from one to the other. To acquire has to be done. Table Tennis and indeed greater amount of training and learning in a team and most were sure that their mast - this kind of situation needs determination, courage and coolness - qualities hiding behind ten other colleagues, or being not staying the course. Many pupils from a remedial department play.

Are we? Fair? - Specious? - Pompous? - Elitist? I tried some research to back up or fed and insured by them. You are totally of the bright performer. Younger ones was described to me as the ten other colleagues, or being on 'A' or '0' level courses. One of the high grades in three or four 'A' levels and to conditions, but especially your opponent and your opponent of tactics is needed. You produce an instant solution if you are going to win. All players do not think very quickly - if they think at all.

So the students felt that because of these points Table Tennis is for intelligent people. One of Suffolk's organisers for many years has been Cecil Hall and I am sure all connected with the game wish him a speedy recovery from his recent illness.

CELTIC SPORTS
GWENT CLOSED
by STEPHEN GIBBS

Gary Wilkins of Abergavenny won all the events open to him at the Celtic Sports Gwent Closed at Fairwater Leisure Centre, Cwmbran on Feb. 15. Wilkins, Wales No. 3 Junior, won the Men's Singles title after three very tough sets in the quarters he met Kevin Phillips (East Valley), a player he had only once before defeated. Although he lost the second game, Wilkins won the first and third to move on to the semi and another tough set against Gwent No. 2 John Bloomer.

Bloomer won the first, narrowly, but Wilkins won the next two quite comfortably. The beaten finalist was Brian Jeanes, promoted to top seed after defending champion Andrew Evans withdrew from the event due to family illness. He fought his way to the semi-final stage sweeping aside all challengers until he met fellow Newport player Michael Norvell. Norvell took the first game easily but Jeanes fought back to win the next two: his sights set on becoming the new Gwent champion and thus justifying his No. 1 Gwent ranking.

In an absorbing final Wilkins attacked Jeanes from the outset and those who stayed on to see the final were treated to one of the most exciting and highly polished performances seen in the county for a long time. Both players threw aside all inhibitions and battled out three closely fought games. In the opening one Wilkins went into a 6-0 lead and although Jeanes tried to claw back the difference Wilkins held on to win. It was the turn of Jeanes in the second to lead the way. He made a good, positive start and held on to 16-16. From here Wilkins had the chance to win the title but Jeanes just squeezed him out to win. In the decider Wilkins again took the first but Jeanes held a comfortable lead in the early stages which Jeanes grasped. The final set was 16-16 with Wilkins serving. It was up to Jeanes

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In the Women's Singles, Brenda Annand won her third successive title. It was an unimpressive display against Janet. Helped and indeed Janet led by some distance in the first game but lost it. Janet won the second and led 13-10 in the deciding set but Brenda fought back and won 19-17. Both Linda and Alison were first round fallers in the women's singles the former 1-3 to Monika Berts (LIT) and the latter 1-3 to Caroline Antonius (US).

Round 1 of the men's and women's doubles saw the despatch of Day and Sandley 3-0 by Jacques Secretin and Patrick Birocheau (Jacques Secretin and Patrick Birocheau) had a 3-0 first round win over Cuba's Bravo and Navaro but were then seen off by Yugoslavia’s “B” (Milivoj Karakasevic and Zoran Kosanovic) by a like score.

In the men’s team event, England “A” (Paul Day and Bob Potton) had a 3-2 first round win over Cuba’s Bravo and Navaro but were then seen off by Yugoslavia’s “B” (Milivoj Karakasevic and Zoran Kosanovic) by a like score.

QUALIFYING

In the men's singles Day was beaten 3-2 by Miroslav Shenk (Cze) in the qualifying round and only Johnson, after beating Tibor Nagy (Cze), got past the first round. Potton won 3-0 over Jacques Secretin and Sandley 1-3 to Dovrat Hassanov (Bul). Johnson beat Jeann 3-0 by Kucharski whilst £1.0 was beaten 3-0 in Round 2.

Both Linda and Alison were first round fallers in the women's singles the former 1-3 to Monika Berts (LIT) and the latter 1-3 to Caroline Antonius (US).
Hellman bt Stork 5, 19, -8, 13.

Final:

Men's Doubles Semi-finals:

M. Karakasevic (YUG) bt Dvoracek

M. Stork I(GFR) bt B. Silhanova (CZE)

SURBEK bt Secretin -17, -19, 18, 9, 20.

HELLMAN/LINDBLAD bt Antonian/Popova

-15, 12.

Final:

HE,LLMAN bt Witt 10, 18, -19, 12.

Men's Singles Quart.er-finals:

Secretin bt. Grubba 19, 12, 9;

S. Bengtsson/U. Carlsson (SWE) bt Inoue!

J. Secretin bt Orlowski -19, -15. 19, 17;

Lindblad bt Antonian 12, 11.

Final:

K. Kru.ger (GFR) bt Bolvari (HUN)

K. Witt (E'NG) bt Zapievalova 16, -14, 17, 9;

D. Surbek (YUG) bt I. Solopov (USS)

Women's Singles Quarter-finals:

A. Grubba/L. Kucharski (POL) bt

Morishita (JAP) 13, 16;

Woman's Doubles semi-finals:

Hellman/Lindblad bt F. Bulatova (USS)/

Popova 18, -14, 12.

Kuterpina (GFR)/Zapievalova bt Freberg

(GFR)/Kruger 16, 15.

Final:

HELLMAN/LINDBLAD bt Kuterpina/

Zapievalova 19, 15.

Mixed Doubles Semi-finals:

Pansky/Hrachova bt Applegren/Lindblad

-14, 15, 8;

Orlova/Ultikova bt Solopov/Bulatova

13, 16.

Final:

OSLOWSKI/UHLIKova bt Pansky/

Hrachova 17, 13.

Letter to the Editor

"VALUE OUR SPORT"

One major reason why Table Tennis lacks any feeling of status and importance by the "Media" and the public is basically that it does not gain any from the majority of players themselves. We do not "Value our Sport"! Until we give Table Tennis prestige ourselves, certainly no one outside of the sport, with very limited knowledge will.

What must be done starting at the root of the problem is with the "League Clubs". Make players fight for the honour of even playing — Yes honour! Too many players get into their club team without competing at all for a position in the team and play in so many matches they do not even know the name of the opponent. If we want Table Tennis to become a "Leading Sport", with the Media and Public we must fully value Table Tennis ourselves and give it our fullest attention at every level. Do not say "I am a County Player", I am much too important to stop practising while a mere "Borough" match is in progress. Work together everyone.

HOLIDAY CAMP CHAMPIONS

Wakefield's Steven Sharpe (15), Yorkshire's No. 1 ranked boy, Claudia Oakens (14), also of Wakefield, and Andrew Gee (13) of Halifax, winners of the Butlin's "Boys and Girls of the Year" competition for 1990.

Pictured (1 to r) are: Andrew, Claudia and Steven after their presentation.

Photo by courtesy of Yorkshire Weekly Newspaper Group Ltd., Wakefield.
AVON NOTES
by Paul F. Hewitt

BATH AND BRISTOL CLOSED

The past month in Avon has been notable for the absence of County activity, the emphasis being switched to the two major league's local tournaments. The only county matches since the last notes resulted in a 9-0 hiding the Veterans received at the hands of Dorset and an 8-2 beating the Second senior team had when they entertained Cornwall at Nuslea. Winners for Avon were a singles from John Higgs, who should have got both, and a men's doubles that he shared with Clive Ellison. Bath and Bristol have had their own Closed Championships which differ both in numbers participating and method of staging being fundamentally different.

Bristol stage theirs over a weekend with the normal range of events i.e. men's and women's singles and doubles and mixed with veterans and a range of junior events to make up the programme. The Bath tournament is staged over eight days using every evening and one complete day and with the above events also have a full range of handicap tournaments to provide interest and participation for those players who would not otherwise enter.

The Bristol Tournament attracted a disappointingly low entry of less than 10% of the normal range of events. The final they accounted for Jerry Musslewhite had a completely different affair because of their format, the duration, and also because for that stayed in the same hands as last season. Baker lost his three years' hold on the Veterans' title when he lost to George Cruse. Higgs and Cruse were in opposition when partnered by John Higgs and Mike Bridgeman. The defending champions Judy Higgs and Julie Shortman, they were beaten by Shortman and Russe. Tina's third title came in the girls' singles when she beat Russe.

It was nice to see someone else get a look in, the rest of the junior results being:

Boys' U-15: M. Nicholls bt M. Coles;
Girls' U-15: Helen Perrott bt Michelle Cohen;
Boys' U-13: Collin Jackson bt Simon Brown;

At the other end of the age scale the Veterans' title went to Colin Fetham who beat Ken Watts in what was only the second 3-game set of the complete finals programme.

The Bath Championships are a completely different affair because of their format, the duration, and also because for the past two years they have been supported by commercial sponsorship, this season by over £1,100 which makes the event financially secure before it even starts. In the main events Jerry Musslewhite had a notable doubles when he won the Chronicle Cup for the third time and also took the Men's Singles for the first time. His victims in two one-sided finals were Paul Etherington and Mike Baker respectively. In contrast the Men's doubles was a close affair with the title going to Tony Brown and Chris Curl at 23-21 in the third, the unfortunate pair being Ellison and Mike Bridgeman. The women's singles was won by the unexpected Joanna Bath a first year Maths Student at the University who comes from Bournemouth and she beat off the challenge of Avon No. 3 Geraldine Sandford, Sandford had the consolation of the doubles when partnered by Linda Porter they beat defending champions Judy Higgs and Julie Cruse. Higgs and Cruse were in opposition when partnered by John Higgs and Musselewhite respectively in the Mixed final which went to the holders Higgs and Higgs after their opponents took the first.

This was the only title of the 20 completed for that stayed in the same hands as last season. Baker lost his three years' hold on the Veterans' title when he lost to George Sanders in the quarters but Sanders lost in the final to Joe Analla.

Andrew Barnes lost the first game of the Junior final but came back to beat Chris Holley in what was probably the best set on the Finals night to take the Junior title for the first time. Holley gave ample notice that in his next two years as a junior he will be there or there abouts when it comes to honours.

Other winners and runners-up were:

Junior Doubles:
Ian Holley/Andrew Barnes bt Wayne Coombes/Richard Hawker.

Lucky Pairs Doubles Handicap:
Ellison, Sanders bt Graham Chinn/Nigel Ball.

Men's Singles Handicap:
Mark Ball bt Sanders.

JOIN THE GROWING ARMY OF TABLE TENNIS FANS WHO ARE NOW SUPPORTING SEALINK UK LIMITED—EUROPE'S LARGEST CAR FERRY OPERATOR

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Think Sealink— it pays!
Your nearest Railway Station or Travel Agent has full details.

Page 11
Women's Singles Handicap: Bush bt Jo Pritchard.
Men's Doubles Handicap: W. Dave Hockney/Roger Gale bt M. Ball/Marc Cottyn.
Divisional Handicaps: (All winners)

Premier - Coombes, Div.1 - Colin Carson, Div. 2 - Mike Heigho, Div. 3 - Geoff finalists” seven were juniors currently

Trophy for the winner to keep until next receiving coaching. The winner of the fine

ment sponsored by the local branch of the league membership to enter at least

or so crowd that watched the finals night it is nice to report the continuing success of Tim Edwards in the final. Chris Holley beat there and they followed this up by a sur-

Bath Tournament attracted 50%

thoroughly enjoyed by participants, surprisingly narrow win over Gunnersbury, but

Kent just prior to their match with Seagulls. Kenyon who is ranked in the top three in the top division and the big time.

shows that Avon may be one of the youngest seems to be wasting little time in making its presence felt in the community at large.

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BOOK REVIEW

WINNING AT TABLE TENNIS with DESMOND DOUGLAS

Published by Cassell Ltd.

In a relatively short time the name of Desmond Douglas has become synonymous with Table Tennis throughout two European countries, the first Englishman to be a League of the League

In a run-of-the-mill instruction books but a sentence written in collaboration with professional journalist

Desmond emphasizes how he taught himself the rudiments of the game and developed along his own lines. He is of the

OPINION that coaching can be of great help to a beginner but criticizes several aspects of the game with a reasoning that carries authority. I was pleased however, that he did not involve himself in scandal or sensationalism. He discusses the various types of bats and rubbers and how each demands a different approach to a particular stroke. The section on materials I found especially interesting and his obser-

vations on how players seek to bend and overcome the rules most revealing. Desmond I know is not one of those players who has ever been under suspicion so I must accept he must have been mis-quoted when he states “I like the rubber to be quite hard, 2 or 2.5 millimetres thickness on the sponge” The rules actually limit the thickness of pimpled rubber on sponge (cellular rubber) to 5 millimetres!!

Although in real life Desmond is not very vocal he comes through in this book with little gems that had me nodding my head in agreement. One of his main criticisms about some of the top players concerned their obsession with flash strokes and the lack of real thought given to application. I particularly liked his advice to the young player when he states “Think for yourself and watch and learn”. How important is this.

As expected Desmond does some plain speaking about professionalism and the need for players to receive greater monetary reward. Most will agree with him but I would like to have heard his views as to where the money is coming from and the reasons why sponsors are not lining up with builging coffers. Could the uncomfortable seeing of his partner and his peculiar playing style have something to do with it?

This book is hardly illustrated although I found many of the photographs to be badly reproduced, being far too dark. How-

ever, be that as it may the publication this interesting reading and is reasonably priced at £3.95. A good buy for all those interested in the game of table tennis.

RON CHAYDEN.

Ponetoctraft

1-Star Open

OUTSTANDING DAY FOR ANDY

by Organiser R. B. Govan

This popular event was again staged at Pontefract Sports Centre, near Pontef-

fract and attracted 158 competitors for the 12 participating players of the day were Andy Bellowing, Kevin Beasley and JIL Harris.

Bellowing's performance brought him the men's singles title beating Beasley in one of the best—over finals. The losing semi-

finalists were Mark Illingsworth, last year's boys' singles winner, and Steve Water who also reached the semi of the men's doubles.

Beasley's second title came when he partnered Linda Hryszkow to win the Mixed. In the women's singles Miss Harris got the edge over Miss Hryszko to take the

boys' singles David Illingsworth, the No. 1 seed, was surprisingly beaten by the No. 10 Yorks under R. Whiteley of Harrogate, whilst the No. 2 seed Fraser McEwen of Bury went out to a very impressive G. Roberts of Doncaster. Melanie Scanlon, also of Doncaster, excelled in taking the girls' singles beating Christine Burke of Northumberland having earlier ousted Miss Sharpe.

Notable player in the female events was 16-year-old Joanna Shaw from Normanton. West Yorks, who reached the quarters in both the women's and girls' singles and knocked out last years girls' singles winner in the women's singles eventually bowing out to Miss McLean. In the women's doubles Harris/McLean powered their way to the final and easily disposed of Miss Seaton and Julie Woodcock, the No. 1 Cleveland junior, after the latter pair had surprisingly beaten No. 2 seeds Hryszkow/Shields.

RESULTS

Men's Singles Quarter-finals: K. Beasley (Y) bt T. Taylor (Ch) 13, 14; M. Illingsworth (Y) bt M. Laird (Cv) 26, 17; A. Bellowing (St) bt R. Weatherby (Ch) 16, 12.

Semi-finals: Bellingham bt Illingsworth 14, 12; Bellingham bt Wathey 6, 12.

Final: BELLOWING bt Beasley 20, 22, 17.

Women's Singles Quarter-finals: J. McLean (Y) bt J. Shaw (Y) 15, 8; G. Roberts (Y) bt F. Mann (Y) 14, 19; J. Harris (St) bt R. Brook (Y) 9, 13.

Semi-finals: Hryszkow bt McLean 18, 15; HARRIS bt Beasley 17, 17.

Final: HARRIS bt Hryszkow 17, 10, 13.

Men's Doubles Semi-finals: Beasley/R. Kosmowsky (Y) bt T. Denton (Y) /Wathey 17, 17; Bellowing/T. Isaac (St) bt N. Davies/ J. Yeats (Y) 17, 16, 22.

Final: BELLINGHAM/ KOSMOWSKY bt Bellowing/ Isaac -18, 14, 15.

Women's Doubles Semi-finals: Harris/McLean bt J. Evans/J. Evans (Y) 18, 12; M. Stephenson (Y) /Wathey (Cv) bt Hryszkow/Shields 22, 17.

Final: HARRIS/McLean bt Seaton/Woodcock 11, 13.

Mixed Doubles Semi-finals: Bellowing/Harris bt R. Priestley (Y) /Shields 12, 17; Beasley/Hryszko bt M. Stephenson/ McLean 16, 18, 12.

Final: HREDSZKOW/SHIELDS bt Bellowing/ Harris -9, 17, 17.

Bers' Singles Quarter-finals: D. Illingsworth (Y) bt J. Thatcher (Y) 9, 17; N. McMaster (Nd) bt N. Pennock (Y) 18, 18; R. Whiteley (Y) bt F. Mann (Y) 14, 14; K. Eden (La) bt G. Roberts (Y) -19, 18, 18.


Final: WHITELEY bt Illingsworth 17, 12, 10.

Girls' Singles Semi-finals: Seaton bt Sharpe 15, 14; C. Burke (Nd) bt K. Paliarmpur (Y) 12, 20.

Final: SEATON bt Burke 14, 14.

Veterans' Singles Semi-finals: R. Allison (Li) bt N. Shaw (Y) 20, 13; T. Moran (Dv) bt J. Walton (Y) 7, 15.

Final: ALLISON bt Moran 17, 17.
Some handicaps of life, which may at times of grip, and his schoolboy ambition to play which must have been extremely difficult. Even games like cricket and tennis were with an enthusiasm which knows no happy hours, but he also found himself. his balance was also affected.

One day, David picked up a table tennis bat and discovered that it was small enough for him to hold without much discomfort. A profound change took place in David’s life, but not only did he find a sport which has since given him countless happy hours, but he also found himself. With an enthusiasm which knows no bounds and a compelling desire to improve, his metamorphosis from beginner to expert was swift and sure. His 1980 achievements included winning the Yorkshire League third division title with team mates Stewart Milnes and David Hope. The same team leads Yorkshire League Division 3. In individual competition, he won the Yorkshire under 21 title and has since doubled up with Stewart Milnes.

Not content with just playing in seven leagues, David has recently found the time to captain as an national table tennis representative. He is also Dewsbury’s Yorkshire League Secretary.

This young man’s example is an inspiration to many of whom the county can be justly proud. A young man, David Hope.

Lancashire Notes

by George R. Yates

TRIPLE DEFEAT

Lancashire suffered a triple defeat on Feb. 28 in the County Championships, the first team losing 5-4 to Yorkshire at Clitheroe, the seconds defeated 7-3 by Northumberland and the Juniors 8-4 by Cleveland.

In the first team match, admirably staged before a more than average crowd by the Ribbledale League, the Red Rose wins came initially from Stephen Turner and Stephen Scoxcroft in the men’s doubles, followed by a singles victory by Turner over the dauntless junior Tony Sanford and by Donald Parker, earlier a victim of Kevin Bradbury, bringing to an end the undefeated run of Steve Mills.

Only Lancashire’s girls met with success on March 2, Jean Parker and Helen Frost had singles wins and the pair in the women’s doubles. Lancashire’s half-trio of Keith Williams, John Carney and Kevin Walsh got very little change from Chris Van Kie. Andrew Clark and Ian Robertson.

And it was mainly the girls, Jackie Myers and Caroline Hemmings, who made a fight of it on the court. When Michael Mower was the only Lancastrian boy to record a win, over J. Charn.

Preston would appear to be all set to re-capture the first division title of the Lancashire and Cheshire League they lost to Manchester last season following their 10-0 victory over Liverpool on Jan. 30.

The “whitewash” occurred at the premises of Baxi Fires at Bamber Bridge where the heat was too hot for Keith Williams, Wayne Percival and Malcolm Pu as played by Don Parker, Paul Rainford and Steve Turner. Farnworth’s Beech plot matches against Stockport, scheduled for Feb. 29, was postponed because of the Cheshire team’s involvement in the semi-final of the Norman Cook Memorial Tournament.

But, at last season, trouble was again encountered with Stockport’s late arrival at the Preston venue resulting in their disqualification and the match being awarded to Lytham.

In the other semi-final Flookeswood, with their team of former Blackpool players, beat Macdonaldfield but because of a protest lodged by Stockport, which should have been played on Feb. 27, has been postponed pending the outcome of the appeal.

Meanwhile, in the league, Farnworth have lost the services of Denis Neale following the retirement of this most capped English international. It would be churlish not to wish Denis, despite his frequent altercations with the establishment, all success in his retirement.

This young man’s example is an inspiration to many of whom the county can be justly proud. A young man, David Hope.

National Club Knock-Out Championships

Men’s competition season 1980-81

Draw for the Fourth Round and the Quarter-finals of the Men’s Competition for the Ormsby Cup:

Round 4

Closing date: 22nd March, 1981

Norther Moor (Weetwood) v Thornaby (Chesterfield) (1)

Wavertree (Liverpool) v Savoy (Fleetwood) (2)

Penmaen (Wyberton) v Shepherds ‘A’ (Chesterfield) (3)

South Yardley (Birmingham) v Phoenix (Coventry) (4)

Fellows (Ilkeston) v Dagenham Dock (Dagenham) (5)

Kidlington Forum (Oxford) v Ellenborough (North Midlands) (6)

Civil Service (Walsall) v Slaithwaite (Medway) (7)

Sainta (Exeter) v Omega (Bournemouth) (8)

Quarter-final draw

Closing date: 26th April, 1981

1 v 2 1 v 3 1 v 4 1 v 5 1 v 6 1 v 7 2 v 3 2 v 4

3rd round results

Savoy (Fleetwood) 8 Alderley (Wirral) 1

Wavertree (Liverpool) 5

Nottingham YMCA (Nottingham) 1

Penmaen (Wyberton) 5

Fenton Burscough (Lincoln) 2

St. Andrews (Derby) 0

Smith Yardley (Birmingham) 6

Grove School (Market Drayton) 1

Dagenham Dock (Dagenham) 5

Maiden (Cheshamford) 2

Chester (Cambridge) 2

Fellows (Ilkeston) (Barking) 5

Kidlington Forum (Oxford) 5

Ellenborough (North Midlands) 9

Goals Oak (Cheshunt) 5

Sheepbridge ‘A’ (Chesterfield) 5

Salthill (Wrexham) 6

Bromsgrove (Redhill) 1

Sheepbridge (Brighton) 4

Brighton (Hastings) 5

HCT (Aldershot) 1 Rainham (Kent) 8

Leighton (Poole) 0 Omega (Bournemouth) 5

Draw for the semi-finals of the Women’s Competition for the Gilbey Cup:

Semi-finals

Closing date: 23rd March, 1981

Ellenborough (North Midlands) v Chilton (Bradford) (1)

Chilton (Bradford) v Morton (Bolton) (2)

Quarter-final results

Grove School (Market Drayton) 2

Clayton Heights (Bradford) 5

Fellows (Ilkeston) (Barking) 5

Ellenborough (North Midlands) 5

Chilton (Bradford) 8

Exeter Community Centre (Exeter) 1

E.T.A. “100 CLUB”

At the reception following the finals of the Northern Union English Championships at Gillingham, a draw for the three major prizes was made. The outstanding feature was that two out of the three winners were prize winners.

£100 - Derek Tremayne

£50 - Johnny Leach

£10 - Aubrey Drapkin

Page 13
The incidence of VAT is felt by the ETTA in several ways, some of which work to our advantage. By being registered the ETTA can recover all the input tax paid on such items as telephone, printing and stationery and hospitality. On the other hand the ETTA has to collect tax from its members on all affiliation fees. This particular aspect has been under review for some time but now a decision received from Customs and Excise has confirmed that the payment of VAT on affiliation fees is quite legal and necessary. The main reason for this decision is that the payment of a fee by members to exclusive services which are not available to non-members. These include the right to play with other affiliated members, the use of exclusive fixture lists, the use of the coaching scheme and the table hire facilities and sundry other benefits. Whilst this particular aspect of VAT does not cost the ETTA anything it is a heavy burden to the member leagues who have to pay it.

Sponsors who assist the ETTA have to pay VAT on the sponsorship money but most of them are registered themselves and can therefore recover what they pay to the ETTA. In return of course the ETTA has to hand over all such tax received from the sponsors. It is the usual savings and roundabouts. It is unfortunate that those sponsors such as Insurance Companies and Banks are clasped as exempt from VAT and although this sounds to be an advantage in actual fact it means they have to pay VAT input tax but cannot recover it from output tax because, being exempt, they do not charge output tax on the cost of their services. This puts certain sponsors at a disadvantage there being a loss to the ETTA in the formation of a separate company which could be registered for VAT.

Another effect of VAT on the ETTA has only recently come to light. This is VAT on entry fees to national competitions for which no reimbursement is awarded. This tax is to be levied from the 1st Jan., 1983, and the tax on the Norwich Union English Championships has only recently been registered. The tax on overseas competitors’ hospitality has only recently been levied after the British Open and the European League. The tax on overseas competitors’ hospitality could well cost the ETTA another £4,000 and the loss of the recoverable tax on the overseas expenses, yet another £1,000. What the members pay each season in VAT on their affiliated expenses hardly bears thinking about; it must be thousands of pounds.

The plain fact is that the government has not found it necessary to levy by laws and if it was not for VAT it would be by some other method. So VAT is interpreted has an adverse effect on sport generally and it is a sad fact that sport in our country is a very poor relation.

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CLOSED (15/2/81)

RESULTS


Jeremy Duffield bt Trevor Washington 6, 18.

DUFFIELD bt Claxton -17, 17, 21.

(Jeremy holds the Junior and Senior titles)

Women’s Singles Semi-finals: Lynda Field bt Jenny Corcoran 16, 11, 19.

Mandy Myton bt Alison Westwood 20, 16.

MYTON bt Reid 14, 10.

Veteran Men’s Singles Final: JANET HUNT/BRIAN THOMPSON bt

Becher Wood -11, 19, 20.

Veteran Men’s Doubles Final: JANET HUNT/BRIAN THOMPSON bt

Becher Wood -11, 19, 20.


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IRISH AFFAIRS

by Willie Walsh

Friday, Feb. 13 certainly proved to be unlucky for Ireland, when they were extensively troubled by Norway in Athlone.

Before I write about that Friday’s disaster, let us go back to the previous Thursday night’s disaster.

The match was scheduled for Thursday night Feb. 12 in Athlone. On Wednesday night Feb. 11, two cars arrived at Dublin airport to collect the Norwegian team from the 21.05 plane and drive them the 80 miles to Athlone. Also — no sign of the Norwegians. Phone calls were made round. On Thursday morning phone calls were made and the Irish non-playing captain took up duty at Dublin Airport 11.30 with the intention of driving them to the venue. As the afternoon wore on, more panic, more phone calls. The Norwegian Vice-Captain was by now fully involved. No one could say what happened.

2 p.m. there were over 400 people in the hall in Athlone waiting to see the match. As this was the first International scheduled for Athlone, the majority of spectators had hoped to see their own ITTA Table Tennis International. 7.30 p.m. Mr. Ray O’Connell, Chairman of the ITTA addressed the masses and apologised, promising them an immediate exhibition with the Irish players and the match would take place the following night. He said they would be admitted free or they could have their money refunded and then some could not come the following night, so they had their money refunded.

9.05 p.m five happy members of the Norwegian team arrived. Their happiness soon turned to shock when it was explained to them by a frustrated Irish Non-Playing Captain that the match should have taken place on that night 80 miles away.

A rational discussion took place and it was agreed Ireland would not claim the badly needed point, the Norwegians could stay in Dublin for that night and travel to Athlone the following morning for the match on the Friday. So eventually the match took place on the Friday night before a smaller audience, though still approx. 400 people. At an enormous extra cost to the local organisers who were stuck with Hotel bookings, meals an after-match dinner, and a second fee for the hall.

The unsolved mystery at the time of going to Press is how the Norwegians thought the match was off the night, which was not, and that Ireland was sought or granted nor was Miss Nancy Evans notified.

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Page 14
KEVIN KEANE SUSPENDED
At a meeting of the General Council of the Irish TTA held on Feb. 8/81, the newspaper article attributed to an interview given by Kevin Keane was discussed.

The meeting gave its full backing to the Irish Selectors. In view of the fact that the Association's letter to Kevin Keane was not replied to, he was suspended from all International Table Tennis and tournament play in the exception of domestic league fixtures — for the remainder of the current season.

China's New Stars
by Lars Wollenlin
of Switzerland

The following four players are the big hopes of the Peoples Republic of China in the 1981 table tennis season.

Hszie Sai-ke (19)
Hszie, representing the typical Chinese table tennis, prefers the penholder. His force lies in the very quick attack from near the table. This is even more dangerous for his opponents as Hszie hits the ball immediately after the touch on the table, thus neutralizing the top-spins almost completely. Like many great champions, Hszie plays with the left hand.

Chai Yen-hua (20)
Miss Liu, a right-hand player, too, but wielding the bat the orthodox way instead of the classical way. The world famous and feared Table Tennis Association know it, however, exactly that European players have hardly the opportunity to play against players with left hand, they act very tactically: it is still the penholder-specialists whom they delegate to international tournaments and great Championships.

After all, the Chinese find themselves in an odd situation: their great champions who earn fame all around the world have hardly the choice to win any tournament in China itself. In an important National Tournament in 1980, five out of the eight players in the quarter-finals wielded the bat with the classical holding.

The coach of the Chinese female National Team, Sun Mi-yung, published recently an article in the magazine "China Sports". In this article, Mr. Sun declares that despite the undeniable advantages of the classical bat-holding, the Chinese and the Japanese are determined to keep in honour the old traditions. They will do their best to improve Asian style and Asian technique of table tennis, because one knows in the Far East, too, that World Championships and Cups are won by the players who are defensive, to a Bergman, or by the Asian penholder.

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IRISH RANKING: 7/2/81
(previous ranking in brackets)

Men
1. C. Slevis (1); 2. C. Glynn (4); 3. K. Keane (3); 4. K. Keane (3); 5. T. Caffrey (7); 6. T. Heasley (5); 7. T. Heasley (5); 8. M. Sheehan (6); 9. J. Robinson (7).

Women
1. A. Leonard (1); 2. J. Cheever (4); 3. D. Kilpatrick (3); 4. M. Sheehan (6); 5. G. Leonard (6); 6. P. Hunter (6); 7. W. Walsh (9); 8. M. Martin (9); 9. A. Kelly (10) E. Toshiyuki (10)

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TITLE REGAINED
by Malcolm Anderson
Chairman, Photographic Committee, USTTA

Dan Seemiller finally regained the US Closed Men's title, after two years of frustration. In the final, Danny easily beat Eric Boggan (who upset Dan in the final the two years ago, and beat him in the US Open Team Championships three weeks earlier) 16, 14, 13.

Semis:
D. Seemiller bt Rey Domingo 18, 8, 5;
R. Boggan bt Ricky Seemiller 19, -18, 18, 10.

Quarters:
D. Seemiller bt J. J. Lee 9, 14, 9;
Domingo bt David Bakal 9, 12, 16;
Rice Seemiller bt Attila Malek (defending champion) 9, 16, -14, -19, 15;

Upsets:
Lim Ming Chui bt Ray Guillen 15, 13, -16, 7;
Jerry Thresher bt Scott Boggan -12, 12, -16, 17;

Women's Singles Final:
He-ja Lee bt Judy Bochenski 13, 8, 17, 15.

Men's Amat.eur Singles Final:
Lee bt Kasia Dewidowicz Gaca -17, 16, 18, 11.

Mixed Doubles Final:
Lee bt Carol Davidson 19, -19, 16, 14, 16;
Green bt Sheila O'Dougherty 13, 8, 14, 18, 15.

Men's +60 Singles Final:
Dean Doyle bt Brian Masters 17, 18, 16.

Men's +40 Singles Final:
Mike Lieberman bt Brandon Olson -17, 16, 14, 16.

Women's Amat.eur Singles Final:
Patty Hodgins bt Yvonne Kronlage -17, 15, 16, 13.

Men's +70 Singles Final:
Domingo bt David Sakai 9, 12, -16, 17.

Semis:
Dian Gee bt Ai-Ju Wu 10, -19, 18, 19

Juniors' -11 Singles:
Oliver Nicholas bt C. H. McCallister -18, 20, -14, 16.

Boys' -15 Singles Final:
Tim Boggan bt Leon Ruderman 14, 17, 15.

Men's +50 Doubles Final:
Mike Lieberman and George Hendry bt Quang Bui & Attila Malek -19, 16, 17.

Girls' -13 Singles Final:
Michelle Mantel bt Michelle Mantel 19, -14, 18, 16.

Girls' -17 Singles Final:
Cheryl Dadian bt Maureen Gobeck -18, 20, 13, 16.

Men's +50 Doubles Final:
Diana Gee bt Lisa Gee -13, 14, -19, 18, 18.

Quarters:
Boggan bt Dan Banach 14, 18;

Mixed Doubles Final:
R. Seemiller/Dadian bt Bush/Hoarfrost 12, 15, 16.

Boys' +17 Singles Final:
Boggan bt Dan Banach 14, 18;

Women's +40 Singles Final:
Patty Hodgins bt Yvonne Kronlage -7, -18, 22, 19.

Men's Amateur Singles Final:
Dean Doyle bt Brian Masters 17, 18, 16.

Men's Trial (Final Round Robin of 12)
1. Danny Seemiller 9-2. Lost to Eric Boggan 19, 17 and to Ricky Seemiller -12, 19, 18.
2. Lost to Eric Boggan 19, 17 and to Mike Bush 19, -12, 19, 18.
3. Ricky Seemiller 8-3. Lost to Scott Boggan 13, 16 and to Attila Malek -18, 15, 16.
4. Scott Boggan 7-4 (17/10). Lost to Dan Seemiller 7, -18, 9; to Rey Domingo -16, 12; to Mike Bush 19, 19; and to Eric Boggan -12, 19, 18.
5. Mike Bush 7-4 (15/9). Lost to D. Seemiller 8, 17; to Rick Seemiller 9, 12; to Attila Malek -20, 19, 11; and to Quang Bui 16, 19.
6. Attila Malek 7-4 (17/12). Lost to D. Seemiller 5, 15; to Scott Boggan -18, 19, 16; to Jim Lane -17, 11, 15; and to Eric Boggan -19, 18, 16.

The US Men's Team to the 1981 World Championships is Danny and Ricky Seemiller, Eric and Scott Boggan, and Mike Bush. Reserves are Attila Malek and Jim Lane.

The US Women's Team to the 1981 World Championships is Shelia O'Dougherty, Cheryl Dadian, Carol Davidson and Faan Yeen Liu. Reserves are Alice Green and Cheryl Dadian.

CUMBRIAN MOVE
Ron Rigg, Hon. Treasurer of the Cumbria TTA and past organiser of the Cumbria Open has moved to “Mechlin”, Inkerman Terrace, Whitehaven, Cumbria CA28 TR. Phone: 0946-3739.
Lowhills Road Sports Centre, Peterlee on Feb. 1. Some new names were added to the tennis playing.

Svenson/Svenson bt Smith/Reay 17, 9; McVitie/Gelder bt Wilson/A. Reed; 12, 14.

Women's Doubles Semi-finals:

J. Smith bt S. Proctor 16, 14.

Polkinghorne bt J. Chambers -17, 20, 16.

Boys' Singles Semi-finals:

M. Polkinghorne bt N. Jobling 17, 14.

McVitie bt Blackburne 19, 16.

Final:

Jobling bt Svenson 15, 14, 17.

Boys' Doubles Semi-finals:

McVitie/Gill bt Williams/Blackburne 16, 14.

Svenson/Svenson bt Smith/Reay 15, 14.

Final:

Jobling bt Svenson 18, 14.

Girls' Singles Semi-finals:

Polkinghorne bt Gill 16, 17.

Gelder bt Polkinghorne 17, 17.

Final:

Polkinghorne bt Gill 17, 16.

Boys' Singles Semi-finals:

J. Crawford bt E. S. Pollock 17, 16.

Gelder bt Polkinghorne 15, 14.

Final:

Crawford bt Polkinghorne 17, 16.

Boys' Doubles Semi-finals:

J. Crawford bt E. S. Pollock 17, 16.

Gelder bt Polkinghorne 15, 14.

Final:

Crawford bt Polkinghorne 17, 16.
In the Premier Division of the National League Soham are now odds-on favourites after beating Ilmor, their closest rivals, 6-3 at home. This win enabled Soham to establish a two points lead with a match in hand and five to play. Two of these, however, are against bottom-of-the-table Dunlop Sports who have yet to win a point.

As expected the North London team gave their best in the F & D Shield Match with Graham Sandley and Colin Wilson having an essential role. Both came through after Paul Day and Dave Wells had beaten John Kromer and Mars Mitchell. The doubles saw Soham the lead again and this Day beat them for a second time, having previously beaten按下空格键继续输入。
position, two points up on Waldall with a considerable sets advantage. West Bromwich and Kettering, both without any points yet, are in deep trouble at the foot of the division.

Nuneaton’s prospects of replacing one of them lowered by the day’s results. The Stratford team’s form has improved steadily through the season, and their fourth consecutive win lifted them into second place, albeit temporarily. Dave Willams won his third, all two straight, and was well supported by Ron Keefe and Jim Price. Nottingham, however, regained second place when they beat Derby “B” 6-4, dropping only the last set of the evening. Derby “A” remain at the top, ending Stratford’s run with a 6-4 win. The first six sets of this match went to the distance, and the score was three-all before Derby pulled away. Brian Webster put Derby 4-3 up with a win over Bob Keefe in the tenth set, but Dave Willams was Derby’s top player winning all three. Surprisingly, Roland Hutchinson lost all three after being previously unbeaten in this division.

Cheltenham, presently only sixth in the table, should nevertheless join Derby “A” in the top flight. They have games in hand against two of the weak teams, Swindon and Coventry “B”, which they should win. Either Bob Chilvers or Cheltenham, a 6-4 win over Nottingham “B” in a see-saw match. He won three and Roy Fowler two whilst Alan Jason won two for Nottingham. Oxford “B” have had two 10-0 wins over Derby “B” and Swindon, Wally Ladmore, Alan Cooke and Roy Fowler two, whilst Boone and Alun Evans thereby lifted them into fifth place. Stroud at least have Oxford “B” have had two 10-0 wins over Derby “B” and Stroud, Wally Ladmore, Alan Cooke and Roy Fowler two, whilst Boone and Alun Evans thereby lifted them into fifth place. Stroud at least have<br/>

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Robertson taking the doubles for an ex-N. second, he somehow dramatically raised his BURKE/MOUZON bt G. Curry/J. Drapkin Boys' V-I7 Singles: D. WATSON bt D. Shaw 14, 17.

Boys' Doubles:

Fowles and Julie Hobson on their respective to win their respective events. We are grate­

teful local events in Shropshire. All retained

and went to 19-19 before Sandley eventually

and although he lost the first game against

just under 100 competitors took part in the -10, 9, 12.

and went to 19-19 before Sandley eventually

Chu was first to the table to play Johnson, and after losing the first

As expected' in local events

and these two were already holders of the

and Pickles and Tim Odams has youth and ex­

from Market Drayton.

for the second successive year. Ivan completed a 'hat-trick' of

for the second successive year. Ivan completed a 'hat-trick' of

all the favourites eventually came through to win their respective events. We are grate­

Singles:由 David Williams (Grove, Market Drayton)

top the third division. There can be little doubt the

these championships. In the National Men's Doubles, having won both the Shropshire

County Men's singles title and the Shrews­

It also completed another 'double', for he

had earlier won the Doubles title with Harlescott TCC colleague Martin Chambers.

On the other hand, the top Junior and under 16 handi­

though Coventry went on to beat Leicester

by Gerald Green

'As expected' in local events

Top-ranked players Malcolm Green (Harlescott) and Tony Smith (Priory) retained their titles at the Shrewsbury 'Closed' and the Juniors did well in Shropshire 'Individuals'. It is interesting to note that the junior singles title in the Shropshire Championships and it completed a hat-trick of county and local doubles, having won both the Shropshire County Men's singles title and the Shrews­

They would eventually lose to the eventual runners-up David Williams and Tony Smith 9, 17.

Just under 100 competitors took part in the -10, 9, 12.

and went to 19-19 before Sandley eventually

Chu was first to the table to play Johnson, and after losing the first

Just under 100 competitors took part in the -10, 9, 12.

Tony Smith bt Motto Jones 9.10.

The City of Newcastle National League team certainly made their presence felt in the men's team event at the Cleveland Open tournament on Jan. 17/18. They claimed the prestigious scalp of the Canadian national team in the first round, with Chu Van Toan beating Joe Eng 13 in the third.

The Knighton Park second Division 2 team. There can be little doubt the

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and Pickles and Tim Odams has youth and ex­

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Malcolm Green bt J. Ballard 19, 15.

Roberts 18, 13.

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HAMPShIRE NOTES
by David Cosway

NOT VERY ENCOURAGING

Not a great deal to report on as far as the county teams are concerned but what has happened is not very encouraging news. Not a lot of the younger boys in the junior teams and the Veteran 'B' team have yet to record a victory between them with two-thirds of the season over.

Since my last report the senior 'A' team have lost 3-7 to both Dorset and Sussex. Against Dorset good wins for the women from top players coupled with lack of wins by the men's doubles and 8-15 to Sussex. The 2-2 result over Suffolk was due to the 3-2 victory over the men's doubles team and the 'B' team were beaten 5-4 by Kent.

Satisified with the performance of the senior 'B' team were 4-4 against Hampshire in the second round. 'B' team were 2-2 against Dorset and 4-4 against the 'A' team. In the quarter-finals 'B' were 4-4 against Kent and 4-4 against Sussex. Against Kent 'A' were 2-2 and 'B' were 0-6. Against Sussex the score was 2-2.

The junior boys' team have continued to improve and have won all of their matches this season. The second team have lost 5-4 to Dorset and 4-4 to Sussex. The last match was 4-4 against Hampshire. The girls' team were successful against the last two, losing to Dorset 0-9 and winning 6-3 against Hampshire. The junior girls' team have continued to improve and have won all of their matches. The second team were successful against both Dorset and Hampshire. The girls' team were successful against both Dorset and Hampshire. The girls' team have continued to improve and have won all of their matches. The second team have lost 5-4 to Dorset and 4-4 to Sussex. The last match was 4-4 against Hampshire. The junior girls' team have continued to improve and have won all of their matches. The second team have lost 5-4 to Dorset and 4-4 to Sussex. The last match was 4-4 against Hampshire.
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE NOTES

by Dennis Millman

LOCAL FAILING

A shortage of tournament entries is rapidly becoming a local failing, for the County Closed proved the way, and now Northampton, Kennerley and Wellingborough have all suffered a similar decline. This can hardly be attributed to a lack of publicity, or a lack of effort on the part of the four different committees, so it would appear that the reasons are more insidious.

Does it show a lack of interest in a sport becoming more popular elsewhere? Or is the lack of security employment locally, helping to promote apathy? Or perhaps the somewhat traditional format of local events is not keeping pace, with the recently more progressive image at national and international level?

NORWICH NOTES

In the U-17 final by Chris Rayment, son of county writing however it looks as though more will be needed to keep the momentum going. Jane Nicoll did little to improve the situation, neither of her dreams Ken Nicoll was somewhat fortunate to survive his earlier matches, as he dropped Hawes fully extended him at the semi-final and the finals playing with a less than impressive partner, Keith Nicoll and Mandy Wallis were seemingly House, Epping. but with the still looked the more likely winner when leading 7-1 in the third, but Ruth finally won a set by falling away, and Ken took the first game at 15, to point in the second game to take the title for the second time, at the Junior Closed Championships, held at Neatherd High School, Dereham. Phil was No. 1 seed in the U-15 singles, and No. 2 for the U-17 event.

However, results went against the form book in all boys' singles events. In the U-16s, final by Paul Rich (Cromer), who in the Corn Exchange. This was sponsored by Paul Rich, who in the Corn Exchange. This was sponsored by the Towns of England.

Jane Nicoll is the stumbling block. Does it show a lack of interest in a sport becoming more popular elsewhere? Or is the lack of security employment locally, helping to promote apathy? Or perhaps the somewhat traditional format of local events is not keeping pace, with the recently more progressive image at national and international level?

Girls' Singles Final: Anthea Judd beat Jane Burbage and Pauline Philpot 13, 21:

Men's Singles semi-final: Ken Nicoll bt Steve West (+ 1)

National Finals:

U-13 Singles Final:

Jane Nicoll bt Glennis Hooper 10, -19, 18:

Men's Singles Semi-finals:

Nick de Kneale, Div. 2 P. Dennis, Div. 3 E. Ward, Div. 4 L. Walden, Div. 5 R. London, Div. 6 R. Male, Div. 7 W. Seager

In the Broadside Club KO, one of the best matches to date featured champions Zoch (Norwich) against Ewing, also of Norwich. The referee was D. Kiddie, Div. 1, Kiddie, Div. 2, Kiddie, Div. 3, Kiddie, Div. 4, Kiddie, Div. 5, Kiddie, Div. 6, Kiddie, Div. 7.

The tournament in fact ended without Miss Burkett being defeated, which could have gone either way.

Ironically, Miss Burkett had defeated Miss Chamberlyn in the previous round, and the match in fact ended with Miss Burkett winning over Carolyn Chamberlyn (Norwich).

In the U-15, she had a tense three games against Kings Lynn's Karen Burkett. which could have gone either way.

Jane Nicoll thus completing a successful day in the mixed, partnering Defty to victory over Ruth Hunter and Jim Parkin.

Jane had match point in the second, leading 7-1, but Ruth came back to win the second 7-1, before battling through with Ken adopting his usual flamboyant style, with Ken adopting his usual flamboyant style. with Ken adopting his usual flamboyant style.
**Second Division Handicap:**

DEREK MUGGLETON (+6) bt Andy Chester (+4) 6,10.

**Third Division Handicap:**

NEIL ROBINSON (+4) bt Debbie Kimbell (+11) 15, 20.

The Northampton Closed, held for the first time at the Kingsthorpe headquarters of the Northants County Schools' TTA, met equal, restful conditions, with the additional hazards of lack of atmosphere and dim light problems that not even that enthusiastic organiser Phil Siddall could rectify.

Fortunately the youthful Tim Forster and the even younger Adrian Moore entered the entertaining with a series of giant killing performances, with Forster putting an end to John Horne and joint No. 1 seed Romano Gallo, and the unseeded McKim going one better to despatch in quick succession, Steve Lyon, David Gallop and the other No. 1 Brian Wooding, albeit at the semi-final stage.

Meanwhile former Middlesex cricketer Keith Jones was also making progress, using a purpose built bat as replacement for the tried and trusted one he had stolen some weeks before. On his way to a semi-final meeting with Forster, Jones accounted for holder Tim Chamberlain and neither Forster, nor McKim in the final, was able to cope with his defensive expertise, and Jones ran out, an easy if unexpected winner of the Men's Singles.

A change of marital status seems to have suited Stephanie Dunkley, for as Stephanie Lines she failed at the final hurdle last year, but on this occasion she had no difficulty in taking the Women's Singles, and the stand in partnership with Wooding, who must be the most improved player in the competition.

However the Women's Doubles suited Mrs. Dunkley and partner, a strange decision not to seed the County No. 2. Justine Smith and Kelly Atkinson also made their mark.

Finally, Lyon and Dave Marsh re-established themselves as runners-up by players driving by just a touch this year. McKenzie also had a field day, for in addition to reaching the Mens final, he won the Boys Singles, the Junior Doubles with Richard Malairt, and the Divisional Singles, with the latter two, McKenzie, or for that matter, the McKenzie, never having been ineffective against such lack of experience, but that's table tennis, every now and again the giants fall down, one of them this season.

**RESULTS**

**Men's Singles:**

GRACIE MOORE bt Graeme McKim 8, 14.

**Women's Singles:**

CHRIS HANDSHAW bt Helen Cotter 8, 9.

**Mixed Doubles:**

STEVE LYON/DAVR MASH bt Brian D'Hooghe/Jones 17, 16.

**Women's Doubles:**

JOYCE PORTER/MARGARET MALTBY bt Elaine Cottier 11, 15.

**Mixed Doubles:**

BRIAN D'HOOGH/LYNNE DUNKLEY bt Helen Cotter 17, 11.

**Veterans' Singles:**

MARSH bt Ron Reed 12, 16.

**Junior Div. I:**

McKIM bt Ashley Bennett 14, 18.

**Junior Div. II:**

McKIN/RICHARD MALFAIT bt Bennett /Richard Bashford 14, 18.

**Girls' Singles:**

JOAN RICHARDS bt Angela Maskell 16, 9.

**Mixed Doubles:**

HUGH WILLIAMS/TOM SMITH bt David Gallop/Margaret Marshall 10, 14.

**Veterans' Doubles:**

SEAN LAVIN AND G . THOMAS bt Richard Gallop and Steve Lyon 13, 15.

**Ladies' Section:**

**Men's Division 1**

Ely ........................................ 4 4 0 0 54

**Women's Division 2**

Milton Keynes .................................. 3 5 2 3 54

**Men's Div. I**

Northampton ................................ 3 2 0 2 34

**Women's Div. II**

Cambridge .................................... 3 2 0 2 34

**Junior Div. 1**

Dunstable ..................................... 5 1 3 1 58

**Women's Div. I**

Northampton ................................ 3 1 1 1 47

**Junior Div. 2**

Ruton ......................................... 2 2 0 0 18

**Junior Div. 3**

Bedford ....................................... 5 1 2 3 30

**Junior Div. 4**

Petersborough ................................. 3 1 1 1 26

**LEADING POSITIONS**

**Men's Division 1**

Ely ........................................ 4 4 0 0 54

**Junior Div. I**

Milton Keynes .................................. 3 5 2 3 54

**Women's Div. II**

Cambridge .................................... 3 2 0 2 34

**Junior Div. II**

Northampton ................................ 3 2 0 2 34

**Women's Div. I**

Northampton ................................ 3 1 1 1 47

**Junior Div. 3**

Ruton ......................................... 2 2 0 0 18

**Junior Div. 4**

Bedford ....................................... 5 1 2 3 30

**NORTH WALES ROUND-UP**

by Roy Williams

**COMPLETE PICTURE**

With news from all leagues in North Wales now to hand we can at last give a complete picture of table tennis in this area and may press secretaries keep up the good work.

**Wyfe Power Station L Division 1 of the Anglesey League from St. Mary's "A" and Llangefni "A", with Holyhead "A" and B in hot pursuit. At the foot of the table Bangor F.C. look destined to drop down to Div. 2, RAF Valley, Benllech and Llangefni take your pick who could join the promotion.

**Civil Service Div. 2**

by John Woodford

In Division I of the Men's Section Ely are leading with a comfortable four points over Milton Keynes so that anything could happen in the season although I sense that Ely should retain their title. Dunstable are currently ahead of the list and although Walsingham lead bottom, they have so far only played three matches. In the Men's Div. II (Chatterton has a number of matches and has only played five matches and won them all with 48 points and when he won the division as no other team can catch them. Well done Dunstable and good hunting in Div. I next season.

In Junior Div. I Dunstable also have a very good lead of 11 points over Milton Keynes, the only team who can catch them and at this juncture Dunstable must be very happy with their position although I am sure that Milton Keynes will fight hard to catch them. Wellingborough have virtually won Junior Div. II as they have a 15 point lead over St. Neots with no matches left as, although improbable, that Cambridge, Hunts Central and Ely can catch them.

In the Ladies' Section Northampton are at the top with 10 points from two matches. Dunstable have retained their title in the Veterans' Div. I by beating Milton Keynes by two points with all other teams far behind. Northampton are at the bottom and will be relegated. Wellingborough head Div. II of the Veterans' Section with a two point lead over Milton Keynes and this is another interesting position which could go either way by the end of the season, Peter­

borough are wooden spoonists with 13 points.
The Whitbread Cotswold Junior 'Select'

PREAN SUPREME

by Leslie Smith

Carl Prean, the top seed, took the Whitbread Cotswold Junior Select tournament at the weekend of Jan. 24/25. The event, staged at Gloucester Leisure Centre on 15, tables, saw Prean reach the final of the Boys singles without the loss of a game, but Paul Rainford (Lancashire) made the No. 1 seed come from behind to take the title, 19, 16.

Prean was also successful in the Under-14's beating the unseeded Michael Thomas from Warwick in the final. Prean obviously likes the Gloucester air, for he won the U-14 and U-12 titles at last year's championships.

The top girl seed, Joy Grundy (Lancs), went out 2-straight, 15, 16 to get down Greg's young shoulders as the challenge in the Under-14's was too much for her, but he lost the last to the No. 3 seed Helen Williams (Mi) 24, 17.

Whitbread Cotswold Junior 'Select' 1-STAR OPEN

by C. B. Cashell

SPLENDID FORM

Paul Namdjou was in splendid form winning the men's singles and doubles, partnered by Masoud Zamani. The women's singles produced an exciting final with Mary Denbow winning in straight games from R. Colton. There was a large entry for the boys' singles which resulted in Gary Lambert beating Namdjou in the final.

RESULT

Men's Singles Final:
F. Namdjou (K) bt G. Lambert (Dv) 19, 19, 17.
L. Berube (Wa) bt M. Owen (Wo) 18, 12, 17.
Final:
NAMDJOU bt Berube 12, 15, 12.

Women's Singles Final:
M. Denbow (Ox) bt R. Hughes (Ox) 19, 14, 19.
K. Colson (He) bt T. Vaillis (Bl) 11, 14.
Final:
DENBOW bt Colson 14, 14.

Men's Doubles Final:
M. Franchais (Fr)/N. Mahmoudi bt M. Abbott/ S. Heath (Do) 7, 9, 17.

Women's Doubles Final:
Colomb/L. Harman (Do) bt C. Creasy (Do)/ S. Patman (Ha) 9, 15.
Final:
ABBOTT/COLMAN bt Colomb (Ox)/Denbow 16, 13.

Boys' Singles Final:
L. Berube (Wa) bt M. Owen (Wo) 18, 12, 17.
Final:
BARKER/DORKING bt Bradbury/Wilson 13, 13, 11.

Boys' Doubles Semi-finals:
A. Boxall (He)/L. Popkewitz (K) bt R. Bellinger/H. Broomhead (Y) 14, 13.
Final:
BOXALL/POPKIEWITZ bt Barker/Wickstead 17, 17.

Boys' U-12 Singles Semi-finals:
J. Stokes (Bl) bt A. Dixon (Bl) 11, 14.
A. Syed (Bl) bt G. Orm (Ox) 12, 17.
Final:
SYEDS bt Syed 16, 19.

Girls' Singles Semi-finals:
D. Scoushill (Gi) bt L. Goldsmith (Mi) 11, 19.
R. Knight (Mi) bt E. Perrett (Av) 13, 13, 9.
Final:
KNIGHT bt Scoushill 14, 18, 17.

Tunbridge Wells Junior Open

by Chris Wright

The Third Junior Open, again afforded "Playing for Fun" status by the governing body, was held at St. Dunstan's College, School on the weekend of April 19-21. The event, which started on the Friday, was closed on Sunday by representatives of Whitbread Flowers, the tournament sponsors without whose help the tournament would not be possible.

RESULTS

Boys' Singles Quarterly-finals:
C. Prean (IoW) bt A. Moore (Sy) 16, 14.
M. Oakley (Sy) bt J. Duffield (Wo) 19, 15.
P. Rainford (La) bt D. Dood (Kc) 22, 15, 12.
M. Thomas (Wa) bt F. Bradley (Bu) 22, 17.
Final:
PREAN bt Rainford 15, 15, 19.

Girls' Singles Semi-finals:
C. Prean (IoW) bt R. Pollock (Bu) 7, 8.
H. Williams (Mi) bt J. Parker (La) 20, 11.
Final:
WILLIAMS bt Pollock 15, 11, 10.

Boys' Doubles Semi-finals:
Oakley/Prean bt M. Eilbert/G. Lambert (Dv) 26, 15, 13.
Bradbury/Moore bt S. Palmer (Sx)/Rainford 9, 14, 18.
Final:
OAKLEY/Prean bt Bradbury/Moore 7, 17.

Girls' Doubles Semi-finals:
Pritchard/Williams bt M. Denbow (Ox) N. Askaridinanan (Ca) 12, 18.
Final:
Pritchard/Williams bt M. Denbow 17, 10.

GRUNDY/PARKER bt Pritchard/Williams 7, 19.

Café Boys' Singles Semi-finals:
Prean bt I. Magloughlin (La) 13, 12.
M. Thomas (Wa) bt D. Koos (Y) 12, 17, 19.
Final:
PREAN bt Thomas 10,

Café Girls' Singles Semi-finals:
L. Bellinger bt A. Barker (Op) 14, 9.
Collier bt L. Goldsmith (Mi) 17, 28.
Final:
BELLINGER bt Collier

Café Boys' Doubles Semi-finals:
J. Bradbury (Bu)/C. Wilson (Sy) bt P. Hyde/O. Thompson (Sy) 17, 17.
A. Barker/H. Dorn (Bu) bt I. Davies (Wa)/Thomas 24, 17.

BARKER/DORING bt Bradbury/Wilson 13, 13, 11.

Café Girls' Doubles Semi-finals:
C. Baker/Wickstead (Bu) bt Collier/Goldsmith 9, 21.
A. Boxall (He)/L. Popkewitz (K) bt R. Bellinger/H. Broomhead (Y) 14, 13.

Final:
BOXALL/POPKIEWITZ bt Barker/Wickstead 17, 17.

Boys' U-12 Singles Semi-finals:
J. Stokes (Bl) bt A. Dixon (Bl) 11, 14.
A. Syed (Bl) bt G. Orm (Ox) 12, 17.
Final:
SYEDS bt Syed 16, 19.

Girls' Singles Semi-finals:
D. Scoushill (Gi) bt L. Goldsmith (Mi) 11, 19.
R. Knight (Mi) bt E. Perrett (Av) 13, 13, 9.
Final:
KNIGHT bt Scoushill 14, 18, 17.

North Bournemouth 1-STAR OPEN

by C. B. Cashell

SPLENDID FORM

Paul Namdjou was in splendid form winning the men's singles and doubles, partnered by Masoud Zamani. The women's singles produced an exciting final with Mary Denbow winning in straight games from R. Colton. There was a large entry for the boys' singles which resulted in Gary Lambert beating Namdjou in the final.

RESULT

Men's Singles Semi-finals:
F. Namdjou (K) bt G. Lambert (Dv) 19, 19, 17.
L. Berube (Wa) bt M. Owen (Wo) 18, 12, 17.
Final:
NAMDJOU bt Berube 12, 15, 12.

Women's Singles Semi-finals:
M. Denbow (Ox) bt R. Hughes (Ox) 19, 14, 19.
K. Colson (He) bt T. Vaillis (Bl) 11, 14.
Final:
DENBOW bt Colson 14, 14.

Men's Doubles Final:
M. Franchais (Fr)/N. Mahmoudi bt M. Abbott/ S. Heath (Do) 7, 9, 17.

Women's Doubles Final:
Colomb/L. Harman (Do) bt C. Creasy (Do)/ S. Patman (Ha) 9, 15.
Final:
ABBOTT/COLMAN bt Colomb (Ox)/Denbow 16, 13.

Boys' Singles Final:
L. Berube (Wa) bt M. Owen (Wo) 18, 12, 17.

Girls' Singles Final:
Harman bt J. Windle (Ox) 18, 19.
The performance of Desmond Douglas in winning the men’s singles title of the Norwich Union English Championships for a third consecutive time, and fourth in all, was somewhat eclipsed statistically by Jill Hammersley who, in regaining the women’s singles title from Carole Knight chalked up a record seven successes in this event — one more than Mary (Shannon) Wright.

Nor were the appetites of these two super stars appeased for Douglas added both the men’s and mixed doubles titles in partnership with Paul Day and Linda Jarvis, whilst Mrs. Hammersley contented herself with the addition of the women’s doubles which also provided a second top award for Mrs. Jarvis.

Douglas, in the men’s doubles, celebrated his fourth success — previously with Denis Neale and one with Jimmy Walker — whilst Day registered a hat-trick all with different partners, his previous two being Andy Barden and Niccy Jarvis.

Jill and Linda have now won the women’s doubles title five times in the last six seasons, the former boasting two previous successes in 1970/71 and 1971/72 with Karenza Mathews.

Douglas and Mrs. Jarvis have won the mixed title on three occasions, the latter being also successful in 72/73 when partnered by Alan Hydes.

In this season’s championships, however, ETTA President Maurice Goldstein pays his tribute as Desmond Douglas displays the Guernsey Trophy after his third successive win — four in all — in the men’s singles event.

Played at the Black Lion Sports Centre, Gillingham, Kent, over the period Feb. 12/14, Mrs. Jarvis, in receipt of a first round bye, found defeat hard to swallow when, after losing 2-0 she was ousted by Angela Mitchell in Round 2.

Karen Witt, the other seed in the top half of the draw, also took a tumble but narrowly — 20-14 in the fifth — to Miss Knight, the defending champion and beaten finalist. But Mrs. Hammersley, without ever engaging a higher gear, swept past Helen Williams, Mandy Smith and Alison Gordon in majestic fashion as indeed did Miss Knight in her penultimate encounter with Karen Smith (nee Rogers) who had previously halted the run of Miss Mitchell.

The final lived up to all expectations with Jill a little more than hard-pressed in the men’s doubles.

In the counterpart men’s event Douglas dropped but one game — to Kenny Jackson in the quarters — in lifting the title once again and the Guernsey Trophy that went with it. His final opponent, John Hilton, had gone to five both with Dougie Johnson and Bob Potton, the latter given a show of respect at his dismissal.

Ten match points were squandered by Crimmings in this titanic struggle with Day ultimately winning, 21-15 in the fifth, only for Douglas to contemptuously sweep the Soham left-hander from the galaxy in the semi.

Graham Sandley, seeded No. 5, was ousted by Donald Parker in Rd. 3 the Lancastrian going on to defeat Mark Mitchell before falling to Potton.

Deeds of note otherwise were performed by veteran Baal Adekeyo in taking Ian Horsham to five and by Richard Jermy in beating David Barr in three, the latter with Dougie Johnson, reaching the final of the men’s doubles.

Junior national champion Carl Prean would have had no difficulty in catching the last ferry to the Isle of Wight being removed in the first round of the men’s singles by John Payne, 13 in the fifth.

Despite the top seeds in the men’s doubles, Douglas and Day, both the event by the scuff of the neck, second-seeded Hilton and Potton went out to the beaten finalists, Johnson and Barr. Crimmings and Jackson, seeded No. 3, fell to Parker and Colin Wilson, whilst Sandley and Mitchell, seeded No. 1, were removed by Mark Oakley and John Souter.

HANDS AND KNEES

But what of Day who was on his hands and knees offering up prayers after being let off the hook by Max Crimmings in the quarters when the Surrey man, 2-1 up, led 20-14 in the fourth.

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Every picture tells a story, but it was one of defeat for Carole Knight in the final of the women’s singles.

Photographed by Graham Duncan, Tooting Bee.

Photo by Graham Duncan, Tooting Bee.

ETTA President Maurice Goldstein pays his tribute as Desmond Douglas displays the Guernsey Trophy after his third successive win — four in all — in the men’s singles event.

Photo by Graham Duncan, Tooting Bee.
There were no surprises in the women's doubles, with only eight pairs answering the starter's gun, whilst the only seeds to prematurely fall in the mixed were No. 3 Sandley and Alison Gordon to Alan Fletcher and Mandy Smith.

Spectatorwise the new venue attracted no more spectators than to Woking previously and the question must now be posed as to whether it would not be in the better interests of both players and spectators to try for a central London venue.

Not that one could fault the Black Lion Centre or its willing helpful staff, under the management of Derek Sheriff. A good job was done by all, not least by John M. McDonnell, Public Relations Manager of Norwich Union Insurance Group, whose happy associationship was highlighted by a gift to the ETTA of the film “Battle of the Bats” which traces the build-up to the finals of the 34th World Championships in Birmingham and features the world’s leading players.

Tom Blunn, the ETTA Chairman, was the delighted recipient on behalf of the Association. Could it be time to be showing at the Odeon, Gilberdyke?

RESULTS

**Men's Singles Round 2:**
- D. Douglas (Wa) bt G. Lambert (Dv) 11, 18, 6
- N. Eckersley (Ch) bt A. Fletcher (Y) 15, -10, 16, -15, 16
- M. Francis (K) bt L. Smith (Mi) 9, 6, 19
- K. Jackson (E) bt J. Payne (Mi) -17, 7, 14, 17
- P. Day (Ca) bt R. Oldfield (Sx) 9, 12, 10
- N. Jarvis (Cv) bt D. Dodd (K) 11, 11, 13
- I. Horsham (E) bt J. Souter 9, -17, 14, -16, 11
- M. Crimmins (Sy) bt K. Fellows (Le) 15, 16, 21
- R. Ponton (E) bt R. Jermyn (He) 23, 18, 8
- J. Walker (Ca) bt B. Johnson (Wa) 16, 12, 20
- P. Day (Ca) bt R. Oldfield (Sx) 9, 12, 12, 13
- N. Jarvis (Cv) bt D. Dodd (K) 11, 11, 13
- I. Horsham (E) bt J. Souter 9, -17, 14, -16, 11
- M. Crimmins (Sy) bt K. Fellows (Le) 15, 16, 21
- R. Ponton (E) bt R. Jermyn (He) 23, 18, 8
- J. Walker (Ca) bt B. Johnson (Wa) 16, 12, 20

**Round 3:**
- Douglas bt Eckersley 11, 8, 6
- Jackson bt Francis 18, 16, 19
- Day bt Jarvis 9, -11, 13, 15
- Crimmins bt Horsham 16, 18,
- Potton bt Walker 17, -11, -12, 23, 21
- Parker bt Mitchell 11, 13
- Hilton bt Johnson -16, 11, 16, -18, 8

**Quarter-finals:**
- Douglas bt Jackson 19, 15, -16, 12
- Day bt Crimmins 16, -11, -12, 23, 21

**Semi-finals:**
- Douglas bt Day 6, 9, 2
- Hilton bt Potton -16, 15, -12, 16, 17

**Final:**
- DOUGLAS bt Hilton 9, 18, 12

**Women's Singles Round 3:**
- A. Mitchell (Mi) bt L. Jarvis (Sy) -18, -25, 17, 16, 14
- K. Smith (Le) bt C. Maisey (Wi) 15, -18, 17, 14
- C. Knight (Cv) bt A. Stevenson (Le) 19, 18, 14
- K. Witt (Bk) bt L. Bellinger (Bd) 15, 10, 13
- A. Gordon (Bk) bt M. Reeves (Mi) -18, 14, 7, 14
- S. Hunt (Li) bt M. Hill (Y) 19, -9, 15, 9
- M. Smith (Bk) bt S. Sandley (Mi) 17, -17, -11, 14, 15
- J. Hammersley (Bu) bt H. Williams (Mi) 19, 6, 14

**Quarter-finals:**
- Smith bt Mitchell 19, -12, 14, 18
- Gordon bt Hunt 20, 7, 10
- Hammersley bt Smith 19, 11, 7
- S. Mills (Y) bt J. Kitchener (Sk) 19, -22, 20, 13
- K. Satchell (Wi) bt J. Proffitt (He) 11, 17, -15, 9
- J. Hilton (La) bt D. Wells (Sy) 13, 19, 17

**Semi-finals:**
- Smith bt Mitchell 19, -12, 14, 18
- Gordon bt Hunt 20, 7, 10
- Hammersley bt Smith 19, 11, 7
- S. Mills (Y) bt J. Kitchener (Sk) 19, -22, 20, 13
- K. Satchell (Wi) bt J. Proffitt (He) 11, 17, -15, 9
- J. Hilton (La) bt D. Wells (Sy) 13, 19, 17

**Final:**
- DOUGLAS bt Hilton 9, 18, 12

**Men's Doubles Quarter-finals:**
- Day/Douglas bt J. Kennedy/I. Kenyon (K) w.o.
- Parker/C. Wilson (Mi) bt G. Baker/M. Oakley (Sy)/Lambert 6, 18, 19
- Barr/D. Johnson bt Hilton/Potton 14, 13

**Semi-finals:**
- Day/Douglas bt Parker/Wilson 6, 18, 19
- Barr/Jackson bt Oakley/Souter 13, 16, 19

**Final:**
- DOUGLAS bt Barr/Johnson 18, 12, 13
Women's Doubles Quarter-finals:
Hammersley/Jarvis bt Hunt/K. Smith 13, 13, 10;
Gordon/M. Smith bt S. Midgley/H. Shields (Y) 13, -15, 14, -17, 21;
Hill/Witt bt J. Heath/J. Heath (Le) w.o.;
Knight/Stevenson bt Reeves/Sandley 11, -19, 18, 12.

Semi-finals:
Hammersley/Jarvis bt Gordon/M. Smith 15, 18, 10;
Knight/Stevenson bt Hill/Witt -16, 17, 19.

Final:
HAMMERSLEY/JARVIS bt Knight/Stevenson 15, 13, -18, -19, 17.

Mixed Doubles Quarter-finals:
Douglas/Jarvis bt S. Andrew (E)/K. Smith -17, 15, 14, 13;
Day/Hill bt Jarvis/Stevenson 16, 21, 12;
Fletcher/M. Smith bt Sandley/Gordon 20, 16, -14, -17, 21;

Semi-finals:
Douglas/Jarvis bt Day/Hill 18, 19, 17;
Hilton/Hammersley bt Fletcher/Smith 5, 21, 23.

Final:

Veteran Singles Quarter-finals:
B. Adedayo (Mi) bt R. Hawkins (K) 11, 14;
R. Dixon (St) bt D. Caulder (He) 11, 13;
H. Buist (K) bt S. Battrick (E) 12, 12;
G. Chapman (Sy) bt M. Watts (Sx) 18, 9.

Semi-finals:
Adedayo bt Dixon -13, 14, 19;
Buist bt Chapman 16, 16.

Final:

Losing with a grin is the motto of Dougge Johnson.

Photo by James Dunlop, Pinner, Middx.

WINNERS IN ACTION

COVER PICTURE
ETTA Chairman Tom Blunn lends a hand in lifting aloft the women's singles trophy of the Norwich Union English Championships won, for a record seven times, by Jill Hammersley.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
Bob Oldfield, the ETTA's Development and Press Officer is now located at 6 Pitt Court, 84/88 High Street, Hurstpierpoint, East Sussex BN6 9PY. 'Phone: 0273-834774.

UNDER-13 RANKING TRIAL
The Management Committee and the Calendar Working Party have approved the running of a national under-13 ranking trial sponsored by Gillette on Sunday, 24th May, 1981, at the Meadway Sports Centre, Reading, Berks. The purpose of this, as well as giving extra competition for girls and boys of this age bracket, is to produce sufficient results for the first cadet ranking list for next season.

Regional chairmen have been requested to produce an under-13 regional ranking list, to include name, address and date of birth. by Friday, 10th April, 1981.

New regional boundaries can apply, i.e. Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire to Region 2, and only eight boys and eight girls are required.

Page 27
Although some teams were unable to travel because of overnight snowfalls, the Regional Finals of the National School Team Championships went ahead on Sunday, Feb. 22.

Worst affected by absenteeism was the Midlands & West Region event which took place at Stourd Leisure Centre. The Championships Committee decided that teams unable to travel would not automatically be eliminated and at the time of writing arrangements were being made for four play-offs to take place to determine overall winners and qualifiers for the East Region event which is due to take place at Lea Green, Matlock, on Saturday, April 4.

The Under-19 Girls’ team headed by Bella Arnold. Two years ago the Sandal team narrowly lost the Under-13 Girls’ National Final to Karen Arnold and Bridget Leggett. Now their brothers Ro-Bro (Kim Rainford) and Adrian Leggett step up for the big one.

Ron Sexton went down against Van Dyke’s Ian Doughty. What could be interpreted as a major understatement is my rare prediction that Mandsfield (Dunstable) are hot favourites to win the Girls’ U-16 title. Their team includes Lisa and Jackie Bellinger and Julie Dimmock.

The Under-13 events were twin successes for Bedfordshire teams. Putteridge (Luton) came home first. Both Brampton Manor and Putteridge defeated Malden Erleigh (Reading) 6-0. Because they drew with each other the matches against Ipswich High were the deciding factor. Putteridge went through because they had a maximum 8-0 win; Brampton Manor dropped a set. Without looking through the records I am fairly certain that this means that for the first time since the Championships began in 1961 there will be no Newham representatives in the National Finals — quite a record.

The Boys’ Under-11 was a closely contested event. The final series of matches began three times but in each case the Huddersfield side were unable to travel. However organiser Ann Durnall told me that if Leeds are faced by the standard of play in both senior events.

The North Region U-11 Girls’ event was won by Wakefield. They are lead by Alison Evans, and Kate Westley. Their Girls’ team just had the edge on Wold Junior High. Hull (Humberside)

The Boys’ Under-16 looks like being a very good competition with all three regions putting forward strongly fancied teams. Good competition with all three regions putting forward strongly fancied teams.

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England's junior champion, Joy Grundy, a Melody's Bradford teammate, Helen Shields, seed in the women's singles but she had stead, Melody Hill came through giving was no truth in the rumour that he had run t,rue to form.

TACOMA'S KECKERSLEY

Miskolc and, subsequently, when Tuckett to recover his composure, and over emphasis victory. failed to put in an appearance. But there drew when called on as n.p.c along with in the Lancashire Open champions,hips been selected for an Irish darts team.

Indeed, the final between the two stand­

BEADSLEY/ECKE'RSLEY bt Fletcher/ Dickson/Gleave 19, 21, 10, 17.

Final:

The eleventh hour withdrawal of Austra­

場合は2-Star Open

Peter Flint emerged the winner of the boys' singles in the Halton 1-Star Junior Open played at Norton Recreation Centre, Runcorn, on Feb. 21 after the No. 1 seed, Richard Whiteley, had been disqualified by Referee Mrs. Karen Tonge, for ungentle­manly conduct.

The disqualification came in semi-final when Gleave led Flint -22, 12, 18-12. Richard Whiteley, who received for Halton's first 1-Star tourna­ment.

THE TSB Surrey Closed Junior Chamionships were held recently at Elmbridge Leisure Centre, Walton-on-Thames. The two-day event was so well organized by Norman Hooper and his staff, that the finals were concluded each evening, by what may be called "a more respectable hour". Bravo!!

SATURDAY'S EVENTS

U-12 Boys' Singles Semi-finals:

Devin Rama v Simon Wilson

Richard Jones v Peter Galica
Some of the STARS of this Year's TSB SURREY JUNIOR CLOSED.

Top: KAREN & MALCOLM WILDE, LESLEY POPKIEWICZ and GRAHAM VIGOR.
Bottom: JOHN CORNELIUS, LIONEL FAURE, JANE MILLS and PETER GALICA.
Novi Sad before the World Championships

by MIHALY KOZAK
Secretary, Table Tennis Sect. of (AlPS)

The Yugoslavia is always ready to arrange major table tennis competitions, and is always looking for the best "secret" during the past ten years. Bi- or "opposing" (AlPS) competitions were staged in Zadar in 1971, and in Zagreb a year later. In

The Congress "A" competi-tions were held in Novi Sad in 1973. Novi Sad played host to the European Championships in 1974. Another "TOP 12" was arranged in Sarajevo in 1977, and the next, the sixth major competition, the 9th World Championships are due to be played at the new sports hall of Novi Sad, April 14 to 26.

I had the opportunity to spend two days in Novi Sad in the second half of January at the invitation of the Yugoslavia organizing committee. I met Mr. Danan Acimovic, director of the organizing committee, Andras Mosco, chairman of the organizing press centre, Gyula Karoly, press chief of the world championships, Slodbon Jeremic, General Secretary of the Yugoslav Table Tennis Federation, and naturally Stojan Prelo, the Yugoslav chairman of AlPS (table tennis section). Our discussions covered the ways and means of promoting the work of 400 correspondents - newsmen, radio, television and photo reporters, who are expected to attend the world event - and the possibilities of their accommodation. As a matter of course, I visited the sports hall whose construction is under way. Let me first report on the sports hall whose construction seems to lag behind. the Yugoslavs are convinced that it will be completed right on time. Hundreds of people are working round the clock on both the internal and the external construction sites, and in this they have notched up a unique the most beautiful sports establishments in the world. The building of a huge sports complex now under construction will be completed for the world championships. The two hotels have the edge extended. These two hotels have the edge, and the sports hall is expected to be one of

The final schedule of the world championships has been released. According to the organization of teams of 70 countries expected to take part will start at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, April 14. The afternoon matches will start at 3 p.m. The opening ceremony will take place from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., while the teams will resume play at 8 p.m. The competition of the men's teams for the Sweathing Cup, and of the women's teams for the Corbillon Cup will resume on April 15, and end on April 30 with the men's and women's teams finals to be played at two tables at 7 p.m.

The players will have a day of rest on Tuesday, April 21. The singles and doubles competitions will start at 5 a.m. on April 22. The finals of the mixed doubles will be staged at 9 p.m. on Saturday, April 25. The finals of the women's singles, the men's singles, and the men's doubles to be followed by the closing ceremony will start on Sunday, April 30. A number of international meetings including the entire International Table Tennis Federation will be held during the world event.

In the second half of January when I saw the sports hall at Novi Sad I wondered if it would be faster than ever before.

The team of Ian Attridge, Paul Sayer, Steve Potton, and John Haywood were invited to the world championships at the invitation of the Yugoslav organizing committee, Gyula Karoly, press chief of the world championships, Slodbon Jeremic, General Secretary of the Yugoslav Table Tennis Federation, and naturally Stojan Prelo, the Yugoslav chairman of AlPS (table tennis section). Our discussions covered the ways and means of promoting the work of 400 correspondents - newsmen, radio, television and photo reporters, who are expected to attend the world event - and the possibilities of their accommodation. As a matter of course, I visited the sports hall whose construction is under way. Let me first report on the sports hall whose construction seems to lag behind. the Yugoslavs are convinced that it will be completed right on time. Hundreds of people are working round the clock on both the internal and the external construction sites, and in this they have notched up a unique the most beautiful sports establishments in the world. The building of a huge sports complex now under construction will be completed for the world championships. The two hotels have the edge extended. These two hotels have the edge, and the sports hall is expected to be one of

As far as accommodations of the correspondents are concerned, three hotels have been arranged for the press for the duration of the games. Hotel Gomir located about 200 m from the sports hall, the main press centre, near the railway station, is making preparations for the world event. The Putnik and Voyodina are old hotels, but both have been modernized and extended during the last few months as they are renewed. modenized and extended during the last few months as they are renewed. modenized and extended during the last few months as they are renewed.

Next to the arena is another hall with 20 tables, for training sessions with a seat for 2,000 spectators. The outlines of a press centre were all I could see. As soon as my escort Gyula Karoly showed me on a design where the working tables, the booths of the radio and television reporters, the photo exchanges, the photo laboratory, and the booth of the press centre, our discussions turned to the world championships.

The announcement of the results is expected to be known even before the end of the day.

“IT may happen that the lastahrungen will be taken away during the opening ceremonies and that the sports hall will be completed, and all visitors will be welcome.”

ESSEX NOTES

by Alan Shepherd

ALIVE AND WELL

Despite the rumours that we have ceased to exist, I can confirm that the County of Essex is alive and well and trying hard to retain its title, hard won last season, as we go off to a bad start, when lacking the services of Bob Potter, we went down 3-6 to Cheshire. Victory over Staffs Lancashire and Glamorgan once again been sponsored by the local sponsoring company. But we are now struggling to get results. Obviously the changed face of the game nationally is responsible for this situation, with the financial losses of the National League and foreign contracts countering the balance of the league and the national teams.

Incidentally, among the many thousands of words which have been written by me and others on the subject of the National League, perhaps the details were those which appeared under John Woodford's by-line in the Daily Telegraph on Jan. 29th, previewing a match at Milton Keynes against the Macclesfield team, I spoke of an expected "huge" crowd of 500 as "being heard in terms of crowd support the National League is gaining support". I could hardly believe my eyes when I read that. Now I read in John's column in the March "Table Tennis" that only 50 turned up. The reason - a County match down the road.

I hope to be able to write about our second senior team and our veterans in my next contribution but would like to continue this month on the efforts of our juniors to regain their rightful place in the junior Division. The team of Ian Attridge, Paul Sayer, Steve Potton, and John Haywood were invited to the world championships at the invitation of the Yugoslav organizing committee, Gyula Karoly, press chief of the world championships, Slodbon Jeremic, General Secretary of the Yugoslav Table Tennis Federation, and naturally Stojan Prelo, the Yugoslav chairman of AlPS (table tennis section). Our discussions covered the ways and means of promoting the work of 400 correspondents - newsmen, radio, television and photo reporters, who are expected to attend the world event - and the possibilities of their accommodation. As a matter of course, I visited the sports hall whose construction is under way. Let me first report on the sports hall whose construction seems to lag behind. the Yugoslavs are convinced that it will be completed right on time. Hundreds of people are working round the clock on both the internal and the external construction sites, and in this they have notched up a unique the most beautiful sports establishments in the world. The building of a huge sports complex now under construction...
Soham have won the National League. Last year's runners-up, the club from the tiny village in Cambridgeshire sealed this year's championship with two matches to spare and emphasised their domination of the League with a conclusive 8-1 victory that sent Dunlop Sports into the Second Division. The difficulty in choosing an effective doubles combination was again apparent but, by then, nobody cared anyway. Victory was virtually assured and the next set Paul Day, whose fine captaincy has played such a vital role throughout the season, clinched The Alan Ransome Cup — for the first time in his club's history. Soham's team manager, Eric Day, was absolutely delighted "We feel great", he said. "It's been a really good team effort from all the players involved". Modestly, he refused to dwell on his son's fantastic reward of 23 wins out of 24 this season. "We've got good players right down the line. Look at Kenny Jackson. When Kenny came back from Japan he had a few disappointing results but now I think he's settled down and playing exceedingly well — he'll soon be playing for England. Then there's John Souter who's playing very well at the moment, although he has been a bit erratic, and Dave Wells — he's a class player to be at No. 4".

Thus Soham go into the Europe Club Cup in which last year's champions, Sealink Milton Keynes, had such a good run this year. "We're looking forward to Europe now" said Eric Day. "As it's only a three-man team we would normally play John with Kenny and Paul but at other times we could consider Dave or possibly Carl Prean. We hope that we can keep the same team. Kenny is going to be off to Japan again this summer, thanks to Stiga - hopefully he'll come back and play for us again next season".

Apart from the players there can be no doubt that a great deal of credit to the team's victory goes to the club's committee. Soham had no sponsor and were forced to raise a helluva lot of money by sheer hard work. A village hall as their venue, each home match meant the erection of advertising hoardings around all the walls, on which the club's financial support depended. Surely a marvellous example of the will to succeed in the top division of the National League.

Meanwhile, at Stantonbury Leisure Centre, it was the turn of Sealink Milton Keynes to receive a set-back before their Ormesby match. With Dougie Johnson rupturing a tendon in his neck the day before, the Sealink team were forced to move up a place and lose to Ormesby by five sets to four. Although the match result was already decided, the best set came right at the end — when Sealink's New Zealand signing, Barry Griffiths played a great match to defeat Ormesby's Malcolm Francis. Will he be back next year? Sealink have made it widely known that they are intending to acquire new players and release others, and the summer break is sure to bring transfer news.

Soham now drop to fourth place, behind Macleans Maidenhead and Ellensborough. Both teams had good wins on 1st March but Ellensborough must be favourites to take second place as they play Dunlop Sports at home on 29th March while Macleans visit Ormesby. Their 7-2 win over Unity included a two-match win by John Ritchie over Steven Mills but the improvement that the Sheffield boy has shown over this season has been remarkable and a success story for Unity in their first year in the Premier Division.

CURRENT LEAGUE TABLE

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<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
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<td>13</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>57</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fellows Craneleigh</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>49</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunlop Sports</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
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</table>

NEWCASTLE CONFIRMED

In Second Division North the City of Newcastle club massacred South West Durham on 1st March to seal up a victory that has always looked likely. Lead by Chin Van Quo, who has been undefeated all season, the Newcastle players have all returned excellent results: Keith Paxton, 23 wins out of 26; Ian Robertson 17 out of 22 and Andrew Clarke 12 out of 18. They have yet to learn of their opponents in the promotion play-offs but must be clear favourites to stave off the Southern challenge as the nearest the "Geordies" have come to defeat this season was against their nearest challengers, Saltford Select who gave them a close shave at the end of January with a 5-4 result.

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CASHMANS ALMOST THERE

Certainly there has been no such domination in the Second Division South! Finishing the season with a 6-3 victory over Triton Cashmans, St. Neots brought four teams level on points — with only sets differences keeping them apart. Former international Peter Taylor was instrumental in the shock defeat and his two wins over Ian Kenyon and Kevin Batchell give him the best results in the division — 19 wins out of 22 singles played.

However, Cashmans must still be the firmest bet for the divisional title. They play the lowly Prudential Ibs on Sunday. It's March and it would take a major upset for Seagulls to claw back the two sets advantage. Two - Moore brothers, Stephen and Adrian, were in superb form against Generation II and looked set to be among them in the Brighton club's 6-3 victory on 15th February.

CURRENT LEAGUE TABLE

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<tr>
<th>P</th>
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<td>Norton</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ormsby</td>
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<td>4</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prudential Ibs</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEW APPLICANTS

Although the season is drawing to a close, applications to join next season's National League are continuing to pour in to the new administrator, Keith Ponting. Some indicate definite commitments; others merely request information; but all illustrate a widespread enthusiasm for the National League's applications will be dealt with in April, but, as some of you could be in next season — in line with their present involvement in the County Championships. This season — three divisions.

PREMIER DIVISION

Salford Select 9 Billingham J. D. White 0
Ormsby II 3 Tarmac Wolverhampton 6

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Seagulls 6 Generation II 3
Prudential Ibs 3 March 6
St. Neots 6 Bristol Cashmans 3

News from the Trade

ALISON GORDON JOINS BUTTERFLY

Butterfly Table Tennis (U.K.) Ltd. are pleased to announce the signing of a contract with England's latest international star, 18-year-old ALISON GORDON of Reading.

Alison, whose selection to the England team for the forthcoming World Championships in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, has charted a steady course of accomplishment since she started playing at the age of 10, including English Schools' titles in Under-11, 13, 15 and 19 age levels, three English Junior Closed titles in her last year as a junior, and two of the all important 3-Star tournaments this season. Her first junior international was gained at the age of 14 in the European Youth Championships in France, and while still a junior she played for the England team in the Commonwealth Championships in Edinburgh.

Having been named to the England team for the forthcoming World Championships in Novi Sad, Yalgovina, has charted a steady course of accomplishment since she started playing at the age of 10, including English Schools' titles in Under-11, 13, 15 and 19 age levels, three English Junior Closed titles in her last year as a junior, and two of the all important 3-Star tournaments this season. Her first junior international was gained at the age of 14 in the European Youth Championships in France, and while still a junior she played for the England team in the Commonwealth Championships in Edinburgh.

Alison plays a modern attacking topspin game and has selected a Butterfly Powerblade with Sriver rubbers to help her performance in Novi Sad.
Arthur Graham, the Leeds United footballer, was recently presented with a Dunlop table tennis bat for winning the team’s table tennis tournament. Arthur, who defeated Eddie Gray in the final, is seen here with Alan Hydes (left), Dunlop Table Tennis Manager, and Allan Clarke, the Leeds Manager looking on.

EUROPE TOP 12
Title Retention For Jill
by George Yates

Losing only to Judit Magos of Hungary and Gordana Perkovic of Yugoslavia, Jill Hammersley of England retained her Europe Top 12 title in Miskolc, Hungary over the period Feb. 6/8, 1981 and thus completed a hat-trick of victories in this event.

Her first was in Prague, in 1978, her second last year in Munich and now, in Miskolc, with one win more than Holland’s Bettine Vriesekoop, she has made it three out of four with one more win needed to equal the record of Hungary’s Beatriz Kishazi.

In the men’s section Desmond Douglas finished sixth, losing to Dragutin Surbek, Stellan Bengtsson, Gabor Gergely, Josef Dvoracek and Jacques Secretin yet beating the winner, Tibor Klampar in three straight games in his penultimate round.

John Hilton, our other male representative, had a traumatic time in suffering ten losses beating only the Stiga Welsh champion Ulf Thorsell of Sweden who finished seventh.

Both Klampar and the defending champion, Bengtsson, finished up with 9 wins and 2 losses. Klampar to Thorsell and Douglas, and Bengtsson to Josef Dvoracek and Klampar but the Hungarian had slightly the better set analysis 27-16 to 29-19 and in the meeting between the pair, in the final round, Klampar just had the edge over Bengtsson winning 19 in the fifth!

ENGLISH RESULTS

Women
Jill Hammersley
失去了 A C. Hellman (SWE) 11, 10;
失去了 M. Lindblad (SWE) 19, 15;
失去了 J. Hilton (ENG) 19, 15, 13, 18;
失去了 G. Kegely (HUN) 12, 18, 19, 19;
失去了 J. Jonyer (ENG) 14, 15, 16, 17;
失去了 T. Klampar (HUN) 24, 25, 26, 27;
失去了 J. Secretin (FRA) 20, 21, 22, 23;
失去了 D. Douglas (ENG) 9, 10, 11, 12;
失去了 S. Bengtsson (SWE) 20, 21, 22, 23;
失去了 R. Klampar (HUN) 23, 24, 25, 26;
失去了 J. Secretin (FRA) 27, 28, 29, 30;
失去了 D. Douglas (ENG) 9, 10, 11, 12;
失去了 S. Bengtsson (SWE) 20, 21, 22, 23;
失去了 R. Klampar (HUN) 23, 24, 25, 26;
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失去了 J. Secretin (FRA) 27, 28, 29, 30;
In the Yorkshire League many of the divisions are being keenly contested for top places. Three teams have already won their divisional championship: BRADFORD (Division 1 Cadets), SHEFFIELD (Division 2 Cadets) and SHEFFIELD JUNIORS (Division 1A Juniors). Sheffield Cadets' Richard Bower, Alan Hargreaves, Sheila Aspinall and Peter Hargreaves have won each of their four matches 10-nil. The task of continuing this record will not be easy, the defending champions, Airsage and Wharfe Dale, are equal to Barnsley on points, but have dropped eleven sets of the forty played, have yet to be met, in what could be the vital match of the season.

The current leaders of the other divisions are as follows:

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COACHING

Two important coaching events have taken place recently. The first one which was organised by Dewsbury TT League's Coaching Secretary, Mr. Ray Burch, was held at Batley Sports Centre. National Coaches for the N. of England, Donald Parker Australia No. 1, Bob Tuckett and Yorkshire No. 1, Kevin Bealder, took part in an exhibition evening when about a hundred people enjoyed watching the players in competition against one another and also the demonstration of basic and advanced strokes. Part of the session was spent on questions about equipment and other aspects of the game, but the most interesting part for some of the younger members of the audience was when they were able to play short games against the experts.

The second coaching course was at Moor Green School, Leeds, where 32 of the county's top players in the under-14 years age group took part in a full day session organised by the Yorkshire and Cumbria TTA. A member of the Cumbria TTA, John Arnott, Wakefield League coaches steered the course which was given a glowing report by the future rankings. Mr. Geoff Scroon, Yorkshire TTA, who was invited to take part in the session, was impressed with the purposeful activity and will be giving his support to this type of course in the future programme.

RADIO LEEDS

A good proportion of leagues have been represented on the "Match Point" programme which is broadcast each Friday at 4.40 p.m. Three of the TT personalities who will be appearing in the near future are Alan Hydes, former England No. 1 Junior and 3 Senior who represented England at three world championships and is now a sales manager with Dunlop Sports. Alan visited China on the famous "Ping Pong Diplomacy" tour which did so much good for East-West international understanding and mutual respect. Peter Simpson, England's team manager and coach will be with us to talk about the England v Hungary Super Division clash for the European Championship and, towards the end of the season, Raymond Hinchliffe, Huddersfield's former international, who has a record eighty appearances for Yorkshire to his credit and is now doing commendable work as coach and as press secretary for the Huddersfield League.

Please remember that the programme is there to serve all Yorkshire leagues, just ring me at 0924-66420.
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

STANDARDSIZATION

As we know, it is very difficult to get a total standardization of the bat in table tennis, chiefly of the rubber. The bat's weight, size, shape or form aren't important because that's a personal preference.

The main discussions, the queries and divergences are especially about the rubber and principally concerning the rubber's characteristics, the sponge. This is the only weak point in table tennis. We must finish with those discussions for the good and beauty of the game, becoming table tennis a true sport. It's a hard polemic, I know, but it's necessary for a final and decisive definition. I hope for the best.

In my opinion, it's impossible to standardize the sponge type due to the diverse patterns in different countries. I think the easiest and most simple thing would be the standardization of the ordinary pimpled-rubber bat exclusively, with the thickness of rubber not exceeding two millimetres and with the same rubber and colour on both faces, as in lawn tennis. It's the better way and there's no other, as I think.

So, we would get 95% of standardization which would lead to more uniformity in the game and coaching would become easier. Table tennis will benefit from such a change and this is not a plot to rob the dominance of some countries or player. Far from it! Fair play!

Besides, the change will increase the value of the game and its popularity because the players will compete under same conditions, with the same rubber and quality, whereas now there are many differences in the rubber used in different countries. Sooner or later the standardization will have to come, I do hope so.

We MUST obtain that in the next Congress in Yugoslavia during the 36th World Championships, NOW!

Major JOAQUIM T. LIBANIO,
Caixa postal 135
12460 - Campos do Jordao, S.P.
BRAZIL, South America.

BUSH Championships 1981

by DEREK OLDMAN

The splendid facilities at Strathclyde University's Sports Centre provided the ideal venue for this year's Championships over the weekend of Jan. 31 - Feb. 1.

The smaller entry than usual was further depleted, especially in the Women's and Mixed events, by late withdrawals. However, the standard of play was still very high, especially as four players had previously represented Great Britain in the recent World Student Championship in Middlesbrough.

Men's Singles

With all eight seeds in attendance, it proved to be a tough competition. Although the No. 1 seed, Sanjay Kathuria (Oxford) looked comfortable in the early rounds, he was narrowly beaten by David Gannon (Lancaster) in the semi-finals. Chris Rogers (Sheffield), whose No. 2 seed was the result of his defeat by Kathuria in the final of the UAU Championship, was on top form throughout. Having beaten Kevin Edwards in the semi-final, he outplayed Gannon in the final to take the gold medal without losing a game throughout the Championship.

Women's Singles

The withdrawal of the first two seeds made the competition far more open than it might have been. Indeed, Alison Burke (London) sailed through to the final from an unseeded position. Vanessa Cruwys (Hull) justified her No. 3 seeding by easily reaching the final. In the final, Miss Cruwys just had the edge to win. But surely we will hear more of Miss Burke!

Men's Doubles

The first four seeds all played each other in the semi-finals. In a close set, the fourth seeds Edwards and Proffitt (Nottingham) beat the No. 1 seeds Kathuria and Hammett (Oxford) to reach the final. The No. 2 seeds beat Gerrard and Jarvis (Aberdeen), continuing his good form Rogers with partner Ah-Chong, gained victory over the Nottingham pair in the final.

Women's Doubles

In a small draw, Vanessa Cruwys and R. Dorman (Hull) and J. Hannah and H. Dorman (Heriot-Watt) comfortably won through to the final with the former gaining victory.

Mixed Doubles

A small entry, and withdrawal of several seeds, allowed C. Irwin and A. Burke (London) to reach the final unseeded. Rogers, partnered by J. Foy, reached his third final to complete a successful Tournament. However, they had to settle for the silver medal after losing to opponents who had played throughout with confidence and great skill.

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After defeating Steven Mills in the Final of the Men's Singles, Kenny Jackson received his cheque from Mrs. Joan Cluff, Public Relations Officer of B.P. Trading & Co., the sponsors of the Championships. Photo by Murray Corbin of Wimbledon.

**THE BRITISH PETROLEUM ESSEX 3-STAR OPEN**

Harlow Sports Centre (Feb. 21/22)

**WORRIES BANISHED**
by Alan Shepherd

With their financial worries banished at the last minute by substantial sponsorship from Fairy Godmother "B.P." the Essex Tournament Organiser Clive Oakman stage-managed a brilliantly successful event. Excellent scheduling by Referee Peter Boden meant that Sunday evening came round a perfectly prepared arena was ready, tiered seating surrounding the table, and banks of flowers producing that last touch, for the Finals Session to start promptly on time.

The Men's Singles was a benefit for Essex star Kenny Jackson, who sadly limits his team appearances to the National League, and for some reason of his own does not wish to figure in the County Championships — which he would surely grace. In the second quarter the surprising winner was group winner Ian Kenyon but he ousted the Middlesex one he had gained in December, but nobody could say he had an easy passage.

Barring his way to the quarter-final, and beaten by Kenyon were Nick Harper, Peter McQueen, David Wells and Bob Tuckett but only his Soham team-mate Wells really extended him and it was only late in the deciding game that Kenny edged home. In the second quarter the surprising winner was group winner Ian Kenyon but he ousted both seeds, namely Nicky Jarvis and John Souter so could hardly be called lucky.

Steve Mills came through the third quarter, as he was supposed to do, being No. 3 seed, but Martin Lee made him pull out all the stops in Round 4. Andy Wellman was

the other seed in this quarter, but after surviving a titanic struggle with Kevin Beasly in Rd. 3 he went out in straight games to Steve Turner. The last quarter also saw the two seeds getting through to the quarter-final, where Nigel Eckersley won a tense battle with Ian Horsman. The semi-finals and the final itself were surprises: Tame affairs, Jackson being under no apparent pressure from Kenyon, while Eckersley was baffled by the crouching, leading Mills in the second semi-final. Any thoughts of an upset in the final were quickly dispelled as Jackson went into a vast lead and came home comfortably.

Most of the drama in the Women's Singles came in the quarter-finals where Angela Jarvis and Carole Knight engaged in an absolutely heart-stopping clash of epic proportions. There was no suggestion of what was to follow as Carole won her first match to 19, and even when Angela scrapped home a bit luckily at 19 in the second, however the crowd around Table 9 seethed with excitement as Angela held match points in the third at 20-19. Carole saved these and fortunes wavered as far as 26-26. Finally Angela won a fantastic game (and the match) at 28-26! Meanwhile Helen Williams was doing herself no harm at all by ousting No. 3 seed Anita Stevenson by 23-21, 22-20 and for some reason of her own does not worry about the Finals Session to start promptly on time.

**COTSWOLD LADIES’ LEAGUE**
by George O'Brien

With the continued expansion of this league, the ladies have clearly indicated their enthusiasm for more competitive play apart from the minor role usually afforded to them in mixed teams.

In the first Division three teams are still unbeaten at the half way stage, Swindon 'A' (last season's champions) Evesham 'A' and Bath 'A'. For Swindon Tracy Watkins has dropped but one set from 12 whilst for Evesham Lynda Reid and Gill Stride have won 8 out of 8. Bath, however, have relied in the main on team consistency to gain them their two wins and three draws.

The leading places in the First Division are:

- **P W D L P**
  - Bath 'A' .......... 9 7 0 0 4
  - Evesham 'A' .......... 8 2 0 0 6
  - Bristol 'A' .......... 7 1 0 1 6
  - Swindon .......... 4 2 0 0 6
  - Worcester 'A' .......... 3 1 0 1 6

In the Second Division only Bristol (8-3-0-1-4) unbeaten with the combination of Martel Ho, Deacon, Martie Lewis providing the foundation of a team that is destined to return to the First Division...
**County Championships Round-up**

**DIVISION 2 (East)**

Suffolk 2 Cambridge 8

Cambs now strong favourites for the title. Geoff Davies starred in this match, beating both John Kittchener and Julian Hall (who each won his other set).

**DIVISION 3 (West)**

Cornwall II 9 Avon 0

This win keeps Cornwall firmly in contention for the championship. Billy Gleave two more comfortable wins for Cheshire.

**JUNIOR 2 (North)**

Tyneside 6 Cheshire 4

Mabutt and Julie Woodward each winning singles. M. Hall impressive for Middx.

**JUNIOR 3 (South)**

Cambridgeshire 2 Berkshire 8

What a shock! Cambs, with five points out of six best to the previously pointless Berks. Both counties fielded their regular teams. Geoff Waters (who always includes some interesting notes) tells me that a delight it was to watch Berks' Jimmy Stokes - a really great prospect. Susan Blackburn had a fine win over Mandy Judd. Oxon broke their duck when they visited Middx. Richard and Mary Denbow involved in four of Oxon's six wins with Richard Mabult and Julie Woodward each winning a singles. M. Hall impressive for Middx.

**JUNIOR 3 (West)**

Middlesex II 4 Oxfordshire 6

Two more comfortable wins for Cheshire.

**IN CANADA**

In Canada, for example, National Championships are run over a long weekend. The National Championships encompass the Inter-Provincial Team Championships (separate 3-player events for men and women for a total of 24 teams); plus Mixed Juniors', Women's and Mixed Doubles. Play starts on the Friday of a long weekend with two team events, and concludes on the Sunday afternoon, with the international finals. But there is no need for the country to enter the National Championships in addition to the play. The event actually gets underway on the Friday night with a reception for the players and officials, and this is followed by an opening ceremony for the national representatives. Team Managers also have a similar obligation to ensure that all rules and regulations are understood.

**AROUND THE COUNTRY**

**JUNIOR EXCHANGE WITH SWEDISH CLUB**

Solvesborgs Borstelitenklubb in Sweden wish to organise an exchange visit for a party of 15-20 juniors for purposes of training, competition, etc. Their idea is for each Sweden club to have a say in the week with the youngsters staying with families. During the exchange week the Club interested should contact Mr. Lasse Sundborg, Solvesborgs Borstelitenklubb, Box 103, 2661 Solvesborg, Sweden; telephone 452-280-00 (office) or 452-210-38 (home).