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TABLE TENNIS REVIEW

THIS ISSUE
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
REVIEWED



MADE IN N.Z.

MARATHON "NET KING" By SKELLERUP TENNIS SHOES

WITH THE SPECIAL
"NON-SLIP SOLE"
IDEAL FOR
TABLE TENNIS

MEN'S: ALL SIZES & $\frac{1}{2}$ SIZES

A Name To Remember The VILLA

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TABLE TENNIS BALL

By SPALDING

USED EXCLUSIVELY IN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

FOUR TIMES SINCE 1949

N.Z. TABLE TENNIS

VOL. I

REVIEW

No. 4

SEPTEMBER, 1959 - LAST OF FOUR ISSUES

Editorial . . .

Lethargic Administrators Endanger Tour Proposals

Attempts to promote regular fixtures between New Zealand and Australia were always made with a view to development and interest. Associations were again circularised this season and only 10 bothered to reply. Regardless of the merits of the tour, surely it is reasonable to expect all Associations to REPLY to the N.E.C. requests. This state of affairs will enhance our chances of remaining a minor sport.

It should be fairly obvious that eventually we must organise inter-Dominion games; but, of course, finance is the major obstacle. Unfortunately, Associations will not support tours by guarantee unless they are assured a profit. All attempts by the N.E.C. for raising funds by levy have been rejected by Associations, and once more we are dependent on a national raffle. What chance has Norm Ballinger (N.Z.T.T.A. Hon. Treasurer) of getting the ticket butts returned from Associations in time for the draw? Taking recent circular requests as an example, it doesn't look too good.

This issue completes the 1959 series. I would like to thank the players and administrators who have assisted in the promotion of this magazine. Financially, this magazine was not successful, mainly because of lack of promotion in Auckland and Canterbury. Next year it may be different. Next year it may not even be necessary.

Closing on a more cheerful note, best wishes to you all at tennis and cricket during the summer.

ARNOLD PERCY

By Arnold Percy

It was with much curiosity that many competitors and enthusiasts made their way to Auckland for the 1959 Nationals. After a previous debacle, the Auckland Association were on trial and they came out of it rather well. Conditions in a new hall of course make life much easier for a committee but there is still the vast organisation behind the scenes to be carried out.

The hall was such that only players and umpires were at playing level and the rest were situated in a gallery until their turn came to replace other tables. This system I found somewhat impersonal, especially as the full hall was used and therefore it became difficult to obtain strategic positions except of course for the finals.

Organisers were kept fully employed throughout the week and I hope the

players realise the grand job they did. It would be unfair to single any person out for laurels, but I consider that the three people who saw less games through being involved in tedious duties behind the scenes deserve all our thanks. The organisers at control naturally had teething troubles, especially with the shortage of umpires causing delays and also a number of long matches upsetting the time schedule. I did think that a few players who were involved in long matches were required to play too soon, but that is the penalty of a strict timetable.

I consider that the players should be allowed a rest after the third game is completed and they would all welcome this, I am sure. International rules recommend this facility and eventually it must be allowed. All in all though, we had a good tournament and I am sure the players look forward to Hawera in 1960.

JUNIOR NOTES

The standard of junior table tennis in New Zealand is just amazing. In the "Open" 13-year-old, Norma Attwood from Northland beat top seed Joan Brown and also eliminated the seeded Otago player, Pam Crowe. Jeanette Crosby from Franklin defeated the seeded Thelma May from Canterbury. Neti Davis, the brilliant Northland player, retained the "Open" X.D. title. Margaret Ross from Bay of Plenty reached the semi of this event. This talented youngster also was within one point of causing an earlier upset in the "Open" against Joan Brown.

But surely the junior results are the most interesting—John Dunn from Waikato defeated Warren Evans, the Hutt Valley youngster unbeaten in junior singles tournaments all season. Neti

Davis retained both junior singles titles. Other juniors impressed, the Bay of Plenty youngster, Salmon, who won the under-16. Kay Florence from North Tarnaki also looked good, and the young Waikato girl, J. Bridson, had a fine all-round game.

Some of these juniors have already forced their way in to their respective representative teams and many others are very close to this standard. It is a pleasure to see these youngsters in action and the Friday morning session was a shot in the arm for future table tennis. Probably coaching has played a big part in the improvement—most of the players only need greater mobility which cannot be coached. Let's hope we can keep them interested and we may have future attempts in World Championships as something to strive for.

BUSH OPEN

Good entries were received for this popular tourney. The finals were all good and John Crossley had a good game with Ron Sandilands. Wanganui women players were prominent, all four being in the L.D. final.

M.S.—Crossley beat Percy, 14, 8, 18; Sandilands beat Sim, 18, 16, 18. Final: Crossley beat Sandilands, 14, —19, 17, 18.

L.S. — Broadbent beat McNeill, 10, —19, 12, 18; Rolston beat Knowles, 11, 20, 18. Final: Rolston beat Broadbent, 3, —13, —19, 11, 10.

M.D.—Final: Walsh and Lauder beat Taylor and Sim, 14, 20, —15, 19.

L.D.—Final: Broadbent and Williams beat Haywood and Wilkinson, —11, 11, 20, 16.

X.D.—Final: Moffat and Rolston beat Lauder and McNeill.

X.D.—Final: Mercer and Purdon beat Foster and Crowe, 16, 17, 10.

NORTH SHORE OPEN

The infant North Shore Association conducted its first Open and received a first-class entry. Alan Tomlinson again defeated Bob Jackson, but it was very close—Jackson actually led 19—17 in the fifth. Neti Davis at last broke the hoodoo held over her by Barbara Packwood. Barbara did get some consolation by teaming with Jackson to beat Neti and Gary Frew, last year's National Champions. Neti won the ladies' doubles with Norma Attwood—the combined age of this pair is 28!

M.S.—Jackson beat Taylor, 13, 16, 12; Tomlinson beat Frew, 19, 17, 20. Final: Tomlinson beat Jackson, —12, 8, 19, —12, 20.

L.S.—Packwood beat Attwood, 17, 19, 14; Davis beat Jaine, 14, 16, 12. Final: Davis beat Packwood, —14, 18, 13, 17.

M.D.—Final: Jackson and Tomlinson beat Frew and Smith, 15, —19, —22, 14, 10.

L.D.—Final: Davis and Attwood beat Jaine and Biddle, 11, 18, 11.

X.D.—Final: Jackson and Packwood beat Frew and Davis, 20, 15, —19, 15.

B.S.—Final: Holyoak beat Ward, 14, 15.

G.S.—Final: Davis beat Attwood, 12, 14.

WAIRARAPA OPEN

A disappointing entry for 1959 meant that a record was created when the tournament was completed shortly after 6.30 p.m.! Many matches were interesting.

SOUTH CANTERBURY OPEN

Pat Purdon was again in top form and won three titles and John Armstrong again proved he is the leading South Island singles player by easily defeating Brian Foster.

M.S.—J. Armstrong beat R. Foster, 15, 12, 18; B. Foster beat T. Hall, 15, 20, 13. Final: Armstrong beat Foster, 10, 19, 12.

L.S.—Purdon beat May, 7, 5, 12; Crowe beat Shadbolt, —11, —20, 22, 14, 14. Final: Purdon beat Crowe, 12, 16, 8.

M.D.—Final: Foster Bros beat Sonntag and Hall, 14, —14, 16, —20, 18.

L.D.—Final: Purdon and May beat Donald and Shadbolt, 12, 20, 16.

nevertheless, and both singles finals were of a reasonably high standard.

M.S.—Crossley beat Moffat, 17, 16, 18; Roberts beat Evans, 15, 19, —18, 14. Final: Crossley beat Roberts, —15, —19, 19, 10, 10.

L.S.—Brown beat Anderson, —16, 18, 16, 11; Muirhead beat Larsen, —17, 5, —18, 16, 11. Final: Brown beat Muirhead, —22, 20, 20, 14.

M.D.—Percy and Roberts beat Crossley and Moffat, 6, —8, 19, 19.

L.D.—Anderson and Muirhead beat Brown and Christensen, 19, —19, —19, 11, 10.

X.D.—Percy and Brown beat Perry and Larsen, 15, 19.

* * *

WANGANUI OPEN

There were many surprises in this

Around The Associations

HAWKE'S BAY

Main feature of the table tennis season in Hawke's Bay so far has been the topsy turvey form of the top 8 or 9 players with no one being outstanding. It is pleasing to record a late return of form to Richard Jones, who upset his brother Bryce and the writer (seeded 4 and 1 respectively) to reach the final of the Hastings Championships. Not bad after being omitted from both Hastings and Hawke's Bay team for some years! An interesting player in the annual Hastings-Napier clash was 14-year-old Ruth Hedley, who defeated two older girls while playing for Napier Juniors. Ruth comes from Putorino, a tiny hamlet 40 miles north of Napier. Her solid two-wing attacking game has been well learnt and her form is a tribute to coach Earl Denford, who was stationed at Putorino School until recently.

Articulation has only reached Putorino in the last year or so and the table tennis

best of three tournament. Neither Joan Brown nor Val Muirhead played well in the singles, although every credit must go to the finalists who beat these players in the early rounds.

M.S.—Parsons beat Ulrich, 14, 12; Crossley beat Lauder, —18, 17, 15. Final: Crossley beat Parsons, —19, 18, 15.

L.S.—Dean beat Broadbent, 16, 8; McNeill beat Anderson, 18, —16, 14. Final: Dean beat McNeill, 16, 9.

M.D.—Lauder and Walsh beat Crossley and Parsons, 17, 15.

L.D.—Broadbent and Rolston beat Baldwin and Blincoe, 14, 19.

X.D. — Parsons and Bamford beat Percy and Brown, 19, —18, 19.

B.S.—Yeates beat Gillbanks, 18, —20, 18.

club used to run a lead from the hotel across the street to the clubrooms on club nights, a job which would probably reduce a city club membership to a low ebb in a very short time.

Hastings and Napier Sub-Associations have finally agreed on something. Yes, both Sub-Associations have decided that they would be better off on their own and meetings are to be held in each town to decide if it is worth splitting in similar fashion to Taranaki. Most common reason advanced for this change is that membership has increased in the Bay and administration problems would be eased.

—Paul Bargh

* * *

ROTORUA

Our apologies to any players inconvenienced by the hurried cancellation of

the open championships. This year the executive has been tied up with inter-club matches, inter-association fixtures, and the fostering of sub-association activities. The big step taken last year in organising the inter-club matches under one roof, with 16 tables, caused a shock to the financial system, and after one and three-quarter seasons of smooth running, the executive is almost in a position to sit back and reap the benefits. The steady hand behind operations for this crucial stage has been Buster Morey, who has managed to "sandwich" in a few games in the process.

The inter-association match for the Sutton Shield has kept the senior players busy, and although they were outplayed by Franklin and Waikato, the results were interesting. Particularly that of the Waikato match. Waikato scored a complete sweep, and no doubt the picture is clearly explained under their heading. However, we would point out that what our team lacked in table tennis strength was more than compensated for in navigational ability. This year the match was played on Waikato territory, and the Rotorua players excelled themselves in locating the hall some time before the opposition found it. (For the uninitiated Wiltsdown—the venue—is a saw-milling area in the heart of South Waikato. Population: 30?)

With a keen band of followers in Taupo, the sub-association has progressed rapidly this season to the extent that they now have their own championships. Although it is generally accepted that the female of the species is gifted in the vocabulary field, two players—one from Taupo and one from Rotorua—have proved that table tennis can be drawn out to great lengths. In a fairly stiff match these players plugged away until a net ball finally clinched the score at 38—36. Maybe it is not a record, but it does show concentration! The feat can also be matched by one which showed the equal distribution of strength in an inter-club fixture. The match was drawn 8—8, and the four players from each team all left with two matches to his credit. A drawn draw in fact!

—R. Arnerich

WARNING TO PLAYERS

The recent N.E.C. decision to allow the Wilson sandwich bat (which is more than the legal 4mm. thickness) to be used until January 1, 1960, is most astounding. This decision was not unanimous. If these bats are purchased, they can only be **legally** used during 1959. It is difficult to understand why the N.E.C. condoned this illegal bat in view of the decision of the A.G.M. to introduce standardisation immediately the official wording was received from the I.T.T.F. All players are warned.

POSTSCRIPTS

Brian Neal was critical of the poor entry received from Wellington and Hutt Valley for the South Island Championships.

Jennifer Sara, a most intelligent young player, was not greatly impressed with the Junior Coaching School. From the statements Jennifer made. I am quite sure she had fair cause for comment if not complaint. When some of the difficulties experienced in group coaching were explained, Miss Sara was more appreciative of the need for individual coaching.

Sorry to report that many players still use illegal services. The only possible way to rectify this state of affairs is a "get tough" policy by official umpires. I have seen well-known representative players at fault—the cupped hand is the most popular (?), then the balancing of the ball on the fingers. General opinion expressed by players is that they get no advantage from their illegal serve; but the crux of the matter is that the same players **may not be able to serve** if umpires insist that the actual rule be applied. Surely if some players are willing to ensure their service is legal, they should be rewarded by a point each time their opponents offend when serving.

NATIONAL NOTES

What a great opportunity we had to discuss affairs from the players' view during the week in Auckland. Discussing the new method of inter-association play with a cross section, I found only a small minority who were not impressed. A few of these folk considered it too tough. Those who were satisfied, probably were not involved in hectic struggles and therefore it would not be correct to assume that the new system is the best. Discussing the possibility of cutting out one of the doubles, I found most players quite interested, but when one considers that Hutt Valley did not bother playing one doubles against Waikato and also when Auckland had won seven against Hutt Valley the game finished at 7—3 it would appear that the leading associations would prefer adopting the overseas method in Swaythling Cup matches whereby as soon as a team had obtained an unassailable lead the match is finished.

The Franklin defender, Len Rau, was most impressive in Auckland. To beat Jackson and Dunn in one season is no mean feat.

The old Hawke's Bay difficulties between Napier and Hastings may soon be overcome by the formation of Northern and Southern separate associations.

No doubt the Barna Cup always keeps its special place in the presentation ceremony. Wonder if the officials really know that it's the one outlet for humour at the Nationals.

Dave Christie from Hawke's Bay relieved Frank Paton of the veterans' trophy. He received a great hand from the crowd.

Women's events used to be fairly easy to pick but surely the winners of the ladies' doubles were not even considered when the tourney commenced. This was their first win in open company.

wonderful counter hitting rallies plus the few human errors which give the game character. Alan made no mistake and proved in the fourth that he could beat Murray in this type of game. This was a crowd pleaser. The other semi-final did not produce the fireworks, but Frew extended Jackson in four. Garry appeared to do better when using a flat type defence, but as usual Bob eventually regained control. So to the big final, both Aucklanders and old rivals. Both felt their way in the early stages then gradually the pace quickened and Tomlinson gained control. Jackson tried to change the pattern of the game but Tomlinson after a short while adjusted his game to suit, regained his four-point lead then went away to the most easy victory in the first. Back came Jackson in the second and the crowd looked for some of the old magic, but he lost his early small lead and Tomlinson levelled. In a chiselling session, Jackson again hit the front and led 14—11 to eventually win by some tactical pushing. The game was close and at 19—18 Jackson got an unplayable edge ball. Tomlinson regained his hitting confidence and went into a 7—1 lead in the third, then Jackson went from 5—10 to 11—10, with superior chiselling. Tomlinson seemed loath to open up the game and Jackson appeared happy with this state of affairs. Jackson led 18—15 then Tomlinson took six points in a row to lead 2—1. At this stage some of the crowd were so bored with the monotonous chiselling that they left the hall. Off we went to the dreary fourth game and at this stage, the only reason the deathly silent crowd wanted Tomlinson to win was to enable everyone to attend the social side of the game. Jackson has probably seldom played so badly, and Tomlinson quite rightly played safe shots rather than spectacular hitting. Tomlinson led 20—14 and the end was in sight—a long reign over, a new reign begun. Alan Tomlinson a worthy New Zealand Champion.

were somewhat alerted for shocks but they really came early, and what shocks they were! Out went the 2nd seed, Barbara Packwood, in the third round to Marion Choy, the Hutt Valley player. Out also went Pam Crowe to the 13-year-old Norma Attwood. The fourth round became historic with the elimination of the complete Auckland contingent and also Marion Choy, who lost to Wellington's Val White. The much-fancied Neti Davis was blasted off in three by Mary Anderson of Hutt Valley. Thelma May went down to Jeanette Crosby, Pam Dean to Norma Attwood, and Joan Brown just scraped in at one stage being 2—1 down and 20—12 down in the fourth. The last eight consisted of five unseeded players. Then came more shocks—the brilliant junior Attwood had an excellent tactical victory over Joan Brown. Mary Anderson "king hit" the junior Crosby off the table. Pat Purdon was too good for Val Muirhead, and Merle Rolston recovered after being two down to win comfortably in the fifth against Val White.

In the semi-finals, the popular youngster Attwood, although receiving almost 100 per cent. of the crowd's favour, could not match the quick hitting by Mary Anderson, and in the other match Pat Purdon was just too steady for Rolston. Both matches were won in three. As neither player in the final had previously won a National singles title there was great speculation who would triumph. It was obvious that Anderson would force the pace, and from the first service she looked for the attack but Purdon was quick to counter hit when possible. Anderson was then forced to defend but could not keep Purdon out in short quick rallies. Purdon never was headed and won this game. The second game saw Anderson take an early lead with crisp forehand hitting. Purdon appeared to have difficulty with Anderson's service and was down 15—5, eventually losing 21—10. Purdon reversed this procedure in the third and actually led 12—0, Anderson making numerous simple errors and Purdon playing brilliantly won easily 21—5. Early in the fourth Purdon led 5—0, but Anderson hit back and levelled at 12—all, then Purdon regained control and won very easily 21—13.

N.Z. CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEN'S SINGLES

First seed to go out was Neville Brightwell, who went down to a player with a most suspect service. The player in question was Noel Larsen, who just missed the Auckland side and plays a fine all-round game. In all fairness, Larsen was not the only player who was allowed to capitalise on illegal serving. Another Auckland, Dave Grace, downed Ron Foster with some of the best nets and edges one could wish for. The Auckland boys both went down in the next round (the fifth), Larsen to Gary Smith and Grace to Trevor Flint. Ray Mercer also defeated the seeded Gary Roselli in this round. In the quarter-finals we saw that brilliant unpredictable Gary Smith smile, frown, laugh and hit, chisel, half volley and chop against a

much more cheerful Jackson than normally seen at National Championships. Naturally the crowd liked what they saw and gave Smith a great hand when he won one game. The maestro, Jackson, however, was too good.

Garry Frew proved the seedings incorrect by simply thrashing Southerner Brian Foster. Murray Dunn almost gave his supporters heart failure when two down to Southern warhorse Trevor Flint, but Murray came out of his shell and was playing more consistently in the next three. Alan Tomlinson proved too good for Ray Mercer, and so we came to the semi-finals. Murray or Alan, that was the question. After the North Island I personally fancied Allan to win but thought it could be close. What a match these chaps turned on—

LADIES' SINGLES

After the surprise results of the Inter-Association teams' contest, enthusiasts

MEN'S DOUBLES

The men's doubles went much according to form until the quarters, when both South Island seeded pairs went out. The Foster brothers lost to Aucklanders Thompson and Wilkinson, and Brightwell and Flint to the popular pair, Gavin Shewan and Garry Smith. In the semi's, however, the "old firm" were too good, but Shewan and Smith turned on a pleasing exhibition against Jackson and Tomlinson. Frew and Dunn, who won in three, appeared to lack concentration and a more experienced pair than Thompson and Wilkinson would probably have capitalised on this. In the final there was much preliminary sparring, the first game being very uninteresting and going to Jackson and Tomlinson. Some big hitting by Garry Frew in the second levelled at one game all. The third did not produce any early fireworks, Jackson appearing rather lethargic but later some good tactical play relieved the monotony although it was not brilliant to watch. Jackson and Tomlinson eventually won fairly comfortably to lead 2—1. In the fourth, Jackson and Tomlinson took an early lead and won very easily.

LADIES' DOUBLES

The second-round defeat of the

Southern pair, May and Donald, by Bamford and Broadbent was the first surprise, but they only lasted until the third round and were beaten by Anderson and White. In the semi-finals both the first and second seeds were eliminated—Anderson and White beat Dean and Purdon after losing the first two. Muirhead and Brown defeated Packwood and Rolston in four, rather a good win and possibly unexpected.

In the final the first game went to Anderson and White, 21—13, and the second to Muirhead and Brown by a similar score. At a crucial stage in the third Joan Brown lost touch and with Mary Anderson hitting brilliantly the game went to Anderson and White. During the early stages in the fourth, Val Muirhead lost confidence with her forehand and at this stage Val White came on top form with good forehand driving. With a 20—15 lead Anderson and White looked fairly safe, but the Hutt Valley pair came back and after some good rallies were at 19—20 before Joan Brown lost the last point in a grand final. This reversed all earlier meetings of these pairs.

MIXED DOUBLES

The mixed doubles field appeared extremely strong and, as could be expected,

there were plenty of upsets. Nevertheless, three of the four seeds got through to the quarter-finals and the other pair unfortunately had to withdraw due to Val Braumann being ill. Top seeds Frew and Davis had a reasonable workout against Tomlinson and Ross in the semi-final, but the other pairs went out in the quarters and semi. Dunn and Brown went to the unseeded Gary Smith and Pat Purdon, who also defeated second seeds Jackson and Packwood in the five-game semi. From the start of the first game in the final it was obvious that the rallies would be short and it was pitiful to witness. Frew and Davis got home easily 21—13. With the order reversed, Smith took command and with Purdon playing extremely steadily they won the second. Purdon had much more confidence when facing Frew when the order was rechanged and with Neti Davis playing poorly, the unseeded pair took an early lead. Neti then came back and eliminated the errors and the Northland pair caught up. Play again deteriorated and eventually Frew and Davis won to lead 2—1. The fourth game was similar to the second and won by Smith and Purdon. Playing against the reversed order Smith and Purdon actually led at ends but naturally changed for Smith to receive Frew. However, Frew and Davis levelled at 18—all after a three-point deficit then took the next three points to retain their title.

NATIONAL RESULTS

Men's Singles

Jackson beat Sim, 8, 16, 17.
Smith beat Larsen, 9, 17, 18.
Frew beat Rau, 11, 12, 11.
Foster beat Smith, 13, 15, 18.
Dunn beat McPhee, 8, 9, 16.
Flint beat Grace, —20, 12, 14, 15.
Mercer beat Roselli, —10, 10, 15, 13.
Tomlinson beat Taylor, 14, 17, —20, 18.

Quarter-finals

Jackson, 11, 16, —15.
Frew, 11, 13, 11.
Dunn, —14, —18, 16, 10, 14.
Tomlinson, 13, 14, 15.

Semi-finals

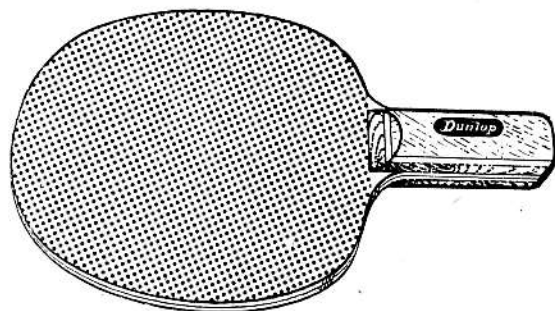
Jackson, 16, 10, —13, 18.
Tomlinson, 16, —16, 18, 18.

Final

TOMLINSON, 18, —18, 18, 15.

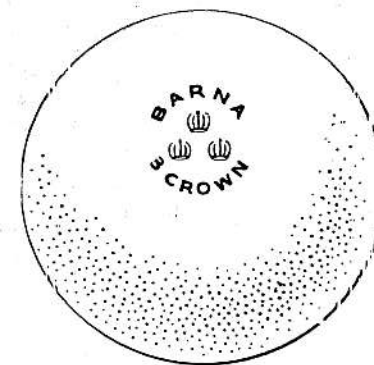
Ladies' Singles, Third Round

Brown beat Ross, —12, —17, 19, 21, 12.



THE PERFECT PAIR

DUNLOP - BARNA BAT & BALL



Attwood beat Dean, 14, 14, 9.
 Crosby beat May, 13, 21, 10.
 Anderson beat Davis, 14, 18, 22.
 Purdon beat Broadbent, —17, 13, 10,
 —12, 15.
 Muirhead beat Florence, 17, 20, 10.
 Rolston beat Donald, 19, 17, 16.
 White beat Choy, 13, 12, 22.

Quarter-finals

Attwood, 10, 19, —15, 19.
 Anderson, 16, 18, 10.
 Purdon, 13, 18, 19.
 Rolston, —15, —12, 13, 10, 16.

Semi-finals

Purdon, 16, 18, 19.
 Anderson, 15, 17, 20.

Final

PURDON, 17, —10, 5, 13.

Men's Doubles.—Quarter-finals: Jackson and Tomlinson beat McPhee and Walsh, 13, 20, 19; Shewan and Smith beat Brightwell and Flint, 22, —17, —19, 16, 18; Thompson and Wilkinson beat Foster and Foster, 20, —15, —18, 16, 15; Frew and Dunn beat Dougal and Mercer, 16, —13, 20, 13.

Semi-finals: Jackson and Tomlinson, 15, 15, —19, 19; Frew and Dunn, 19, 19, 15.

Final: Jackson and Tomlinson, 21, —17, 16, 12.

Ladies' Doubles.—Quarter-finals: Dean and Purdon beat Biddle and Jaine, —19, 10, 18, 12; Anderson and White beat Bamford and Broadbent, 17, 16, 18; Brown and Muirhead beat Bridson and Larsen, 19, 24, 19; Packwood and Rolston beat Crosby and Ross, 14, —14, —18, 19, 19.

Semi-finals: Anderson and White, —18, —19, 15, 16, 16; Brown and Muirhead, 13, 11, —20, 16.

Final: Anderson and White, 13, —13, 15, 19.

Mixed Doubles.—Quarter-finals: Frew and Davis beat Jaine and Jaine, 13, 16, 10; Tomlinson and Ross beat Parsons

and Bamford, 19, 10, 16; Smith and Purdon beat Dunn and Brown, 18, 18, —18, 18; Jackson and Packwood beat Roselli and Dean, 17, 14, 8.

Semi-finals: Frew and Davis, —19, 18, 8, 19; Smith and Purdon, —19, 17, 16, —16, 14.

Final: Frew and Davis, 13, —15, 18, —17, 18.

M.P.—Shewan beat Collett, —16, 19, 15.

L.B.—Hawkins beat Orchan, —15, 17, 12.

JUNIORS

Boys' Singles (under 18).—J. L. Dunn beat W. N. Evans, 17, 20.

Boys' Singles (under 16).—P. C. Salmon beat B. Gillbanks, 11, 15.

Girls' Singles (under 18).—N. Davis beat C. Johnson, 12, 16.

Girls' Singles (under 16).—N. Davis beat M. Ross, 17, 15.

Dress

Without doubt, it is pleasant to see uniformity in dress, and most players have made an effort to wear a club shirt and monogram (according to official reports). Pity many folk spoil this effect by wearing various types of sweaters, etc., over the shirts during cold weather. Could be an opening for some bright type to design a standard sweater or cardigan which could be worn over the shirt. It appears that the colours used are limited, and, providing the garment was domed for the monogram, they should sell prolifically.

KEAN SHIELD — SECTION PLAY

Section 1

Easily won by the holders—Auckland, who dropped only one against Wanganui.

Section 2

Main contenders, Otago and Hutt Valley, fought out this section, Otago getting home 8—4. For the winners, Jim Dougal was unbeaten; and best shock performance was Walsh's win over Brian Foster.

Section 3

This was a most interesting section with North Shore, Southland and Waikato all having possibilities. Waikato were perhaps fortunate to play North Shore, who had Algie "on the bank" although their 8—4 win was convincing.

Section 4

The strong Canterbury side only met with token opposition from Northland in their section. Actually only Gary Frew did any damage and it was in the shape of three good wins.

Section 5

Easy work for Wellington in this section, but Rau, the Franklin defender, beat both Dunn and Roselli.

Section Play Off

Otago scraped home against Waikato but only by 6—all and 15—13. Dougal again was unbeaten, but Brian Foster lost to Ivan Houghton.

AUCKLAND v. OTAGO

Semi-finals

Auckland won very easily, 10—2.

WELLINGTON v. CANTERBURY

Wellington were well on top and won 8—4.

Final

The Auckland men proved just how poorly the Wellington team are playing. A 12—0 victory in the final is sensational and this time it was well merited. Nationally ranked players played each other and some of it was good to observe. Perhaps the Tomlinson-Dunn match was the highlight, but much credit is due to Wilkinson (who plays a rather ungainly type of game) for his good wins.

TEAGLE SHIELD

Section 1

1958 winners, Canterbury, had no difficulty in winning this section.

Section 2

A problem section on paper, with Wellington, Northland, Wanganui and Otago all appearing to have a chance. The young Northlanders proved too strong for their more experienced rivals. The section also produced some shock results—Pam Crowe beat Neti Davis, Mary Broadbent beat Pam Dean, who beat Pam Crowe, who also lost to Cynthia Gifford Moore, just to name a few!

Section 3

Hutt Valley made heavy going of this section, with two ranked players, Joan Brown and Val Muirhead, plus Mary Anderson, a very good number-three player, all slightly below form. Waikato only lost 7—5 in a match long drawn out and very bad for the nerves of both players and spectators.

Section 4

Easy work for Auckland in this section.

Semi-finals

Auckland thrashed Hutt Valley and with the score at 7—3 the match was abandoned. This was no doubt due to the lateness of the session but it was hardly fair to the other semi-finalists. Kay Jaine had a good game and hit Joan Brown off.

Canterbury defeated Northland 8—4 with no actual surprise results.

Final

Auckland staged a remarkable recovery from 6—3 down to 6—all. The Aucklanders got home 15—14 to win the shield. For the winners all members of the team were fighters and that made the difference, for the Canterbury players it was a case of nerves defeating their known talent.

PERFORMANCES OF SEEDED PLAYERS IN INTER-ASSOCIATION TEAMS CONTEST

Men

Jackson: 100 per cent. wins.
Tomlinson: 100 per cent. wins.
Dunn: Lost Rau, Jackson, Tomlinson, Wilkinson.
Foster, B.: Lost Walsh, Tomlinson, Jackson, Houghton.
Frew: Lost Paton.
Roselli: Lost Rau, Wilkinson, Armstrong, Tomlinson, Jackson.
Foster, R.: Lost Algie, Smith, Houghton.
Brightwell: Lost Frew, Roselli, Dunn.

Ladies

Brown: Lost Jaine.
Packwood: Lost Ross, Purdon.
Purdon: Lost Rolston.
Davis: Lost Purdon, Crowe.
May: Lost Davis, Jaine, Packwood.
Donald: 100 per cent. wins.
Muirhead: Lost Bamford, Rolley, Jaine, Grace, Packwood.
Crowe: Lost Gifford Moore, Broadbent, Dean, Harris.

NORTH v. SOUTH

The Southern men were outclassed 11—1 and the result was a fair indication of the match. The North ladies had a narrow win, 7—5, in a dull uninteresting match.

Although the leading Southern player, Armstrong, did not register a victory, he gave both Jackson and Tomlinson plenty to worry about. Armstrong possesses something unusual amongst present-day players—footwork.

Bob Jackson showed that he is still good enough to win but nevertheless was not his old self. For South, the Foster

brothers registered the only win, beating Frew and Dunn, who could not match their counter hitting.

Results: Frew beat Mercer 14, 14, R. Foster 14, 17; Dunn beat R. Foster 14, 19, Mercer 21, 13; Tomlinson beat Armstrong 15, 15, B. Foster —22, 10, 9; Jackson beat B. Foster 15, 7, Armstrong 19, 17; Dunn and Frew beat Mercer and Armstrong 19, 8, lost Fosters 16, —17, —13; Jackson and Tomlinson beat Fosters 15, 16, Mercer and Armstrong 6, 12.

Possibly the only notable event of the

ladies' contest was the annihilation of Joan Brown by Pat Purdon. Neti Davis, who has unfortunately received more plaudits than her present game warrants, was rather lucky to beat a nervous Pam Crowe. Barbara Packwood was not in her most ebullient mood and also was well beaten by Pat Purdon. Val Muirhead appeared to lack consistency although she fought back very well in both matches. Altogether a most disappointing effort, long drawn out and not good cash value.

Results: Muirhead lost May 16, —11, —19, beat Crowe —18, 14, 18; Davis beat Crowe 18, 19, May 17, 19; Packwood lost Purdon —17, —9, beat Shadbolt 10, 11; Brown beat Shadbolt —10, 8, 14, lost Purdon —16, —6; Brown and Muirhead lost Crowe and Purdon 13, —11, —16, Shadbolt and May 14, —14, —15; Packwood and Davis beat Shadbolt and May 10, —10, 10, Crowe and Purdon —16, 13, 15.

* * *

LATE RESULTS

Wellington Open

M.S.—Crossley beat Roberts; Lauder beat Percy. Final: Crossley beat Lauder.

L.S.—Final: Dean beat Brown.

M.D.—Final: Crossley and Moffat beat Lauder and Walsh.

L.D.—Final: Dean and Brown beat Ryan and McGregor.

X.D.—Final: Lauder and McNeill beat Roselli and Dean.

B.D.—Final: McLauchlan beat Evans.

G.S.—Final: Larsen beat Florence.

Manawatu Open

M.S.—Crossley beat Percy; Free beat Sim. Final: Crossley beat Free.

L.S.—Final: Brown beat Rolston.

M.D.—Final: Crossley and Moffat beat Lauder and Sim.

L.D.—Final: Rolston and Broadbent beat Schneider and McNeill.

X.D.—Final: Moffat and Rolston beat Lauder and McNeill.

B.S.—Final: Evans beat McLauchlan.

G.S.—Final: Larsen beat Florence.

* * *

Southern Enthusiast

Ray Mercer, who won two South Island championships, is doing a great job for Southland table tennis. Since Ray moved to Invercargill, the Association has gone ahead by leaps and bounds and are now well organised—another instance of a good player putting something back into the game. Several top-ranked players could well copy the efforts of individuals like Mercer and Tomlinson.

* * *

Ken Stanley, the former English Swaythling Cup player, who visited New Zealand in 1952 as official coach, has recently had a book on table tennis published. This book is now available in New Zealand, and is a worthy addition to your library.

WARNING TO PLAYERS

The recent N.E.C. decision to allow the Wilson sandwich bat (which is more than the legal 4 m.m. thickness) to be used until the 1st January, 1960, is most astounding. This decision was not unanimous. If these bats are purchased, they can only be legally used during 1959. It is difficult to understand why the N.E.C. condoned this illegal bat in view of the decision of the A.G.M. to introduce standardisation immediately the official wording was received from the I.T.T.F. All players are warned.

LETTERBOX

Sir,—In the last issue of the magazine you wound up the national notes column by criticising players for not taking part in the North Island championships at Lower Hutt during Queen's Birthday weekend. "Bad show, players," you said. "The programme was designed to enable players from all centres to compete with the minimum of time off from business." It might not be right to allow such a statement to pass without correction. It might be surprising to you to learn that several Northland players would have travelled over that long distance had the programme really been designed to cater for player from all centres. It seems to me as if it was really designed for the benefit of local players. Just how people can travel to Hutt Valley from Northland for play on a Saturday and Monday beats me.

It would have been much better had the tournament been played on the Friday and Saturday. Then at least the Sunday, a no-working day, could have been used for travelling. It was the prospect of losing one day's work in two successive weeks which turned away some prospective entrants. Perhaps you might

also dwell for a moment in thinking of how many players from the southern end of the island have competed in the North Island championships on the two occasions that they have been conducted in Whangarei. You can count them on part of one hand.

I am, yours faithfully,

DON WOODMAN.

Whangarei.

Ed.'s Comment

Don has merit in these comments. However, he is using the most isolated instance of the most northern centre to excuse the players elsewhere. I agree that Whangarei and district players were handicapped. Nevertheless, players from other centres could have made the trip. That was the criticism that was made—a general survey of all districts players, not isolated cases.

The answer to Don's final comments is that the reason was not too much time from business, but finance!

Our First National Coaching School For Juniors

By Laurie Wilson

(Concluded from issue 3)

As a matter of interest, I asked the Director at the conclusion of the schools if he could pinpoint the prevailing faults of his pupils and he has obligingly supplied the following comprehensive list which I strongly recommend for close study by all our players, both young and old. Who knows, these faults might even apply to you!

Most common faults among the BOYS:

1. A tendency to edge over to the left corner of the table before the opponent had been really put on the defensive and back from the table, thus leaving themselves open to a counter hit wide to the forehand side.
2. Carelessness and slothfulness in getting into as near a side-on position as possible.
3. A too frequent tendency to play forehand drives with the right foot in front of the left foot.
4. A tendency to be balanced too much on the heels instead of the balls of the feet.
5. Inability to serve side spin services easily and without telegraphing same.
6. Inability to serve fast top spin services down the centre of the table.
7. Making insufficient allowance for the forward movement of the body when moving forward to drive short high-bouncing balls, with the conse-

quence that these balls are frequently hit over the end of the table.

8. A preference for taking balls aimed straight at them on the forehand, when they could be taken with much more certainty on the backhand.
 9. Playing the forehand push shot with too much underspin, and lifting the shot too high over the net in consequence.
 10. Inability to change a losing game, and a losing stroke.
- And among the GIRLS:
1. Inability to serve any side spin services or fast top spin services down the centre of the table.
 2. A tendency to cramp themselves and make errors accordingly by taking balls on the forehand when they are aimed almost straight at their bodies.
 3. Inability to make the necessary alteration in the angle of the racket when opposed to a shot carrying an unusually heavy amount of top spin.
 4. A lack of confidence in driving chopped balls, particularly when these are mixed in with top spin ones.
 5. A lack of backswing on long range backhand chops.
 6. Inability to keep a long range shot closer to the height of the net.

Generally speaking, the girls have a better table position, better balance, and less rashness than the boys.

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