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Test Match



TABLE TENNIS

AUSTRALIA GEOFF. JENNINGS, Captain
and MICHAEL WILCOX

versus

NEW ZEALAND ALAN TOMLINSON, Captain
BRIAN FOSTER
MURRAY DUNN

Whangarei Exhibition Hall



6th August, 1960, at 8 p.m.



Souvenir Programme

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Northland is extremely fortunate in being granted this test match between Australia and New Zealand and I have great pleasure in extending a welcome to the Australian players, Geoff Jennings and Michael Wilcox, and the New Zealand players, Alan Tomlinson, Brian Foster and Murray Dunn.

To date the Australians have had a most successful tour proving that they are players of high standing.

On behalf of all table tennis players and sporting enthusiasts throughout Northland I wish them a most pleasant tour.

I am positive that we will be delighted with their play and hope that this is the commencement of a regular exchange of matches between the two countries.

V. H. HURREY,

President Northland Table Tennis Association.



TEAMS

AUSTRALIA:

GEOFF JENNINGS (N.S.W., Captain) and MICHAEL WILCOX (N.S.W.)

Manager: MR. G. P. GARDINER.

NEW ZEALAND:

ALAN TOMLINSON (Auckland, Captain), BRIAN FOSTER (Otago) and
MURRAY DUNN (Wellington).

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PROGRAMME

SINGLES

MATCH No. 1

Jennings v. *Isler*
21 16 21
Umpire: MR. N. BUCKLER 19. 21. 16

MATCH No. 2

Wilcox v. *Tomlinson*
18 = 13.
Umpire: MRS. M. M. HURREY 21. 21

DOUBLES

MATCH No. 3

ALAN TOMLINSON

GEOFF. JENNINGS

v.

MURRAY DUNN

MICHAEL WILCOX

21. 21

Umpire: MR. V. H. HURREY 12. 14

Interval

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SINGLES

MATCH No. 4

Wilcox v. *Isler*
21 21
12. 14.
Umpire: MR. D. C. LEE

MATCH No. 5

Jennings v. *Tomlinson*
21 21
19. 15.
Umpire: MR. N. BUCKLER

Final Score: N.Z. 3 Australia 2

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THE AUSTRALIAN TEAM

GEOFF. JENNINGS (New South Wales)

The captain of the team, Jennings is 25 years old and is a customs officer. He is one of a team which handles the overseas arrivals at the port of Sydney. He was Australian champion in 1955 and has been runner-up on three occasions. Jennings has won both the Australian men's doubles and combined doubles titles three times. He and Wilcox are the current men's doubles champions.

Last month Jennings won the New South Wales singles title by beating Australian champion Cliff McDonald in four sets in the final. A few hours later he left by plane for New Zealand. Jennings just beat Wilcox 22—20 in the fifth set of a semi-final in this tournament after Wilcox had led 20—18.

He and Wilcox also won the doubles event the same night.

Currently ranked as Australia's No. 3 Jennings uses a pimped rubber bat and plays an open game.

Jennings played in world championships in London in 1954 and again in Tokio in 1956.

At Tokio he scored his best ever win over M. Fujii of Japan. Both he and Wilcox hope to compete in the 1961 world championships at Peking.

MICHAEL WILCOX (New South Wales)

Only 16 years of age, Wilcox already has the experience of one world championship tournament behind him. He competed in the world event in Dortmund as a member of the Australian team.

Wilcox is in his fourth year at Waverley Christian Brothers College in Sydney and plays for the school rugby team in the five-eighths position.

He took up table tennis at the age of 11 and has been coached by former world champion Michael Szabados for five years.

He is nationally ranked No. 5 in Australia and is the Australian junior champion. In the final of the last Australian junior championships he beat Cliff McDonald who won the men's singles title.

Wilcox uses an ordinary pimped rubber bat and has a normal grip. He chops heavily and has a snappy and clean drive.

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THE NEW ZEALAND TEAM

Alan Tomlinson, of Auckland, is the reigning national champion, Brian Foster, of Otago, is the South Island champion and Murray Dunn, of Wellington, is the North Island champion.

All three use bats which are covered with Japanese style sandwich sponge rubber. They have all represented New Zealand on previous occasions.

Tomlinson, a newspaper distribution agent, is 26, Foster, a carpenter, is 20, and Dunn, a chemist, is 25.

Tomlinson and Dunn are similar in that they both refuse to be forced on to the defensive and are exceptionally good at counter driving. Whereas Tomlinson favours his forehand however, Dunn's best shot is his backhand drive.

Dunn moves around the table more than Tomlinson but is probably not as consistent or as reliable in his over-the-table play as the N.Z. champion.

Foster is more of an all-rounder and has a good long range defence. Often he will use high top spinning shots when forced well back. He has a murderous, although a little inconsistent, forehand drive and a whippy backhand flick.

Although Tomlinson was not in particularly good form early this season when he had several losses he has recently come back to his best again. He lost to Foster in a semi-final of the North Island championships but just last week scored a big win over seven times national champion Bob Jackson, in an Auckland inter-club match.

Foster has played against the Australians twice previously, losing to Jennings on both occasions and winning one and losing one against Wilcox. He won his doubles match with different partners on the two occasions that he opposed the visitors. He was beaten in the final of the North Island championships by Dunn.

Dunn built up a great record this year, until he met the Australians, both for Wellington and for the North Island. He had trouble with Wilcox's heavy chop in both games and also lost to Jennings twice. His matches against Jennings on both occasions were really brilliant. Dunn won three of New Zealand's five matches when the side beat Australia 5—3 in 1954.

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