

**ROTHMANS INTERNATIONAL TABLE
TENNIS TOUR BY THE WORLD MENS
DOUBLES CHAMPIONS, HANS ALSER
AND KJELL JOHANSSON OF SWEDEN.**

**At Cowles Stadium Christchurch,
TUESDAY, JUNE 9th 1970.**



ALSER (Left) and JOHANSSON in action.

**SWEDEN
V.
NEW ZEALAND
INVITATION TEAM**

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A WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT



It is with great pleasure that I extend a very warm welcome on behalf of the Canterbury Table Tennis Association to the Swedish International team which is making its first tour of New Zealand.

We are indeed very fortunate in having a team which contains two of the most famous players in the world, Hans Alser and Kjell Johansson—players who are the present world doubles champions, a title which they have held since 1967.

These two players have won an enormous number of titles covering singles, doubles, and team titles. They are international champions of Scandinavia, Poland, Yugoslavia, United States of America, East Germany and West Germany.

To our international contestants we convey our very best wishes for a successful and enjoyable tour and trust that all who are privileged to see them will be richer for the knowledge gained.

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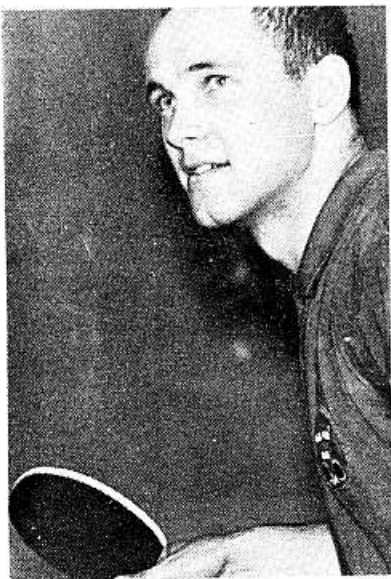
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THE PLAYERS

HANS ALSER was born on the 23rd January, 1942, and has won the Swedish Men's Open Singles Title on six occasions, namely 1960, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1968 and 1970.

Alser was a member of the Swedish team which won the European championship in 1964, 1966 and 1968. In 1962 he won the European Men's Singles championship, and in 1966, partnered by Kjell Johansson captured the European Men's Doubles Crown. In 1962 when partnered by Mrs I. Harst of Germany won the European Mixed Doubles Championship. Alser and Johansson won their world doubles titles in 1967 and 1969. Alser is at present ranked No. 7 in Europe and



No. 12 in the world. Alser at 28 is still a wonderful player and as will be seen his game has lost nothing with the passing of the years. His wonderful ball control has been admired in all corners of the world and he has a fine all round game.

One of the fittest men in the game, he has often been described as 'poetry in motion' which is certainly fitting for a man who has such a wonderful all round game with stroke production of the highest class. Hans Alser for twelve successive years has been a member of the National Team of Sweden and is the best all round player in Europe. From a defensive position far back from the table Alser can suddenly switch from chop defence to attack, hitting powerful forehand and backhand shots in a surprise counter attack.

Hans Alser has decided to retire after the World Championships in Nagoya in 1971 and he has already entered into a contract with the West Germany Table Tennis Association as Chief Coach for a two year period. His fame as an outstanding coach and manager was sufficient reason for Jupp Schlaaf and the Germany Association to wait for two years to obtain his services as their chief coach.



KJELL JOHANSSON was born on the 5th October, 1946, and won the Men's Championship Singles of Sweden in 1964, 1966, and 1969 and was a member of the Swedish team which won the European Championship in 1964, 1966 and 1968. Johansson has won the European Men's Singles Championship in 1964 and 1966 and with Hans Alser won the European Men's Doubles title in 1966 and followed this success with the World's Doubles title in 1967 and 1969.

Kjell Johansson is at present ranked No. 8 in the World and No. 4 on the European ranking list and is taller, younger, and perhaps more dashing than Alser, and has

tremendous striking power and his forehand kill is one of the really great shots in the games today. Johansson has won 17 Swedish Open Championship titles and was named the 'Sportsman of the Year' in Sweden in 1966 and 1967. In 1968 he was honoured as one of the 'Gentleman of Sports' by the International Olympic Committee in Paris.

Johansson does not chop but his counter hits from 15 to 16 feet behind the table are thrilling to the audience and surprising to his opponents. His most famous stroke is known throughout the world as 'the hammer' and is lightning fast.

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OPEN SATURDAY, 9 A.M. TO 9 P.M.

PROGRAMME

Event No.1 :

HANS ALSER v. JOHN ARMSTRONG
(Sweden) (Canterbury)

Winner _____ Scores _____
Umpire: Mr T. R. D. Flint.

Event No. 2:

KJELL JOHANSSON v. BRYAN FOSTER
(Sweden) (Otago)

Winner _____ Scores _____
Umpire: Mr B. T. Edwards.

Event No. 3:

HANS ALSER and KJELL JOHANSSON (Sweden)

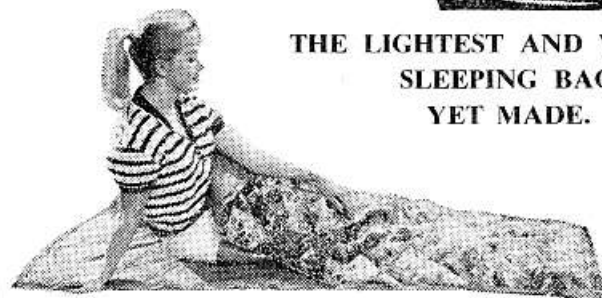
v.
BRYAN FOSTER and JOHN ARMSTRONG
(Otago) (Canterbury)

Winner _____ Scores _____
Umpire: Mr A. B. McCallum.

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Event No. 4:

KJELL JOHANSSON v. LING NAN MING
(Sweden) (Canterbury)

Winner _____ Scores _____
Umpire: Mr R. G. Hart.

Event No. 5.

HANS ALSER v. LOKE SIM WONG
(Sweden) (Canterbury)

Winner _____ Scores _____
Umpire: Mr T. R. D. Flint.

Event No. 6

To be played if time permits.

HANS ALSER & KJELL JOHANSSON (Sweden)

v.
LING NAN MING & YEOH KEAT CHYE (Canterbury)

Winner _____ Scores _____
Umpire: Mr B. Thomson.

Event No. 7:

EXHIBITION MATCH

HANS ALSER v. KJELL JOHANSSON
(Sweden) (Sweden)

Winner _____ Scores _____
Umpire: Mr A. B. McCallum.

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BRYAN FOSTER is the outstanding player in the South Island and has been for over a decade. He has represented the South Island thirteen years in succession which is a record for the Annual Inter-Island Contest. He first represented New Zealand in 1957 against the Japanese team of Ogimura and Tanaka in which he played the second and third test matches.

In 1960 he played for New Zealand against the Australian team of Jennings and Willcox, and was selected in the N.Z. team which competed at the 26th World Championships in Peking in 1961. The next test appearance was in the third test in 1964 for N.Z. against the Australian team of M. Willcox and M. Thomson. In 1966 he toured Australia with the N.Z. team and was again in the N.Z. team which competed at the 29th World Championships in Stockholm, Sweden.

During the same year, the English team of Denis Neale and Stuart Gibbs visited N.Z. and Bryan represented N.Z. in the first three test matches. Last year Bryan Foster was again a member of the successful N.Z. team which won the rubber of two tests out of three against the visiting Australian team.

In 1968, Bryan completed the grand slam by winning the three major Mens Singles titles in the country, New Zealand, North Island and South Island, in fact Bryan did even better by also winning the Men's Doubles titles in each of these championships.

Last year it appeared that he was going to repeat this effort as he won the South Island Men's Singles and Doubles and also the North Island Men's Singles and Doubles, but after winning the New Zealand Men's Doubles title he lost the final of the Men's Singles to his old rival Alan Tomlinson. In 1963 Foster won the New Zealand 'Player of the Year' award. For the last thirteen years he has been highly ranked on the N.Z. ranking list—in fact his lowest ranking over the past 10 years has been 4th.

Bryan has always supported the Canterbury Championships where he has won the Men's Singles title 8 times, the Men's Doubles title 5 times, and the Mixed Doubles title 7 times. In the South Island Championships he has done even better—9 Men's Singles wins, 7 Men's Doubles titles and 9 Mixed Doubles titles. He will be keen to perform well this year as he has his sights set on the N.Z. team to the World Championships in Japan next year, and the team will be announced after the New Zealand Championships in August.

JOHN ARMSTRONG first represented Canterbury in 1951 and has retained his place in the Canterbury team each year since. John has now represented Canterbury and the South Island on 213 occasions which is a record every player would be proud of, and is second only to Neville Brightwell (Canterbury) whose record tally stands at 221 representative matches.

In 1954, Armstrong played against Richard Bergmann who had previously held the World Championship Singles on four occasions. In 1957, when the Japanese men's team played Canterbury, John Armstrong took a game off Ichiro Ogimura who won the World Championship Singles in 1954 and 1956.

In 1960, the Australian team played a match against Canterbury and Armstrong found the Australian Captain Geoff Jennings a tough proposition and lost 14-21, 12-21. In 1967 when Canterbury played England, Armstrong lost to the English Captain, Denis Neale, 15-21, 19-21.

John Armstrong has made twelve appearances in a row for the South Island in the Annual Inter-Island Contests and has won 4 Canterbury Open Singles titles and has also won the Canterbury Residential Men's Singles Championship on 4 occasions.

The Canterbury Easter Open Championships which have now been held for the last ten years has had only one winner of the Men's Singles—John Armstrong—John has won the Cup for ten successive years. Last year Armstrong was awarded the 'Canterbury Player of the Year' trophy. In the last 18 years he has been nationally ranked on 13 occasions with his best ranking at No. 4.

LOKE SIM WONG is a recent arrival in Canterbury after spending the last two years in Auckland. He is a university student from Perak and is 22 years of age. Loke Sim Wong won the Auckland Residential Men's Singles Championships last year against a very strong field including the New Zealand champion, Alan Tomlinson, whom he beat.

He is unbeaten in Inter-club match play this year and recently won the Canterbury Residential Men's Doubles Championship with Chee Kong Wong. Loke Sim Wong has represented Canterbury in five matches this year.

YEOH KEAT CHYE also plays for University and is a student from Penang, where he was a member of the Penang State representative team. At 20 years of age he is a formidable opponent in the under-21 age group championships. He recently won the Under-21 Men's Singles at the Canterbury Junior Winter tournament.

At the 1970 Canterbury Residential Championships he was runner-up in the Men's Singles to John Armstrong after beating Loke Sim Wong and Ling Nan Ming. Yeoh was a member of the University team which won the 1970 South Island Teams Championship and has represented Canterbury on three occasions this year without losing a match.

LING NAN MING is a university student from Sarawak, was recently married and is 22 years of age. Ming first represented Canterbury in 1967 and has been a regular member of the Canterbury team since then. He has now represented Canterbury on 41 occasions and also represented the South Island in the Inter-Island Contests in 1967 and 1968.

Ming was ranked at No. 5 in New Zealand in 1968 with numerous successes against the top players in the country. Ling Nan Ming played for Canterbury against the 1967 English team of Denis Neale and Stuart Gibbs.

In 1968 he was awarded the 'Canterbury Player of the Year' trophy, being top scorer in Inter-club matches and having a wonderful representative record. He won the Canterbury Residential Mixed Doubles Championship with Mrs T. May in 1968 and 1970 and the 1968 Men's Doubles with R. Mitchell.

Last year he was awarded a N.Z. University Blue for winning the N.Z. University Men's Singles and was selected for the N.Z. University team to tour Australia this year but was unable to make the trip.

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TUESDAY JUNE 9 v. N.Z. INVITATION TEAM AT
CHRISTCHURCH.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 10 v. WANGANUI INVITATION
TEAM AT WANGANUI.

THURSDAY JUNE 11 v. N.Z. (TEST MATCH) AT
HAMILTON.

FRIDAY JUNE 12 v. NORTHLAND AT WHANGAREI.

SATURDAY JUNE 13 v. AUCKLAND AT AUCKLAND.

SUNDAY JUNE 14 FREE DAY AT AUCKLAND.

MONDAY JUNE 15 DEPART AUCKLAND FOR
MELBOURNE.

The Rothmans Sports Foundation has been of great assistance in sponsoring Table Tennis over recent years and each of the last three International tours of New Zealand have been made possible by the financial assistance given, and also the friendly assistance given by the Foundation's officers in the various centres. These officers placed themselves at our disposal to transport the team members as required. They also acted as tourist guides and went out of their way to give our visitors typical New Zealand hospitality.

We very much appreciate the assistance given to this tour of the Swedish World Champions, and would like all our players and supporters to show their appreciation to the sponsors who continue to take a tremendous interest in Table Tennis.