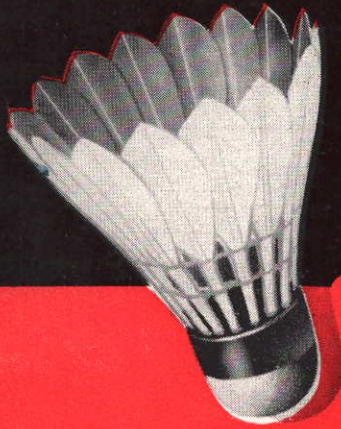


Bird Chatter

OFFICIAL BADMINTON MAGAZINE



JAN. - FEB., 1949
VOL. 8
No. 2

In this Issue

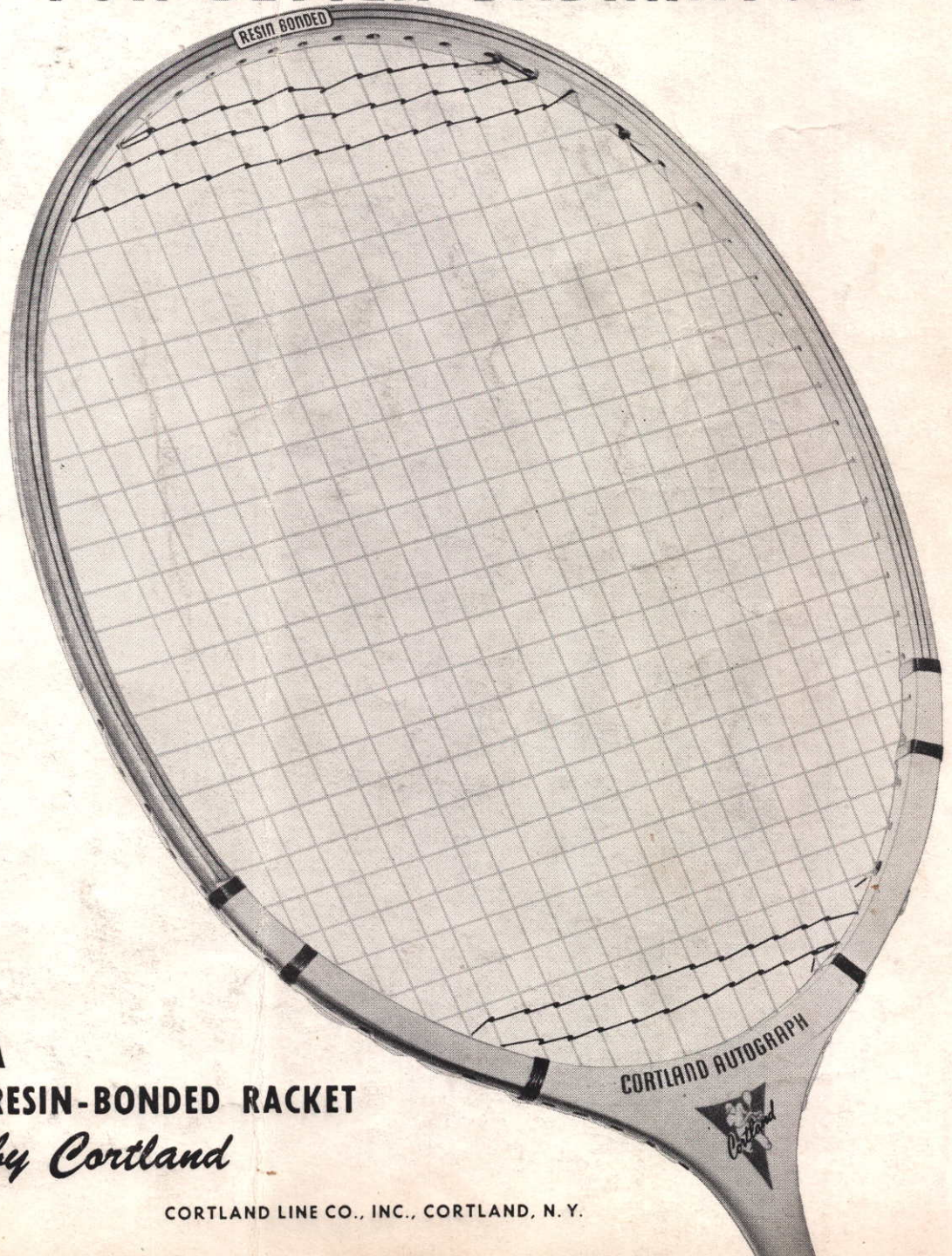
U. S. VICTORIOUS
IN INITIAL
INTERNATIONAL
MATCH



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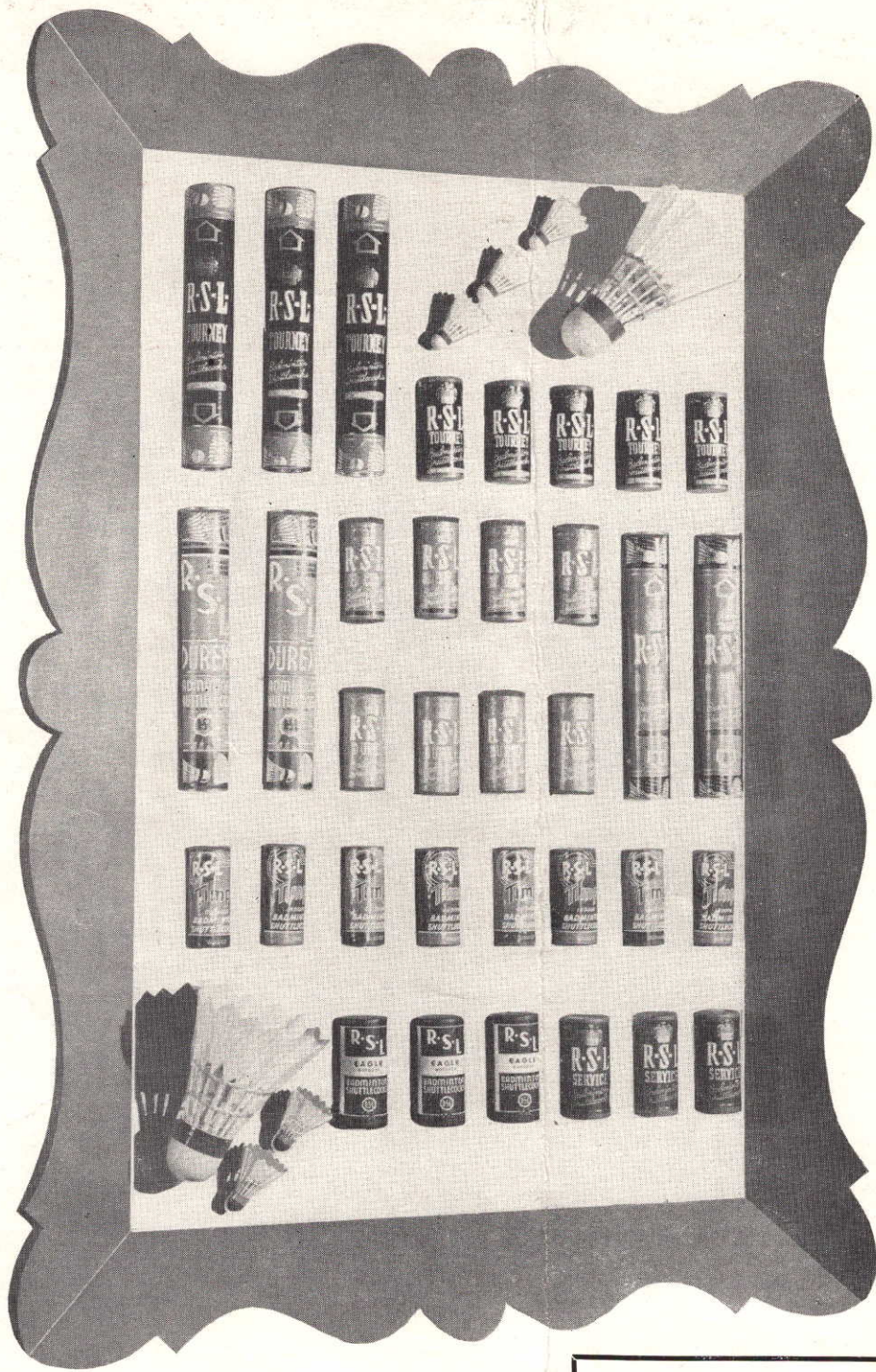
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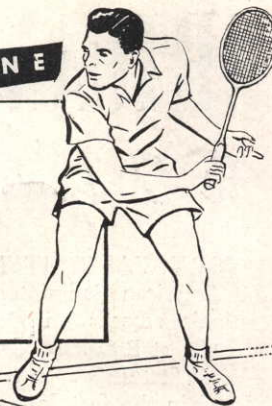
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Bird Chatter



Vol. 8, No. 2 - January-February, 1949

Published by The American Badminton Association for its members and those interested in the game. Issued four times per season. Subscription \$1.00 per season. Single copy 35c.

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"A MESSAGE TO ALL PATRONS"

The most important news in the history of American badminton is that our American team has qualified to play in the International Championships in Great Britain next month. All of us who have watched the growth of interest in this game from its inception in this country have looked forward to the day when this international event would take place, and here it is in our laps almost before we realized it.

The newest member of the badminton family is the American Badminton Patrons Association, which has been organized this last month, primarily for the purpose of drawing together those who are intensely interested in the game and who want to see it developed and who are willing to contribute both towards the expense of sending our Thomas Cup team to the International Tournament, and also to the expense of promoting the game in this country to the younger players, and assisting them to learn the game properly.

Some of those who have been former officials in the organization of the American Badminton Association are being asked to act as trustees for this new association, to assist in its organization and in its fund raising activities.

Time does not permit us to develop our usual organization to arouse public interest in this International Tournament, as the money must be raised in order to send the team next month.

The ABPA asks the considerate cooperation of every badminton friend in this fund raising campaign. Results should be reached before the end of this month if possible.

DONALD E. WILBUR
President, ABPA

OUR PART IN THE THOMAS CUP

You and I have our own task to perform, equally as necessary in the whole scheme of this International Competition, if the Team is to carry out its next assignment. For it is up to the general badminton players and interested public to provide the funds to get our boys over to and back from England.

The newly formed Patron's Association offers the most direct method by enrollment in this organization. \$10 will make you a Sustaining Member, \$50 or more will make you a Founder Member with corporations at \$100 or more. Prompt action is necessary so mail your check at once to the Secretary, Warren Wheary, 1805 So. 55th Ave., Chicago 50, Ill. The ABA Secretary can also accept donations of any denominations from \$1 up specifically for the Thomas Cup operations. Individual, Club and Association donations or amounts obtained from exhibitions should be promptly considered and mailed with all speed.

Our Team has done its part for us up to here, what will you do for them? Fine—mail it today.

DONALD RICHARDSON,
Contributing Editor

AMERICAN ZONE THOMAS CUP MATCH

"As I saw United States win over Canada"

By KEN DAVIDSON

HISTORY WAS WRITTEN into the American Badminton Association's records on December 11 and 12, 1948, at Pasadena, California when the United States six-man team successfully played in the first International match ever to be played by any United States badminton team. A great victory over Canada by 8 matches to 1 in the American Zone final round of the Thomas Cup International Championships sets a high standard for following U.S.A. teams to uphold but all due credit should be accorded David Freeman (Pasadena, Calif.); Carl Loveday (Montclair, N.J.); Marten Mendez (San Diego, Calif.); Wynn Rogers (Arcadia, Calif.); Clint Stephens (Baltimore, Md.); and Bob Williams (Niagara Falls, N. Y.) for their magnificent performance in overwhelming a strong, experienced Canadian team. They all fully earned the right to be members of the U.S.A. squad to travel to England next February to compete against the Pacific Zone Champions (Malaya) in the semi-final round of the Zone play-offs and, if successful against Malaya, in the final of the Zone play-offs against the European Champions (either Denmark or England), the eventual winner taking the Thomas Cup Trophy in its first year of competition and becoming the "Champion Nation," an official title designated by the International Badminton Federation, which will be recognized throughout the world.

Following the impressive opening ceremonies when both teams were presented individually after the playing of their respective national anthems Dave Freeman, our National Champion, opened the play by serving to Dick Birch, Canada's Champion, before a tense, breathless audience of over 2,000. The play was on as the shuttlecock soared up high over 30 feet and a feeling of relief seemed to come to both the players and the audience once the action had actually started. Birch took over the serve almost immediately by forcing an error with an around-the-head smash but couldn't do anything with his serve. Dave, keyed up as never before in his desire to win this first match for his country, showed signs of over-anxiety in the early stages of the game and was caught on two or three occasions by a beautifully delayed wrist flick from the low forehand corner near the front service line to Dave's deep fore-hand corner but this deceptive stroke and a sharp around-the-head smash

RESULTS

December 11

Dave Freeman, U.S.A., def. Dick Birch, Canada, 15-1, 15-4
Marten Mendez, U.S.A., def. John Samis, Canada, 15-6, 15-10
Dave Freeman-Wynn Rogers, U.S.A., def. Ted Pollock-Roy Smith, Canada, 15-17, 15-4, 15-9
Clint Stephens-Robert Williams, U.S.A., def. Dick Birch-Gordon Simpson, Canada, 15-8, 15-8

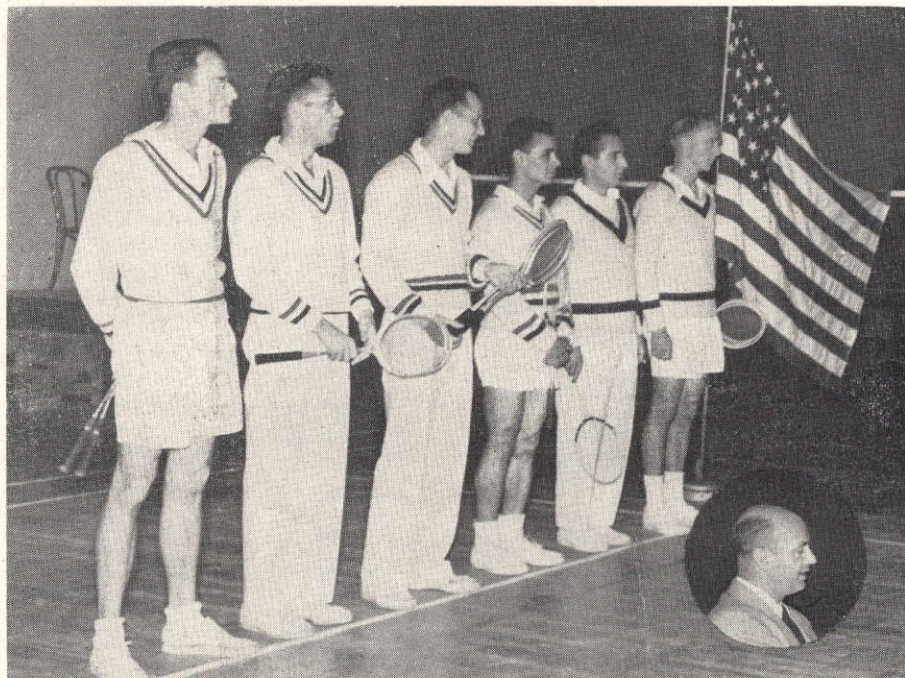
December 12

Dave Freeman, U.S.A., def. John Samis, Canada, 15-1, 15-5
Marten Mendez, U.S.A., def. Dick Birch, Canada, 17-18, 15-6, 15-4
Carl Loveday, U.S.A., def. Daryl Thompson, Canada, 15-9, 15-7
Clint Stephens-Robert Williams, U.S.A., def. Ted Pollock-Roy Smith, Canada, 15-8, 15-6
Dick Birch-Gordon Simpson, Canada, def. Dave Freeman-Wynn Rogers, U.S.A., 15-10, 15-8

straight down the line on a couple of rallies were the only signs shown that Dick could match the speed, accuracy and sustained pressure which Dave applied more and more as the first game progressed. From a 3-1 advantage Dave settled down to play his usual confident game and, apart from losing the serve

on over-shooting the back-service line, he continued to pile up points until 14-1 when Birch got two more points—one by Dave clearing three inches over the back line and with one of Dick's smashes down the line. Once the first game was over at 15-3 in the U.S.A.'s favor Dave added some variety to his uncanny steadiness and caught Birch off balance and off-guard by shooting over an assortment of smashes and reverse drop-shots. Although the Canadian picked up one more point in the second game than in the first he had definitely begun to wilt under the strain of trying to score points and the game finished with Dave scoring the final point on a crisply hit cross-court smash which left Birch floundering somewhere on the opposite side-line. A great roar from the crowd greeted this first win. It was a grand send-off for the team—not unexpected in the face of Dave's ten-year record but nevertheless an important and decisive point in the search for five or more of the nine points required to give the United States team a victory.

The second match was a crucial one for both countries. The second ranking players of both nations, Marten Mendez and Canada's John Samis, had a tough assignment. Marten, comparatively new to such a high calibre of play, had a worthy opponent in a younger but far



USA THOMAS CUP TEAM—Wynn Rogers, Bobbie Williams, Clint Stephens, Marten Mendez, Carl Loveday, Dave Freeman, Capt. (Inset) Ken Davidson, US Coach.

more experienced player who had won the Dominion Single's title in 1938 and again in 1947 and was recognized as being in top form after his wins over the Indians in Toronto one week before. Undoubtedly this was the match which stunned the Canadians and turned the tide against them. Marten, eager and alert from the opening rally, never gave the smooth stroking boy from Vancouver a chance to settle down. He hurried him and worried him from the word "Play" and surprised even his compatriots by the excellent length of his serves and attacking clears. Marten started out at top speed, scoring with a couple of close drop-shots, well disguised from the back-court, and with some fine angled smashes. It was not until the second game had reached 11-7 in Marten's favor that Samis had the chance to show some of his deception. Up to that time he had found little results from his towering serves and clears which is his favorite method of making openings but, as he saw the second game slipping away from him, he wisely tried other tactics and for a brief period he had the spectators applauding his beautifully executed wrist flicks which quickly garnered him the serve and three sudden points as he caught Marten coming in as he flicked the bird over Marten's outstretched racket to reach 10-11. The United States boy was not to be denied and his extraordinary agility and quickness in accepting openings near the net pushed away the disaster which had seemed imminent but a moment before and with Samis unable to match the net play of Marten on a couple of rallies and his length wavering under the renewed thrusts of the San Diego speedster the

second and final game of the second match went into the record books in the United States favor, 15-10.

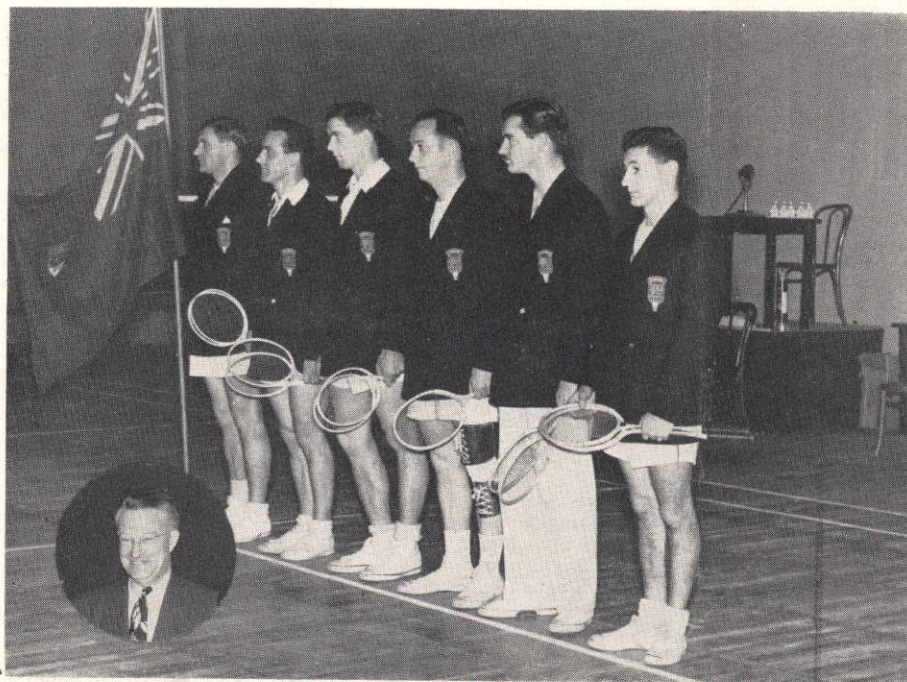
Dave Freeman, along with Wynn Rogers, took the court as the U.S.A. Men's Doubles holders to do battle with Ted Pollock and Roy Smith, Canada's leading duo. And what a battle it turned out to be! The crowd readily appreciated the sustained fast action of both teams, and the excitement rose to fever pitch as the Canadians put forth their first real challenge and, after setting at 14 all, took their first game of the series at 17-15. Both Dave and Wynn attacked constantly but the steady rocklike defense of Roy Smith and the clever change-of-pace returns by Pollock, proved too reliable for the California boys. A change of tactics upset the rhythm of the Canadians' defense—drop-shots pulled them forward from their base of operations and made them vulnerable to half-court shots which forced Smith and Pollock to lift the shuttle while off balance. The Americans smashed decisively and kept up the pressure in the fore-court, backing up each other's attack constantly and banging away any loose shuttles—Wynn Rogers particularly being tough to pass and using his height and reach to advantage. The keen attack of the Americans continued throughout the second game, but odd flashes of brilliance by Pollock at the net at the beginning of the third game caused a flurry among the onlookers and ran the score to 8-3 at the change-over. Once again the West Coast pair talked over their strategy and immediately returning to their successful tactics of breaking up the superb defense of Smith by drawing him up to the net they began

a stream of points which took them into the lead. Although the Dominion boys hung on valiantly they could only add one more point to their change-over score while the American Champions were adding twelve points and getting stronger and stronger as the game and match ended in a flurry of smashes and pick-ups with Wynn Rogers leaping high into the air to intercept and crack away the final shot.

The second ranking pair, Clint Stephens and Bob Williams, completely dominated the play from the opening serve and never gave Dick Birch and the fast moving Gordon Simpson a chance to settle down. The Eastern boys were a brilliant all-around team—covering each other perfectly and following up any advantage their smashes opened up near the net. Williams particularly was smashing with severity and an accuracy which often made it easy for his partner to clip away some weak returns at the net. On the other hand, Stephens opened up the way for his partner's smashes by his finely executed net drop-shots. The team work of the Canadians proved weak but subsequent events proved this to be the result of the magnificent attack of the Easterners who were an aggressive and determined pair throughout. It was evident that they were in no mood to relax and they wrapped up the fourth consecutive win for the United States team in twenty-five minutes to complete a highly satisfactory evening's play for the home squad.

The opening match of the second evening's schedule of five matches provided an interesting study of tactics. Dave Freeman met a steadier John Samis than had Marten Mendez the night before and he quickly proved that Dave's reputation was not going to beat him but that Dave would have to earn each point. The pattern of play was set forth for the audience of around 2,000 in the very first rally which started with Samis serving one of his highest of high serves and his continued clearing at every opportunity to heights which tested the 37' clearance over the court kept Dave near the base-line most of the time. After the shuttle had been stroked some dozen times by each player Dave's third deep-shot from the base-line was too close for any return other than a return drop-shot at the net by Samis which fell just outside the side-line. Dave ran to a three-love lead before Samis regained the service and took his first and what proved to be his only point of the game as Dave cleared a shade outside the side-line. Samis continued his defensive tactics and his amazing accuracy of height and length deviated only slightly on two or three occasions to overshoot the back-line (and only then by an inch or two) to give Dave a few quick points but otherwise

(Continued on Page 20)



CANADA THOMAS CUP TEAM—Dick Birch, Capt., John Samis, Daryl Thompson, Roy Smith, Ted Pollock, Gordon Simpson. (Inset) Dr. Gordon Cramer, Canada Coach.

SIR GEORGE THOMAS CUP

*International
Badminton
Matches*



*Thumbnail
Sketches of
U. S. Team*



**CLINT
STEPHENS**

Baltimore, Md., 1948 U. S. A. Mixed Doubles Champion along with his wife, Patsy; Runner-up in Men's Doubles for the past two years and ranked Number 6 in Singles, has an ideal big game temperament for nothing will ruffle him.

His pleasing personality, both on and off the courts, makes him a great favorite wherever he plays. Clint is a deep student of the game. A most conscientious performer, his consistent play assures the doubles team on which he will no doubt play, a steadiness on defense and the best in strategy. His excellent placements open up the way for his partner's smashes.

He has had great success in doubles, men's and mixed, in the East and in Canadian Tournaments. Clint triumphed over two top Canadian Men's teams last year along with Carl Loveday in unofficial International matches. His regular doubles partner is Bobby Williams.

Born 29 years ago in Rockeville Center, Long Island, Clint learned to play at Rutgers Church in New York City and graduated from the Eastern Junior Singles Champion in 1937 to New York Metropolitan Singles Champion two years later. A brilliant army career, private 1940 to major 1946, cut short any further play for six years. He has been married two years and has no children. Clint is vice-president with a Baltimore firm of sporting goods, a chess fiend, shoots in the seventies at golf and gives freely of his time towards developing and stimulating junior badminton.

**WYNN
ROGERS**

Probably America's most dangerous doubles player, tall, lean Wynn Rogers, Arcadia, Calif., is the present U. S. A. Men's Doubles Champion along with Dave Freeman and the 1947 National Mixed Doubles Champion. Wynn is 6'2" and weighs only 162 pounds.

Wynn covers the court in large strides and, when necessary, makes full use of his ability to high-jump over 6 feet by springing high into the air to intercept the shuttlecock, making it almost impossible for any opponent to "pass" him. The whiplike use of his wrist impels the opposing team to hurry their strokes and become flustered. Wynn has a devastating smash that is steeply angled and well directed. He is a great team player.

Wynn, ranked Number 5 in the U. S. A. Singles list, has not yet developed the full potency of his play in this branch of the game. The capturing of the Singles title in the Pacific Southwest Championships earlier this year over the second ranking Singles player in the U. S. A., and other victories prove that his reach, his overhead power and his decisive net play can more than out-match players ranked above him.

Rogers first started to play at Redlands University, where he was a 3 year letterman in track, tennis and basketball. He toured the Eastern collegiate tennis circuit and he was the Southern California Intercollegiate Doubles Champion for 3 years. He won the



Pacific Northwest and Washington State Doubles while in the Army in 1942—met his wife while stationed in Kentucky—married two years, no children. Occupation, teacher at Arcadia First Avenue School and working on master's degree in free time.



**DAVID
FREEMAN**

With a record unbelievable, even for Ripley, Pasadena's phenomenal champion has been badminton Singles Champion of the U.S.A. since 1939. He has never been beaten by any player of any nationality in Singles competition for a period of almost ten years, a record which few, if any champion, can claim in any sport. Dave holds six U.S.A. Singles titles (no competition 1943 through 1946), five U.S.A. Men's doubles and three U.S.A. Mixed Doubles titles. Nobody in sight in the United States is likely to beat him in Singles for years but Ted Pollock, Toronto star, who beat him early in 1939, is a member of the Canadian Thomas Cup team. Dave is at the peak of his form, in perfect condition and led the U. S. team against its opposition. Most American badminton fans feel he has no superior in Singles competition anywhere on earth—a belief his American record tends to show.

Dave Freeman started his winning ways with the thought that, if the other fellow couldn't put away the shuttle, eventually an opening would present itself for him to score a point. Today his defense is impregnable. His lightning reflexes quickly accept the slightest opening. His attack is swift and sure, his competitive spirit the keenest and the desire to "kill off" his opponent ever present. With it all, Dave is a great showman and the onlookers are assured of seeing "impossible" returns, amazing shots and superb footwork and body movement.

Freeman was born 28 years ago. His father is the late Dr. Robert Freeman, the popular minister of the Pasadena Presbyterian Church for many years. His mother, Mrs. Freeman, is Assistant Professor of Religion at Occidental College. Dave is a graduate of Pasadena High School (1938) where he first met his wife to be, who admired his playing of the trombone in the Andre Strong Bulldog Band. He graduated from Pomona in '42 as a pre-med student, where he was president of the student body in his senior year and a letterman in tennis and track. Dave was also a member of Glee Club, to the surprise and amusement of his family. He graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1945 under the Army Training Course. After being an intern in San Diego Hospital for one year, Freeman went to the Panama Canal Zone as doctor and captain attached to the Army Medical Corps until June 1948. He is now a resident doctor of pathology at San Diego Hospital.

Freeman married Dolly Rees in 1942 and they have two children, both boys.

Freeman won the U.S.A. National Junior Singles in tennis in 1937, beating Welby Van Horn, and won the Doubles with Ted Shroeder. He beat Jack Crawford, Australian tennis star, and Charles Hare, Great Britain, while members of their respective Davis Cup squads. In 1947, six weeks after winning the National Badminton title, he won the World-wide Army tennis championship (the Sheridan Cup) and the Leech Cup for the Army vs. Navy tennis matches. He started his collection of trophies and cups

in 1934 as a 13 year old, winning the Pasadena Junior Table Tennis Tournament. He had the honor of leading his country's badminton team for the first time on December 11 and 12 at the Civic Auditorium before his own townspeople.



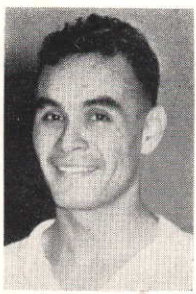
CARL LOVEDAY

Montclair, N. J., the outstanding Eastern player since 1941, was born in San Diego 29 years ago. He is unfortunate to have his career run concurrently with that of Pasadena's Dave Freeman. Carl lost in the U. S. National Championship Single's Finals in 1941, 1942 and again, following the lapse of competition during the war years, in 1946. He presently ranks Number 3 Nationally after being an upset semi-finalist in the 1948 Nationals.

Carl won the famous New England (Boston) Singles title on 4 occasions by beating top Canadian players, including present Canadian Champion, Dick Birch. He repeated his victory over Birch and also beat Jack Muir, another Dominion contender for a place on Canada's Thomas Cup team, in Montreal last year. Winner of 4 Eastern Singles titles and perennial winner of New Jersey's Singles, Men's Doubles and Mixed Doubles championships, Carl holds hosts of other Eastern cups and trophies.

Small in stature, 5'6", but sturdily built, Carl is an all-round athlete and was outstanding gymnast on San Diego's Y.M.C.A. Junior team. He moves with amazing quickness, is wise in court craft, cool and calculating under pressure and ever alert to take advantage of an opponent's weakness. Loveday combines well in doubles with any partner and makes up for lack of power by well disguised drop-shots and change of pace.

He is married and has no children. He is an executive with a leading New York City publishing firm.



MARTEN MENDEZ

Oldest member on the U. S. A. Thomas Cup squad is 33 year old Marten Mendez, San Diego, California, but none will be fitter than this California-born boy. He plays squash to keep fit for badminton and works outdoors to improve his stamina. Marten believes, with justification, that he can outlast any badminton player in the world.

Few players have improved so rapidly in such a strenuous sport as badminton at such a comparatively late stage in their athletic careers. Today Marten is ranked Number 2 in the United States. He will run after the shuttlecock to all parts of the court and his beautiful foot-work quickly gets him into position and his defense is superb. Marten's lack of height, 5'8½", mitigates against the power of his smash but a well disguised drop-shot and a fast attacking lob keeps his opponents on the defense.

His great games against Dave Freeman in the 1947 Nationals and in the 1948 California State Championships not only created much excitement among the onlookers but proved that even a great champion must keep a wary eye on this never-say-die player.

He started playing outdoors in 1939. Men-

dez has lived all his life in San Diego and is still single. He is connected with airplane industry.



BOBBY WILLIAMS

Niagara Falls, N. Y., the youngest member of the U.S.A. Thomas Cup team is, at twenty-five years of age, ready to challenge the best on the Continent. His home, being in close proximity to the Canadian border, enables him to play in tournaments

in both countries.

Today he is ranked fourth in U.S.A. Singles and, with Clint Stephens, barely missed winning the U. S. A. Men's Doubles crown in 1947 and again in 1948. They won the New England Men's Doubles against tough Canadian competition this year. Bobby retired both the Ohio Open and the Western New York Singles trophies last season by winning them three years in a row. He won numerous mixed events with Ethel Marshall, Buffalo's U.S.A. National Women's Singles Champion for 1947 and 1948.

Bobby is much slimmer now, 6'1" and 160 pounds, than when he won the Boys' Singles and Boys' Doubles trophies around Western New York. He has the fastest smash in the United States, a supple wrist and all the strokes in the game. He covers the court with ease and it seems but a matter of time until he mentally co-ordinates his strategy with his fine physical reactions. When he does, Bobby has everything to make him a champion. On the golf links he hits a tremendously long ball and it is not unusual for him to break 70.

Still single, Bobby is an automobile salesman in his father's business.

★
Thomas Cup Squad Faces Financial Foe

THE UNITED STATES Thomas Cup Team faces one other tough opponent before the International Badminton Championships in Great Britain in February.

The Patron's association and all other badminton friends are joining up with the seven-man U. S. team to overcome a tenacious financial foe which is proving just as difficult as anything the team is expected to meet across the Atlantic.

When transportation is assured, the young American Zone winners will leave to carry the Stars and Stripes to challenge the world's leading badminton nations.

Already the American squad has upset the dope that led Mr. E. S. Cornelius, secretary of the South Africa Badminton Union to say: "I am leaving for England soon to see the semi-final and finals of the Thomas Cup. I hope to finalize tentative arrangements already made for a Danish or Canadian tour."

The repulse of the Canadian team in Pasadena lopped that nation off Mr. Cornelius' list.

If all goes well, the New World challengers will arrive in Glasgow, Scotland, to play Malaya, February 21, 22 at the 2,980 capacity Kelvin Hall.

An upset victory over Malaya would pit an underdog U. S. squad with the European Zone finalist at the Queens Hall in Preston, three days later. This hall holds 1,750.

Unusual weather or playing conditions could play havoc with the American team. The 1947 All-England championships were played in an unheated hall with frost on the floors. Many observers feel that if an average 45° temperature of Canadian courts is prevalent in England that the Americans will have some trouble. In both Canada and the U. S. the players favor unlimited ceilings.

English-made shuttlecocks should prove no handicap as international rules specify that certain regulations must be met.

It is expected that the Malaya team plays conservative badminton much on the style of the India team now touring the North American Continent. Attempts to force rivals into errors and to make numerous place shots is the backbone of the Asiatic style. Denmark and other leading European nations probably use the forcing style of play followed in Canada and the U. S.

Glasgow, the site of the semi-final match between the Pacific and American Zone winners, is the largest city in Scotland with over a million population. It is situated on the banks of the River Clyde and is close to Loch Lomond.

Preston, scene of the finals, has a little over 100,000 people and is located in Lancashire, England.

Winners of the Thomas Cup finals will be the holders of the Thomas Cup and will be designated the "Champion Nation." They will stand out of competition during the next playoff in 1952 and will be challenged for the championship by the nation winning the final match between the zone winners. The finals will be held on the Champion Nation's home courts.

Sir George Thomas, Bart, president of the International Badminton Federation, donated the Thomas Cup, symbolic of International Badminton leadership, to the IBF in 1939.

Many international stars are expected to stay over after the Thomas Cup meet to participate in the All-England championships, March 5.

★
SPECIAL FROM EUROPE

England defeated Scotland 8-1. They meet Denmark in European finals January 20-21 in Copenhagen.

How to play Badminton

MIXED DOUBLES by Ken Davidson

Condensed from an article by
Ken Davidson, leading U. S. professional

MIXED DOUBLES in Badminton is always the last branch of the game to be developed mainly because of the erroneous impression that the weaker sex slows up the game and cannot compete on even terms. In reality, Mixed Doubles offers a wider range of strokes and a greater variation of pace and deception than in any other type of Badminton.

Before progressing further as to how to play any system in doubles all players should practice making each of the many different strokes at every opportunity, until it becomes second nature to play them well during fast, speedy action without any thought having to be given to the actual mechanical production of the stroke. Facts prove that in sports man's stronger physique enables him to create records better than the female but in Badminton's Mixed Doubles the fair sex has an equal opportunity of sharing the honors of the game—providing she realizes her limitations. These handicaps may seemingly be overcome on occasion by an outstanding lady competitor playing side by side with a man of less playing ability but, where there is an equal comparison of skill, a lady's place in Mixed Doubles is at the front of the court. In this position her finesse, delicacy of touch and quickness of eye have just as much chance of being equal to those of a man (possibly superior) but in the rugged, power packed depths of base-line play her stamina is likely to wilt under the constant hammering of opponents who force the play on her.

Use Front and Back System

From these remarks it will be gathered that the "Front and Back" formation is best suited to both sexes with the lady playing at the front of the court and the man playing at the back. The other formation "Sides," where each player takes a side of the court, is played on similar lines to Men's Doubles and Ladies Doubles but when the sexes are mixed it has its limitations as mentioned above. The "Sides" formation in mixed is based on defensive ideas with the man more or less admitting that he cannot take care of the back of the court. The "Front and Back" system takes away the one basic weakness of mixed competition (the unequal strength make-up of man and wo-

man) and the stage is set to take advantage of their best respective natural talents. The primary object in doubles is to get the opponents to hit the shuttlecock upwards (Illustration 2) so that you and your partner can hit it down. With that fundamental thought always in mind the "Front and Back" system in Mixed Doubles is the ideal choice of attack with the lady ready to hit down all shuttles at the front of the court and her male partner ready to hit those at the back of the court. As the lady will naturally have less time to hit a return from the opponent's court (being closer to the net and her opponents) it will be found that she can watch less than half of the court and experience will show that the area between the front service line (6' 6" from the net) and the net is more or less her sphere of operations. The actual area will vary depending on the reach, the footwork and mental reaction of each individual lady player. Because there is so little time at the net the lady must always hold her racquet up ready to intercept or "kill" off all returns above net level. The area behind the front service line is guarded by the man. This is a much larger area but as it is further away from the opponent's court he will have a longer time to reach any return made from across the net.

Serving

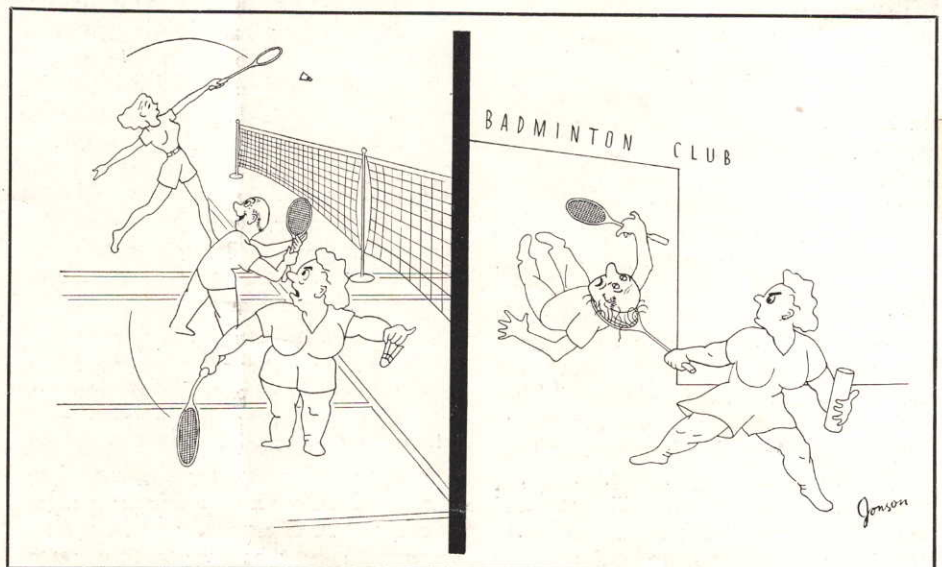
Serving is the greatest art in Badminton. All doubles serves in their preparatory movements should look alike, no matter whether you are to serve the low serve, the high serve or the drive serve.

The only difference in doubles serving is that at the moment of impact of the racquet with the shuttle the wrist comes through faster for the high or drive serves. It is almost impossible to score a direct ace when serving. The object is to make the receiver delay hitting the shuttle as long as possible.

The server in doubles should use the short low serve to the front center service court corner as the *basic* service. (Illustration 4) This narrows the angle of the return by the receiver. This low serve should be used practically all the time, and the high "flick" serve and drive serve be held as a threat and for use when the receiver becomes so confident that only a short serve will be forthcoming.

Serving Positions

All serves by the lady should be delivered from next to the center service line and approximately three feet behind the front service line (Illustration 4). From this position she can quickly move in and cover any part of the net. The reason for standing back some three feet behind the front service line is that it is easier to serve a perfect short service from this position—a perfect low serve should, if allowed to land, fall on the front service line and should be actually dropping as it skims the top of the net; the highest point of the flight of the shuttle being nearer the server. As he has to be prepared to hit any return made towards the back of the court the man takes a deeper serving position—near the center service line and approximately six or seven feet behind the front service line. The lady should be careful not to obstruct the receiver's view of the serve. Neither player should stray far away from the center service line when serving. The practice of serving from the right side-line down the receiver's back-hand may gain easy points against weak players but in top competition the receiver has the choice of too many vacant spots left open



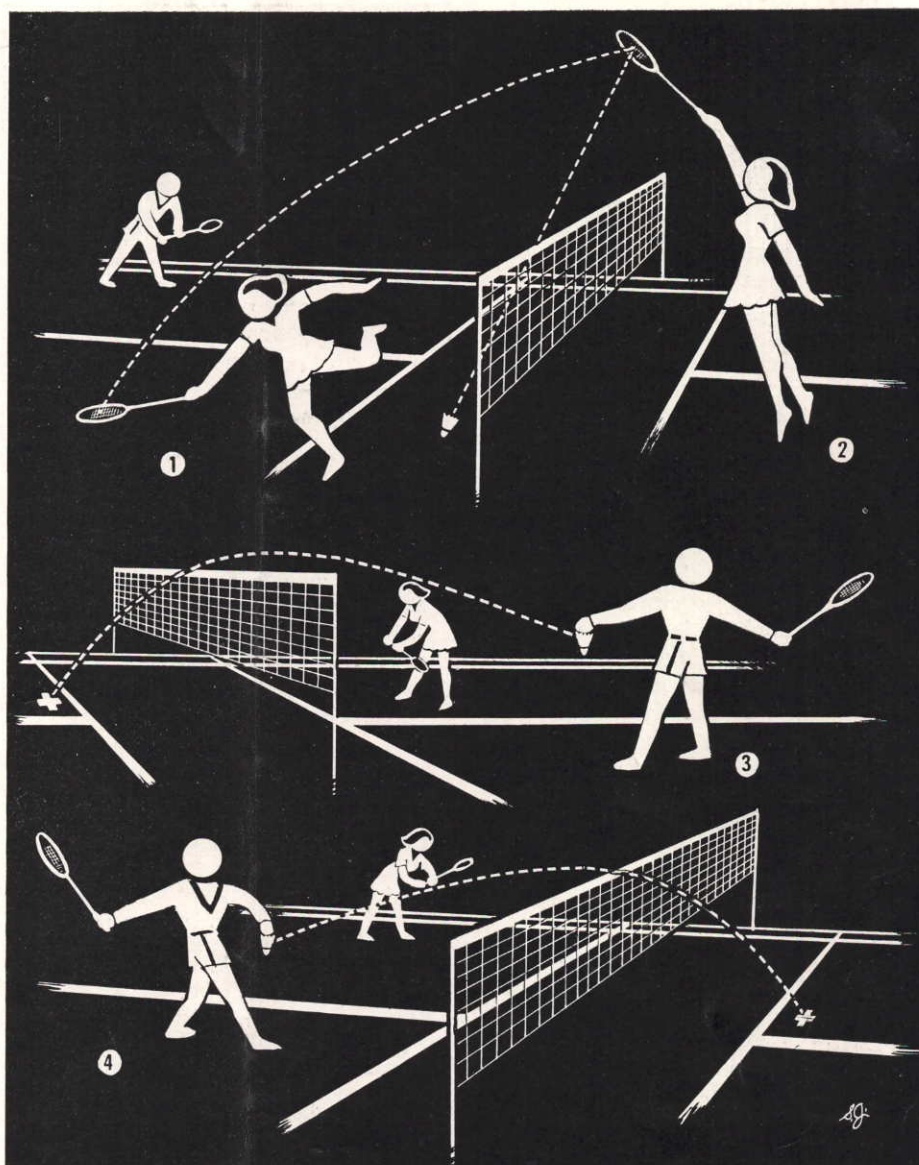
by the server drawing himself or herself out of position at the edge of the court.

The larger percentage of points should be scored when the lady is serving. When the lady serves, the man is fully prepared for the return and can see clearly the whole court from his starting position which should be on the center service line behind his partner. When the man serves, his racquet is still following through and consequently he has less time to be prepared for the next shot.

Footwork When Serving

One definite advantage for the man in Mixed Doubles is to be able to serve with either foot placed forward. Following up the principle of being able to anticipate on which side of the court a return of serve will probably come, he can gain a decided advantage by placing his right foot forward when serving from the right court and then serving low to the receiver's backhand. (Illustration 4.) If well served, the return will most likely be towards his backhand side. By having his right foot forward the server can immediately swivel on his left foot, put his right leg across toward the left sideline and be in the proper position for a backhand shot. If his left foot had been in front when serving he would find he would have to take at least one extra step in order to turn to make a backhand return—a saving of time is a most important factor when the man is serving and the receiver is hurrying the return. Conversely when serving from the left court the man should place his left foot ahead and serve low towards the receiver's forehand, (illustration 3) thus expecting a return down his own forehand side. By having his left foot forward when serving he again saves time by only having to swivel on his right foot, stretch his left leg across his body and be prepared for a forehand shot.

If the opponents do not rush the serve, but wait for the serve to reach them, the server should concentrate on serving a low short serve which falls near the front service line. Until such time as the receivers wake up to the fact that they are delaying hitting the return and allowing the shuttle to fall well below net level, thereby having to return the shuttle upwards, then the server has overcome the disadvantage of the serve being classed as a defensive stroke. But, where the receivers are alert and ready to pounce on any weak serve the server must be prepared for a battle of wits and make the most of any advantage which can be obtained. The server has the advantage of knowing where the shuttle is going and the knowledge that a good or bad serve is not dependent on any previous action of the opponent but rests entirely on the server's own stroking ability.



Holding Your Shot

The ability to "hold" your shot is the true test of a real Badminton player. "Holding" your shot means that by having your wrist well back it is possible to make any one of two or three returns even after the arm has already begun to straighten out and force your opponents to stand still until after the shuttle has been hit thus delaying their chance of making a return. The pace of the return, as well as the direction, can be changed at the last moment. The sooner you hit the shuttle the less time your opponents have to reach the return (illustration 2). The higher you meet the shuttle the steeper you can make the return.

Angle Returns and Pace

The angle of the return is more important than mere pace. Both the net player and the back player when hitting down will find the area just behind the front service line a vulnerable spot. The shuttle will beat the opposing net player by its pace and angle and it will also beat the back player who cannot even reach

forward to that area on such a steeply hit overhead whereas a flat, though speedier smash, which travels deeper into the court can be recovered and driven back quickly thus reversing the attack instantly. It is a most common error to see a lady in the excitement of a rally "push" the shuttle too deeply into the opposing court instead of using the wrist to angle the shuttle steeply. Speed must be allied with angle and all shots should be hit crisply.

★ ELLIS HEADS SPOKANE

Homer Ellis is president of the Spokane YMCA Badminton group for the 1948-49 season.

Other officers are: Dr. Mel Blake more vice pres.; Kathryn Fergie, secretary; Audrey McMahan, treasurer; Leila Mahoney, social secretary, and Jack Harvey, commissioner.

★
Burbank, California has eight outdoor courts lighted for night play.

Chicago Planning Biggest National

By REED LONGFELLOW
(Asst. Editor, Bird Chatter)

Chicago will be host to the Nation's top flight badminton players on April 14, 15, 16 when they invade the shores of Lake Michigan to compete in the Ninth Annual National United States Badminton Tournament to be held at the Navy Pier Fieldhouse.

Dave Freeman, the fabulous young man from Pasadena, will defend his singles and men's doubles titles against strong contenders from all parts of the country.

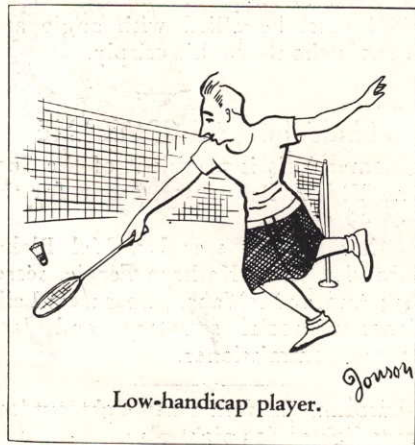
A new record may be set when Ethel Marshall, Buffalo, champion woman player in the U. S., attempts to click out her third straight title. Mr. and Mrs. Clint Stephens, Baltimore, will defend their mixed doubles title. Wynn-Rogers-Freeman, men's doubles champs, and Mrs. Thelma Scovil-Janet Wright, Ladies' Doubles winners, will make strenuous efforts to return their titles to the Golden State; Veteran's Doubles titleholders, Fred Fullin-Frank Hinds will be on hand also.

Blocks of rooms at the Drake Hotel, tournament headquarters, and Knickerbocker Hotel, only a few minutes from the site of play have been secured for reservations.

Tentative plans are underway for televising the finals.

Capacity attendance is anticipated as the scene is laid in the popular Windy City where diversified entertainment is available on short notice.

The first national championships were held in Chicago April 1-3, 1937 at the Naval Armory. The armory was in Grant Park on the lakeshore and was only a few blocks from Michigan Boulevard. The Palmer House was the tournament headquarters that year.



Low-handicap player.

9th Annual U. S. Badminton Championships Official Committee	
Tournament Chairman.....	John G. White
Tournament Director.....	William Schroeder
Publicity Manager.....	Reed Longfellow
Seeding.....	Roy W. Jordan
Umpire.....	Harry C. Conlan
Program.....	Roger Baird
Ticket Sales.....	Rufus Beach
Court Layout.....	Parker Insley
Referee.....	Joseph Grant
Trophies.....	Fred Russell
Entertainment.....	Richard Oelrich
Women's Committee.....	Mrs. Olga Grant

ABPA President Is Badminton Pioneer

Ed. Note: Inadvertently the name of the president of the American Badminton Patron's Association was given as Don Williams in the last issue of Bird Chatter instead of Donald E. Wilbur, Boston. All the "old-timers" are well aware of Mr. Wilbur's badminton contributions. To familiarize the new players we are printing the following story.

Donald E. Wilbur, president of the ABPA, is considered the father of organized badminton on a national basis in this country.

It was the result of his untiring efforts between 1936 and 1937 that the American Badminton Association was founded and the first national championships were held in Chicago in 1937. It was during the first tournament that Mr. Wilbur was elected president of the ABA, a position he held for the two following years.

During the first year of the ABA, he not only corresponded with all the clubs but took time from his business to travel over much of the nation to visit the more active groups and to aid them in forming local associations.

Although not a top ranking player, Don participated in the men's doubles in the first national championships. He and his partner, however, were eliminated in the second round by Chet Goss and Don Eversoll, Los Angeles, the eventual winners.

At the conclusion of his term of office in 1938, he was awarded the first ABA championship blue blazer to be presented to anyone who had not won a title. It was inscribed, "Officer ABA."

Badminton players are in complete agreement that it is most fitting that Don Wilbur has been selected as the President of the American Badminton Patrons Association.

A champion is one who holds first place and is ready to maintain it by meeting all comers.

CANADA TOPS INDIA, 7-2

By JOHN GARROD

India won the first and last matches with Canada but no others in the Thomas Cup first round tie held at the Carlton Club in Toronto, Dec. 3-4, losing to the tough Canadians, 7-2.

Davinder Mohan Lal, No. 1 Indian player, figured in both wins and his low round-the-head drives down the alley were particularly good.

On the whole the Indian teamwork did not measure up to the consistency of the Canadians. But Ted Pollock was the only Northern to measure up to the Indians on net play.

John Samis looked better in these first games than Dick Birch and won every match in which he participated. His toughest fight was a three-game affair with Davinder Mohan Lal.

Daryl Thompson, a big boy who looks tired but has lots of speed, held up the number 3 singles spot well for Canada. His reach and speed permits interception of normal passing shots.

Results

December 3, 1948

- (1) Davinder Mohan Lal, India, def. Dick Birch, Canada, 9-15, 15-7, 15-14.
- (2) John Samis, Canada, def. George Lewis, India, 15-9, 15-11.
- (3) Ted Pollock-R. G. Smith, Canada, def. B. V. Ullal-D. G. Mugve, India, 15-7, 15-9.
- (4) Dick Birch-Gordon Simpson, Canada, def. Davinder Mohan Lal-George Lewis, India, 15-13, 5-15, 15-10.

December 4, 1948

- (5) Dick Birch, Canada, def. George Lewis, India, 15-7, 17-14.
- (6) John Samis, Canada, def. Davinder Mohan Lal, India, 4-15, 15-7, 15-10.
- (7) Daryl Thompson, Canada, def. H. Ferreira, India, 5-15, 15-12, 15-7.
- (8) Dick Birch-Gordon Simpson, Canada, def. D. G. Mugve-B. V. Ullal, India, 15-5, 15-18, 15-5.
- (9) Davinder Mohan Lal-George Lewis, India, def. Ted Pollock-Roy Smith, Canada, 15-9, 16-18, 15-10.

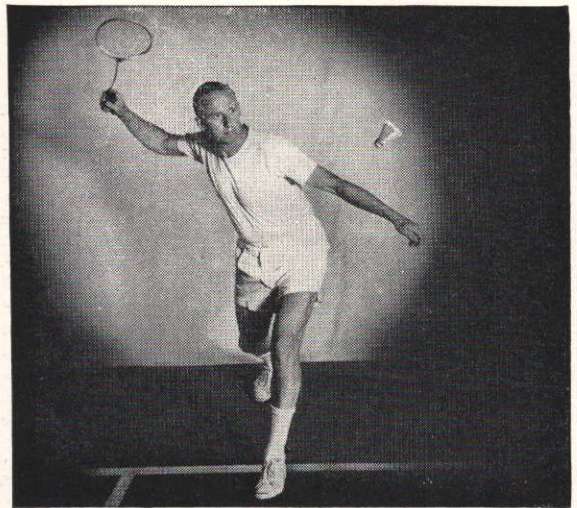
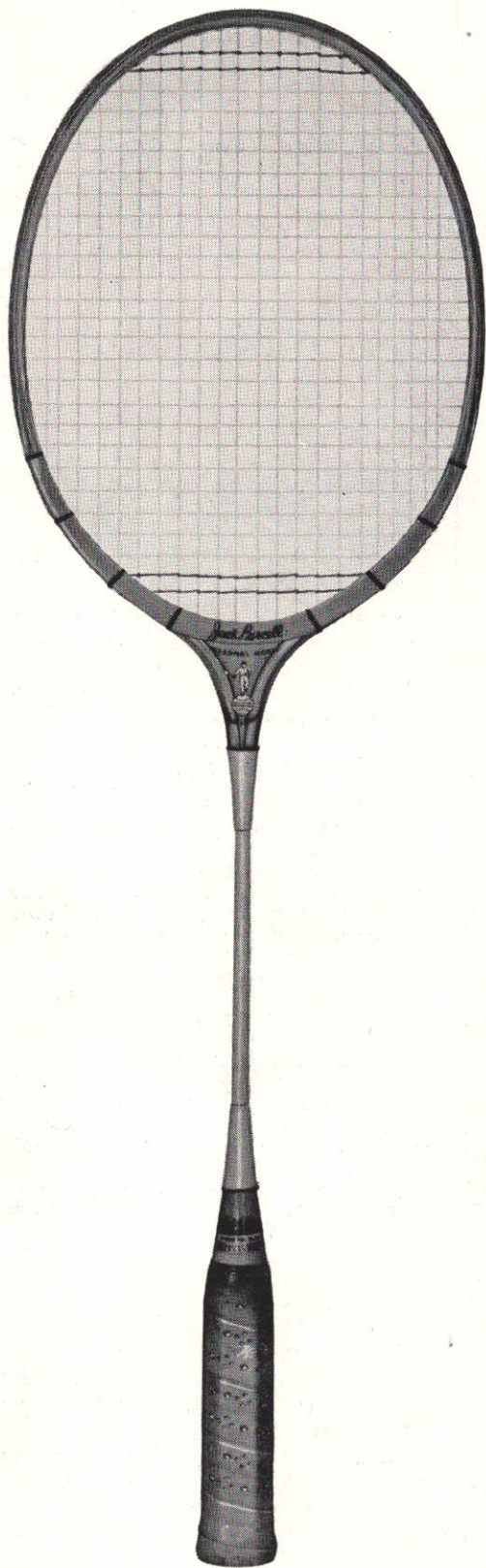
NATIONAL JUNIOR TOURNEY BID STILL OPEN

News of the Third Annual National United States Junior Championships could not be released in time for this issue of Bird Chatter.

Bids can still be sent to Hamilton B. Law, ABA secretary, 1201 4th Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

A special President's Bulletin will be issued immediately upon the award of the event.

"We urge all sections to consider sponsoring the National Junior Championships," states T. M. Royce, ABA president. "The future of American Badminton and the success of this nation in coming Thomas Cup competition largely rests in the experience our young athletes receive in these important national meets."



"
Like 5 ounces
of dynamite"
"

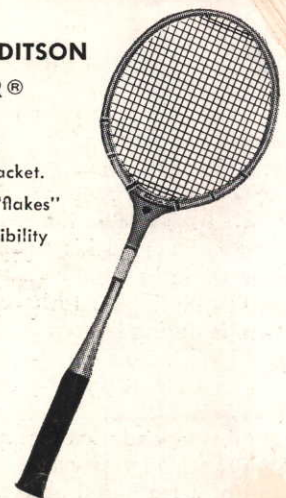
That's how Jack Purcell, world-famous badminton champion, describes Wright & Ditson's new Purcell Personal. And no wonder!

Every bit of weight in this rapier-like bat is *working-weight*. Trimmed down for perfect finger-tip control, the Purcell Personal is packed with power.

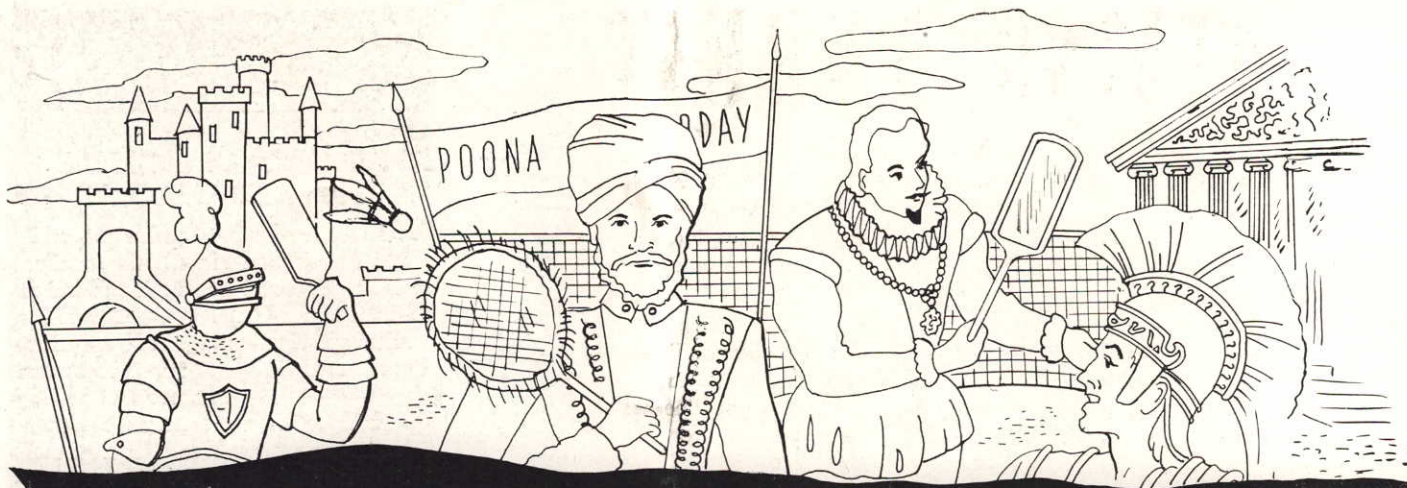
There's power-plus in its fast-flexing shaft of high-temper steel... in the reinforcing laminations of the "blended hardwoods" in its bow. This Spalding-made racket really stands up under the roughest usage.

**WRIGHT & DITSON
GOLD STAR®**

A light, strong, wood-shafted racket. Long, tapered "flakes" give added flexibility without added weight.



You're sure you're right with
WRIGHT & DITSON



The Greeks had a word for it...



PAST

IT'S SAID that the Greeks of pre-historic times ranked a game played with birds and parchment-covered bats in the same class with archery, wrestling, foot racing and discus throwing. In later times Alexander-the-Great encouraged his troops to play this game while in camp as a means of keeping fit. He is said to have introduced it in India during his conquests.

It is also possible that there is some basis to a report that the Chinese wielded a wicked racquet in a game similar to badminton and that members of King Arthur's Court smacked away at some kind of a feathered object.

But general acceptance is that India is the birth place of badminton. The Indians called it "poona" and displayed it before fascinated British officers. The officers, later, played the game using corks from champagne bottles decorated with feathers and batted them across a table.

Badminton was first played in India in 1800 and was then played on an oval court. The rules were printed in 1877 at Karachi, India, and were responsible for a very peculiar feature which survived for many years. The hall in which the game was played at Karachi was not much wider than the court itself, and the doors opened inwards, at the center. To allow for the doors, the side lines were bent inwards between the short service lines and the net, the width at the net being thus several feet less than that of the greater part of the court. This curious formation, known as the "Hour-Glass" court became an integral part of the game and was not abolished until 1901.

The game was carried to England and after being introduced at Bath it was played at the Duke of Beaufort's manse in Gloucestershire in 1873. As the Duke's ancestral hall was called "Badminton Hall" it followed that the game played there should be named badminton.

PRESENT

In 1893 the Badminton Association of England was formed with a mere fourteen clubs in membership. By its jubilee in 1943 this figure had increased to over 1300 clubs.

The Association adopted an ash racket with gut or silk strings to replace the cumbersome wooden bats of the Indians. And for the wooden ball guided by an attached feather, a leather-covered cork with trailing goose feathers was

substituted. This feathery and flighty missile was called a shuttlecock or bird.

Badminton players became so enthusiastic that they spread to Canada as early as 1897 and then to the United States. By 1930 nearly every section of the U. S. had become acquainted with the sport. And throughout the world a score of national associations became affiliated with the worldwide governing body, The International Badminton Federation.

The I. B. F. boasts memberships from Australia, Canada, Denmark, England, France, India, Ireland, Malaya, New Zealand, Norway, Scotland, South Africa, Sweden, U. S. A., Wales, Iceland, Belgium, and Northern Rhodesia.

Last season there were 283 member clubs in the American Badminton Association spread through 19 class A associations. Last season's nose-count revealed the sport to have the greatest number of bona-fide organizations in the state of New York with 46, California 29, Massachusetts 28 and Washington 21. The Midwest Association embracing Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri and Minnesota has 37.

With the start of the 1948-49 season, badminton in the U. S. has completed a cycle. The national championships are returning to Chicago for the first time since the inauguration of that event in 1937.

And as an indication of what is to come—the India Thomas Cup team came from the birthplace of badminton to do battle with the two strongest New World teams, the U. S. and Canada, to decide who will represent the American Zone in the international playoffs in London next month.

Thus hopefully Badminton faces the future.

DANISH THREAT

IN THE FAMOUS battle of Clontarf near Dublin in 1014, the Danish Vikings were defeated by the Irish in their attempt to conquer Ireland. The Danish King Sweyn Forkbeard would no doubt have never dreamed that nearly 1000 years had to pass before the Danes had a chance of revenge.

However, last November, the gauntlet was thrown to the Danes, in the form of the Thomas Cup Competition, and the Danes picked it up immediately in order to wash off the defeat of Clontarf.

No stone was left unturned to make the most of this chance, and the Irish team was sent out of Denmark with a crushing defeat of 9-0 in match results without the Irish winning a single set in all nine matches.

In December Denmark met Sweden in Thomas Cup play and also defeated the Swedes 9-0. However the Swedes were able to salvage two sets from the wreckage.

The Danes are considered to be the finest badminton players in Europe and perhaps the world today. The odds favor them to be European Zone Thomas Cup finalists. If the U. S. team, untried in Old World competition, can defeat Malaya in the first round, it will probably meet Denmark for the "Champion Nation" title.

N. P. Kristensen, Secretary of the Danish Badminton Association and K. Lunoe, Secretary Frederiksberg Badminton Club, have collaborated on the following sketches of Danish players.

Jorn Skaarup is considered to be the keystone of the Danish Thomas Cup squad. At 23 years of age he has already won 6 National and 3 Danish Badminton Association International tournaments.

In 1947 he reached the finals in men's singles in the All-England championships, where he was defeated by his countryman, Conny Jepsen, who represented Sweden as he now lives in Stockholm. However, this year Jorn took part in the

Danish clean sweep of the All-England by winning singles and mixed doubles.

Skaarup is listed No. 1 in singles and 1-2 in mixed doubles in the Danes' ranking.

Thirty-year-old Tage Madsen is probably the best player Denmark has ever produced. He is not expected to be able to participate in the Thomas Cup matches as it is impossible for him to find the necessary time.

Tage first took national juniors in 1937 and is the holder of 19 national championships and is 6 times winner of the DBA's International event.

For many years, Tage was in a class by himself.

In 1939, as the first winner outside of Great Britain, Madsen knocked over R. C. F. Nichols to take the single's event in the All-England tournament. He repeated his win in 1947 after the war's intervention with the event and also added a championship in men's doubles.

The DBA appointed him to represent Denmark in the All-India championships of 1947, which took place in Bombay in December. He won the mixed title with Miss Sunder Deodhar of India but lost singles to S. A. Durai of Malaya.

Tage Madsen is a very friendly and classical player with a calm and even temper.

Poul Holm, 28, has a beautiful style and enjoys a lot of fun during his play.

He also took part in the All-India event but because of an injury was forced to withdraw.

Poul ranks 2nd in men's singles, 4th in men's doubles and 3rd in mixed. He won the DBA international singles title in 1947.

Thomas Cup team member Preben Dabelsteen at 24 is ranked 1-2 in men's doubles. He won the men's doubles title three times and twice in the DBA International Event.

In 1947 he and Jorn Skaarup were runners-up in the All-England men's doubles event. But one year later Dabelsteen brought the title home when he and Borge Frederiksen defeated Conny Jepsen and Nils Jonson of Sweden.

Borge Frederiksen, who teams with Dabelsteen is also a Thomas Cup team member. He is 29 years old and ranks 4th in mixed doubles and 5th in men's singles.

While these five men are Denmark's leading badminton stars there are many



LEFT TO RIGHT—Jorn Skaarup, Borge Frederiksen, Tage Madsen, Poul Holm, Nels Peter Nielsen, Co-Editor Frederiksberg Badminton Club magazine; Preben Dabelsteen, Knud Lunoe, N. P. Kristensen.

more close to these top flight players. Expressing the opinion of most Europeans, H. A. E. Scheele, honorary secretary of the International Badminton Federation made the following statement at the DBA's International championships in Copenhagen during Easter last year. "What struck one most was the fact that even after the leading Danish players, there seemed to be any number of lesser known competitors whose standard was really little below those who had been honored with their international colors."



Journeys and Topics

SAN MATEO "B" OPEN N. CALIF. SEASON

The opening tournament of the Northern California badminton season was held at the San Mateo High School on Nov. 26, 27, 28. In spite of the proximity of the Thanksgiving holiday, a crowd of about 100 players turned out to enter 180 events.

Octavia Pratt, Palo Alto, and Wes Willoughby, Pasadena, graduated to "A" Class by winning their respective singles crowns.

Particularly outstanding among the matches played were the finals of the men's doubles. In the first flight, Willoughby and Ray Daba, San Mateo, defeated Gareth Ott, San Francisco, Bill Burgess, Albany, in a terrific three game unseeded upset, 15-5, 10-15, 18-15. The consolation finals between Bob Mason-Jim Scarles, Sacramento, and Morgens Morgensen-V. M. Robertson, San Mateo, was also a thrilling three-gamer, with the Sacramento team victorious, 7-15, 15-9, 18-17.

Walter Hunter assisted by Ron Bobbitt, Beverly Foppiano, Stebb Teal and others from the Peninsula Club made the "B" tournament both a social and financial success.

RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES, Wes Willoughby def. Charles Self, 15-4, 9-15, 15-10; **LADIES' SINGLES**, Octavia Pratt def. Beverly Foppiano, 7-11, 11-2, 11-1; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Alice Gowen-Marie Coats def. Helen Winter-Agnes Nestor, 15-4, 15-4; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Willoughby-Ray Daba def. Bill Burgess-Gareth Ott, 15-5, 10-15, 18-15; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Foppiano-Walt Brandt def. Velma Stratta-Bill Hammerson, 15-7, 0-15, 15-8.

Consolation Results:

MEN'S SINGLES, Bill Knox def. Willy Takaki, 18-15, 15-11; **LADIES' SINGLES**, Annette Zaepffel def. May Joan Buwalda, 9-11, 11-7, 11-3; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Bob

Mason-Jim Scarles def. Morgens Morgensen-V. M. Robertson, 7-15, 15-9, 18-17; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Moose-Feige def. Delores Burgess-Jennie Chan, 15-7, 15-7; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Doris Martin-Bill Knox def. Bob Mason-Roberta Laidlow, 15-11, 15-8.

L. E. Gowen, *Correspondent*

WESTERN N. Y. HOLDS ROUND ROBIN MIXED

Western New York's Badminton Association's First Mixed Doubles Round Robin Class A tournament was held Dec. 13 with Alice Brown-Jack Bowling defeating Dorothy McCallum-Bob Traquair in the finals 18-14, 15-7.

Competition was divided into two draws. Teams participating included Margaret Michlin-Henry Kirchner, Jack O'Bannon-Jose O'Bannon, Del Altenberg-Grace Altenberg, Jane Moriarity-Herr Fehrenbach, June Traquair-Bob Mack, Betty Wiley-Buck Wiley, Marceline Schmidt-Frank Kowski, Rose Salem-Dick Salem and Aline Ireland-Ed Ireland.

J. H. Bowling, *Correspondent*

FLINT TOURNEY ATTRACTS INTEREST

With the tremendous increase in interest, the Annual Flint Invitational Tournament has been moved to the large Industrial Mutual Auditorium in Flint where this year's matches will get under way March 26, 27.

The auditorium has a capacity of eight courts and 3,500 spectators. The lighting effect is good and there is no outside light reaching the playing area. Hotels and restaurants are within two blocks of the auditorium.

More information may be obtained by writing Flint Badminton Club, 1054 N. Chevrolet Ave., Flint, Michigan.

"BIRDS" CARRY ENTRIES TO WESTPORT MEET

Birds flew to the tournament as well as in the 11th Annual Westport Invitational Men's Doubles Tournament held December 2, at the Westport YMCA.

Carrier pigeons were sent by express to out-of-state players to use for returning entries. All the pigeons flew back in about half the time it would have taken by train.

In one of the most exciting and tense games held in Westport this year, the New York doubles team of Dick Yeager-Eddie Shields defeated Boston's Wayne Schell-Bob Wright 10-15, 18-13, 15-3.

Locals Fred Fullin-Ken Kost came close to upsetting the winners when they extended them in the semis 3-15, 15-12, 17-15.

Frank "Pop" Hinds-Eddie Nipoti lost the other semi final to the Schell-Wright duo, 15-11, 17-18, 15-10.

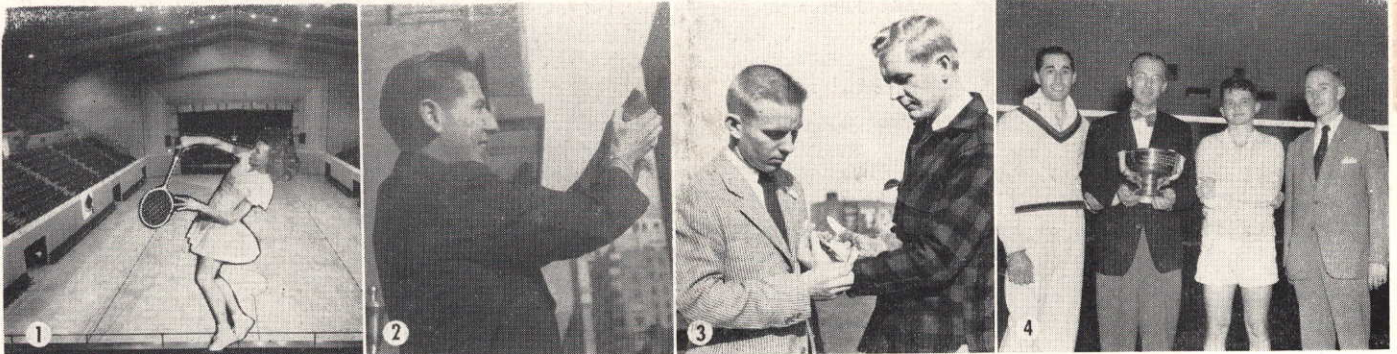
The Gustavson Cup was presented to the winning doubles team in tribute to Lealand R. Gustavson who is known as the father of Westport badminton and whose excellence of play throughout the years is nationally known. The trophy is a large sterling silver Paul Revere Bowl.

During the intermission between the semi-finals and the finals, four top Westport juniors put on an exhibition match. It was Deedy McCormick-Jimmy Woods, No. 8 U. S. Junior Mixed duo against Pete Sherwood-Phil Schaub, No. 8 boys' doubles team. The two boys won in straight games 15-8, 15-12.

Ken Kost, *Correspondent*

INDIA TEAMS TOPS W.S.B.A. STARS

The traveling Indian Thomas Cup squad topped the Washington State Badminton stars 4-0 in matches held January 10 at the University of Washington.



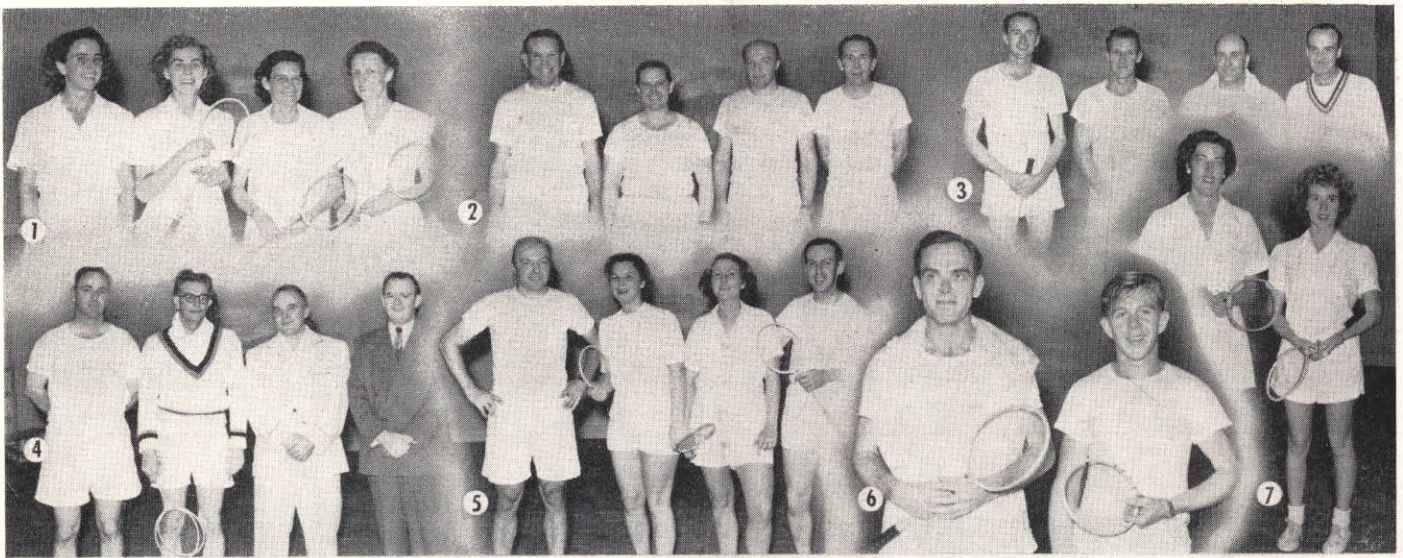
FLINT INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT—1. Mrs. Ann (Nestor) DiLeone, Cleveland, with the Industrial Mutual Association's Auditorium shown in the background.

11TH ANNUAL WESTPORT MEN'S INVITATIONAL DOUBLES: Left to right—2. Carl Loveday in Montclair releasing pigeon. Note: Loveday had previous engagement in Pasadena. 3. Ken Kost, Vincent Jorczyk, pigeon racer, receiving pigeon from Bob Wright after 2 hours, 35 minutes. 4. Ed Shields, Lealand Gustavson, (holding Gustavson trophy), Dick Yeager, Ken Kost, tournament chairman.



SAN MATEO B TOURNEY—1 Gareth Ott, Ray Daba, Wes Willoughby, Bill Burgess. 2 Octavia Pratt, Beverly Foppiano. 3 Bill Hammerson-Velma Stratta, Beverly Foppiano, Walt Brandt.

4 Charles Self, Wes Willoughby. 5 Agnes Nestor, Helen Winther, Norm Blanchet, Marie Coats, Alice Gowen.



THIRD ANNUAL BURBANK OPEN—1 Gertrude Ambling, Katie Stell, Billie Boles, Margaret Elms. 2 Glen Scofield, Howard Sawyer, Fred Serafin, Keasey. 3 Ronnie Carr, Al Kirby, Daub,

Burgess. 4 Louis Rulison, Hulet Smith, Gene Elms, Moon Mullins. 5 Fred Serafin, Mrs. Al Kirby, Kathleen McGrath, Wes Willoughby, 6 Bert Estabrook, Ronnie Palmer. 7 Jeanne Pons, Lois Smedley.



EIGHTH ANNUAL MANHATTAN BEACH TOURNAMENT—1 Lou Read, Toy Erkkila, Wally Kinnear, Dan McArthur. 2 Dave Freeman, Helen Tibbetts, Loma Smith, Wynn Rogers. 3 Ruth Estabrook, Kay Bowers, Mae Carr, Irene Gardner.

4 Janet Wright, Dottie Hann, Marianne Gott, Thelma Scovil. 5 Nelson Horway, Sylvia Solomon, Dottie Busby, Bud Adams. 6 Ted Jarrett, Jack Bachom.

Patrons Unite to Send U. S. Team . . .

By WARREN WHEARY

Sec.-Treas., ABPA

SINCE THE American Badminton Patrons Association was announced, 15 founder members have joined.

The honor of being the first member went to the Skokie Badminton Club and Donald E. Wilbur, first ABA president and president of the Patrons, became the second founder member.

Other founder members as of the last of December are: T. M. Royce, Seattle, ABA president; Hamilton Law, Seattle, ABA secretary; Rufus D. Beach, Chicago, past ABA secretary; Robert L. McMillan, Chestnut Hill, Mass., first ABA secretary; Raymond G. Scarlett, Baltimore, past ABA vice-president; Hamilton Badminton Club, Chicago; E. H. Walter, San Mateo, Cal.; Claude Welcome, Glendale, president Southern California B. A.; Mrs. Claude Welcome, Glendale; S. W. Marshall, Hollywood Sports Center, Hollywood, Cal.; Warren Wheary, past ABA president; John G. White, Chicago, chairman 1949 Championships; and Southern

California Badminton Association.

The income from these memberships totals \$809.81 of which \$59.81 was audience donations at the finals of the Thomas Cup matches in Pasadena.

The ABPA is embarking upon an ambitious program to raise \$10,000 of which about \$7000 will be used to defray traveling expenses of the ABA team to England in February for the International Badminton Championships. A considerable portion of this should be recovered from the net profit of the matches there. Since the team leaves in early February, it is necessary for us to raise the money within the next few weeks.

There are three classes of ABPA memberships: Founder memberships for individuals, clubs and Associations at \$50 each; founder memberships for sporting goods manufacturers and dealers at \$100 each; and sustaining memberships for individuals at \$10 each. The constitution of the Patrons Association provides for only 200 founder memberships, consequently the bulk of the memberships will be sustaining.

While financing the traveling expenses

of the team to England is our first objective, the program of the Patrons Association includes junior development and the general promotion of badminton.

The time is here for each ABA director, each Class A Association and each member club to put his shoulder to the wheel and raise the money for this all important program. Our team has qualified and it is up to us to see that they go!

Directors are urged to contact individuals in their regions who are potential founder members; Class A Association officers should present the ABPA program and set a quota for their member clubs. Many clubs may wish to follow the example of the Skokie and Hamilton Badminton clubs and become founder members.

Checks should be mailed to Warren Wheary, Sec.-Treas., ABPA, 1805 South 55th Avenue, Chicago 50, Ill.

★

CORRESPONDENTS

The copy deadline for the March-April issue of *Bird Chatter*, Official Badminton Magazine, is February 15.

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AMERICAN BADMINTON ASSOCIATION
Season 1947-48
Approved for ABA Tournament Play by the Shuttlecock Committee American Badminton Association (Approval No. B106)



PALO ALTO MIXED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT—1 Nan and Perry Collonge. 2 Judy Coffey, Don McCorkle. 3 Bruce McCurdy, Charlene Burgess. 4 Margaret Copenhagen, Walter Brandt, tournament manager; Dave Copenhagen.

BURGESS-McCURDY TOP PALO ALTO TOURNAMENT

Lots of spots were hit, mostly inside the courts, and a few saw spots in the first post-war resumption of the Annual Palo Alto Mixed Doubles event held at Castellejo School, Sunday, December 5.

In spite of a lot of good-natured razzing from the gallery, Charlene Burgess-Bruce McCurdy each took home a beautiful sterling cream-sugar bowl-tray combination for winning over Perry and Dan Collonge in the finals.

A refreshing innovation for the perennial semi-finalists found Judy Coffey-Don McCorkle and Margaret-Dave

Copenhagen being awarded engraved cups.

RESULTS

FINALS: Burgess-McCurdy def. Perry-Nan Collonge, 15-5, 17-14; SEMI-FINALS: Burgess-McCurdy def. Judy McCoffey-Don McCorkle, 15-4, 15-5; Perry-Nan Collonge def. Margaret-Dave Copenhagen, 15-12, 8-15, 15-10.

L. E. Gowen, *Correspondent*


KERR AIDS VETS

Don Kerr, New Orleans, is traveling for the Government Office of Vocational Rehabilitation to demonstrate the use of artificial limbs in action. If possible he uses badminton for the demonstration.

In Trenton, New Jersey, Carl Love-

day and Ken played an exhibition before 2000.

Beginning in December, Kerr started a four-month rehabilitation tour to demonstrate through the country the degree to which disabled persons can be rehabilitated and become successful in leading a normal and independent life.



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MISSOURI OPEN ATTRACTS STARS

One week before the Nationals in Chicago the Missouri Open Tournament is to be held in St. Louis, April 9 and 10.

The scene of the tourney will be the St. Louis University Gymnasium, home of the National Invitational Basketball Champions, the St. Louis Billikins.

Excellent playing conditions are available with locker room and shower facilities. The gym has a seating capacity of 4,000. Fine hotel accommodations at two large mid-town hotels within two blocks of the gym will be arranged for in advance of the tournament.

Announcements and entry blanks will be sent to clubs throughout the country as many players on their way to the Nationals in Chicago will stop over in St. Louis for the pre-tourney warm-up.

Complete information may be obtained from the MBA secretary, Mrs. Peg Goessling, 413 Marion Ave., Webster Groves 19, Mo.

Peg Goessling, *Correspondent*

★
The seventh Annual Hollywood Badminton Tournament will be held January 28-30.



NEW ROCHELLE MIXED UP DOUBLES MEET—Left to right: Howard Hopkinson, Mary Stapp, Walter Raymond, Wanda Bergman, Donald Hume, May Hellwig, Jim Burney, Eda Daume, John Sornell, Ruth Wiener. Seated: Edward Shields (too tired to stand).

Following a yearly custom, the New Rochelle Badminton Club held its Mixed Up Mixed Doubles Tournament in the Huguenot YMCA in New Rochelle, N. Y., Dec. 11.

Walt Raymond-May Hellwig, top blue team of section 1, defeated Jim Burnley-Eda Daume, top blue team of section 2. Don Hume-Wanda Bergman, top

red section 1 duo, defeated John Cornell-Ruth Wiener, leading red team in section 2. In the finals the Burnley-Daume team won over Cornell-Wiener while Hume-Bergman defeated Raymond-Hellwig for third place.

An evening party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Yeager.

May Hellwig, *Correspondent*

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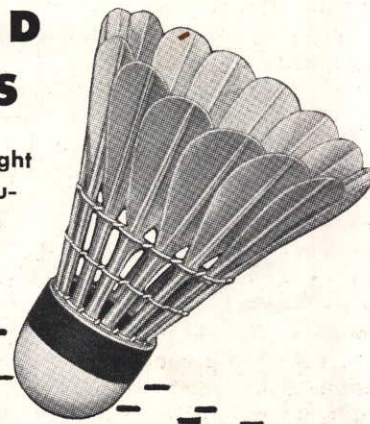


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MASSACHUSETTS JR. PLAY ON INCREASE

Predominant among the early season activities has been the unexpected growth of junior play. Once again the State Association sponsors organized instruction and play Saturday mornings at the University Club. The services of professional Al Dover has been utilized

Other clubs operating junior groups are Waban Neighborhood Club, where 23 to 27 youngsters are playing at least twice a month; Maugus Club, which is just getting under way with about 8 to 10 and many potential prospects. These groups are being given instruction by Don and Phil Richardson.

The Second Annual A-C Men's Doubles Tournament was held at the University Club Dec. 3 and 4. Last year's winners, Wayne Schell-Fred Ordway eked out a close win from Robert Wright-Brooks Crosley to win the excellent trophy donated by Mr. Ordway.

RESULTS

FINALS: Schell-Ordway def. Wright-Crosby, 12-15, 15-12, 18-17.

CONSOLATION FINALS: Bates-Roberts def. Melia-Cochrane 15-13, 15-9.

Results Massachusetts "D" Tourney

LADIES' SINGLES, Betsy Shaw def. Peggy Ryan 11-1, 12-11; **MEN'S SINGLES,** Winslow Cobb def. Abdol Hassam, 15-6, 15-4; **LADIES' DOUBLES,** Carol Coulter-Evelyn Albion def. Betsy Shaw-Sondra Costello, 18-17, 8-15, 15-9; **MEN'S DOUBLES,** Chas. Plummer-Lou Fowler def. Hassam-E. Sarkis 10-15, 15-11, 17-15; **MIXED DOUBLES,** Cobb-Mrs. Mary Moran def. John McGee-Coulter 15-4, 15-4.

Don Richardson, *Correspondent*

MICH. LEAGUE FORMED

A new Michigan Badminton League was formed this year to encourage intercity play. At a recent meeting a 12-game schedule was drawn and rules of play adopted which call for a full team of 4 men's, 4 women's and 8 mixed duos. Ferndale B. C. was listed as the pre-season favorite but on their first match they were forced to win their last three mixed matches to pull into a tie with Flint. Flint also knocked over Grosse Pointe 9-7.

Another league that has been active for some time is the Central Michigan League composed of Lansing, Jackson, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids. Marion (Buck) Shane of Kalamazoo College tennis fame is the man behind this activity.

Charles A. Mobley, *Correspondent*

D. VAUGHN IN N.E.

The fine work which Don Vaughn did in the Southern region last season will be expanded this year to include activity in the New England region.

Under the sponsorship of Sportcraft, Don worked out an active program last season with the Southern officials, operating principally around Atlanta, Georgia. He continued this work during January but the balance of the season will cover the major schools and colleges in New England.

FLORIDA PLAYERS ACTIVE IN TOURNAMENT

The State of Florida was represented in the Atlanta Southern Invitational Tournament by players from Key West, Miami and Tampa. Those attending were: Mrs. Claire Smith, Key West; Mr. W. Graham, Miami; Mrs. Mel LaHayne, Miss Jo Anne Young and Mr. Doug. LaHayne, Tampa.

Mrs. Smith won the singles from Mrs. Martha Bass of Chattanooga and with Mrs. LaHayne lost in the ladies' doubles finals.

Mrs. R. D. LaHayne, *Correspondent*

AMERICAN ZONE THOMAS CUP MATCHES

(Continued from Page 5)

it was a case of the Californian working hard to match the length of the British Columbian and to bide his time for a flaw in his opponent's length. Dave's great ability to concentrate and his incredible, accurate returns from any part of the court forced the Canadian into shots other than his deep clears and eventually paved the way for a point. The United States Champion opened up and attacked more in the second game, scoring with some quickly executed around-the-head cross court smashes which caught Samis by surprise as he evidently expected Dave to continue to clear or drop-shot as in the preceding rallies. After faltering slightly under the change-of-pace tactics provided by Dave the Canadian went back to his astronomical clears more persistently than ever but although his cool, calculating efforts kept the rallies alive the Pasadenan's drop-shots and occasional smashes finally ended most of the rallies. The loss of six points in all to Samis and the seven points to Birch the previous night meant that Dave had allowed only 13 points to break through his well-night impregnable defense in four games against the best two Canadians—both of whom have won their National Single's title at least twice.

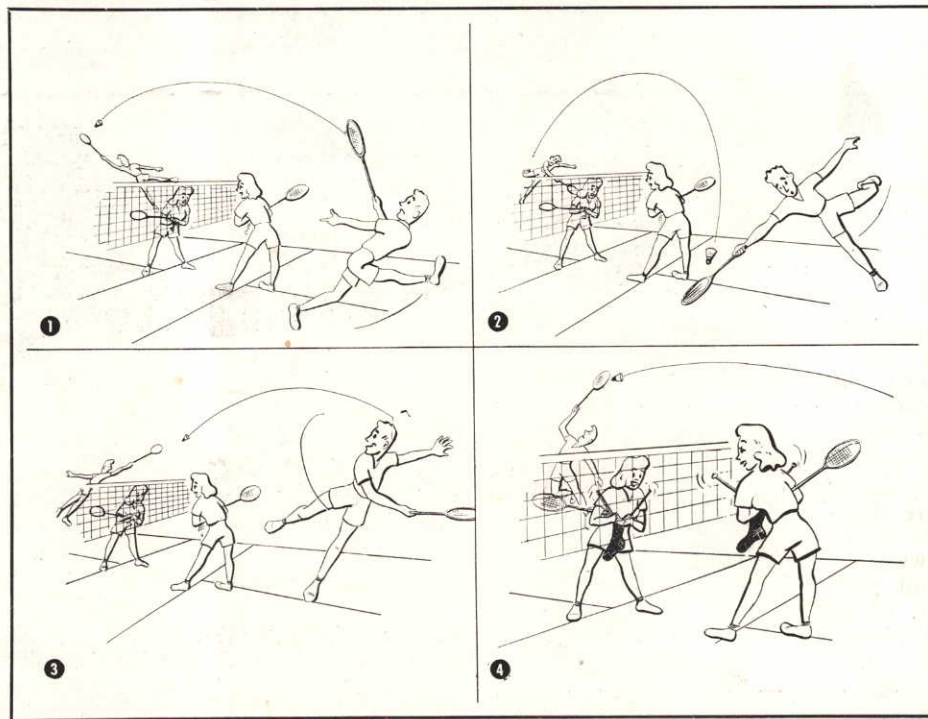
The honor of clinching the Tie in favor of the United States' first effort in International competition went to Dave Freeman, playing before his own townspeople, with the winning of the fifth successive match. All the Canadian players, their Manager, Dr. R. Cramer, and the President of the Canadian B. A., Mr. Jack Underhill, all dashed on to the court to congratulate Dave and the United States representatives on their success and wished them luck in the forthcoming Zone play-offs in England.

The enthusiasm of the U.S.A. players in no way abated—if anything Marten Mendez was sharper and keener against Dick Birch than on the previous night, notwithstanding the loss of the first game. It was due to over anxiety to win against the Canadian Champion which lead to Marten's undoing. Leading by a 13-6 margin, then a 13-8 margin, Marten lost the serve and on the next four serves by Birch made errors by trying to win back the serve quickly. This gave hope to the Toronto player who was outsped throughout and had been caught flat-footed by some of Marten's excellently executed drop-shots and, remaining cool, he evened up the score at 13 all with his best shot—a sharply angled smash straight down the side-line. After securing a 3-1 lead in the setting Marten's over-zealous-

ness cost him the first game as Birch grasped at the chance to serve again and eke out the narrowest of game margins at 18-17. It was here that Marten proved to be a champion by not allowing the loss of the first game to worry him unduly. His serving improved and he kept Birch off-balance by serving a well-disguised short serve (scoring an ace once and forcing two weak net returns) on occasion and generally harried the Canadian with his quickness in the fore-court and splendid close short net cross-court returns. Marten speeded up the game to such a pitch that for one point Birch was swinging instinctively at four of Marten's smashes and had to smile along with the crowd as the 5' 7", 135-pound San Diego flash closed in to smack a fifth smash past his 6' 1", 190-pound frame. The noted defense of the Californian continued to blunt Birch's strong overhead in the third game and as Birch tired Mendez seemed to gather energy and cover the court more quickly than ever. His cut, cross court drop-shot to the forecourt

ened under the pounding and lost the final point of the match as Marten smashed away a poor return from the same corner. Again, the Canadians were somewhat surprised as the second ranking United States player beat their Champion but it was a well-earned win and completed a highly successful debut for Marten in International play.

Carl Loveday, playing more nearly to the form he showed in pre-war days, out-generalled and outsmarted Daryl Thompson all the way in the number 3 Single's spot. Carl has the faculty of breaking up the other fellow's game and Thompson got little opportunity to get set for his smash which is his main weapon of attack. Styled somewhat on the Samis method of high clears the Thompson tactics lack the steadiness of his fellow countryman's stroking, nevertheless his long reach and steep smash makes him a worthy opponent. Carl treated the audience to a vast repertoire of drop-shots from all parts of the court and his terrific swing at the shuttle from the deep corner of the back-hand near the floor which made the shuttle soar high and deep to the opposite end of the court not only caught Thompson off-guard but proved that all types of shots can be made effective with



of the Canadian opened up the way to the next return to Birch's deep back-hand corner and we had the unusual sight of seeing a Canadian playing a high back-hand return rather than their normal around-the-head stroke which they favor much more than the United States' players. Marten scored several points by these tactics and also by hitting a second or even a third successive return into the deep back-hand corner as Birch weak-

the proper use of the wrist. Carl's victory was the seventh successive win for the U.S.A. boys and brought to an end the series of Single's matches.

The expected close match between Clint Stephens-Bobby Williams and the Canadian Champions, Ted Pollock and Roy Smith, failed to materialize as the Easterners continued where they left off the night before and played near-superlative badminton. Once more the United States

team served well and almost swept the opposition off the court by their sustained attack, both from the back-court and the fore-court. The Stephens-Williams combination achieved the second doubles win by cleverly mixing up their return of service and never allowing their opponents to settle down. Their new-found willingness to follow up each other's attack makes them a much tougher team than heretofore as their defense has always been first rate.

Although the eighth successive match had gone to the U.S.A. the ninth and final match was a complete surprise as our National Champions, Dave Freeman and Wynn Rogers, failed to make it a clean sweep when they were badly beaten by Dick Birch and Gordon Simpson. Due credit must go to the Canadians for quickly clutching at the openings provided by the slow reactions of both Californians and they ran up a formidable lead and staved off a belated rally to win the first game 15-10. The second game started off exactly as the first with the Americans striving to pull themselves together but finding the speed of Simpson and the shot making of Birch irrepressible, with Simpson not only making some amazing returns but making them into unbelievable winning shots. Birch caught Freeman several times with a flat drive serve

down the backhand and it wasn't until the Canadians were leading 12-2 that a serious threat was made to stop the onslaught. Six points were added on one run of service but although the crowd hung on grimly and urged the home Californians to complete their recovery it wasn't to be and the match finished as Birch crossed at the net and left both Americans in the back-court, making the final result of the Tie 8 matches to 1 in favor of the United States.

★

SALEM DUO BEATS FAVORITES IN OREGON

A pair of Salem YMCA bird-swatters broke into the front rank of badminton stars Dec. 12th at Multnomah Club as the two upset the favored tandem of Russ Hill and Chuck Cleveland in the doubles finals of the annual Oregon Badminton Association fall handi-cap tourney.

RESULTS

LADIES' SINGLES, Louise Cicrich def. Maryanne Hansen 11-0, 3-11, 11-5. **MEN'S SINGLES**, Russ Hill def. Harold Muntz 15-9, 15-9; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Maryanne Hansen-Mabel Brandom def. Grace Bell-Muriel Wood 15-7, 15-9; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Del DeSart-Phil Janz of Salem "Y" def. Chuck Cleveland-Russ Hill 15-12, 15-7; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Stan-Louise Cicrich def. Chuck-Norma Cleveland 15-5, 15-7.

Ila Marlatt, *Correspondent*

UPSETS MARK TEXAS MEET

Two upsets marked the finals of the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation Badminton Tournament held Dec. 4-5, in Dallas.

In men's singles play Jasper Garland, Baylor University, dropped EuGene Tenney, Carthage, 17-14, 15-7, while in men's doubles Hap Horn and Nick Roberts, Dallas, whipped Garland-Tenney, 15-11, 18-13.

The Dallas Badminton Club won the team trophy with 207 points with President Roy Harrison receiving the cup.

OTHER RESULTS:

LADIES SINGLES, Margaret Varner def. Abbie Rutledge 12-11, 11-3; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Varner-Rutledge def. Dorothy Lander-Kay Mitchell, 15-12, 7-15, 15-8; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Lander-Roberts def. Thelma Harrison-Roy Harrison, 15-5, 15-8.

Nick Roberts, *Correspondent*

★

COOPER HEADS R. I.

John J. Cooper, Longmeadow, was elected president of the Rhode Island Badminton Association for the 1948-49 season.

Other officers are: Mrs. Fred Davis, vice-president, and Miss Ruth Blake, secretary-treasurer.

Ruth Blake, *Correspondent*



Ken Davidson SAYS ..

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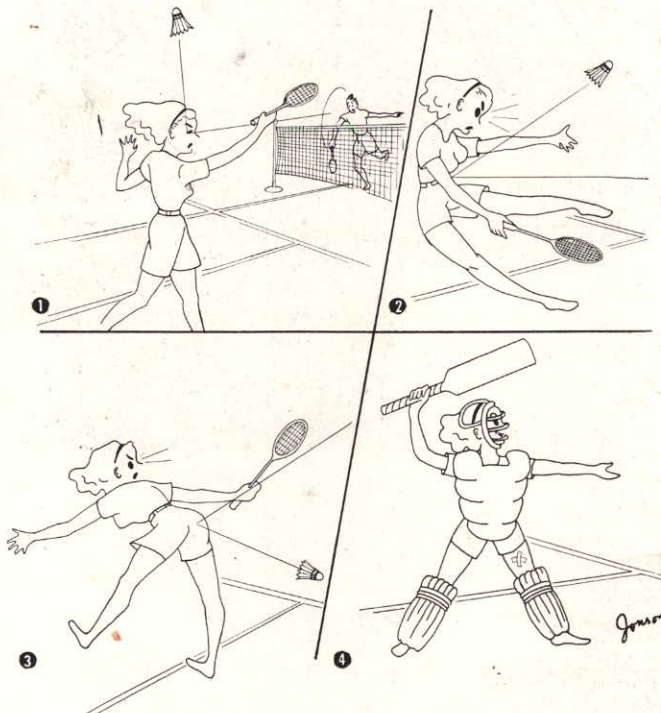
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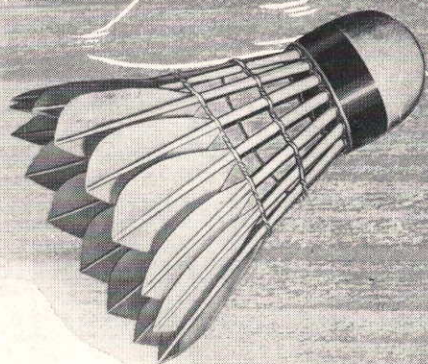
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MEN'S DOUBLES FEATURE OF MANHATTAN MEET

The Eighth Annual Manhattan Beach Badminton tournament was one of the best ever seen in Southern California. The presence of the three East Coast players of the Thomas Cup team added to the color.

The men's doubles was the highlight of the whole tournament. It was a rematch of the National finals in Waco but a bit closer. Stephens' and Williams' style of play is quite different from that played in Southern California. They seem to be closing in on the net at all times. They play an attacking game and are surprisingly far up in the court most of the time. Williams can smash from the backline and from nearly every other spot on the court. Stephens' net shots are consistently good. But Rogers' amazing reach and Freeman's—whatever it is—proved a bit too much again.

"A" FLIGHT MANHATTAN BEACH

MEN'S SINGLES, Dave Freeman def. Marten Mendez, 15-4, 15-12; **LADIES' SINGLES**, Marianna Gott def. Janet Wright, 11-6, 9-11, 12-10; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Janet Wright-Thelma Scovil def. Marianna Gott-Dottie Hann, 18-14, 17-15; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Freeman-Wynn Rogers def. Clint Stephens-Bobbie Williams, 10-15, 15-10, 15-13; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Freeman-Helen Tibbetts def. Rogers-Loma Smith, 8-15, 15-10, 17-14;

VETERAN'S DOUBLES, Moon Mullins-Gene Elms def. Hulet Smith-Louis Rulison, 15-12, 15-12.

"B" FLIGHT MANHATTAN BEACH

WOMEN'S SINGLES, Lois Smedley def. Stuart McKenna, 11-4, 11-3; **MEN'S SINGLES**, Ted Jarrett def. Jack Bachon, 15-11, 15-11; **WOMEN'S DOUBLES**, Ruth Estabrook-Kay Bowers def. Mae Carr-Irene Gardner, 15-6, 15-9; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Toy Erkkila-Lou Read def. Wally Kinnear-Dan McArthur, 15-6, 1-15, 15-11; **VET'S**, Bob Johnson-Ted Fitzgerald def. Toy Erkkila-Howard Taylor, 15-9, 15-9; **MIXED**, Bud Adams-Dottie Busby def. Nelson Harway-Sylvia Solomon, 10-15, 17-14, 15-13.

Helen Tibbetts, *Correspondent*

M. GOTT IN UPSET WIN AT BURBANK

The Third Annual Burbank Open turned out to be one of the largest meets in quite a while with 324 entries. It was played on November 5, 6, and 7 in the brand new million dollar Burbank High School gym. The first tournament of the year, it was marked by one upset after another.

"A" FLIGHT RESULTS

WOMEN'S SINGLES, Marianna Gott def. Thelma Scovil 11-3, 12-10; **MEN'S SINGLES**—Dave Freeman def. Marten Mendez, 15-2, 15-0; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Freeman-Wynn Rogers def. Norm Blanchet-Irl Madden 15-9, 15-6; **WOMEN'S DOUBLES**, Wright-Scovil def. Shirley Anderson-Jean Kirby,

15-6, 15-6; **VETERAN'S DOUBLES**, Gene Elms-Moon Mullin def. Hulet Smith-Louis Rulison 15-7, 14-18, 15-6; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Rogers-Loma Smith def. Freeman-Tibbetts, 15-10, 15-11.

"B" FLIGHT RESULTS

WOMEN'S SINGLES, Lois Smedley def. Jeanne Pons 5-11, 11-2, 11-0; **MEN'S SINGLES**, Bert Estabrook def. Ronnie Palmer 12-15, 15-4, 15-12; **WOMEN'S DOUBLES**, Gertrude Ambling-Katie Stell def. Billie Boles-Margaret Elms 15-9, 15-11; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Howard Sawyer-Glenn Scofield def. Fred Serafin-Keasey 15-11, 6-15, 15-9; **VETERAN'S DOUBLES**, Ronnie Carr-Al Kirby def. Ken Burgess-Doub 15-9, 15-6; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Wes Willoughby-Kathleen McGrath def. Fred Serafin-Mrs. Al Kirby 15-5, 11-15, 15-8.

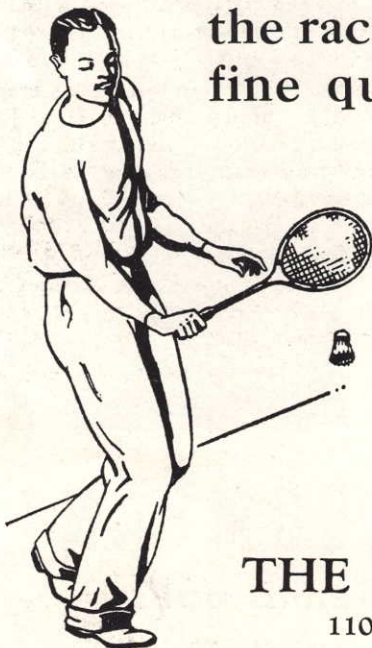
DALLAS CLUB SWEEPS NEW ORLEANS MEET

"Hap" Horn led the Dallas Badminton Club to a clean sweep of the Summer Open Tournament held in New Orleans September 10, 11, 12.

RESULTS

LADIES SINGLES, Dorothy Lander, Dallas, def. Nancy McLarty, New Orleans, 11-6, 11-3; **MEN'S SINGLES**, Hap Horn, Dallas, def. Nick Roberts, Dallas, 15-12, 15-6; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Lander-Harrison def. McLarty-Rhodes, 15-2, 15-8; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Horn-Roberts def. Parkerson-Rhodes, 15-5, 15-7; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Roberts-Lander def. Cleveland-McLarty, 15-7, 11-15, 15-8.

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PURDUE U. SCENE OF 12th MIDWEST

The 12th Annual Midwest tournament will be held at Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana on Feb. 25, 26, 27. It is being held under the auspices of the Indiana Badminton Association, and Commander R. H. G. Mathews, President, has assured all Midwest players that the facilities and competition will be the best.

Joseph N. Grant, Chicago, has been elected President of the large Midwest Association. Other officers are: Roy Jordan, Vice President; Lyman Mitchell, Sec.-treas. Midwest directors are: Roger Baird, Harry Conlon, A. D. Foote, C. Marion Gaston, Everett Gesaman, R. H. G. Mathews, Lyle A. Shortz, John G. White.

Eleanor Coombs, Hamilton Badminton Club, was given the number 1 ladies singles ranking in the Midwest BA official rankings for 1948. In men's singles, young Ted Moehlman, Jr., University City B. C. garnered top spot.

Officers Elected

The new officers of the Hamilton B. C. of Chicago are President William Graham, Vice-Pres. Joseph Tiberi, and Sec.-treas. William Lafayette.

The first tournament will be a mixed doubles event on January 16, sponsored by Hamilton B. C. Ted Moore, recently of Toronto, has been appointed tournament manager.

March 5-6, the 13th Annual Chicago District Tournament will be decided on the Hamilton courts.

The North Shore Championships and Class B Tournament will be held Jan. 21, 22, 23.

Wilma W. Shortz, *Correspondent*

★ BALTIMORE CITY INVITATIONAL JAN. 20-23

A large out-of-town entry is expected at the Third Annual Baltimore City Invitation Tournament sponsored by the St. Paul's Club on the St. Paul school's courts January 20-23.

Invitations were sent out to all Eastern clubs and from last year's results, tournament officials are certain they will receive strong representation from all over the Eastern seaboard.

There is a strong possibility that the U. S. Thomas Cup team may stop over for the Baltimore meet before leaving for England.

Five events will be played: Men's and Ladies' Singles, Men's and Ladies' Doubles, and Mixed Doubles.

Don Redding, *Correspondent*

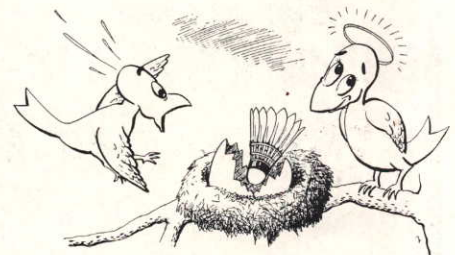
FAVORITES CAPTURE GILMAN MIXED

Favored Howard Holman-Charlotte Decker captured the annual Gilman Invitational Mixed Doubles Badminton tournament by trimming second-ranked Joel Baker-Polly Thompson, Dec. 6, on the Roland Park courts in Baltimore. The scores were 15-10, 11-15, 15-7.

Semi-final results found the eventual winners topping Bart Harvey Jr.-Sue Devlin, 15-4, 15-5 and Baker and Miss Thompson beating John McGee-Mrs. Elinor Behr, 15-10, 15-6. This eliminated all Baltimore teams and left two Washington, D. C. squads in the finals.

Bob and Nancy Poole defeated Preston Carter-Ketty Edgerton to win the consolation laurels, 17-14, 15-18, 17-15.

Don Redding, *Correspondent*





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Dear Sir: I introduce myself as a manager of The Nippori Badminton Club in Tokyo, holding many membership in the same club.

By this letter I wish you connect me with AMERICAN B A D M I N T O N CLUB.

In Japan, Badminton is getting very lovely sports, recreation sports. Every high school, university has this department in their sports association, and every city company too.

Most famous tournament is 6 universitie's league. And every fan expecting good play on this Autum Tournament.

NOW I have a few question about the development of badminton in Japan will be shuttle-cock, lack of cork in Japan will be checked the development of badminton, so all Japanese player and goods dealer looking for some substitution of this. About this substitution, we want know, what are using in America?

I saw the American sports book the other day, and found the substitution as rubber, thread, and sponge for it. But that book did not show the weight and other specification detail.

If you know this matter, notify me with your kindness.

ONE the other thing is the rule of playing, because every champion very hoping to make contest with American

Letters to Editors

champions when we can get good chance.

For my most happiness, I want have the publishment of badminton.

I hope you connect me with American Badminton Club, and reply good answer.

Hiroshi Jinnouchi
Tokyo, Japan

● *Showing the spirit that has made badminton grow throughout the world, Hiroshi Jinnouchi has overcome the difficult language barriers to bring us news of badminton in Japan to his American comrades.—Ed.*

Dear Sir: I am enclosing \$1.00 for a year's subscription to BIRD SEED.

Mrs. Harold Rowell
Seattle, Washington

● *Thank you, nature lover.—Ed.*

Sir: Mr. Moss' untiring efforts in gathering data for "King David's Court" (November Bird Chatter) was bound to net at least one mistake—I did serve as Director in So. California Badminton Association for several years—but never as President.

Bob Noble.
Alhambra, Calif.

INDIA THOMAS CUP
SQUAD TOURS U.S.A.

The India Thomas Cup team left Toronto Dec. 16 for an extended tour of the United States and Canada before sailing to England late this month.

The India players that took part in the India-Canada ties held in Toronto make up the squad.

They have played in Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Moosejaw, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver, Victoria and Seattle already and hope to return through the U. S., playing in the leading cities.

★
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Hugh Forgie and Stig Larsen are featured in the Badminton on Ice act of the Ice Capades.

Their itinerary until March 23 is as follows: January 10-19, Auditorium, Providence, R. I.; January 20-26, Arena, New Haven, Conn.; January 27-February 3, Uline Ice Arena, Washington, D. C.; February 4-15, Sports Arena, Hershey, Pa.; February 17-23, Municipal Auditorium, St. Paul, Minnesota; February 25-March 5, Arena, St. Louis, Missouri; March 6-23, Arena, Chicago.



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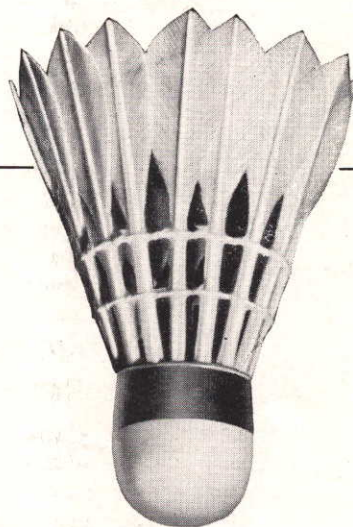
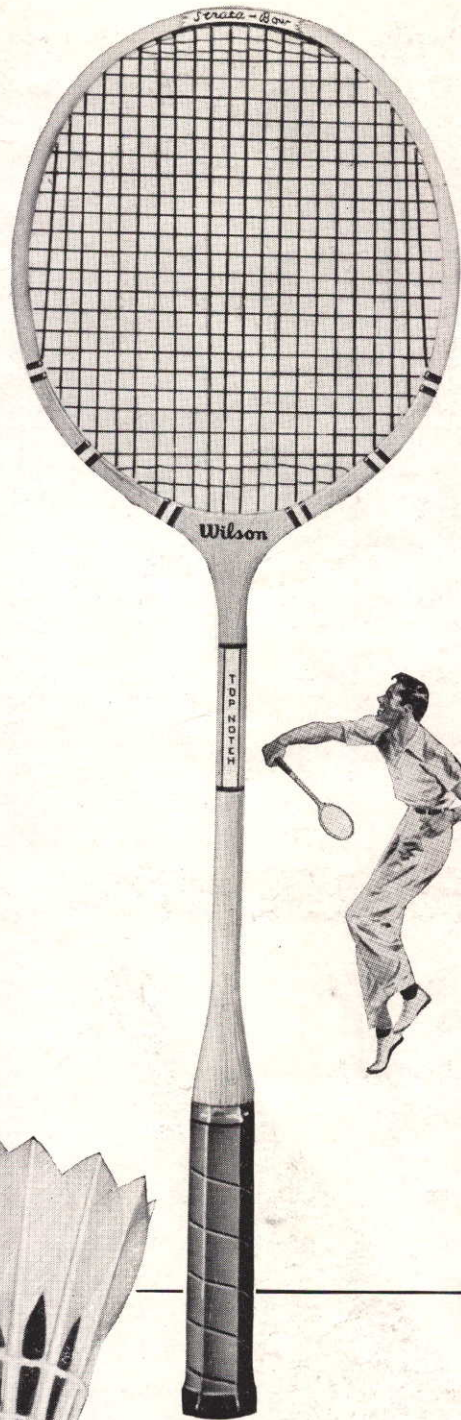
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