

# Bird Chatter

OFFICIAL BADMINTON MAGAZINE

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No. 3

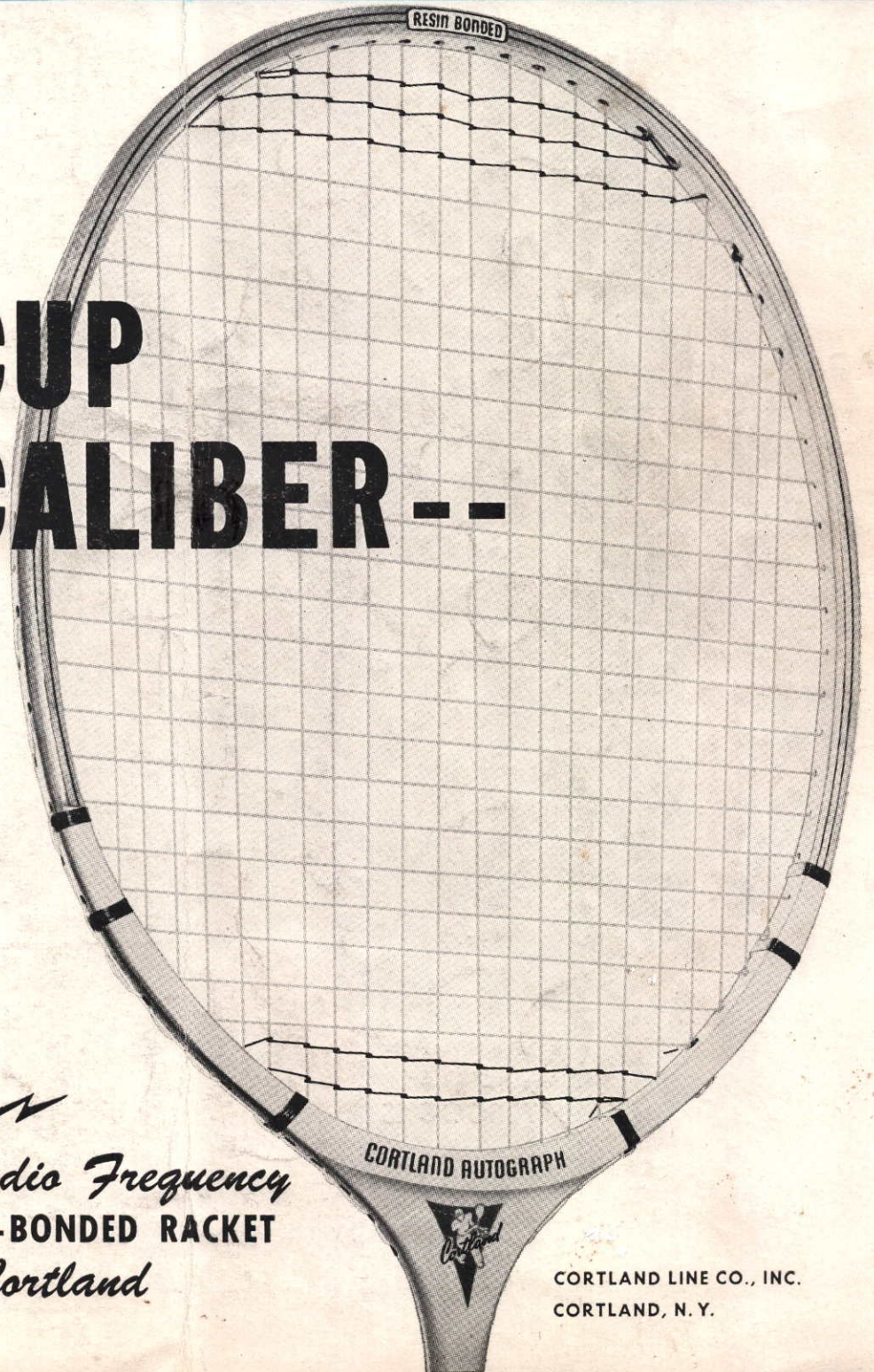
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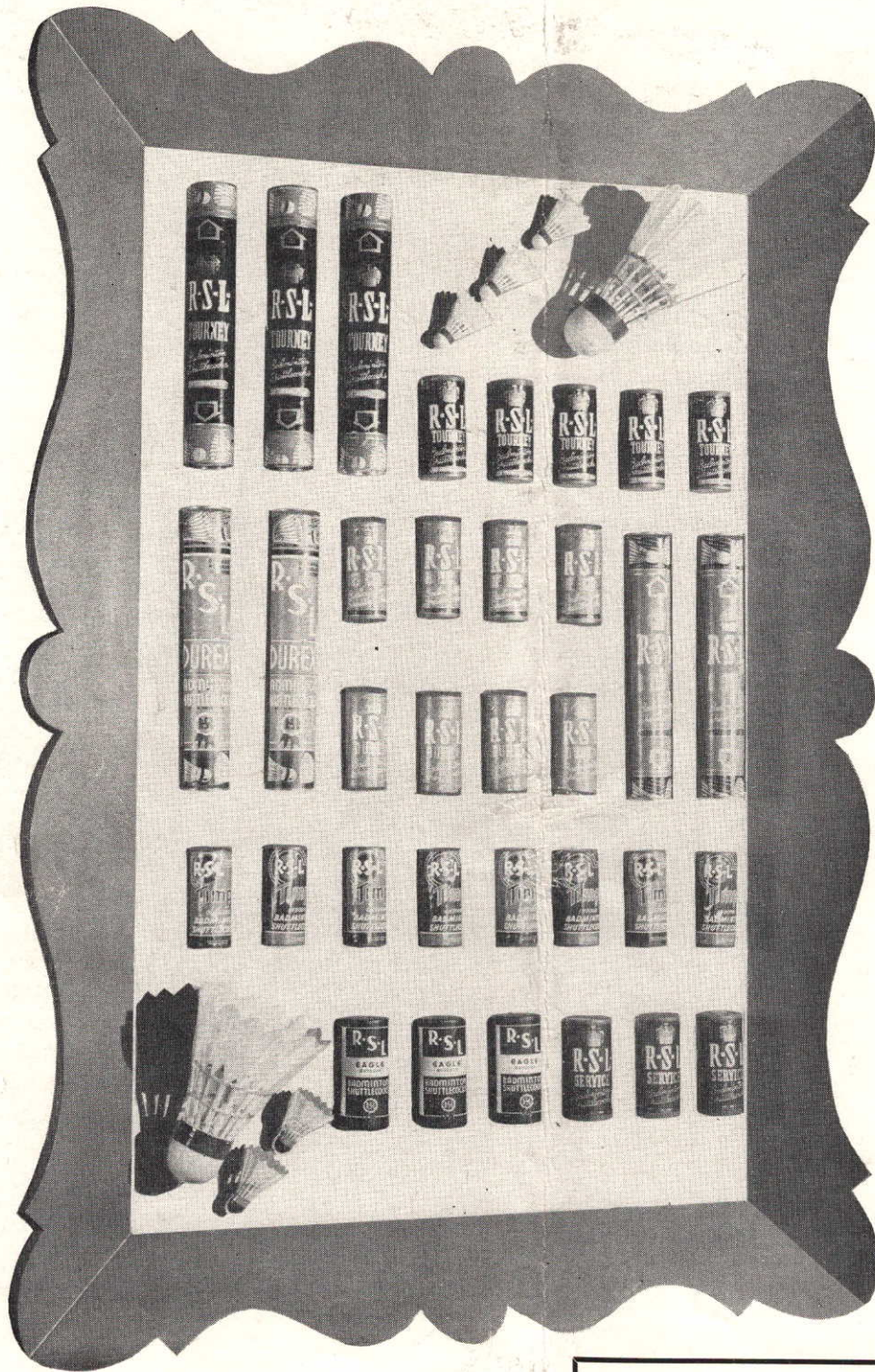
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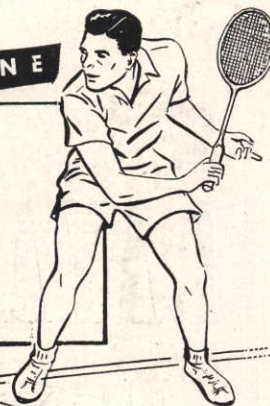
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# Bird Chatter



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### IT WAS A SAD MOMENT . . .

Because news off the overseas wires told of the defeat of the audacious New World invaders.

These six young men, with the help of hundreds of badminton citizens, had been able to beat the best on their continent and to leave to engage the world's finest. That a nation so new to the game had produced such capable challengers for the crown was a startling report to many abroad.

In the Glasgow matches a great comeback brought the team to within victory after a near decisive first evening's defeat.

Fairly contested and fairly lost, the team and its backers had only praise for their opponents. And all fellow Americans had only pride in their team.

BOB KILDALL, *Editor*

### FOR THE TEAM

I would like to take this opportunity to use *Bird Chatter* to thank all the many badminton friends throughout the country for their letters, wires and "good luck" messages. They are too numerous for me to personally write to each and all of them so kindly convey to them our gratitude and thanks for their deep interest in the welfare of our Squad and for their good wishes. I know all the players and myself are most appreciative.

KENNETH R. DAVIDSON,  
*Coach U. S. Thomas Cup Team*



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# MALAYA WINS

## International Badminton Matches

By KEN DAVIDSON

*U. S. Thomas Cup Coach*



**M**ALAYA (Pacific Zone Champions) beat the U.S.A. (American Zone Champions) by six matches to 3 in the inter-zone semi-final play-off of the Thomas Cup International Championship at the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, Scotland, on February 21 and 22, 1949.

The strong Doubles play and exceptionally fine teamwork of the Malaysians decided the issue, the American boys being unable to take even one out of the four Men's Doubles.

All the Malaysians were astonishingly quick in the use of their rackets and their amazing defense broke down the powerful American smashing. From mid-court to the net the Malaysians were "dynamite." They all had fleetness of foot and a nimbleness which turned many a defensive position into one of attacking.

Great credit should go to all our American boys for their terrific fight on the second night. The style—entirely different from any previously played against—of the Malaysian boys undoubtedly surprised them on the opening night.

In Singles play our boys more than held their own and, with even breaks in two truly great performances by Marten Mendez, U.S.A., could very easily have taken all five Singles matches. Marten had all the pressure of opening the play against one (Wong Peng Soon) of two Malaysians who were claimed by their fellow-countrymen to be the best in the world and, on the second night, the task of playing the Malaysian Champion, Ooi Teik Hock, in a match which could have evened the score at 3 all. The breaks, if one may refer to luck that way, were against Marten on both nights.

The opening night's play started be-

fore a packed house of over 3,100 when Marten opened the match dramatically by serving an ace—a short serve which caught Wong completely by surprise. The San Diego boy led 3-0 and again at 5-1, but was caught at 5-5, when the Malaysian idol of years showed a beautifully executed flick clear from near the net. It was early evident that around the net he would have to be closely watched. Wong went ahead at 8-7 to lead for the first time but Marten came back to regain the lead at 11-9. Wong, in two hands, made six points to win the first game at 15-11. The Malaysian got plenty of opportunity to show off his unusual and powerful high back-hand clear, which he does with ease with a flick of the wrist. The danger to his opponent lies in his ability to drop-shot and smash occasionally from the same position. Undoubtedly a great player, Wong at this juncture was finding that the Californian's clearing and odd drop-shots meant he had to draw on his ability to cover court. The rallies were long drawn-out affairs with Marten dictating the strategy. After being caught at 8 all and slowly pulling up to 12-9, Marten quickly scored his remaining points on one hand.

The beginning of the third set (no rest) brought out some signs of anxiety on the part of both players as Marten served two successive faults and Wong one, to make three service faults in a row—all low serves. Marten switched to a high serve and his successful tactics of the second game—keeping the Malaysian on the back line and only on rare occasions playing a drop shot which won for him a 5-0 lead. Wong looked extremely weary at this point and possibly the next few moments altered the final decision of the match. Marten hit

## U.S.A. vs MALAYA

MALAYA 6, U. S. A. 3

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Wong Peng Soon, Malaya def Marten Mendez U.S.A.  
15-11, 11-15, 15-10. 41-36

Dave Freeman, U.S.A. def Ooi Teik Hock, Malaya  
15-10, 10-15, 15-4.

Yeoh Tech Chye-Chan Kon Leong, Malaya def Bob Williams-Clint Stephens, U.S.A.  
15-7, 15-12.

Ooi Teik Hock-Teoh Seng Khoon, Malaya def Dave Freeman-Wynn Rogers, U.S.A.  
15-8, 7-15, 15-8.

Dave Freeman, U.S.A. def Wong Peng Soon, Malaya  
15-4, 15-1.

Ooi Teik Hock, Malaya def Marten Mendez, U.S.A. 46-38  
15-11, 16-17, 15-10.

Carl Loveday, U.S.A. def Law Teik Hock, Malaya  
15-12, 15-5.

Yeoh Teck Chye-Chan Kon Leong, Malaya def Dave Freeman-Wynn Rogers, U.S.A.  
15-9, 15-7.

Ooi Teik Hock-Teoh Seng Khoon, Malaya def Bob Williams-Clint Stephens, U.S.A.  
9-15, 15-6, 15-11.

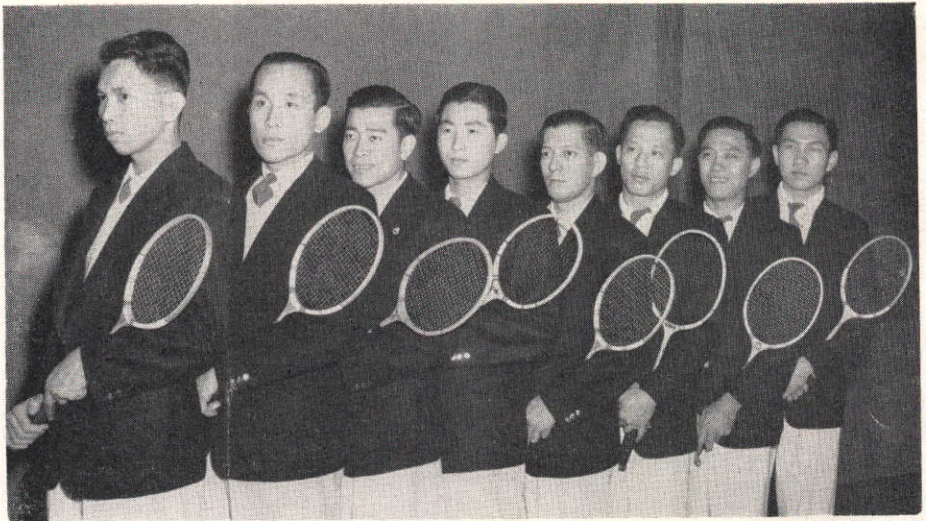


four of the next five serves from Wong out of court—two of them dropping almost on the side-line with Wong going the wrong way—and the score hurriedly went to 5 all. This undoubtedly heartened the Singapore Champion and he hung on grimly to take an 11-9 lead, three of his points coming after the long-drawn clearing rallies with Marten's final drop-shot beating him completely but dropping not more than one inch from the sideline. Marten scored one more point and had the chance to equalize the score at 11 all, but his smash once more missed the sideline by a fraction with Wong helplessly standing by. This piece of good fortune inspired the Malayan to summon the last remaining sparks of fight and, in one hand, he scored four points for the game and the first match went to Malaya after a 55-minute struggle.

Dave Freeman, U.S.A. Champion, and Ooi Teik Hock, Malaya's Champion, carried on where the others left off. Ooi could not stand the early pressure of the blond Pasadena boy and took a few minutes to get his touch, getting behind at 5-1 and again at 6-3. It was evident that Dave was in for a struggle as Ooi showed no signs of faltering and on two occasions coolly beat Dave completely at the net with a delayed return drop-shot. After being ahead at 13-10, Dave lost the serve twice but regained it to run out the game at 15-10. Once more his around-the-head smash won for him several important points. The second game developed into longer rallies than ever. Ooi scored with some beautifully executed drop-shots from the back court. Dave refused to be drawn into any net duels and wisely kept the Penang boy at the back court whenever possible. The lead see-sawed back and forth until Dave held a 9-8 lead. At this point neither boy could score through ten fruitless hands (5 each). Ooi suddenly smashed twice in succession to lead at 10-9, lost the serve and spurted again to 14-9. Dave was a mighty tired boy at this juncture and the Malayan kept him running back and forth and, after Dave scored one more point, he regained the service and finally won the second game with a perfect drop-shot.

Freeman's great fighting spirit showed up immediately as Ooi faltered slightly. That was all the encouragement the U.S.A. Champion needed and he led at 2-0, 5-2, 9-2 and 14-3 in six hands as he mercilessly chased the Malayan back and forth. Making no errors he gave no quarter and credit must go to Ooi who, at 14-3 against him, put up a terrific fight for the last point and got the service four times before Dave pulled home at 15-4.

Undoubtedly, this was the toughest



WORLD WIDE

#### THE CHAMPION MALAYAN THOMAS CUP TEAM

*Left to Right: Law Teik Hock, Ong Poh Lim, Wong Peng Soon, Lim Kee Fong, Chan Kon Leong, Yeoh Tech Chye, Teoh Seng Khoon, Ooi Teik Hock.*

match of Dave's career. Dave had to play superbly and he did. The Malaysians admitted Ooi played his best and they were surprised anyone in the world could surpass such a high standard of play.

In both matches the Malaysians served low almost all the time. They deliberately take their stance and, with a slow-motion action, serving their rackets to hit the shuttle from between their fingers. They make their opponents stand still and, for deception, sometimes shoot over a fast high serve.

Bob Williams and Clint Stephens never settled down and were surprised at the "attacking" defensive tactics of Yeoh and Chan who returned the hardest of smashes with a high deep clear until one of the Americans faltered. The Malaysians' defense was almost impregnable. Even though the East Coast pair took an 11-10 lead in the second game they never appeared in control and finally went down at 15-7, 15-12.

Dave Freeman and Wynn Rogers, U.S.A. Champions, started slowly against Ooi and Teoh and couldn't make up much leeway. Their opponents played more on the normal, conventional type of doubles and did not consistently clear to the back court from smashes as did the other pair against Williams and Stephens. United States hopes were raised in the second game when Wynn Rogers produced some fast cross-court drives and both boys served well. Wynn scored point after point with these drives and played magnificently. The third game saw the U.S.A. fall behind 8-2 as the Malaysians refused to be drawn into a flat driving game. The West Coast boys fought nobly and reduced the lead down

to 12-8 after being behind 11-4, but the Malaysians' sound defense and quick thrusts near the net could not be overcome. Dave, noticeably, was still feeling the effects of his strenuous efforts in Singles and it appeared that he was not able to give the same energetic physical support to Wynn as he normally does. A deficit of 3 matches to 1 at the end of the first night left the U.S.A. in a precarious position.

The opening match of the second night saw Dave Freeman at his best. After a cautious opening to get the measure of

#### MALAYA WINS 8 - 1 IN FINALS

*Malaya defeated Denmark 8-1 in Preston, England to become the Champion Nation of the first International Badminton Championships, February 26.*

*This means that Malaya will stand out of competition during the next playoff in 1952 and will be challenged by the nation winning the three zone finals. Malaya will be the scene of the 1952 meet.*

Wong Peng Soon the Californian was brilliant and produced a constant flow of points—working his opponent back and forth in the court and finishing off each rally in no uncertain fashion, either by a perfectly executed drop-shot or a sharply angled smash. Keeping on the pressure, Freeman led 13-0 in the second set after four hands, scoring 7 points in one of these hands, and quickly assured

(Continued on Page 24)



# How to play Badminton

## MIXED DOUBLES by Ken Davidson

This is a continuation of the Mixed Doubles article in the Jan.-Feb. Bird Chatter.

WITH the thought of striving to get the attack uppermost in their minds the players are immediately confronted with a difficulty made by one of the rules of Badminton which says the serve must be made from below waist level. As the serve must travel in an upward direction it comes under the category of a defensive stroke. Nevertheless, well thought out serving can unsettle an opponent into losing the advantage and initiative of receiving the doubles serve and it is no uncommon sight to see a receiver just hit the shuttle upwards towards the back of the opponent's court and immediately lose the attack. This is very often done by a lady receiver, who is not so prone to "rush" services. On the other hand, a male receiver is often so intent on gaining a psychological advantage over the server, particularly when it is a lady who is serving, that he rushes many a good serve into the net or by hurrying in towards the net makes a hasty return which leaves his section of the court unguarded and on many occasions leaves himself wide open for a "flick" high service which, when well served, finds him still floundering towards the net.

The 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. When confidence shows itself in the shape of your opponent having his weight coming forward towards the net in order to "kill" off the short serve that is the time to undo all his confidence and deceive him with a high "flick" service which, although it may not be an outright ace, should draw a weak return. Once fooled, it will be noticed in subsequent receiving of serves that the receiver is more wary of rushing a serve and that the body weight is leaning backwards thus allowing more freedom for a low serve. The high "flick" serve should be just high enough to fly over the outstretched racquet of the receiver. A high serve in doubles should never be attempted except for the express purpose of deceiving a receiver who is

rushing serves. By mastering the high "flick" service and using it judiciously with the low serve the server is well on the way to making the receiver stay back and delay the hitting of the return of the serve. The drive service, from either court, can also be used to advantage when the receiver is becoming overconfident or carelessly leaves an opening by standing too far on one side of the receiving court but it should be used carefully for, if the serve is a little too high it will be intercepted by the receiver and the return will drop quickly at a sharp angle back on the server's side of the court.

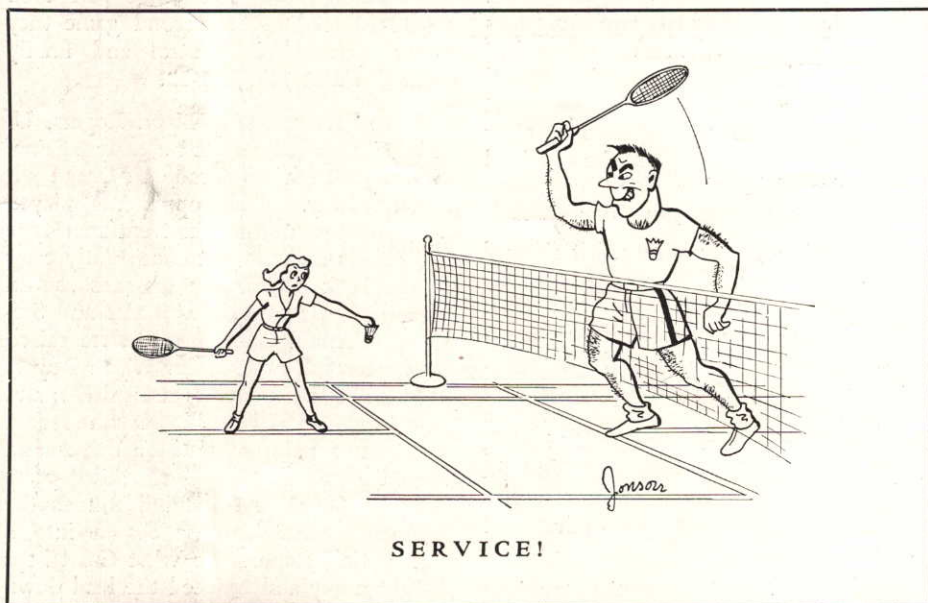
Instead of playing the high "flick" serves or the drive serve a short low serve to the outside front corner of the court can be used to surprise the receiver by a change of direction in the play. (This serve is done by a slight turn of the wrist at the moment of hitting the shuttle.) It should be used sparingly—otherwise a return straight down the sideline will probably be a direct winner instead of catching the receiver off balance.

### Serving Strategy

To those readers who wish to go deeper into the intricacies of doubles serving there is more to it than merely serving low and flicking in a high serve now and then. A clever and discerning server can serve low to the front center corner area and, in addition to narrowing down the angle of return, can by serving towards the

right shoulder of the receiver force a forehand return and by serving towards the left shoulder force a backhand return. There is a point between the forehand and the backhand which can make an oncoming receiver undecided whether to use the backhand or the forehand and consequently cramp the racquet movement. A glance at the standing position of the receiver will help the server probe for this particular spot.

No matter how advanced players may become they still follow basic principles of all games and on receiving the serve this still holds true—a serve on the backhand will more often than not draw a return in the direction of the server's backhand court and a serve towards the opponent's forehand will tend to bring a return towards the server's forehand, (taking for granted the receiver is a right handed player). This basic fact has a diminishing truth when the receiver has a longer time in which to hit the serve and is lost altogether when a serve is hit too high—no matter whether it is a high serve or a low serve—which allows so much time that any place on the server's court can be chosen for the return. But, in first-class Badminton, where there is only a fraction of a second between the hitting of a low serve and the hitting of the return by an oncoming receiver, the receiver—having to make a decision quickly—is apt to follow the natural swing of the arm. There is no certainty, of course, as to the return but a server, especially if the lady is serving, can materially help a team-mate by probing for the weaker side of the opponent's return of service for it is rare that any player is highly proficient at rushing serves on both the forehand and the backhand.







## MAKING THE SHOT

By KEN DAVIDSON

Left Top—Forehand "Put-Away" at net. Note the effort to reach the shuttle before it drops below net level.

Right top—High backhand smash from mid-court. Note the effort to get in back of the shuttle and the arm well out from the body so as not to cramp the follow through.

Right bottom — Finish of "around the head" smash. Note the fine follow through of the wrist, with body well balanced to play any succeeding shot.







Arrow in picture above shows the University of Illinois gymnasium, at Navy Pier in Chicago where the 9th Annual United States Badminton Championship Tournament will be played, on April 14, 15 and 16.

Visitors to the Nationals this year will have many opportunities for relaxation and pleasure as the site is on the shore of beautiful Lake Michigan and only a few minutes from the great stores, theaters, restaurants, and the heart of the big city.

BADMINTON stars from all parts of the United States will invade Chicago on April 14, 15, 16 when the American Badminton Association will raise the curtain on the Ninth Annual Championship Tournament.

Site of the big event is the University of Illinois gymnasium, on Navy Pier, which hugs the shores of beautiful Lake Michigan. Known as the longest gymnasium in the entire state, with a seating capacity of 4,500, it assures players and spectators alike of comfortable seats and playing arrangements.

Jack White, well known Chicagoan, is tournament chairman and is supported by

By REED LONGFELLOW

Asst. Editor, *Bird Chatter*



Helen Tibbetts



Leroy "Skeeter" Erickson



9th Annual  
United States Badminton Championships  
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a capable staff of committee members.

Arrangements for televising the finals and for individual players to appear on television and radio sport programs are in the final stages of completion.

Feminine players and guests will be interested in knowing that the site of play is only a few minutes by bus or car from the downtown shopping center of the Windy City.

General descriptive literature plus entry and hotel reservation cards are being mailed now to all clubs.

Official headquarters are at the Drake Hotel.

Reservations may be obtained by writing to Lorraine Schroeder, 1010 Michigan, or Lyman Mitchell, 558 Sheridan Square, both of Evanston, Illinois. Lyle Shortz, 1419 E 67th Place, Chicago 37, who is chairman of the entry committee, states that entries close Saturday, April 2.

*Official ABA Activities*

Not much less important in the activities of the 3-day program are the meetings of the ABA directors and the Annual Meeting of the Association. T. M. Royce, ABA President of Seattle, will be at the meeting. Donald Richardson, ABA Vice-President; W. Harry Vaughan, ABA Vice-President, and Hamilton B. Law, ABA Secretary-Treasurer, are also expected to be in attendance. The tournament committee plans to top the Los Angeles Championships record when 14 out of 19 directors were present.



George Harman

Items of great importance to American badminton will be brought up for discussion and decision and President Royce urges all directors to attend. Committee reports will also be reviewed.

*Top Players to Attend*

Nearly all the top badminton players are expected to attend the Nationals this year. Ethel Marshall, Buffalo, will be trying to be the first lady to win the Women's Singles title three years in a row.

No word has been received yet to indicate that Dave Freeman will not be able to defend the singles title which he has held since 1939. This record of consecutive wins is one of the longest in modern sports annals. If Champion Freeman were unable to defend his titles the entire field of titles would be in for the greatest scrambling in recent years. With Wynn Rogers, his men's doubles partner, Freeman holds his second national title and with Helen Tibbetts he combines into one of the top ranking mixed duos.

Other titleholders expected to defend are: Mr. and Mrs. Clint Stephens, Baltimore, Mixed Doubles; Mrs. Thelma Scovil-Janet Wright, Ladies' Doubles; and Fred Fullin-Frank Hinds, Veterans' Doubles.

—★—  
**FREEMAN WILL MISS  
NATIONALS**

*SPECIAL* — March 5. — It was announced today that Dave Freeman, U.S. Singles champion since 1939, will not attend the 9th Annual U. S. Championships in Chicago, April 14, 15, 16.

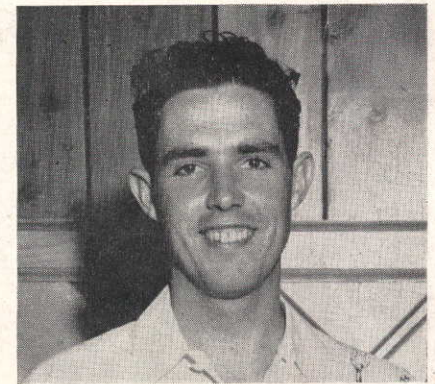
Dr. Freeman is staying in London after the All-England to take a four-month course in neuro-surgery.

This action will break Freeman's almost unbelievable ten-year record of singles wins. He has never been defeated in singles competition in America since 1939.

In the scrambling expected in the singles competition Marten Mendez, San Diego, and Carl Loveday, Montclair, N. J., are favored to win.



Barney McCay



Eugene Tenney



Helen Ough



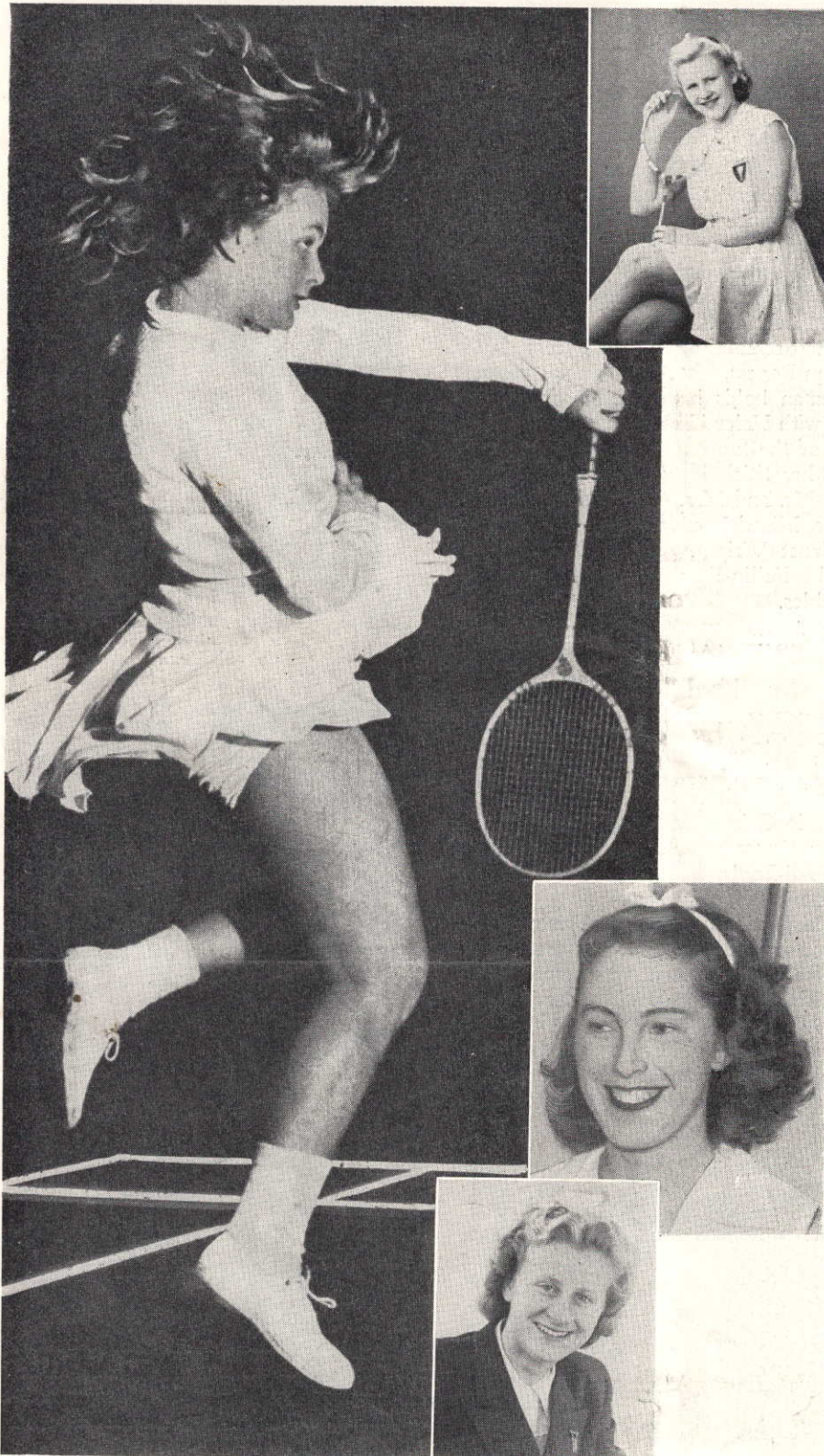
Thelma Scovil



Patsey Starrett



# MAID IN DENMARK



KIRSTEN THORND AHL FINISHING A SMASH

Inserts, top to bottom. Aase Svendsen, Agnete Friis, Aase Schiott Jacobsen.

SETTING badminton hearts aflame is attractive Kirsten Thorndahl, twenty-year-old Danish star, who is the only non-Britisher to capture three events in a single All-England Championship.

Left handed Kirsten not only defeated the tops of all Europe's ladies stars but turned the feat while only nineteen years old.

The beauty and badminton ability of this smiling Danish maid has made her the target of many magazine and news cameras. Her picture has appeared in some of the leading publications of Denmark.

The triple feat performed by Miss Thorndahl in the last year's All-England was last accomplished by Mrs. L. A. Godfree in 1924, about 4 years before Kirsten was born.

But there are many other top flight women players in this Northern nation.

Tonny Ahm, who is ranked 1 in singles, 1 in ladies doubles and 1-2 in mixed, holds over 18 National Championships and 9 DBA International titles.

In 1939 with Mrs. Ruth Dalsgaard, she took the All-England Ladies Doubles and successfully defended these titles in 1947 and 1948 with Kirsten Thorndahl.

Tonny was one of the three Danes to go to Bombay in 1947 to take part in the All-India Championships. She convincingly defeated her Indian opponent, Miss Mumtaz Chinoy.

A most promising young player is 19-year-old Aase Svendsen who is ranked 3 in ladies singles.

She is a two-time winner of the National Junior singles title and is holder of the Copenhagen District Championships for 1947-48.

Agnete Friis, although ranked 4-5 in singles, forced Tonny Ahm to a close three-game match in the 1948 All-England Championships. She had reached match point with the score 10-3 when a torn muscle forced her to retire. She twice won the National Juniors and five times won ladies doubles.

Aase Schiott Jacobsen, 22, has tied Miss Friis in the singles ranking. She also copped the National Juniors twice and once won the National Senior Mixed Doubles event.

Marie Ussing surprised the Danish Badminton world by taking ladies singles in the All-England of 1947. She held the National Juniors singles crown once and has won numerous other titles.

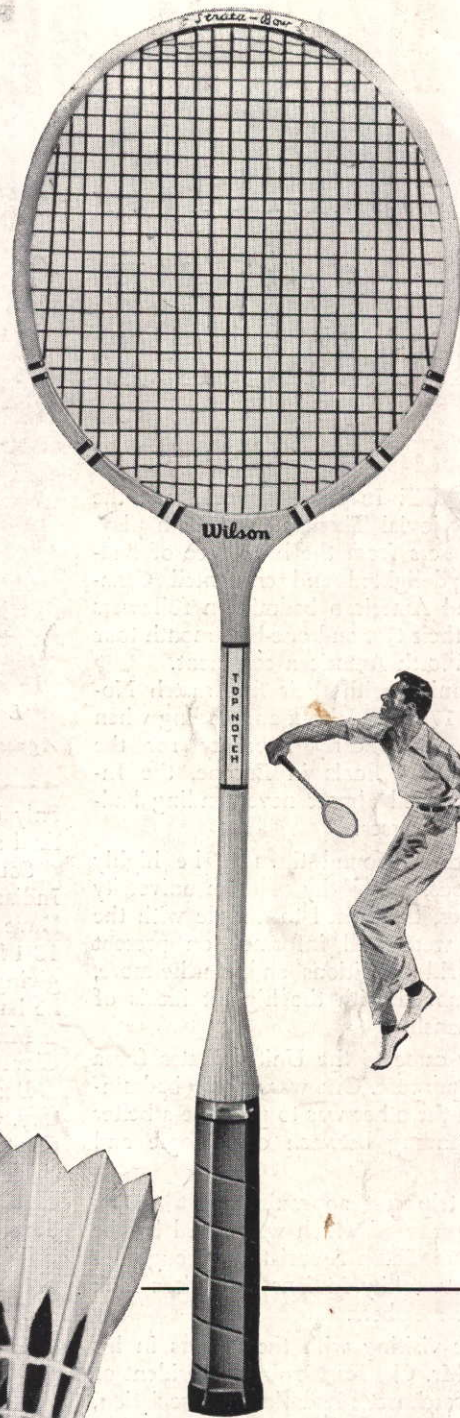
This array of feminine badminton talent has lead N. P. Kristensen and Knud Lunoe, Danish badminton authorities, to feel that the "Maids of Denmark" can challenge the World's ladies champions successfully.



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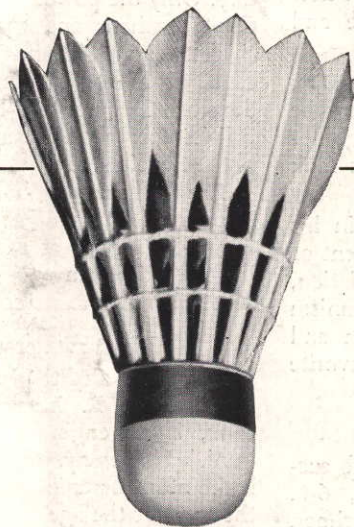


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## BADMINTON EQUIPMENT



!T'S WILSON TODAY IN SPORTS EQUIPMENT



# INDIANS ABROAD

LIKE Indian snakecharmers, the jovial Thomas Cup Team players from the birthplace of badminton delighted and enchanted Canadian and American badminton followers during their two and one-half month tour of the North American continent.

Beginning with their first match November 17th in Halifax and ending when they departed early February for the Thomas Cup finals in Europe, the Indians enjoyed almost never ending badminton successes.

Americans found them to be highly gregarious, a majority of them university graduates, they liked to mingle with the crowd, were well informed on present day world conditions and, furthermore, were imbued with the highest ideals of sportsmanship.

They came to the United States for a double purpose. One was to play badminton and the other was to promote a better understanding between our people and theirs.

The trip cost approximately \$35,000, the majority of which was raised by the India Badminton Association through appeals to wealthy Indians as well as rank and file members.

After visiting with the players in his home, Mr. Charles Newhall, president of the Massachusetts Badminton Association, said "They assured me that Communism hasn't made any progress in India and indicated that America is their favorite country."

## Indians Score Victories

In Canada, the Indians enjoyed successes at Halifax, 6-0, St. Johns, 6-0, Boonville, 6-0, Oakville, 6-0, Kitchner, 6-0, Toronto (B and R Club) 5-0, Winnipeg, 5-0, Saskatoon, 5-0, Moosejaw, 5-0, Edmonton, 4-1, Calgary 5-0, Vancouver, 4-2 and Victoria 5-0. The Thomas Cup match with Canada was their only loss, 7-2.

In Seattle the Indians took an easy 4-0 win. In the San Francisco Bay area Norman Blanchet-Irl Madden salvaged the



Left to Right: Capt. George Lewis, Davinder Mohan, Datta Mugve, Lallmohan Agaaskar, Manager; Bala Ullal, Henry Ferreira.

only U. S. win from Mohan-Lewis. The final score was 4-1.

Southern California players gave the Indians their toughest fights, winning 5-0. Dave Freeman and Mohan engaged in an 18-14, 15-3 donnybrook with the visitor giving Freeman one of the closest scares he had ever received.

Matches in Chicago, St. Louis and Cleveland were sweeps for the Indians.

Boston brought a close 3-2 India victory. Only the power of Bobbie Williams, Clint Stephens and the fighting Massachusetts duo of Wayne Schell-Bob Wright could score for the Americans. Mohan defeated Carl Loveday here 15-6, 15-5.

Westport brought another 5-0 sweep to the travelers.

The Americans, bolstered by many Thomas Cup team members, took a decisive 4-1 victory at Montclair with Carl Loveday capturing a win over Mohan before a home-town crowd.

## Visitors' Personalities

A run down of the Indian team reveals that George L. Lewis, captain of the team, is an engineering graduate from Punjab University. He has won numerous badminton championships since taking up the sport at the age of 17. He is now 38. A good tennis player, he was a member of the Punjab University tennis team and captain of his college team.

Dattatraya Mugve, who will be 32 his next birthday, is a graduate of Bombay University with honors in economics and was graduated from Elphinstone College, Bombay, in 1939. He has played prominently in badminton matches throughout

India and has held many honors. He is considered to be the best men's doubles player in India and in private life is an officer in the Indian Sea customs, posted in Bombay. He is married and has one daughter and, when not playing badminton, specializes in cricket and table-tennis.

Born in Simla nearly 27 years ago, Devinder Mohan started playing badminton at the age of 15 in Lahore, India.

He is India's No. 1 player at the present time and is a graduate of Punjab University where he majored in science.

An undergraduate of Bombay University, Bala Ullal, 26, represented his college in a host of badminton matches, and, with Mugve, constitutes India's No. 1 doubles combination on the team. He also plays cricket and table-tennis, having played creditably in many open table-tennis tournaments held in Bombay.

Henry Ferreira, 26, also an undergraduate of Bombay University, is an officer in the Great Indian Peninsular railway, posted in Bombay. Besides playing badminton, being the No. 3 singles player on the present team, he engages in cricket and field hockey.

A graduate of Bombay University and of St. Xavier's College, Bombay, in 1931, Lallmohan Agaaskar, 38, has been playing badminton since 1928. He is now more concerned with the management of the game and has served on numerous committees of the India Badminton Assn. He was responsible in getting some players from Denmark and Malaya to India to play in the 1947 All-India championships.



# San Diego Story

By RALPH TREMBLEY

One might surmise that having the country's number 1 and 2 players cavorting around your courts making impossible saves, serves, smashes, and placements would tend to discourage beginners from taking up the game.

It ain't so in San Diego, however, where the ever-present prospect of Dave Freeman trying out his most tricky techniques on Marten Mendez while the two tuned up for the Thomas Cup finals in February, has not discouraged the San Diego Badminton Association from signing up some 120 new members this year alone.

San Diego's bird batters gather on Friday and Sunday nights at the Balboa Park gym, one of the landmarks of two World Fairs held in this fabulously beautiful area. Here almost every month novice tournaments or handicap novelty events are held, and between these interesting shuttlecock sessions and the desire of every athletic San Diegan to emulate Freeman and Mendez the membership has grown to 200.

The Thomas Cup topkicks of the American team aren't the only high ranking players drifting around San

Diego by a long shot. Dick Mitchell, ranked 5 in 1947, who recently copped a game from the national champ in tournament play, takes his workouts along with Messrs Freeman and Mendez as does little Joe Alston, who scored an upset win at Manhattan over another former San Diegan, Carl Loveday, No. 3 U. S. player. Not so much an oldtimer that he isn't still one of the best doubles players in the state is John Murphy, who held high national rankings before the war.

After these come Rod Luscomb, a veteran tournament performer; John Murray, Bob Wells, Neal Sanderson and such women players as Eileen Regan, Jean Creelman, Leah Skelley, Carol Jennings, Lois Smedley and Donnanabelle La France. John McCormick and Ruth Jett are expatriates who return occasionally for tournaments. The memory of another ex-San Diegan, Evelyn Boldrick is still a proud one.

But the bulk of San Diego's badminton is played between a huge conclave of raw beginners and unskilled near-beginners. When they watch Mendez and Freeman play singles their mouths

are agape, their eyes like saucers; they regard the faster exchanges almost incredibly, then burst forth with raucous applause more apropos to baseball or boxing than badminton.

Back on the court, however, they forget all they observed, hammer away unmercifully at the unplumed bird, and have the time of their life because they enjoy the game—that is the way Freeman, Mendez and the rest like it to be.



## A SINGING BADMINTON STAR



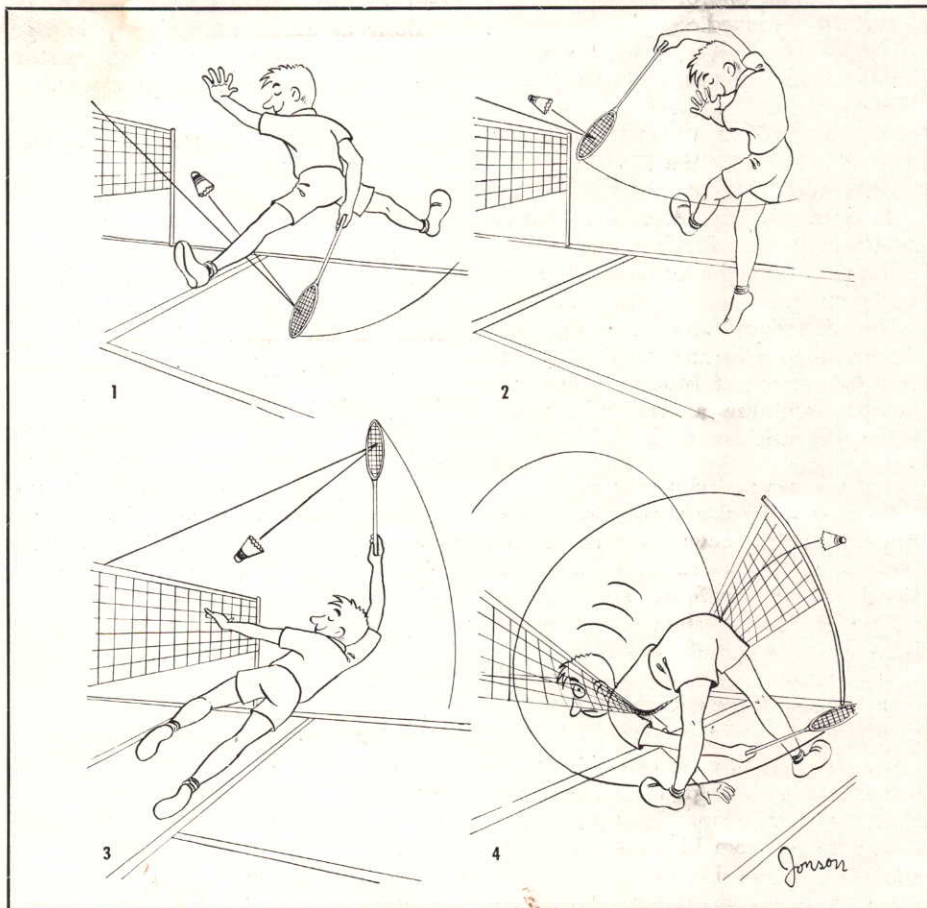
Kathryn Grayson M.G.M. singing star who plays badminton to keep fit.

"You can't sing unless you are in top physical condition," insists Kathryn Grayson, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's young singing star.

"And the easiest way to keep fit," she points out, "is to go out for sports. At the moment we — my husband Johnnie Johnston and I — are particularly interested in badminton, as we have just signed a contract to have a badminton court built at our home. We hope to start a club among our neighbors, setting aside one night a week for open house, or rather, open court. This, of course, is in the future, as we won't start building until Spring. Then we must arrange to have floodlights installed. Most of our playing will be done at night because film assignments, such as 'That Midnight Kiss,' keep me busy during the day."

According to the star, badminton not only helps keep her in perfect health but does away with any need for dieting.

"All I have to do is run around the court chasing 'birds,' having fun while doing it, and I can eat all I want and still wear a size ten dress. I'm all for badminton!"





# Journeys and Topics

## STEPHENS REPEAT VICTORY

Patsey and Clint Stephens, U. S. Mixed Doubles Champions, chalked up a repeat win in the Baltimore City Invitational Tournament held at the St. Paul's School courts, January 21, 22, 23, but only after a close semi-final win over Eleanor and Walt Raymond, 13-15, 15-8, 17-16. In the finals, Zoe and Dick Yeager forced them all out before they won 15-10, 18-14.

Patsey also took women's singles by beating Ruth Jett, Los Angeles, 11-6, 11-8, and Clint teamed with Bobbie Williams to register a win in men's doubles over Carl Loveday, Montclair, Fred Stieber, Baltimore, 15-11, 15-6.

Bobbie Williams scored the tournament's upset when he defeated Loveday in a nip-and-tuck match, 11-15, 15-9, 15-5.

In the women's doubles event, Zoe Yeager-Eleanor Raymond, New York City, beat Ruth Jett-Virginia Smith, St. Louis, 15-9, 10-15, 15-8.

The tournament drew 208 entries from eight states and Washington, D. C., and cleared a large sum for the scholarship fund of the St. Paul's School for Boys.

Wm. J. Eisenhardt, *Correspondent*

## BUFFALO INVITATIONAL

Many Eastern and Canadian top ranking players were on hand for the Buffalo Athletic Club's Seventh Annual Invitation Badminton Tournament, held February 4 to 6.

Ethel Marshall walked off with individual honors by winning or sharing in the titles of all three events she entered.

### RESULTS

LADIES' SINGLES, Ethel Marshall def. Eleanor Coombs, 11-2, 11-2; MEN'S SINGLES, Ed Dileone def. Stan Sangdahl, 15-9, 15-3; LADIES' DOUBLES, Ethel Marshall-Bea Massman def. Eleanor Coombs-Thelma Burdick, 15-1, 18-13; MEN'S DOUBLES, Harry Keating-Don Bechtel def. Grant Henry-Rupert Mee, 17-16, 17-14; MIXED DOUBLES, Marshall-Henry def. Coombs-Bill Lafayette, 15-0, 15-1; VETERANS' DOUBLES, Phil Michlin-Del Alentenburg def. Mac McKee-Rex Rial, 15-3, 15-4.

Jack Bowling, *Correspondent*

## MICHIGAN CLOSED TOURNEY

After thirteen tournaments, Michigan has a new men's singles champion.

Harry Drewry, Detroit, was crowned the new titleholder at the 14th Michigan Closed Badminton Championships held Feb. 5 to 6 at the Ford Motor Recreational Center, replacing Walt Kramer, now of Seattle, Washington, who won every other meet.

Sponsored by the Ford Motor Co. and Detroit badminton clubs, the meet drew over 100 entries.

The Ford courts are considered about the finest ones in the entire region for

badminton. The committee reported excellent cooperation from the motor company in conducting this meet.

### RESULTS

LADIES' SINGLES, Mildred Sirwaitis def. Hazel Brown, 11-0, 11-6; MEN'S SINGLES, Harry Drewry def. Jens Busch, 15-7, 17-13; LADIES' DOUBLES, Brown-Sirwaitis def. Mary Connor-Gerry Hengel, 15-6, 15-0; MEN'S DOUBLES, Wm. Anderson-Jerry Burns def. Joe Loula-Busch, 15-1, 15-11; MIXED DOUBLES, Brown-Busch def. Sirwaitis-Drewry, 15-12, 11-15, 15-9; VETERAN'S DOUBLES, Robert Heany-Richard Gregory def. Everett Gesaman-Oscar Pfeffer, 15-12, 15-6.

Oscar Pfeffer, *Correspondent*

## MIDWEST CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ted Moehlman, St. Louis, successfully defended his singles title at the 12th Annual Midwest Championships held at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, Feb. 25 to 27.

The following new directors were elected: William M. Graham, Robert C. C. Heaney, Ralph H. G. Mathews, H. H. Perkins, and William E. Schroeder.

### RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES, Ted Moehlmann def. Art Fiebig, 15-10, 15-10; WOMEN'S SINGLES, E. Coombs def. Thelma Burdick, 11-2, 11-8; MEN'S DOUBLES, Perkins-Aderholt def. Graham-Tiberi, 13-15, 17-16, 15-9; WOMEN'S DOUBLES, Burdick-Coombs def. Sirwaitis-Brown, 15-4, 15-3; MIXED DOUBLES, Coombs-LaFayette def. Burdick-Tiberi, 15-3, 15-12; VETERAN'S DOUBLES, Conlan-Aderholt def. Gregory-Heaney, 15-11, 15-10.

Roger Baird, *Correspondent*

## CANADA FETES AMERICANS

Many Americans entered the Fifth Annual International Invitation Tournament held by the Strathgowan Badminton Club, Toronto, Canada, January 14-16.

The Americans took more than their share of the final matches. Ethel Marshall defeated Patsey Stephens in the finals, Carl Loveday won over Bobby Williams, Ethel Marshall-Bea Massman topped "Johnnie" Roberts-Marion Banks, Williams-Stephens defeated Dick Birch-Ted Pollack and Birch-Evelyn (Efnert) Roberts defeated Clint and Patsey Stephens.

Other Americans entered were: Edward Shields, Don Kerr, May Hellwig, Alice Brown, Phil and Margaret Michlin, Fred Stieber, Don Bechtel, Hank Kirchner, Harry Keating, Bob Traiquire and Frank Konski.

The United States contingent wishes to extend thanks for the many courtesies extended by the Canadians. The Strathgowan Club, under the capable leadership of Stuart Lawson, is a very active club with 83 juniors enrolled as well as several hundred adult members. It deserves much praise for the handling of this tournament in particular and of badminton in general. The hospitality afforded the Americans was unparalleled.

May Hellwig, *Correspondent*

## INJURY MARS ATHENS MEET

The final events of the Third Annual Open Athens Athletic Club tournament came to an unexpected and sudden close when Norman Blanchet, leading Irl Madden 0-6 in their third game, suffered a badly twisted ankle. He was forced to default in the singles, the men's doubles and mixed doubles event.

The big meet was held January 14, 15, 16 in Oakland.

### RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES, Irl Madden def. Norman Blanchet, default; WOMEN'S SINGLES, Janet Wright def. Shirley Anderson, 2-11, 11-3, 11-4; MEN'S DOUBLES, Ronny Ryan-Bruce McCurdy def. Blanchet-Madden, default; WOMEN'S DOUBLES, Anderson-Jean Kirby def. Mildred Jude-Marianna Gott, 15-5, 15-9; MIXED DOUBLES, Charlene Burgess-McCurdy def. Blanchet-Anderson, default; VETERANS' DOUBLES, Lloyd Gowen-Art Horn def. Art Bouterious-Howard Taylor, 15-11, 11-15, 15-10.

### Consolation Finals

MEN'S SINGLES, Perry Collonge def. Jack Paulsen, default; WOMEN'S SINGLES, May Lou Wincote def. Gladys Wenger, 11-4, 9-11, 11-5; MEN'S DOUBLES, Art Bouterious-Taylor, def. A. A. Allegretti-Gowen, 15-9, 15-9; WOMEN'S DOUBLES, Marie Coats-May Lou Wincote def. Ngaire Kern-Emma Mora, 15-6, 15-9; MIXED DOUBLES, Joelyn Wood-Ronnie Ryan def. Marianna Gott-Bob Hamsher, 15-11, 15-11.

Lloyd Gowen, *Correspondent*

## BALTIMORE JUNIORS PLAY

Ever since the first Junior Nationals in 1947, Junior play in Baltimore has steadily increased, and has now reached the stage where two gyms, nine courts, have to be hired for the Saturday morning class.

This year attendance is nearing 125.

Besides the Pee-Wee tournament, the Under Fifteen and the Under Eighteen State tournaments, an Inter-Scholastic Girls' Tournament has been added. Next year a Christmas tournament is planned as well.

Says Mrs. J. Frank Devlin, one of the many seniors assisting, "Come to the Gilman School or the Friends School Gyms on Saturday morning and watch and listen. Take the young man of ten who arrived in October, having played in his own back yard, and was all set to instruct his little girl friends in the game. And when being checked on some of his own body contortions and his grip, had this one phrase, 'But that's impossible'. Or take the little blonde girl, not yet eight, and still toothless, who in a husky voice choked with tears explains that she can't play very well today because her boy friend lost his job and she is all upset.

"The next class is as interested in boys as in badminton. But they seem to realize that the better one plays the more attractive one looks, and the more one enjoys it too.

"And so on, up the ladder to the seventeen and eighteen-year-olds, with their minds set on shots, tactics, and tournaments while on the court.

"It's Baltimore Badminton at its best on Saturday mornings."





# TOURNEY PICS

(1) SECOND ANNUAL GOLDEN BIRD TOURNAMENT—Gordon Byram, triple winner of the Altgeld Park Badminton Club and Carolyn Kueknle, Glencoe, B.C., and Peggy Headley, Chicago B.C.; (2) SEATTLE JUNIOR & HANDICAP—Donna Mallory, (left sitting) and Dick Bonesteel (right sitting), singles champions. Standing (l. to r.), Perry Lou Herron, Twila Kruse, Hazel Goodwin, Joyce Elder, Dorothy Olson, Shirley Romstead, Jon Rose, Marjorie McGinnis, Jim Ihrig and Bob Stenning; (3) PORTLAND—(l. to r.) First row, Ila Marlatt, Mrs. Jim Rankin, Mrs. Muntz, Merle Hoffman, Thelma Holloway, Mrs. Sundeleaf, Del Schaer; Second row, Al Brown, Thayer Bliss, Harold Muntz, Jim Rankin, Sunny Sundeleaf, Ralph Marlatt; (4) OREGON STATE CLOSED—Bob Mensor (left), student at University of Oregon who lost to Russ Hill (right) in the finals of men's singles; (5) MASSACHUSETTS CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS—Betsy Shaw and Winslow Cobb who topped the Class C Championships singles events; (6) TACOMA (l. to r.) first row, Dorothy Morton, Margaret Kester, Dorothy Curry; second row, Bucky Harmon, Lyle Morton, Francis Chapman, Jerry Skillicorn; (7) PORT ANGELES—(l. to r.) First row, Molly Southerland, Opal Foss, Eunice Morrison, Mae Faire, Frances Burton, Doris Watson; second row, Tommy Hargreaves, Verne Burton, Harry Covington, Lyle Watson, Leo Williams, Rich Morgan; (8) SEATTLE—(l. to r.) First row, Alice Robson, Joanne Umbarger, Marge Crow, Ruby Tutmark, Ruth Groth, Norma Johnson, Grace Fiske; second row, Lee Umbarger, Joe Johnson, Ernest Frolund, Pat Kirkpatrick, Glen Groth, Howard Crow, Bob Stenning, Jim Ihrig.



## Western N.Y. Holds Men's Class A

The Western New York Class A Men's Doubles Round Robin badminton tournament was held January 23 at the Niagara Falls Country Club.

Harry Keating-Don Bechtel defeated Bob Traquair-Ray Young in the finals. Thirteen men's teams took part.

Jack Bowling, *Correspondent*

## Strong Field Enters in San Diego

San Diego's Annual County Badminton Championships, January 14, 15, 16, brought out the strongest field in this event's long history with Dr. Dave Freeman again chalking up a men's singles title, this time at the expense of Marten Mendez, No. 2 U. S. player, 15-10, 15-12.

Later these two highest nationally ranked stars teamed in doubles against a formidable combine of John Murphy and young Joe Alston. The best badminton of the tournament was provided when the favorites were forced to 11-15, 15-9, 15-5 before winning.

Vastly improved Leah Skelley turned back defending County titlist, Eileen Hauge Regan, 12-11, 11-7.

### OTHER RESULTS

LADIES' DOUBLES, Carol Jennings - Lois Smedley def. Mrs. Skelley-Jean Creelman, 15-10, 15-12; MIXED DOUBLES, Mendez-Skelley def. Alston-Smedley, 17-14, 11-15, 15-11.

## FEW UPSETS IN PACIFIC S. W.

The Seventh Annual Pacific Southwest Tournament was held January 28-30 at the Hollywood Sport Center.

Only a few major upsets in the seedings were registered. Bernice Marignan defeated Connie Horner in the quarter finals and Bill Busby-Roy Cole upset Gene Elms-Marten Mendez in a long three-game men's doubles match in the semis.

### RESULTS

LADIES' SINGLES, Marianna Gott def. Thelma Scovil, 11-7, 2-11, 11-7; MEN'S SINGLES, Dave Freeman def. Marten Mendez, 15-1, 15-4; LADIES' DOUBLES, Marianna Gott-Dottie Hann def. Loma Smith-Helen Tibbetts, 5-15, 15-9, 15-10; MEN'S DOUBLES, Freeman-Wynn Rogers def. Bill Busby-Roy Cole, 15-6, 15-6; MIXED DOUBLES, Rogers-Smith def. Freeman-Tibbetts, 15-6, 8-15, 18-16; VETS', Gene Elms-Moon Mullin def. Hulet Smith-Louis Rulison, 15-9, 15-6.

### RESULTS "B" FLIGHT

LADIES' SINGLES, Jeanne Pons def. Ruth Young, 11-7, 11-4; MEN'S SINGLES, Jim Monroe def. Floyd Runnells, 15-10, 15-3; LADIES' DOUBLES, Kathleen McGrath-Lorraine Spain def. Jeanne Pons-Marge Morrison, 15-2, 18-13; MEN'S DOUBLES, Jim Monroe-Bert Estabrook def. Don Smith-Larry Calvert, 12-15, 15-4, 15-12; MIXED DOUBLES, Frances Fleming-Dick Fleming def. Betty Bean-Al Keasey, 15-11, 12-15, 15-13; VETERANS' DOUBLES, Ronnie Carr-Glen Schofield def. Al Kirby-Bud Adams, 9-15, 17-16, 18-15.

## JUNIOR RESULTS

BOYS' SINGLES, Jim Bishop def. Bob Pitman, 15-6, 15-4; GIRLS' SINGLES, Jean Gibbs def. Joan Gibbs, 11-6, 11-5; MIXED DOUBLES, Jack Chrisman-Jean Gibbs def. Manuel Armendariz-Joan Gibbs, 14-18, 15-11, 15-5.

### JUNIOR RESULTS "B" FLIGHT

BOYS' SINGLES, Steve Hinchcliffe def. Don Miller, 15-7, 15-10; GIRLS' SINGLES, Natalie Pettit def. Ardyce Carr, 11-5, 11-8; MIXED DOUBLES, Don Miller-Mary McMurry def. Ronnie Miller-Ardyce Carr, 15-2, 15-3.

Helen Tibbetts, *Correspondent*

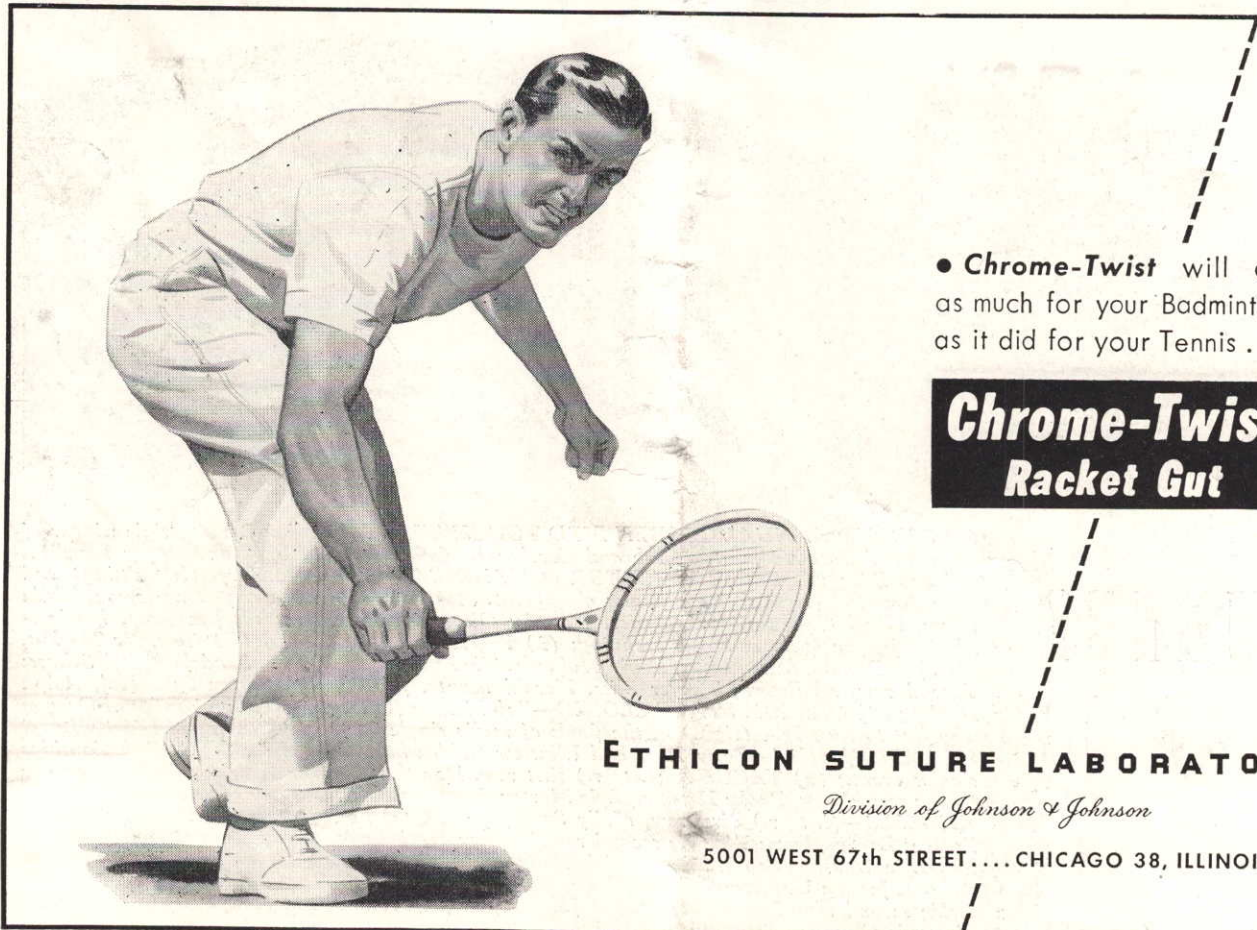
## CRAZY MIXED MATCHES

One of the most enjoyable Chicago area tournaments is the Hamilton Badminton Club "Crazy Mixed" Invitational Doubles tournament held on January 16 this year.

Elsie Buser, Chicago Badminton Club, and Gordon Byram, Altgeld Park B. C., were the winning team, coming through after several closely contested matches.

In the consolation draw, because one of the girls was unable to come at the last minute, Mildred Sweete, Chicago B. C., was the ladies half of both teams in the semi-finals. She was teamed with Dave Ponitch, Hamilton B. C., in the upper bracket and with Wally Weingand in the lower bracket.

After much consultation, Wally Weingand was given a new partner by the tournament committee and they proceeded to win the finals.



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## WASHINGTON STATE TOURNNEY

Outside of ladies' and veterans' doubles, all the "bird" titles went sailing out of town in the 14th Annual Washington State Badminton Championships held in the new Hiawatha Fieldhouse, Seattle, February 25, 26, 27.

### RESULTS

#### Open Events

**MEN'S SINGLES**, Russ Hill, Portland, defeated George Lane, Victoria, 15-3, 7-15, 15-9.

**MEN'S DOUBLES**, Norm Mustart and A. O. Jones, Vancouver, B. C., defeated Rupe Topp and Jim Paull, Seattle, 15-12, 15-13.

**VETERANS' DOUBLES**, Ross Williams and Windy Langlie, Seattle, defeated Mark Malory and Mac MacDonald, Seattle, 15-10, 10-15, 15-11.

**WOMEN'S SINGLES**, Lois Reed, Vancouver, defeated Virginia Suggs, Seattle, 11-8, 11-7.

**WOMEN'S DOUBLES**, Virginia Suggs and Marge Geldseth, Seattle, defeated Lois Reid and Nora Maw, Vancouver, B. C., 15-8, 18-15.

**MIXED DOUBLES**, Nora Maw and Norm Mustart, Vancouver, B. C., defeated Maxine Cruikshank and Jim Paull, Seattle 15-10, 17-14.

#### Handicap Events

**MIXED DOUBLES**, Virginia and Henry Mahnkey, Seattle, defeated Wilma Gallagher-John Carl, Bellingham, 15-11, 15-11.

**MEN'S DOUBLES**, Dave McTaggart and Cliff Mulberg, Vancouver, B. C., defeated Dick Bonesteel and Doug Ball, Seattle, 12-15, 15-9, 15-13.

**WOMEN'S DOUBLES**, Del Schaer and Patty Merseveau, Portland, defeated Betty Rankin and Dottie Sundeleaf, Portland, 15-13, 15-5.



### Southern, Northern Cal. Split Titles

Nearly every event in the finals and semi-finals of the Northern California Tournament found Northern California teams competing with Southern California teams, and when the bent and broken birds were all picked up the score sheet showed: N. Cal., 2½ wins, S. Cal., 2½ wins. The ½ win was accounted for by the Ladies Doubles team of Thelma Scovil (S. Cal.) and Janet Wright (N. Cal.).

Through the cooperation of the San Francisco Recreation Department and Miss Josephine Randall, the superintendent of Recreation, Glen Park, a new Community Center, with four courts was made available.

Irl Madden was tournament chairman.

### RESULTS

**MEN'S SINGLES**, Joe Alston def. Norman Blanchet, 11-15, 15-3, 15-2; **LADIES' SINGLES**, Janet Wright def. Shirley Anderson, 11-3, 11-5; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Alston-John Murphy def. Bruce McCurdy-Ronnie Ryan, 15-6, 2-15, 15-2; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Thelma Scovil-Wright def. Marianna Gott-Dottie Hann, 17-18, 15-5, 15-11; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Mildred Jude-Irl Madden def. Shirley Anderson-Norman Blanchet, 18-17, 15-5; **VETERANS' DOUBLES**, Ron Bobbitt-Tom Ough def. Jim Barron-John Smart, 15-12, 15-6.

### Consolation finals:

**LADIES' SINGLES**, Gladys Wenger def. Ruth Young, 11-6, 11-12, 11-6; **MEN'S SINGLES**, Ted Jarrett def. Jack Paulsen, 15-10, 8-15, 15-8; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Lois Smedley-Kay Bowers def. Margaret Copenhagen-Octavia Pratt, 9-15, 15-5, 18-16; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Jack Paulsen-David Hallett def. Art Bouterious-Howard Taylor, 15-10, 18-15; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Ruth Estabrook-Bert Estabrook def. Kay Watso-John Smart, 9-15, 15-8, 15-7.



### INDIANS RATE HIGH

Clint Stephens, Baltimore, and Bobbie Williams, Buffalo, combined to turn back Dattu-Mugve-Bala Ullal, India Thomas Cup team members, 15-11, 15-5, in the final round of the fourth annual Gut 'n Feathers Club exhibition badminton tournament held in Marblehead, Massachusetts, January 29.

The second ranking India doubles team, Davinder Mohan, Simla,-George Lewis, Bombay, were defeated by Stephens-Williams in the semis, 15-6, 15-12. In the other semi-final match Mugve-Ullal won over Dick Yeager, Seattle,-Ed Shields, New York, 15-11, 15-10.



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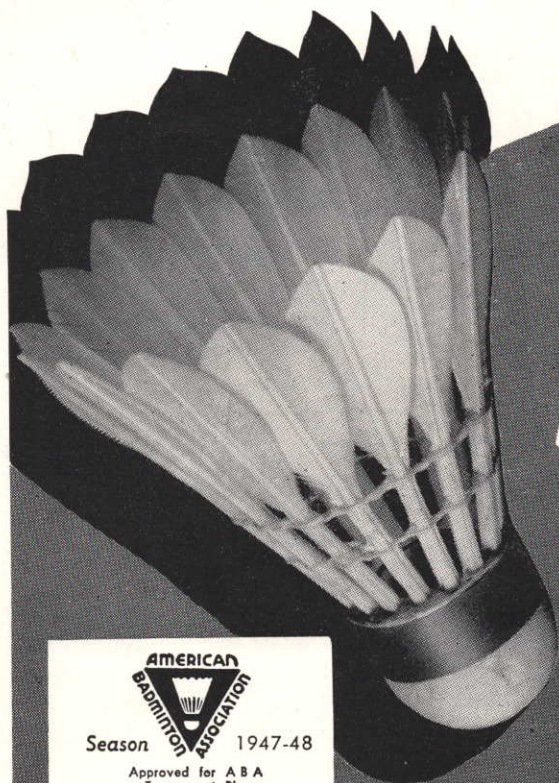
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## SISTERS STEAL SHOW

Two sister acts stole the show at the Junior Badminton tournament held by the Hollywood Badminton club, December 19.

In the "A" flight Joan Gibbs defeated her sister Jean, 11-6, 11-3, while in the "B" flight Ardyce Carr topped her sister LaVonne, 11-7, 11-5.

Players besides the finalists were: Natalie Pettit, Diane Dunne, Mary McMurray, Marilyn Thompson, Steve Hinchcliffe, Dean Maurry, Roy Rogaway, Gary Grant, and Walter Beaudro.

Other results:

### "A" FLIGHT

BOYS' SINGLES, Jimmy Bishop def. Manuel Armendarez, 15-4, 15-7; GRAB DOUBLES, Jack Chrisman-Jean Gibbs def. Brady White-Joan Gibbs, 4-15, 15-5, 15-6.

### "B" FLIGHT

BOYS' SINGLES, Chrisman def. Ken Brown, 15-4, 15-13; GRAB DOUBLES, Bishop-Ted Donaldson def. Bob Pitman-Marilyn Kaiser, 15-11, 15-7.

Connie Horner, *Correspondent*



## Juniors Top Mass. Class C Tourney

Led by Winslow Cobb, a 17-year-old junior, and Betsy Shaw, only two years ago a junior, the Class Tournaments of the Massachusetts Badminton Association were dominated by younger players.

### CLASS C RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES, W. Cobb def. William

Holden, 15-10, 15-10; LADIES' SINGLES, Betsy Shaw def. Miss M. Wright, 12-10, 11-12, 11-8; MEN'S DOUBLES, Gilman-Edmundson def. Melia-Cochrane, 15-6, 6-15, 15-12; LADIES' DOUBLES, Miss L. Ladd-Mrs. B. Hichborn def. Miss M. Wright-Miss M. Gould, 15-19, 13-15, 15-11; MIXED DOUBLES, Cobb-Mrs. M. Moran def. D. Morse-Mrs. E. Mallory, 15-1, 15-10.

### CLASS B RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES, Hannigan def. Cobb, 15-7, 15-0; LADIES' SINGLES, Eddy def. Blake, 5-11, 11-8, 11-8; MEN'S DOUBLES, Costello-Sugrue def. Hannigan-Roberts, 15-6, 17-18, 15-7; LADIES' DOUBLES, Wall-Brown def. Ashcroft-Swette, 15-4, 15-7; MIXED DOUBLES, Costello-Perry def. Nuoturs-Avon, 15-8, 15-8.



## Juniors in San Antonio

Deep in the heart of Texas, badminton is becoming an ever more popular sport.

The San Antonio Badminton club, which has been in existence since 1939, is now sponsoring the San Antonio Junior club, the first junior club organized in Texas.

The Junior club has seventy members from twelve to 19 years of age. It has its own officers and regulates its own activities with a modicum of supervision from the senior club.

Every Wednesday night the Juniors play at the Texas Military Institute gymnasium from 6:30 to 9:30.

Laurie Muldoon, *Correspondent*

## Seattle Crowns Junior Champs

With play running much as expected in the open junior field, Donna Mallory and Dick Bonesteel were crowned singles champions of Seattle in the handicap and junior meet held at the Field Artillery Armory, January 13, 14, 15.

### RESULTS

GIRLS' SINGLES, Donna Mallory defeated Marg Hickey, 13-12, 4-11, 11-5; BOYS' SINGLES, Dick Bonesteel defeated Bob Stenning, 15-6, 15-13; GIRLS' DOUBLES, Catherine Chism-Hickey defeated Twila Kruse-Lou Herron, 15-5, 15-6; BOYS' DOUBLES, Jim Ihrig-Stenning defeated Bonesteel-Jon Rose, 15-9, 15-11; VETERANS' DOUBLES, Howard Crow-Joe Johnson defeated Bill Barragar-Ross Williams, default.

### Handicap Results

LADIES' DOUBLES, Mary Lee Masterson-Margaret Joy defeated Donna Mae Miller-Zelva Moeser, 15-13, 15-8; MEN'S DOUBLES, Joe Johnson-Howard Crow defeated Sherman Bushnell-Clarence Olson, 15-11, 15-11.

MIXED DOUBLES, Shirley McDonald-Jack Barrett defeated Esther Mitchell-Fred Walck, 13-15, 15-12, 15-7.



## Portland Wins Valentine Meet

Portland was the victor of a four-way match between the Multnomah Athletic Club of Portland, the Olympic Club of Port Angeles, the Tacoma B. C. and the Seattle Shuttle Club at the Field Armory, in Seattle, February 13.

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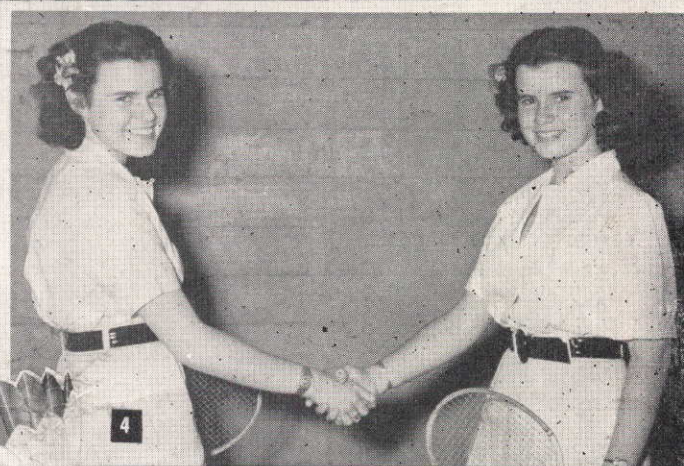
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# FUTURE CHAMPS

SAN ANTONIO—(1) Seated: Left to Right: Frank Huntress, Edgar Dickson, Glen Passmore, Orvis Maxey, Larkin Smith, Sharp McCullough, Carl Rennert. Kneeling: Left to Right: Eleanor Stuck, Sandra Griffith, Harriet Steele, Pete Sweet, Jimmy Fletcher, Bill Muldoon, Coleman Renick, Hall Hammond, Bernard Penrose, Minor Huck. Standing: Left to Right: Freddie Prassell, Boone Maurer, Roy Huff, Bill Byrd, Marjorie Latspeich, Edward Holland, Joan Starkey, Barbara Miller, Billy Stahl, Peggy Alcorn, Annie Mae Funk, Johnny Lampis. BALTIMORE—(2) Ranking Girls, Top to Bottom: Sue Devlin, Katherine Krauss, Frances Hurst, Mary Agnes Moore, Judy Devlin. (3) "Pee-Wee" Girls (12 and under) Front row, Left to Right: Sue Hooper, Sally Swindell, Dorsey K. Christhilf. Second Row: Martha Lou West, Mary S. Townsend, Holly Hooper, Lovey Potter. Third Row: Carol Saunders, Mary Ellen West, Carolyn Schaumann, Steuart Hiss. (5) "Brothers" Front row, Left to Right: Mike Potter, Martin Herlst, Graham Slaughter. Back Row, Left to Right: Charlie Waesche, Lou Potter, Howard Herlst, Dick Slaughter, Bill Waesche. (6) "Pee-Wee" Boys (12 and under) Front Row, Left to Right: Peter Schavoir, Graham Slaughter, Bernie Talley. Back row: Martin Herlst, Pilkin Johnson, Stran McCurley, Mike Potter. HOLLYWOOD JUNIOR BADMINTON MEET—(4) Joan Gibb and Jean Gibb, the badminton twins of Pasadena.



## BIRD CHATTER SUBSCRIPTION RECORD

Passing last year's subscription total on February 7th, the Bird Chatter subscription managers have set their sights for a record year.

Many clubs have reported 100% subscription membership with every family receiving the national publication. Among these clubs are San Antonio, Washington, D. C., Detroit, Skokie of Chicago and Queen Anne of Seattle.

It has become a popular idea to have a Bird Chatter desk at many tournaments where sample copies of the magazine are displayed and subscriptions taken. The business offices of the organ will mail materials to outfit a tournament desk on request.

Region 6, the Pacific Zone, has taken over first place with a 49 subscription lead over Region 4, Midwest, last year's leader. Region 1, New England, is in third place, with Region 2, Mid-Atlantic, only 7 subscriptions behind in fourth place. Region 5, Western, is fifth, 10 ahead of Region 3, Southern.

Region 5 has made the greatest percentage increase by doubling their last year's total.

By states, California retains its lead, with Washington State a surprising second, and steady Massachusetts advancing to third with just one subscription less. Illinois has slipped to fourth place and bids well to lose out to New York and Texas who are close behind.

Louisiana is the only state to reach the ambitious Bird Chatter quota goal as they report 130% of quota. Don Kerr and Don Vaughan have largely contributed to this marvelous showing.

Thirty-one states have equalled or bettered their totals of last season. Some subscribers may be unaware that their subscriptions have lapsed but back Bird Chatters are being saved for them, awaiting their renewals.

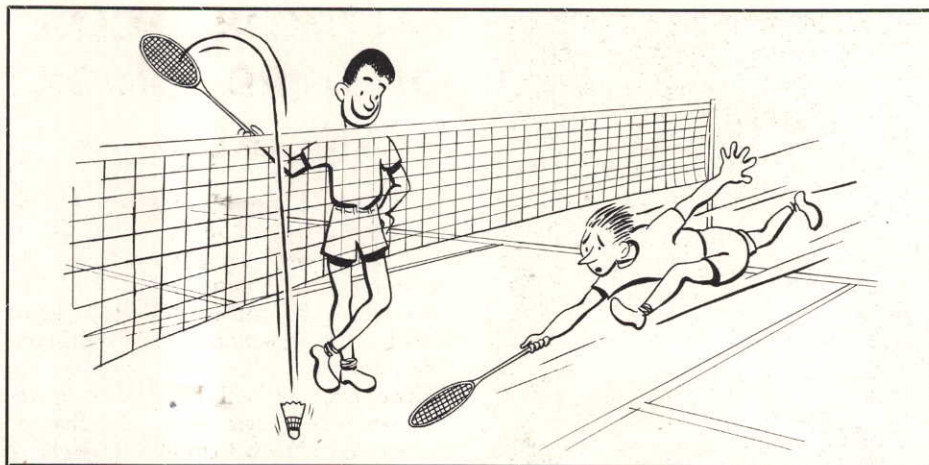
### ★ NORTH SHORE CHAMPS

The North Shore Championships were held on the Evanston High School five court gym, January 21, 22, 23, under the direction of H. G. Wilson, chairman.

#### RESULTS

**MEN'S SINGLES**, Walter Weingand def. Bert Fish, 15-12, 3-15, 15-9; **LADIES' SINGLES**, Bibsy Cook def. Nancy Owens, 11-7, 11-8; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Earl Boston-George Asakura def. Ogden Cook-Stewart Leber, 15-4, 15-6; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Lois Von Gehr-Jo Dyson def. Betty Patterson-Nancy Owens, 15-8, 15-10; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Janet Mitchell-Earl Boston def. Lorraine Schroeder-Asakura, 15-11, 17-14.

W. W. Owens, *Correspondent*



## LET'S CALL IT SLAM . . .

By GEORGE W. DAVIS

A wonderful game with a meaningless name—that's badminton.

What's wrong with the name?

(1) It starts off bad, right from the first syllable.

(2) Hard to pronounce—even well educated people have been heard pronouncing it as "baddington" and "badmington."

(3) Sounds "panty-waist" and dainty.

(4) Too long. Sports writers and headline writers have a devil of a time using it. No wonder we get dinky headlines in the papers—the headline writers can't work the name into a headline unless they use the smallest size.

(5) Meaningless. "Badminton" doesn't suggest a thing about the game. The name would suit any other kind of game every bit as well (or as badly).

If badminton were a very popular game, like basketball, the sportswriters themselves would have invented a better, shorter name. They did it for basketball, which they dubbed the "cage" game played by "cagers."

But we can't rely on the sportswriters to take the initiative in our sport, so let's do it ourselves.

Let's call it "SLAM."

No need to change the official name of the game. What we need is a popularized short name that will identify badminton in conversation, correspondence and in print.

Why popularize the name "SLAM."

(1) The name "Slam" is not identified with any other sport. We can adopt it and make it our own.

(2) The word "Slam" suggests action, speed, power—all the things that people like in sports.

(3) "Slam" fits badminton. No other

game has such a high proportion of smashes and hard-hit shots. (Even though "Slam" also has many shots of the greatest delicacy, this is not the aspect of the game that appeals most strongly to people, especially the younger people we want to take up the game).

(4) "Slam" is a manly name. The same growing boy who would turn up his nose at badminton would be interested in taking a whirl at a game called "Slam."

(5) It's easy to pronounce. Nobody can mis-pronounce it.

(6) Easy to spell.

(7) Short and punchy—perfect for headline writers and sports writers. We can begin to get some decent headlines, with poke in them, when the headlines start saying, "SLAM TOURNAMENT PULLS BIG CROWDS," or "SLAM TEAM COPS THOMAS CUP." By that time, "our badminton players" will become "slamsters."

Let the official name continue to be badminton.

But let's play "slam." Let's hold "slam meets." Let's buy "slam rackets." Let's lay out "slaw courts." Let's go over and play at the "slam club." Let's be proud of our "slam teams" and "slam champs."

The process is easy. Stop saying "badminton" and start saying "slam." It won't be long before the new name is the popular name, used universally—and the game will benefit forever after.

#### EDITOR'S NOTE:

The interesting thoughts expressed by Mr. Davis, Birmingham, Michigan, in the above article are not necessarily those of BIRD CHATTER magazine.





Mrs. Nita Costello and daughter Soudra, the latter a 14-year-old junior who bids fair to be the Massachusetts junior champion and a contender in the coming junior nationals. Mrs. Costello is herself an excellent B mixed doubles player.

## BALTIMORE SCENE OF THIRD JUNIOR NATIONALS

The 1949 Junior National Tournament will be held at Baltimore, March 25, 26 and 27th, under the sponsorship of the Maryland Badminton Association. The tournament chairman is Mrs. J. Frank Devlin, 220 Hawthorne Road, Baltimore, Maryland.

The matches will be played in the Gilman School Gym, which has five excellent courts with tremendous height of ceiling and good lighting. Excellent locker facilities for both boys and girls have been provided.

Special arrangements have been made with the fine up-town hotel, the Sheraton-Belvedere, corner of Charles and Chase Streets, for rooms for the players. Chaperons will be at the hotel at all times, representatives of the Maryland Badminton Association.

Breakfast may be obtained in the coffee shop of the hotel. Light snacks and soft drinks will be available at the gym and two excellent though small restaurants are within a few minutes of the courts.

Players will register in the entrance hall of the gymnasium from 9 to 9:45

a. m., Friday, March 25. Play will start promptly at 10 a. m.

The semi-finals are tentatively scheduled for 7:30 p. m. on Saturday and the finals start at 2 p. m. on Sunday.

Mrs. R. Wentworth Norris has invited all the players to her home for an informal party after the semi-finals.



### West Allis Wins in Wisconsin

A pair of racquet artists from West Allis captured the lion's share of the honors at the first annual YMCA invitational badminton tournament sponsored by the Green Bay Feather Busters Club and the "Y" badminton committee and played in Green Bay, January 29.

Bob Gerzine, state singles champion, and Edna Dobron came through more than 12 hours of grueling competition with titles in singles, teamed to win mixed doubles and shared in men's and ladies' doubles.

#### RESULTS

**MEN'S SINGLES**, Bob Gerzine def. Ed Stirle, 15-6, 15-0; **LADIES' SINGLES**, Edna Dobron def. Gertrude Dahlquist, 11-4, 11-6; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Gerzine-Leroy Molitor def. Mulford Baker-Henry Bredael, 13-15, 15-3, 15-9; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Miss Dobron-Helen Schuller def. Claire Reick-Peg Allaire, 11-9, 11-4; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Gerzine-Miss Dobron def. Jim Wanek-Schuller, 15-8, 15-9.

Doris Rather, *Correspondent*

**Ken Davidson SAYS . .**

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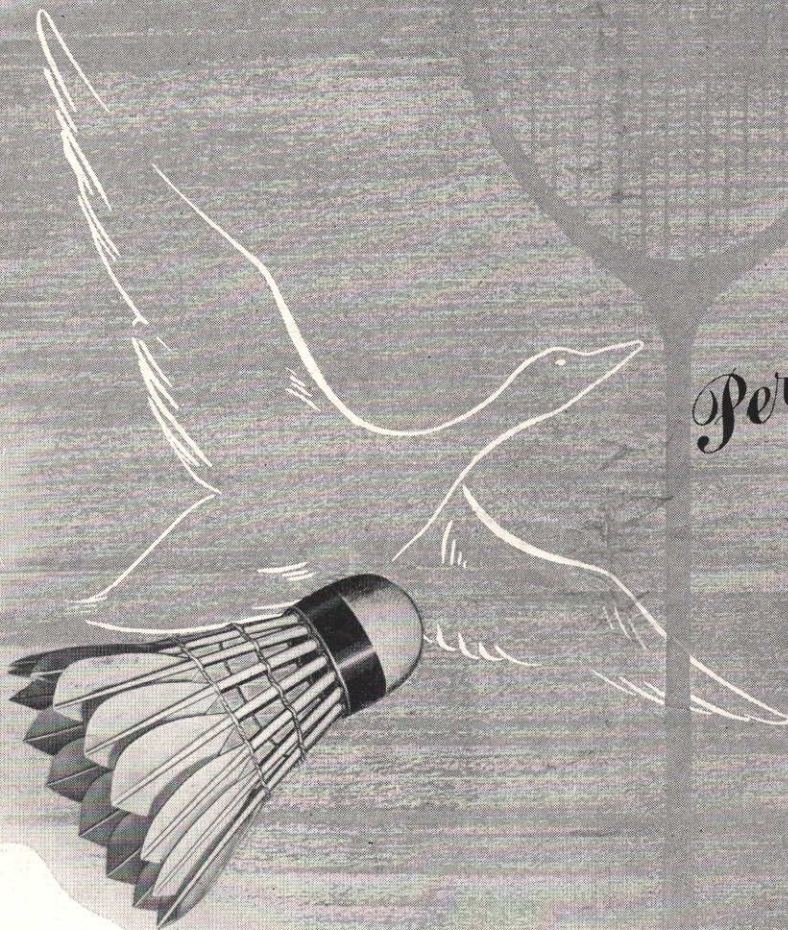
## FROM SUNNY CALIFORNIA

**PACIFIC SOUTHWEST** (1) Ruth Young, (2) Betty Bean, Mrs. and Mr. Dick Fleming, George Keasey, (3) Jeanne Pons, Margie Morrison, Lorraine Spain, Katherine McGrath, (4) Don Smith, Larry Calvert, (5) Jim Munroe, Floyd Runnells, (6) Natalie Pettit, (7) Glen Schofield, Ronnie Carr, Al Kirby, Bud Adams, (8) Don Miller, Mary McMurry, Ardyce Carr, Ronnie Miller. **ATHENS OPEN** (1) Ngaire Kern, May Lou Wincote, Marie Coats, Emma Mora; (2) Bob Hamsher, Marianna Gott, Joelyn Wood, Ronnie Ryan; (3) Marianna Gott, Mildred Jude, Jean Kirby, Shirley Anderson; (4) Doc. A. Allegretti, Lloyd Gowen. **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA** (1) John Murphy, Joe Alston, Bruce McCurdy, Ronnie Ryan; (2) John Smart, Jim Barron, Ray Kimbell, Ron Bobbiitt, Tom Ough; (3) Irl Madden, Mildred Jude, Norman Blanchet, Shirley Anderson.



# PENNSYLVANIA BLUE GOOSE

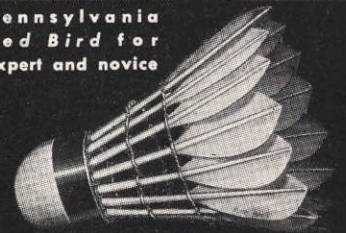
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## MALAYA WINS THOMAS CUP MATCHES

(Continued from Page 5)

the United States of their second match and his own second personal triumph. A brilliant performance.

This led into another terrific match. After his superb performance of the previous evening Marten could not be expected to show any better form against the cool, calculating skill of Ooi Teik Hock, but his gallant effort to tie up the score at 3 all proved to be the most exciting part of the whole series. In an efficient, unhurried but brainy exhibition of playing for points Marten had a worthy opponent in Ooi. After a slow start, in which he learned—as Dave had, the night before, not to offer Ooi any opportunities at the net, Marten found his touch and, after being behind at 8-3, the Californian caught up at 9-9. The lead changed hands until, at 12-11, Ooi had the good fortune to roll up two shots from the back court off the top of the net which helped him take the first game at 15-11. Marten went off with a "bang" in the second to lead 5-0 but Ooi came back and lead 8-6 and again at 11-8, scoring mainly by keeping the shuttle deep in court and waiting to play

one of his close-up drop-shots. Ooi refused to set at 13-13 as the audience were breathlessly following the long drawn-out rallies. Ooi recovered the serve with a well directed smash (one of not more than ten throughout the whole match) at Marten's body and led at 14-13. Marten caught him twice with a cross-court sliced drop-shot from his base line and Ooi set at 3. Ooi again led at 2-0 but Marten courageously fought on and after securing the serve once more he ran out 3-2 (17-16) in one hand finishing off a tremendously long rally and the game with a well-angled smash at Ooi's feet as the crowd gave a wild roar of approval, and all the U.S.A. squad let out yelps of delight. Ooi took a 5-1 lead and Marten caught him at 5 all. The fates were more than unkind at this point as Ooi, with the aid of three net-cord shots, went ahead at 11-6. Play followed closely on the same pattern—interminably long rallies only finishing when a drop-shot from deep court was too close for the opponent to reach to angle it back safely. Marten closed up to 12-10 but another net-cord helped the Malayan summon up

his fast-fading stamina and finally win at 15-10 after 48 minutes of continuous action.

It seemed unjust that Marten's glorious fighting display on both nights should go unrewarded on the score sheet but in justice to the Malaysians all due credit should be given to both of them when each gave no visual signs of "throwing in the sponge" when behind in their respective third games to a fitter opponent.

Carl Loveday stepped onto the court knowing the score was 4-2 in favor of



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\*"P.F." means Posture Foundation

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Malaya but he confidently showed that the U.S.A. would battle for each match. Apart from a moment or two near the end of the first game when Law Teik Hock pulled even at 12 all Carl was in complete control throughout. The Montclair ace, once the first game was in the bag, opened up at a terrific speed in the second game and harassed and rushed his less experienced opponent off his feet. Loveday's change of pace and excellent length gave Law no opportunity to recover and before he knew what had happened Carl smashed away the final point and was shaking the bewildered Malayan's hand who must have been wondering why he should be the victim of such an onslaught.

With the score now 4-3 in Malaya's favor all depended on an improved showing in the Doubles. However Dave Freeman and Wynn Rogers ran into an inspired Yeoh and Chan whose defense was superb and who counter-punched to attack instantly the slightest opportunity presented itself. The California pair tried valiantly to stem the attack of the Selangor team but on that day it proved impossible as they were well-nigh perfect in their control, and they made few errors in the length and depth of their clears. The second game was not given up until the Malaysians had three chances to enter the finals of the Thomas Cup but at 15-7

the U.S.A. had to relinquish any claim to the title for 1949.

Although the tie was already lost the final match—a Men's Doubles between Clint Stephens and Bob Williams and Ooi Teik Hock and Teoh Seng Khoon—was to prove that our Doubles could be effective. Both Bob and Clint were "hot" and Clint had a batch of quick interceptions and net shots which beat the Malaysians at their own game. Bob cleverly interspersed some well concealed dropshots along with his powerful smashing and the first game went to the Americans at 15-9 as Clint cut off a fast return to make an outright point. At 5 all in the second the East Coast boys were still in control but they became worried and put off their game by a change of serving tactics by the Malayan pair particularly from the right court sideline. These serves slowed up our team considerably and it was not until too late in the third game that the U.S.A. pair began to overcome this handicap. For a moment or two at 14-11 against them it seemed as though the U.S.A. would secure its fourth victory but a missed smash at a vital moment took the pressure off Ooi and Teoh and the final score ended with Malaya taking all the Doubles events and leaving only the honors in Singles to the U.S.A.

## Freeman Captures All-England Title

SPECIAL, March 5—Climaxing a ten year undefeated streak of tournament competition, Dave Freeman, Pasadena, laid claim last night to the mythical title, "World's Badminton Champion" by decisively defeating his closest challenger, Ooi Teck Hock, No. 1 Malayan player, 15-1, 15-6 in the finals of the All-England Championships.

Representing every leading badminton nation except Canada were players from England, Denmark, India, U.S.A., and Malaya. Before leaving for England, Freeman had defeated both top Canadian stars in straight games.

The mixed doubles championship went to Mr. and Mrs. Clint Stephens, Baltimore, who won a tough match from Wynn Rogers, Arcadia, California, and Miss Q. M. Allen, England, 15-2, 2-15, 15-12.

Teck Hock and his partner Teoh Seng Khoon won men's doubles by topping Freeman-Rogers 15-5, 15-6.

The complete story will be in the May-June Bird Chatter.

### ★ CORRESPONDENTS

The copy deadline for the May-June issue of Bird Chatter, Official Badminton Magazine, is April 15.





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*Letters to Editors*

Sirs: During the last week it has been my privilege as well as a very great personal pleasure to me, to be with the members of the USA badminton team competing in the Thomas Cup Competition in Glasgow.

Your boys lost to Malaya but they fought out a tough, exciting battle and throughout they have won the hearts of all they have met over here by their sportsmanship, enthusiasm, and gaiety. They have been wonderful ambassadors of America and particularly of American badminton.

I personally have never seen a more exciting match studded with brilliant sets and I would like to record for all American readers of Bird Chatter that the USA team put up a wonderful fight and were never downhearted.

It is my contention that next time you will win so I wish you well in preparing now to do battle again in 1951-2.

Humphrey F. Chilton  
Marlow, England.

Sirs: Would suggest you have M. Johnson (November Bird Chatter) contact Marge Crow's Tuesday night club at the Meany gym. She will see that justice is done.

She donates an hour each Tuesday to us beginners and also has the better players do (the) same.

Marcene Robbins  
Seattle, Washington

Sirs: I am very much in favor of the articles on improving one's game, and also the feature articles on our champions. As for the name of the magazine . . . the Florida vote is for "BIRD CHATTER."

Mrs. R. D. La Hayne  
Tampa, Florida.

Sirs: . . . regarding the plate to fit in with my article (See Jan.-Feb. Bird Chatter "Mixed Doubles" article), I am afraid the position of the girl is way off. I advocate the girl up near the net in Mixed Doubles (her heels should be near or touching the front service line when her partner is serving) but, in the drawing she is back in court. Then, in one instance, sketch No. 4 is supposed to be showing a GIRL standing back some three feet from the net to serve whereas a man is actually serving. The drawings are excellent but the positioning is wrong.

. . . the right foot forward illustration is too exaggerated; as may be the left foot forward illustration too; and tends to show the player off balance.

The man, with the girl back in court instead of up over the front service line, is shown serving too near the front service line for a Front and Back Team particularly.

Kenneth R. Davidson  
New York City.

• *We bang our heads in shame.*—Ed.

**OREGON CHAMPS CROWNED**

Seven new champions were crowned in the finals of the closed championships of the Oregon State Badminton Association held in Portland, Oregon, January 27th to February 2nd.

Maryanne Hansen, of the famous "Cody Kids" swimming team of Portland, won top honors in ladies' singles and teamed with Mabel Brandom to win the ladies' doubles.

**CLASS A RESULTS**

**MEN'S SINGLES**, Russ Hill def. Bob Mensor, 15-2, 10-15, 15-7; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Harold Muntz-Walt Miller def. Stan Cicrich-Ed Oehlschlaeger, 15-8, 15-12; **LADIES SINGLES**, Maryanne Hansen def. Jean Torango, 11-2, 11-3; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Mabel Brandom-Hansen def. Louise Niklas-Louise Cicrich, 15-7, 15-7; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Hill-Claire Smith def. Stan and Louise Cicrich, 15-12, 15-10.

**CLASS B RESULTS**

**MEN'S SINGLES**, Phil Janz def. Al Willis, 15-10, 15-3; **LADIES' SINGLES**, Alita Cavender def. Betty Rankin, 11-5, 11-4; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Janz-Del DeSart def. Wes Sundeleaf-Ted Schaar, 15-5, 15-2; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Myrtle Hoffman-Odessa Reinke def. Mary Wagner-Bertie Smith, 15-8, 15-7; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Ray Howard-Leo Farmer def. Ted Stook-Evelyn Franz, 15-6, 17-14.

Ila Marlatt, *Correspondent*

**GOLDEN BIRD MEET**

Concordia College, River Forest, Illinois, was the scene of the Second Annual Golden Bird Tournament held last January 9 by the Chicago Badminton Club.

In order to enter an event, a player must never have won this event in a previous Golden Bird Tournament or have been a semi-finalist in any Class "A" tournament.

Harry Conlan was tournament chairman.

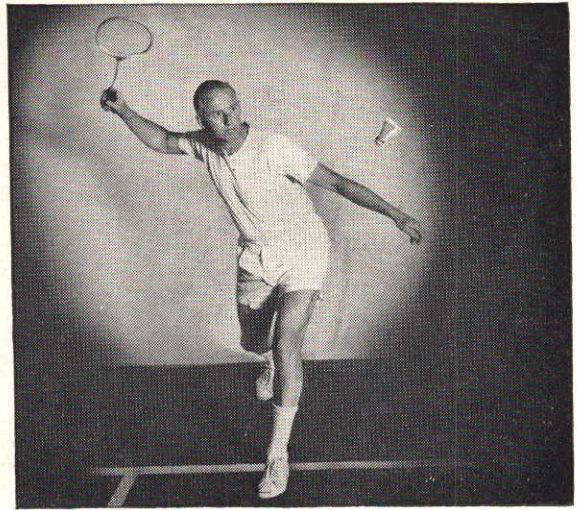
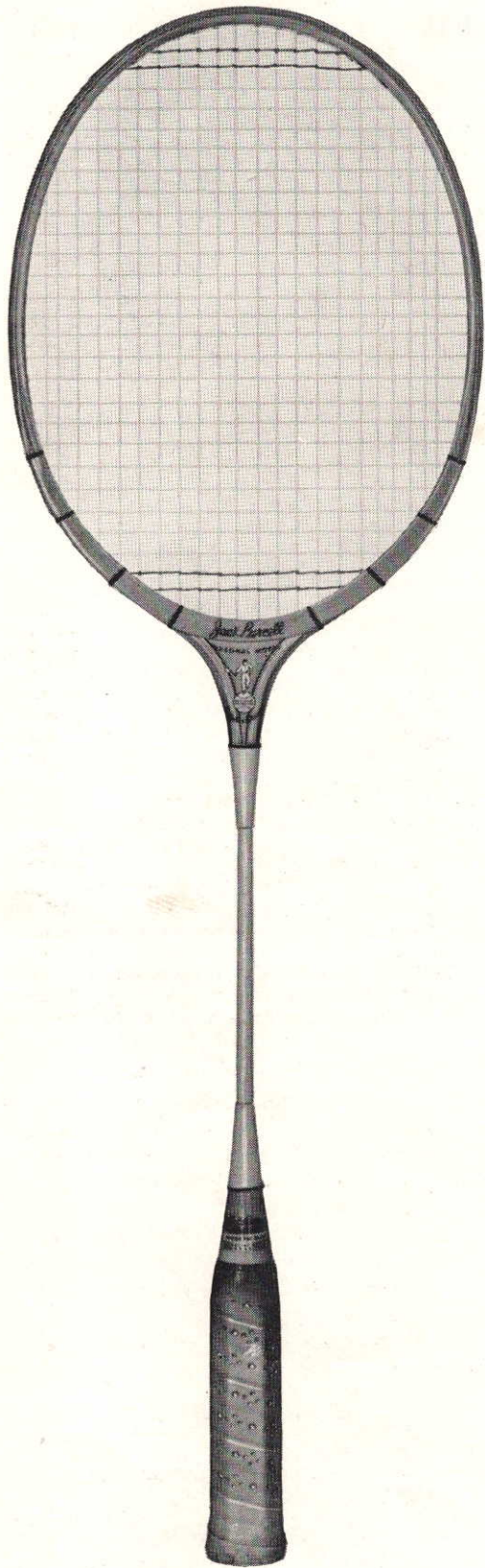
**RESULTS**

**LADIES' SINGLES**, Mrs. Kay Gibbs, def. Louise Adams, 11-6, 11-4; **MEN'S SINGLES**, Gordon Byram def. C. Olson, 15-8, 15-10; **LADIES' DOUBLES**, Mrs. Gibbs-Mrs. Dorothy Thorpe def. Elsy Figler-Erica Deickmann, 15-4, 15-5; **MEN'S DOUBLES**, Byram-Bobby Mullen def. H. James-Bert Fish, 15-2, 15-5; **MIXED DOUBLES**, Mrs. Gibbs-Byram def. Figler-T. Moore, 15-10, 15-13.

Bob Stempel, *Correspondent*

E. P. Juneman Corporation, 1102 West 47th Place, Chicago 9, Illinois, has a twenty-four-page booklet called "Tennis and Badminton Strokes," which it will mail to any interested players. J. Al Dover has written the section on badminton which covers nearly every aspect of the sport.





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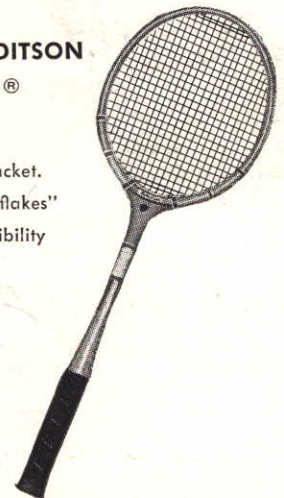
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