## THE ABTA PADDLE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4, No. 3 May 21, 1973

## MEN 'S TOURNAMENTS

## NEW CANAAN INVITATIONAL

Below is the New Canaan draw from the round of 32 , a tournament which saw the fifth seeded team of the Baird brothers, playing here for the first time, win it in straight sets over Squires and Lowell, 7-5, 6-3, 6-1. The defending champions, Sammis and Grey, who were given a second seeding, only made it to the round 16 where they lost to the unseeded but strong team of Ball and Benedict. Almost as surprising was the early elimination of the third seeds, Beck and Fitzgibbon, who were unseeded winners of this tournament in 1971 and quarter finalists last year. They lost in the first round to Standish and Mielke who must have been playing very well. Standish and Mielke stayed in the tournament to the quarter finals where they lost to the Bairds. The Bairds never lost a set during the tournament.


## GREENWICH INVITATIONAL

The Greenwich Invitational, held on March 3 rd \& 4 th, was won by first seeds Mangan and Kingsbury in straight sets, 6-4, 6-4, 11-9 over second seeds, Steve and Chip Baird. Sammis and Grey, who have won this tournament six times didn't have enough to do it this year and lost in the round of 8. Their loss to Jennings and Steele in that round set up a return match in the semi-finals between Jennings-Steele and Baird-Baird who had last met in the Short Hills Invitational, a match which Jennings and Steele won. In this tournament the Bairds avenged that defeat and moved on to the finals. But Mangan and Kingsbury put it all together and. won a fine final round match and went to the nationals with another win to their credit.


## APTA MEN'S NATIONALS

For the first time, the Men's Nationals was held in Cleveland, testimony to the growth and breathe of the game in the midwest and the fact that Cleveland, next to Pittsburgh, probably has more courts, close-in, than any other place in the country.

The first seeded team of Mangan and Kingsbury successfully defended their title in a tight, five set match over the twelfth seeded team of Steele and Jennings who deserved their place in the finals. They had a fine year and deserved a higher seeding than the twelve they had. Steele and Jennings defeated the sixth seeded team of Chase and Miller in the round of 16 , the third seeded team of Drowne and Lowell in the round of 8 and second seeds, Sammis and Grey in the semi-finals.

Mangan and Kingsbury, however, were true champions, put to the test late in the tournament but never losing their finese or their concentration. They managed three consecutive extra set matches in the quarters, semi's and finals and won all three. Weekend weather in Cleveland was rare March, indeed. In a city where heavy snow in March is predictable, the temperature was in the high 60's, hardly the best weather for paddle. The result was the lively ball, booming returns of service and many service breaks. Mangan and Kingsbury played an aggressive, attacking game and it paid off. Just credit goes to the Cleveland Tournament Committee who put on a fine weekend with characteristic aplomb. Below is the draw from the round of 64.



Mangan - Kingsbury
$5-7,6-3,7-5,3-6,6-4$

## MIXED TOURNAMENTS

## NATIONAL MIXED DOUBLES

In the Mixed Doubles, played at the Founding Fox Meadow Tennis Club in Scarsdale, the second seeded team of North and O'Connell, runners up in 1972, reversed that prior final round loss and defeated defending champions, brother and sister John Beck and Sue Wasch, in a two set final, 6-1, 14-12. North and O'Connell have only played in the tournament together twice and are logging an impressive record. They got to the finals by beating the 8 th seeded team of Lowell and Gengler in a three set match, the first set of which could have gone either way. The second and third sets, however, were decisive. Marjorie Gengler is captain of the Princeton University women's tennis team and was playing in the mixed doubles for the first time.

On their way to the finals, Beck and Wasch had a semi-final victory over Drowne and DeBree who were the only seeded team in the draw who had a win in mixed doubles competition this year, the New Jersey State Mixed Doubles. The schedule could use additional mixed doubles tournaments. Below is the draw from the round of 64 .



## WOMEN'S TOURNAMENTS

## DARIEN INVITATIONAL

At Darien, Dillenbeck and DeBree, second seeded nationally, won their first major tournament of the year in a strong victory over Stanton and 0'Connell, 6-2, 6-3. Dillenbeck and DeBree were in command the whole way but Stanton and O'Connell were probably at a disadvantage, having a default in the semi-finals. Rested but cold. These two teams had met once before this year in the semi-finals at Stanwich with Stanton and O'Connell moving on to the finals and eventually winning the tournament.

A major upset was the win of Hill-Wachenfeld in the quarter finals over Babington and Cavanaugh who had won both the Long Island Invitational and the Bronxville-Fox Meadow Invitational. Below is the tournament from the round of 32 .


## CHARLOTTE LEE, NEW JERSEY INVITATIONAL

This tournament has been appropriately named for Charlotte Lee, the perennial great. of New Jersey in National Women's Platform Paddle Tennis.

The tournament was won by DeBree and Dillenbeck over Babington and Cavanaugh, 12-10, $6-2$. These two teams are ranked 2 and 3 respectively, nationally, and always provide exciting paddle. DeBree and Dillenbeck now have 2 consecutive wins to their credit in major competition and in this tournament, from the round of 32 , had four love sets, two 7 game sets and three 8 game sets. They were only pushed in the first set of the final. Below is the tournament from the round of 32.


## APTA NATIONAL WOMEN'S DOUBLES

The National Women's Doubles was played at the Greenwich Field Club and featured a final between defending champions and first seeded DeBree and Dillenbeck versus Babington and Cavanaugh. DeBree and Dillenbeck successfully defended their title winning in three sets, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3. They have now won the National Women's Doubles for three straight years and have won three major tournaments this year and those in a row. They have bested Babington and Cavanaugh in two of three meetings this year.

There was another story here, though, and that was the two other teams in the semifinals - Stern and Flinn and Mullen and McAlpin. Stern and Flinn have been quarterfinalists four times this year but never made it through that round to the semifinals until the big one and they did it here by defeating third seeded Stanton and $O^{\prime}$ Connell who had beaten them in the quarter-finals in the Darien Invitational.

Mullen and McAlpin were unseeded and had only gotten to the round of 16 in one tournament this year, the New Jersey Invitational. On their way to the semi-finals they had a default from the unseeded Cox and Adams in the round of 16 , but then defeated fourth seeded Huber and Wasch decisively in the quarter-finals.



## APTA SENIOR WOMEN'S DOUBLES

In the Senior Women's Doubles, third seeded Wood and Selvig, playing together in this tournament for the first time, (Selvig was a semi-finalist in 1972) won a straight set match over Sutter and Symmers, 6-0, 6-1. Sutter and Symmers were also playing here for the first time and were unseeded. Ann Symmers was a two-time champion in the APTA Mixed Doubles in 1966 and 1967 and finalist in the APTA Women's Doubles in 1966. Below is the full draw.


## TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

The APTA Tournament Committee is making plans for the 1973-74 Tournament Season. Since the Tournament Committee expects to finalize all Tournament dates by June 30th, each individual tournament chairman is reminded that a written request for an APTA approved date should be submitted to the Tournament Committee as early as possible, but no later than June 30th. For men's and mixed events, the requests should be submitted to Mr. Richard C. Farr, 330 New Park Avenue, Hartford, Conn. 06101. For women's events, the requests should be submitted to Mrs. Charles Stanton, North Porchuck Road, Greenwich, Conn. 06830.

The Tournament Committee will make every effort to honor the requested date for each indiv́idual tournament chairman. Where there is competition for a particular weekend date, the Tournament Committee will attempt to resolve any conflict to the mutual satisfaction of the parties involved.

Tournament chairmen who may have had conversations with either Mr. Farr, Mrs. Stanton or other APTA Executive Committee members regarding tournament dates for next year should confirm these understandings in writing.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Paul C. Molloy has been appointed Chairman of the APTA Nominating Committee by President Peter Thistle. The Nominating Committee will nominate officers for election at the next annual meeting to be held in October. Members who are either interested themselves in one of the administrative functions of the APTA or would like to propose someone else for the committee's consideration are encouraged to do so. Paul Molloy may be contacted at 980 Post Road, Scarsdale, New York 10583. Telephone 212-582-2524.

## THE MEMBERSHIP LIST

Regrettably, we did not list the name of Mr. Allen Rowland of New Castle, New Hampshire on our roll of member clubs in the APTA. Mr. Rowland has been a member since 1969 and, of course, still is.

## RANKINGS

The Tournament Committee has proposed the following list of Men's teams for ranking. for the 1973-74 season. The APTA ranks the top 16 teams, all of whom must have played in a minimum of 3 of 8 sanctioned tournaments during the year. The results of the 8 tournaments were weighted based on the size and quality of the draw. The number in parenthesis following the team refers to the ranking held during the past season.

| $\checkmark 1$. | Mangan-Kingsbury (1) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\checkmark 2$. | K. Jennings-Steele |  |
| $\checkmark 3$. | Beck-FitzGibbon (4) |  |
| $\checkmark 4$. | Baird-Baird |  |
| $\sim 5$. | Russell-Squires (5) |  |
| $\checkmark 6$. | Sammis-Gray (2) |  |
| 7. | Drowne-Lowell (3) | Lowell-Clark |
| 8. | Clark-Dickenson '(6) |  |
| $\checkmark 9$. | Chase-Miller (7) |  |
| $\checkmark 10$. | D. Jennings-Woods |  |
| $\checkmark 11$. | Ball-Benedict (8) |  |
| $\checkmark 12$. | Lankenau-Baird (9) | Prince - Rogerr |
| $\checkmark 13$. | Kimberly-0'Hearn |  |
| 14. | Farr-Gillespie | Collins-Mc Geeney |
| 15. | Gornell-Hipkins |  |
| 16. | Pickett-Steiner | Rogers- Brownlow |

Mangan and Kingsbury retain their number one ranking. The only team ranked last year (when only ten teams were included) that moved up this year are Beck and FitzGibbon, (number 4 to number 3). Three new teams are in the top ten, K. Jennings and Steele, Baird and Baird, D. Jennings and Woods.

Jennings and Steele were finalists at Short Hills, semi-finalists in Greenwich and finalists in the National Men's Doubles.

The Baird brothers were quarter-finalists at Connecticut State, played to the round of 16 at Rye, were semi-finalists at Short Hills, winners at New Canaan, finalists at Greenwich and quarter-finalists at the National Men's Doubles.

Jennings and Woods were semi-finalists at Detroit and Connecticut State, quarterfinalists at Long Island and Rye and played to the round of 16 at Greenwich and the National Men's Doubles.

Women's rankings are not finalized and will appear in the next newsletter.

## CARIBBEAN PADDLE

The game gets around, or at least its equipment. On a recent trip to Puerto Rico, Pete Thistle saw one of the round sponge things we use to play paddle with, orange flocking, cracks and all, floating along a drainage ditch in San Juan. Which all goes to prove something about the orderly growth of the game.

The APTA has had under consideration for some time, a revision in the By-Laws of the Association. The Executive Committee and a specially designated By-Law Committee are about to take action on this. All member clubs in the Association will shortly receive material concerning the By-Law changes together with a proxy statement and an announcement of a special Association meeting to take place in July or August. We hope that all member clubs will have representation at this meeting and and if not, we urge all clubs to have the proxy completed and returned.
B. Kindred, "Editor"

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