

WORLD SPEEDWAY CHAMPIONSHIP 1971

EUROPEAN FINAL
SPONSORED BY THE SUNDAY MIRROR
WEMBLEY STADIUM

SATURDAY AUGUST 21. 7 p.m.

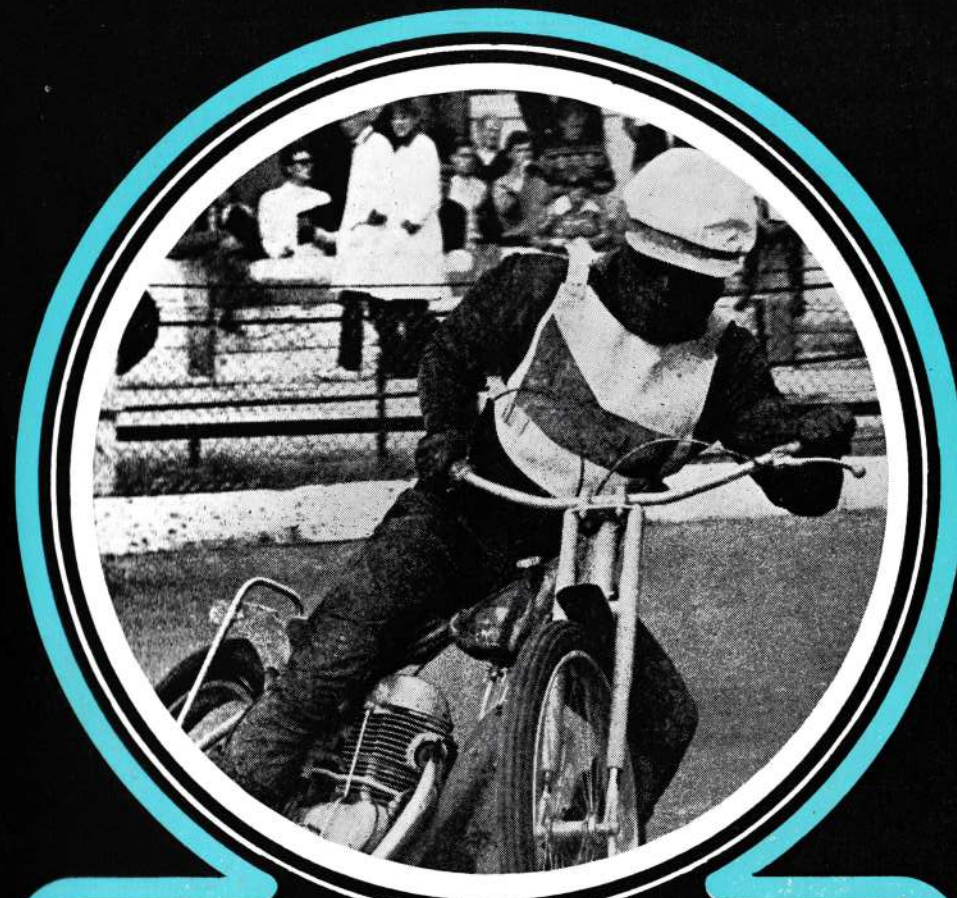
SEATS: £2.00 £1.50 £1.20 90p

STANDING ENCLOSURE: 60p

ALL SPECTATORS UNDER COVER



Tickets NOW from any British Speedway Track



YOUNG
ENGLAND
YOUNG
CZECHOSLOVAKIA

KINGSMED STADIUM, CANTERBURY • SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1971
OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 12p

BRITISH LEAGUE DIVISION TWO TRACK DIRECTORY

BERWICK. Shielfield Park, Tweedmouth, Berwick-on-Tweed, Northumberland. Saturday, 7 p.m.

BIRMINGHAM. Perry Barr Greyhound Stadium, Walsall Road, Birmingham, 22B. Monday, 7.30 p.m.

BOSTON. Boston Sports and Speedway Stadium, New Hammond Beck Road, Boston, Lincs. Sunday, 6.45 p.m.

BRADFORD. Odsal Stadium, Odsal, Bradford, Yorks. Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.

CANTERBURY. Kingsmead Stadium, Kingsmead Road, Canterbury, Kent. Saturday, 7 p.m.

CREWE. Crewe Speedway Stadium, L.M.R. Sports Ground, Earle Street, Crewe, Cheshire. Monday, 7.30 p.m.

EASTBOURNE. Arlington Road, Hailsham, near Eastbourne, Sussex. Sunday, 3.30 p.m.

HULL. Boulevard Stadium, Airlie Street, Hull, Yorks. Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.

IPSWICH. Ipswich Stadium, Foxhall Heath, Ipswich, Suffolk. Thursday, 7.45 p.m.

LONG EATON. Long Eaton Stadium, Station Road, Long Eaton, Notts. Thursday, 7.30 p.m.

PETERBOROUGH. East of England Showground, Alwalton, Peterborough. Friday, 7.45 p.m.

RAYLEIGH. Rayleigh Weir Stadium, Arterial Road, Rayleigh, Essex. Saturday, 8 p.m.

ROCHDALE. Athletic Ground, Milnrow Road, Rochdale, Lancs. Friday, 7.15 p.m.

ROMFORD. Brooklands Stadium, Brooklands Road, Mawneys, Romford, Essex. Thursday, 7.45 p.m.

SUNDERLAND. Sunderland Stadium, Newcastle Road, Sunderland, Co. Durham. Sunday, 3.30 p.m.

TEESSIDE. Cleveland Park Stadium, Stockton Road, Middlesbrough, Teesside, Yorks. Thursday, 7.30 p.m.

WORKINGTON. Derwent Park, Workington, Cumberland. Friday, 7.30 p.m.

OPEN LICENCE TRACKS

RYE HOUSE. Rye Road, Hoddesdon, Herts. Sunday, 3.30 p.m.

SCUNTHORPE. Quibell Park, Scunthorpe, Lincs. Monday, 7.15 p.m.

NOTE. Race day and time quoted is each track's normal staging. You are advised to check local, national and sporting press for any amendments.

PROGRESS made by just a few of the outstanding products of Division Two speedway in the three-plus years of operation are discussed more fully elsewhere.

That one of the world's most thriving speedway league competitions is so readily able to develop talent for our Division One brothers is a constant source of joy to all associated with Division Two racing.

In achieving this goal, we all recognise the vital part Young England internationals play in the development of junior talent. The number of Young Lions now doing so well in Division One racing who have seen action against Young Czechoslovakia on one or both of their previous visits to England reads almost like a "Who's Who" of our section.

Not all gained Young England honours though. We recall with special pride right now the success of Tony Lomas, a European Finalist in a few days time. He was with Weymouth in 1968 and at Long Eaton for a while in '69 before being hoisted back to parent track Coventry without getting the opportunity of a crack against Young Czechoslovakia.

Riders like Arthur Price, Malcolm Shakespeare and Doug Wyer, who'll be appearing in this series, all have their Division One futures plotted for them. John Louis does too, but just where is anyone's guess right now.

What we do know, however, is that the outings the Young England riders will be getting in this series can only sharpen up their prowess for the future.

For that reason alone, Young Czechoslovakia are welcome here this evening. More than that though, they're a great team of thrillmakers and no matter what the final score will be, they assure us of 18 exciting heats of speedway in the next couple of hours or so.

This meeting is organised on behalf of Division Two of the British Speedway Promoters' Association.
27 Gabriel's Hill, Maidstone, Kent.

The Division Two 'Pipeline' Is An Impressive List

THERE are not many tracks in Division One who are not regularly tracking former Division Two riders. Some have made the grade from scratch while others were loaned to earn valuable experience.

More and more of the senior tracks are realising the potential of the young Division Two men. They will also be noting that almost without exception that youngsters are making the grade in Division One.

Perfect examples of this are Reading who regularly track four riders who have learned much of what they know from Division Two. Racers skipper Geoff Curtis, formerly with Crewe, linked up with the Berkshire team this year after a spell with Newcastle while Richard May, Bernie Leigh and Mick Bell all rode for Reading when they were in Division Two.

Bell, second in the 1969 Division Two Riders' Championship, did have a season with Division One Oxford last year, however.

Halifax are another who noted the Division Two potential, and acted. Chris Bailey was snapped up from Rochdale, Paul O'Neil from Crewe and Terry Lee

from Teesside. And meanwhile the Dukes are keeping an eye on the form of Malcolm Mackay at Workington.

Belle Vue have long realised the value of young riders with the original Belle Vue Colts and the more recent Rochdale side providing a regular supply of talent. Ken Eyre and Eric Broadbent are currently key members of the Belle Vue senior team while also making their presence felt when called upon are Rochdale's Alan Wilkinson and Peter Collins.

Hackney, too, are placing more and more importance on youth. Laurie Etheridge, from Rayleigh, and Barry Thomas, from Canterbury, are among their most important signings.

The dazzling Thomas has already earned a senior international cap for England to add to the British Junior Championship he won in 1970.

Hackney have close ties with Rayleigh and from the Rockets Geoff Maloney and Hughie Saunders have been used to help

continued on pages 10 and 11



ONE who's made the grade is **RICHARD MAY**, seen here leading **MILAN SPINKA** and **VACLAV VERNER**.

YOUNG ENGLAND 1971



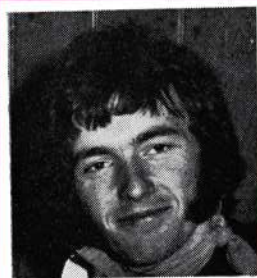
JOHN LOUIS



GEOFFREY BOUCHARD



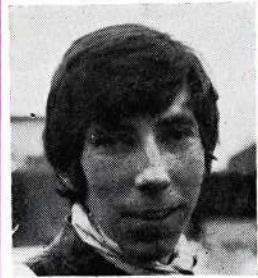
MALCOLM BALLARD



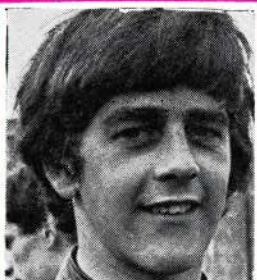
KEVIN HOLDEN

Captain
JOHN LOUIS

Team Manager
RUSS OSBOURN



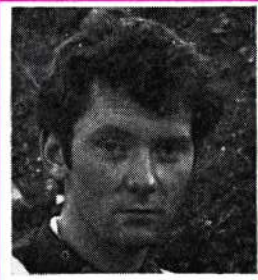
GRAHAM BANKS



GORDON KENNETT



TONY DAVEY



MALCOLM
SHAKESPEARE

IAN MACDONALD introduces the 1971

Czechoslovakian Tourists

THERE is always a danger that familiarity will breed contempt. When a touring speedway nation is making its fifth consecutive tour to our shores there must be the added risk of boredom creeping in. With the rampaging Czechs, however, nothing could be farther from the truth.

This annual series is firmly establishing itself as one of the real highlights of the international season. The Czechs give good value for money and the fact that they win matches helps to keep the series alive until the very end.

Last year they were set the very exhausting programme of eight matches in only twelve days.

Not only did they survive but they actually won the series by four-three and threw in a "Challenge" victory at Crewe for good measure. That they achieved this despite losing one of their top stars halfway through the series is further proof of their strength.

This season's squad contains most of the riders who led the 1970 onslaught together with a couple of experienced campaigners to add spice to the team.

Making his fifth tour is **MIROSLAV VERNER** who is the man most British League promoters would like to sign. Miroslav has rattled up the incredible total of 224 points on the previous two tours and shows no sign of losing his edge. Always at his best in team matches he will again be looking for the "ton."

The Czechs seem to adapt to British track conditions a lot quicker than most East Europeans and this was ably demonstrated by **MILAN SPINKA** when he toured last year. Milan struggled for the first few matches but once he got the hang of it he was a hard man to beat. He had a points average of over ten from the last four matches and will be aiming to resume where he left off.

Back for the fourth time is **VACLAV VERNER**, the younger cousin of Miroslav. After scratching around for a few seasons Vaclav really came to the fore last year and at one stage was indisputably his country's top rider. He had scored fifty-nine points from the first four matches last season when a crash at King's Lynn put him out of the series with a broken wrist.

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VERNER cousins, MIROSLAV (left) and VACLAV, and ZDENEK MAJSTR on the line awaiting their introduction at last year's World Team Cup Final.

CANTERBURY SPEEDWAY

Canterbury City Football Grd.
Kingsmead Rd., Canterbury
Tel.: 61244 (Race days only)

Promoted by and under
direction of
Canterbury Speedway Ltd.
Tel.: Herne Bay 5932

Secretary: Pauline Osbourn
Tel.: Canterbury 51409

A-C.U. Permit No.: 68/22
S.C.B. Licence No.: SP215
Length of Track 390 yards

4 Laps Track Record:
G. Smith 74.0 seconds
25.7.70

1 Lap rolling start: G. Smith
18.5 seconds 11.7.70

OFFICIALS

A-C.U. Referee:
S. J. Mellish

Clerk of the Course:
J. S. Hoskins

Announcer:
Malcolm Mitchell

Machine Examiner:
R. T. J. McKinnon

Pit Marshal:
Bob Beeny

Starting Marshal:
R. Hubbard

Medical Officers:
Dr. P. L. H. Vernon
Dr. B. H. D. Robinson
St. John Ambulance
Brigade in attendance

This meeting is held
under the Speedway
Regulations of the
Speedway Control
Board.

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WELCOME TO THE TEAMS

This being the first match of the series we specially welcome the Czechoslovakian team. They have always given their best performance at Canterbury, and have so far an unbeaten record on the Kingsmead circuit.

The public always gives our visitors a tremendous welcome. Their team efforts, and behaviour on and off the track, does them credit. We have shown them round the City which they say reminds them of some old towns and cities in their country. The famous Cathedral is a special attraction to these young men.

There is something exciting and nerve tingling about the visit of a team from a foreign land, and we are most pleased to have been chosen again to set the tour going here at Canterbury.

Our track is the same size and has the usual smooth surface familiar to our visitors on previous trips, so it will present no special difficulties to these brilliant riders.

All the English team have ridden here this season, some of them several times, so that we look forward with the keenest expectation to seeing some grand racing, exciting, thrilling and sportsmanlike.

To win here at the third attempt will be a great achievement for the English team, and to lose against such strong opposition will be no disgrace.

Personally I look forward to welcoming both teams, and particularly to shaking hands again with our visitors who have come so far on their mission of cultivating friendships, and cementing the good relations which have always existed between the Czechs and the British in every form of sport.

We cannot speak their language and they cannot speak ours, but the welcoming grasp of the hand, the sparkle of friendship as eye meets eye, and the world wide thumbs up sign of approval is language enough.

We trust that the tour is not marred by accident to any of the grand lads who have chosen this risky sport as a career.

Our appreciation can best be shown by a welcoming cheer as each rider is introduced by roars of applause for good hard fought wheel to wheel racing, so that our visitors will delight in the feeling that they have been well appreciated and will be keen to return another time.

JOHNNIE HOSKINS

In the event of this meeting being abandoned before the holding of the sixth race in the programme readmission tickets will be issued to the restaging of this meeting or to a subsequent meeting as announced. No monies refundable, no programme exchange. **BETTING STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**

THEY'RE AT IT AGAIN



ON page three it was Richard May who held the advantage. This time, **VACLAV VERNER** and **MILAN SPINKA** look to have the advantage over **JOHN LOUIS** as they set themselves up to race out of the turn.

The return of the Verner/Spinka due in this programme leads us up nicely into a "welcome back" to cheery Czechoslovakian mechanic Karel Melicher.

We've never yet found out just what Karel does back home, whether he's single or married, has children or not. All he's ever appeared to have time for is a cheery grin, a hurried wave between mechanical chores... and the consumption of bottle after bottle of pop—something a little stronger after meetings—and a seemingly endless supply of sandwiches.

Like all touring parties before them, the Czechoslovakian riders are sure to thrill you out on the track. If you get the chance tonight, pop around to the pit area too and watch this Melicher fellow. The way he changes gears, tyres, tops up with fuel and oil and generally keeps the Czechoslovakia machines going, and still maintain his calorie intake, is an endless source of wonder to us.

It's nice having guys like Karel Melicher back with us, albeit for such a short time. We welcome too on this occasion, Czechoslovakian team manager Jaroslav Bartosek.

Mr. Bartosek is new to British touring, but he comes with a tough reputation which bodes a hard time for the Young Lions.



Here next Saturday AUGUST 14 KEN - EX FOUR - TEAM TOURNAMENT

The top four from Canterbury,
Eastbourne, Rayleigh and
Romford clash in this

increasingly popular contest.
Sixteen keen eager star performers from
four top Southern tracks plus all the
"Crusaders" is something to shout
about.

Popular admission prices 30p adults,
15p children. Grandstand 20p extra.
Ample car parking. Gates open 6 p.m.

FIRST SPEEDWAY INTERNATIONAL MATCH — 1971
(3rd U.K. SERIES)

Young England v Young Czechoslovakia

4 LAPS CLUTCH START

MATCH DECIDED ON RACE POINTS

1st, 3 points; 2nd, 2 points; 3rd, 1 point

RIDERS ARE IDENTIFIED BY NUMBERS AND HELMET COLOURS

Heat	Riders	Substitute Remarks	Hel't Col.	Pts. Scor'd by Riders	Team Points Y.E. Y.C.	Progressive Totals Y.E. Y.C.
1 Time	1 John Louis 2 Geoffrey Bouchard 1 Vaclav Verner 2 Pavel Mares		R B W Y/B		3 2	3 2
2 Time	3 Malcolm Ballard 4 Kevin Holden 3 Jiri Stanci 4 Milan Spinka		R B W Y/B		2 1	6
3 Time	5 Graham Banks 6 Gordon Kennett 5 Miroslav Verner 6 Zdenek Majstr		R B W Y/B		1 5	11
4 Time	3 Malcolm Ballard 4 Kevin Holden 1 Vaclav Verner 2 Pavel Mares		R B W Y/B		1 5	16
5 Time	5 Graham Banks 6 Gordon Kennett 3 Jiri Stanci 4 Milan Spinka		R B W Y/B		2 4	20
6 Time	1 John Louis 2 Geoffrey Bouchard 5 Miroslav Verner 6 Zdenek Majstr		R B W Y/B		3 1	23
7 Time	5 Graham Banks 6 Gordon Kennett 1 Vaclav Verner 2 Pavel Mares		R B W Y/B		3 1	24
8 Time	1 John Louis 2 Geoffrey Bouchard 3 Jiri Stanci 4 Milan Spinka		R B W Y/B			
9 Time	3 Malcolm Ballard 4 Kevin Holden 5 Miroslav Verner 6 Zdenek Majstr		R B W Y/B			

INTERVAL

Heat	Riders	Substitute Remarks	Hel't Col.	Pts. Scor'd by Riders	Team Points Y.E. Y.C.	Progressive Totals Y.E. Y.C.
10 Time	1 John Louis 2 Geoffrey Bouchard 1 Vaclav Verner 2 Pavel Mares		R B W Y/B			3
11 Time	3 Malcolm Ballard 4 Kevin Holden 3 Jiri Stanci 4 Milan Spinka		R B W Y/B			21
12 Time	5 Graham Banks 6 Gordon Kennett 5 Miroslav Verner 6 Zdenek Majstr		R B W Y/B			
13 Time	3 Malcolm Ballard 4 Kevin Holden 1 Vaclav Verner 2 Pavel Mares		R B W Y/B			
14 Time	5 Graham Banks 6 Gordon Kennett 3 Jiri Stanci 4 Milan Spinka		R B W Y/B			
15 Time	1 John Louis 2 Geoffrey Bouchard 5 Miroslav Verner 6 Zdenek Majstr		R B W Y/B			
16 Time	5 Graham Banks 6 Gordon Kennett 1 Vaclav Verner 2 Pavel Mares		R B W Y/B			
17 Time	1 John Louis 2 Geoffrey Bouchard 3 Jiri Stanci 4 Milan Spinka		R B W Y/B			
18 Time	3 Malcolm Ballard 4 Kevin Holden 5 Miroslav Verner 6 Zdenek Majstr		R B W Y/B			

RIDERS' INDIVIDUAL SCORE CHART

Young England	1	2	3	4	5	6	T	Y. Czechoslovakia	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
1. J. Louis (Cpt.)	3	1						1. V. Verner	2	1	1	1	1	1	10
2. G. Bouchard								2. P. Mares	0	1	1	1	1	1	5
3. M. Ballard								3. J. Stanci	0	1	1	1	1	1	5
4. K. Holden								4. M. Spinka	2	1	1	1	1	1	7
5. G. Banks								5. M. Verner (Cpt.)	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
6. G. Kennett								6. Z. Majstr							0
7. T. Davey (res.)								7. J. Volf (res.)							0
8. M. Shakespeare (r.)								8. P. Busta (res.)							0
Total English Match Score								Y. Czechoslovakia Match Score							



JOHN LOUIS

**SERIES LEADER
AGAINST YOUNG
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
AND POTENTIAL
1971 DIVISION ONE
MAN**

concluded from page 3

Hackney through some sticky patches. Also signed up for the future is Eastbourne teenager David Kennett while brother Gordon Kennett has also ridden for Hackney.

The Hawks gave big Graham Miles his Division One chance after a long spell at Canterbury but alas Miles was struck

down with a serious back injury last month just when he, too, was beginning to score well in Division One.

Exciting Gary Peterson is now hammering home the big scores for Wolverhampton after recovering from a nasty knock sustained at the tail end of last season. New Zealander Gary was top of

Young England v Young Australasia

PETERBOROUGH—September 10

BRADFORD—

September 15

CANTERBURY—

September 25



the Division Two averages last year when he rode for Bradford. Another Wolverhampton rider, incidentally, is one time Crayford star Geoff Ambrose, who won the Division Two Riders' Championship in 1969.

We have already mentioned Working-ton's Malcolm Mackay but in 1970 the Comets produced one of the best first year Division Two riders in Bob Valentine. Now Aussie Bob is back with his parent track Sheffield and doing very nicely, thank you. Sheffield, meanwhile, are keeping close tabs on Doug Wyer (Berwick) and Reg Wilson (Hull) who are both out on loan for experience.

Romford fans were disappointed this year when Phil Woodcock eventually went into Division One. However, Bombers followers were realistic enough to realise that Woodcock was bound to join Exeter full time sooner or later.

Ipswich gave valuable experience to John Harry for a couple of Division Two seasons. Now he has been recalled by parent track Coventry where he has continued to impress.

So the story goes on with men like

1970 Division Two Champion David Jessup finding brilliant form with Wembley and his 1968 predecessor Graham Plant now an international star with Leicester.

Leicester are always quick to spot youthful ability and in addition to Plant they have also signed Tom Leadbitter from Teesside.

Barry Crowson, now with King's Lynn, had Division Two experience with Canterbury and Eastbourne while 1971 British Junior Champion Ian Turner, another sidelined with back injuries, switched from King's Lynn second team to their senior squad midway through last year.

So we go on, with Barry Duke of Cradley Heath but formerly with Weymouth; Mike Gardner, on the injured list at Oxford but once a Rayleigh Rocket; Derek Cook now a permanency, it seems, at Poole and a popular man at Eastbourne or Mike Handley and Peter Murray who were at Crayford and Canterbury respectively before finding Division One team berths.

It's an impressive list.



BARRY BRIGGS (right) provides plenty of hard opposition for former Division Two men now seeking fame and fortune in senior league racing. Barry is pictured with Czech star **JAN HOLUB**, a member of Exeter's squad until this year.

concluded from page 5

This will be the third visit of **JIRI STANCL** a youngster equally at home on grass, sand or shale. Jiri leapt into the limelight at the back end of 1968 when he finished fourth in the Czechoslovakian Championships. He is the only Czech to have reached the European Final of this year's World Championship. Jiri scored eighty-five points on the last tour and is now firmly established as an international heat-leader.

The real "mystery man" of the party is **PAVEL MARES**. He hasn't raced in Britain before and has never represented his country in the World Team Cup. Yet Pavel has been one of the most consistent Czech riders over the past six seasons.

He reached the 1966 European Final but was prevented from riding by "visa difficulties." A broken leg stopped him touring with Prague in 1968 and also blunted his career somewhat. Usually sporting a beard he pops up all over Eastern Europe in international meetings and is one of speedway's real characters.

Injuries have also played a big part in the career of **JAROSLAV VOLF** who was here previously in 1968. Jaroslav made history in 1964 when he became the first Czech rider to reach a World Final. A fractured skull the following year put him out of the saddle for a long time and it was feared he would never ride again. Happily this was not so.

ZDENEK MAJSTR, like Stancl, is a product of the 1968 season. That year he finished eighth in the National Cham-

pionships and has since gone from strength to strength. Last year was his best ever and was highlighted by a third placing in the Continental Final.

Completing the line-up is **PAVEL BUSTA** and I'm a little surprised that we haven't seen him before. Injuries may have kept him out of previous tours but he certainly looked promising in 1969.

That year he travelled to Poland with the Ruda Hvedza club for a match at Ostrow against Wybrzeze Gdansk. Pavel had notched five points from his first two outings when machine troubles put him out of the meeting. He seemed a much likelier prospect than his partner Josef Lid who has been to Britain twice since then.

Still, the Czechs have never been afraid to experiment and I'm sure Busta has been held back for sound reasons.

This then is the Czech squad. A line-up that doesn't appear to contain any weaknesses . . . and promises rich entertainment ahead.

BRITISH LEAGUE

(Division Two)

RIDERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

HACKNEY

Saturday
October 2

at
8 p.m.



Previous Results

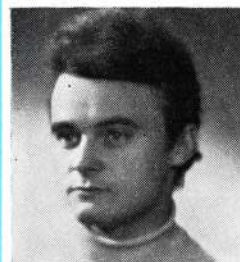
1969

Young England 2
Young Czechoslovakia 4
(1 draw)

1970

Young Czechoslovakia 3
Young England 0
Young England 3
Young Czechoslovakia 4

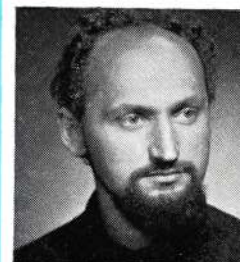
YOUNG CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1971



PAVEL BUSTA



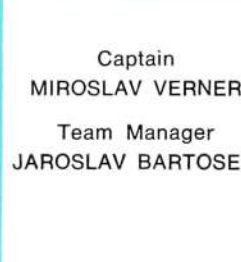
ZDENEK MAJSTR



PAVEL MARES



MILAN SPINKA

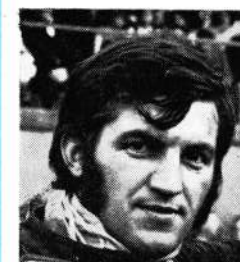


Captain
MIROSLAV VERNER

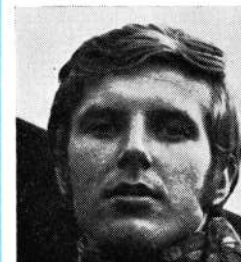
Team Manager
JAROSLAV BARTOSEK



JIRI STANCL



MIROSLAV VERNER



VACLAV VERNER



JAROSLAV VOLF

Tough Opponents For The Fiery Czechs

THE depth of talent in Division Two is illustrated by the variety of selections and permutations the selectors have allowed themselves during this series.

A couple of dozen names crop up during the seven matches although only one—that of skipper John Louis—appears on each occasion. That in itself is a measure of the stature of the Ipswich star in this section.

Louis had plenty of experience in other departments of motor cycle sport before turning to speedway; but the astonishing fact remains that he didn't make his British League debut until Easter, 1970.

John won his first race and he's won a few more since. This season, indeed, he has achieved a record of consistency which puts him comfortably at the top of Division Two averages. If he drops a couple of points in a meeting it's headlines; more often than not, though, he has been collecting maximum scores.

The Ipswich flier has also been collecting a handful of track records up and down the land. In the Foxhall Heath international against Young Sweden he began the evening by slicing a fantastic 1.8 seconds off his own best time round that circuit!

No wonder Division One promoters still cast covetous eyes in the general direction of Ipswich. Meanwhile John's immediate aim will be to see if he can again top the Young England score charts.

If Louis' rise to fame has been swift, nobody has made a more meteoric charge to the top than Malcolm Ballard (Eastbourne) who was capped only 53 days after making his debut on speedway.

This bustling, all-action Sussex speedster is the latest off the seemingly never-ending stockpile of talent from Eastbourne . . . and he could be the best yet.

Up at Rochdale folk think an awful lot of personable youngster Alan Wilkinson, one of the brightest recruits from the northern circuit. He is quick to learn, and his recent outings with seniors Belle Vue will make him all the better equipped to tackle redoubtable opponents like the Czechs.

Another consistent northerner is Bradford's bespectacled Alan Knapkin, sound but quite a showman with it. Cheery Knapkin is generally rated one of the hardest men to beat in Division Two. The Czechs may find that out!

Ask the good people of Berwick for their nomination of the most notably improved racer of the year and they are sure to plump for Doug Wyer. This brawny Sheffield loanee has had a bit of senior experience as well and was even capped at senior level when England rode against Scotland at Glasgow earlier in the year.

A great mate of Wyer and another exciting prospect is Carl Glover (Boston) who wins a cap in his first season. Lanky Carl, a long-in-the-leg teenager, scored 13 points in his debut match in March and he has been picking up soundly and usefully.

Also from Boston is Arthur Price, technically one of the best riders in the section and booked for future senior selection at King's Lynn. A quiet, introvert Midlander, Price is named for six of the seven matches although surprisingly he's down at reserve on no fewer than four occasions.

If that seems odd, the same could be said for the in and out appearances of bustling Castle Bromwich kid Malcolm Shakespeare (Long Eaton) who rates highly in Division Two circles. The Long Eaton people can't understand why he isn't in for the whole tour and maybe they're not far wrong.

From the same team comes Geoff Bouchard, whose form this year has been a revelation. He only began racing last year, was an immediate hit and this year he has been coming in with a string of high scores.

Romford racer Kevin Holden is a rider who has come good this year after a couple of somewhat tentative seasons. Reason: his close season marriage. Says Kevin, "Now I need the money." If that's the incentive, it is working well enough for this always competitive youngster!

Bob Coles, whom Exeter recently loaned to Romford, also wins his Young England spurs during the series. Bob previously rode with the now defunct Plymouth outfit and he is maturing into a very useful performer.

Down south the brilliant promise of the Kennett brothers has been widely reported. It's odd, therefore, that the only recognition received this time is Gordon's cap at Canterbury. He is the 17-year-old whose most notable moment this year came when he shattered the Eastbourne track record which had stood for over a decade.

Once an Arlington man, but now with Rayleigh is Channel Islander Hugh Saunders. He hit the highspots following his switch to the Rockets and his busy, determined style makes him an ideal man to have around on such occasions.

Teenage starlet in his first full year is Tony Davey (Ipswich) and here's another exciting prospect. Diminutive Davey is a really spectacular operator and he made a storming start to the season with several maximums. One or two knocks slowed him but lately he has been back to that early season sparkle.

Chunky Reg Wilson of League newcomers Hull rates as a handy customer to have on call. Since his winter switch from Workington he has developed well and these days rates highly among the Division Two heat leaders.

Also rated highly, although 'bike bothers have limited some of his scores, is Peterborough's Richard Greer, carrying quite a responsibility these days—especially after the injury to Panthers' skipper Andy Ross. Stylish Greer, also a grass track expert, is inclined to be inconsistent but on his better days he can beat the best.

Another recruit from the grass—Graham Banks of Canterbury—has given hints of developing into one of the tall scorers in Division Two. Here again, consistency isn't his greatest virtue. But of his rich promise and ability there is no doubt.

One of the best prospects unearthed by Division Two talent spotters is John Jackson, teenage market gardener who rides for Crewe. He has been a bit below par this season, but many experts rate him as likely to mature into a thoroughly accomplished top flight performer.

Dave Baugh, another of the bespectacled Bradford brigade, is a resolute and determined customer. He's sampled a bit of both divisions. His free scoring for Northern is one reason why the Odsal side are challenging for the Division Two title this year.



Injuries haven't helped Teesside favourite Bruce Forrester in his bid to hit the speedway jackpot. But he keeps bouncing back for more. It's good to see him winning a cap during this series.

In several of the matches a rider with intimate local knowledge wins his international spurs. At Crewe, for example, Kings' skipper Barry Meeks is included. There's a place for throttle-thrashing Dave Kumeta at Workington, for smooth Roy Carter at Peterborough and dashing Pete Bailey at Ipswich. And rounding off the list of future stars who will be wearing the England breastplate is Paul Tyrer, only 17 and one more of the bright brigade who demonstrate that the future of speedway in this country is in capable hands.

When the Czechs have tangled with that little lot, they will certainly know that they have been in quite a series!