

EASTBOURNE SPEEDWAY

THE 'SUNDAY MIRROR' SPONSORED
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
BRITISH SEMI-FINAL

Official Programme

INCLUDED IN ADMISSION FEE

IN THE EVENT OF THE MEETING BEING
CANCELLED BY HEAT 6 THIS PROGRAMME
IS YOUR RE-ADMISSION VOUCHER



1983

MEETING No. 8

Sunday 8th May at 3.30 p.m.



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TONY MILLARD**

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ALAN ROLF**

**PIT MARSHAL
MALCOLM MARSHAL**

**MACHINE EXAMINER
DAVE FLETCHER**

**COLOUR MARSHAL
BRYAN WOOLVEN**

REFEREE

**ELECTRONIC TIMING
CONTROLLED BY
TONY MILLARD**

St. John Ambulance
Brigade in attendance

**Four Lap Clutch Start
Track Record:**
Gordon Kennett 58.19
11.7.82

Track length 302 metres
Track Licence No. 83/16

Meetings held in accordance with membership of the British Speedway Promoters Association and held under the regulations of the Speedway Central Board

**Betting Strictly
Prohibited**

Promoter's Piece

IT IS WITH GREAT HONOUR that we are able to announce the arrival of such a big Speedway World Championship Round on the calendar here on the Sussex coast.

Already riders have competed from British and National League tracks in the qualifying rounds to this event, ending with a quarter final tie at King's Lynn last Saturday. It's now our turn on the World Championship route to Germany and today's top eight riders will go on to search for more star studded glory later in the competition.

It is perhaps ironic that our top three from last Sunday compete this afternoon—and no doubt a top three place would be more than adequate for that first trio of seven days ago, and just to add fuel to the fire those three were all past and present Eastbourne riders—and there are two other former Eagles on parade today—making five in total!

Our main focus, for home support, would be for last week's 'Rider of the South' winner Paul Woods to come home triumphant once again. This young man has added fabulous consistency to his riding this year and it's no wonder that he is being tipped as one of the most improved riders of the season already!

There can be no denying that the weight was directed onto the shoulders of poor old Paul at the start of the season with the absence of the Americans, but he has responded magnificently to the cause and it would be a crime to see a 1983 British Final without his name programmed.

Ex-home favourite Gordon Kennett shouldn't have too much bother coming through this round but like the last couple of years he may find the British Final bogey again. His only World Final appearance was in 1978 when he finished second, and that goes to prove that if he can overcome the qualifying round handicap in the final 16 he is a match for anyone in the world.

Under the mechanical guidance of his father Eric, last week's rostrum placed rider Colin Richardson has recently found the new lease of life at up-and-coming King's Lynn. The ability he showed at Eastbourne in 1975, 76 and 77 is at last coming to the surface on a British League scale and he could prove to be a big gun very soon in the senior section.

A World Final without Dave Jessup would seem odd and he begins his World Championship route this afternoon hoping that he won't be dogged with the now customary bike problems.

Like any other English fan we'll try not to suggest or hint that he may come across the mechanical gremlins again. It's a subject that the Wimbledon rider, quite rightly, gets touchy about . . . and who can blame him?

The final former Eastbourne rider on parade is Neil Middleditch, the British Isles Junior Champion in 1975. Middle-o has had to come through the hard way, and today is his third meeting in the World Championship.

The always popular rider has never quite found heat-leader status in the British League but always has a certain belief that every year he has the capabilities to achieve such a feat. Whether or not that will be this year is open to debate, but he has started the season pretty formidably and scored paid 11 on his recent trip to Arlington for Poole in the League Cup.

Glamour-boy John Davis, like Gordon, has only reached one World Final but is always one of the more respected riders in this stage of the competition. Barring any mishaps J D shouldn't have too many problems making the Coventry date.

Surprisingly, Malcolm Simmons missed out on a British Final place last year but his confidence is currently running sky-high at Plough Lane and he will be highly disappointed at anything less than a top eight place this evening.

Former World number three John Louis has proved that life certainly begins at 40 with an average over nine points for his new winter move club King's Lynn. Bearing his bright and breezy British League form in mind there can be little doubt that the old tiger will have a big say in today's top positions.

Looking down the rest of the field it will be intriguing to find who will make those top eight positions: Cradley's Alan Grahame, runner-up in last year's British Final, has had a lean start to the season but should, on experience, make the final eight.

Kevin Smith has found his 1981 scoring ability at Poole again and on current form should qualify; King's Lynn's Kevin Jolly has also started the season well; Phil Collins could struggle after a recent appendicitis illness;

THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BRITISH SEMI-FINAL

No.	Rider	Track	Average	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Position
1.	DAVE JESSUP	(Wimbledon)	8.41	3	2	2	0	3	10	3
2.	KEVIN JOLLY	(King's Lynn)	6.86	0	0	0	1	1	2	10
3.	NEIL MIDDLEDITCH	(Poole)	6.29	1	0	0	1	1	3	9
4.	COLIN RICHARDSON	(King's Lynn)	5.91	2	2	0	1	2	7	8
5.	PAUL WOODS	(Eastbourne)	8.97	2	3	3	2	2	12	2
6.	MALCOLM SIMMONS	(Wimbledon)	8.69	1	1	3	2	2	10	4
7.	JOE OWEN	(Newcastle)	—	0	1	1	2	3	7	7
8.	JEREMY DONCASTER	(Ipswich)	5.91	3	0	2	3	0	8	6
9.	PHIL COLLINS	(Cradley Heath)	7.62	3	0	1	3	2	9	5
10.	JOHN DAVIS	(Poole)	8.78	2	3	3	0	2	10	4
11.	LOUIS CARR	(Belle Vue)	5.92	1	3	1	0	0	5	8
12.	JOHN LOUIS	(King's Lynn)	9.52	0	1	2	1	1	5	9
13.	GORDON KENNETT	(King's Lynn)	8.28	2	1	2	3	2	10	5
14.	SEAN WILLMOTT	(Hackney)	4.86	1	2	3	0	1	8	6
15.	ALAN GRAHAME	(Cradley Heath)	8.00	2	3	1	0	1	8	6
16.	KEVIN SMITH	(Poole)	—	0	3	0	0	0	3	10

RESERVES:—

17.
18.

Heat	No	Col.	Rider	Pts.	Replacement	Pts.	Time
RE-START 1st hand bunch							
	1	R	DAVE JESSUP	3			59.92
	2	B	KEVIN JOLLY	2			
	3	W	NEIL MIDDLEDITCH	1			
	4	Y	COLIN RICHARDSON	2			
2	5	R	PAUL WOODS	2			59.44
	7	B	JOE OWEN	1			
	6	W	MALCOLM SIMMONS	3			
	8	Y	JEREMY DONCASTER	3			
3	10	R	JOHN DAVIS	2			60.60
	11	B	LOUIS CARR	1			
	9	W	PHIL COLLINS	3			
	12	Y	JOHN LOUIS	1			
4	15	R	ALAN GRAHAME	3			60.38
	14	B	SEAN WILLMOTT	1			
	16	W	KEVIN SMITH	1			
	13	Y	GORDON KENNETT	2			
5	13	R	GORDON KENNETT	1			59.74
	1	B	DAVE JESSUP	2			
	5	W	PAUL WOODS	3			
	9	Y	PHIL COLLINS	1			
6	14	R	SEAN WILLMOTT	2			60.46
	10	B	JOHN DAVIS	3			
	2	W	MALCOLM SIMMONS	1			
	6	Y	KEVIN JOLLY	1			
7	11	R	LOUIS CARR	2			60.62
	15	B	ALAN GRAHAME	3			
	7	W	JOE OWEN	1			
	3	Y	NEIL MIDDLEDITCH	1			
8	4	R	COLIN RICHARDSON	2			61.36
	8	B	JEREMY DONCASTER	1			
	12	W	JOHN LOUIS	1			
	16	Y	KEVIN SMITH	3			
9	6	R	MALCOLM SIMMONS	3			60.67
	16	B	KEVIN SMITH	1			
	1	W	DAVE JESSUP	2			
	11	Y	LOUIS CARR	1			

Heat	No	Col.	Rider	Pts.	Replacement	Pts.	Time
10	12	R	JOHN LOUIS	2			
	5	B	PAUL WOODS	3			60.94
	15	W	ALAN GRAHAME	1			
	2	Y	KEVIN JOLLY	1			
11	8	R	JEREMY DONCASTER	2			
	9	B	PHIL COLLINS	1			
	3	W	NEIL MIDDLEDITCH	1			
	14	Y	SEAN WILLMOTT	3			61.38
12	13	R	GORDON KENNETT	2			
	4	B	COLIN RICHARDSON	1			
	10	W	JOHN DAVIS	2			60.86
	7	Y	JOE OWEN	1			

INTERVAL

Follow SPEEDWAY with the 'SUNDAY MIRROR'

13	7	R	JOE OWEN	3			61.53
	12	B	JOHN LOUIS	1			
	14	W	SEAN WILLMOTT	2			
	1	Y	DAVE JESSUP	1			
14	2	R	KEVIN JOLLY	1			60.34
	13	B	GORDON KENNETT	3			
	8	W	JEREMY DONCASTER	2			
	11	Y	LOUIS CARR	1			
15	16	R	KEVIN SMITH	1			
	3	B	NEIL MIDDLEDITCH	1			
	10	W	JOHN DAVIS	3			61.14
	5	Y	PAUL WOODS	2			
16	9	R	PHIL COLLINS	3			61.25
	6	B	MALCOLM SIMMONS	1			
	4	W	COLIN RICHARDSON	1			
	15	Y	ALAN GRAHAME	1			
17	1	R	DAVE JESSUP	3			61.09
	8	B	JEREMY DONCASTER	1			
	15	W	ALAN GRAHAME	1			
	10	Y	JOHN DAVIS	2			
18	9	R	PHIL COLLINS	2			
	2	B	KEVIN JOLLY	1			
	7	W	JOE OWEN	3			62.09
	16	Y	KEVIN SMITH	1			
19	3	B	NEIL MIDDLEDITCH	1			
	12	B	JOHN LOUIS	1			
	13	W	GORDON KENNETT	2			
	6	Y	MALCOLM SIMMONS	3			61.91
20	5	R	PAUL WOODS	2			
	14	B	SEAN WILLMOTT	1			
	11	W	LOUIS CARR	3			61.89
	4	Y	COLIN RICHARDSON	1			

RUN OFF — For First Place (if necessary)

Red
Blue
White
Y/B

SIMMONS
KENNETT
JESSUP

2nd
3rd
W 60.69

RUN OFF — For Eighth Qualifying Place (if necessary)

Red
Blue
White
Y/B

GRAHAME
OWEN
RICHARDSON

2nd
3rd
W 61.81

MILLARD'S MANDATE . .

From Eastbourne Announcer and Radio Personality Tony Millard

HOW can speedway have a World Championship Round and a crucial Fifth Test Match on the same day? You may well ask!

Well, the answer is very simple. At the time the Promoters sat at the A.G.M. in December in Spain and discussed the fixtures, the problems about involving a Sunday Test Match and Eastbourne were obvious.

Why? Well, for a start, we would be without our top two riders Ron Preston and Kelly Moran away riding for the Americans at Sheffield.

As it happened the two stay-away Californians have made the fixture look pretty silly, but there was a true definition behind the situation, and the fact is that the Promoters were thinking how the Eagles could get round a Sunday fixture without using our two top riders was considerate thinking. By having a British World Championship Semi-Final was probably the best of alternatives.

Sixteen budding English boys all bursting for eight places by the end of this afternoon is bound to produce some fine racing—and will no doubt provide a new innovation for the non-World Champion entailed Eagles' fans.

The World Championship roadshow started over a month ago around the National League tracks starting at Weymouth. The top three from five rounds, plus the top fourth placed man made the final 16 at King's Lynn in the quarter final, and the top five from there made their way to this afternoon's meeting and to the other British Semi-Final.

It was nice to see local lad Paul Woods turn up trumps last week in a glittering performance which provided plenty of sparkle for the holiday weekend.

Paul doesn't often grab the limelight but as I mentioned in my column a couple of week's back, he has withstood all the weight on his shoulders from the winter's troubles and shown that on his day he is a match for anyone.

This afternoon he again tackles 15 other riders and I don't see any reason why he just might not qualify for the British Final but travel to Coventry as one of the Semi-Final winners!

Another week's break gives us a chance for the team to shape up. Peter Schreok, John Eskildsen and Trevor Geer all returned from their respective injuries and another non-racing Sunday will be good for them at this particular time.

The corner where all the riders have come to grief this season has been nicknamed 'collar-bone corner' and it's small reason why! Trevor and John—and the latest casualty Nigel Flatman of Ipswich—have all bit the dust on that particular part of the track. It's what has vastly become the 'jinx bend.'

At the moment speedway has had to take a side-step on my calendar for most of the activities have been involved with the rushing and tearing about for the F.A. Cup Final which involves Brighton.

It is our first Cup Final appearance and one which has caught the whole place alight—and that Cup Final buzz is something you cannot produce—even if you paid for it.

It has certainly meant a lot more work in the offices at the club and it will be a relief when it is all over and the Cup is entrenched firmly in the Brighton CUP-board!

On with today's proceedings. I and many others have predicted a real cracking afternoon's racing.

EAGLES GREEN SHEET AVERAGE FIGURES FOR MAY 1983

Position	Rider	Matches	Rides	Points	B. Points	T. Points	AVERAGE
1.	RON PRESTON		<i>Not yet ridden</i>				9.98
2.	PAUL WOODS	6	29	62	3	65	8.97
3.	JOHN ESKILDSEN	3	Matches only -		1982	-	6.46
4.	MIKE LANHAM	6	28	37	5	42	6.00
5.	ANDERS ERIKSSON	3	Matches only -		1982	-	5.67
6.	LILLEBROR JOHANSSON	2	Matches only -		1982	-	3.56
7.	OTIVANO RIGHETTO	6	22	11	3	14	(3.00)
<i>Others:—</i>							
	PETER SCHREOK		<i>Assessed</i>				6.00
	TREVOR GEER		1981 Average				4.27 ...
	BARNEY KENNETT		1982 Average				5.00
	MAX SCHOLLHORN		<i>Assessed</i>				6.00

Sean Willmott showed that he will take some shifting at Arlington after his recent display for Hackney here; Jeremy Doncaster is nobody's fool, and fast-starting Louis Carr (Belle Vue) could prove to be a spoiler in the pack.

The only National League rider in the 16 is probably the League's current best, Joe Owen, who scored an eight point British League average for Hull in 1981 yet decided to opt for the National League last season with Newcastle!

On the domestic front the news that American Shawn McConnell has finally decided to ride in the British League has come as good - and bad - news for us. Obviously we had a distinct interest in Shawn, which was the good news. The bad news is that Birmingham has a higher degree of involvement and have decided to keep him to replace their Czechs.

We don't want to get into a slanging match with the Brummies, but sufficient to say that Birmingham had given us a compromise in the winter that we could have first option *if* he decided he wanted to ride in Britain.

Finally, one little printer's error last week, if you didn't notice. Our German team-man Peter Schreck didn't break his foot on Good Friday but his collar-bone.

Anyway, on with this afternoon's lively calendar of events—and it could just be that one of today's qualifiers you are watching could be crowned the new World Champion in Germany in September—you never know!

Bob Dugard and Danny Dunton

OTHER INTERESTING POINTS FROM THIS MONTH'S GREEN SHEET AVERAGES:—

Steve Baker is the top teenage rider currently on 6.80 points per match for Halifax.

Cradley's Simon Wigg stands on a 9.03 average for the Midlands just six months after being a National League rider at Weymouth.

Reading have three 10 point riders in Jan Andersson (10.46), Bobby Schwartz (10.25) and Mitch Shirra (10.00)—yet haven't made a spectacular start to the season. (With the heat-leaders scoring over thirty points a match all the Racers' other four men have to get is less than 10 points).

Former Eagle Kai Niemi is the current Wimbledon number one on 8.71, and Hans Neilsen (Birmingham) is the League's number one rider on 11.15. The biggest surprise has been the form of the Grahame brothers, numbers one and two in the British Final last year, they now have averages of less than seven points per meeting!

HELP SAVE EAGLES AND GET A CHANCE TO WIN SOME CASH. HOW?

Join Eastbourne Speedway Supporters '100+ Club' for a year—half the money raised will be returned in prizes with the other half going to the Eagles.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

We need 100+ people to join. Each will get a membership number which will go into a monthly draw from which the first 3 lucky numbers will get cash prizes of:—

1st Prize £25.00 2nd Prize £17.00 3rd Prize £12.00.

* * * Paid out monthly throughout the year. * * *

WHEN DOES THE '100+ CLUB' GET OFF THE GROUND?

Membership is open now with the first draw taking place at the stadium on 29th May. Subsequent draws will be on the last Sunday in each month for the rest of the season. There will be monthly draws at Supporters events during the close season.

WHAT WILL IT COST?

25p per week for 52 weeks. Collecting 25p each week for a year is not practical, so the Supporters Club is seeking a single payment of £13.00 to cover the twelve monthly draws.

1. if you can't afford £13.00 in one payment, there is nothing to stop 2 or more people sharing a number.
2. If you want more than one number in the draw—the sky is the limit!
3. You can buy a number as a gift for friends, family—in fact for anyone.
4. Please remember, if more than 100 fans join, the prizes will get bigger—and so will the cash support for the Eagles.

HOW DO YOU JOIN?

Please fill in the application below and hand it with your membership fee to the Supporters Club promoters at the stadium entrance, or in the Clubhouse, during the interval, or at the end of the meeting.

I APPLY TO JOIN THE EASTBOURNE SUPPORTERS 100+ CLUB.

Name.....

Address.....

£13.00 Membership herewith.

FIXTURES '83 — We Eagle'y Await

HOME

MARCH

Sun. 27 Getingarna *Rained Off*

APRIL

Gd. Fri. 1 Swindon L.C. 43 - 35
 Sun. 3 Poole L.C. 32 - 46
 Sun. 10 King's Lynn L.C. 39 - 39
 Sun. 17 Ipswich L.C. 43 - 35
 Sun. 24 Hackney L.C. 37 - 41

MAY

Sun. 1 Rider Of The South Paul Woods 18
 Sun. 8 W.C. Semi Final (Sun. Mirror)
 Sat. 14 Reading L.C. 7.30 p.m.
 Sun. 22 Wimbledon L.C.
 Sun. 29 Coventry B.L.

JUNE

Sun. 5 *Open*
 Sun. 12 Halifax B.L.
 Sun. 19 Kings Lynn K.O.C.
 Sun. 26 *Open*

JULY

Sun. 3 Poole B.L. (Spring Grove)
 Sun. 10 Swindon B.L.
 Sun. 17 *Open*
 Sun. 24 Leicester B.L.
 Sun. 31 Ipswich B.L.

AUGUST

Sat. 6 *Open*
 Sun. 14 Birmingham B.L.
 Sun. 21 Sheffield B.L.
 Sun. 28 Wimbledon B.L.

SEPTEMBER

Sun. 4 Hackney B.L.
 Sun. 11 Reading B.L. 2 p.m.
 Sun. 18 Kings Lynn B.L.
 Sun. 25 Cradley B.L.

OCTOBER

Sun. 2 Belle Vue B.L.
 Sun. 9 *Open*
 Sun. 16 *Open*

AWAY

MARCH

24 Wimbledon L.C. 38 - 40

APRIL

4 Poole L.C. *Rained Off*
 9 Swindon L.C. 35-43
 23 King's Lynn L.C. 24 - 54
 28 Ipswich L.C.

MAY

9 Reading L.C.
 11 Poole L.C. (Spring Grove)
 13 Hackney L.C.
 16 Birmingham B.L.
 28 Belle Vue B.L.

JUNE

11 King's Lynn K.O.C.
 18 Cradley B.L.
 23 Sheffield B.L.

JULY

5 Hackney B.L.
 7 Ipswich B.L.
 16 Swindon B.L.

AUGUST

13 Halifax B.L.
 18 Wimbledon B.L.
 29 Coventry B.L.

SEPTEMBER

7 Poole B.L.
 13 Leicester B.L.
 19 Reading B.L.
 24 Kings Lynn B.L.

START TIMES: SUNDAYS 3.30 p.m.

SATURDAYS 7.30 p.m.

★ Here next SATURDAY — ★

Next Saturday folks . . . !

EASTBOURNE EAGLES v READING RACERS

League Cup

Starting at 7.30 p.m. with three current ten-point average riders—

JAN ANDERSON ★ BOBBY SCHWARTZ ★ MITCH SHIRRA, etc.

Saturday 14th May at 7.30 p.m.