

## Sorits Sweeps Mark Bond Classic

Soviet emigre Leonid Sorits of Brighton won the 53-player 1988 Mark Bond Classic ending December 13, scoring 5-0. Sorits defeated Framingham Chess Club Champion Alan Shaw of Somerville in the final round to cement the first perfect score ever recorded in this event. Second was Howard Waldman of Framingham in a sensational performance; he scored four wins and a half-point bye despite a rating of only 1700. Waldman knocked out Masters Richard Gutman of Somerville and Edward Epp of Weston, and Expert Michael Bienenstock of Newton in the final rounds. Sharing third at 4-1 were Gutman, 18-time state champion John Curdo of Chelmsford (who had tied for first in this event the preceding two years), National Elementary School Champion Robert Seltzer of West Roxbury, and Phil Wilkins of Newton, the club's 1983 player-of-the-year. Curdo was upset in the third round by Seltzer in a spectacular game before recovering to beat Drew Sarkisian of Oxford in the final round. Seltzer lost in the fourth round to Shaw but upended Lou Mercuri of Newton in the final round, while Wilkins joined the prizewinners with a final-round win over Epp. Wilkins also easily won the Under-2000 prize. Sharing the Under-1750 prize were Slawomir Luczak of Worcester, Bob Oakley of Newton, Chris Spellman of Watertown, and Jody Overland of Framingham. Unrated David Beauregard won the Under-1500 prize. Named after the club's co-founder, the Mark Bond Classic has been the largest, richest, and strongest weeknight tournament in New England for the past three years.

## Sarkisian Regains Challenge Cup Title

Drew Sarkisian of Oxford won the 1988 Framingham Challenge Cup ending November 7, scoring an undefeated 4.5-1.5. Sarkisian had previously won the event in 1983. The victory pushed Sarkisian within two rating points of the Master title. Sharing second were defending

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## CALENDAR

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JANUARY 3, 10, 17, 24 (Tuesdays):  
FRAMINGHAM JANUARY SECTIONAL SWISS. 4-SS in Open and Under-1750 sections. EF: FCC members \$10; others \$14. Prizes each section: \$50-30-20; 1st Under 1900/1500 \$20. Reg. by 7:15 p.m.; rounds at 7:30.

JANUARY 15 (Sunday): CIVILISED SWISS #5. 3-SS in 8-12 player sections (octagonal format); TL 40/90, SD/45. EF \$12 in advance, \$15 at site. Prizes: \$40-25 each section. Reg. 9-9:30 a.m.; rounds 10-1:30-5. Advance entries to Framingham CC, c/o Warren Pinches, 115 Bay State Road #7, Boston MA 02215.

JANUARY 28-29 (Saturday-Sunday): 6th WEST SUBURBAN WINTER GRAND PRIX. A major regional tournament in four sections at the Boston West Hotel, with \$2165 guaranteed prizes. See tournament flyer for complete details.

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champion Bruce Downing of Foxboro, Edward Epp of Weston, and James Matthews of Dedham, all at 3.5-2.5. David Drumm of Framingham and Robert Seltzer of West Roxbury trailed with 3-3, while David Ferricera, who moved from Watertown to Haverhill during the tournament, seemed to be suffering from the commute and finished 0-6. Bijan Haririan of Maynard started the tournament with 1.5 in his first two games, but had to withdraw due to a schedule conflict. The tournament, an 8-player Master/Expert invitational, serves as the club's invitational championship.

## Shaw Wins Action Championship

Alan Shaw of Somerville and Vas Vasilev of Australia shared first with 5-1 in the club's 1988 Action Chess Championship; the title and trophy went to Shaw as the top club member. Shaw, who had won the club's open championship last May, thus becomes the first player to win two club championship titles in the same year. Shaw drew

with Vasilev in the fifth round, and earlier with Jody Overland of Framingham, while Vasilev also drew with Matthew Rothman of Randolph. Sharing second at 4.5-1.5 were Mike LeBlanc of Westboro and Howard Waldman of Framingham.

## Jorge Godoy Wins Player-of-the-Year Race

Jorge Godoy of Framingham became the club's 1988 Player-of-the-Year by amassing the greatest number of points in tournaments through the year. Godoy scored 25 points in 46 weeknight tournament games, to finish three points ahead of Brad Merrill of Westboro (22 in 29) and Stan Crowe of Newton (22 in 48). Crowe played the greatest number of tournament games during the year at the club, while the best winning percentage among players playing in more than one tournament was held by Alan Shaw of Somerville, with 17.5 points in 20 games, or 87.5%. Players-of-the-year in previous years include Phil Wilkins, Paul Heising, Joe Pineau, Jack Martin, and Bob Matheson.

## Tight Finish in Trisectional

Patrick Walker of Newton and Lee Cranberg of Newton tied for first in the October Trisectional ending October 25, scoring 3.5-1.5 in the Open section. Trailing by a half-point were Alonzo Ross of Shrewsbury and Mike Dreese of Allston. Topping the 22-player Under-1850 section was Howard Waldman of Framingham with 4.5-0.5, drawing only with second-finisher Dan Fortier of Framingham, who finished 4-1. Equal third at 3.5-1.5 were Frank Harvey and Bill McAllister, both of Framingham. Unrated David Beauregard pulverized the Under-1500 section in a 5-0 sweep; sharing second, two points back, were Richard O'Keefe of Watertown and Eric Peterson of Framingham.

## Casillas Tops "Wild Card"

The traditional "Wild Card" Swiss, a 38-player Action octagonal in which the players drew opening variations from a deck of cards, lived up to its name on December 20. Adrian Casillas of

Somerville won the top section 3-0, knocking out in successive rounds the top two seeds, Leonid Sorits of Brighton and Bill Kelleher of Somerville. Kelleher and Tom Weideman of California shared second at 2-1. Jorge Godoy of Framingham won the second section, also with 3-0, defeating Brad Merrill of Westboro in the finale. Merrill joined Vas Vasilev of Australia and Phil Wilkins of Newton in a 2-1 tie for second. Topping the third section was Tony Costa of Randolph at 3-0, a half-point ahead of Jody Overland of Framingham and Dave Greenberg of Norwood, while Dave Berube of Westboro and Dave Beauregard shared first in the bottom section with 3.5-0.5.

## Casillas Survives Material-Handicap

Adrian Casillas of Somerville scored again a week later, winning the marathon material-handicap speed tournament on December 27. In this tournament of five-minute games, the higher-rated players gave material odds equal to a pawn for every hundred rating points. Casillas scored 4-1 in the finals, losing only to Girome Bono of Arlington. Bill Kelleher of Cambridge came second with 3.5-1.5; he missed a chance to tie for first when a queen up in an endgame against Mike Lauziere of Sturbridge, he fell into a knight fork and only drew. Equal third were Bono and Alan Shaw of Somerville at 2.5-2.5, with Jody Overland of Framingham (2-3) and Lauziere (0.5-4.5) trailing. Bono had the best score of any player in the preliminaries; he demolished his section 9-0 despite having to give knight odds to Experts. Overland came second in that section with 6.5-2.5, edging Drew Sarkisian of Oxford and Dan Fortier of Framingham. Casillas and Shaw tied at 8-1 in their preliminary section; Richard O'Keefe of Watertown (rated 1440) finished a third ahead of two Experts. The third prelim saw the toughest battle, as Kelleher, Lauziere, and Edward Epp of Weston tied for first at 7-2, deadlocked again after one round of 5-minute playoffs, and almost tied again after a round of 2-minute playoffs. However, Epp's flag fell in the final playoff game, sending Lauziere into the playoffs instead. Four players shared fourth place.