

# THE PAWN STORM

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### CONTENTS

NEWS AND EVENTS: Framingham and Billerica Play To Tie In Team Match...Sarkisian Crowned Club Speed Chess Champion...Rizzitano Takes on 20 in Exhibition... Michaud Wins Novice Playoff... Wilkins, Varga Dominate Mini-Tournaments...McClanahan Sweeps Under-1600 Field...Fang Wins First Annual Framingham Open... Club Selects New Officers in Interim Elections

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to production problems it has not been possible to issue monthly editions of THE PAWN STORM during the early Autumn. This special issue is therefore devoted entirely to the news and events of this period. THE PAWN STORM will return in its usual format with the December 1983 edition.*

### NEWS AND EVENTS

#### FRAMINGHAM AND BILLERICA PLAY TO TIE IN TEAM MATCH

The thirteen man teams of the Framingham and Billerica Chess Clubs battled on August 23 and 26 in a two-game home-and-home series with the final result a 13-13 tie. The home teams won each evening by a 7 1/2-5 1/2 score. Though the two teams had similar average ratings, there were significant board-by-board discrepancies, with Billerica appearing dominant on the top three boards but Framingham very strong through the middle boards.

Round One in Framingham on August 23 went quite well for the home team. On Board 1, Tony Booth of Billerica essayed a pacific King's Indian Attack against Mike Johnson, leading to a draw after 38 moves. On Board 2, Arthur Nugent used the not-so-pacific Schliemann Variation against Larry Pratt's Ruy Lopez, but the encounter burned out to an even quicker draw, in 15 moves. Meanwhile John Chamberlain decisively defeated former Billerica champion John Loyte on Board 3, establishing a positional bind early and ultimately planting queen and bishop on the sixth and seventh ranks so that Loyte was forced to concede material with almost every move. Since the top three boards were the main area of worry for the Framingham team due to the differences in ratings, having taken them 2-1 foretold a successful evening.

On Board 4 Drew Sarkisian for Framingham gained a slight strategic edge against Robert Spinoza's Leningrad Dutch, but most onlookers predicted a draw. Sarkisian, however, in one of the best-played games of the match brought home the full point with flawless technique in a good vs. bad bishop ending.

Tom Zuppa for Framingham was having less success on Board 5, being slowly impaled on outposts that Bruce Yates drove deep into his position. On Board 6, Julius Varga engaged Bobby Drogo in a seesaw battle in which material was almost never even; Varga eventually gained the victory by outplaying Drogo in a surprisingly tactical endgame. And on Board 7, Billerica Club President Bob Sanchez splintered Paul Heising's queenside (containing his king) with a bolt from the seemingly tranquil Caro-Kann sky.

Don Andre of the Billerica team employed a Benoni hybrid on Board 8 against Menno Koning, but White's center control and Black's queenside advance balanced into a draw after 46 moves. Billerica gained a point as Jim Kafasis edged out Michael Hochniuk on Board 9 but lost it on Board 10 as Jay Allen convincingly defeated Steve Davis. Due to a breakdown in communications Board 11 went to Framingham's Glenn Gates by default. In a seesaw game on Board 12 Billerica's Charles Hatterill downed Anthony Hochniuk, while on Board 13 W. Sydney Michael dismantled John Burke's Stonewall System.

With a two game lead, prospects looked bright for the Framingham team, but on Friday thier fortunes roller-coastered alarmingly. Developments early in the evening seemed too good to be true--had the games been adjudicated at 8:30 Framingham probably would have won 8-1, with four draws. During the next hour, however, everything went wrong for the Framingham players, and at 9:30 the score was looking more like 8-3 Billerica. Several games, however, had abrupt reversals of fortune at the last moment, and Billerica had to win the last game to clinch the tie.

On Board 1 Mike Johnson obtained his second draw, against Tony Booth's Ruy Lopez Marshall Attack. Larry Pratt was less fortunate: though Nugent did not seem to get full compensation for his pawn in his Smith-Morra Sicilian, he nonetheless conjured up an unstoppable kingside attack. The second Chamberlain-Loyte encounter was an extremely complex struggle in which Loyte offered several sacrifices for insistant pressure against Chamberlain's king, but Loyte, inattentive to his clock, overstepped the time limit.

On Board 4 Spinoza revenged himself on Sarkisian, building a positional hammerlock that reduced Sarkisian first to passive defense, and eventually no defense at all. Tom Zuppa's game against Yates looked most promising for Framingham all evening: first Zuppa won a pawn, and then developed a menacing battery aimed at Yates' king. Fortune was unkind, however, and Zuppa intent on his attack overlooked a forking check that cost him a rook. Julius Varga met with woe early on: as Black in the rather eccentric opening 1 P-K4 N-QB3 2 P-Q4 P-KB4??! Varga soon found the walls of the toilet he was in too steep to scale. By the early middlegame, Varga's king was on Q5, and Drogo had three pieces on Varga's first rank. Varga resourcefully manufactured one trap after another for Drogo to fall into, but with accurate play Drogo easily secured the win to even his score.

The Queen's Gambit Exchange Variation discussed by Heising and Sanchez was soon drained of winning chances for either side and they concurred on a draw. On Board 8 Menno Koning developed a potent strategic bind and pressured Andre into the loss of a piece and the game. Jay Allen employed the Modern Benoni against Steve Davis who opted for one of the sharp central-steamroller lines. Under severe pressure Allen coolly met Davis' threats one by one, and then two by two, but soon found himself a juggler with too many balls in the air. Glenn Gates adopted the Saemisch Nimzoindian against the now-materialized Woody Wink. Gates developed a massive kingside attack which he cashed in for a won rook and protected passed pawn endgame. Billerica substituted Ed Burnett on Board 12 against Anthony Hochniuk; Tony managed to hold together a flock of weak pawns and secure a draw. And on Board 13 W. Sydney Michael decapitated Burke with a 12-move mate, thus joining Chamberlain as the highest-scoring Framingham player in the match.

The last game to finish was the Board 9 encounter between Michael Hochniuk and Jim Kafasis. Framingham led the match at this point by one point but Michael was struggling to repair a difficult position. The game had passed through many vicissitudes, Hochniuk losing a rook early, but he fought on and trapped Kafasis' queen for a rook, almost regaining

FRAMINGHAM VS. BILLERICA TEAM MATCH, AUGUST 23 and 26

<u>Board</u>	<u>Framingham Team</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Billerica Team</u>
1	Mike Johnson 1963	1-1	Anthony Booth 2086
2	Larry Pratt 1964	1/2-1 1/2	Arthur Nugent 2041
3	John Chamberlain 1922	2-0	John Loyte 2048
4	Drew Sarkisian 1966	1-1	Robert Spinoza 1840
5	Tom Zuppa 1807	0-2	Bruce Yates 1824
6	Julius Varga 1733	1-1	Bobby Drogo 1765
7	Paul Heising 1767	1/2-1 1/2	Bob Sanchez 1757
8	Menno Koning 1710	1 1/2-1/2	Don Andre 1705
9	Michael Hochniuk 1649	0-2	Jim Kafasis 1616
10	Jay Allen 1543	1-1	Steve Davis 1602
11	Glenn Gates 1501	2-0*	Woody Wink 1430
12	Anthony Hochniuk 1434	0-1	Charles Hatherill 1434
		1/2-1/2	Edwin Burnett 1593
13	W. Sydney Michael 1406	2-0	John Burke 1242
	MATCH SCORE:	13-13	

\*Includes one defaulted game

equality. Hochniuk's drawing chances, however, slowly evaporated in the heat of two dozen other players breathing on the board. Billerica got the point and the match ended in a tie.

SARKISIAN CROWNED CLUB SPEED CHAMPION

Drew Sarkisian of Oxford, Mass. captured the first club title to be awarded by winning the first annual Framingham Chess Club Speed Championship on August 16. The 20-player field was divided into two ratings-balanced sections, with the two top finishers in each section advancing to the championship finals. Only club members were eligible for the finals. The first section was won by John Chamberlain of Wellesley, whose 8 1/2-1/2 was the best score of any player in the preliminaries. (His only draw was conceded to Matt Warnick.) Paul Heising of Ashland and Mike Johnson of Framingham tied for second in the section, with the playoff game taken by Heising. Other finishers in that section were Prabhu Raju, 5-4; Tom Zuppa and Matt Wanick, 4-5; Michael Hochniuk, 3 1/2-5 1/2; Alex Sadowsky, 3-6; David Ben-Maor, 2-7; and Jacques Prindiville, 0-9. The second section saw Sarkisian and Donald Wolitzer of Wellesley tie for first at 8-1, both thus advancing to the finals. Other finishers included Anthony Hochniuk, 7-2; Warren Pinches and Michael Devoe, 5-4; Phil Wilkins and Ken Bennett, 4-5; Bob Engels and Lawrence Durfee, 2-7; and Guenther Briem, 0-9.

Drew Sarkisian then took the title by defeating each of his rivals in the finals. Paul Heising took second with a score of 2-1; he had also taken second in the first speed tournament, on June 29, and was the only player to do well in both events. Chamberlain was unable to duplicate his success in the preliminaries and was forced to settle for third place with 1-2, while Wolitzer was held scoreless.

RIZZITANO TAKES ON 20 IN EXHIBITION

Only two Framingham Chess Club members were able to score against Massachusetts Chess co-Champion Jim Rizzitano of Needham in a simultaneous exhibition on September 27: Mike Johnson, who won, and W. Sydney Michael, who drew. Rizzitano rolled up 18 wins on the 20 boards, against Richard Fontaine, Tom Zuppa, Walt Champion, Mark Bond, Warren Pinches, John Gibbons, David Palmer, Brad Merrill, Prabhu Raju, Michael Becker, David Ben-Maor, Michael Roman, Craig Evans, Menno Koning, Julius Praglin, Paul Heising, Robert

Dean, and Paul McClanahan. An interesting feature of the exhibition was that Rizzitano played 1 P-Q4 on every board instead of varying his choice of opening moves. He was subsequently bombarded by a slew of Benko Gambits and swore he wouldn't do it again. The exhibition had to be rescheduled at the last minute from September 13 to September 27 as Rizzitano received an invitation to play in the University of Chicago International between September 6 and 17. Rizzitano scored 7-3 in that event to tie for first with Vincent McCambridge and obtain a long-sought third IM title norm, though the recent FIDE congress denied him the title on a technicality. Still, it is surely a matter of time now before Rizzitano clinches his International Master title.

#### WILKINS, VARGA DOMINATE MINITOURNAMENTS

Phil Wilkins of Newton posted an easy 4-0 victory in MiniSwiss No. 1 on August 23 and 30, the first of two rated tournaments organized to fill in the August-September gap in the tournament schedule. Wilkins' sweep included win over both his nearest rivals, Alex Sadowsky and David Ben-Maor, who tied for second at 2 1/2-1 1/2. Noteworthy were Ben-Maor's draw with Sadowsky in the final round despite a 519 rating-point deficit, and Jacques Prindiville's 2-0 performance, which added 123 points to his rating.

MiniSwiss No. 2 on August 30, September 13 and 20 attracted a very strong field, drawing primarily the top half of the club's members as it ran concurrently with the Under-1600 Swiss. Julius Varga took first with three straight wins, over Larry Eldridge, Craig Evans, and Larry Pratt. His performance was all the more stunning considering he was the 15th-seeded player in a field of 18. Second place went to Paul Heising with 2 1/2, with wins over Don Wolitzer and Craig Presson, and a draw with Globe columnist Harlod Dondis. Larry Pratt secured a clear third place at 2 with wins over Chuck Small and Craig Presson.

#### McCLANAHAN SWEEPS UNDER-1600 FIELD

Paul McClanahan of West Roxbury won four straight games to convincingly win the 15-player Under-1600 Swiss on September 13 and 20. Glenn Gates of Waltham took second at 3-1, while Mark Bond of Framingham and David Ben-Maor of Marlboro tied for third and the top Under-1300 award with 2 1/2-1 1/2. Round 1 saw a harbinger of things to come as top-seeded Glenn Gates was upset by David Palmer and Mark Bond drew fourth-seeded W. Sydney Michael. In Round 2, McClanahan, Roger Seletsky, and Guenther Briem all won to push to 2-0, while Bond beat Lawrence Durfee to stay only 1/2 point back. McClanahan defeated Seletsky in Round 3 to take the lead, while Bond downed Briem to move into clear second. Bond, who had clearly shaken off the disastrous results in his first two tournaments, had White in the final round against McClanahan, who played the Dragon Sicilian. Bond lost two crucial tempi in the early middlegame and it was McClanahan who won the race, crashing through Bond's queenside to secure the win and first place. Meanwhile, Gates won his third straight, this time against Seletsky, to move into second place, and Ben-Maor defeated Briem to catch up to Bond for a share of third.

#### MICHAUD WINS NOVICE PLAYOFF

Concurrently with the Under-1600 Swiss an unrated novice tournament was held, attracting ten entries. Due to the staggered scheduling imposed by the change in the date of the Rizzitano exhibition, and the fact that two players transferred into the rated tournament midway through, the tournament lost six players before the finish, and by a strange quirk all four finishers--Kirke Drury of Marlboro, Bryan Flaherty of Framingham, James Orr of Wayland, and Don Michaud of Marlboro--all tied for first with two points. Other competitors included Richard Fontaine of Marlboro, Robert Matheson of Natick, Andrew Douglas of Marlboro, Paul Capabianco of Ashland, Dick Reil of Ashland, and Robert Dean of Framingham. The four finishers sufficiently enjoyed the event to continue in a quadrangular playoff, won by Michaud at 2 1/2-1/2. Flaherty took second at 2-1, with Drury third at 1-2 and Orr fourth at 1/2-2 1/2.

MINISWISS NO. 1, August 23 and 30

1	Phil Wilkins	Newton	1790	W3	W2	W6	W4	4
2	Alex Sadowsky	Framingham	1758	W9	L1	W7	D3	2 1/2
3	David Ben-Maor	Marlboro	1334	L1	W4	W10	D2	2 1/2
4	Paul McClanahan	West Roxbury	1397	W11	L3	W9	L1	2
5	Jacques Prindiville	Framingham	1260	--	--	W8	W10	2
6	Roger Seletsky	Brookline	1499	--	--	L1	W12	1
7	W. Sydney Michael	Framingham	1430	--	--	L2	W9	1
8	David Palmer	Natick	1238	--	--	L5	W11	1
9	Laurence Green	Framingham	1042	L2	W11	L4	L7	1
10	Lawrence Durfee	Natick	1197	BYE	--	L3	L5	1
11	Michael Becker	Framingham	1424	--	--	L11	L6	0

MINISWISS NO. 2, August 30, September 13 and 20

1	Julius Varga	Harvard	1733	W4	W9	W3		3
2	Paul Heising	Ashland	1767	W15	D5	W10		2 1/2
3	Larry Pratt	Natick	1963	W18	W10	L1		2
4	Larry Eldridge	Newton	1878	L1	W8	D7		1 1/2
5	Harold Dondis	Belmont	1876	W11	D2	--		1 1/2
6	Mark Fins	Newton	1860	--	D14	D12		1 1/2
7	Alex Sadowsky	Framingham	1774	--	W17	D4		1 1/2
8	John Loyte	Maynard	2005	--	L4	W17		1
9	Craig Evans	Framingham	1990	--	L1	W14		1
10	Craig Presson	Dedham	1868	W12	L3	L2		1
11	Menno Koning	Dover	1710	L5	L12	BYE		1
12	Robert Engels	Framingham	1696	L10	W11	L6		1
13	Jay Allen	Waltham	1543	W16	--	--		1
14	Mike Johnson	Framingham	1957	--	D6	L9		1/2
15	Don Wolitzer	Wellesley	1897	L2	--	--		0
16	Prabhu Raju	Sudbury	1830	L13	--	--		0
17	Phil Wilkins	Newton	1802	--	L7	L8		0
18	Chuck Small	Sudbury	1783	L3	--	--		0

UNDER-1600 SWISS, SEPTEMBER 13 and 20

1	Paul McClanahan	West Roxbury	1388	W14	W9	W5	W4	4
2	Glenn Gates	Waltham	1500	L9	W6	W7	W5	3
3	David Ben-Maor	Marlboro	1260	W7	L5	D9	W8	2 1/2
4	Mark Bond	Framingham	1140	D6	W12	W8	L1	2 1/2
5	Roger Seletsky	Brookline	1497	W10	W3	L1	L2	2
6	W. Sydney Michael	Framingham	1454	D4	L2	W13	D9	2
7	Brian Mottershead	Clinton	1437	L3	W10	L2	W13	2
8	Guenther Briem	Natick	1347	W13	W11	L4	L3	2
9	David Palmer	Natick	1225	W2	L1	D3	D6	2
10	Laurence Green	Framingham	1182	L5	L7	W15	W12	2
11	Michael Becker	Framingham	1424	W12	L8	--	--	1
12	Lawrence Durfee	Natick	1177	L11	L4	W14	L10	1
13	John Gibbons	Framingham	1086	L8	W14	L6	L7	1
14	Sidney Geller	Framingham	968	L1	L13	L12	W15	1
15	Jacques Prindiville	Framingham	1383	--	--	L10	L14	0

### FANG WINS FIRST FRAMINGHAM OPEN

Joseph Fang, A USCF Master from Belmont, won the Framingham Chess Club's first weekend event, the First Annual Framingham Open on October 1-2. Fang took first with a 4 1/2-1/2 score, with Craig Evans of Framingham second at 4-1 and Drew Sarkisian of Oxford a clear third at 3 1/2-1 1/2. Sarkisian and Fang were the only undefeated players in the event.

Fang was the only surprise in the first round, conceding a draw to Paul Heising, despite a 564 rating-point edge. After two rounds, Evans, Al Ward of Framingham, and Tom Provost of Kingston, NH led at 2-0. Evans forged into the lead in the third round by beating Ward, while Provost fell to Fang. Fang took over the lead in the fourth round, reaching 3 1/2-1/2, by downing Evans: after a frantic time-scramble that left both players unsure of how many moves had been played, Fang won the complicated endgame and Evans remained at 3 points. Al Ward also reached 3-1 by defeating Mark Fins in a spectacular game: Ward had a mate-in-one lined up for nearly 20 moves that Fins could not stave off except by a series of checks. Fins hoped that he could continue checking until his pieces reached a position from which they could block the mate. In this intricate position Ward tried to keep his king off numerous key squares across the board, but Fins eventually forced him to one, and contrived a sacrifice to block the mate. Unfortunately for Fins, he blundered later in time pressure at the second control in a dead-drawn position, nullifying his superb play earlier. Paul Heising also pushed to 3-1 with a win over Tom Provost in the fourth round, as did the surprising Tony Hochniuk, who upset Bob Baker of Milford. Drew Sarkisian meanwhile scored his third consecutive draw (Fins, Heising, and Sadowsky) to reach 2 1/2-1 1/2.

In the final round Fang edged out Ward in a close game to take first place outright, and Evans defeated Heising for second. While the Fang-Ward result was in doubt, both Fang and Evans were counting tiebreak points in case Fang drew, only to find that the Solokoff, Harkness, Kashdan, and Sonnenborn-Berger could not have broken the tie! Fang would have taken the trophy due to his win over Evans, but pressed on and won his game against Ward anyway. Meanwhile Tony Hochniuk's winning streak was finally snapped by Sarkisian on Board 3, and Sarkisian clinched third place. However, Tony took the Under-1600 award anyway on tiebreak over Mark Kaprielian.

### CLUB SELECTS NEW OFFICERS IN INTERIM ELECTIONS

In order to expand its leadership, the Framingham Chess Club in October elected officers to serve until the regular cycle of annual elections specified in the club charter could begin in March 1984. The club chose Tom Zuppa of Watertown as its new President, and John Gibbons of Framingham, running unopposed, its Vice-President. Warren Pinches, also running unopposed, was confirmed in his positions as both Executive Director and Treasurer. For Members-at-Large the club chose Mark Bond, who had decided to step down as Interim President, and Paul McClanahan of West Roxbury. 34 of the 45 ballots were cast. The final vote tally was as follows:

President:	✓ Tom Zuppa	23
	- Craig Evans	9
Vice-President:	✓ John Gibbons	30
	Glenn Gates (write-in)	1
Executive Director:	✓ Warren Pinches	33
	Craig Evans (write-in)	1
Treasurer:	✓ Warren Pinches	32
	Alex Sadowsky (write-in)	1
Member-at-Large:	✓ Mark Bond	29
	✓ Paul McClanahan	15
	Glenn Gates	12
	Paul Heising (write-in)	1

FRAMINGHAM OPEN, OCTOBER 1-2

		<u>Rating</u>	<u>RD1</u>	<u>RD2</u>	<u>RD3</u>	<u>RD4</u>	<u>RD5</u>	<u>Score</u>	
1	Joseph Fang	Belmont	2297	D7	W9	W5	W2	W8	4 1/2
2	Craig Evans	Framingham	1937	W9	W11	W8	L1	W7	4
3	Drew Sarkisian	Oxford	1994	W15	D4	D7	D6	W10	3 1/2
4	Mark Fins	Newton	1869	W16	D3	W11	L8	D6	3
5	Tom Provost	Kingston NH	1846	W10	W6	L1	L7	W12	3
6	Alex Sadowsky	Framingham	1798	WF	L5	W14	D3	D4	3
7	Paul Heising	Ashland	1794	D1	W15	D3	W5	L2	3
8	Al Ward	Framingham	1760	W12	W14	L2	W4	L1	3
9	Mark Kaprielian	Natick	1556	L2	L1	W18	W16	W13	3
10	Anthony Hochtuk	Maynard	1411	L5	W18	W13	W11	L3	3
11	Bob Baker	Milford	1834	W13	L2	L4	L10	W15	2
12	W. Sydney Michael	Framingham	1447	L8	L16	BYE	WF	L5	2
13	Susan Provost	Kingston NH	1195	L11	BYE	L10	W15	L9	2
14	Steven Hass	Brookline	1794	W18	L8	L6	LF	--	1
15	Michael Hochtuk	Maynard	1664	L3	L7	W16	L13	L11	1
16	Bill Whitney	Framingham	1317	L4	W12	L15	L9	--	1
17	Dick Reil	Ashland	1280	L14	L10	L9	--	--	0
18	Ralph Woodward	Framingham	893	LF	--	--	--	--	0

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