

CHESSWATCH

A NEWS UPDATE FROM THE FRAMINGHAM CHESS CLUB

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CURDO, SHAW TIE IN MARK BOND CLASSIC

John Curdo was held to a draw in the final round of the Mark Bond Classic on December 23 by Rob Huntington, allowing Alan Shaw, who defeated Jack Martin, to pull into a first-place tie at 5-1. Curdo had defeated Shaw in round 3; only Lou Mercuri kept pace with Curdo through round 3. Curdo and Mercuri agreed to a quick draw in round 4, both to escape an advancing blizzard and because Curdo knew Mercuri still had to play Shaw, who had edged back to a half-point off the pace with a win over Godoy. It paid off for Curdo, as Shaw beat Mercuri in round 5 when Mercuri, in wild time-trouble and a wilder position, missed a forced win and wound up a rook down--and dropped out of the tournament. Meanwhile Curdo stayed ahead by downing Sarkisian, only to lose the lead in the final round. David Ferreira took clear third despite a slow start; he drew in round 1 with Stanley Crowe (rated 1394), and then took a half-point bye, before taking 3½ from his last four games. Joe Pineau and Jorge Godoy shared the Under-2000 prize with 4-2, while David Cutler scored top Under-1750 with 4-2 and Stanley Crowe, top Under-1500 with 3½-2½. Also notable was 1369-rated Mark Steinberg's 3-3, which included draws with Huntington and Godoy--he was only stopped by Sarkisian in round 4. The tournament, the first-ever Grand Prix tournament ever held on a weeknight in New England, will become an annual event.

CURDO, CASSILAS SWEEP NEW YEAR'S SWISS

John Curdo and Adrian Cassilas each scored 4-0 to win the December 27 "All Sales Final" Swiss. Curdo ousted second-seeded William Kelleher in the final round, while Cassilas downed Allan Bennett. Kelleher, Edward Boudrot, John Loyte, Vesna Dimitrijevic, and Prabhu Raju shared third

at 3-1. Raju was also first Under-2000; Martin Stilling took top Under-1750 with 2½-1½. Alejandro Beltran and Tom Zuppa were the top club players with 2-2. The biggest upset was Michael Becker's knockout of Paul Godin in 14 moves.

CALENDAR

January 31-February 1 (Saturday-Sunday): WEST SUBURBAN WINTER GRAND PRIX. A major regional Grand-Prix tournament with over \$1200 projected cash prizes. See tournament flyer for details.

February 3 (Tuesday): FEBRUARY TIME-HANDICAP TOURNAMENT. RR-format, 5-min games with handicap of 1 min/100 rating points. EF: \$2; all entries returned as prizes. 7:30 start.

February 10, 17, 24 (Tuesdays): FRAMINGHAM FEBRUARY OCTAGONAL. 3-SS in 8-12 player sections; TL 40/90, SD/45. EF: FCC members \$8; others \$12. Prizes: \$30-20 each section. Reg by 7:15; Rds 7:30.

March 1 (Sunday): THE CIVILISED SWISS. 3-SS in 8-12 player sections; TL 40/90, SD/45. EF: FCC members \$10 in advance, \$12 at site; others \$12 advance/\$15 site. Prizes: \$40-25 each section. Reg by 9:30; Rds 10-1:30-5.

March 3 (Tuesday): 1) ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CLUB MEMBERSHIP. Election results, status of club, discussion of policies. NOTE: 7:00 start. 2) MARCH SPEED TOURNAMENT. RR-format, 5-min games. EF: \$2; all entries returned as prizes. Start approximately 8:00.

MARK BOND CLASSIC--Nov 18-Dec 23

ALL SALES FINAL--Dec 27

		Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Rd6	T
1 John Curdo	2453	W16	W10	W2	D8	W13	D4	5
2 Alan Shaw	2246	W28	W15	L1	W6	W8	W9	5
3 David Ferreira	1942	D7	½B	D12	W31	W5	W15	4½
4 Rob Huntington	2014	W29	½B	D18	W16	D9	D1	4
5 Joe Pineau	1923	W24	W13	L8	W10	L3	W17	4
6 Jorge Godoy	1870	D18	W17	W7	L2	D15	W16	4
7 David Cutler	1466	D3	W33	L6	W12	D10	W19	4
8 Lou Mercuri	2293	W17	W11	W5	D1	L2	---	3½
9 Jack Martin	2010	D27	W21	W19	D14	D4	L2	3½
10 Michael Bienenstock	1988	W22	L1	W21	L5	D7	W23	3½
11 Brad Merrill	1945	W23	L8	L16	D22	W29	WF	3½
12 Stanley Crowe	1394	L15	W30	D3	L7	W32	W26	3½
13 Drew Sarkisian	2096	W26	L5	W20	W18	L1	---	3
14 Alejandro Beltran	2006	W30	W20	½B	D9	---	---	3
15 Larry Eldridge	1872	W12	L2	W24	½B	D6	L3	3
16 Francis Harvey	1651	L1	W23	W11	L4	W27	L6	3
17 Robert Engels	1630	L8	L6	W30	W32	WF	L5	3
18 Mark Steinberg	1369	D6	W26	D4	L13	---	W29	3
19 Mike LeBlanc	1833	½B	W27	L9	---	WF	L7	2½
20 Paul McClanahan	1726	W32	L14	L13	½B	W22	---	2½
21 Menno Koning	1666	W25	L9	L10	D23	W24	---	2½
22 Michael Becker	1510	L10	L25	W26	D11	L20	W28	2½
23 Kurt Esser	1488	L11	L16	Bye	D21	W28	L10	2½
24 Jeffrey Gibson	1405	L5	W29	L15	½B	L21	W30	2½
25 William McAllister	UNR	L21	W22	L29	L27	D30	W32	2½
26 Henry Blackwell	1563	L13	L18	L22	WF	Bye	L12	2
27 Dan Fortier	1542	D9	L19	½B	W25	L16	---	2
28 David Palmer	1603	L2	½B	W32	---	L23	L22	1½
29 Roger Hecht	1562	L4	L24	W25	½B	L11	L18	1½
30 Syd Michael	1536	L14	L12	L17	Bye	D25	L24	1½
31 Francisco Garcia	1530	½B	---	W33	L3	---	---	1½
32 Lawrence Beatrice	1312	L20	Bye	L28	L17	L12	L25	1
33 Herb Weisberg	1780	½B	L7	L31	---	---	---	½

		Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	T
1 John Curdo	2470	W16	W6	W9	W3	4
2 Adrian Cassilas	2269	W17	W12	W5	W9	4
3 William Kelleher	2361	W13	W10	W4	L1	3
4 Edward Boudrot	2176	W21	W15	L3	W10	3
5 John Loyte	2032	W22	W23	L2	W11	3
6 Vesna Dimitrijevic	2027	W18	L1	W15	W12	3
7 Prabhu Raju	1879	L14	W18	W23	W17	3
8 Martin Stilling	1674	L9	D26	W25	W21	2½
9 Allan Bennett	2199	W8	W20	L1	L2	2
10 Alejandro Beltran	2008	W19	L3	W21	L4	2
11 Paul Godin	1909	L23	W14	W19	L5	2
12 Thomas Zuppa	1888	W25	L2	W22	L6	2
13 Norman Schmidt	1767	L3	L19	W26	W23	2
14 David Cutler	1456	W7	L11	L17	W22	2
15 Joseph Francis	1860	W25	L4	L6	D19	1½
16 John Bourgeois	1785	L1	L22	D18	W26	1½
17 Mark Kaprielian	1682	L2	D25	W14	L7	1½
18 Steven Whelton	1590	L6	L7	D16	W25	1½
19 Henry Blackwell	1557	L10	W13	L11	D15	1½
20 Frank Niro	1835	W26	L9	---	---	1
21 Stephen Shea	1651	L4	W24	L10	L8	1
22 Adam Bemporad	1624	L5	W16	L12	L14	1
23 Michael Becker	1533	W11	L5	L7	L13	1
24 David Ben-Maor	1436	L15	L21	Bye	---	1
25 David Vigorito	1458	L12	D17	L8	L18	½
26 Arthur Aizley	1177	L20	D8	L13	L16	½

"WILD CARD" OCTAGONAL--Dec 30

		Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	T
1 Rob Huntington	2014	W7	D2	W4	2½
2 David Ferreira	1942	W3	D1	W7	2½
3 Drew Sarkisian	2073	L2	W7	W5	2
4 Jorge Godoy	1870	W6	W5	L1	2
5 Brad Merrill	1945	W8	L4	L3	1
6 Jack Martin	2010	L4	--	--	0
7 Joe Pineau	1923	L1	L3	L2	0
8 Warren Pinches	1856	L5	--	--	0
1 Adam Devoe	1850	W3	W6	W2	3
2 Mike Grant	1774	W8	W4	L1	2
3 Roger Hecht	1562	L1	W7	W5	2
4 Kirk Companion	1473	W5	L2	W6	2
5 Ed Feldman	1747	L4	W8	L3	1
6 Menno Koning	1666	W7	L1	L4	1
7 Stanley Crowe	1394	L6	L3	Bye	1
8 Syd Michael	1501	L2	L5	--	0

HUNTINGTON, FERREIRA TOP "WILD CARD"

Pulling sharp opening variations from a deck of cards, Rob Huntington and David Ferreira scored 2½-½ to win the top section of the December 30 "Wild Card" tournament. The two drew each other in a Fajorowicz Budapest; Huntington won games as White with a Benko Gambit (castling-by-hand line) and an Evans Gambit, while Ferreira scored as Black in a Latvian Gambit and as White in a MacCutcheon French. Adam Devoe swept the Under-1850 section 3-0, playing a Danish Gambit, Kieseritsky King's Gambit, and a Marshall Gambit/Ruy Lopez.