

Epp Wins Club Championship

Dr. Edward Epp of Weston became the 1989 Framingham Chess Club Champion on May 9, finishing the annual open championship tournament with a 5.5-0.5 score. Epp defeated in turn Julius Varga of Stow, Edward Chisam of Braintree, John Chamberlain of Wellesley, and Vas Vasilev of Australia in the early rounds to become the clear leader, then drew with top-seeded Richard Gutman of Somerville in the fifth round, and downed former club champion Drew Sarkisian of Oxford in the finale. Epp scored 3.5 points against the four highest-rated players in the event other than himself, despite the handicap of playing Black four times in the six rounds. Long a notable figure on the New England chess scene, Epp regularly ranked among the top ten players in New England during the 1950s, and last August finished top Expert in the US Open in Boston. The Championship marked the fifth time Epp had won or tied for first in a club event; perhaps his most impressive previous finish at the club was his tie for first with John Curdo in the 1987 Mark Bond Classic. Previous club champions have included Larry Williams (1984), Drew Sarkisian and Alejandro Beltran (1985), Jack Young (1986), David Drumm (1987), and Alan Shaw (1988); Shaw was unable to defend his title due to other commitments.

Equal second were Gutman and Howard Waldman of Northboro; both finished undefeated at 5-1. In addition to his draw with Epp, Gutman was stung for a draw in the first round by Frank Harvey of Framingham, in a hair-raising game in

CALENDAR

May 16, 23 (Tuesdays):

FRAMINGHAM SPRING ACTION SWISS. 6-SS in rated and unrated sections; TL SD/30. Three rounds each night. EF: FCC members \$10; others \$14. Prizes: \$50-30-20 in rated section; \$30-20 in unrated section.

May 21 (Sunday): CIVILIZED SWISS #9. 3-SS in 8-12 players sections (octagonal format). TL 40/90, SD/45. EF FCC members \$13 in advance/\$15 at site; others \$15 in advance/\$17 at site. Prizes: \$40-25 each section. Reg. 9-9:30 a.m., rounds 10-2-6. Advance entries to: Framingham CC, c/o Warren Pinches, 115 Bay State Road #7, Boston MA 02215.

May 30; June 6, 13 (Tuesdays):

FRAMINGHAM SPRING OCTAGONAL. 3-SS in 8-12 player sections. EF: FCC members \$8; others \$12. Prizes: \$30-20 each section.

June 18 (Sunday): CIVILIZED SWISS #10. See May 21 for details.

which the players drew with each facing imminent checkmate. Gutman defeated Chamberlain in the final round on board two. Waldman, listed on the wallchart at 1880, drew with Vasilev and Sarkisian, both over 2100. Last fall, when rated only 1742, Waldman turned in a comparable performance in the Mark Bond Classic, finishing clear second in that powerhouse event.

Vasilev finished at 4.5-1.5, while five players scored 4-2: Sarkisian,

Slawomir Luczak of Worcester topped the Under-1750 section with 4-1. Equal second were David Beauregard of Worcester, Bob Engels of Framingham, William McAllister of Framingham, and Bob Oakley of Newton, all at 3.5-1.5. Sharing top-1500 honors were Bryan Flaherty, Robert Dean, and Al Schaefer of Framingham, and Pippin Petty-Schroepfel of Westboro.

June Civilized Swiss

Lawrence Dean of Roxbury won the upset-riddled Civilized Swiss #10 on June 18, scoring 2.5-0.5. Wade Regensberg, Jason Fulman, Vas Vasilev, and Adam Bemporad shared second with 2-1. Dean defeated second-seeded Allan Bennett in the first round, Vasilev in the second, and drew Regensberg in the finale. Fulman lost in the first round to Antonio Gellineau, while Regensberg drew with Dean and Bemporad, and Bemporad drew also with Bennett. Top-seeded Lou Mercuri was dumped in the first round by Vasilev, while third-seeded Dan Bartley lost in successive rounds to Bemporad and Paul Mishkin.

Mark Dubnoff swept the second section 3-0, defeating Slawomir Luczak, Joseph Francis, and Tony Loeser. Loeser, Francis, and Roland Booker shared second with 2-1. Henry Blackwell topped section three with 3-0; equal second with 2-1 were Leonard Arsenault, Robert Marsden, Bryan Flaherty, and Al Schaefer. Jack Martin directed the 31-player field.

July Civilized Swiss

Paul Degnan scored 3-0 to win Civilized Swiss #11 on July 23, scoring against David Vigorito, Wade Regensberg, and Lawrence Dean. Robert Secino took clear second with 2.5-0.5, drawing only with Dean. Dean, Jason Fulman, and Antonio Gellineau were equal third at

1.5-1.5. Top-seeded Vigorito had a nightmarish weekend, scoring 0-3.

Tony Loeser and Adam Bemporad shared first in the second section at 2.5-0.5; the leaders drew each other not in the last but in the first round. Brad Merrill, Russell Haddleton, Francis Burke, and David Shin were equal third at 1.5-1.5. Slawomir Luczak won the third section with 3-0, with David Cox and Donna Alarie equal second at 2-1. Woody Wink and Camilo Catarino each had perfect scores in section four, with Gary Lee Skaza and Al Schaefer equal third with 2-1. Jack Martin directed the 35-player field.

Challenge Cup Starts

The annual Framingham Challenge Cup Invitational got under way on July 25, and will run until late September. The all-Expert field includes Drew Sarkisian of Oxford (a two-time winner), Alonzo Ross of Shrewsbury, James Matthews of Dedham, Edward Chisam of Braintree, John Chamberlain of Wellesley, Brad Merrill of Westboro, Michael Bienenstock of Newton, and Howard Waldman of Northboro.

Club Seeks To Fill Two Positions

To strengthen the club's operations, the club Board of Directors is looking for two volunteers to serve as Assistant Program Director and as Secretary. The Assistant Program Director would help file tournament announcements with *Chess Life* and *Chess Horizons* magazine, and with the regional tournament clearinghouse. The Secretary, who is will be member of the Board of Directors, will keep the membership database and various other records of the club. If you are interested in helping the club out in either of these ways, contact club President Jack Martin at (508) 358-4869.