

# 1979

10 Saturday, January 6, 1979 The Herald

## Chess news

Chess play resumes after the holidays with the start of the 29th annual New Britain city chess championship finals, a single round-robin, U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) rated tournament.

The first round will begin Monday, and will continue for six more successive Monday evenings. Players who qualified are; Jerome A. Crawford, Christopher Ferrante, Wesley Frazier, Paul Ligas, Robert Milardo, Peter P. Mitchell, Arkadijs Strazdins and Frederick S. Townsend. Strazdins, defending champion, has won the title 25 years—the first 23, consecutively.

The 1979 New Britain city chess championship reserve tournament, a five-round Swiss system USCF rated event, will start Jan. 22 at 8 p.m. and continue for four more Mondays. It is open to all, but participants must be or become members of the USCF, the national body which is rating the tournament.

Information and registration can be secured by contacting Arkadijs Strazdins or Wesley Frazier, tournament directors, Mondays from 7 to 7:50 p.m. at the Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St. Both tournaments are sponsored by the Quartette Club and the New Britain Chess Club.

Christmas open speed chess tournament, played at the Quartette Club, was won by Connecticut state speed champion Arkadijs Strazdins, 10-0. William Aust took second place on tie-break and Wesley Frazier was third, each scoring 5½-4½. Both tournaments were sponsored by the Connecticut State Speed Chess League and the New Britain Chess Club.

## 11-year-old chess champion does well in national tourney

SOUTHINGTON — Kurt Holyst, 11, of Southington, finished in a four-way tie for sixth place in the National Elementary Scholastic Chess Championship held recently in Minneapolis.

Sponsored by the School Chess Assn. of Minneapolis, the tournament drew 259 of America's best elementary school players.

Although he tied for sixth, Kurt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Holyst of 1 Saw Mill Lane, received the ninth-place trophy on tie breakers.

The young champion did not lose a game and ended the tournament with five wins and three draws. Only two other players in the top 10 went undefeated.

In the sixth round, Kurt, a sixth grader at the Plantsville elementary school, played Issa Youssef, the top rated elementary school player in the United States.

After two hours and 10 minutes, their game was adjourned.

They continued playing upon completion of the seventh round and the game ended in a draw.

The total playing time was four hours and 31 minutes, establishing a national elementary school record.

Both players had only 15 minutes' rest before starting the eighth round and exhaustion began to take its toll.

Issa struggled through his last game and won. This gave him seventh place. Kurt drew his last game and finished ninth.

Although neither of these two champions took home first place, each gained the admiration and respect of those attending the tournament, observers report.

Kurt represented New England in the tournament.

## Connecticut chess

# New Britain chess tourney due

The New Britain Chess Club will begin its annual championship next Monday night, March 26. The event is USCF-rated and will span over five or six Mondays.

One must be a club member and also pay an \$8 entry fee, \$6 to under 16.

Tomorrow night, will be a CSCL-rated speed-chess tournament at the New Britain Club.

To get to the NBCC, take exit 34 off I-84, turn right then left onto Wooster Street and take the fifth right.

### USCF-RATED TOURNAMENT Wolcott Chess Club, March 10th

1 W. Edwards	+6	+3	+2	3-0
2 H. Hall	+4	+6	-1	2-1
3 J. Hoddy	+5	-1	=4	1½-1½
4 B. Young	-2	+5	=3	1½-1½
5 E. Lanzieri	-3	-4	+6	1-2
6 R. Roy	-1	-2	-5	0-3

### WOLCOTT CHESS TOURNAMENT #52 March 10, 1979

1 Barry Young	x	1	1	-	1928
2 Chas. Morin	0	x	1	½	1841
3 M. Guerrero	0	0	x	1	1843
4 H. Larrivee	-	½	0	x	1881

### SPEED-CHESS TOURNAMENT #124 New Britain Club, March 5, 1979

1 Milardo	x	2	1	2	0	1	2	2	2	2	2237
2 Strazdins	0	x	1	1½	1½	1½	2	2	2	2	2300
3 LaMont	1	1	x	1½	1	1	½	2	2	2	2072
4 Frazier	0	½	½	x	2	2	1	2	1	2	2069
5 Bourassa	2	½	1	0	x	1	1½	1½	2	2	1986
6 Mitchell	1	½	1	0	1	x	1	2	2	2	1897
7 Mansigian	0	0	1½	1	1	1	x	1	1	2	1906
8 Wallace	0	0	0	0	½	0	1	x	2	2	1759
9 Morin	0	0	0	1	½	0	1	0	x	2	1719
10 Hanen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x	1413

Ed Ipacs 2014 vs. John Stopa 2138, 6th Townsend Cup. Round 2 Board 1. QG-Slav. 1 c4 Nf6 2 Nc3 c6 3 d4 d5 4 Bg5 dc 5 Nf3 b5 6 a4 b4 7 Nbl Ne4 8 Bh4 c5 9 e3 cd 10 Qxd4 Qxd4 11 Nxd4 Ba6 12 Nb5 Bxb5 13 ab Nd6 14 Ra5 Nd7 15 Nd2 c3 16 bc bc 17 Nc4 Nxc4 18 Bxc4 Rc8 19 Rxa7 e6 20 Bd3 Bc5 21 Rb7 Ne5 22 Bc2 0-0 23 0-0 Ng6 24 Bxg6 hg 25

Rc1 Ba3 26 Rc2 Rc4 27 Bg3 Bb2 28 Kf1 f6 29 Bc7 Ra8 30 Ke2 Rc8 31 b6 Rc6 32 Ra7 Kf8 33 b7 R6xc7 34 bc (Q) + Rxc8 35 Rb7 Ra8 36 Kd3 Ra1 37 Kc4 Rh1 38 h3 Rg1 39 g3 Rd4 40 Kb3 g5 41 Re2 Rh1 42 e4 Rxb3 43 Re1 Rh6 44 Rd1 (sealed move, adjournment).

44 ... Kg8 45 Rd6 e5 46 Rc7 g4 47 Kb4 Rg6 48 Kb5 Bc1 49 Rd8 + Kh7 50 R7c8 Rh6 51 Rxc3 Rh1 52 Rcd3 Bh6 53 Rd1 Rh2 54 Rf1 Kg6 55 Rd6 Kf7 (sealed move, adjournment).

56 Kc6 Ke7 57 Rd7 + Kf8 58 Kd6 Kg8 59 Ke6 Rh5 60 R7d1 Kh7 61 Rhi Rg5 62 Rh4 Kg6 63 Rdh1 Kh7 64 Kf7 f5 65 Rh5 Rg6 66 Rxd5 67 Rh4 Ra7 + 68 Ke6 Ra6 + 69 Kxe5. Black Resigns.

John Hillery 2158 vs. Louis Petithory 1966. 6th Townsend Cup. Round 2 board 2. 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 c5 3 Nc3 Nc6 4 de d4 5 Ne4 Bf5 6 Ng3 Bg6 7 e3 e5 8 ed ed 9 Bd3 Bxc5 10 0-0 Nge7 11 Bf4 0-0 12 Bxg6 hg 13 Re1 Nd5 14 Ne4 Bb6 15 Bd2 Qd7 16 Qe2 Rfe8 17 Qd3 Ncb4 18 Bxb4 Bxb4 19 Qc4 a5 20 Ng3 d3 21 cd Qxd3 22 Qh4 Qc2 23 Rf1 f6 24 Qg4 Kf7 25 h4 Nd3 26 h5 g5 27 h6 Nxf2 28 Qd7 + Re7 29 Qd5 + Kg6 30 Nh4 + gh 31 Qh5 + Kh7 32 hg + Kxh7 33 Nf5 + Kf8 34 Qh8 + Kf7 35 Qg7 + Ke6 36 Qxe7 + Kxf5 37 Qh7 + Black Resigns.

Alan Lasser 2007 vs. Rick Bauer 2132. 6th Townsend Cup. Round 2 board 3. Stonewall. 1 d4 Nf6 2 f4 c5 3 e3 g6 4 Nf3 Bg7 5 c3 b6 6 Bd3 Bb7 7 0-0 0-0 8 Nbd7 d6 9 Qe1 Nc6 10 Qh4 Re8 11 e4 cd 12 e5 de 13 fe dc 14 Bc4 cd 15 Bxf7 + Kxf7 16 Bxd2 Nxe5 17 Nxe5 + Kg8 18 Bc3 Qd5 19 Qh3 Ne4 20 Rfd1 Qc5 + 21 Bd4 Qd6 22 Bc3 Nxc3 23 Bxd5 ed 24 Qd7 Ne2 + 25 Kf2 Re5 26 Qxb7 Rf8 + 27 Ke1 Bh6 28 Kd1 Rf1 + 29 Kc2 Rxa1 30 Qc8 + Kf7 White resigns.

Serge Lacroix 1883 vs. John Hillery. Greater Boston Open. Round 2 Board 8. Oct. 14, 1978. 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 exd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 Be2 Nbd7 7 f4 e5 8 Nf5 Nc5 9 Ng3 Qb6 10 fxe5 (A) dxe5 11 Nd5 Nxd5 12 exd5 Bd6 13 b3 0-0 14 e4 f5 (B) 15 Be3 f4 16 Bxc5 Bxc5 17 Ne4 Bb4 + 18 Kf1 f3 (C) 19 Bxf3 Bf5 20 Qd3 (D) Qg6 21 Ke2 Bg4 (E) See Diagram.

22 Rhf1 Rf4 (F) 23 Ke3 Bf5 24 Rad1 (G) Bxe4 25 Bxe4 Bc5 + 26 Kd2 Rxe4 27 Qf3 Rd4 + 28 Ke1 Bb4 + 29 Ke2 Qc2 + 30 Ke3 Bd2 + 31 Ke2 Bf4 + 32 Ke1 Re4 + White resigns.

Annotations by John Hillery. (A) Black threatened 10... exf4, but beter would be 10 f5 Bd7 11 Bc4 Bc6 or 10 Rb1!? (B) White has difficulty developing, and his pawn majority is less mobile than Black's. With his next move, Black tries to blockade on the white squares.

(C) Now is 19 gxf3? Bh3 Mate. The next five moves are virtually forced. (D) A move of the Knight allows e4 winning a piece. (E) Threatening 22... Bxf3 23 gxf3 Qg2 + 24 Nf2 e4!

(F) threatens Rxe4 + (G) The only defense to 24... Bc5 + would be 24 Rae1, losing the exchange. It was necessary to foresee this position before playing 18... f3. (H) Now White will be mated.

SOURCE UNKNOWN

George Grasser, a high school student from South Windsor, is the 1979 Connecticut Amateur Champion. He won four games and drew one to score  $4\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$  in the championship tournament at the Holiday Inn in East Hartford on March 24-25. Grasser took the trophy for top Class A player as well as the championship trophy.

Seven players tied at 4-1, with the tie-break formula deciding their final standings. They were Mark Berg of Spring Valley, N.Y.; James Young of Minnesota; Eric Godin, Farmington; Mark Hamel, Vernon; Ron Bourassa, Waterbury; Joe Hoddy, New Milford and Tom Smith, Branford.

Tie-breaks gave Berg second place in the tournament and in Class A, with Young third. The other five players were all in Class B, with Godin getting the trophy for first in that class, and Hamel, Bourassa, Hoddy and Smith placed second through fifth in that order.

The top Class C player was Herman Zickfeld of Southington, scoring  $3\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$ . In Class D there was a tie at 3-2 between Kurt Heinz, a student at the Coast Guard Academy, and Paul Sheehan of Stafford Springs, with the trophy going to Heinz on tie-breaks.

Gary Egnasko of Manchester was first in Class E at 3-2. In the unrated group Claude Newman of Norwich and Michael Gray of Longmeadow, Mass., tied at 3-2, with Newman winning the trophy on tie-breaks.

James Young of Minnesota, a railway conductor, spends most of his off-duty time playing chess. He breaks his vacation time into short segments in order to play in chess tournaments all over the country, and recently took second place in the Minnesota state championship. In addition to all this activity, he also plays postal chess, both in tournaments and with friends on an informal basis. At the present time he is engaged in the almost incredible total of 250 games!

An encounter in the Amateur Championship took place

between the oldest and the youngest players in the event, and possibly in the state among tournament players. I was paired with Kurt Holyst of Plantsville in the final round, and the result was a draw, giving each of us a  $2\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$  score for the tournament (my losses were to Grasser and Berg). Kurt is eleven years old, and plays with the aplomb and skill of a veteran. As a matter of fact he almost is, having competed in tournaments at the New Britain Chess Club and other locales during the last two years.

Kurt is the son of Mr and Mrs Ralph F. Holyst, and is in the sixth grade at Plantsville Elementary School. He has won first prizes at the Woodstock Fair Novice Open and the Connecticut Novice Open, as well as several prizes at the New Britain club, but is most proud of having been placed tenth overall last year at the prestigious New York Open. Akradijs Strazdins, mentor of the New Britain club, has been telling me for some time about this rapidly improving youngster and his potential as a coming high ranked player of championship caliber. I had never met Kurt until last Saturday, but now I can agree with Strazdin's assessment of Holyst's chess ability. In addition, and perhaps more importantly, I found him courteous, friendly, well balanced young man with a most pleasing personality.

Fifty-four players took part in the Amateur Open. The tournament was under the guidance of Fred Townsend, a National Tournament Director, assisted by Ricky Townsend. In addition to being rated by the U. S. Chess Federation, it was also rated by the Amateur Chess Association of America.

THE NEW BRITAIN HERALD, 3-20, 1979

## Strazdins, Ligas tie for city chess title

Eight qualified players from primary play competed for the 29th annual New Britain city chess championship finals, a single round robin tournament at the Quartette Club. Competitions were held each Monday night for the past 10 weeks.

The championship ended in a tie for first place. Co-champions are Arkadijs Strazdins and Paul Ligas — with a score of  $4\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$  each.

Strazdins, city champion from 1952, has won the title outright 24 times, and was co-champion with Robert W. Lane in 1973 and with Pierre LeClerc in 1974. Robert Milardo was the winner in 1976.

Using the tie-break formula, listed in order, were with 4 — 3 each: Christopher Ferrante, third, and Robert Milardo, fourth. With  $3\frac{1}{2} - 3\frac{1}{2}$ : Peter P. Mitchell, fifth, and Jerome A. Crawford, sixth. With 2 — 5 each, Wesley Frazier, seventh, and Frederick Townsend, eighth.

### Reserve Tournament

Peter Kloskowski won the 1979 city championship reserve tournament, a five-round Swiss — USCF rated, 18-player event in a tie-break over Paul Wooster. Each scored 4 — 1. Raymond Lamont finished

third with  $3\frac{1}{2} - 1\frac{1}{2}$ . Kurt J. Holyst, 11, New England highest USCF rated player under 13 years of age, with a score of 2-3 won the top junior trophy. Jonathan M. Hanen, 12, demonstrated sensational play by defeating a Class B player and was awarded a special prize for his effort.

Trophies and other prizes will be awarded in both tournaments to top scorers: Strazdins, Ligas, Ferrante, Milardo, Kloskowski, Wooster, Lamont, Holyst and Hanen.

The tournaments were sponsored by the Quartette Club and the New Britain Chess Club. Strazdins and Frazier were directors.

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The New Britain Chess Club will begin its 1979 individual chess championship, a five-round Swiss, a USCF rated tournament at the Quartette Club on five successive Monday nights, beginning next week at 8 p.m. Trophies and other prizes will be awarded to top senior and junior players.

Registration may be obtained Monday night at the Quartette Club, the Chess Club meeting place — by contacting Strazdins, a tournament director of the USCF. The tournament is sponsored by the Quartette Club and the New Britain Chess Club.

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The New Britain and Hartford Chess Clubs are joining forces with best players to

meet the Boylston Chess Club, Boston, Mass., to play a USCF rated Super Match III IN Boston, May 6, for a classic 40 — 50 board encounter. The first match played in Boston, Oct. 10, 1976, was won by the New Britain-Hartford combination by a score of 19 — 17. The second match played April 24, 1977, in Hartford was won again by the Connecticut players by a score of 20 — 15.

Problem No. 290

Arkadijs Strazdins and Paul Ligas emerged as co-champions in the finals of the 29th annual New Britain City Chess Championships, with scores of  $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$  each. Christopher Ferrante and Bob Milardo each scored 4-3, with Ferrante taking third place on a tie-break.

Qualifying rounds and the finals were played on Monday evenings at the New Britain Chess Club, which is located in the Quartette Club in that city. Strazdins has won the city championship 24 times and been co-champion three times.

The New Britain City Reserve Tournament, composed of players from the qualifying rounds of the championship tournament who did not make it into the finals, was won by Peter Kloskowski on a tie-break over Paul Wooster. Each scored 4-1. Raymond Lamont was third at  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ . Kurt Holyst was the top junior, scoring 2-3.

The New Britain Chess Club Championship started March 26, and will continue for four more Mondays.

Fourteen players took part in

Judson St., 800 Titus, Boston. Moeker, Mary Worthington, Adolphe Wulser, Charles Sadacca, Frank Emerson, John Gibson, Joe Shields, Alice Belancon, Jim Armsted and Don McPherson.

In Problem No. 300, by Marjan Wrobel, the Polish problem composer, white is to move and mate in two. Send your solution to Chess News, The Bee. The mailing deadline for acknowledgment of correct answers is June 14. The solution will be given June 22.

#### Interstate Team Match

The third "super match" between the Boylston Chess Club of Boston and the combined forces of the Hartford and New Britain Chess Clubs was played in Boston last month. The first in this series of interstate matches, also played in Boston, was won by the Hartford-New Britain team by a score of 19-17. In the second match, played in April, 1977, at the Hartford YMCA, the Connecticut team again defeated the powerful Boylston CC, this time by a score of 20-15.

Last month the result was different, however. The Hartford-New Britain team took 37 players to Boston, and lost to the host team by a score of  $24\frac{1}{2}$ -12 $\frac{1}{2}$ . On 32 boards the Connecticut player faced a Boston opponent having a higher USCF rating, and the Hartford-New Britain team is to be congratulated for scoring 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  points under these circumstances.

Furthermore, the final score

Connecticut players scheduled to make the trip to Boston did not show up.

On the top board Paul Espinosa, the Connecticut state champion, defeated his Boston opponent, Mark Lonoff, whose rating is 110 points higher than Espinosa's. (How time changes things! In the 1973 Connecticut Amateur Championship tournament, Paul and I drew our game and finished in a tie for second place behind Dave Strong, the Masuk High chess coach. Since then Paul's rating has gone steadily up, and he is now an Expert. My rating has gone down every year.)

Other winners for Hartford-New Britain were Edward Ipacs, Mark Denihan, Gary Cote, Walter Pajak, Forrest Miller Jr, Michael Bailey, Nick Stevens, Andris Strazdins and James Citron. Drawing their games for the Connecticut team were Arkadijs Strazdins, Eugene Koenig, Chris Ferrante, George Grasser and Tom Hartmayer.

Co-captains for Hartford-New Britain were Eugene Bystrak and Arkadijs Strazdins, and co-captains for the Boylston club were Harry Lyman and Richard Lappin. The fourth in this series of "super matches" is scheduled for New Britain or Hartford in June or July of 1980.

second at 2-1.

Arkadijs Strazdins, New Britain City and New Britain Chess Club champion for many years, was recently presented with a plaque by Connecticut Speed Chess League director Rob Roy at a ceremony at the Quartette Club in New Britain. This award honored Strazdins' attainment of the title of Life Master in speed chess for 1,000 games at the master level, and was the first such award to be given in Connecticut.

So far this season the New Britain Chess Club has held 18 tournaments rated by the Connecticut Speed Chess League. Strazdins won 12 of these. Bob Milardo and Eric Godin won two each, and Bill Edwards and Philipp Frenkel finished first once.

city chess championship, open to all players in that city and vicinity, will be played on successive Tuesday evenings during the next three months at the Quartette Club, 225 Wooster Street, New Britain. The first round will start September 23 at 8 pm. Competitors will be divided into two or more groups and the first four in each group will qualify for the finals in January and February, 1981. For those who do not qualify there will be a five-round Swiss system Reserve Tournament played concurrently with the championship finals. The entry fee for both the preliminary rounds and the championship finals or Reserve tournament is \$12. Students and senior citizens \$8.

Trophies and other prizes will be awarded. This is a U. S.

Chess Federation rated tournament, and membership in that organization is required. Nonmembers can join at the tournament. The event is sponsored by the Quartette Club and the New Britain Chess Club, and will be directed by Arkadijs Strazdins.

The 31st annual New Britain

# C-H-E-S-S S-U-P-E-R M-A-T-C-H III

NEW BRITAIN/HARTFORD VERSUS BOYLSTON YMCU CHESS CLUB  
CHESS CLUBS BOSTON, MASS.

PLAYED BY 37 BOARDS

SUNDAY, MAY 6, 1979 AT THE BOYLSTON CHESS CLUB,  
48 BOYLSTON ST., BOSTON, MASS.

TEAM CO-CAPTAINS:

EUGENE BYSTRAK RICHARD LAPPIN  
ARKADIJS STRAZDINS HARRY LYMAN

1. ESPINOLA Paul C.	2162	1 - 0	LONOFF Mark J.	2272
2. BAUER Richard N.	2129	0 - 1	HILLERY John K.	2205
3. WEISSMAN Albert	2044	0 - 1	MERCURI Louis A.	2167
4. STRAZDINS Arkadijs	2019	1/2 - 1/2	FANG Joseph H.	2157
5. IPACS Edward	2018	1 - 0	JOHNSON Joel F.	2109
6. GARCIA Martin	1959	0 - 1	PEARSON Erik W.	2066
7. MILARDO Robert	1931	0 - 1	TRICE Walter G.	2065
8. KOENIG Eugene W.	1919	1/2 - 1/2	LYMAN Harry	2064
9. FERRANTE CHRISTOPHER	1899	1/2 - 1/2	CHAMPAGNE Duane	2008
10. GRASSER George	1896	1/2 - 1/2	POLYAK Victor	1991
11. KOCHMAN Karl H.	1871	0 - 1	GREENE Warren	1973
12. ROBILLARD John H.	1802	0 - 1	KURZDORFER Peter	1940
13. GODIN Eric	1761	0 - 1	McCOLLUM Pat	1940
14. DONAHUE Robert T.	1753	0 - 1	MIRIJANIAN George	1901
15. DENIHAN Mark	1751	1 - 0	BOUDROT Edward	1880
16. PEVNER Dawid W.	1732	0 - 1	HUGENT Arthur	1868
17. LESCHOWICZ Daniel S.	1725	0 - 1	DYMOND David E.	1867
18. BARTHA Paul	1709	0 - 1	MALONE Kevin F.	1851
19. BACLANSKI John A.	1700	0 - 1	TROISI Nichola, Jr.	1847
20. Dr. YABLONSKI A., Jr.	1689	0 - 1	GURLAND Herbert	1839
21. LIGAS Paul	1688	0 - 1	LAPPIN Richard	1837
22. COTE Gary L.	1679	1 - 0	YOUNG Duane	1821
23. HARTMAYER Thomas	1600	1/2 - 1/2	WORTMAN Dennis H.	1773
24. MAY Duncan W.	1656	0 - 1	STANDING Josh	1758
25. WALLACE Elmo	1617	0 - 1	DALY Richard A.	1753
26. PAJAK Walter	1587	1 - 0	KING Bart	1709
27. BOURASSA Ronald	1578	0 - 1	LEVIS Robert	1705
28. DWORSKI William V.	1572	0 - 1	TOMLINSON Michael	1664
29. MANSIGIAN Joseph	1567	0 - 1	WILSON Timothy	1618
30. BYSTRAK Eugene	1539	0 - 1	COHEN Jan	1572
31. MILLER Forrest, Jr.	1513	1 - 0	DAVIS Francine K.	1450
32. BAILEY Michael W.	1506	1 - 0	PIEROMAY Bradley	1450
33. STEVEN Nicholas	1436	1 - 0	LEVIN Eric	1386
34. STRAZDINS Andris R.	1399	1 - 0	LAZAROV Dmitrios	1380
35. CITRON James H.	1297	1 - 0	CLANCEY Larry	1375
36. HANEN Jonathan M.	1116	0 - 1	LIBBEY Lee A.	1294
37. SANTACROCE Martin	U	0 - 1	MANUAK Theodore	U

TOTAL SCORE . 12 1/2 - 24 1/2

Thanks to all team members who played in this great match. Although this match was scheduled for 45 boards, 8 strong players did not show up, otherwise the results would have been much closer. The great Boylston Chess Club put together a great team and there is no excuse for our losing. We hope to put together a better team for SUPER MATCH IV, to be held in June or July 1980, in Hartford or New Britain.

Eugene Bystrak - Arkadijs Strazdins.

Wednesday, May 23, 1979

The Herald



HERALD PHOTO

## Chessmaster in action

Dr. Joseph Platz, one of New England's best chess players, ponders a move as he participates in a simultaneous exhibition against 20 New Britain Chess Club members this week at the Quartette Club.

UNICO.

## Chess news

U.S. Chess Master Emeritus Dr. Joseph Platz from Manchester, gave a Simultaneous Exhibition at Quartette Club Monday night. Twenty-two New Britain Chess Club junior and senior members took the rare opportunity to play against the master.

Players from one end of the group of tables to the other had at most a few minutes or less time to think, in which to make a move before the master would return to the board.

Dr. Platz took him about five and one half hours to finish all of the games.

He won 12, drew 3 and lost only 7 games. He drew against Raymond Lamont, Walter Pajak and Paul Wooster. He lost to Matthew Coulombe, Daniel S. Lechowicz, Michael P. Madigan, Dundan W. May, Robert Milardo, John A. Robillard and Carl Traczynski.

The Quartette Club and New Britain Chess Club were sponsors.

The New Britain and Hartford Chess clubs joined forces recently to play against the great Boylston YMCU Chess Club of Boston, Mass., which is considered the strongest in New England. The match was held in Boston on May 6. The Connecticut effort was weakened when 8 (3 experts and 5 Class A or B players) out of the 45 players scheduled to play — did not show up. This reduced the match to 37. The results of Super Match III was a 12-25 loss, for the New Britain/Hartford players. In the top 10 boards and bottom 7 the Connecticut team did well, but lost heavily on boards 11-30. This loss for New Britain/Hartford now places the series at 2-1 in our favor.

SUPERMATCH IV is being planned for June or July, 1980 with about 50 boards to be played in Hartford or New Britain. Team captains were Eugene Bystrak (H) Arkadijs Strazdins (NB) and Richard Lappin and Harry Lyman-Boston. Results on the individual boards of New Britain/Hartford players who drew or won listed first, were:

Paul C. Espinola 1, Mark J. Lonoff 0; Arkadijs Strazdins  $\frac{1}{2}$ , Joseph H. Fang  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Edward Ipsas 1, Joel F. Johnson 0; Eugene W. Koenig  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Harry Lyman  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Christopher Ferrante  $\frac{1}{2}$ , Duane Champagne  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; George Grasser  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Victor Polyak  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Mark Denihan 1, Edward Boudrot 0; Gary L. Cote 1, Duane Young 0; Walter Pajak 1, Bart King 0; Forrest Miller, Jr. 1, Francine K. Davis 0; Michael W. Bailey 1, Bradley Pieroway 0; Nicholas Steven 1, Eric Levin 0; Andris R. Strazdins 1, Dmitrios Lazarov 0 and James H. Citron 1, Larry Clancey 0.

The 14th Annual New Britain Supper Open, a 5 Round Swiss System, U.S. Chess Federation rated Tournament will start at the Quartette Club Monday night at 8 p.m. Late registration from 7-7:50 p.m. Arkadijs Strazdins will direct the tournament.

Previous winners: Arkadijs Strazdins, 1966-1967-1968-1971-1972-1973; Peter Kłoskowski of New Britain, 1969; Williams Edward of Waterbury, 1970; James Baker of Washington, D. C., 1974; James M. Bolton of New Haven, 1975; Julius Fuster of Waterbury, 1976; Jerome A. Crawford of New Britain, 1977 and Steven H. Strogatz of Torrington, 1978.

U. S. CHESS MASTER EMERITUS

DR. JOSEPH PLATZ

S-I-M-U-L-T-A-N-E-O-U-S - E-X-H-I-B-I-T-I-O-N

Against 22 New Britain Chess Club members at  
the Quartette Club, Monday, May 21, 1979.-

No.	Players name	S C O R E:	
		NBCC MEMBERS	DR. PLATZ
	<i>ARCHACKI Stanley</i>		
1.	<del>STANLEY</del> Archacki J.	0	1
2.	BACLAWSKI John A.	0	1
3.	BELLIVEAU Arthur	0	1
4.	HAGEDORN Joel A.	0	1
5.	HANEN Jonathan M.	0	1
6.	HOLYST Ralph	0	1
7.	COULOMBE Matthew	0	1
8.	FAHEY Calvin W.	0	1
9.	GODIN Eric	0	1
10.	MITCHELL Peter P.	0	1
11.	PYRCH Jacob	0	1
12.	ZOVICH Mario	0	1
13.	LAMONT Raymond	½	½
14.	PAJAK Walter	½	½
15.	WOOSTER Paul	½	½
16.	COULOMBE Matthew	1	0
17.	LECHOWICZ Daniel S.	1	0
18.	MADIGIAN Michael P.	1	0
19.	MAY Duncan W.	1	0
20.	MILARDO Robert	1	0
21.	ROBILLARD John A.	1	0
22.	TRACZYNSKI Carl	1	0
TOTAL		8½	13½

It took Dr. Platz about five and one half hours  
to finish all of the games.

*Considering Dr. Platz's physical condition  
and age he did very well in the  
exhibition. Three cheers for Dr. Platz  
A.S. -*

*P.S. Coulombe played  
two boards*

*Dr. Platz permitted.*

*Shawm  
Assistant President N.A.C.C. -*

## Chess news

The fourth annual U.S. chess class championship will be played this weekend at The Travelers Insurance Co., One Tower Square, Hartford. The first round begins tonight at 7:30. There will be two rounds tomorrow and two on Sunday. The time control is 50 moves in two hours.

The prize fund totals \$7,200. The six class sections are: Experts (2000-2199), Class A (1800-1999), Class B (1600-1799), Class C (1400-1599), Class D (1200-1399), Class E (Below 1200). Each has the following prize structure: 1st, \$500; 2nd, \$300; 4th, \$150; 4th and 5th, \$125 each.

This will be the largest chess tournament ever held in Connecticut, sponsored by the U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) and the Hartford Chess Club. Former USCF Vice President Frederick Townsend and Hartford Chess Club President Nicholas Stevens are the chief tournament directors. Many New Britain Chess Club members will participate.

In recently played chess tournaments, local club members scored as follows:

Eric Godin with a score of  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ , won the Plainville Open. Walter Kasmer scored 3-1 and Kurt J. Holyst 2-2.

In the 1979 Hartford Championship, Ronald Bourassa took the Class B Trophy 4-2. Joseph Mansigian scored  $2\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$ .

In the 1979 Connecticut Amateur Championship played in Hartford, Mark Berg, after the tie-break formula, took the second place trophy. Eric Godin was in 4th place (Top Class B) and Ronald Bourassa in 6th place. All scored 4-1. Hermann Zickfeld won the top Class C trophy, scoring  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ . Kurt J. Holyst, youngest player in the event, scored,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$ .

Kurt J. Holyst, 11, New Britain Chess Club junior member and New England's USCF highest rated elementary school student, played in the 1979 National

Elementary School Championship in Minneapolis.

A total of 259 of the best elementary school players in the country including Hawaii competed. Holyst, a sixth grader at the Plantsville Elementary School, demonstrated excellent play. He tied for sixth place with a score of  $6\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$  (won five and three games draw). Only two other players in the tournament went undefeated. Holyst started to play serious tournament chess at the New Britain Chess Club about two years ago, and has a good tournament record in junior and senior tournaments. The next big tournament he will play in is the 7th Annual World Open, June 30 - July 4 in Philadelphia.

In the 1979 Manhattan, New York Chess Club Championship-Preliminaries, Erik Godin scored 6-2, and in the finals,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$ .

JUNE 15, 1979

*New Britain Chess Club - Affiliate of USCF.  
OFFICERS ELECTION AND GENERAL BUSINESS  
FOR THE 1979-1980 SEASON.*

*The meeting was called to order Monday night, August 23, 1979 at 6:15 P.M. by Arkadijs STRAZDINS, President. Elections of officers was held with the following results for the 1979-1980 season (Sept. 2, 1979 - August 31, 1980) 22 members attended the meeting.*

*THE ELECTION RESULTS:*

1. PRESIDENT - Arkadijs STRAZDINS (Re-ec.)
2. V. P. Stanley J. Archacki (Re-ec.)
3. SECRETARY - Daniel S. Lechowicz (Re-ec.)
4. TREASURER - Andris R. STRAZDINS (Re-ec.)
5. DELEGATE AT LARGE - Robert Milardo (Re-ec.)
6. T. D. Assistant T. D. Edward R. Harris, Jr.
7. TEAM CAPTAINS: Ronald Bourassa and Duncan W. May
8. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE - George STEWART

*Meeting night to be changed from Monday night to Wednesday if the Quartette club allows.*

*A motion was made and seconded that the meeting should be adjourned at 12:20 P.M.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Daniel S. Lechowicz, Secy.*

## Strazdins to head NB Chess Club

Arkadijs Strazdins, city chess champion for 27 years, club champion for 22 years and winner of many other regular and speed tournaments, will serve as president of the New Britain Chess Club for the 1979-80 season.

He was reelected to office for the 10th consecutive term at the chess club's annual meeting recently at the Quartette Club.

Other officers elected are: Vice president, Stanley J. Archacki, reelected for a ninth term; secretary, Daniel S. Lechowicz, reelected for an eighth term; treasurer, Andris R. Strazdins, reelected for a seventh term; delegate at large, Robert Milardo, reelected for a fourth term; student representative, George C. Stewart Jr.

Team captains Ronald Bourassa and Duncan W. May, and Arkadijs Strazdins and Edward A. Harris Jr., a certified tournament director of the U.S. Chess Federation

(USCF), will direct all tournaments.

Former New Britain Chess Club presidents, starting from 1940, are: Anthony Gryboski, 1940; Edmund Roman, 1941-56; Robert Corr, 1957; Jan Laska, 1958; Atty. William V. Dworski, 1959; Robert Corr, 1960-61; Jan Cendrowski, 1962-69; Roman M. Kolodziej, 1970, and Strazdins from 1971.

The club is affiliated with the USCF. Its membership includes players of all strengths, from beginners to experts. The club will hold three USCF rated tournaments during the coming year.

First, the 1980 city championship; second, the club championship, and third, the 15th annual city summer open. The club will play three or four chess matches with other clubs and will play about 25 Connecticut Speed Chess League rated tournaments.

The New Britain Chess Club, sponsored by the Quartette Club, will meet every

**NEW BRITAIN HERALD**  
Sept. 4, 1979  
Tuesday night from 7 p.m. - 12:30 a.m., starting tonight, thus cancelling Monday night meetings. The location will remain the same, The Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St.

The 1979 Connecticut State Speed Chess championship will be played Sept. 18, at 8 p.m.

The 1980 - 30th annual New Britain city chess championship, a USCF rated round robin tournament begins Sept. 25, at 8:10 p.m.

Information and early registration can be secured by contacting Strazdins or Harris, tournament directors, any Tuesday night at the Quartette Club.

## Chess news

**SEPT 24, 1979**

The 30th Annual—1980 New Britain City Chess Championship, a U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) rated single round robin tournament — sponsored by the Quartette Club and the New Britain Chess Club, will be held at the Quartette Club each Tuesday night — one game per night in October, November and December. The first round starts Tuesday at 8 p.m. The time limit is 50 moves in two hours per player. Competitors will be divided into two or three groups, and from each group the first three will play in the finals for the City Championship in January and February. For those players who do not qualify for the championship, there will be a five round Swiss system reserve tournament, played concurrently with the finals.

The tourney is open to all chess players in New Britain and vicinity and club members regardless of where they live. Trophies and other prizes will be awarded to top senior and junior players. USCF membership is required, which may be obtained at the tournament during registration. Late registration closes at 7:50 p.m. in the 25th. Further information may be obtained from Arkadijs Strazdins or Edward A. Harris Jr., tournament directors.

## Chess champion

**9-1979**

**SOUTHINGTON** — Kurt Holyst, the youngest active member of the Woodstock Chess Club, took first place in the Aug. 18 annual club championship. Kurt scored  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ . The contest was a United States Chess Federation rated tournament and was directed by Barrett Frink.

In the third round of the tournament, Kurt defeated the highest rated player in the club and possibly in the northeast.

The fourth round pitted Kurt against Tom Wilde, a highly regarded player who has seen a great deal of action in Providence, R.I. The game lasted six hours and at 1:30 a.m. both players agreed to a draw.

Kurt emerged the victor after the tie breaker system was invoked and Wilde was awarded second place.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Holyst, Kurt lives at 1 Saw Mill Lane, Plantsville.

The 1979 Connecticut State Speed Chess Championship Tournament was held Tuesday night at the Quartette Club — Arkadijs Strazdins, speed chess master, was the winner after excellent play with a perfect score of 10-0. Robert Milardo of Middletown was in second place with 7-3 and Raymond Lamont of Barkhamsted took third place prize with a score of 6-4. The Connecticut Speed Chess League and the New Britain Chess Club were sponsors.

From Aug. 9, 1978, to Aug. 13, 1979, the New Britain Chess Club staged 27 speed tournaments. Twenty-five tournaments were rated by the Connecticut Speed Chess League. The first five highest scores were recorded in each tournament. Arkadijs Strazdins won 11 times, finished second 10 times, third three and fourth once; Robert Milardo won seven times, placed third five times and fourth and fifth once; Wesley Frazier won two times, placed second three times, third four, fourth three and fifth once; Stephen Orio won two times; William Aust won one, placed second three times, third once and fourth three times; Steven H. Strogatz won one, and placed in second and third once; Eric Godin won one, and placed in second once; Douglas Grant and Filipp S. Frenkel each won one tournament.

Other players who did not take first place, but finished in second, third, fourth or fifth places one or more times, listed in order, were: Anthony A. Miller, Raymond Lamont, John A. Baclawski, Duncan W. May, Edward A. Harris, Jr., Matthew Coulombe, Carl Traczynski, Albert Weissman, Joseph Mansigian, Daniel S. Lechowicz, Peter P. Mitchell, Jonathan M. Hanen, Paul Ligas, John Robillard, Eugene Bystrak, Eugene Koenig, Walter Kasmer, Vera Frenkel, Henry Hall, Paul Wooster, Ronald Bourassa, Christopher Ferrante, Peter Kloskowski, Mark Denihan, Rob Roy, David W. Pevner and David Corson.

HERALD PHOTO

Paul Wooster, right, of Meriden ponders whether to move his white pawn or castle during chess match recently at New Britain's Quartette Club. Waiting to counter Wooster's decision with his black chessmen is Wes Frazier, left, of New Britain as Arkadlis Strazdins observes.

The New Britain Chess Club will hold the seventh annual Thanksgiving open speed tournament tomorrow at 8 p.m. at the Quarters Club, 225 Wooster St.

This tournament will be rated by the Connecticut Speed Chess League and will consist of games that allow no more than five minutes of playing time per player per game. Registration will be from 7 to 7:30 p.m. All regular New Britain city championship primary games will be postponed until the following week.

Chess Master Filipp S. Frenkel will give a simultaneous exhibition against all comers at the Quartette Club Dec. 4, starting at 7:45 p.m. He, his wife, Vera and son, Oleg, also expert chess players, are recent emigrants to the United States from the Soviet Union.

The Frenkel family lives in Hartford. Since his arrival in Hartford, Frenkel remains undefeated in simultaneous exhibition events, including those

at the Hartford and Yale chess clubs. All chess players in the New Britain area, who would like to play against Frenkel should contact Arkadijs Strazins on a Tuesday night from 7-8, at the Quartette Club. Frenkel will charge a \$4 fee for senior players and \$2 for students.

The events are sponsored by the Quartette Club and the New Britain Chess Club.

**SOUTHINGTON** — Southington chess team members Rodney Charest, Peter Hojnowski, Kurt Holyst and Scott Marks played to a first place tie in the Connecticut State Junior High School Chess Championship Saturday in Hartford.

They were placed second after the tie break system was activated by Tournament Director Fred Townsend. Bloomfield, the reigning champion, was awarded first.

The young Southington team, which finished with a 3 to 1 score, defeated Bloomfield in the early rounds, but the eventual champions came on strong in the final rounds to take first place by the slim

most of machine.

ne followed by Peters with a 34-yard punt. Charra and who encountered on boards two and three. Because teams began to manipulate their players so that the strongest players would have to face Kurt, combined three points to the team effort. These two boys were really the team heroes because of the competition they had to face.

Southington also had the largest spectator section, indicating that chess in Southington is alive and interest is growing.

7th Annual New Britain Chess Club  
Thanksgiving Open Speed Chess

[illegible]

# Strazdins NB chess winner; player classifications change; master to take on all comers

Speed chess master Arkadijs Strazdins won the New Britain Chess Club 7th annual Thanksgiving Open Round Speed Tournament with a score of 17½-½ Nov. 20 at the Quartette Club.

William A. Edwards of Washington (Conn.) was second with 14½-3½; Matthew Coulombe of New Britain, third at 14-4; Mark Denihan of Meriden, fourth with 10½-7½, and Joseph Mansigian of Plainville, fifth with 10-8.

The New Britain Chess Club has staged six speed tournaments for the 1979-80 season, including the 1979 Connecticut state speed championship. Edwards was the winner in one tournament.

The U.S. Chess Federation has recently adopted a new player classification nomenclature to replace the one formerly in use. International titles are not affected.

Three designations remain unchanged. First-Senior Master (USCF rating points of 2,400 and over); Second-Master (2,200-2,399) and Third-Expert (2,000-2,199).

The former Classes A, B, C, D and E, are now designated: Category I (1,800-1,999); Category II (1,600-1,799); Category III (1,400-1,599); Category IV (1,200-1,399); Category V (1,000-1,199) and Category VI under 1,000.

These rating categories enable the player to keep track of

his improvement, and to estimate his strength relative to other players.

## Chess master here

Chess master and teacher Filipp S. Frenkel will give a simultaneous exhibition at the Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St., Tuesday starting at 7:45 p.m. against all comers.

Many New Britain Chess Club senior and junior members will try to beat Frenkel. He, his wife, Vera, and son, Oleg, are recent emigrants to the United States from the Soviet Union and live in Hartford. The Frenkels have been teachers of English as a second language. Frenkel is interested in promoting chess activity in Connecticut.

Anyone who would like to play against Frenkel and who is not a New Britain Chess Club member, should bring a chess set and board if available. Late registration can be secured by contacting Arkadijs Strazdins, club president, that night from 7-7:40.

There is no charge for spectators who are welcome. The event is sponsored by the Quartette Club and the New Britain Chess Club.

## Chess news

Professional chess master and teacher Filipp S. Frenkel of Hartford gave a simultaneous exhibition at the Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St., Tuesday night.

Thirty five New Britain area chess players played against him.

It took Frenkel about six hours to finish all of the games. He won 28, drew 6 and lost 1, his only loss in Connecticut, that being to Raymond Lamont.

Jonathan M. Hanen 13, broke Frenkel's local winning streak when he drew him. Frenkel had won all of the first eight games completed.

Other draws were recorded by David Corson (14), Daniel S. Lechowicz, John A. Baclawski, Paul Ligas and Robert Milardo.

The event was sponsored by the Quartette Club and the New Britain Chess Club.

## Chess News

OCT. 19 1979 by Ben McCready



Arkadijs Strazdins of New Britain won the 1979 Connecticut State Speed Chess Championship with a perfect score of 10-0. Bob Milardo of Cromwell was second at 9-1 and Ray Lamont of Southbury scored 6-4 to finish third. The event was sponsored by the New Britain Chess Club.



HERALD PHOTO — GAUDIO

## Chess master takes on all comers

Filipp S. Frenkel, seated in the middle where he likes it, battled scores of chess players last night at the Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St., New Britain. The big difference was that he played them all simultaneously — and repor-

tedly won the matches. Frenkel and his family, who are recent emigrants to the U.S. from the Soviet Union, live in Hartford. He is now actively trying to promote chess throughout Connecticut.

## FILIPP S. FRENKEL CHESS MASTER SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITION AT THE QUARTETTE CLUB, DEC. 4, 1979

HE PLAYED AGAINST 35 PLAYERS  
FROM 8 P.M. — 2:20 A.M.  
HE WON 28, DREW 6 AND LOST ONLY 1

- A. ① HE LOST TO — RAYMOND LAMONT — Robert MILAKOO
- B. ② HE DREW: ① Jonathan M. Hanson (13)  
② David CORSON (14) ③ Daniel S. Lockman  
④ John A. Backlund ⑤ Paul Ligot and  
⑥ Robert Milakoo
- C. HE WON: ① Andrijs R. Strazdins ② Mary Davidson  
③ Jim Platt ④ Stanley Archetti ⑤ Robert Murray  
⑥ Lawrence T. Davis ⑦ Nicholas Namy ⑧ Anthony  
Cusumano ⑨ Vincent Murawski, Jr. ⑩ Joseph  
Mossigian ⑪ Harold McMichael ⑫ Ernest Miller  
⑬ Tadatosi Szeprenesi ⑭ Wayne Dandanian  
⑮ Vincent Murawski, Sr. ⑯ Peter Galezon  
⑰ Ronald Bourque ⑱ Mac Kolpak ⑲ Kevin  
Viola ⑳ John Glover ㉑ Arthur B. Simmons  
㉒ Gregory Drubay ㉓ Camille Cagliardi  
㉔ Marsh Cagliardi ㉕ Calvin W. Fahay  
㉖ James Christian ㉗ Angela Panetta  
㉘ Andrijs Strazdins —

## City chess championship primary play winners named

The 1980 New Britain city chess championship primary play, underway Tuesday nights for the past 10 weeks at the Quartette Club, has been completed.

Eighteen players contested in two sections in a single round robin U.S. Chess Federation rated tournament. From each section five players with the highest scores qualified for the 30th annual championship finals.

In section A, with 10 players, Robert W. Lane was the top scorer with  $5\frac{1}{2}$  points, dropping only one drawn game to Arkadijs Strazdins, who was second with  $5\frac{1}{2}$ . John A. Baclawski was third with 6-3.

**12-year-old 4th**

Kurt J. Holyst, 12, of Southington, who joined the New Britain Chess Club two years ago, was fourth with  $5\frac{1}{2}$ . The Kennedy Junior High School student is the youngest player ever to qualify to play for the city championship. He lost only two games, won four, and drew three highly rated players (Raymond Lamont, Baclawski and Strazdins).

Last year as an elementary school pupil, Kurt was New England's USCF's highest rated elementary school player. He played in the 1978 national elementary school championship in Minneapolis and with a score of  $6\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$  tied for 6th place out of a total of 230 players.

He took fourth place in the 14th annual New Britain summer open with a score of 5-2. Holyst now holds a USCF rating of 1,581 points, putting him in 12th place in the top junior players in the U.S. under age 13.

After the tie-break, results with  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -4 $\frac{1}{2}$  or lower were: Lawrence T. O'Neill, Lamont, Joseph Mansigian, Arthur B. Simeone, Calvin W. Fahey and David Corson.

**Section B**

In section B, with eight players, Robert Milardo was the top scorer with 6-1. He drew one game with Ronald Bourassa and one with

Paul Ligas. Peter P. Mitchell was second with a score of 5-2. After the tie-break, in order, the results with  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -3 $\frac{1}{2}$  or lower were: Ligas, Bourassa, Kenneth Graham III, Stanley J. Archacki, Hermann Zickfeld and Jonathan M. Hanon. The city championship tournament will start Jan. 15, at 8 p.m. at the Quartette Club.

**Local club is host**

The New Britain Chess Club will host the Connecticut Speed Chess League rated tournaments (5 minute games) at the Quartette Club tomorrow night, Dec. 18 and Jan. 8. Registration is from 7 p.m. each night and the tournaments start at 7:30.

There will be no chess meetings during Christmas and New Year weeks.

NEWTOWN BEE

Dec 1979

# Chess News

By Ben McCready



Ten players have qualified for the finals of the New Britain City Championship, which will start on January 8 at the New Britain Chess Club. The club meets every Tuesday at its headquarters in the Quartette Club, 225 Wooster Street.

In section A of the preliminaries of the championship tournament, the five players who qualified for the finals, and their scores, were Robert Lane,  $8\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Arkadijs Strazdins,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ -2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; John Baclawski, 6-3; Kurt Holyst,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ -3 $\frac{1}{2}$  and Lawrence O'Neill,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -4 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Lane will be unable to compete in the finals, and has been replaced by Raymond Lamont, who scored  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -4 $\frac{1}{2}$  in the preliminaries. Holyst, who is 12, is the youngest player ever to qualify for the championship finals. His USCF rating is 1581, putting him in 12th place among U. S. players under 13 years old.

In section B the five qualifiers and their scores were Robert Milardo, 6-1; Peter Mitchell, 5-2; Stanley Archacki, 4-3; Ronald Bourassa and Kenneth Graham, each 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -3 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

In Problem No. 328, composed by Vaux Wilson, white is to move and mate in two. Send your solution to Chess News, The Bee. The mailing deadline for acknowledgment of correct answers is January 3. The solution will be given January 11.

Chessmaster Filipp Frenkel, who emigrated from the USSR to the United States last year, gave a simultaneous exhibition at the New Britain Chess Club on December 4. It took Frenkel six hours to finish all games against the 35 NBCC members who faced him. He won 28 games, drew five, and lost only two.

The two who defeated Frenkel were Raymond Lamont of Southington and Bob Milardo of Cromwell. Those who managed to draw were John Baclawski and Paul Ligas of New Britain, Dan Lechowicz of Meriden, Jonathan Hanon, and David Corson.

# When it comes to chess in NB, the NAME is Arkadijs Strazdins

By BETHE THOMAS  
(Herald Reporter)

"Anyone can learn to play chess in about two hours," says Arkadijs Strazdins.

But few people, in a lifetime, ever learn to play it the way he does.

Strazdins has won the Connecticut Speed Chess League's championship for the past two years, and is the winner of so many "slow" tournaments that he has lost count. He roughly estimates his slow tournament wins to be "at least" 150.

Speed chess games are played within five minutes. Slow games may take 20 minutes or several days, but tournament players must make a minimum of 25 moves an hour, to prevent stalling.

Strazdins moved to New Britain from his native Germany in 1951. Born in Latvia, which is now under Soviet control, he explains he left Europe because he was worried about the "big claws" of the Soviet Union. He is now employed by The Stanley Works as a machine operator.

## Began at 14

He began playing chess at the age of 14, but says even three year-olds can play the game.

As president of the New Britain Chess Club since 1971, Strazdins has earned a reputation for encouraging young players. The club's youngest member, 12-year-old Kurt Holyst of Southington, is ranked 12th in the nation among players under the age of 13. His father, Ralph Holyst, says "There are more young people in this club than any other in the state, because kids really like him (Strazdins)."

Strazdins believes chess builds character and responsibility in young people, besides "keeping them off the streets."

Because the game teaches concentration and patience, he says young people who take it up usually perform well in school. In chess, Strazdins says, one has to learn how to solve problems logically. His own two sons, now adults, grew up playing the game.

## State's 3rd largest club

The New Britain Chess Club is one of the state's three largest, after Hartford and New Haven. The club's official records date back to 1940, but it is presumed to have been founded before that. It counts a number of chess celebrities among its ranks, including Eric Godin, the current Connecticut champion.

Although the club is widely considered to be "competitive" rather than social, the atmosphere is informal. Members meet on Tuesday nights in a small hall at the Quartette Club off Wooster street. The faces of the players indicate deep thought, but in the background one can hear the sounds of television and pinball in the adjoining Quartette Club bar.

## Consistent winner

On Jan. 15, the club will sponsor the New Britain Chess Championship Tournament, which Strazdins has won 27 times, 23 times in a row. Last year he tied Paul Ligas for the honor.



HERALD PHOTO

## Action at NB Chess Club

Arkadijs Strazdins, left, and Kurt Holyst

He has won the club championship tournament, held late in April, "about 22 times," and the New Britain Summer Open, in which players compete from other states, 14 times. Twice he has won the New England championship.

For the past 25 years, Strazdins has suffered from arthritis in his right leg, a condition that has worsened in the last eight years and makes it uncomfortable for him to sit through tournaments.

Strazdins estimates there are about 15-20 million chess players in the United States, but only about 50,000 members of the U.S. Chess Federation, who are tournament players. Federation members are rated nationally according to the number of tournaments they have won.

## Chess masters

Top-rated players are chess masters, followed by those in the expert class, and then six lower categories. Players receive more points for a win over a higher-rated player than for defeating someone in their own or a lower class.

Players are constantly re-evaluated, so one can move from one class to another within a year. This, Strazdins feels, encourages them to always do their best.

He is one of an elite group who have achieved master status, although he currently stands in the expert class, along with five other club members. There are only two or three masters in the state, according to Strazdins.

Currently, the New Britain Chess Club has about 65 members. Strazdins points out membership reached a high of 119 during Bobby Fischer's heyday, and he hopes for another renowned American champion to encourage more young people to take up the game.