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Connecticut chessplayers salute Arkadijs Strazdins, chess expert & president of the New Britain Chess Club, December 3, 1997 at the Prospect Café, West Hartford. Masters of Ceremonies: David Aldi & Kerry Leahy. Photos by Bob Milardo & Rob Roy. More than 40 attended the testimonial, buffet, & speed-chess tourney.

NEW BRITAIN

State chess players honor city club president

Special to The Herald

NEW BRITAIN — Arkadijs Strazdins, 75, president of the New Britain Chess Club (NBCC) since 1970, was honored recently at the Connecticut Chess Players banquet at the Prospect Cafe, West Hartford.

David J. Aldi, president of the Hartford Chess Club, presented awards to the winners of the Hartford Chess Club championships.

Besides recognizing Connecticut chess players who contributed to chess,

a special award to presented to Strazdins by Robert Milardo, U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) delegate, for outstanding contributions to U.S. chess since 1951 in New Britain and Connecticut.

Speaking at the event were national senior master Richard N. Bauer, national chess masters Kerry J. Leahy, Michael Casella and Edward J. McHugh, former Connecticut Chess Association president Rob Roy, and long-standing NBCC members Milardo, Michael L. Sheroff and Robert W. Wolf.

After the awards presentation, the Arkadijs Strazdins Testimonial Blitz Tournament (five-minute games) was played.

Bauer of Wolcott and Casella of Middletown tied for first place with a score of 10½ out of a possible 14 in Section A, and Leahy of Southbury took third place with 10-4 points. Strazdins, a Life Blitz Master, was unable to play due to the flu.

Dennis Himes of Hartford won Section B with a score of 11-2, and Joseph C. Mansigian of New Britain

took second place with a score of 9-5.

The NBCC Christmas Open Blitz Tournament was won by Casella with a score of 18½-1½. Leahy finished second with 17-3, and Bauer, third with 15-5.

The NBCC and the Quartette Club will co-sponsor the first simultaneous exhibition of 1998 on Jan. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St.

Edward F. McHugh of West Suffield, a national chess master, will play simultaneously against all challengers. McHugh, with 2,273 USCF rating

Strazdins

points, is the seventh-highest rated player in Connecticut and the fourth at the NBCC. McHugh is the Connecticut 1994-1996 Blitz champion.

McHugh will allow challengers choice of color and three passes. The entry fee is \$4, or \$3 for students and seniors 65 or older. A chess book donated by the NBCC will be awarded to the first player who defeats the master. Players may register the night of the competition between 7 and 7:25 p.m., with John C. Pasco, NBCC tournament director.

2.. 1997 Connecticut Chessplayers Banquet

Arkadijs Strazdins, president of the New Britain Chess Club, was the guest of honor at this year's Conn. Chessplayers' Banquet in West Hartford. David Aldi of Southington started this annual event in 1994 to present awards to winners of his club tournaments in West Hartford.

This year, Kerry Leahy helped organize the banquet and testimonial to Strazdins for his 40+ years service to Conn. Chess. More than 40 attended the buffet, presentation of awards, & the speed-chess tournament that lasted past midnight.

Michael Casella of New Britain and Rick Bauer of Wolcott tied for first place in the top section of the Strazdins Testimonial Speed-Chess Tournament held Dec. 3 at the Connecticut Chessplayers Banquet at the Prospect Cafe in West Hartford.

Casella and Bauer each scored 10.5 points out of a possible 14. Kerry Leahy of Southbury finished in third place with ten points. Dennis Himes of Hartford won Section B with 11 points out of a possible 14. Joe Mansigian of New Britain placed second with 9 points. Rudy Malpit finished third with 8.5 points.

3.. Reply from Arkadijs Strazdins

I would like to take this opportunity to thank anyone who contributed toward the Connecticut Chess Players Banquet and made recognition and gifts on Dec. 3, 1997, at the Prospect Cafe, West Hartford.

A special award was presented by USCF delegate and long time friend Robert Milardo, a USCF appreciation certificate for outstanding contribution for U. S. chess during the past five decades in Connecticut.

Special thanks goes to Hartford Chess Club President David J. Aldi, who organized the annual chess recognition night and invited me to come to the banquet (Free of charge). I was still sick with the flu, but come anyway.

Thanks to NM Kerry J. Leahy, the main organizer on my behalf, and my son Andris, Joseph C. Mansigian, Russell Berube, John Peasley, Robert W. Wolf, and others who insisted on my coming.

I thank the speakers who spoke many kind words, to: Aldi, Leahy, SM Richard N. Bauer, NM Michael Casella, NM Edward F. McHugh, former Connecticut State Chess Association President Rob Roy, Milardo, Michael L. Sheroff and Robert W. Wolf.

I think, that all the expensive gifts were too much. I would just be happy for the USCF recognition certificate, the chess calendar and a few pitchers of beer.

Again, I thank you all, you made my day.

Yours in chess,
Arkadijs Strazdins
December 4, 1997

6.. News from the New Britain Chess Club

Eighteen chessplayers competed against National Master Eric Godin in a simultaneous exhibition at the New Britain Chess Club. Hermann Zickfeld of Southington was the first to score a win against Godin, and won a chess book.

Godin allowed his opponents choice of color and three passes. Two others scored a win against Godin: Sib Ray of Newington and Melvin Ayola of New Britain. Only one player managed a draw with Godin: John Pasco of New Britain.

Nineteen chessplayers fought against National Master Kerry Leahy of Southbury in a simultaneous exhibition at the New Britain Chess Club. Leahy defeated six of the players, lost only one (to Russell Berube of Plantville) and drew twelve. Many players got automatic draws when time ran out (more than four hours) and games were not finished.

Leahy allowed his opponents choice of color and many passes. This was Leahy's last simultaneous exhibition at the New Britain Chess Club, as he has accepted a new job in another state. He was the sixth ranked player in Conn. for 1997.

At the New Britain Chess Club Michael Casella won the Christmas Blitz Championship with 18.5 points out of a possible twenty. Kerry Leahy finished second with 17 points, Rick Bauer third with 15 points, and International Master Jose De La Cruz of Waterbury in fourth place with 13.5 points.

The first tournament in 1998 will be the New Year's Blitz Tournament on January 6. A simultaneous exhibition will be performed by National Master Edward McHugh on January 13. On January 20 the 48th New Britain City Finals begin. On Feb. 3 the 27th New Britain City Open Reserve Tournament begins. Call Strazdins at (860) 229-6096 for details.

Chess club slates reserve open tournament

NEW BRITAIN — The 27th annual New Britain City Chess Championship Reserve Open Tournament, a four or five round Swiss system, U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) rated event, will be played at the Quartette Club on four or five (depends on entries) successive Tuesday evenings, beginning Feb. 3 at 7:30 p.m. All participants must be or become members of the USCF. Membership is available at registration. USCF membership 1998 rates for one year are: Full adult \$40, Youth (age 19 and under) \$17, Seniors (age 65 and over) \$30, Life \$850, and Senior Life \$425.

USCF membership provides monthly "Chess Life Magazine" and full membership benefits. Registration will be accepted

only Jan. 13, 20 and 27 by John C. Pasco or Dennis Tortora, NBCC tournament directors. Computers will not be allowed to compete. The time listed is 40 moves in 90 minutes per player, with secondary time limit of 30 minutes sudden death, if needed. More information is available at the NBCC. The event is co-sponsored by the NBCC and the Quartette Club. The NBCC meets Tuesdays from 7 to 11:50 p.m. at the sponsoring Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St.

The New Britain Chess Club New Year's "Blitz" chess tournament (five-minute games) was won by Edward F. McHugh of West Suffield, the Connecticut 1994-96 "blitz" champion, with a perfect score of 14-0. Sarathi Ray of Newington, a University

of Connecticut student took second place honors with 10-2. NBCC president Arkadijs Strazdins was third with 10-4. The event was co-sponsored by the NBCC and the Quartette Club.

NM. Edward F. McHugh. Simul at the NBCC on 1-13-1998.

McHugh played against 16 NBCC members.

He scored $+14 - 0 = 2$!! Very good score for McH.

He drew with: 1st. Joseph C. Mansigian and Michael L. Sheroff

He defeated: Edmund V. Valauskas, Stanley S. Archacki, John C. Pasco, Reginald Cyr, Robert R. Kozlowski, Dennis Tortora, Karl H. Kochman, Peter Galazan, Sarathi Ray, Kerry Leahy, Jr., Lewis Neves, Matt O'Rilly and Steve Tardit.

The simul was finished in about 3+ hours.

Chess master wins 14 of 16 simultaneous games

NEW BRITAIN — Sixteen New Britain-area chess players competed against national chess master Edward F. McHugh of West Suffield in a simultaneous exhibition at the Quartette Club on Jan. 13.

In about 3½ hours, McHugh defeated 14 of the players and drew with two. Drawing their games against McHugh were Joseph C. Mansigian of New Britain and Michael L. Sheroff of Farmington.

McHugh allowed his opponents choice of color and three passes. The event was co-spon-

sored by the New Britain Chess Club (NBCC) and the Quartette Club.

The next simultaneous exhibition at the New Britain Chess Club will be performed by national senior chess master Richard N. Bauer of Wolcott on April 21 at 7:30 p.m.

The chess match between the NBCC and the University of Connecticut Chess Club will be played in New Britain on April 14 at 8 p.m. The NBCC meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the sponsoring Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St.

BRITAIN

More New Britain news, Pages C1, D6

Baclawski wins city open chess reserve tournament

NEW BRITAIN — One of the New Britain Chess Club's (NBCC) top chess expert players, John A. Baclawski of New Britain, is the winner of the 17th annual New Britain City Open Chess Reserve Tournament.

He scored a perfect 4-0 in the four-round Swiss system, U.S. Chess Federation (USCF)-rated event.

The tournament ended on March 3, with 14 central Connecticut players participating.

Stanley J. Archacki of Bristol took second place with a score of 3-1.

Other top prize winners, with 2½-1½, after tie-break, were, in

order, Karl H. Kochman of South Windsor, Joseph C. Mansigian of New Britain, Hermann E. Zickfeld of Southington and John Peasley and Reginald Cyr of New Britain.

The event was co-sponsored by the Quartette Club and the NBCC, and directed by John C. Pasco and Dennis Tortora.

CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

After six rounds in the 48th annual New Britain single round-robin city chess championship 12 player finals, defending champion Richard N. Bauer leads at 5-0, with one game adjourned. Trailing are: James M. Bolton and Dennis Tortora, each 4-2, and many times city

champion Arkadijs Strazdins, 3½-1½, with one game adjourned. The tournament will be finished on April 7.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The chess match between the NBCC and the University of Connecticut Chess Club will be played at the NBCC on April 14.

On April 21 at 7:30 p.m., national senior master Richard N. Bauer of Wolcott will give a simultaneous exhibition.

The 1998 Connecticut State Open Blitz (five-minute games) Championship will be played at 7:40 p.m. The NBCC meets every Tuesday from 7 to 11:50 p.m. at the sponsoring Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St.

Bauer wins city chess tourney

NEW BRITAIN — National senior chess master Richard N. Bauer of Wolcott has won the 1998 48th annual New Britain City Chess Championship. He also won the event in 1990, 1992 and 1996.

Twelve qualified expert players from preliminary play competed in the tournament, a single-round-robin, U.S. Chess Federation-rated event.

Bauer came in first with a score of 10½-½, winning 10 games and drawing in the 10th round with the 1996 champion, life master James M. Bolton of New Haven.

Robert Milardo of Cromwell took second-place honors with a score of 9-2. He was defeated by Bauer and Dennis Tortora of Waterbury.

Bolton was third at 7½-3½. Tortora edged out Robert E. McDaniel of Tariffville on tie-break points to take fourth place. Both scored 7-4.

Other results were:

6th, Arkadijs Strazdins of New Britain (32-time champion); 7th, Michael L. Sheroff of Farmington; 8th, John C. Pasco of New Britain; 9, Jose De La Cruz of Waterbury; 10th, Lawrence T. O'Neill of Berlin; 11th, Russell Berube of Plantsville; 12th, Sib S. Ray of Newington.

Cash prizes were awarded to the top five. The prize for biggest upset, a chess book, was awarded to O'Neill for defeating, in the last round, Strazdins, who is rated 431 USCF points above him. The event was co-sponsored by the Quartette Club and the New Britain Chess Club, and directed by Pasco and Tortora.

UConn Match

The New Britain Chess Club's match against the University of Connecticut will be held Tuesday at 7:45 p.m. It is expected that this will be a 12 to 15-board match. Both teams will include many of Connecticut's top-ranked senior and student

players. The match will be rated by the USCF, and sponsored by the Quartette Club and the New Britain Chess Club. Team captains are John C. Pasco for New Britain and NBCC member Sarathi Ray, a UConn student, who recently won the UConn 1998 championship with a score of 5½-½, for UConn.

The match was last played in 1975, at Storrs. The NBCC team won by a score of 15-6.

State Open

The 1998 Connecticut State Open Chess Championship was recently played at Wesleyan University in Middletown. Three New Britain Chess Club members participated.

In the open section with 18 players, national master Michael Casella of Middletown (formerly of New Britain) took the Connecticut title with a score of 3½-½. Senior master Richard N. Bauer and master Kerry J. Leaty of Southbury tied for second place with scores of 3-1.



New Britain Chess Club

Arkadijs Strazdins, President

c/o The Quartette Club

225 Wooster Street

New Britain, CT 06052

Entry on Quartette Club Road



April 14, 1998

CHESS MATCH

NEW BRITAIN CHESS CLUB

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT CHESS CLUB

			SCORE			
1 - Bauer, Richard N.	10583896	2343	1 - 0	Castro, Jose L.	12397090	2146
2 - Bolton, James M.	10038821	2211	0 - 1	Pryceor, William	10032229	2129
3 - Strazdins, Arkadijs	10031494	2114	0 - 1	Donahue, Robert	10033136	2060
4 - Tortora, Dennis	12600745	1990	1 - 0	Bourque, Mark	12139250	2055
5 - Milardo, Robert	10035562	1951	0 - 1	Wolk, Elliot S.	10034051	1919
6 - McDaniel, Robert E.	12313530	1949	1 - 0	Hriczo, Joseph	12553334	1901
7 - Sheroff, Michael L.	11294235	1888	1 - 0	De Bonis, Pat	12207120	1865
8 - Appelman, Harris B.	12657600	1887	1 - 0	Di Benedetto, Mat.	12625902	1778
9 - Bacławski, John A.	10031559	1867	½ - ½	Daly, Charles	10032769	1778
10 - Pasco, John C.	10031478	1867	0 - 1	Ray, Sarathi	12655562	1765
11 - Kochman, Karl H.	10032067	1761	0 - 1	Sofianos, Lee	12682589	1557
12 - Ray, Sib S.	12600744	1703	1 - 0	Yelle, Robert R.	12662308	1451
13 - Massigian, Joseph C.	10031621	1700	1 - 0	Santos, Rosaly, Sr	12690862	1378
14 - Salazar, Peter	12118560	1500	½ - ½	Santos, Rosaly, Jr	12690827	1284

TOTAL 8 - 6

TEAM CAPTAINS:

Pasco, John C.

Hartmayer, Tom.

Strazdins, Arkadijs - T. D.

Chess club beats team from UConn

NEW BRITAIN — The New Britain Chess Club (NBCC) defeated the University of Connecticut Chess Club by a score of 8-6, in a 14-board team match held in the Quartette Club Tuesday night (April 14).

Winning their game for the New Britain team were: Richard Bauer, Dennis Tortora, Robert E. McDaniel, Michael L. Sheroff, Harris B. Appelman, Sib S. Ray and Joseph C. Mansigian. Playing draws were John A. Baclawski and Peter Galazan.

Winning their game for UConn were: William Pryor, Robert Donahue, Dr. Elliot Wolk, Sarathi Ray and Lee Sofianos. Playing draws for UConn were: Charles Daly and Rosaly Santos Jr. John C. Pasco was team captain for New Britain and Sarathi Ray for UConn. The event was co-sponsored by the Quartette Club and the NBCC.

National senior chess master Richard Bauer of Wolcott will perform a simultaneous exhibition at the Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St., this evening at 7:40 p.m. Bauer, currently with 2374

US Chess Federation rating points, is ranked second in Connecticut and first at the strong NBCC. Bauer will play against all challengers simultaneously. Contestants may choose either white or black pieces and will be allowed three passes. The first player who beats Bauer will be awarded a chess book donated by the NBCC. The entry fee is \$4; \$3 for students and senior citizens over 65. Players may register between 7 and 7:35 p.m., the night of the event with NBCC President Arkadijs Strazdins. Players who are not NBCC members should bring their own chess sets and board, if possible. Spectators are welcome free of admission charge.

The 1998 New Britain Chess Club individual Chess Championship, a five-round Swiss system, U.S. Chess Federation-rated tournament will be held on five consecutive Tuesday nights, beginning May 5th at 7:30 p.m. at the Quartette Club. The time control is 40 moves in 90 minutes per player;

then, if needed, 30 minutes sudden death. The defending co-champions are Arkadijs Strazdins and John A. Baclawski. More information and registration can be secured by contacting John C. Pasco or Dennis Tortora, tournament directors, at the Chess Club.

Pasco wins chess club championship

NEW BRITAIN — John C. Pasco of New Britain won the 1998 New Britain Chess Club (NBCC) Individual Championship held recently at the Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St.

He scored 3½ out of a possible 4 points in the four-round Swiss system U.S. Chess Federation (USCF)-rated event.

John Peasley of New Britain was second in a tie-break over Russell Berube of Plantsville. Both scored 3-1.

The prize for the biggest upset, a chess book donated by the NBCC, was awarded to Peasley, for upsetting a strong player rated 280 USCF rating points above him. Dennis Tortora directed the event, with assistance from Pasco.

Blitz Championship

The 1998 Connecticut State Speed Chess Championship (five-minute games) was recently played at the Quartette Club. Michael Casella of Middletown (formerly of New Britain) took the state title, with a score of 28.5 points out of a possible 34. Casella also is the current state regular champion. Paul Gregor of New Haven finished second with 28-6 points. Defending champion Edward F. McHugh of Suffield was third with 27.5-6.5 and Kerry J. Leahy of Southbury fourth, with 27-7. Richard N. Bauer of Wolcott and Harris B. Appelman of W. Simsbury tied for fifth place with a score of 26.5-7.5.

The 1998 New Britain Chess Club Open Blitz Championship will be held Tuesday at 7:40 p.m. at the Quartette Club.

Contestants may register the night of the competition with Arkadijs Strazdins, NBCC president, between 7 and 7:30 p.m.

Summer Open

The 33rd annual New Britain Summer Open Championship, a four-round Swiss system, USCF-rated tournament, will be played at the Quartette Club on four consecutive Tuesday nights, beginning July 7 at 7:30 p.m. The event is open to all, but participants must be or become members of the USCF. Membership is available at registration, which will be accepted only on Tuesdays, June 16, 23 and 30, by John C. Pasco and Dennis Tortora, tournament directors. The NBCC will play all summer, every Tuesday night, from 7 to 11:50 p.m. at the sponsoring Quartette Club.

STATE CHAMPION MIKE CASELLA ALSO WINS STATE BLITZ TOURNEY

Mike Casella of Middletown came out on top of a field of 18 players at the New Britain Chess Club on April 28 to win the 1998 Conn. Speed-Chess Championship. Casella scored 28.5 points out of a possible 34. Casella is the current state champion of regular chess. Paul Gregor of New Haven finished 2nd, one-half point behind Casella. Ted McHugh of Suffield won 3rd with 27.5 points, and Kerry Leahy of Southbury 4th with 27. Rick Bauer of Wolcott and Harris Appelman of Bristol tied for 5th with 26.5. Leahy ran the event for Arkadijs Strazdins, who was unable to attend due to his wife's illness. Mrs Strazdins passed away later that week. Mr Strazdins address (to mail sympathy card) is PO Box 158, New Britain CT 06050.

1998 CONNECTICUT STATE CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, MIDDLETOWN CONNECTICUT OPEN SECTION

+7 +12=3 +5 3.5 2354 1 Casella, Michael
+13+4 =5 =3 3.0 2348 2 Bauer, Richard
+8 +6 =1 =2 3.0 2312 3 Leahy, Kerry
+15-2 +13+9 3.0 2266 4 Bryan, Jarod
+19+9 =2 -1 2.5 2202 5 Shure, Gary
+16-3 +14=10 2.5 2125 6 Pryor, William
-1 +11=8 +13 2.5 1955 7 Curtis, Bill
-3 +16=7 +14 2.5 1857 8 Lawrence, Jeffrey
+14-5 +10-4 2.0 2269 9 Sulman, Robert
+17=B -9 =6 2.0 2092 10 Garcia, Martin
-12-7 +16+15 2.0 1824 11 Daly, Charles
+11-1 - - 1.0 2265 12 McHugh, Edward
-2 +15-4 -7 1.0 1907 13 Barker, David
-9 +19-6 -8 1.0 1819 14 DeBonis, Pat
-4 -13+17-11 1.0 1612 15 MaMula, David
-6 -8 -11+17 1.0 1466 16 Martinovics, Geo
-10+18-15-16 1.0 1385 17 Wilkin, Mark
--17 - - 0.0 1731 18 LeMaster, Don
-5 -14 - - 0.0 1501 19 DeOnofrio, Mke

Chief Tournament Director: Rob Roy
Asst TD: Joshua Broekstra, Meriden CT

*The Skittles Room. Chess news throughout
Western New England, July 1, 1998
Volume 10, Number 3. -*

It has recently come to WMCA's attention that the wife of Arkadijs Strazdins passed away in early May. Those chess players who are married know how wonderful it is to have a spouse who allows us to pursue our passion. That Arkadijs has been active in the Connecticut chess scene for over four decades and the president of the New Britain Chess Club for nearly thirty years attests to Mrs. Strazdins' tolerance. WMCA would like to extend its condolences to Arkadijs and his family.



New Britain Chess Club



Arkadijs Strazdins, President

P.O. Box 0158 New Britain, CT 06050

June 24, 1998

TO ALL NEW BRITAIN CHESS CLUB MEMBERS:

Below are the results of the annual New Britain Chess Club election of officers at the June 23, 1998 meeting for the 1998-1999 season. (09/01/1998 - 08/31/1999) There were 17 members present. Acting Vice President Robert Milardo, chaired the meeting.

President	Arkadijs Strazdins	(29th term)
Vice President	Robert Milardo	(6th term)
Secretary	Michael L. Sheroff	(1st term)
Treasurer	Andris R. Strazdins	(26th term)
Team Captains	John C. Pasco and Dennis Tortora	
Tournament Directors	Arkadijs Strazdins (Local)	
	Pasco and Tortora (Club)	

All officers were elected unanimously. CLUB DUES: The Quartette Club rental fee for the use of the club room and the parking lot will be the same as last year, \$1,250.00. NBCC membership dues are now:

REGULAR	\$25
STUDENTS & SENIORS (65+)	\$20
ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS	\$10

All dues was voted to stay the same as last year.

Honorary MEMBERSHIP (\$50) A special membership was created, for those who could afford it. The membership's purpose is to generate extra revenues for the club. No special privileges are received for the \$50. Also, a new idea to raise money for the club, a container will be placed out at the start of each meeting. Please, place small change (or more) in the container as a donation. To run the club we need about \$1,500.00 for the new season to cover all expenses. We hope that you will not drop out - but continue to support the NBCC again with contribution. The NBCC current cash balance is \$1,047.00. The club had a net loss of \$130 for the year. MANY THANKS TO THE MEMBERS WHO DONATED MONEY LAST YEAR AND TO THOSE WHO WILL DONATE AGAIN THIS YEAR. Without your help we would be in a difficult situation. Please pay your renewal dues by AUGUST 18, 1998 at the NBCC on Tuesday evenings, or mail your check to Andris R. Strazdins, P. O. Box 158, New Britain, CT. 06050-0158. Please make checks payable to A. Strazdins, club treasurer only.

The NBCC will begin the new season Tuesday, September 1, 1998. The location will remain the same - at the Quartette Club. The meeting night and time will also remain the same - every Tuesday evening from 7 pm to 11:50 pm. (The club will be closed December 22 and December 29 for the Holidays)

NBCC ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 1998:

August 11 SIMUL by NM Kerry J. Leahy at 7:30 pm
 September 15 SIMUL by NM Edward F. McHugh at 7:30 pm
 September 22 - Start of 49th Annual New Britain City Championship Qualifying Tournament - played in 2 or more sections with 8 or 10 players per section in a single round-robin format. Players will have 2 options on free evenings (no scheduled event) 1) "BLITZ" tournaments (G/5) or, 2) USCF rated "ACTION" Chess Quads tournaments (G/30).

PLEASE OBEY THE 10 MPH RULE WHEN ENTERING OR LEAVING THE QUARTETTE CLUB.

Simultaneous chess exhibition set; Baclawski wins summer tourney

NEW BRITAIN — The New Britain Chess Club (NBCC) and the Quartette Club will co-sponsor the last simultaneous exhibition of the 1997-1998 season today at 7:30 p.m., at the Quartette Club 225 Wooster St.

National Chess Master Kerry J. Leahy of Southbury will play against all challengers simultaneously. Leahy, with 2,316 U.S. Chess Federation rating points, is the fourth-highest rated chess player in Connecticut and second at the strong NBCC.

Leahy will allow opponents to choose either white or black pieces and will also allow three passes. The entry fee is \$4, or

\$3 for students and seniors 65 or older. The first player who defeats the master will be awarded a chess book donated by the NBCC.

Contestants may register the night of the competition, between 7 and 7:25 p.m., with Arkadijs Strazdins, NBCC president. Players who are not NBCC members should bring their own sets and boards, if possible. Spectators are welcome free of admission charge.

John A. Baclawski of New Britain won the 1998-33rd annual New Britain Summer Open Chess Championship held in July at the Quartette Club. In capturing his first title,

he scored $3\frac{1}{2}$, in the four-round Swiss system U.S. Chess Federation (USCF)-rated event. Other prize winners with scores of 3-1, in tie-break order, were: 2nd, Arkadijs Strazdins of New Britain (nine time winner); 3rd, Dennis Tortora of Waterbury; 4th, Michael L. Sheroff of Farmington.

The prize for the biggest upset, a chess book, was awarded to Peter Galazan of New Britain for upsetting 1998 NBCC champion John C. Pasco, rated 324 USCF rating points above him. The event was co-sponsored by the Quartette Club and the NBCC, and directed by Pasco and Tortora.

*SIMUL by NM Kerry J. Leahy at the NBCC
August 11, 1998. Leahy played against 17 NBCC
members. He scored +12 = 4 - only 1.
He drew with: Arkadijs Strazdins, Robert Milord,
Michael L. Sheroff and Joseph C. Mansigian.
John H. Baclawski was the only winner. (He was
awarded a chess book. Leahy won with:
Robert R. Kozlowski, Hermann E. Zickfeld, John Pesley
Michael A. Horton, Niten C. Jacob, Edmund V.
Valauskas, John C. Pasco, Karl H. Kochman, Peter
Galazan, Dennis Tortora, Sarathi Roy and
Mark Simonian. Took Leahy about 4 hours
to finish all games. This time Leahy played
better. A.S.*

Chess master Leahy defeats 12 in simultaneous exhibition

NEW BRITAIN — Kerry J. Leahy, a national chess master from Southbury, gave a simultaneous exhibition at the Quartette Club on Aug. 11, winning 12 matches against 17 New Britain area chess players, losing once and drawing four games. 1998 New Britain Summer Open Champion John A. Baclawski of New Britain was the only victor. Leahy drew with NBCC President Arkadijs Strazdins and Joseph C. Mansigian of New Britain, Robert Milardo of Cromwell and Michael L. Sheroff of Farmington. It took Leahy about 4 hours to finish all of the games.

The event was co-sponsored by the Quartette Club and the

NBCC.

Upcoming simultaneous exhibitions at the NBCC include national master Edward F. McHugh on Sept. 15, and senior master Richard N. Bauer on Dec. 1.

New England Championship

The 58th New England Open Chess Championship will be played Sept. 5-7 at the Inn at the Crossings (Holiday Inn) 801 Greenwich Ave., Warwick, R.I., Exit 12A (from north or south) off I-95.

The six-round Swiss system tournament will be played in nine sections, including beginners and scholastic sections. Registration will take place Saturday (Sept. 5) from 9 to 11

a.m.

Round times are: Saturday, noon and 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and Monday, 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. All entrants must be current members of the U. S. Chess Federation and also, home state association membership is required.

Prizes totaling \$4,325 in cash and plaques will be awarded to all top section winners, with \$700 going to the champion. The New England "Blitz" (five-minute games) championship will be held Sunday, round one at 9:15 p.m. The champion will receive \$75 and a trophy. Other prizes will be based on the number of entries. Send entries to: Gus Gosselin, P.O. Box 1255, Melrose, MA 02176.

A MASTER AT WORK



HERALD PHOTO — BOB DOMBROWIK

Kerry J. Leahy of Southbury, a national chess master and member of the New Britain Chess Club, puts on a demonstration before the club by playing 17 games of

chess simultaneously Tuesday. The city chess club is considered one of the strongest clubs in the state because it has the highest percentage of masters.

08-12-98

New Britain Chess Club slates simultaneous exhibition, tourney

Special to The Herald

NEW BRITAIN — The New Britain Chess Club (NBCC) and the Quartette Club will cosponsor the first simultaneous exhibition of the 1998-1999 season by U.S. chess master Edward F. McHugh of Suffield. The exhibition will be held Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., at the Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St. McHugh, currently with 2,291 U.S. Chess Federation rating points, is the sixth-highest rated chess player in Connecticut, and fourth at the strong NBCC. Recently he played in the third Bradley open tournament in Windsor Locks and tied for second place in the very strong open section. McHugh is rated as one of the top five state "blitz" (five-minute game) players. He won the state "blitz" championships in 1994-1995 and 1996. McHugh will play against all challengers simultaneously. Players may choose either white or black pieces and will be allowed three passes. The entry fee is \$4; \$3 for students and seniors over 65.

The first player who defeats the master will be awarded a chess book donated by the NBCC. Contestants may register the night of the exhibition between 7 and 7:25 p.m., with Arkadijs Strazdins, NBCC president. Players who are not NBCC members should bring their own sets and boards, if possible. Spectators are welcome free of admission charge.

Tournament

The New Britain Chess Club's first U.S. Chess Federation (USCF)-rated tournament for the 1998-1999 season will be the New Britain city chess championship qualification tournament, which starts Sept. 22 at 7:30 p.m.

This is a single-round-robin event. It will be played in two or more sections, with eight or 10 players in each section. The top three or four players from each section will play in the finals for the 49th city championship honors in January, February and March.

For those players who don't qualify for the championship,

there will be a five-round Swiss system open reserve tournament, played concurrently with the finals. The event is open to all chess players in New Britain and NBCC members regardless of residence.

In all NBCC tournaments, the time limit is 40 moves in 90 minutes per player; then if needed, 30 minutes sudden death. USCF membership is required. This may be obtained during registration.

More information and registration can be secured from John C. Pasco, Dennis Tortora and Robert R. Kozlowski, NBCC tournament directors, Tuesday only.

National senior chess master Richard N. Bauer is the defending champion.

The NBCC meets every Tuesday night from 7 to 11:50 p.m., at the sponsoring Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St. The USCF rating system helps players evaluate their chess skills by providing them with a four-digit rating to compare with those of other players.

Simul by NM Edward F. McHugh, at the NBCC - Sept. 15, 1998
McHugh played against 15 New Britain area players. He scored:
 $+12 - 2 = 1$. *He lost to Dennis Tortora (first winner) and awarded a chess book. John C. Pasco was the 2nd winner. Arkadijs Strazdin drew. McHugh defeated: Hermann E. Zickfeldt, John A. Baslawski, Edmund V. Valauskas, Peter Aquitino, Jozef Madej, Robert R. Kozlowski, Nitin Jacob, Robert Milard, Michael L. Sheroff, Stanley J. Archacks, Joseph S. Mansigian and Gary McCabe. McHugh all games finished in about 3 hours.*



SUBURBAN LIFE

Monday, September 21, 1998

THE HERALD



ABOVE: Eddie Valauskas of Southington and Stan Archacki of Bristol are regular weekly partners at the club. BELOW: The club provides everything necessary to play including chess board, pieces and clock. RIGHT: National Master Kerry J. Leahy plays seventeen players at a simultaneous chess exhibition.



ABOVE: Stan Archacki of Bristol contemplates his next move. Stan has been an active member for 30 years. RIGHT: Randy Dzicek of New Fairfield surprises 29th term NBCC president Arkadijs Strazdins of New Britain with a good move. Strazdins won this match.



Photos by Bob Dombrowik

Chess master loses one, wins five, draws 12

NEW BRITAIN — National senior chess master Richard N. Bauer of Wolcott defeated five of 18 players during a simultaneous exhibition held Dec. 1 by the New Britain Chess Club (NBCC) at the Quartette Club, 225 Wooster St.

In an exhibition lasting more than four hours, Bauer lost one game and drew with the 12 other opponents.

He was slowed by the tough opposition and was forced to draw some games due to time constraints.

Michael L. Sheroff of Farmington was the only player to defeat Bauer.

Drawing their games were Arkadijs Strazdins, John C. Pasco, Robert R. Kozlowski, Joseph C. Mansigian and

Aquilino Pena, all of New Britain; Gary W. Caruso of Farmington, Jozef Madej of Unionville, Robert Milardo of Cromwell, Stanley J. Archacki of Bristol, Edmund V. Valauskas of Southington, Karl H. Kochman of South Windsor and Dennis Tortora of Waterbury.

Bauer allowed his opponents their choice of color and three passes.

Action Chess Quads

Prize winners of the NBCC Action Chess Quads (30-minute games) for November were Robert R. Kozlowski, Adam L. Martineau and Mark A. Wilkin.

Each was the winner in two quads, with a score of 3-0 and 3-0.

Wilkin and Karl H. Kochman tied at 2½-½ each. Edmund V.

Valauskas scored 2½-½.

In the Top 50

Arkadijs Strazdins' name appears in the U.S. Chess Federation's 1998 annual rating list, "The Nation's Top Players."

Strazdins, 75, who has won many regular and "blitz" tournaments during the last six decades, currently has 2,073 USCF rating points and is ranked 47th in the category of Top 50 U.S. Players over 65.

Christmas Open

The NBCC's annual Christmas Open Blitz (five-minute games) Tournament will be played Dec. 15 at 7:45 p.m. at the Quartette Club.

The NBCC will be closed Dec. 22 and 29 and will re-open Jan. 5 with the annual New Year's Blitz Tournament.

SM Richard N. Bauer Simul at the Chess Club.
Dec. 01, 1998. Bauer scored +5 = 12 - 1
Bauer loss to Michael L. Sheroff and drew
with Arkadijs Strazdins, Robert R. Kozlowski, Gary W. Caruso,
Dennis Tortora, John C. Pasco, Aquilino Pena, Jozef Madej,
Robert Milardo, Karl H. Kochman, Stanley J. Archacki,
Edmund V. Valauskas, and Joseph C. Mansigian.
Bauer defeated, Robert Danso, Martin Jacob,
Nathan LaCombe, Tadeusz Szafronski and Bill
Scoville. - Bauer was a little too slow.