

# THE FRAMINGHAM CHESS CLUB

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## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

March 25, 1985

Contact: Warren Pinches

(617) 353-1889

### NASSAU COUNTY TEAM WINS NEW ENGLAND AMATEUR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

The team of Konstantin Dolgitser, Joseph Felber, Harold Stenzel, and James Mennella of the Nassau County Chess Club on Long Island edged out a strong field with four match victories to win the 1985 New England Amateur Team Championship in Framingham, MA, March 23-24. The four players, who called themselves "Nation of Sentra", are frequent competitors in New England tournaments. Second place went to the red-hot "Piecehangers II" team of Sandeep Joshi, Lou Mercuri, Eric Rosen, and Becky Targonski, who were held to a tie in one match but still rolled up the biggest game-point total of the tournament. Three of their four players won or tied for board prizes. A surprising third in the tournament were the "Pawn Storm Troopers" of the host Framingham Chess Club. A dark-horse team from the Billerica Chess Club won not only the Under-1400 team prize, but the Under-1650 and Under-1900 categories as well, with the Nashoba Chess Club "B" team taking the second-place Under-1900 honors.

Individually, Sandeep Joshi scored the best Board One result, with a 4-0 romp over players of the caliber of Martin Kreuzer, Rick Swift, John Loyte, and Peter Sakkinen. Tying for the best Board Two total at 3-1 were Hal Terrie, Lou Mercuri, and Paul Heising, with the plaque going to Terrie on tiebreak. Two Board Three players rolled up 4-0 scores, Eric Rosen and Harold Stenzel; Rosen got the prize on tiebreak but Stenzel had the satisfaction of carrying his team to overall victory. Keith Barbera took the Board Four prize with a perfect score, while Jim Sfougaris was top Alternate.

All the top-rated teams won in the first round, but after round two it was second-seeded "Nation of Sentra" in sole possession of the lead, after Brandeis vs. "Piecehangers II" and Nashua Chess Club vs. Sven Brask Chess Club resulted in 2-2 ties. After the third round, in which "Sentra" downed top-seeded Nashua, "Piecehangers" defeated Sven Brask, and Brandeis crushed "Minority Attack", it was "Sentra" 3, and "Piecehangers" and Brandeis 2½. Brandeis couldn't stop "Sentra" from clinching first in the final round, and "Piecehangers", despite a victory over Nashoba "A", were out of range to catch them and had to settle for second.

The "Nation of Sentra" won their matches very economically, scoring only ½ game point more than was absolutely necessary. Indeed, they only placed fourth in total game points, but were the only team to have won every match. Their name derived from a trip to the US Amateur Team Tournament in February, when they joked that their team was stronger than some nations' entries into the just-completed Olympiad. They were driving in a Nissan Sentra, hence they dubbed themselves the "Nation of Sentra".

At the start of the tournament many teams regarded fourth-seeded "Piecehangers II" as the team to watch, and indeed they were the event's toughest competitors, coming first in game points but just missing first overall because of a tie match with Brandeis in round two. Unfortunately for their comeback chances, color-equalization prevented them from getting a shot at "Sentra" in the final round, and so had to content themselves

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with second, though Joshi and Rosen also collected best individual result prizes. Incidentally, "Piecehangers I" was their entry into the US Amateur Team.

The "Pawn Storm Troopers" of the Framingham Chess Club were the surprise of the later rounds. They played a classic Swiss gambit: they were destroyed 0-4 in the first round by top-seeded Nashua, but came back to win 11 of their last 12 games to take clear third. Their final round win, a 4-0 sweep over the Sven Brask club, was especially sweet revenge, as the Sven Brask club has trounced the Framingham club in a home-and-home match a year ago. (The two will meet again later this year.) It also made the "Pawn Storm Troopers" the only team to win two shutout matches--and lose a third. Individually, Paul Heising tied for the best result on Board Two. The team's name derived from the magazine, "Pawn Storm", published by the Framingham club in 1983-84.

The top-seeded Nashua Chess Club had a frustrating weekend. Easily top-rated with three masters and a high expert (James Bovay on Board Three is New Hampshire champion) they were held to a tie by Sven Brask in round two and then lost to "Sentra" by a single point in round three. Hal Terrie won the Board Two prize, but the team itself had to settle for fourth place.

Brandeis University fielded the most international team, with German master Martin Kreuzer on Board One and Italian Andrea Mori on Board Four. They were half a match point off the pace going into the final round, but lost their bid for first overall, going 1-3 against "Nation of Sentra".

The Nashoba Chess Club (Westford MA) "A" team was the most evenly balanced in the field, with only 118 rating points separating their first and fourth boards. Their tough schedule included losses to the first- and second-finishing teams, "Sentra" and "Piecehangers", which left them with a 2-2 match score. Their bright spot was Keith Barbera's 4-0 score, which captured the Board Four prize. Precise enunciation was necessary throughout the weekend, with two Nashoba teams, one from Nashua, and one ("Sentra") from Nassau County.

The Billerica team, rated next-to-last at 1384, surprised their rivals by taking the first Under-1900 team prize; their key was a second-round upset of the Brockton team, rated almost 400 points above them. The Nashoba "B" team finished only  $\frac{1}{2}$  game point behind Billerica in the race for the Under-1900 prize. After being edged out by Brandeis in round one, Brockton's chances for a high place were dashed by their loss to Billerica in round two.

The Sven Brask Chess Club (No. Attleboro MA) was one of the hottest teams in the tournament on Saturday, beating Billerica and tying top-seeded Nashua. However, this gave them two tough pairings on Sunday, and their 1-7 result in the last two rounds dropped them down the crosstable. Altogether, they had to play the second, third, fourth, and seventh place finishers.

"Wild Boys", a group loosely associated with Boston College and the Framingham Chess Club, struggled in the early rounds and had their best moments in a final-round tie with Brockton. By contrast, "The Minority Attack" started spectacularly on Saturday, losing to "Nation of Sentra" by only a single point, and scoring 4-0 in round two. However, as with Sven Brask, this guaranteed tough pairings in the final rounds. Ultimately "Minority Attack" had to play the three highest-rated teams in the tournament--a situation that sparked a vigorous protest in the final round. The team was supposed to be made up of "minorities" (Blacks, women, and disabled) though this concept had to be somewhat diluted when Brian Warnock was substituted for Glenn Loury on Board One at the last minute. Finally, the Providence Post Office was heavily outgunned by the strong field, but what they lacked in scoring they made up for in attire, being the best-dressed team in matching US Postal Service sweatshirts.

Warren Pinches directed for the sponsoring Framingham Chess Club. The organizers were gratified by the high caliber of the teams, and are confident that this tournament will gain an increasing following in future years to become a New England tradition.

1985 NEW ENGLAND AMATEUR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP, MARCH 23-23, 1985, FRAMINGHAM

Team Records

(Match score in parentheses)							
	Rating	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Match Points	Game Points
1 Nation of Sentra	2179	W12 (2½)	W6 (2½)	W4 (2½)	W5 (3)	4	10½
2 Piecehangers II	2110	W8 (4)	D5 (2)	W10 (3)	W6 (3)	3½	12
3 Pawn Storm Troopers	1935	L4 (0)	W11 (4)	W8 (3)	W10 (4)	3	11
4 Nashua Chess Club	2195	W3 (4)	D10 (2)	L1 (1½)	W12 (3½)	2½	11
5 Brandeis University	2155	W9 (2½)	D2 (2)	W12 (2½)	L1 (1)	2½	9
6 Nashoba Chess Club "A"	2034	W11 (3)	L1 (1½)	W7 (3)	L2 (1)	2	8½
7 Billerica Chess Club	1384	L10 (1)	W9 (2½)	L6 (1)	Bye	2	6½
8 Nashoba Chess Club "B"	1706	L2 (0)	Bye	L3 (1)	W13 (3)	2	6
9 Brockton Chess Club	1758	L5 (1½)	L7 (1½)	W13 (3½)	D11 (2)	1½	8½
10 Sven Brask Chess Club	2010	W7 (3)	D4 (2)	L2 (1)	L3 (0)	1½	6
11 Wild Boys	1705	L6 (1)	L3 (0)	Bye	D9 (2)	1½	5
12 The Minority Attack	1843	L1 (1½)	W13 (4)	L5 (½)	L4 (½)	1	6½
13 Providence Post Office	1360	Bye	L12 (0)	L9 (½)	L8 (1)	1	3½

Note on byes: each team bye counts as a full match point and two game points; i.e., teams get a full-point bye but the individual players get half-point byes.

Player Records

		Rating	Board	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Score	
NATION OF SENTRA									
1	Konstantin Dolgitser	Forest Hills NY	2332	1	L48	W22	D13	D18	2
2	Joseph Felber	Amityville NY	2172	2	D49	D23	L14	W19	2
3	Harold Stenzel	New Hyde Park NY	2123	3	W50	W24	W15	W20	4
4	James Mennella	Brooklyn NY	2090	4	W51	L25	W17	D21	2½
PIECEHANGERS II									
5	Sandeep Joshi	Dedham	2384	1	W30	W18	W39	W22	4
6	Lou Mercuri	Weston	2258	2	W32	L19	W40	W23	3
7	Eric Rosen	Sudbury	2017	3	W33	W20	W42	W24	4
8	Rebecca Targonski	Woburn	1780	4	W34	L21	L43	L25	1
PAWN STORM TROOPERS									
9	Jack Young	Marlboro	2102	1	L13	W44	W31	W39	3
10	Paul Heising	Ashland	1957	2	L14	W45	W32	W40	3
11	Tom Zuppa	Watertown	1867	3	L15	W46	L33	W41	2
12	Joe Pineau	Natick	UNR	4	L16	W47	W34	W42	3
NASHUA CHESS CLUB									
13	Gary Nute	Nashua NH	2223	1	W9	W39	D1	D48	3
14	Henry Terrie III	Manchester NH	2210	2	W10	L40	W2	WF	3
15	James Bovay	Nashua NH	2204	3	W11	W41	L3	W50	3
16	Richard Grauslys	Hudson NH	2146	4	W12	L42	---	---	1
17	William Boucher	Nashua NH	1807	Alt	---	---	L4	W51	1
BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY									
18	Martin Kreuzer	Waltham	2271	1	D35	L5	W48	D1	2
19	Peter Howe	Waltham	2144	2	L36	W6	W49	L2	2
20	Joe Shipman	Waltham	2128	3	W37	L7	W50	L3	2
21	Andrea Mori	Waltham	UNR	4	W38	W8	D51	D4	3

			Rating	Board	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Score
NASHOBA CHESS CLUB "A"									
22	Rick Swift	Acton	2087	1	L44	L1	D26	L5	1½
23	Allan Bennett	Chelmsford	2056	2	W45	D2	W27	L6	2½
24	Roger Cappallo	Groton	2028	3	W46	L3	D28	L7	1½
25	Keith Barbera	No. Andover	1968	4	W47	W4	W29	W8	4
BILLERICA CHESS CLUB									
26	Peter Maruhnic	Billerica	1548	1	L39	D35	D22	Bye	1½
27	Woody Wink	Billerica	1357	2	L40	W36	L23	Bye	1½
28	Robert Way	Billerica	1335	3	L42	L37	D24	Bye	1
29	John Burke Sr.	No. Billerica	1295	4	W43	W38	L25	Bye	2½
NASHOBA CHESS CLUB "B"									
30	John Loyte	Maynard	1980	1	L5	Bye	---	---	½
31	Andrew Tannenbaum	Westford	1668	2	---	---	L9	W52	1
32	Fred Irons	Westford	1635	3	L6	Bye	L10	L53	½
33	Lawrence Charpentier	Chelmsford	1539	4	L7	Bye	W11	W54	2½
34	John Green Jr.	Acton	1506	Alt	L8	Bye	L12	WF	1½
BROCKTON CHESS CLUB									
35	Larry Schmitt	Milton	2068	1	D18	D26	W52	W44	3
36	Ranbir Singh	Brockton	1802	2	W19	L27	D53	W45	2½
37	Rich Fontana	Brockton	1605	3	L20	W28	W55	L46	2
38	Richard DeCoste	East Bridgewater	UNR	4	L21	L29	WF	L49	1
SVEN BRASK CHESS CLUB									
39	Peter Sakkinen	Cumberland RI	2135	1	W26	L13	L5	L9	1
40	Bruce Downing	Foxboro	2103	2	W27	W14	L6	L10	2
41	Charles Caranci	No. Attleboro	1914	3	---	L15	---	L11	0
42	Ken Wheeler	Marshfield	1889	4	W28	W16	L7	L12	2
43	Jim Sfougaris	Canton	1732	Alt	L29	---	W8	---	1
WILD BOYS									
44	Troy Franklin	Allston	1965	1	W22	L9	Bye	L35	1½
45	Alejandro Beltran	Wayland	1642	2	L23	L10	Bye	L36	½
46	Edward Feldman	Brooklyn NY	1633	3	L24	L11	Bye	W37	1½
47	Jose Gomez	Brighton	UNR	4	L25	L12	Bye	W38	1½
THE MINORITY ATTACK									
48	Brian Warnock	Middleton NH	2221	1	W1	W52	L18	D13	2½
49	Frank Niro	No. Billerica	1828	2	D2	W53	L19	---	1½
50	Cristy Barsky	Somerville	1662	3	L3	W54	L20	L15	1
51	Linda Loury	Cambridge	1661	4	L4	W55	D21	L17	1½
THE PROVIDENCE POST OFFICE									
52	William Cloos Jr.	Attleboro	1538	1	Bye	L48	L35	L31	½
53	Robert Salvas	Lincoln RI	1492	2	Bye	L49	D36	W32	2
54	David Thomas	Smithfield RI	1283	3	Bye	L50	---	---	½
55	Gerald Vaccaro	Coventry RI	1130	4	Bye	L51	L37	L33	½

First Place Team: Nation of Sentra  
 Second Place Team: Piecehangers II  
 First Under 1900 Team: Billerica Chess Club  
 Second Under 1900 Team: Nashoba Chess Club "B"

Best Individual Result, First Board: Sandeep Joshi  
 Best Individual Result, Second Board: Henry Terrie III  
 Best Individual Result, Third Board: Eric Rosen  
 Best Individual Result, Fourth Board: Keith Barbera  
 Best Alternate Result: Jim Sfougaris