THE FRAMINGHAM CHESS CLUB

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PRESS RELEASE

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Ivanov and Gurevich Tie in West Suburban Winter Grand Prix

IM Alexander Ivanov or Brookline and FM Ilya Gurevich of Worcester scored 3.5-0.5 to share first in the 6th annual West Suburban Winter Grand Prix in Framingham, on January 28-29. The two players, who are also the reigning Massachusetts co-champions, pulled ahead of the field after three rounds and drew peacefully in the final round to clinch shares of first.

Sharing third in the Open section with 3-1 were John Curdo of Chelmsford, FM Charles Hertan of Cambridge, Michael Merrill Hart of Stow, and Scott Didham of Quincy. Didham also won top Under-2200. Curdo lost to Gurevich while Hertan lost to Ivanov; Didham upset Hart in the first round but later lost to Murray Turnbull of Cambridge.

Among the top seeds, Turnbull and Soviet emigre Leonid Sorits of Brighton had the worst weekends; Turnbull lost to Hart and John Chamberlain of Wellesley, while Sorits was downed by Ivanov and Richard Rush of Newport RI. Hart celebrated his 100th tournament by not only finishing among the prizewinners, but by winning exactly \$100.

Ilya Figelman of Swampscott and Darrell Salisbury of Derry NH scored 3.5-0.5 to share first in the Under 2000 section. Salisbury was the clear leader after three rounds but drew in the final round, while Figelman beat Don Woods of Jamaica Plain to tie for first. Sharing third at 3-1 were Don McMahon of Otis AFB, Jim Fried of Northampton, Leo Bonnell of Natick, and Nolan Denson of Portsmouth NH.

Three players tied atop the Under 1750 section: Slawomir Luczak of Worcester, John Boles of West Dover VT, and Steven McDaniel of Worcester each scored 3.5-0.5 to share first through third prizes.

In the Under 1500 section, E. Malcolm Cohen of New York City

compiled the tournament's only perfect score to take clear first with 4-0. Undivided second went to unrated Sven Rose of Boston with 3.5-0.5, while five players shared third at 3-1: Richard Gassler of Watertown, Federico Alanis of Boston, Craig Lovell of Sudbury, Peter Sjolund of Sudbury, and Paul Weitz of Medford.

The tournament, which featured a guaranteed prize fund of \$2165, was held at the Boston West Hotel in Framingham. Mark Steinberg was the chief organizer for the sponsoring Framingham Chess Club. Jack Martin directed, assisted by Brad Merrill and Dave Berube.