

THE FRAMINGHAM CHESS CLUB

A USCF AND MACA AFFILIATE

PRESS RELEASE

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RIZZITANO, CURDO, AND GUREVICH TIE IN FRAMINGHAM; GUREVICH TO BECOME 2ND YOUNGEST US MASTER EVER

The West Suburban Summer Grand Prix Chess Tournament in Framingham, June 2-3, ended with top-seeded Jim Rizzitano of Needham, John Curdo of North Billerica, and 12-year old Worcester prodigy Ilya Gurevich sharing first place in the Championship section with 3-1 scores. 15-time Massachusetts champion Curdo led the field going into the final round, having defeated Bruce Downing of Foxboro and Experts Alan Schalk of Somersworth NH and Alex Cherniack of Lincoln. However, last year's Massachusetts co-champion Rizzitano recovered from his upset loss to Cherniack in Round 2 to down Curdo in the final round to pull into a tie for first.

Ilya Gurevich, in his best tournament performance to date, lost to Rizzitano in Round 1 but stunned Weston Master Lou Mercuri in Round 2 with a prepared opening trap in the Schliemann Ruy Lopez, then downed visiting Dutch player Renier Barendrengt in Round 3, and crushed Cherniack in the final round with a brilliant kingside attack. Gurevich's performance will almost certainly push his US Chess Federation rating over 2200, making him second only to Stuart Rachels as the youngest official National Master in US history.

Downing, though the lowest rated player in the Championship section at 1946, took clear fourth place with 2 1/2-1 1/2, followed by Schalk and Cherniack at 2-2. Cherniack began spectacularly, defeating Belmont Master Joe Fang and Rizzitano in the first two rounds, before succumbing to Curdo and Gurevich on the second day.

In the four divisions below the Championship section, Drew Sarkisian of Oxford and Mark Fins of Newton tied for first in the Premier (under 2100) section with 3-1 scores, while Greg Kaden of Weston took sole first in the Classic (under 1850) section with 3 1/2-1/2, a half point ahead of Kenney Wright of Wayland and Hamid Dabiri of Belmont. The Amateur (under 1600) section was dominated by Sky Siewerski of Sarasota, Florida, an unrated player playing in only his second tournament. Siewerski, who won the unrated prize in the US Amateur Championship in Somerset, NJ the previous weekend, defeated each of the four top-seeded players in his section to post a 4-0 score. W. Sydney Michael of Natick took clear second place with 3-1.

Unrated Jim Ferretti of Braintree convincingly won the Novice (under 1350) section, also defeating each of the four top seeds in his section, with four players sharing second at 3-1: Arthur Hedge of Boston, Slawomir Luczak of Worcester, Herb Weisberg of Natick, and Steven Whelton of Quincy.

NORFOLK-MIDDLESEX CHESS ASSOCIATION

The turnout of 57 players from five states, though somewhat disappointing to the organizers, was not unexpected in light of the lowered attendance at many regional tournaments in recent months. Warren Pinches directed for the sponsoring Framingham Chess Club, assisted by Tom Zuppa. The Framingham Chess Club's next Grand Prix-level tournament will be the Framingham Open on September 28-29.

cc: Aivars Trusis/Chess Horizons
Stephen Dann/Chess Horizons--Worcester Telegam
George Mirijanian/Chess Horizons--Fitchburg Sentinel
John Curdo/Chess Horizons--Boston Globe
Harold Dondis/Boston Globe
Orlando Lester/Boston Herald
Tom Zuppa/Middlesex News
Quincy Patriot-Ledger
Chess Life

GAMES FROM THE WEST SUBURBAN SUMMER GRAND PRIX

Alex Cherniack vs. John Curdo, Round 3--Dutch Defense

1 d4 f5 2 g4 fxg4 3 e4 d5 4 e5 Nc6 5 h3 gxf3 6 Nxh3 Bf5 7 Nf4 Qd7 8 c3 e6 9 Be6 Nh6 10
Be2 Nf7 11 Nd2 g6 12 Nf1 0-0-0 13 Ng3 Ne7 14 Qb3 Kb8 15 Rd1 c6 16 c4 dxc4 17 Bxc4 Nd5
18 Nxf5 gxf5 19 Nxd5 cxd5 20 Be2 Be7 21 Rh5 Rc8 22 Bd3 Qe8 23 Bb5 Qd8 24 Ke2 h6 25 Ba6
Rc7 26 Bd2 Ka8 27 Bd3 Qg8 28 Rdh1 Qg4+ 29 Kf1 Qxd4 30 Be3 Qg4 31 Be2 Qb4 32 Qxb4 Bxb4
33 Bxh6 Nxh6 34 Rxh6 Rcl+ 35 Kg2 Rxh1 36 Rxh1 Rxh1 37 Kxh1 Kb8 38 Kg2 Bd2 39 Kg3 Be1
40 Bb5 Kc7 41 Kf3 Bd2 42 Be8 Bcl 43 b3 Bb2 44 Kf4 a6 45 a4 Bd4 46 f3 Kd8 47 Bh5 Ke7
48 Bg6 Bc3 49 Bh5 a5 50 Bg6 Kd7 51 Bf7 d4 52 Kg5 d3 53 f4 Ke7 54 Bh5 Bd2 55 Bd1 Be3 56
Bf3 d2 57 Bh5 Kd7 58 Bf3 b6 59 Bd1 Kc6 60 Bf3+ Kc5 61 Kf6 Bxf4 62 Kxe6 Kd4 63 Kxf5 Bxe5
64 Bd1 Bd6 0-1

John Curdo vs. Jim Rizzitano, Round 4--Modern Defense

1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 Nc3 c5 4 dxc5 Qa5 5 Bd2 Qxc5 6 Nd5 b6 7 Bb4 Qc6 8 Bb5 Qb7 9 Bc3 Bxc3+
10 Nxc3 Nf6 11 Qe2 0-0 12 Nf3 d6 13 0-0-0 a6 14 Bc4 b5 15 Bd5 Nc6 16 Bxc6 Qxc6 17 Nd5
Nxd5 18 exd5 Qc7 19 Rd4 Bf5 20 g4 e5 21 dxe6ep Bxe6 22 Rhd1 Bxa2 23 Rxd6 Rfe8 24 Qd2 Rac8
25 Ne1 Bc4 26 Qc3 Qa7 27 Qf6 Be6 28 h3 Qc7 29 Kbl Qa5 30 Nd3 Qa2+ 31 Kcl Qa4 32 Ne1 Qal+
33 Kd2 Qa5+ 34 Kcl b4 35 Nd3 Qa4 36 Ne1 b3 37 Rld3 bxc2 38 Ra3 Qb4 39 Qe5 Bxg4 40 Nd3
Rxe5 0-1

Ilya Gurevich vs. Alex Cherniack, Round 4--Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0 Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 h6 10
d4 Re8 11 Nd2 Bf8 12 Nf1 Bb7 13 Ng3 Na5 14 Bc2 c5 15 d5 g6 16 b3 Bg7 17 Be3 Bc8 18 Qd2
Kh7 19 Kh2 Bd7 20 Ne2 Rf8 21 Rg1 Ng8 22 g4 c4 23 b4 Nb7 24 Ng3 a5 25 a3 Qc7 26 g5 h5
27 Qe2 Ne7 28 Nh4 Rh8 29 Nh5 Nc8 30 Nxh5 gxf5 31 g6 Kg8 32 gxf7 Kf8 33 Nxf7 axb4 34
cxb4 Nd8 35 Qf3 Ne7 36 Qf6 1-0