

2004

Hello again fellow members:

On behalf of President Joe Mansigian, Treasurer Andris Strazdins, and Secretary Carl Heineman, I would like to express my deepest thanks and appreciation for all the members who attended Mr. Strazdins ceremonial party last Tuesday in commemoration for his 50 years of service in promoting chess in Connecticut. About half or 35 of our members were present. If you want to see digital photos taken from this special event, please visit www.nbcc.cjb.net

There was plenty of food and drinks served and we all had a wonderful time. Mr. Strazdins enjoyed this party and especially the beautifully engraved plaque he received that night presented by President Mansigian.

A few side notes

Results of FM Bauer exhibition:

One winner only (Jeff - do not remember his last name at the moment since Jeff is not a club member).

Arkadijs Strazdins, Andris Strazdins, Chris Jensen, Dennis Himes, and Bob Kozlowski earned draws.

18 players participated in this event which last about 5 hours.

Results of match with Springfield

10 games were played. Final score - New Britain 9, Springfield 1.

Again, Seasons Greetings and Happy New Year. Membership is now at 69.

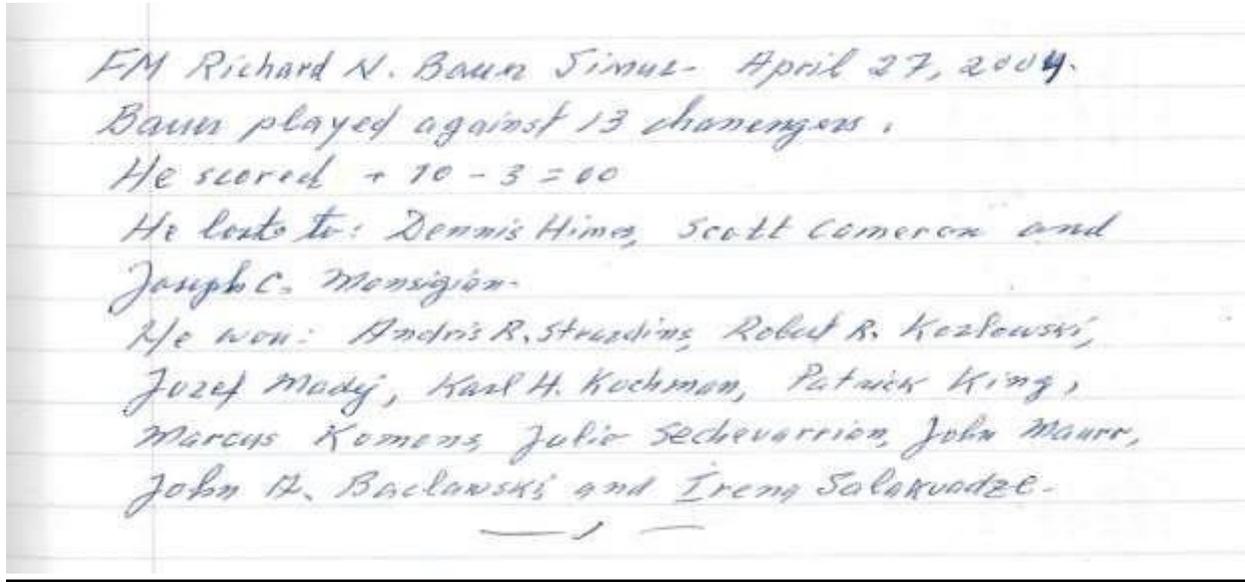
Yours in chess,

JAN - 2004

Bob

2004 New Britain City Chess Championship *Finals*

The tournament was won by **Sarathi Ray** of Newington with a score of 8/9. In second place was **Joe Bihlmeyer** of Southington at 6.5/9, and tied for third with 5/9 were **Mark Bourque** of Stafford Springs, **John Baclawski** of New Britain, and **Joe Mansigian** of New Britain.



The results are in for the **2004 (54th Annual) New Britain Chess Club Championship**. The winner and crowned the 2004 NBCC Champion is FIDE Master Nelson Castaneda who scored 4½-½ on his way to claiming 1st place. Nelson was awarded \$100. It should also be mentioned that Nelson is currently playing in a tournament in Vermont and according to his son Andres, Nelson has an opportunity to obtain, from this event, his third and final IM NORM! We wish him the best in obtaining the title of International Master.

Commanding a solid second place in the club championship with an outstanding performance was Andres Castaneda who scored 4-1. He was awarded \$70 last Tuesday night for his place prize. In addition, Andres won the BIGGEST UPSET prize (\$15) for his victory against Mark Bourque in Round 4. The rating differential between Castaneda and Bourque at the time of the match was 317 points!

Tied for 3rd place and TOP Class A prizes were the following players: Bill Grzesiak, David Aldi, and Joe Bihlmeyer. They each earned 3½ points and were presented with \$25.

Tony Diaz and Karl Kochman both tied for the TOP Class B prize with each scoring 3-2 and winning \$25.

Claiming the class C prize solo was Bill Dworski. Dworski won \$25 and scored 3-2.

Bob Kozlowski

Subject : Mark Wilkin, Tony Diaz crowned Summer Open co-champions!!!

07/22/2004

Greetings fellow members:

Listed below are the final results of the 39th ANNUAL NEW BRITAIN SUMMER OPEN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP.

Tied for 1st and 2nd place are Mark Wilkin and Tony Diaz who won equal shares of 1st (\$100) and 2nd (\$80) place prizes – equaling \$90 each). They each scored 4.5 points on their way to victory. Congratulations to co-champions Mark and Tony!! (see note below on prize allocation).

Not far behind and tied for third place (\$60) and TOP Class A (\$30) prizes were David Aldi and Joe Bihlmeyer. They each won \$45 and won 4 games. (see note below on prize allocation).

There was a three way tie for the TOP Class B prize. Marcus Komons, Chris Jensen, and Owen Walsh each scored 3-2 and won equal shares of both TOP Class B and Second TOP Class B prizes (\$30+\$30) arriving at \$20 for each prize winner.

Finally, winning the class C prize solo was Yogesh Raghunathan. He scored 3 points and won \$30. He will be awarded the "Biggest Upset" prize for his victory against Ron Bourassa in Round 4, a rating difference of 312 points!

All prize money WILL BE AWARDED NEXT TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, the same night that FIDE Master Nelson Castaneda is scheduled to give a simultaneous exhibition. The entry fee is \$4, \$1 discount for students and seniors over 65.

Again, congratulations to all prize winners and thanks to all 29 players partaking in this annual summer event.

Quick reminder from Andris Strazdins, Treasurer → he wanted me to remind members that **club dues must be paid by September 1**. So if you have not paid yet, please do so within the next month. Thanks.

A side note regarding prize distribution

It should be noted that prizes for TOP Class A (\$30) and TOP Class B (\$30) were not included in the pool when allocating the prizes for Diaz (a Class B player) and Wilkin (a Class A player) because per USCF rule 32B3 "No more than one cash prize shall go into the pool for each winner." In this scenario, both Diaz and Wilkin (2 players) were tied for more than 2 prizes (in essence, 4 prizes) 1st place, 2nd place, Top Class A and Top Class B and not eligible for the class prizes. Therefore, only equal shares of 1st and 2nd place prizes were granted to Diaz and Wilkin. Whereas, in the scenario with Aldi and Bihlmeyer (2 players), they were tied for only 2 prizes – 3rd place (\$60) and TOP Class A (\$30). Both place and class prizes were pooled and allocated accordingly, with each winner receiving \$45. I hope this clarifies any confusion.

SIMUL by FM Nelson Castaneda
at the NBCC, August 02, 2004,-
Nelson; +15-2 = 4

He lost to:

1st. Jozef Madej and 2nd. Richard Kumik.

He drew with: Andros Castaneda, Dennis Himes, David
Aldi and Marcus Komons.

He won:

Andris R. Strazdins, Scott Cameron, Yogesh Raghunathan,
Robert R. Kozlowski, Carl M. Heineman, Hermann E.
Zickfeld, Jeffrey Ogren, Derek Meredith, Nickolas
Meredith, Owen Walsh, Irene Salukusdze, Christian
Jensen, Raymond Walsh, Mark Wilkin, Joseph C.
Mansignon. Take Castaneda to finish all games
about 4 hours.-



5th Place, Michael Casella
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Former New Britain
Chess Club member

Simul by NM Harris B. Appelman

Sept. 14, 2004

Appelman scored: $+13 = 2 - 4$

19 players competed.

He lost to:

Paul Cobel, John H. Baclowski, Anthony Jisz and Joseph Bicklmayer.

He drew with: Denis Himes and Andreas Castaneda.

He won: Hermann E. Zickfeld, Richard Pizzoni, David Aldi, Karl H. Kochman, Robert R. Kozlowski, Jozef Mady, Andis R. Strazdins, Marcus Komons, Irene Salukvedze, Joseph C. Mansigian, Kevin Zimmerman, Sofiya Leji and Danny Elkajam.

Appelman finished all games in about 4 hours.

Hello fellow members:

The 2004 New Britain City Chess Championship Qualifying tournament is over and the results are in. The 12 players qualified to compete in the New Britain City Finals event starting in late January are:

From Section A: Bill Grzesiak (6.5), Andres Castaneda (6.5), and Jozef Madej (5)

From Section B: Joe Bihlmeyer (6 - won all games!), John Baclawski (3.5), and Marcus Komons (2.5)

From Section C: David Aldi (5), John Mauro (5), and Daniel Rozosky (5)

From Section D: Douglas Fiske (6 - won all games!), Dennis Himes (5), and Tony Diaz (4)

Special mention: Unfortunately, John Chapman, who automatically qualified from Section B winning 4 games, is unable to play in the Finals. As such, the next highest scorer, Marcus Komons will advance.

Players not qualifying will automatically be registered to play in the City Reserve tournament held concurrently with the Finals. Remember: there is no additional entry fee for either the Finals or Reserve tournaments!

Even though monetary prizes are not awarded for the qualifying event, we usually award a prize for the biggest upset (300 or greater rating points) if such an upset occurs. This prize goes to Daniel Rozosky (USCF rating 1407) who claimed victory against one of the club's strongest players, David Aldi (USCF rating 1916). The point difference, albeit very large, is surprisingly not a club record for the biggest upset, which if my memory serves me correct, was over 800 in a match against George Himes and a Class C or B player a few years ago. For Daniel's upset, he will receive \$15. On a side note, Daniel, our newest and now youngest club member being only 8 years old, is quite the chess prodigy. **Per the October 2004 rating supplemental listing, Daniel is ranked seventh for his age group in the United States, an amazing achievement.**

Players having any advance questions regarding the City Finals or Reserve tournaments, please contact David Aldi. In my absence, David has graciously agreed to assume the role of chief tournament director for both events. David's e-mail is dja21857@yahoo.com

This tournament was indeed a success and I am very thankful to Carl Heineman for acting as assistance director. I furthermore want to extend a special thanks to all 30 players participating in this annual event. Your participation demonstrates your support for the club and U.S. chess! Way to go!!

Yours in chess,

Bob

Robert R. Kozlowski

M Subject : NB Christmas Blitz tournament to be held this week

The annual NB Christmas Open Blitz Tournament has been rescheduled to this Tuesday, December 14.

The Christmas Blitz event will start around 7:30, no later than 7:45. The entry fee will be \$3 per person regardless of age. The time control is again G/5, with a 2 second time delay for those players using digital clocks.

The prize award allocation is as follows:

1st: 30%
2nd: 25%
3rd: 15%
4th: 10%

TOP U2000: 10%

The remaining 10% will go to the club.

Subject : nbcc@nbcc.com
2004 CT STATE OPEN BLITZ CHAMPIONSHIP - 12/19/04
AT NBCC

ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, THE NBCC WILL HOST THE 2004 CONNECTICUT STATE OPEN BLITZ CHAMPIONSHIP. THE EVENT IS BEING CO-SPONSORED WITH THE CONNECTICUT STATE CHESS ASSOCIATION. PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED TO THE NBCC BY CSCA PRESIDENT JIM CELONE TO HOST THIS EVENT.

THE ENTRY FEE FOR THIS STATE TOURNAMENT IS \$15 REGARDLESS OF AGE!

THE FORMAT OF THE TOURNAMENT WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

THE TIME CONTROL IS G/5.

IF THERE ARE 12 OR FEWER PLAYERS IN THIS EVENT, THE FORMAT WILL BE A DOUBLE ROUND ROBIN WITH PARTICIPANTS PLAYING EACH OPPONENT ONCE AS WHITE AND ONCE AS BLACK.

IF THERE ARE MORE THAN 12 PLAYERS IN THIS EVENT, THE FORMAT WILL BE A SINGLE ROBIN ROBIN. COLORS WILL BE DETERMINED BY LOT (E.G. BY FLIPPING A COIN).

ALL RULES RELATING TO BLITZ PLAY MUST BE FOLLOWED, SPECIFICALLY THE TOUCH-MOVE RULE (NOT TOUCH-CLOCK!!). ALL OTHER RULES DICTATING BLITZ PLAY WILL BE ENFORCED PER THE USCF OFFICIAL RULES OF CHESS, 5TH EDITION.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP IS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE PROMPTLY AT 7:45 TO ACCOMMODATE ALL PLAYERS. PLEASE TRY TO ARRIVE AND REGISTER EARLY. SINCE THIS IS A ONE NIGHT EVENT, THERE IS NO NEED FOR ADVANCE ENTRIES.

IF THERE ARE ANY OTHER QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR CONCERNS, PLEASE E-MAIL ME.
THANK YOU.

The 2004 Connecticut State Open Blitz Championship was held last night at the NBCC. The event attracted 15 players, all Connecticut residents. The championship started around 7:00.

Winning all his games and claiming first place was NM Ted McHugh. He won \$68! Congratulations, Teddy!

Coming in second was NM Harris Appelman, winning \$45.

Taking third place was FM Rick Bauer, who won \$34.

The prize for TOP U2000 was a very close race between Joe Bihmeyer and Andres Castaneda, but in the end, Joe Bihmeyer edged over Castaneda by only one-half point (9.5 vs. 9). Bihmeyer received \$34.

The remaining money was equally distributed between the CSCA and the NBCC, the event co-sponsors.

Thanks to all whom participated and very special thanks to CSCA President Jim Celone for allowing our club to host this event again this year and to Rick Bauer, CSCA secretary, for arranging this tournament to be held at the club.

Mr. Strazdins is still recovering at home from his foot surgery he underwent in September. Unfortunately, due to his limited mobility, he is unable to attend club meetings. Everyone wishes Mr. Strazdins a happy holiday season and happy New Year. Mr. Strazdins is expected to be back at the club very soon, perhaps as early as the middle of January and is planning on playing in the NB City Reserve tournament. Best wishes for a speedy recover Mr. Strazdins and Merry Christmas from everyone at the club.

IN MEMORY OF ARKADIJS STRAZDINS



THE NBCC HISTORICAL ALBUM WAS CREATED IN MEMORY OF ARKADIJS STRAZDINS, NBCC LEGEND.

On December 3, 1997, the Connecticut chess community held a banquet for Mr. Strazdins to recognize him for his many decades of service. He was also presented with a marble chess board and clock. Mr. Strazdins passed away on April 9, 2007, after a long battle with heart failure.

This photo was copied with permission from Rob Roy, editor of Connecticut Chess magazine.

NBCC HISTORIAN'S MESSAGE

THANK YOU, MR. STRAZDINS, FOR YOUR STEADFAST, TIRELESS SERVICE AND DEVOTION TO THE NBCC AND CONNECTICUT CHESS FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS. YOU HAVE ENRICHED THE LIVES OF OUR MEMBERS AND CHESS PLAYERS THROUGHOUT THE NORTHEAST, AND IT WAS TRULY A PRIVILEGE AND A BLESSING TO HAVE KNOWN YOU. YOU WERE A CARING AND COMPASSIONATE MAN AND TREATED EVERYONE WITH THE UTMOST DIGNITY AND RESPECT.

MAY YOU REST IN ETERNAL PEACE IN HEAVEN, AND MAY YOUR LEGACY TO CHESS NEVER BE FORGOTTEN.

YOUR FRIEND IN CHESS,

ROBERT CYR – FORMERLY KNOWN AS ROBERT KOZLOWSKI