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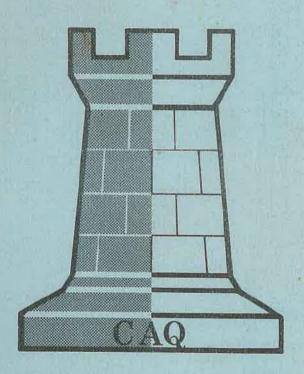
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Queensland Chess News



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The Editor C.A.Q. Mag., 27 Markwell St., Auchenflower, Brisbane. 4066.

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1981 Queensland Championships Loveiov Wins!

In a year of shock results in Queensland chess, Brisbane's David Lovejoy caused another major surprise when he scored a crushing victory in the 1981 State Championship. David, who gained selection for the event by winning the Qualifying Tournament, took an iron grip on the championship in the early rounds when he defeated former champions Tony Truscott and John Myers, and never really looked like being beaten.

Unfortunately many of Queensland's leading players declined the invitation to play, notably 1980 champion Colin Morris, 1980 runner-up Alain Pardoen, (both overseas), several leading northern players, and Juan Kloostra, who chose to be D.O.P. instead. The tourney received another setback when City of Brisbane champion, Bob Howard withdrew following a first round loss to Bruce Holliday. Thus, all players received a bye and one point *gratis*, except of course for the unlucky Holliday who had been forced to battle hard for his point.

With Lovejoy streaking ahead, a dog-eat-dog battle developed behind him, with Myers, Truscott and veteran Mike Kuszelansky in hot pursuit. The remarkable Kuszelansky, who played in his first Queensland Championship way back in 1951 played an amazing tourney, extricating himself from some precarious positions, not least against the luckless Leo Wilkinson, who fell foul of a diabolical Kuz swindle when two pawns up. Kuszelansky eventually crept into second place, and along with Lovejoy, remained undefeated throughout the tournament.

In third place was John Myers, who played a steady if somewhat uninspired tourney and never reached the form that saw him blitz the North Queensland and Ipswich titles earlier in the year. Tony Truscott with six wins and no draws took out fourth place.

Most other players failed to live up to expectations. Bruce Holliday played in his usual ultra-solid style. and perhaps came closest to beating Lovejoy, but fell in a heap against 1980 Reserves' champion, Mark Craven.

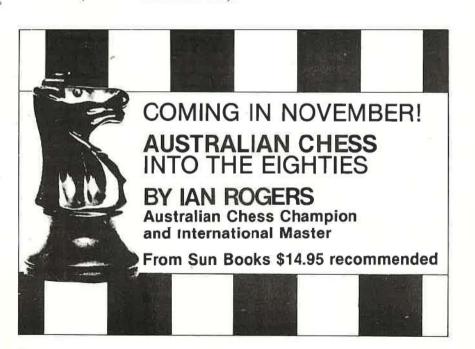
Perhaps the most disappointing performance came from the youngest competitor, Damian Norris, whose tactical style rebounded on him in this event. Colin Holloway and Leo Wilkinson were somewhat outclassed but took their defeats with good humour and sportsmanship. Leo deserves a special word of thanks for taking over the number ten position in the tournament at very short notice.

The Q.I.T. provided an excellent venue, the best for many years, and tournament organiser John Guest found time to ensure a smoothly run event as well as making a fine score in the Reserves'.

Finally a word about the structure of the Championship. Despite the somewhat weakened field, and other setbacks, the idea of running the tournament as a round-robin event was a tremendous success, and proved as popular with the players as it did D.O.P. Juan Kloostra who was spared the arduous task of pairing games.

Final Result

1st D. Lovejoy 8/9; 2nd M. Kuszelansky $7\frac{1}{2}$; 3rd J. Myers $6\frac{1}{2}$; 4th T. Truscott 6; B. Holliday $5\frac{1}{2}$; M. Craven, D. Norris $3\frac{1}{2}$; C. Holloway $2\frac{1}{2}$; L. Wilkinson 2; R. Howard 0 (withdrew after round one).



1981 QUEENSLAND RESERVES' CHAMPIONSHIP

24 players entered the Reserves' tourney, also held at the Q.I.T. Peter O'Neill deservingly won the event, ahead of top rated B. Nikoloff (1840) and C.A.Q. secretary 'Big John' Guest.

RESULT: 1st P. O'Neill $6\frac{1}{2}/8$; B. Nikoloff, J. Guest $5\frac{1}{2}$; R. Faldt, S. Hindley 5; etc.

RATING PRIZES: 1400-1600 R. Faldt, S. Hindley 1200-1400 S. Clarry, G. Forsyth

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CHESS NEWS SHORTS ...

Pancake Manor Restaurant Schools' Tournament: 1st Michael Evans 6/7; 2nd Brendan Downs 5½; equal 3rd M. Forbes, T. Allen, A. Hines 5. The winner, Michael Evans is a grade 10 student at Church of England Grammer, Brisbane. 24 players took part.

For Sale; Voice Chess Challenger, good condition, \$350. Contact Steve Clarry, 22 Delph Street, Coopers Plains, Brisbane. Tel: (A/H) 07 277 8154.

Donations Chess News Issue 4: Townsville Chess Club \$5; S. Clarry \$5.

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Northern Notes

by John Gray

The 1981 Townsville Chess Championship, which concluded in May, resulted in a sensational victory for Paul Lynch. Not only was it won by the darkest of dark horses, but each of the six trophies was carried off by a new player. Besides that of the winner, the most spectacular performance of the event was that of 11 year old Arabella Waid, who romped home to win the C Grade Cup by scoring 4/7, and finishing 22nd in a field of 55. Arabella had impressed everyone by her play in the N.Q. titles in Cairns, but had difficulty in converting the excellent positions she obtained into a win. She has now returned to Victoria, and hopefully she will be snapped up by the Victorian Girls' Junior Chess League.

In many ways, this years event was a triumph for our chess in schools movement. Chris Yuen, former Junior Champion, rocketed to third place in the event. Allan Fossey, who teaches at Kirwan High, is the new co-ordinator of Townsville's Junior Chess League. This chess class, of some 30 players, will be delighted to see his strong placing in this event with 6/7, conceding only two draws.

But the greatest triumph in the event came from the man who started the Junior Chess League $2\frac{1}{2}$ years ago, Paul Lynch. Paul donated \$300 to Townsville Chess Club so that a large tournament chess set and board could be placed in every Townsville school. Many of the Club's top juniors today were part of the chess boom that resulted. It must give Paul the greatest sense of achievement not only to compete against all those strong young players on a return to Townsville, but to cap his efforts with a staggering $6\frac{1}{2}/7$ in Championships, to become the 1981 Townsville champion in one of the strongest fields ever.

How did a player, with a pre-event rating of 1356, score $6\frac{1}{2}/7$ against such strong opposition? (many of Paul's 1500 + opponents never recovered from their loss to him). The secret of Paul's victory was not only his determination, and his capacity for hard work at the board, but in extraordinarily thorough preparation for each of his games. Paul's preparation also extended to his work on adjourned positions, in which he constantly netted a full point.

In Townsville's Winter Round Robin tourney Allan Fossey won first place outright when his most dangerous opponent, Bero Sculac, failed to make time control. Peter Offermans finished second with $3\frac{1}{2}$ points.

The tournament was divided into 8 divisions, and winners in these sections were as follows; Division 2—Richard Bond; Division 3—Andrew Van Rooy; Division 4—Ernie Hoolihan; Division 5—Andrew Gill; Division 6—Andrew Burge; Division 7—Kym Neaylon; Division 8—Jamie Joynt.

Adrian Harding has won the 1981 Rockhampton Championship with a score of $4\frac{1}{2}/5$. In second place, with his best ever result, was John Winter with 4 points. John allowed Adrian Harding a draw by repetition after obtaining a strong position in their last round game. Other prize winners were: Paul Joyce (third place); Jim Bowen (under 1200); Glen Stickley (top junior); Andrew Lincoln (unrated section); Marg Wilkinson (top lady).

The Rockhampton Chess Club has also completed its Club Championship with John Winter, taking advantage of the absence of Adrian Harding, taking first place with 6/7. Runner-up was Des Ryan who lost to John after pushing for a win that wasn't there. Mike Wilkinson finished in third place and Chris Watson followed up his recent good performance in the Wide Bay Championship with 4/7, to make him top club junior for 1981.

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Ipswich Open

by Mark Craven

The '81 Ipswich Open Championship took place in the auditorium of the Ipswich Boys' Grammar School, under the affable but precise direction of Bill Powell.

At 46 entries, the field was impressive both in depth and strength. Present was current state champion Colin Morris, kept on his toes by three former state champs, Michael Kuszelansky, Juan Kloostra (weighing in at top seed), and a back-in-form John Myers, who had successfully contested the North Qld Championship earlier in the year. In fact, overall there were seven players in the event qualified to compete in the 1981 State Title event. The stage was set.

The power strike tested everybody's sight of the board during the evening sessions, but a hasty supply of candles lent a new and almost romantic dimension to friendships which have stood the strain of many a tournament clash. Some players even welcomed the opportunity of turning a blind eye on debacles which they alone were guilty of creating.

Round One saw most results according to seeding, but Steve Hawkins, rated 32nd in the event, extracted an early resignation from Derek Donoghue, on the board at number nine!

By the end of Round Three, only Morris, Myers, Kuszelansky, Kloostra and Wally Djachenko had notched up the maximum three points, but with two wins and a draw Rolf Hennings was clearly much stronger than indicated by his forty-second seeding.

Round Four saw Myers and Kloostra steal half a point from each other, while Morris executed Kuszelansky to take the lead, assisted by Hennings' victory over Djachenko, who thus was ejected from the inner group. In this round Hugh Cordingly justified his journey from Armidale by starting a quiet sprint on the outside at the expense of Doug Powell. R. Vicic, M. J. Canfell, B. Holliday and M. Craven also heaved themselves up to three points in an attempt to stay abreast of Cordingly.

Round Five saw Hennings; despite resourceful counterplay from a losing position, go down to Myers, who was despairing of catching Morris in only a six round event. Morris himself held his lead over the field by beating former Amsterdam champion Kloostra, who moved the wrong knight and then, in an inferior position fell foul of the clock. Cordingly was still picking up speed on the outside as Bruce Holliday found out.

So when the final round began, Morris lead the field by half a point, Myers was second with $4\frac{1}{2}$, and Kuszelansky, Canfell, Cordingly and Craven were grouped on 4. Absent from the front-runners were such usual performers as Damian Norris, Bruce Holliday, and Chris Oldham.

The Myers-Morris meeting was perhaps the spectators' best value for money of the weekend, determining as it did the tournament winner. In addition it was one of the last games to finish, surrounded at its conclusion by a large throng, nearly as nervous of the result as the players themselves. Morris played the better opening, building up an advantage with excellent piece placement, but John Myers, smoking four thousand cigarettes an hour, fought back tenaciously, and when Colin signified resignation, a stirring round of applause acknowledged the efforts of both players. Myers had won the tournament. The other places were shared equally between Kuszelansky who defeated Canfell, Morris, and Cordingly who beat Craven.

Finally a word of praise for Mrs. Maxine Powell, whose efforts on the canteen meant that the tourney was just that much more pleasant for all competitors. Well done Ipswich Club!



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State Junior and Girls' Championships

by Nerida Powell

The Queensland Junior and Girls' Championships were held once again at Brisbane State High School, with Kerry Corker acting as D.O.P. for both events. The Girls' competition was held first to enable the participants in this event to play in both tournaments and Janeen Glover and myself took advantage of this.

Placings for the Girls' tourney were as follows:

1st Nerida Powell

2nd Janeen Glover

3rd Diana Roberts

This was exactly the same order as the 1980 competition!

The juniors were divided into 3 divisions: Under 14, Under 16 and Under 18.

The Under 14 Championship was shared between Gordon Powell and John Young. Gordon appeared certain to win with 2 rounds to go but draws against Martin Bloss and Stevan Havas enabled John to catch him at the post. Luke Berry played well, and took out third place.

Brendan Downs, the top seed, comfortably won the Under 16 title, conceding just two draws, to Michael Berry and Mark Winn. Sharing second were Winn, from Toowoomba, and Grant Riethmuller from Nudgee. This was Grant's first tournament and he was slighly shocked by his fine result!

In the Under 18 event favourite Jukka Walve won in fine style. After holding Jukke to a draw I was in contention for outright first but a subsequent loss to Michael Forbes ended my hopes. The unlucky player was Tim Allen who played well throughout, drawing with the top three players but still only managing to take fifth place.

Ken Stark also played a good tourney, making the long trip from Maryborough worthwhile.

Final Result—Under 18's: J. Walve 6; N. Powell 5; M. Forbes 4½: K. Stark 4; T. Allen 3½; D. Berry 3; J. Glover 2; A. Downs 0.

MÇWILLIAM'S WINES Proud of their age



Nerida Powell: Ipswich Club Champion, Qld. Girls' Champion, runner-up Qld. Junior and Australian Girls' Championships. Quite a record!

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FIVE ROUND SWISS-17-18 OCTOBER 1981

Venue: Cairns T.A.F.E., Eureka Street, Cairns.

Times of Play:

Saturday, 17 October,

Sunday, 18 October,

8.30am—Opening Ceremony

9.00am-Round 4

9.00am-Round 1

2.00pm—Round 5

2.00pm-Round 2

7.00pm—Round 3

Rate of Play: 36 moves in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours, 12 in 30 minutes thereafter. Maximum playing time—5 hours. Adjudications if necessary.

Entry Fee: \$15 adults (Students, Pensioners \$10). \$5 late fee for entries received after 9 October.

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3rd—\$80

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Under 1700—\$30 Under 1500—\$30 Best Junior—\$30 Other book prizes

KUZ-All those years ago

In 1951 Mikhail Kuszelansky played in and won his first Queensland Championship. Now, 30 years' later and with 8 State titles to his name, Kuz is back yet again. Queensland Chess News caught up with him just before his latest battle.

QCN: Where and how did you first become involved with chess?

Kuz: I learned to play in Russia. Everyone seems to play there and I played many, many games when I was young. I reached Category 2 in the Soviet Union.

QCN: Did you play against any famous players in those days?

Kuz: I remember in 1936 I beat Levenfish, who had been Russian champion, in a simul. I played some games with someone called Belavenitz; I don't think you would have heard of him. He was a brilliant player, beating everyone, but he was killed in the War. A tragedy. He would have been one of the best. Most of the other famous players I've played here in Australia—Euwe, Averbach. I drew with both players in simuls.

QCN: What do you remember about your first Queensland Championship?

Kuz: It was in 1951 and I scored 6/6. I think I took over as champion from Max Salm.

QCN: What about the Australian Championships; did you consider trying your luck there?

Kuz: Yes, three times. In 1953 I played in Tasmania and I finished 4th. I played a strong game in the early 50's. Then I played Melbourne, 1957. There I finished 7th, but I beat Purdy in the first round.

QCN: And then I believe you gave the game away in the 60's. Why?

Kuz: Oh, I was just tired of the game. I didn't play for nearly 10 years. Nothing! I looked all that time for something else, but... I came back to chess. It's hard to give it away when it's in your blood.

QCN: Are you 'booked up' for the '81 Championship?

Kuz: Well, I've studied a little, mostly openings. You have to, or the young players, they catch you out. I've been looking at a book by Sokolsky; not new, but with some nice games.

QCN: Didn't he invent the 1. P-QN4 opening? Is this to be your secret weapon in the championship?

Kuz: 1. P-QN4? Never! In the openings you must play in the centre and castle quickly. These are important principles.

QCN: Finally, Kuz, how do you rate the current Queensland players?

Kuz: Of the young players only Morris is really strong. He is very cautious, but he makes very few mistakes. He waits, and when everything looks peaceful... bang... a surprise move, you lose a pawn and you are in trouble. The other players? Myers is a good player, very attacking, but many times he has had me beaten, then he makes a silly mistake and I win. But he is a dangerous player. Kloostra too, is good. I have a terrible score against him. Always I lose, lose, lose! But a few weeks ago, in Singer Cup, I beat him. In chess you must never give up. Always keep trying.

Singer Cup—Brisbane Club on top again

Once again Brisbane Chess Club has taken out first place in A Grade Singer Cup. With Colin Morris leaving to play top board for Westside, many people predicted that Brisbane's run of success would come to an end, and indeed in the early rounds this appeared to be an accurate assessment. However, interclub chess is a team game and Brisbane's consistency, particularly on the lower boards, proved too much for the opposition.

Even without Morris, Brisbane still managed to field a powerful team in almost every game, with Bruce Holliday, Bob Howard, Graham Holliday and Graham Baldock usually in the line-up, and strong players such as Tony Truscott and David Lovejoy on hand to provide back-up support.

Close on the heels of Brisbane were Manor and Westside. Manor appeared to have a great chance of toppling the champions, with Juan Kloostra, Damian Norris and Igor Muller giving the team a powerful attacking force. Manor looked set for a 4–0 win against Westside mid-way through the season when "won" positions were achieved on all four boards, but in a late rally Wests' pulled back a vital $1\frac{1}{2}$ points. This was a turning point for the Manor and a 3–1 loss to German Club followed, thus ending any hopes Manor had of taking the top spot.

For Westside it was a season of "what might have been". Had it been able to play it's strongest team of Morris, Wally Djachenko, Chris Oldham and Derek Donaghue in every match, there is every chance that it could have lifted the premiership. But, with Djachenko spending most of the season in Tasmania and Morris often unavailable, Wests' could never quite mount the sustained challenge required to take the title.

B Grade for the first time was split into two groups. In Group One the Manor II team (Mike Reynolds, Keith Whittam, Mark Craven, Marcel Roulant, Tony Howes and Bill Elliott) with an average rating of around 1600 on the top three boards were far too strong, and remained undefeated throughout the season.

The second division of B Grade contained a real surprise packet in S.E.Q.E.B. Its team of John Gleadhill, Bill Drillis, Dave Bryden, Jim Dirksen and Russ De Leacy performed excellently in taking out first place, and went on to meet Manor in the B Grade 'Grand Final', where Manor recorded a narrow victory $2\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$.

The C Grade trophy looks, at this stage, to be going to Q.I.T., (Edmonds, Usinski, Vickers, Partis, etc.). This will please Queensland's A.C.F. rep. in Melbourne, Ian Laurie, for many years Q.I.T.'s leading player.

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