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DAVID BLOHM WINS CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP (?)

Well, the great chess year of 1968 came to an end amid the stormy billows of the State Championship Finals, held this year at San Francisco. That is, we believe it came to an end - we can't be sure of anything about this event, which started with confusion and hit some new heights.....a la Ripley, that is.

Officially, David BLOHM was declared State Champion - and we use the word declared advisedly - winning the event $\frac{1}{2}$ point ahead of the field, with $4\frac{1}{2}$ pts. That's the final total; we don't have the results of the Northern preliminary rounds. George KANE and Ray SCHUTT were tied for second with 4 pts. - come to think of it, now we are really beginning to wonder....were the preliminary scores counted at all?? Oh well.

It all started with a communication problem among the northern organizers, which led to a confused state of affairs down in So. Cal. After a series of schedule changes (due in some measure to last-minute withdrawals of qualifiers), tournament director changes and long-distance phone calls things were squared away and the Finals got under way during the last weekend of December under the sponsorship of the Calif. State Chess Federation. There were seven players left in the Finals, after the flu took its toll.

Then things started happening. In the game SCHUTT v. ACERS, it was adjournment time - so, SCHUTT, on the move, marked down his move, put it in the sealed-move envelope, stopped the clock and sealed the envelope. "Aha!" ACERS protested. "The envelope must be sealed before stopping of the clock, and I claim the game." (Our dramatization - ACERS may not have said those words, but in fact claimed the game on the technicality.)

So here we had a classic case of the finger being faster than the tongue - and, while Tournament Director Chuck SAVERY thought awarding the game to ACERS a little drastic, he declared a 20-minute penalty on SCHUTT's clock. Which was the beginning of SCHUTT's troubles. (ACERS, incidentally, was dissatisfied and withdrew.)

CALIF. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP - cont'd.

In the last round of the tournament, BLOHM was paired against SCHUTT. BLOHM was leading the field by 1/2 point; needed only a draw to secure the title. SCHUTT on the other hand, 1/2 pt. behind BLOHM, had to win to get the crown.

BLOHM, having the white pieces, made his first move, P-K4. At this point, SCHUTT said: "David, are you playing for a draw?" (Another report has it as "I bet you're playing for a draw!") Upon those historic words, BLOHM jumped up, claimed an offer of a draw has been made and he accepts!

Well. That's the story - T.D. SAVERY ruled in favor of BLOHM, in spite of SCHUTT's protestations, and the game was declared a draw - the title to BLOHM, and the Championship to bed for another year. (SAVERY, who obviously thinks that such technicalities - regardless of their intent - are the cat's miaow, apparently knows less about the Laws of Chess. E.g., Article 17a states that "A proposal to draw may be made by a player only at the moment when he has just made a move....." Since SCHUTT never made a move against BLOHM, his "offer" of a draw, while technically correctly interpreted, should have been just as technically invalidated by application of Article 17a.)

That's life in the big city. Tsk, tsk.

LYON GETS OWN SHARE AT EL SEGUNDO

While top El Segundo member Irwin LYON is not eligible to play in his own invention, the "LYON'S SHARE" Tournament in which just about everybody wins, he makes up for it by taking as many coveted spots in other club events as he can. His latest triumph is the El Segundo Club Championship, in which he shared honors with another current circuit-winner, Peter RHEE. Tables of both events follow.

2ND ANNUAL LYON'S SHARE TOURNAMENT

El Segundo, Dec. 1968

	Ratg.	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total
1. KAHYAI	K. u/r	W 18	W 7	W 5	D 9	W 2	4 1/2
2. JOHNSON	R. 1332	W 25	W 11	W 4	W 3	L 1	4
3. CILLERS	H. 1777	W 7	W 10	W 6	L 2	W 9	4
4. TAYLOR	R. 1746	W 14	W 8	L 2	W 13	W 6	4
5. VIGNEAU	S. 1732	W 23	W 19	L 1	W 14	W 8	4
6. DUNKIN	W. 1687	W 12	W 21	L 3	W 16	L 4	3
7. SINGLETON	W. 1487	L 3	L 1	W 12	W 17	W 16	3
8. ROBINSON	C. 1599	W 24	L 4	W 20	W 10	L 5	3
9. STOLPE	J. 1712	W 15	D 13	W 21	D 1	L 3	3
10. LINN	D. 1657	W 20	L 3	W 13	L 8	W 14	3
11. CALDWELL	A. 1698	W BY	L 2	L 14	W 23	W 15	3
12. BRIGGS	E. 1111	L 6	W BY	L 7	W 21	W 23	3
13. LOPEZ	V. 1538	W 22	D 9	L 10	L 4	W 19	2 1/2
14. GOLDIE	R. 1467	L 4	W 17	W 11	L 5	L 10	2
15. PATSCH	A. 1322	L 9	L 16	W F	W L8	L 11	2
16. WEIL	D. u/r	L 21	W 15	W 19	L 6	L 7	2
17. NARIKAWA	D. u/r	L 19	L 14	W 23	L 7	W 20	2
18. HALSEY	G. 1589	L 1	W 24	W 22	L 15	-	2
19. SHIPIN	H. 1578	W 17	L 5	L 16	D 20	L 13	1 1/2
20. KALENBORN	R. 1245	L 10	W 25	L 8	D 19	L 17	1 1/2
21. BRAGG	D. 1505	W 16	L 6	L 9	L 12	-	1
22. FENA, u/r,	L 13, W 23, L 18;	23. COOK 1334,	L 5, L 22, L 17, L 11,				
L 12;	24. CAMERON, u/r, L 8, L18, LF;	25. DITLOW, 1728, L 2, L 20.					

Lyon's Share Tournament Director Doug LINN informs us that the tourney produced a quitter, unfortunately - Albert CAMERON quit without informing the T.D. of his intended withdrawal, thereby inconveniencing the players and affecting pairings for the next round. Seems the world abounds with inconsiderate people - some has to get into chess.....

EL SEGUNDO CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

El Segundo, 1968

	<u>Ratg.</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Total</u>
		<u>One</u>	<u>Two</u>	<u>Three</u>	<u>Four</u>	<u>Five</u>	<u>Six</u>	
1. LYON	I. 1962	W 4	W 10	D 2	W 17	W 13	W 5	5½
2. RHEE	P. 2131	W 18	W 9	D 1	W 8	W 3	W F	5½
3. TAYLOR	R. 1746	W 14	W 25	L 8	W 4	L 2	W 16	4
4. RADWIN	R. 1552	L 1	W 21	W 6	L 3	W 22	W 12	
5. SEFTON	D. 1749	W 26	W 7	L 17	W 10	W 12	L 1	
6. GOJICH	A. 1829	L 7	W 26	L 4	W 24	W 19	W 13	
7. BRAGG	D. 1505	W 6	L 5	D 10	D 15	D 9	W 17	3½
8. WALFUSKI	H. 1899	W 19	D 11	W 3	L 2	W 15	L 9	
9. STOLPE	J. 1712	W 20	L 2	W 14	L 12	D 7	W 8	
10. LINN	D. 1651	W 21	L 1	D 7	L 5	W 14	W 19	
11. BATCHELDER	J. 1643	W 22	D 8	W 15	L 13	W 17	- -	
12. HALSEY	G. 1589	L 13	W 20	W 16	W 9	L 5	L 4	3
13. MONTEROS	H. u/r	W 12	L 14	W 18	W 11	L 1	L 6	
14. PORTER	J. 1468	L 3	W 13	L 9	W 26	L 10	W 18	
15. CILLERS	H. 1777	W 24	D 17	L 11	D 7	L 8	W 20	
16. HERRERA	R. u/r	L 17	W 24	L 12	W F	W 18	L 3	
17. VORDERSTRASSE	A. 1611	W 16	D 15	W 5	L 1	L 11	L 7	2½
18. SHIPIN	H. 1578	L 2	W 23	L 13	W 22	L 16	L 14	2
19. LOPEZ	V. 1538	L 8	L 22	W 20	W 23	L 6	L 10	
20. GOJICH	M. 1395	L 9	L 12	L 19	W 21	W 23	L 15	
21. COOK	K. 1050	L 10	L 4	L 24	L 20	W 26	W 23	
22. CAMERON	A. u/r	L 11	W 19	W F	L 18	L 4	- -	
23. COOK	C. 1334	L 25	L 18	W 26	L 19	L 20	L 21	1
24. GLAZER	B. 1488	L 15	L 16	W 21	L 6	- -	- -	
25. NANASSY	J. 1600	W 23	L 3	L F	L F	- -	- -	
26. CALDWELL	A. 1698	L 5	L 6	L 23	L 14	L 21	- -	0

AND.....as reported.....

NAR VALLEY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Valley, 1968

	<u>Ratg.</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>TB</u>
		<u>One</u>	<u>Two</u>	<u>Three</u>	<u>Four</u>	<u>Five</u>	<u>Six</u>		
1. LEIDNER	M. 2131	W 3	W 7	W 4	W 6	L 2	W 5	5	15
2. MARSHALL	F. 1904	W 10	W 9	L 3	W 4	W 1	W 7	5	12½
3. FAELTON	E. 1776	L 1	W 11	W 2	L 5	W 6	W 9	4	14
4. BERGGREN	R. 1880	W 8	W 5	L 1	L 2	W 9	W 10	4	13½
5. LAJCIK	T. 1963	W 12	L 4	W 9	W 3	W 7	L 1	4	12½
6. EK	M. 1825	L 9	W 10	W 8	L 1	L 3	W 11	3	
7. THOMSON	W. 1883	W 11	L 1	W 12	D 8	L 5	L 2	2½	13½
8. OLIVA	S. 1339	L 4	W 12	L 6	D 7	L 11	W BY	2½	7½
9. PEARSON	G. u/r	W 6	L 2	L 5	W 10	L 4	L 3	2	15
10. HALTOM	G. 1482	L 2	L 6	W 11	L 9	W BY	L 4	2	11
11. LEVY	L. 1377	L 7	L 3	L 10	W BY	W 8	L 6	2	10
12. HALL	W. 1750	L 5	L 8	L 7	- -	- -	- -	0	

Incidentally, Peter RHEE won the West Covina Rapid Transit, ahead of Don BICKNELL and KOPLOY. 18 participated.

A COUPLE MORE....

....Players, that is. For the Whittier Amateur Open. More than usual, that is. For the \$100 first prize.

It was kind of an experiment - since Whittier has been drawing 40 or so players for just about any tournament they've run lately, they logically felt that an offer of a guaranteed \$100 first might increase the number quite a bit. Not so - while a few "outsiders" did come in, basically the Whittier mainstay figured once again. Class winners were, Ray BAGLEY, A; Fred FRILLING, B; HURT and Ray BENZ, B; Ron PRIDONOFF, Tore LYDERSEN, C; and Kelly DINGEMAN, D. Ken FLESHMAN directed.

WHITTIER AMATEUR OPEN
Fall, 1968

		<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Total</u>
		<u>One</u>	<u>Two</u>	<u>Three</u>	<u>Four</u>	<u>Five</u>	<u>Six</u>	
1.	BICKNELL	D. W 19	W 32	D 8	W 5	W 9	W 2	5½
2.	FRILLING	Fred W 42	W 15	W 4	W 10	W 13	L 1	5
3.	HURT	E. W 20	W 7	D 5	D 13	W 22	W 10	
4.	BENZ	R. W 31	W 38	L 2	W 28	W 27	W 7	
5.	BAGLEY	R. W 43	W 9	D 3	L 1	W 18	W 14	4½
6.	MISHLER	T. L 7	W 34	D 14	W 35	W 16	W 13	
7.	FRITCHARD	L. W 6	L 3	W 23	W 24	W 8	L 4	4
8.	MENDOZA	R. D 29	W 39	D 1	W 11	L 7	W 20	
9.	DUNKIN	W. W 34	L 5	W 21	W 37	L 1	W 22	
10.	THORNTON	W. W 23	W 30	W 18	L 2	W 19	L 3	
11.	BROCK	F. L 15	W 42	W 33	L 8	W 21	W 19	
12.	HENDERSON	R. L 30	W 41	W 17	L 19	W 23	W 26	
13.	PRIDONOFF	R. W 37	W 14	W 24	D 3	L 2	L 6	3½
14.	HAYES	R. W 25	L 13	D 6	W 15	W 17	L 5	
15.	LYDERSON	T. W 11	L 2	D 38	L 14	W 35	W 27	
16.	POSTMA	J. D 17	L 18	W 25	W 29	L 6	W 28	
17.	DINGEMAN	K. D 16	W 40	L 12	W 38	L 14	W 32	
18.	FERRIN	B. W 44	W 16	L 10	D 27	L 5	W 37	
19.	YASUTAKE	P. L 1	W 26	W 28	W 12	L 10	L 11	3
20.	HULL	R. L 3	W 43	L 32	W 25	W 24	L 8	
21.	WILSON	R. W 26	L 24	L 9	W 30	L 11	W 31	
22.	STREETER	T. D 39	W 29	D 27	W 32	L 3	L 9	
23.	GANDARA	H. L 10	W 44	L 7	W 41	L 12	W 30	
24.	CLIFTON	J. W 41	W 21	L 13	L 7	L 20	W 36	
25.	HALL	W. L 14	W 31	L 16	L 20	W 40	W 33	
26.	RADER	D. L 21	L 19	W 40	W 33	W 31	L 12	
27.	FRILLING	Frank W 33	D 28	D 22	D 18	L 4	L 15	2½
28.	JOHN	W. W 35	D 27	L 19	L 4	W 29	L 16	
29.	BASISTAI	I. D 8	L 22	L 39	L 16	L 28	W 41	
30.	REESE	T. W 12	L 10	L 37	L 21	W 34	L 23	2
31.	TORRES	G. L 4	L 25	W 44	W 34	L 26	L 21	
32.	HOKE	L. W 40	L 1	W 20	L 22	L 37	L 17	
33.	MAYHEW	E. L 27	W 35	L 11	L 26	W 42	L 25	
34.	ABRIGO	D. L 9	L 6	W 36	L 31	L 30	W 39	
35.	LARSON	C. L 28	L 33	W 42	L 6	L 15	W 40	
36.	GONZALEZ	G. L 38	L 37	L 34	W BY	W 41	L 24	
37.	KEESEY	H. L 13	W 36	W 30	L 9	L 32	L 18	
38.	PORTILLO	L. W 36	L 4	D 15	L 17	-	-	1½
39.	SALEIDO	E. D 22	L 8	L 29	L 40	W 43	L 34	
40.	McGRANN	W. L 32	L 17	L 26	W 39	L 25	L 35	1
41.	FOSTER	D. L 24	L 12	W 43	L 23	L 36	L 29	
42.	BRONSON	P. L 2	L 11	L 35	W 43	L 33	-	
43.	WILLIAMS	R. L 5	L 20	L 41	L 42	L 39	W BY	
44.	RICHARDSON	R. L 18	L 23	L 31	-	-	-	0

WHITTIER WINTER RATING TOURNAMENT

This club never rests on its rosehedges - it's plunging right in to the Three-in-one Winter Rating - there'll be three sections, 1) for all above 1699 rating; 2) from 1499 - 1700; 3) below 1499 and unrated. Prizes and trophies for the three top finishers in each section. Six-rd Swiss, 40/2.

First round - Monday, January 13 - entry fee, \$3.00.
Of course USCF-rated; USCF membership required.

FEBRUARY TOP MONTH

Two great events are scheduled for next month, and we sure hope you can make both of them. (Incidentally, this month's scheduled West Covina Open has been cancelled - the club was unable to secure premises.)

SANTA MONICA WINTER CHESS TORNADO

We've been wondering all along who would be the first one out here with a Tornado....! Of course, who else but Santa Monica? We believe this kind of event will become extremely successful in So. Cal. - so don't prove me wrong!

A one-day, USCF-rated event: Saturday, February 1, Joslyn Hall.
Four rounds, time limit 40/80. Sections possible. Starts 10 a.m.
Entry fee, \$5; juniors \$2.50. Guar. first: \$60 + trophy.

2ND ANNUAL JOHN GILBRETH MEMORIAL OPEN

At the Breakers Hotel, Long Beach/Ocean Av, Long Beach. Feb. 21-22-23!

Guar. Prizes 1st \$300 + Trophy 2nd \$150
Expert, A, B, 1st \$100, 2nd \$50
C and under: 1st \$100, 2nd \$60, 3rd \$40

Trophies and medals for all class prize winners
Six rounds, first rd Friday 8.30 p.m. EF \$13; juniors \$6. USCF-rated. Special room rates at breakers for participants (\$10 double).
Directed by Andy KEMPNER.

MOON ORBIT DWARFED

You think circling the moon ten times was a tremendous achievement?
You believe having men see the dark side of the moon was a pinnacle?
You think Apollo 8 was just the king of the mountain?

Well, you're right in all that - but you ain't seen or heard nothing yet. Wait till you experience the fantastic program your So. Cal. Chess League mapped out for you for 1969!!

At the Jan. 3 meeting of the League, some momentous decisions were made. Let's cover them here, with the regular essentials as well:

1. Elections Darrell RADER was re-elected as President; a move that is tantamount to a vote of confidence for this fine organizer, who stipulated that he would accept the post only if his 5-pt. program (complacently by-passed last year) were accepted. A setup for our upsetter.

Donald COTTEN, an active organizer in the Riverside/San Bernardino area, took the Vice-Presidency - thereby broadening the League's scope by serving as RADER's right hand especially in Montclair, West Covina, and his home precincts. (We're now truly a Cotten-picking League.)

Douglas LINN, an active El Segundo member who's been directing several tournaments there, was elected Secretary. He will of course be sending minutes of League meetings, etc. to TERRACHESS so we can all keep abreast of the times. (He'd better!)

Larry HOKE, Treasurer Supreme of the last years, is back again for another term. The fact that he's still in Whittier instead of Brazil can only mean one of two things: either he's downright honest, or the League has no money.

Your editor has signed on as Tournament Director once again, having a natural flair for trouble.

Henry SHIPIN, as Asst. Tournament Director, will have his work cut out - he'll be primarily responsible for keeping the calpoint and Merit Award Point calculations. (For the latter system, see below.) If he wins a M.A.P. trophy, you'll know it's strictly performance.

And there you have your 1969 League Officers. In addition to the above, Andy KEMPNER was appointed as Youth Activities consultant. We'll look forward to his progressive ideas.

2. Hall of Fame The die is cast - memberclubs took a secret ballot to choose the 1969 recipient of the Hall of Fame Award. The selectee's name will be announced on Morphy Day, when presentations will be made.
3. Participation Award A rocket-boost to the Grand Team Matches. Starting this year, in addition to the regular Team Match Divisional awards, a special Participation Award will be given to the club that accumulates the most participation points. The basic concept of this award is to reward the club that puts forth the most effort in League activities during the year. Participation points are given as follows:

a) Team Match Participation

For entering one team	1 point
" " two teams	5 points
" " three "	10 "
" " four "	17 "
" " five or more	25 "
For drawing a match	1 point
For winning a match	1 pt. + diff.

(e.g. a 4½-1½ win would earn four points)

Penalties for forfeited games -	first forfeit	2 pts
	second " "	4 "
	third " "	6 "
	fourth or more	15 "

b) Tournament Participation

For staging each of the following tournaments: Expert, Candidates, Novice, Woodpushers, Graduate - 5 pts., plus 1 pt. for each entrant in the tourney.

For staging Merit Award tournaments with total player participation (calpoint tourneys excluded) - 5 pts.

For having poster showing club location displayed on
Morphy Day - 3 points.

c) Miscellaneous

For having a League Officer - 5 points
For entrants to North-South match - 1 pt. each
For not attending League meeting - 1 pt. penalty.

4. MERIT AWARD System In a way, this parallels the Calpoint system, basically to give a chance for recognition to the lower-rated player who normally would not reach the heights required to earn calpoints. Its concept is to reward players who do better than expected in a tournament with merit points.

The idea is that for each M.A. participant in a tournament, an Expected Score (ES) is figured out according to a single formula:

- a) v. a player rated at least 100 pts. higher - ES: 0
- b) v. a player rated within 100 pts. - ES: 1/2
- c) v. a player rated at least 100 pts. lower - ES: 1

At the end of the tournament, the participant's actual score is compared to his ES. If the actual is higher than his ES, he receives a number of Merit Award points in accordance with a pre-calculated MAP chart, to be published in our next issue. In order to participate, a player must pay 10¢ at the start of each tournament. The money goes toward Merit Award Trophies and prizes.

In the next tournament, pay your dime and ask the T.D. (or your team captain in the team matches) to register you for participation. Everyone is eligible.

5. Promotional New Tournaments

Whereas....the League is asking all clubs to hold a section of the following events:

- a) Novice Tournament For players who have never played in a rated event. Two rds. at club during the weeks of May 18 and 25; 3 rds. finals on Sat., June 8.
- b) Woodpushers Tournament For players rated under 1600 and unrated. Three rds. at club during weeks of July 22-29-Aug 5. 3-rds finals Aug 11.
- c) Graduate Tournament For players rated under 1710 and unrated. Three rds. at club during weeks of Aug. 12-19-26; 5 rds. finals Sep 7-8.

The idea is to have the Novices work up through all three events, and Woodpushers also to Graduate. Your club has to do some promoting of course - to your own benefit to gain new members.

6. Paid-up Entries to So. Cal. Championships

Whereas....each club is asked to award paid-up entries to the So. Calif. Championships in their various club tournaments. The bigger the field in a club tourney, the more paid-up entries can be awarded. Such entries should in fact be part of the overall prize fund.

And there you are, readers - a lot to mull over. Get your MAP's and Calpoints and Participation points NOW. There are handsome awards waiting for you! Your League is fully behind you to make your chess club events more enjoyable. Straight ahead, So. Cal.!