

May-June 1980
Vol. 3 No. 9

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ESSEX LEAGUE - DIVISION 1

Played 15th April, 1980 at Wanstead

W & W had black on the odd numbered boards

	Wanstead & Woodford	v	Old Parkonians	
1	Alan J. Potter 158	$\frac{1}{2}$ v	I.B.N. Smith 181	$\frac{1}{2}$
2	G. Speed 191	1 v	H.J. Waterman 166	0
3	A.T. Marshall 190	$\frac{1}{2}$ v	M.L. Kaye 161	$\frac{1}{2}$
4	I.D. Hunnable 178	adj v	J. Rosenberg 157	adj
5	T.D. Whitton 167	$\frac{1}{2}$ v	L. Dregent -	$\frac{1}{2}$
6	E.S. Lee 138 J	adj v	D. Rosenberg -	adj
7	W.T. Franklin 159	$\frac{1}{2}$ v	I. Stables 138 J	$\frac{1}{2}$
8	Dr. D.C. Hick 169	1 v	A. Sheach 130 J	0
9	S.R. Lee 138 J	0 v	C.J.D. Green 117	1
10	R.A. Wagstaff 156	1 v	S.D. Gold -	0
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		5 + 2 adj		3 + 2 adj

This match, being the last hurdle before the crunch with Upminster, took on the air of a very important encounter indeed, despite the modest opposition. After all, a stumble here (as against Harlow two seasons ago) and we could forget the Championship. The tension of the situation prevailed until time was called when only four results had been settled, these being boards 3, 5, 7 & 9, leaving us trailing by a point. But here the real picture emerged when Waterman, Sheach and Gold all resigned giving us the edge $4\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$.

Bill Franklin, having rejuvenated his appetite for the game, picked up two bishops in return for a rook but the sparsity of pawns prevented a win. Simon Lee took Chunky Green far too lightly - Chunky, despite his lowly grade, is quite capable of taking a chance when offered. Graham Speed had a highly unusual situation against a Pirc whereby a series of counter exchanges allowed him to establish a pawn where Black's fianchettoed KB normally stands! David Hick playing the white side of a Winawer, made steady advances without allowing Black any counterplay. Roy Wagstaff deferred castling and opened up the KR file to attack the castled black king. Although Gold resisted the initial assault he could not repair the consequent weakening of his position. Alan Potter went astray in the opening and lost a pawn. Ivor Smith however consumed a lot of time trying to capitalise on his advantage and scrambling to get his moves in blundered the exchange on his last move. But Ivor was not entirely without compensation and although Alan's claim looked good, a draw was given.

In the games for adjudication we are claiming a win and a draw. Ian Hunnable in the closing stages was allowed to work his king to the dominating square K5 in a closed position and holds winning chances by combining play on both sides of the board. Edward Lee looked to be winning a highly tactical game but D. Rosenberg held on long enough to see the advantage swing his way and this position may be lost to us.

Adjudications

v. Wickford 14.2.80.....Pritchard 1 v Wright 0 ($8\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$)

v. May & Baker 18.3.80.....Ferne $\frac{1}{2}$ v Walden $\frac{1}{2}$
Skelsey 1 v Egan 0 (6-4)

STOP PRESS v. Old Parks 15.4.80.....Hunnable 1 v Rosenberg 0 (6-3 1 o/s)

Played 24th April, 1980 at Upminster
W & W had black on the odd numbered boards

Wanstead & Woodford				v	Upminster			
1	Alan J. Potter	158	0	v	A.J. Stebbings	201	1	
2	G. Speed	191	0	v	A.E. Hanreck	206	1	
3	A.T. Marshall	190	0	v	R.W. O'Brien	165	1	
4	P. Pritchard	171 WECU	$\frac{1}{2}$	v	K. Spurgeon	184	$\frac{1}{2}$	
5	I.D. Hunnable	178	0	v	K. Barnes	166	1	
6	T.D. Whitton	167	$\frac{1}{2}$	v	R. Watts	174	$\frac{1}{2}$	
7	Dr. D.C. Hick	169	$\frac{1}{2}$	v	A.E. Robertson	170	$\frac{1}{2}$	
8	E.S. Lee	138 J	1	v	S.J. Abbott	153	0	
9	R.A. Wagstaff	156	$\frac{1}{2}$	v	K. Spencer	146	$\frac{1}{2}$	
10	W.T. Franklin	159	1	v	N. O'Connor	144	0	
				4				6

We have lodged appeals against the adjudications on boards 7 and 9.

Upminster, like ourselves, suffered an early defeat, theirs against East Ham, and so, assuming our win over Old Parks, we met on level terms in what was like a cup final. Two evenly matched sides: they stronger at the top, we having the edge at the bottom. In this encounter we sorely missed Philip Gasper who has taken an extended trip to Africa.

Things went badly for us from the start. Hunnable had a nightmare (suffice it to say). O'Brien found an improvement over the MCO line in a c3 Sicilian which took Marshall by surprise. Paul Pritchard, despite a spacial advantage, could make no impression on Spurgeon, who tends not to take risks. Stebbings found an early combination to prevent Alan Potter from castling and steadily built up against the black king thereafter. Roy Watts found sufficient counterplay to prevent Terry Whitton's in-roads being effective. With Graham Speed going the exchange down against Hanreck we had little change out of the top encounters.

We naturally were looking to the lower order to redress the balance. At adjournment our only success in this region was Edward Lee who thoroughly outplayed Steve Abbott (game follows). Bill Franklin adjourned with the king at his mercy and this game Upminster conceded. With the score at 3-5 our position was critical having to show wins in the last two games. In these we appeared to hold clear winning chances, each with an extra pawn, but in the last few moves of the session both took a turn towards equality. Closer inspection of the positions for adjudication revealed the wins were still there, but both came back as draws! Dave Hick's result was returned first and we had just handed in the appeal against that decision when Roy Wagstaff was also given only a draw. An appeal has been lodged against that result as well.

Never let it be said that Wanstead go down without a fight.

Game No. 71 Board 8 E.S. Lee v. S.J. Abbott Caro-Kann Defence 1 e4, c6;
2 d4, d5; 3 e5, c5; 4 c3, Nc6; 5 h3, cxd4; 6 cxd4, Qb6; 7 Nf3, Bf5;
8 Nc3, e6; 9 a3, Nge7; 10 Be3, Na5; 11 b4, Nc6; Black presumably intended ...Nc4
here, but of course 12 Bxc4, dxc4; 13 d5 etc. 12 g4, Bg6; 13 Na4, Qd8; 14 Nc5, b6?
15 Nb7, Qd7; 16 Nd6+ Kd8; 17 Ba6, Ng8; 18 Nb7+ Ke8; 19 Rc1, Nge7; 20 Nd6+ Kd8;
21 Ng5, Ng8; 22 Bb5, 22 Bb7 was also possible, but Edward's going for the other
rook. 22 ... Nge7; 23 Ngxf7+ Bxf7; 24 Nxf7+ Kc7; 25 Nxh8, a6; 26 Bxc6, Nxc6;
27 O-O, Kb7; 28 Qf3, Nd8? An unhappy end to an unhappy game for the Upminster
captain. 29 Qxf8, Resigns.

LONDON LEAGUE ~ DIVISION 2

Played 5th March, 1980 at St. Bride's Institute
W & W had white on the odd numbered boards

Wanstead & Woodford			v	Mitcham		
1	Alan J. Potter 158	0	v	J. Saunders 198	1	
2	G. Speed 191	0	v	B. Kooiman 179	1	
3	A.T. Marshall 190	1	v	M.J. Yeo 191	0	
4	I.D. Hunnabell 178	$\frac{1}{2}$	v	M. Page -	$\frac{1}{2}$	
5	T.D. Whitton 167	0	v	R. Picot -	1	
6	Dr. D.C. Hick 169	1	v	V. Zaiger 102 (Res.)	0	
7	A.S. Kinder 164	0	v	D. Raeburn 180	1	
8	R.A. Wagstaff 156	0	v	C. Gilliam 180	1	
9	S. Skelsey -	$\frac{1}{2}$	v	M. Young 170	$\frac{1}{2}$	
10	J.S. Langford 117	0	v	R. Kearsley 146 (Res.)	1	
			3			7

It was just as well that we had secured our position in the Division before this match against a strong Mitcham side. Despite their strength on paper, Mitcham are not seriously challenging for promotion. Nevertheless, they had two reserves on hand and used them both!

Graham Speed, playing against his former club, was unfortunately not successful when his Benko Benoni did not yield sufficient compensation. Alan Marshall calmly conducted a difficult defence in the face of a sacrificial attack - his opponent is well known for this type of game (see below). Andrew Kinder with a potential plus blundered away his king's position. Terry Whitton found Black's K-side pressure proceeding faster than his own Q-side play. Stuart Skelsey fell into an opening trap but held on until a draw was offered at close of play.

Game No. 72 Board 3 A.T. Marshall v. M.J. Yeo Vienna Game 1 e4, e5; 2 Nc3, Nf6; 3 f4, d5; 4 fxe5, Nxe4; 5 d3, Bb4; 6 dxe4, Qh4+ 6 ... d4 would
regain the piece for a pawn, but Black has a more ambitious plan in mind. 7 Ke2,
If 7 g3, Qxe4+ nets the rook. 7 ... Bg4+ 8 Nf3, Nc6; 9 Nxd5, 0-0-0; 10 c3, Rhe8;
11 Qe1! Better than the injudicious 11 cxb4, when 11 ... Rxe5 increases Black's
threats and White's king still has nowhere to go. The text unpins the QN and
challenges for some dark squares. 11 ... Qh5; 12 Nxb4, Nxe5; 13 Qg3, Bf5; Naturally
the bishop cannot be taken in view ofNg4+ but since this means that White's
e-pawn is going, White's king looks a little fragile once more. 14 Bf4, Bxe4;
15 Bxe5, Rxe5; 16 Kf2! Bxf3; 17 Nd3, The bishop cannot be captured: 17 Qxf3, Rf5;
18 Qxf5+ Qxf5+ (sic!) when 19 Kg1 is surprisingly met by 19 ... Qc5 mate! And
19 Ke1, Qe4+ 20 Be2, Re8 etc. Or 17 gxf3, Rd2+ 18 Kg1, Rg5 etc. 17 ... Rg5;
18 Qxf3, Rf5; 19 Nf4, Qh6; 20 g3, Qb6+ White has seen off the worst - Black is
now fishing. 21 Qe3, Qxb2+ 22 Be2, g5; 23 Rad1, Rg8; 23 ... Gxf5 is met by
24 Rxd8+ Kxd8; 25 Rd1+ Kc8; 26 Qe8 mate. 24 Rd2, Alan would have played 24 Qxa7,
Qb6+ 25 Qxb6, cxb6; 26 Bg4 if he'd seen it. 24 ... gxf4; 25 Rxb2, fxe3+ 26 Kxe3,
Re8+ 27 Kd3, Rfe5; 28 Bg4+ Kb8; 29 Re2, Rd8+ 30 Kc2, Ra5; 31 Kb3, Resigns. Alan's
conduct of the defence made Black's sacrifices look unsound, but there were plenty
of chances to go wrong and it needed a cool head to find the right line.

Adjournment

v. Ilford 21.3.80.....Kinder 0 v Dorn 1 (without further play)
(5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -4 $\frac{1}{2}$)

A strange season thus completed. From 10 matches we have won 4 and lost the other 6 which included that inexplicable sticky patch in the middle of the programme when we lost four in a row. That run was halted when Wimbledon II became the unwitting recipients of our accumulated frustrations - we thrashed them 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Division 2 continues to provide a stiff test and with only five players recording a score of better than 50%, few of us can claim to have had a good season. Paul Pritchard however is one of these - in his debut season with us he tops the list with 72% from 9 games on average board 4. Here is one of them;

Game No. 73 London League Div. 2 W & W v. Drunken Knights 3.10.79 S.J. Drury v P. Pritchard Board 4. Notes by Paul Pritchard. 1 Nf3, Nf6;
2 g3, g6; 3 Bg2, d5; 4 d4, Bg7; 5 0-0, 0-0; 6 c4, Nc6? A poor move which my opponent immediately exploits. Best is the theoretically recommended 6 ... dxc4.
7 Ne5! Nxe5; 8 dxe5, Ng4; 9 cxd5, Nxe5; 10 Nc3, c6; Black must seek some freedom.
11 Qc2, cxd5; 12 Nxd5, Bf5; 13 Qc5, If 13 e4, Black can consider 13 ... Qxd5;
14 exf5, Qd3. 13 ... Nc6; 14 Bg5, f6; 15 Be3, e5; 16 Rfd1, Rc8; Surprisingly White has no useful discovery. 17 Rac1, Re8; Overprotecting e7 and thereby freeing the Nc6 for action. The square f8 is also vacated for the KB which enters the game with decisive effect. White should now have played 18 Qb5, although it was difficult to foresee the ensuing tactics. 18 Qa3? Bf8; 19 Bc5, Nd4! Exploiting the pinned bishop. 20 Kf1, Rxc5! 21 Rxc5, b6; 22 Qxa7, Bxc5; 23 e3, Be6; Unnecessarily flash. This move could have jeopardised the win. 24 exd4, Bxd5; 25 Qa4? Instead, 25 dxc5, Bxg2+ 26 Ke1! (which I had missed) looks better for White. 25 ... Bxg2+ 26 Kxg2, Bxd4; 27 Qc6, Qa8; White RESIGNS.

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ESSEX LEAGUE

Division 2

Adjudications

- v. Upminster 8.11.79.....Gooding $\frac{1}{2}$ v Haque $\frac{1}{2}$ (5-3)
v. Brentwood 8.1.80.....E. Lee 0 v Coote 1
Gooding $\frac{1}{2}$ v Daniel $\frac{1}{2}$ ($3\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$)
v. Waltham Forest 17.1.80.....Goodwin 0 v Goss 1 ($4\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$)
v. Laindon 5.2.80.....Gooding 1 v Lutton 0 (5-3)
v. Roding 27.2.80.....E. Lee 1 v Revell 0
J. Duggan $\frac{1}{2}$ v Povey $\frac{1}{2}$ (5-3)

These results give the seconds a final tally of 8 wins and one draw from 12 matches. Stuart Skelsey led his team by example scoring 75% from 12 games. Simon and Edward Lee also played in every match recording 71% and 67% respectively.

Division 3

'A' Team

Played 11th March, 1980

Wanstead & Woodford			v	Ilford		
1	J.W. Franklin	1	v	A. Hartland		0
2	J. Duggan	$\frac{1}{2}$	v	H. Sims		$\frac{1}{2}$
3	A.W. Birks	1	v	A. Armer		0
4	D Pearce	0	v	G. Brand		1
5	Miss K. Part	0	v	R. Grant		1
6	T.K. Hilton	0	v	C. Thomas		1
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$2\frac{1}{2}$				$3\frac{1}{2}$		

'A' v 'B'

Played 1st April, 1980

Wanstead & Woodford 3A			v	Wanstead & Woodford 3B		
1	S. Leary	1	v	V. Morris		0
2	J.E. Duggan	0	v	S. Bradford		1

3	D.C. Bennett	0	v	K. Davis	1
4	Miss K. Part	0	v	R. Hawkins	1
5	W. Hayday	0	v	J.S. Langford	1
6	P. Stephenson	0	v	C. Whittaker	1
		1		5	

'B' Team

Played 20th March, 1980

Wanstead & Woodford 3B			v	Ilford 3B		
1	V. Morris	0	v	A. Hartland	1	
2	K. Davis	$\frac{1}{2}$	v	H. Sims	$\frac{1}{2}$	
3	R. Hawkins	0	v	C. Thomas	1	
4	J.S. Langford	1	v	R. Grant	0	
5	C. Whittaker	1	v	DEFAULT	0	
6	J. Goodwin	1	v	Miss S. Metzger	0	
				3 $\frac{1}{2}$		2 $\frac{1}{2}$

The home match against Laindon, 25.3.80 was won by DEFAULT 5-1 (sic).

Division 4

Played 4th March, 1980 at Wanstead

Wanstead & Woodford			v	Barking 'B'		
1	A.F. O'Reagan	1	v	P. O'Halloran	0	
2	D.S. Pearce	0	v	M. Cooper	1	
3	F.B.R. Crick	$\frac{1}{2}$	v	C. McDonald	$\frac{1}{2}$	
4	R. Smith	1	v	C. Fowler	0	
5	P. Stephenson	adj	v	G. London	adj	
6	W. Hayday	0	v	A. Johnson	1	
				2 $\frac{1}{2}$ + 1 adj		2 $\frac{1}{2}$ + 1 adj

Played 25th March, 1980

Wanstead			v	Brentwood		
1	A.F. O'Reagan	0	v	R. Horn	1	
2	D.S. Pearce	0	v	D. Moffat	1	
3	R. Smith	0	v	W. Quinn	1	
4	A. Rosenbloom	0	v	D. Bull	1	
5	T. Dickson	0	v	P. McCabe	1	
6	T.K. Hilton	1	v	J. Acton	0	
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		1			5	

Played 8th April, 1980 at Wanstead

Wanstead				Romford Deaf	
1	A.F. O'Reagan	0	v	T. Nabarro	1
2	F.B. Crick	0	v	R. Willson	1
3	R. Smith	1	v	B. David	0
4	A. Rosenbloom	0	v	H. Woolfe	1
5	W. Hayday	$\frac{1}{2}$	v	P. Gardner	$\frac{1}{2}$
6	T.K. Hilton	1	v	W. Houlston	0
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		2 $\frac{1}{2}$		3 $\frac{1}{2}$	

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The friendly match v. Hastings on April 27th was drawn 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ -8 $\frac{1}{2}$. Full detail next issue.

Ian Humm