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CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Simon Lee won the 2 game play-off against Tony Clark (for the record, by 2-0) and thus becomes the youngest player to hold the title. This distinction was previously held by the late David Wood who won in 1965/6 at the age of 16, and who retained the title the following year, before going to University. Simon is still only 14. Perhaps his brother will take the record off him this year?

Sorry neither of the play-off games is yet available for publication, Simon hasn't kept his scoresheets(!) and it doesn't seem fair to ask Tony for them.

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OPENING NIGHT ~ CATERPILLAR SIMULTANEOUS

George Fernie is apparently the culprit for this idea, proposed at the A.G.M. as a means of opening the season. George explained later that his proposal was made tongue-in-cheek, but as often happens with such proposals this one was carried with all seriousness.

Of course, for some seasons we have opened with a tandem simul by the Champion and the holder of the David Wood Trophy but with a tie for both positions (the Championship as then unresolved), to repeat the idea meant our very own gang of four, namesly Simon Lee, Tony Clark, Edward Lee and Stuart Skelsey.

There were some sceptics, who thought the quartet wouldn't combine sufficiently well to withstand the opposition, but these were silenced when the caterpillar turned into a butterfly that stung like a bee. They took on 24 opponents and allowed just 5 wins, by J. Duggan, S. Bradford, R. Wagstaff, A. O'Regan and S. Bendon. Draws were secured by W. Franklin, S. Leary, G. Fernie and K. Jones to give the caterpillar and excellent score of 17-7.

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LONDON LEAGUE ~ DIVISION 2

Played 24th September, 1980 at St. Bride's Institute
W & W had white on the odd numbered boards

	Wanstead & Woodford	v	East Ham	
1	G. Speed 203	0	v W.J. Stirling 196	1
2	I.D. Hunnabale 170	$\frac{1}{2}$	v K. Spurgeon 184	$\frac{1}{2}$
3	A.T. Marshall 187	$\frac{1}{2}$	v K. Barnes 176	$\frac{1}{2}$
4	P. Pritchard 165	$\frac{1}{2}$	v R. Nixon 158	$\frac{1}{2}$
5	T.D. Whitton 169	$\frac{1}{2}$	v H.I. Woolverton 173	$\frac{1}{2}$
6	E.S. Lee 161 J	adj	v R. Watts 175	adj
7	Dr. D.C. Hick -	$\frac{1}{2}$	v S.J. Abbott 158	$\frac{1}{2}$
8	S.R. Lee 151 J	adj	v K. Spencer 155	adj
9	Alan J. Potter 155	1	v P. Smyth 155	0
10	S. Skelsey 148	$\frac{1}{2}$	v N. Haque 153	$\frac{1}{2}$
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		4 + 2adj		4 + 2adj

Whether the new League Secretary had some inside information is open to speculation, but he couldn't have picked a keener contest for both sides to open the season. Over the years in Essex League matches we have

built a keen rivalry with the Hammers, but met them for only the second time in the London League last season, when they took the points by $6\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$. Moreover, our new captain Alan Potter, with his recent East Ham connections, must have been doubly anxious to reverse last year's result and pulled together a good side. Perhaps however, this encounter had more to do with W & W - Upminster meetings; six of the opposition being Upminster players. Indeed 5 of them appeared for Upminster against us in our final Essex League match last season.

The scoresheet suggests a very tight contest, which is just what it was, with wins hard to come by. Dave Hick was on course for our first success but finished $\frac{1}{2}$ pt light when he let slip a two pawn advantage by playing a combination in the wrong order. Terry Whitton committed a howler in the early stages and was faced with a long defensive task, the exchange down, to save a half. At length he accomplished this feat by use of an outside passed pawn. Paul Pritchard had technical difficulties in holding on to an extra pawn and parted with two minor pieces for a rook and a second pawn. The outcome was unclear and doubtless would have required a second session to play out. But Paul was due almost upon the instant to take up a place at Exeter University for a Teacher Training course, and proposed the draw. What would have happened if Nixon had elected to play on, the opposition wondered. "I'd have come back for it" was Paul's answer. Alan Potter tried to lead his team by example when crashing through Smyth's king's-side, but no-one has yet been able to follow. We thought Graham Speed was going to add to that point in the top board game which drew a sizeable crowd as it boiled up in a time scramble. The players had castled on opposite sides and Graham had broken through to the king. But the attack was deceptively difficult to press home and Bill Stirling (formerly among our ranks) whipped up a counter on the opposite wing where none seemed to exist.

So all square at adjournment. Alan Marshall was making disparaging noises about his position but later found a resource to save himself. Edward Lee's game creates the most interest: after successfully negotiating a most difficult middlegame he moved onto the attack but in order to keep this going has offered the exchange. Roy Watts contributed to the drama by electing to seal his next move, keeping everyone on tenter hooks as to whether he'd accepted or declined the sac. We still don't know! Simon Lee has built a powerful position with an enormous supported passed pawn on KR6, but has still to breakthrough. Meanwhile, Stuart Skelsey battled on until move 70 by which time he had reached an ending of Q & P v. Q where his lone RP was too far back to win.

Ultimate victory in this match will owe as much to the defensive tasks of Whitton and Marshall as to the wins.

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ESSEX LEAGUE ~ DIVISION 2

Played 1st October, 1980, Away

W & W had er...I don't know what colour on the odd numbered boards

Wanstead & Woodford		v	Chadwell Heath	
1	G.W. Fernie 149	adj v	R.C.A. Hessian 133	adj
2	S. Skelsey 148	1 v	F. Homann 122	0
3	G.T. Gooding 137	0 v	D. Bakshi -	1
4	S. Bradford 137	adj v	B.S. Virk 122	adj
5	S.M.J. Leary 132 J	0 v	C.L. Guiste 107	1
6	J.E. Duggan 120 J	1 v	H. Bakshi 92	0
7	J.W. Franklin 120 J	0 v	T. Williams -	1
8	R. Hawkins -	1 v	M. Godward -	0
		3 + 2adj	3 + 2 adj	

The unfinished games offer a winning chance, dependent upon, it seems, George Fernie being able to win his R & P ending with an extra pawn. This is a new team from Chadwell Heath or rather their second team has jumped up two divisions.

QUICK PLAY

'5 MINUTE' HANDICAP 29th July, 1980

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Total	Prize
1 A.T. Marshall -3	X	1	0	1	1	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	I
2 M. Bird -3		X	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	10	II-III
3 E.S. Lee -3			X	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	
4 S. Leary -1			$\frac{1}{2}$	1	X	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	IV
5 J. Duggan -1				1	1	X	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
6 W.T. Franklin -3		$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	0	X	1	0	0	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	9	
7 T.D. Whitton -3	$\frac{1}{2}$		0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	X	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	8	
8 A.J. Potter -3		0	0	1	0	1	0	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	1	1	1	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	
9 J.W. Franklin -1		0	0	0	0	1	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	0	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	7	
10 Miss K. Part Par	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	X	0	0	1	1	1	7	
11 P. Pritchard -3	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	X	0	0	0	1	6	
12 S. Skelsey -2	0	0	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	X	1	1	1	6	
13 R. Smith Par	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	X	1	1	3	
14 R. Hawkins Par	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	X	1	2	
15 A. Moore Par	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	X	0	

Handicaps were up to 3 minutes as indicated, according to grading.

CLUB LIGHTNING CHAMPIONSHIP (10 secs. a move) 7th October, 1980

The reporting of this event causes a certain amount of Editorial emarrassment as a glance at the result will show. The fact that the winner was also controlling the event, in cahoots with Alan Marshall is neither here nor there.

This as far as I can tell is the first lightning tournament we have held to have the appendage Club Championship.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Total	Prize
1 I. Hunnable	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	I
2 T. Whitton	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	II
3 G.M. Hayes	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	-	-	-	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4)	
4 S. Lowe	0	0	-	X	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4)	
5 W. Franklin	0	0	-	-	X	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	4)	III
6 S. Leary	-	0	-	0	-	X	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	4)	
7 G.W. Fernie	-	-	0	0	-	-	X	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4)	
8 E.S. Lee	-	-	0	-	0	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	
9 A. Marshall	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	-	-	-	X	1	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
10 H. Sims	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	X	0	0	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	
11 A.S. Kinder	-	0	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	1	X	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	
12 J. Franklin	0	-	-	0	-	0	-	-	-	1	-	X	-	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	1	-	-	-	-	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
13 J. Duggan	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	1	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ *	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
14 D.C. Bennett	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	0	-	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	X	1	-	1	-	-	-	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
15 F. Crick	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	0	X	-	1	-	1	-	2	
16 G. Gooding	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	X	-	-	1	-	1	2	
17 A. O'Regan	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	X	1	-	1	-	2	
18 J. Hayes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	0	X	1	1	-	2	
19 V. Taylor	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	0	X	1	1	
20 EYE	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ *	-	-	0	0	0	0	X	$\frac{1}{2}$ (sic!)	

6 Rounds, Swiss pairing

* J. Duggan given $\frac{1}{2}$ pt bye in the first round due to late arrival.

A tournament list with more than a little interest. Gerry Hayes, hitherto of Ilford, has joined our ranks and also brought along Hayes junior who at just 7 years is merely half the age of our Champion! Doubtless our renown for encouraging junior players has been the attraction here over Ilford. Gerry we understand is available for Essex League and will add steel to our

top boards.

Another newcomer, Mr. Lowe, who described himself as being rusty after a lay-off from the game, started the tournament with 3/3! and his eventual 4th place bodes well for our prospects this season. Alan Marshall was clearly out of touch in a form of play at which he normally excels.

Finally, if there are still any suspicious minds, let me state the result of this tournament is not at all to do with having had my finger in the pairing pie. Indeed I think the blame should lie fairly and squarely with Bill Franklin as our last round game shows:

Game No. 77 W.T. Franklin v. I.D. Hunnabale Alekhine's Defence. 1 e4, Nf6;
2 Bc4, Nxe4; 3 Bxf7+ Kxf7; 4 Qh5+ Kg8; 5 Qd5+ e6; 6 Qxe4, d5;
7 Qf3, Nc6; 8 d3, Nd4(?) 9 Qd1, Bc5(?) 10 c3, Nf5; 11 d4, Bd6; 12 Nf3, g6;
13 Bg5, Qf8; 14 Nbd2, h6; 15 Be3, Kh7; 16 Qe2, Bd7; 17 0-0-0, b5; 18 h4, b4;
19 g4, Nxe3; 20 fxe3, bxc3; 21 bxc3, Ba3+ 22 Kc2, Ba4+ 23 Nb3, Qd6; 24 Qd3, Rhf8;
25 Ne5, Rf2+ 26 Rd2, Rxd2+ 27 Kxd2, Rg8; 28 h5, Be8; 29 Qc2, (g5 immediately.)
29 ... c5; 30 g5, cxd4; 31 hxg6+ Kg7; On 31 ... Bxg6; 32 Rxh6+. 32 gxh6+
'orrible innit? The great thing about lightning play is that it doesn't give
you time to decide whether to resign - if you can see a move play it. So....
32 ... Kf6; 33 exd4? 33 Ng4+ would probably be enough to induce the curtains.
But now... 33 ... Bxg6; 34 Rf1+ Bf5; 35 Qd1, Rg2+ 36 Ke1, Bb2; 37 Rf3, Rg1+
38 Kd2?? Rxd1; 39 Kxd1, Qc7; Not 39 ... Kg5. 40 Nc5, Kg5; 41 Rg3+ Kxh6;
42 Ncd7; Bxc3; 43 Nf7+ kh5; Now the king is being hounded and the queen doesn't
look quite so good. 44 Rg5+ Kh4; 45 Nde5, Bxd4; 46 Nf3+ Kh3; 47 Nxd4, Qxf7;
48 Nf3, Qc7? I imagined 48 ... Bg4 was answered by 49 Rxg4, Kxg4; 50 Ne5+ but
of course Black has 49 ... Qxf3+. 49 Ke2? Afterwards Alan Marshall pointed out
that 49 Ng1+ is a draw! 49 ... Bg4; 50 Kf2, Qg3+ WHITE RESIGNS. (Not for
publication, Harry!)

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Entries are invited for the Club Championship for the new season. This term we have introduced a simple set of rules to tidy up conduct of the event. The crux of these rules is that competitors must turn up on the starting date for each round or make your excuses to the Tournament Secretary. Failure to do either will result in default! We have increased the prize list funded by an increased entry fee of £1.

The starting dates for each round are:

Round 1	4th November, 1980
" 2	2nd December, "
" 3	6th January, 1981
" 4	3rd February, "
" 5	3rd March, "
" 6	31st March, "
" 7	28th April, "
" 8	19th May, "
" 9	9th June, "

Full details and entry form (the only way to enter) can be obtained from the Tournament Secretary, Alan Marshall. In theory entries can be accepted up until the start of the first round, but don't leave it too late.

Ian Hunnabale