

Wandering Dragons Chess Club

v

Honved Of Budapest

European Team Championships - Round One

At the Reid Concert Hall - Edinburgh University

Sat 15th April and Sunday 16th April from 1pm.

This match has been financially supported by :

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From The Editor

On behalf of the Wandering Dragons Chess Club it gives me great pleasure to welcome the players and officials of Honved to Edinburgh. We hope that their stay in Scotland's capital city will be a pleasant experience and that they enjoy this weekend's chess match. As you can see from the facing page Honved are a very strong club and it seems likely that it will take a supreme effort from the Dragons in order to reach round two. It is a great honour for the Wandering Dragons Chess Club to be representing Scotland in this competition and we hope that spectators will enjoy an instructive and entertaining spectacle. The organisers of this event are grateful to The Eastfield Guest House - Penicuik, The Cafe Royal Oyster Bar and Scotbyte Computers Limited, all of whom are financially supporting this fixture. We are also indebted to Raymond Baxter who has kindly agreed to be match arbiter. Finally thanks are also due to Mark Condie, Geoff Chanler and Neil Farrell who will be providing commentaries throughout the weekend. I hope that the games provide them with interesting material !

Chris Donkin

THE TEAMS

Each team will select six players to compete on each day from the following pools.

WANDERING DRAGONS

1 Mark Orr (IM)	2375
2 Craig Thomson (FM)	2345
3 Graham Morrison (FM)	2340
4 Spike Mullen	2190
5 Tony Dempsey	2180
6 Paul Hampton	2100
7 Graham Hamilton	2015
8 Pete Szalapaj	1995
9 David Wallace	1920
10 Tony McClelland	1920

HONVED OF BUDAPEST

1 G Sax (GM)	2610
2 J Pinter (GM)	2550
3 J Horvath (IM)	2510
4 L Hazai (IM)	2460
5 C Horvath (IM)	2445
6 P Petran (IM)	2440
7 J Palkovi (FM)	2425
8 L Liptay (IM)	2405
9 T Fogarasi (FM)	2370
10 E Nagy (IM)	2360
11 T Utasi (IM)	2345
12 M Orso (IM)	2345

NOTE

Gradings shown initalics are SCA gradings - all others are the official FIDE ratings. Using the above figures the expected score of the match is Dragons 2.04 Honved 9.96 !!

The Dragons - Pen Pictures

Mark Orr

Irishman Mark now lives in Manchester where he works in the field of computing. Gained the International Master title last summer at the Haringey International tournament. Mark is a former winner of the Irish Championship and is the current Wandering Dragons Club Champion. His chances of beating Sax over the board are not promising and he may have to resort to beating him over the head with a shillelagh.

Craig Thomson

1984 may have been the year of the Orwellian nightmare but it was also the year when Craig won the Scottish Championship. The dapper Mr Thomson works for the tax office and is a FIDE Master.

Graham Morrison

Graham is another former Scottish Champion in the Dragon's ranks - winning the title in 1981. He is currently studying mathematics as a postgraduate student at Heriot Watt University. FIDE Master Graham is regarded as the Dragon's answer to Petrosian as he has the reputation of being able to draw with anyone. A very solid player (both literally and metaphorically!) he could give IM Horvath some problems.

Ian "Spike" Mullen

When Spike joined the club a couple of years ago he became the third ex caretaker of Edinburgh Chess Club to join the Wandering Dragons. Civil servant Spike is a very strong player whose particular forte is the endgame.

Tony Dempsey

Tony is the only member of the Dragons side who can claim to make his living from the game - he works as a deputy editor for Pergamon Chess. If Tony gets into time trouble spectators can look forward to seeing some amazing body language. In particular look out for unusual posture and the winding the hair round the finger routine.

Paul Hampton

Paul is the youngest member of the side and the Dragon's very own lager lout. He is an undergraduate at Edinburgh University and has represented Scotland as a junior international. Paul has been going through a bad spell of form recently and in February he suffered the ultimate embarrassment - he lost to the Rev Steve Gowland.

Graham Hamilton

Within the club "Hamish" will be forever remembered as the man who won the Richardson Cup for the Dragons. In last year's final with only his board left to finish Graham turned the tables on an astonished Alan Scrimgeour of Polytechnic to take the game and the match. Now working as a croupier in London, Graham who makes his own cigarettes, will be looking to "roll up" his sleeves and get stuck in.

Pete Szalapaj

Aggressive, brutal, violent, psychopathic. These are some of the words that have been used to describe the play of Pete Szalapaj. During the Dragon's visit to Dublin last summer Pete scored 5 goals in the football match against Kevin Barry Chess Club. If he is to register a success this weekend he may have to employ some nifty footwork under the table!

Dave Wallace

A regular prizewinner at weekend congresses, David astounded the chess world (well he astounded me anyway!) when he won one of the Ayrshire tournaments in 1985 to qualify for that year's British Championship. Not content with that achievement David went on to record a very respectable score of 3.5 in the Championship tournament. A big fan of Billy Bragg and Bob Dylan, David might wish by the end of the match that he had spent the weekend at home listening to their records!

Tony McClelland

When the remaining hairs on his balding head are tousled during a time scramble Tony looks like something straight out of a Boris Karloff movie. A fearsome opponent at the best of times Tony might just turn out to be the Dragon's secret weapon.

Robert J Fischer

Due to the enormous amount of talent in the Dragons team there is no place in the side for Bobby this weekend.

Wandering Dragons - The First Nine Years

The Wandering Dragons Chess Club was founded in the summer of 1980 by James T Mullin, Jannic Konarski, Howard Nimmo and myself. However to describe the evolutionary process one has to go back to the spring of 1979. It was in the closing months of season 1978-79 that Stirling University Chess Club were enjoying their best ever season. The A team were pushing hard and were about to finish runners-up in the Central League and the club also reached the final of the Central League seven board cup. Stirling University Chess club boasted four league teams at this time and the C team finished second in division three of the Central League thus gaining promotion. Curiously enough it was this last, almost insignificant event, which led to the formation of the Wandering Dragons. The C team captain was Jim Mullin and he, like myself, was just about to graduate. He was however so proud of his achievement as team captain that he wished to play for the Stirling University C team the following season in division two. Many times Jim turned up to play in these fixtures but each time he found himself as the only Stirling University player present. The club had gone down the nick and were finding it impossible to field three teams. Jim approached the club secretary and asked him if he could get together a bunch of his mates to fulfill the fixtures. This was where I came in ! Jim, me, Jannic and others completed the season as Stirling University C and enjoyed it immensely - we also avoided relegation. At the AGM of the Central League in May 1980 we asked if we could do the same again. By this time Stirling University were unhappy about us playing under their name and the league secretary, Robert Togneri, told us that if we wished to enter a new team into the league we would have to apply for election into division three. Ah But ! We do not wish to enter a new team into the league we simply wish to change the name of Stirling University C. Well what do you want to change the name to ? was the question. At this time we all (except for Jannic) played the Dragon variation of the Sicilian and it was pretty clear to me that as we had no equipment or premises we would have to play all our games away from home - hence the Wandering Dragons. Had that day turned out differently we may have been called The Five Degrees as this was the name suggested by Robert Togneri.

The Wandering Dragons Chess Club played their first match in August 1980 against Cumbernauld B in division two of the Central League and won 5-0. The team that night was Geoff Chandler, Jannic Konarski, Chris Donkin, Howard Nimmo and Jim Mullin. As the season progressed informal club nights were arranged and a club championship won by Geoff Chandler took place. The Green Tree in The Cowgate proved to be a regular haunt on Friday nights for the pioneering Dragons and many Edinburgh chess players, particularly those at Edinburgh University and in the Civil Service Chess Club, began to take an interest in our activities. By the summer of 1981 the founder members had been boosted by an influx of stalwarts-to-be Ferguson, Crorie, Sharp, Morgan, Poots, Gowland, Laing, Crichton, Cackette, Adams and Martin Donkin. Helped by a donation of dubious chess equipment from a defunct Edinburgh club the Dragons

applied for membership to the Edinburgh League. We were admitted directly into division two and won it at the first attempt, largely due to the efforts of Alan Ferguson and Ian Crorie on boards one and two. Their own personal love-hate relationship caused a 1982 edition of Capital Chess to observe "some play the Kings Indian, some play the Queens Indian - Crorie and Ferguson still play cowboys and indians." Club nights during 1981-82 took place at our first home - The Old Coach Inn in Canonmills and the club championship from that season featured this fairly typical drunken encounter. White JT Mullin v Black Rev S Gowland 1 e4 e5 2 f4 Bc5 3 exf Qh4+ 4 g3 Qxe4+ 5 Qe2 Qxh1 6 Nf3 b6 7 d3 Bg7 8 Nbd2 Nh6 9 b3 Bg4 10 Bb2 Bxf3 0-1.

In the summer of 1982 Mark Orr joined the Wandering Dragons Chess Club. Of all the many people who have joined this great club over the last nine years none has had such a major impact. Being a nostalgic type of person I tend to look back on the 1982-86 period as the halcyon days of the Wandering Dragons. This was the era of our first Spens Cup victory (over East Kilbride in 1983) and of our continued success within the Edinburgh League culminating in our championship season of 1985-86. This was also the era of that scurrilous, esoteric publication the Wandering Dragons Chess Club Newsletter. This was a monthly rag sold to members containing members games, news, views and horrendous bouts of character assassination. The editors were Jannic Konarski, Mark Orr and The Rev Steve "Greenteeth" Gowland in that order. In March 1983 the Newsletter featured this David and Goliath encounter from the club championship. White Derek Poots v Black Mark Orr 1 e4 c5 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 Qc2?! Nc6 5 Qd1? Nf6 6 Nge2 d6 7 Ng3 h5 8 d3?! h4 9 Nge2 h3 10 g3? Bg4 11 Be3 Bf3 12 Rg1 Ng4 13 Kd2 Nxh2 14 Qe1? Bg4 15 Kc1 Nf3 16 Qd1 Nxg1 17 Bxh3 Nxe2+ 18 Nxe2 Rxh3 19 f3 Bxf3 20 Qf1 Qa5 21 Qxf3 Qxe1+ 0-1. The rag also had it's own crossword and featured clues like (i) The Reverend could hardly be described as fastidious in this respect (6.7) (ii) A common sight in Derek Poots' games but also for that matter in those of Fischer and Tal (6.2.5) (iii) Jim Mullin's grading is certainly not going in this direction (2) (iv) Howard Nimmo's breath has been described as this (4). The answers are of course (i) dental hygiene (ii) pieces en prise (iii) up and (iv) foul. When the Reverend arrived in the editor's chair he tried a new style of journalism - treat your readers with complete and utter contempt. Hence his editorial from April 1984 began with the opening salvo "Yet again, WD NEWS is late in arriving, and yet again the reason is lack of interest from you the membership. A measly five pages is all you're getting, and that's more than you deserve." This era also featured a move to better premises (ie from the Old Coach to the Trades Council) and a dramatic increase in membership. Success at the chessboard followed and the Dragons nabbed a Central League title in 1983, this of course was then followed by Spens Cup and Edinburgh League titles. However bad news was just around the corner.

After winning the Edinburgh and Lothians Chess League in 1985-86 everyone at the club was looking forward to season 1986-87 with great anticipation. Unfortunately the club secretary (Neil Clapperton)

forgot to send in our entry to the local league. After a protracted dispute (which made the news pages of The Scotsman and The Glasgow Herald) the Dragons eventually found that they were unable to defend the title they had won the previous season. At the time this seemed like the end of the world but in retrospect it can be seen as simply as a minor setback. Ironically during our "slack" 1986-87 season we were able to attract many strong new members -eg Craig Thomson, Tony Dempsey, Spike Mullen (no relation to the great Jim) Tony McClelland etc. After our enforced holiday we have returned to win the Edinburgh League in season 1987-88 and again in season 1988-89. We won the Central League Seven Board Cup for the first time in 1988, the Cafe Royal Oyster Bar Chess Challenge in 1987, our ladies have won the Robertson Cup in 1987 and 1989 and we won the Spens Cup for a second time in 1987. Most important of all however was last year's Richardson Cup win. After nine short years we have achieved what many clubs have failed to do in a century - winning the Scottish Team Championship. Here's hoping the next nine years are half as good as the last.

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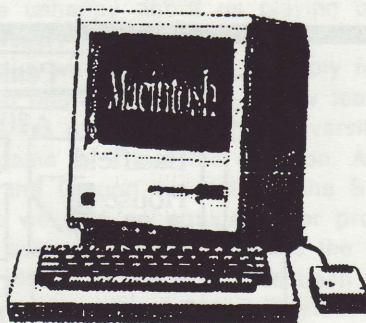
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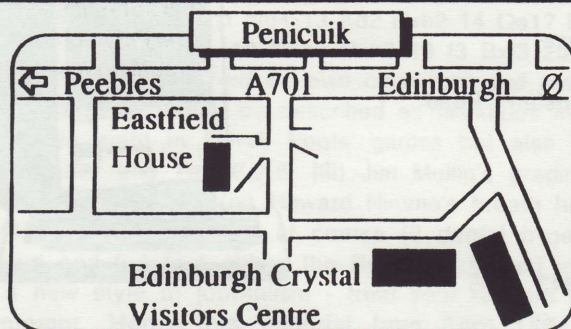
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FACTS AND FIGURES

LAST TIME

The last European Team Championships were finally resolved as an all-play-all tourney between the remaining four clubs. Our visitors Honved were runners up but did beat CSKA Moscow in their individual encounter.

1 CSKA Moscow	20/36
2 Honved	18
3 Volmac Rotterdam	17.5
4 Solingen	16.5



SCOTTISH TEAMS IN EUROPE

This weekend's matches in Edinburgh and Glasgow are the 4th and 5th contests involving Scottish clubs in Europe. As you can see no team has been beyond the first round.

1983 Castlemilk	4	Belgrade	8
1985 Dundee	3.5	Rome	8.5
1987 Edinburgh	2	Bosna Sarajevo	10
1989 Dragons	?	Honved	?
1989 Polytechnic	?	CSKA Moscow	?

Footnote : Dragons board two Craig Thomson is playing in his third European tie having previously represented Catlemilk and Edinburgh.

HOW THE DRAGONS QUALIFIED

By winning the 1987-88 Richardson Cup in the following manner.

Rd 1	Dragons	8	Giffnock and Clarkston	0
QF	Dragons	5	Edinburgh	3
SF	Dragons	5.5	Shettleston	2.5
Final	Dragons	4	Polytechnic	4

(Wandering Dragons won on board count)

A Poem By Derek VE Poots

The Hearts have been in Europe
They Almost made it through
"The boys done well" says Greavsie
And Bayern know it's true

The Dragons now will have their turn
Upon the chequered park
And the lights upon the continent
Are sure to soon turn dark

"The lights are going out all over Europe" - William Ewart Gladstone PM

"Watch out for sneaky back rankers" - Derek Vaughn Ernest Poots GM

Can Sax and Pinter be beaten ?

By The Reverend Steve Gowland

Grandmaster Sax is usually an e4 player and like other super GMs has a very strong and varied opening repertoire. If he has an achilles heel, it is in the middle game. In a recent game with Dr John Nunn he gets a better position from the opening - only to lose it in the middle game

White : Sax (2610)
Black : Nunn (2615)
Brussels 1988

1 e4 e5
2 Nf3 Nc6
3 Bb5 a6
4 Ba4 Nf6
5 O-O Be7
6 Re1 b5
7 Bb3 O-O
8 c3 d5
9 exd5 Nxd5
10 Nxe5 Nxe5
11 Rxe5 c6
12 d4 Bd6
13 Re2 Qh4
14 g3 Qh3
15 Nd2 Bf5
16 a4 !?

Many moves have been tried here 16) Ne4 16) Bc2 16) Bd5 and 16) Qf1 are all recent tries.

16 Rae8 ?!
17 Rxe8 !

And now white has a very small but definite advantage.

17 Rxe8
18 Nf1 ! h5
19 Bxd5 cxd5

20 axb5 axb5
21 Ne3 Bg6
22 Qf1

Probably better is 22 Nxd5 Be4 23 Ne3. Having made all the running, Sax's game deteriorates rapidly from this point. A hint perhaps that he does not play his best after realizing a small error - even though he still has a very small advantage.

22 Qd7
23 Ra5 Rb8
24 Ng2

Another slip. 24 Nxd5! Bxg3 25 Nf6+ gx16 26 fxg3 maintains white's small advantage.

24 b4!
25 Bd2 bxc3
26 Bxc3 Bc7
27 Rc5

27 Ra1 keeps the rook more flexibly placed.

27 Be4
28 f3 Bc2
29 Ne3 Bb3
30 Bd2 ?

All the little slips have taken their effect and now the bloomer arrives. 30 Ba5 looks best.

30 Bb6
31 Rc1

Perhaps Sax thought he could have played 31 Rb5 which of course loses to 31 Bc4

One thing is for sure, black's bishops are now decisive.

31 Bd4
32 Qd3 Bxb2
33 Re1 Ba2
34 Qa6 Bc4
35 Qa5 Bd4
36 Bc3 Bxe3+
37 Rxe3 d4
38 Qe5 Rd8
39 Bb2 f6
40 Qc5 dxe3
41 Resigns

.....

With a rating of 2550 Josef Pinter is obviously a strong Grandmaster. One of Pinter's favourite lines with white is 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 leading to a Queens Indian. His results with this however have been somewhat suspect, with black often gaining the initiative from the opening. As black Pinter plays a mean Nimzo Indian and only the ultra confident would give him the chance to play it. However, if like in the following game, you avoid the Nimzo you can tempt the man to take risks and overstretch himself.

White : Inkov (2485)
Black : Pinter (2550)
Zagreb Interzonal 1987

1 d4 Nf6
2 c4 e6
3 Nf3 (!) d5
4 g3 dxc4
5 Bg2 Bd7
6 Qc2 c5

7 Qc4 Bc6
8 O-O Nbd7
9 Bg5 Rc8
10 Bf6 g6 ?

GM Pinter essays a Theoretical Novelty. It certainly provides an interesting alternative to the usual Nf6

11 Nc3 b5 !
12 Qd3 c4
13 Qc2 b4
14 Ne4 Nb6
15 g4 ! h5 ?!
16 g5 ! fg5
17 Neg5 Bg7
18 h4 Bf6
19 e4 Bg5
20 hg5 Rg8
21 Rfe1 Ba4
22 Qd2 c3
23 bc3 bc3
24 Qf4 Qc7
25 Qh4 Nc4
26 d5 ! Bd7
27 de6 ?

Better was 27 e5 ! when after ed5 28 Nd4 ! Be6 29 Qh5 gives white a definite advantage.

27 Be6
28 Nd4 Bg4 !
29 Nf5 Ne5
30 Qg3 Rd8 ?

The losing move. Better was 30 Bf3 leading to an unclear position.

31 Rac1 ! Rd3
32 Re3 Be2
33 Rd3 Bd3
34 f4 h4
35 Qe3 Ng4
36 Qd3 Resigns

So it would seem that if you are blessed with some ability GMs Sax and Pinter can be beaten. But do our boys have what it takes ? It's true that they haven't beaten many GMs but they are certainly not afraid of taking the scalp of a titled

player in double quick time given a bit of encouragement. In the games that follow both of their IM opponents fail to last 30 moves.

White Mark Orr
Black Ravi-Sekhar IM (2420)
Commonwealth Chps 1985

1 Nf3 g6
2 c4 Bg7
3 d4 d6
4 Nc3 Bg4
5 e3 Nc6
6 Be2 e5
7 d5 Ne7
8 Qb3 b6 ?

Better is 8 ... Bf3 9 Bf3 b6

9 Ne5 ! Be2
10 Qa4+ ! c6
11 Nc6 Bc3+
12 bc Qd7
13 Ke2 Rc8
14 Rd1

14 Qa7 is dangerous because of the reply Qg4+

14 Nc6
15 dc Rc6
16 Rd4 Ne7
17 Ba3 Nc8
18 Re4+

Possible was 18 Rad1 O-O 19 Bd6 Nd6 20 Rd6 Qg4+ 21 Kf1 Qc4+ 22 Qc4 Rc4 when although white is a pawn up can he win ? In the end Mark chose Re4+ because he was attracted by the line 18Kf8 19 Rd1 Kg7 20 c5 ! bc 21 Bc5 followed by 22 Bd4

18 Kd8
19 Rd1 Re8
20 Red4 Re6
21 Qb5 f6
22 f4 Rc7
23 R1d3 f5
24 Bb4

Setting a trap which black falls into, but his position is under

a lot of pressure and either a4-a5 or h3 and g4 will add even more and so I think white will win in the end.

24 a5 ?
25 Bd6 ! Nd6
26 Qb6 Resigns

White Craig Thomson
Black Roddy McKay IM (2385)
Scottish Chp 1987

1 d4 d5
2 c4 e6
3 Nf3 Nf6
4 Nc3 c6
5 e3 Nbd7
6 Bd3 dxc4
7 Bxc4 b5
8 Bd3 a6
9 e4 c5
10 e5 cxd4
11 Nxb5 Ng4
12 Qa4 Ngxe5
13 Nxe5 Nxe5
14 Nd6+ Ke7
15 Nxc8+ Kf6
16 Bxa6 Nd3+
17 Ke2 Nb4
18 Qb3 Qd5
19 Qxd5 exd5
20 Bd3 Rxc8
21 a3 Nc6
22 b4 Bd6
23 Bb2 Rhe8+
24 Kd1 Rb8
25 Rc1 Rec8
26 g3 h6
27 Re1 g5 ?
28 Rxc6 ! Resigns

So there it is fellow woodpushers. Sax and Pinter can be beaten and what's more they can be beaten by Messrs Orr and Thomson ! Whatever the result, we at the Wandering Dragons Chess Club hope that it is a sporting, entertaining and enjoyable contest. Good Luck to all the competitors in this weekend's match.

THE



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