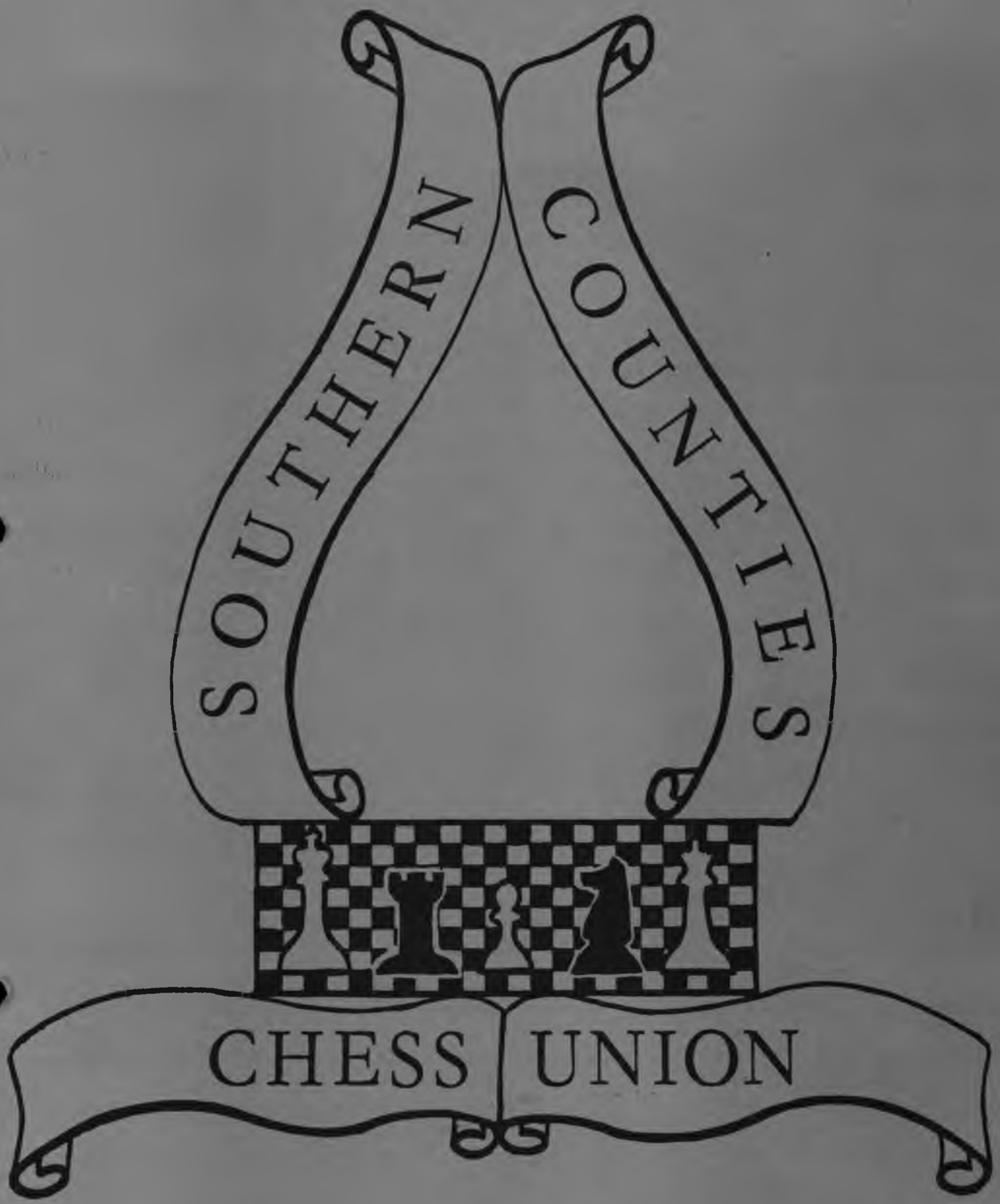

BULLETIN

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SOUTHERN COUNTIES CHESS UNION

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Facts we try to get right. Opinions, unless otherwise attributed, are the Editor's.

EDITORIAL

The Welch Report (see page 9) has been a long time coming and not everyone will be satisfied. An out-of-Union inquiry, conducted by three Senior Arbiters, had obvious merits. It also had the demerits of being unable to meet frequently or chase up missing information. Potentially unfair, I suppose - you can't reply to an allegation if you don't know it's been made - but I have no doubt that the Inquiry team recognised the limitations under which it was working, and drew only such conclusions as it felt it safely could. And the more locally-based Coleman Inquiry, which reported first after meeting no less than ten times, reached broadly similar conclusions.

I don't know that Mr Thurlow's actions at the congress deserved quite the criticism they get from Welch, but his post-congress publications - or at any rate the two I've seen - were disgraceful, and hardly the sort of thing one expects from a BCF Arbiter. Even without Inquiries in the air.

A letter from Louise Sinclair appears below the Report. I wouldn't say I agree with everything in it, but agreeing with me is only one of the ways to get published.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Richard, 25.1.95

I would like to correct one point in your Report in the November issue about the joint statement by Nigel Short and the BCF. The critics were Stan Goodall of the Manchester and District Chess Association and Mike O'Hara of the Northern Counties Chess Union. Neil Graham of the Midland Counties Chess Union supported the statement.

This year marks the centenary of the Hastings Congress and most readers of the Bulletin will have received the Centenary Appeal. I shall be asking the SCCU Executive Committee to make a contribution and I urge counties, clubs and individuals to respond if able to do so. The Hastings Committee have an attractive programme of events prepared, but they badly need additional funds. Donations should be sent to Paul Buswell (51 Kenilworth Rd, St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex TN38 0JL).

In the September issue you refer to the BCF Presidents Awards. I was especially pleased about the award made to Rodney James. I prepared the final version of the citation and I also felt a sense of unaccustomed but genuine humility when writing about a man who was playing competitive chess in 1923. A week after the presentation, we both played for Insurance against Sussex and he scored half a point more than I did.

For those who feel that a colleague of theirs is equally deserving as those honoured so far, the solution is to put the relevant name forward. Tony Suttill is Chairman of the Presidents Awards Committee and he will be pleased to provide guidance on the procedure to anyone considering making a nomination.

Before I leave the topic, one anecdote deserves a wider audience. I understand that about this time last year, Mick Croft asked you for information in connection with a proposed history of Kent County Chess Association. You duly supplied details of your involvement with Kent chess over the last 25 to 30 years. Shortly afterwards I received from Mick Croft a suitable draft citation. Nothing more has ever been heard about the Kent history project. Good work, Mick - clearly an alternative career as a con man beckons.

Yours sincerely,
David Sedgwick SCCU President

GRADING

With the 1994 Leigh GP results came a Note to Congress Organisers from Stewart Reuben. It says the following, among other things.

"It is likely the BCF will gear itself up to provide a Grading List to take effect on 1 February starting in 1996. This will contain names of players who have played at least 10 games since the close of receipt of data for the previous list, published on 1 August. In order for this to be possible, it will be necessary for the information to be sent in more efficiently. There will be a proposal to increase Game Fee by 10%, with a reduction of the same amount [nine-and-a-bit%?] for those events which send in their results within four weeks of the conclusion of the event and also include the Grading code for the contestants. This is much more difficult for leagues and six weeks will probably be suggested for these events. The problem is that leagues will often stretch across two Grading Lists. Those managing to send in their results in two tranches will help make the grades more chronologically reliable.

"The full list will continue to be published in August. Thus it will be necessary to consult two lists when looking up grades in March [?February] to July. Ultimately the service may extend to three or four lists annually. There is little

doubt, providing grading information at more frequent intervals generates interest. Thus this should help increase numbers of tournament entries...

"A number of people have expressed concern that certain individuals are throwing their games in congresses where they are faring poorly, in order to hold down their grade. If you believe this to be the case, it is your responsibility to withhold the results from grading, rather than sending in the results and asking the grader to intervene. It would be possible to set up a monitoring system to follow the fortunes of players in grading restricted tournaments but this would be very time-consuming."

The Bulletin had one or three reservations about this. It didn't know till some time later that David Sedgwick had sought the views of Martin Cath, SCCU Grading Secretary, and passed them on to the BCF Management Board. Martin's comments:

Paragraph 1. The BCF must address itself to updating the computer programs before attempting to publish the Grading List bi-annually. I disagree with the proposal only to publish the grades, in the February issue, of those players with 10 games or more entering the system since the previous August. This changes the present concept whereby an E grade can be achieved with only one game in the current year and would therefore confuse players, particularly if Leagues are persuaded to submit their results in two tranches. There is no excuse for Congresses and Leagues not submitting their results promptly, and many do so already; however, there appears to be an assumption that graders are able and willing to grade each event immediately it lands on their doormat. This may be impractical, if the Master List is not published, or merely inconvenient - even graders have other commitments. Is it the intention that Congresses and Leagues who submit their results to their graders within the set times, but there is then a delay in the grading data reaching the computer, are surcharged by 10% on their Game Fee? If so, most Congresses and Leagues will submit their results direct to the BCF and the system will collapse.

Paragraph 2. If the February issue of the Grading List always has to be used with the previous August issue at hand it will not be an asset but a confounded nuisance. The thought of this arrangement stretching to three or four lists per annum under the same restrictions is beyond belief. A published Grading List has to supersede, in its entirety, the previous List. This is the situation with the bi-annual publication of the Rapid Play Grading List and this List has not experienced problems in this regard. The "Note" does not consider the economic consequences of morefrequent publication of the Grading List, nor how the Unions who publish Lists of their own would manage. I do not see a direct link between increasing the number of players taking part in tournaments and the more frequent publication of Grading Lists.

Paragraph 3. I much prefer the SCCU approach to players who "throw" games. The danger with the view expressed in this paragraph is that the players who play against such players will also have their games discounted as it is probable that the offending player will have his pairing card removed (and it takes two pairing cards to grade a game successfully). I believe that Roger Edwards already operates an unofficial monitoring system on the results of a small number of individuals who do exhibit widely varying performances (to put it politely).

David Sedgwick adds:

"With regard to Martin Cath's last paragraph, I should explain that SCCU policy is that results will be excluded from grading only where the relevant organisers so request and they have informed the player concerned of their intentions and given him or her the opportunity to make representations accordingly. As indicated above, we consider it desirable that the full information should be available to the grader so that innocent opponents of the offending player are not also penalised. We have been forced to form our view on the subject owing to the total absence, prior to the issue of the "Note", of any statement or guidance from the BCF, and we have established our policy only after considerable debate. I think it unlikely that the SCCU Executive Committee will now wish to reconsider the matter unless there is a clear policy directive from the BCF in the form of a Board or Council resolution.

"Finally I wish to point out that I received the "Note to Congress Organisers" only by virtue of my being the representative on Council for the now defunct Lloyds Bank Masters. Although there were clearly a number of points in the "Note" of which it was appropriate for me to seek the views of the Union Grading Secretary (and, for some aspects, of other colleagues), I believe that no officer of the SCCU received the "Note" in that capacity. I urge that, in future, documents of this kind be copied as a matter of routine to members of the Board. (I regard it as reasonable for it to be the responsibility of the Board representatives of Constituent Units to seek the views of others in their organisations where appropriate.)"

The Bulletin has unhappy memories of multiple lists. Another thought that occurred to it was, why ask organisers for "Grading codes"? The grader's going to look them up anyway. They may help occasionally, if a player's changed clubs, but the inevitable wrong numbers will confuse.

LEIGH GRAND PRIX

The 1994 winners, as this may be the first place you'll see a fullish list:

Grand Prix	max 200
1 Mark Hebden (Leicester)	196.3
2 John Nunn (Roehammpton)	195
3 Bogdan Lalic (Peacehaven)	184.8
4 Matthew Sadler (Chatham)	183.7
5 Keith Arkell (Derby)	183.2
6 Colin McNab (Dundee)	182.9
7 James Howell (Manchester)	178.5
8 Stuart Conquest (Bristol)	175.6
9 Chris Ward (Beckenham)	173.4
10 Aaron Summerscale (Putney)	173.2
11 Andrew Ledger (Bedford)	163.6
12 Colin Crouch (Harrow)	162.8
13 Mark Ferguson (Haslemere)	160.6
14 Demetrios Agnos (Twickenham)	158.9
15 Neil McDonald (Gravesend)	133.7
16 John Emms (Beckenham)	130.7
17 Andrew Webster (Birmingham U)	126.3
18 Dharshan Kumaran (Harrow0	106.7
19 Peter Wells (SE London)	99.2
20 Susan Lalic (Peacehaven)	98.1
21 Alan Perkins	92
22 Philip Rossiter	91.1
23 Glenn Flear	87.8
24 Douglas Bryson	86.9
Joe Gallagher	86.9
26 James Cobb	84.3
27 Michael Basman	84
Richard Britton	84
Julian Hodgson	84
Andrew Kinsman	84

Petit Prix	max 100
1 Hebden	99.7
2 Arkell	94
3 McNab	92.5
4 Conquest	91.6
5 Howell	87.9
6 Ledger	81.2
7 Webster	73.5
8 James Cobb (Swindon)	72.1
9 Brett Lund (Preston)	63.3
10 Sven Zeidler (Devizes)	62
11 Bryson	59.4

Prixette	max 100
1 S Lalic - 9th year running	77.3
2 Harriet Hunt (Oxford)	58.2
3 Mandy Haslinger (Southport)	51.7
4 Caro Hunt (Oxford)	44.2
5 Jovanka Houska (Maidenhead)	41.1
6 Mary Jones (Wigston)	41
7 Dinah Norman (Wokingham)	39.1
8 Lucy Broomfield (S Norwood)	38.5
9 Ruth Bates (Richmond)	38
10 Ivana Houska (Maidenhead)	36.5

Junior Prix	max 100
1 Sadler	92.9
2 Ferguson	83.7
3 Webster	76.8
4 Cobb	65.1
5 Richard Bates (Richmond)	59.6
6 Miroslav Houska (Maidenhead)	58.5
7 Ben Savage (St Albans)	53.5
8 H Hunt	48.7
9 Toby Stock (Folkestone)	47.5
10 James Poulton (Portsmouth)	45.4

Amateur Prix	max 50
1 P Briggs (Tamworth)	50
2 RR Goodfellow (T Wells)	44.9
3 J Brief (Barnet)	44.2
4 K Andrews (Hove)	43.5
5 M Stanners (Athenaeum)	42.7
6 I Okosieme (Lewisham)	42
7 J Wagenbach (Mansfield)	41.7
8 K Forman (Coventry)	41
D Phillips (Windermere)	41
10 R Burroughs (Brentwood)	40.5

Visually Handicapped Prix	max 50
1 Graham Lilley (Prescot)	22.5
2 Chris Panayi (Sutton)	15
3 Paul Benson (Widnes)	7.5
Stephen Eastwick-Field (BT)	7.5

Congress Merit Awards: Borders, British Rapidplay (Leeds), Cafe Baroque, Hastings Weekend, Morecambe, Portsmouth, South Wales, Wolverhampton Goodyear.

"Third placed Bogdan Lalic only qualified as a Leigh competitor after his marriage to Susan Arkell in April. Conceding his rivals three months' start, he had further misfortune when he entered a congress by telephone, got up at 5.30 a.m. to play, won with 5/5, then found it was not a Leigh event."

They sent us a copy of the rules for 1995, and we think we understand them. Still don't see why leading players in the "Open" get bonus points for the following year, though.

CONGRESS RESULTS

COUNTY CHESS 1st RAPIDPLAY at Chalk Farm 12th November 1994

Under 160 1 Alfredo Luaces 5½/something; 2 Christopher Braun 4½; 3 Stephen Williams 3½... Don't know how many played but not a lot assuming 6 rounds, unless there was a massive traffic jam on 3.

Under 135 1 Stelio Jerome 4½; 2 Leon Arden 4; 3 Wil Ransome 3...

Under 110 1 Cosmos Lim 4½; 2-4 David Kelly, Victor Litvin, Peter Szabo 4...

Girls Under 95 1 Tamar Miller 5; 2-3 Suzanna Morton, Albertine Fox 3½...

Results Bruce Birchall

29th TORBAY CONGRESS at Torquay 18-20 November 1994
Open (48 pl) 1-2 JDM Nunn (London), AP Summerscale (Putney) 4½/5; 3-5 MJ Franklin (Richmond), A Karlsson (Exeter), S Williams (Farnham) 4... Grading U176 D Littlejohns (Taunton) 3½
"Major" (62 pl) 1 JB Hawson (Sutton & Cheam) 4½/5; 2-5 JA Speigel (Southend), RR Harper (Eastbourne), JG Gorodi (Newton Abbot), N Livesy (Whitney) 4... Grading 133-144 KA Andrews (Hove), T LeRoux (Burnham on Sea), A Eagle (Reading), TL Fellows (Wolverhampton) 3½; U133 P Scott (Paignton) 3½
Intermediate (68 pl) 1 N Bye (Hillingdon) 5/5; 2 JF Chambers (Torquay) 4½; 3-5 WK Jones (Bude), N Commis (Fulham), J Brief (Edgware) 4... Grading 103-111 M Pearson (London) 3½; U103 A Wright (Torquay), M Callis (Chesterfield) 3
Minor (72 pl) 1 B Roles (Chatham) 5/5; 2 J Wilson (Battersea) 4½; 3-7 K Wilkinson (Truro), M Lightwood (Newport), NE Heywood (Halesowen), S Cooke (Exeter), L Levy (Loddiswell) 4... Grading 70-84 KD Jones (Wallasey) 3½; U70 TW Bagshaw (Truro), J Francis (Birmingham), DC Gibbs (Cardiff), R Murr (Paignton) 3
Team Prize 1 Paignton CC 10½; 2 Torquay Grammar School A 10
Results anonymous, as far as we can determine

WESTMNSTER 19th November 1994
Open (13 pl) 1 Chris Cooley 227 (Maidstone) 5/6; 2 Luke McShane 187 (Richmond Juniors) 4½; 3-4 Stephen Piper 166 (East Ham), David Wood 176 (Chatham) 4...
Major (25 pl) 1 Carlos Ravindran 150e (Thames View Midknights) 5/6; 2-4 David Cutmore 152 (Wood Green), William Stanton 151 (Islington), Chris White 149 (Oxford Univ) 4½..
Minor (35 pl) 1 Gordon Gwilliams 113 (Kings Head) 5/6; 2-6 Paul Bloom 90 ("Hayes"), John Figgins 105 (Beckton Rooks), Darryl Fornes 92 (Borehamwood), Angus James 111 (Surbiton), Kenneth Jardine 105 (Ilford) 4½... Results JM Sargent

COUNTY CHESS 2nd RAPIDPLAY at Chalk Farm 26th November 1994
Under 150 (15 pl) 1 Christopher Braun 5; 2 Alfredo Luaces 4½; 3-4 R Abadi, T Woo 4...
Under 125 (12 pl) 1 Kevin White 5; 2 Alan Brooks 4½; 3-4 A Deshmukh, Ian Moody 4...
Under 100 (12 pl) 1-2 Antonio Farinha, Kelly Rayner 5; 3 Victor Litvin 4; 4 Clive Smith 3½...
Girls Under 85 (7 pl) 1-3 Tamar Miller, Suzanna Morton, Alison Winston 4; 4-5 Della Caneppele, Helen Leidecker 3½... Results Bruce Birchall

WESTMINSTER 10th December 1994
Open (19 pl) 1 Matthew Sadler 246 (Maidstone) 5½/6; 2 Blair N Connell 232 (Guildford) 5; 3-4 Offer Zemerton 203 (Israel), Demis Hassabis 204 (Hendon) 4...
Major (32 pl) 1 William Stanton 151 (Islington) 5½/6; 2 Gordon Cadden 143 (Hampstead) 5; 3 Russell Goodfellow 143 (Tunbridge Wells) 4½...
Minor (38 pl) 1 Peter L Szabo 108 (Metropolitan) 5½/6; 2-3 David Everitt 103 (Haywards Heath), David J Lewis 110 (Earley) 5... Results JM Sargent

LEIGH NATIONAL CLUB

Just the SCCU survivors from round 1. Excuse geography.
OPEN Barbican; Witney; Maidstone; Hastings (and St Leonards); Wood Green; Hayes Kent; Guildford; Milton Keynes; Slough; Richmond & Twickenham; Charlton; Oxford Univ
MAJOR Slough; Fulham; Guildford; Metropolitan; Milton Keynes; Reading; Rainham; Maidstone; Kings Head; Wood Green
INTERMEDIATE Fulham; Thanet; Maidstone; Crowthorne; Hammersmith; Hastings; Kings Head; Reading; Southend
MINOR Wood Green; Kings Head; Hastings; Ashford; St Albans; Metropolitan; Phoenix; Tunbridge Wells; Fulham; Slough.

Not that it's confined to the National Club, but your Editor had an away match in the Major the other week where you could hardly see some of the black bits, the lighting was so poor. And there were no refreshments unless you bought yourself something in the bar downstairs. The Bulletin thinks such conditions unacceptable and it wouldn't play there again. It did make vague noises to its match captain about calling it off, and that was before it knew about the refreshments, but complaining's awkward and the bitch had had puppies (well, that's why they said we'd got the black hole), and anyway who wants a hundred-mile round trip for nothing? Maybe it's time people did start making a stand for better playing conditions.

MINUTE SECRETARY REQUIRED by the BCF. Commitment would be normally five Saturdays a year for Council or Management Board meetings. "An honorarium" is available, plus expenses. If interested, contact David Jarrett at the BCF office.

SCCU COUNTY MATCHES

OPEN	Br	C	E	H	K	M	O	Sy	Sx	MP
Berks					8	6	9	12		1 :4
Cambs			10½	12	10½			12	12	5 :5
Essex		9½					11½		13½	2 :3
Herts		8				6½	13		12	2 :4
Kent	12	9½				8½	13			2 :4
Middx	14			13½	11½			13		4 :4
Oxon	11		8½	7	3			8		1 :5
Surrey	8	8				7	12		9½	1 :5
Sussex		8	6½	8				10½		1 :4

UNDER 175	E	K	Sy	Sx	E	K	Sy	Sx	MP
Essex		7½	7½	6½				10½	1 :4
Kent	8½		5½	8½					2 :3
Surrey	8½	10½		8				7	2½:4
Sussex	9½	7½	8		5½		8*		2½:5

UNDER 150	E	H	K	Sy	Sx	MP
Essex			10½	8½		2 :2
Herts			9		6½	1 :2
Kent	5½	7			5½	0 :3
Surrey	7½				7½	0 :2
Sussex		9½	10½	8½		3 :3

UNDER 125	E	Ka	Kb	M	O	Sy	Sx	MP
Essex				8½	4	10		2 :3
Kent A			4	7½	6		6	0 :4
Kent B		12			7½		7½	1 :3
Middx	7½	8½				11½	9½	3 :4
Oxon	12	10	8½					3 :3
Surrey	6			4½			5½	0 :3
Sussex		10	8½	6½		10½		3 :4

UNDER 100	E	H	K	M	E	K	H	M	MP
Essex		6½	3½	5					1 :3
Herts	5½		4	6½					1 :3
Kent	8½	8		7					3 :3
Middx	6*	5½	5						1 :3

* Match won.

Please tell the Editor if you spot errors in the tables.

Correction from last issue (page 9): Surrey -- Sussex U150 19.11.94. We got the bd 12 result the wrong way round; it should read Howes 0 Jones. Somehow, despite this disprint, we managed to get the total match scores right. That shouldn't have happened.

Grader please note: the last issue had three odd match results at the end. Not that we think you'll have missed them.

Glad to see a bit of pre-match needle in one of the Open fixtures this time. Keep it up, lads.

Surrey - Sussex U175 10.12.94: The Sussex board 4, given as ungraded, has been ruled ineligible because his last published grade was 188. This is in accordance with Rule 15(b) which says that if you don't have a current grade, your most recent one counts. Don't know his current strength, but his 188 was in 1977 (195 the previous year) and he's been out of the country since. The rules do say it's the county's responsibility to check, but who's got grading lists going back to 1977? Martin Cath, who has, checked at Surrey's request. The match result is unaffected, even after you reverse the Sussex win and deduct a penalty point.

We've heard that the Sussex match captain felt apologetic about his error. On the other hand we've heard that Sussex have appealed against the ruling. The Surrey match captain has suggested to the Bulletin that ungraded players should not be eligible in the stronger of the grading-limited sections. (U100 OK, U175 not OK. Not sure where he was drawing the line.)

"Surrey board 12 appears in grading list as Kevin D Hichardson (117895H)." He does too. He was Richardson last year, and his reference number hasn't changed. Don't tell us, someone amended his record (new club?) and accidentally amended his name as well.

OPEN

	Middx*	12.11.94		Kent
1	TA Fatin 216 (W)	0	1	NF Dickenson 210
2	PJ Sowray 213	½	½	AE Hanreck 212
3	RJ McMichael 208	1	0	RG Eales 219
4	PS Cawte 208	½	½	IR Watson 206
5	AJ Whiteley 202	1	0	D Gormally 196
6	T H-Edwards 206	0	1	JE Vigus 195
7	MC Forster 205	½	½	JN Sugden 192
8	T Farrand 200	½	½	JE Scholes 185
9	M Lyell 197	0	1	AM Harakis 182
10	RG Wade 190	1	0	IM Pountney 182
11	TJ Kett 197	1	0	L Smart 181
12	A Trifunovic 197	½	½	G Botley 186
13	F Rayner 194	½	½	RMR O'Kelly 180
14	C Mackenzie 194	0	1	CI Howell 178
15	NRE Alldritt 192	1	0	Z Mehmet 170
16	L McShane 183	1	0	J(so)Nguyen 168
17	KR Barnes 190	0	1	M Robertson 170
18	C Gant 189	½	½	S Jacobs 162
19	R Sagall 188	1	0	LR Gurr 164
20	J Burke 183	1	0	D Mukoro 155
(Chess & Br)		11½	8½	

	Berks*	3.12.94		Middx*
	MV Houska 208 (B)	0	1	K Shovel 230
	AP Smith 200	0	1	SH Berry 220
	PS Cooksey 197	0	1	PJ Sowray 213
	HW Murphy 179	1	0	RJ McMichael 208
	J Houska 173	1	0	SD Brown 208
	DS Tucker 171	½	½	PS Cawte 208
	PS Janota 174	0	1	RG Wade 190
	JT Munday 171	0	1	M Lyell 197
	JE Hickman 167	0	1	A Trifunovic 197
	AJ Cox 164	0	1	C Mackenzie 194
	MC Bowhay 163	0	1	NRE Alldritt 192
	L Davis 162	0	1	L McShane 183
	AM Leech 158	0	1	JM Quinn 190
	SL Freitag 163	½	½	KR Barnes 190
	PAF Watkins 156	0	1	C Gant 189
	IR Henderson 150	½	½	J Burke 183
	CJ Lyne 158	½	½	RJ Pearce 180
	SG Gilmour 160	½	½	MR Collins 158
	BG Millis 149	½	½	AM Dunn 159
	MF Redmond 156	1	0	CICH Wallace 156
	(Bracknell)	6	14	

	Surrey*	3.12.94		Cambs*
1	CKD Holland 205	0	1	MJ Turner 227 (B)
2	RA Allicock 195	0	1	JF Parker 224
3	RA Harris 194	0	1	AJ Cohen 204
4	def	0	1	AR Jones 206
5	JC Marley 184	½	½	JJ Hastings 204
6	DB Rosen 183	1	0	AHL Hon 199
7	JM Shepley 182	0	1	D Cristinacce 189
8	BG Whyte 180	0	1	B Hague 183
9	KP Mynett 176	½	½	PA Garner 177
10	KD Richardson 175	½	½	S Sollan -
11	ME Osborne 171	½	½	DC Hotham 160
12	PM Stimpson 170	1	0	RM Little 154
13	DR Sedgwick 169	½	½	M Hasenbusch -
14	JM Tymms	0	1	IR Gooding 147
15	S Retallick 168	½	½	PN Best 147
16	CR Clegg 166	1	0	K Buecker 150
(Sutton)		8	12	(adjusted)

Herts - Surrey (right): initials by Surrey, Surrey grades by Herts, Herts grades by both sides.

	Herts*	3.12.94		Sussex*
	PV Byway 198 (W)	1	0	DH Cummings 225
	S Swanson 202	0	1	GH James
	JF Rudge 203	1	0	FJ Kwiatkowski
	S Roe 198	½	½	DB Graham
	B Savage 174	½	½	KI Norman 195
	P Georghiou 173	½	½	B Cafferty 190
	KR Clark 185	½	½	SJ Newman
	GA Hollis 179	1	0	MD Nicholas
	CE Majer 177	½	½	J Graham
	K Ellis 176	0	1	JA Dodgson
	R Brennan 174	½	½	AO Pickersgill
	J Denton 172	1	0	RJ Almond
	J Cook 171	1	0	SON Hawes 173
	D Fewell 170	1	0	IG Kelly
	TA Sinkinson 169	½	½	MR Stott
	B Morris 168	½	½	P Watson
	S Law 153	1	0	RH Clarke
	N Lee 153	½	½	LJ Cannon
	A Atkinson 152	½	½	PR Selby
	T Ray 159	0	1	GD Parker
	(Stevenage)	12	8	

	Kent*	3.12.94		Oxon*
1	N Dickenson 212	0	1	D Jowett 189 (B)
2	J Richardson 209	½	½	M Rose 180
3	I Watson 206	1	0	def
4	J Vigus 195	1	0	D Hackett 184
5	D Moskovic 194	1	0	def
6	J Sugden 192	½	½	M Devereaux 180
7	J Wager 192	1	0	R Starkie 171
8	I Pountney 182	½	½	J Stayt 168
9	A Harakis 182	1	0	G Chapman 164
10	D Farndon	1	0	N Jones 166
11	G Botley 186	1	0	N Hepworth 154
12	R O'Kelly 180	1	0	H Searle 158
13	J Titmas 180	1	0	P Hastings 158
14	N Donovan 179	1	0	L Millin 153
15	D Horton 178	1	0	P Ball 145
16	M Robertson 170	½	½	C Moxley
17	Z Mehmet 170	1	0	D Metcalfe
18	M Wiper 170	1	0	def
19	C Brown 171	1	0	def
20	S Jacobs 162	1	0	I Brooke
("Kent venue")		17	3	

	Cambs*	14.1.95		Kent*
	JF Parker 224	½	½	D King 231 (W)
	MJ Turner 227	1	0	N Dickenson 210
	AJ Cohen 204	0	1	A Hanreck 212
	AR Jones 206	½	½	R Eales 219
	JJ Hastings 204	½	½	D Gormally 196
	D Hassabis 199	½	½	A Mack 192
	EN Holland 196	½	½	J Sugden 191
	MH Thornton 196	½	½	J Wager 192
	DDA Lawson 2240	1	0	G Botley 186
	D Cristinacce 189	1	0	A Harakis 182
	B Hague 183	0	1	J Scholes 185
	PA Garner 177	½	½	L Smart 181
	NDJ Noden 170	½	½	R O'Kelly 180
	NC Pyper 155	0	1	CI Howell 178
	M Hassenbusch	0	1	N Donovan 178
	P Faulkner 155	1	0	D Horton 178
	PN Best 147	½	½	A Ropek 169
	IR Gooding 147	1	0	Z Mehmet 170
	J Wright 142	1	0	S Jacobs 162
	CL Radia 119	0	1	C Charles 148
	(Clare Coll)	10½	9½	

Sussex*	14.1.95		Surrey*
1 GH James 208 (B)	1	0	def
2 DB Graham 200	½	½	PD Kemp
3 B Cafferty 190	1	0	RA Allicock 195
4 SJ Newman 193	1	0	S Walker 188
5 MD Nicholas 184	1	0	KFH Inwood 184
6 PG Farr 182	0	1	JC Marley 184
7 RV Elliston 181	0	1	DB Rosen 183
8 J Graham 182	1	0	JM Shepley 182
9 JA Dodgson 181	0	1	RJ Stockwell 180
10 RJ Almond 175	0	1	BG Whyte 180
11 R O'Brien 175	½	½	KP Mynett 176
12 SON Hawes 173	1	0	KD Richardson 175
13 IG Kelly 168	1	0	ME Osborne 171
14 MR Stott 167	½	½	PJ Roche 171
15 CN Hann 168	0	1	DR Sedgwick 169
16 A Hall 167	1	0	def
17 RH Clark 158	½	½	CR Clegg 166
18 JP Munday 155	0	1	RJ Wilcox 158
19 LJ Cannon 154	0	1	K Hurst 156
20 DG Ratcliffe 153	½	½	FC Manning 134
(Brighton)	10½	9½	

UNDER 175

Sussex*	10.12.94		Surrey	Essex*	21.1.95		Sussex
1 SON Hawes 173	1	0	ME Osborne 171 (B)	D Smith 152 (r)	½	½	SON Hawes 173 (B)
2 IG Kelly 168	1	0	PJ Roche 171	DJ Millward 172	1	0	IG Kelly 168
3 E Pesonen 166	1	0	DR Sedgwick 169	PC Doye 171	1	0	C Hann 168
4 R Power - *	1	0	S Retallick 168	CR Ramage 171	0	1	E Pesonen 166
5 K Davies 161	½	½	CRA Clegg 166	ID Hunnable 169	½	½	K Davies 161
6 IP Judd 160	0	1	S MacDonald-R 164	TD Whitton 168	½	½	ASJ Fleming 159
7 ASJ Fleming 159	0	1	JJ Skielnik 163	SD Harvey 168	1	0	CR Squires 158
8 BJ Izzard 158	0	1	RJ Wilcox 158	CFH Dorn 166	0	1	RH Clark 158
9 CR Squires 158	½	½	CJ Mann 159	R Waldteufel 162	½	½	D Banks 158
10 RH Clark 158	1	0	PS Brown 157	A King 161	1	0	MJ Reddie 156
11 MJ Reddie 156	1	0	DF Hill 174	NH Twitchell 160	1	0	LJ Cannon 154
12 LJ Cannon 154	0	1	SR Jones 142	JA Philpott 157	½	½	DG Ratcliffe 153
13 DG Ratcliffe 153	0	1	PD Dupre 156	SM Williams 152	1	0	DL Roberts 145
14 G Parker 146	1	0	PR Archer 152	S Harwood 150	1	0	RD Hirsch 144
15 PR Selby 148	1	0	PE Barnard 152	PR Barclay 146	0	1	G Scamardella 138
16 RD Hirsch 144	1	0	FC Manning 134	MRA Murrell 137	1	0	T Woods 129
(Hassocks)	8	7		(Wanstead)	10½	5½	

Sussex claim their opponents were called Kent, but it doesn't look like a Kent team to us.

* Mr Power has been ruled ineligible under SCCU Rule 15(b), and the match result has been adjusted accordingly. See page 5.

UNDER 150

Sussex*	14.1.95		Kent*	Surrey*	14.1.95		Essex
1 G Parker 146 (B)	1	0	MR Wiltshire 149	EJ Brodie 149 (B)	½	½	AD Hartland 149
2 PR Selby 148	0	1	DJR Barnes 148	R Shorthouse 148	0	1	PR Barclay 146
3 FW Brown 148	½	½	SC Howell 147	JB Hawson 145	1	0	A Drake 146
4 RC Davies 147	1	0	SR Pierce 141	def	0	1	RD Sharman 145
5 IK Edgson 146	0	1	GF Steele 147	STK Wilkinson 143	½	½	TE Winter 141
6 DBA Hughes 145	½	½	RW Parsons 146	SR Jones 142	½	½	S Taylor 140
7 RD Hirsch 144	1	0	IA Hames 147	JED Hale 141	½	½	S Armour 137
8 RA Clement 144	1	0	FW Ingram 148	T Phillips 141	1	0	P Zammitt 138
9 RR Harper 141	0	1	RF Pooley 140	D Spearman 141	1	0	DJ Rawlings 137
10 MI Wickens 142	½	½	RC Shilling 140	JR Bell 136	½	½	R Weeber 136
11 D Hall 139	½	½	PL Childs 139	JW Halls 136	0	1	T Hebbes 134
12 KA Andrews 141	1	0	RB Parkin 135	KN Mehendale 132	½	½	LT Sargent 132
13 A Bradbury 141	1	0	def	def	0	1	DG Cannan 128
14 PCL Bradford 138	½	½	R Dugdale 127	DA Baldock 131	½	½	I Maclachlan 128
15 MR Hickman 138	1	0	BES Hunter 131	PM Shaw 110	0	1	L Burtt -
16 S Wilson 131	1	0	P Poland 124	D Parsons 103	1	0	M Tucker 102
(Brighton)	10½	5½		(Sutton)	7½	8½	

UNDER 125

	Kent A* 3.12.94			Oxon*
1	G Battye 124 (B)	0	1	AJ Wyeth 124
2	N Whitmore 122	0	1	G Reynolds 122
3	AP Fabian 122	0	1	J Booker 122
4	SC Mills 121	1	0	A Collins 114
5	JT Davies 121	½	½	JD Wood 118
6	EJ Downham 119	1	0	L Collins 117
7	DSJ Shipp	½	½	G Spalding 116
8	I Clark 120	1	0	L Smith 16
9	J Robertson 111	0	1	S Crockart 111
10	F Hiron 109	½	½	G Hodgson 110
11	IB Bryan 109	1	0	P Staniland 108
12	IC Smith 105	0	1	D Foreman -
13	NP Webb 104	0	1	M Brindley 108
14	def	0	1	IR Brook 105
15	K Cowan 97	½	½	DAS Buckland 96
16	def	0	1	D Metcalfe 110
(Orpington)		6	10	

	Essex* 3.12.94			Middx*
M	Bradford 123	1	0	S Lazarz 122 (W)
R	Hayley 121	1	0	A Johnstone 121
C	Barrett 123	1	0	D Ramsey 121
P	Sheehan 122	½	½	R Maddock 121
R	Joyce 121	0	1	G Smith 120
G	Benger 115	0	1	Nigel Bye e120
T	Allen 115	0	1	R Hamilton 116
D	Hughes 113	½	½	L Toledo 115
J	Figgins 112	1	0	S Fenyvesi 114
E	Lodge 112	½	½	G Gwilliams 114
B	Twinn 110	1	0	J Marchant 113
N	Hopgood 107	½	½	A O'Hara 112
P	Kemp 103	1	0	A Hall 110
P	Pattison 107	0	1	B Steele 110
R	Foster 104	0	1	S Myatt
R	Medcalf 105	½	½	Mark Ward e105
(Wanstead)		8½	7½	

	Middx* 14.1.95			Sussex
1	S O'Brien 124	0	1	K Lucas 121 (B)
2	M Johnson 124	½	½	P Benson 124
3	G Sweetland 124	1	0	C Dunn 123
4	R Okrzeja 123	½	½	PJ Helliwell 124
5	S Lazarz 122	1	0	A Ballard 123
6	R Maddock 121	½	½	C Parker 123
7	D Ramsey 121	1	0	(A Racham (r))*
8	A Johnstone 121	1	0	N Pestelle 118
9	G O'Grady 121	1	0	M Plumb 121
10	S Ronksley 124	0	1	L Racham 120
11	K Hiron 116	1	0	E Hillier 109
12	R Hamilton 116	1	0	M Curtis 113
13	L Toledo 115	0	1	C McCulloch 120
14	S Fenyvesi 114	1	0	SP Deere 110
15	J Marchant 113	0	1	P Buswell 105
16	A O'Hara 112	0	1	P Baldwin 111
(Chess & Bridge)		9½	6½	

* We guess that Mr Racham won quickly on bd 10 then played a friendly on 7. Haven't checked.

UNDER 100

	Herts* 3.12.94			Middx*
1	D Aburrow 99	½	½	G Luetchford 93
2	Sarah Lovett e50	0	1	Stephen Mooring -
3	A Humphries 94	1	0	L Keegan 84
4	S Blackburn e95	½	½	N KingstonSmith 97
5	W Hamm 94	½	½	Leighton Powell -
6	M Read 63	½	½	D Hutson 96
7	J Lanaway 93	1	0	A Paschali 97
8	F Lovett 92	0	1	R Mooring 80
9	Tony Phillips e94	1	0	R Mott 95
10	Terry Coleman e90	0	1	Robert Attar -
11	D Waltham 83	½	½	T Miller 75
12	A Brewis 78	1	0	Paschalis Paschali -
(Stevenage)		6½	5½	

	Essex* 3.12.94			Kent*
P	Storey 98 (W)	½	½	M Jones 95
FC	Riley 97	0	1	P Titmas 95
RA	Smith 98	0	1	D Ho 92
S	Parsons 95	½	½	E Reeves 90
	def	0	1	A Dovey 97
C	Hobbs 92	1	0	TR Jefferies 99
Eric	Saunders -	1	0	L Van Der Borgh 97
R	Giddens 90	0	1	D Smith 88
Amrit	Sehmbi -	0	1	N Lang 90
J	Howlett 82	½	½	A Wahab 97
D	D'Cruz 78	0	1	D Bland 90
D	Allen 69	0	1	E Campbell 87
(Wanstead)		3½	8½	

JUNIOR NEWS

DUPREE CHRISTMAS TOURNAMENT at Brighton 5-6 January 1995

Under 21 (10 pl) 1-2 James Bosworth (Camb U), James Haestier (?Patcham HS) 7½/9; 3-4 Jamie Baker (?Barker) (Varndean 6th Form College), Marc Ely (Dorothy Stringer) 7...

Under 15 (12 pl) 1-2 Rhys Bowen, John Bryant (both D Stringer) 10/11; 3 Asa Bayram (DS) 9...

Under 12 (18 pl) 1 Edward Lamb (Balfour) 15/17; 2 Nicholas Street (DS) 14; 3-6 Peter Baker (St Lukes), Geoffrey Noronka (St Andrews), Tom Kirk, Jimmy McGillicuddy (both DS) 13...

Results Paul Watson

NYCA UNDER 14 CHAMPIONSHIPS at Stoke on Trent 26.11.94
Championship Section 1 Kent A 26/36; 2 Gtr Manchester A 24½; 3 Hants 21; 4 Surrey 19; 5 Warwicks A 18½; 6 Richmond 17½; 7-8 Somerset A, Humberside 14½; 9 Wilts 14; 10 Bucks 10½
"Major" Section (22 teams played) 1 Cheshire A 29½/36; 2 Kent B 28; 3 Yorks 25; 4 Derbyshire A 24½; 5 Gtr Manchester B 23½; 6-7 Glamorgan A, Staffordshire A 23...
Minor Section 1 Kent C 34/36; 2 Lancs C 23½; 3 Glamorgan C 22; 4 Derbyshire C 17; 5 Leics C 8½; 6 Leics D 3
Results Roger Holmes. The Championship Section was restricted to the top 10 teams from last year; a promotion and relegation system will operate in future. Kent observe that this will promote their B team, so it's at least 2 up 2 down.

SCCU MIXED TEAMS JAMBOREE at Chalk Farm we guess, 3rd December 1994
U140 Division I (8 bds, at least 2 of each sex) 1 Kent 10/16; 2-3 Surrey A, Essex 9; 4 Herts 7; 5 Middx A 5
U140 Div II (8,2) 1 Middx B 8½/16; 2 Surrey B 7½ and you've already worked out that no one else played.
U100 Division (12,4) 1 Essex 16/24; 2 Herts 8 (ditto)
BHB writes: I aim to run a similar event in a year's time, as it was felt to be successful... This is preferable to separate Open and Girls events... 26 players out of 80 were girls..." (The Bulletin makes that 4 more than the rules required.)

CANTERBURY JUNIOR 2rd December 1994
Under 18 Major (12 pl) 1 Mark Roberts 5½/6; 2-3 Paul Fenn, John Potter 4½; 4-5 Thomas Walton, Philip Brown 3½...
Under 18 Minor (17 pl) 1 Simon Thanesan 5/6; 2-3 Alex Blake, Ian Moore 4½; 4-6 Dominic Bennett, Stephen Casement, Wil Pretty 4...
Under 12 (45 pl) 1 Liam Hylands (Essex) 6/6; 2 Matthew Sommer (Berks) 5½; 3 Paul Higgins 5; 4-5 Matthew Avery, James Warren 4½...
Under 10 (40 pl) 1 Amanda Sinden 5½/6; 2-3 Andrew Welch, Thomas Simpson 5; 4-6 Amir Habibi, Paul Gilberts, Emily Manuel 4½...
Under 8 (10 pl) 1-2 Edmund Birkenshaw, David Ridout 8/9; 3-4 Mark Dickinson, Zakery Bennett 7...

THE WELCH REPORT

The Report finally arrived about the beginning of December, and was considered by the SCCU Executive at a meeting specially convened on the 9th at the Friends House. Sixteen (we think) officers and delegates were joined by WE Waterton (Surrey) and J Rosenberg (Essex) as observers.

Don't know anything about it? Where have you been? But in a nutshell, at the last Surrey Congress Louise Sinclair complained on the afternoon of Saturday 2nd April that her opponent was cheating by receiving advice. The handling and rejection of her claim, and subsequent delays over her appeal, led to ill feeling and an undignified confrontation at the control table in the course of which Louise Sinclair fell to the floor, allegedly punched by Alec Webster, a senior controller (and BCF Arbiter). Next day Mr Webster had a scuffle on the stairs with Gary Cook, a friend of Ms Sinclair; each claimed to have been attacked. These events and allegations seemed serious enough to warrant an independent inquiry, and the SCCU commissioned David Welch, BCF Chief Arbiter, to undertake one. Mr Welch chose Richard Furness and Alex McFarlane, both Senior Arbiters, to assist him in his inquiry. None of the three, of course, comes from the SCCU.

The Surrey Association set up its own inquiry, chaired by DA Coleman, whose report has been kindly made available to the Executive. It has supplemented our information here and there.

The Report: Summary

You don't want a full copy of the Report. It runs to four densely typed sides of A4 and could easily have been longer if they'd put everything in. But the affair has had wide currency, through rumour and in the press, and it would be wrong not to summarise the findings in some detail. So here goes, and we've added notes where it seemed appropriate. Items in double quotes are direct citations from the Report. Two or three names, including that of Ms Sinclair's opponent, have been edited out.

Methodology.

Given the constraints of time and money, it was not possible to question all the parties involved. "The Committee based all its recommendations and observations on the written statements which were submitted to it." The Bulletin asked, at the Executive meeting, how the Committee had gone about collecting submissions. The reply was that Mr Welch had contacted individuals, requesting whatever statements he thought necessary. It was also clear that some people had made submissions on their

own initiative. A delegate alleged, at the Executive meeting, that more than one person had offered evidence and not been taken up on it. The allegation was vague and the Bulletin does not know the truth of it.

The Game.

"It is the opinion of the Inquiry that the behaviour of both players left a lot to be desired." (The Coleman Report refers to suggestions of 'gamesmanship' on both sides.) Ms Sinclair spent part of the time standing and leaning over the board, in what might have been considered a distracting or intimidating manner. (We have heard it said, and the Inquiry team may or may not have done, that this was due to back trouble.) "Some people considered Ms Sinclair's mode of attire to have been inappropriate for a chess tournament and this is a possible starting point for the increasing irritation between the two players." (Welch gives no details, makes no judgment, and confines himself to what's quoted here. We didn't think the details relevant either, but Ms Sinclair gives some in her letter.)

Ms Sinclair's opponent frequently left the board between moves and went and chatted to a group of friends, causing Ms Sinclair to suspect cheating. Ms Sinclair complained (in the first instance) to Kevin Thurlow, a BCF Arbiter who was controlling a different event in the same area. Mr Thurlow, being a friend of hers, was unwilling to intervene but Richard Banbury, the controller of Ms Sinclair's event, issued a warning to her opponent. Mr Webster, who was controlling a different event again in a different area, was made aware of the situation but did not, at this stage, become involved.

The opponent continued to chat to friends between moves. An hour or two later Ms Sinclair made specific allegations of cheating to Mr Webster. He found these unproven and instructed Ms Sinclair to continue the game while he went and repeated the warning. Ms Sinclair declined to continue, claiming that her clock should be stopped while the matter was dealt with, and (about 20 minutes later, we believe) her flag fell in a lost position and she was awarded a loss on time. The Report: "Evidence of actual cheating is sketchy... As Ms Sinclair was not involved in that warning there was no need for Mr Webster to stop her clock. Ms Sinclair's subsequent loss on time was entirely her own responsibility."

Notes: As regards the clock, one account at least has it that Ms Sinclair's complaint to Mr Webster took place away from the board while her clock ran. We do not know at what stage she asked for her clock to be stopped, nor what information the Inquiry had. Presumably neither the complaint nor the warning took 20 minutes. As regards the cheating, Mr Thurlow, in a letter dated 3rd May 1994 and copied to all clubs in Surrey, makes first-hand allegations of cheating which are very specific indeed. This letter was also copied to Mr Welch but the Inquiry seems not to have found it conclusive.

The Report criticises the control team for not taking action sooner to defuse the situation by breaking up the group of chatterers. Mr Banbury, not a BCF Arbiter, sought advice; Mr Webster, in a different room, may not immediately have appreciated the potential for disturbance. Despite his friendship with Ms Sinclair "Mr Thurlow could be considered negligent in his duties as an arbiter in doing nothing about such a group... If Mr Webster did anything wrong it was to allow himself to be overloaded with responsibility."

The Appeal.

Ms Sinclair submitted a written appeal. "The appeal by Ms Sinclair was not specific. Against which decision by Mr Webster did she appeal? Was it with regard to [her opponent] or was it with regard to the clock? We believe the Congress Committee was correct to uphold Mr Webster's decisions on both counts, though in reaching its conclusion the Committee should have considered all available evidence. It did not consider Mr Thurlow's statement nor interview Mr Banbury." (Mr Thurlow, by this time, had assumed the unequivocal role of 'Ms Sinclair's friend'.) Mr Waterton, at the Executive meeting, said the Committee had in fact both interviewed Mr Banbury and considered Mr Thurlow's statement.

Ms Sinclair said she would not play in the following round, and did not do so. She was, however, present. It is unclear whether she had withdrawn from the tournament or merely requested a half-point bye pending a decision on her appeal. The Welch Report finds that this should have been clarified. It also criticises the considerable delay in telling Ms Sinclair of the decision.

The alleged Punch.

According to two witnesses (Mr Waterton and David Sedgwick, SCCU President) Ms Sinclair approached the control table and shouted abuse, then lunged at Mr Webster either twice or repeatedly. He put his arms up to defend himself, but did not hit her. She suddenly stepped back and fell over, clearly shamming. This is also Mr Webster's account. Ms Sinclair's account is that she took a swing in Mr Webster's direction, provoked by unacceptable language on his part; whereupon he twisted her arm and punched her on the temple, knocking her out. She later produced a photograph of her injury; this is not mentioned by the Report, possibly because it could only have constituted indirect evidence.

The Report: "These two observers confirm that Mr Webster was the object of the attack and merely defended himself. All the aggression was by Ms Sinclair... The manner of her approach to the control table on the Sunday evening does not seem to have been designed to do anything but escalate the existing problem."

The Incident on the Stairs.

There were no witnesses to the incident. (Actually the Coleman inquiry appears to have found one, but he was not known to Welch and his evidence does not seem to have been very conclusive.) It emerges that Mr Cook, who had travelled from Southend, had been 'hanging around as if looking for a friend' and actively sought to meet Mr Webster where he did. "Mr Cook implies that a security guard witnessed the incident but there is no statement from this person. We feel it is significant that Security requested Mr Cook to leave the building. They would hardly have done that if they had witnessed an assault on Mr Cook. We are left with the conflicting accounts from the two individuals involved."

THE REPORT'S OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

"The control team was short staffed; at least one more arbiter was needed."

"An event of the stature of the Surrey Easter Congress should have a Chief Arbiter." There was confusion at times over exactly who was responsible for what.

"The Appeals Committee should consist of both controllers and players, and be able to meet at short notice." We understand that the Appeals Committee at Sutton consisted of three officials.

There should be a clearly defined procedure for making appeals, with time scales laid down. (Some detailed suggestions are made.)

"The organisers should examine the layout of the venue to ensure they are using it to best advantage. They should especially consider the proximity of players to the refreshment area and to the control tables." This related to complaints of excessive noise which were not, we believe, a part of the Inquiry's formal remit.

"We deplore the publicity given in the Surrey Mirror, the Civil Service Chess Bulletin and Chess Circuit, all of which contain allegations which remain unsubstantiated. The authors of these articles are fortunate that chess is an activity where charges of 'bringing the game into disrepute' are not levelled." The Bulletin understands that all the articles were written by, or in close collaboration with, Mr Thurlow.

The COLEMAN REPORT addressed other issues as well, but its recommendations are very much in line with Welch. It is somewhat less critical of Mr Thurlow's actions at the congress but concurs with Welch in deploring his subsequent publications. It finds that all Congress officers are fit persons to discharge their duties.

It is understood that the Surrey Congress Committee have taken the various recommendations on board and intend to make some changes.

THE EXECUTIVE'S DEBATE

The Executive discussed the Report for nearly two hours. There were, of course, a few things to clarify, and a number of recommendations to consider. But having commissioned a report we could scarcely sit down to decide whether it had got the answers right, and the Bulletin was unprepared for the zeal with which every point was dissected, often by individuals seeking to dispute the facts or question the completeness of Mr Welch's information.

This attempt to keep a dog and bark left us with only four or five minutes to "discuss" our own response (which was why the Bulletin voted against, and it said so). The points were taken en bloc and agreed by 9 votes to 3 with 3 abstentions. The Bulletin cannot quote them verbatim because they were proposed orally without prior notice. Actually there were five so we've conflated two of them anyway, but the substance is there.

1. The Executive notes the Welch Report and thanks Messrs Welch, Furness and McFarlane, together with Mr D Anderton [who checked the Report for legal purposes].
2. The Executive accepts the Inquiry's recommendations and encourages Surrey to do the same.
3. Copies of the Report will be sent to members of the BCF Management Board.
4. The Executive now considers the matter closed, and gives its best wishes to Surrey for next year's Congress.

OTHER THINGS

As remarked in the Coleman Report, arbiters must quite often face conflicts of interest like Mr Thurlow's. The Executive thought it was normal practice for arbiters to carry out their official duties regardless of personal interest, and expect to be trusted.

The Executive was now in a position to decide where next year's SCCU Individual Championship would be held. Answer: Sutton. It was their turn.

Sponsorship. We reported briefly last time that the BCF was on the verge of agreeing a sponsorship deal for the Counties Open Championship. This is now confirmed. The sponsors are Badger Computers Ltd and the deal has immediate effect. It will benefit counties reaching the National stage. In the first instance the sponsorship is for one year, with Badger having an option to continue for two further years. Their PR consultants, HNI International, are keen to publicise the Union stages as well.

Dear Sir, 1.1.95

The report commissioned by the SCCU into the Sutton congress 1994 has published several inaccuracies. As one of the persons named in this report I wish to present my case.

My attire was not inappropriate, I was not wearing a transparent blouse. The only complaints were made by my opponent and [two other people whom Ms Sinclair names, stating their connections with congress officials]. Incidentally David Welch admitted that he had no idea what I had worn. Readers may be interested to learn that comments about my clothes were struck out of the Surrey report.

I stood at the board as advised by my osteopath, who was treating me for a back problem. It was not to intimidate my opponent.

Mr Webster flouted the FIDE rules of chess by refusing to stop my clock during the dispute, despite my request for him to do so.

Whilst awaiting a reply to my appeal I did not withdraw from the tournament, neither did the wall chart indicate that I had. My appeal was specific, I complained about the behaviour of my opponent and the handling of the clock.

I will also state that I made it clear that the grading points were of no interest to me and I would have been happy had the game been declared null and void.

Although evidence was published placing Alec Webster in a favourable light, my facial injuries are not mentioned, neither are the photographs of my bruises recorded and the medical evidence I offered is ignored. I note that the statement submitted by David Sedgwick has been spliced. ...I feel concern that the SCCU President should be compromised in this way. I do not believe that this was done with his connivance.

I am worried that I was not questioned about any of the allegations made against me and I feel concern that my opponent also was not given the opportunity to [speak]. The report clearly relied on speculation... Although myself and my opponent were harshly criticised, Mr Webster appeared as an overworked knight in shining armour.

I am in possession of the evidence submitted to the SCCU enquiry and may publish the highlights in the future. Readers will judge for themselves the integrity of this report. Have the facts about the congress been examined or is this just an establishment cover-up?

Yours sincerely,
Louise S Sinclair London E13

Ed: - I have edited Ms Sinclair's opponent out again. My only other action, call it splicing if you will, has been to omit two short phrases just in case anyone thought them libellous. The phrases are represented by rows of dots and their omission does not distort Ms Sinclair's drift.

Mr Coleman, while confirming that reference to Ms Sinclair's clothes was deleted from his Report, remarks that it was not "struck out" by any higher authority.

I asked David Sedgwick whether he felt compromised by the Welch Report, and his response follows.

Dear Richard, 23.1.95

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment on the part of Ms Louise Sinclair's letter which relates to myself. I should perhaps make clear to readers that I have not seen prior to publication the remainder of Ms Sinclair's letter or your report on the topic.

It is perfectly clear from the Welch Report that the sections of my statement quoted therein are extracts containing key elements of my evidence. I do not regard this as in any way unreasonable or unfair. Some months ago I sent a copy of my statement to you on the understanding that it was not for publication. Now that the Welch and Coleman Inquiries have both reported, I am happy for you to publish my statement in full if you so wish. Alternatively, I am willing to make a copy available to anyone who so requests.

The SCCU Executive committee has resolved to close the matter and I do not envisage making any further comment on the incidents of 1994. The Surrey Congress Committee have asked me to be the Chief Arbiter for the 1995 Congress. I have been pleased to accept the invitation and I shall be working to ensure a successful and enjoyable event.

Yours sincerely,
David Sedgwick SCCU President

CONGRESS DIARY

Feb 4 GOLDERS GREEN U150. AN Raoof, PO Box 1962, London NW4 4NF 081 202 0982
4 COUNTY CHESS, London. U140; U115; U90; U75 Girls. R Miller, 17 Heron Rd, Twickenham, Middx
4 -5 KIDLINGTON. T Williams, 13 Sunderland Avenue, Oxford OX2 8DZ 0865 57428
5 STOCKPORT Open; U160; U130; U100. Stockport QP, 6 Shropshire Avenue, Binnington, Stockport SK5 8HE
10-12 ROLLS ROYCE CREWE. RJ Edwards, 490 Chell Heath Rd, Chell Heath, Stoke on Trent ST6 6QD 0782 818560
11 WESTMINSTER 160+; 121-159; U121. John Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU 0181 595 5881
12 TIVERTON. J Frost, 20 Cowleymoor Rd, Tiverton, Devon EX16 6HH 0884 253844
17-19 PORTSMOUTH. P McEvoy, 77 Lime Grove, Paulsgrove, Portsmouth PO6 4DQ 0705 388341
18 COUNTY CHESS U160; U135; U110; U95 Girls. R Miller as 4 Feb
24-26 SPALDING. F Bowers, 34 Middle Rd, Whaplode, Lincs PE12 6TW 0406 370166
25-26 BEDS & MILTON KEYNES U18. A Ioannides, Physics Dept, Open University, Milton Keynes MK7 6AA 0908 655005
26 BASINGSTOKE. JH French, 31 Brocas Drive, Basingstoke RG21 2LS 0256 472537
26 MILTON KEYNES & OPEN UNIVERSITY. D Phillips, 136 Ransoms Avenue, Milton Keynes MK14 7BH 0908 675587
Mar 3- 5 DONCASTER Open; U166; U136; U106. S Harrison, 5 Springwell Gardens, Balby, Doncaster DN4 9AH 0302 311660
3- 5 DYFED. TL Jones, Dolnant, Pontgarreg, Llandysul SA44 6AR
4 COUNTY CHESS U150; U125; U100; U85 Girls. R Miller as 4 Feb
4- 5 MILL HILL Open; U160; U120. AC Corfe, 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA 0707 659080
4- 5 SPECTRUM CHESS at Folkestone. Premiere (sic) U180; U140; U105. Les Day, 10 Oaklawn Court, Barton Rd, Torquay, Devon TQ10 4EN 01803 212136. Or Norman Went 01708 551617; they give his address as well and you can decide which one to send your entry form to, but the Bulletin will spare its readers the agony of choice.
10-12 BLACKPOOL Open; U180; U140; U115; U90. GM Jones, 27 Clarke St, Leigh, Lancs WN7 4HU 01942 604262
12 GUILDFORD Open; U166; U131; U101. Mike Adams, 13 Queens Drive, Guildford GU2 6PP
12 TEIGNMOUTH. J Gorodi, 52 Coniston Rd, Ogwell, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 6YJ 0626 55360
12 NUNEATON. R Woodcock, 188 Coventry Rd, Nuneaton, Warwicks CV10 7AU 0203 348097
17-19 COUNTY DURHAM Open; U161; U131; U100; U13 Sun only. PR Bielby, 30 Denham Avenue, Sunderland SR6 8HG
18 COUNTY CHESS as 4 Feb and at last they've got back to the same set of grading limits.
18-19 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, London. J Weightman, Flat 1, 225a Finchley Rd NW3 6PL 071 435 7205
28 ATHERTON. G Burton, 46 Edinburgh Drive, Hindley Green, Wigan WN2 4HL 0942 511594
25 GOLDERS GREEN OPEN. AN Raoof as 4 Feb.
Apr 1 TUNBRIDGE WELLS JUNIOR. RJ Haddrell, 48 Southview Rd, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 9BX 01892 532361

OXON: We are sorry to hear that Arthur Mushens of Witney has suffered a stroke. He is slowly recovering. For the moment, Oxford League correspondence should go to JN Walker, 1a Blackthorn Close, Headington, Oxford OX3 9JF 0865 62992; and Oxon correspondence should go to Lester Millin, 12 Rowell Drive, Begbroke, Oxford OX5 1SE 0865 376634.

MIDDX U100 match captain is Stephen Mooring, 30 The Terrace, London SW13 ONR 081 876 2407.

Kings Head CC, "following a change in the ownership and management of the pub", no longer meet at the Kings Head. The Durham Castle, long their match venue, is now their friendly venue as well. Don't know whether they'll change their name.

Quote
"This meeting was originally scheduled for the Durham Castle, but the papers of the meeting correctly said the Friends House. F*** consequently thinks it's at Tavistocks."

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: Chess Circuit 1/95; ChessIns for January; and the understamped package we haven't picked up from the sorting office yet.