THE CHESS JOURNALIST

VOLUME XL, N° 2-3

CONSECUTIVE Nº 139-140

SPRING/SUMMER 2011



THE CHESS JOURNALISTS OF AMERICA

President

Alexandra Kosteniuk 284 Sea View Rd. Key Biscayne, FL 33149-2504

Vice-President

Vacant

Secretary-Treasurer

Randy Hough 1826 W. Garvey Ave. #5 Alhambra, CA 91803 (626) 282-7412 randallhough@yahoo.com

Webmaster

J. Franklin Campbell 227 East Cherry Street Mason, MI 48854-1713 phone: (517) 676-1422 www.chessjournalism.org

Interim Editor

Mark N. Taylor P. O. Box 350 Mt Berry, GA 30149-0350 cja-editor@chessjournalism.org

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The CJA offers three types of memberships:

- Regular Memberships (\$10/ year)
- Associate Memberships (\$10/year), and
- Foreign Memberships (\$15/year).

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The King Playing with the Queen, by Max Ernst (1944), Museum of Modern Art

Cover design by Mark N. Taylor

Chess Journalists of America

PATRONS

The following members have put CJA on a firmer financial footing by donating at least \$25 during Fiscal Years 2005-2010:

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Donations may be directed to CJA, c/o Treasurer Randy Hough (see address at left).

NOTES & NOTICES

EDITOR'S NOTE

I'VE NEVER BEEN a fan of the double issue. For one thing, I have to wait forever until it finally arrives. Then, as I leaf through it, it's patently obvious it isn't a true double issue-more like a-little-more-than-one issue. It's a sign that something is amiss.

That said, here I am offering you my second "double-issue." All I can do is honestly acknowledge that I know that you know better. That and plead extenuating circumstances. When John Hillery died, he took with him more than his talent and expertise; he also took his files and his years of contacts that he could draw from to deliver you a magazine worth your while.

I believe that the association's magazine should be one of the chief attractions of being a CJA member. Thus far all I have been able to do is maintain some kind of continuity in the interim. The next permanent editor of The Chess *Journalist* (be it me or someone else) must rebuild from the ground up.

So let me ask you to seriously consider getting involved as a contributor. Who would contribute to The Chess Journalist? The established chess journalist who is committed to the growth and improvement of the CJA, the active volunteer who believes, is one such person. The up-and-coming chess journalist who is looking to build up a portfolio on the way to greater glory should also seriously consider contributing until something

bigger comes along.

I believe that this magazine can better serve editors of state publications and chess bloggers and I want to offer more to them. Will you join this effort? Contact me.

-MNT

DAREN DILLINGER

1946–2011 Daren Lee Dillinger passed away on June 7, 2011. He was 65 years old, loved chess and everything about it, loved comic books, and loved his friends and family. Daren said he attended 17 elementary schools and in high school he had so many friends he was elected student body president. He attended Florida State College, Pasadena City College, Georgetown University and enjoyed journalism, politics, & psychology. In addition to chess



he was a studious collector of comic books and pen& ink art.

Daren held numerous positions in various chess organizations, including: Chess Journalist of America Vice President 2003-07, The Pasadena Chess Club secretary 2003, Florida Chess Association Vice-president as well as assistant editor 1975–76, one of several editors of Florida Chess News, and current president of the Jacksonville Chess Club.

He wrote a chess column for the Florida-Times Union for six years and published numerous articles, some of which were award-winning.

Like his late nemesis, Jerry Hanken, Daren could be cantankerous. But also, like Jerry, no one could doubt that he loved chess and worked hard so that it might grow and thrive.

Here is a fine game he played against a stronger opponent:

Fortado, Bruce (2136) - Dillinger, Daren (1823) [C89] Jax Chess Blitz Tournament, Jacksonville, FL, 1988.02.03 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.c3 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.Rxe5 Nf6 12.d4 Bd6 13.Re1 Ng4 14.g3 Nxh2 15.Kxh2 Qh4+ 16.Kg1 Bxg3 17.fxg3 Qxg3+ 18.Kh1 Bg4 0–1 (http://daytonabchcc.org)

He is survived by three children, Daren E., Annelisa, and Chris, as well as five grandchildren.

I like to imagine Daren and Jerry Hanken together in heaven—which means they are absorbed in playing chess –without rancor.

(Some of this material is reprinted from David Lamb, Jacksonville Chess Club www.jaxchess.org.)

Kalev Pehme

1949–2011 Kalev Pehme passed away on August 26th at home in Redondo Beach, CA. He was a former editor of Chess Life (2004-2005), and a journalism instructor at St. John's University in Queens, New York. He is also remembered as being depicted in the film Searching for Bobby Fischer; his son Morgan was Josh Waitzkin's chess companion. Some of his ancestors came from Kalmykia, better known today as the host country of FIDE president Kirsan Ilyumzhinov's Chess Ĉity in Elista. Kalev wrote poetry and fiction in addition to journalism and scholarship. Later in life he devoted himself to yoga.



WCF?
The World Chess Federation, Inc., of Las Vegas, Nevada (www.wcfchess.com), writes advising us that a translation of Féderation Internationale des Échecs (FIDE) as "World Chess Federation," which appeared in our previous issue (p. 3) does not refer to the Las Vegas-based organization. While I am inclined to agree that a closer translation would be "International Chess Federation," the English designation "World Chess Federation" for FIDE is long established. Readers will have to discern some other means of identifying the WCF and anti-WCF forces at work in the world. 🛎

THE 2011 AWARDS FOR BEST CHESS JOURNALISM

Prepared by RAMÓN ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CJA Awards Committee Chairman and Chief Judge

General synopsis of this year's awards

o'd like to start off taking a moment to thank the late and great John Hillery for whom I had a lot of respect for his ability to argue his point with vigor and heart. I never got to meet this fine gentleman, but I'll note his legacy of caring for the CJA lived on through a closing of a loophole in the CJA Chess Journalist of the Year Award.

Among all categories in this year's competition there were a total of 110 entries submitted making this a new competition high number of entries received. (The old record was set in 2008 with a total 107 entries submitted.) This number was also an increase of 18 from last year's total. I'd like to believe this a testament that prospective and current members have realized that, not only do I continue to lead this committee transparently, but that the entire committee is following suit in being fair. I will defer to our secretary/treasurer on his finance report for income figures related to the awards competition.

Once again the competition bought in several new members and returned a few others who had been out the membership for a while. The entire membership should not expect the awards competition to serve as the principal method for recruiting new members nor as the sole means of revenue. To believe so on any case is setting the organization as a whole for complete financial failure.

Our three sophomore categories bought in a total of 16 entries, as we recognized the very best in story, layout, and USCF state chapter website.

One of my gripes last year was the inability to send out a blast/mass email to the membership. I added an electronic newsletter within the CJA Awards Committee website which allowed me to communicate with over 30 members. Unfortunately these were 30 plus members who had submitted entries and therefore I had their email addresses. As for renewal/new memberships, there has to be a method of asking that the membership provide email addresses for faster communication. To be sure, no one will receive constant emails that border on spam.

Last year, to save the organization's funds, I uploaded the text files onto a committee website I designed. It allowed savings in photocopying while allowing the judges to download the files at their ease. This year I also sent the award judges the files on a CD so as to reduce the need to download, save their ISP s download bandwidth, and free their time up substantially. (Should the judge misplace the CD or be away

from it they could always go onto the committee website and download most all of the files.)

I ended last year stating:

I can with comfort note this year's competition was, at minimum, well-done and a reward of a testament of having conducted it. My core goal of being and keeping the awards competition impartial, ethical, and transparent were met and at times excelled. I can sleep well. To my fellow awards judges, a giant thank you to each, and to our president, thank you for your communication and outstanding leadership.

Well I'll quip and note I had one member thank me for my work as chair of this committee and as chief awards judge but I was quick to note all the kudos and accolades goes to the judges. I'm a fiery person, but humble too. As a leader on any level I give all the praise to the excellent people under me, while yet personally taking all the negative comments anyone can address. I am well certain that the awards competition has

- the vast majority of loopholes further closed;
- so an excellent grading system;
- sa superb tie-break system;
- bought clarity in the form of guidelines for the judges on what to look for per each category.

I know without a shadow of doubt that the committee and I have done an excellent job and I continue to sleep well. Any negative comment anyone can concoct is in the minority when compared to the enormous amount of praise this committee has received.

The CJA Awards Judges

Excluding myself, we had two CJA Members volunteer to serve as awards judges. I anticipate having several of the remaining members back next year. Short of crawling on my knees, I really appreciate each of last year's award judges. We had two judges not renew their CJA memberships. Their

absence is hard felt, not only in the awards committee, but as members who could have submitted each of their respective USCF state chapter magazines for any category including but not limited to the CJA Best State Magazine/ Newsletter Award category.

One additional award judge noted that they would not be able to serve because they had work commitment which would not give this individual adequate time. Another award judge received their awards package but was out the country to receive it. The final award judge from last year mentioned they might be able to judge but sounded 50/50. In hopes of saving the CJA the cost of photocopying and postage I opted to save the organization the money and passed on this individual.

Whether three or eight, the size of the judging pool does not and did not hinder in the least the results of this year's competition. Would I like the eight of last year? Sure! But this year's three is not to be denied the fact that they did an over-excellent job which matched the eight of last year—if not more. On any given year I'd need three and would not and will not take another judge on the committee unless I get a mass exodus of committee members. It's simple to get members on this committee, but harder to vet them and their ability to be fair or have some expertise in chess journalism.

The judges:

LTD Ramon Antonio Hernandez, Committee Chairman and Chief Judge

J. Franklin Campbell, Judge

NTD NM Randall D. Hough, Judge

I continue with personal and profound gratitude toward our award judges for their diligence and dedication.

Changes this Year

a. Elimination of one category and introduction of another I eliminated the CJA Best Streamed Video of Chess News Award category as it last year it fielded only one mediocre entry. This by no means should be construed as me being against video news. The area itself has not been concretely invested and pushed further by individuals. I do monitor that area of chess journalism, but, from the amount of entries received, it is just not strong at present. As with any possible new or current category, I will revisit it on annual basis.

New as a category this year was the CJA Best Features Article category. This was a no brainier and should have long been a part of our awards competition. For any newsletter, magazine, or website where there is hard news, there should also be a features section. I am glad to have introduced this and am proud of the entries we received.

b. Closed the loophole on the CJA Chess Journalist of the Year Award This is a follow up on my committee report from last year, with respect to the Chess Journalist of the Year Award (CJotY) award where we had one entry. The esteemed individual won the award on the basis of default as no one else fielded an entry. Our by-laws state the entire membership is to vote on that award, however in an attempt to save the organization the cost of mailing out a mass mailing to the entire

membership with the name of one individual for a yes or no vote would have been a waste of time and money. The executive board entertained my request that they and the awards committee vote on that entrant. Both the executive board and the awards committee each cast their vote and the individual won.

No matter how you see it, one individual should not be allowed to win the most coveted of all CJA Award categories on the basis of being the only one person who submitted a package for consideration of that award. I want to once more clarify that I am adamant that last year's winner was more-than-deserving and certainly had my vote. But here is a scenario which I do not want to run into: Jane/Joe Doe submits a package for consideration for the CJotY award which amounts to a crappy or less-than mediocre entry; they are the only individual who submitted an entry for that award category. Now, no matter who votes or how, this individual is guaranteed the award. Then the ramifications of this individual winning are that they get to forever claim to be a CJA Chess Journalist of the Year and in accordance to our By-Laws:

Article 2 (B) The Chess Journalist of the Year is awarded an Honorary Membership unless two members of the Executive Board oppose such awarding.

They'd be entitled to the great possibility of winning a free lifetime "honorary" membership into the CJA. We cannot afford to dole out free lifetime memberships when we are a very small membership organization. We further cannot hand individuals the most coveted award on the basis that they were the sole entrant.

This year, within the award guidelines/rules, I clearly established the text that closed the loophole. There were no entries for that category; had we received only one entry I would have mailed their check back. (All material submitted becomes property of the awards committee judge and is not returnable. Moreover, it is less costly to the organization to send a check back than a complete CJotY award package.)

We did have one individual inquire about the award, but, given that the instructions speak for themselves, I didn't reply.

c. Nominating an entry

We had one individual inquire as to nominating an individual for an award (CJotY) and I immediately notified them that nominations of entries are not allowed, as some individuals may not want to their work considered, regardless of the award category. Submission of entries by the individual themselves is not something new and is used by award competitions in major journalism organizations. Submission of entries today has not been an issue and, given both the number of entries-and, more importantly, the number of individuals submitting entries—it is not something I expect to change. Ironically, the individual who was to be "nominated" had a CJA membership which expired long ago. Using the excuse that this individual is too shy to nominate their own own work doesn't fly with me. That individual should be reminded to renew their membership as it 'd go a long way in strengthening our organization.

d. Honorary members submitting entries

1) Last year we had one honorary member submit an entry and this year we doubled that number. When I inherited chairing this committee, I kept the committee chair's permission of allowing honorary members to submit their first entry for free (their subsequent entry continues being the \$8.00 charge which everyone else pays). After typing the entry form and pasting the same text used for the honorary member, I researched whether an honorary member has the "right" to enter their first entry for free and came up with the fact that this is a committee chair courtesy call and not a CJA By-Laws provision:

Article 2 (D) Honorary members are not required to pay dues, but have all other rights and obligations of Regular Membership, including the right to hold office.

I want to state I will not be changing that courtesy, but I am divulging in an on-going transparent and fair manner that this is indeed a committee chair courtesy call that can be revoked.

2) Of the two honorary members who submitted an entry this year, one submitted a website entry which didn't have his name directly attributed to it, although he was part of the organization sponsoring the entry. I vet each entry thoroughly to make sure there is a by-line or that web entry was done by the entrant. This one entry didn't have their webmaster 's name on any page, but, as an organization, this individual was listed and thereby was allowed entry as that organization, because they a) might have had several members which serve as webmasters, and b) might have neglected to list the name of their webmaster either within the footer or on a "Contact Us" page.

Online entries were told:

Online entries: Entries which appear on the internet must provide the URL which contains the entry. The writer's name must be attributed to the name of the individual on the award's cover sheet.

To close that loophole, individuals applying for the CJA Best [USCF] State Chapter Website Award and the CJA Best General Chess Website Award next year will read something more to the point about the name of the webmaster mentioned somewhere on the site, either within the footer or in a staff contact page. If the name of the webmaster is not visible in either of these two locations or the name of that individual does not match the name of the entrant, the entry will be rejected. I do not mind a state chapter webmaster submitting their website for consideration but I do mind John Doe submitting the website as an entry for someone else, as a) that is nominating and there is no nominating allowed, and b) the individual, regardless of the association to the organization, is not the tireless webmaster.

Why should we lose the possibility of gaining an additional member in the form of that state chapter webmaster, while losing out also on the cost of an entering an entry by the honorary member invoking their courtesy entry? Apart from all that, it throws an additional entry into that category where the webmaster didn't even know their website was entered. My accepting the entry was based on the fact it was legit to

the award category and that was a loophole, but did flag that loophole to correct next year.

I do not anticipate this making a ripple on the shore of the CJA Best Chess Blog Award, as blog websites include the name of the writer under the same domain name. If I felt that'd be an issue, I'd be quick to request the name of the webmaster be coded into the blog's website to prove they are one and the same.

e. Allowing CJA Foreign Members to submit entries I had two CJA members (full members from the U.S.A.) inquire as to whether CJA Foreign members may submit entries to any of the award categories, to which I replied no. Logistically, as I explained, it'd be impossible for any award judge—let alone all of them—to be expected to read the various respective languages throughout the world. It was further explained to them that the CJA is the governing organization on chess journalism in the U.S.A., and that such an award would be best suited on an international level—e.g., an International Federation of Chess Journalism—and if they felt strongly enough they should start it up. Even on that level it'd be hard for an individual to read various languages.

f. Recusements

Given the size of the award judges this year I will not be specifying who recused themselves from an award category as it'd be simple to then deduce which judge voted for what. I define the recusements as I did last year. The reasoning for recusements were given me by each judge and were acceptable and appreciative. I did not have to recuse any award judge for possible conflict of interest.

Reimbursements

We received \$1,020.00 total received for the awards competition this year (this figure includes \$32.00 overpaid and which had to be repaid back by the CJA). As last year, goal one on reimbursements was to not have to buy too much while yet keep the bill very low. Copies of the receipts for each listed as follows were sent to our secretary/treasurer.

Full awards listing follows.





Kamsky Bids Adieu to Championship Drought Mike Klein wins best Tournament Report Article

THE 2011 AWARDS

CJA Best Story of the Year

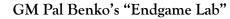
is presented to the United States Chess Federation (USCF) for

"The Grandmaster Who Did It His Way," by Larry Parr

Introduced last year, we had five entries submitted for this sophomore category. There was a tie for 2nd place, but the clear winner had a perfect score.

CJA Best Chess Column

is presented to the USCF for



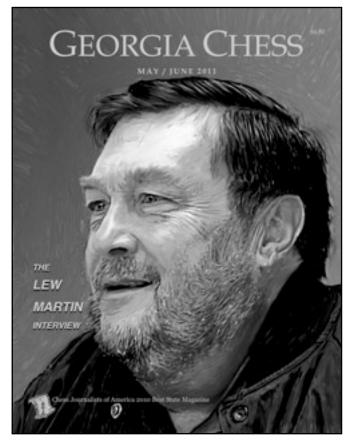
Six Entries were submitted in this category.

CJA Best State Magazine/Newsletter

is presented to the USCF State Chapter Affiliate of Georgia for Georgia Chess

With three entries returning from last year, two of them tied for 2nd place; but 1st place went to reigning champ *Georgia Chess*, edited by Mark N. Taylor.





CJA Tournament Report Article
is presented to the USCF for
"Kamsky Bids Adieu to Championship
Drought," by FM Mike Klein

Having had 17 entries, we had nearly twice the amount of entries from last year in this respective entry.

CJA Best Chess Magazine/Newsletter Layout is presented to the USCF State Chapter Affiliate of Massachusetts for the entire The October-December 2010 issue of Chess Horizons

Pitting two state chapters against each after the first round of voting, on tiebreaks the State Chapter of Massachusetts beat out the State Chapter of Georgia and every other competitor within this category.

CJA Excellence in Chess Writing,
Mainstream Media
is presented to
Dale Rigby, for "My Playing Weight,"
Sport Literate (Volume 7, Issue 1)

Sport Literate (Volume 7, Issue 1)
Where last year we had no entry, this
year one individual entered their work
for consideration in this category

CJA Best Regular Newspaper Chess Column

is presented to

David R. Sands of The Washington Times This category had last year's winner Bill Cornwall (formerly with the Fort Lauderdale Sun Sentinel and now with the Los Angeles Times) facing David R. Sands of The Washington Times. Sands who, apart from being The Washington Times' National and Politics Editor, also serves as their chess columnist.

This is my opinion was the this year's best and yet most difficult category for an individual to judge, as both entries were beyond outstanding, at the very least. In the end, Mr. Sands overtook Mr. Cornwall for the victory, but I was certainly pleased to see what are perhaps the two sole regular newspaper chess columnists in the nation face off.

CJA Best Regular Newspaper Local Interest Chess Column

is presented to Bill Cornwall for Chess A Knight's Tour, Sun Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale)

Though he was the only entrant in the award category, Bill Cornwall's entry was so well received individually and independently by each award judge that his entry garnered a perfect score. (Mr. Cornwall's regular chess columns ended in the end of 2010, well into the period for which an entry could be considered and therefore allowed for consideration.)

CJA Best Chess Photojournalism is presented to the the USCF for the

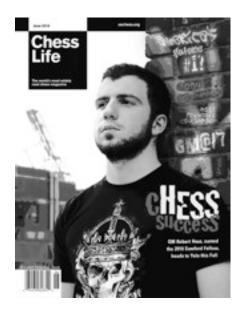
cover of the June 2010 Chess Life

We had two entries tie after the 1st round. At 12 entries, we doubled the number of entries in this award cate.

number of entries in this award category, which is fantastic. Any editor who believes they can have a magazine/newsletter and not have photos that capture a moment is destined to have a cluttered and bleak product.

CJA Best Features Article is presented to the the USCF for "Involuntary Retirement" by Ramon A. Hernandez

A dozen entries were submitted in this nascent award category. There were two entries that finished tied after the 1st round of voting.



CJA Best Instructive Lesson is presented to the the USCF for "Conversation with a Grandmaster," by GM Boris Gulko and Joel R. Sneed, PhD. There were also two entries that tied for 2nd place.

CJA Best Review is presented to the the USCF for "Frank Brady's Masterpiece," by Al Lawrence

This was a tight award category requiring a tie-break voting round, but the clear favorite won with a perfect score.

CJA Best Humorous Contribution is presented to the USCF State Chapter

Affiliate of Georgia for Weekly Chess News (April Fool 's Supplement), Georgia Chess

CJA Most Notable Achievement in Correspondence Chess

is presented to the USCF for "Enter the Centaur," by FM Alex Dunne This award category had to go to a 2nd-round tie-break.

CJA Best Historical Article is presented to the the States of Wash-

ington & Oregon 's USCF chapters for
"A Forgotten Chess Tale: Hapley's

"A Forgotten Chess Tale: Hapley's Project," by GM Yasser Seirawan,

Northwest Chess Nov. 2010 We had twice as many award entries in this award category than last year and one award judge recusing himself.

CJA Best Interview

is presented to the the USCF for "Profiling Brady" by Al Lawrence
In contrast to last year, twice the amount of entries were submitted in this award category. The winner finished with a perfect score.

CJA Best Chess Art

is presented to the the States of Washington & Oregon's USCF chapters for Cover of Northwest Chess March 2011
This respective award category also caught a gain in number of entries submitted and, as with the previous award category, the winner finished with a perfect score.

CJA Best Analysis

is presented to the Iowa Chess News En Passant (IA) for "Keating, R-Karagianis, P"



Weekly Chass World investigative reporters have discovered that an alien has initiated a sinete of discovered that an alien has initiated a sinete of some title signature. The alien is numeral to be named bases from a planet ruled by a gostlerist. Classia, and he claims to be the origination of the game of chass. He last valided sorth some 1500 years ago and explained that the accidently has chees set befrind, "somewhere in India. or maybe China". Sinesa preside earthings for modifying the board to a checkwed field. President Ryrana could not be reached that commerce, but the has promptly resigned his position as undisputed leader of a small former Spirit republic.





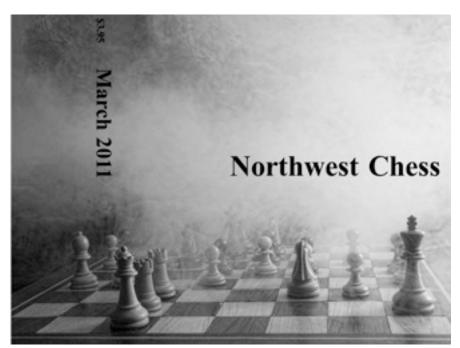
CJA Best [USCF] State Chapter Website is presented to the USCF Northern California State chapter for Official website of the Northern California State's USCF chapter We had four entries submitted in this category. Retaining their title with a perfect score in this respective award category was NoCal.

CJA Best General Chess Website is presented to the USCF for Official website of the United States

Chess Federation

Once again there were two entries submitted in this category. Facing a different competitor, the USCF retained their title with a perfect score in this award category.

CJA Best Chess
Blog Award
is presented to
Hank Anzis for
Broken Pawn
(brokenpawn1.
blogspot.com)



Above: Best Chess Art

Middle: Best Chess Blog

Below: Best state website





WHY THE PRINT MAGAZINE?

Mark N. Taylor



RINT magazines are expensive to produce and mail out; they are not timely; nobody has time to read them, nobody cares anymore; everyone is online now, anyway. Isn't it time to ditch the archaic print magazine? Well, no, and here's why.

Websites seem to be the most vital portal of organizational communications today: if well maintained, they are more upto-date; they contain a wealth of information; members can visit them often as they are constantly being updated (well, ideally); some enjoy forum exchanges. Magazines have a longer lag in production time, so when it arrives the news is no longer fresh. The big weekend Swiss many members played in and enjoyed seeing the results on the web is no longer so exciting a month or two later in print. The print magazine, however, can present wider and deeper coverage in addition to the crosstables; there may be a number of analyzed games included; maybe there are photographs; and it is even a nice keepsake. Who doesn't love to see their name or photo in print? And it's all right there without having to log in and click, click, click. Over time, the value of the print magazine increases while the value of the website coverage decreases. In fact, the print magazine is actually the more lively when seen in retrospect. The timely news items on the website soon disappear. Even if the website has a good archiving system, one has to hunt for any given article. Moreover, the history most websites contain is often dry-as-dust lists of past champions and officers. Looking through back issues of magazines, you can relive past tournaments and events through the articles and photographs. Immediate physical contact with an historical artifact can transport us to the past more quickly and fully than a digital facsimile viewed on screen. No website nor Kindle can yet approach the immediacy of turning the yellowing pages past the oxidizing staples of a print magazine, its faint acidic smell, recalling the moment when the owner first received it (perhaps postal stamps and cancellation still intact).

Print newsletters and magazines are usually an organization's publication of record. Many associations require meeting minutes, membership lists, by-laws, etc., to be printed and distributed to members. It is not unusual that the newsletter contains the sole surviving history of a state chess organization. Consider: if you wanted a history of the officers of your chess association or the state champions, where would you go to find it? Is there a list on your website? How comprehensive is it? How accurate is it? Unless you have access to all the original minutes, chances are you will have to revert to the print publication to be sure. What I am getting at is that the print magazine is still the most assured repository of your

state's chess history. Once in print it stays in print unchanged. Up on the website—who knows? The Georgia Chess Association has a list of its state champions on its website, a very nice list going back to 1947. I can tell you that that list contains errors and I can tell you that because I have consulted back issues of the newsletter going back some 50 years. If you are considering ditching the print publication to go digital, consider if you have sufficient safeguards to preserve your association's history.

A related matter is the reliability of that history, the ability to remain impervious to falsification of history. If you like to collect chess memoralibilia, you are aware of the danger of forgeries, such as autographed books. (See, for example, Lawrence Totaro's guide, *Fisching for Forgeries*. Thinker's Press, 2007.) While it is highly unlikely that someone might attempt to forge some part of your state's history, it can happen, and, if all you have is a digital examplar, you may lack any way of ascertaining the truth. You need the original. But the problem may not always have a nefarious origin. Let me invent an example. A jokster with a little photoshop skill is going to tease an old chess colleague by posting a photo from an old magazine online:



Above photo taken: during game time at the Cobb County Cheis Club. Shown (Front L-R) J.W.Grable, Bobby Fischer, also shown are Jim Davis and opponent.

THE CHESSWAN JULY / AUGUST 1978

Hey Jerry, Here's a reminder of when you played Bobby Fischer in his only post-1972 tournament!

A gullible (incredibly gullible!) webmaster picks this up and posts it on the state website. A national chess blogger picks it

up and it goes viral. Unless someone has a print copy of this issue, how can the deception be put definitively to rest? Fortunately someone does possess a copy:



Above photo taken: during game time at the Cobb County Chess Club. Shown (Front L-R): J. W. Grable, Ken Seagle, also shown are Jim Davis and opponent.

THE CHESSMAN JULY / AUGUST 1976

For the fun of it, I created an extreme example, but you can imagine how a more subtle error may go unnoticed and so distort chess history. Edward Winter has exposed a number of authentic examples in his *Chess Notes*, often referencing publications he has personally consulted.

You can advertise your website at events, but people may or may not visit it later. If you give someone a copy of your publication, they can immediately become familiar with your chess association. If you produce a nice looking magazine or newsletter you make an immediate positive impression. It takes a little forethought to use the print publication as a PR tool, but it is an effective one. Be sure to have membership information included in an obvious place that readers cannot fail to see (e.g., back cover). And be sure to have association volunteers bring the publication to events and display them prominently. Give a few away, but actively try to use it to gain new members. Regrettably, many people may not understand the value of being a member of a state chess organization (unless they are playing in the state championship, in which case they may resent having to pay a membership fee in addition to a tournament entrance fee), and subscription to the print publication often counterbalances that resentment. (Kudos to you if you notice I am avoiding using the detestable phrase "value-added".)

A print publication still bespeaks "leisure" in a way no website can (well, most websites). Many professionals face a computer screen at work a good part of the day and that breeds a certain mentality that sitting at the computer demands a certain attitude toward online content. Unless your website resembles an online game or eBay, chances are it more closely resembles work, or at least something users do not connect with leisure. The print magazine, however, can recall that sense of leisure. Yes, some people still enjoy setting up a chess board and playing through games in a book or magazine. Some still enjoy reading a lengthy feature in an idle hour.

We read websites and magazines differently. Thus each is

going to be the appropriate host for different kinds of content. Websites are read for quick information. Magazines are read for longer features. Thus there is a different mentality to websites and print magazines and their purposes should be in harmony with those mentalities. Websites are primarily to provide easy access to information, up-to-date, accurate, clear. They foreground announcements, calendars, and links to crosstables and games. Some may include tournament reports and photographs. Ask yourself, is this all your association wants to offer its members by way of publication? If so, you may as well ditch the print magazine. But let me offer one compelling argument against doing so.

Nicholas G. Carr's article, "Is Google Making Us Stupid? What the Internet is doing to our brains" (Atlantic July/Aug 2008, and see his follow up book: The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains, W. W. Norton in June 2010), strongly suggests that constant reading on the internet might have detrimental effects on cognition that diminish the capacity for concentration and contemplation. Needless to say, this does not sound good for chess players! We need to also feed our minds with longer, more thoughtful and complex forms of discourse. The print magazine can fulfill that need in your association. I myself have noticed that I will gladly spend time with an intricate feature article in Chess Life or New In Chess, whereas I simply cannot get through an article of similar weight posted on a website. I do my best to plough through for the first several paragraphs, then I read topic sentences, then I make a desultory pass at the remainder. The state magazine or newsletter is the place to showcase the indepth feature stories, interviews, history, and scholarship of your members.

Google may be the librarian of the future, but we are still living in the present. There may come a time when it is undeniably the right thing to let go of most printed material. There may come a time when we will all have biocomputers where our brains can instantly access everything ever published. But that time is not our time. And there is a real danger in moving too fast. Nicholas Basbanes recounts the cautionary tale of the new San Francisco public library in his book, Patience and Fortitude (HarperCollins 2001), in which a "visionary" director's plan for the "library of the future" led to the dumping of as many as a half million of the library's books in a landfill, with very little to show for it in terms of online accessibility or other amenities. Despite the trend to make libraries resemble a Starbucks, wise denizens among us know where the true treasure rests. And perhaps not just the wisest. While there are many contradictory statistics on current levels of print readership, there appears to be continuously strong readership for print magazines, and not only among the wealthy and the literary. Yes, rising production costs do put pressure on non-profit member-driven organizations. That, coupled with an admirable reluctance to raise membership rates during economic hard times leads board members to consider dropping the print publication. May they make the effort to seek out other options thoroughly before they do so.

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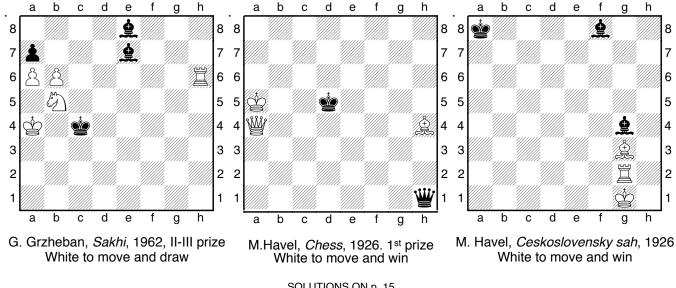
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PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Grzheban Solution: 1.bxa7 Bxb5+ 2.Ka5 Bb8+ 3.Rb6 Kc5 4.a8K! Bc6 5.a7 Bb5 6.Nc7 Bxc7 7.a8K! Bd8 8.Nc7 Bxc7 Stalemate M.Havel, Chess Solution: 1.Qd7+ Kc4 (1...Ke5 2.Qg7+ Ke6 3.Qe7+ Kf5 4.Qf6+ Kg4 5.Qg5+) 2.Qb5+ Kd4 3.Bf2+ Kc3 4.Be1+ Kd4 (4...Qxe1 5.Qb4+) 5.Qb2+ Kc5 6.Qb6+ Kc4 7.Qb4+ Kd3 8.Qc3+ Ke2 9.Qd2+ winning M. Havel, *Ceskoslovensky sah* Solution:

1.Bf2 Be6 2.Rg6 (begins chasing the bishop along the vertical) Bd5 (or 2...Bc4 3.Rc6; 2...Bb3 3.Ra6+) 3. Rg5 Bc4 (3...Be6 4.Re5Bd7 5.Rd5) 4. Rg4 Bb3 5. Rg3 Ba2 (after the light-squared bishop hid from the rook, White starts chasing the other bishop along the horizontal) 6.Rf3 Be7 (6...Bd6 7.Rf6; 6...Bb4 7.Rf4) 7.Re3 Bd6 8.Rd3 Bb4 9.Rd4 and wins



SOLUTIONS ON p. 15

The Chess Journalist % Randy Hough 1826 W. Garvey Ave. #5 Alhambra, CA 91803-4260

FIRST CLASS