

## FROM ALEKHINE TO KASPAROV AND BEYOND

By J. Eugene (“Gene”) Salomon

*This article is a preview of my forthcoming book, “Sweet Memories: Family, Friends, Chess & Sugar” which focuses on several of the remarkable life events of my family, and was translated and edited by Diane Dahl. “Sweet Memories” was adapted from my original book “Jugando en el tablero de la vida”, written with co-author Javier Cordero, which focused on my 70 years of chess adventures.*



**Left**—Gijon, Spain, 1944 at a luncheon in Alekhine’s honor while he came to play the first Gijon International Tournament (I am standing, in the white jacket, and Alekhine is seated in the middle.) **Right**—Parsippany, New Jersey, 2014 Team Tournament—I am showing Kasparov the picture of his predecessor from 70 years before, since I knew that he was also inspired by “The Genius” (as historian Pablo Moran called him in his MacFarland book).

Throughout my 94 years, I have played a number of memorable games on “Caissa’s” board, the first being a game against World Champion Alekhine in 1944 in my hometown of Gijon, Spain; and another against GM Gabriel Sargissian in 1998 in Linares, also in my native Spain. Between those two games on the chessboard, there were more than 50 years of games that my family and I had to play on the Board of Life. Although I wasn’t born until the 1920s, generations of my family have lived through the Spanish—American War in Cuba (1898), the First World War (1914—1918), the Spanish Civil War (1936—1939), the Second World War (1939—1945), and the Cuban Revolution (1959). My last 62 years living in the good old U.S.A have been as full of excitement as my chess life was, and I wanted to share not only some more of my adventures over the chessboard, but also some of my adventures on the board of life.

### My Chess Life Begins— the 1940s

I’m forever grateful to the great Alexander Alekhine who, when I was 15 years old, gave me some friendly advice which marked my life. At the request of my uncle (who was Alekhine’s personal physician in 1944 in Gijon), I was walking “the Genius” from the Chess Club to his hotel while he was “under the influence”. All of a sudden, he stopped to give me what I interpreted as a message of gratitude for my assistance, “Young man, chess is not something to which one should dedicate his whole life.” I am certain he had no idea how profoundly those words impacted me, and he could never have imagined that they have influenced so many life decisions ever since.

1947 was a special year in my life. I had just finished my first year of medical school in Madrid, and was invited to play the IV International Chess Tournament in Gijon. After losing only two of the 13 games, defeating the then Champion of Spain, IM Antonio Medina, in what he called an excellent game, I tied for 7—8 out of 14 with child prodigy, future Grandmaster “Arturito” Pomar. Later that year, as a delayed consequence of the Spanish Civil War, I left Madrid for Havana. I had no way of knowing that just as I was leaving Spain, coincidentally, a new “chess star” had just been born—the late Miguel Nepomuceno. This famous writer—historian of chess and music, as well as a chess master of IM caliber, was born in 1947... on my 19th birthday. Seventy years later, we would meet for the first time, and our friendship would change the following years in incredibly meaningful ways: he inspired me to write a book that could become our “MAGNUM OPUS”.

## My Chess in the 1950s and 1960s

I spent the last few years of the 1940s and the decade of the 1950s in Cuba. Since I was studying at University while working at the same time (first grade teacher at the Jesuit famous school “Colegio de Belen”), there was little time left for chess.

In 1952, there was an Invitational Tournament to select the Cuban Team for the Helsinki Chess Olympiad. I was invited based on my Spanish credentials plus my frequent games with the best players at Havana’s “Club Capablanca”. Lo and behold, I finished in sixth place out of the 14 invited players (all of the highest players in the island at the time), and qualified as the sixth and last member of the team. Although circumstances prevented me from attending, I was very proud of my accomplishment. As a result of the Cuban revolution, in 1960, I made the decision to leave Cuba, and after sending my parents back to Spain. I emigrated to the U.S.

With my arrival in New York in 1960, chess had disappeared completely from my life since an immigrant only has room for one thing in life—survival! For most of the 1960’s, I concentrated exclusively on my family and business life. My lovely wife, Bea, and I were married in 1961, lived in New York and later New Jersey, where we raised our four children. Those years were also years of success in the U.S. sugar industry, thanks to my university studies and work experience in Cuba’s sugar mills. I advanced quickly and by the end of the 60s, I had been promoted to Vice—President of a major sugar company.

At the end of January 1968, I took the most painful flight of my life, the one I never wanted to take—I traveled from New York to Madrid to attend my father’s funeral, arriving just in time to accompany him to the cemetery. It was a sad trip and a painful goodbye to the man who had been my inspiration in life and who had instilled in me not only his great love of chess and music, but his example of family love, human solidarity and hard honest work. My priorities—family and a business career—were developing very well. Could it be worth trying serious chess again at age 40? After 16 years away from competition, I entered the NJ Open as unrated, and exited with a master’s rating.

### The 1970s— Discovering the Westfield Chess Club

At the beginning of the 1970s, the Westfield Chess Club in New Jersey was the strongest club in the region. Under the outstanding leadership of Denis Barry, its membership grew exponentially—somehow, Denis managed to attract the best players in New Jersey.

I was honored, when in 1972, Denis invited me to participate in the first of a new series of “Invitational Tournaments” limited to the strongest players in New Jersey. I finished in 3rd place, ahead of some well—known masters like Steve Stoyko, whom I beat in a rather interesting game.

Gene Salomon—Steve Stoyko—Westfield Invitational—  
3/24/1972

1.♠f3,♠f6 2.d4 g6 3.♠bd2 ♠g7 4.e4 0-0 5.e5 ♠e8  
6.♠d3 d6 7.♠e2 c5 8.dxc5 dxc5 9.0-0 ♠c6 10.h3 ♠c7  
11.a4 ♠e6 12.♠c4 b6 13.c3 ♠b7 14.♠d2 ♠c7 15♠ad1

♠ad8 16.♠fe1 ♠d7 17.♠g5 ♠xg5 18.♠xg5 ♠xe5  
19.♠xe5 ♠xe5 20.♠xe5 ♠xe5 21.♠xe5 ♠a6 22.♠xe7  
♠xd3 23.♠xd3 ♠xd3 24.♠xa7 ♠g7 25.♠b7 ♠a8  
26.♠xb6 ♠xa4 27.♠f6 ♠h6 28.g4 ♠a1+ 29.♠h2 g5  
30.♠d4+ ♠g6 31.♠xc5 ♠d1 ♠f8# 1-0

Playing in Westfield also gave me the opportunity to develop friendships for life. I also witnessed the growth of some very young teenagers into real Masters—GM John Fedorowicz and FIDE Master Mark Pinto are just two examples.

I frequently brought my sons to the club on Fridays after dinner. This became almost a sacred ritual for me. At 6 pm, I would sit at a table for dinner and, an hour and a half later, I would go to the club. On those evenings, I’d play a few games, discuss chess, and turn back into a teacher, sharing my knowledge of endgames with the younger players, often speaking about my experiences with Alekhine. In the following years, Steve Pozarek, Wayne Conover, and I formed the backbone of the Westfield team that prevailed every year in the NJ team league. (The three of us had been club champions, and developed such a close friendship that to this day, we still get together monthly after 50 years.)

At the end of the decade, in 1979, when my oldest son, Gene, became a member of his High School (CBA— Christian Brothers Academy) chess team, I became their volunteer coach. I was privileged to contribute to CBA becoming New Jersey State High School Champion for the first time...

### My chess in the 80’s

Due to my focus on my work, my participation in tournaments was limited to local events, almost always at the Westfield Club or in the quadrangular tournaments that my friend, the late Glen Petersen, organized on the weekends in New Jersey.

In 1980, I achieved a great result in the Westfield Chess Club’s Rapid Tournament, finishing in second place behind IM Mike Valvo. It was an entertaining fight in which I earned 14 points in 17 games, only giving up two losses. One of the losses was to an opponent who wasn’t even human—the computer, Belle (designed by Ken Thompson of Bell Laboratories fame), which finished in 5th place. Belle would soon become the World Champion of computers. The future was coming, and there was no stopping it.

That same year, 1980, I had one of my most cherished memories with chess, when I decided to enter the US Amateur Team Chess Championship with my three sons. We created a team with an odd name, “King Salomon and his Three Knights”, with me as the captain, well—supported by my three sons.

My son, Robbie, who hadn’t yet turned 7, was the youngest player in the event, and was interviewed during the tournament. The journalist asked him a few questions that Robbie answered with a simple “Yep”, until the journalist finally asked him this, “Do you know what ‘concentration’ means?” To which Robbie replied, “Yep, You sit on your hands and shut up.” Although our score in the tournament wasn’t worth mentioning, sharing the experience with my three sons will forever be one of my most treasured memories.



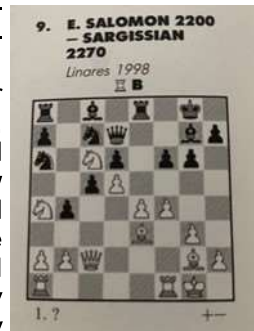
King Salomon and his Three Knights 39 years later...It was Christmas dinner 2019 in New Jersey...a family tradition . I was ready to play my last Team Tournament in February 2020...so we decided to take this picture for the sake of beautiful memories.

### Chess in the 90s and 2000s

My work was keeping me busy, and the 90s saw me retire from corporate life, and begin my consulting career, which gave me more free time to play. I played in the International Open of the Principality of Asturias (Spain) in 1993, where I was able to spend some wonderful time with my dear friend, Pablo “Pablito” Moran. It was the last meeting of two “lifelong and forever” friends, as Pablito himself described our friendship.

Back in the U.S., I started playing all the major Open tournaments (New York Open, World Open in Philadelphia, National Open in Las Vegas, Chicago Open) and as many others as I could attend. I especially remember the 1997 World Open in Philadelphia. It was a very challenging tournament, with a high number of titled players. In spite of all that, I finished above the midpoint of the standings, and with an even score.

In 1998, at age 70, I knew that the time had come to put an end to my competitive chess career. In light of that, I wanted to find a special tournament to close out this beautiful journey that had allowed me to have such enjoyable experiences. I knew that I wanted it to be in Spain, where it had all begun, closing the circle around the square board, and decided on the Linares Open, held in Linares Spain. I earned good results, especially the victory (after a beautiful tactical fight) against Gabriel Sargissian, World Youth Chess Champion (under 12). It may have taken me 54 years, but after my 1944 loss to World Champion Alekhine, I could now claim a victory against another World Champion (even if he was in the “Under 12” category.) I was honored that this game was selected by *Chess Informant* #71, a quarterly publication, as a game with one of the best combinations



of that quarter—year, from around the world. The entire game, published on page 360 of *Chess Informant* # 71, follows:

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.g3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.♗c3 g6 7.♗f3 ♘g7 8.♙g2 O-O 9.O-O ♗a6 10.♗d2 ♗c7 11.♗c4 ♗fe8 12.e4 b5 13.♗a5 b4 14.♗c6 ♖d7 15.♗a4 ♗a6 16.♗c2 f6 17.f4 ♗ec7 18.♙e3 ♗e8 19.e5 fxe5 20.fxe5 ♙xe5 21.♗xe5 ♖xe5 22.♙h6 ♙b7 23.♖f6 ♗e7 24.♖af1 ♗e1 25.♖xg6+ hxg6 26.♗xg6+ ♗h8 27.♙g5 ♖xf1+ 28.♙xf1 ♖g8 29.♙f6+ ♖g7 30.♗h6+ ♗g8 31.♙xe7 ♖xe7 32.♗g6+ ♗h8 33.♗f6+ ♖g7 34.♗xd6 1-0

As I was ending my competitive career, I succeeded in reaching one more pinnacle—I was awarded the title of Life Master by the U.S. Chess Federation. This plaque hangs on my wall, and I feel full of pride when I think of all the years, wonderful memories, and treasured friends I made along the way.



I had planned on ending my chess career in Spain where it started—but it didn’t quite work out that way. I wound up playing a few more tournaments in the United States, and ending my individual chess career at the National Open in Las Vegas, in March of 1999.

Although my individual competitive chess career had ended, I always kept chess by my side. For the last couple of decades, I was quite active at the Toms River Chess Club, and my love of chess resulted in frequent lectures, simultaneous exhibitions and participation in any activity to promote “the royal game”. One memorable event with the TRCC occurred in 2017, when I agreed to participate in the events the Toms River Chess Club had organized during the city’s 250th birthday celebration, and played blind-fold chess.

The following year, I gave a conference for the club around the time of my 90th birthday. To my surprise, they organized a birthday party and next to the podium they displayed the Toms River Chess Club’s Hall of Fame plaque. What an honor it was to see my name on the plaque alongside Botvinnik, Tal, Petrosian, and Karpov!



Steve Doyle and Gene Salomon with the Toms River Chess Club Hall of Fame plaque.



Plaque presented to me by the Toms River Chess Club

My last tournament was the 2020 US Amateur Team East, held in Parsippany, NJ. At 91 years of age, I was the captain of "The Oldest Team in Town", composed of veteran players from Toms River and Westfield—average age of 71: Gregory Coats, the youngest (at 61), Edd Knowles, 66, Richard Lewis, 77, Gene Salomon, 91 and Mark Pinto, 63. As captain of the team, I arranged in advance that the alternate player would play three of my games, so I only had to play one game per day. (That way, I could promise my friends and family that I wouldn't lose more than 3 games!) I was pleasantly surprised—I didn't lose any games (two ties and one win), and the team performed pretty well overall. The experience was most pleasant. I was able to return to competing after 21 years, and I did it alongside old friends from the Westfield Chess Club, and more recent friends from the Toms River Chess Club. For being the oldest player among the 1400 participants, I was recognized and given a book as a prize.

### 2017– Meeting Miguel

On April 5th, 2017, I met Miguel Angel Nepomuceno for

the first time in Madrid. He had contacted me inquiring if we could have an interview for a series of articles that he wanted to publish in his chess column at the web magazine "Zenda/ libros". During the meeting, it felt as if we'd known each other for many years, and that changed the direction of my last few years. I became a writer!.

His five part series of articles—"Eugenio Salomón Rugarcía: De Alekhine a Kasparov o cómo jugar a la ciega en el tablero de la vida" came out over the next year. I was touched and humbled by his compliments, descriptions, and how he referred to me:

*" The protagonist of this story is not a Grand Master, although has defeated some of them. He is not a professional player...EUGENIO SALOMON RUGARCIA is an authentic self-made man... "*

Our 2017 meeting was the start of a deep friendship at age 89, a rarity to be sure. It was the coincidental meeting of two "almas gemelas" (soulmates): two friends from Spain, both born on September 29th, (Miguel Nepomuceno in 1947 and I in 1928) .

During 2018 when health problems made it difficult for him to complete the sixth and last chapter covering my 60 years in the U.S, we worked together to complete it. This article contains much of the information he requested from me and, in a way, is my modest way to honor him for all that he has honored me. He repeatedly asked me to write not only about chess, but more so about my family's story, and wanted me to include some anecdotes and achievements of my 60 years of life in the U.S. He especially loved my story about the World Trade Center: I was one of the founding members of the Club at "Windows on the World". The restaurant was open to the public for dinner, but during the day was a private club for businessmen located in the North Tower.

As proud as I am of my chess, I am even prouder of my wonderful family and what I have been able to accomplish in the business world. Here is a brief summary of the highlights of my life (some of my "sweet memories") since emigrating to the "good old USA". (These quintessential parts of my life are only briefly noted here, and I invite you to find out more by reading my forthcoming book, expected in the next few weeks.)

I worked for 30 years with Sucrest Corporation/Ingredient Technology Corporation (ITC), an industry leader in sugar, edible molasses, and specialty products. I started as a research chemist, was promoted to Assistant to the President two years later, and became Corporate Vice—President within 8 years of coming to this country.

During my tenure, I served as President of Grandma Molasses, (ITC's Canadian subsidiary), and President of ITC's largest division, Specialty Products. During those years, I traveled to multiple countries, spent an extended honeymoon while working a couple of months at Central Romana, in the Dominican Republic, dined with British royalty, and got to attend the 1976 Olympic Games, while I was President of our Canadian subsidiary, Grandma Molasses.

After 30 years, I retired from ITC. I joined Florida Crystals

as Vice-President of their sugar mills in Florida and the Dominican Republic to help them diversify. It was an exciting three year business experience. When I decided to retire and return to New Jersey, Flo—Sun offered me a 4 year contract as a dedicated consultant...and I started a new and most rewarding career at age 65!

While continuing to be active in the industry, I became the manager of my own time, playing some of my best chess games from age 65 to 70. I also started with “fury” a new passion— “Duplicate Bridge” ( I am now a “Silver Life Master”). I learned how to use a smartphone, indulged my love of photography, was rediscovered by the Spanish chess world via social media, learned (mostly) how to be on Facebook, was nominated by a dear friend for the Sugar Industry’s “Man of the Year” Award, and became a chess writer. (Aside from my forthcoming book “Sweet Memories”, and a previous chess book, “40 Years of Friendship: 100 Games of Chess” I have written numerous articles about chess, which have been published in English and Spanish in various print and electronic publications.)

Through it all, I have been blessed to have my wonderful wife, Bea, by my side for 62 years. We have 4 children and 7 grandchildren, and I am enormously proud to be the patriarch of this family. As my father did before me, I have strived to promote family unity, and remain in contact with my many family members around the world. I fervently hope that my children and grandchildren follow my example, and maintain these priceless family bonds.

Since they say that bragging after 90 is no longer a sin, here are some plaques hanging on my office wall...



**Left**—Life Master Title for bridge; **Center**—A plaque from Rutgers University in appreciation for my work as the Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Department of Food Science; **Right**—From ITC’s Canadian division, Grandma Molasses, a “merci”, for my 21 years of dedication to the company.



**Left**—Award from Rutgers in recognition of his service to the people of the State of New Jersey. **Right**—Members of the Harrogate Senior Chess Club

### My last chess hurrah

People have said that I don't understand the meaning of the word "retirement", but there are some things that I enjoy too much to give up completely. Yesterday, at age 94, I started a chess club in my senior community, which was attended by players/friends from the area. I am looking forward to teaching again, and giving lectures about this game I have loved for over 80 years. I am grateful I have the health to do it, and I say a big "THANK YOU" to the staff who allow me to run the club. I hope my fellow players enjoy it as much as I do.



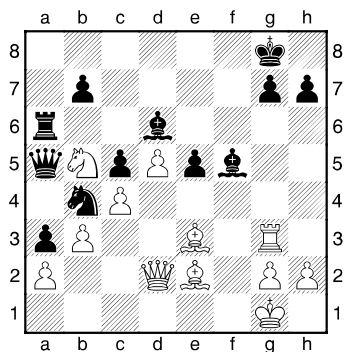
Myself and my friend of 50 years (and co-author Wayne Conover, who was once a member of the US Olympic Team in Correspondence Chess.

Since Miguel wanted for his "Chapter VI" highlights of my last 60+ years in the U.S., I feel that the best way to finish this article is with some games of my teammates from the Westfield Chess Club of the 70's and 80's, as well as the friends/teammates from the 2020 Amateur Team Tournament. It is indeed appropriate, because chess and friendships are among the sweetest memories of my long life.

### Conover, Wayne – Stoyko, Steve Raritan Valley League, New Jersey 11.1986

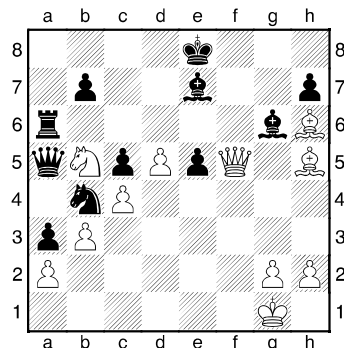
Annotations by Wayne Conover

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 d6 3.♗c3 ♗bd7 4.e4 e5 5.d5 ♖e7 6.♗f3 0-0 7.♖e2 ♗c5 8.♞c2 a5 9.0-0 c6 10.♖e3 ♗fd7 11.♞fd1 ♞c7 12.♞d2 a4 13.♞ad1 ♞a5 14.♗e1 a3 15.b3 ♞d8 16.♗d3 ♗x♗d3 17.♖x♗d3 c5 18.♞f1 ♗b8 19.f4 ♗a6 20.fxe5 dxe5 21.♞df2 ♗b4 22.♞d2 ♞f8 23.♗b5 ♞a6 24.♖e2 ♖d6 25.♞f3 ♖d7 26.♞g3 f5 27.exf5 ♞xf5 28.♞xf5 ♖xf5



29.♞xg7+!? With only 10 minutes left on my clock, I spent half of my time analyzing 29...♞xg7 30.♖h6+ ♞f7

31.♖h5+ ♖g6 32.♞f2+ ♞e8 33.♞f5?! (33.♞f6 ♖xh5 34.♗x♗d6+ ♞x♗d6 35.♞x♗d6 ♗x♗d5 threatening mate on e1 36.♞xe5+ ♗e7 37.♞xh5+ ♗g6 38.♞e2+ and White should win 33.♗x♗d6+ ♞x♗d6 34.♞f8+ ♞d7 35.♖g4+ ♞c7 36.♞e7+ ♞b6 37.♞x♗d6+ ♞a7 38.♞xe5 ♗xa2 39.♖f4 ♞a6 40.♞d6+ also wins for White) 33...♖e7 Black could have saved himself with 33...♗x♗d5 34.♖xg6+ hxg6 35.♞xg6+ ♞d7 and White has to look for a perpetual check.

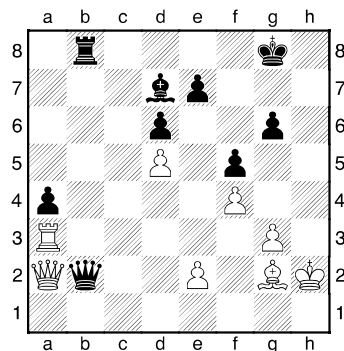


34.d6! demolishing 34...♞x♗d6 35.♗x♗d6+ ♖x♗d6 36.♞e6+ ♖e7 37.♖g4 ♖f5 38.♖xf5 there is no defense to avoid 39.♞g8+ and 40.♞xf8++ 1-0

### Denker, Arnold Sheldon – Conover, Wayne US Open, Somerset 08.1986

Annotations by Wayne Conover

My first win against a grandmaster. After 20...♗xa2, the route to victory was simple. 1.d4 f5 Fifty seven years before our game, Denker had a brilliant win against the Dutch Defense when he was only 15 years old. In those days the Leningrad variation did not exist. 2.♗f3 ♗f6 3.g3 g6 4.♖g2 ♖g7 5.0-0 0-0 6.c4 d6 7.♗c3 c6 8.♞c2 ♞c7 9.d5 cxd5 10.cxd5 ♗e4 11.♖d2 ♗a6 12.♞ac1 ♗xd2 13.♞xd2 ♞a5 14.♞e3 ♞e8 15.♗d4 ♞b6 16.♞fd1 ♖d7 better than capturing the b2 pawn 17.♞d2 ♞ac8 18.♞c2 An old time master as Denker may have thought that his position was better, but in reality, Black has reached an equal position. 18...♞c4 19.♗b3? White's 18th move was not good, but this move is just an error, as black will promptly show. 19...♗b4 20.♞cc1 ♗xa2 21.♗xa2 ♞xb3 22.♞xc4 ♞xc4 23.♗c3 ♖xc3 24.bxc3 a5 25.♞a1 a4 26.♞a3 b5 27.h4 ♞c5 28.♞a2 ♞b8 29.h5 b4 30.cxb4 ♞xb4 31.♞h2 ♞b2 32.hxg6 hxg6 33.f4 ♞xa2 With this



move there is a simple win, sufficient, but there was a

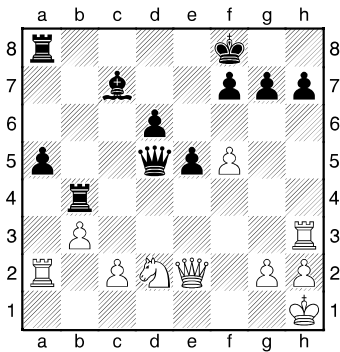
beautiful alternative with a spectacular finish (33...♖h8+ 34.♗g1 ♖d4+ 35.♗h2 [35.♗f1 ♖b2 36.♗a1 ♗b6 is demolishing] 35...♗f7 36.e3 ♖d1 37.♗a1 ♖b1 38.♗h8 [38.♗d4 ♗h5+ 39.♗h3 ♗e2+ 40.♗g2 ♖b2 wins the queen and later the rook] 38...♗g1+ 39.♗h3 ♗h1+ 40.♗xh1 ♖xh1+ 41.♗g2 ♖xh8+ ) 34.♖xa2 ♖b3 35.♗f3 a3 36.♗g2 ♗b5 37.♗f2 ♗c4 threatening 38...♖xf3+ 38.♗e1 This move is not really an error because: 38.♖a1 a2 39.♖xa2 ♖xf3+ wins a piece. If White does not play 39.♖xa2, then 39...♖b1 wins at once. The white bishop has just been an impotent witness of the fight 38...♖b1+ 0-1

**Pozarek, Steve – Dubeck, Leroy**

US amateur Chess Team Tournament, New Jersey 02.1985

Annotations by Steve Pozarek

This game was the first round of the tournament. On my team were my father and my uncle, playing together for the first time! 1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 a6 6.♗e2 e5 7.♗b3 ♗e7 8.0-0 0-0 9.a4 ♗e6 10.f4 ♖c7 11.f5 ♗c4 12.♗e3 ♗bd7 13.a5 b5 14.axb6 ♗xb6 15.♗h1 ♖fc8 16.♗xb6 ♖xb6 17.♗xc4 ♖xc4 18.♗e2 ♖b4 Dubeck has always been consistent in his openings. The Sicilian Najdorf is one of his favorites. This line of the opening was played by Fischer 19.♖a2 ♗d8 In Fischer's game against Geller, Curazao 1962 where they reached this same position with a slightly different order of moves, and they continued: 19...♖b7 20.♗a5 ♖c7 21.♗d5 ♗xd5 22.exd5 ♖b5 With an equal position. Dubeck changed here: 20.♗d2 (20.♖fa1±) 20...♖c6 of course not 20...♖xb2 21.♗c4+- 21.♖f3 a5 22.b3 ♗c7 23.♖d3 ♗f8?! (23...a4!? 24.bxa4 ♗b6) 24.♗d5! ♗xd5 25.exd5 ♖b7 26.♖h3 ♖xd5



I believe that we both were under time pressure at this point. After this move, Dubeck offered me a draw. On prior occasions I had accepted draw offers from him. Probably he was surprised that I did not accept the offer. 27.c4 ♖d4 28.♖xh7 ♖ab8? A fatal error. With 28...♗b6 the position would be equal. 29.f6!! A powerful move, one of the most satisfying ever. Black loses on the spot. 29...♗e8 (29...gxf6 30.♗h5! And the check mate can only be avoided with: ♗g1+ 31.♗xg1 ♗b6+ followed by ♖b7) 30.fxg7 ♗e7 31.♖h8 ♗b6 32.♗f1 of course not 32.g8=♗?? ♗g1++ 32...♗g4 33.♖xb8 ♗xg7 34.♖b7+ ♗e6 35.♗f3 ♗c5 36.♗h3+ f5 37.♖xg7 after this good beginning I ended up the tournament with a 6-0 result. 1-0

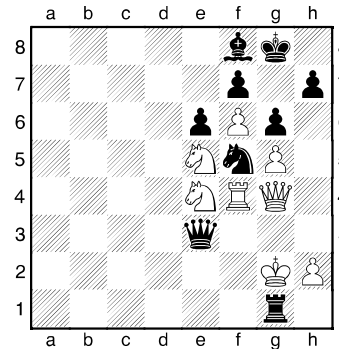
NOTE from the author: I was a witness to this beautiful combination! Steve, his father, and his uncle wanted to

enter the team as a "family team". However, they were missing one player and I was proud to accept their offer to be an "adopted" family member! We won first prize in the "Family Teams" category!

**Gabrielson, R. – Pozarek, Steve**

Greater Ch, New York 12.1969

This game has interesting strategic content, but it is really unique because of the final position. 1.g3 ♗f6 2.♗g2 g6 3.e4 d6 4.d3 ♗g7 5.f4 c5 6.♗f3 ♗c6 7.0-0 0-0 8.♗bd2 ♖b8 9.a4 a6 10.♗h4 As it is standard in positions of this type, white attacks in the King's side and black counter— attack on the queen's flank. 10...♗d7 11.c3 b5 12.axb5 axb5 13.f5 b4?! Until now, Fritz preferred the black position and recommends 13...♖b6. The move b4 weakens the c4 square. 14.♗c4 ♖c7 15.g4 ♖a8 16.♖xa8 ♖xa8 17.♗e3 bxc3 18.bxc3 ♗e5 18...♗h6 is what Fritz recommends in this position. A move I would have never considered. But now 19.g5 is going to be strong, I thought the best, although Fritz evaluates the position as favorable to white already. 19.g5 ♗a4 A useful move as it permits the knight on f6 to go to d7 instead of e1 or h5. 20.♗e2 ♗fd7 21.♗d5 ♖d8 22.f6?! Al Horowitz published this game in his New York Times column. He commented that this move was premature as it permitted black to reinforce his king's flank. Fritz prefers 22.d4, but still indicates that White is better. 22...♗f8 23.d4 cxd4 24.cxd4 ♗c6 25.♗f2?! (25.fxe7 was better 25...♗xe7 26.♗f2 ♖f8 27.e5!±) 25...e6 Now White's attack on the kingside stops, while Black takes control of the queenside. 26.♗c3 ♗b3 27.♗f3 ♗c4 28.♖d1 ♗b6 29.♗f1?! Little by little the initiative has passed to Black. Perhaps White should have tried 29.d5? or 29.♗d2!? 29... ♗xf1 30.♖xf1 d5 31.exd5?! The black pieces are gaining power with each move. 31...♗xd5 32.♗e4 ♖b6 33.♗f2 ♖b3 The white side is totally stopped on the kingside while black is invading the queenside. 34.♖f1 ♖a2 35.♗h4? The strategic black victory is complete. 35...♗e3 36.♗xe3 ♖xe3+ 37.♗h1 ♗xd4 38.♗e5 Here, 38.♗xd4 was needed...was White expecting to sacrifice the knight on f7? 38... ♗f5 39.♗g4 ♖a4 40.♖f4 ♖a1+ 41.♗g2 ♖g1# An incredible final position.



There are 17 pieces left on the Board and all of them are on the king's flank!, while the queen's flank is empty. I was kind of happy that white did not resign while his rook was on the square a1, because it would have ruined the visual impact! 0-1

**Anderson, Renard – Pinto, Mark**  
Palo Alto 1991

1.e4 c5 2.ϰf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.ϰxd4 a6 5.ϰd3 ϰc7 6.0-0  
b6 7.ϰh1 ϰb7 8.c4 ϰf6 9.ϰc3 ϰc6 10.ϰxc6 dxc6  
11.f4 h5 12.e5 ϰg4 13.ϰe1 ϰd8 14.ϰe2 ϰb4 15.ϰg3  
ϰxc3 16.ϰxc3 c5 17.ϰg3 g6 18.ϰxg4 hxg4 19.ϰe3  
ϰh3 20.ϰe1 g3 21.ϰg1 ϰe7 22.ϰf3 ϰxf3 23.gxf3 ϰh4  
24.ϰe2 ϰxf4 25.ϰg2 ϰh5 26.ϰe1 ϰd2 27.ϰe4 ϰxg2  
28.ϰxf4 ϰxb2 0-1

**Dlugy, Maxim – Lewis, Richard**  
Simultaneous, Kenilworth 1990

1.d4 ϰf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e5 4.ϰc3 d6 5.e4 ϰe7 6.ϰd3 0-0  
7.ϰge2 ϰbd7 8.f3 ϰe8 9.ϰe3 ϰf8 10.ϰd2 ϰg6 11.g3  
a6 12.h4 ϰh5 13.0-0-0 b5 14.cxb5 axb5 15.ϰxb5 ϰd7  
16.ϰxd7 ϰxd7 17.g4 ϰhf4 18.h5 ϰxe2+ 19.ϰxe2 ϰf4  
20.ϰd2 ϰg5 21.ϰb1 ϰeb8 22.ϰh2 c4 23.ϰa1 h6  
24.ϰb1 ϰb7 25.ϰhh1 ϰa6 26.ϰxf4 ϰxa2+ 0-1

"My life has been just 94 years of coincidences"...and  
I often wonder what Einstein meant when saying that  
"Coincidences are the way of God remaining anonymous"

Here is a draft of the front cover of the book.

## SWEET MEMORIES: Family, Friends, Chess, and Sugar

By J. Eugene Salomon

Adapted from "*Jugando en el tablero de la vida*"  
by J. Eugene Salomon and Javier Cordero



Translated, adapted and edited by Diane S. Dahl

Hi Mark-- Had you seen this article? <https://archive.li/OVRwb> It gave me an idea for a humorous follow-up.

The Top 10 Signs Your Child Has a Chess Addiction

1. When his friend said that he does not know what to do, he replied: When I don't know what to do, I castle.
2. Instead of counting sheep in his mind to go to sleep, he does the knight's tour.
3. He won't leave the house without two queens in his pocket, in case he gets to promote a pawn.
4. When asked why his girlfriend is not around anymore, he replied: We're like opposite colored bishops.
5. He does not know any baseball statistics but knows the % of GM wins with white in the Ruy Lopez for last year.
6. He pretends to be reading *Playboy* magazine but has a copy of *Chess Life* inside.
7. On Halloween, he goes out dressed as a pawn.
8. The next year, his friend does the same and your son follows right behind him. They are portraying double pawns.

Perhaps the CJ readers can come up with a few more signs to give us a complete 10. Regards, Ross Nickel

Continued from Page 5

**Best Overall Website Small Organization (group of less than 500)**

**Best Online Blog**

**Best Educational Lesson**

**Best Online Review**

**Best Non—Instructive Chess Video**

**Best Twitter Feed**

**Best Twitch Channel**

**Best Instagram Feed**

**Best Weekly Video Program**

**Best Documentary**

**Best Tournament/Match Coverage (This may be a series of videos)**

**Best Coverage by Mainstream Publication (free entry)**

**JUNIOR (UNDER 21 at time of writing)**

**Best Print Article by a Junior**

**Best Online Article by a Junior**

**Best Personal Narrative by a Junior**

**SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT**

**CRAMER AWARDS**

**Best State Championship Report**

**Best State Tournament Coverage**

**Best Scholastic Coverage in State (may be multiple articles)**

**Best Overall State Website**

**Best State Magazine/Newsletter – Print**

**Best State Magazine/Newsletter – Online**

**Best Personal Narrative**

**Best Photograph**