The Chess Journalist

Volume XLVII (Issue 158)

July 2024



CHESS JOURNALISTS OF AMERICA



What on Earth you ask? Dry-palooza Aftermath!

Drying everything after having a large blitz tournament **OUTSIDE** the night before, and had a storm roll in to drench everything.

Photo by Eric Vigil.

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Hello From the Editor

Another excellent issue! I know, I am biased, but take a look and I think you will agree with me.

Thanks to all the CJA award judges for their hard work this season. Results will be announced at the August 1, Annual Meeting in Norfolk, VA, and in the October issue. We would also like to thank Caleb Brown for running the website. Caleb resigned as webmaster to focus on his studies. The CJA decided to hire a professional group to help with the website for the time being.

Gene Salomon writes in with another article and wanted us to mention the new conference 'The Art of Aging' where chess is discussed as a factor in aging gracefully. The conference touts "Learn secrets to a life of longevity, memory preservation, and cognitive health." The first one is August 7, at Harrogate Senior Living Center, 400 Locust Street, Lakewood, New Jersey 08701.

You will find a very interesting interview with chess collector and amateur chess historian Chris Baker from New Zealand. Followed by Chris's amazing detective work to solve a crosstable that Jeremy Gaige had asked for help on.

World ICCF Champion Jon Edwards writes in about a historical gem that he purchased at Fred Wilson's bookshop in New York.

I reviewed the enjoyable new book Chess Warrior: The Life and Games of Géza Maróczy by László Jakobetz.

Joshua Anderson wrote a piece on how chess magazines have changed over the years. This came about via the "The Great American Chess Periodical Preservation Project." The GAC-PPP is a project to catalog all the periodicals produced in the US and then convert them into pdfs for historical and preservation-purposes. See Great American Chess Periodical Preservation Project - Chess Journalists of America (chessjournalism.org) and page four for more information. Also, in conjunction with Joshua's article, we have reprinted a historical article by Neil Brennen that was hosted on Franklin Campbell's fabulous website in 2005. I found this to be quite an interesting article and I believe you will too.

Bob Basalla send us a couple more humorous articles.

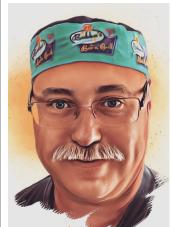
Bruce Draney is attempting to develop a chess journalism scholarship in Nebraska. Check his work out in the history of chess in Nebraska. He's doing a bang-up job!

There is another interesting knight's tour that celebrates FIDE's Centenary Anniversary by Awani Kumar.

Jim Hollingsworth and Tony Sullivan are back with a cartoon each.

Oddities and Peculiarities (and Obscurities) makes its return, this time by Ross W. Nickel discussing alternate realities. Back in undergraduate college I took a physics course that was taught by a guest lecturer named Fred Alan Wolf. It was an extremely interesting course and Dr. Wolf was an amazing lecturer. For further reading on the subject of alternate realities see his book Parallel Universes.

"The Queens' Corner" and "Chess Keys" will be back next issue.



Thanks to Diane Dahl, Rex Gray, and Rachel Schechter for their excellent proofreading and suggestions.

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Please consider sending in an article or idea for next issue. If you are a junior we want to see your name in print in TCJ.

Please send your comments, suggestions, or even better, send me a story or idea for the next issue: mcapron243@mchsi.com

-Mark Capron

"From the point of ignition. To the final drive.
The point of the journey is not to arrive." ~
Neil Peart

CHESS PEACE

by Tony Sullivan



Frankenstein-Dracula variation

Annual Meeting at the U.S. Open in Norfolk, Virginia, 2 p.m. on Thursday, August 1st.

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel 777 WATERSIDE DRIVE, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA, USA, 23510

Topic: CJA US Open Meeting

Time: Aug 1, 2024 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Cana-

da)

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<u>krwtoMjzu</u>

What is the Great American Chess Periodical Preservation Project (GACPPP)?

What follows is a brief synopsis of the full report on the project written by ICCF World Champion Jon Edwards, CJA President Joshua Anderson and CJA Treasurer/Editor Mark Capron. The full report will be presented in the next issue. —Editor

- 1. To identify and catalog all American chess publications. It is in our collective interest that this list be comprehensive, so we ask readers for their suggestions and to inform us of any errors in, omissions from, or improvements to our list. If anything, the goal today is much more challenging to reach than ever. Many of these publications are extremely obscure and are becoming very difficult to locate. We are therefore reaching out now to all collectors of chess periodical literature and ask that they contribute seriously to this project.
- 2. To identify the owners of runs, or in the case of rare publications, the owners of individual issues, especially owners willing to scan or allow the scanning of those items in their collections. When back issues are identified, we ask that owners consider loaning them for scanning, especially if they are unable themselves to scan the material according to the standards we have set.
- 3. To establish a set of best practices that will permit the preservation and sharing of this material in a consistent and easy-to-use format. We have reached out to content experts who have helped us to design, in theory at least, how we will set up a folder structure to host these magazines. All scanned documents will be saved within this structure in pdf format at 300 dpi or better, and will have Optical Character Recognition (OCR) done so they will be word searchable. Best practices will assist those interested in helping the project, primarily chess collectors and officials at state organizations who want to see more publicity for their state's magazine and will be able to use these best practices to contribute their scans to this shared collection.
- 4. To encourage copyright holders of this material to permit the sharing of the scanned images of their publications. Periodicals that are now out-of-copyright can be shared without such permission. We expect many publications that remain in copyright to have owners or their heirs who would happily assist in these preservation efforts. For those states and journals already sharing back issues and making them available, our contribution will be to encourage the use of best practices in scanning, identifying, and bringing all the material into a single archive. That single archive will likely require ongoing financial support. In that regard, we will be seeking financial contributions to enable and to sustain the project.
- 5. To enter into ChessBase all of the games contained within the American chess periodicals, essentially a game database of all the magazines. Sadly, American chess games are underrepresented in massive game databases because there has been no coordinated effort to capture American chess. Compared to their European counterparts, American chess players are not required to submit their games to obtain rating credit.

We also want to emphasize that this effort transcends our organization. We are ready and willing to partner with state organizations, periodical editors, and others who share these goals.

Finally, we note in passing that this ambitious effort deserves a more memorable name. All suggestions are welcome!

<u>Great American Chess Periodical Preservation Project - Chess</u> Journalists of America (chessjournalism.org)

The Chess Journalists of America (CJA) is a 501c3 organization created to help promote and encourage chess writing and communication in its myriad of forms.

2024 Block Party Blitz Tournament

By Mark Capron

Several months ago Senior Tournament Director Eric Vigil asked if I wanted to help him with this year's Iowa City Block Party Blitz Tournament. After a short discussion on duties I agreed to help. Eric's daughter Crissy would also be helping.

The lowa City Block Party is where for one night the center of the downtown (about 4 square blocks) is cordoned off and the town offers live music, outside games, food and drink vendors, and a blitz chess tournament.

This was the fourth year Eric has been running this tournament. It consists of a rated section, an unrated section and a bunch of people just playing chess. It typically draws 100 plus. This year was no exception and at the height of the tournament we had at least 100 people and probably more playing chess.

Eric and I arrived at about the same time and found out that unbeknownst to each other we were dressed as twins for the night. Eric on the left, Mark on the right.



Note the foreshadowing clouds in the back ground. The weather forecast suggest we would likely get wet.

Photo by Crissy Vigil.

The tournament is hosted outside. Luckily they do provide some overhead canopies. The set up consisted of putting the board and pieces out, but taping (see the blue carpet tape in the picture below) all four corners of the board down to try and keep the wind from flipping the boards. This was a trick learned from expe-



rience! Imagine the final round playing blitz on the money boards, both players have seconds left (no scoresheets due to it being blitz) and the wind flips the boards like a bad loser! The tournament is actually free and there were no place prizes (\$300 in door prizes awarded), but the point is still the same.

Photo by Mark Capron

The rated section only had 14 players in it this year, the unrated section had 60 players, and there were also another 30 or so people just sitting down and playing.



Anish Lodh (1874) won the rated event finishing with a hard fought victory over Gokul Thangavel (2095) and scoring a perfect 5-0. Gokul scored 4-1 and was second. Anish receiving the traveling trophy. Photo by Gokul Thangavel.

Interestingly Anish and Gokul have both won this tournament the past four years. Anish in 2022 and 2024, Gokul in 2021 and 2023.

About the time the last round was going the sky let loose and we got our first drenching. Luckily this one didn't last too long, but created a river of water on the ground about three inches deep. As the tournament was finishing the sky let loose again. This time it lasted much longer. Normally we leave the sets up and let people play until the end of the Block Party. However, the rain and lightning wasn't going to let up so we picked up everything and put it in the Rubbermaid containers being careful to shake off as much water as possible. We loaded the car and left for the year.

The front page cover photo shows the aftermath, drying the pieces and boards out the following day. Overall it was a good time despite getting soaked. It was fun to see the number of people just sitting down and finding a partner and playing. I tried to help people find partners if they were shy. I even played one young gentleman a couple games. Until next year!



Photo by Eric Vigil.

The More Things Change ...

By Joshua Anderson

Introduction

As we embark on the Great American Chess Periodical Preservation Project (GACPPP), magazines have been foremost on my mind. I examined how magazines have changed over time or not changed over time.

Background

The first national magazine devoted solely to chess was published in November 1846. At that time, there was no Microsoft Publisher (what Mark used to produce this PDF), no databases, and no international chess tournaments. Come to think of it, there were no computers or even electricity. With a world so different (I will not touch on the non-chess changes or the changes in chess theory), how similar could their magazine be to today's magazines?

The Chess Player's Magazine, first published in November 1846, was edited by Charles Henry Stanley, published in New York, and ran through most of 1847.2 (The Chess Palladium and Mathematical Sphinx, edited by Napoleon Marache, came out in October 1846, but it was not a purely chess magazine.) The magazine is sometimes called The American Chess Magazine: a Periodical Organ of Communication for American Chess-players as that is on the bound issues' title page. The bound issues also oddly moved the puzzles to the end of the book.

What is the Same

A few months ago, I was asked about the different types of magazine articles (technically, I was asked about state periodicals, but these statements hold for most chess magazines.) Between this question and beginning to look through past magazines, most articles can be broadly defined as historical. These articles would include tournament/match reports, player profiles, etc. The other large category would be educational articles. For instance, how do I better play the Scandinavian, and how can I best use an Exchange Advantage in the endgame or a piece on forks and pins?

Though chess history was less than now, Stanley attempted to include historical articles in several ways, but primarily through a series of articles entitled: "The Origin of the Game of Chess." This series mostly analyzed the work of Mr. James Christie the Younger. Christie, the son of James Christie, who had started the famous auction house, wrote a book entitled "An Inquiry Into the Ancient Greek Game (1801)," that argued Chess came from the Ancient Greek game of Petteia.3

THE CHESS PLAYER'S MAGAZINE.

THE ORIGIN OF THE GAME OF CHESS

THE origin of the game of Chess has been for centuries an object of the most profound research. Historians in their weary wanderings in the paths which mark the progress of that noble game, have followed onward until they have invariably become lost in the confusion of its innumerable traces In the absence, therefore, of all direct evidence by which the nation of the inventor of Chess, or even the age in which he lived, could be satisfactorily determined, it is by no means a subject for surprise, that, either guided by prejudice or influenced by the particular direction which their individual studies may have assumed, the honor of the invention should be awarded by different authors to various distinguished philosophers and sages. All such writers, however, agree in bearing their united testimony to the great antiquity of the game; there appears, indeed, to have been no time, accessible through the medium of authentic history, when, in some form or other, the practice of the game was not in use.

One of the most plausible works which has been devoted to the above interesting subject of speculation, is that of Mr. James Christie, in which the question is proposed, whether it is natural to believe that the game of Chess, with its full complement of varieties and perfections, resulted alone from the fertile genius of a single mind, or whether it is not more probable that from rude and primitive materials at first existing, the elegant structure of the modern game has been gradually fashioned by the improving hand of skillful workmen.

For our own part, we must confess that the former of these propositions would appear to be altogether beyond belief, and that we entirely coincide with Mr. Christie in the opinion, that the latter is far more probable.

We shall now give a brief analysis of Christie's attempt to prove "that a game of pastoral origin was already in general use, which being expanded as to the superficies of its board, and augmented in the number of its men, and varied in the properties of its pieces, might have been fashioned and completed by the ingenuity of the Orientals into the modern game of Chess."

Among the ancient games of skill the one to which writers have referred the origin of Chess is the xerreta, or the game of the pebbles, supposed to have been invented by Palamedes at the siege of Troy. From scattered words and phrases in various Greek writers, it is prob-

* For this interesting analysis we are indebted to a work lately published in London, entitled "Amusements in Chess," by Charles Tomlinson.

Games and stories from recent events and tournaments are also exciting to cover and certainly historical in nature. These days, not only do national magazines cover such events, but they are also regularly appearing in state and club magazines. With today's tools, one can even offer expert analysis beneficial to almost every reader of magazine readers' events. Scott Varagona, of Alabama, recently won a CJA award for his short book on legendary Alabama State Champions. This book grew out of at least one, if not several, well-received articles a few CJA Award judges (and probably quite a few readers of the Alabama Antics) enjoyed.

While it would be 32 years until New York held a state championship, Stanley was already reporting on tournaments and matches. These would range from a tournament in Blue Lick, Kentucky to numerous games from Europe.

It is often unclear who is analyzing the games in Stanley's maga-

For more about Stanley see - <u>billwall.phpwebhosting.com/articles/</u> Stanley.htm .

The American Chess Magazine: a Periodical Organ of Communication for Americ... - Google has the entire run in a book.

James Christie the Younger - Wikipedia

zine; half the time, only the player's initials appear, but regardless, it is clear that somebody has gone over the games and provided some notes for each game. The notes are usually just a single line or idea, but they are still an excellent addition, especially as players would have had much less information to work with and no Fritz or Stockfish to answer the "Wait, why not x?" type question.

Suppose you have clubs that are well established and regularly go to do XYZ. In that case, putting those into the magazine is not unreasonable, especially since you know or even try to get a few dollars from the club to help promote it. Some people do this online for free on US Chess. More people will see a US chess advertisement than your state magazine, but I'm always surprised by the number of people who say things like, "Ohh, I never knew you were here when referring to a local club." Stanley does quite a bit less in the promotion of clubs. However, he shows games between the Lexington and Louisville clubs. He makes a point to write about the leading clubs in Boston, Philadelphia, and New York City, where \$5 got a half year membership (\$204.01 in today's money.)

As previously mentioned, if the article isn't historical (broadly defined), it is likely educational. The teaching of children is all the rage these days, and as such, teaching material is something that's always of great use and can always be used for magazines nowadays. If your magazine is predominantly elementary school or middle school age of kids, nothing wrong with having an excellent beginner article mixed in with some good historical work and some other things. By the same token, if your magazine goes 95% to people over 50 you probably can avoid the "this is how the knight moves" kind of discussion. That said, people over 50 enjoy getting better at the game, too, and there's no reason you can't have articles geared to those sorts of players. The material is primarily comprised for older players looking to learn to improve and enjoy the game. However, as mentioned earlier, they do not necessarily need to be talked down to as if they were children. More and more US chess is aware that children comprise about 90% of the membership.

Recognizing that more readers made the magazine more likely to succeed, Stanley made sure to have a section on instruction. He put in a lesson or two in each issue, starting with the pieces and how they move, quickly moving on to castling and checkmate, and by the end of the magazine, teaching the relatively new (it had been started in the 1820s) Evan's Gambit.

A great way to combine history and education is to provide notes for a previously played game. This is, of course, done at every level of publication now and even in 1846, it was fairly common. Here is the first game ever published in an American magazine with notes from the issue.⁴

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LESSONS FOR LEARNERS

CHAPTER FIRST.

PLACING OF THE CHESS-BOARD, AND ARRANGEMENT OF THE PIECES.

With the aid of the foregoing diagram, but few directions will be necessary in order to explain, to an intelligent observer, the correct manner of arranging the various pieces on the Chess-board, in their separate and proper positions, prior to the commencement of play.

In the first place, we would impress upon the mind of the young student, that there is a right way and a wrong way even of placing his Chess-board. To effect this in a correct manner, it will be only necessary for him to observe that when seated at the table, the white corner square of the board should point towards his right hand.

Our diagram, to which we would next direct his attention, is a faithful representation of the Chess-board, with each piece duly placed on that square which it should occupy, on the commencement of a game.

It is scarcely necessary to inform even the least initiated, that a game at Chess is a contest between two players, to each being assigned, either by agreement or lot, the White or Black pieces. In order to simplify our explanations as much as possible, we shall suppose our reader to be identified with the White men, and proceed at once to an examination of the materials of which his forces are composed.

The two centre squares of your innermost rank (being no longer strangers, we now address you personally) are occupied by the "King" and "Queen;" to the Queen being

[Event "?"]
[Site "New York Chess Club"]
[Date "1846"]
[Round "?"]
[White "Mr. T."]
[Black "Mr. S."]
[Result "1-0"]
[PlyCount "54"]

1. e4 Authors note: I corrected spelling and removed abbreviations for clarity. ... e5 2. \$\frac{1}{2}\$\$ \$\frac

6. d4 We consider this to be by far the strongest method of carry-

⁴ The American Chess Magazine a Periodical.pdf (googleusercontent.com) p. 11-12 (27 on the pdf)

THE CHESS PLAYER'S MAGAZINE.

ing on the attack, known as Captain Evan's Gambit; the possibility of the second player bringing out his King's Knight being now precluded. In place of this move, however, Castling is recommended by all the great authorities. (Author's note: Having noted the name of the player playing White, I can't help but wonder if the great authorities "pity the fool" who doesn't castle.) ... exd4 7. O-O d6 8. cxd4 \(\textit{Q}\)b6 9. d5 \(\textit{Q}\)ce7 It is very difficult to say whether this move, or that of Knight to Queen Rook fourth is preferable; there are disagreeable attendants upon either course of play. 10. e5 dxe5 It would never answer Black's purpose, to have one of his adversary's Pawns established at his own e6 square, which is his only other alternative. 11. 2xe5 2f5 Hazardous again; but the threatened advance of the Queen Pawn must be attended to at whatever risk. 12. Ξ e1 He might also have driven the Black king towards the corner, by checking with first one Bishop, and then the other; but in that case it is highly probably that his sable majesty would ere long have found snug quarters, although the journey would be performed in rather an undignified manner. ... ②ge7 13. **Δ**b5+ c6 14. d×c6 **Δ**×f2+ 15. **Δ**f1 Had he taken Bishop with King, Black would have checked with Queen at Knights third, regaining the piece, with a winning position. ... \ddashxd1 16. cxb7+ \$f8 17. b×c8=발+ 萬×c8 18. 萬×d1 ♣d4 19. 회d7+ \$g8 20. 최c3 His best move; had he taken Bishop with Rook, Black would have taken Bishop checking, and won the game with ease. ... 4xc3 21. 型b1 Qa5 22. Qa6 型d8 23. 型b7 Qb6 24. 型×b6 a×b6 25. 包f6+ g×f6 26. ¤xd8+ \$g7 27. ¤xh8 \$xh8 Black has still the advantage of one miserable Pawn; but the position is such that he cannot, by any possibility, win the game against good play.⁵

What was different for the 20th century was back to being the same.

Though the first American magazines were quite similar to current magazines, there are two items, at least, where popular magazine items of the 20th century had yet to arrive and are commonly gone in the 21st century.

- 1) Contests where people wrote answers to puzzles and the like were common throughout the 20th century. Corsair, an early 20th-century national chess magazine, had puzzle contests in which people could participate. These contests would go on for about a century (unlike Corsair, which lasted less than a decade) in popular magazines like Chess Life, but they are not commonplace now because of computers.
- 2) The nature of running an organization is that it has to communicate with its members. While there was a New York Chess Club, of which Stanley was Secretary, and undoubtedly numerous little local chess clubs, Stanley's magazine was not a voice for that organization and did not seem to publish the organizational matters for that club.

In most cases, magazines do this through minor notices, but

MR. SPRECKLEY.

- 47. Kt. to Kt. sixth
- 48. P. takes P. (check)
- 49. Kt. to B. fourth
- 50. K. to K. B. third
- 51. Kt. to Q. sixth (check)
- 52. Kt. to B. fourth
- 53. Kt. to Q. sixth (check)
- 54. K. to K. fourth
- 55. Kt. to B. fourth
- 56. K. to K. third
- 57. K. to K. fourth (m)

M. ST. AMANT

- M. ST. AMA
- 47. Q. P. one 48. Kt. takes P.
- 49. Kt. P. one
- 50. K. to K. B. fourth
- 51. K. to K. third
- 52. K. to K. B. fourth 53. K. to B. third (1)
- 54. K. to K. third
- 55. Kt. to B. third (check)
- 56. Kt. to Q. second

St. Amant wins.

NOTES TO GAME VIII.

- (a) A weak move. He should play K. B. to Kt. second.
- (b) Better attack Q. with K. Kt. P. (See "Walker's Art of Chess Play.")
- (c) Rather retreat Queen.
- (d) St. Amant, in his "Palamede," considers he here played weakly.
- (ϵ) The drawback to Bishop's Gambit is, the confinement of his King's Rook so long.
- (f) Should play the other Kt. here, and would soon win.
- (g) Very good play.
- (h) Rather play Kt. to Q. fourth.
- (i) This Knight is well placed, preventing the advance of K. R. P. two.
- (k) Better one square only.
- (l) An improvement on his last answer to the check.
- (m) The game was ultimately won by the Frenchman, with his extra Pawn.

MATCH BETWEEN KIESERITZKIJ AND HORWITZ.

The great match between Messrs. Kieseritzkij and Horwitz has lately terminated in favour of the former player. Mr. Staunton, however, expresses his opinion, that the question of superiority of play between those gentlemen is by no means decided, the match having been played under circumstances of a nature highly disadvantageous to Mr. Horwitz, who entered upon the contest in direct opposition to the advice of his physician. The match was played at the London Chess

Chess Life routinely publishes a list of upcoming tournaments at the back of each issue. Most states don't do this anymore, but they will publish about forthcoming significant events. There is also the more nitty-gritty of business meetings, motions, etc., where probably 99% of the people don't read this material. Many don't care, but it is helpful to have a historical record to understand better how any organization has evolved and why it has done x, y, or z. At some point in the 1990s, Chess Horizons, a New England chess publication, published some sort of minutes of their board (or something along those lines) and offered a free book to anyone who mentioned the book comment. I believe only four people mentioned it, though as someone pointed out in a letter to the editor, they may have read the book notice and the minutes and simply didn't want the book. In any case, they certainly weren't engaging with the material. Still, it is essential to preserve this sort of information and to have a watered -down version of the event. Still, since the material will only be looked at by a few and read in-depth by even fewer, this material again is more commonly maintained on an organizer's website.

⁵ While this game is a great example of how long analyzed games have been in magazines from the beginning, it also highlights one of the needs for GACPPP. This game, like many games from many American magazines, is not in the ChessBase Mega Database. Further while this American magazine had European games, such as one from the first issue between M. St. Amant and Mr. Spreckley. To be honest, I have not checked, but I suspect the European magazines of the day rarely had American games.

What is Different

Stanley might have even written a review of his book, the first published in the U.S., about a match entitled, *Thirty-one Games at Chess: Comprising the Whole Number of Games Played in a Match Between Eugene Rousseau of New Orleans and C. H. Stanley, Secretary of the N.Y. Chess Club, with Notes as Originally Reported for the New Orleans Commercial Times.* Even now, many people are interested in getting a few bylines and trying their hand at this kind of thing, and book reviews are a great place to start that are fun and interesting, but not openended. John Hartmann, editor of Chess Life, started as a book reviewer for Chess Life. Pete Tamburro, editor of American Chess Magazine and who got his start over five decades ago, recently wrote a book review for this very journal.

Serious deep analytical articles can often be a joy to work through, especially for people who don't have the time to read all the books they buy or do not buy books because they know they will not finish reading them. (if you doubt that people still purchase chess books, check out the Chess Book Collectors room on Facebook sometime.) Many of the magazines of today have at least one or two deeply analytical articles each year, we even had one written by FM Grayson Rorrer a few issues back.

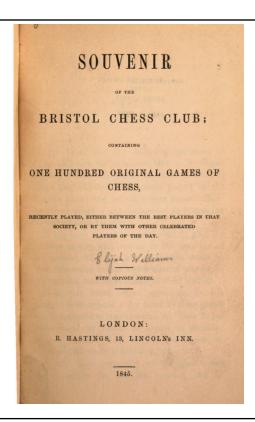
Conclusion

Below is something Stanley would never dream of: the Microsoft Al response was when I asked about the different types of chess articles found in chess magazines. One can only imagine Stanley's reaction to having an inanimate object suggest what he should put in his magazine. He may have thought, "'The Turk' has come a long way!"

(from Microsoft AI)

Chess articles come in various forms, each serving a different purpose and audience. Some articles focus on chess tactics, providing definitions and examples of tactical motifs like forks, pins, and skewers, which are crucial for improving one's game. Others explore the myriad types of chess games, from the traditional classical format to rapid, blitz, and even unconventional variants like Chess960, where the starting positions of pieces are randomized. For those interested in the historical and cultural aspects of chess, there are articles that delve into the game's rich history, iconic games, and profiles of grandmasters and their strategies. Instructional articles are also popular, offering step-bystep guidance on opening theory, middlegame planning, and endgame techniques.

Moreover, analytical articles on recent high-level games provide insights into the thought processes of top players. In the realm of entertainment, one can find creative chess-related fiction and opinion pieces reflecting on the game's impact on society. Lastly, reviews of chess books, software, and equipment help enthusiasts make informed decisions about resources that can aid their improvement. Each type of article contributes to the vibrant tapestry of chess literature, catering to the diverse interests of chess enthusiasts worldwide.



THE CHESS PLAYER'S MAGAZINE.

- R. fourth, is preferable; there are disagreeable attendants upon either course of play.
- (d) It would never answer Black's purpose, to have one of his adversary's Pawns established at his own K.s third square, which is his only other alternative.
- (c) Hazardous again; but the threatened advance of Q. P. must be attended to at whatever risk.
- (/) He might also have driven the Black King towards the corner, by checking with first one Bishop, and then the other; but in that case it is highly probable that his sable majesty would ere long have found snug quarters, although the journey would be performed in rather an undignified manner.
- (g) Had he taken B. with K., Black would have checked with Q. at Kt.s third, regaining the piece, with a winning position.
- (h) His best move; had he taken B. with R., Black would have taken B. checking, and won the game with ease.
- (i) Black has still the advantage of one miserable Pawn; but the position is such that he cannot, by any possibility, win the game against good play.

GAME II.

[Between Messrs. V — and T —, two of the most skilful amateurs of
Philadelphia.]

	iladelphia.]	
Black. Mr. V.	White. Mr. T.	
1. K. P. two	1. K. P. two	
2. K. B. P. two	2. P. takes P.	
3. K. Kt. to B. third	3. K. Kt. P. two	
4. K. R. P. two	4. K. Kt. P. one	
5. K. Kt. to K. fifth	5. K. R. P. two	
6. K. B. to Q. B. fourth	6. K. Kt. to R. third	
7. Q. P. two	7. Q. P. one	
8. Kt. to Q. third	8. P. to K. B. sixth	
9. P. takes P.	9. K. B. to K. second	
10. Q. B. to K. third	10. B. takes P. (check)	
11. K. to Q. second	11. K. B. P. two	
12. Q. Kt. to B. third	12. Q. B. P. one	
13. K. Kt. to B. fourth	13. K. B. P. takes K. P.	
14. P. takes B. P.	14. K. R. to R. second	
15. Kt. takes K. R. P.	15. K. B. to Kt. fourth	
16. Kt. to K. B. fourth	16. K. R. to his square	
17. K. R. to R. fifth	17. K. R. to B.	

CHESS PLAYER'S MAGAZINE.

INTRODUCTION.

But a few years ago, the bare idea of attempting to sustain a periodical work in this country, with no other hope of support than such as might be derived from the interest and sympathy of the comparatively small number of Chess players, scattered here and there over its vast extent, could but have proceeded from the biassed mind of a blinded enthusiast.

No more conclusive evidence of the increased appreciation of the most scientific and exalted of all pastimes, can therefore be offered, than the fact of such an undertaking being now entered upon by an experienced publisher, and with the most flattering prospects of complete success. It is not our present purpose to inquire into the various causes by which this happy result has been produced; the gradual improvement of the public taste, and the general progress of popular refinement, have doubtless achieved a great deal; much also, it will be conceded, has been accomplished by the persevering efforts of the editor of this work, by his untiring exertions "in the good cause." The weekly articles on Chess which have for some time made their regular appearance in the New York "Spirit of the Times," were, to the best of our knowledge, the first original writings on the game of Chess that have ever appeared in the United States; and we are enabled to assert, without the slightest fear of contradiction, that the effect of these articles has been such as to awaken an interest and spirit

of inquiry, amounting almost to a public thirst for information on all subjects connected with that noble game. Emboldened therefore by the favourable reception of these articles in this country, and further assured by the kind and flattering notices which they have continually received from the more experienced Chess authors of Europe, the writer of them has been induced to assume the responsibility of the editorship of the Chess Player's Magazine.

It is scarcely necessary to state that, in this new capacity his chief aim will continue to be the advancement of a cause in which he is so deeply interested. To further this object he looks with confidence for support, not only from the devoted amateur, (for of that he is already assured,) but from every true philanthropist, who would naturally and consistently desire to substitute an instructive and innocent recreation, for the many idle and pernicious courses which are but too generally resorted to, for the purpose of doing that which is most appropriately designated as "killing time;"—an act, like every other description of "murder," consisting in the wanton and malicious destruction of that which can be restored by no human hand.

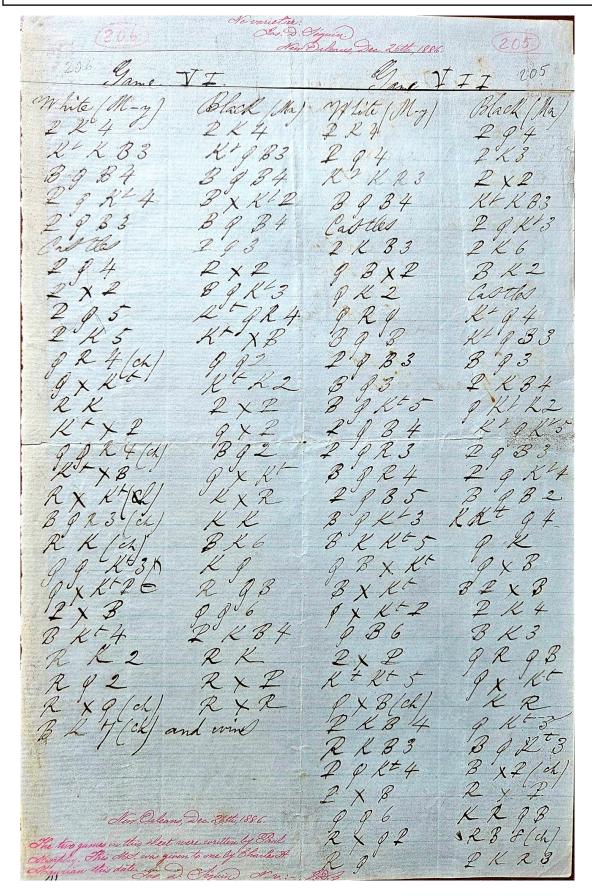
The most appropriate method of conducting the CHESS PLAYER'S MAGAZINE, in such a manner that it may become a source of amusement and information to players of every grade, and at the same time furnish instruction to those who are yet unacquainted with the first principles of the game, has been a subject of mature consideration with the editor. The result of such deliberation has been to recommend to him the adoption of the following system, namely: To devote a few pages of each early number, for the sole use of those who desire to become acquainted with the elementary branches of the study; advancing gradually with the supposed progress of the beginner, until his improved knowledge of the game shall enable him to take an interest in that portion of the magazine which will be only adapted to the matured understanding of the more experienced amateur.

INTRODUCTION.

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By this means it is intended that our first volume when completed, shall contain, (independently of a large number of original Problems and Chess stratagems, as well as games played by the first artists, general intelligence, and a faithful record of all important matches, and novelties, in any manner affecting the interest of the Chess player,) a complete series of instructions, or Chess lessons, such as will enable the uninitiated to inform himself, without any further assistance, of all the arts and mysteries of a game which has been at once the study, solace, and delight of the learned and refined of all countries, and throughout all ages.

As we have worked the past six months to lay the groundwork for the GACPPP, we have learned about our collective chess history and culture. Our further research will only add to our history and culture, and I look forward to sharing more of that with you soon! We leave you with a treasure from Jon Crumiller, a scoresheet with two games – played by Paul Morphy and his friend Charles Maurian – handwritten by Paul Morphy himself!



Jon was able to confirm it was Morphy's writing.

"In addition to the document's strong provenance, I have an authenticated Morphy letter from 1859, and I did a handwriting comparison between the two documents." - Jon Crumiller

The concluding moves of the second game are written on the back of the scoresheet.

Four Generations and 80 Years of Chess

J. Eugene Salomon

At age 95, I have just traveled from my New Jersey home to my native Gijon, Spain. I was invited to participate in a documentary/film, "El Pequeno Peon" (The Little Pawn) about the life of child chess prodigy Arturo Pomar. It was 80 years ago, in 1944, when I played chess against world champion Alekhine and soccer with "Arturito" (Pomar), right there, in the Gijon of my childhood. You could say that Pomar was Spain's "Bobby Fischer" in the 1940s. While my readers may not know it, he was also a U.S. Open Chess Champion.

While in Gijon, I was invited to be a panelist on a presentation held at the City Hall Conferences' building, about the World Health Organization's 10 year program: "Década 2021-2030 del envejecimiento saludable" (Decade of Healthy Ageing). I was introduced as a Life Master in both Chess and Bridge from the U.S., and my topic was "Memoria y mantenimiento cognitivo en la práctica del Ajedrez y del Bridge". (Memory and Cognitive Maintenance Through the Playing of Chess and Bridge.) cause I became a Life Master of the U.S. Chess Federation at age 70 and a Silver Life Master in Bridge when I was 92-93, the organizer (J.Carlos Herrero, an anthropologist and social educator) thought I was a good example to illustrate the subject. (During my exciting trip to Spain, I was able to give a big hug to my 102-year-old sister and have dinner with all my family in Madrid and Gijon.)

At my age, I am extremely fortunate to still have my wits about me, and I believe that 80 years of Chess and 70 years of Bridge are two of the reasons for that. Both games require strategy, planning, forethought, and consideration of multiple possible moves and their outcomesactivities that require a great deal of the mental stimulation that staves off age-related mental decline. I've also had the privilege of playing against incredibly skilled opponents of all ages and backgrounds, which pushed me to be constantly thinking and learning new strategies. Both games, in addition to my many years of work as a corporate executive (retired at age 65) and an independent consultant (still active today!) have kept me thinking, planning, and exercising my brain throughout my life.

As part of my mental exercise, I also include writing and I have now become a writer in my 90's. Below are two slides with my favorite articles and my last two books.





The first book, a chess autobiography in Spanish-"Jugando en el Tablero de la Vida" (Playing on the Board of Life, written with co-author Javier Cordero, and published by Chessy Editorial), contains 120 of my games. The second one, "Sweet Memories: Family, Friends, Chess, and Sugar," is a family historical book (1895-to date) written in English with co-author Diane Dahl. This book contains no games: it is a combination of the book of memoirs of my father ("Walking and Wondering under the Sign of the Cross in the Shadow of the Swastika") and my above-mentioned Spanish chess biographical book.

A week after my return from Gijon, I was one of the four panelists at a videotaped conference celebrating the 60th Anniversary of my chess club, TRCC (Toms River Chess Club). While I was never a Grandmaster nor a professional chess player, I feel honored to be listed in the club Hall Of Fame, where my name appears next to Botvinnick, Karpov, Korchnoi, Petrosian, Tahl, and several other chess luminaries.

With Steve Doyle, past President of the U.S.C.F and past Vice-President of FIDE and also a distinguished member of the Hall of Fame.



But I digress- let's get back to the origin of my story and the 80 years of CHESS TEAMS in Spain, Cuba, Central America, and the U.S.

My father was born in Metz, France, then Germany, and my mother was born in Cardenas, Cuba, then part of Spain, in 1895. It was a magical year for chess- Capablanca, at age 7, was already a chess prodigy, and Jacques Mieses had just defeated the Cuban Champion Andres Clemente Vazquez in Havana, winning +4 =5 -1 (December 30, 1894 to January 12th, 1895). In Europe, one of the most historical tournaments on record (Hastings 1895) took place in England. The surprise winner was the American Harry Nelson Pillsbury, followed by Mikhail Chigorin, Emanuel Lasker (then World Champion), Siegbert Tarrasch, and William Steinitz (past World Champion, just defeated by Lasker the previous year.

My father was my first chess teacher, and he used these lessons as a bonding tool with his son and some of his grandsons. (I followed his model for years, culminating with the 1980 U.S Amateur Team Tournament when I was the Captain of the Team: "King Salomon and his three Knights"...my three sons, ages 17, 13 and 6).

In 1941, my father was a volunteer in the British army, fighting against Hitler at Dunkirk. He finally reached Gijon again, after the British advised all their volunteers to take back their civilian clothes and run, as they could not take care of saving them. My father did run, and eventually made it to San Juan de Luz (Saint-Jean-de-Luz), a French city next to the Spanish border. While he sought ways to get back to his wife and children in Gijon, Spain, my dad survived by giving lessons in chess and languages! As he wrote in his memoirs, "Playing chess, like playing music, one can nearly reach a state of nirvana."

After he was denied entrance to Spain, he crossed illegally

through the Pyrenees, a decision that landed him at a concentration camp for "undocumented aliens" He was eventually freed, provided that he would leave Spain...but that's another long and painful story.

My father obviously adored the game of chess, and I am fortunate that he chose to pass on his passion to me. As a teen in Madrid, Spain, I even enjoyed a short time in the national chess limelight in the 1940s when a newspaper called me a child prodigy- "the next Arturito Pomar." because I, as a 14-year-old, had beaten the reigning chess champion of Spain (José Sanz Aguado). During my intense teen years, I not only met World Champion Alexander Alekhine, but played alongside (and against) the biggest names in contemporary Spanish chess history. I was proud to call many of them my friends, and now, I am truly honored to be a participant in the documentary about Arturito Pomar that I mentioned earlier.

As an individual player, as well as having been part of outstanding chess teams, I achieved not only great results, but made even better friendships. Here is a chronological list:

MY CELEBRATION OF EIGHTY YEARS OF CHESS TEAMS:

- 1943: Team of the Casino de la Unión de los Gremios in my native Gijón, versus our arch-rival, the team from Oviedo. I won my game, we won the match, and I became a "hero" and was even compared with Arturito Pomar as a new "child prodigy" - at age 14!! (In those days, there were no children playing chess.)
- 1947: Club Maudes (Madrid)- Champions of the province of Castile (finishing ahead of Arturito Pomar's team).
- 1952: Club Cubanaleco (Havana)---Champions of Havana
- 1952: Club Capablanca (Havana) --- Flew to San Salvador to play against a team of Guatemala -El Salvador
- 1970s & 1980s: Westfield, N.J. Chess Club- Won multiple years of matches and team tournaments in New Jersey.
- 1978: As a High School volunteer coach, my team ("Christian Brothers Academy"--Lincroft, N.J) became New Jersey High School State Champion for the first time.
- 1980: We entered as a "Family Team" in the U.S. Amateur Chess Championship -- "King Salomon and his 3

Knights," comprised of my three sons and myself.

- 1985: It was an honor to win "Family Team First Place" with friend Steve Pozarek and his father and uncle (as their adopted fourth family team-mate) at the same Amateur Chess Championship.
- 2021: To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the USATE (that my friend Steve Doyle has been running since its inception), I participated as captain of a Toms River Team: "Oldest Team in Town" (average age 71). I did not lose any games, and at age 91 I won a prize as the oldest of the 1400 participants!
- 2024: To celebrate my recent start-up of the Harrogate Senior Chess Club, we visited the old Greenbriar Woodlands Chess Club, which I started 27 years ago when I first moved into that adult community. I played a 7-board simultaneous against a selection of players from both clubs and won all the games.

As proud as I believe my father was of my chess prowess, I am equally proud of having passed my love of chess down to my children, the third generation of Salomon chess players. As I mentioned above, my three sons and I formed a family team in 1980 at the US Amateur Chess Tournament. My oldest son, Gene, was part of the 1978 high school team I coached to a state chess championship, and at one time, my youngest son, Robbie, was the primary school state chess champion of New Jersey. Although all my children have taught their children to play, it is Robbie's son, Ben, who has continued the family tradition, becoming a 4th generation Salomon chess player.

Grandson Ben, son Robbie, and myself at the N.Y School Team Tournament in Saratoga, New York, when Ben was part of a Columbia Prep Team under the leadership of Sophia Rohde.

It is incredible to me that my father's passion for chess still continues strong after 4 generations. I am also very proud of



my own 80 years playing the game of kings, and I hope that I have inspired others along the way.

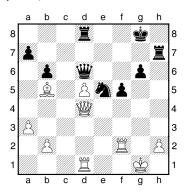
I have very pleasant memories of teams and also of games.

Here are some memorable games from my 80 years—two games from my teenage years (1947 Spain), another two (after not having played for 16 years) in my middle age, and finally, my farewell to chess when I played my last tournaments at age 70.

IM Pérez, Francisco José – Salomon, J. Eugene [B03] Training Match, Madrid 06.1947

Francisco José Pérez (Champion of Castile in 1947 and of Spain in 1948) was one of the strongest players in the country in the 1940s. We played for the same club (Hogar de Maudes) and occasionally played training matches. Here is my favorite game against him.

1.e4 වf6 2.e5 වd5 3.d4 d6 4.c4 වb6 5.f4 d×e5 6.f×e5 වc6 7.ඛe3 ඛf5 8.වc3 e6 9.වf3 වb4 10.፱c1 c5 11.a3 c×d4 12.ව×d4 වc6 13.ව×f5 e×f5 14.වd5 ඛe7 15.ඛe2 0-0 16.0-0 g6 17.g4 ව×d5 18.c×d5 ව×e5 19.g×f5 ඛg5 20.৬d2 ඛ×e3+ 21.৬×e3 f6 22.f×g6 h×g6 23.৬c5 b6 24.৬d4 ৬d6 25.ඛg4 ፱ad8 26.፱cd1 f5 27.ඛe2 ፱f7 28.፱f2 ፱fd7 29.ඛb5 ፱h7



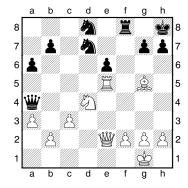
A month later we faced each other again at the Fourth Gijón International Tournament, where he was co-winner, tied with L. Prins. The game was again an Alekhine Defense Advance Variation, full of excitement and ending in a draw.

Salomon, J. Eugene – Medina García, Antonio [B53] Fourth Gijón International, 07.1947

Antonio Medina was then Champion of Spain. A few comments about this encounter: (1) I played 5. *\dd?! in an effort to get out of "book lines" as soon as possible. Medina was a Sicilian expert, and I was not! (2) After Black's move

12... 🗑 e8, my analysis indicated that if I succeeded in eliminating Black's e7-bishop, I should get a superior position. The following 4-5 moves are the logical path. The finish with 27. 🕮 e7 and 28.b3 corralling the queen was a nice little trap, and even though Black could have avoided it with 27. ... 🕯 × e5!, I had the feeling at the time that he was going to fall into it!

1.e4 c5 2.包f3 d6 3.d4 包f6 4.包c3 c×d4 5.營×d4 包c6 6.요b5 e5 7.營d3 a6 8.요c4 요e6 9.요×e6 f×e6 10.요g5 요e7 11.0-0 0-0 12.邑ad1 營e8 13.包e2 營g6 14.包g3 邑ac8 15.營b3! 包d8 (15...包×e4? 16.包×e4 營×e4 17.盈×e7 包×e7 18.營×e6+ 邑f7 19.營×f7+ 營×f7 20.包g5+ +-) 16.包f5! 邑c7 17.包×e7+ 邑×e7 18.邑×d6 營×e4 19.邑e1 營g6 20.邑×e5 登h8 21.營d3 營e8 22.營e2 營a4 23.a3 邑c7 24.c3 邑c4 25.邑d4 (25.b3!? 營×b3 26.包d2 營×c3 27.②×c4 +-) 25...邑×d4 26.②×d4 包d7

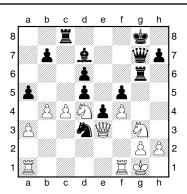


27. **Qe7 冯e8** (27... **2**×e5 28. **Q**×f8 **2**g6 and Black can continue the game) 28.**b**3! (trapping the queen) 28... **Y**×d4 29.c×d4 **2**×e5 30. **Q**×d8 **Z**×d8 **3**1. **Y**×e5 1-0

Pozarek, Stephen J. – Salomon, J. Eugene [E87] New Jersey Open, 08.1968

This was for me "a game to remember"! I had left chess in 1952. This NJ Open was my first tournament in the U.S. after 16 years of inactivity. It was a game in which I had in mind a beautiful combination, but unfortunately my opponent did not allow me to play it, as he resigned!. See the diagram and final comment.

1.c4 회f6 2.包c3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 및 7 5.f3 0-0 6.且e3 e5 7.d5 a5 8.且d3 包a6 9.包ge2 包d7 10.世d2 包b4 11.0-0 f5 12.exf5 gxf5 13.f4 包xd3 14.世xd3 e4 15.世d2 包c5 16.且d4 世e7 17.且xg7 世xg7 18.包b5 置f7 19.包ed4 包d3 20.b3 且d7 21.世e3 置c8 22.a3 置f6=/+ 23.b4?! c6-/+ 24.包c3 置g6 25.包ce2? White's position has deteriorated considerably in the last three moves. This move was played with the vague hope of getting counterplay after Black captured on g2. 25...cxd5 Black has other ideas! 26.包g3



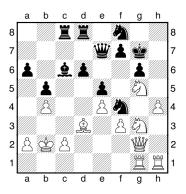
26... 其×c4! 0-1

27.ᡚdxf5 ቧxf5 28.ᡚxf5 ቯxg2+ 29.ਊh1 ቯcc2 30.ᡚxg7 ቯxh2+ 31.ਊg1 ቯcg2# was the planned finish!

Salomon, J. Eugene – Klug, Mitchell [B08] Atlantic Open, 12.1974

This game offers an example of the power of a discovered check. Just as in Pozarek-Crotto (see Game 89), it is also a 2e6+! discovered check (move 26) leading to a pretty checkmate. When I played this game, I clearly visualized 28.%f5++ when playing 21.2e2. I knew in my heart that Black would be unable to resist the temptation of 25...2f4 (the "I'll attack his queen, he will have to move it" syndrome that's at the root of so many combinations).

1.包f3 包f6 2.d4 g6 3.且f4 d6 4.包c3 且g7 5.e4 包bd7 6.世d2 0-0 7.且h6 e5 8.且×g7 每×g7 9.h4 h5 10.0-0-0 世e7 11.d5 包c5 12.包g5 a6 13.b4!? 包cd7 14.f3 且d8 15.且c4 b5 16.且d3 包b8 17.皆b2 且b7 18.g4 包bd7 19.邑dg1 邑ac8 20.世g2 包f8 21.包e2 c5 22.d×c6 且×c6 23.g×h5 包×h5 24.包g3 Inviting the following move, which looks so natural and strong. 24...包f4?



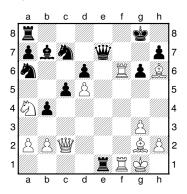
Except that it loses! 24...\(\Delta\right) xg3 is necessary. 25.\(\Delta f5+! gxf5\)

Salomon, J. Eugene – Sargissian, Gabriel [A62]

V Linares Open, 01.1998

My opponent in this game was the World Under-14 Champion at the time. He has since become a grandmaster with a rating well up in the 2600 range.

1.d4 වි66 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.g3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.වc3 g6 7.වf3 ይg7 8.ይg2 0-0 9.0-0 ව්a6 10.වd2 ව්c7 11.වc4 වfe8 12.e4 b5 13.වa5 b4 14.වc6 발d7 15.වa4 ව්a6 16.발c2 f6 17.f4 ව්ec7 18.ይe3 ፲e8 19.e5?! fxe5 20.fxe5 ይxe5 21.වxe5 ፲xe5 22.ይh6 ይb7 23.፲f6 발e7 24.፲af1 ፲e1?



The rook on f1 may be pinned, but it still participates in the attack, allowing the following beautiful shot. **\$**h8 ¤×f1+ 27.**Qg**5 28.**⊈**×f1 Ïg8 29.**⊈**f6+ 罩g7 ₽g8 32.\g6+ **\$**h8 33. 骨f6+ 罩g7 34. 骨×d6 1-0

***This combination was published in Chess Informant 71, page 356.

Salomon, J. Eugene – Lenar, Murzan [E05] World Open, 06.1998

This game was published by Steve Doyle and Pete Tamburro in the Newark Star-Ledger. I loved their closing comment: "This game is a joyous celebration of original attacking chess. Bravo!"

1.d4 ᡚf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.ᡚf3 Ձe7 5.Ձg2 0-0 6.0-0 d×c4 7.쌀a4 a6 8.쌀×c4 b5 9.쌀c2 Ձb7 10.Ձf4 Ձd6 11.ᡚbd2 ᡚbd7 12.ᡚg5!? Ձ×f4 13.g×f4 Ձ×g2 14.೪×g2 c5 15.d×c5 ᡚ×c5 16.ቯfd1 쌀e7 17.b4!? ᡚa4 18.ᡚde4 g6

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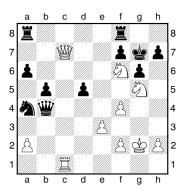
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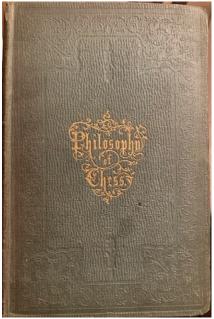
19.罝ac1 입d5 20.e3 쌀×b4?! 21.罝×d5! e×d5 22.입f6+ 쌓g7 23.쌀c7!



ର୍ଚ୍ଚe6+ is threatened. The knight on f6 cannot be captured because of 24. କେ65 #. 23... ቴሪ 24. ରେ24. ይደሪ 24. ይደሪ 25. ት 26. ይደሪ 25. ት 26. ይደሪ 27. ት 27. ት 26. ይደሪ 27. ት 2

William Cluley's *The Philosophy of Chess*A research note ICCF GM Jon Edwards 32nd World Correspondence Chess Champion

I bought an original edition of William Cluley's *The Philosophy of Chess* (1857?) from Fred Wilson (notable book collector and seller in New York) last week. It's quite rare, the first copy that Fred has ever seen, and in superior condition for its age.



Cluley was a surgeon from Lancashire, UK and died just three months after the book was published. That unfortunate timing may have much to do with the book's scarcity.

This book is an important artifact. From the earliest days of chess history, there has been an inherent drive to conquer the game. This short book is simply part of that process.

It is my sense that chess players are more interested in playing and in playing through games, and in studying opening theory than they are with the game's history. Here is a man of science, in the middle of the Romantic Era, asking questions about how best to approach chess. The Romantic Era is often discussed in terms of its music, art, architecture, and literature. And historians of the Romantic Era are generally not at all interested in chess.

But chess was most certainly a cultural part of the Romantic Era. It was an age dominated by the play of Andersson, Morphy, and Blackburne, to name just the obvious examples. It was a chess era in which players generally felt obligated to accept a gambit and to favor swashbuckling play.

It is generally accepted that no one has meaningfully defined what we mean by the Romantic Era, but it is said that we know it when we see it. And, to be sure, the 19th century produced some extraordinarily romantic chess that helped to popularize the game and still enthralls us today.

In *The Philosophy of Chess*, we have a book penned during that time in which new questions are starting to be asked.

In The Structure of Scientific Revolutions, Thomas Kuhn

set forth the idea that new scientific ages represent paradigms in which new questions are posed. During each paradigm, scientists ask the same questions and achieve an understanding of their branch of science through the investigation of such questions. Suddenly, an Einstein figure emerges asking new questions that soon form the basis of a new paradigm.

The same is certainly true of chess. Capablanca prospered by asking where pieces belong within fixed structures. Petrosian rose to the top by asking where pieces belong and what exchanges ought to occur, and in what move order. Karpov applied such thinking to specific structures, the Hedgehog, for example. And the current paradigm involves the extension of such thinking throughout the entire opening book.

Such approaches and questions were not possible in 1857, but here we have a surgeon making an admirable effort to break free of his own paradigm to ask new questions. Here is the first paragraph of his introduction:

"The absence of any express and consistent statement of character, the want of worthy definition, the insufficiency of directions, the confusion and uncertainty of variations, the contradictory vocabulary, the conflicting opinions that prevail, -- all point to the unsatisfactory condition of the game. Until such differences are settled, and omissions supplied, it is in vain to conclude for chess the honours due to science. At most it can only be considered as in a transition state."

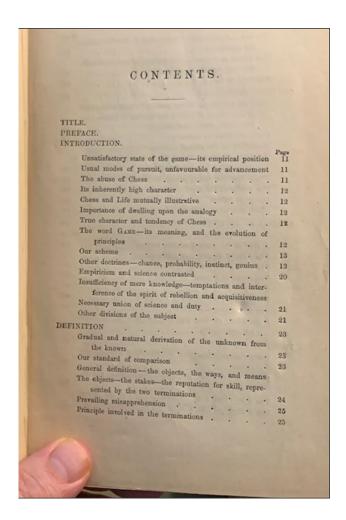
Tim Harding notes in his *British Literature to 1914* (McFarland: 2018) that Staunton mocked Cluley's book in the *Illustrated London News* of 30 January, 1858 by quoting several long-winded passages "from an amateur." But Harding correctly adds that Cluley anticipated several of Steinitz's principles, most notably by concluding that wins are possible only when the inherent drawish balance of the game is disrupted by an error.

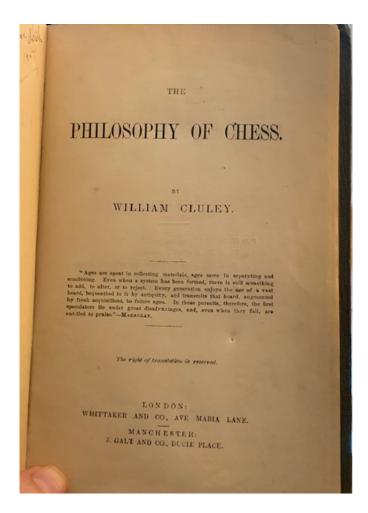
Permit me to add two points. First, that it is wonderful to own and especially to read such tomes because, as artifacts of the time, they provide a window into the thinking of the day about the game we love. More important, this book provides additional context for explaining how our modern understanding of chess did not emerge from a vacuum but rather evolved slowly, more slowly perhaps than Kuhn predicted.

I have long wondered whether Thomas Kuhn's "paradigms" were as cleanly cut as he explained. Here we

have some interesting evidence to the contrary, an amateur's voice from within the Romantic Era beginning to ask scientifically based questions about the fundamentals of chess, questions that future generations explored in considerable depth and continue to debate.

Finally, significant thanks go to Fred Wilson for reserving this wonderful historic treat for me. He might well have sold it to many others.





Editors Note: The preservation of historical objects such as this, is one of the fundamental objectives of the current CJA board and a philosophy the board members all agree on. See for example Jon's (and Andy Ansel's) work on the Gaige archive hosted on the CJA website (Gaige Archives - Chess Journalists of America (chessjournalism.org)).



Submitted by Jim Hollingsworth

CREATIVE ANNOTATION MARKS

By Bob Basalla

I've told this anecdote before, but it deserves retelling here. A young student of a fellow chess instructor asked a very interesting question. Since on a scoresheet a check is written as a plus (+) and checkmate is given as two plusses (++) (To be sure, the hashtag (#) is now often used for the checkmate symbol), what was the symbol for stalemate?

I found this to be an original and pertinent question! There did seem to be a hole in standard chess notation. Stalemate should have its own symbol! And so, to rectify the situation I resolved to create one.

The new symbol required three qualities. It should be succinct, no more than two or three keystrokes to render it. It should use only letters or symbols available on a standard Western typewriter keyboard. And if possible, it should not be arbitrary as otherwise all such entries to the "stalemate symbol sweepstakes" could be viewed as equally valid; things would come down to merely a matter of taste.

The reasoning for my proposal goes thus: Check is given as a single plus (+). Checkmate, being a definitive game ending check, is given as two plusses (++). An even position (drawn, assuming best play, of course) is represented by the equals sign (=). Therefore, to my mind, stalemate should be two equals signs (= = with a space between so it wouldn't look like this: ==). That would indicate stalemate is a game ending definitive draw, completely analogous to the reasoning for the checkmate symbol. Make sense?

Naturally, success at concocting a viable new basic annotation symbol goes to one's head. "Why can't I create even more revolutionary notation and annotation marks?" I immediately asked myself. So I set to it and here are the results, admittedly mostly of the tongue in cheek variety. Hope you enjoy.

**

First, we need to review the basic annotation marks already accepted so readers will understand when we riff off them. Here they are:

! means a good move !! means a great move ? means a poor move ?? means an outright blunder

?! means a doubtful or dubious move, probably bad

!? means an interesting, tricky, possibly good move

A triangle is interpreted as "with the idea of"

An infinity sign (effectively a sideways 8) means the position is considered unclear

means White won

means Black won

1/2-1/2 means a drawn game

+-- means White has a winning position

--+ means Black has a winning position

+/-- means White stands clearly better

--/+ means Black stands clearly better

+/= means White is slightly better

=/+ means Black is slightly better

= means an even position

means castles kingside

0-0-0 means castles queenside

+ means check

++ means checkmate

is another denotation for checkmate

= = is my suggested notation for stalemate

**

Acronym shorthand for phrases used in e-mails and the like could be co-opted for the annotator's quiver. Consider these:

1.Pe4 Ph5 LOL

1.Pe4 Pc5 2.Pb4 OMG

1.Pe4 Nc6 2.Nf3 Pf5 WTF

And so on.

>< (made from the "greater than" and "lesser than" symbols typed consecutively) could stand for an extra big or significant capture. A worthy example would be Morphy's queen sacrifice against Paulsen in the American championship tournament of 1857 which the new notation would accentuate like this: 17...Qd3><Bf3!!

[] (consecutive brackets) could symbolize lack of space or maybe a completely blocked position.

An upside-down exclamation point before a chess move followed by an exclamation point after the move signifies a

good move in the Spanish Game, or at least by a Spanish player. The same would apply to an upside-down question mark before and an upright question mark after for a bad Spanish Game play. Obviously, all the other annotation verdicts (!!, ??, ?!, !?) could follow suit in the same manner.

(#?) before the first move of a game score clues the reader in that the board was set up wrong with h1 being a dark square (a hashtag sort of resembles a portion of a board). Similarly, [KQ] means the positions of the White king and queen started reversed (White king on d1, White queen on e1). [qk] would correspondingly mean that the Black king and queen started reversed. [KQqk] of course indicates that both sets of kings and queens are reversed. (White pieces being displayed in caps and Black pieces being displayed in small case is a convention taken from Forsyth -Edwards notation. Look it up.)

==== depicts a so—so---so dead drawn position.

An underscored 0 in a result ($\underline{0}$ -1 or 1- $\underline{0}$) informs us that not only has said player lost, they also hit their rating floor.

=/0 implies that although the position is in actuality even, Black is sure to screw it up. 0/= is its White counterpart.

0/0 betokens both players being objectively lost.

Consecutive infinity symbols represent "it is unclear that the position is unclear."

+, +, +...followed by the infinity symbol describes a perpetual check. An infinity symbol before or after a single + might be misinterpreted as meaning "it is unclear this is a check."

\$=\$ evinces a Grandmaster draw in a late round of an Open.

0-0-0-o-... is the symbol for a too-vigorously castled king sliding off the board.

Ph8(Q?R?N?B?) indicates that the cis-pawn is still troubled and questioning how (or if) it should transition.

!??!!?!?!!?!??,,, randomly, endlessly, represents an irrational annotation for an irrational move.

(--Pc4-c2) White should retract his previous move before the opponent returns from the restroom.

A triangle followed by a timepiece face expresses "with the idea of starting the opponent's clock."

0% signals the reader about the annotator's further interest in commenting on this game.

F@#&!S*^T should be the international symbol for a particularly infuriating move.

Quotation marks around a plus ("+") symbolize what is commonly referred to as the spite check (Example: Qc4"+"). " around other symbol sets would correspond to other pointless moves or ideas, "as if" in various contexts.

® would be reimagined as meaning "random moves would improve the play hereabouts."

© would of course be a copyrighted move. You may have heard about the push to allow copyrighting of games, assuring a consistent stream of income for budding professional chess players. Well, below the radar there is underway a similar push to copyright individual moves. Already a market has been established for the purpose of selling these "move futures," like bitcoin in a way. Predictably, chess oligarchs and their lackeys with political "ins" and/or "pull" have already corruptly snapped up the choice property (Pe2-e4 and the like). But many more remain to be purchased. I am proud to announce my very own proprietary move: Pg7xNh8(B)+. It cost me a pretty penny, but when copyrighting moves becomes a reality, I will be on the ground floor with lucrative royalties set to pour in hand over fist. I invite you to get in the habit of employing my move in as many of your games as possible! I won't gouge you; I intend to make my profit by volume. And use my move a second time in the same game for free! BOGO for Bogo! Don't give your "move rental" money to those other guys.

Got any ideas of your own? I thought so! Find a way to send them to Bob Basalla so we can further flesh out later iterations of this article. All those with accepted entries will be given full credit for their brainstorm.

"The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand."

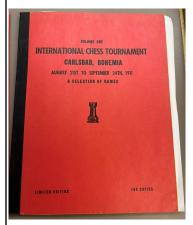
~ Vince Lombardi

Nebraska Chess History Group on Facebook By Bruce Draney

A Proud History of Chess Journalistic Excellence

On my last visit to History Nebraska back in April I discovered an incredible cache of books authored by Nebraskans over the past 75 years. I knew of the prolific works of Jack Spence, but learned there were many other Nebraskans besides Jack who had written books on chess. Quite a few of them were recognized in the awards banquet slide show back on May 31st.

Today I had just a few moments to photograph several of the books before I had to leave. I didn't realize that Aleks Liepnieks nor Richard McLellan had written several chess books. I also found one Nebraska author I was previously unaware of named George Storey who had written a book in 1953 (pictured below) about the Carlsbad Tournament of





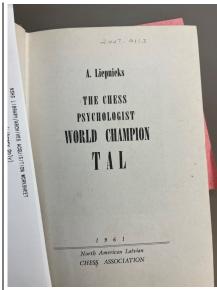
1911. Spence of course authored or co authored over 60 books in addition to editing the *Nebraska Chess Bulletin* from 1948-1957 and the *Ohman Chess Newsletter* from 1969 until his untimely death in the fall of 1978. Hall of Famer Richard McLellan not only won both Omaha and State Championships in his career, but authored at least two books also pictured below. Aleks Liepnieks co au-





thored a book on Smyslov with Jack but also wrote a book on Tal pictured below. My good friend Kent B. Nelson has now written books on three of Nebraska's greatest chess players.

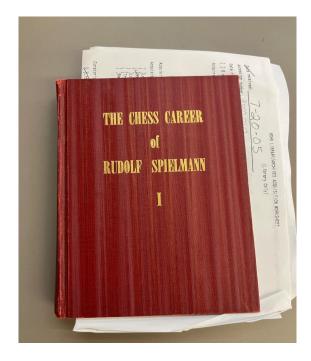
Hall of Famer John Watson has written several books, Alexey Root has written eight and Keaton Kiewra told me he has co-authored a book.



One of my goals has been to encourage a new generation of aspiring chess journalists. So today I am announcing that I am taking the first step in making this happen. I am donating \$100.00 to the Lincoln Chess Foundation to establish a chess journalism scholarship for a future high school graduate who enrolls as a journalism student in a major college or university. This individual would be asked to share their talents by

being a regular contributor to the *Gambit* and possibly my Omaha Chess Archive while taking classes. I have an anonymous donor willing to match donations before July 15th so this means my first \$100.00 just became \$200.00. Hopefully if this idea takes off we can give away at least one \$1,000.00 scholarship or possibly more. So I'm not just talking, I'm putting my money where my mouth is lol.

Please contact <u>Bruce Draney</u> if you are interested in joining the Nebraska Chess History Group on Facebook, donate to the scholarship fund, or just have any questions about Nebraska Chess history.



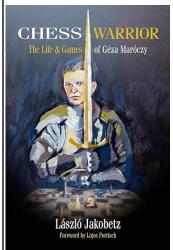
Editor note: This Facebook group has been a wealth of information, not only about the history of Nebraska, but the Midwest in general. I thought the journalism scholarship was a novel goal and so asked Bruce for permission to reprint his post here as something the CJA should support.

Chess Warrior The Life and Games of Géza Maróczy

By László Jakobetz

Reviewed by Mark Capron

Egy és más Maróczyról (This and That About Maróczy) sums up the 25—page biography section of the book quite



well. The author comments that this biography is the most complete that has been printed to date. More biography information is woven into the games sections.

An interesting fact presented was that József (his father) had his name spelled Maróczi, but Géza spelled it Maróczy. It was not clear if it was just misspelled for a time, then just stuck, or if there was an official name change. József held quite a few jobs and was

somewhat of an entrepreneur. József was a chief mechanic at the gas works, and later he invented a meat chopping machine that became quite the thing. He also invented a portable gas lamp that he patented. In addition, he had a newspaper, too, "Maróczy & Co."

The biography information on Géza himself had a long discussion on his education. Did he actually earn a diploma, degree or certificate? Likely no, but it is not entirely clear. Géza held many jobs (like his father) over the years as he didn't believe one should be solely focused on chess.

"... his office positions did not pose a significant burden on him because he was a brilliant mathematician. He could quickly scan columns of multi-digit numbers and immediately write down the final result. He had an incredible memory for numbers. Maróczy claimed and family oral history confirmed that he could memorize the location and order of two decks of French playing cards."

"After achieving his world-famous successes, Maróczy was indeed appointed as a paid hourly teacher at the elementary school on his merits, ... The assistance became problematic because every time he went to a foreign tournament Maróczy had to pay the substitute teacher out of his own pocket. So in fact he ended up paying for the teaching position."

It is said he never had a chess set in his house while his kids were growing up. He would attend the Otthon Club where he was a regular member. Maróczy was active in sports such as swimming, rowing, fencing and long bicycle rides. He was a peaceful person, avoiding conflict most of the time, however there are stories when this didn't hold true. For example:

"During the 1931 Bled International Tournament, according to Hans Kmoch, an agitated Géza Maróczy challenged Aron Nimzowitsch to an early morning pistol duel after they got into an argument. Nimzowitsch declined the challenge, stating that he would not participate in his own murder..."

I especially enjoyed Chapter VI Miscellanea as it featured many interesting anecdotes.

Each chapter starts off with a quote by or about Géza. My favorite one was:

"Chess teaches you to think logically. It is a lot of fun, but is a bad profession." - Géza Maróczy

The games section consists of over 300 pages with anecdotes and biography information woven in as the author takes us on a journey from one tournament to the next.

Next is a small section with private correspondence from after WWII. The first appendix gives Maróczy's places of residence. Then follow appendices of his Tournament and Match Records, Simuls, Crosstables, an Index of Players, an Index of Openings and a bibliography of sources.

Here is a game example from the book vs. future World Champion Alekhine.

Alekhine, Alexander—Maróczy, Geza [D32]

British CF-15 London International London (14), 17.08.1922 1.d4 ሷf6 2.ሷf3 d5 3.c4 e6 4.ሷc3 ቧe7 5.ቧg5 0-0 6.e3 c5?!

Such violent handling, aiming for the Tarrasch Defense, is not ideal here, as pointed out by the future world champion. 6. ... $h6\ 7.\Delta h4\ b6$ is the most solid way, as the father of the line, Dr. Tartakower, played at this tournament for the first time against the current champion, Capablanca.

7.c×d5 e×d5?!

7... \bigcirc xd5 8. \bigcirc xe7 \bigcirc xe7 9. \bigcirc xd5 exd5 10.dxc5 \bigcirc xc5 11. \bigcirc e2; or 7...cxd4 8. \bigcirc xd4 \bigcirc xd5 9. \bigcirc xe7 \bigcirc xe7 10. \bigcirc e2 yields a small but lasting edge for White.

8.d×c5 \(\text{Qe6} \) 9.\(\text{Qb5!} \)?

A typical aggressive move by Alekhine, but nevertheless a positional one: by taking the knight on c6 he tries to create

a backward pawn on the c-file.

9...⊈×c5 10.0–0 むc6 11.罩c1

11...⊈e7 12.⊈×c6 b×c6 13.ᡚa4 \(\beta\)c8

13.... 如果 14... 如果 14... 如果 16. 如果 14... 如果 16. 如果 17. 如果 16. 可以 16. 可以

14. ᡚd4 Ձd7 15. ዴ×f6 ዴ×f6 16. ᡚc5 ዴe8?!

The 16. ... $\Xi e8-e5-g5$ plan would have been stronger.

17.\g4!?

17.a3 and b2-b4 would have kept the queenside under pressure.

17...**罩b8**

17. ... g6 was better now than later.

18.b3 g6 19.ቯc2 \undersigned d6 20.ቯfc1 \undersigned e5 21.ᡚf3 \undersigned g7 22.\undersigned a4 \undersigned e5 25.ᡚd3 \undersigned \undersigned e44?!

25. ... c5? was no good in view of 26. a3, so 25. ... ad6 26. c5 f5 was called for. But Maróczy got tired of the active knight.

26.e×d4 以b7 27.以e1 曾g5

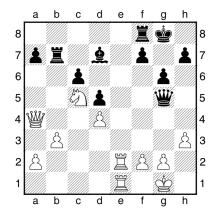
Black is worse, so this queen sortie was my rescueattempt, which was underestimated by my opponent and nearly lost the game for him. (Maróczy)

28.\二ce2!?

After 28. ℤe5 ♚d8 29. ℤce2, Black cannot avoid losing material in a short run.

28...Qd7 29.Qc5?!

Alekhine was planning to solve his problems with this move, hitting the rook. (Maróczy) The big question is: can Black take on h3? Meanwhile, referring to the previous line, 29.閏e5 營d8 (29. ... 營d2 30.包c5+-) 30.閏e7 still would have been best.



29...Q×h3 30.f4?

Alekhine has been counting o this move, which is actually losing. Correct is 30.g3, e.g., 30...\ddot\delta 5 31.f4 (31.\delta e3 \delta e7!\delta) 31...\delta g4! 32.\delta f2 h5!! 33.\delta a5! (33.\delta \delta \delta 7? h4 34.\delta g1 h\delta g4 + 34.\delta g1 \delta g1 + 34.\delta g1 + 34.\delta

35. 三×g3 營×f4+ 36. 三f3 營h2+ 37. 含e1 營h1+! 38. 含f2 營f1++) 33...h4 34. 營c3 三b4 35. 三e7 and White still has reasonable chances to hold.

30...\g3! 31.\d>xb7

31...**⊈**×g2 32.**₩**×c6

32.萬×g2 is not just a perpetual: 32...尚×e1+ 33.魯h2 尚h4+ 34.魯g1 萬e8 35.萬f2 萬e1+ 36.魯g2 曾g4+ 37.魯h2 萬g1 and mate soon.

32...Qe4+ 33. \$\delta f1 \delta f3+ \lambda -\lambda

Suddenly a draw was agreed. Maróczy explained that he was not even looking for a win, and he was satisfied with a draw against a world-class player after having had such a bad position.

But after 34.當g1(34.這f2 營h3+-+)34...曾g4+ 35.當h2 營xf4+ 36.當g1(36.營h3 量f3 37.營d6 營g4+ 38.當h2 營h4+ 39.當g1 營h1+ 40.當f2 營g2+ 41.營e3 盈xe2 42.這xe2 邑e8+-+)36...營g3+ 37.當f1 營h3+ 38.當f2 營f5+ 39.當e3(39.當g1 邑c8 40.營b5 營g4+ 41.當f1 營h3+ 42.當g1 營h1+ 43.當f2 營g2+ 44.當e3 營g3+ 45.當d2 營c3+ 46.當d1 營c1#)39...邑c8l, Black would be winning!

This was found not after the game but in Budapest later. Apart from that, Maróczy reported the following about the reactions of the kibitzers: "My escape from a dead lost position appealed to the British crowd just as much as a victory would have, and they burst into applause. This is a rarity in chess history."

The font size was a bit small, but everything was clear. Figurine, algebraic notation was used and the diagrams were clear and placed appropriately. There were many pictures throughout, all in black and white. At times it felt like reading a bullet list of facts even though it was set up as prose and in paragraph format. I thoroughly enjoyed the book and would recommend it to people interested in the historical aspect of chess, people who like games collections, and people interested in the giants of our game.

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Product Dimensions: 7 x 1 x 10 inches

Editors Note: This article is meant to be humorous political satire and does not represent the beliefs of the CJA.

From the Author: Here is a controversial comedy bit I wrote after the 2020 election. It was designed to thoroughly skewer both sides of the political game. But the few test readers I tried it on, though they found it quite funny, felt that it was too harsh on their side of the political divide and not hard enough on the other side! And they were on opposite sides politically! I guess that means I was pretty even handed in my abuse. Anyway, since we are presented with the same two options in 2024, this is the last chance for this piece to be fully relevant—if you dare.

SPIN DOCTORS ANNOTATE THE CHESS CLASSICS

By Bob Basalla

Chapter Three

Paul Morphy vs. The Duke of Brunswick and Count Isouard, Paris, 1858, as annotated by Doctor Whitley Alba of the Chess Partie Patriots and Professor Ebon Schwartz of the Rook-Kings Institution

Dr. Alba: Paul Morphy, one of the superlative geniuses of the game, also exhibited true sportsmanship by being scrupulously honest in all chess affairs: A true testament to the power and majesty of individual achievement. His opponents in this game, conversely, displayed all the ills of the collective: Arrogance combined with a sense of entitlement that by mere fiat they could compete with the elite in any endeavor. The fact that they presumptuously insisted on having this game in an opera box during a public performance of *The Barber of Seville* illustrates this haughty we-know-better-than-you attitude. Morphy genially gave them what they deserved.

Prof. Schwartz: Morphy, a self-admitted amateur, was a typical totalitarian-minded, white, male rube from the boondocks of antebellum Louisiana, only pretending to manners and mores. His true desire was to impose dictatorial will on his chessboard victims, in this case the blameless Duke and Count who, save for the insistence of this boor, would rather have enjoyed the opera which they undoubtedly paid to attend. The results of this travesty are still being disputed, nay litigated, down to this very day.

1.e4

Dr. Alba: "Best by test," expressed one Robert J. Fischer, another of the greatest players ever, in approving of Morphy's opening choice. "And white wins," paraphrasing Weaver Adams.

Prof. Schwartz: Morphy predictably avails himself of the "white privilege" of moving first. But that's only the half of it. Alpha Zero proved this hidebound debut to be distinctly inferior to 1.d4, 1.c4, or even 1.\(\text{\text{\text{2}}}\)f3. Beginning with at most the fourth best move hardly testifies to Morphy's "brilliance." And as Breyer observed decades ago, after 1.e4 "White's game is in its last throes."

1...e5

Dr. Alba: An unoriginal, copy-cat response. Dare we allege plagiarism?

Prof. Schwartz: Tit for tat. What's good for the goose is good for

the gander, and all that. From the get-go the Allies give laudable credence to the concept of equality.

2.包f3

Dr. Alba: A sane, sensible and conservative approach to the position

Prof. Schwartz: A stale, hackneyed, and frankly elitist continuation. Who but the uber-rich have a stable of steeds they can readily employ?

2...d6

Dr. Alba: The dubious duo chooses an inferior response to Morphy's ideal play as evidenced by this opening rarely seen in modern grandmaster praxis.

Prof. Schwartz: Pawns are the workers, the everyman, the very soul of chess, so naturally, in solidarity with the rank and file, our two woke noblemen select this auspicious debut. It's The Philidor, stupid!

3.d4

Dr. Alba: A bold and vigorous thrust, staking out the best available, unoccupied lot in the toniest of centralized neighborhoods.

Prof. Schwartz: A grasping, greedy, no-bid usurping of prime real estate, typical of so-called "free marketeers."

3...**Q**g4

Dr. Alba: Crossing the border into Morphy's homeland without so much as a visa, and disguised as a man of the cloth, no less.

Prof. Schwartz: A peace envoy holding back White's aggressively placed cavalry. As to charges that this piece is "undocumented," I refer you to the published game score.

4.dxe5

Dr. Alba: Urban renewal of the central district begins with the eminent (or should I say imminent?) domain demolition of an unsightly slum.

Prof. Schwartz: A reckless escalation of the conflict akin to later tyrants' unprovoked thrusts into peace (and piece) loving Russia.

4...**⊈**×f3

Dr. Alba: A clerical error of the first order. At best this can be termed cross-state terrorism.

Prof. Schwartz: An unfortunate necessity, but miter-heads won't be required in the chessboard world order to come after the game's inevitable fundamental transformation.

5.**쌀×**f3

Dr. Alba: White asserts his inalienable Right of Recapture as

constitutionally codified in the Rules of Chess.

Prof: Schwartz: An abuse of the recapture privilege, if there ever was one. A player must always go through a court to potentially recover damages.

5...dxe5

Dr. Alba: As I have always said, a player has no automatic Right of Recapture without filing suit with the appropriate magistrate.

Prof. Schwartz: I have been abundantly consistent on this point; any player has an absolute Right of Recapture in retaliation to offensive actions by the opponent. No ifs, ands, or buts.

6.Ac4

Dr. Alba: Morphy takes a scholarly approach to winning this already won game.

Prof. Schwartz: An egregious violation of all social norms, forcing religious orthodoxy on the Allies, not to mention a mating attempt without consent.

6...\$1f6

Dr. Alba: Since the Duke and Count's previous play has been indistinguishable from random choice, it is by sheer luck that they avoid the subtle and profound tactic set up by our hero.

Prof. Schwartz: Although in principle we favor assisted suicide, that is a procedure to be applied to others in other circumstances.

7.**省**b3

Dr. Alba: This exceedingly fine, two-tined fork (f7 and b7) should have compelled immediate resignation had the Duke and Count any sense of dignity.

Prof. Schwartz: Cynically exploiting a woman for the purposes of rank aggression. Note too, the hypocrisy of Morphy who brazenly violates his most famous dictum: Never move any piece twice until you have moved every piece once.

7...****e7

Dr. Alba: Cowardly hiding behind the skirts of a woman to do their dirty work. To wit, angling for an exchange of queens to short circuit Morphy's irresistible assault.

Prof. Schwartz: An empowering, not exploiting, move for a piece identifying as female.

8.包c3

Dr. Alba: Morphy brilliantly refuses the b7 bribe that his materialist opponents fully expected him to take. It is what they would have done had they been in one of Morphy's many shoes, after all. His game is more transcendent than that.

Prof. Schwartz: Snubbing the b7 offering as what's one more pawn to one who has millions? Or billions?

8...c6

Dr. Alba: Another fatal weakening by the Duke and Count, or should I say the Philidorks? Their error is to be compounded with the following move.

Prof. Schwartz: The lowly masses are an integral part of black's game, unlike class snob Morphy who hasn't employed a "soul of

the game" since move four. In fact, his play would remain "soulless" for the duration.

9.Ag5

Dr. Alba: The bishop sets out for missionary work, putting the question to the heathen opponent's idle idol: The pin being mightier than the sword.

Prof. Schwartz: Morphy, racist that he is (remember he came from slave holding territory, after all), continues his policy of moving only *white* pieces, piously supported by clergy, naturally. (Editor's note: the Rook-Kings Institution has long advocated canceling Paul Morphy's name and games from chess history books for the above reasons.)

9...b

Dr. Alba: One blunder leads to the next, doubling down on stupid. The disloyal opposition organizes their community to its ultimate ruin and lies to themselves about it.

Prof. Schwartz: The uprising of the proletariat finally begins, turning the tables forever. Who can doubt that ultimate victory is assured, barring treachery, of course?

10.ᡚ×b5

Dr. Alba: Immediately taking miscreants into custody is the best way to stem riotous action.

Prof. Schwartz: Cavalierly wasting lives to bust up the peon union. And as ever, the consequences of sacs policy fall disproportionately on the lower classes. Who can deny their counterattack was a legal and moral response to previous white oppression? Black pawns matter!

10...c×b5

Dr. Alba: Typical materialism in direct defiance of the facts on the ground. Better was 10... \$\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{g}}}}}\frac{4}{2}\$ finally admitting the error of their ways, with some miniscule hope of repentance and redemption in a bad ending. Heck, we would hardly have known of this game had Morphy's opponents been more rational in their moves.

Prof. Schwartz: Forcing a 50% decline in the white equine population, irreparably damaging the board's limited ecology by changing the game's climate forever. Where are the regulators?

11.**⊈**×b5+

Dr. Alba: Morphy emphatically asserts his constitutional right to bare kings.

Prof. Schwartz: Rendering even more citizens of the 64 disenfranchised, discarded and boardless. Morphy heartlessly continues his soulless policy.

11...**a**bd7

Dr. Alba: Circling beasts around their vulnerable leader, similar to the behavior of a herd of threatened yaks, only not as intelligently implemented.

Prof. Schwartz: Now that the attack has been blunted, Morphy should save face by resigning here. But no, he's stuck on stupid.

12.0-0-0

Dr. Alba: A place for every king and every king in its place. White safeguards his most valuable possession instead of expecting

others to save him from himself.

Prof. Schwartz: How is it fair that these two, and *only* these two, pieces can move at the same time? Shouldn't any two other pieces have the equal opportunity to share the same right?

12...¤d8

Dr. Alba: More yak circling. The nobles finish assembling a "safe space" for their thumb sucking king to cower in as he can't deal with the ominous events occurring on the other side, particularly Morphy's shish kebab bishops skewering ebony horse flesh against the bound to abdicate Royals.

Prof. Schwartz: Investing in a far sighted five move plan to turn back the invader. The success of this strategy will be confirmed five steps hence when the battle indeed comes to a conclusion.

13. 基×d7

Dr. Alba: Morphy invokes the Castle Doctrine in eliminating the black knight. True, the menacing steed was one file over and six squares up from his king's c1 gated community, and was pinned, but one can never be too careful about preempting such obvious threats to life and property.

Prof. Schwartz: The nuclear option viciously dropped on a defenseless, tethered animal reeks of desperation. Morphy attempts to buy his way to a win via a capitalistic purchase of tenuous time for masonry solid material, irresponsibly ballooning his deficit to unsupportable proportions.

13...耳xd7

Dr. Alba: Had this been a football field instead of a chess board a flag would have been thrown here for unnecessary roughness in retaliation for a blatantly legal play. Black misuses the Right of Recapture once again by opting for the grossly disproportionate nuclear option.

Prof. Schwartz: Morphy's violent play will not be confused with any micro-aggression. Here he risked widening the conflict, perhaps even spreading the capturing contagion to other nearby boards. In some sense Morphy is forcing both side's actions. It's all *his* fault, modern politics being the art of assigning blame.

14.¤d1

Dr. Alba: Morphy's full employment policy comes to its ultimate fruition as the last idle unit gets a meaningful job.

Prof. Schwartz: White widens the war by conscripting a piece peacefully living out its life in the h1 hinterlands. If only it had decided to head for Canada to avoid this unconscionable draft.

14...₩e6

Dr. Alba: Affirmative action by gender instead of selecting the best piece for the job based on qualifications.

Prof. Schwartz: Even at this late date the Allies are still willing to pursue a peaceful ending to the conflict inflicted upon them. A draw is more than generous terms considering all the mayhem that Morphy has caused.

15.**⊈**×d7+

Dr. Alba: White's clerical envoy gets to the bedeviled enemy leader to persuade him to acknowledge the error of his ways, or at least avail himself of last rites.

Prof. Schwartz: The execution of pieces of color without due pro-

cess continues unabated. So, what else is new?

15...ഭി×d7

Dr. Alba: So much for the other side's lip service respect for tolerance of religion.

Prof. Schwartz: Our side tolerates full freedom of moves for either party, just not moves that in our view engender *hate* such as Morphy's previous. Future rules committees will hear our briefs. Until then, sure and swift retaliation is the only recourse thrust upon us.

16.\b8+

Dr. Alba: Her Majesty displays supreme altruism in sacrificing herself for a higher cause, made palatable by a promise of reward in the chess box afterlife.

Prof. Schwartz: Misogynist in the extreme! A woman is forced to throw herself on the burning woodpile at the behest of a male-dominated society.

16...•2×b8

Dr. Alba: Black's sixteenth consecutive blunder may be some kind of record. Infinitely better was 16...Black resigns.

Prof. Schwartz: Taking stock here, I don't see why black was not declared the winner. The Allies are decisively up in point count (28 to 18) with no hope of Morphy being able to recoup the deficit.

17.罩d8++

Dr. Alba: Culminating Morphy's brilliant strategy, executing the death penalty on black's partie boss, soon to be followed by individual judgements from Caissa herself for the enemy's many sins. And Morphy's castle stands to be canonized (or ought we say cannonized?) for its part in the immortal denouement.

Prof. Schwartz: Black was literally rooked out of this game by a combination of a castle (for white's use only, mind you) aided by reactionary "godly" special interests. A travesty all around and an imposed injustice favoring the white supremacist minority.

Wrap up

Dr. Alba: Although White rightfully prevailed in this tilt, many other first movers have been wronged: Paulsen against that unsportsmanlike pseudo-genius Paul Morphy (New York, 1857), Lewitzky against Marshall (Breslau, 1912), Rotlevi against Rubinstein (Lodz, 1907) and D. Byrne against Fischer (New York, 1956) to cite a few. We at Chess Partie Patriots endeavor to correct the record in these and many other wrongly decided games, so we can Make Chess Great Again!

Prof. Schwartz: We demand a special counsel to examine Morphy v. Duke of Brunswick et.al. to investigate charges of Russian kibitzing interference in the course of this game. In the meantime, we will continue to seek justice for pieces of color in other far-flung cases throughout chess history, including but not exclusively: That serial offender Adolf Anderssen in his atrocities wrought upon Kieseritzky, London, 1851, and Dufresne, Berlin, 1852, as well as Blackburne (against Zukertort, London, 1883) Von Bardeleben (against Steinitz Hastings, 1895) and many other victims. We will never stop fighting to overturn these and other unjust results. Forward!

Interview with Chris Paul Baker

By Joshua Anderson

Note: Chris lives in Christchurch, New Zealand. He is not the English International Master who has the same name—Ed.

Shortly after last year's meeting at the US Open, the CJA posted an incredible project that World Correspondence Chess Champion Jon Edwards (now our vice president) put together with some help from super collector Andy Ansel. This project was to make a large portion of the Jeremy Gaige Archival records available to the general public. Former CJA webmaster Grayson Rorrer deserves much of the website credit, and former CJA webmaster Caleb Brown did an excellent job wrapping it up.

Jeremy Gaige (October 9, 1927 - February 19, 2011) was an American chess journalist and chess archivist with international notoriety. Gaige was elected into the World Chess Hall of Fame in 2007. He was best known for his self-published works, *Chess Tournament Crosstables* Volumes I - IV. He also wrote the book *A Catalog of Chess Players and Problemists* (1969) which later was updated, expanded and renamed to *Chess Personalia* published by McFarland (1987). He published over 20 books.

Numerous organization members commented on what a great thing it was to put on our website. Then, after that, things quieted until December 21, when I "met" Chris Baker, who was using the website from New Zealand!

Baker had contacted Ansel, and I had, at some point, been "looped in" to the reply. After a few days of long and interesting discussions about the resources that were available and how Gaige's work was of interest to researchers worldwide, I thought that I should interview Mr. Baker. Though Baker works outside the US, and his research is



not USfocused, I
thought that
the research
and use of
the archive
would be of
interest to
those in our
organization
and inspire
more work.

Chris Baker was born in

1953. His ELO was around 2000 when he was an active player. In 1974, hesitantly, he made the difficult decision to chart a course in a non-chess occupation. He still competed even if somewhat irregularly.

For many years Chris worked for the New Zealand Statistics Department, before he ultimately retired. Chris's hobby is collecting (and in some cases, creating) chess tournament crosstables; and general chess history. He has previously found discrepancies between Volume I of the "Lithuanian Sports Encyclopedia" and in many articles in the Lithuanian version of Wikipedia, and in the writings of the primary sources of the history of chess about Lithuanian chess in the interwar years championships.

This biography information can be found in the online book Lietuvos Šachmatų Istorija (Lithuanian Chess History), Klaipėda, 2023, pages 48-49. It is possible to download it from the webpage of the Lithuanian correspondence chess federation: https://lksf.lt/lietuvos-sachmatu-istorija/. It is only in Lithuanian.

How did you hear about the archive?

I became aware of them from a posting on the Chessgames.com website by the poster "MissScarlett" on 24 September 2023 in the 'Biographer Bistro' forum. A bit later, I asked him how he became aware of the archive. His reply was: "Can't remember, to be honest. I work somewhat chaotically."

In a previous email, Baker stated he was particularly interested in Baltic chess history. This odd juxtaposition struck me as similar to the Treaty of Portsmouth (New Hampshire) ending the Russo-Japanese War, so I asked him to explain how this interest developed.

My first interest in chess in the Baltic States was when, as a school pupil, I won a book prize. The book was *The Early Years of Paul Keres*. It was my first introduction to information about international chess, and I was fascinated by Keres' story. In addition, a war refugee from Estonia, Ortvin Sarapu, arrived in New Zealand in 1950 and won the New Zealand Championship 20(!) times (sole or tied). He was New Zealand's premier player up to the late 1970s. Keres was his hero, and I suspect that he recommended, to my club president (a good friend), to give out that particular book as a prize! Sarapu was slightly 'mysterious' to us, and I wondered a bit about his pre-1950 days, which he did not say enough about. But he had passed away by the time I knew sufficient/was interested

enough to ask him relevant questions (and he lived in a different town quite some distance from me).

Vladas Mikenas, Keres' discoverer, moved from Estonia to Lithuania in 1931, and I wondered what his story was after that. So Lithuania became interesting. Also, at Chessgames.com, three of us did a lot of research on Vladimirs Petrovs, so I learned a lot about Latvian chess history between the wars that way.

I also followed and researched the story of the Baltic players in the refugee camps in Germany from 1945 to 1951. However, I have yet to research them in depth after they left the camps to emigrate to the USA, Canada, Australia, etc. I also have yet to research the Baltic States since 1945 in depth. These research projects are possible in the future, but would be a big job!

Material I had scanned from Cleveland Public Library: On checking my physical printouts of this material, I found an additional item I had forgotten to mention ((d) below). So, my material consists of:

- (a) Chess Tournament Crosstables 1896-1900/1. (119 pages.) [Revised 1985.]
- (b) Checklist of Chess Tournaments 1950-1980. (143 pages.) [see below.]
- (c) Swedish National Tournaments, up to 1975. (70 pages, excluding blank ones.) [This was produced in 1976 and had at the front "The Gift of Jeremy Gaige to the Cleveland Public Library."]
- (d) Checklist of Annual Tournaments. (251 pages.) [Revised in parts at various times 1984-1990.]

The Checklist 1951-1980:

- (i) This came in three files: 1950-1959 (40 pages), 1959-1973 (54 pages), and 1973-1980 (49 pages).
- (ii) The scanning missed pages 82 and 83, which are from "D" to "S" in the alphabet for 1972.
- (iii) My copy says "revised 21 March 1986". In his email of 23 December 2023, Jon says he has a copy of the book "Chess Tournaments: A Checklist Vol 2 1951-1980" (Philadelphia, 1984), and my copy says "revised 21 March 1986"; perhaps this copy is a revision of the book?
- (iv) I looked at what you scanned on your site for this checklist. There are handwritten additions/corrections by Gaige, so these must also be revisions. These are additions/corrections to the version I have, though the version I have also has one or two minor things that are not on your scanned version.

And now, some excellent news. Rummaging through my old computer stuff, I found I had kept as a backup my still

functional hard drive that I had replaced in 2020. This hard drive replacement was done after I received the Cleveland Public Library scans, so I may be able to retrieve those files from there. I have no idea how to install old hard drives physically, so I'll take it into a computer place to recover the files (the sound has gone on my computer, plus one or two other hassles, so I was looking to take it in any way).

"Also, did you find the process of using the archive pretty easy? What would you like to see done to expand the archive besides the apparent inclusion of the material from the White collection?"

Yes, good.

One thing I initially found a bit puzzling (and should be explained) was having files named "Crosstables 1917-1920; Crosstables 1918-1930; Crosstables 1921-1924; Crosstables 1925-1928. The file "Crosstables 1918-1930" overlaps the others with its dates. Examining these files, I think all the files from 1917 to 1928, except 1918-1930, look like they are Gaige's original "Chess Crosstables" book publications with hand-marked additions and corrections. The 1918-1930 one (relatively tiny) looks like a separate file of later additions and corrections over and above those added to the 1917-1928 files.

In my original email of 21 December 2023, I mentioned that the files "Crosstables 1931-1950" and "Crosstables 1951-1986" were small files with only a tiny fraction of the crosstables that Gaige had for these periods. These two files are of the same nature as the 1918-1930 file. This implies that the CJA has a very limited amount of Gaige's crosstables onsite from 1929 onwards.

In his email of 23 December 2023, Jon Edwards said that he has "decent, nearly comprehensive crosstable coverage after 1951 through to the end of the 1970's. Andy does have 12 binders, and so the 1930s - 1940s stuff may be there. "The situation would appear to be that (i) Jon has the bulk of the 1952 - 1980 crosstables, but these documents are not scanned yet; (ii) Andy Ansel has the bulk of the 1929-1951 crosstables if they are not missing, and that they have not been scanned yet. (Whether they are missing needs to be confirmed.)

"What would you like to see done to expand the archive?"

My favorite is to see the bulk crosstables 1929-1935. [In particular, with the Baltic States becoming free in 1990 and information on them becoming much more freely available, Gaige may have obtained considerably more crosstables

than he had in his mid-1980s 'Checklist.' Three I'd like to see are (i) Parnu Championship 1929 (Keres 2nd behind Virkus). (ii) Tartu, 15 February - 21 May 1935 (Keres 1st with 23/24). (iii) Kaunas, 17-26 March 1934 (a double Round-Robin of 4 players with Spielmann and Vistaneckis 1-2= with 4/6). This one is particularly frustrating. In 'Checklist,' Gaige issued a call for HELP on this one. Luckis and Disleris were the other two participants, and I've never found their final scores. From Lithuanian newspapers, etc., I've found the result of every game in this tournament except the last-round game between Luckis and Disleris. Thus, if I could see their final scores, the crosstable would be solved. Spielmann did not give these scores even in his report on this event in 'Weiner Schach-Zeitung,' May/June 1934, page 163. There are still some magazines I haven't yet access to check for 1934, such as 'Deutsche Schachzeitung,' 'L'Echiquier,' and 'British Chess Magazine.']

The next most wanted would be the bulk crosstables 1936-1945.

I'm also missing the complete crosstables of the Riga Championships for 1945, 1950, 1952-1958. Gaige had a couple of these, but probably did not have the rest. (These missing crosstables were frustrating when I was trying to compile Tal's early career results).

"What plans do you have to use it?"

I have no set plan at this stage. I'm just collecting all crosstables (including matches and team events) I can find (especially before 1950), and this is an exciting exercise. But in particular, to help ensure their preservation. With the world's current state, who knows what disaster may happen? Something could destroy the internet, and dissemination could be complex. A copy of these crosstables in an out-of-the-way place like New Zealand might help preserve them. I may print them all out, though that means a lot of printing (but maybe I will eventually). But I will make sure to keep a copy on two separate memory sticks!

While the uses for the Gaige archive are many, and when we offered Edwards to host the site, I imagined quite a few uses for the archive, I never dreamed it would affect how New Zealanders examine chess in the Baltic states! As we grow other archival projects, we hope to continue to help chess scholars, authors, and journalists worldwide.

Note: The interview was edited for clarity and grammar and okayed by the interviewee.

Supplement (after the Interview) from Chris, (A Tribute to Jeremy Gaige):

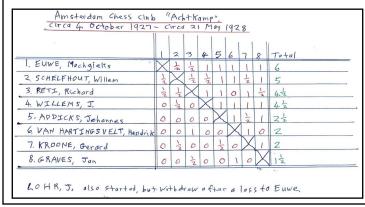
In Gaige's May 1974 introduction to Chess Tournament Crosstables, Volume IV (1921-1930), Gaige says (on page ii) "It is sad indeed, for example, that no crosstable apparently exists for Amsterdam 1928 in which both Euwe and Reti participated."

And in your online copy of Gaige's 'Checklist' (revised: 01-06-1989), under 1928, Gaige says he doesn't have it, plus a handwritten note "HELP".

Then in the 'Crosstables 1925-1928' file, image 193, Gaige gives the small amount he does know about the event (and now giving the dates as December 1927—March 1928 [which I believe are still not correct]). He gives his source for what he does know as 'Weiner Schachzeitung', 1928, pages 76 and 116.

From the Dutch newspapers now online, I believe <u>I have been able to construct this crosstable in full</u>. Although the Dutch newspapers do not give full coverage, they give enough (just) to be able to impute the results they still have missing with 100% certainty (or so I think). Here is the final crosstable.

How did I arrive at this (the proof is below)



This event was a club event, and as club events tend to do, meandered on over several months (both Euwe and Reti completed all their games well before the event finished).

A short digression is needed here. An overall event organised by the Amsterdam Chess Club was a 'winter competition' over the 1927/8 year. In its top group were 17 players, but because of frequent absences during the season, Reti was only required to play the other top eight players. Likewise Kroone, who had a long commute. (See Source 1). Thus there was a semi-separate tournament of 9 players ('negenkamp').

Partway through, having lost a game to Euwe (see Source 2), Lohr withdrew and the 'negenkamp' became a 'achtkamp' (eightathon) (see Source 5). This is the tournament that is being dealt with here.

I mention this to prove that the important result Reti-Willems 1-0, given in Source 3, is from this event and not some other event that Reti may have played in.

Source 2, dated 6 October 1927, gives results for the first round, plus a couple of games played in advance. Thus it could be supposed that play in the tournament began about 4 October 1927.

Source 11, quoting a 22 May 1928 date, says the tournament is "now completed". So it could be supposed that the tournament finished about 21 May 1928.

[Gaige in his partial crosstable [in the crosstables 1925-1928 file, image 193] gave only December 1927 to March 1928 as start and finish dates.]

Source 11 gives the Final scores:

- 1. Euwe 6-1
- 2. Schelfhout 5-2
- 3. Reti 4.5-2.5
- 4. Willems 4.5-2.5
- 5. Addicks 2.5-4.5
- 6. van Hartingsvelt 2-5
- 7. Kroone 2-5
- 8. Graves 1.5-5.5

Source 9 says that only Reti and Schelfhout were able to draw with Euwe; Euwe beat the rest.

Source 10 says that both Euwe and Schelfhout did not lose any games.

This gives a framework in which to work.

Analysis, Part 1

The following game results are directly given:

Reti-Addicks 1-0 (Source 2)

Euwe-Kroone 1-0 (Source 2)

Reti-Willems 1-0 (Source 3)

van Hartingsvelt-Reti 1-0 (Source 4)

Euwe-Schelfhout 0.5-0.5 (Source 4)

Reti-Kroone 1-0 (Source 5)

Addicks-Schelfhout 0-1 (Source 5)

Source 5 then gives the following progress scores:

Reti 3.5-1.5

Euwe 1.5-0.5

Schelfhout 1.5-0.5

van Hartingsvelt 1-0

Willems 1-1

Graves 0.5-1.5

Addicks 0-2

Kroone 0-2

When the above games are taken into account in this progress score, this leaves:

Reti +0-0=1

Willems +1-0=0

Graves +0-1=1

Thus the remaining results must be:

Willems-Graves 1-0

Reti-Graves 0.5-0.5

Analysis, Part 2

From here, the following game results are given:

van Hartingsvelt-Euwe 0-1 (Source 6)

Willems-Schelfhout 0.5-0.5 (Source 6)

Reti-Euwe 0.5-0.5 (Source 7)

Source 8 then gives the following progress scores:

Reti 4.5-2.5

Euwe 4-1

Schelfhout 3-2

Willems 1.5-1.5

Graves 1.5-1.5

Agddicks 1.5-3.5

Kroone 1-3

van Hartingsvelt 1-3

When the above 3 games are taken into account in this progress score, this leaves the difference from the previous progress score

Reti +0-0=1

Euwe +1-0=0

Schelfhout +0-0=2 [Schelfhout's 1-1 is 2 draws as he does not

lose any games.]

Graves +1-0=0

Addicks 1.5-1.5 Kroone 1-1

van Hartingsvelt +0-2=0

The only player Reti hasn't played at this stage is Schelfhout.

So: Reti-Schelfhout 0.5-0.5

Schelfhout's other draw has to be against Addicks or Kroone. But he has earlier played Addicks.

So: Schelfhout-Kroone 0.5-0.5

Kroone thus has another draw, and the only player that it can be against is Addicks.

So: Kroone-Addicks 0.5-0.5

Euwe has already played Kroone and Van Hartingsvelt. So the only player left for him to beat here is Addicks.

So: Euwe-Addicks 1-0

This leaves wins by Addicks and Graves to be accounted for, and only van Hartingsvelt is left for them to beat.

So: Addicks-van Hartingsvelt 1-0 Graves-van Hartingsvelt 1-0

Analysis, Part 3

The difference from the last progress score to the Final score is as follows:

Fuwe 2-0

Schelfhout 2-0

Willems 3-1

Addicks 1-1

van Hartingsvelt 1-2

Kroone 1-2 Graves 0-4

Euwe has Willems and Graves left to play.

So: Euwe-Willems 1-0
Euwe-Graves 1-0

Schelfhout has van Hartingsvelt and Graves left to play.

So: Schelfhout-van Hartingsvelt 1-0

Schelfhout-Graves 1-0

This leaves Willems with 3 wins, and Addicks, van Hartingsvelt and Kroone left to play.

So: Willems-Addicks 1-0

Willems-van Hartingsvelt 1-0

Willems-Kroone 1-0

This leaves Graves with 2 losses and Addicks and Kroone left to play

So: Addicks-Graves 1-0 Kroone-Graves 1-0

This leaves a win by van Hartingsvelt and a loss by Kroone unaccounted for.

So: van Hartingsvelt-Kroone 1-0

That completes the crosstable.

Sources that I have used:

[1] 'De Courant - Het niews van den dag', 6 October 1927, page6 Link: https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?

coll=ddd&query=reti&cql%5B%5D=%28date+ gte +%2206-10-1927%22%29&cql%5B%5D=%28date+ lte +%2201-06-1928%29%29&cql%5B%5D=ppn+any+%

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29&redirect=true&sortfield=date&identifier=MMKB15:000596082: mpeg21:a00050&resultsidentifier=MMKB15:000596082:mpeg21: a00050&rowid=1

[2] 'Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant', 6 October 1927, page 3 Link: https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?

coll=ddd&query=reti&cql%5B%5D=%28date+_gte_+%2206-10-1927%22%29&cql%5B%5D=%28date+_lte_+%2201-06-1928%22%

29&redirect=true&sortfield=date&identifier=ddd:010029278:mpeg 21:a0058&resultsidentifier=ddd:010029278:mpeg21:a0058&rowi d=5

[3] 'Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant' 2 November 1927, page 1 Link: https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?

coll=ddd&query=reti&cql%5B%5D=%28date+_gte_+%2202-11-1927%22%29&cql%5B%5D=%28date+_lte_+%2201-06-1928% 22%

29&redirect=true&sortfield=date&identifier=ddd:010029324:mpeg 21:a0093&resultsidentifier=ddd:010029324:mpeg21:a0093&rowi d=1

[4] 'De Courant - Het niews van den dag', 25 November 1927, page 6 (Parts 1, 2, 3)

Link: https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?

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22%29&cql%5B%5D=ppn+any+%

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29&redirect=true&sortfield=date&identifier=MMKB15:000596125: mpeg21:a00081&resultsidentifier=MMKB15:000596125:mpeg21:

a00081&rowid=6

[5] 'De Courant - Het niews van den dag', 6 December 1927, page 3

Link: https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?

coll=ddd&query=reti&cql%5B%5D=%28date+_gte_+%2206-10-1927%22%29&cql%5B%5D=%28date+_lte_+%2201-06-1928%

22%29&cql%5B%5D=ppn+any+%

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29&redirect=true&sortfield=date&identifier=MMKB15:000596134: mpeg21:a00031&resultsidentifier=MMKB15:000596134:mpeg21:a00031&rowid=9

[6] 'De Courant - Het niews van den dag', 12 January 1928, page

Link: https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?

coll=ddd&query=reti&cql%5B%5D=%28date+_gte_+%2206-10-1927%22%29&cql%5B%5D=%28date+_lte_+%2201-06-1928%

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[7] 'Het niews van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indie', 1 February 1928, page 1

Link: https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?cgl%5B%

5D=%28date+ gte +%2201-02-1928%22%29&cql%5B%5D=%

28date+ Ite +%2201-06-1928%22%

29&query=achtkamp&coll=ddd&redirect=true&sortfield=date&ide ntifier=ddd:010221101:mpeg21:a0177&resultsidentifier=ddd:010 221101:mpeg21:a0177&rowid=1

[8] 'De Courant - Het niews van den dag', 9 February 1928, page

Link: https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?

coll=ddd&query=reti&cql%5B%5D=%28date+ gte +%2206-10-1927%22%29&cql%5B%5D=%28date+ lte +%2201-06-1928%

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29&redirect=true&sortfield=date&page=2&identifier=MMKB15:00 0607034:mpeg21:a00044&resultsidentifier=MMKB15:000607034 :mpeg21:a00044&rowid=4

[9] 'De Courant - Het niews van den dag', 22 March 1928, page 6 Link: https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?

coll=ddd&query=reti&cql%5B%5D=%28date+_gte_+%2206-10-1927%22%29&cql%5B%5D=%28date+_lte_+%2201-06-1928%

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29&redirect=true&sortfield=date&page=3&identifier=MMKB15:00

<u>0607070:mpeg21:a00047&resultsidentifier=MMKB15:000607070</u>:mpeg21:a00047&rowid=1

[10] 'De Courant - Het niews van den dag', 2 May 1928, page 6 Link: https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?

coll=ddd&query=reti&cql%5B%5D=%28date+ gte +%2206-10-1927%22%29&cql%5B%5D=%28date+ lte +%2201-06-1928%

22%29&cql%5B%5D=ppn+any+%

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29&redirect=true&sortfield=date&page=3&identifier=MMKB15:00 0613026:mpeg21:a00064&resultsidentifier=MMKB15:000613026 :mpeg21:a00064&rowid=4

[11] 'De Telegraaf', 23 May 1928, page 14

Link: https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?cql%5B%
5D=%28date+ ate +%2223-05-1928%22%29&cql%5B%5D=%

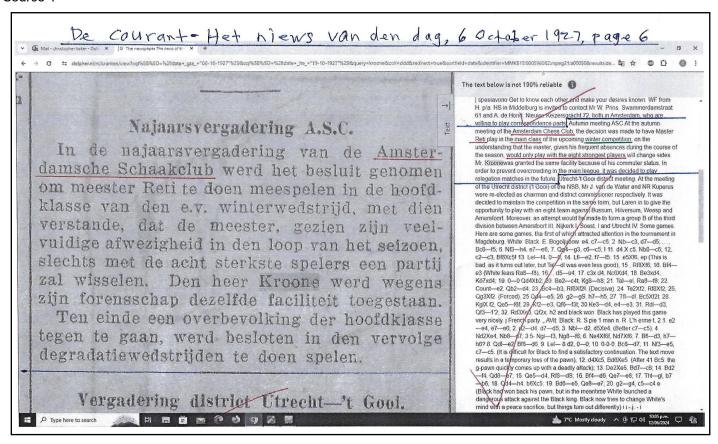
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29&query=achtkamp&coll=ddd&redirect=true&sortfield=date&ide ntifier=ddd:110566124:mpeg21:a0252&resultsidentifier=ddd:110 566124:mpeg21:a0252&rowid=2

In addition, I am also sending you my analysis of the Kaunas 1934 event. (Apologies if I seem a bit obsessed with this one—partly driven by Gaige's request for 'HELP'.) *This will appear in the October issue.—Editor.*

An amazing display of perseverance and determination with a bit of Sherlock Holmes—Editor

Source 1



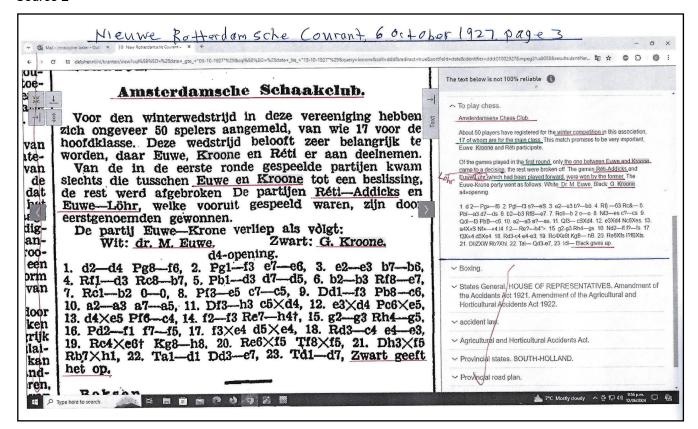
I (Editor) thought it appropriate to add a couple "Sherlock Holmes" quotes:

"The game is afoot." —Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, 'The Abbey Grange'.

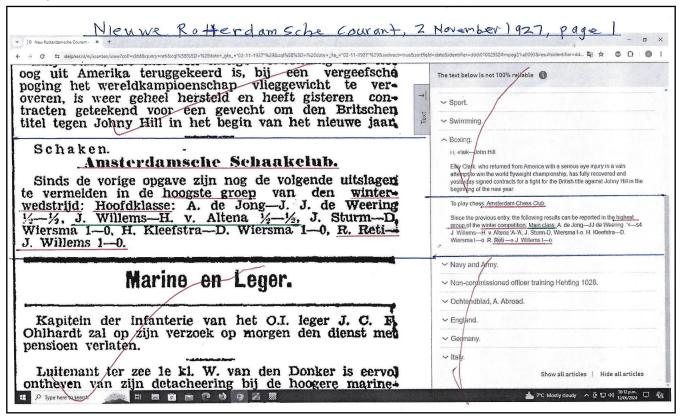
"Education never ends, Watson. It is a series of lessons, with the greatest for the last." —Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, 'The Red Circle'.

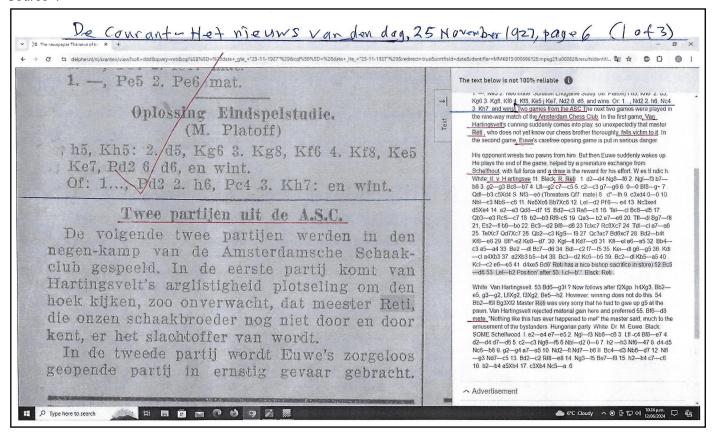
"The past and the present are within my field of inquiry." —Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, 'The Hound Of The Baskervilles.'

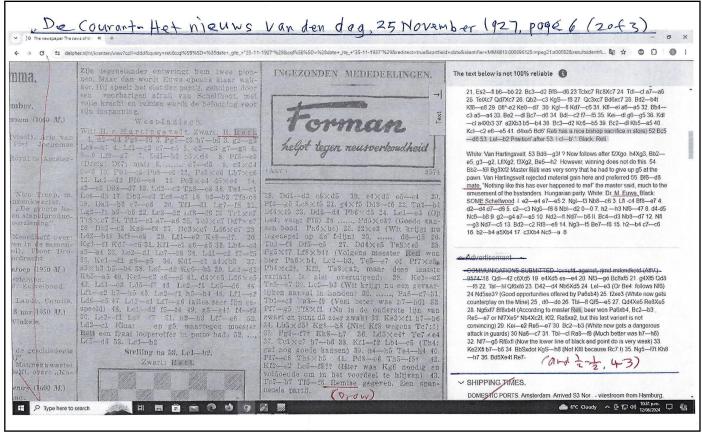
"How often have I said to you that when you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth?" —Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, 'A Sign Of Four'.

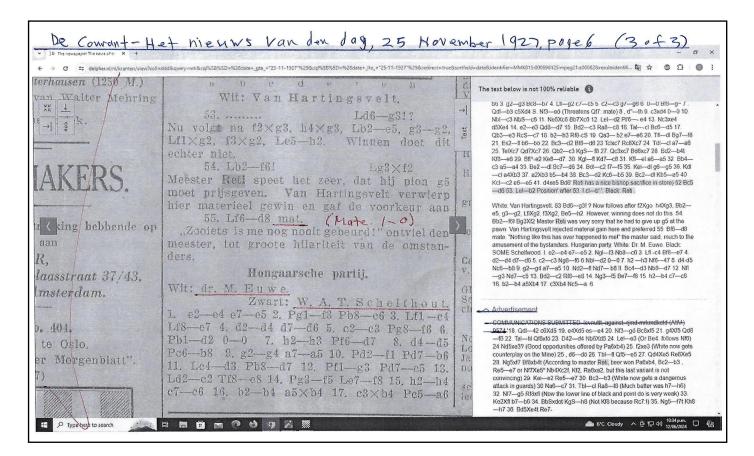


Source 3

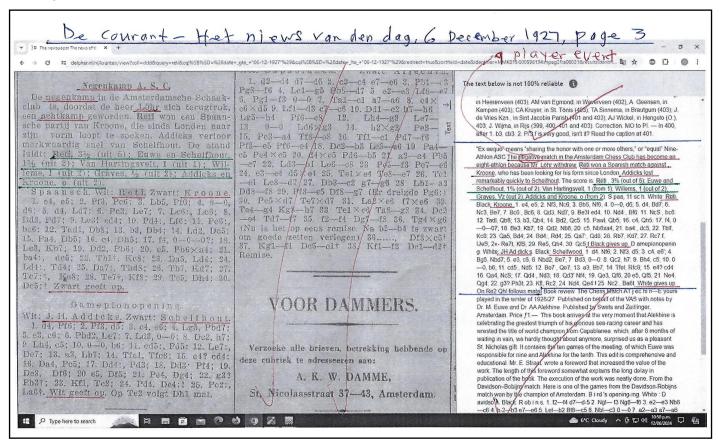




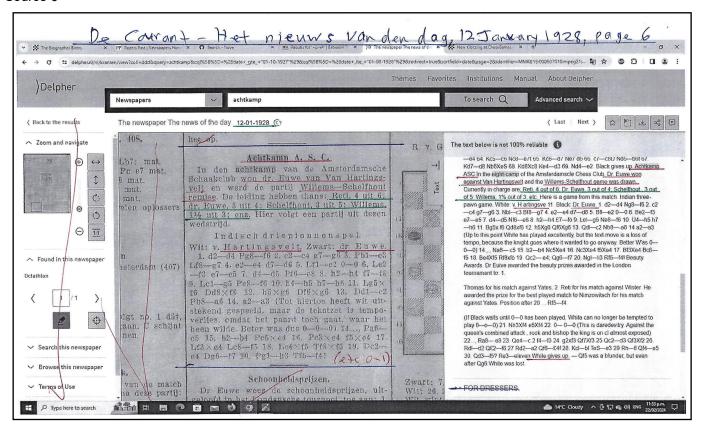




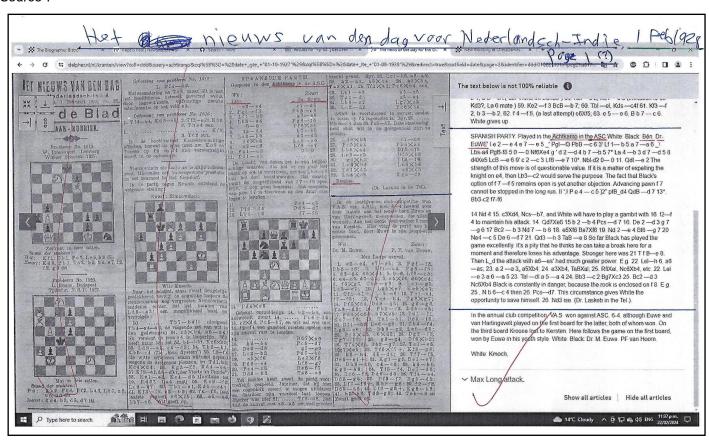
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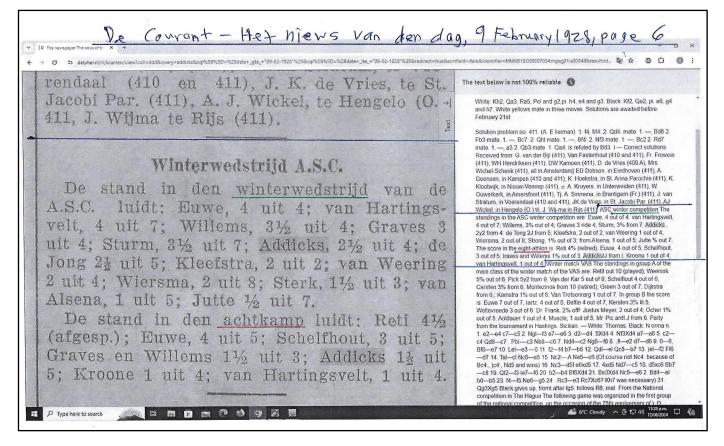


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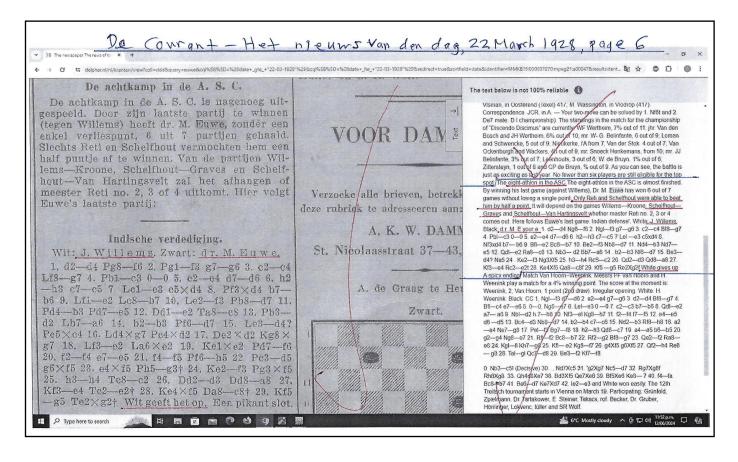


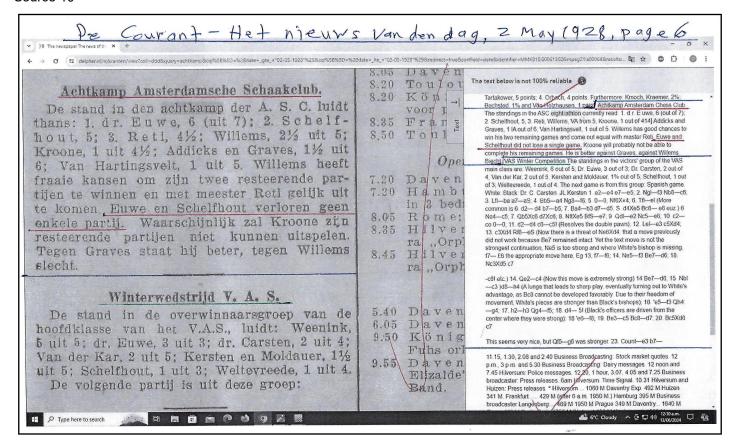
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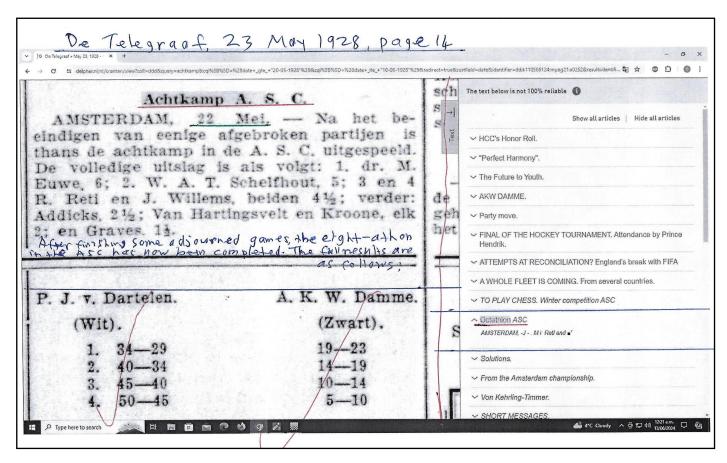


Source 9





Source 11



Wanted: Opponents

By Neil Brennen Introduction By Joshua Anderson

Introduction:

This year we had several new and returning judges. Among them was Neil Brennen a noted chess historian who wrote numerous articles for magazines and websites. He recently had this to say:

"I'm ill and would appreciate chess editors sending me copies of the articles I wrote for them. I have most on my hard drive but I'd like to see how they appeared in print."

This request is the exact sort of ask that could easily be handled by GACPPP, but that will not be ready, and fairly inclusive, for a while now. Anyone who would like to send him an article, please email Neil at neil.thehistorian@gmail.com.

Brennen wrote articles for numerous publications and also wrote articles for *The Campbell Report*. *The Campbell Report* was run by J. Franklin Campbell. It started in the late 1990s and was active through about 2014.



¹A brief personal note: I came to the CJA because Al Lawrence, President at the time, contacted Dan Heisman about being Coordinating Judge for the Awards. Heisman had done it before and did not want to do it again, but suggested me for the job. Lawrence was still writing quite a bit and doing quite a few other things. So, though helpful, he wasn't the main person I was dealing with. For the day-to-day stuff, I mostly interacted with Mark Taylor, who I had corresponded with a little, and Campbell, who I just met. Campbell and I became fast friends and I benefited greatly from his advice and experience. It should be noted that Dan Lucas, who is about to step down after almost two decades of service to US Chess, had befriended me on Facebook and was very inviting and congenial and really helped me feel that I could be the Coordinating Judge.

Wanted: Opponents by Neil R. Brennen

(posted 15 November 2005)

This article first appeared in *The Campbell Report* and is reprinted here with the author's permission.

Chess is a game of two sides. Unless he wishes to devote his time with the Royal Game to the composition of chess problems and studies, a chessplayer needs an opponent to struggle against in a game. And usually chessplayers manage to find competition "worthy of their steel" in their communities.

But what do you do if you live in a locale where there are few or no skilled players? Or if your work, social, and family commitments prevent you from spending time engaged in an over the board struggle?

Correspondence chess players know the best solution to these problems. But stating the answer is "correspondence chess" doesn't solve the problem of finding an opponent. Of course, that dilemma is easily solved today, with the existence of organized correspondence clubs, national correspondence federations, the International Correspondence Chess Federation, and web-based servers. And correspondence players have been spoiled for

choice for a long time. For well over a century there have been official correspondence chess bodies that allow chessplayers to meet other chessplayers in mock-combat.

But this wasn't always so. In the United States, for example, the earliest major correspondence organization, the Pillsbury National Correspondence Chess Association, didn't come into existence until 1896. Before then, there were occasional correspondence tournaments and matches in the 1880s and 1890s, but nothing like the abundance of choice today. And in the 1870s, there was even less. So, again, what was the prospective postal player to do for opposition?

Advertise.

For example, Daniel Jaeger, a chessplayer in New York City, perhaps the last place on Earth one would expect a chessplayer to lack opposition, found himself needing people to play postal chess with him. So one day in 1876 he sent the following notice to Miron Hazeltine, chess editor of the *New York Clipper*:

CHESS BY CORRESPONDENCE — Any amateur who would like a match by correspondence the coming season can hear of an antagonist by addressing Daniel Jaeger, Box 197, New York City.

The notice appeared in Hazeltine's December 9, 1876 column.

Jaeger was not the first person to use a chess column in this way, nor was he the last. But regardless, Jaeger's little notice in the *Clipper* began to garner returns as chessplayers who desired a game by mail wrote to him. And the *Clipper* column itself saw a return on the investment in space for the notice, as Jaeger began to send Hazeltine games he had played with other postalites. Among the first was a game played at odds of the Knight against J. W. Belcher of Providence, Rhode Island.

Daniel Jaeger - J. W. Belcher

Correspondence, Knight odds, 1877 *Annotations by Miron Hazeltine.*

Remove Nb1. 1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Bc5 3.b4 Bxb4 4.c3 Bc5 5.d4 exd4 6.cxd4 Bb6 7.Nf3 Nc6 8.0-0 d6 9.Bb2 Nge7 10.d5 Na5 11.Bxg7 Rarely adopted; the threatening position of the adverse Rook rendering this gain a loss. 11...Rg8 12.Bf6 Qd7 He "fraids easy"; should take off that evil minded churchman and then display all his skill and energy in reinforcing and rendering operative the formidable position of the Rook on g8. 13.Bd3 c5 14.Qe2 a6 15.e5 Nxd5 16.Bg5 Qe6 17.Rfe1 f6



18.Bxf6 The attack finishes up his little game in the style of a veteran strategist. 18...Nxf6 19.Qb2 Kd7 20.Qxb6 d5 21.Bf5 Qxf5 22.Qd6+ Ke8 23.exf6+ Kf7 24.Ne5+ There are so many ways of winning, almost anything will do. 24.Re7+ is also conclusive. 1-0

New York Clipper, July 28, 1877

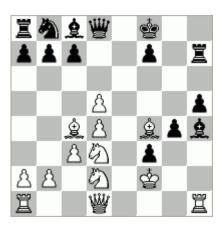
Practice makes perfect, as the saying goes, and soon Mr. Belcher was no longer receiving the Knight from Jaeger. In their second published encounter, they began with even material. A faulty conditional sequence on Belcher's part allowed Jaeger to sacrifice an exchange. Eventually he rounded off a fine game with a spectacular finish and announced mate in eight moves. In fact, Jaeger was impressed enough with his own play to annotate the game for the *Clipper* column. Students of the history of chess theory may find it curious that an unknown correspondence chess player in 1877 would show a fondness for the Bishop pair, supposedly a teaching of Steinitz.

Daniel Jaeger - J. W. Belcher [C39]

Correspondence, 1877

Annotations by Daniel Jaeger

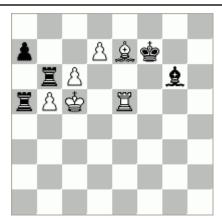
1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 g5 4.h4 g4 5.Ne5 h5 What Mr. Potter calls the "mildewed defense". 6.Bc4 Nh6 7.d4 d6 8.Nd3 f3 9.g3 d5 10.exd5 Nf5 11.Kf2 Be7 12.Bf4 Kf8 13.c3 Rh7 14.Nd2 Nxh4 Very hazardous. 15.gxh4 Bxh4+



16.Rxh4 Mr. Belcher sent the following moves: (if) 16.Bg3 Bxg3+, (and if) 17.Kxg3 h4+, overlooking the sacrifice of the exchange. This variation would, no doubt, give Black the advantage. 16...Qxh4+ 17.Bg3 Qd8 18.Nxf3 Qf6 19.Bh4 I could have taken 19.Bxc7, but being a little afraid of those pawns, tried to stop them in this manner. 19...Qxf3+ 20.Qxf3 gxf3 21.Kxf3 Bf5 22.Re1 Nd7 23.Ne5 Nb6 24.Bb3 Re8 25.Kf4 Bg6 26.c4 Kg8 Necessary, on account of 27.c5 Nc8 28.d6+. 27.c5 Nc8 28.Ba4 c6 Loses a pawn; why not 28...Re7 at once? 29.dxc6 bxc6 30.Bxc6 Re7 31.Bd7 Could have won the exchange, but I have a fancy for two Bishops in the endgame-when I can preserve them. 31...f6



32.Bxc8 Could have played 32.Nxg6, but in addition to my fancy for two Bishops, I like to remove the adverse Knights. **32...fxe5+ 33.Rxe5 Ref7+** I think to check with the other Rook would have been more to the purpose. 33...Rhf7+ 34.Kg5 Rxe5+ 35.dxe5 separates my pawns. **34.Ke3 Kf8 35.b4 Rf1 36.d5 Rh1 37.Bg5 h4 38.d6 h3 39.Bxh3** Compelled, though I did not like it. **39...R1xh3+ 40.Kd4 Rd7 41.Be7+ Kf7 42.a4 Rb7 43.b5 Ra3 44.c6 Rxa4+ 45.Kc5 Rb6 46.d7 Ra5**



1-0 *New York Clipper*, January 5, 1878

In this position, Jaeger announced mate in eight moves. Lengthy announced mates were popular in the nineteenth century, particularly in correspondence chess, where many lampfulls of midnight oil were spent in analysis of endings. Hazeltine, when he published this game, called it "a magnificent endgame, whether we consider the remarkable elegance of the position, or the problem-like subtlety of its execution."

The Vermont chessplayer W. H. Palmer fared little better than Jaeger's Rhode Island antagonist Belcher had, although he was spared the possible affront of an offer of material odds. In his case, the game was over much sooner, as Palmer fell to a sharp, and dubious, variation in the Philidor Countergambit.

W. H. Palmer - Daniel Jaeger [C41]

Correspondence, 1877

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 f5 4.dxe5 fxe4 5.Ng5 d5 6.e6 Nh6 7.Nc3 Bb4 8.Qh5+ Kf8 9.Nf7 Qf6



10.Bd2 Nxf7 11.Qxf7+ Qxf7 12.exf7 Kxf7 13.0-0-0 Bxc3 14.Bxc3 Be6 15.Be2 Rd8 16.f3 e3 17.Bd4 Nc6 18.a3 Nxd4 19.Rxd4 c5 0-1

New York Clipper, October 6, 1877

Mr. Palmer, according to Hazeltine in the *Clipper*, blamed "the loss of the partie solely on his faulty tenth move", and requested what was often called a "back game", a replay of the game from a specified position. In this case Jaeger and Palmer resumed

play at White's tenth move, and extended the contest to the twenty-second move. Hazeltine published the replayed game alongside the first.

W. H. Palmer - Daniel Jaeger [C41]

Correspondence, 1877

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 f5 4.dxe5 fxe4 5.Ng5 d5 6.e6 Nh6 7.Nc3 Bb4 8.Qh5+ Kf8 9.Nf7 Qf6 10.Qxd5 Nxf7 11.exf7 Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Qxc3+ 13.Kd1 Bg4+ 14.Be2 Nc6 15.Rb1 Rd8 16.Qxd8+ Nxd8 17.Bxg4 Kxf7 18.Bb2 Qc4 19.Kc1 Nc6 20.Bh5+ Ke7 21.a3 Qc5 22.Bd1?? Black mates in two moves. 0-1

New York Clipper, October 6, 1877

Speaking of openings, among the invitations showing up in Jaeger's mailbox was one from Alonzo Wheeler Jerome of Paxton, Illinois, with an offer to test by mail a gambit variation of the Italian Game he had analyzed. The so-called Jerome Gambit (1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.Bxf7+), with its showy but unsound Bishop sacrifice by White on the fourth move, has never had a good reputation, despite the effort Jerome put into his brainchild. Jerome's gambit was no more successful against Jaeger. Hazeltine called the first game between the two a "tremendous battle" and complimented its "many interesting passages", but pleaded it was too long to annotate for his column. He also added it was the first game "at this opening ever given in the Clipper."

A. W. Jerome - Daniel Jaeger [C50]

Correspondence, 1878

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.Bxf7+ Kxf7 5.Nxe5+ Nxe5 6.Qh5+ Ke6 7.Qf5+ Kd6 8.f4 Qf6 9.fxe5+ Qxe5 10.Qf3 Ne7 11.c3 Ng6 12.d4 Bxd4 13.cxd4 Qxd4 14.Nc3 c6 15.Bg5 Kc7 16.Rd1 Qe5 17.Nd5+ Kb8 18.Bf4 Nxf4 19.Nxf4 a5 20.Nd3 Qd4 21.Qg3+ d6 22.Nf2 Qc4 23.Rxd6 Ka7 24.Rd3 Qxa2 25.0-0 Qxb2 26.Ra3 b6 27.Qc7+ Ka6 28.Rfa1 Qb5 29.Nd3 Bb7 30.Qg3 Rad8 31.Qe3 Rhe8



32.Rb3 Rxe4 33.Qg3 Qd5 34.Rab1 Qd4+ 35.Kh1 b5 36.Ra3 Rd7 37.h3 Re3 38.Nc5+ Qxc5 39.Rxe3 Qc2 40.Qe1 Rd6 41.Re2 Qg6 42.Ra1 a4 43.Qb4 Qd3 44.Qe1 c5 45.Kh2 g5 46.Raa2 Qg6 47.Re7 Bd5 48.Rd2 Re6 49.Qf2 Rxe7 50.Rxd5 Rc7 51.Qf8 Ka5 52.Qd8 Qb6 53.Rd6 Qb7 54.Rd7 Kb6

55.Rd6+ Ka7 56.Qxg5 a3 57.Qc1 b4 58.Qc4 Rc6 59.Rd2 b3 60.Rd3 a2 61.Qc3 Qc7+ 62.g3 c4 63.Rd5 Ka6 64.h4 Rc5 65.Rd1 Qe5 66.Qc1 b2 67.Qh6+ Kb5 68.Rd7 Qe2+ and Mr. Jerome struck his colors. 0-1

New York Clipper, November 22, 1878

A rematch in the opening was no more successful for Mr. Jerome. By now Hazeltine had recovered from the shock of the opening, and found space for some annotation to the game in his column.

A. W. Jerome- Daniel Jaeger [C50]

Correspondence, 1879

Annotations by Miron Hazeltine

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.Bxf7+ Kxf7 5.Nxe5+ Nxe5 6.Qh5+ g6 7.Qxe5 Qe7 8.Qf4+ Nf6 9.e5 Re8 10.d4 Bxd4 11.Qxd4 Qxe5+ 12.Qxe5 Rxe5+ 13.Be3 Ng4 Clearly a lost move. 14.0-0 d5 15.Nc3 c6 16.Bd4 Re7 17.h3 Nh6 18.g4 b6 19.f4 Bb7 20.b4 Rc8 21.Na4 Re4 22.c3 Ba6 23.Rf2 Bb5 24.Nxb6 What he wished is pretty evident; what he can gain (except a loss) is invisible. 24...axb6 25.Bxb6 Rce8 26.Kg2 Ke6 27.a4 Ba6 28.Bc5 Kd7 29.Rb1 Rb8 30.Kg3 Rc4 31.Rc1 Ng8 32.f5 Nf6 33.Ba7 Mr. Jerome must have wholly overlooked the neat and telling reply. 33...Rbxb4 34.Kg2 Ne4 35.Rf3 Rb2+ 36.Kh1 Rxa4 37.fxg6 Raa2 38.Bg1 His only move. 38...hxg6 39.Re1 Nf2+ 40.Bxf2 Rxf2 41.Rg3 Be2 42.Kg1 Bf3 43.Re3 Be4 44.c4 Rh2



45.Kf1 0-1New York Clipper, November 1, 1879

Jaeger announced a mate in three at this point. He had "sent some conditional moves showing that 45.Rxe4 was the best reply, and that then I force mate in about fifteen moves", as he wrote to Hazeltine.

All of his correspondence play had helped Jaeger become a stronger player, and the public notice his games achieved in the *Clipper* helped him secure a board in the great International Postal Card Tourney of 1877, playing for the American side against Great Britain. His teammates for the match included such noted over the board players as Eugene Delmar and Max Judd, and Mrs. John W. Gilbert, perhaps the strongest female chessplayer in the world at that time. Distinguished company indeed, and company he would probably not have kept had Jaeger not sent his notice for publication in Hazeltine's column.

And still the games came in the post. A week after Hazeltine published his second win over Jerome and his odd gambit, Jaeger appeared in the *Clipper* column with a miniature game scored against another of his correspondents, this time J. A. Kinnier of Virginia.

Daniel Jaeger - J. A. Kinnier [C80]

Correspondence, 1879

Dash short and sharp between our contributor Daniel Jaeger and J.A. Kinnier.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Nxe4 6.Re1 Nf6 7.Bxc6 dxc6 8.Nxe5 Be7 9.d4 0-0 10.c4 Be6 11.Nc3 h6 12.Qd3 Qc8



13.d5 The "sharp" now comes in. 13...cxd5 14.cxd5 Rd8 15.Nxf7! Kxf7 16.Rxe6 Nxd5 17.Qg6+ Kg8 18.Bxh6 and wins. 1-0

New York Clipper, November 8, 1879

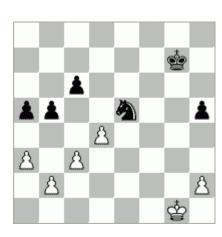
Jaeger may have had some personal motivation to display this "dash" in print. Readers of the *Clipper* had by now discovered that Jaeger wasn't always on the winning side of the chessboard; and in fact Kinnier had scored a spectacular win over the New Yorker, capped with an announced mate in thirty-four moves. The game was published in the Greenville, South Carolina, *News*, with annotations by A. F. Wurm, a strong over-the-board player in the South, and was reprinted by Hazeltine in the *Clipper*.

J. A. Kinnier - Daniel Jaeger [C38]

Correspondence, 1879

Annotations by A. F. Wurm

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 g5 4.Bc4 Bg7 5.0-0 d6 6.c3 h6 7.d4 Ne7 8.Qb3 0-0 A model debut, on which many fine games can be based. 9.g3 Nbc6 We should have adopted the usual 9...g4 10.gxf4 Na5 11.Qa4 Nxc4 12.Qxc4 g4 13.Nh4 d5 14.Qe2 dxe4 15.f5 Nd5 16.Qxg4 All well played, and very instructive. 16...e3 17.Qg3 Kh7 To protect his h pawn. 18.Ng2 e2 19.Rf3 Rg8 20.Qf2 a5 21.Qxe2 Ra6 22.Nd2 Ne7 23.Qf2 Rf6 24.Ne4 Rxf5 25.Bf4 Ng6 26.Bg3 Rxf3 27.Qxf3 The endgame is now pushed with great vigor by Mr. Kinnier. 27...Be6 28.Ne3 c6 29.Nc5 Qc8 30.Qh5 Bf8 31.Ne4 Be7 32.Rf1 Qd8 33.Ng4 Bxg4 34.Rxf7+ Rg7 35.Rxg7+ Kxg7 36.Qxg4 Qd5 37.a3 Bf6 38.Nc5 h5 39.Qd7+ Qxd7 40.Nxd7 b5 41.Be5 Bxe5 42.Nxe5 Nxe5



43.dxe5 White announced mate in 34 moves. **1-0** *New York Clipper*, September 6, 1879

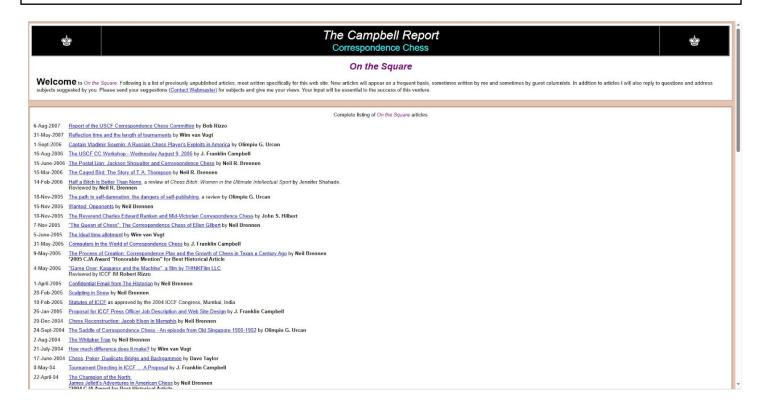
When Hazeltine published this game, he added a note that "Mr.

Jaeger is so confident that the position can be drawn that he offers a copy of *Morphy's Match Games* to the first amateur who will send him an analysis demonstrating a draw from the above position. Address Daniel Jaeger, 129 Forsythe Street, New York City."

We don't know if anyone took up Jaeger's offer, and if there's a draw in that ending, no one has pointed it out. All we know is that Daniel Jaeger played a great deal of correspondence chess, at odds and with even material, in both sound and unsound openings, during the infancy of organized correspondence chess. Jaeger reaped plentiful returns from his investment of a letter to Miron Hazeltine back in 1876, returns paid in the wealth of pleasure that only correspondence chess can bring. And, perhaps more importantly, he learned a great lesson as well.

It pays to advertise.

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Continued on page 46

From Joshua Anderson: Note (and this story may be apocryphal, I am repeating it from memory): About a century after Daniel Jaeger, a young man advertised his interest in playing games by putting his name and number on a slip of paper in all the chess books in his local library. He got enough responses to start a local club and he sent a letter to a magazine, maybe *Chess Life*, where they passed along the story. It didn't work out so well, for another person who tried it, as the second person only got three people to call him back, two asking about the cheese club.

Celebrating the Centenary Anniversary of FIDE

by Awani Kumar, Lucknow, India

Chess originated (or evolved?) in India around the 5th century AD and spread to rest of the world through Persia. The game in the present form was largely standardized by about the 15th century. Previously the rules varied from area to area and the pieces too moved differently – only the knight move has remained the same. Although the game was played the world over for centuries, there was no international organization that connected various national chess federations and acted as governing body for international chess competition till the 19th century. It was in Paris, France, on July 20, 1924 that the International Chess Federation or World Chess Federation, commonly referred to by its French acronym FIDE (Fédération Internationale des Échecs), was founded by fifteen delegates from all over the world. It was one of the very first International Sports Federations. UNESCO proposed the idea to celebrate July 20 as International Chess Day to honour the founding of FIDE and it has been marked as such since the year 1966. The day got a further stamp of approval when the UN General Assembly unanimously adopted the resolution designating July 20 as World Chess Day. In 1999, FIDE was recognised by International Olympic Committee (IOC) as a Global Sporting Organisation.

In 2024, FIDE is celebrating its centenary anniversary by organising numerous activities including chess festivals, art contest, downloadable wallpapers, exhibitions displaying historical archives, documents and chess memorabilia, tournaments, online chess museum, etc. all around the world. In February 2024, the Chess Torch Relay started with a grand opening ceremony in India, the birth country of chess and the host of the 44th Chess Olympiad. The Knight is the only chess piece on the FIDE logo and let us celebrate its 100th anniversary with interesting tours of the knight on 10x10 (= 100) board. Readers are well aware of the millennium old knight tour challenge – view *The Chess Journalist* #157, April 2024. The task is to move a knight on an empty board so that it visits all the cells only once. Figure 1 to Figure 4 are monogram (knight moves delineating letters) tours. The line joining the square numbers 1², 2², 3² ... 10², namely, 1, 4, 9 ... 100 depict the letter 'F', 'I', 'D' and 'E' respectively, the letters in the acronym FIDE.

										1											1
29	22	11	18	27	2	43	8	39	6		13	6	19	2	37	90	67	70	39	92	
12	19	28	3	10	17	38	5	42	45		20	35	14	5	18	71	38	91	66	69	į
23	30	21	26	1-	4	9	44	7	40		7	12	3	36	1	64	89	68	93	40	İ
20	13	24	33	16	37	56	41	46	51		34	21	8	15	4	17	72	65	62	87	İ
31	34	15	92	25	64	49	52	57	54		11	54	33	24	9	56	63	88	41	94	İ
14	93	32	63	36	91	88	55	50	47		22	29	10	55	16	73	82	77	86	61	
97	78	35	90	8:1	62	65	48	53	58		53	32	23	74	25	76	57	42	95	78	
94	75	96	79	100	89	84	87	66	69		28	47	30	49	100	81	98	83	60	85	
77	98	73	82	61	80	71	68	59	86		31	52	45	26	75	50	43	58	79	96	
74	95	76	99	72	83	60	85	70	67	(1)	46	27	48	51	44	99	80	97	84	59	(2)
$(1) \qquad \qquad (2)$																					
13	28	19	6	11	2	99	76	73	70		29	6	19	2	31	48	37	44	33	46	
20	7	12	3	18	5	72	69	98	75		20	11	30	5	18	3	32	47	38	43	
29	14	27	10	1	100	77	74	71	68		7	28	13	10	1-	36	49	42	45	34	
46	21	8	15	4	17	94	67	82	97		12	21	8	15	4	17	84	35	50	39	
33	30	47	26	9	78	81	96	63	66		27	14	97	24	9_	100	41	82	59	86	
22	45	32	35	16	95	64	93	80	83		22	95	26	99	16	83	66	85	40	51	
31	34	23	48	25	52	7 9	62	65	92		75	98	23	96	25	64	8 1	58	87	60	
44	39	42	53	36	49	88	59	84	61		94	71	74	77	80	67	90	65	52	55	
41	54	37	24	89	56	51	86	91	58		73	76	69	92	63	78	57	54	61	88	
l	42	40	55	50	87	90	57	60	85		70	93	72	79	68	91	62	89	56	53	
38	43	40	22	30	07	50	37	UU	00	(3)	, 0		12	15	00	21	UZ	05	50	55	¹ (4)

Figure 5 and Figure 6 are 'figured tours' with square numbers delineating numbers '1' and '0' respectively. These are the numerals in 100. There are zillions of knight's tours on a 10x10 board and their exact number is not known but tours having magic properties are rare, thus more fascinating and challenging. Figure 7 is a semi-magic tour of knight. It has the consecutive numbers from the start cell (1) to the end cell (100) at knight's move and the sum of all the ten columns is 505. Seven out of ten rows are also adding to 505. Thus, it has 17 magic lines (10 columns and 7 rows) out of 20 that

can have magic sums. A magic tour has all the rows and columns adding up to magic constant. Here 85% (17 out of 20) magic lines have been achieved and readers are urged to improve it. It is an 'open tour', which means that the start and end cells of the tour are not connected by a knight's move. In general, it is more challenging to get a 'closed' (or reentrant) tour and readers may like to compose one. FIDE motto is *Gens una sumus*, Latin for 'We are one Family'. Just as chess has Indian origin, FIDE's motto can also be traced to the ancient Indian philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumba-kam' – The Sanskrit phrase meaning 'The world is one family'. The idea remains relevant today as it emphasizes a global perspective, prioritizing the collective well-being over individual or local interests. It encourages to think about the welfare of others, fostering global solidarity and cooperation, and tolerance of differences. It promotes a vision of a more inclusive and harmonious world, where nations collaborate for the collective well-being of humanity. The phrase is from an ancient text and the complete verse is:

अयं बन्धुरयं नेति गणना लघुचेतसाम्। (Ayam Bandhuryam Neti Ganana Laghuchetasam) उदारचरितानां तु वसुधैव क्टुम्बकम्॥ (Udaracharitanam Tu Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam)

Maha Upanishad, Chapter 6, Verse 71 (composed before 5th century AD)

"This one is relative, the other is a stranger, say the narrow-minded (ignorant). For those of noble conduct (enlightened) the whole world is one family."

The 'Family' has now grown to 201 member federations. Tree is a symbol of growth and Figure 8 has the square numbers depicting a tree. We wish the family to keep on growing.

(5)

41	44	21	10	13	2	19	8	29	6
22	11	42	3	20	9	14	5	18	31
43	40	45	12	1	4	17	30	7	28
46	23	38	83	34	25	50	15	32	55
39	84	47	24	37	16	33	54	27	52
86	71	68	35	82	49	26	51	56	79
67	90	85	48	69	36	63	80	53	96
72	87	70	61	64	81	10 0	97	78	57
91	66	89	74	93	62	59	76	95	98
88	73	92	65	60	75	94	99	58	77

11	46	7	2	13	44	19	40	27	42
6	53	12	45	8	23	14	43	18	39
47	10	3	24	1	20	17	26	41	28
52	5	54	9	50	25	22	15	38	89
69	48	51	4	21	16	37	88	29	78
60	55	70	49	92	8:L	96	79	90	87
71	68	59	64	97	36	91	82	77	30
58	61	56	93	100	95	80	33	86	83
67	72	63	98	65	74	35	84	31	76
62	57	66	73	94	99	32	75	34	85

89	18	83	12	5	100	7	96	1	94	505
82	15	90	19	86	11	4	93	8	97	505
17	88	13	84	91	6	99	10	95	2	505
14	81	16	87	20	85	92	3	98	9	505
65	34	37	80	63	22	61	78	41	24	505
36	53	64	21	38	79	40	23	60	77	491
33	66	35	54	71	62	73	44	25	42	505
52	49	68	47	30	39	28	57	76	59	505
67	32	51	70	55	72	45	74	43	26	535
50	69	48	31	46	29	56	27	58	75	489
505	505	505	505	505	505	505	505	505	505	

11	20	5	54	1	22	29	40	33	38
6	53	12	21	28	5 5	2	37	30	41
13	10	19	4	57	36	23	32	39	34
52	7	14	/27	24	3	\ 56	35	42	31
15	18	9	50	79	58	25	62	67	60
8	51	/ 78	17	26	63	68	\ 59	96	43
77	16	91	84	49	80	95	64	61	66
90	87	76	73	94	83	48	69	44	97
75	92	85	88	81	72	99	46	65	70
86	89	74	93	100	47	82	71	98	45

(8)

(6)

(7)

Swiss Post has issued a commemorative chess stamp and first day cover to mark the 100th anniversary.







Congratulations FIDE for successfully completing 100 glorious years. We shall celebrate its bicentenary. Amen.

The Bock—Judd match in Chicago went from March/April 1871. The match, a draw +2-2+1 between the Detroit Mr. Max Judd and Mr. F. Bock was covered by not only newspapers and magazines locally, there were several in New York. Among these were *Chess Journal*, hardly a surprise, New York's *Sprit of the Times* (a New York newspaper that routinely covered chess events. The third magazine, can't help but make this author wonder as it was the April 21, 1871 issue of *Turf, Field, and Farm*. Perhaps they played lawn chess? — Submitted by Joshua Anderson

Continued from page 43



Oddities and Peculiarities (and Obscurities)

By Ross W. Nickel

What follows are three chess stories which I had mailed to family members and a few others. I expect that you will find them unlike any others you may have read. I will begin with a brief introductory explanation.

Individuals who experience reality shifts know they have happened, yet puzzle over how this can be. Those who have not had any know that this cannot be so, as then their beliefs would be incomplete or totally wrong. The "Mandela Effect" applies when a large number of people have experienced the same reality shift. Google that term to see examples which you may or may not relate to. "Residue" is the term describing evidence from the previous reality.

1 Marshall's Dream

Toward the end of my writing columns for the newsletter of the Pennsylvania State Chess Federation I decided to feature some unusual material. One choice was a column on ghosts and chess. I had two incidents in mind to write about. One was a game which Viktor Korchnoi played through a medium against a deceased master from the past, Jacques Mieses. That was written up rather widely. The other was a tournament game from the early 1900s U.S. Champion Frank Marshall played in Europe. After the first session, the game was adjourned, to be completed the following morning. Before going to bed, Marshall set up the position in his hotel room and considered it. He felt he stood better but did not know how to proceed to demonstrate an advantage. In his sleep, he dreamed that he was visited by Wilhelm Steinitz, the deceased, former world champion, who then described the winning procedure for that position. The next morning Marshall verified the analysis and then went down to the tournament room to win the game.

I had read of the incident in Marshall's *My Fifty Years of Chess*. However, when I searched through the book this time, I could not find that account. I possess very few chess books and this one was special, because it was given to me by my father when I was about ten or eleven years old. If I was familiar with any chess book it would be this one. Yet, although I was certain I had read it there, that story no longer appears in this book. Unable to find it, I abandoned that envisioned column.

The reason it is significant now is because someone (Andy

Soltis) wrote in the current *Chess Life* that he found Marshall's original manuscript buried in a drawer at the Marshall Chess Club in New York City and that account was included although it does not appear in the published book. Jan 11, 2014

2 The Dale Brandreth Story—2nd version

I first met Dale Brandreth in 1950 at the U.S. Junior Open Chess Championship. He had just completed high school and was going to study chemical engineering at college. I last saw him in the late 1960s at a local chess tournament which he visited. He told me that he was working at Dupont, was married, had children and no longer had time for tournament chess but planned to work on various chess projects from home at his leisure. He was then working on a biography of Jose Capablanca, the Cuban World Chess Champion of the 1920s. I had played over Capa's games and read his two books, so discussed those with Dale.

I had left industry and was employed at Temple University. That year I had been assigned to Temple's pharmacy school to assist Edward Fackenthal teaching physics in his last year before retirement. It turns out that Dr. Fackenthal had been a member of Columbia University Chess Club where Capablanca also hung out and he knew him. I arranged a meeting between Dr. Fackenthal and Dale Brandreth. Can you imagine working on a biography of someone while stumbling upon a person who had actually interacted with them?

The Unknown Capablanca was published in 1973 and I browsed through it at the book table of a later tournament. I saw Fackenthal's name listed in the book's acknowledgements and also noted my name there which I felt was generous of Dale as I regarded my contribution as minimal. The book was praised by the critics and sold out over the years. Dale did not write a 2nd edition, but I learned that Dale had made an arrangement with Dover Publications to have a paperback made of the original version.

Fast forward to 2016, I ran across the Dover version completely posted on-line for free. I noted that my acknowledgement was there, but Dr. Fackenthal's was not! Another book reality shift? Ho hum. I have seen several changes over the years. Perhaps, Dr. Fackenthal could not really contribute much to the narrative and Dale debated in his

mind whether he should be listed. Then the universe split. Anyway, I googled Dale's name and came up with a brief obituary from 2003. I wrote up the story and mailed it to my three children.

This year, while visiting the website of the U.S. Chess Federation, I found a more extensive obit for Dale (https://new.uschess.org/news/dale-brandreth-1931-2019). He had left Dupont, gone into teaching and became a chess writer, a collector, a historian, a publisher and a bookdealer. And he had died in September, 2019!! A double reality shift!!! I sent this obituary to my three children reminding them of my 2016 mailing.

I was informed that they never received such a mailing. I went to my sent email section, looked up 2016, and found that they were right. There was no record of such a mailing. How could there be? It contained Dale's 2003 obituary which never occurred in this reality. But there was residue. Apparently, I thought the story would be of interest to several other people and sent it more widely than I had remembered. Three of these individuals had responded to which I had returned a response. My three responses were in my sent file including the original "Dale Brandreth Story" which I had not written in this reality!

This was first published on http://www.realityshifters.com/
pages/archives/dec20.html, reprinted with permission from the author.

3 Bear with me, I'll get to the point.

In one of the 1970s Philadelphia championships, I was playing an obsolete opening against Leroy Dubeck when he had a key decision to be made. After his move, I was able to maintain the initiative leading to a won game. Jerry Kolker, a young expert, said to me afterwards that he was following the game and would have made every move that I made. I took that to mean that by being careful the game played itself.

In a later tournament, I arrived at the same position against a young, low-rated, class A player from the suburbs when he sacrificed some material, changing the dynamics. So, if I simply trade pieces off to get to the end game, I should have a routine win, but "between the opening and the endgame the gods have placed the middle game" and that's where he hoped to win the game. And with proper technique, he might have, but I was able to win due to his inexperience. He showed imagination in finding a move that Dubeck, Kolker and I had all missed. His name was Karl Dehmelt and became a strong master with many successes. I became inactive and don't remember ever seeing him again. Recently, I showed that critical position to a computer and it immediately found Dehmelt's move. That's why computers can beat humans at tourney time controls.

My last tournament was the 2002 Hatboro Open. The site was the Municipal building on Old York Road where it splits off from Route 611. I had no trouble parking there on the weekend. I didn't recognize anyone I played and scored two wins & three draws which was about what my current rating would predict. The event was held in 2003 and 2004 but I chose not to play. I did consider it, but the venue was moved to the other end of town. It's rough to get up early Saturday, rush there, play three games, drive home in the dark, and get up early again for two games on Sunday.

I recently ran across my last chess scoresheet tablet. To my surprise I found the last entries were my games of all these tournaments! My results were 2003: three wins, two loses and 2004: three wins, one loss, one draw. I only recognized one of my opponents—Karl Dehmelt. I lost to him once each year playing black. My memory is not faulty; I clearly remember choosing not to compete in these two events. I would have remembered playing Dehmelt; I remembered playing him when he was a nobody. I'm sure that I would have talked to him. I suppose I did talk to him; I wonder what our conversation was about.

I am not ashamed of my defense in either game; I missed an equalizing shot in the first and was edged out in a long endgame in the other. I had dropped out of the master rating earlier, so my expert standing would not have changed much. I remember my rating was 2186 (Expert: 2000-2199). I went to the U.S. Chess Federation website and looked up my current rating. It is 2182, these last two tournaments did not change it much.

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"What I thought was unreal now, for me, seems in some ways to be more real than what I think to be real, which seems now to be unreal" ~ Fred Alan Wolf