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Sojourner Truth For Girls

Photo by Richard Shorman

Featuring Reports

on

San Joaquin Championship

The Far North

Sudden Death

OMOV

FIDE

JIM HURT MEMORIAL ISSUE

California Chess Journal



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THE EDITOR'S REPORT

Kind. Kind was always the word that seemed to pop up when people discussed Jim Hurt. Jim Hurt was known to all of us as the spirit behind the LERA tournaments but most of all Jim was known to us as a kind man. Randy Mont-Reynaud has captured Jim's spirit in her fine article in this issue. We will all miss Jim and we dedicate this issue to his memory.

The just completed US Open in Saint Paul was one of the best attended in recent years and almost certainly turned a small profit for the USCF. This was about the only good news to come out of Saint Paul. In a palace coup, former USCF President Bob Smith barely survived a vote of no confidence only to resign thereafter. While Bob Smith remains on the USCF Executive Board, he has been replaced as President by USCF "Old Guard" Tim Redman. Dr Redman faces a daunting task. USCF has reportedly lost a record \$400,000 in the 99/00 fiscal year and current USCF debt is said to exceed \$1,000,000. Reports on USCF debt can be hard for an outsider to judge as different insiders seem to come up with widely varying debt estimates to serve their political agenda. If true, it will be a major problem for USCF to service a debt of this magnitude.

As adult membership continues to erode, USCF has chosen look for revenue by raising the cost of scholastic memberships. Scholastic memberships have risen to \$13. With the first year \$5 discount also history, the price of a first year scholastic membership is effectively doubled. *Schoolmates* has been reduced to 4 issues per year which in my opinion is a long overdue move. USCF is offering discounted on-line magazine memberships which do ease the bite somewhat. However as a scholastic organizer, I find myself no longer able to justify USCF memberships required for K-6 scholastic tournaments. Just as USCF priced itself out of the adult market with the last dues increase to \$40, these scholastic dues increases are risky business in an era of low priced competition for young chessplayers from the ICC and CEA.

One Man One Vote (OMOV) for USCF elections failed again in Saint Paul

Continued on page 23

Sojourner Truth Chess Festival 2000

by Doug Shaker

Photos by Alan Kirshner

Silicon Valley can add some strange and wonderful twists to a chess tournament. In 1999, I held the first Sojourner Truth Chess Tournament for Girls. I sold some ads in a program/scoresheet, trying to raise money to have more and better prizes. One of the people I sold an ad to was an old boss of mine, Jean Kovacs.

She is now the CEO of an Internet software company. She is also the daughter of Zoltan Kovacs, a chess player who was born in Hungary and immigrated to the US. For years, Zoltan Kovacs sponsored a girls' chess tournament in Budapest. The Polgar sisters used to play in it when they were little. After Zoltan's death, Jean Kovacs took over the tournament, made it a memorial to her father and she continues to sponsor it today.

When she bought the ad, we talked a little about the coincidence of both of us sponsoring girls' chess tournaments. The huge surprise

came when she decided to offer, in her Hungarian tournament, a first prize that was a trip to the US to play in my tournament.

She followed through and in early January 2000, Veronika Schneider, the 12-year-old winner, and her coach, WGM Zsuzsa Veroci arrived in the US. Veronika, with a rating of 1983, was to play in the seventh grade section of the Sojourner Truth. WGM Veroci (2361) was to play in the Region XI Women's Open being held simultaneously.

This year's tournaments were played January 8th and 9th, 2000. Over 160 other girls played in the Sojourner Truth, including girls from Texas, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and, of course, California. The tournament was organized as a grade-level tournament, enabling me to hand out a large number of first place trophies. The younger girls, K-6, played a five-round Swiss, G/30, with all rounds on Saturday,

the 8th. The older girls, grades 7-12, played a five round Swiss, G/60, with three rounds on Saturday and two on Sunday, the 9th.

The women's tournament was held the same two days as the girls' tournament. There were thirteen participants in the Women's Open, more than double last year's contest. The top-rated players were WGM Veroci, Chouchanik Airapetian (2125), Diane Durham (1900), last year's champion Collette McGruder (1824), and Carolyn Withgitt (1824). The women played a four round Swiss, G/90, with two rounds each day.

Saturday was an amazing and energetic day, with 160 girls, their parents and coaches, playing in a large room at the Menlo Park Recreation Center. Space for the tournament was donated by the City of Menlo Park. At the end of the day, the following girls had won their divisions:

Kindergarten:	First - Olivia Chock (2)
First Grade:	First - Erin McCullough (5); Second - Ankita Roy (4); Third - Anisha Babbar (3)
Second Grade:	First - Mahnoosh Moghadam (4.5); Second - Teresa Findley (4); Third - Emilia Krubnik (3.5)
Third Grade:	First/second - Teresa Findley and Sophia Gilman (4.5) ; Third - Janna Van Der Wilk (3.5)
Fourth Grade:	First - Sharon Tseung (5); Second/Third/Fourth - Carrie Ho, Eric Brett, and Elizabeth Findley (4)
Fifth Grade:	First - Kate Southcote-Want (4.5), Second - Cassandra Lawson (4); Third - Stephanie Ballom (3.5)
Sixth Grade:	First - Nazee Moghadam (5), Second - Jamie Brett (4.5); Third - Zoe Samer, Grace Lin and Dominique Drakeford (4).



Weibel 1st Grade
Teammates: (L to R)
Amisha Babbar,
Ankita Roy,
Sarah Wong



Fourth Grade
Winners
(Sharon Tseung
with big 1st
place trophy)



The Thrill of Victory!

Saturday evening, WGM Veroci and last year's women's champion Colette McGruder staged a simultaneous exhibition. WGM Veroci played approximately 25 opponents and Ms. McGruder played approximately 15. Unfortunately, I did not have permission to keep the Menlo Park facility open beyond 9:30pm, so most of the games could not be concluded. Next year, I will have fewer boards and, one

hopes, more time.

Sunday, the women, the junior high and high school girls finished their competition. One of the coaches, the indefatigable Nelson Hanton from Seattle-Tacoma, also organized a blitz tournament for the younger girls who had finished their competition Saturday.

The winners of the girls' competition were:

Seventh Grade:	First - Veronika Schneider (5); Second/third - Nicole Milton and Riana Nalumisa (3)
Eighth Grade:	First - Roxanne Samer (4); Second - Jessica Maxwell (3.5); Jessica Tonellato (3)
Ninth/Tenth Grade:	First/second: Marie-Jose Mont-Reynaud and Mallory Alpers (4); Third - Melissa Andrada, Vue Yang and Jayodita Sanghvi (3).
Eleventh/Twelfth Grade:	First: Jennifer Allyn (4); Second - Deyanira Lopez (3); Joy Andrada (2)
Blitz:	First - Kate Southcote-Want (16); Second - Amanda Atkins (15); Third - Brehna Bowman (14)

The following game was selected by Veronika Schneider, the twelve-year-old from Hungary, as her most challenging game of the tournament. Annotation by Fritz 5.32.

**Schneider, V (1983)
Samer, R (904) [C03]
Sojourner Truth Chess
for Girls 2000
Round 3**

Seventh/Eighth Grade Section

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nc6
4.Ng3 g6 5.Bb5 last book move

5...Bd7 6.0-0 Bg7 7.c3 Consolidates
b4 7...Nge7 8.Re1 0-0 9.Bd3 Re8
10.Nb3 e5 11.Bg5 White gets strong
initiative 11...f6 12.Be3 Bg4 13.h3
Be6 14.Nc5 Qc8 15.Qb3 b6?+- [1
15...Bf7±] 16.Nxe6?? letting the
wind out of her own sails [1 16.Ba6
dxe4 A] 17.Bxc8 is the weaker al-
ternative 17...Bxb3 18.Nxb3 Raxc8µ
(18...exf3?! 19.Bd7=); B) 17.Qxe6+?!
is no comparison 17...Qxe6 18.Nxe6
exf3+-; C) 17.Nxe6+- [16...Qxe6
17.exd5 Nxd5 18.Be4 Nxe3?+-
[18...Rad8±] 19.fxe3 [19.Rxe3!?

Qxb3 20.axb3 Na5+-] 19...Rad8?
[19...Qxb3 20.axb3 Ne7 21.Bxa8
Rxa8 22.dxe5 fxe5+-] 20.Bxc6 Qxb3
21.axb3 Re6 22.Bb5 a5 [22...Re7
cannot change what is in store for ?
23.Rxa7 e4 24.Nd2+-] 23.Bc4 Rde8
24.e4 Kf8 25.Bxe6 Rxe6 26.d5
[26.d5 Rd6 27.b4 axb4 28.cxb4+-]
1-0

The women's competition was fiercely fought, but a newcomer to the tournament, Chouchanik Airapetian from North Hollywood, won the title. Here are the results:

First:	Chouchanik Airapetian (2125, 4-0)
Second:	Diane Durham (1912) and Julia Kozhukh(1443), (3-1)
Fourth to Seventh:	Zsuzsa Veroci (2361), Carolyn Withgitt (1840), Colette McGruder (1812) and Ewlina Krubnik (1282) (2.5-1.5).

Here are two games from the Women's Championship. Annotations are by Fritz 5.32.

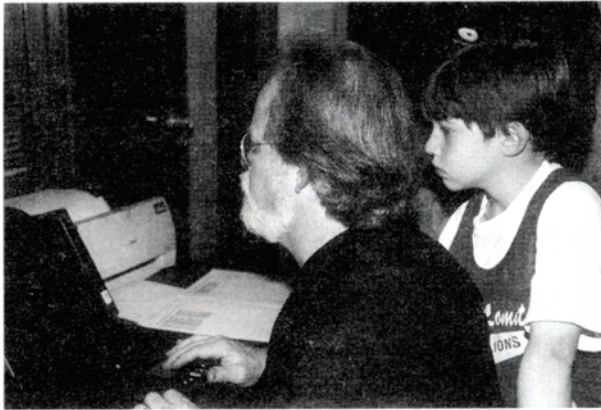
**Veroci, Z (2361)
Airapetian, C (2125) [C46]
2000 Region XI
Women's Open, Round 3.**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Bb4
4.Nd5 last book move 4...Bc5 5.c3
Secures b4 5...d6² [5...Nf6 6.d3]
6.d4 Bb6 7.Bb5 exd4 8.Nxb6 axb6
9.cxd4 Bd7 10.0-0 Nge7 11.Bg5 0-0
12.h3 Consolidates g4 12...f6 Cov-
ers e5 13.Bh4 d5 14.exd5 Nxd5 The
knight feels good on d5. 15.Bc4 Be6

16.Re1 Re8 17.Rc1
[17.Qb3 Ra5²] 17.
..Qd7 18. Bg3 Nce7 19.
Rxe6 Qxe6 20. Qb3µ
[20.Bxc7!? b5 21.Bb3]
20...c6 21.Qxb6 Nxb6
22. Bxe6+ Kh8 23.Bf7
Rf8 24. Be6 Nbd5
[24...Ned5 25. Bd6
Rfe8 26. Bf7µ] 25. a3
Controls b4 25...Rfd8
26.Re1 Ng6 27.Bf7
Ngf4 28.Bxf4 Nxf4
29.Re7 b5 30.Re4 Nd3
31.Re2 Ra7 32.Be8
Rc7 33.b4+ [33.Re6



WGM Veroci vs Riley Hughes with Tom Martell looking on



Organizer TD Doug Shaker and his son Isaac

Nf4 34.Re4μ (34.Rxc6? doesn't lead to anything significant 34...Rb7-+)] 33...Rcc8 34.Bf7 Ra8 35.Rc2 Rd7 36.Be6 Rd6 37.Bf5 Nf4³ [37...Rxa3!? 38.Re2 g6 39.Bxd3 Rxd3-+] 38.Be4 Ng6 [38...Rc8!?³] 39.Kf1μ [39.Bxc6!? is noteworthy 39...Rc8 40.Be4 Rxc2 41.Bxc2³] 39...Kg8 [39...Ne7 40.Re2 Rxa3 41.Bxc6 Ra1+ 42.Ne1 Rxc6 43.Rxe7 Kg8-+] 40.Rc3μ [40.Bxc6 Rxa3 41.Bxb5 Ra1+ 42.Ke2 Nf4+ 43.Ke3 Nxc2+ 44.Ke4³] 40...Ra6 41.h4 Re6³ [41...Ne7 42.g4μ] 42.Bd3-+ [42.Bf5!? must definitely be considered 42...Re7 43.d5 cxd5 44.Nd4³]

42...f5??² allows the opponent back into the game [42...f5 43.d5 cxd5 44.Bxb5 Ra8±; 42...Ne7-+] And White resigned under time pressure. 0-1

McGruder, C (1812)
Veroci, Z (2361) [D86]
2000 Region XI

Women's Open, Round 4

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 Nc6 8.Nf3 last book move 8...0-0 9.0-0 b6 10.Bf4 Na5 Black gets in control 11.Be2 Bb7 12.Nd2 [12.Qc2 c5 13.dxc5 f5²] 12...c5

13.dxc5 Rc8 14.f3μ [14.Be3!? and White can hope to live] 14...Bxc3 [14...bxc5?! 15.Qc2] 15.Rc1 Rxc5 16.Nb3 Nxb3 17.axb3 Bd4+ 18.Kh1 Rxc1 19.Qxc1 Qc8³ [19...e5!? 20.Bh6 Re8³] 20.Bc4μ [20.Qa3 e5 21.Bh6 Re8] 20...Qc5 21.Bh6 Rc8 22.Qf4 e6 23.Qg5 Qxg5 24.Bxg5 Kg7μ [24...b5 25.Rd1 (25.Bxb5? Rc5-+) 25...bxc4 26.Rxd4-+] 25.Rd1 e5 26.f4 Rc7μ [26...Bxe4!? 27.fxe5 Bxe5 28.Re1-+] 27.fxe5 Bxe5 28.Bd8 Rc5³ [28...Rc8 29.Rd7 Bxe4 30.h4μ] 29.Rd7 Bxe4 [29...Ra5!? should be investigated more closely 30.Kg1 Bxe4 31.Rxf7+ Kh6³] 30.Rxf7+ Kh6 31.h4 The mate threat is Bg5 31...g5 32.Bxg5+ Kg6 33.Rxa7 Rc7 34.Rxc7 Bxc7 35.Kg1 Bd6 36.Kf2 Bc5+ 37.Kg3 Kf5 1/2-1/2

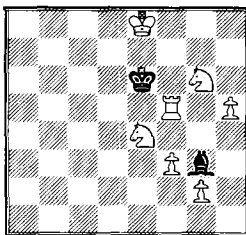
I had massive amounts of help from the usual crowd of generous and dedicated tournament directors: Frisco del Rosario, Riley Hughes, Alan Kirshner, Tom Martell, Rene Plata, Hans Poschmann and Sujay Roy. My thanks to all.

PROBLEM

CORNER

Problem

by Kevin Begley



White to move and win!

Solution in the summer issue.

Solution to the 2000 Winter problem:

1.Bg2!

Not 1.Qxh2? stalemate =

Not 1.Kb1? and 1.Kb3? as both are answered by ...Qc2+! with equality.

Not 1.Kc3? which fails because after Qxf4 2.Bxb6+ Kb8 3.Bc7+? can be answered by Qxc7 with check.

Not 1.Ka3?, 1.Ka1?, and 1.Bf2? are all answered by Qxf4 2.Bxb6 Kb8 3.Bc7+ Qxc7 4.Na6+ Kc8 5.Nxc7 Kxc7 when White is powerless to prevent Kd6, Ke5, and Kxf6, leaving a drawn "bishop of the wrong color" ending)

...Qxf4 (...Qxg2 can be answered by 2.Qf2 +-) **2.Bxb6+ Kb8** (...Kxb6? Nd5+ +-) **3.Bc7+ Qxc7** (...Kxc7? Nd5+ +-) **4.Na6+ Kc8** **5.Bh3!** (not 5.Nxc7? which only draws) **Qd7!** (if Kd8 6.Nxc7 Kxc7, and White manages to avert the "bishop of the wrong color" ending with 7.Kc3 followed by Kd4 +-) **6.Bxd7+ Kxd7** **7.Kc3** (or 7.Kc2, or even 7.Kc1, but not 7.Nc5+? Kd6 8.Ne4+ [8.Nd3 Ke6 9.Nf4+ Kxf6 10.Nxh5+ Kf5! =] **Ke5** **9.Ng3 Kxf6** **10.Kc3** [10.Nxh5 Kf5=] **Ke5!** **11.Kd3** [11.Nxh5 Kf5=] **Kf4** **12.Nxh5.**

PROBLEM CORNER



MEMORIAM FOR JIM HURT

By
Randy Mont-Reynaud

Ted and Jim Memoires of LERA with Ted Yudacufski and Jim Hurt (r). Photo by Duncan Oxley

We met Jim Hurt when Jordy started to play at LERA. Jim was maybe 75 at the time, Jordy was 6, and I was of a certain age. And the things I didn't know: I was about to embark on a career as a chess Mom. Jordy was missing a pencil, then an opponent, then a queen...Jim came to our rescue, many a time finding the "missing piece," or, in the case of a forfeit, finding an opponent for an extra rated game...And, by the way, would I be interested in being in charge of trophies for the scholastic players? Would I?! Immediately, I saw my chance to redecorate the living room. After Jim Hurt, trophies became this chess Mom's best friend. Thanks to Jim's idea, and funding, many a young chess player has trophies from winning "D,E," "Unrated," and then "C", "B" "A" and finally the "Open." Usually, but not always, by the time scholastic players are playing in the Open, they are more interested in cash and not trophies, but chess Moms such as myself are always happy to have something (else) to treasure and display.

Jim discovered I had a flair for buying and awarding trophies (No, Jordy did NOT always take first in his section!). And, by the way, would I be interested to take over donuts, coffee and finally the concession? Would I?! Immediately, I saw a way to make those hours spent at chess tournaments into something more productive. Finally, an end to useless fretting and nail-

biting and pacing: there were people to feed!

So, on the first day of every tournament, the kids and I would arrive extra early to help get the coffee going, and to help get the men going setting up tables and chairs. Jim and I would fill the coffee urns with water, and, between the two of us, manage to carry everything out to the serving table. He came prepared to help me out, often bringing supplies of sugar and cream, fresh milk and coffee stirrers. Then, while registration was, er, shall we say "in progress," Jim and I would make a hurried dash to check the post office box for late entries, and then to the Enteman's Bakery off Mathilda Avenue in Sunnyvale. Jim provided me with a "stake," back in those early post-divorce and no child support days, and pitched for the purchase of several boxes of donuts. It tickled him to be able to help me out, and, to get his Senior Discount card stamped for the effort. Jim seemed to favor the powdered donuts and we'd sample them (just to make sure they were fresh, of course!) during the drive back to the old LERA site. I'd never mind the crumbs, the powdered sugar everywhere; he and I deserved our "snack." The next day, the morning rounds always started a tad later and Jim and I could be more leisurely about picking up and sampling the donuts. We'd get the coffee going as usual and it would be groaning to a finish by the time we

returned. Then, the little red light would come on, Jim would pronounce the coffee "Ready!" and we could have a generous sample of powdered donuts with our fresh brew. "You sure make this coffee strong," was how Jim acknowledged my predilection, acquired in France, for the particularly dark espresso roast I had added to to Folger's.

By the time of Jim's last LERA tournament, he and I were experimenting with fresh fruit, bottled water and nutrient bars in addition to Enteman's donuts, which had become a LERA classic...

Somewhere, during all those years, Jordy finally got to play Jim Hurt and I remember hovering (as usual) over the game. That game was the culmination of many years of watching Jordy's progress. Jordy stepped up to the plate; Jim was 78; I hovered (what else?) from not too afar. I was worried my old friend would lose. I worried that my old friend would win; it was a good game, if you were a worrier! Finally, Jim was gracious, but Jordy lost a pawn. I was actually relieved, though Jordy lost; it just didn't seem quite fair for youth and folly to triumph over age and wisdom just then!

They never played again. As far as I know, Jim saved the (signed) score sheet; I went further than that, I sent the game in to the Chronicle, where it was annotated and published by the late George Koltanowski. Jordy became a Mas-

ter, then a teenager; Marijo battled it out in "D. E. Unrated" and took her reward in the form of a powdered sugar donut if she had a good game; then, she took to managing the snack bar (and the powdered donuts!) so I could fret full-time over in the Open...Time passed, but nobody was watching the clock. In our quarter, World Championships and National Cadet Championship games were played and won or lost. Jim's wife died; he moved to Colorado with his son's family, and there, he told me, he taught chess to grandchildren and also in some schools. But, he'd always be there for me at LERA, season after season.

At the last LERA, I could see Jim was failing. He couldn't help carry the coffee urn and he seemed not to have the appetite even for a powdered sugar donut. At last, his loping gait was becoming a shuffle; now, I had to help him into the car, and now I had to double check each time that he'd fastened his seat belt. He'd reminisce, on our way to Enteman's, about losing his wife, about how lucky he was to

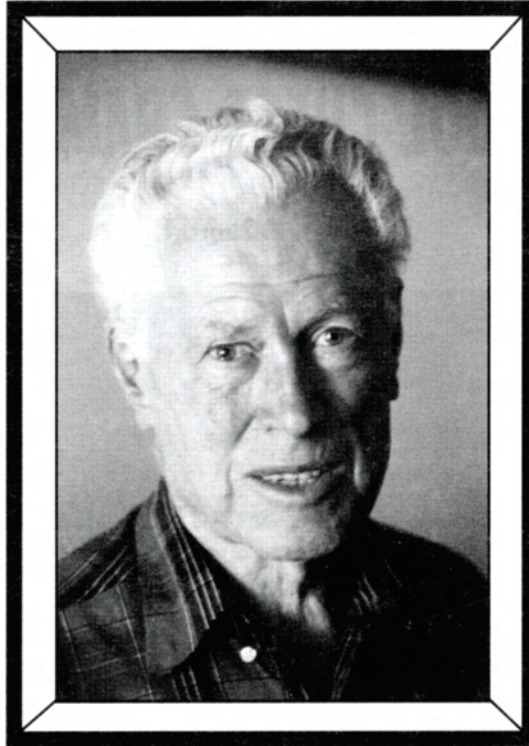


Photo by Richard Shorman

be able to stay in Colorado with his family, and about still being able to take the train, then later on, a plane, to continue to run LERA for Bay area chess players. Jim still cheered for Jordy's every victory, great and small; and he still encouraged my daughter,

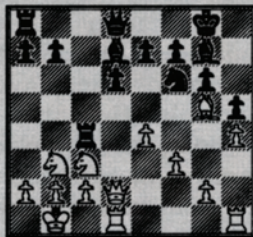
Marijo, and scores of other young chess players, to study and play the game of Kings and Queens.

The old LERA site was demolished; a new site was built; tournaments continued for a while and another generation of chess players grew up. Then, Jim Hurt left us, but he has left us memories and his mark. I, for one, remember him calling out that, "Pairings are up for the Open section," and then he'd head across the parking lot at the old site, with the pairing board...I remember his announcements interrupting everyone's play and concentration, for the Brilliancy prizes, "Everybody, please stop your clocks..." I remember his flexibility, and openness to new ideas, adding the pay phone number to LERA tournament fliers, changing the time controls to suit a majority of players... and then changing the time controls back again. I remember the happy winners, of LERA prizes, lining up and shaking Jim's hand... I remember shaking powdered sugar off his shirt.



Mont-Reynaud, Jordy - Hurt, Jim
91 Silicon Valley Championship [B79]
Annotated by George Koltanowski

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7
 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Bc4 Bd7
 10.0-0-0 Qa5 11.Kb1 Rfc8
 12.Bb3 Ne5 13.h4 h5 14.Bg5
 Nc4 15.Bxc4 Rxc4 16.Nb3 Qd8



17.e5! Ne8

If 17....dxe5 18.Bxf6 wins a piece

18.exd6?!

Jordy feels that 18.Rha1 would put more pressure on black

18.Nxd6 19.Bxe7?

With 19.Qxd6 exd6 20.Bxd8 Rxd8
 21.Rxd6 white has more freedom of action

19....Qxe7 20.Qxd6 Qxd6
 21.Rxd6 Be6 22.Ne4 Rac8 23.c3
 Bf5 24.Nbd2 R4c7 25.Re1 Be5
 26.Rd5 Bg3 27.Rh1 Bf4 28.Kc1
 Kf8 29.Re1 Be6 30.Ra5 Rd8
 31.Rd1 Rcd7 32.g3 Be3 33.Ra3
 Bc4 34.Kc2 Be2 35.Ra1 Rxd2+
 36.Nxd2 Rxd2+ 37.Kb3 Bf2
 38.Rc1 Bxg3 39.Ra4 Bd1+ 0-1

HUMBOLDT COUNTY 2000 SCHOOL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

by
James Bauman



The 3rd annual Humboldt County School Chess Championship was held in Eureka at the Boys & Girls Club Teen Center on Saturday, May 20th. This was our largest turnout ever for any tournament in Humboldt County. This made organizers James Bauman and Jerry Jackson quite happy. We had a total of 40 students: 25 in the Elementary division, 8 Junior High's and 7 at the High School level. Last year we had just over 20 so we had an almost 100% increased in attendance. We hope to keep improving on that as more schools become involved. To say it's been easy would not be true as the school system just doesn't see the light on just how much their students can benefit from chess. Those that have become involved in chess all speak of how much chess has done for their students but yet the system itself does so little to promote chess. For instance, every school received flyers about the tournament and many of them were visited personally by myself. When talking to students not one had been told about the tournament by their school. Any suggestions on how to get schools involved would be appreciated.

Acknowledgement should be given to those schools and individuals who made this possible. First, to Burt Neimann and the students of Redway Elementary in Southern Humboldt. Burt has had a chess program where he teaches now for a number of years. Last year Redway dominated the elementary

division but this year faced tough competition from a group of Home Schoolers from Eureka. Redway led throughout the tournament only to see the home schoolers come within a half point at the end of the last round. Congratulations to Redway for their 2nd straight Elementary Team Championship.

Second, to the home schoolers from Eureka, to Linda Altic their organizer and to Arthur Burns their coach. They meet twice a month for two hours a session at the Eureka Library. They have 15-20 students in the program. They formed their chess program by publicizing it in a newsletter put out by the Humboldt Home Schoolers. This was the first tournament that their students have participated in and they did very well. Not only did they finish in second place, only a half point behind Redway in the elementary section; they tied for first in the Junior High division.

Third, and possibly the success story (along with the home schoolers) of the tournament the Bridgeville team organized by Virginia Mullan. John Blakely started the chess program at Bridgeville and organized it for the first two years. Virginia has run it for the last two years and is responsible for getting the team together and arranging transportation to the tournament site. Bridgeville is a very small school way out in the boonies somewhere and like Redway have 1 and 1/2 hour of driving time to get to Eureka. So, it is no small task orga-

nizing a trip to Eureka. Some of these young people must have to get up quite early as many of them probably live quite a distance from the school where I assume they meet before leaving for the tournament. Why can't the schools in Arcata, Eureka and Fortuna get their teams together? I don't know. Bridgeville, also playing in their first tournament finished fourth in the Elementary section and tied for first with the Home Schoolers at the Junior High level.

At the High School level, Arcata High School easily took first place, for the third straight year. All their players are members or former members of the Arcata Chess Club. Terry Wolf, very underrated at around 1400, easily won his four matches with Alex Hockenson of Arcata taking second. Jason Mondazon of Sunny Brae Jr. High in Arcata, swept through his opposition and was crowned the Junior High Champion. Jason taught by his father is one of our top junior players of 2000, and we are looking forward to what we hope will be some strong competition in the Junior Championship which will be held at the same location in November.

Lonnie Smith of Bridgeville took second winning the playoff with Home schooler Hathaniel Wilson who took home the third place prize. The current Junior Champion, Forest Carter from Jacoby Creek School in Arcata, lived up to his title defeating Cody Vella of Redway, who finished 2nd in 1999, in a tough last

round to remain undefeated in tournament play and to win his second title, the 2000 Elementary School Champion. Forest finished with 5 points out of a possible of 5. As the luck of the Swiss would have it Cody with a chance to win the tournament if he could have defeated Forest but he dropped all the way to 5th with a score of 3 1/2. Kyle H. Fleck from Worthington Elementary of Eureka drew with Cody in the second round and went on to win the remainder of his games finishing with 4 1/2 points and claimed second place. He did not face Forest and was also

Eureka's top individual scorer. Jordan Matteoli, home schooler, defeated Seth McFarland of Pacific Union in Arcata and, McKye Zastrow from Bloomfield Elem. in Arcata defeated Joe Saban of Redway in the last round to tie for third place. Kyle, Jordan and McKye were all playing in their first tournament as far as I know. It should also be noted that it was Jake Pisauro victory in the last round which gave Redway the point they needed to defend their title. Jake finish in a 6 way tied for sixth place along with Michael Kubik of Redway, last years 3rd

place finisher, Seth McFarland, Sam Zublin-Meyer of Mistwood Elem., Josh Altic and Peter Wilson both home schoolers. Thanks again to all who participated and to Jerry Jackson who helped organize and obtained the site. Thanks to the Boys and Girls Club for donating the site and to TD Robert Green for donating his time to help direct the tournament. We had three rooms with a separate tournament going on in each room and without Robert's help and expertise I do not know what I would have done.

Humboldt County School Chess Championships Results

INDIVIDUALS

Section	Place	Name	School
High School	1st	Terry Wolf	Arcata HS
	2nd	Alex Hockenson	Arcata HS
	3rd	Trevor Keiber	Arcata HS
		Joe Serverdia	Arcata HS
		Jacob Lewis	Eureka HS
		Sam Beach	Eureka HS
Junior High	1st	Jason Mondazom	Sunny Brae
	2nd	Lonnie Smith	Bridgeville
		Nathaniel Wisan	Home schooler
	4th	William Bertain	Home schooler
		Mark Gladding	Bridgeville
Elementary	1st	Forest Carter	Jacoby Creek
	2nd	Kyle Fleck	Worthington
	3rd	Jordan Matteoli	Home Schooler
		McKye Zastrow	Bloomfield
	5th	Cody Vella	Redway

TEAMS

Section	Place	School	City
High School	1st	Arcata	Arcata
	2nd	Eureka	Eureka
	3rd	Home schoolers	
Junior High	1st	Home schoolers	
		Bridgeville	Bridgeville
	3rd	Sunny Brae	Arcata
Elementary	1st	Redway	Redway
	2nd	Home schoolers	
	3rd	Bloomfield	Arcata
	4th	Bridgeville	Bridgeville
	5th	JacobyCreek	Arcata
		Home schoolers-team B	



ARCATA OPEN

by
James Bauman

Thomas Boyd (r) vs Sylver Good

Nineteen juniors and 16 adults competed in our first ever Arcata open, which was held at the new Community Center in Arcata over the weekend of June 3 & 4. The Open attracted players from Oregon, Sonoma County and Sacramento as well as bringing a few players out of the closet who reside here in Humboldt County. These combined with our regular local players made a really nice tournament. We will be doing it again next year. A last minute donation by Richard Hastain of Eureka also allowed us to be able to double our cash prizes and to pay out \$150 for 1st, \$80 for 2nd and \$40 for third; along with class prizes of \$20 each. Not bad for a \$10 entry fee. Our blitz tournament on Friday night was sort of a flop. The main tournament however was a success. Richard Green, who now resides in



TD Richard Green

Ferndale, came out of retirement to direct his first USCF tournament in four years. He did a splendid job. The city of Arcata also did not charge us anything for the use of the Community Center which enabled us to keep our entry fee low. The facilities were excellent as we had the use of a total of four room. We were able to use the main room for the playing area, a skittles room (or hutch for

us rabbits), a playing room for the juniors and a room to just hang out in if needed.

For weeks I heard that there was someone new in town who opens his games with both rook pawns and then proceeds to crush his opponents in our local coffee house. I thought we had a master passing through but I never imagined that we actually had an IM living amongst us rabbits. When Jay Whitehead showed up at our local chess club, the Tuesday before the tournament I did not know who he was. He almost left, as sometimes we are not the most outgoing group of people. After talking for awhile he introduced himself and then I realized who the mystery coffee house player was. I also realize that we had something special here that Arcata may never get again. I begged him, without being too obvious, to play in the tournament. He implied that there was a good chance he would. Richard Hastain's donation; which couldn't have come at a better time, surely didn't hurt enticing Whitehead to play. Anyway Whitehead did show up and I thank him for that.

Needless to say, Jay won the tournament quite easily with his only challenge coming in round 4 from Herman Chiu(2149) of Oregon. Chiu came out of the opening in fine shape but then Whitehead proceeded to take the advantage and to slowly add to it until it was all over for Chiu. At least from my viewpoint that is what happened but then what do I know? Chiu took 2nd but not until he withstood a strong challenge in the last round from Robert Fornes of McKinleyville. Fornes may have had an advantage but he gave up a

Knight and a Bishop for a Rook and a Pawn and was then outplayed by



Herman Chiu vs IM Jay Whitehead

Chiu in the endgame. Fornes entered the tournament as not having played in 11 years and with an assumed rating of 1400. His actual rating turned out to be 1605. His games appeared to be much stronger and he was unfortunate to lose to Chiu in the last round. Similar to Fornes, Thomas Boyd (1709), of Sonoma County, had the misfortune (as far as final placing) to draw Whitehead in the last round and finished out of the money. Third place went to Ewald Hopfenzitz (1504) of Brookings, Oregon who defeated our former junior champion Arlen Vanek (1323) in the final round. Arlen is now mainly a Blitz player and had trouble adjusting to the slower time control.

James Bley (960), also of Brookings, was rewarded with a last round victory over Ed Morton (1053) of Eureka. Morton had a splendid first day beating Hopfenzitz in the first round, drawing with Boyd in the 2nd round and taking Chiu to the limit in round three before losing in the endgame. Jerry Jackson (1151) and Lynda Wolf (1123) shared the under 1200 prize of \$20 but Jerry probably feels he got swindled out of \$10 as Wolf and long

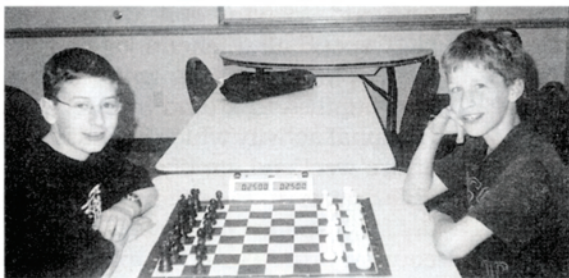


Smiling Lynda Wolf vs Jay Bley

time Arcata Chess Club member Sylver Good (1683) played what appeared to be a very long GM draw. Anyway they are all loyal local club members and Jerry's probably forgotten about that \$10. Maybe not. Many of our local players did not attend either due to being out of town or whatever but all in all it was a really nice tournament and hope that more of you will attend next year. There was a \$5 discount for Cal Chess players. Boyd and Jackson were two of those who took advantage of the discount.

A sad note, local chess player and club member Amy La Rue (1162); who was planning on playing in her 1st weekend Swiss, passed away the week before. She would have really enjoyed the tournament. Amy loved the "Game". She will be truly missed.

In the Junior Tournament held on Saturday, Arcadian's Forest Carter, the current Humboldt County Jr. Champion, and Terry Wolf, entered the last round both



Forest Carter (r) and Terry Wolf appear relaxed before the start of their playoff game

with perfect scores of 4. Forest reached there by easily defeating Ben O'Hanen in round 4, while Terry defeated Ahry Haedrich in what may have been the best game of the tour-

nement. Terry had a Bishop for two pawns but Ahry had a passed rook pawn which he gave up for a protected passed center pawn. Terry's tournament experience then seemed to pay off as he first prevented the pawns from advancing and then proceeded to win the backward pawn and the game. This set up a rematch of last years Jr. Championship between Forest and Terry. This time Terry reached an opposite color Bishop endgame and a pawn up that ended in a draw. This resulted in Forest and Terry tying for first. In the playoff to see who took home the trophy, again Terry's experience playing in club tournaments and his never give up attitude seemed to pay off. Forest obtained a strong winning position but Terry stuck in there and when Forest made a couple of quick moves Terry took advantage of them and



Ahry Haedrich (r) vs Terry Wolf

went on to win the game from what appeared to be a totally lost position. Forest is only 11 and has finished either first or tied for first in all three tournaments he has played in. His respect as a chess player continues to grow and we look forward to his future games. Lets hope he can continue his strong play.

Bridgeville again brought a strong group of players with Mark Gladding leading the way by tying Joe Servedia of Arcata for third. Lonnie Smith of Bridgeville came in fifth. A list of all the other prizes follows:

- U/14yrs 1st McKye Zastrow, 2nd Kim Comarsh, 3rd Matt VanHelden. U/12yrs 1st Ben O'Hanen, 2nd Seth McFarland, 3rd Zachary Dockins. U/10yrs 1st Paul Mullan, 2nd Conner Anderson and 3rd Daniel

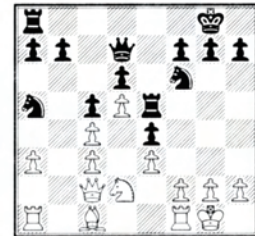
Fletcher. Thanks again to all who participated especially those who came from afar.

Round 2

W: Robert Fornes (1607)

B: IM Jay Whitehead (2467)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3 Bc3 5.bc 0-0 6.Nf3 c5 7.e3 Nc6 8. Bd3 d6 9.0-0 e5 10.Nd2 Re8 11.d5 e4 12.Bc2 Na5 13.Ba4 Bd7 14.Bd7 Qd7 15. Qc2 Re5



16.f4 ef 17.Rf3 Rae8 18.Nf1 Nc4 19.Qd3 Qa4 20.Rh3 Rd5 21.Qb1 Rd1 22.Qf5 Nd2 23.Bd2 Ra1 24.e4 Qe4 25.Qe4 Ne4 26.Re3 Rf1 27.Kf1 Nd2 0-1

Round 3

W: IM Jay Whitehead (2467)

B: Sylver Good (1678)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 c6 6.Bg5 Qc7 7.f4 Nbd7 8.e5 Ng8 9.Nf3 f6 10.ef Ngf6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Kh1 e5 13.fe de 14.d5 Ne8 15.Be7 Rf6 16.c5 Rf4 17.a3 Nf8 18.d6



18.Qd7 19.Ng5 Qf5 20.Bc4 Be6 21.Ne6 Rf1 22.Qf1 1-0

An Internet Exchange on Sudden Death Tournaments

Editors Note: An interesting and often heated exchange flared on the Calchess mailing list in February. It started as a discussion of the controversial clock rules at the Peoples tournament where digital clocks were not allowed to be set to time delay mode. The discussion quickly broadened to include many other aspect of tournament organization. I have selected some of the most intriguing comments to be reprinted below.

I'm an old-timer in this area, having playing in LERA tournaments since the 1960s. I'm a life member of both the USCF and Mechanics' Institute. Nowadays, I only have time for one or two tourneys a year. I agree with Jeff Andersen about the burden on one's family, work life and other commitments entailed by the traditional eat-your-weekend format. Yet I am not as swift as I used to be, in many respects, and game-in-30 or game-in-60 is a different kind of fun than a traditional tournament with slow time controls.

Personally, I am ambivalent. Being a few years from retirement yet, and still caught up in the Silicon Valley e-commerce rat race, I feel the pressure Jeff talks about even more acutely than I did 15 years ago. Yet I'd hate to think that after I retire, and my household is thereby better able to spare me for an occasional weekend, there will be no more traditional tournaments to play in, only sudden-death. There is an artistic side to the game, whose quality deteriorates with time pressure even when the players have better nerves and skills than mine.

Let me share one reminiscence from my grad student days, when I was working a summer job in Ottawa, Canada and played in the New York State Championship. In the pen-ultimate round, I (an expert)

was paired up against a master, Ivan Theodorovich. He needed a full point, of course, and chose to try grinding me down from a level endgame. Between moves 50 and 60 he declined a couple of draw offers from me. But since he was probably as old then as I am now, I had better sitzfleisch. By move 85, I was riled up and declining his draw offers. He finally resigned on move 111, after more than ten hours in the saddle, and I found myself with a clear half-point lead going into the final round.

Of course, everyone else had been waiting for hours for pairings. I got twenty minutes for lunch and then had to sit down to play another master. Needless to say, he disposed of me handily.

So on the one hand, the traditional time control gave me the chance to beat a master at his own game, an experience I'll never forget. On the other hand, it grossly inconvenienced all the other players and the directors, and forced me to play a crucial game when exhausted. Conclusion: I'm still ambivalent.

When I return to more regular participation in tournament chess, I plan to equip myself with a Fischer clock and experiment with using it. Regards,
Ted Syrett

CalChess should survey its members about preferences for time controls, sites, entry fees, prizes, etc. A survey could be done via internet, FAX, or snail mail — include a questionier in the California Chess Journal to get feedback from the players who do not attend the large tournaments where CalChess meetings are held. Presumably there is

demand for a variety of tournaments, but a serious concern is a lack of tournaments for the traditional enthusiast who wants a classic affordable tournament with old fashioned analog clocks and progressive time controls without sudden death.

Walter Wood

I Let me adopt a different, more conciliatory tone. Let's start by taking a look at the burgeoning attendance at scholastic events. What is going to happen when all these kids grow up? Well, the normal things, of course. Most of them will segue from childhood into adults with families and careers, and, of course, their available time for recreational chess will diminish drastically.

We must address the problem of declining adult memberships, and declining tourney participation, as a simple function of the lack of desirability of long time-control chess as a recreation option for adults. Golfers with families and work committments do NOT spend all weekend playing golf. Joggers do NOT spend all weekend jogging.

For many adults with careers and families to attend to, ANY recreational activity which sucks up an entire weekend simply is NOT a viable option. It is selfish beyond belief for a spouse to say to his or her counterpart, "I'm off to play chess for two days at the 34th Annual Pocket Change Open in Antioch. YOU take care of the kids, and everything else around the house that has to be done this weekend, while I am off playing chess." You can't take an attitude like that and stay married for long.

We need to START focusing on making tournament chess a legiti-

mate weekend recreation for adults, and that means developing short 1-day tournaments that take about the same time to complete as a round of golf: 4 - 6 hours. I have put my money where my mouth is on this one, and I regularly promote such G/45 tournaments in St. Helena. These are great events: fun to play in, and SHORT — we are always done by 4:00 PM. I offer a flexible prize fund, AND a FIDE Las Vegas -style playoff system to make sure there are no ties for prizes. Everyone who has attended has enjoyed the format.

I repeat: long time controls are ONLY appropriate at Goichberg-style BIG BUCKS tournaments. If you are paying a large entry fee to go for the big bucks, then, sure, I can understand why players would desire long time controls in that situation.

In this time-is-money society, spending a lot of money on chess is unproductive. I once heard someone ask Brenda Goichberg how much a run-of-the-mill chess professional in the class of GM Shabalov makes per year: Brenda said, "\$25,000 tops." So, there is no point in saying we should focus on turning out world-class pros, because only the fortunate few every see any real money. For most of us who play chess, it is a recreational activity that we INVEST money in, we never even get close to the plus column, monetarily speaking. So let's keep our local tourneys short, unless the prize funds are big enough to justify long time controls.

One final point on the time delay clock: Time delay clocks negate the Insufficient Losing Chances rule, and let the players decide the outcome themselves.

Jeff Andersen

I'm not a California resident any longer, and I'm not playing in the People's Open, but I'm a former California resident/player and one of my friends here from Hawaii intends to play in the People's, so perhaps I can have his proxy and express my opinion.

I agree with you insofar as I pre-

fer time delay play. On ICC, where the option is even easier, I won't even play unless it is with an increment.

At the same time, I'm an organizer/director myself. I've enjoyed the past couple of years where I don't have to address insufficient losing chance claims due to the prevalence of time delay clocks. At the same time, I've been very unhappy over clock owners' and opponents' unfamiliarity with what is now to be standard tournament equipment.

As a matter of course, I would have to instruct people on the operation of each of the time delay clocks in use in the tourney - sometimes multiple times throughout the tournament. Despite that, there was always someone in each tournament who would screw up or didn't understand operation of the clocks. Sometimes games were lost as a result.

In sum, as a player, I prefer time delay clocks. As a director, I prefer (by a slight margin) no time delay. As a result, I take no particular offense to Mike Goodall's decision. Larry Reifurth

I am trying to get to the heart of why live tournaments are dying and the USCF is moribund. I believe the reasons have to do with time controls and the death of real chess. Many other chess players feel the same way. I know dozens of players who no longer compete because of sudden death time control. Directors have been changing the rules, inserting themselves as a third party into a two player game. Tournament attendance as a function of USCF membership drops. Directors then fool themselves with bogus explanations for this (the internet, scholastic players, etc.) rather than consider that they may have been wrong in the changes they made.

Robert [sluggo11@home.com]

As to the claim that traditional 40/2, 20/1 forever controls worked quite well for many decades:

Yes for the players most of whom were soundly asleep by 11 pm on Saturday night and who awoke at 8 am on Sunday for the first round. Not so for the directors who were usually up to 3 or 4 am on Sunday watching one last game finish under conventional time controls. The TD would then get to sleep at about 4 am or so only to rise at 7 am to pair by hand the first Sunday round.

I consider sudden death a mixed blessing but the best way to handle a lot of players in a short week-end time frame. I don't use it out of a desire to treat players like "cattle"; I use it to keep my health and to give most players the best possible playing experience.

Allan Fifield

Actually, I feel perfectly fine leaving decisions like this up to the TD. It is such an enormous pain to organize or run a tournament, I think it is fine to let the TD follow his or her own notions of the perfect tournament.

As for the low entry fee tournament with no sudden death: As always, the problem is finding a place. The places I know about are either thousands of dollars a day or hundreds of dollars an hour. Neither lends itself well to a low fee tournament with long time controls. It would work in donated space, but it is next to impossible to find donated space.

-Doug Shaker

You are right, even the "People's" does not have donated space, and they probably pay a fortune for a janitor to clean the bathrooms. What about chess in the great California outdoors? (bring your own table, chair, set, event cancelled by rain) Walter Wood

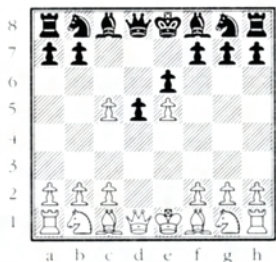


Open Champion Erwin McNaughton

**Beavers, Larry (1285)
Tataryan, David (874)
Reserve Rd 1**

David Tataryan proves the old saying "No-one ever won by resigning" to score a 411 point upset. Dead lost for many moves, David finds the best moves he can until a gift appears.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.dxc5?



David Tataryan

This pawn capture is highly questionable as it removes needed support from the advanced e pawn while inviting the black bishop to the desirable c5 square.

4...Bxc5 5.Nf3 h6?

A wasted tempo; 6. Bg5 was no real threat.

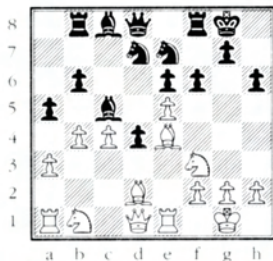
6.Be2 Ne7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bd2 Nd7?! 9.a3 a5 10.c4 d4?

The pawn plunges too deeply into enemy territory.

11.Bd3 f6 12.Re1 b6 13.Be4 Rb8 14.b4!

Games from the San Joaquin Championship May 20-21 in Fresno

Selected and Lightly Annotated by Allan Fifield



A nice shot winning the bishop!
14...axb4 15.axb4 Bxb4
16.Bxb4 fxe5 17.Qd3 Nc5 18.Bh7+ Kh8
19.Bxc5 bxc5 20.Nxe5 Qd6 21.Nd2 Bb7
22.Ndf3 Rf6 23.Nh4 Rbf8 24.Neg6+ Nxg6
25.Nxg6+ Rxg6 26.Bxg6 e5
27.Be4 Qf6 28.Bxb7 Qxf2+
29.Kh1 Rb8 30.Ra8??

Practically the only way to lose: Pinning the black rook on b8 looks impressive...

30. Qxe1+except for the mate in two so 0-1

**Grimaldo, Tony (1193)
Estrada, John (1404)
Reserve Rd 2**



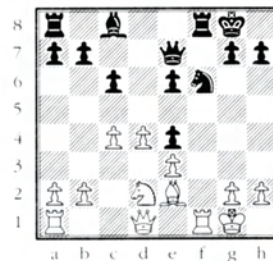
Tony Grimaldo

A nice clean win and a 211 point upset to boot by young Tony Grimaldo.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 e6 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 Ne4 7.Bxe7 Qxe7? [7...Nxc3 8.Bxd8 Nxd1 9.Kxd1 Kxd8=] 8.Nxe4 dxe4 9.Nd2

The square e4 and it's occupants remains a continuous target for white the rest of the game.

9... f5 10.Be2 Nd7 11.0-0 Nf6 12.f3 0-0 13.fxe4 fxe4

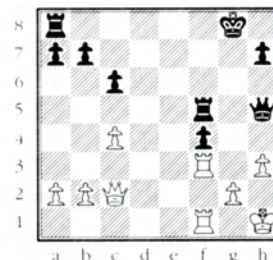


Different pawn but the same weakness on e4 for black

14.Qc2 e5 15.Nxe4 exd4 16.Nxf6+ gxf6? 17.exd4 Qe3+ 18.Kh1 Qxd4 19.Rad1 Qe5 20.Bd3 f5 21.Rf3 f4 22.h3?

This moves seems unneeded as I don't see anything wrong with either an immediate Bxg7+ or Rdf1 for white.

22....Qh5 23.Rdf1 Bf5 24.Bxf5 Rxf5



25.g4!! fxc3 26.Rxc3+ Kh8 (26....Rg5 27.Rxc3 Qxc3 28 Rg1 wins the queen) 27.Rxf5 1-0

**Pascal, Christopher (1886)
McNaughton, Erwin (2139)
Open Rd 2**

The eventual winner of the Open Section expert Erwin McNaughton shuts the door on Chris Pascal with his pretty 23rd move.

1.e4 e6 2.Qe2 e5!

The right response to 2.Qe2 as now white is forced to play a double e pawn opening with his queen misplaced. Either the queen moves again to allow the king bishop to develop normally or the bishop heads

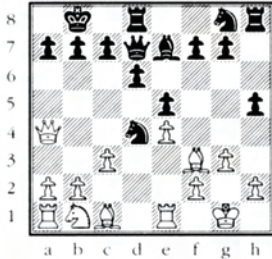
to g2 where it is rather toothless
 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.c3 d6 5.g3 Bg4
 6.Bg2

A sad case of gum disease as the bishop has no bite on this square.

Be7 7.0-0 Qd7 8.Qb5?

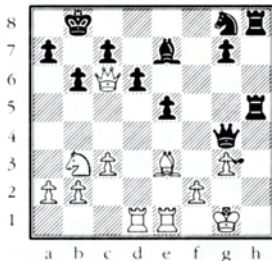
This turns out rather badly as black intended to queenside castle in any case.

8...0-0-0 9.Re1 h5 10.Qa4 Kb8
 11.d4 Bxf3! 12.Bxf3 Nxd4!



The white bishop on f3 is both undefended and resting on a square that forks the king and the rook. Life has become bad for white.

13.Qd1 Nxf3+ 14.Qxf3 h4
 15.Be3 Rf8 16.Nd2 f5 17.exf5 Rxf5
 18.Qg2 hxg3 19.hxg3 Rfh5 20.Rad1
 Qg4 21.Nb3 b6 22.Qc6



23...e4!

Closes the backdoor! Everything mates!

23.Qe8+ Kb7 0-1

Yost, Keith (1758)
Pascal, Chris (1856)
Open Rd 3

Two youthful rivals clash in the third round. The bell has barely rung with Keith lowers his guard and Chris responds with a slashing right hook.

1.e4 e6 2.Qe2 c5

Certainly but in my opinion better is 2...e5 forcing white to play a double e pawn game with the queen misplaced on e2.

3.d3 Ne7 4.f4 d5 5.e5 b5?

Too ambitious but unpunished in this game.

6.Nf3 d4 7.Nbd2 Qa5

This pin proves amazingly tough



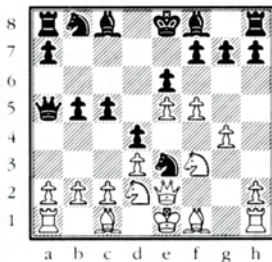
Chris Pascal

to answer.

8.g4? Nd5 9.f5?

Whites 8th and 9h moves are a suicidal opening of an inferior position. 8.g3 Nd5 9.Bg2 Ne3 10.Kf2 offers a practical chance of getting untangled enough to survive.

9...Ne3!



10.Kf2 Nxc4+ 11.Kg3 exf5
 12.Bg2 Qd8!

The pin is gone so black redeploys the queen to roam viciously all over the weakened kingside squares.

13.Ne1 f4+ 14.Kxf4 Qh4 15.Kf3
 Bb7+ 0-1 For if 16.Ne4 Nxe5 mate

Edwards, Lewis (1825)
Hoffman, Gary (1871)
Open Rd 4

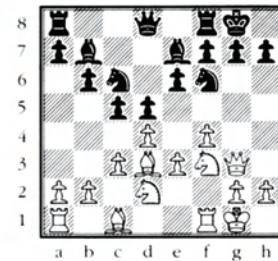
1.d4 d5 2.e3 c5 3.c3 e6 4.f4
 Nc6?!

A classic Stonewall attack by white. Theory recommends that the black queen's knight go to d7 (rather than c6 as in this game) to assist in the defense of the kingside. While impressive looking to beginners, Whites set-up is a little 'wooden' so that a decisive kingside attack can be surprisingly hard to generate.

5.Nf3 Nf6 6.Bd3 Be7 7.Nbd2 0-0
 8.0-0 b6 9.Qe1?!

Qe2 is a bit more flexible with the queen having influence on both sides of the board.

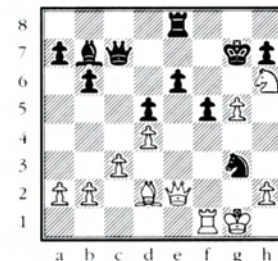
9...Bb7 10.Qg3



10...cxd4?

Black should maintain the center tension by NOT exchanging pawns. 10...Rc8 is good enough. With the center more or less locked, white can now begin probing the kingside. While I would prefer blacks position with the Queen Knight on d7 rather than c6 there is no reason for whites kingside play to be so decisive as in this game.

11.exd4 Nh5 12.Qh3 g6 13.Ne5
 f5 14.Ndf3 Qc7 15.Bd2 Bf6 16.g4
 fxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.Ng5 Bxg5
 19.fxg5 Rxf1+ 20.Rxf1 Nf5 21.Qe2
 Re8 22.Ng4 Kg7 23.Bxf5 gxf5
 24.Nh6 Ng3!??



A nice try in a grim looking position

25.hxg3 Ba6 26.Qf2! [26.Qxa6
 Qxg3+ draws] Bxf1 27.Kxf1 Qc4+
 28.Kg2 Qxa2?

Suicidal; 28...Qc7 is required to play on.

29.Qf4 Qc4 30.Qe5+ 1-0

As 30...Kg6 [30...Kf8 31.Qf6
 mate] 31.Qf6+ Kh5 32.Qf7 is a pretty
 mate



Stephen Ho undefeated to take 1st place Reserve Section



Alladin and the 64 Squares

By Keith Halonen

Chess has been called an art. The shapes of modern pieces were inspired by columns and horses' heads from the Parthenon Frieze in the Elgin Marbles, and patented in 1849 by artist Nathaniel Cook. One of the "immortal" games was so admired by viewers that when it ended they showered the board and players with money. Chess is even embroiled in copyright dispute. Players claim it to be a "mutually antagonistic work of art," the publication rights of which should belong to them. Publishers claim that since it is created in full view of the watching world it is actually public domain at inception. Tournament Directors argue that since they collect and evaluate the scoresheets (containing every move of the game) and its results, they ought to own the rights.

Chess has been called a sport. It is a 1500-year-old war game, and its contestants certainly engage in mental sport. Former World Champion Anatoly Karpov routinely lost between 20 and 30 pounds during each of his month-long+ title defending matches. Thinking burns up calories.

Chess has been called a science. The Arabs began studying it as such in the 9th century, cataloguing the myriad possible opening variation trees and giving them names. Computer programmers have used chess as the "benchmark" test for replicating or at least imitating human thought and intuitive intelligence.

And Wednesday evening, 10

May 2000, at Sonoma State University, 50 miles north of San Francisco in Rohnert Park, California, a minor form of chess went up against some stiff competition for a special academic acknowledgement.

There was an Accelerated Reader program, a Claygate-Transition program supporting self-knowledge for 6th graders, a French American Exchange program, a unique 4-6 Phys Ed program, a psychologist's incredibly creative Social and Emotional Literacy Program with a clever "I caught you reading" feature, and a \$7-million Wildlife Management Museum where students do everything, including pour the concrete and saw the wood for the traffic signage, never mind caretaking the animals.

The Dolphin Kings Chess Club of Santa Rosa's R.L. Stevens Elementary School, represented by Ms. Kathy Huffstutter, school librarian and club coordinator, and myself, a community chess instructor, received top honors as we were declared winner of the thirteenth annual Jack London Awards for Educational Excellence. This honor supports the claim of many who call chess an educational tool.

As the only two people in the room who are not credentialed teachers we were doubly astonished to have the first Jack London Award of the new millenium! Though I am paid for my services by the Wright District Parent Teachers Club, Kathy is strictly a volunteer, and the only unpaid semi-finalist. She man-

ages 60 students who show up every Thursday to play chess during their lunch hour. They fill the school library, occupying all the tables and all the floor space as well. Many arrive before school starts each day to get in a few games in the library before class.

Exerpt from Professor of Mathematics Rick Luttmann's juror comments read before presenting our award:

"I must confess it: when I first heard that a Chess Club was proposed for the Jack London award. I was highly skeptical. I just didn't see how an activity devoted to what is, after all, a game could possibly have the academic merit that is normally present in programs that I have observed in the past for the Jack London award.

"I have been 'educated' on this point! I have now completely changed my mind. I find that this Chess Club at R L Stevens School is a highly successful and highly effective vehicle for accomplishing several important educational goals. The fact that what underlies it is a game is part of the point: Children (especially at the ages to which this program appeals, 4th - 6th graders) need a certain razzle-dazzle to be motivated to learn. A dry and dull presentation, no matter what its other virtues, will leave children unmoved and uninvolved.

"But more — this is not merely ANY game: this is CHESS. It is undoubtedly the most intellectual game that has ever been invented in all of human history. Unlike many games, there is no element of chance involved, unlike many other games there is no element of physical skill involved. Success in this game depends on only one thing: how well you think."

Never missing an opportunity to wax proud, my acceptance comments:

"In my kids chess class the challenge is to make 15 minutes of boring rules and dry tactics memorable, so I pad them out with 30 minutes of completely crazy chess stories. 'French and Italian players

Continued on page 26

US CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP to be HELD in SEATTLE in OCTOBER

by
Sam Sloan

NEWBURGH, May 21 - The Executive Board of the United States Chess Federation has approved a deal to have the US Championship held in Seattle in October. The event will be organized and held by a private group of businessmen brought together by Grandmaster Yasser Seirawan and a Mr. Oke.

Last October, the Executive Board canceled the 2000 US Championship for financial reasons. This led the Seattle based Seirawan group and several other groups to try to put the championship together on a private basis.

Two Executive Board members, Doris Barry and Helen Warren, expressed opposition to the event being held at all. In a telephone conference call earlier this month, the board voted 5-2 to pay travel expenses to allow George DeFeis, Executive Director, to go to Seattle to negotiate with the Seirawan Group. Barry and Warren voted not to authorize DeFeis to travel and to negotiate. Garrett Scott was not in on

the conference call.

DeFeis went to Seattle and came back with an agreement. The main points are as follows:

1. The Seattle Group will incorporate by June 15. The name will be the "Seattle Chess Foundation".

2. The Seattle Group will produce proof by August 15 that it has \$100,000.

3. The Seattle Group will have an option to hold the championship every year for the next ten years. However, if the Seattle Group fails to hold the event in any year, then the agreement for all future years will be canceled at the option of the USCF.

4. Within 60 days after the US Championship has been held, the Seattle Group will notify the USCF whether it intends to hold the championship the next year.

5. For the rights to hold the US Championship, the Seattle Group will pay the USCF \$5,000 per year for the first five years and \$10,000 per year for the last five years.

6. The Executive Director will be on the US Championship Organizing Committee.

7. Standards will be maintained so that the Seattle Group cannot hold an "cheap" event in one year and still retain the rights to future years.

8. All games from the US Championship will be broadcast on the Seattle Group's website. The USCF website will link to that website but will not broadcast the games itself.

Doris Barry, who obviously remains opposed to this agreement, objected that the games from the US Championship should be on the USCF website. However, it was pointed out that the Seattle Group hopes to make money from advertising on its website. Therefore, if the USCF were to insist that the games be on the USCF website, there would be no deal. Doris Barry nevertheless continued to insist that the games be on the USCF website. Doris Barry also said that Al Lawrence had been working on a backup plan.

The Millennium Chess Club

Will feature USCF rated, as well as non-rated events, casual play, as well as speed tournaments.

- **Beginners and experienced players are welcome.**
- **Clocks and chess sets will be provided.**
- **Membership is free to Millennium Athletic club members.**
- **Nonmembers are welcome and will be charged a surcharge for each event for use of the facilities.**

**For a fall calendar schedule contact Duane Catania at
707-745-8900 or email Hcatrn@Aol.com**

**Thursday Eveninings at Milennuim Sports Club 124 Lincoln Road
(exit Magazine Street from Hwy 80) 6:15- 9:45**

ONE MEMBER one vote by Bill Goichberg

THE **DEMOCRATIC WAY!**

USCF has always claimed to be a democratic organization; our mission statement states, "It is structured to ensure effective democratic procedures." But in practice, the members have little say in how the federation is run, as only the Voting Members (about to become Delegates and Alternate Delegates) elected or appointed by the state affiliates have the right to vote for the Policy Board (about to become the Executive Board). In 1998, the method of selecting these Delegates and Alternates was changed; beginning in 2000, all adult USCF members will have the right to vote for their state's Delegates and alternates. This is a democratization of the selection of delegates who vote at the annual meeting, but it still leaves the election of our Executive Board as a basically undemocratic process, for several reasons:

1. When voting for state delegates and alternates, in most cases, a member will have little or no idea how these delegates and alternates will vote for the Executive Board. At the time of the state delegate/alternate elections, the candidates for the following year's Executive Board election are not even known.

2. The vote for the Executive Board is a secret ballot, so that even if members contact their delegates/alternates to express their opinion as to how their representatives should vote, the latter are free to ignore them with no risk of being defeated in the subsequent election as a result.

3. In most states, the same delegates/alternates, mostly prominent organizers and TDs, tend to be elected year after year. For example, this has long been the case in New York, in which the NYSCA membership has elected the state's USCF voting members. The overwhelming majority of New York's current Voting Members have been elected

every time they have run, a situation I believe will not change when all USCF members in the state can vote for Delegates/Alternates. There is nothing undemocratic about states re-electing the same people every time, but I can't buy the idea that members will be electing the Executive Board, when all they will really be doing is repeatedly ratifying who the most popular organizers and TDs in the state are.

Better Candidates

Many in USCF have long complained that we need higher quality candidates, especially those prominent in the business world. But our present system tends to produce highly politicized elections, in which many candidates are more adept at making alliances and telling voters what they want to hear than in corporate management. This is hardly surprising when the support of a few "insiders" may bring a candidate 20% or more of the vote needed to be elected, and candidates promise committee assignments to voters (as one did this year) in the hope of obtaining support. If all adult USCF members are eligible to vote, the influence of the insiders will be greatly reduced, and prominent professionals who do not wish to play politics will be more likely to run.

A More Responsive Board

One of the major advantages of democracy is that those who govern are accountable to those who elect them. Do a poor job, and you won't be elected again. Presently, we have a structure in which Board members interested in future Board service may be responsive to the voting members, but not to the overall membership. Organizers and TDs are vital to our federation, but a Board which does not place its top priority on the needs of the membership as a whole cannot do its best

for USCF. Most of our membership is now shut out of the process of electing the Executive Board, so the dialogue we need to build a stronger federation is absent on both ends. Candidates don't need member support to be elected, so few are in touch with the membership about issues, resulting in few members expressing opinions or becoming interested in federation affairs. One Man One Vote (OMOV) will break this vicious circle, invigorate the process, and enlarge the pool of those who care about USCF governance.

Involving The Membership

Another important benefit of involving all interested adult members in the political process is that to some of these, the federation will become "us" rather than "them." A member who is given a voice, and becomes interested in USCF issues or candidates, is far more likely to feel a part of the federation, not just a customer who subscribes to a magazine or purchases a chess book. Especially at a time when dwindling adult membership has been a problem, we should not overlook the possibility that members who feel included, consulted, or involved in USCF's mission of promoting American chess will be more likely to renew and spread the word than those who do not. Anyone who has spent much time reading the chess politics newsgroup has seen numerous posts to the effect of "Why should I be a member of an organization that won't let me vote for its officers" or "I quit USCF five years ago and I won't return until I can vote." I do not contend these are typical chessplayers (all chess, no politics is a far more common view), but even if such opinions represent only a small minority, and the good will caused by OMOV raises our adult membership by just 500 or

1000, this would be of significant help.

A Common Message

When the number of potential voters is small, as it is today, it becomes easy for some candidates to tailor their phone message to what they think that voter wants to hear. Unfair attacks are also made by phone on candidates who are unable to respond. With some 50,000 potential voters, the importance of phone campaigning will be greatly reduced. The primary media for campaigns under OMOV will be Chess Life election supplements and the internet, both featuring the common message desirable in an honest campaign.

It Works!

OMOV is not a harebrained scheme. It's not an unproven, radical theory, but is a method used with success by such groups as Common Cause, Sierra Club, American Philatelic Society, American Numismatic Association, American Contract Bridge League, National Rifle Association, and Handgun Control Inc.

Now, let's look at arguments that have been made against OMOV.

An Elite Voter Group?

This argument maintains that, as Tim Redman wrote in the May 1998 Chess Life, only a select group of "well informed voters" who "give up a great deal of energy and time to serve the Federation" should be allowed to vote for the Executive Board. Redman argues, "The confidence in the wisdom of the people and its transcending any need for information or restraint has ample historical precedent: in the know-nothing populism in this country during the latter part of the nineteenth century, in the belief in the inherent virtue of the Volk in Germany in the 1920s and 1930s, in Nixon's "silent majority."

Redman apparently found it difficult to provide good examples of the evils of democracy, as the "know-nothing" populists had little success at the polls, the German democracy of the 1920s was doomed by worldwide depression after which talk of the "Volk" making decisions was just Nazi propaganda, and the "si-

lent majority" was Nixon's way of claiming endorsement by the voters of positions they did not necessarily support. None of Redman's examples indicates a drawback of democracy. Nevertheless, there is no question that in a democracy, voters do often make mistakes. USCF is basically an oligarchy governed by the elite, and here too the voters have recently made some serious mistakes. But what is the alternative? As Churchill said, "Democracy is the worst form of government ever devised, except for all the others."

Regarding informed voters, the OMOV Committee proposal calls for a 150 word statement in the April Chess Life, plus half pages in election supplements that will accompany or be inserted in the May and June issues of Chess Life and equitable space on the USCF website. The internet will be a very significant campaign medium; I believe that most USCF members are already on line, and expect that by the OMOV implementation date of 2001, the overwhelming majority will be. Few members who are interested will be unable to obtain information.

The idea that only those members who do the most for us or are best informed can be trusted to vote is a centuries old, discredited case against democracy and for oligarchy. It is a classic argument used by the upper economic classes of many nations to maintain their wealth and power, and to continue oppression of the poor. Those who are denied the vote do tend to be poorly informed, and this is just the way those in power like it.

"The Members Don't Care"

Another argument frequently made against OMOV is that most members care only about playing chess and will not take an interest in USCF governance and will not vote. I agree that, given the opportunity, most members will probably not vote. However:

1. Any adult member who wishes to vote for the Executive Board should have that right. Whether or not others choose to vote is irrelevant; we are a democratic organization and that member has paid dues and deserves the right to vote.

2. Member interest in USCF governance is presently at a low level because few members are eligible to vote. If the franchise is extended to all adult members, many more will become interested. Presently, only about 450 members are allowed to vote, and perhaps 400 will actually vote. Under OMOV, will 1000 vote, or 2000, or 5000? No one knows, but any of these numbers would be a great step forward for USCF; increased member interest should ultimately expand the number of qualified candidates, and simply allowing this expanded franchise will make many feel more positive about USCF.

"Name Recognition"

Tim Redman says that under OMOV, "Name recognition, not constructive thought, will be the criterion for election to national office." Will the overall membership be more likely to vote for a famous chess personality than an elite group would? Perhaps, but in a democracy that should be their privilege. Surely it is a gross exaggeration to claim that name recognition is all that will matter and "constructive thought" will no longer be relevant.

I have heard it said that under OMOV, Harold Winston, who was supported by most "insiders," would not have defeated Yasser Seirawan in the 1987 election for USCF President. I agree that Seirawan would have done better under OMOV and may have won. On the other hand, in 1990 another GM, Max Dlugy, had most of the "insider" support and won overwhelmingly. I believe that his opponent, Harry Sabine, was known by and popular with players in many states, and that under OMOV he would have had a better chance and may have defeated Dlugy. I don't believe that just being a GM will make one a lock under OMOV, nor do I think many GMs want to be on the Board anyway, nor do I think there is anything wrong with having a GM on our Board.

"A Disastrous Split?"

Redman writes, "Direct election could lead to a disastrous split between the PB and the Board of Delegates, which is the legal corporate board of the Federation, and to contentious and acrimonious annual

meetings resulting in paralysis.”

Really? The members elect, in effect, both the executive and legislative branches of government, and this means the two will be so dramatically different in nature that they will always fight? This sounds about as accurate as the preamble to that 1430 British Act, which warned of “manslaughters, riots, batteries and divisions” unless the right to vote was limited to property owners.

“It Favors Rich Candidates”

The argument here is that under OMOV, only a wealthy candidate could afford to send mailings or make phone calls to 50,000 voters. Actually, the current system gives rich candidates more of an advantage than OMOV would. Presently, the candidate with more money can afford more and better mailings and more phone calls, and these may have a substantial effect, as all voters can be mailed to numerous times, and most voters can be called.

Under OMOV, with about 100 times as many potential voters, it would be extremely expensive to make much impact by mail or phone; most elections will be decided by internet and Chess Life campaigning. A single mailing could cost \$20,000 to \$50,000. Phone calls would be even more expensive and would have to be made largely by surrogates. Why would anyone spend that kind of money to become one out of seven on an unpaid volunteer Board, especially when there might be a voter backlash against such excessive spending? A millionaire willing to spend this much to be elected could simply donate this money to worthy chess projects instead, probably an easier and more constructive road to victory.

Ownership And Empowerment

Redman writes, “Most of our Voting members and Delegates are active participants in the state associations that choose them. Without the work of these volunteers, state groups would have a difficult time functioning. Without the feeling of ownership and empowerment in the affairs of the Federation that their voting gives them, and without the expertise they bring to their choices, both state associations and

national federation will be impoverished.”

The feeling of ownership and empowerment is important, and this is a major reason why the federation will be strengthened when we reach out to expand such a feeling to as many adult members as possible! Why does Redman seem to assume that expanding the voting franchise to others will cause our present voters to feel they are no longer part of the process?

State Associations

In addition to his above references to state associations, Redman writes, “Direct elections will dissolve the traditional partnership between the national and state federations. The state federations must have a say and a stake in Federation policy...”

Most U.S. states abolished indirect voting by the State Legislatures for electors for President in the 1820s, feeling it was not necessary to shield the President from the direct will of the people. Since Redman wrote his essay, USCF has already approved the principle that all adult USCF members have the right to vote, not just state association members: what is at issue now is whether we will stick with the election structure that our nation abandoned 170 years ago, or join 21st century America in which true democracy is not feared.

The Chess Life Argument

Redman writes, “The group in power will control, through the pages of Chess Life, what the members know about the organization.” This reflects an argument I have heard from others, that elections could be decided based on biased news coverage by our magazine.

This has not happened in the past, and it was more likely before the rise of the internet provided a quick and inexpensive way to counter any inappropriate coverage. Our editors have been consistently sensitive to the requirement of maintaining neutrality, knowing that any deviation from this principle will make them enemies who, even if not immediately victorious, are likely to imperil their jobs in the future.

Fear Versus Reality

Most people tend to be conservative and resistant to change. A major reason OMOV has been defeated in the past is that its opponents have issued forecasts of various dire consequences should it be enacted, such as “a disastrous split between the PB and the Board of Delegates,” “contentious and acrimonious annual meetings resulting in paralysis,” “dissolve the traditional partnership between the national and state federations,” “an unfair attack on the volunteers who give up a great deal of energy and time,” “lessened, not greater, accountability,” and “name recognition, not constructive thought, will be the criterion for election to national office.” The delegates have feared such grim possibilities and decided it was better to play it safe rather than risk real democracy, even though the experience of other groups using OMOV has been quite different than these predictions.

The lesson of history is that for centuries, those who have campaigned to enlarge the voting franchise have been repeatedly proven right. When we look back on the statements made by those defending the old traditional exclusionary ways, they now appear absurd. The battle to democratize our federation constitutes but a microscopic fraction of a long and continuing movement for democratic change in the world, and inevitably it will have a similar end as other struggles—by those without wealth, women, blacks, and the many other ethnic or religious groups that have suffered from discrimination in various places. Since USCF governs only chess and not people’s lives, we do not face the same great moral issue here, but democracy will nevertheless prevail before too long; it’s just a question of when. We have nothing to gain by waiting.

Let’s take this historic step forward now, and send a dramatic signal to our many critics that USCF has fundamentally changed, that all adult members now have a voice, that we are determined to project a more positive image, rebuild our membership base, and do more to popularize our great game.

Continued on page 26

Scholastic Chess in Northern California

by
Alan Kirshner

Scholastic Chess in Northern California will see its most active summer ever. Numerous individuals and groups are running summer chess camps and classes. Our tournament schedule is packed. On June 24 will be the first of three Weibel Quads (6/24, 7/22, 8/12). Berkeley Chess will hold the last of this year's quads on July 9. On July 15, the Hayward Library has its annual scholastic chess tournament. On August 19, the Sacramento Chess club will hold a summer scholastic. Even if you cannot participate in any of these events, I hope you will spend the summer studying and playing chess so you are prepared for the next school chess year.

Since this magazine is published by the Northern California affiliate of the United States Chess Federation, I did not feel it appropriate to write much about the breakaway Chess Education Association's Nationals in San Jose before it took place at the end of April. However, since the fledgling organization held their inaugural tournament in our area, I must say a few words. Over 500 players arrived from 16 states, albeit, most from California. The tournament ran smoothly thanks to Richard Peterson's many years of organizing experience. The only criticism that I heard dealt with the lack of space for parents and teams. Well, a few parents and coaches said the trophies were too large—the kids loved them. Our CalChess players shined. International Master Vinay Bhat (2475) of San Jose tied with Harry Akopyan (2314) of Southern California for first place in the High School Division. Lynbrook High School (San Jose) won the High School Team Championship. Bartlett Middle School of Porterville, which is in Northern Cal, won the Junior High School Team Championship. Mat-

thew Ho (1917) of Cupertino won the Elementary School Championship and Weibel Elementary School (Fremont) took the team championship. Ryan Dooley (973) of Berkeley became the Elementary Premier champion. In the Primary School Championship, Weibel Elementary School (Fremont) finished in first place. Corey Chang of Mountain View won the Primary Premier Section, and Argonaut School (Saratoga) topped off a great second year as a team by winning a national championship. I must admit I am disappointed that the full results were not posted at the CEA's Chess Logic <http://www.chesslogic.com> web site. However, the CEA ratings achieved during this tournament are there. I know that the CEA kept its promise to mail the bonds to the various place winner as my son's arrived in a few short weeks. Just one final note. The Chess Education Association honored yours truly, Alan Kirshner, as their national chess coach of the year.

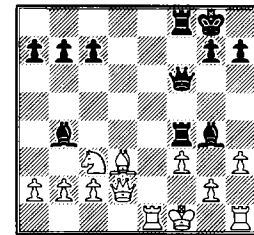
Back to the US Chess Federation, I recently received an e-mail from Ray Orwig, coach of the St. Mark's School team. He took a team to Junior High Nationals in Tucson, Arizona on May 5-7. He reported that the tournament had around 1100 players and that the facility was first-rate with lots of room, both for the players and the folks in waiting. His team finished ninth of 43, a solid performance at this prestigious event. Ray was proudest, however, of the fact that this was the 6th time they placed in the top 10 at the Nationals since 1989 and his players come from such a small school. If any of you know of any other teams or individuals who attended any of the US Chess Federation Nationals this year, I would appreciate your sending me information.

On May 27, Charlotte Wood Middle School (Danville) held its first ever scholastic quads under the very able direction of Dennis Alfaro, MD. One hundred and twenty-eight players attended. This was a phenomenal turn-out for a Memorial Day weekend. A good part of the reason for the large number of players was that Dr. Alfaro did a great job in advertising the event—lots of e-mails and he placed applications at every scholastic event in the area. Things ran very smoothly, and I am sure that Dr. Alfaro, boosted by his success, will have more chess events eventually. Dr Alfaro submits the following game from his event:

Charlotte Wood
Scholastic Quads
05-27-2000
Round 1

Ewelina Krubnik (1430)
Timothy Ma (1197)

1.d4 e5 2.dxe5 Nc6 3.Nf3 f6
4.exf6 Nxf6 5.Bg5 Bc5 6.e3 d5
7.Bxf6 Qxf6 8.Nc3 Bb4 9.Qd2 0-0
10.Qxd5+ Be6 11.Qd2 Rad8 12.Bd3
Bg4 13.Nd4 Nxd4 14.exd4 Rfe8+!
15.Kf1 Rxd4 16.Re1 Rf8 17.h3 Rf4!
18.f3



18...Bxf3! 19.gxf3 Rxf3+ 20.Kg1?
(20.Ke2 is better handing material
back but avoiding immediate mate)
Bc5+ 21.Kh2 Rf2+ 22.Qxf2 Qxf2# 0
1

FIDE Verification Commission Report

by
Sam Sloan

Authors Note: The following is a draft of a FIDE document. It has not been signed and apparently never will be. I received a copy in May and was asked to keep it confidential. Several developments have since taken place which change the situation and make it unlikely that this will ever be signed. Therefore, I have decided to release it now.

The Verification Commission met in Lausanne on Saturday, April 29. Chairman Nicola Palladino (Italy), and members Israel Gelfer (Israel) and Don Schultz (USA) were in attendance. Also present were FIDE Executive Director Emmanuel Omuku and Treasurer David Jarrett. FIDE's operations for the year ending December 31, 1999 were reviewed.

Unfortunately, the state of FIDE's affairs have deteriorated during the last year. Lawsuits by former World Champions Anatoly Karpov and Susan Polgar, increasing debt, member dissatisfaction with event management and a decline in the quality, timeliness and extent of FIDE services is alarming. On the plus side FIDE staff remains dedicated and willing to make sacrifices during difficult times. Individual volunteers continue to lend both financial and technical support. A new venture FIDE Commerce is potentially lucrative and far reaching. Following the Verification Commission meeting, Mr. Berek Balgabaev has reported to me that President Ilyumzhinov has transferred SF400,000 into the FIDE account thus reducing the money, shown below as owed to FIDE, by that amount.

Here are our specific observations and recommendations:

1) Last year, there was a large

overdue loan from FIDE to the World Chess Foundation for SF402,372. This loan ballooned to SF1,365,659 by year end 1999. During the first months of 2000, \$130,000 was paid back to FIDE. At a 1.6 to 1 SF to US\$ exchange rate, the outstanding balance would be SF1,157,659. FIDE has now become completely dependent upon the financial support of President Ilyumzhinov. If for any reason that support ends without payment of the outstanding loans, FIDE will be destroyed. We recommend that FIDE insist upon immediate payment.

2) We take note that there does not seem to be any signed contract between FIDE and the World Chess Foundation. We recommend that this be quickly clarified.

3) We also take note that because of the bad checks to World Championship prize winners, FIDE directly paid several of the players the amount owed to them. Furthermore, it has not been confirmed that all the 1999 World Championship participants have been paid their prizes and that all bad World Chess Foundation checks have been returned or otherwise accounted for. We recommend that FIDE obtain documented confirmation regarding confirmation of all 1999 World Championship payments to the players.

4) The Anatoly Karpov and Susan Polgar lawsuits are in arbitration. The Executive Director is confident of a favorable outcome in both lawsuits. However, even if it is favorable, FIDE's legal costs will likely exceed the SF5,000 that was budgeted for 2000; the 1999 legal costs were SF45,757. The potential negative impact for FIDE of unfavorable arbitration threatens FIDE's very

existence. We recommend that the PB re-evaluate the 2000 budget.

5) Regarding FIDE staff in Elista and Lausanne: While the names of nine Elista staff members have been made known to the Treasurer and have been documented, the associated job descriptions have not. Furthermore, the role of Mr. B. Balgabaev at the FIDE office is unclear. He was placed there by President Ilyumzhinov. It is costing FIDE a significant amount of money to keep him there: salary - SF60,000, accommodations - SF20,430, travel - SF9,052, allocations familiales - SF6,898 and taxes - SF10,404. In addition, there is an impact upon staff insurance and the building up of a reserve for ex-gratia payments. We recommend that, barring evidence to the contrary, support of this position be canceled.

6) The Treasurer reported that the use of cash and credit cards for payments is too high. We concur and recommend that the Executive Director bring these expenses more in line with general invoicing and payment.

7) Last year, the Verification Commission recommended the establishment of a three year working reserve fund of SF2,000,000. This has not yet been done. We recommend it be done this year with a fixed amount included in the budget for 2001.

8) We take note that no deposit or bank guarantee for the 2000 World Championship has been received. We recommend that the World Championship not be held unless a deposit is made in a timely manner well in advance of the championship. In future years, FIDE must insist on financial protection in accordance with guidelines.

9) The Treasurer has reported that FIDE's cash flow is precarious and worsening. In light of this, we recommend that cuts to the 2000 budget be made immediately. Suggested areas of reduction are limiting FIDE forums to four instead of six per year, staff reductions, limitations on travel, limitations on administrative costs, cessation of CACDEC initiatives and curbs on board expenses. Long range consideration should be given to moving the FIDE headquarters from a high cost location such as Lausanne.

10) We take note with dismay that for purposes of paying the World Championship Prize Fund, a Wells Fargo Bank Account in the name of several individuals was set-up. This is poor business practice and in contradiction with a prior General Assembly directive. We recommend that FIDE enforce its policy of having money never routed or maintained in bank accounts of individual(s).

11) We take note that the FIDE Handbook and Directory have not been updated. We recommend that this be done as soon as possible, not only because of their value, but because income from sales will likely exceed costs.

12) We have not specifically commented on details of the FIDE Commerce Proposal. There have been substantial input from countries and interested parties. There is a need for FIDE to take initiatives such as this. However, great care must be exercised to avoid pitfalls and obtain widespread support.

We complement Treasurer Jarrett for presenting FIDE's financial state in a clear concise manner. We thank Executive Director Omuku for his help and cooperation.

Respectively submitted,
Nicola Palladino, Chairman
Israel Gelfer, Member
Don Schultz, Member

THE EDITOR'S REPORT

Continued

and again the leadership of CalChess voted as a block against giving you a direct say in the affairs of your federation. I am so disappointed that normally progressive Northern California supports a feudal voting system. Bill Goichberg lays out the case for OMOV later in this issue. As new USCF President Redman has slowly changed his position on OMOV from 'Never' to 'Maybe Some Day in Some Distant Future', there is some hope for a long overdue real reform of the USCF electoral system.

CalChess is in deep need of tournament directors for the Bay Area. If you'd like to help direct chess tournaments, please contact either Riley Hughes (510-623-1889) or Doug Shaker (650-854-2545). Please continue to send your submissions for the CCJ to me at: California Chess Journal, PO Box 27, Visalia CA 93279-0027

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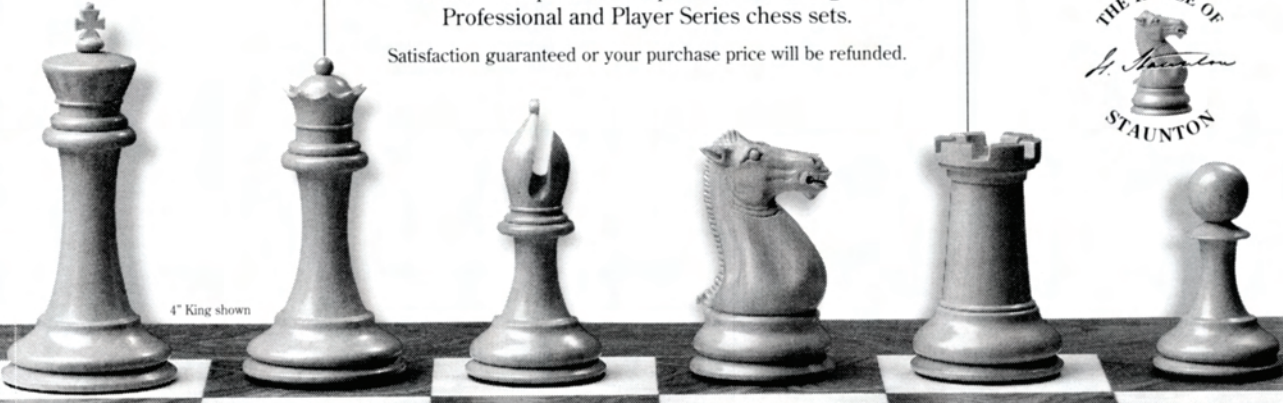
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4" King shown



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The CalChess Calendar of Events

(* = CalChess discount) last update 9/5/00)

2000

Sep.	23	(Sa):	.....	Fairfield Saturday Eights	.....	(JM)
Sep.	22-24	(F-Su):	.....	Jim Hurt Memorial Amateur (San Francisco)	.....	(JA2)
Sep.	30	(Sa):	.....	Rincon Valley G/30 Open Chess Championship (Santa Rosa)	....	(MH)
Oct.	7	(Sa):	.....	Visalia Fall Picnic (Visalia)	.....	(AF)
Oct.	21	(Sa):	.....	Porterville Chess for Kids	.....	(AF)
Oct.	20-22	(F-Su):	.....	Western States Open (Reno)	.....	(JW)
Nov.	4-5	(Sa-Su):	.....	Livermore Fall Championship	.....	(RH) *
Nov.	10-12	(F-Su):	.....	Carroll Capps Memorial (San Francisco)	.....	(JA2)
Nov.	18-19	(Sa-Su):	.....	8 th Annual Fresno Country Championship	.....	(DW) *
Nov.	25-26	(Sa-Su):	.....	LERA Thanksgiving (Sunnyvale)	.....	(RH) *
Dec.	2	(Sa)	.....	Exeter Chess for Kids	.....	(AF)
Dec.	10-16	(Su-Sa)	.....	Koltanowski Masters (San Francisco)	.....	(JD)
Dec.	16-17	(Sa-Su):	.....	Sacramento Chess Club Weekend Swiss #5	.....	(JM) *

2001

Jan.	13-14	(Sa-Su):	.....	Sojourner Truth Girls' Tourney (Palo Alto)	.....	(DS) *
Jan.	13-14	(Sa-Su):	.....	Region XI Women's Open (Palo Alto)	.....	(DS) *
Jan.	20-22	(Sa-M):	.....	Martin Luther King	.....	(RK) *
Feb.	17-19	(Sa-M):	.....	Presidents' Day People's (Berkeley)	.....	(MG & RH)
Feb.	24	(Sa):	.....	Henry Gross Memorial G/45 (San Francisco)	.....	(JA2)
Mar.	3-4	(Sa-Su):	.....	CalChess State Scholastic (DS & RH)	.....	*
Mar.	9-11	(E-Su):	.....	A.J. Fink Memorial Amateur (San Francisco)	.....	(JA2)
Apr.	7-8	(Sa-Su):	.....	Walter Lovegrove Memorial Senior Open (SF)	.....	(JA2)

Annual Events

2nd weekend Jan (Sa-Su): Sojourner Truth Girls' Tourney (Palo Alto) (DS)
Martin Luther King weekend (Sa-M): Martin Luther King (RK)
Presidents' Day weekend (Sa-M): People's (Berkeley) (MG & AG)
1st weekend March (F-Su): San Francisco Amateur (JA2)
Last weekend March (Sa-Su): State Scholastic Championship (Santa Clara) (AK)
1st weekend May (Sa-Su): Livermore Spring Open (RH)
Weekend prior to Memorial Day (Sa-Su): San Joaquin Championship (Fresno) (DW)
Memorial Day weekend (Sa-M): LERA Memorial Day (Sunnyvale) (JH)
2nd weekend June (F-Su): Stamer Memorial (San Francisco) (JA2)
4th of July weekend (Sa-M): Universe Open (TD)
Labor Day weekend (1st weekend Sept.) (Sa-M): Labor Day Festival (RK)
last weekend Oct. (F-Su): Western States Open (Reno) (JW)
1st weekend Nov. (S-Su): Livermore Fall Open (RH)
2nd weekend Nov. (F-Su): Capps (San Francisco) (JA2)
Weekend Prior to Thanksgiving (Sa-Su): Fresno County Championship (DW)
Thanksgiving Weekend (Sa-M): LERA Thanksgiving (Sunnyvale) (JH)

Club Directory

Places to play chess in Northern California and Northern Nevada

Arcata

Tuesday, 4-6 pm
Arcata Community Center
321 Community Park Way
James Bauman
707-822-7619

Berkeley

Friday, 7:15 p.m.
Berkeley City Club
2315 Durant
A. Glasscoe 510-652-5324

Burlingame

Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Burlingame Lions Hall
990 Burlingame Ave
Scott Wilson 650-355-9402
www.BurlingameChessClub.com

Campbell

Kolty Chess Club
Thursdays 7-11:30 p.m.
Campbell Comm Ctr
Winchester/W.Campbell
F. Leffingwell 408-732-5188
work 408-526-7090
fleffing@cisco.com

Carmel

Call for current information
Randall Swanson
408-626-6113

Carmichael

Monday 6-10 p.m.
Senior Citizens Ctr.
4701 Gibbons

Chico

Thursday 7-11 p.m.
Mtn Mike's Pizza
1722 Mangrove Ave
Barry Nelson 916-873-3107

Davis

Thursday 7 p.m.
Hunt Hall UCD, Room 241
Dave Johnson 916-756-2752

Fremont

Fridays 7:00-on
Newark Coffee Company
39279 Cedar Blvd, Newark
Hans Poschmann
510-656-8505

Fresno

Mondays 6-11 p.m.
Carls Jr.
3820 N. Cedar Ave.
D. Wajckus 559-252-4484

Humboldt County

Call for current information
Bob Phillips 707-839-4674

Livermore

Fridays 7-12 p.m.
South Cafeteria
Lawrence Livermore Lab
Charles Pigg 510-447-5067

Merced

Merced Chess Club
Friday 6:30 p.m.
Merced Mall Food Court

Menlo Park

Mondays, 6:30-9
Onetta Harris Center
100 Terminal Ave.
Doug Shaker 650-854-9793
doug@theshakers.org

Modesto Chess Club

Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Doctor's Hospital Cafeteria
1441 Florida Ave
John Barnard 209-785-7895

Monterey

Open daily except Mon.
430 Alvarado St.
Yudacufski 408-646-8730

Mt Shasta

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.
George Washington Manor
Mt. Shasta
Dick Bolling 530-926-3608

Oakhurst

Saturday, 4:00 pm
Cafe Baja
40029 Highway 41
559-642-6333

Paradise

Tuesday 7-10 p.m.
Paradise Senior Center
Barry Nelson 916-873-3107

Porterville

Wednesday 7 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church
Corner of Henderson
& Indiana
Hans Borm 559-784-3820

Reno, NV

Sun-Thurs 6:30 p.m.
2850 Wrondel Way, Suite D
Club: 775-827-3867
Jerry Weikel 702-747-1405

Richmond

Fridays 6 p.m.
Richmond Library
26th & MacDonald

Ross Valley (Marin County)

For current info, write:
P.O. Box 69
Ross CA 94957

Sacramento

Wednesday 6-10 p.m.
Senior Citizens Ctr
915-27th St.
Stewart Katz 916-444-3133

Salinas

Any weekend afternoon
Carl's Jr.
1061 N Davis Rd
Abe Mina
831-758-4429

San Anselmo

Tuesday 7 p.m.
Round Table Pizza,
Red Hill Shpping Ctr
Sir Francis Drake Blvd
Jim Mickle 415-457-2719

San Francisco

Mechancis' Institute
Open daily
57 Post St, 4th Floor
John Donaldson
415-421-2258

San Jose

Tue & Fri, Noon-4 p.m.
Willows Senior Center
2175 Lincoln Avenue
Jerry Marshall 408-267-1574

Santa Clara

2d Sat. Each month
2:15-6:15 p.m.
Mary Gomez Park
F. Sierra 408-241-1447

Santa Rosa

Tuesdays 6-10:45 p.m.
Sonoma Coffe Company
521 4th Street
Keith Halonen 707-578-6125

Santa Rosa

1st & Last Saturdays of month
Adult & Youth Chess Club
of Sonoma County
Rincon Valley Library
Conference Room
6959 Montecito Blvd,
Santa Rosa
Mike Haun 707-537-0162

Stanford

Monday 7:30-10:30 p.m.
Student Union, Rm 550-550d
Andrian Keatinge-Clay
415-497-0598

Sunnyvale

LERA
Tuesday, 8 p.m.
Lockheed Rec Ctr, Bldg #160
Ken Stone 408-629-5530

Vallejo

Fridays 7:00 p.m.
Senior Citizens Ctr
333 Amador St
Frank Harris 707-644-3004

Visalia

Tuesday 7 p.m.
Borders Books
Mooney & Caldwell
Allan Fifield 559-734-2784

Woodland Chess Group

Sundays, 3:30-9:00 p.m.
Senior Citizens Center
630 Lincoln Avenue
Don Copeland 530-666-0868

Yuba-Sutter

Mon & Wed 7-11 p.m.
Carls Jr
Bridge St & Hwy 99, Yuba City
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Our CCJ copy submission policy remains 'author friendly'. While our preference is for electronic submission, typewritten or neat handwritten copy is acceptable. Electronic submission allows you to include game scores, chess diagrams, and digitized photos. In general, tournaments submitted in an electronic format will be allotted more space. Our preference is for Microsoft Word files with diagrams created using the Linares font. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions on how to submit material to *California Chess Journal*.

The next deadline for C.C.J. submissions is October 20, 2000
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Days: (559)-651-3300 #371 * Nights:
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Alladin

Continued from page 16

argued for 100 YEARS about pawn moves! The story is actually longer than that; longer than a sentence, that is. 'Chess made it to America 50 years BEFORE Columbus! The bishops used to be ELEPHANTS!'

"And their eyes really light up when I tell them, 'ALADDIN was the strongest player in the world in 1385! And he wrote all those stories about himself, HIMSELF! ...in his spare time, after his day job -attorney to Mongol Conqueror Timur the Lame! And Aladdin could play FOUR games of chess ALL AT ONCE! ...BLINDFOLDED!'

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ing 10, winning 24. With his back to the board Kolty once beat a tough opponent named Humphrey Bogart, and NOBODY turned his back on Bogey! George taught chess to children throughout his life. I'll dedicate my share of this honor to George Koltanowski."

Only later, as they were taking photographs of us holding our trophy, did I notice that at the pinnacle of the tall central column was the symbol of Sonoma State University, usually seen on its stationery with the motto "Lux Mentis...Lux Orbis" (Light of the Mind...Light of the Eye). There atop the pillar was a perfectly sculpted golden oil lamp alight with the flame of knowledge. It was Aladdin's lamp!

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 zenwabi@aol.com
- JA2 = Joan Arbil
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 Mechanics Rm408 94101
 (415)421-2258
- JB = James Bauman
 PO Box 904
 Arcata 95518
 (707)822-7619
- PB = Peter Brett
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- SC = Steve Cohen
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 jimeade@aol.com
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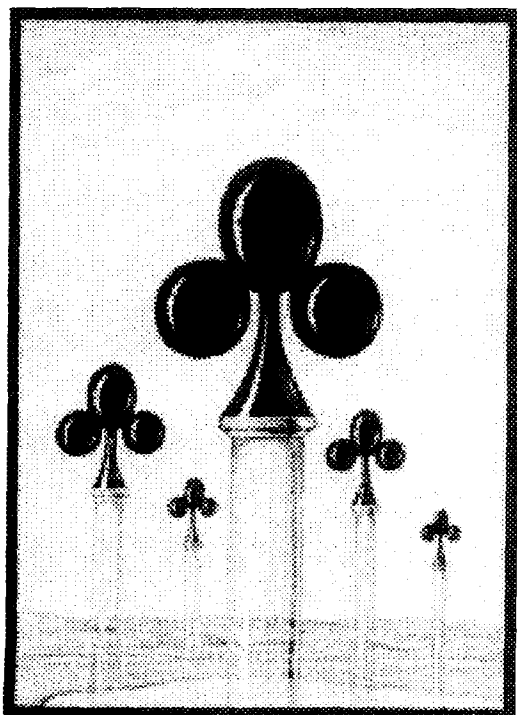
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