

SCCA NEWS

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INSIDE:

HOW WE PLAY CHESS

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HOW WE PLAY CHESS

In our April issue, we discussed the psychological issue of why we play chess. That article referred to the question of how we play chess as a separate problem that had been approached by A. D. De Groot in his Thought and Choice in Chess.

I have since received inquiries about De Groot's book. Unfortunately, it is both out of print and formidable: a 463-page doctoral dissertation that is technical and wordy (as dissertations often are).

Nevertheless, De Groot's main findings can be briefly described. His most significant conclusion was that efficiency in perception was closely related to chess skill.

Let us pause to define "perception." When light strikes our eyes, or sound reaches our ears, electrical impulses travel through our nervous system to the brain, where "seeing" and "hearing" actually occur. Before we consciously see or hear anything, however, those sensory impulses must be subjected to a complex analytical process which occurs very rapidly at a largely unconscious level. Much of this process involves associating the sensory data with previous learning, so that the brain can associate familiar patterns and concepts with what it sees and hears. At this point, the brain perceives; i.e. sees or hears in a meaningful, conscious way.

The perceptual process provides information to the conscious mind; upon receiving it, the higher level, directed conscious thought processes can occur. Thus, perceiving and thinking are different processes, although accurate perception is essential to accurate thought.

How does this model apply to chess thought? According to De Groot, a player perceives a position in the same way that he perceives anything; i.e. he unconsciously compares it with previous learning, so that he readily spots certain meaningful piece-patterns. For example, a beginner may only be able to identify the pieces and their basic moves when he sees a position. As he gains experience, he will readily spot such features as mobile pawn wings, vulnerable king positions, and other meaningful patterns that he has learned. By the time he reaches master level, he may have an elaborate system of thousands of familiar and meaningful patterns stored in his memory, that are readily associated with new positions he encounters.

All this may seem like an elaborate way of saying something that was already obvious; namely, that a player uses his experience in understanding a position. But the theory has important implications for understanding facets of chess skill.

For one thing, it helps explain the exceptional chess-memory of many grandmasters (e.g. in blindfold play). The ability to remember things is closely related to the ability to classify the information into meaningful "chunks" or units. The vast store of previously-

learned patterns in a grandmaster's mind makes it easier for him to recognize meaningful patterns in new positions, and thus much easier to remember these positions.

The theory also explains the role of "intuition" that some writers have ascribed great importance to in master-level thinking. "Intuition" would simply mean that the perceptual process was largely unconscious, so that a master might "see" that a position called for an exchange sacrifice, without being conscious of the previously-learned patterns that suggested this to him.

De Groot's theory places a heavy emphasis on the role of experience; innate ability would be meaningful only by helping someone to make better use of his experience. I believe this is valid; as a historian, I discount the tales of chess "geniuses" blossoming forth in spite of little experience. In Paul Morphy's case, e.g., New Orleans had a very active chess community when he was a boy: Howard Staunton, in his Illustrated London News column, referred to active New Orleans Chess when Morphy was still an unknown 10-year-old. Likewise, Deschappelles' claim to have learned all he knew about chess in two days may be safely dismissed as nonsense.

De Groot performed some interesting experiments that illustrate the relationship between perceptual efficiency, memory, and skill. He showed some players a group of middlegame positions for only a few seconds, then asked them to reproduce the positions from memory. The grandmasters and masters had uncanny skill at reproducing the position precisely, while the average players could remember only parts of the position. Such rapidity could be explained only by extreme efficiency in classifying the position readily into meaningful patterns.

The role of perception in chess thinking does not supersede the role of creative problem-solving. Even a master cannot classify the whole position into a single pattern, because each position is unique. Thus, after perceiving various patterns in the position, the master must still combine the information in a directed trial-and-error search, forming and testing hypotheses in a manner analogous to scientific reasoning. The master's enhanced perceptual skill facilitates this reasoning by giving him more information with which to reason.

De Groot predicted that chess skill would be most evident in game-like positions, where previous learning was most useful. However, Dale Brandreth, a leading seller of out of print chess books, found that grandmasters were also extremely good at solving standard composed problems, despite the non-game-like character of these. (Brandreth's research is found in his "Probeg-One" catalog of problem and endgame books. This catalog, along with other fine lists of chess books, is available from him at Box 151, Yorklyn, DE, 19736.)

Brandreth reported that Capablanca was given ten of the most difficult two-movers that the famous Good Companion problem club could come up with, in 1915. He solved them all in 21 minutes, a championship-level solving performance. Likewise, Lasker, Reti, Alekhine, and Kashdan were excellent solvers. Brandreth concludes: "Thus it appears that while problemists have much better chances versus great

NEWS ITEMS

Congratulations to Pat Hart of Charleston for making the South Carolina "top ten" in both OTB and postal play. This unusual feat was almost matched by Wayne Williams, who narrowly missed the postal top ten (lists elsewhere in issue).

I have received a catalog specializing in Russian language chess books and periodicals, including "64" and Shakhnaty V SSSR. Interested persons should write: Znanie Book Store, 5237 Geary Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94118. I'll send a free Xerox of the catalog to anyone requesting it.

Ernie DeGuzman went 16-0-2 in a simul at the Spartanburg Chess Club August 20. Mickey Bush and Mark Cantrell earned the draws. This result compares with his 21-1-1 at a simul last spring. Orville Osteen gave a simul at Camp Mondarmin in Tuxedo, N.C., August 16; he scored 16-0-1 (courtesy Spartanburg CC Newsletter).

According to the Ohio Chess Bulletin, the Cleveland Chess Foundation has been advertising the following dress code for its tournaments:

Players must be properly dressed and everyone must wear socks and shoes. Persons over 21 are adults and must dress accordingly. Do not wear jeans. Wear a suit, or slacks and sport jacket. Juniors may wear jeans if they are neat and clean.

Maybe they should change their name to the Cleveland Dress Foundation. Come on, fellows.

A friend of mine, Dr. Woodrow Harris of Columbia, is a superb historian who has done much research in South Carolina history. Lately Woody, although not a chessplayer, has made a number of chess related discoveries that are of quite some significance. I'm not sure, but I think he may have found the earliest reference to chess in the South, in an old Charleston publication. He's not yet ready to release his findings, but they promise to be quite interesting. One thing I can release: Woody found the location of the building where the chess automation exhibited in Charleston in 1834. It was four doors west of Church Street on Queen Street. Woody also found that Paul Morphy's great aunt was involved in a Charleston scandal, in which her lover, General George Izard, fought a duel after committing an "unpardonable impertinence" with her. The Charleston Morphys were apparently an active lot: Paul's father was born almost exactly nine months after the wedding date (narrowly avoiding another scandal?!).

THE VALUE OF FORCE

Beginners today easily learn the relative values of the forces (Q=9, R=5, B or N=3, P=1), but beginners in the past were afflicted by more elaborate scales that were hard to use.

Wilhelm Steinitz, in his Modern Chess Instructor (1889), published this table:

Queen	= 9.94
Rook	= 5.48
Bishop	= 3.5
Knight	= 3.05
Pawn	= 1

Steinitz got these values from Howard Staunton's Chess Player's Handbook (1848). Staunton in turn got them from an earlier anonymous study, which was published in an 1817 edition of Philidor. (The edition contained much material in addition to Philidor.)

I have a copy of that study, which is nearly 50 pages long. It contains a mathematical analysis of a number of factors in piece strength: e.g., "facility of transit, dislodging faculty," etc., and derives the values above. The Encyclopedia Britannica of 1891 published a simpler scale, with B or N at 3.25, R=5, and Q=9.5. I cannot find the modern scale before Fine's Chess The Easy Way in 1942. Can a reader help?

The medieval Arab beginner, though, had it worse. One table of about 1,000 years ago read as follows:

Rook	= 1
Knight	= 2/3
Queen	= 1/3 or 3/8
Bishop	= 1/4
KP or QP	= 1/4
BP or NP	= 1/6 "rising to" 1/5
RP	= 1/8

Another scale had the queen at 1/2 or 5/12; B=1/4 or 1/3; KP=1/4; QP at 5/24; NP and BP at 1/6; and RP at 1/8. (Remember that queen and bishop were weak pieces then.)

Figuring up an exchange must have been impossible then!

BOOK REVIEW

"I was tortured in the Pasadena Jailhouse."

by Bobby Fischer, The World Chess Champion

Copyright 1982 by Bobby Fischer

Published by Bobby Fischer

Yes, this is apparently the first publication by Fischer since My 60 Memorable Games. And what a publication it is! A 14-page pamphlet, with a white cover crisscrossed by blood-red stripes in the shape of a jail door. It details an ordeal starting on May 26, 1981, in which Fischer says he was stopped by police while walking, because they suggested he resembled a bank-robbery suspect. Even though they declared early that he didn't resemble the suspect, he was detained in jail for two days and subjected to police brutality (being choked, left nude in view of females, threatened with a mental hospital commitment, starved, and denied phone access), according to the pamphlet. No explanation was offered for this treatment, he says, causing him to say the whole incident was a "filthy, stinking set-up." Fischer does not speculate on why he may have been "set up."

This pamphlet will no doubt tantalize future historians searching for the post-chess Fischer. First of all, did Fischer actually write it? The pamphlet bears a 1982 copyright imprint, and was publicized earlier this year; but, I have not heard of any denials by Fischer or his friends (or by the Pasadena Police.)

A couple of sidelights are also interesting. Fischer had some pills in his possession, but does not say what he was being treated for. He also told the police that he had no driver's license and did not drive. He still wore a beard at that time.

Perhaps most interesting, the pamphlet contains a facsimile signature of "Robert D. James" at the end, underneath which is printed "Robert D. James (professionally known as Robert J. Fischer or Bobby Fischer, The World Chess Champion)". This may be the first time in years that Fischer has been known to sign his name, since he stopped signing it for unknown reasons. But now it is a changed name that he signs!

The pamphlet may be ordered from: Bobby Fischer, P. O. Box 50307, Pasadena, CA 91105-0307. The cost is \$1.00, but there is a note affixed saying, "Please...add postage and handling fee," without saying how much this is. (I got my copy from Dale Brandreth, a bookseller, so I don't know.)

Postscript: Few people know that Fischer sold much or all of his chess library in about 1969 to Walter Goldwater, President of the Marshall Chess Club, who was then active as a rare-bookseller. I bought one of

Fischer's books from Goldwater: a Russian-language copy of Suetin's Modern Chess Opening Theory. Fischer signed the front of that book:

Bobby Fischer
New York
May 1959
\$1.00
Earth
U.S.A.

The entries were in different inks, suggesting they were added successively at different times. Fischer's signatures are scarce, but often intriguing!

BOOK REVIEW
(by David K. Williams)

Better Chess for Club Players by Peter Griffiths, EP Publishing Ltd., 1982, \$7.95. This book is unusual in that the author, a contributor to the British Chess Magazine, presents 18 games played by average players (approximate USCF rating 1400-1800) to show typical errors and faulty plans characteristic of this level of play. Each game is given with annotations beginning often as early as move 2 with particular attention paid to pawn structure and strategic concepts. The book is organized into three sections: Attacking, Positional Play, and the Endgame. An index of themes (e.g., freeing moves, two bishops, etc.) is a nice touch and both the text and diagrams are easy to read and virtually error-free. I was not bothered by the use of non-master games at all. This is one of the best buys on the chess market at the present time. I heartily recommend it to players rated 2100 and below. (Review by David K. Williams. Reprinted from Spartanburg Chess Club Newsletter, August 1983.)

BROTHER-SISTER CHAMPS?

Have a brother and sister ever held simultaneous national chess championships? Not officially; but Louis Paulsen and his sister may have come closest. In 1857, Paulsen's sister (whose name was not given) visited the First American Chess Congress where her brother was playing. She was described in the book of the congress as being "the strongest amateur of her sex in the country." Since Paulsen himself was probably best American player after Morphy's retirement, he and his sister might have laid plausible claim to the men's and women's national championships.

GAMES DEPARTMENT

(Except where otherwise stated, annotations by Charles Braun.)

GAMECOCK GAMBIT

JULY 3, 1983

White: Cliff Hyatt

Black: Leland Fuerstman

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 a6; 3.b3 a) Nc6; 4.Bb2 d6; 5.h3 Nf6; 6.d3 b) g6; 7.c4 Bg7;
 8.Be2 Bd7; 9.Nc3 Rb8; 10.Nd5 00; 11.00 e5; 12.Bc1 Nd5; 13.ed5 Nd4; 14.Nd4
 cd4; 15.Ba3 Be8 c); 16.c5 f5; 17.cd6 Rf6; 18.Rc1 Qa5; 19.Bc5 b6; 20.d7 bc5;
 21.de8 Re8; 22.Qc2 Rc8; 23.Rb1 Rb6; 24.F4 eF4; 25.Rf4 Bh6; 26.R(4) f1 Rb7;
 27.Bf3 Re7; 28.b4 Be3+; 29.Kh1 Qc7; 30.bc5 Qg3? d); 31.d6! Re5 e); 32.d7
 Rf8; 22.Bb7 Bf4; 34.Rf4 Qf4; 35.c6 Rb5; 36.Rb5 Qf1+; 37.Kh2 Qf4+?; 38.g3
 Qc7; 39.Qc4+ Kg7; 40.Qd4+ Kh6; 41.Qf4+ resigns.

- a) Already out of the book but not bad. Black's second move gives White a lot of leeway.
- b) White could have chosen to open things up now with 6.d4.
- c) Black needs to do something to prevent 16.c5 15...Qc7 is one try.
- d) d) 30...Qc5 should draw (with bishops of opposite colors). Instead Black pursues the illusion of a mating attack.
- e) 31...Bf4 is answered by 32.Bd5+.

COMPUTER IMPROVEMENTS

Home chess computers have improved so rapidly it is staggering. When the first ones hit the market in the 1970's, they were so weak that they could not find a mate in one in a king and rook vs. king position. In contrast, my CSC solves the 3-move version of the "Indian Problem" in less than 30 seconds. (The Indian Problem was considered to have been the hardest problem ever composed in 1845, when it appeared. Staunton published the names of people who succeeded in solving it.)

White: Cliff Hyatt

Black: James Hanlon

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 e6; 3.d4 cd4; 4.Nd4 Nc6; 5.Nb5 a) Qa5+ b); 6.Bd2 Bb4; 7.C3
 Be7; 8.N (1) a3 a6; 9.Nc4 Qd8; 10.Nbd6+ Kf8; 11.Qf3 c) F6; 12.Qh5 g6; 13.
 Bh6+ Nh6; 14.Qh6+ Kg8; 15.Rd1 b5; 16.Ne3 Bf8; 17.Qh4 Qe7; 18.C4 bc4;
 19.Bc4 Ne5; 20.Bb3 a5; 21.OO Ba6; 22.Rfel Nd3; 23.Nef5! d) gf5; 24.Nf5
 QF7; 25.Re3 h5; 26.Rg3+ Kh7; 27.e5! e) Ne5; 28.Qe4 d5; 29.Rd5! ed5; 30.
 Bd5 Re8; 31.Bf7 Nf3+; 32.gf3 Re4; 33.Fe4 Bb7; 34.Bg6+ Kg8; 35.Bh5+ Kh7;
 36.Bf7 Be4; 37.Rh3+ Bh6; 38.Rh6+ Mate.

- a) White tries to take advantage of Black's move order. More conservative is 5.Nc3 d6; 6.Be2 Nf6.
- b) The only consistent move here is 5...d6 when White chooses between a Maroczy bind with 6.c4 and development with 6.Bf4 e5; 7.Be3. 5...Nf6 transposes to the Sicilian Four Knights; 6.N(1)c3 Bb4; 7.a3. After the text, White should just develop with 6.N(1)c3.
- c) 11.Be3 threatening; 12.Bb6 is strong.
- d) White strikes before Black can get his pieces out.
- e) Keeps the pot boiling.

The Worst Dispute in Postal Play occurred in regard to the 1826 postal match between London and Edinburgh. The London club sent a series of moves, then changed their mind about the moves. They "applied at the Post Office" but were refused. Then, the Edinburgh club refused to allow London to retract. The result was a controversy that was still raging 20 years later, when Staunton took up the cause against a Scotch correspondent. I own a pamphlet that was devoted solely to this controversy, in 1829. That match gave us the name, "Scotch Game."

DEEP IN THE HEART OF RUSSIA

(Some games from Recent Events)

Krasnodar 1983

White: Gastgofer

Black: Davidov

English Four Knights

1.P-QB4 P-K4; 2.N-QB3 N-KB3; 3.N-B3 N-B3; 4.P-Q4 PxP; 5.NxP B-N5; 6.B-N5 P-KR3; 7.B-R4 BxN+; 8.PxB N-K4 a); 9.P-B4! b) N-N3 c); 10.BxN QxB; 11. P-N3 0-0; 12.B-N2 P-Q3 d); 13.0-0 P-B3 e); 14.R-N1 R-Q1 f); 15.P-K4 N-B1; 16.Q-R5 N-Q2; 17.QR-K1 N-B4; 18.P-k5 PxP; 19.PxP Q-K2 g); 20.BxP! P-KN3; 21.Q-B3 B-R6; 22.B-Q5 BxR; 23.RxB R-KB1; 24.Q-K3 K-N2; 25.R-B6 N-K3; 26.BxN Resigns.

- a) This move has a bad reputation. Better is 8...P-Q3; 9.P-B3 0-0 or 9.P-K3 N-K4.
- b) Best. 9.P-K3 N-N3; 10.B-N3 P-Q3 is equal. Wrong is 9.N-N5 P-QR3; 10.Q-Q4 P-Q3; 11.BxN PxB; 12.N-R3 P-B4! 13.Q-Q2 Q-R4; 14.Q-N2 B-Q2: Ragozin-Sosin 1936.
- c) On 9...NxP, White gets an edge with 10.P-K4 N-K6; 11.Q-K2 NxB; 12.P-K5 0-0; 13.N-B5.
- d) 12...P-QB4; 13.N-N5![±]
- e) 13...KR-K; 14.R-QN P-QB3; 15.Q-Q2 N-B; 16.P-K4 Q-K2; 17.P-KR3: Tolush-Furman 1948.
- f) 14...QK2; 15.P-K4 Q-B2; 16.Q-R5 B-Q2; 17.P-B5![±]: Kramer-Boey 1948. Black hopes to improve on this line by swinging his knight to the queenside.
- g) Black looks safe but White opens up the position and quickly mops up.

White: Kuporosov

Black: Makarov

English

1.N-KB3 P-QB4; 2.P-B4 N-QB3; 3.N-B3 P-KN3; 4.P-K3 B-N2 a)
 5.P-Q4 P-Q3; 6.P-Q5 b) N-K4 c); 7.NxN BxN; 8.B-K2 N-B3;
 9.0-0 0-0; 10.B-Q3 N-K1; 11.P-B4 B-N2; 12.Q-B3 P-K3; 13.
 PxP PxP; 14.P-K4 N-B2; 15.B-K3 B-Q5; 16.Q-N3 Q-K2; 17.QR-K1
 B-Q2 d); 18.P-K5! P-Q4; 19.P-B5! BxB+; 20.RxB P-Q5; 21.P-B6
 Q-B2; 22.N-K4 PxR; 23.N-Q6 Resigns.

- a) More flexible is 4...P-Q3; 5.P-Q4 B-N5; 6.B-K2 B-N2=.
- b) Usual is 6.B-K2 B-N5 (6...N-R3; 7.P-Q5 N-K4; 8.NxN±;
 7.P-Q5 N-N1 8.P-KR3 with a slightly more comfortable
 position.
- c) Better than 6...N-R4; 7.B-Q3 N-KB3; 8.0-0 0-0; 9.Q-B2±.
- d) White has his forces organized but it's difficult to
 see how he is to break through.

White: Kilish

Black: Salbieva

Center Counter Defense

1.P-K4 P-Q4; 2.PxP N-KB3; 3.B-N5+ B-Q2; 4.B-B4 B-N5; 5.B-K2? a)
 BxB; 6.QxB QxP; 7.N-KB3 N-B3; 8.N-B3 Q-R4; 9.P-Q4 P-K3; 10.B-B4
 0-0-0; 11.0-0-0 B-N5; 12.N-K4? Q-Q4; 13.NxN b) QxRP!; 14.P-B3
 BxP; 15.Q-B2 Q-R8+; 16.Q-N1 BxP+; 17.K-B2 N-N5+; 18.K-Q2 B-B6+;
 19.K-K2 Q-R3+; 20. Resigns.

- a) A new move, and not a very good one. If White was going
 to retreat to K2, he should have done so on move 4.
 Best for White is 5.P-KB3 which is the critical line
 in this whole variation. To play this line effectively,
 Black has to think up an improvement on the Larry Evans-
 N.Rosolino game in the 1967 U.S. Championship which
 continued 5.P-KB3 B-B4; 6.N-B3 QN-Q2 7.Q-K2 N-N3; 8.
 B-N3 Q-Q2 (8...P-QR3; 9.Q-K5!); 9.P-Q4 (9.P-Q6!? is
 another try) N/B3xP; 10.N-K4 P-K3; 11.B-Q2 P-QR4;
 12.P-QR3 N-R5; 13.0-0-0 B-K2; 14.P-N4 B-N3; 15.P-KB4
 N/Q4-N3; 16.P-Q4±.
- b) It looks like White is going to escape, but Black
 has a surprise up his sleeve.

1983 PALMETTO CHESS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

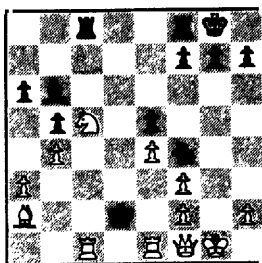
ROUND 3

(Notes by Nix)

White: Jim Williams

Black: Gene Nix
Ruy Lopez

1.e4 e5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.Bb5 a6; 4.Ba4 Nf6; 5.O-O Be7; 6.Re1 b5; 7.Bb3 d6;
8.c3 Bg4; 9.d4(a) exd4; 10.Cxd4 O-O?(b); 11.Qd3? Bxf3; 12.gxf3 Nb4; 13.
Qf1 Qd7; 14.Be3 c5; 15.a3 Cxd4; 16.Bxd4 Nc6; 17.Bc3 Ne5; 18.Nd2 Bd8;
19.Ba2 Bb6(c); 20.b4 Rac8; 21.Rac1 Nh5; 22.Bxe5 dxe5; 23.Nb3 Nf4;
24.Nc5 Qd2(d);



25.Bb1 Rc6; 26.Rc2(e) Rg6ch; 27.Kh1 Qd8; 28.Rd1 Qh4; 29.Nd7 Rg2; 30.Qxg2
Nxg2; 31.Kxg2 Rd8; 32.Rcd2 Qg5ch; 33.Kh1 Bd4; 34.Nc5 Rd6; 35.Bd3 Rg6
Resigns.

- (a) (Knoch let this pass without comment in Johner-Rubinstein, Karlsbad 1907, from Rubinstein's Chess Masterpieces, except to point out 9.h3 as having been played by Spielmann. Rubinstein castled here.)
- (b) (10...Bxf3 looks good to me. Now White can close the position and expand with 11.d5.)
- (c) Had White played 19.Bd4, then 19...Ba5; 20.Bc3, Bb6, gaining a beat compared to the game.)
- (d) (24...Qe7! is logical, threatening 25...Bxc5 and preparing to attack the kingside with Rc6-h6 and Qh4. 25.Nd3 would lose to 25...Qg5ch; 26.Kh1, Nxd3; 27.Rxc8, Nxf2ch, etc.)
- (e) (or 26.Red1, Qb2; 27.Rc2, Qxa3; 28.Ra2, Qxb4; 29.Nxa6, Qe7 etc., e.g. 30.Qxb5, Qg5ch; 31.Kf1, Og2ch; 32.Kel, Qglch; 33.Qf1, Qxh2, etc., or 26.Rcd1, Qb2; 27.Re3, Bxc5; 28.bxc5, Rxc5, etc.)

PALMETTO CHESS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

ROUND 6

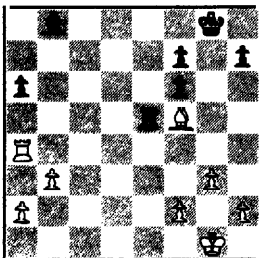
Black: David Erb

White: Gene Nix

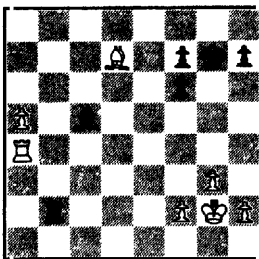
Larsen's Opening

(Notes by Nix)

1.b3 d5; 2.Bb2 c5; 3.e3 Nf6; 4.Nf3 Bf5; 5.c4 e6; 6.cxd5 exd5; 7.Be2 Bd6;
 8.0-0 0-0; 9.d4 b6; 10.Nc3 Nc6; 11.Nb5 Bb8; 12.dxc5 bxc5; 13.Bxf6 gxf6;
 14.Rc1 a6; 15.Nc3 d4; 16.exd4 Nxd4; 17.Nxd4 cxd4; 18.Na4 Ra7; 19.Bg4 Qd6;
 20.g3 Be4; 21.Rc4 Rd8; 22.Re1 Bc6; 23.Bf5! Re8 (23...Bb5; 24.Qh5!);
 24.Rxe8ch Bxe8; 25.Qxd4 (25.Rxd4 is stronger) Qxd4; 26.Rxd4 Re7; 27.Rh4
 Bxa4!; 28.Rxa4(a) Re5;



29.Bc8 Ba7!?(b); 30.Rxa6 Bd4; 31.Rd6 Re1ch; 32.Kg2 Be5; 33.Rd2 Kg7;
 34.a4(c) Rb1; 35.Rd3 Ra1; 36.Bd7 Bc7; 37.b4 Rb1; 38.Rd4 Bb6; 39.Rf4
 Rb2; 40.a5 Be3; 41.Rf3 Bd2; 42.Ra3! Bxb4; 43.Ra4?(d) Bc5;



44.a6 Rxf2ch; 45.Kh3 Ba7; 46.Bc8 Rc2; 47.Bb7 Rc1; 48.Re4 Kf8; 49.Re2 h6;
 50.Kg4 Rc5; 51.Re1 Ra5; 52.Rf1 Ke7; 53.Rf5 Rxf5; 54.Kxf5 Bb8; 55.Ke4 Kd6;
 56.g4 Ba7; 57.h3 Bb6; 58.Bd5 f5ch; 59.gxf5 f6; 60.Bb7 Ba7; 61.Bc8
 (sealed move) Bb6; 62.Be6 Ba7; 63.Kf4 Ke7; 64.Bc4 Bb6; 65.Kg4 Kf8;

66.Kf4 Ke7; 67.Be6 Ba7; 68.Ke4, Draw.

- (a) (A good old Bishops-of-opposite colors end game. Perhaps 28.Bxh7ch, Kg7; 29.bxa4 is a better try.)
- (b) (Scorning 29...a5 for active play.)
- (c) (Probably premature. 34.Bb7 or Bf5 seems preferable.)
- (d) (After studying 43.a6! for some 10 minutes, I rejected it because of 43...Bxa3; 44.a7, Rxf2ch; 45.Kxf2?, Bc5ch. Several onlookers saw 45.Kh3!, as Jim Williams showed me later. So, the best continuation should be 43.a6!., Rxf2ch!; 44.Kh3!, Bc5; 45.a7, Bxa7; 46.Rxa7, etc.)

SCCA POSTAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1983

(Notes by Strickland)

White: Robert Strickland

Black: David Williams

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 d6; 3.d4 cd; 4.c3 Nf6; 5.Bd3(a) dc; 6.Nxc3 Nc6; 7.00 a6;
 8.Qe2(b) Bg4!; 9.Be3 Ne5; 10.Bc4 Bxf3; 11.gf Qc8; 12.Nd5!(c) NXd5;
 13.BXd5 Qh3; 14.BF4 NXF3+; 15.Kh1 Nd4; 16.Qd1 e5(d); 17.BXb7 Rb8; 18.BXA6
 eF; 19.QXd4(e) Qf3+; 20.Kg1 Qg4+; 21.Kh1 Qf3+. Draw by Repetition.

- (a) e5, Bb5+ or even Qxd4 would be better. The text move gives up the initiative.
- (b) Another mistake, h3 would keep White's position intact.
- (c) This move eases the pressure a little.
- (d) I thought Nc6 would win for Black here.
- (e) Now for the counterattack but alas, it's not to be.

PALMETTO CHESS CLUB SUMMER OPEN

by
Bill Floyd

Jack Berry and Bill Floyd tied for first in the PCC Summer Open. Each scored $5\frac{1}{2}$ in the 24 player event. A complete cross table will follow in the next issue. This was the second largest turnout ever for PCC Club-night tournament (played over 6 weeks on Thursday evenings). The Club's new format (introduced in January in the Annual Club Championship, which drew 28 players) can be credited with much of this success. In this tournament everyone was allowed one full point bye and one half point bye. This meant that a player who couldn't make every meeting could still have a chance at a prize. At the same time though, missing didn't give a player an easy ride because (1) the "free" points meant you would have tougher opponents than if you played and drew or lost, and (2) people who played every week could always take a last round bye to preserve their score. Also, only players present were paired, meaning everyone who came knew they would play.

Another way to look at this is that it was actually a five round tournament played over six weeks with no problems in making up games, forfeits and doing the pairings.

We invite other clubs to try it.

WHERE ARE SOUTH CAROLINA'S CHESSPLAYERS?

by
Bill Floyd

The following table shows where our membership (in USCF) lives. The biggest surprise to me was that over 35% lived in very rural areas. There are 32 communities that have only one USCF member and 19 others with three or less.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Number</u>
Columbia	58
Charleston	43
Greenville	31
Spartanburg	17
Florence	13
Summerville	12
Lancaster	11
Landrum	11
Aiken, N. Augusta	10
Other	<u>109</u>
Total USCF in South Carolina	<u><u>315</u></u>

THE PALMETTO CHESS CLUB

(Editor's Note: This is the first of what I hope will be a series of articles on South Carolina Chess Clubs. I chose to start with my own club, as I will need contributions from others to write about other clubs.)

Chess clubs, even in major cities, often have short life cycles with frequent deaths and rebirths. It is thus remarkable when one finds a club that has thrived for over 40 years, as the Palmetto Chess Club of Columbia has done since its creation in about 1941. From its first meeting at the Foster School of Dance on Green Street, through its various other meeting sites at the YMCA, YWCA, and Blue Cross building, it has maintained the continuity of its history. It has always gained new members to replace departing ones, never disappearing even in slack periods.

The present club is thriving, having over 50 members, with weekly attendances of 15-20, up to 30. Club President, Max Gergel, is a living link with the past, as the only charter member still with the club. Max is a personable Chemistry Professor at Allen University. He acknowledges that his presidency is somewhat honorary, being the club's way of recognizing its past.

The club now meets on Thursday nights in commodious quarters in the basement of the Bruce Building, at the corner of Lady and Marion, near the capitol. Players enjoy comfortable booths, handy vending machines, and plenty of privacy.

Much of the club's leadership and creative energy is provided by its treasurer, Bill Floyd, who is also SOCA President. Bill's job as treasurer is natural: by day, he is Deputy Commissioner of Financial Services for the South Carolina Department of Mental Health, where his job is to oversee the huge agency's budget of \$75,000,000 dollars. Since the Department is financially solvent (last I heard), one can assume the Palmetto Club funds are in good hands!

A regular diet of tournament activity is provided by the indefatigable Don Lemaster, a senior tournament director whose contributions to chess were featured in our July issue. Jack Berry, one of the state's strongest players, is club vice-president. Personable Bill Bland, a pillar of club strength in recent years, is secretary.

The life of a club is its membership, and chess clubs tend to attract people who have significant achievements in other fields. (Ironically, since chess-players tend to be quiet, they often know little of each others' accomplishments!) Leroy Lewis, e.g., is a master long-distance cyclist, although he's near retirement age. The club presently includes at least three lawyers, so Lemaster has to be prepared for some eloquent arguments on his rulings at times! Also included are computer operators, medical students, and a psychologist (at least one in each preceding category).

The city's universities provide the club with regular new members, who may stay with it if they settle in Columbia.

Some of the members have unusual kinds of chess accomplishments. One such member is Robert Coleman, a young musician who is blind. Robert competed in the World Blind Championships recently, a feat which earned him complimentary articles in both Columbia newspapers.

Another member with unusual chess accomplishments is Andy Jackson, a just-retired military man from Fort Jackson (named for another Andy Jackson). Andy is a regular feature author for Transcendental Chess, a Brooklyn-based magazine that promotes chess games with randomly-determined bank-rank piece placements for opening positions. Andy, under the nom de plume of "Ajax," contributes a cartoon and a chess rhyme (a poem which symbolically clues the solution to a chess problem) to each issue. Andy has also written short pieces, both fictional and analytical, that have been published. One such piece compared pawn formations to military formations; shades of Franklin K. Young!

There are undoubtedly others in the club who should be singled out, but the modest nature of chess players keeps their accomplishments unknown to the editor. Club members didn't even know of Jackson's contributions until I saw a recent issue of Transcendental Chess.

Columbia was the birthplace of Judge A. B. Meek, who was President of the First American Chess Congress in 1857. Today's Palmetto Chess Club carries on Columbia chess tradition in a way that would make the old judge proud and pleased to join us.

FORT JACKSON WANDERING OPEN/A
COLUMBIA, SC
8-28-83

TD - Don Lemaster

PLAYER	ST	PRE		POST		1	2	3	TOT
		RING	RING	RING	RING				
1. Ferguson, Randal G.	SC	2175	2182	W-8	W-4	D-2			2.5
2. Fuerstman, Leland	NC	2147	2154	W-5	W-6	D-1			2.5
3. Hyatt, James C.	SC	1961	1947	L-6	W-5	U--			1.0
4. Miller, David W.	SC	1926	1933	W-7	L-1	U--			1.0
5. Jackson, Philip F.	SC	1844	1845	L-2	L-3	W-7			1.0
6. Mahaffey, Martin M.	SC	1755	1776	W-3	L-2	U--			1.0
7. Cade, Ralph B.	SC	1861	1831	L-4	D-8	L-5			.5
8. Mahaffey, Marion E.	SC	1847	1843	L-1	D-7	U--			.5

FORT JACKSON WANDERING OPEN/B

1. Moore, David J.	SC	1801/16	1804	W-7	W-8	D-2			2.5
2. Martin, Ralph Greg	SC	1768	1779	W-5	W-4	D-1			2.5
3. Smith, Robert M.	SC	1695	1677	L-8	W-9	W-7			2.0
4. Sanders, George	SC	1405/12	1435	W-10	L-2	W-8			2.0
5. Jackson, Andrew A.	SC	1255	1279	L-2	W-10	W-9			2.0
6. Jones, Warren E.	SC	1481/12	1405	L-9	L-7	W-10			1.0
7. Taylor, John E.	SC	1265	1283	L-1	W-6	L-3			1.0
8. Barnes, Tom B.	SC	0	1559	W-3	L-1	L-4			1.0
9. Walker, Phillip	SC	0	1319	W-6	L-3	L-5			1.0
10. Haworth, Dale E.	SC	0	1006	L-4	L-5	L-6			.0

TIED PLAYERS ARE LISTED IN ORDER OF PRE-TOURNAMENT RATINGS: W-WIN, L-LOSS, D-DRAW, X-FORFEIT WIN, F-FORFEIT LOSS, Z-FORFEIT DRAW, H-1/2 PT BYE, B-BYE, U-UNPLAYED.

PAWN'S REVENGE

Mickey Bush scored $3\frac{1}{2}$ to take clear first in "Pawn's Revenge," a tournament held in Spartanburg August 20. Based on a "classless" prize system trophies were also awarded to the lowest rated players in several point groups. The 3-point winner was a high school student, John Anthony. He also won an upset prize for his first round win over former South Carolina state champion Spencer Mathews. Other prize winners were: Buddy White ($2\frac{1}{2}$ pt. gp.), Jim Smith (2 pt. gp.), and John Mitchell (top unrated). David Williams directed and reports a flaw in this type of prize system, i.e., Jim Smith would have won a trophy following either a win or loss in round four, but would have gone home empty-handed with a draw!

8/20/83			Round	Round	Round	Round	Round	Round	Total
	I.D. No.	Rating	1	2	3	4	5		
1. Bush, Harold M., Jr.	10212537	1956	W12	W22	D8	W6	U		3½
2. Williams, Wayne G.	12186330	2100	½Bye	D18	W7	W8	U		3
3. Mathews, Spencer R. Jr.	10212626	1954	L6	W16	W19	W11	U		3
4. Williams, Michael N.	10211026	1821	W9	W17	L6	W12	U		3
5. Sphar, Robert L.	10338107	1696	L20	W10	W22	W7	U		3
6. Anthony, John	12202180	1516	W3	W15	W4	L1	U		3
7. Smith, James M.	10212651	1390	W11	W20	L2	L5		W25	3
8. Cantrell, Albert M.	Tour Mem.								
	10212677	1804	W19	W21	D1	L2	U		2½
9. Wallace, Charles	12421391	1495	L4	W24	D17	W16	U		2½
10. White, Buddy R.	12414017	1263	D16	L5	W25	W17	U		2½
11. Hawthorne, Benjy	11408249	1609	L7	W23	W21	L3	U		2
12. Seko, Emmanuel V.	12310250	1562	L1	W14	W20	L4	U		2
13. Hanks, John F., Jr.	New	New	L21	L19	W23	W20	U		2
14. Plotczyk, William V.	12406338	Unr.	L22	L12	W24	W19	U		2
15. Mitchell, John	12422672	Unr.	W24	L6	L16	W22	U		2
16. Frady, Gregory H.	12421976	Unr.	D10	L3	W15	L9	U		1½
17. Peteri, Gedeon	Tour Mem.								
	Only	New	W23	L4	D9	L10	U		1½
18. Williams, David K.	10212685	2011	½Bye	D2	U	U	U		1
19. Crane, Ken	12415753	1459	L8	W13	L3	L14	U		1
20. Brandon, Harold P.	10743982	1394	W5	L7	L12	L13	U		1
21. Horton, Herbert T.	11475680	1339	W13	L8	L11	U	U		1
22. Horton, Donald C.	11434592	1297	W14	L1	L5	L15	U		1
23. Wallace, Robert	12421600	1211	L17	L11	L13	W24	U		0
24. Moore, Michael	New	New	L15	L9	L14	L23	U		0
25. Fleming, James I.	11366465	Unr.	U	U	L10	U	L7		0

CHARLESTON CLASSIC III
AUGUST 20 & 21, 1983
TD - Henry Cabaniss

	Rating	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Score
1. Klaus Pohl	2339	W20	W8	W5	W3	D4	4.5
2. Paul Hargett	1970	W19	W13	L3	W21	W10	4.0
3. David Erb	2112	W16	W25	W2	L1	W7	4.0
4. Jack Berry	2117	W14	D9	W6	W10	D1	4.0
5. Paul Tinkler	2020	W17	W24	L1	D6	W14	3.5
6. Lindsay Blanks	1965	W22	W15	L4	D5	W11	3.5
7. Patrick Hart	2113	L15	W18	W12	W8	L3	3.0
8. James Hyatt	1946	W27	L1	W16	L7	W19	3.0
9. Ralph Cade	1851	W29	D4	L10	D19	W20	3.0
10. William Culver	2106	W21	D12	W9	L4	L2	2.5
11. Rory Cahoon	2010	D18	D20	W15	D14	L6	2.5
12. William Floyd	1817	W23	D10	L7	D20	D16	2.5
13. Robert Moorer	1744	W26	L2	L19	W22	D15	2.5
14. James Blanning	1642	L4	W27	W22	D11	L5	2.5
15. Dennis Salwierz	1639	W7	L6	L11	W27	D13	2.5
16. Henry White	1602/15	L3	W29	L8	W23	D12	2.5
17. Wesley Bryant	1519	L5	W30	L24	D25	W21	2.5
18. Philip Lawrence	1491	D11	L7	L20	W26	W25	2.5
19. William Harriot	1425	L2	W28	W13	D9	L8	2.5
20. Robert Strickland	1699	L1	D11	W18	D12	L9	2.0
21. James Hanlon	1549	L10	W23	W25	L2	L17	2.0
22. John Crawford	1373	L6	W26	L14	L13	W28	2.0
23. Scott Gibson	UNR	L12	L21	W28	L16	W27	2.0
24. David Ross	1749	W28	L5	W17	Withdraw		2.0
25. Jim Roy	1790/7	W30	L3	L21	D17	L18	1.5
26. Harvey Fischer	UNR	L13	L22	WF	L18	1/2 Bye	1.5
27. Paul Snyderwine	1091	L8	L14	WF	L15	L23	1.0
28. Buddy Paschal	UNR	L24	L19	L23	WF	L22	1.0
29. Ronald Anderson	UNR	L9	L16	LF	Withdraw		0
30. Robert Elliot	UNR	L25	L17	LF	Withdraw		0

SC POSTAL CHAMPIONSHIP (IN PROGRESS)

	Bush	W. Williams	D. Williams	Hyatt	McCrary	Floyd	Strickland	Corbett	McNab	Score
Mickey Bush	X	1/2		1			1/2	1		3-1
Wayne Williams	1/2	X	0	1			1	1/2	1	4-2
David Williams		1	X	1			1/2	1/2	1	4-1
Cliff Hyatt (withdrew)	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	0	0	0-8
John McCrary				1	X				1	2-0
Bill Floyd				1		X	1/2	0	1	2½-1½
Robert Strickland	1/2	0	1/2	1		1/2	X	1/2	1	4-3
Bill Corbett	0	1/2	1/2	1		1	1/2	X		3½-2½
Terry McNab		0	0	1	0	0	0		X	1-5

OTB RATING LIST
(The Top 50%)

THE TOP 109 OF 218 SOUTH CAROLINA PLAYERS ACTIVE
IN RATED PLAY FROM 8-82 TO 8-83

1. Klaus A. Pohl	2339	49. Thomas E. Thorpe	1779
2. Ernesto D. Guzman, Sr.	2218	50. Romeo M. Conde	1767
3. Randal G. Ferguson	2141	51. Fred G. Miller, Jr.	1766
4. Curtis Adrian Graham	2136	52. Renee Cameron	1764
5. Jack J. Berry	2117	53. Don Lemaster	1762
6. Patrick D. Hart	2113	54. James E. Hughey	1761
7. David Erb	2112	55. Peter S. Wludyka IV	1760
8. Wayne Goodman Williams	2100	56. Randy G. McFarlane	1753
9. Joseph Zeimetz	2082	57. David J. Moore	1750
10. M. Lee Hyder	2073	58. Robert H. Moorer	1744
11. Francis G. Banffy	2073	59. Ralph Gregory Martin	1730
12. Edward O. McCauley	2030	60. Douglas W. Smith	1706
13. J. Fred Wilson	2020	61. Ralph L. Hughes, Jr.	1703
14. Paul E. Tinkler	2020	62. Robert F. Strickland	1699
15. Jeffrey R. Smeltzer	2019	63. Marvin S. Weaver III	1693
16. Jimmy Hill	2011	64. Robert M. Smith	1685
17. David Knox Williams	2011	65. Jerry N. Turner	1684
18. Rory Cahoon	2010	66. Jim Williams	1665
19. David W. Miller	1988	67. Shareef Ibrahim	1665
20. Claude W. Corbett III	1972	68. Ralph E. Carter	1664
21. Lindsay E. Blanks	1965	69. Max G. Gergel	1662
22. Harold M. Bush, Jr.	1956	70. Ralph G. Bryant	1655
23. Spencer R. Mathews, Jr.	1954	71. Orville B. Harris	1654
24. James C. Hyatt	1946	72. Ronald R. Collins	1645
25. Scott D. Thomson	1942	73. Matthew Earl Elliott	1643
26. Charles E. Braun	1900	74. Dennis M. Salwierz	1639
27. Harry Lee Abrams	1895	75. Arturo Martin De Nicol	1637
28. Douglas D. Taffinder, Jr.	1884	76. Lawton Wiggins	1636
29. Ernest E. Nix, Jr.	1881	77. Wade F. Fisher	1636
30. Russell Thurmond	1880	78. Joel De Guzman	1635
31. Dennis L. Fish	1874	79. George Disher	1632
32. Marion E. Mahaffey	1863	80. William Dowers	1624
33. Michael W. Ham	1855	81. Calvin E. Milledge	1623
34. Ralph B. Cade	1851	82. Michael Landau	1620
35. David Y. Causey	1836	83. Daniel A. Lucarelli	1617
36. Sean Ramsey	1832	84. William R. Bland, Jr.	1616
37. Lyth B. Clark	1823	85. Arthur C. Joy	1615
38. Robert A. Efid	1819	86. Ryan C. Coker	1615
39. Richard W. Van Hall	1818	87. Benjy F. Hawthorne	1609
40. William B. Floyd	1817	88. Joseph S. Corbett	1606
41. Jose Hector Elias	1814	89. J. Henry White	1602
42. Bill Brickenstein	1809	90. Opie D. Lindsay	1601
43. Mario Schenkel	1804	91. James Greenway, Jr.	1596
44. Albert M. Cantrell	1804	92. Lee A. Westbrook	1592
45. Manuel Keepler	1802	93. Randy J. Lowder	1587
46. Jim Roy	1790	94. Larry G. Green	1582
47. Martin M. Mahaffey	1788	95. Barry Richard Chaffin	1574
48. Winston D. Reed	1780	96. Edward C. Price	1573

OTB Rating List, Continued

97. Tully C. Stoudemayer	1567	104. Daniel J. Flanigan	1535
98. Emmanuel V. Seko	1562	105. Kevin Severance	1532
99. David Renau	1558	106. Chris Calhoun	1532
100. David C. Munday	1555	107. Alvin R. Veronee, Jr.	1521
101. Daniel W. Davis	1553	108. John R. Vonderlieth	1520
102. James D. Hanlon	1549	109. Wesley Bryant	1519
103. George Sanders	1545		

POSTAL RATING LIST
(THE TOP 50%)

THE TOP 32 OF 65 POSTAL PLAYERS ACTIVE
BETWEEN 8-82 AND 8-83

1. D. M. Scott, Jr.	1638	17. Elliott Schwartz	1244
2. Harold M. Bush, Jr.	1552	18. William E. Harriot	1242
3. Samuel Playfair	1526	19. Joseph Zeimetz	1212
4. Patrick D. Hart	1510	20. Winston D. Reed	1210
5. Charles E. Braun	1434	21. Mark D. Kluge	1210
6. Robert J. McCrary	1430	22. Claude W. Corbett III	1158
7. Darryl L. Ferguson	1404	23. James A. Canitz	1150
8. David Knox Williams	1316	24. John N. Crawford	1150
9. William B. Floyd	1308	25. David Erb	1132
10. Virgil Smith	1304	26. Lawton Wiggins	1108
11. Wayne Goodman Williams	1300	27. Ryan C. Coker	1108
12. Thomas Hutcheson	1294	28. Rip Blackstone	1092
13. Dennis L. Fish	1276	29. D. Mikell Johnson	1078
14. Sean Ramsey	1260	30. Richard A. Cheshire	1078
15. J. Karl Stover	1258	31. Don Lemaster	1002
16. Benjy F. Hawthorne	1250	32. Doyle Day	0998

TOURNAMENT AD

NOV. 5 'WALDEN KNIGHTS OPEN' 4-SS
CONFERENCE ROOM - WALDEN CORRECTION CENTER
4340 BROAD RIVER ROAD, COLUMBIA

EF \$8

TL 40/80

REG. 8-8:45

RD. 9-12:30 - 4-7:30

SOCA News is published by the South Carolina Chess Association (SOCA), a non-profit organization of persons interested in chess in South Carolina. The SOCA seeks to encourage and foster the playing of chess within the state. It is the recognized state affiliate of the U. S. Chess Foundation for South Carolina.

Any person is eligible to become a member through payment of annual dues to the Secretary. Regular dues are \$6.00. Junior dues for persons 18 years of age and younger are \$3.00. A person may become a patron member by payment of \$10.00.

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