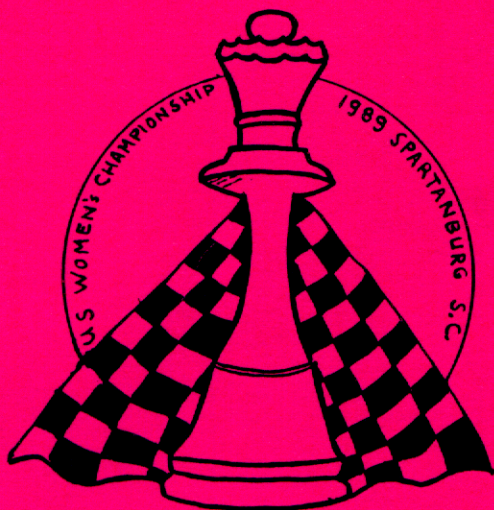




MAGAZINE OF THE S.C. CHESS ASSOCIATION

JULY 1989



INSIDE:

U.S. WOMAN CHAMPION

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About the Cover: This was the design of the commemorative T-shirt for the U.S. Women's Championship in Spartanburg. The T-shirt was designed by Dr. Dimitrijevic.

RUDOLPH WINS 1989 U.S. WOMEN'S CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

by John McGrary

Greater drama could not have occurred in any sport. It was the last round of the 1989 U.S. Women's Championship in Spartanburg, with undefeated Alexey Rudolph clear first, but Vesna Dimitrijevic only a half-point back. The two players were seated at neighboring tables, glancing anxiously at each other's demo boards as the final round progressed.

Tension peaked as Dimitrijevic played aggressively, building a powerful attack against her opponent, Shernaz Kennedy. Rudolph pressed her opponent, Natasha Us, aware that she might have to win to preserve an unshared title. The spectators, among whom were GM Larry Christiansen, were on the edge of their seats watching these critical games.

Suddenly, Kennedy slammed down her move and darted away from the board with a look of relieved triumph. Dimitrijevic had blundered, giving the game to Kennedy and the U.S. Women's Chess Championship to Alexey Rudolph. Dimitrijevic, Kennedy, and Sharon Burtman all tied for second, fulfilling the Woman International Master norm along with Rudolph, who finished 7-2.

Our new champion is a 23-year-old Los Angeles resident. She started tourney play at age 9, and was already competing for the U.S. Women's Championship by age 15; her victory in Spartanburg comes on her fourth attempt for the title. Ms. Rudolph is an example of the fact that strong players are typically highly intelligent (despite the deprecating comments on this topic sometimes made by chess authors themselves). She graduated college at age 17, after entering at 14. She plans soon to resume her studies to pursue a doctorate. (Incidentally, runnerup Dr. Dimitrijevic is a nuclear engineer with a Ph.D. from MIT: some excellent role models for my 10-year-old daughter, who was present, to emulate!) Ms. Rudolph was all smiles after her victory, handling her new fame with grace, as she accepted interview and autograph requests, and even posed for a picture with someone's baby. She was very complimentary of the organizers and arrangements. She goes now to the Women's Interzonal.

There were ten players present, constituting a very strong field from America's women's chess elite. There were

U.S. Women's Chess Championship (Continued)

a few notable absences, including defending champion Anna Achsharumova. The players present were clearly strong enough, however, to make a worthy U.S. championship. In addition to the four top finishers already mentioned, Ruth Donnelly, Diana Gherghe, Liz Neely, Colette McGruder, Natasha Us, and Chris Hendrickson rounded out the field. California provided four of the players, New York and Massachusetts two each, and Colorado and Virginia one apiece. The players showed excellent sportsmanship and fighting spirit, with some outstanding games and few draws (none of them short). Our male GM's should take some notes!

Playing conditions at Converse College were outstanding, with the games played in a beautiful recital hall that had excellent lighting and temperature control, and total insulation from outside noise. The tournament was the culminating event of the centennial celebration of Converse College, a woman's college with a total enrollment of about 1300. The event was hosted by Dr. Spencer Mathews of the Converse faculty, along with other members of the Spartanburg Chess Club. According to Spencer, the idea of a Converse site for the championship was conceived several years ago by David Williams (who also created our state postal chess championship, one of the few such titles in the U.S.).

The event seemingly was jeopardized by the lean USCF budget for this year. However, donations were offered by the Spartanburg County Foundation, the County Accommodations Tax Committee, the Spartanburg National Bank, and the Spartanburg Arts Council. These donations, together with Converse College's lodging and hospitality, and USCF's covering of the travel costs, equipment, and TD's honorarium, rescued the event.

Historical Notes

The 1989 U.S. Women's Chess Championship was presumably only the second national chess event in S.C. history, if one also includes the National Open in Charleston in the 1970's. Of course, the S.C. Chess Association was also actively involved in organizing the Korchnoi-Mecking Candidate's Match in 1974, held right across the state line in Augusta. Spartanburg has played an important role in S.C. chess history; the first major S.C. tournament I can find was played there in the early 1880's, along with our state's

U.S. Women's Chess Championship (Continued)

first recorded game. When the S.C. Chess Association was founded in 1926, most of the founding members were from Spartanburg (although the organizational meeting occurred at the Columbia YMCA).

Women's chess has also played a part in S.C. history. To my knowledge, only five women in the U.S. are known to have played chess before 1810; four of these were in Charleston, S.C. (They probably knew Paul Morphy's grandparents and father, then residing in Charleston.) In 1858, one of the few active female problem composers of that time was publishing in Charleston under the pseudonym "Coquette." She published in the Philidorian of Charleston, the first American chess magazine published outside of New York. The literary editor of the Philidorian later founded Presbyterian College and Thornwell Children's Home in Clinton, near Spartanburg.

An Interview with Dick Gardner

Dick Gardner, a National Tournament Director, was the T.D. for the 1989 U.S. Women's Championship. Dick was a natural choice, not only because he now lives in Charleston, S.C., but also because he has directed four previous U.S. Championships plus one previous U.S. Women's Championship. I could not help asking him his opinion of the ethics of modern grandmasters, an oft-discussed concern. "I think their ethics are fine," said Dick. "If they have done anything unethical in my tournaments, they have done a good job of hiding it." Dick admitted, however, that some grandmasters "just cannot play well against their friends." I asked, "Why not?" (After all, most chessplayers play their friends.) "Certain GM's just can't get up their competitive juices when playing their friends," he said. Dick added that he regards Seirawan as the strongest player he has dealt with.

And the 1989 U.S. Women's Championship is the most significant chess event ever held within our boundaries. Thanks to the Spartanburg Chess Club and Converse College for bringing it here!

Games from the Championship

Rudolph-Neely (In this game, the champion gains effective piece placements at the cost of a pawn, then finalizes with precise tactical play.) 1. d4 Nf6; 2. Nf3 g6; 3. c4 c5;

U.S. Women's Chess Championship (Continued)

4. e3 Bg7; 5. Nc3 O-O; 6. Be2 b6; 7. O-O Bb7; 8. d5 d6;
 9. e4 Na6; 10. h3 Nc7; 11. Be3 Rb8; 12. Qd2 a6; 13. Bh6 b5;
 14. Bxg7 Kxg7; 15. Qf4 b4; 16. Nd1 e5; 17. Qh4 Nh5; 18. g3
 Qxh4; 19. Nxh4 Nf6; 20. Bd3 Rbe8; 21. Ne3 Bc8; 22. Kh2 Ng8;
 23. g4 Nh6; 24. Bc2 f6; 25. a3 a5; 26. axb4 axb4; 27. Ra7
 Re7; 28. Rfal Rff7; 29. Ba4 Nxd5; 30. Rxe7 Nxe7; 31. Rd1
 Bb7; 32. Bd7 Bxe4; 33. Be6 Rf8; 34. Rxd6 Nf7; 35. Rd7 g5;
 36. f3 gxh4; 37. fxe4 Ng6; 38. Nf5+ Kg8; 39. Bxf7+ 1-0.

Dimitrijevic-Kennedy (In this game, White's blunder
 on move 33 eliminates Rudolph's last rival.) 1. e4 c5;
 2. Nc3 Nc6; 3. f4 e6; 4. Nf3 Nge7; 5. Be2 d5; 6. d3 d4;
 7. Nbl Ng6; 8. O-O Be7; 9. c3 O-O; 10. Qel Qc7; 11. Qg3 Bd6;
 12. e5 Be7; 13. h4 Bd8; 14. h5 Nge7; 15. Nh4 Nf5; 16. Nf5
 ef; 17. Na3 f6; 18. Nb5 Qe7; 19. cd cd; 20. Bdl Be6; 21. Rel fe;
 22. fe a6; 23. Nd6 b5; 24. Bf4 Rb8; 25. a3 b4; 26. Bf3 Na5;
 27. ab Nb3; 28. Rxa6 Rxb4; 29. Ra8 Nc5; 30. Real Rxb2; 31. Rla7
 Rbl+; 32. Kh2 Nd7; 33. Bg5 Qxg5; 34. Qh3 Qf4; 35. g3 Qf3;
 36. Qg2 Qxg2; 37. Kxg2 Rb2; 38. Resigns.

Where is Tinkler?
 TD - Douglas Holmes

June 17, 1980

#	Player	Rating	Round				Score
			1	2	3	4	
1.	Patrick Hart	2096	X	W	W	W	3.0
2.	Irving Rosenfeld	2017	L	X	D	L	0.5
3.	David Causey	1937	L	D	X	L	0.5
4.	John Vonderlieth	1861	L	W	W	X	2.0
1.	David Woodbury	1724/17	X	L	W	L	1.0
2.	Lawrence Hughes	1633	W	X	L	W	2.0
3.	Steve Watson	1610	L	W	X	L	1.0
4.	Ian Wolfe	1537	W	L	W	X	2.0
1.	Dennis Williams	1529/8	X	L	L	W	1.0
2.	Ray Westbury	1500/3	W	X	L	W	2.0
3.	James Hanlon	1461	W	W	X	L	2.0
4.	Jerry Burton	1408	L	L	W	X	1.0
1.	Roman Marks	1400/3	X	W	W	W	3.0
2.	Buddy Miller	1244	L	X	L	W	1.0
3.	Anthony Brown	1239	L	W	X	W	2.0
4.	Cary Floreno	968/8	L	L	L	X	0.0

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

by John McGrary

One of our goals this year was to increase the frequency of Palmetto Chess, with the understanding that the size of each issue would correspondingly be reduced. This summer issue is one of those smaller issues; our next one is scheduled for September-October (before the state championship). Hopefully, the quality of our more frequent issues will compensate for their reduced quantity.

Our annual state championship will be held at the Tremont (Cayce-Columbia) on October 13-15. The top section will start play on October 13; the option of starting play on Saturday in that section has been deleted. The lower sections, which do start on Saturday, will have slightly-altered rating limits. The ad is elsewhere in the issue.

We are looking forward to another year of growth in our booming scholastic program, which has rocketed from absolute zero to well over a hundred kids in just a year's time. Doug Holmes and the Charleston Chess Club remain committed to scholastic chess. In addition, Dean Roesner of Saluda plans a mass mailout to high schools to try to develop scholastic interest in other areas of our state. The SCCA will hold a scholastic tournament in Columbia in the fall to support Dean's efforts. The Charleston Chess Club, of course, will be holding an active schedule of events in their area. It is projected that the state scholastic championship should again occur in Charleston in March (assuming the new state president, to be elected in October, concurs).

Speaking of scholastic chessplayers, our state can now boast a new first: perhaps the youngest author of a chess book. My daughter Diana (age 7) published a paperback of 12 manuscript pages, in a limited edition of six copies. (She said she wasn't ready to handle the fame of a larger edition.) Her book was based on research into interesting rules and quotes about chess. In one part, she noted that in the chess variant called Losing Chess, "The winners are the losers and the losers are the winners." An interesting quote subject to various interpretations!

Those of you who could not make it to Spartanburg for the U.S. Women's Championship missed an enjoyable event.

President's Page (Continued)

Frankly, I have never understood why chessplayers are generally reluctant to be spectators at major events. I visited the 1981 FIDE Congress which was held in Atlanta (I believe it was the only one ever held in the U.S.). The Congress was filled with major chess names from around the world: e.g., Max Euwe (who died a few months later), GM Auerbakh, Harry Golombek, Isaac Kashdan, cosmonaut Sevastianov, and dozens of others of the world chess elite. The event itself was a spectacle, including a team of simultaneous translators from the U.N.! Yet, I was almost the only spectator there; even the large Atlanta chess community did not come. I still find their absence incredible.

Storms are raging over organized chess both in USCF and FIDE. The GMA continues veritable warfare against FIDE, even though Campomanes has made so many concessions to Kasparov that he is having problems with his own FIDE officials (according to British Chess Magazine). The GMA, under Kasparov's leadership, wants control of the World Championship itself, in spite of the bad historical lessons we have learned from the days when champions had full control of their titles. Kasparov's uncompromising conduct has caused major splits within GMA itself, almost causing its "money man" Bessel Kok to leave the organization. I foresee major problems ahead; every World Championship match since 1972 has been inundated with controversy.

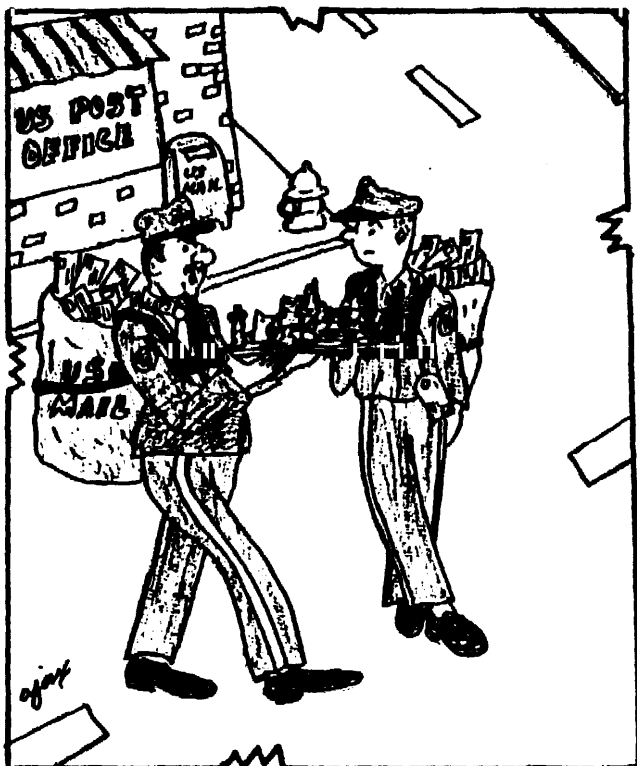
In USCF, there is a very small group of influential people who are threatening major disruption of U.S. chess. This group is so small, by the way, that I can name only four of them; but they generate enough literature to simulate an army! This group seems to want USCF to isolate itself by severing communication with FIDE. (This stance reminds me of the "Get out of the U.N." posters that formerly appeared all over the roads.) Lately, this same group is reputed to be ready to attack USCF itself, by suggesting boycotts of its sales, and even hinting at an attack on its tax-exempt status. (Those measures would hit all of us hard.)

This tiny group typically picks one individual, then pours mountains of misinformation on him until he caves in after a few months. Then they go after someone else. Now that they have driven off FIDE Delegate Don Schultz, they seem to be targeting current USCF president Harold Winston. A recent publication of theirs is filled with ungentlemanly personal attacks on Winston, who in fact is a well-informed

President's Page (Continued)

president who has bent over backwards throughout his term to deal diplomatically with these folks. They like to ridicule USCF "bureaucrats and politicians" which of course includes this writer in his capacity as USCF delegate and committee chairman. And I thought I was such a nice guy!

Checkmate!



"FORGET ABOUT DOGS AND WEATHER--THE WORST PART
IS DELIVERING POSTAL CHESS MOVES."

CHESSPLAYERS TRIVIA

Match the chessplayer with the fact about his/her life. (Ans. p. 13)

a. Gerald Abrahams	l. Charles Gumpel	v. Sammy Reshevsky
b. Alexander Alekhine	m. Anatoly Karpov	w. Alexey Rudolph
c. Adolf Anderssen	n. Victor Korchnoi	x. Yasser Seirawan
d. Raul Capablanca	o. Edward Lasker	y. Boris Spassky
e. Vesna Dimitrijevic	p. Emanuel Lasker	z. Howard Staunton
f. Charles Dodgson	q. Ruy Lopez	aa. Wilhelm Steinitz
g. Erich Ellskases	r. Vera Menchik-Stevenson	bb. Savielly Tartakover
h. Arpad Elo	s. Paul Morphy	cc. Frederick Yates
i. Max Euwe	t. Harold Murray	dd. Johannas Zukertort
j. Reuben Fine	u. Vera Nedeljkovic	
k. Robert Fischer		

1. May have met the founder of St. Augustine, FL, as both were Spanish Court favorites.
2. Shortly after narrowly losing the World Championship match, defected to the West.
3. Because of job teaching mathematics, could play only during school vacations. Became the only amateur World Champion in chess history.
4. Died in the bathtub after a long walk. Cause reported as "congestion of the brain, following the shock of cold water to an overheated body."
5. An International Master who married an International Master.
6. Won the first international tournament in 1851. May have considered becoming a chess professional, but returned to teaching, playing only occasionally, to support family.
7. Named "Bachelor of the Month" by Cosmopolitan Magazine.
8. Was competing in the Argentinian Chess Olympiads when WWII began. Returned to Europe and fought in Free French army.
9. Was competing in the Argentinian Chess Olympiads when WWII began. Remained in Argentina, eventually becoming a citizen.
10. A nuclear engineer with a PhD from MIT; played recently in S.C.
11. A medical doctor, fluent in 11 languages, a talented pianist, skilled at swordplay and marksmanship.
12. Declined to compete in only World Championship tournament ever held, because he thought he had been cheated out of being allowed to play a match for the title. Published a history of psychoanalysis.
13. Died after suffering a stroke at the Manhattan Chess Club.
14. Brought up in poverty with little education, but became an eminent Shakespearean scholar.

Championship Trivia (Continued)

15. At age 11, defeated an International Grandmaster; retired a year later to concentrate on education, returning to chess after graduating college.
16. Learned to play chess at a Kirov children's home, after being evacuated there in 1941 at age 4.
17. Oldest international player of all time. Took part in the telex match between London and New York at age 90.
18. Invented fanciful stories to illustrate the rules of chess and how the pieces move. Incorporated many of these in a well-known children's book.
19. Only World Champion to die while holding the title.
20. Was star pupil of John Collins, and charter member of U.S. Chess Hall of Fame.
21. Holds record for longest tenure as World Champion by U.S. citizen.
22. Entered college at 14, graduated at 17, and became U.S. Women's Champion at 23.
23. A former World Champion; retired from chess twice. Became impoverished refugee during the rise of Hitler, and returned to chess to support self and spouse.
24. Creator of the chess-playing Mephisto; was by profession a manufacturer of artificial limbs.
25. Wrote The Chess Mind (pub 1959), an attempt to deal with the intellectual processes involved when playing chess.
26. Died because of defective gas meter in bedroom.
27. Spent over 13 years writing A History of Chess. Learned Arabic to be able to read unpublished Arabic sources. Was son of the author of the Oxford English Dictionary.
28. Sent to represent national in junior tournament in Czechoslovakia. Upon arrival, learned it was for adults. Competed anyway and came first with no losses.
29. Physicist and astronomer. Associate Professor at Marquette University for 37 years. Helped found the USCF in 1939.
30. Was Women's World Champion for 17 years, until her death. In 1944 (one year after being widowed) was killed with her mother and sister in an air raid.

Elections 89: (Charleston CC)

President: Douglas Holmes
Treasurer: Patrick Hart

Vice-President: Patrick Hart

THE FUTURE OF CHESS

by John McCrary

Recently, Andy Soltis in his Chess Life column speculated rather pessimistically about the future of our game. By contrast, here are my own more optimistic projections.

1) Women will play chess as often and as well as men. It may take a few decades, but it will come. The gender-stamping of our game as "male" is purely the result of the stereotyping of chess as a serious and intelligent pastime; and women have not, unfortunately, been considered either serious or intelligent. As cultural ideas about women gradually change, it seems logical that their avoidance of chess will seem increasingly inappropriate; thus, more women will cross that invisible social barrier to play. The main differences between the USCF and the American Contract Bridge League are that their membership is triple ours, and that they have both male and female members. The conclusion should be obvious regarding the potential impact on the growth of chess if the gender-stereotyping disappears. Think about it: how much of life is not gender-stereotyped in some way? Bridge is one of the few activities that is not!

2) Computers will find their proper place - as tools, not as players. They will be used mainly for practice and for post-game analysis, not as replacements for human opposition. They will not ruin correspondence chess, as so often predicted; postalites have been on an honor system all along not to consult human players, so what is different about computers? If the honor system has worked well even for World Correspondence Championships, it will work as well in the computer age. The only thing that would hurt correspondence chess would be the introduction of large cash prizes; ethics would plummet if the amateur status of that form of chess were compromised.

3) Chess organizations will become unified. Chess is one of the few activities in which local clubs, state organizations, and national associations are separate entities; a person must separately join each one. In addition, there are all sorts of other organizations, such as the CCLA, which controls U.S. play in international correspondence chess instead of the USCF. It goes without saying that if unity brings strength, chessplayers only hurt themselves by having so many competing organizations that are often jealous of each other. The inertia of players is strong, however; so it may take a few more decades to accomplish what most other large organizations have already accomplished!

Future of Chess (Continued)

4) Rules will continue to evolve: The 50-move draw will probably be first to go, the victim of computer analysis. Perhaps the three-fold repetition, which is rarely a factor in games, will disappear as well. Stalemate, an inherently illogical rule, will probably stay as is. Otherwise, the game will probably remain as is with very little change.

5) Draws will be reduced among grandmasters, although I am not sure how. Perhaps more aggressive, unbalanced opening lines will become customary. Hopefully, ethics will improve, eliminating the "peaceful" draw. Maybe the rules about opening play will ultimately have to change. Something clearly must "give" in this area, as current trends are unacceptable.

6) Action chess events will be held occasionally, but will not replace other forms of the game even in mass media presentations. The quality of play is just too compromised.

7) Chess will survive and thrive despite video games and other distractions. Chess has a unique appeal that gives it a special ecological niche in our culture. It has survived the inventions of playing cards and checkers over the centuries, and is more popular in our time than in any period since the Middle Ages (when it enjoyed its all-time peak, believe it or not). As the intellectual level of our society improves, hopefully chess will rise with it.

1989 Charleston Chess Club Championship
TD - Patrick Hart

April, 1989

#	Player	Rating	Round				Score
			1	2	3	4	
1.	Douglas Holmes	1904	W6	W13	W7	D2	3.5
2.	Ronald Robinson	1781	W16	W5	W8	D1	3.5
3.	David Woodbury	1618/13	W4	L7	W13	W8	3.0
4.	Paul Tinkler	2071	L3	W10	W15	W9	3.0
5.	Patrick Hart	2115	W18	L2	W14	W7	3.0
6.	Jerry Burton	1343	L1	D17	W16	W11	2.5
7.	David Causey	1936	W17	W3	L1	L5	2.0
8.	Irving Rosenfeld	2040	W9	W14	L2	L3	2.0
9.	Ian Wolfe	1518	L8	W12	W10	L4	2.0
10.	Alvin Veronee	1646	W11	L4	L9	W15	2.0
11.	Buddy Miller	1233	L10	W16	W17	L6	2.0
12.	Anthony Brown	1191	L14	L9	W7	W17	2.0
13.	Stephen McLeod-Bryant	1672/6	W15	L1	L3	D14	1.5
14.	John Crawford	1641	W12	L8	L5	D13	1.5
15.	Wayne Smith	1235	L13	W18	L4	L10	1.0
16.	Mark Sessoms	1360	L2	L11	L6	BYE	1.0
17.	Leonard Robinson	1400	L7	D6	L11	L12	0.5
18.	Clark Whiting	1621	L5	L15	L7	---	0.0

HOW TO MAKE A CHESS FAMILY HAPPY

by John McCrary

Take them all on chess-related vacations to national events! Even if you sightsee rather than play, you still get convention hotel rates (about half-price) in some excellent spots. We have been so many places that my children are already seasoned flyers while still in elementary school. Our favorite chess vacation so far was to the 1987 New York Open. Here is why!

1) Location: The N.Y. Open is held at the Penta Hotel, a tall building (as is every Manhattan building) across the street from Madison Square Garden and a block from Macy's. It is also a short walk to Times Square and the Empire State Building. (By the way, don't bother to ask for a high-up room to get a view; the only "view" you get in Manhattan is of the tall buildings across the street!)

2) Wall-to-wall Grandmasters: The N.Y. Open has perhaps the largest collection of the world chess elite of any event on earth. In 1987, there were former world champs Spassky and Smyslov, along with virtually every living U.S. champion (present, past, or future). Reuben Fine dropped in, and took a moment to observe the eldest Polgar sister's game. (An interesting occurrence, since Fine has argued psychoanalytically that women will never play well.)

Furthermore, these great players are highly accessible. They play in a large open area which is roped off, yet permits spectators virtually to lean over the boards. Before each round, you can socialize easily with grandmasters as they mill around the book concession like ordinary folks. You also encounter them easily in the hotel elevators and restaurants. The best grandmaster-watching is done early in the tournament before the lower sections start and flood the area with fans.

3) USCF Headquarters and the US Chess Hall of Fame are just an inexpensive one-hour bus ride from Manhattan. (Buses to Newburgh-New Windsor run all day from the Port Authority, about a dozen blocks from the Penta.) The ride to New Windsor takes you through beautiful mountains; the USCF itself is located right on the Hudson River. It is a two-story building which one enters on the top floor. All the

Chess Vacation (Continued)

books and equipment sold by USCF are exhibited at the entrance, making shopping very convenient. Employees are all over the place, staring at computer terminals and working incessantly. Downstairs is the Hall of Fame Museum, where there is a small but very valuable collection including Morphy's silver prize for winning the First American Chess Congress. Next to the museum is the Chess Life office; tell the editor what you think! Folks there are friendly and visitors made to feel welcome. You can "do" USCF in just a half-day total time, for just a few dollars for the bus tickets.

4) The Chess Historic District - We all know that a lot of chess history happened in Manhattan, but I did not realize until I got there that it mostly happened in a very small area. In southern Manhattan, near New York University, is an area of only a few blocks where Morphy, Steinitz, Lasker, Alekhine, Marshall, and Fischer all made major achievements. Washington Square Park is very near the Marshall Chess Club; both sites were very important to the developing Fischer. Only 3-6 blocks farther are the places where Morphy played in 1857. Still in the same general neighborhood, we can find the sites of the first official World Championship match (1886) and America's first true international tournament (1889). Also in that same little area are the sites of the first U.S. chess tournament in 1843 (discovered by this writer) and the approximate area inhabited by the Rev. Lewis Rau, one of the first known U.S. chessplayers in 1734. The first U.S. chess magazines also came from this amazing little section of southern Manhattan.

It takes only half a day to "do" this chess historic district on foot, leaving one plenty of time for a cab or subway ride to such other sites as the Manhattan Chess Club (farther up the island), or the Brooklyn Public Library where Fischer entered the worlds of chess organization and literature.

When you finish the chess part of your trip, remember that the Penta is still yours for two-digit convention rates, to see the rest of New York!

Answers to Chessplayers Trivia

1 q	9 g	17 o	25 a
2 n	10 e	18 f**	26 cc
3 i	11 dd*	19 b	27 t
4 s	12 j	20 k	28 m
5 u	13 d	21 aa***	29 h
6 c	14 z	22 w	30 r
7 x	15 v	23 p	
8 bb	16 y	24 l	

*Steinitz ridiculed these "accomplishments", implying they were exaggerated.

**Lewis Carroll, Through the Looking Glass

***Became U.S. citizen in 1888

THE ONE-TWO PUNCH

by John McCrary

Everybody knows what a "combination" is--but can anyone define it? It is not as easy as it sounds. Several grandmasters, including Botvinnik, Euwe, and Auerbakh, have written books in which they tried to define "combination," and found it very hard to do. Botvinnik took the extreme position that a "true" combination always includes a sacrifice; if it does not, then it is not a "true" combination (simple semantics). However, we all know that most combinations do not involve sacrifices, at least as we actually use the word "combination."

Undaunted, this author will try to define "combination" as follows: A combination is a precisely-identified set of variations at least three half-moves deep, leading to a precise set of objectives, with the same player moving first and last in all the variations, and with his opponent having a choice of at least two defenses leading, respectively, to distinct outcomes.

That is quite a mouthfull! Does it hold water? The "three half-moves" does, since single moves, however strong, are not called combinations in themselves. Likewise, we think of combinations as being something that one player forces upon his opponent; thus, the same player starts and ends the combination, and three half-moves are minimally required.

The "set of variations" and the "at least two defenses" may be arguable. Suppose that you threaten mate in one (say by Qh6-g7), and your opponent has no way whatever to stop the mate. We would probably not call that a combination. On the other hand, if your first move exchanges a guard (say BxN), and your second move then takes the man left unguarded (say NxP), we probably would call it a combination. In the second case, the opponent has two defenses: (a) to retake your exchanging man, allowing his unguarded man to be taken; (b) not retake your exchanging man but instead protect the second, thus losing material anyway. The idea of a "forced" move is just a way of saying that the defender has a choice of two defenses, one of which (the "forced" one) is better than the other.

We can now expand this definition by referring to the "depth" and "breadth" of a combination. The depth is simply

One-Two Punch (Continued)

the number of half-moves deep, while the breadth is the number of distinct defenses available to the opponent. Note that as the breadth and depth of a combination increase, however, precision in the calculation of specific variations may be lost. At that point, we cease to use the word "combination," and instead use more general terms such as "attack."

Another important feature of combinations is their aesthetic appeal, which relates to novelty in the combination. That novelty results from the fact that several half-moves combine to create effects, and whenever different elements of anything are combined, there are many more ways of producing novel cause-effect relationships and unique groupings of variations than if the elements stand alone.

How do combinations relate to tactics and strategy? First of all, "tactics" is a more general term that includes precisely-identified moves which do not fit the definition of "combination" (e.g., single moves, or maneuvers, by men of one side without meeting the "two-defense" rule for the opponent).

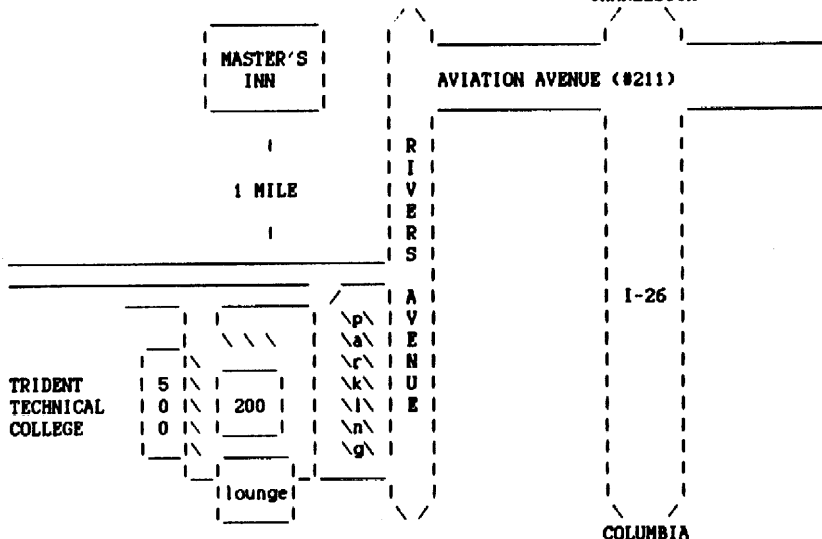
Strategy, then, is a general plan that one uses to select moves whenever specific combinations cannot be identified. When a combination emerges, however, it may be played regardless of what the general plan may have been, with the plan then resumed or modified in the aftermath of the combination.

The relationship between combinations and strategy also raises the issue of "accidental" versus "strategic" combinations. An "accidental" combination involves a temporary relationship of pieces that may not have pertained to the general plan: e.g., two men in temporary position to receive a knight fork. A "strategic" combination, however, would be one resulting from the overall plan of the position. Probably both accidental and strategic elements are present in most combinations, since the temporary alignments of men will be affected by such factors as proper development, and proper protection of weak points as part of strategy. Clearly, a stronger player will be better able to create positions in which the combinations are likely to favor his side, as well as in recognizing combinative possibilities when they do appear. (Perhaps Morphy had this idea in mind when he said that Staunton could see combinations as well as anyone, but would have "no agency" in bringing about the position.)

Believe it or not, "Zugzwang" is much easier to define!

TOURNAMENT ADS

CHARLESTON



CHARLESTON CLASSIC IX: August 19 - 20, 1989. **SITE:** Trident Tech College, 7000 Rivers Avenue (Highway 52), Building 200. **ENTRY FEE:** \$15 by 8 - 16 - 89; \$20 at site. **PRIZES:** (Guaranteed) 1st - \$100; 2nd - \$70; B-C-D/E - each \$50; UNR - based on performance rating after round four. **TIME LIMIT:** 40/100; SD/60. **ROUNDS:** 10 - 2 - 7; 10 - 2:30. **ENTER:** Charleston Chess Club, P. O. Box 634, Sullivan's Island, SC 29482-0634 (803) 883-3783. **REGISTRATION:** 9:00 - 9:50 AM. **MOTEL:** Master's Inn (744-3530) \$26.50 - \$30.50.

Sept. 16, 1989 Warm-Up #1. 4-SS, 40/60, G/30. Tremont Motor Inn, 111 Knox Abbott Drive, Cayce (Columbia), S.C. 29033. **EF** \$7 if received by 9-14, \$10 at site. SCCA membership required (\$8 adult, \$3 junior). **Prizes:** 75% minimum return of EF's. **Reg** 8:30-9:15. **Rds** 9:30, 1:00, 4:15, 7:30. **NS. NC. W. Ent:** Don Lemaster, 1471 Pine St., West Columbia, S.C. 29169.

Sept. 30, 1989 Warm-Up #2. 3-SS, 40/90, G/30. Tremont Motor Inn, 111 Knox Abbott Drive, Cayce (Columbia), S.C. 29033. **EF** \$7 by 9-28, \$10 at site. SCCA membership required (\$8 adult, \$3 junior). **Prizes:** 75% minimum return of entries. **Reg** 8:30-9:15. **Rds** 9-30, 2:00, 6:15. **NS. NC. W. Ent:** Don Lemaster, 1471 Pine St., West Columbia, S.C. 29169.

1989 S.C. CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS
OCT. 18TH - 15TH

6 ROUND SWISS SYSTEM

TREMONT MOTOR INN, 111 KNOX ABBOTT DR.,

CAYCE (COLUMBIA) 29038 PW: (803) 796-6240.

RATES: \$30 SINGLE, \$88 2 OR MORE IN ROOM (MENTION CHESS).

CLOSED SECTION, OPEN TO SC RESIDENTS, STUDENTS, AND MILITARY.

EF: \$27 IF REC'D BY 10/12.

TL: 80/2, THEN 20/80.

\$5 (268 B/16): \$116-76-45-80

TROPHIES TO 1ST, 2ND

REG: (10/18) 8-7:00 PM

RDS: 7:15 PM, 10:00-8:30, 10:00-4:15

AMATEUR SECTION, OPEN TO UNDER 2000

EF: \$22 IF REC'D BY 10/12.

TL: 40/100, THEN 20/80.

\$5 (310 B/25): \$100-60, TOP 'B' & TOP 'UNDER 1600/UNR' EACH \$50-80.

TROPHIES TO 1ST, 2ND, TOP 'B', TOP 'UNDER 1600/UNR'

REG: SATURDAY 8-8:45 AM.

RDS: 9:00-1:30-6:30, 10:30-4:15.

RESERVE SECTION, OPEN TO UNDER 1400 / UNRATED

EF: \$22 IF REC'D BY 10/12.

TL: 40/100, THEN 20/80.

\$5 (200 B/15): \$70-60, TOP 'E' & TOP UNRATED EACH \$40.

TROPHIES TO 1ST, 2ND, TOP 'E', TOP UNRATED

REG: SATURDAY 8-8:45 AM.

RDS: 9:00-1:30-6:30, 10:30-4:15.

ALL SECTIONS:

EF: \$5 MORE AT SITE

SCCA MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED: \$8 REGULAR, \$3 JUNIOR, \$10 PATRON

SCCA BUSINESS MEETING: SUNDAY 8:00 PM

SCCA SPEED CHAMPIONSHIP: SATURDAY 10:00 PM EF: \$2.

(SCCA MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED)

NO SMOKING

NO COMPUTERS

1/2 POINT BYE AVAILABLE IN RD. 1,2,OR 4 IF REQUESTED

IN ADVANCE ONLY - ADD \$2.00 TO EF.

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