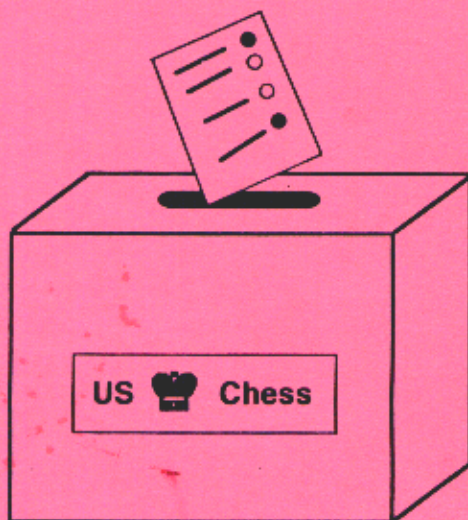


Palmetto Chess

Published by the South Carolina Chess Association

APRIL 1992



**Is it Time for USCF Members to be Voters?
Palmetto Chess Holds a Referendum!**

HOW TO BEAT KAMSKY -- BOOK AND COMPUTER REVIEWS

Palmetto Chess is published quarterly by the South Carolina Chess Association, a non-profit membership organization that organizes and promotes chess competition in South Carolina. The SCCA is the USCF state affiliate for South Carolina.

Membership is \$8 per year, or \$3 for juniors under 19; adults may buy a regular USCF and SCCA combined membership for \$34 total, through the Treasurer (Address below)

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POHL SNOWS THEM IN CHARLESTON

Klaus Pohl of Greenville, the highest rated active player in the state, swept through the 1992 Snowstorm in Charleston with a perfect 5-0 score to capture first prize in the annual event. Pohl added the Snowstorm to an impressive list of titles he has gained over the years, including numerous state championships. Left in a tie for second were Patrick Hart, Lindsay Blanks, and James Hyatt, each of whom scored 4-1.

Competitors in the tournament included the strongest lady player in the state, Olga Szekely, who scored a good 3.5-1.5. James Addison returned to the state after an absence of many years, and made the same score despite having to take a half-point bye.

Doug Holmes directed the 29-player event. A complete crosstable is found on P. 19.

New Club in Woodruff

A new chess club has been started in Woodruff. Lloyd Angell, President of the club, writes that the club meets every Monday evening at 7 pm in the conference room of the First Citizens Bank, Main at Pine Sts. The club has affiliated with the USCF.

Other officers include Willie Pearson, Vice President, Danny Verdin, Treasurer, and Phil Wood, Secretary. Players living near Woodruff are invited to come over on Monday nights and join the activities!

The Editor's Notes By Lee Hyder

Bust inevitably follows boom; after an issue with many contributions, I have had considerably less come in for this issue. Thus I have written too much of the issue myself. You can avoid this problem in the future by sending me your contributions. I know there are readers who have games to show, things to say, so send them in! We particularly need games. I AM grateful to Bill Floyd and John McCrary for their regular and reliable contributions!

For the first time in a long time we touch on USCF affairs in this issue. The referendum is your Editor's initiative. I'd really like to know how members feel about this. I have my own prejudices, which I may expose after the vote comes in. However it goes, I'll make sure the results get publicity. If you have any concerns to express on any USCF matter, bring it to the attention of SCCA President McCrary. As our State Delegate to the USCF, he's in a position to do something. Also, you may want to send your thoughts to me for publication. I will print letters. This is your magazine, and it is intended to deal with the interests and concerns of the membership.

The President's Page

By John McCrary

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

by John McCrary

South Carolina has two new champions. Our high-school champion (who actually repeats from last year) is Bryce Harrison. Jae Min Purvis is our new middle-school champion. (See the article elsewhere in this issue.)

The Midlands Open at the Tremont (April 11-12) has just ended. First place went to Tony Laster of Charlotte with 4.5-0.5. Charles Walter finished 4-1 for clear second place. Three others tied at 3.5-1.5: Olga Szekeley, Rex Blalock, and Andre Osumi. The Class A prize went to Emery Highley and Kenneth Cockrell. Scott Greeson was best C, and John Rogers was 2nd in that class. Cliff Hyatt and Randy Altman were awarded the Class B and Class D prizes, respectively.

We are again advertising for the state correspondence chess championship. Entry fee will probably be set at \$10.00. Interested participants should send their names only (no money yet) to this writer (address on back of issue). If there is adequate interest, we will send tournament details later and get underway.

The South Carolina Open is a Grand Prix this year! See the ad elsewhere in this issue, and in the next Chess Life. Dates for that event are June 6-7. We have tentatively reserved the Tremont for October 3-4. In deference to a majority vote last year, we will probably drop the Friday starting date, and play only on Saturday and Sunday.

USCS membership continues to grow, but there is acrimony among some of the top elected officers. Such acrimony is as old as organized chess, but I've never fully understood why it tends to emerge.

Regarding the proposals for direct elections, which Lee Hyder discusses elsewhere in the issue, I will remind readers that I proposed a compromise approach at last year's delegates' meeting. I felt then, and still do, that the direct election issue should be first tried at the state and regional level, before leaping to the top national level. There are serious problems which must be ironed out in direct election proposals; so a step-by-step approach seems more prudent.

1992 Scholastic Tournaments

A Report by John McCrary

HARRISON, PURVIS WIN SCHOLASTIC TITLES

by John McCrary

South Carolina has two new state champions. Bryce Harrison has repeated as S.C. state high school champion, while Jae Min Purvis (son of long-time Palmetto Chess Club member Danny Puravis) took the state middle school championship.

Both young men had tough competition; but both prevailed with 4-0 scores. David Dowty, Jr. took second place in the high school event, his otherwise perfect score being marred only by a draw with Alex Brown. A four-way tie for third place in the high school tourney included Eric Dobson, Ji Chang, Mike Heogarty, and Art Tompkins. Stratford High School took the team prize.

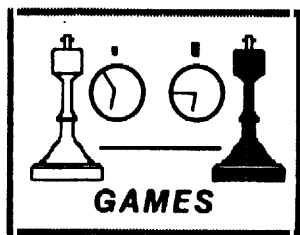
Following Purvis in the middle-school event were Shabeeb Tauhid, Raymond Dowty, James R. Hess, and Michael Hatcher, all with 3-1 scores. Hess was honored as best elementary school player, followed by Adam Latham and David B. Williams, as second place elementary players. College Park Middle School of Ladson took the team trophy home with them.

a companion event from eight adult players resulted in a three-way tie among Bill Corbett, David Williams, and Bill Floyd.

A total of 50 players competed in the three tournaments, all held March 14 at Richland Fashion Mall in Columbia. The mall provided an ideal playing site, an empty store-space at the end of the mall, next to a bookstore. Richland Fashion Mall is a beautiful double-decker mall with glass elevators, rooftop and garage parking,, and a huge, beautiful food court (now the base of the Palmetto Chess Club).

The tournaments brought 27 new scholastic and youth members to the USCF. One hopes that all these new members will begin to sample the rich world of organized chess and its literature.

Special thanks go to Clyde Smith, Bill Carver, Dean Roesner, Bill Corbett, and others who brought vanloads with them. Those folks make it all possible.



As we have received no games from our members for publication in this issue, this column will feature a remarkable game from *En Passant*, the publication of the Pittsburgh Chess Club. The detailed notes provided by the winner are of a quality rarely seen; and the game itself is remarkable. The U. S. Champion, Gata Kamsky, is defeated by an amateur who rarely plays in tournaments!

The winner of the game is Vivek Rao, a young Pennsylvanian who is now a graduate student in physics at the Univ. of Illinois, and the game was played in the 1991 Pan-American Intercollegiate Championships. Perhaps the first wonder is that Kamsky, the absolute professional, was persuaded to play first board for Brooklyn College in an amateur event. Play he did, and his successes along with his teammates carried them into this match with the Illini, who eventually won the event.

Perhaps, though, this was not that much of a surprise. I first saw Rao in the 1985 U. S. Open when he was a teenager, and watched him play there a draw against Spassky. Last year in the Pan-Am he played for Harvard and defeated Ilya Gurevich on the way to first place for his team. He's probably as much of a chess talent as the U. S. has produced in the last decade, but he has chosen to develop his other talents first. Who can blame him?

Rao-Kamsky, Gruenfeld Defense (Notes by Rao)

1 d4 Nf6 2 e4 g6 3 Nc3 d5 4 cxd5 Nxd5 5 e4 Nxc3 6 bxc3 Bg7 Bc4

This is the "old" exchange variation. White has two important alternatives:

(a) 7 Nf3 c5 8 Rb1 (or 8 Be3) O-O 9 Be2 cxd4 (or 9--b6, or 9--Nc6 10 d5 Ne5 11 Nxe5 Bxe5 12 Qd2 intending f4, slightly better for White.) 10 cxd4 Qa5 11 Bd2!? Qxa2 12 O-O, a controversial pawn sacrifice;

(b) 7 Be3 c5 8 Qd2, as in the recent Kasparov-Karpov match. White delays Nf3 to avoid Black's Bg4.

7--c5 8 Ne2 Nc6 9 Be3 O-O 10 O-O Qc7

10--Bg4 11 f3 Na5 is more common nowadays. Here are some possibilities:

(a) 12 Bxf7+ Rxf7 13 fxe4 (the Seville variation) Rxf1+ 14 Kxf1 Qd6 (14-- cxd4 15 cxd4 e5 16 d5 is also played, but I like White's protected passed pawn and good bishop.) 15 e5 Qd5. Play often revolves around whether White can shut out the g7 bishop with a timely g5.

(b) 12 Bd3 cxd4 13 cxd4 Be6 14 d5 Bxa1 15 Qxa1 f6, a much-analyzed exchange sacrifice.

(c) 12 Bd3 cxd4 14 cxd4 Be6 14 Rcl Bxa2 15 Qa4 Be6 16 d5 Bd7 17 Qb4, when the misplaced Black N and strong White center give White good compensation for the P.

11 Rb1!?

The basis of my preparation (an hour before the game!) More common is 11 Rcl Rd8 12 Bf4 (there are many alternatives) Qd7 13 d5 Na5 14 Bd3. The recent invention 11 Rb1 enables Bb5 in some variations and pressures the b-pawn, which could become backward after dxc5.

11--b6!?

Black equalizes after 11--Bg4 (11-- Bd7!?) 12 f3 Bd7 13 dxc5 Na5 14 Bb5 (continued next page)

Games, Continued

Rfd8 15 Qa4 e5! (to keep the N out of d4) 16 Bxd7 Rxd7 17 Rfd1 Rad8 18 Rxd7 Rxd7 19 Rd1 Rxd1 20 Qxd1 Nc4 21 Bf2 Bf8 22 Qd5 Nb2 23 Nc1 (Lautier-Kozul, Biel, 1991) Na4.

12 dxc5

Unknown to me, Kamsky had already reached this position against Lautier in Belgrade, 1991. That game continued 12 f3 Rd8 13 Bf4 Qb7 14 d5 Na5 15 Bb5 Bd7 16 Qc2 e5 17 Bg5 f6 18 Bh4 Bxb5 19 Rxb5 Nc4 20 Qd3 Nd6, and Black won in 50 moves.

12--Ne5

Black aims for play against the weak queenside pawns. After 12--bxc5 13 Qa4 (or 13 Bxc5? Rd8 14 Qc2 Ne5) Bd7 14 Qa3, the c-pawn will eventually fall. In the *New York Times* Robert Byrne gives 13 Rb5! with a clear advantage.

13 Bd5 Rb8 14 cxb6 axb6 15 Qa4 (To stop --Ba6) e6 16 Bb3 Bb7 17 f3 Rfe8 18 Rfd1 Bc6 19 Qa6

Coaxing --b5, which restricts Black's QB.

19--Be8 20 Bd4 b5 21 Qa3 Bf8 22 Qc1 Nc6 23 Qg5

Given time, White will play Nf4-h5.

23--e5 24 Be3 Na5 25 Bd5

Maybe 25 Rd5 is better.

25 --Nc4 26 Bf2 Be7 27 Qh6 Nb6 28 Bb3 Nc4

Black has cleverly maneuvered the B from d5 to b3.

29 Kh1 Bd7 30 Nc1

I did not see how to use my extra P and was willing to take a draw after 30--Na3 31 Bxf7+ Kxf7 32 Qxh7+:

(a) 32--Ke6 33 Qxg6+ Bf6 34 Qf5+ Ke7 35 Bc5+! Qxc5 36 Rd7+ Ke8 37 Qe6+ Be7 38 Nd3! and White wins;

(b) 32--Kf6 33 Bh4 g5 34 Bxg5+ Kxg5 35 Qe7+ wins;

(c) 32--Ke8 33 Qxg6+ Kf8 34 Be3 wins;

(d) 32--Kf8! 33 Be3 Be6! and White

should take the perpetual check with 34 Bh6+ Ke8 35 Qh8+.

Byrne notes that 30--Bf8 31 Qg5 Na3 32 Ra1 Qc3? loses to 33 Bxf7+! Kxf7 34 Rd7+ Ke8 35 Rxh7! Rc6 36 Nb3. Also possible was 31 Rb2 Bf8, with a complicated position.

30--Qd8 31 h4 Bf8 32 Qg5 Be7 33 Qh8 Bf8 34 Qg5 Be7 35 Qg3 Since my N is getting into play, I play for a win.

35--Qc7 36 Nd3 Be6 37 Nh4

Intending Nd5. White is better after 37--Na3 38 Bxe6 fxe6 (38--Nb1 39 Nd5 and 40 Bc8) 29 Rb3. Byrne gives the crisper 39 Rbc1 Bb4 40 cxb5 Qxc1 41 Rxc1 Rxc1+ 42 Kh2 Nc4 43 Qg5 Rc2 44 Bc5 Re8 45 Qf6 Ra2 46 h5! "with a winning attack." Here 45 h5 Kf7 46 Qh6 looks even faster.

37--Bxb4 38 cxb4 f6 39 Bc5 Rd8 40 Qf2 Kg7 41 Qe2

With two B's and an extra P, White should win. Now 42 a4 is threatened.

41--Qf7 42 Rxd8 Rxd8 43 Rd1 Ra8 44 Rc1 (intending a4) Ra3 (foiled again!) 47 Rd1 Ra8 (Black cannot allow 48 Rd8) 48 Rf1

White needs to open a second front. Black is vulnerable on the dark squares, especially f6, since he has no B of that color.

48--h6 49 f4 Rd8 50 a4? bxa4?

We trade blunders on the last move of the time control. 50 fxe5 Nxe5 51 Bd4 was better for White. After 50 a4? Nd2 51 Bxe6 Qxe6 52 f5 the position is unclear.

51 Bxa4 Ra8 (51--Nd2!) 52 Bh3 exf4 (52--Ra3 53 fxe5 Nxe5 53 Bxe6 Rxc3 55 Bxf7 Nxf7 56 Bd4 is better for White.) 53 Bxc4! Bxc4 54 Rxf4 Now the Pf6 must fall--White threatens 55 Rf6! Qxf6 56 Bd4.

54--Ra6 55 e5 Bd5 56 Rxf6 Rxf6 57 exf6+ Kg8 58 Qe5 Qd7 (Threatening 59--Qh3!) 59 Kg1!

Since g3 will be necessary to save the g-pawn, g1-f2-e3 is the shortest path to the center. (Continued next page)

Games, Continued

59--Bc6 60 Qe7 Qxe7 61 Bxe7

This opposite-color bishop ending is a win because the passed pawns are so far apart. 61 fxe7 may also win.

61--Kf7 62 Kf2 Ke6 63 g3 g5

63 Be8 64 Kc3 Kd5 65 Bf8 h5 66 Kf4 also loses.

64 hxc5 hxc5 65 Ke3 Bb5 66 Kd4 Be2 67 Kc5 g4 68 h5 Kd7 69 b6 Bf3 70 Bd6 Ke6 71 Bf4 Be4 72 f7 Kxf7 73 Kd6 1-0

Kamsky resigned, since the b-pawn will cost him his B, and zugzwang will cost him the g-pawn.



Judit's Games

That remarkable young player, Judit Polgar, recently became the youngest grandmaster in chess history. Here are some of her games from the Hungarian Championship of last year that qualified her.

Judit is now 16 years old, and is beginning to attract quite a bit of attention, even in the United States. After a recent spot on the CBS evening news, in which she was featured, any number of people asked me, "Did you see that girl who plays chess on TV? Alas, I didn't, but I think it won't be the last time.

Polgar - Groszpeter
Sicilian Defense

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 Bd7 7.Qd2 Rc8 8.f4 Nxd4 9.Qxd4 Qa5 10.e5 dxe5 11.fxe5 e6 12.0-0-0 Bc6 13.Bc4 Nd7 14.Rhe1 h6 15.Bd2 Qc5 16.Qf4 g5 17.Qf1 Bg7 18.h4 Nxe5 19.Bb3 0-0 20.hxc5 hxc5 21.Qe2 Ng6 22.Qh5 Qf5 23.g4 Qf6 24.Bxg5 Nf4 25.Qh4

Qg6 26.Bxf4 b5 27.Qh5 Qxh5 28.gxh5 a5 29.a3 Bf3 30.Rd3 Bxh5 31.Rg3 b4 32.axb4 axb4 33.Nc4 Bg6 34.Rxg6 1-0

Polgar - Sax
Sicilian Defense

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 Be7 8.0-0-0 Nxd4 9.Qxd4 0-0 10.f4 Qa5 11.Bc4 Bd7 12.Rhe1 Bc6 13.Bb3 Rfe8 14.f5 exf5 15.e5 dxe5 16.Rxe5 Qc7 17.Rxf5 Rad8 18.Qc4 Rxd1+ 19.Nxd1 Bd8 20.Ne3 Qd7 21.Rf2 h6 22.Rd2 Qxd2+ 23.Kxd2 Ne4+ 24.Kd1 Bxg5 25.Qxf7+ Kh8 26.Nd5 Nd6 27.Qf2 b5 28.Nf4 Rd8 29.Kel Re8+ 30.Kd1 Rd8 31.Nd3 Nc4 32.Qc5 Bxg2 33.Bxc4 bxc4 34.Qxc4 Re8 35.Qf7 Re7 36.Qf8+ Kh7 37.Qf5+ Kg8 38.h4 Bf6 39.Nf4 Be4 40.Qc8+ Kh7 41.Nd5 Bxd5 42.Qf5+ Kh8 43.Qxd5 Re8 44.Qb5 Rd8+ 45.Ke2 Bxh4 46.c4 Bg3 47.b4 Rf8 48.Qa5 g5 49.Qxa7 Bf4 50.Qe7 Rg8 51.a4 1-0

Tolnai - Polgar
Sicilian Defense

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.f4 b5 7.Bd3 Bb7 8.Qf3 Nf6 9.Be3 Nc6 10.0-0-0 b4 11.Nce2 Na5 12.g4 d5 13.e5 Nd7 14.Kb1 Nc4 15.Bcl 0-0-0 16.h4 Nc5 17.b3 Na3+ 18.Kal f6 19.c3 fxe5 20.fxe5 Nc4 21.Nxe6 Nxe5 22.Qg3 Nxe6 23.Bf5 Kb8 24.Bxe6 bxc3 25.Nxc3 d4 26.Rhfl Bb4 27.Na4 Rhe8 28.Bf5 Bc6 29.Bd2 g6 30.Bb1 Bxa4 31.bxa4 Bc3+ 32.Bxc3 Qxc3+ 33.Qxc3 dxc3 34.Rcl Rc8 35.Rf4 Rc5 36.Rb4+ Ka7 37.Rb3 Rec8 38.Be4 R8c7 39.Rcbl Nc6 40.Bxc6 R5xc6 41.Rb4 Rc4 42.a3 Rxb4 43.axb4 Rc4 44.h5 a5 45.hxc6 hxc6 46.Ka2 Rxb4 47.Rgl g5 48.Ka3 Kb6 0-1

Universal Suffrage in Chess?

The Issue

A group of chessplayers, who call themselves the "Friends of the USCF", are promoting the cause of direct election of USCF officers. Presently the Federation's officers are elected by about 350 voters, mostly chosen by the several state chess organizations, in numbers proportional to their USCF memberships. South Carolina, for example, has two, and these are set by our Constitution to be our President and Vice-President. Larger states have more votes to distribute among their officers and organizers. The "Friends" claim that this system is inherently undemocratic, and propose that the By-Laws be amended to let all the members vote. This position has been supported by a number of organizers from around the country, but so far not by a majority of the State Delegates who can make the changes. (John McCrary is our one Delegate.) So far as I know, though, no one has made an effort to seek the opinion of the membership as to whether they *want* to be enfranchised in this way. In this issue we are making such an effort, so that at least South Carolina can be heard from. We'll start by stating the question, summarizing the arguments as your Editor understands them, then will provide some background material that may be useful, and take a vote. Fair enough?

In order to be clear as to what the vote is about, let's state it in this manner:

Resolved: That all USCF officers and members of the USCF Policy Board shall be elected by a plurality of votes of the full individual members of the Federation resident in the United States and its territories and

possessions.

This wording is mine; I haven't seen a specific proposal by anyone else. As you can see, I've eliminated voting by junior members paying reduced dues, and by people from other countries. These are fairly arbitrary decisions that seem reasonable to me, in that they remove a couple of possible controversies.

Presently the officers of the Federation include a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three At-Large Members of the Policy Board. They are elected for three-year terms; one At-Large Member is elected each year, and the four titled officers are elected in the same election at three year intervals.

Arguments For the Change

Proponents of the change argue on the basis of the democratic ideal, and some claim further that the current system has given rise to an entrenched system, a kind of old-boy network. (This concept should not be a strange one to South Carolinians.) This is claimed to be bad for the membership as a whole, in that the officers respond to the special interests of the small number of organizers who elected them.

Arguments Against the Change

Arguments for the status quo include the premise that representative democracy is in fact fair and reasonable; the greater simplicity and lower cost of the existing system compared to a system of universal voting; and the argument that the limited number of voters are more likely to be acquainted with the (Continued next page)

Universal Suffrage in Chess?

(Continued)

candidates and issues than the membership as a whole. An advantage would be gained by incumbents who could control *Chess Life* and other USCF media. One consequence might be that individuals widely known as players or organizers would be more likely to be elected than able individuals whose work is known only to the community of organizers. This could favor the most populous states and regions.

Hidden Agendas

It probably goes without saying that the proponents of this issue see it as a way of getting their people into office without the necessity of convincing the existing electors. Actually, some of them have gained office anyway, but not enough to carry a majority on most issues. This raises the question: why do they want to get into office? There are two answers: an urge to advance U. S. chess; and the patronage of the Federation. (The latter does not exclude the former.)

It may come as a surprise to most members that there is a significant amount of patronage to be had from the USCF. Consider, though, as an example Larry Evans, the *Chess Life* columnist who is one of the strongest proponents of the change. Larry's column is very popular with the readers, but he has sometimes been at issue with the Editor over rates of payment and the extent of editorial control. The change might better secure his position. Beyond this, the USCF sends officers abroad on FIDE business, selects players for play in various international events, and awards tournaments to various sites. A

major event such as the U. S. Open can mean thousands of dollars to larger cities such as Los Angeles or Chicago.

The patronage issue, of course, affects all the factions. The people currently enjoying USCF appointments and favors are strongly motivated to keep them. Neither side is necessarily on the side of the angels (or the devils) in this respect.

Some Pertinent Experience

1. Some years ago the SCCA experimented with direct mail elections by the membership. The reason was that only a fraction of the membership attends the business meetings where elections are held. There was a real concern that the majority of the members were disenfranchised.

As it turns out, fewer people voted by mail than were normally present at the business meeting. On this basis the concept was abandoned and the practice of voting at the business meeting was reinstated.

2. Your Editor belongs to a national professional organization that not only elects its President by direct mail ballot of its membership, (approximately twice the USCF membership) but does so annually. Most other officers are also elected by a similar ballot, but many of these represent a geographical area and are elected by members only in that area.

This system uses a nominating committee that selects two qualified candidates for each office. Additional candidates may be added by petition, and this is occasionally done. They are, of course, people who have "paid their
(Continued next page)

Universal Suffrage in Chess?

dues" by working in committees, local, and regional positions, etc., so that their ability has become known to the Nominating Committee. This is equally true of the petition candidates, who must have convinced a significant body of members of their qualifications. In short, this is a system that depends on the Old Boy Network, at least as much as the current USCF system.

At the time of election each member sees a brief biography of each candidate, along with his/her statement of position on important issues. (The statements tend to be very general, sweeping, and in favor of Good Things. These are, after all, smart people.) Unless someone raises a Real Issue (this has happened, but rarely), it is hard to choose among these eminent people. Nor, does the choice ever seem to matter very much. The candidates in this case are generally competent people who are not seeking their own interests, and so they do the best they can.

Summation

A variety of conclusions can be drawn from the above, but the bottom line is whether or not you want to vote. Simply because no one else is being polled on this issue, you South Carolina USCF members could have an unusual influence on it. If you think it is high time you had a vote, indicate so on the enclosed card and get it in the mail. If you think you would rather not be bothered and the current system is fine, send in your vote. If you think that the whole issue isn't worth a stamp, or you can't make up your mind, your silence says something too.



--Footnote:

There is one seat on the USCF Policy Board up for election this year, and a hot campaign seems to be in prospect. The main issues appear to revolve around our FIDE representation, and Don Schultz of Florida, who has served for a long time in FIDE posts, is one of the candidates. This is an example of an issue that the members as a whole probably would have little information about. As it is, it appears likely that we who are voting members will be deluged with direct mailings and telephone calls from Schultz, his opponent Nigel Eddis, and their friends. The Florida Chess Association has already sent me a mailing supporting Schultz.

One issue that would be of great importance to the membership is the cost of dues. The Policy Board put a \$10 dues increase before the Delegates at last year's annual meeting, and it was voted down. It doesn't seem to have been needed. Thanks to good management and perhaps some good fortune, the Federation did well last year, staying within its budget and gaining members. The Board has announced that they will support this dues increase again this year. Our Delegate McCrary will be voting on this in Michigan in August.

Meanwhile, the Policy Board meetings are beginning to resemble a Marx Brothers movie, with shouting, name-calling, and other slapstick comedy. There are accusations that the President has been abusing his expense account; he has written a letter to the voting members defending his actions. This year's annual meetings may be a real zoo!

PALMETTO CHESS CLUB NEWS

By Bill Floyd

The Palmetto Chess Club meets each Tuesday and Thursday in the food court at Richland Fashion Mall. The site is comfortable and provides a far quieter environment than you might expect. We meet from 7:00 PM until 10:30 PM (or later). On many Thursdays, we play a USCF rated game (time controls of Game/70). This allows us to complete a game beginning at about 8:00 PM before 10:30 PM.

We are about to begin a new series of events that will be rated by the United States Chess Federation using a separate rating system. This will be for games played at Game/15. This will be totally separate from the regular system and will have no effect on your regular rating. We will hold tournaments of this type on Tuesday nights. USCF has named this "Quick Chess".

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Midlands Open -- SSS (35/90, Game/60)
April 11 & 12 -- call 787-3343 for details.
Prize fund is \$ 1,000 based on 52 players.

Tuesday "Quick"ie # 1 SSS, Game/15 April 21 at 8:00 sharp. Entry fee \$3. Registration closes at 7:55 PM sharp. We cannot stop to redo pairings as there just will not be enough time. If six or fewer enter, we will play a round robin instead. To be rated under new separate USCF rating system. All pairings will be done immediately after the rounds and games need to be started on time.

NEW FACES:

For those of you who haven't been in a while, there are several new faces at the club. Olga and Zoltan Szekeley, formerly of Hungary, have been coming for about three months. Olga is a 2100 rated player in Hungary. After her first two tournaments, she has a provisional rating of roughly 2050. Zoltan is less active in chess but has a rating of about 1700.

We also welcome Bennie Isaac who has been coming for several months and has become a regular -- he just doesn't have a rating yet so I didn't list him below.

Another newcomer is our "1400 rated GrandMaster" Jerry Eldridge. The 1400 is our estimate, the GM is his.

REGULARS:

No club would survive without a core contingent of regulars. These include (with approximate ratings):

Harry Abrams	2,100
Andre Osumi	2,050
Olga Szekeley	2,050
Bob Folts	1,850
Henry White	1,825
Kyle Oody	1,820
Cliff Hyatt	1,780
Bill Floyd	1,750
Jay King	1,650
John McCrary	1,600
John Rogers	1,550
John Roberts	1,525
Dave Amos	1,500
Clarence Tichenor	1,480
Randy Altman	1,150
Jeff Comalander	1,000
Mary McCrary	1,000

As you see, there is someone here to play anyone, so don't let your rating (or lack thereof) keep you away.

"IRREGULARS":

No organizer would have a job without a core contingent of irregulars. These are players that just don't come enough. These include:

Charles Walter	2,430
Jimmy Hill	2,050
Danny Purvis	1,950
David Caldwell	1,900
Keith Eubanks	1,760
Sam Playfair	1,650
Bill Bland	1,650
Pani Wickramasinghe	1,550
Andy Jackson	1,500
Jim Clark	1,400
Jae Min Purvis	1,400
Joel Hudson	1,200

There are others, of course, but these stand out in my mind as being "almost" regulars from time to time.

(Continued Next Page)

Floyd, Continued

CLUB CHAMP:

The PCC Championship was won by Andre Osumi with a score of 5-0. Thirteen players participated in this year's event. There were two key games. In them, Andre lucked out against both Harry Abrams and Olga Szekely. This guy has an extra horseshoe stuffed somewhere!!

FINANCES (CLUB CHUMP):

I often get asked "What are the entry fees for?" Well, this newsletter costs 6 cents (8 if in color) each to print and 29 cents to mail. Typically, I mail out 100 copies and hand out 25 for a total cost of \$36.50. Also, a typical tournament costs \$10.00 to rate and get a cross-table. Since no one seems to want dues, those who play, are those who pay. Thanks for your support.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS:

We need at least one more club tournament director. As you can tell, it's a very lucrative business?! Seriously, we do need more players interested in this aspect of the game. It's real simple to become a director. Let me know if you are interested.

1992 LAND OF THE SKY:

The 1992 edition of the Land of the Sky, held in Asheville, NC was somewhat of a disappointment to the organizers as attendance was down almost 25% and they lost about \$2,000 on the event. However, the Palmetto Chess Club was not part of the problem as we were well-represented by Osumi, White, Oody, Folts, Hyatt, Rogers, Roberts, Amos and myself. While I don't have everyone's results, I know Henry White and John Rogers both did well and Kyle Oody was in contention until he withdrew prior to the last round (bool hiss!).

For those of you who are interested in big tournaments, this one has a lot to offer and I recommend it to you next year. This year's event was held at the Radisson, which is in the heart of the city, and was much more conducive to a chess tournament atmosphere. Prior events have been held at the Grove Park Inn which is a "tad stuffy" for us chess players.

The South Carolina Chess Association got back an old member at this event. Opie Lindsay from Rock Hill rejoined while there. I was also able to hand out about 100 flyers for the Midlands Open. With Chess Life coverage, over 150 flyers mailed and over 200 handed out at various events, this should be a very well-attended tournament.

MEETINGS:

The club meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 PM (or earlier) in front of the Sbaros Pizza in the Richland Fashion Mall Food Court. I specify the exact location because the food court is so large that people have come and missed us! One night shortly after we started meeting here, two separate groups of us met on opposite sides of the place and didn't even find each other until we were leaving.

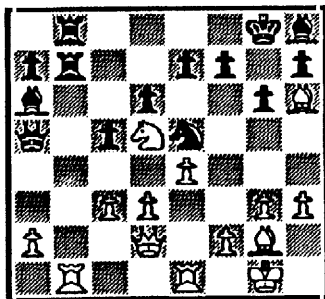
We stay until 10:30 PM or later but you must get in before the outside doors are locked (around 9:00 PM -- getting out is easy). The last food place is usually closed by 7:00 PM, so if you want to eat here, come early.

GAME OF THE MONTH:

Where do you dig up the games to analyze if nobody gives you games and you haven't had any good ones lately? Well, in my case, I just dig into my archives and find some oldie but goodie. This time, I dug up a game from the 1984 Charleston Classic. While this was one will not win any "best game" awards, the resignation position was interesting.

Bill Floyd - Pat Hart (2120)
Charleston Classic, August, 1984
King's Indian Attack

1 e4 c5	12 Na3 b5
2 Nf3 d6	13 Rfe1 Nd7
3 g3 g6	14 Rab1 b4
4 Bg2 Bg7	15 Ne4 bxc3
5 O-O Nc6	16 bxc3 Ba3
6 c3 Nf6	17 Ne3 Qa5
7 d3 O-O	18 Rc1 Nce5
8 h3 Rb8	19 Nxe5 Nxe5
9 Be3 Qc7	20 Nd5 Rd7
10 Qd2 Rd8	21 Rb1 R7b7??
11 Bh6 Bh8	22 Diagram



... and after White's move, which you should be able to easily figure out, Black (Hart) resigns!!

Floyd, Continued

BOOKUP 7

I recently bought a copy of Bookup 7, the positional chess database advertised in *Chess Life* for the last couple of years (and marketed by the same outfit that sells Zarkov, which I also have). Unlike my recent comments on Zarkov (which I like very much), I do not think much of Bookup 7. I haven't spent enough time with it to be an expert, but I have noted the following.

First, it will make a good programmer throw up, it has such a poor user interface. Second, it *really can be aggravating* in that it's very easy to lose data. While my experience certainly won't be typical, my new cat (and no, I didn't kill him) jumped on top of my computer while I was working in a database that I had spent two hours building. He somehow shorted out the monitor card. As a result, I lost the whole file. In the manual they do warn that this can happen, so it wasn't just a freak thing. There is simply a design problem with file handling. This would be more tolerable if there were an autosave, or even an easy way to manually save, but you have to log all the way out and save manually and then reload the program--no speedy task either, as it loads very slowly. I have also lost files in more "routine" ways as a result of this shortcoming.

A third shortcoming, certainly worthy of mention, is that it is fairly easy to type over an existing move in any given position and delete an entire line with all related analysis. Actually, on a day to day basis, this is probably its greatest shortcoming. At least this is not permanent, as putting just the one move typed over back from the same position brings back all the analysis, which was still there -- it was just hidden, like an extra wall built in a pathway in a maze could hide a whole section of the maze.

Now that I have told you all the warts, I still plan to keep it (it has a money back guarantee), as it does exactly what I want it to -- that is, keep up with all my games, and be able to keep analysis trees of all similar games, just as if they were analysis of the same game!

It also allows ports of any position to Zarkov for further analysis.

♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠



WHAT'S GNU?

The answer is: free computer chess for PC owners. I recently downloaded the program known as GNU Chess from the Genie bulletin board, and obtained as part of the package the following explanation:

"GNU Chess, copyright 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990 by Stuart Cracraft"

"GNU Chess is a communal chess program. Contributors donate their time and effort in order to make it a stronger, better, sleeker program. Contributions take many forms: interfaces to high-resolution displays, opening book treatises, speedups of the underlying algorithms, additions of extra heuristics. These contributions are then distributed to the large user-base so that all may enjoy the fruits of our labor. The original and continuing purpose of this project is to permanently end the rampant hoarding of computer chess software that has been the case for the past 20 years.

"Many people have contributed to GNU Chess. Their contributions have improved the program from being a patzer (weak program) to being a grandpatzer (decently strong program). In its growth since initial release, GNU Chess has gone from approximately class D to strong master strength. It beats the Fidelity Mach 3 (USCF 2265) rather handily when run on a Sparc-1 (RISC). Since these types of RISC chips are becoming fairly common, the age of "master chess in your computer lab" is now a reality. From there, it will be a short hop to master chess in your home with FSF software."

The versions for PC's are not officially GNU chess; it's written for larger machines. I obtained the Macintosh version, but a version for the IBM PC is also available from the Chess Horizons BBS and other sources.

My first look at the Mac version suggests that it is not quite up to the commercial programs such as Chessmaster 2100. One reason is the opening book, which is quite limited. Nonetheless, it's a challenging opponent; and the price is right!

--Lee Hyder



Grandmaster from Oregon
The Life and Games of Arthur Duke,
by Casey Bush

Review by James Schroeder

This is the chess book of the year! It has excellent printing and binding, large diagrams, more than 50 annotated games, 32 photographs. It is bound in a plastic cover; game moves are in bold type, and notes in lighter type. 130 pages.

Mr. Bush is not a chess master, but he had the good sense to solicit the advice of masters when preparing this book

The subject of this book, Arthur Duke, is our oldest Grandmaster. He learned to play chess when he was 17 years old, and became a grandmaster in a few years (although the title was not officially granted for many years--ed.). He played on the U. S. World Championship teams in 1931, 1933, and 1935, scoring 27 wins, 4 losses, and 14 draws.

As a "natural" player Duke played for complications and produced double-edged games, going for the win at all times and despising the draw. And why not? He says he was "very cocky" when he was young, but with reason: he should have won his first game against Capablanca, and he won from Alekhin, and most of the other great players of the pre-war era. His most famous game was the win against Alekhin at Pasadena, 1932. Alekhin

admired Duke and his aggressive style of play, and they spent much time socializing, so this is one of his few losses that did not greatly upset the then World Champion.

Married in 1936, Duke found it impossible to make a decent living at chess. He returned to Portland, and became a part-time player--but he always played at the Grandmaster level, as his even score against Lilienthal in the 1946 USA-USSR radio match proved.

Duke usually answered 1 e4 with e5, and it served him well. (Once a player learns the theory of double KP openings he can play them all his life with confidence.) As prove of his universal style, he won a great positional game from Ken Rogoff at Lone Pine in 1976, and a great tactical game from Kamran Shirazi in New York in 1988!

My main interest in chess literature has always been the "historical" aspect. This is not a typo; I look for the story of the player through first hand anecdotes. I've read every book of this type I could get, and this is the best. While his great ambition and competitiveness made Duke a great player, this does not carry over into his personal comments. He admits that Reshevsky was the better player, and is modest in his other comments. How diferent this is from the "how great I am" style of most Grandmasters.

♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠

The Duke book is sold by Schroeder for \$20. He may be contacted at 2921 S. E. Alder St., #2, Portland, OR 97214.

***My System* by Aron Nimzowitsch**

21st Century Edition, Edited by Lou Hayes, with an introduction by Yasser Seirawan; Hays Publishing, Dallas, 1991. Reviewed by Lee Hyder.

Let's start by stipulating two things: this is one of the classic works on chess, which should be read and studied by every serious player. Much of what is considered common knowledge in modern chess was first clearly explained in this book. The first two-thirds consists of exposition and instruction, and the remainder contains fifty annotated games.

What else is there to say, then? When I saw that Mr. Hayes had edited the previous edition, the first thing I did was pull out my 1947 (First revised) edition, and start making comparisons.

Item one: Why "Nimzowitsch"? The 1947 edition read "Nimzovich". The author was born a subject of the Czar in Riga, and he spelled his name in Cyrillic characters that are generally rendered in English as "Nimtsovich" but in German as "Nimzowitsch". Hayes has, for reasons unknown, reverted to the German spelling, which is bound to be mispronounced by English speakers. True, the book was originally written and published in German, but the original translation, and many English and American works since, have preferred the English transliteration. Why change it back?

Item two: Algebraic notation. It's ironic that the first edition was translated into long English descriptive to make it more accessible to its public, and now it is changed back to algebraic for the same reason.

Item three: Forewords. The translator's remarks are gone, but they are not a great loss. On the other

hand, Fred Reinfeld's long appreciation of Nimzovich is more of a loss, not least because the reader does not get to play through this game by Nimzovich's father:

S. Nimzovich - Neumann, Riga 1899:
Muzio Gambit

1 e4 e5 2 f4 exf4 3 Nf3 g5 4 Bc4 g4 5 O-O exf3 6 Qxf3 Qf6 7 d3 Bg7 8 Nc3 Nc6 9 Bxf4 Nd4 10 Qf2 d6 11 Nd5 Qd8 12 e5 c6 13 Bg5 Qd7 14 Nc7+! Qxc7 15 Bxf7+ Kd7 16 Qf5+! Nxf5 17 e6++

Dad was pretty good, and no doubt his son learned from him. You would, however, never have confused this with one of Aron's games; his *System* scarcely deals with gambits. At any rate, Hayes judged that he would rather have Seirawan's brief remarks than the Reinfeld discussion. (Also, it is just possible that Reinfeld's 1947 foreword is still covered by copyright and the 1930 translation of the text is not.)

What else? I haven't done a page by page comparison. Changes to the text are largely to convert from the more formal language of the original translation to a more colloquial style. In my judgment many of these changes are trivial and unnecessary, but they don't hurt. One omission I found, and feel to be a real loss, is the omission of a long commentary following the 49th illustrative game, which contains large parts of two other games. This is not just editing, but a significant abridgment.

This new edition is an attractive flexible cover edition, with good clear type and diagrams, a pleasure to read and use. The cover is a bit garish and cluttered, but there is a good photo of Nimzovich on it, which was lacking in earlier editions. All in all, it is a good production.

UNDERWATER CHESS

A Bit of Chess Fiction by Lee Hyder

My opponent in the third round of the Charleston tournament was unrated; but he had scored 2-0, as I had, and he played me a strong game; I was lucky to win. Afterwards, we found a table in another room and analyzed for a while. I was impressed by his grasp of the game; he was the strongest unrated American player I had ever met. Why, I asked, didn't he have a rating? His answer was perfectly reasonable: Charleston is a Navy port, and my opponent was a submarine captain.

"I've wanted to play in a rated tournament for some time, but somehow there has never been the right opportunity. I get to play a little club chess when I'm in port, but there are an awful lot of other things to catch up on when you've been at sea for months at a time."

"How do you keep up with the game?"

"I take books, and study in my off hours. Chess has some tradition among seamen, you know. Evans was a captain of a sailing ship when he invented his Gambit. Perhaps a long submarine cruise is the closest thing now to travel under sail, with weeks or months away from land."

"No one to play with on board then?"

"I'm afraid I'm too good for my officers." He thought for a moment and smiled. "I did play an interesting game, once, under somewhat unusual circumstances. I'll show it to you." We set up the pieces.

"I'm captain of a missile boat. The whole point of our existence is that we have to be out there in secret; the Soviets must not know where we are. We were out, on station, once, when along comes a Soviet sub just cruising

around to see what he can find. We picked him up a long way off, and tried to stay quiet, but it's hard to hide something as big as an ocean liner under the water. He found us with his sonar, and just sat there by us."

"Well, that's it. We couldn't outrun him, so we went up to the surface to report and radio for orders. The Russian followed along a few hundred yards away. But then came the strange thing. Just as we were coming up to the surface, my sonarman reported that the Russian was sending what seemed to be a message to us in International Morse. Over and over, the same four characters: e2e4."

"For a moment I was puzzled, and then the light came on, and I told the sonarman to respond with e7e5. Quick as a wink a reply came back: g1f3."

"This was too good to pass up. I sent a seaman to my quarters for my chess set, and responded b8c6. Then I settled down to serious play, knowing it would take a while for naval headquarters to decide what to do." He made the moves:

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 Ng5 d5 5 exd5 b5 6 Bxb5 Qxd5 7 Bxc6+ Qxc6

"I hadn't seen this line before, but I knew it couldn't be very good for White, because it's hardly ever played. I thought I must have enough for the pawn."

8 Qf3 e4 9 Qb3

"The books say that Bc5 is good for Black here, and I agree, but I didn't know that then; and the thought came to me, why not give him his threat and make him regret it?"

9--h6!? 10 Qxf7+ Kd8 11 Nh3 Bxh3 12 gth3 e3! 13 Rf1 exf2+ 14 Rxh2 Bc5 15 Rf1 (Continued next page)

1992 SNOWSTORM CROSS-TABLES

20th Snowstorm Special, Charleston, S. C. February 22 - 23, 1992

TD - Douglas Holmes

#	Player	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1.	Klaus Pohl	2314	W29	W9	W20	W3	W5	5.0
2.	Patrick Hart	2082	W23	W8	D5	D6	W9	4.0
3.	Lindsay Blanks	2073	W21	W10	W18	L1	W6	4.0
4.	James Hyatt	1730	L6	W25	W12	W20	W15	4.0
5.	Olga Szekeley	1933	W25	W7	D2	W19	L1	3.5
6.	Johnny Simmons	1697	W4	W19	W14	D2	L3	3.5
7.	James Addison	2112	W11	L5	BYE	W18	W19	3.5
8.	Milas Lebedovych	1682	W28	L2	BYE	D13	W18	3.5
9.	Irving Rosenfeld	1922	W22	L1	W11	W10	L2	3.0
10.	Gregory Adams	1715	W26	L3	W17	L9	W21	3.0
11.	James Collins	1621	L7	W24	L9	W25	W20	3.0
12.	John Haymond	1588	L19	W28	L4	W26	W14	3.0
13.	Kyle Oody	1782	W24	L20	W21	D8	---	2.5
14.	Kenneth Fickling	1432	D15	W16	L6	W23	L12	2.5
15.	William Floyd	1752	D14	L18	W27	W16	L4	2.5
16.	Conway Le Crow	1360	BYE	L14	W29	L15	W28	2.5
17.	John Rogers	1537	L20	W29	L10	W27	D23	2.5
18.	Jerry Rothstein	1653	W27	W15	L3	L7	L8	2.0
19.	Harry Abrams	2042	W12	L6	W23	L5	L7	2.0
20.	John Vonderleith	1947	W17	W13	L1	L4	L11	2.0
21.	James Hughey	1604	L3	W26	L13	W22	L10	2.0
22.	Stanley Lowery	1500	L9	L23	W28	L21	W25	2.0
23.	William Wells	1610	L2	W22	L19	L14	D17	1.5
24.	Donald Wilson	1433	L13	L11	L25	D28	BYE	1.5
25.	William Pilaud	1520	L5	L4	W24	L11	L22	1.0
26.	Michael Nichols	1318	L10	L21	BYE	L12	---	1.0
27.	Theodore Schudel	1189	L18	BYE	L15	L17	---	1.0
28.	Joseph Rothstein	UNR.	L8	L12	L22	D24	L16	0.5
29.	James Blanning	1631	L1	L17	L16	Withdrew		0.0

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