

Palmetto Chess

The Quarterly Newsletter of the South Carolina Chess Association

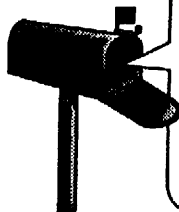


Fall 1995



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It's your move!

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A Report on the USCF ANNUAL MEETING

A Report on the INTEL WORLD CHAMPOINSHIP

Volume 30, Number 3

Postal Chess is Alive and Well

By Bill Floyd

When I tell people that I play postal chess, I get all kinds of responses. Some say "isn't that awfully boring". Others wonder how I can be sure all my opponents aren't using computers. Still others, when they learn some games last over two years, say that they don't have the patience for that.

All of these responses have one thing in common. They fail to recognize that postal chess is a very different game than over the board. And it's different in many ways. First, you can move the pieces around. Second, you can use books. Most important, the time allows for deep reflection. Thus, it is partially a lab for research and case studies.

Another difference is the quality of the games, even games between "B" players. The quality of the games is very high. Thus, it is often possible for lower-rated players to create a master-level game.

One of the most persistent questions is the one about computers. While a computer would definitely give a player of equal strength an advantage over someone that didn't have one, they just aren't good enough to make a real difference in postal chess among strong players.

Besides, what manner of moron would waste his/her time using a computer against a human. The opponent is the one that's getting to play a strong opponent and the cheater is doing all the work?!

The real enjoyment of postal chess, though, is the same as regular chess. The win is just as sweet, even if you never see the opponent. The losses are just as bitter.

One real danger, I found out the hard way, is learning to play the board and not the player. Over the years I had found that postal players rated over 1500 were fairly certain to be at least a challenge. But, those rated below 1300 were always easy marks. In a

current Golden Knights section, one of my opponents was rated 1295. So, I didn't pay much attention to the game until I was already in serious trouble. It turns out USCF had his rating wrong and he was actually over 1800. I am now struggling to eke out a draw in this game. Once again, play the board, not the player!!

In the last issue, Lee Hyder reported on his games in SCCA 93, the current state postal championship. Unfortunately, I don't have much knowledge of the status of anybody's games but mine. There has been a sharp drop-off, it seems, in reporting results thesedays. Everyone used to send their results of every game. Now, very few players do, unless you specifically ask. Some just ignore you then or are evasive. I ran into such a situation lately that is of some interest.

I had a score of 4 wins and one loss with one game remaining in section 93N179 of the USCF Golden Knights. It takes five points to move to the semi-finals. I had a slight advantage in the last game and felt I could win it. My opponent, unfortunately, knew my score but I did not realize he already had 4 1/2 out of five and only needed a draw to advance.

I thought he too was playing for a win. SO, I tried to steer the game into a position where whoever tried to win would lose, since I really didn't have enough for the clear win. Unfortunately, that played right into his hand and we ended up with a draw.

Postal Chess is a lot of fun. The best place to start is the Golden Knights. For \$15 you get six games against players of all strengths. If you get five points, you get to advance. If you don't, you still get a free entry into a class tournament with three opponents in your class (A, B, C, etc - same as OTB). This is a double round robin of six games.

Where in OTB Chess can you get 12 rated games for \$15?

Chess on the Web

By Lee Hyder

Are you a chess junkie? Do you have a computer? A modem (fast)? Do you live in a town where you can get to the Internet via a local phone call? If so, I have just the thing for you. Get on the World Wide Web!

Our Treasurer, Pat Hart, and his colleagues at the Charleston Chess Club are the newest denizens of the Web. Try searching them out at:

<http://www.awod.com/gallery/probono/chas-chess/>

You'll be greeted by a beautiful South Carolina palmetto logo, and introduced to a variety of information available at the touch of a button. Several states have world wide web pages, including Virginia and Alabama; five of these, along with pages from some Canadian provinces, are accessible through the Charleston page. Also accessible from Charleston are the pages of the USCF and the Canadian Chess Federation, as well as Chess World of Australia.

Of course if the Anand-Kasparov match isn't yet over when you read this, you can find out the latest by calling up:

<http://www.intel.com/intel/chess/index.html>

Intel is a major sponsor of the match and of other PCA events, so it provides information on all of these, and no doubt will continue to do so.

If you are interested in a lot of other chess stuff (highly variable in nature), there is an access point to a great many sites through:

<http://www.redweb.com/chess>

To enjoy these World Wide Web connections fully you will need a fast modem, 14,400 baud or more; the pictures used for decoration take too long to send on a slower one. If you only have a slow modem, the best place for chess news is still the UseNet newsgroups. *(Editor's Note: If*

you have Netscape or a similar web browser, you can turn off the graphics reception and still get the text only with a slower modem in reasonable time) The group rec.games.chess has now been subdivided into several groups, including rec.games.chess.analysis, rec.games.chess.misc, rec.games.chess.computer, rec.games.chess.e-mail, and rec.games.chess.politics. Avoid the last-named unless this particular subject interests you, but scattered amongst the dross in the others is the occasional pearl. An example is the chess magazine "This Week in Chess" from England. I've enclosed the heading of the most recent edition to show you what it's like.

I'll write more on this in the future, and welcome input reader input! If you don't know what I'm talking about, and would like to, let us know, and I'll include some background material next time. (related article on page 7)

Chess Expo!!

On the Grounds of the Mills House/Hampton House Complex
Columbia, SC October 28 & 29, 1995

A very special event for Columbia Chess will be held on October 28 (from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and October 29 (from Noon to 6:00 pm. It will be on the Grounds of the Mills House/Hampton House Complex behind (North of) Township Theater just off Forest Drive.

It will be a part of Octoberfest and will feature a large tent with various events scheduled continuously during the two days. We may have over 50,000 visitors. If only one percent have an interest in chess, this will mean 500 potential people. From that number, we should be able to get at least a few new members for the local club and perhaps for other clubs in the area too.

I need your help. All chess players are invited to come by and help. We will have an unrated tournament beginning at 1:30 pm on Sunday. Bring your set(s) and plan to stay all day both days. There will be plenty of food of all types for sale at the event and plenty else to do if you want to wander around.

I especially want a lot of speed chess games going to attract attention.

The New Editorial Staff

By Bill Floyd

This is the first newsletter with me as editor, and of course, with Henry White as co-editor. It's a lot bigger job than I had anticipated. Therefore, this issue is not the most robust in our history. But we will do better next time. I agreed to do this for a year, so I've got at least three more attempts, unless John fires me first. But then he might well have to do it himself, lowering his incentive to do that!!

This is also the first issue in some time that Lee Hyder has not been the editor. He has done an outstanding job over the years (on at least three different terms in this "office"). It's taking two of us to even attempt to replace him. When you see him, thank him for his fine efforts. I certainly thank him for that as well as his contributions to this issue.

We need games, especially from the from the State Championship! So if you have a good game, or any kind of win over Kyle Oody, no matter how ugly, we'll publish it (even an Oody draw if you're under 1800).

If you want to make just a few comments or a complete annotation, we'll be glad to get it. Don't feel that it has to be a master quality game. A lot of our readers want to see how players a class or two above them handle

things without having to get beat by them in the process.

We also need articles. If you have always wanted to put in you two cents worth, we'll print almost anything that's chess related and not in poor taste.

Next Issue schedule for January 15, 1996. Deadline for submissions is December 20, 1995.

Club News

By Bill Floyd

There is a very active chess Club called the Blue Ridge Chess Club in Anderson. They even publish a newsletter. On October 3, I got their Sept/October newsletter that claimed they are the most active club in the state. Since our club (the Columbia Chess Center) is pretty darned active, I'm not sure if their boast is true, but they do appear to be fairly active based on the newsletter).

USCF Tournament Clearing House

By Bill Floyd

I am the South Carolina U S Chess Federation Clearinghouse. Accordingly, I need to be notified of every tournament in the state, at least before it is placed in Chess Life.

This is to ensure that we don't get all the tournaments scheduled at the same time and that larger ones are spaced out. This is for the good of both the players and you as the organizer. If you schedule your big event the same weekend as a small event in another community 100 miles away, both tournaments will suffer.

South Carolina Open Game/15

By Bill Floyd

We had a small turnout but an exciting tournament for the South Carolina Open Game/15. There were eight players, so we played a round robin seven rounder. John Dusky from Charleston was in good form, winning with only a draw with Brent Bovay in the last round to spoil a perfect score. This was a Grandmaster type draw, methinks. Kyle Oody was second at 5 1/2 losing to Dusky and drawing me. I finished third at five, also drawing John Roberts.

The big news of the tournament was the return to chess of Cliff "Clubber" Hyatt after an absence of several years. He got off to a slow start but scored 2 1/2 in his last four games. Welcome back Cliff!

Game 15 events are a lot of fun and donot affect your regular rating. If interest picks up, we will hold one each month. The next one scheduled at the Columbia Chess Center is for November 5 -- see events section in this issue for details.

THE HARLEY MAN

By Henry White

Patrick Harley is one of the fastest rising young chess players in Columbia. In only his third tournament, this year's South Carolina open, he beat a master and drew two strong A players, Harry Abrams and Kyle Oody. Having played competitively for only two years, his tournament results are stunning,

especially since his provisional rating was only 1443. Harley's rating has sky-rocketed to 1675 in little more than a year. Harley is a 31 year old Columbia native. He has a Masters degree in math from the University of South Carolina, and currently teaches math at Midland's Technical College.

Undoubtedly, his strong math background has helped his chess prowess, but he attributes his success to his basic love of the game. He is a regular at the Columbia chess club, always one of the first to arrive and last to leave. His memory is amazing. Several weeks after his outstanding performance at the State Open Tournament, he replayed two of his games without his scoresheet as routinely as someone giving you his telephone number.

He learned the royal game from his mother when he was twelve. Like many early video game junkies, he had the Atari chess game that you played on your television screen. Off and on play over the years was the extent of his chess game until he stumbled upon some tournament players in Five Points a few years ago.

Harley likes tactically sharp positions. He plays e4 with white. Against e4 he plays the Sicilian, and the Gruenfeld against d4. He studies approximately 5 to 6 hours every two weeks or an average of 3 hours per week. Like most tournament players he would like to study more. His heavy doses of skittles play, however, keeps him in playing shape. In contrast to his sharp tactical style of play, Harley's favorite chess player is Mikhail Botvinnik. His favorite books are How to Reassess Your Chess, which he has read two or three times, Judgment and Planning in Chess and The Middlegame, both by Euwe. Combination Challenge has helped sharpen his tactical skills.

The South Carolina chess community should take notice of Mr. Harley. He has the skill and love of the game that will take him far.

SOUTH CAROLINA GAMES

Patrick Harley vs. Kyle Oody
South Carolina Open
French Defense-June 17, 1996
(annotated by Henry White)

Bill Floyd vs. Mark Brodie
Columbia February Swiss
Ruy Lopez- February 12, 1995
(Annotated by Bill Floyd)

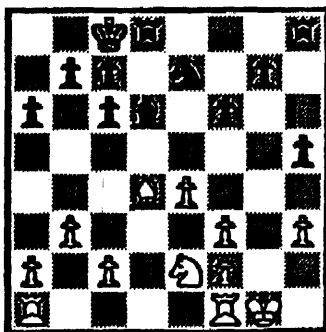
1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 (This is the exchange variation, which is considered drawish.) exd5 4. Nf3 Nf6 5. e4?! (The Harley Gambit. The resulting isolated queen pawn is bad, but play against an isolani is double-edged. More typical is 5. Bd3 Bd6 6. 0-0 0-0 7. Nc3 h6 8. Re1 c6=) Nc6 6. cxd5 Nxd5 (Per Nimzovich, play against an isolani is straightforward: "First restrain, next blockade, lastly destroy!" Here a blockade with Qxd5 is more flexible because it results in immediate pressure on the d pawn.) 7. Be4 Bb4+ 8. Bd2 Qe7+ 9. Kf1 Nf6 (A wasted tempo) 10. Nc3 0-0 11. Qc2 Be6 12. Bd3 Bxc3 ? (Eliminates white's only weakness. The resulting "hanging pawns" on e3 and d4 are stronger than the isolani: h6 was better.) 13. bxc3 Qd6 ? (Loses a pawn. Again h6 was necessary.) 14. Bg5 Bd5 15. Bxf6 Qxf6 16. Bxh7+ Kh8 17. Be4 Bxe4 18. Qxe4 Rfe8 19. Qh4+ Qxh4 20. Nxh4 Re4 21. Nf5 R8e8 22. Ne3 (Closes the door.) Na5? (The knight is badly placed on the edge of the board.) 23. g3 g6 24. Kg2 Kg7 25. h4 f5 26. h5 (An interesting attempt to seize the initiative. With the e file closed, white undertakes a bold initiative on the kingside where he has a pawn majority and where his rooks will be active. 26. Rb1 leads to nothing after 26...b6.) f4 27. gxf4 Rxf4 28. hxg6 Kxg6 29. Rh3 R8f8 30. Rg3+Kf7 31. Re1 Re8 32. Rh1 Rf8 33. Rf3 Rg6+ 34. Rg3 Rf8 35. d5? (Rh5 wins. 35. Rh5 Nc6 36. Nd5! Re4 (forced) 37. Rf5+Ke6 (if 37...Ke8 then 38. Nxc7+Ke7 39. Rg7+Kd6 40. Rd5++) 38. Rxf8 Kxd5 and white wins.) Ra4 36. Ra1? (36. Rh7+Ke8 37. Rxc7 Kd8 38. R3g7 Rxa2 39. Ng4. The advance of the queenside pawns should win.) Rf4 37. Rf1 Re4 1/2-1/2

This is a line I play frequently, and I wouldn't publish this game except that everybody in South Carolina except Harry Abrams already seems to avoid this opening against me in serious chess. Harry knows it at least as well as me so he will not be discouraged by this game. In fact, I play it against Harry, too, so we get to play it a lot!!

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 (the Morphy Defence) 4. Bxc6!? (White immediately heads for an endgame that is well-known - - take off all the pieces and White has an easy win in the King and Pawn endgame, because Black will have doubled pawns in his queenside majority and won't be able to force a passed pawn, whereas White can force one rather easily with his Kingside pawn majority).

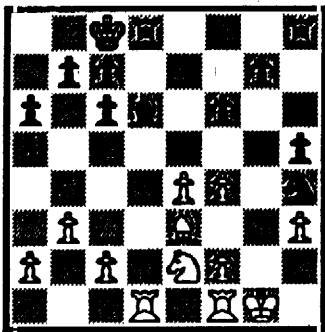
Unfortunately, taking all the pieces off often interferes with White's simple but clear plan. Black doesn't particularly benefit from this, so his objective becomes to keep the pieces and complicate the position. The two Bishops can often be a plus in this respect.

4 ... dxc6 5. 0-0 Bg4 6. h3 h5 7. b3 Qf6 8. Bb2 Bd6 9. d4 Bxf3 10. Qxf3 Qxf3 11. gxf3 exd4 12. Bxd4 f6 13. Nc3 Ne7 14. Ne2 0-0-0



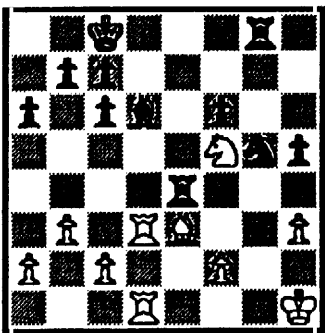
White now has a hanging Bishop. Black is setting the trap. But rather than commit the Bishop yet, I just protected it with Rook. I wanted the flexibility to retain the choice of long diagonals (a1, h8 or a7, g1) as long as possible.

15.Rad1 Ng6 16.Be3 Nh4

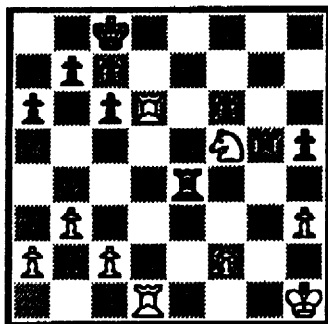


A case where attacking a square does little good (as opposed to attacking a target). White simply moves the undefendable pawn to a much better square.

17.f4 Rd7 18.Rd3 Rg8 19.Rfd1 Re7 20.Ng3 g5 21.fxg5 Nf3+ 22.Kh1 Nxe5 23.Nf5! (not the horrible Nxe5, leaving the King completely nude.)



23...Rxe4 24.Bxe5 Rxe5 25.Rxd6



25...b6 (Black faces the ugly truth that it is he who has been snookered, for on ...cxd6, 26.Nxd6+, winning a piece). 26.Rd8+ Kb7 27.Ng3 Resigns

This was my first over the board game in this variation (7. b3). I first learned of this move from a postal master, Howard Trimpi, who dispatched me rather easily with it. I have since used it in several postal games with good success.

Book Review

By M. Lee Hyder, Ph. D.

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

Portland Chess Press, 1991, 130pp, softbound, \$19.95

Arthur Dake?

There are not many around who remember those days when the U. S. Olympic chess team was a world power, winning consistently against all comers. There were Reshevsky, Fine, Kashdan, Horowitz, Denker, — and Dake. Everyone else in this group came from New York, or in Reshevsky's case, from Europe, and more particularly from the Jewish community of the Big Apple. Dake, son of a Polish immigrant, came from Oregon, via the U. S. merchant

marine. As a youth of 16 he went to sea, sailed over the Pacific, came home to the Portland YMCA, and learned chess. Despite this late start he advanced rapidly, and presently worked his way to New York where he fell in with the thriving chess community there. He played at the Grandmaster level through the thirties, but as with many of his fellows, the war virtually ended his chess career. He went back to Oregon and worked in the drivers' license bureau, playing only occasionally thereafter.

I know nothing of Dake until he appeared in some tournaments after his retirement. He might have been better known, but appears to have been a modest person who didn't particularly promote himself. He played fine chess. This book contains fifty-one of his games, a record of his tournament play, and a brief account of his career, with photographs. Casey Bush is a Portland writer, who sets down in the third person Dake's own recollections. It's good, though not exciting. Dake the seaman and sometime chess hustler must have had many exciting stories to tell, but the excitement isn't transmitted in these pages. What is here is a look at people and a time now long gone by. It's a book of nostalgia about a man who played fine chess, against the greats of his time, and was happy to do that. For those interested in the history of chess in this country it's a must. Few chessplayers leave a record of their times; we are fortunate that Dake has given us this.

Among the incidents in the book are a couple of encounters with the notorious Norman Whittaker. Whittaker, chess master and master con man, lived in our area late in his life. It seems likely that Whittaker connived to keep Dake out of some tournaments for which he was eminently qualified. Older Carolinians will remember Whittaker as an elderly hustler at Swiss events, hobbling on a cane but still able to take home a little prize money.

The book is well produced, with clear type and diagrams and adequate photos. It is available from Jim Schroeder at 2921 SE Alder, #2, Portland, OR 97214.

Charleston on the World Wide Web
By Pat Hart

Greetings from Cyberspace! As you may have already heard, the hottest feature around on the Internet now is using a web browser (like Netscape or Mosaic) to "surf the net" by pointing and clicking your way from computer to computer by virtue of hypertext links. This means selected text on your screen, usually which is blue and underlined, actually contains a link to a file that has more information on another computer. No typing!

You go to what is called a Home Page that is located on a host computer where you have your Internet account, or someone else's host computer. Just think of it as a menu to go to other places. As of September, the Charleston Chess Club has its own home page and you are invited to stop by for a visit. Currently, I have links to the USCF, a map of the area showing where the club meets, a place to find ratings/rankings by state, and several others to find much more chess-related material around the country. I plan to add a list of South Carolina players online so you can get in touch at the touch of a mouse button. Drop me an e-mail at "path@awod.com" if you want to be included when next I update the page.

Charleston Chess Club:
<http://www.awod.com/gallery/probono/chas-chess/>

USCF:
<http://www.noli.com/uschess/index.html>

Schedule of Future Tournaments

Columbia Chess Center Events at the Center

410-D Veterans Road (two blocks south off Garners Ferry Road - Highway 378/Sumter Highway just past the VA Hospital and just before I-77)

November 4 -- *CCA Game/60* Prize fund - 60% of entries

4SS EF \$12 Advance by 10-31 - \$15 at site

November 5 -- *CCA Game/15* Prize fund - 60% of entries

6SS EF \$12 Advance by 10-31 - \$15 at site

Both: Registration 9:30 - 9:50 am, Rounds begin at 10:00 am and will be scheduled continuously except for a lunch break.

December 3 & 4 *Columbia Open* - \$1,000 Prize Fund -- See Chess Life for Details

Tuesday October 17, 24, 31 November 7 & 14 *First CCC Club Championship*

5SS EF \$15 First = 6 Months Membership, Top under 1500 3 Months Membership

(prizes based on 10 entries) This will be paired with only those players present at 8:15 each night. You may enter any week with 1/2 point bye for first two absences. EF will drop to \$10 for those entering after round two. Club open on Tuesdays only for those playing in tournament.

Rounds at 8:30 each Tuesday Time Control = Game 60

Other Events

1995 Fall Scholastic -- November 11, 1995

4SS, Game /45 at Airport High School near Columbia Metropolitan Airport (take the Airport Blvd. exit from I-26). Two Sections - High School (Grades 9-12) Middle/Elementary (Grades 8 & below) EF \$2 USCF membership required. Information (803) 794-9773

For information on *Blue Ridge Chess Club Events* (Anderson, SC) contact Bill Willard at (803) 882-7841 after 6:00 pm

THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH: A FRONT ROW SEAT BY JOHN McCRARY

It cost a lot, but I could not resist going to the World Trade Towers to see game 12 of the Kasparov-Anand match. After all, I felt almost a part of the match: I know the match arbiter, Carol Jarecki, personally, and Chess Life used my article to set the historic context of the match. (You all read it on page 10 of the October Chess life, right?)

I was also interested to see how the PCA was going to implement its ideas about making chess a spectator sport. In that respect, I was not disappointed! The game was treated as though it were a televised football game, with running color commentary provided by a group of grandmasters (Seirawan, Wolff, Fedorowicz, et al.) There were tv monitors all around the 107th floor, showing the players and a computer representation of the current position. The grandmasters talked into a microphone, with speakers all over. They manipulated the position on the monitors, moving the men all around as they talked of possible variations. That, by the way, was the only criticism I had; the analysis was done on the demo boards, making it hard to keep up with the actual current position (and creating an almost comical scramble to reconstruct the correct position when the players made a move.)

The players were shielded from all this by being inside a glass booth, which was quite soundproof and out of sight of the demo/analysis boards. The players could be seen up close only by those in a special VIP room next to the glass booth; other spectators, however, could look through the back of the VIP room and see fairly well. Of course, you could turn around and see a spectacular view of New York, 107 floors below you.

I wanted to go first class, so I obtained a VIP pass and staked out a seat in the front row, only 10 feet from Kasparov; that was the closest of any of the several hundred spectators! From that vantage point, I was able to observe the mannerisms of the players first hand. Kasparov was totally serious and focused, never smiling, and looking intense from head to toe. He walked rapidly to and from the board. He reminded me of a predatory animal stalking his prey, every muscle tensed as if ready to strike at any momentary lapse by his prey. Only twice did I see him look somewhere away from the board: once, a quick glance at the audience; once, a look at Anand to try to read his expression. His eyes moved with a strange rapidity over the board, and he made no attempt at a poker face. After one series of rapid eye movements, he would scowl visibly; clearly that variation did not suit him. After another scan of the board, his expression would reveal an obvious "not too bad" evaluation.

By contrast, Anand was more like most of us in his mannerisms. He appeared relaxed, and spent less time on his clock than Kasparov. Anand often looked at the spectators, particularly at those to my immediate left (some Indian spectators who were perhaps family or friends.) He did have a poker face, revealing no emotion or change in expression.

The circumstances of game 12 were quite important. The players, having started with 8 rather lifeless draws, had erupted in games 9-11. Anand crushed Kasparov in game 9, but Kasparov took swift revenge with wins in games 10-11. If Kasparov won game 12, he would have a decisive advantage, while a win by Anand would level the score. Anand had black, and it was soon apparent he was trying to draw. I was afraid the game might end early, but Kasparov was clearly determined to create winning chances. Soon, he had doubled rooks on the queenside, but Anand surprised even the grandmaster commentators by launching a kingside foray. His plan worked, as Kasparov, in some time pressure, unexpectedly simplified and a drawn ending was reached.

At the conclusion, I hurried to the VIP "lounge," a room too small to hold the 50 or so people allowed in it. At one point, I was tightly sandwiched between two grandmasters, Wolff and Fedorowicz. (Unfortunately, none of their knowledge rubbed off on me!) It was worth the wait, as Anand, clearly the moral victor of the draw, made a brief appearance to answer questions. I could not hear some of his brief, soft-spoken comments, but he seemed to be saying he had the draw in hand all along. That was a view not shared by other grandmasters in attendance at the game.

Next, I gained illicit entry into the pressroom with the help of a friend. There, I saw quite a collection of celebrities analyzing the game together: GM's Najdorf, Seirawan, Dzindzichashvili, Lombardy, and IM John Donaldson. Nearby, GM Robert Byrne prepared the New York Times report, and GM's Nick Defirmian and Joel Benjamin were also in the room. I intended to speak to GM Lombardy, but he left while I was in another conversation (See my other article on the USCF meetings in this issue, under the sub-heading "Hall-of-Fame Problem.")

All told, a very memorable experience. The PCA did a creditable job of making chess a spectator sport, and of attracting media interest. The World Trade Towers treated the match with the respect it deserved, with huge posters of chessmen all over the first, second, and 107th floors, as well as outside. Even the police stationed outside were confidently giving directions to the match.

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□ Kasparov, G

■ Anand, V

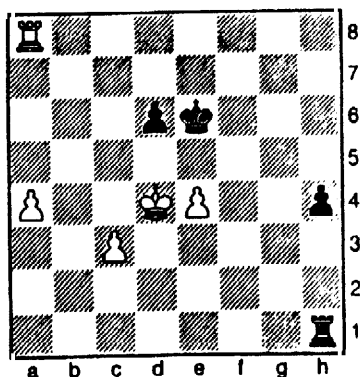
Intel World Chess Championship (12)

1995

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6
5.0-0 b5 6.♗b3 ♗c5 7.a4 ♗b7 8.d3 d6 9.♘c3
b4 10.♘d5 ♘a5 11.♗xf6+ ♗xf6 12.♗a2 h6
13.c3 bxc3 14.bxc3 0-0 15.♗e3 ♗d8 16.♗b1
♗c8 17.♗e2 ♗e6 18.h3 ♗xa2 19.♗xa2 ♗xc3
20.fxex3 ♗e6 21.♗xe6 fxe6 22.♗b4 ♗b8
23.♗f1 ♘c6 24.♗b7 ♗bc8 25.♗f2 ♗f7 26.♗e2
♗c8 27.d4 g5 28.♗d3 ♗g7 29.d5 exd5 30.exd5
g4 31.dxc6 e4+ 32.♗xe4 gxf3 33.gxf3 ♗e7+
34.♗d4 ♗xf3 35.e4 ♗xh3 36.♗xc7 ♗xc7
37.♗b8+ ♗f7 38.♗b7 ♗e7 39.c7 ♗xc7
40.♗xc7+ ♗e6 41.♗a7 h5 42.♗a6 ♗h1 43.♗a8

h4

½-½



THE STATE OF THE USCF

by John McCrary

I represented South Carolina at the annual two-day delegates' meeting, which governs the USCF for the following year. (The day-to-day affairs are then carried out by the top seven officers in collaboration with the business office, in compliance with the delegates' decisions.) South Carolina is entitled to just one delegate, but I try to make our state's voice as clearly heard as the bigger states.

The trip involved so many plane changes that I had to keep up with four different time zones, but I was rewarded with spectacular views of the Grand canyon, the Great Salt Lake, and other wonderful vistas. On the trip back, I was seated next to an elderly lady who felt I needed entertaining. "What do you think of the terrorist threats, dear?" she said; "They're targeting Delta, you know." (We were on Delta.) Continuing on with her pleasant banter, she said: "You're going to South Carolina? Do you think that hurricane will hit your state?" By this time I'm looking for other seats, but I survived the flight and the conversation, proving once again that most things we worry about do not come to pass.

THE MONEY SITUATION

The USCF budget is always tight, thanks to constant threats to our expenses (such as postage increases) and the uncertain domain of book- and equipment sales. Nevertheless, we were able to pass a balanced budget without any anticipated crisis. Much of our concern has to do with providing for the future costs of our life members, who constitute a major portion of our membership. That involves fiscal restraint in association with complex actuarial issues. Steps were taken by the delegates to guard further the life membership assets.

THE INTERNATIONAL CRISIS

The chess world is in trouble! Not only is the reunification of the world championship not yet certain, but it appears that FIDE (the world chess federation) may fall apart. There may be soon two essentially conflicting FIDE meetings, each boycotted by a significant number of nations. Although an advocate of unity, I found myself a co-sponsor of a motion mandating the USCF attend the meeting that the FIDE president considers

illegal. Unfortunately, obvious political strongarm tactics by that president, Florencio Campomanes, are provoking this confrontation. I only hope we all emerge in one piece!

THE HALL OF FAME PROBLEM

At the end of the article about GM Bill Lombardy in the October Chess Life, there is a note that Lombardy had asked not to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Since this author is Hall-of-Fame chairman, readers of this periodical may now hear the "rest of the story." About three hours before I was to perform Lombardy's induction, the USCF Executive Director asked if I knew about the Lombardy letter. "Huh," I replied, "what letter?" He then told me that a man claiming to represent Lombardy had just written USCF demanding that Lombardy not be inducted, and that his name not be used in connection with the Hall of Fame! I immediately informed Chess Life editor Glenn Petersen, who had just put the next issue, containing an article about Lombardy's induction, at the printer. Glenn and I were quickly surrounded by several delegates, including four attorneys, giving contradictory advice. We tried calling Lombardy, but he was not home. The buck always stops somewhere; regarding the induction, the buck stopped with me, and I decided not to induct him. With regard to the article, the buck stopped with Glenn; he decided to keep the article with some amended wording.

The next day, I reached Lombardy by telephone. He told me in no uncertain terms what he thought of chess politicians, and of the slights he feels he has received over the years. Unfortunately, he had not conferred those sentiments in my previous phone call to him.

Fortunately, there was a positive experience to counter the above. The world's oldest grandmaster, Arthur Dake, was in attendance at the awards banquet. In his speech, he listed his own induction as one of the two greatest highlights of his chess career. Similar sentiments have been expressed by several other inductees.

OTHER DELEGATE BUSINESS

New rules changes will be published in Chess Life instead of just the ratings supplements. The coming of new kinds of chess

clocks, such as those with a delay after each punch in sudden-death situations, will require some rules clarifications after more experience with them. The fact that players might own clocks of different kinds will pose questions about priority of use. --A disturbing movement is afoot to make it easier to agree to pre-arranged draws, solely on the grounds that it is hard to prevent them. I spoke against that idea; it seems to me that correspondence chess, and golf for that matter, have maintained high ethical standards, so that even unenforceable rules (such as not seeking help in postal games) are rarely violated. So why not strengthen OTB ethics instead of giving in? The PCA has interested television in chess matches; what will ESPN think of our "peculiar institution" (no other sport has non-competitive contests.)

An effort is being made to include chess in the Olympic Games, possibly as a demonstration sport in Atlanta 1996. Unfortunately, some olympic officials at both the national and world are balking at considering chess as a sport. Some ways of addressing that issue were discussed by the delegates, but obstacles remain.

Enough for now! Good luck in your games (the most important thing.)

Charleston Classic XV

August 26 - 27, 1995

TD - Douglas Holmes

#	Player	Rating	Round					Score
			1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Leonid Filatov	2411	W22	W12	W6	D4	W5	4.5
2.	Matthew Morris	2320	W23	W11	W9	D3	D4	4.0
3.	Allen Cooley	2309	W24	W14	W8	D2	W9	4.5
4.	Donny Gray	2227	W25	W13	W10	D1	D2	4.0
5.	Rex Demers	2147	W26	W15	W18	W6	L1	4.0
6.	Brad Jeffers	2059	W27	W19	L1	L5	W20	3.0
7.	Patrick Hart	2023	W28	L18	W37	L14	--	2.0
8.	John Vonderlieth	1963	W29	W17	L3	W16	W12	4.0
9.	John Valentine	1936	W30	W20	L2	W17	L3	3.0
10.	Harry Abrams	1900	W31	W21	L4	W18	W14	4.0
11.	Al Casanova	1786	W32	L2	W22	BYE	W15	3.5
12.	Jerome Tyson	1766	W33	L1	W21	W19	L8	3.0
13.	Brenton Bovay	1715	W34	L4	W24	D20	L27	2.5
14.	Albert Errazo	1706	W35	L3	W28	W7	L10	3.0
15.	John Dusky, Jr.	1636	W36	L5	D29	W37	L11	2.5
16.	Daniel Crewz	1608	L37	W32	WF	L8	L25	2.0
17.	James Collins	1602	W38	L8	W30	L9	W18	3.0
18.	Alfred Wilson	1600	W39	W7	L5	L10	L17	2.0
19.	Charles Ammons	1600	W40	L6	W34	L12	W21	3.0
20.	Michael Will	1552	W41	L9	W35	D13	L6	2.5
21.	Robert Osbourne	1524	W42	L10	L12	W28	L19	2.0
22.	Bruce Shull	1309	L1	W36	L11	W35	L24	2.0
23.	William Pilaud	1500	L2	L37	L27	W38	W33	2.0
24.	Tom Brown	1499	L3	W33	L13	W32	W22	3.0
25.	Donald Wilson	1489	L4	L34	W38	W33	W16	3.0
26.	Gregory Blythe	1394	L5	L35	W36	W34	L37	2.0
27.	Ken Crane	1277	L6	D38	W23	W29	W13	3.5
28.	Ronnie Farmer	1119	L7	W41	L14	L21	L34	1.0
29.	Ian Goldberg	1117	L8	W40	D15	L27	W30	2.5
30.	Matthew Connor	1061	L9	W39	L17	BYE	L29	1.5
31.	Justin Maines	1061	L10	W42	LF	Withdrew		1.0
32.	Steve Doran	1002	L11	L16	W39	L24	W35	2.0
33.	John Cross	UNR.	L12	L24	W41	L25	L23	1.0
34.	Richard Hartnett	UNR.	L13	W25	L19	L26	W28	2.0
35.	Robert Hartnett	UNR.	L14	W26	L20	L22	L32	1.0
36.	Kenton Payne	UNR.	L15	L22	L26	W39	W38	2.0
37.	Gary Littlejohn	UNR.	W16	W23	L7	L15	W26	3.0
38.	Paul Walker	UNR.	L17	D27	L25	L23	L36	0.5
39.	Chris Clayborne	UNR.	L18	L30	L32	L36	W41	1.0
40.	Adam Gorod	UNR.	L19	L29	Withdrew			0.0
41.	Jeffrey Chocklette	UNR.	L20	L28	L33	BYE	L39	0.5
42.	Richard Mandeville	UNR.	L21	L31	BYE	Withdrew		0.5

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