

Palmetto Chess

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Ferguson Wins 1996 State Championship



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EDITORS' NOTE

We desperately need your game scores. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is April 1, 1997. We look forward to hearing from you.

The President's Page

By John McCrary

SCCA President

Since our last issue, I have become so busy in USCF affairs that I am having trouble finding time for all my responsibilities. I was sent to USCF headquarters in New Windsor, New York on short notice to conduct a staff input survey of the 41 USCF employees. Fortunately, Dr.

"Too many members lack a sense of pride in their organization."

Clyde Smith and Michael Spohn were able to direct the Fall Scholastic tournament at Airport High during my sojourn north. I also have been named vice-chair of the USCF Ethics Committee, an honor that brings with it considerable responsibility. (See pages 199-204 of the current USCF rule-

book to learn what this committee does.). I will be attending the meeting of the Trustees of the US Chess Trust in Miami in January. I am also chairman of the new USCF membership committee,

which is based on the idea of trying to create a systematic approach to the sales and retention of

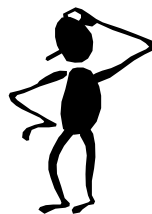
USCF memberships. I have a file full of suggestions from all over the nation on this topic, in response to my appeal for ideas in the December *Chess Life*.

I enjoy staying busy (there is nothing to watch on TV these days anyway) but I

(President continued on page 19)

Play Your Own Opening!

By Lee Hyder



There are, of course, a huge number of chess openings, and you can get detailed analysis of nearly every one. Then, if you had nothing else to do and the prospect of a long life, you could start learning them: say, all five volumes of ECO. Of course all the time you study, new games will constantly be making your sources obsolete.

Let's now come back to the real world. Most of us have very little time to study. How do we deal with the problem of developing an opening repertoire that won't leave us in the lurch? The answer, I think, is simple: play your own opening. One that you know, and perhaps not too many other people.

Of course, all the experts say to pick a limited number of openings and play them exclusively, until you are at ease with them. I'm suggesting you go further: pick some that are (for whatever reason) not fashionable. These are openings masters hardly ever play, so there is not analysis twenty moves deep out there, and your opponent may never have seen your choice anyway. They can be your openings, in reality if not in name, and you can explore them as deeply as you want.

What should you look for? Well, something sound enough that your opponent won't get a big advantage just by a few minutes of book study. There are a lot of strange gambits that will not stand the test of time, and we are looking at a long term commitment here. Another rule, equally important, is that it needs to be a kind of game you enjoy playing.

(Hyder continued on page 5)

(Hyder continued from page 4)

Try it in skittles, and see how you like it, before you order a monograph.

Some of our members are already following this plan. In the SCCA Correspondence Championship Bill Floyd played the King's Indian Attack as White, the Alekhine's Defense as Black. Good choices! I'll discuss another example presently.

It is harder to find a suitable system as Black than with White; almost anything works with White. But it's certainly not impossible. Consider some possibilities for Black against 1 d4: The Dutch Defense. The Budapest Defense. The many variations of the Modern Defense with 1--g6. The Chigorin Defense. The old "Czech" lines of the Benoni. The Old Indian. There are others, but these might give you the idea. Yes, some of these are considered inferior, but none are refuted, and fashions change! You will know the critical lines, and know what to play for; that should be reasonable assurance of a playable game. And sometimes you may get outplayed, but then that can happen in any opening, can't it?

Over the next few issues I intend to highlight some examples of this kind of personal opening. One that immediately comes to mind is the "Orangutan", 1 b4, played frequently by Cliff Hyatt. It's a great example of a personal opening; its practitioners are few, and it is sound enough. I will use Cliff's game against John Rogers, from the last issue, as a basis for discussing this opening, and the kind of opportunities and traps that lie hidden within it.

1 b4

If White wants to keep his opponent from playing e5, he could play 1 Nf3 and 2 b4, a sequence known as Santa-siere's Folly. Playing the b pawn out first is a deliberate provocation, designed to get tactical right away. Now Black

(Hyder continued on page 6)

(Hyder continued from page 5)

can play:

1--d5, or 1--Nf6 conceding the square e5, but getting a solid game.

1--a5, counterattacking on the exposed pawn. I once saw a correspondence game that went 1 b4 a5 2 b5 a4 3 a3. A little bizarre? Yes, but White didn't want his B at b2 embarrassed at some future time by Black's a3.

1--c6, anticipating 2 Bb2 Qb6. Now 3 a3 a5 4 c4! and if axb4 5 c5!. Of course Black doesn't have to play this way, and I'll leave you the pleasure (and work) of analyzing 3--c5!?

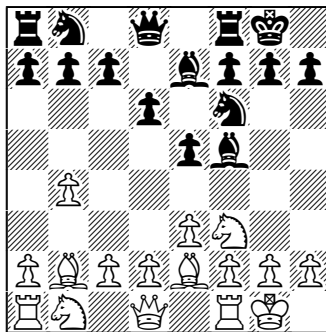
Then there is the move played:

1--e5 2 Bb2 d6

This is good enough to equalize; the sharp tactics are in lines such as 2--f6 3 e4! or in 2--Bxb4 3 Bxe5 Nf6. There was recently a small collection of games in *Inside Chess* showing White getting into trouble with 4 c4, but doing fine with 4 Nf3 followed by e3. White has good center pawns; Black gains a tempo with Nc6 and may get some initiative.

3 e3 Nf6 4 Nf3 Be7 5 Be2 O-O 6 O-O Bf5

I like Henry White's suggestion of 3--f5. Note that White is following a system well known to him, designed to get his pieces out without conceding play in the center. Instead of Black's sixth move, he might have tried 6--a5, to disrupt the queen side. Now White gets to attack the center.



Position after 6...Bf5.

7 c4 Nbd7 8 d4 e4 9 Nh4

Bg6 10 Nxg6 hxg6

White has gained the two bishops, and induced Black to extend his position. The game now builds toward a crisis.

11 Nc3 c6 12 f3 d5 13 cxd5 cxd5 14 fxe4 dxe4 15 a3 Nb6

(Hyder continued on page 7)

(Hyder continued from page 6)

16 Rf4 Bd6 17 Rh4 g5 18

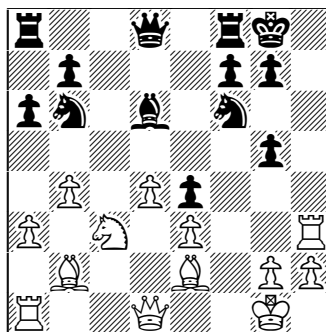
Rh3 a6

Black has played ingeniously to hold his advanced center, and has kept his position together. In fact, I now prefer his game, because of his control of the white squares in the center. Hyatt realizes this, and plays a pawn sacrifice to get counterplay.

19 d5?! Nbx d5

Chess is a funny game. If Rogers had not seen the tactical possibility of Bxh2+, he would not have played this move; he might have played Re8 instead, and gained the advantage. White's Qd4 would then be strongly met by Be5, and the d pawn could not be held for the long term. Instead, White finishes with a good attack:

20 Nxd5 Nxd5 21 Qd4! Nf6 22 Rd1 Be7 23 Qe5 Qe8 24 Qxg5 and soon won.



Position after 18... a6.

Have you had a good experience with “your own opening” that you would like me to use? If so, send it along. Next month I’ll give one of my own examples.

TOURNAMENT NEWS

THE 1996 SOUTH CAROLINA CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

By John McCrary

NM Randy Ferguson is the new South Carolina chess champion. The personable and sportsmanlike master from Greenville went 4-1, yielding draws to Brent Bovay and Wayne Williams. In keeping with South Carolina tradition, all draws in this event were fiercely contested by players doing their best; the disease of the non-competitive draw has not infected our state's combatants, and hopefully never will. Wayne Williams and Roger Johnson tied for 2-3 places with 3.5-1.5. Lindsay Blanks, Greg Frady, Dennis Fish, and Brent Bovay came next with 3-2 scores. A total of 15 players played in the championship section.

The Amateur championship was won by William O. Smith, with 4.5-0.5. He was followed by Fred Olmsted, who finished 3.5-1.5. Then came James Collins and Gilbert Stone, with 3-2 scores. Only 7 players competed in this event.

(Championships continued on page 20)

GREENVILLE COUNTY GAME 60

BY NORBERT C. THIEMANN

ON SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 23,
1996, THE
GREENVILLE
CHESS CLUB
HOSTED THE
GREENVILLE
COUNTY GAME 60
TOURNAMENT.

THE OPEN
SECTION WAS WON
BY ELLIS JONES OF
GEORGIA, AND THE
UNDER 1600
SECTION WAS WON
BY STATE
RESERVE
CHAMPION JUSTIN
DANIEL OF
CHARLESTON.
THE EVENT WAS
DIRECTED BY
DAVID K.
WILLIAMS.



Roger Johnson (2025) v. Randal Ferguson (2254)

South Carolina Championships

English Opening

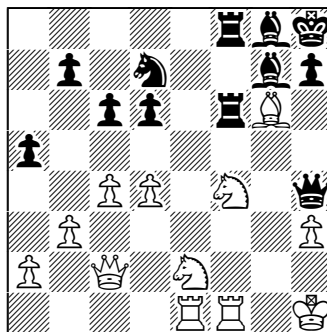
October 6, 1996

(Annotated by NM Randal Ferguson)

The following is the key game from last year's State Championship. After Ferguson's win in the following fourth round encounter, he needed only a draw in the final round to secure his second state championship, and a clean sweep of both the open and closed championships for 1996.

1. c4 f5 2. g3 ♘f6 3. ♙g2 g6 4. ♘c3 ♙g7 5. e3 e5 6. d3 c6 7. ♘ge2 0-0 8. f4 (Not the best move, as black will have tactical opportunities along the g1-a7 diagonal.) ...d6 9. 0-0 ♙e6 10. ♙d2 a5 11. ♖c2 ♘bd7 12. b3 ♖h8 13. ♗ab1 ef 14. ♘xf4 ♙g8 15. e4 ♘g4 16. h3 ♖b6+ (Now the weakness of white's 8th move becomes evident. Black is now dominating the dark squares.) 17. ♖h1 ♘e3 18. ♙xe3 ♖xe3 19. ♗be1? (King to h2 was necessary.) ... ♖xg3 20. ef ♗xf5 (gf was probably better.)

21. ♘ce2 ♖h4 22. ♙e4 ♗f6 23. d4 ♗af8 24. ♙xg6!? (White does the right thing by trying to complicate the position and take advantage of black's time trouble. Here the calm 24...♙h6 would have won effortlessly, but instead black misplays in time trouble with 24...



Position after 24. ♙xg6?

♗xf4.)

24...♗xf4 25. ♘xf4 ♗xf4 26. ♙f5 ♘f6 27. ♗g1 ♘h5 (Black now has only five minutes remaining until the end of the first time control.) 28. ♗e3 ♗f2 29. ♗e4? ♘g3+ 30. ♗xg3 ♖xg3 31. ♖xf2 ♖xf2 32. ♙g4 ♙xd4 0-1.

Rock Hill Chess Club

By Pete Banker

Club President

The Rock Hill Chess Club has been around for four years. We have an active membership of about 35 chessplayers, some of whom actually belong to the USCF. Due solely to the extreme benevolence of York Technical College, we have what is probably the premier meeting place of any chess club anywhere. We meet every Tuesday evening from 6:00 pm until 10:00 pm in the Student Center, Conference Rooms B and C. There is no charge for this privilege, as long as we allow faculty, students, and staff to play with us. Needless to say, the more the merrier.

Since we are not burdened by rent, we do not charge for our memberships. What we have done, however, is devised an on-going Quad tournament format. This format is not new, but we have added a twist: we compose as many sections as necessary of four players each, and play a regular quad series of three games. The entry fee for each tournament is \$7 per player. The winner(s) of each section receives \$25, and is “booted up” for the next tourney. The lowest score per section moves down one section. Ties to decide who moves are determined by a coin flip, and the winner of the flip chooses which section he or she will play in. This way, nobody gets pounded on all the time, and eventually, everyone has a realistic chance to win. Since we pay no rent, the club will make \$3 per section to spend as

(Rock Hill continued on page 11)

(Rock Hill continued from page 10)

we wish. So far, the enthusiasm for this method had been outstanding. The first tournament consisted of 16 players, with 9 or 10 others just playing skittles. There have been a few bugs, but they seem to work out. The main problem, obviously, is that some people don't show up for their scheduled games after they lose the first or second rounds. We have allowed an extra week for make-up games, and asked for those who anticipate any reason which would prevent them from completing any particular tournament to please refrain from entering. There have been no incomplete tournaments so far. Incidentally, it is never a requirement to participate in the tournaments to play at our club.

We will have tournaments on February 22, March 15 and April 19. Hope to see you there!! We are planning to have a tournament each month, if possible.

YORK COUNTY CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

February 22, 1997

Location: York County Library
138 E. Black Street, Rock Hill, SC

Format: Round-robin

Prizes: \$50 first place
\$25 second place per section

Time: G/60 with 6 player sections

Reg: \$18 advance
\$21 at site

Contact Boyd Bruce 803-324-1149 E-mail boydb@lyon.york.lib.sc.us

1996 TREASURER'S REPORT

By SCCA Treasurer Pat Hart

BALANCE 9/30/95 \$1364.09

INCOME

EXPENSES

1995 SC Championship	\$1195.00	1995 SC Championship	\$1012.95
USCF Dues	\$665.00	USCF Dues	\$680.00
Dues	\$608.00	Denker Tournament	\$300.00
USCF State Fund	\$257.60	1996 SCCA Scholastic	\$183.20
1996 SCCA Scholastic	\$115.00	1995 Fall Scholastic	\$153.22
1995 Fall Scholastic	\$55.00	USCF Mailing Lists	\$63.40
Interest	\$20.76	1995 SCCA Postal	\$24.00
Tourney Ad(s)	\$10.00	Postage	\$16.96
		Bank Charge	\$10.00
		Mailing Labels	\$8.64

TOTAL INCOME	\$2926.36	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2452.37
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NET GAIN \$473.99

BALANCE 9/30/96 \$1838.08

SOUTH CAROLINA'S CHESS CHAMPIONS

1926:	Dr. W.H. Morton		Lee Hyder
1927:	James Henry Rice, Jr.		James Addison
1928:	Col. Oliver J. Bond	1976:	Fred Alsbrook
1929:	B.O. Johnson	1977:	Paul Tinkler
1930:	E.B. Hallman	1978:	Lee Hyder
1931:	Edward L. Dashiell	1979:	Edward McCauley
1932:	P.J. Walker		Richard Cohen
1933:	Edward L. Dashiell		Patrick Hart
1948:	Harold A. Mouzon, Jr.	1980:	Klaus Pohl
1949:	Paul L. Cromelin	1981:	Jeff Smeltzer
1950:	Harold A. Mouzon, Jr.	1982:	Klaus Pohl
1951:	Paul L. Cromelin	1983:	Klaus Pohl
1952:	Alex Edelsburg		David Erb
1953:	Rea B. Hayes		Joseph Zeimetz
1954:	Rea B. Hayes	1984:	Wayne Williams
1955:	Ernest E. Hoenck	1985:	Thomas Krause
1956:	Lanneau L. Foster		Klaus Pohl
	Alex Edelsburg		Wayne Williams
1957:	R. Grady Brown	1986:	Klaus Pohl
1958:	R. Grady Brown	1987:	Dennis Fish
1959:	Harold A. Mouzon, Jr.		Randal Ferguson
1960:	Peter Grant		Wayne Williams
	Lanneau Foster	1988:	Klaus Pohl
	Alex Edelsburg	1989:	Wayne Williams
1961:	John G. Wallenburg		Lee Hyder
1962:	Lanneau L. Foster		Doug Holmes
1963:	Dr. Steven Shaw	1990:	Charles Walter
1964:	Lee Hyder		Dennis Fish
1965:	John A. Chalmers		Mark Brodie
	Alex Edelsburg		Jimmy Hill
1966:	Lee Hyder	1991:	Klaus Pohl
1967:	Lee Hyder	1992:	Klaus Pohl
	Alex Edelsburg		Lindsay Blanks
1968:	Lee Hyder	1993:	Philip Laren
1969:	Spencer Matthews		Klaus Pohl
1970:	Charles Walter	1994:	Lindsay Blanks
1971:	Otto Estenger	1995:	Wayne Williams
1972:	Otto Estenger		Pat Hart
	Charles Walter	1996:	Randal Ferguson
1973:	Jeff Smeltzer		
	Charles Walter		
1974:	Charles Walter		
1975:	Jeff Smeltzer		



COMPUTER SOFTWARE REVIEW

By: Henry J. White

ChessMaster 5000

Price: \$40-\$50

I have six chess programs on my hard drive, but only one gets any regular use, Chessmaster 5000. This classic program is now in its fifth generation. First introduced as Chessmaster 2000 in 1986, the program has come a long way. CM 5000 runs only under Windows 95 and takes full advantage of the 32-bit capabilities of that operating system.

The heart of CM 5000 is a 32-bit Pentium optimized chess engine from the Advanced Software Company. How strong is CM 5000? It is stronger than its predecessor, CM 4000, which defeated US Champion Yassar Seirawan. I have played CM 5000 in over fifty G/15 games, with only one win and one draw to my credit.

CM 5000 continues many of the popular features from its predecessors. The program has over twenty styles of chess sets, ranging from Stanton to Latin American. You can continue to configure the program to play dif-

System Requirements

- **Windows 95**
- **486 DX 66-MHz**
- **8 MB RAM, 16 recommended**
- **Double speed CD-ROM**
- **Windows compatible mouse**
- **SVGA 640x480, 256 video card or**

(Software continued on page 15)

(Software continued from page 14)

ferent styles. There are over sixty chess playing personalities, from Fischer to Tarrasch. Multiple time controls are available. Even a Fischer style (each player is given three seconds after each move) clock is available.

The tutorial program has been expanded and improved. There are over twenty tutorial courses, including a basic introductory course and a more advanced course that includes middlegame theory and strategic themes. The lessons are given in a separate window next to the chess board. While the lessons are very instructive, a more interactive, multi-media format, like the one used in *Maurice Ashley Teaches Chess*, would have been better. Nevertheless, the tutorials are still good. After all, Yassar Seirawan and NM Eric Schiller created the tutorials.

CM 5000 has a 27,000 game database. On it you can search by player name, opening variation, and current board position. It is an excellent training tool. You can also create your own database. For instance, I have prepared a database of all of my tournament games. Games can be saved in the popular PGN format (Post Game Notation).

CM 5000 is an excellent program, especially for the price. For more information, visit the Chessmaster Network at <http://www.chessmasternetwork.com>.

1996 SC CHAMPIONSHIPS

October 5-6, 1996

TD-John McCrary

Championship Section

Player	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1. Randal Ferguson	2254	D7	W14	W9	W3	D2	4.0
2. Wayne Williams	2161	W8	L3	W10	W6	D1	3.5
3. Roger Johnson	2025	W12	W2	D6	L1	W7	3.5
4. Lindsay Blanks	2086	L9	D7	W12	D5	W11	3.0
5. Gregory Frady	2059	W10	L9	W11	D4	D6	3.0
6. Dennis Fish	2000	W13	W11	D3	L2	D5	3.0
7. Brenton Bovay	1969	D1	D4	W15	W9	L3	3.0
8. Claude Corbett	1922	L2	D12	D14	W15	D9	2.5
9. Harry Lee Abrams	1900	W4	W5	L1	L7	D8	2.5
10. Henry J. White	1865	L5	W13	L2	D14	D12	2.0
11. Keith Eubanks	1787	W15	L6	L5	W13	L4	2.0
12. Patrick Harley	1769	L3	D8	L4	B	D10	2.0
13. James E. Johnson	1565	L6	L10	B	L11	W14	2.0
14. Kenneth Pestka	1409	H	L1	D8	D10	L13	1.5
15. Charles F. Ammons	1600	L11	B	L7	L8	U	1.0

Amateur Section

Player	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1. William O. Smith	1692	W7	W5	D4	W3	W6	4.5
2. Frederic Olmsted	1614	L6	D3	B	W5	W4	3.5
3. James W. Collins	1611	D4	D2	W6	L1	W5	3.0
4. Gilbert L. Stone	1464	D3	W6	D1	B	L2	3.0
5. Pan Wickramasing	1442	B	L1	W7	L2	L3	2.0
6. John G. Roberts	1480	W2	L4	L3	H	L1	1.5
7. James Perr Peace	1588	L1	B	L5	U	U	1.0

Reserve Section

Player	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1. Justin Daniel	1569	W7	W14	W3	W2	W4	5.0
2. Timothy Hurley	1492	W22	W8	W9	L1	W6	4.0
3. Michael Lafer	1174	W11	W4	L1	W13	W9	4.0
4. Clyde B. Baker	1459	W19	L3	W7	W5	L1	3.0
5. Ralph Sandifer	1330	D16	W10	W18	L4	D11	3.0
6. Michael Spohn	1301	L9	W19	W11	W10	L2	3.0
7. Paul Snavelly	1265	L1	W17	L4	W16	W14	3.0
8. James M. Smith	1184	W20	L2	L13	W22	W15	3.0
9. Michael B. Lafer	1051	W6	W13	L2	W14	L3	3.0
10. Chuck Cameron	886	W21	L5	W12	L6	W13	3.0
11. Pete Danker	1440	L3	W22	L6	W18	D5	2.5
12. David Biggs	1217	D18	L20	L10	W21	W22	2.5
13. Gil Holmes	1370	W15	L9	W8	L3	L10	2.0
14. Jesse Inman	1298	W17	L1	W15	L9	L7	2.0
15. Ronnie Farmer	1100	L13	W21	L14	W17	L8	2.0
16. Kenny Matthews	1063	D5	L18	D21	L7	B	2.0
17. Richard Sorrow	961	L14	L7	B	L15	W19	2.0
18. John Matthew Loy	1412	D12	W16	L5	L11	U	1.5
19. Thomas Perryman	1145	L4	L6	X	H	L17	1.5
20. William Pilaud	1500	L8	W12	U	U	U	1.0
21. Joseph Feiler	1279	L10	L15	D16	L12	U	0.5
22. Bill Willard	1248	L2	L11	F	L8	L12	0.0

GREENVILLE COUNTY G\25

November 22, 1996

TD-Greg Frady

Player	1	2	3	Total
1. Leroy Dillard	W6	W4	W3	3.0
2. Pete Danker	L5	W8	W6	2.0
3. Jeff Meece	W8	W5	L1	2.0
4. Norbert Thiemann	W7	L1	W5	2.0
5. David Biggs	W2	L3	L4	1.0
6. James M. Smith	L1	W7	L2	1.0
7. David Baker	L4	L6	D8	0.5
8. Charles Cameron	L3	L2	D7	0.5

GREENVILLE COUNTY G\60

November 23, 1996

TD-David K. Williams

Player	1	2	3	4	Total
1. Brenton Bovay	D5	D2	W7	D3	2.5
2. Bill Corbett	W6	D1	L3	B	2.0
3. Ellis E. Jones	W7	W4	W2	D1	3.5
4. Joseph Sachs	W8	L3	W5	L7	2.0
5. Michael McHale	D1	W6	L4	W8	2.5
6. Tobin Logan	L2	L5	L8	W29	1.0
7. Pete Danker	L3	W8	L1	W4	2.0
8. Joseph Critelli	L4	L7	W6	L5	1.0
9. Jusin Daniel	W18	W16	W17	W13	4.0
10. Dan McCreedy	L19	W24	L16	W18	2.0
11. James Logan	W21	L17	W18	W19	3.0
12. Stephen Reneke	L20	W22	D14	W24	2.5
13. James M. Smith	W22	W20	D19	L9	2.5
14. Justin Robason	W23	L19	D12	W21	2.5
15. Charles Mayes	L24	W23	W20	B	2.5
16. Robert Woodard	W25	L9	W10	W17	3.0
17. David Biggs	W26	W11	L9	L16	2.0
18. Timothy Rankin	L9	W25	L11	L10	1.0
19. Michael Lafer	W10	W14	D13	L11	2.5
20. David Woodard	W12	L13	L15	W25	2.0
21. Michael B. Lafer	L11	W26	D24	L14	1.5
22. Kyle Jones	L13	L12	B	L26	0.5
23. Allen Jones	L14	L15	L26	B	1.0
24. Charles Cameron	W15	L10	D21	L12	1.5
25. Krista Williams	L16	L18	B	L20	1.0
26. David Baker	L17	L21	W23	W22	2.0
27. Mike Moore	U	U	W25	L28	1.0
28. Leroy Dillard	U	U	U	W27	1.0
29. Norbert Thiemann	U	U	U	L6	0.0

(President continued from page 3)

feel guilty about the lack of time for my job of state president. If this continues, we will definitely need a new president next year. Unfortunately, much of the news about the USCF is not good. Declining renewal rates of our regular members is contributing to a financial crunch the likes of which the USCF has never seen. Too many members lack a sense of pride in their organization. They regard their USCF membership as just a magazine subscription and a tournament ticket, to be allowed to lapse until they are in the mood again. Actually, USCF dues are a bargain considering the services offered. Yet, we are faced with increasing numbers of chessplayers who will not renew for the sake of a few dollars, indifferent to the fact that there will be little chess to play anywhere if the organization goes under financially! After all, the USCF is all we have. It has no competitors, and will have no replacements either if it fails to thrive. So renew on time, and take pride in your game!

Things are not much better on the international scene either. The world championship has quietly faded from existence as the great concept it once was, and few seem to realize the treasure we are letting slip away. FIDE is becoming more chaotic, and may not survive this millennium. Fortunately, the SCCA is doing just fine, thanks to the great volunteers we have, and bodes well for a secure future.

(Championships continued from page 8)

The 22-player reserve section was won by Justin Daniel, with a 5-0 score. Timothy Hurley and Michael Lafer, Jr. tied for second with 4-1 scores. Seven players came next, with 3-2 scores: Clyde Bruce Baker, Ralph Sandifer, Michael Spohn, Paul Snavelly, Jr., James Michael Smith, Michael Lafer, Sr., and Chuck Cameron.

The event was held for the third year at the Hampton Inn on Garner's Ferry Road in Columbia, now fully accessible by the interstate connector between I-26 and I-77. Despite the presence of the state fair one exit up, rooms were readily available. As usual, there was a convivial atmosphere. I never tire of bragging about the gentlemanly behavior of almost all our state's players when talking to chess leaders from other states.

Randy with his victory continues a tradition that began in the nineteenth century with Isaac Orchard, a nationally-known contemporary of Steinitz and Morphy, who was our state's first recognized champion. The SCCA has been organizing the state championship since the organization was first formed in 1926 at the Columbia YMCA (Although there was a break from 1933-1948.). Congratulations to Randy and the other winners!

Rock Hill G/60 Championship

March 15, 1997

Number of Rounds: 4

Format: Round-Robin

Time Control: G/60

Prize Fund: \$50 first, \$25 second each section

Sections: 6-Player sections, per rating

Location: Hampton Inn
Exit 79, I-77 (Dave Lyle Blvd.)
Rock Hill, SC 29730

Entry Fee: \$18 pre-entry, by 3/14/97, \$21 at site

Registration: 7:30-8:45

Games: 9-11:15-2-4:15

Entries: Pete Danker
7119 Ridgewood Road
Ft. Mill, SC 29715
803-548-0955 (after 5:30 pm)

WC; NS; NC

Special Note: Special section(s) for documented ratings U-1000, if attendance allows. This rating must be documented in writing, either in the latest issue of the rating list, on the latest Chess Life label, or elsewhere.

25th ANNUAL SNOW-STORM

SITE:

Trident Technical College, Building 300, 7000 Rivers Avenue
(Highway 52), North Charleston. (See map on p. 23.)

ENTRY FEE:

\$30 by 2 - 19 - 97; \$35 at site; School (K - 12) \$10.

USCF membership required.

PRIZES: (based on 50) More prizes per entries.

1st = \$180 (guaranteed)

2nd = \$120 (guaranteed)

A = \$100 - \$50

B = \$100 - \$50

C = \$100 - \$50

D/E = \$100 - \$50

USCF membership (only) to Top School entry.

Expert prize (if any) determined by entries.

UNRated based on performance rating after Round 4.

TIME CONTROL:

GAME 100 (Round 1 only) 35/90; SD/60 (Rounds 2 - 5).

ROUNDS:

10 - 2 - 7; 10 - 2:30.

ENTER:

Charleston Chess Club
c/o Patrick Hart
1558 Periwinkle Drive
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464-9146

(Snowstorm continued on page 23)

(Snowstorm continued from page 22)

(803) 849-0177 (after 1:00 PM).

E-mail: path@awod.com

REGISTRATION:

9:00 - 9:50 AM.

MOTELS:

Knights Inn (803-744-4900/800-845-1927) \$29 - \$41.

Masters Inn (803-744-3530/800-633-3434) \$30 - \$41.

(Prices subject to change)(# of occupants to beds)

TD - Lindsay Blanks

TOURNAMENT SITE

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 SAVANNAH MYRTLE BEACH
 [CHARLESTON] [MOUNT PLEASANT]

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. It is the United States Chess Federation's official state affiliate chapter for South Carolina.

Membership is \$8 per year, or \$3 for juniors under age 19.

Officers of the South Carolina Chess Association are:

President- **John McCrary**, 564 Rainbow Circle, West Columbia 29070 E-mail endofterainbow@msn.com

Vice President- **M. Lee Hyder**, 33 Longwood Dr., Aiken 29803 E-mail hyder@groupz.net

Secretary- **Bill Willard**, 506 West North 4th Street, Seneca 29678 E-mail bwillard@carol.net

Treasurer- **Pat Hart**, 1558 Periwinkle Drive, Mount Pleasant 29464 E-mail path@awod.com

Palmetto Chess is edited by:

Bill Floyd, 4315 Devereaux Road, Columbia 29205, and

Henry J. White, 320 Whitehurst Way, Columbia 29229 E-mail d4nf6@aol.com

Palmetto Chess
4315 Devereaux Road
Columbia, SC 29205