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TRI-STATE CHAMPIONSHIP. Youngstown, 1959.

By Carl Johnson, Editor, Cleveland Chess Bulletin.

Four entrants out of six tied for the Tri-State Championship. Here is how it happened:

Round I

Darbes 1, Wren 0; Kause 1, C. Johnson 0; R. Johnson 1, Byland 0.

Time pressure played a big part in the first round. Roger Johnson and Bill Byland finished their game with no more than eight minutes remaining between both their clocks. I was two pawns down in a lost position to Richard Kause when my flag fell. Wren, the West Virginia champion, tipped his king to fellow West Virginian, Dr. Alex J. Darbes.

Round II

Wren 1, Kause 0; Byland 1, Darbes 0; C. Johnson $\frac{1}{2}$, R. Johnson $\frac{1}{2}$.

The games were finished in the order listed. (This is true for all games.) Kause inadvertently lost his queen early in the game. He later succumbed to Wren's unorthodox play. Throughout the entire tournament Darbes used the same three opening moves, P-KN3, P-K3, and P-Q3. His system didn't work too well. Roger Johnson and I battled to fifty moves whereupon Roger called for an adjudication of the position. After an intensive adjudication the game was declared a draw. Roger was a fierce competitor and would not agree the game was a draw until late Sunday afternoon.

Round III

C. Johnson $\frac{1}{2}$, Byland $\frac{1}{2}$; Kause 1, Darbes 0; Wren 1, R. Johnson 0.

A ferocious attack, as a result of a center-counter game, dwindled into a draw between Byland and myself. Kause crushed Darbes with a neat combination and Wren, once again, won his opponent's queen, this time as a result of a discovered check (PAS: pin). Roger Johnson fought on and by end-game time had a knight, bishop, and two pawns versus queen and pawn. Roger feared an adjudication would go against him and Micaiah Wren was the "true southern gentleman". As a result the game was played to a finish. Johnson dropped the point.

Round IV

C. Johnson 1, Darbes 0; Byland 1, Wren 0; Kause $\frac{1}{2}$, R. Johnson $\frac{1}{2}$.

At the end of the third round, Wren and Kause were tied for the lead with two points apiece. Both wanted a full point in this round. Neither got it. As a result the lead became a two-way tie between Kause and Byland, with three other players one-half point behind. Either Kause or Byland could win if he won his last round game. The tension was heightened because Kause was to meet Byland in the last round.

Round V

C. Johnson 1, Wren 0; R. Johnson 1, Darbes 0.

Roger and myself both had three points and we tensely watched the Kause-Byland game. At first it looked as though Kause had chances on the queen's bishop file. Then Byland had a chance to open the position

with P-KB4, but played the solid P-KB3. As a result neither man took any chances. and the game resulted in a draw.

Kause $\frac{1}{2}$, Byland $\frac{1}{2}$.

The first table shows how the lead changed hands:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Opp. No.	1	2	3	4	5	6
Richard Kause, O.	1	1	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	3		x	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	
Carl Johnson, O.	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	2	3		0	x	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	
Bill Byland, Pa.	0	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	3		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	x	0	1	1	
Roger Johnson, Pa.	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	3		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	x	0	1	
Micajah Wren, W. Va.	0	1	2	2	2		1	0	0	1	x	0	
Dr. A. H. Darbes, W. Va.	1	1	1	1	1		0	0	0	0	1	x	

AN OPINION. By James Schroeder, in the Ohio Chess Bulletin.

The chess associations of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia originally intended the Tri-State Championship to be contested among the top two players of their respective states.

As long as this arrangement was adhered to the tournament bestowed prestige upon the winner. During the fifteen tournaments (PAS: 14. Skipped 1946) held so far, the Ohio Champion has played in twelve and the West Virginia champion must have played in at least as many. But the Pennsylvania champion hasn't played since 1955 and very rarely participated before then.

We (PAS: apparently the writer) feel that the Pennsylvania Chess Association is directly responsible for the appearance of their qualified representative and if they refuse to accept this responsibility then the Tri-State Tournament should be abolished.

One of the evils of this situation was apparent during the 1959 Tri-State tournament. Mr. Kause and Mr. Byland, scheduled to meet in the last round, were leading the field by $\frac{1}{2}$ point and the winner would therefore be Tri-State champion. Mr. Byland, who make a mediocre score in the 1959 Pennsylvania championship, did not make any effort to win the game. Even though he had the White pieces his every move was directed toward maintaining dull equality. Mr. Kause, on the contrary, made a genuine effort to complicate the game by adopting a provocative defense. This effort was in vain in view of his opponent's fear-stricken play. (PAS: Can we impugn motives, or even impute them? It was the last round and the last game. Quarter of a loaf, etc.)

We do not intend this to be a condemnation of Mr. Byland's play. (PAS: ?? See his preceding 4 sentences. But it is the Association's failure he deplores.) No doubt he did his best, but it takes quality players to produce quality games.

The so-called Tri-State Junior Championship is such a farce it isn't even worth discussing.

Another indication of the negligence and general apathy of the Pennsylvania Chess Association is the fact that they did not even have the courtesy to send us the results of the 1958 Tri-State Tournaments which were held in Pittsburgh.

(PAS: That was annoying to me, too. After my two notes to Byland went unanswered, I started an article entitled "Pennsylvania Schizophrenia" but never got beyond the title. I meant to refer to a type of ailment in which the patient won't talk. It could also go for the "split"--at least geographical, and perhaps also one of interest--between eastern and western Pennsylvania. I should judge most of their champions are from the Philadelphia area and would be more interested in New York and Washington than in Youngstown and Pittsburgh.

While we are airing opinions, I believe the 6-man round robin should be not abolished, but broadened to an Expert-Class A Swiss, with B and C

players in the Open. We found the old Tri-State team tourney unworkable and substituted the Open for it. A similar flexible approach seems preferable now. If and when all the champions and runners-up do appear, a special round robin could be arranged.

Also, I believe that if there are not enough juniors in the Tri-State, there are not enough seniors. Therefore there are not enough seniors, since, if there were, one would be sure to help them. Such a man would be worth looking for.

By the way--what is the Tri-State covenant, and where is it?)

OHIO VALLEY OPEN: Held concurrently with the Tri-State.

There were 30 players in this event, a 5-round Swiss, including the 3 junior championship entries--21 from Ohio, 8 from Pennsylvania, and one from West Virginia.

The winner was Andy Schoene, $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$, mathematics student at Carnegie Tech in Pittsburgh. A native of Virginia, he has recently won the Virginia championship, the Pittsburgh Metropolitan, and the Central Pennsylvania tournaments. Tied for second at 4-1 were three Ohioans, Jack Witeczek of Lorain, George Olsson of Fairview Park, and Elliott Stearns of Cleveland.

Other names, familiar to West Virginia players from previous "Tri-States" are Morton McKinney, $2\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$, Steve and Alina Markowski, respectively 2-3 and $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$, and Willa Owens, 2-3. The tournament table is available, but contains only one West Virginia name, that of Harry McKinney, 2-3, of South Charleston, our one junior entry. The two Ohio junior entries, Thomas Wozney and David Presser, $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$, drew with each other and won from McKinney. They were named Tri-State Junior Co-Champions. There were no junior entries from Pennsylvania.

The three tournaments were held at the Youngstown YMCA and were directed by Jim Schroeder.

WEST VIRGINIA AND THE TRI-STATE.

Of the 8 West Virginia players at the last Ohio Tri-State (Youngstown, 1956), 4 have moved away, 1 is inactive, and 3 could not make arrangements this year. It is regrettable, to put it mildly, that other West Virginians have not interested themselves in this tournament. This year it will be our turn to sponsor it. Can we expect Ohio and Pennsylvania players to turn out? Apparently they'll have to if they expect to play us. The good intentions expressed at the state tournament seemed to have been forgotten. We will have to do better--we can't do much worse.

ERRATUM. We gottem.

In last issue Richard Lee's address should have been 431 W. Oak St., Ft. Collins, Colo., and not 931.

Rudd T. Neel's accipitral vision (hawk-eye, that is), noted that names were reversed in the fourth game--is should have had Mike Wren playing the White pieces.

Wren adds notes to DuVall's notes (last issue) and I hope to print them--with my notes to his notes.

PEOPLE ACTUALLY READ THIS.

On behalf of Al DuVall and myself (the only ones who work directly on the Bulletin) I acknowledge with pleasure words of appreciation and encouragement from Doctors Hayward and Werthammer, Mr. Neel, Donald Burdick, and Mike Wren. Also, much to my surprise, from two fellow editors--David Wolford of the Ohio Chess Bulletin, and O. Southard of Leaves of Chess, my favorite chess publication.

Mr. Wolford even goes so far as to take his hat off to West Virginia. If I had a hat, I would certainly return the compliment. But as it is, I

do the next best thing and respectfully salute the state of Ohio, and the workers on its fine chess bulletin.

BOOKS, (PAS)

CHESS VICTORY--MOVE BY MOVE, by Fred Reinfeld, Sterling Publishing Co., 90 Pp., \$2.50.

Fred Reinfeld, the one-man Book-a-Month Club, has written another beginner's manual. It is sketchy and one-sided, dealing almost entirely with checkmates--the 4 elementary ones first, some 15 interesting mid-game mates, and two opening traps. And that's all--for \$2.50. A new type of "3-D" illustration is introduced which is larger and clearer than the flat diagram with symbols. Possibly this is the only reason for the book.

The title could be misleading to the unwary, and the publisher deserves a gentle chiding for it, as well as for putting out a book that is almost worthless, considering the good beginners' handbooks already available.

Some publishers seem to be falling into the Hollywood habit of ringing changes on titles: "Chess Step by Step", "Logical Chess--Move by Move", and "Winning Chess" are called to mind by this title.

CHESS FOR BEGINNERS: A PICTURE GUIDE, by Al Horowitz, Barnes & Noble, 138 pp., \$1.25.

A paper reprint of the 1956 book (sans the 31 games sans notes, which is good), one of the best and clearest primers ever written. The original was reviewed in the July 1957 Bulletin. It said in part: "His new primer draws on nearly a half-century of experience as both player and teacher. Its main advance over previous beginners' books is its simple language, which is as graphic as its pictures. Long words and long sentences are rare. Another point--it really seems to look at things through a beginner's eyes. It tells, without going into too much or too little detail, just what he needs to know."

If you would like your friends to take up the game, it would not be a bad idea to keep 2 or 3 copies of this inexpensive book for lending purposes.

WHEELING. Reported by Otto Zwicker.

New officers of the Wheeling club are Otto Zwicker, president, Kimbal Howes, secretary, and Leonard Whitehouse, treasurer. Howes, who lives in Martins Ferry, Ohio, is a former editor of the Ohio Chess Bulletin.

CHARLESTON. From Gazette columns by Foy and Lowder.

New meeting time of the Charleston club is 7:30 Tuesday evening--place is the same, Knights of Columbus Building, 1117 Quarrier St.

The preliminary rounds of the 1960 city championship were played in the fall of 1959. The final rounds will be played during the winter.

Bob Murtha, state junior co-champion, won the championship of W. Va. State College, 12½-2½, a half-point ahead of Tom Eckler. Robert Meade, 9-6, was third.

Mike Wren gave a 13-board simultaneous at the club, scoring 7 wins, 1 draw, and 5 losses. Winners were S. J. Bryant, Dick East, Bob Murtha, a consulting team of John Scherer and Harry McKinney, and a similar team of Earl Hyde and Page Hamrick, the latter team being played "blindfold" by Wren. Andy Sanford gained the draw. Among the losers were Stewart, Foy, and Person, qualifiers to the city finals.

Walt Crede was to have moved to Des Moines the first of the year, Long identified with local chess, he was also known to many players over the state. He won the city championship in 1940-41 and the state championship in 1941. He also wrote chess columns for the local papers.

He can be reached in care of Goodwill Industries, 325 E. 5th St., Des Moines 9, Iowa, if you want to play a postal game.

PARKERSBURG

According to information received by Foy, a new chess club has been organized in Parkersburg. Details--such as meeting time and place--are lacking.

HUNTINGTON

In a rapid transit (10-second) tournament at the Huntington club, Dr. A. J. Darbes and Paul Sayre tied for first with 4-1, Darbes defeating Sayre and losing to Boggs. Neel was third. Mrs. Maury Molino, a visitor, also took part. She was the first woman to play in a Huntington tourney, and is a real "game" competitor.

In the club ladder contest, Sayre defeated Neel to take over first place. Darbes and Neel had alternated on the top rung since the beginning of the ladder in the fall of 1958. Several of the 2-game matches were rated by the USCF.

RATINGS. December list.

These USCF ratings are based on the 1959 Huntington-YMCA Chess Club championship. Boggs played one game and went on vacation. Darbes suffered a drop of over 100 points after losing to Neel and Bergquist.

Dr. Hayward went out in a blaze of glory, making Class B.			
Tom Bergquist	1809	John H. Meincer, Jr.	1515*
Chucky Boggs	1400*	Rudd T. Neel	1777
Dr. A. J. Darbes	1794		
Dr. V. S. Hayward	1600		

*Provisional--first rated event.

SOUTHWESTERN OHIO TOURNAMENT

This event, a 6-round Swiss with about 30 entries, was held in Cincinnati over the Thanksgiving weekend. Harry McKinney and Chucky Boggs took part, scoring 3½-2½ and 2-0, respectively. The competition included some masters, and was pretty stiff.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

In the year of Reshevsky's first tour and the Lasker-Capablanca match, the editor of the American Chess Bulletin noted that a new chess club had been formed in Huntington. After many years and many changes, editor and club are both still around. There is little doubt that Hermann Helms' work helped to restore American chess to its present state of health, and that our club and all American clubs benefited from this general condition. And with such a Nestor in our councils, who knows what citadel may fall?

On behalf of Huntington and West Virginia chess, I offer Mr. Helms heartiest congratulations on the occasion of his 90th birthday, Jan. 5.

GAMES. Notes by DuVall 0-0-0; 9 P-N4, P-K5; 10 P-Q4, KR-K; 11 N-N3 N-KR4

Now 12.., BxN followed by either 13.., NxP or BxP and good attacking chances.

TRI-STATE CHAMPIONSHIP YOUNGSTOWN, 1959

Round 1

White: Dr. A. J. Darbes
Black: Mike Wren

Black has achieved an advantage in time and space and apparently he intends to continue with .., NxP.

13 N-B4, NxN; 14 NPxN, BxBP
15 PxB, P-K6; 16 PxF, QxKBP
17 Q-B2

1 P-KN3, P-K4; 2 P-Q3, P-Q4
3 P-K3, N-KB3; 4 N-Q2, N-B3
5 N-K2, B-Q3; 6 B-N2, B-KN5
7 P-QR3, Q-Q2; 8 P-KR4, 12 Q-Q2, Q-B4

Black's sacrifice has netted only a P and White defends very well.

17..,Q-R3;18 K-Q2,R-K3
19 K-B3

Shades of Steinetz, who delighted in bringing the K to the center early in the game.

19..,Q-R4?

This is open to question since Black wastes his only advantage, time.

20 B-Q2,N-K2;21 QR-K,Q-N3
22 B-R3,R-B3ch;23 N-B5

Black has mounted another attack. Not 23 K-N2,QxPch winning.

23..,BxB

(AJD: If..,P-N3;24 P-N5.)

24 RxB,P-QR3

Now ..,P-N3 presents the last chance. If 25 P-N5, PxN;26 PxR,PxPch;27 PxP,QxP/3ch;28 K moves and Black has attacking chances.

25 K-N2,P-N3;26 N-Q3,P-QR4;27 Q-N3,Q-B3;28 Q-K5,Q-N3;29 R-N3

Why not QxN? 29..,Q-N7 or P-B3, with advantage.

29..,Q-Q3;30 QxQ,R/3xQ

(PAS: It was from the last issue of the Bulletin that White got the idea of forcing Wren to exchange Qs. Psychology.)

31 RxP,FxP;32 BxP,P-QB4
33 FxP,R-R3;34 PxP,N-B4
35 RxBP,NxRP;36 P-N7ch,
K-N;37 N-B5

Or N-K5, but Black is lost.

37..,R-QB3;38 QR-KB,
N-N3;39 RxP,N-K4;40 QR-KR
N-B5ch;41 K-N3,RxN;42 BxR
N-R4ch;43 K-N4,Black
resigns.

Round #2

White: Mike Wren
Black: Richard Kause

FRENCH DEFENSE

1 P-K4,P-K3;2 P-Q4,P-Q4;
3 P-K5,P-QB4;4 B-Q3,PxP
5 B-KB4,N-QB3;6 P-QR3
KN-K2;7 N-KB3,Q-N3;
8 QN-Q2,N-N3;9 B-N3,
QxNP

Always dangerous, primarily due to the loss of time involved.

(PAS: Tarrasch says a P is worth 3 tempi. Thus if one move is used in taking the P and two in retreating, nothing is gained.)

10 O-O,B-K2;11 N-N3,
B-Q2;12 K-R,QR-B;13 R-K
Q-B6;14 N-N,P-B4?

Wrong on two counts:

- 1) Black loses the option ..,P-B3
- 2) The Q must be saved!

15 N-K2,Q-N7;16 Q-Q2,
KNxP;17 KR-QN,QxQR;
18 RxQ

And again Wren obtains his opponent's Q.

18..,B-B3;19 N-B5,P-QN3
20 NxB,KxN;21 R-K,KR-Q;
22 B-N5,N-B5;23 Q-B4

Q-B is safer but the text gains 2 Ps for the N and openings for attack--more to Wren's liking.

23..,P-N4;24 Q-B3,P-B5;

25 NxBP,PxN;26 QxP,
B-K4;27 Q-B7ch

Better is RxB,NxR 28 QxN with threats of 29 Q-Q6ch and 29 Q-N7ch.

27..,K-Q3;28 P-B4,B-R
29 RxPch,K-B4;30 RxNch
RxR;31 BxR,KxB;32 QxQRP
B-B3;33 P-B5,N-Q3

Black might try..,R-Q2 but Q checks are dangerous.

34 BxN,RxB;35 QxP,B-K4
36 P-N4,B-B5;37 Q-N7
R-R3;38 QxP,RxPch;39
K-N,B-Q3;40 Q-R4ch,K-
B2;41 P-N5,R-R5????
42 QxR,Black resigns.

White's extra pawns should have prevailed anyway.

Round #3

White: R. Johnson
Black: Mike Wren

1 N-KB3,N-QB3;2 P-Q4
P-Q4;3 P-QB4,P-K4;
4 NxP,NxN;5 PxN,P-Q5

Similar to the Albin Counter-Gambit, a favorite of Wren's.

6 P-K4,B-K3;7 B-Q3,
N-K2;8 P-B4,N-B3;
P-QR3

Simply 9 O-O, then if ..,N-N5;10 P-QR3,NxB;
11 QxN.

9..,Q-R5ch;10 P-N3,Q-Q
11 P-R3

Apparently to prevent ..,B-R6.

11..,B-K2;12 N-Q2,P-KN3
13 N-B3,Q-Q2;14 B-B?

White should attempt 14 P-KN4 in an effort to play P-KB5 even at the expense of moving the K after 14.., B-R5ch. (PAS: 14 P-KN4, B-R5ch; 15 K-B & 16 P-KB5.)

14.., K-O-O; 15 Q-Q3

The Q is usually not a good blockader.

15.., P-B4; 16 PxB; 17 P-N3.

If he wants to move the QNP, 17 P-QN4 is better. An alternate plan is 17 P-KN4 followed by 18 P-K5.

17.., KR-K; 18 R-QR2

White underestimates Black's attack on the K-file or is satisfied with R plus B vs. A Q. (PAS: If this is a sacrifice, it doesn't look good. Maybe 18 N-Q2 or K-B2 would be better.)

18.., B-B4; 19 R-K2, ExP; 20 RxB, RxRch; 21 QxR, R-K; 22 QxRch, QxQch; 23 K-B2, Q-K5!

This central Q-position yields Black a marked advantage. (PAS: This is the 5th time in 9 games that Wren gets his opponent's Q. As Joseph Conrad--I mean Conrad--might have said, the ways of fate, in our sublunar experience, are indeed inscrutable.)

24 B-K2

The B is stronger on the long diagonal, thus 24 B-KN2. The passed pawn can be blockaded with N-Q2, threatening BxN or B-K4.

24.., P-Q6; 25 B-Q, B-Q5ch

26 K-N2, B-B6; 27 K-R2, N-Q5; 28 N-N5

If 28 NxN? QxN; 29 P-QR4 B-N5 then .., P-Q6 and the QB is lost.

28.., Q-K2; 29 B-N4ch, K-N; 30 R-Q, P-Q7

Much stronger is 30.., P-KR4.

1) 31 RxP, PxB; 32 RxB, Q-K7ch winning.

2) 31 B-B3, NxBch; 32 NxN Q-K7ch wins.

31 BxP, ExB; 32 RxB, Q-K8; 33 R-KN2

Not 33 RXN? Q-B7ch then .., QxR, winning.

33.., P-QR3

And not 33.., NxP on account of 34 R-K2 threatening the Q and mate; although I would prefer 33.., P-QR4 or .., P-B4.

34 NxP, NxP; 35 R-K2, Q-QB8; 36 N-B8, QxQBP; 37 NxP, N-Q5; 38 N-K5, Q-B6; 39 R-R2?

White has done reasonably well by eliminating Black's K-side Ps and he should not take time for the text, rather 39 R-KB2 followed by advance of the KBP.

39.., P-B4; 40 P-QR4, Q-N6; 41 R-KB2, P-B5; 42 P-R4

See the above note.

42.., P-B6; 43 P-R5, P-B7; 44 R-B, Q-N7; 45 R-B2, P-B8(Q); 46 RxQ, QxRch; 47 K-R3, Q-R8; 48 K-R4, N-B3; 49 N-Q7ch, K-B2; 50 P-R6, Q-KR; 51 K-N5, N-Q; 52 N-B6

Better is 52 N-K5.

52.., N-B2; 53 K-N6, NxP; 54 B-K6, K-Q3; 55 P-B5, NxP

This seems best.

56 BxN, K-K2; 57 N-K4, P-N4; 58 PxB, PxB; 59 P-N4, P-N5; 60 P-N5, K-B; 61 N-B6, Q-N2ch; 62 K-R5, P-N6; 63 N-R7ch; K-K2; 64 N-B6, P-N7; 65 B-N, K-Q; 66 N-N4, K-B2; 67 P-N6, K-N3; 68 N-R6, Q-K4ch; 69 N-B5, Q-R7ch; 70 N-R4, Q-N8; 71 B-B5, P-N8(Q); 72 BxQ, QxB; 73 K-N5, Q-B8ch; 74 K-B6, Q-B6ch; 75 K-B7? Q-B5ch; 76 K-B8, QxN; 77 P-N7, Q-B3ch; 78 K-N, K-B2; 79 K-R7, Q-R5ch; 80 K-N6, Q-N5ch; 81 K-B7, Q-B4ch; 82 K-K7, Q-N3; 83 K-B8, Q-B3ch; 84 K-K8, K-Q3!

84.., QxP? stalemate!

85 P-N8(N)

If P-N8(Q), Q-K2 mate. But now Black need only play 85.., Q-N2, so White resigns.

(PAS: John Hurt of Pittsburgh, formerly of Charleston, reports that he is now number 3 on the ladder of the Pittsburgh club, after Bill Byland and Bob Bornholtz. He has little time for chess at home, but gets in some practice on his travels, including Huntington and Charleston. He has played E.W. Marchand at Rochester, and sends us one of their games, played at 40 moves per 1 1/2 hours.)

PRACTICE GAME, 10/1/59
Rochester, N.Y.

White: J. Hurt (1987)
Black: E.W. Marchand (2230)

FRENCH DEFENSE

1 P-K4, P-K3; 2 P-Q4, P-Q4
3 N-QB3, B-N5; 4 P-K5,
P-QB4; 5 P-QR3, BxNch;
6 PxB, Q-B2

PCO gives only 6.., N-K2 although Botvinnik has played the text. Its point seems to be if 7 Q-N4, P-B4; 8 PxF, ep. NxF with a satisfactory position.

7 N-B3, B-Q2; 8 P-QR4, Q-R4; 9 B-Q2

In the system initiated by White's P-QR4 the usual continuation is Q-Q2 followed by B-R3; But Hurt has a new plan.

9.., P-B5

Not .., BxP? 10 P-B4 followed by 11BPxP with advantage.

10 Q-B, BxP; 11 Q-R3, P-QN4; 12 N-R4?

Hurt comments "P-N3 should come first." Other moves are possible but the unfortunate position of the N allows Black's reply.

12.., Q-Q; 13. P-N3, BxP;
14 B-K2, N-K2; 15 O-O,
O-O

The immediate 15.., QN-B3 to retain the option of .., K-Q2 or .., O-O-O is better.

16 N-N2, QN-B3; 17 P-R4 P-QR4; 18 QR-K

White's only chance is a K-side attack.

18.., P-N5; 19 Q-B, P-N6
20 B-N5, P-R5; 21 N-K5
B-Q6; 22 BxB, PxB;
23 N-N4, P-R6?

Hurt's question mark.

24 B-B6! P-R4; 25 Q-N5, Black resigns.

Hurt gives "24 B-B6, PxB; 3

- 1) 25 NxPch, K-R; White mates in 2, or K-N2, Black can probably win.
 - 2) 25 PxF, N-B4; 26 N-R6 ch, Black may win.
 - 3) 25 Q-R6, N-B4; 26 NxP ch, QxN, Black may win.
- Black in time trouble and there are so many variations."

I feel that #3 is the critical variation from the position after 27 QxQ.

```

r . . . . r k .
                p p
n . p Q
p P n
P . . . P
p p P p      P .
                P .
                R R K .

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I feel sure that White can draw and I believe he can win in very difficult play. White had two plans:

- 1) open the KN file or
 - 2) advance a P to KR6.
- E.g , 27.., P-N7; 28 P-N4, P-R7 (N-N2 may be a sufficient defense); 29 PxN, P-R8(Q); 30 K-R2! QxR; 31 RxQ, R-R8; 32 R-K3, and the mate threat at KN3 wins.

(PAS: Suggestion to members: If you don't have a game that's good all the way, send one anyway and mark the passage you would like printed. Notes preferred.)

WVCA Officers:

President: Thomas O. Bergquist, 3926 Brandon Rd., Huntington.
Vice-President: Charles L. Bishop, 46 Eureka Ave., Wheeling.
Send news and dues (\$2.00 a year) to Secretary-Treasurer,
Charles T. Morgan, 33 S. Main St., Philippi.

Bulletin:

Editor: Paul A. Sayre, 1033 14th St., Huntington 1.
Games Editor: Allen H. DuVall, 209 4th Ave., St. Albans.