

THE WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

Published since 1941 by

The WEST VIRGINIA CHESS ASSOCIATION

Serial # 148

December 1969

MARPLES, BARKER SHARE IN TITLE IN STATE TOURNEY
from Foy's column

In a dramatic finish, David Marples of St. Albans defeated - and pulled even with - Marvin "Joe" Barker in the final round of the 31st annual West Virginia Chess Tournament. Both finished with 5 to 1 records; so, as in 1968, there are two co-champions in Mountaineer Chess.

Young Barker, home (on leave) from the Air Force, had won five straight going into round six, while Marples lost to Charles Szasz in round two. Dave Marples (also Barker) got an assist from brother Herbert Marples in the last round; Herbert scored over Landis Marks and prevented a three-way tie for the title.

Scoring $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ each, Hank Chinn of Charleston and John Molino of Huntington tied for the junior championship. (We have junior co-champions in West Virginia this year, too.) Chinn also won the upset prize for his defeat of Paul Sayre of Huntington - and he deserved his trophy, too.

Still, in our books, the most dramatic reversal of form was young Larry Scites' first round win from West Virginia chess immortal, H. Landis Marks. For that matter Herbert Marples' 11-move victory over Marks in round six was a shocker. It should be noted that Landis played under the great discomfort of a broken leg in a heavy cast.

(Editor's note - it should also be noted that (a) Marks was just discharged from the hospital the day before the tournament. (b) Due to a misunderstanding, he arrived 4 hours early for the first round, and was much fatigued by his long wait. (c) He was decidedly out of practice.)

Charles Szasz scored 3 to 3 - a bit lower than might have been expected. But when you consider his opponents, that score looks pretty good. He played the co-champions (5 to 1 each) and he beat Dave Marples and missed a draw against Kiernan. He played four of the five highest rated players in the tourney. Scites, incidentally, played the three top rated stars, scoring over the number one rated entrant.

Twenty-two players entered the 1969 state chess classic, held in air-conditioned comfort in the club rooms of the Charleston Knights of Columbus. Dan Lowder did a fine job as tournament director, with the

usual efficient help of Marples. Carl Kiser made the large wallboard for the round by round scores.

WVCA BUSINESS MEETING

Officers elected were President, Charles Szasz and Vice-President Dan Lowder, both of Charleston; Secretary-Treasurer Thomas Bergquist, and Paul Sayre, Bulletin Editor, both of Huntington.

Mr. Szasz' acceptance speech promised a new effort to revive the Association and tournament activities in West Virginia.

A vote of appreciation was made to the anonymous donor of the rent for the tournament room.

Dave Marples amended his motion of last year in regard to trophies for co-champions. Those tied for 1st are to be co-champions with their names jointly on the trophy, but the holder of the trophy is to be decided by a tie-break system.

Paul Sayre suggested the idea of an unrated tournament to be held along with the state tournament as a one-day "Saturday Special" with a \$1.00 entry fee. A 1st prize of a USCF membership and a 2nd prize of a WVCA membership was decided on.

Dave Marples moved the 1970 tournament be held in Charleston, provided the Charleston club approved and the motion carried.

DuVALL CAPTURES FIRST IN LOCAL 30-30 TOURNEY by Ed Foy

Allen H. DuVall captured first place in the 30-30 Tournament held at Riggleman Hall, Morris Harvey College. DuVall scored an almost perfect 4 1/2 to 1/2 record to lead the 25-player field in the five-round Swiss System event.

Tied for second position with 4 to 1 records were Charles Szasz, Carl Kiser, and Hank Chinn. Szasz placed second in the senior division while, as a result of a tie-break, Kiser placed ahead of Hank in the junior division.

TV CHESS by Ed Foy

CHESS PLAYERS who have access to Channel 33, (7 on cable) will enjoy the 7:30 Thursday evening half-hour programs featuring George Koltanowski, world famous master and blindfold expert. He had announced in advance that last week's session would improve the ordinary chess player's strength by fifty per cent. He said learn to -- and play -- one blindfold game. Just one, then leave blindfold chess alone. (In fact, Koltanowski indicated some regret that he had gone in so wholeheartedly for blindfold performance.)

West Virginia Chess Association
 Financial Statement
 Sept. 1, 1968 to Aug. 29, 1969

Cash on Hand Sept. 1, 1968 \$137.11

Receipts

Donation (Anonymous)	\$50.00	
1968 Tournament	97.00	
WVCA Dues	67.00	
USCF Dues	<u>50.00</u>	<u>264.00</u>

Total Cash Available \$401.11

Disbursements

1968 Tournament		
Trophies	\$20.34	
Room	46.35	
Supplies	7.00	
Cash Prizes	75.00	
Rating Fee	<u>6.00</u>	154.69
USCF Individual Dues		40.00
West Virginia Chess Bulletin		
Printing	59.44	
Editor's Expenses	<u>10.18</u>	69.62
Secretary-Treasurer Expenses		
Telephone	3.20	
Postage	3.50	\$137.11
Bank Account Adjustment	<u>.40</u>	<u>7.10</u>
		<u>271.41</u>

Cash on Hand August 29, 1969 \$129.70

Bank Account Reconciliation \$198.02

20th Street Bank Huntington Balance Aug. 29, 1969

Less Outstanding Checks

William McLain 8/31/67 #110	\$ 5.00	
Stationer's 8/29/69 #125	49.44	
Paul Sayre 8/29/69 #126	7.18	
Tom Bergquist 8/29/69 #127	<u>6.70</u>	<u>68.32</u>

\$129.70

Respectfully submitted,
 Thomas O. Bergquist
 Secretary-Treasurer
 West Virginia Chess Assoc.

USCF Individual Dues 40.00

West Virginia Chess Bulletin

Printing 59.44

Editor's Expenses 10.18

Secretary-Treasurer Expenses

Telephone 3.20

Postage 3.50

Bank Account Adjustment .40

271.41

Game Section

The State Championship games are coming along and will probably be in the next issue.

In the meantime, how about a game in which a West Virginia player drew with the great Alekhine?

It happened in a simultaneous at the Netherlands Plaza in Cincinnati, Saturday, Nov. 19, 1932, while Alekhine was world champion. There were 25 boards and 28 players, 4 consulting at one of the boards. The only player to score even a half point was Landis Marks, then about 20. The score and Mark's brief comments are from the Cincinnati paper. Marks received a book (autographed by Alekhine) from the National Chess Organization of that day. The yellowed clipping is preserved in the Marks family archives.

Hungarian Defense

White Alekhine

Black Marks

1 P-K4 F-K4
 2 N-KB3 N-QB3
 3 B-B4 B-K2
 4 P-Q4 PxP
 5 P-B3 N-KB3
 This move turns out better than it deserves.
 6 P-K5 N-K5
 7 B-Q5 N-B4
 8 PxP N-K3
 9 O-O O-O
 10 B-K4 P-K4
 11 PxPep BxP
 12 P-Q5 N-B4
 13 BxPch KxB
 14 PxN B-R
 15 N-QB3 FxP
 16 F-KR3 B-P3
 17 R-K B-Q6
 18 N-N5ch K-N
 19 Q-N3 Q-B3
 20 N/B3-K4 Q-B4?
 21 R-K3 NxB
 22 RxN Q-N3
 23 RxP B-R4
 24 RxQB RxN
 (24 NxB leaves Black less chance than the text move.)
 25 P-N3 R-KR4
 26 NxB PxN

27 Q-N7 R-KB
 28 Q-K7! Q-N8ch
 If Black continues 28 ,RxP White wins by 29 RxQP, Q-N8ch 30 R-K, since White Threatens now QxRch.
 29 K-N2 RxP
 A slip which enables Black to equalize.
 30 KxR Q-KB8ch
 31 K-R4 QxR
 32 P-QR3 Q-P8
 33 R-K2 P-KB4
 34 K-N5 Q-R6
 35 Q-K6ch K-R
 36 K-B4 Q-N5ch
 37 K-K3 R-B3
 38 Q-Q5 P-B5ch
 39 K-Q2 PxP
 40 PxP QxP
 41 Q-R5ch R-K3
 42 R-K8ch K-R2
 43 Q-B5ch R-N3
 Black could not interpose the Queen owing to the loss of his Rook Pawn, which would follow the exchange of Queens.
 44 Q-R5ch DRAWN

THE WEST VIRGINIA CHAMPIONSHIP - Charleston, 1969

									Med.
								Score	Pts.
1	Marvin "Joe" Barker, Charleston	W13	W17	W11	W10	W 3	L 2	5-1	13½
2	David Marples, St. Albans	W12	L10	W17	W18	W 5	W 1	5-1	11½
3	John Richardson, Glenville	W15	W18	W14	D 4	L 1	W12	4½-1½	13½
4	Herbert Marples, Frankford	L18	W20	W15	D 3	W 7	W 6	4½-1½	12½
5	Bernard Kiernan, Princeton	W 8	L11	W13	W14	L 2	W10	4-2	12½
6	H. Landis Marks, Huntington	L17	W19	W12	W11	W10	L 4	4-2	11
7	John Molino, Huntington	D 9	W 8	L10	W13	L 4	W18	3½-2½	13
8	Hank Chinn, Charleston	L 5	L 7	W21	W 9	D16	W11	3½-2½	12½
9	Paul A. Sayre, Huntington	D 7	L13	W19	L 8	W18	W16	3½-2½	11
10	Charles Szasz, Charleston	W20	W 2	W 7	L 1	L 6	L 5	3-3	16½
11	Bill McComas, Huntington	W21	W 5	L 1	L 6	W17	L 8	3-3	13½
12	David Finniff, Montgomery	L 2	W21	L 6	W19	W14	L 3	3-3	13½
13	Jorge Ribeiro, Welch	L 1	W 9	L 5	L 7	W20	W17	3-3	13
14	Robert Skeen, Dunbar	W22	W16	L 3	L 5	L12	Bye	3-3	9½
15	Martin Ribeiro, Welch	L 3	W22-fL	4	L17	W21	W20	3-3	8½
16	Steve Gerrard, Charleston	W19	L14	L18	W20	D 8	L 9	2½-3½	
17	Larry Scites, So. Charleston	W 6	L 1	L 2	W15	L11	L13	2-4	15
18	James Carez, Parkersburg	W 4	L 3	W16	L 2	L 9	L 7	2-4	11½
19	Danny Lee Williams, Huntington	L16	L 6	L 9	L12	Bye	W21	2-4	10
20	Mark Smith, Charleston	L10	L 4	Bye	L16	L13	L15	1-5	11½
21	Eric Johnson, St. Albans	L11	L12	L 8	Bye	L15	L19	1-5	9½
22	Jim Angel, Charleston	L14	L15	fW	D	-----		0-2	

"f" means forfeit, WD means withdrew.

WVCA OFFICERS:

Pres: Charles Szasz, 1100-B Kanawha Blvd. W., Charleston, W. Va. 25302
 Vice-Pres: Dan Lowder, 1001 Park Avenue, Charleston, W. Va. 25302
 Secy-Treas: Thomas Bergquist, 3915 Auburn Road, Huntington, W. Va. 25704
 Bulletin Ed: Paul A. Sayre, 1033 14th Street, Huntington, W. Va. 25701
 Bulletin Contributors, this issue: Edward Foy, H. Landis Marks, Thomas Bergquist

NEWS BRIEFS

The first four named members above, doubling as WVCA directors, held a directors' meeting in October and worked out a tentative tournament schedule for the coming year. The schedule included the 30-30 tournament mentioned above, the Point Pleasant Open, held Nov. 22-23, the Holiday Open, held Jan. 3-4 in Huntington, and others to be announced later.

- Winner of the Point Pleasant Open: Michael Richardson of Glenville, 4½-½.
- Winner of the Motor City 150, Detroit, Nov. 28-30: H. Landis Marks, 7½-1½.

Details later.

Other action taken by the directors included approval of purchase of a mimeograph machine. (This is the first issue of the bulletin to be printed on it.)

FROM THE CHESS COLUMN OF *The Charleston Gazette*

Ed Foy Selects The Top Ten Players in State History,

With local chess pretty much marking time for the present, we might talk about the best West Virginia chess talent over the years. Say, the ten best West Virginia chess players.

Certain names readily come to mind: H. Landis Marks, the non-pareil; Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, many times state Champion; John Hurt, who continues (improves even) his fine play since he left West Virginia.

Then there is the legendary John Fry, a Charlestonian who played in national tournaments near the turn of the century and who would journey to Louisville to play the one-time U. S. Champion, Jackson W. Showalter. We would also name Bruce Stover; local players only met him in Wheeling in the twilight of his chess career.

That makes five all-time greats but there are other names which come easily. Al DuVall and the late M. D. "Mike" Wren. Only this month Al placed high in a tournament in Maine, scoring 4 to 2 (3 wins, 2 draws, 1 loss). We would also pick Donald Burdick and Charles Morgan. Burdick gave up chess for mathematics. Morgan followed up a fine chess career in West Virginia with one out in Arizona where he did even better. (Editor's note, Morgan now lives in Roanoke.)

Nine names so far; picking the tenth is far harder than picking out the other nine. Many other players remain; some plodders, others who flashed brilliantly, briefly and then disappeared from sight - or, at least from competition. Would you say Dr. Alex Darbes? We would.

Editor's note: Have to put in my 2¢ worth (How about yours?) - Charles "Chuck" Boggs and Bill Payne, both of Huntington, made USCF Expert. Darbes didn't. (I'm sure Alex wouldn't mind my saying this.) This makes six Huntington players who at least became experts, one of those (Morgan) becoming a master for awhile. In accounting for four young experts from Huntington, we would have to cite the coaching and chess books of Drs. Hayward and Werthammer and their promotion of tournaments and club activity in Huntington, the State and the Tri-state area.

And another thing - If we were to make a list of the ten best defensive players in West Virginia history, Ed Foy would probably head the list.