

WVCA Chess Bulletin

March 1998 Vol #227
Editor: Tom LaBue

Charleston Chess Club Hosts the 1998 Action Chess Championship

On March 28, the Charleston Chess Club will host the 1998 West Virginia Action Chess Championship at the Lake Chaweva Clubhouse in Cross Lanes, WV. This marks the first time the event has been played outside the Labor Day Championship weekend. The event will be a seven round Swiss-paired tournament with the time control at G/30. Mike Baker will be directing the event for the Charleston Chess Club, so that their regulars, Donald Griffith, John Roush, David Saville, Andy Katz and Jim Walker, can concentrate on winning the Action title. On-site registration begins at 9am and the action will commence at 10am. Entry fee is \$10 in advance and \$15 at the tourney site.

This will be the third time that the Action Championship has been contested. Doug Lane won the inaugural event in 1995 in Parkersburg. Mike Taylor tied Doug for the lead, but Mike is a non-resident of WV. In 1996, also in Parkersburg, Dr. Ray Bagley (OH) won the event; the WV Action title went to Donald Griffith.

To those unfamiliar with the whereabouts of the Clubhouse, it is very easy to get to. If you are traveling from Huntington and points west, take I-64 East and use Cross Lanes and turn right. From Charleston and points north Take I-64 West from Charleston, use the Cross Lanes exit and turn right at the light off the ramp. From both direction: Travel about ½ mile and turn right at the next light - W. Washington St. Go about ½ mile and turn right into the Lake Chaweva development. You will see the gatehouse as you turn. Tell them you are there for the chess tourney. The Clubhouse is the first building on the right past the gatehouse. Park in the adjoining lot.

In a side note, the WVCA Board of Directors will meet at 9am at the Clubhouse to discuss the possible relocation of this year's State tourney from Wheeling. All are invited to watch these proceedings.

U. S Amateur South returns to Charleston

Ohio Chess Projects and the West Virginia Chess Association proudly announce the return of the U. S. Amateur South to Charleston over the Memorial Day weekend. It will again take place at the Marriott Town Center, with most of the same details as last year. John Kay informs me that there may be a few more trophies to give away this year. The biggest change is that the pre-entries should be sent directly to John instead of the USCF. There are more details on page 2 about this event.

It was reported here last issue that the bid for this was likely dead, but John was able to clear a few days to hold the event and again there did not appear to be any

other bidders for this event. John, Jim Meyer and Mike Baker did a great job of running the event last year and we are looking forward to another successful year. The 1997 event drew close to 90 players to the Capitol City.

The winner of the Open section will compete in the 1998 U. S. Amateur Championship which will be played over the Internet with the winners of the four regional events. Ripley's John Roush was last year's Amateur South winner on tiebreaks over Tennessee's Leonard Dickerson.

Upcoming Events in West Virginia

March 28: WV Action Chess Championship

7-SS, G/30, NS, NC, W, Open to all
Highest WV player is the State Action Champ!
Site: Lake Chaweva Clubhouse,
5101 West Washington Ave., Cross Lanes, WV 25313
EF: \$15; \$10 if rec'd by March 25.
\$\$: b/entries- 70% of EF's returned.
Reg: 9:00-9:45am Round 10-11-12:30-1:30-3-4-5:30
Entries to: Donald Griffith, 2718 Lakeview Dr.
St. Albans, WV 25177 (304) 727-5009

April 4: God Save my King

4-SS, G/75, One Section of Play, NS, NC
Note: Open to CWV Chess Club members only.
Site: Greenbriar Room, MountainLair,
WVU, Morgantown, WV 26506
EF: \$15; \$10 (Scholastic) \$\$: b/entries
Reg: 9:00-9:45am Round 10-1-3:45-6:30
Entries to: Jason Rihel, 304 Stalnaker Hall
Morgantown, WV 26506 (304) 293-4255 x22224
e-mail: jrihel@wvu.edu

April 18: April WV Scholastic Chess

Site: Bridgeport Middle School, 413 Johnson Ave., Bridgeport
4 or 5 Round Swiss based on entrants, G/30, USCF rated
Sections (based on entrants): K-2, 2-4, 3-6, 5-8
Prizes: Top 2 players per section, Top 3 players per grade, top 2
teams per section
Four to eight members per team, but only the top four scores
count.
Reg: 9:00-9:45am, Rounds: 10:00-11:15-12:30-1:45-(3:00)
(if a 5 round event)
EF: \$8 by 1/10/98, otherwise \$10 at door
USCF Membership is required and may be purchased at the
tourney. When pre-registering, please include student's name,
grade, school, and USCF # and rating (if available). Also
include team names and members
Info: Robert Jordan, (304) 842-4771,
or write to: Bridgeport Middle School, 413 Johnson Ave.,
Bridgeport, WV 26330

April 25: Mountaineer Open

4-SS, G/75, WV Grand Prix, NS, NC
One Section, open to all
Site: MountainLair, (room TBA)
WVU, Morgantown, WV 26506
EF: \$15; \$10 (Scholastic) \$\$: b/entries
Reg: 9:00-9:45am Round 10-1-3:45-6:30
Entries to: Jason Rihel, 304 Stalnaker Hall
Morgantown, WV 26506 (304) 293-4255 x22224
e-mail: jrihel@wvu.edu

May 9: Dan Lowder Memorial

4-SS, G/80, WV Grand Prix, NS, NC, W
Site: Lake Chaweva Clubhouse,
5101 West Washington Ave., Cross Lanes, WV 25313
EF: \$20; \$10 (U18); \$5 off for Charleston CC members
\$\$: b/entries
Reg: 9:00-9:45am Round 10-1-4-7
Entries to: Donald Griffith, 2718 Lakeview Dr.
St. Albans, WV 25177 (304) 727-5009

May 9: May WV Scholastic Chess

Site: Bridgeport Middle School, 413 Johnson Ave., Bridgeport
4 or 5 Round Swiss based on entrants, G/30, USCF rated
Sections (based on entrants): K-2, 2-4, 3-6, 5-8
Prizes: Top 2 players per section, Top 3 players per grade, top 2
teams per section
Four to eight members per team, but only the top four scores
count.
Reg: 9:00-9:45am, Rounds: 10:00-11:15-12:30-1:45-(3:00)
(if a 5 round event)
EF: \$8 by 1/10/98, otherwise \$10 at door
USCF Membership is required and may be purchased at the
tourney. When pre-registering, please include student's name,
grade, school, and USCF # and rating (if available). Also
include team names and members
Info: Robert Jordan, (304) 842-4771,
or write to: Bridgeport Middle School, 413 Johnson Ave.,
Bridgeport, WV 26330

May 23-24: 1998 U. S. Amateur South

5-SS, 50/2, 25/1; USCF National Event
Site: Marriott Town Center Hotel, 200 Lee Street East,
Charleston, WV (304)345-6500 Rooms \$74 1-4/room
TD: NTD Jim Meyer
Two sections: Open (U2199) and Reserve (U1800)
EF: \$30, Scholastic \$15 if by 5/19; add \$10 at site
Site Registration: 8:00-10:00 am
Round Times: Saturday 10-3-8 Sunday 10-3
Entries to: Ohio Chess Projects, Rev. John Kay,
P.O. Box 151, Barlow, OH 45712, (614) 678-2248
e-mail: 71524.102@compuserve.com or JKREV@AOL.COM

Check out the US Amateur South website located at:
<http://www.msyst.net/tlabue/amsouth.html>

Prizes: Trophies to: Top 5, 1st over age 55
1st Junior, 1st under age 16
(Open and Reserve) 1st under age 13, Upset prize
Open: Top 3 players in classes A, B, C and below
Reserve: Top 3 players in classes C, D, E, U1000

In Memoriam - Bob Stewart and Dan Lowder

A Passing Note...by Joe Barker

In the last nine months, the Charleston Chess Club lost two of its oldest generation: Bob Stewart and Dan Lowder. Although both had been inactive the last decade, both were mainstays in the club in the 50's, 60's 70's and early 80's.

Bob Stewart was 82 years old. He died on July 20, 1997 in the Charleston Area Medical Center after a long illness. He was a graduate of the Columbia Law School in New York. He was also a veteran of World War II. He worked as an administrative law judge and was also a former state public service commissioner. He is survived by his wife Camille, son Robert, Jr. and daughter Dr. Francis Stewart. Those are the details from the obituary. I remember a great deal more. As a chess player, Bob always opened with 1. e4 and whether his opponents answered with 1...e5, 1...c5, or even 1...e6 or 1...c6, his next move would be 2. f4. He dearly loved to play the King's Gambit and in particular the Polorio Gambit Line. He also loved his tobacco. He always had his pipe with him and would tap it during Charleston Chess Club Championship games. Although his professional life did not allow him the time to put much into the game except for playing, he put his all into it at the board. Nonetheless, he was gracious in victory as well as defeat. He shall be missed.

The second member, Dan G. Lowder, died November 6, 1997. He was a veteran of the Korean War. He graduated from Charleston High School and later, Morris Harvey College. He is survived by his sister, Mary Catherine and brother Joe. My memories of Dan are very vivid as in my younger days we spent a lot of time going to various other members' (Bonwell, Nolasco, Pierson, etc.) homes and playing chess on weekends during the 70's. Dan was always an exuberant person. Upon arrival of any new visitor to our club, he would introduce himself and take the visitor to meet the rest of the members while interspersing comments about baseball, the weather, or anything else that came to mind. Dan was also a fairly decent player; however as he got older, he tended to exchange as many pieces as possible in order to keep the game under control. Regrettably, when the club lost their meeting site at the St. John's Church in downtown Charleston, moving to

the Cross Lanes area, Dan couldn't follow as he didn't drive. He is missed.

Rest in Peace, gentlemen

More memories of Dan Lowder from Donald Griffith:

As for Dan Lowder, he was a long time member of the Charleston Chess Club. He was the club secretary-treasurer for several years. He did not play tournaments, but preferred skittles. He was always glad to play new comers or beginners and didn't mind giving a draw to encourage them. His favorite expression, uttered whenever an opponent would make a threat, was "He's trying to win". He preferred knights to bishops.

From the WVCA archives:

Bob Stewart was elected President of the WVCA during the 1964-1965 business year. He was a regular at the WV State Championships throughout the mid 60's through mid 70's. His best finishes were recorded in 1966 when he tied for fourth with a 4-2 mark and 1971, when Bob also attained a 4-2 score and tied for fifth. Here is one of Bob's victories from the 1966 event, this one against George Schweiker of Parkersburg.

George Schweiker - Bob Stewart, Round 4
1966 WV State Championships

Nimzo-Indian Defense

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Bd2 b6 5. a3 Bxc3 6. Bxc3 Ne4 7. Qc2 Bb7 8. Nf3 d5 9. e3 Nd7 10. Be2 Ndf6 11. O-O O-O 12. Ne5 Nd7 13. f4 f5 14. Rf3 dxc4 15. Rh3 Bd5 16. Nxc4 Rf6 17. Ne5 Nxe5 18. fxe5 Rg6 19. Bf1 Rg4 20. Bb4 Qg5 21. Qxc7 Rh4 22. Rxb4 Qxb4 23. Qc2 Qg5 24. Re1 h5 25. Bc4 Rc8 26. b3 b5 27. Bc5 bxc4 28. bxc4 Ba8 29. Bxa7 h4 30. Re2 h3 31. Qa2 Nc3 32. Qd2 Nxe2+ 33. Qxe2 Bxg2 34. Qf2 Rxc4 35. Qg3 Qh5 36. Qe1 Qf3 37. d5 Rg4 38. White resigns

Dan Lowder was elected Vice-President of the WVCA four times, serving from 1966 through 1970. Dan was also known as the long-time director of Charleston chess events including the WV State Championship from 1964 through 1970.

Both these gentlemen will be missed!

Joe Barker Tells All: The story behind his 1996 State Tourney win

A funny thing happened on the way to my chess retirement... *By Joe Barker*

After winning the State Championship (not the “unmanly” way where four players tie and split the title) in 1996, I promised Editor Tom LaBue that I would give him an article with several of my games from the tournament. Regrettably, it took a year and a half to get around to the project. So, take a step back in time with me to August 15, 1996.....

My phone rings and it is Dennis Funkhouser. “Joe, come on and go to the State Championship with me.” I replied, “No.” After several more pleas about how it was his last Championship, my last opportunity to play with him, etc., Dennis finally gave up, resigned to the fact that I wasn’t going to play. After I hung up, I felt very, very guilty. After all, Dennis and I have been really good friends for over 25 years. One last tournament couldn’t hurt, even if I hadn’t played in almost 5 years.

So, on Labor Day weekend, off to Parkersburg I went. On the way up, I knew that the only way I could compete after that long a layoff, was to psych myself up. So the last twenty miles, I turned up the radio and chanted “KILL” over and over. It must have worked as by the time I arrived I felt like “spitting nails”. Dennis hadn’t arrived and was unaware of my change of heart. When I met him in the lobby, he just grinned and gave me a big hug. He nearly crushed me!

The tourney began and I was paired with Marc Abraham, a very up and coming youngster. It was a hard game, particularly after I missed a win of a pawn around move 17 or 18. Finally, I won, but I could see there was a lot of rust on my game. My second round opponent Markle Butcher, also a tough customer, fell after making some weak moves in the middlegame. What was really strange about this game was that he set a trap which I never saw yet somehow managed to avoid. My third round opponent, Dr. Bagley, played very passively and lost in tactical complications.

After three rounds 3-0. But, despite my score, I knew I wasn’t playing very good chess and my next opponent, Jim Walker, was going to be most formidable. This turned out too close for comfort. What started out as a well-played game on my part turned to absolute crap

when I allowed Jim to play a desperado rook sac to bring about stalemate. Of course, my opponent was elated, having saved a dead-lost rook down ending. However, I was on the brink of total despair. At this point Dennis told me: “It may turn out for the best. Go look at the wallchart.” After a few minutes of study, it dawned on me. I would have black in the fifth round; if I won and Andy Katz beat Jim Walker in the board 1 pairing for the fifth round, I would have the white pieces against Andy in round 6. That was a consoling thought. But, first I had to take care off business.

My fifth round opponent, Jason Rihel, was another up and coming junior player. I arrived early Monday morning and proceeded upstairs where I bumped into Donald Griffith.. “Who are you playing?”, he asked. I told him and inquired if he knew what openings the lad used. Donald mentioned that Jason had a fondness for a strange line in the French Defense, Exchange Variation. I checked it out in several WVCA Bulletins and sure enough, he was employing this passive line. I then checked out John Watson’s 2nd Edition book on the French Defense and found the line well covered.

Jason Rihel (A) - Joe Barker (X), Round 5
French Defense, Exchange Variation
1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 exd5 4. Nf3 Bd6 5. c4 c6 6. Nc3 Ne7 7. cxd5 cxd5 8. Bd3 Nbc6 *Black is already =.*
9. h3?! *Why create a target? Well, my opponent mentioned after the game that he wanted to stop the bishop from going to g4 and pinning the knight, which is reasonable. However, that tells me there is something wrong with White's piece development. 9. O-O followed by 10. Re1 would have been better. 9...Be6 10. O-O h6 Now, some of you will ask why doesn't this also get a dubious mark(!)! It has to do with the placement of my king's knight. It is on e7 not f6. This will be made clearer later in the game. It also has the merit of stopping Ng5 attacking the bishop on e6. I am sure someone will also say: "Doesn't this weaken your kingside the same as your opponent's move did?" Well, yes it does, but, there are weaknesses and there are WEAKNESSES. Follow the rest of the game and you will see what I mean. 11. Re1 O-O 12. a3? A real waste of time. It does nothing. 12...Qc8 Lining up to take on h3. 13. Bd2 Ng6 One more piece closer to the enemy king. 14. Qc1 He has similar ideas. However, he should*

Joe Barker Tells All: The story behind his 1996 State Tourney win

A funny thing happened on the way to my chess retirement... By Joe Barker

have bit the bullet and played 14. Bxg6 eliminating a vital attacking piece. Then after 14...fxg6, Black's open f-file combined with the possibility of g5 would have given Black a better position, but not nearly as good as in the game. 14...Bxh3 15. Bxh6 There are several other possibilities for White: A) 15. Bxg6 [too late] fxg6 16. gxh3 Rxf3 with Qxh3 to follow B) 15. gxh3 Qxh3 and now either a) 16. Qd1 Nh4! threatening mate on g2 and if 17. Nxh4 Bh2+ 18. Kh1 Bg3+ followed by Qh2+, and Qf2 mate. This shows the real difference between the two knights - White's knight on f3 can't defend anything and the Black knight is attacking everything. or b) 16. Bxg6 Qxf3! 17. Bb1 [There really isn't anything else] Nxd4!! And the knight covers the critical white squares e2 and f3. Black would have a winning attack. Don't believe me? Well, after 18. Qd1 Qh3 19. f4 [stops several mates] Nf3+, followed by Nxe1. The White king is dead, and yes, I did see all of this at the board including my next move which I saw three moves prior to making it. Bxg2! 16. Kxg2 He must stop Qh1 mate. 16...Qg4+ 17. Kf1 Qxf3 18. Be3?! It is hard to criticize this move as everything is just as bad. A) 18.Re3 Qh1+ and Qh6. B) 18. Bxg6 fxg6 19. Be3 Rae8 [ties the white queen to e3] 20. Qd2 [Qd1?? Rxe3] Rf5 21. Rac1 [What else? 21. Qe2 Qh1 mate] Rh5 22. Ne2 Rh1+ 23. Ng1 Bh2-+ 18...Nxd4 It's over, but he plays on thru sheer inertia. 19. Kg1 19. Bxd4 Qxd3+, followed by Qxd4. 19...Qg4+ 20. Kf1 Qh3+ 21. White resigns.

Since my game was on board 2 next to Katz-Walker, it was easy to keep tabs on what was going on. Andy got a space advantage early, and it just grew and grew and grew. When I left the tournament room, there was no doubt who was going to win and face me in the last round. As fate would have it, I wound up in Dennis' room with he and his brother Byron. Dennis wanted to know what I was going to play against Andy. I showed him. He nearly fell off his bed. It was a very, very new idea against the Tarrasch Defense of the Queen's Gambit Declined in the supposedly innocuous old Marshall Gambit line. I had a lot of material on this line that hadn't been put in an opening book anywhere and I felt confident that Andy wouldn't be familiar with it. We spent an hour and a half going over it all and I was ready to play. When I checked out the pairings, sure enough Barker-Katz, Board 1. Dennis was playing on Board 2. He was going to have a bird's eye view. I was

elated.

Joe Barker (X) - Andy Katz (X), Round 6
Queen's Gambit Decl., Tarrasch Def., Marshall Gambit
1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 c5 Andy literally blitzed these moves on the board and was wearing a rather large grin. That was about to change. 4. cxd5 exd5 5. e4 Andy looked a little surprised, but immediately played: 5...dxe4 6. Bc4!? The grin was gone, and the brow was deeply furrowed. The seed of doubt could be seen. Andy now had a think - about twenty minutes worth and responded with: 6...cxd4 7. Qb3!? Starting point of all the fireworks. I thought I saw a huge black cloud gathering over Andy's head. Into the think tank he went for about 60 minutes. It was obvious he wasn't familiar with the line. For those of you who are interested, check Chess Life, Jan. 1996, for the game Mahs-Vukic or maybe it is the other way around. That will give you a little background into a few of the possibilities this line gives. 7...Qd7 8. Nxe4 Nc6!? I nearly jumped out of my chair. This was a novelty. I felt panic, but I knew I had to remain calm less I give away the psychological edge I had gained. What was he threatening? 9...Na5! Eliminating my bishop and the powerful a2-g8 battery. How to stop it? Well, 9. Bd2 would work, but what about 9...Ne5 then? After 10. Bb5 Nc6 (only move) 11. Nf3 I could return the bishop to c4 without fear of it being harassed further. This was the only point of the game where I felt a little unsure of myself and the position. 9. Bd2 The die was cast. After making the move and actually seeing it on the board, I knew everything was OK. 9...a6 He wants to play this in conjunction with b5 to push my bishop off the critical diagonal. The problem is, it just doesn't work and thus has to be considered a loss of time. The same could be said of his next move as well: just a bad plan. 10. Nf3 b5 11. Bd5 Bb7 12. O-O White has a significant lead in development for his pawn. It was also about here that Dennis took the opportunity to whisper to me how lucky I was. He just couldn't believe Andy had walked into this prepared variation and was in the process of getting the stuffing beat out of him. As a matter of fact, he seemed more interested in my game than his own. And every so often, he would just stare at my board and shake his head as if to say, "I can't believe it". As for me, I just kept chanting "KILL", "KILL", "KILL" to

Joe Barker Tells All: The story behind his 1996 State Tourney win

A funny thing happened on the way to my chess retirement... *By Joe Barker*

myself. 12...Nf6 There are two other moves: 12...Na5 13. Bxf7+ Qxf7 14. Qxf7 Kxf7 15. Bxa5 Nf6 (15...Be4 16. Ng5+ and Nxe4 with an edge - weak d-pawn.) Or 12...Ne5 13. Bxb7 Nxf3+ 14. Qxf3 Ra7 (14...Qxb7 15 Nf6+ and Qxb7 +-+) 15. Nf6+ gxf6 16. Bxc6+ and White is better. 13. Nxf6+ gxf6 14. Rfe1+ Kd8 15. Bxf7 I've got my pawn back and I'm still attacking. "KILL", "KILL", "KILL") 15...Bd6 16. Rac1! This keeps the king in the center. 16...b4 17. Bh6 Ne5 18. Nxe5 fxe5 18...Bxe5 19. Rxe5 fxe5 20. Bg5+ +-. 19. Bg7 Qg4 20. Qg3?! Somewhat dubious as there is a better idea. 20. Bf6+ Be7 21. Bxe7 Kxe7 22. Rc7+, followed by Rxb7. +-+ 20...Qf5 20...Qxg3 doesn't really help. 21. hxg3 Kd7 22. Bxh8 Rxh8 22. Bc4 with the idea of Bd3 and Be4. Black has no compensation for the exchange and although this would prolong the game. It's just a slower death. Andy on the other hand, had another problem: he was running out of time. He had less than four minutes and used most of it to find his last move. 21. Bxe5 21. Bxh8 Qxf7 22. Bxe5 would also win, but I had seen this nice finish. 21...Qxf7 21...Bxe5 22. Rxe5 Qxf7 23. Qh4+ followed by Qxd4+ is +-+. 22. Bxd6 Rg8 22...Re8 23. Bc7+ 23. Be7+ Ke8 23...Qxe7 gets 24. Qxg8+ 24. Bf6+ Kf8 25. Qd6+ "KILL", "KILL", oops DEAD! Black resigned.

Back to the director's room I went. There was quite a crowd. I analyzed the game for everyone. Several people wanted to play some chess with the new "champ". Others were talking excitedly about the outcome. My picture was taken by Tom LaBue for the bulletin. But all of a sudden, I wanted to go. The real run had been the plotting and the playing. I collected the money and trophy and left. The excitement had not lasted long. On the drive back to Charleston I had several sobering thoughts: 1- I felt that this had to be my last State tournament. And 2- The gentleman who talked me into going to the event had finished 5-1, after winning his last round. This score would normally be good enough to win the tournament in most years. This would have been a good going away present, since in all probability it was his last State tourney as well. This is what I think he had in mind, yet I ruined it for him by winning. I talked with Dennis a few days after the tournament was over. He was his usual self-effacing, good-sport self. He felt I had played very well and

deserved the championship. No bitterness or self-pity. Almost a year later, in August 1997, he and his family moved to Leesburg, VA as a part of his job with Columbia Gas. He is doing well. I talked with him about once a month. It's kind of funny, though as he isn't playing anymore either. I miss him a lot. Ve con dios, amigo.

Rihel, Martin survive 1997 Chigorin Cup bloodbath

The annual Chigorin Cup invitational organized by Mike Baker was a wild event. Look at the results- the margin between first and last place was one point! The eventual winners, Jason Rihel and Greg Martin, each lost first round games which they were winning. Each of the six players had at least one win and two draws. In the end, it came down to the Martin-Karraker game. Jason had drawn with these two Morgantown area players to finish at 3-2. Jon was sitting at 2½ and Greg stood at 2. The winner here could claim at least a share of the title. Greg outlasted Jon to get his name engraved on the trophy. Mike Baker directed and organized this event which was played at the various locations throughout North Central WV and Pittsburgh.

Byron Funkhouser (B) - Jason Rihel (A), Round 1
Ruy Lopez

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. O-O Be7 6. Re1 b5 7. Bb3 O-O 8. c3 d5 9. exd5 Nxd5 10. Nxe5 Nxe5 11. Rxe5 c6 12. d4 Bd6 13. Re1 Qh4 14. g3 Qh3 15. Be3 Bg4 16. Qd3 Rae8 17. Nd2 Re6 18. Qf1 Qh5 19. a4 Nxe3 20. Rxe3 Rh6 21. Qg2 Bh3 22. Qh1 b4 23. Rae1 Rg6 24. Re8 bxc3 25. bxc3 Qh6 26. Rxf8+ Bxf8 27. Nf3 Rf6 28. Re3 Qg6 29. Nd2 h5 30. Qe4 Bf5 31. Qh4 Bg4 32. Ne4 Be7 33. Qg5 Qh7 34. Nxf6+ Bxf6 35. Re8 mate

Tom LaBue (C) - Greg Martin (A), Round 1
Slav Defense, Exchange Variation

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. cxd5 cxd5 4. Nf3 Nf6 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Bf4 Bf5 7. e3 e6 8. a3 Bd6 9. Bxd6 Qxd6 10. Be2 Rc8 11. Rc1 O-O 12. O-O Ne4 13. Nd2 Nxc3 14. Rxc3 Na5 15. b4? Rxc3 16. bxa5 Rfe8 17. a4 Qa3 18. Nb1 Bxb1 19. Qxb1 Qxa4 20. Qxb7 Qc2 21. Ba6 R3c7 22. Qb4 Rf8 23. h3 Qc6 24. Bd3 Qc3? 25. Bxh7+! Kxh7 26.

Joe Barker Tells All: The story behind his 1996 State Tourney win

A funny thing happened on the way to my chess retirement... *By Joe Barker*

Qxf8 Qxa5 27. Qd8 Qb6 28. Qh4+ Kg6 29. f4 f6 30. g4 Kf7 31. Qh5+ Kg8 32. Qe8+ Kh7 33. g5 fxe5 34. fxe5 Qd6 35. Qh5+ Kg8 36. g6 Black resigns

Byron Funkhouser (B) - Jon Karraker (B), Round 2
Sicilian Defense, Dragon Variation

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 g6 5. Nc3 Bg7 6. Be3 Nf6 7. Bc4 Qa5 8. f3 Qb4 9. Bb3 Nxe4 10. a3 Nxc3 11. Qd2 Qa5 12. bxc3 O-O 13. h4 d5 14. h5 Nxd4 15. exd4 Qxd2+ 16. Kxd2 e6 17. hxg6 fxe6 18. Bh6 Bxd4 19. Rael Bg7 20. c4 Bxh6+ 21. Rxh6 dxc4 22. Bxc4 Kg7 23. Rh4 Rf6 24. Rhe4 Kf7 25. g4 Rxf3 26. Bxe6+ Bxe6 27. Rxe6 Rd8+ 28. Kc2 Rd7 29.

White resigns

Jason Rihel (A) - Tom LaBue (C), Round 2
Sicilian Defense, Neo-Sveshnikoff Variation

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 e5 5. Nb5 d6 6. c4 Be7 7. N1c3 a6 8. Na3 Be6 9. Be3 Bg5 10. Qd2 Bxe3 11. Qxe3 Nf6 12. Nc2 O-O 13. Be2 Rc8 14. O-O Rc7 15. Rad1 Rd7 16. f4 exf4 17. Rxf4 Ne5 18. Rdf1 Nxc4 19. Qg3 Ne8 20. b3 Qb6+ 21. Kh1 Ne5 22. Nd5 Bxd5 23. exd5 Qc7 24. Nd4 Ng6 25. R4f2 Re7 26. Bh5 Ne5 27. Ne6 Rxe6 28. dxe6 f6 29. Bxe8 Rxe8 30. Rxf6 and White soon won

Byron Funkhouser (B) - Greg Martin (A), Round 3
King's Indian Defense

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. g3 Bg7 4. Bg2 O-O 5. e4 d6 6. Ne2 e5 7. O-O Nc6 8. Nbc3 exd4 9. Nxd4 Nxe4 10. Nxc6 Nxc3 11. Nxd8 Nxd1 12. Nxb7 Nxb2 13. Nxd6 Rb8 14. Nxc8 Rfxc8 15. Rb1 Nxc4 16. Rxb8 Rxb8 17. Bf4 Be5 18. Bxe5 Nxe5 19. Rc1 Rc8 20. Bb7 Rd8 21. Rxc7 Rd2 22. Rc5 Ng4 23. f3 Ne3 24. a4 Rg2+ 25. Kh1 Ra2 26. Kg1 Rxa4 27. Kf2 Nf5 28. Bd5 Rd4 29. Be4 Rd2+ 30. Kg1 Ne3 31. Ra5 f5 32. Bb7 Rg2+ 33. Kh1 Rb2 34. Bd5+ Kf8 35. Kg1 Rg2+ 36. Kh1 Rd2 37. Bb3 Rb2 38. Ba2 Rf2 39. h4 Rxf3 40. Rxa7 Rxe3 41. Rf7+ Ke8 42. Rxh7 f4 43. Rh8+ Ke7 44. Rh7+ Kf6 45. Rf7+ Ke5 46. Re7+ Kf5 47. Rf7+ Kg4 48. Be6+

Kf3 49. Bc8 Rh3+ 50. Bxh3 Kg3 51. Bc8 f3 52. Bb7 Nf5 53. Bxf3 Nxe4 54. Be4 g5 55. Kg1 Kh3 56. Bd5 g4 57. Be6 Kg3 58. Rg7 Nf3+ 59. Kf1 Nh2+ 60. Ke2 Kf4 61. Kf2 Ke5 62. Bxg4 Kf6 63. Rg8 Kf7 64. Be6+ Kxe6 65. Rg2 Nf1 66. Kxf1 *However, Greg's flag fell before he was able to mate Byron. Drawn.*

Jon Karraker (B) - Tom LaBue (C), Round 3
Sicilian Defense, Closed Variation

1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. f4 e6 4. Nf3 Nge7 5. e5 d5 6. exd6 Qxd6 7. d4 Ng6 8. Ne4 Qd8 9. dxc5 Qxd1+ 10. Kxd1 f5 11. Nd6+ Kd7 12. Bc4 Bxd6 13. exd6 Re8 14. Re1 Kxd6 15. Ne5 Ngxe5 16. fxe5+ Ke7 17. Bg5+ Kf7 18. e3 h6 19. Bh4 g5 20. Bf2 b6 21. Kc2 Bb7 22. g3 Red8 23. Bb5 Rd5 24. Bxc6 Bxc6 25. Rad1 Rad8 26. Rxd5 Rxd5 27. Rd1 Ba4+ 28. b3 Rxd1 29. Kxd1 Bc6 30. a4 Kg6 31. a5 bxa5 32. Bxa7 f4 33. Bb6 fxe3 34. hxe3 a4 35. b4 h5 36. c4 Kf5 37. b5 Bd7 38. Kd2 Kxe5 39. Kc3 h4 40. gxh4 gxh4 41. Bc7+ Ke4 42. Kb4 Kd4 43. Bb6+ Ke4 44. Kxa4 h3 45. Bg1 Ke5 46. Bh2+ Kd4 47. Kb4 e5 48. Bg1+ Kd3 49. c5 e4 50. c6 Bc8 51. b6 e3 52. b7 e2 53. Bf2 Bxb7 54. cxb7 h2 55. b8=Q h1=Q 56. Qg3+ Ke4 57. Qe3+ Kf5 58. Qxe2 Qe4+ 59. Qxe4+ Kxe4 60. Drawn

Tom LaBue (C) - Mike Baker, Round 6
English Opening

1. c4 Nf6 2. Nc3 e6 3. g3 d5 4. exd5 exd5 5. Bg2 c6 6. d4 Be6 7. Bd2 Bb4 8. a3 Bxc3 9. bxc3 Nbd7 10. Rb1 b6 11. e3 c5 12. Ne2 c4 13. O-O Ne4 14. Nf4 Ndf6 15. Qc2 Bf5 16. Rb2 Nxe3 17. Qa4+ Bd7 18. Qb4 Nxf1 19. Kxf1 Qe7 20. Qxe7+ Kxe7 21. Nxd5+ Nxd5 22. Bxd5 Rac8 23. Bg2 h6 24. e4 f6 25. f4 g5 26. e5 gxf4 27. exf6+ Kxf6 28. Bxf4 Rh7 29. Rf2 Bf5 30. Be5+ Kg6 31. Ke1 Re7 32. Rf3 Bd3 33. Rg3+ Kf7 34. Rg7+ Kf8 35. Rg3 Rxe5+ 36. dxe5 Re8 37. Re3 Kf7 38. Kd2 Kg6 39. Be4 Bxe4 40. Rxe4 Kf5 41. Rxc4 Rxe5 42. Kd3 Ra5 43. a4 h5 44. Ke3 Kg5 45. h4+ Kf5 46. Kf3 Ke5 47. Re4+ Kf5 48. Rf4+ Ke5 49. Drawn

	NAME	PreRate	PostRate	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
1	Jason Rihel	1892	1872	*	D	D	W	L	W	3.0
2	Greg Martin	1858	1846	D	*	W	L	D	W	3.0
3	Jon Karraker	1791	1778	D	L	*	D	W	D	2.5
4	Tom LaBue	1562	1601	L	W	D	*	D	D	2.5
5	Byron Funkhouser	1719	1708	W	D	L	D	*	L	2.0
6	Mike Baker	1604	1619	L	L	D	D	W	*	2.0

Saville Whitewashes Charleston Chess Club, 1997 Club Champion

David Saville, a late entrant into the Charleston Club Championship went on a tear defeating all comers including John Roush, Donald Griffith and Jim Walker to finish 11-0 and claim his first Charleston Club Championship. Jim Walker had a chance to tie as they played in the final round. Jim's other defeat came at the hands of Donald Griffith. Donald suffered losses to Saville and Sefus Ellis. John Roush lost an early game to Griffith and never in the hunt.

Donald Griffith directed the Charleston Chess Club Championship which was held at the Lake Chaweva Clubhouse during the fall months in 1997. The Charleston Club/City Championship is the longest running event in WV as it was first contested in 1932. John Hurt, Jr has won this event 12 times, by far the most numerous.

Gary Morris (C) - Dave Michael (B), Round 1
King's Indian Attack
1. Nf3 d5 2. g3 c6 3. Bg2 Nf6 4. O-O e6 5. d3 Bd6 6. Nbd2 Nbd7 7. Re1 e5 8. e4 d4 9. Nc4 Qc7 10. Nh4 Nb6 11. Nxd6+ Qxd6 12. f4 Bg4 13. Bf3 h5 14. Bxg4 hxg4 15. Nf5 Qf8 16. fxe5 Nfd7 17. Nd6+ Kd8 18. Bf4 f6 19. exf6 Nxf6 20. Nxb7+ Ke8 21. Nd6+ Kd8 22. e5 Nfd5 23. Bg5+ Kc7 24. Rf1 Nf6 25. exf6 Kxd6 26. Qxg4 c5 27. fxg7 Qc8 and White won.

John Roush (X) - Scott Carmichael (B), Round 1
Sicilian Defense
1. e4 c5 2. c3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. cxd4 e6 5. Nf3 Qc7 6. Nc3 Qb6 7. Rb1 Nge7 8. Be3 d5 9. e5 Nf5 10. Bd3 Nxe3 11. fxe3 a6 12. a3 Bd7 13. O-O Be7 14. Kh1 f5 15. b4 Na7 16. Qb3 O-O 17. Ng1 Bg5 18. Rbe1 a5 19. Nh3 Be7 20. b5 Qd8 21. Re2 Qe8 22. Ref2 a4 23. Qb2 Rc8 24. Rb1 Rf7 25. Nxa4 Nxb5 26. Bxb5 Bxb5 27. Qxb5 Rc1+ 28. Ng1 Qxb5 29. Rxb5 Bxa3 30. g3 Re1 31. Re2 Rxe2 32. Nxe2 g5 33. Rb3 Bf8 34. Nac3 h5 35. Kg2 Bh6 36. Rb6 g4 37. Nf4 Re7 38. Kf2 Bxf4 39. exf4 Rc7 40. Rb3 Kf7 41. Ke2 b5 42. Kd3 Kg6 43. Rxb5 h4 44. Rb6 hxg3 45. Rxe6+ Black resigns

Jim Olson (D) - Donald Griffith (X), Round 1
Torre Attack
1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3. Bg5 e6 4. e3 Be7 5. Nbd2 O-O 6. Bd3 c5 7. c3 Nc6 8. Bxf6 Bxf6 9. Qc2 g6 10. O-O-O c4 11. Be2 b5 12. h4 b4 13. g4 Qa5 14. Qb1 14... bxc3 15. bxc3 Qxc3+ 16. Qc2 Qa5 17. Nb1 Nb4 18. Qb2

Rb8 19. Rd2 Nd3+ 20. Bxd3 Rxb2 21. Rxb2 cxd3 22. g5 Bg7 23. Nbd2 Bd7 24. Nb3 Rc8+ 25. Kb1 Qa3 26. Nfd2 Rc2 27. Rxc2 dxc2+ 28. Kxc2 e5 29. Kb1 exd4 30. exd4 Bf5+ 31. Ka1 Bxd4+ 32. Nxd4 Qc3++

Jim Walker (X) - Chuck Waugh (C), Round 1
English Opening
1. Nf3 d5 2. c4 e6 3. b3 Be7 4. Bb2 Bf6 5. Nc3 Ne7 6. d3 6. e3 O-O 7. Rc1 b6 8. Be2 Bb7 9. cxd5 Nxd5 10. Nxd5 Bxd5 11. Bxf6 Qxf6 12. Rxc7 Bc6 13. Qc1 e5 14. Qc3 Re8 15. Bc4 Nd7 16. Rxc6 Qxc6 17. Bxf7+ Kxf7 18. Qxc6 and White won.

Donald Griffith (X) - John Roush (X), Round 2
Sicilian Defense
1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 d6 6. Be3 Be7 7. Be2 O-O 8. O-O Nc6 9. f4 e5 10. Nb3 exf4 11. Rxf4 Nd7 12. Qd2 Nde5 13. Nd5 Be6 14. Rd1 Bg5 15. Rf2 Bxe3 16. Qxe3 Rc8 17. c3 Re8 18. Qg3 Kh8 19. Nd2 Qa5 20. a3 Bxd5 21. exd5 Qxd5 22. Nc4 Qxd1+ 23. Bxd1 Nxc4 24. Rxf7 Rg8 25. Bc2 N6e5 26. Qh4 Black resigns

Steve Shomo (C) - Sefus Ellis (B), Round 2
Modern Defense
1. d4 g6 2. e4 Bg7 3. Nf3 d6 4. h3 Nf6 5. Nc3 O-O 6. Bc4 c6 7. Bb3 a5 8. a4 b6 9. O-O Qc7 10. Bf4 Nh5 11. Bh2 Be6 12. Ba2 Bxa2 13. Rxa2 e5 14. Ne2 Na6 15. c3 Rad8 16. Qd3 Qc8 17. Rd1 Nc7 18. Qc2 Rfe8 19. g4 Nf4 20. Nxf4 exf4 21. Bxf4 Qe6 22. b3 Qxe4 23. Qxe4 Rxe4 24. Be3 Nd5 25. Bd2 Bh6 26. c4 Nf4 27. Re1 Rxe1+ 28. Nxe1 Nxb3+ 29. Kf1 Bxd2 30. Rxd2 f6 31. Nf3 Kf7 32. Kg2 Nf4+ 33. Kg3 g5 34. Ne1 Re8 35. Nf3 Re2 36. Rxe2 Nxe2+ 37. Kh2 d5 38. c5 bxc5 39. dxc5 Ke6 40. Kg2 Nf4+ 41. Kf1 Nd3 42. Nd4+ Kd7 43. Ke2 Nxc5 and Black won.

Scott Carmichael (B) - Gary Morris (C), Round 2
Sicilian Defense
1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 a6 5. Nc3 b5 6. f4 Bb7 7. Bd3 Nf6 8. Qe2 Nc6 9. Nxc6 Bxc6 10. e5 Nd5 11. Nxd5 Bxd5 12. Bd2 Rc8 13. a4 b4 14. b3 Be7 15. Rg1 Qb6 16. Be3 Bc5 17. Bxc5 Qxc5 18. Qf2 Qc3+ 19. Ke2 O-O 20. a5 Qb2 21. Rgb1 Qc3 22. g3 Qc6 23. Qb6 Qxb6 24. axb6 Bb7 25. Ra4 Rc6 26. Rxb4 Ra8 27. Be4 Rxb6 28. Bxb7 Rxb4 29. Bxa8 Kf8 30. c4 Ke8 31. Kd3 Kd8 32. Kc3 Rb8 33. Be4 Kc7 34. Ra1 Kb6 35. b4 Rc8 36. c5+ Ka7 37. Bd3 Rc6 38. Bb5 Rc7 39.

Saville Whitewashes Charleston Chess Club, 1997 Club Champion

Rxa6+ Kb7 40. Rd6 Kc8 41. Ba6+ Kb8 42. Kc4 Ka7
43. Bb5 Kb8 44. Rxd7 Rxd7 45. Bxd7 and White won

Chuck Waugh (C) - Jim Olson (D), Round 2
English Opening

1. c4 Nf6 2. g3 c6 3. b3 d5 4. Bb2 Bf5 5. Bg2 e6 6. d3
Bb4+ 7. Nd2 Nbd7 8. a3 Ba5 9. b4 Bb6 10. Ngf3 a6
11. c5 Ba7 12. O-O O-O 13. Nb3 b6 14. cxb6 Bxb6 15.
Nbd4 Qc7 16. Nxf5 exf5 17. Rc1 c5 18. bxc5 Ba7 19.
c6 Nb8 20. Bxf6 gxf6 21. Qa4 Qd6 22. Rc3 Rc8 23.
Rfc1 Bb6 24. Nd4 f4 25. Nf5 Qe6 26. Qxf4 Kh8 27. e3
Nxc6 28. d4 Bc7 29. Qf3 Ba5 30. Rc5 Ne7 31. Nxe7
Rxc5 32. Rxc5 Qxe7 33. Rxa5 Qc7 34. Rc5 Qb6 35.
Qd1 Rd8 36. Bxd5 Rf8 37. Qc1 and White wins.

David Michael (B) - Bill Salmon (E), Round 2

1. e4 e5 2. Bc4 Nf6 3. d3 Bc5 4. Nc3 c6 5. Bb3 O-O 6.
Nf3 d6 7. Na4 Bb4+ 8. Bd2 Bxd2+ 9. Qxd2 Bg4 10. h3
Bh5 11. g4 Bg6 12. Nc3 h6 13. O-O-O a5 14. Rdg1 b5
15. a3 b4 16. axb4 axb4 17. Na2 c5 18. g5 Nh5 19.
gxh6 Kh7 20. Ng5+ Kg8 21. Ne6 Qf6 22. Nxf8 Kxf8
23. hxg7+ Qxg7 24. Qg5 Qh7 25. Qd8+ Kg7 26. Qxd6
Nf4 27. Qxe5+ Kf8 28. Qxf4 and White won easily.

Donald Griffith (X) - Jim Walker (X)

1. e4 Nc6 2. d4 e5 3. Nf3 exd4 4. Bc4 Bc5 5. c3 d3 6.
Qxd3 d6 7. b4 Bb6 8. O-O Be6 9. Na3 a6 10. Bg5 Qd7
11. Rad1 Nge7 12. Rfe1 O-O 13. Rd2 Ng6 14. Bd5 h6
15. Be3 Nce5 16. Nxe5 Nxe5 17. Qe2 Bxe3 18. Qxe3
Bxd5 19. Rxd5 Rfe8 20. f4 Ng4 21. Qg3 Nf6 22. Rd4
Qa4 23. Nc4 b5 24. Ne3 Nxe4 25. Qg4 Nf6 26. Qg3
Qxa2 27. Red1 Kh7 28. Nf5 g6 29. Qh4 gxf5 30. Qxf6
Qe6 31. Qh4 a5 32. Rd5 axb4 33. cxb4 Ra2 34. Kh1
Qe2 35. Rg1 Qg4 36. Qf6 Qg6 37. Qxf5 Qxf5 38. Rxf5
Kg6 39. Rxb5 Ree2 40. Ra5 Rab2 41. b5 Kf6 42. h3
Rf2 43. Ra7 Rfc2 44. Ra5 Rc5 45. Rd1 Rxb5 46. Ra2

Rf5 47. g3 h5 48. Rd4 Rfd5 49. Re4 Rd3 50. Rg2
Rbb3 51. Kh2 d5 52. Re5 c5 53. Rxb5 c4 54. Re5 c3
55. Ree2 d4 56. Rgf2 Re3 57. Ra2 d3 58. f5 d2 59.
Ra6+ Kg5 60. h4+ Kh5 61. Ra8 Kh6 *Donald did not
mark the rest of the moves, but Jim's flag fell one move
before he would have mated Donald. White wins on
time.*

Donald Griffith (X) - David Saville (X)
Sicilian Defense, Kalashnikoff Variation

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 e5 5. Nb5 d6 6.
c4 a6 7. N5a3 Nf6 8. Nc3 Nd4 9. Be3 d5 10. Bxd4 exd4
11. Qxd4 dxe4 12. Qxd8+ Kxd8 13. O-O-O+ Kc7 14.
Nc2 Bc5 15. Ne3 Be6 16. Be2 Rac8 17. Rhf1 Rhd8 18.
Ncd5+ Bxd5 19. Nxd5+ Nxd5 20. Rxd5 Rxd5 21. cxd5
Kd6 22. f3 exf3 23. Bxf3 Bg1+ 24. Kd2 Bxh2 25. Kd3
Be5 26. Rf2 f5 27. Re2 Rc7 28. Rf2 g6 29. Re2 h5 30.
Rc2 Rxc2 31. Kxc2 h4 32. b3 g5 33. Bh5 Kxd5 34.
Kd3 g4 35. a4 Bd6 36. Bf7+ Ke5 37. Ke2 Bc5 38. Bg8
Kf4 39. Be6 Kg3 40. Bxf5 Kxg2 41. Bxg4 h3 42. Bf3+
Kg1 43. Bxb7 a5 44. Kd3 h2 45. Kc4 Bb4 46. White
resigns

Here is the biggest upset in the event as Sefus Ellis
upends Donald Griffith.

Sefus Ellis (B) - Donald Griffith (X)

English Opening

1. c4 Nf6 2. Nc3 g6 3. g3 Bg7 4. Bg2 O-O 5. Nf3 d6 6.
b3 e5 7. e4 Nc6 8. O-O Bg4 9. h3 Bxf3 10. Bxf3 Nd4
11. Bg2 c6 12. d3 Qd7 13. Be3 Rad8 14. Ne2 d5 15.
Nxd4 exd4 16. Bg5 dxe4 17. dxe4 h6 18. Be1 Rfe8 19.
Qd3 Qe6 20. Re1 Nd7 21. Bb2 Nc5 22. Qd2 Rd7 23.
Rad1 Red8 24. Ba3 Bf8 25. Bxc5 Bxc5 26. Qd3 b6 27.
f4 Re8 28. Kh2 Rde7 29. Qf3 b5 30. Bf1 a6 31. Bd3
Kh7 32. Re2 Rg8 33. e5 Rge8 34. f5 Qc8 35. fxg6+
fxg6 36. Qf6 Rg7 37. e6 Qd8 38. Rf1 Qd6 39. Rf4 Rf8

1997 Charleston Chess Club Championship, Cross Lanes, WV

NAME	PreRate	PostRate	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
1 David Saville	2065	2125	*	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	11.0
2 Donald Griffith	2127	2119	L	*	W	W	L	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	9.0
3 Jim Walker	2012	2028	L	L	*	W	W	W	W	W	W	X	W	W	9.0
4 John Roush	2152	2114	L	L	L	*	W	W	W	W	X	X	W	W	8.0
5 Sefus Ellis	1718	1758	L	W	L	L	*	L	W	W	W	W	W	W	7.0
6 Scott Carmichael	1670	1725	L	L	L	L	W	*	W	W	W	W	W	W	7.0
7 Gary Morris	1532	1566	L	L	L	L	L	L	*	W	W	W	W	W	5.0
8 Chuck Waugh	1582	1569	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	*	W	W	W	W	4.0
9 David Michael	1701	1616	L	L	L	F	L	L	L	L	*	W	W	W	3.0
10 Steve Shomo	1416/04	1416/12	L	L	F	F	L	L	L	L	L	*	W	W	2.0
11 Bill Salmon	1036	1048	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	*	W	1.0
12 Jim Olson	1189	1145	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	*	0.0

Saville Whitewashes Charleston Chess Club, 1997 Club Champion

40. Qxf8 Qxf8 41. Rxf8 Bxf8 42. cxb5 axb5 43. a4
 bxa4 44. bxa4 Bb4 45. a5 Ra7 46. a6 Kg7 47. Rf2 g5
 48. Rb2 c5 49. Rf2 Ba5 50. Bc4 Bd8 51. Rf5 Be7 52.
 Rd5 Kf6 53. Rd7 Ra8 54. a7 d3 55. Bd5 Rc8 56. a8=Q
 Rxa8 57. Bxa8 c4 58. Rd4 Kxe6 59. Rxc4 Bf6 60.
 Re4+ Kf5 61. Re3 d2 62. Rd3 Bc3 63. Bf3 Ba5 64.
 Kg2 Kg6 65. g4 Kf6 66. Kf1 Kg7 67. Ke2 Kf6 68. Rd5
 Bb4 69. Kd3 Black resigns

Here is the deciding game of the tourney. David entered
 this game 10-0, Jim was 9-1 with only the loss to
 Donald on time.

David Saville (X) - Jim Walker (X), Round 11
 Queen's Gambit Declined
 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5 4. Nc3 Be7 5. Bg5 Nbd7 6.
 e3 O-O 7. Qc2 a6 8. a3 h6 9. Bf4 Nh5 10. cxd5 Nxf4
 11. exf4 exd5 12. Nxd5 Bd6 13. g3 Re8+ 14. Ne3 c5
 15. Bc4 exd4 16. Nxd4 Nf6 17. O-O-O Qc7 18. Rhe1
 Rb8 19. Nd5 Nxd5 20. Rxe8+ Bf8 21. Bxd5 Qd7 22.
 Rxf8+ Kxf8 23. Bb3 Qe7 24. Qh7 Black resigns

Pat Kelly and Andy Nicol Win Marietta Save Our Ribs Open

When Pat Kelly directs events, most of the time he plays
 only when there is an odd number in the field. That's
 how it started at October's Save Our Ribs tourney. With
 wins over Dan Jessberger, Harold Mitchell and Alvin
 Vavrek, Pat finished the day unbeaten with a total of
 3 ½. Joining him at the top was a surprise, Andy Nicol.
 Andy has been a tough competitor and had his best
 Open results to date beating mentor Grant Perks and
 drawing Harold Mitchell. Andy has a world of talent
 and everyone knew that eventually he would start to

beat the adults. Mike Price had a nice day with three
 wins including a victory over Bob McLear and won
 U1400 prize.

This was the last of the monthly Parkersburg events. Pat
 and John tell me that the Parkersburg Homecoming in
 August will still be played, but at this moment not much
 else is on the calender for the Parkersburg Chess Club.
 We will surely let everyone know when more events are
 scheduled.

Notes from the Editor by Tom LaBue

Again, I must apologize for another late and thin
 bulletin. My job is trying to wrest away all my spare
 time and am battling fiercely against it. More seriously,
 with all the traveling I have done in the past few
 months, I have not been able to out the time in for a
 more expansive effort. It appears that when I return in
 late March, the traveling and overtime should be over
 and I should be able to devote more time to the bulletin
 and to the WVCA Website. Please visit the site for
 more timely updates - events, results and other news.
 Just set your browser to:

<http://www.msyt.net/tlabue/wvca.html>

Much is happening over the next few months with the
 Action Championship and the U. S. Amateur South to
 be contested. Also, the WVCA will likely make an
 announcement next month on the status of this year's
 State Tourney. As of press time, it appears likely that
 Randy Bierce will be suspended by the USCF on
 various complaints. I hope to see everyone at the Cross
 Lanes on March 28!

Save Our Ribs Open - Damon's Restaurant, Marietta, OH, October 4, 1997

PLR #	NAME	ST	PreRate	PostRate	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Pat Kelly	OH	1957*A4	1976*A4	H---	W--11	W--6	W--3	3.5
2	Andy Nicol	OH	1414*c5	1477*b5	W-14	D--6	W--10	W--5	3.5
3	Alvin Vavrek	OH	1653*C7	1680*b4	W-12	W--7	W--5	L--1	3.0
4	Mike Price	WV	1110*E7	1138*E9	L--5	W--9	W--13	W--7	3.0
5	Grant Perks	OH	1972*X6	1916*X6	W--4	W--10	L--3	L--2	2.0
6	Harold Mitchell	WV	1913*A4	1872*A4	W--8	D--2	L--1	D--10	2.0
7	Bob McLear	WV	1342*C9	1313*C9	W--13	L--3	W--8	L--4	2.0
8	Jay Sullivan	OH	764* 0	776* 0	L--6	W--14	L--7	W--13	2.0
9	Jeremy Hoover	OH	680* 0	704* 0	L--10	L--4	W--14	W--12	2.0
10	Gilbert Stone	WV	1464*c6	1458*c6	W--9	L--5	L--2	D--6	1.5
11	Dan Jessberger	OH	1104*e9	1076*e9	H---	L--1	L--12	W--14	1.5
12	Evan Perks	OH	739* 0	725* 0	L--3	L--13	W--11	L--9	1.0
13	Kenny Jessberger	OH	505/15	565/19	L--7	W--12	L--4	L--8	1.0
14	Alexandra Perks	OH	501* 0	485* 0	L--2	L--8	L--9	L--11	0.0

West Virginia Scholastic Chess

Bob Jordan has begun this year to organize some scholastic events in the Clarkburg area. The first event was played at the Norwood Elementary School in Stonewood, WV on January 17. The event was directed by Mike Baker.

Bob's plan is for more events - look on the events page for more info on the April and May tourneys scheduled for Bridgeport Middle School. Bob has told me that he will continue to organize these events if the demand is there. Go out and support scholastic chess.

K-2 Section

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	Total
1	Jacob Nixon	D--4	W--2	D--3	2.0
2	Ian McClure	W--3	L--1	W--4	2.0
3	Benjamin Stout	L--2	D--4	D--1	1.0
4	Rebecca McClure	D--1	D--3	L--2	1.0

2nd-4th Grade Section

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	Total
1	John Glenn	W--7	W--10	W--2	W--4	4.0
2	Darrell Strovers	W--9	W--5	L--1	W--6	3.0
3	Cory Leonard	W--6	L--4	W--8	W--5	3.0
4	Steven Glenn	W--11	W--3	D--10	L--1	2.5
5	Michael Hartman	B---	L--2	W--11	L--3	2.0
6	Peter Wodzinski	L--3	B---	W--7	L--2	2.0
7	Derrick Vincent	L--1	W--9	L--6	W--10	2.0
8	Shane Springer	L--10	W--11	L--3	D--9	1.5
9	David Pumphrey	L--2	L--7	B---	D--8	1.5
10	Nicholas Eddy	W--8	L--1	D--4	L--7	1.5
11	Thomas Aichele	L--4	L--8	L--5	U---	0.0

3rd - 6th grade section

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Elias Stewart	W--13	W--16	W--8	W--3	4.0
2	Anthony Shields	W--10	D--5	W--6	W--11	3.5
3	Charlie Williams	W--9	W--11	W--5	L--1	3.0
4	Jacob Lubmon	L--11	W--13	W--16	W--10	3.0
5	Michael Gervais	W--18	D--2	L--3	W--8	2.5
6	Jamie Karraker	L--8	W--15	L--2	W--12	2.0
7	Nora Miller	W--17	L--8	L--10	W--15	2.0
8	Joel DiStefano	W--6	W--7	L--1	L--5	2.0
9	Tyler Crawford	L--3	D--12	D--14	W--16	2.0
10	Darren McFarlin	L--2	W--18	W--7	L--4	2.0
11	Spencer Greaver	W--4	L--3	W--15	L--2	2.0
12	Joshua Hoffinan	L--15	D--9	W--17	L--6	1.5
13	Michael Phillips	L--1	L--4	W--18	D--14	1.5
14	Max Miller-Rapp	L--16	D--17	D--9	D--13	1.5
15	Thomas Nixon	W--12	L--6	L--11	L--7	1.0
16	Jay Shrader	W--14	L--1	L--4	L--9	1.0
17	Andy Hazekamp	L--7	D--14	L--12	D--18	1.0
18	Joshua Hanlin	L--5	L--10	L--13	D--17	0.5

5th - 8th grade section

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Andrew Brock	W--7	W--2	W--5	W--6	4.0
2	Mason Williams	W--6	L--1	W--3	D--5	2.5
3	Sam DiStefano	D--5	W--4	L--2	W--8	2.5
4	Celia Miller	W--8	L--3	L--6	W--7	2.0
5	Jeremy Green	D--3	W--8	L--1	D--2	2.0
6	Sean Butler	L--2	W--7	W--4	L--1	2.0
7	Joshua Oldaker	L--1	L--6	W--8	L--4	1.0
8	Caleb Murray	L--4	L--5	L--7	L--3	0.0

1998 West Virginia State Scholastic Championships

March 21-22, 1998 (EL & PR & MS March 21 Only)

8:00-9:30 Check-in, 9:30 Players meeting

Note: Only WV Residents eligible to play.

Sections: HS(K-12), MS(K-9), EL(K-6), PR(K-3) [play with EL if < 10]

Site: Mountainlair, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

Directions: From I-79 or I-68 take WVU Exits, then Beechhurst, Campus Dr,

University Ave to Mountainlair. Circle block for parking.

Number of Rounds: Primary: 4-SS, G/30 Elementary: 6-SS, G/30, Middle School: 4-SS, G/60; High School: 5-SS, G/75 (4 rds Sat, 1 rd Sun)

Prizes: Each Section: Top teams, Top individuals + All-State team.

4-8 players per team, excess can play for individual prizes. Players from schools with 1-3 players can compete for individual prizes. All team members must be from same school (same principal, etc.)

Entry Fees Per Player: \$9.00 if paid by March 17, \$14.00 at site.

ALL Players must have current USCF ID, or join or renew with entry.

WHAT TO BRING TO TOURNAMENT: USCF ID Card, chess set

and board, clock, pen.

ALL Players must check-in by 9:30 to be paired in first round.

To Enter: Complete & mail entry form WITH FEES. No phone entries.

Full refund if cancel by 6PM March 17. UNEXPIRED USCF

Membership ID Number Required.

Lodging and meals: Contact Jason Rihel, 304 Stalnaker Hall, Morgantown, 26056

Phone: (293-4255 x22224) for info on local motels. Food available at site. Restaurants nearby.

Entry Form must include:

Player's Name, Address, Birthdate, City, ZIP, School, Grade, Section, USCF ID, Exp Date, Rating,

Coach's Name, Phone, Coach's Address, City, Zip:

If you don't have USCF ID, enter "NEW" for ID, and enclose additional \$12 (\$17 if over 14 years) for USCF Membership.

Send completed form with entry fee to:

John Homer, 208 Brookhaven Drive, Nitro, WV 25143-1104.
Make checks payable to WVSCA.

The Postcard by Tom LaBue

An update on the 1996 Team tournament: the West Virginia team, *The Backward Pawn Blues*, consisting of John Roush, Markle Butcher, Byron Funkhouser and myself will likely finish second in our section out of four teams. *Thomas' Four* from the Delaware/Maryland area has clinched first, led by Russell Haag and James Erskine, who each finished 6-0, on boards 2 and 4 respectively. The only points lost by the Delaware team have been at the hands of *Backward Pawn Blues*.

John Roush tied with Wayne Rohricht (*Thomas' Four*) on Board one, splitting their two game set, finishing 5-1. On Board 2, Markle is currently 2-2 with two games ongoing, but reports is doing OK and should get another point, perhaps more. I ventured onto board three and scored 4½-1½ with the loss and draw both to *Thomas' Four* captain Len Thomas. Byron Funkhouser did not fare so well, finishing 0-6. As he was paired with two 1900s and a 1600, whose OTB strength is 2150.

Here is my final game from the team tourney against former Martinsburg resident, John Thommen, now habitating on the other side of the Potomac in Maryland.

John Thommen (A) - Tom LaBue (A)
Sicilian Defense, Closed Variation
1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. g3 g6 4. Bg2 Bg7

5. d3 e6 6. f4 Nge7 7. Nf3 b6 8. Qe2 Bb7 9. Bd2 O-O 10. O-O-O a6
11. Qf2 d6 12. Rde1 Qc7 13. g4 b5 14. f5 b4 15. Ne2 Qa5 16. Kb1
Qb5 17. Qh4 f6 18. Nf4 g5 19. Nxc5 fxg5 20. Qxc5 h6 21. Qh5 Nd4
22. Nxe6 Nxe6 23. fxe6 Qe8 24. Qh4 Ng6 25. Qg3 Qxe6 26. g5 h5 27.
h4 Be5 28. Qe3 Bf4 29. Bh3 Qe5 30. Qe2 Bxd2 31. Qxd2 Bc8 32. Bxc8
Raxc8 33. White resigns

Also ongoing is the 1997 West Virginia Correspondence Championship. In the Open section, top seed Scott Carmichael has earned three wins, over Guido Stueber, Jason Rihel and Tom LaBue. He is currently in great position to take the title. In the Reserve section, after the withdrawal of a third player, Jim Flesher, it appears to be a four horse race. Byron Funkhouser (5-0), Mike Baker (4-0), Sefus Ellis (4-1) and Tim Goan (3-0) are still battling amongst themselves for the title.

Open Section

	NAME	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
1	Scott Carmichael	2264	*	W		W		W		3.0
2	Guido Stueber	2129	L	*				W		1.0
3	John Roush	2097			*					0.0
4	Jason Rihel	2060	L			*	L			0.0
5	Markle Butcher	2042				W	*			1.0
6	Tom LaBue	1929	L	L				*		0.0
7	Carl Kiser	1833							*	0.0

Reserve Section

	NAME	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
1	Tim Goan	1782	*			W		W	W		3.0
2	Sefus Ellis	1781		*	L	W		W	W	W	4.0
3	Byron Funkhouser	1736		W	*	W		W	W	W	5.0
4	Peter Mauk	1669	L	L	L	*	L	L	L	L	0.0
5	Mike Baker	1365				W	*	W	W	W	4.0
6	Marc Abraham	UNR	L	L	L	W	L	*	L	L	1.0
7	Jim Flesher	UNR	L	L	L	W	L	W	*	L	2.0
8	William Widener	UNR		L	L	W	L	W	W	*	3.0

Trophies will be awarded to the first place finisher in each section and the top two will receive a money from the prize fund. Of course, with first place goes the title of WV Correspondence Champion.

WVCA Officers

The West Virginia Chess Bulletin is the official publication of the WVCA.

President: Randy Bierce, 100 Limestone, Moundsville, WV 26041

Vice-President: Jonette Mercer, 116 Baker Ave., Moundsville, WV 26041

Treasurer: Tom Bergquist, 4375 Bowman Hill Road, Huntington, WV 25701

USCF Delegate: Jim Meyer, Rt. 3 Box 102-B, Princeton, WV 24740

Voting Members: Walter Rueckert, Rt 2 Box 263-4, Elkins, WV 26037

Joe Lococo, 141 Oglebay Village Lane, Wheeling, WV 26003