

WVCA Chess Bulletin

July 1998 Vol #228
Editor: Tom LaBue

Parkersburg to Host 60th West Virginia State Championship Tournament

At a special meeting of the West Virginia Chess Association held before the Action Chess Championship, the membership voted to move the 1998 WV State Championship Tourney to Parkersburg. The meeting was often loud with strong feelings prevalent on both ends of the issue. Andy Katz tried to forge a compromise solution to keep the tourney in Wheeling with others directing, but many in attendance were not in a compromising mood. The minutes of this meeting can be found on pages 14-15.

The story begins with last year's WV State Championship, held in Wheeling over Labor Day weekend and directed by Randy Bierce. To this date, the event has not been received by USCF and not rated. Complaints were made that prizes, both money and trophies were not awarded. In addition, USCF received complaints that USCF membership dues were not passed along and that many of the tourneys that Randy had run during 1997 were never rated. We are also aware that some who joined WVCA at the end of the State Championship did not have their names or fees passed to the treasurer. With this situation hanging over the WVCA, the board decided to hold an open meeting of the association to discuss this problem. To complicate matters, at last year's business meeting, the membership voted to award the 1998 State tournament to Wheeling, with Randy Bierce to act as the organizer and director. No backup site was offered at the time.

Various members tried to contact Randy since last Labor Day and have had little success. John Roush talked to Randy in December and had arranged to meet, but this was eventually canceled. USCF representative Ernest Schlich tried repeatedly to contact Randy for more information on the accusations. He received one reply during this past winter with Randy saying that he would resend all pertinent materials, but nothing came from that discussion. To make sure that Randy was aware of the

WVCA meeting, a registered letter was sent by Tom Bergquist, to Randy and also to Andy Katz (Andy seemed to be the only one who had any luck finding Randy). The letter notified Randy of the meeting and its location.

In Randy's defense, he has done much to help this organization grow and survive in the last 15 years or so: Directing and organizing the State Championship many times (including the infamous St. Clairsville event in 1986), WVCA President and Bulletin editor. He had a few years as the WVCA Bulletin editor and put out a very entertaining and enjoyable publication. Recently, the growth of scholastic chess in the Wheeling area was due to Randy's efforts. Unfortunately, the problems over the past year have obscured all that he has done for the organization.

In mid-April, Ernie Schlich informed me, after repeated unsuccessful attempts to contact Randy over the past six months, that the USCF regretfully decided to suspend the TD licence of Randy Bierce indefinitely. In order to for him to reclaim this privilege, he would have to address the complaints that the USCF received.

As a representative of the WVCA, I express my regret to those who were not awarded due prizes or didn't have their membership dues passed on. If you or someone you know, joined WVCA at one of these events and has not received any bulletins, send your name and address to myself or Tom Bergquist and we will put your name on the membership role. Also, Mike Baker is trying to put together a crosstable of game results from the 1997 State Tourney. At this point, we have only about half the results. This may be more for posterity's sake than anything else at this point. Again, please accept our apologies for any inconveniences or annoyances that this may have caused the WVCA membership.

Upcoming Events in West Virginia

July 11: Huntington G/60 Open #3

4-SS, G/60, WV Grand Prix, NS, NC
Site: Huntington YMCA May Bldg.,
935 10th Ave., Huntington, WV
EF: \$10, USCF membership required
Reg: 9:00-9:45am Rounds: 10-12:30-3-5:30
Prizes: b/entries - 2-9 players 1st and 2nd;
10-14 players 1st-3rd; 15-19 players 1st-4th, etc.
Best two players U18 will each receive a chess book.
Info: Mark Hathaway: (304)525-6273
e-mail: hathawa2@marshall.edu

August 1: Taylor Books Open

4-SS, G/80 or G/75-5 sec delay, WV Grand Prix, NS, NC,
Site: Taylor Books, 226 Capitol Street,
Charleston, WV 25301
EF: \$20; \$10 (U18); \$5 off for Charleston CC members
\$\$: 100-75-50 U1600: 50
Reg: 9:00-9:45am Rounds 10-1-4-7
More info: Jim Olson, 5010 Tipperary St,
Charleston, WV 25313 (304) 776-4274
e-mail: daveo@ramlink.net

August 23 (Sunday): 6th Parkersburg Homecoming

4-SS, G/60, WV Grand Prix
2 Sections: Open and Unrated
Site: Parkersburg Municipal Building,
2nd and Market Streets, Parkersburg, WV
EF (rated): \$12 by 8/15; \$15 at site, Unrated tourney: \$7
Reg: 9:00-9:45am Rounds: 10-12:45-3-5:15
Prizes (rated): b/entries, Trophy to Champion, \$200 added
to 1st place prize provided by Eastern Electric
Trophy donated by Emerson Trophy Shop, Room donated
by City of Parkersburg.
Other sponsors: Kaylie's Hot Dog Stand
Prizes (unrated tourney): Trophies to top two.
Info: Pat Kelly, 104 Iroquios Drive, Marietta, OH 45750
Phone: (740) 374-0538

September 5-7: 60th West Virginia State Chess Championship

6-SS, 50/2, 25/1; WV Grand Prix
Site: Holiday Inn- Parkersburg (US Rt 50 and I-77)
TD: Rev. John Kay
Round Times: Saturday 12-6 Sunday 10-4 Mon 9-3
e-mail: 71524.102@compuserve.com or
JKREV@AOL.COM

For more info, please see the August issue of *Chess Life*

Notes from the Editor

I know what you are saying! It's about time this bulletin arrived. Thanks for being patient with me the last ten months. This past year has been very kind to me: first the breakup with my longtime girlfriend, then the ridiculous working hours (60-70 hour weeks) and then my bout with walking pneumonia. I wouldn't wish this past year on anybody.

This hasn't been a banner year for this association, either. The problems stemming from last year's State tournament, the ending of monthly events in Wheeling and Parkersburg combined with the sporadic publications of the bulletin have made for less excitement, fewer tourneys with little or no publicity. I am hoping that we take the time at this year's business meeting to get ourselves moving forward again.

I shouldn't forget that there have been some bright spots: the continued strength of the Charleston club (both in playing ability and numbers), return of Tim Goan to WV (hopefully, we will see some tourneys in his area soon), and continued boom of scholastic chess in the state.

I probably will be doing some redesign work on the website in the fall (after my project has ended). If you have any ideas, additions to or comments, please send them to me. I am currently trying to update the WVCA Constitution; when this is completed it will be posted on the WVCA Web. Also, Steve Shomo asked about getting games in .pgn format. Either you can download these to put in your databases or can be used to view the games over the web (Steve has added this feature on the Charleston Club's website). You can visit the WVCA website at: <http://www.msyst.net/tlabue/wvca.html>

Next year the plan is for the usual four bulletins. I would like to ask for contributions. It makes for a more interesting read with many different viewpoints. News and notes from the area clubs, annotated games, stories, etc. I am open to suggestions and a lenient editor. Thanks to those who have contributed in the past year: Mike Baker, Donald Griffith, David Gundlach, John Roush, Jason Rihel, Joe Barker, Scott Carmichael, John Homer, William Widener, Steve Shomo, Dave and Jim Olson, and to John Kay. Thanks to those I have forgotten to mention here.

Tom LaBue, Rt 3, Box 372, Buckhannon, WV 26201
(304) 472-1682 e-mail: tlabue@msyst.net

Jim Walker claims 1996-97 WVCA Grand Prix title

Finally, the time has come to close out the 1996-97 WV Grand Prix. There were many crosstables that were not turned in this year, as so, they are not included for the Grand Prix calculations. Jim Walker, of Cross Lanes, was the runaway winner of this year's contest. Jim amassed 70.08 points, almost thirty ahead of second place Marc Abraham, 1998 WV High School Champion. Three-time Grand Prix champion John Roush finished third, Randy Bierce in fourth and Markle Butcher fifth.

The events that have been included in the current standings are:

- 1-1996 West Virginia State Chess Championship
- 2-MCCC Fall Classic
- 3-2nd Northern WV Championships
- 4-Bartoli's Pizza Open
- 5-Parkersburg December Open
- 6-Cross Lanes Open
- 7-2nd Cleveland Browns Memorial
- 8-Concord College G/60 Open
- 9-Lake Chaweva Open
- 10-Concord College G/60 Open (May)
- 11-Parkersburg Open
- 12-U. S. Amateur South (no bonus points)
- 13-Parkersburg June Open
- 14-Parkersburg July Open
- 15-Kanawha Valley Open
- 16-Parkersburg May Open

These events were contested, but no crosstables were handed in:

- 1-3rd Chess In the Hills
- 2-MCCC Holiday Tornado
- 3-Winter Chess Festival
- 4-Sweatin' in the Snow
- 5-2nd Sherrard Invitational
- 6-2nd Marshall Co. Championships
- 7-12th MCCC Summer Open
- 8-11th Dolgovskij Open
- 9-MCCC Classic
- 10-MCCC Twin Tornado I
- 11-MCCC Twin Tornado II
- 12-Parkersburg Homecoming

Final 1996-97 WVCA Grand Prix Standings

1. Jim Walker	70.08
2. Marc Abraham	42.00
3. John Roush	37.50
4. Randy Bierce	35.25
5. Markle Butcher	29.75
6. Tom LaBue	27.75
7. Donald Griffith	26.50
8. Andy Katz	26.00
9. Mike Taylor	25.75

10. Mike Baker	21.25
11. Grant Perks	20.25
12. Joe Barker	19.50
13. Gary Morris	18.75
14. Bill Salmon	17.66
15. Peter Mauk	17.00
16. Joe Lococo	15.50
Bob McLearn	15.50
18. Dennis Funkhouser	15.25
19. Jason Rihel	14.50
20. Jonette Mercer	14.25
21. Jeff Hohn	13.00
22. David Hundley	12.83
23. Josh Sell	10.50
24. Scott Carmichael	10.00
25. Alvin Vavrek	9.83
26. David Olson	9.50
27. Byron Funkhouser	9.25
28. David Moneypenny	9.00
Michael Spenser	9.00
30. Alan Smith	8.17
Mike Statkiewicz	8.17
32. Galen Miller	8.00
Steven Statkiewicz	8.00
34. Bob Shock	7.17
35. Jim Olson	6.83
36. Greg Martin	6.50
37. Pat Kelly	6.00
Joe Meadows	6.00
39. Bob Jordan	5.50
Mike Price	5.50
41. Mike Conley	5.00
Glenn Haynes	5.00
43. David Gargon	4.67
44. Jerry Cannon	4.25
45. Scott Antes	4.17
Walter Rueckert	4.17
47. Bob Blackwell	4.00
Craig Sutphin	4.00
49. Dan O'Hanlon	3.50
50. Allen Farley	3.00
Joe Ancrile	3.00
Ed Garner	3.00
53. Jon Karraker	2.00
54. Chris Burkhammer	1.50
Richard Shaver	1.50
56. Dewey Chaney	1.00
Jim Flesher	1.00
Brian Watkins	1.00
William Widener	1.00

Playing Thematic Chess by David Gundlach

Nathan Gundlach (D) - Joe Ancrile (B)

1997 Parkersburg Club Championship

1. Nf3 f5 2. g3 Nf6 3. Bg2 e6 4. O-O d5 *White's noncommittal opening has encouraged Black to display his intended pawn structure. In this way, White will know how to play against it most effectively.*

5. d3 *Good move! It denies Black access to e4 and prepares to strike the Black center while activating the bishop at g2. It addresses this position more specifically and directly than does a move like 5. d4.*

5...Be7 6. Nc3 *Continuing to prepare the central break in a straight-forward manner. If now 6...d4, then White can play 7. Nb5 c5 (7...Nc6 8. c3 with Black's center under serious pressure while his king remains uncastled.) 8. Bf4 Na6 and both 9. c3 and 9. Ne5 look strong for White.*

6...c6 *With the dual purpose of reinforcing his pawn structure and preparing the thrust to d4 (since White's knight will no longer have the b5 square available). Nonetheless, 6...O-O would have been more flexible and safer. Also, possible was 6...c5 to prevent White's intended thrust to d4 by threatening d5-d4. This line might have gone something like: 6...c5 7. Bf4 Qb6 8. a4 Bd7 9. Ne5 Nc6 10. Nxd7 Kxd7 11. e4 d4 12. Nb5 e5 13. Bg5 a6 14. Na3 fxe4 15. Bxf6 Bxf6 16. Qg4+ Ke7 17. Nc4 Qc7 18. Qxe4 Rad8 or 7...Bd6 8. Bxd6 Qxd6 9. e4 fxe4 10. dxe4 Qb6 11. exd5 O-O with White fine either way.*

7. e4 *Very much to the point! White puts the Black center under pressure at the first opportunity. He does not allow Black the luxury of paying no price for the tempi he has used to solidify his center in preparation for action on the kingside (as is typical of the Dutch). An advantage in development is usually best demonstrated in an open position, so White begins the process of opening the position before Black can catch up in development. Sharp, thematic play from a boy whose thirteenth birthday occurred during this tournament!*

7...fxe4 8. dxe4 dxe4 *Black prefers to open the game and remove some material from the board than to be squeezed or to offer his opponent kingside attacking possibilities, yet his choice at this turn must be considered an error. Despite the difficulties associated with it, he needed to try: 8...O-O 9. e5 Ne8 (9...Nfd7 10. Bh3 which looks very strong for White in conjunction with a deployment of his knight to d4.) 10. h4 c5 11. Bf4 Nc6 12. Qe2 with a complicated fight on the horizon.*

9. Qxd8+ Bxd8 10. Ng5 O-O 11. Ngxe4 *White's superior development and Black's isolated pawn provide White with a distinctly superior game. Black will have his hands full if he is to keep White's advantage from growing larger.*

11...e5 *Although it is understandable that Black would want to get his c8 bishop off the back rank, the positional problems have obscured his most effective lines of play. Both 11...Bc7 and 11...Nd5 look better than the text.*

12. Nd6 *Although this move looks good, it was probably better to stress his advantage in development by 12. Be3 instead of moving his knight yet another time. This improvement would emphasize White's lead in development and excellent piece coordination.*

12...Nbd7 *Rather than smothering his bishop on c8, Black might have tried 12... Bc7 13. Nxc8 Rxc8. White is still superior, but the reduced immediate pressure on Black might offer him hope to hold the game, especially against a player much less experienced than himself.*

13. Bh3 *Pointedly putting his finger on the weaknesses along the h3-c8 diagonal.*

13...Bb6 *A more effective way of relieving the bind would have been 13...Nb6 when White can choose between the encouraging options of 14. Nxc8 Nxc8 15. Be6+ Kh8 and White has two fine bishops in addition to his other advantages or 14. Bxc8 Nxc8 15. Nxb7 when, with a little care, he can hold the extra pawn and leave Black saddled with three isolani.*

14. Be6+ Kh8 15. Nf7+ *Despite appearances, this is probably not right. The most accurate line likely begins with 15. Rd1 and could continue with something like: 15... Bd4 16. Nf7+ Rxf7 17. Bxf7 Nf8 18. Be3 Bg4 19. Re1 Bxc3 20. bxc3 N8d7 21. f4 Ne4 22. Bb3 exf4 23. Bxf4 Nxc3 24. Kg2 Ne2 25. Bd6 Nd4 26. Re7 Rd8 27. Rae1 Nf6 28. Bb4 Bf3+ 29. Kf2 Bd5 30. Rd1 Ng4+ 31. Kg1 Nf3+ 32. Kf1 Nfxh2+ 33. Ke1 Nf3+ 34. Ke2 Nfe5 35. Bxd5 cxd5 36. Rxd5 Rc8 37. Bc3 with an exciting game that White is winning in spite of the complications. If entering such a complex and dangerous variation seems unnecessarily precarious a course to follow, then White could choose the simple, prudent move 15. Na4 at this turn to challenge Black's most effective piece, his bishop at b6. White would still retain many favorable options while restricting Black's hopes for active counterplay, although he would not enjoy the immediate gain of material available in the 15. Rd1 line. From a practical perspective in a critical game, 15. Na4 has*

Playing Thematic Chess by David Gundlach

much to recommend it, however.

15...Kg8 Rather than submitting to further harassment of the king, the best chance likely lay in giving up the exchange to gain activity for the remaining pieces. The variation might run something like: 15...Rxf7 16. Bxf7 e4 17. Bf4 Nc5 and there still is a lot of chess to be played.

16. Nxe5+ Kh8 17. Nf7+ Although it looks like a perfectly logical move, this is not correct and allows Black unwarranted counterplay if he responds sharply. Having pocketed the pawn it is now time for White to prevent Black from gaining such counterplay. A better choice might be 17. Nd3 to be followed by the deployment of his dark-squared bishop.

17...Kg8 Much more responsive to the requirements of the position is 17...Rxf7 18. Bxf7 Ne5 19. Bb3 Bh3 20. Bf4 Nf3+ 21. Kh1 Re8 22. Bf7 Re7 23. Bc4 Bxf1 24. Rxf1 or something similar.

18. Nd6+ Kh8 19. Nxc8 An unfortunate error after so much hard work. This knight has innumerable tempi invested in it and occupies one of the best squares on the board. Nothing is even threatening it, so the idea of trading it should be given nothing more than a cursory examination. Much more to the point would be: 19. Be3 to trade White's undeveloped bishop for Black's aggressively-posted one. Development often takes precedence over the creation of immediate threats when the practical demands of a tournament game are weighed in the equation. Also possible, and the most accurate choice is 19. Rd1. This variation might run: 19...Ba5 20. Nxc8 Nc5 21. Bh3 Bxc3 22. bxc3 Raxc8 23. Bxc8 Rxc8 24. Be3 Na4 25. Bd4 Ne4 26. Bxa7 Nexc3 27. Rd3 Re8 28. Kf1 h6 29. Bd4 Nb5 30. Re1 Ra8 31. Ba1 Nc5 32. Rde3 Ra4 33. Re7 Nd4 34. f4 and, with a little care still required, White is clearly winning.

19...Raxc8 20. Na4 Although this move challenges Black's currently most effective piece, it would be stronger for White to develop the last of his pieces with 20. Bf4 and quick placement of his rook at a1 to either the d-file or e-file (as the circumstances require at that point).

20...Rce8 A well considered response that offers Black his best chance to hold the game/ A lead in development often provides full compensation (or more) for a small material deficit. White still holds an advantage in this specific instance, but Black is trying hard to make a fight of it.

21. Bb3 This retreat has the merit of retaining a fine bishop, but it loses just a little more time when time has become a valuable commodity. It was probably more accurate to play something along the lines of: 21. Nxb6 Rxe6 22. Nxd7 Nxd7 23. Be3 b6 24. Rad1 Nf6 25. Rfe1 c5.

21...Ba5 22. Be3 a6 It would be better to deny White access to the c5 square. Necessary was 22...b6 23. Rad1 Ne5 24. Kg2 N6g4 25. Bf4 Bb4 26. Nc3 Nxc3 27. bxc3 with many moves still to be played in this game. **23. Nc5 Bb6** Necessary was the bitter 23...Rb8 24. Nxd7 Nxd7 25. Rad1 Nf6 26. f3 Rfe8 27. Kf2 b5 when the game is clarifying itself to White's significant advantage. If instead, 23... Rxe3 because the knight at c5 is loose, then 24. Nxd7 leaves both rooks en prise and forces Black to lose material.

24. Ne6 With this intrusion, the overwhelming nature of White's advantage is apparent. Black must drop more material, and White has overcome his previous disadvantage in development.

24...Rg8 In a losing position, Black tries to complicate matters, but this only makes the situation worse. Absolutely required was 24...Bxe3, although after 25. Nxf8 Bxf2+ 26. Rxf2 Nxf8 27. Rfd2 it's time to go get a cup of coffee (or herb tea for the purists).

25. Bxb6 Nxb6 26. Ng5 Rgf8 27. Nf7+ Kg8 Still trying to keep matters complicated, but this is a luxury that can no longer be afforded. Better, but still lost for Black, was simply 27...Rxf7 28. Bxf7 Re7 29. Bb3 c5 30. c3 c4 31. Bd1 Kg8 32. Bf3.

28. Nd6+ Kh8 29. Nxe8 Rxe8 30. Rae1 Rd8 31. Re7 Rd7 32. Rfe1 h6 33. Rxd7 Nbx7 34. Re7 b6 35. Be6 Nc5 36. f3 Kh7 37. b4 Although 37. Bf5+ appears slightly better, White's solution can hardly be faulted since it brings immediate and unstoppable victory.

37...Na4 38. Ra7 Black resigns

Despite the imperfections in this stressful game that played such a crucial role in determining the winner of the event, this was a remarkable performance by one of the area's top young players against a seasoned and respected warhorse. (By the way, since the loser of this game and the author of the annotations are the same age, I would like to point out that Mr. Ancrile is not really very old at all. Like a fine wine, he is just reaching his prime).

Newcomer Yuri Kolkin takes Cross Lanes Open title *by John Roush*

Twenty-six players attended the Cross Lanes Open at the Lake Chaweva Clubhouse on January 31, 1998. The winner with a perfect score was Yuri Kolkin. Mr. Kolkin is currently residing in Huntington, WV, although he emigrated from Russia in the not too distant past. Only seeded 5th on the charts with a rating of 1936, he played with the skill and determination for which his countryman are noted and brought home top honors and \$90.

David Saville of Charleston captured second and \$60 with a near perfect score of 3½-½. Jerry Skeen (South Charleston) and Markle Butcher (Buckhannon) split the \$40 prize for top A/B. Scott Davis of Randolph County secured the \$40 prize for top C and Jim Olson won the \$40 prize for top D.

Young Stephen Malutich captured the \$40 under 1200 prize and the upset prize (Informant #66) for his second round win over Markle Butcher. David Saville threw in two free Chess lessons at Taylor's Books to sweeten the pot! Stev is ten years old and attends Harden Elementary School. He has played chess about three to four years and has already registered the following impressive results:

- 11th in K-5 at Nationals in NJ
- 2nd in K-6 at 1997 WV Scholastic
- 1st U1200 at 1997 Amateur South

Steve enjoys playing the trumpet and wants to be a lawyer, someday!? (It appears yours truly will have to beware of Steve on two fronts!) Steve's big brother John, also had quite a tournament scoring 2½ -1½ and picking up 60 rating points.

Unfortunately many of the key games were decided with flags hanging, pieces flying, and scoresheets neglected. Here is a selection of decipherable ones.

Jim Walker (X) - David Hundley (D), Round 1
King's Gambit

1. e4 e5 2. f4 exf4 3. Nf3 Be7 4. Bc4 Nh6?! 4...Nf6 5. e5 Nh5 is more natural. 5. O-O c6 6. Nc3 d6 7. d4 g5 8. h4 Bg4 *The placement of the knight at h6 prevents Black from essaying 8...g5 as 9. Bxf4 hits the undefended knight.* 9. h4 Bg4 10. Qd3 f6?! 11. Nh2 Nd7 12. Bxf4 Qc7? 12...Qe7 is better as it permits the bishop to retreat to e6. 13. Bxg5 fxg5 14. Qg3 Netting a

piece and, effectively the game. 14...O-O-O 15. Nxd4 Nxd4 16. Qxg4 h6 17. Rf7 Qb6 18. Bb3 Qxd4+ 19. Kh1 Rhf8 20. Rxf1 Kb8 21. Rxf8 Nxf8 22. Qf5 Nd7 23. Qe6 Nc5 24. Qe7 Rd7 25. Qe8+ Kc7 26. Be6 Rg7 27. Rf7+ Rxf7 28. Qxf7+ Kb6 and White won.

Jim Olson (D) - Markle Butcher (B), Round 1
Torre Attack

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. Bg5 Be7 4. Nbd2 d5 5. e3 O-O 6. Bd3 Nbd7 7. c3 c5 8. Ne5 Nxe5 9. dxe5 Nd7 10. Bxe7 Qxe7 11. f4 e4!? *This yields the d4-square, but threatens Nc5-d3. While, I can't condemn this idea out of hand, I prefer the immediate 11...f6!? After 12. exf6 (12. Qh5 g6 13. Bxg6!? hxg6 14. Qxg6+ Qg7 doesn't look quite sound) 12...Nxf6 13. O-O e5!? or 13. e4!? e5 with counterplay in either case.* 12. Bc2 b5!? *Adding another idea (queenside pawnstorm) to the mix. Of course, Nc5-d3 is still playable.* 13. O-O Bb7?! *The bishop should only get in the way on this square. Black should continue with ...a5 or ...Nc5 and ultimately tuck the bishop away at d7 where it guards e6 (White will probably play f5 at some point) and open a route to the queenside for the KR.* 14. Nf3 f6!? *Switching back to the kingside makes 12...b5 somewhat meaningless.* 15. exf6 gxf6!? *Bold and best in this position.* 16. Nd4 f5?! 16.. a6 17. Qh5 f5! *If instead, 17. f5!? e5!? 18. Ne6 Rf7 looks ghastly, but Black can follow with ...Kh8, ...Rg8, and ...Nf8 with ...d4 hanging in the air, one might conclude the position favors Black!?* 17. Qh5?! 17. Nxb5 e5! *with counterplay. Best appears to be 17, Nf3 with the idea of Qd4 and a stranglehold on the dark squares.* 17...Nf6 18. Qh3 a6 19. Qg3+ Kh8 20. Qh4 Rg8 21. Rf3 Rg4 22. Qf2 Rag8 23. g3 Ne4 24. Qe1 h5 25. Bxe4 dxe4 26. Rf2 h4 27. Rg2 hxg3 28. Rxd3 Bd5 29. Rxd4 Rxd4+ 30. Kh1 Qg7 31. Qf2 b4 32. Rg1 *White apparently believes 32. cxb4 e5!? 33. fxe5 Qxe5 with the threat of ...f4 is too risky. I'm inclined to agree. Instead, 33. Nxf5 Qf6 34. Ng3 exf4! also looks strong but 34. Rd1 Bb7 looks unclear despite the reduced material.* 32...bxc3 33. bxc3 Qg6 34. h3 Rxd4+ 35. Qxd4 Qh5 36. Kh2 Qh4 37. Qg3 Qe7 *Of course, White should win the knight vs. Bishop ending after a queen trade.* 38. Qg6 Qh4 39. Qe8+ Kg7 40. Qd7+ Kh6 41. Nxe6 Qf2+ 42. Kh1 Qf3+ *Black has a perpetual check at once with ...Qf1+ and ...Qf2+ if he wants it.* 43. Kh2 Bxe6 44. Qxe6+ Kg7 45. Qe7+ Kg6 46. Qe8+ Kf6 47. Qc6+ Ke7 48. Qc5+ Ke8 49. Qc6+ Kd8 50. Qd6+ Kc8 51. Qc6+ *Black cannot escape the checks along the 6th*

Newcomer Yuri Kolkin takes Cross Lanes Open title by John Roush

rank. Drawn.

John R. Malutich (D) - Yuri Kolkin (A), Round 1
 Dutch Defense
 1. d4 f5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Bg5 e6 4. e3 Be7 5. Bd3 O-O 6. Nbd2 d5 7. c3 c5 8. Qc2 c4 9. Be2 Nc6 10. h4 b5 11. h5 Ne4 12. Bxe7 Qxe7 13. Ne5 Nxe5 14. dxe5 b4 15. Nxe4 15. Nf3 with the idea of 16. Nd4 would normally be in order. However, in this position Black's queenside play develops quickly, i.e. 15. Nf3 bxc3 16. bxc3 Qa3 17. Rc1 Rb8 with the idea of ...Rb2 -+ 15...fxe4 16. f3 Qg5 17. Kf2 Qxe5 18. f4 Qd6 19. g4 19. Qd2 with the idea of Qd4 and h6, Rh3, Rahl and Rg3 with some hopes. However Black can nip this in the bud with 19...e5! 20. g3 Rb8 21. Rag1 bxc3 =+ 19...a5 20. Rag1 Qe7 21. g5 e5 22. Qd2 Be6 23. Bg4 exf4 24. Bxe6+ Qxe6 25. h6 fxe3+ 26. Ke1? Probably time trouble. However, after 26. Kxe3 Rf3+ 27. Ke2 Raf8 and Black wins easily enough. 26...exd2+ and 0-1 in a couple of moves.

David Saville (X) - Chuck Waugh (C), Round 2
 Queen's Gambit Declined
 1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Be7 4. Nf3 Nf6 5. Bg5 O-O 6. e3 b6 Black normally interpolates 6...h6 and only after 7. Bh4 b6. 7. Bxf6 Bxf6 8. cxd5 The difference between this position and the one after 6...h6 7. Bxf6 Bxf6 8. cxd5 is the weakness at c6 created by the move 6...b6. 8...exd5 9. Bd3 Bg4!? 10. Qc2 Another point of 6...h6 is

revealed. If the pawn was on h6, this move would not win a tempo. 10...g6 11. Ne2 11. Nxd5? Qxd5 12. Be4 Qa5+! and ...c6 -+. 11...Nd7 12. Nf4 Be6 13. Nxe6 13. h4!? is interesting, White can whip up a strong attack if Black's not careful, i.e. 13...c5 14. h5 c4 15. Bxg6 hxg6 16. hxg6 Qe8 17. g7! and Qh7 mate. 13...h5? is also suspect in view of 14. Bxg6 fxg6 15. Qxg6+ Bg7 16. Nxe6 +-. Black must try to defend with 13...Re8 14. h5 Nf8. 13...fxe6 14. Qc6 Qe7 15. O-O 15. Qxc7 Rfc8 16. Qg3 Qb4+ and ...Qxb2 is too dangerous. 15...Rac8 16. Rfc1 Nb8 17. Qb7 c5 18. Qxe7 Bxe7 19. Rc2 c4!? 20. Be2 Nd7 21. Rac1 b5 22. Nd2 Nf6 23. Nb1 b4 24. f3 a5 25. Nd2 a4 26. g3 Rb8 27. b3 c3 28. Nf1 axb3 29. axb3 Ra8 30. Bb5 Ra7 31. g4 Nd7 32. Bxd7 Rxd7 33. Kf2 Ra7 34. Ke2 Rfa8 35. Kd3 Ra2 36. Ng3 Rxc2 37. Rxc2 Ra3 38. Ne2 Rxb3 39. Nc1 Ra3 40. Ra2 Rxa2 At the time I thought that 40...b3 won outright after 41. Rxa3 b2(!). However, as Dave pointed out 42. Ra8+ and 43. Kc2 ends all illusions of a Black victory! 41. Nxa2 Kf7 42. h4 h6 42...Bxh4 43. Nxb4 Be1 44. Ke2 Bd2 45. Nc2 h5 46. gxh5 gxh5 47. Kf2 Kf6 48. Kg3 Kg5 49. Kh3 Bxe3!? 50. Nxe3 Kf4 51. Nc2 Kxf3 appears to be winning for Black. Perhaps White can improve? 43. f4 Bd6 44. g5 h5 45. Nc1 Be7 46. Kc2 Bd6 47. Kb3 Ke7 48. Ka4 Kd7 49. Kb5 Kc7 50. Nb3 Bf8 51. Ka4 Drawn.

PLR #	NAME	ST	PreRate	PostRate	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Yuri Kolkin	WV	1936	1989	W-15	W-17	W-3	W-5	4.0
2	David Saville	WV	2170	2166	W-14	D-16	W-4	W-6	3.5
3	Donald Griffith	WV	2119	2106	W-19	W-7	L-1	W-11	3.0
4	Stephen Malutich	WV	1097	1188	W-18	W-8	L-2	W-13	3.0
5	Mark Hathaway	WV	2173	2153	W-9	W-12	D-6	L-1	2.5
6	Jim Walker	WV	2016	2017	W-21	W-13	D-5	L-2	2.5
7	Jerry Skeen	WV	1798	1786	W-10	L-3	W-21	D-9	2.5
8	Markle Butcher	WV	1758	1721	D-11	L-4	W-23	W-17	2.5
9	Scott Davis	WV	1545	1585	L-5	W-22	W-12	D-7	2.5
10	John W. Malutich	WV	1222	1282	L-7	W-14	D-17	W-16	2.5
11	Jim Olson	WV	1145	1218	D-8	W-18	W-16	L-3	2.5
12	Robert Canary	WV	1820	1793	W-22	L-5	L-9	W-21	2.0
13	Jerry Engle	WV	1646	1618	W-23	L-6	W-15	L-4	2.0
14	Bob McLearn	WV	1358	1344	L-2	L-10	W-25	W-23	2.0
15	John R. Malutich	WV	1325	1342	L-1	W-25	L-13	W-19	2.0
16	Chuck Waugh	WV	1569	1529	W-24	D-2	L-11	L-10	1.5
17	Gary Morris	WV	1566	1543	W-25	L-1	D-10	L-8	1.5
18	Walt Rueckert	WV	1578	1523	L-4	L-11	W-22	U-	1.0
19	George Mullins	WV	1447	1401	L-3	L-23	W-24	L-15	1.0
20	Steve Shomo	WV	1416/12	1416/13	U-	U-	U-	W-25	1.0
21	David Hundley	WV	1306	1307	L-6	W-24	L-7	L-12	1.0
22	Jason Mullins	WV	1262	1258	L-12	L-9	L-18	W-24	1.0
23	Mike Price	WV	1137	1154	L-13	W-19	L-8	L-14	1.0
24	Bill Salmon	WV	1048	1029	L-16	L-21	L-19	L-22	0.0
25	David Magner	WV	803	799	L-17	L-15	L-14	L-20	0.0

Miscellaneous games from CLO and other various tourneys

Markle Butcher (B) - Steve Malutich (E)

Cross Lanes Open, Round 2

Nimzo-Indian Defense

Notes by John Roush

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 b6!? 4. Nf3 *This is not the way to "punish" the unusual move order. Possibly 4. a3!? with the idea 4...Bb4 5. d5!? What about 4...d5 instead? On second thought, perhaps Butcher's offer to transpose into known lines is not a bad choice from the point of view of practicality.* 4...Bb4 5. e3 Bb7 6. Be2 Ne4 7. Qc2 c5 8. a3 Bxc3+ 9. bxc3 Ng5!? 9...f5!? 10. Nxc3 Qxc3 11. Rg1 *A painful necessity.* 11...Nc6 12. e4 Qh4 13. d5 Qxh2 14. Kf1 Ne5 15. Be3 Ng6 16. Qd2 Qh4 17. f3 h5 18. Bg5 Qh2 19. Kf2 h4 20. Rh1 Qg3+ 21. Kf1 h3 22. Bd3? 22. Rxh3 Rxh3 23. gxh3 Qxh3+ 24. Kf2 *and White should survive.* 22...hxg2+ 23. Qxg2 Rxh1+ 24. Qxh1 Qxg5 25. Qg2 Qe3 *Of course* 25. Qxg2+ 26. Kxg2 e5 *with the idea of ...d6, ...Ke7, ...Re8 and ...Nf4 should win easily. When you're a piece up, though, there are many roads to victory.* 26. Qe2 Qh6 27. Qf2 Nf4 28. Rd1 Qh1+ 29. Qg1 Qxf3+ 30. Ke1 Nxd3+ 0-1 on move 45.

Jason Rihel (A) - Bryan Burke (A)

God Save My King, Round 4

King's Indian Defense

1. e4 g6 2. c4 Bg7 3. d4 d6 4. Nc3 Nc6 5. Be3 e5 6. d5 Nce7 7. Be2 f5 8. f3 Nf6 9. b4 O-O 10. a4 a5 11. b5 b6 12. Bg5 Nd7 13. Bd3 Nc5 14. Nge2 h6 15. Be3 f4 16. Bxc5 dxc5 17. Bc2 Rf6 18. Qd2 Bd7 19. O-O-O Nc8 20. Rdf1 Nd6 21. Bb3 Qe7 22. g3 fxg3 23. hxg3 Rxf8 24. f4 exf4 25. gxf4 Nxe4 26. Qe3 Re8 27. d6 Nxd6 28. Qf3 Qe3+ 29. Qxe3 Rxe3 30. Bd1 Rfe6 31. Nd5 Rxe2 32. Bxe2 Rxe2 33. Nxc7 Nxc4 34. Re1 Bb2+ 35. Kb1 Rf2 36. Rd1 Bf5+ 37. Ka2 Be5+ 38. Kb3 Bxc7 39. Kxc4 Rxf4+ 40. Kb3 Rb4+ 41. Ka3 Be5 42. Rd2 Be6 43. Rd8+ Kg7 44. Rxh6 Bb2 mate

Sefus Ellis (B) - Jim Walker (X)

WV Action Championship, Round 7

Notes by Tom LaBue

1. c4 Nf6 2. Nc3 g6 3. Nf3 Bg7 4. d4 d6 5. e4 O-O 6. Bd3 e5 7. d5 a5 8. O-O Nbd7 9. h3 Nc5 10. Bc2 Ne8 11. Na4 Nxa4 12. Bxa4 Qe7 13. Bg5 f6 14. Be3 f5 15. Bxe8 Qxe8 16. Qc2 f4 17. Bd2 b6 18. a3 a4 19. b4 axb3 20. Qxb3 Bd7 21. Qc3 Qe7 22. Nh2 h5 23. f3 Bf6 24. Be1 Bh4 25. Bxh4 Qxh4 26. Qe1 Qxe1 27. Rfxe1 Ra4 28. Rec1 Rfa8 29. Rc3 Bc8 30. Nf1 Kg7 31. Nd2

R8a5 32. Kf1 Ba6 33. Ke2 g5 34. Kf2 Bc8 35. Ra2 Ra8 36. Nb1 Ba6 37. Rac2 Rh8 38. g3 fxg3+ 39. Kxg3 h4+ 40. Kg2 Kf8 Rf8 41. Nd2 Bc8 42. Nf1 Bd7 *Jim needed to win this game to tie Donald for first place. At this point, Sefus tried to claim a draw saying that Jim wasn't making any progress, just waiting for his (Sefus') flag to fall. TD Mike Baker denied the claim and Sefus' clock ran out a few moves later. Black won on time.*

Nabil Feliachi (X) - Bryan Burke (A)

Mountaineer Open '97, Round 3

Pirc Defense

1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Nc3 d6 4. Be3 Nc6 5. Qd2 e5 6. Nge2 f5 7. f3 Nf6 8. h3 f4 9. Bf2 Nh5 10. O-O-O exd4 11. Nb5 Qf6 12. Nxc7+ Kf7 13. Nxa8 Be6 14. Nc7 d3 15. Nc3 dxc2 16. Qxc2 Nb4 17. Qa4 Nxa2+ 18. Qxa2 Bxa2 19. N7b5 Rd8 20. Bd3 a6 21. Nd4 Rc8 22. Kd2 Ng3 23. Nxa2 Nxe1 24. Rxh1 Qg5 25. Rg1 Qa5+ 26. Nc3 Qb4 27. Nc2 Bxc3+ 28. bxc3 Qxc3+ 29. Ke2 Qb2 30. Kd1 Rc3 31. Kd2 b5 32. e5 dxe5 33. Re1 b4 34. Re4 b3 35. Bc4+ Kf6 36. Bxb3 Qxb3 37. Rxf4+ Ke6 38. Rb4 Rxc2+ and Black won.

Jason Rihel sent me these Morgantown chess tidbits.

Victor Sivanari of Morgantown, WV, is listed on the Top 50 players in the US under the age of 8. He is rated 1056 and is currently tied for 44th.

Nabil Feliachi of Morgantown, WV, has had quite a chess summer. He finished 3rd in the Chicago Open U2200 section, and followed that up with a tie for 1st in the World Open U2200 section!!!

West Virginia Grand Prix Winners

Finally, here is an updated list of WV Grand Prix winners. I have added Mark Hathaway's 1989-1990 session to the list.

Year	Player	Hometown
1989-90	Mark Hathaway	Huntington, WV
1992-93	Chuck Schulien	Parkersburg, WV
1993-94	John Roush	Charleston, WV
1994-95	John Roush	Ripley, WV
1995-96	John Roush	Ripley, WV
1996-97	Jim Walker	Cross Lanes, WV

Morgantown Chess Activity

Mountaineer Open '97, Morgantown, WV, WVU MountainLair, October 18, 1997

PLR #	NAME	ST	PreRate	PostRate	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Bryan Burke	WV	1954*A5	2010*x7	W--8	W--2	W--4	W--5	4.0
2	Jason Rihel	WV	1890*A4	1892*A4	W--7	L--1	D--3	W--4	2.5
3	Rick Holsberry	WV	1647*b5	1687*b5	H---	D--5	D--2	W--6	2.5
4	Feliachi Nabil	WV	2113/15	2051/19	W-10	W--6	L--1	L--2	2.0
5	Michael McCarthy	WV	2041*X7	2011*X7	H---	D--3	W--8	L--1	2.0
6	Mike Baker	WV	1702*B6	1676*B6	W--9	L--4	D--7	L--3	1.5
7	Tom LaBue	WV	1490*b7	1516*b7	L--2	U--	D--6	W--8	1.5
8	Walt Rueckert	WV	1597*C0	1578*C0	L--1	W--9	L--5	L--7	1.0
9	Ben DeLong	WV	1423/11	1396/13	L--6	L--8	U--	U--	0.0
10	Greg Arnold	WV	1414*c4	1413*c4	L--4	U--	U--	U--	0.0

Swiss Invade Morgantown, Morgantown, WV, WVU MountainLair, January 31, 1998

PLR #	NAME	ST	PreRate	PostRate	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Bryan Burke	WV	1982	1983	W--5	W--8	D--2	W--2	3.5
2	Rick Holsberry	WV	1687	1726	W--7	W--3	D--1	W--8	3.5
3	Jason Rihel	WV	1865	1832	W--9	L--2	W--4	L--1	2.0
4	Travis Martin	WV	1243	1230	W-10	W--5	L--3	L--7	2.0
5	Emelie Yang	WV	1090/05	1168/09	L--1	L--4	W--6	W--9	2.0
6	Andrew Brock	WV	994	1001	L--8	W--7	L--5	W-10	2.0
7	Brian Watkins	WV	967	982	L--2	L--6	W-10	W--4	2.0
8	David Yang	WV	Unrated	1376/04	W--6	L--1	W--9	L--2	2.0
9	Kevin Sivaneri	WV	839	840	L--3	W-10	L--8	L--5	1.0
10	Celia Miller	WV	645	627	L--4	L--9	L--7	L--6	0.0

God Save My King, Morgantown, WV, WVU MountainLair, April 4, 1998

PLR #	NAME	ST	PreRate	PostRate	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Bryan Burke	WV	1983	2010	W--5	W--4	W--7	W--2	4.0
2	Jason Rihel	WV	1832	1839	W--8	D--6	W--3	L--1	2.5
3	Mike Baker	WV	1619	1629	W-12	D--7	L--2	W--9	2.5
4	Jason Stillwell	WV	1236/05	1306/09	W-11	L--1	D--5	W-10	2.5
5	Jim Flesher	WV	1159	1178	L--1	W-10	D--4	W-12	2.5
6	Feliachi Nabil	WV	2051	2025	H---	D--2	D--9	D--7	2.0
7	Michael McCarthy	WV	2011	1984	W--9	D--3	L--1	D--6	2.0
8	John Iorio	WV	1134	1127	L--2	W-12	L-10	L-11	2.0
9	Bob Jordan	WV	1298	1313	L--7	W-11	D--6	D--3	1.5
10	David Bitler	WV	Unrated	1067/03	H---	L--5	W--8	L--4	1.5
11	Brian Watkins	WV	997	965	L--4	L--9	D-12	L--8	0.5
12	Robert Blaney	WV	643	651	L--3	L--8	D-11	L--5	0.5

Jason's Finale, Morgantown, WV, WVU MountainLair, April 28, 1998

PLR #	NAME	ST	PreRate	PostRate	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Feliachi Nabil	WV	2025	2037	W--4	W--3	W--7	D--5	3.5
2	Bryan Burke	WV	2010	1996	W-13	L--7	W--8	W--6	3.0
3	Jason Rihel	WV	1839	1844	W-10	L--1	W-11	W--7	3.0
4	Michael Malutich	WV	1245	1295	L--1	W-10	W-15	W-12	3.0
5	Michael McCarthy	IL	1984	1981	H---	W-15	D--6	D--1	2.5
6	Doug Hough	PA	1859	1844	W-14	D--8	D--5	L--2	2.0
7	Byron Funkhouser	WV	1727	1740	W-12	W--2	L--1	L--3	2.0
8	Tom LaBue	WV	1549	1558	W-11	D--6	L--2	D--9	2.0
9	John R. Malutich	WV	1342	1332	L-15	W-16	D-12	D--8	2.0
10	David Bitler	WV	1067/03	1222/07	L--3	L--4	W-14	W-13	2.0
11	Gary Kerns	VA	Unrated	1387/04	L--8	W-14	L--3	W-15	2.0
12	David Kennedy	WV	Unrated	1304/04	L--7	W-13	D--9	L--4	1.5
13	John W. Malutich	WV	1301	1267	L--2	L-12	W-16	L-10	1.0
14	Brian Watkins	WV	965	965	L--6	L-11	L-10	W-16	1.0
15	John Ottesen	WV	Unrated	1277/04	W--9	L--5	L--4	L-11	1.0
16	DJ Bhattacharya	WV	Unrated	803/03	H---	L--9	L-13	L-14	0.5

Marc Abraham Unbeaten in 1998 WV Scholastic Championship Morgantown HS wins HS Team

by John Homer

Berkeley Springs Home School Student is WV State Primary Chess Co-Champion Last Saturday in a silent ballroom of the Mountainlair at WVU in Morgantown 167 young West Virginia chess players from 50 schools pondered their moves in the 30th Annual WV Scholastic Chess Championship. Steven Shear, home school student from Berkeley Springs, and Nora Miller from Morgantown Learning Academy tied for first place in the Primary Section. Both Shear and Miller were unbeaten and untied among the 28 of West Virginia's top primary chess players who competed for trophies and honors. Morgantown Learning Academy edged out Norwood Elementary for first place team honors. Members of the honorary 1998 WV All-State Primary Scholastic Chess Team are Steven Shear, Nora Miller, Jacob Lubman of Morgantown Learning Academy, and

Darrell Strovers of Norwood Elementary.

Stephen Malutich of Hardin Elementary was the sole unbeaten, untied player in the Elementary Section. Joining him on the honorary 1998 WV All-State Elementary Chess Team were Ben Nicholson of Cheat Lake Middle School, Johnson Wong of Hinton Elementary, and Andrew Bledsoe of Summers Elementary. Cheat Lake Middle School won first place team honors. Forty-three players competed in the Elementary Section.

Sixty-two players competed in the Middle School Section in which three players tied for first place and were named co-champions: Michael Malutich of Salem

1998 West Virginia High School Championship, March 21-22, 1998, WVU, Morgantown, WV

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	Marc Abraham	W--13	W--8	W--18	W--5	W--3	5.0
2	David Hickman	L--12	W--31	W--30	W--6	W--18	4.0
3	John Malutich	X---	W--11	W--17	W--19	L--1	4.0
4	Josh Sell	W--20	L--5	W--34	W--17	W--16	4.0
5	Phillip Snyder	W--26	W--4	W--7	L--1	W--15	4.0
6	Jason Stillwell	W--28	W--25	W--12	L--2	W--8	4.0
7	George Kong	W--33	W--21	L--5	W--12	W--19	4.0
8	Emilie Yang	W--24	L--1	W--31	W--14	L--6	3.0
9	John Iorio	W--22	L--12	W--29	L--18	W--25	3.0
10	Joe Meadows	L--23	L--19	W--35	W--30	W--24	3.0
11	Ashish Gupta	W--25	L--3	W--27	L--16	W--23	3.0
12	Elliott Mayle	W--2	W--9	L--6	L--7	W--21	3.0
13	Jason Schrimp	L--1	W--23	L--14	W--34	W--26	3.0
14	Roland King	L--31	W--28	W--13	L--8	W--22	3.0
15	Adam Moreland	W--32	W--26	L--19	W--24	L--5	3.0
16	Akshay Mahajan	W--35	L--24	W--23	W--11	L--4	3.0
17	Josh Collins	W--29	W--22	L--3	L--4	W--33	3.0
18	Nan Wu	W--34	W--20	L--1	W--9	L--2	3.0
19	Max Kirby	W--30	W--10	W--15	L--3	L--7	3.0
20	Fred Kerby	L--4	L--18	L--28	B---	W--31	2.0
21	Jonathan Risingsun	W--27	L--7	L--24	W--35	L--12	2.0
22	Daniel Amrine	L--9	L--17	W--33	W--31	L--14	2.0
23	Nathan Yoke	W--10	L--13	L--16	W--29	L--11	2.0
24	John Barker	L--8	W--16	W--21	L--15	L--10	2.0
25	Shawn Pinkerton	L--11	L--6	W--32	W--28	L--9	2.0
26	Robert Blaney	L--5	L--15	B---	W--27	L--13	2.0
27	Nickolas McColl	L--21	W--35	L--11	L--26	X---	2.0
28	Brock Pytlík	L--6	L--14	W--20	L--25	W--35	2.0
29	Randen McDonald	L--17	W--33	L--9	L--23	W--30	2.0
30	Richard Scott	L--19	B---	L--2	L--10	L--29	1.0
31	Kali Wilson	W--14	L--2	L--8	L--22	L--20	1.0
32	Shawn Hornbeck	L--15	L--34	L--25	L--33	B---	1.0
33	Stephanie King	L--7	L--29	L--22	W--32	L--17	1.0
34	Derrik Stark	L--18	W--32	L--4	L--13	F---	1.0
35	Scott Clapper	L--16	L--27	L--10	L--21	L--28	0.0

**Malutich, Arritt and Seachrist share Middle School Championship;
Sherrard JHS wins second consecutive middle school title**

Middle School, Joshua Arritt and Kevin Seachrist of Sherrard Junior High, Wheeling. These three players plus Nathan Stark of Wirt County Junior High made up the 1998 WV All-State Middle School Chess Team. Sherrard Junior High won top team honors.

In the High School Section Marc Abraham of John Marshall High School was also undefeated and untied. As 1998 High School Champion he will be invited by the United States Chess Federation to compete in the Denker Tournament of Champions in the US Open in

Hawaii where the state champions of all 50 states compete against each other. Joining Abraham on the 1998 All-State High School Chess Team are Phillip Snyder of Fairmont Senior High, John Malutich of Liberty High, and Jason Stillwell of East Fairmont High. The team from Morgantown High School is the 1998 High School Chess Team Champions. Thirty-six players competed in this section.

The three Malutich brothers each made All-State Team in their respective sections.

1998 Elementary School Championship, March 21, 1998, WVU, Morgantown, WV

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
1	Stephen Malutich	W--12	W--9	W--26	W--11	W--3	W--8	6.0
2	Johnson Wong	W--20	W--7	W--25	W--13	L--8	W--11	5.0
3	Ben Nicholson	W--21	W--6	W--18	W--4	L--1	W--7	5.0
4	Andrew Bledsoe	B---	W--30	W--22	L--3	W--23	W--9	5.0
5	Michael Messinger	D--23	W--33	W--15	L--20	W--19	W--16	4.5
6	Joshua Oldaker	W--19	L--3	W--41	W--14	D--16	W--15	4.5
7	Elias Stweart	W--31	L--2	W--29	W--26	W--13	L--3	4.0
8	Juan Potes	W--30	L--11	W--28	W--23	W--2	L--1	4.0
9	Kevin Sivaneri	W--35	L--1	W--37	W--25	W--20	L--4	4.0
10	Alex Kovarik	L--22	L--18	W--43	W--30	W--27	W--25	4.0
11	Derrick Vincent	W--36	W--8	W--16	L--1	W--22	L--2	4.0
12	John Glenn	L--1	L--16	W--33	W--35	W--26	W--22	4.0
13	Joseph Schaeffer	W--40	W--17	W--14	L--2	L--7	W--18	4.0
14	Michael Berrerbi	W--39	W--36	L--13	L--6	W--21	W--20	4.0
15	Matthew Richards	W--38	D--19	L--5	W--24	W--17	L--6	3.5
16	Charles Romero	W--33	W--12	L--11	W--27	D--6	L--5	3.5
17	Michael Gervais	W--29	L--13	L--27	W--34	L--15	W--31	3.0
18	Michael Hartman	W--32	W--10	L--3	L--22	W--28	L--13	3.0
19	Dylan Callery	L--6	D--15	W--38	W--31	L--5	D--23	3.0
20	Shane Tu	L--2	W--37	W--34	W--5	L--9	L--14	3.0
21	Tyler Kovarik	L--3	L--26	W--42	W--40	L--14	W--32	3.0
22	Joshua Brady	W--10	W--40	L--4	W--18	L--11	L--12	3.0
23	Andrew Hazekamp	D--5	W--43	W--24	L--8	L--4	D--19	3.0
24	Ezra Kaplan	W--27	D--31	L--23	L--15	W--35	D--29	3.0
25	Alex Berrebi	W--43	W--35	L--2	L--9	W--29	L--10	3.0
26	Trevor McGraw	W--41	W--21	L--1	L--7	L--12	W--37	3.0
27	Scott Bragg	L--24	W--32	W--17	L--16	L--10	W--34	3.0
28	Zachary Eldred	W--34	L--29	L--8	W--39	L--18	W--38	3.0
29	Ian Twardus	L--17	W--28	L--7	W--37	L--25	D--24	2.5
30	Tyler Spear	L--8	L--4	W--32	L--10	D--38	W--39	2.5
31	Joshua Hanlin	L--7	D--24	W--39	L--19	W--40	L--17	2.5
32	Michael Phillips	L--18	L--27	L--30	B---	W--43	L--21	2.0
33	Jay Shrader	L--16	L--5	L--12	L--38	B---	W--40	2.0
34	Joel DiStefano	L--28	W--42	L--20	L--17	W--41	L--27	2.0
35	David Pumphrey	L--9	L--25	B---	L--12	L--24	W--43	2.0
36	Dustin Reynolds	L--11	L--14	L--40	W--42	L--37	W--41	2.0
37	Bren Stewart	W--42	L--20	L--9	L--29	W--36	L--26	2.0
38	Joshua Dutchess	L--15	D--39	L--19	W--33	D--30	L--28	2.0
39	Maurice Murray	L--14	D--38	L--31	L--28	W--42	L--30	1.5
40	Ryan Butler	L--13	L--22	W--36	L--21	L--31	L--33	1.0
41	Jacob Brady	L--26	B---	L--6	L--43	L--34	L--36	1.0
42	Danielle Terry	L--37	L--34	L--21	L--36	L--39	B---	1.0
43	John Szasz	L--25	L--23	L--10	W--41	L--32	L--35	1.0

Senior USCF TD Charles Szasz, who directed all 30 WV High School Scholastic Chess Championships, directed the High School Section and was Chief Floor TD. Jason Rihel directed the Middle School Section, assisted by John Strovers. The Elementary Section was directed by Robert Jordan. Darrell Glenn directed the Primary Section. Senior USCF TD John Homer was Pairing TD. Morgantown chess organizers and coaches Jason Rihel and Patti Miller, and their army of volunteers, helped make all aspects of the tournament run smoothly.

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Michael Malutich	W-25	W-8	W-17	W-7	4.0
2	Josh Arritt	W-41	W-10	W-22	W-14	4.0
3	Kevin Seachrist	W-33	W-25	W-36	W-12	4.0
4	Nathan Stark	W-27	D-39	W-40	W-18	3.5
5	Kunal Gupta	W-30	D-40	W-39	W-21	3.5
6	Augie Delbert	W-42	L-7	W-44	W-36	3.0
7	Andrew Brock	W-34	W-6	W-24	L-1	3.0
8	Brian Skinner	W-29	L-1	W-58	W-22	3.0
9	Benjamin Blum	W-43	L-21	W-45	W-35	3.0
10	Aaron Cahill	W-13	L-2	W-51	W-31	3.0
11	Elliot Roth	L-14	W-50	W-49	W-24	3.0
12	Eddie Manchas	W-46	W-43	W-21	L-3	3.0
13	Celia Miller	L-10	W-32	W-53	W-38	3.0
14	John Gear	W-11	W-23	W-35	L-2	3.0
15	Thomas Nixon	W-53	L-30	W-23	W-29	3.0
16	Levi Rynkievich	W-56	W-26	L-18	W-32	3.0
17	Scott Hollis	W-19	W-41	L-1	W-37	3.0
18	Scott Baker	W-57	W-31	W-16	L-4	3.0
19	James Birch	L-17	W-46	W-33	W-39	3.0
20	Sean Lawhead	L-32	D-59	W-52	W-40	2.5
21	Chris White	W-26	W-9	L-12	L-5	2.0
22	Jeremy Green	W-54	W-42	L-2	L-8	2.0
23	Josh Forester	W-28	L-14	L-15	W-48	2.0
24	Sean Butler	W-60	W-47	L-7	L-11	2.0
25	Chris Jenkins	L-1	L-3	W-59	W-50	2.0
26	Daniel Simonton	L-21	L-16	W-56	W-49	2.0
27	Kevin Schwab	L-4	W-44	L-38	W-51	2.0
28	Jesse Vernon	L-23	L-36	W-61	W-55	2.0
29	Andres Potes	L-8	W-51	W-55	L-15	2.0
30	Laura Smith	L-5	W-15	L-32	W-53	2.0
31	Spencer Hayden	W-49	L-18	W-48	L-10	2.0
32	Michael Allman	W-20	L-13	W-30	L-16	2.0
33	Desiree Huber	L-3	W-58	L-19	W-52	2.0
34	Jared Drvar	L-7	L-35	B-	W-58	2.0
35	Justin White	W-37	W-34	L-14	L-9	2.0
36	Eve Bunner	W-59	W-28	L-3	L-6	2.0
37	Billy Spatafore	L-35	W-57	W-50	L-17	2.0
38	Robert Harm	L-50	W-54	W-27	L-13	2.0
39	Timothy Gibb	W-47	D-4	L-5	L-19	1.5
40	Dan Sell	W-48	D-5	L-4	L-20	1.5
41	Jamie Halstead	L-2	L-17	W-57	D-44	1.5
42	Chas Howell	L-6	L-22	W-60	D-45	1.5
43	Scott Copen	L-9	L-12	W-54	D-46	1.5
44	Brice Suprenaut	W-61	L-27	L-6	D-41	1.5
45	Justin Robinson	L-55	B-	L-9	D-42	1.5
46	Jeremy Smith	L-12	L-19	W-47	D-43	1.5
47	Donald McClelland	L-39	L-24	L-46	B-	1.0
48	Sam DiStefano	L-40	W-55	L-31	L-23	1.0
49	Nathan McCoy	L-31	W-60	L-11	L-26	1.0
50	Jessica Fox	W-38	L-11	L-37	L-25	1.0
51	Joel Robinson	B-	L-29	L-10	L-27	1.0
52	Robert Wetzal	L-58	W-61	L-20	L-33	1.0
53	Robert Smith	L-15	W-56	L-13	L-30	1.0
54	Bobby Birch	L-22	L-38	L-43	W-61	1.0
55	Joshua Long	W-45	L-48	L-29	L-28	1.0
56	Bryan Channell	L-16	L-53	L-26	W-60	1.0
57	Nate Mays	L-18	L-37	L-41	W-59	1.0
58	Billy Wilson	W-52	L-33	L-8	L-34	1.0
59	Caleb Murray	L-36	D-20	L-25	L-57	0.5
60	Todd Mills	L-24	L-49	L-42	L-56	0.0
61	Ben Pollack	L-44	L-52	L-28	L-54	0.0

1998 Primary School Championship, March 21, Morgantown,

PL	NAME	1	2	3	4	To
1	Nora Miller	W-17	W-27	W-6	W-8	4.
2	Steven Shear	W-13	W-22	W-5	W-3	4.
3	Truman Gore	W-28	W-12	W-16	L-2	3.
4	Cory Leonard	W-23	L-7	W-13	W-16	3.
5	Jacob Lubman	W-10	W-9	L-2	W-17	3.
6	Nicholas Eddy	W-24	W-11	L-1	W-18	3.
7	Jamie Karraker	W-22	W-4	L-8	W-11	3.
8	Darrell Strovers	W-20	W-14	W-7	L-1	3.
9	Victor Sivaneri	W-27	L-5	D-20	W-21	2.
10	Tyler Crawford	L-5	D-21	W-15	W-20	2.
11	Ian McClure	W-12	L-6	W-21	L-7	2.
12	Scott Carpenter	L-11	L-3	W-27	W-24	2.
13	Hannah Lubman	L-2	W-15	L-4	W-27	2.
14	Steven Glenn	L-16	L-8	W-26	W-23	2.
15	Mona Sivaneri	W-25	L-13	L-10	W-28	2.
16	Max Miller-Rapp	W-14	W-24	L-3	L-4	2.
17	Peter Wodzinski	L-1	W-26	W-23	L-5	2.
18	Zachary Williams	L-21	W-25	W-19	L-6	2.
19	S. Wodzinski	W-26	L-23	L-18	D-25	1.
20	Zachary Szasz	L-8	W-28	D-9	L-10	1.
21	Patrick Lewis	W-18	D-10	L-11	L-9	1.
22	Benjamin Stout	L-7	L-2	D-25	D-26	1.
23	Clayton Shear	L-4	W-19	L-17	L-14	1.
24	Rebecca McClure	L-6	L-16	W-28	L-12	1.
25	Jeffrey Atkinson	L-15	L-18	D-22	D-19	1.
26	Priya Walia	L-19	L-17	L-14	D-22	0.
27	Jacob Nixon	L-9	L-1	L-12	L-13	0.
28	Max Kaplan	L-3	L-20	L-24	L-15	0.

← *1998 Middle School Championships*

Harrison County Area Scholastic Results

Bob Jordan and Dave Bitler continued their run of scholastic tournaments throughout the spring. An impressive 60 students played in the April event at the Bridgeport Middle School including a busload from PA. Morgantown's Victor Sivaneri (K-2nd) and Harrison County's Jeremy Green (5th-8th) took their respective sections.

April Scholastic Results - Bridgeport, WV

K-2 Section

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Victor Sivaneri	W-13	W-6	W-9	W-4	4.0
2	Sam Felder	W-3	D-11	W-7	W-9	3.5
3	Darius Hill	L-2	W-15	W-12	W-10	3.0
4	Dennis Tsai	W-8	W-10	W-11	L-1	3.0
5	Mona Sivaneri	L-14	W-16	D-6	W-14	2.5
6	John Steadman	W-12	L-1	D-5	W-11	2.5
7	Ryan Butler	L-10	W-8	L-2	W-12	2.0
8	Joshua Lenart	L-4	L-7	W-16	W-15	2.0
9	Chantelle Lay	W-16	W-14	L-1	L-2	2.0
10	Elena Coleman	W-7	L-4	W-14	L-3	2.0
11	Hannah Lubman	W-15	D-2	L-4	L-6	1.5
12	Delbert Tyler	L-6	W-13	L-3	L-7	1.0
13	Bethany Gaston	L-1	L-12	L-15	W-16	1.0
14	Samantha Wodzinski	W-5	L-9	L-10	L-5	1.0
15	Danny Pumphrey	L-11	L-3	W-13	L-8	1.0
16	Tiffany Oldaker	L-9	L-5	L-8	L-13	0.0

2nd-4th grade section

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Mathew Lederman	W-4	D-3	W-5	W-2	3.5
2	Andrew Krut	D-5	W-4	W-6	L-1	2.5
3	Robert Lay	W-6	D-1	L-4	W-5	2.5
4	Nicholas Eddy	L-1	L-2	W-3	W-6	2.0
5	Michael Hartman	D-2	W-6	L-1	L-3	1.5
6	Peter Wodzinski	L-3	L-5	L-2	L-4	0.0

3rd - 6th grade section

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Jack Cheung	W-9	W-11	W-3	W-2	4.0
2	Kesh. Mezheryski	W-26	W-22	W-12	L-1	3.0
3	Anubha Agarwal	W-5	W-7	L-1	W-4	3.0
4	Melissa Tyler	W-24	W-8	W-10	L-3	3.0
5	Garrett Grayson	L-3	W-15	W-19	W-13	3.0
6	Derrick Vincent	L-15	W-23	W-16	W-12	3.0
7	Joshua Oldaker	W-20	L-3	W-14	W-10	3.0
8	Alex Kovarik	W-13	L-4	W-21	W-11	3.0
9	Nora Miller	L-1	D-25	W-20	W-19	2.5
10	Anthony Shields	W-17	W-21	L-4	L-7	2.0
11	Cory Leonard	W-23	L-1	W-15	L-8	2.0
12	Joshua LaChaussie	W-14	W-19	L-2	L-6	2.0
13	Jacob Lubman	L-8	W-24	W-22	L-5	2.0
14	Jamie Karraker	L-12	W-18	L-7	W-24	2.0
15	Joseph Lenart	W-6	L-5	L-11	W-25	2.0
16	Tyler Kovarik	L-21	W-17	L-6	W-22	2.0
17	Craig Lederman	L-10	L-16	W-25	W-20	2.0
18	Brennan Waller	L-19	L-14	W-26	W-21	2.0
19	Darren McFarlin	W-18	L-12	L-5	L-9	1.0
20	Michael Berrerbi	L-7	W-26	L-9	L-17	1.0
21	Michael Gervais	W-16	L-10	L-8	L-18	1.0
22	Darrell Strovers	W-25	L-2	L-13	L-16	1.0
23	Justin Washington	L-11	L-6	L-24	W-26	1.0
24	Shinora Grayson	L-4	L-13	W-23	L-14	1.0
25	Bridget Stonestreet	L-22	D-9	L-17	L-15	0.5
26	David Pumphrey	L-2	L-20	L-18	L-23	0.0

5th - 8th grade section

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Jeremy Green	W-10	W-5	W-4	D-3	3.5
2	Sean Butler	W-6	L-4	W-10	W-7	3.0
3	Kevin Schwab	W-7	W-8	D-5	D-1	3.0
4	Scott Binns	W-12	W-2	L-1	W-9	3.0
5	Kevin Sivaneri	W-9	L-1	D-3	W-8	2.5
6	Luke Eichelberger	L-2	W-12	L-7	W-10	2.0
7	Brittany Lay	L-3	W-11	W-6	L-2	2.0
8	Trevor McGraw	W-11	L-3	W-12	L-5	2.0
9	Andrew Bledsoe	L-5	L-10	W-11	L-4	1.0
10	Luke Steadman	L-1	W-9	L-2	L-6	1.0
11	Spencer Hayden	L-8	L-7	L-9	W-12	1.0
12	Lalonnix Dixon	L-4	L-6	L-8	L-11	0.0

March Scholastic Results- Bridgeport, WV

K-2 Section

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Hannah Lubman	W-7	W-3	W-2	D-4	3.
2	Victor Sivaneri	W-6	W-4	L-1	W-3	3.
3	Ryan Butler	W-8	L-1	W-5	L-2	2.
4	Jacob Nixon	D-5	L-2	W-8	D-1	2.
5	Mona Sivaneri	D-4	W-7	L-3	D-6	2.
6	Tiffany Oldaker	L-2	D-8	D-7	D-5	1.
7	Samatha Wodzinski	L-1	L-5	D-6	D-8	1.
8	Bethany Gaston	L-3	D-6	L-4	D-7	1.

2nd-4th grade section

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Nicholas Eddy	W-2	W-3	W-4	W-4	4.0
2	Peter Wodzinski	L-1	L-4	W-3	D-3	1.5
3	David Pumphrey	W-4	L-1	L-2	D-2	1.5
4	Shane Springer	L-3	W-2	L-1	L-1	1.0

3rd - 6th grade section

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Kevin Sivaneri	W-3	W-9	W-2	W-7	4.0
2	Darrell Strovers	W-14	W-6	L-1	W-10	3.0
3	Joshua Oldaker	L-1	W-14	W-12	W-8	3.0
4	Dylan Callery	W-8	L-7	W-14	W-6	3.0
5	Michael Messinger	W-13	D-10	L-6	W-12	2.5
6	Cory Leonard	W-12	L-2	W-5	L-4	2.0
7	Jacob Lubman	L-9	W-4	W-10	L-1	2.0
8	Derrick Vincent	L-4	W-13	W-9	L-3	2.0
9	Nora Miller	W-7	L-1	L-8	W-13	2.0
10	Michael Gervais	W-11	D-5	L-7	L-2	1.5
11	Andrew Hazekamp	L-10	L-12	D-13	W-14	1.5
12	Michael Hartman	L-6	W-11	L-3	L-5	1.0
13	Joel DiStefano	L-5	L-8	D-11	L-9	0.5
14	Dustin Reynolds	L-2	L-3	L-4	L-11	0.0

5th - 8th grade section

PLR #	NAME	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Elias Stewart	W-11	W-4	W-6	W-2	4.0
2	Jeremy Green	W-10	W-8	W-5	L-1	3.0
3	Eddie Manchas	W-6	L-5	W-11	W-8	3.0
4	Celia Miller	W-9	L-1	W-10	W-5	3.0
5	Andrew Brock	W-7	W-3	L-2	L-4	2.0
6	Sean Butler	L-3	W-9	L-1	W-11	2.0
7	Thomas Nixon	L-5	L-11	B-	W-10	2.0
8	Basil Legg	B-	L-2	D-9	L-3	1.5
9	Darell Thornton	L-4	L-6	D-8	B-	1.5
10	Ryan Rakestraw	L-2	B-	L-4	L-7	1.0
11	Spencer Hayden	L-1	W-7	L-3	L-6	1.0

WVCA Special Business Meeting Minutes

March 28, 1998

Lake Chaweva Clubhouse, Cross Lanes, WV

Purpose - Possible change of location and sponsorship of the 1998 West Virginia State Championship Tournaments and regular business meeting over the Labor Day holiday.

Board of Directors present: Jonette Mercer - Vice-President
Tom Bergquist - Secretary-Treasurer
Tom LaBue - WVCA Bulletin Editor

Members present: 24

Jonette Mercer, Vice-President called the meeting to order and called for discussion of the issue at hand.

DISCUSSION:

Tom LaBue opened by relating his contact with Ernie Schlich, Technical Director of the United States Chess Federation. Mr. Schlich stated that he had never received the results of the 1997 West Virginia Championship Tourney held over the Labor Day weekend. Mr. Schlich had mailed several requests to Randy Bierce for the tournament results and was finally contacted by Randy who told him that they had been sent and must have been lost in the mail. Tom LaBue has not been able to contact Randy; the last time he talked with Randy was at the 1997 State Tourney and that Randy said he would Tom the games for inclusion to the bulletin. Mr. Schlich further stated that unless the matter is resolved, USCF will withdraw Randy's right to direct tournaments that are to be recognized and rated by the USCF. Tom also stated that Mr. Schlich would notify all concerned of their final decision on Randy.

John Roush discussed the possibility of reconstructing the results of the 1997 State Championship Tournament so that it could be rated by the USCF and the results published in the bulletin. John also stated that he and Donald Griffith did not receive their prize money of \$100 each from Randy.

Tom LaBue states the Randy Bierce has failed to make timely notification to the USCF of the West Virginia Championship Tournament that he, Randy is to sponsor and direct in Wheeling, WV over the 1998 Labor Day Weekend. This notification is required by both the WVCA Constitution, and USCF for publication in Chess Life and notification to USCF of an upcoming event to be rated by USCF.

Andy Katz questioned the authority of the Board of Directors to conduct a meeting to cancel the WVCA's acceptance at its 1997 business meeting of Randy's offer to sponsor and direct the 1998 West Virginia State Championship Tournament. He also brought up the legal aspects of WVCA's right to cancel the acceptance and the possibility of a split of organized chess in West Virginia into two factions. He stated that he had talked to Randy on Friday, March 27, 1998 and proposed a three part solution in dealing with Randy:

1. Randy Bierce will sponsor the 1998 WV State Championship Tournament.
2. Randy Bierce will hire or engage a director to direct the tournament.
3. That a third person will be designated to hold all funds collected at and prepaid for the tournament, tournament entry fees and membership fees for the WVCA and USCF. All funds will be paid out by this third person, USCF membership fees to USCF, WVCA membership fees to WVCA and prize funds to the winners of the tournament.

Andy states that Randy can act legally under the authority granted to him at the 1997 business meeting by the WVCA that he can hold the 1998 State Championship Tournament in the Wheeling area and possibly obligate WVCA for site rental and other expenses. Andy continues to offer te Wheeling area as the site of the WVCA State Championship Tournament.

WVCA Special Business Meeting Minutes

John Kay stated that he and Pat Kelly foresaw possible difficulties with the 1998 State Championship Tournament being held in the Wheeling area and prepared to offer the Parkersburg area as an alternate site.

MOTION BY JOHN KAY

Does the WVCA membership acknowledge that it has a binding agreement with Randy Bierce to hold the WVCA State Championship Tournament in the Wheeling area over the 1998 Labor Day Weekend?

Andy Katz offers an amendment to phrase the motion in positive terms. This is accepted by John Kay who so moves. The motion now reads: The WVCA membership has a binding agreement with Randy Bierce that he hold the 1998 State Championship Tournament in the Wheeling area over the Labor Day weekend.

Andy Katz seconds the motion.

Vice President Jonette Mercer calls for a vote by a show of hands. For: 2 Against: 7

Motion fails. The West Virginia Chess Association no longer has an agreement with Randy Bierce to hold the 1998 State Championship Tournament over the Labor Day Weekend.

DISCUSSION:

Andy Katz offered to ask Randy to withdraw his bid.

John Roush said we should notify USCF and all other concerned and interested parties of our decisions here.

MOTION BY DONALD GRIFFITH:

That WVCA cancel its acceptance of Randy Bierce as sponsor and tournament director of its 1998 State Championship Tournament, and that, the WVCA accept John Kay and Pat Kelly's offer to hold and direct the 1998 WVCA State Championship Tournament over the Labor Day weekend in the Parkersburg area.

John Roush seconded the motion.

Vice President Jonette Mercer called for a vote by show of hands: For: 8 Against: 1

Motion carried.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion made by Tom Bergquist, seconded and passed by acclamation.

Griffith, Walker share the 1998 WV Action title

Twenty-one souls dared to enter the 1998 West Virginia Action Championship, held at the Lake Chaweva Clubhouse and hosted by the Charleston Chess Club. This was the first time that the event was held as a standalone event. Seven rounds is a lot of chess to play in one day. Jim Walker and Donald Griffith shared first place and the championship by finishing with 6-1 scores. Donald winning five and drawing contests in rounds three and four to Walker and John Roush, respectively. Jim and John drew in Round 5. John's loss to Sefus Ellis in the sixth round took him out of running. Huntington expert, Mark Hathaway suffer consecutive losses to Walker and Markle Butcher that kept him off the leader board.

There was some excitement in the final round. Donald had already beaten Byron Funkhouser and was in the clubhouse with his 6. Jim was locked in a struggle against Sefus Ellis (see the game on page 8). Jim eventually prevailed when Sefus' time ran out. Scott Carmichael whipped Tom LaBue in the final round to finish with 5 points and earn third outright. Bill Salmon earned a pair of scalps on this day, outlasting Tom LaBue in round 2 and then surprising Sefus Ellis in the fourth. Bill stood only a half point from first after the fourth round. Here is his victory over me. **Warning! The following is very ugly. Any resemblance to the game of chess is purely coincidental!** G/30 does that to your game, sometimes.

Tom LaBue (C) - Bill Salmon (E), Round 2

King's Indian Defense, Saemich Attack

1. d4 g6 2. c4 Bg7 3. Nc3 d6 4. e4 e5 5. d5 Nf6 6. f3 Bd7 7. Be3 O-O 8. Qd2 a6 9. Bd3 c6 10. b4 Nh5 11. Nge2 Be8 12. Na4?! c5 13. bxc5 Bxa4 14. cxd6 Qxd6 15. Bf2 Nd7 16. Rb1 b6 17. O-O Rab8 18. Nc3 Qa3 19. Rb2 b5 20. Nxa4 bxa4 21. Rc2 Qe7 22. c5 Nf4 23. c6 Nf6 24. Bc5 Qc7 25. d6?? *What was I thinking??* 25. Bxf8 *regains the material with a strong pawn center waiting to strike.* 25...Qxc6 26. Bc4?? *Great! Now I'm down two pieces!* 26...Qxc5+ 27. Kh1 Qa7 28. Rd1 Nd7 29. Bf1 Bh6 30. Rc7 Qd4 31. Qxd4 exd4 32. Rxd7 Ne6 33. Ra7 Rfd8 34. Rxa6 Bf4 35. Bc4 Bxd6 36. Rxa4 Be5 37. g3 Ng5 38. f4 Nh3 39. Kg2 Nxf4+ 40. gxf4 Bxf4 41. Ra7 Rb2+ 42. Kf3 Bxh2 43. Rxf7 Kh8 44. Bd5 Be5 45. Rh1 h5 46. Rg1 Rg8 47. Rg5 Bg7 48. Rxb6 *I've now won back the two pieces and looking very intently on finding a win.* Kh7 49. Rg5 Kh6 50. Rff5 Rf8 51. Rxh5+ Kg6 52. Rg5+ Kh6 *Unfortunately, I can't find a win easily as my clock slips away. This game actually had about 10 or so more moves before my flag fell. Black won on time.*

Jim Olson (D) - William Widener (E), Round 4

1. e4 d5 2. e5 c5 3. c3 Nc6 4. d4 cxd4 5. cxd4 Bf5 6. Nc3 e6 7. Bb5 Bb4 8. Bd2 Ne7 9. Nge2 a6 10. Ba4 b5 11. Bc2 Bxc2 12. Qxc2 Rc8 13. O-O O-O 14. Rac1 Nf5 15. Nf4 Ncx4 16. Qd3 Qe7 17. Nce2 Nxe2+ 18. Qxe2 Bxd2 19. Qxd2 Rfd8 20. Rc3 d4 21. Rc2 Qd7 22. Rfc1 Rxc2 23. Rxc2 d3 24. Rc3 Qb7 25. Rxd3 Rxd3 26. Qxd3 g6 27. Qd8+ Kg7 28. Qf6+ Kh6 29. h4 Qe4 30. Qg5+ Kg7 31. Nh5+ **Black resigns**

PLR #	NAME	ST	PreRate	PostRate	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
1	Donald Griffith	WV	2106	2112	W-11	W-13	D-2	D-5	W-3	W-9	W-7	6.0
2	Jim Walker	WV	2021	2066	W-21	W-3	D-1	W-4	D-5	W-7	W-6	6.0
3	Scott Carmichael	WV	1725	1744	W-17	L-2	W-13	W-12	L-1	W-11	W-8	5.0
4	Mark Hathaway	WV	2153	2118	W-8	W-6	D-5	L-2	L-9	W-16	W-13	4.5
5	John Roush	WV	2114	2095	W-18	W-7	D-4	D-1	D-2	L-6	W-9	4.5
6	Sefus Ellis	WV	1758	1761	W-14	L-4	W-18	L-16	W-10	W-5	L-2	4.0
7	Byron Funkhouser	WV	1708	1727	W-12	L-5	W-10	W-9	W-16	L-2	L-1	4.0
8	Tom LaBue	WV	1558	1549	L-4	L-16	W-20	W-14	W-12	W-10	L-3	4.0
9	Markle Butcher	WV	1706	1712	W-19	D-10	W-16	L-7	W-4	L-1	L-5	3.5
10	Jerry Engle	WV	1618	1587	W-20	D-9	L-7	W-17	L-6	L-8	W-16	3.5
11	Steve Shomo	WV	1416/13	1434	L-1	L-15	W-19	W-20	W-13	L-3	D-12	3.5
12	David Ross	WV	1198	1252	L-7	W-21	W-15	L-3	L-8	W-20	D-11	3.5
13	David Michael	WV	1616	1590	W-15	L-1	L-3	W-18	L-11	W-17	L-4	3.0
14	Sam Rhodes	NC	1236	1234	L-6	L-18	B---	L-8	L-19	W-15	W-20	3.0
15	William Widener	WV	1178	1198	L-13	W-11	L-12	W-19	L-17	L-14	W-18	3.0
16	Bill Salmon	WV	1029	1088	B---	W-8	L-9	W-6	L-7	L-4	L-10	3.0
17	Richard Shaver	WV	1142	1142	L-3	B---	H---	L-10	W-15	L-13	L-19	2.5
18	Gilbert Stone	WV	1420	1374	L-5	W-14	L-6	L-13	L-20	W-19	L-15	2.0
19	Jim Olson	WV	1228	1204	L-9	L-20	L-11	L-15	W-14	L-18	W-17	2.0
20	Daniel Brenneman	WV	Unrated	1214/07	L-10	W-19	L-8	L-11	W-18	L-12	L-14	2.0
21	Jonette Mercer	WV	1299	1278	L-2	L-12	U---	U---	U---	U---	U---	0.0

Pittsburgh's William Surlow earns the 1998 Amateur South title; Scott Carmichel Claims the Reserve Championship

This past Memorial Day weekend, about 75 players gathered to battle at the U. S. Amateur South. William Surlow of Pittsburgh emerged victorious in the Open Section. After the five rounds were completed, Surlow and Russ Wilson were tied with 4½ points. This year, the championship would be decided by a best of three G/10 match, instead of tiebreaks. Russ won the first after William blundered away a knight, however, William won game two and again emerged victorious in the decisive rubber game. Here are the three games from their match.

Russ Wilson (X) - William Surlow (X), Game 1
Benoni Defense
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. Nf3 g6 4. Nc3 Bg7 5. e4 cxd4 6. Nxd4 Nc6 7. Be3 O-O 8. Be2 d6 9. O-O b6?? *An unfortunate error. It appears that both players are not extremely comfortable with the G/10 time control, especially with so much on the line.* 10. Nxc6 Qc7 11. Nd4 **Black resigns.** Wilson 1-0

William Surlow (X) - Russ Wilson (X), Game 2
Smith-Morra Gambit Declined
1. e4 c5 2. d4 cxd4 3. c3 d3 4. Nf3 Nc6 5. Bxd3 d6 6. c4 Nf6 7. Nc3 e6 8. O-O a6 9. Be3 Be7 10. Qe2 O-O 11. Rfd1 Qc7 12. Rac1 Qd8 13. e5 dxe5 4. Bxh7+ Nxb7 15. Rxd8 Rxd8 16. Bb6 Rd6 17. c5 Nd4 18. Nxd4 Rxd4 19. Qxe5 Bf6 20. Qe2 Bg5 21. Re1 Rd2 22. Qe5 Bf6 23. Qc7 Rd7 24. Qg3 Nf8 25. h3 Ng6 26. Ne4 **Black's flag fell.** Match tied 1-1

This was the best game of the match as Russ picked up an early material advantage, but William found a second wind, aided by extra time allotted for an illegal move by Russ. Russ hung strong and finally gained a significant material advantage, but could not finish it in the 10 minute time period.

Russ Wilson (X) - William Surlow (X), Game 3
1. Nf3 d5 2. d4 c5 3. c4 dxc4 4. d5 e6 5. e4 Nf6 6. Nc3 a6 7. a4 Qa5 8. Bd2 Qb6 9. Qc2 Qb3 10. Qxb3 cxb3 11. Bc4 exd5 12. exd5 Bd6 13. O-O O-O 14. Bg5 Bg4 15. Bxf6 Bxf3 16. Bh4 Bh5 17. Ne4 Be5 18. Nxc5 Bxb2 19. Rab1 Bd4 20. Nxb3 Ba7 21. Rfe1 Nd7 22. Na5 Nb6 23. Bb3 Rab8 24. Re7 Rfe8 25. Rxb7 Rxb7 26. Nxb7 Re4 27. Bg3 g6 28. Nc5 Re8 29. Nxa6 Nd7 30. Nc7 *Here Russ actually moved 30. f3. However, this*

is illegal. Two minutes were added William's clock. This became the key moment in the game. 30...Rc8 31. Nb5 Bc5 32. h3 Be2 33. Bd1 Bd3 34. Rb3 Bc4 35. Rf3 Bxd5 36. Rd3 Bc6 37. Bf3 Bxf3 38. Rxf3 Nb6 39. a5 Nc4 40. a6 Nb6 41. a7 Nd7 42. Rd3 Bxa7 43. Rxd7 Bc5 44. **White's flag fell.** Surlow wins 2-1.

The list of trophy winners for the Open section were:

First - William Surlow, Pittsburgh, PA
Second - Russ Wilson, OH
Third - Jim Walker, Kanawha City, WV
Fourth - James Hare, VA
Fifth - Donald Griffith, St. Albans, WV
Sixth - Peter Andreus, Columbus, OH

1st A - Grant Perks, Bexley, WV
2nd A - Yuri Kolkin, Huntington, WV
3rd A - ?
4th A - Jason Rihel, Follansbee, WV

1st B - Jon Karraker, Morgantown, WV
2nd B - Markle Butcher, Buckhannon, WV
3rd B - Bruce George, VA
4th B - B. G. Dennison, TX

1st C - Chad Robbins,
2nd C - Michael Malutich, WV
3rd C - David Hundley, Beckley, WV
4th C - Tom LaBue, Buckhannon, WV

U16 - Stephen Malutich, WV
Top Junior - John W. Malutich

In the Reserve Section, Scott Carmichael prevailed over the rest of the field. Scott won his first three games, played top seed Jerry Skeen to a draw and then finished with a victory in the final round. Scott continues his ascent towards the 1800 plateau.

I have not received a full list of the trophy winners from John Kay as of yet. I will print the Reserve section prize list along with the USAS crosstable in the next issue. John has stated that he might try to get the USAS back in Charleston for 1999. Stay tuned.

The Postcard by Tom LaBue

Here is the latest on the 1997 West Virginia Correspondence Championship: In the Open Section, Scott Carmichael has a commanding 4-0 ledger so far with games remaining against Markle Butcher and ex-WV resident Carl Kiser (FL). Guido Stueber (CO), Markle and Carl stand the best chance of the other prize position. In the Reserve Section, Byron Funkhouser is holding onto first place with a 5-0 score. Sources say he has a favorable game against Mike Baker, if this holds only Tim Goan will have any chance to catch Byron. Mike and Sefus Ellis are in the running for second. Here is their recently completed game from this section.

One other note, the 1998 USCF Team Correspondence Championship will begin this fall. Four person teams to compete in sections of similiarly rated teams. For more info, contact Joan DuBois at USCF or watch coming *Chess Life* announcements.

Mike Baker (1365) - Sefus Ellis (1781),
1997 WV Postal Championship
Sicilian Defense

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nc6 5. Nc3 Nf6
6. Nxc6 bxc6 7. e5 Ng4 8. exd6 exd6 9. Be2 Nf6 10.
Bg5 Be7 11. O-O O-O 12. Qd2 Bf5 13. Bxf6 Bxf6 14.
Bd3 Bxd3 15. Qxd3 d5 16. Rad1 Qa5 17. a3 Rab8 18.
Rb1 Rb6 19. b4 Qxa3 20. Nxd5 Qxd3 21. Nxf6+ gxf6
22. cxd3 Rd8 23. Rfd1 Rd4 24. Kf1 Kf8 25. Ke2 Ke7
26. Rdc1 Kd6 27. Rc4 Rd5 28. Rh4 a5 29. Rxh7 axb4
30. Rxf7 Ra5 31. Rxf6+ Ke5 32. Rh6 Ra7 33. Rh4 b3
34. Rc4 b2 35. Rc2 Rab7 36. g3 Kf5 37. h3 Ke5 38.
Kd2 Kd4 39. Rc4+ Kd5 40. Kc2 Rb5 41. h4 Rf7 42.
Rf4 Rxf4 43. gxf4 Rb4 44. Rxb2 Rxf4 45. Kc3 Rxh4
46. Rb4 Rh1 47. Kd2 Rh2 48. Ke3 e5 49. Re4 Rh3+
50. f3 Rh1 51. f4 Rh3+ 52. Kd2 Rh4 53. f5 Rh5 54.
Rf4 Ke5 55. Rf2 Rxf5 56. Rxf5+ Kxf5 Drawn

Open Section

	NAME	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
1	Scott Carmichael	2264	*	W	W	W		W		4.0
2	Guido Stueber	2129	L	*		W		W		2.0
3	John Roush	2097	L		*	L	W			1.0
4	Jason Rihel	2060	L	L	W	*	L			1.0
5	Markle Butcher	2042			L	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	D	W	W	W	4.5
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		D		W	*	W	W	W	4.5
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

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