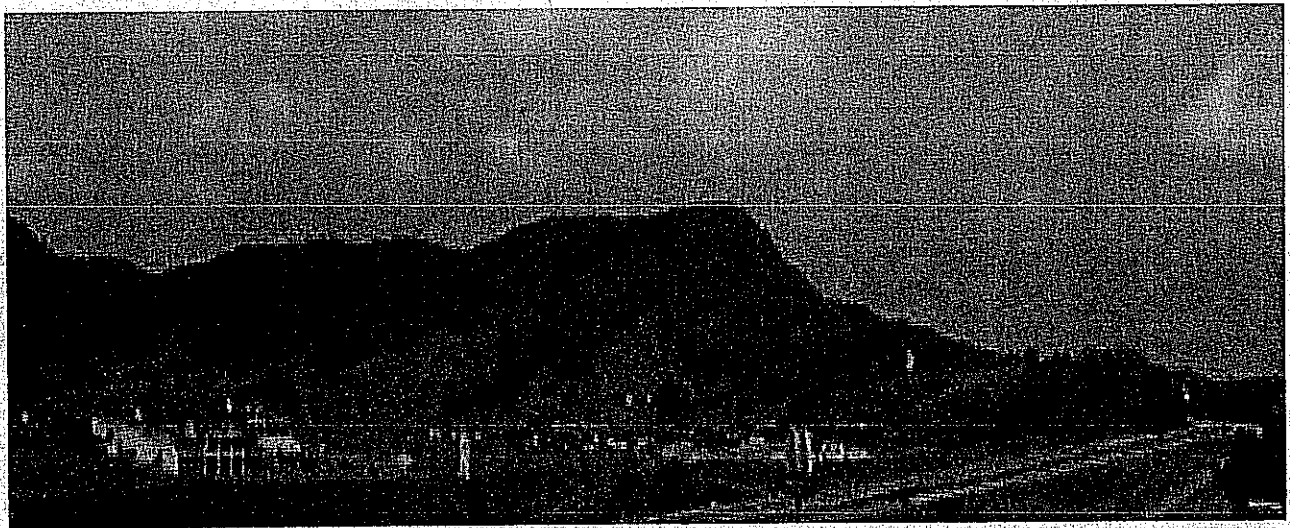


WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

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**2003 WVCA State Championship
Flatwoods, West Virginia**



West Virginia Chess Association

Bulletin number 246

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2003 Charleston Open

Good, Griffith, Walker take the top spot

The Charleston Open was the real kickoff of serious chess events for 2003. It tried a new format adding a Reserve Section to entice lower rated players simply to come and have a valid chance of winning a prize. The effect of this section, open only to those with a rating under 1400, was that the open section was rather top heavy and good matchups were happening in every round. Some very good games were taking place in the lower section as well.

James Fuller made a run at the title and was leading the event by a ½ point entering the last round. However, 'Steady Eddie' Donald Griffith stopped him in round five to become one of three to gain 4 points. Donald was the only player to get through the open section without a loss but even he was in a must win situation in the last round if he wanted a piece of the 1st place tie.

Making his way back after a third round upset to Fuller was James Walker. He had the last game to finish and with possible winning chances and a solid position he pulled the game out. A draw was likely at one point but his opponent, Alexandra Savurko of Belarus, disdained that outcome and took her chance on a complicated king walk and with both players entering a time scramble just came up short.

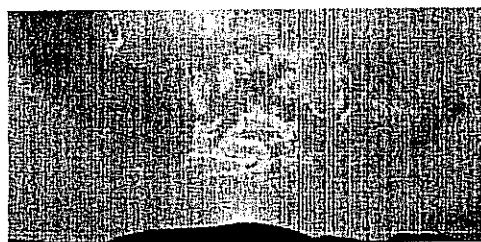
Benjamin Good also had to make a come back from a second round loss to Walker. His early loss, and the effect of color alterations, gave him a host of class 'B' players to overcome and he made good to get into the three way tie for 1st to 3rd.

Taking the class 'B' prize was Byron Funkhouser. Playing very well was Jeremy Green who recorded two upset wins and won the class 'C' prize.

In the Reserve section it looked like it would be another tie between Gilbert Stone and John Sefton after they drew in round two and both sat with 2 ½ points after three rounds. But Samuel Rhodes, of North Carolina, stunned Stone in the fourth round, after losing to Sefton in the previous round, to both clear the way for a clear first by John Sefton and a clear second for Rhodes. Sefton defeated David Comer in round five and Rhodes got by William Salmon.

Making a debut in open chess events were two brave eleven year olds, Ben Shumate and Katherine King. It was Shumate who won their individual game in round two but could not keep pace with King as she scored three wins and took the Class D prize. She upset David Comer and David Hundley and then easily got by provisionally rated Andrew Cummings in round five to win a prize in her first open event.

The format of the event holds promise as a way to begin getting more scholastic players to come out and gain the skills that only over the board play can give. They will not be able to make a real challenge in even the major scholastic events if they do not take advantage of the availability of our good players at these sectional events as well as open events. They will need to learn from application as well as study. It is hoped that a repeat of this event's format on a larger scale can be attempted again with much preceding ado.



2003 Charleston Open

OPEN SECTION

PLR#	NAME	ST	PreRate	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL
1	Donald Griffith	WV	2027*	W--11	W---8	D---6	D---5	W---4	4.0
2	James Walker	WV	2001*	W--16	W---3	L---4	W--10	W---6	4.0
3	Benjamin Good	WV	1892*	W--12	L---2	W---7	W---9	W---5	4.0
4	James Fuller	WV	1675*	W--13	W--11	W--2	D---6	L---1	3.5
5	John Roush	WV	2000*	W---9	H---	W--13	D---1	L---3	3.0
6	Alexandra Savurko	WV	1987/10	W---7	W--10	D---1	D---4	L---2	3.0
7	Jeremy Green	WV	1562*	L---6	W--16	L---3	W--15	W---8	3.0
8	Edwin Borden	PA	1890*	W--14	L---1	D--10	W--12	L---7	2.5
9	Byron Funkhouser	WV	1726*	L---5	D--15	W--12	L---3	B---	2.5
10	David Olson	WV	1861*	W--15	L---6	D---8	L---2	D--12	2.0
11	Harold Mitchell	WV	1821*	L---1	L---4	D--15	B---	U---	1.5
12	James Olson	WV	1478*	L---3	B---	L---9	L---8	D--10	1.5
13	Timothy Holman	OH	1989*	L---4	W--15	L---5	U---	U---	1.0
14	Thomas Hamilton	WV	1500*	L---8	L--13	B---	U---	U---	1.0
15	Charles Waugh	WV	1450*	L--10	D---9	D--11	L---7	U---	1.0
16	Jason Young	WV	1767*	L---2	L---7	U---	U---	U---	0.0

1st-3rd Donald Griffith, Jim Walker, Ben Good
 Class A Ben Good (Grand Prix points award only)
 Class B Byron Funkhouser
 Class C Jeremy Green 3

RESERVE SECTION

PLR#	NAME	ST	PreRate	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL
1	John Sefton	KY	1326*	W---8	D---3	W---2	W---4	W---5	4.5
2	Samuel Rhodes	NC	1219*	W---7	W---6	L---1	W---3	W---9	4.0
3	Gilbert Stone	WV	1333*	W---9	D---1	W---5	L---2	W---6	3.5
4	Katherine King	WV	1105*	W---5	L---7	W---6	L---1	W--10	3.0
5	David Comer	WV	1418*	L---4	W--10	L---3	W---9	L---1	2.0
6	David Hundley	WV	1272*	W--10	L---2	L---4	W---8	L---3	2.0
7	Ben Shumate	WV	1170*	L---2	W---4	L---9	W--10	L---8	2.0
8	Rick Shaver	WV	1074*	L---1	L---9	W--10	L---6	W---7	2.0
9	William Salmon	WV	778*	L---3	W---8	W--7	L---5	L---2	2.0
10	Andy Cummings	WV	1001/04	L---6	L---5	L---8	L---7	L---4	0.0

1st John Sefton
 2nd Sam Rhodes
 Class E Katherine King

2003 Charleston Open

The Games of the Tournament

Rd. 1

Ben Good - Jim Olson

Greed will usually cost more than it gains.

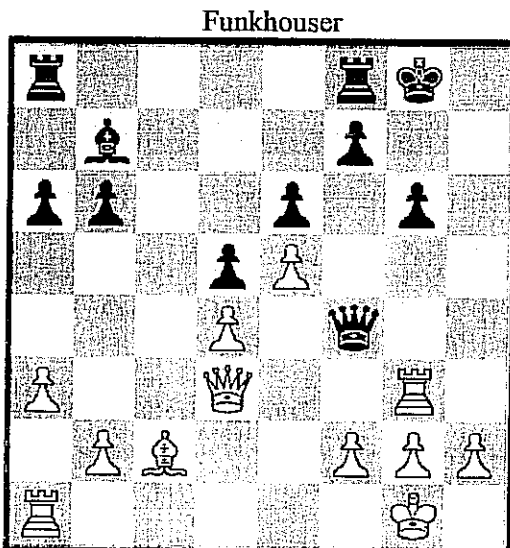
1. e4 d5 2. Nc3 d4 3. Nce2 e5 4. Ng3
Nf6 5. Nf3 Bd6 6. c3 c5 7. Bb5 + Bd7
8. Qb3 O-O 9. O-O b6 10. Bxd7 Nbx7
11. Nh4 Rc8 12. Nhf5 Bb8 13. c4 Kh8
14. Qf3 Ne8 15. d3 f6 16. Nh4 Nd6
17. Qh5 Qe8 18. Qg4 Nf7 19. Ngf5 g5
20. g3 gxh4 ?? 21. Qg7 # 1-0

Rd. 1

John Roush - Byron Funkhouser

Pattern recognition

1. e4 e6 2. d4 b6 3. Be3 Bb7 4. Nd2
Nf6 5. Bd3 c5 6. Ngf3 cxd4 7. Nxd4 Bc5
8. O-O Bxd4 9. Bxd4 Nc6 10. c3 Nxd4
11. cxd4 a6 12. a3 d5 13. e5 Ne4 14. Re1
Nxd2 15. Qxd2 O-O 16. Re3 Qg5
17. Bxh7 + Kh8 18. Bc2 Kg8 19. Qd3
g6 20. Rg3 Qf4



21. Rxc6 + (a pattern recognized) Kh8
22. Rf6 Qh4 23. Rf3 resigns 1-0

Rd. 1

Donald Griffith - Harold Mitchell

Always look in the rear view mirror.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4
Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. Be3 e6 7. Be2 Be7
8. O-O O-O 9. f4 Qc7 10. Qe1 Nc6
11. Qg3 d5 12. exd5 exd5 13. Rad1 Nxd4
14. Bxd4 Bc5 15. Qf2 Bxd4 16. Rxd4 Bd7
17. Nxd5 Nxd5 18. Rxd5 Bc6 19. Rd2 Qa5
20. Bc4 Bb5 21. Bxb5 Qxb5 22. Qd4 Qa5
23. Rfd1 Qxa2 24. Qb6 Qc4 25. Qxb7
Qxf4 26. Qxa8 (The back rank combo!)
h6 27. Qf3 and white won in a few moves.
1-0

Rd. 1

Katie King - David Comer

Upsetting belligerence.

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Nf6 4. O-O
Bc5 5. d4 Bxd4 6. Nxd4 Nxd4 7. f4 Nc6
8. Nc3 O-O 9. Nd5 Nxe4 10. fxe5 Nc5
11. Nf6 + (!?) Kh8 (!?) 12. Nxe7 Ne6

(If 12., Kxh7 then 13. Qh5 + Kg8
14. Bxf7 + will gain winning material)

13. Nxf8 (13. Qh5 looked final) Qxf8
14. Qh5 + Kg8 15. Bd3 Qe7 (Qc5 + holds
out a little longer) 16. Qh7 + Kf8
17. Qh8 # 1-0

Rd. 1

Chuck Waugh - David Olson

The best defense is defense.

1. c4 e5 2. g3 Nc6 3. Bg2 Nf6 4. Nc3
g6 5. e3 Bg7 6. Nge2 O-O 7. d4 d6
8. O-O Rb8 9. d5 Ne7 10. e4 Nh5 11. f4
f5 12. fxe5 Bxe5 13. Nf4 Nxf4 14. Bxf4
Bg7 15. Qd2 fxe4 16. Nxe4 Bf5 17. Rad1
Qd7 18. b4 Bg4 19. Rde1 Rbe8 20. c5 Nc8

2003 Charleston Open

21. Bh6 Bf5 22. Bxg7 Qxg7 23. Ng5 Qd7
 24. Ne6 Rf7 25. Nd4 Ref8 26. Nxf5 Rxf5
 27. Rxf5 Qxf5 28. Rf1 Qe5 29. Re1 Qf6
 30. Re6 Qf5 31. Be4 *(There now, that
 should do it.)* Qf1 # 0-1

Rd. 1

John Sefton - Rick Shaver

Making a pin and hitting it again.

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3. Bf4 e6 4. e3
 Nbd7 5. Nbd2 b6 6. Bd3 c5 7. c3 cxd4

*(Black should likely not release the tension
 in the center in a Queen's Indian).*

8. exd4 Be7 9. O-O O-O 10. Re1 Bb7
 11. Ne5 Bd6 12. Ndf3 Qc7 13. Bg5 Ne4
 14. Bh4 Nxe5 15. Nxe5 f6 16. Nf3 Rae8
 17. Bb5 Re7 18. Bg3 Nxc3 19. hxc3 e5
 20. dxe5 fxe5 21. Qb3 g6 22. Bd3 Bc5 ?!
 23. Be4 ! Kh8 24. Bxd5 Bxd5 25. Qxd5
 Rfe8 26. Qe4 b5 27. Ng5 a6 28. Re2
 Qb7 29. Qh4 h5 30. Ne4 Qb6 31. Kh2
 Rd7 ? 32. Qf6 + Rg7 ?? 33. Qxb6
 resigns 1-0

Rd. 1

Jason Young - James Walker

Methodical.

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 exd5 4. Nc3
 Bf5 5. Nf3 c6 6. Bd3 Bxd3 7. Qxd3 Bd6
 8. Bg5 Ne7 9. g4 Nd7 10. h4 h5 11. gxh5
 Rxd3 12. O-O-O Qc7 13. Rde1 Nf8
 14. Ne5 f6 15. Qf3 Rxc3 16. hxc3 fxe5
 17. Rh8 Ng6 18. dxe5 Bxe5 19. Qf5 Qf7
 20. Rxe5 + Nxe5 21. Qxe5 + Kd7 22. Rh1
 Re8 23. Qd4 b6 24. Qg4 + Qe6 25. Qd4
 Qe5 26. Qg4 + Ne6 27. Rg1 Rf8 28. Qa4
 Qf4 + 29. Qxf4 Rxf4 30. Rg2 Rf5 31. g6
 Rf6 32. Ne2 Nf8 33. Kd2 Rxc6 34. Rxc6
 Nxc6 35. f4 Ne7 36. Ng3 g6 37. Kd3 Ke6
 38. b3 Nf5 39. Ne2 c5 40. c3 Nh4 41. c4
 d4 42. Ke4 Nf5 43. Nc1 Nd6 + 44. Kf3 Kf5
 45. Nd3 Ne4 46. Ne5 g5 47. Nd3 g4 +

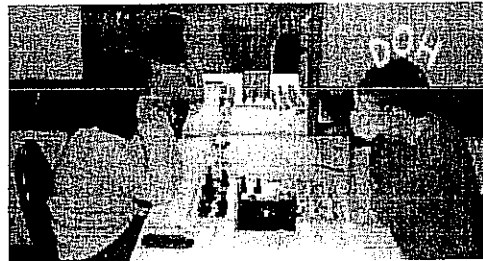
48. Kg2 Nf6 49. b4 cxb4 50. Nxb4 Kxf4
 51. Nc6 d3 52. resigns 0-1
 Rd. 2

Harold Mitchell - James Fuller

The onslaught.

1. d4 e6 2. c4 Nf6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Bg5
 h6 5. Bd2 O-O 6. Nf3 a5 7. e3 d5 8. Bd3
 c6 9. O-O dxc4 10. Bxc4 b5 11. Be2 Bb7
 12. Rcl Nbd7 13. a3 Bxc3 14. Bxc3 Nd5
 15. Bd2 f5 16. Ne1 g5 17. Nd3 Qf6 18. Nc5
 Nxc5 19. Rxc5 Qe7 20. Qc2 Qg7 21. Bc3
 Qg6 22. Bd2 Rf7 23. Qd1 g4 24. Qc2
 Rg7 25. g3 h5 26. Bd3 h4 27. e4 Ne7
 28. exf5 exf5 29. Bxf5 Qf6 30. Bf4 Rf7
 31. Bxc4 hxc3 32. hxc3 Nd5 33. Be5
 Qh6 34. Qcl Qg6 35. Bd1 Raf8 36. Bc2
 Qh5 37. Be4 b4 ! *(At last a winning idea.)*
 38. Kg2 Ba6 39. Rh1 Rxf2 + 40. Kg1 Rf1 +
 41. Qxf1 Rxf1 + 42. Kg2 Qxh1 # 0-1

**



Alexandra Savurko

David Olson

**

Rd. 2

David Olson - Alexandra Savurko

A mighty little miniature

1. c4 e6 2. Nc3 d5 3. d4 f5 4. Nf3 Nf6
 5. e3 c6 6. Bd3 Be7 7. O-O O-O 8. Ne5
 Ne4 9. f4 Nd7 10. Bd2 ?

*(In this game the knights may be better but
 this was not the bishop to offer up. 10. Bxe4
 was a better choice.)*

Nxe5 11. dxe5 Nxd2 *(Now he sees that if
 12. Qxd2, dxc4 wins a full piece. So...)*

12. Bc2 and resigns

0-1

2003 Charleston Open



11 year old Katie King makes her open debut.

Rd. 3

David Hundley - Katie King

With another upset against a pawn collecting sacrificial attack, King puts herself in a race against Bill Salmon for the class E prize.

1. e4 c5 2. Bc4 d6 3. Nc3 Bd7 4. d3 e6
5. f4 Qc7 6. Nf3 a6 7. a4 Nc6 8. O-O
Be7 9. Be3 Nf6 10. d4 cxd4 11. Nxd4
Nxd4 12. Bxd4 e5 13. Bxf7 + !?

(An exciting choice. He gets enough pawns to almost make it work.)

Kxf7 14. fxe5 dxe5 15. Nd5 Qa5
16. Bxe5 Bc6 17. Nxe7 Qxe5 18. Nxc6
bxc6 19. Qd7 + Qe7 20. Qxc6 Rhc8
21. Qd5 + Ke8

(The white Queen used the pin to get this square but when the King moves, the pin is gone.)

22. Kh1 ? Nxd5 and after this it only took black a few more moves to win.

1-0



Rd. 4

John Roush - Donald Griffith

Sometimes the best games don't end with a one and a zero.

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. c3 Nc6
5. Nf3 Bd7 6. dxc5

(A line that John enjoys and if nothing else it destroys the best laid plans of the player of the French Defense.)

Bxc5 7. b4 Bb6 8. b5 Na5 9. Bd3 Ne7
10. O-O Rc8 11. a4 Ng6 12. Re1 Nc4
13. Ra2 O-O 14. Ng5 h6 15. Nxf7 !?

(Now the play gets rough and tumble.)

Kxf7 16. Qh5 Ke7 17. Qxg6 Rf7 18. Qg3
Kf8 19. Bg6 Re7 20. Qf3 + Kg8 21. Bg5
Be8

(A sad requirement of the king having no escape as it is hemmed in by its own rook on e7.)

22. Bxe7 Qxe7 23. Bd3 Qg5 24. Qg3
Qxg3 25. hxg3 g5 26. Kf1 Kg7 27. Na3
Bg6 28. Bxc4 dxc4 29. Nc2 Bd3 +
30. Kg1 Ba5 31. Nb4 Bxb4 32. cxb4
Kg6 33. f3 h5 34. Kf2 Kf5 35. Rd2
Rd8 36. Rc1 Rd5 37. Ke3 Rxe5 +
38. Kd4 Rd5 + 39. Kc3 e5 40. Rh1
Kg6 41. Re1 Kf5 42. Re3 h4 43. Rdx3

(I have many personal frustrating examples that Griffith plays an unbalanced ending as well as anyone I know, but perhaps John gave up on trying to find another open file just a bit too soon. Regardless of the majority on the Queen's wing I see almost an instant draw now.)

Rxd3 + 44. Rxd3 cxd3 45. Kxd3 hxg3
46. a5 Kf4 47. b6 axb6 48. axb6 Kf5
49. Ke3 Kf6 50. Kd3 Kf5 51. Ke3 Kf6
52. Kd3 Draw agreed. 1/2-1/2

2003 Charleston Open



Savurko, happy with a draw with Griffith in round three, keeps her eyes on first place.

Rd. 4

Alexandra Savurko - James Fuller

Sudden trouble and a bail out.

1. d4 e6 2. c4 c5 3. d5 d6 4. Nc3 Nf6 5. g3 g6 6. Bg2 Bg7 7. Nf3 e5 8. O-O O-O 9. e4 Bg4 10. h3 Bxf3 11. Bxf3 Qd7 12. Bg2 Ne8 13. Be3 f5 14. Qd2 Na6 15. Rae1 Nac7 16. a4 a6 17. a5 Nf6 18. Kh2 Kh8 19. f4 Nxe4 20. Bxe4 fxe4 21. Nxe4 Rfe8 22. Bxc5 dxc5 23. Nxc5 Qd8 24. Nxb7 Qd7 25. Nc5 Qd8 26. fxe5 Rxe5 27. Rxe5 Bxe5 28. Rf7 Qh4 29. Qe3 Qh5 30. Nd3 Re8 31. Rxc7 Qf5 32. Nxe5 Rxe5 Drawn 1/2 - 1/2

*



Jimmy Fuller keeps a half point lead heading into the fifth and final round.

Rd. 4

Gilbert Stone - Sam Rhodes

This game cleared the way for Sefton and gave Rhodes a shot at second in the Reserve.

1. b3 Nf6 2. Bb2 d5 3. d4 c5 4. Nf3 Nc6 5. e3 e6 6. Bd3 Bd6 7. O-O O-O 8. Nbd2 b6 9. Re1 Bb7 10. c4 Re8 11. Qc2 Nb4 12. Qb1 Nxd3 13. Qxd3 dxc4 14. Qxc4 Rc8 15. Rac1 Qd7 16. Ne5 Bxe5 17. dxe5 Qxd2 18. Re2 Qd5 19. f3 Qxc4 20. Rxc4 Nd5 21. h4 Red8 22. a3 Ba6 23. Rcc2 Bxe2 24. Rxe2 Rd7 25. Kf2 Rcd8 26. Rd2 Ne7 27. Re2 Rd2 28. b4 Rxe2 + 29. Kxe2 c4 30. g4 h6 31. Bd4 Nc6 32. Bc3 b5 33. a4 Rd3 34. Bb2 Rb3 35. Bc1 Nxb4 36. Kf2 Nd3 + 0-1



John Sefton clinches the Reserve Section with a 5th round victory.

Rd. 5

John Sefton - Dave Comer

Blazing finish.

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Bg5 e6 4. Ne5 Be7 5. Nd2 Nbd7 6. e3 c6 7. c4 O-O 8. Bd3 c5 9. Bxf6 Bxf6 10. Ndf3 Qa5 + 11. Kf1 !? dxc4 12. Nxc4 Qd8 13. h4 cxd4 14. exd4 Nb6 15. Nce5 Bd7 16. Ng5 g6 17. Nxb7 Kxb7 18. h5 Kg7 19. hxg6 fxg6 20. Rh7 + (Nice) Kxb7 21. Qh5 + Kg8 22. Qxg6 + resigns 1-0

2003 Charleston Open



Griffith counts his share of the first place purse.



Ben Good came back from a second round loss to gain a tie for first.

Rd. 5

James Fuller - Donald Griffith

A stunning combination against a restricted king position eliminates Fuller and clinches a piece of first place for Griffith.

1. Nf3 c5 2. c4 Nf6 3. g3 d5 4. cxd5 Nxd5 5. Bg2 Nc6 6. O-O Nc7 7. b3 e5 8. d3 Be7 9. Bb2 f6 10. Nc3 O-O 11. a4 Ne6 12. Nd2 Ned4 13. Bd5 + Be6 14. Bc4 Qd7 15. Ba3 Rad8 16. Bxe6 + Qxe6 17. e3 Nf5 18. Nc4 Rd7 19. Qc2 Rfd8 20. Rad1 b6 21. Ne2 Nd6 22. Nc1 Qh3 23. Na2 Nf5 24. Qe2 h5 25. Nc1 h4 26. g4 Nfd4 !!

(Griffith likely saw this possibility when he played 25. , h4. This move would no doubt have been his choice even if white had played 26. gch4)

27. exd4 Nxd4 28. f3 Nxe2 + 29. Nxe2 Rxd3 30. Nb2 Rxf3 31. Rxd8 + Bxd8 32. Rd1 Qxg4 + 33. Kh1 Rf2 34. Rxd8 + Kh7 35. Ng3 Qf3 + 36. Kg1 Qg2 #
0-1



Jim Walker held on after a third round upset loss to Fuller to finish in the three way tie.



Jeremy Green was happy with his two upset victories over higher rated opponents and his sole possession of the class C prize.

The Guinness Book of World Records

A tribute to the 1979 Charleston Chess Club

By Gary Cummings

Boris Spassky was 32 and the new World Champion. He had just defeated Tigran Petrosian by a score of 12 ½ to 10 ½ in the FIDE World Championship match. It was 1969.

A little less mentioned event was the new world record for non stop chess. The twenty four year old Trevor Stronach of Hornsey, England had played for 72 hours nonstop.

Fast forward to 1979. The Charleston Regatta was kicking off with its first all week celebration and as part of its events offered a chance to set a Guinness world record in any event desired. At the age of 29 I was completely unaware of the Stronach record of 1969. I met with Dennis Funkhouser and suggested that I attempt to play nonstop five minute chess games for as long as I could. Dennis took over as the primary organizer and did a fantastic job. All I had to do was show up and start playing.

The entire membership of the Charleston Chess Club, both active and past members, were scheduled to fill the wee hours of the night to give me a constant set of opponents. As well as accepting any players from the gallery there was always someone there to fill in from the club.

The night before I was to begin I could not seem to fall asleep due the excitement of knowing I would be awake for as long as I was able to keep playing five minute games.

My early record was not very good. By the end of the second night I had evened my score and by the end of the my endurance, and the attempt at a record, I had won 271 games and lost 235. It was after the point of 78 ½ hours that I was no longer able to see the board and also was beginning to hallucinate about such things as who was on the move.

For about the last six hours of play I had been forced to keep one eye closed as I was no longer able to focus and was seeing 128 squares. Only if I reduced the number of my vision sensors by half could I make sense of the chess board. Up to a week later I could let my eyes come to rest on a blank wall and the green and white chess board would appear. The impression had been burned unto my retinas. It took 17 hours of deep sleep to recover.

The new Guinness world record was set. Since I was unaware that any such record had ever existed before and I simply thought that however long I played would set an original record. I did not start with any idea that there was a record to be beaten. It was simply that 78 ½ hours was my limit.

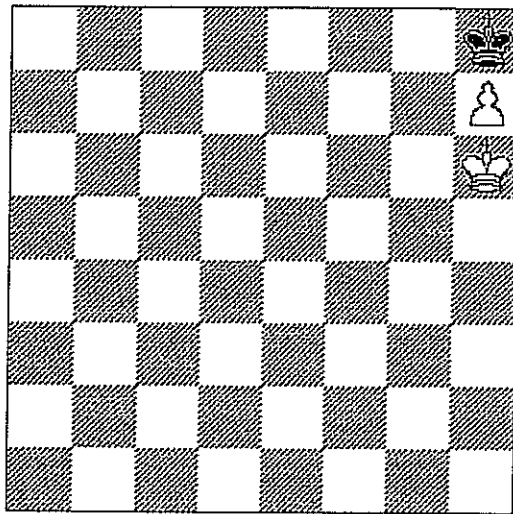
Again fast forward to 1993. I was repatriated by returning on the QE II to New York on July 6th. While waiting for my train to Washington I spent a couple of days in the city and one day found my way to the Guinness museum in the basement of the Empire State Building. I was walked by a display of world records set by state. When I arrived at the display for West Virginia I found no records mentioned.

Somehow the record did not get recorded afterwards by the Regatta Committee. It was for the members of the 1979 Charleston Chess Club who gave up some hours of sleep to help me set the record that I want to one more time remind one and all that it did happen. This page is for any who might wonder how long a nonstop session of five minutes chess has gone, well, the world record is 78 ½ hours set in Charleston, West Virginia in 1979 by a member of the Charleston Chess Club with unparalleled assistance from all the members of that club. These days about 7 or 8 or a half hours is my limit and theirs too.

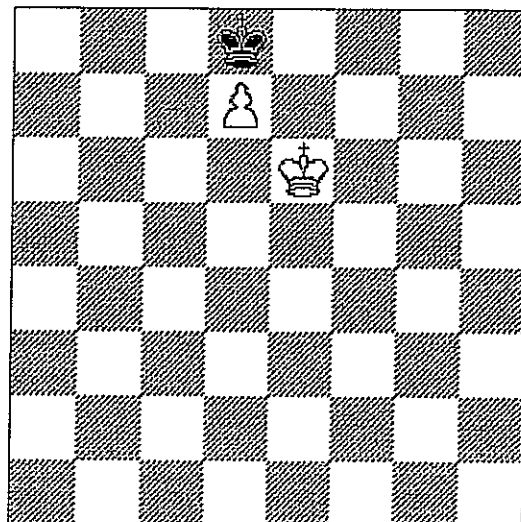
STALEMATE

The Basis of Endgame Theory (and source for a lot of cheap tricks)
Compiled By Donald Griffith (with some required corrections by Gary Cummings)

You may think of stalemate as only something that beginners stumble into while trying to mate with King and Queen vs King. Actually, stalemate is at the heart of many endgames. For Example : Why is King + Rook pawn vs King drawn. Because this position is Stalemate.

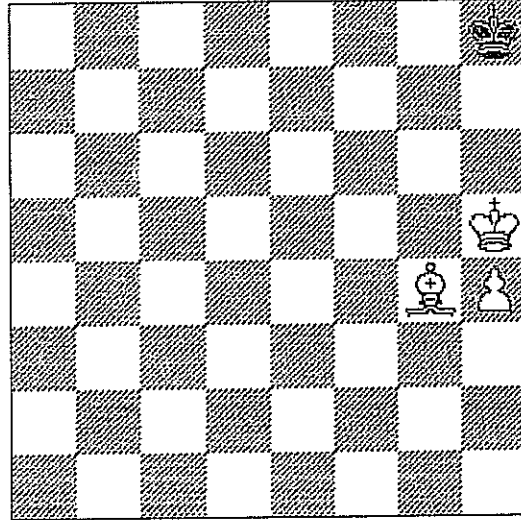


Why is K+P vs K drawn when the defending side has the opposition



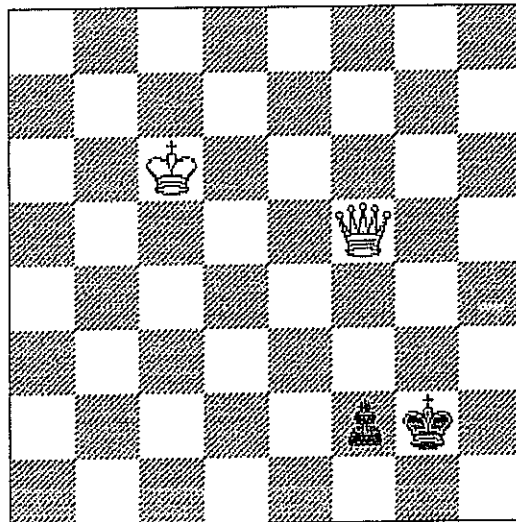
Because with White to play in the above diagram , Kd6 Stalemates

K+B+RP vs K (where the B does not control the Rook Pawn's queening square)



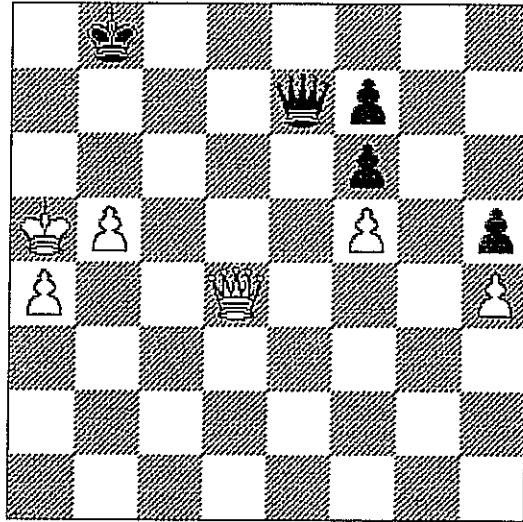
1.Kh6 Kg8 2.Bf5 Kh8 3.Kg6 Kg8 4.h5 Kh8 5.h6 Kg8 6.h7+ Kh8 7.Kh6 ½-½

If the Black King is in a corner, a Queen that is a Knight's move away will stalemate . This is a common theme in Queen endings



Q vs bp on 7th rank

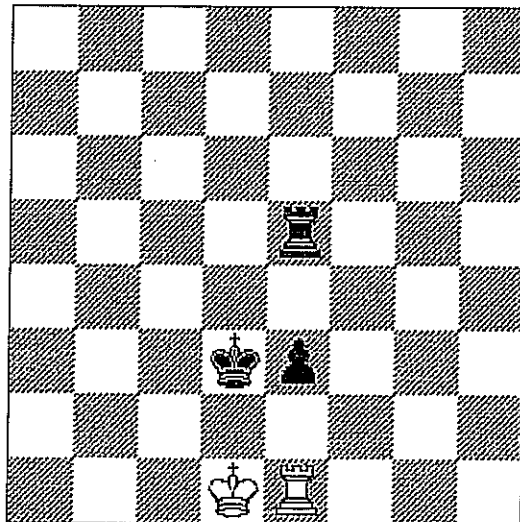
1.Qg4+ Kh1 2.Qf3+ Kg1 3.Qg3+ Kh1 ½-½ since taking the pawn is stalemate



Tchigorin - Schlechter
1905

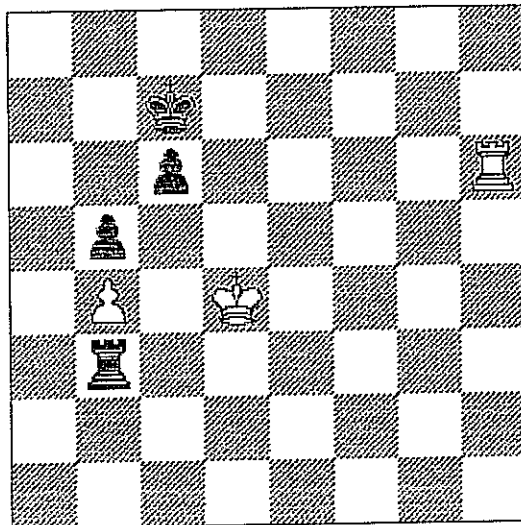
1...Qc7+ 2.Qb6+ Ka8 and if White takes the Queen it's stalemate and if 3.Ka6 Qc8+ 4.Ka5 Qc7 repeats the position for a draw

Stalemate also occurs in Rook endings



White seems helpless against Black's Threat of R-a5-a1. But

1.Re2 Ra5 2.Rd2+ forces Black to Stalemate or retreat his King with ... Ke4 3.Rd8 and White can draw.

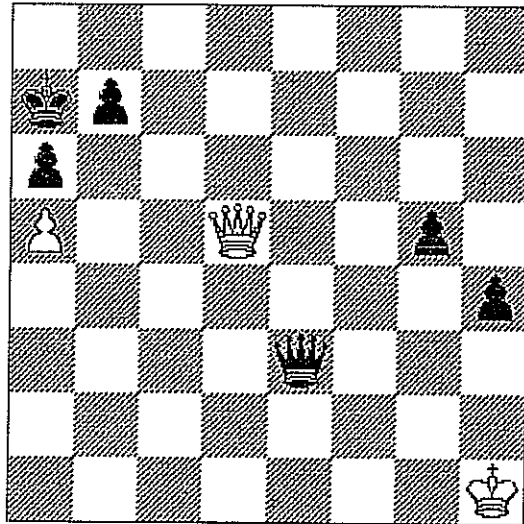


Motwani - Granda

if 1.Kc5 Rc3+ 2.Kd4 Rc4+

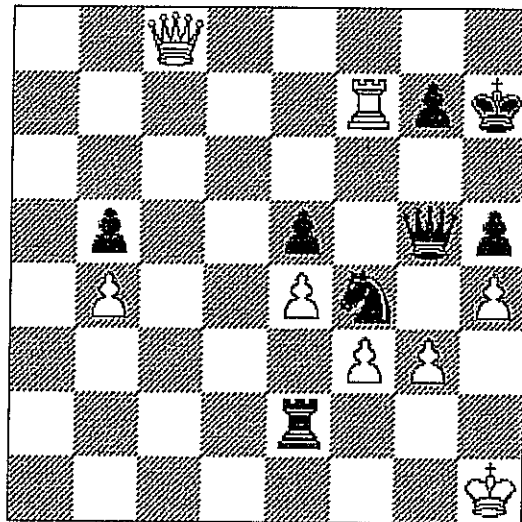
But White has 1.Rh4 Rxb4+ [1...Kb6 2.Ke5 c5 (2...Rc3 3.Rg4 Rc4 4.Rxc4 bxc4 5.Kd4 Kb5 6.Kc3 c5 7.bxc5 Kxc5 8.Kc2 Kb4 9.Kb2 c3+ 10.Kc2 Kc4 11.Kc1 Kb3 12.Kb1 c2+ 13.Kc1 Kc3) 3.Rh6+] 2.Kc5 Rb1 [2...Rxb4 stalemate] 3.Rh7+ Kb8 4.Kxc6 b4 5.Kb5 b3 6.Kb4 b2 7.Kb3 drawn

But enough endgame theory , There is another side to stalemate, cheap tricks. A couple of famous examples where Reshevsky falls into stalemating his opponent



Reshevsky - Pilnick
US Champ , 1942

1.Qf5 g4 2.Qf2 Qxf2 ½-½



Evans - Reshevsky
US Champ , 1963

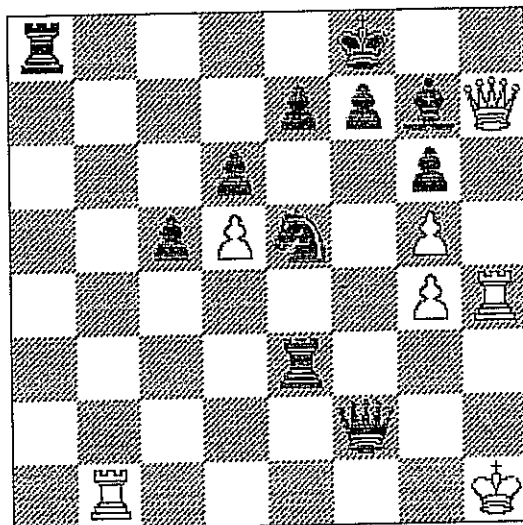
1... Qxg3 2.Qg8+ Kxg8 3.Rxg7+ Kf8 4.Rf7+ Ke8 5.Re7+ Kd8 6.Rd7+ Kc8 7.Rc7+ Kb8
8.Rb7+ Ka8 9.Ra7+ ½-½

Evans recounts that when he reached out to play Qg8 , Reshevsky thought he was reaching to shake hands in resignation.

Next we have my painful introduction to stalemate :

Jerry Skeen - Donald Griffith Charleston CC 1983

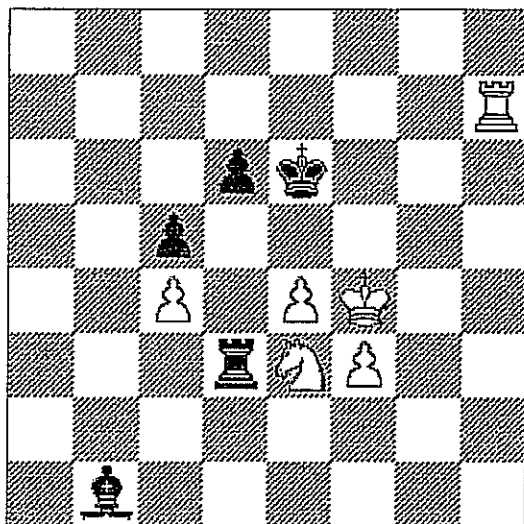
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 d6 4.h3 g6 5.d4 Bd7 6.Bxc6 Bxc6 7.d5 Bd7 8.Qd3 Bg7 9.0-0 Nf6 10.c4 0-0 11.Nc3 a6 12.Nh2 b5 13.cxb5 axb5 14.Ne2 Qb6 15.Qf3 Ra7 16.a3 Rfa8 17.Rb1 Nxe4 18.Ng4 Bxg4 19.hxg4 Nf6 20.g5 Nd7 21.g4 Ra4 22.Bf4 b4 23.Kg2 bxa3 24.bxa3 Qa6 25.Rh1 Rxa3 26.Be3 Ne5 27.Qh3 Qxe2 28.Qxh7+ Kf8 29.Rh4 Rxe3 30.Kh1 Qxf2



and now White Sacrifices all his pieces with
31.Rb8+ Rxb8 32.Qg8+ Kxg8 33.Rh8+ drawn

(Ouch – GDC)

Stalemate can turn what seems like an overwhelming move into a easy draw.
From analysis of Lasker - Janowsky 1909



1.Nd5 seems to leave black with no defense to Re7 Mate but
 1.Nd5 Rxf3+ 2.Kxf3 Bxe4+ 3.Kxe4 drawn

The qualities to find Stalemate are :
 a fighting attitude, creative thinking, and knowledge of thematic stalemate positions ---
 Edamar Mednis

2003 Parkersburg Homecoming

Cross Table:

Place	NAME	ST Rate	1	2	3	4	TOTAL
1	Grant Perks	OH 1923	W---9	W---2	W---6	D---3	3.5
2-3	James Walker	WV 2025	W---5	L---1	W---7	W---6	3.0
2-3	Gary Cummings	WV 1790	H----	W---5	W---4	D---1	3.0
4	John Roush	WV 2025	W---7	D---6	L---3	W---8	2.5
5	Walter Rueckert	WV 1502	L----2	L---3	W---9	B----	2.0
6	Ed Garner	WV 1959	W---8	D---4	L----1	L---2	1.5
7-9	Chuck Waugh	WV 1573	L---4	W---8	L----2	U----	1.0
7-9	Robert Jordan	WV 1322	L---6	L---7	B----	L---4	1.0
7-9	Bill Salmon	WV 917	L---1	B----	L----5	U----	1.0

Prizes:

- 1st Place Grant Perks
- 2nd Place James Walker, Gary Cummings

2003 Parkersburg Homecoming

Grant Perks makes it two in a row

Grant Perks lead the field again at this quaint little setting in Parkersburg. This event has served as the last chance practice session for the West Virginia players before the big Labor Day event.

Grant cruised easily through the four round event, winning three games and only drawing in the last round to clinch first place with 3.5 points. Just behind in second through third were Gary Cummings and Jim Walker with 3 points. Cummings arrived late and had to take a half point bye for the first round but did manage to draw Perks in the last round.

The event has continued to remain small in turnout but it is certainly enjoyable. It gives a nice relaxed feeling to the competition and a fun day of chess is the pleasant result.

Rd. 2

Jim Walker-Grant Perks

1. d4 b6 2. e4 e6 3. Bd3 Bb7 4. Nf3 c5 5. c3 cxd4 6. cxd4 Bb4 + 7. Nc3 Nf6 8. Qe2 d5 9. Bb5 + Nbd7 10. Bg5 Qc7 11. O-O Bxc3 12. exd5 Nxd5 13. Ne5 O-O 14. Nxd7 Rfc8 15. Rac1 a6 16. Bd3 Qxd7 17. bxc3 Nxc3 18. Qg4 f5 19. Qg3 Ne4 20. Bxe4 Bxe4 21. Qe5 Qd5 22. f3 Qxe5 23. dxe5 Bd5 24. Rfd1 Bxa2 25. Kf2 Bd5 26. Be7 a5 27. Ke3 b5 28. Kd4 Kf7 29. Bd6 Ke8 30. Rc7 Rxc7 31. Bxc7 Kd7 32. Bd6 and Black won in the ensuing time scrabble. 0-1

Rd. 3

John Roush-Gary Cummings

This game just had to be shown since it was the first victory by Cummings over Roush since the 1978 KVO.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. f3 e6 7. Be3 Be7 8. Qd2 Bd7 9. g4 b5 10. g5 b4 11. Nce2 Nh5 12. Ng3 Nxc3 13. hxc3 Qc7 14. Kf2 Nc6 15. Be2 Rc8 16. Bxa6 Ra8 17. Be2 Nxd4 18. Bxd4 e5 19. Be3 f5 20. gxf6 Bxf6 21. Rhd1 h5 22. Qxd6 Qxd6 23. Rxd6 h4 24. g4 h3 25. g5 Be7 26. Rdd1 Be6 27. Bb5 + Kf7 28. Bc6 Rac8 29. Ba4 Kg6 30. Rac1 h2 31. Rh1 Rcf8 32. Kg2 Bxg5 33. Bxg5 Kxg5 34. c4 Kf4 35. Rxh2 Rxh2 + 36. Kxh2 Rh8 + 37. Kg2 Rh5 38. b3 Rg5 + 39. Kf2 Rg3 40. Bc6 Rxf3 + 41. Kg2 Bh3 + 42. Kh2 Rc3 43. Rg1 g5 44. Rd1 Rc2 + 45. Kg1 Rxa2 46. Rd3 g4 47. Rd1 Rb2 48. Ba4 Kxe4 49. c5 Rc2 50. c6 g3 51. Bb5 Kf3 black won in the mad time scrabble that went into high gear at this point.

Rd. 4

Gary Cummings - Grant Perks

The story on this game is that as Black reached his 21st move sunlight began pouring through the window and cast a horrific glare on the board. The players agreed to move the board down the table out of the sunlight and when I sat back down to resume I just forgot to play the move 21. Bc1 and win the exchange.

2003 Parkersburg Homecoming

Grant Perks makes it two in a row

Cummings-Perks (conclusion)

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 e6 6. Be2 Bb4 7. Bf3 Qa5 8. Nxc6 Bxc3+ 9. bxc3 dxc6 10. Qd4 e5 11. Qb4 Qxb4 12. cxb4 Be6 13. Bb2 Nd7 14. Be2 O-O-O 15. O-O f6 16. b5 cxb5 17. Bxb5 Nc5 18. f4 Rd2 19. fxe5 a6 20. Ba3 Nxe4 21. Bd3 Nc3 22. exf6 Bd5 23. Rf2 Rxf2 24. Kxf2 gxf6 25. Bf5 + Kc7 26. g4 h5 27. Bb2 Ne4 + 28. Bxe4 Bxe4 29. g5 Rd8 30. Bxf6 Rd5 31. Ke3 Bg6 32. h4 Kd6 33. Rc1 Ra5 34. c3 Rxa2 35. Rd1 + Ke6 36. Rd4 b5 37. Rf4 Ra4 38. Bd4 Bf5 39. g6 Ra1 40. Kf2 Ra2 + 41. Kg3 Bxg6 42. Rf6 + Kd5 43. Rxg6 b4 44. Rg5 + Ke4 and sadly, with the flag on his analog clock nearly level with the plain of the earth, white was compelled to offer a draw. Black agreed since it was as good as a win for the standings. 1/2 - 1/2.

Rd. 3

Charles Waugh - James Walker

1. c4 g6 2. g3 Bg7 3. Bg2 Nf6 4. Nc3 O-O 5. e4 d6 6. Nge2 c5 7. O-O Nc6 8. d3 Ne8 9. f4 Nc7 10. f5 Bd7 11. g4 a6 12. Nd5 Nxd5 13. cxd5 Ne5 14. h3 Qb6 15. Kh1 Bb5 16. Nf4 Rfc8 17. Be3 g5 18. Nh5 f6 19. Qd2 h6 20. Rg1 Bxd3 21. Bf1 Bxe4 + 22. Kh2 Nf3 + 23. resigns 0-1



The field at the event. From left to right: (standing) Walker, Garner, Jordon, Roush, Salmon, Perks: (Kneeling): Waugh and Rueckert.

Cummings had not yet arrived and missed both the first round and the group photo. Most considered this to be considerate.

West Virginia State Championship 2003

Flatwoods, September 2003. A test of skill, endurance and heart took place at the Days Inn Convention Center. By its own mission statement the primary reason for the existence of the WVCA is to hold this event and proclaim for the period between the Labor Days our top player or players based only on this event. The WVCA is compelled to remember no one else in its achieves based on any other qualification than the result from this one event.

There have been many champions now, and some were clearly the top players at the time of their respective victories and some were unexpected - out of no where - surprises. Statistics give us records of all variety but this year a totally new record was made.

The sole winner of the event was also the youngest sole WVCA champion. It was 13 year old Alex Dementiev who was able to maintain his energy and use his skill and bravado to eek out a half point lead with 5 points out of the six rounds of play. He took a clear lead after round 5 but the climatic sixth round of this event has seen many a front runner falter at the last obstacle. He withstood a last ditch charge by John Roush, who could only hope to gain a share of first with a win, and became the 2003, WVCA sanctioned, West Virginia state chess champion.

With one new record set another lost out. It was Mark Hathaway who hoped to move close to a tie for the record of six straight championship victories currently held by S. Werthemmer. The pure playing strength of the field, due to the small number of participants, caused him to have to face many a tough foe and the draws piled up. Surprisingly some stout resistance was encountered in the very first round by Russell Scott. This, and the gauntlet of experts and class A players, presented him a rough ordeal.

Another with hopes for the annals of WVCA history on his mind was Donald Griffith. He

stands only two WVCA championships short of tying the same S. Werthammer with a total of 13 WVCA championships.

The location was perfect in every respect with only the strange problem of lighting in the playing hall. Only in the dead center of the room was the light acceptable and as tables moved closer to the rim of the room the dimness became severe. The weather was "off and on" climatic but still pleasant and the humidity low. A refreshing change for all of the Charleston players.

The convention center staff were most helpful providing virtually anything that was asked or required.



Two additional skittles rooms were supplied and a roof top balcony. The players seldom had the time to enjoy the total availability of the facilities.

The move to Flatwoods was an attempt to help consolidate a central location to better allow players from the north to reach the event with less drive time. Sadly, very few of the northern players took advantage of this change in venue. If renewed interest and participation should erupt then this would still be a very accommodating location. Also if a guarantee that the lighting can be improved.

West Virginia State Championship 2003

The games of the event.
Round one.

Donald Griffith - Marvin Baker
Petroff's Defense

Griffith the grinder wins his pawn then his exchange and then simplifies to the natural grind it out ending.

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nxe5 Qe7 4. d4 d6 5. Nf3 Qxe4 + 6. Be2 Be7 7. O-O O-O 8. Nc3 Qe6 9. Re1 Qd7 10. Bg5 Nc6 11. Qd2 d5 12. Bb5 Ne4 13. Nxe4 dxe4 14. Rxe4 Bxg5 15. Qxg5 Qd6 16. Bd3 Nb4 17. Bc4 Nxc2 18. Rc1 Nb4 19. Rce1 b5 20. Bxb5 Bb7 21. Rg4 g6 22. Nh4 f5 23. Nxf5 Rxf5 24. Qxf5 Rf8 25. Qe5 Qd8 26. Bc4 + Bd5 27. Bxd5 + Nxd5 28. Rg5 Nf4 29. d5 Nd3 30. Qe6 + Kh8 31. Rge5 Nxe1 32. Rxe1 Qf6 33. Qxf6 + Rxf6 34. Re8 + Kg7 35. Re7 + Rf7 36. Rxf7 + Kxf7 37. f4 Ke7 38. Kf2 Kd6 39. Ke3 Kxd5 40. g4 h6 41. Kd3 c5 42. b3 a6 43. a3 a5 44. h3 Kd6 45. Kc4 Kc6 46. f5 gxf5 47. gxf5 Kd6 48. f6 Ke6 49. Kxc5 Kxf6 50. b4 axb4 51. axb4 1-0

Russell Scott-Mark Hathaway
King's Indian Attack

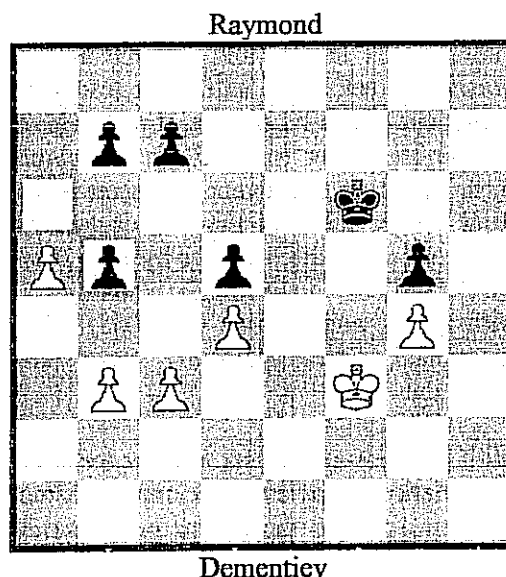
The start for Mark was not so routine as the solid play by Scott held the game in check.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d3 g6 4. g3 Bg7 5. Bg2 d6 6. O-O Bd7 7. Nbd2 Nf6 8. c3 O-O 9. Re1 Rb8 10. a4 a6 11. d4 cxd4 12. cxd4 Nb4 13. Nb1 b5 14. Nc3 bxa4 15. Nxa4 Bb5 16. Bf1 Bxf1 17. Kxf1 Qd7 18. Kg2 Rfc8 19. Nc3 Qb7 20. Re2 Nd7 21. Bf4 e5 22. Be3 exd4 23. Bxd4 Ne5 24. Bxe5 dxe5 25. Rd2 h6 26. Rc1 Rc7 27. h4 Qc8 28. Qe2 Qe6 29. Rcd1 Bf8 30. Rd8 Rxd8 31. Rxd8 f6 32. Nd5 Nxd5 33. Rxd5 Qc6 34. Ra5 Ra7 35. Qd3 h5 36. Ng1 Kg7 37. Ne2 Bb4 38. Rd5 Rc7 39. Nc3 Bxc3 40. bxc3 Qxc3 41. Qxa6 Qc2 42. Rd3 Qc6 1/2-1/2

Alex Dementiev - Dave Raymond
French Defense

The mild play in this first round game seemed to be a tremendous confidence booster. Alex would not avoid complications in future games.

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 exd5 4. Nf3 Nf6 5. Bg5 Be7 6. Bd3 O-O 7. O-O Nc6 8. c3 Re8 9. Qc2 Ne4 10. Bxe7 Rxe7 11. Re1 Qe8 12. Nbd2 Nxd2 13. Qxd2 Be6 14. Ng5 h6 15. Nxe6 Rxe6 16. Rxe6 Qxe6 17. Re1 Qd7 18. Qf4 Ne7 19. Qe5 Kf8 20. f4 Re8 21. Kf2 Ng8 22. Qxe8 + Qxe8 23. Rxe8 + Kxe8 24. Kf3 Ke7 25. g4 g5 26. Bh7 Nf6 27. Bf5 Ne8 28. h4 f6 29. fxg5 fxg5 30. hxg5 hxg5 31. Bd3 Nd6 32. a4 a6 33. a5 Kf6 34. b3 Nb5 35. Bxb5 axb5



Winning chances appear dim but now we get a demonstration of the fundamental endgame technique of opposition.

36. Ke3 Ke6 37. Kd3 Kd6 38. c4 bxc4 + 39. bxc4 Kc6 40. Kc3 Kd6 41. c5 + Kd7 42. Kb4 c6 43. a6 bxa6 44. Ka5 1-0

Raymond sees that he can not keep from losing the c pawn and then the d pawn.

West Virginia State Championship 2003

Round Two

The late night round. This is the round that falls latest in the time of day played. Some of the older players were already showing the effects of fatigue. At the end of this round Griffith, Walker and Dementiev took the lead at 2-0. For Alex this was last break in easy games. He played dangerously but was able to get away with it against a sleepy eyed Cummings. His next four rounds would see him face four straight experts. Griffith cut lose with precision and Walker outlasted Fuller.

James Walker – James Fuller Irregular

1. Nf3 c5 2. b3 Nc6 3. e3 e6 4. Bb2 Nf6 5. Bb5 Be7 6. Bxc6 bxc6 7. Ne5 Bb7 8. d3 d6 9. Nc4 Qc7 10. O-O g5 11. Qf3 g4 12. Qf4 e5 13. Nxe5 dxe5 14. Bxe5 Qd8 15. f3 g3 16. hxg3 Rg8 17. g4 Nd5 18. Qe4 Rg6 19. Kf2 Qa5 20. c4 Nf6 21. Qf4 O-O-O 22. Bc3 Qb6 23. Ke2 Rd7 24. Qf5 Kd8 25. Na3 Be8 26. Qf4 Ke8 27. Be5 Ng8 28. Rh1 h6 29. Nc2 f6 30. Qe4 Rg5 31. Bf4 f5 32. Qe5 Rg6 33. Qxf5 Rf6 34. Qh7 Bf8 35. Qxg8 Rg7 36. Qh8 Rxf4 37. exf4 Qa5 38. Rhe1 Qc3 39. Kf2 + Kf7 40. Re2 Qxd3 41. Qxh6 Rxxg4 42. Qh5 + Rg6 43. Ne3 Kg7 44. Qe5 + Rf6 45. Rd1 Qh7 46. Rd8 Qh4 + 47. Kg1 Be6 48. Qg5 + Qxg5 49. fxxg5 Rf4 50. a8 Kg6 51. Rxa7 Bg7 52. Rc7 Bd4 53. Rxc6 Kf7 54. g6 + Ke7 55. Kf1 Kd7 56. Rxe6 Kxe6 57. Nd5 + Kf5 58. Nxf4 Kxf4 59. Re4 + Kf5 60. Rxd4 the pawns carried the game and white won shortly. 1-0

William Salmon - James Olson Rcti Opncing

This highly touted and anticipated match up came early this year. In this year's edition a sleep craving Salmon fell into an early skewer.

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 d5 4. e3 e5

5. b3 Nc6 6. d4 Be7 7. Be2 O-O 8. O-O b6 9. Qc2 Bb7 10. Bb2 cxd4 11. exd4 Nb4 12. Qd2 Ne4 13. Nxe4 dxe4 14. Ne1 Nc6 15. Qf4 Nxd4 16. Bxd4 Qxd4 17. Rd1 Qc5 18. Rd7 Bc6 19. Rd2 Bg5 20. Nd3 exd3 21. Qg3 Bxd2 22. Bxd3 Qg5 23. Qxg5 Bxg5 24. resigns 0-1

Round Three

The front runners all faced each other and draws were served up all around. This allowed Roush to join the leader's group with a win over Waugh. Roush made up the distance for his traditional first round bye quickly. Also rebounding from round two setbacks were David Hines, David Olson, Gary Cummings and William Salmon.

James Olson - Gary Cummings Trompowski Attempt

1. d4 Nf6 2. Bg5 e6 3. e4 Be7 4. Nd2 d5 5. e5 Nfd7 6. Bxe7 Qxe7 7. Bd3 c5 8. c3 Nc6 9. Nc2 Qh4 10. Nf3 Qg4 11. Rg1 f5 12. h3 Qh5 13. Qd2 cxd4 14. cxd4 Nb6 15. b3 Bd7 16. Bb5 Nxe5 17. Bxd7 + Nexd7 18. Qe3 O-O 19. Rc1 Rae8 20. Qg5 Qf7 21. Rc7 e5 22. Nxe5 Qe6 23. Nf4 Qd6 24. Rxb7 Rxe5 + 25. dxe5 Qxe5 + 26. Kd2 Re8 27. Qg3 Qb2 + 28. Kd3 Nc5 # 0-1

Alex Dementiev - Mark Hathaway Sicilian Defense

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Qb6 5. Nb3 Nf6 6. Nc3 e6 7. Be3 Qc7 8. f3 d6 9. Qd2 a6 10. a4 b6 11. O-O-O Nd7 12. f4 Nc5 13. Nxc5 bxc5 14. g4 Rb8 15. f5 Qb7 16. b3 Ne5 17. Bxc5 Nf3 18. Qd3 Ne5 19. Qd2 Nf3 drawn.

1/2-1/2

West Virginia State Championship 2003

Round Four

The last round on Sunday. Dementiev breaks into the lead by downing Walker while Roush and Griffith draw. He would manage to maintain this silly little half point to final gun. It was at the end of this round that the possibility started to become real in the minds of all the players. David Olson made a charge by downing Cummings and kept himself within reach the leaders. Cummings was virtually eliminated in this round. Others began settling in to push for their class prizes.



Alex must have been thrilled with his possibilities after he finished the fourth round.

John Roush - Donald Griffith Sicilian Defense

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. c3 Nf6 4. Bd3 Nc6
5. O-O Be7 6. Re1 e5 7. Bc2 d6 8. h3
O-O 9. d3 Qc7 10. Bg5 Be6 11. Qe2 b5
12. Nbd2 Rab8 13. Nf1 b4 14. Ba4 bxc3
15. bxc3 Rb6 16. Qc2 Rfb8 17. Re1 c4
18. dxc4 Na5 19. Bb3 Bxc4 20. N1d2 Rc8
21. Be3 Rbb8 22. Nxc4 Nxc4 23. Bxc4
Rxb1 + 24. Rxb1 Qxc4 25. Nd2 Qc7
26. Qb3 1/2-1/2
Carefully played.

Mark Hathaway - David Hines Modern Defense

Mark stays in the hunt by trapping a knight right in the middle of an open board.

1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 4. Be3
Bg7 5. f3 O-O 6. Qd2 e5 7. d5 c6 8. O-O-O
Ne8 9. g4 cxd5 10. Nxd5 Be6 11. Kbl Nc6
12. Ne2 b5 13. h4 Qa5 14. Nc1 Qxd2
15. Rxd2 a6 16. Nb3 h6 17. c4 bxc4
18. Bxc4 Bxd5 19. Bxd5 Rc8 20. Rcl Ne7
21. Rxc8 Nxc8 22. Bb7 Ne7 23. Bxa6 f5
24. Bc4 + Kh7 25. Be2 fxg4 26. fxg4
Nf6 27. Rxd6 Nxe4 28. Rd7 Bf6 29. Bd3
resigns 1-0

James Walker - Alex Dementiev Queen's Gambit

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3. c4 e6 4. Nc3 Be7
5. Bg5 O-O 6. cxd5 exd5 7. e3 c6 8. Bxf6
Bxf6 9. Qc2 Bg4 10. Bd3 h6 11. h3 Bxf3
12. gxf3 Nd7 13. O-O-O b5 14. Kbl Re8
15. Rhg1 Nf8 16. Ne2 Qd6 17. Rcl Rac8
18. Nf4 Bxd4 19. Bf5 Rc7 20. Rgd1 Be5
21. Nd3 Qf6 22. Bg4 Bd6 23. f4 Ne6
24. Bf3 Rec8 25. Qc3 Qxc3 26. Rxc3 a5
27. Rdcl Kf8 28. Bg4 c5 29. f5 Ng5 30. f6
Ne4 31. fxg7 + Kxg7 32. R3c2 Rg8 33. f3
Ng3 34. Rg1 Kf6 35. h4 Nf5 36. e4 dxe4
37. fxe4 Ne3 38. e5 + Ke7 39. exd6 +
Kxd6 40. Rd2 f5 41. Nxc5 + Kxc5 42. Rcl +
Kb6 43. Rd6 + Kb7 44. Bf3 + Kc8
45. Bc6 Kb8 46. Bxb5 Rxc1 + 47. Kxc1
Rg1 + 48. Kd2 Rd1 + 49. Kxe3 Rxd6
50. b3 Re6 + 51. Kf3 Re4 52. h5 Kc7
53. Bc4 Kd6 54. Bf7 Ke5 55. Bg6 Rb4
56. Bf7 a4 57. Bc4 axb3 58. axb3 Rb7
59. Bg8 Rg7 60. Bc4 Kf6 61. Be2
Kg5 62. b4 Rb7 63. b5 Kxh5 64. Kf4 +
Kg6 65. Bd3 Kf6 66. Be2 h5 67. Bd3
h4 68. Bf1 Rd7 69. Bg2 Rd4 + 70. Ke3
Rb4 71. Bc6 Kg5 72. Kd3 Kg4 73. Kc3
Rb1 74. Kc2 Ra1 75. b6 Ra6 76. Kd2
Rxb6 77. Ba8 Re6 78. Bb7 Kg3 79. Bc8
Re5 0-1

Enough game for two tournaments. Skill, endurance, heart.

West Virginia State Championship 2003

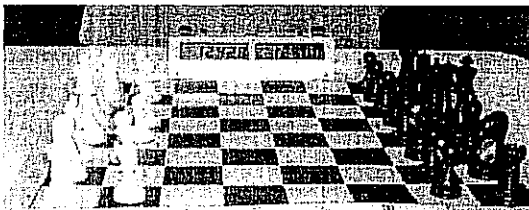
Round Five

The first round on Monday and things are tense for last and final day. Alex holds the lead with 3 ½ points. Right behind are Griffith, Hathaway and Roush with 3 points each. Griffith and Dementiev are paired as well as Hathaway and Roush. Still running are Walker and David Olson with 2 ½ points. No one else is within a point of leader and only these six still have hopes of seeing their name on the revolving trophy.

David Hines - Charles Waugh Falkbeer Counter Gambit

1. e4 e5 2. f4 d5 3. exd5 c6 4. dxc6 Nxc6 5. Nf3 Bg4 6. Bb5 Qb6 7. Qe2 Bxf3 8. gxf3 O-O-O 9. Bxc6 Qxc6 10. fxe5 Qxc2 11. Nc3 Qf5 12. O-O Bc5 + 13. Kh1 Ne7 14. Qe4 Qe6 15. Qg4 Nf5 16. Re1 h5 17. Qh3 Bf2 18. Rg1 Bxg1 19. Kxg1 Qxe5 20. Ne4 g5 21. Qf1 Qd4 + 22. Kh1 f6 23. d3 Qxd3 24. Bd2 Qxf1 + 25. Rxf1 Nh4 26. Bc3 Rd3 27. Bxf6 Rf8 28. f4 Rxf6 29. Nxf6 gxf4 30. Nxf5
1/2-1/2

So much rough and tumble for such a calm conclusion !



Everything was ready
WVCA Championship 2003

Alex Dementiev - Donald Griffith Sicilian Defense / Dragon

Perhaps relying on his confidence in his own ability to play an unbalanced ending black makes a common exchange sac and it leads to the rather common draw.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Bc4 Bd7 7. f3 g6 8. Be3 Bg7 9. Qd2 O-O 10. O-O-O Rc8 11. Bb3 Ne5 12. Bh6 Nc4 13. Bxc4 Rxc4 14. Bxg7 Kxg7 15. g4 Qa5 16. Nb3 Qe5 17. Rdg1 Rxc3 18. Qxc3 Qxc3 19. bxc3 Rc8 20. Kd2 Be6 21. Nd4 Bc4 22. Rb1 b6 23. a4 Nd7 24. Nb5 a5 25. Nd4 e6 26. Rhe1 Kf6 27. f4 e5 28. g5 + Ke7 29. fxe5 dxe5 30. b3 f5 31. Re3 f4 32. Rh3 Bg8 33. Kd3 Bc4 + 34. Kd2 Bg8 drawn 1/2 - 1/2

This game finished before the Hathaway-Roush game. If Alex had known that game would end in a draw he might have wished to play on. He could have nailed down a guaranteed first place regardless of his sixth round result.

Mark Hathaway - John Roush French Defense

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. e5 Nfd7 5. f4 c5 6. Nf3 Nc6 7. Be3 a6 8. Qd2 b5 9. dxc5 Nxc5 10. Qf2 Nd7 11. Bd3 Bb4 12. O-O g6 13. Ne2 Qe7 14. a3 Bc5 15. Ned4 Nxd4 16. Nxd4 Bb7 17. c3 Rc8 18. a4 b4 19. Qe2 Nb8 20. cxb4 Bxb4 21. Nb3 O-O 22. Rfe1 Qd7 23. Nc5 Bxc5 24. Bxc5 Rfd8 25. a5 Rc6 26. Ra3 Qc7 27. b4 Rc8 28. Rac3 Nd7 29. Bd4 Qb8 30. Qb2 Qa8 31. h4 h5 32. Kh2 Rxc3 33. Rxc3 Rxc3 34. Qxc3 Bc6 35. g4 hxg4 36. Kg3 Qb7 37. Kxg4 Bb5 38. Bc2 Nb8 39. h5 Be2 + 40. Kh4 Bxh5 41. Ba4 Be2 42. Bb6 Bc4 43. Qd4 Nd7 44. Kg4 Qc8 45. Kf3 Kg7 46. Ke3 Nb8 47. Kd2 Nd7 48. Qf2 Qb7 49. Kc3 Qc8 50. Bxd7 Qxd7 51. Qh4 Qa4 52. Qf6 + 1/2-1/2

West Virginia State Championship 2003

Round Six - the final round

The thunderstorm had passed and everyone seemed to enjoy being outside eating lunch on the outdoor tables just off the playing site. For all the tension of how the event could finish a calm seemed to also come over everyone as if, just for having endured this far, a bond had been made among the players and a common respect for those that were still standing and playing on was now in place. Many pleasant conversations began to break out with epidemic proportions in all the areas around the playing hall.

Then, the time began to grow short before the start of round six. The mild and warm conversations seemed to be just as rapidly replaced with a spreading silence and only glancing eyes in all directions. The smokers could no longer endure their smokers room and rushed outside to enjoin in the bath of silence. The tension was back.

Dementiev still held the lead with 4 points. Roush, Hathaway, Griffith and now Walker stood a half point behind at 3 and a half. The miracle of WinTD somehow found logical pairings for the last round. The Olson team of Jim and David withdrew seeing no need of any class prizes or further Grand Prix points. Of the original field of 17 only 12 remained to see the contest to the finish.

Roush was paired against Dementiev and only a win would give him a piece of first place. Hathaway had to go against Walker and Griffith was left with Cummings as a last round opponent. The only class prize left in doubt was in class C.

And the final round began.

Donald Griffith - Gary Cummings Sicilian Defense

Armed with GM Soltis analysis, Griffith looked to end the Cummings Sicilian Counter Attack. Forever. And never let it cross my board again.

1. e4 e6 2. d4 c5 3. Nf3 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 Bb4 6. e5 Ne4 7. Qg4 Nxc3 8. Qxg7 Rf8 9. a3 Nb5 + 10. axb4 Nxd4 11. Bh6 Qe7 12. Bd3 Nf5 13. Bxf5 exf5 14. O-O f6 15. Qxf8 + Qxf8 16. Bxf8 Kxf8 17. exf6 Kf7 18. Ra3 Kxf6 19. Rh3 Nc6 20. Rxh7 Nxb4 21. Re1 b5 22. Ree7 Nxc2 23. Rhf7 + Kg6 24. h4 Nd4 25. Rg7 + Kh6 26. Rh7 + Kg6 27. h5 + Kf6 28. f4 1-0

Griffith had time to watch the conclusion of the Roush-Dementiev game.

John Roush - Alex Dementiev Center Gambit

1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Nf6 3. d4 Nxd5 4. Nf3 g6 5. Be2 Bg7 6. O-O O-O 7. h3 Nc6 8. c4 Nb6 9. Be3 e5 10. d5 Ne7 11. Nc3 Nf5 12. Bg5 f6 13. Bd2 Re8 14. g4 Ne7 15. Be3 h5 16. Nd2 hxg4 17. hxg4 f5 18. Kg2 Nd7 19. Bg5 Nf6 20. f3 b6 21. Rh1 Kf7 22. Bxf6 Kxf6 23. g5 + Kf7 24. Rh7 Rh8 25. Qh1 Bb7 26. Qh2? Rxh7 27. Qxh7 Nxd5 ! 28. Nxd5 Qxg5 + 29. Kf2 Rh8 30. Qxh8 Bxh8 31. Rd1 e4 32. Nf1 Bxd5 33. Rxd5 c5 34. fxe4 Qh4 + 35. Ke3 Qxe4 + 0-1

And we have a Nova.

In the remaining key game Hathaway and Walker drew. The final prize winners were:

1 st Place	Alexandr Dementiev
2 nd Place	Donald Griffith
Class A	David Hines
Class B	Jim Fuller
Class C	David Raymond
Class D	David Hundley

2003 WV State Championship

Final Cross Table:

USCF Place	NAME	ST Rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score
1	Alexandr Dementiev	WV 1943	W-5	W-8	D-3	W-4	D-2	W-6	5.0
2	Donald Griffith	WV 2036	W-16	W-7	D-4	D-6	D-1	W-8	4.5
3	Mark Hathaway	WV 2107	D-13	W-11	D-1	W-7	D-6	D-4	4.0
4	Jim Walker	WV 2023	W-17	W-9	D-2	L-1	W-11	D-3	4.0
5	David Raymond	OH 1501	L-1	W-12	L-11	W-15	W-9	W-10	4.0
6	John Roush	WV 2011	H---	W-13	W-10	D-2	D-3	L-1	3.5
7	David Hines	WV 1938	W-14	L-2	W-9	L-3	D-10	W-15	3.5
8	Gary Cummings	WV 1825	W-12	L-1	W-14	L-11	W-15	L-2	3.0
9	Jim Fuller	WV 1789	W-15	L-4	L-7	W-14	L-5	W-12	3.0
10	Charles Waugh	WV 1575	D-11	W-17	L-6	W-13	D-7	L-5	3.0
11	David Olson	WV 1841	D-10	L-3	W-5	W-8	L-4	U---	2.0
12	David Hundley	WV 1229	L-8	L-5	L-15	B---	W-14	L-9	2.0
13	Russell Scott	WV 1675	D-3	L-6	X---	L-10	U---	U---	1.0
14	James Olson	WV 1479	L-7	W-15	L-8	L-9	L-12	U---	1.0
15	William Salmon	WV 917	L-9	L-14	W-12	L-5	L-8	L-7	1.0
16	Joseph M. Baker	WV 1621	L-2	U---	U---	U---	U---	U---	0.0
17	Walter Rueckert	WV 1496	L-4	L-10	F---	U---	U---	U---	0.0

WVCA Grand Prix 2002-2003 Final Standings

The WVCA Grand Prix 2002-2003 cycle ended with the 2003 WVCA state championship. The top ten finishers won a plaque of recognition for their performance running from the 2002 state championship up to and including the 2003 WVCA state championship.

<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>GP Points</u>
1.	Donald Griffith	29.5
2.	Alex Dementiev	25.5
3.	Mark Hathaway	25.0
4.	Ben Good	18.0
5.	Jim Walker	16.0
6.	Dave Olson	14.0
7	Gary Cummings	11.5
	John Roush	11.5
9	Dave Hundley	11.0
-	Jim Fuller	11.0
10.	Byron Funkhouser	10.5
11.	Jeremy Green	10.0
12.	Jim Olson	9.5
13.	Charles Waugh	9.0
14.	Mike Baker	8.5
15.	David Saville	7.0
	Sam Rhodes	7.0
	William Salmon	7.0
18.	David Comer	6.0
19.	Galen Miller	5.0
20.	George Stone	4.5
	David Hines	4.5
22.	Katherine King	4.0
	Alexandra Savurko	4.0
	James Kirkpatrick	4.0
25.	Matt Walker	3.5
	William Slade	3.5
27.	Ben Shumate	3.0
	Rick Shaver	3.0
29.	Harold Mitchell	2.5
30.	Thomas Hamilton	2.0
31.	Scott Russel	1.5
32.	Jason Young	1.0
	Andrew Cummings	1.0
	Walt Rueckert	1.0

West Virginia State Chess Champions

In 1936 the first official United States Championship began. Three year later the West Virginia Chess Association held its first championship and has continued uninterrupted to complete 65 complete championships. These are the players of our heritage.

- 1939 John Hurt, Jr.
- 1940 William Hartling
- 1941 Walt Crede
- 1942 H. Landis Marks
- 1943 Siegfried Werthammer
- 1944 Siegfried Werthammer
- 1945 Harold Leggett
- 1946 Siegfried Werthammer
- 1947 H. Landis Marks
- 1948 John Hurt, Jr. , Siegfried Werthammer
- 1949 Siegfried Werthammer, Ed Foy
- 1950 Siegfried Werthammer
- 1951 Allan DuVall, Ed Foy, John Hurt, Jr. , Siegfried Werthammer
- 1952 Siegfried Werthammer
- 1953 Siegfried Werthammer
- 1954 Donald Burdick
- 1955 Donald Burdick, Allan DuVall, John Hurt, Jr., Siegfried Werthammer
- 1956 Donald Burdick, Charles Morgan
- 1957 Donal Burdick, Siegfried Werthammer
- 1958 Siegfried Werthammer
- 1959 Micajah Wren
- 1960 H. Landis Marks
- 1961 Alex Darbes
- 1962 Alex Darbes
- 1963 John Downes
- 1964 Ronald Kennedy, John Scherer
- 1965 Siegfried Werthammer
- 1966 William Payne
- 1967 William Payne
- 1968 Robert Bonwell, Cornelio Nolasco
- 1969 Marvin Barker, Jr. , David Marples
- 1970 Robert Bonwell, David Marples, Jorge Ribeiro, John Scherer
- 1971 Charles Szasz
- 1972 John Phythyon
- 1973 David Marples, John Molino
- 1974 John Molino
- 1975 Gary Cummings, Donald Griffith, Robert Smith
- 1976 Jeffery Ashley
- 1977 Dennis Funkhouser, Paul Harless

1978 Gary Cummings, John Roush
1979 Donald Griffith, Paul Harless
1980 Dennis Funkhouser
1981 Dennis Funkhouser, Andrew Glancy, David Marples, Ack Morgan
1982 Marvin Barker, Jr.
1983 Donald Griffith, John Roush
1984 Edward Garner, Alan Federl
1985 Marvin Barker, Jr.
1986 Edward Garner, Andrew Katz, Paul Lane, Patrick Kelly
1987 Dennis Funkhouser
1988 John Roush
1989 Alex Chang, Donald Griffith, John Roush
1990 John Roush, Andrew Katz
1991 Donald Griffith
1992 Donald Griffith, Charles Schulien
1993 Donald Griffith, Charles Schulien
1994 Donald Griffith, James Gikas
1995 Andrew Katz
1996 Marvin Barker, Jr.
1997 John Roush, Donald Griffith, Andy Katz, Jim Walker
1998 David Saville, Jim Walker, Mike Turner, Sefus Ellis, David Olson
1999 Donald Griffith, Mark Hathaway
2000 Donald Griffith, Mark Hathaway
2001 Mark Hathaway
2002 Mark Hathaway
2003 Alexandr Dementiev
2004 Not yet determined

WVCA State Championship Statistics:

Most Titles

Siegfried Werthammer	13
Donald Griffith	11

Most consecutive Titles:

Siegfried Werthammer	6	1948-1953
Donald Burdick	4	1954-1957
Donald Griffith	4	1991-1994
Mark Hathaway	4	1999-2002

Most years between Titles:

H. Landis Marks	13	1947 and 1960
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Most Solo Titles:

Siegfried Werthammer	7
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Youngest Solo Champion:

Alexandr Dementiev	Age 13
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Charleston Chess Club Championship

2003

To finish the year the Charleston Chess Club has held its championship on a round robin basis for the last several years. With some the great old events, like the Holiday Open in Huntington and, the fall classics in Morgantown, now gone this format fills the empty days of fall where currently no chess life exists. This is no doubt in part to the recovery time required by some after the strain of the state championships.

In 2003 the contest was joined again. Ten players fought through nine rounds. Some perennials were missing this year but it was as always a generally hard fought event. Jim Walker won the event with 8 ½ points just ahead of John Roush with 8 points. A single draw was the difference. The two players made their way through the event without a loss. It was a worthy field of players regardless of the missing paladins from previous years. Below is the cross table of the 2003 edition of the Charleston Chess Club Championship.

PLR#	NAME	ST Rate	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Score
1	Jim Walker	WV 2012	*	D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	8.5
2	John Roush	WV 2008	D	*	D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	8.0
3	Donald Griffith	WV 2045	L	D	*	D	W	W	W	W	W	W	7.0
4	Gary Cummings	WV 1807	L	L	D	*	W	L	W	W	W	W	5.5
5	John Sefton	KY 1503	L	L	L	L	*	W	W	L	W	W	4.0
6	Sefus Ellis	WV 1627	L	L	L	W	L	÷	W	D	L	D	3.0
7	Chuck Waugh	WV 1613	L	L	L	L	L	L	*	W	W	W	3.0
8	Jim Olson	WV 1442	L	L	L	L	W	D	L	*	W	L	2.5
9	Joe Weaver	WV 1320	L	L	L	L	L	W	L	L	*	W	2.0
10	Bill Salmon	WV 934	L	L	L	L	L	D	L	W	L	*	1.5

One of the most significant developments of this year's event was the swing back to William Salmon with his always highly anticipated encounters with James Olson. The game was scheduled in the first round and Salmon was tied for the lead for the first time in the history of the event.

On the Scholastic Chess Scene

By Gary Cummings

Scholastic chess has seen a most rapid growth period and is only starting to stabilize now. The effects of the movie "Searching for Bobby Fischer" apparently had the most power to begin this trend. Here in West Virginia there has been much recent increased activity. Not short on the reasons is the realization that a scholastic state chess champion can venture to such prominent events as the Denker Classic and now the Polgar Invitational for the best female scholastic player from a state. From these events, full scholarships and trust fund scholarships make becoming eligible to play in them more than just a thrill.

In the Kanawha Valley this past year a doubling of the participants in a scholastic chess league and teams entered from a variety of schools has given hopes of an even greater increase in participation. Known as the KVSCL the league hosted two sections this past year for K6 and below and K7 and above. A great majority of the kids who played in this league then continued on to try their first state championship. The final objective of the league is to have the chess teams that these schools provide seen as true school sports teams and making being able to play on a school team a true accomplishment and an honor as well.

The KVSCL had ten 3 player teams in its K6 section and nine 3 player teams in the K7 and above section. In all 66 kids played in the league during its 2 and one half month schedule.

Jeremy Green won the high school state chess championship for the second year in succession. He was at first the selected representative for the state of WV for the Denker Classic but then it was discovered that he became 19 years of age before September. This disqualified him from participation. In his place the alternate of Eric Guffey was nominated.

Eric made the trip to the Denker as the representative for the state of West Virginia. He was the lowest rated player in the field of 46. He managed a tie for 32nd to 42nd with a last round upset over a player rated a full 200 points higher.

We do not have the attendance at our open events to hold tournaments with sections by class but the need for more Reserve sections joined alongside our open events might be the only logical method that would offer the needed degree of competition that the scholastic players in this state are lacking.

All is not bleak. I saw many promising players at the scholastic championships this past April. With the encouragement to participate in events with longer time controls and much more demanding competition there were several that make great leaps in skill level. Any tournament organizer who plans on putting together an open event is encouraged to setup a Reserve Section starting at under 1400 and equally offer prizes for players under 1200. This seems the best device to let the kids become more accomplished in the atmosphere and conditions that they are likely to find if they make it to the Denker or the Polgar.

On The Scholastic Chess Scene

2004 West Virginia High School Championships

Pair Num	Player Name USCF ID / Rtg (Pre->Post)	Total Pts	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
1	JEREMY GREEN WV 12705091 / 1578 ->1616	5.0	W	6 W	5 W	12 W	3 W 4
2	ERIC J GUFFEY WV 12729445 / 1374 ->1367	4.0	W	7 L	3 W	5 W	14 W 11
3	JUSTIN B NEACE WV 12689427 / 1162 ->1260	4.0	W	9 W	2 W	11 L	1 W 6
4	JASON YOUNG WV 12669114 / 1768 ->1741	3.5	D	13 W	7 W	15 W	8 L 1
5	NATHAN T HOXIE WV 12792072 / 1120 ->1137	3.0	W	10 L	1 L	2 W	12 W 14
6	NATHANIEL NICHOLSON WV 12852354 / 998 ->1029	3.0	L	1 W	13 W	19 W	15 L 3
7	DOMINICK CHRISTIANO WV 12732863 / 972 -> 983	3.0	L	2 L	4 W	18 W	16 W 17
8	JIM M EAKINS WV 12917643 / 893P7 -> 906P12	3.0	W	18 W	9 W	14 L	4 L 10
9	CALEB I HURD WV 12829096 / 841P13-> 822P17	3.0	L	3 L	8 B	W	18 W 19
10	GEOFFREY B SMEAD WV 12903707 / 731P4 -> 852P9	3.0	L	5 W	16 W	17 L	13 W 8
11	STEPHEN R SIMMONS WV 12936254 / Unrated->1015P5	3.0	W	16 W	17 L	3 W	19 L 2
12	BRADLEY N MORGAN WV 12936250 / Unrated-> 972P5	3.0	W	17 W	18 L	1 L	5 W 16
13	JESSE C TINGLER WV 12825015 / 1066 ->1044	2.5	D	4 L	6 L	16 W	10 W 15
14	STEPHANIE JOHNSON WV 12903709 / 683P4 -> 653P8	2.0	B	W	19 L	8 L	2 L 5
15	ANDREW B HENNEMAN WV 12936237 / Unrated-> 661P4	2.0	W	19 B	L	4 L	6 L 13
16	SAMUEL L ASH WV 12936234 / Unrated-> 748P5	1.0	L	11 L	10 W	13 L	7 L 12
17	JOSIAH J BATTEN WV 12936232 / Unrated-> 477P4	1.0	L	12 L	11 L	10 B	L 7
18	RYAN A LAWLER WV 12936245 / Unrated-> 432P4	1.0	L	8 L	12 L	7 L	9 B
19	AMANDA M DZIELSKI WV 12936228 / Unrated-> 298P5	0.0	L	15 L	14 L	6 L	11 L 9

On The Scholastic Chess Scene

2004 Denker Tournament for High School Champions

No.	St	Name	Rate	Pts	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6
1	NJ	Molner, Mackenzie	2294	5	W31	W8	D4	D12	W3	W5
2	AZ	Garrett, Pieta	2281	5	W26	L29	W19	W14	W15	W6
3	OR	Zaikov, Oleg	2316	4.5	W28	D17	W29	W11	L1	W8
4	IN	Mihelich, Patrick	2072	4.5	W37	W30	D1	D6	D7	W13
5	NE	Kiewra, Keaton F	2275	4	D9	W41	D10	W13	W12	L1
6	VA	Yang, Ruixin	2184	4	W36	D10	W33	D4	W11	L2
7	TX	Chua, Alexander Ja	2198	4	W19	L11	W36	W10	D4	D9
8	MI	Kahn, Aaron E	2066	4	W35	L1	W34	W24	W20	L3
9	KY	Whaley, Davis M	1954	4	D5	W38	D15	W18	D16	D7
10	LA	Jackson, Trevor H	2037	4	W44	D6	D5	L7	W25	W29
11	MS	Denton, Bradley J	2047	3.5	W42	W7	W18	L3	L6	D15
12	CA	Tejes, Benjamin	2117	3.5	W24	D13	W23	D1	L5	D16
13	MO	Volkman, Jeremy M	1850	3.5	W27	D12	W17	L5	W29	L4
14	UT	Mielke, Jason	2021	3.5	D32	W21	D16	L2	D24	W35
15	WA	Shamilov, Eduard	2141	3.5	W39	D33	D9	W31	L2	D11
16	GA	Gulamali, Kazim	2246	3.5	W25	D23	D14	D29	D9	D12
17	KS	Datta, Deepyaman	2049	3.5	W45	D3	L13	D30	W26	D21
18	IL	Duncan, Jason T	2120	3.5	W34	W22	L11	L9	W31	D20
19	NM	Calhoun, Peter Mon	1926	3.5	L7	W42	L2	W41	D22	W33
20	PA	Milisits, Ryan Rob	2191	3.5	L23	W32	W39	W26	L8	D18
21	CA	Melikadamian, Alen	2135	3.5	D38	L14	W32	D25	W23	D17
22	FL	Guadalupe, Francisco	2004	3.5	-B-	L18	L24	W37	D19	W30
23	CT	Harris, Ian Randal	1908	3	W20	D16	L12	W33	L21	D27
24	OK	Spencer, Cris G	1789	3	L12	W27	W22	L8	D14	D28
25	MN	Moe, Conor A	1944	3	L16	W43	D30	D21	L10	W36
26	WY	Smith, Andrew M	1964	3	L2	W45	W41	L20	L17	W37
27	NC	Tapia, Daniel	2158	3	L13	L24	W38	D34	W39	D23

On The Scholastic Chess Scene

28	NV	Patraw, Michael G	2000	3	L3	L37	W43	W45	D30	D24
29	FL	Galofre, Charles A	2038	2.5	W43	W2	L3	D16	L13	L10
30	HI	Lee, Danton T		2.5	W40	L4	D25	D17	D28	L22
31	WI	Santarius, Erik F	1992	2.5	L1	W35	W37	L15	L18	D32
32	SC	Shuler, Matthew G	1483	2.5	D14	L20	L21	W38	D36	D31
33	MA	Spector, Jason Stu	2012	2.5	W46	D15	L6	L23	W34	L19
34	IA	Rocklin, David Z	1790	2.5	L18	W40	L8	D27	L33	W43
35	ID	Powers, Bobby C	1649	2.5	L8	L31	W44	D36	W40	L14
36	OH	Jakob, Matthew P	1873	2	L6	W44	L7	D35	D32	L25
37	SD	Young, Alexander C	1651	2	L4	W28	L31	L22	W45	L26
38	RI	Dickson, James O	1837	2	D21	L9	L27	L32	W41	D40
39	CO	Cooksey, Brandon	1838	2	L15	W46	L20	D40	L27	D42
40	TN	Gibson, Griffin	2004	2	L30	L34	W42	D39	L35	D38
41	WV	Guffey, Eric J	1357	2	-B-	L5	L26	L19	L38	W45
42	MD	Aisen, Daniel C	1558	2	L11	L19	L40	D46	W44	D39
43	AL	Olson, Keenan	1545	1.5	L29	L25	L28	D44	W46	L34
44	MT	Young, Scott K	1514	1.5	L10	L36	L35	D43	L42	W46
45	DC	Carabello, Victor	1580	1	L17	L26	W46	L28	L37	L41
46	AR	Crawford, Todd E	1382	0.5	L33	L39	L45	D42	L43	L44

2004 Kanawha Valley Open

The event held March 6 and 7 in the Charleston House Holiday Inn in Charleston, West Virginia was poorly attended. This very low degree of participation dealt a death blow to the long running Charleston Open planned for May or June. In this case it looks as if the saying should be "If you don't come, they won't build it".

The event saw some very lively games from the small group that did attend. Donald Griffith gained the clear first place spot with a score of 4 out of 5. Ben Good defeated Griffith in the last round to pull into a tie for second with Gary Cummings. With a win over Jason Young, who was the only player in the last round with a chance to tie Griffith, Cummings also gained 3 ½ points to match Good for 2nd through 3rd place.

Ben Good collected the class A prize while Cummings picked up the class B. Charles Waugh gained the class C prize with 2 ½ points, Gilbert Stone the class D prize with 2 ½ points and Katie King gathered in the class E/under prize with 1 ½.

Waugh's only rival for the C prize, Jim Olson, withdrew and did not play the last two rounds. Gilbert Stone, who drew with Cummings in round one, only had to better David Hundley. For King the only player that she needed to outscore was William Salmon. Both players obtained a forced bye win but only Katie was able to add another ½ point to her total.

Here are a few of the games from the event. The effect of most of the players keeping their own score pads resulted in

very few score sheets being turned into for the purpose of being used in this publication.

Sefus Ellis - Gary Cummings

Round 2

Queen's Indian

1. c4 e6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 d5 4. Nf3 b6 5. e3 Be7 6. a3 Bb7 7. b4 Ne4 8. Nxe4 dxe4 9. Nd2 c5 10. Qa4 + Nd7 11. b5 O-O 12. Qb3 f5 13. Bb2 Bf6 14. Rd1 f4 15. d5 Bxb2 16. Qxb2 fxe3 17. fxe3 Qg5 18. Nxe4 Qh4 + 19. Ng3 exd5 20. cxd5 Rae8 21. Qc3 Nf6 22. d6 Ng4 23. Qc4 + Kh8 24. Be2 Re4 25. Qb3 Nxe3 26. Bf3 Nxe3 + 27. Kf2 Re3 28. Qxe3 Nxe3 29. Kxe3 Qf4 + 30. resigns
0-1

David Hundley - Gilbert Stone

Rd. 3

Center Counter

1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Qxd5 3. Nc3 Qa5 4. Bc4 Nf6 5. Nf3 e6 6. O-O c6 7. Re1 Bd6 8. d4 O-O 9. Ne4 Nxe4 10. Rxe4 Nd7 11. Bg5 Nb6 12. Bd3 Nd5 13. c4 Ne7 14. c5 Bxc5 15. dxc5 Qxc5 16. Rc1 Qd6 17. Rh4 g6 18. Bf4 Qd5 19. Rh6 Qxa2 20. Ng5 Nf5 21. Rxh7 Qxb2 22. Rc2 Qd4 23. Rc4 Qd5 24. h4 b5 25. Rc1 f6 26. Rc7 fxg5 27. Bxg5 Rf7 28. Rxf7 Kxf7 29. h5 Bb7 30. Bxf5 gxf5 31. Qe1 c5 32. f3 Rg8 33. Rd1 Qc6 34. Bf4 Rxe2 + 35. Kh1 Rg4 36. Rd3 Rxf4 37. Qg3 Rg4 38. Qf4 Rxf4 39. Kg2 Rxf3 40. Kh2 Rf2 + 41. Kg3 Qg2 + 42. Kh4 Qg4 #
0-1

2004 Kanawha Valley Open

Donald Griffith - Jason Young
 Round 3
 Philidor's Defense

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 exd4 4. Qxd4
 Nc6 5. Bb5 Bd7 6. Bxc6 Bxc6 7. Nc3
 Nf6 8. Bg5 Be7 9. O-O-O O-O
 10. Rhe1 Ng4 11. Bxe7 Qxe7 12. Nd5
 Qd7 13. h3 Bxd5 14. Qxd5 Nf6
 15. Qxb7 Rfb8 16. Qa6 Rb6 17. Qa3
 Qc6 18. Nd4 Qb7 19. f3 Rb8 20. b3
 Nd7 21. Re3 a5 22. Rc3 a4 23. bxa4
 Rb1 + 24. Kd2 d5 25. Rxb1
 Qxb1 26. Rb3 Rxb3 27. Qxb3 Qg1
 28. Qxd5 Qxg2 + 29. Ne2 Qxh3 30. a5
 h5 31. a6 Nf6 32. a7 Qxf3 33. a8=Q +
 Kh7 34. Qf5 + Qxf5 35. exf5
 1-0



Jason Young

James Fuller - Gary Cummings
 Round 3
 Queen's Indian

1. Nf3 e6 2. g3 Nf6 3. Bg2 d5 4. c4
 Be7 5. O-O b6 6. d4 O-O 7. b3
 Bb7 8. Bb2 Nbd7 9. Nbd2 Rc8
 10. cxd5 exd5 11. Ne5 Bd6 12. h3
 c5 13. f4 cxd4 14. Bxd4 Nc5 15. Ndf3
 Nce4 16. Kh2 Nh5 17. Bf2 Bc5 18. Be1
 Qe7 19. Nd3 Be3 20. Nh4 f5 21. Bb4
 Bc5 22. Nxc5 bxc5 23. Be1 d4 24. e3
 g6 25. exd4 cxd4 26. Qxd4 Rfd8

27. Qxa7 Rc2 28. g4 fxe4 29. hxg4
 Nhg3 30. Bxg3 Nxb3 31. Kxg3
 Rd3 + 32. Rf3 Rxe2 + 33. Nxb2
 Rxf3 + 34. Kh2 Rh3 + 35. Kg1
 Rh1 + 36. Kf2 Rxa1 37. b4 and
 black won in a few more moves.
 0-1

Donald Griffith - Ben Good
 Round 5
 Caro Kahn

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 cxd5 4. c4
 Nf6 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Nf3 Bg4 7. cxd5
 Nxd5 8. Bc4 e6 9. O-O Bxf3 10. Qxf3
 Nxd4 11. Qe4 Nxc3 12. bxc3 Nc6
 13. Bf4 Be7 14. Rab1 Qc8 15. Rfe1
 O-O 16. Bd3 g6 17. Re3 Bf6 18. Bh6
 Rd8 19. h4 Bxc3 20. h5 Rd4 21. Qf3
 Rxd3 22. Rxd3 Ne5 23. Qe4 Nxd3
 24. Qxd3 Bg7 25. Qe3 Qc2 26. Rc1
 Bxh6 27. Rxc2 Bxe3 28. fxe3 gxf5
 29. Rc7 b6 30. Kf2 Kg7 31. Kg3 Kg6
 32. e4 a6 33. Rb7 b5 34. Kf3
 Rc8 35. Rb6 Rc3 + 36. Kf4 Ra3
 37. g4 hxg4 38. Kxg4 Rxa2 39. Kf4
 Ra4 40. Rb8 Kg7 41. Kf3 b4 42. Ke3
 Ra3 + 43. Kd2 a5
 0-1

Donald does better when he sacrifices
 exchanges and not pawns.



My advice is go for the draw.

2004 Kanawha Valley Open

PLR#	NAME	ST Rate	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL
1	Donald Griffith	WV 2035	W---6	W---4	W---5	W---3	L---2	4.0
2	Benjamin Good	WV 1902	W---9	L---5	W---8	D---6	W---1	3.5
3	Gary Cummings	WV 1799	D---7	W---8	W--10	L---1	W---5	3.5
4	Shih Houng Young	WV 1790	W--11	L---1	L---9	W--12	W---6	3.0
5	Jason Young	WV 1753	W--12	W---2	L---1	W--10	L---3	3.0
6	Chuck Waugh	WV 1583	L---1	W--11	W--13	D---2	L---4	2.5
7	Gilbert Stone	WV 1263	D---3	L--10	W--11	L---8	W--13	2.5
8	Sefus Ellis	WV 1600	W--13	L---3	L---2	W---7	U----	2.0
9	Jim Olson	WV 1433	L---2	W--12	W---4	U----	U----	2.0
10	Jim Fuller	WV 1764	H----	W---7	L---3	L---5	U----	1.5
11	David Hundley	WV 1218	L---4	L---6	L---7	W--13	D--12	1.5
12	Katherine King	WV 1121	L---5	L---9	B----	L---4	D--11	1.5
13	Bill Salmon	WV 1000	L---8	B----	L---6	L--11	L---7	1.0

Prize Winners:

1st - Donald Griffith 4.0
 2nd - Benjamin Good, Gary Cummings 3.5

Class A - Benjamin Good 3.5
 Class B - Gary Cummings 3.5
 Class C - Chuck Waugh 2.5
 Class D - Gilbert Stone 2.5
 Class E - Katherine King 1.5

The Top Twenty Five

This is a list of the 25 highest rated active players in West Virginia. To make the list the player had to be active in over the board play within the last two years.

	<u>Player</u>	<u>Rating</u>
1.	Mark Hathaway	2119
2.	Neil Markovitz	2042
3.	Marvin Barker	2035
4.	Donald Griffith	2034
5.	James Walker	2029
6.	John Roush	2017
7.	David Saville	2011
8.	Alexandra Savurko	1974/15
9.	Alexandr Dementiev	1958
10.	Ed Garner	1943
11.	David Hines	1925
12.	Benjamin Good	1877
13.	Harold Mitchell	1819
14.	Gary Cummings	1810
15.	Byron Funkhouser	1793
16.	Shih-Houng Young	1772
17.	James Fuller	1759
18.	Russell Scott	1660
19.	Jeremy Green	1616
20.	Sefus Ellis	1600
21.	Charles Waugh	1588
22.	Joseph Baker	1567
23.	Daniel Seavy	1565/10
24.	Thomas Hamilton	1538
25.	Matthew Walker	1531

2004 WVCA Action Championship

The two tournaments specifically called for by the WVCA bylaws are the state championship to be held as a six round event over the Labor Day weekend and the Action Championship. It was hoped that the Action would be held approximately six months from the state championship. This year it ran a little late. It was held on June 12, 2004 at the Parks and Recreation room at the St. Albans Municipal Utilities Commission building.

The rounds were dropped to five rather than the expected six when only 12 players showed for the event. Ben Good became our new G/30 champion with a score of 4 ½ out those five rounds. Gary Cummings took second with 3 ½ points. Jeremy Green also scored 3 ½ but elected to claim the under 1800 prize as it was greater than a split of second place would have been. James Fuller gained the 2nd place in the under 1800 section. It was a tie for 1st between William Salmon and Katherine King for the under 1400 prize, both scoring 2 points.

Donald Griffith entered the event as the highest rated player but did not have a particularly good day. He lost to Ben Good in the last round to repeat history from the Kanawha Valley Open. Only in that event he was already 4-0. This time he was only 3-1 as he entered that game.

The factors of players using their own score pads and the rapid game in thirty time control has left me very few game scores that have legible notation. Virtually none at all on the right side of the score sheets. Nothing more than check marks, of all things?! Still, we will try to show what action we can.

Katherine King - Donald Griffith

Round 2

Sicilian Defense / Dragon

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Be2 g6 7. f3 Bg7 8. Be3 O-O 9. Qd2 d5 10. O-O-O e6 11. g4 Nxd4 12. Bxd4 Qa5 13. e5 Nd7 14. f4 Rb8 15. h4 b5 16. a3 f6 17. Rhf1 fxe5 18. fxe5 Ba6 19. Bxa7 Ra8 20. Qe3 b4 21. Bxa6 Qxa6 22. Na2 Rxf1 23. Rxf1 Qxf1 + 24. Kd2 Nxe5 25. Nxb4 Nc4 #
0-1

Her first expert. She looked good until that suspiciously free pawn caught her eye. Then there were just too many pieces in danger for one move to fix.

James Watson – David Hundley

Round 2

Sicilian Defense

His very first tournament. Watson had many things to get used to about playing OTB chess. Clocks ticking, how to write that move down, and all this in under thirty minutes. There's a learning curve.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 e6 4. c3 b6 5. dxc5 Bxc5 6. Be3 Be7 7. g3 Bb7 8. Bg2 Qc7 9. O-O Nf6 10. Ng5 h6 11. Nxf7 Kxf7 12. f3 Rhf8 13. Nd2 Kg8 14. f4 Rf7 15. h3 Raf8 16. f5 Na5 17. Bf4 e5 18. Be3 d5 19. b4 Nc4 20. Bf2 Nxd2 21. Qxd2 Nxe4 22. Bxe4 dxe4 23. g4 Rd8 24. Qe3 Rd3 25. Qe2 Rxb3 26. Kg2 Rxc3 27. Rad1 e3 + 28. Kg1 exf2 + 29. Qxf2 Bxb4 30. f6 Bc5 31. Qxc5 Qxc5 +
0-1

2004 WVCA Action Championship

PLR#	NAME	ST	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL
1	Benjamin Good	WV	1877	W---7	W---8	D---5	W---3	W---4	4.5
2	Gary Cummings	WV	1810	W--11	D---3	L---4	W---7	W---5	3.5
3	Jeremy Green	WV	1616	W--12	D---2	W---8	L---1	W---6	3.5
4	Donald Griffith	WV	2034	D---6	W---9	W---2	D---5	L---1	3.0
5	James Fuller	WV	1759	W---9	W---6	D---1	D---4	L---2	3.0
6	Sefus Ellis	WV	1600	D---4	L---5	W---9	W--10	L---3	2.5
7	Charles Waugh	WV	1588	L---1	W--10	D--11	L---2	W--12	2.5
8	Jerry Skeen	WV	1636	W--10	L---1	L---3	W--11	L---9	2.0
9	Katherine King	WV	1119	L---5	L---4	L---6	W--12	W---8	2.0
10	William Salmon	WV	978	L---8	L---7	W--12	L---6	W--11	2.0
11	David Hundley	WV	1199	L---2	W--12	D---7	L---8	L--10	1.5
12	James Watson	WV	unr.	L---3	L--11	L--10	L---9	L---7	0.0

2004 WVCA Action Championship

Sefus Ellis - Donald Griffith

Round One

Sicilian Defense

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. Bb5 + Bd7
4. Nc3 Nc6 5. d3 g6 6. Bd2 Bg7
7. Rb1 Nd4 8. Nxd4 cxd4 9. Bxd7 +
Qxd7 10. Ne2 e6 11. O-O Ne7 12. c4
O-O 13. b4 b5 14. cxb5 Qxb5 15. Qb3
Rfc8 16. a4 Qd7 17. Rfc1 d5 18. f3
dxe4 19. fxe4 Nc6 20. b5 Ne5 21. h3
Bf8 22. Rxc8 Rxc8 23. a5 Rb8 24. Bf4
f6 25. b6 axb6 26. axb6 Rb7 27. Bxe5
fxe5 28. Qb5 Qxb5 29. Rxb5 Bd6
30. Nc1 Kf8 31. Nb3 Ke8 32. Na5
Rb8 33. Nc6 Rb7 34. Na5 Rb8 35. Nc6
Rb7
1/2-1/2

Ellis had arrived late and played his half
of the game in fifteen.

Jeremy Green – Jerry Skeen

Round Three

Modern Defense

1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Nf3 b6 4. Bc4
e6 5. d5 exd5 6. Qxd5 Qe7 7. Qxa8
Qb4 + 8. Nbd2 Ne7 9. Qxb8 O-O
10. Qxc7 Nc6 11. O-O b5 12. Bd5
Nd4 13. Nxd4 Qxd4 14. Nf3 Qf6
15. Bg5 Qa6 16. Ne5 Qb6 17. Qxb6
axb6 18. Nxf7 Rxf7 19. Bxf7 + Kxf7
20. c3 Bb7 21. Rad1 Bc6 22. Be3
Ke6 23. Bxb6 b4 24. cxb4 Bxb2
25. Bc5 Bf6 26. Rd3 Be5 27. f4
Bc7 28. f5 + gxf5 29. exf5 + Kf6
30. Bd4 + Kf7 31. Re3 Bb5 32. Rfel
Bd8 33. Re8 Bg5 34. f6 Bd2
35. R1e7 + Kg6 36. Rg8 + Kh6
37. f7
1-0

James Fuller – Gary Cummings

Round Five

Queen's Indian

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 b6 4. e3
Bb7 5. Be2 Be7 6. O-O O-O 7. Nc3
d5 8. cxd5 exd5 9. a4 Nbd7 10. Bd3
c5 11. h3 Ne4 12. Bd2 f5 13. Ne2
Ndf6 14. Ne5 Nxd2 15. Qxd2
Ne4 16. Qe1 Bd6 17. Nf3 Qf6 18. a5
c4 19. Bc2 Rae8 20. axb6 axb6
21. Ra7 Bc6 22. b3 Bb5 23. bxc4
Bxc4 24. Bxe4 fxe4 25. Nd2 Bd3
26. f4 exf3 27. Rxf3 Qg5 28. Rxf8 +
Rxf8 29. Nc1 Bg3 30. Qd1
Qxe3 + 31. Kh1 Qxd2 32. Rxc7 +
Kxc7 33. Qg4 + Bg6 34. Qxc3
Qxc1 + 35. Kh2 Qf4
0-1

Ben Good - Donald Griffith

Round Five

Sicilian Defense

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4
4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 d6 6. Bg5 Bd7
7. Be2 Rc8 8. O-O Qa5 9. Bxf6
gxf6 10. Nb3 Qg5 11. f4 Qh4 12. Qe1
Qxe1 13. Raxel Nb4 14. Bd1
Rg8 15. a3 Nc6 16. Nd5 Be6
17. c3 f5 18. Bf3 fxe4 19. Bxe4
Bxd5 20. Bxd5 e6 21. f5 e5 22. Nd2
Ne7 23. Be4 f6 24. Bxb7 Rb8
25. Nc4 d5 26. Na5 Kd7 27. b4
Bh6 28. Rd1 Be3 + 29. Kh1
d4 30. cxd4 exd4 31. Be4
Rbc8 32. Nb3 Rc4 33. Bd3
Rc3 34. Bb5 + Kc8 35. Nxd4
Rd8 36. Ba6 + Kb8 37. Nb5
Rcd3 38. Rxd3 Rxd3 39. g4
Nd5
1-0

White won the game and the Action
Championship.

The New Grand Prix

The change over was complete with the 2003 state championship. The cycle begins with the first WVCA GP event following each Labor Day state championship. Generally the home of only the best players, and still high finishes promise higher GP standings, the top ten finishers may now easily become filled with players from lower classes. The effect of simply a participation point for entering and bonus points for the best in a standard rating class allow even the players from the lowest rating groups to fight for a top ten finish. note the position of David Hundley's finish in the 2003 standings.

Regardless of the prize fund distribution, the Grand Prix points are awarded based on score plus and finish in a rating class group. This allows virtually anyone, in any rating class, to keep pace with the continual high scoring players by simply coming to a GP event. Even if there is no class prize at a specific GP tournament the Grand Prix points will be awarded in this manner. This can benefit a player from a lower rating group immensely.

TDs and Organizers:

The only promised GP events at the beginning of each cycle are the Action event and the concluding state championship. The current Bohemian Charleston Chess Club always registers any of its events as GPs and we urge all tournament organizers to do so as well. This ensures that the event may be advertised as a WVCA GP event and placed on the WVCA website listed as such. The current token registration fee is \$10. and should be sent to the WVCA secretary with this indication.

It is the intention, with the start of this publication, that the top ten finishers in the Grand Prix, beginning with the 2003 finishers, be listed with each new bulletin. This is meant to become a continual historical listing. Not to underplay the value of the state championship but to make an attempt to recognize and honor those who have continued to play through thick and thin to support chess in West Virginia and the WVCA.

2003 Grand Prix Winners: (repeated)

1. Donald Griffith
2. Alex Dementiev
3. Mark Hathaway
4. Ben Good
5. Jim Walker
6. Dave Olson
- 7-8 Gary Cummings, John Roush
- 9 Dave Hundley
10. Jim Fuller, Byron Funkhouser