

WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

JULY, 1948

NO. 70

AL DUVALL WINS SOUTH CHARLESTON PLAYOFF

Allen DuVall won the Carbide Chess championship for the second consecutive year by taking the final game of a playoff match with Harold Liggett in play at the South Charleston Recreation Hall.

DuVall and Liggett tied for first place in the regular six-round Swiss play. DuVall won by a score of 3 to 1 in the playoff series.

FAUST WINS BRILLIANCY PRIZE

Dr. Siegfried Werthammer of Huntington, games editor of the Bulletin, has selected Edwin Faust's win over John Hurt in the preliminary rounds of the Charleston City Tournament for a brilliancy prize. The award is a one-year subscription to CHESS LIFE, the official USCF newspaper.

CHESS JUNIORS AT HUNTINGTON

Dr. V. S. Hayward of Huntington writes (June 12):

"Could you find room in the Bulletin for a little article on a junior chess group in our town? The 'Youth Center' at the Huntington YMCA is attempting its organization, and a half dozen or so high school lads are interested. I have been asked to be leader of the group.

"The Youngsters already have begun a double round robin among themselves. I will send you reports of their progress from time to time, I am hopeful some of these players will be on hand for the Junior Tournament next Labor Day week-end at South Charleston."

The Bulletin always has room for mention of junior chess activities. Only thru interesting the younger generation in the game, we believe, can West Virginia hope, one day, to produce a national champion.

MAKE STATE TOURNEY RESERVATIONS EARLY

Secretary Holt reports reservations are coming in slowly for hotel rooms at the 10th annual West Virginia tournament next Labor Day week-end in South Charleston.

He points out Charleston hotels probably will be more than crowded at the time of the tournament and says reservations of any kind likely will be hard to get, even on long notice. So write him at once, specifying if you want a room for one person or two, and giving him some idea of the kind of accommodations you wish. The address is H. Reid Holt, 164 Sunset Drive, Charleston 1, W.Va.

The Carbide Club of South Charleston will be host at the meet. Sessions will be held in the South Charleston Recreation Hall. In addition to the regular state title event, there will be three new tournaments this year: (1) women's championship, (2) junior championship, for players up to 21 years old, and (3) players' tournament, for those who do not care to play for any of the state titles.

Entry fees will be as follows: State championship, \$5; women's championship, and players' tournament, each \$2; junior championship, \$1. In the first three groups, \$1 of the fee will go for WVCA membership; in the junior group, 50 cents.

A title event will be held in each of these groups for which two or more players register. If only two or three take part, a double round robin will be held; if four to eight players, a single round robin; 9 to 12, a five-round Swiss System; 13 or more players, a six-round Swiss System.

Players may register by mail or at the tourney hall at 11 a. m. Saturday, Sept. 4. Play will begin at 1 p. m.

THE W.VA. CHESS ASSOCIATION President--Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, 2008 N. Englewood Rd., Huntington, W. Va.

Secretary-treasurer--H. Reid Holt, 164 Sunset Drive, Charleston I, W. Va. All letters on WVCA business should be sent to Secy. Holt. WVCA membership is \$1 yearly, including subscription to the WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN.

Publicity Director--Edward M. Foy, 4 Arlington Court, Charleston I, W. Va. Club secretaries should report their tournaments, exhibitions and elections to Director Foy within 24 hours after they occur. Foy desires a correspondent in each W.Va. chess center and will be glad to forward forms for reporting tournaments, game scores and so forth.

Games Editor--Dr. Siegfried Werthammer. Games intended for use in the Bulletin should be mailed to Dr. Werthammer at the above address.

Bulletin Editor--Gene Collett, 125 Meritt Ave., Pittsburgh 27, Pa., to whom send all news items for use in the Bulletin and all papers for exchange.

NEW MEMBER 84 Charles Morgan, 1208 Tenth Ave., Huntington, W. Va.

WVCA FINANCIAL STATEMENT Balance on hand April 1, 1948, \$39.34.

Receipts: Membership dues 1947-48, \$5.25; membership dues 1948-49, \$1; refund from use of typewriter, \$10; total receipts, \$16.25. Expenditures: Mimeographing Bulletin, April to June, \$15.93; Bulletin postage \$6.81; typewriter rental \$9; W.Va. share of prize money for 1947 Tri-State tourney \$10; misc. postage, Bulletin and secretary \$2.59; total, \$44.33. Balance June 30, 1948, \$11.26.

ARE YOU READING? American Chess Bulletin, bimonthly, \$2 a year, 150 Nassau St., New York 7, N. Y.

Chess Life, semimonthly, \$2 a year, Edward I. Treend, 12869 Strathmoor Avenue, Detroit 27, Michigan

Chess Review, monthly, \$4.75 a year, 250 West 57th Street, New York 19, N. Y.
(If you subscribe, please mention the WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN.)

SCHIGGI GIVES EXHIBITION AT CLARKSBURG

Dr. Siegfried Werthammer of Huntington gave a 14-board simultaneous exhibition under the auspices of the Clarksburg Chess Club Saturday night, June 5, at the Stonewall Jackson hotel in Clarksburg.

Schiggi won 10 games, drew 2 and lost 2. Kingsley R. Smith and H. G. Rhawn, the latter editor of the Clarksburg Weekly News, were the two winners, while Dr. Robert T. Humphries and Frank Wisinski got the draws. Other players who opposed the three-time state champion were Bill Maxwell, Joe Michael, William Challinor, Howard Mason, R. M. Moran, Ray Alonzo, William Duckworth, Harry Bohr, L. H. Martin and Robert Warner.

A letter from Kig Smith (June 7) gave some further details of the meet:

"'Twas a wonderful time, indeed. Dr. and Mrs. Werthammer are grand people, and local chess got quite a shot in the arm from the exhibition.

"After the show, several of us adjourned to Bob Humphries' house for a chin-fest. Of course, in a few minutes, Schiggi was playing chess again and he removed any possible lingering doubt as to his ability and superiority by playing and walloping Bob, Frank, Rhawn and myself each twice in rapid succession (except that he was tired and sleepy on the second round and I got a draw)....

"Everyone present was thoroughly won over by Dr. Werthammer's ability and his personality. I've heard many comments since, all of them highly favorable, and we certainly want to have him back.

"I don't know about Rhawn's but my win was simply the blind chicken getting the occasional grain of corn. It was a case of my being slowly throttled in my own parlor until the 31st move when a discovered check by Schiggi let me at least get out of the threatened 'stiflemate' and come out a piece ahead. Every

move from the 3rd to the 31st was a red-hot zugzwang--for me. But then, of course, my chess games generally wind up with the Smith one-move hari-kari combination self-mate special, anyway...

"We truly appreciate Schiggi taking time off and coming up here to give us a splendid evening's entertainment."

Kig added that the Clarksburg club is meeting at Bob Humphries' home this summer, but that this fall it is hoped to resume public meetings with another simultaneous show. A county-wide registration of chess players is planned.

REPORT ON THE YEARBOOK

Last month we acknowledged contributions totalling \$87.50 for publication of our 1945-47 WVCA Yearbook. Since this we have received \$1 each from Rudd T. Neel of Huntington and William Schaeffer of Washington, D. C., and \$1.75 from Charles Morgan of Huntington, and have sold two 1944 Yearbooks for \$1 each. Total receipts of \$5.75 for the month bring our grand total Yearbook Fund to \$93.25.

Owing to delays in the work on certain parts of the book, it looks as if publication will be delayed until August. Sorry to keep setting the date back but "owing to circumstances over which we have no control," etc.

We have received articles on chess in Charleston, Huntington and Wheeling from Edward M. Foy, Tyson E. Cobb, Dr. V. S. Hayward and William R. Cuthbert and have ourselves pieced together a Clarksburg story from information given us by William Challinor, Capt. B. W. Devericks and others, so that we will have a good representation of city stories in the book.

CHESS LIFE GOES TO SIX PAGES

CHESS LIFE, official newspaper of the USCF, which we have been recommending as a bargain for more than a year, is now more of a bargain than ever. Its semi-monthly issues now contains 6 tabloid size newspaper pages instead of four. In other words, 50 per cent more material has been added.

Need we say more? The subscription rate is \$2 a year--24 issues--144 pages. Send the money to Edward I. Treend, 12869 Strathmoor Ave., Detroit 27, Mich., and tell him you read about the paper in the West Virginia Chess Bulletin.

ED FOY TO DIRECT PUBLICITY

Edward M. Foy, who has been doing such fine work with his columns and articles in the Charleston newspapers, has been named publicity director of the West Virginia Chess Association. In making the appointment, Secy. Reid Holt called on officers of all chess clubs in the state to send Ed news promptly on tournament results, exhibitions, election of officers, and other material worth publishing in the national chess magazines--Chess Review, Chess Life and the American Chess Bulletin. Foy asked that such reports be placed in the mail to him within 24 hours after their occurrence. If the news is fresh when he gets it, he has a much better chance of getting it into print.

Duplicate reports of all events also should be sent to Gene Collett for use in the West Virginia Chess Bulletin.

Foy's address is No. 4 Arlington Court, Charleston 1, W. Va.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR BILL DEVERICKS

Bill Devericks is home after serving in the U.S. Army since 1941. His current address is B. W. Devericks, Box 2183, Clarksburg, W. Va. We have been trying to talk him into playing in the 1948 State Tournament at South Charleston but he doesn't know yet whether he will be able to make it.

INFORMAL SOLVING TOURNEY AT STATE MEET

Secy. Reid Holt writes that, if time permits, problem enthusiasts will hold another informal solving tournament at the 1948 State Tournament in South Charleston, similar to the one held in Huntington in 1947. Will interested members drop a line to Holt telling him they'll take part in the contest?

EXTRACTS FROM EDDIE FOY'S CHARLESTON CHESS COLUMNS

Twenty players are taking part in an international chess tourney in Stockholm starting July 15. They include Isaac Kashdan and Arnold Denker of the U.S.A. and Dan Abe Yanofsky of Canada. The five highest scoring players in this event will play in another event with Reuben Fine and Samuel Reshevsky of the U.S.A., Paul Keres and Vasily Smyslov of Russia, and Dr. Max Euwe of Holland. The winner of this second tournament will play a match with Mikhail Botvinnik of Russia for the world championship. No date for the title match has been set...

The Charleston Chess Club has an informal summer tournament under way. Fifty-five openings have been arranged on cards and players must use the opening they draw. Each player is permitted to play two games against each opponent, one game with each color. On Sept. 1, the player with the greatest number of wins is the victor. (Thus, a score of 17 wins and 18 losses would be worth 17 points and would defeat a score of 16 wins and no losses, which would be only 16 points.) Leading scorers, as of the end of June, were: Edward Foy 15, Edwin Faust 11, Milton Stancati $6\frac{1}{2}$, Frank Branner and John Hurt 6 each, Al DuVall, William Hartling and Ray Martin 5 each...

Both Landis Marks, 1947 W.Va. champion, and Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, 1946 state titlist, hope to play in the 1948 State Championship Tournament next Labor Day week-end at South Charleston...

The 1948 USCF Open (in which Editor Foy is playing) is now under way in Baltimore. In the following paragraphs Dick Grimm of Charleston tells of some of his experiences at the 1946 Open in Pittsburgh:

"I was just looking back thru some old chess literature and got to thinking of the 1946 USCF Open I attended at Pittsburgh. I remember how the other candidates gathered in little groups here and there in the registration room of the Roosevelt hotel. Most of them were strangers to me but once in a while I could see a face that had appeared in 'Chess Review' or even on its cover. Tony Santasiere, Don Byrne, George Koltanowski, Herman Steiner and others were easily recognized on sight. Then, by passing around to the various groups and listening to the conversation, I began to realize that such names as Seidman, Kramer, Larry Evans, Kupchik, Bisguier, Weaver Adams, Berliner, Al Sandrin, were now in our midst and would be demonstrating their skill to us in the next two weeks. All those 'big time' chess personalities proved in due time that they were worthy of their positions in the chess world.

"At lunch any day of the Open you could predict the topic of conversation--chess--someone discussing a winning or losing variation in one of the important games; or talking about Adams' new and enlightening analyses and how he had a new prepared variation all set for Santasiere, since he is certain what the defense will be; or suggesting a 'new' move' of 10 Q-K2 in his favorite game--the open variation of Morphy's Defense to the Ruy Lopez. These conversations proved to be an integral part of the free time of the tourney. Eight or 10 'chess-nuts' gathered over one chess board, discussing the many variations and continuations into the wee hours of the morning, was also a familiar sight....

"You could also see the other sides of these chess players--normal, healthy, happy American citizens with wives and families. Several wives accompanied their chess-playing husbands to the 'Open' and thereby kept us in contact with the outside world in those two delightful weeks in which we did nothing but live chess."