

WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

MARCH, 1949

NO. 78

ED FAUST LEADS IN CHARLESTON CITY MEET

Edwin Faust, an instructor at West Virginia Tech, was leading the field with a score of 3-0 at the end of February in the 1949 Charleston City Tournament.

Bill Hartling, former state champion, also had lost no games, but he had a postponement to play off with Arthur Maloy and a score of only 2-0.

Chet Bragaw, a newcomer to Charleston chess, had a score of 2-1 and was in a four-way tie for ~~second~~^{THIRD} with such strong contenders as Al DuVall, Ed Foy and Reid Holt.

TWELVE-MAN ROUND ROBIN

The standings in the 12-man round robin event were:

<u>Player</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Opponents</u>
Edwin Faust	3	0	MALLOY, SWEENEY, BRAGAW
Wm. F. Hartling*	2	0	TRUSLOW, RAY
Chet Bragaw	2	1	HOLT, CREDE, Faust
Al Du Vall	2	1	HURT, Holt, CREDE
Edw. M. Foy	2	1	RAY, HURT, Holt
Reid Holt	2	1	Bragaw, DU VALL, FOY
Arthur Maloy*	1	1	Faust, TRUSLOW
Walt Crede	1	2	SWEENEY, Bragaw, Du Vall
JOHN F. HURT	1	2	Du Vall, Foy, RAY
Bill Truslow	1	2	Hartling, Maloy, SWEENEY
Chester Ray	0	3	Foy, Hartling, Hurt
Harry Sweeney	0	3	Crede, Faust, Truslow

* One postponed game to be played.

THREE-WAY TIE IN CARBIDE CLUB TOURNEY

The Carbide Club tournament in South Charleston, proceeding in a leisurely way with a game every two weeks, was in a three-way tie between Dr. J. S. Blagg, Al Du Vall and Harold Liggett, each with a score of 2-0 at the end of February.

It is a six-round Swiss System event, with Al DuVall defending his championship. Dr. Blagg has wins over Bruce Marples and Kingsley Hughes, DuVall over Jim Ankeney and Bob Swarbrick, and Liggett over J. Schilling and Bill Hartling.

Fourth place was a tie between Arthur Maloy and Ray Martin, each with $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$. They drew each other. Maloy won from David Marples and Martin won from Strasser.

The next seven players also were tied with scores of 1-1 each. They are Greenley, Dick Grimm, Bill Hartling, Kingsley Hughes, Bruce Marples, David Marples and Bob Swarbrick. The remaining four players, Ankeney, Schilling, Seneral and Strasser, have yet to win a game.

(The foregoing reports, as well as the Charleston news on the next page, are taken from Eddie Foy's fine chess columns in the Charleston newspapers.)

HIGH SCHOOL CHESS EVENT

The chess teams of Charleston and Huntington Central high schools were scheduled to meet March 5 in the first encounter between the two aggregations. A return match is planned later.

More than a half dozen years ago, Charleston, Charleston Catholic and South Charleston high schools all had chess groups, and there were chess clubs even in the junior high schools.

Why not more inter-school matches? Perhaps a Kanawha Valley Scholastic Chess League or tournament can be set up. Interested players should get in touch with Reid Holt or Edward Foy at the Charleston Chess Club. South Charleston juniors should contact Harold Liggett.

NAJDORF TIES WITH FINE

Mendel Najdorf made a remarkable recovery in his eight-game match with Reuben Fine. After losing the first two contests, Najdorf rallied to defeat Fine in the third and fourth games. The final four games of the match were drawn. Final score: Fine 4, Najdorf 4. What happened to Fine after the second game? Was it just too much Najdorf--or what?

TO PICK OPPONENT FOR BOTVINNIK

It has been decided to hold at Buenos Aires a tournament to decide an opponent for Mikhail Botvinnik for a world championship chess match. We will give more details on this tournament later on. However, the tournament field is to include both Reuben Fine and Sammy Reshevsky (and Mendel Najdorf, too, for that matter).

(The foregoing notes are from Eddie Foy's chess columns.)

WVCA YEARBOOK WELL RECEIVED

The 1945-47 WVCA Yearbook was mailed out with the February issue of the Bulletin. Following are excerpts from some of the letters we have received about it:

B. W. Devericks, Clarksburg (Feb. 18) adds some interesting data to the Yearbook article on the Clarksburg Chess Club: "Re Reid Holt and the urge to start a club in Clarksburg: his drive in that matter likely originated one afternoon in the James & Law bookstore. There he was given the names of various and sundry players. Holt and I met for the first time there and the meeting resulted in two or three minutes in a first game between us on James & Law's only board with a set of the store's men. I believe we each had the idea we had an easy game ahead. Holt drew White and opened a reckless Vienna Game which warned me he might know some chess, so I started playing them tight; that is, as tight as I can with the type of game I play. Time got short as James & Law had a lady customer for the only board. Holt seemed very much determined to play me more chess, also to play two or three others that I had named as being stronger players than I. The next meeting was as given in the Yearbook."

Dr. V. S. Hayward, Huntington (Feb. 20): "In Huntington, those interested in chess feel grateful and appreciative in no small degree for the new WVCA Yearbook. Complaint or criticism is noteworthy because of its absence. So many willing workers have had a part in the finished product that one little note may not recognize all. I feel that you will properly distribute the credits that are so well deserved."

(Editor's Note: Speaking of credits, we didn't know in time to give him credit in the Yearbook, or even in last month's Bulletin, but we can now report that our secretary-treasurer, Reid Holt, did all the work of assembling the Yearbook pages, binding the volumes and mailing them out. Which is no small job. And Reid writes he "enjoyed every minute of the work.")

Dr. Albrecht Buschke, New York (Feb. 23): "I just received the latest Yearbook of the WVCA and wish to congratulate your organization on the fine job."

Eric M. Hassberg, Brooklyn (Feb.21): "The WVCA Yearbook is again at its very best."

Otto Oppenheimer, Riverdale, N. Y., present holder of the W.Va. problem solving championship (Feb.27): "What a beautiful book! I never have seen a written book of such a beautiful kind. I do not know how to thank the WVCA for this beautiful present. Please give my best thanks and my best regards to all your friends who worked with you on this job... Take this included two-mover (No. 300--my latest one) as my dedication to you."

OPPENHEIMER NO. 300

N	N	P		R	P		
K	N	K					
Q	P						
		R	Q				
				B			
B		N					
			R				

Mate in 2

8/8--16

Montgomery Major, editor of CHESS LIFE (Feb. 28): "Up to my neck in work, at home and at the office, but I must pause long enough to comment on and to commend you on the very attractive Yearbook, and also to commend your brother on the extremely artistic silk-screen process cover on it. It makes a very attractive appearance. I haven't had time yet to do more than skim through it, but the contents look very interesting. I will have to take a night off and run through it."

Jack Spence, editor of NEBRASKA CHESS BULLETIN (Feb. 26): "Just a short note to tell you how much I appreciated the copy of your Yearbook. It certainly is a magnificent job...As yet I have not had time to play over many of the games but those that I picked at random were very nice."

Charles M. Hardinge, editor of THE PAWNSHOP, Minneapolis (March 1): "You dood it again. The current Yearbook is a pip, a credit not only to yourself but to the whole West Virginia Chess Association."

OTHER LETTERS:

Dr. V. S. Hayward, Huntington (Feb.26): "The Huntington club is now going into the second round of its double RR tourney. To date, Tyson Cobb stands well and Charles Morgan is not far behind. Some of Charles' games are being scrutinized by Dr. Werthammer...Many of us are hoping the State Tournament may come again to Huntington!"

Eric M. Hassberg, 757 Manhattan Ave., Brooklyn 27, N. Y. (Feb.21): "Here's news for the WVCB: We are definitely on our way to establish a society of American chess problemists, with our own paper. The first copy ought to be out in about a month."

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WEST VIRGINIA CHESS ASSOCIATION. President: Wm. R. Cuthbert, 1104 W. Washington Ave., Wheeling, W.Va. Secy.-treas.: H. Reid Holt, 620 Churchill Drive, Charleston 4, W.Va., to whom should be sent all letters on Association business, including WVCA memberships. Publicity Director: Edward M. Foy, No. 4 Arlington court, Charleston 1, W. Va. He should be sent within 24 hours results of tournaments, club elections and other chess news of the state.

NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS

- 83 Arthur Maloy, 2122 Superior Ave., South Charleston, W.Va.
 84 Walter Crede, 118½ W. Washington Ave., Charleston, W. Va.
 85 E. S. Allie, 5767 Ohio River Road, Huntington, W. Va.
 86 Gordon Smith, 2010 No. Englewood Rd., Huntington, W. Va.
 87 Norman Dagle, 65 Sayres Ave., Lansdown, Penna.

(Somehow or other it didn't get published previously that Wm.R. Cuthbert, Wheeling, is a sustaining member of the Association. Thanks, Bill, and sorry we didn't get the information in the Bulletin sooner. Other members may become sustaining members by sending \$4 in addition to their regular membership fee to Treas. Holt--see address above.)

ARE YOU READING?--

CHESS LIFE, the official twice-a-month newspaper of the U.S. Chess Federation, edited by Montgomery Major. \$2 a year--or \$3 with your USCF membership. Send money to Edward I. Treend, 12869 Strathmoore Ave., Detroit 27, Mich.

CHESS REVIEW, the picture chess magazine, edited by I.A. Horowitz. A class magazine which belongs on your reading table. \$4.75 a year. Address: Chess Review, 250 W. 57th St., New York 19, N. Y.

AMERICAN CHESS BULLETIN, oldest of the U.S. chess periodicals, edited by Hermann Helms, dean of American chess writers. Issued bi-monthly, \$2 a year. Address: American Chess Bulletin, 150 Nassau St., New York 7, N. Y.

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LETTER FROM REID HOLT:

Secy.-Treas. Reid Holt, Charleston, writes March 1: "Charles Morgan writes me that at the half-way mark, in the Huntington meet, the first three were Tyson Cobb, with 6-0; Rudd Neel, with 5-1, and Morgan, with 4-2. I don't have a report on the other scores or on how many are playing....Am expecting to be able to furnish you a good report on the new club at Beckley for the April issue....Will send you a six-month financial statement for publication in the next Bulletin. Up to my ears in work and don't have the time to knock it out just now....Dr. Werthammer was in Charleston the other Sunday and we had a nice powwow on chess matters in general."

GAMES DEPARTMENT

Edited by Dr. Siegfried Werthammer
2008 North Englewood Road
Huntington, West Virginia

Games are finally coming in so I can publish them. No games were at hand for the February Bulletin. We have this month three games: Cobb-Morgan from the current Huntington City Championship (Werthammer and Marks not participating) and two games from the Charleston City Championship. The games are full of instructive mistakes--but quite interesting. Besides, very few games are recorded in Huntington. The win of Foy from Hurt is very pretty. The Hurt-DuVall game is a masterpiece--and annotated by DuVall.

HUNTINGTON CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT 1949
WHITE: TY COBB
BLACK: CHUCK MORGAN
FOUR KNIGHTS GAME

1 P-K4 P-K4
2 N-KB3 N-QB3
3 N-B3 N-B3
4 B-N5 B-N5
5 P-Q3

O-O is preferable as the text will lead to an exchange of White's KB which is an important attacking piece.

5 ... N-Q5!
6 B-QB4 P-Q3
7 P-KR3 B-K3
8 B-N3

BxB, NxB or PxB gives Black the advantage.

8 ... P-KR3?

This is a needless weakening of the King. B-KN5 was not to be feared because of the pinned White QN. After B-N5, P-KR3!, White would have to play BxN because after B-R5, P-KN4 followed by N-N4, White is in trouble.

9 B-Q2 NxB
10 RPxN O-O
11 N-K2 B-QB4
12 P-B4

A peculiar move which, however, is logical, restraining Black's center.

12 ... P-B 3
13 P-QN4 B-N3
14 O-O R-K
15 N-B3!

Again more logical is the expected N-N3.

15 .. Q-Q2
16 N-KR2

Black threatened the sacrificial BxRP.

16 ... P-Q4

Somewhat premature. 16...P-R3 followed by QR-Q should have preceded the QP advance.

17 P-B5 B-B2
18 B-B

Necessary because the B "hung" uncomfortably.

18 ... KR-Q

One can see here that 16...P-R3 would have been handy to get the QR out as the Black QRP would have been protected. As it happens, the Black QR will never leave his place.

19 Q-B 3 PxB
20 PxB Q-Q5?

Permits a tactical finesse, Q-Q6! which would give Black the advantage, as after Q exchange he would be in possession of the only open file with two Bs and the better P position.

21 BxP

Paid for by "sin" 8 ...P-KR3.

21 ... QxNP
22 B-N5 B-B5
23 B xN PxB
24 N-N4!

A pretty sacrifice which should quickly win.

24 ... B xR
25 RxB K-B

Better Q-B5.

26 NxBP?

Missing a forced win with 26 QxP. The threat is N-R6. If after 26 QxP R-Q2, 27 Q-R8ch and wins the QR. If 26 QxP QxBP, 27 N-R6 Q-B5, 28 N-B5 wins. If 26 QxP Q-B5, 27 N-Q5!! PxN, 28 N-R6 PxB or P-Q5, 29 N-B5 wins. After the text, Black should be able to wiggle his K out.

26 ... QxBP
27 N-R7ch K-K

28 N-K2 R-Q7?

Gives White again chances by permitting him time to get the QN into the fight. 28...B-N3 would be very good exerting pressure on the White KBP and giving his K the square QB2.

29 N-N3 Q-B5

B-N3! again.

30 N-R5 B-Q

Still B-N3.

31 P-KN3?

Unnecessary. N-N7ch followed by Q-B5 or Q-B6 (depending on the Black K's move) wins easily; now Black may escape.

31 ... K-Q2
32 Q-B5ch K-B2
33 QxKPch K-N3
34 R-R Q-B4?

P-QR4! and Black has again the better of it.

35 Q-B4 R-Q2
36 N/5-B6 R-Q3

Black should exchange the B at once.

37 N-K8 R-N3
38 N/7-B6 BxN
39 NxB Q-KN4??

The decisive mistake. QR-Q was the move and the issue would still have been in doubt.

40 N-Q7ch K-N4
41 QxP P-R4

There was no good move any more; on P-B4 follows NxB!!

42 Q-N3ch K-R3

43 Q-N6mate

CHARLESTON CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT 1949
WHITE: EDW. FOY
BLACK: JOHN HURT, JR.
COLLE SYSTEM

1 P-Q4 P-K3
2 N-KB3 N-KB3
3 P-K3 P-Q4
4 B-Q3 P-B4
5 P-B3 N-B3
6 QN-Q2 B-Q2
7 O-O PXP
8 KPXP B-Q3
9 R-K Q-B2
10 Q-K2 O-O-O

The position before O-O-O looked like one arising in the exchange variation of the QGD with colors reversed. Black's intention to attack White's K violently is not justified. Black is a move behind (compared with similar positions in the exchange variation), the QB is on Q2 instead of on KN5. A better plan would have been O-O followed by P-QR3, P-QN4, KR-N, etc., to institute the "minority" attack on the Q-wing.

11 P-B4 P-KR4
12 P-B5!

Black will have to exchange his KB and his black squares will become weak.

12 ... B-B5
13 P-QR3 P-KN4
14 N-N3! P-N5
15 BxB QxB
16 N-K5 NxN
17 PxB B-R5?

This is the losing move. Better is Q-R5

or N-R2.

18 N-R5 N-Q2

19 B-N5

Good enough, but B-R6 is more elegant and would have won somewhat quicker; e.g., 19 B-R6 NxPp, 20 QR-B.

19 ... N-N
20 P-QN3 BxB
21 QxB R-Q2
22 P-B6 R-B2

Forced; otherwise, a R gets lost.

23 NxP NxP
24 N-Q6ch

The weak black squares!

24 ... K-Q2
25 P-N3!

An amusing chase of the Black Q follows.

25 ... Q-Q5

Q-B6??, 26 R-K3!

26 QR-Q Q-N7
27 N-B4

A very elegant win is here possible: 27 RxQP! PXR, 28 QxP K-Q! (if Q-Q5, 29 QxPch K-Q, 30 Q-B6ch), 29 NxBch, etc.

27 ... Q-B6
28 R/Q-B Q-Q5
29 R/K-Q Q-K5
30 Q-B5 K-B??
31 N-Q6ch Resigns

Dr. Werthammer must have games to make his department a success. Mail him your best games at the address given at the top of this department.

CHARLESTON CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT 1949
 WHITE: JOHN HURT, JR.
 BLACK: ALLEN DU VALL
 DANISH GAMBIT DECL'D

(Notes by DuVall)

- | | |
|---------|-------|
| 1 P-K4 | P-K4 |
| 2 P-Q4 | PxP |
| 3 N-KB3 | N-QB3 |
| 4 P-B3 | P-Q4 |
| 5 KPxP | QxP |
| 6 PxF | B-KN5 |
| 7 N-B3 | BxN |
| 8 NxQ | B xQ |
| 9 NxPch | K-Q2 |
| 10 NxR | B-KN5 |

I feel this is a better square for the B than R4.

- | | |
|-----------|--------|
| 11 P-B3 | B-N5ch |
| 12 K-B2 | B-K3 |
| 13 B-KB4 | B-Q3 |
| 14 BxB | KxP |
| 15 P-Q5!? | |

It does not quite work.

- | | |
|--------|------|
| 15 ... | BxP |
| 16 R-Q | N-B3 |

All of Black's moves have been practically forced.

17 N-N6

White agrees that he must lose the N. However, there were these alternatives to be considered: 17 B-B4 RxN, 18 BxB Nx B (or 18 P-KN4); and 17 P-KN4 RxN, 18 P-N5 N-Q2, 19 B-B4 N-N3. The text gives Black the doubled isolated Ps.

- | | |
|----------|------|
| 17 .. | PxN |
| 18 P-KN4 | K-B2 |

At this point, Black spent a half hour. It seems best

to eliminate the pin. The critical variation begins with 19 P-N5 N-N5ch, 20 PxN BxR. If 20 K-N2 N-K6ch and wins. If 20 K-N or K, BxP. If 20 K-K2 R-Kch, 21 K-Q2 BxP. If 20 K-N3 N-K6, 21 R-Q3 NxBch, 22 RxN B-B5 (22 R-K N-B4ch).

- | | |
|-----------|--------|
| 19 B-N2 | BxRP |
| 20 P-N5 | N-Q4 |
| 21 KR-K | N-B5 |
| 22 B-B | B-K3 |
| 23 R-K4 | N-R6ch |
| 24 BxN | BxB |
| 25 P-N4 | B-B4 |
| 26 R-QB4 | B-K3 |
| 27 R-B3 | P-N4 |
| 28 R-B5 | B-B5 |
| 29 R-Q4?? | P-QN3 |
| 30 R/5xB | PxR |
| 31 RxP | P-N4 |
| 32 R-B5 | K-N3 |
| 33 R-B5 | R-KB |
| 34 R-B4 | NxP?!! |
| 35 RxN | R-K! |
| 36 P-R4 | K-B4 |
| 37 R-N | P-N5 |
| 38 P-B4 | K-B5 |
| 39 P-R5 | P-N6 |
| 40 K-B3 | K-B6 |
| 41 P-B5 | K-B7 |
| 42 RxP | KxR |
| 43 K-B4 | |

And at this point White resigned the game before Black could make his next move.

SUGGESTS TRI-STATE TOURNAMENT BOOK

Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, our Games Editor, writes (March 1):

"I have been working on the annotation of all games of the 1948 Tri-State Tournament, using all notes published elsewhere,

as well as my own. I believe this would make a nice tournament book, perhaps to be given as a bonus to the West Virginia Chess Association and selected friends. The only question which arises is: Who would pay for it? I mean, of course, the cost of paper, stencils, mimeographing, and so forth? Do you have any ideas on this point?...The games are generally really good. What do you think?..

"Re the 1945-47 Yearbook, it is a masterful job; another triumph in the list of WVCA publications.

"I think we should be collecting material for a future Yearbook. What do you mean by saying this one will be your last? I sincerely look for many more.

"While in New York, I attended one round of the International Chess Tournament... Sometime I am going to write an article for you about the New York chess players. Do you think you would publish it?"

We would like to hear from other members of the WVCA on the stimulating ideas herewith suggested by Dr. Werthammer. Does anyone want to take over the job as WVCA Yearbook editor?..

Or is anyone willing to edit and publish the Tri-State Tournament book? Any worthwhile ideas will be appreciated.

THE OUNCE THAT OUTWEIGHS THE TON

The wise men say one ounce of constructive criticism is more valuable than a ton of praise. In this light, we must consider our most valuable letter to date on the 1945-47 WVCA Yearbook the following communique from young Charles Morgan of Huntington (March 4) which arrived too late for inclusion with the more laudatory epistles on earlier pages of the Bulletin:

"I don't like the write-ups of the different city clubs in our latest yearbook, especially my own, of course. The list of names of 'Charter Members' isn't worth the money spent on printing. The rest about Huntington is all right because it was true. Now, as you know, it is starting to flourish by having a city tournament. I also don't like there not being much about the Huntington-Charleston match in 1947...But I must thank you for the extra good job on the cover of 'The Yearbook.' It is too good for words."

Morgan adds:

"The Bulletins have been very good lately except the last one; no games in it...I would like to make a suggestion to you. Since you are the editor and there is little contact between different clubs, why don't you write an editorial, or do something to arouse competition in the state? It would help the clubs greatly and more interest from 'beginners' would show. Maybe one or two of them would become members of the association...Please call on me when you have anything that I could do to help you out."

We are glad, as Chuck points out, that Huntington is beginning to flourish and we hope it will have a glorious story for the next WVCA Yearbook. And we are sure Chuck will help to make it so.

In re interclub competition, the point is well taken. We have too little of it. Why not more matches between Huntington, Charleston and Wheeling than we have had in the past? And we can count Beckley in, too, now; rumors reach us of a good club coming up there.

We appoint you, Chuck, to stir up this competition between the clubs. It's a job that needs doing and you, with your enthusiasm, are the fellow to do it. Please let us hear your progress.

LANDIS MARKS IN SIMULTANEOUS

H. Landis Marks of Huntington, twice state champion, won 11 games and lost one in a simultaneous exhibition March 3 at the Huntington YMCA. The win went to Charles Morgan.

This was the first exhibition Landis had given in Huntington. Guests as well as members participated.

WHY NOT A MEMBERSHIP GOAL?

Members will note by the membership report on page 4 that we have, to date, 87 members for the current year. Others will be signed, of course, and we are well in sight of 100 for the 1949-49 period.

However, in West Virginia there are hundreds of chess players, all of whom should be members of the WVCA. If every member will pledge himself to add one new member during the rest of the year we can break our previous record of 125.

Even this would not be a good record for the WVCA--but it would be a step toward the membership goal we some day hope to reach--100%.