

WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

No. 95

August-September 1951

FOUR WAY TIE FOR CHAMPIONSHIP

The Thirteenth Annual Congress of the West Virginia Chess Association came to a dramatic close in the late afternoon of Labor Day, at the Elks' Willow Room, in Charleston, W. Va., where ex-president John Hurt won from Allen DuVall and became the fourth (count 'em) winner of the State Championship for 1951.

With this victory, a quadruple tie for first place was established with DuVall, Foy, Hurt, and Werthammer each scoring 3 1/2 wins to 1 1/2 losses.

Charles Morgan and Donald Burdick, former Junior Champions (1949 and 1950), decided to play for the Junior title. This event resulted in a tie. Bruce Warples was considered by all, to have made an excellent try, that just missed.

An unusually strong Open Tournament was won by Frank Branner from a field of 12 players, with veteran Rudd T. Neel a close second.

In all, but 23 players contested this congress- six in the senior event, five in the Junior Tournament, and twelve in the Open. The usual "Players'" affair was not held.

What our annual congress lacked in numbers, was more than compensated by individual enthusiasm. The usual seasonal heat was in evidence, but personal inconvenience was minimized by the committee of arrangements, headed by popular President Hill of the Charleston club. The superb tournament direction of Reid Holt, ably assisted by former champion Hal Liggett, was notably outstanding. Their work, while seem-

ingly effortless, was performed most efficiently. Worthy of note is the fact that a minimum number of games were forfeited.

Excellent publicity was effected by Edward Foy, assisted by his lovely wife.

Charleston, Beckley, Huntington, and St. Albans sent players, and visiting Cuthbert, Gilliland, Hugh Allison, and others were present.

Accomodations at the Holley Hotel, as well as the playing room at the Elks Club, were adequate.

ANNUAL MEETING

While the final game between DuVall and Hurt was still in progress, the annual meeting was called to order with Vice-President Foy in chair.

The following officers for the coming year were unanimously elected:

President	Harold Liggett	South Charleston
Vice-President	Rudd T. Neel	Huntington
Secretary-Treasurer	Reid Holt	Charleston

It was decided to leave the Bulletin in the hands of the present Editorial Staff:

Editor	V. S. Hayward, M. D.	1128 9 Ave., Huntington
Games Editor	S. Werthammer, M. D.	2003 N. Englewood Dr. "
Assistant Editor	C. T. Morgan	1208 10 Ave., "

President Liggett appointed John Hurt, Jr. of Charleston to act as Field Representative and Public Relations Administrator; and Edward Foy to continue as Director in charge of W. Va. C. A. publicity.

Report of progress concerning Tri-State Tournaments was made by Dr. Werthammer.

After suitable remarks by members, and re-iteration of decision made last year as to dues, (same being \$2 per annum- payable now), a vote of thanks to our Charleston hosts was extended, and meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P. M.

CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Score</u>
1 Allen H. DuVall, St. Albans	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	1	1	$3\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$
2 Edward M. Foy, Charleston	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	1	0	1	1	$3\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$
3 John F. Hurt, Jr., Charleston	1	0	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	$3\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$
4 Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, Huntington	0	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	1	1	$3\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$
5 William F. Hartling, St. Albans	0	0	0	0	X	1	1-4
6 Dr. John S. Blagg, So. Charleston	0	0	0	0	0	X	0-5

Junior Championship Tournament

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>Score</u>
1 Donald Burdick, Huntington	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	$3\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$
2 Charles Morgan, Huntington	$\frac{1}{2}$	x	1	1	1	$3\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$
3 Bruce Marples, South Charleston	0	0	X	1	1	2-2
4 James Spence, South Charleston	0	0	0	X	1	1-3
5 Glen Smiley, Huntington	0	0	0	0	X	0-4

Open Tournament

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>Score</u>
1 Frank Branner, South Charleston	W5	D6	W9	W2	W4	$4\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$
2 Rudd Neel, Huntington	W12	W3	W4	L1	W7	4-1
3 David Marples, South Charleston	W10	L2	W6	D7	W9	$3\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$
4 George Hendricks, Charleston	W7	W8	L2	W5	L1	3-2
5 Ray Martin, South Charleston	L1	W10	W8	L4	W6	3-2
6 Reid Holt, Charleston	W9	D1	L3	W8	L5	$2\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$
7 Robert Swarbrick, So. Charleston	L4	W11	W10	D3	L2	$2\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$
8 Kenneth Coghill, Charleston	W11	L4	L5	L6	W12	2-3
9 Harold Liggett, So. Charleston	L6	W12	L1	W11	L3	2-3
10 Dr. V. S. Hayward, Huntington	L3	L5	L7	D12	W11	$1\frac{1}{2}-3\frac{1}{2}$
11 Harlow Warren, Beckley	L8	L7	W12	L9	L10	1-4
12 John Hill, Charleston	L2	L9	L11	D10	L8	$\frac{1}{2}-4\frac{1}{2}$

GAMES SECTION

In this month's issue only three games from the recent State Chess Congress are published. There were many good games, but the majority rather on the heavy side. They will be annotated in further issues of the Bulletin. In the Werthammer-Hartling game play against the isolated QP is instructively demonstrated followed by an attack with only a few pieces. The Harples-Morgan game, a sharp attacking game, is very exciting and creditable to winner and loser. (The notes are by Morgan) The Martin-Holt game contains unorthodox opening play with a tricky attack. The loser, Reid Holt, considers it an enjoyable game.

The winner of the Kanawha Valley Tournament, John Hurt, (report on this tournament will be found in next issue) sends a charming miniature against Branner. We confidently predict that this little brilliancy will be widely published and in the future will adorn collections of notable short games. Also from the same tournament Foy wins against Crede after a rather uneventful opening. The game contains one remarkable crushing and unexpected move.

The Burdick-Greenbaum game from the recent National Junior Tournament in Philadelphia shows well the imaginative and vigorous style of our Junior Co-champion.

White: Ed Foy
Black: Walt Crede 12 NXP Q-B? 20 N-B6!!

QGA by transposition still BxB followed a sparkling interfer-

1 P-QB4 P-Q4 by Q-B. After the text once move which loses
2 P-Q4 N-KB3 the black Q will get a piece
3 N-QB3 PXP in trouble on the cen-
4 N-B3 P-K3 ter files
5 P-K3 B-K2 13 B-N4 P-QR3 20 Q-KN4
6 BXP O-O 14 E-Q3 N-B4 21 P-B4 RxBch
7 O-O QN-Q2 15 QR-E NxB 22 QXR! 22 if RxB Black gets out
with Q-QE4

here Black could play P-B4, but the text is good also the Q has not much breathing space 22 Q-N4
23 NxBch K-B
24 N-B8!

8 P-QN3 17 KR-Q KR-Q very nice again. The
18 Q-K2 N-Q4 capture of the N is
19 NxN QxN followed by mate

8 P-QN3 it seems that finally the Q gets into
9 B-N2 B-N2 fresh air threaten-
10 Q-K2 P-B4 ing mate but White's
11 B-R6 PXP next shatters all hope
Black has to lose another piece

BxD 12 QxB, Q-B followed by Q-N2 would equalize easily 25 Q-Q2
26 B-R3ch resigns

White: Bruce Marples
Black: Charles Morgan

Ponziani's Opening

- 1 P-K4 P-K4
- 2 N-KB3 N-QB3
- 3 P-QB3 P-Q4

An accepted P sacrifice in this rather unusual opening.

- 4 Q-R4 N-B3
- 5 NXP B-Q2

5...B-Q3 is stronger.

- 6 NxB QxN
- 7 PXP NXP
- 8 B-N5 B-Q3
- 9 BxN

Premature, White should keep up the pressure on QB6 until...P-QB3 forces the exchange.

- 9 PxB
- 10 Q-K4ch?

White should develop by 10 P-Q4 instead of strong thening Black's attack.

- 10 K-B
- 11 O-O?

"Castling into it." White should play 11 K-Q, and White's K is safe. R-K; 12 Q-B3 and, although Black has the better game, it is difficult for him to develop a strong attack.

- 11 R-K
- 12 Q-Q4?

Pointless. 12 Q-B3 was necessary.

- 12 N-B5
- 13 Q-B4 R-K3
- 14 P-Q4 N-R6ch

Black could regain the P by 14...NXP, but he prefers to keep up the attack. That such a move is possible so early suggests White went wrong in the opening. After 15 PxN, R-N3ch; 16 K-R, QxP with three mating threats: 17...Q-B6, 17...Q-N7, and 17...QxP.

- 15 K-R R-N3
- 16 P-B4 Q-N5
- 17 P-N3 P-KB4
- 18 N-R3

If 18 QxP, BxP! 19 Q-R8ch, K-B2; 20 QxR, BxP! and White is lost: 21 PxB (otherwise Black retreats the B and plays Q-N8ch), Q-K5ch; 22 K-R2, Q-K7ch; 23 KxN (or K-R), QxRch; 24 K-R2 (K-R4, Q-R8 mate), Q-B7ch; 25 K-R (K-R3, QxP mate), RXP and mate is unavoidable. If 18 N-Q2, BxP with a winning attack.

- 18 BxN
- 19 PxB P-KR4
- 20 Q-B5ch K-N
- 21 Q-B4ch K-R2
- 22 Q-Q3

22 B-Q2, P-R5; 23 B-K

If 24 RXP, N-B7ch; 25 K-N, NxQ; 26 RxQ, RxRch loses a R for White.

- 24 K-N
- 25 Q-B4ch K-R2
- 26 Q-B K-N
- 27 Q-B4ch K-B
- 28 Q-B5ch K-K
- 29 Q-K5ch K-Q
- 30 K-N2 NXPch?

A blind spot! Black thought this was a double check. 30...R/3-R3 would win easily.

- 31 QxN Q-B6ch
- 32 K-B2 Q-R7ch
- 33 K-K R-K3ch
- 34 R-K3

If 34 B-K3, Q-N8ch; 35 R-B, QxBch with a difficult ending.

- 34 RxRch
- 35 QxR?

35 BxR! Q-R8ch; 36 Q-B (forced), Q-K5 (threatening R-R8 and QxBch); 37 K-Q2, R-R7ch 38 B-B2, Q-B6; 39 K-K, QxPch; 40 K-K2, Q-N7ch; 41 K-K3, QxRPch; 42 K-K2 (best), Q-N7ch; 43 K-K3RxB; 44 QxR, QxR; 45 QxP, Q-B6ch and Black should win, but such a continuation was difficult to see over the board. The text allows no drawing chances. An exciting game.

- 35 R-K
- 36 QxRch KxQ
- 37 K-Q QxNP
- 38 K-B2 P-B5
- 39 B-Q2 P-B6
- 40 B-K3 Q-N7ch
- 41 K-N3 P-B7
- 42 BxP QxB
- 43 Resigns

White: Raymond Martin

Black: Reid Holt

Albin Counter Gambit

- 1-P-Q4 P-Q4

2 P-Qd4 P-K4 Planning NXR on Black's
3 P-K3 RxR followed by N/L-N3-QB5 White: S. Werthammer

Not bad; a kind of French Defense with White. 22 B-Q2 Black: Wm. Hartling
23 N-QB3 R-B5? Queen's Gambit Decline

3 P-BP K-R instead but then
4 BxP PxP N-B3 gives White a far superior game.
5 N-KB3

1 P-Q4 N-KB3
2 P-QB4 P-K3
3 N-QB3 P-Q4
4 B-N5 QN-Q2
5 P-K3 B-K2
6 R-B O-O
7 N-B3 P-QR3
8 PxP PxP
9 Q-B2 P-B3
10 B-Q3 P-R3
11 B-R4 R-K
12 B-N3!

A promising P sacrifice in all variations. On 5...PxP; 6Q-N3.
24 NXP RxR
25 NxNch QxN
26 RxR Q-Q3
27 R-Q1

5 B-N5ch White's endgame is won
6 QN-Q2 PxP if he can exchange Qs but
7 PxP N-KB3 not Rs. With Q and B alone
Black has excellent drawing chances.

N-R3 looks ugly but is much better.

Preventing Black's ...N-K5

8 O-O O-O
9 Q-N3 BxN
10 BxB N-B3?
27 B-R5
Much better Q-QN3.

12 P-B4

Loses material, P-B4 and after 11 N-N5, Q-K with a difficult but defensible game.

28 N-B5 Q-QB3
Black should exchange Qs and take a bad end-game, because he succumbs to an attack. He gets a diabolical trap, though:
29 Q-Q4?? Q-KN3! and wins a piece.

Giving White a target, namely an isolated QP but creating complications. N-B followed by B-Q3 is safe but dull.

11 N-N5 N-K4
12 B-N4 NxB
13 BxR N-K4
14 B-N4 P-KR3
15 B-B3 PxN
16 BxN P-QN3

29 R-Q2 Q-B8ch
30 K-R2 Q-B2ch
31 P-N3 R-K3
32 Q-Q4 R-KN3
33 P-K4 K-R2
34 N-K3 P-KR4
35 N-Q5 Q-Q3
36 P-K5 Q-K3
37 N-B6ch K-R3
38 Q-Q8 R-N2
39 Q-R8ch K-N3
40 QxPch K-B4
41 P-B4!

13 PxP NxB
14 O-O NxB
15 QxN B-K3
16 KR-Q R-QB
17 N-Q4 Q-Q2
18 P-QR3

Probably safer was to try the end game after B-K3; 17 QxP, R-N and if 18 QxBP, QxQ; 19 BxQ, RxP or 18 QxRP, R-R with drawing chances.

To be able to play NxB after Black's ... N-K5 without loss of QRP.

17 Q-B3 N-Q4

18 B-Q3
19 BxB QxB
20 P-R3 Q-K4

By far superior is N-K.

This pretty move is the only one leading to a quick win. Black cannot prevent Q-N4ch followed by P-B5ch! and Q-R5 mate

White threatened P-B4

21 N/3 -K2 P-KN4
Preventing N-B4, Q-N3, N-Q3, but weakening the K-wing.

18 Q-B6 B-K3
19 QR-Q Q-K
20 Q-B P-KB3
21 P-K4

Q-B5
42 Q-N4ch Resigns

22 P-QN4

Leading to great and lively complications which finally end in White's favor; but simply B-N3 was good and safe.

8 B-K2 P-B4
9 O-O KN-K2
10 N-N5 B-Q2
11 B-R5ch

4 P-QR3 BxNch
5 PxB PxP
6 Q-N4 K-B
7 QxP/4 N-Q2

To force P-N3 after which I was going to try to sink a piece in at B6.
22 P-QR3 N-N5
23 QxP N-R7 R-B?

recommended by Alekhine
8 N-B3 N/2-B3
9 Q-R4 Q-Q4?

Much better PxB at once saving the RP.

Loses a piece.

24 QxRP PxB
25 QxNP R-N
26 Q-B2 R-N6

12 NxRP! N-K2
If RxN; 13 BxNch

correct is N-K2 followed by N-N3 or B4. The text initiates a manœuvre to exchange Qs and to equalize. This is not so easy, however, in the French. Whoever chooses this defense has to be prepared for a difficult battle and not a complacent endgame. Black's plan will be refuted in a remarkable and brilliant manner

And here Q-N4 is preferable.
27 R-Q2 Q-QB
28 R(B)-Q

13 BxNch NxB
14 Q-R5 O-O-O
15 QxN QR-N
16 N-N5 R-R3
17 Q-B7 Q-Q
18 N-B3 P-KN4
19 BxP!?

The beginning of the end.

White sees a mate on the Queen's side.

28 K-R2
29 R-Q8 Q-N2
30 P-KR4 RxNP
31 Q-B3 P-N5
32 Q-B8 RxBch

19 RxB
20 NxB QxN
21 QR-N R-N3

10 B-Q3 Q-KR4
11 Q-N3 Q-N5?
insisting!

A desperate try.

B-B3 would have held out longer.

33 KxR QxPch
34 K-N Q-K6ch
35 Q-B2 Q-R6
36 Q-Q2ch P-N3
37 Q-E7ch Resigns

22 Q-B8ch K-E2
23 P-N3

the first of six sledgehammer blows

12 QxP/7
13 Q-Q8ch N-K
14 B-B4!!

White: Donald Burdick
Black: Greenbaum

RxBch would not work now on account of...

KxR; 24 R-Nch, B-N4!;
25 RxNch K-R3.

offering the "immortal" double R sacrifice

French Defense

23 P-KB5
Still B-B3.

14 P-KN3

1 P-K4 P-K3
2 P-Q4 P-Q4
3 N-QB3 B-N5
4 P-K5 P-QB4
5 P-QR3 BxNch
6 PxB Q-B2
7 N-B3 N-QB3

24 Q-Q6ch K-B
25 RxP! KxR
26 R-Nch B-N4
27 RxNch Resigns

after QxRch 15 K-K2 Black loses the Q or gets mated by B-Q6ch etc

15 K-K2 N-B3

Letter P-QN3 followed by B-R3.

White: John Hurt
Black: Frank Branner

French Defense

Black is actually in "Zugzwang"

16 B-R6ch K-N
17 Q-K7!! resigns

1 P-K4 P-K3
2 P-Q4 P-Q4
3 N-QB3 B-N5

mate cannot be prevented

TRI-STATE TOURNAMENT

- 1 Time: November 10, 11, and 12, 1951
- 2 Place: Governor Cabell Hotel, Huntington, W. Va.
- 3 Events (three):
 - a) Senior Tournament. Round-robin between Champions and runners-up of Ohio, Pa., and W. Va.
 - b) Junior Tournament. Round-robin between Junior Champions and runners-up of Ohio, Pa. and W. Va.
 - c) OHIO VALLEY OPEN. Swiss-system event including players from Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. This innovation supersedes former team matches. A nominal entrance fee may be in order.
- 4 Sponsorship: Huntington Junior Chamber of Commerce
- 5 Host Club: Huntington YMCA Chess Club
(committee in charge: S. Werthammer and V. S. Hayward)
- 6 Awards: Suitable prizes in each event
- 7 Tournament Director: Reid Holt

ITEMS of INTEREST

Edward Holt, son of our Secretary-Treasurer and former member of the Charleston Chess Club, graduated from the University of Idaho on June 7, 1951 and was commissioned Ensign in the United States Navy.

He is now serving aboard the Destroyer USS Havana at Long Beach, California. This ship is being overhauled after a year's service in Korean waters.

David Marples graduated with Honors from Morris Harvey College of Charleston in June, 1951. He completed the course in 3 years instead of the assigned 4. He is now working at the Carbide Institute Plant.

Harlow Warren post cards the Beckley Chess Club's new meeting place. It is the Elks Club room and the meetings are every Monday night. All players are welcome at this time, whether they be Elks or not.

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