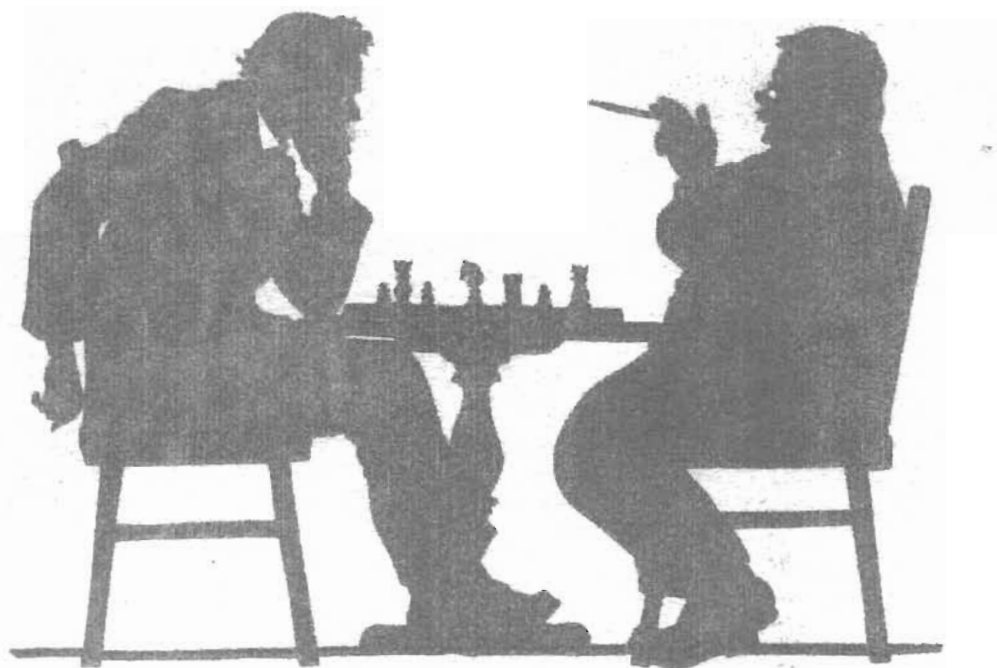


WASHINGTON

CHESS

LETTER



CONTENDERS FOR THE
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP
WILL BE WELCOMED IN
SPOKANE, OCTOBER 20

 OCTOBER 1956

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE OF TWO DOLLARS A YEAR INCLUDES MEMBERSHIP IN THE W.C.F.



CHESS LETTER

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nate Monday evenings at 7:30. Play is
in the various homes of the members---
contact V. W. BEVER, Gibson 3636.

1956 PUGET SOUND LEAGUE NEWS

Only Seattle, West Seattle, Ta-
coma and Boeings of Seattle have thus
far entered teams in the League. Could
be a double round-robin this year.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18.

1 p.m.-Boeings at Tacoma Chess Club
1 p.m.-West Seattle at Seattle Club

Other clubs wishing to take part
in the 1956-1957 Puget Sound League!!!
Send in your entry to the Editor now!

This is the 11th year of PSL play.

ONE YEAR (12 ISSUES) AND MEMBERSHIP IN WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION IS \$2
SEND MONEY TO W.H. RALEIGH, 4312 WOODLAND PARK AVENUE, SEATTLE 3, WASH.

WOODPUSHER'S NOV. 25

NEWS LETTERS

This page is devoted to excerpts from letters, editorializing, news, and a tournament announcement. Much has been omitted because we just did not have enough time. Also the editor must admit some dereliction as president of the Seattle Chess Club. We have had time to make only an occasional flying visit in the past 2 months. No time. Fortunately, the club is doing splendidly anyway because of the work of DAVID ERICKSON, MAURICE HENION and JOHN RING.

WOODPUSHERS TOURNEY NOVEMBER 25th.

The annual Washington Woodpusher Tournament will be held at the Seattle Chess Club (room 604 in YMCA) on Sunday, November 25th starting at 10 a.m. It will be a one day event four-round Swiss. The time control, 40 moves per hour will not make for the most serious chess. However the Woodpushers is a tourney for fun and not especially for blood. Only winners of former tournaments and players in the Master and Expert classes are excluded from this event.

Mr. Average Player, here is an excellent chance to win a tourney. A list of details in our next issue.

SHEETS VERSUS BELLEVUE

On Sept. 10, J. L. SHEETS, many times Wash. State Champion, played a small simultaneous exhibition. Eight players faced Mr. Sheets and the expert won five. PAUL BENNETT of Kirkland, H. H. ROBERTS of Seattle, KENNETH DAY of Clyde Hill won games and those losing were H. J. HICKS of Edmonds, ROBERT LINCOLN of Redmond, W. H. RALEIGH of Seattle, V. W. BEVER a Bellevue resident and WILLARD VON BESCOWITZ of Mercer Island. The players belong to the Bellevue Chess Club.

DENNIS HAMILTON WRITES

Dennis Hamilton outproduced the editor this month with cartoons, an

article, games, ideas and a letter. A lack of time kept us from reproducing this material for the edification of our many readers. (Yes, circulation continues to rise) With an eye to a liberal transfusion of new blood into the works, we are dispatching stencil, stylus and other tools so we can get the full benefit of this enthusiast.

TACOMA ELECTION

RONALD LOUGHEED, 17, president, LESTER COUBROUGH, Secretary, THOMAS DOLLE, treasurer, DENNIS HAMILTON, 17, tournament director, JERRY HANSON, 17, WCF representative with Lougheed the alternate and C. HEWITT, team captain with V. HOLMES the alternate.

The above news story was from Mr. Hamilton. In closing we accept his offer to conduct a junior chess column.

BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS

W. H. Raleigh visited Vancouver B. C. and attended the P N E Exposition, at which the B. C. Chess Federation had a very good booth and display.

Indicative of the widespread interest and popularity of chess is the number of games played at the British Columbia Chess Federation chess booth in the Hobby Show Building at the PNE during the first four days of the current fair. Four of the BCCF representatives on duty individually at the BCCF booth at various times, afternoons and evenings, scored the following results:

	W	L	D
R. A. PILKINGTON	54	1	2
LEO M. DUVAL	40	0	0
GEORGE BRYANT	6	2	0
FRANK FILLERY	30	2	0

The BCCF players named above, who separately took on all comers, played alternate games with white and blacks. After four days, they had played 137 & won 130, drawn 2 and lost 5. Hundreds of spectators watched the games.

WASHINGTON OPEN OCT. 20-21-SPOKANE

Chess players wishing to play in a big tournament and have a good time will not wish to miss the 1957 WASHINGTON STATE OPEN TOURNAMENT. This time the event will be held in Spokane at the Desert Hotel, site of the annual Inland Empire Open tournaments.

The dates to remember are Saturday and Sunday, October 20th and 21st. Registration will begin at 8:30 Saturday morning. It is hoped to get play started by 9.

Play will be at the rate of 40 moves in two hours with unfinished games to be completed on the player's own time.

Three games will be played Saturday and three more on Sunday by each player. The Harkness system of pairings will be used. The tourney will be USCF rated.

First prize will be at least \$25 and probably more. There will be prizes in cash for several of the top finishers and even some cash prizes for the top players in the second half of the standings. Entry fee will be \$3.

A banquet will be held Saturday night for all contestants and their wives or friends. The Spokane club will furnish light refreshments during play.

Tournament director will be Robert Edberg. Edberg is going to appoint players from different towns in the state to a committee which will aid him in handling the tournament. All pairings will be supervised and verified by this committee.

Qualifiers for the Washington Closed will be listed in order of finish and then alternates will be named in order. In case any of the qualifiers cannot be in the Closed, their places will be taken by the alternates.

Everything possible is going to be done to make this the best and smoothest tournament ever held in the state. It is hoped there will be a huge turnout for this big event from chess enthusiasts of Washington and neighboring Idaho, Montana, B. C. and Oregon chess players.

Last year, after a successful tournament, Vellias, Warner, Edberg and McCormick placed high enough in the Open to qualify for the Closed. Seeded men were then State Champion Bills, and Masters Zengalis and Ulvestad. Zengalis was unable to compete and McCormick had to miss the event too and was replaced by Pupols.

Olaf Ulvestad barely beat off the challenge of Edberg and Pupols to win the 1956 State Championship. Vellias, the 1956 Washington Open Champion, finished last in the Closed.

The Washington State Chess Champion, besides winning the cash first prize, gets custody for one year of the beautiful trophy emblematic of the state's highest chess title. This trophy was donated to the WCF by Robert Edberg for the 1st time last year. The first player to win this trophy three times gets permanent possession.

D. W.

GAMES BY WADE

Two splendid reasons why Edberg won the Seattle Seafair Open Tournament:

R. EDBERG

V. PUPOLS

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1. P-K4 | P-K4 |
| 2. N-QB3 | N-KB3 |
| 3. N-B3 | N-B3 |
| 4. P-Q4 | PxP |
| 5. NxP | B-N5 |
| 6. B-KN5 | BxNch. |
| 7. PxP | P-Q3 |
| 8. P-KB4 | Q-K2 |
| 9. B-Q3 | P-KR3 |
| 10 B-R4 | P-KN4 |
| 11 PxP | NxP |
| 12 O-O | P-Q4 |
| 13 Q-R5 | B-K3 |
| 14 P-N6 | PxP |
| 15 QxPch. | B-B2 |
| 16 Q-N7 | R-KN1 |
| 17 QxRch. | BxQ |
| 18 BxQ | NxB |
| 19 N-B5 | NxP |
| 20 QR-K1 | Resigns. |

Revenge in Spokane!

Sent in by Pupols in answer to the Editor's request.

DICK PARSONS

R. EDBERG

- | | |
|----------|-------|
| 1. N-KB3 | N-KB3 |
| 2. P-KN3 | P-QB4 |
| 3. B-N2 | N-B3 |
| 4. O-O | P-Q4 |
| 5. P-Q4 | PxP |
| 6. NxP | P-K4 |
| 7. NxN | PxN |
| 8. P-QB4 | B-QB4 |
| 9. N-B3 | B-N2 |
| 10 B-N5 | P-Q5 |
| 11 N-K4 | B-K2 |
| 12 BxN | PxB |
| 13 R-N1 | P-KB4 |
| 14 N-Q2 | P-K5 |
| 15 Q-R4 | O-O |
| 16 N-N3 | P-QR4 |
| 17 KR-Q1 | P-B4 |
| 18 B-R3 | B-B1 |
| 19 Q-B6? | R-R3 |
| 20 Q-Q5? | ---- |

White merely aids Black's mobilization with his last two moves. (Ed.)

- | | |
|---------|------|
| 20 ---- | B-K3 |
|---------|------|

- | | |
|----------|------|
| 21 QxQ | RxQ |
| 22 QR-B1 | P-R5 |
| 23 N-R1 | R-N1 |
| 24 P-N3 | B-B3 |
| 25 P-B3 | ---- |

Black played to induce White to get his KBP to B4 and succeeded.

- | | |
|-------------|--------|
| 25 ---- | B-N4 |
| 26 P-B4 | B-B3 |
| 27 B-N2 | PxP |
| 28 PxP | R-R7 |
| 29 K-B1 | R/1-R1 |
| 30 N-B2 | R-N7 |
| 31 R-R1 | R-N1 |
| 32 Resigns. | |

White can do nothing except get murdered so he resigns.

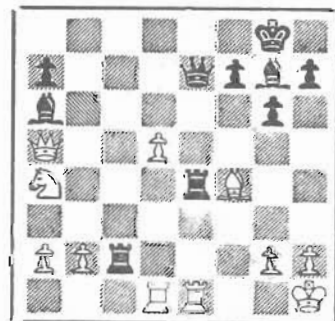
In the following game, W. Bills, our one-time Wash. State Champ, downs present Texas State Closed Champ in a Dutch Wing Gambit Declined. From the U. S. Open.

W. A. BILLS

C.F. TEARS

- | | |
|----------|-------|
| 1. P-Q4 | P-KB4 |
| 2. P-KN4 | P-Q3 |
| 3. PxP | BxP |
| 4. B-N2 | N-QB3 |
| 5. P-K4 | B-N3 |
| 6. B-K3 | N-B3 |
| 7. N-QB3 | P-Q4 |
| 8. P-K5 | N-K5 |
| 9. NxN | PxN |
| 10 N-K2 | P-K3 |
| 11 P-QB3 | B-KB4 |
| 12 N-N3 | Q-Q4 |
| 13 Q-B2 | O-O-O |
| 14 BxP | BxB |
| 15 QxB | Q-B5 |
| 16 B-N5 | R-Q2 |
| 17 Q-K2 | Q-Q4 |
| 18 R-KN1 | R-B2 |
| 19 B-K3 | B-K2 |
| 20 N-R5 | P-KN4 |
| 21 P-N3 | P-KR3 |
| 22 O-O-O | R-Q1 |
| 23 N-N3 | Q-R4 |
| 24 Q-B2 | R-Q4 |
| 25 K-N1 | B-R6 |
| 26 N-K2 | N-K2 |
| 27 N-N3 | P-B4 |
| 28 P-QB4 | R-Q1 |
| 29 PxP | RxRch |
| 30 RxR | N-B4 |
| 31 NxN | RxN |
| 32 Q-Q3 | Q-B2 |
| 33 Q-Q6 | QxQ |
| 34 BPxQ | P-N3 |

BLACK COULD WIN



MUELLER v. GEORG, 1939

Black played 2 ...R/B-K7; but he could have won with--see page 8.

SOLUTION TO PAGE 8 GAME

Black wins with...RXKNP! 2PxQ, RXRf, 3BxR, R-O7+, 4K-N, B-Q5f, 5R-B2, R-O8f etc.

K-Q1; 36 BxRP, B-B4 (forced) 37 B-N8 and White wins easily. (Ed.)

35 B-Q4	K-Q2
36 R-Q2	R-B6
37 K-B2	R-R6
38 R-Q3	RxP
39 R-KB3	R-R5
40 R-B7ch.	K-Q1
41 K-Q3	R-R6ch.
42 B-K3	B-N7
43 K-K4	R-R5ch.
44 P-B4	PxP
45 RxBP	R-R4
46 B-Q4	B-B8
47 R-B8ch.	K-Q2
48 R-B7ch.	K-Q1
49 RxP	R-R5ch.
50 K-Q3	R-R6ch.
51 K-K2	R-R7ch.
52 K-B1	B-N4
53 BxPch.	K-B1
54 R-KN7	R-Q7
55 P-B5	B-K6
56 P-B6	Resigns.

If Black plays on with 56---- BxB ; 57 R-N8ch., B-Q1; 58 P-B7 winning easily.

A pair of games from the Seattle '56 Seafair Open played by the Wash. Open Champion, Russell Vellias. All of the notes in both games are by Vellias.

R. VELLIAS IR. A. MURRAY

French Defense

1. P-K4	P-K3
2. P-Q4	P-Q4
3. N-QB3	B-N5
4. B-Q2	N-K2
5. Q-N4	O-O

Castling prematurely. A dangerous policy in the French. White is given too much space and potential for a king-side attack.

6. P-K5	----
---------	------

Dividing the Black forces into two incommunicable sectors.

6. ----	P-QB4
---------	-------

Good. Undermines the pawn at K5.

7. P-QR3	PxP
----------	-----

8. PxB	PxN
--------	-----

9. PxP	P-B3
--------	------

10 N-B3	----
---------	------

10 PxP, RxP; 11 B-N5 etc. would be better.

10 ----	QN-B3
---------	-------

11 B-Q3?	----
----------	------

Loses a pawn and cuts down the wood on the king-side.

11 ----	NxP
---------	-----

12 NxN	PxN
--------	-----

13 B-R6	R-B2
14 B-KN5	Q-B2
15 O-O	P-K5
16 B-N5	P-K4
17 Q-R5	----

White's last 5 moves are just jockeying for position hoping Black will over reach himself.

17 ----	B-K3
---------	------

18 B-K3	QxP
---------	-----

He does! (See last note)

19 B-B5	----
---------	------

Now Black's queen cannot get away and is in danger of being captured. The future course of the game is now determined.

19 ----	P-QR3
---------	-------

Not 19----P-QN3; 20 BxP, PxB; 21 Rx Rch.

20 B-R4	N-N3
---------	------

21 Q-Q1	----
---------	------

Preparing for R-R3 and B-N3.

21 ----	P-Q5!
---------	-------

Very good. Prevents B-N3 pinning the QP and further limiting the mobility of Black's queen.

22 R-K1	B-Q4
---------	------

23 Q-B1	R-Q1!
---------	-------

Good. The bishop is now protected & 24 R-R3, Q-B5; 25 B-N3, Q-N4; 26 B-R4, Q-B5; 27 B-N3 etc. only draws.

24 R-R3	Q-B5
---------	------

25 Q-N5	R-B3!
---------	-------

A simple answer to a move White at first thought was a "killer-diller".

26 B-N3	Q-N4
---------	------

27 B-R4	Q-B5
---------	------

Demonstrating a draw.

28 RxP?	----
---------	------

Simple, silly and uncalled for. In the above wild position a draw would be the best course. But who wants a draw?

28 ----	K-R1
---------	------

Very good.

29 B-N3??	Q-B6!
-----------	-------

White can resign now. His rook is en prise and cannot leave the K file because of Q-K8 mate.

30 Q-B1	----
---------	------

Black can have the rook. White believes Black's queen cannot escape.

30 ----	BxR
---------	-----

31 B-R4	Q-B5
---------	------

32 B-N5	Q-K7!
---------	-------

And so the queen escapes, threatens mate and Black is a whole rook ahead.

33 Q-KB1	QxQch.
----------	--------

34 Resigns.	
-------------	--

WASHINGTON OPEN AT SPOKANE OCT. 20 and 21

R. VELLIAS

C. GRIFFITH

Sicilian Defense

- 1. P-K4 P-QB4
- 2. N-KB3 P-Q3
- 3. P-Q4 PxP
- 4. NxP N-KB3
- 5. N-QB3 P-KN3
- Avoids the dreaded Richter attack.
- 6. P-B4 N-B3
- 7. NxN PxN
- 8. P-K5 PxP
- 8. ----N-N5 or N-Q2 seen more often
- 9. QxQch. KxQ
- 10 PxP N-N5
- 11 B-KB4 B-KN2
- 12 O-O-Och. K-K1
- 13 N-N5! P-B3?
- 13----PxN probably better.
- 14 N-B7ch. K-B2
- 15 P-K6ch. ----
- Trying for complications.
- 15 ---- BxP
- 16 NxB KxN
- 17 B-B4ch. K-B4
- 18 KR-B1 P-N4
- 19 B-Q3ch. K-K3
- 20 B-B4ch. K-B4
- 21 B-Q6dis. ch. K-N3
- 22 B-B5 ----

White is a pawn down for his effort The task now is to keep the king bottled and avoid exchanges and open up some new lines of attack before Black develops.

- 22 ---- P-K4
- 23 B-K6 N-R3
- 24 P-KR4 PxP
- 25 R-R1 KR-K1
- 26 B-B4 QR-Q1
- 27 QR-B1 P-B4
- 28 RxRP P-K5

Slow but sure. Black might make it.

- 29 B-K3 ----
- Really threatening nothing.
- 29 ---- N-N5??

The nervous reaction.

- 30 RxN! ch. PxR

Any other move results in piecemeal annihilation so end it prettily.

- 31 B-B7 mate.
- Charles Griffith is a 14 year old & shows great promise.

A few months ago, Jim McCormick had the urge to travel. Following are three games he won, all over 1000 miles apart from each other. First, a game from the San Francisco prelims won by Jim with 6-0.

The second game was at Denver where Jim scored 4½-1½ to take 3rd prize and a third game was won at the International.

All notes and comment are by James McCormick. His opponent placed second in the 96-player California Open.

J. MCCORMICK

KURT BENDIT

Tarrasch Defense

- 1. P-Q4 P-Q4
- 2. P-QB4 P-K3
- 3. N-QB3 P-QB4

The Tarrasch Defense, considered a weak opening, but leads to a wide open game.

- 4. BPxP BPxP

The Von Henvig-Scharce Gambit which is a violent attempt to wrest the initiative.

- 5. Q-R4ch. P-QN4?!

Innovation! Not 6. QxPch., B-Q2 & White drops a piece. 6. NxP, B-Q2; 7. PxP, PxP; 8. Q-N3, P-K4 and Black has good game.

- 6. QxQP P-N5?

This advance is too impetuous. 6---QN-B3 is met by 7. Q-Q1, N-N5; 8. P-K4 & Black is in dire straits with no good continuation.

- 7. N-N5!! ----

The best move of the game!

- 7. ---- N-QR3

If (A) 7----P-QR3; 8. PxP, PxN; 9. PxPch., K-K2; 10 PxN(N)ch., K-K1; 11 Q-K4ch. and wins. If (B) 7----Q-R4; 8. Q-QB4!, N-QR3; 9. Q-B6ch. and wins. If (C) 7----PxP; 8. QxP, QxQ; 9. N-B7ch. with a pawn ahead and a better ending for White.

- 8. PxP ----

Hasty. 8. P-Q6! is binding.

- 8. ---- BxP
- 9. QxQch. RxQ
- 10 B-Q2 B-B5
- 11 NxP B-B4
- 12 N-B6 BxPch.
- 13 KxB RxB
- 14 P-QN3 B-Q4
- 15 N-B3! R-N7
- 16 N/B3-K5 ----

QN-Q4 was a strong alternative.

- 16 ---- N-B3
- 17 N-Q3 R-Q7
- 18 N/6xP NxN
- 19 NxN B-N2
- 20 K-K1 R-Q2
- 21 R-Q1 R-B2
- 22 R-KN1 O-O
- 23 P-KN3 N-N5
- 24 B-R5! N-K6

24----NxP is no better.

- 25 R-Q3 R-K1
- 26 K-B2 N-B7
- 27 N-Q5 ----

27 NxN, RxN greatly improves Black's

game.

27 ----	R-B4
28 R-QB3!	RxR
29 NxR	B-R3
30 R-QB1	N-Q5
31 P-K3	N-K3
32 N-Q5	N-N4
33 B-N2	P-KR3
34 R-B7	B-Q6
35 P-KR4	N-K3
36 R-B8!	N-Q1
37 P-QN4	P-B4
38 N-B7	R-B1
39 P-N5	K-R2
40 P-N6	N-K3
41 RxR	NxR
42 B-B6	Resigns.

22 R-B1	Q-Q3?
Black tries bravely to break the ever tightening cordons on his position.	
23 R-B6	Q-K2
24 RxP	Q-Q1
25 N-B6	Q-B2
Black's queen is going in circles - Q3, K2, Q1, QB2.	
26 NxR	NxN/B5
27 RxN	QxN
28 R-K7	Q-N3
29 R/B5-B7	N-K1
30 RxRP	Resigns.
Black is down the exchange and two pawns and with a poor position.	

J. MCCORMICK

MOULDEN

1. P-Q4	P-K3
2. P-QB4	P-KB4
3. P-KN3	N-KB3
4. B-N2	B-K2
5. N-KB3	O-O
6. O-O	P-QB3
7. P-QN3	P-Q4
8. B-N2	----
8. B-R3 playing for a weakness upon Black's dark squares is an alternative.	
8. ----	Q-K1
9. QN-Q2	N-K5
10 N-K1	----
White aims for knights on Q3 and KB3 with the intention of being able to capture with one knight if the other is taken on K5.	
10 ----	N-Q2
11 N-Q3	B-B3
12 N-B3	P-QN4?
Definitely a mistake as only White can profit on the queenside. In a Dutch Black has but one constructive goal - to attack on the kingside. Hence, Q-R4 to be followed by P-KN4 at the right moment was called for.	
13 PxNP	PxP
14 R-B1	B-Q1
15 N/B3-K5	B-N2
16 P-B3	N/5-B3?
16----N-N4 was the only move. White now gets an irresistable queenside attack going.	
17 B-QR3!	B-K2
18 BxB	QxB
19 R-B7	QR-N1
20 N-B5	B-B1
21 Q-Q2	----
Not 21 N-B6, Q-Q3!	
21 ----	P-N5

J. MCCORMICK

R. A. PILKINGTON

1. P-Q4	N-KB3
2. P-QB4	P-KN3
3. N-QB3	P-Q4
The Gruenfeld Defense.	
4. N-KB3	B-N2
5. P-K3	O-O
6. Q-N3	P-K3
PxP best. Text weakens kingside.	
7. B-K2	N-B3
Weak. The threat N-R4 is parried easily. Black should strive for an eventual P-QB4.	
8. PxP	KNxP
PxP looks better.	
9. O-O	QN-K2
10 B-Q2	NxN
11 BxN	N-Q4
12 B-Q2	P-QB3
13 P-K4!	N-B3
14 Q-B2	Q-B2
15 QR-B1	B-Q2
16 N-K5	KR-Q1
17 P-B4	B-K1
18 B-K3	N-Q2
19 K-R1	NxN
Cedes White a strong kingside attack, but Black has a difficult game.	
20 BPxN	P-N3
21 Q-B3!	----
Preparing for B-KN5, B-KB6	
21 ----	P-KR3
22 B-KB4	Q-N2
23 Q-K3	K-R2
24 R-B3	----
Threatens BxRP, BxB; 26 R-R3.	
24 ----	Q-Q2
25 R-Q1	P-QB4?
This allows White a pawn roller. P-KR4 would have held out longer.	
26 P-Q5	PxP

continued on page 9

INTRODUCTORY NOTES



Jim McCormick



Bob Merk



Vic Pupols



Dan Wade

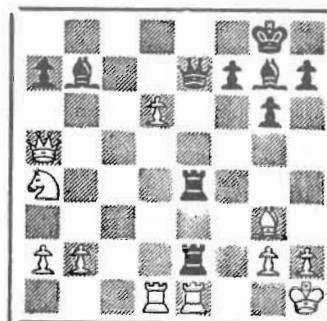
We have clipped the above pictures from snapshots made during past tournaments, to start what we hope will be a regular get-acquainted series, and request readers to send us photographs of themselves and chess friends, to include on future pages. With practice, the printing will improve, especially if care is taken to provide us with better contrast between the subject and background.

Jim McCormick is 20, and has come along fast the last few years since he won his first tournament, the 1953 Woodpusher event. Editor Wade hailed him as a future master, in reporting that event, and Jim might just make it with his around-the-clock enthusiasm for chess. In 1954 Jim tied with Pupols for the Junior Championship, but then went well over his head by entering the Washington Open, finishing last with an inglorious score of 0-6. He improved to 3½-2½ in the '55 Seafair, then to 4-2 in the Washington Open. In 1956 he has won the State Junior, and the Oregon Open, the latter against the top talent of the Northwest. Jim is enrolled as a student at Seattle Pacific College, but can be found almost every free day or evening at the Seattle Chess Club, preparing for a supreme effort to win the coming 1956 Washington Open Tournament.

In the right hand corner, Ladies and Gentlemen, is Dan Wade, a mainspring of Washington chess since 1951. He has served not only as publisher and/or editor of Chess Letter, but on occasion as the WCF Tournament Director, as President of WCF, and lately as President of Seattle Chess Club. Dan Wade is a solid and high scoring contender in all the major tournaments, although tie-breaking points have had a habit of falling the wrong way since he won the Puget Sound Open in 1952. He is Seattle Chess Club Champion, and State Speed Champion. Dan and his wife, son, and daughter, live near Northgate, in Seattle. He works at Buchan Bakery, whose basketball teams have won so many national honors.

Next month Dan Wade will take over the page, and introduce you to Bob Merk, and Vic Pupols, and thereafter to others in the Northwest scene, as the pictures become available. FHW

BLACK COULD WIN



MUELLER v. GEORG, 1939

Black could win with --see page 4.

SOLUTION TO PAGE 4 GAME
Black wins with.....B-B6!, for
instance; 2R XR, QXR; 3 Q-O8†,
K-N2; 4 R-KN1, B-Q5; 5 B-
Q6, QXNP†!! and then.....R-B8†

-continued from page 7

27 PxF	Q-K2
28 R-R3	K-N1
29 P-Q6!	Q-K3
30 B-B3	QR-N1
31 B-Q5	Q-N5
32 B-B3	----

White gains time on his clock.

32 ----	Q-K3
33 B-Q5	Q-N5
34 R-KB1	P-KN4
35 B-KN3	P-QR4

The critical P-K6 cannot be stopped.

36 P-K6!	K-R1
37 PxF!	B-N4
38 B-K5!	BxR
39 RxF mate.	

Fred VanNatta sent in the following game played against John Rowell, President of the St. Helens Chess Club. Fred is the chess leader of the Rainier, Oregon High School Chess Club.

J. ROWELL

F. VANNATTA

1. P-K4	P-Q4
2. N-QB3?	----

Puts White in trouble. Best 2. PxF.

2. ----	P-Q5
3. N-N5?	----

There is no future here. N-N1 would be best. Better to start over!

3. ----	P-K4
4. N-KB3?	----

Better is 4. P-QR4.

4. ----	N-QB3?
5. B-B4?	----

P-QR4 should be played.

5. ----	N-B3?
---------	-------

This should lose a pawn. Best would still be P-QR3.

6. P-Q3?	----
----------	------

White misses the knock of opportunity here. Why not 6. N-N5, B-K3; 7. BxB, PxB; 8. NxB, Q-Q2; 9. NxBch. and Black is in sad condition.

6. ----	P-QR3
7. N-R3	B-N5ch.
8. B-Q2	BxBch.?

BxN should be played giving White 2 weak isolated and nearly useless QRPs.

9. QxB	O-O
10 O-O	B-N5
11 Q-K2?	----

Ties up both his queen and knight .

11 N-K1 followed by P-KB3 looks best.

11 ----	P-QN4
12 B-N3	N-QR4
13 P-KR3	B-R4

14 P-KN4?	----
-----------	------

Risky and unnecessary. QN-N1 and QN-Q2 looks good enough.

14 ----	NxF
---------	-----

Two pawns for the knight but against the best defense probably unsound.

15 PxN	BxP
16 K-N2???	----

White should play N-N1 immediately.

16 ----	NxB
---------	-----

Very good because now Black can get his KBP and KR into the act quickly.

17 RPN	P-KB4
--------	-------

Now if his QN was at N1, White could play QN-Q2 with some semblance of defense. However, in this position, White is lost.

18 K-N3	PxP
19 KxB	----

At the moment, White is two knights ahead but his position is very grave!

19 ----	PxN
20 QxKP	----

Forced, otherwise 20----R-B5ch.; 21 K-N3, Q-R5 mate.

20 ----	Q-Q2ch.
21 K-N3	QR-K1
22 Q-N5	----

Any queen move adds up to the same result now. Trappy was Q-R5 followed by R-KN1

22 ----	R-K3
23 Q-R4	R-N3ch.
24 K-R2	R-R3

Now wouldn't it be nice for White if a rook was at KN1?

25 QxR	PxQ
26 R-N1ch.	K-R1
27 QR-K1	Q-Q3ch.
28 R-N3	R-KN1
29 Resigns.	

It was requested of the editor to use a game between beginners occasionally with teaching the game the purpose. Old Professor Wade has made a feeble attempt here but to completely explain the whys, wherefores, whatever, etc. of any game would take much more space than we have available here.

By the time a chess player becomes capable of answering beginner's questions, he has usually forgotten what the beginner wants to know. If some of our beginning players will send in additional questions to the above or other games we will attempt lucid explanation.

Someone who is currently teaching a beginner could provide Chess Letter with a wanted and worthwhile monthly feature by making note of the questions that come up in the process, and send them in for discussion.

SOLVERS' CONTEST

Whew: That was a tough one! Knocked out all the leaders and brought Cliff Dolph all the way from a tie for fifth to undisputed first place. Phil Dolph, C.J. Sween, and another ten players are within winning distance if Cliff falters on the final positions, which are presented below.

THE SOLUTION to the strategic 3-mover is:

- 1 B-B5 NxQ (to avoid 2 QxBch etc.)
- 2 BxP There is nothing Black can do.

The most popular try was 1 RPxP, which fails to ..N-Q7 from where the knight can interpose with protection of its Queen. 1 ..RxRP also defeats the try by removing the White Knight's guard.

The misses to the 6-mover were quite clever, but overlooked the fact it might be the NP that would be promoted. The only way to avoid a stalemate is to promote the pawn to a Bishop.

THE FINAL TWO POSITIONS are both from actual games played between Master players in important tournaments. The manner in which the player with the White pieces continued not only verified but enhanced his reputation as a Chess Master.

THE SCORING ALLOWANCE is very liberal. It can bring someone from behind to win the contest, if he is more discerning than the present leaders. You have 20 moves with which to bring about a checkmate in both games. Not 20 each, but 20 for both. You will be awarded 1 point for each move you save. If, for instance, you show mate in 5 in each one, a total of 10, you will be credited with 10 points. If you require 7 for one, and 8 for the other, you will only get 5 points etc.

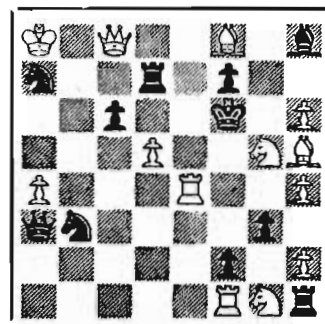
It is not necessary to send detailed analysis. Satisfy yourself that you have covered Black's best tournament play, and send in the main line.

We would like to have suggestions in regard to selection of material, manner of presentation, or any other ideas you might have that could make this or a similar monthly feature more enjoyable.

Next month, if necessary, we will present tie-breakers. If no tie-breakers are necessary we will announce a new contest.

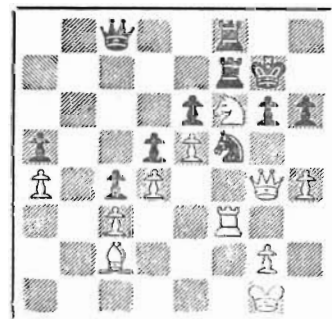
SEND SOLUTIONS TO F.H.WEAVER, 501 OLYMPIC PLACE, SEATTLE, BEFORE OCTOBER 24th

ONE MORE POSTAL CHESS ENTRY IS NEEDED TO COMPLETE A NEW SECTION. SEE BACK COVER.

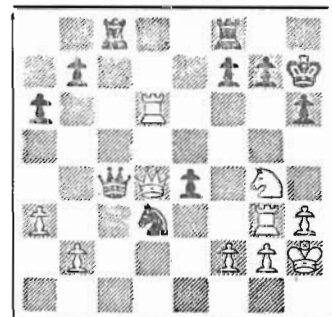


SOLUTION: 1.B-B5

THE FINAL EXAMS!



WHITE TO PLAY



WHITE TO PLAY

G I F T O F F E R
TO CHESS LETTER SUBSCRIBERS

You can get a free copy of the booklet, the front cover of which is pictured at the right, by signing up a chess-playing friend to a trial subscription to Chess Letter, 6 months for \$1. Or sign him up for a year and we'll send you both a copy.

The booklet has 8 pages, contains 21 columns of sparkling analysis that will give your game a real lift. There is thorough coverage of the most simple questions a beginner would ask, as well as exhaustive analysis on a more profound level by Dr. Max Euwe.

Robert Brieger has donated the right to print a limited edition to Washington Chess Federation, and we have decided to pass the gift on to you in return for a slight effort that will benefit us all, because increased circulation will enable us to produce a better magazine.

The booklet will soon be advertised nationally by George Bishop, who is also making arrangements for its distribution in England and France.

Send money and addresses to W.H. Raleigh, 4312 Woodland Park Ave. Seattle 3.

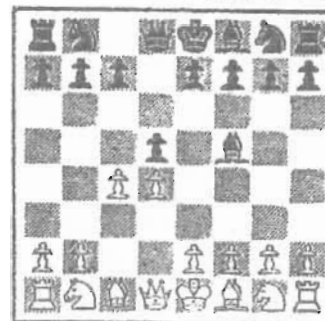
"COOK" 1. P-Q4? WITH

BRIEGER'S
DEFENSE

ROBERT BRIEGER, CHESS EXPERT, OF HOUSTON, TEXAS, DEVOTED FOUR YEARS TO EXPANDING AND PROVING AN OBSCURE DEFENSE THAT IS IGNORED BY BOOKS ON CHESS OPENINGS.

In addition to its excellent surprise value, the defense is "sound" against the most careful MASTER play, as proved in major tournaments.

AFTER BLACK'S 2nd MOVE



PRICE 50¢ GEORGE BISHOP 1500 ATLANTIC, SEATTLE 44, WASHINGTON

BRIEGER'S DEFENSE WINS AGAIN!!

1956 U.S. Open, Oklahoma City

White: E.H. Gill (Oklahoma City Champ)

Black: Robert Brieger

1 P-Q4	P-Q4	8 K-Q2	Q-N3	15 P-B3	N-Q2!	22 K-B2	RxPch
2 P-K3	B-B4	9 P-B5	Q-N2	16 B-R3	Q-N4	23 K-N1	RxN
3 P-QB4	P-K3	10 B-Q3	BxB	17 QxQ	RxQ	24 PxN	R-Q8ch
4 Q-N3	N-QB3	11 KxB	NxR	18 P-QN4?	P-QR4!	25 K-R2	BxP
5 QxNP?	N-N5	12 P-QN3	R-N1	19 PxP	RxP	26 B-Q4	BxB
6 Q-N5ch	P-B3	13 K-B3	N-B3	20 B-N2	NxP!!	27 PxB	K-Q2
7 Q-R4	N-B7ch	14 N-Q2	B-K2	21 BxN	R-R6ch	28 Resigns	

AROUND THE CHESS WORLD

BY DON EILMES
by Bishop & Weaver

The first Canadian Open, played in Montreal early in September, drew a strong field of 88 players. It was won by Larry Evans of New York, tie-breaking points placing him ahead of William Lombardy. Both scored 8-2.

Lionel Joyner was top Canadian player with 7½-2½, tied with another Canadian, Paul Vaitonis, and three US players, DiCamillo, Mednis, and James Sherwin. Bobby Fischer, 13 year old sensation from Brooklyn, scored 7-3. Other participants from the USA were Bernstein, Berliner, Sobel, Hodson, Muller, Rohland, Bakos, Hand, Gilliland, Jackson, and Drakert.

Representatives from 34 nations are playing in the International Team Match, in Moscow, Russia. The event is divided into four preliminary groups, the top three teams from each group to play in the finals. At the end of five rounds the Russian team had a commanding lead. The United States is not represented, due to lack of finances to send a team, but USCF President Frank Graves, accompanied by Mrs. Graves, attended the annual FIDE General Assembly in Moscow, as representative of the United States. Graves offered to hold the 1958 Team Matches in the United States. His offer to sponsor the event has been accepted by the International Chess Federation.

The annual Valley of the Moon Chess Festival, at Sonoma, Calif., has set a new record with 213 players. The Director, George Koltanowski, awarded 133 prizes and trophies.

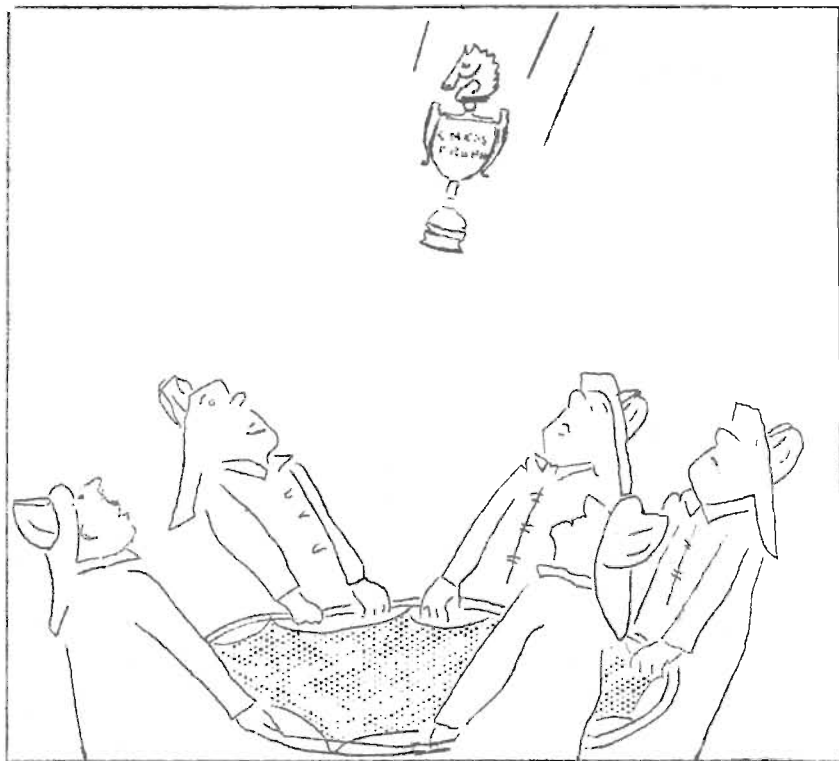
The California State Open at Santa Barbara, drew 96 players, well in excess of the previous record of 81 set two years ago. It was won by Gil Ramirez, who is only 16 years old. The prize winners were:

1	Gil Ramirez	6-1	\$120
2	Kurt Bendit	6-1	90
3	Robert Cross	6-1	70
4	W. Addison	5½-1½	55
5	P.D. Smith	5-2	45
6	Charles Bagby	5-2	35
7	ROBERT BRIEGER	5-2	25
8	D.J. Foley	5-2	15
9	Harry Borocho	5-2	10
10	Joe Mego	5-2	10

Others scoring 5-2 were:

Larry Remlinger, Roger Smook,
Horst Bullwinkel, Tom Fries,
George Hunnex, Robion Kirby,
Jack Hirsch, and C. Henderson.
The prizes totaled \$475.

The Michigan State Championship was won by Don Byrne, former US Open Champion, in a 54-player Swiss event. Second and third were won by Dreiberger and Morrie Weidenbaum.



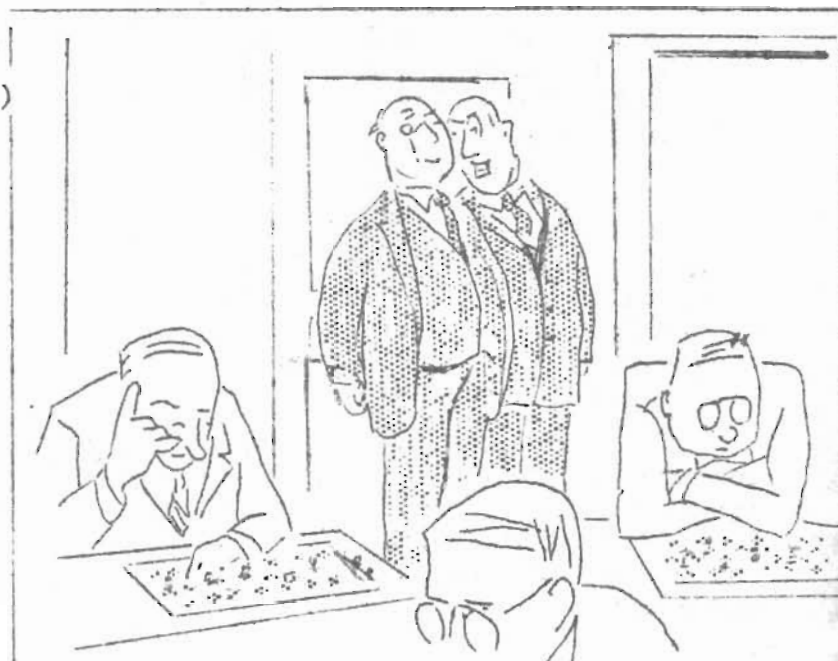
CHESS TEST

COVER THE GAME SCORE WITH A SHEET OF PAPER AND LOWER IT LINE BY LINE.
MODERN BENONI DEFENSE: 1 N-KB3, P-KN3; 2 P-KN3, B-N2; 3 P-Q4, P-QB4; 4 P-Q5,
P-Q3; 5 B-N2, N-KB3; 6 O-O, P-QN4; NOW TRY TO GUESS WHITE'S BEST MOVES.

- | | | | |
|----|---|-----------|--|
| 7 | P-B4 | 6 POINTS. | Obscure unless you understand that Black's strategy is to gain space on Q side. White can regain pawn, meanwhile disintegrates mobile pawn mass. |
| | ...B-N2 | | |
| 8 | R-K1 | 3 POINTS. | Preparing P-K4. 1 point for QN-Q2 (too early) |
| | ...PxP | | |
| 9 | P-K4 | 3 POINTS. | Better than N-B3 (1 point) |
| | ...KN-Q2 | | |
| 10 | N-R3 | 4 POINTS. | If QN-Q2?, P-B6! |
| | ...P-B6 | | |
| 11 | Q-B2 | 6 POINTS. | An opening advantage. |
| | ...B-QR3 | | |
| 12 | PxP | 2 POINTS | |
| | ...O-O | | |
| 13 | R-N1 | 4 POINTS. | White plans P-B4 and advance of center pawns. |
| | ...Q-R4 | | |
| 14 | P-B4 | 2 POINTS. | (See? We told you.) |
| | ...N-N3 | | |
| 15 | N-QN5 | 3 POINTS. | Active play necessary now. Deduct 5 for B-Q2, QxN; |
| | ...BxN | | |
| 16 | RxB | 3 POINTS. | |
| | ...Q-R3 | | |
| 17 | B-N5 | 5 POINTS. | 1 only for P-K5, NxQP! 1 point for B-K3. |
| | ...R-K1 | | |
| 18 | P-K5 | 7 POINTS. | Other moves allow Black to develop and equalize. |
| | ...PxP | | |
| 19 | NxP | 5 POINTS. | 3 points for RxBP for positional advantage. |
| | ...P-B3 | | |
| 20 | NxP | 5 POINTS. | |
| | ...PxB | | |
| 21 | NxPch | 3 POINTS. | The reply will be forced. |
| | ...RxN | | |
| 22 | RxR | 1 POINT. | |
| | ...N/1-Q2 | | |
| 23 | Q-B5 | 4 POINTS. | |
| | (White saw this before 18 P-K5) | | |
| | ...K-R1 | | |
| 24 | B-K4 | 5 POINTS. | |
| | (3 for KRxN. Deduct 3 for QxP) | | |
| | ...N-B3 | | |
| 25 | QxP | 3 POINTS. | |
| | (Another mating threat) | | |
| | ...N-K1 | | |
| 26 | Q-R5 | 3 POINTS | |
| | (6 extra if you've visualized your 28th move at this stage) | | |
| | ...N-B3 | | |
| 27 | Q-B7 | 3 POINTS. | |
| | ...R-KN1 | | |
| 28 | QxN | 8 POINTS. | |
| | ...Black resigns. | | |

SCORING

74-88	MASTER
66-73	EXPERT
57-65	CLASS A
44-56	CLASS B



"You might say the old chess club is really jumping with activity these days."

In explanation of the rather odd title to this page, leave us explain that after Editor Dan has turned in his usual 9-12 pages of deathless prose, neatly typed and numbered, the publisher then has to fill up the back yard of the issue with the stuff you often see so that our readers will at least get their money's worth of paper.

So, with one more page to fill, we are fortunate in receiving a letter from Jack Nourse, who is en route to Europe.

We hope he visits Amsterdam, Holland, to spy out the lay of the land. Five of their leading postal chess players are engaged in a postal match with five of our players. We understand that telephones are scarce there, and that a little Dutch boy makes the rounds on a bicycle to gather the moves for airmail dispatch to our Ben Weisscher, who then gets on the phone and relays to our players. Maybe Jack could intercept the boy. We will picture the positions of the match in a later issue. There have been only about 8 moves to date.



Cunard Line
R.M.S. Queen Elizabeth

Sept 16 56



Dear Howard,

Thought I had better let the boys know what's going on in chess circles in other places.

I looked in on the N.Y. Chess & Checker Club which is really a dump. If you thought the Knickerbocker Hotel was tacky you should see this. They have a lot of players but the place is loaded with creeps who prey on the suckers at such a rate. There must be a lot of out of towners who part with a miser's gold because they get bored, I got beat twice by a guy named (over)

Wyschogood, who was too good for me. Guess I let Wash. State down in NY but at present I am undisputed champion of the whole dad-blamed Atlantic Ocean, -Islands too if any. So Wash. State can be temporarily proud of me.

Weather has been swell and I am having a fine time. I keep thinking of the boys and particularly Dr. Almond and his Kitsap team. Hope they are doing alright this year. My best regards to all. There are too many to name.

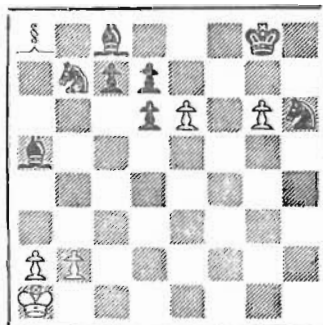
Best wishes,
Jack
(The Atlantic Champ)
Score so far; won 20, lost 2



THE SMALL GREEN IDOL

I was sitting in my chess club, when a member named White told me that he had just found a very curious chess club in the city, a place with rather dim windows, where the light they used was mostly candles. In addition to all this dimness there was a good deal of tobacco smoke. He walked in there and a man immediately asked him to have a game; so they sat down and started. The board was set in the ordinary way, but what excited my friend's curiosity was that at the K3 square the other man had a little green jade idol, whose moves he did not know. I interrupted his story to ask him why he permitted such an extraordinary breach of the laws of chess, but he said that it wasn't his chess club and he didn't know what laws they might have there. Also it was quite unmistakable that the man with whom he was playing would no more have tolerated the removal of his idol than any of us would tolerate having our queen lifted off the board illegally. He was a truculent sort of fellow, so there was nothing for it but to play on. My friend played very cautiously and watched the moves of the idol. Until he could find what the moves of the idol were, he could do nothing. And the man very seldom moved it. The room grew dimmer, as more smoke got into the air, and the evening waned, and no more candles were brought. The man moved the strange piece like a bishop, then like a rook, and it wasn't until my friend got to the position that I will show you that, playing very cautiously and not yet entirely defeated he found out the moves of the idol. It moved like a queen and a knight combined. When he had at last got that, he knew what he was up against. As I said, he was not yet beaten, though very near it, for he had naturally lost an awful lot of pieces while finding out how the idol moved; but at last he suddenly saw he had a mate in two. And it served the man damned well right. So, look at the position and see if you can see it.

(The solution will be found at the bottom of page 10)



White to play

THE IDOL IS AT BLACK'S QR1

POSTAL CHESS

R.R. MERK 
 POSTAL CHESS EDITOR
 1026 E 71 SEATTLE 15

		July 31, 1956	Points
56A-1A	Baron	1 Howard	0 14
		Aug. 6, 1956	
55B-5B	Spencer	1 Brookshire	0 74
		Sept. 2, 1956	
55A-6A	Parsons	1 Knapp	0 0
		Sept. 4, 1956	
55A-6A	Knapp	1 Allyn, L.	0 46
55A-6B	Knapp	1 Allyn, L.	0 46
56A-1A	Howard	1 Carter	0 56
		Sept. 10, 1956	
56B-1A	Edberg, A.Y.	1 Laine	0 54
		Sept. 14, 1956	
55B-5B	Spencer	1 Waynor	0 27
55B-5A	Waynor	1 Smith	0 35
55B-5A	Spencer	1 Smith	0 14
	Brookshire	1 Waynor	0 20
56B-1B	Laine	1 Squire	0 48
54B-1A	Raleigh	$\frac{1}{8}$ Nelson	$\frac{1}{2}$ 12
54B-1B	Raleigh	1 Nelson	0 62
54B-4A	Raleigh	1 Falk	0 80
	Roberts	1 Falk	0 40
54B-4B	Raleigh	1 Falk	0 80
	Roberts	1 Falk	0 40
		Sept. 15, 1956	
56B-6B	Brookshire	1 Notter	0 39
56B-4A	Haynes	1 Adamson	0 40
		Sept. 20, 1956	
56B-4B	Haynes	$\frac{1}{2}$ Hamilton	$\frac{1}{2}$ 6
56B-7B	Spatz	1 Notter	0 55
		Sept. 22, 1956	
55A-6B	Parsons	1 Knapp	0 18
56B-5B	Phillips	1 VanNatta	0 36
		Sept. 26, 1956	
56A-3A	Howard	1 Husby	0 22
55B-5A	Parsons	1 Spencer	0 0

For the benefit of those who are not familiar with our rating system we show below the chart and explanation of its use in determining the points won and lost in our postal chess tournaments.

Col. 1	Col. 2	Col. 3	Col. 4
0	50	50	0
20	48	52	2
40	46	54	4
60	44	56	6
80	42	58	8
100	40	60	10
120	38	62	12
140	36	64	14
160	34	66	16
180	32	68	18
200	30	70	20
220	28	72	22
240	26	74	24
260	24	76	26
280	22	78	28
300	20	80	30
320	18	82	32
340	16	84	34
360	14	86	36
380	12	88	38
400	10	90	40
420	8	92	42
440	6	94	44
460	4	96	46
480	2	98	48
500	0	100	50

Keep this chart for future reference in figuring your own ratings and checking our calculations of ratings.

We have a new leader in the B Division, Don Roberts, who lives in Kotzebue, Alaska, fishes and hunts in summer and drives a taxi in Nome in the winter. Between times he plays postal chess. His mail is slow and so are his games.

Parsons is now in striking distance of the top of the A division. His rise has been so rapid that he has so far outdistanced players in his earlier sections, that some of his games won don't earn him any points because the difference in ratings is 500 or more. He now has a tough section on hand, vs Howard Husby, Cairncross and Weaver.

Many thanks to Lyberger, Haynes and Watson for the names of the prospects for our postal tournaments and membership in the Washington Chess Federation.

Points are computed on the difference between the player's ratings at the time of completion of a game. The first column above is for this difference to the nearest 20, following across to col. 2 shows the points won or lost if the one winning has the higher rating, col. 3 shows the points if the winner has the lower rating and col. 4 is the points won by the lower rated player in case of a tie, and lost by the higher rated player. For example: Player A at the completion of a game has a rating of 1260 and player B has 1040. The difference is 220. Follow col. 1 down to 220, then if A wins, the points are in col. 2, if B wins the points are in col. 3, and if a tie, then the points won by B and lost by A are found in col. 4. The lower rated player wins the points in case of a tie.

POSTAL CHESS

POSTAL CHESS IS A GOOD WAY TO IMPROVE YOUR GAME. You can take enough time to thoroughly study each move. You can enter against any strength of competition and game results will soon give your rating its proper value.

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H. D. Strachan
5103 N.E. 15 Ave
Portland 11, Ore

04/57



POSTAL CHESS RATINGS

"A" Division

Baron	1742
Parsons	1696
Mage	1668
Goubrough	1602
Weischer	1580
Kaffenberger	1570
Bever	1549
Wade	1540
Edberg, R.E.	1526
Dickson	1507
Skersten	1497
Luters	1472
Weaver	1466
Howard	1438
Witthans	1400
Carter	1367
Knapp	1343
Cairncross	1211
Allyn, L.	1144
Husby	1109

"B" Division

Roberts, Don	1374
Phillips	1354
Sween	1342
Tresidder	1293
Brookshire	1283
Merk	1263
McDonald	1252
Edberg, A.Y.	1238
Laine	1222
Hamilton	1185
Spencer	1169
Nichols	1149
Haynes	1136
Lyberger	1136
Van Natta	1134
Raleigh	1134
Squire	1106
Spatz	1105
Rogers	1090
Skoglund	1082
Gordon	1078
Benson	1050
Gemar	1050
Jacobson	1050
McBride	1050
Mills	1050
Fifley	1050
Watson	1050
Notter	1040
Aldridge	1010
Youngman	1005
Lee	960
Adamson	959
Falk	958
Nelson	952
Miltmore	910
Waynor	906
Skinner	894
Waldron	818
Smith	719