

The PENNSWOODPUSHER

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A Tale Of Two Cities...

...And Two Junior Invitationals

2003 Western Pennsylvania Junior Invitational by Boyd M. Reed

The 2003 Western Pennsylvania Junior Invitational Chess Championship was held April 11-13, 2003, at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. The Invitational brought together eight of the strongest players under age 21 in Western Pennsylvania for three days and seven rounds of hard-fought chess.

The tournament was developed as a way to help Western PA's strongest juniors develop by exposing them to the rigors of a round-robin format. This placed an emphasis on opening preparation, mental toughness and physical stamina.

The players (in wallchart rating order) were: Ryan Milisits, Justin Papariella, Luis Guerrieri, Mark Heimann, Michael Opaska, Matthew Russell, Alexander Heimann and Tyler Lelis. With a 170-point advantage on the field, Milisits was the prohibitive favorite entering the event. However, almost all the other players had been improving rapidly, and in some cases the wallchart ratings were more than 100 points behind the times. Throw in a G/90 time control, and mayhem became a distinct possibility.

The tournament didn't really shake itself out until the fifth round on Saturday evening (or, if you prefer, the "Saturday Night Massacre"). All four games were decisive. At the end of the evening's carnage, Milisits had the clear lead with a perfect 5 points, followed closely by second seed Papariella with 4.5 points. Of course, they didn't get there without some drama. Milisits had to survive a fierce attack from Guerrieri in round two, while Papariella hung on to draw Mark Heimann in round one.

The tournament schedule had Milisits and Papariella, friends and longtime rivals, paired in round six. This turned out to be effectively the deciding game of the Invitational. Despite having Black, Papariella obtained a superior position, but felt he didn't have enough to push for more. The resulting draw guaranteed Milisits a half-point lead going into the last round.

The sixth round essentially determined the top three players, as Michael Opaska's 4 points were good for sole possession of third place, even if he dropped his last-round game. However, there was still the possibility of Papariella taking equal or sole first. He took on Russell, while Milisits faced Opaska.

When Milisits and Opaska shook hands after 27 moves, Papariella had his opportunity. Pressing Russell with the White pieces, Papariella obtained a markedly better position after 20 moves. However, the long weekend had taken its toll, and the two players agreed to a draw five moves later.

Indeed, fatigue was a factor for almost all the players. They were not used to the grueling nature of a round robin, where you can lose two or

three games in a row, only to find yet another tough opponent across from you.

With an undefeated score of 6 points, Ryan Milisits became the inaugural Western Pennsylvania Junior Invitational Champion. He received \$200 and a plaque. Justin Papariella's undefeated 5.5 points were good for second place, \$100 and a plaque. Michael Opaska turned in a solid 4.5 points, losing only to Papariella in round 4. He collected a plaque for third place. All eight participants received custom medals with names engraved.

The tournament was marked by high-intensity, hard-fought games. The relatively high number of draws (12) was more a reflection of the equality of the field than any lack of spirit. If there were a best-game prize, my vote would have gone to Justin Papariella's second-round dismantling of Alexander Heimann.

Players were treated to food throughout the weekend, and the facilities at CMU were outstanding.

All 28 games were relayed on the Internet Chess Club, and over 40 observers watched each of the key games in rounds six and seven. Some players were occasionally distracted by wanting to watch their games being relayed, and frequently had to be shooed away from the computer in the tournament room. The online analysis was lively and fun, and several masters participated in the discussions throughout the weekend.

The tournament was very well received, and plans are under way for another edition next year. Special thanks are due the sponsors of this event: Pennsylvania State Chess Federation, Carnegie Mellon University, Research Underwriters, Internet Chess Club, Pittsburgh Chess Club, University of Pittsburgh Chess Club and Delbert Tyler LLC. Mark Lenart provided the very attractive plaques and medals.

The tournament was organized under the auspices of the Pennsylvania State Chess Federation. The organizing committee consisted of PSCF President Tom Martinak, Delbert Tyler, Denise Lederman, Beth Harrison, Rich Barbara, Larry Heimann and Boyd Reed (tournament director). The website for the Invitational is www.pscfchess.org/wpajrinv. Photographs, a complete crosstable and all 28 game scores are available there.

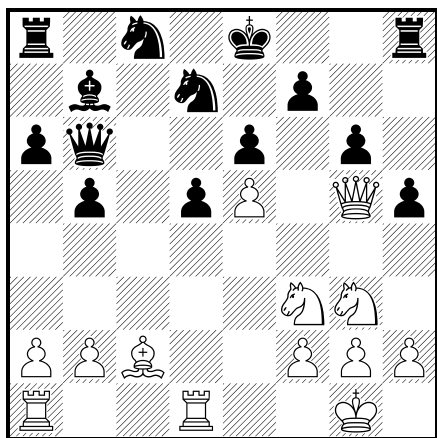
Michael Opaska – Mark Heimann [B21]

Western Pennsylvania Junior Invitational
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (2), 12.04.2003

Notes by Michael Opaska

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.♘xc3 Now in the accepted variation of the Smith–Morra Gambit. White gains rapid development and early pressure on black's position in return for the pawn. **4...d6 5.♗c4 e6 6.♘f3 ♗e7 7.0-0 a6 8.♞e2 b5** Mark is familiar with the Najdorf variation of the Open Sicilian and is playing with a similar idea; blunt the c4 bishop with e6 and expand on the queenside. **9.♗b3 ♘d7 10.♞d1 ♗b7 11.♗f4 ♞b6 12.e5 d5** So far black has achieved his opening goals from my view point. His only problems are the bishop on b7, and the

knight on g8. His grip on the c5 square and space advantage on the queenside almost, if not totally, equalize. White on the other hand has played somewhat by rote and deserves no more than a draw. 13.♙e3 ♘c5 14.♙xc5 ♘xc5 15.♙c2 ♘d7 The wrong plan. The knight belongs on c5, retreating it makes less sense than a more natural move like Ne7. This lost tempo gives White a chance to reorganize 16.♚d2 Aiming for two things. One it switches the queen onto the dark-squares, which are weak on the kingside due to the absence of the dark-squared bishop, and two; it has a small tactic in mind exploiting the pin of the d pawn and the unprotected d7 knight to bring the c3 knight to the kingside. 16...♘e7 17.♘e4 ♘c8 Mark obviously felt that d6 had to be defended. The other knight move to cover d6 is Nf5, after which I had planned Ng5 and the position becomes very unclear. Sacrifices on f7 become possible, along with tactics against the undefended queen on b6. The best move in this position is probably 0-0, which Fritz 7.0 optimistically (in my opinion) gives as around 0.30 in black's favor. 18.♘g3 h5 This move keeps a knight off of h5, but it weakens the g5 square too much. 19.♚g5 g6



20.♙xg6! The only move! Even Fritz 7 evaluates the position after this move as in white's favor by a little over half a point. Regardless of Fritz's evaluation, I'm more comfortable in such positions which makes it the correct psychological choice. 20...fxg6 21.♚xg6+ ♗d8 22.♙ac1 Bringing the last piece into the attack and cutting the king off from running to the queenside. Curiously enough Fritz favored Nd4 instead, and gives Ra1 as only good enough for equality. 22...♘e7 23.♚f7 h4 The last two moves Mark has made are exactly what the computer recommended; excellent on his part. However, from here it gets hard to play like a computer on defense even for one as tenacious as Mark. 24.♘h5 ♙f8 25.♚g7 Not Qh7 right away in my opinion. Qg7 keeps "in touch" with the rook tying one of the knights down to defending it, and creating the possibility for tactics luring or removing that knight. At this point I achieved the position I saw in my mind when I played Bxg6. I was figuring on Rg8 next and thought that I at least had a perpetual going back and forth between f7-g7. 25...♙g8 26.♚h7 I thought for around 15-20 minutes on this move. In the end I evaluated the position in my favor and believed it was winning enough to push it. 26...h3 27.g3 ♙f8 Here was perhaps his last shot at equalizing. Rc8 with the aim of trading one pair of rooks is the best shot. Nevertheless, its still difficult. 28.♘f6 ♙c6 29.♘d4 ♙b7 30.♘f3 ♙c8 31.♚g7 ♙a7 Its hard to fault his play, because its hard to suggest anything to do. 32.♘g5 ♙b6 33.♚xf8+ ♘xf8 34.♘f7# A pretty mate. 1-0

Mike Guber Wins Greater Philadelphia Junior Invitational Chess Championship By Dan Heisman

Mike Guber of Masterman High School won the 2003 Greater Philadelphia Junior Invitational Chess Championship, held over the weekends of May 3-4 and 10-11 in Wynnewood, PA. He scored an outstanding 6.5 of out 7 points. This tournament was designed to bring together the eight highest rated junior (under age 19) players in the Delaware Valley to play each other. While some of the area's top rated players declined to play, the 8 that accepted were a good representative of the top junior talent.

Finishing second just behind Guber with 6-1 was Maurice Bishop, the 2001-2002 Greater Philadelphia High School Champion from Southern High School. Third place was a close battle which was decided in the final round, and went to Rory Wasiolek of Devon Prep, with a 4-3 score. He finished half a point ahead of top-rated Zack Tokar of Masterman and Gage Caligaris of Lawrenceville. Rounding out the event were John Hanford of Strath Haven HS, Eric Augenbraun of Masterman, and Adrian Benton of Pennsbury.

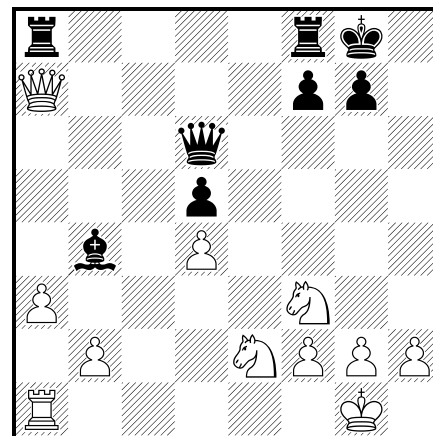
The game of the tournament was Tokar's incredible win over Wasiolek, where Wasiolek had a forced mate while down a Queen and piece(!), misplayed a King move to get out of check allowing a draw, and then resigned in a drawn position, believing he was lost! The bravest game was played by Bishop, who needed to win in the final round to challenge Guber for first, and played a speculative piece sacrifice against Caligaris. Bishop managed to win a very nice game. The biggest upset was the lowest seed, Hanford, beating the top seed, Tokar, in the final round.

The winner will have his name engraved on the Heisman-Shahade trophy. The top three prize winners also took home cash prizes, as donated by several appreciated sponsors. Dr. John F. Bayley, the President of the Main Line Chess Club, organized the sponsorship drive, and he and tournament director Dan Heisman organized the event. For further information, contact Dan Heisman 610-649-0750.

Zack Tokar – Mike Guber [C01]

Philadelphia Invitational (1), 2003

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.♘f3 ♙d6 5.c4 c6 6.♘c3 ♘e7 7.♙d3 ♙g4 8.0-0 ♘d7 9.♙e1 0-0 10.cxd5 cxd5 11.♙xh7+ ♗xh7 12.♘g5+ ♗g8 13.♚xg4 ♘f6 14.♚h3 ♙c8 15.♘f3 ♚b6 16.♙e2 ♙b4 17.♙g5 ♘g6 18.♙xf6 ♘f4 19.♚d7 ♘xe2+ 20.♘xe2 ♚xf6 21.♚xb7 ♚d6 22.a3 ♙b8 23.♚xa7 ♙a8



24.axb4 ♙xa7 25.♙xa7 ♚xb4 26.h3 ♚xb2 27.♙e7 ♙a8 28.♘g3 ♙a1+ 29.♘h2 ♚xf2 30.♙e2 ♙h1+ 31.♘h1 ♚xg3 32.♙e5 ♚f4 33.♙xd5 ♚c1+ 34.♘h2 ♚f4+ 35.♘g1 ♚c1+ 36.♘f2 ♚c2+ 37.♘g3 ♚c7+ 38.♘g4 ♚c8+ 39.♘f4 ♚c7+ 40.♘e3 ♚c3+ 41.♘f2 ♚c2+ 1/2-1/2

Kriventsov Regains His Crown

by Joseph J. Mucerino Jr.

After winning the PSCF Pennsylvania Championship three years in a row, IM Stanislav Kriventsov decided to take a break last year and let someone else win. This year, Kriventsov came to Pittsburgh to regain his Championship crown.

Last year's Championship at Camp Hill was called "weak" by some people because certain players, such as multi-time Championship winners Kriventsov and IM Edward Formanek, were absent from the field. That "weak" Championship contained seven masters. This year's edition could only muster four. In fact, all four of last year's co-champions surrendered their titles without a shot being fired. (*Tom Martinak was acting as TD for the Championship. -NB*) After looking at the crosstable, I discovered the highest-rated player from Camp Hill that made the trek to Pittsburgh was ... ME!

The PSCF Pennsylvania State Championship rotates around the state from region to region so that players don't have to travel a long distance every year. But sadly, very few players are willing to travel outside their home region to play in it. I would like to congratulate Rory Wasiolek and William Bell, both of who, along with me, managed to play in the Championship in the latest three year rotation cycle (Allentown in 2001, Camp Hill 2002, and Pittsburgh 2003). Pennsylvania needs more players like us to make the event truly a "state" Championship.

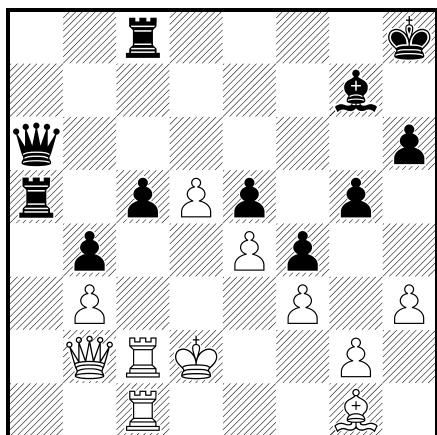
This year's championship format was slightly different from other years. There were two playing schedules: a three-day schedule with all games having a 30/80 SD 60time control, and a two-day with the first round played at Game-60 and merging with the three day in round two.

Joe Mucerino – Mark Eidemiller [A41]

PSCF Championship (1), 11.07.2003

Notes by Joe Mucerino

1.d4 d6 2.♁f3 g6 3.♁g5 ♁g7 4.c3 h6 5.♁h4 f5 6.e3 g5 7.♁g3 ♁f6 8.h3 e6 9.♁d3 ♁c6 10.♁bd2 ♁e7 11.♁c2 0-0 12.0-0 a6 13.e4 f4 The Bishop gets shut out, but after an f3 move, it sees daylight again. 14.♁h2 e5 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.♁c4+ ♁h8 17.♁he1 ♁a5 18.♁b3 b5 19.♁b1 c5 20.♁d5 ♁b8 21.♁b3 ♁xb3 22.♁xb3 a5 23.♁d2 a4 24.♁c2 ♁a7 25.f3 b4 26.c4 ♁d7 27.b3 ♁b6 28.♁e2 ♁a6 29.♁g1 ♁b8 30.♁b2 ♁e8 31.bxa4 ♁xa4 [Interesting is 31...b3!?] 32.♁b3 ♁xb3 33.axb3 ♁c7 34.♁c2 ♁xd5 35.cxd5 ♁a8 [Black could have also tried 35...♁b5 -a5.] 36.♁c1 ♁a5 37.♁d2 ♁a6 38.♁dc1 ♁c8



White is trying to set up a fortress, and Black is trying to creep into White's position. 39.♁f2 [Not 39.♁xc5 ♁xc5 40.♁xc5 ♁a2 winning the Queen.] 39...h5 40.♁b1 ♁f8 41.♁c4 ♁g7 42.♁1c2 ♁d6 43.♁b2 ♁a1 44.♁e2 ♁f6 45.♁d2 White can only wait. 45...♁c7 46.♁e2 ♁a7 47.♁d2 ♁f1 48.♁e2 ♁a1 49.♁d2 ♁f1 50.♁e2 ♁h1 51.♁e1 ♁a3 52.♁b1?? [This loses. Probably better is 52.♁d2 , trying to free the other Rook.] 52...♁a1 White now loses material. 53.♁d1 ♁xd1+ 54.♁xd1 ♁a1+ 55.♁c1 ♁a3 Winning the b pawn. 56.♁e2 [56.♁b1 ♁a2 57.♁c2 ♁xc2 58.♁xc2 ♁h2 wins the g pawn.] 56...♁xb3 57.♁1c2?? ♁e3+ 58.♁d2 ♁hxel 0-1

So, on Saturday morning, I gave the PSCF President a nice, crisp \$20 bill to re-enter the event. He was kind enough to throw me into the deep end again.

Stanislav Krivenstov – Joe Mucerino [B01]

PSCF Tournament (1), 12.07.2003

Notes by Joe Mucerino

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♁f6 3.♁f3 ♁xd5 4.d4 ♁f5 5.♁d3 ♁g6 6.c4 ♁b6 7.♁c3 ♁c6?? [Played out of order. 7...e6 is necessary.] 8.d5 ♁b8 [I thought I could play 8...♁xd3 9.♁xd3 ♁b4 10.♁c2 ♁xc4 11.♁xc4 ♁c2+ but White wins with the simple 11.a3, and both Knights are attacked.] 9.0-0 c6 10.♁e1 cxd5 11.cxd5 ♁8d7 12.♁b5 ♁b8 Preventing both ♁d6 mate and ♁f4. 13.♁xg6 hxg6 14.d6 [14.d6 A) 14...f6 15.♁d3 (or 15.♁fd4 with a later ♁e6;) ; B) 14...e6 15.♁g5 and White is threatening to win two exchanges.] 1-0

Neither I nor my bank account was happy after this game, but that's how it goes sometimes! And after a difficult victory against the rookie Federico Garcia, I was once again thrown to the lions.

Bruce Leverett – Joe Mucerino [A35]

PSCF Championship (3), 12.07.2003

Notes by Joe Mucerino

1.d4 ♁f6 2.c4 c5 3.♁f3 cxd4 4.♁xd4 ♁c6 5.♁c3 g6 6.♁c2 This may look odd, but the Knight can go to the d5 square via e3. 6...♁g7 7.g3 0-0 8.♁g2 d6 9.0-0 ♁a5 10.♁e3 [White can play 10.e4 first, but that does block in his Bishop.] 10...♁d7 11.♁cd5 ♁xd5 12.♁xd5 e6 13.♁c3 ♁ad8 14.♁d2 ♁c8 15.♁c1 ♁fe8 16.a3 ♁e5 17.e4 f5 18.♁e1 fxe4 19.♁xe4 ♁d4 20.♁e2 ♁h8 By this time Leverett had ten minutes for ten moves, but was just unable to speed up. 21.♁g5 ♁d7 22.♁cd1 ♁c5 23.♁e3 ♁a5 24.♁b5 ♁d8 25.♁xa7 d5 26.♁xc6 bxc6 27.♁g2 ♁a6 28.b3 ♁e7 White forfeited on time. 0-1

Too bad! Things were starting to get interesting!.

In the fourth round I managed to draw with Thomas Magar, which meant I played the four highest rated players in the tournament. In the last round, I had a quick "trade 'em off" draw with Justin Papariella so I could get a head start on my six hour drive back to Douglassville. Board one had another quick draw: Kriventsov, with a perfect 4-0 score (although he had a few rough times along the way) drew with Expert Vladimir Getman, who had a fine tournament. And so, for the fourth time in five years, Stanislav Kriventsov is Pennsylvania State Champion.

Memories of 1943: A Wartime Chess Championship

By Martin Simsak & Neil Brennen

(This article previously appeared, in slightly different form, at *Correspondence Chess News* <http://ccn.correspondencechess.com>, and in *Quarterly for Chess History* #6.)

In September 1943 conditions on the home front were severe. Butter, milk, meat, gasoline, and other materials were rationed here in the United States. Appliance manufacturers switched to armaments. Leather was in demand for military use, so civilians were restricted to three pairs of leather shoes a year. But despite the sacrifices, Americans were optimistic about our eventual victory in this horrible war. We had to be. We had no choice.

Here in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, we could see the home front in action just by visiting the nearby Bethlehem Steelyard, where men and women worked round the clock producing steel to help defeat the Axis. And we all tried to do our part for the war effort. We knew victory was within our reach. Failure was unthinkable, for Americans and for the rest of the world.

I hadn't been called up yet, so I was still working as a salesman/distributor in Bethlehem, where I, my wife Rose, and my young son Martin Jr. lived. I didn't enlist when war was first declared, because I had the idea that if I waited until called, I would have a greater number of options open to me. I thought I might be selected for a translating position, since I had learned Slavic languages as a child from my parents and grandparents.

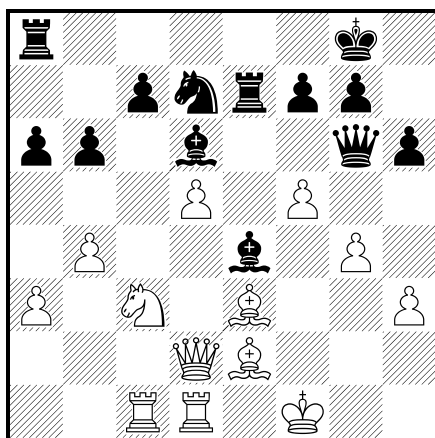
Chess was limited during the war, as so many young players were overseas. Those of us who were not in uniform, to take our minds off of the real battles we read about in the papers, decided to play in the PSCF Pennsylvania State Championship, held in Pittsburgh the first weekend in September.

It may sound as if I thought a lot of myself, but I thought I had good chances to win the championship that year. I was one of the strongest players in the Lehigh Valley, and I was playing pretty well at that time. Here is a game against my friend Roy Rockel, played a month after the Championship. The attack and sacrifice of the piece is speculative, but very hard to handle with a ticking clock.

Roy Rockel – Martin Simsak [D06]

Allentown vs Bethlehem match , October 29, 1943

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 d5 3.cxd5 ♗xd5 4.e4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 a6 6.♗f3 ♗c6 7.h3 h6 8.♙e3 e6 9.a3 ♙e7 10.♞c1 0-0 11.♞c2 ♞e8 12.♙d3 ♙f8 13.0-0 e5 14.d5 ♗b8 15.♞fd1 ♙d6 16.♗a4 ♗bd7 17.b4 ♞e7 18.♗c5 b6 19.♗a4 ♗xd5 20.exd5 e4 21.♙e2 exf3 22.♙xf3 ♗e5 23.♙e2 ♞f6 24.♗c3 ♙f5 25.♞d2 ♞g6 26.♗f1 ♞e7 27.f4 ♗d7 28.g4 ♙e4 29.f5



29...♙xf5 30.gxf5 ♞xf5+ 31.♗g2 ♞e5 32.♙f2 I could have announced a mate in six here, if I had seen it. 32...♞h2+ 33.♗f1

♞xh3+ 34.♗g1 I announced mate in four: 34...♙h2+ 35.♗h1 ♙g3+ 36.♗g1 ♞h2+ 37.♗f1 ♞xf2# 0-1

The tournament was directed by the well-known Belgian player and blindfold expert George Koltanowski. In fact, the night before, Koltanowski gave a blindfold simul to open the tournament. *Chess Review* unfortunately doesn't say how he did.

Koltanowski was a popular guest with chessplayers in the United States, and made a number of simul tours during the war. Pittsburgh was a favorite stop of his, and he appeared at the Downtown "Y" Chess Club (which later changed its name to the Pittsburgh Chess Club) repeatedly, with his last visit in the 1985. Throughout his life Koltanowski "found it possible to make and to hold friends", as he described in his book on blindfold chess, *In The Dark*. And his description of Americans as people who "have the enviable ability to drop all barriers and make that person feel as if an evening's acquaintance was a lifelong friendship" is a good description of himself. He was grateful for having a home in the United States while his native Belgium was occupied by Nazi Germany, and like refugees before and after, we made him one of us.

My traveling companions were a number of the strong players of Allentown and Bethlehem: Les Buck, Woodrew (Woody) Young, Clarence (Pete) Ziegler, and Thomas Gutekunst. Strangely one of our strongest players, Herman V. Hesse, decided not to go, although he was strong enough to win it, and had won the PSCF Championship in 1941 and the PSCA Championship in 1934.

The name PSCA may look like a misprint for PSCF, but it was a different group. There was a "chessboard battle" in PA chess in the 1940's, but the battle was for the right to represent Pennsylvania's chessplayers, and to hold the Championship tournament. And the chessplayers in our state had the choice of TWO warring State Championships to play in.

You see, Pennsylvania Championships were traditionally run in those days by the PSCA, the Pennsylvania State Chess Association, founded in 1897 and located in Philadelphia. Each year on Washington's birthday, the PSCA would hold a knockout tournament in Philadelphia, usually at the Mercantile Library or the Franklin Chess Club. Losing one and a half points would be enough to knock you out of the tournament. So having a bad start would ruin the event for you.

Also, by having the Championship in Philadelphia each year, it favored Philadelphia players. Yes, Philadelphia players such as Bill Ruth and Sydney Sharp were strong, but other parts of the state, such as Allentown and Bethlehem and Pittsburgh had strong players too. And if they wanted to play in the Championship, they had to travel to Philadelphia to do it, and run the risk of being eliminated because they had a slow start.

The new state chess organization, the Pennsylvania State Chess Federation, or PSCF, rotated the championship tournaments, so that some years it was played in the eastern part of the state, and some years in the middle or the western part. This made the tournament more open to all of Pennsylvania's chessplayers, and explains why, even in wartime, we could draw so many people. It seemed more democratic to do it that way, in that it didn't slight people because of where they lived. It was a little like what we were fighting for in Europe and Asia.

Of course the PSCA claimed to be the "real" state championship, while the PSCF claimed they were holding the real event, and the PSCA represented no one but Philadelphia chessplayers.

The dispute even spilled over into the pages of *Chess Review*. On page 75 of the March issue there was a report on the PSCA Championship, held in Philadelphia February 20th and won by John Leary. Al Horowitz mentioned the two associations claiming the title of Pennsylvania Champion, and called the situation "confusing".

William Byland of Pittsburgh, then in this third year as President of the PSCF, wrote to *Chess Review* to clarify the matter. In his letter, printed on page 106 of the April issue, Byland wrote, "The Pennsylvania State Chess Federation, a union of clubs in all sections of the state, has, since 1939, sponsored four annual tournaments for the Pennsylvania Championship. Our policy is that all chess players in Pennsylvania are entitled to compete in any tournament for the State title; therefore, our tourneys, staged during the Labor Day weekend, are held in a different city each year, thus enabling the largest possible number of enthusiasts from the largest possible number of localities to enter. Obviously, if the State tournament were to be held in the same city each year - for example, Philadelphia - the number of sections represented would be seriously limited, as very few players not resident in Philadelphia could compete in such events."

After noting Philadelphia was a strong chess city, Byland added, "a tournament composed mainly of entrants from Philadelphia and the immediate vicinity - irrespective of the merits of the players involved - cannot possibly be considered a "Pennsylvania State chess championship" tournament."

Horowitz, in his response to Byland in the letters column of *Chess Review*, suggested a match between the winners of the two tournaments, or having the dispute arbitrated by the United States Chess Federation. Byland then sent a second letter to *Chess Review* to answer Horowitz's comments.

In the June-July issue, on page 185, Byland addressed the historical claim the PSCA made to the title of champion, noting "It is true that tournaments for the "State" championship have been held in Philadelphia for a considerable number of years, but under conditions of play that precluded the entry of all non-residents of that city. It is significant that the tournaments were always held in Philadelphia, and under the circumstances there is legitimate doubt that a "State" championship was ever involved."

Byland then dismissed the idea of a match between the PSCA and PSCF champions: "While certain state championships are decided by such a plan, the organizational division in these states is made on an equal geographical basis and not on the theory that one city may assume prerogatives necessarily limited to much larger territorial units."

After the harsh words, Byland extended the olive branch and suggested a merger of the two organizations "would promote chess interest and accomplishment in Pennsylvania to a heretofore unprecedented degree." And eventually this merger happened, but not until 1946.

But of course it was Labor Day in 1943, not Washington's Birthday, and so we were going to the PSCF tournament. Those of us who were not in uniform yet figured we should play while we could, because you never knew when that letter from Selective Service would come. Also, Clarence Ziegler, one of my friends on the trip to Pittsburgh, was a schoolteacher, and this was his last weekend before classes started again. Once classes started, he would have to stop his chessplaying.

We arrived in early afternoon, after a seven-hour drive. Of course there were no highways yet, so that time of seven hours was all on back

roads. There were few cars on the road, due to gasoline rationing. And we had no trouble getting parking in downtown Pittsburgh for my big 1936 automobile for the same reason.

The Hotel Roosevelt was a very grand hotel, and was glad to have the chessplayers as guests, as the rationing of gasoline had hurt the travel business. The Blue ballroom of the hotel was used for the tournament, and I remember it as very fancy. It was a very warm Labor Day weekend, and air conditioning couldn't stop the tournament room from being very humid.

Chess Review, in its tournament report on page 330 of the November issue, gave the number of players as thirty one, and mentioned fourteen sections of the state were represented. Aside from the players I came with, I didn't know many of the players at the tournament. I had heard of some of them, from reading *Chess Review*, or because someone had spoken of them.

If you were to look at the group photo of the players in the championship, you'd notice there are very few young men. The youngest player was a postal player from Altoona, Durwood Hatch, age seventeen. Next was me, age 33, married with a son, and then Les Buck, aged 34. After that it was all men in their forties and older. So the stereotype of chess as an "old man's game" was partly true in 1943, as the young men were off at a real war.

Tournament Director Koltanowski had a brief meeting with the players before the first round to explain how he was going to pair the tournament. He explained he was going to use something he called a "Swiss System" pairing. Many of us had never heard of this before, and we had him explain how it worked. We had been used to the knockout system of the PSCA, or the Holland system that the PSCF used, where players were put into a group of round-robin sections, and the winners of each section played each other for the title.

Each of the other two methods used by the PSCA and the PSCF had their problems. With the knock-out, a fellow could drive all the way to Pittsburgh, lose one game and draw the other, and then sit and watch on the sidelines, because he was knocked out. With the Holland system the PSCF had used before, the players would have to play in a round-robin group, and then the winners would play a match between them. This could mean there would be a lot of games to play. When I played in the 1941 PSCF Tournament in Allentown, the winner of the event, Hermann V. Hesse, had to play seven games in the round robin, and then play a final match. And this was for a tournament with just 22 players, 16 in the championship sections, and 6 in the minor tournament. How would they handle the thirty-one players who showed up in Pittsburgh if they had to use the Holland system?

But this new pairing system, the "Swiss System", was designed to work with large numbers of players. It really wasn't new at all. It had been used in Switzerland as early as 1895, and Koltanowski had used it in the 1942 and 1943 Southwest Open in Texas. It was also being used in a postal tournament run by the Correspondence Chess League of America, according to Byland in his tournament report in *The Chess Correspondent*. But this was the first time most of us had heard of it. It had never been used in Pennsylvania before, and had never been used in North America for an over the board championship event.

But after hearing Koltanowski explain it to us, we all agreed it was an improvement over the knockout system of the PSCA. With a Swiss, a bad start didn't kill your chances. Also, we could predict just how we would finish in the event, which we couldn't do in a knockout.

We thought the Swiss System a good method to use in a tournament. *Chess Review* in its tournament report agreed, and described the Swiss as "well adapted to a tournament of this size." Byland in his tournament report in *The Chess Correspondent* also agreed, describing the pairing method as "winners meet winners" and announcing the PSCF would use the Swiss for all future tournaments.

Of course, we didn't know that the Swiss system would later become the dominant form of chess tournament in the United States, with hundreds of events held each year, some of them running to thousands of players.

My first round opponent was a strong player originally from Wisconsin, Robert Reel. Koltanowski writing in his book *In The Dark*, describes Reel as "liable to drop in at any time to demonstrate some new line he has just uncovered." *American Chess Bulletin* mentions Reel was Wisconsin State Champion in 1944. The Pittsburgh Chess Club newsletter, *En Passant*, included the detail that Reel won the championship with a 6-1 score, and that the tournament was run by the new "Swiss System". Reel was an active member of the Pittsburgh Chess Club, and he was listed on the membership roles as "R. U. Reel". For years there were all sorts of jokes about "Are you real" in Pittsburgh chess circles. (It was probably an old joke in 1943 too.)

In the June 1944 issue, the *PSCF Bulletin* carried one of the games from the 1944 Wisconsin Championship. The introduction to the game mentions that the Wisconsin tournament also used the Swiss System for pairings, which shows just how quickly it was spreading to other tournaments. Reel may have been the one who convinced the tournament organizers to use the Swiss, since he had experience with one from Pittsburgh.

Robert Reel – Surgies [A45]

Wisconsin Championship, 1944

1.d4 ♟f6 2.♞d2 d5 3.e3 ♟f5 4.c4 e6 5.♞gf3 c6 6.♟e2 ♟d6 7.c5 ♟c7 8.b4 a6 9.♟b2 ♞bd7 10.♟c1 ♟b8? 11.0-0 0-0 12.a4 e5? 13.dxe5 ♞xe5 14.♞d4! ♟d3 15.f4 ♟xe2 16.♟xe2 ♞ed7 17.♞f5 ♟e8 18.♟f3 ♟e6 19.♟d3 ♟fe8 20.♟g3 g6 21.♞f3! ♟f8 22.♞3d4 ♟e4 23.♟xe4 ♞xe4 24.♟h3 gxf5 25.♞xf5 ♞df6 26.g4 ♟e6 27.g5 ♞g8 28.♟xh7 ♟c8 29.♟h8 ♟g6 30.h4 f6 31.h5 ♟g7 32.h6 ♟xg5+ 33.fxg5 ♟f7 34.h7 ♞e7 35.♟xc8 1-0

PSCF Bulletin, June 1944

Back in Pittsburgh in 1943, at one o'clock on a Saturday afternoon, I was seated opposite the future Wisconsin Champion. I wrote notes to my first round game against Reel, but over the years I misplaced a lot of chess material, and the second page of my notes is lost. So here is the game, with partial notes, annotated by me in 1943, shortly after the game was played.

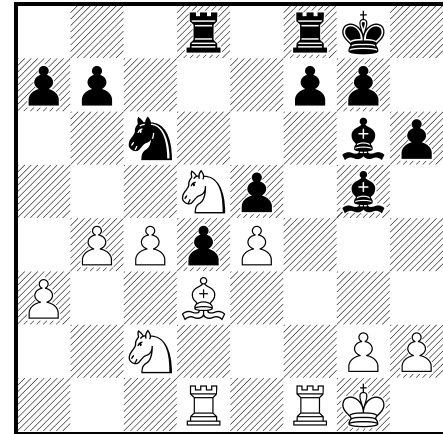
Martin Simsak – Robert Reel [D40]

PA Championship (1), September 4, 1943

Notes by Martin Simsak

1.d4 d5 2.♞f3 ♟f6 3.c4 e6 4.♞c3 c5 5.♟g5? cxd4 6.♞xd4 [If 6.♟xd4 ♟c6 and ... e5 follows with a better game for Black.] 6...e5 7.♞c2 To protect the b4 square and preventing the Bishop pin. 7...d4 8.♞d5 [8.♞e4 gives Black a better attack with 8...♟f5] 8...♟f5 9.a3! ♟e4 Threatening to win a pawn. 10.♞db4 ♞c6 11.f3 The Bishop must be driven back. 11...♟g6 12.e4 The Bishop must get in play or White is lost. 12...h6 13.♟h4 [If 13.♟d2 Black wins at once by 13...♞xe4 14.fxe4 ♟h4+ 15.g3 (If 15.♟e2 ♟h5+ wins the Queen) 15...♟xc4+ 16. White any and Black plays Qxh1.; 13.♟c1 ♞xe4 14.fxe4 ♟h4+ and Black has

many threats of mate and winning material.] 13...♟a5! 14.♟d2! ♟d8 15.♟d3 The saving move. The position is now equal. 15...♟e7 16.0-0 [An oversight. White should have retreated his Bishop to 16.♟f2 and then Castled. This loses a pawn but White still has compensation with the open Bishop file.] 16...♞xe4 17.fxe4 ♟xh4 18.♟e2 Necessary as the Knight is pinned and cannot move. 18...♟g5 Threatening ...Be4+. 19.♞d5 The Knight attains a strong post which throughout the game maintains strong pressure on Black. Black should have exchanged the Knight as soon as possible and simplified to an ending a pawn to the good. 19...♟d2 20.♟xd2 [20.♟f3 is no good because of 20...♟e3+ 21.♞cxe3 ♟xd3 and White's Bishop is exchanged.] 20...♟xd2 21.♟ad1 ♟g5 22.b4 To keep the Knight from a5. Also to begin a Queenside attack with three pawns against two. 22...0-0



23.g3 Preparing for h4, driving the Black Bishop from his commanding position. 23...♟d7 Necessary as after White's h4 the Bishop is exchanged on f6 and White gets his pawn back. If moved to e7, White plays b5 and wins the Bishop. 24.h4 ♟d8 25.♟f2 h5 26.♟df1 a6 27.♞e1 f6 28.♞f3 ♟d7 29.♞d2 ♞e7 30.♞b3 ♞c8 31.c5 ♞e7 32.♟c4 ♟h8 33.♞b6 ♟xe4 34.♞d7 ♟d5 35.♟xd5 ♞xd5 36.♞xe5 ♞e3 37.♞xf7+ ♟xf7 38.♟e1 ♟d7 39.♟d2 ♞f5 40.♟g2 ♟c7 41.♟d3 ♟e5 42.♟e4 ♟g8 43.♞d2 ♟f7 44.♞c4 ♟e6 45.♟f3 g5 46.hxg5 fxg5 47.♟xe5+ ♟f6 48.♞e4 ♞e3 49.♞xe3 dxe3 50.♟xe3 h4 51.♟f3+ ♟g6 52.gxh4 gxh4 53.♟h3 ♟d1 54.♟xh4 1-0

That evening my second round opponent was Leslie H. Buck, one of my traveling companions. Buck was an accountant, father of six children, and a decent chessplayer despite not taking up the game until age 30. He played both in over the board chess tournaments and through the mail in the Correspondence Chess League of America. An obituary from the *Journal of the Allentown Chess Club* mentions he was still actively playing in Allentown and Bethlehem tournaments into the late 1970's. The obituary says he was planning a comeback to tournament chess at age 84 "when death administered the final checkmate."

I was good friends with Les. On Saturdays Les, Fred Jackson, and I would go to Allentown, pick up Hermann Hesse or Bill Steckel (never the both of them, due to their dislike of each other), and we would play chess late into the night. In Buck's obituary it says "Les remembers walking down the streets on Sunday morning with the church bells ringing", after leaving one of our all-night sessions.

Unfortunately the score of my 1943 Championship game with Buck, which I won, is missing. Les was not having a good tournament in

Pittsburgh; as *Chess Review* noted, "J. Firestone, of Pittsburgh, hard-hitting heavyweight, scored a beautiful win over L. H. Buck of Bethlehem, for which he was awarded the brilliancy prize...."

I had a good score against Les Buck in local events. While this cannot replace the lost gamescore from the 1943 Championship, this seems a good place to demonstrate how our games often turned out.

Martin Simsak – Les Buck [E41]

Lehigh Valley Open, 15.03.1947

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♘b4 4.e3 c5 5.♗f3 ♖c6 6.d5 exd5
7.cxd5 ♗e7 8.d6 ♖c6 9.♗d3 ♗xc3+ 10.bxc3 0-0 11.0-0 ♗e8
12.♖c2 h6 13.♗d1 ♖f6 14.♗b2 ♗xd6 15.c4 ♖e7 16.♖c3 ♗e8
17.♗ac1 d6 18.♗b1 ♗g4 19.♖c2 f5 20.h3 ♗xf3 21.gxf3 ♗e5
22.f4 ♗f3+ 23.♗g2 ♗h4+ 24.♗h2 ♗f6 25.♖e2 ♗e4 26.f3 ♗f6
27.♗g1 ♗h5 28.♖f2 ♗f7 29.♗cf1 ♗d8 30.♖d2 ♗e8 31.e4 fxe4
32.fxe4 ♗ef8 33.f5 ♗f6 34.♖xh6 ♗d7 35.♗f4 ♗e5 36.♗xe5
♖xe5 37.♖xh4 ♖d4 38.♖g3 ♖xc4 39.f6 ♖d4 40.♖xg7+ ♗xg7 1-0

The next morning, in the third round, I faced William Byland, the President and one of the founders of the PSCF. He was a strong player from Pittsburgh. In fact he was Pittsburgh Chess Club Champion eight times. Byland later served as Vice-President in the United States Chess Federation, and as an officer in the Correspondence Chess League of America. And as we've seen from the dispute between the PSCF and the PSCA, he was powerful advocate for allowing everyone to play for the state title. Koltanowski described him as "quiet and capable", just the qualities needed in a leader.

Byland was a banker by profession, and a friend of the well-known master Anthony Santasiere. Like Santasiere, he was an intellectual, and shared some of Santasiere's romantic view of chess. In fact Byland wrote a short book of twelve of his best games, called *I Fiorelli Delgi Scacchi*. In English, that translates to "The Little Flowers of Chess". Reading it reminds one of the good as well as the bad features of Santasiere's writing. As an example of Byland's play, as well as his writing, here is a game he gave to show the dangers of "Originality". Byland wrote in his introduction, "In chess, originality is a highly valued trait- but one must never be so original that basic precepts are violated. In this game, Ohio's Jim Schroeder aims above all at originality, and in doing so condemns his king's knight to a dreary role generally associated with the last act of Aida." Translated into plain English, that means Black was suffocated.

William Byland – James Schroeder [B06]

Columbus, Ohio, 1950

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.f4 ♗g7 4.♗f3 ♗d7 5.♗c4 h6 6.0-0 c5 7.dxc5
♗xc5 8.e5 ♗e6 9.♗b5+ ♗d7 10.♖e2 ♖b6 11.♗xd7+ ♗xd7
12.♗e3 ♗c8 13.c3 a5 14.♗a3 g5 15.f5 ♗xe5 16.♗xe5+ dxe5
17.♗ad1+ ♗e8 18.♗d5 ♗f6 19.♗xe5 ♗f8 20.♗d4 ♗g7 21.♗xe7
♖c6 22.♖h5 ♖d5 23.♖g6+ 1-0

Pittsburgh Chess Club *En Passant*, May 1983

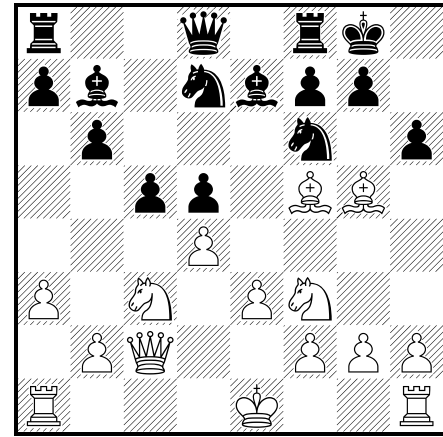
As you can tell, I was facing a strong master in Byland. I'd played Byland previously, in the 1941 PSCF Tournament in Allentown, although I no longer have my scoresheet, and the PSCF has no records of the scores of the tournament, so I don't remember how I did against him. I'm not sure how much he liked our game this time.

Martin Simsak – William Byland [E12]

PA Championship (3), September 5, 1943

1.d4 ♗f6 2.♗f3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.♗c3 ♗b7 5.♗g5 ♗e7 6.♖c2 d5 7.e3

♗bd7 8.♗d3 0-0 9.a3 c5 10.cxd5 exd5 11.♗f5 h6



12.h4 My overall plan for this game was to launch a big attack on the king. I don't normally play like this, but I thought it was warranted against an aggressive player like Byland. And I thought I had compensation for the piece in an open h-file. ♗e8 13.0-0-0 ♗e4 14.♗xe4 dxe4 15.dxc5 hxg5 16.♗xd7 ♖c8 17.♗d4 ♗xc5 18.♗xf7 ♖b8 19.♖b3 1-0

At the prize-giving ceremony at the end of the Championship, George Koltanowski told me he thought I played the most exciting chess of the tournament. I'm not sure of it, but I think my game with Byland is probably the game he meant. It's the only game of mine ever published in a major chess magazine, in the May 1991 issue of *Chess Life*. It's also the only game of mine to make it into computer databases, I'm told.

Although this was an embarrassing game for Byland, he was a complete gentleman about his loss. He wasn't happy with the result of course, and wasn't too talkative afterward; but he showed none of the discourtesy I see from a lot of young chessplayers today. Many players could learn chess manners from William Byland.

And despite his result in this game, and in the tournament, the weekend was not entirely unsuccessful for Byland; he did win re-election as PSCF President for the fourth consecutive time in the PSCF annual business meeting.

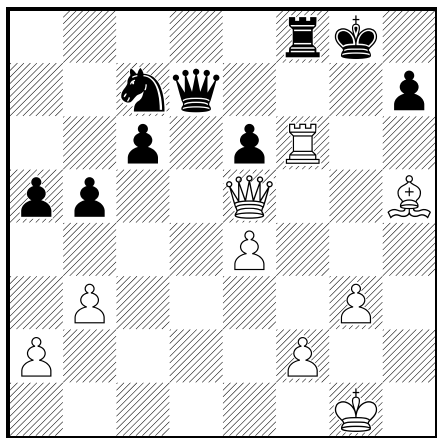
Clyde Shive, my fourth round opponent, was a postal player from the central part of Pennsylvania. He finished with a decent score of five wins and two losses in the 1943 tournament, but his only two surviving games from the tournament are both his losses.

The game *Chess Review* used with their report on the tournament was a loss by Shive to Wayne Wagner, a strong Pittsburgh player. They didn't say what round it was played in, and I haven't found out from other sources when it might have been played.

Wayne Wagner – Clyde Shive [A25]

PA Championship, 1943

1.g3 ♗c6 2.c4 e5 3.♗g2 ♗f6 4.♗c3 ♗e7 5.♗f3 d6 6.d4 exd4
7.♗xd4 ♗xd4 8.♖xd4 0-0 9.0-0 c6 10.b3 ♖c7 11.♗b2 ♗e8
12.♗ad1 ♗e6 13.♗e4 d5 14.♗g5 dxc4 15.♗xe6 fxe6 16.♖xc4
♗f8 17.♗d4 ♗ad8 18.♗fd1 ♗xd4 19.♗xd4 ♖e7 20.♗h3 g6 21.♗d3
♗d5 22.♗e5 ♗g7 23.♖d4 ♗xe5 24.♖xe5 a6 25.♗f3 ♖d7 26.e4
♗c7 27.♗f6 b6 28.♗g4 a5 29.h4 b5 30.h5 gxh5 31.♗xh5 ♗f8



White announced mate in 4: 32.♖g5+ ♜g7 33.♞xf8+ ♔xf8 34.♞d8+ ♚e8 35.♞xe8# 1-0
Chess Review 1943 P330

Clyde Shive's other loss, and other surviving game, was to me in the fourth round.

Clyde Shive – Martin Simsak [B24]

PA Championship (4), September 5, 1943
 1.e4 c5 2.♘c3 ♘c6 3.g3 e6 4.♙g2 ♘f6 5.d3 d5 6.♙g5 d4 7.♘ce2 h6 8.♙xf6 ♞xf6 9.f4 e5 10.♘f3 ♙d6 11.0-0 exf4 12.e5 ♘xe5 13.♘xf4 0-0 14.♘xe5 ♙xe5 15.♘d5 ♞d6 16.♞f3 ♙d7 17.c4 ♙c6 18.♞f5 g6 19.♞f2 ♙g7 20.♞ae1 ♙e5 21.♞xe5 ♞xe5 22.♘f6+ ♔g7 23.♙xc6 bxc6 24.♘d7 ♞e3 25.♘xf8 ♞xf2+ 26.♔xf2 ♔xf8 27.♔e2 ♞e8+ 28.♔d2 ♔g7 29.a3 a5 30.♞b1 ♞b8 31.b3 f5 32.♔e2 ♔f6 33.♔f2 g5 34.h3 h5 35.♞b2 ♔e6 36.♞b1 ♔f6 37.♞b2 f4 38.gxf4 gxf4 39.♔f3 ♔f5 40.a4 h4 0-1

After this game with Shive, we had a third round to play that evening. The players were very tired, and it was a very warm September weekend, and so we called the day "Bloody Sunday". The group photo was taken just before our third game, and we all looked drained, with sweat all over our brows. That made the play a little sloppy that round, including my loss to the eventual tournament winner, Thomas Gutekunst.

The following biographical information on Tommy Gutekunst is from his obituary notice in the *Allentown Morning Call* of September 23, 1989.

"He worked for the Call-Chronicle newspapers for 50 years, beginning as a copy boy for the *Evening Chronicle* in 1924. In 1936, he left to become advertising manager for a local women's wear store, but returned to the newspaper the following year. He retired as copy department supervisor and display ad salesman for the *Call-Chronicle* in 1974...

"He was Pennsylvania State Chess champion in 1943 and 1950. In 1954, he also defeated 11 players simultaneously during an exhibition match in Emmaus. He was president of the Pennsylvania State Chess Association from 1953-57, and a past director of the United States Chess Federation."

Gutekunst retired from chess in 1960 for some reason he never explained, and took up art as a hobby. According to his obituary, "In August, 1989, his watercolor "One Plus One Equals One," won a

second place honor in a juried art exhibit sponsored by the Lehigh Art Alliance at the Allentown Art Museum."

Tommy Gutekunst was one of the strongest players in the state of Pennsylvania. At the time I played Gutekunst in Pittsburgh he was Lehigh Valley champion. Bruce Alberston, a later generation Lehigh Valley master and a USCF Senior Master, considered Gutekunst one of "the four"- the four strongest players in the Allentown-Bethlehem area, these being Thomas Gutekunst, Hermann Hesse, myself, and the short-lived 1950's chess prodigy Mahlon Cleaver. But none of this describes the friendship and rivalry I had with Tommy, going back to the 1930's. I played a countless number of games with Gutekunst over the years. Not many survive, but my old notebook has the following good win.

Martin Simsak – Thomas Gutekunst [E34]

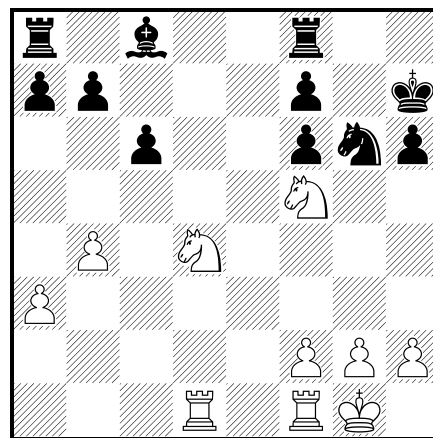
Lehigh Valley Open, 18.01.1949
 1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♙b4 4.♞c2 d5 5.e3 c5 6.♘f3 ♘c6 7.a3 ♙xc3+ 8.bxc3 0-0 9.♙d3 dxc4 10.♙xc4 ♘a5 11.♙a2 c4 12.e4 b5 13.♙g5 ♞c7 14.e5 ♘e8 15.♙b1 g6 16.♞e4 f6 17.exf6 ♘c6 18.♘e5 ♘xe5 19.♞xe5 1-0

Unfortunately six years earlier things did not go so smoothly. There is a photo in *Chess Review* showing the Gutekunst-Simsak game. It was my one loss of the event, the game they photographed. It was also the only tournament game I ever lost on time until just before my retirement from chessplaying.

I mentioned how tired all the players were. Well, it was Bloody Sunday all right, in more than one way. This same weekend, on the other side of the world, Allied forces invaded the mainland of Italy. After this game, I think I know how Italy felt. The notes to the game are mine, from my scoresheet.

Thomas Gutekunst – Martin Simsak [D15]

PA Championship (5), September 5, 1943
Notes by Martin Simsak
 1.d4 d5 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.c4 c6 4.♘c3 ♙f5? 5.♞b3 ♙c8 6.♙g5 e6 7.e3? [7.e4] 7...♙e7 8.♙d3 ♘bd7 9.0-0 dxc4 10.♞xc4? ♘d5 11.♘e4? 0-0 12.a3 h6 13.♙xe7 ♞xe7 14.b4 e5 15.♘g3 exd4 16.♘f5 ♞f6 17.♞xd4 ♞xd4 18.♘5xd4 ♘7f6 19.e4 ♘f4 20.e5? ♘xd3? 21.exf6 gxf6 22.♞ad1 ♘e5? 23.♘h4 ♘g6 24.♘hf5 ♔h7



25.♞d3 ♘e5? 26.♞h3 ♙xf5 27.♘xf5 ♔g6 28.♘e7+ ♔g7? 29.f4 ♘g4 30.♞g3 f5 31.♘xf5+ 1-0

The next morning, Labor Day, after some sleep, I had to face the first

of two strong postal chess players. Philip Driver, an official with the Pennsylvania Railroad, was an officer with the old PSCA, and in fact directed many of the PSCA championship events in Philadelphia in previous years. He also played extensively through the mail in the Correspondence Chess League of America and other postal chess groups, and organized postal tournaments for the PSCA. Here's a game that Driver played in one of his PSCA postal tournaments. I was three years old when the game was published, so you can understand that I thought of him as an old-timer.

Philip Driver – Otto Scherpich [C42]

PSCA CC, 1912

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.♗xe5 d6 4.♗f3 ♗xe4 5.d4 ♙e7 6.♙d3 d5 7.0-0 0-0 8.♙e1 f5 9.c4 b6 10.cxd5 ♙b7 11.♗c3 ♗xc3 12.bxc3 ♙xd5 13.♗e5 ♙d6 14.f4 ♖f6 15.♖c2 ♗h4 16.♙d2 g6 17.c4 ♙b7 18.c5 ♙xe5 19.♙c4+ ♗g7 20.dxe5 ♗c6 21.e6 ♗e7 22.♙e3 ♖xf4 23.♖c3+ ♗g8 24.♙g3 ♖h4 25.♙g5 ♖e4 26.♙h6 1-0

Philadelphia Inquirer, January 11, 1914

As an over the board player Driver wasn't as strong, but you had to be careful, because he could be a dangerous opponent. In our game on Monday morning, Driver tried to use an irregular opening on me, the Ruth opening, named for the creative Philadelphia master Bill Ruth. However, I don't think that Driver knew I'd seen this before.

Philip Driver – Martin Simsak [D00]

PA Championship (6), September 6, 1943

1.d4 d5 2.♙g5 Nowadays people call this the Trompowsky Opening, and think it's something new. But Philadelphia master Bill Ruth used to play it, and Ruth demonstrated it to the Allentown Chess Club one night in the late 1930's. We all thought it was pretty screwy-looking at first, with the Bishop going to the King Knight's square for no reason at all, but when we tried to play against it, it turned out to be pretty tough. 2...g6 3.♗d2 ♙g7 4.c3 ♗f6 5.f3 ♙f5 6.♙xf6 exf6 7.e4 dxe4 8.fxe4 ♖e7 9.♙d3 0-0 10.♖e2 ♙d7 11.♗gf3 f5 12.exf5 ♖xe2+ 13.♗xe2 gxf5 14.♙ae1 ♗c6 15.♗f2 ♙e6 16.a3 h6 17.♙hf1 ♙f6 18.♙c4 ♙xc4 19.♗xc4 ♙fe8 20.♙xe8+ ♙xe8 21.♙e1 ♙xe1 22.♗xe1 ♗g7 23.♗e2 ♗g6 24.♗fe5+ ♗xe5 25.♗xe5+ ♙xe5 26.dxe5 f4 27.♗d3 ♗g5 28.♗c4 h5 29.h3 f3 30.gxf3 ♗f4 ½-½

This was something of a disappointing result. I needed a win from this game in order to take first place. As it is a win would have put me in first, as Tommy Gutekunst drew with Durwood Hatch, and so that extra half point would have come in handy. I could still finish with a lower rank, but there was no title for me this year.

It turns out that I could have won this ending after all. When I was putting this article together with my co-author Neil Brennen, we found that the pawn ending is not drawn, but won for Black. Unfortunately, I have no memory of why I agreed to the draw here.

In the final round I played the youngest player, seventeen year old Durwood Hatch of Altoona. Hatch would go on to be champion of Altoona several times. *Chess Review*, in its report on the championship, mentioned that even as a teenager Hatch was becoming a strong postal player. *Chess Review* described the sensation Hatch made at the Championship: "Playing in his first over the board tournament, postal player Hatch held the first two prize-winners to draws, turned in the fine score of 3 wins, 1 loss, and 3 draws."

Hatch went into the Army Air Force shortly after the 1943 tournament, and continued his postal chess playing while in the service. After his

discharge in 1946 he resumed playing in over the board tournaments, and always scored well in Pennsylvania Championships. He twice won the PSCF Rapid Transit title, and was champion of his native city from 1941 to 1993, except for the three years he was in the military.

Hatch's wife Patricia, partially because she didn't want to be a "chess widow", took up chess, and became a strong postal player, winning the 1957 US Ladies Correspondence Championship run by the CCLA.

Durwood Hatch still lives in Altoona with his wife, and he is the only survivor of the 1943 Championship, aside from myself. Unfortunately, neither Hatch nor I have our scoresheets for our game. Durwood remembers that he thought he had an advantage, but that he blundered at a crucial moment. He had almost no sleep the night before the game, and he was tired from his draw with the tournament winner Tommy Gutekunst the round before. Durwood's nerves, and the excitement of playing in his first over the board tournament with adults, got the better of him.

Winning against Durwood Hatch put me into a tie for second-third with Robert Smith of the Pittsburgh Chess Club. Smith also won the special prize for the shortest game. This miniature is included at the end of this article.

Winner of the event was Thomas Gutekunst, as I mentioned earlier. I remember after being awarded the trophy and twenty dollar first prize Gutekunst excused himself from the crowd to make a phone call. He wanted to let the Allentown *Call-Chronicle* know he had won the state championship, and as a good newspaperman he wanted his paper to "scoop" its competitors. And on Tuesday morning, they printed a brief story with his picture, in the news section, surrounded by stories of the war.

One of the players was getting married shortly, and so I gave him one of my gasoline ration cards so he could travel to New York on his honeymoon. So that was an unannounced prize of the tournament.

We said goodbye to Koltanowski, to the other chessplayers, and to Pittsburgh, I collected my share of the five dollars for my equal second place finish, and we began the long trip back to Allentown and Bethlehem. We were all tired after the battles over the board. Little did I know as I drove eastward across Pennsylvania, that eight months later I would be in the South Pacific, serving my country in real battles, not chessboard ones.

1943 PSCF TOURNAMENT

Pittsburgh, PA, September 4-6, 1943

1.Thomas Gutekunst, 6; 2-3. Robert Smith, Martin Simsak, 5-1/2
4-6.Clyde Shive, Wayne Wagner, Philip Driver,5; 7. Durwood Hatch, 4-1/2

Additional games from the 1943 PSCF Tournament:

Dick Grimm – Robert Smith [A52]

PSCF Tournament, 09.1943

For the benefit of those who came late, left early, sneezed, or otherwise missed this gem, we give below Bob Smith's deathless effort against Dick Grimm, which won the shortest game prize at Pittsburgh last Labor day. 1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 ♗g4 4.♗f3 ♗c6 5.e4 ♗gxe5 6.♙g5 ♗xf3+ 0-1 What a way to make money!
PSCF Bulletin, January 1944

Harold Ramme – Durwood Hatch [E24]

PA Championship (5), 05.09.1943

1.d4 ♀f6 2.c4 e6 3.♁c3 ♀b4 4.a3 ♁xc3+ 5.bxc3 b6 6.♀f3 ♀b7
7.e3 ♀e4 8.♀b2 0-0 9.g3 ♀g5 10.d5! d6 11.♁g2 ♀xf3+ 12.♁xf3
♀d7 13.0-0 ♀e5 14.♁e2 ♀a6 15.♁c2 ♁xc4 16.♁f1 ♁b8 17.♁d4
exd5 18.♁xd5 ♁xd5 19.♁xd5 ♁d7 20.♁e2 ♁c6 21.♁ad1 ♁c4
22.♁c2 ♁be8 23.♁f5 ♁e6 24.♁c2 ♁h6 25.♁g2 ♁g4 26.♁xe5
♁h3+ 27.♁f3 dxe5 28.c4? ♁f6+ 29.♁e2 ♁xf2+ 0-1

Courtesy Durwood Hatch

William Byland – Durwood Hatch [A28]

PA Championship (2), 04.09.1943

1.c4 ♀f6 2.♁c3 e5 3.♀f3 ♀c6 4.d4 exd4 5.♀xd4 ♀e5 6.e4 ♀b4
7.♁c2 0-0 8.♁e2 d6 9.0-0 ♁xc3 10.bxc3 ♀e6 11.♀xe6 fxe6 12.f4
♀ed7 13.♁e3 e5 14.f5 ♁f7? 15.♁ad1 b6 16.c5 bxc5 17.♁c4 d5
18.♁xd5 ♀xd5 19.♁xd5 ♁e7 20.♁f1 ♁e8 21.♁xc5 ♀b6
22.♁xb6 axb6 23.♁b3 ♀h8 24.♁d2 h6 25.♁d1 ♀h7 26.♁g4
♁e7 27.h4 ♁f7 28.h5 ♁ae8 29.♁d8 ♁f8 30.♁g6+ ♀g8 31.♁xe8
♁xe8 32.♁xe8+ ♁xe8 33.♁d7 ♁a8 34.♁xc7 ♁xa2 35.♀h2 ♀f8
36.♀h3 ♁a4 37.c4 ♁a3+ 38.g3 ♁e3 39.♁c6 ♁xe4 40.♁xb6 ♁xc4
41.♁e6 e4? 42.♀g4 ♀f7 43.♀f4 ♁b4 44.♁xc4 ♁xe4+ 45.♀xe4
♀f6 46.♀f4 ♀f7 47.g4 ♀f6 48.g5+ hxg5+ 49.♀g4 ♀f7 50.♀xg5
♀f8 ½-½

Courtesy Durwood Hatch

Durwood Hatch – Robert Smith [B02]

PA Championship (3), 05.09.1943

1.e4 ♀f6 2.♁c3 d5 3.exd5 ♀xd5 4.♁c4 e6 5.♀f3 ♁e7 6.0-0 0-0
7.d3 b6 8.♀xd5 exd5 9.♁b3 ♀b7 10.d4 ♀d7 11.♁f4 c5 12.c3
cxd4 13.cxd4 ♁f6 14.♁d3 ♁e8 15.♁fe1 ♁e4! 16.♁g3 ♀f8 17.♀e5
♀e6 18.♁xe4 dxe4 19.♁e3 ♁g5! 20.♁e2 ♁d5! 21.♁d1 ♁xb3
22.axb3 ♁d5 23.♁c4 ♁d8 24.♀c6 ♁d7 25.♁xd5 ♁xd5 26.♀xa7
♁xd4 27.♁xd4 ♀xd4 28.♁e5 ♀xb3 29.♀c8 ♀c1 30.♀f1 e3!
31.f4 ♁d8 32.♁d4 e2+ 33.♀e1 b5 34.♁c3 ♁c7 35.♀e7+ ♀f8
36.♀d5 ♀d3+ 37.♀xe2 ♀xf4+ 38.♀xf4 ♁xf4 39.g3 ♁d6
40.♀d3 f6 41.♀e4 ♀e7 42.♀d5 h5 43.♀c6 b4 44.♁e1 b3
45.♀d5 ♁e5 46.♀c4 ♁xb2 47.♀xb3 ♁d4 48.♀c4 ♁g1 49.h4?
♀e6 50.♀d3 ♀f5 51.♀e2 ♀g4 52.♀f1 ♁d4 53.♀g2 ♁e5 54.♁f2
f5 55.♁e1 f4 56.gxf4 ♁xf4 57.♁f2 ♁e5 58.♁e1 ♁f6 59.♀h2
♁xh4 60.♁c3 g5? 61.♁f6! ½-½

Courtesy Durwood Hatch

Durwood Hatch – Wayne Wagner [C02]

PA Championship (4), 05.09.1943

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 ♀c6 5.♁b5 cxd4 6.cxd4 ♁b4+
7.♁d2 ♁a5 8.♀c3 ♀ge7 9.♀ge2 0-0 10.♁d3 a6 11.a3 ♁xc3
12.♁xc3 ♁b6 13.0-0 ♀f5 14.♁c1 ♁d7 15.♁d2 f6? 16.♁xf5 exf5
17.♀f4! fxe5 18.♀xd5 ♁b3 19.dxe5 ♁e6 20.♀f4 ♁ad8 21.♁c2
♁xc2 22.♁xc2 ♁b3! 23.♁cc1 b5 24.♁fe1 a5 25.♁e3! ♁d7?
26.♁e1! ♀d4 27.♁xa5 ♁c4 28.♁b4 g5 29.♀h5 ♀e2+ 30.♁xe2
♁xc2 31.♀f6+ ♁xf6 32.exf6 ♁d1+ 33.♁xd1 ♁xd1 34.♀f1 ♀f7
35.♀e1 ♁b3 36.♁c3 ♀e6 37.♀d2 ♀d6 38.♀d3 h5 39.♀d4 ♁f7
40.♁b4+ ♀e6 41.♁e7 ♀d7 42.♀c5 ♁c4 43.♀b4 ♀c6 44.a4! ♁f7
45.axb5+ ♀b6 46.♁d8+ 1-0

The Chess Correspondent, November–December 1943, p6**Durwood Hatch – Thomas Gutekunst [B54]**

PA Championship (6), 06.09.1943

1.e4 c5 2.♀f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♀xd4 ♀f6 5.f3 e5 6.♀b3 d5 7.♁g5
♁e6 8.exd5 ♁xd5 9.c4 ♁b4+ 10.♀d1d2 ♁e6 11.a3 ♁e7 12.♀e4
♀c6 13.♁e3 0-0 14.♀bc5 ♁c8 15.♁e2 ♁c7 16.♀xf6+ ♁xf6
17.♀e4 ♁e7 18.0-0 ♁d8 19.♁e1 f5 20.♀c3 ♁e6 21.♁d1 ♁xd1

22.♁xd1 ♁d8 23.♀d5! ♁d7 24.♀xe7+ ♁xe7 25.♁c1 ♀d4!
26.♁d1 ♁c5 27.b3 b5 28.cxb5 ♁xb5 29.b4 a5! 30.bxa5 ♁xa5
31.♁f2 ♁a8 32.a4 ♁e1+ 33.♁f1 ♀e2+! 34.♁xe2 ♁xe2 35.♁f2
♁a6 36.♁c7 f4! 37.♁c5 ♁xa4 38.♁d2! ♁e8! 39.♁xe5 ♁f7
40.♁d4 ♁xe5 41.♁xe5 1/2–1/2

The Chess Correspondent, November–December 1943, page 6

The authors would like to thank Durwood Hatch for sharing his memories with us. In addition, thanks are due Thomas Martinak and the Pittsburgh Chess Club for research assistance, the Correspondence Chess League of America for permission to quote from *The Chess Correspondent*, the Pennsylvania State Chess Federation for permission to quote from *PSCF Bulletin*, and the United States Chess Federation for use of material in *Chess Review*.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Tom Martinak

Congratulations to IM Stas Kriventsov on again winning the PA State Championship. During the tournament, the annual business meeting of the PSCF was held on Saturday morning between the 1st and 2nd rounds. There were no votes taken, but we discussed the general situation of the PSCF and plans for the future. Next year will be an election year, so we hope for high attendance and an increased interest in members in becoming involved in governance and running for offices. There were no bids presented for next year's championship, but it on schedule to be held in eastern PA. If organizers are interested in holding this event, then they should contact me and we can discuss our goals/plans for the event. In the past, our Eastern VP Ira Lee Riddle has been willing to organize this event if nobody else steps forward, but it would be nice if we didn't rely so much on his work - either by having new organizers or by providing him with help in organizing the event. I also hope to begin some new state championships that could rotate along with the state championship so that each summer, some event will be held in the eastern, central and western areas of our wide state. Some ideas include an Amateur Championship (U2200), another Quick Championship (maybe at Game/29), or regional championships. Organizers from the center and west of the state are encouraged to contact me if they are interested in becoming involved.

In addition, I would like to encourage organizers to consider requiring PSCF membership for their local events. It is only \$5/year and *The Pennswoodpusher* alone is worth that. About a fourth of all USCF members in the state are already PSCF members, so we already have a good core of potential entries. For events which require PSCF membership, we will include at no cost a TLA here in *The Pennswoodpusher* and on our website <http://www.pscfchess.org/clearinghouse/> If you have a flyer prepared electronically, we can also post it as a PDF download from our website. In addition, display ads in *The Pennswoodpusher* will be at half the normal cost and we can also insert flyers (charging only the printing cost of @.06 each) with our mailings, either to all subscribers (>1000) or to appropriate subsets (by zip codes, membership types, etc). You can also contact me for help in organizing mailings, either through the PSCF or by yourself. In this issue, besides tlas for various state championships, we have several events organized by Ira Lee Riddle and an event by a new organizer in Shippensburg. For those who complain about the high cost of USCF membership, the event in Shippensburg may be of interest as it is rated by a different organization with much lower dues. And for those who take their USCF rating seriously, here's a good chance to take some risks with new openings without risking those precious rating points!

UPCOMING PSCF EVENTS

August 23. 3rd Annual Seven Valleys Summer Open. Light of Life Performing Arts Center, 41 Cherry St., Seven Valleys PA 17360-8955. 3 Sections: **Open:** 4-SS. G/60. EF: \$20 received by 8/17, \$25 at site. Rds: 10am-12:30pm-2:30pm-4:30pm. \$\$ based on entries with prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Top B, Top C, Top D, Top Unr. **Scholastic:** 5-SS. G/40. EF: \$10 received by 8/17, \$15 at site. Rds: 10am-11:30am-1:30pm-3pm-4:30pm. 30 Trophies based on age & rating classes **Quick Chess:** 5-SS. G/10. EF: \$10 received by 8/17, \$15 at site. Rds: start at 7pm. \$\$ based on entries with prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, Top High School, Top Middle School, Top Elementary School, Top Unr. **All:** Reg: 8:30-9:30am. PSCF required \$5 OSA. **Ent:** York Youth Chess Club, PO Box 263, Seven Valleys PA 17360-0263. **Info:** Chris Blaise: 717-577-7884. rcreek@dejazzd.com Dr. Ira Lee Riddle: 215-674-9049, Iralee@aol.com

September 6. PSCF Camp Hill Quads. 3-RR. G/60. Cleve J Fredericksen Library, 100 N 19th St., Camp Hill PA 17011-3900. **EF:** \$20, PSCF required \$5 OSA. \$\$ 50 to 1st in each quad. Reg 9-9:45am. Rds 1 at 10am. **Info/Directions:** Marvin Wilson (h) 717-975-2895 penndems@aol.com (w) 717-605-3672 mwilson@daps.dla.mil **Director:** Dr. Ira Lee Riddle, 215-674-9049, Iralee@aol.com (Note: A scholastic section will be added if entries warrant.) W.

September 13 & 14 (CXR-Rated). 2003 Shippensburg Public Chess Tournament. 5-SS. G/75 Windmill Farmer's Market, 42 West Orange Street, Shippensburg PA 17257. Open only to unrated & those rated under 2000. \$\$ (1200 b/60). 5 sections: **Open**, open to all: \$\$ 250-150-100-75-55. **Experienced Young Adults & Adults:** \$\$ 120-60. **Beginning/Fair Young Adults & Adults:** \$\$ 65-40. **Experienced Youth:** \$\$ 120-60. **Beginning/Fair Youth:** \$\$ 65-40. **EF:** \$25 received by 8/30, \$35 after, PSCF required \$5 OSA, CXR required \$10. Reg 8-9am. Rds 9:30am - 2:30pm - 5:30pm, 1:30pm - 4:30pm. **Info:** terry@shipchessclub.com, 717-486-0211. **Directions:** 717-532-9415. **Ent:** Terry Campbell, PO Box 22, Walnut Bottom PA 17266-0022.

September 20 & 21. 2003 Pennsylvania State Senior Championship. 4-SS. G/120. Main Line Speech, 626 Haverford Road, Haverford PA 19041. Additional parking available at Rt 100 Train Station, 50 yards south. **Open to ages 50 & Up.** \$\$ (660 1st guaranteed, others b/30): 250-125-75, U1800 \$50, U1600 \$50, U1400 \$50, Ages 65 & Up \$60. **EF:** \$25 received by 9/10, \$35 after, PSCF required \$5 OSA. Reg 9:15 - 10am. Rds 10:30am - 3:30pm, 10am - 2:30pm. **HR:** Hotel Radner 610-688-5800. **Info:** 610-649-0750, danheisman@comcast.net. **Ent:** Dan Heisman, 1359 Garden Road., Wynnewood PA 19096-3626

September 26 - 28. 2003 Pennsylvania State Junior Championships. 5-SS. 78 Trophies! (63 Individual, 15 Team) Lower Lounge, Main Floor, William Pitt Union, Univ. of Pittsburgh, 5th Ave. & Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh PA 15213. 9 sections: **2-day (Sat & Sun):** Ages 17 to 20 Open, Ages 15 & 16 Open, Ages 13 & 14 Open, Ages 11 & 12 Open, Ages 9 & 10 Open. **EF:** \$18 postmarked by 9/12. Rds: G/90, T/D5; 10am-2pm-5:30pm, 10am-2pm. **1-day (Sun only):** All Ages U900 & Unrated Ages 13 to 16, All Ages U800 & Unrated Ages 9 to 12, All Ages U700 & Unrated Ages 8 & Under, Ages 8 & Under.

EF: \$15 postmarked by 9/12. Rds: G/40, T/D5; 10am-11:30am-1pm-2:30pm-4pm. **All:** Trophies to top 7 in each section, additional medallions; Teams of 4 to 7 players combined from all sections, Trophies to top 5 schools, top 5 scholastic organizations & top 5 clubs. **Bughouse (Fri only):** **EF:** \$5/player postmarked by 9/12. Rds: G/5; 1st rd starts 7pm. **All:** EFs doubled postmarked after 9/12, must be received by 9/26; \$5 charge for changes/refund after 9/12; PSCF required \$5 OSA. **Info:** 724-935-0670, pajuniorchamp@pscfchess.org, http://www.pscfchess.org/pajuniorchamp/. **Ent:** PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 549 13th Ave., New Brighton PA 15066-1208. Checks payable to PA State Junior Chess. W.

October 4. PSCF-CCP Tourney 6. Great Hall, Wynett Building, Community College of Philadelphia, Philadelphia PA 19130 (2nd building south of the corner of 17th & Spring Garden). 3 Sections: **Open Octo:** 3-SS. G/60. EF: \$20. \$\$ 50-30-20 in each octo. **Scholastic Octo:** 3-SS. G/60. EF: \$10. Trophies to top 3 in each octo. **Scholastic Under 700:** 5-SS. G/30. EF: \$5. Trophies to top 5. **All:** Reg: 8:30-9:30am. First Round at 10am. PSCF required \$5 OSA. **Info:** Dr. Ira Lee Riddle, 215-674-9049, Iralee@aol.com

November 8. PSCF-CCP Tourney 7. Room BG-13, Sections A & B, Community College of Philadelphia, Philadelphia PA 19130 (SE corner of 17th & Spring Garden). 3 Sections: **Open Quads:** 3-RR. G/60. EF: \$20. \$\$ 50 to 1st in each quad. **Scholastic Octo:** 3-SS. G/60. EF: \$10. Trophies to top 3 in each octo. **Scholastic Under 700:** 5-SS. G/30. EF: \$5. Trophies to top 5. **All:** Reg: 8:30-9:30am. First Round at 10am. PSCF required \$5 OSA. **Info:** Dr. Ira Lee Riddle, 215-674-9049, Iralee@aol.com

November 23 GPP:6 PA State Action Chess Championship. 5-SS. G/30. Dining Rooms A & B, 1st Floor, William Pitt Union, Univ. of Pittsburgh, 5th Ave. & Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh PA 15213. 2 sections: **Championship:** Open to all. EF: \$25 postmarked by 11/15, \$35 after. \$\$ (690 top 2 guaranteed, others b/35): 200-100, U2000 \$90, U1800 \$80, U1600 \$70, U1400 \$60, U1200 \$50, U1000 \$40. **Scholastic:** Open to K-12 who are unrated or rated under 900. EF: \$15 postmarked by 11/15, \$25 after. Trophies to top 7. **All:** PSCF \$5 OSA. Reg ends 10:30am. Rds 11am - 12:30pm - 1:45pm - 3pm - 4:15pm. **Info:** 412-908-0286. **Ent:** Tom Martinak, 549 13th Ave., New Brighton PA 15066-1208. Checks payable to PSCF. W.

December 6. PSCF-CCP Tourney 8. Room BG-13, Sections A & B, Community College of Philadelphia, Philadelphia PA 19130 (SE corner of 17th & Spring Garden). 3 Sections: **Open Quads:** 3-RR. G/60. EF: \$20. \$\$ 50 to 1st in each quad. **Scholastic Octo:** 3-SS. G/60. EF: \$10. Trophies to top 3 in each octo. **Scholastic Under 700:** 5-SS. G/30. EF: \$5. Trophies to top 5. **All:** Reg: 8:30-9:30am. First Round at 10am. PSCF required \$5 OSA. **Info:** Dr. Ira Lee Riddle, 215-674-9049, Iralee@aol.com

December 20. PSCF Camp Hill Quads. 3-RR. G/60. Cleve J Fredericksen Library, 100 N 19th St., Camp Hill PA 17011-3900. **EF:** \$20, PSCF required \$5 OSA. \$\$ 50 to 1st in each quad. Reg 9-9:45am. Rds 1 at 10am. **Info/Directions:** Marvin Wilson (h) 717-975-2895 penndems@aol.com (w) 717-605-3672 mwilson@daps.dla.mil **Director:** Dr. Ira Lee Riddle, 215-674-9049, Iralee@aol.com (Note: A scholastic section will be added if entries warrant.) W.

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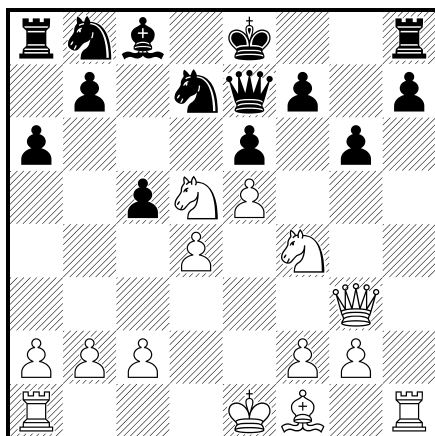
POSTAL POTPURRI By John Caliguire

Little did I know I would be the last and match-deciding result in the recent USA vs Portugal email match. Here is the long and very difficult game and I hope everyone enjoys it as much as I did.

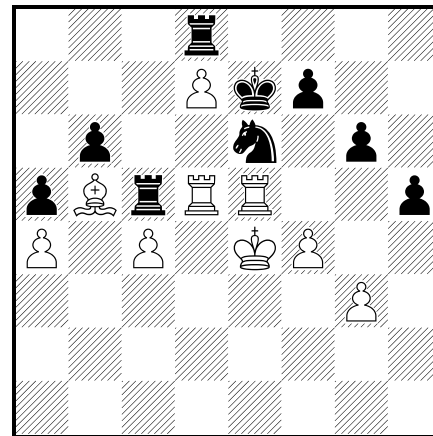
John Caliguire – Jorge R Lucio [C13]

CCLA – Portugal email match, 2003

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♖c3 ♘f6 4.♗g5 ♗e7 5.e5 ♘fd7 6.h4 ♗xg5
7.hxg5 ♗xg5 8.♘h3 ♗e7 9.♘f4 a6 10.♗g4 g6 11.♗g3 c5
12.♘xd5



12...♗d8 13.dxc5 exd5 14.♘xd5 ♘xc5 15.0-0-0 ♘bd7 16.♘f6+
♗f8 17.♗h4 h5 18.♘xd7+ ♗xd7 19.♗d4 ♗b6 20.b4 ♘a4
21.♗xd7 ♗xb4 22.♗d6+ ♗xd6 23.exd6 ♗g7 24.♗h4 ♘c5
25.♗c4 b6 26.a4 a5 27.♗cd4 ♗hd8 28.♗b5 ♗ac8 29.♗b2 ♗f8
30.c3 ♗b8 31.♗e1 ♘e6 32.♗d2 ♗bc8 33.g3 ♗g7 34.d7 ♗c7
35.♗d6 ♗b7 36.f4 ♗f6 37.♗b3 ♗e7 38.♗d5 ♗f6 39.♗c2 ♗c7
40.c4 ♗b7 41.♗d2 ♗c7 42.♗e3 ♗b7 43.♗f3 ♗c7 44.♗e3 ♗b7
45.♗e2 ♗c7 46.♗ee5 ♗c5 47.♗e4 ♗e7



48.♗xc5 bxc5 49.f5 gxf5+ 50.♗xf5 ♗h8 51.♗d5 h4 52.gxh4
♗xh4 53.♗c6 ♗h8 54.♗b6 ♗b8+ 55.♗xa5 ♗d6 56.♗xf7 ♘d8
57.♗f5 ♘c6+ 58.♗xc6 ♗xc6 59.d8♗ ♗xd8 60.♗f6+ ♗d7 61.♗b6
♗e7 62.♗h6 ♗b8+ 63.♗xc5 ♗d7 64.♗h7+ ♗e6 65.a5 ♗c8+
66.♗b6 ♗xc4 67.a6 ♗b4+ 68.♗c7 ♗a4 69.♗b8 1-0

(John is currently playing the preliminaries to the 2nd US Email Correspondence Championship, and is serving as team Captain for the three Pennsylvania Keystone teams entered in the CCLA Team Championship. PSCF wishes him success in both endeavors, and no doubt reports on both will appear in future issues of *The Pennswoodpusher*.)

ERRATA

We made an error last issue in the result table of the K-8 Open Section in the PSCF State Scholastic Championship. Thomas Hsiao took home the first place trophy on tiebreak. Congratulations, and our apology, to young Mr. Hsiao.

ALEX'S COLUMN by FIDE-Master Alex Dunne

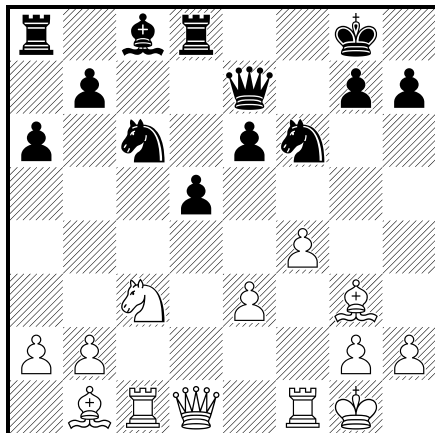
Keeping The Initiative – In the following game Black played the opening passively and White gained an initiative that he sustained until the end of the game. Chess is always fun when you can do that!

AlexDunne – C Collyer [D13]

World Open, 2003

Notes by Alex Dunne

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.cxd5 Slav players are a funny breed. They elect the Slav so they can play a confused position with chances to win the White c-Pawn. They also like lines with a piece sacrifice on e4. Theory gives White the advantage in both cases, but Black remains happy. What Slav players generally dislike, however, is White simplifying and using the advantage of the move to gain the initiative. 4...cxd5 5.♙f4 ♘c6 6.e3 e6 Black can maintain symmetry for some moves longer with 6...Bf5 with reasonable drawing chances. 7.♘f3 ♙d6 8.♙g3 Stronger than Bxd6, White keeps Black perplexed: exchange on g3 and open the h-file or leave the Bishop on d6. 8...0-0 9.♙d3 a6 10.♙c1 ♖e7 11.♙b1 Another useful tempo move. Black is OK here and he should play ...b5 and ...Bb7 with pressure on e4. 11...♙d8 12.♘e5 ♙xe5?! Heading for trouble as White is well-developed here. 13.dxe5 ♘d7 14.f4 f5 15.exf6 ♘xf6 16.0-0



White stands better: two Bishops, better development, safer King. Black's next looks like it solves his problems, but a nasty surprise is coming. 16...e5? Prematurely opening up the position. 17.fxe5 ♘xe5 18.♙d4 ♘g6 19.♙g6! hxg6 20.♘a4 Now the weakness of Black's queenside is painful to look at. 20...♙d7 21.♘b6 ♙c6 22.♘xa8 ♙xa8 23.♙h4 After a delicious snack on a8, White turns his attention to the kingside. 23...♙f8 24.♙f4 ♙e6 25.♙xf6! Black's Bishop on e6 does nothing for his King. White has a decisive attack or endgame win. Black gets to choose. 25...♙xf6 26.♙cf1 ♘f7 27.♙f3 ♙b5 28.♙xf6+ gxf6 29.♙h4 White penetrates Black's defense. Game over. 29...♙e6 30.♙h7+ ♘e6 31.♙g8+ ♘e5 32.♙xg6 ♙c1+ 33.♘f2 ♙xb2+ [33...♙f1+ 34.♘g3 ♙c1+ 35.♘g4 ♙d7+ 36.♘h5 f5 37.♙g3+ is one possible solution.] 34.♘g3 ♘e6 35.♙g4+ ♘f7 36.♙d4 1-0 1-0

August 23. 3rd Annual Seven Valleys Summer Open. See the tournament details with those of our other tlas. Note, *Chess Life* had an incorrect date for this event.

PSCF GOVERNANCE

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Address Corrections & PSCF Memberships should be sent to: Tom Martinak; 549 13th Ave; New Brighton PA 15066-1208; 412-908-0286; martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com

WHERE TO PLAY CHESS IN PA

ANY CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED

ALLENTOWN:

(1) Center City Chess Club; St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 417 N 7th St; Sat, 12:00-4:00

(2) A-B Chess Club; St. Timothy's Luth Ch, 130 S Ott St; Fri, 8-12 p.m.

BANGOR:

Robert Curley 610-588-9577

BLOOMSBURG:

Bob Ross (W) 717-389-4337, (H) 717-784-8571

BRADFORD:

U P-Bradford Commons Building, Wed, 7-11 p.m.

BRYN ATHEN:

College of New Church CC; Pendleton Hall, Theological Lounge, Tues, 7:30, Glenn Frazier 215-572-1916

CANONSBURG:

Twp. Library, 610 E McMurray Rd, Mon, 6:30-8:30, 724-941-9430

CHAMBERSBURG:

C-burg Chessman; Thurs, 7-10 p.m., 600 Miller St, 717-263-8389

CHELTENHAM:

Rowland Community Center, Elm St., Thurs, 6-10 p.m.

CLEARFIELD:

Clearfield CC; Shaw Library, Tues and Thurs, 6-9 p.m., Sat 9-noon, Ron Williams 814-765-7788

COATESVILLE:

Coatesville Cultural Soc, 258 E Lincoln Hwy, Bob Jones 610-384-1790

DUBOIS:

Dubois CC; PSU Campus, 1st and 3rd Thurs

ERIE:

Erie CC; Zum Science Building, W 7th St between. Peach and Sassafras, Room 118 Fri, 6 p.m., James Walczak 814-870-7763

FOLSOM:

Comic Universe CC; 446 MacDade Blvd, Tues, 7-11

GLADWYNE:

Main Line CC; Waverly Hts. Ret. Comm. Game Room, 1400 Waverly Rd, Tues, 7, Dan Heisman 610-649-0750

GREENSBURG:

Courthouse Square, Wed, 6-11, 724-836-5625

GREENVILLE:

Howard Miller Center, Thiel College, Mon, 7-10

HATBORO:

Chaturanga CC; Trinity Orthodox Pres. Chur., County Line Rd. W of Blair Mill Rd., Thurs, 8

HARRISBURG:

Harrisburg East Shore Chess Club; Messiah Luth Ch, 901 N 6th St, Tues, 6-9, Sat 9-noon, 717-234-4921 or 717-236-6541 (Also see West Shore)

HAWLEY:

Settler's Inn Main St., Wed, 6

HAZLETON:

Greater Hazleton CC; Zola's Lamppost Restaurant, Route 980, Thurs, 8-midnight, Bob Brubaker 570-384-4122

HUNTINGDON VALLEY:

Hunt. Valley Chess Society Juniors; Huntingdon Valley Library, 625 Red Lion Road, Tues, 7:30-8:30

JOHNSTOWN:

St Rochus Church, 314 8th Ave, Sun, 7:30-11, 814-266-2272

LANCASTER:

Manor Chess Club; 3577 Blue Rock Rd, Weds, 6:30-9 p.m., 717-892-6612

LANSDALE:

North Penn CC; St. John's UCC Church, Main and Richardson Sts., Thurs and Fri, 7-1 a.m., 215-699-8418

MANSFIELD:

Wellsboro-Mansfield CC; Independence Bible Church, 33 East Ave, 1st/3rd Mon, 7-10, Don Thompson 570-376-2452

MONROEVILLE:

Monroeville Chess Club; Wed, 6:30-8:30, Delbert Tyler 412-824-5015

MURRYSVILLE:

1st Pres. Church, 3202 N Hills Rd, Wed, 7-11, Jay Griffin 724-325-2484

NEW CASTLE:

Lawrence County CC; Trinity Episcopal Church, N. Mill St. at Falls Ave, Thurs, 6:30-9

NEWTOWN SQUARE:

Marple-Newtown Scholastic CC; Robert Gauntlett Community Center, Rte 3 and Media Line Rds, Tues, 6:30-8:30

PHILADELPHIA:

(1) FMCC; 1420 Walnut St, Suite 460, noon-11 daily

(2) U of Penn CC; Chats Cafeteria, 3800 Locust, Wed, 8, 215-898-2399

(3) Masterminds CC; Anderson Hall, Temple University, Room 906, Mon, 6-10, Ernest Moore Jr. 215-235-1696

PITTSBURGH:

(1) U of Pitt CC; Lowel Level, William Pitt Union, Tues & Thurs, 7-11 p.m., Tom Martinak 412-681-7590

(2) PGH CC; Wightman School Bldg., 5604 Solway St, Wed, 1-10, Sat, 12-10:30, 412-421-1881

(3) Crafton Public Library, 140 Bradford, 1st/3rd Sat, 9-noon, 412-922-4234

(4) East Lib. Library, 5920 Ralph Mull Mall, Tues, 3:30-6:30, 412-661-8412

(5) Hill Branch Library, 419 Dinwiddie St; Mon & Thurs, 4-8, Sat, 11-4:30, 412-361-6170

(6) CMU CC; University Center Commons, Thurs, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

(7) Mt Lebanon Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd; 1st/3rd Mon Sept-May, 412-531-1912

(8) Upper St Clair Library; 1820 McLaughlin Run Road; Thurs 7-8:30, 412-221-2394

RIDLEY TOWNSHIP:

Tri-State Chess Club; Times Square Restaurant, McDade and Rte 420, Holmes, Tom Pike 610-328-5977

SHAMOKIN:

Shamokin CC; Burger King, Rte 61, Mon, 7:30

SHIPPENSBURG:

Shippensburg CC; Outlook Pointe, 129 Walnut Bottom Rd, Fri, 7-10, Terry Campbell 717-486-0211

SOUTHAMPTON:

Southampton CC; Davisville Church, Sun, 7 pm, 215-675-9535

STATE COLLEGE:

PSU CC; A.S.I. Bldg, Room 16, Thurs, 6:30 p.m.

STROUDSBURG:

Stroudsburg Chess Club; YMCA, Main St., Thurs, 7-11, Eric Mark 570-476-8939 or Jim Walsh 717-992-5475

SUNBURY:

Susq. Val. CC; Oaklyn Baptist Ch, Rte 61, Sat, 6 p.m., 570-863-2383

UNIONTOWN:

K of C Hall, Old Rte 119, 724-438-9250

WEST CHESTER:

(1) West Chester CC; United Meth Ch., High and Barnard Sts, Wed, 7

(2) West Chester Univ. CC; Sykes Student Bldg, Rm 112, Thurs, 11-2

WEST SHORE (Harrisburg):

West Shore Chess Club; Calvary United Methodist Church, 700 Market St (Rear), Mon, 7-10, Gerald Dubs 717-975-5589

WILKES-BARRE:

W-B CC; Board Rm, Oster. Lib., Wed, 6-9, George Trent 570-740-7662

WILLIAMSPORT:

Williamsport Chess Soc.; Wertz Stud. Ctr., Lycoming College, Tues

WYNCOTE:

Montgomery Youth CC; Calvary Presbyterian Ch, 217 Fernbrook Ave, Wed 7-8:30, Steve McLaughlin 215-784-5938

YORK:

(1) York Township Community Center, 2500 S George St, Wed, 6:30-10, 717-845-9368

(2) York Youth CC; Grace Brethren Church, Newberry & Parkway, Wed, 2-5:30 or Light of Life Performance Arts Center, 41 Cherry St, Seven Valleys, Fri, 6-9:30, 717-852-8434