

The Gambit

The Nebraska State Chess Archives

Nebraska State Chess Association

2023 Year in Review

Part III: July 1-September 30, 2023

R. Aliovsadzade

Brilliant key

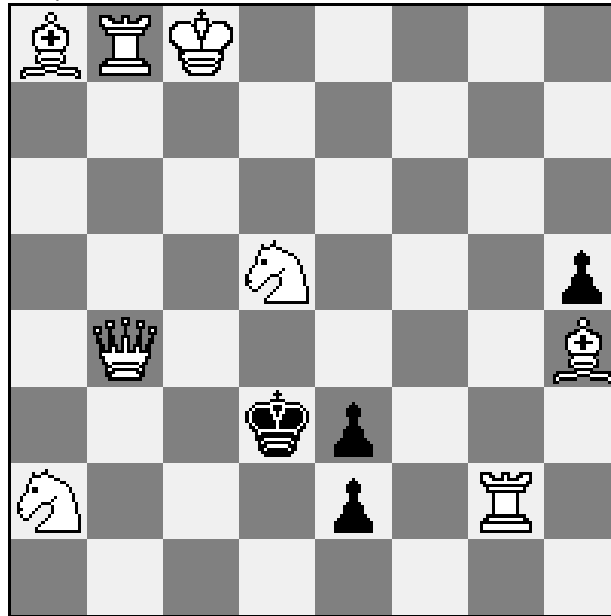
In the book 'U.S. Chess Problem Anthology' (2004) by Edgar Holladay, there are 241 composers with 457 compositions presented.

And the years covered span from 1857 to 2002.

The quoted problem by G.E.Carpenter is included in the book .

It got the 1st Prize at the "Dubuque Chess Journal" tourney in 1872.

George Edward Carpenter



Mate in Two

Kc8 Qb4 Rb8 Rg2 Ba8 Bh4 Na2 Nd5 (8)

Kd3 Pe2 Pe3 Ph5 (4)

In the initial position, the black King has just one square to escape.

The key gives the black King another four flights !!

1.Qd6! -waiting.

Four nice variations follow:1...Kd4 2.Nb6#,1...Kd2 2.Ndb4#,1...Kc2 (or c4) 2.Nxe3#.1...Ke4 2.Ne7#.

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Gambit Editor- Bruce Draney. The Gambit serves as the official publication of the
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Bruce Draney-Secretary-Treasurer

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Letter from Gambit Editor Bruce Draney

It's déjà vu all over again, or is it? No, you are not imagining it, and this is indeed another quarterly issue of the Gambit which will review the 3rd Quarter of 2023 from July 1st to September 30th. After this we will need one more issue to get all of 2023 reviewed and in the books and then if Kent wishes, I can continue to work on 2024 where we are already in the 2nd quarter as I type this letter or I can happily return the reins to him.

I'd like to thank the following people for helping provide information that I can use in these issues:

Rauf Aliovsadzade who is always willing to contribute his chess puzzles. Rauf sent me a couple new problems one of which adorns the cover of this issue.

NSCA VP Michael Mills and NSCA Secretary JJ Lang who have provided games from events from 2023 in the Lichess database.

NSCA President Steven Cusumano who caught an incorrect game score in my last issue before it was published on the NSCA Website.

Lincoln Chess Foundation President Kent Nelson who has generously transferred material to me that he has but had not yet published to help me fill in the pages.

Gary Colvin who is a longtime friend dating back nearly 50 years. Gary provides an article on his last over the board tournament, the USATE 202, in New Jersey.

Tony Dutiel who provided me with a deep dive analysis of his game with Ryan Dong. Tony who I have known for 30 years has a lot of opening knowledge.

Rod Malpert, Alexey Root, and Keaton Kiewra who have agreed to come and play in this summer's Champions Celebration in Lincoln on June 1-2. They are also all being inducted into the Hall of Fame on Friday night May 31st at our celebration banquet along with **Kent Nelson**.

Allison Hengen who is helping me prepare a big press release ahead of the Champions Celebration. I never realized how much work organizing a big tournament is, and Allison's help has been much appreciated. With all the thanks now out of the way, enjoy the 3rd quarter 2023 issue of the Gambit.

Nebraska Chess Information Page

Lincoln Chess Foundation 4014 N ST Lincoln NE 68510

President-Kent Nelson

Secretary-Treasurer-Bruce Draney

Directors: Andrea Draney, Daniel Draney

Omaha Chess Community

President-Michael Gooch

7215 N 162nd ST Bennington NE 68007

Nebraska State Chess Association

President-Steven Cusumano, Omaha VP-Michael Mills

Lincoln VP-John Linscott, Outstate VP-Vince Jodoin

Secretary-JJ Lang, Treasurer-Jenny Tricker

Nebraska Chess Hall of Fame 14002 Frederick CIR Omaha NE 68138

President-Bruce Draney (gambiteer49@yahoo.com)

HOF Selection Committee: John Drexel, Loren Schmidt, Richard Gardner JR.

ACTIVE NEBRASKA CHESS CLUBS

OMAHA:

Spence Chess Club-Meets on Wednesday night from 7-10 for rated events

Location: West Hills Church basement 3015 S 82nd AVE Omaha, NE-John Hartmann

Camelot Chess Club-Meets on Friday afternoon 12-4PM for unrated casual play

Location: Camelot Community Center 9270 Cady AVE Omaha, NE-John Bagley

Millard Chess Club-Meets on Sunday afternoon 2:30-4:30 for unrated casual play

Location: Millard Public Library 13214 Westwood LN Omaha, NE Doug Grande
402-850-1157

Increase the Piece Chess Club-Meets on Monday night 4-7:30 PM for unrated play

Location: Washington Library 29th & Ames AVE, Omaha, NE Jerome

Helm**International Café**-2416 Farnam ST Omaha, NE 68131 Thursday and Saturday
4-8 PM Richard Hudrin

LINCOLN:

SECC Chess Club-Meets on Wednesday nights at SE Community College 89th & O ST, Lincoln, NE for casual unrated play. Leo Iacono

Capital City Chess Club-Meets on Tuesday 5-8 PM at Meadowlark Coffee and Espresso, 1624 South ST and Thursday 6-9 PM at The Post 2001 N ST in Lincoln, NE
Chris Etheredge

Cigarz Chess Club-Meets on Monday Nights at Cigarz Lounge, STE 104 800 Q, Lincoln NE 402-904-3460

OUTSTATE:

Beatrice Chess Club-Meets on Tuesday 6-8 PM at Beatrice Public Library 100 N 16th ST, Beatrice, NE 68310, Crystal Bartles 402-446-2723

Nebraska City Chess Club-Meets on Thursday 4:30-6:30 PM at Morton James Public Library, 923 1st Corso, Nebraska City, NE 68410, Kyle Madison 712-520-0859

Grand Island Competitive Chess Club-Meets on Saturday, 11-3PM at Grand Island Public Library 1124 W 2nd ST, Grand Island, NE 68801, Zach May

Kearney Nebraska Chess Club-Central Nebraska Chess Club-Meets on Saturday 2-5 PM at Kearney Public Library, 2020 1st AVE, Kearney, NE 68847 Eric Ring 308-240-1793 or Alexander Maiwaldt 308-293-9116

Davenport Chess Club-Davenport Public Library 109 N Maple AVE, Davenport, NE 68335 Jack Roegner 765-407-0895

Nebraska Chess Related Websites:

NSCA Website-www.nebraskachess.com

Facebook: Nebraska Chess Community group, Nebraska Chess History group

National Online Chess Playing Sites

Chess.com

Lichess.com

Musings from the Editor: How an impromptu meet up in Lincoln with Rod Malpert led to us formulating the idea for a big reunion event that became the Nebraska Hall of Fame Champions Celebration.

Really, I only wanted to find our Hall of Fame Plaque and revive the Hall of Fame when I returned to Omaha with fresh energy and enthusiasm last summer, but obviously over the 20 years while I was in official chess hibernation many changes had taken place with numerous leadership changes in Nebraska chess.

I had kept casual track of happenings though my longtime friend Kent Nelson and also from occasional visits to Camelot Chess Club on Friday afternoons or sometimes to UNO or to Lewis and Clark Middle School on 72nd Street near Crossroads.

Not realizing that the NSCA had moved away from selling memberships, since there were no printed Gambit mailings anymore, I decided to make my way to Lincoln in mid-July to the Cornhusker State Games, which were held at Southeast Community College, with the intention of asking permission from the NSCA to restart the Hall of Fame. It happened that Rod Malpert had generously offered to analyze people's games on that Saturday. and although I planned to say, "hi" to him after more than 20 years, I had no idea that my "hi" would turn into more than 3 hours of reminiscing, analyzing games and just having a total blast discussing chess in the 1970's. The fact that the NSCA was not holding meetings anymore, since it no longer had members, no longer mattered, because my new focus became teaming up with Rod to organize a tournament that both of us had dreamed of for years, but for one reason or another had never had the time or the money to do it.

By the time I headed back to Omaha on Saturday, about 5 hours later, we had already agreed that having a big reunion tournament was a great idea. As it turns out, the NSCA gave me permission to manage the Hall of Fame on my own and so I appointed 3 Nebraskans with extensive knowledge of our past greats to select new honorees for the first time in over a decade. None too surprisingly, the committee chose Kent Nelson, Alexey Root, Keaton Kiewra and of course, Rod Malpert. If I hadn't gone up to Lincoln last July I wonder if any of this would have happened?

This Event Cross table was not published in the last Gambit

UNO Summer Rapid and Blitz Championships 6/10/2023

G10;+2 Rapid

#	Name	Rating	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Total
1	Polacek	1663	W10	W4	W8	W2	W5	5.0
2	Rankin	1518	W13	W5	W3	L1	W7	4.0
3	Suresh	1857	W6	W7	L2	D8	W9	3.5
4	Cusumano	1788	W11	L1	W6	L5	W8	3.0
5	Forsman	1605	W12	L2	W13	W4	L1	3.0
6	Zeisler	1433	L3	WF	L4	W13	W11	3.0
7	Anzis	1626	W14	L3	D9	W11	L2	2.5
8	Smith Lilly Jr.	1454	W9	W11	L1	D3	L4	2.5
9	Saxena	UNR	L8	W10	D7	W12	L3	2.5
10	Kantem	1027	L1	L9	L11	W14	W12	2.0
11	Pasupaleti	1261	L4	L8	W10	L7	L6	1.0
12	Robinson	1179	L5	L13	W14	L9	L10	1.0
13	Houston	999	L2	W12	L5	L6	L14	1.0
14	Curtis	937	L7	LF	L12	L10	W13	1.0

UNO Double BlitzG/3;+2 Tournament 6/10/2023

#	Name	Rating	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Rd6	Total
1	Polacek	1699	V10 2.0	V3 2.0	V2 1.0	V6 1.0	V11 2.0	V7 2.0	10.0
2	Suresh	1931	V4 2.0	V8 1.5	V1 1.0	V3 0.5	V5 2.0	V6 2.0	9.0
3	Cusumano	1831	V12 2.0	Vs1 0.0	V4 1.5	V2 1.5	V6 2.0	V112.0	9.0
4	Zeisler	UNR	V2 0.0	V14 2.0	V3 0.5	V7 1.0	V9 2.0	V12 2.0	7.5
5	Saxena	UNR	V7 1.5	V6 1.0	V8 0.5	V121.5	V2 0.0	V13 2.0	6.5
6	Rankin	1478	V13 2.0	V5 1.0	W11 1.5	V1 1.0	V3 0.0	V2 0.0	5.5
7	Smith-Lilly Jr.	1439	V5 0.5	V11 0.0	V14 2.0	V4 1.0	V10 2.0	V1 0.0	5.5
8	Anzis	1664	V14 2.0	V2 0.5	V5 1.5	V111.0	U 0.0	U 0.0	5.0
9	Robinson	1167	V11 1.0	V12 0.0	V13 1.0	V101.0	V4 0.0	V14 2.0	5.0
10	Kantem	1083	V1 0.0	V13 1.0	V12 1.0	V9 1.0	V7 0.0	Bye 2.0	5.0
11	Forsman	1761	V9 1.0	V7 2.0	V6 0.5	V8 1.0	V1 0.0	V3 0.0	4.5
12	Pasupuleti	1212	V3 0.0	V9 2.0	V10 1.0	V5 0.5	V13 1.0	V4 0.0	4.5
13	Houston	UNR	V6 0.0	V10 1.0	V9 1.0	V141.0	V12 1.0	V5 0.0	4.0
14	Curtis	UNR	V8 0.0	V4 0.0	V7 0.0	V131.0	Bye 2.0	V9 0.0	3.0

Noah Polacek won the G/10 with 5-0 and took the 3+2 Blitz with 10-2. Michael Mills directed both events.

Chadarangam Chess Events in July-August-September of 2023

Temple Tournament in July of 2023

Another tournament was held at the Hindu Temple Center on July 9th. The Open was won by Chad Forsman with 3-0.

Chadarangam chess in August of 2023

On 8/6/2023 an U1200 event drew 20 players and was won by Siva Kolli with 5-0

On 8/13/2023 a Summer Ending event also drew 20 players and was won by Samanvi Kantem, Drona Jayanti and Umamaheshwar all with 3-0.

Spence Chess Club Events in July-August-September of 2023

The Spence Chess Club held a 4 round Swiss System event that ended in July of 2023 and drew 29 players. The event was won by Joe Knapp with a perfect 4-0 score.

On July 12, 2023, the club ran a 6 round double Swiss blitz event that drew 12 players. Nick Lacroix won the event with 11-1. Abhinav Suresh took 2nd with 10-2. The club also held a 6 round Swiss system G/20 Quick event on July 26, 2023 that drew 15 players. Winner was Abhinav Suresh with 5.5-.5.

On August 9th, a G/15 Swiss was held and won by SM Nathan Solon with 4-0. From August 16-30, rated quads were held at the club. Lacroix won the top quad with 2.5, Parthasarathy took quad 2 with 2.5 and Lukkasen took quad 3 with 3-0.

Outstate Events in July-August-September of 2023

The Central Nebraska Summer Open was held on 8/12/2023. Sergey Soldatenkov won the Open USCF rated section with 3-0.

Chess Rockerz Back to School Scholastic-Open in August 2023.

Chess Rockerz sponsored a scholastic event that offered an Under 5, Under 12 and Open section. Alan Zhuang won the under 5 with 4-0, Sheekar Addula won the Under 12 section with 4-0 and Rakshith Seetharaman won the Open with 4-0.

UNO Chess

August UNO Under 1800 event drew 55 players.

September UNO Event drew 54 players. Open section winner was Nick Lacroix with 4-0

2023 Cornhusker State Games Open Section

#	Name	Rating	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Total
1	Belashchenko	1920	W20	W23	W6	D4	W7	4.5
2	Suresh	1909	W32	W24	W25	W3	D4	4.5
3	Lacroix	2051	W19	W30	W13	L2	W15	4.0
4	Cusumano	1913	W18	W17	W10	D1	D2	4.0
5	Fei	1875	W28	L25	W31	W11	W16	4.0
6	Naumann	1548	W47	W38	L1	W29	W13	4.0
7	Knapp	1976	W27	W15	W14	H	L1	3.5
8	Davidson	1867	D39	W22	L12	W23	W18	3.5
9	J. Slominski	1715	W34	W37	H	U	W25	3.5
10	Dutiel	1700	W33	W48	L4	D25	W26	3.5
11	Ravichandran	1436	W21	D12	W38	L5	W24	3.5
12	Forsman	1825	W36	D11	W8	L13	H	3.0
13	Peng Dong	1784	W35	W16	L3	W12	L6	3.0
14	Mills	1703	W43	W31	L7	L16	W34	3.0
15	Look	1678	W46	L7	W36	W19	L3	3.0
16	Sater	1581	W44	L13	W46	W14	L5	3.0
17	Hengen	1538	W40	L4	W37	L18	W31	3.0
18	Zeisler	1443	L4	W45	W44	W17	L8	3.0
19	Pasupaleti	1424	L3	W34	W42	L15	W36	3.0
20	Etheredge	1170	L1	W40	W21	D24	D22	3.0
21	Fellows	UNR	L11	W43	L20	W37	W35	3.0
22	Reeves	1815	L31	L8	W43	W32	D20	2.5
23	Solheim	1624	W42	L1	H	L8	W39	2.5
24	Iacono	1603	W26	L2	W33	D20	L11	2.5
25	Koppinger	1514	W49	W5	L2	D10	L9	2.5
26	Mayola	UNR	L24	D32	W39	W30	L10	2.5
27	Tichacek	1400	L7	L33	D45	W48	W40	2.5
28	Savage	1029	L5	W49	L29	D40	W43	2.5
29	Stepp	1700	L37	W39	W28	L6	U	2.0
30	Carney	1675	W45	L3	H	L26	D32	2.0
31	K. Smith	UNR	W22	L14	L5	WF	L17	2.0
32	Leboeuf	1361	L2	D26	W48	L22	D30	2.0
33	Kantem	1067	L10	W27	L24	L35	W44	2.0
34	Siegmann III	1010	L9	L19	W49	W44	L14	2.0
35	T. Johnson	1094	L13	L44	W47	W33	L21	2.0
36	Hosseini	1027	L12	W47	L15	WF	L19	2.0
37	Hill	931	W29	L9	L17	L21	W47	2.0
38	Calacar	1843	W41	L6	L11	H	U--	1.5
39	Kolli	1140	D8	L29	L26	W45	L23	1.5
40	Hansen	UNR	L17	L20	W41	D28	L27	1.5
41	Bratz	1145	L38	L42	L40	LF	W48	1.0
42	A. Belashchenko	UNR	L23	W41	L19	LF	U---	1.0

2023 Cornhusker State Games Open Section Continued

#	Name	Rating	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Total
43	Houston	984	L14	L21	L22	Bye	L28	1.0
44	E. Jessop	UNR	L16	W35	L18	L34	L33	1.0
45	Servant	850	L30	L18	D27	L39	D49	1.0
46	Fuller	786	L15	Bye	L16	LF	U	1.0
47	Lohnes	UNR	L6	L36	L35	W49	L37	1.0
48	Ring	681	Bye	L10	L32	L27	L41	1.0
49	Rangel	UNR	L25	L28	L34	L47	D45	0.5

The Annual Cornhusker State Games were held in Lincoln on July 27-28 at Southeast Community College on 89th and O Streets. A very nice crowd of 49 players played in the Open section and over 100 took part in all the sections combined. The event was directed by Michael Gooch of the Omaha Chess Community.

Medals were awarded in 4 sections. Because only the Open section was USCF rated, cross tables of all the other sections are not presently available to print here.

Open Section Medalists:

Gold Medal-Kirill Belashchenko

Silver Medal-Abhinav Suresh

Bronze Medalist-Steven Cusumano

The Open Section was a Nebraska POY Event as well as a State Closed Qualifying event. Belashchenko won the Closed slot, although Suresh also qualified for the Closed as one of the Player of the year winners.

Although originally the games were only open to Nebraskans, this was changed several years ago and now they are open to anyone, so players from Iowa and Kansas took part in the Open section.

Games from the 2023 Cornhusker State Games

Dong 1784-Johnson 1094 Round 1

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 d5 4. Nf3 Bg7 5. Qb3 c6 6. Bf4 Qb6 7. e3 Bg4 8. Ne5 Nbd7 9. Nxc4 Nxc4 10. cxd5 c5 11. dxc5 Nxc5 12. Qb5+ Kf8 13. h3 Bxc3+ 14. bxc3 e5 15. dxe6 Nxe6 16. Qxb6 axb6 17. Bd6+ Kg7 18. hxg4 Rhd8 19. Be5+ f6 20. Bd4 Nxd4 21. exd4 Ra3 22. Kd2 Rd7 23. Bc4 Rc7 24. Bb3 Ra8 25. Rhe1 Kh6 26. f4 g5 27. f5 Kg7 28. Re6 b5 29. Rae1 Rac8 30. Re7+ Kh8 31. Rxc7 Rxc7 32. Re8+ Kg7 33. Ke3 Rxc3+ 34. Ke4 Rc1 35. Kf3 Rc3+ 36. Re3 Rc1 37. d5 Rh1 38. d6 h5 39. gxh5 Rxh5 40. d7 Rh8 41. Re8 (1-0)

Knapp 1976-Tichacek 1400 Round 1

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Nf3 O-O 6. Be2 e5 7. Be3 Nc6 8. d5 Ne7 9. Nd2 Nd7 10. O-O f5 11. f3 f4 12. Bf2 g5 13. a4 h5 14. a5 Ng6 15. b4 Rf7 16. c5 Nf6 17. Nc4 Bf8 18. Qb3 g4 19. b5 dxc5 20. b6 a6 21. bxc7 Qxc7 22. Nb6 Rb8 23. d6 Qxd6 24. Bc4 Qe7 25. Rab1 h4 26. Nxc8 Rxc8 27. Bxf7+ Qxf7 28. Qxf7+ Kxf7 29. Rxb7+ Ke8 30. Rb6 Kf7 31. Rd1 g3 32. hxg3 fxg3 33. Be3 c4 34. Rxa6 Ne7 35. Bg5 Nc6 36. Bxh4 Bc5+ 37. Kf1 Bf2 38. Bxf6 Kxf6 39. Rd6+ Ke7 40. Raxc6 Rb8 41. Nd5+ Kf7 42. Rd7+ Ke8 43. Re7+ Kf8 44. Rxc4 Rb1+ 45. Ke2 Rb2+ 46. Kd3 Rb3+ 47. Kc2 Rb8 48. Rcc7 Bd4 49. Rf7+ Ke8 50. Rce7+ Kd8 51. Rf8# (1-0)

Iacono 1603-Suresh1874 Round 2

1. e4 c5 2. d3 Nc6 3. Be2 g6 4. f4 Bg7 5. Nf3 e6 6. O-O Nge7 7. c3 d5 8. Qe1 O-O 9. Na3 Rb8 10. Nc2 c4 11. e5 cxd3 12. Bxd3 f6 13. Ncd4 fxe5 14. fxe5 Nxd4 15. cxd4 Nc6 16. Be3 Bd7 17. Qd2 Qb6 18. Rab1 Nb4 19. Rfc1 Nxa2 20. Rc5 Nb4 21. Bf1 Rfc8 22. Rbc1 Bf8 23. Rxc8 Rxc8 24. Rxc8 Bxc8 25. Qf2 Qc7 26. Qh4 a5 27. Bh6 Be7 28. Qf4 Qc2 29. Ng5 Qf5 30. Qc1 Nc6 31. g3 Qg4 32. Bg2 Qxd4+ 33. Kh1 Qxe5 34. Qf1 Qf5 35. Qc1 Bd7 36. Bh3 Bxg5 37. Qxg5 Qxg5 (0-1)

Lacroix 2051-Carney 1675 Round 2

1. d4 e6 2. c4 Be7 3. e4 d6 4. Nc3 c6 5. Nf3 Nd7 6. Be3 Ngf6 7. h3 Nf8 8. Be2 d5 9. e5 Ne4 10. O-O Ng6 11. Nxe4 dxe4 12. Nd2 f5 13. exf6 gxf6 14. Nxe4 f5 15. Nc5 f4 16. Bc1 b6 17. Nb3 O-O 18. Bd2 a5 19. Bc3 a4 20. Nd2 c5 21. dxc5 bxc5 22. Bh5 Bf6 23. Bxg6 Bxc3 24. Bxh7+ Kxh7 25. Qc2+ Kh6 26. Qxc3 Rg8 27. Nf3 Bb7 28. Rae1 Rg6 29. Qe5 Bxf3 30. Qxf4+ Kh7 31. Qxf3 Ra7 32. Re5 Qd4 33. Rh5+ (1-0)

Dutiel 1700-Cusumano 1913 Round 3

1. e4 e5 2. Nc3 Nf6 3. Nf3 Nc6 4. Nxe5 Nxe5 5. d4 Ng6 6. e5 Ng8 7. Bc4 d5 8. Bxd5 N8e7 9. Bg5 c6 10. Bb3 h6 11. Qf3 hxg5 12. Bxf7+ Kd7 13. d5 Nxe5 14. dxc6+ Kc7 15. Qg3 Nxc6 16. Rd1 Bd7 17. Be6 Kc8 18. O-O Qc7 19. Nb5 Nf3+ 20. gxf3 Qxg3+ 21. fxg3 Bxe6 22. Rfe1 Bc5+ 23. Kh1 Bf7 24. Nd6+ Bxd6 25. Rxd6 Kc7 26. Red1 Rad8 (0-1)

Davidson 1867-Forsman 1825 Round 3

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Qc2 d5 5. a3 Bxc3+ 6. Qxc3 O-O 7. Bg5 Nbd7 8. e3 h6 9. Bh4 g5 10. Bg3 Ne4 11. Qc2 c5 12. Ne2 Qa5+ 13. Nc3 Ndf6 14. Bd3 Nxc3 15. Qxc3 Qxc3+ 16. bxc3 dxc4 17. Bxc4 Ne4 18. Rc1 b6 19. f3 Nxg3 20. hxg3 Kg7 21. Kf2 Bb7 22. e4 Rfd8 23. Ke3 Rac8 24. f4 Rc7 25. d5 exd5 26. exd5 Bxd5 27. Bxd5 Rxd5 28. Rhd1 Rcd7 29. Rxd5 Rxd5 30. Rc2 Kg6 31. Ke4 Rd1 32. f5+ Kf6 33. g4 Ra1 34. Rd2 Rxa3 35. Rd6+ Kg7 36. f6+ Kg6 37. Ke5 Rxc3 38. Rd8 Re3+ (0-1)

Lacroix 2051-Suresh 1874 Round 4

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. g3 Bb4+ 4. Bd2 a5 5. Bg2 O-O 6. Nf3 d6 7. O-O Bxd2 8. Qxd2 Nc6 9. Nc3 e5 10. e4 Bg4 11. d5 Bxf3 12. dxc6 Bxg2 13. cxb7 Bxf1 14. bxa8=Q Qxa8 15. Kxf1 Nxe4 16. Nxe4 Qxe4 17. Kg1 Ra8 18. Rc1 h6 19. Qd5 Qxd5 20. cxd5 Ra7 21. b3 Kf8 22. Kf1 Ke7 23. Ke2 Kd7 24. f4 Rb7 25. fxe5 dxe5 26. Kd3 Kd6 27. Ke4 Rb4+ 28. Kf5 e4 29. Rc6+ Kxd5 30. Rxc7 Kd4 31. Rxf7 Kd3 32. Kf4 g5+ 33. Kg4 Ke2 34. Kh3 e3 35. Kg2 Rd4 36. Rf5 g4 37. Rxa5 Kd2 38. Re5 Rd6 39. Kf1 Rf6+ 40. Kg1 e2 41. Rd5+ Kc3 (0-1)

Naumann 1548-Stepp 1700 Round 4

1. e4 d6 2. d4 a6 3. c4 e6 4. Nc3 g6 5. Nf3 Bg7 6. Bg5 f6 7. Be3 Ne7 8. Qd2 b6 9. Be2 h5 10. h4 Bb7 11. O-O Nd7 12. b4 Rc8 13. Rab1 O-O 14. Bh6 Kh7 15. Bxg7 Kxg7 16. c5 d5 17. e5 Nf5 18. exf6+ Qxf6 19. c6 Bxc6 20. Bxa6 Ra8 21. b5 Nb8 22. bxc6 Nxa6 23. Rfe1 Rae8 24. Ne5 Nb8 25. g3 Ne7 26. Nb5 Nexc6 27. Nxc7 Nxd4 28. Nxe8+ Rxe8 (1-0)

Ravichandran 1436-Iacono 1603 Round 5

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 exd4 4. Nxd4 Qh4 5. Nc3 Bb4 6. Nxc6 Bxc3+ 7. bxc3 Qxe4+ 8. Qe2 Qxe2+ 9. Bxe2 dxc6 10. Bf4 Bf5 11. O-O-O Rc8 (1-0)

J. Slominski 1715-Koppinger 1514 Round 5

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. cxd5 exd5 5. Nf3 Bb4 6. Qa4+ Nc6 7. a3 Bxc3+ 8. bxc3 O-O 9. Bg5 a6 10. e3 h6 11. Bh4 Re8 12. Bd3 Bg4 13. h3 Bxf3 14. gxf3 Qd6 15. Bg3 Qd7 16. Kd2 b5 17. Qc2 Na5 18. Rag1 c5 19. Be5 Qc6 20. Rg2 Nc4+ 21. Bxc4 dxc4 22. Rhg1 Rad8 23. Rxc7+ Kf8 24. Qf5 Re6 25. Bxf6 Rxf6 26. Qe5 Re6 27. Qh5 Rf6 28. Rg8+ Ke7 29. Rxd8 Kxd8 30. Rg8+ Kc7 31. Qe5+ Kb6 32. d5 Rd6 33. e4 Ka5 34. Kc2 Qd7 35. Qf4 b4 36. axb4+ cxb4 37. cxb4+ Kxb4 38. Rb8+ Ka4 39. Qe5 (1-0)
Belashchenko 1887-Knapp 1976 Round 5

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 c5 3. d5 g6 4. g3 b5 5. a4 b4 6. c4 d6 7. b3 Bg7 8. Bb2 O-O 9. Bg2 Bb7 10. O-O Nbd7 11. Nbd2 Re8 12. Qc2 e5 13. e4 Nf8 14. Rae1 Bc8 15. Nh4 Nh5 16. Bf3 Nf4 17. Ng2 Nh3+ 18. Kh1 Ng5 19. Ne3 Nxf3 20. Nxf3 Bh3 21. Ng2 g5 22. Bc1 f6 23. Ng1 Bd7 24. f4 exf4 25. gxf4 g4 26. f5 Re7 27. Nf4 Qe8 28. Ne6 Qb8 29. Qg2 h5 30. Ne2 Be8 31. Qg3 Nd7 32. Bf4 Ne5 33. Bxe5 Rxe6 34. fxe6 fxe5 35. Qh4 Bg6 36. Ng3 Qe8 37. Nf5 Qd8 38. e7 Qd7 39. Nxc7 Kxc7 40. Qg5 Kh7 41. Rf8 Re8 42. Qf6 Kh6 43. Qh8+ Kg5 44. h4+ Kxh4 45. Qf6+ Kh3 46. Re3+ g3 47. Qxc6 h4 48. Rxc3+ (1-0)

Davidson 1867-Zeisler 1443 Round 5

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Qc2 c5 5. dxc5 O-O 6. a3 Bxc3+ 7. Qxc3 Qc7 8. Nf3 Qxc5 9. b4 Qc7 10. Bb2 d5 11. e3 dxc4 12. Bxc4 a6 13. a4 b6 14. O-O Bb7 15. Ng5 h6 16. Nxe6 Qc6 17. Nf4 Nbd7 18. Rfd1 Rac8 19. Rac1 Qxa4 20. Ng6 Rfe8 21. b5 Rxc4 22. Qxc4 Qxc4 23. Rxc4 fxc6 24. Rc7 Bc8 25. Bxf6 gxf6 26. bxa6 Nc5 27. a7 Bb7 28. Ra1 Ra8 29. Ra2 Kf8 30. f3 Bd5 31. Rd2 Bb7 32. Ra2 Bd5 33. Ra3 Bb7 34. e4 Ba6 35. Kf2 Bb7 36. g4 Ba6 37. Ke3 Bb7 38. f4 Bxe4 39. Rxc5 bxc5 40. Kxe4 Ke7 41. Kd5 Kd7 42. Kxc5 Kc7 43. h4 f5 44. gxf5 gxf5 45. Kd5 Kb7 46. Ke5 Re8+ 47. Kxf5 Rf8+ 48. Kg6 Ka8 49. f5 h5 50. f6 Rc8 51. f7 Rc6+ 52. Kg7 Rc7 53. Kg8 Rc8+ (1-0)

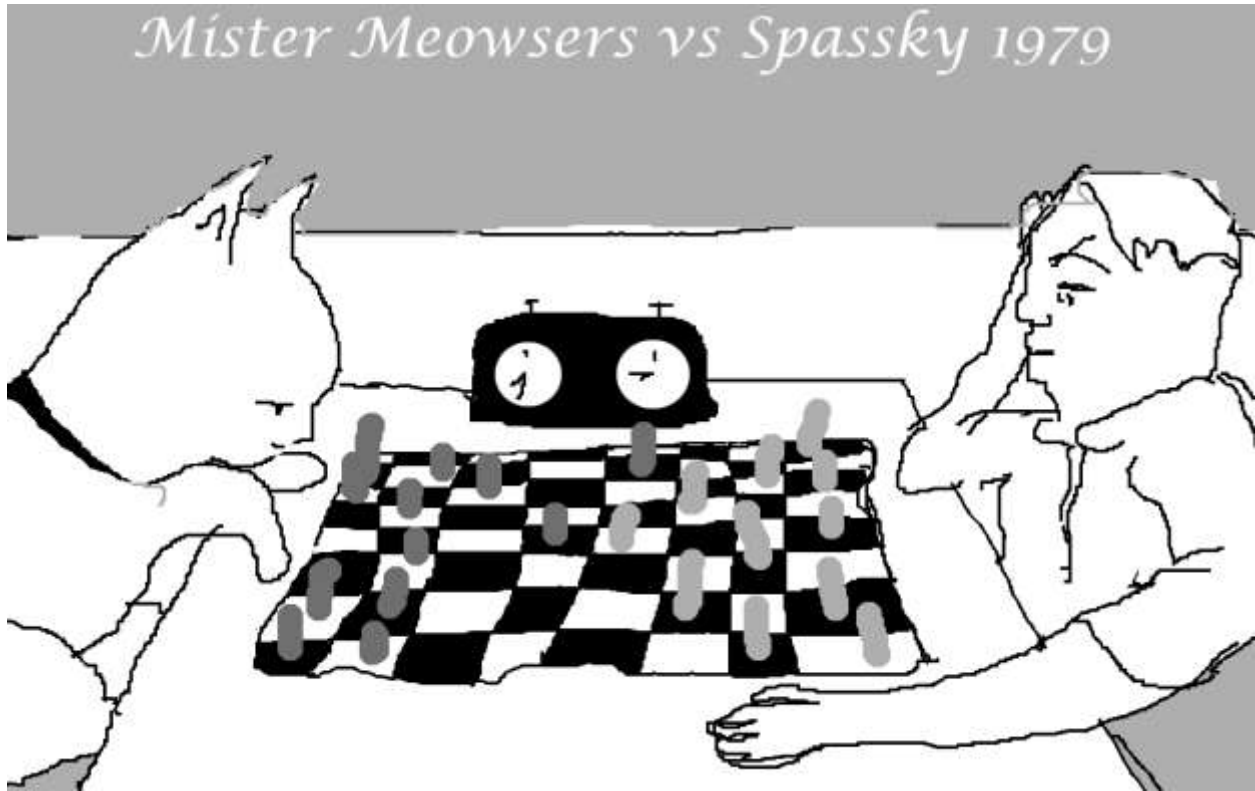
Hansen UNR-Tichacek 1400 Round 5

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Be2 O-O 6. Nf3 e5 7. Bg5 Qe8 8. Bxf6 Bxf6 9. Nd5 Qd8 10. Nxf6+ Qxf6 11. O-O Nc6 12. d5 Ne7 13. Qd2 Bd7 14. Qh6 Qg7 15. Qg5 Rae8 16. Qe3 f5 17. exf5 gxf5 18. Qxa7 Rb8 19. Qe3 f4 20. Qc3 b6 21. a4 Bh3 22. Nh4 Bd7 23. b4 Kh8 24. a5 Rg8 25. Qc2 Nf5 26. g3 Nxc4 27. Kh1 f3 28. Bd3 Qg4 29. Rae1 Nf5 30. Re4 Qh3 31. Rg1 Rg5 32. Qc3 Rbg8 33. Rf4 Rh5 34. Rh4 (0-1)

CHESS-“CAT-TOONS”

By

Heath Edward Draney



The Russians pondered the secret of Meowsers' dynamic play.

This Is the End

By Gary Colvin

Al Lawrence called me after the first of the year and asked me if I would like to play on his US Chess Trust team for the 53rd annual World Team Chess Championship (also known as the USATE) in February 2024. I hadn't played chess in a while and thought I would like to travel to New Jersey to play, and then visit Al and his wife Daphne after the tourney, so I said yes! This would be the fifth time in 40 years I flew from the Midwest to play in the tourney so I looked forward to it.

The event was scheduled from Saturday, Feb. 17th to Monday, Feb. 19th 2024 at the Parsippany NJ Hilton, which was a wonderful hotel. I flew from Lincoln on Friday and had the bad luck of a passenger horribly coughing all the way to Chicago in the row behind me. I was wearing a mask and hoped that would help protect me from her germs.

I got into the Newark airport that pm and Al picked me up and transported me to the Hilton. We then met a number of chess players at Ruth Chris's steakhouse and had a great dinner (along with some drinks).

The next day the tourney started. There were 330 teams and our team (US Chess Trust-Free Pieces, average rating of 2034) was ranked 168th so we had to play the third ranked team in the tourney. The top few teams were roped off from the rest of the boards, and when fellow Nebraskan John Hartmann walked by, I proudly said we were in the 'big leagues'. He then said they had roped us off to protect the rest of the boards from us! Ugh (funny)! I lost my first-round game even though my computer program after the game showed I'd played well. My strong Expert opponent (my rating was 1903) ground me down and I lost. Our team scored 0-4 so that was a bad start to the tourney.

I then showed that the old dog could still play chess by winning 3 games in a row!

G. Colvin – T. Kaczmarczyk



My opponent had sacrificed his rook for a pawn and a Knight on the great outpost of d4 but I can sacrifice too!

28. Rxd4 cd 29. Qxe6+ Kh8? (I'm still winning after 29. ... Kg7 but it's longer after 30. Qd6! Kf7 31. Qxd4)

30. Qd6! Qc7 31. Re8+ 1-0

The third round had my opponent play my (and many other peoples) least favorite opening to defend against, the London. Fortunately, he played without a plan and I was able to grab the 'c' file and the game.

H. He – G. Colvin

1. d4 g6 2. Bf4 Bg7 3. e3 c5 4. c3 cd 5. cd d6 6. Nf3 Nf6 7. h3 O-O 8. Bc4 b6 9. O-O Bb7 10. Nbd2 Nc6 11. a3 Rc8 12. Ba2 Qd7 13. Rc1 b5 14. b4 (now I have a hole on c3 I can invade!) e6 15. Ng5 (why?) Ne7 16. Ngf3 Nfd5 (better take it!) 17. Bh2 (the Bishops are so symmetrical!) Nc3 18. Rxc3 (He's going to lose material so he might as well bite the bullet) Rxc3 19. Nb1 Rc7 20. Bb3 Rfc8 21. Nbd2 Bd5 22. Bxd5 Nxd5 23. Ne4 Nc3 24. Nxc3 Rxc3 25. d5 e5(of course!) 26. h4 (desperation) Qc7 (piling up) 27. Qe2 a6(no hurry) 28. h5 Rc2 29. Qd3 Qc4 30. Qxc4 R8xc4 31. Bg3 Rc1 32. Rxc1 Rxc1+ 33. Kh2 f6 34. hg hg 35. e4 Rc3

The fourth round turned out to be tougher than I thought it would be. I won a pawn and thought I would crash thru with my White-squared Bishop from d5 to f7 but he moved his Knight to e5 and got an attack on my King!

G. Colvin- H. Bunch



32. ... Ne5 33. Bd5 g5 (I hadn't seen this coming!) 34. h3 Kg7 35. f3? Mistake!
Now after Nd3 Black is doing great! ... Rb8? 36. Rb7? Rd8? 37. f4! Back on track!
gf 38. gf Nd3? (time pressure blunder, like the last few moves) 39. Rxf7+ Kh8 40.
Rcc7! Ends the game. He can't take the Bishop due to Rf8 mate and I'm
threatening Rh7 mate. He checked me a few times to see if I would move my King
to a square where he could attack it but I didn't! 1-0

I had started to feel bad this round but got worse on Monday. My Expert opponent played the London against me but I held him off and got a drawn Rook and 2 pawns endgame.

The last round I was really sick and coughing up, but at least I was wearing a mask. My opponent offered me a draw but I turned it down since our team needed a win, but—I lost. Our team finished with a score of 3 ½- 2 ½ and that was my personal score.

After the round Al drove me to a late night clinic so I could get checked out. I didn't

have Covid (yay!) but I did have a severe upper respiratory infection. I went to a pharmacy and got 2 antibiotics for my problem. Instead of going to Al's house I stayed at the hotel until I left for home. On my flight day I flew into Denver for my last leg to Lincoln. I was so horribly out of breath I took a wheelchair to my gate, and boy did I need to do that! One week before my trip my final exercise was walking a fast 2 miles, and now I needed help! Kent Nelson picked me up at the airport and took me and my bags up to my condo. Thanks, Kent.

Based on this trip and my last few trips I've decided my traveling days are over. Every time I go somewhere I come home deathly sick. I'm diabetic and the stress of playing tournament chess was very bad for me so I'm retiring from over-the-board play.

My first tourney was in February 1971 and my last in February 2024, 53 years later! I enjoyed playing, but I really enjoyed making chess friends and travelling.

Below is our team from left to right:

Max Mottola, 2nd board; Leila D'Aquin, alternate (she scored 2-0!); Al Lawrence, Team Captain and 4th board; Beatriz Marinello, 1st board; and the author, Gary Colvin, on 3rd board



Lastly, I would like to finish off the article with a poem! I entered a poetry contest years ago but didn't win anything. I thought my poem was good, and it was about chess, so I'll publish it here-

Brilliant Caissa
by Gary Colvin

Brilliant Caissa, goddess of Chess
Inspire my play, my abilities bless'd
With tactician's skills and strategist's lore
And knowledge gained from contests of yore

Now the forces are girded in full battle array
With each man ready to fight and slay
The opposing pieces for country and King--
For the honor and glory that Victory brings

Let the goddess smile down on me today
And may success reign o'er my craft and play
So when the wars are over and the players rest
A new Victory cup gleams from my trophy chest

The End

(Editor's note: Gary and I have been friends for over 50 years and even roomed together at the 1976 ACU-I Regional Team Tournament in Springfield MO. Loren Schmidt and Mike Chess won the team championship and Gary and I captured the Reserve team championship if I remember correctly playing for UNL).

HUMOROUS CHESS STORIES THE 1973 KANSAS OPEN IN SALINA, KS-TRAVELS AND ADVENTURES WITH DONN BAKER.

In July of 1973, a group of us that included myself, Loren Schmidt and the subject of this story, Lincolnite Donn Baker, decided to drive to Salina, Kansas to play in the Kansas Open. In this case the best route to Salina involved going to York, NE on I-80 and then cutting south on Highway 81 a drive which took probably about 3 hours, so we departed on Friday evening and checked into a hotel as we wanted to be fresh and well rested on Saturday morning for round 1.

My performance in the event was mediocre as I believe I scored 2 or 3 out of 5, but the highlights of the trip were the funny experiences interacting with Donn and Loren. First in order to understand these dynamics it's important to note that Donn was NOT a great chess player, probably a life time 1200-1300 player, but he was very good natured and took ribbing very well with a smile and Loren Schmidt should have charged admission to people to watch him analyze Donn's chess games which made everyone listening including Donn roll on the floor laughing.

Loren recently remarked that Donn was the only person he ever knew who succeeded in fianchettoing both bishops on the same side of the board. (Don't ask). One time, I remember Donn played b3, Rb1 and Rb2 fianchettoing his rook. (Don't ask).

Donn had the habit of saying funny things unintentionally which brings me to the first chapter in this humorous chess story. On Saturday there were 3 rounds and on Sunday 2 rounds. One of the strongest players at the 1973 event was Dan Harger, an Iowa Master and very strong player. Harger lost a tough game and was analyzing the game with Loren while the rest of us including Donn watched. After showing us how he lost the game, Harger mentioned that he had gone on to lose and Donn said, "It happens to the best of us." Harger looked at him and retorted, "I know it happened to me." We all laughed at that one.

After the Saturday games were over someone remarked where we could get really cheap pizza if we were hungry so we looked it up and sure enough this place called Tony's had really cheap pizza. So we ordered one and of course it tasted and looked like a couple pieces of meat on a thin cardboard crust.

Just as we finished off this delightful cheap pizza, Donn burst into the room and said, “Hey, anyone want to go to a skin flick?” We laughed again because what went better with crappy pizza than treating oneself to a really cheesy sexploitation movie on a Saturday night in Salina Kansas after a long day of chess playing?

So, a group of us went to see the immortal screen sensation, “Fly Me”, which was about 3 stewardesses (now called flight attendants but this was 1973). The ads and trailers for Fly Me read, “See stewardesses battle kung fu killers”. I am NOT joking. The ads for the movie featured 3 good looking women with descriptions filled with sexual innuendo, not surprising considering the movie title. The entire movie these women were being chased around by thugs who they had to fight off with kung fu skills. Really the movie despite all the innuendo and the title was a really dumb martial arts movie that probably would have been rated PG 13 today.

Funny thing is I remember hardly anything about my opponents or games in this event but I remember all the funny things about going to an event with Donn Baker.

THE DEEPER DIVE BY TONY DUTIEL

Tony who is very knowledgeable about opening theory presents in depth analysis of a game he played in January of 2023 at the Spence Chess Club. Notes and in depth analysis are by Tony. I have placed the actual game moves in a more readable format so the actual moves are clear followed by Tony's analysis.

[Event "Spence Swiss G/80 "]

[White "Dong, Ryan 1733

[Black "Dutiel, Tony 1845

Date "2023.01.25"]

1. d4 d5

2. c4 Nf6

{Deviating from what I usually play. Ryan is known as someone who studies a lot and I wanted to surprise him fearing he had looked at my games and prepared something for me.}

3. cxd5 c6?!

(Gambiting a pawn to gain development)

4 dxc6 Nxc6 {And he accepts! Safer is 4. Nc3.}

5. e3 e5!

6. Nf3 exd4

(6. dxe5 Qxd1+ 7. Kxd1 Ng4 8. Ke1 Ngxe5 9. Nc3 Be6 {More concrete was 6..Bg4 where he has to decide if he wants to either give the pawn back (7.Qa4, Bxf3 8. gxf3 9. exd4, Bb5.) or allow me to outpost my Knight on d3. (7. Be2, e4 8. Nfd2, Bxe2 9. Qxe2, Nb4.)})

7. Nxd4 Bc5

8. Nxc6 Qxd1+

{Now my compensation for the pawn is apparent. Better was 8. Bb5 with tempo. After 8. Bb5, Qb6 9. Nc3, Bd7, white has the advantage.}

9. Kxd1 bxc6

10. Bd3 Bg4+

(A better defense was 10. f3 stopping both Ng4, Ne4 and Bg4+. Followed up with e4 and Nc3 and white is doing just fine.) (10... Ng4 11. Ke1 O-O 12. Be4)

11. f3 Rd8
12. Ke2 Bh5
13. Rd1 O-O (13. g4 Nxg4 14. fxg4 Bxg4+ 15. Kf2 (15. Kd2 Bf5)
14. Nc3 Rfe8
15. Bd2 Ng4

(Up to this point I was content to accept being a pawn down with quick easy development. I recognized this move as an inaccuracy. It leaves his king in the center as the only protector of the attacked d3 Bishop. With this in mind I start getting aggressive. As a result, we both have to navigate through murky waters and do some serious calculating. If I had white this position, I would have played 15. e4 where he can try to get in Be3 and Kf2.)
{Threatening to capture on e3. He can neither play e4 (..Nf2) or fxg4 (..Bxg4+ where i pick up the Bishop after capturing the Rook.)}

16. Ne4 Bb6

{After 16. Be4!, Ne5 17. Na4, Bf8 18. Bc3 white is clearly winning. I was tempted by 16..Rxd3 17. Kxd3, Bg6. But, I couldn't find a winning line after 18. Kc4!. Note that capturing on e3 is a blunder since after 16.. Bxe3? 17. Bxe3, Nxe3 18. Kxe3, f5? allows 19. Bc4+!, Kh8 20. Rxe8, Rxe8 unpins the knight.}

17. Rdc1 f5

{Again, not the most accurate. This is the wrong Rook. Perhaps he chose the d1 Rook so he could possibly capture on g4.}

18. Bc4+ Kh8

(This idea ends up dropping a piece. Now I go from having compensation for my pawn to outright winning! I still have alot of calculating to do. But, I am winning. The best defense was 18. Nc5 blocking the Bishop's attack on e3.)
(18.Nc5 Nxe3 19. Bxe3 f4 20. Be4 fxe3 21. Kxe3 a5 22. a3 a4 23. Kf4 Bc7+ 24. Kg5 Re5+ 25. Kh4 Bf7 26. f4)

19. Ng5 Bxe3

{While this was clearly what he had in mind when he played Bc4+, it was not too late to go into an endgame where he may be able outplay me and draw.
 19. Ng3, Bxe3 20. Bxe3, Nxe3 21.Nxh5 (21. Kf2, Rd2+ 22. Be2, Nc2) 21...Nxc4+ 22. Kf2, Rd2+ 23. Kg1, Ne3 24.Rxc6, Nxg2.} (19. Ng3 Bxe3 20. Bxe3 Nxe3 21. Nxh5 (21. Kf2 Rd2+ 22. Be2 Nc2) 21... Nxc4+ 22. Kf2 Rd2+ 23. Kg1 Ne3 24. Rxc6 g6 (24... Nxg2 25. Rf1 g6 26. Rf2 Ne1 27. Rxd2 Nxf3+ 28. Kf2 Nxd2 29. Ng3))
 {Capturing with the wrong piece. He now has 20. Bxe3, Nxe3 21. Bf7, Re7 22. Bxh5, Nxg2 23. Kf2, Rd2+ 24. Kg3, g6 25. Bxg6, hxg6 26. Rxc6, Kg7 27, Rb1} (19... Nxe3 20. Nf7+ Kg8 21. Nxd8+ Nxc4+ 22. Kd1 Nxd2 23. Nxc6 Nf1 24. Rc3)

20. Nf7+ Bxf7

(20. Bxe3 Nxe3 21. Bf7 Re7 22. Bxh5 Nxg2+ 23. Kf2 Rd2+ 24. Kg3 g6 25. Bxg6 hxg6 26. Rxc6 Kg7 27. Rb1)

21. Bxf7 Rxd2+

(21. Bxe3 Bxc4+ 22. Rxc4 Nxe3 23. Rxc6 Nc2+ 24. Kf1 Nxa1 25. Rc1 Rd2 26. Rxa1)

22. Ke1 Re7

(22. Kf1 Nxh2+ 23. Ke1 Red8 24. Bd5 R8xd5 25. Rxc6 Bf2#) {I was too focused on the threat of discovered check to look for 22.. Rxc6!! (Admittedly a total engine move. Capture a pawn with both the e8 Rook and g4 Knight hanging!) At best this leaves white down a whole Rook. He gets mated in most lines.} (22... Rxc6 23.fxc6 Bd2+)

23.Rxc6 Bf4+

(23. Bxe8 Bd2+ 24. Kf1 (24. Kd1 Ne3#) 24... Ne3#) 24. Kd1 (24.Kf1 Ree2 25. Rxc6 Ref2#) 24... Re1+ 25. Kc2 Bxc1+ 26. Kd3 Rd2+ 27. Kc4) 23.Rxc6 Bf4+ {Better was 23. g6! 24. fxc6, Rxc6 where both Bd2+ and Rg1+ is threatened.}

24. Be6 Nf6

25. Kf1 Bxh2

{He is better off trying to get a pair of Rooks off the board and activate the weak a1 Rook. My Rooks are clearly better than his. 25. Rd1!,Rxb2 26. Rd8+, Re8 (26.. Ne8 also trades Rooks after 27. Rd7) 27. Rxe8+, Nxe8 28. g3.}

26. Rac1 g6

{Again, trading Rooks was better. (Rc8+)} 26.....g6 {It was at, this point I found the mating net that occurred in the game if he goes after the poison pawn. I was hoping he only thought I played g6 to prevent his mating back rank threat.}

27. Bxf5 gxf5

{Now that the back rank threat is neutralized, Ree2 is more forcing, and easily wins.} (27...Ree2 28. Rxf6 (28. Rc8+ Kg7 29. R1c7+ Kh6 30. Be4 Rxc2) 28... Rxc2 29. Rf8+ Kg7 30. Rf7+ Kg8 31. Rf8+ Kxf8 32. Rc8+ Ke7 33. Rc7+ Bxc7 34. Bh3 Rgf2+ 35. Ke1 Rde2+ 36. Kd1 Rxb2 37. Ke1 Ba5+ 38. Kd1 Rb1#)

28. Rxf6 Bg3

29. Rxf5? Rde2

{The final mistake. Now there is no way to avoid mate. The intermezzo check on f8 makes a huge difference in the defense! 29. Rf8+, Kg7 30. Rxf5 (The point is that he now has Rg5+ and Rxc3 if I still play the intended Rde2.) 30.. h6 31. f4!, Ree2 (31.. Rde2? is met with Re5) 32. Ra5, Rf2+ 33. Kg1 (Not 33. Ke1??, Rxc2+ 34. Kf1, Rdf2+ 35. Ke1, Rg1++) 33...Rxc2+ 34. Kh1, Rh2+ 35. Kg1, Bxf4 36. Re1 where his position is hard to defend, but there is no immediate mate. {He has a few checks. But, it only prolongs the inevitable Re1 mate.} 0-1

REMEMBERING MY FRIEND, WAYNE PRESSNALL By Bruce Draney

I was greatly saddened to hear the news that North Platte chess player and good friend Wayne Pressnall had died in July. Wayne was not only a strong chess player having won the State Closed in 1995, but was also a Correspondence Chess Master, a wonderful human being and a good friend who was the source of many amusing chess stories. At his peak, Wayne was a strong expert and when I first returned to tournament chess in the 1990's I remember losing to him in the 1992 Cornhusker State Games. Throughout the 1990's we played a number of times and I was able to even the score somewhat, but it was never easy playing Wayne in a tournament.

My son and I went for many years to the NebraskaLand Days Open tournament which was held at North Platte High School where Wayne once taught science. On at least one occasion Wayne and his wife Gloria invited us to stay at his house since there were no hotel rooms available.

In 1998, I picked up Wayne in North Platte on the way out to Denver to play in the Colorado Open on Labor Day Weekend, so we had over 8 hours (4 each way) to share stories, reminisce and even talk about family, career and our perspectives on classroom teaching. Wayne was always the gentleman with a great sense of humor, and a wry smile and slow kind of drawl when he spoke. He was very active in the North Platte theater and in fact we even held the Closed in 1996 at the city theater.

If I ever needed a funny chess story to put into my Omaha Chess Archive, Wayne was a veritable gold mine of funny stories. One of my favorite stories was his recounting of the infamous Midwest Open where the tournament room was flooded, the event was interrupted by a wild frat party and clog dancers and they stuck him in a room with no wall (believe it or not). We also used to kid about the homemade trophies that Richard Olson made to give away at his tournaments. Wayne one time asked me if I had won any of the "wood burning specials"? I remember after Wayne won the State Closed in 1995, I asked him where he wanted to hold the 1996 Closed since it was customary for the next Closed to be held in the city of choice of the winner. With a mischievous grin, Wayne said we

could hold it in Harrison, Nebraska which is in the far northwest corner of the state in Sioux County. I laughed and said I knew exactly where Harrison was and that if he could find a playing site there, we would do it. Instead, as mentioned earlier, we held the 1996 Closed in North Platte at the city theater.

After I retired from active chess play in 2002, I would try to keep in touch with Wayne when I went through North Platte on my way to Colorado, frequently giving him a call either on my way out or my way back home. I was pleased to hear that the NSCA had inducted him into the Nebraska Chess Hall of Fame because there was probably no one more deserving of the honor than him and we got him in when he was still alive. I will say this in final tribute to Wayne Pressnall, that if I was going to lose a chess game to someone, there were probably only three people that I at least didn't mind losing to, Kent Nelson, Bob Holling and Wayne Pressnall. Whether you beat Wayne or lost to him he was always still friendly and magnanimous.

Draney 1924-Pressnall 2005 Clarks Cross Country Open January 1995

1. e4	d5	23. Ncxe6	g6
2. e5	c5	24. Nf4	Kg7
3. Nf3	Bg4	25. Rg1	Nf5
4. h3	Bh4	26. Nge6+	Kf7
5. c3	Nc6	27. Rxc6	Nce7
6. g4	Bg6	28. Rf6+	Ke8
7. d4	e6	29. Rxf5	Nxf5
8. Bd3	cxd4	30. Qxf5	Bxh4
9. cxd4	Bb4+	31. Ng7+	Kd8
10. Nc3	Nge7	32. Nfe6+	Ke7
11. h4	h5	33. Bg5+	Bxg5
12. Bxc6	Nxc6	34. Qxc5+	Kd7
13. g5	Qb6	35. Qf5	Qb8
14. a3	Be7	36. Nf4+	Kd8
15. Qd3	a6	37. Qf6+	Kc7
16. b4	Rc8	38. Nxd5+	Resigns
17. Bd2	Bd8?		
18. Na4	Qa7		
19. Nc5	Nge7?		
20. g6!	b6		
21. gxf7+	Kxf7		
22. Ng5+	Kg8		

Pressnall-Draney 1992 Cornhusker State Games

- | | |
|----------|---------|
| 1. g3 | Nf6 |
| 2. Bg2 | d5 |
| 3. f4 | c6 |
| 4. Nf3 | Bf5 |
| 5. d3 | e6 |
| 6. 0-0 | Qb6+ |
| 7. e3 | Bc5 |
| 8. Re1 | Ng4 |
| 9. Qe2 | Nd7 |
| 10. h3 | Nf6 |
| 11. Nc3 | Bb4 |
| 12. Bd2 | h6 |
| 13. Kh2 | 0-0-0 |
| 14. a3 | Bd6 |
| 15. e4 | dxe4 |
| 16. dxe4 | Bh7 |
| 17. e5 | Bc5 |
| 18. Na4 | Qc7 |
| 19. Nxc5 | Nxc5 |
| 20. exf6 | gxf6 |
| 21. Bc3 | Ne4 |
| 22. Qe3 | b6 |
| 23. Nd4 | Nxc3 |
| 24. Qxc3 | c5 |
| 25. Nc6 | Rd7 |
| 26. Qxf6 | Rg8 |
| 27. Re2 | Rg6 |
| 28. Qh8+ | Bg8 |
| 29. Qe5 | Resigns |



Wayne Pressnall 1934-2023
(photo courtesy of Adams-Swanson Funeral Home North Platte)

STAY TUNED FOR THE FINAL QUARTER OF 2023 GAMBIT ISSUE

As Daffy Duck would say, “That’s all folks.” This issue was a bit larger because I had a lot more material to work with thanks to contributions by Gary Colvin, Tony Dutiell and some materials I had previously given to Kent about Wayne Pressnall.

The final issue of 2023, which will cover the 4th quarter of last year, will include cross tables and games from the Great Plains Open and the Lincoln City Championship in addition to my Hall of Fame Memorial tournament which was my first time directing or playing in a USCF regular rated event in 21 years.

If you have an interesting game or story you’d like to share with our readers, feel free to send it to me at gambiteer49@yahoo.com. In the meantime, consider playing in several upcoming events here in Nebraska which are listed below:

April 13th-UNO Quick/Blitz Event-For full details check on the Nebraska Chess Community group on Facebook or the NSCA Website.

April 27-28-Annual Midwest Open 5 Rd Swiss a POY and State Closed Qualifier event. Event will be held in Omaha at the Marriott Regency and Steven Cusumano is the organizer. \$2,000.00 prize fund. You can register in advance on King Registration.

June 1-2-Hall of Fame Champions Celebration 4 Round Swiss a POY event with a \$13,650.00 overall guaranteed prize fund. Organized by Bruce Draney, EF 90.00 in advance. Contact Bruce Draney at gambiteer49@yahoo.com for details.

You can register and pay on Square at:

https://checkout.square.site/merchant/ML0K71FGX6TD8/checkout/YTQGQU6GV6P64SVK62JDN3CN?fbclid=IwAR0l6qMfp7HDEz0dEqCETqzDcK3F0fiYi_UBzILCiWktQyUOS0Vo_rmL_t4_aem_Ae1jkS-6n2129qpLC476osGyMvKT9eYWDRJq_J4UGc7Dv6-pZQBb41ITaXoAG8QmYodXANGhAe2J-3gIUzS6_WG