

# THE GAMBIT

## THE NORTH CAROLINA CHESS ASSOCIATION



JULY-AUGUST 1990

PRICE \$3.00

### NOBLE - DAVENPORT TOPS AT WILMINGTON OPEN IV

By Wilder Wadford

Matt Noble unexpectedly upset a very strong field to take first place in the Fourth Annual Wilmington Open. He posted a 4.5 score including a victory over SM Randy Kolvick in the 4th round and a draw with NM Robin Cunningham in the 5th. Matt may be pushing Master. In the Reserve section Eugene Davenport pushed all resistance aside and took a clear first. Important games from the tournament are printed within.

The tournament was a break even success with 50 players participating and was organized by Eugene Davenport and directed by East Coast Chess (Jeff Walsh and Donald Miller). The tournament was very well run by the directors and the hotel accommodations were beautiful. Many took the time to go to the beach and eat seafood. You should make plans to be at this event next year because it is becoming an important North Carolina event as well as a great vacation.

Eugene is to be commended for his good work which started from a small beginning of 17 players in 1987, 23 in 1988 and 47 last year. Each year the size of the tournament creeps up and the cash prizes are expected to be increased dramatically next year.

### Team Championship

AUGUST 18-19

### WILMINGTON OPEN IV OPEN

1st	Matt Noble	4.5	\$300*
2nd	SM Randy Kolvick	3.5	\$67
	SM Klaus Pohl	3.5	\$67
	NM Robin Cunningham	3.5	\$67
U2100	Gary Newsom	3.0	\$25
U2000	Michael Loesch	3.0	\$100*

### RESERVE

1st	Eugene Davenport	4.5	\$225*
2nd	Brian Childers	4.0	\$43
	J. S. Blanning	4.0	\$43
	Richard Cumbee	4.0	\$43
U1600	Joe Rigdon	4.0	\$75*
U1400	Steve Tisinger	3.0	\$25
Unrated	Robert Osborne	3.0	\$25

\*Also receive 1/2 credit on EF in Land of the Sky IV.

### Brilliancy Prizes:

Robin Cunningham	\$5
Matt Haywood	\$5

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## NCCA POLICY

Annual dues are \$10 for adults, \$8.00 for juniors, \$3.00 for participating juniors (no Gambit). Membership is open to all, however, only NC residents may vote, hold office, or compete in the Invitational. The NCCA does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex or religious beliefs or attempt to influence any governmental elections. Each member is entitled to play in NCCA sponsored events and will receive the Gambit six times per year. All dues and questions concerning membership shall be submitted to the Secretary.

### FROM THE DIRECTORS

By Wilder Wadford

The Team Championship is set for August 18-19 in Charlotte. I encourage you to form teams or call me to put you on a team. There is something special about this event you should not miss. Chess is a lonely game. Team chess removes this element. If you are coming to the LPO then make this tournament the place to organize your team.

On a sad note, the investigation into the Branton, Buaiz and Cooley matches is complete. I am not happy about the results but the punishment is necessary and I expect each of you to support the NCCA's decision.

The recent Billy Watt was again a success and I want to thank William Watt and Robert Singletary. This tournament is made possible by a generous grant from Mr. Watt to the Statesville Recreation Department. All money collected exceeding the prizes and expenses are donated to the City of Statesville in memory of Billy Watt. Next issue I will do a story on who Billy Watt was.

There is a distinct possibility that Gata Kamsky will perform a simultaneous at the Closed Championship thanks to Leland Fuerstman. Kamsky is a 15 year old prodigy with a rating just 30 points shy of Fischer's highest!

Elections are right around the corner. Run for any office!

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION  
MATCHES-BRANTON, BUAIZ & COOLEY**

**COOLEY SANCTIONED**

by Wilder Wadford

President, NCCA

In the March issue of the Gambit I received a letter from Jim Tobin regarding alleged matches between Gary Branton, Michael Buaiz and Allen Cooley. The Executive Committee has been aware of the conflicting stories from each of these men since October of last year. Nothing has caused us more duty defining thought than the ugly things we've heard. I felt that an impartial investigation giving all parties a right to be heard was in order.

In a nutshell, there were nine matches reported in supplements taking place from April to September between Cooley-Buaiz and Cooley-Branton. The results in all were extremely lopsided leading some members of the Association to think that fabrications had been made. Verbal inquiries were made to all parties. Cooley affirmed that all matches had occurred. Buaiz admitted to the first two but denied the rest. Branton began by saying nothing but eventually disclosed to this writer and the Committee that all but one had actually been played.

Leland Fuerstman, Senior TD and NCCA First VP, thinking that past requirements for match play required the notarized signatures of both parties and no more than fifty points being won in any match between two opponents nor more than one rating class in a three year period, called the USCF. Radical swings in ratings had taken place. Buaiz had spiralled from 1880 in April to 2241 in July. Cooley had skyrocketed from 2209 to over 2300.

The national organization took the stance of admitting that the results had been submitted in accordance with current standards which leave much to be desired in the way of authentication. Match play does require opponent signatures but the USCF had not been rigorously enforcing the rule. But because there was a dispute the games were retroactively unrated and according to their best estimate ratings were rolled back on both Buaiz and Cooley. Both have protested this action by the USCF. No action was taken against Branton at that time because Branton nor Cooley had disputed the results of their matches with the USCF. Branton was not aware of the third match until later.

All three players are highly rated by NC standards and are persons of note in the chess community. Buaiz's zeal for the game is well known and once was the Editor of the Gambit for a

short time in 1989. Cooley is a National Master, has been an active organizer, columnist for the Gambit and publisher of a newsletter of his own. Branton is a recent champion of our Class Championship and was cited as one of the most active players in the United States. All were close chess friends until this nasty controversy apparently split them apart.

The lifeblood of chess is the tournament game and to fabricate results by intentionally losing games or not playing the games at all is to strike at the heart and soul of chess. Chess is one of the few things we do in life that preserves the inherently fair competition. We cannot respect a sandbagger, cheat or liar. There is no room in our community for these types. We felt a formal inquiry was necessary to determine the truth.

In order to get to the bottom of this problem I sent a series of questions to each man which would be, upon response, circulated to the others for cross examination by the Committee and the parties. All responses would be turned over to myself, Leland Fuerstman, John Thomas, Jim Johnson, Clifford Anderson, Robert Singletary, Ken Baxter and Jeff Walsh (last 3 in advisory capacity) for a decision. The questions were very specific so as to get the most credible evidence possible. Sanctions would follow for the offenders including but not limited to suspension of playing privileges, censure and submitting findings to the USCF for appropriate action. Failure to cooperate would result in sanctions similar to contempt penalties in order to compel constituents to reveal information concerning us all. Anyone who plays with someone who may have a false rating has in fact a devalued rating.

Cooley has responded promptly throughout the process. Branton responded promptly to the first set of questions but was granted leave for additional time on the second set concerning information as to his whereabouts on the one disputed match. Branton later told us he would not answer but the Committee sanctioned him immediately by suspending his playing privileges in the State until he did answer. Branton thereupon immediately responded. Buaiz, who had been vigorously complaining to the Executive Committee and the USCF about his rating reduction and the alleged false matches, failed to respond despite not less than thirty verbal requests by telephone and in person by myself over a period of several months for information. He also was sanctioned by suspension

indefinitely until June 6, 1990 when he answered.

Based upon the facts submitted, we find that Mr. Cooley has fraudulently created non-events and shall be prohibited from play in NCCA sanctioned events or directing tournaments in North Carolina for a period of two years effective July 15, 1990. The results shall be turned over to the USCF. No penalties shall be assessed against Mr. Branton and Mr. Buaiz. It is obvious to us that Mr. Cooley was attempting to manipulate his rating to exceed 2300 (achieving the right to never fall below master level) and used his friends, Branton and Buaiz, to accomplish his purpose. He fabricated events that Buaiz won in order to give Buaiz back the points he had taken from him. The investigation into other and similar abuses continues. The NCCA and the USCF, through Regional VP Robert Singletary, are trying to help Buaiz reconstruct his true rating.

The decision was unanimous with one abstention by Mr. Fuerstman. Mr. Cooley complained that Fuerstman was biased because of: Fuerstman had instigated the investigation for vindictive purposes, that the other members of the Committee were being led around on the "Fuerstman Bandwagon", that Fuerstman was directly involved in the dispute and that Fuerstman had conspired with Branton and Buaiz into making false answers.

Fuerstman, in a letter to the Committee, denied the above accusations and the Members of the Committee concur with him. Fuerstman, as President of the Charlotte Chess Club and First Vice-President of the NCCA, responded to inquiries from Club and NCCA players who had seen the curious results of the matches in a public document, the Supplements. Fuerstman properly referred the matter to me as President and it is I who determined that a full scale investigation was warranted. It is the facts that have led the Committee around, not Fuerstman. Fuerstman has not been "involved in the dispute" as alleged by Cooley but he has helped with the investigation. With respect to the conspiracy charge, nothing could be further from the truth. Fuerstman has had little contact with either Branton or Buaiz since the initiation of the investigation. I, on the other hand, have had many opportunities to discuss the case with Branton and Buaiz, both in person and by telephone. I have never encouraged either of these men to do anything other than tell the truth. I have never refused a call from Cooley and cannot call him because he will not give his

number. Had I been able to I would have encouraged him to tell the truth. Fuerstman, in a gesture to remove all doubt of his objectivity, abstained from voting on the issue.

The facts as we have been able to determine them from the responses and official records are as follows.

1. The match results reported in the Supplements:

Cooley v. Buaiz		
NC 4/02/89	8-0	Cooley
NC 4/24/89	10-0	Cooley
SC 8/09/89	6-0	Cooley
NC 8/27/89	10-0	Cooley
SC 9/15/89	6.5-1.5	Buaiz
SC 9/16/89	4.5-1.5	Buaiz

Cooley v. Branton		
NC 6/23/89	3.5-1.5	Cooley
NC 6/27/89	8-1	Cooley
NC 7/10/89	10-0	Cooley

2. The accounts given by Cooley and Branton regarding the first two matches are substantially the same including identical scoresheets. Branton sent originals as requested and Cooley sent copies.

3. The accounts given by Cooley and Branton for the third match are totally different. Branton says he was at home in Statesville looking for a job at the Signal Hill Mall and a shopping center near Walmart in Mooresville. Internal evidence from Branton's original scorebooks show scoresheets for the first two matches and no games on July 10, 1989, the third match. Only four sheets were missing from the scorebook where the 10 game match should have been had it taken place. The two scorebooks show that Branton keeps his games in sequence according to date. The 10 scoresheets for the disputed match provided by Cooley were copies and the handwriting too neat as compared to obviously authentic scoresheets submitted by Cooley from other matches (time control C/30). Further, Branton's testimony is inherently credible as he was extremely reluctant to cooperate with the Committee because of his friendship with Cooley.

4. Cooley provided 10 of 18 scoresheets from the first two Buaiz-Cooley matches and only 3 of 30 from the later Buaiz matches. They were not originals as requested. Cooley alleges he and Buaiz agreed not to show the games to anyone and that the games were not worth keeping. Buaiz accepts that the April matches took place but denies all the rest and was either at home with his wife or at work during the remainder of the matches reported. Buaiz also claims that there were other matches in May and June which may or may not have been submitted to the USCF by Cooley. No evidence at this

point is conclusive on the May-June matches. Significantly, Buaiz denies the two matches which Cooley has Buaiz handily winning in South Carolina. Buaiz claims to have never been in South Carolina during the year 1989. Also significantly incredible is that Cooley won 34 straight games against Buaiz and then Buaiz remarkably overwhelms Cooley in the South Carolina matches. All in five months.

5. There were no other witnesses at any of the matches.

6. The results were submitted in acceptable form for the USCF but there were no opponent signatures as required by the rules. The USCF admits that a better procedure for authentication of results should be enforced in match play.

7. A match was reported in the Supplement between Buaiz and Richard Smith with Buaiz winning. Both players deny ever playing a match. No conclusions at this time have been made as to who submitted the results.

8. The USCF reduced Cooley's rating from approximately 2300 to 2150 and Buaiz's from approximately 2241 to 2050 early in the investigation. Cooley's letter rating showing that he has exceeded 2300 has been reduced to a letter rating of 2100. Both players contest this action by the USCF. The NCCA and the USCF are actively trying to reconstruct Buaiz's rating. Buaiz, once alerted that his rating had been tampered with, has not played tournament chess since October, 1989. He is also willing to surrender his master title if it can be shown that his rating was artificially raised by Cooley in other matches not yet discovered due to unusual names for tournaments and in states other than North Carolina.

The Executive Committee expects all members of the NCCA and TD's for NCCA events to prevent Mr. Cooley from participation during his suspension. Unless you cooperate we cannot properly enforce a fair code of conduct in this state. This report will be submitted to the USCF for any action it deems appropriate.

I am grieved by this controversy. I personally like Mr. Cooley but to anyone who takes chess as seriously as we do this cannot pass without judgment. Everyone must take the consequences of their actions, the innocent must be protected and the integrity of chess safeguarded.

#### USCF MATCH RULES

Individual matches may be rated if they conform to the following provisions:

1. Both players must be rated, with a rating difference of less than 400 points.

2. Reports must be validated by a certified Tournament Director or both players must sign a notarized statement.

The maximum rating change allowed from a match is 50 points. No player may go up or down more than one rating class within a three-year period solely through match play. Match results will not be taken into account for players being considered for invitational events unless those results are subsequently confirmed in tournament play.

TO: MEMBERS OF THE NCCA

RE: AUTHORITY OF THE NCCA  
COOLEY SANCTIONS

FROM: Wilder Wadford, President

There has been some discussion concerning the right of the State Organization to impose sanctions on offenders which include fines, expulsion, suspension and censure. This memo will examine the legal bases as well as the philosophical need for a strong organization with the power to govern its constituents in a fair manner.

Article III, Section 1 of the By-Laws provides: "Membership shall only be barred for reasons of immoral behavior or abuse of membership privileges." The duly authorized Grievance Committee By-laws under Rule 3(b) allows sanctions which "may include but are not limited to expulsion of a party from the NCCA for a definite or indefinite term, preclusion from participation in NC tournaments for a definite or indefinite term, preclusion from service as a director of NC tournaments for a definite or indefinite term, or public or private reprimand." At the time this controversy arose we had no Grievance Committee Chairman as Chris Kremer had resigned. Consequently, I verbally obtained permission from a majority of the Directors to pursue the investigation. According to the Article V, Section 7 of the By-Laws "The Board of Directors may designate one or more of the Directors to constitute an Executive Committee, which Committee shall have and may exercise all the authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the Corporation, to the extent provided in the resolution of the Board of Directors designating the Executive Committee." There is sound legal basis within our own By-laws to pursue this investigation.

Now a point has been made that not one of these men has made a formal complaint. The NCCA has a right to make a complaint just as the US Government and the State of North Carolina has a right to be a party to an action against its constituents both administratively and judicially. Article VII, Section 5 of the By-laws charges the President with the duty to enforce the By-laws, orders and resolutions of the Directors and Members.

Some might say this is a matter for the USCF. This assertion is defective both legally and practically. The USCF is a national organization with pervasive problems stretching from here to Moscow. They are ill equipped to deal with these problems. We do not expect Washington to build our roads, fund our schools or cage our criminals here in North Carolina. To rely upon the USCF is both impossible and repugnant to the logical concept that we, too, are a governing body and can do a better job of protecting our own than some distant organization unable to safeguard the integrity of our game here. After we have made our determinations, we may then turn to the USCF for appropriate action if we deem it necessary. As long as our procedure is inherently fair we cannot be assailed by them or a court of law. We are a voluntary, private association and no one is compelled to be a member. However, if you are a member you are subject to our rules and regulations as you have voluntarily submitted to our jurisdiction. It makes no difference if you are not a member now. It only matters if your offense was committed while you were a member. What I say here is well established administrative law and I am unafraid of challenge. The NCCA reserves its right to govern within the confines of our territory.

What I ask is simply do you want a weak NCCA or one with teeth that can discipline its members in a fair manner? We cannot allow unscrupulous members to snub their noses at us while they do their dirty work. To tolerate improprieties is to have no self respect and certainly will command none from others. The NCCA has come from a small and at times ineffectual past, but this is more a matter of evolution rather than ineffectual leaders. Crittenden, Hornstein, Adickes, Brown, Taylor, Menius, Spurrier, Singletary, Fuerstman and Baxter of our past have done their part to pull this organization up from a child to adolescence. Everything must mature in its own time. We have an opportunity to make the NCCA

see the first dawn of manhood and show some muscle.

I want the TD's, officers, advisors and members to respect and help enforce the decision rendered by this Committee. If wrongdoing or contempt is permitted to go unpunished then we have little to look forward to in this state. To be firm and fair will be the steady hand that curbs chaos where no law prevails. It is our duty, both for now and in the future.

#### THE POWER OF THE COMMON PAWN AND A CRY OF DISTRESS

By Lajos Pagony

Simultaneous with disturbing announcements from international sources and the USCF of shrinking memberships, one of chess superpower's one and only chess magazine, Hungarian Chess Life, passed the news of its impending death in a cry of distress. The Hungarian government, switching from the Soviet pattern of statewide support to free enterprise "survive or die", abruptly discontinued financial aid. The monthly magazine, professional and attractive, cost about 20 cents (!) per issue. A similar release here would cost \$3.00 or more.

Isn't it historically peculiar that Soviet players defecting to America enjoy a rich and free country, while the Hungarians, regaining their freedom from the Behemoth neighbor after 45 years of suppression are losing their only chess organ at the threshold of their dreams? Hungary has produced Portisch, the Polgar sisters, Ribli and Sax and almost as many active tournament players as the USA! Hungarians only average about \$100 per month in income and they don't have 20 chess periodicals to choose from. They have only one. And it's dying.

It only connects Hungarians to each other and the world. Historical changes have torpedoed it. Hungarian Chess Life has existed through the whole century, outliving two World Wars, Hitler, Stalin, Nazi and Soviet terror. \$25,000 could save it forever. It is impossible at this time to raise the price of the magazine from 20 cents to \$1.50 when Hungarians only average \$100 per month.

Now, as an American and a former Hungarian chess Expert, I am turning to you to help me set up a grant for those who are in need and cannot help themselves. I would like to see your name in a commemorative rescue issue of the Hungarian Chess Life for only a few dollars. I'm turning to you, the 97% bottom and backbone of chess society for help. Why?

Because I believe you are the genuine soil of the phenomenon

chess. Without you the tournament organizers would have no profit, Kasparov would be a strange alien from Mars instead of a celebrity, the fight for glory and the Elo list would be obsolete, checkers would be the guiding light in computer heaven. Not the GMA or FIDE or Champions but you are the only importance, the enlivening force, everything else is a farce! You, sitting at your cheap vinyl board, perhaps with a computer, browsing MCO or Chess Life, are those who feel what it means to be cheated out of the last bite of mental nourishment. You will help your fellow Hungarian chess relatives.

I know because that is the way you are as Americans.

Please send your donations immediately. Every gift will be acknowledged in the magazine. If you send \$500 or more, your picture and a short review, for \$10 or more 3 consecutive issues of the magazine. Send your donations to Lajos Pagony, 18 Fairfax Avenue, Asheville, NC 28806.

#### 1990-1991 GRAND PRIX STANDINGS

1. John Lane	76.25
2. James Havey	40.50
3. Mark Brodie	39.00
3. James Tobin	39.00
5. Leland Fuerstman	32.50
6. Gary Branton	32.00
7. Owen Ellison	30.00
8. Clarke Brosi	29.00
9. Roger Wright	28.50
10. Garrick Wells	24.50
11. Jack Berry	24.00
11. Carl McKern	24.00
13. Kenneth Naugle	23.00
14. Ken Baxter	22.50
15. Paul Lucas	22.00
16. Steve Posnanski	20.50
17. Raul Raya	20.00
18. Don McNeely	19.50
19. Brian Combs	18.50
20. Leo Kachnik	18.00
20. Ashley Smiley	18.00

(Through May 31, 1990)

#### HOW THE GRAND PRIX WORKS

For each rated game won one point is awarded. Three bonus points are awarded for every twelve players to winners in their section; e.g., thirty six player section has nine bonus points. No more than 25 points may be scored in any event. All reported events must be NCCA sanctioned and you must be a NCCA member at the time you claim to score points. The TD is responsible for turning the results in. However, if he has not you may send in an official USCF crosstable for the event to claim your points. The yearly competition lasts from state championship to state championship. Prizes are 1st-\$70 and free EF to State Championship and 2nd-\$30. All results should be sent to Robert Singletary at his NEW ADDRESS: 5901-C Shadetree Lane, Raleigh, NC 27613 (919)881-8482.

Traditionally The Largest

# CHESS TOURNAMENT

In The State of N.C.

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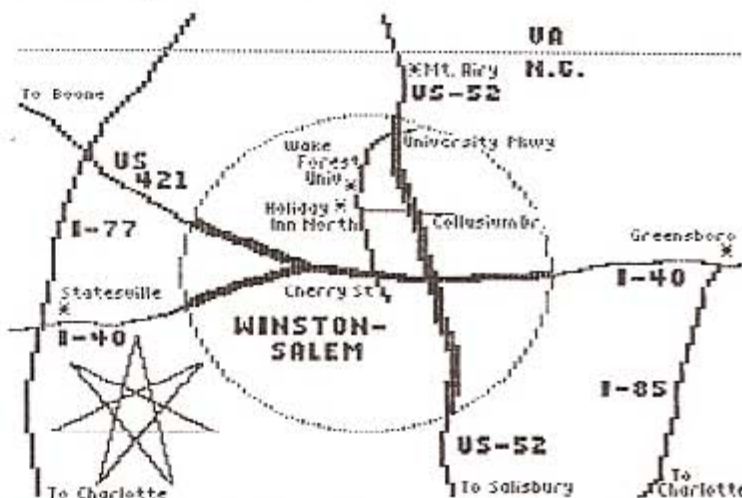
### UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED

### JULY 27/28 - 29, 1990

# LPD-17

**HOLIDAY INN NORTH, WINSTON-SALEM, NC** NEAR WAKE FOREST UNIV.

\$15,000.00 PRIZE FUND GUARANTEED			
SECTION:	OPEN	AMATEUR	NOVICE
LIMITED TO:	OPEN TO ALL	UNDER 2000	UNDER 1600, UNR
1st Overall:	\$1400	\$1200	\$1000
2nd Overall:	700	600	500
3rd Overall:	300	200	300
CLASS:	2200-2299	1800-1899	1400-1499
1st:	600	500	500
2nd:	400	300	200
3rd:	200	100	100
CLASS:	2100-2199	1700-1799	BELOW 1400
1st:	500	500	500
2nd:	400	300	200
3rd:	200	100	100
CLASS:	BELOW 2100	BELOW 1700	UNRATED
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2nd:	400	300	200
3rd:	200	100	100
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**ROUND 1:** Fri 8pm or Sat 10am. RD 2-5: 3, 8, 10, 3.  
**SPECIAL RATES:** \$47 per Room (w. Res. 4-Max.)  
**INFORMATION AND ADVANCED ENTREES:**

**THAD ROGERS** (Internat. Arbitrator)  
American Chess Promotions  
3055 General Lee Rd.  
Macon, Ga 31204 912/742-5601

**ALAN LIPKIN** (Organizer)  
Route 1, Box 404  
New Casswell,  
Ga 37825 615/626-4071

**ENTRY FEE:** \$68 (38+30 at Site - wk) by 7/20. \$75 at Site.  
5-Round, Swiss Tournament, 40 Moves/100 min.  
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NC Chess Assn (if NC Res) and US Chess Fed.  
Memb. Required (May Be Obtained at Tourney).  
**SPECIAL ENTRY FEES:**  
25% Off if 2 in Family 50% ea. Addnl. Fam. Memb.  
33% Off to Play for Trophy Only (Under 18).

## WHAT'S THE WORST MOVE?

by Robert Morrell, Jr.

The average tournament player is a C (1400 to 1600) or below, though you would never know from reading most chess publications. By and large they are filled with crystalline, esoteric games that can leave many of us average players totally bewildered. "a" pawns move for no apparent reason (ever notice how often this get an exclamation mark?), pawns are doubled and undoubled without explanation, and most degradingly, masters will sometimes resign positions that us duffers are at a loss to find fault with. I know that I have spent longer figuring out the intricacies of one move in a master level game than the players spent on the entire game! Years ago the magazines and books were all but useless to the C and minus players. "Of course not d4," Soltis would say disparagingly. "Why the heck not?" I'd answer. Now, of course, I just punch the position into my Radio Shack 2150 and see (Oh yeah, loses the Queen, got it now Andy.) Still, computers cannot overcome the real problem with stratospheric master play and centuries refined opening books: They don't reflect play as it is in the real world, that is, the novice section of your basic weekend tourney. Even dummed down my Radio Shack plays Kasparov's endorsed book moves out fifteen moves or more. That's ten moves further than I've ever gotten in a tournament. In the real world we make mistakes that masters only do in extreme (and usually unrecorded) time trouble. In the real world both players in a single game may each have lost positions several times before one of them folds. While we all want that perfect game, suitable for framing, where we beat our opponent with an intricate !!! move, once we sit down, and the pressure sets in, we'd just as soon have a hung piece and an early lunch. Real tourney chess all too often consists of an endurance match:

who can go the longest without a fatal blunder. To look only at the spectacular wins in chess is to study war by looking at John Wayne movies. Sure there is glory, but in real life the average Joe slugs it out in the mud with the rats.

This is why the arrival of the Gambit at my house causes more excitement than does the arrival of Chess Life. The Gambit publishes real games, with mistakes like I might make. (In fact the last issue printed mistakes I did make. Jeez Wilder, can't you include some kind of notation to indicate moves made under time pressure?) A newcomer to tournament chess would do better to spend two hours with back issues of the Gambit than two days with any reference volumes or new Informant. Still, even the novice section games included in each issue are ones the novices think are their best (the winners, anyway). What about the majority of games, where the stuff of life is hung bishops and back rank mates? It is this deficiency that this column will seek to redress, not with a pile of mediocre games, but with the crud de la crud. The screaming howlers that show that comedy is alive and well in chess.

Case in point, from my own files: Round 1 of the Billy Watt Memorial #10. It was my first big tournament after a sixteen year layoff of chess. (My last good tournament game had been against Billy Watt.) I was 1396 and really over booked. Playing white against unrated W.C., I sallied forth with 1.f4 having spent weeks studying an outdated book on Bird's opening. After the customary blinking that such a move engenders, W.C. responded with 1...f5. Aha, I said to myself knowledgeably, a defense popular in the last century, made unpopular with the reverse form of From's Gambit, 2 e4!? My opponent looked worried for a moment and then cautiously pushed his g pawn to the sixth rank. 2...g6? I thought, that's not in the book.... wait a minute, pawn takes pawn, pawn takes pawn... no, it can't be true.... I

quickly reached out and nonchalantly (I wanted him to think it was a routine exchange) played 3...e4. He fell right into my rhythm with 3....g6. After a moment of disbelieving thought I played 4 Qh5 mate. Players around us were still setting up their boards. See Board illustration #1 with caption.



Board Illustration #1  
After 2...g6, that's not in any book.

It turned out that W.C. was a chess dad whose son had talked him into playing at the last minute. During the four hours till the next round that I had to kill, I saw him in the hallway, head hung low as his eight year old examined the score of the game and scolded him mercilessly.

For me, six to seven hours of study had gone into 4 moves, two of which were off book.

Lest you think I am picking on unrated players, at the RAMLX11 in Chapel Hill last December, I faced K.S., rated 1532. A strapping 1470, I was again white. 1e4 Nc6. The Nimzowitsch Defense; thought, proud I could recognize it, happy I didn't have to spell it. "Normal development should be sufficient," the books said, which was about all I could remember of the book. 2 d4 e6 3 Nf3 g6. Now that's a mistake I thought. I remembered the proscription against doing e6 and g6 in the same game, weakening the f6 square. I decided to pressure the square right away with 4.Bg5. I was expecting a cramping knight move, or trading bishops to leave an empty fianchetto shell on the kingside,

or perhaps f6, which would weaken the kingside even more. I was busy thinking about where I would retreat my bishop against such a pawn push when he played: 4....h6??? For several seconds I continued to consider the merits of Be3 or Bh4 till it occurred to me something wasn't quite right about that last move. See Board illustration #2



Board Illustration #2  
After 4....h6, should I retreat the bishop to e3 or h4?

After 5 Bd8 Nd8 I sat back, wondering where I could get a slow meal in Chapel Hill. A friend who had made the trip up with me, looked up from a stone Benoni that a 9 year old was laying on him to see the slight edge I'd gained. He rolled his eyes in disgust. Sometimes brilliance can be embarrassing. The rest of the game- which I use to teach chess in the elementary school where I do volunteer work- (Good morning boys and girls, can you say "material advantage"? I knew you could)- went: 6 Nc3 Bb4 7a3 Be7. Could have doubled my pawns there, I was sweating, let me tell you. 8 Bd3 b6 9 Qe2 Bb7 10 Nb5. Okay, so I could have done it earlier, I just wanted to develop first. 10...Rc8 11 Na7 Kb8 12 Nb5 Nc6 13 Nc7 Kd8 14 Nb5 Ka8 15 Ne5 Ne5 16 de Bb4 17 c3 You thought I'd fall for it didn't you? 17...Be7 18 Nd6 Bd6 19 ed Rh2 20 Qe3 Bc6 21 Qb6 Ke1 22 Bh5 Re4 23 Bd7+! Amazing how easy it is to make powerful moves when you're almost a full Queen ahead. 23...Kf1 24 Rc6! Bc6 25 Qc6 Kd8 26 Rd1 f5 27 O-O. I always remind my children, try to castle before move thirty! 27...Nf6 28 Rfe1 Kf7 29 d7 Ne4 30

f3 Ng5 31 h4. Just call me Morrell the Merciless. 31...Nf3 32 gf Kf8 33 Qd6 Re7 34 Re6 R8d7. Yes I did see the loss of the queen, I just wanted to get rid of his last piece okay? 35 Qe7 Re7 36 Re7 Ke7 37 a4 resigns. A more sadistic player has pointed out that 37 c4 would have been more taunting, which probably says a lot about the company I keep. Actually I was kind of embarrassed that it took 37 moves, but I was being careful. After all, if I had lost this one, I'd have never lived it down.

This depletes (mostly, unless you count games where I played stupidly) my bad games supply, which is why this column will depend on your contributions. For publication of a game in "What's the worst move, send your score, and preferably a narrative of the situation and your thoughts to me at 7275 Crenata Dr., Lewisville, N.C. 27023

Your game must be from a rated tournament, and I'd rather not do time trouble moves unless the results were particularly spectacular. As above, I will protect the identity of the losing player, unless I am given permission. I am looking for several categories of bad games: Miniature Dogs, as my four mover above, Most Incredibly Bad Game Compared to Rating, Incredibly Bad Move Where an Incredibly Good Move Existed (the "I could'a been a contender" category), and my personal favorite, the Most Won Game that was Lost. So if there's one you still chuckle about, or one that still makes you moan, and you're a good sport, come on, send it in!

#### SOUTH CAROLINA TOURNAMENTS CANCELLED

LAKE HARTWELL OPEN - 6/30-7/1  
RAPID CHESS I - July 15  
KEOWEE KEY RESORT OPEN - 7/20-22  
TIGER I - August 11  
CLEMSON OPEN - August 25-26

#### THAT'S THE SOLUTION!! LAST CHANCE TO ENTER!

Mathias Moersch and James Havey are still the only two participants and there are 3 prizes. This is the last issue of this competition. Prizes will be awarded in October of this year. There is still time to win a prize. The score:

Mathias Moersch 25

James Havey 7

Obviously the positions are more sophisticated than those in Chess Life, generally for players with mixed strength. Readers should not be intimidated if no solution can be found as they are designed for experts and up but are not beyond the reach of an industrious lower rated player.

There are four middle game positions for you to solve in continuous ladder competition.

The prizes are: 1st-Free EF in 1990 Closed Championship, 2nd-\$20 credit against EF in Closed, 3rd-\$10 credit against EF in Closed or free year's subscription to Gambit.

The positions are from games in recent events in Europe and cannot be found in publications in the United States.

If you solve all four you score 16 points, three 10 points, two 5 points and one two points. The standings of the ladder will be published in each Gambit.

The answers involve relatively short combinations but all you need send is the key first move. It would be recommended for the contestant and this writer if you would include the ensuing line.

I emphasize that the published positions are not puzzles but live encounters. In some games the course of the happenings often merges with a maze of 2-3 ways but it is extremely important to look for and find the shortest and safest way to win. An obvious looking win of material instead of a throat cutting mate attack can backfire with time trouble, lapse of concentration or various other loopholes. Tartakower said; "a winning position has to be won yet!" We are going for a refining effect of these positions toward the practical skill of our

players and we are curious how far our players are on the same track of thinking as the masters who are featured in the position.

The deadline for these four problems is August 21, 1990.

Solutions should be sent to Lajos Pagony, 18 Fairfax Avenue, Asheville, NC 28806.

May-June solutions:

1. 1 Nf7 Kf7 2 Bd5 e6 3 Qf3, etc.
2. 1...Qg1
3. 1 Nf7 Rf7 2 Qh5 Qf8 3 Qf7 Qf7 4 Bf7 Kf8 5 Bd5
4. 1 fe fe 2 Nf4 Nf8 3 Na4 Bd2 4 Rd2 Kb8 5 Nc5 Qc8 6 Qa3 g5 7 Ne2 Rh7 8 Rb3



Pos.4, Black to Move



Pos.1, White to Move



Pos.2, Black to Move



Pos.3, White to Move

### GAMES AROUND NORTH CAROLINA

"The 3rd CCLA Championship is now complete. The winner is John Hansen, with a score of 8-2. John, are you out there? I'd like to do an article on you! Tied for second at 6.5-3.5 are Victor Contoski and Joseph Callaway."

"Joseph Callaway shows his form in this game from the CCLA Championship." -NM Alex Dunne from his June 1990 Chess Life article The Check is in the Mail.

Joe Callaway lives in Asheville and is one of America's strongest postal players. Congratulations Joe!

Paul Thompson v. Joseph Callaway. French(Winawer) 1 d4 e6 2 e4 d5 3 Nc3 Bh4 4 e5 c5 5 a3 Bc3 6 bc Ne7 7 Qg4 O-O 8 Nf3 f5 9 ef Rf6 10 Bg5 Qa5 11 Bf6 Qc3 12 Ke2 Ng6 13 dc Qc2 14 Ke1 gf 15 Qd4 Nc6 16 Qf6 e5 17 Nd2 Bf5 18 Rb1 Rf8 19 Qd6 Rd8 20 Qf6 Rd7 21 Bb5 Rf7 22 Qd6 Nf4 23 Rg1 Qc3 24 Rd1 Nd4 25 Qd8 Rf8 26 Qg5 Kh8 27 Rh1 Nc2 28 Kf1 Bd3 0-1

Now for a game from below:

Robert Zboch(1501) v. Clifford Anderson(1618) Ramada 1 c4 e6 2 b3 f5 3 Bb2 Nf6 4 Nf3 d5 5 e3 c6 6 cd ed 7 d4 Bd6 8 Bd3 O-O 9 O-O Qe7 10 Nbd2 Ne4 11 Ne5 Rf6 12 Ne4 fe 13 Bc2 Rh6 14 f3 Qh4 15 Rf2 Qh2 16 Kf1 Be5 17 de Be6 18 fe Nd7 19 ed Qh1 20 Ke2 Bg4 21 Rf3 Qg2 22 Kd3 Bf3 23 Qe1 Be4 24 Kd4 c5 25 Kc4 Qc2 26 Bc3 Qd3 0-1 These players have met twice. The score is even.

# WILMINGTON OPEN

John Kirby (2073) - NM Robin Cunningham (2178) Brilliancy 1  
d4 Nf6 2 e4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6  
5 f3 0-0 6 Be3 e5 7 d5 Nh5 8 Qd2  
Qh4 9 g3 Ng3 10 Qf2 Nf1 11 Qh4  
Ne3 12 Qf2 Nc4 13 b3 Nb6 14 h4 h6  
15 0-0-0 a5 16 Nge2 a4 17 Rhg1  
Bd7 18 Ng3 Kh7 19 Kbl ab 20 ab  
Na6 21 h5 Ne5 22 Kb2 Ra6 23 Qc2  
Ne8 24 Ra1 Rb6 25 Ra3 Ne7 26  
Nge2 e6 27 Nc1 ed 28 Nd5 Nd5 29  
ed Bf5 30 Qg2 e4 31 Ka2 ef 32 Qf2  
Re8 33 hg fg 34 Qf3 Na4! (see  
diagram) 35 Qf5 Nc3 36 Kb2 gf 0-1  
(Ed. John Kirby was kind enough to  
point out that this was a great  
game.)



Position after 34...Na4!  
Kirby-Cunningham

SM Randy Kolvick (2417) - Gary Newsom (2059) 1 c4 e6 2 Nf3 Nf6  
3 g3 b6 4 Bg2 Bb7 5 0-0 Be7 6 d4  
0-0 7 Nc3 Ne4 8 Qc2 Nc3 9 bc d5  
10 Rd1 Nd7 11 cd ed 12 Ne5 Nf6 13  
c4 Qc8 14 cd Nd5 15 Nc6 Bc6 16  
Qc6 Nb4 17 Qa8 Qa8 18 Ba8 Ra8 19  
a3 Nd5 20 Bb2 b5 21 Rac1 Re8 22  
Re6 Nb6 23 Bc1 a5 24 Rd3 b4 25 ab  
Bb4 26 e4 Kf8 27 Ba3 Be7 28 d5  
Ke8 29 f3 Ba3 30 Ra3 Kd7 31 Ra5  
1-0

## --POHL UPSET!--

Mike Loesch (1865) - SM Klaus Pohl (2324) 1 Nf3 Nf6 2 g3 g6 3  
Bg2 Bg7 4 c4 0-0 5 Nc3 d6 6 d4  
Nbd7 7 0-0 e5 8 e4 h6 9 h3 Nh7 10  
Be3 Ng5 11 Ng5 hg 12 Qd2 ed 13  
Bd4 Ne5 14 b3 Be6? 15 f4 gf 16 gf  
Nc6 17 Bg7 Kg7 18 Rael f5 19 Nd5  
Bd5 20 cd Ne7 21 Qd4 Kh7 22 e5  
Rf7 23 Re3 Qh8 24 Qc3 Re8 25 Qb4  
b6 26 ed cd 27 Qd6 Qd8 28 Qe6 Rg7  
29 d6 Ng8 30 Rd1 Nf6 31 Red3 Qh7  
32 Bf3 Kg7 33 Rd4 Re3 34 Qe2 Qh8  
35 Kg2 Qh4 36 R4d3 Rd3 37 Rd3  
Qf4? 38 Bc6 Qg5? 39 Rg3 Qh4 40  
Bd7 ed 41 Qe6 Qe4 42 Qe4 fe 43  
Rg4 cd 44 Re4 Kf6 45 Re3 a6 46  
Kf3 Nc5 47 b4 Nb7 48 d7 Nd8 49  
Re8 1-0

Paul King (1983) - (1876) John Clifford 1 d4 d5 2 e4 e5 3 de  
d4 4 Nf3 Nc6 5 g3 Be6 6 Qa4 Qd7 7  
Qb5 f6 8 Bg2 Bb4 9 Bd2 Bd2 10  
Nbd2 a6 11 Qb3 fe 12 Ng5 b6 13  
Ne6 Qe6 14 Bd5 Qd7 15 Qf3 Ne7 16  
Qf7 Kd8 17 Be6 Qe8 18 Qg7 Ng6 19  
Bd5 Ke8 20 0-0 Kb7 21 b4 Rd8 22  
a4 Kb8 23 b5 Nb4 24 Bg2 a5 25 Ne4  
Rd7 26 Qh6 Qe7 27 Rc1 d3 28 ed  
Nd3 29 Red1 Rhd8 30 Qh5 Rd4 31  
Qf3 Rf8 32 Qe3 Rfd8 33 Nc3 Nb4 34  
Rd4 ed 35 Qf3 c6 36 bc Kc7 37 Nb5  
Kc8 38 Qf5 Kb8 39 c7 1-0

Ulf Hellsten (1834) - Greg Hall (1853) Caro Kann 1 e4 c6 2 d4  
d5 3 e5 Bf5 4 g4?! (usual is Nc3)  
Be4 5 f3 Bg6 6 h4 h5 7 g5 e6 8  
Nh3 Ne7 9 Nf4 Bh7 10 Be3 Bf5 11  
Nd2 Ng6 12 Ng6 Bg6 13 Nb3 Nd7 14  
Bd3 Bd3 15 Qd3 g6 16 f4 a6 17 a4  
Rc8 18 0-0 c5 19 Nc5 Nc5 20 de  
Be5 21 Be5 Re5 22 Ra3 Qb6 23 Rf2  
0-0 24 Rb3 Qc7 25 c3 Re4 26 a5  
Rb8 27 Rb6 Re5 28 Re6! (see  
diagram).



28 Re6! Hellsten-Hall

28...fe 29 Qg6 Qg7 30 Qe6 Kh7 31  
Qd6 Rbc8 32 f5 R8c6 33 g6 Kh8 34  
Qd8 Qg8 35 Qg5 Re7 36 Qh5 Kg7 37  
f6 Kf8 38 g7 Rg7 39 fg Ke7 40 Qg5  
1-0

## WILMINGTON RESERVE

Mark William (unk.) - Matthew Haywood (1553) Brilliancy 1 d4 e6  
2 e3 f5 3 c4 Nf6 4 Nf3 e6 5 Nc3  
d5 6 cd cd 7 Bb5 Bd7 8 0-0 a6 9  
Ba4 b5 10 Bc2 Bd6 11 Nd2 0 0 12  
f4 Be8 13 Nf3 Bh5 14 Qd3 Nbd7 15  
Ne5 Be5 16 fe Ne4 17 Rf4 Qg5 18  
Ne4 fe 19 Qc3 Bf3 20 Qd2 Nb6 21  
b3 Rfe8 22 Kf1 Bg2 23 Ke1 Bf3 24  
Kf1 Rc3! (see diagram) 25 Rf3 ef  
26 Qc3? Qg2 0-1



24...Rc3! William-Haywood

David Rogers (1691) - Eugene Davenport (1746) 1 e4 c5 2 f4 e6  
3 Nf3 Nc6 4 Nc3 a6 5 d4 ed 6 Nd4  
Qc7 7 Nc6 Qe6 8 Rd3 h5 9 a3 Bb7  
10 0-0 Be5 11 Kh1 Nf6 12 Qe2 h5  
13 h3 Ng4! 14 Rf3 Qh6 15 Nd1 f5  
16 b4 Bd4 17 c3 Bf6 18 Be3 Ne3 19  
Re3 fe 20 Be4 0-0-0 21 Bb7 Kb7 22  
Rc1 Rc8 23 Rd3 d5 24 Re3 Rc6 25  
Re2 d4 26 cd Re2 27 Qe2 Rd4 28  
Qe4 Ka7 29 Re2? Rf8 30 Nc3 Re8 31  
Nc2 Bf6 32 g4 hg 33 hg Qd6 34 Kg2  
Rc4 35 Qe3 Kb8 36 Rd2 Qc6 37 Kf1  
Rc2 38 Re2 Qc2 39 Qb6 Ke8 40 Qa6  
Kd7 41 Qb5 Qe6 42 Qd3 Ke7 43 Kf2  
Qd6 44 Qe4 Qd7 45 Kf3 Qc3 46 Qc3  
Bc3 47 Ke4 Kd6 48 b5? Ba5 49 f5  
e5 50 a4 Bd8 51 Ke3 Kd5 52 Kd3 e4  
53 Ke3 Ke5. 0-1 in 57

Brian Davis (1609) - Brian Childers (1763) 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6  
3 Nc3 d5 4 Bg5 c6 5 e3 Bg7 6 Qb3  
Qa5 7 Bf6 Bf6 8 cd 0-0 9 Be4 b5  
10 Be2 b4 11 Ne4 cd 12 Nf6 ef 13  
Nf3 Be6 14 0-0 Qb6 15 a3 Nc6 16  
Rfc1 a5 17 Re5 Rfc8 18 Rac1 h6 19  
g2 Kg7 20 Kg2 Qb7 21 h4 Qb6 22  
Ne1 a4 23 Qd1 ba 24 ba f5 25 Nd3  
g5 26 f4 gf 27 Nf4 Ne7 28 Rb5 Qd6  
29 Re8 Be8 30 Rb4 Bd7 31 Qh1 Ng6  
32 Nh5 Kf8 33 Bd3 Qe7 34 Qe1 Re8  
35 Kf2 f4 36 Nf4 Nf4 37 gf Qh4 38  
Ke2 Re3 0-1

J. S. Blanning (1731) - David Rogers (1691) 1 g3 c5 2 Bg2 Nc6 3  
Nf3 e7 4 d3 d5 5 0-0 h6 6 Bf4 Nf6  
7 Nc3 a6 8 e4 de 9 de Qd1 10 Rad1  
Be7 11 Bd6 Bd6 12 Rd6 Ke7 13 Rfd1  
Rd8 14 Rd8 Nd8 15 Ne5 Nd7 16 Ne4  
Nc6 17 Rd2 Nd4 18 Ne2 Ne2 19 Re2  
e5 20 Rd2 Rb8 21 Bh3 f6 22 f4 b5  
23 Nd6 Nb6 24 Bc8 Nc8 25 Nf5 Kf7  
26 Rd7 Kf8 27 Rd8 Kf7 28 Re8 Rb7?  
29 Nd6 1-0

## WATT'S HAPPENING?

By Derek Slater

While Kolvick was turning in  
politely powerful positional wins  
on the first board at the Billy  
Watt, the A players were tearing  
each other limb from limb. Watch  
the fur fly in these next two  
games.

Curtis Graham (1974) - Darrell Strutton (1816) 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3  
Nc3 Bb4 4 Bd3 c5 5 de d4 6 a3 Be5  
7 Nce2 Nc6 8 b4 Bb6 9 f4 a6 10  
Nf3 Nf6 11 0-0 h6 12 Kh1 Ng4 13  
h3 h5 14 g3. Locking Black's  
Queen out of the Kingside.  
14...Ne3 15 Be3 de 16 c4. 16 e5  
would avoid the ensuing  
complications. But the game as  
played is fascinating and well  
worth an hour's study. White  
seems to be on the edge of  
disaster. 16...e5 17 f5 g6 18 fg  
fg 19 Kg2 g5! 20 h4. Looks like  
White is leading with his chin,  
opening K-side lines. But 20 e5  
Bh3! 21 Kh3 g4 22 Kg2 gf3 23 Rf3  
Bc7 24 Bc4 Qg5 is unclear. Both  
Kings are vulnerable-cowards need  
not apply! 20...gh 21 Nh4 Rg8 22  
Nf5. (see diagram). Forced! Not 22  
Kh3 Rg3-see for yourself.  
22...h4 23 Nc3! Bf5. Perhaps  
23...Qg5. Black's King proves  
more endangered than his twin. 24  
Rf5 Rg3 25 Kh2 e2 26 Qe2 Rd3 27  
Nd5 Rd5 28 ed5 Ne7 29 Rh5 Ng6 30  
Qe4 Qf6 31 Rf1 Nf4 32 Re5 Kd7 33  
Rf4 Qg7 34 Qf5. 1-0



22 Nf5

Charles Watson(1821)-Lee Zinzow(1811) 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 ab 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 O-O b5 6 Bb3 Be7 7 Re1 O-O 8 c3 d6 9 h3 Na5 10 Be2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 12 d5 Ne8 13 Bbd2 f5. This is fine-if Black can recapture on f5 with a pawn! Otherwise, as in this game, White's control of e4 is overpowering. Watch what happens to Black's Kingside light squares: 14 ef Bf5 15 Ne4 h6 16 Ng3 Be2 17 Qc2 Nf6 18 Bh6? Too fast. The immediate 18 Qg6! exploits holes all over the northeast. For example: 18...Kh8(if ...Nd5 19 Qe6) 19 Nf5 Rg8 20 Ng5 hg 21 Bg5 threatens Bf6 and/or Re4-h4. So Black is reduced to 19...Bd8 20 g4 with a truly tedious defense ahead. White squares. White squares. 18...e4 19 Ng5 gh 20 Ne6 Qd7 21 Re3 Kh8 22 Nf5. Graham Glen pointed out 21 Ne4 with better chances(...Nd5 22 Ne5!) to get White's pieces into the attack. But the early sac on h6 squandered an overwhelming advantage. 22...Rg8 23 Nh6 Rg6 24 Ng4 R8g8 25 Nf6 Rg2 26 Kh1 Bf6 27 Qc4 Nc4 28 Qf5 Qf7 29 Rf3 Be5 30 Qe5 Ne5 31 Rf7 Qf7 32 Re1 Ne5 33 Ne4 Rf2. 0-1

Art Young(1414)-Kevin Dupuis(1583) 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 Nc3 Nc4 5 Ne5 Ne5 6 Be7 Nf7 7 Ne4 b6 8 d4 Bb7 9 d5 Qe7 10 Qd4 Qe5 11 Be3 Qd5 12 Qd5 Bd5 13 f3 Be4 14 fe O-O 15 O-O Nd6 16 e5 Nc4 17 Bg5 Bc5 18 Kh1 Rde8 19 Rael Re5 20 Re5 Ne5 21 h3 Rf8 22 Re1 Nc6 23 b3 Nb4 24 Be7 Re8 25 Bh4 Re1 26 Be1 Nc2 27 Be3 Bd4 28 Bd2 Ne3 29 g4 Nd5 30 Kg2 Kd8 31 Ke3 c5 32 Ke4 Nc3 33 Ke5 g6 34 Kf4 Na2 35 Kg5 Bg7 36 Bf4 Ke7 37 Bb8 a6 38 Ba7 d6 39 Bb6 Nc1. 0-1

Dear David,

Something terrible has happened: I finally got a job.

Due to my resultant move to Boston, I'm forced to offer my resignation as Games Editor of the NCCA Gambit. I really regret this necessity because I've enjoyed working with Wilder; I think the magazine is really "going places" and fully expect further improvements and growth during your editorial tenure.

Best of Luck!

Derek Slater  
262 Union Ave. #66  
Framington, Mass. 01701  
(508)820-7236

## Master

### LAND OF THE SKY WINNER ANNOTATES GAME FOR GAMBIT!

(Donaldson is Associate Editor for Inside Chess)

IM JOHN DONALDSON - IM KARL BURGER English Opening

1 e4 e5 (This was already a surprise for me. I expected 1...e6 with a likely transposition

to the Queen's Gambit Declined, a favorite of Dr. Burger) 2 Nc3 c5 (with this move, which will soon lead play into the Botvinnik variation of the English-c5, d6, e5 pawn structure-my opponent signals his aggressive intentions. Having scored a fine victory over GM Roman Dzindzichashvili the night before Dr. Burger is still hungry for more points. With the text he yields the d5 square but in return gets an ironclad grip on d4). 3 g3 Nc6 4 Bg2 g6 5 a3 a5 (a necessary move as 5...Bg7 would be strongly met by 6 b4! When 6...cb 7 ab Nb4 8 Ba3 yields white excellent compensation for the pawn) 6 Nf3 Bg7 7 O-O Nge7?! (This move looks as natural as can be but it's a mistake. To understand why it's helpful to know what White is trying to achieve. The first player would like to put a N on d5. However, if he puts the Knight on c3 there(d5) Black will be able to break with...b5. Keeping this in mind it becomes clear that the right way to play for White is Nf3-c1-c2-c3-d5. However, this maneuver takes a lot of time and with careful play Black should be able to meet it. One way is by 7...d6. Then if 8 Nc1 Black has 8...Be6 when 9 Nd5 is met by Rb8 and ...b5. On 9 d3 Black has 9...Nge7 when 10 Nc2, threatening 11 Ne3, is met by 10...d5 with immediate equality. After 7...d6 play might go 8 d3 Nge7 9 Bd2 O-O 10 Rb1 Rb8 with equal chances.) 8 Ne1! (Now 8...d6 9 Nc2 Be6 is met by 10 Ne3 stopping ...d5.) 8...O-O 9 Nc2 d6 10 Ne3?! (This was played too quickly. Better is 10 Rb1 or 10 d3. The Knight should stay on c2 where it supports the b4 break until the Black Bishop comes to e6. The reason for this is once...Be6 is played White's Nd5 gains in strength as Black can only capture the intruder with his Bishop. Without ...Be6 the N on d5 can be eliminated by...Nd5 with few problems for the second player.) 10...Rb8 (aiming at a future...b5 and also allowing White's b4 break to be answered by...b6) 11 Rb1 Bd7 (As mentioned before 11...Re6 would be strongly met by 12 Ned5. With the Bishop on d7 12 Ned5 is met by 12...Nd5 with no problems for the second player) 12 d3 h6 13 Rd2 Kh7 14 Nb5 (A multi-purpose move which prepares the way for b4 while trying to provoke Black's Bishop to e6.) 14...Re6 15 Nd5 Rd5?! (This gives White the Bishop pair and more space. Better was 15...Qd7 with only a small edge for White.) 16 ed Nd4 17 Nd4 ed 18 Qa4 b6 19 b4 ab 20 ab b5?! (This is aggressive but suffers from the fact that it loosens up Black's Queenside pawns and opens the position for White's bishops.) 21 Qa6 Rb6 22 Qa2 (White's Queen maneuver has generated some confusion in

Black's ranks, whereas the immediate 21 Qa2 could have been met by 21 Ra8. After the text Black's rook is clumsily placed and must get out of the way of bc and Ba5) 22 /...Qd7 Rfel Rc8 24 Re2 (White's plan is very simple - hit the c5 pawn. Black has both a difficult position and little time 16 moves in 14 minutes. 24 Rb7 25 bc dc 26 d6 Ra7 27 Qf7 Qd6 28 Bb5 Ral 29 Rcl Re1 30 Be1 e4 (Desperately trying to generate some counterplay but White's position is too solid) 31 dc Rf8 (Trying to almost trip the Queen but...) 37 c5 Qe5 33 Qc4 and now with almost no time and two pawns down Dr. Burger resigned. This game was especially memorable to me because it not only helped to tie but also put my post tournament rating at 2601 - my first time over 2600 in 18 years of tournament chess.



20...b5?! Donaldson-Burger

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

7/7-8/90-US Junior Open  
7/7/90-Ramada  
7/21/90-Deacon Zombie 2  
7/21/90-Ramada  
1/21-29/90-LPO 16  
8/4/90-Ramada  
8/18-19/90-Amateur Team 2  
9/1/90-Ramada  
9/8/90-PKB XXX  
9/22/90-Psalm 64 Verse 1  
9/22/90-Ramada  
10/6/90-PKB XXXI  
10/19-21/90-Closed Championship  
10/20/90-October Scholastics  
10/27/90-PKB XXXII  
11/3/90-Airborne 2  
11/90-Invitational Champ. tba  
11/17/90-PKB XXXIII  
11/23-25/90-Onslow Inn Gran Prix  
1/18-20/91-Land of Sky IV  
2/2/91-PKB XXXIV  
2/23/91-PKB XXXV  
4/20/91-Billy Watt XII

### THE TOURNAMENT CLEARINGHOUSE

Tournament organizers and directors should always consult Robert Singletary before scheduling their events. Robert maintains the tournament calendar and he can make sure that your event does not conflict with other tournaments. If you can find a site Robert is willing to direct for you. Call or write him at his NEW NUMBER AND ADDRESS: 5901-C Shadetree Lane, Raleigh, NC 27613, (919) 881-8482

NEW CMSCA OFFICERS

It has been nearly seven years since I served as editor for my High School Newspaper, an eight page escapade which regularly featured articles such as "Library Adds New Volumes" and "Health Teacher, Mr. Edson: A Profile".

It is therefore with a great deal of excitement and just a little trepidation that I accept the Editorship of The Gambit. I feel that this position not only carries with it a great deal of responsibility, but will also be a great way for me to be active in the NCCA and help promote the Organization and Chess in general.

For those of you not familiar with me, I first encountered the NCCA in 1983 playing in my first RAM Tournament (which was actually my first Tournament at all). This is where I met (who else) Robert Singletary, who prompted me to join the organization. I am assuredly not the only person who has been so influenced by Robert and I, as well as the NCCA, have much for which to thank him (not in the least being the fifteen dollars I still owe you!).

Currently, I am a senior at Davidson College where I will receive my B.A. in English this coming May. While not as active in tournament play as I would like to be, one of my favorite avocations has been working with the Charlotte Mecklenburg Scholastic Chess Association. The CMSCA has just come off its strongest year ever under the direction of Kim Baxter, Susan Stepp, Barbara Dupuis, Boyana Stamatovich, Lyn Hudson, John Welch and the numerous other volunteers with whom it has been my privilege to work.

Special tribute should go to the CMSCA head coach Will Wharton, whose dedication and hard work is the backbone of that organization (kids also relate with Will's mentality).

As I look at the NCCA's recent progress and the months and years ahead of us, I am confident and ambitious. Membership is increasing, NC tournaments are hitting new participation levels and the NCCA can look to strong leadership and guidance from its officers.

I look forward to meeting those of you who are not yet friends and encourage you to drop me a note or a game whenever you have the chance. Finally, my thanks to Wilder Wadford, who not only did the lion's share of the work on this issue, but has been a great help in getting me started.

President  
First VP  
Second VP  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Travel Fund Coordinator  
Evening Class Coordinator  
High School Team Liaison  
Local Tournament Organizer  
Mailings  
Membership  
Newsletter  
Out-of-Town Tournaments  
Publicity  
School Club Liaison  
School System Liaison  
Tournament Director  
Chess Association Liaison

Susan Stepp, East Mecklenburg  
Barbara Dupuis, Union County  
Lyn Hudson, Cotswold  
Sharon Rocco, Myers Park Traditional  
John and Betty Welch, McClintock  
Sarah Sumner, McClintock  
Beth Rose Oxman, First Ward  
Bob Yost, West Charlotte  
Nolan Tomboulion, Piedmont Middle  
Roger Hackett, Barringer  
Sue McFarland, McClintock  
Peggy Obrikat, Lansdowne  
Christina Getz, Barringer  
Sue Saleh, Lansdowne  
Boyana Stamatovich, First Ward  
Thom Sumner, McClintock  
Paul Sharer, Country Day  
Ken Baxter

Winners in 1990 CMSCA SCHOLASTIC CHAMPIONSHIP:

Section 1: 1st.- Wade Doster 2nd.- Kevin Dupuis 3rd.- Derek Stepp	Section 2: 1st.- Sean Jones 2nd.- Justin Oxman 3rd.- Alex Gnlika
Section 3: 1st.- Nolan Yeung 2nd.- Vinu Kumar 3rd.- Ellen Jarjour	Section 4: 1st.- Travis Shaw 2nd.- Chas Oliphant 3rd.- David Loveless
Section 5: 1st.- Kadi Stepp 2nd.- Goldwyn Parker 3rd.- Zachary Yeskel	Section 6: 1st.- Todd Trower 2nd.- Samuel Clinton 3rd.- Jamie Rink
Section 7: 1st.- Jimmy Smith 2nd.- Chris Collins 3rd.- Brock Pittman	

This Tournament drew 63 scholastic players and we congratulate each one of them.

HIGH SCHOOL- Kansas City- April 27-29

Team Trophies: West Charlotte- 49th Place- Division I  
East Mecklenburg- 12th Place- Division II

Individual: Wade Doster, West Meck., Outstanding Performance- Division I.  
Gillian Sharer, Country Day, Outstanding Performance- Division I.  
Bill DeArney, East Meck., Outstanding Performance- Division II.

JUNIOR HIGH- SALT LAKE CITY- MAY 4-6

Team Trophies: McClintock Jr. High- 6th place

Individuals: Ryan Deering, McClintock, 19th place.  
Joey Yandle, Carmel Jr. High, 24th place- 8th & under.  
David Oneil, Country Day, 18th place- 8th & under.  
Ben Blackmon, Hawthorne, Outstanding performance- JV Division.

ELEMENTARY DIVISION- Hollywood, Fla.- May 11-12

Team Trophies: First Ward- 5th place  
Cotswold- 13th place  
Barringer- 22nd place  
Piedmont Middle School- 21st place- JV Division  
Myers Park Traditional- 28th place- JV Division

Individual: Michael Klein, Barringer, 11th place  
Kevin Dupuis, First Ward, 27th place  
Tarak Shaw, Cotswold, 26th Place- JV Division  
Lee Hudson, Cotswold, 15th Place-Primary Division

NCCA's Top 100 Rated Members As Of July 1, 1990  
July 1990 Rating List Used  
North Carolina Residents Only

Rank	Name	Rating	City	Rank	Name	Rating	City
1	Timothy W Taylor	2461	Jacksonville	51	John Clifford	1890	Wilmington
2	Randy S Kolvick	2413	Harrisburg	52	Mathias Moersch	1887	Chapel Hill
3	Greg Samsa	2370	Hurdle Mills	53	Marqx Scott	1887	Charlotte
4	Stephen E Tarin	2310	Durham	54	James Troy	1886	Carrboro
5	Maurice F Dana	2260	Raleigh	55	Gregory K Hall	1885	Salisbury
6	Daniel H Liu	2242	Raleigh	56	Chris D Worley	1875	Belmont
7	Lee Taylor	2215	Huntersville	57	Carlos W Reina	1867	Chapel Hill
8	Neal Harris	2210	Old Fort	58	Larry U Williams	1867	Fayetteville
9	Mark Brodie	2188	Charlotte	59	Gillian Sharer	1864	Charlotte
10	John E Lane	2178	Charlotte	60	Dave Richards	1860	Charlotte
11	Mark I Smith-Soto	2172	Greensboro	61	Robert R Fentress	1858	New Bern
12	Matthew A Noble	2161	Wake Forest	62	Jeff Plummer	1858	Charlotte
13	Bernard Schmidt	2132	Raleigh	63	Thomas J Powell	1856	Charlotte
14	Derek C Slater	2131	Cary	64	Billy Covington	1854	Winston-Salem
15	Shawn Hoshall	2115	Winston-Salem	65	David Griffin	1846	Charlotte
16	Leland Fuerstman	2112	Charlotte	66	Mark H Allen	1840	Asheville
17	James Watson	2107	Rocky Mount	67	Robert C Moore	1836	Charlotte
18	Alan V Patrick	2089	Cary	68	Ulf H Hellsten	1834	Wilmington
19	John Kirby	2073	Charlotte	69	Robert Jarchow	1833	Cary
20	Robert P Spurrier	2067	Kernersville	70	Herbert Nagin	1831	Hendersonville
21	David Haimes	2062	High Point	71	William Foster	1828	Raleigh
22	Gary Newsom	2047	Thomasville	72	Donald Miller	1826	Morehead City
23	Ron L Dennis	2039	Wilmington	73	Norman L Neel	1826	Carrboro
24	Ken J Baxter	2036	Charlotte	74	Charles R Watson	1821	Rural Hall
25	Chris A Kremer	2033	Chapel Hill	75	Frankie Newton	1818	Lincolnton
26	Jeffrey G Walsh	2031	Jacksonville	76	Bill Adickes	1816	Asheville
27	David Erb	2017	Raleigh	77	Michael Bellows	1813	Southport
28	James A Johnson III	2016	Asheville	78	Joe Swindler	1810	Greensboro
29	Ronnie S Sands	2003	Greensboro	79	Clarke Brosi	1808	Charlotte
30	Thomas Sloan	2000	Greensboro	80	Timothy Brenneman	1804	Raleigh
31	Gary L Branton	1998	Statesville	81	Chad Johnson	1788	Charlotte
32	Frank V Necci	1982	Asheboro	82	Wilder Wadford	1781	Weaverville
33	James Dutton	1978	Charlotte	83	Leon Sellards	1778	Mateo
34	Marvin S Chappell	1973	Kings Mountain	84	Terry Maskin	1775	Charlotte
35	Ralph Lombard	1972	Charlotte	85	Paul F Lucas	1772	Charlotte
36	Steve Posnanski	1972	Charlotte	86	Eugene F Davenport	1771	Wilmington
37	Paul L King	1966	Fayetteville	87	Jackie Ryan	1760	Charlotte
38	Kevin Kirby	1965	Charlotte	88	Bradley Fowler	1751	King
39	John W Thompson Jr.	1963	Greensboro	89	Gregory Bunich	1747	Charlotte
40	Tony Magee	1958	Knightdale	90	Peter Groves	1741	Chapel Hill
41	Robert J Eoff	1950	Asheville	91	David L Moose	1738	Jamestown
42	Richard D Smith	1948	Kernersville	92	John Thomas	1729	Lenoir
43	Ivan Lenders	1934	Charlotte	93	Terry L Bridges	1722	Lincolnton
44	Arthur Menius	1922	Pittsboro	94	James Blanning	1721	Shellotte
45	Bryan H Burke	1920	Wake Forest	95	Joe Yandle	1717	Charlotte
46	Scott Roods	1920	Havelode	96	Robert N Singletary	1700	Raleigh
47	Michael Loesch	1905	Cary	97	Rnhert Lawrence	1698	Beaufort
48	David M Jaap	1903	Salisbury	98	Elizabeth Vicary	1694	Raleigh
49	Stephan A Herman	1899	Marion	99	David H Rogers	1691	Raleigh
50	Ambrous Jacobs	1893	Fayetteville	100	Al Lipkin	1688	Banner Elk

# Team Championship

## NOTE THE RATING CEILING OF 1899 IN THE AMATEUR SECTION

AUGUST 18-19, NC CLOSED TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP, 5-SS or RR if necessary, 40/90, SD/1, 4 man teams with optional alternate. EF: \$50 per team (in advance please if at all possible); 2 Sections; OPEN: average rating not more than 2100 and AMATEUR: average rating not more than 1700 (no player in excess of 1899). \$\$ Open: \$250-100, Amateur: \$200-100; Board Prizes 1-4 each section \$20 per board. Plaques with engraved teammates' names to first team in each section. Rounds 9-2-7 and 9-2. NCCA membership and residency required (military & students are residents). No 1/2 point byes. No Withdrawal without TD approval, a fight to finish. Unrated players deemed to be 50 points less than next Board teammate rating (e.g. Unrated placed on Board 4, Board 3 is 1850, Unrated classified as 1800 for the tournament.) Board order in rating order but with one exception: if 2 teammates differ by less than 50 points, they may switch boards. If more than 50 points, must play up. Alternates must play on proper board according to rating (50 pt. rule here too); e.g. Board 1 (2200) wants a rest, alternate (1800), teammates must shift up until alternate sits at correct Board. No consultation or analysis of position on board allowed, consultation limited to standings only (e.g. Board 1 asks Captain if he should take draw offer. Captain decides on 1/2 point in standings, not on playability of game.) Elect Captain who is responsible for EF, decisions at tournament and logistics.

LOCATION: Government House, 201 S. McDowell St., Charlotte, 1-800-762-1995 and 704-372-7550, HR: \$36 up to 4 in room. Call in advance - rooms limited.

Teams should ideally be regionally organized and an even number of teams so there will be no byes (Pew! This is a battle

game.) The following people are regional organizers and are responsible for entering teams:

Asheville (2) - 1 up & 1 down  
Wilder Wadford 704-645-4216  
Charlotte (6) - 3 up & 3 down  
Leland Fuerstman 704-523-2181  
RDCH (4) - 2 up & 2 down  
Robert Singletary 919-881-8482  
Jack/Wilm. (2) - 1 up & 1 down  
Jeff Walsh 919-346-8349

ANYONE MAY FORM A TEAM - PLEASE ENTER IN ADVANCE - NOTE EARLY START ON SATURDAY - IDEALLY WE NEED AN EVEN NUMBER OF TEAMS - IF YOU WANT TO PLAY BUT CAN'T FIND A TEAM CALL THE TEAM CLEARING HOUSE AND WE'LL PAIR YOU UP WITH A TEAM. CONTACT WILDER WADFORD at (704)645-4215 or 4216 AND LEAVE MESSAGE WITH SECRETARY OR MACHINE (name, rating, telephone #, section preference if any, first come first paired).

Cash Prizes increased - new prizes created if more than 16 teams enter. Greater emphasis on new prizes so lower classes in section can win too.

AUGUST 17 - BLITZ & BEER. 8 p.m. until. EF: \$5, 4 man RR, each play Black & White, play as many RR's as you want. \$15 to winner, \$5 profit margin for Beer, soft drinks, room rental.

IMPORTANT: ORGANIZE EARLY! TEAM PLAY REQUIRES COORDINATION OF PIECES. THAT'S THE BEST PART. IT'S TRULY A SOCIAL EVENT, FUN AND UNIQUE. "The comradeship of a team format made this a memorable journey. One of the best tournaments ever held in North Carolina." - Tim Loesch

"...chess is a social sport!...the spirit of teamwork...measure of my success was my contribution to the team not my personal score...friendly tournaments...to share victories and defeats...a game, a community, an experience worth sharing." - Don Maddox, Chess Life.

"I was clearly losing...I was not playing alone...I had to draw...my heart, mind and adrenalin pushed me...never have I savored a draw more." - Wilder Wadford. March 1990 Gambit.

HERB HORTON: SPONSOR - THANKS AGAIN HERB FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

## TOURNAMENTS

July 7. US Junior Open, see Chess Life for details.

July 7. Ramada. 3-SS, 40/90, 30/1, no S/D. Ramada Inn, 600 S. Kings Drive, Charlotte, 704-377-6800, HR: \$35 in advance. In two sections. \$100 first each section. EF: \$20. NCCA mem. req. Reg. 9-9:45am, Rds. 10-2:30-7. Ent: Leland Fuerstman, 320 Seneca Place, Charlotte, NC 28210. 704-523-2181.

July 21. Deacon Zombie. 3-SS, 40/90, SD/30, Wingate Hall, WF Univ., Winston-Salem, Take I-40 Siler's Creek Pkwy. N., look for signs at Wake Chapel. 3 Sections: Open, 1400-1799, U1400. EF: \$7 in advance, \$8 at site. NCCA mem. req. \$50 40-10 each section. Reg. 9-9:45am, Rds. 10-2-6. Ent: Robert Singletary, 5901-C Shadetree Ln., Raleigh, NC 27613 (919)881-8482. NS NC

July 21. Ramada.

July 27-29. LPO 16. See inside for details.

August 4. Ramada.

August 18-19. Team Championship. See inside for details.

September 1. Ramada.

September 8. PKB XXX. Same as Zombie. NCSU Student Union (Cates Ave. & Morrill Rd.).

September 22. Ramada.

September 22. Psalm 64 Verse 1. Same as Zombie. Calvary Baptist Church, Peace Haven Road, Winston-Salem. "Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint; preserve my life from dread of the enemy."

October 6. PKB XXXI

October 19-21 Closed Class Championship. See next issue for details.

October 20. October Scholastics. See next issue for details.

October 27. PKB XXXII

November 3. Airborne 2. Senior Citizen Service Ctr., 739 Blue St. (off Bragg Blvd./NC 24 one mile NW of town) Fayetteville. Same as Zombie except: EF \$9 in advance, \$10 at site. Under 18 EF \$5. \$50-15 each section. Prize fund increased if over 30 players in tournament, redistributed if less than 6 in a section.

November 17. PKB XXXIII

November 23-25. Onslow Inn Grand Prix. Jacksonville. \$1000 Guaranteed. IM Tim Taylor will play and give simultaneous on Friday. EF 17.50 in advance & \$20 at site. Jeff Walsh Director and Organizer. More detail next issue.

January 18-20. Land of Sky IV  
February 2. PKB XXXIV

February 23. PKB XXXV

April 20. Billy Watt XII

Wednesday: Seahawk Chess Club, Wilmington, UNC-W Student Union Bldg. Contact Ulf Hellsten 919-458-5539.

Thursday: Salisbury Club, Rowan Public Library, 7 to 9pm, contact Fred Quick (704)636-9265.

Thursday: Winston Salem Chess Club 7:00 until, Shoney's, University Parkway.

Friday: Raleigh Chess Club, 7:00 until, Kiwanis Park Recreation Center, 2525 Noble Rd. Contact Ed Bergmark at 919-755-6434, 919-847-1309 and 919-782-7383.

Sunday: USO/Jacksonville Chess Club, 1:00pm until late evening. USO, 9 Tallman St. Lots of speed chess and match play. Contact Jeff Walsh, 202 Johnson Boulevard, Jacksonville, NC 28540, 919-846-8349.

Mind Warriors Club: no set place or time, call Mike Kesselring (704)488-9626 or Avram Friedman (704)586-8729.

## CHESS CLUBS

Monday & Wednesday: Greensboro Club. Folk Recreation Ctr., 3910 Clifton Rd., 7 to 10pm, call R.H. Ward (919)852-2854.

Wednesday: Asheville Chess Club. North Asheville Community Center, 6:30-10:30pm. Contact David Perkins 704-254-7537, Alan Comer 704-253-3058, John Walker 704-669-7061, 669-6891 or Club 704-258-2453.

Wednesday: Charlotte Chess Club, Shoney's, 440 S. Ind. Blvd., Full scale 40/90, 30/60 tournament chess featured each meeting. Contact Leland Fuerstman, 704-523-2181.

Wednesday: Fayetteville Knights, Fayetteville at Senior Citizens Service Center, Blue St. (off the Bragg Blvd. near Kagny's). Call Mike Chromczak 919-897-2117, Paul King 919-822-2774, Larry Williams 919-425-6754.

CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL.



Is your NCCA membership about to expire?

**Team Championship**

**AUGUST 18-19, 1990  
MAKE PLANS NOW!**



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