

THE NORTH CAROLINA CHESS BULLETIN  
Volume II, #1 - 2 (Double number), January - April, 1952

Editor: Kit Crittenden, 1537 Caswell St., Raleigh, N.C.

Here are the results of the North Carolina Closed Championship, held April 4 - 6 at Durham:

1. Kit Crittenden, Raleigh	W2 W20 D11 W13 W3	4½ - ½	12½
2. J. U. Gunter, Durham	L1 W9 W18 W6 W5	4 - 1	14½
3. A. G. Ashbrook, Charlotte	W12 W8 W13 W7 L1	4 - 1	14½
4. P. L. Cromelin, Charlotte	L6 W12 W17 W10 W7	4 - 1	12
5. W. J. Peters, Durham	W8 W6 L7 W11 L2	3 - 2	15½
6. G. C. Harwell, Durham	W4 L5 W14 L2 W12	3 - 2	15
7. T. E. Lickens, Pineville	W17 W19 W5 L3 L4	3 - 2	13
8. Marcelo y Vedia, Durham	L5 L3 W16 W18 W13	3 - 2	11½
9. A. H. Gaede, Charlotte	L20 L2 W20 W17 W11	3 - 2	9½
10. R. L. Hubbard, Chapel Hill	L18 W15 W20 L4 W17	3 - 2	8½
11. W. Crowder, Greensboro	W16 W14 D1 L5 L9	2½ - 2½	13½
12. L. H. Wallace, Smithfield	L3 L4 W15 W14 L6	2 - 3	14½
13. D. A. Kahn, Charlotte	W15 W18 L3 L1 L8	2 - 3	14
14. W. Bonners, New Bern	W19 L11 L6 L12 W18	2 - 3	9½
15. J. H. Scalos, Durham	L13 L10 L12 D16 W20	1½ - 3½	9½
16. W. S. Steward, Chapel Hill	L11 L17 L8 D15 W19	1½ - 3½	9
17. H. R. Weeks, Durham	W10 L13 L2 L8 L14	1 - 4	14½
18. T. J. Baxter, New Bern	W10 L13 L2 L8 L14	1 - 4	14
19. V. A. Davidian, Smithfield	L14 L7 L9 W20 L16	1 - 4	10½
20. W. Chapman, Durham	W9 L1 L10 L19 L15	1 - 4	7½

Kit Crittenden, 18 year old student at the University of North Carolina, successfully defended his title to the state championship by taking first place in the annual tournament. Dr. J. U. Gunter climaxed a year's retirement from chess by tying for second with Dr. A. G. Ashbrook, who once again had the misfortune to lose in the last round when needing only a draw to clinch a tourney. Paul Cromelin was the last of the 4 - 1 trio; he played perhaps the most interesting chess of the weekend. The prize for the highest ranking unseeded player went to T. E. Lickens, with 3 - 2.

There were several notable features of the tournament. One of these was the fine play, which this time was not limited to any one or two persons. Players all down the line were giving their best, the result being that there are many more publishable games from this event than from former N.C. affairs. Another feature worth noting was the good showing of what is generally called "youth." There were seven participants of college age, and five of these made an even score or better. We hope that this interest on the part of the younger players will continue.

The most important item of the business meeting was the adoption of the new constitution, prepared by Ephraim Solkoff. This document was composed with such care that only a few minor changes were made before its adoption. Mr. Solkoff deserves the thanks of the Association for his care in drawing up the constitution.

The Association is also indebted to Mr. Sam A. Nello, who served as tournament director. He sacrificed playing in the tournament to being its director, a task which he performed with great efficiency.

The following were elected as officers: President: Dr. George C. Harwell; Vice President: A. Henry Gaede; Secretary-Treasurer, W. J. Peters; and the members of the Executive Board (One year term): Dr. A. G. Ashbrook, R. C. Harris; (Two year terms): E. Solkoff, T. J. Baxter; (Three year terms): Dr. V. A. Davidian, C. Adickes, Jr.



Continuing their rivalry, the DURHAM CHESS CLUB and the RALEIGH CHESS CLUB played two matches recently. The first, played in Durham, ended in a 9 - 2 rout by the home team. The return match in Raleigh was more of a battle, but Durham once again came out winner, by a 5 - 4 score.

The UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA CHESS CLUB has been active recently. They defeated Davidson College 3 - 1 in a match, lost to Columbia University, the U. S. Champions, by a  $\frac{1}{2}$  -  $3\frac{1}{2}$  score (draw in the Hearst Crittenden game), and won the SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIP. This last took place in Charlottesville, Virginia, at The University there. U. N. C. first defeated the U. of Va. by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  -  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , and then Richmond College by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  -  $\frac{1}{2}$  to win the tournament and the championship. Crittenden, playing first board for Carolina, was awarded a book and the unexpected title "Southern Intercollegiate Champion."

The CHARLOTTE CHESS CLUB, playing a match in the Wade Hampton Hotel in Columbia, S. C. May 25 - 26, tied two makee locals, 4 - 4. All the Charlotte players scored 1 - 1, while Rogan and Trihey had 2 - 0 for Columbia. The line-ups:

Charlotte		Columbia		Charlotte		Columbia	
1. Ashbrook	0	Rogan	1	Ashbrook	1	Foster	0
2. Gaede	1	Edelsburg	0	Gaede	0	Rogan	1
3. Ginter	0	Trihey	1	Ginter	1	Smith	0
4. Ross	$\frac{1}{2}$	Birch	$\frac{0}{2}$	Ross	$\frac{0}{2}$	Trihey	$\frac{1}{2}$
	2		2		2		2

Charlotte had the White pieces in the first session, Columbia in the second.

There is a tournament for the city championship. Sixteen players are participating and each is to play two games with every other player. At last report, Gaede and Cromelin led with 2 - 0, but the fight has just begun!

The dates for the U. S. Open Tournament, to be held in Tampa, Florida, are July 14th through July 25th. The site will be the Floridian Hotel. We have received a letter from the Chairman of the Finance Committee. This letter concerns the prize fund of \$1000 that has been guaranteed, and also the minimum of \$2000 that must be raised. "All chess players in the South are being given an opportunity to contribute to this fund. Your cooperation and a liberal donation in any amount will be very, very much appreciated. All checks should be made payable to Eli Solomon, Treasurer, U.S.C.F. Tournament, and mailed to him direct at 822 Franklin St., Tampa 2, Florida."

Since this tournament is the most important one held in the United States open to all players, it is worthy of all the support we can give it. And especially now that it will be held in the South for this year, should we try to make it a success. Let's do as much as we can.

In ASHEVILLE, the indefatigable H. C. Adickes has arranged a spate of tournament for local players. There are to be, in addition to the City Championship, a Junior Chess Championship and a Woodpusher's Tournament.

A tournament there among forty school-age players was recently held. More details are promised.

The Brown Book Company, "headquarters for chess equipment," is planning to co-operate with the local group in what the bulletin we have received calls "chess entertainment for the community." We don't know exactly what this means, but it sounds good.

It has come to your Editor's attention that the month following April is not June. Somehow, information to the contrary crept into the tournament announcements in the last Bulletin. We hope that North Carolina chess enthusiasts, faithful to the letter of your Editor's word, did not, about May 13, besiege Mr. R. C. Harris of the Community Center in Wilmington with importunate questions like "Where are the chess players?"

But - this month, June, on the 13th, 14th, and 15th, there will be held the



H. C. OPEN TOURNAMENT. It will be a six round Swiss affair, or five rounds if less than 33 contestants show up. Registration is set for 7 o'clock Friday. And Mr. R. C. Harris, whose address is above, will welcome entries and requests for information.

As this is the Open tournament, many "furriners" are expected. Already, rumor has it, strong players from New York and Washington plan to compete. Karl Burger plans to enter. As you will remember, he placed third in the 1951 Open. Jimmy Sherwin, U. S. Intercollegiate Champion, may also be there. And Malcolm Wiener, Washington, D.C., star, proposes to come. Kit Crittenden, H. C. Champion, will of course be on hand to try and repel the invaders. Why don't you come on and take your chance of beating the experts? There will be good times and good chess for all.

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The following games are from the Championship Tournament. First is the deciding game:

A. G. Ashbrook - K. Crittenden, #23

(Notes by the Editor)

1 P-Q4 P-Q4  
2 N-QB4 P-QB3  
3 N-QB3 N-B3  
4 N-B3 P-K3  
5 P-K3 QN-Q2

An old system for defense, its main advantage is its solidity.

6 PxP ...

But this is a mistake, as Black can capture with his KP and free his Queen Bishop. Also, as White has shut in his QN with P-K3, this exchange makes it easier for Black to form his plan of development than if the tension had not been let up. Black decides to place his pieces aggressively.

6 ... KPxP

7 B-Q3 B-Q3

8 B-Q2 ...

This Bishop is fated for mere existence and no action, as it will be confirmed by pawns on its own color.

8 ... O-O

9 N-N6 ...

Means nothing and wastes tempi.

9 ... P-B4

As White is attacking prematurely, before completing his development, his opponent tries to open things up a little and take advantage of his development, if possible. Ashbrook rightly plays with caution.

10 O-O P-KR3

11 N-B3 P-QR3

12 R-B1 P-QN3

13 B-N1 B-N2

14 N-QR4 N-K5

Black's advantage consists in control of K5 and possibilities of a K-side attack. White has faint chances on the Q-side, but as these are hampered by a conglomeration

of pieces there. White should not, however, indulge in the following time consuming Queen moves.

15 Q-B2 R-B1

16 Q-Q3 P-B4

17 Q-N3 P-B5

Black, before indulging in a King side assault, makes the Queen side as stable as possible. Patience is the word.

18 Q-Q1 ...

We are now back where we were at move 15, except that it is Black's move and he has gained three tempi.

18 ... P-KN4

19 N-K1, ...

Best, he tries to stop things before they get really started.

19 ... P-N5

20 P-B4 PxPc.p.

21 KRxP QN-B3

22 BxN ...

RxKBP would be met by R-QB2 and B-B1, gaining several moves.

22 ... BPxB

23 R-KB2 R-QB2

24 P-KN3 ...

HxP, R-N2 must be fatal for White.

Now it only remains for Black to bring his last piece into the battle.

24 ... B-B1 27 B-K1 B-N5

25 N-N2 R-N2 28 Q-Q2 B-B6

26 R-B2 K-R2 29 N-B4 ...

If N-R4, BxP!

29.... Q-K1

This simple move threatens both the N and ...BxN, 31 PxN, P-K6. White's reply is therefore forced:

30 RxN PxR

31 N-B3 BxN

32 PxN N-K5

33 NxN QxN

The Queen capture keeps a file open for Rook action.

34 B-B2 RxP 36 B-K3 P-B7ch

35 R-B3 Q-K7 37 BxP QxQ

Resigns

W. J. Peters - W. Crowder, #24  
(Notes by J. Sherwin, National Inter-collegiate Champion)

1 P-K4 P-K4  
2 N-KB3 N-QB3  
3 B-N5 P-QR3  
4 B-R4 N-B3  
5 O-O B-B4?

This is too aggressive. It provides White with a tempo when he plays P-Q4. (True, but Alekhine used to play this move.)

6 P-B3 P-QN4  
7 B-B2 P-Q3  
8 P-Q4 PxP

Better B-N3 immediately.

9 PxP B-N3  
10 P-KR3 P-KR3  
11 B-B4 O-O  
12 N-B3 P-Q4?

13 Black is cramped and tries a premature break.

13 P-K5 N-R4  
14 B-R2 P-KB4

Bad but P-N4 trapping the N was threatened. From here on White plays sharply to retain his material edge.

15 NxQP! B-R2  
16 B-QN3 K-R1  
17 R-QB1 P-B5?  
18 Rdx! B-N2  
19 P-K6! R-K1  
20 N-K5! R-K2  
21 N-N6ch K-R2  
22 N/N6xR BxR  
23 Q-Q3ch K-R1  
24 N-N6ch K-R2  
25 N/Q5-K7ch QxN  
26 NxQch K-R1  
27 Nx3 B-N3  
28 R-K1 P-QN4  
29 Q-N6 Resigns

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H. R. Weeks - P. L. Cromelin, #25  
(Notes by J. Sherwin)

1 P-Q4 N-KB3  
2 P-QB4 P-KN3  
3 N-QB3 B-N2  
4 N-B3 O-O  
5 B-N5 P-Q3  
6 P-K3 QN-Q2  
7 P-QR3 ...

Not a bad move but immediate development with B-K2 was better.

7 ... P-B4

8 P-QN4 ...

P-Q5 should have been played.

8 ... P-KR3  
9 B-R4 N-R2  
10 N-Q5 ...

The threat on the KP is easily defended. White should still play 10 B-K2.

10 ... P-KN4

11 B-N3 P-K4!

Black might have feared the exchange sac after 11 P-K3; 12 N-B3, P-N4; 13 P-Q5, P-K5; 14 NxP and QxB.

12 PxKP QPxP

13 P-K4 P-B4!

14 P-KR4 P-B5

15 B-N2 P-N5

16 N-Q2 P-KR4

QxP threatening P-N6 is strong.

17 B-N1 K1-B3

18 P-B3 P-N6

19 PxP ...

White should keep the position closed but Black would win anyway because of his K side phalanx.

19 ... Q-R4

20 Q-N3 NxP

21 Bdx! QxB

22 QR-N1 ...

White has no constructive ideas for there are none to be had.

22 ... P-N3

23 Q-R2 Q-B7ch

24 K-Q1 B-Q2

25 P-R4 NxP!

26 Pdx! P-B6!

27 K-B2 PxP

28 BxP QxB

29 N-K3 Q-B7

30 QR-K1 P-N7

31 KR-N1 B-R6

32 Q-N1 B-R3!

33 K-Q3 Bdx

34 Nx3 QR-Q1ch

Resigns

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T. E. Hekens - P. L. Cromelin, #25  
(Notes by E. Hearst, Champion of the Marshall Chess Club, N.Y.)

1 P-K4 P-K4

2 P-KB4 PxP

Other good defenses are 2...P-Q4 (the Falkbeer Counter-Gambit) and 2...B-B4 (King's Gambit Declined.)

3 N-KB3 ...

Keres in his youth enjoyed great success with 3 N-QB3 followed after Q-R5ch with 4 K-K2 in true Steinitzian fashion. But his idea is rarely utilized nowadays!

3 ... P-KN4

Unusual in recent years. 3...P-Q4; N-KB3, or P-KR3 are to be preferred.

A new idea of Lunde's is 3...B-K2; 4 B-B4, N-KB3; 5 P-K5, N-N5 with a plus for Black.

4 P-KR4 B-K2?

4 ...P-N5 is necessary here. Now White can gain a great advantage by 5 PxP!, BxP; 6 P-Q4 with ideas like P-KN3 or R-R5 to follow.

5 B-B4? P-Q3

6 O-O ...

Here, too, 6 PxP, BxP; 7 P-Q4 was preferable, although not as strong as previously.



6 ... P-KR3!  
 7 P-Q4 B-K3  
 8 P-Q5 ...  
 Blocking the center does not seem best here. 8 Q-Q3 therefore was indicated.  
 8 ... B-N5  
 9 Q-Q4 B-B3  
 10 P-K5 PxP  
 11 NxP Q-Q3!  
 12 R-N1 N-K2  
 13 N-B3 BxN  
 14 RxB N-Q2!??  
 15 Black has defended very nicely up to here but at this point 14 ... QN-B3 wins the exchange for if 15 B-N5, O-O-O!! is strong. White would be forced into 15 Rdxch, KxR with little compensation for his material inferiority.  
 15 R-K1? ...

In this extremely interesting position White misses his best chance, RxNP! After PxR 16 QxRch, N-B1; 17 Q-Q4! both sides have good possibilities. Also tempting here was 15 BxP!?? for if PxR; 16 Rdxch, KxR; 17 R-K1ch, B-K3; 18 RxBch, PxR; 19 Q-N7ch, K-K1; 20 QxRch, N-B1; 21 N-K4! with a strong attack (15... NxR?; 16 BxN wins for White also). On 15 ... P-KB3 here attempting to block off the Queen's long range threat on the Black Rook, the reply 16 RdxP! wins a piece because of the discovered attack on Black's Queen. But on 15 BxP, Q-N3!! exchanges Queens with resultant gain of material.

15 ... Q-N3!  
 16 QxQ NxQ!  
 17 RPxQ would involve Black in trouble after 17 P-Q6! and N-Q5.

17 B-N5ch K-B1  
 18 PxP PxP  
 19 P-N3? ...

White is lost anyway but this move leads to a quick and pretty finish.

19 ... PxP?  
 20 BxP? ...  
 Now mate cannot be stopped!

20 ... B-B6!!  
 21 BxNch K-N1!!  
 Not K-N2; 22 B-B6ch, KxB; 23 N-K4ch holds the game.  
 22 B-R4 RxB  
 23 R-K6ch RxR  
 24 BxR R-R3, mate

In this King's gambit at least, the King was lost!

G. C. Harwell - P. L. Cromelin, #26  
 (Notes by the winner)

1 P-K4 P-K4  
 2 N-Kb3 N-QB3  
 3 B-N5 P-QR3  
 4 B-R4 P-Q3  
 5 P-Q4 P-QN4  
 6 B-N3 NxP

This was the first game we had ever played each other, and Paul admitted afterwards that he went in for this line hoping that I would fall into the hoary Noah's Ark Trapp.

7 NxN PxN  
 8 B-Q5 ...

Sidestepping the trap: 8 QxP??, P-B4 with the eventual win of the Bishop at N3.

8 ... R-N1  
 9 QxP B-Q2  
 10 P-K5 ...

Again providing against the trap beginning with ... P-QB3.

10 ... PxP  
 Or ... Q-K2; 11 B-KB4, P-KB3; 12 P-K6, BxP; 13 O-O, BxB: 14 QxB and Black has a busted game.

11 QxPch Q-K2  
 12 B-KB4 QxQch  
 13 BxQ B-N5ch?

A costly oversight. He had in mind 14 P-QB3, B-R4 to guard the QBP, forgetting his KNP is now without protection.

14 P-QB3 P-KB3  
 15 BxQBP R-B1  
 16 B-N3 B-B3  
 17 BxBch RxB  
 18 O-O ...

Not 18 PxR, R-B6ch!  
 18 ... B-Q3

Black has already decided to play for simplification even though behind in material, knowing that an endgame with single Rooks on both sides will be difficult for White to win since Black's King will be nearer the action than White's. But Barkus is quite willing because, after all, he is the pawn ahead. Both decisions probably justified.

19 R-K1ch K-Q2  
 20 N-Q2 BxB  
 21 RPxB N-K2  
 22 N-N3 KR-QB1  
 23 N-Q4 R-Q3  
 24 QR-Q1 ...

Of course Rdxch, KxR; 25 N-B5ch simplifies but White played the text for two reasons: (1) Black just might overlook that this line will now win his Rook at Q3 outright; (2) if he

does guard against this line, White's pieces are now all in play and well posted.

24 ... P-H3

25 R-Q2 ...

To double Rooks on the K file or the Q file as circumstances dictate.

25 ... H-B3

Carrying out his theme of simplification and also getting rid of White's well-placed Knight.

26 R/1-Q1 NxB

27 Rxd1 ...

Pxd1 creates a passed pawn immediately of course, but with all the Rooks still on the board a win would be extremely doubtful.

27 ... R/1-B3

(It is very bad to exchange both pairs of Rooks. Now White doesn't have too much trouble. - Ed.)

28 Rxd1ch RxB

39 Rxd1ch KxB

30 K-B1 K-K4

31 K-K2 P-N4

To lock the King side so that his King will be free for the coming struggle on the other wing.

32 K-K3 P-KN5

33 P-B4ch K-Q4

PxPc.p. would provide White with diversionary opportunities during the Queen-side play.

34 K-Q3 P-B4

35 P-R3 ...

Necessary to prevent ...P-H5 and a jammed position after P-H3 and P-B4. Thus: 35. P-H3, K-B4; 36 P-B4, P-H5!; and White has nothing for a long time to come because of Black's free pawn moves, although by playing the King back and forth on the third rank White would eventually force Black's King to abandon B4, and thereby yield the win. But the text seemed clearer.

35 ... P-QR4

36 P-H3 K-B4

37 P-R4 PxP

37 ...P-H5; 38 P-B4 and 37 ...P-R3;

38 P-B4 are equally futile.

38 PxP P-R3

39 P-B4 ...

This looks risky but the fact that Black's King must remain in opposition during all the coming play makes it perfectly safe.

39 ... K-H5

A hard decision for Black, but 39 ... P-R4; 40 K-B3 doesn't give him even the solace of seeing an open file in front of his QRP.

40 K-Q4 KxB

41 P-B5 K-H4

42 K-Q5 P-R5

43 P-B6 Resigns

Because after both pawns queen, the King's being in opposition will force Black's King to the Rook file after White checks him at H8 or H7.

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J. H. Scales - D. Kahn, #27

1 P-K4 P-K4

2 N-KB3 N-QB3

3 B-B4 B-B4

4 O-O P-Q3

5 P-KR3 N-KB3

6 N-QB3 B-K3

7 B-H3 Q-Q2

8 P-QR3?? N-Q5!

9 P-Q3 BxdRP!

10 BxP QxP

11 BxPch ...

KN-R2 is best (Kahn) - but it is met by P-KR4! and H-N5.

11 ... K-K2!

12 KN-N5 Q-R5

13 N-Q5ch NxB

14 BxB QR-KB1

15 B-K3 P-KR3!

16 Q-Q2 ...

If 16 Bxd1, then ...PxH.

16 ... Q-N5ch

Resigns

A snappy game by one of the youngest players in the tournament.

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Late tournament notice: Don't forget the SOUTHERN CHESS ASSOCIATION tournament at the Great Southern Hotel in Meridian, Miss., July 3-4-5-6. The first meeting will be 10:00 A.M. on July 3rd.

We quote: "Accommodations at the Great Southern Hotel are reasonably priced - cooling fans in rooms, and the playing room a very cool tiled hall with ample fan circulation." For information, write Major J. B. Holt, Sec.-Treas., Long Beach, Fla.