

Here are the results of the North Carolina Closed Championship, held in Smithfield, June 22 - 24.

1. Kit Crittenden	Raleigh	W13 W11 W10 W7 W2	5 - 0	—
2. H. M. Woods, Jr.	Black Mountain	W14 W4 W18 W5 L1	4 - 1	17½
3. W. J. Peters	Durham	L5 W23 W26 W16 W10	4 - 1	12
4. David S. Evans	Raleigh	W28 L2 W24 W19 W9	4 - 1	12
5. J. L. Weininger	Chapel Hill	W3 W24 W9 L2 D6	3½-1½	16½
6. Lawrence H. Wallace	Smithfield	W12 L9 W20 W18 D5	3½-1½	13½
7. Charles Mangum	Chapel Hill	W30 W21 D8 L1 W16	3½-1½	13
8. Sam A. Agnello	Durham	D16 W19 D7 D17 W18	3½-1½	12½
9. Dr. N. M. Hornstein	Cape Hatteras	W17 W6 L5 W12 L4	3 - 2	16
10. A. Henry Gaede	Charlotte	W22 W26 L1 W14 L3	3 - 2	15
11. Thos. E. Makens	Charlotte	W20 L1 L12 W23 W19	3 - 2	14
12. E. Solkoff	Raleigh	L6 W22 W11 L9 W21	3 - 2	13½
13. Dr. A. G. Ashbrook	Durham	L1 L17 W27 W25 W26	3 - 2	11½
14. Dr. Geo. Harwell	Durham	L2 W31 W30 L10 W17	3 - 2	9½
15. J. E. Orzano, Jr.	Durham	L18 L16 W22 W26 W20	3 - 2	9½
16. Julius Dobkin	Raleigh	D8 W15 W29 L3 L8	2½-2½	15
17. D. r. V. Pikner	Raleigh	L9 W13 W21 D8 L14	2½-2½	14½
18. R. C. Beemon	Wilmington	W15 W25 L2 L6 D8	2 - 3	16
19. W. H. Goebert, Jr.	Durham	W29 L8 W25 L4 L11	2 - 3	13½
20. C. J. Curry	Raleigh	L11 W28 L6 W29 L15	2 - 3	13½
21. Judge Wm. Stewart	Chapel Hill	W27 L7 L17 W28 L12	2 - 3	10½
22. Dr. V. A. Davidian	Smithfield	L10 L12 L15 W31 W28	2 - 3	10
23. A. G. Glenn	Smithfield	L24 L3 W31 L11 W29	2 - 3	10
24. Jack Wardlaw	Raleigh	W23 L18 L19 W32 L30	2 - 3	9½
25. R. D. Worthington	Wilmington	W23 L18 L19 L13 W27	2 - 3	8
26. J. Browne Evans	St. Pauls	W31 L10 L3 L15 L18	1 - 4	13
27. R. C. Harris	Wilmington	L21 L29 L13 W30 L25	1 - 4	11½
28. Wm. Ragsdale	Smithfield	L4 L20 W32 L21 L22	1 - 4	10
29. Dr. W. G. Wilson	Smithfield	L19 W27 L16 L20 L23	1 - 4	9½
30. Col. H. Grantham	Smithfield	L7 <u>L32</u> <u>L14</u> <u>L27</u> <u>L24</u>	0 - 5	9½
31. Thomas Jenkins	Raleigh	L26 <u>L14</u> <u>L23</u> <u>L22</u> <u>L32</u>	0 - 5	8
32. J. Clay Williams, Sr.	Raleigh	L25 <u>L30</u> <u>L28</u> <u>L24</u> <u>L31</u>	0 - 5	5

Underlined round results indicate double forfeits.

It was good to see so many turn out for the Closed tournament. The number, 32, equals the number present at the Open tournament held earlier this year.

Not only the numbers but also the winners were the same. Kit Crittenden, 17 year old college student from the University of North Carolina, carried off first Prize (two trophies, a chess clock) with a perfect 5 - 0 score. 2nd prize (chess set) went to veteran H. M. Woods, Jr., of Black Mountain. Woods has won the championship more than any other person, and it was good to see him playing so well. W. J. Peters, 1950 Champion, was a good third. He lost in the first round to Weininger, and even four straight points could not put him back in the running. David Evans, of Raleigh, won the prize for the ~~xxx~~ highest ranking unseeded player.

At the business meeting, Dr. V. Davidian was elected President, Dr. G. Harwell Vice President, and Dr. R. C. Beemon Secretary-Treasurer. Other matters, such as the duties for each office, policies, tournament rules, etc., were discussed.

It seemed to us that the tournament was characterized by many blunders. For instance, in one game, Black took White's Queen. White was on the point of recapturing when he suddenly noticed that the piece with which he intended to capture was pinned! So he had to move his King, which was checked by the opponent's Queen. Black, instead of moving his Queen, which was threatened by the now un-pinned piece, moved a knight! White gleefully snatched up the Queen, as you may imagine. Fortunately, this happened only once during the tournament.

1 P-QB4 P-K4

2 N-QB3 P-QB4

This formation is a favorite of Woods, with Black or with White.

3 P-K3 N-QB3

4 P-KN3 ...

White plans to control Q5 (the finchetto), and prevent his opponent's occupation of Q4 (P-K3).

4.... P-Q3

5 B-N2 B-Q2

There was no threat. It would have been better to postpone the development of this piece until the correct square could be found.

6 KN-K2 N-B3 8 P-Q4 ...

7 O-O B-K2

White plays to open up the game before his opponent can fully develop.

8 ... Q-B2

9 P-B4 KPXP

If O-O at once, then P-B5 followed by a king-side advance would emphasize the second player's cramp. In general, it is wise to exchange in a cramped position.

10 KPXP O-O 12 P-QN3 R-K1

11 P-Q5 N-QR4

Well played! The idea is N-N5 and B-B3, seizing the long diagonal. The N will return to play by N-R3 and B4. A totally different plan was ...R-QN1 and P-QN4, in line with his previous move.

13 B-N2 N-N5 14 N-K4

The only logical move. Black cannot be allowed to place his pieces well, and the sacrifice should be sound:

(1) White has made no unnatural moves in obtaining a superior position which would justify his playing such as B-B1 or Q-Q3, in which case White would have to give up a B for a N. (2) Black's Q-side pieces are ill placed in case of a K-side attack, especially then his N would seem to be out of play. (3) The position, especially the center, is favorable for long range B action. So White simply prevents ...B-B3.

14 ... N-K6 16 RxdN B-B4

15 Q-Q3 Nxd

To exchange a rather useless piece.

17 Q-B3 P-B3

If ...B-KB1; 18 N-B6ch, K-R1 (PxN, QxR mates); 19 Nxd and the attack continues without material disadvantage.

18 P-KN4 Bxd

Black exchanges in the hope of reducing the attacking forces. If ...BxP; then 19 N/2-N3, with the threat of P-B5, winning the B with P-R3. So 19 ...B-Q2; would seem to be the proper line. 20 N-R5, R-KB1; 21 Q-KN3, R-B2; 22 N/4xPch, (Bxd; BxB, P-KN3; P-B5 wins shortly) K-R1; 23 N-K8, Bxd; 24 BxPch, K-NL; 25 B-R6ch, K-R1; 26 Q-B3ch and wins. Doubtless other variations also give a winning position, in material or attack, also. I, as white, did not visualize the analytical win. The move was made by positional judgement.

19 BxB B-KB1 20 N-N3 R-K2

Black reasons that he should try to exchange rooks, since he can find little scope for action, while his opponent's will aid in the pawn advances.

21 B-N1 QR-K1

He exchanges, even at the cost of a P.

22 Q-Q3 P-KN5

23 BxP R-K8

24 P-B5 Rxdch

25 KxR Q-B2

B-N2 would lead to loss by BxB followed by winning the P at N6 and the passed pawns must lead to an endgame win, especially since the B or N can occupy K6.

26 P-N5 Q-C2

B-N2 would lead to the above loss. Black now hopes for Pxp, when Q-R6ch with a little play would follow.

27 Q-B3 ...

Threatening the N and protecting K1 from an obnoxious check by the enemy rook.

27 ... P-QN3 29 K-N1 P-KR4

28 PxP Q-R6ch

All is nearly lost. There are a few dying kicks, though.

30 B-B5 Q-R5 32 BxB QxNP

31 P-N7 BxNP 33 B-B6 Q-B5

If ...Q-K6ch; 34 QxQ, RxdQ; 35 B-K6ch, K-B1; 36 K-B2, R-Q6; 37 K-K2 puts the rook out of its misery.

34 B-K6ch RxB

...K-B1; 35 NxRP, Q-K5 (Q-R3; B-N7ch,); 36 B-N7ch and mate next. If 34 ...K-R2;

white wins by 35 Q-Q3ch, K-R3, 36 N-B5ch, K-R3; 37 N-R4ch, KxB; 38 Q-N6ch, K-K4;

39 Q-N7ch, K-K5; 40 B-B5ch, K-K6; 41 N-N2ch.

25 Pxd P-R5 40 Q-K8ch K-N2

36 P-K7 K-B2 41 Q-K4ch QxQ

37 P-K8(Q)ch KxQ 42 Nxd and white won.

38 Q-K1ch K-Q1

H. M. Woods - J. Weininger, #10

1 P-K4 P-K4 4 O-O N-KP

2 N-KB3 N-QB3 5 R-K1 N-Q3

3 B-N5 N-B3 6 BxN ...

If 6 BxP, B-K2!

6 ... NfxB

QPxB is natural and sufficient.

7 RfPch B-K2

8 Q-K2 N-N2

... P-B3; R-K3, N-B5 should have

come into consideration. The

text strives for P-Q3 and B-K3.

Since these are unobtainable, P-KB3,

K-B2 and R-K1 at once seems to

offer hope.

9 N-Q4!

Ties Black in a knot. The dis-

advantages of NfxB now come to

light.

9 ... P-KN3?

This cannot be of great value. N-Q3

holds on, though it is practically

psychologically impossible for

one to retract a move just made.

10 P-QN3! P-QB4 11 B-R3!

The method in which the pressure

is increased on K7 is instructive.

Woods is a real pressure-cooker.

At least, he's turning on the heat.

11 ... P-KB3

12 R-K3 K-B2

13 N-QB3 P-B3

14 QR-K1 R-K1

25 N-R4! ...

The other N has been en prise for

5 moves. Now he forces its capture.

15 ... PfxN 19 QxR/Q5 Q-R1

16 RxBch RxB 20 N-B5 NfxN

17 BxR Q-K1 21 QxN B-B4

18 Q-B4ch P-Q4

All this subterranean maneuvering

cannot put black together again.

His case is hopeless, to mix

several metaphors.

22 QxBP Q-QB1 27 B-Q4 R-K3

23 QxKBpch K-N1 28 Q-R8ch K-B2

24 P-QB3 P-QR4 29 QxRPch K-K1

25 Q-K5 Q-Q2 30 QxQch KxQ

26 B-B5 R-R3 31 RxB Resigns

Four pawns down are four pawns too

many. This game is typical of

Wood's play throughout the tourna-

ment. He might have finished 1st

instead of 2nd had he not a

predilection for a bad opening

formation.

(Notes ~~for~~ by the Editor)

#11, Dr. M. L. Hornstein - J. Solkoff

1 P-QB4 P-K3 7 B-QN5 B-Q2

2 N-QB3 P-KB4 8 P-QR3 KN-K2

3 P-Q4 P-QB3 9 B-KN5 Q-N3

4 P-K4! P-Q4 10 KN-K2 NfxP!

5 BfxP BfxP 11 BxBch NxB

6 P-K5 N-QB3 12 N-KB4! ...

Now there are threats of BfxN and Q-R5ch. White

has sacrificed a Pawn in hopes of exploiting

his opponent's rather non-existent development.

12 ... N-N3?

Black can hold the Pawn with 12 ... O-O-O;

13 Q-K2, R-K1!; and the KP is uncapturable:

14 BfxP, N-KN3; or 14 QxP, QxQ and then N-N3.

White probably has enough for the Pawn

sacrificed. In such situations, as here,

the slightest slip can lead to a new game.

13 Q-R5! QfxNP

If here 13 ... P-K4; 14 NfxQP, Q-Q3; 15 N-B7ch,

QfxN; 17 NfxN and wins.

14 O-O QfxN

15 BfxN PfxN

16 QxP, mate.

This game was awarded the prize for the best-

played game for a non-prize winner.

#12, Bill Goebert - T. E. Makens

1 P-K4 P-K3 5 P-QR3 BfxNch

2 P-Q4 P-Q4 6 PxB KN-K2

3 N-QB3 B-N5 N-B3 Q-B2

4 P-K5 P-QB4

Usually Q-R4 and Q-R5, to blockade the position,

is the usual continuation.

8 R-N1 QN-B3 9 B-N2 P-B5

Personally, I don't like this kind of move,

preferring to maintain the pressure along the

QB file with B-Q2 and R-QB1. The move played

is not bad, however.

10 B-K2 Q-O 11 P-KN4? ...

Black's position seems to invite a K-side

advance, but, as elsewhere, such definite

action requires careful consideration. Better O-O.

11 ... P-KB3!

The proper reply to an attack on the wing -

a counter-punch in the center.

12 PfxP RfxP 13 P-KR4 P-K4!

Same idea.

14 P-N5 R-B4 15 PfxP ...

Else P-K5 with an overwhelming game.

15 ... NfxP 17 P-R6 ...

16 N-Q4 R-B1

Now, when White's attack looks strong, is the

time for Black to have faith - in strategy,

in laws of chess, in his own ability, etc.

If he lacks faith, then he will be likely to

miss the proper counter-play and become desperate.

17 ... R-B4!

Sacrificing a P for good play. With the following

exchange, Black weakens KB6, develops a

piece, and opens the rank for his rooks.

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18 BxN BxN 19 QxRch R-B2
If ... K-R1; P-N6, P-R3; B-QB1!,
P-QN3; B-B4 is uncomfortable,
but that is about all. The text
is simple and direct, however.
Suddenly White finds himself without
a good continuation.

20 P-N6 ...
Slightly better was B-QB1 at once,
though nothing should be good
enough to save the game.

20 ... Pxp 24 B-B4 N-Q6ch
21 Pxp BxNP 25 K-B1 QxB
22 B-QB1 BxP 26 Q-R5 QxP, mate
23 R-QN5 R-K1

A WELL PLAYED ENDING

Durham Club Tmt, 1950 - 1951

Kit Crittenden - W. J. Peters

Position after White's 56th move:

White: K, K4

B, Q2

P, KR4, KN3, KB4, QB4, QN3, QR2

Black: K, K3

B, KB1

P, KN3, KR4, Q5, Q3, QB4, QN3, QR2

White has just played K-K4, thinking
that the closed position and his cen-
tralized King will be enough to draw...

56 ... B-N2

57 B-K1 P-QR3

58 B-Q2? ...

Here P-QR4 is correct in order to ex-
change RPs if P-QN4. This exchange
would be important, for if the game fol-
lows the same course, all the Pawns on
the Q side would have been exchanged and
White would have had the K-side only to
worry about.

58 ... B-B3 61 B-K1 B-N3

59 B-K1 B-Q1 B-Q2 P-Q4ch!!!

60 B-Q2 P-QN4 Forces the game open.

63 Pxpch K-Q3

64 B-K1 ...

64 P-QR4 was also insufficient: 64 P-QR4,
PxpP; 65 Pxp, P-QR4!; 66 BxR1, P-B5;
67 B-N3ch, B-B4; 68 BxRch, KxB;
69 P-Q6, KxP; 70 KxP, P-B6; 71 KxP,
K-B4: Now Black wins because he has the
opposition: (1) 72 K-N3, K-Q5;
73 K-R3, K-K5; 74 K-N3, K-B6 and queen
first on the R file which keeps the
white RP from doing the same.

(2) 72 K-Q3, K-N5; 73 K-K4, KxP and
the RP queens and wins. (3) P-N4, Pxp;
73 P-R5, P-N6; 74 P-R6, P-N7 and after
both after queen, Black's check at Q5 wins.
If then 73 P-B5, Pxp and the RP queens,
also checking at Q5 eventually.

64 ... P-B5

65 Pxp Pxp

66 P-QR4 ...

If B-N4ch, then ... B-B4; 76 Bx3ch,
KxB; 68 BxRP-Q6, KxP; 69 KxP, K-K3;
70 KxP, K-B4; 71 K-N4, K-N5; 72 K-R5,
KxP; 73 KxP, KxRP; 74 K-N6, K-N6; 75 P-R4
P-R5 and wins because the Black RP
is one square farther advanced.

66 ... P-B6!

67 K-Q3 KxP

68 B-B2 K-K3!

69 B-K1 K-B4

70 P-N4ch: Desperation, pure and simple.

70 ... KxP

71 K-K4 B-R4!

72 K-Q3 K-B6

Zugzwang - White has no moves! so

Resigns

A very fine ending by Peters.

N. C. Closed Championship, 1951, Rd. 1

A. G. Ashbrook - Kit Crittenden, #13

1 P-K4 P-Q4 12 N-N3 Q-N3

2 Pxp N-KB3 13 P-QR3 P-KR4

3 B-N5ch B-Q2 14 P-B5 BxRP

4 Bx3ch QxB 15 QxB2 B-Q3

5 P-QB4 P-B3 16 P-QN4 P-R5

6 Pxp NxBP 17 P-N5 PxN

7 N-KB3 P-K4 18 PxN RxRP

8 O-O O-O-O 19 Pxp QxNP

9 N-B3 Q-B4 20 Pxpch K-N1

10 N-K2 P-K5 21 P-Q3 R-R8ch

11 N-K1 B-Q3 22 KxR Q-R7, mate.

Eastern N. C. Open Championship, 1949, Rd. III

#14, A. G. Ashbrook - W. C. Adickes, Jr.

1 P-K4 P-K3 15 NxBP! Q-R3

2 P-Q4 P-Q4 16 N-K5 Q-N2

3 P-K5 P-QB4 17 N/N5xBP BxN

4 P-QB3 N-QB3 18 BxN B-Q3

5 N-KB3 Q-N3 19 R-B6 K-K2?

6 B-K3? QxNP 20 Q-N3! KR-KN

7 QN-Q2 QxRP 21 N-N6ch! K-B2

8 KB-N5 P-B5 22 QxB KxN

9 O-O B-Q2 23 Q-N3ch K-B4

10 N-N5 NxBP 24 Q-N5ch K-K5

11 BxRch BxB 25 Q-B4ch K-Q6

12 Q-KB3 KN-B3? 26 R-N3ch K-K7

13 QR-N P-QN3 27 Q-B3ch K-K8

14 KR-QB Q-QR4? 28 R-B, mate

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