



White Knight Review

Chess E-Magazine

Interactive E-Magazine

Volume 2 • Issue 3

May/June 2011

MONEY AND CHESS

Money & Chess **CHESS STAMPS**

Famous Artists and Chess

Keeping the Score Understanding Chess Notation

Ben Franklin and Chess

Table of Contents

EDITORIAL- “My Move”	3
ARTICLE- Money and Chess	4
FEATURE- Chess Stamps	6
BOOK REVIEW- “How to Reassess Your Chess” by Jeremy Silman	14
BEGINNER’S CORNER- “Keeping the Score” Understanding Chess Notation	16
NEWS - Chess News around the World	19
FEATURE- Famous Artists and Chess	20
HISTORY- Ben Franklin and Chess	26
HUMOR- Chess Players Horoscope	28
ANNOTATED GAME - Castled players	30
COMMENTARY- “Ask Bill”	31



contents

**INTERACTIVE
CONTENT**

- Click on title in Table of Contents to move directly to page.
- Click on “White Knight Review” on the top of each page to return to Table of Contents.
- Click on red type to continue to next page
- Click on ads to go to their websites
- Click on email to open up email program
- Click up URLs to go to websites.



My Move

jerry_wall@comcast.net

editorial -Jerry Wall



Chess is about strategy and not luck. Perhaps that’s why it is so beloved by many. Unlike other games with which the roll of the dice or the spin of a spinner often dictates the results on a measure of luck or fate, chess is based wholly upon skill, intellectual ability and strategic foresight. There is no luck at all that factors

into the results. Its true mono a mano (hand to hand) warfare between two skillfull opponents.

One of my favorite movies is called “The Last Castle” where Robert Redford plays a court martialled general sent to Military prison. There he has to deal with a corrupt Warden with no real military experience. The only way to stop his corruption is by taken over the prison, a seemingly impossible job. One character in the movie is a guy named Yates who is a gambler and will gamble on anything. even on how long the general will last in the prison. At one point after Redford confronts the Warden, Yates told the general “You really did bluff Winters (the warden). The problem is his flush beats your straight.” Then Redford said my favorite line in the movie: “I don’t play poker, Mr Yates. I play chess.”

For the general to stop the warden he knew he didn’t need luck he needed a strategy. He went on to tell Yates: “In chess, you play with somebody long enough, you come to realize that their first three moves are usually the same.” Redford had studied his opponent and saw his predictability and used it to his advantage. For every move the Warden made, he had a counter move and knew in the end there could only be one king standing.

Sometimes when you think its over and you should quit you might just find the way out. In one scene the Warden comes to the generals cell where the general is playing chess with an inmate. He looks down at the board and says “You have checkmate in five moves.”

“Looks that way, sir.” replies the general.

“Why you movin’ if I have checkmate in five moves?” says the inmate.

Redford smiles and says:

“Cause I have checkmate in three.”


Jerry Wall
Editor

Let us know what you think of the magazine. Perhaps you have some suggestions for future articles or have other comments.

Let us know and drop me a line at:
editor@offthewallchess.com



White Knight
Review

Chess E-Magazine

Executive Editor/Writer

Bill Wall

bill_wall@bellsouth.net

Publisher /Editor/ Creative
Director

Gerald Wall

jerry_wall@comcast.net

Production/ Marketing

Steve Wall

info@offthewallchess.com

For Subscription

subscription@offthewallchess.com

For Advertising Rates

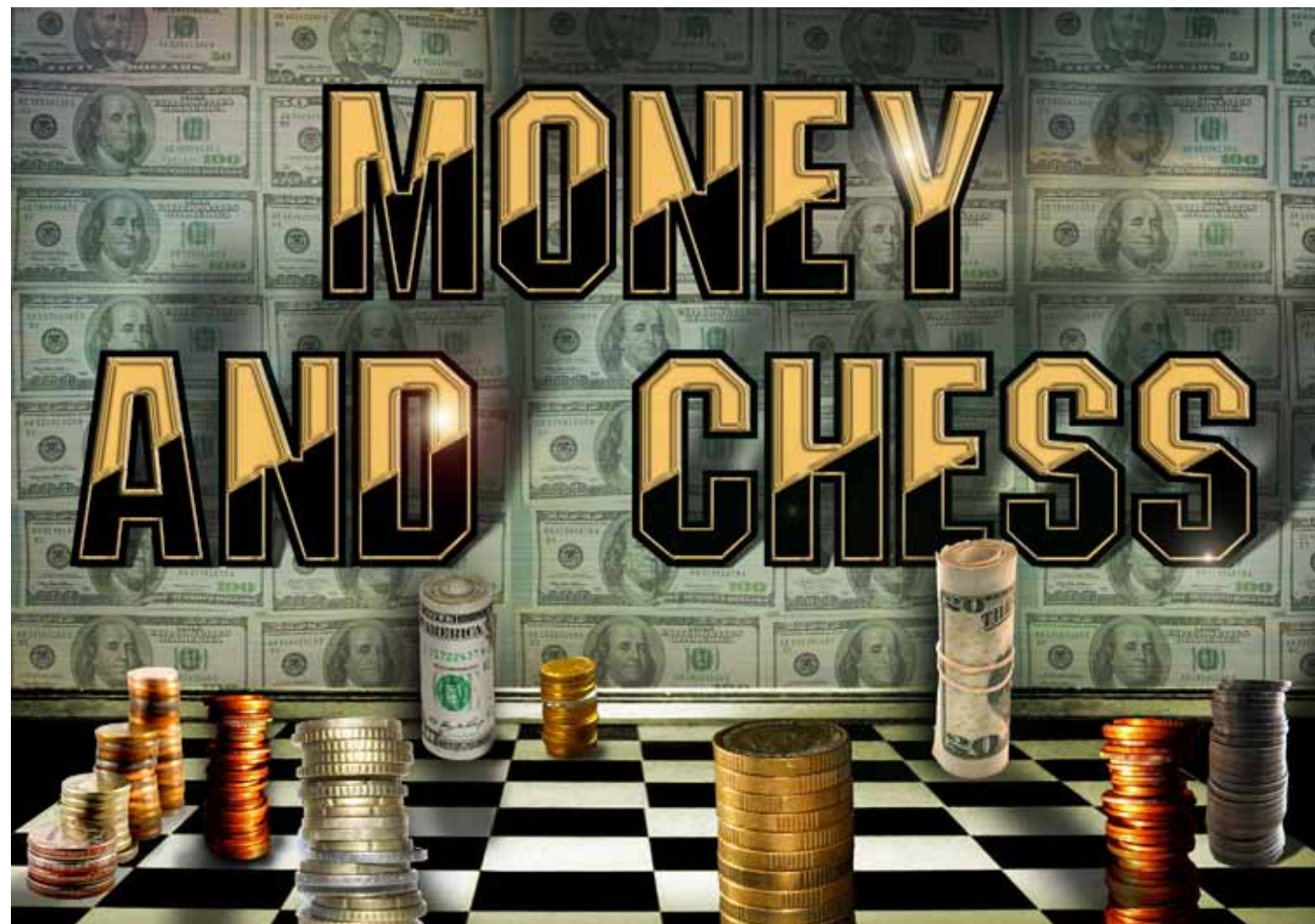
advertising@offthewallchess.com

© Copyright 2011

All Rights Reserved.

Unauthorized reproduction,
in any manner is prohibited
without expressed permission
from the Author or Editor.

www.offthewallchess.com



Jerry Wall

By Bill Wall

There is not too much money in chess unless you are one of the top 50 players in the world. Perhaps the average salary of a professional chess player is around \$35,000 a year. This would include chess teachers and coaches in schools or clubs.. The average chess salaries can vary greatly due to title (rating), location and experience. And if you are not winning chess tournaments, your income may not be steady.

For more than 99% of players, chess will not be a profitable venture. Most chess players actually lose money

through travel expenses to chess tournaments, tournament entry costs (free for Grandmasters), club membership costs, purchase of chess books and software, and perhaps coaching costs.

Professional chess players are most applicable in countries with a large chess presence such as Russia, China, and some European countries.

If you are one of the top 10 players in the world, perhaps you can make a million dollars or more. For example, the winner of the world chess championship gets between \$1 and \$2 million. For the 2010 world championship,

the winner (Vishy Anand of India) got 1,200,000 euros (\$1,693,800). The loser (Veselin Topalov) got 800,000 euros (\$1,129,200).

Top chess events may offer \$100,000 for a first place prize. Top open chess events might offer \$20,000 for first place. For example, the World Open chess tournament offers \$8,000 for 1st place. The US Open only offered \$8,000 for 1st place. The total prize fund \$40,000. The 2011 US chess championship



will offer \$40,000 to the winner. The total prize fund is \$166,000. Promoters of the Soyinka International chess tournament scheduled for July 10-17, 2011, are projecting prize money of \$50,000.

The top 20 chess players in the world make \$100,000 to a million a year. The top 20-100 (with a rating of 2600 or greater) make about \$60,000 a year.

Source of income for chess players include tournament and match earnings, teaching, writing books, articles software, and sponsorship.

Grandmaster Maurice Ashley, makes over \$100,000 teaching chess and selling chess, books, and CDs/DVDs.

Street hustlers who are good at chess can usually make \$100-\$200 a day playing blitz chess in the big cities. Professional chess hustlers are skilled blitz or bullet (1-2 minutes a game) chess, and bet money on each game, usually \$5-\$10 dollars. These players can be stronger than masters or International Masters in their specialized time limit.

Chess has never been a high paying occupation. In 1845, the first place prize for the US championship was \$1,000. 115 years later, in 1960, the first place prize for the US Championship was still \$1,000.

In 1857, 1st place in the First American Chess Congress was \$300 (\$7,000 in today's money). In 1901, 1st place at the New York chess championship was \$40.

(\$1020 in today's money). In 1948, first place in the 1948 Interzonal was \$550. Mikhail Botvinnik received \$5,000 for winning the 1948 world championship. First place in the 1964 Interzonal in Amsterdam was \$250 after a month's work.

In 1957, Fischer won \$750 after winning the US Open in Cleveland. Fischer earned \$750 for his 1st place money at the 1962 Interzonal. In 1966, Bobby Fischer got \$2,500 for his 1st place finish in the US Championship. In 1966, Petrosian got \$2,000 for winning the world championship against Spassky. Fischer got \$153,240 for winning the world championship in 1972, and another \$40,000 in royalties. Bobby Fischer received \$3.65 million for defeating Spassky in 1992. Spassky received \$1.5 million. In 2002, Kramnik got \$800,000 for playing Deep Fritz in a match. The HB Global challenge in 2005 in Minneapolis had a \$50,000 first place prize and prize fund of \$500,000.

Some top players get paid for playing on chess teams. The Bundesliga in Germany is the strongest team chess tournament in the world. Top GMs are paid \$50,000 to play in it.

The USA has a Samford Chess Fellowship worth \$36,000 for top young chess players.

Many top grandmasters now play poker to make money. In 1983, when Ken Smith was playing in the national Open in Las

Vegas, he won \$140,000 at a poker tournament. Poker is a strategy game, just like chess, so strong chess players are easily accustomed to the game. There is more money to be made in poker than chess and easier to get sponsorship.

Chess-related professions are not very profitable, and the situation is unlikely to change in the future. There just is not enough interest and sponsorship to support chess. It is difficult to promote the game on television or other media. For most chess players, chess is art and not a high paying sport. Most play for the fun of it and only a very few try to make a living at it. Checkmate.



CHESS QUOTE

"You can only get good at Chess if you love the game."

-Bobby Fischer

<http://www.chessquotes.com>

Feature



By Bill Wall

The earliest postmark linked to a chess event was in Kecskemet, Hungary in 1927.

The first postage stamp with a chess theme was issued in Bulgaria in 1947. It was one of five issued to commemorate the 1947 Balkan Games, held in Sofia, Bulgaria on November 2-5, 1947. Chess was one of the sports depicted on the commemorative stamps. The other four stamps portrayed bicycle racing, basketball, soccer, and the flags of the participating nations (Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, and Yugoslavia). Hungary won the chess competition. The stamp (9 leva, white and orange brown) was issued on September 29, 1947, showing a knight with the inscription 'Balkan Games 1947' and 'Republic of Bulgaria.' The stamp was designed by St. Kancer and 172,000 were issued. A first day cover was also issued of a brown knight.

On November 20, 1948 three chess stamps were issued in the USSR to commemorate the 18th World Chess Championship match-tournament, held in The Hague, Netherlands, from March 1-25, and in Moscow, from April 10-18, 1948. The inscription on the stamps reads: Tournament

Match for the World Chess Championship, Moscow 1948.

On April 9, 1950 three chess stamps were issued in Hungary (Magyar) to commemorate the first Candidates Tournament, held in Budapest, Hungary from April 9 to May 16, 1950.

On July 10, 1950 Germany issued a stamp depicting Leonard Euler and the Knight's Tour.

On August 20, 1950 five chess stamps were issued in Yugoslavia to commemorate the 9th Chess Olympiad, held in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia from August 20 to September 9, 1950. One of the stamps shows incorrectly a position from the game Capablanca-Lasker, New York 1924. Lasker's bishop should be on the g8 square and not the f8 square. The stamp values were 2, 3, 5, 10, and 20 Dinars.

On November 1, 1951 seven stamps were issued in Cuba as part of the 30th anniversary of Jose Capablanca winning the world chess championship from Emanuel Lasker in 1921. This was the first portrayal of a chess player (Capa-

blanca) on a stamp. Two stamps of Capablanca are based on a portrait by the Cuban artist E. Valderrama, and two stamps are from a photograph of Capablanca taken in 1941. One stamp shows the final position of the last game of the world championship match, 1921. There was a print error on one of the stamps (2 cent stamp), spelling "JOSF" instead of "JOSE." The Capablanca commemorative stamps outsold any previous issue in Cuba's postal history except for a Roosevelt stamp (Chess Life, August 5, 1955).

On May 15, 1952 the USSR issued a stamp depicting two players playing chess.

On August 10, 1952 a stamp was issued in Finland to commemorate the 10th Chess Olympics, held in Helsinki from August 10-31, 1952.

On April 4, 1953 Hungary issued a chess stamp.

On February 9, 1956 Poland issued two chess stamps to commemorate the first Deaf and Dumb chess championship.

On April 15, 1957 the USSR issued a stamp depicting Leonard



Chess Stamps (continued)

Euler (1707-1783) and the Knight's Tour.

On November 30, 1957 Switzerland issued a stamp depicting Euler and the Knight's Tour.

In 1957, David Lawson made an effort to get a Morphy chess stamp to celebrate Morphy's 100 anniversary winning of the first American Chess Congress. The postal service was not interested.

On July 17, 1958 Bulgaria issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 5th World Students' Team Championships in Varna on July 5-20, 1958. A mistake was made on one of the rooks, depicting an extra window tower.

On August 30, 1958 the USSR issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 50th anniversary of M. I. Chigorin's death (1850-1928). Its value was 40 Kopecks.



On September 29, 1959 China issued a stamp depicting Chinese chess.

On September 19, 1960 Germany issued 3 chess stamps to commemorate the 14th Chess Olympiad in Leipzig.

On May 2, 1962 the Netherlands Antilles issued three stamps to commemorate the 5th International Candidates Tournament at Curaçao.

On July 7, 1962 Bulgaria issued a set of 5 chess stamps to commemorate the 15th Chess Olympiad in Varna on September 15 to October 10, 1962. The stamps depicted chess pieces except the king.

On July 25, 1962 Cuba issued a chess stamp depicting a boy playing chess.

On November 21, 1962 the USSR issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 30th Soviet Championship in Yerevan, from November 21 to December 20, 1962. The stamp value is 4 kopecks. The stamp depicts 3 chess pieces.

On December 30, 1962 the Philippines issued 2 stamps of Dr. Rizal. One of them is a chess stamp of Dr.

Rizal and another player playing chess.

On May 18, 1963 the USSR issued three chess stamps to commemorate the 25th World Championship match being played in Moscow from March 22 to May 20. The stamp values are 4, 6, and 16 kopecks.

On July 5, 1963 Ceylon issued a chess stamp depicting people playing chess.

On December 12, 1963 Nicaragua issued a chess stamp.

On November 2, 1964 Israel issued two chess stamps to commemorate the 16th Chess Olympiad in Tel Aviv.

On August 28, 1965 San Marino issued a chess stamp. It was a chess board with 10

rooks in 5 colors and EUROPA written on the stamp, to commemorate a unified Europe. The design was called Castles on a chessboard. It was the first chess stamp not to honor a chess

event or chess player. One sheet of 40 stamps was printed with the red rooks upside down. These inverted red rook stamps are valued at over \$12,000.

On December 30, 1965 the Philippines issued a chess stamp of two players playing chess. The words on the stamp says Marcos-Lopez Inauguration

On February 25, 1966 Rumania issued 6 chess stamps to commemorate the 17th Chess Olympiad in Havana.

On April 2, 1966 France issued a chess stamp to commemorate an International Chess Festival at Le Havre. It depicts a chessboard and a knight

On May 31 and July 26, 1966 the USSR issued chess stamps to commemorate the 26th World Championship match in Moscow, from April 11 to June 8, 1966.

On October 18, 1966 Cuba issued 6 chess stamps to commemorate the 17th Chess Olympiad in Havana.

On March 24, 1967 (issued April 28) Monaco issued a chess stamp to

commemorate the 1st International Chess Grand Prix in Monaco, under the patronage of Prince Rainier. The stamp depicted a chessboard, a few pieces, and a view of the Monte Carlo harbor. The stamp value was 60 Centimes.

On April 10, 1967 Czechoslovakia issued a chess stamp depicting ceramic chess dolls.

On June 23, 1967 the Dominican Republic issued 2 chess stamps to commemorate the 5th Central American Championship.

On November 4, 1967 Yemen issued a set of 8 stamps commemorating Moorish art. One stamp depicts a miniature painting from the Alfonsso manuscript, published in 1283. The painting is of a chessboard in a tent with two players.

On November 27, 1967 East Germany issued a chess stamp depicting King Drosselbart and his Queen standing on top of a chess board.

On March 14, 1968 Switzerland issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 18th Chess Olympiad in Lugano. It depicts a blue rook.



On July 17, 1968 East Germany issued a chess stamp. It had a picture of Emanuel Lasker (1868-1945) and commemorated his 100th birthday.

On July 29, 1969 East Germany issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 16th World Students Team Championship.

On November 15, 1969 Cuba issued a set of 6 sports stamps. One of them commemorated the 6th Capablanca Memorial Tournament (held in 1968). The stamp depicts a globe and one each of the 6 chess pieces.

On July 7, 1970 the USSR issued a chess stamp depicting the first chess game in outer space.

Continue

Chess Stamps (continued)

On July 2, 1972 Iceland issued a chess stamp to commemorate the World Championship in Reykjavik between Fischer and Spassky. The issue date of the stamp was intended to coincide with the start of the match, but the match did not start until July 11. Its value was 15 Krona.

On September 18, 1972 Yugoslavia issued two chess stamps to commemorate the 20th Men's Chess Olympiad and 5th Women's Chess Olympiad in Skopje.

On September 25, 1972 Tunisia issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 20th Chess Olympiad in Skopje.

On October 5, 1972 Germany issued several chess stamps with a Knight, Rook, Queen, and King. The stamp with the knight forgot to add the word "deutsche" to the stamp.

On October 17, 1972 Iran issued a chess stamp to commemorate the Olympic Games in Munich.

On February 16, 1973 Niger issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 1972 World Championship match in Reykjavik.

On February 19, 1973 Mali issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 1972 World Championship match in Reykjavik.

On March 5, 1973 Lebanon issued a chess stamp.

On May 9, 1973 Czechoslovakia issued a chess stamp that had a picture from The Game and Playe of Chesse by Caxton.

On August 4, 1973 Indonesia issued a chess stamp depicting a knight.

On October 12, 1973 the Dominican Republic issued a chess stamp.

On November 13, 1973 the Netherlands issued a chess stamp depicting a chess board.

On March 25, 1974 Mali issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 21st Chess Olympiad in Nice.

On June 3, 1974 Niger issued two chess stamps to commemorate the 21st Chess Olympiad in Nice.

On June 8, 1974 France issued a chess stamp to commemorate the

21st Chess Olympiad in Nice.

On June 14, 1974 Dahomey issued two chess stamps to commemorate the 21st Chess Olympiad in Nice. They depicted a Persian Bishop and a Siamese Queen.

On June 18, 1974 Hungary issued 7 chess stamps to commemorate the 21st Chess Olympiad in Nice and the 50th anniversary of FIDE. The 40 filler stamp depicts chess players from the Alfonso manuscript in the 13th century. The 60 filler stamp depicts chess players from a woodcut in Caxton's book. The 80 filler stamp depicts a royal chess party from Miscomini's book of the 15th century. The 1.2 forints stamp depicts chess players from engravings by Selenus. The 2 forints stamp depicts "The Turk" playing chess. The 4 forints stamp depicts Geza Maroczy (1870-1951). The 6 forints stamp depicts a view of Nice, France and the 1974 chess olympiad emblem.

On July 15, 1974 Poland issued two chess stamps to commemorate the International Chess Festival. They depict players and a chess-board.

On October 14, 1974 El Salvador issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 12th Tournament for Central America and the Caribbean.

On November 3, 1974 Cameroon issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 21st Chess Olympiad in Nice.

On November 23, 1974 Syria issued two chess stamps to commemorate the 50th anniversary of FIDE.

On June 17, 1975 Israel issued a chess stamp depicting a family playing chess.

On September 11, 1975 Ecuador issued a chess stamp depicting chess pieces.

On October 22, 1975 Equatorial Guinea issued a chess stamp depicting Benjamin Franklin playing chess.

On January 1, 1976 Nicaragua issued a 11 chess stamps and 2 souvenir sheets. The 1c stamp depicts a painting called "The Chess Players" by Carracci. The 2c stamp depicts a painting called "Arabs Playing Chess" by Delacroix. The 3c stamp depicts a painting called "Cardinals Playing Chess" by Marais-Milton. The 4c stamp depicts a painting called "Duke Albrecht Playing Chess" by Muelich. The 5c stamp depicts a chess poem by Firdausi. The 10c stamp depicts the origins of chess from India. The 15c stamp depicts a painting called "Napoleon vs The Turk" by Uniechowski. The 20c stamp depicts a painting called "Game of Chess at the Palias Voss" by Hummel. The 40c stamp depicts a painting called "The Chess Players" by Eakins. The 2C stamp depicts a photograph of Fischer and Spassky by Chester Fox. The 5C stamp depicts a painting called "Ben Johnson and William Shakespeare at Chess" by Van Mander.

On March 15, 1976 Cuba issued several chess stamps with pictures of Ruy Lopez, Philidor, Steinitz, Lasker, and Capablanca.

On May 1, 1976 Staffa, a Scottish island, issued eight stamps depicting Boy Scouts and chess.

In May 1976, two souvenir sheets commemorating Max Euwe's 75th birthday (born on May 20, 1901), were released. The sheets contain two "stamps" in conjunction with an overall design of a chessboard and pieces.

On September 29, 1976 Great Britain issued four stamps to honor William Caxton on the occasion of the 500th anniversary of publishing in England, beginning

in 1476. One of the stamps shows a Caxton woodcut of a chess player from the second edition of his 1483 book "The Game and Playe of Chesse." The value of the stamp was 11 pence. On some of the stamps, a mistake was printed, shifting the

**Chess Stamps (continued)**

head of the queen towards the center of the stamp.

On September 29, 1976 Surinam issued a chess stamp with a chess painting.

On October 19, 1976 Israel issued two chess stamps to commemorate the 22nd Chess Olympiad in Haifa.

On October 24, 1976 Libya issued a chess stamp to commemorate the Arab Olympiad held in Tripoli.

On February 25, 1977 the USSR issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 6th European Team Championship in Moscow, from April 13-23, 1977.

On June 27, 1977 Mali issued three chess stamps to commemorate the 22nd Chess Olympiad in Haifa.

On October 20, 1977 El Salvador issued 2 chess stamps to commemorate their victory at the 1976 Arab Olympiad in Tripoli, played from October 24 to November 15, 1976.

On January 2, 1978 Lebanon issued a stamp with a chess board depicted in the background.

On January 23, 1978 Paraguay issued a set of 8 chess stamps to commemorate the Chess Olympiad in Argentina. The 1g (guarani) stamp depicts a painting called "The Chess Players" by Cremona. The 2g stamp depicts a painting called "The Messengers Game" by can Leyden. The 3g stamp depicts a painting called "Duke Albert of Bavaria playing chess with his wife" by Muelich. The 4g stamp features an Arabian sheik playing against a Christian opponent. The 5g stamp depicts a painting called "Lady Howe beats Benjamin Franklin" by Edward May. The 10g stamp depicts a painting called "The Chess Game" by Cruickshank. The 15g stamp depicts two chess players on a 17th century tapestry. The 20g stamp depicts a lithograph called "Napoleon Playing Chess" by Laillot.

On October 29, 1979 Hungary issued a stamp depicting a painting by Vasarely. It is a painting of a chess board. (Scott 2609)

On November 30, 1979 the Republic of Mali issued chess stamps to depict four great chess masters. The masters were Alekhine, Bogoljubow, Janowski, and Wili Schlage. Who? Schlage was a minor German player.

On June 1, 1978 the Netherlands issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 18th International IBM chess tournament. It depicts a horse and a woman on a chessboard.

On July 17, 1978 the Philippines issued 2 chess stamps to commemorate the World Championship match between Karpov and Korchnoi in Baguio City.

On August 20, 1978 Mexico issued 2 chess stamps to commemorate the World Students' Team Championships.

On October 7, 1978 Argentina issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 23rd Chess Olympiad in Buenos Aires.

The value of the stamp was 200 pesos.

On October 31, 1978 Israel issued a chess stamp depicting a Persian rook.

On January 15, 1979 Guinea-Bissau issued a chess stamp of children playing chess.

On February 19, 1979 Comores issued three chess stamps.

On April 29, 1979 Uruguay issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 23rd Chess Olympiad in Buenos Aires.

On May 12, 1979 Hungary (Magyar) issued a chess stamp (3 forint value) to commemorate the 23rd Chess Olympiad (Sakkolimpia) in Buenos Aires in 1978 and Hungary's victory. Pictured on the stamp are a few chess pieces and a board, the golden olympic cup, the 5-ring olympic emblem, with the flag of Argentina as well as the Hungarian tricolor.

On October 29, 1979 Hungary issued a stamp depicting a painting by Vasarely. It is a painting of a chess board. (Scott 2609)

On November 30, 1979 the Republic of Mali issued chess stamps to depict four great chess masters. The masters were Alekhine, Bogoljubow, Janowski, and Wili Schlage. Who? Schlage was a minor German player.

On February 21, 1980 Lebanon issued 5 chess stamps to commemorate 50 years of FIDE.

On June 9, 1980 Djibouti issued two chess stamps to celebrate the founding of FIDE. One stamp showed an illustration of Saemisch and Romanovsky. Another stamp showed a 15th century illustration of chess.

On October 1, 1980 Rumania issued 4 chess stamps to commemorate the 24th Chess Olympiad in Malta.

On November 18, 1980 Brazil issued a chess stamp commemorating postal chess.

On November 20, 1980 Malta issued three chess stamps to commemorate the 1980 FIDE Congress and the 24th Chess Olympiad in Valletta, Malta. The Olympiad was held from November 20 to December 8, 1980.

On December 15, 1980 Paraguay issued 9 chess stamps commemorating the World Chess Championship. The stamps are illustrated with miniatures from the Alfonso manuscript. The 3g (guaranis) stamp depicts "The Great Chess Game." The 4g stamp depicts King Alfonso presiding over the game of Squares. The 5g stamp depicts chess being played according to the four seasons. The 6g stamp depicts King Alfonso dictating the Books of Chess. The 7g stamp depicts a man and a Moorish woman playing chess. The 8g stamp depicts two Moorish women playing chess. The 10g stamp depicts two knights playing chess. The 20g stamp depicts a nun showing a novice how to play chess. The 25g stamp depicts players and a board with Arabic chess symbols.

On December 28, 1980 North Korea issued two chess stamps to commemorate the World Chess Championship between Karpov and Korchnoi in Merano and the World Chess Championship between Fischer and Spassky in Reykjavik.

On May 4, 1981 Italy issued a chess stamp depicting Living Chess.

On May 4, 1981 Luxembourg issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the

Chess Stamps (continued)

Luxembourg Chess Federation.

On September 30, 1981 Mongolia issued 7 chess stamps depicting chess pieces.

On October 15, 1981 Djibouti issued two chess stamps showing Swedish and Chinese chess pieces.

In December, 1981 Djibouti issued two chess stamps to commemorate the World Championship match in Merano.

On December 31, 1981 Mali issued two chess stamps to commemorate the World Championship match in Merano.

On January 30, 1982 Mali issued two stamps to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Lewis Carroll. The stamps had a chess board in the background with Lewis Carroll and Alice in Wonderland.

On April 8, 1982 Djibouti issued two chess stamps to commemorate the World Championship match in Merano.

On April 14, 1982 Gibraltar issued a stamp called HMS Rooke with a picture of a rook.

On May 1, 1982 Libya issued several chess stamps to commemorate the World Championship match in Moscow.

On June 9, 1982 Guinea-Bissau issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 75th anniversary of scouting. It depicted scouts playing chess.

On September 6, 1982 the USSR issued a chess stamp to commemorate the World Championship match in Moscow.

On September 22, 1982 the USSR issued a chess stamp to commemorate the World Championship match in Moscow, celebrating Karpov's victory.

On December 24, 1982 Chad issued 7 chess stamps depicting Philidor, Morphy, Staunton, Capablanca, Spassky, and Karpov.

On December 29, 1982 Cuba issued 4 chess stamps commemorating the 40th anniversary of Capablanca's death.

On January 15, 1983 Central Africa issued 7 chess stamps depicting Steinitz, Nimzovich, Alekhine, Botvinnik, Spassky, and Fischer.

Each stamp also had a chess position. The Botvinnik position is from Botvinnik-Capablanca, AVRO 1938. The Fischer position is from Fischer-Benko, New York 1963. The Alekhine position is from Alekhine-Rubinstein, The Hague 1921. The Nimzovich position is from Johner-Nimzovich, Dresden 1926. The Steinitz position is not from a Steinitz game at all. It is from Spassky-Smyslov, Bucharest 1953. The Spassky position is from Steinitz-Zukertort, 1886. The positions for Steinitz and Spassky were on the wrong stamps.

On February 26, 1983 Congo issued a chess stamp depicting African chess pieces.

On May 2, 1983 the Faroe Islands issued two chess stamps depicting a king and a queen.

On May 9, 1983 Vietnam issued 8 chess stamps showing older chess pieces.

On June 13, 1983 Guinea-Bissau issued 8 chess stamps depicting chess pieces through the ages.

On June 20, 1983 Albania issued a chess stamp depicting an individual playing chess and using a chess clock.

On June 20, 1983 Bulgaria issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 8th European Team Championship in Plovdiv. It depicted chess pieces on a map of Europe.

On August 20, 1983 Nicaragua issued 7 chess stamps depicting chess pieces.

On October 24, 1983 Mali issued 4 chess stamps depicting drawn chess pieces.

On December 27, 1983 Chad issued 9 chess stamps to commemorate the 60th anniversary of FIDE (1924-1984).

On February 20, 1984 the British Virgin Islands issued a set of 4 chess stamps to commemorate the 24th Chess Olympiad in Malta and the 60th anniversary of FIDE.

On February 20, 1984 Rumania

issued a series of chess stamps to commemorate the 15th Balkan Championship.

On April 13, 1984 Laos issued 8 chess stamps to commemorate the 60th anniversary of FIDE.

On April 26, 1984 Mauritania issued a stamp with a globe and chess pieces on it.

On May 21, 1984 Burkina Faso (Upper Volta) issued a chess stamp depicting Karpov.

On July 20, 1984 Guyana issued a series of chess stamps to commemorate the 60th anniversary of FIDE.

On July 27, 1984 Madagascar issued 6 chess stamps to commemorate the 60th anniversary of FIDE. They depicted Steinitz, Menchik, Karpov, and Gaprindashvili.

On August 8, 1984 Barbados issued 4 chess stamps to commemorate the 60th anniversary of FIDE. The 25c stamp depicts a local junior match. The 45c stamp depicts and Staunton knight and a 19th Century Knight. The 65c stamp depicts a Staunton Queen and an 18th century Queen. The \$2 stamp depicts a Staunton Rook and a 17th century Rook.

On August 20, 1984 Taiwan issued a chess stamp.

On August 30, 1984 Guinea issued a chess stamp to commemorate the World Championship match in Baguio City.

On September 7, 1984 the USSR issued two chess stamps to commemorate the World Chess Championships. One stamp honors the women's championship in Volgograd. The other commemorates the men's championship in Moscow.

On September 14, 1984 Trinidad and Tobago issued 4 chess stamps to commemorate the 60th anniversary of FIDE.

On October 10, 1984 Surinam issued 6 chess stamps to commemorate the World Championship match in Moscow.

It included pictures of Karpov and

**Chess Stamps (continued)**

Kasparov.

On December 21, 1984 Kenya issued 5 chess stamps to commemorate the 60th anniversary of FIDE.

On December 22, 1984 Central Africa issued a chess stamp depicting Karpov.

On February 23, 1985 Djibouti issued a chess stamp commemorating the UK vs US Championship.

On April 13, 1985 Czechoslovakia issued a chess stamp commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Czech Chess Organization.

On April 15, 1985 Grenada issued a chess stamp depicting children playing chess.

On May 25, 1985 Chad issued a chess stamp depicting Philidor, Lasker, Alekhine, and Karpov.

On August 20, 1985 South Korea issued a stamp depicting Korean chess.

On August 28, 1985 Austria issued a chess stamp to commemorate the World Chess Congress in Graz. It depicted a chess globe.

On September 2, 1985 the USSR issued a chess stamp to commemorate the World Championship between Kasparov and Karpov in Moscow.

On September 10, 1985 the United Arab Emirates issued a chess stamp to commemorate the World Junior Championship.

On October 12, 1985 Sweden issued a chess stamp.

On November 9, 1985 Surinam issued a chess stamp to commemorate the World Championship between Kasparov and Karpov in Moscow. It depicted Kasparov's victory.

On February 3, 1986 the Faroe Islands issued 4 chess stamps that depicted chess pieces.

On February 5, 1986 North Korea issued a chess stamp to commemorate the World Champion-



ship between Kasparov and Karpov in Moscow.

On March 17, 1986 Tanzania issued a chess stamp to commemorate the World Championship in



London and Leningrad.

On March 19, 1986 Tuvalu issued a chess stamp depicting a knight.

On June 16, 1986 Mali issued two chess stamps to commemorate the World Championship in London and Leningrad. One stamp depicted floating chess pieces.

On August 28, 1986 Kampuchea issued a series of chess stamps depicting Ruy Lopez, Philidor, Anderssen, Steinitz, Lasker, Capablanca, and Alekhine.

On October 13, 1986 Djibouti issued a chess stamp to commemorate the World Championship in London and Leningrad.

On November 14, 1986 the United Arab Emirates issued a series of chess stamps to commemorate the 27th Chess Olympiad in Dubai.

On November 20, 1986 Mongolia issued a series of chess stamps depicting world champions Steinitz, Lasker, Alekhine, Botvinnik, Karpov, Gaprindashvili, and Chiburdanidze.

On December 10, 1986 Yugoslavia issued a stamp depicting a knight, drawn by Vasarely.

On May 15, 1987 Mozambique issued a stamp of the Korean Olympic Games.

On November 1, 1987 Guinea issued a chess stamp depicting Kasparov. A position on the stamp is from Karpov-Kasparov, match game 22, 1986.

On November 2, 1987 Surinam issued a chess stamp.

On February 8, 1988 Malawi issued a series of chess stamps depicting chess pieces.

On February 15, 1988 Central Africa issued a chess stamp depicting Kasparov.

On March 25, 1988 Benin issued a stamp with a chess piece.

On June 1, 1988 Guinea-Bissau issued a series of chess stamps depicting Philidor, Staunton, Anderssen, Morphy, Steinitz, Lasker, and Capablanca.

On July 13, 1988 Libya issued a stamp depicting Gaddafi playing chess.

On July 15, 1988 Cuba issued a series of chess stamps depicting Capablanca and his 100th birthday.

On August 25, 1988 the British Virgin Islands issued two chess stamps commemorating the first annual British Virgin Island tournament.

On September 18, 1988 North Korea issued a chess stamp depicting a chess painting by Lucas van Leyden.

On November 22, 1988 Laos issued a series of chess stamps depicting Ruy Lopez, Anderssen, Morphy, Steinitz, Lasker, Capablanca, and Alekhine. Each stamp had a chess position. The Anderssen position came from Kolisch-Anderssen, London 1861. The Morphy position came from Morphy-Harrwitz, Paris 1858. The Steinitz position came from Anderssen-Steinitz, Vienna 1873. The Lasker position came from Ilyin Zhenevsky-Lasker, 1925. The Capablanca position came from Capablanca-Lasker, Havana 1921. The Alekhine position came from Bogoljubov-Alekhine, Hastings 1922.

On December 6, 1988 Comores issued a chess stamp depicting Kasparov.

On February 2, 1989 Afghanistan issued seven chess stamps depicting boards and players.

On April 17, 1989 Morocco issued a stamp commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Morocco Chess Federation.

On May 16, 1989 Great Britain issued a stamp depicting a chess board, and parts of other games.

On July 31, 1989 Macau issued a

Continue

stamp depicting Chinese chess.

On October 18, 1990 Yugoslavia issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 29th Chess Olympiad in Novi Sad.

On November 15, 1990 Cambodia issued a chess stamp depicting chess pieces.

On January 7, 1991 the USSR issued a chess stamp depicting Paul Keres.

On November 3, 1991 Czechoslovakia issued a chess stamp depicting a chess flower.

On September 14, 1992 Yugoslavia issued a chess stamp to commemorate the Spassky-Fischer match of 1992.

On October 28, 1992 Hungary issued a chess stamp commemorating the 10th European Chess Championship in Debrecen.

On January 26, 1993 Tonga issued a chess stamp depicting women playing chess.

On February 28, 1995 Yugoslavia issued a set of 8 chess stamps depicting chess champions of the world.

On September 25, 1995 Andorra issued a chess stamp depicting a chess butterfly.

On February 14, 1996 Czechoslovakia issued a chess stamp depicting Vera Menchik, a former world's women chess champion.

On March 15, 1996 Yugoslavia issued 9 chess stamps depicting chess champions of the world.

On June 8, 1996 Lettonia issued a stamp depicting chess and children's games.

On June 12, 1996 Algeria issued a chess stamp depicting a chess butterfly.

On September 15, 1996 Armenia issued a series of chess stamps to commemorate the 32nd Chess Olympiad.

On September 15, 1996 Buria-tia issued a chess stamp depicting Karpov.



On September 20, 1996 Armenia issued a chess stamp depicting Petrosian.

On December 8, 1997 Gambia issued a chess stamp.

In 1999 Turkmenistan issued a series of stamps depicting chess pieces and chess boards.

In 1999 Central Africa issued several stamps on scouting. One of them depicts scouts playing chess.

On March 15, 2000 Russia issued a chess stamp depicting Mikhail Botvinnik.

On June 8, 2000 Macao issued a series of stamps of board games, including chess.

On September 23, 2000 Bosnia Hercegovina issued two chess stamps to commemorate the 16th European Chess Club Cup.

On December 23, 2000 Armenia issued a series of stamps commemorating great Armenians. Included is a stamp showing Petrosian.

On January 3, 2001 Hungary issued a chess stamp commemorating the Peter Leko-Kramnik match.

On January 5, 2001 North Korea issued a series of chess stamps depicting the world champions of the 20th century.

On January 13, 2001 Yugoslavia issued a series of stamps commemorating Emanuel Lasker's 60th anniversary of his death.

On March 8, 2001 Yugoslavia issued a set of 8 chess stamps depicting women chess champions of the world.

On April 3, 2001 the Netherlands issued a series of stamps depicting Max Euwe (1901-1981).

On June 11, 2001 Liberia issued a series of chess stamps depicting Karpov.

On May 29, 2001 Tajikstan issued a series of chess stamps depicting Steinitz, Capablanca, Lasker, and Alekhine.

On August 18, 2001 Latvia issued a chess stamp commemorating Mikhail Tal.

On October 19, 2001 Spain issued a series of stamps on the history of Spain. One stamp included Ruy Lopez.

In 2001, Guinea Bissau issued several chess stamps, depicting Karpov, Kasparov, and world women's champion Xie Jun.

On February 9, 2002 Romania issued a series of chess stamps commemorating the Costantin Radulescu memorial tournament.

On March 13, 2002 Germany issued a chess stamp commemorating the 12th Seniors Chess Championship

On March 29, 2002, Ukraine issued a chess stamp to celebrate the victory of Rustan Ponomariov, the 16th FIDE World Champion.

On May 18, 2002 Germany issued a chess stamp commemorating the 48th German meeting of correspondence chess players.

On May 27, 2002, Bulgaria issued two stamps with Bishop and Pawn motifs.

On June 6, 2002 Germany issued a chess stamp depicting chess pieces and dedicated it for the youth.

On July 23, 2002, the Republic of Central Africa issued three stamps featuring FIDE world champions Kasparov, Anand, and Ponomariov. Each stamp includes a position of one of their games (Kasparov - Anand, Anand - Shirov, and Ponomariov - Manchuk).

From September 8 to 11, 2002, Tajikstan issued six stamps to commemorate the match between Russia and the Rest of the World, played in Moscow. The stamps depicted Steinitz, Capablanca, Lasker, Alekhine, and two demonstration chess boards.

On September 18, 2002, Azerbaijan issued four stamps commemorating the World Junior Championship held in Baku. The stamps are a drawing of a game of live chess, with the city of Baku in the background.

On September 19, 2002, Slovenia issued two stamps to commemorate the 35th Chess Olympiad in Bled, Slovenia.

In 2002, Benin issued eight stamps depicting Philidor, Staunton, Morphy, Steinitz, Lasker,

Capablanca, Alekhine, and Botvinnik.

On October 12, 2002, Hong Kong issued a chess stamp depicting a King and a Queen in one frame, and Chinese chess pieces in another frame.

On October 23, 2002, Rumania issued three stamps to commemorate the 35th Chess Olympiad in Bled, Slovenia.

In 2002, Equatorial Guinea issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 35th Chess Olympiad in Bled, Slovenia.

In 2002, Angola issued a chess stamp depicting Bobby Fischer with the theme being great people of the 20th century.

On June 7, 2003, Kazakhstan issued a stamp with chess art from the 17th century.

On July 9, 2003, Portugal issued a stamp to commemorate the 50th birthday of the Ricardo Espirito Santo Foundation. The stamp consists of a table with a chess board in the middle.

In October, 2003, Bulgaria issued a stamp to commemorate the European Chess Championship in Plovdiv.

On December 4, 2003, Angola issued two stamps with chess pieces.

In 2003, Guinea Bissau issued two chess stamps with the pictures of several grandmasters, including Kasparov.

On January 2, 2004, Jersey issued six stamps to commemorate the Centenary year of the British Chess Federation and the Jersey Chess Club. Each stamp has a different chess piece (rook, knight, bishop, pawn, queen, and king) as a motif.

On January 5, 2004, Peru issued a stamp depicting chess pieces and the chess board.

On March 18, 2004, Spain issued a stamp to commemorate the 36th



Chess Olympiad in Calvia (Mallorca), Spain.

In 2004, Austria issued a stamp to commemorate the victory of Di Tung Hamarat as the 16th Correspondence World Chess Champion. They issued another stamp to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the Baden Chess Club.

On July 20, 2004, Algeria issued a stamp to commemorate the 80th anniversary of FIDE.

In 2004, Cuba issued three stamps to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Cuban Chess Federation. The stamps depicted Capablanca, Ernesto Che Guevara, and Maria Teresa Mora.

In 2004, seven official postal stamps were issued during Telabul-2004, the World Philatelic Exhibition in Israel.

On September 24, 2004, Hungary issued a series of stamps depicting a chess board and the opening moves of the Hungarian Defense (1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Be7).

In 2005, the Israel Postal Authority issued a chess stamp for the World Chess Team Championship that was held in Israel. A special cancel cover showed Albert Einstein and a chess game.

In 2005, Ecuador issued a chess stamp to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Ecuador Chess Federation.

In 2005, Estonia issued a chess postcard that showed two dogs playing chess.

In 2005, Guinea Bissau issued a stamp with a chess theme, depicting several chess pieces.

Over 140 nations have issued stamps with a chess motif. The United States has not issued any stamp with any chess motif.

In 2005, Moldova issued a chess stamp to commemorate the European Women Championship.

In 2006, Estonia issued a postal stationary card with the picture of grandmaster Paul Keres (1916-1975) and a chess king. They also released a postal card with the postmark "International Chess Tournament in memoriam Paul Keres."

In 2006, Guinea Bissau issued a few sports stamps which included chess champions.

In 2007, Guinea Bissau issued four chess stamps with four famous chess paintings.

In 2008, Guinea Bissau issued several chess stamps depicting Alekhine, Euwe, Botvinnik, Smyslov, Morphy, Steinitz, Lasker, Capablanca, Tal, Petrosian, Spassky, and Fischer.

On September 18, 2008, Iceland issued a first day cover, depicting grandmaster Fridrik Olafsson.

In 2009, Guinea Bissau issued a chess stamp on chess stamps (Xadrez em selos postais).

In 2010, Nepal issued its first chess commemorative cover and postmark, commemorating the 1st Lalitpur Cup International Open Rating Chess Tournament in July, 2010.

Armenia recently issued a chess stamp commemorating Genrikh Kasparian (1910-1995). He was one of the greatest composers of endgame studies. In 1972, he became the first chess composer to receive the title of Grandmaster of Chess Composition. The stamp becomes the first to portray an endgame study.

Lithuania recently issued a commemorative chess stamp in honor of Vladas Mikenas (1910-1992). He was an International Master and chess journalist.

There have been fraudulent stamps with chess motifs from Afghanistan, South Ossetia, Mali, Myanmar, Rwanda, Sahara Republic, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan.

Over 140 nations have issued stamps with a chess motif. The United States has not issued any stamp with any chess motif.

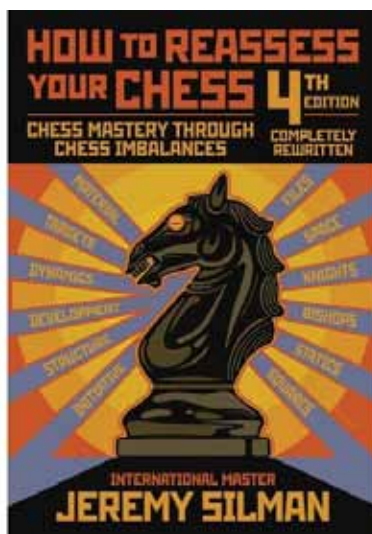


Book Review by Bill Wall

HOW to REASSESS Your CHESS

(4th Edition) by Jeremy Silman

International Master Jeremy Silman's modern classic *How to Reassess Your Chess – Chess Mastery Through Chess Imbalances*, 4th edition, was published in October, 2010 by Siles Press. With 658 pages and over 400 chess diagrams, it is a major re-work from his other editions (his first edition was published over 20 years ago) and he literally wrote this 4th edition (which he says is his final edition) from scratch. The book contents are made up of the following parts: The Concept of Imbalances (learning the ABCs of chess imbalances), Minor Pieces (Knights and Bishops), Rooks (controlling open files and ranks and looking for targets), Psychological Meanderings (fear of giving up or taking material), Target Consciousness (weak pawns and the sound of ripe fruit falling), Statics vs. Dynamics (a battle of opposing philosophies), Space (the great land grab and dueling spatial plusses), Passed Pawns, (baby Queens on the run) and Other Imbalances (integrating imbalances with your opening choices). Each section goes much more in depth from previous editions with new examples and has a summary and some test questions (with detailed answers in the back). Silman writes with a sense of humor and explains chess moves like drunken knights, passed bananas (another name for a passed pawn and a favorite among players in Denver), a posing Polly (a passed pawn that just sits there, looking good but doing nothing), and a nimble Louie (a fast-moving passed pawn). Silman's concepts about chess imbalances are the major theme of the book. An imbalance is any significant difference in the two respective positions. He tries to show the average player



how to analyze a position. Silman shows that analysis of specific variations should be the last thing one does. He wants to ensure that every detail of all the imbalances are mastered with a strong positional foundation. He sums it up by saying, "If you want to be successful, you have to base your moves and plans on the specific imbalance-oriented criteria that exist in the given position, not on your mood, tastes, and/or fears!"

The following list of the imbalances that Silman discussed through the books were the following: superior minor piece, pawn structure, space, material, control of a key file, control of a hole or weak square, lead in development, initiative (pushing your own agenda), king safety, and statics vs. dynamics. Whole sections are devoted to each imbalance that he listed.

The book is aimed at the expert player and below (Silman says from USCF rating of 1400 to 2100) and has plenty of examples, hundreds of games, and diagrams. The book

is written by one of the best chess instructional writers around. You can read his chess articles at www.chess.com and some of his earlier articles appear in this new edition as part of the appendix. His articles include on how to offer a draw, the proper tournament diet, is chess a gentleman's game, and teaching chess to children. Silman also made it a point to putting every position in this book through a detailed analytical check with both Rybka 3 and Fritz 12 computer chess engines. This helped eliminate any flaws in his analysis of positions. He included some analysis from these computer engines because there were so bizarre or exciting.

Trivia question. What kind of eye is on the cover of his book? It's an octopus eye.



OFFTHEWALLCHESS.COM

Author Bill Wall's Chess Resource Site



Bill Wall

**BOOKS - CHESS ARTICLES - TRAPS
- OPENINGS - END GAMES-
CHESS STORE - VIDEOS- BOARDS
CHESS CLOCKS - TRAVEL SETS
COLLECTOR PIECES - AND MORE...**

bill_wall@bellsouth.net

Beginner's Corner

by Bill Wall



Chess notation is a way to record and communicate chess moves. Nearly all chess players record all the moves (his and his opponent) of their serious games. There are two major methods of chess notation. The first method is the descriptive notation and the second method is the algebraic notation.

DESCRIPTIVE NOTATION

The descriptive notation has been around the longest and is the method found in older chess books and magazines. It was mostly used in the United States.

The descriptive method names the files according to the piece in the initial position. So, reading from left to right, the first file is the Queen Rook (QR)file, the next file is the Queen Knight (QN) file, then the Queen Bishop (QB) file, then the Queen (Q) file, then the King (K) file, then the King Bishop (KB) file, then the King Knight (KN) file, then the King Rook (KR) file.

The pawn is represented by a P. The knight is represented by a N (or Kt, but not K because that is the king). The bishop is represented by a B. The rook is represented by an R. The queen is represented by a Q. The king is represented by a K.

From bottom rank to the top rank, each rank counts up from 1 to 2 to 3 to 4 to 5 to 6 to 7 to the 8th rank.

The chess squares have different notations, depending upon the White point of view or the Black point of view.

The square in the lower left is QR1 (Queen Rook 1) for White or QR8 (Queen Rook 8) for Black. The square in the upper right is KR8 for White and KR1 for Black.

The chess board is always set up for the light colored square (usually White) to the right and the placement of the Queen on its own color. So the White Queen is on the White square (Q1 for White or Q8 for Black) and the Black Queen is on the Black square (Q8 for White or Q1 for Black).

Castling on the King side is noted O-O. Castling on

the Queen side in O-O-O.

Promoting a pawn to a queen would be something like P-QR8=Q.

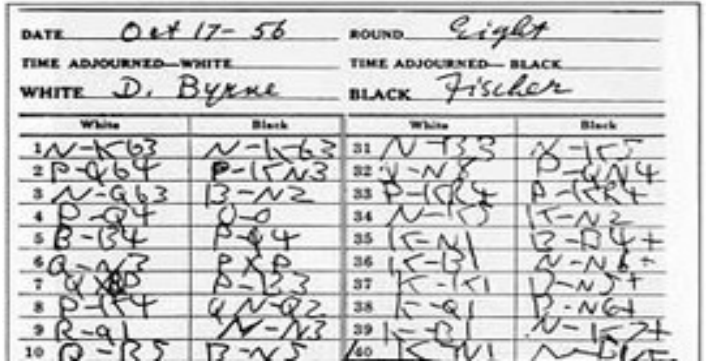
When there are two possible moves, you distinguish the right move by indicating if it is on the kingside or queenside. So the Knight to Bishop 3 could be two choices. It could be N-QB3 or N-KB3 depending if it is on the queen side or king side.

A capture is indicated by an x. So, if Bishop takes Knight, it is BxN.

A check is optional in notation, but it could be indicated with a plus symbol (+) or by the check symbol (ch). Checkmate may use the '++' (some books

QR1	QN1	QB1	Q1	K1	KB1	KN1	KR1
QR8	QN8	QB8	Q8	K8	KB8	KN8	KR8
QR2	QN2	QB2	Q2	K2	KB2	KN2	KR2
QR7	QN7	QB7	Q7	K7	KB7	KN7	KR7
QR3	QN3	QB3	Q3	K3	KB3	KN3	KR3
QR6	QN6	QB6	Q6	K6	KB6	KN6	KR6
QR4	QN4	QB4	Q4	K4	KB4	KN4	KR4
QR5	QN5	QB5	Q5	K5	KB5	KN5	KR5
QR5	QN5	QB5	Q5	K5	KB5	KN5	KR5
QR4	QN4	QB4	Q4	K4	KB4	KN4	KR4
QR6	QN6	QB6	Q6	K6	KB6	KN6	KR6
QR3	QN3	QB3	Q3	K3	KB3	KN3	KR3
QR7	QN7	QB7	Q7	K7	KB7	KN7	KR7
QR2	QN2	QB2	Q2	K2	KB2	KN2	KR2
QR8	QN8	QB8	Q8	K8	KB8	KN8	KR8
QR1	QN1	QB1	Q1	K1	KB1	KN1	KR1

ALGEBRAIC NOTATION



use this symbol for double check) symbol or the '#' symbol.

Taking a pawn en passant is usually written PxP e.p.

A bad move has a question mark (?). A very bad move has two question marks (??). A good move may be marked with a ! after it. A very good move may be marked with two !! after it.

If White won, then it will end with 1-0. If Black won, it will end with 0-1. If it is a draw, it may end with a 1/2-1/2 symbol.

The best way to learn is by example. Here is a short game in descriptive notation. The opening is the King's Gambit Accepted.

1.P-K4 P-K4 2.P-KB4 PxP 3.N-KB3 B-K2 4.B-B4 B-R5+ 5.NxB QxN+ 6.P-KN3 PxP 7.O-O QxP mate 0-1 Carta-Cassano, Italy 1980

The same game in algebraic notation (explained in the next section) is:

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 Be7 4.Bc4 Bh4+ 5.Nxh4 Qxh4+ 6.g3 fxg3 7.O-O Qxh2 mate 0-1 Carta-Cassano, Italy 1980.

Here is another example.

1.P-K4 P-K4 2.P-KB4 PxP 3.N-KB3 Q-K2 4.P-Q4 QxPch 5.B-K2 B-N5ch 6.P-B3 B-R4 7.O-O P-Q3 8.B-N5ch K-B1 9.R-K1 Q-Q4 10.R-K8 mate 1-0 Wall-Atnas, Internet 2003

In algebraic, it is:

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 Qe7 4.d4 Qxe4+ 5.Be2 Bb4+ 6.c3 Ba5 7.O-O d6 8.Bb5+ Kf8 9.Re1 Qd5 10.Re8 mate 1-0 Wall Atnas, Internet 2003

DÉCEMBRE.

JOURNAL DES ÉCHECS.

373

N° CXL. GAMBIT BRYAN. 4. (1)

10 Novembre 1880.

M. SCHULTEN (BLANCS).

M. KIESERITZKY (NOIRS).

1. e 45 e 55 10. B 75 X c E 84

2. f 46 e 46-f 11. B 81-A (3) B 44-d

3. F 43 D 48 X 12. c 43 H 85

4. E 16 b 52 13. D 41 H 45-e

5. F 52-b G 66 14. D 51 X E 75

6. B 33 (2) G 47 15. C 24 G 35 X

7. G 38 B 63 16. C 35-G e 35-C

8. d 44 g 57 17. D 15 e 25 X

9. B 54 F 77 18. E 17 Pl. B 36 X (4)

19. g 36-B F 44 X 21. g 47-D H 47-g X

20. G 26 (5) D 47 X

The algebraic notation is now the most common notation and a standard in all major chess tournaments. It is called algebraic because of the unique way it identifies each chess square on an 8 by 8 matrix chess board. Each column (file) is labeled with a letter. Each row (rank) is labeled with a number. Some chess boards have these letters and numbers written on the sides (letters) and top and bottom (numbers).

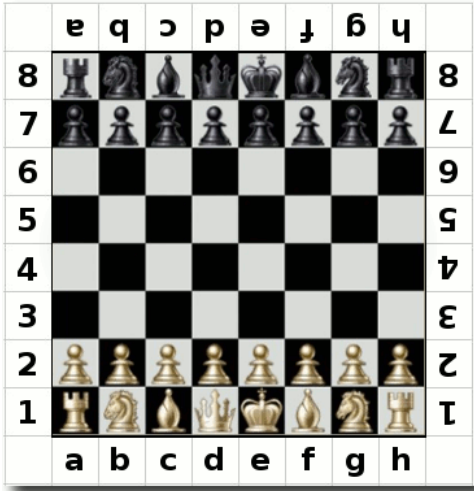
In algebraic notation, the columns, from left to right, are: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h starting from the White side. The rows are numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 from the White point of view. So, from left to right, we have a1, b1, c1, d1, e1, f1, g1, h1. The square in the lower left is a1 and the square in the upper right is h8. The board is usually displayed with the White at the bottom and the Black at the top.

The main thing to remember when looking at a chess diagram, is that the board is always "right side up" for White, meaning White is always shown as playing from the "bottom" of the board. The board is always "upside down" for Black. And in algebraic notation, Black must think in reverse. From Black's point of view, the letters from left to right are h, g, f, e, d, c, b, a and the rows start at 8 and go from bottom to top as 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

The pieces are identified as follows: N for Knight, B for Bishop, R for Rook, Q for Queen, and K for King. The pawn may be given a P, but it is understood that it is a pawn if there is no letter in front of it. The pieces are capitalized and the squares it moves to are in lower case (Bb5 is Bishop to the b5 square).

A move is a combination of the moving piece plus the square to which it is moving. The move Nf3 means the Knight moved to the f3 square. A move e4 means

a8	b8	c8	d8	e8	f8	g8	h8
a7	b7	c7	d7	e7	f7	g7	h7
a6	b6	c6	d6	e6	f6	g6	h6
a5	b5	c5	d5	e5	f5	g5	h5
a4	b4	c4	d4	e4	f4	g4	h4
a3	b3	c3	d3	e3	f3	g3	h3
a2	b2	c2	d2	e2	f2	g2	h2
a1	b1	c1	d1	e1	f1	g1	h1



Algebraic Notation uses the File and Rank system. Each column (file) is labeled with a letter. Each row (rank) is labeled with a number.

the Pawn moved to the e4 square.
Castling on the kingside is O-O. Castling on the queenside is O-O-O.
Promoting a pawn to a queen would be something like a8=Q, meaning a White Queen Rook Pawn made it to the 8th rank and is being promoted to a Queen. It could have been promoted to a Knight, Bishop, or Rook, but you generally want the most powerful piece.
An ambiguous move is made clearer by inserting the file of the moving piece immediately after the letter denoting the piece. For example, if I had the original White Knight on g1 (Ng1) and my other White Knight was on d4 (Nd4), instead of writing Nf3 (either knight could do that), I would write Ngf3 if it were the Knight on g1 or Ndf3 if it were the Knight on d4.
A capture is sometimes denoted with an 'x'. PxP could be exf4. NxB could be Nxb4 (or just Nh4).
A check is indicated optionally by a '+'.
Sometimes moves have a space after the period (1.e4), and sometimes there is no space after the period (1.e4).
Here is the same game from the descriptive notation section in algebraic method again:
1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 Be7 4.Bc4 Bh4+ 5.Nxb4 Qxh4+ 6.g3 fxg3 7.O-O Qxh2 mate 0-1 Carta-Cassano, Italy 1980.
Or, a shortened version - 1.e4 e5 2.f4 ef 3.Nf3 Be7 4.Bc4 Bh4 5.Nh4 Qh4 6.g3 fg 7.O-O Qh2# 0-1 Carta-Cassano, Italy 1980.
Databases may be in Portable Game Notation (PGN). It is a standard header for text files. It uses algebraic with headers. It may look like this.

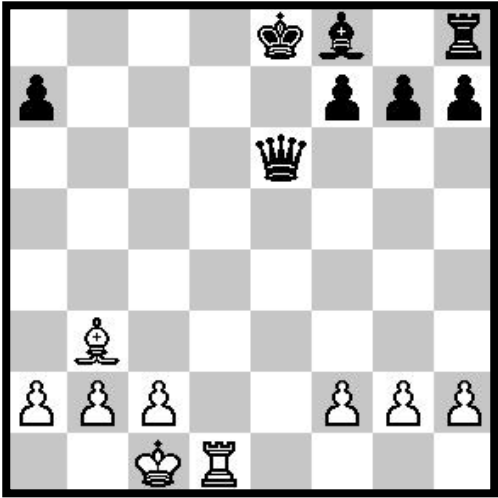
```
[Event "World Ch Match"]
[Site "Reykjavik, Iceland"]
[Date "1972.07.21"]
[Round "5"]
[White "Spassky, Boris"]
[Black "Fischer, Robert"]
[Result "0-1"]
```

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nf3 c5 5.e3 Nc6 6.Bd3 Bxc3 7.bxc3 d6 8.e4 e5 9.d5 Ne7 10.Nh4 h6 11.f4 Ng6 12.Nxg6 fxg6 13.fxe5 dxe5 14.Be3 b6 15.O-O O-O 16.a4 a5 17.Rb1 Bd7 18.Rb2 Rb8 19.Rbf2 Qe7 20.Bc2 g5 21.Bd2 Qe8 22.Be1 Qg6 23.Qd3 Nh5 24.Rxf8 Rxf8 25.Rxf8 Kxf8 26.Bd1 Nf4 27.Qc2 Bxa4 0-1

FORSYTH NOTATION

Forsyth notation is used to record where the chess pieces are on the board in a quick and easy way. The pieces are represented by their symbols (Q=Queen, K=King, R=Rook, B=Bishop, N=Knight, P=Pawn). The letter symbols for Black are written in lower case. For White, the letter symbols are written in upper case. Empty squares are represented by a number. For example, 1 means there is one empty square, 2 means there are two empty squares and so on.
The position is recorded rank by rank (horizontal squares), starting with the eighth rank (the a8 square or QR1 square for Black). The ranks are separated by a "/" symbol.
Thus, r1b1rk1/ means on a8 there is a Black Rook, then an empty square (the b8 square), then a Black Bishop (on the c8 square), a Black Queen (on the d8 square), an empty square (on the e8 square), a Black Rook (on the f8 square), a Black King (on the g8 square), and an empty square (on the h8 square).
If a whole row contains empty squares, then it is written as 8/ in this notation.
While the Forsyth System is no longer in use, with modern Chess Game reporting, it still has a very modern purpose ...

If you've ever Copied & Pasted games of Chess into Fritz (e.g. Fritz 12), you might see the linear* Forsyth notation in part of the code:



The position above would be written: 4kb1r/p4ppp/4q3/8/8/1B6/PPP2PPP/2KR4.



Chess News *chess news from around the world*

Canada –
Grandmaster Bator Sambuev, formerly of Russia, won the 81st Canandian championship, held in Guelph, Ontario in May.

China –
In April Ding Liren, age 18, won the 2011 Chinese Championship.

Cocoa Beach, Florida –
Grandmaster Julio Becerra won the 18th annual Space Coast Open. In the non-master section, Yilmer Guzman defeated Bill Wall in the final round to win that section.

Dallas –
Christopher Wu won the K-6 championship and Cameron Wheeler won the K-5 championship at the 2011 U.S. Elementary Nationals in May.

Kazan, Russia –
In May, Boris Gelfand and Alexander Grischuk have made it to the Candidates Final. Gelfand beat Kamsky in the blitz game playoff and Grischuk beat Vladimir Kramnik.in their blitz playoff. The two will now play to determin who plays Vishy Anand for the world championship.

London –
The 129th Varsity match between Oxford and Cambridge was held in

March. Oxford won the match. The overall scores in the series (which started in 1873) are Cambridge 56 wins, Oxford 53 wins and 20 drawn matches.

Monaco –
Lev Aronin won the 2011 Amberblindfold and rapid tournament, held March 11-24, 2011.

Reykjavik, Iceland –
Bobby Fischer's inheritance was awarde to his widow, Miyoko Watai. She inherits \$2 million. Fischer's nephews had claimed that the marriage was not legitimate, but the Icelandic court ruled against them.

Space –
Greg Chamitoff will play chess with school children on earth while he is aboard the International Space Station. He was part of the Endeavour crew launched May 16.

St Louis –
In April, International Master Anna Zatonskih won the 2011 U.S. Women's Championship for the fourth time. Grandmaster Gata Kamsky won the 2011 U.S. Men's Championship for the third time. Kamsky won the title last year. Prior to Kamsky, the last American to successfully defend his national championship was GM Lev Alburt in 1984-1985.



Feature



by Bill Wall

Some of the greatest artists used chess as their subject in their paintings and sculpture. Here is a partial list in this first part article:

Marcel Duchamp (1887-1968) is perhaps the most well-known artist and chess player (See last issue). He was a French chess master who played on the French chess Olympiad team and used chess themes in many of his paintings. His chess paintings include "La Partie d'échecs" (The Chess Game) in 1910, "Portrait de joueurs d'échecs" (Portrait of a Chess Player) in 1911, "Joueurs d'échecs" (1911), "Study for Chess Players" (1911), and "King and Queen Surrounded by Swift Nudes" (1912). His chess paintings hang in the Museum of Art in Philadelphia and the Guggenheim Museum in New York. Duchamp once said, "While all artists are not chess players, all chess players are artists."

Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema (1836-1912) was one the most renowned painters of the late 19th century Britain, specializing in Greco-Roman genre subjects. He was one of the finest and most distinctive of the Victorian painters. In 1865, he painted "Egyptian Chess Players," which he sold in Berlin to a Moscow banker.

Irving Amen (1918-) is known as a master printmaker. He has produced thousands of woodcuts, etchings, lithographs and silk screens. Some of the titles of his chess works include Chess Game (1977), Chess Strategy, Two Chess Games, Duel, Chess Board, Chess Players, End Game, Espresso, Game of Kings, and Next Move.



"Egyptian Chess Players"
by Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema

Sir Alfred Charles Stanley Anderson (1884-1966) was an English Painter who started out as a heraldic engraver. His 1932 painting, "In Check: Scene at A London Eating-House" hangs in the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Sofonisba Anguissola (1528-1625) was an Italian painter of the Renaissance and trained by Giulio Campi and Bernardino Gatti. Her father was a member of the Geno-

ese minor mobility. She was most famous for her fresh and finely handled portraits. Her 1555 "Le Giocatrici de Scacci" (Artist's Sisters Playing Chess) painting hangs in the Muzeum Narodowe w Poznaniu (National Museum in Poznan, Poland). The painting shows Anguissola's three sisters (Lucia, Minerva, and Europa) playing chess.

Evgenia Petrovna Antipova (1917-2009) was a Soviet painter, watercolorist, graphic artist, and art teacher. In 1980, she painted "Boys in the Garden," depicting two boys playing chess in a garden.



Jose Jimenez Y Aranda (1837-1903) was a Spanish painter born in Seville, Spain. He was an accomplished painter of genre, chiefly of scenes in high life. In 1883 he painted "An Afternoon at Seville" featuring two chess players playing a game of chess and watched by some kibitzers. In 1899, he painted "The Chess Party."

Jose Gallegos y Arnosa (1857-1917), was a Spanish painter. He painted "A Game of chess," depicting some cardinals playing chess.

Giuseppe Aureli (1858-1929) was an Italian artist. He painted "Una partita difficile a scacchi." It depicts two priests playing chess as a lady watches.

Minas Avetisyan (1928-1975) was an Armenian painter. In 1971, he painted "Chess Players," which was later destroyed by fire. In 1972, his studio caught fire and many of

his paintings burned. Some of the burned pictures were later reproduced from photographs taken earlier.



Samuel Bak (1933-) was born in Vilna, Poland (now Vilnius, Lithuania) and survived the Holocaust. The theme of chess appears in many of his paintings, such as "Board Meeting," "Luna," and "Quite Clear" (2000).

Wladyslaw Bakalowicz (1833-1903) was a Polish painter. He studied at the Warsaw School of Fine Arts, then relocated to Paris. In 1876, he painted "Louis XIII Inviting Richelieu to a Game of Chess."

Max Barascudts (1869-1927) was a German painter. He painted "Head-to-head: A Game of Chess," depicting two men playing chess. He painted "An Interesting Game," depicting two cardinals playing chess. In 1900, he painted "Cardinals Playing Chess."



Charles Bargue (1826-1883) was a French lithographer and

painter. He is mostly remembered as the creator of a classical drawing course. One of his paintings from 1880 is entitled, "Le jeu d'échecs" or "Die Schachspieler" (The Chess Game, also known as Playing Chess on the Terrace), a very nice oil painting depicting two French chess players with a kibitzer looking on. His chess painting was his last work. Bargue died of starvation at a charitable institution. The painting was later owned by Mrs. William H. Vanderbilt of New York.

Victor Barthe (1887-1954) was a Russian painter. In 1936, he painted "Paulo Boi and the Devil."

Lubin Baugin (c. 1612-1663) was a French painter. Around 1630 he painted "Nature morte a l'échiquier ou Allegorie des cinq sens" (Still Life with Chessboard or an Allegory of the Five Senses) which hangs in the Louvre. It features a black and white chess board with seven other objects.



Carl Becker (1820-1900) was a German history painter and was president of the Prussian Academy of Sciences. His 1892 painting, "Franz, Adelheid, and the Bishop of Bamberg" hangs in the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art. It is a scene in Goethe's play where Adelheid and the Bishop of Bamberg play chess.

Francesco Beda (1840-1900) was an Italian Academic Classical artist. In 1880 he painted "Partita a scacchi."

Continue

chi” (The Chess Game).

Robert Bereny (1887-1953) was a Hungarian painter who introduced cubism and expressionism to Hungarian art. During the last year of World War 2, his workshop was destroyed, together with many of his paintings. He painted “Woman with Chess-Board,” depicting a woman reading with a chess board in front of her

David Joseph Bles (1821-1899) was a Dutch oil painter. He painted “Chess Players” which was stolen from a museum in 2000.



Ron Blumberg (1908-2002) was trained at the Grande Academie Chaumiere in Paris and worked at the National Academy of Design in New York. In 1958, he painted “Chess Game in the Park.”

Lockhart Bogle (?-1950) was a British painter. He painted “A Game of Chess,” depicting chess in a café.

Louis-Leopold Boilly (1761-1845) was a French painter and printmaker who painted scenes from the French middle-class social life of his time. He painted scenes of players playing checkers, chess, and billiards. One of his paintings was called “The Chess Game.” During his lifetime, he drew over 5,000 portraits and 500 genres.

Paris Bordone (1495-1571) was a Venetian painter of the Renaissance and was trained by Titian. In 1555 he painted “Partita a Scacchi” (The Chess Players) which hangs

in the Staatliche Museen in Berlin. The painting is also known as “Two Chess Players.” Most of his other works are now gone. He was an excellent painter in the Venetian tradition. His most famous painting may be “Daphnis and Chloe,” which is in the National Gallery in London.



Norah Borges (1901-1998) was an Argentine artist and the sister of writer Jorge Luis Borges. Both were chess players. In 1922, she painted “Ajedrez.”

Bernard Louis Borione (1865- ?) was a French painter. In 1906, he painted “A Game of Chess,” depicting a Catholic Cardinal playing chess.



Francois Boucher (1703-1770) was a French painter known for his idyllic and voluptuous paintings on classical themes. He was perhaps the most celebrated decorative artist of the 18th century. He painted “Les Échecs” (Chess). He was a popular exponent of the Rococo style of painting in France. He became the most sought-after painter of his day, winning considerable personal fortune. In 1765, he was director of the Academy and was first painter to the king of France.

He was perhaps the first to exhibit publically and to sell drawing studies. Many of his paintings are in the Louvre.

Robert Bolling Brandegee (1848-1922) was an American painter. In 1890, he painted “The Chess Players.” It features a man and a woman engrossed in a game of chess.

Georges Braque (1882-1963) was a major 20th century French painter and sculptor who, along with Pablo Picasso, developed the art movement known as Analytical Cubism. In 1942, he painted “La Patience” which depicted a chess board.

Antonio Bresciani (1902-1977) was an Italian painter. In 1977 he painted “Gioco de scacchi” (Game of chess).

Frederick Arthur Bridgman (1847-1928) was an American artist and became known as one of the world’s most talented “Orientalist” painters. In 1881, he painted “An Interesting Game,” which hangs in the Brooklyn Museum.

Henri Brispot (1846-1928) was a French painter. In 1881, he painted “The Game of Chess,” depicting two cardinals playing chess as two others watch.

Lucy Madox Brown (1843-1894) was a British painter. In 1871, she painted “Ferdinand and Miranda Playing Chess,” depicting a scene from Shakespeare’s The Tempest.



Vaclav Brozik (1851-1901) was a Czech academic painter. In 1880, he painted “Dagmar and Strange Ebbesen at the Chess Table.”

Lajos Bruck (1846-1910) was a Hungarian painter. He painted “The Chess Game.” It depicts an interior scene of a gentleman and a lady playing chess.



Szymon Buchbinder (1853-1908) was a Polish painter. He painted “Partia Szachow” (Game of Chess).

Giulio Campi (1508-1573) was an Italian painter and architect. In 1550, he painted “La Partita a Scacchi” (A Game of Chess) which hangs in the Musei Civici Arte Moderne in Turin (Torino), Italy.

Henri Caro-Delvaile (1860-1943) was a French painter. In 1904, he painted “Ma Femme et Ses Souers” (My Wife and her Sisters), depicting a game of chess between two ladies.

Louis-Robert Carrier-Belleuse (1848-1913) was a French painter and sculptor. He painted “Joueurs d’échecs” (Chess Players).



Ludovico Carracci (1555-1619) was an Italian, early-Baroque paint-

er, etcher, and printmaker. In 1590, he painted “I Giocatori di Scacchi,” (the two chess players) which hangs in the Gemaldegalerie art museum in Berlin.

Ture Nikolaus Cederstrom (1843-1924) was a Swedish painter who lived in Munich for most of his life. He painted genre scenes, most of which concerned the life of monks and priests. He painted “The Chess Players,” depicting a monk and a priest playing chess, as two other monks watch.

Stanislaw von Chlebowski (1835-1884) was a Polish painter and was a renowned specialist in oriental themes. He painted “Chess Players.”

Paul Charles Chocarne-Moreau (1855-1931) was a French painter. He usually painted scenes of children at play. He painted “Une Bonne Leçon” (A Good Lesson).

Nicolai Cikovsky (1894-1987) was a Russian painter who left Russia in 1923 and settle in New York City. He painted, “Chess” with two men playing chess, and another man watching. The chess board was set up wrong (black square was to the right).



Joseph Clark (1834-1926) was a British painter that captured the spirit of Victorian England. In 1860, he painted “The Chess Players,” which was first exhibited at the Royal Academy in London. In 1876, he painted “Checkmate.”

James Cook (1904-1960) was a

New Zealander painter. In 1958, he painted “The Chess Players,” depicting two men playing chess as another man watches from the side.



Richard Creifelds (1853-1939) was an American painter. In 1886, he painted “The Veterans” which is in the Brooklyn Museum but not on view. It depicts two older men playing chess, and another older man standing and watching.

Girolamo da Cremona (fl. 1451-1483) was an Italian Renaissance painter, illuminator and miniaturist of manuscripts and early printed books. He painted Partita a scacchi” (Game of Chess) around 1480, which hangs in the New York Metropolitan Museum.

George Cruikshank (1792-1878) was a British caricaturist and book illustrator. He was primarily known for his vivid political cartoons and his many book illustrations. In 1835, he sketched in color “Game of Chess” for the publishing house H. Humphrey. He did the illustrations for Dickens’ Oliver Twist.

Augusto Daini (1860-1920) was an Italian painter. He painted “Scacco Matto,” depicting a cardinal playing chess with a woman.

Salvador Dali (1904-1989) was a very prominent Spanish Catalan Surrealist painter. In 1940, he painted “Two Pieces of Bread, Expressing the Sentiment of Love.” It depicts some slices of bread, a few crumbs, and a chess pawn. He painted it after playing a chess

game with Marcel Duchamp. He also designed chess sets with pieces modeled after his fingers and other objects. The set later sold for over \$23,000.



Josef Danhauser (1805-1845) was an Austrian painter who worked mostly in Vienna. In 1839, he painted "Game of Chess," depicting a Hungarian noble woman and a banker playing chess with several onlookers.

William Daniels (1813-1880) was known as the Rembrandt of Liverpool. He painted "The Chess Players." It depicts a warehouseman named Mr. Breeze playing chess with his brother-in-law as Mrs. Breeze brings in some refreshments.

Honoré Daumier (1808-1879) was a French printmaker, caricaturist, painter, and sculptor. He produced over 4,000 lithographic plates. He spent 6 months in prison because of a cartoon, Gargantua, which was an attack on Louis Philippe. In 1865, he painted "Les Joueurs d'échecs" (The chess players), which hangs in the Musée du Petit-Palais in Paris. He also painted "Les Saltimbanques au repos" in 1865, which depicts two players playing chess.

Cornelis de Man (1621-1706) was a Dutch Golden Age painter. In 1670, he painted "The Chess

Players." It is a painting of a man and a woman playing chess. The painting hangs in the Museum of Fine Arts (Szepmuveszeti Muzeum) in Budapest, Hungary.

Ferdinand Victor Eugene Delacroix (1798-1863) was a French Romantic artist and a leader of the French Romantic School. He was born into an important French family and may have been the son of Talleyrand, whom he resembled. He was the most original muralist of the 19th century. In July 1847, he painted "Arabs Playing Chess." The painting hangs in the National Gallery in Edinburgh, Scotland. Delacroix visited North Africa in 1832 and he remembered the scene of Arabs playing chess in the streets. Delacroix said he used "baby's eyelashes" to paint "Arabs Playing Chess."



Ludwig Deutsch (1855-1935) was an Austrian-born French Academic painter who painted "The Chess Game" in 1896. It depicts two Muslim players at a game of chess.

Thomas Eakins (1844-1916) was an American realist painter, photographer, and sculptor. He is considered one of the most important artists in American history. He was an art instructor at the Pennsylvania Academy until he was forced to resign because of a scandal from posing a nude male model before a mixed class. In 1876, he painted "The Chess Players" on a wooden board, not on canvas. It shows the

artist's father, Benjamin, watching two friends (Bertrand Gardel and George Holmes) play chess at the Eakins home in Philadelphia. The work was first exhibited at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia in 1876 and now hangs in the Metropolitan Art Museum in New York. The painting was given to the Metropolitan Museum in 1881. It was the first gift the art museum accepted from a living artist.



Henry Edridge (1768-1821) was an English landscape artist who became proficient as a painter of miniatures, portraits and landscapes. In 1810, he painted "Chess Player."

Charles Loring Elliott (1812-1868) was an American portrait painter born in New York. He was considered the best portraitist of his day, specializing in bust portraits. In July 1859, he painted a portrait of Paul Morphy in his New York studio. The picture hung in the Manhattan Chess Club from 1884 to 2002.

Jehudo Epstein (1870-1946) was a Polish painter. In 1892, he painted "The Chess Game," also known as "Jews Playing Chess."



Rudolph Ernst (1854-1932) was an Austrian Orientalist artist. He painted "The Chess Game."



Merlyn Evans (1910-1973) was a Welsh surrealist painter. In 1951, he painted "The Chess Players," which hangs in the Tate Gallery in London.

Hans Eworth (1520-1574) was a Flemish painter active in England in the mid-16th century. In 1568, he painted "Windsor Family Play Chess."

Antti Faven (1882-1948) was a Finnish painter. He painted "Chess" which portrays Tarrasch, Marshall, Janowski, Burn, and Bernstein.

Benjamin Eugene Fichel (1826-1895) was a French painter of historical scenes, portraits and landscapes. He painted several works depicting chess, including "Two Men Playing Chess" (1860), "The Chess Game" (1881), "The Chess Game #2" (1882), and "The Chess Players."

Samuel Melton Fisher (1860-1939) was a British painter. In 1903, he painted "The Chess Players," depicting two ladies playing chess.

Edward Reginald Frampton

(1870-1923) was an English painter who specialized in murals. He painted "Miranda e Fernando Giocano a Scacchi" or "Ferdinand and Miranda, from The Tempest, Act V."

Salvatore Frangiamore (1853-1915) was an Italian artist. In 1912, he painted "Il Cardinale," depicting a Catholic Cardinal playing chess with a lady.

Albert Joseph Franke (1860-1924) was a German painter. He painted "Two Chess Players" and "Chess Players."

Jakob Emanuel Gaisser (1825-1899) was a German painter. In 1880, he painted "Une Table de Jeu Improvisée." He also painted "Musketiers Playing Chess."

Giovanni Garinei (1846-?) was an Italian painter. Around 1880, he painted "Tocca a tè!" (It's Your Move).

Jean-Leon Gerome (1824-1904) was a French painter and sculptor, known for his Academicism painting style of historical painting, Greek mythology, and Orientalism. In 1859, he painted "Arnauts Playing Chess." In 1898, he painted "The Chess Players." In 1870, he painted "Almehs Jouant Aux Échecs au Café" (Almehs Playing Chess in a Café). His chess paintings are part of the Wallace Collection in London.



Charles Dana Gibson (1867-1944) was an American graphic artist, best known for his creation of the Gibson Girl. In 1903 he etched "The Greatest Game in the World: His Move," which shows a young couple facing each other across a chess board.



Francesco di Giorgio Martin (1439-1502) was an Italian painter and sculptor. He painted "Game of Chess" before 1500. The painting is in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Duncan Grant (1885-1978) was a Scottish painter, known as a decorative designer. In 1971, he painted "Nature Morte Avec Un Matisse," perhaps depicting a chessboard.

Charles Green (1840-1898) was a British painter. In 1874, he painted "A Game of Chess," which is part of the John Noot Galleries.

Juan Gris (1887-1927) was a Spanish painter and sculptor who lived and worked in France most of his life. His works are closely related to Cubism. In 1917, he painted "El Tablero de Ajedrez" (The Chess Board). The painting hangs in the Modern Art Museum in New York.

Alessandro Guardassoni (1819-1888) was an Italian painter. In 1870, he painted "Autoritratto," depicting two men playing chess and crowded with onlookers.

Continued next Issue...



BEN FRANKLIN AND CHESS

History

by Bill Wall

Benjamin Franklin was born on January 17, 1706 (January 6, 1705 old style) in Boston.

In 1726, Franklin wrote about checkers (draughts), but did not mention chess. He had sailed to England and back, and gambled at checkers with his shipmates.

In 1727, Franklin formed a club of young workingmen. It was commonly called the Leather Apron Club, and officially dubbed the Junto. Franklin may have learned chess from this social club of enterprising tradesmen. This group helped establish the academy that later became the University of Pennsylvania. Its first rector was a chess playing companion of Franklin's.

In 1732, he drafted an essay called "The Morals of Chess" for his Philadelphia Junto discussions and his own newspaper, The Pennsylvania Gazette. Franklin considered chess as a metaphor for both diplomacy and life. He had learned chess about this time. In his essay on "The Morals of Chess," Franklin attributed chess being introduced into the United States by Spaniards, who spread chess over their part of America.

In 1733, he began to study languages. When he was learning Italian, he found a chess player who was also learning Italian. Together, they learned Italian. The winner of the chess game between them had to task the other to memorize parts of grammar or Italian translations. They were of equal strength, so he won just as many as he lost, and they both learned Italian.

In 1752, Franklin mentioned that his favorite chess playing partner, David Martin (1696-1751), had died. Franklin had written to an English publisher that he no longer needed a certain chess book because his principle antagonist was dead, and the few remaining players were very indifferent. Martin was a sheriff in New Jersey before coming to Philadelphia. He was one of the earliest members of the American Philosophical Society. He was the first rector of the Academy of Philadelphia (forerunner of the University of Pennsylvania) and a Greek and Latin professor.

In 1757, Franklin purchased a very nice chess set while in London. Franklin's chess set was made of fruitwood. It was French in origin. The chess set design was known as the Regency form. The Regency design was named after the Cafe de Regence in Paris. The Regency pieces were produced from the 1750s to the 1890s. The earlier design, such as what Franklin had, made the Knight piece without the traditional horse head. It had notched collars to distinguish it from the Bishops. It was a turned piece with two cuts at right angles out of its top ruff.

In 1762, Franklin delivered a Regency chess set for a friend, John Bartram (1699-1777), which Franklin ordered while in London. Bartram is considered the "father of American botany."

In December, 1774, when Franklin was at a meeting of the Royal Society in London, he was introduced to Mrs. Caroline Howe (widow of a distant cousin, Richard Howe, and thus



known as Mrs. Howe), a sister of Admiral Richard Howe (Lord Howe) and General William Howe. She challenged him to a game of chess. They played several games of chess at her house over the next few days, including Christmas. Admiral Richard Howe and General William Howe eventually ended up the commanders of England's naval and land forces during the Revolution. Soon, Franklin was meeting secretly with Admiral Howe to talk about politics and negotiations, under the guise of visiting Mrs. Howe to play chess. Franklin used his chess connections to meet secretly with some members of Britain's Whig opposition to stave off a revolution by the colonies.

From 1777 to 1785, Franklin lived in Passy, France.

In the spring of 1777, Franklin first met Madame Brillon de Jouy (age 33) in Passy, near Paris. She was married to a wealthy man 24 years older than her (but 14 years younger than Franklin). She spoke no English. She loved music and was a chess playing companion of Franklin for the next eight years. In July, 1777, she wrote in the third person the following to Franklin: "She is a little miffed about the six games of chess he won so inhumanly and she warns him she will spare nothing to get her revenge." Franklin had a habit of having a late-night chess match with her in the bathroom. Madame Brillon was Franklin's neighbor when he stayed at Passy. She was considered one of the greatest harpsichord players in Europe.

Franklin played chess almost nightly until almost dawn. During one of Franklin's late-night chess matches, a messenger arrived with an important set of dispatches from America. Franklin waved him off until his chess game was finished.

Another time, Franklin was playing chess with the elderly Duchess of Bourbon, who made a move that exposed her king. Franklin then proceeded to capture the king. The duchess, knowing the proper rules to chess, said, "we do not take Kings so." Franklin responded, "We do in America." This anecdote was first told by Thomas Jefferson in his memoirs.

Franklin often played chess at the Cafe de la Regence in Paris. A letter written by Marquis de Lafayette described Franklin's chess playing in Paris.

Franklin blamed his gout from too much sitting playing chess and not enough exercise.

In June, 1779, he wrote "The Morals of Chess" while in London.

In 1782, the wife of the Count de Segur often played chess with Franklin.

In 1783, Franklin played "The Turk" automaton at the Cafe de la Regence in Paris and lost.

One night in Passy, he was absorbed in a game of chess when the candles flickered out. Refusing to quit, he ordered someone to find more candles. It was then pointed out to Franklin that it was already light out. Franklin threw open the shutters and said, "You are right, it is daytime. Let's go to bed." This incident prompted him to write a letter to the Journal de Paris in April, 1784, about the concept of Daylight Savings Time. If during the summer months Parisians would shift their sleeping time seven hours earlier, a huge savings would occur by using sunshine instead of candles. Franklin's habit was to stay up most of the night playing chess and getting up at noon.

Franklin returned to America in 1785.

In December 1786, he published an essay called "The Morals of Chess" in the Columbian Magazine in Philadelphia. He wrote: The Game of Chess is not merely an idle amusement. Several very valuable qualities of the mind, useful in the course of human life, are to be acquired and strengthened by it, so

as to become habits ready on all occasions. For life is a kind of Chess, in which we have points to gain, and competition or adversaries to contend with, and in which there is a vast variety of good and ill events, that are, in some degree, the effect of prudence, or want of it. By playing at Chess then, we may learn: First, Foresight...Second, Circumspection...Third, Caution...And lastly, We learn by Chess the habit of not being discouraged by present bad appearances in the state of our affairs the habit of hoping for a favorable chance, and that of persevering in the secrets of resources...

He died in 1790.

In 1791, a Russian translation from the French reprint of The Morals of Chess was published in St. Petersburg.

In 1999, Benjamin Franklin was inducted into the World Chess Hall of Fame.

Franklin's chess set is part of a traveling display called Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World. This exhibition contains over 250 original Franklin artifacts. The exhibition debuted in Philadelphia.



Franklin's set



Mobile
Chess?

Move
In
Motion

Available on the iPhone
App Store





by Bill Wall

Humor



ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 19)

You are the pioneer type and hold most people in contempt. You are quick tempered, impatient, and scornful of advice. You are not very nice. You play chess with dead people. People can't wait until you are dead. You like to take back moves and don't like touch move rules unless it's your opponent who tries to take back a move. You should sell insurance. Buy WorldCom stock. Avoid passed pawns. (Korchnoi, Smyslov, Portisch, Kasparov, Najdorf)



TAURUS (Apr 20 - May 20)

You are practical and persistent in your chess games. You show no original thought. You have a dogged determination and work like hell to win, but you lose a lot of games. Most people think you are stubborn and bull headed. Sometimes you play chess with God. You are not very good at the endgame. You get into time pressure alot. You think astrology is a bunch of Taurus. Move your pawns with caution. Avoid back rank mate. Let others risk thier own pieces. (Spielmann, Steinitz, Euwe)



GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)

You are a quick and intelligent thinker and like to play speed chess. People say you are too boring. You are inclined to expect too much for too little. This means you are cheap. You have this hidden desire to beat up your father for pushing you into chess. Most of your games are won by swindles. Pick up the pieces from the floor when you lose and the game is over. Go home and start collecting stamps. (Karpov, Reti, Short, Kamsky, Petrosian)



CANCER (June 21 - July 22)

You are sympathetic and understanding to your opponents and you give up draws too easily. Your opponents think you are a sucker. You are always putting things off. That's why you'll never make anything of yourself. You like to take poisoned pawns. You think playing 1.f4 is for the birds. You like gambits. You like to be pushed to the limit. Push back and push your pawns forward. Tune out advice from others; it will only get you mated sooner. (Bird, Benko, Gelfand, Anderssen)



LEO (July 23 - Aug 22)

Your determination and sense of humor will come to the fore. Your ability to laugh at your opponents for making bad moves will be a blessing because you've got a day coming you wouldn't believe. You consider yourself a born leader. Others think you are pushy. Most Leo people are bullies. You are vain and dislike honest criticism. Your arrogance is disgusting. Leo people are thieves. You expect people to throw gold coins at you everytime you win a game. You don't like to analyze your games with your opponents. Leave the blitz games to others. Laugh, love, and learn. Let others blow smoke in your face while you turn the other cheek. Castle long. (Judit Polgar, Marshall, Botvinnik)

***VIRGO*** (Aug 23 - Sept 22)

You are the logical type and hate disorder. This nitpicking is sickening to your friends. You are always adjusting your pieces. You are cold and unemotional and sometimes fall asleep while making love. You are good at blindfold chess, but have a poor memory at everything

else. Resentment and jealousy will only turn obligation into torture. New chess strategies will soon become apparent after you lose all your games. Take up music and remember, pawns are the soul of chess, but queens are more fun. (Philidor, Zukertort, Koltanowski)



LIBRA (Sept 23 - Oct 22)

You are the artistic type and have a difficult time with reality. It's hard for you to accept losses or that you won't make it as a chessplayer. Your desire to play good chess is overshadowed by your desire to be nasty and a decent meal. Someone is watching you, so stop staring back at your chess opponents. You suffer from penis envy. You are obsessed by flies on your head. Trust that your seconds will be there for you and analyze your position while you are sleeping. Explore your romantic side. See a shrink. Fianchetto your bishops. (Fine, Rubinstein, Ehlvest)



SCORPIO (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You are shrewd and cannot be trusted. You will achieve some success at the chess board. You may develop a drinking problem later in life. You lose games to idiots because you get too over-confident. You like to accept gambits, but you always lose being a pawn down. Avoid the endgame. You have many secrets to share with only a few people. Like being a Nazi. Answer questions with other questions until your curiosity is satisfied or when you pass out drunk. Remember, a knight on the rim is dim, but a rook on a7 is heaven. (Alekhine, Nimzovich, Tal, Tchigorin, Capablanca)



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You are optimistic and enthusiastic when you play chess. You have a reckless tendency to rely on luck since you lack talent. People laugh at you a great deal because you play so poorly. You collect chess books but don't read them. You prefer comic books, especially from Mexico. You do not know how to win with knight and bishop vs king endgame, so avoid endgames and sudden death events. You are a fast player and a fast lover. Get away for the weekend. Go shopping at K-Mart for Martha Stewart checkered table cloths and play chess during a romantic dinner. (Reshevsky, Pillsbury, Blackburne, Timman, Anand)



CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 19)

You are conservative and afraid of taking risks. You hate gambits. You don't do much of anything and are lazy. This is why you lose games on time. Opponents will win brilliancy prizes from you. You always end up in 2nd place and never take 1st place. You are a loner, but seem to like it that way. Some areas of your chess life are better left unexplained. Like all the games you threw to those Russians. Friends respect you for saying j'adoube when you adjust your pieces. Indulge yourself. Play in blitz events. (Keres, Browne, Em Lasker, Teichmann)




AQUARIUS (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You have an inventive mind and are inclined to play original openings. That's because you hate to study openings. You lie a great deal. On the other hand, you are inclined to be careless and impractical, causing you to make the same chess mistakes over and over again. People think you are stupid. You like to kick people under the table. You are a poor loser and easily lose your temper. Go write a chess book. Or a hundred books. No one will read them anyway. Speak up for the timid chessplayer. Say "check" real loud when you get your opponent in check. Avoid isolated pawns. (Spassky, Mecking, Reinfeld, Chernev, Loyd, Gligoric, Taimanov)



PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20)

Look for the good things in life. Carry the American Express card and a weapon. The chess world is yours today, as nobody else wants it. You have a vivid imagination and often think you are being followed by the CIA, FBI or State Department. You have minor influence over your opponents and people resent your flaunting of your chess games. You lack confidence and you are generally a coward. You hate to lose, so give up the game and invent another one. Make random chess moves if you can. Give radio interviews when you can. Help a Jew and remember that moment the next time you feel lonely and useless (which is a lot lately). Take control and find strength with the revelation of your skills, talents, and potential. Go on a diet, but don't eat you chess pieces. You have a tendency of always getting in a bind. Accept all gambits. (Bronstein, Tartakower, Mieses, Schlechter, Geller, Maroczy, Tarrasch, Fischer) 



Annotated Game
by Bill Wall
After Players Castle.

Here is a recent game of mine that demonstrates how to play when both sides have castled on opposite sides. The idea is to attack the side where the king is located as fast as possible, trying to open up the position. At the same time, you don't want to weaken your own king's position. Defense must come before attack. But if your position is defended, then attack as quickly as possible.

Bill Wall- S. Villone, Space Coast Open, Cocoa Beach, Florida, April 30, 2011
1.g3 [I wanted to play a hyper-modern opening with the bishops fianchettoed and attacking the center] e5 2.Bg2 d5 3.b3 Nc6 4.Bb2 Be6 [Black is preparing to castle on the Queenside] 5.d3 Qd7 6.Nf3 [threatening to play 7.Nxe5 and win a pawn] f6 7.O-O O-O-O [now the plan is for White to attack the queenside and for Black to attack the kingside] 8.Nbd2 Nh6 [aiming for 9...Nf7 later on] 9.e4 d4 10.a3 Nf7 11.b4 g5 12.b5 Na5?! [perhaps better is 12...Ne7, aiming for Ng6 and a kingside attack. Now the knight on the rim is dim, but Black is attacking the b5 pawn with the queen] 13.c4!? [safer is 13.a4, protecting the b5 pawn] b6 [Black could try 13...dxc3 14.Bxc3 Qxb5 and win a pawn, so the question is does White have compensation for the pawn with perhaps an attack on the open file] 14.Qa4?! [better may be 14.a4 or 14.Nb3. White really doesn't have a threat yet and could have just played 14.Nb3] Kb8 [better may be 14...a6 since White cannot play 15.bxa6 without losing his queen to 15...Qxa4] 15.Nb3 Nxb3 16.Qxb3 h5 [Black throws all his pawns on the kingside and White

gets ready to throw his pawns on the queenside] 17.a4 g4?! [perhaps 17...h4 was better, with the threat of 18...h3 and restricting White's moves] 18.Nh4 Ng5 19.a5 Bc5?! [may be too slow. Black should continue to put pressure on the kingside with 19...Rg8. 19...bxa5? 20.Rxa5 or 20.Ba3 opens up the game for White] 20.Ba3 [another alternative is 20.axb6 cxb6 21.f4 or 20.f4 first] Bxa3 21.Rxa3 [stronger may be 21.Qxa3 and 22.axb6. I wanted to double up the rooks on the a-file first] Nf3+? [Black may be giving up a pawn and not enough pieces to attack White's kingside. Black should get more pieces attacking the kingside with 21...Rhg8 and try to double up the rooks] 22.Bxf3 gxf3 23.Rfa1 Bg4?? [trying to protect the pawn rather than defending his kingside.



Black had to play 23...Rh7 to guard his 2nd rank from attack. After 23...Rh7 24.axb6 cxb6, now Black is defending the a7 square with King, Queen, and Rook. White will continue with 25.Rxa7 Qxa7 26.Rxa7 Rxa7 27.Nxf3, winning the pawn] 24.axb6 cxb6 [not 24...axb6?? 25.Ra8+ Kb7 26.R1a7 mate] 25.Rxa7 Qxa7 26.Rxa7 Kxa7 27.Qa3+ Kb8 28.Qe7 Rhe8 [28...Rh8 fails to 29.Ng6] 29.Qxf6 Ka7 30.Ng6 Ra8 31.Qf7+ and Black resigned 1-0

amazonkindle

Free Kindle Reading Apps

Read Kindle books wherever you are, on all your devices.

Windows PC

Mac

iPad

Click on ads to visit websites

OFF THE WALL CHESS RESOURCE STORE

www.offthewallchess.com

Ask Bill



Bill Wall
bill_wall@bellsouth.net

From Alan S.
I am an educator who is thinking about adding chess to our school system curriculum. What are some of the benefits in chess for kids?

Alan,
there have been a variety of studies that show the benefits of chess in the schools. One high school study showed that a chess-playing experimental group showed significant advancement in verbal aptitudes as well as spatial, numerical and administrative-directional abilities, compared to a control group of non-chess players. A Belgium study showed a chess-playing group of fifth graders experienced a statistically significant gain in cognitive development over a control group. A Chinese study showed chess players gaining a 15% improvement in math and science and test score. A good book on the subject is "Children and Chess: a guide for educators" by Dr. Alexey Root.

From Richard D.

Was Paul Morphy the first world champion and was he that eccentric?

Richard,
Paul Morphy may have been an unofficial world champion, but the official title goes to Wilhelm (William) Steinitz. The first official match for the world championship was in 1886, and Steinitz won the

match from Johannes Zukertort. In his day, Morphy was probably the best chess player in the world. Morphy was a Creole and had some eccentricities, but he wanted to be known as a lawyer or gentleman, not a chess player. He played chess strictly as an amateur. Stories and rumors such as being surrounded by women's shoes or beating someone up with his cane were just made up. He wasn't part Black as one source says and he wasn't insane so far as we know. He died at an early age (47) having suffered a stroke brought on by entering cold water in his bath after a long walk in the midday heat of New Orleans in the summer. Bobby Fischer considered Morphy as one of the greatest chess players ever.

From Giuseppe.
What is an honorary grandmaster?

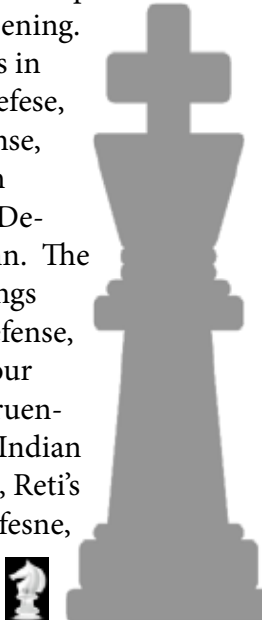
Giuseppe,
an honorary grandmaster (HGM) of grandmaster emeritus is one that is given the title by the World Chess Federation (FIDE) for past chess deeds, before there was a rating system or qualifying event. They are usually awarded to older chess masters that are no longer active. There have been about two dozen honorary grandmasters that have been recognized by FIDE. Once given the title of Grandmaster or Honorary Grandmaster, the title is held for life. The titles are awarded by a resolution of the FIDE General Assembly and the Qualification Committee. Grandmaster titles are not awarded posthumously.

From Marcos.
What are some of the best movies with chess?

Marcos,
some of the best movies about chess include Searching for Bobby Fischer, Chess Fever (silent movie from 1925), The Luzhin Defence, Knights of the South Bronx, Dangerous Moves, and Knight Moves. There are hundreds of movies that have some sort of chess scene such as Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, Casablanca, Lolita, 2001: A Space Odyssey, The original Thomas Crown Affair, Blazing Saddles, Blade Runner, The spy Who shagged Me, X-Men, From Russia With Love, etc. For a more complete list of chess in the movies, see Chess in the Movies by Bob Basalla.

From Sean.
Are there any statistics on what's the best chess opening for White and Black?

Sean, there are a few sites that have an Opening Explorer of master chess games. I haven't looked at my one games, but from other master databases, White's best openings in order are: Queen's Gambit, English Opening, King's Indian Defense, Ruy Lopez, Four Knights Opening, Giuoco Piano, Ponziani Opening, and Bishop's Opening. Black's best openings in order are: Sicilian Defense, Nimzo-Indian Defense, Pirc Defense, French Defense, Alekhine's Defense, and Caro-Kann. The most drawish openings are: Bogi-Indian Defense, English Opening, Four Knight's Defense, Gruenfeld Defense, King's Indian Attack, Torre Attack, Reti's Opening, Petroff Defense, and Nimzo-Indian Defense.



The House of Staunton

Why settle for less! -When you can Own a Legend!

CHESS SETS

**From
Classic...
...to
Fantastic**



**NOW AVAILABLE:
-PERSONALIZED
ENGRAVED CHESS
BOXES!**



PH. 256.858.8070

www.houseofstaunton.com