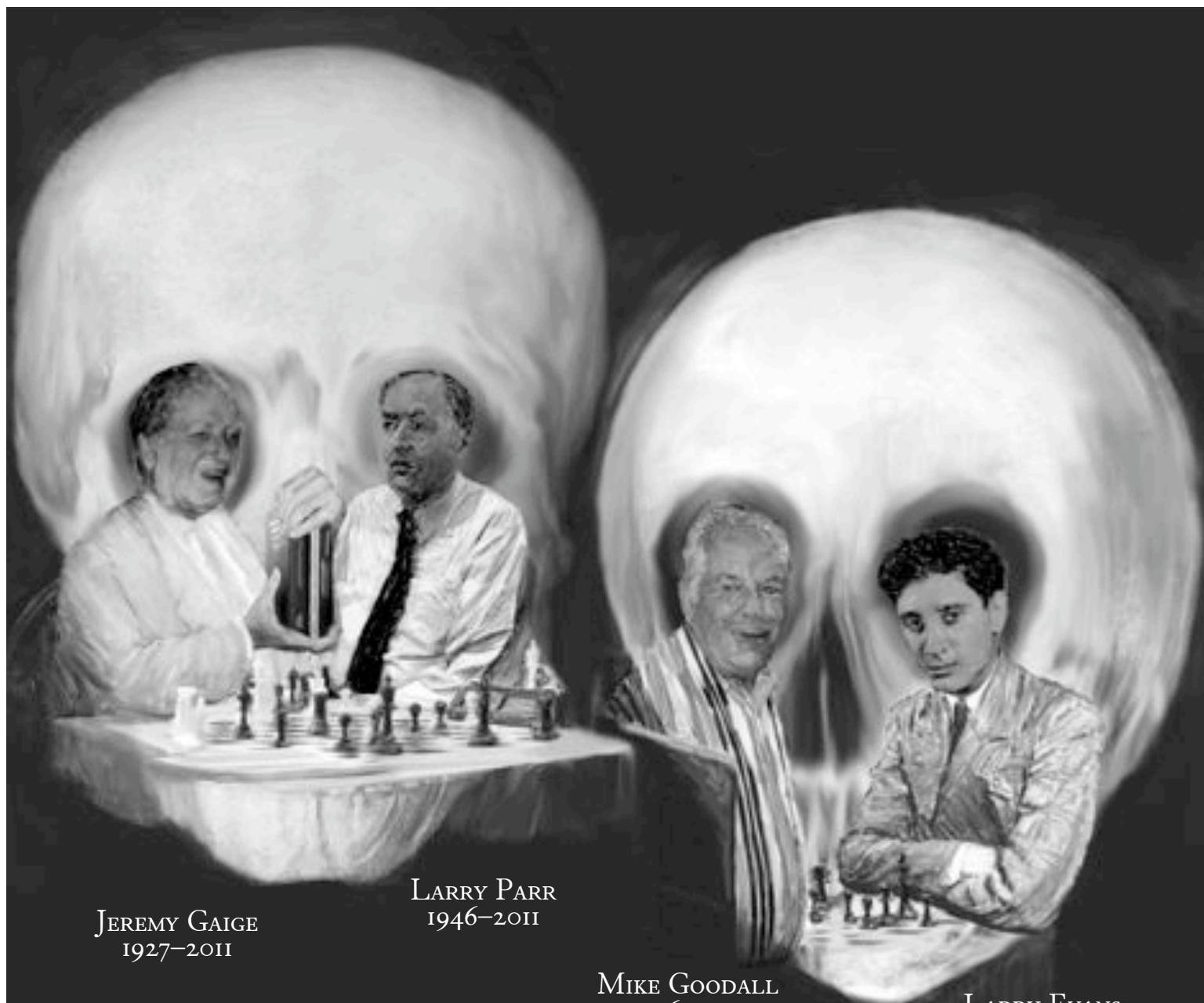


THE CHESS JOURNALIST

VOLUME XL, N° 1

CONSECUTIVE N° 138

WINTER 2011



JEREMY GAIGE
1927-2011

LARRY PARR
1946-2011

MIKE GOODALL
1946-2010

LARRY EVANS
1932-2010

'Tis all a Chequer-board of Nights and Days
Where Destiny with Men for Pieces plays:
Hither and thither moves, and mates, and slays,
And one by one back in the Closet lays.

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Cover design by Mark N. Taylor

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IN MEMORIAM—yet again

assembled by MARK N. TAYLOR

Chess and Death has long been an irresistible motif, first in literature and later in film. I cannot say if chess helps us to come to grips with mortality—our own or that of others—and I tend to doubt it, but in moments of quiet reflection the motif is indeed irresistible. We hope that we have played our game well—and we may hope we are not eternally condemned to remain in the box. In the space of a half-year we have lost four well-known and significant figures in chess journalism: Mike Goodall, Larry Evans, Jeremy Gaige, and Larry Parr. To those who knew these men, words cannot do justice to their lives. For those unfamiliar with them, these memorials are an invitation to to get to know their legacy.

Mike Goodall 1946-2010

Kenneth Michael Goodall, one of the leading chess promoters in Northern California for five decades and a member of the California Chess Hall of Fame, passed away on October 5th after a long illness, at the chessic age of 64. He was a member of the national tournament directors qualifications committee, and represented Northern California at U.S. Chess Federation delegates meetings. The USCF gave Goodall



Mike Goodall

the Outstanding Career Achievement Award in 1991.

Mike directed more than a dozen state championships, and was the driving force behind the Golden Gate Open, which drew 468 players in 1976, San Francisco's best-attended tournament ever. "I don't do very much, except walk around and tell people to be quiet," he once understated.

Goodall was an international arbiter at FIDE (World Chess Federation) events. In 1972 Goodall was responsible for transmitting the moves from the Fischer-Spassky world championship match in Iceland to the PBS TV network in New York.

An expert-rated tournament player who traveled to 20 U.S. Opens, Goodall once defeated grandmaster Nick DeFirmian. (Digested from Frisco Del Rosario's chess blog at the San Francisco Examiner)

A few remembrances:

"His many friends will remember him best for his unfailing loyalty and generosity. Mike could always be counted on. Goodall was a benefactor of the USCF and the Chess Journalists of America." — John Donaldson (*Mechanics' Institute Chess Club Newsletter* n°. 509).

"His work for chess was so universal in its range and scope that his loss will be felt in almost every branch of organization and play; but withal so good-tempered and un-

obtrusive in his quiet efficiency that months may yet elapse before we fully realize what a grievous loss chess has suffered in his departure". — Frank Berry

"It was obvious to me how much he loved chess and chess players." — Michael Aigner

"I first met Mike back in Berkeley in 1963. He's been a good friend ever since then. Mike was always kind, sharp as a tack with a unique sense of humor and always a gracious host. His annual Christmas / New Year's day parties held at his home in San Rafael (Marin county in CA) were classics!

"In closing, I add only this little story: after Tal had arrived on the evening of March 4th, my friend Mike Goodall and I played some blitz games in honor of his arrival. Mike attacked ferociously like a lion; I defended. Then, I attacked like a demon and Mike defended. It went on and on like this until we were both completely and utterly exhausted. After about a dozen plus blitz games of the most exciting totally unbelievable Chess, all I could do was to look at Mike and say: 'Tal's in town!'" — Alan Benson

Underlay: "Death playing chess," by Albertus Pictor (1440–1507). Taby kyrka, Stockholm.

Larry Evans 1932-2010

Grandmaster and chess journalist Larry Evans passed away on Monday, November 15th, 2010, at Washoe Hospital in Reno, Nevada. He was 78. He is arguably one of the most prolific and influential chess journalists of the second half of the twentieth century. He was for several decades the most widely read chess writer in the world. His syndicated column reached a minimum of six million people weekly, appearing in this country and in foreign lands ranging from Pakistan to South Africa. A perennial winner of the Chess Journalists of America award for "Best Regular Newspaper Column," GM Evans was admired for producing tightly penned essays on topical questions.



Five-time U.S. champion, distinguished author of MCO-10 (the famed "Chess-player's Bible") as well as the path-breaking *New Ideas in Chess* and some 25 other books; award-winning syndicated columnist; investigative journalist; chess ambassador for the U.S. State Department; magazine contributor to *Time*, *Sports Illustrated* and many other publications; television commentator for ABC's *Wide World of Sports*; founder and editor of the *American Chess Quarterly*; founder and chairman of the Friends of the USCF; crusader for the

GRANDMASTER LARRY EVANS ON CHESS



**Evergreen, ever analyzed;
history repealed; still
right after all these years.**

Players' Health and Benefit Fund; and self-described heck-raiser and muckraker. GM Larry Evans was all of the above and much, much more.

Larry Evans was born in Manhattan on March 22, 1932. Already at the age of 14 he tied for fourth/fifth place in the Marshall Chess Club championship. The next year he won it outright, becoming the youngest Marshall champion up until that time. At 17 Evans tied with Arthur Bisguier for first place in the U.S. Junior Chess Championship of 1949. By age 18, he had won a New York State championship as well as a gold medal in the Dubrovnik Chess Olympiad of 1950. In the latter, his 90% score (eight wins and two draws) on sixth board tied with Rabar of Yugoslavia for the best result of the entire Olympiad. In 1951 Evans first won the U.S. Championship, ahead of Samuel Reshevsky. The following year he won his second championship by winning a title match against Herman Steiner. He won the national championship thrice more: in 1961-62, 1967-68 and 1980—the last in a tie with Walter Browne and Larry Christiansen.

Evans began his career in chess journalism during the 1960s, helping to found the *American Chess Quarterly*, which ran from 1961-65. He was an editor of *Chess Digest* during the 1960s and 1970s. For over thirty years, until 2006, he wrote a question-and-answer column for *Chess Life*, the official publication of the United States Chess Federation (USCF), and has also written for *Chess Life Online*. His weekly chess column, "Evans on Chess," has appeared in more than fifty separate newspapers

throughout the United States. He also wrote a column for the *World Chess Network*.

Evans has also commentated on some of the most important matches for major media outlets, including the 1972 Fischer versus Spassky match, the 1993 PCA world title battle between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short, and the Braingames world chess championship match between Vladimir Kramnik and Garry Kasparov in 2000.

As a magazine writer, Evans was best known in the chess community for his stewardship for nearly 40 years of a question-and-answer column in *Chess Life*, and still remains easily the longest-serving contributing editor of the magazine. Earlier, during the 1950s, he conducted the well-received "Odds & Evans" column for



Al Horowitz's fabled *Chess Review* as well as a regular feature in the old *Chess Life* newspaper.

But GM Evans was more than a scribbler of newspaper columns and magazine articles. He was a pioneer in high-quality, independent chess publishing. In his *American Chess Quarterly*, he published such classic articles as Bobby Fischer's "A Bust to the King's Gambit" and Edward Lasker's path-breaking "Automatic Electronic Chess-Playing Machines"—which, of course, are the ravaging beasts that we today call chess computers.

Evans had always been interested in writing books as well. By the age of eighteen, he had already published David Bronstein's *Best Games of Chess, 1944-1949* and the *Vienna International Tournament, 1922*. His book, *New Ideas in Chess*, was published in 1958, and was later reprinted. Over the years he has written or co-written more than twenty books on chess.

For many years Evans was a good friend of Bobby Fischer; an important part of Fischer's acclaimed *My Sixty Memorable Games* was done by Evans: he compiled the analysis, conveyed the text in Fischer's voice and wrote, in excellent style, the sixty introductions to the games.

This gift for authoritative yet undogmatic reflection can also be found in Evans' *Modern Chess Brilliances*, which Bobby proofed by eye for analytical accuracy, and the perennial hardy, *New Ideas in Chess*. And let us not forget his *Chess World Championship 1972* (co-authored with Ken Smith), a work on the Fischer-Spassky match that is commonly judged as the finest book on the greatest match of the 20th century.

GM Evans' legacy as a chess instructor is to be found in such works as *Chess in Ten Lessons*, *Chess: Beginner to Expert*, *The Chess Opening for You*, *What's the Best Move?*, and the much-admired *How to Open a Chess Game*, which was co-authored with Bent Larsen, Tigran Petrosian, Lajoa Portisch et al. His recent *This Crazy World of Chess* has gone through multiple editions.

As a book writer, Evans' hallmark was lucid exposition by which he untangled the difficult without oversimplifying the ele-

mentary. His books are virtually free of jargon because of a conscious effort to express chess ideas in language understood by all literate readers.

Larry Evans' career possessed a Dickensian sweep—a largeness of compass that makes it impossible to chart all of the directions through which he practiced what used to be called "the humane endeavour." But most importantly, perhaps to Larry himself, was that he did it all *his way*. (Digested from ChessVibes.com and Larry Parr's memorial at USChessOnline)

Jeremy Gaige 1927-2011

Jeremy Gaige, the greatest archivist in the history of chess, died on February 19th at his home in Philadelphia. He was 83. Gaige who started his pioneering work in the 1960s, will likely be best remembered for his monumental *Chess Personalia*. This work, first published in 1987, includes vital statistics on over 14,000 chess personalities from around the world. Serious chess columnists and writers consider it the definitive work with many consulting it on a daily basis. Gaige was inducted into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame in 2007. — John Donaldson (Mechanics' Institute Chess Club Newsletter #531)

In the early 1960s, while working as an editor at the Evening Bulletin, Mr. Gaige began compiling detailed records of chess events, particularly tournaments, and collecting data about players and writers. He set up a printing press in his basement and hand-set type to produce the six volume *Chess Tournament Crosstables* occurring between 1851 and 1980. He also self-published other books and booklets.

In 1987 McFarland & Co. published Gaige's *Chess Personalia: A Biobibliography*, which provided vital statistics on about 14,000 chess personalities from all countries and periods. "The sources quoted by Gaige are astonishingly far-ranging," wrote reviewer Edward Winter. "Wherever possible, he has made contact with the personalia themselves. Much information has also been obtained from funeral homes, ceme-

teries, universities, alumni records, professional directories, etc."

Winter described Mr. Gaige as "a brilliant sifter of evidence, and, unlike so many chess writers, when he doesn't know, he says he doesn't know. The biobibliography is one of the most useful chess books ever published, yet Jeremy Gaige would be the last person to claim that it is "definitive." His work goes on, an incomparable service to the game he loves. *Chess Personalia* was republished as a paperback in 2005. (Sally A. Downey, *The Inquirer*)

In a "self obituary" (which can be found at <http://www.chessbase.com/newsdetail.asp?newsid=7073>), Gaige describes his late entrance into

chess: "In 1958, after his divorce from his first wife, he was introduced to chess at the age of 30. He found the game itself fascinating, but his limited skill became quickly

apparent. ... It was therefore with a certain sense of inevitability that he gravitated to a study of the history of chess. In the beginning, it was simply to gain a general understanding of the game's development and of the lives of its leading practitioners." He describes his self-education as a researcher as one "acquired largely by trial and error."

Gaige's self-appraisal is accurate: "Intrinsically, his strengths combined those of journalist and historian—insatiable curiosity, persistence, an eye for contradictory data, and considerable though by no means invariable skill in determining the correct version. His weaknesses included his limited skill at the game of chess itself...." Had he lived longer, "given three or four lifetimes", he wished to produce a dictionary of *Chess and Chess Personalia* comparable to *Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians*.



Jeremy Gaige

“Failing that, his own hope was that his efforts, which he was at pains to define as the latest word, not the last word, would provide a reliable basis of received knowledge to enable future historians to create such a dictionary.”

“That Jeremy Gaige finds the time and energy for so much high-quality research is almost miraculous; he stands supreme as chess’s greatest ever archivist.” —Edward Winter, C.N. 1491

Larry Parr 1946-2011

Former *Chess Life* Editor Larry Parr died in the early morning hours of April 2 at Subang Jaya Medical Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, at age 65.

Chess was to play an important role in Larry’s life but he learned the game relatively late while in high school.

Curiously, although Larry would later compete overseas, he appears to have never played a USCF rated game after 1969. His highest USCF rating never approached 2000 but Larry was definitely of Expert strength at his peak as shown by some of his later results in Germany and Malaysia. While he loved chess, Larry was happiest analyzing, studying and discussing the game rather than playing in tournaments.

Not long after graduation, Larry entered the military and was sent to the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California, where he studied Russian. This benefited the readers of his beloved *Northwest Chess* when he used his new skills to translate material from the Soviet weekly *64* for his monthly column, “Chess in Russia.”

One of Larry’s greatest successes over the board was tying for first in a 57-player Swiss at Rhein-Main, West Germany in 1970.

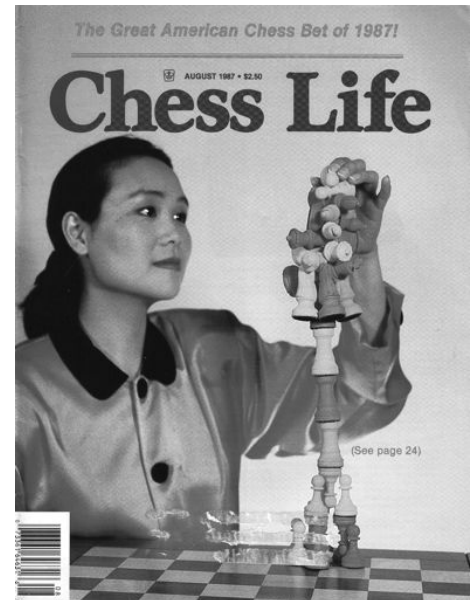
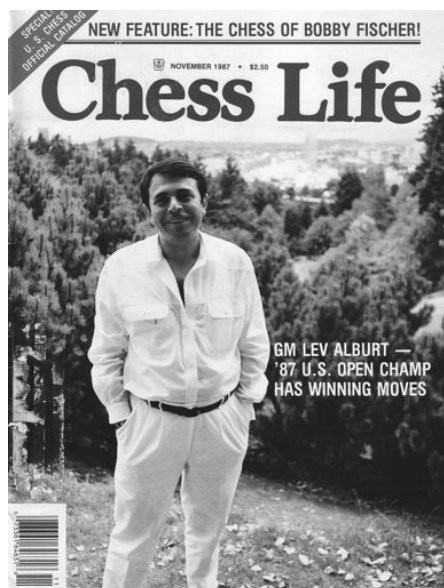
Larry found his true home when he moved to the Far East a second time after finishing his academic career. He landed a job writing for the leading Malaysian paper, *The New Straits Times*, and scored one of his greatest tournament successes, sharing second place in the 7th Selanger Open.

While attending the University of Washington as an undergraduate in the mid

1960s, Larry became a friend and fan of Viktor Pupols, one of the top players in the state. Fifteen years later this sparked him to do a series of articles on Pupols for *Northwest Chess* (June and July 1982) that were to prove to have a profound effect on Larry’s life. The articles were well-received and served as the basis for *Viktors Pupols, American Master*, published by Thinkers’ Press in 1983. This book provided Larry the name recognition needed to interview for the position of editor of *Chess Life*.

When he took the helm in January of 1985, *Chess Life* underwent a serious shift from its traditional policy of toeing the middle of the road to adopting a strongly anti-Soviet stance which matched the personal politics of its editor. *Chess Life* also adopted a single-voice approach with Larry liberally editing the copy of many contributors. This made a lot of sense in instances where English was the individual’s second language, but for other writers it produced a lot of hard feelings when they found words and expressions in their articles they never used. *Chess Life* was definitely more timely and lively during Larry’s editorship, but, for some, all the articles in the magazine read as if they were written by the same person, the bylines notwithstanding.

The cover of *Chess Life* was always a priority for Larry and he took great care in making sure everything was just right, often going to the trouble of commissioning an



expensive professional rather than taking chances. The cover photograph of his good friend Lev Alburt posing in the hills above Portland after winning the 1987 US Open was a real classic and a fine example of Larry’s vision being realized.

Working for *Chess Life* was serious business for Larry, but occasionally he let his hair down and was not above playing a practical joke—witness the article on chess sculpture that he wrote in 1987. The two-page article was devoted to a guy called the Pro from Dover who had managed to devise a way to stack 32 chess pieces into the sky without having them tumble over. Those in the know thought it was written primarily as an excuse to put a beautiful Asian woman on the cover. Whatever the case, it remains one of the oddest stories to ever appear in *Chess Life*, which is saying quite a lot.

The job at *Chess Life* was a tough one with long hours and poor pay but Larry thrived on it. Botvinnik once said that playing a world championship match took six months off your life, and many editors at *Chess Life* in the 1980s likely felt the same way. Constant battles with the USCF Policy Board took their toll on many an editor, but Larry welcomed the political infighting and never backed down. Not surprisingly, by the spring of 1988 he was looking for a new job.

Dumped by the USCF Policy Board,



An Editor's Good-Bye: It's Been Just Great To Serve All Of You

Larry was quick to get back on his feet, and, by the middle of 1988, he was working at the anti-communist magazine *Glasnost* based in New York City. During this time he co-authored articles with Garry Kasparov that appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, but, with the end of the Cold War in the early 1990s, Larry needed a new career and he found one working for the Malaysian businessman and chess maeceenas Dato Tan, whose autobiography, *Never Say I Assume!*, he collaborated on. Working for Dato Tan not only allowed Larry to support his family, but to travel all over the Asia that he so loved.

During the 1990s Larry also found time to co-author the book for which he is likely to be best remembered. *The Bobby Fischer I Knew and Other Stories*, published by Jim Eade's Hypermodern Press in 1995, was a team effort between Grandmaster Arnold Denker and Larry that is a fine tribute to American chess masters of the 1930s and 40s. The material, which was partially serialized in *Chess Life*, would very likely never have seen the light of day if not for Larry, who not only wrote the book (based on Denker's reminiscences) but also spent many hours doing research in the *American Chess Bulletin* and the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*

hunting down forgotten games.

The 1990s were also when Larry found the Internet and in a big way. Search at rec.games.chess for his handle Parrthenon and you will find thousands of posts by him on all matter of subjects. A first rate polemicist who could persuasively argue either side of an argument, Larry loved nothing better than no-holds barred battles online.

The last sixteen years of Larry's life were definitely his happiest. He was extremely proud of his wife, Samboon, and their two children, Christiana and Ian. It was with their support that he successfully battled a tumor in his brain a decade ago. (Digested from John Donaldson's *Mechanics' Institute Chess Club Newsletter*, n°. 533)

"Foremost, he was a full-blooded American. He believed in the freedom of press ... he was upright and honest and (heavens!) a kind man. He was thrifty (in everything) and he was sincere in his thoughts. He found it difficult to be flexible in a changing world." —International Arbiter Abd Hamid Majid ♔

As an addenda to our last issue's report on the 2010 awards for best chess journalism, here is a snapshot of the website of the Best [USCF] State Chapter Website Award: CalChess, the Northern California USCF state affiliate.

AN EDITOR'S ARCHIVES

MARK N. TAYLOR

It's hard if not impossible for an editor to create in a vacuum, especially an editor desiring to do more than merely record events and edit reports. Like a jewel, straight journalism needs a good setting to be best appreciated. The editor needs a good archive to create good settings.

Guides to grammar and style as well as reference works were covered by John Hillery in previous issues of *The Chess Journalist* (June and September 2008). Here I would like to focus on developing an archive of other chess periodicals.

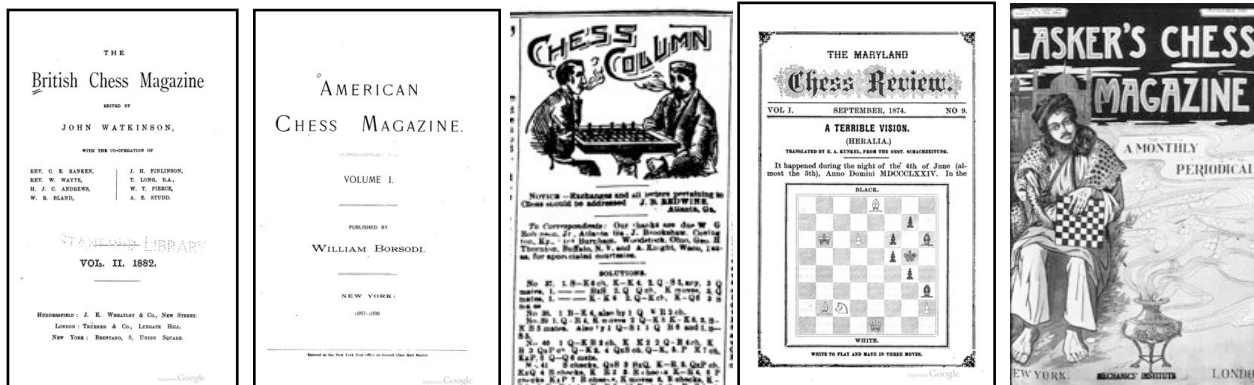
First, editors must be familiar with the history of their periodical. Ideally, they should have access to a complete run of previous issues. I suspect that archives of complete back issues are rather rare among local organizations. Institutions that have their own building (that has never burned down or been flooded out) are most likely to have such an archive. State associations often have no permanent home and various former officers have partial collections. I hope to write more on building the state chess association archive in a future article. Here I will simply state that it is hard to be aware of your history without access to back issues. An editor who possesses an historical consciousness is able to bring depth to the writing. The difference is akin to an artist painting with shading versus an amateur content with paint-by-numbers.

By way of personal example: a few years ago I essayed a series of articles for *Georgia Chess* on Georgia's late IM Boris Kogan. I had a very hard time assembling his history of chess in Georgia, as at that time we had no archive of back issues. I always regretted that that series was not as rich as it could have been. Now that we are in the process of forming an archive and I am finally seeing old issues of *Georgia Chess*, I realize how much better that series should have been. I also have a new-found respect for the old-timers on the lower boards who were so influential decades ago in producing the

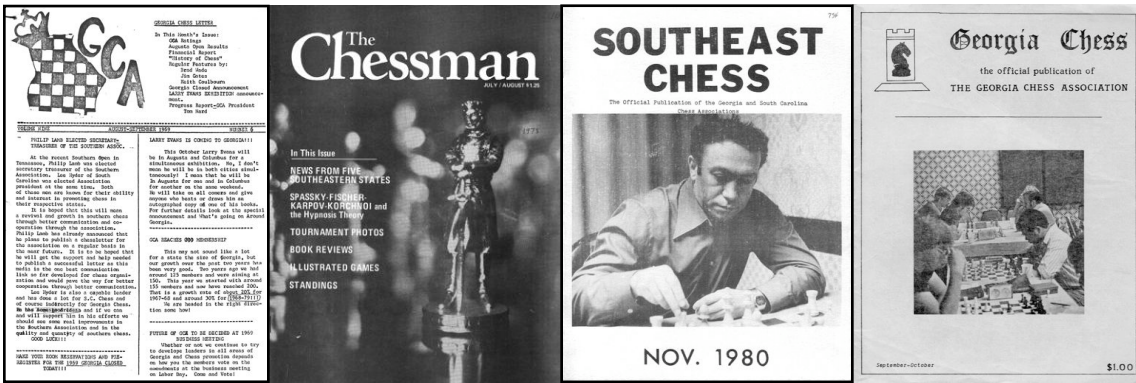
state newsletter. If you are young(ish) and new to your position of editor, do seek out past issues of your publication. You will be a better editor for it.

Second, you will of course want to have at hand contemporary chess magazines. For Americans, *Chess Life* goes without saying. You might add a few other contemporary high-quality magazines, such as *New In Chess* or any other periodicals you admire. If you can demonstrate that you are using these magazines to improve your own, ask your state association board to sponsor a subscription. If you are doing good work and striving to improve the quality of your state's official publication, you should be supported in your efforts. Editors of state chess periodicals number among the most overworked volunteers in the organization. That's why they so often burn out and need to step down. A state association that has a good editor lasting more than two years should count itself very lucky. (This is not uninformed opinion. I have spent much time in the White Collection reviewing state publications, and I have seen the same motif often repeated: new editor starts out full of energy and enthusiasm; editor begins to realize the job is much more time-consuming than anticipated; issues begin to run late and editor complains about continued lack of support; demoralized editor resigns.)

Third, create an archive of back issues of national and international periodicals. It's not that difficult to assemble an archive of *Chess Life* going back ten, twenty, or even thirty years. If you have not been around that long, ask older members to contribute their old issues; chances are they are cluttering up their basement. You will make someone's spouse happy. Get your organization to offer incentives for donating back issues: free memberships or free tournament entries and count them as tax-deductible donations (if allowed). Thank them by name in your newsletter. Fortunately, I recently received from Daniel Lucas the Georgia Chess Association library, which included a complete run of *Chess Life* going back to



A sample of what you can find online at Google Books and at state archives.



Access to an archive of back issues of your organization's publications will deepen your historical consciousness. Many state chess associations have decades of newsletters and magazines.

about 1985. They have the mailing labels of several different members, indicative of someone's conscious assembly. (Some of the graphics in this issue's "In Memoriam" feature were taken from those old issues.) Moreover, they contain information about our state's chess history extant nowhere else. Unless your state organization has a formal position designated as Historian, chances are the editor is it.

As for other chess magazines and bulletins, well, you cannot just go out and buy the full run of, say, the BCM, and probably your local library cannot get them for you either. You might try to assemble an archive of your favorites via eBay. Fortunately, however, more material is becoming available all the time on the internet. Here is a partial listing to introduce you to what you can find on Google Books in fully searchable digital copies:

- American Chess Bulletin vv 1-18 (1904-1921)
- American Chess Magazine (Stanley) v 1 (1847)
- American Chess Magazine vv 1-2 (1897-1898)
- The American Chess Weekly (1903)
- The British Chess Magazine vv 1-28 (1888-1908)
- The Chess Player's Chronicle vv 1-25 (1841-1874)
- The Chess Player's Magazine vv 1-5 (1863-1867)
- Chess Weekly v 2 (1908)
- The Chess-monthly vv 3-9 (1882-1888)
- The City of London Chess Magazine vv 1-2 (1875-1876)
- Deutsche Schachzeitung vv 20-21, 44-61 (1865, 1889-1905)
- Huddersfield College Magazine vv 1-8 (1873-1880)
- The International Chess Magazine (Steinitz) v 7 (1891)
- Jaarboekje: Nederlandsche schaakbond vv 10-19 (1883)
- Lasker's Chess Magazine v 2 (1905)
- Maryland Chess Review vv 1-2 (1874)
- Neue Berliner Schachzeitung vv 1-8 (1864-1871)
- Schachzeitung vv 2-25 (1847-1870)
- Süddeutsche Schachblätter 1-2 (1907-1908)
- Tijdschrift van de koninklijke Nederlandse schaakbond vv 1-3, 8-14 (1893-1894, 1900-1906)
- Westminster Papers: a monthly journal of chess, whist, games of skill and the drama vv 1-11 (1868-1879)
- Wiener Schachzeitung vv 1-10 (1898-1907)

Check back regularly, as this collection is constantly growing. (Thanks to Daren Dillinger who suggested this.) It is particularly strong for nineteenth- and early twentieth-century periodicals, less so for more recent issues, where copyrights still apply. Large city newspapers and state archives are increasingly making back issues available online. Many newspapers had local chess columns in the

past and they are a good source of information.

Finally, collect models of good journalism (chessic or otherwise) that inspire you and you wish to emulate. Keep them near at hand and return to them regularly. I never tire of leafing through Frank Brady's 1964 magazine, *Chessworld*, even though it only ran three issues. *Georgia Chess* will never resemble *Chessworld*, but I have freely borrowed ideas about features and graphics and layout from it. Unless you are an editing automaton, it is inevitable that your publication will take on the stamp of your individual character. Let your character be shaped and enriched by your personal archive of chess journalism. ♙

EDITOR'S NOTE

Our next annual meeting in August in Orlando should be significant. I encourage the membership to become engaged in strengthening the leadership of our organization.

My own decision whether to remain as Editor (not interim editor as at present) may well hinge on what kind of leadership emerges from that meeting.

Volunteer organizations run best when there is strong shared leadership rather than despotism, when many members are contributing one small thing well rather than a few trying to do everything in mediocre fashion. This magazine will need your contributions. Please seriously consider submitting a feature or editorial.

—MNT ♙

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

MITROFANOV 1973 White to play and draw:

1. Qb5 Ka1 2. Qa6 Kb2 3. Qb5 Ka2 4. Qxc6 f1Q 5. Kc2 Qb1 6. Kxc3 Qc1 7. Kb4 Qxc6

MITROFANOV 1977 White to play and draw:

1. Ke6 c5 2. Kd5 Be7 3. Ke6 Bf8 4. Kf7 Bh6 5. Kg6 Bf4 6. Kf5 Bg3 7. Ke4 Bh4 8. Kd5 Be7 9. Ke6

MITROFANOV 1958 White to play and draw:

1. Ne6 Kd7 2. Nf8 Kc8 3. Rc6 Kb7 4. Rh6 f2 5. Rh1 Nf3 6. Ne6 Ng1 7. Rh7 Kc8 8. Rc7 Kb8 9. Rc1 Nf3 10. Rh1 Ng1 11. Rhh8 Kb7 12. Rh7 Kc8 13. Rc7 Kb8 14. Rc1

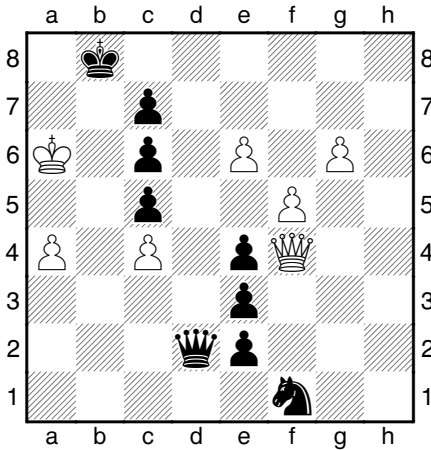
Seven Queens, Seven Sacs

A study by Mitrofanov

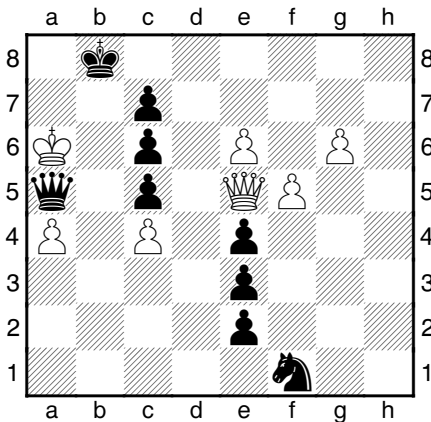
DANIEL GUREVICH

Leopold Adamovich Mitrofanov (1932–1992) is one of the most original composers of chess problems. A chemical engineer by profession, Genna Sosonko describes him as a little scrag of a man, hardly five feet tall; his growth had been stunted by severe malnutrition during the siege of Leningrad in World War II. Readers may be familiar with some of his 40 problems that won first prize in competition—perhaps his famous Rustaveli study, otherwise called the study with Qg5 (see Tim Krabbé’s “A Genius’ Bad Luck”). The following is typical of the genius of his wit. (Bonus: you’ll find three more Mitrofanov studies on the back cover.)

The commentary is by NM Daniel Gurevich, former National Elementary Scholastic Champion. A few years ago, at age eleven, Daniel became the youngest person to author an anchor column in a chess magazine, taking on the games column for Georgia Chess. He has since gone on to take over the late Larry Evans’ column in Chess Life for Kids.

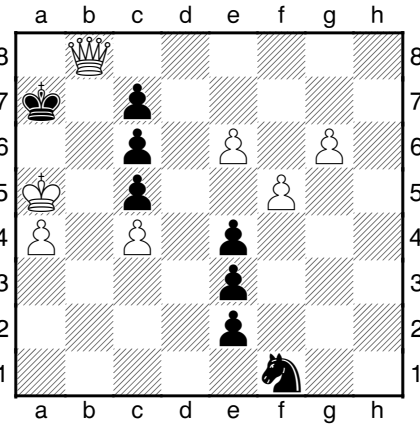


Two sets of tripled pawns! Luckily, this laughable study offers more than just tripled pawns. **1.Qe5!** White threatens Qh8 with a quick mate. ...Qd8 is answered with Qb2+. Is the study already over? (1.e7? Qd7!-+; 1.g7? Qd8-+) **1...Qa5+!!**

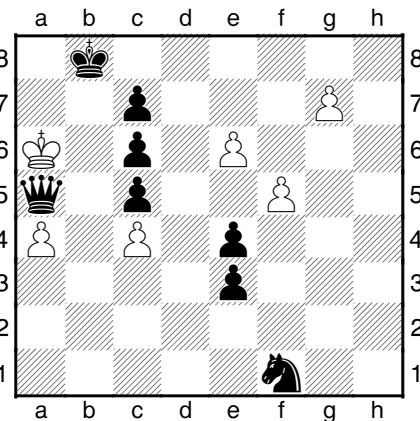


A ridiculous way of saying goodbye? **2.Kxa5 Kb7!!** No! Now White has to re-

sign, right? **3.Qb2+** (3.Qc3 Looks attractive, but then after 3...e1Q!! 4.Qxe1 Nd2-+ White must resign.) **3...Ka7 4.Qb8+!!**

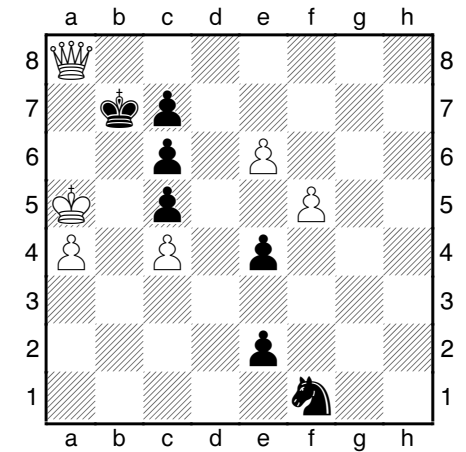


No! **4...Kxb8 5.Ka6!** Is it curtains for Black after all? **5...e1Q 6.g7!** (6.e7? Qa5+!! 7.Kxa5 Kb7! 8.e8Q e2 9.Qb8+ Kxb8 10.Ka6 e1Q 11.g7 Qg3 12.f6 Qg4-+) **6...Qa5+!!**

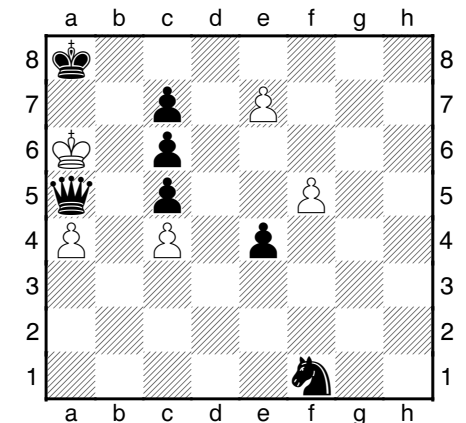


Three queen sacrifices! But wait, there’s more! **7.Kxa5 Kb7 8.g8Q e2** (8...Nd2?

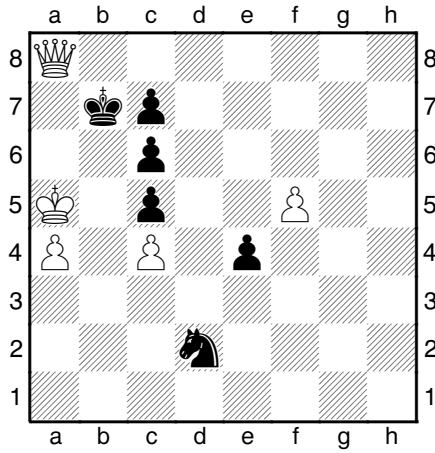
loses after **9.Qa8+!! Kxa8 10.Ka6 Nxc4 11.e7 Nd6 12.f6+**) **9.Qa8+!!**



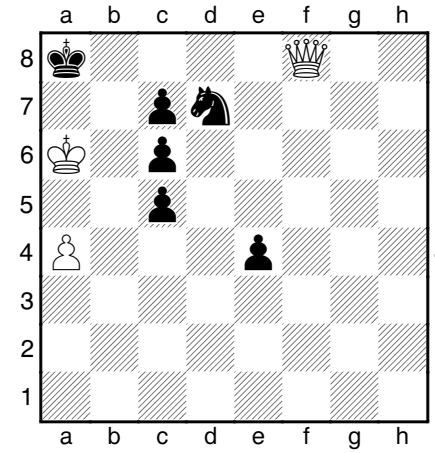
Four! (9.Qb8+? Kxb8 10.Ka6 Kc8!-+) **9...Kxa8 10.Ka6 e1Q 11.e7 Qa5+!!**



Five! (11...Qb4?? 12.e8Q+ Qb8 13.Qxc6++) **12.Kxa5 Kb7 13.e8Q** Now does Black resign? No! **13...Nd2! 14.Qa8+!!**



Six! But does this last sacrifice really help?
 14...Kxa8 15.Ka6 (15.f6?? Kb7!-+) 15...Nxc4
 16.f6 (16.a5?? is a king sacrifice: 16...Ne5 17.f6
 Nd7 18.f7 Nb8#) 16...Ne5 17.f7 Nd7 18.f8Q+!!



Queen sacrifice number 7! It's stalemate
 after 18...Nxf8 19.a5! Black, despite having
 four pawns and a knight versus only one
 tiny pawn, is forced to accept the draw.



Leopold Mitrofanov

Two sets of tripled pawns, seven queen
 sacrifices and a ridiculous stalemate is
 certainly more than enough for one study.
 1/2-1/2 ♔

Chess Journalists of America Code of Ethics

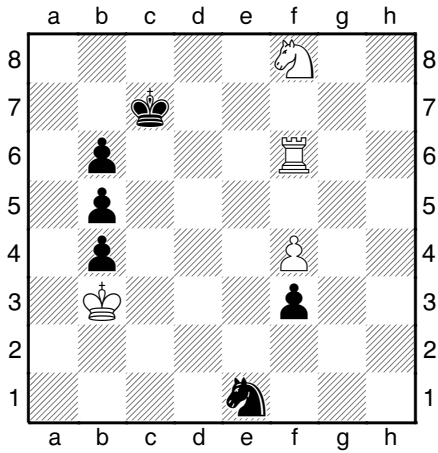
Adopted August 11th, 1980

All journalism is reducible to a single primary function: to inform. In all its many forms, journalism is a public trust; therefore, the ethical journalist is duty-bound to protect the public interest and to preserve his own credibility and that of his publication. The two main ethical ideals on which the following guidelines are based are *Truthfulness* and *Fairness*.

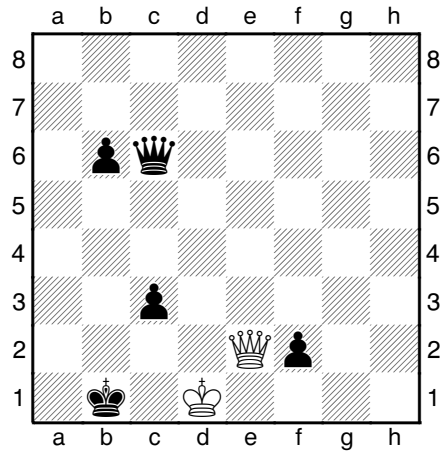
1. The public's right to know is served when it is given all the facts. It is the responsibility of the journalist to ensure the accuracy of what he published. The omission of a relevant fact is a distortion of the truth. Significant errors in a published article should be corrected as soon as possible after they are discovered.
2. The journalist must be scrupulous in distinguishing between fact and opinion and must make the difference clear to his readers.
3. It is not ethical for a journalist or editor to knowingly misrepresent the organization he ostensibly serves or to improperly use its publication for personal ends.
4. Elected and appointed officials are accountable, but so are journalists and editors. Criticism must be supportable by factual evidence. The purpose and nature of such criticism must be demonstrably in the public interest and not serve merely to harass or discredit. Fairness dictates that a person whose actions are criticized must be given the timely opportunity to explain those actions or reply to the criticism, al-

though practical considerations may not permit concurrent response.

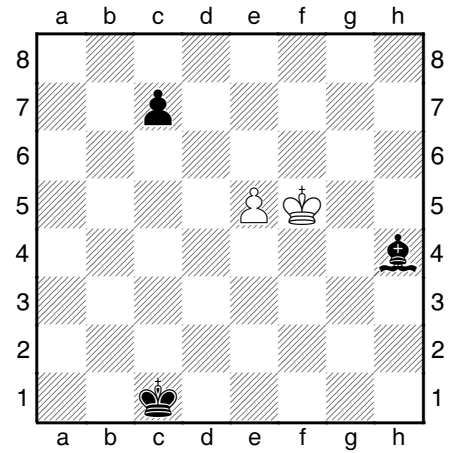
5. The public interest is best served when it hears all sides of an issue, preferably in the words of each side's natural advocate, and it is the editor's ethical duty to present all sides. This in no way abridges a publication's right to support one side, but the publication's bias must be clearly indicated as such. Unsigned articles are assumed to be the work of the editor.
6. Generally, more latitude in ethical matters may be tolerated in letters to the editor. However, the editor must judge whether printing a given letter is in the interests of the public and the organization that his publication represents. Personal abuse and unverifiable allegations should never be tolerated.
7. If a journalist or editor is engaged in any occupation which may affect or seem to affect his objectivity, it is unethical to withhold that fact from the readers.
8. The public has the right to know when it is being sold something; commercial advertisements may be presented in the form of news stories, but the fact that they serve commercial interests should be made clear to the readers.
9. No article or other proprietary work may be published without the necessary proprietary consents. This does not apply to unannotated scores of chess games.
10. Chess Journalists shall not plagiarize the works of others. ♔



L. MITROFANOV, 1958
WHITE TO MOVE & DRAW



L. MITROFANOV, 1973
WHITE TO MOVE & DRAW



L. MITROFANOV, 1977
WHITE TO MOVE & DRAW

SOLUTIONS ON p. 9

THE CHESS JOURNALIST
% RANDY HOUGH
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ALHAMBRA, CA 91803-4260

FIRST CLASS

[The following was item was tipped into the binding]

(Computer problems prevented the publication of this item in the body of the magazine.)

A NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

Abject apologies to the Editor and membership; my worst-ever writer's block (compounded by health problems) has compounded the problems of a difficult year for CJA and is responsible for the delays in publication despite the efforts of our fine interim editor. Several essential items: our financial balance stands at \$5,258.82. Officers will be chosen at the annual meeting (as was the case before 2007), as the President has not appointed an Election Committee and in any case I have received no nominations for a mail ballot. The meeting will be held at 3 pm Friday, August 5, at the Hyatt Regency in Orlando.

-- Randy Hough
