

Off the Wall
Chess Trivia
by
Bill Wall



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Dedicated to
Bobbie Wall Fowler
(1931-2001)

Off the Wall Chess Trivia

Off the Wall Chess Trivia is jammed with tons of little-known facts, historical gems, and amazing stories - all you could possibly think of that defines chess. Whether you are a chess enthusiast or just a dabbler, you will be delighted, amazed and amused by this resource.

Here are a couple of tidbits to ponder. Did you know that Bobby Fischer, Barbra Streissand, and Grandmaster/murderer Raymond Weinstein all went to Erasmus High School together? Or that Humphrey Bogart hustled strangers at 5-minute chess for 50 cents a game at chess parlors in New York Times Square? These fascinating nuggets, along with everything else you've ever wanted to know about chess, are to be found within this easy-to-browse e-book.

Many thanks to Bill Wall for his countless hours of research, and for allowing us to publish this e-book as a free download at ChessCentral.

Sid Pickard

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A

Aaron, Manual (1935-)

First International Master (1961) from India. He was born in Toungoo, Burma and became an International Arbiter in 1966.

Academy, Chess

The first chess academy was conducted at Fountainbleau, France in 1680.

Active Chess

The first official Active Chess (30 minutes per game) tournament was held in Gijon, Spain in 1988 and won by Karpov and Tukmakov. Karpov won the World Active Championship in Mazatlan, Mexico and received \$50,000. The organizers of the event donated \$100,000 for AIDS research.

Adams, Michael (1971-)

British Grandmaster who, in 1989, won the British Championship at the age of 17 and became a Grandmaster.

Adams, Weaver (1901-1963)

US master who won the US Open in 1948. In 1939 he wrote a book entitled, *White to Play and Win*. After publication he played a tournament in Dallas. He lost all his games as White and won all his games as Black!

Addison, William (1933-)

US International Master and considered the best Go player among chess masters. He competed in the 1970 Interzonal in Palma de Mallorca then gave up chess for a career in banking.

Adianto, Utut (1965-)

First Indonesian Grandmaster (1986). He was born in Jakarta, Indonesia. He is a former World Junior Champion.

Adjournment

Closure of a playing session where a player seals his next move. First introduced at Paris in 1878, adjournments are now rare.

Agdestein, Simen (1967-)

Norwegian Grandmaster (1985) who tied for the World Junior Championship with Arencibia in 1986. He has repre-

sented Norway on their soccer team. He has won the Norwegian championship 4 times, the first when he was 15.

Ager chessmen

Chess pieces found in Ager, Spain carved in rock crystal. They are an example of the earliest type of chessmen used in Europe. It was a popular, although untrue, tradition that this set belonged to Charlemagne.

Agzamov, Georgy (1954-1986)

Russian Grandmaster (1984) who was accidentally killed when he tried to take a short cut to go swimming and fell down between two rocks.

AIPE

Association Internationale de la Presse Echiquienne. It is an organization of chess journalists founded in 1968 by Jordi Puig. AIPE awards the chess Oscars to the outstanding male and female players of the year. The 1997 chess Oscar went to Anand.

Aitken, James (1908-1983)

Won the Scottish chess championship 10 times.

Ajeeb

The name of the chess automaton built by Charles Hopper, a Bristol cabinet-maker, in 1865. The life-size Indian figure was operated by several chess and checker masters. One opponent shot at Ajeeb after losing a game, wounding the operator. One of the operators of Ajeeb was chess and checker master Constant Ferdinand Burille. During his years as operator, he played over 900 games of chess and only lost 3 games. He never lost a single checker game. Pillsbury was its hidden operator from 1898 to 1904. When Ajeeb was on display in New York at the Eden Musee, it played checkers for a dime and chess for a quarter. Opponents included Theodore Roosevelt, Houdini, Admiral Dewey, O. Henry and Sarah Bernhardt. Ajeeb was 10 feet high. Ajeeb was first exhibited at the Royal Polytechnical Institute in London in 1868. It was lodged at the Crystal Palace between 1868 and 1876 and then went to the Royal Aquarium at Westminster until 1877. It was then taken to Berlin where over 100,000 saw it in three months. It came to New York in 1885. It was destroyed by fire at Coney Island in 1929.

Charles Barker, US checkers champion, also worked Ajeeb, never losing a single game.

Akhmilovskaya, Elena (1957-)

Woman Grandmaster from the Soviet Union who was the 1986 World Women's Championship challenger. In 1988 she eloped with American IM John Donaldson while playing in the ches olympiad in Greece. She returned to the Soviet Union almost a year later to get her 7 year-old daughter. It took three weeks to secure their exit visas. Her mother, Lidia Akhmilovskaya, qualified several times for the USSR Women's Championship and was a top-ranked correspondence player.

Akhsharumova-Gulko, Anna (1958-)

Finished first in the 1976 Soviet Women's Championship. Her husband, Boris Gulko, tied for first in the 1977 Soviet Men's Championship. By all rights, she should have won the 1983 Soviet Women's title played in Tallinn when she defeated her main competitor, Nona Ioseliani after she won by time forfeit. It would have given her 12 points to Nona's 11 points. The next day, Ioseliani filed a protest alleging a malfunction in the

clock. Anna refused to play. The result of her game was arbitrarily reversed by the All-Union Board of Referees in Moscow, thereby forfeiting her title and ending up in 3rd place. She regained the Soviet women's crown in 1984. She won the U.S. Women's championship in 1987 with a perfect 9-0 score.

Akins, Claude (1926-1993)

Movie actor and chess enthusiast. He taught Dean Martin the game and always beat John Wayne.

Akopian, Vladimir (1971-)

World Under-16 Champion in 1986 and World Junior Champion in 1991.

al-Adli (800?-860?)

Father of opening analysis. He is credited with the use of descriptive chess notation and a rating system (5 classes of players). He was the strongest player of his time until defeated by ar-Razi.

Alburt, Lev (1945-)

Russian Grandmaster who defected from the USSR in 1979. He has won the U.S. Championship 3 times and the

U.S. Open twice. He has a doctorate in physics and natural philosophy. He was the first Grandmaster elected to the governing body of the US Chess Federation.

Alekhine, Alexander (1892-1946)



Alexander Alekhine (Aljechin) was the son of a wealthy landowner. He learned chess from his older brother around age 11. At 17 he gained his master title after winning a tournament in St Petersburg. He was a prisoner of

war like all the other chess contestants at an international tournament in Mannheim in 1914. He was taken to Rastatt, Germany but he feigned madness and the Germans released him as unfit for military service. In 1915 and 1916 he served in the Russian Red Cross. He was captured by the Austrians and was hospitalized in Tarnapol due to a spinal injury. There, he developed his blindfold skills. After World War I, the Russian government decorated him for bravery. In 1918 he was a criminal investigator in Moscow. In 1919 he was imprisoned in the death cell at Odessa as a spy. In 1920 he was back in Moscow intending to be a movie actor. He also served as interpreter to the Communist party and was appointed secretary to the Education Department. He won the first Soviet chess championship in 1920. In 1921 he married a foreign Communist delegate and left Russia for good. In 1925 he became a naturalized French citizen and entered the Sorbonne Law School. At the Sorbonne his thesis dealt with the Chinese prison system. He did not get his doctorate from the Sorbonne as he claimed. In 1925 he played 28 games blindfolded, winning 22, drawing 3, losing 3. In 1927 he defeated Capablanca in Buenos Ai-

res for the world chess championship. In 1930 he scored the first 100% score in the Chess Olympiad, winning 9 games on board 1 for France. In 1935 he lost his world championship to Max Euwe, but regained it in a return match in 1937. During World War II, he became a Nazi collaborator and declared he was ready to sacrifice his life for a Nazi Russia. He competed in seven tournaments in Germany during the war and wrote several pro-Nazi articles. He died in Estoril, Portugal after choking on an unchewed piece of meat. The body was not buried for 3 weeks as no one claimed the body. The Portuguese Chess Federation took charge of the funeral. Only 10 people showed up for his funeral. His remains were transferred to Paris in 1956, paid by the French Chess Federation. His tombstone has his birth and death date wrong.

Alekhine-Capablanca Match 1927

The entire match between Alekhine and Capablanca in 1927 took place behind closed doors in Buenos Aires. There were no spectators or photographs. Alekhine won the match with 6 wins, 3 losses, and 25 draws. Before this match, Alekhine had not won a single game from

Capablanca. After the start of the match Alekhine was suffering from an infection of the gums, and had to have six teeth extracted.

Alexander, Conel Hugh O'Donel (1909-1974)

Won the British Championship in 1938 and 1956. During World War II he was part of the British Government Code and Cypher Code along with other English chess masters who helped break the German Enigma Code. He was prohibited from travelling to any country under Soviet control or influence during his lifetime because of his association with cryptography. He was given the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for his wartime services.

Alexandre, Aaron (1766-1850)

Author of *Encyclopedie des Echecs*, the first book containing the collection of all opening variations then known. Published in 1837, he introduced the algebraic notation and the castling symbols O-O and O-O-O. He also wrote *The Beauties of Chess* in 1846, the first large compilation of chess problems and endgames. He was a Jewish rabbi who worked inside the automaton, the Turk.

Alfonsi, Petro

Physician of King Henry I and author of the *Disciplina Clericalis* (Clerks Instruction). He included chess as one of the seven knightly accomplishments to be mastered. The other tasks included riding, swimming, archery, boxing, hawking, and verse writing.

Alfonso Manuscript

A manuscript ordered by Alfonso the Wise (1221-1284), King of Castile. It included chess, backgammon, and games of chance with dice. Compiled in 1283, it is entitled *Juegos Diuersos de Axedrez, Dados, y Tablas con sus Explications, Ordenudos por man Dado Del Rey don Alonso el Sabio*. It is the first source mentioning the pawn's double move on the first move.

Algebraic notation

The first use of algebraic notation is from a French manuscript written in 1173. The first use of the figurine algebraic notation occurred in Belgium in 1927. Algebraic notation was introduced in *Chess Life* in 1969. It wasn't until 1974 that the first book employing the algebraic notation was published by a major American publisher.

aliyat

Title given by caliph al-Ma'mun to the top four chessplayers in the early ninth century. The top four players were Jabir al-Kufi, Rabrab, al-Ansari, and abu'n-Na'am. These are the first unofficial grandmasters of chess. Their endgames survive today.

All-Russian Chess Federation

First Russian chess federation, formed in 1914. It had 865 members.

Alladin

The strongest chessplayer at the end of the 14th century. He was also known as Ali Shatrangi (Ali the Chessplayer). He could successfully give odds to all other leading players. He was Chinese and a lawyer.

al-Lajlaj (the Stammerer)

First person to analyze and publish works on the openings in 910. He was a pupil of as-Suli, the strongest player of the 10th century. His analysis were carried down from Arabic to Persian to Sanscrit to Turkish to 16th century Italian.

Allen, Woody

Actor who said that he wanted to be on his high school chess team, but the team said he was too small.

Allen, George (1808-1876)

The grand-nephew of Ethan Allen, who wrote *The Life of Philidor*, musician and chess-player, in 1858. He was the first to reveal how *The Turk* operated, in a book on the first American Chess Congress.

Allgaier, Johann (1763-1823)

Author of the first chess book published in German in 1795. He operated the chess automation *The Turk*, when it beat Napoleon Bonaparte in 1809. He served as quartermaster accountant in the Austrian army. He died of dropsy, the accumulation of excessive watery fluid outside the cells of the body.

al-Mutamid

Moorish poet-king who reigned over Seville in the late 11th century. He was regarded as a chess patron and kept several chess masters in his kingdom. In 1078 Alfonso VI and Ibn-Ammar, chess master in al-Mutamid's court,

played a game of chess for the stake of Seville. Ibn-Ammar won and the city was spared from siege. Alfonso kept the chess set and board.

al-Rashid

Caliph of Baghdad who favored chess and granted liberal pensions to chess masters in his court around 800 A.D.

America

The first mention of chess in America occurred in 1641 in Esther Singleton's history of Dutch settlers. The first American chess tournament was held in New York in 1843.

American Chess Congress

The first American Chess Congress was won by Paul Morphy in 1857. First prize was a silver service consisting of a pitcher, four goblets, and a salver.

American Chess Federation

Forerunner of the US Chess Federation. In 1939 it merged with the National Chess Federation to form the USCF.

American Revolution

During the American Revolution, there was a strong effort by the colonists to rename the pieces to Governor, General, Colonel, Major, Captain, and Pioneer. A boy gave General Rahl of the British Army a note from a spy that George Washington was about to cross the Delaware and attack. The general was so immersed in a chess game that he put the note in his pocket unopened. There it was found when he was mortally wounded in the subsequent battle.

American Women's Congress

The first American Women's Congress was held in New York in 1906.

Anand, Viswanathan (1969-)

Indian Grandmaster (1988) who won the World Junior Championship in 1987. In 1995 he played Kasparov for the PCA world championship and lost. In 1998 he played Karpov for the FIDE world championship and lost. He has been among the top 5 players in the world for many years. His 1998 FIDE rating is 2795, second only to Kasparov (2815).

Andersen, Eric (1904-1938)

Won the Danish Championship 12 times, including 8 times in a row.

Anderson, Frank (1928-1980)

Three-time Canadian Champion and International Master (1954). He came closer to the Grandmaster title than any other player. In 1958 he score 84% in the Munich Olympiad. He became ill and was unable to play his final round. He missed the Grandmaster title because of this. Even if he had played and lost, he would have made the final norm necessary for the Grandmaster title.

Anderson, Gerald (1893-1983)

British chess problemist who became an International Judge of Composition in 1960 and an International Master in Composition in 1975. He was the last person to play Alekhine.

Andersson, Terry

One of the hostages held by terrorists during the Iran crises. He credits chess with helping him survive the ordeal.

Anderssen, Adolf (1818-1879)



Strongest player in the world between 1859 and 1866. When he died, his obituary was 19 pages long. In 1851 A. Anderssen was recognized as the strongest chess player in the world. That same year A. Anderson was recognized as the strongest checker player in the world. In 1877 a group of German chess fans organized a tournament to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Anderssen's learning the chess moves. This is the only tournament in chess history organized to commemorate a competitor. He tied for second, behind Paulsen.

Andersson, Ulf (1951-)

Swedish Grandmaster (1972). In 1996 he set a world record by playing 310 boards simultaneously, winning 268, drawing 40, and losing 2 in 15 hours and 23 minutes.

Arabic

The first references of chess in Arabic occur in 720 in romantic poems by Kutaiyira Azzata and al-Farazdaq. The Arabicized name of the Persian Chatrang became shatranj. The pieces were called Shah (king), Firz (minister or queen), Fil (elephant or bishop), Faras (horse), Rukh (chariot or boat), and Baidaq (foot-soldier).

Araiza, Jose (1897-)

Won the Mexican Chess Championship 15 times in a row.

Arbiter

The director of a tournament or match. The youngest arbiter of a major tournament was Sophia Gorman, who, at age 19, was an arbiter at the World Candidates tournament. FIDE created the International Arbiter title in

1951. An arbiter must have a working knowledge of two official FIDE languages (English, French, German, Russian, and Spanish).

Art

There are at least 20 paintings called “Checkmate.”

Ashley, Maurice (1966-)

First African-American International Master (1993). He won the Marshall Chess Club Championship in 1993.

Ashtapada

A 64-square uncheckered gaming board used in India as early as the 2nd century B.C. and borrowed for chess.

Asperling, B. (1650?-1710?)

Swiss author of the *Traite du Ieu Royal des Eschets*, or the *Traite de Lausanne*, in 1690. It is the last book which allows the medieval king’s leap and the first book to classify openings in an orderly way.

as-Razi

Champion of Persia in 847 after defeating al-Aldi in the presence of the caliph Matawakkil. He wrote a book of chess problems of which two survive today.

Association

The Scottish Chess Association is the oldest in the world, founded in 1884.

as-Suli (880-946)

Turkish player who defeated al-Mawardi, the resident master of the caliph al-Muktafi, to become the champion of the known world in the 10th century. His superiority was recognized up to Renaissance times.

Atahualpa (1500-1533)

12th and last Inca emperor of Peru who was imprisoned by Francisco Pizarro and the Spanish conquistadors in 1533. He was imprisoned in Cajamarca, Peru and learned chess by watching his guards play, and before long was beating them all. It is said that a certain Spanish captain hated him for this and had him murdered. This informa-

tion is preserved in a letter from Don Gaspar de Espinosa (1533) and the autobiography of Don Alonso Enriquez de Guzman (1518-1543).

Atkins, Henry (1872-1955)

British schoolmaster who won the British Championship 9 times out of 11 appearances, 7 times in a row (1905-1911, 1924, 1925). Only Penrose has won it more often (10 times). He was known as ‘the little Steinitz’.

Ault, Robin (1941-1994)

The first person to win the U.S. Junior Championship three times (1959-1961). He also lost all 11 games at the 1959-60 US Championship.

Auto da Fe

Novel written by Nobel Prize winner for Literature, Elias Canetti. The main character is a man named Fischer who dreams of becoming world chess champion and buying clothes from the best tailors in the world. The book was written in 1935.

Automatons

Machines that give the illusion of playing chess. The first automaton was Kempelen's The Turk (1769), followed by Hooper's Ajeeb (1868), then Gumpel's Mephisto (1878).

Averbakh, Yuri (1922-)

Endgame expert and grandmaster who did not know about the proper rule of castling while playing in an international tournament. He was the Soviet Chess Federation president from 1972 to 1977. His daughter married Grandmaster Mark Taimanov.

Avigad-Vernon, Ariel (1987-)

Youngest person (7 years, 237 days) to beat an expert in a rated tournament.

AVRO

Algemeene Vereenigde Radio Oemrop, a Dutch broadcasting company, which sponsored the world's strongest tournament held up to that time in 1938. The top eight players in the world participated (Keres, Fine, Botvinnik,

Alekhine, Reshevsky, Euwe, Capablanca, and Flohr). First place was equivalent to \$550. Alekhine, for the first time in his life, came ahead of Capablanca. Capablanca, for the first time in his life, fell below 50%. He lost four games in this event. Flohr, the official challenger who was expected to play a world championship match with Alekhine, came last without a single victory in 14 rounds.

Axedrez

The Spanish word for chess. The Portuguese player Damiano wrote a Spanish book suggesting chess was invented by Xerxes and should be named after Xerxes, hence, the word Axedrez.

B

Bacrot, Etienne (1983-)

In 1997 Bacrot became the youngest Grandmaster ever at the age of 14 years, 2 months. He was the youngest FIDE master at age 10 and won the World Under 12 championship in 1995.

Baden Baden 1870

First international tournament in Germany and the first to be interrupted by war (Franco-Prussian war). First place was 3,000 francs. This tournament was the first to introduce chess clocks, but the players had the option of using hour-glasses. Adolf Anderssen was declared the winner.

Baden Baden 1925

First international tournament in Germany after World War I. Alekhine was the winner.

Bagirov, Vladimir (1936-)

Latvian player who became a Grandmaster in 1978 at the age of 42. In 1960 he took 4th place in the USSR champi-

onship. He was a former trainer of Kasparov. In 1998 he won the 8th World Senior Chess Championship, held in Austria.

Balinas, Rosendo (1941-1998)

Philippine Grandmaster and considered Asia's best player during the 1960s. He won the Philippine championship 6 times. In 1976 he won an international tournament in Odessa, USSR. It was only the 2nd time in 35 years a foreigner won an international event in the USSR. The only other foreigner who won in Russia was world champion Capablanca.

Ballet

The first ballet with a chess theme was Ballet des Echecs, performed for Louis XIV of France. A ballet called *Checkmate*, composed by Sir Arthur Bliss and choreographed by Ninette de Valois in 1937, was performed at the Paris World Exhibition. The first ballet on ice was included in the pantomime, Sinbad the Sailer (1953), where skaters played out the Morphy - Duke of Brunswick game. In 1986 the musical *Chess*, by Tim Rice, was produced.

Balogh, Janos (1892-1980)

Winner of the first international correspondence tournament, in 1932.

Banks, Newell (1887-1977)

U.S. checker champion who was also a chess master. He defeated the U.S. chess champion, Frank Marshall, and his leading challenger, Isaac Kashdan, at the Chicago Tournament in 1926.

Bardeleben, Kurt Von (1861-1924)

Strongest German player of the late 19th century and Grandmaster strength. He committed suicide by jumping out of an upper window of his boarding house in Berlin where he lived in poverty.

Baring Chess

A chess game where there is no checkmate and the game is won by the player who is able to capture all his opponent's pieces, leaving the opponent with a bare King. This game was played as early as the 9th century and some think that the baring game was the original game of chess.

Barnes, Thomas (1825-1874)

Thomas Barnes scored more wins than anyone else against Paul Morphy, winning 8 games and losing 19. He went on a diet and lost 130 pounds in 10 months, causing his death.

Basic Chess Endings

Best known endgame book. Reuben Fine took only 3 months to write it.

Battel, Jack (1909-1985)

Former executive editor of *Chess Review* from 1948 to 1969.

Baturinsky, Victor (1914-)

Chief of Karpov's delegation during the early years as world champion. He was a prosecutor in Stalin's NKVD (secret police) and a Colonel under Lavrenti Beria, the secret police chief who was later executed by Nikita Krushchev.

Beatles

In 1966 the U.S. Open was held at the Seattle World's Fair Grounds. The Beatles were on hand to give a con-

cert. At the Open the tournament director drew the curtains over the playing hall. The hundreds of Beatle fans, seeing the hall shrouded by the drapes, assumed the Beatles were inside. They began pounding on the windows until someone opened the drapes to reveal a chess tournament was taking place. Ringo Starr and John Lennon played chess. Yoko Ono, Lennon's widow, is an avid chess player and supporter.

Beauharnois, Prince Eugene (1781-1824)

Step-son of Napoleon and Viceroy of Italy. He purchased the Turk from Maelzel for 30,000 francs (equivalent to \$60,000) in 1811. The Prince stored it at his residence in Milan. He sold the Turk back to Maelzel in 1817 for the same price.

Beechey, Frideswide (1843-1919)

First woman to write a chess column and the first woman to win a prize as a composer of chess problems (1882).

Belakovskaya, Anjelina

Winner of the 1996 US Women's Chess Championship.

Belgrade GMA 1989

The Belgrade Grandmaster's Association 1989 tournament had 98 grandmasters participating, a world record for number of GMs in one tournament. This was the strongest Swiss of all time. The tournament was funded by Yugoslav Airlines with \$100,000 prize fund. The winner was Yugoslav Grandmaster Krunoslav Hulak.

Beliavsky, Alexander (1953-)

Russian Grandmaster (1975) who won the World Junior Championship in 1973 and the USSR Championship in 1974.

BELLE

First computer awarded the title of U.S. Chess Master, in 1983. BELLE won the 1980 World Computer Championship in Linz, running on a PDP 11/23. BELLE was created by Ken Thompson and Joe Condon. In 1982 Ken Thompson traveled to Moscow and thought BELLE was traveling with him in a crate to compete in a tournament. However, the U.S. Customs Service confiscated the chess computer at Kennedy Airport as part of Operation Exodus, a program to prevent illegal export of high tech-

nology items to the Soviets. It took over a month and a \$600 fine to retrieve BELLE from customs.

Bellin, Jana Malypetrova Hartston Miles (1947-)

Top British woman player. She is also an anesthesiologist which she says is an appropriate specialization for a chessplayer - "it's like time trouble, you only have four minutes." Formerly married to Bill Hartston and Tony Miles.

Benedict, Clare (1871-1961)

Granddaughter of James Fenimore Cooper who moved to Switzerland and became a chess patron of a team tournament of European countries. The first Clare Benedict International Team Tournament was held in 1953 and won by the Dutch.

Benjamin, Joel (1964-)

Winner of the National Elementary (1976), Junior High School (1978), and High School Championships (1980, 1981), U.S. Junior Championship (1980, 1982), U.S. Open Championship (1985), and U.S. Championship (1987 and 1997). He was a master at 13 and became a

Grandmaster in 1986. He assisted the IBM DEEPER BLUE team which defeated Kasparov in 1997.

Benko, Pal (1928-)

French-born Hungarian player. He won the Hungarian national championship at age 20. He was secretly involved in the 1956 Hungarian revolt. He spent a year and a half in a Hungarian political prison. He was permitted to play first board on Hungary's team in the 1957 Student Olympiad in Iceland where he defected to the U.S. He became a Grandmaster in 1958. In 1970 he yielded his interzonal place at Palma de Mallorca to Bobby Fischer, who went on to become World Champion. He has won or tied for 1st in 8 US Opens - a record.

Bergraser, Volf (1904-1986)

Won the French chess championship in 1957 and 1966. He became a Correspondence Grandmaster at the age of 77.

Berlin Pleiades

The seven stars of German chess:

Paul von Bilguer, Army Lieutenant and author of the Handbuch, the most influential chess book for 90 years;

Dr. Ludwig Bledow, professor of mathematics and Pleiades founder;

Wilhelm Hanstein, civil servant;

Bernard Horwitz, painter and chess professional;

Baron Tassilo von der Lasa, Prussian Ambassador and chess book collector (over 2000 books). He never played in a tournament or match;

Carl Mayet, barrister and judge;

Carl Schorn, painter.

Berliner, Hans (1929-)

Winner of the 5th world correspondence championship (1965-68). His 3 point margin of victory was the greatest margin of victory ever achieved in a World Championship final round, and his winning percentage (87.5%) was also the greatest of any World Champion. In 1979 he developed a backgammon playing program that defeated the reigning World Backgammon Champion. This was the first time that a World Champion had ever been

beaten by a computer. He was the first U.S. correspondence Grandmaster.

Bernstein, Ossip (1882-1962)

In 1918 Ossip Bernstein was arrested in Odessa by the Cheka and ordered shot by a firing squad just because he was a legal advisor to bankers. As the firing squad lined up, a superior officer asked to see the list of prisoners' names. Discovering the name of Ossip Bernstein, he asked whether he was the famous master. Not satisfied with Bernstein's affirmative reply, he made him play a game with him. If Bernstein lost or drew, he would be shot. Bernstein won in short order and was released. He escaped on a British ship and settled in Paris. Bernstein's son was President Eisenhower's official interpreter because he spoke almost every European language. At age 74, he was still playing in international tournaments.

Bertl Von Massow Medal

Medal for distinguished service to international correspondence chess.

Best Game Prize

A prize for the best game of a tournament or match. The first best game prize was awarded to Gunsburg for his game against Mason, New York 1889.

Best-selling chess book

Perhaps the best selling chess book is *Chess Made Easy* by C. J. Purdy and G. Koshnitsky. First published in 1942, by its 24th edition in 1977, it had sold 438,000 copies.

Bhat, Vinay

In 1995 he became America's youngest master at the age of 10 years, 6 months. The old record as youngest master has held by Jordy Mont-Reynaud.

Bilek, Istvan (1932-)

Hungarian Grandmaster (1962). In 1979 at an international tournament in Skupsk, he had a bye in the first round, drew his next 10 games in 13, 14, 12, 9, 12, 13, 17, and 9 moves, taking 5, 12, 15, 26, 7, 4, 5, 12, 18, and 5 minutes, respectively. Thus, he made only 125 moves in 109 minutes in this 11 round master event. When he won the Hungarian championship, he wife won the Hungarian women's championship.

Billah

The Caliph of Bagdad who composed the first chess problem in 840.

Bisguier, Arthur (1929-)

US champion in 1954. Winner of the US Open in 1950, 1957, and 1959. He was awarded the Grandmaster title in 1956. He has been known not to take cash prizes that he has won if the tournament organizer was taking a loss on a tournament.

Blackburne, Joseph Henry (1841-1924)



His nickname was the Black Death, given to him by a comment in the tournament book of Vienna 1873. He was also known for his temper. After losing to Steinitz in a match, he threw him out of a window. Luckily for Steinitz that they were on the first floor. He was once arrested as a spy because he sent chess moves in the mail and it was thought the the moves were coded secrets. He tied for first in the British Championship of 1914 at the age of 72. During a simultaneous exhibition at Cambridge University, the students thought to gain the advantage by placing a bottle of whisky and a glass at each end of the playing oval. In the end he emptied both bottles and won all his games in record time. During the temperance movement in England he declared that whisky drinking improved one's chess because alcohol cleared the brain and he tried to prove that theory as often as possible. It is estimated he played 100,000 games of chess in his career.

Blathy, Otto (1860-1939)

Credited for creating the longest chess problem, mate in 290 moves.

Bledow, Ludwig (1795-1846)

Founder of the first German magazine, Deutsche Schachzeitung, in 1846.

Blind Chessplayers

In 1950 Sir. T. Thomas was the first blind player to play in a chess Olympiad (Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia). The International Braille Association was formed by blind player R. Bonham. The first World Blind Correspondence Championship began in 1955 and was won by R. Bonham. James Slagle won the first U.S. Championship for the blind in 1971. The American master Albert Landrin (1923-) participated in the World Chess Championship for the Blind and played all his games from memory, without use of a board. In 1968 the United States had only 25 blind chessplayers in its Braille Chess Association. The Soviet Union had 150,000 blind players in its Brail Chess Association.

Blindfold checkers

Blindfold checkers is more difficult than blindfold chess. The greatest number played blindfold simultaneously is

28. The uniformity of checkers makes it harder to reach distinctive positions.

Blindfold chess

Buzecca, a Muslim, was the first blindfold player in Europe, playing two games blindfold in Florence in 1265. It took 518 years before three games were played blindfold, by Philidor in 1783. One newspaper wrote ‘This exertion of Mr. Philidor’s abilities appear one of the greatest of which the human memory is susceptible. That record stood for 74 years. In 1857 Louis Paulsen played four games blindfold simultaneously. (see simultaneous).

Bloodgood, Claude (1937-)

Author of *The Tactical Grob*. Once the 29th highest USCF ranked OTB player in the country, he was sentenced to death for killing his mother. While on death row, he played over 1200 postal games. The postage was paid by the State of Virginia. He was scheduled for execution 6 times, but received a reprieve on all occasions. His death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment and the state stopped paying postage. He was allowed to play in OTB chess tournaments, accompanied by a

guard. In one event, he escaped for several weeks after he and another chessplayer overpowered the guard. When he was recaptured after several weeks at large, his correspondence privilege was taken away from him at Virginia State Penitentiary.

Blumenfeld, Boris (1884-1947)

Born in Volkovisk, Russia who invented the Blumenfeld Counter Gambit. He became a student of chess psychology and received a doctorate for a thesis on the nature of blunders in chess. He died in Moscow in 1947.

Bobotsov, Milko (1931-)

First Bulgarian to be awarded the title of International Grandmaster (1961).

Bogart, Humphrey (1899-1957)

Before becoming a movie star, Humphrey Bogart hustled strangers at 5-minute chess for 50 cents a game in chess parlors in New York Times Square. In 1943 the FBI prevented him from playing postal chess, thinking the chess notation were secret codes. He was a USCF tournament director and active in the California State Chess Associa-

tion. He once drew a game against Reshevsky in a simultaneous exhibition. He made 75 films and chess appears in several of his movies. He and his wife, Lauren Bacall, appeared on the cover of *Chess Review* in 1945 playing chess with Charles Boyer.

Bogoljubov, Efim (1889-1952)



Once spent over two hours over his 24th move against Steiner, Berlin 1928, and then chose a move that lost a piece. His most famous statement was “When I’m White

I win because I'm White. When I'm Black I win because I'm Bogoljubov." He died in Triberg, Germany after concluding a simultaneous chess exhibition.

Boi, Paolo (1528-1598)

One of the leading players of the 16th century. In 1549 he defeated Pope Paul III in a chess match. The Pope offered to make him cardinal which he refused. In 1574 he defeated Ruy Lopez at the court of King Phillip II of Spain. The King showered him with great rewards including an official appointment in Sicily that paid 500 crowns a year. In 1576 he was taken prisoner and sold as a slave to a Turk. He played chess for his master that brought in a lot of money. He later gained his freedom back. He was poisoned, probably by jealous rivals, in Naples in 1598.

Bolbochan, Julio (1920-1996)

Argentine Grandmaster who received the title in 1977 at the age of 57. He won the Argentina championship in 1946 and 1948. His brother Jacobo (1906-1984) won the Argentina championship in 1932 and 1933, and became an International Master in 1965 at the age of 59.

Book, chess

The oldest European book on chess is *Juegos Axedrez, dados y tablas* written in the 13th century. The first hard-back book dealing with chess, *Dass Goldin Spil*, was published in Augsburg in 1472. The first chess book printed in Russia was a translation of Benjamin Franklin's *Morals of Chess*, published in St. Peterburg in 1791. The title was *Pravila dlia Shashechnoi Igry* (*Rules for the Game of Chess*). However, the title used the word for checkers instead of the word for chess (shakmatnoi).

The first book to explain chess strategy was *L'Analyse des Eschecs*, by Philidor in 1749. It went through more than 100 editions in ten languages. The first chess book published in America was *Chess Made Easy* by James Humphreys, printed in Philadelphia in 1802. This was just a reprint of Philidor's book published in 1796. The first original American book was *The Elements of Chess*, published in Boston in 1805. The first chess book entirely devoted to the analysis of a single opening, *Analysis of the Muzio Gambit* by Kassin and Cochrane, was published in India in 1829. A book was published in German

with the title, *Advice to Spectators at Chess Tournaments*. All the pages were blank except the last. On the last page were two words, Halt's Maul, keep your mouth shut. The first book review was *Chess* by Twiss in 1787.

Book play

A tournament was held in London with the positions of the knights and bishops reversed, in order to avoid book play. This was in 1868.

Bosnia-Herzegovina

In 1993, a person was shot and killed while playing a chess game in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the first to die from sniper fire while playing chess.

Botvinnik, Mikhail (1911-1995)

Former world champion (1948-57, 1958-60, 1961-63) who was the only man to win the title three times. He played every world champion of this century and the early trainer of Karpov and Kasparov. He never played a "friendly" or leisure game of chess in his life. He had a PhD (1951) in Electrical Engineering and worked on

computer chess programs. He received \$5,000 for winning his first world championship.

Boy, The

Nickname of Giovanni Leonardo, a leading player of the 16th century, because of his youthful appearance.

Breyer, Gyula (1894-1921)

Hungarian of Grandmaster strength, he set a new blindfold record of 25 opponents (won 15, drew 7, lost 3) in 1921. He was one of the pioneering leaders of hypermodern chess.

Brilliance prize

A prize that contains a brilliant combination in a tournament or match. The first brilliance prize for a tournament, a silver cup, went to Henry Bird for his victory against James Mason in New York in 1876. The first brilliance of a match game, 300 francs, was awarded to Steinitz against Tchigorin in the 8th world championship game in 1889.

Britain

The first British reference to chess is the Latin poem de Shahiludo, written by a Winchester monk.

British Chess Association (BCA)

The first national body to promote chess, founded in 1884. Winston Churchill's father was once the President of the BCA, while Lord Tennyson was the Vice President.

British Chess Magazine

First chess magazine to complete 100 years of continuous publication (1881 to 1981). It began as a monthly chess magazine in 1872 called Huddersfield College Magazine. On January 1, 1881 it became the *British Chess Magazine*

Bronstein, David (1924-)

Winner of the first Interzonal in 1948 at Saltsjobaden who survived an assassination attack during the tournament. On the last day Bronstein was playing Tartakover. Suddenly, a Lithuanian made a lunge at Bronstein to kill

him. Several spectators grabbed him. He wanted to murder all Russians because he claimed the Russians were responsible for sending his sister to Siberia and murdering her. Bronstein won the game and the Interzonal with a 13.5-5.5 score. First place prize for the first interzonal was \$550.

Brother-sister

The first brother-sister to tie for first place in a tournament was Harold and Bernadette Reddik in Chicago in 1982.

Browne, Walter (1949-)

Six-time US champion (1974, 1975, 1977, 1980, 1981, 1983). He became a Grandmaster in 1970 (representing Australia) and is the founder of the World Blitz Chess Association (WBCA).

Bruce, Rowena M. (1919-)

The only player to have played two world champions in a tournament on the same day. In the Plymouth 1938 tournament she played world woman champion Menchik in

the morning and world champion Alekhine in the afternoon for rounds 2 and 3. She has won the British Ladies' Championship 11 times, from 1937 to 1969.

Buckle, Henry (1821-1862)

Winner of the first modern chess tournament, the Divan tourney of 1849. He was a British historian who could speak seven languages and read twelve languages. He died of typhoid fever in Damascus.

Budapest 1950

First Candidates' tournament. Bronstein and Boleslavsky tied for first in this 10 player event. Bronstein later played Boleslavsky in a playoff match to determine the world championship challenger and won. Reshevsky was invited to play but the U.S. government would not grant him a visa to Hungary.

Budget

The annual FIDE budget is \$150,000. The annual chess budget of the Russian Chess Federation is \$175 million.

Bugojno 1986

First Category 16 tournament ever held, with an average rating of 2628. Karpov was the winner in this Yugoslavian Super-Grandmaster tournament.

Bull fighting

In 1976, during the Palma de Mallorca, Spain chess tournament, Mikhail Tal became the first Russian to oppose a bull in a bull-fighting arena.

Bundesliga

German national chess team tournament that started in 1975. Top Grandmasters from around the world have been paid as much as \$50,000 to play on a team (14-20 games a season).

Buoncompagno, Giacomo

Duke of Sora and leading patron of chess in the 17th century. He was the illegitimate son of Pope Gregory XIII.

Butrimov, Ivan (1782-1861)

Published the first Russian chess book, in 1821.

Byrne, Robert (1928-)

Philosophy professor who gave up teaching to become a chess professional. He won or tied for first in the US Open in 1960, 1963, and 1966. He received the Grandmaster title in 1964. He won the US Championship in 1972. He finished 3rd at the 1973 Leningrad Interzonal and became only the 3rd American (after Fischer and Benko) to qualify for the Candidates Match.

C

Cable Match

The first cable match (moves transmitted by telegraph) was between the British Chess Club and the Manhattan Chess Club in 1895. In 1897 a cable match between the British House of Commons and the U.S. House of Representatives resulted in a draw.

Caissa

The muse or goddess of chess, originally a wood-nymph, in a poem by Sir William Jones in 1763.

Calabrese, The

Nickname of Gioacchino Greco, 17th century Italian player.

Calvo, Ricardo (1943-)

Spanish journalist and International Master who was censured by FIDE for writing a letter in 1991 to *New in Chess*, a letter that was interpreted by many Latin Ameri-

can readers as racist. He wrote of an unnamed South American journalist who “corrupted” young people.

Cambridge-Oxford match

Longest running annual match in chess. The traditional series began in 1873.

Camel

The name used for the bishop in Tibet and Mongolia.

Campomanes, Florencio (1927-)

First non-European elected FIDE President. He played Board 2 for the Philippines in the 1956 Olympiad in Moscow, the 1958 Olympiad in Munich, and was the top board for the Philippines in the 1960 Chess Olympiad. When he was elected FIDE President in 1982 the entire FIDE staff and FIDE secretary resigned in protest. He graduated from Brown University.

Canada

The Canadian representative to an international chess event got to the tournament by a Track and Field Club that raised the money through bingo.

Canute

King of Denmark and England in the 11th century. He learned the game of chess during a pilgrimage to Rome. The king had a Danish earl murdered when the earl overturned a chessboard after the King made a bad move and tried to take it back.

Capablanca, Jose, Raoul (1888-1942)



Sent to Columbia University from Cuba in 1906 to study chemical engineering, he spent most of his time at the Manhattan Chess Club. Two years later he dropped out of Columbia University and dedicated most of his time to chess. In 1908-09 he toured the U.S. and lost only one game in hundreds of games played during simultaneous exhibitions, winning all the others. He was New York State champion in 1910.

In 1913 Capablanca obtained a post in the Cuban Foreign Office with the title of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary General from the Government of Cuba to the World at Large. After his divorce from his first wife, her family had him demoted to the post of Commercial Attache. He once had the mayor of Havana clear a tournament room so that no one would see him resign a game (against Marshall in 1913). He once refused to pose with a beautiful film star, saying, “Why should I give her publicity?”

Capa lost only 36 games out of 567 in his whole life. He did not lose a single game from 1916 to 1924. Capablanca never had a chess set at home. He died while

watching a chess game at the Manhattan chess club. General Batista, President of Cuba, took personal charge of the funeral arrangements.

Capture

The longest delay of a capture of a piece or pawn is 57 moves, played by Chajes-Grunfeld, Carlsbad 1923. The game took over 15 hours and lasted 121 moves.

Carew, Lady Jane (1797-1901)

First chessplayer to live in three centuries.

Carr, Neil (1968-)

Youngest player to beat a grandmaster in a clock simultaneous exhibition. In 1978 at the age of 10 he beat a grandmaster.

Carroll, Charles

The last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence. At age 89 he played the Turk at Baltimore in 1827 and won.

Carter, Georges

Pseudonym for Dr. Savielly Tartakower during World War II when he was a lieutenant in the Free French army.

Castling

As late as 1561 castling was two moves. You had to play R-KB1 on one move and K-KN1 on the next move. The longest delayed castling is believed to be in the game Bobotsov-Ivkov, 1966 when White castled on the 46th move.

Caxton, William (1422-1491)

Publisher of the second book to be printed in English, *The Game and Playe of the Chesse*, in 1475. The book consisted of 72 pages, with no illustrations and printed in Bruges, Belgium. The book was dedicated to George, Duke of Clarence, oldest brother of King Edward. It is a translation of a book by Jacobus de Cessolis. An original book is worth over \$100,000. The first printed book in English is *The Recuyell of the Historyes of Troye*, published by Caxton in 1474.

CCA

Continental Chess Association, founded by Bill Goichberg.

CCLA

Correspondence Chess League of America. It is the oldest postal chess organization in America and second oldest in the world. It was founded in 1909 by three correspondence players. It publishes the largest correspondence chess magazine in the world, *The Chess Correspondent* the oldest national magazine in the US. The CCLA had the first numerical rating of players in 1940.

Censorship

In 1935 the US played England a 1002 board correspondence match. It was stopped in 1941 when the British Government's Board of Censors thought that the chess notation was some kind of code which offered too much opportunities for secret messages. At the time, there were 562 games finished. The US had won 223, lost 203, and drew 100 games.

Cessolis, Jacobus De

Dominican monk who wrote *De Moribus Hominum et de Officiis Nobilium Super Ludo Scaccorum* (On the Customs of Men and Their Noble Actions with Reference to the Game of Chess). This is the best known of all chess moralities. The parables deal with all sorts and conditions of men, allegorically represented in their various ranks by chess pieces.

Chadwick, Stanley (1870-1943)

CCLA's first president and considered the "Father of CCLA." He served as President of the CCLA from 1909 to 1917.

Chairs and Chess

During the 1972 Fischer-Spassky match in Reykjavik, the Russians linked Spassky's erratic play with Fischer's chair. The Icelandic organization put a 24-hour police guard around the chair while chemical and x-ray tests were performed on the chair. Nothing unusual was found.

Chang, Alex and Angela

In 1986 Alex Chang won the National Elementary School Championship. His sister, Angela, took 2nd place.

Charles, Ray

Ray Charles, the legendary Genius of Soul, learned chess in 1965 after being busted and hospitalized for heroin addiction. He learned chess in the hospital where he went cold turkey. He uses a peg set made for the blind.

Chaturanga

The earliest chess precursor that can be clearly defined, dating back to the 7th century. The Sanskrit name means quadripartite.

Chaucer

His poem *Book of the Duchesse*, written in 1369, described the invention of chess to the King of Pergamon in 200 B.C.

Check

Up until the early 20th century, it was mandatory to announce a check. Up until the late 19th century, it was

mandatory to say ‘check to the queen’ or ‘gardez’ when she was attacked. At one time, if the King and other piece were simultaneously attacked by a piece, it was customary to announce the fact by saying check to both pieces. Up until the early 19th century, an unannounced check could be ignored. In 1969 in Tallinn, the Westerinen-Tal game had 38 checks in a row.

Checkers

In 1851 the world checker champion was A. Anderson. The world chess champion was A. Anderssen. Newell Banks was the only American master of checkers and chess. He could play 10 games of chess, 10 games of checkers, and a game of billiards simultaneously. The first checkers column appeared in the New York Clipper in 1856 alongside the chess column. The record for simultaneous blindfold checkers games is 28.

Checkmate

The medieval custom of checkmate entitled the winner to a double stake.

Chernobyl

The purse from the Karpov-Kasparov 1986 London-Leningrad match (\$900,000) was donated to the victims of the nuclear disaster in Chernobyl. The USSR Championship has been played in Kiev at the time of the Chernobyl accident.

Cheron, Andre (1895-1980)

One of the great endgame analysts and study composers of all time. He played Board 1 for France in the 1927 Olympiad. He created the longest problem solution to have all checks in it, taking 69 moves.

Chess the Musical

Most expensive musical play ever put together, costing over \$4 million in 1986. The musical was written by Tim Rice and music by Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus (formerly of ABBA).

Chessboard

The first chessboard of alternating light and dark squares appear in Europe in 1090.

Chess City of the Year

In 1985 the Chess City of the Year was Foxboro, Massachusetts. It has no chess club.

Chess is my Life

Title of an autobiography by both Karpov and Korchnoi.

Chess Life

Chess Life magazine first appeared as the official publication of the USCF in 1946.

Chess Machine

Nickname of Capablanca.

Chess Oscar

Awarded to the outstanding player of the year and decided by votes of the International Association of Chess Journalists. The Oscar is actually a statuette of a woman under an umbrella. The 1988 chess oscar went to Anand.

Chessplayers

The World Chess Federation estimates there are 550 million chessplayers.

Chess Sets

In 1971 a chess set landed an antiques dealer, Trevor Stowe, in court in London for indecent exhibition while on display in the window. Each of the 32 pieces showed couples in sexual positions. The dealer had to pay \$132 in fines and court costs.

Chikvaidze Alexander (1932-)

Replaced former cosmonaut Vitaly Sevastionov in 1986 as President of the Soviet Chess Federation. He was a Georgian career diplomat who served as former Ambassador to Kenya and assigned to the Soviet consulate in San Francisco and embassies in London and New Delhi.

China

The Chinese Emperor Wen-ti executed two foreign chessplayers after learning that one of the pieces was called "Emperor." He was upset that his title of Emperor could be associated with a mere game and forbade the game. Chinese chess is played on a board 9 squares by 8 and the pieces move on the intersections of the lines rather than the squares, so that the actual playing area is 10 by 9. One of the pieces as a cannon, unknown any-

where else. Chess was not listed as a competitive sport in China until 1956. The Chess Association of China was formed in 1962. It didn't have its first championship tournament until 1974. The first international tournament ever held in China was in 1980.

Christiansen, Larry (1956-)

The only player to become an International Grandmaster without ever being an International Master. In 1977 he was awarded the title. He is also the first junior high school player to win the National High School Championship in 1971. He is a past winner of the US Championship (1980, 1983).

Churchill, Lord Randolph (1849-1895)

Winston Churchill's father was elected vice president of the British Chess Federation in 1885. Lord Tennyson was the President of the British Chess Federation. He took chess lessons from Zukertort and Steinitz. He was the co-founder of the Oxford University Chess Club.

Ciocaltea, Victor (1932-1983)

Romanian chess player who became an International Master in 1957 and took 21 years to become a Grandmaster in 1978. He won the Romanian championship 8 times during 1952-1979.

Clean Score

A perfect 100% score. Capablanca achieved perfect scores three times: New York 1910 (7-0), New York 1913 (13-0), and New York 1914 (11-0). Fischer won the 1963 US Championship 11-0, defeated Taimanov 6-0 and Larsen 6-0 in the Candidates matches.

Clock Chess

The first mechanical chess clock was invented by Thomas Wilson in 1883. Prior to that, sandglasses were used. Sandglasses were first used in London in 1862. The present day push-button clock was first perfected by Veenhoff in 1900. The first electronic chess club was manufactured in Kiev in 1964.

Club, Chess

The world's first chess club was organized in Italy in 1550. The first chess club in England was Slaughter's Coffee House, founded in London, England in 1715. The oldest chess club in Europe is the Zurich Chess Club, founded in 1809. The oldest chess club in the U.S. is the Manhattan Chess Club, founded in 1877. Russia's first chess club was organized by Tchigorin in 1880. The largest chess club in the U.S. is the Labate Chess Centre in Anaheim, California with about 400 members.

Codebreakers and Chess

During World War II some of the top chessplayers were also code breakers. British masters Harry Golombek, Stuart Milner-Barry and H. O'D. Alexander were on the team which broke the Nazi Enigma code. In September 1939, the British chess team had just qualified for the finals in the Buenos Aires Olympiad. When war broke out, they were ordered home on the next ship out. During one watchkeeping at night, Milner-Barry sent out an alarm to the rest of the ship when he thought he spotted a U-boat. It turned out to be a porpoise.

Cohen, Lewis

Lewis Cohen never lost a game in the National Elementary Championships, scoring 40-0.

College

The first international tournament restricted to college students was held in Liverpool, England in 1952. The first official college student Olympiad chess tournament was held in Oslo in 1954.

Collins, Jack

Former US Postal champion and New York State champion. He contributed to the chess development of Bobby Fischer, Bill Lombardy, and the Byrne brothers.

Column, Chess

The first newspaper chess column was that in the *Liverpool Mercury* in 1813. The oldest column still in existence is that of the *Illustrated London News*, which first appeared in 1842. The first American chess column appeared in 1845 in the *New York Spirit of the Times*.

Computers

The first chess effort on the part of a computer is a mate in 2 programmed in 1949 on a Ferranti digital machine. The first computer program that played proper chess was written at MIT by Alex Bernstein in 1959. The Massachusetts Amateur Championship marked the first time a chess computer played chess against human beings under tournament conditions in 1967. MacHack VI, from MIT, ended up with a 1239 provisional rating. The first chess tournament in which the only players were computer programs was held in New York in 1970. The first world computer championship was held in Stockholm in 1974 and won by the Soviet program, Kaissa. Cray Blitz was the first chess computer to win a state chess championship when it won the Mississippi Championship in 1981. 1983 was the first time a microcomputer beat a master in tournament play. 1983 was the first time a computer gained an established master's rating.

Consecutive Moves

There were 72 consecutive Queen moves in the Mason-Mackenzie game at London in 1882.

Cook

A composition term for an alternative key not intended by the composer. Named after Eugene Cook (1830-1915) who was so expert a solver, and found second or more solutions to so many problems, that his name came to signify the act.

Cook, Nathaniel

Designer of the Staunton chessmen in 1835. He registered his design in 1849. Howard Staunton recommended the use of these chessmen six months later. Cook did not renew his registration, valid for only three years. In 1852 Staunton made a deal with Cook to authorize Staunton's signature as a trademark to attach to the boxes in which his sets were sold. Cook's firm was absorbed by John Jaques and Son, Ltd in 1900.

Correspondence Chess

The first reputed correspondence game of chess was played in 1119 by King Henry I of England and King Louis VI of France. The earliest postal game was between players in Brada and The Hague in 1824. In 1870 the first correspondence chess club, the Caissa Correspondence

Club, was founded. In 1888 the first international correspondence tournament was held. Most correspondence games played at once is 1000 by Robert Wyller.

In 1883 Cambridge University played a correspondence match with the Bedlam insane asylum. Bedlam won. The only two U.S. Correspondence Grandmasters are Hans Berliner and Victor Palciauskas. Both have been world correspondence champions. The highest rated USCF correspondence player was Penquite at 2927 (won 49 games straight, no losses, no draws).

Counselor

Name of the Queen in Borneo, China, Iran, and Turkey.
Name of the Bishop in Java.

Cox, James R.

First official New York State chess champion (1878).

Cracow Poem

A Latin poem in a manuscript dated 1422 in the Jagellonne Library in Cracow. The poem attributes the invention of chess to Ulysses.

Cray Blitz

The first computer to win a state championship (Mississippi in 1981).

Crittenden, Kit

In 1948 Kit Crittenden won the North Carolina state championship at age 13, becoming the nation's youngest state champion. The year before, he finished in last place in the state championship.

Crotto, Rachel (1958-)

In 1971, she was the youngest girl ever to play in the U.S. Women's championship, at age 13. Irina Krush broke that record when she played in the US Women's championship at age 11.

Crown Prince of Chess

Nickname of Aaron Nimzovich.

Cuba

In 1952 there was an international tournament in Havana. During the event, there was a revolution in Cuba. The President who sponsored the tournament was deposed. The Mexican entrants were recalled by their government.

Finally, the Cuban champion, Juan Quesada, playing in the event died of a heart attack. His funeral was attended by all the masters participating.

In 1965 Cuba linked up to the Marshall Chess Club in New York by telex to allow Fischer to play in the Capablanca Memorial tournament being held in Havana. Each game lasted up to seven hours. After the event, Cuba had to pay the bill of over \$10,000. Dr Jose Raul Capablanca, son of the late World Champion, transmitted the move in Havana. Cuba spent over \$5 million on the 1966 Olympiad held in Havana. Castro played several exhibition games including a draw with Grandmaster Tigran Petrosian. The first open international tournament held in Cuba took place in 1992 to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Havana as the capital of the island.

Customs Act of 1876

This act was specifically created to prevent imports of indecent and obscene chessmen.

Cyprus

In 1960 the Cyprus Chess Association was founded and the first Cyprus chess championship took place. In 1962 Cyprus scored the worst score of any Chess Olympiad team. At Varna the team went 0 for 20 and one of their players, Ioannidis also went 0 for 20. Their team only won 2 games, drew 2 games, and lost 76 games. In 1964 at the Tel Aviv Olympiad. Ionnidis lost all his games (4) and Cyprus, again, took last place, drawing 1 and losing 13. Their team won 5 games, drew 4 games, and lost 47 games.

Czerniak, Moshe (1910-1984)

Chessplayer who was born in Poland, emigrated to Palestine, lived in Argentina most of his life, and finally settled in Israel. He won the championship of Palestine in 1936 at the age of 26. He won the championship of Israel in 1974 at the age of 64.

D

Dadian, Prince

Sponsor of the 1903 Monte Carlo tournament. He invited Tchigorin to play but later paid him 1,500 francs (greater than 3rd prize money) not to play because Tchigorin had published analysis of one of the Prince's games, pointing out he had made gross errors. A valuable art object was to go to the winner of a short match between the 1st and 2nd place finishers (Tarrasch and Maroczy). The players wanted a play for money also. This annoyed the Prince who gave the art object to the 3rd place finisher (Pillsbury).

Dake, Arthur (1910-)

Oldest living grandmaster (1986). He became a bridge toll collector, then a highway auto controller, and finally an automobile inspector for the state of Oregon.

Daly, Harlow B. (1883-1979)

Perhaps the oldest person to win a state chess championship. In 1968 he won the Championship of Maine at age 85. He had previously won in 1961 at the age of 77 and in 1965 at the age of 81.

Damian, Petrus

Cardinal bishop of Ostia who wrote to Pope Alexander II in 1061 urging the pope to forbid chess from the clergy and to punish a bishop for wasting his time playing chess in the evenings.

Damiano (1500-1544)

Author of *Questo Libro e da imparare giocare a scachi*, the first chess book in Italy. It was written in Italian and Spanish and was the first bestseller of the modern game of chess. It went through eight editions in 50 years.

Deaf and Dumb

The first team championship for the deaf was held in Norway in 1953. The first World Championship for the Deaf and Dumb was held in Poland in 1956 and won by Svaversky of Czechoslovakia.

Dean of American Chess

Title of George Koltanowski.

Dean of New England Chess

Title of Harry Lyman

Death of Chessplayers

Georgy Agzamov (1954-1986) died after falling down between two rocks at a beach. Curt Von Bardeleben (1861-1924) committed suicide by jumping out of an upper window of his boarding home. Efim Bogoljovov (1889-1952) died of a heart attack after a simultaneous exhibition. Jose Capablanca (1888-1942) died of a stroke after watching a skittles game at the Manhattan Chess Club. Edgar Colle (1897-1932) died after an operation for a gastric ulcer. Nikolai Grigoriev (1895-1938) died after an operation for appendicitis. George Mackenzie (1837-1891) died after an overdose of morphine. Frank Marshall (1877-1944) died of a heart attack after leaving a chess tournament in Jersey City. Johannes Minckwitz (1843-1901) committed suicide by throwing himself in front of a train. Paul Morphy (1837-1884) died of a stroke while taking a cold bath. Harry Pillsbury (1872-1906)

died of syphilis. Nicholas Rossolimo (1910-1975) died of head injuries after falling down a flight of stairs in Manhattan. Pierre Saint-Amant (1800-1872) died after falling from a horse and carriage. Carl Schlechter (1874-1918) died from pneumonia and starvation. Vladimir Simagin (1919-1968) died of a heart attack while playing in a chess tournament. Herman Steiner (1905-1955) died of a heart attack after a game from the California State Championship. Frederick Yates (1884-1932) died in his sleep from a leak in a faulty gas pipe connection. Alexander Zaitsev died of thrombosis after a minor operation to remedy a limp by having one leg lengthened. Johann Zukertort (1842-1888) died of a stroke while playing chess at a London coffee house.

Deep Thought

Once the strongest chess playing computer in the world. It searched approximately 2 million chess positions per second. Deep Thought became the first computer to defeat a grandmaster in tournament play by defeating Bent Larsen at the 1988 U.S. Open. Deep Thought tied for first place in the U.S. Open with Tony Miles. Deep Thought

became the world computer champion in 1989 and defeated David Levy in a match later that year.

Demonstration Board

The first demonstration board was designed in 1857 by Lowenthal. The first use of a demonstration board in a World Championship match was for the Steinitz-Zukertort match in 1886.

Denker, Arnold (1914-)

A onetime boxer (won three successive Golden Gloves bouts by knockouts) who won the 1944 U.S. Chess Championship. In 1942 he beat Reshevsky on time in the U.S. Championship. While spectators watched, the tournament director (Walter Stephens) mistakenly declared that Denker's time had expired. He was looking at the clock backwards and refused to change his decision, which ultimately gave Reshevsky the title. Denker once appeared in an advertisement for Camel cigarettes. He received an Honorary Grandmaster title in 1981. He once played 100 opponents in 7.33 hours.

Denmark

The Danish kings, Knut V and Valdemar, were playing chess when attacked. Knut was killed but Valdemar escaped by using the chessboard as a shield. In 1250 King Eric Plowpenny was captured while playing chess and later executed.

Deschappelles, Alexandre (1780-1847)

Probably the strongest player in the world from 1810 to 1820. He claimed to have mastered chess in three days of study. He lost his right arm fighting the Prussians. He gave up chess and took up whist when he could no longer beat his opponents at odds. George Perigal, after interviewing him, wrote: “M. Deschappelles is the greatest chess player in France; M. Deschappelles is the greatest whist player in France; M. Deschappelles is the greatest billiards player in France; M. Deschappelles is the greatest pumpkin-grower in France; M. Deschappelles is the greatest liar in France.”

Deutsche Schachzeitung

Leading chess periodical in Germany. It is the oldest chess magazine still in existence. It was founded in 1846 by Bledow. It was not published from 1945 to 1950.

De Vere, Cecil (1845-1875)

First official British Chess Champion (1866) who won the title at age 21. He remained the youngest titleholder for over a century. His real name was Valentine Brown and he was born on Valentine's Day. He died of tuberculosis at the age of 29.

Dice

Dice were used between the 10th and 14th century to determine which piece should be moved.

Dilaram Composition

The most famous of the Shatranj compositions.

Divorce

In 1963 a wife of a chessplayer in Milan filed for divorce because he was so obsessed with chess that he refused to work and support their two children. The court ruled that

Mrs. Edvige Ruinstein was entitled to a separation from her husband.

Dlugy, Max (1966-)

Winner of the 1985 World Junior Champion. In 1990 he became the first Grandmaster to be elected President of the U.S. Chess Federation. In 1985 at the age of 19, he advanced to the interzonals, the youngest U.S. player since Fischer.

Down, Nick

A former British Junior Correspondence Champion. In the 1985-86 British Ladies Correspondence Chess Championship, Nick Down entered as Miss Leigh Strange and won the event. He was later caught and admitted his deception was a prank that got out of hand. He was later banned from the British Correspondence Chess Association.

Drawn

The first time a draw counted a half point was the Dundee International in 1867. Up until 1952, the USCF Laws of

Chess stated that draws could not be accepted by mutual consent until 30 moves were made.

Drawing Master

Nickname of Carl Schlechter. He drew half of his games during his tournament career. However, the title should probably go to O'Kelly de Galway who drew all his nine games at Beverwijk in 1957, drew seven out of nine at Beverwijk in 1958, and drew all nine games at Beverwijk in 1959.

Drawn Games

Up to 1867 tournament games that were drawn had to be replayed. The 1929 International Rules of Chess and the 1939 USCF rules required players to play a minimum of 30 moves before agreeing to a draw.

Dubal

Host of the 1986 Chess Olympiad. Holland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and the U.S. Virgin Islands boycotted the Olympiad because Israel was excluded. A record 107 countries participated. The previous record was Lucerne 1982 which had 91 countries.

Duchamp, Marcel (1887-1968)

Renowned artist (one of the founders of Dadaism, surrealism, and cubism) and chess player who used chess themes in many of his paintings. In 1927 his bride, Lydie, glued all his chess pieces to the board because he spent his honeymoon week studying chess. They were divorced three months later. He played for France on four Olympiads.

Duel

Maroczy once challenged Nimzovich to a pistol duel at Bled, 1931.

Durano, Joaquim (1938-)

Portuguese chess player; awarded the International Master title in 1975. He has won the Portuguese championship 13 times.

E

Edmondson, Ed (1920-1982)

Former president (1963) and executive director (1967-1977) of the U.S. Chess Federation. He suffered a heart attack while playing chess on the beach at Waikiki. The Edmondson trophy goes to the winner of the National Open. He was an Air Force Lieutenant Colonel and navigator who retired after 23 years of service. He was the President of the Texas Chess Association in the early 1960s.

Edward I (1239-1307)

King of England. In 1270 he was playing chess against a soldier in a room with a tiled roof. He had just left his chair when suddenly an immense rock fell on the very spot where he had been sitting.

EG

First endgame magazine devoted to chess endgames and studies, first published in 1965 and founded by A. J. Roycroft.

Egypt

Chess was introduced in Egypt by the Sasanian king, Khusrau II in 620.

Einsiedeln Verses

The earliest known literary account of chess and the earliest reference to chess in a western document. It was written in the 10th century in the monastery at Einsiedeln, Switzerland. It is a 98-line poem describing chess.

Einstein, Albert

Albert Einstein was a good friend of World Chess Champion Emanuel Lasker. In an interview with the New York Times in 1936 Albert said, "I do not play any games. There is no time for it. When I get through work I don't want anything which requires the working of the mind." He did take up chess in his later life.

Elo, Arpad (1903-1992)

Played in 37 consecutive state championships in Wisconsin, from 1933 to 1969, winning the title 8 times. He was a professor of physics and President of the American Chess Federation (1935-37) before it merged and came part of the U.S. Chess Federation. He developed the ELO rating system, which was adopted by the US Chess Federation in 1960 and the World Chess Federation (FIDE) in 1970.

Endgame

The maximum number of moves required to deliver mate from the worst possible starting position are as follows: Rook and Bishop vs. two Knights - 223 moves; Queen vs. two Bishops - 71 moves; Queen and Rook vs. Queen - 67 moves; two Bishops vs. Knight - 66 moves; Queen vs. two Knights - 63 moves; Rook and Bishop vs. Rook - 59 moves.

Endgame miniature

Endgame composed of no more than 7 pieces.

En passant

First used in the 15th century but not universally accepted until 1880.

Eon de Beaumont, Charles D' (1728-1810)

French chessplayer and male transvestite who was a diplomat for Louis XV. He once beat Philidor. His name has become a psychiatric term (eonism) for males who adopt feminine mannerisms and clothing.

Erasmus High School

High school that Bobby Fischer, Walter Browne and Barbra Streisand attended. Barbra attended Erasmus at the same time as Bobby and once “had a crush” on him. Bobby dropped out at age 16 saying, “teachers are all jerks.”

Euwe, Max (1901-1981)



Twice world champion - 1935-37 and for 1 day in 1947. In 1947, the FIDE Congress voted for Euwe to be world champion since Alekhine died. However, the Soviet delegation, which joined FIDE in 1947, was late one day for this vote. They showed up the next day and had the title rescinded in favor of a match-tournament. He was once the former amateur heavyweight boxing champion of Europe. In the world championship match-tournament in 1948, Euwe wore gloves while playing his games. When he was asked why, he said the feeling of gloves on his hands psychologically induced in him a fighting spirit.

Evans, Larry (1932-)

Learned chess from his older brother at age five. His brother was later killed in action as a bomber crew member during World War II. Best Blackjack player of any Grandmaster. He lives in Reno, Nevada. He has won the U.S. championship four times. In 1951, at age 19, he was the U.S. Open Champion, the U.S. Closed Champion, and the U.S. Speed Champion. Evans once gave a simultaneous exhibition at an insane asylum, winning 39 and losing 1. When he went to congratulate the winner, the winner said, “You don’t have to be crazy to play chess, but it sure helps!” He became a Grandmaster in 1957.

Evergreen game

A name given by Steinitz to the Anderssen-Dufresne game, Berlin, 1852, because of its beauty.

Excelsior theme

A pawn that goes from its initial square to the promotion rank in 5 consecutive moves in the course of a solution.

Exchequer, Chancellor of the

British finance minister. The title came from counting out money on a chequer-board used for chess. In 1080 the Normans named their financial departments of State l'exchequier after the chessboard, which was used as a form of abacus.

Executioner of Berlin

Nickname of Kurt Richter.

Exclamation point

The first exclamation point for a chess move appeared in game notes in Staunton's *Chess Player's Chronicle*, and it designated a bad move.

Ezra, Abraham (1092-1167)

Wrote the first chess poems in Hebrew in the 12th century.

F

Fagan, Mathilda (1850-1931)

Winner of a chess tournament in Bombay, India in which 12 men took part. She won all her games. She was disqualified because she was a woman playing in a club whose membership was confined to men. She appealed this decision in court and won. She became an emancipation activist.

Fahrni, Hans (1874-1939)

First master to play 100 opponents simultaneously. It took place in 1911 at Munich. His score was 55 wins, 39 draws, and 6 losses in seven and a half hours.

Fairy chess

Also known as heterodox chess. Some of the Fairy pieces include nightriders, balloons, Vaos, Hedgehogs, Fers, Camels, Wazirs, Imitators, and Grasshoppers.

Farm

In 1949 125,000 players competed for the championship of the USSR collective farms.

Father of Modern Chess

Nickname of Aron Nimzovich.

Fers

The mediaeval type of Queen that can move only one step along any of its 4 diagonals and has no orthogonal movement.

FIDE

The Federation Internationale des Eschecs, or world chess federation, was founded in 1924 by Pierre Vincent of France. Alexandre Rueb was the first FIDE president. The 15 founding countries were: Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Great Britain, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, and Yugoslavia. There are 146 nations that are members, the 2nd largest organization in the world in terms of national membership (only soccer is larger). The Soviet Union joined FIDE in 1947, but only after having

Spain, a founder-member of FIDE, ejected from FIDE. FIDE once considered setting up a fund for retired and impoverished chess masters.

Field, Ted

Sponsor of the New York leg of the 1990 Kasparov-Karpov world championship match. He produced *Three Men and a Baby*, *Cocktail*, *Outrageous Fortune*, and *Class Action*. He bought Panavision for \$52.5 million and sold it for \$150 million.

Film

The first time chess appeared in film was from a scene in *The Wishing Ring* in 1914. The first film to deal exclusively with chess was *Chess Fever*, made in Moscow in 1925 and starring Capablanca.

Fine, Reuben (1914-1993)

One of the best chessplayers in the U.S. in the 1930s. During World War II he was employed by the Navy to calculate where enemy submarines might surface based on positional probability. He also did research on Japanese Kamikaze attacks. He was also a translator during

World War II, mastering 7 languages. He gave up chess to become a psychoanalyst. He won or tied for 1st in 23 of his 27 tournaments that he played in. He won 7 US Opens.

Firdausi

One of Persia greatest poets. In 1011 he finished the great epic poem *Shah Nama* (Book of Kings) which recounted the history of chess. This massive poem took 35 years to write. It is the only pre-Islamic source which gives such details as the names of the chess pieces.

First-Second

The first time the U.S. finished first-second in an international event was the Portimao, Portugal International Tournament. Larry Evans took first place, followed by Norman Weinstein.

Fischer, Robert (1943-)



The youngest American chess champion ever (14), the second youngest grandmaster ever (15 years, 6 months, 1 day), and the youngest Candidate for the World Championship ever (15). Fischer once withdrew from a chess tournament because a woman was playing in the event (she was Lisa Lane and U.S. woman champion). His I.Q. has been recorded to be over 180. He received \$3.65 million for defeating Spassky in the Fischer-Spassky II match in Yugoslavia in 1992. In 1962 he boasted, “Women are weakies. I can give Knight odds to any

woman in the world!” His performance rating against Larsen in 1971 was 3060 after a 6-0 victory. In 1970 he won the Blitz Tournament of the Century in Herceg Novi, Yugoslavia by a score of 19 out of 22. After the tournament he called off from memory the moves of all his 22 games, involving more than 1,000 moves. In 1981 he was arrested in Pasadena under suspicion of bank robbing. He later wrote of this incident in a book entitled, *I Was Tortured in the Pasadena Jailhouse*.

Fischer Chess Clock

Aimed at eliminating time scrambles by allocating time at the beginning of a game and adding a minute increment after each move. The clock was patented (#4,884,255) by Fischer in 1988 and was used in the Fischer-Spassky II match in Yugoslavia.

Fischer, Regina Wender (1913-)

Mother of Bobby Fischer who was born in Switzerland. She was a riveter in a defense plant during World War II, became a grade school teacher, registered nurse, and physician. From 1933 to 1938 she studied medicine at the First Moscow Medical Institute in the Soviet Union. Her

medical degree was not valid in the United States. She chained herself to the White House gate in 1960 to protest the government's refusal to send a chess team to East Germany. In 1968, at the age of 55, she received a medical degree from the Friedrich Schiller University in East Germany.

Flag

A device fitted on each dial of a chess clock, first used in 1899.

Flanders, Count of

In 1213 the Count of Flanders got angry and beat up his wife after losing to her in chess. Later, he was taken prisoner. His wife could have obtained his release but never forgave him for the beating. He remained a prisoner for 13 years.

Flesch, Janos (1933-1983)

Hungarian International Master (1963) and honorary Grandmaster (1980). He claimed a world record simultaneous exhibition when he played 52 opponents blindfold exhibition in Budapest 1960.

Flohr, Salo (1908-1983)

In 1937 Salo Flohr was nominated by FIDE to be the official candidate to play Alekhine for the World Championship. Arrangements were started for a match with Alekhine, but the plans were dropped when Flohr's adopted homeland of Czechoslovakia was annexed by Germany. Flohr became a refugee for a second time and went to Russia. He was orphaned in World War I and was taken as a child refugee to Bohemia.

Flores, Rodrigo

Born in 1913 at Santiago, Chile. At 12 he played in the Chilean Championship and finished fourth. He won the Chilean ch 3 times. He was the winner of the 1946-47 Marshall Chess Club championship.

Fool's mate

The shortest game ending in mate after two moves. 1 g4 e6 or e5 2 f3 or f4 Qh4 mate.

France

The first French reference to chess is in a report of the siege of Antioch. During the First Crusade, Peter the Her-

mit found the Turkish general playing chess. In 110 King Louis VI of France was captured by an English knight, who shouts that the king has been captured. The King escaped yelling, “Ignorant and insolent knight. Not even in chess can a King be taken.” In 1962 Bobby Dudley won the first USCF rated event in France.

Franklin, Benjamin (1706-1790)

Wrote the first chess article published in America, the ‘Morals of Chess.’ Franklin wrote it in London in 1779 and reproduced in a refined version in the *Columbian Magazine* in Philadelphia in 1786. In 1791 a translation from the French reprint was published in St. Petersburg. This was the first book on chess published in Russia.

Fredkin Prize

Prize of \$100,000 for the first computer to win a match from a Grandmaster.

Frederick the Great of Prussia

An enthusiastic chessplayer who played a correspondence game with his early tutor, Voltaire, by royal courier between Berlin and Paris.

Frydman, Paulino (1905-1982)

A leading Polish player during the 1930s who represented his country in seven Olympiads. He used to run around nude in hotels yelling, “fire.”

G

Gambit

A wrestling term for tripping up the heels. Ruy Lopez was the first to use it as a chess term for traps in 1561. Greco introduces the term into England and France in 1623.

Gambling

The police raided a chess tournament in Cleveland in 1973, arrested the tournament director and confiscated the chess sets on charges of allowing gambling (cash prizes to winners) and possession of gambling devices (the chess sets). This incident was repeated in Los Angeles in 1989. L.A.P.D. vice officers raided a nightly chess tournament at Dad's Donuts. They cited three men for gambling after finding \$1.50 on the table. The plainclothes detectives staged the raid after one tried unsuccessfully to join a blitz game. The detective then pulled out his badge and said "you are under arrest," and the others swooped in.

Game of the Century

Game between Donald Byrne and Bobby Fischer in 1956 when Fischer was 13 years old.

Gaprindashvili, Nona (1941-)

The first woman to achieve the men's International Grandmaster title, in 1978. She became the first woman to win a "men's" chess tournament when she tied for first place at Lone Pine in 1977. She has had a perfume named after her in the USSR.

Garcia, Guillermo (1954-1990)

Three-time Cuban champion who took 2nd place in the 1988 New York Open. His \$10,000 prize was confiscated by the Department of Treasury, invoking the Trading With the Enemy Act of 1917, because he was Cuban. He died in an automobile accident near Havana.

Gens Una Sumas

(We are all one people). The motto of FIDE.

Georgia, USSR

From 1963 to 1969 Georgia had the distinction of being the birthplace of both World Chess Champions (Petrosian and Gaprindashvili).

Gilbert, Ellen (1837-1900)

Perhaps the strongest woman player ever. In 1879 she played a correspondence match with one of the strongest correspondence players in the world, George Gossip, and announced mate in 21 moves and mate in 35 moves in their two games. She was known as the Queen of Chess.

Giuoco Piano

First known chess opening, according to the Gottingen manuscript (1490).

Gligoric, Svetozar (1923-)

Yugoslav Grandmaster who became Yugoslavia's Sportsman of the Year in 1959, the first chess player in Yugoslavia to be so honored. He is also considered one of Yugoslavia's best war heroes and the best soccer-playing Grandmaster.

GMA

Grandmasters Association, formed on February 16, 1987 in Brussels by Kasparov. It organized the World Cup Series in which the top 24 players in the world were invited to compete for the title of ‘World Tournament Champion.’

Goebbels, Paul Joseph

In 1933 Goebbels, Minister of Propoganda and Enlightenment, wanted an “All-German Chess League.” He barred all Jewish chessmaster from official tournaments of the German Chess League. Goebbels sought out players who were of strong National Socialist persuasion. Otto Zander, President of the new league, said all Jews would be excluded unless they proved themselves at the front line of a war.

Golden Knights

The first Golden Knights postal chess tournament started in 1943 and was won by John Staffer.

Golombek, Harry (1911-)

Three times British Champion (1947, 1949, 1955). Awarded the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) in 1966 for his services to the game of chess, the first one so honored. He was a pilot in the Royal Air Force during World War II. He represented England in 9 Olympiads. He has officiated 6 World Championship matches.

Gothenburg Trilogy

Triple massacre of Argentine Grandmaster Najdorf, Panno, and Pilnik by Keres, Geller, and Spassky in round 14 of the 1955 Gothenburg Interzonal.

Gottingen Manuscript

The earliest known work entirely devoted to modern chess. Supposedly written by Lucena in 1474.

Graf, Sonja (1914-1965)

Winner of four U.S. Women's Open and two Closed Championships (1957, 1964). She was woman champion of her native Germany until the outbreak of World War II. At the chess Olympiad in Buenos Aires in 1939, she was prevented from playing on the German team by a

Nazi edict. She went on to play at large under the banner of “Liberty.”

Grandmaster

First used in connection with chess as a player of highest class in 1838. The title of grandmaster was first used in 1907 at the Ostend tournament. In 1914, Nicholas II, the Czar of Russia, conferred the title ‘Grandmaster of Chess’ on Emanuel Lasker, Alekhine, Capablanca, Tarrasch, and Marshall after they took the top 5 places in the St. Petersburg tournament. These are the five original Grandmasters. In 1950 FIDE awarded 27 players the first official Grandmaster title. These players were: Bernstein, Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Botvinnik, Bronstein, Duras, Euwe, Fine, Flohr, Grunfeld, Keres, Kostic, Kotov, Levenfish, Lilienthal, Maroczy, Mieses, Najdorf, Ragozin, Reshevsky, Rubinstein, Samisch, Smyslov, Stahlberg, Szabo, Tartakower, and Vidmar. In the 1960s the United States had more Grandmasters than International Masters. In 1998 there were 565 Grandmasters in the world, 5 with the honorary GM title, and 102 women GMs.

Grasshopper

A Fairy chess piece that moves along Queen lines, but when it meets a man of either color along one of these lines, it must hop over that man to the square next beyond. If there is an enemy man on that square, then the Grasshopper captures him.

Great Stone Face

Nickname of Mikhail Botvinnik.

Greco, Giachino (1600-1634)

Best known of the wandering chessmen in the early 17th century. He made a living selling chess manuscripts of openings and traps to wealthy patrons. He was taken to the West Indies by a Spanish nobleman where he died, leaving his fortune to the Jesuits.

Grefe, John (1947-)

Tied for first in the 1973 U.S. Chess Championship in El Paso, Texas. He attributed his success by his complete devotion to the Guru Maharaj-Ji, a 15 year-old prophet from India.

Grenada

In 1408 Prince Yusuf of Grenada was ordered slain by his brother, Muhammad VII, but was granted his last request - permission to finish a game of chess. The monarch died while the game was in progress, and his condemned brother became Yusuf III, King of Grenada.

Gresser, Gisela (1906-)

Winner of the U.S. Women's Championship 9 times. She first won the title in 1944. She won the 1969 U.S. Women's Championship at the age of 63. Second place went to 55 year-old Mona Karff (6 times former Champion). She was the first woman in the U.S. to achieve a master's rating. She was awarded the International Woman Master title in 1950. She was the Women's World Chess Championship Challenger in 1949-50.

Grigoriev, Nikolai (1895-1938)

Soviet endgame analyst. In 1936 the French magazine, La Strategie, promoted an end-game competition. Of the 12 awards he shared 1st and 2nd prizes, won 3rd, 4th and 5th prizes; shared 1st and 2nd honorable mentions, and was awarded 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th honorable mentions.

Groningen 1946

First international chess tournament after World War II. Botvinnik won, receiving 1,500 Dutch guilders and a silver cigarette box from the Queen. A tablecloth was given to the best non-prizewinner. A picture of the Martini Tower in Groningen in a silver frame was given to the last place finisher. 12,000 spectators paid for admission to the event. 21 invited players showed up but only 20 players were allowed to play. The tournament did not want to turn away any foreign player, so it was between Prins and Euwe to drop out. One of the Russian players promised to invite Prins to an international tournament if he dropped out. He agreed, but the promise was never met.

Grundy, James (1855-1919)

Responsible for the most infamous scandal in U.S. championship history. Grundy needed a win in the last round to tie for first place at the 5th American Chess Congress in 1880. Grundy bribed his opponent, Preston Ware, \$20 during the game to let Ware's advantage slip into a draw so that Grundy could make sure of second place. When

Ware agreed and took the money, Grundy tricked him and played for a win which he did.

Guatemala

In 1986 Guatemala was represented by four brothers named Juarez at the chess Olympiad in Dubai. Their women's team had a 10-year old, Heidi Cueller, as a member of their team. She was the youngest person to play in an Olympiad.

Gulko, Boris (1947-)

Former Soviet champion (1977) who tried to emigrate from the Soviet Union for over 7 years and was finally allowed to do so in 1986. We went on a 40 day hunger strike. His wife is one of the strongest women chessplayers in the world, Anna Akhsumarova. She won the Soviet women's championship twice and was cheated out of a third victory in 1982 when the result of a game she won was reversed. Boris refused to sign a form letter denouncing the defection of Victor Korchnoi in 1979. He was arrested for demonstrating in front of the Moscow Interzonal in 1982 and beaten up by KGB agents. He was denied entrance to the tournament even as a spectator. In

1991 Gulko had to be smuggled into Yugoslavia to act as a second to Irina Levitina in the 1991 Women's Interzonal. He was unable to get a passport from the tournament delegation so they smuggled him in from Hungary. He won the US Championship in 1994, making him the only man to win both the USSR and the US championship. He tied for 1st with Judit Polgar in the 1998 US Open.

Gumpel, Charles (1835-1921)

Inventor of the chess automation 'Mephisto.' He was a manufacturer of artificial limbs.

Gunsburg, Isidor (1854-1930)

Only British player who has ever played a match for the world championship. In 1916 he sued the Evening News for libel when they said that his chess column contained blunders. He won the suit after the British High Court accepted a submission that in chess matters, eight oversights did not make a blunder.

Gurevich, Ilya (1972-)

U.S. National Elementary Champion (1983), World Under-14 Champion (1985), U.S. Junior Champion (1990), and World Junior Champion (1990).

Gutmayer, Franz (1857-1937)

Wrote a book on how to become a chess master, but he never became one himself.



Haifa, Israel

Sight of the 1976 chess Olympiad. Libya protested and had an olympiad of their own at the same time. The USSR did not play and the United States team won. This was the first time an olympiad was conducted as a Swiss system. Also, there were no medals for board prizes. Instead, there was a miscellany of prizes, only one per board. For example, the best sixth board went to Kim Commons who received a copy of Fischer's *My Sixty Memorable Games*.

Hall of Fame, US Chess

Formed in the US in 1986. Its members include Berliner, Benko, Bisguier, Robert Byrne, Jack Collins, Denker, Edmondson, Elo, Larry Evans, Fine, Fischer, Gresser, Harkness, Helms, Horowitz, Kashdan, Koltanowski, Loyd, Mackenzie, Marshall, Morphy, Palciauskas, Pillsbury, Reinfeld, Reshesky, Steinitz, and Vukceвич.

Hanauer, Milton (1909-1988)

Vice President of the Marshall Chess Club where he had been a member for over 60 years.

Handbuch des Schachspiels

Began by von Bilgaer and completed by von der Lasa, it was the first encyclopedic treatment of the chess openings on modern lines.

Harkness, Kenneth (1898-1972)

The first to compile a US Chess Federation rulebook, the first USCF Executive Director, and inventor of the median system tie-breaker.

Hartston, William (1947-)

Bill Hartston won the British men's chess championship while his wife, Jana Malypetrova Hartston (1947-), won the British women's championship in 1974.

Hastings

The oldest and longest running tournament in the world. First held in 1895, the current series started in 1920.

Havana 1966

The 17th Chess Olympiad was held in Havana. Premier Castro was on the Organizing Committee and showed up for many of the rounds. He played games against Petrosian and Fischer among others. Each team had a chauffeur and a car. There were 52 countries out of the 68 FIDE members that participated. Cuba paid for the air expenses of every team. The American chess team was the first American cultural team to visit Cuba since Castro took over in 1958. USSR took first place followed by the USA. There was a tie between Hungary and Yugoslavia. The referees decided to give the bronze medal to Hungary, but their tie-break calculations were faulty. Yugoslavia should have been awarded the bronze medal and this has never been corrected. At the end of the Olympiad, a simultaneous exhibition of 6,480 boards was given.

Hawthorne Chess Club

Jack Collins' chess club which coached Fischer, the Byrne brothers, Lombardy, Matera, and Weinstein.

Hazeltine, Milton (1824-1907)

Newspaper chess columnist in the late 19th century. He was the first person to omit the “to” from recorded moves - making “P to K4” into ”P-K4.”

Heidelberg

Site of the first known chess tournament in 1467.

Helms, Herman (1870-1963)

Dean of American Chess. He wrote a chess column for 62 years, from 1893 to 1955 in the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*. He published *The American Chess Bulletin* from 1904 to 1963, a period of 59 years. He died in Brooklyn, and day after reaching the age of 93. He was instrumental in directing Bobby Fischer to the Brooklyn Chess Club. He was New York state champion in 1906.

Helpmate

A problem in which both White and Black cooperate to find the shortest mate.

Helsinki 1952

Site of the 10th chess Olympiad and the first time the Soviets participated, which they won.

Henry I

King of England who, in 1106, imprisoned his brother Richard, Duke of Normandy, in Cardiff Castle for 28 years. Richard's only activity was playing chess.

Heritage tournament

A chess tournament held for 25 years or more.

Hero of Hastings

Nickname of Henry Pillsbury, who was the unexpected winner of the Hastings 1895 tournament.

Hitech

1986 North American computer champion, programmed by Dr. Hans Berliner, formal world correspondence champion. Prior to winning the XVI North American Computer Championship, it won a Pittsburgh masters' tournament with a performance rating of over 2400. In 1988 Hitech won the Pennsylvania State Chess Championship outright after defeating International Master Ed Formanek (2485) in the last round.

Hodges, Albert Beauregard (1861-1944)

Former U.S. Champion. His first job was a hidden operator of Ajeeb, the Chess Automation. He played chess and checkers. He won the US championship in 1894 after defeating Jackson Showalter. He never defended his title. Pillsbury challenged him in 1895 but Hodges declined for business reasons. He was the only American master to play against 5 world chess champions over a period of 60 years. He played Zukertort, Steinitz, Lasker, Capablanca, and Alekhine. He won the Manhattan Chess Club Championship and the New York championship.

Hodgson, Julian (1963-)

Winner of the 1992 British Championship with an all-time record of 10 out of 11 points. He was the winner of the 1991 British Championship as well.

Hong Kong

The Hong Kong team in the 1974 Students' Chess Olympiad consisted of five brothers aged 8 to 18. In 1990 the Hong Kong Olympiad team consisted of four players from four different countries.

Horowitz, Al (1907-1973)

Won or tied for 1st in 3 US Opens. He founded *Chess Review* magazine in 1932, which emerged with *Chess Life* in 1969.

Hort, Vlatimil (1944-)

One of the top grandmasters in the world. In 1984 he played 663 games in a simultaneous exhibition in 32 and a half hours at Porz, West Germany,

Horwitz, Bernard (1807-1885)

German-born painter and chess study composer. He won the first study-composing tournament in 1862. He worked as a chess professional in England.

House Resolution 545

In 1986 the U.S. House of Representatives passed House Resolution 545 by unanimous consent which stated that the United States Government recognize Bobby Fischer as the World Chess Champion. The resolution then went to the Senate where it was objected by Senator Metzenbaum (D-OH) and died in the Senate's Judiciary

Committee a week later. The resolution was drafted by Representative Charles Pashayan (R-CA).

Huebner, Robert (1948-)

Strongest German player since World War II. In 1971 he was playing in a candidates match with Petrosian when he made a mistake in his 7th game, resigned and withdrew from the match. He said he was bothered by street noises. Petrosian merely turned his hearing aid down. Huebner is a papyrologist and has a PhD. He is also a world-class player in Chinese chess.

Hund, Barbara (1959-)

West Germany's first woman Grandmaster. She was born 13 days after her mother, Juliane, played in the German Women's Chess Championship.

Hungarian Petrosian

Nickname of Lajos Portisch.

Hunter, Charles (1922-1982)

British correspondence champion in 1961 and International Master of Composition (1967). He was also known as the world's fastest speaker.

Huon of Bordeaux

A romance written around 1200 describing a servant who plays chess against a princess for her hand in marriage. If he loses the game, he loses his head. She finally lets him win.

Hyde, Thomas (1634-1701)

Author of *De Ludis Orientalibus* in 1694. He was the first person to establish beyond doubt that chess originated in India.

I

IFSB

Internationalen Fernschachbund. Founded in 1928 for the purpose of promoting correspondence chess.

Iceland

Has the highest per capita chess population in the world. A government-run lottery helps finance chess and handball tournaments. Iceland had 6 Grandmasters in a country of only 250,000 inhabitants. It is the only country with more Grandmasters than International Masters (the United States in the 1960s also had more GMs than IMs).

Ilyin-Genevsky, Alexander (1894-1941)

The Russian master who had to learn the game twice. He was gassed, then shell-shocked in World War I, which took away his memory. He had previously been champion of Geneva where he added the city's name to his own. He had to learn the game all over again, starting from how each piece moved. He was a member of an underground

Bolshevik organization in high school, which led to his expulsion. Forbidden to re-enter any Russian school, he went to Geneva where he performed party work for Lenin. During the October Revolution and Russian Civil War he was the head of the Moscow Reservists. He organized the first USSR chess championship in 1920. He won the first Trade Unions Championship of the USSR in 1927. In 1941, while trying to escape from Leningrad on a barge with dozens of other passengers, the Germans bombed the barge. Alexander was the only one killed.

Immortal Draw

Game between Carl Hamppe and Philipp Meitner

Immortal Game

A name given by Falkbeer to the Anderssen-Kieseritzky game, London, 1851.

India

Chessplayers in the 10th century wagered their fingers in a game of chess. The loser had to cut off his finger with a dagger and plunge his hand in a boiling ointment that cauterized the wound. The 1982 Ladies Championship of

India 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place were all won by three sisters, the Khadilkars.

Indonesia

The 1984 Olympiad was supposed to be held in Indonesia, but they withdrew their support due to reduced oil revenues.

Ingo system

The first rating system. It was introduced by Anton Hosslinger in 1948 and named after his birthplace of Inglostadt, Bavaria.

Innocent Morality

An allegory written in the 13th century which appeared in a manuscript collection of sermons of Pope Innocent III. It is the earliest known printed reference to chess. The morality compares chess with life, the pieces representing different positions of men in society.

International Woman Grandmaster

Title created by FIDE in 1976. The first players to receive this title were Nana Alexandria, Nona Gaprindashvili, Alla Kushnir, Irena Levitina, and Milunka Lazarevic.

Iran

The only country in the world that bans chess. Ayatollah Khomeini banned the game because “it hurts memory and may cause brain damage.” He also said chess contributes to a war-mongering mentality. Prior to that Iran, under the Shah, was the only Arab country at the 22nd Olympiad in Israel.

Ireland

In 1958 the reigning Irish Champion won his game at the Munich Olympiad, yet Ireland lost the match 0-4! That’s because the Irish Champion, Wolfgang Heidenfeld, played for South Africa, where they defeated Ireland 4-0.

Israel

In 1982 the Israel Chess Championship was stopped as several of its participants were called up for Army service in Lebanon.

Italy

The Italian Chess Federation refused to allow one of its best players, Stefano Tatai, to play on the Italian Olympiad team. Tatai was 44 and seven time national cham-

pion. The Italian Chess Federation only wanted members that were age 30 or younger to represent Italy. The result was a very poor showing at the olympiad. The 1980 Italian championship was delayed until 1981 because of an earthquake.

Ivan the Terrible (1530-1584)

Keen chessplayer who died while playing chess.

Ivanov, Igor (1947-)

Defected from the Soviet Union. His first game in the West was drawn after 14 moves, thinking his opponent was a strong master. His opponent's rating was later found out to be 1651. In 1982, while representing Canada in the Toluca Interzonal, Ivanov missed the Grandmaster title and qualifying for the Candidates by a half-point.

Ivans, Walter (1870-1966)

Master Emeritus who died at age 98, with a chess-playing span of 85 years.

Ivkov, Boris (1933-)

Winner of the first World Junior Championship, held in England, in 1951. He is married to a former “Miss Argentina.”

J

J'adoubovic

Nickname of Milan Matulovic. He took a losing move back against Bilek at the 1967 Sousse interzonal, saying “j’adoube” after he took the move back. He got away with it.

Janowski, David (1868-1927)

Chess master and addicted gambler. In 1901 he won an international tournament at Monte Carlo and lost all his first place money in the casino the same evening the tournament ended. The casino management had to buy his ticket home. In another event he handed his money to a friend and made him promise not to return it until after the chess tournament. However, the lure of gambling proved too strong and he begged for the return of his money. His friend refused. Janowski was so infuriated that he sued his friend. Janowski had a chess patron, the Dutch painter Leo Nardus who, for many years, supported him in chess. He lost his support when Janowski

called Nardus a chess idiot when Nardu suggested an alternate move during an analysis of one of Janowski's games. Janowski was famous for his complaints which served as alibis when he lost. At one tournament every one of his requests was granted and for the first he had nothing to complain about. When he lost the tournament he said, "You have deprived me of any alibi. How did you expect me to play good chess?" Janowski died penniless in a nursing home in Hyeres, France. A subscription was raised to prevent his being buried in a pauper's grave.

Japan

The Japanese confiscated chess books during World War II, thinking they were military codes. Japan did not have an organized chess federation until 1968. Their first national chess tournament took place in 1969.

Jarecki, John (1969-)

The first person to win the National Elementary and National Junior High Chess Championship in the same year (1980).

Jayyash

Leader of a revolt in Southern Arabia in the late 11th century. He disguised himself as an Indian faqir invited to play chess with the vizier of Zabid. After gaining entry of the vizier's palace for the chess match, he overcame his old enemy.

Johannesburg 1981

First Category 16 tournament, the strongest ever held up to that date. It was won by Ulf Andersson.

Johner, Hans(1889-1975)

Swiss International Master (1950) who won the Swiss Championship 12 times from 1908 to 1950. His brother won it 6 times. Hans Johner was one time director of the Zurich Philharmonic Orchestra.

Jones, Ernest

Psychoanalyst who wrote, *The Problem of Paul Morphy*, the most famous example of a single case study in the psychoanalytic discipline. It was delivered to the British Psychoanalytical Society in 1930.

Jun, Xie (1971-)

Defeated Maya Chiburdanidze for the Women's World Championship title in 1991 after a 15 game match in Manila. She was the 6th ranked woman in the world. She became the 7th Women's World Champion and the first from Asia. Zsuza Polgar defeated her for the title in Spain in 1996.

K

Kalish, John (1937-)

Kalish has won the championship of Okinawa 25 consecutive times.

Kamsky, Gata (1974-)

Born in Siberia, Gata Kamsky won the USSR Junior Championship (under 18) at the age of 12. Gata and father Rustam defected from the Soviet Union after playing in the 1989 New York International. He became a grandmaster at 16. He won the U.S. Championship in 1991 at age 17, the youngest since Fischer won it in 1957-58 at age 14. He retired from chess and is in medical school.

Kanel, Hans

Swiss player who set the world blitz (5-minute game) continuous play record in 1981 after playing 60 hours and 39 minutes. He played 420 games and made 17,286 moves. We won 320 games, lost 79, and drew 31. The average rating of his opponents was 2222. He had played an

average of 7.1 games per hour. The most prominent opponent was Victor Korhnoi whom he won 1, drew 1, and lost 4 games.

Karff, Mona May(1914-1998)

Played in 18 US Women's Championships, winning 7 of them.

Karnamuk

A Persian romance written in 600. It is the first Persian writing of chatrang, an early form of chess.

Karpov, Anatoly (1951-)

The first world champion to win the title without playing a chess match. He got the title in 1975 when Fischer refused to defend his title. Anatoly became a Candidate Master at the age of 11, a Master at 15, an International Grandmaster at 19, and world champion at 24. In 1978 he was named Soviet Union Sportsman of the Year and was personally decorated by President Breshnev. Karpov became World Champion before he became USSR Champion. He never scored worse than 4th place while world champion. No Soviet opponent has ever beat him outside

the Soviet Union. He became the first millionaire playing chess. He is a member of the Supreme Soviet Commission for Foreign Affairs and the President of the Soviet Peace Fund. He is the first world champion to be born in Asia. He has the most complete collection of postage stamps on the topic of chess and specializes in stamps with reproductions of paintings. In 1989 a poll in the *British Chess Magazine* showed the Karpov was the world's most boring player, followed by Sammy Reshevsky. Karpov's diploma thesis at the Leningrad State University was entitled: *Spare time and its economic significance under Socialism*. There is no mention of chess.

Kashdan, Isaac (1905-1985)

Founded *Chess Review* in 1933. He once appeared on Groucho Marx's *You Bet Your Life* and Groucho called him "Mr. Ash Can" throughout the show. Isaac Kashdan's wife was asked to join a harem for 150 English pounds by Umar Khan at an Olympiad. He received the Grandmaster title in 1954.

Kasparov, Garry (1963-)



Originally named Weinstein. He became a grandmaster at 17, the youngest Soviet champion at 18 and the youngest world champion at 22 years, 210 days. In his first international tournament, Baku 1979, he exceeded the Grandmaster norm and took first place as an unrated player. His first FIDE rating was 2500. He became the World Junior Champion in 1980 and co-champion of the USSR in 1981. He was the first Soviet to do a Western commercial. His highest rating was 2810 after scoring 9

1/2 - 1 1/2 in a Category 15 tournament in Belgrade in 1989.

Kasparov-Karpov matches

After five world championship matches, Kasparov and Karpov have played 144 games with Kasparov leading 73-71 overall (21 wins, 19 losses, and 104 draws).

Kavalek, Lubomir (1943-)

Winner of an international tournament representing the United States without ever setting foot in the U.S. at the time.

Keene, Raymond (1948-)

British Grandmaster (1976), author of over 50 chess books, and organizer of many international chess matches. He received the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for his chess services in 1985. He was British Champion in 1971.

Kempelen, Farkas (1734-1804)

Inventor of the first automation, The Turk, in 1769. He built it for the sole purpose of entertaining and mystifying the Empress Maria Theresa of Austria. For years he

labored to improve the science of hydraulics, designing fire engines and hydraulic pumps. But nobody was interested in those. They were all interested in The Turk. Eventually, he became so annoyed by the continuous stream of visitors that he dismated the Turk, announcing that it had been damaged and could no longer be exhibited. In 1783 Emperor Joseph II commanded him to display The Turk once again.

Keres, Paul (1916-1975)

Estonian Grandmaster. He participated in German tournaments during World War II. When the Red Army liberated the country, Soviet authorities planned initially to execute Keres. Botvinnik interceded by talking to Stalin and Keres was spared. In 1953 Paul Keres became the first sportsman of the year in chess in the Soviet Union. He was Estonian Sportsman of the Year in 1962. He never became world champion but defeated nine world champions in his career. When asked why he never became world champion, he replied: "I was unlucky, like my country." He had over 100,000 people at his funeral

in Tallin, Estonia. The National Bank of Estonia issued a 5 krooni (5 crowns) note with a portrait of Paul Keres.

Kholmov, Ratmir (1925-)

This grandmaster was once suspended for a year from tournament play because of conduct unbecoming a chess master (he was drunk).

Kieseritzky, Lionel (1806-1853)

Baltic-European mathematics teacher of International Master strength who was a regular at the Cafe de la Regence in Paris. He was not well liked. When he died penniless, he was buried in a pauper's grave because no one would contribute to his burial. Only one person came to his funeral - a waiter at the Cafe.

King's Gambit

The first book on the King's Gambit was published in 1706 by M. Caze.

King's leap

In the 15th century the King was allowed to leap to any 3rd square on its first move, provided it did not leap out of or over check. The King's leap survived until the 17th

century in England and France. It survived in Spain and Portugal up to 1750. It survived until the 19th century in Iceland. From this move, castling developed.

Knight tour

The number of possibilities of a knight's tour is over 122 million.

Knoppert, Eric

In 1985, played 500 games of 10-minute chess in 68 hours.

Kolisch, Ignatz (1837-1889)

In his early years he was the private secretary of the Russian Prince Urusov. He later became a wandering chess professional. He moved to Vienna and met Albert Rothschild. He became involved in banking and became a millionaire and chess patron.

Koltanowski, George (1903-)

Dean of American Chess and past President of the US Chess Federation. He became one of the world's greatest blindfold players in chess history. In 1937 he played 34 opponents blindfolded, winning 24 and drawing 10 in

13.5 hours. In 1960 he played 56 consecutive blindfold games in a row, winning 50 and drawing 6. He has won the Belgium championship 4 times. He is a founding member of the World Chess Federation (FIDE) which formed in 1924.

Konstantinopolsky, Alexander (1909-1990)

Winner of the first USSR Correspondence Championship. He was one of the leading trainers in the USSR during the 1950s and 1960s.

Korchnoi, Victor (1931-)

Four times Soviet champion and played on six of the USSR's Olympic teams. In the 1970 Chess Olympiad in Skopje, Yugoslavia, Victor overslept and missed his round against Spain lost by default. The round started at 3 pm. He defected to the West in July 1976, after a tournament in Amsterdam. Victor Korchnoi's son, Igor, was sent to a Siberian labor camp for 30 months for refusing military service. In 1991 Korchnoi was granted Swiss citizenship after 14 years of residency. He has appeared in eight Candidates Matches. In his 1980 match with

Petrosian, he had a bullet-proof screen put between him and the audience.

Korn, Walter (1908-)

Editor of *Modern Chess Openings* (MCO) and the only FIDE International Judge for Chess Endgame Compositions in North America.

Kotov, Alexander (1913-1981)

Awarded the Order of Lenin for an important invention relating to mortar.

Krush, Irena (1984-)

In 1993 Irene Krush beat a master, the youngest ever to beat a master in rated play.

Krylenko, Nikolai (1885-1938)

Chess enthusiast responsible for persuading the Soviet government to support chess. He was Commissar for War in the first Bolshevik government, then Commander-in-Chief of the Russian armed forces, chief prosecutor for the revolutionary tribunals, and later Commissar for Justice for the USSR. His chess title was Chairman of the Chess Section of the Supreme Council

for Physical Culture of the Russian Federal Republic, and later, Secretary of the Soviet Chess Federation. In 1937 he was arrested and charged with retarding the development of chess, cutting it off from the social and political life of the Soviet Union. He was ordered executed by Stalin as an enemy of the people.

Kurajica, Bojan (1947-)

Winner of the 1965 World Junior Championship. The title is an automatic award to the International Master title, yet he was not even a master. He thus became an International Master without ever being a master.



Labourdonnais-MacDonnell match

Played 85 games, the largest number of games ever played successively in match conditions. Neither knew a word of the other's language. Labourdonnais spent his time spitting, cursing, singing, and laughing. MacDonnell spent up to an hour and a half to make a single move.

Lane Hickey, Lisa (1938-)

Former U.S. women's champion (1959-62, 1966). She played 4 games in the Hastings Reserve tournament in 1961-62, then withdrew after one draw, two losses, and an adjourned game. She said she could not concentrate because she was "homesick and in love." In 1960 she appeared on *What's My Line* and on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*. In 1964 she opened up her own chess club, Queen Pawn, in New York.

Lange, Max (1832-1899)

Inventer of the helpmate in 1865 and the Max Lange Attack.

Lanni, Diana

One of the top ten women chess players in the US. She ran away from home to escape domestic turmoil, worked as a topless dancer and a prostitute. She entered a women's tournament in Michigan and won. She was a drug addict and suicidal and wound up in Bellevue Hospital in New York. In 1980 she walked out of the hospital and ended up at the Chess Center in New York where she found a room and a job. Since then, she has spent most of her time playing chess. She was rated 2027 in the 1992 USCF Annual Ratings List.

Larsen, Bent (1935-)

Danish Grandmaster who now lives in Buenos Aires. In 1956 he played first board of the Danish team at the chess Olympiad in Moscow. He played so well that FIDE awarded him the title of Grandmaster without him being an International Master first. In 1966 when Larsen beat Geller in a match, it was the first time in a match that a

Soviet Grandmaster had ever lost to a foreigner. Bent Larsen was the first GM to lose to a computer in a tournament competition, 1988. To supplement his income, he translated detective stories into Danish. In 1953 Larsen labored all night on an adjourned game to find a winning line. Then he tried to get a few hours sleep. He lost the game because he had overslept and failed to appear on time.

Lasa, Baron Tassilo von Heydebrand und der (1818-1899)

Considered the top 2 or 3 in the world from 1845-1855. He never played in a tournament or formal match, but in offhand games he beat the world's best players, including Staunton, Anderssen, and Lowenthal. He published the *Handbuch des Schachspiels* in 1843, the first complete review of openings in any language. He was a Prussian diplomat and ambassador.

Lasker, Edward (1885-1981)

Became an International Master at the age of 75. Edward Lasker won the championship of Paris in 1912, the London championship in 1914, the New York City champi-

onship in 1915, and the championship of Chicago in 1916. Edward Lasker had degrees in mechanical and electrical engineering. He invented and patented a breast pump to secure mother's milk. At the age of 90 he played in a telex match between New York and London. He was a seventh cousin to Emanuel Lasker.

Lasker, Emanuel (1868-1941)



Lasker took first place at Breslau in 1889 by accident. Another competitor, needing a draw or win for first place, had a won adjourned game. After adjournment he lost. It was later discovered that one of his pawns was

knocked off the board between sealing and resumption of the game, which would have given him the winning advantage. As a result Lasker, who was considering giving up chess, won the event and the title of national master. Five years later he was world champion. He once tried to breed pigeons for poultry shows. He tried for many months and failed. He learned later that all the pigeons were male. Between 1901 and 1914 he played in only three tournaments. In 1908 he married at the age of 48 and became husband, father, and grandfather all at once. His wife, a few years older than he, was already a grandmother. He tried to have the tournament rules changes for the older player at the international level. He proposed that play should be stopped after 2 hours for a half hour adjournment. His theory was that gentle exercises or turning to other thoughts for awhile would reinvigorate the older brain. During World War I he invested his life savings in German war bonds and lost it all. He wrote a book declaring that Germany had to win World War I if civilization was to be saved. His Ph.D. dissertation of 1902 on ideal numbers became a cornerstone of 20th century algebra. He believed that one of his opponents,

Tarrasch, had hypnotic powers and wanted to play him in a separate room. Lasker's older brother, Berthold, won the New York State chess championship in 1902.

Last Place

The first time the last place finisher defeated the reigning world champion in the same event occurred in Hanover in 1983 when Wolfram Hartman defeated Karpov. Karpov suffered the same fate to last place finisher Torre in London 1984.

Laucks, Forry (1897-1965)

Founder and patron of the Log Cabin Chess Club. He collapsed and died after the 6th round of the U.S. Open in San Juan.

Leary, Timothy

Used chess sets as visual props for preparing classes at Harvard to receive the impact of LSD. He said, "Life is a chess game of experiences we play."

Lee, Edward

At 14 he defeated 7 grandmasters in simultaneous exhibitions: Karpov, Korchnoi, Nunn, Speelman, Ftacnik,

Kochiev, and Kupreichik. He has also drawn against Korchnoi and Hort in two other exhibitions.

Leko, Peter (1980-)

Hungarian player who became the youngest International Master in the world at age 12.

Lemachko, Tatjana (1948-)

Female chess master who defected from the Bulgarian team on the eve of the last round of the Lucerne Chess Olympiad in 1982. She was one of the eight finalists for the women's world championship for 1983.

Lendl, Ivan

Tennis super-star and chessplayer. His father, Jiri, was a Czech junior chess champion.

Lenin, Vladimir

An avid chessplayer who used "Karpov" as one of his pseudonyms during his exile.

Lewis chessmen

Oldest known chess pieces in existence, carved from walrus ivory. Seventy-eight pieces were found in a stone chamber in a sand bank on the west coast of the Isle of Lewis in 1831. They date back to 1150-1170. The pieces were discovered by a peasant who found a mysterious stone building buried under several feet of sand. The pieces reside in the British Museum and the National Museum in Edinburgh. The most striking piece is the rook, which is the form of a captain afoot, rather than a castle.

Lewis, Lennox

WBC Heavyweight Boxing Champion who plays chess every day while in training.

Libya

Site of the unofficial chess olympics in 1976 in protest to the main chess olympiad in Haifa, Israel. There were 37 entrants. It was won by El Salvador. Each team had its own car and driver and each team member received \$8 a day. Forty-eight nations sent their team to Haifa. Italy had a team in both olympics. Their FIDE delegate pro-

posed that the U.S. be barred from holding FIDE events and participating in FIDE meetings because the U.S. failed to grant a visa for a Libyan delegate.

Linares, Spain

Site of the first category 17 tournament ever, with an average rating of 2658, in 1991. The event was won by Ivanchuk. This was the first tournament since 1981 that Kasparov failed to at least tie for first.

Literature

The world's first periodical devoted solely to chess literature was the *Chess Reader* in 1955.

Liverpool Mercury

The first English newspaper to publish a chess column. The column first appeared on July 9, 1813 and ended on August 20, 1814.

Living chess

The first living chess played with people taking the part of chessmen is demonstrated in the court of Charles Martel, Frankish ruler of Austrasia in 735.

Lombardy, Bill (1937-)

The first American to win an official world chess championship when he won the World Junior Championship in 1957 with a perfect 11-0 score. He was ordained a priest in 1967 by Cardinal Spellman.

London 1851

First international chess tournament ever held. The tournament was held in conjunction with the Great Exhibition of Art and Industry of 1851. Howard Staunton and the St. George's Club were the organizers. Anderssen won a silver cup and 183 pounds. He owed 1/3 of his winnings to Szen after a private agreement that if either were to gain first prize, he would share it with the other.

London 1927

The first of the series of international team competitions known as the Chess Olympiads. Sixteen countries participated, won by Hungary.

Longest Games

The longest chess game is 269 moves (I. Nikolic - Arsovic, Belgrade 1989) which ended in a draw. The lon-

gest won game for White is 193 moves (Stepak - Mashian, Israeli Championship 1980). The longest won game for Black is 161 moves (Duras - Janowski, San Sebastian 1911).

Losers

The worst loss by a player was Macleod of Canada who lost 31 games in the New York double-round robin of 1889. Col. Moreau lost all 26 games at the Monte Carlo tournament in 1903.

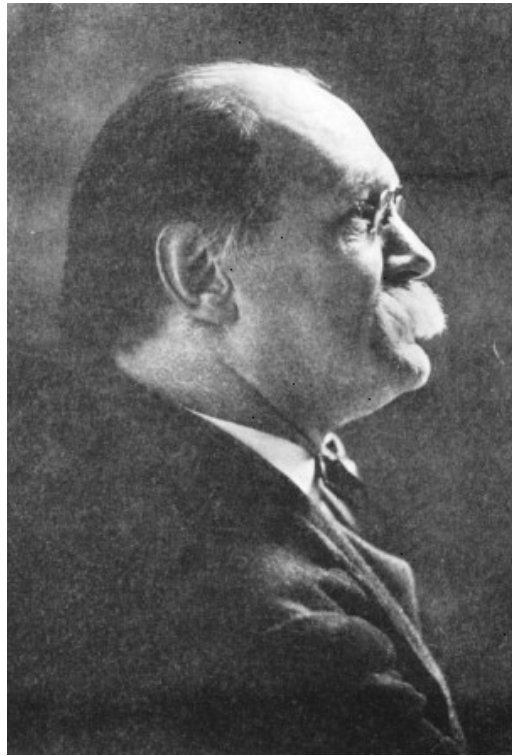
Loshinsky, Lev (1913-1976)

Considered the greatest of all problem composers. He won over 70 first place prizes in problem composing contests.

Lowenthal, Johann (1810-1876)

Considered the best opening theorist of his day. Inventor of the demonstration board in 1857.

Loyd, Sam (1841-1911)



The most famous American chess composer. He modified an Eastern board game and popularized it as Parcheesi. He was known as “The Puzzle King.” He served as president of the New York Chess Club and organized the first international tournament on American soil. He composed about 3,000 chess problems.

Lucena, Luis

Author of the oldest existing printed book on chess, *Repitition of Amores y Arte De Axedres* published in 1497. Only 8 copies are known to exist.

Lucerne

Sight of the 1982 chess olympiad in Switzerland. The Ugandan team went by mistake to Lugano, Switzerland (home of the 1968 Olympiad).

**Mackenzie, Arthur (1861-1905)**

Chessplayer who composed chess problems when he was blind. He was responsible for the popularity of the two-mover in the early 20th century. By coincidence, a problem submitted to a composing tournament was almost identical to another problem submitted by H. Lane. They both featured the same key move. By a greater coincidence, H. Lane was also blind.

Mackenzie, George (1837-1891)

Winner of the second, third, and fifth American Chess Congresses. Recognized as American chess champion from 1865 to 1890. He was a Lieutenant in the British army and a Captain in the US Army, fighting for the North during the Civil War.

Maelzel, Johann (1772-1838)

Mechanical engineer who bought the Turk from Wolfgang von Kempelen's son. He supposedly invented

the metronome and was a good friend of Beethoven. Prince Eugene de Beauharnais bought the Turk from Maelzel in 1811 for 30,000 francs and Maelzel gave part of the money to Beethoven. In 1817 he bought the Turk back from the Prince for the same sum. No cash was handed over to the Prince, but Maelzel was to pay from any profit he might make. The Prince died but his heirs sued Maelzel for the balance. Maelzel fled to America with the Turk to escape the debts and lawsuits. Maelzel was buried at sea in 1838 after dying on a ship bound from Cuba to America.

Magazine, Chess

The first magazine devoted entirely to chess was *Le Palamede*, founded by La Bourdonnais in 1836. The oldest existing chess magazine in the world is *Deutsche Schachzeitung*, founded in 1846. The longest surviving English magazine, the *British Chess Magazine*, was started in 1881. The first U.S. chess magazine, *The Chess Monthly*, was published by Daniel Fiske in 1857. The first Russian magazine, *Shakhmatnyi listok*, was published by Tchigorin in 1876.

Makovetz, Gyula (1860-1903)

Editor of Hungary's first chess magazine, *Budapesti Sukkezende*, from 1889 to 1894.

Manchester Chess Club

Oldest chess club in Britain, which began on September 3, 1817.

Manhattan Chess Club

Oldest chess club in America, which began in a cafe in lower Manhattan in 1877. Up to recently, it had been located in Carnegie Hall.

Mannheim Congress 1914

A series of chess tournaments in Germany when World War I broke out. The 19th congress of the German Chess Federation began on July 20 and stopped August 1. First place was 2000 marks (\$500). Players included Alekhine, Marshall, Reti, Janowski, Spielmann, Tarrasch, Mieses, Duras, Tartakover, Bogoljubov, and Vidmar. Alekhine won (9.5-1.5), followed by Vidmar and Spielmann. Only 11 of the scheduled 17 rounds were played. Frank Marshall escaped to Amsterdam. His bag-

gage showed up in New York five years later with all of the contents still intact. The Russian chessmasters find themselves all under arrest and the prize fund is cut in half. Alekhine was held in a German police station then a military prison. He was certified as medically unfit for military service and released after 6 weeks. Tarrasch learned that his son was already killed in action.

Marathon chess

In 1983 two bus drivers from Bristol, England played chess non-stop for 200 hours. Roger Long and Graham Croft played 189 games with Long winning 96 to 93.

Marco, Georg (1863-1923)

Romanian-born Austrian of grandmaster strength. He was a very large powerful man and was referred to as the “strongest” chess player in the world.

Mariotti, Sergio (1946 -)

First and only Italian Grandmaster (1974).

Maroczy, Geza (1870-1951)

A waterworks engineer and math teacher who was one of the most successful players from 1899 to 1908. Suppos-

edly his ghost returned in 1985 and has been playing Korchnoi thru a Swiss medium.

Marseillaise Chess

A variation of chess invented in 1925 in which each player plays two moves at a time.

Marshall, Frank (1877-1944)

The first American to defeat a Soviet player in an international tournament (New York, 1924). He reigned as U.S. Champion for 30 years, but only defended his title once when he defeated Ed Lasker (5-4) in 1923. He was the first master to play more than 100 games simultaneously. In 1916 he played 105 players at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. He won 82 games, lost 8, drew 15. In 1922 he played 155 games simultaneously in Montreal. He scored 126 wins, 21 draws, and 8 losses after 7 hours of play. A week later he was able to replay 153 of the games from memory. What bothered him was forgetting the other two games. He thought he was losing his memory. He started the Marshall Chess Club in 1922 to rival the Manhattan Chess Club. He claimed he played at least one game of chess every day for 57 years. In 1904

he was proclaimed U.S. Chess Champion when Pillsbury declined a match with him because of illness. Pillsbury died in 1906. Marshall did not officially accept the title until 1909, when he won a match with Jackson Showalter, the champion before Pillsbury. He announced his retirement in 1936 as U.S. Chess Champion.

Martz, Bill (1945-1983)

Played 104 consecutive tournament games without a loss. He held degrees in mathematics and law but never practiced. He was a car salesman.

Master

The youngest master was Jordy Mont-Reynaud at 10 years, 7 months (1994). The oldest player to become a master was Oscar Shapiro, at age 74.

Matanovic, Aleksandar (1930-)

Yugoslav Grandmaster (1955) and chief editor of *Chess Informant*. He has won the Yugoslav championship 3 times. From 1990 to 1994 he was FIDE Executive Deputy President.

Match

The first over-the-board match of consequence was the McDonnell-La Bourdonnais match in 1834. The longest running annual match is the Oxford-Cambridge match, which has been held every year since 1873.

Match of the Century

The first USSR vs. Rest of the World match held in Belgrade in 1970.

Mate

There are 8 different ways to mate in two moves and 355 different ways to mate in three moves.

Mathilda

Daughter of Otto II who was “won” as a result of a chess match between Ezzo, the Count of Palatine, and her brother, the Holy Emperor, Otto III.

Matulovic, Milan (1935-)

GM Matulovic of Yugoslavia was sentenced to 9 months imprisonment for killing a woman by dangerous driving (No, he didn't say J'adoube). In 1967 he took back a move without saying J'adoube (I adjust) and drew his

game with Bilek in the Interzonal. He is sometimes referred to as J'adoubovic.

McCormick, Edgar (1914-1991)

Participant of more U.S. Open chess tournaments than any other person (37 times). In World War II he was a cryptographer. He won the U.S. Amateur Championship in 1961, and again in 1990, at the age of 75.

McKenna, Patrick

Currently on death row at the Ely State Prison in Nevada for killing a jail cellmate after an argument over a chess game.

Mechanics Institute

Oldest chess meeting place in the United States, founded in 1854. Formerly the Mercantile Library in San Francisco, it was not incorporated as a chess club in its own right.

Mecking, Henrique (1952-)

Brazilian grandmaster. He was champion of Brazil at 13 and won the South American Zonal at 14. During his candidates' match with Petrosian, he made a formal protest.

He accused the formal world champion of kicking the table, shaking the chessboard, stirring the coffee too loudly, and rolling a coin on the table. He went to the referee twice to complain that Petrosian was breathing too loudly. Mecking kicked back at the table and made noises of his own. Petrosian responded by turning his hearing aid off. He retired from chess in 1978 when he contracted myasthenia gravis, a debilitating muscle disease. He returned to chess in 1991.

Menchik-Stevenson, Vera (1906-1944)

World Woman Champion Vera Menchik defended her title six times, scoring 78 wins, 4 draws, and only 1 loss. In 1927 she won the first Women's World Chess Championship with 10 1/2 out of 11. She played in her first world championship as a Russian, the next five as a Czech, and the last one as a Briton. She died in Kent in June 1944 after a German V-1 rocket hit her home, killing her mother and her sister, Mrs. Olga Rubery (world challenger in 1935 and 1937). Vera's husband, R.H.S. Stevenson, was the secretary of the British Chess Federation who died in

1943. At the time of her death, Vera was serving on the editorial staff of “Chess” as games editor.

Menchik Club

Players who lost to Vera Menchik. In the 1930s Albert Becker said if anyone should lose to this woman, he would be a member of the Menchik Club. His was the first member. Other members included Max Euwe, Sammy Reshevsky, Mir Sultan Khan, Sir George Thomas, C. H. O’D. Alexander, Edgar Colle, Frederick Yates, William Winter, Lajos Steiner, Frederich Saemisch, Milner-Barry, Harry Golombek, and Jacques Mieses (who lost to her four times in a match).

Mephisto

The best of the automations. It was operated from another room by electro-mechanical means. It entered the County Chess Association held in England in 1878 and won. Gunsberg was the operator. He operated it from the cellar of the tournament hall. Mephisto was built by C.G. Gumpel. Mephist was shown for 12 months only and then broken up. When playing with ladies it would obtain a winning position and then lose the game, offering to

shake hands afterwards. Mephisto was first exhibited at the Westminster Aquarium in London in 1876.

Mephisto Portorose

One of the strongest commercially available chess micro-computers. In 1990 it defeated Karpov, Huebner, and Bronstein in simultaneous exhibitions, won the West German blitz championship, and earned an International Master (IM) norm by scoring 7-4 in the Dortmund Open.

Mexico

In the 1930s the Mexican government offered all foreign chess masters appointments as chess instructors in the Army. Kostich was made a Colonel. Alekhine and Capablanca did not accept their rank. Reuben Fine and Kashdan were made Lieutenants.

Mieses, Jacques (1865-1954)

Born Jakob Mieses but he changed his name to sound more elegant. He was the first British player to receive the Grandmaster title. When he was in his 84, Jacques played a game against the Dutch master, Van Forrest, who was two years older than he. After he had won,

Mieses rose from the board and said, “Youth has been victorious.” As a chess master, he was active for 60 years (1888-1948).

Miles, Anthony (1955-)

The first English-born player to become a grandmaster for over-the-board play, in 1976. He once defeated the World Othello Champion at his own game. He won the World Junior Championship at Manila in 1974. He received an Honorary Master of Arts Degree for chess from Sheffield University. In 1975 he agreed to a draw against Reuben without making a move. This was the first time a game was agreed drawn in International competition without making a single move, thus making it the shortest game ever played.

Milner-Barry, Sir Philip Stuart (1906-)

English player of IM strength who was one of the code-breakers of World War II. He later became Under-Secretary of the Treasury in England.

Minasyan, Artashes

Winner of the 58th and last USSR Championship, held in Moscow in 1991. His prize was a gold medal and a new car fresh from the “Lada” factory. The USSR championship was an 11-round Swiss. Twenty-seven Grandmasters and 29 International Masters participated, won by an untitled player.

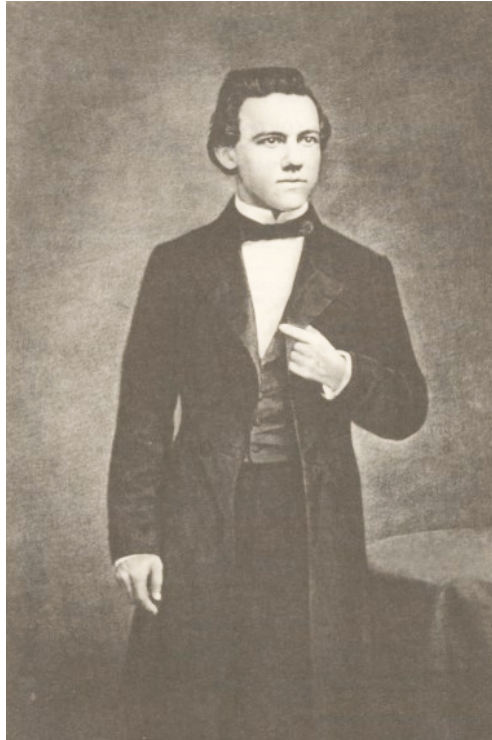
Mont-Reynaud, Jordy (1983-)

World’s youngest master (1994) at 10 years, 7 months.

Moonraker

James Bond novel by Ian Fleming which contains references to Paul Morphy.

Morphy, Paul (1837-1884)



The Pride and Sorrow of Chess. He imagined himself persecuted by his relatives and went into a state of seclusion. He thought his food was poisoned or that someone was out to kill him. He once attacked a person in the street and challenged him to a duel to the death to settle an imagined wrong. He had a fetish with women's shoes. Morphy had hats and cigars named after him. He was the first sports figure to issue a commercial endorsement when he declared of a watch, "I have examined the contents of this watch and find it to be made of 100 percent

genuine machinery.” When he arrived in Paris to play Anderssen, he was suffering from the flu. His medical treatment consisted of being leeches. He lost four pints of blood and was too weak to leave his hotel bed. So, he played Anderssen from his hotel room and won 7-2. When he returned to New York, he was greeted by Longfellow, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Samuel Morse, and John van Buren, the former President’s son. Van Buren toasted Morphy as ‘The Chess Champion of the World.’ It was the first time that expression had been used.

Mouret, Jacque (1787-1837)

Operator of The Turk from 1819 to 1824. He sold the secret of how The Turk operated to the *Magazin Pittoresqu* in 1834. This was the first authentic revelation of the Autmaton’s secret. In 1836, the magazine *Palamede* re-published Mouret’s disclosures. He was a nephew of Philidor.

Move

David Bronstein took 50 minutes to make his first move. Herman Steiner spent 75 minutes over his second move.

In 1980 an International Master spent 2 hours and 20 minutes before making his 7th move.

Munich 1936

Considered the extra Chess Olympiad. The German Chess Federation wanted to organize an Olympiad as a counterpart to the Olympic Games at Berlin. Munich was chosen since its local chess club was celebrating its centenary. But since the German Chess Federation was not part of FIDE, the event was not recognized as belonging to the official series of Olympiads. Twenty-two countries and 208 participants entered. A total of 1680 games were played in this event of teams with eight players and two reserves. Hungary won without conceding a single drawn match.

Murder and chess

In 1960 a sailor got in a fight with a spectator in a Greenwich Village bar when the spectator criticized the sailor's chess game. The sailor struck the spectator with a broken beer bottle and struck a jugular vein. The sailor was eventually acquitted of murder and charged with accidental death instead.

Murshed, Niaz (1966-)

Won the Bangladesh championship at age 12 years and 309 days, becoming the youngest winner of a national federation. He won the Bangladesh championship at age 13, 14, and 15 as well. His is the first and only Grandmaster (1986) from Bangladesh.

My 60 Memorable Games

Bobby Fischer's modern classic which almost never got published. In 1964 Bobby withdrew his manuscript before it went to press. He had to buy his way out of the contract with Simon & Schuster. He was concerned about revealing his opening strategy. Five years later he updated his original work of 52 games to *My 60 Memorable Games* and had Larry Evans collaborate on the book. Fischer's original title was *My Life in Chess*, then *My Memorable Games* 60 Tournament Struggles.

Mythical Inventors of Chess

Mythical inventors of chess include Japhet, Shem, King Solomon, Lydus and Tyrrhenus, Hermes, Aristotle, Semiramis, Zenobia, Attalus, Palamedes, Xerxes, Shatenscha, Ulysses, Diomedes, Adam, Greeks,

Romans, Babylonians, Scythians, Egyptians, Castilians, Irish, Welsh, and South American Indians, Icelanders, Australian aborigines, Chinese, pygmies, Bataks, and Meetas, Jason, Knights of King Arthur's Round Table.

**Najdorf, Miguel (1910-1997)**

Polish-born player who stayed in Argentina after the outbreak of World War II and became a naturalized citizen of Argentina five years later. He changed his first name from Mieczyslaw to Mendel to Miguel. In 1943 he played 40 games blindfolded. He then played 222 opponents simultaneously, over-the board, winning 202, drew 12 and lost 8 games. In January, 1945 he played 45 opponents simultaneously blindfolded in Sao Paulo, Brazil. After 23 hours and 30 minutes of play, he won 39 games, drew 4, and lost 2.

Napier, William (1881-1952)

English-born US player of GM strength. He won the British championship in 1904. He married Pillsbury's niece.

Napoleon (1769-1821)

Played The Turk in 1806 in Berlin. When he lost he knocked all the pieces from the board and yelled, "Baga-

telle,” then stormed out of the room. When Napoleon died, he willed that his heart be cut out and placed inside a chess table.

National Chess Centre

Largest chess club in London with 700 members until it burnt down in 1940 after a German air raid.

National Elementary Championship

In 1992 the National Elementary Championship held in Knoxville, Tennessee, had a record 1,201 participants, giving out a record 375 trophies.

National Scholastics

The first National High School Championship began in 1969. The first National Junior High began in 1973. The first National Elementary began in 1976.

Neimetdinov, Rashid (1912-)

First USSR master in chess and checkers. He wrote the first chess book in the Tatar language.

New York 1857

Also known as the American Chess Congress, it was the first American chess tournament to determine the national champion. It was won by Paul Morphy with 14 wins, 1 loss, and 3 draws.

New York 1859

The New York 1859 had 48 players who played each other twice in a round-robin. 2,256 games were played, the largest individual tournament ever held.

New York State Championship

America's longest running state championship which began in 1878. In 1944 the New York State Championship was called off because IBM, who were to be the hosts, were requested by the U.S. government to cancel all conventions to reduce the burden of traveling facilities for the war.

Nicephorus

Emperor of Byzantium who was introduced to chess (zatrikon) in 802. It is the earliest evidence of chess among the Greeks.

Nightrider

A Fairy chess piece that makes continuous knight leaps in a straight line in one direction to move or capture until it is blocked.

Nimzovich, Aron (1886-1935)



Founder of the hypermodern movement in chess and author of *My System*. He would stand on his head during chess events and did exercises in the tournament room. After losing a game, he jumped up on the table and

yelled, “Why must I lost to this idiot?” He had business cards printed which read, ‘A. Nimzovich: Candidate for the World Championship of Chess and Crown Prince of the Chess World.” He once broke a leg while playing chess. He twisted his leg around the leg of his chair and then, having made his move, leaped up, only to crash to the floor in pain with a broken leg.

N.N.

Nescio Nomen, a Latin phrase meaning name unknown. It has been customary to use N.N. for the given name of an unknown person.

Nobel Prize winners and chessplayers

Samuel Becket (1969-Literature), Menachem Begin (1978-Peace), Willy Brandt (1971-Peace), Elias Canetti (1981-Literature), Winston Churchill (1953-Literature), John Cornforth (1975-Chemistry), Gerard Debreu (1983-Economics), Albert Einstein (1921-Physics), William Golding (1983-Literature), Henry Kissinger (1973-Peace), Sinclair Lewis (1930-Literature), Gabriel Garcia Marquez (1982-Literature), Boris Pasternak (1958-Literature), Robert Robinson (1947-Chemistry),

Bertrand Russell (1950-Literature), Anwar Sadat (1978-Peace), George Bernard Shaw (1925-Literature), Henryk Sienkiewicz (1905-Literature), Isaac Singer (1978-Literature), Frederick Soddy (1921-Chemistry), William Butler Yeats (1923-Literature), Woodrow Wilson (1919-Peace)

Nogueris, Jesus (1959-)

Cuban champion (1978, 1984, 1991) and Grandmaster (1979) who usually plays on board 1 for the Cuban Chess Olympic team.

Non-stop chess

Roger Ling and Graham Croft set the non-stop playing world record of 200 hours in 1982.

Norman Conquest

Introduced chess in Britain in 1066 A.D.

Northern Philidor

Nickname of Alexander Petroff.

Nunn, John (1955-)

British Grandmaster who went to Oxford at age 15, graduated at 18, and got his doctorate in math at 23. In the 1984 Thessaloniki Olympiad, he received 3 gold medals: best score on board 2, best performance rating in the Olympiad, and winner of the problem-solving contest.



O’Kelly de Galway, Alberic (1911-1980)

In 1962 he became the first grandmaster of over-the-board and correspondence chess. He won the third World Correspondence Championship (1959-62).

Olafsson, Fridrik (1935-)

Iceland’s first Grandmaster and former FIDE president (1978-82). He is the Secretary General of the Icelandic Parliament. In 1955 he arrived late to participate in the annual Hastings tournament in England. No rooms could be found for him so he spent his first night in a cell at the Hastings police station as a guest to the local police.

Oldest Recorded Game

The oldest recorded game in existence comes from a 10th century manuscript. The oldest game recorded in the modern style is between Francisco de Castelliz and Narcisi Vinales in the 15th century.

Olympiads

The first official Olympiad began in London in 1927. Prior to that, an Olympiad was held in Budapest in 1926 with the rules that only amateurs could participate. Only four teams showed up: Hungary, Yugoslavia, Romania, and Germany. The first Women's Olympiad was held in 1957. The first U.S. win over the USSR was in 1984 at Thessaloniki, Greece.

At the 1976 Olympiad in Buenos Aires, a member of a Middle East team tried to buy one of the girls working at the site for \$1 million. The offer was not taken up.

The oldest player to participate in an Olympiad is Gudju, at age 90 at the 1984 Olympiad in Thessaloniki. He is the sole survivor of the group that formed FIDE and played in the 1924 Paris Olympiad.

The youngest participant of the Olympiad was 10 year-old Heidi Cueller of Guatemala, who played on their women's team in 1986 in Dubai. 11 year-old Schermann of the Virgin Islands played at Siegen in 1970. In 1982 12 year-old Kien Tjing-Joe played for Surinam.

The US is the only country to defeat the USSR twice in the Chess Olympiad. In 1992 when the Soviet Union broke up, instead of one team, 12 of the 102 teams were from the previous Soviet Union. None of these countries finished with a minus score and three of the countries from the former Soviet Union took the Gold, Silver, and Bronze.

The first woman to play on a man's team was Mary Gilchrist who played for Scotland in the 1937 Olympiad. In 1950 Madame Chade de Silans played for France.

Openings, Number of Possible

There are 400 different possible positions after one move each. There are 72,084 different possible positions after two moves each. There are over 9 million different possible positions after three moves each. There are over 288 billion different possible positions after four moves each. The number of distinct 40-move games is far greater than the number of electrons in the observable universe.

Orangutan Opening

This opening (1. b4), also known as Sokolsky's Opening, got its name during the New York 1924 tournament, when grandmaster Tartakover visited the Central Park Zoo, encountering Suzan the orangutan. The next day Tartakover played 1. b4 against Maroczy.

Oscar

The World Chess Oscar was founded in December 1967 by Jordi Puig for chess journalists to select the outstanding player of the year.

Oxford University Chess Club

Oldest university chess club in Britain.

P

Pachman, Ludek (1924-)

Grandmaster who was imprisoned in Czechoslovakia after openly protesting the Soviet occupation of his land in 1968. He was beaten and suffered a broken skull and backbone.

Paine, Thomas (1737-1809)

American Revolutionist saved by a game of chess. Paine was arrested for favoring the exile, rather than the execution, of King Louis XVI and about to be guillotined in Paris in 1794. His wife went to a cafe frequented by Robespierre and defeated him in a game of chess. Robespierre challenged her again and promised to grant any wish she made if she defeated him again. She again won and got her husband's life spared. Tom Paine wrote *The Rights of Man* and *Common Sense*.

Painting

The first painting with a chess theme was a painting by a Venetian artist in 1490, called, *The Chess Players*.

Palace of Young Pioneers

Soviet children's sports school which has a chess club, found in every Soviet city. Tigran Petrosian got his early training at the Tbilisi Palace, Smyslov at the Moscow Palace, Polugaevsky at the Kuibyshev Palace, Karpov at the Zlatoust Palace, and Kasparov at the Baku Palace. Over 5 million children take part in these Pioneer Chess Clubs.

Palamede, Le

The first magazine devoted entirely to chess, founded by La Bourdonnais in 1836. The periodical was named after Palamades, an ancient Greek who was believed to have made many inventions, including chess.

Palciauskas, Victor (1941-)

Winner of the 10th World Correspondence Championship (1984). He has a PhD in Theoretical Physics and is a professor of geophysics.

Pan-Am Intercollegiate

America's oldest team-on-team competition, begun in 1946.

Paris 1924

First world team competition, held in conjunction of the Olympic games. Fifty-four participants came from all over the world. The individual winner was Mattison of Latvia. The team winner was Czechoslovakia. The two representatives from Russia were refugees living in Paris. Canada and Ireland were each represented by one player only.

Patzer

Weak chess player. From the German verb patzen, to make a mess of.

Pawn

The new pawn move, advancing two squares on its first move instead of one, was first introduced in Spain in 1280. Starting a game by making two pawn moves before the opponent moved was common in Germany and Holland up to the 16th century, and still common in Germany

in the late 19th century. In parts of Asia, pawns have started on the 3rd rank instead of the 2nd. Pawns capture straight ahead in Chinese and Japanese chess. Up until 1903 a pawn, upon reaching the 8th rank, may remain a pawn. A related law stated that promotion could only be a piece that had been captured. If no piece had been captured, the pawn remained a pawn until a capture was made. Steinitz was the leading advocate of this dummy pawn law.

Pawn Promotion

In the 15th century, promotion to allow more than one queen was considered improper because it symbolized adultery. In Spain and Italy in the 17th century, the pawn could only be promoted to the rank of Queen. In France and Germany, promotion was limited to any piece which had been lost. In some countries a player could promote a pawn to an enemy piece so as to force stalemate. The current law in pawn promotion was established in 1851 at the first international tournament in 1851. As late as the 1870's you could promote a pawn and declare it a "dummy" with no powers.

PBS

The most popular PBS TV show aired was the 1972 Fischer-Spassky chess match.

Pearl of Zandvoort

The name given to the 26th game of the World Championship match between Euwe and Alekhine in 1935. The game was played at Zandvoort in Holland.

Penquite, John

Highest rated USCF correspondence player with a rating of 2939, winning 58 straight correspondence games.

Penrose, Jonathan (1933-)

English International Master who has won the British chess championship a record 10 times (1958-63 and 1966-69). He is one of the top correspondence chess players in the world. He has a doctorate in psychology and his father was a distinguished geneticist. In 1970 he collapsed at the Siegen Olympiad from nervous tension. He turned to correspondence chess after that. He won the British Junior Ch and London Championship in 1949 at age 15.

Percival

A romance written by Chrestien de Troyes. The hero, Gauvain, is discovered in the company of a lady. He uses a chessboard as a shield and the lady throws the chess pieces at the intruders as they make their escape.

Perfect Scores

Miss E. Tramner scored a perfect 11-0 score in the 1949 British Ladies' Championship. Mrs. R. Bruce score 8-0 in the 1951 British Ladies' Championship.

Perlis, Julius(1880-1913)

Polish-born Austrian lawyer and player of Grandmaster strength. He died of exposure in an Alpine mountaineering accident.

Persia

In 638 Persia was conquered by Islam under Caliph Omar. This is considered the most important development in the history of chess, as the game is spread throughout the rest of the world.

Petroff, Alexander (1794-1867)

The first strong player Russia produced. He was Russia's first master, theoretician, chess writer and chess composer.

Petrosian, Tigran (1929-1984)

Former world champion. Between 1968 and 1975 he never lost more than a single game in any tournament. He drew more than half his total games of chess, a higher fraction than any other World Champion. He received less than \$2,000 for winning the world chess championship in 1966. In 1972 at the Skopje Olympiad he lost a game on time to Hubner, his first loss on time in his whole career. When he was later told that the incident had been shown on TV, he said, "If I had known that, I would definitely have smashed the clock." His first official match that he played was for the World Championship, which he won when he defeated Botvinnik in 1963. When he lost his match with Fischer in 1971, Petrosian's wife put the blame on his trainer, Alexey Suetin, and slapped him.

Petrov, Vladimir (1907-1945)

Four-time Latvian champion. He died in a prison camp.

Philadelphia

In December, 1826 Maelzel brought the Turk to Philadelphia. The excitement generated by the mysterious Turk was responsible for the formation of the first chess club in Philadelphia. Over 100 members enrolled themselves in the chess club in the first week.

Philately

The first postage stamp depicting a chess motif was issued in Bulgaria in 1947.

Philidor, Andre (1726-1795)

His father was the royal music librarian who begat 20 children, partly by marrying a second wife over 50 years younger than himself. Andre was a child of that second marriage. Philidor was still defeating his opponents with pawn odds at age 69.

Philippines

The Philippine Chess Federation has a dress code for chessplayers. They have outlawed slippers, T-shirts, and

vests in their chess events. The Philippine government was willing to pay \$5 million for a Fischer-Karpov match, the second biggest purse in sports history, and the largest one that had ever been turned down. They were the only nation to send a team to the 1976 Olympiad in Haifa and the “Against Israel Olympiad” in Tripoli, Libya.

Phillips, Harold (1874-1967)

President of the USCF from 1950-54, President of the Marshall Chess Club, former New York State Champion and Manhattan Chess Club Champion. He was the organizer director of the great New York 1924 International Tournament. He played in chess tournaments for over 70 years.

Photograph

The first known photograph of chess players was taken by Fox Talbot, father of the calotype process, in 1843.

Piece

Earliest known chess piece is dated in the eighth century. It is a carved King from an Indian type of chessman, but with an Arabic inscription.

Pillsbury, Harry (1872-1906)



Pillsbury would give simultaneous exhibitions playing 10 chess players and 10 checker players, while playing whist. He was given a list to memorize: Antiphlogistine, periosteum, takadiastase, plasmon, ambrosia, Threlkeld, strepococcus, straphylococcus, micrococcus, plasmodium, Mississippi, Freiheit, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, athletics, no war, Etchenberg, American, Russian, philosophy, Piet Potgelter's Rost, Salamagundi, Oomisellecootsi, Bangmanvate, Schlechter's Nek, Manzinyama, theosophy, catechism, and Madjesoomalops. After a few minutes he was able to recite

the list forward and backward. He was able to recall the list the following day. In 1900 he went on a seven month nation-wide tour in which he gave over 150 exhibitions and travelled 40,000 miles. From 1890 to 1900 Pillsbury worked the automaton Ajeeb in New York. Pillsbury died of syphilis in 1906 at the age of 34. He was considered one of the top 10 checker players in the country.

Play

In 1624 a play called *Game at Chess* by Thomas Middleton appeared in England at the Globe theater. The play presented eminent political persons in the guise of chessmen. It also satirized Prince Charles's Spanish wedding. It played to packed houses for 9 days running. The play was stopped at the protest of the Spanish ambassador, whose predecessor was portrayed on stage as a Black Knight. The authorities prosecuted and fined the actors and Middleton went to prison.

Players

The most players in one tournament is 1251 at the 1985 World Open.

PLO

The Palestine Liberation Organization is a provisional member of FIDE.

Pocket Set

The first pocket set was devised by Peter Roget in 1845.

Polgar, Judit (1976-)

Grandmaster at age 15 years, 4 months, and 27 days (Fischer was a grandmaster at age 15 years, 6 months, and 1 day after the Portoroz Inerzonal in 1958). She made her third and final GM norm by winning the Hungarian Championship in 1991. In 1986 at the age of 9 she won the unrated section of the New York Open, winning 7 games and drawing one game. At age 11 she was rated 2350 and earned an International Master title - younger than Fischer or Kasparov. At age 12 she was rated 2555 and was awarded the Woman Gm title. At age 13 she was the World Under 14 Champion for boys and FIDE's highest rated woman.

Polgar, Zsuzsa (1969-)

Winner of the first Women's Cadet (under age 16) Championship in 1981. She won the Budapest Under-11 Championship at age four and a half. At age 12 she was rated over 2300 in Hungary and 2245 FIDE rating. In 1987 FIDE gave 100 free rating points to every woman except Susan on the world ranking list. This topped Susan from the top spot to second behind the Soviet women's titleholder.

Postal rates

In 1947 the U.S. Chess Federation urged all chessplayers to write to their Congressmen to protest a bill to increase postal card rates from one cent to two cents. USCF felt that the rates would increase the cost of postal chess so much as to discourage the practice of correspondence chess.

Price, Judith Edith (1872-1956)

Five-time British Ladies Champion. She first played in the British Ladies Championship in 1912, finishing 2nd. She won it in 1948 at the age of 76, the oldest player ever

to win a national championship. She was the woman's world chess championship challenger in 1927 and 1933.

Prisons and chess

In 1960 Bobby Fischer gave a simultaneous exhibition at Rikers Island prison. He defeated all 20 prisoners while 2,400 inmates watched the exhibition and the prison band played. In 1971 a prisoner failed to return to Western Penitentiary from a chess match at Carnegie-Mellon University. A week later a second prisoner escaped after a chess tournament. The warden remarked, "I'm afraid we won't be invited back to the university if this keeps up."

Pritchard, Elaine Saunders (1926-)

British Ladies Champion and World under-21 Ladies Champion at age 13.

Prizes

The \$300 first place money for the first American Chess Congress was refused by Morphy. Instead, he accepted a silver pitcher, four goblets, and a silver tray. He defeated Stanley in a match, giving odds of pawn and move. Morphy gave the \$100 prize money to Stanley's wife and

children. As a mark of gratitude, she named her next daughter Pauline. At Paris, 1867, 1st prize was a vase worth 5,000 francs and presented to the winner by the Emperor Napoleon III. It wasn't until the 1890 Steinitz-Gunsberg world championship match that the loser took a share of the prize money. The first place prize for the winner of the Tarrasch-Mieses match in 1916 was a half-pound of butter. At the same time in a metropolitan event, the winner was given a keg of schmaltz herring. When Fischer won the world championship, he got \$250,000. This amount exceeded the sum total of awards presented for all previous 27 title matches held since 1886. When Spassky won the world championship three years earlier, he only got \$1,400. That was less than the first official world championship match between Steinitz and Tchigorin, with Steinitz receiving \$2,000. The largest tournament prize fund was \$150,200 for the 1985 World Open. In a tournament in Ohio in 1983, the profit of the event went to the Ohio Nuclear Weapons Freeze campaign. In 1845 the first place prize for the U.S. Championship was \$1,000. Hundred and fifteen years later in 1960 the first place prize for the U.S.

Championship was still \$1,000. In a blitz tournament with Nimzovich and Hans Knoch playing, first place was three shirts. Hans Knoch won them.

Problems, Chess

The first composed chess problem was by the caliph Mutasim Billah of Baghdad around 840 A.D. The earliest known European collections of chess problems were copied at the English monasteries of Abbotsbury and Cerne Abbey in Dorset around 1250. In 1295 Nicholas de St. Nicholai wrote the Bonus Socius, the first great compilation of chess problems. The first problem-solving chess contest was held in London in 1854. It was won by Walter Grimshaw. The first study-composing tournament was held in 1862 and won by Bernhard Horwitz. The longest solution to a composed problem requires 292 moves.

Prodigy

The first child prodigy of chess was Paul Morphy. He learned the moves at 8 and beat the strongest players in New Orleans at 11. Reshevsky was taught the moves at 4 and was able to play a blindfold game at age 8. Max

Euwe learned the game at 4 and won a tournament at 10 with a 100% score. Arturo Pomar was the champion of the Balearic Islands at 11. Neaz Murshid won the National Championship of Bangladesh at 11. Capablanca beat the Cuban champion in a match at 12. Kasparov won the USSR junior championship at 12. Henrique Mecking was the Champion of Brazil at 13 and tied for first place in the South American championship at 14. FIDE master Michael Adams of England had a rating of 2405 in 1986, highest ever by a 13-year-old.

Professor of Chess

Nickname of Jacob Sarratt, the first professional player to teach chess in England.

Purdy, Cecil (1906-1979)

Winner of the first world correspondence chess championship in 1955. In 1951 he was the champion of Australia. His son was the junior champion of Australia. He won the Australian championship four times and held the Australian Correspondence Championship for 16 years in a row. Both Purdy's father-in-law Spencer Crakenthorp,

and his son John have been champions of Australia. He died of a heart attack while playing a game of chess. His last words were, “I have a win, but it will take some time.”



Queen

Originally called mantri (a minister or counsellor), it could only move to one adjacent diagonal square. When chess came to Europe, the Queen could leap three squares. By 1475 the Queen obtained its present power of moving along the ranks and files or diagonals. Early rules in some countries did not allow a promotion of a pawn to a second queen on the board because that was thought of as promoting bigamy and not allowed.

Queen's Gambit

In the 1927 World Championship Match, the Queen's Gambit Declined was played in 32 out of 34 games.

Quevedo, Luis Torres y (1852-1936)

Spanish engineer who built the first true automaton, El Ajedristica. It automatically played the endgame of King and Rook against King from any position without any human intervention.

Quinteros, Miguel (1947-)

Argentine Grandmaster who, in 1987, was barred from playing in FIDE events for three years because he played in South Africa. Quinteros was the first grandmaster to visit South Africa since 1981. He gave simultaneous exhibitions in Cape Town, Sun City and Johannesburg. He is married to a former Miss Philippines. He is a personal friend of Bobby Fischer and helped launch Fischer's Random Chess in Buenos Aires in 1996.

R

Rabinovich, Ilya (1891-1942)

Russian player of GM strength. Tied for first place in the 1934 USSR championship. Died of malnutrition during the siege of Leningrad.

Rachels, Stuart (1970-)

Became a Master at the age of 11 years, 10 months in 1981. He learned the game a few weeks prior to his 9th birthday, taught by his older brother. He won the 1982 \$1,000 Aspis Prize after winning the U.S. Junior High School Championship and the U.S. Junior Open Championship. He has participated in a record seven U.S. Junior Championships. He tied for first place in the 1989 U.S. Championship, despite being the lowest rated player.

Racknitz, Freiherr Joseph Friederich von

In 1789 von Racknitz built an Automaton similar to Kemplen's The Turk to demonstrate that such a machine could be operated by a hidden player. He published his

work in a book entitled *Ueber den Schachspieler des Herrn von Kempelen und dessen Nachbildung*. He did not guess how anyone was hidden in The Turk, since his Automaton could only conceal someone less than 4 feet tall.

Radio Match

The 1945 USA-USSR Radio Chess Match was the first international sports event since the outbreak of World War II. It was also the first international chess match played by radio. It marked the debut of the USSR in international sport. Never before had a team representing the USSR played another country in any form of sport. Mayor LaGuardia made the opening move for the U.S. Ambassador Averill Harriman officiated the match in Moscow. The first shortwave radio match in the US occurred between Ed Lasker in Chicago and Norman Whitaker in Washington, D.C. in 1920.

Raging Rooks

Chess team at Adam Clayton Powell Junior High School in Harlem. They tied for first place at the US Junior High School Chess Championship in Dearborn, MI in 1991.

When they returned to New York, Bob Guccione, publisher of Penthouse, threw a party for them in his Upper East Side townhouse.

Ratings

The first organization to adopt a numerical rating system was the Correspondence Chess League of America in 1933. The first USCF rating list appeared in the November 20, 1950 issue of CHESS LIFE. Ken Harkness rated 2,306 players from events from 1921 to 1950. Rueben Fine led the list with a 2817 rating, followed by Reshevsky at 2770. Masters were anyone over 2300, experts anyone over 2100. The first British Grading List was published in 1954 and had 49 players listed.

Ragozin, Vyacheslav (1908-1962)

In 1944 Ragozin trained with Botvinnik for the USSR Championship. They trained with a radio going full blast in the room to get accustomed to a possibly noisy tournament hall. Ragozin ended up in 14th place out of 17 and blamed his results on the unusual quietness of the tournament hall!

Reggio Emilia

In 1991-92 the first Category 18 tournament and the strongest ever held (average rating was 2676) occurred in Reggio Emilia, Italy. It was won by Viswanathan Anand.

Reinfeld, Fred (1910-1964)

Fred Reinfeld wrote 260 books on chess, coins, geology, and outer space. He wrote over 100 books on chess alone. He won the US Intercollegiate Chess Championship, the New York State Championship (1931, 1933), the Marshall Chess Club championship, and the Manhattan Chess Club championship.

Religion and chess

Chess was condemned and forbidden by the Eastern Orthodox Church in 1093. The Church stamped out chess in Russia as a relic of heathenism. In 1125 John Zonares, a former captain of the Byzantine imperial guard, became a monk and issued a directive banning chess as a kind of debauchery. In 1128 Saint Bernard of Clairvaux forbade the Order of the Knights Templars of playing chess. In 1195 the rabbi Maimonides included chess among the forbidden games. He declared chessplayers to be unwor-

thy of credence in the courts of law. In 1208 Odo Sully, Bishop of Paris, decreed that chess be banned from the clergy. In 1240 chess was forbidden to the clergy and monastic orders by the Worcester Synod of England. In 1254 King Louis IX, under influence of the Church, issued an edict forbidding chess as a useless and boring game. In 1260 King Henry III instructed the clergy to leave chess alone “on pain of durance vile.” In 1291 John Peckman, Archbishop of Cantebury, threatened to put the prior and canons of Norfolk on a diet of bread and water unless they desisted from playing chess. In 1299 the Clemantine Kormch was written containing a series of directions and advice on conduct of priests at ordination. It included forbidding chess play. In 1310 chess was forbidden to the clergy in Germany in the decree from the Council of Trier. In 1322 the Jewish rabbi Kalonymos ben Kalonymos condemned chess in his Eben Bohan. In 1329 chess was banned by the clergy in the Synod of Wurzburg in Germany. In 1375 King Charles V (Charles the Wise) of France prohibited chess in France. In 1380 William of Wykeham, founder of Oxford and Winchester College, included chess among the noxious, inordi-

nate, and dishonest games forbidden to scholars. In 1390 John I of Aragon forbade chess. In 1392 Charles VI (Charles the Well-Beloved) decreed that chess be banned. Soon after, he became insane. In 1405 Johann Huss, famed Bohemian religious reformer, sought repentance for loss of self-control at the chess table. In 1416 the Jews of Forli bound themselves not to play any game of chance for 10 years. Exceptions were made for chess. In 1420 Werner von Orseln, the Grand Master of the Teutonic Order, abandoned the prohibition of chess on the grounds that chess was a proper amusement for a knight. In 1467 Charles the Bold forbade dice or cards but allowed chess to be played on suitable occasions. In 1495 Pedro Arbues, Dominican member of the Inquisition, ordered victims of persecutions to stand in as figures in a game of living chess. The game was played by two blind monks. Each time the captured piece was taken, the person representing that piece was put to death. By 1500 chess became a recognized pastime for Jews on the Sabbath and other festivals. In 1549 the Protohierarch Sylvester wrote his *Domostroi* (Household Government). In his chapter on evil living, he stated that those who play

chess shall all dwell in hell together, and shall be accursed on earth. In 1551 Ivan IV of Russia banned chess and labelled it a pastime of Hellenic devilry. In Moscow the leading clerics compiled the Stoglav Collection which included the prohibition of chess. In the mid 15th century Saint Teresa, a Spanish conventical reformer, mentioned chess in her religious writings. She used chess to illustrate her meditations about ethics and faith. The Church authorities in Spain proclaimed her patron of chessplayers. In 1570 a church manuscript dealt with the ecclesiastical punishment imposed on chessplayers. The punishment was as follows: "If any of the clergy play chess, he shall be dismissed from his office. If a clerk or layman play, he shall do public penance for two years, and make 200 obeiances each day, because the game is derived from the lawless Chaldeans, the priests of idols. It is a temptation of Satan. After the plague of Cremona in 1575, all games were considered primary evils and the cause of all troubles. All games, except chess, were prohibited for a year. In the late 16th century a Russian book on regulations was published forbidding chess. Clergymen associated the game with witchcraft and heresy. In

1649 the Czar Alexei found some players playing the forbidden game of chess. He had them whipped and imprisoned. The Puritans greatly disliked the game and discouraged chess play.

Reshevsky, Samuel (1911-1992)



Born Schmul Rzeszewski in Russian Poland, Sammy Reshevsky came to the United States in 1920. He learned chess at 4 and was giving exhibitions at 5. As a 9-year old, his first American simultaneous exhibition was with 20 officers and cadets at the Military Academy at West Point. He won 19 games and drew one. He toured the

country and played over 1,500 games as a 9-year old in simultaneous exhibitions and only lost 8 games. In his early years he did not go to school and his parents ended up in Manhattan Children's Court on charges of improper guardianship. His benefactor was Julius Rosenwald, founder of Sears & Roebuck. He won the U.S. Championship seven times. His first U.S. Championship win was in 1936. His last U.S. Championship win was 1971. In 1981, at the age of 70, he tied for 3rd place in the U.S. Championship. In 1984, at the age of 72, he took first place in a grandmaster tournament in Reykjavik, Iceland. When he died in 1992 of a heart attack he had played 11 of the 13 world champions. He played in 21 U.S. Championships, from 1936 to 1981.

Reti, Richard (1889-1929)

Reti played in both the Hungarian and Czechoslovakian national championship in the same year. He was hit by a street car and taken to a hospital to heal. While in the hospital he contracted scarlet fever, which killed him.

Revolutionary War

On Christmas night, 1776, George Washington crossed the Delaware River at Trenton, capturing 1,000 Hessian mercenaries under the command of Colonel Rahl. This surprise plan might have backfired, had it not been for chess. A loyalist near the American camp knew of the plan and sent his son with a note to warn Colonel Rahl earlier that day. However, the colonel was so engrossed in a game of chess, that he simply put the note into his pocket unread. After the battle, the note was discovered, still unread, in the mortally wounded colonel's pocket.

Rhode Island College

Only school in the United States to offer scholarships to strong chessplayers.

Rice, Isaac (1850-1915)

Inventor of the unsound Rice Gambit. He spent \$50,000 subsidizing Rice Gambit events. He was a millionaire, president of the first company to make rubber tires, organized the first taxi service in New York, and one of the earliest developers of the submarine. He was the founder of General Dynamics.

Richardson, Keith (1942-)

Awarded the title of International Grandmaster of Correspondence Chess in 1975, becoming the first British player to be awarded the title of Grandmaster for chessplaying.

Robinson, Sir Robert

Won the 1947 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Served as the President of the Royal Society and President of the British Chess Federation in 1950.

Roget, Peter Mark (1779-1869)

Author of Roget's Thesaurus and devised the first pocket chess set in 1845.

ROLLING STONE Magazine

In 1986 *Rolling Stone* magazine included a section titled Glamour Couples of the Year. The top choices were 'Fergie and Andy, John and Tatum, Daniloff and Zakharov, Gorby and Raisa, and Karpov and Kasparov.

Romania

In 1949 the championship of Romania had 105,000 initial entrants. It was finally won by Balanel.

Rosenfeld, Christine

First US correspondence international woman master (1990).

Rossolimo, Nicolas (1910-1975)

Born in Kiev of Greek parents who moved to France, winning the Paris championship ten times, then to the U.S. where he won the U.S. Open in 1955 (a new Buick). He made a record of Russian folk songs, earned a brown belt in judo, and was a taxi driver in Paris and New York City. He played on three U.S. Olympic teams and was on the French Olympic team in 1972. He died in Greenwich village after falling down a flight of stairs.

Rou, Lewis

First known American chess author (1734).

Round Robin

The first round robin chess tournament in which a player played every other player was the London International in 1862. In this event, drawn games had to be replayed until there was a winner.

Royal Game

The first reference to chess as the “Royal Game” appeared in the *Reson and Sensuallyte* by John Lydgate in 1425.

Rubinstein, Akiba (1882-1961)



Chess master who claimed he studied chess six hours a day, 300 days a year. Another 60 days he spent playing in chess tournaments. The remaining five days he rested. He never ate in public and would not shake hands for fear of germs. He was so paranoid that if a stranger came to

his door, he would jump out the window. In 1912 he won five consecutive strong tournaments in one year (Vilna, San Sebastian, Breslau, Pistyan, and Warsaw), a record which has never been surpassed. During World War I, Like Lasker, he invested all his money in German War bonds. He beat Capablanca, Alekhine, and Emanuel Lasker the first time he played them in tournament play. In 1911 at San Sebastian he complained of a fly which kept settling on his forehead and breaking his concentration. After he won the tournament, the tournament director, Jacques Mieses, took him to a leading psycho-neurologist at Munich. The doctor examined Rubinstein and said, "My friend, you are mad. But what does it matter? You are a chess master!" Rubinstein imagined noises in the night: knockings on the walls. He once burst in the room next door and tried to strangle Richard Reti, believing he was the source of these strange noises. He spent four years hiding in a sanatorium in Belgium during the Nazi occupation. He was the youngest of 12 children.

Rudge, Mary (1845-?)

Winner of the first international women's tourney (1897).

Rueb, Alexander (1882-1959)

Dutch lawyer who became first President of FIDE (1924-1949). He owned one of the largest chess libraries in the world until destroyed by bombs in 1945.

Rules

In 1290 Lombard lawyers formulated a rule to govern chess play when players from different countries met. The rule stated: "The game of chess ought to observe the custom of the place in which it is played." Prior to 1853 the rules were to draw for color as well as the first move at the start of the game. Thereafter, the players had the same color pieces throughout the session. One could have the Black pieces and move first. Black was considered to be the lucky chess color. In 1853 George Walker suggested that the players who draw White should have the first move in order to compensate. The first international codification of rules occurred in 1929.

Ruodlieb

A Latin poem written by the monk Froumund vonn Tegernsee in 1030 is the first written reference of chess in German literature.

Russ, William (1833-1866)

Leading American compiler of chess problems in the 19th century. He adopted an 11-year old girl and proposed to her when she turned 21. When she rejected him, he shot her four times in the head, then shot himself twice. She survived, he did not. His chess book, published posthumously, was entitled *American Chess Nuts*.

Russia

Chess was first introduced in Russia in 820 A.D. The first All-Russian Chess Federation was formed in 1914 with 65 members.

S

Saemisch, Friedrich (1896-1975)

Loser of more games of chess on time than any other master. In one tournament he lost all 13 games on time. He once spent 45 minutes before making his first move, got in time trouble and lost. In another event he lost a game on time in 13 moves. The time control was 45 minutes in 2 1/2 hours.

Salgado, Rob

Won the 1975 and 1983 Golden Knights correspondence chess championship with two perfect scores.

Saltsjobaden, Sweden 1948

First Interzonal tournament and won by David Bronstein who survived an assassination attempt on his life. The U.S. was not represented. The two candidates, Isaac Kashdan and Arnold Denker, declined. The USCF raised \$1,000 for Kashdan to play, but he felt that would not cover his expenses. Denker would have had to finance

the entire journey himself. Seven players represented the USSR in the twenty man field and five of them finished in the top six places.

Saunders, Elaine

Won the British girls' under 21 title at age 10. Won the British women's championship in 1939 at the age of 13.

Scandals and chess

In 1987 the Zone 11 (East Asia/Australia) Zonal in Jjarkata, Indonesia was cancelled after charges that the Chinese players were throwing games to insure one of their own advanced to the Interzonals. A majority of players refused to play after a Chinese player resigned a drawn game and lost on time to other Chinese players. The player was watching other games and made no attempt to make time control against the front-runner, Xu Jun. FIDE then nullified the tournament. Later, President Campomanes reversed the decision, and ruled that the results would stand.

Schlechter, Carl (1874-1918)

The most quiet of all grandmasters. Known as the “Drawing Master” as he drew half of his 700 tournament and match games. He starved to death during the war-imposed famine in Central Europe, never mentioning to any of his acquaintances that he needed money or food.

Scholar’s Mate

1.e4 e5 2.Qh5 Nc6 3.Bc4 d6 4.Qxf7 mate. In France it is called the Shepherd’s mate.

Schlumberger, William (1800-1838)

Strongest player in America from 1826 to 1837. Supported himself by giving chess lessons at the Cafe de la Regence in Paris, earning 4 francs a day. Taught Pierre Saint Amant. The last operator of the Turk.

Schmid, Lothar (1928-)

German grandmaster with the largest private chess library in the world, with over 20,000 chess books. He has served as chief arbiter for Fischer-Spassky 1972, Kar-

pov-Korchnoi 1978, Kasparov-Karpov 1986, and Fischer-Spassky 1992.

Scrivener, Robert (1881-?)

In 1961 Robert Scrivener won the Mississippi State Championship at the age of 80, the oldest state champion.

Scotch Game

An opening name derived from a correspondence game between the English in London and the Scots in Edinburgh, Scotland. However, it was the English who played the Scotch opening!

Second

A player's attendant. The first seconds were for the Lasker-Tarrasch match in 1908. They were allowed to help in preparation of the openings. The first seconds that assisted during adjournments were in the Alekhine-Euwe championship match in 1935.

Seirawan, Yassar (1960-)

First American to beat a reigning world champion. He defeated Karpov in 1982. He was once featured in "Cosmopolitan" magazine as Bachelor of the Month in Sep-

tember 1983. In 1985 he became the first US Candidate for the World Championship cycle since Robert Byrne in 1973.

Selenius, Gustavus (1579-1666)

Author of the earliest detailed account of living chess and the earliest German book on the openings in 1616.

Semaphore

In 1868, Georg Carr played chess with a friend five miles away using a telescope and semaphores.

Sevastianov, Vitaly

President of the USSR Chess Federation and the first person to play chess in space during the Soyuz IX mission in 1970. He invented the Soyuz-Apollo cocktail (25% vodka, 25% gin, 50% brandy). It was designed to put you in orbit. In 1986 he was replaced by Alexander Chikvaidze, a career diplomat.

Shahiludo, de

A Latin poem written by a Winchester monk in 1180. It is the first British reference to chess.

Shaked, Tal (1978-)

America's youngest Grandmaster and highest rated Junior in the US. He won the World Junior Championship in 1997.

Shakmatny

The Russian word for chess. It was first used by a Serbian nomocanon translated from a Greek source in 1262.

Shannon, Claude

The first person to describe how a computer might be programmed to play chess, in 1948.

Sherwin, James (1933-)

International Master who was the American Chess Foundation (ACF) for over 10 years. He was involved in some Wall Street scandals and was replaced as President of the ACF by Fan Adams, a retired Mobil Corporation executive.

Ships and chess

In 1902 the first chess match between players on different ships at sea was played by passengers on the American liner Philadelphia and the Cunard liner Campania 70

miles away. The moves were broadcast by wireless operators aboard the ships. The match was not concluded since the radio was required for navigational use. In 1962 the first USCF rated event ever held shipboard was won by John Mauer (USS Intrepid Open).

Short games

The shortest game in U.S. championship play was a 5 mover by Shirazi-Peters in 1984.

Short, Nigel (1965-)

The youngest player ever to qualify to play in the British Championship, age 11. He won the British speed championship at age 13 and tied for first in the British Championship at 14. He became an International Master at 14 after placing 2nd in the World Junior Championship and a Grandmaster at 19.

Showalter, Jackson (1860-1935)

The first official U.S. Chess Champion (1890). He is considered the inventor of the curve ball. His nickname was the Kentucky Lion.

Silans, Chaude de (1919-)

First lady to play in the Men's Olympiad (Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia) in 1950. She played first board reserve for France, winning one game, drawing one game, and losing four games.

Simultaneous play

Karl Podzielný played 575 games simultaneously in 1978. In 30 1/2 hours he won 533 , drew 27, and lost 15. Vlastimil Hort played 550 opponents, 201 simultaneously, and lost only 10 games in 1977. The best record for simultaneous play was achieved by Capablanca who played 103 opponents, drew 1 game and won all the rest in Cleveland in 1922. George Koltanowski played 56 consecutive (not simultaneous) blindfold games and won 50, drew 6 in San Francisco in 1960. Janos Flesch played 52 strong players blindfold, taking 12 hours. He won 31, drew 18 and lost 3 games. The first satellite simultaneous exhibition was between Kasparov against players in London and New York.

The best simultaneous record is Jude Acers winning all 114 games at a simultaneous exhibition at the 1966 Louisiana State Fair.

The worst performance in a simultaneous exhibition is a New Jersey player who invited 180 opponents to play him in 1977. Only 20 showed up and 18 won. Of the two losses, one was to the exhibiter's mother. In 1910 the Austrian master, Josef Krejcik, gave a simultaneous display at Linz on 25 boards and lost every single game.

In 1966 at the Havana Olympiad, 380 of Cuba's strongest players played 18 opponents each, a total of 6840 individual boards.

In 1984 Kasparov conducted the first satellite simultaneous exhibition, playing chessplayers in London and New York. In 1988 Kasparov played 10 opponents in Australia, Belgium, Canada, England, Italy, Japan, Senegal, Switzerland, USA, and USSR, winning 8, drawing 1, and losing 1.

Smith, Ken (1930-)

In 1954 he won the British Blitz Championship while stationed in England. He was not given a prize because he was not British. In 1983 while playing in the National Open in Las Vegas, Ken Smith won \$140,000 at a poker tournament. He has won the Texas Championship 9 times and the Southwest Championship 7 times.

Smyslov, Vassily (1921-)

Became a candidate for the world championship by taking 2nd place at the 1982 Las Palmas interzonal at the age of 61, the oldest candidate ever. In his candidates match with Huebner in Velden, Austria, the match was tied 7-7. To break the tie, both players agreed to use a roulette wheel to select the winner. Huebner's color was black and Smyslov's color was red. The wheel was spun and it came up 0. The second spin saw the ball land in "Red 3" and Smyslov won. He won the first World Seniors Championship in 1991 at the age of 70. Smyslov's father once beat Alekhine in a chess tournament in 1912.

Sneaky Pete

First computer to play in a U.S. Open (Columbus, Ohio in 1977).

South Africa

Banned from FIDE from 1977 to 1992 because of its apartheid practices. Players participating in South African events have also been banned from FIDE events. Players banned have included Miguel Quinteros, Ledek Pachman, Karl Robatsch, and H. Kestler.

Southern Chess Association

In 1950 an Afro-American player was invited to the Southern Chess Association's Congress in Durham, NC but then barred because of his color. There was a movement to outlaw the Southern Chess Association from U.S. chess because of this incident.

Space

The first game between space and earth was played on June 9, 1970 by the Soyuz-9 crew. Vasily Sevastynov (who later became President of the USSR Chess Federation) and Nikolayev played their ground crew on a spe-

cially designed chess set for the weightless environment. The game ended in a draw.

Spassky, Boris (1937-)

First Soviet to compete in a Swiss System tournament, the Canadian Open in 1971. His sister Irena has been the USSR women's champion at checkers several times. His ending against Bronstein in the 1960 USSR Championship was used in the opening sequence of the James Bond film "From Russia With Love".

Spielmann, Rudolf (1883-1942)

His nickname was "The Last Knight of the King's Gambit" because he played this opening so much. In a tournament a spectator carelessly flicked an ash on Spielmann's pants, which caught on fire. He was so absorbed with the game that he failed to notice he was on fire and had to be rescued by onlookers.

Sphynz

A chess problem that appears on the frontpiece of Staunton's *The Chess Players Handbook*.

Sports Illustrated

It was the August 20, 1962 issue that Fischer wrote his famous article, *The Russians Have Fixed World Chess*. He accused the Soviets of cheating and in collusion with each other at the Curacao Candidates tournament.

Stahlberg, Gideon (1908-1967)

In 1941 Swedish Grandmaster Gideon Stahlberg played 400 games on 20 boards (each loser being replaced by a new player) at Buenos Aires. After 36 hours his score was 364 wins, 14 draws, and 22 losses. He played on 13 Swedish olympic teams. He was the arbiter of five world championships. He died during a tournament in Leningrad.

Stalemate

The rule regarding stalemate first appeared in Europe in *A. Saul's Famous Game of Chesse-Play*. In England, the player who gave stalemate lost the game. In Italy and France stalemate counted as a draw. In Spain and Portugal it counted as an inferior win. Some countries didn't even allow it. Finally, in 1807, the London Chess Club

laws gave stalemate as a draw and it has remained so ever since.

Stamps, Chess

Over 50 countries have issued a stamp on chess. The US has yet to do so. The first stamp with a chess theme was issued in 1947 in Bulgaria commemorating the Balkan Games. The first chess stamp which portrayed a chess master was issued by Cuba in 1951 when a portrait of Capablanca appeared on their 25 cent stamp.

Stanley, Charles (1819-1901)

Considered to be America's first chess champion until he lost a match with Paul Morphy. Started America's first chess column which contained the first chess problem published in America.

Star Trek

Kirk and Spock have played chess three times on STAR TREK. Kirk won every game.

Statham, Louis (1907-1983)

Physicist, inventor, philanthropist and American chess patron. He owned the Playboy mansion in Los Angeles

before selling it to Hugh Hefner and moving to Lone Pine. His Lone Pine tournaments (1971-1981) became one of the premier events in the US. His interests also included yacht racing, opera singing, and ham radio. At 60 he took up correspondence chess, playing over 40 games at once. He had a doctorate in mathematics and pioneered the use of shock waves in oil exploration. He also contributed to the development of the artificial heart.

Staunton chess set

The only type of chess set allowed in FIDE events. In the 1978 World Championship match in Baguio, none of the chess sets shown to Karpov and Korchnoi just before the match were of the Staunton pattern. Someone had to drive to Manila to find a Staunton chess set, which arrived just 15 minutes before the clocks were due to be started. The Staunton knight pattern was modelled after the Greek horse of the Eglin Marbles in the British Museum. The name of the standard pattern of chessmen in England before the Staunton pattern was the St. George design. Staunton, Howard (1810-1874) Organizer of the world's first international tournament, held in London in

1851. He founded the *Chess Player's Chronicle*, the first chess magazine in the English language in 1840.

Stein, Leonid (1934-1973)

Three times Soviet champion. He was heading for the European Team Championship in Bath in 1973 when he was found dead of a heart attack in the Rossiya Hotel in Moscow.

Steinitz, Wilhelm (1836-1900)



Steinitz took 6th place in the London 1851 tournament. After the tournament, he challenged the 5th place finisher

to a match. Steinitz won. It would be another 31 years and 25 matches before anyone could defeat him. He won prize money in every tournament he ever played in except his last tournament, London 1899. The first recognized world champion who won the first official world championship match against Zuckertort in 1886. Steinitz started badly, being 1-4 down, but finally won with a 12.5 - 7.5 score. His daughter sold programs and photographs to spectators during the New York phase of the world championship match to earn a few extra dollars for the family. They couldn't afford a winter coat for her as she stood shivering in the vestibule in the cold January weather. He held the world chess championship for 27 years. After he lost his title, he showed signs of mental illness. He challenged God to a match and occasionally beat Him at chess with pawn odds. He believed he could move chess pieces through mental telepathy. He imagined he could draw energy from the earth and emit electrical currents. He was once held against his will in an insane asylum in Moscow in 1897. He had the delusion that he was phoning somebody in New York. He was sent to the asylum protesting violently. However, he enjoyed

the food and played chess with other inmates. He stayed a week. He died in the East River mental asylum on New York's Ward Island, penniless, in 1900. When he died he left a wife and two small children destitute. He once spit on Blackburne and Blackburne hit him.

Stevenson

Vera Menchik, world woman's champion, married and became Mrs. Stevenson. Sonja Graf, U.S. woman's champion, married and became Mrs. Stevenson.

Stolen car

A chess set was instrumental in a man retrieving his stolen car. In 1990 Bogdan Szetela noticed a car drive by that looked like his that had been stolen 11 days earlier. But this car had a taxi light on top and "Crescent Cab Co." painted on the side. Spotting a police officer, he told the cop that the cab was his stolen car. Police weren't convinced until he told them that he left a chess set in the trunk before it was stolen. The police popped the trunk and found the chess set.

Strauss, David (1946-)

First International Master to lose to a computer. In 1986 an experimental Fidelity machine defeated Strauss at the 1986 U.S. Open.

Strazdins, Arkadijs

Won the New Britain, CT chess club championship for 23 years in a row, from 1952 to 1975.

Streisand, Barbra

Fellow student of Bobby Fischer at Erasmus High School in Brooklyn who used to swap MAD comics.

Strike

The first chess strike occurred at the 1st All-Russian Chess Olympiad held in Moscow, 1920. The competitors stopped playing halfway through the event and refused to play unless they were given more rations and prize money. Their demands were finally met.

Stroebeck

Village in the Harz Mountains, near Halberstadt, Germany. Legend has it that in 1011 A.D., Henry II of Germany decreed that the Wendish Count of Gungelin be

delivered to the Bishop of Stroebeck, to be kept in solitary confinement. The captive spent his long hours playing chess by himself, using a chalked-out board on the dungeon floor and chessmen carved from wood. He won his freedom by teaching his guards how to play chess and the game was passed on to their friends and relatives. During World War I the city printed a bill showing Bismark as the world chess master. Every year the town of 2,000 has a chess festival with parades, banners, and a living chess game.

Sturgis, George (1891-1944)

First President of the USCF, elected in 1939. He died while in office after returning from his honeymoon.

Sukaikir

Last writer on the Muslim game of chess. In 1579 he wrote *The fragrance of the Rose: on the Superiority of Chess over Nard* (backgammon).

Sultan Khan, Mir (1905-1966)

Winner of the All-indian championship and in five years he was the winner of the Championship of the British

Empire three times and played on top board for England in three Olympiads. He was illiterate and had to learn the rules of chess in Europe, which were different than Eastern chess (pawns could only move one square at a time, for example). He couldn't speak English and had to have an attendant write down his score. He was a servant in the household of Colonel Umar Hayat Khan Tiwano, an army officer in charge of the horses for King George V. He defeated Capablanca, Nimzovich, Rubinstein and other top players. He returned to India with his master, living the rest of his life as a farmer. He died of tuberculosis in Pakistan. In 1933 the U.S. chess team from the Olympiad was invited to the home of Sultan Khan's master in London. Sultan Khan was required to wait on everyone as a servant the entire evening. Sultan Khan was invited to play at Moscow 1936, but was too poor to attend.

Suttles, Duncan (1945-)

Canadian Grandmaster who became Canada's 1st correspondence GM in 1982.

Sutton, Willie

Famous bank robber who was arrested by the FBI in 1952. In his possession was *How to Think Ahead in Chess* by Horowitz.

SWIFT

The Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications. The 2nd SWIFT International in 1987 was the first time Kasparov, Karpov, and Korchnoi competed together. Karpov met Kasparov for the 100th time.

Swindle of the Century

Name given to the Larry Evans-Sammy Reshevsky game at the 1964 US Championship.

Swiss System

Pairing system invented by J. Muller and first used in a chess tournament at Zurich in 1895. George Koltanowski introduced the Swiss System in the United States. The first use of the Swiss system in the United States was the Texas Championship in 1942. The first national event to use the Swiss system was the 1945 U.S. Intercollegiate Championship followed by the 1947 U.S. Open in Cor-

pus Christi. Since 1947 every U.S. Open has been conducted under the Swiss System. The first Swiss System Olympiad was Buenos Aires in 1978.

T

Taimanov, Mark (1926-)

Bought a point from Matulovic for \$400 at the Palma de Mallorca Interzonal in 1970. When he lost to Fischer 6-0 in Vancouver, British Columbia, he returned to the USSR in disgrace. Normally grandmasters are not searched when crossing the border to the Soviet Union, but Taimanov was asked to open his luggage for examination. They found one of Solzhenitsin's banned books which Taimanov brought from Canada. He was stripped of his title 'Honored Master of Sport' and deprived of his monthly earnings for holding the grandmaster title. Both were returned to him when Fischer also beat Larsen 6-0.

Tal, Mikhail Nekhemyevich (1936-1992)

At a tournament in Poland in 1974, Tal was playing White against Adamski with both players in time trouble. Adamski's flag fell but Tal lost a piece and resigned. At that moment, Tal's wife said, "Black has not yet made 40 moves." A referee intervened and awarded the win to Tal

since the flag falling happened before Tal resigned. Adamski appealed but his protest was rejected. Tal won the tournament. Tal's parents were cousins. In 1966 Tal was hit in the head with a bottle in a bar during the 1966 Olympiad in Havana and beaten up. He missed the first five rounds of the Olympics because of his injuries. He won the World Blitz Championship in 1988. In 1972-73 Tal played 86 games without a loss in international competition, winning 47 and drawing 39. He died of kidney failure in Moscow.

Tarjan, James (1952-)

American Grandmaster who got his title in 1976. It was the first GM title for the U.S. in 12 years.

Tamerlane (1336-1405)

The Mongol ruler and conqueror of the 14th century. He considered hunting and chess as the two pastimes worthy of a warrior. He named his son Shahrukh (chess rook).

Tarrasch, Siegbert (1862-1934)



He had the lamest excuse in history for losing a world championship match. After losing to Lasker, he blamed his loss on the influence of sea-air. The match began at Dusseldorf, 100 miles from the coast. In 1918 he won a chess match in which the prize was a kilogram of butter. Tarrasch was a medical doctor specializing in hypnosis. Tarrasch lost two sons in the early days of World War I.

Tartakower, Saviely (1887-1956)

Grandmaster from France who played for Poland in six consecutive Olympiads although he never lived there nor could speak the language. He once lost five games in a row and was asked why. He replied, “I had a toothache during the first game. In the second game I had a headache. In the third game it was an attack of rheumatism. In the fourth game, I wasn’t feeling well. And in the fifth game? Well, must one have to win every game?” He received a Doctor of Law degree in 1909. During World War I he was a Lieutenant in the Austrian army and was shot in the stomach. During World War II he was a Lieutenant in the Free French Army.

Tattersall,C (1877-1957)

English chess composer and compiler of the first major anthology of endgames: *A Thousand End-Games* in 1910.

Tchigorin, Mikhail (1850-1908)



Founder of the Russian school of chess. He was the first public chess worker, organizer, and journalist in Russia. His first chess magazine, *Chess Sheet*, only had 250 subscribers in all of Russia. From 1878 to 1907 he was considered the best Russian chessplayer. In 1889 he unsuccessfully challenged Steinitz for the world championship in Havana, which ended after 17 games and only one draw. Steinitz had won 10 and lost 6. A month later

Tchigorin won America's first international tournament, New York 1889. He took second place in the Hastings 1895 tournament (behind Pillsbury) and won the first three All-Russia tournaments (1899, 1900-01, 1903). At Hastings 1895 he won a ring and a copy of Salvoli's *The Theory and Practice of Chess* for winning the most Evans Gambits.

Teeth

A player at a Hastings tournament was clenching his teeth with concentration that he broke his false teeth. He had to forfeit his game to go to a dentist.

Tel Aviv 1964

Site of the 16th Olympiad, which was the first ever held in Asia, and the first time players from all five continents were able to take part in a world gathering.

Telegraph

The first telegraph match was played between Washington, D.C. and Baltimore in 1844, linked by the first American telegraph.

Telephone

The first telephone match was played in 1878.

Teletype

The first time a tournament game was played by teletype was on Aug 25, 1965 when Bobby Fischer played in the Capablanca Memorial tournament. He played his games by teletype from New York to his opponents in Havana, Cuba.

Tennyson, Lord

President of the British Chess Association.

Theresa of Avila, Saint (1515-1582)

Spanish nun who wrote a devotional work, *The Way of Perfection*, using chess in allegory. In Spain she is considered the patron saint of chess players.

Thomas, George (1881-1972)

British chess champion in 1923, British badminton champion (1920-23), and quarter-finalist tennis player at Wimbledon. His mother was the winner of the first British women's chess championship at Hastings in 1895. He was on the winning doubles team championship at

Wimbledon in 1919. He was an internationally ranked squash and table-tennis player. He finished tied for first at Hastings, ahead of Capablanca, Botvinnik, and Lilienthal, all three of whom he defeated.

Thompson, Theophilus (1855-1910?)

First African-American chessplayer.

Tie-breaking

The first tie breaking system used was the Sonnenborn-Berger system at Vienna in 1873.

Time limit

The Anderssen-Kolisch match in 1861 was the first time a time-limit was used. An hour-glass gave each player 2 hours to make 24 moves.

Tombstone

The death date on Alekhine's tombstone, March 25th, is wrong. He died on the night of March 23rd/24th.

Torre, Carlos (1905-1978)

Mexico's first grandmaster. He was once found running down Fifth Avenue in New York completely nude. He

was addicted to pineapple sundaes and consumed 15 a day. He won the New York state championship in 1924.

Torre, Eugenio (1951-)

Philippine grandmaster and Asia's first grandmaster. He was once voted one of the ten sexiest sportsmen in the Philippines and was featured in a movie.

Tournament

The world's first chess tournament was held at the Royal Court in Madrid in 1575. Polerio and Leonardo defeated Ruy Lopez and Ceron in a series of matches arranged by King Phillip II. The first national tournament held in the U.S. was the American Chess Congress, held in New York in 1857 and won by Paul Morphy. First prize was a silver service valued at \$300. The most grueling international tournament ever held was at Jurata, Poland in 1937. The 22 masters had to play 21 games in 14 days with no adjournments.

Tournaments, Strongest (FIDE ratings)

Linares 1994 - 2685

Hague-Moscow 1948 - 2682

Linares 1993 - 2680

AVRO 1938 - 2677

Moscow 1992 - 2676

Reggio Emilia 1991-92 - 2676

Amsterdam 1988 (Optibeurs) - 2674

Tilburg 1991 - 2666

Dortmund 1992 - 2659

Linares 1992 - 2659

Linares 1991 - 2658

Amsterdam 1988 (Euwe Memorial) - 2658

Trade Union

The 1936 USSR Trade Union Chess Championship had 700,000 entries!

Troitzky, Alexy (1866-1942)

Founder of the modern endgame study composition. He starved to death in Leningrad.

Trotsky, Leon

His real name was Bronstein and his father was named David Bronstein. Trotsky was an avid chessplayer.

Tuggle, Jesse (1928-1991)

Most active USCF player from 1985 to 1990. In 1988 he played a record 771 rated games. From 1985 to February, 1991 he played over 3,400 tournament rated games.

Turk

Nickname of the first automation. Made by Kempelen in 1789. It was later bought by Napoleon's stepson, Eugene de Beauharnais, for the sum of 30,000 francs, simply in order to learn the secret of its operation. A former operator, Mouret, sold the secret of its operation to a French magazine 65 years later.

Turner, Abe (1924-1962)

Chess master who was killed after being stabbed nine times in the back by a fellow employee, Theodore Smith, at *Chess Review*. Abe had been working there for two weeks. The assailant had been released from an asylum

and claimed that Abe Turner was a Communist spy and had to be killed on orders from the Secret Service.

Turtel, Evan (1972-)

At age 9 he became the youngest player to beat a master when he defeated Alan Williams (2322) at a chess tournament in New York City. Turtel's rating at the time was 1605.

Twin

Chess problem equivalent of two separate, though related, problems, most often shown on one diagram.

U

Uganda

The Ugandan chess team showed up at Lugano, Switzerland instead of Lucerne, Switzerland for the 1982 chess olympiad.

Uhlmann, Wolfgang (1935-)

German Grandmaster who has always played the French Defense as Black.

Univac computer

In 1948 the Univac (universal automatic computer) was advertised as the strongest computer in the world. So strong, that it could play chess and gin rummy so perfectly, that no human opponent could beat it.

University

The first university to offer a course on chess was Moscow University in 1965. 2,000 students signed up for the course. The first university to have a chess club is Oxford (1845).

Uregel, Count

His will, written in 1008, bequeathing his chessmen to a church, is the first reference to chess in Europe.

U.S. Championship

The first official U.S. championship did not occur until 1936. It was won by Sammy Reshevsky.

U.S. Chess Federation (USCF)

Formed in 1939 after the American Chess Federation merged with the National Chess Federation. George Sturgis was the first USCF President. Dues were \$1 a year. The first publication of CHESS LIFE, the official USCF magazine, appeared in September 1946.

U.S. Junior Championship

Walter Browne won the first invitational U.S. Junior Chess Championship in 1966.

U.S. Open

The first U.S. Open chess championship was held in Minnesota in 1900. In 1955 the first place prize at the U.S. Open in Long Beach was a new Buick. It was won by Nicholas Rossolimo.

USSR

In 1922 there were 1,000 registered chessplayers in the Soviet Union. In 1924 the Russian state took over control of chess with the formation of the All-Union Chess Section of the Supreme Council for Physical Culture. In 1929 there were 150,000 players. In 1934 there were 500,000 players. In 1966 there were 3,540,000 players. In the 1990s there are over 5 million chess players in the USSR.



Vajda, Arpad (1896-1967)

Champion of Hungary and International Master. He died as a result of a gas leak in a faulty oven.

Valdiviesco, Don Antonio de (?-1550)

Bishop of Nicaragua who was assassinated while playing chess in his church.

Vasavadatta

A Sanskrit romance written by Subandhu in 590. It is the first written evidence of a form of chess.

Vaughan, Stan (1956-)

Record-holder for the most simultaneous correspondence chess games. In 1988 he was playing 1,124 postal games.

Velimirovic, Dragoljub (1942-)

Nicknamed the Yugoslavian Tal. His mother was Yugoslavia's first woman champion.

Veresov, Gavril (1912-1979)

Champion of Belorussia who was Captain of the Guards and wounded several times during World War II. He arrived from the front lines to play in the 1944 USSR National Championship in Moscow.

Vergani, Beniamino

Champion of Italy who played in Hastings, 1895. He ended up in last place and only scored 3 points out of 21. He was so thoroughly disgusted with his game that he never played in a masters' tournament again.

Vetula, The

A 13th century Latin poem in which the invention of chess is attributed to Ulysses at the siege of Troy.

Vicent, Francesch

Author of the oldest book on chess openings, published in Spain in 1495.

Video Cassette

The first video chess cassette starred Orson Welles, Yasser Seirawan, and Larry Christiansen, in 1983. Welles was the narrator of the two-hour cassette.

Vidmar, Milan (1885-1962)

Yugoslavia's first Grandmaster (1950). He was an electrical engineer.

Vukceвич, Milan (1937-)

International Master nominated for the Nobel prize in Chemistry. He took third place in the U.S. Championship 1975. He is a professor of metallurgy. He was the first Grandmaster of Chess Composition from the United States. There is only one other GM of Chess Composition from the US, Toma Garai.

**Wade, Robert (1921-)**

International master who played a simultaneous exhibition against 30 Moscow schoolchildren in 1951 and didn't win a single game. He lost 20 games and drew 10 after 7 hours of play. He has won the New Zealand championship three times and the British championship twice (1952 and 1970). He was awarded the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for his services to chess in 1979.

Waldowski, Paul

Winner of the 1983 Nebraska invitational championship and the state amateur championship. Both events were held the same weekend.

Walker, George (1803-1879)

Writer of the first chess column to appear in a magazine, the *Lancet*, in 1823. Editor of England's first chess magazine, *The Philidorian*, in 1837. Established the custom of recording games.

Walking ECO

The nickname of Semyon Furman, grandmaster and successful trainers to many young Soviet masters.

Weinstein, Norman (1950-)

Norman Stephen Weinstein was born on October 4, 1950 in New York. In 1968 he won the U.S. Junior Open in New York. Norman attended Brandeis University and got a Masters degree in mathematics. In 1972 Norman won the Atlantic Open. In 1972, Norman Weinstein's rating was 2416, number 20 in the U.S. In 1973 he won the U.S. Open in Chicago. In 1974 Norman took 9th place at the U.S. Championship in Chicago. He defeated Reshevsky in this event. In 1975 he took 3rd place at Lone Pine and did well enough in the 1975 Cleveland International to gain the International Master norm (playing at Grandmaster pace). In 1975 he took 2nd place at an international tournament in Portimao, Portugal. Larry Evans took 1st place. This was the first time Americans took 1st and 2nd place at an international tournament. In 1976 he won the Quebec Open. In 1978 he wrote a book on the Reti Opening (1.Nf3 d5 2.c4). In 1978 Norman

tied for 5th-7th in the U.S. Championship in Pasadena, California. He scored 1 win (against Kim Commons) and 13 draws, with no losses, the only player not to lose a game. Norman Weinstein has the highest percentage of draws (77.1 percent) of any player participating in a U.S. Championship. He was recruited by Bankers Trust, who was looking for chess masters, and Norman became a very successful and wealthy currency trader. He has been mentioned in *Forbes* magazine.

Weinstein, Raymond (1941-)

Raymond Allen Weinstein was born on April 25, 1941 in Brooklyn. Raymond attended the same high school (Erasmus High School) as Bobby Fischer (and Barbra Streisand) and was two grades ahead of him. Bobby Fischer dropped out of high school and Raymond became captain and first board of Erasmus High School for 3 years. His high school team won the Interscholastic Team Championship. Raymond was part of the Collins Kids, taught by Jack Collins. In 1956, at the age of 15, he won the Junior championship of the Marshall chess club in New York City. He would win the Marshall chess club

championship in 1960, 1961, and 1962. He played in his first rated tournament, the 1957 U.S. Open in Cleveland and got an expert's rating as his first rating. In 1957 Raymond won the Long Island Amateur Championship. In 1958 he won the U.S. Junior Open in Homestead, Florida (Norman Weinstein would win this event 10 years later) and became a USCF master, after an 8-1 score (7 wins, 2 draws). This event was won the two previous years by Bobby Fischer. Raymond attended Brooklyn College for 4 years (he received a Bachelors of Arts degree in psychology) and was captain and 1st board of his college chess team the won the Intercollegiate Chess Championship. Raymond was invited to the U.S. Championship in 1958-59 because of his win in the U.S. Junior Championship. However, he took last place. He was unable to win a single game, drawing 6 and losing 5. He won the 1959 New Jersey Open and the 1960 Western Open. In 1959 he tied for 2nd-3rd at the U.S. Open in Omaha, Nebraska (Norman Weinstein would win the US Open in 1973 in Chicago). First place went to Arthur Bisguier (his second cousin). Raymond and Pal Benko tied for 2nd-3rd place. Raymond played in the 1959-60 U.S. Championship,

which he took 6th place and drawing his game with Fischer. In 1960 Raymond was part of the winning U.S. team that won the students World Team Championship in Leningrad. He played Board 3 and had the best percentage points for board 3. Board 1 was Lombardy and board 2 was Charles Kalme. That year he also played for the U.S. Olympiad team in Leipzig. Raymond Weinstein's USCF rating was now 2444, the 6th highest in the country. Bobby Fischer was rated at 2640. In the 1960-61 U.S. Championship, at age 19, he took 3rd place. First place went to Bobby Fischer and 2nd place went to Bill Lombardy. He had defeated Lombardy in their individual game. He also defeated his cousin Arthur Bisguier, Sam Reshevsky, William Lombardy and Robert Byrne in this event to score 6.5 out of 11. His only losses were to Fischer and Anthony Saidy. He qualified for the next Interzonal Tournament with Fischer and Lombardy. However, Lombardy and Raymond Weinstein were unable to go to the next Interzonal in Stockholm, and their places were taken by Bisguier and Benko. In 1961 Raymond was giving simultaneous exhibitions at Princeton and Harvard, playing 65 games and

remembering all the games days after the event. Raymond Weinstein took 9th place in the 1961-62 U.S. Championship. Raymond became an International Master in 1962. In 1962 he played on the U.S. Olympiad team in Helsinki and won an individual board performance prize. In 1963 he played on the U.S. team at the World Student Championship at Budva, Yugoslavia. In the 1963-64 U.S. Championship Raymond Weinstein ended up in 7th place, but he defeated Larry Evans, Sam Reshevsky, Robert Byrne and Donald Byrne. He had played in 5 U.S. Championships. In 1964 he participated in the 11th Student Olympiad in Cracow and the team took 4th place. Weinstein played board 2. Lombardy played board 1. Raymond was studying to be a psychiatrist at the Free University of Amsterdam, in the Netherlands. Raymond was fluent in many languages and had a very good memory. In 1964 Raymond killed an 83-year old man in a nursing home with a razor. Raymond went to trial and was judged mentally ill. He was confined to Ward's Island for the mentally ill in New York, where he remains today.

Whitaker, Norman (1890-1975)

Lawyer and International Master. He tied for the U.S. Open Championship in 1923. He received \$100,000 from Charles Lindbergh on a promise to return the Lindbergh baby. It was a scam in which he went to prison for five years. The money was never found. He served several other prison sentences for other scams.

White, John (1845-1928)

Founder and donor of the world's largest chess library located in Cleveland, Ohio. There are over 100,000 volumes of chess books and magazines in the collection.

Whiteman, Paul (1891-1967)

Known as the King of Jazz and leader of dance and concert orchestras. He was the creator of "symphonic jazz" for popular audiences. He was a fanatic chess player along with the rest of his orchestra who played during intermissions.

Winter committee

A committee formed to support British champion William Winter's drinking habit during the London interna-

tional tournament in 1927. They raised over \$300 so he could drink and win the event. In the first three rounds he beat Reti, Nimzovich, and Colle while intoxicated. However, he spent all the funds on booze in the first 3 days. The Winter committee couldn't raise anymore money. Winter arrived sober for each game after the 3rd round and lost every game.

Winter, William (1898-1955)

A nephew of James Barrie who wrote Peter Pan and two-time British champion. He had been an active Communist Party organizer and was once sentenced to 6 months in jail for sedition. Winter became a chessplayer after his doctor told him to give up politics. He probably played the only game in master chess that it would have been more profitable to draw or lose than to win. A draw or loss would have qualified him for special awards to non-prizewinners in the London 1927 tournament, which was in excess of 7 English pounds more than his 6th place prize.

Women and chess

The first mention of a woman chessplayer comes from an Islamic correspondence between Harun ar Rashid and Nicephorus in 802 A.D. Harun wrote that he purchased a slave girl noted for her skill at chess. The first women's tournament was organized by the Sussex Chess Association in 1884. A chess club for lady players lasted in New York from 1894 to 1949. There are five women who holds the men's Grandmaster title: Nona Gaprindashvili, Maya Chiburdanidze, Zsuzsa Polgar, Judith Polgar, and Pia Cramling.

World Championship

The first world chess championship was in 1886. Chess is the second sport to have a world championship. Billiards was the first sport to have a world championship (1873).

World Championship Records

Fewest draws-1 (Steinitz-Tchigorin, 1889). Greatest comeback-Steinitz overcame a 1-4 defeat against Zukertort to win in 1886. Last to end in checkmate - 1886. Last to have a game lost on time - 1958. Last to end in stalemate-1978. Longest game-124 moves (Korchnoi-Karpov,

1978). Longest match - 48 games (Karpov-Kasparov, 1984-85). Most draws in one match - 40 (Karpov-Kasparov). Most career games - 157 (Botvinnik). Most money - \$500,000 (Korchnoi-Karpov, Buganio). Most number of matches - 8 (Lasker). Most wins in one match - 11 (Alekhine-Bogo, 1929). Most career wins - 52 (Lasker). Shortest win - 19 moves (Steinitz-Zukertort). Most consecutive draws - 17 (Karpov-Kasparov). Most number of moves - 1647 (Karpov-Kasparov). Most days - 159 (Karpov-Kasparov). The largest age discrepancy of any world championship play is 32 years when Emanuel Lasker, 26, played Steinitz, 58. The youngest world champion - Gary Kasparov at 22. Oldest - Wilhelm Stientiz who defeated Tchigorin at 56. Most active - Karpov, who played in 32 individual tournaments and 8 team tournaments. We won or tied for first in 26 of those tournaments. That is twice as many as the second most active player, Alekhine, who played in 16 tournaments during his world championship reign. Most tournament games while titleholder - Karpov, with 454 games. That compares to second place Petrosian's 265 games.

World Open

The 1983 World Open in New York saw a 5-way tie: Spraggett, Quinteros, Shirazi, Bass, and Zaltsman. Not one was a single U.S. born winner.

World War II

Prominent chess players lost in World War II include Ilyin-Genevsky, Riumin, S. Weinstein (President of the Leningrad chess club and a trainer of Botvinnik), Rabinovich, Troitzky, Belavenets, Kubbel, Henrich Wolf, Vera Menchik, Olga Menchik, V. Petrov, Junge, Przepiorka, Treybal, Steiner, Votruba, Appel, H. Friedman, A. Frydman, Lowekl, Szpiro, Kremer, Kolski, Regedzinski.

World Youth Team Championship

The first official FIDE world championship event ever held in the United States was the World Youth Team Championship held in Chicago in 1983.

Worst scores

O'Sullivan of Ireland only scored 1/2 point out of 13 in the 1947 European Zonal at Hilversum.

Wyller, Robert

In 1948 Robert Wyller of Glendale, California was playing 1001 correspondece games at once.

**Yanofsky, Daniel Abe (1925-)**

Polish born Canadian lawyer and GM (1964) who was the first GM in the British Commonwealth. He won the Canadian championship 8 times, won the US Open in 1942, and the British Championship in 1953. He has been the mayor of a suburb of Winnipeg.

Yates, Frederick (1884-1932)

Six-time British champion. A leak from a faulty gas pipe killed him while he was asleep. He had just finished a 16 game simultaneous exhibition in London.

Yermolinsky, Alex (1958-)

US Grandmaster (1992). US champion in 1993 and 1996.

Yogurt

A yogurt brought to Karpov during the world championship match with Korchnoi brought a protest. A suitable choice of color or flavor could have conveyed advice.

Yugoslavia

In 1271 Svetoslav Surinj beat the Venetian Doge, Peter II, in a chess match and won the right to rule the Dalmation towns of Yugoslavia. A chessboard appears in the Croation coat of arms.

Youngest

Youngest master is Jordy Mont-Reynaud, 10 years 7 months. Youngest GM is Peter Leko at 14 years, 4 months, 22 days. Youngest person to win a national championship was Murshed who won the Bangladesh championship at age 12. Youngest player to beat an expert was Ariel Avigad-Vernon, age 7 years and 237 days, who beat an expert, Nick Dumyk.

Yusupov, Artur (1960-)

In 1991 Grandmaster Yusupov was shot and seriously injured in a burglary attempt in Moscow.

Z

Zaitsev, Alexander (1935-1971)

Russian Grandmaster (1967) who died of a blood clot after having a leg lengthened.

Zapata, Alonso (1958-)

Columbia's first grandmaster (1984). He was Columbia's sportsman of the year in 1978. He plays board 1 for the Columbian Chess Olympiad team.

Zero Scores

Walter Stephens scored 0-11 in the 1945 US Amateur Ch. Mrs. H. Cobbold scored 0-8 in the 1951 British Championship.

Znosko-Borovsky, Eugene (1884-1954)

Russian player of IM strength. He fought and was wounded in both the 1905 Russo-Japanese war and World War I. He also fought for the White forces during the Russian revolution and was evacuated to France.

Zugswang, The Immortal

Game between Saemisch and Nimzovich, Copenhagen 1923.

Zuckerman, Bernard (1943-)

International Master who was playing in the 1975 Cleveland International when a spectator became loud. Zuckerman (Zook the Book) told him to shut up. When that didn't work, he hurled a captured bishop at the spectator. Zuckerman was reprimanded for his "unsportsmanlike" conduct.

Zukertort, Johannes (1842-1888)



Chess master, physician, pianist, magazine editor, music critic, linguist, swordsman and marksman. He was fluent in English, German, French, Spanish, Italian, Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Russian, Sanskrit, Arabic, Turkish, Danish, and Polish. He was decorated for gallantry 9 times in three Prussian wars with Denmark, Austria, and France and was once left for dead. He could play 16 chess games blindfolded. He edited a political magazine and several chess magazines. He was one of the best dominoes and whist players in the world. He was a leading spokesman for prison reform. He studied chemistry, physiology, philology, and theology with distinction. In 1878 he won a major tournament in Paris. The first place prize consisted of a Sevres vase, worth over 5,000 francs, and was given to him by the President of France. He sold it three days later in a pawn shop for about half the value. He had a stroke at Simpson's chess club while playing chess for a shilling and died the next day.

Zurich Chess Club

Oldest chess club in Europe, founded in 1809.

Zweig, Stefan (1881-1942)

Austrian biographer and novelist. He committed suicide in Brazil in 1942 out of a sense of loneliness. His last novel, *The Royal Game* was published posthumously in March, 1944. The novel is about a Yugoslav idiot-savant who become chess champion of the world. He plays a Dr. B who recently escaped from a prison hospital after being tortured by the Nazis. Dr. B studied chess in prison to prevent going insane.

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