

~ En Passant ~

Newsletter of the North Penn Chess Club, Lansdale, PA
Joe Mucerino's Trip to the World Chess Hall of Fame, Part 2

E. Olin Mastin, Editor

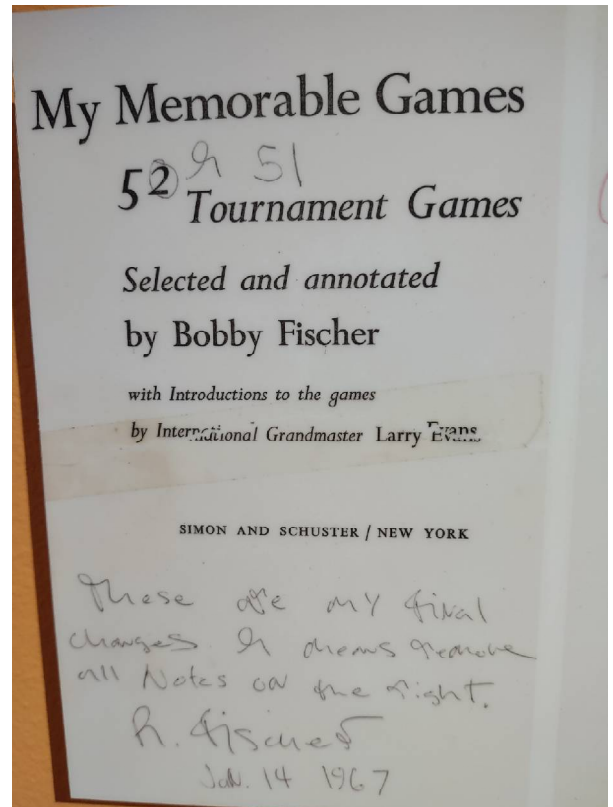
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This issue features more pictures and games from Joe Mucerino's trip to the World Chess Hall of Fame, St. Louis, MO.



A chess table from the 1966 Olympiad in Cuba.



My 60 Memorable Games was not originally going to have 60 games! As Fischer wrote and revised the book, he added more games.



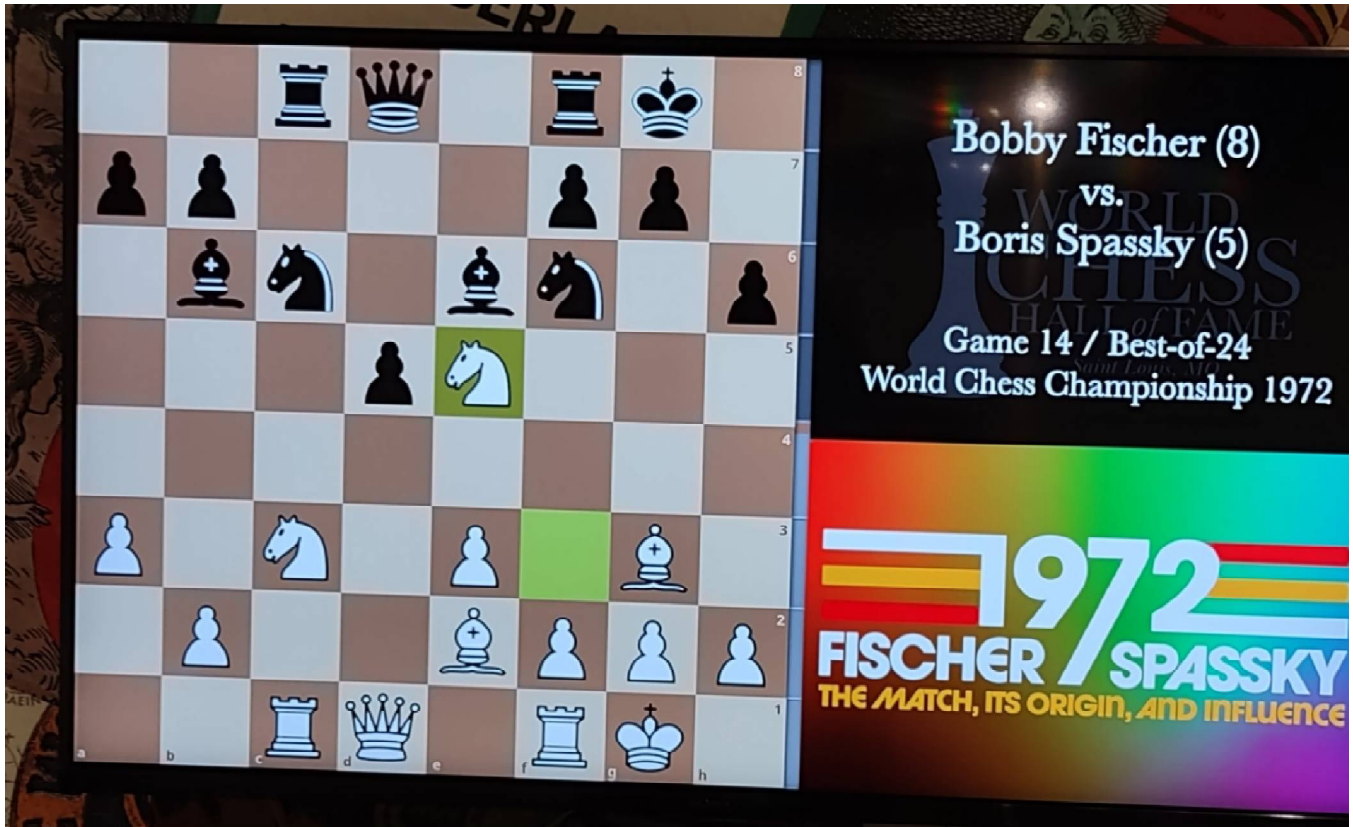
Boris Spassky's trophy from winning the 1955 World Junior Championship in Antwerp, Belgium.



In my opinion, this was the best display in the museum. This exhibit is a reconstruction of the stage of the 1972 World Chess Championship. I looked at historical photos and even the plants are correct! The chess table is one of only two replicas that exist, and they were both created immediately after the match.



A zoom in on the autographs on the chess board. I learned from the sign next to the stage that the original chessboard for the match was made from Icelandic rock, but Fischer objected to it, because the squares were too large. Ten wooden chessboards, made from different types of wood, were created, so the players could choose the ones they preferred. Two different boards were used during the match, based on Fischer's mood.



An interactive computer allowed spectators to view the games of the match. You chose what game you wanted to see, and the computer made the moves. This position is from Game 14, when Fischer was leading the match 8 – 5.



Original tickets for the match. The one on the top was a pass for all of the games.



A view from inside the second floor.



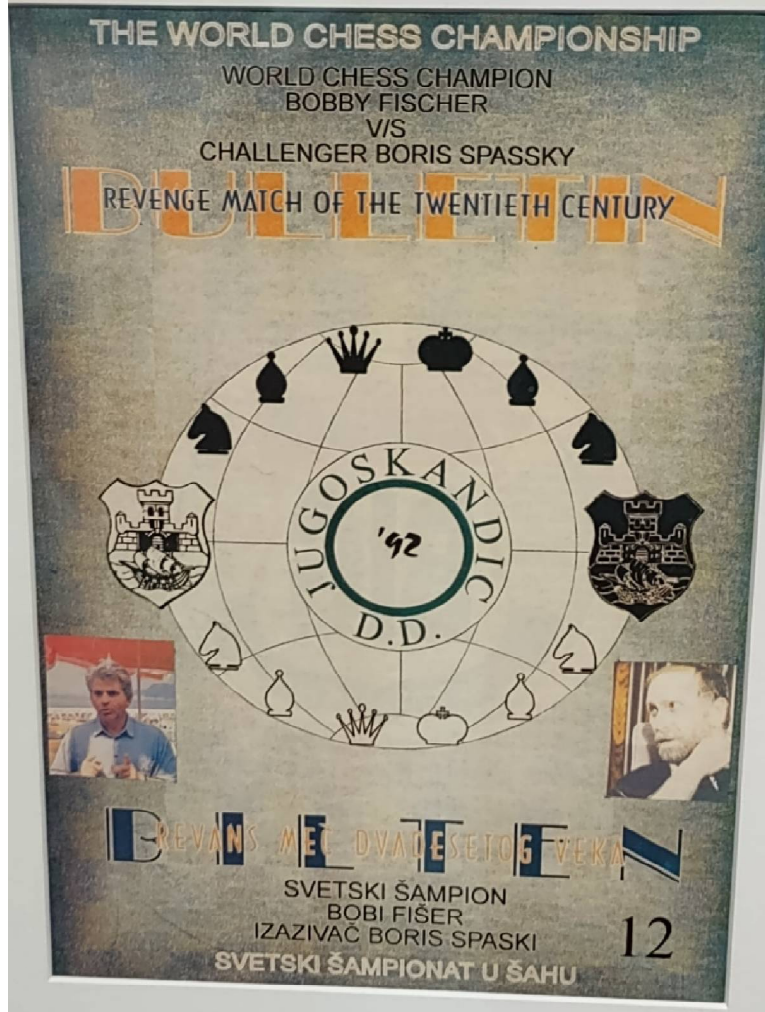
Obviously, a program from the match.



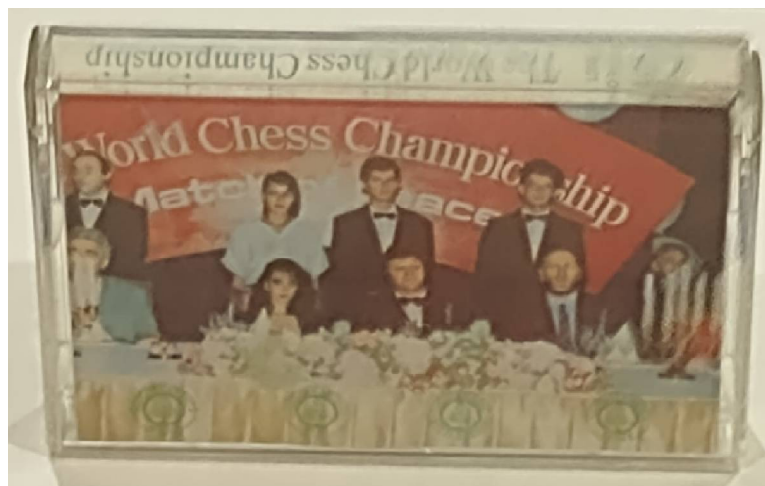
Restrooms were on the second floor. There was nothing chess-related in the men's room.



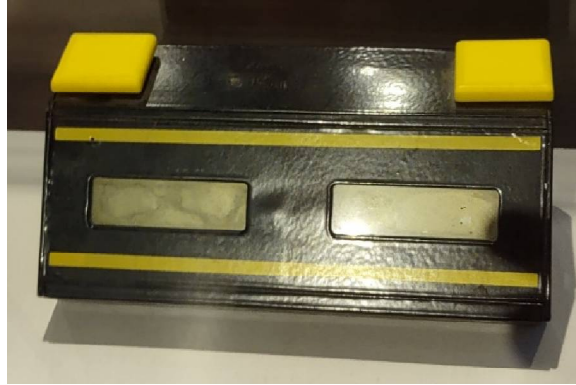
On the third floor were items pertaining to Fischer and Spassky's life after 1972. Many, obviously, pertained to the 1992 Fischer-Spassky match. This is a poster.



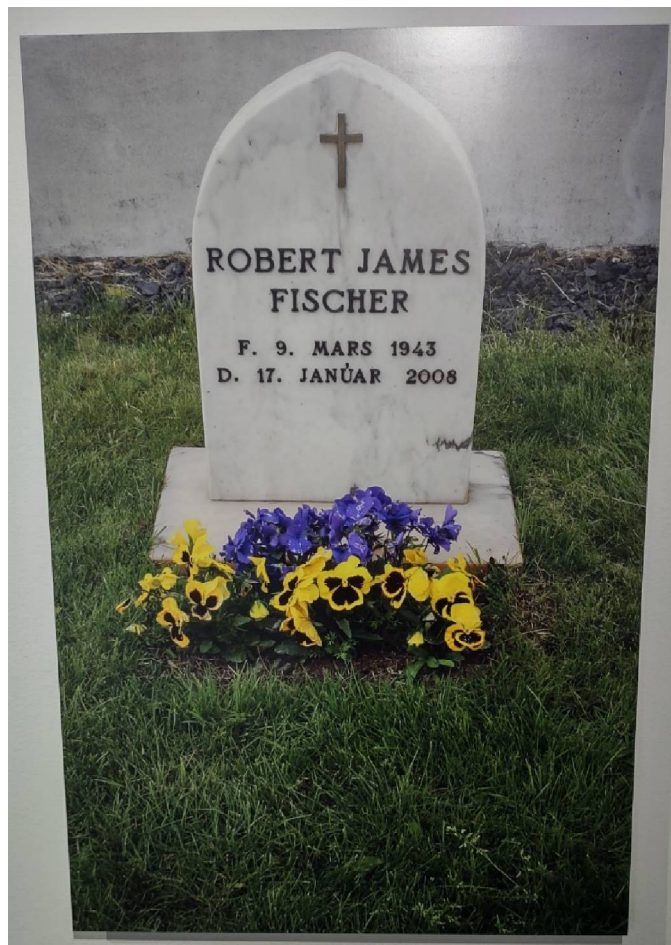
A newsletter on the rematch.



One oddball item was this cassette tape.



One of the clocks from the 1992 match.



A photo of Fischer's grave in Iceland.



If you haven't already, you will see the author wearing these shirts at an upcoming tournament. But you don't have to travel to St. Louis to shop at the giftshop, Q Boutique. You can shop online at www.qboutiquestl.com.

Next on the list of things to do was actually play! The Saint Louis Chess Club only has tournaments daily from Friday to Monday. This was a Thursday night. I found a club that meets on Thursday nights at a YMCA in Chesterfield, MO, about 20 miles away. (They also play on Monday nights at McDonalds). They had a strong turnout with 29 players over two sections (open and U700), and the entry fee was only \$2! Although scheduled for three rounds of G/25 d5, because of a late start and because the YMCA wants the club to start wrapping things up around 8:45, the open section only played two games, while some in the U700 section played four!

On paper, it may have looked like that I won both games easily, but I didn't. When I began rated tournaments in 1993, lower rated players would hang pieces left and right, but that did not happen that night.

Adithya Ganesh (1041) - Joseph Mucerino (2058)

Two Section Format, Chesterfield, MO, Round 2, October 20, 2022

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bg2 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Nc6 7.e3 Bd6 8.Ne2 0-0 9.0-0 Bg4 10.Bb2 Qe7 11.Re1 e4 12.Qc2 f5 13.Nf4 Ne5 14.Nd5 [D]



14...Qe8? Black missed a good move with 14...Qf7! I was afraid of 15.Qb3 with the idea of trying to force a trade of Queens. But after 15...Nd3! Black is winning material after 16.Reb1 Nc5 17.Qc4 c6. **15.Qb3 Kh8** **16.c4 Nf3+?** Black loses most of his advantage with this move. He should still play 16...Nd3. **17.Bxf3 Bxf3** **18.c5 Be5** Of course not 18...Bxc5?? 19.Qc3. **19.Bxe5 Qxe5** **20.Rac1 Rad8** **21.Nf4 [D]**

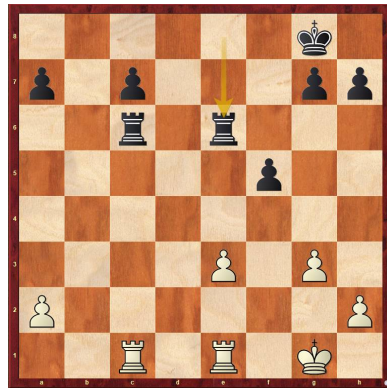


21... Rf6?! The computer does not see a mate coming for Black, so it says simply grab a Pawn with 21...Rxd2. **22.Qxb7 Rh6** **23.d4?!** More solid is 23.Rb1. **23...exd3** **24.Nxd3 Qxg3+ [D]** (Next col.) Black grabs a Pawn before capturing the Queen. **25.fxg3** Of course not 25.hxg3?? Rh1 mate. **25...Bxb7** **26.Ne5 Kg8** **27.Rcd1?** The wrong Rook, as we will see on the next move. **27...Re8** **28.c6 Bxc6** **29.Nxc6 Rxc6** **30.Rc1 Ree6 [D]** (Next col.)

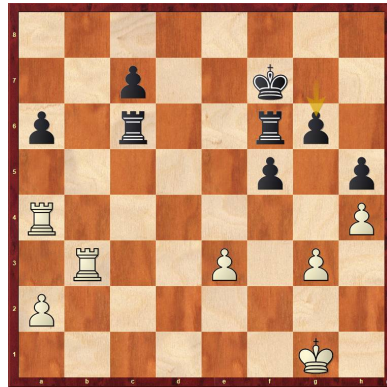
Position after 24...Qxg3+



Position after 30...Ree6

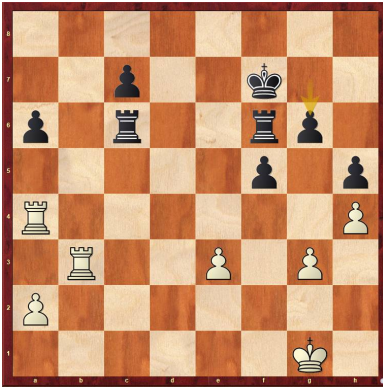


Stockfish's first choice is 30...Rxc1 31.Rxc1 Rxe3 32.Rxc7 Ra3 33.Rc2. I did not see why I should be trading off my passed c-Pawn. **31.Rb1 Kf7** **32.Rf1 Kg6** **33.Rb5 Rf6** **34.h4 h5** **35.Rb3 Rc5** **36.Rf4 Kf7** **37.Ra4 a6** **38.Rba3 Rcc6** **39.Rb3 g6?! [D]**

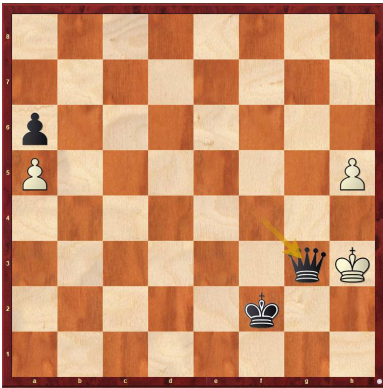


Black should restrict White's King with 39...Rc2 and then threaten mate with the other Rook. **40.Kf2 Rfd6** **41.Rba3 Rc2+** **42.Kf3 Rcc6** **43.Rf4 Ke6** **44.Rfa4 Kd7** **45.Kf4 Kc8** **46.Kg5 Kb7** **47.Rb4+ Rb6** **48.Rxb6+ Kxb6** **49.Rb3+ Kc6** **50.Ra3 Kd7** **51.Kf4 c5** **52.Rb3 Kc6** **53.Rb8 Kd5** **54.Rb2 Re6** **55.Rd2+ Kc6** **56.Rb2 c4** **57.Rc2 Kc5** **58.a3 Re4+** **59.Kf3 Kd5** **60.Rc3 Re6** **61.Kf4 Rb6** **62.Kg5 Rb3** **63.Rxb3? [D]** (Next page)

Position after 63.Rxb3?



White, with only twenty odd seconds left on his clock, snapped the Rook off instantly. Of course, he's lost by now no matter what, but he can still resist if he keeps the Rook on the board. **63...cxb3 64.Kxg6 b2 65.Kxh5 b1Q 66.Kh6 Qb8 67.h5 Qh8+ 68.Kg5 Qh7 69.g4 fxg4 70.Kxg4 Ke4 71.a4 Qh6 72.Kh4 Kxe3 73.Kg3 Qf4+ 74.Kh3 Kf2 75.a5 Qg3# [D]**



0-1 A great game by someone rated 1000!



My first-round game against Avyukt Gupta. He played very well despite his low rating. Photograph courtesy of the Chess Cardinals.