

# Dave Jellison



## **Major Tournament Victories**

1974, 1988, & 1989 Loveland Open

1983 Colorado Springs Open

1986 & 1988 Boulder Open

1988 Denver Open

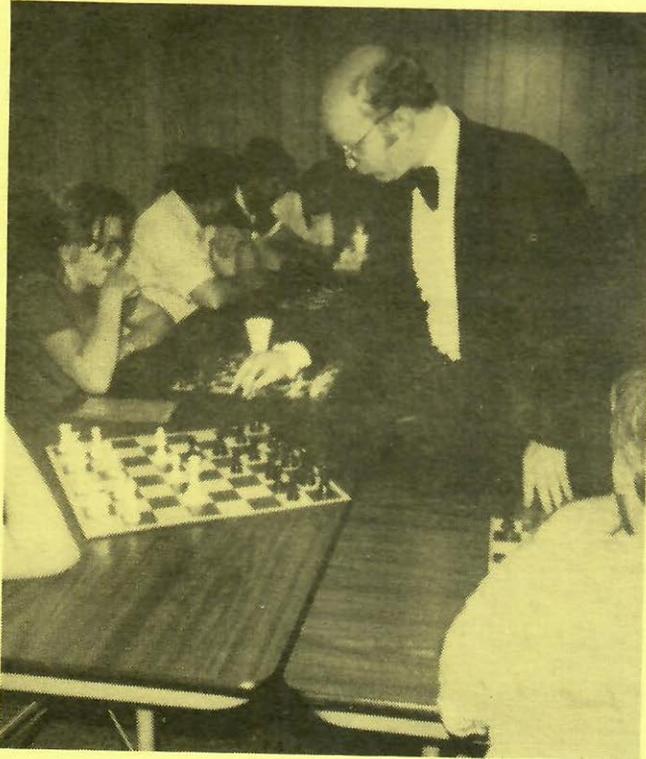
1989 Colorado Closed

# Colorado Chess Informant

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Richard Buchanan, Editor

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Dapper D. J shows his stuff.

## Remembering Dave Jellison

by Curtis Carlson

*"Every problem that I solved became a rule which served afterwards to solve other problems." - Rene Descartes*

*"The way he plays chess demonstrates a man's whole nature." - Stanley Ellin*

*"The task of those of us with brains is to stand on the edge of the inexpressible and to lasso with words what everyone can feel and no one can say." - Howard Bloom*

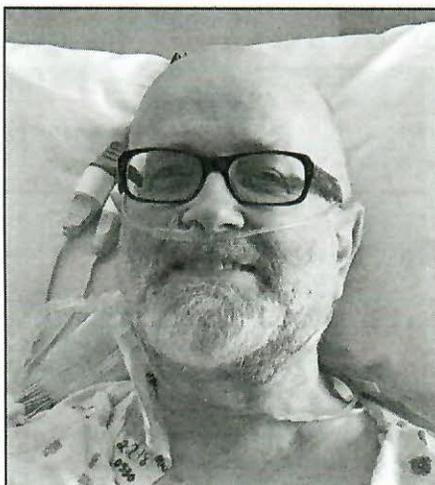
*"Life is an ongoing exploration into a future that is unknowable but not unimaginable. Dealing with that uncertainty is what it means to be human." - Steve Horwitz*

*"Chess is a terrible game! If one does not have a center, one's opponent has the freer game, and if you do have the center, it gives you worries." - Siegbert Tarrasch*

*"When I crossed over from academic to popular writing, a university press editor advised me not to make the common professor's mistake of talking down to readers, as if they were semi-literate chicken pluckers. Think of them, she said, as if they are as smart as you are, but happen not to know something that you know." - Steven Pinker*

When finishing my last article ([http://www.coloradochess.com/informant/July\\_2018.pdf](http://www.coloradochess.com/informant/July_2018.pdf) / p.20), I was amazed to learn my longtime friend David K. Jellison died of cardiac arrest on February 5, 2018. He is survived by his former wife Beth, and his daughter Alexa. He was born on March 21, 1954, 23 days before me; curiously Alexa was born on October 29, 1996, 24 days before my son Jonathan. Fortunately for me the trend didn't continue, and my life didn't end on March 2.

Dave and I had shared many adventures in the early '70s; the Fischer boom was a great time to play chess! We met in 1970 at a high school tournament and became good friends. He graduated from Jefferson High School in 1972 and got a music degree from the University of Northern Colorado in 1980.



*(Dave was an optimist who expected to make a full recovery from a heart ailment. Thanks to Natalia Martin for providing this photo.*

*Picture taken - February 3, 2018)*

An active year for us was 1974. In March we took memorable trip to Las Vegas for the National Open. In July we went to the North American Open in Stillwater, Oklahoma, and then to the New York City US Open in August. Between road trips we played many blitz games at John Watson's recently opened Chess House. We had another busy year in 1975, when we returned to Stillwater and then went to Lincoln, Nebraska for the US Open. In December, Dave played first board for UNC in the Intercollegiate in Columbus, Ohio, where he drew World Open winner Alan Treffer. He once said chess was like baseball, where any team might beat any other team.

Dave was about 2100 strength until the late '70s when he broke into 2300 after many hours of hard study. His FIDE rating was a respectable 2255, while his USCF rating peaked at 2323. In the early 80s he played in Europe with mixed results. He has games online at:

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessplayer?pid=33373> and  
<https://2700chess.com/games?search=Jellison,%20David>

Dave's playing style was unique; Brian Wall once said he could make any move look playable! We broke even in about a dozen tournament games. In May 1973 I won our first in Wyoming, but three

weeks later he beat me badly at the Air Force Academy Open. He played **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cd 4.Nd4 Nf6 5.Bc4?! Bob Wendling** laughed at my passive **5...e6**, but I disliked **5...Ne4 6.Bf7 Kf7 7.Qh5 g6 8.Qd5** although it's equal or slightly better for Black after **8...e6 9.Qe4 Bg7 (or 9...d5 10.Qf4 Qf6 11.Qf6 Kf6 12.Nc3 Nc6)**. Also reasonable was **5...Qa5 6.Nc3 (6.Bd2!? Qc5 7.Bb5 Nbd7 8.Bd7 Bd7 9.Nb3 Qe5 =+)** **6...Ne4 7.Qf3 Nf6 8.O-O Nbd7 =**. We later emulated the 1984 Karpov - Kasparov match with cautious draws, although he decisively won our last game in 1979. It's hard to believe it's been nearly four decades since we last played.



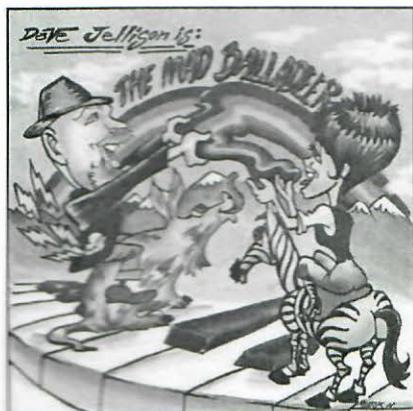
*(Dave and IM John Watson at a 1977 California tournament.)*

Dave moved to New Hampshire in 1989 and lived there seventeen years. He married Beth Clougherty in June 1992. My wife Jessica and I (and Brian Wall) attended their wedding. It was a moving outdoor ceremony where he expressed deep love for Beth, but they unfortunately divorced about ten years later. He played sporadically in New England with inconsistent results. His last tournament appears to be the 2002 New Hampshire Open:

<http://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?200207141510.1-10406111>.

His disappointing results and the breakup of his marriage may have motivated his 2006 move to Austin to pursue a career as a singer. He said it was a 'way cool city', and was well known in local music circles. Many of his Texas friends didn't know he played chess! He has pix with them at:

<https://www.facebook.com/djellison1>, and also has an album at Amazon:

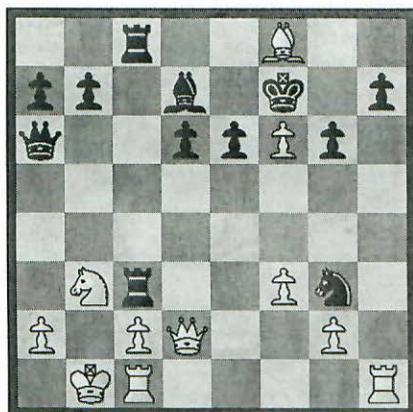


I last saw Dave in November 1996, when he proudly showed me Alexa's baby pix. It didn't occur to me then I would never see him again. We last spoke on the phone in 2001, and kept in infrequent contact on Facebook. He was a great friend who is well remembered and much missed. I learned much from him and our association made me a different, better person.

Beth kindly sent me Dave's game scores from tournaments spanning thirty years. He identified his ten best games against nine masters and expert Brian Wall.

**DJ - Paul Kuroda (2200)  
1976 Arkansas Open**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Be3 Bg7 6.Nc3 Nf6 7.Be4 d6 8.f3 O-O 9.Qd2 Bd7 10.h4 Qa5 11.O-O-O Rfc8 12.Bb3 Ne5 13.Kb1 Nc4 14.Bxc4 Rxc4 15.Nb3 Qa6 16.h5 Nxh5 17.Nd5 e6 18.Nc3 Rac8 19.Bh6 Bxc3 20.bxc3 Rxc3 21.Re1 f6 22.e5 Ng3 23.exf6 Kf7 24.Bf8!



Nxh1 25.Qh6 e5 26.Qg7+ Ke6 27.Qe7+ Kf5 28.Bh6 Ng3 29.Qxd7+ Kxf6 30.Bg7+ Kg5 31.Qg4# 1-0

Kuroda became a senior master and tied for first in the 1982 National Open.

**Dmitry Agrachov (2200) - DJ  
1977 Colorado Open**

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 Bg4 5.Be2 e6 6.O-O Be7 7.c4 Nb6 8.Be3 O-O 9.Nbd2 Nc6 10.exd6 cxd6 11.h3 Bh5 12.Rc1 f5!? 13.d5 exd5 14.cxd5 Nb4 15.Qb3 Na6 16.Bxa6 bxa6 17.Nd4 f4 18.Ne6 fxe3 19.Nxd8 exd2 20.Nc6 Bg5 21.Ra1 Be2 22.Qg3 Bf4 23.Ne7+ Kh8 24.Qh4 Bh6 25.Qg3 Rf6 26.f4 Bxf1 27.Rxf1 Bxf4 28.Qd3 Be3+29.Kh2 Rxf1 30.Qxf1 Nc4 31.Nf5 Bf4+ 32.Qxf4 d1Q 33.Qxc4 Qe1 34.Qd4 Qe5+ 35.Qxe5 dxe5 36.Kg3 Rd8 37.Ne3 g6 38.Kf3 Kg7 39.Ke4 h5 40.Kxe5 Re8+ 41.Kd4 Kf6 42.g3 Rb8 43.Nc4 Re8 44.b3 Re2 45.Kc5 Rg2 46.g4 hxg4 47.hxg4 Rxg4 48.d6 Ke6 49.d7 Rg5+ 50.Kc6 0-1

Agrachov immigrated from the USSR in 1977 and played in the 1980 US Junior championship.

**DJ - Brian Wall (2199)  
4th Match Game / June 22, 1981**

1.g3 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Bg2 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.O-O Bd6 6.b3 b5 7.c4 Nd7 8.Bb2 bxc4 9.bxc4 Ne7 10.Nbd2 Rb8 11.Qc1 O-O 12.e4 dxe4 13.Ng5 Nc8 14.Ngxe4 Be7 15.Qc3 Nf6 16.Rad1 Qc7 17.Nc5 Bxc5 18.dxc5 Ne7 19.Ba1 Rfd8 20.Ne4 Bxe4 21.Bxe4 Rxd1 22.Rxd1 Rd8 23.Rb1 Rd7 24.Bf3 Ne8 25.a4 f6 26.a5 Qc8 27.Qe3 Nc7 28.Bc3 Kf7 29.g4 e5 30.g5 Ne6 31.Bg4 Nng5 32.Bxe5 Ng6 33.Bd6 Rb7 34.Bxc8 Rxb1+ 35.Kg2 1-0 ... on move 40.

The Pawn Wave Guy loses to doubled pawns.

**DJ - Randy Canney (2200)  
Rocky Mountain Team Championship  
November 7, 1982**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Qb3 dxc4 5.Qxc4 Be6 6.Qd3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Bg7 8.e4 O-O 9.h3 Nb4 10.Qe2!? c6 11.a3 Qa5 12.Rb1 Na2 13.Bd2 Nxc3 14.Bxc3 Qb6 15.Ng5 Be8 16.Rd1 h6 17.Nf3 Be6 18.Qe3 Bb3 19.Rd2 Ba4 20.Bd3 Bb5 21.O-O Bxd3 22.Rxd3 Kh7 23.Ne5 Rad8 24.f4 Ne8 25.Kh1 Nd6 26.Qe1 Qc7 27.Re3 e6 28.Qg3 a5 29.h4 Rg8 30.h5 Bf8 31.Qh3 g5 32.f5 Bg7 33.fxe6 Bxe5 34.dxe5 g4 35.Qh4 Nf5 36.Rxf5 Rd1+

37.Kh2 fxe6 38.Rf6 Qg7 39.Rg6 Qf7 40.Qf6 1-0

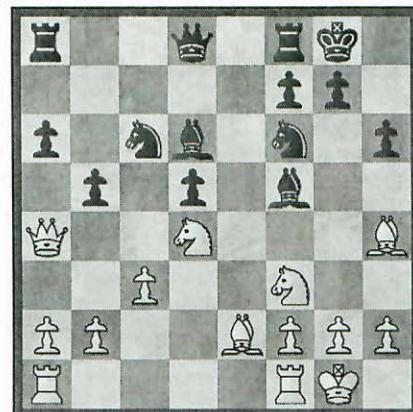
Canney won the 1978 Colorado Open and held a 2300 rating for many years.

**Randy Canney (2200) - DJ  
Colorado Springs CC Round Robin  
October 14, 1983**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d3 Nc6 4.g3 d5 5.Nbd2 Nf6 6.Bg2 Be7 7.O-O O-O 8.e5 Nd7 9.Re1 b5 10.Nf1 a5 11.h4 a4 12.a3 b4 13.Bf4 Ba6 14.axb4 Nxb4 15.Rxa4 Bb5 16.Rxa8 Qxa8 17.Ng5 Qa2 18.Nh2 Qxb2 19.Qh5 Bxg5 20.hxg5 Qxc2 21.Rc1 Qb2 22.Be4 dxe4 23.Ng4 Nxd3 24.Rd1 N3xe5 25.Nh6+ gxh6 26.Kg2 Be2 0-1

**James Hamblin (2100) - DJ  
Mike Freeman Memorial  
May 20, 1984**

1.e4 c5 2.c3 e6 3.d4 d5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Be2 Bd6 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.O-O Nf6 9.Nbd2 Bf5 10.Qa4 O-O 11.Nb3 Bd6 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bh4 a6 14.Nbd4 b5



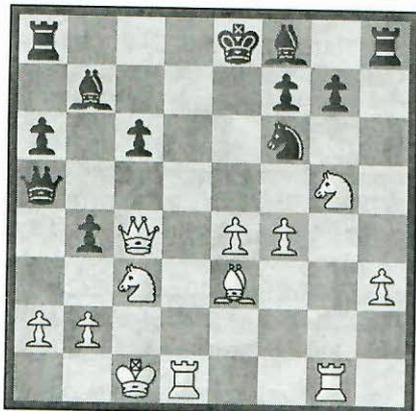
15.Nxc6 bxa4 16.Nxd8 Rfxd8 17.Bxf6 gxf6 18.Nd4 Be4 19.f3 Bg6 20.Bd1 a3 21.Rf2 Rac8 22.bxa3 Bxa3 23.f4 Be4 24.Nb3 Rxc3 25.Rd2 d4 26.Be2 d3 27.Rad1 a5 28.Bf3 Bxf3 29.gxf3 a4 30.Rg2+ Kf8 31.Nd2 Re1 32.Rxc1 Bxc1 33.Kf1 Re8 34.Ne4 f5 35.Nf6 Re6 36.Rg8+ Ke7 37.Nd5+ Kd6 38.Rd8+ Kc5 39.Rc8+ Kxd5 40.Rxc1 Re2 41.Rc7 Rxd2 0-1

James "Humble" Hamblin won the 1972 and 1976 Denver Opens, and beat Walter Browne in the 1983 National Open.

**DJ - IM Walter Shipman  
US Masters Open / October 8, 1984**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4

5.e4 b5 6.Qc2 e6 7.h3 a6 8.Be3 Nbd7  
9.g4 h6 10.g5 hxg5 11.Nxg5 Bb7 12.Rg1  
e5 13.O-O-O Qa5? 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.f4  
Nd3+ 16.Bxd3 cxd3 17.Qxd3 b4 18.Qc4!

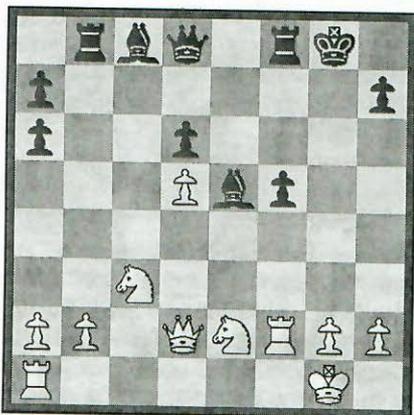


Qc7 19.Na4 c5 20.Nb6 Ra7 21.Rd7 1-0 ...  
on move 29.

Dave crushes a well known IM.

**DJ - Alexander Fishbein (2320)**  
**May Daze**  
**May 19, 1985**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nc3 g6 4.e4 Bg7 5.f3  
O-O 6.Be3 e5 7.d5 c6 8.Bd3 cxd5 9.cxd5  
Ne8 10.Qd2 Na6 11.Bxa6 bxa6 12.Nge2  
f5 13.exf5 gxf5 14.O-O Nf6 15.f4 Ng4  
16.Bf2 Nxf2 17.Rxf2 Rb8 18.fxe5 Bxe5



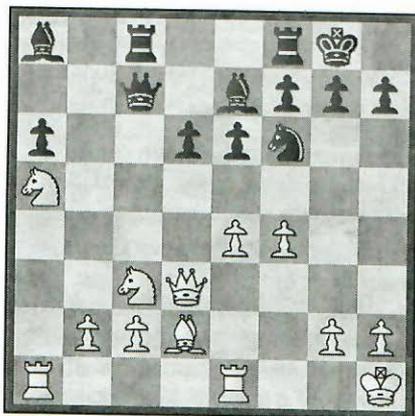
19.Nf4 Qb6 20.Kh1 Qd4 21.Nd3 Bg7  
22.Rd1 Re8 23.Rf3 Bd7 24.h3 Re7  
25.Nf4 Qxd2 26.Rxd2 Rbe8 27.g3 Bf6  
28.Kg2 Bg5 29.Kf2 Rb8 30.Nce2 Bf6  
31.b3 Rc8 32.Re3 Kf7 33.Kf3 Rxe3+  
34.Kxe3 Re8+ 35.Kf3 Re4 36.Rc2 Bd8  
37.g4 Bb6 38.Rc3 Re8 39.g5 a5 40.a4  
Be5 41.Nh5 Bc8 42.Nf6 Re5 43.Nf4 Re1  
44.Nxh7 Rf1+ 45.Kg3 Kg7 46.Nf6 Rg1+  
47.Kh4 Ba6 48.Ne6+ Kg6 49.Nxc5 dxc5  
50.Nh5 c4 51.Nf4+ Kf7 52.bxc4 Ra1  
53.d6 Bc8 54.Re3 Rf1 55.Re7+ Kg8

56.Nd5 1-0

Fishbein got his GM title in 1992 and played in several US championships. Among many other achievements he beat Bent Larsen in the 1990 World Open. He resides in New Jersey and still plays actively.

**Alexander Fishbein (2350) - DJ**  
**Metro Tournament**  
**April 20, 1986**

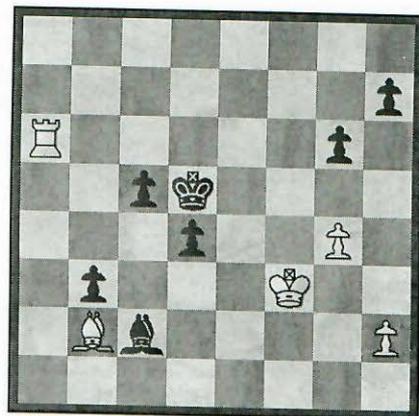
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6  
5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.Nb3 Nf6 8.O-O  
b5 9.a3 Be7 10.f4 d6 11.Qe1 O-O 12.Qg3  
Bb7 13.Bd2 b4 14.axb4 Nxb4 15.Kh1  
Nxd3 16.Qxd3 Rac8 17.Na5 Ba8 18.Rfe1



d5 19.exd5 Nxd5 20.Nxd5 Bxd5 21.c4  
Bxc4 22.Qxc4 Qxc4 23.Nxc4 Rxc4  
24.Rxa6 Rd8 25.Be3 h6 26.Kg1 Rc2  
27.Rb6 Rd3 28.Kf1 Bh4 29.Rb8+ Kh7  
30.g3 Bf6 31.Re2 Rd1+ 32.Kf2 Rh1!  
33.Rxc2 Rxh2+34.Kf3 Rxc2 35.b4 g5  
36.b5 Rc3 37.Ke4 Bg7 38.fxg5 hxg5  
39.g4 Kg6 40.Rb6 Rb3 41.Bc5 Rg3  
42.Rc6 Rxg4+ 43.Kf3 Rf4+ 44.Kg2 Bd4  
0-1 ... on move 58.

**DJ - IM Joe Bradford (2400)**  
**National Open**  
**March 14, 1987**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.Nc3  
axb5 6.e4 b4 7.Nb5 d6 8.Bf4 Nbd7 9.Nf3  
Nb6 10.Bd3 g6 11.e5 Nfxd5 12.exd6  
exd6 13.Qe2+ Be6 14.Bg5 Be7 15.Bh6  
b3 16.O-O Rxa2 17.Rad1 Kd7 18.Bc4  
Nxc4 19.Qxc4 Qa8 20.Nc3 Nxc3  
21.Qxc3 Rc8 22.Rfe1 Qa5 23.Qg7 Qd8  
24.Ne5+ Kc7 25.Nxf7 Qd7 26.Ne5 Bf8  
27.Qxf8 Rxf8 28.Nxd7 Rxf2 29.Kxf2  
Rxb2+ 30.Rd2 Rxd2+ 31.Bxd2 Kxd7  
32.Bc3 d5 33.Ra1 d4 34.Bb2 Kc6  
35.Ra6+ Kd5 36.Kf3 Bf5 37.g4 Bc2



38.Ra8 g5 39.Rd8+ Kc4 40.Rc8 Bd1+  
41.Kg3 Kb4 42.Rb8+ Kc4 43.Rc8 d3  
44.Rd8 Be2 45.h3 Kb4 46.Kf2 c4 47.Rd5  
h5 48.gxh5 Bxh5 49.Ke3 Bf7 50.Rd4 Be6  
51.h4 g4 52.Kf4 d2 53.Rxd2 c3 54.Rf2  
1/2-1/2

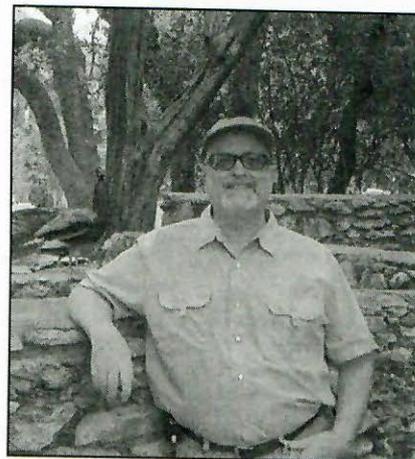
An interesting and complicated ending. Big Joe won the 1978 US Open in Phoenix, and in 1979 won brilliancy prizes for these complex Alekhine like games:

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1434142>

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1434168>.

If there are any questions, corrections, or remarks about this article I can be reached at [curt2309@comcast.net](mailto:curt2309@comcast.net).

I appreciate the opportunity to share memories about Dave and other old friends.



(Dave Jellison - 2016)

# Tribute to Dave Jellison

by Curtis Carlson & Tim Stevens

*"What do I do to make you love me*

*What do I do to make you care*

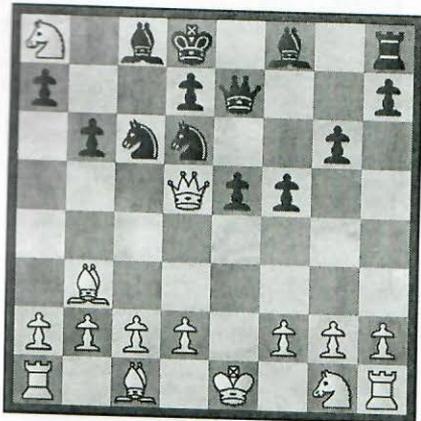
*What do I say when lightning strikes me*

*And I awake to find you're not there"*

From "Sorry Seems To Be the Hardest Word", sung by Dave Jellison "The Mad Balladeer", which you can find on YouTube (<https://tinyurl.com/yav45bbj>).

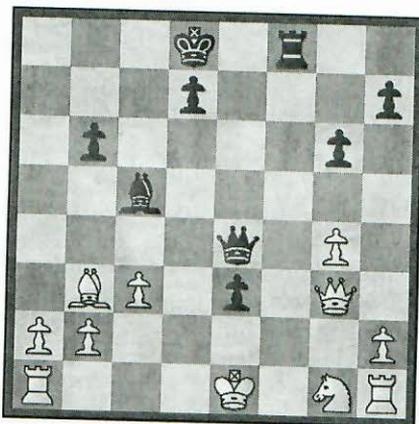
David Sewell vs. Dave Jellison  
1975 Intercollegiate at  
University of Colorado

1.e4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.Bc4 Nxe4 4.Qh5 Nd6 5.Bb3 Nc6 6.Nb5 g6 7.Qf3 f5 8.Qd5 Qe7 9.Nxc7+ Kd8 10.Nxa8 b6



(An early transposition from Alekhine's Defense to the Vienna Game Defense to the "Frankenstein-Dracula" variation! Tim Harding named this as what would probably happen if the Frankenstein Monster and Count Dracula sat down to a game of chess. Harding's 1976 book "Vienna Opening" has a 12-page chapter on this variation. Eric Schiller's 2012 book on this variation is 188 pages long [be aware that Schiller's books can have poor reviews]. Black's exchange sacrifice is extremely complicated, and a lot of fun!) 11.Qf3 Bb7 12.d3 Nd4 13.Qg3 (Losing a critical tempo, Evans-Santasiere Pittsburg 1946 continued 13.Qh3 f4 14.c3 N4f5 15.Ne2 g5 16.Rf1 h5 17.g4 Qg7 18.f3 hxg4 19.Qxg4 Rxh2, 0-1 on move 49.) 13...f4 14.Qh3 N6f5 15.c3 Nh4 16.f3 (Stopping Bxg2.) 16...Ndf5 17.Nxb6 (In this tactical variation it is better to make Black spend

a move on Bxa8.) 17...axb6 18.g4 e4 (18.Ne3+ 19.Bxe3 fxe3 20.O-O-O Qg5 21.Kc2 Bd6 22.Kb1 h5 23.gxh5 Qxh5 24.Qg3 Nxf3 25.Nxf3 Bxf3 26.Rd1 e2 eventually simplifies to an equal position.) 19.fxe4 (19.dxe4 Nxf3+ 20.Qxf3 Nh4 21.Qd3 Bxe4 22.Qd4 Nf3+ 23.Nxf3 Bxf3+ 24.Be3 Qxe3+ 25.Qxe3 fxe3 - equal.) 19...Bxe4 20.dxe4 Qxe4+ 21.Kf1 Ne3+ (21...Bc5 22.gxf5 g5 23.Qg4 Kc8 24.Bd1 Qxh1 25.b4 h5 26.Qxg5 Qd5 27. bxc5 Rg8 - advantage to Black.) 22.Bxe3 fxe3 23.Qxh4+ Be7 24.Qg3 Rf8+ 25.Ke1 Bc5

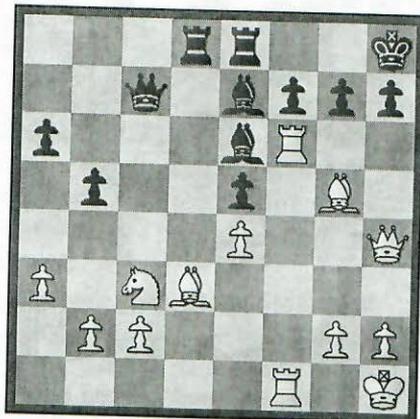


Dave shows great patience for someone down a rook and a knight! 26.Ne2 (26.Rd1 saves the game for White 26...e2 27.Nxe2 Qxh1+ 28.Kd2 Qe4 29.Bc2 Qe6 30.Nd4 Qd6 31.Qg2 Qf4+ 32.Kd3 - holds the extra piece.) 26...Qxh1+ 27.Qg1 Qe4 28.Rd1 Rf2 29.Bd5 Rxe2+ 30.Kxe2 Qxc2+ 31.Kf3 e2 32.Qxc5 (32.Rd4 Bxd4 33.Qxd4 e1Q 34.Qxb6+ Ke8 35.Qb8+ Ke7 36.Qb4+ d6 37.Qb7+ - gains a perpetual.) 32...exd1Q+ 0-1

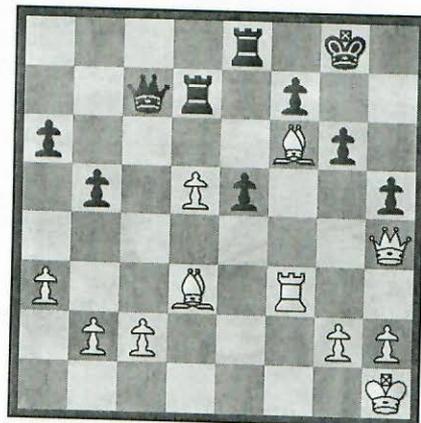
Dave Jellison vs. J.W. Nelson  
Chess House "29th Annual Julius Caesar Memorial Tourney", June 1974

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.a3 Qc7 6.Nc3 Nc6 7.Be3 Nf6 8.f4 d6 9.Be2 Be7 10.O-O b5 11.Kh1 Bb7 12.Bd3 O-O 13.Qe2 Rfe8 14.Rad1 Bf8 15.Qf3 Ne7 (Well, both players are making slow moves with 5.a3, 11.Kh1, Be2-d3, 13...Rfe8 and 15...Ne7, but the tactics ahead are quite amazing.) 16.Qh3 Ng6 17.Nf3 Rad8 18.Qg3 Kh8 19.Nh4 Nxb4 20.Qxh4 e5 (This gives White the open f-file plus the d5 square, better is 20...Be7 21.Qg3 d5 22.e5 d4 23.exf6 Bxf6 24.Qh3 h6 25.Nxb5 axb5 - equal.) 21.fxe5 dxe5 22.Bg5 Be7 23.Rf3 Bc8

(To stop 24.Rh3) 24.Rdf1 Bc6 25.Rxf6!



25...Bxf6 (25...gxf6 26.Rxf6 Rxd3 27.Rh6 [27.cxd3 Qd8] Bxg5 [27...Bf5 28.exf5 Bxg5 29.Rxh7+ Kg8 30.Qxg5+ Kxh7 31.f6 and mates] 28.Rxh7+ Kg8 29.Rh8+ Kg7 30.Qh7+ Kf6 31.Rxe8 Rd8 32.Nd5+ Bxd5 33.Qf5+ Kg7 34.Qxg5+ Kh7 35.Rxd8 and wins.) 26.Rxf6 Kg8 27.Rf3 Rd7 28.Nd5 (28.Bf6 Qd6 29.Nd5 g6 30.Be7 Qxe7 31.Nf6+ Qxf6 32.Qxf6 also wins.) 28...Bxd5 29.exd5 g6 30.Bf6 h5



31.Qxh5! gxh5 32.Rg3+ Kf8 33.Bh7 1-0 (Due to 34.Rg8#.) Dave shared the brilliancy prize in the tournament for this game!

