



ROANOKE'S OWN John Russell Potter steamrolled the field at the 2001 Virginia Closed and thus becomes state champion. In so doing, Rusty set a record as the first person to capture the state champion title in three different decades. His previous wins came in 1992 and 1969(!) This year he scored 5^o -^o and was in the lead from start to finish.

2001 VIRGINIA CLOSED STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Two-time (1993 & 1999) titleholder Macon Shibut finished clear 2nd with 4^o -1^o . This may also be a record of sorts; by his unofficial count Macon has been runner-up (or =1st but behind on tie-break) at this tournament as many as ten times! This probably surpasses the mark of the late Lev Blonarovych, who had the misfortune of playing in the same era as Charlie Powell.

against one another. They also finished dead even on all the normal tie-break formulae. Only arcane statistical comparisons revealed Guill as the narrow winner. Moreover, Nikolova had availed herself of the scholastic entry option, which made her ineligible for a share of the cash prize. This is probably the first time since scholastic entry offers became common that the winner of a major event settled for a book prize.



Photo: Roger Mahach

Tied for third, and the rest of the place-prize money, were the defending 2000 champion Daniel Miller as well as masters Steve Mayer & Gary DeFotis, and expert Ruixin Yang. Each scored 4-2. Felix McCain's 3^o won the class A prize. Robert Brady took the upset prize. Last year's Amateur champion, Ilya Kremenchugskiy, was top senior in the open group this time around.

Speaking of the Amateur (under 1800) championship, this year's event saw an amazingly tight finish between James Guill and Ettie Nikolova. Each scored 5^o -^o , with their draws having come

VCF President Mark Johnson scored 5-1 to take 2nd place. Manny Presicci's 4^o points was good for clear 3rd. Other prize-winners in the Amateur included Bill Simmons, Brian Roark & Sam Kennedy (=top class C); Haywood Boling (top D); Paul Harris (top under 1200); Joe Faries (top senior); Nathaniel Fitzgerald (top junior); Illina Nikolova (top woman - after sister Ettie, of course!); and Zheng Cao (2nd scholastic). Connor Fanney won the upset prize for his nice 545 rating point turnabout.

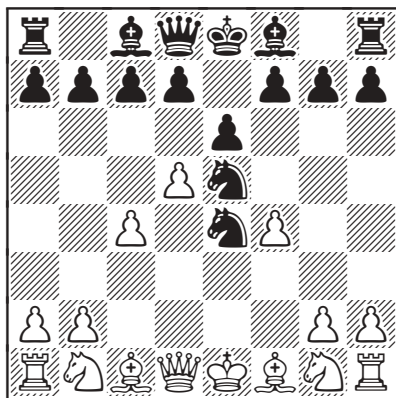
The race for the state championship got interesting in the 2nd round. Steve Mayer became the first master casualty, at the hands of expert Tim Rogalski. In fact, eventual champion Potter nearly joined him. Alan Rufty's piece "sacrifice" was probably good, landing Rusty in what was perhaps his most perilous situation of the entire weekend. But in the end Rusty persevered.





RUSTY POTTER - ALAN RUFTY
KEVITZ-TRAJKOVICH

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 Nc6 3 d5 Ne5 4 e4 e6 5 f4 Nxe4



6 fxe5 Qh4+ 7 g3 Nxc3 8 hxg3 Qxh1 9 Nf3 exd5
10 cxd5 d6 11 Qe2 dxe5 12 Nxe5 Bb4+ 13 Bd2
Bxd2+ 14 Nxd2 O-O 15 O-O-O Qxd5 16 Nb3
Qe6 17 Bg2 c6 18 Nd4 Qxa2 19 Be4 Qa1+ 20
Bb1 c5 21 Nb3 Qa6 22 Qh5 Qh6+ 23 Qxh6 gxh6
24 Nxc5 b6? 25 Be4 Rb8 26 Nc6 Bg4 27 Nd7
Bxd1 28 Ncxb8 Bg4 29 Nxf8 Kxf8 30 Nc6 a6 31
Kd2 Kg7 32 Ke3 f6 33 Kf4 Be6 34 Nd4 Bc8 35
Nf5+ 1-0

[Incidentally, while we give several of the new champion's games here, some with brief notes, Rusty has promised to provide his own annotations in our next issue! Meanwhile, check out his article THE MUMMY elsewhere in this issue. —ed]

Later someone quipped that beating Rufty is the key to winning this tournament. True enough, Alan has lost to the eventual winner in each of the last three state championships, plus at least a few others before that! And in each case he has immediately withdrawn from the tournament following his loss. Of course this is everyone's right, but in the case of a state championship it is somewhat vexing since it distorts eventual tiebreaks. (Happily, no tiebreaks were necessary this year.)

Potter's title surge began in earnest in round three when he beat Shibut with a powerful exchange sacrifice.

MACON SHIBUT - RUSTY POTTER
CARO-KANN

Notes by Macon Shibut

1 e4 c6 (This was The Year of the Caro Kann at the Virginia state championship. The winner and the runner-up, who were also the two players in this game, both used the Caro Kann as their exclusive defense to 1 e4 in Charlottesville. From the White side, the defending champion Daniel Miller saw this position in every one of his games!) 2 Nc3 d5 3 Nf3 Bg4 4 h3 Bxf3 5 Qxf3 Nf6 6 Be2 e5 7 O-O Bb4 8 d3 Qa5 9 Nd1 h6 10 Ne3 Nbd7 11 Nf5 Bf8 12 c3 g6 13 Ne3 Bg7 14 Bd1 (I liked my game but wasn't sure what to do with it. Maybe now, before Black castles, White should grab material and mix things up, eg, 14 b4 Qc7 15 exd5 cxd5 16 Nxd5 Nxd5 17 Qxd5 Qxc3 18 Qxb7) 14...0-0 15 Ng4 Nxc3 16 hxg4 Rad8 17 b4 Qc7 18 Bb3 dxe4 19 dxe4 c5! 20 bxc5 (Upon closer examination my intended 20 Qh3 started to go awry in the variation 20...c4 21 Bc2 Kh7 22 Bxh6 Bxh6 23 g5 Rh8 24 gxh6 Nf6 Δ Ng8/Rd2 and I became confused. 20 Bd5 looks better.) 20...Nxc5 21 Bd5 Rfe8 22 g3? (Walking right into it! 22 Rd1 was necessary and White is still okay.)

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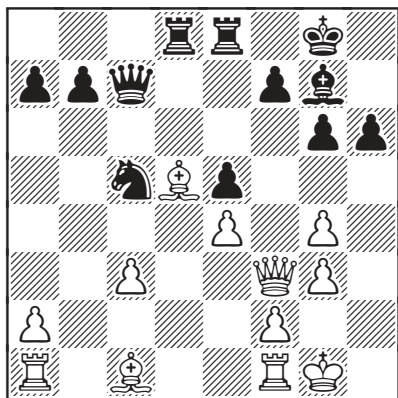
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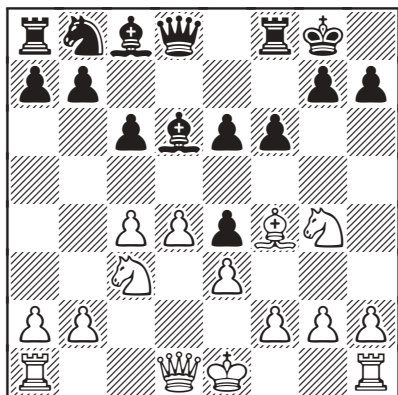


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22...Rxd5! 23 exd5 e4 24 Qe3 Nd3 25 Bd2 Bf8! 26 Kg2 (I really defended this phase weakly. Black's last move made a great impression on me as I was terrified of moving my queen and so unblocking his e-pawn. It seemed some combination with ...e3 must blow up my king position. However, I should have made him prove it! Here 26 Qe2 Δ Be3 puts Black's sacrifice to the test. I might even have tried grabbing the a7 pawn one move earlier. But the exchange sacrifice had its intended effect and I completely lost the thread of the game.) 26...Qd7 27 c4 Qxg4 28 Bc3 (Well, I was pleased about this, but not for long.) Bc5 29 Bd4 (My intent was 29 Qxh6 but then I noticed that after 29...Qf3+ 30 Kh2 [or 30 Kg1 Qxg3+ 31 Kh1 Nxf2+ 32 Rxf2 Qxc3 33 Raf1 Bxf2 34 Rxf2 Re5] Ne5 31 Bxe5 Rxe5 White is dead.) 29...Bxd4 30 Qxd4 Nf4+ 0-1

Also from round 3...



JUDAH BROWNSTEIN - GERALD BOXER
Black to Play

10...h5 (Black wins a pieces. *But...*) 11 Nh6+ gxf6 12 Bxh6 Rf7 13 Qxh5 Bf8 14 Qg6+ Bg7 15 Nxe4 Qa5+ 16 Ke2 Qf5 17 Qxf7+ Kxf7 18 Nd6+ Kg6 19 Nxf5 Bxh6 20 Ne7+ 1-0

At the midway point there were only two perfect scores remaining: Potter and Miller. Their 4th round game ended in a draw, allowing the rest of the field to creep closer.

DANIEL MILLER - RUSTY POTTER
CARO KANN

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 c4 Nf6 5 Nc3 e6 6 Nf3 Be7 7 Bd3 O-O 8 O-O dxc4 9 Bxc4 Nc6 10 a3 b6 11 Re1 Bb7 12 Ba2 Rc8 13 Bg5 Nd5 14 Bxe7 Nxe7 15 Ne4 Ng6 16 Ne5 Nf6 17 Nxc6 hxg6 18 Nc3 Nd5 19 Qd2 Nxc3 20 bxc3 Bd5 21 Re3 Bxa2 22 Qxa2 Qc7 23 Rae1 Rfd8 24 Qe2 (Black's position is more comfortable. 24...Qc4 looks like a good way to proceed; tickling the a-pawn with 24...Qd6 might be okay too. Instead there occurred...) Rd5?! 25 Rxe6 Qxc3 26 Re7 (Later Rusty indicated that he had anticipated 25 Rxe6 but underestimated this move, fixating instead on 26 Re8+) Ra5 27 h3 Rxa3 28 d5 Ra1 29 Rxa1 Qxa1+ 30 Kh2 Rc1 31 Qe4 Rh1+ 32 Kg3 Qa3+ 33 f3 Qd6+ 34 Kf2 Qc5+ 35 Kg3 Qd6+ 36 Kf2 Qc5+ 37 Kg3 Qd6+ ½-½

And so we move to Monday morning, with a pair of huge games on the top boards. Potter faced DeFotis, a newcomer to the Virginia Closed, while Miller squared off against Shibut. But first, the same 5th round also saw the showdown between the two eventual winners in the Amateur.

ETTIE NIKOLOVA - JAMES GULL
KOPEC

Notes by Macon Shibut

1 e4 d6 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Bd3 (Danny Kopec devised this system against the Sicilian, eg 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 Bd3!?, but it can also be applied to the Pirc/Modern. For example, one of The Editor's own games from a state championship tournament of two decades (!) ago continued as follows: 3...e5 4 Nf3 Nc6 5 0-0 Bg4 6 Bc2 Be7 7 d3 0-0 8 Nbd2 Re8 9 Re1 h6 10 Nf1 a6 11 h3 Bd7 12 Ng3 Bf8



13 d4 Rb8 14 Bd2 Na5 15 b3 b5 16 Qe2 c6 17 Rad1 Qc7 18 Nh2 d5 19 dxe5 Qxe5 20 Nf3 Qc7 21 e5 Nh7 22 Qd3 g6 23 Nh4 Be6 24 f4 Nb7 25 f5 Nc5 26 Qf3 gxf5 27 Nxf5 Ng5 28 Bxg5 hxg5 29 Qh5 Ne4 30 Nxe4 dxe4 31 Qxg5+ Kh8 32 Rxe4 1-0 Shibut - Edmondson, Virginia Closed 1980) **3...Nc6 4 c3 Bg4 5 Bc2** (This gives Black the opportunity to break up White's kingside should he choose. White could avoid this by inserting 5 h3) **Ne5 6 Qe2 Qd7?!** (Let's White out easy; 6...Bxf3!? eg 7 gxf3 Ng6 8 d4 e5 ΔNh5 and a blockade on f4) **7 Nxe5 dxe5** (if 7...Bxe2? 8 Nxd7 Black must come out a piece down) **8 f3 Bh5 9 d3 Bg6 10 Be3 e6 11 Nd2 h5?! 12 Nb3 b6 13 Rd1 Qb5 14 d4 Qxe2+ 15 Kxe2 Nd7 16 Nd2 exd4 17 cxd4 Be7 18 Ba4 a6 19 Bc6 Rd8 20 Nc4 O-O 21 Bxd7 Rxd7 22 Ne5 Rdd8 23 Nxc6 fxc6 24 Rc1 Rd7 25 Rc6 Kf7 26 Rhc1 Bd8 27 Kd3 e5? 28 d5 g5 29 b4 Kg8 30 a4 Rf6 31 a5 b5 32 Rxf6?** (Helps Black out immeasurably; maybe just 32 R6c2. Then put the king back on e2, off the d-file and ready to guard against a breakthrough at f3. For starters at least, squeeze the position gently and see what happens.) **32...gxf6 33 g3 Kf7 34 f4 exf4** (Black plays sharply, aiming for an outside passed pawn but ceding White a center duo. In the game it worked out!) **35 gxf4 Be7 36 fxc5 fxc5 37 Bc5 Bf6 38 Be3** (The position is very hard to evaluate. For instance, what to say about something like 38 Bd4 Be7 39 Be5 Bxb4 40 Bxc7 getting center connected passed pawns but yielding

Black passers on both flanks?) **38...Be7 39 Bd2 g4 40 Rc6 Bd6 41 Rxa6 h4** (not 41...Bxh2 42 Rh6) **42 Kd4 g3 43 hxg3 h3! 44 Rc6** (44 Ra8? Kg7) **h2 45 Rc1 Bxg3 46 e5** (Loses one of the precious pawns; 46 Rh1!?) **Bf2+ 47 Be3 Bxe3+ 48 Kxe3 Rxd5 49 Ke4 Ke6 50 Rc6+ Rd6!** (since if 51 exd6 h1Q+ Black doesn't have to withdraw his king) **51 Rc1 Rd5 52 Rc6+ Rd6 ½-½**

RUSTY POTTER - GARY DEFOTIS

NIMZOINDIAN

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 b6 5 Bd3 Bb7 6 Nf3 Ne4 7 O-O Bxc3 8 bxc3 f5 9 Qc2 O-O 10 Ne1 Qh4 11 f3 Nf6 12 g3 (12 Ba3 d6 13 c5 Levitt-Emms, 1987±) **12...Qh5 13 e4 fxe4 14 fxe4 Nc6 15 Ng2 g5 16 Ne3 h6 17 Ba3 d6 18 e5** (With simple moves, and without an obvious error by Black, Potter has attained a huge position) **dxex5 19 d5 exd5 20 Bg6 Qh3 21 Bf5 Qh5 22 Be6+ Kg7 23 Bxf8+ Rxf8 24 Nxd5 Nxd5 25 Bxd5 Rxf1+ 26 Rxf1 Nd8 27 Qf5 Qe8 28 Qf6+ Kh7 29 Rf5 Bxd5 30 cxd5 1-0**

DANIEL MILLER - MACON SHIBUT

CARO KANN

Notes by Macon Shibut

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 dxe4 4 Nxe4 Nf6 5 Ng3 (This was a very tense game with lots of subtexts. Daniel and I had never played before but we tied for first at last year's championship, with the tiebreak edge going his way. Probably it was just in my own mind, but you try to use things like that to wring out a bit of extra motivation! In any case, this year he again was tied for first through four rounds. Of course he wanted to keep pace with Rusty, but it was not clear whether a win in this game was absolutely necessary. But for my part, I stood half a point behind. Yeah, there were various scenarios where I could still win the title, but *all* of them necessarily started with winning this game. Finally, there was the matter of the opening. It had been apparent the night before what the pairing must be. I lay in bed thinking about what I ought to play. Sicilian or Caro Kann? Miller had already faced the dreaded Kann twice in the tournament and had countered with two different

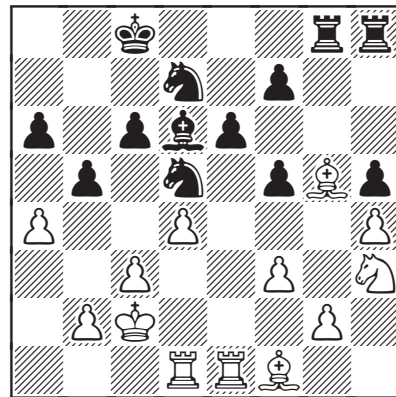


Photo: Roger Mahach



systems: against Fischer, in round two, he used the Two Knights line (1 e4 c6 2 Nc3 d5 3 Nf3 Bg4 4 h3) whereas against Potter in round four he played the Panov Attack (1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 c4). I had given some thought to how I might meet each of these but he crossed me up with yet a third option.) **h5!?** (I've played this a few times in blitz but never in a real game. The sum total of my knowledge of theory on this line consists of a single trap, and it's a silly one inasmuch as the victim's play strikes me as weird and unlikely; but for whatever it's worth: 6 Bg5 h4 7 Bxf6 hxg3 8 Be5 Rxh2 9 Rxh2 Qa5+! 10 c3 Qxe5+! 11 dxe5 gxh2 and Black wins. The reason I chose this line is that it seemed to fit the larger needs of the situation, ie, it "messes up" the position without any clear picture of what either side should do. In other words, just the thing for a must-win game against a strong opponent!) **6 h4** (Otherwise Black keeps pushing the h-pawn to an uncertain end.) **Bg4 7 Qd3 Nbd7 8 N1e2 g6** (Continuing in the same vein, Black blatantly pro-

vokes White to play f3 and so weaken dark squares on the kingside, even though I had no idea at this point how I might get at those squares.) **9 f3 Bf5 10 Nxf5 Qa5+ 11 Bd2 Qxf5 12 Qxf5 gxf5 13 0-0-0 0-0-0 14 Bg5 Bh6 15 Nf4 Rdg8 16 Bc4 e6 17 Nh3 Nd5 18 Rhe1 Bf8!** (His bishop is effectively plugging that side so we'll go around the other way. Meanwhile, White's knight has gotten kind of diverted.) **19 Bf1 b5 20 c3 Bd6 21 a4 a6 22 Kc2?** (A natural but incautious move that walks straight into what follows.)



2002 Virginia Open

January 11-13



Holiday Inn Select, 2801 Plank Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22404

Open

5SS, 40/2, SD/1. FIDE Rated \$\$1800:
600-400-300-200, U2300 \$100-50,
U2100 \$100-50. Trophy to first overall.
EF \$45 if rec'd by 1/4, \$55 at site.
Rds 8, 10-5, 10-4.

Amateur (under 1900)

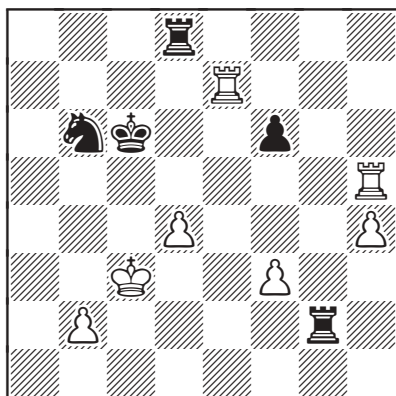
6SS, 40/90, SD/60. \$\$ (1450): 300-200-
150-125, U1700 \$100-50, U1500 \$100-
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30 Grand Prix points



22...Bg3 23 Re2 f4! (Now White has to watch out for both ...Ne3+ and ...f6. Perhaps the latter cannot clearly be called a “threat” because the position gets really muddy with White collecting all kinds of pawns for his bishop.) **24 Ra1 f6 25 Bxf4 Bxf4 26 Rxe6 Kb7** (not 26 ... Re8? 27 Nxf4 Nxf4 28 Rxc6+) **27 axb5 axb5 28 Nxf4 Nxf4 29 Re7 Rd8 30 c4 bxc4 31 Bxc4 Nd5 32 Bxd5 cxd5 33 Ra5 Rhg8!** (The important thing is the coordination of Black’s pieces, not holding pawns, if indeed they even could be held.) **34 Rxd5 Kc6 35 Rxh5 Rxg2+ 36 Kc3 Nb6**



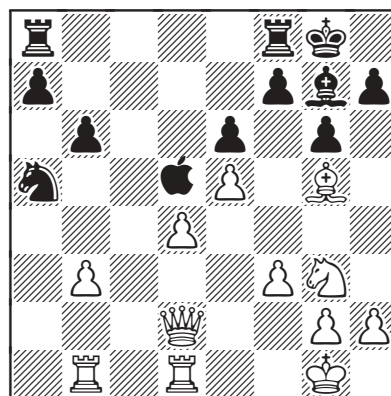
37 Rc5+? (The critical moment; White had the sense that his rooks were harassing Black’s king so naturally he played to keep both of them. But shortly it will be Black who has the attack and the full weight of the extra piece will be felt. So 37 Re6+ Rd6 38 Rxd6+ was correct. My sense then is that Black still has the upper hand — White’s pawns are all isolated and potential targets — but Black has only a single pawn left and there would have been a hard technical road ahead. As played things stay in a non-technical “middlegame” situation with White driven to near paralysis.) **Kd6 38 Ra7** (forced — Black threatened both Kxe7 and Na4+) **Re8!** (Suddenly threatening a mating attack, eg, 39 Ra6 Re3+ 40 Kb4 Rxb2+ 41 Ka5 Ra3) **39 Kb3 Ree2 40 Ra2 Re3+ 41 Rc3 Ree2 42 Rc5 Rd2 43 Rc3 Rh2 44 f4 Kd5 45 h5 Kxd4** (Tarrasch once quipped that “a knight at b6 is always bad,” but he hadn’t seen this one! What a fantastic piece. It stands there, undefended but unassailable, practically dominating both White

rooks. To wit, it prevents checks from a4 or f4; prevents a rook from going down to the 8th rank (f8 or h8) to check from behind; and if a rook ever goes to the 7th rank, it will prevent a check from e7!) **46 h6 Rxh6 47 f5** (Now if 47 Ra6 just 47...Rhh2! and the knight stands fast.) **Rhh2 48 Rc6 Rd3+ 49 Kb4 Nd5+ 50 Ka4 Rh8 51 Ra3 Ra8+ 52 Kb5 Rxa3 53 bxa3 Rxa3 54 Rc1 Rb3+ 55 Ka4 Rb4+ 56 Ka5 Ke5 57 Rd1 Ra4+! 0-1**

With hindsight it seems that this game clinched the championship — for Rusty Potter! It eliminated his chief rival. Meanwhile, Rusty’s strong start had assured him tiebreak advantages over everybody who could theoretically catch up. Entering the last round, only Shibut retained a mathematical chance of overtaking Potter. For that to happen, Potter would have had to lose to Steve Greanias while Shibut would have to beat Mayer. In the finale Greanias sportingly declined a draw offer and gave it a good shot, but Potter’s fine play put an end to all speculation.

RUSTY POTTER - STEVE GREANIAS GRUENFELD

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 d5 4 cxd5 Nxd5 5 e4 Nxc3 6 bxc3 Bg7 7 Bc4 c5 8 Ne2 Nc6 9 Be3 O-O 10 O-O Bg4 11 f3 Na5 12 Bd5 cxd4 13 cxd4 Bd7 (This has been played many times with 14 Rb1 the favored continuation, although Potter’s move looks normal too.) **14 Qd2 e6 15 Bb3 Bb5 16 Rfd1 Bc4 17 Rab1 b6 18 Ng3 Qd7 19 e5** (“With this move I propose a draw” -Potter) **Bxb3 20 axb3 Qd5 21 Bg5!?**





21...f6 (Played surprisingly quickly; 21...Nxb3 22 Qf4 with stuff like Ne4 to follow looks very menacing but perhaps Black had to call White's bluff. As played he simply winds up with an inferior position.) **22 exf6 Bxf6 23 Bxf6 Rxf6 24 Ne4 Rf5 25 Nc3 Qd7 26 d5 Rd8 27 d6 Nb7 28 Ne4 Nc5 29 b4 Nb7** (Now it's incontestable that White has full control.) **30 Rbc1 Rc8 31 Rxc8+ Qxc8 32 Rc1 Qf8 33 Rc7 Rf7 34 d7 Nd8 35 Rxa7 Qe7 36 Qd4** (Black can hardly move) **1-0**



Catherine Clarke accepts Zofchak Service Award
Photo: Roger Mahach

At the annual VCF business meeting on Saturday, September 1, Mark Johnson, of Barboursville, was reelected as President of the federation. Catherine Clarke, of Alexandria, received the David Zofchak award in recognition of her many years' service negotiating with hotels and other playing sites, filling VCF offices (including the presidency), hauling T-shirts and foodstuffs to events, and all the other thankless jobs that make tournament chess fun for everyone else. We echo the sentiment: *thanks, Catherine!* New business included the designation of 65 as the official age at which someone is considered a "senior" for purposes of special prizes, entry fees, etc, where applicable, in VCF events.

Here are some additional games from the event. See also Bill Webbert's Gray Knight column elsewhere in this issue.

DANIEL MILLER - ROBERT FISCHER
CARO-KANN

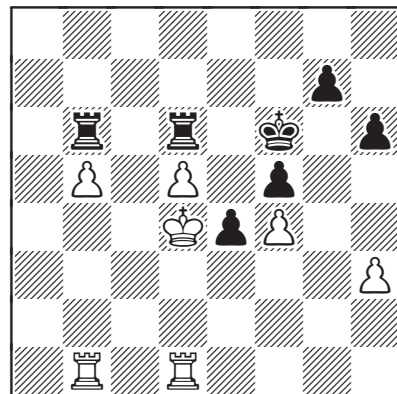
1 e4 c6 2 Nc3 d5 3 Nf3 Bg4 4 h3 Bxf3 5 Qxf3 e6 6 d3 Nf6 7 Be2 Be7 8 0-0 0-0 9 Qg3 Kh8 10 f4 dxe4 11 dxe4 Qc7 12 Kh1 Nbd7 13 e5 Nd5 14 Ne4 h6 15 a3 Nc5 16 Nxc5 Bxc5 17 Bd3 Ne7 18 Bd2 Rad8 19 Rae1 Qd7 20 Qf3 Bb6 21 Bb4 a5 22 Bxe7 Qxe7 23 Qh5 Rd4 24 g4 Qd7 25 f5 Qd5+ 26 Kh2 Rxd3 27 cxd3 Qxd3 28 g5 Qd2+ 29 Re2 Qxg5 30 Qxg5 hxg5 31 fxe6 Kg8 32 exf7+ Rxf7 33 Rxf7 Kxf7 34 e6+ Ke7 35 b3 Bc5 36 a4 b5 37 Kg2 bxa4 38 bxa4 Bd4 39 Kf3 c5 40 Re4 Bc3 41 Ke2 Bb4 42 Kd3 Ba3 43 Kc4 Bb4 44 Kd5 Ba3 45 Re5 Bc1 46 Rf5 c4 47 Rf7+ Ke8 48 Kxc4 Bb2 49 Kb5 1-0

ERNIE SCHLICH - JOHN BNIENSKI
FOUR KNIGHTS

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nc3 Nc6 4 Bb5 Nd4 5 Bc4 Nxf3+ 6 Qxf3 Be7 7 Qg3 0-0 8 d3 d6 9 0-0 Re8 10 f4 Nh5 11 Qf3 Nxf4 12 Bxf4 exf4 13 Qxf4 Be6 14 Bxe6 fxe6 15 Qf7+ Kh8 16 Qxe6 Bf6 17 Qb3 Qd7 18 Rf3 c6 19 Raf1 b5 20 Ne2 a5 21 a4 Reb8 22 d4 bxa4 23 Qc3 c5 24 e5 cxd4 25 Qxd4 Bxe5 26 Qd5 h6 27 Rf7 Qb5 (27...Qc8 28 Nd4 Bxd4+ 29 Qxd4 Qc5 30 Qxc5 dxc5 31 R1f5 Rxb2 32 Rxc5 {Fritz?}) 28 Rf8+ Kh7 29 Qg8+ Kg6 30 Qf7+ Kh7 31 Qf5+ g6 32 Qf7+ Bg7 33 Qg8mate 1-0

STEVE GREANIAS - TIM HAMILTON
NIMZOWITSCH

1 e4 Nc6 2 d4 e5 3 d5 Nce7 4 Bd3 Ng6 5 Ne2 Bc5 6 0-0 Nf6 7 c4 d6 8 Nbc3 a5 9 a3 0-0 10 Rb1 c6 11 b4 axb4 12 axb4 Ba7 13 Bd2 Ng4 14 h3 Nf6 15 dxc6 bxc6 16 Ra1 Be6 17 b5 d5 18 cxd5 cxd5 19 Bg5 h6 20 Bxf6 Qxf6 21 exd5 Bxh3 22 gxh3 Nh4 23 Be4 Nf3+ 24 Kh1 Qh4 25 Ng1 Nxe1 26 Kxg1 Bd4 27 Rc1 Bxc3 28 Rxc3 Qxe4 29 Qd3 Qxd3 30 Rxd3 Rab8 31 Rb1 Rb6 32 Kg2 Rd8 33 Kf3 f5 34 Ke3 Rdd6 35 f4 e4 36 Rdd1 Kf7 37 Kd4 Kf6

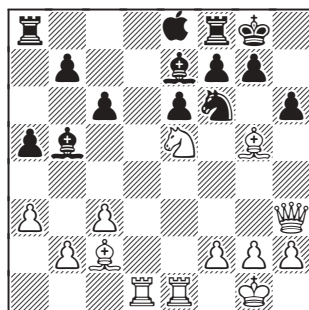




38 h4 g6 39 Rdc1 g5 40 hxg5+ hxg5
41 fxg5+ Kxg5 42 Ke5 Kg4 43 Rg1+
Kf3 44 Rgf1+ Ke2 45 Rxf5 e3 46 Kd4
Kd2 47 Rb2+ 1-0

TIM ROGALSK - FELIX McCAIN
ALEKHINE

1 e4 d5 2 exd5 Nf6 3 Nc3 Nxd5 4 Bc4
Nxc3 5 Qf3 e6 6 Qxc3 Nd7 7 d4 Nf6
8 Nf3 Be7 9 0-0 0-0 10 Re1 Bd7 11
Ne5 a6 12 Bg5 Bb5 13 Bb3 a5 14 a3
c6 15 Qh3 Qxd4 16 c3 Qd8 17 Rad1
Qe8 18 Bc2 h6



19 Bxh6 gxh6 20 Qxh6 Rd8 21 Rxd8
Qxd8 22 Re3 Ne4 23 Rxe4 Bg5 24
Rg4 f6 25 Qh7++ 1-0

MARK JOHNSON - LEONARD HARRIS
COLLE

1 d4 d5 2 e3 Nf6 3 Nd2 e6 4 Bd3 c5
5 c3 c4 6 Bc2 b5 7 f4 Nc6 8 Ngf3 Be7
9 0-0 0-0 10 Ne5 Bb7 11 Rf3 b4 12
Rh3 g6 13 Qe1 h5 14 Qg3 Nxe5 15
fxe5 Ng4 16 Bd1 Kg7 17 Bxg4 hxg4
18 Qxg4 Rh8 19 Rxb8 Qxb8 20 Nf3
a5 21 Bd2 Qh5 22 Qg3 Qf5 23 Rc1
b3 24 Qf2 bxa2 25 Ne1 Qb1 26 Nc2
Qxb2 29 e4 Qa3 30 Rf1 Rf8 31 h4
dxe4 32 Qf4 f5 33 Qh6+ Kf7 34 h5
Rg8 35 Qh7+ Rg7 36 hxg6+ Kf8 37
Qh8+ Rg8 38 g7+ Kf7 39 Qh5+ Kxg7
40 Bh6+ Kh7 41 Bf8mate 1-0

Open Section

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Rtng</i>	<i>Rd1</i>	<i>Rd2</i>	<i>Rd3</i>	<i>Rd4</i>	<i>Rd5</i>	<i>Rd6</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	Potter, John Russ	2226	W19	W27	W2	D3	W5	W7	5°
2	Shibut, Macon A	2366	W16	W8	L1	W7	W3	D4	4°
3	Miller, Daniel I	2318	W17	W9	W10	D1	L2	D6	4
4	Mayer, Steven F	2211	W28	L10	W13	H—	W16	D2	4
5	De Fotis, Gary C	2200	W18	D13	D12	W9	L1	W10	4
6	Yang, Ruixin	2121	W20	L11	W28	D10	W17	D3	4
7	Greanias, Steven	2230	D12	W25	W11	L2	W8	L1	3°
8	Hamilton, Timothy	2102	W21	L2	W20	W11	L7	D9	3°
9	Fischer, Robert J	2100	W22	L3	W23	L5	W13	D8	3°
10	Rogalski, Timothy	2067	W14	W4	L3	D6	W12	L5	3°
11	Mahach, Roger	2031	W23	W6	L7	L8	W14	H—	3°
12	Mc Cain, Felix M	1942	D7	W15	D5	D13	L10	W17	3°
13	Fletcher, Raymond	2005	W24	D5	L4	D12	L9	W23	3
14	Kremenchugskiy, I	1830	L10	L20	B—	W24	L11	W22	3
15	Brady, Robert	1619	H—	L12	L18	W26	W20	H—	3
16	Brownstein, Judah	2000	L2	H—	W22	W18	L4	U—	2°
17	Van Lear, William	1948	L3	D22	W26	W28	L6	L12	2°
18	Skirpan, Stephen	1894	L5	D26	W15	L16	D22	H—	2°
19	Lupienski, Edward	1904	L1	W24	W25	U—	U—	U—	2
20	Carroll, William	1883	L6	W14	L8	D23	L15	D25	2
21	Hayes, Michael	1863	L8	L28	L24	W29	D23	H—	2
22	Boxer, Gerald	1831	L9	D17	L16	W25	D18	L14	2
23	Gerlach, Evan M	1800	L11	B—	L9	D20	D21	L13	2
24	Campbell, John T	1800	L13	L19	W21	L14	D25	H—	2
25	Barrow, William J	1609	W30	L7	L19	L22	D24	D20	2
26	BuSteed, William	1829	L27	D18	L17	L15	H—	H—	1°
27	Rufty, Alan E	2034	W26	L1	U—	U—	U—	U—	1
28	Hulvey, David W	1902	L4	W21	L6	L17	U—	U—	1
29	Wilson, Whitney	941	U—	U—	U—	L21	U—	U—	0
30	Scotten, Dwight L	706	L25	U—	U—	U—	U—	U—	0



ROBERT FISCHER - GERALD BOXER

ENGLISH

1 Nf3 d5 2 c4 e6 3 g3 Nf6 4 Bg2 c6 5
0-0 Bd6 6 d4 0-0 7 Nc3 Nbd7 8 Qc2
Re8 9 Rd1 Bf8 10 Bf4 Nb6 11 c5
Nbd7 12 b4 Be7 13 a4 Nf8 14 b5 Ng6
15 bxc6 bxc6 16 a5 Nxf4 17 gxf4 Bd7
18 e3 Qc7 19 Bf1 Reb8 20 Bd3 g6 21
Kh1 Be8 22 a6 Rb4 23 Na2 Rbb8 24
Nc3 Rb4 25 Na2 Rbb8 26 Rg1 Bf8 27
Ne5 Bg7 28 Kg2 Nd7 29 Nf3 Qd8 30
Rg1 Rxb1 31 Rxb1 Rb8 32 Nb4 Qc7
33 Rb3 f6 34 Qb1 e5 35 fxe5 fxe5 36
dxe5 Nxc5 37 Nxd5 Rxb3 38 Nxc7
Rxb1 39 Bxb1 Bf7 40 Kg3 Bc4 41 h4
Nxa6 42 Nxa6 Bxa6 43 Kf4 Bc4 44
Ng5 Bh6 45 Ke4 Bxg5 46 hxg5 Kf7
47 Kd4 Bb5 48 Kc5 Ke6 49 f4 Ke7 50
Ba2 Kf8 51 Kd6 a5 52 Be6 a4 53 Bd7
a3 54 e6 a2 55 e7+ Kg7 56 e8Q 1-0

STEVE GREANIAS - FELIX McCAIN

OLD INDIAN

1 c4 d6 2 Nc3 e5 3 Nf3 g6 4 d4 exd4
5 Qxd4 Qf6 6 Qd3 Bg7 7 Nd5 Qd8 8
Qe4+ Kf8 9 Bg5 f6 10 Bf4 Nc6 11 0-
0-0 Bf5 12 Qe3 Nge7 13 Nd4 Nxd5
14 cxd5 Nxd4 15 Qxd4 Qe8 16 f3 Kf7
17 e4 Bd7 18 Qd2 Rf8 19 g4 Kg8 20
h4 f5 21 exf5 gxf5 22 Re1 Qf7 23 g5
Rfe8 24 Bc4 Rxe1+ 25 Rxe1 Re8 26
Rh1 Qe7 27 Qa5 a6 28 Kb1 Bh8 29
Bc1 Bd4 30 h5 Bb6 31 Qc3 Qe5 32
Qc2 Qg3 33 f4 Qf3 34 Rh2 Re1 35

Qd2 Re4 36 Qc2 Re1 37 Qd2 Re4
38 Qd3 Qxd3+ 39 Bxd3 Re1 40 Kc2
Be3 41 Bd2 Bxd2 42 Kxd2 Re7 43
Rg2 Rg7 44 g6 hxg6 45 hxg6 Kf8 46
Rg5 Ke7 47 Bxf5 Bxf5 48 Rxf5 Rxb6
49 Rh5 Rg2+ 50 Kc3 Rf2 51 Rh7+
Kd8 52 Rh8+ 1/2-1/2

WILLIAM VAN LEAR - DANIEL MILLER

ANTI-MERAN GAMBIT

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 Nc3 e6
5 Bg5 dxc4 6 e4 b5 7 a4 Bb7 8 axb5
cxb5 9 d5 Qb6 10 Be3 Bc5 11 Bxc5
Qxc5 12 dxe6 Nxe4 13 Qd4 Qxd4
14 Nxd4 Nxc3 15 bxc3 a6 16 0-0-0
g6 17 h4 Nc6 18 exf7+ Kxf7 19 Nxb5
axb5 20 Rd7+ Kf6 21 Rxb7 Ra1+ 22
Kd2 Re8 23 Rb6 Ra2+ 24 Kd1 Re6
25 Rxb5 Ne5 26 Rd5 Nd3 27 Bxd3
cxd3 28 Rh3 Rb6 0-1

TIM ROGALSKI - STEVE MAYER

PIRC

1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 Nf3 d6 4 Be2 Nf6
5 Nc3 0-0 6 0-0 Nfd7 7 Be3 Na6 8
Qd2 c5 9 Bh6 b6 10 Rad1 Bb7 11
Bxg7 Kxg7 12 e5 cxd4 13 Qxd4
Nxe5 14 Nxe5 dxe5 15 Qxe5+ f6 16
Qe6 Qe8 17 Rd7 Rf7 18 Rxb7 Nc5
19 Qd5 Rd8 20 Qf3 Nxb7 21 Qxb7
e5 22 Qf3 Qe6 23 Bb5 Rd4 24 Ba4
e4 25 Qe2 Qe5 26 Rd1 f5 27 Rxd4
Qxd4 28 Qd1 Qb4 29 Bb3 Rc7 30
Qd8 Qe7 31 Qxe7+ Rxe7 32 Nd5
Re5 33 h4 b5 34 c4 a6 35 c5 1-0



Photo: Roger Mahach

Northern Virginia Open

November 3-4, 2001
Best Western Mt Vernon
8751 Richmond Hwy
Alexandria VA

6SS, G/2. \$\$1800, top 3 G, rest b/
60: \$500-300-200, X, A, B, C, D,
U1200 each \$120, unr \$80. EF \$45
by 10/25, \$55 at site, scholastic EF for
18 & under \$25 by 10/27, \$30 at site,
play for non-cash prizes only. VCF
memb req'd (\$10, \$5 jrs), OSA. Reg
9-9:45am, rds 10-2:30-7, 10-2:30-7.
Two ° pt byes avail, irrevocable byes
in rd 5-6 must declare before rd 3.
Hotel \$79+ tax, 1-2, (703) 360-1300.
NS, NC, W, FIDE rated *Enter:*
Michael Atkins, PO Box 6139, Alex-
andria VA 22306. Make checks pay-
able to "VA Chess" Info
matkins@wizard.net or www.wizard.net/~matkins/nova.htm or 703-768-4730 but
no phone or e-mail entries!

*20 Grand Prix points***ARLINGTON OPEN**

Oct 13-14, 2001

FIDE Rated

George Mason University
Professional Center
(The Old Law School)
3401 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, Virginia
(Across from
Virginia Square Metro)

5-SS, G/100. \$\$1800 b/60 (top 3
guaranteed): \$500-300-200, top X,
A, B, C, D, U1200 each \$120, Unr
\$80. EF \$40 if rec'd by 10/6, \$50 at
site. Reg 10/13 9-9:45, rds 10-2-6,
10-2:30. One ° pt bye available, rd
4/5 bye must declare before rd2 and
is unrevokable. Make entries payable
to Michael Atkins and send to: PO
Box 6139, Alexandria VA 22306.
For more info check www.wizard.net/~matkins/aopen.htm or email
matkins@wizard.net

15 Grand Prix Points



Amateur Section

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Rating</i>	<i>Rd1</i>	<i>Rd2</i>	<i>Rd3</i>	<i>Rd4</i>	<i>Rd5</i>	<i>Rd6</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	<i>Guill, James</i>	1785	W17	W15	W21	W20	D2	W5	5°
2	<i>Nikolova, Ettie</i>	1582	W27	W19	W5	W28	D1	W6	5°
3	<i>Johnson, R Mark</i>	1520	H—	H—	W36	W11	W20	W13	5
4	<i>Presicci, Manny R</i>	1500	L40	H—	W32	W33	W12	W14	4°
5	<i>Fore, Thomas H</i>	1671	W24	W30	L2	W25	W9	L1	4
6	<i>Faries, Joe</i>	1653	D31	D36	W40	W15	W22	L2	4
7	<i>Backus, Jonathan</i>	1612	W44	L11	W43	D17	D25	W19	4
8	<i>Simmons, Bill</i>	1522	H—	W34	L25	W44	W28	D10	4
9	<i>Roark, Brian L</i>	1513	W39	W43	L28	W18	L5	W23	4
10	<i>Kennedy, Sam Vinc</i>	1457	D34	W31	L13	W40	W21	D8	4
11	<i>Cao,Zheng</i>	1430	W42	W7	L20	L3	W36	W22	4
12	<i>Webbert, WE</i>	1646	D25	W32	L22	W30	L4	W31	3°
13	<i>Harris, Leonard T</i>	1608	W26	D40	W10	D22	D19	L3	3°
14	<i>Bland, Mark D</i>	1527	L19	W27	D44	W16	W17	L4	3°
15	<i>Nikolova, Illinna</i>	1478	W45	L1	W37	L6	D31	W25	3°
16	<i>Thode, Jeffrey S</i>	1421	L43	W38	H—	L14	W42	W32	3°
17	<i>Fitzgerald, Nathaniel</i>	1408	L1	W45	W26	D7	L14	W33	3°
18	<i>Boling, Haywood C</i>	1363	L20	W46	W48	L9	W37	H—	3°
19	<i>Harris, Paul L</i>	1185	W14	L2	W23	W21	D13	L7	3°
20	<i>Schlich, Ernest W</i>	1725	W18	W23	W11	L1	L3	U—	3
21	<i>Lindsay, Opie D</i>	1541	W38	W48	L1	L19	L10	W37	3
22	<i>Hivick, K.W.</i>	1494	W33	D28	W12	D13	L6	L11	3
23	<i>Bninski, John</i>	1456	W46	L20	L19	W38	W26	L9	3
24	<i>Cano, Jerry</i>	1362	L5	L33	D34	W48	D40	W38	3
25	<i>Scott, Malcolm</i>	1290	D12	W29	W8	L5	D7	L15	3
26	<i>Gibson, Robert F</i>	1238	L13	W41	L17	W34	L23	W39	3
27	<i>Turbyfill, Matthew</i>	1226	L2	L14	W45	L42	W41	W40	3
28	<i>Keogh, Bill</i>	1766	W35	D22	W9	L2	L8	U—	2°
29	<i>Elizan, Jose B</i>	1525	D32	L25	D31	L37	D34	W42	2°
30	<i>Weinberg, Robert</i>	1433	W41	L5	D33	L12	L32	W45	2°
31	<i>Fitzgerald, Ryan</i>	1336	D6	L10	D29	W39	D15	L12	2°
32	<i>Howes, Jason</i>	1174	D29	L12	L4	W49	W30	L16	2°
33	<i>Stevens, Vernon E</i>	1090	L22	W24	D30	L4	W44	L17	2°
34	<i>Troy, Frankie</i>	1038	D10	L8	D24	L26	D29	W44	2°
35	<i>Okola, Dennis</i>	1402	L28	W39	W49	U—	U—	U—	2
36	<i>Hoffmann, Thomas</i>	1213	H—	D6	L3	W43	L11	U—	2
37	<i>Hinshaw, Helen S</i>	1198	H—	H—	L15	W29	L18	L21	2
38	<i>McDaniel, Marshal</i>	1195	L21	L16	W46	L23	W43	L24	2
39	<i>Hivick, Kevin</i>	1125	L9	L35	W41	L31	W48	L26	2
40	<i>Jensen, Eric S</i>	1124	W4	D13	L6	L10	D24	L27	2
41	<i>Wilson, Whitney</i>	941	L30	L26	L39	B—	L27	W48	2





RUIXIN YANG - DAVID HULVEY
SICILIAN

1 e4 c5 2 Nc3 Nc6 3 f4 g6 4 Nf3 Bg7
5 Bc4 e6 6 f5 a6 7 d3 Ne5 8 Nxe5
Bxe5 9 0-0 Qh4 10 h3 Nf6 11 Qf3 b5
12 Bb3 Bb7 13 fxe6 fxe6 14 Bf4 Bd4+
15 Be3 0-0 16 Qf2 Qh5 17 Bxd4
Nxe4 18 Qe2 Rxf1+ 19 Rxf1 Qxe2 20
Nxe2 Nd2 21 Bxc5 Nxf1 22 Kxf1 a5
23 a4 Rc8 24 d4 bxa4 25 Bxa4 Bc6
26 Bxc6 Rxc6 27 c3 d6 28 Ba3 Kf7
29 Kf2 Kf6 30 Ke3 h5 31 Nf4 e5 32
Nd3 Kf5 33 Nf2 g5 34 d5 Rb6 35 Ne4
g4 36 Nxd6+ Kf6 37 hxg4 hxg4 38
Nc4 Ra6 39 Bd6 Ra8 40 Bxe5+ Ke7
41 d6+ Ke6 42 g3 a4 43 Nb6 Ra5 44
Bf4 a3 45 bxa3 Rxa3 46 d7 1-0

TIM HAMILTON - ROGER MAHACH
DUNST

1 Nc3 d5 2 e4 dxe4 3 Nxe4 Bf5 4 Ng3
Bg6 5 f4 e6 6 Qe2 Bd6 7 d4 Nc6 8 c3
h5 9 d5 Nce7 10 dxe6 fxe6 11 Ne4
Qd7 12 Ng5 0-0-0 13 Qxe6 Nf6 14
Bc4 Nfd5 15 Ne2 Rde8 16 Bxd5 1-0

STEVE SKIRPAN - JUDAH BROWNSTEIN
BENKO GAMBIT

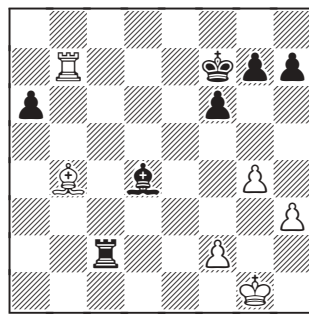
1 d4 c5 2 d5 Nf6 3 c4 b5 4 Nf3 g6 5
cxb5 a6 6 e3 Bg7 7 Nc3 0-0 8 a4 Bb7
9 b6 a5 10 Bc4 Qxb6 11 0-0 Na6 12
e4 d6 13 Re1 Nd7 14 Nb5 Nb4 15
Rb1 Ba6 16 Bf4 Bxb5 17 Bxb5 Qc7
18 Qd2 Rfd8 19 Bh6 Ne5 20 Bxg7
Nxf3+ 21 gxf3 Kxg7 22 f4 Qc8 23 Re3
e6 24 dxe6 Qxe6 25 Bf1 Qa2 26 Rbe1
Qxa4 27 f5 Qc2 28 f6+ Kg8 29 R1e2
Qxd2 30 Rxd2 Nc6 31 f4 Rab8 32
Bg2 Nd4 33 f5 gxf5 34 Rg3+ Kh8 35
exf5 Rg8 36 Kf2 Rxc3 37 hxg3 Nxf5
38 Be4 Nd4 39 Kg1 Re8 40 Bd5 Re6
41 Bxe6 Nf3+ 42 Kf2 Nxd2 0-1

GARY DEFOTIS - TIM ROGALSKI
ENGLISH/BENONI

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 Nf3 cxd4 4 Nxd4
e5 5 Nb5 d5 6 cxd5 Bc5 7 e3 0-0 8
N5c3 e4 9 Be2 Bf5 10 Nd2 Re8 11
Nc4 Bb4 12 Bd2 Bxc3 13 Bxc3 Nxd5
14 Bd2 Nc6 15 Qb3 Qe7 16 a3 Be6
17 Rc1 f5 18 0-0 Nb6 19 Qb5 Nxc4
20 Bxc4 Bxc4 21 Rxc4 Ne5 22 Rc5
Rac8 23 Rfc1 Rxc5 24 Rxc5 g6 25
Bc3 Nd3 26 Rd5 a6 27 Qc4 Qf7 28
Qd4 Kf8 29 Rd7 Re7 30 Qh8+ 1-0

RUIXIN YANG - DANIEL MILLER
PETROFF

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nxe5 d6 4 Nf3
Nxe4 5 d3 Nf6 6 d4 Bg4 7 Bd3 Be7
8 0-0 0-0 9 h3 Bh5 10 Re1 c5 11
dxc5 dxc5 12 Nc3 Nc6 13 Be3 a6 14
Ne4 c4 15 Nxf6+ Bxf6 16 Bxc4 Bxb2
17 Qxd8 Raxd8 18 Rab1 Bc3 19
Red1 b5 20 Bb3 Ne5 21 Bd5 b4 22
g4 Nxf3+ 23 Bxf3 Bg6 24 Rxd8 Rxd8
25 Bd1 f6 26 Bb6 Re8 27 Ba5 Bf7
28 Bf3 Bxa2 29 Rd1 Bc4 30 Bd5+
Bxd5 31 Rxd5 Re2 32 Rd8+ Kf7 33
Rb8 Rxc2 34 Bxb4 Bd4 35 Rb7+



35...Kg6 36 Bf8 Kg5 37 Rxc7+ Kf4
38 Bd6+ Kf3 39 Bg3 Bxf2+ 40 Bxf2
Rxf2 41 Rxh7 Kg3 42 Rh5 1/2-1/2

2001 Arlington
Chess Club
Championship

December 8-9, 2001
George Mason University
Professional Center
3401 N Fairfax Drive, Arlington
(across from Virginia Square metro stop)

4-SS, 30/100, SD/1. \$1,675
Based/60 Two sections: *Open*
(FIDE Rated; top 3 G) \$400-
200-150, top X/unr, A \$100;
Amateur (U1800) \$250-125-
100, C \$80, under 1400 \$70,
unr \$50. EF \$45 if rec'd by 12/
1, \$55 at site, club members \$5
less. Reg Sat 9-9:45am, rds 10-
3:30, 10-3:30. One ° pt bye
available, rd4 bye must declare
before rd2. NS, NC, W *Enter:*
Michael Atkins. PO Box 6139,
Alexandria VA 22306. Info
[www.wizard.net/~matkins/
champ2001.htm](http://www.wizard.net/~matkins/champ2001.htm) or matkins@wizard.net

15 Grand Prix points



42	Stevens, Kyle V	893	L11	L44	B—	W27	L16	L29	2
43	Fanney, Connor F	876	W16	L9	L7	L36	L38	W47	2
44	Mc Gowan, Andrew	1286	L7	W42	D14	L8	L33	L34	1°
45	Hollingsworth, A	1083	L15	L17	L27	D46	W49	L30	1°
46	Fletcher, Ian M	1018	L23	L18	L38	D45	L47	W49	1°
47	Hinshaw, J Allen	1292	U—	U—	U—	U—	W46	L43	1
48	Scotten, Dwight	706	B—	L21	L18	L24	L39	L41	1
49	Hinshaw, Melissa	699	U—	H—	L35	L32	L45	L46	°
50	Carey, Walt ***	1400	U—	U—	U—	U—	U—	U—	0



This is a column devoted to chess playing seniors. After 18 months of correspondence and discussion, I submitted a docket of eight proposals at the annual VCF meeting. One was adopted: "The specific age at which an individual is considered to be a Senior chessplayer in the Commonwealth is 65." Two were modified to read as follows: "That the VCF consider awards (trophy, book, cash, certificates, etc) for seniors who excel in their rated sections (amateur, open, under 1600, whatever);" and "That the VCF President nominate/select at least one senior VCF player as an advocate for seniors." The remaining issues of dues changes, reduced tourney entry fees and membership drives (senior or general) were all tabled. Call me at 703-591-2106 and inform me of your Senior Chess events, notable performances, interesting games, etc.

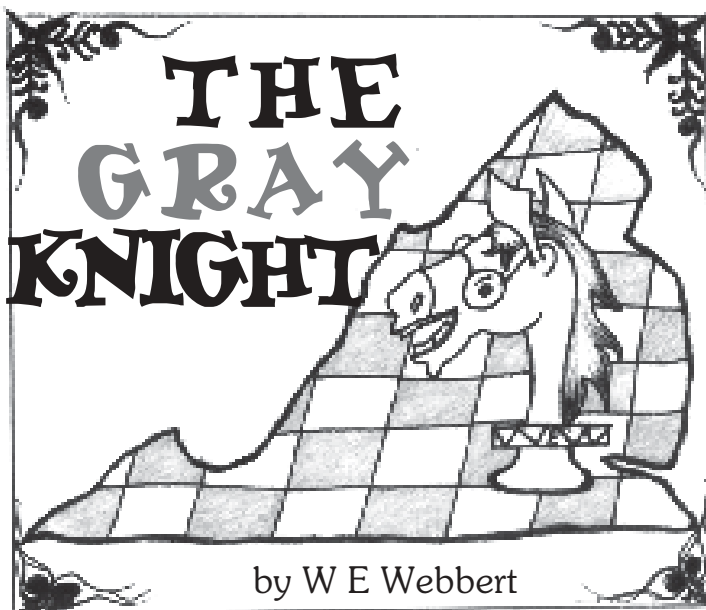
Upcoming Senior Chess events: Don't forget the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics this year. The chess portion will be at Lee District Park on October 2-3. The first day starts at 10:30am. Early registration is still \$5.00 and you may obtain the forms by calling 703-359-2487 or 703-838-4831.

Senior Chess Results: Senior title trophy winners at the state championship were Mr Joe Faries in the Amateur Section and Mr Ilya Kremenchugskiy in the Open. (Last year he won as an Amateur!).

Here are a few recent games from a tournaments where our local Seniors Champ moves on up:

HOWARD NACK - ILYA KREMENCHUGSKIY
2001 CHICAGO OPEN
RETI

1 Nf3 d5 2 d3 Nc6 3 g3 Bg4 4 Nbd2 Qd7 5 h3 Bf5 6 Bg2 0-0-0 7 c4 e6 8 a3 Be7 9 b4 Bf6 10 Rb1 Nge7 11 Bb2 h5 12 Bxf6 gxf6 13 Qa4 Kb8 14 b5 Ne5 15 Nxe5 fxe5 16 c5 c6 17 b6 a6 18 Nf3 f6 19 Rb4 d4 20 Nd2 Nd5 21 Rb2 Nc3 22 Qb4 Qh7 23 Qc4 e4 24 dxe4 Nxe4 25 0-0 e5 26 Nb3 Qd7 27 Na5 Be6 28 Qb4 f5 29 Rd1 Qd5 30 Rc2 Rhg8 31 Nc4 Qxc5 32 Qxc5 Nxc5 33 Nxe5



Ne4 34 Rdc1 Bd5 35 Nd3 h4 36 Bxe4 fxe4 37 Nf4 hxg3 38 Nxd5 gxf2+ 39 Kxf2 Rdf8+ 40 Ke1 e3 41 Nxe3 dxe3 0-1

ILYA KREMENCHUGSKIY - KEN DAVIDSON
2001 ATLANTIC OPEN
SICILIAN

1 e4 c5 2 Nc3 Nc6 3 g3 g6 4 Bg2 Bg7 5 Nge2 Nf6 6 d3 0-0 7 0-0 d6 8 f4 a6 9 h3 Bd7 10 Kh2 Rb8 11 g4 Qc8 12 g5 Nh5 13 Nd5 b5 14 Ng3 Nxc3 15 Kxc3 Re8 16 Ne3 h5 17 gxh6 Bxh6 18 Ng4 Bg7 19 Bd2 Bxc4 20 hxg4 Bxb2 21 Rb1 Bg7 22 g5 f6 23 Bh3 e6 24 f5 gxf5 25 exf5 e5 26 gxf6 Bxf6 27 Qg4+ Kf7 28 Qg6+ Ke7 29 Bg5 Rf8 30 Bxf6+ Rxf6 31 Qg7+ Rf7 32 f6+ 1-0

JOHN CAMPBELL (1860) - ILYA KREMENCHUGSKIY
2001 VIRGINIA CLOSED
SCANDINAVIAN

1 e4 d5 2 exd5 Nf6 3 d4 Nxd5 4 c4 Nb4 5 a3 N4c6 6 d5 Ne5 7 Bf4 Ng6 8 Bg3 c6 9 Nc3 e5 10 dxe6 Qxd1+ 11 Rxd1 Bxe6 12 Nf3 Be7 13 Ne4 0-0 14 Bd6 Nd7 15 Be2 Bxd6 16 Nxd6 Nf4 17 g3 Nxe2 18 Kxe2 Bg4 19 Rd3? Ne5 20 Re3 Nxf3 21 Rxf3 Rfe8+ 22 Nxe8 Rxe8+ 23 Kd3 Bxf3 24 Rc1 Re2 25 Rc2 Rxc2 26 Kxc2 c5 27 b4 b6 28 Kd3 f5 29 Ke3 Bg2 30 Ke2 Kf7 31 f3 Ke6 32 Kf2 Bh1 33 h3 cxb4 34 axb4 a5 0-1



Book Review...

Instructive Modern Chess Masterpieces, by Igor Stohl

Gambit Press, 2001, list \$24.95

I love chess game anthologies!! I freely admit it. However, over the course of my career I've noticed that they tend to become repetitive. Authors republish the same old games over and over with little (sometimes *no*) new insights. Great as they are, how many times do we need to see — much less pay for — Anderssen vs Kieseritsky; Nimzowitsch vs Salwe; or Zukertort vs Blackburne, to mention but a few.

But every now and then a brave author decides to break the mold and feature the games of lesser masters; or less well-known games of leading players; or contemporary games. Such books afford us the proverbial "breath of fresh air," and it is with this enthusiasm that I greet GM Igor Stohl's *Instructive Modern Chess Masterpieces*.

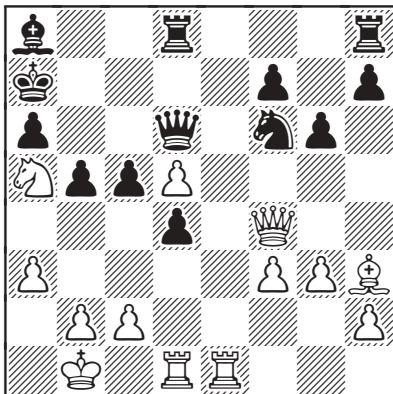
This is a great chess book! Stohl delivers everything he promises in the title. First, there is an awesome selection of recent games. Karpov, I believe, is probably the oldest player represented. The focus is on top players of the '90s: Kasparov, Anand, Kramnik, Shirov, Topalov, Ivanchuk, etc. Second, Stohl's analyses are excellent and thorough. About six pages on average are devoted to each game, with the occasional variation or comment that simply stuns the reader. My favorite is on page 240, from the game Kasparov - Topalov, Wijk aan Zee 1999.

Kasparov sacrificed a rook, 24 Rxd4, and Stohl remarks, "Kasparov freely admits that at this tense moment he still didn't see a forced win if Black took the rook. The whole game continuation up to 37 Rd7! flashed through his mind only during Topalov's 15-minute think. At the same time he realized Black was not forced to accept the gift..."

So, Kasparov makes a ten move intuitive rook sac and sits there, first hoping Topalov *doesn't* take the rook and then, after looking further, hoping he *does*. I find that awesome! I almost gave up chess in reverent disgust.

The only weakness is a certain lack of context. Usually no information is provided as to external circumstances that might have influenced the game: the tournament situation, relevant prior contests between the same two players, etc. However, this is a small flaw and one for which I find more than enough compensation in the book's strengths. If you by only one chess book this year, you will not regret it if *Instructive Modern Chess Masterpieces* is your choice.

— Salvador Rosario



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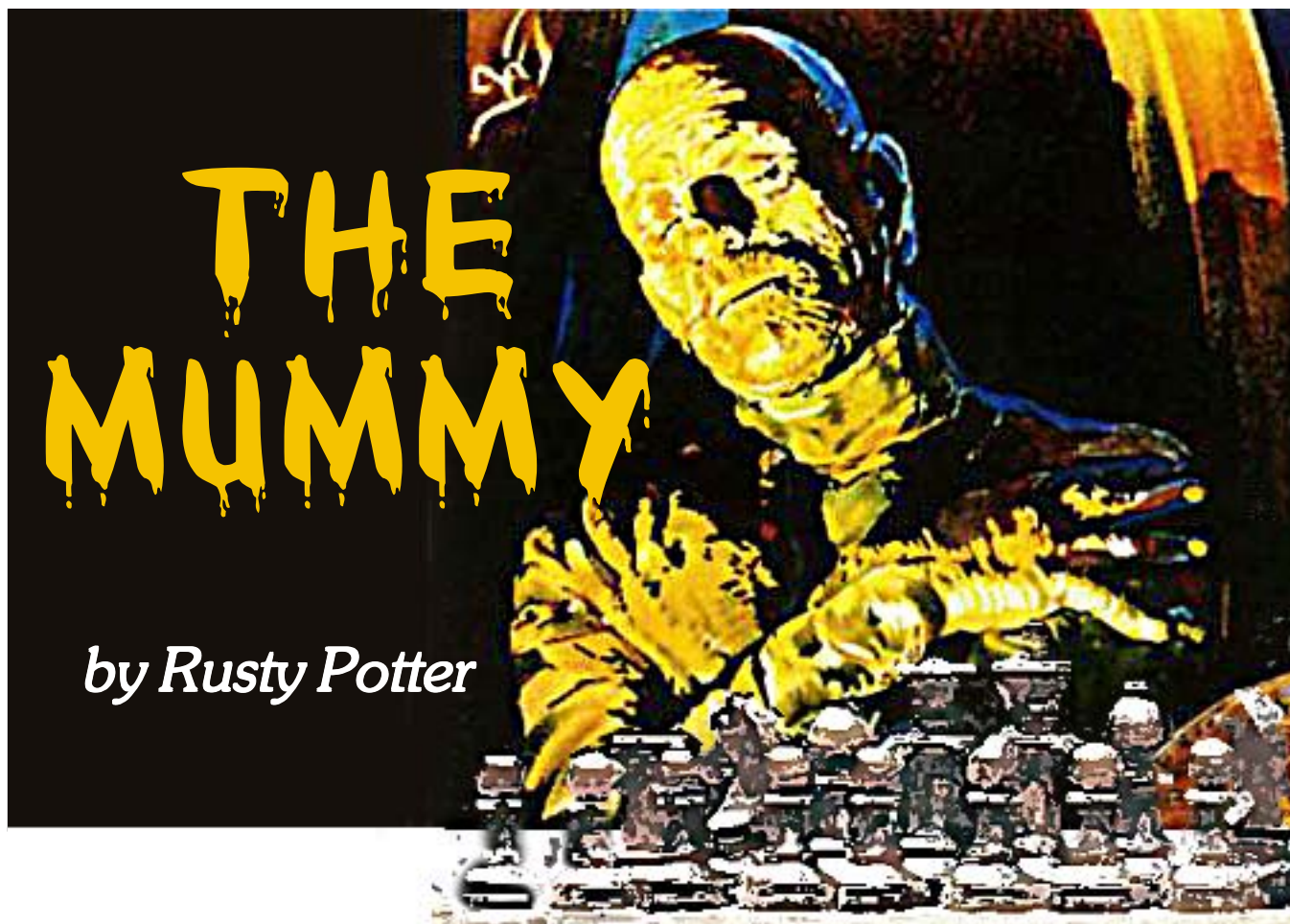
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ON THE WAY DOWN to the Millennium tournament, the movie *The Mummy* was somewhat on my mind. The first remake of this old sci-fi classic had done well at the box office so, naturally, Hollywood was producing a sequel. Perhaps subconsciously inspired by this, I played a game which features a thoroughly entombed religious symbol, consecrated by a sacrifice. This entombed creature would come to life only briefly before meeting an abrupt and indecorous end. To top off the metaphor, my opponent was a very fine International Master from the African continent, the very setting of the aforementioned movies! Naturally then, I had to christen this game “The Mummy.”

RUSTY POTTER - OLADAPO ADU
2001 MILLENNIUM CHESS FESTIVAL
PIRC/MODERN

1 d4 d6 2 e4 g6 3 c3 Bg7 4 Bg5 Nf6 5 Nd2 0-0 6 Ngf3

White has managed to establish an Accelerated Torre -type attacking pattern against the Modern/KID opening. I think this may well be the best system against Black's particular move order.

6...Nfd7?! 7 Be2 c5 8 d5!

Allowing c5xd4 is quite playable but gives Black's pieces more targets than this half-Benoni structure.

8...Nf6!?

The exotic nature of these mysterious dancing movements by dark horses is a real addition to the movie, don't you think?



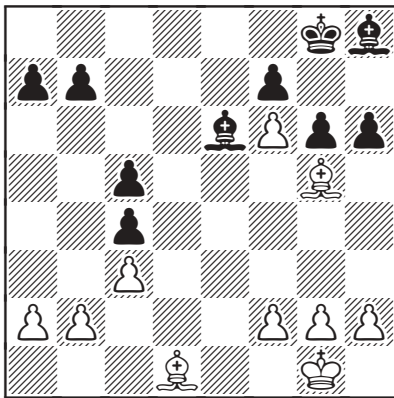
9 0-0 e6?! 10 dxe6! Bxe6 11 Nc4 d5 12 e5 dxc4
13 Qxd8 Rxd8 14 exf6 Bh8?!

The better 14...Bf8 would have robbed *Virginia Chess* of an interesting article.

15 Ne5!

When I played this move I already knew what my plan was going to be. Inspired by several Capablanca games, I intended to exchange off as many pieces as possible. The point would be to be able to say...

15...Nd7 16 Nxd7 Rxd7 17 Rfd1 Rad8 18 Rxd7
Rxd7 19 Rd1 Rxd1+ 20 Bxd1 h6



21 f4!!

READERS' GAMES & ANALYSIS

CHRIS SNELL - CHARLES WILLIS
US CHESS CENTER, WASHINGTON DC 2001

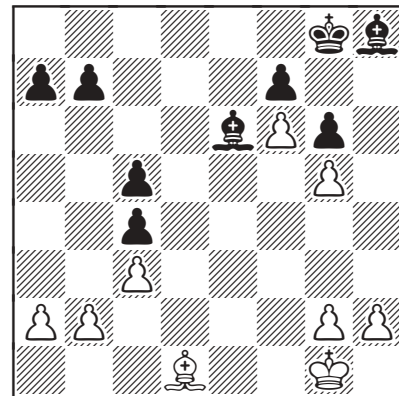
SICILIAN

1 e4 c5 2 f4 Nc6 3 Nf3 d6 4
Bb5 Nf6 5 Bxc6+ bxc6 6 d3
Qb6 7 Nbd2 Ng4 8 Nc4 Qc7
9 f5 d5 10 Ne3 h5 11 exd5
Bb7 12 dxc6 Bxc6 13 Nc4 f6 14 Qe2
Rd8 15 Bd2 Qb7 16 Ba5 Rd5 17 0-0-0
Rxf5 18 Nd6+ Kd7 19 Nxb7 Bxb7 20 h3
Nh6 21 Rhe1 e5 22 d4 Kc8 23 dxc5 Bxc5
24 Qc4 e4 25 Nd4 Re5 26 Nb5 Rf8 27 Nd6+
Kb8 28 Nxb7 Kxb7 29 Qb5+ Ka8 30 Qc6+
Kb8 31 Rd7 1-0



...the *Curse of the Mummy Begins!!* Okay, okay, I know; since Black's pawn majority on the queen's wing is crippled (his would-be passed pawn is doubled) but White's majority on the king's wing is not doubled, then Bxh6 should also win. But the more pieces Black can keep on, the more counterplay he can generate. The way I played, active material is reduced to a minimum.

21...hgx5 22 fxg5



In entering into such an endgame, White had to calculate the consequences of the counter sac at f6 very accurately. Some of these analytical strings ran ten moves deep or more. My analysis indicated that if I could keep Black's king out of e5 the game would be mine. Even the counter sac at f6 would not save Black from the lethal outside passed pawn that would be created by the steady advance of the g- and h- pawns.

22...Kf8 23 Bf3 Ke8!?

A pawn offer; if accepted, Black gains a tempo to eventually reach e5. While he would still be in a bad way due to the weaknesses of his queenside pawns, still, he could then sac his Mummy for *two* pawns, thus destroying White's pawn-majority, eg 24 Bxb7 Kd7 25 Kf2 Kd6 26 Ke3 Ke5 27 Bf3 Bxf6 28 gxf6 Kxf6 29 Ke4 g5 30 h3 Ke7± Since I envisioned that the kingside majority would win the game for me, I politely said:

24 Kf2!

No thanks. White sticks to his original vision.



24...b6 25 Ke3 Kd7 26 Kf4 Kd6 27 g4 b5

27...Bc8 would have been more sturdy; 27...Bd5 produces a very interesting pawn endgame which will be analyzed separately. (see below)

28 h4 a5

My opponent began thumping the chessmen down very loudly and angrily at this point. That a growing crowd of astonished spectators were following this bizarre-looking game did not seem to help his disposition.

29 h5 gxh5 30 gxh5 b4 31 Be4

White calmly waits...

31...a4 32 a3!

...until this precise moment, which maximizes the number of pawns my opponent leaves on the color of his own bishop. Of course White could not permit the standard sacrificial breakthrough trick of ...a4-a3!

32...bxa3

And this pawn swap will maximize the number of his pawns that are *isolated*. Apparently the miserable bishop at h8 longs for company...

33 bxa3

Following my opponent's aggressive series of pawn pushes into White's half of the board, a striking image gradually formed in my mind. If Black were a shepherd, I thought, it seems he has relentlessly driven his sheep into the very heart of the Wolf's lair, and then dispersed them to make for easier pickings.

33...Bd7 34 Bf3

White decides to maneuver against Black's weakened pawns.

34...Bc8 35 Bd1 Bd7 36 Bc2 Bc6 37 Bf5 Bd5 38 Bc8 Bg2 39 Ba6 Bc6

It was impossible for Black to defend so many ugly ducklings.

40 Bxc4 Be8 41 Ba2 Kc7 42 Ke5

One last frustration: Black must give up control of this key square *and* a bushel of material.

42...Kc6 43 Bc4 Kc7 44 Kd5 Bd7 45 Kxc5 Be6 46 Bxe6 fxe6 47 f7 Bg7

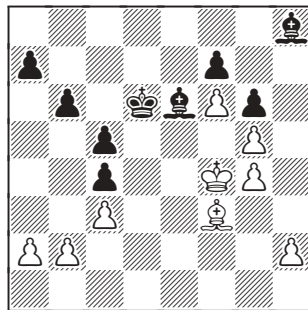
At long last! The moment the audience has been waiting for since move 14 A.D.: the *Mummy* comes back to life!!

48 h6

Unfortunately, he becomes tangled in his White bandages, trips and falls. His reign of terror appears to be brief, then....

48...Bf8+ 49 Kc4 Kd7 50 h7 Bg7 51 h8=Q Bxh8 52 f8=Q 1-0

But now the sequel! Let us return to the situation after White's 27th move...



...and suppose Black trades bishops and clears e6 for his king:

27...Bd5 28 Bxd5 Kxd5 29 h4

Had Black played in a more restrained manner with his queen-wing pawns, and had he exchanged off his "Mummy" bishop at h8 earlier, a pawn ending endgame could arise. Can White still win this endgame? The question is not trivial and there are several plausible ways for White to fritter away his chances.

29...Ke6 30 Ke4 Kd6

Or 30...Bxf6 31 gxf6 Kxf6 32 Kd5 Ke7 (32...g5 is a weaker defense: 33 h5 Kg7 34 Ke5 f6+ 35 Ke6 b5 36

Ke7 a5 37 Ke6 b4 38 Ke7 a4 39 a3 bxa3 40 bxa3 f5 41 gxf5 g4 42 f6+ Kh7 43 f7 etc) and now the simplest is 33 Ke5, eg 33...f6+ 34 Kd5 Kd7 35 h5 gxh5 36 gxh5 Ke7 37 h6 (37 Kxc4 also wins) Kf7 38 h7 Kg7 39 Ke6 Kxh7 40 Kxf6 Kg8 41 Ke7 Kg7 42 Kd6 Kf7 43 Kc6 Ke6 44 Kb7 Kd7 45 Kxa7 Kc7 46 a4 Kc6 47 Ka6 Kc7 48 a5 bxa5 49 Kxa5 Kc6 50 Ka6 Kc7 51 Kb5 Kd6 52 Kxc4 Kc6 53 b3 Kb6 54 Kd5 Kb5 55 Kd6 Kb6 56 c4 Ka6 57 Kxc5

31 h5 gxh5 32 gxh5 Ke6 33 Kf4 Bxf6

There's no value in delaying; if 33...b5 34 a3 a6 35 Ke4 a5 36 Kf4 b4 37 Ke4 bxa3 (or 37...Bxf6 38 gxf6 Kxf6 39 Kf4 Kg7 40 Kg5 Kh7 41 h6 f6+ 42 Kxf6 Kxh6 43 Ke5 Kg5 44 Kd5 Kf4 45 Kxc4 Ke3 46 axb4 cxb4 47 cxb4 axb4 48 Kxb4) 38 bxa3 a4 39 Kf4 Bxf6 40 gxf6 Kxf6 41 Kg4 Kg7 42 Kg5 Kh7 43 h6 f6+ 44 Kxf6 Kxh6 45 Ke5 Kg5 46 Kd5 Kf4 47 Kxc5 Ke5 48 Kxc4 Kd6 49 Kb4 Kc6 50 Kxa4 White wins in all lines.

34 gxf6 Kxf6 35 Kg4

Notice in this "simple" K+P endgame that White has an outside passed pawn but he is overall a pawn down. Black's extra pawn is badly doubled, but can White win? It doesn't look very promising at first blush...

35...Kg7 36 Kg5 Kh7 37 h6 f6+ 38 Kxf6 Kxh6 39 Ke5 Kg5 40 Kd5 Kf4 41 Kxc4 Ke3 42 Kb5 Kd3 43 Ka6 Kc2 44 Kxa7 Kxb2 45 Kxb6

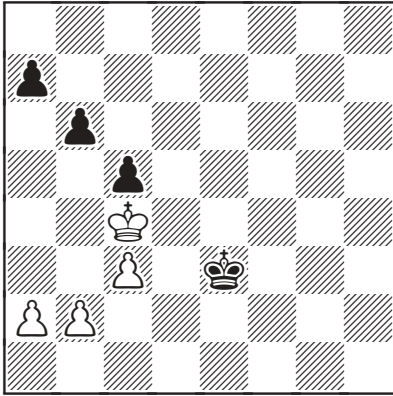
45 c4 is no real improvement over the direct pawn-munch: 45...Kc3 46 Kxb6 Kxc4 47 a4 Kb3 48 a5 c4 49 a6 c3 50 a7 c2 51 a8Q c1Q=

45...c4 46 a4 Kxc3 47 a5 Kb2 48 a6 c3 49 a7 c2 50 a8Q c1Q =

Is that the full picture then? With best play on each side, does the extra *time* required for the superior side to capture the *extra pawn* in a crippled majority slow him down *just enough* to offset the *outside passed pawn*? After all, the "inferior" side is the one with



the extra pawn! An intriguing theoretical question! But the answer appears to be...*no!!* The truth is that *White wins*. The key maneuver occurs back on move 42, when the kings are maneuvering for position around the queenside pawn group after the distant pawns have all been eaten.



Position after 41...Ke3

42 a4!!

I have seen this maneuver variously described as “curling the snake's tail” or more simply “the finger curl.” The first image has the pawn chain playing the role of a snake's tail with the White king as the snake's head. The second casts the pawn chain as a finger curling up to a fist. Either way, the idea is to curl up the pawn chain as close to the White king as possible for protection. Only *afterwards* does White begin to trade pawn-gobbling turns with the kings. This maneuver will generally win by the fat margin of just *one tempo!* Let's see...

42...Kd2 43 b4!

But not 43 a5? which in fact gives Black a choice of drawing lines: 43...bxa5 44 Kxc5 Kc2 45 Kb5 Kxb2 46 c4 Kb3! 47 c5 a4 etc; or 43...Kc2 44 axb6 axb6 45 b4 Kb2 46 b5 Kc2 47 Kd5 Kxc3 48 Kc6 c4 49 Kxb6 Kd2 50 Ka7 c3 51 b6 c2

43...Kc2

Black sticks like glue to the pawn group, the most testing defense which comes very close to drawing. If instead 43...cxb4 44 cxb4 Ke3 (or 44...a6 45 b5 a5 [45...axb5+ 46 axb5 Kc2 47 Kd5 Kc3 48 Kc6 Kb4 49 Kxb6 wins] 46 Kd5 Kc3 47 Kc6 Kb4 48 Kxb6 Kxa4 49 Ka6 Kb4 50 b6 a4 51 b7 a3 52 b8Q+) 45 Kb5 Kd4 46 Ka6 Kc4 47 b5 Kb4 48 Kxa7 Kxa4 49 Kxb6

44 bxc5 bxc5 45 a5 a6

45...Kb2 leads to much the same thing: 46 a6 Kc2 47 Kxc5 Kxc3 48 Kc6 Kc4 49 Kb7 Kc5 50 Kxa7 Kc6 51 Kb8 wins by a single tempo! With one more turn Black could have locked in White's king by ...Kc7 with an easy draw.

46 Kxc5 Kxc3 47 Kb6 Kc4 48 Kxa6 Kc5 49 Kb7

and again White has the one tempo he needs. Whew!

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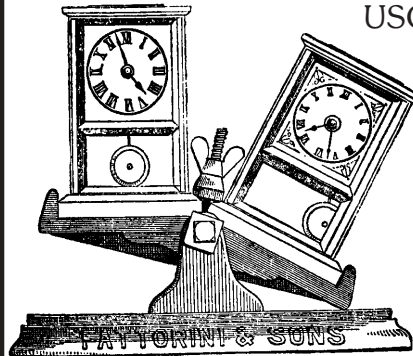
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Kaïssa Chess Club Blindfold Championship

NM Landis Atkinson is KCC 2001 Blindfold Champion. On Saturday, August 4, 2001, the Kaïssa Chess Club held their first annual Blindfold Chess Championship at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. The tournament was a three-round swiss with a single open section. The time control was game / 75 minutes. The tournament was conducted with these special rules:

- ▲ Both players faced the same direction, back to the board
- ▲ Each player kept score
- ▲ Players could opt to view an empty chessboard during play
- ▲ A full-time referee was assigned to each game to ensure the legality of all moves, to rule on possible forfeits (forfeit loss being the penalty upon a player's fourth illegal move), to execute moves on the board, and to start/stop clocks and rule on time claims.

Although the imposing challenge of blindfold play discouraged many from participating, eight courageous players threw their hats into the ring. Some of the games were of surprisingly good quality and a number of players acquitted themselves very well. As predicted by his top rating, NM Landis Atkinson emerged as the champion with a better tiebreak score after drawing his 3rd round game with Brian Sumner, who finished in second place.

Special thanks are due the referees, without whom the tournament could not have been played. In alphabetical order, those referees were: Angelo Crisci, Peter Hopkins & Richard Runke. Walter Kemp & Hamilton Robinson also assisted.

For more information on Kaïssa Chess Club events, contact the club president Angelo Crisci at (804) 560-5476 or angelocrisci@cs.com; or vice-president Brian Sumner at (804) 304-6369 or bsumner@planet2000.com

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Claude Bloodgood

1924-2001

Claude Bloodgood died August 4, 2001 at the prison medical unit of the Powhatan Correctional Center. Thus ended one of Virginia's most colorful and notorious chess 'careers.' An active organizer and tournament player in the late 1950s though the 1960s, Bloodgood was repeatedly in and out of prison for burglary, forgery and finally, in 1970, murder. From prison he remained active in correspondence chess and also founded the VAPEN Chess Club.

It was through VAPEN that a peculiar anomaly in the USCF rating system became manifest. The rating formula presumes mobility among active players. The flaw in this assumption may produce regional distortion (ie, the "players from Outer Slovakia are all 100 points stronger than their rating" phenomenon) but it's hard to tell how much of this is genuine and how much is just anecdotes and legend. In any case, there is normally sufficient 'cross-pollination' between different centers of chess activity to mitigate real problems. However, what happens if you have a *truly* isolated population—a closed subset of players who contest hundreds or even thousands of rated games among themselves, but few or none against the world at large? In that case, instead of adjusting their ratings to fit into the overall distribution, the isolated system players becomes a little world unto themselves with their own distribution, all the way from duffer to 'grandmaster.' Bloodgood's real world chess strength was about 1900 rating level, but he was incontestably the strongest player in the VAPEN universe. To the Elo formula that made him indistinguishable from Fischer, Spassky or other players who practically never lost.

So it happened that prisoner Bloodgood's games versus fellow inmates (many of whom learned to play from Bloodgood himself) elevated his rating to the highest echelon, even qualifying him for direct invitation to the US Championship.

Bloodgood never denied the obvious: that his astronomical rating was a statistical fluke and reflected nothing as regards actual chess skill. At the same time, he understood that the public at large had no comprehension of ratings, titles, norms and all the other arcane standards and measures that the chess community holds dear. The bottom line was: one way



or another, he *did* possess a championship class rating. He coyly encouraged reports that the state penitentiary was housing “one of America’s greatest chess players.” As a case in point, one particularly silly romanticization of Bloodgood’s life from a 1999 edition of *Guardian* newspaper called him “an undisputed chess genius” and waxed how, “even these days ... his USCF points rating of 2,639 [*sic*] makes him a grandmaster.”

These promotional efforts continued even to the end of his life. An obituary in the internet eZine *The Week in Chess* was filled with errors and misinformation such as a claim that during the period 1957-61 “Claude won over half of all the USCF rated tournaments in the state of Virginia.” In fact, the USCF rating system was in its infancy at that time; there may not have *been* more than a handful of “USCF rated tournaments.” At any rate, a review of our archive of *Virginia Chess News Roundup* and other contemporary newsletters fails to validate the purported triumphs (including a couple Virginia Opens and several Norfolk Opens) listed by obituary writer Don Wedding. Bloodgood was at best a middling player who, for instance, scored 5° -5° to finish 8th (out of 12) at the 1958 Peninsula Chess Club Championship; 5-15 to finish 5th (out of 6) at the 1958 Newport News Invitational; 4-4, 7th (out of 15) in the 1958 Tidewater Championship, etc. In the 1958 Virginia Open (one of the events listed by Wedding as a Bloodgood win) a crosstable shows him in fact finishing 11th out of 21. At the 1958 Virginia Closed he came 16th out of 19 players in the “Championship”(= today’s “Open”) section. He did a bit better at the 1958 Norfolk Open (another alleged triumph according to Wedding) with 4° -1° , but still only 4th place behind Charles Rider (6-0) and Andy Schoene & George Massinger (each 5-1). As a tournament director Bloodgood organized lots of little club events, quads and matches, many of which he himself won. These may indeed have accounted for

“over half of all the USCF rated tournaments in the state of Virginia.” But searching the archives, I could not find any indication that he ever captured an important statewide or regional event; indeed nothing suggests he was ever even in contention for one. An early rating system “Virginia’s Top Twenty” list from this period does not include his name.

Still, by 1973 he was, technically, Virginia’s “top-rated chess player.” Somehow Bloodgood parlayed this into various privileges, including special furloughs to tournaments *outside* the prison—amazing, considering he was a convicted murderer fresh off death row. (A 1972 court decision threw out Virginia’s capital punishment statute and all condemned prisoners, including Bloodgood, had their sentences commuted to life in prison.) In 1974 Bloodgood, along with another inmate, duly exploited one of these furlough opportunities to escape. (Wedding is endearingly trusting of Bloodgood’s own account of this event, which included his claim that a rogue guard with personal finance troubles “forced” him to escape and rob a gambling den.)

Following recapture, Bloodgood continued to play chess behind bars for a quarter century. In his lifetime he contested thousands of postal games and wrote a handful of monographs, most notably *The Tactical Grob*. Sometime in the 90s his health deteriorated with the onset of asthma, bronchitis and emphysema. However, he fought on for several years before finally succumbing to lung cancer on August 4 of this year.

The **Virginia Chess Federation** (VCF) is a non-profit organization for the use of its members. Dues for regular adult membership are \$10/yr. Junior memberships are \$5/yr. **President:** Mark Johnson, PO Box 241, Barboursville VA 22923, rmj142@yahoo.com **Vice President:** Mike Atkins, PO Box 6139, Alexandria VA 22306, matkins@wizard.net **Treasurer:** F Woodrow Harris, 1105 West End Dr, Emporia VA 23847, fwh@3rddoor.com **Secretary:** Helen Hinshaw, 3430 Musket Dr, Midlothian VA 23113, ahinshaw@erols.com **Scholastics Chairman:** Mike Cornell, 12010 Grantwood Drive, Fredericksburg VA 22407, kencorn@erols.com **Internet Coordinator:** Roger Mahach, 7901 Ludlow Ln, Dunn Loring VA 22027, rmahach@vachess.org **VCF Inc. Directors:** Helen Hinshaw (Chairman); Roger Mahach; Mark Johnson; Mike Atkins; Mickey Owens.



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Rusty Potter (left, advancing 1 d4 versus Gary DeFotis) Wins State Championship for 3rd Time

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

The bimonthly publication of the
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