

# VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

The bimonthly publication of the  
Virginia Chess Federation

2004 - #4



*photo by Clark Clark*

## Daniel Miller Repeats as State Champion

Nick Halgren wins Amateur;  
Mike Atkins Reelected VCF President

# VIRGINIA CHESS

## Newsletter

**2004 - Issue #4**

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# 2004 Virginia Closed

## Danny Miller Successfully Defends State Championship

**D**ANIEL MILLER AND MACON SHIBUT scored 5-1 to tie for 1<sup>st</sup> place at the Virginia State Championship, played over Labor Day weekend in Springfield. Miller was awarded the championship on tiebreak, thus retaining the title he won outright last year in Richmond. He is the first champion to successfully defend his title since Geoff McKenna did so in 1996!

Other prizewinners in the Open section included Rusty Potter, Choidog Ganbold, Dov Gorman & Larry Larkins (equal 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> place; Larkins also was top Expert); Rodney Flores (top Class A); Ettie Nikolova (top Woman); and Lolita Harris (Upset prize, defeating an opponent who outrated her by 696 points).

Nick Halgren stormed through the Amateur section, posting a 6-0 score. Other Amateur prizewinners included Ryan Thunder Rust (2<sup>nd</sup> place and also top Junior); Ernie Schlich, Aryan Khojandi, Elan Rodan & Tim Chen (= 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> places; Chen also took top C); Darren Banh (D); Tom McGrath (U1200); and Valentina Bgasheva (top Unrated).

At the VCF's annual Business Meeting, held Saturday morning prior to the first round, Mike Atkins was reelected President. Ernie Schlich was reelected to the VCF Board of Directors while Marshall Denny succeeded Mark Johnson on the Board. Among new business considered and passed this year was a motion granting Life Member status to all living persons who have won the state championship three or more times. Miller's win elevated him into this circle where he joined Shibut, Potter, McKenna and Ed Kitces.

Mike Atkins directed the tournament. This year's event was held at the Springfield Holiday Inn Express. It was the third VCF tournament held there this year. With a great \$65/

*photo by Clark Clark**Daniel Miller*

night room rate, well-lit playing area and proximity to Interstate 95, Springfield Mall and tons of local eateries, this is a great site!

The co-winners have been battling for bragging rights in Virginia for several years. Between the two of them, Miller and Shibut have won five of the last six state championships. Indeed, this was the third time in that span that they tied for first, with Miller having now gotten the tiebreak edge twice.

This year they met over the board in the 4<sup>th</sup> round. Truth be told, it was the least consequential of their head-to-head games to date, ending in a draw just after the opening. That opened the way for Potter to take the lead for himself with the only perfect 4-0 by defeating Andrew Samuelson.



### Rusty Potter - Andrew Samuelson Sicilian

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 Nf3 cxd4 4 Nxd4 g6 5 Nc3 Bg7 6 e4 Nc6 7 Be3 Ng4 8 Qxg4 Nxd4 9 Qd1 e5 10 Qd2 O-O 11 Bd3 d6 12 O-O Be6 13 Rad1 a6 14 b3 Qa5 15 Ne2 Qc5 16 Nxd4 exd4 17 Bh6 Bxh6 18 Qxh6 b5 19 Rc1 Qa3 20 f4 f5 21 cxb5 Rac8 22 Rxc8 Rxc8 23 exf5 Bxf5 24 Bxf5 1-0

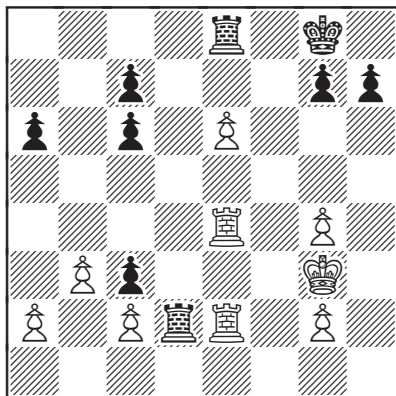
5<sup>th</sup> round pairings saw Miller as White against Potter on board 1 and Shibut as Black versus Larkins, who also had 3½ points, on board 2. Miller nursed a minimal advantage to victory in a rook ending. Shibut accepted a gambit pawn and then weathered Larkins' attack.

### Daniel Miller – Rusty Potter Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Bxc6 dxc6 5 O-O f6 6 d4 Bg4 7 dxe5 Qxd1 8 Rxd1 fxe5 9 Rd3 Bd6 10 Nbd2 Nf6 11 Nc4 O-O 12 Nfxe5 Be2 13 Re3 Bxc4 14 Nxc4 Bc5 15 Re1 Ng4 16 Be3 Bxe3 17 Nxe3 Nxf2 18 Nc4 Rae8 19 e5 Ng4 20 h3 b5 21 hxg4 bxc4 22 Re4 Rb8 23 Rb1 Rfe8 24 Kf2 Rb5 25 e6 Ra5 26 Ra1 Rb5 27 Rb1 c3 28 b3 Rd5 29 Rbe1 Rf8+ 30 Kg3 Rd2 31 R1e2 Re8

(diagram)

32 Kf2 Rd6 33 e7 Kf7 34 a4 Rd7 35 Rf4+ Kg8 (if 35...Kg6 36 Re6+ Kg5 37 Kg3 g6 38 Re5+ Kh6 39 Rf7 Δ 40 g5+ h5 41 Rxh7#) 36 Rc4 Rd2 37 Rxd2 cxd2 38 Ke2 Rxe7+ 39 Kxd2 Re6 40 Kc3 a5 41 Rc5 Re3+ 42 Kb2 Rg3 43 g5 Rxc2



44 Rxa5 Kf7 45 Rc5 Ke7 46 a5 Kd6 47 Rf5! (Even better than 47 a6 Kxc5 48 a7 Rxc5 49 a8Q—as played White gets to eliminate an additional Black pawn for free.) 47...c5 48 a6 Kc6 49 Rxc5+! Kxc5 (49...Kb6 50 a7 Kxa7 51 Rxc7+ Kb6 52 Rxc7 is equally hopeless)



**50 a7 Rxc5 51 a8=Q h6 52 b4+ Kxb4 53 Qb7+ Kc5 54 Qxc7+** and White won shortly by advancing his queenside pawn. **1-0** The exact moves were not recorded (sudden death time control) but this illustrative variation gives the general idea of what happened, concluding at what was in fact the actual final position: **54...Kb4 55 Qe7+ Kb5 56 Kb3 Rg3+ 57 c3 Rg5 58 c4+ Kb6 (58...Ka5 59 Qa7#) 59 Kb4 Kc6 60 Qe6+ Kb7 61 c5 Rg4+ 62 Kb5 Rg5 63 Qe7+ Kb8 64 Kb6 Rg6+ 65 c6.**

### Larry Larkins, - Macon Shibut Nimzowitsch

*Notes by Macon Shibut*

**1 e4 Nc6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 e5 Nd7 5 e6 fxe6 6 Nf3 g6 7 Bf4 a6 8 h4 Bg7 9 h5 Nf8 10 Bd3 Nxd4 11 Ne5** (if **11 Nxd4** I intended **11...e5**) **11...Nc6 12 Qe2** (**12 Nxc6**) **12...Nxe5 13 Bxe5 Bxe5 14 Qxe5 Rg8 15 hxg6 hxg6 16 f4 Qd6 17 Qg5 Bd7 18 0-0-0 0-0-0 19 Rh6 Be8 20 Rdh1 Nd7 21 g4?** (**21 g3**) **21...e5** (The tide appears to be turning Black's way and now White commits a definite error.) **22 Rh7? Nf6!** (Perhaps it was a simple oversight on White's part, thinking this obvious move impossible because of **23 fxe5** but forgetting that then his own queen would be attacked when Black captured the rook.) **23 fxe5** (In any case there's not much to do now since if, say, **23 R7h6** simply **23...exf4**) **23...Nxb7 24 Qf4 Qe6 25 Rxb7 Bd7 26 Qd4 Kb8 27 Nxd5? Bc6 28 c4 Bxd5 29 cxd5 Qxd5 30 Qxd5 Rxd5 0-1**



*Daniel Miller & Macon Shibut (facing camera, left & right respectively, during the critical penultimate round. Photo by Carl Clark.*



**T**HESE TWO WINS made Miller and Shibut the co-leaders going into the last round. On board 1 Miller would face newcomer Ganbold, who hails from Mongolia and lives presently in Arlington. The board 2 pairing was Shibut-Potter. Both games proceeded tensely. Ganbold appeared to have something going for a while, but Miller ignited tactics that led to even chances after the dust settled. (Hopefully we can get the game score for the next issue of *Virginia Chess*.) Shibut and Potter played a Ruy Lopez where the central tension dissipated into mass exchanges. The players agreed to a draw at the end of the first time control; a handshake followed on board 1 just a few minutes later.

### Macon Shibut - Rusty Potter Ruy Lopez

*Notes by Macon Shibut*

**1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 Qe2 b5 6 Bb3 Be7 7 c3 d6 8 a4 Rb8 9 0-0 0-0 10 axb5 axb5 11 Rd1** (11 d4) **11...b4 12 Ba4 bxc3 13 bxc3** (I tend to be a Development guy, and maybe a little too casual about pawn weaknesses, so my first reflex was 13 dxc3!? to immediately clear the d-file and the diagonal for my queen's bishop. However, upon reflection that looked a bit impatient, especially since there will be the whole Ruy Lopez tradition still to play for after the text move.) **13...Rb6 14 d3 Bd7 15 Bc2** (Of course one must look at 15 Be3, and after the game Potter tried to convince me that I ought to have played just that. However, I was afraid of the pin on the a-file after 15...Ra6. My instincts were correct too, even if my tactics were off the mark. After 16 d4 I reckoned on 16...Qa8?, overlooking how in that case 17 Bxc6! could be played. But Dov Gorman suggested 16...Nb8!, and indeed, after 17 dxe5 Bxa4 18 Rxa4 (18 exf6 Bxd1) 18...Rxa4 19 exf6 Bxf6 White would have the lost exchange.) **15...Qb8 16 Nbd2 d5 17 d4!**? (Hoping that the unreeling of my pieces in the center will lead to tactical chances on the kingside. Since Potter was able to demonstrate a steady defense, however, 17 Nf1 looks better with hindsight. At any rate it would have been a whole different game.) **17...exd4 18 Nxd4 Nxd4 19**



**cx**d4 **dx**e4 **20** **N**x**e**4 **R**e8 **21** **Q**f3 **Q**c8 **22** **h**3 **B**f5 **23** **N**x**f**6+ **R**x**f**6  
**24** **B**x**f**5 **R**x**f**5 **25** **Q**c6 **B**d6 **26** **B**a3 **R**f6 **27** **B**x**d**6 **R**x**d**6 **28** **Q**c5  
**Q**d7 **29** **R**a**c**1 **c**6 **30** **R**a1 **R**g6 After a brief run of slightly hurried  
 moves, the time control had been reached. I took a look at Danny  
 Miller's game on the next table: "Well," I thought t myself, "at least  
 he's not simply winning." Returning to my own board, I considered  
 the situation for a while and decided that there were no realistic  
 winning chances. So I played... **31** **R**d3 ...and offered a draw. If  
 Black replies, for instance, 31... **Q**d5 then 32 **Q**x**d**5 **cx**d5 33 **R**a5  
**R**d8 34 **R**c3. Thanks to the back rank ideas, White can achieve the  
 formal advantage of active rooks versus passive ones, ie, 34...**R**g**d**6  
 35 **R**cc5. But then just 25...g6 Δ **K**-g7-f6 and there's just not much  
 to be done. ½-½



*photo by Carl Clark*

*Rusty Potter*



Draws in both of the critical games threw the outcome of the tournament to the fates of tiebreak. The first tiebreak, Cumulative, came up dead even. Miller won out by half a point on the secondary formula, Modified Median. That seemed fitting inasmuch as he had won the 'round robin' among recent champions (Miller-Shibut-Potter). He also beat another former champion in round three: Rodney Flores won this event in 1998.

### Rodney Flores - Daniel Miller

#### Petroff

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nxe5 d6 4 Nf3 Nxe4 5 Qe2 Qe7 6 d3 Nf6  
7 Bg5 Qxe2+ 8 Bxe2 Be7 9 Nc3 c6 10 O-O-O Na6 11 Rhe1 Nc7  
12 Ne4 Nxe4 13 dxe4 Bxg5+ 14 Nxc5 h6 15 Nf3 Ke7 16 Nd4  
Be6 17 f4 f6 18 Nxe6 Nxe6 19 g3 Rad8 20 Bg4 Nc5 21 c4 a5  
22 Re2 h5 23 Bf5 Kf7 24 h4 g6 25 Bh3 Rhe8 26 Bg2 f5 27 Rd4  
Rd7 28 Kd2 fxe4 29 Bxe4 Rde7 30 Bf3 Rxe2+ 31 Bxe2 Ne4+  
32 Kc2 Nxc3 33 Bd3 Ne2 34 Rxd6 Nxf4 35 Rd7+ Re7 36 Rxe7+  
Kxe7 37 Be4 Kf6 38 Kb3 Ne6 39 Bf3 Nd4+ 0-1

### John Bninski - Timothy Rogalski

#### English

1 c4 e5 2 Nc3 Nf6 3 Nf3 Nc6 4 d4 e4 5 Nd2 Bb4 6 a3 Bxc3  
7 bxc3 O-O 8 e3 Re8 9 Be2 d6 10 O-O Bf5 11 Re1 b6 12 Nf1  
Qd7 13 Ng3 Bg6 14 f3 Na5 15 c5 dxc5 16 dxc5 Qc6 17 cxb6  
Rad8 18 Bd2 cxb6 19 f4 h6 20 Ra2 Rd6 21 Qb1 Red8 22 Nf1  
Nc4 23 Qc1 b5 24 Rd1 Qd7 25 h3 Nd5 26 Kf2 Ndb6 27 Ke1  
f5 28 Qc2 Bf7 29 Bc1 Rxd1+ 30 Bxd1 Na4 31 Ra1 Nc5 32 Be2  
Nd3+ 33 Bxd3 Qxd3 34 Qxd3 Rxd3 35 a4 bxa4 36 Rxa4 Rxc3  
37 Bd2 Nxd2 38 Kxd2 Bb3 39 Ra3 Rd3+ 40 Ke1 Bc4 41 Rxa7  
Rb3 42 Ng3 Rb2 43 Nxf5 Rxg2 44 Ra8+ Kh7 45 Rd8 h5 46 Rd2  
Rxd2 47 Kxd2 Be6 48 Ng3 h4 49 Nxe4 Kg6 50 Ng5 Bc4 51 e4  
Bf1 52 Ke3 Bg2 53 Kf2 Bh1 54 Nf3 Kh5 55 f5 Bxf3 56 Kxf3 Kg5  
57 Ke3 g6 58 fxg6 Kxg6 59 Kf4 Kf6 60 Kg4 Ke5 61 Kxh4 Kxe4  
62 Kg5 Ke5 63 h4 Ke6 64 Kg6 Ke7 65 Kg7 1-0



### Daniel Clancy – Steve Greanias Grünfeld

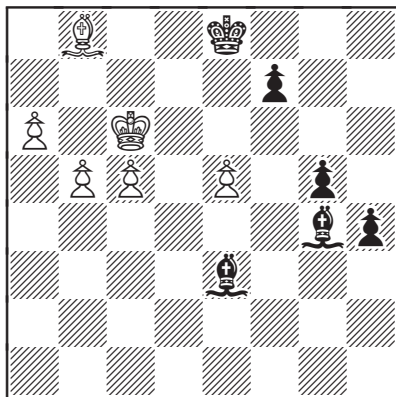
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 d5 4 cxd5 Nxd5 5 e4 Nxc3 6 bxc3 Bg7  
7 Nf3 O-O 8 Be2 c5 9 O-O Nc6 10 Be3 Bg4 11 d5 Na5 12 Bxc5  
Bxc3 13 Rc1 Bg7 14 Qd2 b6 15 Bd4 Bxf3 16 Bxf3 e5 17 Be3  
Qd7 18 Be2 Qa4 19 Bd3 Rac8 20 Qe2 f5 21 exf5 Rxc1 22 Rxc1  
gxf5 23 Rc7 e4 24 Bb5 Qb4 25 Bd7 f4 26 Be6+ Kh8 27 Bc1 Qb1  
28 Qc2 Qxc2 29 Rxc2 Be5 30 Re2 e3 31 fxe3 fxe3 32 Bxe3 Nc4  
33 Bf2 Bd6 34 g3?? Kg7 35 Bd4+ Kg6 36 Re4 h5 37 Bd7 Rf1+  
38 Kg2 Rd1 39 Bc3 b5 40 Bxb5 Na3 41 Be8+ Kf5 42 Rh4 1-0

### James Guill – Dov Gorman Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 a6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 e5 6 Nf3 Bb4 7 Qd3  
d5 8 Bd2 d4 9 Nxe5 Qe7 10 Qxd4 Bc5 11 Qa4+ b5 12 Bxb5+  
axb5 13 Qxa8 Qxe5 14 O-O-O O-O 15 Nd5 Nxd5 16 Qxd5 Qc7  
17 Ba5 Qa7 18 Bc3 Bxf2 19 Rd3 Be3+ 20 Kd1 Bh6 21 Bb4 Qf2  
22 h3 Qxg2 23 e5 Qxd5 24 Rxd5 Bb7 25 Rxb5 Rd8+ 26 Bd6  
Bxh1 27 Rxb8 Rxb8 28 Bxb8 Bd5 29 b3 g5 30 a4 Kf8 31 Ke2 Bg2  
32 a5 Ke8 33 b4 Bxh3 34 c4  
Bf8 35 b5 Bg4+ 36 Ke3 Bc5+  
37 Ke4 h5 38 a6 Bc8 39 Kd5  
Be3 40 Kc6 Bg4 41 c5 h4

(diagram)

42 Bd6 (Out in the hallway there was varying speculation about whether White might be able to win this. Ideas included the straightforward 42 b6; 42 Kd6, to clear the way for using all three of the passed pawns; and the subtle 42 e6 jettisoning an unimportant(?) pawn so that his bishop controls h2, slowing down Black's pawn. Endgame fans can send their analysis to the Editor!)  
42...Kd8 43 Bc7+ Kc8 44 b6 Bf3+ 45 Kd6 h3 46 e6 Bf4+ 47 Ke7  
fxe6 48 Bxf4 gxf4 49 Kd6 h2 50 c6 Bxc6 0-1





Daniel Miller - Mark Warriner

French

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Bd3 c5 6 c3 Nc6 7 Ne2 Qb6 8 Nf3 Be7 9 O-O f6 10 Nf4 Nd8 11 Re1 f5 12 Bxf5 Nf8 13 Bd3 Bd7 14 Nh5 Nf7 15 Nxc7+ Kd8 16 Nh5 c4 17 Bf1 Kc7 18 b3 cxb3 19 Qxb3 Ng6 20 Ba3 Qxb3 21 axb3 Ng5 22 Bd6+ Kb6 23 Nxc5 Bxc5 24 g3 Be7 25 c4 a6 26 Bh3 Rhf8 27 cxd5 Rac8 28 dxe6 Be8 29 Rac1 Rxc1 30 Rxc1 Bc6 31 Bg2 1-0

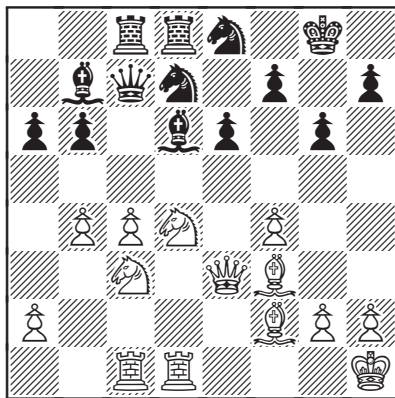
Timothy Rogalski - Edward Lu

Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 a6 3 c4 Nc6 4 d4 cxd4 5 Nxd4 Nf6 6 Nc3 e6 7 Nc2 Qc7 8 Be2 Be7 9 Be3 b6 10 O-O d6 11 Rc1 Bb7 12 b3 O-O 13 Qd2 Rfd8 14 f4 Nb8 15 Bf3 Nbd7 16 Bf2 Rac8 17 Nd4 Nc5 18 Qe3 Qd7 19 Rfd1 Ne8 20 Kh1 g6 21 e5 Qc7 22 b4 Nd7 23 exd6 Bxd6

(diagram)

24 Nxe6 fxe6 25 Qxe6+ Kg7 26 Bxb7 Qxb7 27 Rxd6 Nxd6 28 Bd4+ Kf8 29 Qxd6+ Kf7 30 f5 Nf8 31 Qf6+ 1-0



## NORTHERN VIRGINIA OPEN

November 6-7, 2004

Holiday Inn Express

6401 Brandon Ave, Springfield Va, 22150

Conveniently located at the junction of I-95, I-495 & I-395

6-SS, G/100. \$\$2,400 (top 3 G, rest b/80): \$575-350-250, top X, A, B, C, D each \$180, U1200 \$150, Unrated \$100, Upset \$75. EF \$45 if rec'd by 8/27, \$55 at site. Reg 8:45-9:45, rds10-2-6, 10-2-6. Two irrevocable ½-pt byes allowed, must commit before 1st round. Hotel 703-644-5555, reserve before 10/22, mention tournament and ask for \$79 rate. W, NS, FIDE Enter: Michael Atkins, PO Box 6139, Alexandria VA 22306. Make checks to "Virginia Chess". Info [matkins2@cox.net](mailto:matkins2@cox.net) or [www.vachess.org/nova.htm](http://www.vachess.org/nova.htm) 20 Point Grand Prix



**Robert Fischer - Macon Shibut  
Nimzowitsch**

1 e4 Nc6 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 Nf6 4 Nc3 Bg4 5 d5 Nb8 6 h3 Bxf3  
7 Qxf3 Nbd7 8 Be2 g6 9 O-O Bg7 10 Qg3 O-O 11 f4 c6 12 Bf3  
Nb6 13 Rd1 cxd5 14 exd5 Rc8 15 Be3? Nc4 16 Bd4 Nxb2 17 Re1  
(White had intended 17 Rdb1 but now noticed that 17...Ne4! Would  
be the reply) 17...Rc4 18 Nb5 Qa5 19 Bxb2 Qxb5 20 Rab1 Rb4  
21 c4 Qxc4 22 Bxf6 Bxf6 23 Rxb4 Qxb4 24 f5 Bh4 0-1

**Daniel Miller - Matthew Grinberg  
Ruy Lopez**

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Bxc6 dxc6 5 O-O Bg4 6 h3 h5 7 d3  
Qf6 8 Nbd2 Ne7 9 Re1 Ng6 10 d4 Bd6 11 hxg4 hxg4 12 Nh2  
Rxh2 13 Qxg4 Rh7 14 Nf3 Nf4 15 Nxe5 Rh4 16 Qd7+ Kf8  
17 Bxf4 Rd8 18 Bg5 Bxe5 19 Qxd8+ 1-0



*Photo by Carl Clark*



Andrew Samuelson - John Bninski

Sicilian

1 e4 e6 2 d3 d5 3 Qe2 Nf6 4 Nf3 c5 5 g3 b6 6 e5 Nfd7 7 Bg2 Nc6 8 O-O Qc7 9 Re1 Ba6 10 c4 Be7 11 cxd5 exd5 12 e6 fxe6 13 Qxe6 O-O-O 14 Bf4 Qb7 15 Nc3 Rhe8 16 Nxd5 Bf6 17 Qxe8 Rxe8 18 Rxe8+ Nd8 19 Ng5 Bxg5 20 Bxg5 Nf6 21 Bh3+ Qd7 22 Bxd7+ Kxd7 23 Nxf6+ gxf6 24 Rxd8+ 1-0

Matthew Grinberg - Dov Gorman

Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 g6 6 Be3 Bg7 7 f3 O-O 8 Qd2 Nc6 9 Bc4 Bd7 10 O-O-O Qc7 11 Bb3 Na5 12 Bh6 Nc4 13 Bxc4 Qxc4 14 Bxg7 Kxg7 15 h4 b5 16 h5 b4 17 Nd5 Nxd5 18 exd5 Qxa2 19 Nb3 Bf5 20 hxg6 Bxg6 21 Rxh7+ Bxh7 22 Rh1 Rh8 23 Qh6+ Kg8 24 Rh3 Qa6 25 Rg3+ Bg6 26 Rxg6+ fxg6 27 Qxg6+ Kf8 28 Nd4 Qf1+ 29 Kd2 Qf2+ 30 Kd3 Qf1+ 31 Kd2 Qf2+ 32 Kd3 Qxd4+ 33 Kxd4 a5 34 b3 Rg8 35 Qf5+ Ke8 36 g4 Rf8 37 Qg6+ Kd8 38 Ke3 Re8 39 Qe4 Rc8 40 f4 Rh8 41 g5 Rh2 42 Kf3 Rxc2 43 Qd4 Rh3+ 44 Kg4 Rxb3 45 Qb6+ Ke8 46 Qb8+ Kd7 47 Qb5+ Kc8 48 Qa6+ Kd7 49 Qb5+ Kc8 50 Qa6+ Kd7 ½-½

Tim Hamilton - Larry Larkins

Dunst

1 Nc3 d5 2 e4 d4 3 Nce2 Bg4 4 f3 Bc8 5 d3 e5 6 c3 c5 7 f4 Nc6 8 Nf3 dxc3 9 bxc3 Bd6 10 g3 Nf6 11 Bg2 O-O 12 O-O b6 13 h3 Ba6 14 c4 Nh5 15 Rb1 Qc7 16 f5 Rad8 17 g4 Nf4 18 Bxf4 exf4 19 Nc3 Nb4 20 a3 Be5 21 Nd5 Nxd5 22 exd5 Rfe8 23 Nxe5 Qxe5 24 Be4 Bxc4 25 dxc4 Qxe4 26 Re1 Qxc4 27 Qf3 Kf8 28 f6 gxf6 29 Rxe8+ Rxe8 30 Rd1 Re3 31 Qf2 Rg3+ 32 Kh2 Rxh3+ 33 Kxh3 Qb3+ 34 Kh4 Qxd1 35 Qxf4 Qe1+ 36 Kh3 Qc3+ 37 Kg2 Qe5 38 Qf3 Ke7 39 Qd3 Kd6 40 Qxh7 Qxd5+ 41 Kg3 c4 42 Qh8 Kd7 43 Kf2 Qd4+ 44 Kf3 Ke7 45 Qc8 b5 46 Qc7+ Kf8 47 Qb8+ Kg7 48 Qxb5 Qd3+ 49 Kf4 Qd2+ 0-1



### Ettie Nikolova - Timothy Rogalski

#### Two Knights

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 exd4 4 Bc4 Nf6 5 O-O Nxe4 6 Re1 d5  
 7 Bxd5 Qxd5 8 Nc3 Qa5 9 Nxe4 Be6 10 Neg5 O-O-O 11 Nxe6  
 fxe6 12 Rxe6 Bd6 13 Bg5 Rde8 14 Qe1 Qxe1+ 15 Raxe1 Kd7  
 16 Rxe8 Rxe8 17 Rxe8 Kxe8 18 Kf1 h6 19 Bd2 g5 20 Ke2 Kf7  
 21 Kd3 Ke6 22 Ke4 Bc5 23 a3 d3 24 cxd3 Bxf2 25 g4 Ne7 26 Bc3  
 Nd5 27 Nd4+ Bxd4 28 Bxd4 a6 29 Bg7 Nf6+ 30 Bxf6 Kxf6  
 31 Kd5 1-0

### Andrew Samuelson - William Van Lear

#### Caro-Kann

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 f3 dxe4 4 fxe4 e5 5 Nf3 exd4 6 Bc4 Be7 7 O-O  
 Be6 8 Bxe6 fxe6 9 Nxd4 Nf6 10 Nxe6 Qb6+ 11 Kh1 Nbd7  
 12 Nxg7+ Kd8 13 e5 Ne4 14 e6 Bd6 15 Nc3 Nf2+ 16 Rxf2 Qxf2  
 17 Bg5+ Kc7 18 Ne4 1-0

As mentioned above, Nick Halgren dominated the Amateur section and won with a perfect 6-0 score. He has annotated two of his games from the event, including his last round game vs Bill Carroll to wrap up the Amateur Championship.

### Nick Halgren – Tim Chen

#### Sicilian

*Notes by Nick Halgren*

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 g6 6 f4 (Knowing that I would get crushed if I played the mainline Dragon, because I don't know any theory, I decided to play a different variation.)  
 6...Bg4 7 Be2 Bxe2 8 Qxe2 (Now White has an extra tempo with the queen, with later proves very useful.) 8...a6 (Was this necessary? Qb5+ can be met by ...Qd7, and either Nb5 can be met by ...a6 winning a tempo. So White had no threats on b5.) 9 Be3 Bg7 10 O-O-O (10 e5 dxe5 11 fxe5 Nd5 looks pretty even, so I saved e5 as a threat.) 10...Qc7? 11 g4! (The free queen move comes into play.) 11...Nc6 12 g5 Nh5 (or 12...Nxd4 13 Bxd4 Nh5 14 Nd5) 13 Nd5 Qa5 (None of the other queen moves are better: 13...Qd8 14



Nxc6 bxc6 15 Bb6 Qb8 16 Nc7+; or 13...Qd7 14 Nb6; or 13...Qb8 14 Nb6; or 13...Qc8 14 Nb6) **14 Nb3 Qxa2 15 e5!** (This stops the threatened perpetual check, cuts off the Dragon bishop completely, and threatens Nc3 winning the queen.) **15...Qa4 16 Nb6** (I'd rather win a rook with this move than play Nc7+ and win just an exchange.) **16...Qb4 17 Nxa8 O-O 18 Nb6 Nxf4 19 Qc4** (Now White is up a rook for only a few pawns and the game reduces into an easy ending.) **19...Qxc4 20 Nxc4 Nxe5 21 Nxe5 Bxe5 22 h4 f6 23 Bd4 Ne2+ 24 Kb1 Nxd4 25 Nxd4 fxg5 26 hxg5 Bxd4 27 Rxd4 Rf5 28 Rdh4 Rf7 29 Kc1 e5 30 Rd1 Rd7 31 Rd5 b5 32 Rh3 Kg7 33 Rhd3 h6 34 gxh6+ Kxh6 35 Rxd6 Rf7 36 Rg3 e4 37 Rdxg6+ Kh5 38 Rg8 Kh4 39 Rg1 e3 40 Rh8+ 1-0**

*20th annual*

## Emporia Open October 9-10, 2004

Greensville Ruritan Club  
Ruritan Rd, Emporia, Va  
(off of Hwy 58 west of Emporia)

5-SS, 40/90, SD/60. \$\$G 500, \$400 class prizes b/5: \$250-150-100, X (if no X wins top 3), A, B, C each \$75; D, E each \$50. EF \$35 rec'd by 10/6, \$45 site, free to unrated (no separate prize). Scholastic players may pay \$10 EF & play for book prizes only. Reg 9-9:45am, rds 10-3-8, 9-2. **Significant refreshments provided w/EF, no additional charge.** VCF membership req'd, \$10/yr & avail at site. W. Info: Virginia Chess Federation, Woodrow Harris, 1105 West End Dr, Emporia, VA 23847 or email harrisfw@adelphia.net.



*10 Grand Prix points*

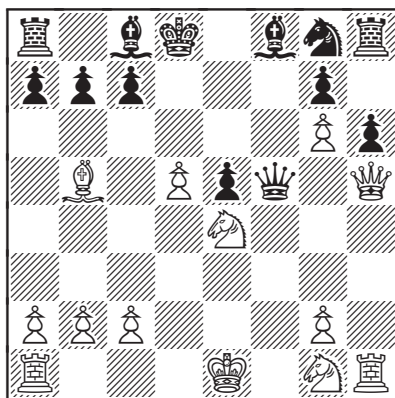


Nick Halgren - William Caroll

Nimzowitsch

*Notes by Nick Halgren*

**1 e4 Nc6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 dxe4 4 d5 Ne5 5 Bf4 Ng6 6 Bg3 f5 7 h4 f4 8 h5!? fxg3 9 hxg6 gxf2+ 10 Kxf2** (By giving up castling, White plants a pawn wedge on g6 that cannot be easily removed. It attacks the weak f7 square and makes Black's king just as insecure as White's.) **10...e5 11 Qh5!** (I spent 30 minutes on this move. I also had to evaluate 11 Rxh7, trying to win a rook or threaten to queen on two different squares. But after Black trades rooks, he could easily chase the White king and go for mate, or simply regain the pawn right away with ...Qh4+, etc.) **11...Qf6+ 12 Ke1 h6 13 Nxe4 Qf5** (13...Qf4 14 Rh4 (or 14 Bd3 Nf6 15 Nxf6+ Qxf6) 14...Qe3+ 15 Ne2 Bd6 16 Rd1 Ne7 17 Rd3 Qb6 look equal or even slightly better for Black. If so, maybe giving up castling wasn't so good after all; but it had surprise value too.) **14 Bb5+ Kd8?** (14...c6 was correct, eg, 15 Qxf5 Bxf5 16 dxc6 O-O-O 17 Ng5 Bxg6 18 Ne6 Bb4+ 19 c3 Rd6 20 Nxc7 Bc5 21 cxb7+ Kxb7. After the text, it's practically over!)



**15 Ng5!** (Not a hard move to find, but it's pretty.) **15...Qxc2 16 Nf7+ Ke7 17 Qxe5+ 1-0**

*The editor is hopeful that others who played in the state championship will submit annotated games for the next issue of VIRGINIA CHESS.*



# VCF President's Message

by Mike Atkins

**S**OME TIME AGO I wrote about how to enter a chess tournament, how to submit entries and make sure the TD knows what you want with your entry. Having witnessed the way some entries for the Virginia Open have come in, I feel a need again to revisit this topic.

Far too many entries arrive consisting of nothing more than a check. This risks leaving the no documentation of the entry once the check is deposited. Most such checks say simply "Virginia Open," or have merely a USCF ID marked in the memo field. This is not sufficient information for a good entry! The very purpose of the check may be unclear, and even the best case leaves me assuming something of what you want. Recently I was taking both Virginia Open and Arlington Chess Club Championship entries in the same time period. Usually I could tell what tournament someone wanted, even if it wasn't indicated on a check, but my detective work is not always foolproof. Without *any* information on the check—and there are indeed entries that arrive this way—I might even mistake you for a buyer in one of my eBay auctions. Now you'll know what happened if you receive a pound of coins in the mail in return for your tournament entry!

I also get far too entries that do not specify a section. In that case I always assume you want the lowest section you can play in, but this might be an unintended surprise when the pairings go up on Friday night. Be specific with what you want when entering a tournament!

Here is what should accompany your payment for *every* tournament you enter: Name; Full Address; USCF ID; USCF Rating; USCF Expiration Date; Local (VCF) Expiration Date; what Section you are entering; any requested ½-point byes; any membership renewal information; entry fee details. Do not assume that the director knows you, or knows anything at all!

If you wish, you can cut out the generic entry form that appears in every *Chess Life*. In any case, communication is the key. It makes the chess world go round and round.

See you at the next tournament!



## Charlottesville Open

by Ernie Schlich

The 2004 Charlottesville Open attracted a nice turnout, although not as big as last year. The 64 paid entries included GM Alexander Wojtkiewicz and IMs Olodapo Adu and Ron Burnett. Adu won clear 1st with a perfect 5-0. A large group finished at 4-1, splitting the 2nd, 3rd, Expert and B prizes: Burnett, Ray Kaufman, Alexr Barnett, Adithya Balasubramanian, Harry Cohen, Patrick Ray, & Malcolm Scott. Cohen won the A prize also. Craig Saperstein, G Randall Lewis & Ryan Fitzgerald shared the B prize. Top D was won by Richard Martin. Darren Banh won U1200. Sagar Chivate was tops among no less than 8 unrated entrants.

Sunday morning started with a disappointment. Wojtkiewicz arrived an hour and 10 minutes after the round started and so forfeited to Alex Barnett. Dapo played Barnett in the last round and won a squeaker. In a hard fought game with clear 2<sup>nd</sup> at stake, which was the last in the tournament to end, Burnett and Kaufman had to settle for a draw.

Many thanks go to Thad Suits, who sent replacement software, and Greg Briscoe, father of Andrew Briscoe, who lent me a laptop to run the event after mine crashed on Wednesday. The hotel staff were wonderful and have provided a very nice site.

## OSCAR SHAPIRO DC OPEN

October 9-10, 2004

Gonzaga College

High School gymnasium

17 I St NW, Washington, DC

\$\$G 3000 in 4 Sections. *Open*: 4-SS, 40/2, SD/1 \$\$500-300-200, U2200 150100, top Upset 100. DC Championship title and trophy to top DC resident. EF \$48 by 10/2. Reg 1011, rds 11:306, 115. *Amateur (open to U2200)*: 5-SS, 40/100, SD/1. \$\$ 300200100, U2000/Unr 15075, U1800 10050. DC Amateur Championship title and trophy to top DC resident. EF \$43 by 10/2. Reg 89, rds 9:30-2:30-8, 11-4:30. *Reserve (open to U1600)*: 5-SS, 40/100, SD/1. \$\$225-150-100, U1400 100 50. EF \$38 by 10/2. Reg 89, rds 9:30-2:30-8, 11-4:30. *Booster (open to U1200)*: 4-SS, G/45. \$50+trophy for 1<sup>st</sup>, trophies and medallions thru 15 places. EF \$13 by 10/2. Reg 12-1, rds 1:30-3:30-5:30-7:30. *All*: EF \$7 more after 10/2. Make checks payable to "DCCL", mail to US Chess Center, 1501 M St, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Please do not send entries to site or call there for info. Info: 202-857-4922. NS.

*20 Grand Prix points*



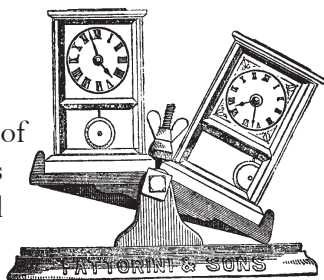
# The Rules of the Game

*by Ernie Schlich*

The basic rules of chess are simple and most players know them. When you get into the more complex areas that deal with tournaments and disputes, many players are less familiar with the details. Chess is an individual sport and the players should spend the time needed to know the rules. A couple of incidents arose at the 2004 Virginia Open that serve to illustrate some of the areas where players might benefit from a review. The following material quotes the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the USCF rule book, which went into effect on Jan. 1, 2004. If you don't own a copy, I suggest you purchase one and read it.

## Incident 1 – Delay Rules and Setting the Clock.

Late into the first time control in one of the final rounds, a high-rated player was surprised to realize that the “5 second delay” feature was turned on for the digital clock being used in his game. The tournament time control was 40/2, SD/1. When the game started, each player's clock was set for 2 hours. Because 5 minutes had not been deducted from the 1st time control, which is often the case when a time delay is in effect, the player concluded that the clock's delay feature was off.



All players should be aware that using a digital clock with the **delay or Bronstein modes turned on is the standard mode** (rule 5F) for rated play. The owner of a digital clock should explain to his opponent how the clock is set before the game starts. Rule 5Fa states that the TD *may* direct the players to reduce the first time control time in minutes by the delay in seconds. In other words, if a 5 second delay is being used, the players with digital clocks would take 5 minutes off each player's clock for the first time control.



**However, this is not the standard rule!** It is an **option**, which should be announced at each tournament where it is being used. The standard rule is that you should set the delay clock for the full time control, which is exactly what happened in the incident cited. NTD Mike Atkins had even posted signs directing that players should not reduce the time. Players will benefit from listening to the pre-event announcements and reading the posted signs.

### **Incident 2 – Claiming a Win On Time.**

A time forfeit dispute occurred during the first non-sudden death control in round 4. Both players were in time pressure. Black had stopped keeping score and was only making check marks. White had not written two move pairs when Black's flag fell before he made his 40th move. White claimed a win on time. However, as he was not sure how to stop both clocks on the digital clock being used, his flag



*VCF Treasurer Ernie Schlich was among the prizewinners in the Amateur section at this year's State Championship. If you see Ernie, be sure to congratulate him on recently earning National Tournament Director (NTD) status! Photo by Carl Clark.*



also fell. Black disputed the win on time based on the fact that White did not have a reasonably complete score sheet as required by rule 13Ca for non-sudden death controls. Rule 13C7 defines a “reasonably complete score sheet” as one having not more than 3 missing or incomplete move pairs. The last recorded move on White’s score sheet showed a move “37 Nh5 Qh”. As the queen could move to several squares on the h file, this was considered to be an incomplete move. This plus the 2 missing move pairs made only 3 mistakes, so at first blush it appeared White’s claim would prevail. However, as was his right, Black requested that the game be replayed from the scoresheet move by move to check for additional errors. This was done and a few slips, such as writing “Nf3” when Nf6 was played, were found. However, 13C7 states that minor ambiguities involving no more than one symbol are of no consequence so long as the actual move can be reasonably determined. Again, White’s claim looked good, so Black now tried his final resource: White’s flag had fallen too! How does this effect the situation?

Rule 13C5 states that the claiming player should stop both clocks and claim the win. In almost all circumstances under the rules, a player’s flag must be up to make a claim (13C13). If your flag has fallen, you have a problem! However, the rulebook also recognizes that sometimes players forget or do not know how to stop an unfamiliar clock. Rule 13C6 states that if the claimant’s flag has fallen, the claim shall be denied unless the flag fall was observed by a TD or independent witness. Fortunately for White, a knowledgeable chess player not playing in the tournament saw the incident and testified that White’s flag was up when the claim was made. So, finally, White indeed won on time. Keep in mind that it is very important for each player to keep an accurate score and know how to pause the clock being used.

One other aspect of the time forfeit rules also bears mentioning. When I arrived at the table, I told the players I had to see if White’s scoresheet met the rules for claiming a win on time, and I observed straightaway that at least two moves were plainly missing. White responded that this was not a problem *and started to write in the missing moves*. I told him that this was not allowed and made sure that he did not add any moves to the sheet.

What should you do if your flag falls in a non-sudden death time control and your opponent, lacking an adequate scoresheet, starts updating missing moves prior to making his claim? **Immediately call your own flag!** (rule 13C2) Do it loudly enough that, hopefully, independent witnesses will notice what is going on if a TD is not present. Rules 13C2, C3, and C4 deal with this situation. All players should be familiar with all the rules regarding time forfeits in both sudden death and non-sudden death time controls.



*The previous issue of Virginia Chess reported on GM Walter Browne's June 17 simultaneous exhibition at the Arlington Chess Club. Here Mark Smiley provides notes to one of the three draws (plus one defeat) yielded by the six-time US Champion.*

Notes by Mark Smiley

but had not really analyzed it!) 14 **exf6**  
**Nxf6 15 g4 Rae8** (Now it was clear  
that my king could come under fire in  
the center, so I decided to castle. But  
first I wanted to kick the knight.) 16 **g5**  
**Nh5** (On 16...Ne4 I intended 17 Nxe4  
dxe4) 17 **O-O Rhf8 18 Rxf8** (I chose  
this mainly because it pulls his rook  
off the e-file, making the e5 break take  
longer to achieve.) 18...**Rxf8 19 Kg2**  
(This is what I'd foreseen, thinking that  
Black's knight was blocked in. But now  
I expected 19...e5, when I would move  
my knights and then if Black trades  
on d4, the square f4 would remain  
covered by my bishop, for example, 19...  
e5 20 Nf3 exd4 21 exd4 cxd4 22 Nxd4  
Bxd4 23 cxd4 Nf4+ 24 Bxf4) 19...**cxd4!**  
(Playing this immediately opens the  
way for his knight to reenter the game.)  
20 **exd4** (20 cxd4? Rc8 Δ Rc2) **Nf4+**  
21 **Kg3 h6** (another surprise) 22 **h4**  
**hgx5 23 hxg5 Ne2+ 24 Kg2 Ke6**  
25 **Nf3** (At last my knight comes out.  
But I was rather concerned about the  
g5 pawn. Still, it seemed safe enough.)



**25...Kd6** (I did not understand this move at the time. Perhaps he was preparing ...e5) **26 Be3** (I breathed a sigh of relief that my queenside pieces were finally coming out, even though I expected to lose a tempo.) **26...Nf4+** (I think this is forced, or Black's knight will be trapped.) **27 Bxf4+ Rxf4** **28 Kg3 Re4!** (I had expected 28...Rf5. It was at this point, as the grandmaster came back around the circle of tables,

that I used my first "pass" to further check my analysis.) **29 Rh1** (I originally intended 29 Re1 but then I saw that 29...Rxe1 30 Nxe1 e5 31 dxe5+ Bxe5+ gives Black the advantage, despite the isolated pawn. So I considered 29 Kf2 but feared in that case my g-pawn would be weak and vulnerable to attack by Black's king.) **29...Ke6 30 Rh7 ½-½** At this point, I said: "Draw offer," and GM Browne accepted.

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*Ruixin Yang was this year's VCF representative to the Denker Tournament of High School Champions, held annually in conjunction with the US Open. Ruixin provided notes one of his games from each of these events.*

## Jason Spector – Ruixin Yang

### 2004 US Denker Tournament

#### Ruy Lopez

*Notes by Ruixin Yang*

(I had the honor of rooming with the IM Dmitry Schneider's family for this event and the US Open. It just so happens that Dmitry played my opponent in round two of the US Open, which gave me a huge advantage in the ability to prepare. I woke up early that morning to study the Exchanged Ruy, as recently I've been getting poor scores with my preferred defense 5...Bg4. I decided to give 5...Qd6 a shot, with Dmitry's game vs Spector as a guide, and using Fritz to check his analysis. After two hours of work, I was ready.) **1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Bxc6 dxc6 5 0-0 Qd6** (Prior to this I've played 5...Bg4 6 h3 h5 7 d3 Qf6 but I found here that after the simple continuation 8 Be3 Bxf3 9 Qxf3 Qxf3

10 gxf3 Bd6 11 Nd2 Ne7 12 Nc4 Ng6 13 Rfd1 f6 14 Kf1 the position is equal but very hard to play for a win as Black — a win which I needed.) **6 Na3** (This move brought a slight smile to my face, as from the way my opponent played it I was sure his game against Dmitry was haunting him. There too he went 6 Na3, with the continuation 6...Be6 7 Qe2 f6 8 Rd1 Bg4 9 c3 Qe6 10 Nc2 Bd6 11 d4 Ne7 12 h3 Bh5 13 dxe5 fxe5 14 g4 Bg6 15.Ne3 0-0-0 16.Nf5 h5 17.Bg5 hxg4 18.hxg4 Nxf5 19 exf5 Bxf5 20 Bxd8 Qh6 winning.) **6...Be6 7 Qe2 f6 8 Rd1 Bg4 9 c3 Qe6 10 d4?!** (Varying from the earlier game in a way that surprised me as I hadn't seen this move in the books or in games in Chessbase. I had anticipated he would deviate a



move later with 10 Nc2 Bd6 11 Ne3!? as then after 11...Bxf3 12 Qxf3 Ne7 13 d4 White has gotten rid of Black's bishop pair. I pondered the playability of 10 d4: if I take on a3, then White would have awful pawns. On the other hand, he would have the b-file and a4-a5 push. Finally, I reasoned that if no one played it, there must be something wrong, and the refutation could only be 10...Bxa3. I checked the variations one more time and captured...) **10...Bxa3 11 bxa3 Ne7 12 Qe3 0-0** (I was fairly happy with my position here. A main reason White goes into the Exchanged Ruy is to come out with a better endgame, but here Black ought to stand well if an endgame should ever come.) **13 h3 Bxf3 14 Qxf3 Ng6 15 g4?** (White was afraid of ...f5 but it isn't a real threat and this move weakens too many squares. 15 Rb1 b6 16 Rb3 f5 17 d5 isn't too bad for White.) **15...Rad8 16 Be3 Qc4 17**

**Rdc1 Qd3** (Now tricks with Nh4 and Nf4 are in the air with White's bishop pinned.) **18 Rab1 b6 19 Rb2** (19 Rb3 Nh4 20 Qh1 (or 20 Qg3 g5 and Black just takes the e-pawn.) 20...Qe2 etc) **19...Nh4 20.Qh1** (A move White really doesn't want to play, but if 20 Qg3 g5 etc) **20...Rfe8** (20...exd4 21 cxd4 Rxd4! 22 Bxd4 (22 Rb3 Qd1+) 22...Nf3+ 23 Kg2 Nxd4 is probably easier.) **21 dxe5?** (The final error; 21 Rd2 Qc4 22 Rcc2 is the only try, but Black is obviously better here with White's queen forever out of play.) **21...fxe5 22 Rd2 Qxd2 23 Bxd2 Rxd2** (White has a queen but it's not going anywhere anytime soon.) **24 Kh2 Rf8 25 Rd1 Rfxf2+ 26 Kg3 g5 27 Rxd2 Rxd2 28 Qf1 Kg7 29 Qg1 Rxa2 30 Qf1 Rg2+ 31 Qxg2 Nxg2 32 Kxg2 Kf6 33 Kf3 Ke6 34 Ke3 Kd6 35 Kd3 Kc5 36 c4 b5 37 Kc3 a5 38 Kb3 Kd4** and White resigned. I owe this one to good preparation.) **0-1**

## Nikolay Andrianov - Ruixin Yang

### 2004 US Open

### Tarrasch

*Notes by Ruixin Yang*

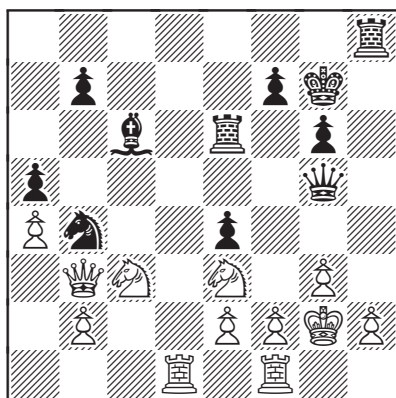
(After starting out 2-0 in the US Open, I was on board four against IM Andrianov. This was the first game I played up on stage, which was a very nerve-racking experience for me. I hate attention while playing anyway, and having my position on a demo board for an audience bothered me greatly. Later, when the games were covered on ICC, I grew even more tense. Fortunately, I put up a decent show nevertheless.) **1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 c4 e6 4 g3 c5**

**5 cxd5 exd5 6 Bg2 Nc6 7 0-0 Be7 8 Nc3 0-0 9 Bg5 cxd4 10 Nxd4 h6 11 Be3 Re8 12 Qa4** (Nikolai blitzed these moves out without any respect. He used a total of three minutes up till Qa4, but only because he wasn't at his seat while playing, blitzing out a move and then leaving the board. Although the moves were all theory, his behavior still irritated me. 12 Qa4 surprised me as it is rather uncommon for White to go into these complications that eventually



lead to equality. 12 Rc1 Bg4 13 Nxc6 bxc6 14 Na4 Qd7 15 Qc2 is usual, with a slight advantage for White because of a better pawn structure.) **12...Bd7 13 Rad1** (13 Nxd5? Nxd5 14 Bxd5 Na5 15 Qd1 Bh3 16 Bg2 Bxg2 17 Kxg2 Nc4 18 Bc1 Bf6 19.e3 Qd5+ 20.Kg1 Rad8 is fine for Black.) **13...Nb4 14 Qb3 a5 15 a4 Bc6?!** (Having not expected 12 Qa4, I did not prepare this line for a long time and my memory of the theory slipped here. Correct was 15...Rc8 16 Ndb5 Be6 17 Bd4 Bc5 18 Bxc5 Rxc5 19 Nd4 Bg4=) **16 Nf5 Bf8 17 Bd4 g6 18 Ne3 Ne4!** (I spent a long time here calculating and did not see any good discoveries for his bishop once the d-file opens.) **19 Bxe4** (White spent his first think on this move—55 minutes.) **19...dxe4 20 Ng4 Re6 21 Be3 Qe7 22 Bxh6** (Of course not 22 Nxh6+?? Bxh6 23.Bxh6 g5 wins) **22...Bxh6 23 Nxh6+ Kg7 24 Ng4 Qg5 25 Ne3 Rh8** (I'm down a pawn but my gut feeling is I have sufficient compensation for it. My pieces are active, tactics are

flowing.) **26 Kg2??** (This very natural move turns out to be a mistake. White wants to be able to maneuver rooks over in case something happens on the h-file, but my opponent missed Black's next move.)



**26...Nd3!! 27 exd3** (White cannot allow Nf4+) **27...exd3+ 28 Ned5** (if 28 Ncd5 Rxe3 29 Qc3+ f6 30 fxe3 Qxd5+ with mate) **28...Qg4?** (In time pressure—three minutes left—Black missed a winning shot: 28...Qf5! 29 h4 (or 29 Qc4 Qh3+ 30 Kf3 Rh5+; or 29 f4 Qh3+ 30 Kf3 Qh5+ 31 Kg2 Qxh2+ 32 Kf3 Re2 with forced mate; or 29 Rfe1 Qh3+ 30 Kf3 Qh5+ 31 Kg2 Qxh2+ 32 Kf3 Qh5+ 33 Kg2 Qh3+ 34 Kf3 Qf5+ 35 Kg2 Rd6 +) 29...Rxf4!! 30 Rh1 (if 30 Kg1 Rh5 +; or if 30 gxh4 Qg4+ 31 Kh2 Qxh4+ 32 Kg2 Qg4+ 33 Kh2 g5 with mate!) 30...Rb4 31 Qa3 Re2! 32 Rhf1 Bxd5+ winning) **29.h4** (29 Rh1 Qh3+ 30 Kg1 Rhe8 31 Ne4 Rxe4 32 Qc3+ R4e5 33 Nf4 Qf5 Black is winning because of the a funny trapped rook on h1!) **29...Rxf4 30 Rh1** (30 Kg1? loses to 30...Qh3 31 gxh4

## Kingstowne Quads

The 14<sup>th</sup> monthly running of the Kingstown Quads occurred Saturday, Sept 11 in Alexandria. There were twelve players this time—a perfect 3 quads! Section winners were Tim Rogalski & Mike Atkins tied at 2 ½ - ½ ); Michael Callinan (3-0); and Jimmy Wang & John Ohman (tied 2-1 apiece).



Qg4+ 32 Kh2 Qxh4+ 33 Kg2 Qg4+ 34 Kh2 g5) **30...Rf6??** (One minute left, and Black was unable to find the win and so went for the clear draw. Unfortunately I missed 30...Rxh1! 31 Rxh1 Qb4! 32 Qd1 (or 32 Qxb4 axb4 33 f3 bxc3 34 Nxc3 Re3 -+) 32...Qd4 winning back the piece and the game.) **31.Rxh4** (31 f4 Rxh1 32 Rxh1 Rxf4 33 Qd1 Rxa4 (not 33...d2? 34 Qxg4 Rxg4 35 Rd1 Rd4 36 Kf2) 34 Kh2 (34 Nxa4? Bxd5+ 35 Kh2 Bf3! winning) 34...Bxd5 35 Qxg4 Rxg4 36 Nxd5 Rd4 ∞) **31...Qf3+ 32 Kh3 Bd7+ 33 Kh2 Qxf2+ 34 Kh1 Qf3+** (34...Qxg3?? 35 Rh7+! White wins) **35 Kh2 Qf2+** shame 1/2-1/2

## Scholar's Mate

by Emily Rhodes

Who are the kids to watch out for? This column is dedicated to the kids you better not underestimate—those named to the Top 100 of their respective age groups by the USCF in the August rating supplement.

Virginia is fortunate to be home to twenty-five youngsters between the ages of 6 and 18 to make the cut! You'll find their names, ages, and ratings listed below. Profiles of a number of these students will appear here and in future issues.



Age 7 & Under	No. 10	Jeevan Karamsetty	1296
Age 8	No. 10	Krishna Bindumadhavan	1410
Age 9	No. 14	Andrew Freix	1563
	No. 69	Jason Deng	1255
Age 10	No. 8	Quentin Moore	1697
	No. 35	Yang Dai	1479
	No. 48	Darwin Li	1430
Age 11	No. 33	Craig Saperstein	1574
Age 12	No. 39	Aryan Khojandi	1660
	No. 97	Carson Wang	1464
Age 13	No. 36	Edward Lu	1766
Age 14	No. 81	Tyler Cook	1682
	No. 82	Malcolm Scott	1661
Age 15	No. 29	Jack Barrow	1876
	No. 35	Daniel Clancy	1842
	No. 37	Ettie Nikolova	1835
Age 17	No. 8	Ruixin Yang	2184
	No. 22	Alexander Battey	2032
	No. 42	Robert Brady	1940
	No. 58	Andrew Briscoe	1874
	No. 74	John Brinski	1813
Age 18	No. 10	Daniel Pomerleano	2173
	No. 81	Andrew Miller	1818
	No. 82	Shekar Sidarth	1817
	No. 89	Justin Burgess	1801



The first of these that I've selected to profile is **Krishna Bindumadhavan**. Krishna is rated tenth in the nation for 8 year olds. He is a rising 4th grader at Springfield Park Elementary in Henrico County. Krishna began playing chess in kindergarten and has steadily improved with instruction and play at his school under Coach Dave DeClark, and with diligent hard work, and practice, practice, practice. Unbelievably, he says he practices 4-5 hours almost every day. This is welcome news to his latest chess coach, IM Larry Kaufman.

Krishna prefers playing in adult tournaments. When asked about his preferred opening, Krishna replied, "If I told you, wouldn't the other players prepare for that?" But if you're creating a Scouting Report, it appears he prefers Sicilian as Black if his opponent plays 1 e4, and King's Indian if his opponent plays 1 d4.

Though only turning 9 in September, Krishna has already played in 47 rated events, finishing 19th in the K-3 division at Nationals in Pittsburgh in 2004. We wish him continued success in the future!

#### UPCOMING SCHOLASTIC EVENTS:

Sept. 11:	Mustang VI, Albemarle County Monticello High School, 1400 Independence Way
Sept. 18:	G. H. Moody Scholastic V, Henrico County 7800 Woodman Road, Richmond, VA 23228
Oct. 2:	C. D. Hylton Scholastic IX, Prince William County 14051 Spriggs Road, Woodbridge, VA 22193
Oct. 9:	Prince George Scholastic VIII, Prince George County 11455 Prince George Drive, Disputanta, VA 23842
TBA:	Luray Scholastic VIII, Page County 555 First Street, Luray, VA 22835
TBA:	Culpeper Scholastic XI Culpeper County Culpeper Middle School, Culpeper, VA
Oct. 23:	Chancellor Fall Scholastic, Spotsylvania County 6300 Harrison Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22407
Oct. 23:	2004 Harvest Swiss Fallon Park Elementary, Roanoke, VA
Nov. 13:	Swift Creek K-8 VI, Chesterfield County 3700 Old Hundred Road South, Midlothian, VA 23112
Nov. 13:	Star City Challenge Fallon Park Elementary, Roanoke, VA
Nov. 20:	Staunton Scholastic] Shelburne Middle School, Staunton, VA
Dec. 4:	Lakeside K-5 V, Henrico County 6700 Cedarcroft Street, Richmond, VA 23228
Dec. 4:	Riverbend Scholastic
TBA:	Hopewell XXI, Hopewell 400 South Mesa Drive, Hopewell, VA 23860

**Virginia Chess**

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**In This Issue:**

**Tournaments**

2004 Virginia Closed .....	1
Charlottesville Open .....	16
Kingstowne Quads.....	23

**Features**

VCF President's Message (Atkins).....	15
The Rules of the Game (Schlich) .....	17
Readers' Games & Analysis (Smiley, Yang)...	20
Scholar's Mate (Rhodes) .....	24

**Odds & Ends**

VCF Info.....	inside front cover
Upcoming Events.....	9, 13, 16, 25

