

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

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Edward Lu
Wins State Championship

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

2007 - Issue #5

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State Championship

EDWARD LU won the title of State Champion at the annual Virginia “Closed” tournament over Labor Day weekend in Richmond. Veteran master Stan Fink tied for 1st place but Lu claimed the championship on tiebreak after one of the more dramatic and unpredictable finishes in the event’s seventy-three year history.

Micheal Neal won his decisive final round clash with co-leader Matthew Freeman to take the Amateur (under 1800) championship. Freeman fell into a mass tie for 2nd with Joe Faries, Jason Kong, Balkrishna Sharma, Jonathan Bode, Michael Donovan & Adam Chrisney.

Although official records on the point are lacking, it seems likely that Lu is the youngest-ever Virginia state champion. The 16-year-old attends Thomas Jefferson High School in Alexandria.

The situation going into Monday morning’s penultimate round had Lu and 4-time champion Danny Miller tied for first with 3½ out of 4, having drawn a short game with one another the evening before. The 5th round’s top board featured Miller facing 3-time champion Macon Shibut in a pairing of the event’s two highest-rated entrants.

Macon Shibut - Daniel Miller Reti/King’s Indian

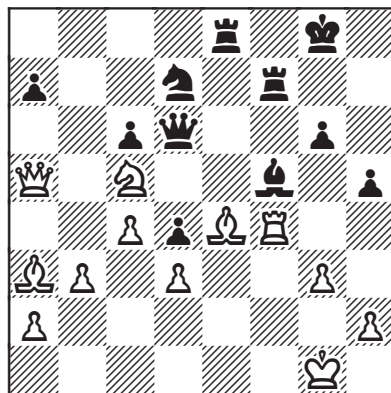
Notes by Macon Shibut

1 Nf3 Nf6 2 g3 g6 3 b3 Bg7 4 Bb2 c5 5 Bg2 Nc6 6 c4 d5 [Now if 7 cxd5 Qxd5 8 0-0 Qh5 the position would resemble a colors-reversed English—compare, eg, 1 c4 c5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nc3 g6 4 g3 Bg7 5 Bg2 Nc6 6 d4 cxd4 7 Nxd4 Nxd4 8 Qxd4 0-0 9 0-0 d6 10 Qh4—except in our game White is relatively worse off because the fianchetto development of the queen’s bishop is not optimal: the pawn on b3 limits my queen’s mobility and in some instances the undefended Bb2 creates tactical opportunities for Black involving ...Ng4! So I tried instead to borrow an idea from a different Black opening...] **7 Ne5 Qd6 8 Nxc6 bxc6 9 Nc3 0-0 10 0-0 Bf5 11 Rc1 d4 12 Na4 e5 13 Ba3** [...specifically, something from Black’s Nimzoindian playbook. Compare, for example, the game of Gligoric - Ivkov, Bled 1961: 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 a3 Bxc3+ 5 bxc3 c5 6 e3 Nc6 7 Bd3 b6 8 Nf3 d6 9 e4 e5 10 d5 Na5 11 Nd2 Ba6 with analogous play against the doubled pawns. The significant difference is that I traded my king’s *knight*, not the king’s bishop, at c6. On the one hand, it’s nice to have withheld the bishop pair, which is routinely cited as his compensation for the doubled pawns. On the other hand... well, I’m left with a bishop, whereas Black usually likes his knights in the Nimzo!]



13...Nd7 14 e4 Be6 15 d3 f5 16 exf5 Bxf5 [16...gxf5 17 Qh5!?] **17 Qd2 Rf7 18 Rcd1** [Defending d3 so my queen might go to a5 intensifying the attack on c5] **18...Bg4** [During post mortem Danny remarked, "Now I was just going to go for the draw," meaning that if I had here played 19 Rde1 he would have returned his bishop to f5 offering a repetition. There's no telling if he would actually have played this way but it's moot inasmuch as I was a half point behind and thus needed to play for a win in any case.] **19 f3 Bf5 20 Qa5 Bf8 21 f4 exf4 22 Rxf4 Re8 23 Rdf1 h5 24 Be4 Bh6 25 Nxc5 Bxf4 26 Rxf4**

The pressure on c5 was all well and good, but White needed to break all the way through—Nxc5—or else my queen, knight and bishop would be just three pieces sitting on the a-file while the kingside goes up in flames. That is the idea and meaning behind the exchange sacrifice. Now, in general terms, White had grounds for optimism since the strategic plan has



26 Rxf4

been consummated for just minimal material. However, such volatile positions are not places where "general terms" mean anything, and one really needs to try to press ahead with concrete calculation. I was lazy, without a clue to what he might actually play next, merely noting that 1) I have a threat, 27 Nb7 followed by Nd6; 2) my knight can also cycle towards d6 if he captures on e4; and 3) if 26...Re5 I have a check on d8. Such misplaced contentment was the psychological precondition for the mistake that follows.

26...Qe5 [A strong move. Still, not as strong as it seemed during play, and I am struck by how different the position appears to me now. Yes, the pin of my knight against my queen is bothersome, but what precisely is Black threatening? White should simply take a7 and see what happens after, say 27...Nf6 28 Qb6] **27 Bxc6? Qe3+ 28 Kg2 Bh3+** [28...Qe2+! was even stronger, the principal variation being 29 Kg1 Qe1+ 30 Rf1 Qxf1+! 31 Kxf1 Bh3+ and mates] **29 Kxh3 Rxf4 30 Bxd7** [30 Bd5+ Kh8 31 Nxd7 was trickier perhaps but still would not save White after, eg, 31...g5] **30...Qf3! 31 Qd2 g5! 32 Qxf4 gxf4 33 Bxe8 Qg4+ 34 Kg2 Qe2+ 35 Kh3** [35 Kg1 f3] **35...Qxe8 36 gxf4 Qg6 0-1**

Lu meanwhile defeated expert Robert Fischer on board 2. That set up a finale in which Miller and Lu, with 4½ points apiece, were still tied for first. Their opponents would be Fink (who had lost to Lu in round 3 but won all his other games) and Adithya Balasubramanian (draw with Shibut in round 3 plus a half-



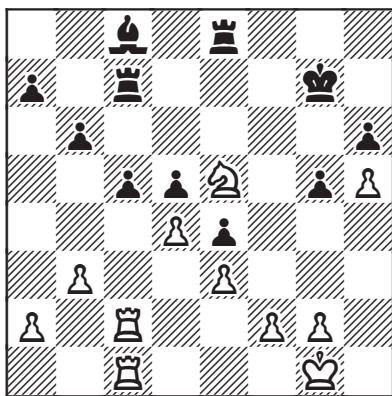
point bye to go with three victories). Tiebreaks were unsettled and would depend ultimately on the results of some other games throughout the section, but they favored Lu somewhat at the outset of the round at least. As it happened, both of the leaders had the White pieces. Naturally they each played with one eye on the other's board, trying to press the advantage of the first move overstepping beyond the margin of a draw.

In fact, Lu soon got a very firm grip on his position versus Balasubramanian. VIRGINIA CHESS is pleased to be able to offer the new champion's own account this critical game.

Edward Lu - Adithya Balasubramanian Dutch

Notes by Edward Lu

1 Nf3 d5 2 d4 c6 3 c4 e6 4 e3 f5 5 Bd3 Nf6 6 0-0 Bd6 7 b3 Qe7 8 Bb2 Ne4 9 Qc1 [I saw an Ivanchuk game recently where he came up with Qc1 in a position similar to this, so I decided to give it a try.] **9...Nd7 10 Ba3 0-0 11 Bxd6 Qxd6 12 Qa3 b6** [12...Qxa3 is probably better, as my knight is not well placed on a3] **13 Qxd6 Nxd6 14 cxd5** [I did not want to allow any Ba6 ideas, so I took the pawn.] **14...exd5 15 Nc3 Bb7 16 Rfd1** [I was a little worried about ...c5 during the game, so I spent a move preventing it.] **16...Rae8 17 Ne2 g6 18 h4 h6** [I don't know if this is a viable option; I was surprised that he played this during

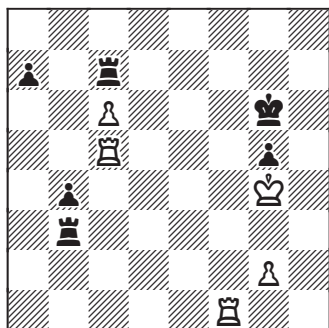


27 ... fxe4

the game because it allows my knight an excellent outpost on e5.] **19 Nf4 Kg7 20 h5 g5 21 Ng6 Rf7 22 Nfe5 Nxe5 23 Nxe5 Rc7 24 Rac1 c5 25 Rc2 Bc8 26 Rdc1 Ne4 27 Bxe4** [I thought for a long time before this, as I had to make sure he couldn't take (or trap) my knight.] **27...fxe4**

28 dxc5! b5 [28...Rxe5 loses, as after 29 cxb6 Rxc2 30 Rxc2 Re8 31 bxa7 Bg4 32 b4 and I'm going to queen my pawns.] **29 f4 exf3** [29...gxf4 was possible, but I guess he didn't want my knight to stay on e5 any longer.] **30 Nxf3 Rxe3 31 Rd2 Bg4 32 Kf2 Re6 33 Rxd5 Bxh5 34 Nd4 Rf6+**

35 Kg3 Be8 36 Re5 Kf7 37 Rce1 Bc6 38 Nf5 b4 39 Rh1 Bd7 40 Nxh6+ Kg6 41 Ng4? [I considered 41 Ng8 Rfc6 but I missed 42 Re7 and Black's king is in a precarious position, eg 42...Bc8 43 Rh6+ Kf5 44 Rhh7 & White wins.] **41...Bxg4 42 Kxg4 Rf4+ 43 Kg3 Rd4 44 Rc1 Rd2 45 c6 Rxa2 46 Rb5 Ra6!** [I somehow missed this move during the game.] **47 Rbc5 Ra3 48 Kg4 Rxb3 49 Rxg5+?** [After the game, Larry Larkins found that 49 Rf1! wins for White:



Larkins suggestion 49 Rf1!

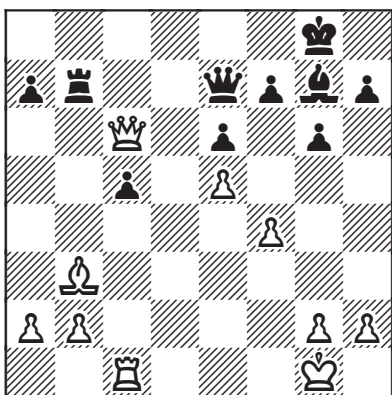
49...Kh7 50 Rh1+ Kg8 51 Rxg5+ Rg7 52 Rxg7+ Kxg7 53 Rc1 and White is going to queen before Black (53...Rc3 54 Rxc3 bxc3 55 c7 c2 56 c8Q) 49...Kf6 [I was frustrated that I couldn't win this position, but I kept trying for another 20 almost. We played until bare kings.] 50 Rb5 Ke6 51 Rc4 Kd6 52 Rxb4 Rxb4 53 Rxb4 Rxc6 54 Ra4 a6 55 Kf5 Kc5 56 g4 Kb5 57 Ra1 a5 58 g5 a4 59 g6 Rc7 60 Rb1+ Ka5 61 Rg1 Rg7 62 Kf6 Rg8 63 Kf7 Ra8 64 g7 a3 65 g8Q Rxg8 66 Rxg8 Kb4 67 Ra8 Kb3 68 Rxa3+ Kxa3 ½-½ The end.

MEANWHILE. WHAT WAS HAPPENING in Miller-Fink next door on board one? Miller also pressed at first but then the most unexpected thing happened: he lost! (Which is not to take anything away from Stan Fink or question his chances going into the game, but we simply have become so accustomed to seeing Danny win in this tournament!)

Daniel Miller - Stan Fink Sicilian

Notes by Macon Shibut

1 e4 c5 2 d4 cxd4 3 c3 Nf6 4 e5 Nd5 5 cxd4 e6 6 Nf3 d6 7 Bc4 Nb6 8 Bb3 dxe5 9 Nxe5 Nc6 10 Nxc6 bxc6 11 0-0 Be7 12 Qf3!? Bb7 [12...0-0 13 Qxc6 Qxd4] 13 Nc3 [Miller's resolve is evident from the fact that he continues to offer the d-pawn (13...Qxd4) for only vague compensation. Fink remains cautious, however.] 13...0-0 14 Rd1 Rc8 15 Bf4 Ba6 16 Be5 Bc4 17 Qg4 [Reckoning that the open a-file would matter more than the weakness of the b-pawns in the event of ...Bxb3] 17...g6 18 Qh3 Bd5 19 Rd3 [Introducing ideas of Qh6 and Rh3 or even Qxh7+! followed by R-h3+-h8mate (which doesn't work for, however, so long as Black has ...Bh4 against the rook check). However, Black's position is compact and he does not face any sort of force majority on the kingside, so he ought to be okay.] 19...Re8 20 Qh6 Bf8 21 Qf4 [Now 21 Qxh7+? fails to 21...Kxh7 22 Rh3+ Bh6] 21...Nd7 22 Rh3 [22 Ne4] 22...Nxe5 23 dxe5 Rc7 24 Ba4 [24 Ne4 Bxe4 would lead to positions similar to what in fact arise a few moves later. Probably Miller probably avoided the opposite color bishops reflexively since Lu's game looked promising around this time.] 24...Bg7 25 Rc1 Qe7 26 Ne4 [Some of Black's recent moves are not so useful for the major pieces + opposite color bishops position whereas White has organized some pressure on c6, so Danny decides now is the time to try this.] 26...Bxe4 27 Qxe4 Rb8 28 Rb3 Rxb3 29 Bxb3 c5 30 f4 Rb7 31 Qc6



31 Qc6

A menacing looking invasion. Meanwhile, it was just at this moment that Lu got hit by the unexpected 46...Ra6! (see above) and suddenly that game looked more tenable for Balasubramanian. Spectators might have been forgiven a sense of *déjà vu*—"once again things are going to work out and Miller will be the champion"—but in fact impression of the diagram position is deceptive. The pressure on Black's game is actually mostly over and it is White, with the more exposed king, who must play carefully now to maintain the balance. At any rate, things only go down hill for him

from roughly this point.] **31...Rc7 32 Qb5 h5 33 Rc2 Qd8!** [Suddenly the simplest of threats, d-file invasion, is awkward to meet.] **34 Rc1?** [He had to try 34 Rf2 although even then 34...c4 Δ Bf8 could cause headaches.] **34...Qd4+ 35 Kh1 Kh7!?** [Black could already capture the pawn, 35...Qxf4 since if 36 Qb8+ Kh7 and White's rook is also *en pris*; or 36 Rf1 Qxe5 defending Black's own rook. But Stan figures the threat is stronger than the execution.] **36 Rf1 c4!** [36...Qxb2 37 Qa5 might allow counterplay.] **37 Bc2 Qd2 38 Bb1 Qe2 39 Rg1 Qe3 40 Rf1 Qe2 41 Rc1 h4!** [Either exposing the White king by ...h3 next or, as played, artificially isolating the f4 pawn.] **42 h3 Bh6 43 Qa5** [White can no longer cover all his weaknesses.] **43...Qxb2 44 Qe1 c3 45 Bc2 Bxf4 46 Qxh4+ Bh6 0-1**



Five former state champions pose with the Wilbur Moorman Cup (left to right): Andrew Samuelson (champion 2007), Rodney Flores (1998), Macon Shibut (1993, 1999, 2002), Ed Kitces (1970, 1983, 1986) and Daniel Miller (2000, 2003, 2004, 2005). Photo by Mike Hoffpauir.



Thus Fink and Lu tied with 5-1 scores. Lu became champion based on superior tiebreak, which was fair if only because he won the actual head-to-head due between them in round 3.

Stan Fink - Edward Lu Slav

Notes by Edward Lu

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 Nc3 a6 [I have taken a liking to this variation lately.] **5 a4 e6 6 Bg5 Be7 7 e3** [7 a5 is possible if White wants to prevent Black's knight from traveling to b4] **7...0-0 8 Bd3 a5 9 0-0 Na6 10 Ne5 Nb4 11 Bb1 b6 12 b3 Ba6** [I couldn't find a clear-cut plan for White in this position. I was planning to play Rc8 followed by c5, and the c-file is under pressure.] **13 f4 h6?** [13...Nd7 is better as it avoids weakening my kingside.] **14 Bh4 Nd7 15 Bxe7 Qxe7 16 Nxd7 Qxd7 17 f5 exf5 18 Bxf5 Qe7 19 Qe2 g6 20 Bh3 Rae8 21 Rae1 f5 22 g3 dxc4 23 bxc4 Qf7** [23...Nd5 is also possible since if he takes I win the c4-pawn.] **24 Qd2 Bxc4 25 e4** [I suppose White did not want a slow death, so he goes for it.] **25...Bxf1 26 Rxf1 Qc4 27 Rc1 Qd3 28 Qxh6** [This would not be possible if I hadn't played 13...h6] **28...Qxd4+ 29 Kh1 Qg7 30 Qe3 c5** [30...fxe4 was also possible, but I did not want to rush my advantage.] **31 Rd1 fxe4 32 Nxe4 c4** [This was my plan; the c-pawn is extremely dangerous.] **33 Bd7 Re7 34 Bb5 c3 35 Bc4+ Kh8 36 g4 c2 37 Qh3+ Qh7 38 Qc3+ Rg7 39 Re1 Qh4 40 Re3 Rd8** [40...Nd5 wins immediately: 41 Bxd5 Rf1+ 42 Kg2 c1Q] **41 Nf2 Rd1+ 42 Kg2 c1Q 43 Re8+ Kh7 44 Bg8+ Rxg8 0-1**

Miller and Balasubramanian wound up tied for 3rd with Ed Kitces & Larry Larkins. John Farrell & Tracy Callis shared top class A, Farrell getting the trophy on tiebreak.

In the Amateur, a massive tie followed a point behind the winner Michael Neal. Scoring 4½ points apiece were: Matthew Freeman, Joe Faries, Jason Kong, Balkrishna Sharma, Jonathan Bode, Michael Donovan & Adam Chrisney. Aaron Roseborough Jr & Laurence Harding split to class D. The Under 1200 prize went to Fred Lee & Vishal Erabelli. Richard Loving was top unrated, while the Upset prize went to Yash Tekriwal. Other prizewinners included top Senior (60+) Joe Faries; top Junior (U18) Eric Most (Open section); and top Female Katherine Wu (Open).

At the VCF annual Business Meeting, held on Saturday morning prior to the first round, Mike Atkins was elected VCF President for the coming year. Mike previously served as President in 2003-04. Rob Getty was elected to the Board of Directors, effectively replacing outgoing President Marshall Denny.



Mike Hoffpauir organized and directed the event for the VCF. Aside from conducting a pleasant and trouble-free tournament, he managed to get round-by-round result updates online at the VCF web site, <http://vachess.org>!

Here are some additional games from the event.

Tracy Callis - Ed Kitces Benoni

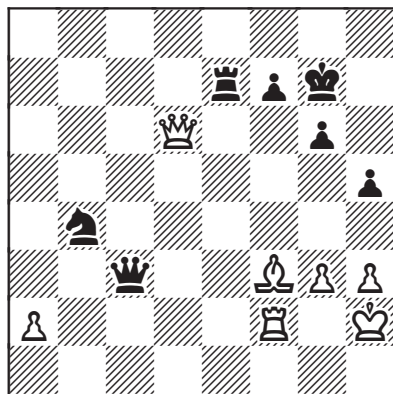
One of the pleasant surprises at this year's Virginia Closed was the return of three-time state champion Ed Kitces, back in tournament chess for the first time since 1992. 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 Bg5 c5 7 d5 h6 8 Be3 e6 9 Qd2 exd5 10 cxd5 Kh7 11 Bd3 Nbd7 12 Nge2 Ne5 13 0-0-0 a6 14 Rdf1 b5 15 g4 Nfd7 16 g5 Nxd3+ 17 Qxd3 Ne5 18 Qc2 Nc4 19 Nd1 Bxb2+ 20 Nxb2 Nxe3 21 Qc3 Nxf1 22 gxh6 Qg5+ 23 f4 Qxh6 24 Rxf1 f6 25 Ng3 Bh3 26 Rf2 Rae8 27 Qa5 Qg7 28 Qxa6 Qc7 29 Qa3 Ra8 30 Qe3 Rxa2 31 f5 g5 32 Kb1 Qa7 33 Qe2 g4 34 Nh5 Ra1+ 35 Kc2 Qa2 36 Qxb5 Qb1+ 37 Kb3 c4+ 38 Qxc4 Rb8+ 39 Kc3 Qe1+ 40 Kd3 Ra3+ 0-1



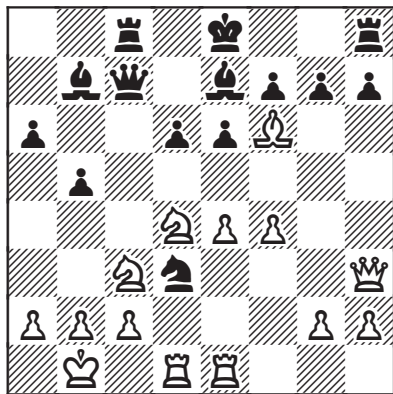
Defending champion Andrew Samuelson, shown here during his final round game vs Fischer, was unable to repeat last year's success

Andrew Samuelson - Matt Grinberg Vienna

1 e4 e5 2 Bc4 Nf6 3 d3 Bc5 4 Nc3 Nc6 5 f4 d6 6 Nf3 Bg4 7 Na4 Bb6 8 Nxb6 axb6 9 c3 0-0 10 0-0 d5 11 exd5 Nxd5 12 h3 Bxf3 13 Qxf3 Nxf4 14 Bxf4 exf4 15 Qxf4 Qd7 16 d4 Rae8 17 Rf2 Na5 18 Bd3 c5 19 Bf5 Qd5 20 Rd1 Nc6 21 Qc7 cxd4 22 Qxb7 Re7 23 Qxb6 Rfe8 24 Qa6 Re1+ 25 Rxe1 Rxe1+ 26 Kh2 g6 27 Bg4 dxc3 28 bxc3 Qe5+ 29 g3 Qxc3 30 Qc8+ Kg7 31 Qc7 Re7 32 Qf4 h5 33 Bf3 Nb4 34 Qd6



34... Qe3 35 Kg2 Nd3 36 Rf1 Ne1+ 37 Rxe1 Qxe1 38 a4 Qe5 39 Qb6 Rc7 40 Qb3 Rc3 41 Qb2 Qe3 42 Qf2 Qd3 43 Be2 Qe4+ 44 Bf3 Qxa4 45 Qe1 Qa2+ 46 Be2 Rc2 47 Kf3 Qd5+ 48 Kf2 Qd4+ 49 Kf1 Qe4 50 Kf2 h4 51 g4 Qf4+ 52 Kg1 Qe3+ 53 Kf1 Qxh3+ 54 Kg1 Qe3+ 55 Kf1 Qxe2+ 0-1





Top boards in the dramatic final round of the open section. Furthest to the rear, Dan Miller plays White vs Stan Fink. Edward Lu faces Adithya Balasubramanian. Ed Kites ponders in the foreground.

15 Nxe6 fxe6 16 Bxe7 Nxf4 17 Qg4 Qxe7 18 Qxf4 Rd8 19 e5 Rf8 20 Qg4 dxe5 21 Qh5+ g6 22 Qxe5 Rxd1+ 23 Rxd1 Rf5 24 Qb8+ Kf7 25 Qh8 Bxg2 26 Qxh7+ Kf6 27 Qh4+ Kf7 28 Qh7+ Kf6 29 Qh8+ Kf7 30 a3 Bd5 31 Nxd5 Rxd5 32 Rg1 Qf6 33 Qh7+ Qg7 34 Qh3 Qd4 35 Re1 Rf5 36 Qg2 Qd5 37 Qg3 Qc6 38 Rg1 e5 39 Rd1 Qf3 40 Qe1 Qf2 41 Qb4 Kg7 42 Qe7+ Kh6 43 Rd3 Rf3 44 Qxe5 Qf1+ 45 Ka2 Rxd3 46 cxd3 Qxd3 47 Qf4+ Kh5 48 Qe5+ Qf5 49 Qd6 Qf7+ 50 Kb1 Qf1+ 51 Ka2 ½-½

Tim Rogalski - Macon Shibus Sicilian

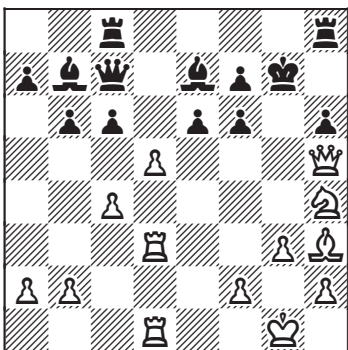
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 e6 4 0-0 Nge7 5 Re1 a6 6 Bf1 d5 7 exd5 Nxd5 8 d3 Be7 9 a4 0-0 10 Nbd2 b6 11 Nc4 Bb7 12 g3 Qc7 13 Bg2 Rad8 14 Qe2 Bf6 15 Nce5? [15 c3] Bxe5! 16 Nxe5 Nd4 17 Qd1 Nb4! 18 c3 Bxg2 19 Kxg2 [19 cxb4 Ba8] Ndc6! +- 20 cxb4 Nxe5 21 bxc5 Qc6+ 0-1

Robert Fischer - Andrew Samuelson English

1 Nf3 c5 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 g3 Nc6 5 Bg2 Nf6 6 d4 cxd4 7 Nxd4 Nxd4 8 Qxd4 0-0 9 0-0 d6 10 e4 Nd7 11 Qd2 Nc5 12 b3 Be6 13 Bb2 a5 14 Nd5 Bxb2 15 Qxb2 Bxd5 16 exd5 Qb6 17 Kh1 f6 18 Rab1 Rf7 19 Qd4 Qb4 20 Bh3 Kh8 21 Be6 Rg7 22 Rfe1 a4 23 Re3 axb3 24 axb3 Ra3 25 Bc8 h6 26 Rbe1 Rxb3 27 Rxe7 Rb1 28 Re8+ Kh7 29 Rxb1 Qxb1+ 30 Kg2 Rf7 31 Be6 Nb3 32 Qf4 g5 33 Bf5+ Kg7 34 Qg4 h5 35 Qxh5 Qxf5 36 Qh8+ 1-0

Stan Fink - Jonathan Handley Catalan

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 g3 Be7 5 Bg2 0-0 6 0-0 c6 7 Qc2 Nbd7 8 Nbd2 b6 9 e4 dxe4 10 Nxe4 Nxe4 11 Qxe4 Bb7 12 Bf4 Nf6 13 Qe2 Bd6 14 Ne5 Rcs 15 Rfd1 Qe7 16 Bg5 h6 17 Bxf6 gxf6 [17... Qxf6 18 Nd7] 18 Nf3 Kg7 19 Nh4 Qd7 20 Qg4+ Kh8 21 Qh5 Kg7 22 Bh3 Be7 23 Qg4+ Kh7 24 Qh5 Kg7 25 Rd3 Rh8 26 Rad1 Qc7 27 d5



27...cxd5 28 cxd5 Bxd5 29 Rxd5 exd5
30 Qg4+ Kh7 31 Qh5 Kg8 32 Bxc8
Qxc8 33 Nf5 Qe6 34 Qg4+ 1-0

Michael Neal - Gerald Wasserbauer Bird

1 f4 Nc6 2 Nf3 d6 3 e4 e5 4 fxex5 Nxe5 5 d4
Ng6 6 Bc4 Nf6 7 O-O Be7 8 Qe2 O-O 9 e5 dxe5
10 dxe5 Bc5+ 11 Kh1 Re8 12 Bg5 h6 13 Bxf6
gxf6 14 Bxf7+ Kxf7 15 Qc4+ Re6 16 Qxc5
Nxe5 17 Nxe5+ Rxe5 18 Qxe5 1-0

23rd annual

Emporia Open

Oct. 6-7

Greensville Ruritan Club,
Ruritan Rd, Emporia

Off of Hwy 58 West of Emporia

5SS, game/120. \$\$900, top 3 guaranteed,
class prizes b/5: \$250-150-100, top X
(if no X finishes in top 3), top A, B, C
each \$75, top D, E each \$50. EF \$35
rec'd by 10/3, \$45 site, free to unrated.
VCF membership req'd (\$10/yr) & avail.
at site. Reg 9-9:45am, rds 10-2:30-7,
9-1:30. Refreshments provided w/EF,
no add'l charge. Wheelchair accessible.
Hotel: US Inn, 1 mile away, \$45. Info:
Virginia Chess Fed., Woodrow Harris,
1105 West End Dr, Emporia, VA 23847
or harrisfw@comcast.net

10 Grand Prix points



J'Adoube... Again

VIRGINIA CHESS #2007/3 featured Mike Atkins' report on the Springfield Open, which was held May 19-20 at the Holiday Inn-Springfield. Shortly after that issue went out I received an email that read as follows:

In Mike Atkins' article re the Springfield Open in the recent newsletter, it was reported that there was only one unrated player; however, there was at least one more, me. Springfield was my first official chess tournament.
:-) Sincerely, Rob Pilaud

I accepted that at face value and VIRGINIA CHESS #2007/4 duly reported the correction. Duh! Editor's Note to Self: *in the future, fact check all submissions by unrated players!* Turns out Mike's original Springfield report was accurate; Mr Pilaud did not play in the Springfield Open but, rather, the George Washington Open, held June 15-17 and also reported in that same 2007/3 edition of VIRGINIA CHESS (page 18). Given that it was his first tournament, Mr Pilaud's confusion is understandable, the more so since his tournament was likewise held at the Holiday Inn. So we hereby retract the correction and apologize to Mike. -ed



Harris Pavilion "Open Air" IV

by Don Millican

HARRIS PAVILION'S ANNUAL TOURNAMENT in Old Town Manassas has billed itself as "the hottest tournament in Virginia" due to its mid-August date and outdoor venue. The fifth edition of the event (fourth in the "open air" format) on August 18 had cooler, more comfortable weather than previous years. Hot competition at the board compensated for the lack of intensity in the thermometer reading.

Nineteen players competed for cash prizes and Grand Prix points in the Open section. With 4½ points, Joshua Downey of Cockeysville, Md was the winner. Just behind with 4, FIDE master Boris Zisman of Silver Spring finished in clear second place. Charles Musselman Jr, James Johnson & Bethesda's Kevin Wang finished tied for 3rd with 3½. Wang also picked up the Under 2000 prize and Johnson the Under 1600. Top Unrated went to Willie Avery III from Manassas with 3 points, while Aditya Srilanth took home Under 1200 with 2.

The non-rated Fun section drew thirteen players, many of them active in rated play. Respectively, John Farrell of Alexandria, Wyatt Banks & Harry Hopewell took 1st, 2nd and 3rd on tiebreak with 4 points. Fourth and fifth went on tiebreak respectively to W E Webbert of Stafford & Kevin Liu, both scoring 3. With 2½ points, Daniel Li & Robert Witkowski went home with 6th and 7th places respectively on tiebreak, just ahead of Stacey Banks (wife of runner-up Wyatt), Bill Murphy & Samuel Schwarz, scoring 2 each and snagging 8th, 9th and 10th places respectively on tiebreak. The fact that no one won a prize outright hints at what intense competition there was in the Fun section.

Harris Pavilion and its manager, Anna Marie Morgan, provided the facility and \$500 of the Open section's \$800 prize fund. Kingstowne Chess Club provided the remaining \$300 along with the trophies for the Fun section.

Kingstowne Quad #43/Action-Plus #15

November 10, 2007

Kingstowne Thompson Center

6090 Kingstowne Village Pkwy, Alexandria, VA 22315

2 Events- *Quad #43:* 3RR G/100. EF \$8 if received by 11/7, \$12 at site. Medals to 1st and 2nd in each quad (gold to 1st if 3-0 score, else silver; bronze to 2nd). Rds 10-2-6. *Action-Plus #15:* 5SS game/45. EF \$15 if received by 11/7, \$20 at site. \$\$250 b/20: \$100-60, U1800-U1400-Unr each \$30. Rds 10-12-2-4-6. *Both:* Reg 8:30-9:30. **Enter** (checks payable to) Don W Millican, 5901B Prince George Dr, Springfield, Va 22152. e-mail (info only) dm407_92@hotmail.com



Correspondence Chess

A WORLD WORTH EXPLORING

by Alex Herrera

MANY DISMISS CORRESPONDENCE CHESS (CC) in our time, frequently citing the strength of chess playing software. Nevertheless, I will try to present a case for the defense of the unjustly maligned CC. Remember the words of Boris Spassky when asked how to improve at our game: "Play Correspondence Chess!" Here are some good reasons to be a correspondence chess player:

♠ It's a non-threatening environment to learn new openings (and more generally to try new ideas). For example, I embarked on the daunting task of learning the Petroff Defense from the Black side, and the even more intimidating task of taking up the Open Sicilian after playing anti-sicilians almost exclusively in my OTB games. It's much more comfortable psychologically to make these types of switches in Correspondence Chess.

♠ Learn about the history of the game. I've poured over so many games I may never have known about because of CC. It's one thing to know Kasparov, Kramnik, and Anand are great players, but to actually witness the richness of their contributions as chess thinkers is truly an amazing and edifying experience.

♠ Improve your endgame! You simply cannot succeed at CC without good endgame play. My biggest disappointments as a CC player are losing endgames I may have held, and my biggest joys finding the draws or the wins. This will certainly carry over to your OTB arsenal.

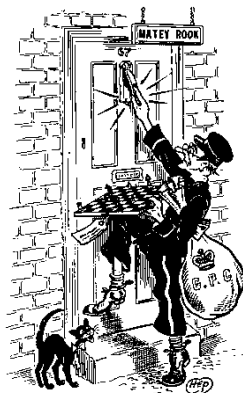
♠ Innovate! Finding new moves in the opening can be very satisfying.

♠ Keep playing chess, no matter how busy life gets.

♠ Make chess friends. I would hope that you would take the opportunity to make that opponent from Germany, Poland, Peru, or Russia a new friend.

♠ Become a chess "scientist." Postal chess involves research, project management, creative thinking, and theoretical approaches that are somewhat different to OTB, where pragmatic considerations tend to dominate.

♠ It's fun, once you catch the bug.





NOW A SHORT WORD about computer utilization: When you choose to play CC, decide whether utilizing chess software to analyze is acceptable to you or not. I first played CC with USCF where using chess software is forbidden. Since 2005 I have played at ICCF, where computers are allowed. ICCF has a webserver with a chess GUI. I recommend this as the best place to participate in CC, but if you do play in USCF or another postal organization that forbids computers, obey the rules! To do otherwise is dishonorable. A professor of mine used the quote, "A thief only steals from himself." Between 1998 and 2000 I played approximately 30 CC games under the USCF umbrella. My goal was simply to learn and practice ideas that I could use in OTB, where my rating was around 2100 at the time. I analyzed my positions with the aid of computers without much guilt, persuading myself that I didn't care about the competitive result. I'm sure Barry Bonds and Floyd Landis have similar rationalizations. I wouldn't dream of cheating in an OTB game or an academic exam, and I never have. Eventually, I realized that I was wrong (and my friend Dennis Monokroussos helped me see that clearly), and I stopped playing CC altogether. So my advice to you is: don't go down the slippery slope. Be honest or be prepared to live with the consequences of knowing who you are.

If you choose to play in a forum which does allow computers, I can add two more to my list of benefits of CC:



12th Annual

Northern Virginia Open

Nov 3-4, 2007

Holiday Inn Express, 6401 Brandon Ave, Springfield, Va 22150

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

5-SS, rds 1-3 game/2, rds 4-5 30/90 SD/1. \$\$2,400 b/80 (top 3 guaranteed): \$575-350-250, top X, A, B, C, D each \$180, top U1200 \$150, top Unrated \$100, top Upset \$75. EF \$45 if rec'd by October 27th, \$55 at site. Reg Saturday Nov 3, 8:45am-9:45am, rds 10-2:30-7, 10-3:30. One irrevocable ½ pt bye allowed, must commit with entry, none allowed after 1st round starts. Hotel \$95, reserve before 10/13, 877-800-6696 (local 703-644-5555) ask for chess rate and mention the tournament. *Please stay in the hotel, if we get 25 room nights on Saturday, the rental is free and the prize fund will rise!* Plenty of local eateries and places to visit. W, NS, FIDE. Enter: Michael Atkins, PO Box 6139, Alexandria Va 22306. Make checks to "Virginia Chess". Info by email matkins2@cox.net, or online www.vachess.org/nova.htm

20 Grand Prix points

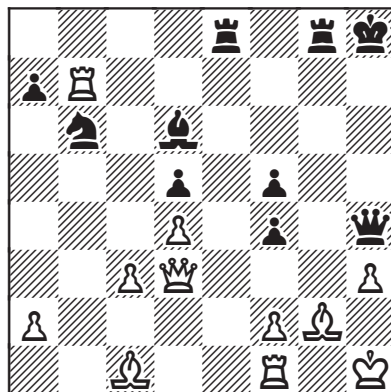


♙ Learn that computers are not unfailing. It can be joyful finding cases where Rybka, *et al*, are just plain wrong.

♙ Learn to use tools to improve your creative output. The machine is the servant of man, not the master.

FINALLY, some chess. Tansel Turgut is a postal GM who shared some of his home CC preparation in NIC 81 (Forum Section). I was really impressed by the depth of his analysis. Here is an excerpt to whet your CC appetite:

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nxe5 d6 4 Nf3 Nxe4 5 d4 d5 6 Bd3 Bd6 7 0-0 0-0 8 c4 c6 9 cxd5 cxd5 10 Nc3 Nxc3 11 bxc3 Bg4 12 Rb1 Nd7 13 h3 Bh5 14 Rxb7 Nb6 15 Qc2 Bxf3 16 Bxh7+ Kh8 17 gxf3 Qh4 18 Bf5 g6 19 Bg4 f5 20 f4 Rae8 21 Bf3 g5 22 Bg2 gxf4 23 Qd3 Rg8 24 Kh1 as in Pinol-Raetsky Lausanne 2005, reaches the diagrammed position.



24 Kh1

Here Black has a very pretty forced win with 24...Rxc2! 25 Kxc2 Qh5 26 Rh1 f3+ 27 Kf1 Re2 28 Rxa7 Qe8 29 Be3 Qe4 with the amazing situation that White, an exchange and two pawns up and able to trade Queens, is totally lost! The ending could be 30 Qxe4 fxe4 31 Ra6 Rb2 32 Ke1 Rb1+ 33 Kd2 Nc4+ 34 Kc2 Rxb1 etc.

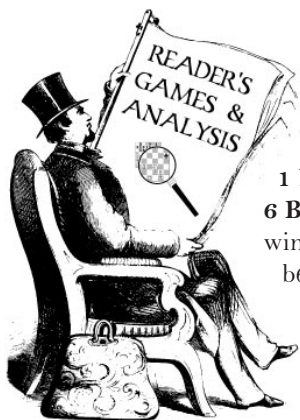
2007 ARLINGTON CHESS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP Dec 15-16, 2007

Fort Myer Recreation Center, 228 McNair Road, Bldg 405

Use Hatfield Gate Entrance. Your car will be searched upon entry!

4-SS, 30/100 SD/1 \$\$\$2000 b/70, top 3 guaranteed: \$550-300-200, top X, A/Unr, B, C, D each \$130, U1200 \$100. Top ACC member wins plaque and 2007 club championship; top ACC member U1800 wins plaque, club amateur championship and \$200. EF \$40 if recd by 12/7, \$50 at site, \$5 discount to ACC members and all active duty military. Reg 9-9:45, rds 10-4, 10-3:30. One irrevocable ½pt bye avail, must declare before rd 1. NS, NC, W, FIDE rated, food available next door at Base Bowling Alley. *Enter:* Michael Atkins, PO Box 6139 Alexandria VA 22306, make checks payable to Michael Atkins. Info (no e-mail entries!) matkins2@cox.net or on the web at <http://members.cox.net/arlingtonchessclub/champ07.htm>

20 Grand Prix points



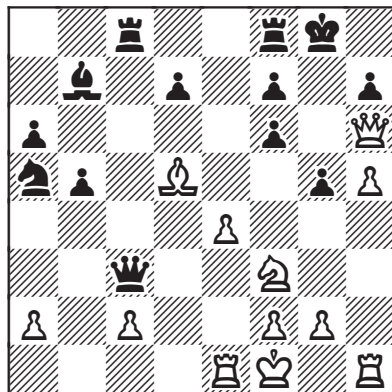
Tim Hamilton - Andrew Samuelson DC Chess League 2007 Robatsch

Notes by Tim Hamilton

1 Nc3 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 e4 c5 4 Be3 Qa5 5 Qd2 cxd4 6 Bxd4 Bxd4 7 Qxd4 Nf6 8 b4 Qd8 [8...Nc6? 9 Qxf6 wins. However, maybe Black could play the Queen to b6 instead. In an endgame he would have activity on open files and it may be hard to exploit the b-pawns, but 8...Qb6 9 Qxb6 axb6 10 e5 Ng4 11 Nd5 seems okay for White.] 9 Nd5 Nc6 10 Qc3 a6 [Andy was evidently worried about the double-edged advance of the b-pawn but this move came in for heavy

criticism after the game, with kingside castling recommended here by spectator consensus. Then White gains little by trading knights right away as ...Qe7 soon is annoying while White is undeveloped, but instead I can probably continue more calmly with Bd3 if nothing else pans out.] 11 Bc4 b5 12 Nxf6+ exf6 13 Bd5 Bb7 [13...a5 or 14...a5 may be advisable hereabouts for damage control.] 14 Nf3 O O 15 h4 Rc8 16 Qd2 Qe7 [16...Kg7 17 h5 g5 18 h6+ Kh8 was suggested by Andy after the game. White's game is preferable but nothing immediately wins.] 17 Qh6 Qxb4+ 18 Kf1 Qc3 19 Re1 [Black is in serious trouble. His pieces are cut off from the kingside.] 19...Na5 20 h5 g5

Now 21 e5 Bxd5 22 exf6 is certainly most convincing, and 21 Nxg5 isn't bad either, but I inexplicably choose a weaker move and my advantage dwindles quite a bit.



20 ... g5

21 Bxb7 Nxb7 22 e5 Rc6 [Andy's back

in the game! This is the best chance. 22...Nc5 was insufficient, eg 23 exf6 Ne6 24 Nxg5 and mate soon.] 23 Rh3 Qc4+ [23...g4 24 Nh4 Qc4+ 25 Rd3 and my computer rather likes White but perhaps that was his best try under the circumstances. By the next move it's already too late.] 24 Kg1 g4 25 exf6 Rxf6 26 Qg5+ Rg6 27 hxg6 fxg6 [27...hxg6 28 Rh8+ Kg7 (28...Kxh8 29 Qh6+ Kg8 30 Ng5) 29 Qh6+ Kf6 30 Rxf8 gxf6 31 Qh8+ Kg5 32 Qe5+ f5 33 Qf6+ Kh5 34 Rh8+ Kg4 35 Rh4mate; or 27...gxh3 28 gxf7+ followed by mate] 28 Rxb7 Kxh7 29 Re7+ Rf7 30 Ne5 1-0



Spanish inquisition

by Tim Rogalski

Juan del Valle - Alonzo Salazar
Madrid, Spain, 1574

In 1998, the Vatican opened the archives of its Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (the modern name for what used to be known as the Holy Office of the Inquisition) to a team of 30 scholars from around the world. In 2007, one of these scholars discovered a manuscript that was written by Giulio Cesare Polerio, dated 1574, which described a witchcraft trial. Among the documents was found a game of chess that was used as evidence against an unpopular member of the Holy See.

Alonzo Salazar (1550(?)-1575), the game winner and villain of this story, was an ambiguously ruthless prosecutor who allegedly sold out many of his friends and family to further his brief ecclesial career. Little is known of Juan del Valle (154?-1574) except that he was a timid greedy Friar, “a man of the cloth with a taste for the flesh.”

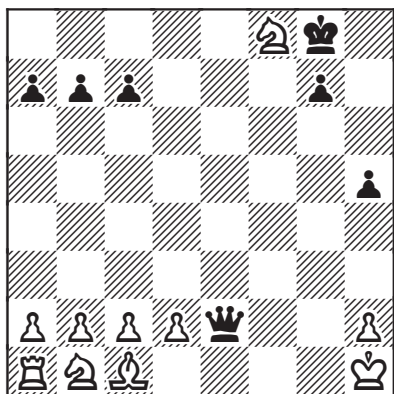
About the only thing these two men had in common was their love of chess. Apparently, Salazar was able to reconstruct the game from memory (under torture) for preservation by Polerio. Van der Linde, a 19th century chess historian, recorded that Polerio manuscripts had been lost.

Here is their exciting medieval game, and their even more unbelievable story. Based on the dates of when the players died, this all occurred between late-1574 and early-1575. If this game is real, then it is one of the earliest known recordings of our beloved game. This historical miniature is highly interesting but fatiguingly inaccurate, so I have kept my chess remarks to a minimum.

1 e4 This was written as, “The King’s Pawn two steps.” **1...f5** This was written as, “The King’s Bishop Pawn attacks the adversary’s King’s Pawn.” **2 exf5** “The King’s Pawn captures the adversary’s King’s Bishop Pawn.” **2...Nf6** “The King’s Knight to his Bishop’s third square.” Whew — Thank God for algebraic notation! This protracted 16th century notation may have inspired the myth that chess is a tediously slow game, but enough of that. **3 Be2 h5 4 g4 e5 5 fxe6 En Passant** was introduced in 1490. Salazar mocked at his trial that del Valle was giddy “making fashionable moves.” **5...Bc5 6 exd7+ Bxd7 7 g5 O-O** I had my doubts about the authenticity of this game until I researched this castling move. In one of history’s most successful chess books, *Libro de la Invention liberal y Arte del Juego del Axedrez*, the 1561-dated book that made him a small fortune, the Spanish priest Ruy Lopez



quoted castling as it is now played. Modern castling probably originated within Italy (along with nearly every variation of the “King’s Leap,” castling’s precursor), yet I consider modern castling codified within Ruy Lopez’s text. Father Ruy Lopez may have been impressed with the perspicuity of the move when he visited Rome in 1560, where he defeated all players, and he was most certainly a bishop



16...Qf1 *Checkmate*. Played with a grinning smirk, but the real story of this chilling account actually begins here.

Supposedly, Friar del Valle was so upset and distraught that that very night he went into town to persuade a gypsy strumpet, dancing a flamenco, to have relations with him. The poor girl was fearful that she would lose her immortal soul, but all her arguments were refuted with a jingle from Friar del Valle’s coin pouch. The Friar contracted gonorrhea, his mind “went mad from the crabs,” and he killed himself about ten days later. His suicide note contained a claim of having been bewitched by Salazar, citing his mate at the hands of Black’s lonely queen or, as the note put it, “slain by a woman’s image from a ghost army.”

Alonzo Salazar was arrested and charged with witchcraft. He, of course, pleaded innocence, but the fact that he won the game “without an army” was offered as proof that he was in league with Satan. It was chauvinistically considered a grave insult to lose to a woman, let alone to lose to a woman’s image.

Wanting to purge Salazar of his evil ways, the tribunal zealously agreed that he should be tied with stones and thrown into a local lake, praying that “the pure of heart shall free themselves of their wicked bonds.” Alonzo Salazar drowned and was unanimously proclaimed guilty.

Immediately after the trial, all records were sealed, and “true believers in the Lord” were forbidden to play “the demonic game of chess,” chess having been classified as “a handiwork of the Devil.” And so continued the Spanish Inquisition...

by the time this game was played. In the 16th century, Spain was the most powerful nation in Europe, and that fact may help explain the progressive establishment of modern castling within France in 1620, and within England in 1640. **8 gxf6** Juan del Valle chivalrously captures all material offered to him. **8...Qxf6 9 Nf3 Nc6** Alonzo Salazar aggressively and quickly develops all his pieces. **10 O-O Ne5 11 Nxe5 Bxf2+ 12 Rxf2 Qxf2+ 13 Kh1 Rae8 14 Nxd7 Rxe2 15 Qxe2 Qxe2 16 Nxf8**



Kingstowne Chess Club Events

by Don Millican

KINGSTOWNE CHESS CLUB, in Alexandria, conducted the 39th edition of its Quads along with the 11th iteration of the Action-Plus on June 2. Eleven players contested the Quads. Quad 1's winner was Nicholas Kinney with 2½ points and a silver medal. Patrick Ramsey scored 2 points to take the bronze. The seven-player bottom "Quad" was won by Alex Chen's gold medal perfect 3 points. Aditya Ponukumati, Gavin Moore & Jamie Senft tied for 2nd-4th with 2 points. Tiebreaks gave Ponukumati the silver for 2nd place while Moore snagged the bronze for 3rd. Nine players battled in the Action-Plus. Kun Liu was the winner with a perfect 5 points. Jon Evans, Matt Freeman & William Moore (Quad 2 bronze medal winner Gavin's father) finished with 3 points, sharing 2nd place, Under 1800, and Under 1400.

THE NEXT EDITION of the Quads and Action-Pluses along with only the second occasion for the Quick and Done (the fifth attempted) took place on July 7. This time there was a very strong turnout despite being so soon after the World Open and the Independence Day celebration in the middle of the week. Indeed, the turnout surge delayed the start of play for nearly half an hour while we got everyone registered.

The Quads boasted eight players in two sections. Adam Renfro Chrisney continued his winning ways by scoring 2½ points in the top Quad for a silver medal while Jinseok Kim's 1800-plus performance resulted in 2 points and the bronze medal for second. Branden Kim (no relation to Quad 1's runner-up) netted a perfect 3 and a gold medal to win the bottom Quad. Stephen Shiao went home with the 2nd place bronze medal by scoring 2. Patrick Charles Spain won the fifteen-player Action-Plus #12 with 4½-½. Aravind Ponukumati finished in 2nd place with 4-1. Victor Smith's 3½ points secured the Under 1800 prize while Alan Coulter went home with the Under 1400 with 3. The Quick and Done broke out of its turnout slump by attracting nine players. Paul Serrano scored a perfect 5 points to win while Butch Arroyo took 2nd with 4. James Custodio scored 3½ and went home with the Under 1800 prize. Charles Yu, Roger Yamada & Christopher Liu shared the Under 1400 prize with 2½ points apiece.

YET ANOTHER EDITION of the venerable Quads, Action-Pluses and Quick-and-Dones occurred on August 4. On paper it was a good turnout but two no-shows caused complications, especially for the Quick-and-Done. Eleven played in two Quad sections. The top Quad saw Matt Freeman & Adam Renfro Chrisney tie with 2. Tiebreaks gave Freeman the silver medal, leaving the bronze



for Chrisney. The bottom seven-player (actually six—a no-show player had a bye in the first round and was not identified as such until round two) “Quad” was golden for Michael Gorman Jr, with a perfect 3 points. William Wilson Jr was clear second with 2, picking up the silver medal. Branden Kim & Byron O’Neal tied for 3rd-4th with 1½ each, with O’Neal winning the bronze medal on tiebreak. With fourteen players, the Action-Plus saw a three-way tie between David Hines, Darwin Li & Ashley Xue, all with 4 points. Xue also picked up Under 1800. William Moore rounded out the prizewinners’ list with 3 points, taking the Under 1400.

A bare minimum four players entered the Quick-and-Done. When one of them turned out to be a no-show, the Swiss gods were knocked for a major loop and pairing rematches (normally verboten in swiss tourneys) and multiple full-point byes came onto the agenda. In the end, Alex Bao Nguyen emerged the clear winner with 4½ out of 5. His brother, Alan Hao Nguyen, took second place with 3 points (including two full-point byes: sometimes it’s good to be the low scorer). Under 1800 went to the remaining player in the tournament, James Custodio, with 2½.

FINALLY, the September edition of the Quads and Action-Pluses took place on September 15. A total of thirteen competed for medals while ten battled in the Action-Plus. Mike Callinan and Peter Kurucz tied for 1st-2nd with 2½ each in the top Quad. Callinan took the 1st place silver medal on tiebreak, leaving place bronze for Kurucz. Quad 2’s winner was Nicholas Kinney with a 3-0 score and a gold medal. James Kurucz matched his father’s effort in Quad 1, taking home the bronze medal. The five-player round-robin format third “Quad” had the most eye-popping play of the tournament as newcomer Wendy Sun, USCF rating 825, turned in an amazing 1156 performance rating to win the silver medal. Sun scored 3½-½ and was undefeated. Gavin Moore scored 3 for second place and the bronze medal. His only loss was to Sun. Quentin Moore won the Action-Plus with a perfect 5-0 score. 4-1 gave Steven Kool clear second place. William Moore (father to the Action-Plus winner and Quad 3 runner-up), Jesse Cai & Paul Serrano all scored 3 and shared the Under 1800 and Under 1400 prizes.

I will make my national directing debut on October 5-8 as an assistant TD at the Armed Forces Open Chess Championship in Arlington. The following weekend, October 13-14, will be the 5th annual Kingstowne Fall Festival. The FIDE-rated Open section will have \$1,000 in guaranteed prize money and 20 Grand Prix Points at stake. Full details are in CHESS LIFE. The next Quad will be November 10 but will not be in CHESS LIFE. Details can be determined from the reading of previous Quad TLAs—or see page 11 of the issue you’re holding in your hands! The tournament will consist of a Quad and an Action-Plus.





7th annual

Arlington Open

October 20-21

George Mason University-Arlington Campus Professional Center (The Old Law School)
3401 N Fairfax Dr, Arlington Virginia (across from Virginia Square Metro Stop), Rm 329

5-SS, Rds 1-3 game/2, rds 4-5 30/90 SD/1. \$\$2,100 (Top 3 G, rest b/70): \$550-350-200, top X, A, B, C, D, U1200 each \$150, Unrated \$100. Reg 9-9:45am, rds 10-2:30-7, 10-3:30. One irrevocable ½pt bye allowed, must commit before rd 1. EF \$45 if rec'd by 10/13, \$55 at site, \$5 discount to GMU students with ID. W, NS, FIDE. Make checks payable to Michael Atkins and mail to PO Box 6139 Alexandria VA 22306.

20 Grand Prix points

Arlington Weekend Quads

Co-located with the Arlington Open

at the George Mason University-Arlington Campus Professional Center

Sat 10/20: 3-RR, game/45. \$\$-1st in each section \$50. EF \$20. Reg 9-10:45, rds 11-1-2:45

Sun 10/21: 3-RR, game/60. \$\$-1st in each section \$70. EF \$25. Reg 9-10:45, rds 11-1:30-3:45

See Arlington Open announcement above for other details and where to mail checks.

Arlington Quads & Alex Wojtkiewicz Blitz Benefit

Nov 18, 2007

Recreation Center, 228 McNair Road, Bldg 405

Fort Myer (Arlington), VA

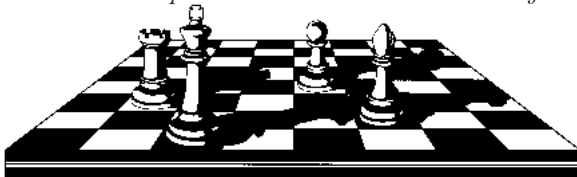
Use Hatfield Gate entrance. This is a military base; your car will be searched upon entry!

Quads

3-SS, game/30. \$\$ 80 to 1st place each section. EF \$30 if rec'd by 11/11, \$35 at site. Reg 10-10:45, rds 11-12:15-1:30. Enter: Michael Atkins, PO Box 6139, Alexandria, Va, 22306.

Blitz

5-Dbl SS. 1st place receives Trophy and free entry to ACC Championship in December. All money raised to be sent to Alex's Mother in Riga, Latvia. EF \$20. Reg 10-2:45pm, rds 3-3:30-3:55-4:20-5. See <http://members.cox.net/tournaments/wojo.htm>



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