

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

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2009 - #5



2009 State Champion
Andrew Samuelson

VIRGINIA CHESS

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2009 - Issue #5

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2009 Virginia Closed

THE 73rd ANNUAL VIRGINIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP ("Virginia Closed") was played in Richmond over Labor Day weekend, Sept 5-7, in Richmond. A total of ninety players turned out and Andrew Samuelson won the state championship for the second time. (The first was in 2006). VCF Treasurer Ernie Schlich scored a perfect 6-0 to sweep the Under 1800 section and thus become Virginia Amateur Champion.

Other prizewinners included Dov Gorman, Ed Kitces, James Schuyler & young Jeevan Karemsetty, who all finished in a 4-way tie for 2nd in the Open (Karemsetty also won the class A prize and the Richard DeLaune Memorial award); Andrew Rea (top Expert); Tip Wolfe & Vignesh Rajasekaran tied for 2nd in the Amateur (Wolfe was also top Junior); Perry Feng & Andrew Miles (tied for top C); Josiah Sprankle (top D); Divij Rajesh (top under 1200); Larry Fleming & Dilip Nanalal Parikh (= top Unrated); Sumathi Palanisamy (top Female); Ilya Kremenchugskiy (top Senior); and Harold Carle (biggest upset).

In the Blitz tournament on Friday night (Sept 4), four-time state champion Daniel Miller scored 8½-1½ to win in the Open Section while Madhu Karamsetty dominated the Amateur section to the tune of a perfect 10-0!



Photo: Jimmy Allen



Mike Hoffpauir directed the tournament with great efficiency. Not incidentally, Mike also got re-elected as VCF President during Saturday morning's annual membership meeting.

Samuelson's victory was well deserved and very impressive. He plays quickly and confidently, with a preference for natural, straightforward strategy. As a consequence, there tends to be practical compensation even on those occasions when he commits an oversight, thanks to his customary advantage on the clock and active, coordinated pieces. He played a strong schedule, meeting four masters head-to-head.

VIRGINIA CHESS is fortunate to have both the State Champion and the Amateur Champion come through with first-hand accounts of their triumphs. **We will have more coverage of the 2009 Virginia Closed, including additional games, next issue.** Numerous game scores were turned in, and of course you're all invited to **send more to the Editor.** But for now we turn the coverage over to the two winners...

"I HAD A TOUGH ROAD BUT I MANAGED TO FOCUS..."

by Andrew Samuelson

This year I won the Virginia state championship for the second time. In 2006, I arrived late to the tournament and had to take a first round bye. I then won four games in a row before drawing in the last round and winning the title with 5 out of 6, thanks in large part to the last round draw between Daniel Miller and Larry Larkins. That year I played only one player rated over 2000 (Macon Shibut in the last round), though I also played up-and-comers Edward Lu (who won the title the following year) and Abby Marshall (2009 Denker champion), both of whom are now masters.

This year I not only faced a much higher-rated set of opponents, but I came in almost totally unprepared for the tournament after studying for my PhD qualifying exams most of the summer. I basically used the previous weekend's Atlantic Open in DC as a warm-up and hoped for the best.

Despite the fact that I came in a bit higher rated than I was in 2006, each of my opponents from the last four rounds was higher rated than I was. I was seeded seventh at the start of the weekend and wound up playing four of the six higher seeds. I had a tough road to the title, but I managed to focus and go undefeated with 5-1.

In the first round I had a near-disaster against John Farrell, yet somehow managed not only to save myself, but pick up the win.

New Chess Club! ASHBURN CHESS CLUB - Sakasa Tea and Coffee House
44927 George Washington Blvd, Suite 125, Ashburn, VA 20147
Tuesdays 5pm and Saturdays 3pm. Bring board and set. Info: www.meetup.com/Ashburn-Chess-Club/ or Scott Knoke, 703-433-2146

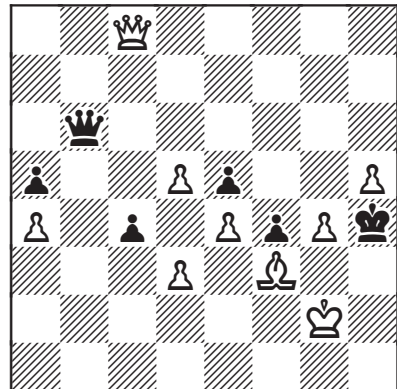


John Farrell - Andrew Samuelson

English

1 c4 Nf6 2 g3 g6 3 Bg2 Bg7 4 Nc3 O-O 5 e4 d6 6 Nge2 e5 [While this way of playing can't be too bad, I don't have much recent experience with King's Indian structures for Black. After this game I pretty much swore off playing the King's Indian for the rest of the weekend (although I kind of relented in round 4).] 7 O-O Nbd7 8 d3 a6 9 h3 Rb8 10 a4 c6!? [10...a5 11 Be3 c6 may have been a better move order.] 11 b4 a5 12 b5 Nc5 13 Ba3 cxb5?! [Basically giving away b5 and d5 in return for the outpost on c5. 13...Be6 14 bxc6 bxc6 should be okay for me.] 14 Nxb5 b6 15 Nec3 Be6 16 Kh2 Ne8 17 Qc2 f5!? [A typical pawn break, though it probably should have been prepared a bit more, eg 17...Nc7] 18 f3?! [This is passive and blocks in the bishop on g2. 18 exf5 gxf5 19 Qe2 ± was probably better.] 18...f4 19 g4 Bf6 20 Bxc5 dxc5 21 Nd5 Ng7 22 Nxf6+ Qxf6 23 Nc7 h5!? [It was probably better to preserve the bishop for now, eg 23...Bd7 24 Nd5 Qd6] 24 Nd5 Bxd5 [I should still try to keep my bishop on the board by 24...Qd8] 25 cxd5 [It was also possible to play 25 exd5, eg 25...hxg4 26 hxg4 Ne8 27 Qc3 Nd6 28 Kg1 ±] 25...hxg4 26 hxg4 Qh4+ 27 Kg1 Kf7 28 Qf2 Qh6 [I should probably just trade queens: 28...Qxf2+ 29 Rxf2 Ke7 30 Rb1 Kd6 ∞] 29 Rfc1 Rh8 30 Kf1?! [There really wasn't anything to fear from the h-file battery. He could have gone after my weak pawns right away, eg 30 Qb2 Qg5 31 Ra3 Qf6 32 Rb3] 30...g5 31 Rab1 Qd6 32 Qa2 Ne8 33 Kf2 Nf6!? [I decided to head for d7 with my knight. 33...Nc7 34 Qc4 Rh2 was

also possible.] 34 Rh1 Kg6 35 Qb2 Nd7 36 Qb5 Kf6 37 Rh5! [A strong idea, trying to take over the h-file.] 37...Rxh5? [37...Rbg8 was necessary. White would still be better but at least I wouldn't let his bishop loose.] 38 gxh5 g4!? [If 38...c4 39 Bh3 Nc5 40 Qxc4—once his bishop gets free I'm in trouble.] 39 fxg4 Kg5 40 Bf3 [An immediate breakthrough by 40 Qc6! Qxc6 41 dxc6 was even stronger, eg 41...Nf8 42 h6 Kxh6 43 g5+ Kxg5 44 Bh3] 40...Rc8 41 Qc4 Nf6 42 Qa6 Qd8? [It was better to try 42...Rb8 and hope to hang on, though I'm still in trouble, eg, 43 Qb5 Qc7 44 Qc6] 43 Rxb6 c4? [Loses a piece but it's hard to recommend anything at this point.] 44 Rxf6! Qxf6 45 Qxc8 Qb6+ [the only try for counterplay] 46 Kg2?! [Not the best! White is still winning but he has fewer options now. 46 d4! was correct, eg 46...Qb2+ 47 Kf1 Kh4 48 Qxc4; or 46...Qxd4+ 47 Kg2 Qb6 48 Qf5+; or again 46...Kh4 47 Qxc4] 46...Kh4 [The strongest try, yet still insufficient if he'd found the right move.]



**47 Qxc4??**

It's hard to believe, but this is the decisive blunder! I'm down a bishop and three pawns, he has connected passed pawns and two protected passed pawns on the fifth rank, and yet, I'm winning now!

Meanwhile, 47 g5! was still good enough for a win, eg 47...Qb2+ 48 Kg1 Qc1+ 49 Kh2 Qc2+ 50 Bg2 Qxd3 51 Qh3+

47...Qb2+ 48 Kf1 Kg3! [My king runs forward to create mating threats. I win the piece back, and with his king pinned down the advance of my f-pawn will be decisive.] **49 Ke1 Kxf3** [Another way to do it was to take the bishop with check, 9...Qf2+ 50 Kd1 Qxf3+ 51 Kc1 Qe3+ 52 Kb2 f3 winning.] **50 Kd1 Qe2+ 51 Kc1 Kg3** [An amazing position. Although I'm three pawns down in the queen ending, he's virtually helpless against the advance of my f-pawn. It's not uncommon in queen endings for the side with the best passed pawn or tactical threat to be better regardless of material, but this is still an extreme case.] **52 Qc2** [if 52 Qc3 f3 53 d4 Kg2]

52...f3 53 h6 [if 53 Qxe2 fxe2 54 Kd2 Kf2; or if 53 d6 Qe1+ 54 Kb2 Qb4+ 55 Qb3 Qxd6] **53...Qe1+ 54 Kb2 f2 55 h7 Qh1!** [the only winning move] **56 Qc7 f1Q 57 Qxe5+ Kg2 58 h8Q** [Four queens! As often happens in such positions, just having the move is decisive.] **58...Qa1+** [I actually missed a mate here: 58...Qb1+ 59 Ka3 (or 59 Kc3 Qb4+ 60 Kc2 Qhb1mate) Qb4+ 60 Ka2 Qhb1mate. I probably would have found it if I'd looked closer, but I couldn't resist the theme from the end of SEARCHING FOR BOBBY FISCHER and just played Qa1+] **59 Kb3 Qxh8 60 Qxh8 Qxh8** [Now my queen has the upper hand against White's pawns.] **61 Kc4 Qb8** [threatening Qb4mate and holding up the advance of the center pawns] **62 Kd4 Kf3 63 g5 Kf4** [threatening Qb4mate again] **64 Kc5 Ke5 65 g6 Qb4+ 66 Kc6 Qxa4+ 67 Kc7 Qe8 68 d6 Qxg6 69 d7 Qd6+ 70 Kc8 Qc6+ 0-1** This wasn't really the way I wanted to begin my tournament, but I guess all's well that ends well. It wasn't an especially well-played game, but it sure was entertaining!

After winning a decent game against Keith Carson in round 2, I saved a draw from a lost ending in round 3 against the top seed, James Schuyler. In round 4 a long back-and-forth game with Shibut eventually went my way due to a blunder far into the second time control. This left me tied for first going into the last day of the tournament, though I had the worst tiebreaks of the three players with 3½ points. (Dov Gorman and Daniel Miller were the other two).

I played my best game of the tournament in round 5, beating Daniel Miller.

2010 Virginia Senior Championship - June 12-13, 2010
Lincolnia Senior Center, Alexandria
Age 50+ - Look for details in future issues

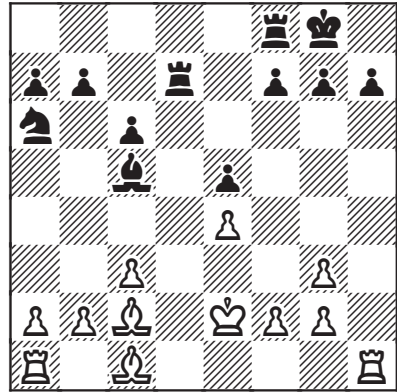


Andrew Samuelson - Daniel Miller

Bishop

1 e4 e5 2 Bc4 [I usually play 2 Bc4 anyway, but with my opponent being very well prepared in the Petroff I think it was an especially appropriate choice. In the Friday night blitz tournament I tried Nc3 Nf6 g3 Bb4 against him, but ended up losing.] **2...Nf6 3 d3 c6 4 Nf3 d5 5 Bb3 Bd6** [5...dxe4 6 Ng5 Be6 7 Bxe6 fxe6 8 Nxe4 is widely regarded as somewhat better for White in view of Black's doubled, isolated pawns.] **6 Nc3** [The main alternative is 6 exd5, not allowing Black to take on e4.] **6...dxe4 7 Ng5 O-O 8 Ngxe4 Nxe4 9 Nxe4 Bf5 10 Qf3 Bxe4** [If 10...Bg6 11 h4 Bxe4 12 dxe4. Taking immediately avoids giving White h4 for free—the extra kingside space might come in handy later.] **11 dxe4** [For once in this tournament I correctly anticipated the opening: I had looked over this line the night before, thinking I might see it on the board in the morning.] **11...Na6** [Kramnik once played 11...Nd7 12 c3 a5 and that became Black's most popular line. White has the two bishops but Black's knight is coming to c5 and he has activity. The position is fairly balanced.] **12 c3 Qh4!?** [It was still possible to go into the main line, 12...Nc5 13 Bc2 a5] **13 Bc2 Rad8** [I have a slight preference for White's long-term prospects after 13...Nc5 14 Qg3 Qe7 15 Be3 Ne6 thanks to the bishops, but Black would be pretty solidly placed as well.] **14 Qg3 Qxg3** [Perhaps this is too accommodating. I was happy to trade queens and play with the bishop pair in the ending. Maybe I would also

be a little better after 14...Qe7 15 O-O Nc7 but it's definitely manageable for Black.] **15 hxg3 Bc5 16 Ke2 Rd7**



17 a4! [The beginning of a powerful plan: I intend b4 next, to take away space from his pieces. In particular, the square c5 becomes unavailable to his knight or bishop.] **17...Rfd8** [The “obvious” plan of doubling rooks on the open file seems to get him into more trouble, as trading all the rooks allows my bishops and space to start taking over the game. He ends up condemned to a difficult defense with few prospects for active play.] **18 b4 Bf8 19 Be3** [Black has a bad bishop and his knight is short of outposts. Normally he would bring the knight over to d4 or f4 via e6, but here my pawns control the f4 and d4 squares.] **19...b6 20 Rhd1 Rxd1 21 Rxd1 Rxd1 22 Bxd1 c5!** [Trying to create a blockade is the best chance.] **23 b5 Nc7 24 Kd3 Bd6 25 Bb3** [I tried to keep his king tied to his f7-pawn for as long as possible.] **25...Kf8 26 g4 h6 27 g5 h5** [correctly trying to block up



the position.] **28 g3 Ke7 29 f4 exf4** [Going for a passed h-pawn, but also straightening out my pawn structure and opening the position a bit more for my bishops.] **30 gxf4 Ne6 31 e5 Bb8 32 Ke4** [32 f5 Nf8 33 Bf4 g6 34 Ke4 gxf5+ 35 Kxf5 would amount to the same thing.] **32...g6 33 f5 gxf5+ 34 Kxf5 Nf8** [34...Ng7+ 35 Ke4 Ne6 36 Bd1 h4 37 Bg4 Nf8 was a better try, hoping to tie my pieces to the pawns on e5 and g5. My position would remain somewhat better but I'd need a plan to break through.] **35 Bf2 Bc7 36 Bd5 Ng6 37 Bg3 h4 38 Bh2 h3?** [38...Nf8 39 Bf3—again White has a preferable position but must still find a way to penetrate.] **39 Bc4 Nh4+ 40 Ke4!** [40 Kg4 Ng6 just repeats moves] **40... Ng6** [He offered a draw here, but I'm

picking up the h3-pawn for free and so I declined.] **41 Bf1 Nf8 42 Bxh3 Ne6 43 Kd5** [Giving up the g5 pawn in order to invade the queenside with my king, but it was also possible to play 43 Kf5 Ng7+ 44 Kg4.] **43...Nxg5 44 Bg4 Kd8 45 Bg3!** [This is much stronger than 45 Bf4, mainly thanks to the threat of the pin Bh4. Now he has a hard time keeping my king from taking his whole queenside.] **45...f6** [if 45...Nh7 46 Bf5 Nf8 47 Kc6 winning] **46 Bh4 Ke7 47 exf6+ Kxf6 48 Kc6** [Finally! My king's invasion decides the game.] **48... Be5 49 c4 Bc3 50 Kb7 Kg6 51 Kxa7 Ba5 52 Bg3 Ne4 53 Bc7 Kg5 54 Be6 Kf6 55 Bg4 Nc3** [If he tries to repeat, 55...Kg5, I can just retreat my bishop to guard my pawns, 56 Bd1] **56 Bxb6 Bxb6+ 57 Kxb6 Nxa4+ 58 Kc6 1-0**

As I said, this was definitely my best game of the tournament. Afterwards I was in clear first with 4½-½. There were three players with 4 points: Schuyler, Edward Kitces, and young Jeevan Karamsetty. Since Karamsetty had committed to a last round bye and I was ahead of Schuyler on tiebreaks, all I needed was a draw with Kitces in the final round to become the new state champion.

I achieved a somewhat better endgame fairly early on against Kitces. At that point Shibut and Schuyler agreed to a draw on board two, which assured that a draw in my game would be good for clear first. Seeing little risk in the position, I played on solidly. In the end I was unable to win, but I collected the draw I needed to win the championship.



TD and VCF President Mike Hoffpauir
Photo by Richard Runke



The Chess Master's Hand *by Jimmy Allen*



This picture is from a video I shot in the skittles room. Life imitates Art! See Andrew Samuelson's hand raised in imitation of the Sistine Chapel ceiling's 'Creation of Adam'. My camera overcompensated for the dark room by over-saturating the image, making the color image resemble a renaissance painting. From the left, Geoff McKenna, Andrew Samuelson, Ed Kitces standing on the right, and Macon Shibut, right front.

I recorded 77 seconds of the scene as four state champions reviewed the crucial final round game Kitces-Samuelson immediately after it ended. The new champion led the group analysis for another ten or fifteen minutes and I thought about recording more, but this fly-on-the-wall didn't want to become a pest! I put the camera in my pocket and listened as four masters with an accumulated 12 state titles went over the plans and calculations that had played out over the previous four hours.

"If the rook is here or here, it's a draw, but not if it's here or here."

"Right."

"Oh, I looked at that whole line, I calculated that part."

"Yes, me, too"

"I saw this and I would have done that, and then that."

"I thought so."

The level of intensity and deep calculation of many different lines is amazing, and all still fresh in the minds of both players. They had played down to bare kings. Samuelson had been winning perhaps, but eventually he traded his last rook for Kitces's final pawn, making a safe draw for the tournament win.



“THE FIRST TOURNAMENT I’VE EVER WON...”

by Ernie Schlich

This is probably the first tournament I’ve ever won. Previously I had finished tied for 2nd in this event as well as in the lower sections of a couple New England Opens.



My 3rd round game against Joe Faries was very interesting for me. I thought I was pushing him all over the board/ Then, all of the sudden, I was completely on the defensive. And I hate endgames with queens—too much to calculate. Fortunately I was able to hold off his attack.

Joe Faries – Ernie Schlich Scandinavian

1 e4 d5 2 exd5 Nf6 3 Nf3 Bg4 4 Be2 Nxd5 5 d4 Nc6 6 O-O Qd7 7 c4 Nb6 8 d5 Bxf3 9 Bxf3 Ne5 10 b3 O-O-O 11 Bb2 Nxf3+ 12 Qxf3 f6?! 13 Nc3 e6 [White doesn’t have to exchange. 14 a4! prepares a steam roller against Black’s king.] 14 dxe6 Qxe6 15 Rfe1 Qf7 16 Nb5 a6 17 Nd4 Bb4 18 Red1 Rhe8 19 g3 Kb8 20 Nc2 Bc5 21 Ba3 Bxa3 22 Nxa3 Nd7 23 b4 Ne5 24 Rxd8+ Rxd8 25 Qe2 [White’s game is coming apart at the seams.] 25...Rd3 [25...Rd2!] 26 Nc2 Qxc4 27 Ne3 Qc3 28 Rd1 Kc8 29 Rxd3 Qxd3 30 Qb2 Nf3+ 31 Kg2 Qe4 32 a4 Ne5+ 33 Kg1 Qd4 34 Qb3 Qd8 35 b5 axb5 36 axb5 Kb8 37 Kg2 Qe8 38 h4 Nf7 39 f4 Nd6 40 b6 Qc6+ 41 Kh2 Qxb6 42 Qg8+ Nc8 43 Nd5 Qd6 44 f5 b5 45 Nf4 Qe7 46 Qd5 Nd6 47 Ne6 g6 48 g4 gxf5 49 gxf5 Qd7 50 Nd4 Qf7 51 Qc5 {51 Qxf7 Nxf7 52 Nxb5 was a better try –ed} Qc4 52 Qxc4 bxc4 53 Kg2 c5 54 Nc2 Nxf5 55 h5 Kc7 56 Kf2 Nd4 0-1

Unfortunately, many of the kids were all off to school or something, so the Open section was not quite as strong as in previous years. Abby Marshall & the defending state champion Adithya Balasubramanian were two of the notable missing. I was talking with a friend, who was also playing in the Amateur section,



who said he was going to 'play up' next year to avoid the kids. I told him don't bother as they would be playing there too. In the final round, I looked at the 6 top boards in the Amateur and only saw three adults.

I can understand the desire of some adults to avoid the kids, as you never know what type of game they will show up with. Personally, I think it's fun to play the up-and-coming players. If I win, not only do I feel a sense of accomplishment, I also have the future opportunity to say I beat so-and-so (without detailing when). I keep teasing GM Josh Freidel about his loss to me many, many years ago.

Fortunately for me, young kids sometime tend toward a weakness in the endings. For all the kids out there, study the endgame! Now only do you learn how to win or draw the games you should, you also have critical knowledge for making middlegame decisions. Most importantly, you learn square control, piece coordination, and timing.

Against Matthew Shih in the 4th round I won despite my un-Tal like sacrifice.

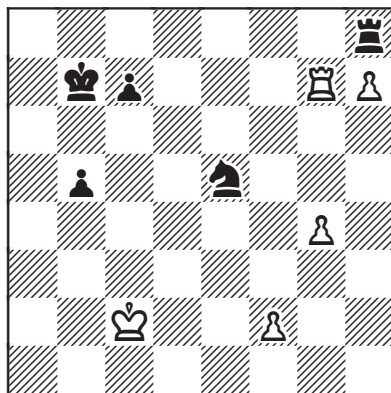
Ernie Schlich - Matthew Shih,

Pirc

1 e4 d6 2 d4 Nf6 3 Nc3 g6 4 Bg5 Bg7 5 Qd2 h6 6 Bf4 g5 7 e5 Nh5 8 Bxg5 [I can't really explain playing something I knew was totally unsound. I saw I was losing my e-pawn; this and somehow the fact that I lost my previous two games against him probably had a lot to do with it.] 8...hxg5 9 Qxg5 e6 10 Qg4 dxe5 11 O-O-O exd4 12 Bc4 Qf6 13 Ne4 Qf4+ 14 Qxf4 Nxf4 15 g3 Ng6 16 Nf3 Ne5 17 Nxe5 Bxe5 18 Rhe1 Bg7 19 h4 Bd7 20 Nc5 Bc6 21 Kb1 Nd7 22 Nd3 Nb6 23 Bb3 O-O-O 24 Ne5 Bxe5 25 Rxe5 Ba4 26 Bxa4 Nxa4 27 Ra5 Nb6 28 Rxa7 Kb8 29 Ra3 Rd5 30 Rf3 Rf8 31 Re1 Rb5 32 Rxe6 Nc4 33 Kc1 Rxb2 34 Re2 Rxa2 35 Kb1 Rb2+ 36 Kc1 b6 37 Rf4 d3 38 Rd2 Nxd2 39 Kxb2 dxc2 40 Kxc2 Rd8 41 h5 b5 42 h6 Nc4 43 Rxf7 Rh8 44 h7 Kb7 45 g4 Ne5 46 Rg7

(diagram)

46...Kb6? [46...Nxc4! 47 Rxc4 Rxh7. His failure to give back the knight for a probably won endgame is a perfect example of how not knowing theoretical endgames can lead to incorrect choices.] 47 g5 c6 48 f4 Nf3 49 g6 Nh4 50 f5 Kc5 51 Rg8 1-0





The 5th round against Tip Wolfe was a good game too. He drew me in last year's Closed. Finally I played young Jerome Mueller in the final round. He won the under 1700 section at the Atlantic Open on just the previous weekend, where I was directing.

Jerome Mueller – Ernie Schlich

English

1 Nf3 Nf6 2 c4 d5 3 b3 c6 4 g3 Bf5 5 Bg2 Nbd7 6 Bb2 e6 7 O-O h6 8 d3 Bd6
9 Nbd2 O-O 10 a3 Bh7 11 Re1 a5 12 e4 dxe4 13 dxe4 e5 14 Qc2 Qe7 15 Re2
b5 16 Ne1 Nc5 17 Nd3 Rfd8 18 Nxc5 Bxc5 19 cxb5 cxb5 20 a4 Rac8 21 Qb1
b4 22 Nc4 Ng4 23 Qc2 Bd4 24 Bxd4 exd4 25 Rd1 Ne5 26 Red2 d3 27 Qc1
Nxc4 28 bxc4 Bxe4 29 Re1 f5 30 f3 Qc5+ 31 Kh1 Bc6 0-1



Dzhindzhichashvili Simul

Grandmaster Roman Dzhindzhichashvili played 26 opponents at the Arlington Chess Club on Tues, July 28 and scored 20 wins, 3 draws and 3 losses. The 3 winning challengers were by David Sherman, Majur Juac & David Slack. Draws were scored by Troy Roberts, William Marcelino & Michael Atkins. GM Dzhindzhichashvili preceeded the exhibition with an interesting lecture.



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Harris Pavilion "Open Air" VI

by Don Millican

The 7th annual event at Harris Pavilion in Old Town Manassas, sixth in the "Open Air" format, retained its distinction as "the chess hottest tournament in Virginia." August 15 brought warm but not stifling weather to set the atmosphere without overwhelming the players. Roderick Brown finished where he started: at the top of the wall chart in the Open section with a perfect score of 5-0. Micha Herzog scored 4-1 to take 2nd. Third place was shared by April Tran & Mohamad Harif with Harif also winning top Unrated. Under 2000 and Under 1600 were shared by Jimmie Beattie, Thomas Board, Mark Scott & Glenn Shelton. Under 1200 went to Jnanadeep Dandu.

Attendance was good under the circumstances, but down from previous years. My illness in April and May affected turnout and amenities. I was in the hospital during the planning stages and could not get an announcement into CHESS LIFE. Consequently, there was no Grand Prix designation and a key source of publicity was unavailable. Kingstowne Chess Club and Harris Pavilion utilized alternate sources of promotion, and ultimately a dozen players competed in the Open while ten others competed in the non-rated Fun section. John Farrell also scored a perfect 5-0 to sweep the Fun group.

Anna Marie Morgan, Harris Pavilion's manager, provided the site and \$500 of the Open section's prize fund. Kingstowne Chess Club contributed the remaining \$300 prizes and trophies. Alex Passov contributed informal instruction to players and spectators.

14th Annual

Northern Virginia Open

November 7-8

Hotel Sierra, 45520 Dulles Plaza, Sterling VA 20166

5-SS, rds 1-3 game/2, rds 4-5 30/90 SD/1. \$\$2,300 (top 3 G) B/90: \$575-325-200, top X/A-Unr/B/C/D each \$190, top U1200 \$175, top Upset thru rd 4 \$100. Reg Saturday Nov 7, 8:30-9:45am, rds 10-2:30-7, 10-3:30. One irrevocable ½-pt bye allowed, must commit before rd 1. EF \$50 if rec'd by Nov 1, \$60 after 11/1 or at site. W, NS, FIDE. Hotel www.hotel-sierra.com luxurious single and double suites. 20 Reserved Single Suites available by Oct 28 at \$99. 703-435-9002 or 1-800.4.SIERRA and be sure to ask for Virginia Chess rates. Enter Michael Atkins, PO Box 6138, Alexandria VA 22306, make checks to "Virginia Chess". Info (no entries) via email matkins2@cox.net or online www.vachess.org/nova.htm.
20 Grand Prix points



Book Review by Tim Roglaski

THE NAKED PORTFOLIO MANAGER:
WHY RULES TRUMP REASON
ON WALL STREET by Robert J Fischer



This is my first book review. The book's author will be familiar to many Virginia chess players: a local USCF Life member who has attained the distinguished Life Master title. Yet, Bob will agree that his more prestigious titles are Certified Financial Planner and Multi-Millionaire. *The Naked Portfolio Manager* is not a chess book, but an excellent book about investing. This groundbreaking work is truly exceptional in how it discusses the similarities between chess thinking and investment decision-making. Does a discussion of an investment book deserve to be found within the pages of a chess magazine? Yes!

Bob presses home the point that the most successful investment technique is Statistical Prediction Methodology (SPM), versus a more traditional judgment method (TJM). Based on the statistical facts, a SPM will beat out a TJM every time. In other words, over a lifetime of investing, statistical prediction methods are clearly superior and will trounce judgment-based methods.

The key to statistical prediction methods is to ascertain the handful of rules required to reach a successful investment decision. Like zero and double-zero on a casino roulette wheel, the book will "show you how to tilt the odds in your favor just slightly. And while the edge this truth will give you is small and difficult to measure in the short term, over a lifetime of investing, the advantage it will give you can have a very meaningful impact on your ability to accumulate wealth."

Bob quickly comes right to the point, succinctly stating on page 5: "The first decision should be not to buy stocks or pick managers, but to select a winning strategy and a method of implementing that strategy." Unlike traditional portfolio managers (or other decision makers) who rely primarily on experience and personal judgment, SPMs always make good decisions. Once the sound investment rules have been ascertained, SPMs make better, more accurate, and less expensive decisions than any judgment-based manager does.

The world's strongest chess playing program, Rybka, is essentially a SPM, albeit an incredibly complicated one requiring hundreds of chess-specific heuristic rules. Give Rybka the same position with the same amount of time, and she will calculate the same results every time. Because of his qualified chess background, Bob uses dozens of chess analogies to highlight how grandmasters and portfolio managers

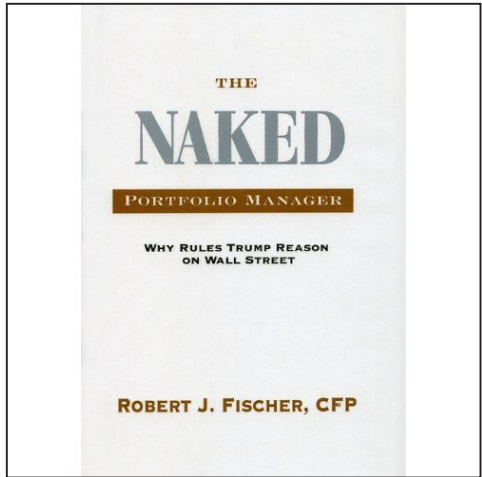


make similar mistakes in their thinking, hammering home the superiority of SPMs. It is fascinating how investing, chess, and human psychology are all presented within an interwoven framework.

Every page contains something new and interesting. *The Naked Portfolio Manager* is an easy and enjoyable read without any technical analysis convolution, and Bob uses truly original examples. I am impressed with the book and put it on par with another easy read, my favorite classic, *How I Made \$2,000,000 in the Stock Market* by Nicolas Darvas. One striking similarity between these two books is how highly profitable decisions can be made with very limited information, or more specifically, selective quality information, without allowing yourself to be bombarded with Wall Street noise. Personally, this is a highly engrossing book since I learn best from solid examples. *The Naked Portfolio Manager* contains hundreds of outstanding thought-provoking examples.

If you desire more free time to play chess (or contribute material to VIRGINIA CHESS), then consider investing wisely in stocks using a SPM. Personally, I believe that playing the stock market is like playing correspondence chess.

There is no need to hurry since you trade only on your terms. I recently cashed out several individual stocks, netting a high double-digit percentage profit (due primarily to positions secured by Chinese ADRs). Yet, I admit that if I had availed myself of a SPM, I know instinctively that my results could have been better. In my opinion, the biggest advantage of SPMs is that they take debilitating emotions out of the picture.



Unlike some rushed Grandmaster-written chess books, *The Naked Portfolio Manager* is appreciatively complete with multiple personal recommendations, forward, acknowledgments, preface, chapters, conclusion, author description, glossary, endnotes, additional readings, and an index. The book will explain why Bob choose both the unique title and great cover (I love it!). *The Naked Portfolio Manager* is available from bookstores, Amazon, or you can obtain a personal autographed copy online from www.nakedportfoliomanager.com. Bob has scored a crushing win with his superb first book, *The Naked Portfolio Manager*. I strongly recommend it for chess playing stock investors!



Correspondence Chess

by Alex Herrera

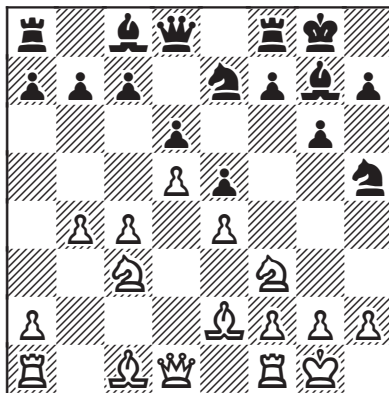
Of course opening research is an important aspect of successful correspondence play. It gives us a glimpse into the way chess professionals prepare for games: they know the right antecedents and

try to find improvements.

In some cases there are relatively few stem games that are essential to know. Take for example the KID bayonet attack with 9...Nh5.

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 Nf3 O-O 6 Be2 e5 7 O-O Nc6 8 d5 Ne7 9 b4 Nh5

I believe that there are two games that are the most important to study for the current assessment of this position:



Loek Van Wely - Teimour Radjabov
FIDE World Cup, Khanty
Mansiysk 2005

10 Re1 f5 11 Ng5 Nf6 12 f3 Kh8 13 Ne6 Bxe6 14 dxe6 fxe4 15 fxe4 Nc6 16 Nd5 Nxe4 17 Bf3 Nf6 18 b5 Nxd5 19 bxc6 Nb6 20 cxb7 Rb8 21 c5 e4 22 Rxe4 dxc5 23 Qxd8 Rfxd8 24 Bg5 Re8 25 Rd1 Bd4+ 26 Rxd4 cxd4 27 e7 h6 28 Bf6+ Kg8 29 Rxd4 Kf7 30 Rd8 Nd7 31 Bh4 g5 32 Rxd7 Ke6 33 Bg4+ Kf6 34 Be1 Rxb7 35 Bc3+ Kg6 36 Bf3 Rb1+ 37 Kf2 Rc1 38 Rxc7 Kf5 39 Bh5 Rc2+ 40 Kf3 1-0

Ivan Cheparinov - Teimour Radjabov
MTel Masters, Sofia 2008

10 Re1 f5 11 Ng5 Nf6 12 f3 Kh8 13 Ne6 Bxe6 14 dxe6 Nh5 15 g3 Bf6 16 exf5 Nxf5 17 g4 e4 18 Nxe4 Bxa1 19 Bg5 Bd4+ 20 Kh1 Qe8 21 e7 Nxe7 22 Qxd4+ Ng7 23 b5 Ng8 24 Bd2 Qf7 25 Bc3 h6 26 f4 Rae8 27 Rf1 Nf6 28 Bf3 Nd7... and $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ on the 46th move after mutual mistakes. But White seems to have some pull, so the ball is in Black's court to find an improvement.

Armed with these two examples I was able to win a nice game of my own:

The Arlington Chess Club Has Moved

The regular Friday night meetings of the Arlington Chess Club have moved effective August 14. The new location is Arlington Forest United Methodist Church, 4701 Arlington Blvd, Arlington 22203. Pretty much all other details are the same as always.

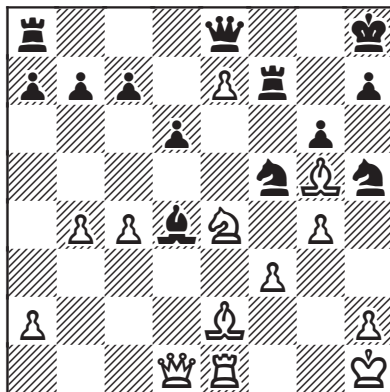


Alex Herrera - Francisco Javier Tarrío Ocaña

WS/MN/047 ICCF, 2009

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 Nf3 0-0 6 Be2 e5 7 0-0 Nc6 8 d5 Ne7 9 b4 Nh5 10 Re1 f5 11 Ng5 Nf6 12 f3 Kh8 13 Ne6 [Van Wely's novelty. The Knight goes to e6 without provoking h6. The idea is to make the defensive move ...g5 more difficult.] **13...Bxe6 14 dxe6 Nh5** [Radjabov varied with this novelty (and won) the next time he faced Van Wely in this variation.] **15 g3 Bf6 16 exf5** [And this is Cheparinov's novelty, apparently a good one. Of course Teimour had considered this possibility, but he still came into some danger before Cheparinov erred in the middle game.] **16...Nxf5 17 g4 e4 18 Nxe4 Bxa1 19 Bg5 Bd4+ 20 Kh1 Qe8 21 e7 Rf7** (diagram)

And here my opponent deviated from Radjabov's 21...Nxe7. He should have double and triple checked to make sure 21...Rf7 was an improvement, given that the level of preparation of a super GM like Radjabov is so deep. He must have preferred 21...Nxe7 for a reason.



22 gxf5 Be5 23 f4! [The right idea is to deflect the knight and create dominant passed pawns.] **23...Nxf4 24 f6 Ne6** [24...Nxe2 was better but Black stands clearly worse.] **25 Bh4!** [Again the right idea: on h4 the bishop still supports the ever-important pawns.] **25...Nd4 26 Bg4** [Black is lost. The bishop will be traded for the knight once it goes to f5, the queens can also be traded, and then White just wins at his leisure.] **26...Nf5 27 Bxf5 gxf5 28 Ng3 Bxg3** [Not good but the alternatives were no better. If Black leaves his bishop on e5, White can even play Rxe5 when the time is right.] **29 hxg3 Qc6+ 30 Qd5 Re8 31 b5 Qxd5+ 32 cxd5**

Black is completely busted. After a move like 32...h6, White plays Rc1 and mops up the queen side pawns, all the while preserving the trump of the passed pawns. Eventually the d-pawn will push forward as well, and the f-, e-, and d-pawns would be stronger than a whole rook. **1-0**

Hampton Sports & Chess Festival?

Planning is just starting, but this event will hopefully be held February 19-21, 2010 in Hampton and include a Friday evening Blitz and simultaneous exhibition; a Saturday scholastic tournament under VSQA; an Open chess tournament on Saturday and Sunday; and an unrated area city championships on Sunday. Keep an eye on <http://mysite.verizon.net/eschlich> for latest news. Volunteers to help staff the event and do publicity are needed - contact Ernie Schlich, ESchlich@verizon.net



Hampton Roads Fall Swiss

by Ernie Schlich

The Hampton Roads Fall Swiss was a successful tournament and ended with James Schuyler in clear first place. Thirty paid players turned out on September 19, including a very nice contingent from Richmond with several of the young players. The prize fund was paid in full with an additional scholastic prize added.

The first round was quite interesting when Matthew Shih and Tip Wolfe both suffered upsets. The final round began with three players still perfect at 3-0: James Schuyler, Dan Miller & Kevin Brown. James and Dan played each other while Kevin was paired against Dexter Wright (2½-½). James and Dexter won, resulting in prize winners in the top two places. Other prizewinners included Himanshu Keskar & Kevin Brown (tied for top A); Tip Wolfe, Nicholas Schaub & Vikas Rajasekaran (= top B); Gregory Akerman (C); Correy Xu (D); and Matthew Shih, Vignesh Rajasekaran, Yash Tekriwal, Andrew Luo, Alexander Liang & Steve Chen all tied for top Junior.

The Holiday Inn site was very nice, well lit and spacious with free coffee provided for the players. It will be an excellent home for the David Zofchak Memorial on Nov 21-22. (see announcement on opposite page)

Kevin Brown - Dexter Wright

Caro-Kann

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 Nf3 Nf6 5 Bd3 Bg4 6 h3 Bxf3 7 Qxf3 e6 8 Bg5 Be7 9 c3 h6 10 Bh4 Qb6 11 b3 Nc6 12 Nd2 O-O 13 O-O Rfe8 14 Rae1 Qa5 15 Re2 Kf8 16 Bb1 Rac8 17 Qd3 Nb8 18 Re3 Nbd7 19 f4 Rc6 20 g4 Rec8 21 c4 Bb4 22 Nf3 dxc4 23 bxc4 Rxc4 24 g5 hxg5 25 fxg5 Nd5 26 Rxe6 Nf4 27 Qh7 Nxe6 28 g6 f6 29 Bxf6 Nxf6 30 Ne5 Rc1 31 Nd7+ Ke7 32 Nxf6 Rxf1+ 33 Kxf1 Rf8 34 Qh4 Rxf6+ 35 Kg2 Qg5+ 0-1

Vikas Rajasekaran - James Schuyler

Modern

1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 Be3 c6 4 c3 Nf6 5 Bd3 d6 6 h3 e5 7 Nf3 Nbd7 8 Nbd2 O-O 9 Qc2 a5 10 O-O Nh5 11 Nc4 Qe7 12 Qb3 b5 13 Ncd2 Ba6 14 a4 bxa4 15 Qc2 Bxd3 16 Qxd3 Rfb8 17 Rxa4 exd4 18 Nxd4 Nc5 19 Nxc6 Qc7 20 Bxc5 Qxc6 21 Bxd6 Rd8 22 Qc2 Qxd6 23 Nb3 Qb6 24 Rb1 Nf4 25 Nc1 Be5 26 b4 Qf6 27 c4 Qg5 28 Kf1 Qxg2+ 29 Ke1 Qg1 mate 0-1

Hampton Roads Winter Swiss

December 5, 2009

Holiday Inn, 1815 W Mercury Blvd, Hampton Va

(at the junction of I-64 and W Mercury Blvd)

4-SS, Game/70. \$700 b/30. Reg to 8:30-9am, rd 1 9:20... for latest info check <http://mysite.verizon.net/eschlich> or phone 757-853-5296. EF \$37 advance, \$45 at site. *Enter:* Checks payable to Ernest Schlich, 1370 S Braden Crescent, Norfolk, Va 23502.

The first 2010 event in this series (Spring Swiss) will be on March 20.



Kingstowne Chess Club

by Don Millican

QUAD #58/ACTION-PLUS #30

In the nearly six-year history of the Kingstowne Quads, there have periods of feast and famine; times when it seemed everyone came to play and times when almost no one came. The previous month's tournaments were a famine. The 58th version of the Quads and the 30th Action-Plus, held August 1, were both feasts.

Twenty-four players entered the Action-Plus while the Quad drew an even dozen—not a bad turnout for a tournament that had no publicity in CHESS LIFE (my illness in April and May caused the tournaments to miss the deadline). A concurrent tournament in Baltimore was far enough away not to be serious competition.

Stephen Jablon & Karl Peterson scored 2-1 in the top Quad. Jablon took the 1st place silver medal on tiebreak, leaving Peterson with bronze. Tanmy Khattar won the middle Quad with 2½ points. Alan Coulter was just behind with 2 points. In the bottom Quad, a silver medal went to William Li with 2½ points, with Mohamad Harrif snagging the bronze medal.

Alex Passov had some company at the top of the prize winners in the Action-Plus, sharing 1st-3rd places with Charles Fey & Keith Carson. They all scoring 4 points. In addition, Fey won the under 1800 prize. Francis Chen and Vishal Erabelli tied for top under 1400.

QUAD #59/ACTION-PLUS #31

The 59th edition of the Kingstowne Quads was a famine, while the 31st Action-Plus was the feast. The events on September 12 drew a combined 31 players: four for the Quad and twenty-seven for the Action-Plus. It would be understandable if several regulars took time off after the Virginia Closed the previous weekend. True enough,

17th David Zofchak Memorial

November 21-22, 2009

Holiday Inn, 1815 W Mercury Blvd, Hampton Va

(at the junction of I-64 and W Mercury Blvd)

5-SS, rds 1-2 Game/2, rds 3-5 30/75, SD-1. \$\$900 b/50, will be increased with 55 paid entries, will not be reduced on any account beyond 75%: \$150-130-100, 1500-1800 & unrated \$100-75, 1200-1499 \$100-75, under 1200 \$75-59. EF: \$40 by 11/18, then \$50. Reg 9-9:30am, rds 9:30-2-7, 9:30-2:45. Single ½pt bye available. Hotel \$79+tax, (757) 838-0200. Info www.vachess.org or email ESchlich@verizon.net. *Enter:* Checks payable to Virginia Chess and mail to Ernest Schlich, 1370 S Braden Crescent, Norfolk, Va 23502



several from other states and provinces participated (I say "provinces" because one Action-Plus participant was from Ontario) who had been ineligible for the Closed.

A single Quad section usually means disparate ratings and this time was no exception. Two A-players, a C-player and an under-1000 comprised the field. Karl Peterson won the section and a silver medal with $2\frac{1}{2}$ while perennial Quad player Stephen Jablon took the bronze. None of the four players was shut out, the under-1000 player scoring his $\frac{1}{2}$ point at the expense of Jablon.

The Action-Plus found Alex Passov at the top of the wall chart and top of the heap, winning with $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$. Kartik Gupta, Keith Carson, Adam Chrisney & Saroja Erabelli tied for 2nd through 5th. Gupta & Erabelli also tied for under 1800. Kiffa Conroy & Daniel Xu tied for under 1400. In his first tournament, Ronnie Coleman scored 2 to win top Unrated.

The Quads and Action-Pluses take October off in lieu of the 6th Kingstowne Fall Festival on **October 10-11**. The series finishes 2009 with Quad #60/Action-Plus #32 on November 14.

Springfield Open - Jan 29-31, 2010

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

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

5-SS, rd 1 Game/120, rds 2-5 30/90, SD/60. \$\$ 2,200 b/80 (top three guaranteed), one section: \$550-350-200, top X/A/B/C/D and U1200 each \$170, top unrated \$100. Reg Fri, Jan 29, 5-7:45pm, rds 8, 10-4, 10-3:30. One irrevocable $\frac{1}{2}$ pt bye available, must declare before rd 1. EF \$50 if rec'd by Jan 22, \$60 later and at site. Hotel \$79 reserve before Jan 15, 2009. Amazing renovations to the hotel since last tournament here! Phone 1-877-834-3613, mention NoVa Chess and ask for chess rate. W, NS, FIDE. JGP. Enter: Make checks to Michael Atkins, PO Box 6138, Alexandria Va 22306. Latest info via email matkins2@cox.net (no email entries!) or online <http://members.cox.net/tournaments/springfield.htm>

20 Grand Prix points

Oscar Shapiro D.C. Open - October 24-25, 2009

US Chess Center, 1501 M Street NW, Washington DC 20005

\$\$G 3000 in 5 sections: *Open* 4-SS, 40/2, SD/1. EF \$48 by 10/15. \$500-300-200, under 2200 \$150-100. DC Championship title and trophy to top DC resident. Reg 10-11, rds 11:30-6, 11-5. *Amateur* (under 2000) 5-SS, 30/90, SD/1. EF \$43 by 10/15. \$300-200-100, under 1800 \$150-100, DC Amateur Championship title and trophy to top DC resident. Reg 8-9, rds 9:30-2:45-8, 11-4:30. *Reserve* (under 1600) 5-SS, 30/90, SD/1. EF \$43 by 10/15. \$300-200-100, under 1400 \$150-100. Reg 8-9, rds 9:30-2:45-8, 11-4:30. *Booster* (under 1200) 4-SS, Game/45. EF \$13 by 10/15. \$50 + trophy for first, trophies and medallions thru 15 places. Reg 12-1, rds 1:30-4-6:30-8. *Beginner* (open to children age 11 and younger rated under 800 or unrated) 4-SS, Game/30. EF \$13 by 10/15. Trophies and medallions thru 15 places. Reg 12-1, rds 1:30-2:45-4:00-5:15. *All* EF \$7 more after 10/15. Make checks payable to "DCCL", mail to US Chess Center, 1501 M St NW, Washington, DC 20005. Info: 202/857-4922. www.chessctr.org. WCL. JGP.

20 Grand Prix points



36th Annual

Eastern Open

December 27-30, 2009

Westin Washington DC City Center Hotel

1400 M St NW, Washington, DC

Over 60 prizes! Class prizes for each 100 points!

8-SS, 40/2, SD/1. \$\$17,000 Unconditionally Guaranteed. 5 Sections: *Open* \$2,000-1,250-750, under 2400 \$500-250, under 2300/Unrated \$500-250. FIDE Rated. *Under 2200* \$1,000-500-250, under 2100 \$300, under 2000 \$250. *Under 1900* \$1,000-500-250, under 1800 \$300, under 1700 \$250. *Under 1600* \$1,000-500-250, under 1500 \$300, under 1400 \$250. *Under 1300* \$750-400-200, under 1150/Unrated \$200. Max prize for unrated players is \$250. *New Special Prizes!* Most Improved Player: \$250-150 in each of the top 3 sections for top performance rating exceeds current rating no other section prize won. Play up, play well, and win \$. Upset: \$50 per round in each of the top 4 sections, max 2 prizes per player. Best Played Game: Open section \$100 in each of last 2 rounds; Under 2200 section \$50 in each of last 2 rounds. Submitted games must be annotated. EFs if received by Dec 15: Open \$125; U2200 \$110; U1900 \$100; U1600 \$100; U1300 \$80; Unrated \$50. All \$20 more at site. Reentry \$60 and limited to rounds 2-4. GMs free, \$125 deducted from any prize; IMs \$50 advance entry, \$75 deducted from any prize. *No credit cards accepted.* On site reg Sat 12/26, 5-6pm, Sun 12/27, 10am-noon. Rds: 12/27: 1-7:30, 11-6, 11-6, 10-4:30. ½pt byes available any round, byes for rds 6-8 must commit before rd 3. Limit 2 byes for class and improved player prizes.

100 Grand Prix points

Eastern Open Side Events

Warm up for the tourney by playing GM Alex Ivanov in a Simul on Dec 26 at 6 pm. \$20 for registered players, \$30 for non-registered players. You select color and opening.

Quads 3-RR quads on 12/27, 12/28, & 12/30. \$\$ \$80 each quad, EF \$30. Quad 12/27 Game/60, reg 1:30-2:15, rds 2:30-5-8. Quads 12/28 & 12/30 Game/75, reg 9:30-10:15, rds: 10:30-2-5. Hotel \$79! Call 202-429-1700 by 12/4 and ask for this very low rate. WCL JGP. *Enter:* Make checks or money orders payable to Eastern Open, mail to Tom Beckman, PO Box 42225, Washington DC 20015-2225. Please include Name, USCF# & Exp, Rating, Section, Entry Fee, Email, and Phone. Info only (no email entries) tombeckman@rcn.com

Eastern Open Blitz Championship (QC) - Dec 29, 2009

5-rd Double Swiss. Game/5 minutes. \$\$1200 b/40 (top 3 guaranteed): \$350-\$200-\$150, under 2200 \$140, under 1900 \$125, under 1600 \$115, under 1300 \$110. EF \$35 if rec'd by 12/22, \$45 at site, Only cash entries at site. Mail will not be checked after 12/24, so do not send late entries! Register any time during Eastern Open tournament and 12/29 until 10pm. Rounds will start at 10:15pm promptly and successive round pairings posted as soon as they are ready. One bye for two-1½ points allowed only for late entry. Higher of USCF and Quick used for pairings and prizes. See Eastern Open announcement for hotel details. *Enter:* Make check payable to Michael Atkins, PO Box 6138, Alexandria Va 22306 - 10 Grand Prix points



Chess Clubs

Please send additions / corrections to the Editor:

♖ Alexandria: Kingstowne Chess Club, Kingstowne South Center, 6080 Kingstowne Village Parkway, Tuesdays 7-9:30pm, info Rob McKinney, robcmckinney@aol.com, (703) 924-5883 ♖ Arlington: Arlington Chess Club, Lyon Village Community House, 1920 N Highland St (at Lee Hwy), Fridays 7:30pm. Registration for rated Ladder and Action events ends 8pm. Blitz/Quick tourney first Friday of each month. Info www.wizard.net/~matkins or John Campbell (703) 534-6232 ♖ Arlington Seniors Chess Club, Madison Community Center, 3829 N Stafford St, Mondays, 9:45am, info (703) 228-5285 ♖ Ashburn: Ashburn Chess Club, Sakasa Tea and Coffee House, 44927 George Washington Blvd, Suite 125. Tuesdays 5pm, Saturdays 3pm. Bring board and set. Info www.meetup.com/Ashburn-Chess-Club/ or Scott Knoke, 703-433-2146 ♖ Blacksburg: Chess Club of Virginia Tech, GB Johnson Student Center, Rm 102, Virginia Tech, Wednesdays 7-9pm ♖ Charlottesville: Charlottesville Chess Club, St Mark Lutheran Church, Rt 250 & Alderman Rd, Monday evenings ♖ Chesapeake: Zero's Sub Shop, 3116 Western Branch Blvd (Rt 17), (Poplar Hill Plaza near Taylor Rd intersection), Mondays 6pm to closing ♖ Great Bridge United Methodist Church, corner of Battlefiled Blvd & Stadium Dr, Tuesdays, 6:30-10pm, info 686-0822 ♖ Culpeper: Culpeper Chess Club, Culpeper County Public Library, Rt 29 Business (near Safeway). Adults meet Tuesdays 6:30-8:45pm, juniors Thursdays 6:30-8:45pm. Info John Clark 540-829-6606 ♖ Fort Eustis: contact Sorel Utsey 878-4448 ♖ Danville: Danville Chess Club, Danville YMCA, 810 Main Street. Mondays 6:30-9:30 pm. Info John Thompson 434-799-8898 ♖ Fredricksburg: Spotsylvania Chess, Lutheran Church Rte West 4.7 miles from Exit 130 on I-95. Every Tuesday 6-9pm, info Mike Cornell 785-8614 ♖ Glenss: Rappahannock Community College - Glenss Campus Chess Club, Glenss Campus Library, Tuesdays 8-10pm in the student lounge, info Zack Loesch 758-5324(x208) ♖ Harrisonburg: Shenandoah Valley Chess Club, Trinity Presbyterian Church, corner of S High (rt 42) & Maryland Ave (Port Republic Rd), Fridays 7:30pm, <http://cep.jmu.edu/huffinacj/svcc/svchome.html> ♖ McLean: Booz Allen Hamilton CC, Hamilton Bldg, Rm 2032, 8283 Greensboro Dr. Thursdays, info Thomas Thompson, 703-902-5418, thompson_thomas@bah.com ♖ Mechanicsville: Stonewall Library, Stonewall Pkwy, Mondays 6:30-9pm 730-8944 ♖ Norfolk: Tidewater Chess Club, Beth Messiah Synagogue, 7130 Granby St, Norfolk. Tuesdays, 7-10 pm, Ernie Schlich (757) 853-5296, eschlich@verizon.net ♖ Larchmont Public Library, 6525 Hampton Blvd, Wednesday 6-9pm ♖ ODU Chess Club, Webb Univ Ctr, Old Dominion University; info www.odu.edu/~chess ♖ Reston: Reston Community Ctr Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Rd, Thursdays 6:30-9:30 pm. Limited number of sets & boards available, or bring your own. No fee, but you must sign-in at each meeting ♖ Richmond: The Kaissa Chess Club, Willow Lawn Shopping Center, in the food court, Thursdays 6-9pm. info Gary Black (804) 741-1666 ♖ The Side Pocket, Cross Roads Shopping Center, Staples Mill Rd. A billiards parlor with chess tables set up any hour, every day ♖ Huguenot Chess Knights, Bon Air Library Community Room, 1st & 3rd Friday of each month, 7-11pm, info Walter Chester 276-5662 ♖ Roanoke: Roanoke Valley Chess Club, Saturday afternoons 1-6 pm in the coffee shop of the Roanoke Natural Foods Co-Op, 1319 Grandin Road SW. For more information www.roanokechess.com or write PO Box 14143, Roanoke, Va 24038, (540) 725-9525 ♖ Stafford: Bella Cafe Chess Nights, 3869 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Suite 103, Stafford, VA 22554. Tuesdays & Thursdays 7pm -10, sets and boards on site, frequent tourneys. Contact Will at 703-445-8855 or bellabagelcafe@yahoo.com ♖ Virginia Beach: Tidewater Community Chess Club, Bldg D ("Kempsville") Cafeteria, Tidewater Community College Va Beach Campus, 1700 College Crescent Rd. Mondays 7-10pm ♖ Williamsburg: Williamsburg CC, The Williamsburg Landing, 5700 Williamsburg Landing Drive, 2nd floor Game Room. Tuesdays 7-10pm. Don Woolfolk 757-229-8774 or Tom Landvogt 757-565-5792 ♖ Winchester: Winchester Chess Club, Westminster-Canterbury Home for the Elderly, Tuesdays 7pm ♖ Woodbridge: Prince William Chess Club, Tuesdays 7-9pm at the Game Parlor, Prince William Square, 14400 Smoketown Road. Contact Dick Stableford, 703-670-5887 or o6usmc@comcast.net

A photograph of a chess set on a checkered board. The board is set up with black and white pieces. In the background, there is a black storage box with a red interior, and a red window frame. The text "THE HOUSE OF H. Staunton STAUNTON™" is overlaid on the image.

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