

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

2010 - Issue #4

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a non-profit organization for the use of its members. Dues for regular adult membership are \$10/yr. Junior memberships are \$5/yr.

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Charlottesville Open

by David Long

INTERNATIONAL MASTER OLADAPO ADU overpowered a field of 54 players to win the Charlottesville Open over the July 10-11 weekend. Adu took first place in fine style with a perfect 5-0 score, finishing a full point ahead of his closest rivals. He defeated three of the four players who tied for 2nd. Experts Eric Most, Larry Larkins, Darwin Li & Charles Yang all finished 4-1 to share the runners-up spot.



IM Oladapo Adu

Under 2000 honors were divided between Brian Garbera, Jinseok Kim, Franco Moncera Jose & David Long, with $3\frac{1}{2}$ points apiece. Also scoring $3\frac{1}{2}$ to win the under 1800 section were Richard Li & Robert Nolan. Aditya Srikanth & Chris Geofreda split top under 1400; and Shreya Shetty & Alex Yehai shared the under 1200 prize.

The field included two masters, five experts, 13 A-players, and 34 others of assorted age and playing strength. Youth was strongly represented, and scored well. Ernie Schlich expertly directed the event at the Comfort

Inn off Route 250 near Monticello, east of town. Everyone had a good time on a beautiful weekend at a fine playing site, which included plenty of coffee and large-screen cable for the final two games of the World Cup. *Goooooal!*

New Club in Charlottesville

Meeting weekly at the Senior Center, 1180 Pepsi Place, 6-8pm on Thursdays. Free and open to players of all ages and skill levels. Children welcome, accompanied by parent. Mentoring possible when available. If you know how to play and would like to teach, come and help coach the kids! Bring chess sets. 434-244-2977 for info.



74th Annual

Virginia Closed State Championship

September 4-6, 2010

Hilton Garden Inn Richmond-Innsbrook

4050 Cox Rd, Glen Allen, VA

Open to Virginia residents, military stationed in Virginia, and students attending any Virginia school, college or university (must show valid ID or other proof of Fall 2010 enrollment). 6-SS, 30/90, SD/1. \$\$2,350 b/75 paid entries. Two sections, Open and Amateur (under 1800). *Open* \$500-300-200, X, A \$100 each. Trophy + title of Virginia State Champion to 1st overall, additional trophies to top X & A. *Amateur* \$400-200-150, C, D, U1200, Unrated \$100 each. Trophy + title of Virginia Amateur Champion to 1st overall, additional trophies to top C, D, U1200. Trophies to top Senior (60+), Junior (U18) and Woman across both sections based on adding 1 point to Open section scores. Reg Friday, Sept 3, 3-6:30pm & Saturday Sep 4, 10:00am-12:30pm. Rds 1-7, 11-5, 10-3:30. EF \$55 if received by Sept 2, \$65 thereafter and on site. Re-entry with ½-pt bye allowed for rd 2 only, \$30. Two irrevocable ½-pt byes available, must declare before start of rd 2. Hotel \$89, reserve before 8/16 and ask for chess rate (804) 521-2900, <http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com>. W, NS, NC, FIDE. Chess Magnet School JGP. *Enter* Make checks to "VIRGINIA CHESS" and mail to Mike Hoffpauir, ATTN: VA Closed, 405 Hounds Chase, Yorktown, VA 23693. Info mhoffpauir@aol.com, 757-846-4805, or <http://www.vachess.org/2010closed.htm>.

Annual VCF Business Meeting

Saturday, Sept 4, 10am-12 noon.

Friday Night Blitz

Sept 3

Open to all USCF members. Same venue, pre-entry address, etc as main tournament. 4 or 5-DblSS depending on number of players. EF \$25 if received by Sept 2, \$35 thereafter and at door. Two sections, Open and Amateur (U1800). \$\$500 b/30 paid entries. Rd 1 at 7:00pm, subsequent rounds paired as soon as practicable.



See page 15 for a complete list of Virginia state chess champions



Virginia Senior Championship

by Mike Atkins

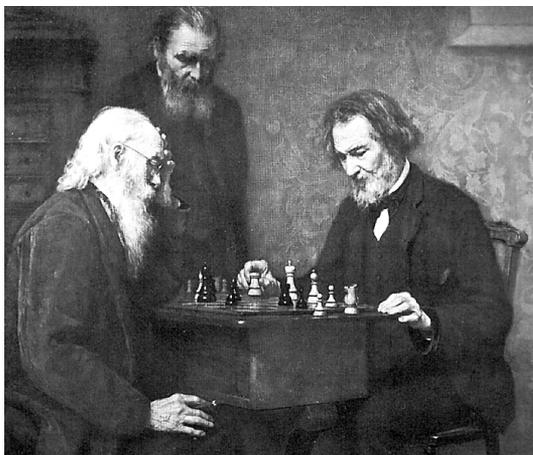
THE VIRGINIA SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP was hatched as an idea in August 2009. I was working with a client who was receiving day services at the center and noticed a really nice and large ballroom area being used for dance classes. Being a county employee myself, I tracked down the right contact and eventually worked out an agreement to use the space. It seemed natural and appropriate - a Senior tournament in a Senior center.

Ten months later it came to fruition when 44 players spent a hot June weekend finding out who would be the first Virginia Senior Champion. Four-time state champ Geoff McKenna squeaked out a title on tiebreaks over IM Walter Morris, Keith Carson & Harry Cohen (who played *hors concours* as a Marylander). They all finished with $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$. The last round found board one the way it is supposed to be: the two highest rated players battling it out. McKenna and Morris played to a tough draw, but the tension was not over.

Keith Carson also entered the finale at 4-0 after defeating Allan Savage the previous round. He was playing Neal Goldberg, up an exchange or positional advantage most of the time, and looking very much like the new Senior champ in the making. However, his game finally played out to be a draw. Cohen won against Wilbert Brown to catch up with the leaders.

The winners of the Age Bracket prizes were Keith Karson (top age 60-69), Bill Carroll (70-79), and John Campbell (80+). Top under 1700 split four ways between Michael Hirsch (playing in his first weekend tournament since he was 12!), Glenn Floostrom, Vernon Hall & Rene Stolbach. Under 1400 was shared by Lewis Kellert, Robert LeBlanc, Lloyd McLaughlin & Hewitt Rose.

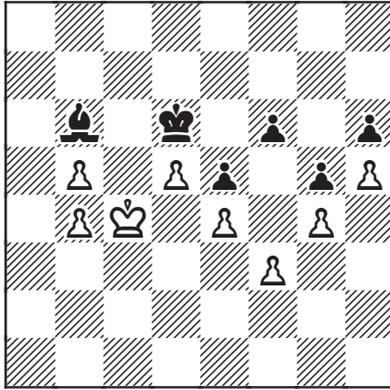
Most players seemed to enjoy the event, commenting on how much more quiet is was than normal tournaments. Wonder why that was? :)





When a Draw Is (isn't?) a Draw

VIRGINIA CHESS #2009/2 presented Matthew Freeman's analysis of the climactic game at the 2009 Virginia Open between Daniel Yeager and GM Eugene Perelshteyn. The game ended in a draw, dictated as much by the clocks and tournament crosstable as by the position on the board. The Editor appended to Freeman's article a relatively lengthy analysis of the final position.



Black to Play

Black wins if he can switch his king and bishop. White's counterplay will consist of a well-timed d5-d6 followed by slipping his king through K-d5-e6 to attack Black's pawns.

Without repeating the entire #2009/2 article, our main line went **60...Bd8** [Δ Kc7, Be7, Kb6, Bd6] **61 Kc3** [61 b6? Bxb6 62 Kb5 was shown to lose] **Kc7 62 Kc4 Be7 63 b6+ Kxb6 64 d6 Bxd6 65 Kd5 Bxb4 66 Ke6 Kc5** ["There isn't enough room for the bishop to drop back and defend the kingside pawns, so the race is on."] **67 Kxf6 Kd4 68 Kg7! Ke3 69 Kxh6 Kxf3 70 Kxg5** [not 70 Kg7? Kxe4 71 h6 Kf4 72 h7 e4; nor 70 Kg6? Bf8 71 Kf7 Kxg4 72 Kxf8 Kxh5] **Kxe4 71 h6 Bd2+ 72 Kg6 Bxh6 73 Kxh6 Kf3 74 g5 e4 75 g6 e3** and both pawns promote.

Bill Hook Memorial Blitz Tournament

Sept 25, 2010

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

8 rd -double swiss (16 games), Game/5 minutes. \$\$G 500-300-200, U2000 120, U1800 100, U1600 80 U1400 80. (One section - class prizes are not separate sections.) EF \$40 if rec'd by 9/18, \$50 at site. Free entry for GMs who register by 9/18. Reg 12-1, rds every half-hour starting at 1:30. *Enter:* US Chess Center, 1501 M St NW, Washington DC 20005. Info 202-857-4922 or www.chessctr.org/hook.php

20 Grand Prix Points

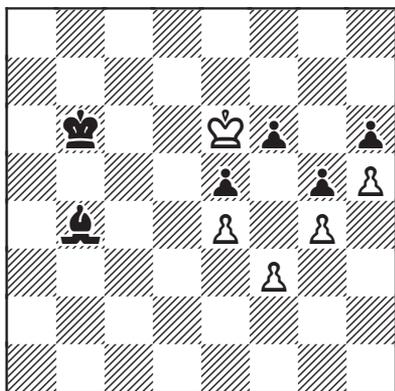


In conclusion we gave what may be the most wisely tentative evaluation The Editor has ever authored: “*Still, I don’t quite share Matthew’s certainty that the game’s final position is “absolutely” unwinnable. The bishop+king tandem gives rise to a lot of subtleties. ... If someone writes in with a finesse that wins by force after all, I will not be surprised. For now, however, I don’t see it. So yeah, it seems like a draw.*”

Sure enough, enter **Larry Larkins**, who evidently put in a lot of time analyzing this ending and found at least two striking refinements.

THE STALEMATE PLAN

Larry’s first discovery demolishes the defense presented above. In the position following White’s 66th turn...



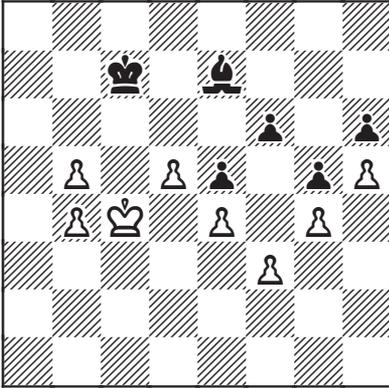
after 66 Ke6

...Larry offers **66...Kc6!** Strictly speaking, 66...Kc5 does not spoil anything as Black can still win the same way. But 66...Kc6 is the most direct expression of a remarkable plan, which is this: instead racing to attack White’s pawns, Black will *stalemate the White king and thereby force White to give away his own pawns* for lack of alternate moves. For example: **67 Kxf6 Kd6 68 Kg6** (There

is no resisting. If 68 Kf7 Black’s king+bishop inevitably force White to the h-file in any event, eg 68...Kd7 69 Kf6 Bd6 70 Kf7 Be7 71 Kg7 Ke6 72 Kg6 Bf6 etc) **68...Ke6 69 Kxh6 Kf6 70 Kh7 Kf7 71 Kh6 Be7 72 Kh7 Bf8 73 Kh8 Bh6 74 Kh7 Bg7** Phase one accomplished. Now the harvest. **75 h6 Bf8 76 Kh8 Bxh6 77 Kh7 Bg7 78 f4 exf4 79 e5 Bxe5** and wins. There are other variations, White can squirm this way or that, and Black must take care not to produce a true and complete stalemate. But a brief analysis should demonstrate that Black can always win in more or less the same manner.

THE COORDINATED KING

So that’s that, Perelshteyn could have won with best play, right? Not so fast. Retrace a couple more steps to the critical position after Black’s 62nd turn.



after 62...Be7

It appears White can nonetheless draw by the amazing **63 d6+! Bxd6** (63...Kxd6 64 Kc3 Kc7 65 Kc4 is much the same) **64 Kd5 Kd7! 65 Kc4!**

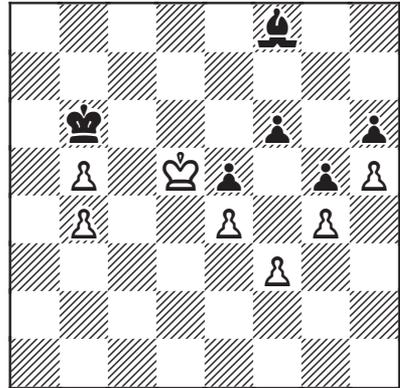
In principle White is content to just wait. Black can only make progress by sending his king through c7-b6 to attack the b-pawns. Only then will White invade the kingside. 65 b6? would be a mistake

because after 65...Bxb4 new entry squares for the Black king appear. By standing poised to seize these squares, Black can create zugzwang situations that force White finally just to give his other pawn away, eg 66 b7 Bd6 67 Kc4 Kc6 etc.

65...Bf8! a tempo move **66 Kc3!** and here is the point: White can never run out of moves, he just waits K-b3-c3-b3 until Black goes ...Kc7. At that moment White will reply Kc4 Δ K-d5-e6. Black actually must take care that he does not lose once the White king starts gobbling up pawns. It is only the stalemate motif indicated above that makes allowing White's king entry viable.

66...Kc7 67 Kc4! Kb6 68 Kd5 (diagram)

But here we see the essential difference. Whether Black begins 68...Kxb5 or 68...Bxb4, White will go after the kingside *and Black cannot eliminate both b-pawns and still have time to get his king back to the f-file* to effect the stalemate idea. Try it and see! And if Black instead allows one of the b-pawns to remain on the board, the bishop will have to watch it—which again will leave Black without means of setting up the stalemating motif.



So in summary, it's still a draw upon best play, but with totally different dynamics than anything we anticipated in #2009/2. Good job, Larry Larkins!

Can anyone add new wrinkles to this?



National Recognition for VCF President

VCF President Mike Hoffpauir was selected as the USCF Volunteer of the Month for May. Here is the story, reprinted from uschess.org, May 19, 2010

USCF VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH: MIKE HOFFPAUIR

by Michael Atkins

After a 27-year career in the US Army, Mike retired as a colonel in 2005. Along the way he obtained a BS in geology, MA in geography and cartography, and a masters in military arts & sciences from the Army Command and General Staff College. While in the Army he commanded soldiers at levels from platoon through brigade, and served as deputy commander of US forces in Kosovo. When I was doing a Google search, I discovered that he was also chosen for astronaut training in 1990. This was a surprise, as he had never mentioned that before. Since retirement he has worked as a consultant for the Defense Department and in the private sector.

Mike served as scholastic coordinator for the Massachusetts Chess Association and came south to Virginia with an energy that was infectious. He has been Virginia Chess Federation (VCF) scholastic coordinator since 2005, and VCF president for the past three years. He has organized and run the Virginia Closed state championship for the past three years in Richmond. He has also worked with the Virginia Scholastic Chess Association as a member of the board of directors and as organizer of the past couple Virginia state scholastic championships. He is also one of the new members of the USCF scholastic committee. Naturally, with all this chess activity, he has earned his associate national tournament director along the way and will certainly join the ranks of the national tournament directors in the near future.

Mike is a natural when it comes to military chess, and he undoubtedly understands all the acronyms that fly back and forth in the service! He organized and directed the 2009 US Armed Forces Open, which he managed to get fielded at the American Civil War Museum in Gettysburg.

Mike has also taken an interest in college chess. He helped organize and direct the Hokie Memorial tournament at Virginia Tech the past couple years, as well as creating college sections in formerly scholastic-only tournaments. He recently helped facilitate funding for the college chess Final Four tournament for 2011, and hopefully for many years to come.

Colonels are leaders in the armed forces and it is only natural to find Mike as a leader in the chess world. We are glad to have him in Virginia!



Kingstowne Chess Club

by Don Millican

KINGSTOWNE QUAD #65/ACTION-PLUS #37

The Kingstowne events of June 6 saw situations arise that were similar to what had happened the previous month, although with less drama. A mother wanted her two kids to play in whatever event would match them against the competition closest to their ratings. At the time of their entry, that would have been the Quads, but I allowed that I would try to adjust for her preference based on the on-site registration. And in fact, as players started to register on Sunday morning, it appeared the Action-Plus would be better suited for her desires. However, due to other registration issues, I was unable to make a change.

As the Quads started, Chess Mother recognized that the Action-Plus was indeed more in line with her desired level of competition. But by this time, with the Quads up and running, it was too late to switch players from one tournament to the other. Chess Mother decided, in consultation with with her kids, to take the solution used by Bo Jackson (when he had to decide between baseball and football): play both. So the kids ended up playing in the Action-Plus *and* Quads!

Frank Gomez won the top Quad section and a silver medal with $2\frac{1}{2}$ points, just ahead of Stephen Jablon's 2 points and second-place bronze. Adjith Kemesetti won the seven-player bottom "Quad" with 3 points, taking a gold medal. Riley Kimminau & Neeyant Kopparapu were next with 2 points, Kopparapu taking silver medal on tiebreak and leaving Kimminau with bronze.

Twenty-five players in the Action-Plus resulted in a 25% increase in the prize fund. Keith Carson & Alexander Passov tied for 1st at $4\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$. A score of $3\frac{1}{2}$ gave Ryan Zhou top under 1800. Aaryan Balu & Alex Peng tied for under 1400. Alfred Kogan took the unrated prize.

KINGSTOWNE QUAD #66/ACTION-PLUS #38

Two force correlations should have combined to make the Kingstowne event of July 10 somewhat smaller than usual: the Charlottesville Open, seventy miles down US 29. and a last-minute site change, which could have confused or discouraged people seeking the tournament at its usual venue. But a third force seemed to have been at work making Quad #66/Action-Plus #38 the largest turnout for the Action-Plus, and the largest overall turnout, in this combined format's history! A total of forty-eight played in the concurrent tournaments.



Although not the largest Quad turnout, fifteen was still very respectable, with two regular sections and a bottom “Quad” of seven. In the top Quad, Paul Swaney captured silver with 2½ points. The second place bronze went to Frank Gomez. Thomas Saunders won the middle Quad with 2, receiving a silver medal for his efforts. Akshaj Kadaveru & Tanmay Khattar tied for second. Tiebreaks gave Khattar the bronze medal. Thomas Mani ended a twenty-year hiatus to win the bottom “Quad” with a perfect 3 points, taking a gold medal. Andy Zhang, Mahat Sai Pelle & Saharsh Shrivastava tied for 2nd and tiebreaks gave Zhang second place silver, and Pelle third place bronze.

Thirty-three players gave the Action-Plus a whopping sixty-five percent bonus to the prize fund. Andrew Samuelson started and finished at the top of the wall chart with a perfect 5-0. Aditya Ponukumati, Dennis Burke & Perry Feng shared second place and Under 1800 with 4-1 each. Tony Bergida won Under 1400 outright, while top Unrated went to David Hananyah.

Had the tournaments been at the usual site, the large turnout would have created crowding and other problems. The last-minute change to the larger Snyder center delayed the start almost half and hour, but proved to be a blessing as it easily accommodated the extra crowd.

Coming up August 21, the “hottest tournament in Virginia”—namely, the 7th annual Harris Pavilion ‘Open Air’ makes its return to Old Town Manassas. The Open section has \$800 in guaranteed prizes and 10 Grand Prix points up for grabs. The non-rated Fun section offers trophy prizes and promises a taste authentic tournament play without the need to join USCF. *For details see page 12 of this issue.*

15th annual

Northern Virginia Open

November 6-7, 2010

DoubleTree Hotel Dulles Airport-Sterling
21611 Atlantic Boulevard, Sterling Va 20166

5-SS, rds 1-3 Game/2, rds 4-5 30/90, SD/1. \$\$2,500, top 3 G, other b/90: \$570-350-240; top X, A/Unr, B, C, D, U1200 each \$200; top Upset for rd1 \$25, rd2 \$30, rd3 \$35, rd4 \$50. Reg Saturday 8:30 -9:45am, rds 10-2:30-7, 10-3:30. One irrevocable ½pt bye allowed, must commit before rd 1. EF \$50 if rec'd by Nov 1, \$60 after or at site. VCF membership req'd for Virginia residents (\$10 Adults, \$5 U19). W, NS, FIDE. Hotel 703-230-0077. \$69(!) by 11/1, direct link for reservations on tournament website. *Enter:* Michael Atkins, PO Box 6138, Alexandria VA 22306. Make checks to “Virginia Chess”. Info (no entries) by email matkins2@cox.net, or web www.vachess.org/nova.htm

20 Grand Prix points



King of the Open Sicilians *by Tim Rogalski*



Tim Rogalski - Ray Kaufman
2010 Virginia Open
Sicilian

EARNING A SINGLE IM-NORM means that you had a very good tournament; earning three of them means that you deserve the recognition. Ray Kaufman impressively achieved his IM title by playing in FIDE-rated tournaments, primarily in Europe. At the 2010 Chicago Open, he broke through the magical 2400 USCF rating barrier by defeating former world championship candidates. Weeks after his achievement became known and before FIDE officially sanctioned the title, fellow FMs jealously joked about Ray's accomplishment, but I could sense that they were simply envious. **1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 Nc6** [Ray chooses the Classical variation, one of four main flavors of open Sicilian, the others being the Najdorf (5...a6), the Scheveningen (5...e6) and the Dragon (5...g6). From both sides, I've played them all. Rybka also likes the offbeat moves 5...Bd7 and 5...e5] **6 Bg5** [The Richter-Rauzer variation, whose main point is to prevent the Dragon, since now 6...g6 is answered by 7 Bxf6 crippling Black's pawn structure. Another reason for the bishop being on g5 is that pressure on the f6-knight inhibits Black's freeing break...d5] **6...e6 7 Qd2 a6** [This keeps a piece out of b5, but forever cedes pawn control of b6. The permanent weakness on b6 will shape the theme of this game, and the next one.] **8 f3** [Rarely played by anyone above 2500, yet perfectly sound. I first saw f3 combined with Nb3 in an early Tal game, where he smashed his opponent.] **8...Bd7 9 O-O-O h6 10 Be3** [The perfect retreat; I was crushing my master-rated Mach III computer with the English Attack years before it became fashionable among professionals. The imperfect retreat 10 Bh4 would allow the shot 10...Nxe4, whereas giving up the two bishops with 10 Bxf6 is simply unthinkable.] **10...h5** [The modern treatment, to prevent White's g2-g4-g5 thrust. This signals that Black will play with his king remaining in the middle of the board. White uses the lull by improving his position with a useful high-class move.] **11 Kb1** [A 2005 game between the same opponents reached a similar position and on that occasion I neglected to play Kb1. Ray later moved ... b5 and I sacked my bishop, Bxb5, but after some exchanges my c3-knight ended up on b5 and Black could take the unprotected a2-pawn with a cool-headed Rxa2 – and Ray easily won.] **11...Rc8** [Perhaps Ray had the same memory in mind. If 11...b5 I would not have hesitated over 12 Bxb5!? axb5 13 Ndx5. However, then 13...Ne5! (with the menacing threat of ...Nc4) gives Black an edge.] **12 Nb3** [This may not be the strongest move, but it is psychologically strong enough. Whenever the weaker player builds tension on the board by avoiding potential alleviating exchanges, it signals the onset of a fight. Now the onus is on Black



to find the best way to play the position.] **12...Ne5?!** [A step down the wrong path. There is nothing to fear after 12...b5 13 Bxb5? axb5 14 Nxb5 d5! with an advantage even greater than in the previous bishop sac line.] **13 Qf2!? Nc4?** [In the post mortem, I asked Ray if he considered the Dragon-like exchange sacrifice, 13...Rxc3! He didn't think Black received sufficient compensation, but I thought it was the best chance. It would then be easier for Black to play an exchange down, than for White to defend with double isolated pawns.] **14 Bxc4 Rxc4 15 Bb6!** [I give this obviously best move an exclamation mark because it cements White's advantage. The bind on Black's queenside would not have been possible had he played an earlier ...b5] **15...Qc8?!** [Going to b8 looked less active, but c8 should have been left free as an escape square for the rook.] **16 Rd3!** [Ray said that he overlooked this simple, yet powerful move. Black can no longer find relief in an exchange sacrifice on c3. Meanwhile White threatens to win the exchange with 17 Na5] **16...Bb5?** [This mistake gives White a winning position. Botvinnik would have played 16...Qb8 after a few minutes thought—he was good at undoing his mistakes. Better to lose time admitting an error than to lose the game trying to justify a misstep.] **17 e5! Nd7 18 Nxb5 axb5 19 exd6 g6** [if 19...Nxb6? 20 Qxb6 Qd7 21 Nc5!] **20 Bd4** [I considered chasing the c4-rook around, but after 20 Na5 Ra4 21 b3 Rf4 I thought that I was making unnecessary weaknesses around my king and the a5-knight looked ineffective.] **20...f6** [On 20...e5? 21 Bxe5! Nxe5 22 Re1 Qe6 23 Rxe5?! Qxe5 24 Re3 looked convincing enough, although I discovered afterwards that 23 Nc5! was simply crushing.] **21 Qe2 Kf7 22 Re1 e5**



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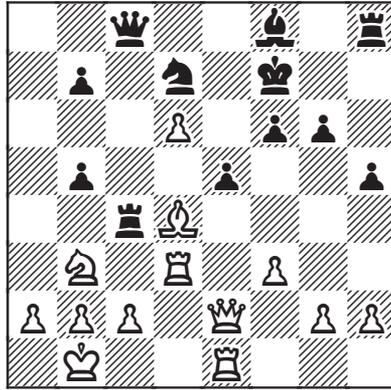
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What is White's strongest move?

23 f4!!

I spent only seven minutes on this little beauty, and it fully deserves a double-exclam. I need to act quickly and blow open the position to get at the Black king. What sealed my choice is that with the third rank opened, the d3-rook can quickly join the attack on the kingside. Rybka says White is winning in all lines.

23...exd4 [In the post mortem, Ray remarked that since his position was bad, he might as well get some material for his troubles. If **23...exf4 24 Qe6+ Kg7** and here FM Shinsaku Uesugi pointed out the strong **25 Nc5!** To another possibility, **23...Bxd6**, Ray suggested **24 Bc3!** White shifts to the newly-opened d-file to force a serious breach in Black's position, eg **24...Bc7 25 Qd2 Rd8 26 Rd1**] **24 Qe6+ Kg7 25 Nxd4 Rh7?**

Giving back some material with **25...Rxd4** was a way to avoid the coming fireworks, but after **26 Rxd4 f5** (else White himself plays **f5**) **27 Rd3** the threat to penetrate with **Rc3-c7** makes the position dismal for Black, eg, **27...b4 28 Rg3 Rh6 29 Qxf5 Bxd6 30 Re6** and White crashes through.

Harris Pavilion 'Open Air'

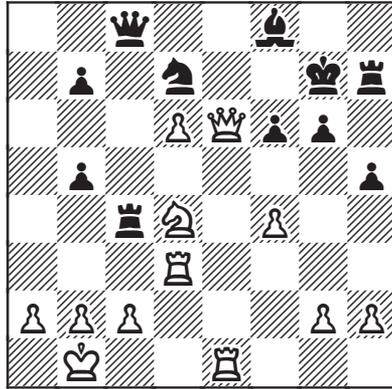
August 21, 2010

Loy E Harris Pavilion, 9201 Center St, Manassas VA 20110
 5-SS, Game/20. Two Sections- *Open*: \$\$800G: \$250-150-100, U2000-U1600-U1200-Unr each \$75. EF \$25 if rec'd by 8/18, \$35 at site. *Fun*: (not USCF-rated) Trophies to the top ten. EF \$10 if received by 8/18, \$18 at site. *Both* Reg 9:30-10:45, rds 11-12-1:30-2:30-3:30. *Enter*: Harris Pavilion, 9116 Center St, Suite 103, Manassas, VA 20110.

10 Grand Prix points



The toughest defense was 25...h4. In that case White must momentarily shift gears away from the kingside, although still with the kingside in mind. It would have been difficult to find the following continuations over-the-board: 26 Nxb5! Rxc2 27 Nc7! Rc6 (or 27... Bxd6 28 Kxc2 Qxc7+ 29 Kb1 Rc8 30 Rd2! simultaneously defending against Black's mate threat and winning a piece) 28 Ne8+ Kh6 29 Rh3 g5 and now a devastating, quiet computer-move that few would consider: 30 g4!! and, eg, 30...Rc5 31 Qf7!



White to play and win

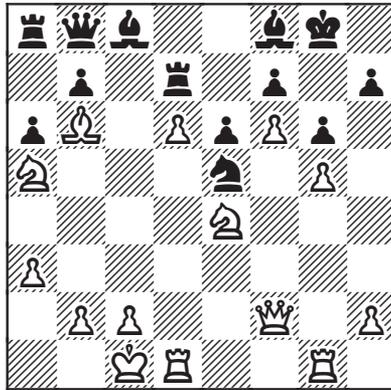
26 Nf5+! gxf5 [If 26...Kh8 27 Ne7 Bxe7 28 dxe7 with nasty threats everywhere.]
27 Rg3+ Kh6 28 Qxf5 Rg7 29 Rh3 1-0 I was 'in the zone' this game, quickly playing direct and decisive chess. For his part, Ray was obviously upset about losing. I later found his scoresheet crumpled into a ball on the hotel hallway floor.

Tim Rogalski - James Dickson
2010 Virginia Open
Sicilian

While this game was being played, Ray would stop and watch for a few seconds whenever he walked by. Afterwards he asked me to annotate it for VIRGINIA CHESS readers. I could not refuse the request from a fellow teammate on the Arlington Kings. **1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Bg5 Qb6 7 Nb3** [I have always read that the knight is less active on b3 than on d4, but that implies that it doesn't belong on b3. Yet consider what it accomplishes there. Black's threat to capture on b2 is completely answered, and the Black queen is deprived of squares like a5. There is no real loss of tempo in 7 Nb3 since Black's queen will soon be forced to move again to a safer place. What is also rarely mentioned is that on b3, the knight perfectly complements its counterpart on c3—Lasker stressed such coordination among his forces, and in Shogi, piece coordination is generally more important than material gain. Just as in my game with Ray, the



knight naturally wants to be on b3 when White plays the English attack, keeping tension in the position.] **7...e6 8 Be3 Qc7 9 f3 a6** [Again, this irrevocably weakens b6. Normally not a problem when Black plays ...b5, expanding the queenside pawns beyond the weakness. However...] **10 Qd2 Be7 11 O-O-O O-O 12 g4 Ne5?** [...here he goes after the bishop-pair instead. 12...b5! appears to me the way to proceed.] **13 g5 Nfd7 14 f4 Nc4 15 Bxc4 Qxc4 16 f5!** [There is a Shogi proverb that advises, "Drop where your opponent wants to drop." I considered that if it were Black's turn to move, he would want to inhibit White's pawn storm play by playing ...f7-f5. So I precluded that by making the move myself.] **16...Rd8 17 Rhg1** [The h1-rook was my last piece to put into play, and without calculating any variations I placed it on the same file as Black's king. It just had to be good.] **17...Ne5** [As Fischer once said, in order to get squares, you have to give squares. I gave Black's knight e5 — but there it stands, all dressed up with nowhere to go.] **18 f6 Bf8 19 Bb6!** [Even the great Houdini could not squirm out of this straightjacket.] **19...Rd7 20 Qf2** [Five moves previously, Black 'won' the bishop pair. Now the bishops look pathetic and Black is struggling to find useful moves while White has a wonderful position.] **20...d5** [Understandable, since Black wants some activity for his pieces. Perhaps 20...a5 was the best try in Black's cheerless position, and if 21 Nxa5 Qa6 with delusions of mating White along the a-file.] **21 Na5 Qb4 22 a3 Qd6 23 exd5** [I was admiring my position and feeling sorry for Black at the same time.] **23...g6 24 Ne4 Qb8 25 d6!**



[All those years spent studying Nimzowitsch finally paid off. Black is suffocating.] **25...Bxd6** [If 25...Nc6 I would have replied 26 Nc4] **26 Nxd6 Rxd6 27 Rxd6 Qxd6 28 Rd1 1-0** After this game, Ray joked that I was King of the Open Sicilians. That is the best compliment I've heard all year!



Virginia State Champions

1934	John N Buck	1960	Owen E Miller	1984	Errol Liebowitz
1935	W W Gibbs	1961	Irwin Sigmund	1985	Richard Delaune
1936	John D Matheson	1962	Lawrence King	1986	Edward Kitces
1937	W W Gibbs	1963	Henry Steinbach	1987	Geoff McKenna
1938	W F O'Hara	1964	Charles Powell	1988	Geoff McKenna
1939	W W Gibbs	1965	Charles Powell	1989	Walter Morris
1940	John N Buck	1966	Charles Powell	1990	Eugene Meyer
1941	Edgar McCormick	1967	Charles Powell	1991	Bill Mason
1942	L Russell Chauvenet	1968	R S Callaghan Jr	1992	John Russell Potter
1946	L Russell Chauvenet	1969	Rusty Potter	1993	Macon Shibut
1947	L Russell Chauvenet	1970	Ed Kitces	1994	Joseph Feygelson
1948	L Russell Chauvenet	1971	Charles Powell	1995	Geoff McKenna
1949	Leonard Helman	1972	Charles Powell	1996	Geoff McKenna
1950	Leonard Helman	1973	Steven Bookbinder	1997	Steve Greanias
1951	Rodney Baine	1974	Richard Delaune	1998	E Rodney Flores
	Walter Bass	1975	Richard Delaune	1999	Macon Shibut
1952	Herbert Avram	1976	Charles Powell	2000	Daniel Miller
1953	Herbert Avram	1977	Alan Rufty	2001	Rusty Potter
1954	Herbert Avram	1978	Donald Barr	2002	Macon Shibut
1955	Leonard Morgan	1979	Donald Barr	2003	Daniel Miller
1956	E O Godbold	1980	Donald Connors	2004	Daniel Miller
1957	Irwin Sigmund	1981	Richard Delaune	2005	Daniel Miller
1958	Irwin Sigmund	1982	William Robinson	2006	Andrew Samuelson
1959	Andrew Schoene	1983	Edward Kitces	2007	Edward Lu
				2008	Adithya Balasubramanian
				2009	Andrew Samuelson

notes:

(i) no tournament was held during war years 1943-5

(ii) co-champions recognized in 1951 as part of shift from open to closed championship



Tracy Callis Jr Memorial

August 21, 2010

St John's Lutheran Church, 4608 Brambleton Ave SW, Roanoke, VA 24018
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 \$\$G 125-100; if Hexagonals, \$\$G 100-75; if Quads, \$\$G 100. EF \$30 if rec'd
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 ceremony for Tracy Callis Jr. *Enter:* Roanoke Valley Chess Club, PO Box 14143,
 Roanoke VA 24038. Info 276-632-2850, or email info@roanokechess.com, or
 web roanokechess.com



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 **▲ Senior Center,** 1180 Pepsi Place, 6-8pm on Thursdays. Info 434-244-2977 **▲ 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 Battledie 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 **▲ Danville:** Danville Chess Club, Danville YMCA, 810 Main Street. Mondays 6:30-9:30 pm. Info John Thompson 434-799-8898 **▲ Fort Eustis:** contact Sorel Utsey 878-4448 **▲ 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) **▲ Gloucester:** Gloucester Chess Club, Gloucester Library (main branch), Tuesdays 5-8pm, www.co.gloucester.va.us/lib/clubschess.html **▲ 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/huffmacj/svcc/svcchome.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 Cr, 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 **▲ Waynesboro:** Augusta Chess Club, Books-A-Million, 801 Town Center Dr, every Saturday 10am-noon. Contact Alex Patterson (540) 405-1111 or AugustaChessClub@gmail.com **▲ 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

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