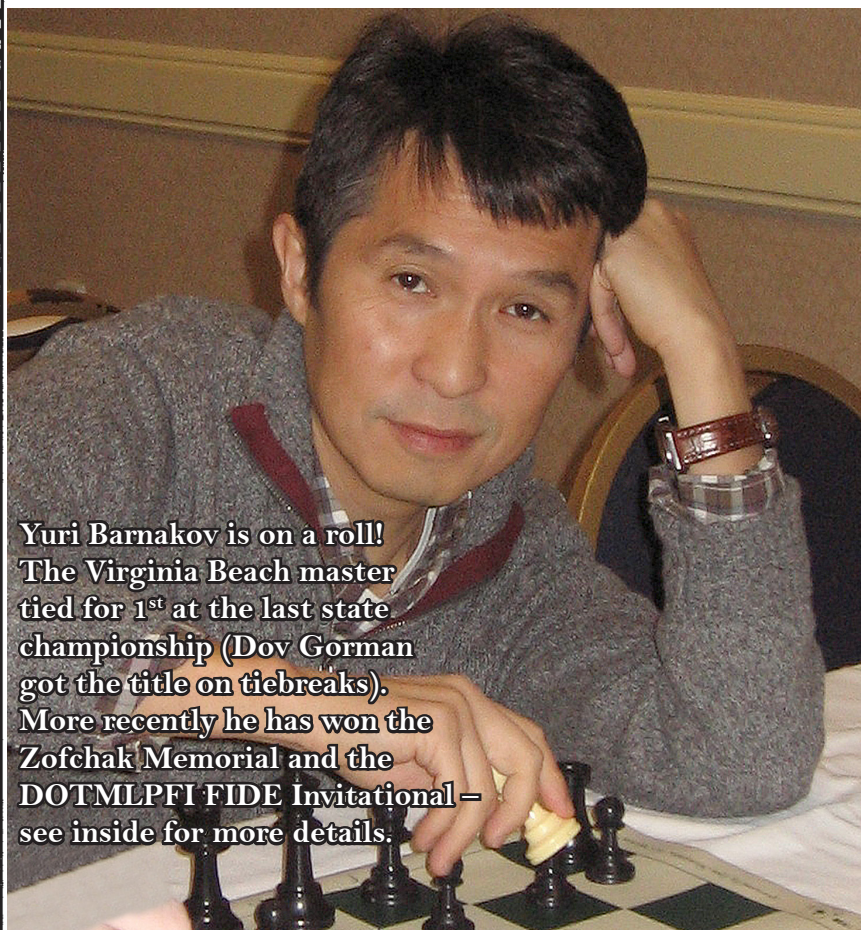


VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

The bimonthly publication of the
Virginia Chess Federation

2010 - #6



Yuri Barnakov is on a roll!
The Virginia Beach master
tied for 1st at the last state
championship (Dov Gorman
got the title on tiebreaks).
More recently he has won the
Zofchak Memorial and the
DOTMLPFI FIDE Invitational –
see inside for more details.

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

2010 - Issue #6

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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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Northern Virginia Open

IM Oladapo Adu and FM Anton Del Mundo each scored 5-0 to tie for first at the Northern Virginia Open, played at a new venue, DoubleTree Dulles in Sterling, on November 6-7. Experts Eric Most & Todd Trower outpaced a number of higher rated players to tie for 3rd/4th. Other prizewinners included Harry Cohen, David Long & Trifelino Miaco (=top A); Daniel Picard, Abhishek Penumala, Tanmay Khattar, Hans Li & Nassim Gannoun (=B); Kiffa Conroy & Zachary Snively (=C); Kevin Zhang & Anthony Greenwood (=D); Attangoda Santha (top U1200); and Mandip Bhadra & Abhiram Kagitha (U1000).

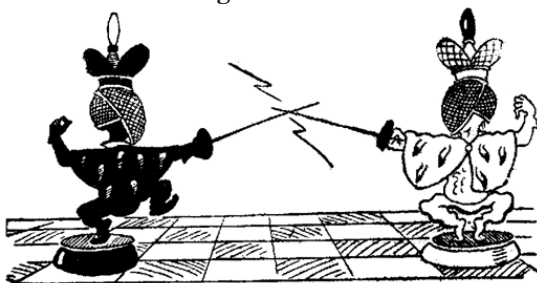
It is rare that multiple players achieve a perfect score. When it happens, it indicates... the success of the event! Because it means there were so many entries (138) that five rounds were insufficient to get all the leaders playing head to head. After 4 rounds there were still three players with unblemished records. Adu defeated top-rated IM Tegshsure Enkhbat while Del Mundo was taking care of Shawn Hoshall—who was also ‘perfect’ to that point, except he had taken a ½-point bye in the fourth round!

Oladapo Adu - Tegshsure Enkhbat

Caro Kann

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 dxe4 4 Nxe4 Bf5 5 Ng3 Bg6 6 h4 h6 7 Nf3 Nd7 8 h5 Bh7 9 Bd3 Bxd3 10 Qxd3 e6 11 Bd2 Ngf6 12 O-O-O Be7 13 Qe2 O-O 14 Nf1!? [A relatively new move that has been phenomenally successful since its introduction a couple years ago. Adu had prepared the line, and every move through White's 22 N3h4 has been played previously.] c5 15 g4 cxd4 16 g5 hxg5 17 Bxg5 Qa5 18 Kb1 e5 19 Ng3 Rfe8 20 Nf5 Bf8 21 Rdg1

Kh8 22 N3h4 e4 [Finally a ‘novelty’ although it doesn't appear to improve over 22...Qd5 23 Ng6+ fxg6 24 hxg6+ Kg8 25 Rh3 Bc5 26 Rgh1 Kf8 27 Rh8+ Ng8 28 R1h7 d3 29 Rxg7 dxe2 30 Rf7+ 1-0 Papp – Stohl, Hungary 2008] 23 Ng6+ fxg6 24 hxg6+ Kg8 25 Bxf6 Qxf5 [Likewise if 25...Nxf6 26 Rg5 Black is defenseless; or 25...gxf6 26 Qc4+ etc] 26 Rg5 1-0 [26...Qxf6 27 Rh8+ Kxh8 28 Qh5+ Kg8 29 Qh7mate]





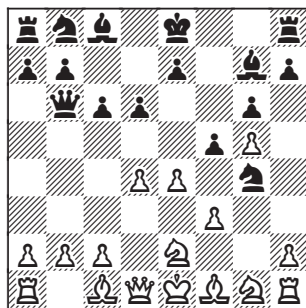
Shawn Hoshall - Anton Del Mundo

Modern

1 e4 g6 2 d4 c6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 Be3 d6 5 g4 Nf6
6 g5 Ng4 7 Bc1 Qb6 8 Nce2 f5 9 f3

(diagram)

9...fxe4 10 fxg4 Bxg4 11 c3 e5 12 Qb3 Qxb3
13 axb3 Bf3 14 Nxf3 exf3 15 Ng1 e4 16 d5
cxd5 17 Be3 Nc6 18 Bb5 O-O 19 Bxc6 bxc6
20 Nh3 Rfb8 21 Ra6 Rxb3 22 Rxc6 Rxb2 23
O-O Be5 24 Nf2 Re2 25 Ng4 Rg2+ 0-1



Three other recent Sterling events had drawn 117, 117 and 121 players to the Hotel Sierra site, which is dangerously close to the capacity limit there of 123. Thus the move to the DoubleTree, and it turned out to have been a good move, else TD Mike Atkins would have had to turn away entries. Most people seemed to like the hotel and the ambiance. The DoubleTree chef provided a Chessplayer Special for lunch each day: bacon cheeseburger, fries & drink for \$5. The hotel also provided cans of their wonderful chocolate chip cookies for prizes!

In light of the unusual case of two perfect scores, Adu and Del Mundo agreed to break the tie with a blitz game using the CCA formula: White gets 5 minutes to Black's 4, with Black having draw odds. Del Mundo drew Black and won the blitz game for the unofficial 'title' and an extra \$10 prize money.

Upset prizes were awarded for each of the first 4 rounds. Ajit Kadaveru (836 pts) won in round 1, with Shwetark Patel getting the second prize (615 pts). Round 2 winners were Michael Franco (536 pts) and Mandip Bhadra (483 pts). In round 3, Brian Jenkins (326 pts) and Ted Covey (305 pts) took the honors. Anthony Greenwood (405 pts) got prize in round 4.

Leif Karell - Oladapo Adu

Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Qb6 5 Nb3 Nc6 6 Be3 Qc7 7 Be2 Nf6 8 Nc3 Bb4 9 Bd2 Bxc3 10 Bxc3 Nxe4 11 Bxg7 Rg8 12 Bd4 b6 13 Bf3 Ng5 14 Qd3 [14 Bxc6 Qxc6 15 f3 Ba6 16 Kf2] 14...Nb4 15 Qd1 Nxc2+ 16 Kd2 Nxf3+ 17 Qxf3 Bb7 18 Qd3 Qf4+ 19 Be3 [19 Kxc2 Be4 20 g3 Bxd3+ 21 Kxd3 Qf5+] 19...Qb4+ 20 Qc3 Qxc3+ 21 Kxc3 Nxa1 22 Rxa1 Rxg2 0-1

Anton Del Mundo - Andrew Rea

English

1 c4 c5 2 Nc3 Nc6 3 Nf3 d6 4 g3 g6 5 b3 Bg7 6 Bb2 Nf6 7 Bg2 O-O 8 d4 Nd7
9 d5 Nd4 10 Nxd4 Bxd4 11 Qd2 f5 12 h4 Qe8 13 h5 Qf7 14 hxg6 hxg6 15
O-O-O Bg7 16 Rh3 Nf6 17 Rdh1 Bd7 18 Rh4 a6 19 e4 b5 20 exf5 Bxf5 21 Ne4
Nh5 22 g4 Bxe4 23 Bxe4 Bxb2+ 24 Kxb2 Qxf2 25 Qxf2 Rxf2+ 26 Bc2 Raf8 27
gxh5 g5 28 Rg4 R8f5 29 Rhg1 b4 30 Rxc5+ Rxc5 31 Rxc5+ Kh8 32 h6 1-0



43rd Annual Virginia Open

Mar 4-6, Crowne Plaza Tysons Corner

1960 Chain Bridge Rd, McLean VA 22102

43rd Annual Virginia Open. 5SS, Rd1 G/120, Rds 2-5 40/2 SD/1

Crowne Plaza Tysons Corner 1960 Chain Bridge Rd McLean 22102

Chess room rates of \$79 for Single and Double, reserve before Feb 18. Walk-up chess rate possible, but not guaranteed, reserve early!! No Outside Food allowed in Tournament Playing Room! Call 1-888-233-9527

Here is the LINK to register for rooms online with the Crowne Plaza

Registration At Site: Friday 3/4 530p-745p and Saturday morning 3/5 (for re-entries and 1/2 pt byes) 9a-945a

Rds 8pm Friday, Sat 10a-430p, Sunday 9a-330p

EF \$60 if received by Feb 28, \$70 later and at site. \$35 Re/entry allowed from Rd 1 into Rd 2

One 1/2 point bye allowed with entry, declared before Rd 1 and then irrevokable.

VCF membership required for Virginia residents (\$10 Adults, \$5 U19)

Ent: Make checks payable to "Virginia Chess" and mail to:

Michael Atkins, PO Box 6138 Alexandria VA 22306 website: <http://www.vachess.org/vaopen.htm>

matkins2@cox.net for questions, NO INTERNET or PHONE entries only

NS, NC, W. FIDE (Open) Chess Magnet School JGP

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2nd - \$200

3rd - \$150

Top Class B - \$160

Top Class C - \$160

Top Class D - \$160

Top U1200 - \$160

Top Unrated - \$100



2011 Virginia Open Entry Form-----Please mail to Michael Atkins PO Box 6138 Alexandria VA 22306

Checks should be made out to "Virginia Chess) Advance Rate of \$60 good for entries rec'd by Feb 28 only

Name _____ USCF ID _____ USCF Rating _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Open Section _____ Amateur Section _____ Bye in Rd _____ VCF Membership Exp _____

Renewed _____

email address _____



Steve Greanias - David Long

N Va Open 2010

English

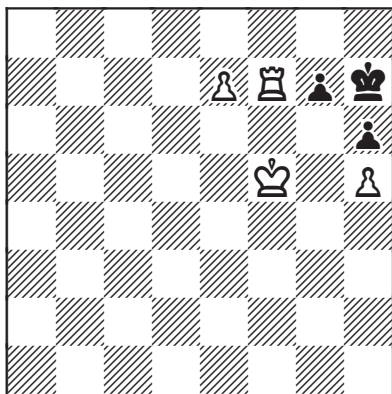
Notes by Dave Long

It felt good playing this game. It was nice to enjoy the sensation of being able to compete against such a good player, at least for this afternoon. **1 c4 e5 2 Nc3 Nc6 3 Nf3 f5 4 d4 d6 5 g3 Nf6 6 Bg2 Be7 7 d5 Nb8 8 e4 Nxe4 9 Nxe4 fxe4 10 Nd2 e3 11 fxe3 O-O 12 Ne4 Qe8 13 Bd2 Qg6 14 Nf2 a5 15 O-O b6 16 Be4 Bf5 17 Bxf5 Rxf5 18 e4 Rf7 19 Qe2 Nd7 20 Nd3 Nf6** [I think my original idea to play 20...Rxf1+ and then 21...Nf6 was better. I get tangled up after the game move, and it felt like he was getting a real edge at last.] **21 Rae1 Raf8 22 c5 Ng4 23 Rxf7 Rxf7 24 cxb6 cxb6 25 Rc1 Rf8 26 Rc6 Bd8 27 a4 h5 28 Bc3 Nf6 29 Nf2 h4 30 Qd3 Ng4 31 Be1 Nxf2 32 Bxf2 Qf6 33 Qe2 Qh6 34 Rc8 Qg6 35 Kg2 Qf7 36 Rc6 Qg6 37 Bxb6** [Big decision point -- 37...hg or 37...Bb6 both looked good enough for Black to hold, but they are very different and it was hard to decide...] **37...hxxg3 38 hxxg3** [I had spent some time examining 38 Bxd8 gxh2+ looking for some sort of perpetual on the kingside. On 39 Kxh2 (forced) Qh6+ 40 Kg1 Rxd8 it seemed that Black should have enough compensation in the exposed White king for what is going wrong elsewhere. But I was short of time and hallucinating about the possibility of White's bishop interfering with my perpetual until I saw ...Rxd8. The position would have been way different from the game, but it was all moot after Steve retook with the natural 38 hxxg3] **38... Bxb6 39 Rxb6** [The rook won't be able to protect the e-pawn from this file.] **39... Rf4 40 Rxd6 Rxe4** [40...Qe4 seemed less good for the resulting rook endgame, but I don't really know which is better.] **41 Rxxg6 Rxe2+ 42 Kf3 Rxb2 43 Ra6 Rb3+ 44 Kg2 Kf7 45 Ra7+ Kf6 46 Rxa5 Ra3 47 Ra6+ Kf5 48 a5 e4 49 Ra8 Ke5 50 a6 Kxd5 51 a7 Ra2+ 52 Kf1 Kc6 53 Rc8+ Kb7 54 a8Q+ Rxa8 55 Rxa8 Kxa8 56 Ke2 Kb7 57 Ke3 Kc6 58 Kxe4 Kd6 59 Kf5 Ke7 60 Kg6 Kf8 61 g4 Kg8 62 g5** [If instead he had moved his king, I was ready to play 62...g5 and draw by taking the opposition after he captures the pawn.] **62...Kh8 ½-½**
 A crowd gathered as the game drew to a close (we were both near the end of the sudden death period), and I got a lot of compliments on holding the ending.

Tegshsure Enkhbat - Larry Larkins

Slav

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 Qc2 dxc4 5 Qxc4 Bg4 6 Nc3 Bxf3 7 gxf3 Nbd7 8 e4 e5 9 dxe5 Nxe5 10 Qe2 Bc5 11 Rg1 Qb6 12 Rg5 Nfd7 13 f4 Ng6 14 f5 Ne7 15 Rxg7 O-O-O 16 Bh3 f6 17 Bf4 Rhe8 18 Kf1 Bd4 19 Rd1 Ne5 20 Bg3 Qc5 21 Rxh7 Nc4?! [21...Rh8 22 Rxh8 Rxh8 23 Kg2 Bxc3 24 bxc3 Qxc3] **22 Na4 Qb4 23 b3 Na5 24 e5 Nxb3? 25 exf6 Nd5 26 f7 Nf6 27 fxe8Q 1-0**



3 Bg6 $_{mate}$

Timothy Rogalski, 1984

VCF TOUR CUP

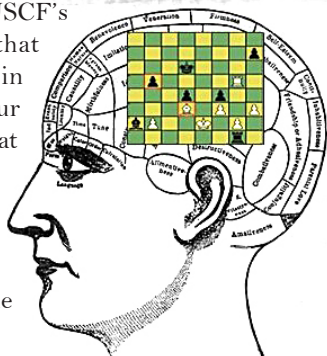
The 1st VCF Cup will run Feb 1 - Aug 20. See www.vachess.org for details about the eligibility, prizes and the scoring system.

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR USCF MEMBERS

At the 2010 Annual Meeting, the USCF's bylaws were modified to require that members register in order to vote in USCF elections. You can check your voting status and register if necessary at

<http://main.uschess.org/content/view/10745/605/>

If you fail to register by March 31, 2011, you will not be able to vote in the next USCF Executive Board election.





Sanda Costescu & David Eisen

Virginia chess players, and The Editor personally, lost two dear friends recently.

Dr Sanda Costescu died November 24. She was very active in tournaments locally and, indeed, throughout the world. As a girl she was considered a promising junior player in her native Rumania. However, she gave up chess for many years. After happening upon a chess club in Washington DC in 1984, her interest in the game reawakened and just a week later she entered the World Open and won a prize. After that Sanda became very active in chess, playing hundreds of tournaments over the next quarter century. She was a stalwart on the Arlington Queens teams in the DC Chess League and US Amateur Team events. Among her accomplishments in Virginia were the Top Woman prizes at the 2002 and 2006 state championships.



Sanda was fluent in seven languages. A medical doctor, she was always quick to share her expertise with anyone who had a problem. She remained active, in chess as well as other interests, even as mounting health problems created difficulties for her in recent years.

In the following game she upsets an opponent rated over 100 points higher. Sanda won Top Class B at that event, but characteristically donated her prize back to the organizers when she learned that the tournament stood to lose money.

Sanda Costescu - Colette Trouve 2003 US Senior Open Indian's Indian Reversed

1 Nf3 d5 2 g3 Nc6 3 Bg2 e5 4 d3 Nf6 5 O-O Bc5 6 c3 [Sanda's favorite setup, which she played readily with either color.] O-O 7 b4 Bd6 8 b5 Ne7 9 Bg5 Ng6 10 a4 h6 11 Bd2 a6 12 c4 dxc4 13 dxc4 e4 14 Ne1 Be6 15 Qc2 Bc5 16 Nc3 Bf5 17 Rd1 e3 18 Qxf5 exd2 19 Qxc5 dxe1=Q 20 Rfxe1 Qe7 21 Qxe7 Nxe7 22 Bxb7 Ra7 23 bxa6 Nf5 24 Nb5 Rxb7 25 axb7 Rb8 26 Nxc7 Rxb7 27 Rd8+ Kh7 28 Nb5 Nd7 29 Ra1 Nb6 30 a5 Rd7 31 Rxd7 Nxd7 32 a6 Nb6 33 c5 Na8 34 Rd1 1-0





David Eisen, a fixture at Virginia tournaments through the 1970s and 80s, died September 16 at age 85. He was among the strongest correspondence chess players in the country, winning the USCF's Absolute Postal Championship in 1980 and 1981 and earning the correspondence chess International Master title in 1998. He was frequently accompanied to tournaments by his wife of 64 years, Shirley. At various times David served as a director of the USCF and president of the Arlington Chess Club.

David annotated numerous games for Virginia Chess over the years. Here is one of them, which originally appeared in issue #1996/3.

David Eisen – David Kilgour
1996 North Atlantic CC Team Championship
Sicilian

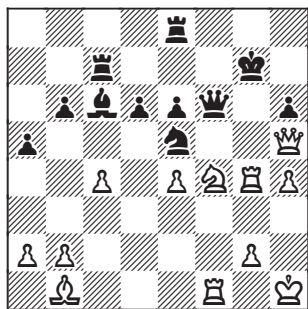
Notes by David Eisen

This is the decisive game that won me the Postal IM title with a 6½-3½ score on first board (Danny Kopec on second!) in the recent North Atlantic Team Tournament IV. Kilgour is Scottish and a postal GM. Despite the loss he finished with the highest board score, 7-3. **1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 g6 5 c4** [The Maroczy Bind, still a potent attacking weapon despite persistent claims that it has been at least blunted.] **5...Bg7 6 Be3 Nf6 7 Nc3 O-O 8 Be2 d6 9 O-O Bd7 10 Re1 Nxd4 11 Bxd4 Bc6 12 Bd3 Nd7** [The exchange of bishops severely weakens the dark squares around Black's king.] **13 Bxg7 Kxg7 14 Qd2 a5 15 Re3! h6** [Already Black has to take his dark square weakness into account. The threat Rh3 will now be met by Rh8. The price: a further weakening of the king.] **16 Rd1 Nc5 17 Bb1** [The importance of preserving this piece will soon be apparent.] **17...Nd7?** [The first of two wasted moves that Black

can ill-afford. The Black knight wants to go—or at least threatens to go—to e5. But that could have been done at move 16, with equal effect on White's light-square bishop. However, since the bishop could not have been driven off the b1-h7 diagonal even then (in view of 16...Ne5 17 Bb1 Nc4?? 18 Qd4+ Ne5 19 f4) it would have been just as well to tether the knight in favor of 16...Rc8] **18 Nd5 Rh8?** [Another wasted move, as demonstrated three moves later. Black is defending before he is attacked. This move needn't—and shouldn't—be played unless and until White plays Rh3] **19 Kh1 Rc8 20 Qe2** [Short-term, so that White can meet ...Bxd5 by recapturing with the king pawn; long-term, heralding the queen's imminent arrival on the kingside. Still, Black would do well to eliminate White's dangerous knight, despite the play White would get along the e-file after exd5] **20...b6 21 f4 Re8** [The square it should have

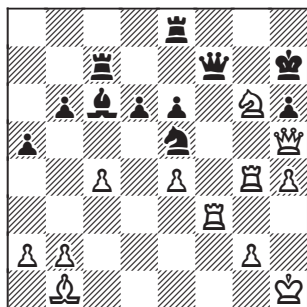


gone to in the first place is now the square it is all but forced to occupy.] **22 f5** [This lets Black anchor his knight on e5 but badly undermines his king position.] **22...e6 23 Nf4 Ne5 24 fxg6 fxg6 25 Rg3 g5 26 h4 Rc7 27 Qh5 Qf6** [The most vigorous defense—but it is double-edged.] **28 Rf1!** [Putting the knight into a pin is the only way of refuting Black's queen foray. A discovery now would be deadly. But how? Kg1 can be met by Rf8...] **28...g4** [What else? Giving up the pawn on g5 would remove the last shred of the Black king's pawn protection.] **29 Rxc4+!**



Black cannot accept the sacrifice. **29...Nxc4 30 Qxc4+** loses the queen immediately after any retreat other than **30...Kf7** (**30...Kh7 31 e5+**; **30...Kh8/f8 31 Ng6+**) but **Kf7** provides only momentary surcease. **31 Rf3** renews the threat of discovery and then **31...Rg8**, the only plausible defense, runs into such lines as **32 Qh5+ Ke7 33 Nd5+! exd5 34 Rxf6 Kxf6 35 Qxh6+** followed by **exd5** with three pawns ahead and Black's king exposed—White's advantage would be overwhelming. **32...Kg7** is even worse: **33 e5! dxe5 34 Nd5 exd5 (34...Qxf3 35 gxf3 exd5 36 Qg6+ Kf8 37 Qd6+) 35 Rxf6 Kxf6 36 Qf5+ Ke7 (36...Kg7 37 Qxe5+) 37 Qh7+**

29...Kh7 [This is a dangerous square, as quickly becomes evident. But any other retreat exposes Black to a knight check discovering on the queen.] **30 Rf3!** [Black of course cannot take either rook because of e5+ but he is counting on the next move to bail him out and make the double threat meaningful.] **30...Qf7!** [Frankly, I had not seen this move, reckoning on the overwhelming appearance of my attack and the immediate threat of the lethal knight discovery to carry the day. Black's move merits an exclaimer because it is the only move that seems to offer hope of survival, and the refutation is not easy to find. In fact, the game continuation appears to be the only line that doesn't end the attack and cost White the exchange.] **31 Ng6!!**

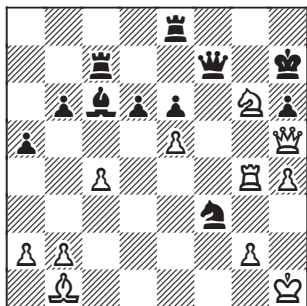


There is no escape. **31...Qg8** loses at least the knight; **31...Qg7** ends in mate after **32 Nxe5 Qxe5 33 Qg6+ Kh8 34 Qxh6+ Rh7 35 Rf8+**; and **31...Qd7** ends similarly after **32 Nxe5 dxe5 33 Qg6+ Kh8 34 Qxh6+ Qh7 35 Rf8+ Rxf8 36 Qxf8+**

Of course Black can try **31...Qxg6 32 Rxc6 Nxc6** but then **33 Rf6 Rg8 34 e5 Be8 35 Qg4**, and **36 h5** is conclusive.



The most arresting sequence follows
31...Nxf3 32 e5!



and Black, on move and a rook up, can do nothing to save the game. For doubters, two plausible tries:

(i) 32...Kg7 33 Nh8+ Kf8 (33...Kxh8? 34 Qxh6+ Qh7 35 Bxh7 Rxh7 36 Qf6+ and mate next) 34 Nxf7 Rxf7 35 Bg6 Nxe5 36 Bxf7 Nxf7 37 Rf4 Re7 38 Qxh6+ Ke8 39 Qg6 Kf8 40 h5 and Black, in an unbreakable bind, cannot stop the pawn.

(ii) 32...g5 33 hxg5 Qf1+ 34 Kh2 Qxb1 35 Qxh6+ Kg8 36 Qh8+ Kf7 37 Qh7mate

Black had no doubts. He studied the position for two weeks and resigned.
1-0

Hampton Roads Fall Sunss

by Ernie Schlich

Dan Miller won the Hampton Roads Fall Swiss, held Sept 18, with Larry Larkins finishing second. Other prize winners included Torsten Warnk (top A), Bob Nolan & Correy Xu (= top B), Chris Giofreda (C), Keith Brown (D) and Ajitha Bala (U1200).

The unluckiest player (perhaps this would be a good prize) was Ilya Kremenchugskiy, who lost to Miller in round 2 and then got 'paired up' to play Larkins in round 3. Sometimes, the pairing system can be mean.

U1200 winner Ajitha is another of our rising young players. She is the sister of Adithya Bala, who is attending UMBC and plays on their chess team. Ajitha lost to Kevin Zhou and then drew a 1498-rated player and beat two other 1500 players. She will probably never again be rated under 1200. Torsten Warnk lived in Hampton Roads from 2005 to 2008 before returning to Germany. He was back visiting friends in the area decided to take the opportunity to play.

Hampton Roads Swisses

March 19, 2011 – June 18, 2011

Holiday Inn, 1815 W Mercury Blvd @ I-64, Hampton, Va

4-SS, Game/70. \$\$700 b/30: \$200-100, A, B/Unr, C, D, U1200 each \$80. EF \$37 if received by Thursday prior to each event, \$45 thereafter. Reg 8:30-9am, rds 9:20-12:15-2:45-5:15. One irrevocable half-pt bye available when entering. Hotel 1-4 \$69, 757-838-0200. For info /printable entry form browse <http://mysite.verizon.net/eschlich> or email ESchlich@verizon.net Enter: Ernie Schlich, 1370 S Braden Crescent, Norfolk, VA 23502



Kingstowne Chess Club

by Don Millican

QUAD #68/ACTION-PLUS #40

After three tournaments of record or near-record turnout, the Kingstowne event of September 11 returned to the normal attendance. Thirty played in the combined events. Only four opted for the Quad, with Stephen Jablon taking a gold medal with a perfect 3-0 score. Adam Chrisney & Kevin Zhang tied for 2nd with 1½. Tiebreaks gave Zhang the bronze. Twenty-six entered the Action-Plus. Andrew Tichenor has played a couple of times in the past as a late arrival or a house player. This time he was at the tournament from the start and finished tied with Alexander Passov for the top spot with 4½. Saroja Erabelli was just behind the leaders with 4, winning Under 1800. Daniel Wenkai Xu & Tony Bergida tied for Under 1400, while Khazar Ibrahim took Top Unrated.

QUAD #69/ACTION-PLUS #41

Foot surgery in the latter part of September forced cancellation of the October events. The November 13 events saw me with greatly reduced mobility, but Kingstowne Chess Club members and tournament players stepped up to make the efforts successful. Adam Chrisney single-handedly set up the site before players arrived, putting me to shame as he accomplished the feat in less than half the time



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it normally takes me. Hrayr Sayadian and Michael Callinan, along with player Wesley Freeman, assisted with tear-down when play was completed. Seven entered the Quads, converting it to a single Swiss section. Sahil Sinha took the gold medal with a perfect 3-0. Dennis Burke & Wesley Freeman tied for 2nd and tiebreaks gave Burke the silver, Freeman the bronze. Frank Gomez took first place with 4½-½ in the 21-player Action Plus. Adam Chrisney & Andrew Luo shared second and Under 1800. Kevin Zhang took Under 1400, and Gang Chen went home with Top Unrated.

Zofchak Memorial

This was the seventeenth running of the Zofchak Memorial, named in honor of the former VCF President and Treasurer from Norfolk. Yuri Barnakov scored four straight wins, then clinched undivided first place with a last round draw. The conclusiveness of Barnakov's dominion over the field can be gauged from the fact that three of his opponents came from a group that tied for second place. Those runners-up were Andrew Rea, Dan Ranario & Franco Jose, and they were joined by Larry Larkins, Samuel Echaure & Ilya Kremenchugski in a logjam at 3½-½, a full point behind the winner. Other prizewinners, in various classes, included Gary Robinson, Denis Liu, Vadim Barnakov, Alexander Liang, John Koronas & Duncan Guthrie.

A total of 22 players turned out to the Holiday Inn in Hampton for the November 20-21 event. Ernie Schlich directed on behalf of the VCF.

Springfield Open

Jan 28-30, 2011

Holiday Inn Express

6401 Brandon Ave, Springfield Va, 22150.

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

5-SS, rd 1 game/120, rds 2-5 30/90, SD/60. \$\$ 2300 b/90 (top 3 G). Two sections: *Open* (FIDE-rated) \$500-300-200 (G); top X/A each \$150. *Amateur* (U1800) \$350-175, top C/D/U1200 each \$150. Reg Fri, Jan 28, 5-7:45pm, Sat 9-9:45am. Rds 8, 10-3:30, 10-3:30. One irrevocable ½-pt bye available, must declare before rd 1. EF \$50 if rec'd by Jan 22, \$60 later and at site. Re-entry \$30. W, NS, JGP. Hotel \$79 reserve before Jan 22, 1-877-834-3613. Ask for chess rate. *Enter:* Michael Atkins, PO Box 6138, Alexandria VA 22306. Make checks to "Michael Atkins". Information <http://members.cox.net/tournaments/springfield.htm> or email matkins2@cox.net but **no email entries**.

20 Grand Prix points

Sunday, Jan 30 - **Springfield Action Quads**. 3-RR, Game/30. EF \$25 if rec'd by Jan 22, \$30 at site. \$\$80 to each section winner. Reg 9:30-10:45, rds 11-12:30-2.



Sarah Chiang – Macon Shibut

2010 Continental Class Championship

King's Indian

Notes by Macon Shibut

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 d6 3 Nc3 g6 4 e4 Bg7 5 Be2 O-O 6 Nf3 Bg4 7 Nd2 Bxe2 8 Qxe2 Nc6 9 Nf3 e5 10 d5 Nd4 11 Qd1 c5 12 O-O [Black equalized easily thanks to

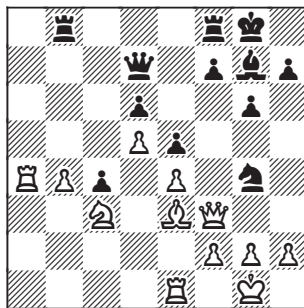


White's uninspiring seventh move, and it's the sort of equality I once heard IM Kamran Shirazi say "means that really Black is starting to do a little better". The central knight is secure—removing it, even with the win of a pawn, will give Black active play on the long diagonal. For example, 12 dxc6 bxc6 13 Be3 (13 Nxd4? exd4 14 Qxd4 Nxe4!) Rb8 14 Nxd4 exd4 15 Bxd4 Re8 (inducing White to loosen his second rank) 16 f3 Rxb2 etc.] 12...a6 13 Re1 Rb8 14 a3 b5 15 cxb5 axb5 16 b4 c4?! [I misjudged the positions that will arise later after White advances a4.

Instead, 16...cxb4 17 axb4 Qc7 retains some initiative.]

17 Be3 Nb3 18 Ra2 Qd7 19 Nd2 Nd4 20 Nf3 [The game could have ended right here with a draw by repetition—the inaccuracies at moves 7 and 16 balance out.] 20...Nxf3+ 21 Qxf3 Ng4 22 a4! bxa4 23 Rxa4

Right up to the moment when this position appeared on the board, I had considered it carelessly. *"Well, we'd both have isolated pawns over there..."* Now that it had actually happened, I realized White is simply much better "over there". She will play b5, and her Δ b5/ Δ c3 are a rock solid tandem; whereas my pawn is terribly weak, plus White has R-a6-c6 in prospect. I correctly decided that trying to defend on the queenside would be just a slow death. The only chance was to throw myself at the kingside.

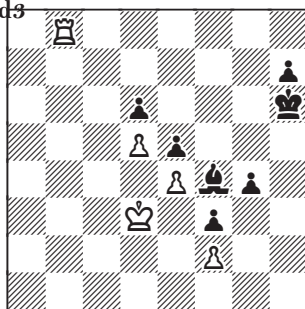


23...f5 24 b5 Nxe3 25 Qxe3 f4? [But now I missed the right plan. 25...Rxb5! 26 Nxb5 Qxb5 followed by 27...fxe4. White's center becomes a target, which ensures Black sufficient counterplay.] 26 Qh3!? [I was not surprised by this, although I had hoped she would not bring herself to play it. The move reminded me of that famous Smyslov-Reshevsky game from the 1948 World Championship match/tournament (round 11 - White's 26th turn) where Smyslov offered a queen swap notwithstanding a similar cost to his pawn formation.] 26...Qxh3 27 gxh3 f3 [Again passive defense would be hopeless in the long run, and sacrificing the exchange is no longer adequate when I cannot dissolve White's center. The text



prepares to activate my bishop by Bh6, and also creates a back rank situation around White's king that will be hard to relieve.] **28 h4?** [She wants to make luft and perhaps annex my f3 pawn eventually (h3, K-h2-g3). That isn't what's important, however, and the text essentially loses two tempi: one because the move itself turns out worthless, and another because my rook breaks through in one less turn than if the pawn stood at h3. Simply **28 Rxc4** would have left me with swindle chances but nothing more.] **28...Bh6 29 Rb1 Rf4!** [burning my bridges] **30 b6 Rxh4 31 b7 Bf4 32 Ra8 Bxh2+ 33 Kf1 Bf4 34 Rxb8+ Kg7 35 Rg8+ Kh6** [Once again the rightful decision would be a draw by repetition, White's 28th move just compensating for my earlier mistakes.] **36 Ne2?** [Remarkably, only Black has winning chances after this.] **36...Rh1+ 37 Ng1 Bh2 38 Ke1 Rxg1+ 39 Kd2 Rxb1 40 b8Q Bf4+?** [Played instantly, as I had seen this move some time back and thought White may have overlooked it. The idea is that inserting the check while my rook is still on the board forces White's king to move further away from the kingside. If immediately **40...Rxb8 41 Rxb8 Kg5** I figured White would shut me out (and defend f2) by **42 Ke3**, followed by **R-d8xd6**. What I did not notice was that then **42...Kg4!** threatens **Bf4mate** (!!)) Which means **42 Ke3** is actually a mistake, but **42 Rd8 Kf4 43 Rxd6 Kxe4** is also in Black's favor, eg **44 Rd8 c3+ 45 Kxc3 Bg1 46 d6 Bxf2 47 d7 Bb6**] **41 Kc3 Rxb8 42 Rxb8 g5 43 Kxc4?** [Eliminating this pawn so the king may then run back towards the kingside pawns. However, going straight for d6 maintains the balance: **43 Rb6 Kg7 44 Rxd6 g4 45 Rd7+ Kg6** etc] **43...g4 44 Kd3**

I thought for nearly 30 minutes in the position, and afterwards I was very proud of myself. The actual course of the game went more or less exactly as I envisioned here, which created the illusion that I had penetrated the secrets of the position. *Vanity!*— of three variations I considered, I misevaluated all of them and chose the worst of the lot.



White's king is close enough to discourage breakthrough tricks with **Be3/Bg3** or **g3**, but beyond that it really cannot help much on the kingside, and in the long run the collective advance of the Black king and h-pawn will be more than the rook can manage. Obviously White must go for counterplay with the d-pawn. I observed that Black would be winning if my bishop were on c5—defending d6, attacking f2, and supporting the irresistible kingside avalanche.

So I began by considering **44...Bc1 Δ B-a6-c5** “and wins.” I reckoned White would reply **45 Ra8** to prevent **Ba3**. Then **45...Bb2** either gets to c5 anyway or captures f2 by force. **46 Ra6 Bd4 47 Rxd6+ Kg7!** A key insight: **47...Kg5** looks



more “active” but the king doesn’t need to support the pawns. His role is to stop the d-pawn, and for this it is best not to risk getting cut off along the third rank. I couldn’t figure out exactly what would happen next, but I liked my chances. After I take f2, my king will be inside the square of his d-pawn, while his king is excluded and the rook alone cannot stop my bishop+pawns.

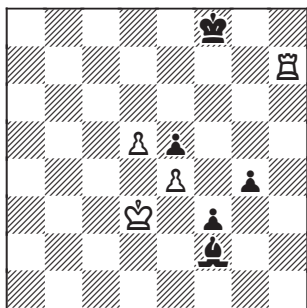
The bad thing about finding a variation you like is that it becomes harder to consider alternatives objectively. Turning my attention to 44...Bg5, I saw the idea as being to defend with the bishop—hold d6 from e7/f8 as long as possible, and ultimately sacrificing the bishop for White’s pawn at d8. Meanwhile, my king+pawns push ahead. In other words, reversing the roles from the other line, where the king defended and the bishop supported my pawns. So, fine, 44...Bg5 45 Rb7 (in the same spirit as Ra8 from the previous variation—White first stops the bishop from going where it wants). Now R-d7xd6 looks unstoppable, and the bishop is more passive than in the other line. Black can bail out with a draw by 45...Bh4 46 Ke3 Bg5+ 47 Kd3 Bh4 etc, and I convinced myself that this would be a natural consequence, ie, retreating the bishop to a diagonal behind my pawns was a “passive” approach that might only draw, whereas going around to the front was the “active” way to fight for victory! And so, I completely overlooked the beautiful true point that 45...Bh4! lures White’s king to a bad square, and then 46 Ke3 Bd8!!—I was never close to considering it!—47 Rd7 Bb6+ (with check!) 48 Kd3 Bc5 Black achieves his idea setup.

As for the third branch, 44...Kg5, this plan of not attacking f2 but just pressing ahead with my king and pawns seemed “slow” to me on the face of it. Nonetheless, it appears I would have had good winning chances here too, eg 45 Rb6 h5 46 Rxd6 h4 47 Rb6 g3 48 d6 Kf6; or 45 Rg8+ Kh4 46 Rh8 Kh3 47 Rxh7+ Kg2. I don’t recall exactly what lines I calculated at the board, but they don’t matter anyway. I rejected 44...Kg5 because I simply *wanted* to play 45...Bc1, not because of any particular variation. Having already convinced myself that 45...Bc1 was the vigorous and logical approach, anything else was predestined to come up short in my “analysis”.

44...Bc1?! [And so... the one line where White can get adequate counterplay! The reason boils down to simple counting: B-c1-b2-d4xf2 will get to the target in four moves, whereas B-g5-h4xf2 would have taken only three.] **45 Ra8 Bb2** [Actually it was still possible to get back on the right track by 45...Bg5! and if 46 Ra7 Bh4! 47 Ke3 Bd8! but of course I was beyond the point of even considering that.] **46 Ra6 Bd4 47 Rxd6+ Kg7 48 Rd7+ Kf8 49 Rxh7 Bxf2** [All according to plan! White could have done things differently on her last couple of turns, but it seemed to me that the essential facts remained: my king can stop the d-pawn, the rook can’t stop my pawns, and that’s that. Black wins, right?]



50 Rh5?



He does now. But how's this for a paradigm shift: White can stop fretting over who can stop who's pawns, and play for mate! 50 d6 Ke8? (consistent, but it really is time to take a draw by 50...g3 51 d7 Bb6 52 Rh3! Ke7 {52...f2 is worse: 53 Ke2 g2 54 d8Q+! Bxd8 55 Kxf2} 53 Rxd3 f2 54 Ke2 Kxd7 etc) 51 Kc4! g3 52 Kd5! (52 Kb5! excluding ...Bb6 is good too) Kf8 53 Rh3! g2 54 d7! Ke7 55 Rh7+ Kd8 56 Kd6...

50...g3 51 Rxe5 g2 52 Rg5 Bb6! [Much simpler than trying to win after 52...g1Q 53 Rxd1 Bxd1 54 e5. The text assures Black of getting to keep his new queen.] 53 Rf5+ Ke7 54 Rg5 f2 55 Rxd2 f1Q+ 56 Re2 Qf3+ 57 Kd2 Ba5+ 58 Kd1 Qf1+ 0-1

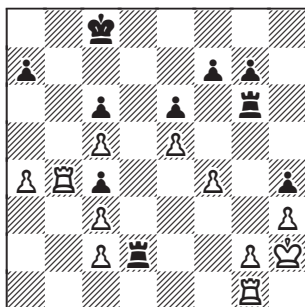
Gary Robinson - Frank Rollins

DC Congress 1973

French

Notes by Gary Robinson

I returned to chess in 2006 after a layoff of 20-odd years. Here is an unusual game that I played in the 5th annual Washington DC Congress in June 1973. 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 5 a3 Bxc3+ 6 bxc3 Qc7 7 Nf3 Ne7 8 Bd3 Nbc6 9 O-O Bd7 10 a4 Na5 11 Re1 Nc4 12 Bxc4 dxc4 13 dxc5 Bc6 14 Nd2 O-O-O [There are now four White men and four Black men in the c-file!] 15 Qe2 Bd5 16 Ba3 Nc6 17 f4 Na5 18 Bb4 h5 19 Reb1 h4 20 h3 Rh6 21 Kh2 Rg6 22 Bxa5 Qxa5 23 Ne4 Bxe4 24 Qxe4 Qc7 25 Rb4 Rd2 26 Rg1 Qc6 27 Qxc6+ bxc6



28 Kh1! Rd7 [if 28... Rxc2 29 Rgb1 and Black gets mated] 29 Rxc4 Rd2 30 Rb4 Rd7 31 Rgb1 Rc7? 32 Rb8+ Kd7 33 Rd1+ Ke7 34 Rdd8 f6 35 Re8+ Kf7 36 f5! Rg3 37 Rf8+ 1-0 37...Ke7 38 Rbe8+ Kd7 39 fxe6# White's pawns are isolated, tripled, doubled, backward or blocked — but he still has all eight of them!

Jason Kent - Louis Stevens

Hampton Roads Quad 2009

Sicilian

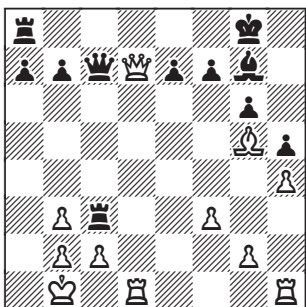
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 Be3 e6 7 Bd3 Nbd7 8 O-O Be7 9 Nce2 Nc5 10 Ng3 h5 11 f3 h4 12 Nh1 h3 13 g3 Qc7 14 Re1 Kf8 15 Bf1 Bd7 16 Nf2 g6 17 Bxh3 e5 18 Bxd7 exd4 19 Qxd4 Ncxd7 20 g4 Ne5 21 Kg2 Rxh2+ 22 Kg3 d5 23 f4 Bd6 24 Kxh2 Nf3+ 0-1



Long ago in VIRGINIA CHESS issue #1997/1, our report on the Virginia Open of that year included the game Collier–Delaune, with brief annotations by the Editor. Fourteen years later, PHIL COLLIER has gotten around to pointing out something we missed. –ed

I played several games with the late Richard Delaune. I only managed to beat him once, in one of the best games I ever played. Perhaps I will comment on that at another time. Now I would like to comment on a draw we played in 1997. This shows that quite brilliant ideas can be hidden in drawn games.

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nc3 Nc6 4 d4 cxd4 5 Nxd4 d6 6 Bc4 Bd7 7 Bb3 g6 8 f3 Bg7 9 Be3 O-O 10 Qd2 Qa5 11 O-O-O Rfc8 12 h4 h5 13 Kb1 Qd8 14 Bg5 Nxe4?! 15 Nxe4 Nxd4 16 Nxd6 Nxb3 17 axb3 Rc7 18 Nb5 Rc5 19 Nc3 [The original VIRGINIA CHESS notes pointed out that 19 Qxd7 Qxd7 20 Rxd7 Rxb5 21 Bxe7 is “pleasant for White”. I saw this at the time and I now believe it is best. I did not see what Richard had planned.] **19...Rxc3 20 Qxd7** [20 bxc3? Qa5 Black wins, eg 21 b4 Qa3 Δ ...Bxc3; or 21 Qxd7 Bxc3; or 21 Kb2 Rc8 22 b4 Qxb4+] **20...Qc7**

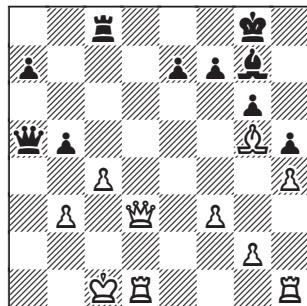


The Editor wrote: “Maybe White could have taken up the challenge: 21 bxc3!? Qxc3 looks terribly risky but White has a whole rook for his troubles. For example, 22 Kc1 Qb2+ 23 Kd2 Qc3+ 24 Ke2 Qxc2+ 25 Kf1...”

The line that Macon suggests is what I was planning. However I noticed just in time what Richard had already seen. Instead of 22...Qb2+ Black should play 22...Rc8! White must play 23

Qd3 and then 23...Qa5 threatens 24...Bc3. The only defense I could see for White is to play 24 c4 when Black replies 24...b5

This position terrified me, so I had to bail out with **21 Qxc7** and fight to draw the ending. (And successfully so after 21...Rxc7 22 Bf4 e5 23 Bg5 b5 24 c3 f6 25 Be3 f5 26 Rd5 a6 27 Rhd1 Rac8 28 Rd6 Rc6 29 Rd7 Bf8 30 R1d5 Re6 31 Ra7 f4 32 Bf2 Rce8 33 Bc5 Bg7 34 Rdd7 Bf6 35 Rf7 a5 36 Kc2 a4 37 bra4 bra4 38 Kd3 Rc6 39 Ke4 Rd8 40 Rf7 Rxc7 41 Rxc7 Rd2 42 Rc8+ Kf7 43 Rc7+ Ke8 44 Rc6 Kf7 45 Rc7+ Kg8 46 Rc8+ Kh7 47 Rc7+ Kg8 ½-½ –ed)





DOTMLPFI FIDE Invitational

The 1st DOTMLPFI Invitational was a 10-player FIDE-rated round robin played during the week of Thanksgiving in Virginia Beach. The field consisted of four FIDE-rated players and six others who aspired to gain FIDE ratings through the event.

Yuri Barnakov continued his recent hot streak (see cover) with a thoroughly dominating performance. He scored an outstanding $8\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$, conceding only a round 4 draw to third-place finisher Larry Larkins. Four-time state champion Danny Miller, the tournament favorite based on rating, finished second with 7-2.

Barnakov and Miller each started 3-0 to take an early lead over the rest of the field. Then they both slowed a bit with draws in round 4, but their $3\frac{1}{2}$ point tallies were still half a point clear of the next highest score at that point, which was Rodney Flores. All three won again in round five. The dramatic sixth round proved to be a decisive turning point. Flores lost to Larkins, while the two leaders met head to head.

Daniel Miller - Yuri Barnakov

Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Bxc6 dxc6 5 O-O f6 6 d4 Bg4 7 c3 Bd6 8 Nbd2 b5 9 Re1 c5 10 dxe5 fxe5 11 a4 Rb8 12 axb5 axb5 13 c4 b4 14 Qa4+ [Beginning a strange journey that ends on b1!] 14...Bd7 15 Qa7?! Bc6 16 Qa6 Ne7 17 Qa2 Ra8 18 Qb1 O-O 19 Nf1 Rxa1 20 Qxa1 Ng6 21 Ng3 Qf6 [21... Rxf3! would have been strong. After 22 gxf3 Nh4 White can't defend f3 (23 Re3 Be7 Δ Qd1/Bg5), the light squares near his king are weak, and the dormant bishop pair is beginning to stir.] 22 Bg5 Qf7 23 b3 Bd7 24 Be3 Bg4 25 Nd2 Re8 26 f3 Bd7 27 Ne2 Nf8 28 Nc1 h6 29 Nd3 Qe7 30 Nf1 Kh7 31 Ng3 g6 32 Bf2 Ne6 [Bold, bordering on reckless— to open the dark-square bishop's diagonal he just gives away the e-pawn.] 33 Nxe5 Nf4 34 Nxd7 Qxd7 35 Qd1 Qe7 36 Ne2 Ne6 37 Qd5 Qf6 38 Bg3 Bxg3 39 hxg3 Rd8 40 Qc6 Rd6 41 Qb7 Rd7 42 Qa6 Rd2 43 Kh2 Qe7 44 Kg1 g5 45 g4 Qd7 46 Qa1 Qd3 47 Qf6 [White is ready to accept a draw (47...Rxe2 48 Rxe2 Qxe2 49 Qxe6 Qe1+ 50 Kh2 Qh4+), gauging that Black has achieved sufficient activity and also no doubt with an eye to the tournament situation.] 47...Qe3+ 48 Kh2? [48 Kf1 was necessary] 48... Ng7 49 Ng3 Qxe1 50 Nf5 Nxf5 51 Qxf5+ Kg7 52 Qe5+ Kf8 53 Qf5+ Ke7 54 Qxc5+ Kd7 55 Qf5+ Kd8 56 Qf8+ Kd7 57 Qf5+ Kd6 58 Qf8+ After another eight or so moves, evidently in serious enough time trouble that they stopped keeping score, White resigned. Maybe something like 58...Ke5 59 Qc5+ Kf4 60 Qxc7+ Ke3 61 Qc5+ Ke2...? 0-1



Larry Larkins - Rodney Flores

Modern

1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 c4 d6 4 Nc3 Nc6 5 Nge2 e5 6 d5 Nce7 7 Be3 f5 8 f3 Bh6
 9 Qd2 Bxe3 10 Qxe3 Nf6 11 Nc1 O-O 12 Be2 Nh5 13 Nd3 Kh8 14 Qg5 c5
 15 dxc6 bxc6 16 c5 d5 17 exd5 cxd5 18 Nxe5 d4 19 Nb5 a6 20 Nd6 Be6 21
 Qd2 Nd5 22 Qxd4 Qa5+ 23 Kf2 Kg8 24 a3 Ndf4 25 b4 Qd8 26 h4 Nxe2 27
 Kxe2 Ng3+ 28 Kf2 Nxh1+ 29 Rxh1 Bb3 30 f4 Qe7 31 g3 Qe6 32 Re1 Qd5
 33 Qxd5+ Bxd5 34 Nd7 Bc6 35 Nxf8 Kxf8 36 Re5 Rb8 37 Re2 Kg7 38 Re7+
 Kf6 39 Rc7 Ba4 40 Rc8 Rxc8 41 Nxc8 h6 42 Ke3 g5 43 hxg5+ hxg5 44 Kd4
 gxf4 45 gxf4 Ke6 46 Nd6 Bc6 47 Nc4 Bb5 48 Ne3 Bc6 49 Nd1 Ba4 50 Ne3
 Bc6 51 a4 Be8 52 b5 axb5 53 axb5 Bf7 54 Nd5 Kd7 55 b6 Kc6 56 Ne7+ Kb7
 57 Nxf5 Kc6 58 Nd6 1-0

The sixth round essentially set what would prove to be the final standings of the leaders. In the remaining three rounds, Barnakov won out to even increased his lead. Miller and Larkins each added 2½ points to their scores, while Flores went 2-1 to drop a half point farther back but still remain comfortably ahead of =5th/6th place finishers Dan Ranario and Tom Belke.

	Ba	M	L	F	R	Be	Z	K	A	X	Score
Yuri Barnakov	x	1	=	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8½
Daniel Miller	0	x	=	1	1	1	1	=	1	1	7
Larry Larkins	=	=	x	1	=	=	1	=	1	1	6½
Rodney Flores	0	0	0	x	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Dan Ranario	0	0	=	0	x	=	1	=	=	1	4
Thomas Belke	0	0	=	0	=	x	=	1	=	1	4
Kevin Zhou	0	0	0	0	0	=	x	1	1	1	3½
Himanshu Keskar	0	=	=	0	=	0	0	x	1	0	2½
Mike Atkins	0	0	0	0	=	=	0	0	x	=	1½
Correy Xu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	=	x	1½

For the curious, DOTMLPFI stands for Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership and education, Personnel, Facilities and Interoperability. Tournament sponsor DOTMLPFI, Inc. is Tom Belke's defense consulting, engineering and R&D services firm.

Yuri Barnakov - Rodney Flores

Modern

1 d4 g6 2 e4 Bg7 3 Nc3 c6 4 Bc4 b5 5 Bb3 a5 6 a4 b4 7 Nce2 Ba6 8 h4 d5
 9 e5 e6 10 h5 c5 11 c3 Nc6 12 Ba2 Rc8 13 Be3 bxc3 14 bxc3 cxd4 15 cxd4
 Nb4 16 Bb1 Ne7 17 g4 Qc7 18 Rh3 Nc2+ 19 Bxc2 Qxc2 20 Qxc2 Rxc2 21
 Bd2 Nc6 22 Bc3 Bc4 23 Kd1 Ra2 24 Rxa2 Bxa2 25 Kc2 Bf8 26 hxg6 fxg6



27 Nf4 Kf7 28 Nd3 Bc4 29 Rf3+ Ke7 30 Nc5 Bg7 31 Nh3 Be2 32 Rf4 h6 33 Kd2 g5 34 Kxe2 gxf4 35 Nxf4 Rb8 36 Nxe6 Kf7 37 Nxe7 Kxe7 38 Nxd5 Rd8 39 Nf4 Kf7 40 d5 Nb4 41 d6 Nc6 42 Ke3 Rb8 43 e6+ Ke8 44 Nd5 Rd8 45 d7+ Kf8 46 Bf6 Rb8 47 e7+ 1-0

Thomas Belke - Correy Xu

Modern

1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 Nf3 d6 4 h3 Nd7 5 Bc4 c6 6 Bxf7+ Kxf7 7 Ng5+ Ke8 8 Ne6 Qb6 9 Nxe7+ Kf7 10 Nh5 Qa5+ 11 Bd2 Qxh5 12 g4 Qb5 13 Qf3+ Ke8 14 Bc3 Ngf6 15 a4 Qb6 16 Nd2 Rf8 17 Qg3 Qc7 18 f4 c5 19 d5 Kd8 20 O-O b6 21 Rfe1 Ba6 22 Rad1 c4 23 Nf3 Nc5 24 Nd4 Bc8 25 Nc6+ Kd7 26 Bxf6 exf6 27 e5 fxe5 28 fxe5 dxe5 29 Qh4 Kd6 30 Qg5 Bf5 31 Nxe5 Ne4 32 Qf4 Qg7 33 Nxe6+ Kd7 34 Ne5+ Kd6 35 Nf7+ Kd7 36 Qxf5+ Kc7 37 Qxe4 Qxf7 38 d6+ Kd7 39 Qb7+ 1-0

Rodney Flores - Dan Ranario

Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 c3 a6 4 d4 cxd4 5 cxd4 d5 6 e5 Bb4+ 7 Nc3 Ne7 8 Bd3 Nbc6 9 O-O Nf5 10 Be3 h6 11 Qb3 Bxc3 12 bxc3 O-O 13 Rae1 Na5 14 Qd1 b5 15 Nd2 Nxe3 16 Rxe3 f5 17 exf6 Rxf6 18 Bb1 Nc4 19 Rg3 Qf8 20 Nf3 Ra7 21 Qd3 Rc7 22 Qh7+ Kf7 23 Bg6+ Ke7 24 Bd3 Kd6 25 Bxc4 bxc4 26 Qc2 Qe8 27 Rb1 g5 28 Ne5 Rb7 29 Re3 Rxb1+ 30 Qxb1 Qb5 31 Qc1 Qa4 32 Qd2 Bd7 33 Re1 Qa3 34 h3 Ke7 35 Qc2 Kd8 36 Ng4 Rf8 37 Rb1 Kc7 38 Nxh6 Qd6 39 Qb2 Bb5 40 Ng4 Qc6 41 Ne5 Qe8 1-0

Himanshu Keskar - Michael Atkins

Gruenfeld

1 d4 c5 2 e3 Nf6 3 Nf3 cxd4 4 exd4 g6 5 Be2 Bg7 6 O-O O-O 7 c4 d5 8 Nc3 dxc4 9 Bxc4 a6 10 Re1 b5 11 Bb3 Bb7 12 a3 Nbd7 13 h3 Nb6 14 Ne5 e6 15 Bg5 Bd5 16 Nxd5 exd5 17 Qf3 h6 18 Bh4 g5 19 Bg3 Rc8 20 Rad1 Nc4 21 Nxc4 bxc4 22 Bc2 Re8 23 Be5 Ne4 24 Rxe4 dxe4 25 Qxe4 f6 26 Qh7+ Kf8 27 Bg3 Re7 28 d5 c3 29 bxc3 Rxc3 30 d6 Re2 31 Bf5 Rxg3 32 fxg3 Qb6+ 33 Kh2 Qc6 34 Be4 Qd7 35 Bd5 Ke8 36 Qg8+ Bf8 37 Qg6+ 1-0





Books *by Macon Shibut*

ALAS, SO MUCH CHESS, SO LITTLE TIME. New books have arrived faster than I could possibly assimilate them. Here I will call you attention to three recent titles, and give what I believe is a fair impression of each based on my admittedly incomplete reading.

This holiday season's offering from Mongoose Press (the publisher who last year gave us Shipov's sublime *THE COMPLETE HEDGEHOG*) include *CHESS BLUEPRINTS: PLANNING IN THE MIDDLEGAME* by Nikolay Yakovlev (Paperback, 280 pages, list \$24.95) and *CAPABLANCA: A PRIMER OF CHECKMATE* by Frisco Del Rosario (Paperback, 176 pages, list \$19.95).

BLUEPRINTS is a collection of positions from practical play, organized by position theme ("weak squares", etc) and offered up as problems for the reader to solve. They aren't easy! Indeed, the strength of the book is that it does not fool around with cut-and-dried positions where one could definitively say what is correct. Things are rarely so clear as that in practice, and it is entirely possible that a strong player could disagree with Yakovlev's solutions for some of these examples. You will certainly have questions about some of the supporting analysis. I carefully worked through half a dozen of the exercises and found several instances where he evaluated a variation with words like "clearly favoring White" when my own thoughts were that that things did not seem so clear at all...

But let me be clear: this is not a fault with the book. On the contrary, I offer it as an indication that Yakovlev has taken on the supreme challenge of dealing with real-world chess, with all its uncertainties. And he does a pretty good job of it. I expect that I will return to this book from time to time, perhaps as a source of warm-up exercises in the days leading up to some future tournament.

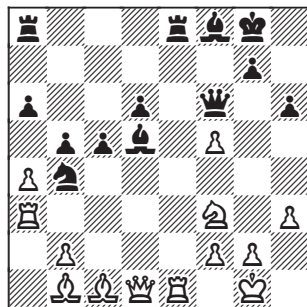
Whereas *BLUEPRINTS* will most likely appeal to stronger players (say, rated 2000 and above), *CAPABLANCA* aims at a less-experienced market. The title clearly alludes to J R Capablanca's 1935 textbook, *A PRIMER OF CHESS*. Del Rosario's book is a compendium of basic mates and mating devices (Scholar's Mate; the Two-Bishop Sacrifice; etc). The trick here is that *PRIMER OF CHECKMATE* attempts to show that the combinative dénouement is not a tactical accident that strikes like a bolt from the blue, but rather, it is a logical expression of how generally good play ultimately triumphs over weaker play. Capablanca is offered as a paragon of such "logical" conclusions, and many (but by no means all) of the illustrative examples are drawn from his games.



Finally I do not want to let the latest volume of Kasparov's Modern Chess series slip by unmentioned. No surprise, GARRY KASPAROV ON MODERN CHESS, PART 4: KASPAROV VS KARPOV, 1988-2009 (Everyman Chess, hardcover, 432 pages, list \$45) follows the template of, and upholds the standard set by, the eight(!) previous books (five under the "My Great Predecessors" heading, three under "Modern Chess"). Which is to say, this is the definitive work on the games it presents. In this case those are the author's 1990 New York/Lyon world championship match versus Anatoly Karpov, as well as tournament games between the same two players from 1988 forward to their 2009 rapid/blitz exhibition event at Valencia—sixty-six games total.

It's possible to take issue with Kasparov's historical perspective. He's got the Bolshevik-ingrained "sign of the times" way of interpreting events, which often leads to silliness, and his take on matters involving himself could be fairly termed 'expedient'. But it's hard to have anything but praise for his presentation of actual chess. The New York games have a special place in my memory, as I attended some of them in person and followed them all avidly. (Oh, the exertions we chess fans had to make in those pre-Internet days!) Re-living them through *Kasparov vs Karpov, 1988-2009* was a joy, and often a revelation as well.

Kasparov's notes are too detailed to reproduce even a single game here; such an excerpt would fill up this entire issue of VIRGINIA CHESS. So we shall settle for just a couple moves(!) from the 4th game of the New York match, which might get some votes for Most Exciting Chess Game Ever Played. Kasparov was White and the opening moves were **1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 O-O Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 d6 8 c3 O-O 9 h3 Bb7** (This and 9...Nd7 both got thorough workouts during the 1990 match) **10 d4 Re8 11 Nbd2 Bf8 12 a4 h6 13 Bc2 exd4 14 cxd4 Nb4 15 Bb1 c5 16 d5 Nd7 17 Ra3 f5 18 exf5 Nf6 19 Ne4 Bxd5 20 Nxf6+ Qxf6**. At this point I turn you over to the *maestro*:



21 Bd2? (12) {*Kasparov gives time (minutes) used for each move in parentheses –ed*}

This move 'with an attack' was recommended in *Informator* by Alexander Ivanov. But why give up the b2-pawn? Now White has to display enormous resourcefulness in order to remain afloat, whereas he could have fought for an advantage:

1) 21 axb5!? (a recommendation of Geller and Lein) 21...axb5 (21...Rxe1+? 22 Nxe1 axb5 23 Nc2) 22 Bd2! (if 22 Rxa8 with the 22...Rxa8 23 Bd2, the correct reply is 22...Rxe1+! 23 Qxe1 Bxa8 with equality) 22...Rxa3 (22...Bxf3 23 Rxf3!) 23 bxa3 Rxe1+ 24 Bxe1 Bxf3 25 gxf3! Na6 26 a4 with an obvious advantage (26...Nc7 27 Ba5). I would add 22...Qxb2?! 23 Bxb4 Bxf3 24 Rxf3 Qxb4 25



Re6! with a dangerous initiative. But after 21...Bxf3! 22 Rxf3 (22 gxf3 axb5 is equal) 22...Rxe1+ 23 Qxe1 axb5 White's advantage is slight: 24 Bd2 Ra1 25 Bc3 Nc2! 26 Qf1(c1) Nd4, or 24 Ra3 Rxa3 25 bxa3 Nc6 etc.;

2) 21 Rae3!? We analyzed this move in Lyon, and I was ready to employ it in the 22nd game. If 21...Rxe3 22 Rxe3 bxa4, then 23 Bd2! with the threat of Bxb4 or Bc3. 21...Bf7 is more solid: 22 Nh2! Qd4 (22...Rxe3 is too sharp - 23 Rxe3 d5?! 24 Ng4 Qd4 25 Qe1, threatening f5-f6) 23 Qxd4 cxd4 24 Rxe8 Rxe8 25 Rxe8 Bxe8 26 Bd2 d5 27 Nf3 bxa4 28 Nxd4 with slightly the better endgame, or the fighting 23 Qf3 Nd5 24 Re6! (24 Re4?! Nf6!; 24 Rd1 Qxa4 25 Rxd5 Qa1! 26 Be4 Rxe4! 27 Rd1! d5!?) 24...Nc7! 25 R1e4 Qd5 26 Rxe8 Rxe8 27 axb5 axb5 28 f6 with unclear play.

21...Qxb2! (13) 22 Bxb4 (6)

While Karpov was considering his reply, I was already anticipating the pleasant consequences of the 'obligatory' 22...Bxf3, when I suddenly saw the simple retreat to f7 – and almost immediately after my 'insight' it was reproduced on the board...

22...Bf7! (5)

Retaining this useful bishop: it turns out that the piece will not run away from Black. We analysed 19...Bxd5 at home only cursorily (regarding the entire variation with 18 exf5 as a 'sideline') and came to the conclusion that 22...Bxf3(?) 23 Rxf3 Qxb4 24 Re6! White has a decisive attack. For example: 24...Qxa4 (24...Qb2 25 Qd3!) 25 Bc2 Qd4 26 Rd3 Qh4 27 Rde3 (Zaitsev) Rxe6 28 fxe6 Ra7 29 e7! and Qd5+ (Kholmov). Or 25 Qe2!? Qa1 26 Qe1! Rxe6 27 fxe6 Qe5 28 Re3 Qh5 29 e7 Re8 30 exf8Q+ Kxf8 31 Be4! and, with the heavy pieces on board, the bishop is worth more than the pawns (31...d5 32 Rf3+ Kg8 33 Bxd5+!). { *This final line appears in the book with incorrect move numbering, ie "24 Qe2!? Qa1 25 Qe1!..." etc -ed* }

It was evident that Karpov was very happy with his position. And after painful hesitation I was forced to take a difficult decision.

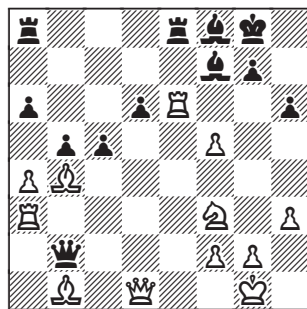
23 Re6! (15)

Like a bolt from the blue! 'Oh mein Gott, Kasparov!' exclaimed Najdorf in the press center on seeing this move. 'The only way of maintaining the planned attack' (Geller and Lein). 'Throwing caution to the winds, the world champion sets his opponent a selection problem' (Vasyukov).

It was already too late for 23 axb5, since after 23...Qxb4 Black would quickly regain the pawn and would always have the prospect of a better endgame with a pair of connected passed pawns: 24 Rxe8 Rxe8 25 Rxa6 Qxb5 26 Ra7 (Zaitsev) 26...Qe2!, or 24 Rxa6 Rxe1+ 25 Qxe1 (25 Nxex1 Re8!) Qxe1+ 26 Nxex1 Rb8 (Geller and Lein) 27 b6 Bc4 28 Ba2 Bxa2 29 Rxa2 Rxb6, and in every case White is fighting only for a draw.



Thus the spectacular and unusual move 23 Re6 was correct from the practical point of view, and fully in accordance with the spirit of the position. White continues playing for an attack, although, with the f7 bishop remaining alive, its effectiveness is problematic. I still had only a vague impression of how to continue the attack, but I realized that White could not get by without any sacrifices, and I was relying on the 'holes' in the Black king's shelter.



Kasparov's explanation of the rest of the game, indeed the remainder of the match, is a treat awaiting the dedicated reader. This was the match the featured a positional queen sacrifice (for two pieces) in game #3, and the dramatic reintroduction (after a century) of the Scotch Game to world championship play. Great stuff!



As we go to press, we receive results from the 1st **Fairfax Open**, organized and directed by Brennan Price. Top-rated IM Tegshsuren Enkhbat, of Maryland, won the open section with a score of 3½-½. State champion Dov Gorman led with a 3-0 score going into the final round, but then Enkhbat beat him on board 1 to slip past. Joining Gorman at 3-1 to tie for second place were IM Oladapo Adu and expert Todd Trower. In the under 2000 section, Elan Rodan scored 3½-½ to take clear first. Levon Bagramian & Alan Lofdhahl trailed by half a point. The under 1600 group saw a tie between Jeremy Knox & Sahil Sinha at 3½ each. William Sun, Kaizen Conroy, Wesley Freeman & Parv Ahuja were runners-up.

Oladapo Adu - Andrew Samuelson Torre

1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 e6 3 Bg5 c5 4 c3 b6 5 e3 Be7 6 Nbd2 Bb7 7 Bd3 O-O 8 Qc2 h6 9 h4 d5 10 Bxf6 Bxf6 11 g4 c4 12 Bh7+ Kh8 13 g5 Be7 14 O-O-O Nd7 15 Rdg1 f5 16 Bg6 b5 17 Qd1 b4 18 Nb1 bxc3 19 Nxc3 Qa5 20 Nd2! Rfb8 21 Qh5 Ba3 22 gxh6 Bxb2+ [No better 22...Qxc3+ 23 Kd1] 23 Kd1 Nf6 24 hxg7+ Kxg7 25 Be8+ Ng4 26 Rxg4+ fxg4 27 Qg6+ Kh8 28 Bf7 1-0





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, Arlington Forest United Methodist Church, 4701 Arlington Blvd, Fridays 7:30pm. Registration for rated Ladder and Action events ends 8pm. Blitz/Quick tourney first Friday of each month. Info 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 Battlefiled Blvd & Stadium Dr, Tuesdays, 6:30-10pm, info 686-0892 ■ **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 ■ **Port 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 ■ **Glenns:** Rappahannock Community College - Glenns Campus Chess Club, Glenns 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/huffinacj/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 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 ■ **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 Borders Books and Music, 2904 Prince William Parkway, Woodbridge, VA 22192. Contact Dick Stableford, 703-670-5887 or o6usmc@comcast.net

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