

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

The bimonthly publication of the
Virginia Chess Federation

2011 - #1



VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

2011 - Issue #1

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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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Springfield Open

IM OLADAPO ADU finished in clear first with 4½-½ at the Springfield Open, held Jan 28-30. Trailing Adu by half a point were IM Tegshsuren Enkhbat, FMs Dov Gorman & Macon Shibut, and - earning an Expert rating for the first time! - John Farrell! Jeevan Karamsetty & Craig Saperstein split the Expert prize.

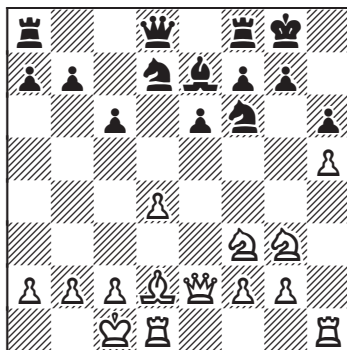
In the Amateur section, no less than five players tied for first with 4-1 scores: Aditya Ponukumati (who would have won on tiebreak had that mattered), Steven Kool, Vikas Rajasekaran, Jake Koenig & Doga Evrim Aslan (a scholastic player visiting from Turkey!). Kaizen Conroy was top class D. Divij Rajesh, Tan Nguyen & Jamaal Abdul-Alim split the U1200 prize.

Eighty-nine players showed up for the event. Perhaps a few others stayed away due to snow, but the turnout was still pretty good.

Oladapo Adu - Curtis Winter 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

(diagram) 14 Nf1 Qc7 15 g4 Nh7 16 Rg1 Ng5 17 Ne5 Nxe5 18 dxe5 Qb6 19 Rg3 Qb5 20 c4 Qb6 21 f4 Nh7 22 Kb1 Rad8 23 g5 hxg5 24 fxg5 g6 25 Rc1 Bc5 26 Qh2 Rd7 27 Be3 Bxe3 28 Nxe3 Qc5 29 Ng4 Qd4 30 Qc2 Kg7 31 Nf6 Rdd8 32 hxg6 fxg6 33 Qh2 Nxf6 34 gxf6+ 1-0



The top players began meeting head to head in the third round. On the top two boards, the games Gorman-Kaufman and Enkhbat-Shibut ended in draws. By Sunday morning only two perfect 3-0 scores remained: Adu and expert Tim Hamilton. Hamilton got there via a game against Majur Juac that had its entertaining moments.

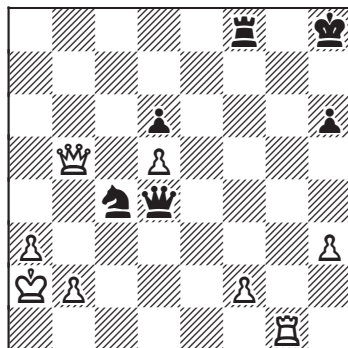
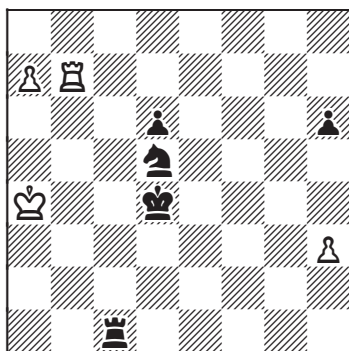
Majur Juac - Tim Hamilton Two Knights

1 e4 Nc6 2 d4 e5 3 Nf3 exd4 4 Bc4 Nf6 5 Bg5 Bb4+ 6 Nbd2 h6 7 Bxf6 Qxf6 8 Qe2 d6 9 O-O-O Bg4 10 Bb5 O-O 11 h3 Bxd2+ 12 Qxd2 Bxf3 13 gxf3 Ne7 14 Rhg1 c5 15 Rg3 a6 16 Be2 Ng6 17 Bc4 Kh8 18 Rdg1 b5 19 Bxf7 Ne5 20 Bd5 Ra7 21 Qe2 Nxf3 22 Rd1 Ne5 23 Rf1 Qf4+ 24 Kb1 c4 25 a3 Rc7 26 Qe1 d3 27 cxd3 cxd3 28 Qa5 Rc5 29 Rfg1 d2 30 Rxc7 Rxd5 31 exd5 d1Q+



32 Rxd1 Kxg7 33 Qxa6 Qe4+ 34 Ka1 Nc4 35 Rg1+ Kh8 36 Qxb5 Qd4 37 Ka2 [If 37 Rg4 Black gets out by 37...Qd1+ 38 Ka2 Ne5. Now some interesting tactics follow...]

37...Nxb2 38 Rg4 Na4 39 Rxd4 Nc3+ 40 Kb3 Nxb5 41 Rd3 Rxf2 42 a4 Nc7 43 a5 Kg7 44 Rc3 Rf7 45 Rc6 Rd7 46 Kc4 [46 a6 Nxd5 47 Kc4 Ne7 48 Rb6 Kf6 49 Rb7 Rd8 50 a7 Ra8] 46...Kf6 47 a6 Ke5 48 Rb6 Nxd5 49 Rb8 Rc7+ 50 Kb5 Rc5+ 51 Ka4 Rc1 52 Rb7 Kd4 53 a7



53...Kc4 just in time 54 Ka3 Ra1+ 55 Kb2 Ra6 56 Rh7 Kc5 57 Rxh6 Rxa7 58 Kc2 Ra2+ 59 Kd3 Nf4+ 60 Ke4 Ra4+ 61 Kf5 Ng2 62 Rh8 Rf4+ 63 Kg5 d5 64 Rc8+ Kd4 65 Rc2 Rf3 [The rook ending is winning but Black could have kept his knight by 65...Rf8] 66 Rxb3 67 Kg4 Rd3 68 Kf4 Rd1 69 Kf3 Kd3 70 Ra2 Rf1+ 71 Kg2 Rf8 72 Ra3+ Ke4 73 Ra4+ d4 74 Ra7 Ke3 75 Re7+ Kd2 76 Rd7 d3 77 Ra7 Kd1 78 Ra1+ Ke2 79 Ra7 d2 80 Re7+ Kd1 81 Re6 Rc8 82 Rd6 Kc1 83 Kf2 d1Q 0-1

The 4th round Hamilton-Adu battle went back and forth for a while but in the end it put Adu a full point up on the field going into the final round.

Tim Hamilton - Oladapo Adu French

Notes by Macon Shibut

1 Nc3 e6 2 d4 d5 3 e4 Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 f4 c5 6 Nf3 Nc6 7 Be3 a6 8 Qd2 b5 9 g3 Qb6 10 Ne2 cxd4 11 Nexd4 Bc5 12 c3 b4 13 Kf2 Bb7 14 h4 Rc8 15 Bd3 Na5 16 Rhd1 Nc4 17 Bxc4 dxc4 18 Nc2 Qc6 19 Qe2 a5 20 Ncd4 Qa6 21 Rac1 bxc3 22 bxc3 Ba3 23 Rb1 Nc5 [23...Be4!? 24 Nc2 Bd3] 24 Nb5 Ne4+ 25 Kg1 Be7 26 Nd6+ Bxd6 27 exd6 O-O 28 Bd4 Rfd8 [Why not 28...Nxb3-?] 29 Rb6 [29 Ng5! eg 29...Nxb3 30 hxb3 Rxd6 31 Qe5] 29...Qa8 30 Ng5 [Now this is less forceful because Black's knight is not en pris, although White still has threats, starting with Rxb7] 30...e5 [30...Nxb3? 31 Qe5 is good for White] 31 Nxf7?! [Sowing confusion, but it would have been better to give the exchange rather than receive it: 31 Rxb7 Qxb7 32 Qxe4 Qxe4 33 Nxe4 exd4 34 Rxd4 Rb8 35 a4] 31...exd4 32 Nxd8 d3 33 Qb2 Rxd8 34 Rxb7 Nxd6 35 Rc7 Qf3 [decisive]



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

Open (Top 4 G)

1st - \$600

2nd - \$400

3rd - \$300

4th - \$200

Top Expert - \$180

Top Class A - \$180

Amateur (U 1900)

1st - \$400

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 _____



36 Rf1 Qxg3+ 37 Qg2 Qe3+ 38 Kh2 Nf5 39 Qg5 Qe2+ 40 Kg1 Rf8 41 Qg2 Qxg2+ 42 Kxg2 Ne3+ 43 Kf2 Nxf1 44 Rxc4 d2 0-1

Dov Gorman - CharlesYang

Modern

Notes by Dov Gorman

1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 Nc3 c6 4 Bc4 b5 5 Bb3 a5 6 a4 [6 a3 d6 7 Qf3 e6 8 Nge2 Ba6] 6...b4 7 Qf3 [7 Nce2 d5 8 e5] 7...e6 8 Nce2 d5 9 c3 Qb6 10 c4 dxc4 11 Bxc4 Bxd4 [Black gives up his dark square bishop for only a pawn. White's gains full compensation for the pawn due to a lead in development as well as an initiative against the black king. 11...Nd7 was more solid.] 12 Nxd4 Qxd4 13 Qe2 Ba6 14 Bxa6 Rxa6 15 Nf3 Qa7 16 O-O Nd7 [It is difficult for Black to complete his development and harmonize the activity of his pieces. White increases his advantages by playing simple developing moves.] 17 Rd1 Ngf6 18 Bh6 [preventing castling] 18...Ke7 19 Bg5 Kf8 [with the simple threats of e5 or Rxd7 (eg 19...h6 20 Rxd7+ Qxd7 21 Bxf6+ Kxf6 22 Qxa6)] 20 Rd6 h6 21 Be3 Qb7 22 e5 Ke7 23 Rad1? {A mistake; White could have won simply by playing 23 exf6+ Kxd6 24 Bf4+, eg 24...Kc5 25 Qe3+ Kc4 26 Rc1+ Kd5 27 Qd4mate; or 24...e5 25 Nxe5 Nxe5 26 Bxe5+ (26 Qxe5+ Kd7 27 Rd1+ Kc8) 26...Kd7 27 Rd1+ Kc8 (27...Ke8 28 Bc7+ Kf8 29 Rd8mate; 27...Ke6 28 Bc3+ Kf5 29 Qe5+ Kg4 30 Rd4mate) 28 Qg4+ etc} 23...Nd5 [After missing the winning opportunity White has to rebuild the pressure.] 24 Bf4 Raa8 25 Bg3 Rhc8 26 Qd2 Rh8 27 h4 [27 Nd4 Rac8 28 Qc2 c5 29 Nxe6 fxe6 30 Qxg6 was another plan.] 27...c5? [undermining the support of his Nd5] 28 h5 Rag8 29 hxg6 Rxg6 30 Nh4 Rxg3 [Desperation; 30...Rg5 was better, even though 31 Qe2 still brings long term pressure, eg 31...Rhg8 32 R1xd5 exd5 33 e6. After the text Black is lost.] 31 fxg3 N7b6 32 Qf2 Rc8 33 Rf1 [33 Ng6+ fxg6 34 Rf1 was faster] 33...f6 34 Rxe6+! Kxe6 35 Qf5+ 1-0 35...Ke7 36 Qh7+ wins the queen.

Hampton Roads Swisses

March 19, 2011 – June 18, 2011

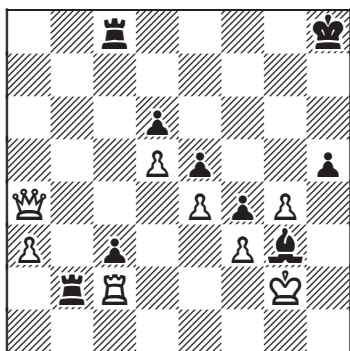
Holiday Inn, 1815 W Mercury Blvd @ I-64, Hampton, Va

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 8:30-9:00 am, 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 additional info and a printable entry form browse <http://mysite.verizon.net/eschlich> or email ESchlich@verizon.net Enter: Ernie Schlich, 1370 S Braden Crescent, Norfolk, VA 23502.





This interesting position arose in the first round. It illustrates how the “safe move” is often in truth not the safest at all. Black sensed that 1...Rcb8 might be



Shicheng Zaio - Charles Yang

Black to Play

the right move but could not work out the variations. In the end he chose 1...Rxc2+ to at least tie White's queen to the humble task of blockading the c-pawn. Except it's not so strictly tied, and after 2 Qxc2 hxc4 3 fxg4 Kg7 White could have gotten the advantage by boldly abandoning her post, 4 Qa4! Rc7 (4...c2? 5 Qd7+) 5 Qa5. By harassing the rook White gets the queen into checking position with tempo. After that Black's defense would be very tricky and of course White would run no risk of losing.

Instead 4 Kf3?! was played. Then after 4... Kf6 5 Qa4! was now essential, although at this

point White is only playing to force a draw 5...c2 6 Qd7. Black gets a new queen but White gives perpetual check. Instead he played 5 a4? and perhaps thought he was in good shape—Black must eventually capture this pawn with the rook, whereupon Qxc3 and then the queen will go on the hunt. Instead of this happy scenario, a cold shower...

5...Rh8! 6 Qxc3 (there is no longer anything better) Rh2 with unstoppable mate! (Well, okay 7 Qe3 would stop it, but it obviously loses. 0-1

Returning to the diagram, it seems 1...Rcb8! was indeed correct and winning by force. White must retreat his king to the first rank in order to get out of the way of the threat Rxc2 followed by Rb2. 2 Kg1 (2 Kh3 won't do because of 2...Rxc2 3 Qxc2 Rb2 4 Qxc3 Rh2mate) 2...hxc4 (Watching the game from the sidelines, the Editor thought 2...h4 would win: 3 Rxc3(?) Rb1+ 4 Kg2 h3+ 5 Kxh3 Rh1+ 6 Kg2 Rh2+ 7 Kf1 Rb1+. However, 3 Rc1! defends.) 3 Rxc3 (if 3 fxg4 f3 creates insoluble problems, eg 4 Rc1 Rg2+ 5 Kf1 Rh2 6 Kg1 f2+) and now 3...Bf2+! 4 Kf1 (4 Kg2 Bd4+) 4...g3 5 Rc1 Black suddenly switches flanks, 5...g2+! 6 Kxg2 Rg8+ 7 Kh1 Rb7! and mate!

Macon Shibut - Aravin Ponukumati

French

Notes by Macon Shibut

1 e4 c5 2 c3 e6 3 d4 d5 4 e5 [A spur-of-the-moment trip down memory lane – I used to play this, including the ensuing Milner-Barry Gambit, when I was a kid, but I haven't ventured it in about 15 years.] Nc6 5 Nf3 Bd7 6 Bd3 cxd4 [Correct! I think that 6...Qb6 (this position is often reached by the move order 5...Qb6 6



Bd3 Bd7) is inaccurate due to 7 dxc5! Bxc5 8 O-O] **7 cxd4 Qb6 8 Nc3** [This was 'my own discovery' from long ago. I thought it was a superior move order to the 'book line' 8 O-O Nxd4 9 Nxd4 Qxd4 10 Nc3, transposing to our game, because it ruled out Black's option 8...Nb4 (after 8 O-O, obviously) 9 Be2 Bb5. Looking at it now, I'm not sure that is anything White needs to rule out. White doesn't sacrifice a pawn and seems to have an edge after 10 Bxb5+ Qxb5 11 Nc3; it's simplistic to think that Black must get a good game just because he trades off his bad bishop.] **8...Nxd4 9 Nxd4 Qxd4 10 O-O** [The Milner-Barry Gambit. In principle it is not such a good line, but it poses practical problems. The way I always looked at it was that Black's king has no long-term secure home: on the kingside, all White's pieces will flow naturally into the attack; on the queenside, there is an open file and White has mobile a- and b- pawns; in the center, it interferes with the cooperation of Black's rooks and eventually White can pry things open by f4-f5. So even if White doesn't appear to have anything going on in the moment, just keep playing and chances have a way of turning up.] **a6** [The old main line. I haven't kept up with the theory but I'm aware that 10...Qxe5, formerly considered risky, is now well regarded.] **11 Re1 Bb4 12 Be3 Qh4** [12...Qxe5? 13 Bc5] **13 g3 Qe7** [if 13...Qh3 14 Qb3 eg 14...Bxc3 15 Qxb7] **14 Qb3 Bc6 15 Rec1 Bxc3 16 Rxc3 Qd7 17 Bd4** [I decided to blockade the d-pawn but 17 Qb4 Ne7 18 Bc5 poses more direct problems.] 17...Ne7 18 h4 [Δ Kh2 so as to be more secure if the a8-h1 diagonal ever opens. Now I expected Black to castle.] **17...g6 19 Kh2 h5 20 Qc2 Kf8** [This might have been a good moment to play 20...Bb5! exploiting a couple little tactics: 21 Bxb5 (21 Rc7? Bxd3!) axb5 22 Rc7 Rxc8! etc] **21 Qd2 Kg7 22 Qf4 Rg8 23 Rac1 Rc8 24 Qf6+ Kg8 25 a4 Nf5?** [collapsing under pressure] **26 Bxf5 gxf5 27 Qg5+ Kh7** [27...Kf8? 28 Bc5+ Ke8 29 Qg7] **28 Qxh5+ Kg7 29 Qg5+** [I could play 29 Qxf5 right away but it's not so conclusive (29...exf5 30 e6+ f6 31 exd7 Bxd7). It's better to keep the pieces on the board in view of Black's insecure king.] 29...Kh7 30 a5 Rcg8 31 Qh5+ Kg7 32 Qxf5 [Now it's better because Black has left the c-file. If 32...exf5 33 e6+ f6 34 exd7 Bxd7 35 Rc7 Rd8 36 Rxb7 threatening Bb6 or Rcc7] **32...Qd8 33 Qf4 Kf8 34 b4** [Toying with the breakthrough idea b5, axb5, a6 undermining Bc6] **34...Rg6 35 b5 axb5 36 a6 Rgh6 37 Kh3** [Black's only threat is the sacrifice on h4 and I had determined that this puts it to rest, so I just played the move without much thought. Later I noticed that I could have gone ahead and played 37 a7 (or 37 axb7) because if 37...Rxb4+ 38 gxb4 Rxb4+ 39 Rh3! (overlooked this!) Rxf4 40 Rh8+] **37...b4 38 Rf3 f5?** [Making it easy, although White should win even after the more resistant 38...R6h7 39 a7] 39 exf6 Bd7 40 Qd6+ Kf7 41 Qe7+ [In the spirit of Fischer, I point out that even a move prompting resignation can be inaccurate; 41 Rc7 was even stronger.] **1-0** 41...Qxe7 42 fxe7+ Kxe7 43 Bxh8 Rxh8 44 a7 etc.



Levon Bagramian - Thomas Saunders

King's Gambit Declined

1 e4 e5 2 f4 Bc5 3 Nf3 d6 4 c3 Nf6 5 d4 exd4 6 cxd4 Bb4+ 7 Bd2 Bxd2+ 8 Nbx d2 d5 9 e5 Qe7 10 Be2 Ne4 11 O-O Bf5 12 Qb3 c6 13 Nxe4 Bxe4 14 Bd3 Bxd3 15 Qxd3 Nd7 16 b4 O-O 17 Ng5 g6 18 Qh3 f6 19 exf6 Nxf6 20 Ne6 Rfe8 21 Rae1 Ne4 22 f5 gxf5 23 Rxe4 fxe4 24 Qg3+ Kh8 25 Qe5+ Kg8 26 Rf4? [White gets carried away and blunders. 26 Qg3+ ½-½] Qxe6 27 Qg5+ Qg6 28 Qh4 e3 [or simply 28...Kh8] 29 Rg4 e2 30 Rxg6+ hxg6 31 Qe1 Re4 32 b5 Rf8 33 bxc6 Rf1+ 34 Qxf1 exf1Q+ 35 Kxf1 bxc6 0-1

Jeffery Chang - Dov Gorman

Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 g6 6 Be3 Bg7 7 f3 Nc6 8 Qd2 O-O 9 O-O-O d5 10 Nxd5 Nxd5 11 exd5 Qxd5 12 Nxc6 Qxc6 13 Bh6 Bxh6 14 Qxh6 Be6 15 Kb1 Rac8 16 Bd3 Rfd8 17 h4 Rxd3 18 Rxd3 Qxc2+ 19 Ka1 Qxd3 20 h5 Qc4 21 b3 Qc3+ 22 Kb1 Bf5 *mate* 0-1

Doga Evrim Aslan - Aditya Ponukumati

Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Bc5 5 O-O Nf6 6 c3 b5 7 Bc2 d5 8 d4 dxe4 9 dxe5 Qxd1 10 Bxd1 Ng4 11 Ng5 e3 12 e6 Nxf2 13 Bf3 Ne5 14 exf7+ Kf8 15 Re1 Nxf3+ 16 Nxf3 Kxf7 17 Bxe3 Bxe3 18 Rxe3 Ng4 19 Re1 Bb7 20 Nbd2 Rae8 21 Ng5+ Kf6 22 Nge4+ Bxe4 23 Nxe4+ Kg6 24 Nc5 a5 25 Nb3 a4 26 Nd4 c5 27 Nxb5 Rb8 28 c4 Rhd8 29 Rad1 Nf6 30 h3 Rxd1 31 Rxd1 Ne4 32 Rd3 Kf5 33 Ra3 Nd2 34 Rxa4 Nxc4 35 Rxc4 Rxb5 36 b3 g5 37 Kf2 h6 38 Kf3 h5 39 g3 Ke5 40 Ke3 Kd5 41 Kd3 Rb6 42 Re4 Ra6 43 Re2 Rf6 44 a4 Rf3+ 45 Re3 Rf7 46 Kc3 h4 47 g4 Rf1 48 Kd3 Kc6 49 Kd2 Rh1 50 Rf3 Rb1 51 Kc2 Rh1 52 Rf6+ Kc7 53 Rf5 Kb6 54 Rxg5 Rxh3 55 Rh5 Rh2+ 56 Kc3 h3 57 g5 Rh1 58 g6 h2 59 Kc2 Rg1 60 Rxh2 Rxg6 61 Rh4 Rg3 62 Kb2 Ka6 63 Rc4 Kb6 64 Rc3 Rg2+ 65 Rc2 Rg3 66 Rd2 Ka5 ½-½





Kingstowne Chess Club

by Don Millican

QUAD #70/ACTION-PLUS #42

The final Kingstowne event for 2010, on December 11 in Alexandria, was Club Director James Bascom's directorial debut as my assistant TD. The event unfolded as a case of feast and famine. The famine: No one played in the Quads, only the second time an event failed to draw the bare minimum number of players. In contrast, the Action-Plus drew a respectable turnout of twenty-three.

Alexander Passov & Adam Chrisney are both regulars who have confronted one another in the later rounds of previous Kingstowne events. For the most part Passov has had the Indian sign on Chrisney, but this time, in the penultimate round, Chrisney was the victor. Prior to that Passov had been leading with a perfect 3-0, while Chrisney was just behind with 2½. Both won their final round games and so Chrisney took the tournament with 4½. Passov was sole possessor of second place with 4. Ken Borghese, Aaryan Balu & Shwetark Patel shared combined Under 1800/Under 1400.

QUAD #71/ACTION-PLUS #43 (A Tale of Two Floods)

The first Kingstowne event of the new year, on January 15, had two floods. The first was the surge of players ten minutes before the on-site entry cut off. When the deluge receded there were forty entrants for the two events. Only four opted for the Quad, thirty-six for the Action-Plus, which made it the largest ever and prompted an 85% premium on top of the advertised prize fund.

William Wilson Jr, back from Hawaii, and Ajit Kadaveru tied for first with 2½ in the Quad. Tiebreaks gave Wilson 1st place silver, leaving bronze for Kadaveru.

Four Experts headed the Action-Plus lineup. Two of them, Eric Most & Jeevan Karamsetty, tied for first with 4½ points. Sahil Sinha & Yangboya Liu took Under 1800 and Top Unrated respectively. Camden Wiseman & Grishmeshwar Sinha (father of Under 1800 winner Sahil) tied for Under 1400.

The second flood involved facilities in the men's room of Thompson Center. This could not have happened at a more inopportune time: Saturday night, when no maintenance was available. The men's room was in danger of overflowing into the hallway until a large flat screwdriver enabled me to shut off the flow. I did my best to mop up while the last round of the Action-Plus was in progress—one of my less glamorous experiences as TD, although not the first time I've had to put my Navy deck swabbing experience to use at a Kingstowne event.



Thanks go out to Michael Jennings for pre-tournament set-up, Adam Chrisney for some in-progress adjustments, and Ken Borghese and others for help with post-tournament tear-down. Looking ahead, chess widows will rejoice as the Kingstowne Chess Club decided to stop competing with Valentine's Day and the US Amateur Team-East, as well as dodging the Super Bowl, and move its flagship event to April. The new date for the 9th annual(!) **Kingstowne Chess Festival** is **April 16-17**. Finish your income taxes and play without having to neglect your sweetheart or your potential teammates.

2010-2011 Virginia State Scholastic & Collegiate Chess Championships

March 18-20, 2011

Grafton High School & Middle School, Yorktown, Virginia

Two separate tournaments. (Register separately for each.):

BLITZ

Friday evening, March 18th:

5 rounds, three Sections (K-5, K-12 and College). Advance registration is \$10, \$15 if you wait until tournament. (Cash or check only on-site). All players **must bring a chess clock** to play blitz.

MAIN TOURNAMENT

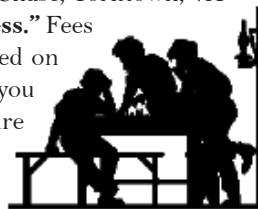
Saturday-Sunday, March 19-20.

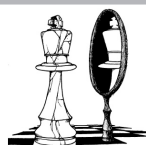
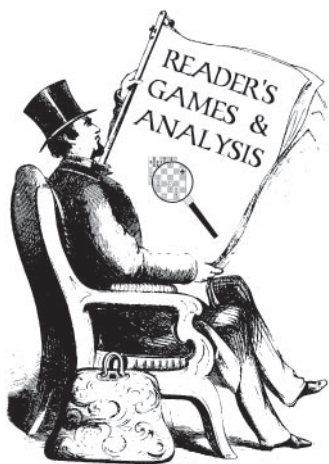
6 rounds, 5 sections (K-3, K-5, K-8, K-12, and Collegiate). Registration is \$30 in advance, \$40 on-site.

This event qualifies eligible players to receive World Chess Live Jr Grand Prix points. \$1.50 from every entry supports Virginia's representatives to the Denker Tournament of High School Champions, the US Girls' Junior Open, and the new Tournament of 6th-8th Grade Champions, all in August 2011 during the US Open.

FOR BOTH... mail Payments (check or money order - no credit cards) Mike Hoffpauir, ATTN: VA Scholastic Chess, 405 Hounds Chase, Yorktown, VA 23693-3356. **Make checks payable to "Virginia Chess."** Fees

for multiple players and both events can be combined on a single check—just be sure we can figure out what you are paying for! Post-mark entry by March 14 to be sure it arrives on time to receive advance rates.





Tim Hamilton sends three games from the Chesapeake Open in Rockville, Md in January.

**Yuri Barnakov - Timothy Hamilton
2010 Chesapeake Open
Nimzowitsch**

1 d4 Nc6 2 e4 e5 3 d5 Nce7 4 c4 Ng6 5 g3 Bb4+ 6 Bd2 Bxd2+ 7 Qxd2 d6 8 Nc3 Nf6 9 Bg2 h6 10 Nge2 Nd7 11 h4 O-O 12 Bh3 Nb6 13 Bxc8 Qxc8 14 b3 f5 15 h5 Nh8 16 f4 Nf7 17 O-O-O c6 18 fxe5 cxd5 19 exd5 Nxe5 20 Nd4 Rf7 21 Kb1 a6 22 Ne6 Nbd7 23 Qd4 Nf3 24 Qe3 Nfe5 25 Rhf1 b5 26 cxb5 Ng4 27 Qd4 axb5 28 Rxf5 Ndf6 [My king proves safer on the kingside than his does on the opposite wing.] 29 Nxb5 Rxa2 30 Nc3 Rg2 31 Rf3 Rb7 32 Qa4 Qb8 33 Na2 Ra7 34 Qb4 Qa8 35 Rd2 Rg1+ 36 Nc1 Ra1+ 37 Kb2 Raxc1 38 Qa4 Rb1+ 39 Kc3 Rgc1+ 40 Kb4 Qc8 41 Qb5 Ne5 42 Re3 Rc4+ 43 Ka5 Ra1+ 0-1



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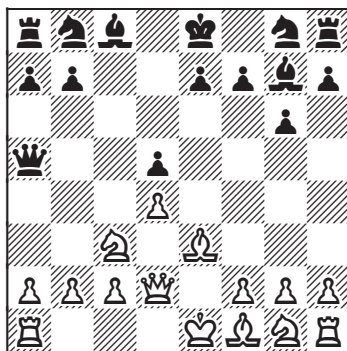


Timothy Hamilton - WGM Sabina-Francesca Foisor

2010 Chesapeake Open

Gurgenidze

1 Nc3 d5 2 e4 c6 3 d4 g6 4 Be3 Bg7 5 Qd2 Qa5? [My opponent is one of the top ten female chess players in the country; she attained a 2400+ USCF rating in the Pan-Ams just before this event. She got off to an unfortunate start in our game, however, because after...] 6 exd5 cxd5 7 Bb5+! [...a king move was forced due to a tactical trick (any interposition to the bishop check allows Nxd5).] Kf8 8 Nf3 Nc6 9 h3 e6 10 O-O Nge7 11 a4 Bd7 12 b4 [A pawn sacrifice opened the b-file to good effect.] Qxb4 13 a5 Nf5 14 Rfb1 Qe7 15 Na4 Be8 16 Rb3 Rc8 17 Rab1 Nxe3 18 fxe3 Qc7 19 Bxc6 Bxc6 20 Nc5 e5 21 Ng5 Kg8 22 Rxb7 Bxb7 23 Rxb7 Qc6 24 Nxf7 exd4 25 exd4 Qf6 26 c3 Rf8 27 Nh6+ Bxh6 28 Qxh6 a6 29 Ne6 Qf7 30 Qg7+ 1-0



Timothy Hamilton - Denis Strenzwilk

2010 Chesapeake Open

Dunst

1 Nc3 d5 2 e4 dxe4 3 Nxe4 Nf6 4 Nxf6+ exf6 5 Bc4 Be7 6 Nf3 O-O 7 O-O Nc6 8 d4 Bg4 9 c3 g6? [A suspect move, turning a lackluster position into a bad one. After this Black hunkers down, but to no avail.] 10 Bh6 Bxf3 11 Qxf3 Re8 12 Bb5 f5 13 Bxc6 bxc6 14 Qxc6 Bd6 15 Rae1 Re6 16 Rxe6 fxe6 17 Bg5 Qf8 18 c4 Qe8 19 Qxe8+ Rxe8 20 c5 Bf8 21 Bf4 Rd8 22 Be5 Rd5 23 f4 Be7 24 Kf2 c6 25 Ke3 Rd7 26 b4 Rb7 27 Rb1 a6 28 a4 Kf7 29 Kd3 Ke8 30 Kc4 Kd7 31 Rb3 Bd8 32 Rh3 Kc8 33 Rh6 Rf7 34 h4 Kd7 35 h5 g5 36 b5 axb5+ 37 axb5 gxf4 38 bxc6+ Kxc6 39 Rxe6+ Kd7 40 Ra6 Ke8 41 Ra8 Kd7 42 c6+ 1-0

Odds & Ends



Rob Meinhart died January 20. Since he had been away from organized chess for many years, most VCF members will not know who he was, but the long-timers among us will remember Rob as a very active player in the Richmond area during the 1970s and '80s.



Yes, that is our own three-time state champion **Rusty Potter** who authored the feature cover article on Vassily Smyslov in the January 2011 edition of the CHESS LIFE.



Eisen and Costescu

A TD'S REMINISCENCES

by Don Millican

Like other readers of VIRGINIA CHESS 2010 #6, I learned of the deaths of David Eisen and Sanda Costescu. Both touched my directing activities, many years apart.

My current activity in tournament direction is my second 'era' as a TD. During my time at Northern Virginia Community College in the mid 1970s, I was a cofounder of the Annandale Campus chess club. We rapidly organized and became a USCF affiliate. It was our ambition to sponsor tournaments, and at first we engaged an outside TD to conduct them. Eventually the club wanted its own member-director, if only for administering of a ladder competition. I became that guy, and in February 1976 the club decided to hold a small tournament that would be my directing debut. Grandmaster Paul Keres had died recently, so we named this tournament the Paul Keres Memorial. There were two sections, an Open offering of cash prizes and a lower group with trophies for prizes.

David Eisen was a fixture of local chess in the 1970s, an Expert over-the-board and an accomplished postal player. Most chess players in the DC area either knew or knew of him, myself included. Eisen turned out to be the first advance entry to the 1976 Paul Keres Memorial. I personally opened and processed his entry. In addition, he also won the tournament with a perfect 5-0 or 4½-½ score. I have a tangible memento of that tournament. In the lower section, the winner of the class E trophy skipped out afterwards without leaving any contact info. I never heard from him again and so found myself stuck with the trophy to this day.

Fast forward to the mid 1990s. I ran some side events at Arlington Chess Club, either as chief TD or as assistant, often under the late Homer Jones. I also assisted at various weekend tournaments. I often encountered Sanda Costescu at Arlington or at DC Chess League matches. When my association with the Kingstowne Chess Club began, she was a frequent participant at those events. Her last appearances at Kingstowne events were at Quad #67/Action-Plus #39 in August last year and the 2010 Harris Pavilion "Open Air" in Manassas.

As noted in VIRGINIA CHESS 2010 #6, Sanda did not let health issues curtail her tournament attendance. I could see that her motor skills were deteriorating and on at least two occasions I had to make rulings regarding a "touch-move" dispute. In one case I ruled in her favor as I could plainly see that her touching a piece was not deliberate or intended. In spite of difficulties, she never invoked her rights to assistance with making moves or recording her games. The only concession she would accept was a permanent board assignment in the most accessible part of the room.



I would sometimes skittle with Sanda at the Arlington club or at tournaments, but our only rated encounter was in the second round of the 1996 US Open in Alexandria. As is typical for early-round mismatches (her rating exceeded mine by more than 400 points), Sanda dispatched me without breaking a sweat.

Millican - Costescu

1996 US Open

Pirc

1 e4 g6 2 d4 d6 3 f4 Bg7 4 Nf3 Nf6 5 Nc3 O-O 6 Bc4 a6 7 a4 Nxe4 8 Nxe4 d5 9 Bd3 dxe4 10 Bxe4 Nd7 11 c3 Nf6 12 Bd3 Be6 13 Ne5 Qd5 14 Qf3 Rad8 15 O-O Qxf3 16 Rxf3 Bd5 17 Rf1 e6 18 Bd2 Ne4 19 Rad1 c5 20 Bxe4 Bxe4 21 dxc5 Bc2 22 Nc4 Bxd1 23 Rxd1 Rd3 24 Nd6 b6 25 Ne4 bxc5 26 Nxc5 Rd6 27 Ne4 Rd5 28 b4 f5 29 c4 Rd4 30 Nc5 Rxc4 31 Nxe6 Re8 32 Re1 h6 33 Nc5 Rxe1+ 34 Bxe1 Bd4+ 35 Bf2 Rc1 mate 0-1

Two players, more than twenty years apart, both helped improve my skills and abilities and contributed to my growth as a tournament director.

Book ReView *by Arnold Leibowitz*

A Guide to Chess Improvement, by Dan Heisman.

Everyman Chess, soft cover 384 pages, \$28.95 list

Dan Heisman's *A Guide to Chess Improvement* is a selection of his

'Novice Nook' columns from the Chess Café web site (www.chesscafe.com).

The book is remarkably comprehensive, presenting each area to be tackled in short doses so one can absorb them easily; think about them; and, at the appropriate moment, apply its suggestions. The range of material can be seen in the headings and subheadings which structure the book:

1. A Theory of Chess Improvement Here Heisman discusses how to review one's games with appropriate useage of Fritz.
2. Thought Process. The analysis and evaluation section is particularly useful. Heisman spends a lot of time on the analysis and evaluation section for, as he points out, analysis most highly correlates with chess strength, especially for players rating below 2000.
3. Tactics and Safety. In many ways a subset of the analysis and evaluation section, but with a specific focus. With respect to tactics, Heisman spends considerable time on counting problems and the way to solve them. With respect to safety, he talks about the levels of piece safety in situations from basic to complex.

There are also sections on openings and endgames. Chapters like this abound in chess books, but Heisman's contribution is to present simple tactical ideas in a variety of situations. He spends some time on symmetrical positions, pointing out the advantages of retaining symmetrical situations when one is ahead and seeking an asymmetrical situation when one is behind. *A very useful book for the chess player.*





Fairfax Open

by Brennan Price

Sixty-one players competed December 4-5, 2010 in the first-ever Fairfax Open. International Master Enkhbat Tegshsuren of Ellicott City, Maryland, won clear first in the Open Section with 3½ out of 4, securing first prize with a win over FM Dov Gorman in the final round. Enkhbat's only blemish was a draw hard earned by FM Allan Savage. Gorman, IM Oladapo Adu & Expert Todd Trower shared second place with 3-1.

Elan Rodan won clear first in the Reserve (U2000) section with 3½-½, with Lev Bagramian & Allan Lofdahl taking second and U1800 honors with 3-1. Jeremy Knox & Sahil Sinha shared top honors in the Booster (U1600) section, also with 3½-½ each. Knox won with Black over previously unbeaten Kaizen Conroy in the last round. Conroy held on to top Class D honors, while Parv Ahuja & Wesley Freeman shared the top U1200 and Unrated prizes.

The event was sufficiently successful that a small enhancement to the guaranteed \$1750 prize fund could be paid. A second edition will be held in 2011, with the dates to be determined.

Dov Gorman- Oladapo Adu Sicilian

Notes by Dov Gorman

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Qb6 [IM Adu's signature move] **5 Nc3** [5 Nb3 a6 6 Nc3 Nc6 7 Be3 Qc7] **5...a6** [5...Bc5 6 Na4 Qa5+ 7 c3] **6 Be2** [simple development moves] **6...Nc6 7 Nxc6 Qxc6 8 O-O Bb4?** [If 8...Nf6 9 e5; 8...b5 was played in Galkin-Horvath, Kemer 2007 which continued 9 Bf3 Bb7 10 Re1 Qc7 (10...Qc8) 11 g3 d6 12 Bf4 e5 13 Nd5 Bxd5 14 exd5 Rc8 15 a4 Be7 16 Be3 Nf6 17 axb5 axb5 18 Be2 Rb8 19 Ba7 Rd8 20 b4 O-O 21 Qd3 Ne8 22 Be3 Bg5] **9 Qd4!** [Attacking both the bishop and g7. Black cannot afford to exchange his dark square bishop due to holes in his pawn structure.] **9...Bf8 10 a4! Ne7 11 Bf4 Ng6 12 Bg3** [How should black continue? The dark square bishop is tied to the defense of g7 and his king is stuck in the center] **12...d6?** [Black blunders in a bad position.] **13 Bb5 axb5 14 axb5 Qc7 15 Rxa8 f6 16 b6** [Establishing a firmer grip and moving to the final blow.] **16...Qc6 17 Qa4! 1-0** If 17...Kd8 18 Qxc6 bxc6 19 b7; or 17...Kd7 18 Qxc6+ Kxc6 (18...bxc6 19 Ra7+ Kd8 20 b7) 19 Rxc8+; or finally 17...Qxa4 18 Rxc8+ Kd7 19 Rc7+ Kd8 20 Nxa4.



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 686-0822 ■ **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 ■ **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/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 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 ("Kempville") 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



Seventy years ago...

Here follows selections from a document in our archives:

The Richmond Chess Club
Games Played by Members
Against
George Koltanowski
Champion of the World in Blindfold Chess
At an Exhibition of Ten Simultaneous
Blindfold Games
at the
Richmond Hotel
Richmond, Virginia
Thursday, February 13, 1941



With comments thereon by Mr Koltanowski

George Koltanowski - G L Warden, Jr Caro-Kann

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 c4 Nf6 5 Nc3 g6 6 Bg5 dxc4 7 Bxc4 Bg7 8 Nf3 O-O 9 O-O Nbd7 10 Ne5 Nb6 11 Bb3 Nfd5 12 Nxd5 Nxd5 13 Qf3 Nf6 14 Rfd1 Qb6 15 Rac1 Bf5 16 h3 Be4 17 Qf4 Bf5 18 g4 Be6 19 d5 Nxd5 20 Bxd5 Qxb2 21 Nd3 Qb5 22 Bxe6 fxe6 23 Qe3 Rf7 24 Rc5 Qa4 25 Re1 Bd4 26 Qe4 Raf8 27 Be3 b6 28 Rc7 e5 29 Bxd4 exd4 30 Rxe7 Qxa2 31 Rxf7 Qxf7 32 f4 Qd7 33 Qe6+ Qxe6 34 Rxe6 Rb8 35 Rd6 b5 36 Rxd4 a5 37 Kf2 b4 38 Nb2 b3 39 Ke2 Rc8 40 Rc4 Rxc4 41 Nxc4 a4 42 Kd2 Kf7 43 Kc3 Ke6 44 Nb6 Kd6 45 Nxa4 Kd5 46 Kd3 Ke6 47 Kd4 h6 48 Nc5+ Kf6 49 Nxb3 h5 50 Ke4 hxg4 51 hxg4 Ke6 52 Nd4+ 1-0 "Black's mistake consisted of playing ...dxc4 in the early stages. After that he was slowly but surely outplayed. The ending, when a knight down, is lost."

George Koltanowski - W S Scott Colle

1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 e3 Nc6 4 a3 e6 5 c4 Be7 6 Nc3 O-O 7 Bd3 dxc4 8 Bxc4 a6 9 O-O h6 10 e4 b5 11 Ba2 Bb7 12 e5 Nh7 13 Be3 Bg5 14 Nxg5 Nxg5 15 f4 Nh7 16 f5 exf5 17 Rxf5 Ne7 18 Qf1 Nxf5 19 Qxf5 Qe7 20 Rc1 Bc8 21 Qe4 Be6 22 d5 Ng5 23 Qf4 Bd7 24 Ne4 Nxe4 25 Qxe4 Qd8 26 e6 fxe6 27 dxe6 Bxe6 28 Qxe6+ Kh7 29 Bb1+ Kh8 30 Qg6 Kg8 31 Qh7+ Kf7 32 Bg6+ Kf6 33 Be4 1-0 "Black's maneuver of ...Nc6 was not so good, but he later made good use of it, winning the exchange. He should have tried to force the exchange of queens. Not succeeding in that, it was a matter of time."

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