

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

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Virginia Chess Federation

2012 - #3



VIRGINIA CHESS

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2012 - Issue #3

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Virginia Senior Championship

Four-time state champion Geoff McKenna swept through the 2012 Virginia Senior Championship, contested at the Lincolnia Senior Center in Alexandria, June 9-10. Defending champion William Marcelino finished clear second, half a point behind with 3½-½. Geoff submitted all four of his games from the event with some brief observations:

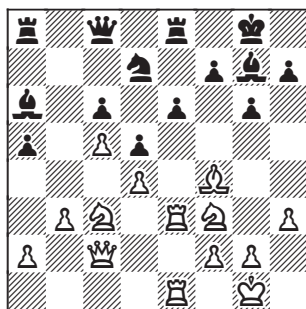
Geoff McKenna - Saad Al-Ariri Caro-Kann

This was a very up-and-down affair in which I followed a line that Bobby Fischer once used successfully against Tigran Petrosian. 1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 Bd3 Nc6 5 c3 g6 6 Nf3 Bg7 7 O-O Nf6 8 Bf4 Nh5 9 Be3 O-O 10 Be2 f5 11 Ne1 f4 12 Bc1 Qe8 13 Nd3 e5 14 dxe5 Nxe5 15 Nxe5 Qxe5 16 Re1 Nf6 17 Nd2 Qc7 18 Nb3 Bd7 19 Bf3 Bc6 20 Nd4 Bd7 21 Qb3 Qd6 22 Bd2 Kh8 23 Rad1 g5 24 g3 Bh6 25 Qb4 Qxb4 26 cxb4 fxg3 27 hxg3 Bg4 28 Bxg4 Nxg4 29 f3 Nf6 30 Nf5 Bg7 31 Bc3 Nh5 32 Nxg7 Nxg7 33 Re7 Rg8 34 Rxd5 1-0



Sy Samet - Geoff McKenna Alekhine

After another lackluster opening, Black got an advantage in the complications around move 19. 1 e4 Nf6 2 e5 Nd5 3 d4 d6 4 Nf3 Nc6 5 Bb5 a6 6 Bxc6+ bxc6 7 h3 g6 8 O-O Bg7 9 c4 Nb6 10 exd6 cxd6 11 Qe2 O-O 12 Nc3 a5 13 b3 Ba6 14 Re1 Re8 15 Qc2 d5 16 c5 Nd7 17 Bf4 e6 18 Re3 Qc8 19 Rae1



19...Nxc5 20 Nxd5 Nd3 21 Nb6 Qb7 22 Nxa8 Nxf4 23 Rc3 Qxa8 24 Rxc6 Ne2+ 25 Kh1 Nxd4 26 Nxd4 Bxd4 27 f3 Bb7 28 Rc7 e5 29 Rc1 Bb6 30 Rc4 e4 31 fxe4 Bxe4 32 Qd2 Be3 0-1

Geoff McKenna - Milo Nekvasil Sicilian

Milo stopped me from getting the Va Senior title last year, so I was out for revenge. This was the strangest game of all. Black resigned at the onset of the final time scramble when he still had some decent practical chances. 1 e4 c5



2 c3 d5 3 exd5 Qxd5 4 d4 Nc6 5 dxc5 Qxc5 6 Na3 Nf6 7 Nb5 Qe5+ 8 Be2 a6 9 Nf3 Qb8 10 Nbd4 Bd7 11 Nxc6 Bxc6 12 O-O e5 13 Bg5 Be7 14 Bc4 O-O 15 Qe2 Bxf3 16 Qxf3 b5 17 Bb3 Ra7 18 Rfe1 Ne8 19 Be3 Rc7 20 Qd5 Bd6 21 a4 Kh8 22 axb5 Qxb5 23 Ra5 Qxd5 24 Bxd5 Nf6 25 Bf3 e4 26 Be2 Rb8 27 Rxa6 Be5 28 Ra5 Nd7 29 Rd1 f6 30 Rad5 Nf8 31 Rd8 Rxd8 32 Rxd8 Kg8 33 Bg4 [missing an immediate win with 33 Bb6 Rc6 34 Bb5! clearing the c4 square for a big check] 33...Kf7 34 Bf5 Ne6 35 Ra8 Nc5 36 Bxh7 Nd3 37 Bg8+ Ke7 38 Ra2 Kd6 39 g3 Rb7 40 Bh7 1-0

Neal Goldberg - Geoff McKenna Queen's Indian

In this game, each side had a weak backward pawn. White got his knight

out of position and later missed an interesting possibility in 27 e5 with the idea of 28 Ne4. Eventually he allowed Black to post a dominating knight. 1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 e6 3 g3 b6 4 Bg2 Bb7 5 O-O Be7 6 c4 O-O 7 Nc3 Ne4 8 Qc2 Nxc3 9 Qxc3 c5 10 Be3 Qc7 11 Rac1 d6 12 dxc5 bxc5 13 Rfd1 Rd8 14 Bg5 Bxg5 15 Nxc5 Bxg2 16 Kxg2 Nd7 17 f3 Nf6 18 e4 Rab8 19 b3 a5 20 Rd3 a4 21 Rcd1 axb3 22 axb3 Rd7 23 Nh3 Rb6 24 Nf2 Qb7 25 Qd2 Ne8 26 Qc2 f6 27 R1d2 Qb8 28 Rd1 Rdb7 29 Rb1 Nc7 30 Rbd1 Ne8 31 Rb1 e5 32 f4 Nc7 33 f5 Na6 34 Qd1 Nb4 35 Rd2 Ra7 36 Nd3 Nc6 37 b4 Qb7 38 b5 Nd4 39 Nf2 Nxf5 40 Rd3 Nd4 41 g4 Qa8 42 Qd2 Ra4 43 Rc3 Qa5 44 Qd3 Kh8 45 Qe3 Rb8 46 h4 Ra2 47 Rd3 Qa4 48 Rxd4 cxd4 49 Qd3 Rc2 50 Rb4 and 0-1 because of 50...Rf2+





76th annual

Virginia Closed State Championship

September 1-3, 2012

Hilton Garden Inn Richmond-Innsbrook

4050 Cox Rd., Glen Allen, Va

Conveniently located off I-295

Open to Virginia residents, military stationed in Virginia, and students attending a Virginia school or college (must show valid ID or other proof of Fall 2012 enrollment). 6-SS, 30/90, SD/1. \$\$2825 b/75 paid entries. Two sections: *Open* \$600-350-250, top Expert & A \$125 each. Trophy and title of 2012 Virginia State Champion to 1st, trophies to top Expert & A. *Amateur (under 1800)* \$500-300-175, top C, D, U1200, Unrated \$100 each. Trophy and title of 2012 Virginia Amateur Champion to 1st, trophies to top C, D, U1200. Trophies to top Senior (60+), Junior (U18) and Woman awarded across both sections with 1pt added to Open section scores. Reg Fri Aug 31, 3-6pm and Sat Sep 1, 8:30am-12:15pm. Rds 1-7, 11-5, 10-3:30. Two ½pt byes available for rds 1-5 only, must declare before start of rd 2. EF \$60 if received by Aug 30, \$75 thereafter and on site. Re-entry with ½pt bye allowed for rd 2 only at \$30. Hotel (804) 521-2900, reserve before 8/10 and mention the Virginia Closed Chess Tournament for \$89 chess rate. <http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com>. W, NS, NC, FIDE. Chess Magnet School JGP. *Enter*: Make checks to "VIRGINIA CHESS" and mail to arrive by Aug 30 to Mike Hoffpauir, ATTN: VA Closed, 405 Hounds Chase, Yorktown, VA 23693. Info mhoffpauir@aol.com or phone 757-846-4805.

Friday Night Blitz Tournament

Aug 31

Open to all USCF members, not just Virginia residents. 4 or 5-DblSS depending on number of players. EF \$25 if received by Aug 30, \$35 thereafter and at door. \$\$500 b/30 paid entries. Two sections, Open and Amateur (U1800). Rd 1 at 6:30pm. W, NS, NC. *Enter*: Make checks to "VIRGINIA CHESS" and mail to Mike Hoffpauir, ATTN: VA State Blitz, 405 Hounds Chase, Yorktown, VA 23693. Info mhoffpauir@aol.com or phone 757-846-4805.



Annual VCF Business Meeting

Sat, September 1

10am-12 noon



May the Odds Be Ever in Your Favor

by Joie Wang

IT WAS 10pm, all that remained was an empty auditorium and less than three minutes on each competitor's clock. Finally, after three hours, I had beaten my first round opponent, who I out-rated by more than 400 points. I knew that a tough journey lay ahead.

Like most northern Virginia eighth grade chess players, I had 'hibernated' for months. I played in the Philadelphia Open just two weeks before the National All Girls Chess Championship as a warm-up. I knew it might not be the best way to recover from my long pause from chess. Once I started playing, I realized something did not feel right. I had lost most of my chess sense. My winning games—I couldn't finish them; my equal games became losses. The odds didn't seem to be in my favor.

In the second game of the National All Girls Chess Championship, I could have finished earlier, but I took the longer way to win. However, slowly but surely, I started regaining my chess senses. For the third round, I was paired against an expert who was the highest rated in my section. I had hoped to play her later, so that I could have more time to recover my strength. After the opening, my position was comfortable. I thought I had an edge and wanted to play for the win, but my skills were less ready than my spirit. I made a blunder and lost. I could tell by my father's facial expression that my chance of becoming champion was slipping away. My tears came out and I regretted not settling for the draw. I decided that from then on I would focus on playing my best instead of going for a title.

I was one of the first to come out in the fourth game. I caught my opponent in a trap. This boosted my confidence and gave me more time to prepare for the rest of my games. Just before I fell asleep, I heard that the top-rated player had been beaten by the girl I would play in the next round. My odds seemed to be turning around! In this must-win game, I promised myself to focus on playing a quality game and not worry about the result.

I got a nice attack, and I set up a net to trap her queen. But my adrenaline was pumping, and some impetuous moves almost made me lose the game, but in the end I won.

The long journey was about to come to an end. My opponent in the sixth and final round had beaten me at my very first All Girls Championship four years ago. She had represented the United States in the Pan-American Youth Chess Championship tournaments and held the title of Woman FIDE Master. I was black and had to win to claim the national championship.



15 Qxd2 Bg5 (*diagram*)

16...Bxf4 17 Qxf4 Qxb2 [I got one pawn!] 18

[I got another pawn!] **22 Rxc3 Qxc3 23 Rd1 Bxd3**

Rxd3 Qa1+ 25 Kg2 Rc8 -+] 24...Qxd3 25 Rxd3

30 Rd2 b4 31 Kf1 Kf8 32 Ke2 a4 33 f4 Ke7 34 h4

ways to win this position and I just transferred it

42 fxe6 Kxe6 43 h5 g3 44 h6 gxh6 45 Kb2 g2 46

I placed first in the 14-and-younger section and o

I learned was that focusing on yourself is the most

Aug 18, 2012

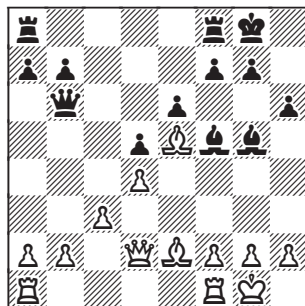
4608 Brambleton Ave SW, Roanoke, VA 24011

sections \$150-\$125 if Octagons or \$125-\$100 if

Aug 20. Rds 10-2:30-6:30. One ½pt bye allowed,

Chess Club, PO Box 14143, Roanoke, Va 24038. 1

10 Grand Prix Points – VCF (1)



I placed first in the 14-and-younger section and qualified to represent the USA at the 2012 FIDE World Youth Championships in Maribor, Slovenia. The lesson I learned was that focusing on yourself is the most important thing you can do, especially when you're struggling. The odds were finally in my favor!

4608 Brambleton Ave SW, Roanoke, Va 24018

3-SS, Game/90 with 5 second delay. \$\$G top section \$250-\$150-\$100, additional sections \$150-\$125 if Octagonals or \$125-\$100 if Hexagonals or \$125 if Quads. EF \$30 if rec'd by Aug 17, \$40 at site. Reg 6-9 pm on Aug 17, 8:30-9:30am on Aug 20. Rds 10-2:30-6:30. One ½pt bye allowed, must request in advance. NS. NC. W. Bargain Book Sale on site. Free lunch provided! *Enter:* Roanoke Valley Chess Club, PO Box 14143, Roanoke, Va 24038. Info by phone (276)692-6418 or by email info@roanokechess.com or online at roanokechess.com

10 Grand Prix Points – VCF Cup event



Gained in Translation

by Steve Mayer



ALEXANDRER ALEKHINE'S NEW YORK 1927 was first published in German more than 80 years ago. Incredibly, only recently has this famous tournament book become available in English! This is excellent news, but I have two quibbles with the tournament (as opposed to the book). First, the range of openings employed was very narrow, undoubtedly a side effect of the small, 6-player field. Second, some of the six displayed a distinct lack of fighting spirit. In particular, Alekhine singles out Spielmann, who offered draws in several favorable endings where he could have played on with little or no risk.

Jose Capablanca, Alexander Alekhine, Aron Nimzowitsch, Milan Vidmar, Rudolf Spielmann and Frank Marshall each faced one another in four cycles. Unfortunately, Vidmar had an off tournament; Spielmann lacked the great form he would show two years later at Karlsbad 1929; while Marshall just played very poorly. Alekhine's own play was below par (by his standards, of course), which he attributed to tiredness and stress over his fear that the bid he'd arranged for a World Championship match—which Capablanca had not yet accepted—would fall apart if he finished poorly. Consequently, after losing to Capa in the first cycle, he set his sights firmly on second place. While this attitude is perfectly understandable and rational given the circumstances, it did not lend itself to producing the most exciting chess for spectators or readers.

Charlottesville Open

July 14-15

Comfort Inn Monticello

2097 Inn Dr, Charlottesville, VA 22911

5-SS, game/90. \$\$2000 b/60. Two sections *Open*: (place prizes guaranteed) \$400-250-150, U2100 \$150, U1900 \$130. *Under 1700*: \$300-200-150, U1500 \$140, U1200 \$130. *Both*: EF \$55 by 7/12, then \$65. Hotel \$99.95 + tax, 434-977-3300. Reg 11-11:40am, rds 12-3:15-7:15, 9:30-1:15. Single ½-pt bye available. VCF membership required for Virginia residents. For on-site entries, cash only please—no credit cards! *Enter*: Ernest Schlich, 1370 S Braden Crescent, Norfolk, Va 23502. Checks to VCF. Info by email eschlich@verizon.net or online at www.vachess.org





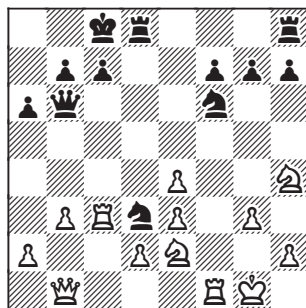
Thus only Nimzowitsch was left to challenge Capablanca for top honors. He did this quite well through the first half of the tournament, after which he was only a draw behind Capa and a full point ahead of Alekhine. His win over Alekhine from the second cycle was a positional masterpiece.

Aron Nimzowitsch – Alexander Alekhine,

New York 1927

Nimzowitsch/Réti

1 Nf3 Nf6 2 b3 d6 3 g3 e5 4 c4 e4 5 Nh4 d5 6 cxd5 Qxd5 7 Nc3 Qc6 8 e3 a6 9 Bb2 Bg4 10 Be2 Bxe2 11 Nxe2 Nbd7 12 Rc1 Qb6 13 O-O Bd6 14 f3 Be5 15 Bxe5 Nxe5 16 fxe4 Nd3 17 Rc3 O-O-O 18 Qb1 (diagram) 18...Nxe4 19 Rxd3 Nxd2 20 Rxd8+ Rxd8 21 Qf5+ Kb8 22 Re1 Qxe3+ 23 Qf2 Qd3 24 Nf4 Qc3 25 Re3 Qc1+ 26 Kg2 Qc6+ 27 Nf3 g5 28 Nd3 Nxf3 29 Qxf3 Qc2+ 30 Nf2 f5 31 Re2 Qc5 32 Nd3 Qd4 33 Ne5 f4 34 Nc4 fxg3 35 Rd2 Qh8 36 Rxd8+ Qxd8 37 hxg3 Qd4 38 Qf8+ Ka7 39 Qf2 Qxf2+ 40 Kxf2 h5 41 Ke3 c5 42 a4 b5 43 axb5 axb5 44 Nd2 Kb6 45 Ne4 h4 46 g4 h3 47 Kf3 b4 48 Nxg5 c4 49 Ne4 cxb3 50 g5 b2 51 Nd2 Kc5 52 g6 h2 53 Kg2 Kd4 54 g7 Kd3 55 g8Q Kxd2 56 Qa2 Kc2 57 Qc4+ 1-0



Alekhine was frequently a harsh critic of his peers, but in this book he is full of praise for Nimzo's play and predicts for him an even greater future. He also notes, however, Nimzowitsch's tendency to fade after a strong start. This is exactly what happened in the second half of this tournament, and so in the end Alekhine indeed managed to pass him for second place.

THE MOST REMARKABLE ASPECT of the book is that even though Capablanca won the tournament in dominating fashion, Alekhine is generally dismissive of his play! Alekhine wrote the book *after* taking the World Championship later that year, and perhaps his derision was part of an attempt to discourage an immediate rematch. (Of course, that match never materialized at all.) Alekhine also intimates that Capa perhaps played a role in shaping the field to exclude players who had given him difficulty in the past, specifically Reti, Rubinstein and Tarrasch. Of the other leading masters, Bogoljubow was invited but demanded a \$10,000 honoraria(!), while Emanuel Lasker was upset with the organizers over an incident that had happened at the New York 1924 event, so he skipped this tournament.

Andy Soltis provides an informative Foreword, while editor Al Lawrence is to be commended for spearheading the effort. Al's wife, Mary Lawrence, provides an



excellent translation. From a technical standpoint, I would fault only the occasional mistake in the text that might have been caught with better proofreading.

Overall, the presentation and price—\$19.95 list, but you're not trying if you pay that—are five star. Only the level of play is disappointing, thus bringing NEW YORK 1927 down to a four-star book for me. Still, it is an excellent product of its time that English readers have been denied for too long.

ALEXANDER MÜNNINGHOFF'S MAX EUWE: THE BIOGRAPHY (List price \$29.95 but, again, readily available for much less) isn't exactly a new book, but it was new to me. The original Dutch edition was published back in 1976. NEW IN CHESS brought out an English language edition in 2001, updated to include post-1976 events, although the addition lacked the depth some readers might like to see. A second printing appeared in 2005, while the edition listed on Amazon carries a 2007 publication date. As near as I can tell there is no difference among these English editions.

So why is this book regarded as a minor classic? What makes it different is that it is a true biography— not just a games collection—of the only true 'amateur' ever to win the World Championship. Each chapter concludes with a selection of annotated games from the period covered by the chapter. Some notes are in English, while others are what has come to be known as "Informantese" though in this case the symbology of NEW IN CHESS, rather than INFORMANT, is used. The book's cover proclaims that 50 games include Euwe's original analysis; from game to game, however, it's frequently a bit obscure who the actual annotator is.



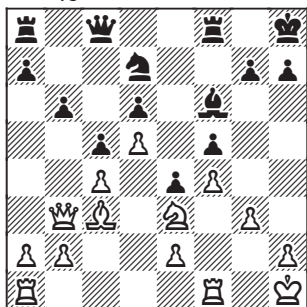
Alexander Alekhine vs Max Euwe



Euwe has been derided as the 'weakest' World Champion, though it's interesting that people who played him in the late 1920s through the early 1950s do not seem to have shared this opinion. Munninghoff makes a convincing case that Euwe was simply the stronger, better-prepared player when he defeated Alekhine in their 1935 match.

Max Euwe – Alexander Alekhine
World Championship (26th match game) 1935
Dutch

1 d4 e6 2 c4 f5 3 g3 Bb4+ 4 Bd2 Be7 5 Bg2 Nf6 6 Nc3 O-O 7 Nf3 Ne4 8 O-O b6 9 Qc2 Bb7 10 Ne5 Nxc3 11 Bxc3 Bxg2 12 Kxg2 Qc8 13 d5 d6 14 Nd3 e5 15 Kh1 c6 16 Qb3 Kh8 17 f4 e4 18 Nb4 c5 19 Nc2 Nd7 20 Ne3 Bf6 (diagram)



21 Nxf5 Bxc3 22 Nxd6 Qb8 23 Nxe4 Bf6 24 Nd2 g5 25 e4 gxf4 26 gxf4 Bd4 27 e5 Qe8 28 e6 Rg8 29 Nf3 Qg6 30 Rg1 Bxg1 31 Rxd7 Qf6 32 Ng5 Rg7 33 exd7 Rxd7 34 Qe3 Re7 35 Ne6 Rf8 36 Qe5 Qxe5 37 fxe5 Rf5 38 Re1 h6 39 Nd8 Rf2 40 e6 Rd2 41 Nc6 Re8 42 e7 b5 43 Nd8 Kg7 44 Nb7 Kf6 45 Re6+ Kg5 46 Nd6 Rxe7 47 Ne4+ 1-0

Munninghoff details also how the usually diligent Euwe fell underestimated Alekhine in their 1937 rematch. No less a player than Vladimir Kramnik has made the point that the strongest player at any given time is rarely the World Champion (and vice versa). He wasn't speaking specifically about Euwe, but people who throw around words such as weak when discussing Euwe (eg, Anatoly Karpov) would do well to take note.

Should you buy this book? Yes, if you're the sort of reader of wishes to know more about Dutch chess, the international chess scene of the 1920s through the 1950s, and if a portrait of a man of high moral standing during a difficult century appeals to you. Will it help you become a better player? Not if you only read this book and play over its games. However, if you apply the 'Euwe approach' based on hard work and preparation in every phase of the game, I think you will become much stronger.

And so, having eliminated probably 95% of the potential readership for this fine work, I leave the remaining 5% with a whispered—*We will have our day.*





Justin Burgess - Tim Rogalski

DC Chess League 2012

Sicilian

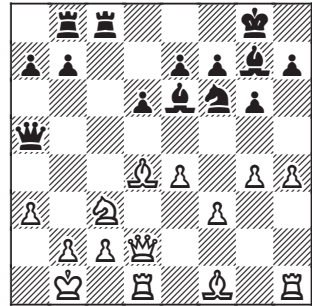
Notes by Justin Burgess

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 g6 6 Be3
Bg7 7 f3 O-O 8 Qd2 Nc6 9 O-O-O Nxd4 10 Bxd4 Be6
11 Kb1 Qc7 [if 11...Qa5? 12 Nd5] 12 h4 Rfc8 13 g4
Qa5 [Black threatens 14...Rxc3 Δ Qxa2+] 14 a3 Rab8

(diagram)

I knew the right
continuation had to be

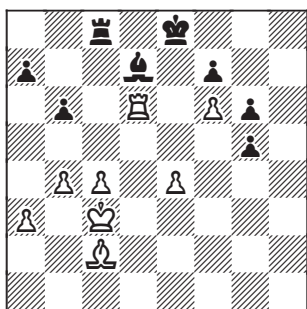
15 h5 b5 but with my first open Sicilian as
White in nearly 3 years, I was out of theory and
feeling out-prepped. Even though I was unfamiliar
with the position, I felt more of an obligation to
try to win with White, so I started to look for
other continuations. The immediate 15 Nd5 Qxd2
16 Rxd2 Nxd5 17 Bxg7 Kxg7 18 exd5 Bd7 just
seemed totally fine for Black, so I looked for more and eventually I found what
I thought was an improved version with 15 Bxf6 Bxf6 16 Nd5 Qxd2 17 Nxf6+
exf6 18 Rxd2 and White has a clear plus!



15 Bxf6 Bxf6 16 Nd5 Qxd2 17 Nxf6+ exf6? [Whew! Luckily my opponent
immediately recaptured and White obtains an advantage that lasts for the rest of
the game. Black could have been fine, maybe even slightly better, after 17...Kg7!
After the game, my opponent remarked that 15 Bxf6 was a good move. I smiled and
said I wasn't so sure about that.] 18 Rxd2 Rd8 19 Be2 [With Rhd1 coming, Black
has no time to get rid of his weak pawn by 19...d5] 19...Kf8 20 Rhd1 Ke7 21 f4
Rbc8 [to exchange of light square bishops by ...Bc4] 22 b3 [This is a mistake
because now Black can threaten to infiltrate with Rc3, and White must take time
to defend. 22 Rd4 was better.] 22...Rc5 23 c4 [I felt a little weird putting all my
pawns on the same color as my opponent's bishop. However, I decided that he had
no way to take advantage of it, and meanwhile White continues to clamp down
on d5 while potentially threatening b4 and c5] 23...b6 24 Rd4 h6 25 b4 Rc7
[I originally intended to play 26 Kb2 here and slowly improve my position, but
I suddenly realized that my last move may have been a mistake as my opponent
would answer simply 26...Rdc8!, eg 26 Rxd6 Bxc4 27 Bxc4 Rxc4 28 Rd7+ Ke8
29 Rxa7 Rxe4] 26 f5 [In fact, my only move to prevent ...Rdc8] 26...Bc8 27
Kb2 Bb7 28 R1d2 [Nearing time control, I decided to make a waiting move that
also allows my bishop to re-locate via d1] 28...Rcd7 29 Bd1 Bc6 30 Bc2 Ke8 31



g5!? **hxc5** **32 hxc5 fxc5** [32...Ke7 was probably necessary] **33 f6!** [This was my plan when I played 31 g5. Black's king is completely out of play and threatened by Rh2-h8] **33...Rc8** **34 Rxd6?** [I missed a very pretty win which Tim showed me after the game: 34 b5 Bb7 35 Bd1! and Black loses at least an exchange as 35...Rdc7 36 Rh2 Kd7 37 Bg4+ mates.] **34...Rxd6** **35 Rxd6 Bd7** **36 Kc3** [I had originally worried about the reply 36...Be6, since then a move like 37 Bd3 allows



37...Bxc4 38 Bxc4 b5. But then I noticed a cute variation: 37 Ba4+ Kf8 38 Bb5 (38 Bc6 also wins) Bxc4?? 39 Bd7! Rc7 40 Bc6! White wins due to the duel threats of Kxc4 and Rd8mate] (diagram)

36...Rc6? [But this is clearly an error. I believe my opponent and I both were under the impression that White was much better. In fact after 36...g4! Black would still be fine as White must stop the g pawn while c4 remains vulnerable.] **37 Rxd7!** **Kxd7** **38 Ba4 Kc7** **39 Bxc6 Kxc6** **40 Kd4 Kd6**

41 e5+ Ke6 **42 c5 1-0** With Black's passed pawn still on g5, White's king can handle it while his own pawns can't be stopped. For example, 42...Kd7 43 c6+ Kxc6 44 e6; or 42...bxc5+ 43 bxc5 g4 44 c6 g3 45 Ke3! Black has no useful move.



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Washington International

July 28 - August 1, 2012

Rockville Hilton, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852

9-SS, time control 40/90, SD/30 incr/30.

Minimum FIDE 2100 rating required.

\$17,000 guaranteed prize fund: 1st - \$5000, 2nd - \$3000, 3rd - \$2000, 4th - \$1000, 5th - \$900, 6th - \$800, 7th - \$700, 8th - \$600, 9th - \$500, 10th - \$500, Top Under 2500(FIDE) \$700-\$300, Top Under 2300(FIDE) \$700-\$300

Schedule: Reg ends Sat 10 am, rounds Saturday 11am and 6pm, Sunday 11-6, Monday 11-6, Tuesday 11-6, Wednesday 10. Unlimited ½pt byes allowed but you must commit before rd 3. If you take any byes, you cannot earn norms. If you take more than two byes, you cannot win U2500 or U2300 prizes.

Fide Ratings will be used for all pairings and prizes.

GM, IM, WGM, and WIM norms are possible.

Sets, boards, and clocks are provided for all players.

Free Continental breakfast for players every morning.

Hotel rooms only \$98/night. (301-468-0308)

Parking \$6/night for hotel guests.

Optional opening reception and blitz tournament Friday evening 7/27.

Hotel adjacent to DC Metro; easy Amtrack connections and access to downtown DC.

Entrance Fee:

GMs, Foreign IMs, or FIDE >2500 - Free

Foreign FIDE rated, US IMs, or FIDE >2400 - \$200

FIDE > 2300 - \$300

FIDE > 2200 - \$400

FIDE < 2200 - \$500

\$50 discount on all entrance fees if staying at the Hilton

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In This Issue:

Tournaments

2003 Virginia Senior Championship	1
2012 State Championship Details.....	3
May The Odds Be Ever In Your Favor (Wang).....	4
Gained In Translation (Mayer)	6
Readers' Games (Burgess)	10
Upcoming Events	3, 5, 6, 12
VCF Info	<i>inside front cover</i>



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