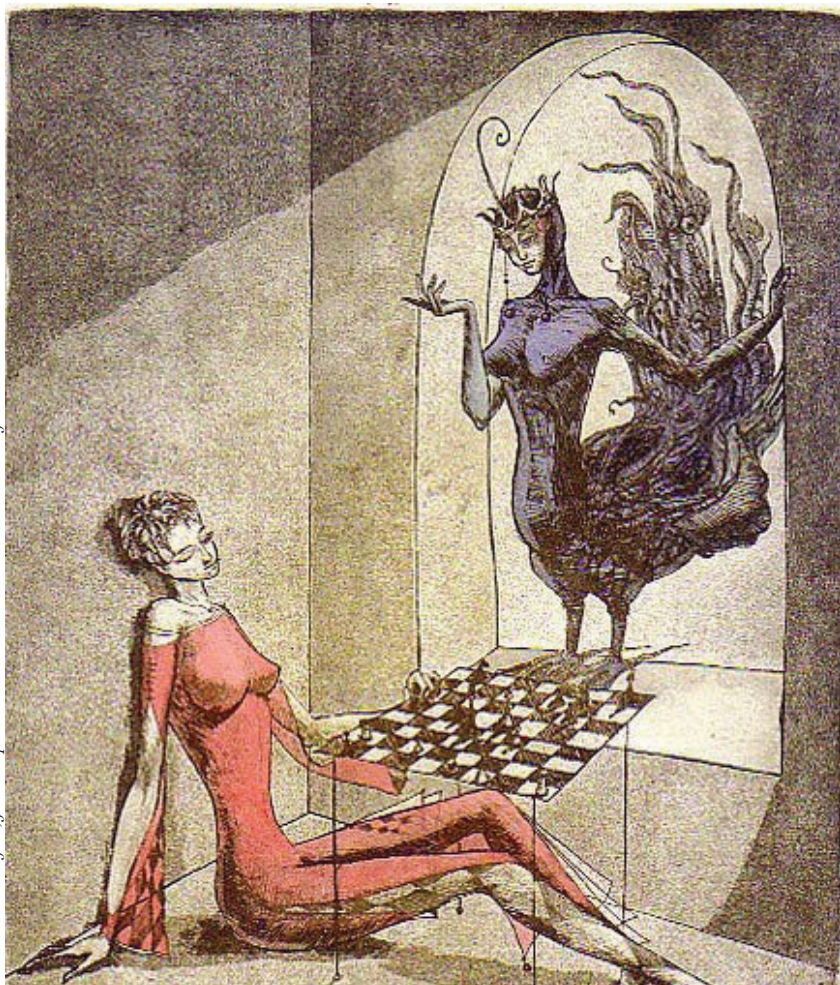


VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

The bimonthly publication of the
Virginia Chess Federation

2015 - #3



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3rd annual Cherry Blossom Classic



by Andrew Rea

MEMORIAL Day weekend saw host, at the Marriott/Dulles Airport, to CBC3! Five sections this time, and with 7 rounds only one section had a tie for first.

Maryland IM Tegshsuren Enkhbat continues his fine 2015 by winning the 34-play Open section with a score of 6-1 (5 wins, 2 draws). Former state champion Andrew Samuelson finished clear 2nd place with 5½ points. John Burke was 3rd while Sahil Sinha, Kenneth McDonald & Andrew Rea split 4th place and the Under 2300 prizes.

The Under 2200 section (also 34 players) had the tie, a fine struggle between Justin Paul & Robert Keough to tie for 1st with 6 points apiece. Alex Jian & Josh Hiban tied for 3rd and top U2000. Jonathan Maxwell, David Siamon & Ali Merchant shared the remaining U2000 prize.

Peter Snow prevailed alone atop the Under 1900 section (*also* 34 players, by amazing coincidence) with 6-1. Isaac Chiu finished half a point behind, followed a further half point back by Gary Lewis, Bryant Lohr & William Carroll. Carla Naylor won the U1700 prize. James Williams, Vinay Veluvolu, Ashley Xing, Ethan Zhou, Siddhant Nair & Pranav Kanapuram all shared 2nd U1700.

The 25-player Under 1600 section went to Gideon Lohr, clear 1st with 6 points, followed by Ronen Wilson in 2nd and Isaac Karachunsky in 3rd. Suchet Sapre and Johnathan Tong were 1st and 2nd U1400, respectively. Wilson is a new player; watch for him to move up the charts!

The Under 1300 section had 27 players and Maciek Kowalski's 5½ points made him the winner among them. Ya He came 2nd and a 4-way tie for 3rd included Bryan Ja Kaperick, Isaac Park, Samarth Bhargav & Omkar Kovvali. Shyla Bisht & Rex Martin achieved the same score as the 3rd place quartet to claim U1100 prizes.

All told 151 players participated. Many thanks to our Chief TD Anand Dommalapati, as well as to our event patron Jonathan Kenny, who provided several of the chess sets (a unique feature in contrast to many other tournaments). Apologies to players such as Bob Fischer who had



Tegshsuren Enkhbat - photo by Jonathan Kenny



NOTE: This year's tournament, in which the titles of Virginia State Champion and Virginia State Amateur Champion for 2015 will be awarded, is being held in northern Virginia at the Westin-Washington Dulles because the customary-of-late site near Richmond is undergoing renovation and no other suitable hotels in the area were available. We anticipate returning the event to the Richmond area for 2016. Full details of this 2015 event (eg, prizes fund) are still pending, but you can enter now either by mail or online (vachess.org).

79th annual

Virginia Closed State Championship

September 5-7, 2015

Westin Dulles Airport, 2520 Wasser Terrace, Herndon, Va

Open to all Virginia residents, military stationed in Virginia, and students attending any Virginia school or college (must show student ID or other proof of Fall 2015 school enrollment). 6-SS, 30/90, SD/1, d5. Three sections: Championship, Amateur (Under 1800) & Under-1200/Unrated. Reg 8am-noon, rounds 1-7, 11-5, 9:30-3:30. Alternate schedule option to enter at site by Saturday 4pm and play rounds 1 & 2 at 5pm & 8pm respectively with a time control of Game/60, d5 and then merge with regular schedule for the remaining rounds. EF \$65 before Sept 1, \$80 thereafter. Re-entry from regular to alternate schedule \$30. Hotel \$89 (plus taxes), 1-4 persons/room, ask for the "Virginia Closed Chess Rate", 703-793-3366, reserve by 5pm August 4 to receive the chess rate.



Cherry Blossom Classic, *continued*

submitted games for publication—alas, I seem to have misplaced. Fortunately I found material from Andrew Samuelson and some of my games as well. Final thanks are due to our 147 players who have made this tournament a bigger success than even the first 2 editions—hoping for more next year!

Andrew Samuelson - Tan Nguyen

Modern



1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 Nc3 d6 4 Be3 a6 5 Qd2 b5 6 f3 Bb7 7 Nh3 Nd7 8 Nf2 c5 9 dxc5 Nxc5 10 Be2 Rc8 11 O-O Nd7 12 a4 b4 13 Ncd1 a5 14 c3 bxc3 15 Nxc3 Ngf6 16 Rac1 O-O 17 Nb5 Nc5 18 Bd1 Nfd7 19 b4 axb4 20 Qxb4 Ra8 21 Bg5 h6 22 Bd2 Ne5 23 Bc2 Ba6 24 Rfd1 Qb6 25 Be3 Nc6 26 Qd2 Kh7 27 Rb1 Qa5 28 Qxa5 Nxa5 29 Nc7 Ra7 30 Nxa6 Rxa6 31 Nd3 Nxd3 32 Bxd3 Rc6 33 Bb5 Rc2 34 Rbc1 Rfc8 35 Rxc2 Rxc2 36 Rc1 Rxc1+ 37 Bxc1 Bd4+ 38 Kf1 g5 39 Ke2 Bb6 40 Be3 Bc7 41 Kd3 Kg6 42 Be8 Kf6 43 Bd4+ e5 44 Be3 Ke7 45 Bb5 f6 46 Kc3 Ke6 47 Bc4+ Kd7 48 Bd5 Nc6 49 Kc4 Nd4 50 Bd2 Kc8 51 a5 Kb8 52 a6 Ka7 53 Bb7 Bb6 54 Bb4 Bc7 55 Kd5 h5 56 Bxd6 Bd8 57 Bc5+ Kb8 58 Bc6 Nxc6 59 Kxc6 g4 60 Kd7 Ba5 61 Ke7 gxf3 62 gxf3 h4 63 h3 Be1 64 Kxf6 Bg3 65 Bd6+ Ka7 66 Bxe5 Kxa6


Tournament Entry Form (use this form to enter by mail)

 You can enter on-line at www.vachess.org

Last Name: _____		First Name: _____		MI: _____
USCF Member: YES NO		If Yes , write your USCF ID Here: _____		
Street Address: _____ _____		Email: _____ Phone: _____		
City: _____, VA	Zip: _____	Birth Date: _____		
Tournament Dates: Saturday-Monday, Sept 5-7, 2015. Entry Fee is \$65 by mail, \$80 at the door.				
Section you are entering (circle one): OPEN AMATEUR (U1800) Under-1200				
Schedule you are playing (circle one): LONG (Rd 1 at 1PM) Short (Rd 1 at 5PM)				
Byes (up to 2): Rd __, Rd __				
Mail your completed form to and Payment to:				
Mike Hoffpauir ATTN: VA Closed 405 Hounds Chase Yorktown, VA 23693-3356				
Checks payable to "VCF" or "VA Chess"				
YOUR ENTRY MUST BE POST-MARKED BY TUESDAY SEPT 1st to receive the Early Entry Fee Entries post-marked after Sept 1 st will be assessed a \$15 late entry charge.				
If you have any questions, please contact Mike by email at mhoffpauir@aol.com , Or call me at 757-846-4805				

67 Bd4 Kb5 68 e5 Kc4 69 e6 Bd6 70 Bf2 Kd3 71 Bxh4 Ke3 72 Bg5+ Kxf3 73 h4 Kg4 74 Kg6 Kf3 75 h5 Ke4 76 h6 Kd5 77 Kf7 1-0

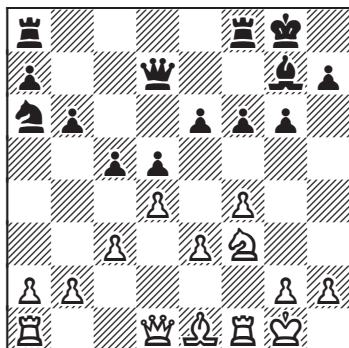
Andy Rea - Anton Del Mundo Queen's Indian

Notes by Andrew Rea


1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 e6 3 e3 b6 4 Bd3 Bb7 5 Nbd2 c5 [Black has no interest in reprising Hoi-Gulko/ 1988 (OI), a famous brilliancy lost by Black- ...b6 and ...d6 is perhaps not an optimal blend against the Colle. (*Hoi-Gulko, Thessaloniki 1988 1 d4 e6 2 Nf3 c5 3 e3 Nf6 4 Bd3 b6 5 O-O Bb7 6 Nbd2 cxd4 7 exd4 Be7 8 Re1 O-O 9 c3 d6 10 Qe2 Re8 11 Nf1 Nbd7 12 Ng3 Bf8 13 Bg5 h6 14 Bd2 Qc7 15 Bc2 Bd5 16 b3 Qb7 17 Nh4 b5 18 Qd3 g5 19 Nf3 Bxf3 20 gxf3 Bg7 21 h4 gxh4 22 Ne4 Qc6 23 Kh1 Nh5 24 Rg1 Kf8 25 Rxc7 Kxc7 26 Bxh6+ Kxh6 27 Rg1 f5 28 Qe3+ f4 29 Nxd6 Qxd6 30 Qd3 Nf8 31 Qh7+ 1-0 -ed*)] **6 c3 d5 7 Ne5 Nfd7** [And he does not want to just concede a grip on e5 for White; meanwhile he is also tempting White to go for 8 Nxf7, with some but ultimately insufficient compensation for the piece.] **8 f4 g6 9 O-O** [But here White has likely missed a strong opportunity to still torch the K-side with 9 h4!? Instead he goes for the f-file, a nice plan, but rather slow.] **9...Bg7 10 Ndf3 O-O 11**

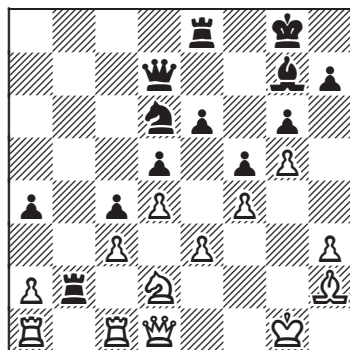


Bd2 Ba6 [Black is not waiting for Bd2-e1-h4, choosing to trade off some of the White attack force and still contesting e5] **12 Be1 f6 13 Nxd7** [13 Nc6 Qc7 14 Nxb8 Nxb8 15 e4 is not terrible, but I find another idea.] **13...Qxd7** [13... Bxd3 14 Nxf8 Bxf1 15 Nxe6 is no fun for Black.] **14 Bxa6 Nxa6**



Good intentions re Na6 on the rim, Bg7 is blocked, ...e6-e5 not a lurking threat... alas, Kg8 is safe, Na6 is set to return, e3-e4 is not a blast. Black has survived some irritation and is ready to hit back via ..e6-e5 and/or ...b6-b5-b4

15 Bg3 Nc7 16 Qe2 Nb5 17 h3 Nd6 [Then there is that knight heading for e4 or c4, sending the White knight to the passive d2 square.] **18 Bh2 c4 19 g4 b5 20 Nd2 Rfe8** [White is getting outplayed as ...e6-e5 is close to reality while f4-f5 is not helpful for White.] **21 Qf3 f5 22 Rf2?!** [Not recognizing the truth—there is no kingside attack, nothing happens on the h-file, but Black is hitting the b-file and c3. 22 Kg2 saves at least one tempo, though the future remains with Black.] **22...a5 23 g5 b4 24 Rff1 Rab8 25 Rfc1 bxc3 26 bxc3 Rb2 27 Qd1 a4**



[Black owns the Q-side, controls the center, and is not in trouble on the K-side. White is glad that ...h7-h6 is not too awful for Kg1!] **28 Rc2 Reb8 29 Rb1 Rxb1 30 Nxb1 Ne4 31 Nd2 a3 32 Nxe4** Ugly, but options are few. Somehow White lasted another 15 moves—unfortunately the exact moves were not preserved, but the Black advantage is clear. Note how ineffective Bh2 is! In contrast Bg7-f8 allowed Black to play on a piece ahead. ... 0-1

Arthur Tang - Andrew Samuelson Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 h3 g6 7 Be3 Bg7 8 Qd2 Nc6 9 g4 Bd7 10 g5 Nh5 11 Be2 Rc8 12 O-O-O Ne5 13 f4 Nc4 14 Bxc4 Rxc4 15 b3 Rc8 16 Kb1 Qa5 17 Nce2 Qxd2 18 Rxd2 O-O 19 Rd3 Rfe8 20 Nf3 Bc6 21 Nd2 b5 22 Rg1 Bb7 23 Rg4 Rc7 24 c3 Rec8 25 Bd4 e5 26 fxe5 dxe5 27 Bb6 Re7 28 Kb2 f6 29 Bd8 Rf7 30 gxf6 Nxf6 31 Bxf6 Rxf6 32 Rd7 Bc6 33 Rd3 Rf2 34 Ng3 Rcf8 35 Kc2 Rh2 36 Nf1 Rxf1 37 Rd6 Rff2 38 Kc1 Rxd2 39 Rxd2 Bh6 0-1



Andrew Samuelson - John Burke

Bishop's Opening

1 e4 e5 2 Bc4 Nf6 3 d3 c6 4 Nf3 d5 5 Bb3 Bb4+ 6 c3 Bd6 7 Bg5 dxe4 8 dxe4 h6 9 Bh4 Qe7 10 Nbd2 Bc7 11 Qe2 Nbd7 12 Nc4 Nf8 13 Bc2 Ng6 14 Bg3 O-O 15 O-O-O Nh5 16 Ne3 Nh4 17 Qf1 Be6 18 Nf5 Qc5 19 Bb3 Bxb3 20 axb3 a5 21 Qc4 Qa7 22 Rd7 a4 23 bxa4 b5 24 Qxc6 Qxa4 25 Rxc7 Qa1+ 26 Kc2 Qxh1 27 Rxf7 Ra1 28 Rxc7+ Kh8 29 Rh7+ Kg8 30 Rg7+ Kh8 31 Rh7+ ½-½

Andrew Samuelson - Tegshsuren Enkhbat
Caro Kann

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 Bf5 4 Nf3 e6 5 Be2 c5 6 Be3 cxd4 7 Nxd4 Ne7 8 c4 Nbc6 9 Nc3 dxc4 10 Ndb5 Ng6 11 Qa4 Ngxe5 12 Rd1 Nd3+ 13 Kf1 Qc8 14 Rd2 a6 15 Nd4 b5 16 Ncxb5 axb5 17 Qxb5 Ra5 18 Qxc6+ Qxc6 19 Nxc6 Rxa2 20 Bd4 Bd6 21 Bf3 O-O 22 g3 e5 23 Bc3 e4 24 Bg2 Re8 25 Ke2 Bg4+ 26 Ke3 f5 27 Kd4 Ra6 28 Kd5 Bf8 29 b4 Bh5 30 Rxd3 cxd3 31 b5 Bf7+ 32 Kd4 Ra4+ 33 Ke3 Bc5+ 34 Bd4 Rxd4 35 Nxd4 Rd8 36 Kf4 Bxd4 37 Kxf5 Bg6+ 0-1



U2200 co-winner Justin Paul
- photo by Jonathan Kenny

Runya Xu - Andrew Samuelson
Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 c3 g6 3 d4 cxd4 4 cxd4 d5 5 e5 Nc6 6 Nc3 Bg7 7 Be3 f6 8 exf6 exf6 9 Nf3 Nge7 10 Bd3 Be6 11 O-O O-O 12 Rc1 Bf7 13 Qd2 Nc8 14 Rfe1 Nd6 15 b3 Re8 16 Bh6 Qb6 17 Bxg7 Kxg7 18 Na4 Qb4 19 Qb2 Rxe1+ 20 Rxe1 Re8 21 Rxe8 Nxe8 22 Nc5 Qb6 23 a3 Nd6 24 Qc3 Nb5 25 Bxb5 Qxb5 26 h3 b6 27 Qd3 Qxd3 28 Nxd3 Na5 29 Nc1 g5 30 Nd2 Nc6 31 Ne2 Bg6 32 f3 Bd3 33 Kf2 Bxe2 34 Kxe2 Nxd4+ 35 Kd3 Ne6 36 b4 Kf7 37 g3 Ke7 38 Ke3 Kd6 39 f4 gxf4+ 40 gxf4 Nc7 41 Kd3 Ke6 42 Nf3 Kd6 43 Nd2 Nb5 44 a4 Nc7 45 Nf3 Ne6 46 Ke3 a5 47 f5 Nd8 48 bxa5 bxa5 49 Kd4 Nc6+ 50 Kc3 Kc5 51 Nd2 d4+ 52 Kd3 Kd5 53 h4 Ne5+ 54 Kc2 Nc4 55 Nb3 Ke4 56 Nc5+ Ke3 57 Kb3 Ne5 58 Kc2 Ke2 59 h5 d3+ 60 Nxd3 Nxd3 0-1

Andrew Samuelson - Kenneth McDonald
Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 e5 5 Nb5 d6 6 N1c3 a6 7 Na3 b5 8 Nd5 Nf6 9 Bg5 Be7 10 Bxf6 Bxf6 11 c3 Be6 12 Nxf6+ gxf6 13 Nc2 f5 14 exf5 Bxf5 15 Ne3 Be6 16 g3 d5 17 Bg2 Ne7 18 O-O O-O 19 Qh5 Qd6 20 Rfd1 f6 21 a4 Rad8 22 axb5 axb5 23 Qe2 Qb6 24 Nc2 Rd6 25 Nb4 Rfd8 26 Ra6 Qc5 27 Bf1 Rb8 28 Qe3 Qxe3 29 fxe3 Rxa6 30 Nxa6 Rb7 31 Nc5 Rb6 32 Nxe6 Rxe6 33 Bxb5 Rb6 34 c4 Kf7 35 b3 Nf5 36 Rxd5 Nxe3 37 Rd7+ Ke6 38 Rxh7 Rd6 39 Kf2 Rd3 40 Rb7 Ng4+ 41 Ke2 e4 42 c5 Rd8 43 h3 Ne5 44 b4 Ra8 45 g4 Ra3 46 Rb6+ Ke7 47 Bc6 Nc4 48 Rb7+ Ke6 49 Rb8 Ra2+ 50 Kd1 e3 51 Re8+ Kf7 52 Re4 Ra1+ 53 Ke2 Ra2+ 54 Kf3 Ne5+ 55 Rxe5 fxe5 56 Bd5+ 1-0



Andy Rea - Tan Nguyen

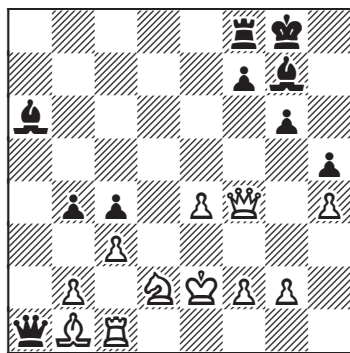
Modern

Notes by Andrew Rea



Despite the result of my first round game versus Del Mundo, I felt I had potential to still do some damage. Translating this to actual wins worked for the next two more rounds, but not so well in round 4 against Sahil Sinha. Clearly down to brass tacks for rounds 5 and 6, as I had a bye in round 7... **1 d4 d6 2 e4 g6 3 Bc4 Bg7 4 c3 a6 5 Qf3 e6** [Atypical, and obviously Black is not falling for 5...Nf6?? 6 e5. Instead, with ...e6 Black allegedly weakens dark squares while blocking Bc8. Is it really that painful?] **6 Ne2 b5 7 Bd3 Bb7 8 h4 h5** {Right, Bb7 is not so blocked, and is White truly justified pressing with h2-h4!? Yes, if White can enforce f4-f5, going for that would have been a cleaner continuation!} **9 Qg3 Nd7 10 Bg5** [too subtle] **10...Ne7 11 Nd2 Nf6 12 Bxf6 Bxf6 13 a4** [a different plan, a softer hit than f2-f4, but still some pressure against Black] **13...O-O 14 Nf4 Bg7** [Light square sacrifices abound but none seem to score full obliteration, per my board analysis. El Silicon may well have a different opinion!] **15 axb5 axb5 16 Rxa8 Qxa8 17 Ke2** [I suspected that protecting the d-file would be more helpful than cowering at g1, while keeping the slim chance that Rh3-g3 might have some impact. At least Kg8 is not safe, and there are some structural problems for Black. All the same, losing a pawn but having a bishop pair against an uncastled king is not the worst deal out there. Black will definitely get some

swings in!] **17...c5** [17...b4 first seems more pressing yet] **18 dxc5 dxc5 19 Qg5 c4 20 Bb1 e5 21 Qxe7 exf4 22 Qc5** [Right, ...b5-b4 is still a menace! Furthermore, the visually safe 22 f3 is a mirage: 22...Qa7 23 Nf1 Qb6 would give Black all the chances.] **22...Qa4 23 Qc7 Ba6 24 Qxf4** [it isn't mate!}] **24...b4 25 Rc1 Qa1**

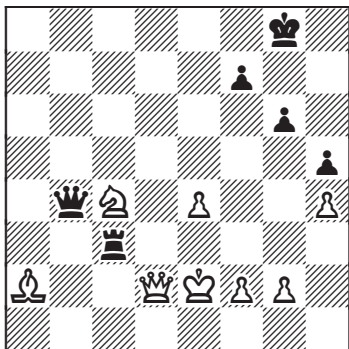


And now Black misses a chance at going all in...

26 Qd6 [Rd8 denied] **26...bxc3?** [The punctuation is harsh, but Black could let Ba6 drop and not lose! After 26...Qxb2 27 Rc2 Qa3 28 Ra2 Qc1! 29 Rc2, White can merely repeat on 29...Qa3 but Black can be more ambitious with 29...Qh1 30 Qxa6 Bxc3! 31 Nf1 Qxh4 32 Qxc4 Qg4+ 33 Ke3 Qxg2 34 Ba2—White is a piece ahead but where is the winning plan after, say, 34...Kg7 35 Bb3 Qg5+ 36 Ke2 f5 or 36 f4 Qg1+ 37 Ke2 h4...? Seems Black had not recognized the power of hitting e1, to his chagrin.] **27 bxc3 Bxc3 28 Rxc3 Qxc3 29 Qxa6 Rd8 30 Qa2** [The miserable 30 Nxc4 turns out to be effective—30...Rd4 31



Ne3 Rd2+ 32 Kf3 Qb2 33 Qf1 Qf6+ 34 Kg3 White is safe. As played White still hits c4 and maintains e4, so the miss is not too brutal. Though donating tempi is not a good habit!] 30...Rb8 31 Nxc4 Rb3 32 Qc2 Qb4 33 Ba2 Rc3 34 Qd2



[The pieces are better than the rook, Ebsen Lund notwithstanding. Ke2 can get to g2 while the White pawn can advance, causing various forms of damage. Or, Black can head to the dismal Q+P ending.] 34...Rxc4 35 Qd8+ Kh7 36 Bxc4 Qxc4+ 37 Qd3 Qa2+ 38 Kf3 Qe6 39 g3 Qh3 [Kh7 remains a target while the White king can hide. White is a king ahead!] 40

Qd4 Qh1+ 41 Kf4 Qh3 42 Qf6 Kg8?! [42...Qd7 is better. White can still invade via 43 Ke3 but some chance is better than no chance for Black.] 43 Kg5 Qd7 44 Kh6 Kf8 45 e5 Qd2+ 46 Kh7 Qd4 47 Qd6+ 1-0 Time for the closing argument...

Andy Rea - Jennifer Yu
Colle

Notes by Andrew Rea

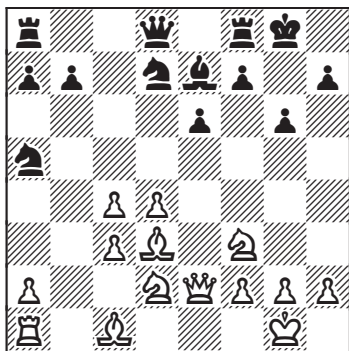
1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 e3 c5 4 c3 Nc6 5 Bd3 Bg4 [Not subtle, steering for ...e5 in one shot!] 6 Nbd2 e6 [Turns out 6...e5 is playable, the queen sac 7 dxe5 Nxe5 8 Nxe5 Bxd1 9 Bb5+ Ke7 10 Kxd1 is interesting but inadequate. The Black will not stay on e7 and Kd1 is not safe. However, White can go with 7 Bb5—Black understandably is not willing to put all the chips this early on this equalish variation. Draws are about as bad as losses in Swisses!] 7 Qa4 c4 8 Bb1 [Ra1 is not happy, but e2-e4 needs immediate support, the prospective Kg8 needs to be hit.] 8...Nd7 9 e4 Nb6 10 Qc2 [A capture on e4 weakens c4 while keeping other White forces active with 0-0 and d4-d5 not pleasant for Black.] 10...Be7 11 O-O Bh5 [Not allowing 11...O-O 12 exd5 Bf5 13 Qd1 (yes 13 Qxf5 merits consideration!) 13...Bxb1 14 dxc6 Bd3 15 cxb7 Rb8 16 Re1 White has a clear extra pawn.] 12 Re1 Bg6 13 b3 O-O 14 bxc4 dxe4 [Black is not up for 14...dxc4 15 a4 Nd5 despite the Nd5 Black attacks nothing while still having kingside problems.] 15 Rxe4 [I like the center, especially as it threatens to expand to g8! Black can improve mildly with ...Rc8 but this



U1900 winner Peter Snow
- photo by Jonathan Kenny



seems fairly transpositional.] **15...Bxe4**
16 Qxe4 g6 17 Bd3 [a bit naïve—17
 Bc2 does much of the same without
 allowing a target on d3] **17...Na5 18**
Qe5 Nd7 19 Qe2



[Good news: h2-h4-h5 is not so simple,
 but this can get help from g2-g3, Nd2
 is free to move, Black still has problems
 with counterplay. White does not have
 a mating attack, but time to organize
 his forces...] **19...Rc8 20 Nb3 Qc7 21**

c5 [hard to ask Black to roll with 21..
 b6 22 Nxa5, is Black really scoring on
 the b-file?] **21...Rfe8 22 Ng5 Nf6 23**
Qf3 [not subtle but Bc1-f4-e5 cannot
 be ignored] **23...Nxb3 24 axb3 a6**
 [24...b6 25 Ba6 Ra8 26 Bf4 Qd8 27 c6
 would be quite winning for White, one
 example being 27...Qd5 28 Bb7 Rad8
 29 Be5] **25 Bf4 Qc6 26 Ne4 Nh5 27**
Bd6 f5 28 Bxe7 Rxe7 29 Nd2 Qxf3 30
Nxf3 Nf6 31 Bc4 Kg7 32 Ne5 Rce8
33 f3 Nd7 34 Re1 Nxe5 35 Rxe5 Kf6
 [Much has changed, Black has avoided
 kingside collapse, White missed a good
 chance (28.g4!) but still the bind on e5
 gives White winning chances if the
 Q-side majority can be mobilized and/
 or the king can become active. e6 is
 fragile; can we see Ka5? Nahh, Black
 can hit back...] **36 b4 Ra8 37 f4 h6**
38 Kf2 g5

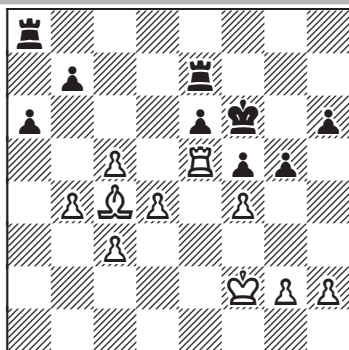


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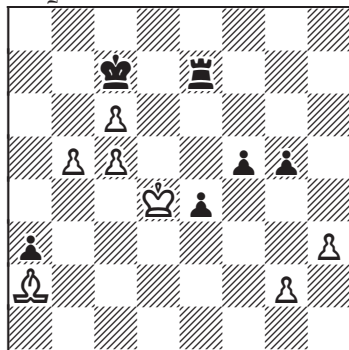
Mike Callaham

waterman2010kir@aol.com.



The examination continues! 39 g3 looks obvious—e5 stays intact—but Black can then it the g-file. So White makes a trade; the bind on e5 is diminished but the Black rooks do not get to cruise the kingside...

39 fxg5+ hxg5 40 h3 a5 [This advance is not free! Black does not wait to get invaded but the White pawns become a veritable wave. Active, risky, not drawish!] 41 b5 a4 42 Ba2 [the rook can reach d1 or b1, no forks, Kf6 is not effective against that blob of White pawns] 42...a3 43 Re1 e5 44 d5 e4 45 Rd1 Rc7 46 c6 bxc6 47 dxc6 Ke7 48 Rd4 Rd8 49 Ke3 [Black is not able to stay on the d-file. 49...Rf8 50 Rd5 Rf6 51 c4 is not promising for Black. Wait, what of those passed Black pawns?] 49...Rxd4 50 Kxd4! [50 cxd4 Kd6 Black is hardly in trouble.] 50...Kd6 51 c4 Re7 52 c5+ Kc7



[Both players have been all in, but the White plan proves correct, even so

barely!] 53 Kd5 e3 [53...Re5+ doesn't quite make the grade] 54 b6+ Kc8 [Black chooses the losing Q+P ending. The alternatives still do not avoid the machinations of the White king, bishop, and pawns. For example, 54...Kd8 55 Kd6 Rd7+ 56 cxd7 e2 57 c6 e1Q 58 c7mate] 55 Kd6 e2 56 Kxe7 e1Q+ 57 Be6+ Qxe6+ 58 Kxe6 a2 59 b7+ Kc7 60 b8B+ [A queen would have been fine—no stalemate for Black as she still has pawns—but it comes to the same thing, Black fights on, but the cause is lost, White ends up with a decent result after all!] 60...Kxb8 61 Kd7 a1Q 62 c7+ Ka7 63 c8Q Qg7+ 64 Ke6 Qg6+ 65 Kd5 Qf7+ 66 Qe6 Qb7+ 67 Qc6 Qf7+ 68 Ke5 g4 69 Qb6+ Ka8 70 Qd8+ Ka7 71 hxg4 fxg4 72 c6 Qg7+ 73 Kd6 Qh6+ 74 Kc7 Qf4+ 75 Kc8 Qb8+ 76 Kd7 Qb5 77 Qc7+ Ka6 78 Qb7+ Qxb7+ 79 cxb7 Kxb7 80 Ke6 1-0

Anton Del Mundo - Andrew Samuelson
Benoni

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e6 4 Nc3 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 6 e4 g6 7 f4 Bg7 8 Bb5+ Nfd7 9 Nf3 a6 10 Bd3 b5 11 a3 O-O 12 O-O Nb6 13 h3 N8d7 14 Kh1 Ra7 15 f5 Qe7 16 Bg5 Bf6 17 Qd2 Ne5 18 Bxf6 Qxf6 19 Nxe5 Qxe5 20 f6 Kh8 21 Rf3 Rg8 22 Raf1 Bd7 23 Nd1 a5 24 Ne3 Qd4 25 Qe2 c4 26 Bb1 Na4 27 R1f2 Nc5 28 Qd1 Qxd1+ 29 Nxd1 Re8 30 Re2 b4 31 Kg1 Bb5 32 Kf2 Rc7 33 Re1 Ba4 34 Ke3 Nd7 35 axb4 axb4 36 Rf2 Ra8 37 Kd4 Bxd1 38 Rxd1 Ne5 39 Bc2 c3 40 b3 Ra2 41 Re2 Rca7 42 Rb1 g5 43 Rf1 h6 44 Rf5 Rb2 45 Rxe5 dxe5+ 46 Kxe5 Raa2 47 d6 Rxc2 48 d7 Rd2 49 d8Q+ Rxd8 50 Rxa2 Kh7 51 Ra7 Kg6 52 Rc7 Re8+ 53 Kd4 Kxf6 54 Rc4 Rd8+ 55 Ke3 Rd1 56 g4 Ke5 57 Rc8 Rb1 58 Re8+ Kf6 59 e5+ Kg7 60 Kd3 Rxb3 61 Rb8 Rb2 62 Rb7 Kf8 63 Rb6 Rd2+ 64 Ke3 Rd1 0-1



Virginia Scholastic & Collegiate Championships

The 2015 Virginia Scholastic & Collegiate Championships drew 435 players to Monticello High School in Charlottesville over the weekend of March 14–15. State scholastic championship titles were awarded in five different age (grade) groups. The new champions are: Isaac Park (Kindergarten thru 3rd grad section); Aasa Dommalapati & Andrew Wang (co-champions tied for 1st in K-5 section); Evan Ling (K-8); Jennifer Yu, Taylor Brunotts, Vignesh Rajasekaran & Benjamin Lyons (co-champions in K-12, Yu also won Top Girl); and Quentin Moore (college). Twenty-six parents and friends of the scholastic players also scratched their competitive itch in a section just for them. Peter Abramenko finished 1st there.

Other prizewinners in the K-3 group included Atmika Gorti (2nd place overall and Top Girl); Siddhaarth Balamuthaiya, Sergey Patsuk, David Li, Ronen Wilson, Rishabh Kumaran, Siddhant Nair, Andrew Rousseau, Pranav Konduru, Samarth Bhargav, Max Yan, Kingston Ho, Parth Jaiswal, Omkar Kovvali, Sriharsha Sambangi, Bryce Phillips, Abhinav Vonteru, Sathvik Redrouthu & Arnav Tamnash Gupta (4th place thru 20th place respectively); Arnav Bhat, Kyle Ding & Shaurya Bisht (1st, 2nd, & 3rd Under 800, respectively); Roland Foster, Jessica Chen & Aneesh Nagireddi (1-3 Under 600, respectively); Lane Downing, Shivam Suri & Carolyn Chen (1-3 Under 400, respectively); and Natalie Xie & Chance Nguyen (1-2 Unrated, respectively).

Other K-5 prizewinners included Pranav Prem, Gideon Lohr, Jay Lalwani, Garrett Heller, Nithil Suresh, Varun Vonteru, Sudarshan Sriniaiyer, Kyle Phillips, Ted Tran, Geoffrey Davis, Ethan Zhou, Rick Sun, Nitin Kanuri, Franklin He, Akshay Kobla, Skyler Tunc, Srihan Kotnana, Prabhas Adivi, Daniel Zhou, Rahul Ponugoti, Akhil Morisetty, Mantra Vivek & Austin J Song (3rd thru 25th place, respectively—Mantra Vivek was also Top Girl); Kathleen Pham & Abhidyu Kumcha (1-2 U1000, respectively); Ranesh Mopuru, Tyler Burch & Aditya Vasantharao (1-3 U800, respectively); Shahzad Sohail, Jackson Kennedy & Zachary Rader (1-3 Under 600, respectively); and Brian Bogle & Ethan Bhatia (1-2 Unrated, respectively).

Other prizewinners in K-8 included Ryan Xu, Andy Huang, Isaac Chiu, Nathan Lohr, Bryant Lohr, Vishal Kobla, Jason Morefield, Vivian Cao-Dao, Kevin Zhang, Tan Nguyen, Neha Pattanaik, Justin Paul, Camden Wiseman, Diego Gutierrez, Saigautam Bonam, Trung Nguyen, Sam Schenk, Niraj Patel & Vedant Balu (2nd thru 20th place, respectively—Vivian Cao-Dao was also Top Girl); Yevgeny Dodzin & Andrew Song (1-2 U1400, respectively); Tarun Ravi, Ritvik Kumaran & Gautam Lalwani (1-3 U1200, respectively); Justin Kreft, Nathan Moskowitz & Deepika Gunturu (1-3 U1000, respectively); Sidhardh Burre, Nicholas Yowell & John Ryan Sedovy (1-2 U800, respectively); and Virginia Peng & Bharath Vemuri (1-2 Unrated, respectively).



Other prizewinners in K-12 included Brian Li, Sean Senft, Alvin Cao, Matthew Shih, Akshita Gorti, Abhinay Dommalapati, Jeevan Karamsetty, Vikas Rajasekaran, Justin Lohr, Isuru Attanagoda & Isaac Steincamp (5th thru 15th, respectively); Jeffrey Song & Sadhana Suri (1-2 U1400, respectively); Mark Tenzer & David Normansell (1-2 U1200, respectively); Nathaniel Davidson & Evan Lin (1-2 Unrated, respectively).

Paul A Cordova finished 2nd in the College section, followed by Benjamin Vaughan. Andrew Williams was top U1400 and Brian Ammer top U1200.

Among the Parents & Friends, Luan Nguyen finished 2nd and 3rd was a 5-way tie between Deodato Obregon, Brian Failon, Hrishikesh Karambelkar, Csaba Gabor & Manohar Viswanathan.

In addition to the individual titles, schools that sent multiple entries to the event vied for team honors. Two Fairfax County elementary schools topped both the K-3 and K-5 section team standings: McNair and Greenbriar West. McNair won in the K-3 group, but the schools switched places atop the standings in the K-5! The K-8 team competition was won by Rocky Run Middle School, followed by Haycock Elementary. Thomas Jefferson High School, in Alexandria, won the K-12 team title, with Richmond's Maggie Walker HS second. The University of Virginia was the only team in the College group.

A blitz tournament was also held on the eve of the championships in two sections. Aasa Dommalapati & Siddhant Nair tied for 1st/2nd in the K-5 group, with Pranav Prem & Andrew Wang half a point behind tied for 3rd/4th. In K-12, Justin Paul won clear 1st place followed by Aditya Ponukumati. Isuru Attanagoda & Justin Lohr tied for 3rd/4th.

Aasa Dommalapati - Pranav Prem

French

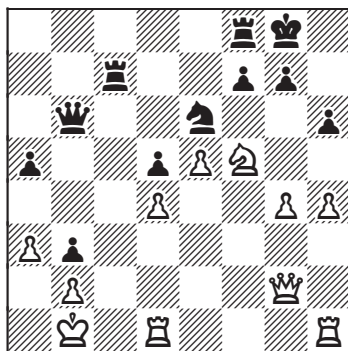
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 Bg5 Be7 5 e5 Nfd7 6 h4 h6 7 Bxe7 Qxe7 8 f4 a6 9 Nf3 c5 10 dxc5 Nxc5 11 Qd2 Nc6 12 O-O-O b5 13 Bd3 b4 14 Ne2 a5 15 Kb1 Ba6 16 Ned4 Nxd4 17 Nxd4 Bxd3 18 cxd3 b3 19 a3 Qb7 20 f5 Qb6 21 fxe6 Nxe6 22 Nf5 O-O 23 d4 Ra7 24 g4 Rc7 25 Qg2 {diagram}

25...Rc2 26 Qxd5 Rd8 27 Nd6 Qb8 28 Rhf1 Rf8 29 Rxf7 Rxf7 30 Qxe6 Rf2 31 Nxf7 Rxf7 32 Rf1 Qb7 33 Qxf7+ Qxf7 34 Rxf7 Kxf7 35 d5 g5 36 hxg5 hxg5 37 Kc1 a4 38 Kd2 Ke7 39 Ke3 Kf7 40 Kd4 Ke7 41 d6+ Ke6 42 Ke4 1-0

Vishnu Pulavarthi - Zachary Anderson

Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 e6 4 d3 d5 5 exd5 exd5 6 Bb3 Nf6 7 Bf4 Qa5+ 8 Nbd2 Bg4 9 O-O Be7 10 Bg5 Rd8 11 Re1 O-O 12 c3 b5 13 c4 dxc4 14 dxc4 a6 15 h3 Bxf3 16 Qxf3 Rxd2 17 Bxd2





Virginia Scholastic & Collegiate, *continued*

Qxd2 18 Qxc6 Re8 19 cxb5 axb5 20 Rf1 c4 21 Bd1 Qxb2 22 Bh5 Rd8 23 Rae1 Bb4 24 Qc7 Rf8 25 Rd1 Nxh5 26 Rd8 c3 27 Rxf8+ Bxf8 28 Qc8 c2 29 g4 Nf4 30 Re1 0-1

Maggie Luo - Krishan Perumal

Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 d3 e6 3 g3 Nc6 4 Bg2 Nf6 5 f4 d6 6 Nf3 Be7 7 O-O

O-O 8 c3 b6 9 Qe2 Ba6 10 Rd1 Qc7 11 Nbd2 Rad8 12

Nf1 e5 13 Nh4 d5 14 fxe5 Nxe5 15 Bf4 Bd6 16 Nf5

g6 17 Nxd6 Qxd6 18 exd5 Rfe8 19 Re1 Bxd3 20

Qxd3 Nxd3 21 Rxe8+ Nxe8 22 Bxd6 Nxd6 23 b3

Nf5 24 Rd1 Ne5 25 Kf2 a5 26 Ne3 Nd6 27 g4

f6 28 Kg3 g5 29 Nf5 Nb5 30 c4 Nc3 31 Rd2

Ng6 32 Rc2 Nd1 33 Bf3 Ne3 1-0 (34 Nxe3)



Checkmate in Columbus

THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
TAKES 2ND AT THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Jeevan Karamsetty

COMING right off of our seventeenth (!) consecutive state championship title, the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST) chess team was determined as ever to win first place at the 2015 National High School Chess Championships. From analyzing each others' games, to helping each other solve complicated compositions, the team members were determined to put up our strongest-ever performance in Columbus, Ohio at a tournament that boasted a record number of 1492(!) players. After four days of long and difficult games, earned recognition as the second strongest high school chess team in the country!

With what I believe is the largest delegation we have ever brought to a National event—17 individuals—TJHSST started its competition early in the morning in on April 9 by participating in the bughouse tournament. Since no one on the team had ever before played in an official bughouse tournament, it was a very interesting experience for everyone. After a series of crazy games, Brian Li and I were able to tie for second and capture third place overall, while Isuru Attanagoda and Saroja Erabelli tied for 14th and finished in 18th place. Every TJHSST entry finished with a respectable score of 50% or better.

Just a few hours after the bughouse ended, we had our first serious task of our journey: the blitz championships. 328 players entered in the blitz tournament, an



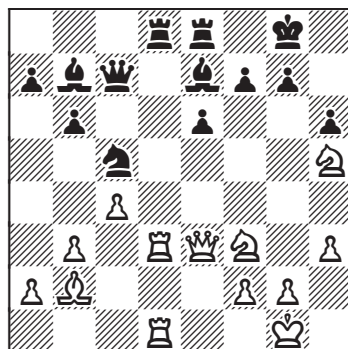
increase of 130 from last year! The first half of the tournament ran rather slowly as the tournament directors got accustomed to recording so many results and posting the pairings. The entire contingent did rather well and we expected that at the rate we were going at, we would be sure to win the entire event. Unfortunately, we fell just short of team first place ($36\frac{1}{2}$ points), but still managed to finish in clear second. However disappointing it was not to win first place, we were still proud of our performance, which outdid last year's winning score of $33\frac{1}{2}$ points. Several of our players finished in the top 100 in the individual standings. I tied for 3rd place, Isuru Attanagoda was 16th, Benjamin Lyons tied for 28th, and both Brian Li and Aditya Ponukumati were part of a tie for 40th. Perry Feng, Saroja Erabelli, and Arun Kannan tied for 87th.

The next three days were what we were truly there for. Those that did not play in Thursday's side events joined us to compete in the main event of the tournament. We started off strongly; many of our players drew or beat higher rated opponents in the early rounds. But the team took a huge hit during round four when none of our players were able to convert a full point. As anyone would imagine, we were distraught but we knew we had to fight until the end. We rebounded quickly in round 5 and also had a strong round 6, meaning round 7 still meant a lot. Excitingly, we scored 3 out of 4 team points in the last round and took clear second place with 20 points ($1\frac{1}{2}$ more than last year). Individually, I tied for second place with a 6-1 score. Isuru Attanagoda and Benjamin Lyons each scored 5-2.

I am still in disbelief that this year's Nationals was my final scholastic tournament. It has been a thrilling experience that I have been able to share with so many unique individuals. Being a part of the TJ chess team has meant a lot. The team is composed of so many passionate individuals that help each other get better and better. On behalf of my team, I would like to thank the Virginia Chess Federation for all of their support over the years. Without it we would not have been able to accommodate such a large team and achieve such a wonderful finish.

Jeevan Karamsetty - Abhimanyu Banerjee Caro Kann

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 dxe4 4 Nxe4 Nd7 5 Nf3 Ngf6 6 Ng3 e6 7 Bd3 c5 8 c3 Be7 9 O-O O-O 10 b3 b6 11 Bb2 Bb7 12 Qe2 Re8 13 Rfd1 Qc7 14 Rac1 Nd5 15 c4 Nf4 16 Qe3 Nxd3 17 Rxd3 Bf6 18 Nh5 h6 19 Rcd1 Rad8 20 h3 Be7 21 dxc5 Nxc5 {diagram}
22 Bxg7 Nxd3 23 Qxh6 f6 24 Bh8 Bf8 25 Nxf6+ 1-0



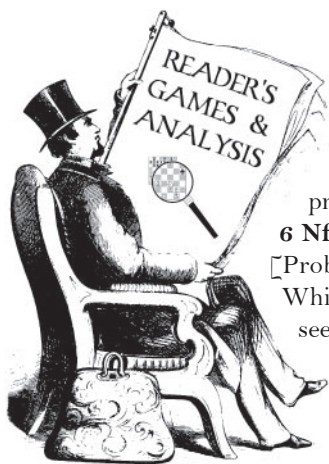


Shawn Hoshall - Geoff McKenna

DC League 2015

Alekhine

Notes by Geoff McKenna



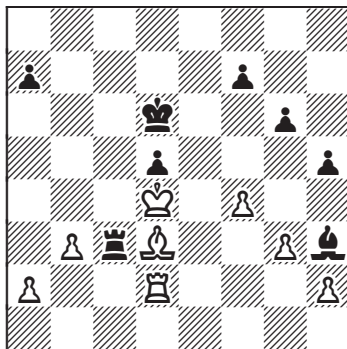
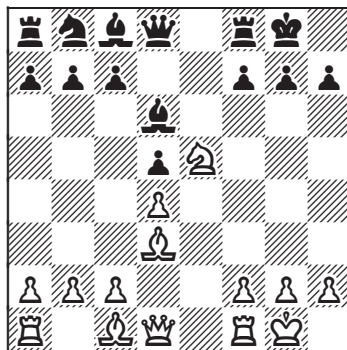
1 e4 Nf6 2 e5 Nd5 3 Nc3 e6 [Odd looking, but computers like it. The text develops while pressing back in the center.] 4 Nxd5 exd5 5 d4 d6 6 Nf3 [I think 6 f4 offers better prospects.] 6...dxe5 [Probably premature. I wanted to get this in before White played Bf4, but in the cold light of day I don't see the point.] 7 Nxe5 Bd6 8 Bd3 O-O [Black is a bit short on kingside defenders. For the next few moves I worried about h7.]

9 O-O c5

[Brazening it out—I need to soften

up d4/e5. During the game I wondered a lot about 10 dxc5 Bxe5 11 Qh5 Re8 12 Qxh7+ (12 Bg5 g6) Kf8 13 Qh8+ or (13 Re1!? Bxh2+ 14 Kxh2 Rxe1 15 Qh8+ Ke7 16 Bg5+ f6 17 Qxg7+ with complications) 13...Ke7 14 Bg5+ Kd7, but it may be bogus because Black can play 14...Bf6] 10 c3 cxd4 11 cxd4 Nc6 12 Nxc6 bxc6 [With another pair of pieces gone

the prospect of a flashmate is diminished.] 13 Re1 g6 [Inviting complications with 14 Bh6 but White remains careful.] 14 g3 Be6 15 Bh6 Re8 16 Rc1 Qb6 [The reason I wanted to lure the bishop to h6 is that now it is awkward to defend b2 and d4.] 17 Be3 Bb4 [The Rooks are embarrassed (18 Rf1 Bh3).] 18 Bd2 Qxd4 19 Bxb4 Qxb4 20 Rxc6 Bh3? [This turns out poorly. The sure-handed pawn grab on b2 was better.] 21 Re2! Bg4 22 f3! Bd7 [Here I spent a lot of time trying to salvage my bad ideas.] 23 Rcc2 h5 24 Rxe8+ Rxe8 25 Re2 Rb8 26 b3 Bh3 27 Qd2 Qc5+ 28 Qe3 Qc3 29 Qe5 Qc5+ 30 Qe3 Qc3 31 Qe5 Rc8!? [The ending carries some risk for Black owing to the pawn on d5.] 32 Qxc3 Rxc3 33 Rd2 Kg7 34 Kf2 Kf6 35 Ke3 Ke5 [Here I noticed a wondrous possibility: 36 Rc2 Rxd3+ 37 Kxd3 Bf5+ 38 Kd2 Bxc2 39 Kxc2 and I think Black wins with 39...Kd4] 36 f4+ Kd6 37 Kd4





So White has exactly the kind of position that they tell you to aim for in endgame books. Black tries to remain active. **37...Rc1 38 b4 Bf1 39 Bc2** [Endeavoring to keep play in the position, White drifts into trouble.] **39...Bc4 40 a4 Ra1 41 a5?! [This leaves a big hole on b5] 41...Kc6** [A messy possibility now was **42 Be4**] **42 Rd1?! [Posing Black a tough choice. If 42...Rxd1+ 43 Bxd1 Kb5 44 Kc3 d4+ 45 Kxd4 Kxb4** White's a-pawn will fall, but there isn't much material left and maybe White can contrive some miracle liquidation on the kingside. So Black plays instead to retain the complications.] **42...Ra2 43 Kc3 Kb5 44 Rb1?** [Father Time puts in a cameo at game's end, but White is in bad shape anyway.] **44...d4+ 45 Kxd4 Rxc2 46 h4 Rg2 47 Rc1 Rd2+ 48 Ke5 Kxb4 0-1**

Geoff McKenna - Sal Rosario

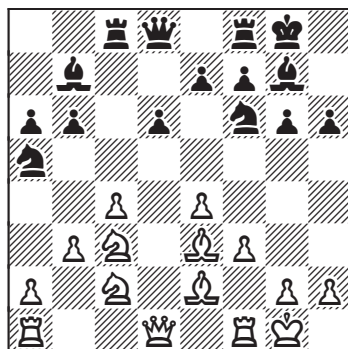
DC Chess League 2015

English

Notes by Geoff McKenna

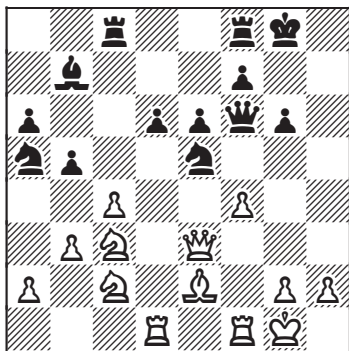
This game was rendered moot, as Ashburn clinched the DC Chess League on the same evening. **1 Nf3 c5 2 c4 g6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Bg7 5 Nc3?! [Safer is 5 e4** avoiding the creation of a target on c3] **5...Nc6 6 Nc2 d6?** [Black should take the bait on c3. The weak White pawns would outweigh the resulting weakness around g7] **7 Bd2!! [One of the hardest things a chess player can do is to change course upon realizing that he's stuck with a bad plan. In playing the awkward text White acquiesces to being a tempo down in a normal Maroczy position. In return, he avoids getting his pawns shattered.] 7...Nf6 8 e4 b6** [Black has two reasonable plans here: to develop and shoot for a quick...e6 and ...d5; or to pile on the light squares and c-file and plan for a later break. I guess the first plan is better. Black opts for the second. Incidentally, the text denies Black the opportunity to infiltrate on the queenside with his queen, but maybe that's not much of a real threat anyway.] **9 Be2 Bb7 10 O-O O-O 11 Bg5** [Played to provoke...h6 in order to give White a target.] **11...Rc8 12 f3 Na5 13 b3** [White crosses his fingers, hoping disaster will not eventuate on the a1-h8 diagonal.] **13...h6?! 14 Be3!** [thinking about 14...Ng4 15 fg Bc3 16 Bh6] **14...a6 {diagram}**

15 e5! [Clogging the diagonal and gaining enough time to stay in the game. One possibility is 15...dxe5 16 Qxd8 Rfxd8 17 Bxb6 Rd2 18 Bxa5 Rxc2 with complications. A less flashy alternative would be 15 Qd2 b5 16 Bxh6 Bxh6 17 Qxh6 bxc4 18 b4 which may be playable.] **15...Nd7 16 Qd2 Nxe5 17 Bxh6 Bxh6 18 Qxh6** [Here White threatens a rapid kingside advance with f4-f5] **18...e6** [I exerted a lot of effort on this position without getting a sense





of understanding it, so White simply centralizes and hopes for the best.] **19 Rad1 Qf6 20 Qe3 b5 21 f4**



21...Nexc4 [This piece sac concedes some advantage to White.] **22 bxc4**

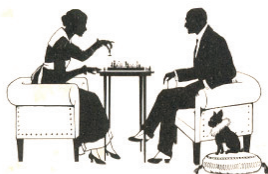
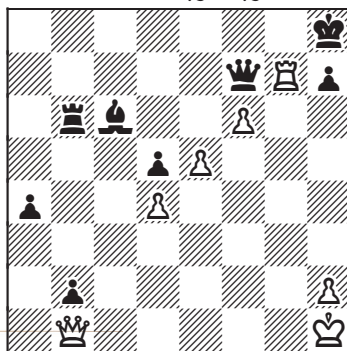
Nxc4 23 Bxc4 Rxc4 24 Nd4 d5?! [The justification for Black's move is that he needs to mobilize the pawns to win, and d6 was vulnerable. However, this seems to concede both time and dark squares.] **25 Nce2 Rfc8 26 Nf3 Re4 27 Qd3 Ra4 28 Rd2 b4 29 Ne5 Ra3 30 Qd4 Qe7? 31 Ng4 Rc4** [I think 31...Qc5 would have been a better try. If Black can mobilize the queenside pawns he may still survive. Keeping queens on the board allows White to develop an attack.] **32 Qe5 f5 33 Nf6+ Kf7** [I think Black has no good moves left.] **34 Nh7 Re4** [White can win an exchange with 35 Ng5+ Qxg5 36 Qxe4 but I found something faster.] **35 Qh8 1-0**

Ryan Rust - Gary Robinson 2013 Hampton Sports Festival Dutch

Notes by Gary Robinson

1 Nf3 e6 2 c4 f5 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 d4 d5 5 c5 c6 6 Bd2 Nbd7 7 g3 Be7 8 Bg2 Ne4 9 O-O O-O 10 Bf4? g5 11 Bd6 Nxd6 12 cxd6 Bxd6 13 Qd2 Be7 14 Ne5 Nxe5 15 dxe5 b6 16 Rfd1 Bb7 17 e3 Rf7 18 f4 Rg7 19 Ne2 c5 20 Qc2 Qf8 21 a4 Rd8 22 a5 b5 23 a6 Ba8 24 Rac1 Rb8 25 b4 c4 26 Nd4 Rb6 27 Qe2 gxf4 28 gxf4 Bxb4 29 Rb1 Bc5 30 Kh1 Bxd4 31 exd4 b4 32 Rg1 Rxa6 33 Bh3 Rb6 34 Rxg7+ Kxg7 35 Qa2 Qf7 36 Qa5 Qe7 37 Rg1+ Kh8 38 Qa2 c3 39 Qb3 Bc6 40 Rg3 a5? 41 Rxc3 a4! 42 Qb1 Qa7 43 Rg3 b3 44 Bxf5 Qf7 45 Bxe6 Qxe6 46 f5 Qf7 47 f6 b2! 48 Rg7 {diagram}

48...Qxg7! 49 fxg7+ Kg8 50 Kg2 Rb7 [no rush] **51 Kh3 a3 52 Qf1 Rf7 53 Qb1 Bd7+ 54 Kg3 Bf5 55 Qa2 b1Q 56 Qxd5 Qg1+ 0-1**





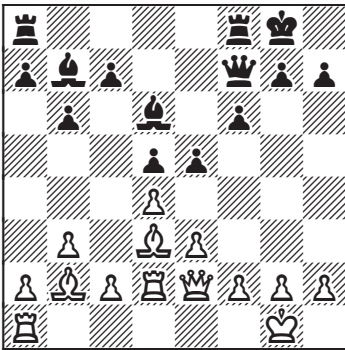
Macon Shibut – Christopher Shen

2015 Chicago Open

Zukertort

Notes by Macon Shibut

1 b3 b6 2 Bb2 Bb7 3 e3 e6 4 Nf3 Nf6 5 d4 Be7 6 Bd3 d5 7 Nbd2 Nbd7 [From the Nimzowitsch-Larsen Attack to the Zukertort System, White merely puts the ball in play, not pressing the advantage of the first move.] 8 O-O O-O 9 Ne5 Ne4 10 Ndf3 [I think I may have had this position before and chose 10 Nxd7] 10...f6 11 Nxd7 Qxd7 12 Qe2 Bd6 13 Rfd1 Qf7 14 Nd2 Nxd2 15 Rxd2 e5



16 dxe5

‘Surrendering the center’ and opening the f-file where Black’s major pieces are already doubled—the sort of move one can only play with a concrete tactical justification in mind. My initial reflex had been 16 e4 aiming to exploit the a2-g8 diagonal, eg 16...exd4 17 Bxd4 c5 18 Bb2 dxe4? 19 Bc4 but of course Black will not be so cooperative. Right to the end of this variation there are good alternatives available to him—18...Bf4; 18...Rae8—and back close to the beginning he can even take the

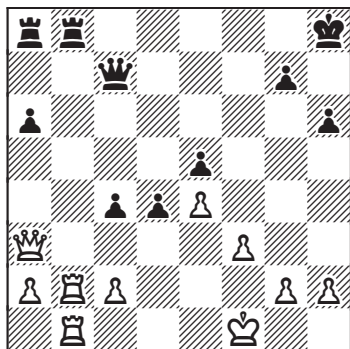
bait 17...dxe4 (instead of ...c5) and after 18 Bc4 Bd5 19 Bxd5 Qxd5 20 Bxf6 the position is not favorable for White despite Black’s isolated pawn.

So if not 16 e4, then what? I did not relish ...e4 with kingside attack chances based on ...f5-4 and the menacing dark square bishop. In that light the idea of immobilizing the e5 pawn by dxe5 followed by e4 first suggested itself. After the text, I assumed Black would retake with his f-pawn. His bishop worried me, so why even hope he would trade it? I continued 16...fxe5 17 e4 and was surprised to find that it was hard to see a good reply for Black! 17...dxe4 and 17...d4 both lose to 18 Bc4, but otherwise White threatens exd5 isolating and targeting e5.

16...Bxe5! [In truth 16...fxe5 also stands up better than I believed (by means of the same resource as in the game—move 18), but my opponent appreciated the tactical reasons why the text move is more challenging still.] 17 Bxe5 fxe5 18 e4 Kh8! [A cold shower! Instead of just an improved version of my plan without the dark square bishops, I discovered that now 19 exd5? actually loses by force: 19...Qxd5 the only ways to defend the mate are 20 f3? Qd4+ winning the undefended Ra1; or 20 Qg4 e4 where the undefended Rd2 is my undoing.] 19 Re1 d4 [Inferior bishop, inferior pawn majority, and the inferior half-open file. Otherwise White



has nothing to complain about.] **20 Ba6 Bxa6 21 Qxa6 c5 22 Qd3** [22 f3 needs to be played sooner or later, and doing it here would have maintained the blockade on Black's pawn majority for a little while at least.] **22...a6 23 f3 b5 24 Rb1 c4?!** [Impatiently taking the 'mystery' out of White's rook move. Preparing to contest the b-file by 24...Rab8 first seems better.] **25 bxc4 bxc4 26 Qa3 Qc7** [Or 26...Qa7 27 Qa5 annoying e5, eg 27...d3+ 28 Kh1 (but not 28 Qb6? Rfb8 wins) Rfb8 29 Rbd1! =] **27 Rdd1 h6 28 Rb2 Qa7** [28...Rfb8] **29 Kf1 Qc7 30 Rdb1 Rfb8**



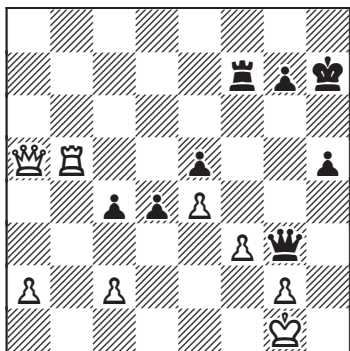
Black's last move offered the variation 31 Rxb8+ Rxb8 32 Rxb8+ Qxb8 33 Qxa6 Qb1+ 34 Kf2 Qxc2+ 35 Kg3 and there is no way to prevent me from forcing a draw by Qc8 etc. I should have gone for it. Things had gone pretty well since my previous mistake, which caused me to become overambitious.

31 Ke2? [Off the back rank, so that ...Qb1 won't be check in a variation analogous to the previous note, and closer to the center, to restrain Black's d-pawn in particular and for the endgame in general. Unfortunately this

is not exactly an endgame yet.] **31... Rxb2 32 Rxb2 Rd8!** [My king finds itself in the crossfire. If now 33 Qxa6? d3+ wins in all cases. For instance, 34 cxd3 cxd3+ 35 Kd2 (35 Kd1 Rc8) Rc8; or 34 Kd1 dxc2+ 35 Kxc2 Qd7 36 Qxc4 Rc8. There was choice but to say *j'adoube* and head back towards relative shelter.] **33 Kf2 a5** [33...d3 34 cxd3 cxd3 35 Rd2 Qb6+ 36 Kg3 Qe3 was also good, but my opponent does not care to force matter now and simply put his pawn on a defended square.] **34 Kg3 Kh7!** [During the game this felt like a very high class move in the style of Fischer. The c4-d4 pawn duo represents an obvious threat, but Black sees he can indulge in all the useful preparatory moves without me being able to do much.] **35 h4 h5 36 Kh2 Rd7?!** [Still 'preparing' but this actually exposes his back rank. Now was the moment for action: 36...c3! followed by the breakthrough ...d3 would have achieved a dominating position. For instance, 37 Rb1 d3 38 cxd3 Rxd3 39 Qf8 c2 40 Rc1 Rd2! (but not 40...Rd1? 41 Qf5+ g6 42 Rxc2! =) 41 Qf5+ g6 42 Qf6 a4 etc] **37 Qf8 Rf7 38 Qa8** [For the second time rejecting rough equality that could be had after 38 Qe8 when if 38...Qe7 39 Qxe7 Rxe7 40 Kg3 and with my king is back near the d-pawn the ending should be defensible. Black will have to tend weak pawns a5 and e5.] **38...Qe7 39 Qxa5?** [Pushing too far. Had I played 39 Rb8 it's likely one or the other of us would have forced a draw soon, eg 39...Qxh4+ 40 Kg1 Qe1+ 41 Kh2 Qf2 42 Rh8+ Kg6 43 Qc6+ Kg5 44 Qd5 etc] **39...Qxh4+ 40 Kg1 Qg3** [One attraction to taking his



a-pawn had been that my queen covers e1, preventing him from immediately forcing a draw. I thought I was probing for more without risk.] **41 Rb5**



We made time control at move 40 and then I played my 41st before getting up to take a stroll. I was certain my threat $Rxe5$ would convince him to steer for a draw after $41...Rxf3$ $42 Rxe5 Qf2+$ $43 Kh1$ since there is certainly nothing for Black in a continuation like $43...Rg3$ $44 Rxh5+$ $Kg6$ $45 Qf5+$ $Qxf5$ $46 Rxf5 Ra3$ $47 Rd5$.

41...d3! [By the time I got back to the board my opponent had already moved. Really? The pawn still has to cross d2, which my queen controls, and meanwhile White gets to land a couple heavy looking blows.] **42 cxd3 cxd3** [I settled down to calculating the consequences of $43 Rxe5$. It was not complicated, really just a straight stalk of a variation with no significant branches, but nonetheless what I found seemed to me a kind of fantasy line. Black can allow not only $Rxe5$ but also $Rxh5$ with check, and he wins. $43 Rxe5 d2$ the first point—my capturing e5 lets Black's pawn sneak across d2 since my queen has to defend the rook $44 Rxh5+$ $Kg6$

again the rook is attacked so my queen cannot take the pawn, nor do I have any further useful checks. To address the threat $d1Q+$ there is only the forced $45 Rd5$ whereupon $45...Qe1+$ $46 Kh2 d1Q$ follows and, remarkably, White's queen and rook cannot do anything against Black's seemingly exposed king. The finish could be something like $47 Rg5+$ $Kh7$ $48 Rh5+$ $Kg8$ $49 Qa8+$ $Rf8$ $50 Rh8+$ $Kxh8$ $51 Qxf8+$ $Kh7$ $52 Qf5+$ $Kg8$ $53 Qc8+$ $Kf7$ $54 Qf5+$ $Ke8$ $55 Qe5+$ $Kd8$ $56 Qg5+$ $Kc8$ $57 Qc5+$ $Kd7$ $58 Qb5+$ $Kd6$ $59 Qb8+$ $Kc5$ inevitably Black will use one of his queens to interpose against the checks.] **43 Kf1** [What else? If $43 Qc3 Rxf3$ finally comes, eg $44 Qxe5 Qe1+$ $45 Kh2 Rf6$ and his safe king, practically unstoppable d-pawn, and the still-glowing embers of a mating attack practically guarantees victory.] **43...h4!** [I still clung to an irrational hope Black would lose his nerve and force a draw by $43...Rxf3+$ but of course he was having none of it.] **44 Qe1** [44 $Rxe5$ still fails against $44...d2$] **44...Qf4 45 Rd5 h3 46 Kg1** [If $46 Rxd3 h2$ $47 Ke2 Rc7$ the combined attack on my king and threat to promote his pawn will get the job done.] **46...Qg5!** [but not $46...h2+$? $47 Kh1$ and $Rxd3$ with relative safety] **47 Qf2 Rc7 48 Rxd3 Rc1+** **49 Kh2 hxg2 50 Qxg2 Qh4+** **51 Qh3 Rh1+**? [Finally a mistake but too little and too late to save me. Obviously $51...Rc2+$ was conclusive. The move he chose prompted me to play on a bit longer in a silly quest for some kind of fortress.] **52 Kxh1 Qxh3+** **53 Kg1 Qg3+** **54 Kf1 Qh2 55 a3 Qa2 56 Re3** and after **56...Kg6** I soon came to my senses and resigned. ... **0-1**



Reflections Reflections



LOOKING BACK ON AN AMATEUR CHESS "CAREER"

by Mark Warriner

TENACITY

IN the movie *Tin Cup*, Kevin Costner's character Roy McAvoy talks about defining moments. You either define the moment or else it defines you. I had one that did both. First it defined me, but I turned it around and defined it.

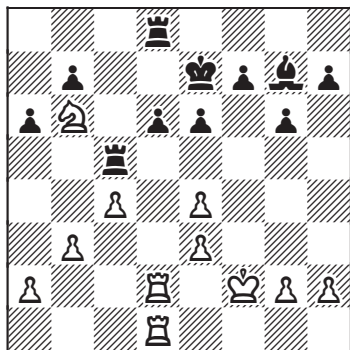
I began the 1987 Virginia Closed with three straight losses. A couple of articles ago I mentioned a loss to Phil Collier. Well, here is that embarrassment—round one.

Mark Warriner – Phil Collier 1987 Va State Closed Championship King's Indian

1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6 3 c4 Bg7 4 Nc3 O-O 5 Bg5 [Don't ask me why, I just wanted to get him out of book. Amateur vs Master. Right.] 5...d6 6 Qd2 Nc6 7 e4 Bg4 8 Be2 Nd7 9 d5 [9 Ng1 would have made more sense.] 9...Bxf3 10 Bxf3 Nd4 11 Be2 c6 12 O-O Re8 13 Rfd1 Qa5 14 Be3 [I thought the light-square bishop was weak but it would have been better to preserve the bishop pair with something like 14 Bf1] 14...Nxe2+ 15 Nxe2 Qxd2 16 Rxd2 Ne5 17 Rc1 Rec8 18 dxc6 Rxc6 19 b3 a6 20 Nc3 Ng4 21 Nd5 Kf8 22 Nb4? [22 Bg5 f6 23 Bf4 was worth exploring. The text move is just bad.] 22...Rc7 [22...Nxe3 23 fxe3 (or 23 Nxc6 Bh6 24 Rc3 Ng4 25 Rd1 bxc6) Rc5 was better.] 23 Nd5 Rc6 24 Nb4 Rcc8 25 Nd5 [again better to have preserved the bishop] 25...Nxe3 26 fxe3 [Knight takes was probably marginally better, but I was worried about 26 Nxe3 Bh6 and having to deal with Black doubling rooks on the c-file and then ...b5] 26...Rc5 27 Nb6 Rd8 28 Kf2 e6 29 Rcd1 Ke7

{diagram}

[White had begun drifting but Black's last move allows counterplay with 30 b4...] 30 a4? [...which I totally missed. Instead I trapped my own knight by occupying a4.] 30...Bc3 [Δ...B-a5xb6] 31 Rd5 exd5 32 Nxd5+ Rxd5 33 exd5 f5 34 Kf3 Rf8 35 Rd3 Be5 36 g3 a5 37 Rd1 Kf6 38 h3 g5 39 Rd3 Re8 40 Rd1 h5 0-1





Round two was an object lesson in not engaging in horseplay and jokes during a competition. My friend and fellow chess aficionado at the time, Jim Addison, was in a jovial mood and saw that I was paired with John Campbell. He asked me to let him sit at the board for the start of play, just as a small joke on John. John may or may not have liked the joke. He played like he didn't. I was full of mirth and not of concentration. Ouch. Okay, in my defense I was young and inexperienced and he just took advantage of me...

John Campbell - Mark Warriner
1987 VA State Closed Championship
Caro Kann

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 dxe4 4 Bc4 [Somewhere about the time of this game I'd purchased *Caro Kann Classical 4...Bf5* by Garry Kasparov & Aleksander Shakarov (Collier Books, ISBN 0-02-011490-7). So all I knew was the main line stuff. John was a very experienced player and correctly took the 'rookie' to school with opening tricks.] **4...Nf6 5 f3 exf3 6 Nxf3** [Don't do it, don't you do it...!] **6...Bg4?** [There it is! Novice meets veteran. Hurts to think of this even 28 years later. Wow, really, 28 years?] **7 Bxf7+ Kxf7 8 Ne5+ Ke8 9 Nxg4 Qc7 10 O-O Nbd7**



11 Bf4 Qc8 12 Ne5 Nb6 13 Bg5 [Oh, but wait, it's an amateur game so there's more.] **13...Nbd5? 14 Nxd5 cxd5 15 Bxf6 exf6 16 Qh5+ 1-0**

Mark Warriner - Bill Krieger
1987 VA State Closed
Championship
Caro Kann

1 d4 c6 2 c4 d5 3 e3 Nf6 4 Nc3 Bf5 5 Nf3 e6 6 a3 Nbd7 7 Bd3 Bxd3 8 Qxd3 Be7 9 O-O O-O 10 b4 Nb6 11 cxd5 [White's play has been insipid and uninspired, probably due in part to just not wanting to take any chances having lost the first two rounds. Playing 'not to lose', well, usually loses. The bishop trade wasn't good, and the move a3 looks pretty silly now, and with this White just cedes the light squares altogether.] **11...cxd5 12 Bb2** [Wow, just look at the scope of that dark-squared bishop now...] **12...Nc4 13 Rab1 Bd6 14 Rfc1 a5 15 bxa5?**



[taking my eye off of the 'ol tactical ball] 15...Nxb2 16 Rxb2 Bxa3 17 Rbc2 Bxc1 18 Rxc1 Qxa5 19 Ne5 Rfc8 0-1

About that time, I decided that chess just wasn't for me. I was sick of losing games I felt I shouldn't and not winning as much as I thought I should. I certainly wasn't improving as fast as I thought I could. So I had myself a little fit and withdrew. But then a funny thing happened. I don't remember the stranger's name, but some kindly gentleman took me aside and gave me the pep talk of a lifetime. I whined and complained, but he was patient and gently persistent. I don't even remember exactly what he said, but I sure wish I could see him and thank him today. He pulled my head out my posterior region and straightened me out. I begged the Tournament Director to let me "un-withdraw" (now there's a new one), which for some reason he did. I'm not positive, but if my failing memory serves me, I think it might have been one of the last times Paul Dame directed the Virginia Closed.

Anyway, I dug down deep and resolved to just give it everything I had, win, lose or draw.

Mark Warriner – Steve Behling 1987 VA State Closed Championship Irregular Opening

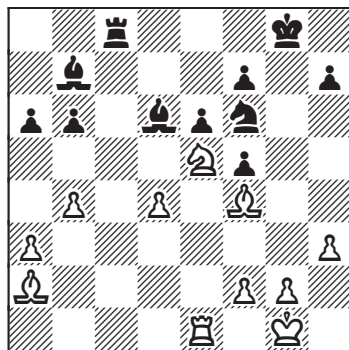
You don't need to read psychology books to know that a "gimme" game is a great boost to a starving player. It's true in any sport. This, though no work of art (and that's an understatement), was just what the doctor ordered. 1 Nf3 Nf6 2 Nc3 [Just to show that you have to be ready for anything.] 2...d5 3 d4 e6 4 e3 [Not so hot; obviously restricts the dark-squared bishop.] 4...c5 5 b3 [Probably not the best way to try and activate the dark-squared bishop—why weaken c3 like that?] 5...Nc6 6 Bb5 Bd7 7 Bb2 Rc8 8 O-O Bd6 9 Re1 O-O 10 Rc1 [Why? White fails to demonstrate a logical plan.] 10...Qc7 [But this helps White's previous move. Better to play 10...a6 and force White to do something with the light squared bishop.] 11 Ne2 a6 [Our metal friend finds an advantage for Black after 11...c4 12 bxc4 Na5 13 Ne5 Nxc4 14 Bxc4 dxc4 but who amongst us would go for such a line?] 12 Bxc6 Bxc6 13 c4 dxc4 14 bxc4? [14 dxc5 Bxc5 15 Bxf6 gxf6 16 Rxc4] 14...Bxf3 15 gxf3 Bxh2+ 16 Kh1 Rfd8 17 Ng3? [17 Qb3 Bd6 18 d5 Qe7 19 Kg2 b5 20 dxe6 Qxe6 21 Red1 is at least more of a fighting attempt.] 17...Bxg3 18 fxg3 Qxg3 19 Rc2 Qc7? [Overly cautious; something like 19...cxd4 20 Rg1 Qe5 21 Bxd4 Qf5 22 e4 Qf4 23 Rd2 e5 24 Be3 Rxd2 25 Bxd2 Qh4+ 26 Kg2 Nh5 is certainly fine.] 20 Rd2? [20 d5 exd5 21 Bxf6 gxf6 22 cxd5 Qe5 23 e4 Kh8] 20...Kh8? [20...cxd4 21 Rg1 (or 21 Bxd4 Nh5 22 c5 Ng3+ 23 Kg1 Nf5 24 Be5 Qe7 25 Bd6 Qg5+) 21...Qxc4 22 Bxd4 Qd5] 21 dxc5? [21 d5 exd5 22 Bxf6 (22 cxd5 b5 23 e4 (or 23 Bxf6 gxf6 24 d6 Qd7 25 Rg1 Rg8)) 22...gxf6 23 cxd5 c4] 21...Rxd2 22 Qxd2 Qxc5 [22...Qg3] 23 Bxf6 Qh5+ 24 Kg2 gxf6 25 Rh1 [25 Qd6] 25...Rg8+ 26 Kf2 Qxh1 0-1



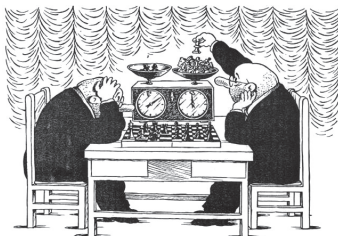
Okay! “On the scoreboard”... “the skunk out of the boat”... You pick the aphorism. Nothing like getting off bottom to raise one’s spirits. While I didn’t play well in that game, I played better than my opponent, and that’s all that it takes. In the next game, luck finally smiled on me a bit. Buckle up, the errors come fast and furious near the end owing to *zeitnot*.

Richard Reive - Mark Warriner
1987 Va State Closed Championship
Caro Kann

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 c4 Nf6 5 Nc3 e6 6 Nf3 Nc6 [either 6...Bb4 or 6...Be7 are more common.] **7 Bd3** [and here either 7 Bg5 or 7 a3] **7...Be7** [7...dxc4.] **8 O-O O-O 9 Bf4 dxc4 10 Bxc4 b6 11 Rc1 Bb7 12 Bd3 Rc8 13 Bb1 Nb4 14 a3 Nbd5 15 Nxd5 Qxd5 16 Qd3 Qh5 17 Ne5** [Arguably, Black’s done okay so far and can now play 17...Be4, putting an end to the mate threat on h7 at least.] **17...Rfd8** [Oops. Things start getting weird here. If memory serves, both players began flirting with time pressure—myself more so. I think my opponent started trying to ‘push’ me, which contributed to what happens later.] **18 b4 Bd6 19 Rxc8 Rxc8 20 Re1 g6** [probably 20...Nd5 kept pressing] **21 Ba2 a6** [again 21...Nd5] **22 h3 Qf5 23 Qxf5 gxf5** {diagram} **24 Nxf7** [Hitting the panic button; just 24 Rc1 seems okay.] **24...Bxf4 25 Bxe6 Kg7** [Time pressure; after the exchanges, a series of less-than-best moves ensued.] **26 Bxc8 Bxc8 27 Ne5** [27 Re7] **27...Ne4 28 g3 Bxe5?** [28...Bd2] **29 dxe5 Kf7 30 Kh2?** [30 Rc1] **30...Nxf2 31 Rc1 Bd7 32 Rc7 Ke6** and here my opponent flagged in a position where he’s better, but maybe Black could hold. **0-1**



In the last round I defeated Jim DeKraft—see my *Reminiscences* from VIRGINIA CHESS #2015-1. So I won my last three games and the Category B prize. How’s *that* for tenacity—albeit with an assist and after the fact? I don’t recommend having to come back from 0-3 with a 3-0 run to get to 3-3 for one’s nerves, but... *never give up!*



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 Gary McMullin, gary.at.kcc@gmail.com, (571) 295-5463 ♣ **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 Battlefield Blvd & Stadium Dr, Tuesdays, 6:30-10pm, info 686-0822 ♣ **Culpeper:** Culpeper Chess Club, Culpeper County Public Library, Rt 29 Business (near Safeway). Chess players casually drop by on Wednesday nights starting at 6:30pm ♣ **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:** Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania area chess players get together every Friday evening 6-10pm on the second floor of Wegman's in Central Park. ♣ **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 ♣ **McLean:** Booz Allen Hamilton CC, Hamilton Bldg, Rm 2032, 8283 Greensboro Dr. Thursdays, info Thomas Thompson, 703-902-5418, thompson_thomas@bah.com ♣ **Mechanicsville:** Mechanicsville Chess Club, Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department, Station #3, 4428 Mechanicsville Turnpike, Mechanicsville, Va 23111. 2nd & 4th Tuesday of ever month, 6-9pm. Info www.MechanicsvilleChessClub.org or Kevin Nardini 804-615-8762 ♣ **Stonewall Library,** Stonewall Pkwy, Mondays 6:30-9pm 730-8944 ♣ **Norfolk:** 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:** Henrico Chess Club, Virginia Center Commons food court, 10101 Brook Rd, Glen Allen, Va, Wednesdays & Fridays 6-9, www.henricochessclub.com, 443-823-5530 ♣ **One-Eyed Jacques,** 3104 W Cary St, Saturdays 5-10pm. ♣ **Huguenot Chess Knights,** Bon Air Library Community Room, 1st & 3rd Friday of each month, 7-11pm, info Walter Chester 276-5662 ♣ **Starbucks,** 5802 Grove Ave, Richmond, VA 23226, Wednesdays 5-8pm. For more info contact Christopher Yarger at www.facebook.com/RichmondChess ♣ **Panera Bread Chess,** Panera Bread-Ridge Shopping Center, 1517 N Parham Rd, Richmond, Va 23229. Thursdays 6-9pm, casual games, blitz, rapid or no clock. Lots of tables and room to play, heated outdoor patio. ♣ **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 & 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 ♣ **Winchester:** Winchester Chess Club, Westminster-Canterbury Home for the Elderly, Tuesdays 7pm

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