

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

The bimonthly publication of the
Virginia Chess Federation

2016 - #4



Carlos d'Ors

<http://deludoscachorum.blogspot.com/2016/06/carlos-dors.html>

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

2016 - Issue #4

Editor:

Macon Shibut
8234 Citadel Place
Vienna VA 22180
vcfeditor@cox.net

Circulation:

Ernie Schlich
1370 South Braden Crescent
Norfolk VA 23502
membership@vachess.org



Virginia Chess is published six times per year by the Virginia Chess Federation. Membership benefits (dues: \$10/yr adult; \$5/yr junior under 18) include a subscription to *Virginia Chess*. Send material for publication to the editor. Send dues, address changes, etc to Circulation.

The **Virginia Chess Federation (VCF)** is



a non-profit organization for the use of its members. Dues for regular adult membership are \$10/yr. Junior memberships are \$5/yr. President: Adam Chrisney, PO Box 151122, Alexandria, VA 22315

chrisney2@gmail.com Membership Secretary: Ernie Schlich, 1370 South Braden Crescent, Norfolk VA 23502, membership@vachess.org Treasurer Mike Hoffpauir, 405 Hounds Chase, Yorktown VA 23693, mhoffpauir@aol.com Scholastics Coordinator: Mike Callaham, 8712 Cherokee Road, Richmond VA 23235, waterman2010kir@aol.com Virginia/Maryland/DC Tournament Clearinghouse: Mike Atkins, matkins2@comcast.net VCF Inc Directors: Mike Hoffpauir, Ernie Schlich, Michael Callaham, Andrew Rea, Adam Chrisney.





A Perfect Trap

by Macon Shibut

IF YOU ARE FORTUNATE ENOUGH to obtain a superior position, it can be nice to lay a snare or two along the way to exploiting your advantage. A further slip by the opponent can speed up the winning process. You should not rely on this, of course, and on no account should you allow playing for mere tricks to endanger your advantage. On the other hand, if you find yourself in a bad position, there may be little to lose by staking everything on a clever trap. The inevitable defeat may come more quickly if your opponent is vigilant and sees through your scheme, but at least you have time for lunch between rounds, and the trap may be your best practical chance in any case, especially if it's a good one.

A good trap is largely about the quality of bait. You want tempting, natural, apparently strong moves for your opponent that are in fact critical mistakes. There is a subjective element in this; a trap that might have little chance of success against a careful defensive player may be just the thing to catch more aggressive prey. The competitive dynamic plays a role as well. Many players regardless of style tend to become risk averse and disinclined to calculate variations once they have achieved a winning position. You may be able to use this to your advantage by putting yourself in a situation that actually loses by force—so long as the refutation requires the other guy to work through complicated concrete variations.

A perfect trap takes this a step further by *letting the opponent supply the bait* himself. That is, you trap him in a way that masks itself as him trapping you. This requires getting inside your opponent's head, figuring out a something beautiful or surprising that he's trying to pull off and creating a way to let him achieve it—to his own destruction! It's especially hard to see through such a perfect trap because the victim's own ego comes into play. A wary player may sniff out his opponent's nefarious scheme, but it takes a higher level of objectivity and self control to accept the fatal flaw in his own brilliancy.

At the Chicago Open this summer, I fell into a perfect trap.

Yefim Treger – Macon Shibut
2016 Chicago Open
Nimzowitsch

1 e4 Nc6 2 Nf3 d6 3 Nc3 Bg4 4 h3 Bh5 5 Nd5?! [A lot of interesting things happened in this game, and a lot could be said about play that was by no means free of mistakes on both sides, but for this article I will limit my commentary to moments that either objectively



continued page 4



80th annual

Virginia Closed Chess Championship

September 3-5, 2016

Hilton Garden Inn Innsbrook

4050 Cox Rd, Glen Allen, Virginia

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 2016 school enrollment)

6-SS, 30/90, SD/1, d5. \$\$3,400 b/85 paid players. In three sections: *Championship (open to all)* \$650-375-250, X, A, each \$125+trophy. Overall winner will receive plaque & title of 2016 Virginia State Champion. Top 3 finishers will also receive reimbursement for early entry for the 2017 US Open in Virginia Beach (value \approx \$145, will be paid *after* the US Open 2017). *Amateur (under 1800)*: \$500-300-170 to C, D each \$85+trophy. Winner will receive plaque & title of 2016 Virginia Amateur Champion. Top 3 finishers will also receive reimbursement for early entry for the 2017 US Open in Virginia Beach (value \approx \$145, will be paid *after* the US Open 2017). *Under-1200 & Unrated*: \$350-200-110, Unrated \$75, trophies to overall winner and to top U-1000, U-800, and U600. Unrated winning a place prize limited to \$200. *All*: Rds 1-7, 11-5, 9:30-6:30. Optional accelerated schedule play rds 1-2 Saturday at 5pm & 8pm with time control G/60, d5 then merge with regular schedule. Up to two (2) $\frac{1}{2}$ -pt byes available, must be locked in no later than 30 minutes before the start of rd 2. EF \$65 if paid online or post-marked by Aug 29, \$80 thereafter or at site. Re-enter w bye or accelerated schedule \$30. Hotel: call 804-521-2901 by Friday Aug 12 and ask for "Virginia Closed Chess Rate". Cell Phones & Electronic Devices Policy: Cell phones in the playing hall, must be TURNED OFF and left ON YOUR TABLE IN PLAIN VIEW at all times during your game. Phone rings is a 10-min penalty. Talking or texting on a phone during your game without the TD's permission will most likely result in forfeit and possible removal from the tournament. Headphones, iWatches, iPads, earbuds, any device capable of transmitting or receiving communications are NOT ALLOWED. Authorized Monroi, E-notate & PlyCount electronic notation devices are the only allowed exceptions. Questions? Call or text chief TD & organizer, Mike Hoffpauir 757-846-4805. *Enter*: Online at <http://vachess.org>; by mail (see form opposite page) or at site Friday evening (5-9pm) or Saturday 8am-noon (reg for the accelerated schedule continues until 4pm).

Friday Night Blitz

Sept 2, 2016

4 or 5 rounds, depending on the number of players who enter. Time Control game/5 minutes, no delay. You play 2 games each round, one as Black and one as White. EF \$25 by Aug 29, \$35 thereafter and onsite.





VCF Annual Meeting

Sept 3

The Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday morning at 9:30am at the ALL MEMBERS are invited to attend to discuss the chess in Virginia, including information about the US Open next August in Norfolk!!

80th Virginia Closed – Mail-in Entry Form

Last Name: _____		First Name: _____ MI: _____	
USCF Member: YES NO		If Yes, write your USCF ID Here: _____	
Street Address: _____ _____		Email: _____ Phone: _____	
City: _____	State: _____	Zip: _____	Birth Date: _____

Main Tournament

Saturday-Monday, Sept 3rd - 5th, 2016 -- Open to Virginia Residents only
Entry Fee \$65 if mailed by Aug 29th, \$80 at the door.

1. Circle the **SECTION** you are entering (circle one): OPEN AMATEUR (U1800) U-1200
2. Circle the **SCHEDULE** you want to play in: LONG Schedule SHORT Schedule
(Long Schedule starts at 1PM Saturday; Short Schedule starts at 5PM Saturday)
3. Select your **optional Half Point Byes** (max of 2): None Rd 1 Rd 2 Rd 3 Rd 4 Rd 5 Rd 6

Blitz Tournament

Friday night, Sept 2nd, 2016 – Blitz is open to ANYONE, not just VA Residents
Entry Fee \$25 if mailed by Aug 29th, \$35 at the door.

1. Section you are entering (circle one): OPEN AMATEUR (U1800); No Byes in Blitz

Your Payment

- Main Event (\$65 by mail): \$ _____
- Blitz (\$25 by mail): \$ _____
- VCF Membership (VA residents only; \$5 for age 18 and below, \$10 for over 18: \$ _____
- Your total payment: \$ _____

Checks payable to "VCF" or "VA Chess"

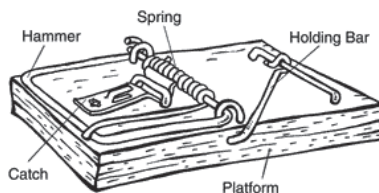
Please renew your USCF Membership, or join the USCF, online at www.uschess.org.

Mail your completed entry, **post-marked by Monday, Aug 29th**, to:

Mike Hoffpauir
 ATTN: VA Closed
 405 Hounds Chase
 Yorktown, VA 23693-3356

A Perfect Trap, *continued*

or subjectively served to set up the big finish.] **5...Nf6 6 Bb5 a6 7 Bxc6+ bxc6 8 Nf4 Bg6 9 Nxg6 hxg6 10 Qe2 e6 11 d4 d5 12 e5 Ne4** [One way or another I emerged from the opening with a good position: strong knight, useful h-file, a couple c-pawns to lever against his center. White's reactive next move indicated that he shared this assessment.] **13 Nd2 Nxd2 14 Bxd2 c5 15 dxc5** [15 c3 would not secure the center, eg 15...Qb8 16 Rb1 cxd4 17 cxd4 c5] **15...Bxc5 16 Be3** [At this point my opponent offered a draw. I never seriously considered accepting but the offer may have done him some good as it reinforced in my attitude a certain disdain for possible dangers.] **16...Bxe3 17 Qxe3 Rh4 18 g4?!** [This move came as a complete surprise to me. Since I would be loath to accept such weakness on the h-file in his position, I anticipated only 18 O-O or 18 O-O-O. Now that the move was on the board, I had to admit there was an irritating quality about it. Rook endings with pressure on h3 will all be very nice of course, but before the ending comes the middlegame, and this was still indeed very much a middlegame. (If you are tempted to disagree, just wait until you see how it ends.) As I examined the situation I got the sense that my Rh4 would either break through 'brilliantly' or else it would sooner or later



24th annual

David Zofchak Memorial

Nov 19-20, 2016

Sleep Inn Lake Wright

6280 Northampton Blvd., Norfolk, Va 23502

5-SS, G/2 d5. \$\$1200 b/40 2 Sections: *Open* \$160-140-120, top A \$110, B 100. U1600 \$120-110-100, D/Unr \$90, E \$80, U1000 \$70. *Both*: EF \$50 if rec'd by 11/17, else \$60. Reg 9-9:30, rds 9:45-2:15-7, 9:30-2. VCF membership (\$10/\$5) req'd. Hotel \$74 w/free breakfast, please reserve by 11/1 phone 757-461-6251.

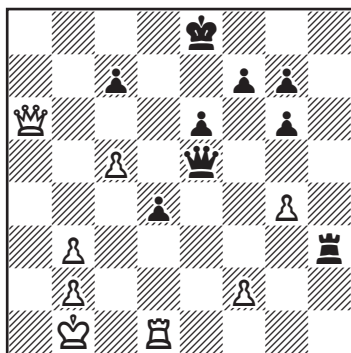
Enter: Virginia Chess, 1370 S Braden Crescent, Norfolk, Va 23502. Info only ernest.schlich@gmail.com, 757-362-6542. On-line entry and details www.vachess.org

A VCF Cup event - Chess Magnet School Junior Grand Prix!





have to regroup Rh4-h8 and across the back rank to rejoin its comrades. If it came to that, I very much wanted to do it on my terms, at a moment of my own choosing. What I did *not* want was to have the Rh4 suddenly begin looking silly as my other major pieces got bogged down on the queenside, then play ...Rh8 under pressure with perhaps White's pawn chasing h3-h4-h5 on its heels.] **18... Qb8 19 O-O-O Qb7 20 Qa3 Rb8 21 Rd3 Qb4 22 Rb3** [22 Qxb4 Rxb4 23 f3 g5 would approach that pleasant endgame I mentioned.] **22...Qf4+ 23 Kb1 Rxb3 24 axb3** [Relieving back rank dangers and maintaining the attack on a6, but on the other hand White will not have a passed pawn yet even if he gets Qxa6] **24... Qe4** [A finesse, the existence of which further reinforced my feeling that things were going my way. Rather than 24...Qxe5 25 Qxa6 g5, I first drive his rook from its defense of h3 (or if now 25 Rh2 I will take e5 with tempo so he can't get a6 in return). The 'only' reason the text doesn't win a pawn outright is that it does offer White a chance to bail out into an inferior ending by 25 Qa4+ Qxa4 26 bxa4 and now 26...g5 or 26...c5. This may have been objectively White's best play, but I can understand why he found it too dreary a prospect.] **25 Rd1** [On the other hand, there was something about the air with which he played this move that made me think he might have simply overlooked 25 Qa4+ altogether.] **25... Qxe5 26 Qxa6 Rxh3** [breakthrough!] **27 c4** [Played instantly and with a sense of, "Okay, let's roll!" Of course he would like to open my king to the combined effect of both his pieces, the advancing c- and b-pawn tandem may shortly become menacing, and Black must avoid the cheapo 27... Rxb3? (threatening mate!) 28 Qa4+ (oops!).] **28...d4 28 c5** [It was in precisely this position that the fatal idea first arose in my mind.]



White's plan is b4-b5-b6. The radical solution 28...Qxc5 might actually be possible but it's obvious that a lot can go wrong in a variation like 29 Qc8+ Ke7 30 Rc1 Qb6 31 Rxc7+ Kf6 32 Qd8+ Ke5 33 f4+ Ke4 34 Qa8+ Kxf4 35 Rxf7+ Ke5 etc. I'm already a pawn up, I have a passed pawn, and White has pawn weaknesses all over the board if we ever transition into a true endgame. What's lacking is a certain coordination



of forces. My rook looks nice at h3 but ...Rxb3? still loses and otherwise I couldn't see what it's doing there. Of course you examine all checks in such a position, so I looked at 28...Qe4+, but it doesn't force anything yet and leaves c7 undefended against Q-c8+xc7+

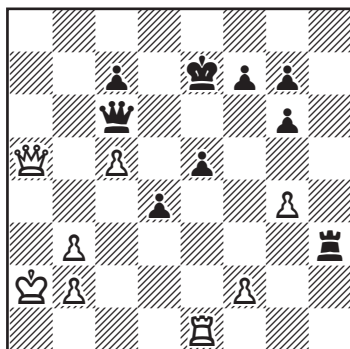
28...Ke7!

As soon as I got to examining this strong move, my *desire* to play it put all reason to bed for the remainder of the game. Now White has to think about both ...Rxb3 (because Qa4 isn't check any more) and also ...Qxc5 (because Qc8 isn't check either). That would be enough, but the real enticement was the hidden (as it seemed to me) and beautiful threat 29...Qe4+ 30 Kh2 Rh8! *and the king move has made way for the rook to sweep across to a8.*

My opponent thought a long while and was visibly agitated by the time he moved.

29 Qa4 Qe4+ 30 Ka2 e5 [not yet 30...Rh8 because 31 Rxd4 and winning his queen is insufficient because my own is attacked. As I awaited my opponent's reply, it also occurred to me that even if I got to play ...Rh8 next, that wouldn't necessarily be decisive because White has c6 cutting off my queen from supporting the rook's shift to a8] **31 Qa5!** [The exclamation mark here and on White's next turn are not because they change the evaluation—White is losing in any case—but the way these moves so innocently lead me to the abyss. I actually welcomed the text because my reply...] **31...Qc6** [...makes a virtue of necessity. He attacks c7 so what could be more natural than I defend it—and now the threat ...Rh8! Δ Ra8 is very real!] **32 Re1!**

White was also down to just a minute or so on his clock for the next 8 moves, which added to the tension. (I had plenty of time left.) To get the full effect of what happened next I suggest you read the following note in your head, without moving pieces on a board.





I do not know what White might have come up with had I now defended e5 by 32...Kf6. Probably something like 33 f4, in desperation throwing everything he's got in the general direction of my king. Black is winning nonetheless. If indeed 33 f4 I could just take it, 33...exf4—two pawns up and still threatening R-h8-a8. If White tries to bring his queen around to the kingside (eg Qd2) there will be Qa8+ followed by Rh1 forcing simplification, if nothing better.

But of course a cleaner, more forcing way to win is preferable if it exists, and especially if it consummates the plan I have been pursuing ever since ...Ke7! So I began calculating from the diagram: 32...Rh8 33 Rxe5+ (clearly there is nothing else to worry about) 33...Kf6 threatening both his rook and his queen (Ra8 etc). The only move to defend both is 34 Qe1 and now, what happy fortune—my major pieces can switch roles so the queen goes to a8, 34...Qa8+ and after 35 Kb1 Rh1 the rook's pendulum movement on the h-file wins the White queen. How fine! And it's all completely forced, as I checked carefully.

32...Rh8? 33 Rxe5+ Kf6 34 Qe1 Qa8+ [There was no possibility of my choosing 34...g5 and even had I done so my position would not be favorable at all after, eg, 35 Qe4] **35 Kb1 Rh1** [ditto the previous comment except here if 35...g5 the reply would be 36 f3 severing the long diagonal] **36 g5mate! 1-0**

VCF Membership Secretary

The Virginia Chess Federation (VCF) is seeking a dedicated volunteer to fill the role of Membership Secretary. This is a central position responsible for maintaining and administering a membership database for all VCF members and managing the addition/renewal/withdrawal of members.

Requirements:

Commitment to devote the time necessary to perform these duties.

Expertise with Microsoft Office programs, particularly Office and Excel.

Capacity to interact with VCF board members/officials (including tournament directors) with decorum and on a timely basis.

Appointed for one year at a time by the VCF President during the Annual Meeting.

Primary Responsibilities

Compiles and maintains membership lists including up-to-date member contact information and records receipts of dues.

Interacts with membership and VCF Board Members/officials/tournament directors as needed.

Utilizes tournament directors to issue membership cards.

Develops and promotes means for increasing membership numbers.

Delivers annual report on the state of the membership at the VCF Annual Meeting over the Labor Day weekend.

Performs any other duties as identified/required by the VCF Board of Directors.



From the VCF President

by Adam Chrisney



The VCF needs your participation in the 2017 USCF annual Delegates Meeting! The 2017 US Open, scheduled for August, 2017, will return to Virginia for the first time since 1996 (21 years ago!). That previous Open was in Alexandria, but the 2017 US Open will be in Norfolk. The VCF needs a full slate of delegates sitting at our table during the Annual Delegates Meeting.

We are seeking the names of USCF and VCF members to fill our 4 primary and 4 alternate seats. Alternates are ranked in the order listed and only attend the meeting as a Delegate if a regular Delegate or higher ranked Alternate Delegate is unable to attend. Delegates are expected to attend the 1-2 day USCF Annual Meeting during the day on Saturday (August 6) from 9am-5pm and possibly on Sunday (August 7) starting at 9am. This is your chance to vote on issues important to our members. All USCF members have the opportunity to discuss and vote on USCF issues at the Staff Forum / General Membership meeting on Friday August 5 from 4-5pm.

If you wish to serve as a Delegate or Alternate, please submit your request to VCF President Adam Chrisney, at chrisney2@gmail.com no later than October 15, 2016. The VCF President will announce Virginia's delegate list on the VCF website and submit our list to the USCF by November 1, 2016.

For this year's meeting to be held in Indianapolis, IN, if you have created a log-in for the USCF website, you can also view or download the 2016 Delegates Call. Use <http://www.uschess.org/content/blogcategory/84/189/> Among other Annual Meeting information, this document lists all the motions on the advance agenda to be considered this year.

Upcoming Events

More details TBD—keep an eye out in future issues of Virginia Chess or on the VCF web page www.vachess.org

31st annual **Emporia Open**

October 15-16, 2016

Holiday Inn Express, Emporia

\$\$830 in prizes guaranteed



20th annual **Northern Virginia Open**

November 5-6, 2016

Marriott Washington Dulles Airport, \$79 Chess Rate

\$\$2800 in prizes guaranteed



Membership Update Regarding VCF Board Conference Calls

At the 2015 VCF Annual Meeting held last November 2015 (delayed from the traditional Labor Day time frame), a motion was passed directing the Board of Directors to hold quarterly conference calls every year to enhance Board cohesion, to enhance the sponsoring of VCF events and for continued momentum of board issues throughout the year. Only two calls were held this fiscal year as the prior Annual Meeting was delayed and held during the period for one of these calls. To keep members informed of issues under consideration by the Board, below are the notes from the agendas for the two calls held this year.

April 4, 2016

I. Call to Order.

II. Old Business:

- a. New Treasurer Status. Prior candidate backed out before November Annual Meeting and VCF Board Member Mike Hoffpauir volunteered to assume these duties.
- b. New Membership Secretary Status. Search continues as previously identified candidate from the Annual Meeting declined to serve.
- c. Status of Search for Grant Funding / PSAs. Discussion tabled due to lack of information.
- d. Additional Old Business. Nothing additional raised.

III. New Business:

- a. Financial Update: Examined participation in VCF tournaments and options for improvement.
- b. Status of Future VCF Tournaments. Discussed status of preparing for upcoming VCF events.
- c. Need for VCF Marketing Material. Discussion continued from Nov. Annual Meeting with marketing options discussed in detail and further research and drafts to be distributed for Board consideration.
- d. Additional New Business. Nothing additional raised.

IV. Adjourn.

July 5, 2016

I. Call to Order.

II. Old Business:

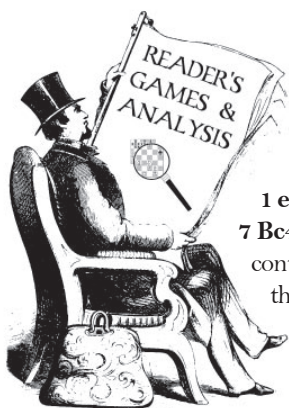
- a. VCF Marketing Material: Discussion deferred due to lack of information.
- b. New Membership Secretary Status: Search to continue and to be broadened.
- c. Status of Future VCF Tourneys: Discussed status of preparing for upcoming events.
- d. Additional Old Business: Nothing additional raised.

III. New Business:

- a. Treasurer's Update: Budget update noted Scholastic Account is very robust after recent events and will enable VCF to further support Virginia players at National scholastic events. Decided that the Scholastic Account will bare various VCF costs as such costs affect both main and scholastic memberships and services.
- b. Consideration of new non-profit lawyer: Discussion with deferred action on whether VCF should have a dedicated Attorney with non-profit law expertise.
- c. State Corporation Commission Annual Report: To be filed by August deadline.
- d. Document Retention and Storage: Discussion with deferred action on how to store VCF public records.
- e. Selecting VCF Delegates: Only two delegates are attending this year's Delegates Meeting (DM) in Indianapolis, Indiana, which is always held in conjunction with the US Open. With the Open being held in Norfolk in 2017, Virginia needs to fill all 4 of our delegate seats for 2017 to visibly demonstrate strong support by VCF and Virginia.
- f. Preparing for Annual Meeting: Various decisions related to the Labor Day Annual Meeting, which coincides with the Virginia Closed tournament. Per VCF Bylaws, the Annual Meeting and Agenda need to be announced on the VCF Website.
- g. Additional New Business. Nothing additional raised.

IV. Adjourn.





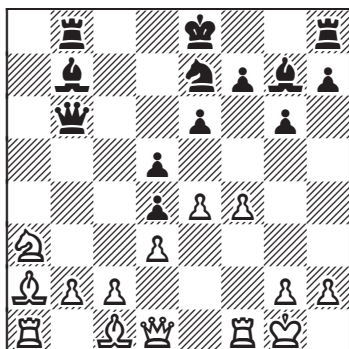
Dennis Franco - Jonathan Maxwell Arlington CC Ladder 2015

Sicilian

Notes by Jonathan Maxwell

1 e4 c5 2 Nc3 Nc6 3 f4 g6 4 Nf3 Bg7 5 Bb5 Nd4 6 O-O a6
7 Bc4?! b5 [Though the main idea is to blunt the bishop (and control f5) with 7...e6, the Sicilian player thematically seizes the opportunity to play b5] 8 Bd5 Rb8 9 a4 e6 10 Ba2 Bb7 [10...b4 11 Ne2 Nxf3+ 12 Rxf3 Bb7 misplaces White's rook, but cedes c4, and gives the White bishop new hope. Furthermore, the White knight at c3 actually hinders White's desire to dislodge the strong Black knight.] 11 d3 Ne7 12 axb5 axb5 13 Nxd4 cxd4! 14 Nxb5 Qb6 15 Na3 d5!

(diagram)



The point of the pawn sacrifice. White's four queenside pieces asphyxiate. It is true that Black's light square bishop will have no play for a while, but if White is ever to untangle, he must dislodge Black's central pawns, at which point this bishop will become a monster.

16 exd5 exd5 17 Re1 Bf6 18 Bb3 O-O 19 Qf3 Nf5! [After much thought of how to prepare ...Nf5, Black finds tactical justification to play it immediately.] 20 Bxd5?? Qa5 21 Bxf7+ [21

Re5 Bxe5 22 Bxb7 Bd6 23 Be4 Rfe8 -+] 21...Rxf7 22 Qf2 Qd5 [Centralizing the queen, and threatening a decisive Bh4. Fritz suggests 22...Nh4 23 Bd2 Qd8 24 Nc4 Nxe2, but the human player did not want to let White back into the game with a possible Ne5 outpost.] 23 Re2 Ra8! [Black takes time to employ his poorest piece with useful tactical work.] 24 Rb1 Ne3 [24...Qa2 wins quickly; 24...Bh4 25 Qf3 Qxf3 26 gxf3 Bxf3 27 Re5 is strong too. However, Black wanted to keep queens on the board.] 25 c4 Qf5 26 Bxe3 Qxd3 27 Bd2 Rxa3 [Black's 23rd move pays dividends.] 28 Rc1 Ra2? [28...Rb3] 29 Bb4 [Threatening Ba3 caging the rook. At this moment Black needs to create a real plan to finish the game. He decides to spearhead an attack with the passed d-pawn.] 29...Ra8 30 Bd6 Rd8 31 c5 Qb5 32 Re6 d3 33 f5?! Bg5 34 Rd1 Rxf5 35 Qg3 [Black must be a bit careful about Rxg6 desperado ideas.] 35...Qxb2 36 h4 [36 Rxd3 Bh4 37 Rxg6+ hxg6 38 Qxg6+ Qg7 and the threat of Qg2 mate decides the game.] 36...Qd4+ [most solid] 37 Kh2 Bf4 38 Bxf4 Rxf4 39 Rxd3?? Rxh4+ 0-1



Tom Beckman - Larry Gilden

DC Chess League 2015

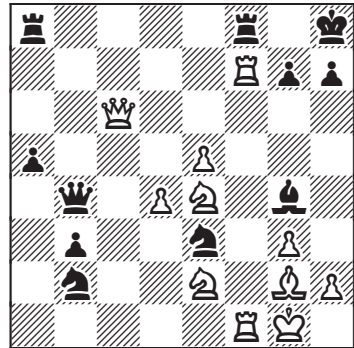
Catalan

Notes by Tom Beckman

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 d5 4 g3 c6 5 Bg2 dxc4 6 O-O [6 Ne5 is also decent—Larry and Phil Collier had discussed this position on the way the match.] 6... Nbd7 [6...b5 is likely better] 7 Qc2?! [7 a4! gives White some advantage] 7...b5 8 a4 Bb7 9 e4 a6 10 Nc3 Be7 11 Bg5 O-O 12 Rad1 b4 13 Ne2 a5 14 e5 Nd5 15 Bxe7 Qxe7 16 Nd2 b3 17 Qc1 N7b6 18 Ne4 Nxa4 19 f4 Ba6 20 f5 exf5 21 Rxf5 Bc8 22 Rf2 Bg4 23 Rdf1 Kh8 24 Qxc4 Nxb2 25 Qxc6 Ne3? [25...Nb4 is winning] 26 Rxf7! Qb4 (diagram)

27 Rxf8+?

I couldn't find a strong move. But 27 Ng5! would win, eg:



27...Bf5 28 R1xf5 Nxf5 29 Qe4 h6 30 Qxf5
hxg5 31 Qh3+ Kg8 32 Rxf8+ Rxf8 33 Bd5+
Rf7 34 Qf1 Qe7 35 Nc3 g4 36 Bxb3 Qb7 37
Bxf7+ Qxf7 38 Qb5 Qc4 39 Qb8+ Kh7 40
Qxb2 Qxd4+ 41 Kg2 Qxe5 42 Qc2+ Kh8 43
Ne4 Of5 44 Qa4 Of3+ 45 Kg1 Of5 46 Nf2

27...Nf5 28 Qe4 Nc4 29 Qxg4 Nce3 30 Qh5 + Nh6 31 Bxa8

27...Bxe2 28 Rxc7! (28 Qd7 is also good enough, eg 28...Rad8 29 Rxf8+ Rxf8 30 Nf7+ Kg8 31 Qe6 h6 (31...Bc4 32 d5) 32 Nd6+ Kh7 33 Rxf8 Qe1+ 34 Bf1 Qxf1+ 35 Rxf1) and now either 28...Kxc7 29 Qc7+ Qe7 30 Qxe7+ Rf7 31 Rxf7+ Kg6 32 Rxh7 Ra6 33 Be4+ Nf5 34 Qg7mate; or 28...Bd3 29 Nf7+ Rxf7 30 Rgxf7 Qf8 31 Qf6+ Kg8 32 Rxf8+ Rxf8 33 Qxf8mate; or 28...Rxf1+ 29 Bxf1 Ra6 30 Rxh7+ Kg8 31 Qd7 Qe7 32 Qxe7 Bxf1 33 Qe8mate

27...Rxf8 28 Rxf8+ Qxf8 29 Nf4? [Wrong move order! 29 e6! was correct, eg 29... Bh5 30 Nf4 Be8 31 Qc3 Nbc4 32 Qxb3 a4 33 Qb1 Kg8 34 h4 h6 35 d5 Nf5 36 Qb8 a3 37 d6 Nfxd6 38 Nxd6 Nxd6 39 Bd5 Kh7 40 Qb4 g5 41 Ng2 a2 42 Bxa2 Bc3 43.hxg5 hxg5 44.Bb1+ Kg8 45 Qd2 Qf3 46 Qxg5+ Kf8 47 e7+ Ke8 48.Bg6+ Kd7] 29...Nxb2 30 e6? [What a dunce, and with 2 minutes on the clock to make the time control. 30 Kxg2 was much better: 30... Qc8 31 Qxc8+ Bxc8 32 Nc5 a4 33 e6 Nc4 34 e7 Nd6 35 Nxa4 Kf8 36 e8Q+ Nxe8 37 Kf3 and either 37...Nd6 38 Nd3 or 37...Bd7 38 Nb2] 30...Nxf4 31 gxf4 h6 32 Nf2 Bf5 33 d5? [33 Qb7 is White's best but it is still hopeless] 33...a4? [After 33... Nc4! 34 Qxc4 b2 White could resign. Actually, White could still resign here.] 34 Qb7 Qf6 35 e7 Qg6+ 36 Kf1 Kh7 37 Qb5 Nc4 38 e8Q Qxe8 39 Qxe8 b2 40 Qxa4 b1Q+ 41 Kg2 Ne3+ 42 Kf3 Nxd5 43 Qd4 Nf6 44 Qe5 Qb7+ 45 Kg3 Ne4+ 46 Kh4 g5+ 0-1



DC Chess League

by Andrew Rea

VIRGINIA CHESS regularly publishes games played in the DC Chess League. It occurs to us that many downstate readers might not know what exactly that is. Andy Rea provides a brief look at what the League is all about. -ed

I have been Chief TD the past year for the DC Chess League (DCCL), which features teams from DC/Maryland/Virginia. Northern Virginia is home to a majority of DCCL teams and players. The DCCL has been around since at least the early 1970s, and continues to feature teams and players from all across the rating spectrum. Yes, this includes the occasional Grandmaster (for example, Larry Kaufman), a few International Masters (Teghsuren Enkhbat comes immediately to mind), even a past US Open Champion (Paolo Del Mundo)!

The DCCL has a strong tradition of being very competitive, so last year is not alone where a team that seems to be a juggernaut is not able to win all of their matches. By definition there are not so many players at that high end, but there are surely plenty of National Masters and Experts in the Open Section, and so some teams have been able to assemble strong lineups with mostly masters, a few 2100s... and yet these teams do not always win! See how the Arlington Argyles could not capitalize last season despite a lineup featuring Andrew Samuelson, Geoff McKenna, Allan Savage, and Bill Marcelino!

Matches are normally played on Friday evenings. Open Section matches are played across 6 boards, Amateur matches across 4 boards. The host team gets Black on the odd-numbered boards. Teams that are not wall-to-wall masters can still present interesting challenges, since in any given match one upset can turn the tide! Our esteemed Editor was part of one of these a few years ago, playing for the Arlington Bishops (alas, now defunct) and helping them draw a match against one of those on paper favorites—chess played on the chessboard, not on paper!

The Semi-Annual DCCL League Meeting in mid-September will determine how many teams will compete in for the upcoming 2016-2017 Winter Season. There will again be two divisions: Open and Amateur. As the name suggests, any team composition goes in the Open. Amateur lineups must conform to rating restrictions—broadly speaking, no players rated over 2000, although ratings change over the course of a season. There is no age restriction, so scholastic oriented teams are absolutely eligible. See the DCCL website (www.dccchess.net) for the full regulations.

It is hardly a stretch to note that while the Amateur is not as strong as the Open, it is also very competitive! Teams are not promoted or relegated, and rosters tend to be fluid—which is to say that if you are looking to join a team or to form a new team, the time for that is just before our upcoming Winter Season! Anyone looking for additional information about the DC Chess League can contact me by email, andrerea2@yahoo.com. We are coming up soon on what figures to be another interesting season, and look forward to seeing more players and teams from northern Virginia!



Reflections



Looking Back on an Amateur Chess “Career”

by Mark Warriner

TENACITY REVISITED

A while back, I penned a column entitled *Tenacity*. Lately I was thinking about that again, and the fact that there are several aspects to maintaining competitiveness or “fighting spirit.”

Savielly Tartakower famously said, “No game was ever won by resigning.” No game was ever drawn by resigning either. One of the most important sporting aspects of chess, if not *the* most importing aspect, is to maintain that fighting spirit. If you don’t have the competitive will to see the game through to the end, you simply cannot excel at chess. Bobby Fischer’s fighting spirit was legendary. He won more than one game from equal positions by simply refusing to stop fighting. These days, world champion Magnus Carlsen is noted for working the same magic.

While the biggest concern “in the moment” is finding the right move, one must display perseverance by pressing for the win, trying to maintain a draw position, or sometimes holding on in a worse position. And not to be overlooked is the simple fact that just by playing on, you could be the lucky recipient of an opponent’s blunder. There’s a cute book, *HOW TO BE LUCKY IN CHESS* by David LeMoir (ISBN 1-901983-48-X, Gambit, 2001). My take on luck in chess is simply “don’t give up.”

Chess is a staggeringly complicated game. No one ever, not even world champions, always play the best move every time. It's surprisingly difficult to find games where neither player made mistakes, even in draws. Preparing openings before a game is accepted as automatic these days, but it's just as important to prepare psychologically for keeping one's wits in the event one falls under pressure. Yes, there is a lot to this game!

Bearing all that in mind, here is a cornucopia of what can happen if you simply refuse to go down without the proverbial fight, along with what can happen if you don't practice tenacity at—well, practicing.





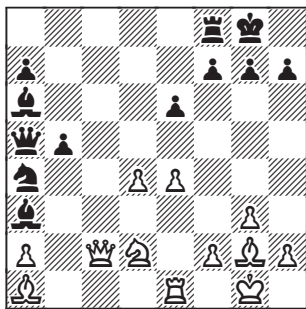
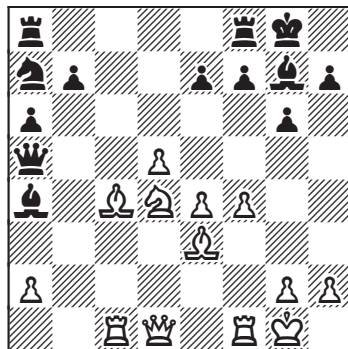
John Austin – Mark Warriner
1986 Virginia State Championship
Gruenfeld

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 d5 4 cxd5 Nxd5 5 e4 Nxc3 6 bxc3 Bg7 7 Bc4 c5 8 Ne2 cxd4 [Either 8...Nc6 or 8...O-O are much more common. I was not a Gruenfeld expert then and I'm not now. My head was just full of recent Kasparov-Karpov World Championship match games.] **9 cxd4 O-O 10 O-O Nc6 11 Be3 Bd7** [The more topical 11...Bg4 12 f3 was better. Even just 11...Na5 right away would have been superior.] **12 Rc1 Qa5 13 f4 a6** [Probably not an improvement over 13...Rfd8, eg 14 Qb3 Be8 15 d5 b5 16 Bd3 Nb4 17 Bb1 Na6 18 Nd4 Rac8 19 Nc6 Bxc6 20 dxc6 Nb8 21 f5 Rf8 22 e5 Rxc6 23 e6 Rxc1 24 exf7+ Rxf7 25 Rxc1 Qa6 26 Bd3 Be5 27 Bxb5 Qd6 28 Bh6 Qd4+ 29 Kh1 Bc7 1-0 Neuman-Klimes, Prague 1997] **14 d5 Na7 15 Nd4** [Either 15 e5 or 15 Qb3 were better. This forgives Black too much.] **15...Ba4** (diagram)

Not taking advantage. 15...Rfc8 was preferable.

What was I thinking? Well, there was this big game that left an impression on me after Karpov put all his pieces on the a-file and won. Kasparov-Karpov, 1984 World Championship (game #6): 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 b6 4 g3 Ba6 5 b3 Bb4+ 6 Bd2 Be7 7 Bg2 O-O 8 O-O d5 9 Ne5 c6 10 Bc3 Nfd7 11 Nxd7 Nxd7 12 Nd2 Rc8 13 e4 b5 14 Re1 dxc4 15 bxc4 Nb6 16 cxb5 cxb5 17 Rc1 Ba3 18 Rc2 Na4 19 Ba1 Rxc2 20 Qxc2 Qa5

(smaller diagram) 21 Qd1 Rc8 22 Nb3 Qb4 23 d5 exd5 24 exd5 Nc3 25 Qd4 Qxd4 26 Nxd4 Nxa2 27 Nc6 Bc5 28 Bh3 Ra8 29 Bd4 Bxd4 30 Nxd4 Kf8 31 d6 Nc3 32



Nc6 Bb7 33 Bg2 Re8 34 Ne5 f6 35 d7 Rd8 36 Bxb7 fxe5 37 Bc6 Ke7 38 Bxb5 Nxb5 39 Rxe5+ Kxd7 40 Rxb5 Kc6 41 Rh5 h6 42 Re5 Ra8 43 Ra5 Kb6 44 Ra2 a5 45 Kf1 a4 46 Ke2 Kc5 47 Kd2 a3 48 Kc1 Kd4 49 f4 Ke4 50 Kb1 Rb8+ 51 Ka1 Rb2 52 Rxa3 Rxh2 53 Kb1 Rd2 54 Ra6 Kf5 55 Ra7 g5 56 Ra6 g4 57 Rxh6 Rg2 58 Rh5+ Ke4 59 f5 Rf2 60 Kc1 Kf3 61 Kd1 Kxg3 62 Ke1 Kg2 63 Rg5 g3 64 Rh5 Rf4 65 Ke2 Re4+ 66 Kd3 Kf3 67 Rh1 g2 68 Rh3+ Kg4 69 Rh8 Rf4 70 Ke2 Rxf5 0-1

Well, I'm not Karpov.

16 Qg4? [too forgiving (16 Qd3)] **16...b5?** [And giving it back yet again. I'm too lazy to work out which is best but 16...Nb5, 16...Bxd4 and 16...Nb5 are all superior to my move.] **17 Bd3 Qd8?** [Probably I had to try 17...b4 here. I don't know what I



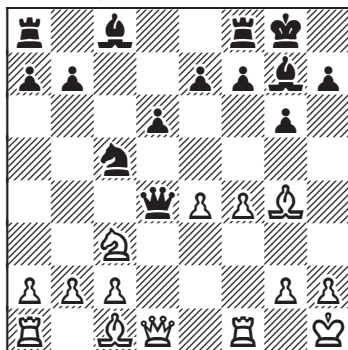
was thinking except perhaps I realized my queen was awfully far from the king.] **18 f5 Qd7 19 Qg3** [19 Qh4 is much stronger.] **19...Rfc8?** [19...Qd6] **20 fxg6 hxg6 21 Qf2?** [There were several better plays, but 21 Rxc8+ Rxc8 22 Rxf7! Rc1+ 23 Kf2 Kxf7 24 e5 Rc2+ 25 Nxc2 Kg8 26 Qxg6 Qxd5 27 e6 Qxd3 28 Qxd3 is nice. Of course I found that all on my own—not! Metal friend...] **21...Rf8?** [It never even occurred to me then that moving the e-pawn to either square was better.] **22 Nf3 e6?** [Until now, but it's too late to save this situation in any event.] **23 Bd4?** [23 Qg3 or 23 Ng5 were tougher for Black to meet. For some reason White got into severe time pressure, I supposed trying to calculate a mate instead of just cranking steady, solid moves.] **23...Bxd4 24 Qxd4 Nc8 25 Kh1 a5 26 Ne5 Qd8 27 Ng4** [27 Nxf7! Qh4 (27...Rxf7 28 Rxf7 Kxf7 29 dxe6+ Ke8 30 Qg7) 28 Rc7] **27...f5 28 exf5 exf5 29 Ne5?** [29 Nh6+ Kh7 30 Nxf5] **29...Qf6 30 d6?** [30 Qf4] **30...Nxd6** [30...Qxd6 31 Qxd6 Nxd6 32 Nxc6 and while White's in control, Black still has a game] **31 Qd5+ Kh7?** [31...Nf7] **32 Nd7?** [32 Rc7+] **32...Qf7?** [32...Qe7] **33 Qxd6 Rfd8 34 Rc7 Kh6** [Okay, forced mates abound, but I was just trying to confuse matters and stay alive in White's time pressure. Never give up!] **35 Qf4+** [35 Rxf5] **35...g5 36 Qd6+** [36 Rc6+] **36...Qg6 37 Bxf5?** [White cracks due to *zeitnot*. A pity too as mate was just a few moves away. As he explained after the game, my opponent just mixed up the move order. 37 Qxg6+ Kxg6 38 Bxf5+ Kh6 39 Nf6 Ra7 40 Ng4+ Kh5 41 Rc3 Rd3 42 Rxd3 and then 43. Rh3mate] **37...Qxd6 38 Nf8?** [insult added to injury] **38...Qxc7 0-1**

So that one shows that resolving to play on can result in a lucky circumstance. I would not recommend doing so against a much stronger player unless there is extreme time pressure and the sporting result matters (ie, you really need the point for some reason). Don't be impolite!

Mark Warriner – Gary McGowen
1987 Fredericksburg Open
Modern

1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 Nc3 d6 4 f4 Nd7 5 Nf3 c5 6 Be3 Ngf6 7 Be2 [To be fair to me, I had no idea what was going on except that I was outrated by about 400 pts and just trying to hold on. Gary obviously knew more about this line than I.] **7...O-O 8 O-O Ng4 9 Bc1 cxd4 10 Nxd4 Qb6 11 Bxg4 Qxd4+ 12 Kh1 Nc5**

My opponent temporarily eschews the continuation in both other recorded games, 12... Qd1 13 Nxd1 where Byrne-Manion, New York 1994 was agreed a draw right there. The players persisted in Koch-Baumann, Wurmannsquick





1998 and Black got rewarded after 13...Nf6 14 Bf3 Rb8 15 Be3 b6 16 Bd4 Bb7 17 Nf2 Nd7 18 Bxg7 Kxg7 19 Nd3 Rfc8 20 c3 Ba6 21 Rfd1 h5 22 Nb4 Nc5 23 Nxa6 Nxa6 24 Re1 Nc5 25 Rad1 Rd8 26 Kg1 b5 27 b3 Ne6 28 g3 Rdc8 29 Rc1 Rc7 30 Re2 Rbc8 31 Rec2 Nd4 32 Rf2 Rxc3 33 Rcf1 Nxf3+ 34 Rxf3 Rxf3 35 Rxf3 Rc2 36 b4 Rxa2 37 Rc3 Kf6 38 Rc7 Ke6 39 Rb7 a6 40 h3 Ra4 41 Ra7 Rxb4 42 Rxa6 Rxe4 0-1

13 Bf3 Qxd1 14 Nxd1 [I'd like to tell you I was aware of GM Robert Byrne's game, but you might notice that it was played years after mine. (Just trying to make myself feel better about my play to this point...) In truth I recall feeling somewhat ill at ease when I recaptured with the knight, but thought that I at least had chances to hold. It's frustrating how much better players always seem to keep their pieces more active and have more options. Duh!] **14...Be6 15 Ne3 Rfc8 16 c3** [Our Metal Friend indicates 16 f5 as preferable and I'm inclined to agree. Not sure why I rejected that move.] **16...Nd3** [I'm not sure what the point was to this.] **17 Nd5 Kf8 18 Kg1** [Or that—again, just 18 f5...] **18...Rab8 19 Rd1 Nxc1 20 Raxc1 b5 21 a3 a5 22 Kf2 b4 23 cxb4?** [23 axb4] **23...Rxc1 24 Rxc1 Bxd5 25 exd5 axb4?** Trading less than best moves. I've no idea why my opponent didn't play the superior 25...Bxb2] **26 axb4 Bd4+ 27 Ke2 Rxb4 28 Rb1 Rxb2+** [White's starting to sweat after 28...Bb6] **29 Rxb2 Bxb2** [So, bishops of opposite colors, a pawn down. Fortunately, the pawns are on one side of the board, minimizing White's task. It's important to note that opposite color bishops endgames are most certainly *not* always drawn.] **30 Be4 f5** [30...e6] **31 Bd3 Bc1 32 Kf3 Kf7 33 Bc4 Kf6 34 h4 Bd2 35 g3 Be1 36 Bb3 h6 37 Bc4 Kf7 38 Bb3 Ke8 39 Ba4+ Kd8** [39...Kf8 instead—why make White's task easier by moving away from the action?] **40 Bb3 Kc7 41 g4?** [There was no need to risk 41...Bh4] **41...Kb6 42 h5 fxg4+ 42...gxh5** posed a sterner test] **43 Kxg4 gxh5+ 44 Kxh5 Bd2 45 Kxh6 Bxf4+ 46 Kg6 ½-½**

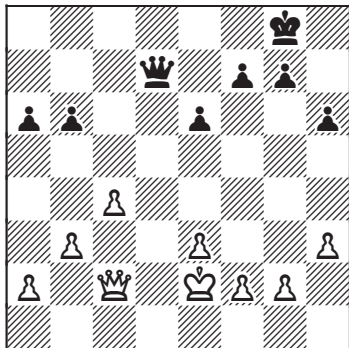
The tenaciousness lesson to be learned in this game was much more subtle than the prior one. There was nothing dramatic here; I just tried to keep my cool and to find decent moves. You don't always have to be dramatic or incredibly precise. Just keep trying to find a good move on each and every turn. Even strong players sometimes don't find the best play, particularly in positions where there is no clear smash.

Mark Warriner – Preston Hippeard 1989 Virginia State Championship Blumenfeld Gambit

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 e3 [I wasn't in the mood for any Benoni or Benko type "nonsense"—typical of how I looked at those openings, at the time anyway.] **3...e6 4 Nc3 a6 5 Nf3 d6** [But surely that's no good, right? Well actually...] **6 dxc5 Nc6?** [... no, *this* is the move that was not good as it tosses a pawn without compensation. 6...dxc5 was correct, of course.] **7 cxd6 Bxd6** [The backstory here is that this in the Amateur section and I was on 2½ out of 3 (I think) going into this 4th round game. I just needed to nurse my one pawn advantage to stay in contention. It's often said however that the hardest game to win is a won game.] **8 Be2 O-O 9 O-O Qc7 10 h3 Rd8 11 Bd2 Ne5 12 b3** [Not awful, but no reason to not trade pieces in this situation with 12 Nxe5] **12...Nxf3+** [But certainly Black shouldn't be looking to do that, not while a pawn down.] **13 Bxf3 Be5 14 Qc2 Rb8 15 Rac1** [Just so. The rook belongs behind the extra c-pawn, supporting an eventual advance.] **15...b6 16 Ne4 Bb7 17 Nxf6+ Bxf6 18 Bxb7 Qxb7 19 Rfd1 h6 20 Bc3 Bxc3 21 Qxc3 Qe7 22 Qc2 Rb7** [Either 22...Qc5 or 22...Qb4 might have made my task a little more difficult, though it's clearly White for choice.] **23 Rxd8+ Qxd8 24 Kf1** [A bit



of a misstep—why not just 24 Rd1...? **24... Rd7 25 Ke2** [This was my idea, to make an “active” king, but it affords Black unnecessary counterplay.] **25...Qg5 26 Rd1?** [This should have cost my half a point after 26...Rd1 27 Qd1 Qg2] **26...Qd8?** [Inexplicable! Now White gets to grind all day long for a win without appreciable risk.] **27 Rxd7 Qxd7**



So, the dreaded queen + pawns endgame, though at least White is in the driver's seat. I had absolutely no theoretical grounding for this type of ending and had to press on with what I could figure out over the board. That's where the tenacity comes in. Dig in? Of course. How bad do you have to want it? More than your opponent, of course.

But tenacity has to be applied before and after games, not just during. “Practice, practice, practice!” said Bobby Fischer. To which I'll add—study, study, study! Magnus Carlsen always tries to take the time to slowly build his position until just the right moment to convert advantages. It's worth the time away from competitive games to study his technique. Not taking that time, not being armed with knowledge of positions and endgames, can easily put you in a place where tenacity is all for naught.

28 c5? [Case in point: Over the board (OTB) Tenacity wasted! I'd have looked very foolish—and my opponent would have appeared...

tenacious!—had he now played 28...Qb5+ and only next 29...bxc5] **28...bxc5? 29 Qxc5 Qb7 30 g3 Qe4** [There was no point in abandoning the a-pawn just because White must eventually give up his own to escape checks.] **32...Qc2+ 33 Kf3 Qf5+ 34 Kg2 Qe4+ 35 Kf1 Qb1+ 36 Ke2 Qc2+ 37 Kf3 Qf5+ 38 Kg2 Qe4+ 39 Kh2 Qc2 40 Kg1 Qb1+ 41 Qf1 Qxa2 42 Qd3+ Kg8 43 Qd8+ Kh7 44 Qd3+ Kg8 45 Qd1** [45 b4 was more precise] **45...Qb2 46 Kg2 Kh8 47 Kg1 Kg8** [I was endeavoring to make time control, hence the jockeying] **48 Qd8+ Kh7 49 Qd3+ Kg8 50 Kg2 Kh8?** [The Black queen needs to get to the a-file and try to thwart the White's efforts to control the important diagonal.] **51 Qc4 Qa2 52 Qa4 Qc2 53 Qa8+ Kh7 54 Qb7** [Now Black faces a much more difficult task.] **54...f5 55 b4 e5 56 Qf3?** [Not sure why I didn't just push the b-pawn again.] **56...g6?** [With the Black king completely exposed, White could have cruised to victory by 57 Qb7+] **57 g4? fxg4 58 hxg4 Qc4 59 Qb7+?** [59 b5 Qxb5 60 Qf7+ Kh8 61 Qxg6] **59...Kg8 60 e4?** [60 Kg3 Qc1 61 b5 Qg1+ 62 Qg2 Qb1 63 Qd5+ Kf8 64 Qxe5 Qg1+ 65 Kf3 Qh1+ 66 Ke2] **60...Qe2 61 Qd5+ Kf8 62 Kg3 Qf1 63 Qxe5 Qg1+ 64 Kf3 Qd1+ 65 Ke3 Qb3+ 66 Ke2 Qc2+ 67 Ke3 Qb3+ 68 Kf4 Qxb4** [68...Qf7+ was a better try, but White's progressing either way] **69 Qf6+ Ke8 70 Qxg6+ Ke7 71 Qg7+ Ke8 72 Qg6+ Ke7 73 Kg3 Qb3+ 74 Kg2 Qd3 75 Qg7+ Ke8** [75...Kd8 now resists as much as possible] **76 Qe5+ Kd8** [76...Kf8 77 Qf6+ Ke8 78 Qe6+ Kf8 79 Qxh6+] **77 Qd5+ Qxd5 78 exd5 Kd7 79 Kf3 1-0**

The lesson to be learned can be summed up in a quote from the movie *Hoffa* where Danny DeVito's character Bobby Ciaro says: “Never let down. Never let up. Never forget.” That holds both on and off of the chess board. Be tenacious in both your preparations and in your play.



Virginia Chess
 1370 South Braden Crescent
 Norfolk, VA 23502

Presorted Standard
 US Postage PAID
 Orange, VA
 Permit No. 97

In This Issue:

A Perfect Trap.....	1
State Championship Announcement.....	2
VCF Membership Secretary Sought.....	7
From the VCF President.....	8
VCF Board Conference Calls.....	9
Readers' Games & Analysis.....	10
DC Chess League.....	12
Warriner Reflections.....	13
Upcoming Events.....	2, 3, 4, 8
VCF Info	<i>inside front cover</i>

