

The Missouri Chess Bulletin

Summer 2003



Chess in Schools

Features:

Bob Jacobs: MCA Hall of Fame
Book Reviews
Scholastic Chess
Chicago Open Report
MCA Board Election Results
Clubs/Events
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Crosstables

The Missouri Chess Bulletin is the official publication of the Missouri Chess Association, a United States Chess Federation affiliate and a not for profit organization.

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Membership and Subscriptions

The Missouri Chess Bulletin is the official, quarterly publication of the Missouri Chess Association. MCA membership includes a subscription to the MCB. **E-members receive their MCB via the internet (no printed copy). Include e-mail address with dues.**

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Free full page ads for tournaments requiring MCA membership.

From the Editor



by Tony Rich

I am so excited about this issue of the Missouri Chess Bulletin. It is packed full of interesting games, witty articles, and informative comments. Before I get in to all of that, I have a couple of house cleaning items.

First, the MCA offers advertising. That's right! On page 1 is a list of the rates for full, half, and quarter page ads. If you have a product or service that you would like to promote, please contact Tony Rich at adr@umr.edu or (314) 359-1209.

The next item on the list is information about how to become a patron member of the MCA. Life membership used to be an option, but unfortunately there is no fair cost that can also meet the needs of the MCA. However, there are some individuals who signed up for life MCA membership while it was offered. A list of these life members appears on page three. A patron member is one who makes an additional contribution to the MCA for their membership. The yearly cost of patron MCA membership is \$25 and this goes to help mitigate some of the typical organizational costs. There will be a list of patron members provided in the next issue of the MCB. Please congratulate these people for their support of Missouri chess.

I am happy that we have been able to continue to improve the bulletin between the last issue and this one. Some of the improvements are as follows: The size has increased from 24 pages last issue to 40 pages this issue. We plan to continue to increase the size in order to provide everyone with more useful information and interesting articles. Another item we have added to the chess bulletin is tournament reports from MCA events. You can find these reports on page nine and games from these tournaments scattered throughout the pages.

As the front cover shows, we have emphasized scholastic chess in this issue. There is a report from Anna Rudd, a special education teacher in North St. Louis, discussing the benefits of chess in schools. Also, there are games from the Missouri Scholastic State Tournament. In addition to this, there is a game submitted by Randy Merrell between two strong scholastic players at a tournament at Calgary Lutheran school in Kansas City.

Another idea that we had was the inclusion of bios on the members of the MCA board. These can be found on page fifteen of this issue. For those of you who do not know the members of the board, this will give you a nice insight into who they are and what they do. If you see them at tournaments, please be sure to thank them for all of their hard work and generous contributions to Missouri chess. The new MCA elections have been tallied and the results may be found on page 26.

Finally, please be sure to check out the "Upcoming Events" section on page thirteen of this issue. There are many fun tournaments coming up that I would encourage everyone to enjoy. I would like to thank everyone who provided me with information on how to improve the bulletin. Please keep that constructive criticism coming. As I have said before, this is YOUR bulletin and we are just here to give you what you would like. All you have to do is make that clear.

Thanks,
Tony Rich
MCB Editor

Please send submissions to:

Tony Rich - MCB
5826 Pebble Oak Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63128

Tony Rich is the editor of the Missouri Chess Bulletin. He is from St. Louis and continues to run chess tournaments there twice a year. He is currently a student in Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Missouri Rolla. His hopes are to complete his undergraduate education in 2005 and to continue to grad school. Eventually, he would like to be a professor of Mathematics or Computer Science in St. Louis.

Letters to the Editor

I would like to thank all those who have taken the time to write about your thoughts and concerns with the MCB. The letters below are from our readers. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor or the MCA.

It's letters like these that keep us going. The MCB cannot continue to evolve without your help and support.

I just saw the new issue of the Missouri Chess Bulletin. It's super. You did a great job. The games section is especially good--nice choice of games with good annotations, and it's very well laid out and uses graphics and fonts well. Keep it up!

Milt Garber

Enjoyed the recent MCA Bulletin. I am a journalist by profession! A C.C. chess player by hobby. I compete in USCF, CCLA, and ICCF competition but my OTB play is limited. I would love to [submit] a few hundred words on C.C. play: my journey from youth player through prison to C.C. master.

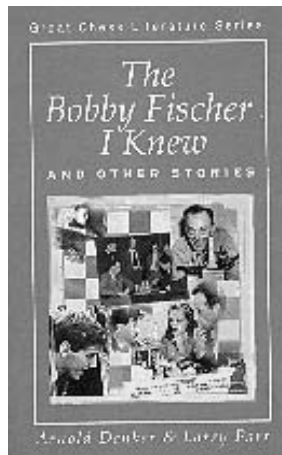
Jeff Grimes

List of Life Members

Dunet Belancourt	Ronn Munsterman
Gregg Bogosian	Edward Simmer
Michael Brooks	David E. Smith
Robert Burns	Roger W. Smith
David Cole	James Staudt
Dennis Gorg, Sr.	Don Steiff
Christopher Merli	Robert Sutter, Jr.
William Merrell	Terry Trippe
Steven C. Miller	William E. Wright

Book Review -

The Bobby Fischer I Knew and Other Stories by NM Loal Davis



Title: The Bobby Fischer I Knew and Other Stories

Authors: Arnold Denker
Larry Parr

Publisher: Hypermodern Chess

The Bobby Fischer I Knew and Other Stories is written in the first person from the point of view of Grandmaster Denker; Larry Parr is the co-author. Each chapter of the book focuses on a particular personality of chess, though many other personalities surround the focal character as well. Denker portrays each with a warm respect, giving the impression that you are looking through his eyes, and know each of these chess players personally. It's extremely difficult to give/convince someone who has not read this book of the buoyant feeling each chapter promotes - so I'll quote a bit from the Forward by Grandmaster Larry Evans.

“Denker and Parr have a photographic eye for the telling detail; and they possess a gift for sifting among a thousand trivial events to find the one or two that somehow capture the essence of a person’s life.”

If you have EVER been inspired by chess lore, then this book is a must read. The title (I think) was selected to promote the book; although Fischer is mentioned in several chapters, there is actually only one of the thirty that directly focuses on him. Of particular interest to me was the chapter on Alekhine. Denker shows that Alekhine had the greatest respect for chess art and those players (of all levels) who strove for the same. Alekhine would often invite Denker (and others) to dinner, treat them to dinner (during the Great Depression), analyze with them, play skittles to all hours of the morning, loan them money, etc. – in short – a touching snapshot of a personality virtually consumed by all aspects of chess.

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St. Louis Spring Open Report

report by Tony Rich

First of all, I would like to thank everyone who participated in this tournament. Also, I would like to give special thanks to Wayde Stallman for his help in running the tournament

The St. Louis Spring Open, held March 22, 2003, was a huge success. Located at the Brentwood Community Center, this tournament was reminiscent of Wayde Stallman's tournaments of the past. It was a four round, G/70 tournament that drew 53 players. Competition was tough and the final standings had some surprises. First overall was a tie between Doug Eckert (2264) and Todd Plagemann (1928) with a perfect score. Todd managed to defeat Ron Luther (2230) in the last round to secure his tournament victory. The expert prize was split between the only two experts in attendance, Steven Miller (2111) and Steve Bange (2010) with 3 points each. Since Todd Plagemann was eligible for the overall prize, he wasn't eligible for the Class A prize. Accordingly, this prize went to the young up-and-comer Deepyman Datta (1944) with 3.5 points. First B prize was split four ways between Al Howlett (1736), Jose Clarin (1726), Darius Mashuhud (1679), and James Smallwood (1607), each with 3 points. Again, with 3 points each, the class C prize was split between Kevin Guo (1523) and Bill Thompson (1501). The D and E prizes were won outright with 3 points each by Nathaniel Fast(1382) and Ray Song (1015), respectively. Finally, the U1000/UNR section was split four ways by Ian Wanda (949), Paul Bass (893), Brian O'Heron (UNR), and Adonis Reddick (UNR), each with 2 points.

For a change of pace, there was a brilliancy prize awarded at this tournament. Players who wanted to be considered for this prize of \$50 turned their score sheets in. After review, it was decided that Todd Plagemann deserved this prize for the following game: Thompson - Plagemann.

"There are two types of sacrifices: correct ones and mine." Tal

King's Gambit

St. Louis Spring Open, March 2003

W: Bill Thompson 1501

B: Todd Plagemann 1928

In the following game, Todd Plagemann was awarded a brilliancy prize in the St. Louis Spring Open. Annotations by Loal Davis. -ed

1. e4 e5 2. f4 exf4 3. Nf3 g5 4. h4 g4 5. Ne5 Nc6 6. Nxf7 (diagram)



Out of Book and into the Fire - 'd4' is reasonable.

6... Kxf7 7. Qxg4

7. Bc4+ d5 8. Bxd5+ 8... Kg7 still leaves White struggling.

7... d5 8. Qxf4+ Nf6

9.e5 Nxe5!

an unexpected blow.

10. Qxe5 Bd6

11. Qd4

White's King is caught in the cross hairs. 11. Qc3 Re8+ 12. Be2 Rxe2+ 13. Kxe2 Bg4+ 14. Kf1 Ne4 -+ -+ or -- 11. Qg5 Rg8 & Bg3+.

11... Bg3+

With 11... Re8+ 12. Be2 Bg3+ 13. Kd1 Rxe2 14. Kxe2 Bg4+ 15. Kf1 -+ White's King is scrambling with only a targeted Queen in play.

12. Kd1 Re8

12... Ne4 aims for the extremely soft/vulnerable 'f2' square.

13. Be2

13. c3 c5 14. Qd3 Ne4 15. Kc2 Bf5 Ouch!

13... Rxe2 -+ 14. Kxe2 Bg4+ 15. Kd3

Talking a "stroll" - But with 15. Kf1 Qe7 16. Qe3 Ne4 17. Qd4 (diagram)

(striving to cover the Queen check on 'f6') 17... Nc3 18. Qe3 Qf6+ 19. Kg1 Ne2+ White gets mated.



(analysis after 17. Qd4)

15... Qe7 16. Qe3 Qb4 17. c3

17. Qxg3 Qe4+ 18. Kc3 Qc4#

17... Bf5+ 18. Ke2 Qg4+ 19. Qf3 Re8+

All pieces in play.

continued on page 24

Robert Jacobs -- 60 Years and Still Going

[Robert Jacobs is the latest member of the Missouri Chess Hall of Fame. In the last issue we congratulated him on his accomplishments. We asked him to supply some biographical details so the Missouri chess community could better get to know him. Below is what he had to say. Following that are a couple of games, "Old ones," says Bob, "which I've always felt good about." If you're ever at a tournament with him, by all means say hello. He's a very friendly fellow, except when it's his move and you're his opponent! - ed]

Born in Pittsburgh in 1928, I grew up in the Depression. At age six or so, my brother and I learned chess, more or less, from a neighbor. ("More or less" because it would be 10 more years before I learned the en passant rule or how to castle Queenside correctly!) Buying a chess set was out of the question, so we made one, gluing shaped pieces of cardboard to empty spools of thread our mother provided. One evening a visiting Hungarian friend of my father's saw us playing with our home-made pieces and on his next visit he brought us his chess set. For years that was our set -- Hungarian pieces are similar to Stanton design except for the bishops which are completely different.

Next to baseball, chess was a high priority with us. We taught our friends and most of them were fascinated as well. (If you run into a middle aged Pennsylvanian who doesn't know the en passant rule, he may be a former playmate!) Playing a lot we did develop some tactical skills (forks were especially exciting) but no real understanding of the game. In high school, there was little time for chess because of an after-school job. But one day I did stop by the high school chess club and played a few games with the club champion, losing every one. Humiliated, I visited the local library that evening. To my surprise, I found lots of books devoted exclusively to chess! In ensuing weeks, I went through those books, learning a great deal, especially from *Lasker's Manual of Chess*. I began to improve and by the time the new U.S. Champion (Arnold Denker) came to town for a simultaneous, I was ready. Playing Black I grabbed the several pawns he offered me. Having no idea what the Danish Gambit was, in between moves I gleefully told my friends I was two pawns ahead of the champion of the USA! I lasted about ten more moves.

The next decade went quickly: chess competed with the discovery of girls and the stress of college (English major, University of Michigan & UCLA). In the 50's, I began playing tournament chess in the Los Angeles area. One-time U.S. champion Herman Steiner took a liking to me and gave me free membership in his Steiner Chess Club, which became the Hollywood Chess Club. (Its most famous member was Humphrey Bogart but I was never lucky enough to be there when he was. I did meet, play, and give a couple of lessons to Jose Ferrer.) In 1955, I qualified for the State Championship. With seven of the ten rounds completed, Herman and I were tied for the lead (we'd drawn our individual game). Unfortunately, Herman died quite suddenly during the tournament, which was canceled immediately.

A couple of months later, Jacqueline Piatigorsky sponsored a Steiner Memorial Tournament. (She subsequently sponsored a couple of Piatigorsky Cup tournaments involving the best in the world.) The very best California players were invited to a round robin. Though rated a Master, I just made the cut, being ranked near the bottom of the 12 Master field. After losing my first two games, I was able to relax. Nerves have always been my biggest problem in OTB chess, which is why I prefer correspondence! But there was no reason to be nervous with a 0 - 2 score. So I started playing near-perfect chess, giving up only two draws the rest of the way and winning the tournament by a full point!

"So I started playing near-perfect chess, giving up only two draws the rest of the way and winning the tournament by a full point!"

Over the next 15 years I remained active in California chess with a number of successes. I recall winning a tournament in Riverside in the '60's in which I beat a promising but inexperienced high schooler named Larry Christiansen ... who went on to win the U.S. Championship half a dozen times or so. Larry was kind enough to include the game in his recent book. In between tournaments, I worked for the old Douglas Aircraft Company, rising to a managerial position in the fiscal side of the business. Negotiating and administering all the contracts for the Douglas portion of the Apollo (moon) program kept me pretty busy, but there was still time to marry and raise kids.

In 1970, we relocated to St. Louis and I joined the old Capablanca Club as well as the headquarters of the McDonnell Douglas corporation (MDC). During the '70's and most of the '80's, in between chess tournaments, I served as an executive at MDC Corporate Headquarters, commuting between St. Louis and Washington and St. Louis and the West Coast so often it ceased to be fun. I did manage to win a few events in Missouri and neighboring states before slowing down.

Retiring in 1988, my wife and I traveled a bit and I had the pleasure of playing in a few weekend tournaments in Britain. In the mid-90's my first wife died and I was fortunate enough to find and smart enough to marry Irene, my beautiful second wife. We, too, travel a good bit -- she was most understanding when I played in a weekend tournament in Denmark a few years ago and got destroyed by those darn Danes!

I've played correspondence chess on and off for the past 60 (no kidding) years. I'm still deeply into it although I fear that somewhere around Fritz 10 or 11, correspondence chess will become pointless. Fortunately, Fritz 8 is the best there is now, so there's some time left. I won the first (1976) USCF Absolute Correspondence Championship, to which the best of the U.S. had been invited. Playing in two more, I finished second then third -- sensing a trend, I stopped playing in them for quite a while. But I recently accepted the invite to play in the 2002 event -- I'm rated 11th in the field of 12, but hope springs eternal ...

Bishop's Opening

ICCF Master Section

W: Bob Jacobs

B: R. Diener

The following two games were played in the ICCF Correspondence Tournament, Master's Section, in 1989 and the Golden Knights Correspondence Tournament in 1976, respectively. I must admit, I felt the spirit of Morphy when I saw the following game. Annotations by Bob Jacobs - ed.

1. e4 e5 2. Bc4 Nf6 3. d3 c6 4. Nf3 d5 5. Bb3 Bd6 6. Nc3 d4 7. Ne2 Bg4 8. Ng3 Bb4+

This non-book move is dubious; my German friend probably did not anticipate my strong reply.

9. c3! dxc3 10. Bxf7+ (diagram)



10... Kf8 11. Qb3 Qe7 12. bxc3 Bd6 13. Ng5 h6 14. Be6 hxg5 15. Bxg4 Nxf3 16. Nf5 Qd7 17.f3

Less clear is 17. Nxd6 Qxd6 18. Qxb7 Qxd3 19. Qxa8 Qxc3+ 20. Ke2 Qc2+ 21. Bd2 Qxe4+ 22. Be3 Qc2+ 23. Kf3 Qf5+ 24. Kg3 where White may have a hard time finding shelter for his King. -ed

17... Nxf3 18. Nxd6 Nxf3+ 19. Kf2 Rxf1 20. Ba3 b6



Retreating the rook to h8 is met with 21. Rh1! Nh4 22. Kg3 and White's attack is unstoppable.

21. Rxf1 1-0

Just as this game shows us Bob's tactical side, the next shows his true depth and strategic thought as a player. -ed

Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defense

Golden Knights '72 Playoff

W: E. Kennedy

B: Bob Jacobs

The Fischer boom led to a large field in the USCF's 1972 Golden Knights Correspondence Championship: six players tied for first with 18 - 0 scores and a playoff ensued. This is one of my better games from that playoff.

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 Nf6 4. O-O Nxe4 5. d4 Nd6 6. Bxc6 dxc6 7. dxe5 Nf5 8. Qxd8+ Kxd8 9. b3

In the 70's theory held that checking the Black King on the d file gained nothing ... this game demonstrates that theory was wrong.

9... h6 10. Nc3 Be6 11. Bb2 c5 12. Ne2

Aiming for the Bishop on e6

continued on page 22

Chess in Schools

by Anna Rudd

Educational fads have come and gone, everything from “New Math”, to cooperative learning, to ability grouping. Educational theory though, has grown and developed, rather than sprouted and withered. One of the most deeply rooted theories is that children learn from experiences. The most memorable and applicable experiences are those that are both fun and tactile, meaning, hands on. As a teacher, I am constantly searching for new methods, techniques, and ideas to use in my classroom. Recently, I decided to look into chess in the classroom because I saw skills and inclinations in my boyfriend that I thought were imperative to teach my students.

I started dating a chess player about a year ago and I have been quite impressed by his cognitive abilities. He solves problems in logical yet creative ways. His critical thinking skills surpass my own as well as his propensity to attempt new endeavors. He is also analytically and mathematically inclined. Now I cannot completely credit chess with these gifts, yet as I researched the benefits of the game I was amazed. Below are excerpts that I found to be interesting and impressive. The following information was found at <http://www.his.com/~pshapiro/chess.html>.

“Back in 1990, the American Chess Foundation funded a study [called the Palm Report] to investigate the educational benefits that accrue when inner-city students are introduced to chess.”

Educational researcher Christine Palm produced this 37-page study. Copies of this study can be purchased from the Foundation for \$2 a piece, postage included. Here are a few inspiring quotes from the “Palm Report”:

“The most wonderful thing about chess is the way it transforms people from the inside out, believes John Kennedy, a NY chess teacher who spends several hours each week in New York schools. Once they’re exposed to the instruction, kids get chess fever. And once they get hooked, their desire to apply themselves soars. The ability to concentrate — really concentrate — takes a quantum leap the minute chess sinks in.”

continued on page 23

Caro-Kann

Calvary Tournament

W: Joe Piotrowski 1664

B: Matt Howard 1093

At the state elementary scholastic tournament in the K-8 section three young talents finished with a perfect 6-0 score. One week earlier at Calvary Lutheran’s tournament in Kansas City two of these players met across the board. Mathew Howard, if he continues to work hard, is on his way to be a real force in Missouri Scholastic Chess. I should know; I was Thomas Gossell’s coach when he was Matt’s age. - Randy Merrell (Annotations by Randy Merrell)

1. e4 c6 2. Nf3 d5 3. exd5 cxd5 4. d4 Nc6 5. Bb5 Bg4 6. Nc3 Nf6 7. h3 Bxf3

7... Bh5

8. Qxf3 e6 9. O-O Bd6 10. Bg5 O-O 11. Bxc6 bxc6 12. Bxf6 gxf6 13. Ne2 e5 14. Ng3 e4 15. Qg4+ Kh8 16. Nf5 Rg8 17. Qh5 Rg5 18. Nxd6 Qxd6 19. Qe2 Rag8 20. g3 f5 21. Kh1 Qh6 22. Kh2 Rh5 23. Kg2
(diagram)



23... Rhg5

23... f4 The winning blow!

24. Kh2 f4! 25. Rg1 f3 26. Qe3 f5?

26... Qxh3+!! 27. Kxh3 Rh5#

27. Qf4 Qf6 28. c3 h5 29. Qh4 Qg6 30. a4 Rf8

31. g4 Kg8 32. Qxh5 fxg4

32... Qd6+ 33. Kh1 Rxh5 34. gxh5+ Kh8

33. Qxg6+ Rxg6 34. Rxg4 Rxg4 35. hxg4 Rb8

36. b4 a6 37. a5 Rc8 38. Kg3 Rf8 39. Rh1 e3

40. fxe3 f2 41. Rf1 Kf7 42. Rxf2+ Ke7 43. Rxf8

Kxf8 44. Kf4 Kf7 45. Kf5 Kg7 46. g5 Kf7

47. Ke5 Kg6 48. Kd6 Kxg5 49. Kxc6 Kg4 50. Kxd5

Kf3 51. e4 Ke3 52. e5 Kd3 53. c4 Kc3 54. b5 axb5

55. cxb5 Kb4 56. a6 Kxb5 57. a7 Kb6 58. a8=Q

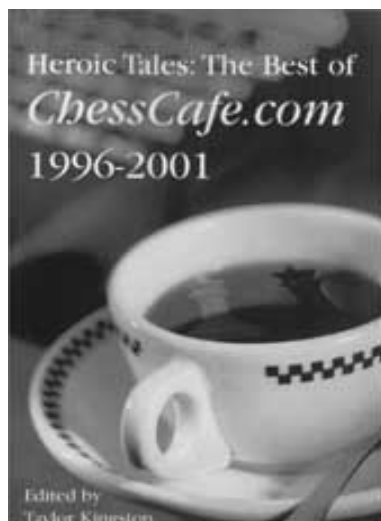
Kb5 59. e6 Kb4 60. e7 Kc3 61. e8=Q Kd3 62. Qe4+

Kd2 63. Qa2+ Kc3 64. Qec2+ Kb4 65. Qab3+ Ka5

66. Qca2# 1-0

Book Review - *Heroic Tales: The Best of ChessCafe.com 1996-2001*

by Tony Rich



Heroic Tales: The Best of ChessCafe.com 1996-2001 is one of the most entertaining books on chess that I have read since *The Bobby Fischer I Knew and Other Stories*. This book contains some of the most interesting stories of chess history that exist. Originally, I purchased this book for a report I was doing (the Botvinnik school of chess). I immediately went to the section on the Keres/Botvinnik controversy. This is actually a long section that covers the problems in Soviet chess quite scientifically. Perhaps I should explain a bit more about the book.

First of all, *Heroic Tales* is nicely bound and makes a handsome appearance. Taylor Kingston collected and edited the works contained within superbly. This book is published by Russell Enterprises, Inc. in Milford, CT.

To quote Mr. Kingston, “*Since I first began reading chess books as a teenager, some of my favorites have been anthologies with a wide variety of chess-related subjects. [...] I never thought that one day I would have the opportunity to prepare such an anthology myself [...] we realize this volume will naturally come under the scrutiny of other reviewers. [...] we ask that all censure this book may receive fall on our shoulders, and we insist that any praise belongs to its contributors.*”

I worry that I am going to disappoint Mr. Kingston, as I think he is deserving of as much praise as any of the contributors. As an editor myself, I realize the daunting task that is editing. He has done an amazing job of producing a logical and quality book. The transition between sections at times seems artificial, but that is to be expected with a compilation of different works.

Heroic Tales is a collection of information gathered from the ChessCafe.com website from the years 1996 through 2001. The book is divided into eight main sections. They are: (1) In the Arena, (2) Instruction, (3) Q & A, (4) Humor, (5) History, (6) Reviews, (7) Chess in Flux, and (8) Politics.

History is the largest section from this book, with almost 150 pages dedicated to topics such as “Paul Morphy Letter”, “The Emmanuel Lasker Affair”, “Remembering Max Euwe”, “The Keres - Botvinnik Case” and much more. I must admit that this was the most interesting topic for me. The authors of these sections range from regular contributors to ChessCafe.com like Taylor Kingston to Paul Morphy himself.

I noticed that most of the books that were reviewed received a bad review. I don't know if this is intentional, but I found it interesting. I usually prefer to hear of good books that I can later read, but with negative reviews, I know what not to buy now.

All in all, this book deserves the highest of praise. I would recommend it to anyone. This isn't the kind of book you sit over the chess board with and review positions, but instead the kind that you take with you everywhere you go and read every chance you get.

Puzzle 1



White to play and win.
Answers on page 24

FLORQUAD 1 Report

report by Al Howlett

May 10, 2003: After 9 years of directing non-rated tournaments at the Normandy Chess Club, I was encouraged to have the opportunity to direct rated tournaments. FLORQUAD tournaments are held at the St. Louis County Library, Jamestown Bluffs Branch. Due to space limitations, the maximum number of entrants is 52 (13 Quads). The time control was G/60. There were 12 participants in FLORQUAD 1, who braved both tornado warnings and thunderstorms. Behrooz Vakil (1824) took the top quad with 3 points. Joseph Garnier (1165) took the second quad with 2 points. Marcus Rumbors (unrated) took the third quad with 3 points. FLORQUAD 2 is scheduled for July 19, 2003.

MOKAN Open Report

report by Randy Merrell

Tim Tobiason from Nebraska brought over 600 books and 100 CDs to sell, and gave away a CD to the biggest upset in each round. Zeb Fortman Jr. gave an interesting lecture Sunday morning before round one. Board one was a DGT computerized board displayed on a TV in the skittles room. Sounds like a really big tournament. No; this was the first MOKAN Open with only 26 players. The good news is that even with only 26 Tim had good enough sales to make it worth the trip. A handful of players enjoyed an intimate lecture with one of the areas best teachers. Spectators enjoyed viewing board one from afar, and some really good games occurred. Probably the high point of the weekend came when Tim Stiener met Donald Booker on board one. Many of the 26 complemented us on the site and the way the tournament was run. NTD Harold Montgomery deserves a lot of the credit for running another smooth tournament.

Columbia Open

report by Charles Ward

The Columbia June Open was held on June 7. This was a small local tournament designed to be played in an afternoon (3 rounds at G/60). Despite only being advertised locally in mid-Missouri, 18 players attended. In keeping with a light-weight tournament format, there were no prizes and only a \$1 entry fee to cover incidental expenses. Tony Song of Columbia was the tournament winner with a perfect 3-0 score. Isaac Naveh and Neil Fox tied for second with 2.5-0.5, drawing their game in the final round.

Springfield Class

by Selden Trimble

The Heart of America Class Tournament was held in Springfield on June 14th and 15th at the South Side Senior Center. Ron Luther of Kansas City upheld his title of 2002 Missouri State Champion by winning his first four games and taking a short draw in the fifth to finish in clear first among the seventeen players in the Open Section.

First in the very competitive Class B was Ivan Wijetunge with 4 points. Mike Clark was first in Class C with 4 1/2 points. Samuel Sexton was first in Class D with 4 1/2 points. Web Miller and Floyd Cheatum tied for first in the U1200/Unrated Class with 3 1/2 points.

The tournament was smoothly directed by Bob Holliman. The excellent facilities are where the Springfield Chess Club plays. The Club graciously provided a variety of snacks and soft drinks for sale on the honor system. It's nice that still works in some parts of the country.

Missouri Class

by Charlie Ward

The 2003 Missouri Class Championships attracted 76 players, the full capacity of the playing room. This was a significant increase from 57 in 2002. As a result, the prize fund could be substantially increased from the advertised levels.

The 2003 Missouri class champions are: Class M/X: Ron Luther, Class A: Selden Trimble, Class B: Frank D. Smith and Thomas Epplin-Zapf (tie). Smith was awarded the trophy on tie-break. Class C: Mike Clark, Class D: Jag Erkembayar, Class E: Matthew Hosler, Class F: Douglas Howe, Unrated: Donald Huff,

The Unrated section was won by Yadamsuren Ish, but because he is a visitor from Mongolia and not a Missouri resident the title and trophy were awarded to Donald Huff, who took second place. Interestingly, Ish is the father-in-law of Jag Erkembayar, the Class D champion, so there were two first cash prizes and one trophy in a single household. Also, Huff is the father of Caleb Huff who was the 2002 Missouri Class F champion.

Chicago Open

The 2003 Chicago Open was played May 23-26 at the Hyatt Regency Oak Brook. The event had a guaranteed prize fund of \$100,000, second only to the World Open among open tournaments, and drew 831 entries including 20 GMs. US Champion Alex Shabalov took clear first in the Open Section with an unbeaten 6-1 score, winning \$10,300. The two qualifying spots for the 2004 US Championship went to Yuri Shulman and Eugene Perelshteyn.

In addition, the Chicago Open had many players from Missouri. These players represented Missouri well. The following are a few games from Missouri players in this event. Of special note is the second game, which is a win that NM Loal Davis from St. Louis had over GM Alex Yermolinsky.

Queen's Gambit Declined

Chicago Open

W: Selden Trimble

B: James Kinsman

Annotations by Selden Trimble

Selden competed in the under 2000 section at this tournament and came away with some very nice wins. This is one such. - ed

1. d4 e6 2. c4 Nf6 3. Nc3 d5 4. Bg5 Be7 5. e3 0-0 6. Nf3 h6 7. Bh4 b6 8. cxd5 Nxd5 9. Bxe7 Qxe7 10. Nxd5 exd5 11. Rc1 Be6 12. Bd3 c5 13. 0-0 Nd7 14. Re1 Rac8 15. e4 dxe4 16. Bxe4 Nf6?

If 16. ... Bxa2, then 17. Bh7+, and Black loses his Queen. Black needs to get his Queen off the e-file. Perhaps 16. ... Qd6 would work.

17. Bf5! (diagram)



Did Black see this? After the exchange of bishops, his e-pawn becomes very weak.

17... Rcd8

If 17. ... Rc6, then 18. d5 Nxd5 19. Bxe6 and Black loses a piece.

18. Bxe6 fxe6 19. Qb3!

This releases the pin on White's d-pawn and threatens Rxe6.

19... cxd4??

Black is now lost. After 19. ... Nd5 20. dxc5 bxc5, Black has bad pawns but a good Knight and even material. White would have to play very carefully.

20. Rxe6 Qb7

If 20. ... Qf7, then 21. Ne5. This may be what Black failed to see on his 19th move.

21. Rxf6+ Qd5 22. Rxf8+ Kxf8 23. Qxd5 Rxd5 24. Kf1 g5 25. h3 h5 26. Ke2 g4 27. hxg4 hxg4 28. Nd2 a5 29. Kd3 Rb5 30. b3 Rf5 31. f3 Ke7 32. Rc4 gxf3 33. gxf3 Kd6 34. Rxd4+ Kc6 35. Ke4 Rh5 36. f4 b5 37. f5 Kc5 38. Rd5+ Kc6 39. Rd3 Rh2 40. Ke5 Re2+ 41. Kf6 Kc5 42. a3 Re1 43. Kf7 Ra1 44. b4+ Kb6

If 44. ... axb4, then 45. Nb3+. Black resigned without waiting for White's reply of 45. bxa5+.

1-0

Queen's Gambit Accepted

Chicago Open

W: GM Alexander Yermolinsky 2622

B: NM Loal Davis 2237

Annotations by Loal Davis

1. d4 d5 2. c4 dxc4 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Nc3 a6 5. e4 b5 6. e5 Nd5 7. a4 Nxc3 8. bxc3 Qd5

I think one of the first to play (discover?) this was GM Robert Hubner. Black's task is to make sure his Rook is covered, as well as the hole on 'd5', and 'e6'. Although 'Bb7' protects the Rook, it allows White to play 'e6' which creates harmony problems for Black.

9. g3 Bb7 10. Bg2 Qd7 11. Ba3

Once Black gets in 'e6' it should be relatively simple - but here - my inability to castle is problematic.

11... g6 12. O-O Bg7 (diagram)



So far - So book - at least all references I have on the position.

13. e6

If he's improvising, he's doing a good job of it.

The features of this are similar to the lines I'm familiar with. 13. Re1 O-O 14. e6 (14. Bc5 Bd5 15. Ng5 Nc6 16. e6 fxe6 17. Qg4 Bxg2 18. Kxg2 Qd5+ 19. f3 e5)

14... fxe6 15. Ne5 Qc8 16. Bh3 Bd5 17. Bxe7 Re8 18. Bg5 (18. Bc5 looks better, but may run into 'Nd7' problems later.) 18... c5. Black has a Queenside majority, hole on 'd5', Pawn breaks, and is up in material. Despite all this, I'm not sure I have a lot of faith in the entire sequence.

13... fxe6 14. Ne5 Qc8 15. Bxb7 Qxb7 16. Qg4 Qd5

The multiple Queen moves make a bad impression, but if this is not played, I think I'm going down. White's Queen on 'e6' threatens mate and supports a Knight fork on 'f7'.

17. axb5 (diagram)



He spent a long time on this - maximizing his pieces before the "final blow".

17... axb5 18. Nxb6

I had been extremely concerned with this sacrifice for several moves - probably would have played it myself - and yet - it appears to lose.

GM Lein, who was nice enough to go over this with me later, said he very much liked White's position after 18. Rfe1. He may well be right, but neither of us saw 18... c5 which is supported by the tactic of a hanging piece after a Rook exchange.

18... hxg6 19. Qxg6+ Kd7

The variations beginning with 19... Kf8 20. Bxe7+ are a nightmare.

20. Qxg7 Nc6 (diagram)



Amazing - King secure, Rooks connected, and a BIG threat. 'Rag8' will divert the white Queen from 'h8' - when 'Rh2' rips open the Kingside (mate in the corner). Yermo saw all that and played a move that was worthy of a better fate.

21. f3

This allows defenses along the second rank, blocks the long diagonal, and covers 'e4' for good central control. - Alas -

21... Qh5

hits 'h2' (mate), takes away the last flight square (f7), and so threatens 'Rag8' winning the Queen. After seeing the pairings for the first round, I had been looking forward to a good chess lesson with Yermolinski. The result of this game aside - he may have done just that.

0 - 1

Sicilian Defense

Chicago Open

W: Adu Oladapu 2237

B: Jim Ellis 2164

Annotations by Jim Ellis

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Bg5 e6 7. Qd2 a6 8. 0-0-0 Bd7 9. f4 b5 10. Qe1

A rare move. Normal is 10. Bxf6 gxf6 11. Nxc6 Bxc6 12 Qe1.

10... Be7 11. Nxc6 Bxc6 12. e5 Nd5 13. Bxe7 Qxe7 14. Ne4 dxe5 15. fxe5 0-0 16. Qg3 Kh8 17. h4 f5

(diagram)



The critical decision. I was happy with 18. exf6 ep. gxf6 and the open g-file. I had now spent more than an hour of my time; my opponent had spent about 20 minutes.

18. Ng5 Rac8 19. Kb1 f4 20. Qh3 Ne3 21. Rd6 Rf5 22. Rxe6 Qb4 23. Bd3 Bxg2 24. Qh2 Bxh1 25. Qxh1 Nc4 26. Qc1 Rff8 27. c3 Qc5 28. Bxh7

Slamming the clock with authority (or anger).

28... Qd5

Now Black starts to swim; I couldn't find a clear plan. At this point, I had about 12 minutes to reach the time control at the 40th move; my opponent had almost an hour.

29. b3 Ne3 30. Be4 Qc5 31. Bb7 Rcd8 32. Bf3 a5 33. Kb2 b4 34. Rc6 Qxe5 35. Nxe6 Rfe8

Here, I saw a winning maneuver on move 44!

36. Nxd8 Rxd8 37. Kb1 Qf5+ 38. Kb2 Qe5 39. a3 bxc3 40. Qxc3? Rd2+

Finally I make the time control with about 4 minutes to spare. My opponent had at least 25 minutes left.

41. Ka1 Nc2+

I had refreshed myself at move 40 by leaving the board and washing my face. My opponent stayed at the board glaring at his position, accepting a draw was an unacceptable result.

42. Kb2 Nb4+ 43. Kb1 Qe1+ 44. Qc1 (diagram)



44... Rb2+!
45. Kxb2??

Played instantaneously. He should have taken the draw with 45. Ka1 Ra2+ 46. Kb1 Rb2+, although here I might want to continue with 46.... Qxc1+ and 47.... Rxa3.

45... Nd3+ 46. Kb1 Nxc1 47. Rxc1 Qe3 48. Bd1 f3

After long thought I realized the passer will win; White has no mate without help from Black.

49. Rc8+ Kh7 50. Bc2+ g6 51. Rc7+ Kh6 52. Rc6

Here White left the playing hall for nearly a half an hour. Only his pen at the table indicated he might return.

52... f2 53. Rg6+ Kh5 0-1

“The Passed Pawn is a criminal, who should be kept under lock and key. Mild measures, such as police surveillance, are not sufficient.” Nimzovich



Caro Kann

Chicago Open

W: Nathaniel Hobson 1421

B: Tony Rich 1537

Annotations by Loal Davis

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 dxe4 4. Nxe4 Bf5 5. Ng3 Bg6 6. Nf3 Nd7 7. Bd3 Bxd3

Not mandatory as it would be if Black had his Pawn on 'h6'. 7... Ngf6 and 7... e6 are both quite playable.

8. Qxd3 Qc7 9. O-O e6 10. Be3

Why block this file? Re1/Bd2/c4/Bc3/Rad1 or a similar sequence would mobilize with good central control.

10... Ngf6 11. Rfe1 Bd6 12. Bg5

Not the best of comments on his tenth move.

12... O-O 13. c3 Rfe8 14. Rad1 e5?! (diagram)



14... Ng4, Bxg3, Nd5, and Qa5 are all good alternatives.

15. dxe5

15. Bxf6 Nxf6 16. Ne4 Nxe4 17. Qxe4 f6 18. dxe5 Bxe5 19. Qc4+ appears to give White a slight plus - but it may not mean all that much.

15... Nxe5 16. Qxd6?

16. Nxe5 Bxe5 17. Bxf6 Bxf6 18. Ne4 certainly looks more comfortable.

16... Nxf3+ 17. gxf3 Rxe1+ 18. Nf1 Qxd6 19. Rxd6 Re6

Black consolidates very nicely.

20. Rd1 Nd5 21. Ng3 Rae8 22. Kf1 f6 23. Bc1 Rd8 24. Kg1 Ree8 25. Rf1 Nc7

25... b5 would stabilize the Knight post and prepare a future Nb6/Nc4.

26. Be3 b6 27. c4 Ne6 28. Nf5 g6 29. Ng3 Nd4 30. Kg2 f5

This, which could have been played last move as well, makes the Knight on g3 a passive spectator.

31. Bg5 Rc8 32. Bh6 Ne2 33. Re1 Nxc3 34. Rxe8+ Rxe8 35. hxc3 Re2 36. Bc1 Rc2 37. Bf4 Rxb2 38. a3 Rb3 39. c5 Rxa3 40. cxb6 axb6 41. Kf1 b5 42. Ke2 b4 43. Bc1 Ra2+ 44. Ke1 b3 0 - 1

“Human affairs are like a chess game: only those who do not take it seriously can be called good players.” Hung Tzu Cheng

King's Indian Defense: Samisch

Chicago Open

W: Tony Rich 1537

B: Goran Milosevic 1497

Annotations by Loal Davis

**1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. f3 O-O
6. Be3 Nc6 7. Qd2?!**

7. Nge2 here or on the next move keeps tabs on the d4 square.

7... e5 8. d5!? Ne7

8... Nd4 A breach that Black normally doesn't get a chance to execute. 9. Bxd4 exd4 10. Qxd4 Nxe4 11. Qxe4 Re8 is legal, but hardly playable for White. This means that Black will reinforce his central Knight with c5 - welcoming any ideas White may have about opening the position (dxc6 for instance).

9. O-O-O Nd7 10. Bd3 f5 11. Nge2 f4 12. Bf2 a5

13. Bc2 b6 14. Kb1 Nc5 15. Na4!? (diagram)



Biting on strengths. 15. Nb5 looks to be a better post.

15... Bd7 16. Nec3

Qe8 17. Nxc5 bxc5

18. a4 Nc8 19. Nb5

Bxb5 20. cxb5 Nb6

21. b3 g5!? 22. Qe2

22. h4 opens a file on the Kingside - thanks to Black's last move.

22... Kf7 23. Be1 Bf6 24. Bc3 Rg8 25. Qd2 c4

26. Bxa5 cxb3 27. Bxb3 Qd7 28. Rc1 g4 29. Rc6

gxf3 30. gxf3 Bd8 31. Bxb6 cxb6 32. Rhc1 Ke7

33. Qb4 Rg6 34. Qc3 Rg2 35. Rc2 Qh3 36. Rxc2

36. Rxd6 Rg1+ 37. Kb2 Kxd6 38. Qc6+ Ke7 39. d6+ Kf6 40. Qxa8 Qd7 41. Qc6 Rg7 42. Bd5 is a crusher.

36... Qxc2 37. Rxd6 (diagram)



This move (more than playable before) appears to throw away a lot of White's advantage.

37. Rc7+ Kf8 38. Rxh7

Qg1+ 39. Qc1 Qg8 40.

Rh6 Be7 41. h4 Qg7 42.

Qc6 Rxa4 43. Qc8+

Kf7 44. Qe6+ not only

looks like a lot of fun - but must be winning for White.

37... Kxd6 38. Qc6+ Ke7 39. Qxa8

or 39. d6+ Kf8 40. Qxa8

Continued on page 23

MCA Board Bios

Randy Merrell

Randy has served as election commissioner, treasurer, and editor [for the MCA]. He has also been the organizer for the Missouri Class, as well as organized and directed many Kansas City area tournaments. He restyled the MCA logo, and helped create the first MCA website. As editor, he introduced the first Missouri Chess Bulletin with color, and the first web based MCB.

Milton Garber

Milton Garber worked on one of the first chess-playing computer programs while a student at MIT in the early 1960s. He is presently active in developing a computer program for stock market investing. He is willing to serve on the Board of Directors until someone else wants the job.

Ed Baur

Ed Baur is the president of the Missouri Chess Association. He has served in Missouri chess for many years as a scholastic tournament director as well as league director. He currently resides in St. Louis and is a chemistry teacher at Vianney High School. Ed Baur also directs some adult tournaments in the area such as the St. Louis Open.

Bill Wright

Bill Wright is the treasurer of the Missouri Chess Association. He has served in Missouri chess for many years as a tournament director. In addition, Bill is the local provider of all kinds of chess equipment, from books to boards and everything else too. He currently resides in St. Louis and is retired.

Webb Miller

Webb Miller has been a member of the MCA Board since Sept 2002. He has been a member of the MO Chess Association for the past six years. He was a board member of the Kansas City Regional Chess Council which brought the Super National Scholastic Chess Tournament to Bartle Hall in Kansas City in 2001. He helped with the running of some of the Scholastic Chess Tournaments for the Kansas Scholastic Chess Association in the years 2000 and 2001. He sponsored the Hickman Mills High School Chess Team for years 1999 thru 2001 and took the team to the National High School Scholastic Tournaments for each of those years.

Selden Trimble

Selden Trimble is 62 years old and is retired from the Mathematics Department at the University of Missouri in Rolla. He was the advisor to the UMR Chess Club for the 25 years he was there. He joined the USCF in the middle 1950's and is currently a Class A player. He's a former President of the MCA (the 1980's) and a contributor to the MCB.

Loal Davis

[Loal Davis is the secretary for the Missouri Chess Association -ed] Loal Davis is a national chess master living in Ballwin, Missouri. He participates in chess events (locally and nationally), privately teaches a wide range of chess students, and gives group lectures.

Charlie Ward

Charlie Ward has been a member of the MCA Board since September 2000. He is the MCA membership chair and is the Web master for the MCA Web site. He is a USCF-certified Local Tournament Director and directs 3-4 tournaments each year in Columbia, including the 2001 Missouri Open and the 2002 and 2003 Missouri Class Championships. He has been a USCF member since 1969, and prior to moving to Missouri five years ago was a member of the Chicago Industrial Chess League for 29 years, serving at various times as a team captain, League officer and League ratings statistician.

CJ Armenta

CJ is currently President of the Kansas Scholastic Chess Organization. He is on the Board of Directors of the Kansas City Regional Chess Council's 501(c) 3 non-profit organization. He is one of the organizers of the the USCF Naional Scholastic tournament "SuperNationals II" held at Bartle Hall in 2001. CJ is a local TD and organizer of the KSCA State Individual and Grade Championship. He is on the board of directors for the MCA in the Kansas City Region. CJ is a chess coach and sponsor of the Blue Valley NW High School chess team. He is currently involved with the MCA to help promote chess in the Kansas City Area and hopes his involvement will help the MCA benefit all players in the great state of Missouri.

MCA Board Election Results

by Jim Davies

Ballots were counted at Kirkwood Park during the St. Louis Summer Open on Saturday, July 12. The process was witnessed by Dan Tuttle and Bill Wright, who kept tallies. It was also witnessed by several ducks, who did not. As usual, ballots and validations will remain in my possession. In keeping with precedent, any MCA member may view the ballots and other information connected with the election by contacting me.

Region 1 : 25 MCA members cast ballots.

William H. Wright 24

Edward Baur 19

Loal Davis 18

Others receiving votes : Steven Miller 1 Jim Staudt 1

Region 2 : 6 MCA members cast ballots.

Randy Merrell 5

C.J. Armenta 5

Webb Miller 4

Region 3 : 9 MCA members cast ballots.

Charles Ward 7

Selden Trimble 7

Milton Garber 6

Others receiving votes : Mike Nitzband 1

The election process again this year was routine. Board action taken last year was helpful in clarifying the election details so that there was no question about voter eligibility. I thank those individuals who assisted me, congratulate the winners, and wish all of our elected officers success in their efforts at chess promotion. There was one problem, however, as late in June a few members complained of not receiving a ballot. Charles Ward put out an email to those members whose addresses were known, asking them to notify me if no ballot was received. I sent out 4 replacement ballots to remedy this problem. I have two ideas that we may wish to consider to help alleviate this situation. 1) Next year I plan to send out the ballots in envelopes, to make it more likely the the post office will deliver all the ballots. 2) Since we have an MCA web site, we should be able to permit members to vote on-line.

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Games

Ruy Lopez: Marshall Gambit

Hawkeye Mind Challenge. Iowa City, Iowa

W: Jim Ellis 2164
B: Alexander Stannov 2236

Annotations by Jim Ellis

Black had lost to [IM] Mike Brooks the previous round and had to win his last round game in order to collect prize money. So he chose to go into the Marshall Gambit. The time control was 30/70 and then G/30, a peculiar control which is particular to Iowa tournaments. In the following wide-open fight, time was a big factor.

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. 0-0 Be7 6. Re1 b5 7. Bb3 0-0 8. c3

Allowing the Marshall essentially challenges your opponent. "I know more theory than you do."

8... d5 9. exd5 Nxd5 10. Nxe5 Nxe5 11. Rxe5 c6 12. d4 Bd6 13. Re1 Qh4 14. g3 Qh3 15. Be3

15 Re4 (with the idea of Rh4) was popular recently in some new analysis. I prepared this line for two years but no one played into it. After awhile that analysis became well known and I went back to the Main-Main line.

15... Bg4 16. Qd3 Rae8 17. Nd2 Re6

Spassky's move.

18. a4 bxa4

White has used 3 minutes on his clock, Black 1 minute.

Recently 18. ... f5 19. axb4 has been winning for White. 18. ... Qh5 is the other variation.

19. Rxa4 f5 20. Qf1 Qh5 21. f4 Qe8

Things have slowed down. White has used 12 minutes and Black 17. Ok, now I'm out of book. At the time I thought this was the main line, but I was wrong. 21. ... Kh8, 21. ... g5, 21. ... Rfe8, and 21. ... Rb8 have all been the main line at one time or another.



22. Qf2 (diagram)

I used 18 minutes on this. Both 22. Nc4 and 22. Bf2 have to be better than the text. Notice how White slowly strangles himself.

22... g5 23. R4a1

White must be worse with this retreating move. If White wanted to unpin his King Rook, he shouldn't have played 22. Qf2.

23... Kh8 24. Bxd5 cxd5 25. c4

Why not 25. fxg5? If 25. ... f4, then 26. Bxf4 Bxf4 27. gxf4. White has won another pawn and may exchange some heavy pieces, relieving the pressure.

25... Qb8 26. cxd5 Rg6 27. Kh1 Bh3 28. Rg1 Qb7

A deadly check awaits on the long diagonal.

29. fxg5

Otherwise, 29. ...g4 seals the defending squares.

29... Qxd5+ 30. Qf3 Qb5

This ends the first time control. White used 67 minutes, Black only 33. Black has a big advantage in time. Each player now has an hour added to his clock and must finish the entire game in the time left.

31. Bf4 Bb4 32. Nb3

Where else to develop the Knight?

32... Bg4 33. Qg2 Re6 34. Be5+ Rxe5

Since Black wants to win, he has to mix it up. Further, he still has 74 minutes left on his clock. White has only 42.

35. dxe5 Qd3

Threatening Bf3.

36. Nc1 Qe3 37. Rf1 f4

Black is starting to take some time on his moves. He needs to justify the exchange sack.

38. h3 f3 39. Qf2 Qxf2 40. Rxf2 Bf5 41. Nb3

41. Kh2 getting out of the pin is far better. White now has 25 minutes left, Black 55.

41... a5 42. Rc1 Bxh3 43 .Nd4 Bg4 44. e6

White is finding good moves and is slowly coming back into the game. Alas, his clock is ticking away. He has 21 minutes to finish the game.

44... Rd8 45. Nf3 Be6 46. Ne5 Rd5 47. Nc6 Bd2 48. R1f1 Bxg5 49. Rf8 Kg7 50. Re8 (diagram)



White sets a diabolic trap. With a slower time limit, White should win this game. But White has only 12 minutes left.

50... Bd7 51. Ne7 Rd2 52. Rg8+

Forced moves are easy to calculate.

52... Kh6 53. Nf5+ Kh5 54. g4!! Kxg4 55. Rg1+ Kxf5 56. R1xg5+ 1/2 - 1/2

White now has less than five minutes to play but the dreaded two bishops have been neutralized. White stopped keeping score. The game is probably a draw at this point. After 56. ... Kg4, White's b-pawn will fall. But Black tried to blitz. White in the last minute, losing his rook. With the time expired on his clock, White finally sacrificed his rook for Black's last pawn and claimed a draw by insufficient winning chances. Only too late did Black notice that White's flag had previously fallen.

English Opening

MO Class

W: Deepyaman Datta 1999
B: Pavel Bereza 2283

1. c4 e5 2. Nc3 d6 3. Nf3 Be7 4. d4 Nc6 5. d5 Nb8
6. e4 f5 7. exf5 Bxf5 8. Bd3 Qd7 9. O-O Na6
10. Be3 Nf6 11. Bxf5 Qxf5 12. Qb3 Qc8 13. h3 O-O
14. Ng5 c5 15. Ne6 Rf7 16. Ng5 Rf8 17. Ne6 Rf7
18. Nb5 Qd7 19. a3 Bd8 20. f4 exf4 21. Bxf4 Ne8
22. Bh2 Bf6 23. Kh1 Nb8 24. Qc2 Nc6 25. Rae1
Ne5 26. b3 Ng6 27. Nc3 Bxc3 28. Qxc3 Rxf1+
29. Rxf1 Nc7 30. Ng5 Rf8 31. Rxf8+ Nxf8 32. Qg3
Ne8 33. Ne4 b5 34. Nxd6 bxc4 35. Nxe8 Qxe8
36. bxc4 Qe4 37. Qb3 h6 38. Bg1 Nd7 39. Qe3 Qf5
40. Qe8+ Nf8 41. Bxc5 Qf1+ 42. Kh2 Qf4+ 43. g3
Qd2+ 44. Kg1 Qc1+ 45. Kf2 Qc2+ 46. Qe2 Qf5+
47. Kg2 Nd7 48. Bxa7 Kh7 49. Bd4 Nf8 50. Kh2 h5
51. Qf2 Qd3 52. Qxf8 Qxd4 53. Qf5+ Kg8 54. Qc2
h4 55. gxh4 Qxh4 56. Qe2 Qf4+ 57. Kg2 Qg5+
58. Qg4 Qd2+ 59. Kg3 Qe3+ 1/2-1/2

Sacilian Defense

MO Class

W: Clark Guo 1768
B: Selden Trimble 1883

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 e5 5. Nf3
Nf6 6. Bd3 d5 7. exd5 Nxd5 8. O-O Be7 9. Bb5 f6
10. h3 Be6 11. Qe2 Qc7 12. Rd1 Kf7 13. c4 Nb6
14. Nc3 Rhd8 15. Be3 a6 16. Bxc6 Qxc6 17. b3 Bb4
18. Rac1 Ke7 19. Rxd8 Rxd8 20. Nxe5 Qc7
21. Bxb6 Qxb6 22. Nd5+ Bxd5 23. Nc6+ Kf8
24. Nxd8 Bg8 25. Rd1 Be7 26. Qd2 Qc7 27. Qd7
Qxd7 28. Rxd7 Ke8 29. Rxe7+ Kxe7 30. Nxb7 Be6
31. Kf1 Bc8 32. Nc5 Kd6 33. b4 Ke5 34. Nb3 Be6
35. c5 Bc4+ 36. Ke1 Kd5 37. g3 Bb5 38. Na5 Kd4
39. Kd2 Bd7 40. h4 g5 41. c6 Bf5 42. c7 Kd5
43. Ke3 Kd6 44. Kd4 Kxc7 45. Kc5 h6 46. a4 Be4
47. b5 axb5 48. axb5 f5 49. b6+ Kb8 50. b7 f4
51. Kb6 fxc3 52. fxc3 gxh4 53. gxh4 Bf3 54. h5 1-0

Two Knights Defense

Missouri High School State

W: Thomas Gossell 1997
B: Alex Marler 997

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 d6 4. d4 Bg4 5. c3 Be7
6. d5 Nb8 7. Be3 Nf6 8. Nbd2 Nbd7 9. h3 Bxf3
10. gxf3 c6 11. dxc6 bxc6 12. Nf1 Nb6 13. Bb3 d5
14. Ng3 h6 15. Qc2 Nc4 16. Bxc4 dxc4 17. Nf5 Bf8
18. Qa4 Qc7 19. Qxc4 g6 20. Ng3 Bg7 21. Bc5 Bf8
22. Bxf8 Kxf8 23. h4 h5 24. O-O-O Kg7 25. Rd2
Rhd8 26. Rhd1 Rxd2 27. Rxd2 Nd7 28. Ne2 Rd8
29. Qd3 a6 30. Qd6 Qxd6 31. Rxd6 c5 32. Rxa6
Nf8 33. Kc2 Ne6 34. a4 c4 35. Rc6 g5 36. hxg5 h4
37. f4 exf4 38. Ng1 Nng5 39. Rxc4 h3 40. Nxb3
Nxb3 41. e5 Kg6 42. Rc6+ Kg5 43. Rf6 Nxf2
44. Rxf7 Ne4 45. e6 Nf6 46. Rg7+ Kf5 47. e7 Re8
1/2 - 1/2

Fajarowitz Defense

Missouri High School State

W: Chris Hassett 1132
B: Thomas Gossell 1997

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e5 3. dxe5 Ne4 4. Qd4 Nc5 5. Nf3
Nc6 6. Qd1 b6 7. g3 Bb7 8. Bg2 Nxe5 9. O-O
Nxf3+ 10. exf3 Be7 11. Re1 O-O 12. Nc3 Bf6
13. Nd5 Bxd5 14. Qxd5 d6 15. Qd1 Re8 16. Re2
Qd7 17. f4 Rxe2 18. Qxe2 Re8 19. Qc2 Re1+
20. Bf1 Qh3 21. Qe2 Rxe2 22. Bxe2 Bd4 23. Bf1
Qg4 24. Be3 Bxe3 25. fxe3 Qf3 26. Bg2 Qxe3+
27. Kh1 Nd3 28. Rf1 Nf2+ 29. Rxf2 Qxf2 30. h4
Qxg3 31. b4 Qxh4+ 32. Kg1 Qxf4 33. Bf1 g5 34. a4
g4 35. Bg2 g3 36. c5 Qf2+ 37. Kh1 Qe1+ 38. Bf1
Qxf1# 0 - 1

Sicilian Dragon

Missouri High School State

W: Thomas Gossell 1997
B: Dan Roberts 1617

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 g6 5. Nc3
Bg7 6. Be3 d6 7. Bc4 Nf6 8. f3 O-O 9. Qd2 Nxd4
10. Bxd4 Be6 11. Bb3 Qa5 12. O-O Qh5 13. Nd5
Nxd5 14. exd5 Bh6 15. Qe2 Bf5 16. Qxe7 Bg5
17. Qxd6 Rad8 18. Qe5 f6 19. Qe7 Rde8 20. Qc7
Qh6 21. d6+ Kh8 22. Rae1 Bf4 23. Bxf6+ Rxf6
24. Rxe8+ Rf8 25. Qc3+ 1 - 0

Petroff Defense

Missouri High School State
W: Thomas Gossell 1997
B: Brett Mueller 1354

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. d4 Nxe4 4. dxe5 d5 5. Nbd2 Bf5 6. Bd3 Nc6 7. Qe2 Nxd2 8. Bxd2 Bxd3 9. Qxd3 Bc5 10. O-O-O O-O 11. Ng5 g6 12. Qh3 h5 13. g4 Kg7 14. gxh5 Rh8 15. h6+ Kf8 16. h7 Nxe5 17. Rhe1 Qf6 18. Qh6+ Qg7 19. Qxg7+ Kxg7 20. Rxe5 c6 21. Bc3 f6 22. Re2 d4 23. Bxd4 Bxd4 24. Ne6+ Kxh7 25. Rxd4 Rhe8 26. Rd7+ Kh6 27. Nf4 g5 28. Rxe8 Rxe8 29. Nd3 Kg6 30. Rxb7 Rh8 31. Rxa7 Rxh2 32. a4 c5 33. c4 Rh4 34. b3 Rd4 35. Kc2 f5 36. a5 f4 37. a6 Kf5 38. Ra8 Kg4 39. a7 Rd7 40. Ne5+ 1 - 0

Queen's Indian Defense

MO Class
W: James Small 1416
B: John Walker 1464

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. e3 b6 4. Bd3 Bb7 5. Nbd2 c5 6. c3 d5 7. O-O Bd6 8. Re1 O-O 9. e4 dxe4 10. Nxe4 Nxe4 11. Bxe4 Bxe4 12. Rxe4 Nd7 13. Bg5 Be7 14. Bxe7 Qxe7 15. d5 Nf6 16. d6 Qb7 17. Rh4 Rad8 18. d7 Qxd7 19. Qc2 Qd3 20. Qc1 Rd6 21. Ne1 Qe2 22. Rh3 Rd2 23. Rf3 Rfd8 24. b4 Rd1 25. Qe3 Qxe3 26. Rxd1 Qxf2+ 27. Rxf2 Rxd1 28. Kf1 Kf8 29. bxc5 bxc5 30. Rb2 Rd7 31. Rb8+ Ke7 32. Ke2 Ne4 33. Rb3 Rd2+ 34. Ke3 Rxa2 35. Kxe4 Re2+ 36. Kf3 Rxe1 37. Rb7+ Kf6 38. Rxa7 Rc1 39. Ra3 Ke5 40. Ke2 Rc2+ 41. Kf3 h5 42. h4 g6 43. Ra7 Rxc3+ 44. Ke2 f5 45. Kd2 Rg3 46. Ra5 Kd4 47. Ra4+ c4 48. Ke2 e5 49. Kf2 f4 50. Ra1 c3 51. Rd1+ Rd3 52. Ke2 Rxd1 53. Kxd1 Kd3 0-1

"Of chess it has been said that life is not long enough for it, but that is the fault of life, not chess."

— Irving Chernev

Caro-Kann Defense

MOKAN Open
W: Tim Steiner 1930
B: Donald Hooker 2112

Annotations by Tim Steiner

Annotations have been edited for space. -ed

1. d4 c6 2. e4 d6

Black scores at 42% in this variation. It has several names. Highly flexible move order, very tricky but mostly harmless. A defense for someone who desperately wants to avoid theory. Ironically, there is a good deal of theory on this defense too. I found 754 games in Chessbase. Even Kasparov has played this twice. There are even a few books on this topic.

3. Nc3

3. Bc4 or 3. Be3 or 3. h3 all score above 63% for White. 3. f4 performed the best with the most amount of games played at 69%. My choice isn't bad as Garry has deployed it.

3... Nf6 4. Bg5

4. f4 has the best reputation

4... Qa5 5. Qd2 h6 6. Be3 Ng4 7. Bf4 e5 8. Bg3 Nd7 9. Nge2?!

Not offering smooth development. At the very least Black won't be able to move his d7 knight with 9. Nf3. Fritz 8: 9. Nf3 Be7 10. Be2 (10. Bc4 O-O 11. Bb3 Qc7 12. h3 Ngf6 13. dxe5 dxe5 14. O-O-O Nh5 15. Bh2 Bf6 16. g4 Nf4 17. h4 Nc5 18. Rdg1 g5 19. hxg5 hxg5 20. Bg3 Be6 21. Bxf4 exf4 22. Rh5 Bxb3 23. axb3 Ne6 24. e5 Bxe5 25. Qd3 Rfd8 26. Qh7+ Kf8 27. Nxe5 Bg7 28. Nge4 f3 29. Kb1 b5 30. Ng3 b4 31. Nf5 Be5 32. Qh8+ 1-0 Van Riesen, K-Martin Sommerfeldt, L/Germany 1992/EXT 97-B (32).) 10... Ngf6 11. O-O Nh5 12. Bh4 0.34/12

9... b5 10. f3 Nge6 11. Bf2 b4 12. Nd1 Nb6 13. Nc1 Be6

So far, Black has been very attacking and quick moving, but he may be in danger of overextending.

14. Nb3 Qa4 15. Ne3 Be7 16. Be2 O-O 17. O-O +/- 17... Rfd8 18. a3 +/-

Black's Queen now has to moonwalk.

18... c5

Not the most attractive move, but then again he doesn't have many choices.

19. d5 Bc8 20. axb4 Qxb4 21. c3

Maybe a little too artistic, but certainly fun.

21... Qxb3 22. Ra3 Nc4 23. Nxc4 Qb8 +/-

I chose this variation because of the passive nature of Black's position and the open space on the queenside for White.

24. Rfa1 Nh5 25. b4 Bg5 26. Qe1 Qc7 27. b5 Bb7 28. Rxa7 Nf4 29. Bf1 f5 30. Rxa8 Bxa8 31. b6 Qb8

Black is sufficiently tied down.

32. Qb1 fxe4 33. fxe4

Black was in a bit of time trouble at this point. He had about 5 minutes left while White had about 25 minutes.

33... Qc8 34. Ne3

White unnecessarily stops any Black counterplay.

34... Bb7 35. Ra7 h5 36. Qa2 h4 37. Ba6 Bxa6

38. Qxa6 Qxa6 39. Rxa6 Ne2+? 40. Kf1 Nxc3

41. b7

It was evident half way through the game that my opponent had not booked up for this variation. I anticipate next time we play he will chose something main line.

1-0

King's Indian Defense

MOKAN Open

W: Zebedee Fortman 1909

B: Tim Steiner 1930

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. Bf4 Bg7 4. e3 d6 5. h3 O-O

5. ...Nc6 works very well too.

6. c4 Nbd7

6. ...c5 has better performance.

7. Nc3 b6 8. Be2 c5 9. O-O Nh5 10. Bh2 f5

11. d5 Bf6 12. Bd3 Ne5 +/-

Black has not played inspiring chess thusfar, but White feared Black's hot run at the tournament.

1/2 - 1/2

Puzzle 2



White to play and win
Answers on page 24

Nimzo Indian

Heart of America Class

W: Selden Trimble 1888

B: Matt Wyatt 1708

Annotations by Bob Holliman

The director, Bob Holliman, was kind enough to annotate this game for me after his duties were over getting the 2nd round going. Despite the limited time he had, I think his comments are most instructive. It can be very helpful to hear what somebody else thinks of your game. — Selden Trimble

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e3 c5 5. Bd3 Nc6 6. Nf3 0-0 7. 0-0 d5 8. a3

A waste of time. White misses the easy chance to saddle Black with the isolated pawn, and probably the loss, with 8. cxd5. For if 8. ... Nxd5, then 9. Nxd5 Qxd5 (9. ... exd5 10. a3 Ba5 11. dxc5 +/-). Now White is a pawn up and that, boys and girls, is about the end of the story.) 10. a3 Ba5 11. e4 (11. dxc5? Rd8 12. Be2 Qxc5 13. Qb3 Bc7. Not only is White "having problems," it is Black that is coming out on top of this. He is ready to play e5, develop his light-squared bishop, and come after White.) 11. ... Qh5 12. dxc5 A) 12. ... Bc7 13. h3 (13. Qc2 Nd4 -+) Qxc5 14. Be3. Here, to get his pawn back, Black has given up several tempi, and White is better poised to start a strategic plan... We must give White the "advantage" in this position. B) 12. ... Qxc5?? 13. b4 Qc3 14. Ra2, and now if Black tries counterplay, it goes bad. 14. .. Rd8 15. Rd2 Bc7 16. Bb2. The queen is lost on the open board. So Black must play 8. ... exd5, allowing the isolated pawn.

8... Bxc3 9. bxc3 dxc4

No reason for this move! More to the point would be 9. ... Qe7 10. Qc2 b6 11. Ne5 Bb7 12. f4, and this is what we call a real "mess." The reason Black should not trade pawns is that White's pawn structure is frozen - it can't "flex." This makes it a target for a strategic attack. Black strives to play against, and win, the White pawns via Na5, Rac8, Rfd8, etc.

10. Bxc4 a6 11. a4 Qc7 12. Ba3 b6 13. Qe2 Rd8 14. Rab1 cxd4 15. cxd4 Na5 16 Ne5

Wait, stop, don't... White is giving up his good bishop and getting nothing in return.

16... Nxc4 17. Qxc4 Qxc4 18. Nxc4 b5 19. Be7 Re8 20. Nb6 Rb8 21. Nxc8 Rxc8 22. axb5 axb5 23. Bd6 Rb6 24. Rfc1 Rbc6 25. Rxc6 Rxc6 26. Bc5

Shazam! White wins a pawn and this should be good for the game.

26... Ra6 27. f3?

Ugh...better is simply g3. The king still has an escape from the back and into the ending, but the move actually made will allow Black to play Ra2 and pin the White king to the back rank.

27... Ra5 28. Bb6 Ra8 29. Rxb5 Rb8 30. Ra5 Nd5
31. Bc5 Nxe3 32. Kf2 Nd5 33. g4 Rc8 34. Kg3 f6
35. h4 Kf7 36. Ra7+ Rc7 37. Rxc7+?

A strategic error... the bishop is no match for the knight. Best drawing chances are kept by keeping the rook. There could even develop a mating net with bishop and rook. Now White subjects himself to torture.

37... Nxc7 38. Kf4 g6 39. Ke4 Nd5 40. Ba3 Ke8
41. Bc1 Kd7 42. Bd2

f4-f5, trying to trade off some pawns and giving Black an isolated pawn, may well be better than this. Black does have Ne7 to defend the f5 square. Then White plays Ba3, attacking the knight. And we can repeat the position. Of course the immediate g5 gives counterplay against the Black pawn horde.

42... Kd6 43. Ba5 f5+ 44. Kd3 Nf4+ 45. Kd2

45. Ke3 Ng2+ 46. Kf2 Nxh4 47. Kg3 g5 48. Bd8 h6, and Black has nabbed a pawn. Once he redeploys the horse via g6, it could be hard going.

45... Kd5 46. Bb6 h5 47. gxh5 gxh5 48. Bc7 Ng6
49. Ke3 Nxh4

The outside passer is more than White can hold.

0-1

Philidor's Defense

MO Class

W: Mike Clark 1580

B: Justin Talley 1484

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 exd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3
Be7 6. Bc4 c6 7. Be3 O-O 8. Qd2 b5 9. Bd3 a6
10. f3 c5 11. Nf5 Bxf5 12. exf5 d5 13. Bf2 c4
14. Be2 Bb4 15. O-O-O Re8 16. Rhe1 Qa5 17. Kb1
Nc6 18. Bd4 Bxc3 19. Bxc3 b4 20. Bxf6 gxf6
21. Qxd5 Rad8 22. Qxc4 b3 23. axb3 Nb4 24. Rxd8
Rxd8 25. Bd3 Qa2+ 26. Kc1 Qa1+ 27. Kd2 Rxd3+
28. cxd3 Qxb2+ 29. Kd1 Qb1+ 30. Ke2 Qb2+
31. Kf1 Nxd3 32. Qxd3 Qa3 33. Qc4 Qd6 34. Re8+
Kg7 35. Qg4+ Kh6 36. Qh4+ Kg7 37. Qg3+ 1-0

"A thorough understanding of the typical mating continuations makes the most complicated sacrificial combinations leading up to them not only not difficult, but almost a matter of course." - Tarrasch

Queen's Gambit Accepted

ICC

W: Tony Rich

B: WISSO

I have been going over the book "Play the Queens Gambit" by Markovic. There are some truly wonderful ideas in there.

1. d4 d5 2. c4 Nf6 3. Nc3 e6 4. Bg5 Be7 5. e3 Nbd7
6. Nf3 O-O 7. Rc1 dxc4

Transposing into a variation of the Queen's Gambit Accepted, except the d7-Knight is misplaced. The Knight belongs on 'c6' (after the c-pawn is on 'c5').

8. Bxc4 a6 9. O-O b5 10. Bd3 Bb7 11. Qe2 Rc8
12. e4 c5 13. e5 Nd5 14. Ne4 Bxg5 15. Nexg5 Nf4
(diagram)



The beginning of Black's problems. More practical was g6, blunting the b1-h7 diagonal.

16. Bxh7+ Kh8

17. Qe3 Bxf3

17... Nd5 18. Qe4 or 17... f6 18. Be4 fxg5 19. Bxb7 Rc7 20. dxc5

18. Qxf4 Bh5

18... Be2 19. Qh4

19. Qh4 g6 20. g4 f6

20... Nxe5 21. dxe5 Qd4 22. h3 Qxe5 23. gxh5 f6 24. Nxe6 Qxe6 25. hxg6 is still lights out.

21. Nxe6 Qe7 22. Nxf8 Rxf8

22... Nxf8 23. Bxg6 Nxg6 24. Qxh5+ leaves White up a whole Rook.

23. Bxg6 1-0



The "Turk" was a machine that played chess by itself... or so everyone thought, until it was discovered that a chess player would hide inside the machine and make the moves.

Caro-Kann Defense

Florissant Quads
W: Lou Sarmento 1200
B: Joseph Garnier 1189

Annotations by Lou Sarmento

1. e4 Nf6 2. e5 Nd5 3. c4 Nb6 4. Nc3 d6 5. exd6 cxd6 6. d4 g6 7. Be3

Reinforcing my 'd' Pawn.

7... Bg7 8. Qd2 O-O 9. Be2 e5 10. Rc1

I would like to eventually "control" the 'c' file with my Rooks.

10... Qe7 11. Nf3 e4 12. Ng5 f5

Better than 'Bf5'.

13. d5

I would like to play 'Bd4' exchanging Bishops.

13... h6 14. Ne6 Bxe6 15. dxe6 Kh7

My strategy is after} 15... Qxe6 16. Nb5 followed by 'c5' and 'Bc4' - pinning the enemy Queen and King.

16. Nd5 Nxd5 17. cxd5 Qf6 18. Rc7

The key move, in my opinion, in this match.

18... f4

Justifiably seeking counterplay.

19. Bd4 e3 20. Qc3 exf2+

Desperation.

21. Kf1

Trying to cut down on all possible counterplay. Better than 21. Kxf2 21... Qh4+ prolonging matters.

21... Qf5 22. Bd3

The noose is almost around his neck.

22... Qg4

It's time.

23. Rxc7+ Kh8 24. Rxc6+ 1-0

Puzzle 3

Bronstein vs. Goldenov, 1944



White to play and win. Answer on page 24

Sacilian Defense

MOKAN Open
W: Frank Smith 1347
B: Tim Steiner 1930

Annotations by Tim Steiner

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 g6 6. Be3 Bg7 7. f3 O-O 8. Qd2 Nc6 9. Nxc6?! bxc6 10. Bh6?! Bxh6 11. Qxh6 Qb6

Black is now starting to sieze his opportunity along the weak dark squares. White may find it hard to get his king to saftey.

12. Rb1 d5!

Thematic

13. exd5 cxd5 14. Qd2 Bb7

A little passive.[better was] (Fritz 8:) 14... d4 15. Nb5 Rd8 16. a4 e5

15. Bd3 e5 16. Be2?

Too much loss of time. (Fritz 8:) 16. Na4 Qc6 17. Nc3 d4 18. Ne2 Nd5 19. c3 Ne3 20. Kf2 f5 21. cxd4 Nxc6 22. Ng1 Nh4

16... Bc6?! 17. Qg5 Kg7 18. h4 h6 19. Qg3 Rfe8

(Fritz 8:) 19... d4 20. Nd1 Nh5

20. Qh2?

This is like an invitation to attack. [better was] (Fritz 8:) 20. h5 d4 21. Nd1 g5 22. Kf1 Rac8 23. c4 Qa5 24. Bd3 Qxa2 25. b4

20... d4 21. Nd1 e4 22. fxe4 Bxe4 23. Rc1 Bxc2?

Black is getting careless. He is losing interest in this game. (Fritz 8:) 23... d3 24. Qf4 dxe2 25. Nf2

24. Rxc2 d3 25. Rd2 Rad8

Notice how Black is making use of all his pieces. (Fritz 8:) 25... Rxe2+ 26. Rxe2 dxe2 27. Kxe2 Qd4 28. Qh3 Re8+ 29. Qe3 29... Rxe3+ -- or -- 25... dxe2 26. Nf2 Qe6 27. Qf4 Rac8 28. Nd3

26. Nc3 Ne4 27. Nxe4 Rxe4 28. Qg1? Qc7 29. Rh3 Qc1+ 30. Rd1 Rxe2+ 31. Kf1 Qxd1# 0-1

"If the student forces himself to examine all moves that smite, however absurd they may look at first glance, he is on the way to becoming a master of tactics." Purdy

Nimzo Indian Defense

MOKAN Open

W: Tim Steiner 1930

B: Jose Gatica 1908

Annotations by Tim Steiner

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Qc2 d5 5. cxd5 Qxd5

Very popular move nowadays.

6. Nf3

6. e3 has a little bit better performance.

6... Qf5

Also, a very popular continuation. This is called Romanishin's variation named after the fellow who initiated this move. Strange, but he has the most games played with this variation and it totals 5 games. Must not be as strong as people think. It's mainly used as a surprise tactic or someone wanting a draw.

7. Qd1

Considered best for White with a 58% winning percentage.

7... O-O

Not the most accurate of move orders. Black needs to keep attacking the center with c5 and Nc6. This is a fairly sophisticated defense and it's not wise to have messed up the book moves. It was here that I realized my opponent has not studied these lines only knowing book 7 moves deep.

8. e3 Ne4 9. Bd2 Nxd2 10. Qxd2 c6

Passive still. White is poised for direct action.

11. Bd3 Qf6

(Fritz 8:) 11... Qh5 12. O-O Nd7 13. Qc2 Nf6 14. Ne5 Bd6 15. f4 Nd5 16. Qf2 Nxc3 17. bxc3 f6

12. a3 Ba5 13. Ne5

(Fritz 8: 1) 13. O-O Bc7 14. b4 Qh6 15. Rfc1 f5 16. Qc2 Qh5 17. b5 Bd6 18. bxc6 Nxc6 19. Nb5 -- or -- 13. b4 13... Bc7 14. O-O Qh6 15. Rfc1 a6 16. a4 Nd7 17. b5 axb5 18. axb5 Rxa1 19. Rxa1 Nf6 20. Ne5 -- or -- 13. Rc1

13... Nd7 14. f4

(Fritz 8: 1) 14. Nxd7 Bxd7 15. O-O -- or -- 14. b4 Bc7 15. f4 Qh4+ -- or -- 14. f4 c5 15. O-O cxd4

14... Nxe5

(Fritz 8:) 14... c5 15. O-O cxd4 16. exd4 Rd8 17. Qe3 Qh4 18. Nf3 Qh6 19. Rac1 Bb6 20. Na4 Ba5

15. dxe5

(Fritz 8: 1) 15. fxe5 15... Qh4+ 16. g3 Qh6 17. O-O f5 18. exf6 gxf6 -- or -- 15. dxe5 Qh4+ 16. Qf2 Qxf2+ 17. Kxf2 f6 18. exf6 gxf6 19. Rad1 e5 20. f5 Kg7 21. g4 Rd8

15... Qe7 16. b4

White chose this move because it absolutely retains his knight for the luscious e4 square.

Continued on page 24

continued from page 3

A cursory pass through the index shows a smattering of the personalities covered: Alekhine, Anand, Benko, Berliner, Bisguier, Botvinnik, Bronstien, Browne, Byrne, Capablanca, Chernev, Christiansen, Dake, Euwe, Evans, Fine, Fischer, Flohr, Gligoric, Golombek, Gruenfeld, Helms, Horowitz, Hort, Ivanov, Ivkov, Karpov, Kashdan, Kasparov, Kaufman, Keene, Keres, Kmoch, Koltanowski, Korchnoi, Korn, Kramner, Larsen, Lasker, Lombardy, Maroczy, Marshall, Mednis, Najdorf, Pavey, Petrosian, Pinkus, Polugaevsky, Quinteros, Reshevsky, Rogoff, Rohde, Saidy, Santasiere, Seirawan, Shipman, Simonson, Smyslov, Soltis, Spassky, Steiner, Tal, Tartakower, Torre, Vidmar, Winslow, Yates. This is an infinitesimal listing – the complete list is truly astounding.

For the “real” chess enthusiast, there are over 300 games throughout the book – many with good notes. Most of these games – I have never seen before. I have no idea where Denker got them, but they are a beautiful collection - casual games, training matches, simultaneous exhibitions, blindfold games, and of course, official tournament and match games. Photographs and diagrams are everywhere. I definitely recommend this book. It should be a part of every chess player's home library.

Puzzle 4



White to play and win.
Answers on page 24

continued from page 4

20. Kd1 Qg6



Beautifully done. Bb1, Bc2, and Bg4 are all at Black's fingertips. I believe White could resign here with a clear conscience.

21. d3 Bg4 22. Kc2 Bxf3 23. gxf3 Re2+ 24. Bd2 Qf5 25. Rg1 Bf4 26. Rd1 c5 (diagram)



26... Nd7 27. a4 Nc5

27. Kb3

27. a4 Nd7 28. Ra3 Ne5

27... c4+ 28. dxc4 dxc4+ 29. Kxc4 Qd5+ 30. Kb4 Bd6+ 31. Ka4 b5+ 32. Ka5 Bc7+ 33. Kb4

White can select death in the corner with 33. Ka6 Qc6+ 34. Kxa7 Qb6+ 35. Ka8 Re8#

33... Qc4+ 34. Ka3 Qa4# 0-1

continued from page 14

This may actually increase voter participation. The control number which I use for validations should be sufficient to control the process, since each voter would have to enter his/her control number, and could thus only vote once. Of course, I would also accept mail ballots, and would cross-check the mail ballots against the web voting so that no one could vote twice. I believe that Charlie Ward and I can work out the details to accomplish this, if he and the other board members are willing.

continued from page 6

12... g5 13. h3 Kd7 (diagram)



Now it's too late to check the Black king — he's headed for the perfect home at c6.

14. g4 Ne7 15. Ne1 h5 16. f3 Kc6 17. Rd1 hxg4 18. hxg4 Ng6 19. Nd3 Be7 20. Nf2 Rh7 21. Ne4 Rah8 22. N4g3 Rh3

White's greed brings his early downfall. After 32. Be5, White is O.K.

23. Kf2 Rh2+ 24. Ke3 Nf4 25. Rd2 Re8 26. Rfd1 Ng2+ 27. Ke4 b5 28. Nc1 f6 29. c4

The f pawn is taboo — 29. exf6 Bd6 and White's in trouble.

29... bxc4 30. bxc4 Rf8 31. exf6 Bd6 32. Nf1?



32... Re8 33. Nxb2 Bxg4+ 34. Kd3?

The only hope now is 34. Be5.

34... Bf5+ 35. Kc3 Be5+ 36. Kb3 Rb8+ And recognizing that after 37. Ka4 Rb4+ 38. Ka5 Ne3 he is terminal, Black resigned. Another triumph for the two bishops!

0-1

Puzzle 5



White to move and win
Answers on page 24

continued from page 7

“Then too, there are equally dramatic stories of children blessed by good homes and intellectual prowess. Along with the troubled kids, there are students like K.K. Karanja, who at age 15 is a candidate master (the third highest level of proficiency in chess) and the top player in his age group in the United States. In the simultaneous match played last year against World Champion Gary Kasparov at P.S. 132, the Bronx, Karanja managed to draw.” p. 19

Following the old maxim that “seeing is believing,” the American Chess Foundation has also produced an inspiring short video on the New York chess-in-schools project. This eight-minute video is available from the Foundation for \$10, postage included.

The video starts off with an interesting quote from Goethe: “Chess is the touchstone of the human intellect,” and then goes on to show live examples of chess-training activities taking place in the New York City schools.

One teacher in the video comments: “Chess teaches patience, foresight, long-range planning, and the ability to find alternative solutions.” A special education teacher, Nadine Kee, has the following to say about chess’s influence on her special needs students: “When students start playing chess, you can see the [academic] improvement immediately. From the first day when a child learns how to move a pawn, you’ll see a difference in their attitude, their behavior, and their success in school.”

The video ends with students briefly telling what the game of chess means to them. You can’t help be touched when one of the students earnestly says: “Chess, to me, is like music to a musician.”

The following quotes come from a position paper on the educational merits of chess written in 1983 by

continued from page 13

39... Qxf3?

Greed. 39... Qg1+ gives Black good chances of scrambling for a perpetual check on the dark squares.

40. Qb7+

40. d6+ Ke8 41. Qc6+ Kf8 42. Qc4 Qh1+ 43. Kb2 Qg2+ 44. Ka3 Qg6 45. Qd5 although still a fight, is a very lopsided one - very much in White's favor. If instead Black tires 40... Kxd6 41. Qd5+ Ke7 (41... Kc7 42. Qxe5+ Kd7 (42... Kb7 43. Bd5+ and White mates.) 43. Be6+ Ke8 44. Bg4+) 42. Qe6+ Kf8 43. Qf7#

40... Kf6 41. Qc6+ Kg5 42. Qc2!?

42. Bc2 is a better harmony with the Bishop defending the e4 Pawn and leaving the white Queen free to roam, attack, and assist in Pawn promotion.

42... Qf1+ 43. Kb2 f3 44. Qd2+!?

44. Qc8 corrects the functions of White's pieces. The Bishop defends Pawns and shelters the King; the Queen attacks everything she can lay her eyes on.

44... Kg4 45. Bd1 Bg5 46. Qc2 Qe1?

With 46... Qg1 Black may be better.

47. Qd3 (diagram)



47. Qg2+ removes the wind from Black's sails.

47... Qf2+ 48. Kb1 h5 49. h3+ Kg3 50. d6 h4 51. Qxf3+! Qxf3 52. Bxf3 Kxf3?

52... Bd8 53. Bg4 Kf4 54. Bf5 is still a fight.

53. a5 Kxe4

53... bxa5 54. b6 and White promotes.

54. a6 Kf3 55. a7 e4 56. a8=Q 1 - 0



"Are you experiencing any other unusual symptoms besides dizziness and Chess pain?"

Continued from page 23

(Fritz 8:) 16. O-O 17. Rfd1 a6 18. b4 Bc7 19. Qf2 Bd7
20. Rac1 -- or -- 16. Qc2 17. O-O Rd8 18. Rad1 -- or -- 16. b4
Bb6 17. Na4 f6 18. Nxb6 axb6 19. exf6 Qxf6 20. O-O e5 21. Qc3

16... Bc7 17. Ne4

(Fritz 8:) 17. O-O f6 18. exf6 gxf6 19. Rad1 a5 20. Ne4 axb4
21. axb4 f5 22. Ng5 Rd8 23. Qc3 Bd6 -- or -- 17. Ne4 f5 18. exf6
gxf6 19. O-O f5 -- or -- 17. Qc2 f5 18. O-O a5 19. b5 Bb6 20. Rf3
Bc5 21. Na4 Bxa3 22. Nb6 Ra7

17... f6 18. exf6 gxf6 19. O-O b6

(Fritz 8:) 19... f5 20. Nc5 a5 21. Bc4 b6 22. Nb3 b5 23. Bd3
axb4 24. axb4 Rxa1 25. Rxa1 Bd6 26. Qc3

20. Rf3

(Fritz 8:) 20. Qc3 Bb7 21. Rac1 a5 22. Rf3 axb4 23. axb4 Ra4
24. Rh3 Bd8 25. Bc4 c5 26. Rg3+ Kh8 -- or -- 20. Rac1 f5
21. Ng5 c5 22. bxc5 bxc5 23. Qf2 Rd8 24. Bc4 -- or -- 20. Qe1
f5 21. Ng5 e5 22. Qc3 Rf6 23. Rad1 a5 24. Bc4+ Kh8 25. e4
axb4 26. axb4

20... Bd7

(Fritz 8:) 20... a5 21. Rd1 axb4 22. axb4 f5 23. Rg3+ Kh8
24. Ng5 Qf6

21. Bc4

(Fritz 8:) 21. Qc3 Kh8 22. Rd1 e5 23. f5 a6 24. a4 Rfd8 25. a5
Qg7 26. axb6 Bxb6

21... Kh8

(Fritz 8:) 21... a5 22. Qc3 Kh8 23. Rd1 Be8 24. Rf2 axb4
25. axb4 Ra4 26. Ng5

22. Rd1 Rad8 23. Qb2 e5 24. f5 Bc8 25. Rdf1 Bb7 26. Qc2 a5 27. Rh3

Notice how all of White's men will join in an attack. How
Karpovian.

27... axb4 28. Ng5!

My opponent admitted he never even saw this coming. It
didn't phase him much. He moved several minutes later.

28... fxg5? 29. f6 Qd7 30. f7 Qxh3 31. gxh3 bxa3?

Greedy? Perhaps. Most likely does not see the danger. (Fritz
8:) 31... Bc8 32. Qe4 Kg7 33. Qxc6 Bd6 34. axb4 Bxh3 35. Rf3

32. Qf5 h6 33. Bd3?

White is clearly relaxed as a win is in hand.

33... Rxd3 34. Qxd3 Bc8? 35. Qg6

A well played game by both participants. A clean game too
except for the end. Black didn't make many mistakes for a good
portion of the game but it appeared as the game grew more
tense he was misled. This is an example of when someone
doesn't understand the game positionally. After the game, my
opponent didn't seem to even realize why he lost. In fact, he
said he thought he was winning. A quick postmortem and he
was dismayed but satisfied. A pleasant fellow. I enjoyed his
company.

1-0

Puzzle Solutions

Puzzle 1 page 8

1. e3 Rxe3+ 2. c3 Rxc3+ 3. Ka2 Ra3+ 4. Kb1
Ra1+ 5. Kc2 Rc1+ 6. Kd3 Rc3+ 7. Ke2 Re3+
8. Kf1 Re1+ 9. Kg2 Rg1+ 10. Kf3 Rxc3+
11. Ke2 Re3+ 12. Kd1 Re1+ 13. Kc2 Rc1+
14. Kb3 Rc3+ 15. Ka2 Ra3+ (15... Rxh3 16.
c8=Q#) 16. Rxa3#

Puzzle 2 page 18

1. Qh6+ Bxh6 (1... Kg8 2. Qh8+ Bxh8 3. Nh6#)
2. Ng5+ Kh8 3. Rh7#

Puzzle 3 page 20

1. Rc8 Rxc8 2. Rxc8 Bxc8 (2... Qxc8 Qe7#)
3. Qxd8#

Puzzle 4 page 21

1 Nxf7 Qd7 (1...Kxf7 2 Re5) 2 Ne5 Qd8 3 Ng4

Puzzle 5 page 22

1. Bb6 Rd2 (1... Ra2+ 2. Ba5) 2. d7+