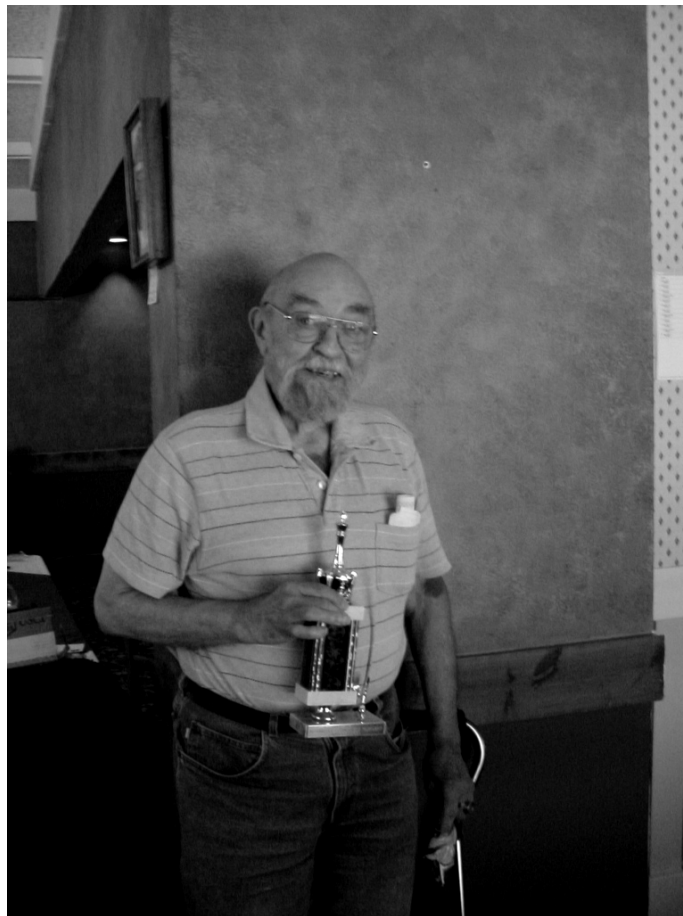




MISSOURI CHESS BULLETIN

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JAMES DORAN
MISSOURI CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT NOVICE CHAMPION
EIGHTY YEARS YOUNG

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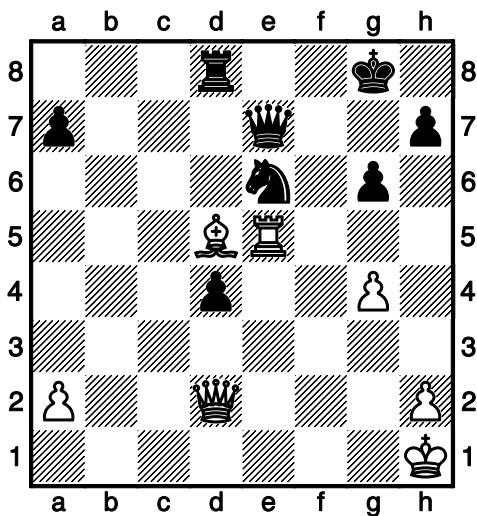
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS AND ADDRESS CHANGES

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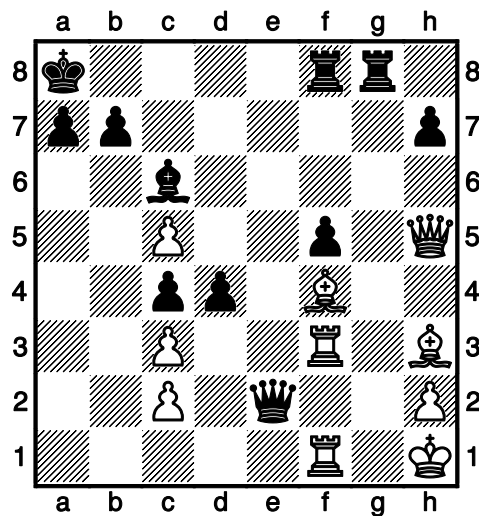
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BLACK TO MOVE



1B-Rxd5, 1W-Rxd5, 2B-Qb7, 2W-Qg2, 3B-Qb1+,
 3W-Qg1, 4B-Qe4+, 4W-Qg2, 5B-Qxg2+,
 5W-Kxg2, 6B-Nf4+ and 7B-Nxd5

BLACK TO MOVE



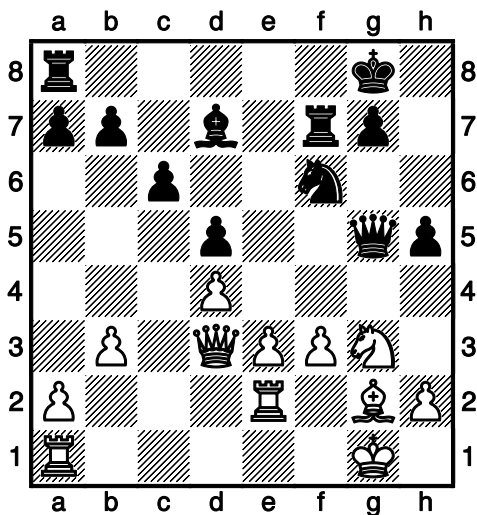
1B-Rg4!(1W-Bxg4, 2B-Qxf1++)

MISSOURI CHESS BULLETIN SUMMER ISSUE

By Ed Baur

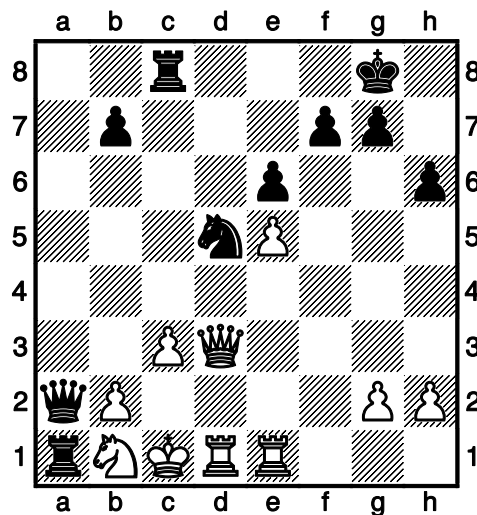
As you are aware, this MISSOURI CHESS BULLETIN SUMMER ISSUE is late. Several factors caused the delay. First there was an unscheduled summer BOARD OF DIRECTORS meeting. Second Tony Rich and Brian McLaughlin resigned from the BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Ken Fee decided he no longer had the time be the MISSOURI CHESS BULLETIN editor. I have volunteered to be the acting MISSOURI CHESS BULLETIN editor. I do not have the computer skills nor the proper software at this time, but will produce as many issues as necessary until another there is another volunteer. There are too may of my articles and my games in this bulletin, because I did not have other material. Tournament organizers can help by sending tournament articles, pictures and games to ecbaur@gmail.com. This issue was due in July, and was mailed in September, two months late. The next issue, the Fall, 2007 issue, will be mailed in November, one month late, and the Winter, 2008 issue will be mailed in January, on time.

BLACK TO MOVE



1B-h4, 1W-Nf1, 2B-h3!

BLACK TO MOVE



1B-Nxc3, 1W-bxc3, 2B-Rxc3+, 2W-Qxc3,
3B-Rxb1++

2007 MISSOURI CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

By Thomas Rehmeier

A total of 58 players from Missouri, Illinois, South Dakota, Kansas and Arkansas competed for seven titles in the 2007 MISSOURI CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS TOURNAMENT at the Best Western Columbia Inn in Columbia, Missouri on the weekend of July 14 and July 15.

CLASS WINNERS

Master and Expert – Ron Luther – 4¹/₂ points
Class A – Kevin Cao – 3 points
Class B – Nick Karlow – 5 points
Class C – Khin Kyi, Vikram Arun,
John Slattery – 4 points
Class D – Vairam Arunachalam,
Arjun Khurna – 3¹/₂ points
Class E – Ben Karczewski – 5 points
Novice – James Doran – 4¹/₂ points

The tournament was the final opportunity for players to earn one of six spots in the MISSOURI INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT, to be played concurrently with the MISSOURI OPEN TOURNAMENT on September 29 and September 30. Because Master-Expert section winner Ron Luther previously earned one of the six spots, second place Tim Steiner of Kansas was second, Nathanael Swinger was awarded the last spot.

Class B winner Nick Karlow and Class E winner Ben Karczewski were the only players to post perfect 5 and 0 records. Ben, with a provisional rating of 900, chose to play in the Class E section. Ben's toughest game was against an up and coming scholastic player, Peter Harris. The two faced off in the first round, where Ben won a tough struggle, and both players went on to win all their remaining games.

The largest section, Class C, local player Khin Kyi led the division with four points going into the last



ACTION AT THE CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

round game against Saint Louis player John Slattery. John repeatedly refused to force a draw by threefold repetition of position in what appeared to be drawn position, and outmaneuvered Khin to win the game and claim a share of the three way tie for first. Khin Kyi's hard work wasn't lost as he won out on tiebreaks and took home the trophy. The third person to split the Class C prize was scholastic player Vikram Arun. Vikram had four upsets to go with his single defeat, good enough to share first.

Vikram Arun was not the only one in his family to claim a share of a state title. His father, Vairam Arunachalam won the Class D as he tied for first with Arjun Khurana. Vairam's games were consistently among the longest running affairs, bucking the trend of lower boards finishing quickly.

A regular at St. Louis tournaments, James Doran used his experience to claim the top prize in the Novice Division. James gave up only one draw on his way to a successful tournament and carved his name among this year's class champions.

The Class A prize went to the dangerous Kevin Cao. Kevin, who, according to the latest United

States Chess Federation rating list, is the eighth highest rated ten year old. He had two impressive upsets against higher rated players, before a final round loss to state champion Ron Luther. Kevin leads a group of scholastic players whose ratings have skyrocketed in the last year, and the future of

Missouri chess looks to be in good hands.

Overall the tournament was a tremendous success. Thanks to all who attended, and to organizer Bob Howe.

MASTER – EXPERT – CLASS A

	NAME	RATING	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	ROUND 4	ROUND 5	SCORE
1	RONALD LUTHER	2204	W-11	D-7	W-2	W-3	W-5	4.5
2	TIM STEINER	2006	W-5	W-4	L-1	D-9	W-7	3.5
3	NATHANAEL SWINGER	1822	W-6	L-9	W-4	L-1	W-10	3.0
4	BRAD SCHLOSSER	1836	W-12	L-2	L-3	W-11	W-9	3.0
5	KEVIN CAO	1802	L-2	W-12	W-6	W-7	L-1	3.0
6	BOB HOLLIMAN	2162	L-3	W-10	L-5	D-8	W-11	2.5
7	SELDEN TRIMBLE	1909	W-8	D-1	W-9	L-5	L-2	2.5
8	THOMAS REHMEIER	1677	L-7	D-11	W-12	D-6	H	2.5
9	KEVIN JOHNSON	2000	D-10	W-3	L-7	D-2	L-4	2.0
10	TOM EPPLIN-ZAPF	1666	D-9	L-6	D-11	W-12	L-3	2.0
11	FRANK SMITH	1886	L-1	D-8	D-10	L-4	L-6	1.0
12	WILLIAM TONG	1696	L-4	L-5	L-8	L-10	B	1.0

CLASS B

	NAME	RATING	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	ROUND 4	ROUND 5	SCORE
1	NICK KARLOW	1751	W-6	W-3	W-2	W-5	W-4	5.0
2	DANIEL ROBERTS	1754	W-8	D-4	L-1	D-3	W-5	3.0
3	HENRY CAO	1728	W-5	L-1	W-4	D-2	D-6	3.0
4	SHAN SIDDIQI	1653	W-7	D-2	L-3	W-8	L-1	2.5
5	DOUG HOWE	1620	L-3	W-6	W-7	L-1	L-2	2.0
6	JOE HOFFMANN	1581	L-1	L-5	D-8	W-7	D-3	2.0
7	THA DUN		L-4	D-8	L-5	L-6	B	1.5
8	MATTHEW CONWAY	1635	L-2	D-7	D-6	L-4	N	1.0

CLASS C

	NAME	RATING	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	ROUND 4	ROUND 5	SCORE
1	VIKRAM ARUN	1525	W-16	W-7	L-2	W-11	W-4	4.0
2	KHIN KYI	1541	W-10	W-15	W-1	W-4	L-3	4.0
3	JOHN SLATTERY	1468	L-7	W-6	W-8	W-14	W-2	4.0
4	SPENCER CONKLIN	1554	W-6	W-14	W-5	L-2	L-1	3.0
5	EDWARD BAUR	1526	W-12	W-11	L-4	D-7	D-9	3.0
6	LUKE RUGGLES	1496	L-4	L-3	W-15	B	W-7	3.0
7	SAM MATTHIS	1544	W-3	L-1	W-9	D-5	L-6	2.5
8	STANLEY HORTON	1495	L-15	W-10	L-3	W-13	H	2.5
9	RON KOHL	1470	L-11	W-12	L-7	W-15	D-5	2.5
10	JOHN WILHELM	1432	L-2	L-8	H	W-12	W-11	2.5
11	RICHARD FOX	1579	W-9	L-5	W-13	L-1	L-10	2.0
12	WILLIAM WRIGHT	1432	L-5	L-9	B	L-10	W-14	2.0
13	MICHAEL FINKELSTEIN	1384	H	W-16	L-11	L-8	N	1.5
14	CHARLES WARD	1412	B	L-4	H	L-3	L-12	1.5
15	REMI KHU	1330	W-8	L-2	L-6	L-9	N	1.0
16	WESLEY WILLIS	1558	L-1	L-13	H	N	N	0.5

CLASS D								
	NAME	RATING	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	ROUND 4	ROUND 5	SCORE
1	VAIRAM ARUNCHALAM	1388	W-3	W-6	L-4	D-2	W-7	3.5
2	ARJUN KHURANA	1355	W-7	D-4	W-6	D-1	H	3.5
3	STEPHEN EASTON	1294	L-1	W-5	W-7	W-4	L-6	3.0
4	TIM CAMPBELL	1371	W-8	D-2	W-1	L-3	L-5	2.5
5	MARGARET HUA	1142	L-6	L-3	D-8	B	W-4	2.5
6	MIKE COY	1376	W-5	L-1	L-2	L-7	W-3	2.0
7	CODY RUGGLES	1256	L-2	W-8	L-3	W-6	L-1	2.0
8	LUKE BRODLAND	1288	L-4	L-7	D-5	N	N	0.5

CLASS E								
	NAME	RATING	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	ROUND 4	ROUND 5	SCORE
1	BEN KARCZEWSKI	939	W-2	W-6	W-3	W-4	W-5	5.0
2	PETER HARRIS	1076	L-1	W-4	W-5	W-3	W-6	4.0
3	NORMAN HARDIN	956	L-6	W-5	L-1	L-2	W-4	2.0
4	LYNN LAMPHEAR	1068	D-5	L-2	W-6	L-1	L-3	1.5
5	FRED SMITH	914	D-4	L-3	L-2	W-6	L-1	1.5
6	JAMES RIDDLE	1101	W-3	L-1	L-4	L-5	L-2	1.0

NOVICE								
	NAME	RATING	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	ROUND 4	ROUND 5	SCORE
1	JAMES DORAN	697	W-6	W-3	D-2	W-5	B	4.5
2	ANDREW VENABLE	816	W-5	W-4	D-1	D-3	W-6	4.0
3	ADRIAN MARLEY-WEAVER	790	W-7	L-1	W-6	D-2	W-5	3.5
4	NIDHI KHURANA	326	B	L-2	W-7	W-6	H	3.5
5	JULIA EPLIN-ZAPF	710	L-2	W-7	B	L-1	L-3	2.0
6	WILLIAM LEWIS	460	L-1	B	L-3	L-4	L-2	1.0
7	JABEZ CAMPBELL	494	L-3	L-5	L-4	H	N	0.5

White, Bill Wright – Black, Ed Baur
Queen Pawn Game – King's Indian Defense

1W-d4, 1B-Nf6, 2W-c4, 2B-d6, 3W-Nc3, 3B-g6,
4W-e4, 4B-Bg7, 5W-f3, 5B-OO, 6W-Be3, 6B-e5,
7W-g1Ne2, 7B-exd4, 8W-Nxd4, 8B-b8Nd7,
9W-Qd2, 9B-c6, 10W-Bh6, 10B-Re8, 11W-Bxg7,
11B-Kxg7, 12W-OOO, 12B-Ne5, 13W-Nb3,
13B-Be6, 14W-Qxd6, 14B-Nxc4, 15W-Qxd8,
15B-a8Rxd8, 16W-Nc5, 16B-Rxd1+, 17W-Nxd1,
17B-Ne5, 18W-Nc3, 18B-b6, 19W-Nxe6+,
19B-fxe6, 20W-Be2, 20B-Rd8, 21W-h3,
21B-Nh5, 22W-Rd1, 22B-Rxd1+, 23W-Bxd1,
23B-Nf4, 24W-Ne2, 24B-Nxg2, 25W-Nd4,
25B-Kf6, 26W-Bb3, 26B-Nf4, 27W-h4, 27B-a6,
28W-Kd2, 28B-c5, 29W-Nc2, 29B-Nxf3+,
30W-Ke3, 30B-Nxh4, 31W-Kxf4, 31B-g5+,
32W-Kg4, 32B-Ng6, 33W-Ne3, 33B-Ne5+,
34W-Kg3, 34B-h5, 35W-Bc2, 35B-b5, 36W-b3,
36B-Nc6, 37W-Bd1, 37B-h4+, 38W-Kh3,
38B-Ne5, 39W-Bh5, 39B-c4, 40W-bxc4,
40B-bxc4, 41W-Be2, 41B-Nd3, 42W-Nxc4,
42B-Nf4+, 43W-Kg4, 43B-Nxe2, 44W-a3,

44B-Nf4, 45W-Ne3, 45B-h3, 46W-Nf1, 46B-Ke5,
47W-Ng3, 47B-h2, 48W-Kxg5, 48B-Ne2,
49W-Nh1, 49B-Kxe4, 50W-Kg4, 50B-Nd4,
51W-Kg3, 51B-Nf3, 52W-Kg2, 52B-e5,
53W-Nf2+, 53B-Ke3, 54W-Ng4+, 54B-Ke2,
55W-RESIGN

White, Ed Baur – Black, Richard Fox
King Pawn Game – Sicilian Defense

1W-e4, 1B-c5, 2W-d4, 2B-cxd4, 3W-c3, 3B-dxc3,
4W-Bc4, 4B-e6, 5W-Nxc3, 5B-Nc6, 6W-Nf3,
6B-d6, 7W-OO, 7B-Be7, 8W-Be3, 8B-Nf6,
9W-Qe2, 9B-OO, 10W-f1Rd1, 10B-Bd7,
11W-a1Rc1, 11B-a6, 12W-Nd4, 12B-Ne5,
13W-Bb3, 13B-Rc8, 14W-f4, 14B-Nc6, 15W-h3,
15B-e5, 16W-Nf3, 16B-b5, 17W-f5, 17B-b4,
18W-Nd5, 18B-Nxe4, 19W-Bb6, 19B-Ng3,
20W-Qf2, 20B-Qe8, 21W-Nxe7+, 21B-Qxe7,
22W-Qxg3, 22B-Bxf5, 23W-Bd5, 23B-Bd7,
24W-Be3, 24B-Qf6, 25W-Bg5, 25B-Qg6,
26W-Nh4, 26B-Qh5, 27W-Bf3, 27B-Bg4,
28W-Qxg4, 28B-RESIGN

SPOTLIGHT ON MISSOURI CHESS – ANDREW SCHATZ

By Steve Goldberg

At six years old, Andrew Schatz joined the chess club at school, but it wasn't until August 2006, at age thirteen, that he played in his first United States Chess Federation rated tournament. His initial provisional rating was at 490. By January 2007 his still provisional rating had increased to 722. In March 2007, he competed in the Grade Eight and Under section of the 2007 Missouri Scholastic Championship Tournament, finishing with five points in the six round event. This was good for fifth place in the 172 player section.

In April 2007, the National High School Championship Tournament came to Kansas City, and Andrew took advantage of the opportunity to play in his first national event. This was by far his largest tournament. His Under 900 section had 362 dedicated youngsters from across the United States, including about 80 from Missouri.

After five rounds Andrew was one of seven players with perfect 5-0 scores. In round six, however, he lost to Deborah Simoes of Maryland. Deborah went on to tie for first place with a 7-0 record. Round seven brought another tough opponent who defeated Andrew, but the eighth grader at Parkway Central Middle School still finished with an excellent total of 5 points.

Now the heart wrenching waiting began. Andrew knew that there were 25 trophies in his section, and he was on the cusp. He desperately wanted to bring home one of the trophies.

As I spoke with his mother Gayle, Andrew was much too anxious to talk about the tournament or to even be photographed. Tournament officials began bringing out large poster boards displaying the final results, but not for the Under 900 section. Suddenly Andrew darted off in a blur and I saw that he had found the results board for his section. Scanning the board quickly he read name after



ANDREW SCHATZ AND MOTHER GAYLE

name not his own, but then at the very bottom of the board was listed the name of Andrew Schatz. There were 23 players with 5½ points or better, and an astonishing 46 players tied at 5 points, Andrew among them. But he managed to snag the very last trophy for his section, in his first national tournament. Finally, he allowed himself to be photographed, embracing his mother in this special moment.

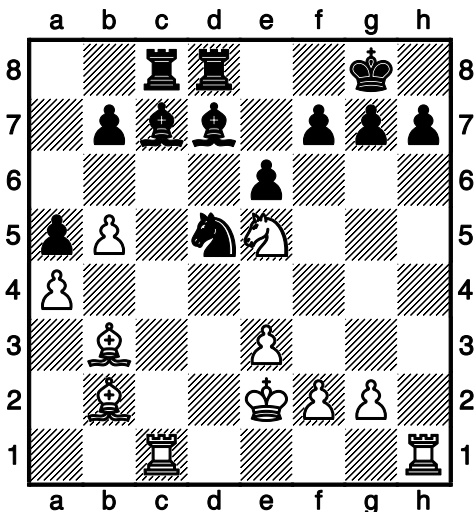
I later had a chance to ask Andrew about his budding chess career. He is coached by Gabriel Boyd of the En Passant Chess Club in St. Louis, and now sports a established rating of 936. His chess training varies quite a bit. "Some weeks it can be up to eight hours, some weeks it can be not a single second," he explained. He is emphatic about his priorities. "School comes first. Chess after."

It's clear, however, that Andrew has a love for chess. "I just really have to thank my mom for taking me to all these tournaments," he said. He

already has plans for his next big event, the 2007 National Youth Action Championship in November at the Millennium Hotel in downtown Saint Louis. Andrew says simply, "I'll be there."

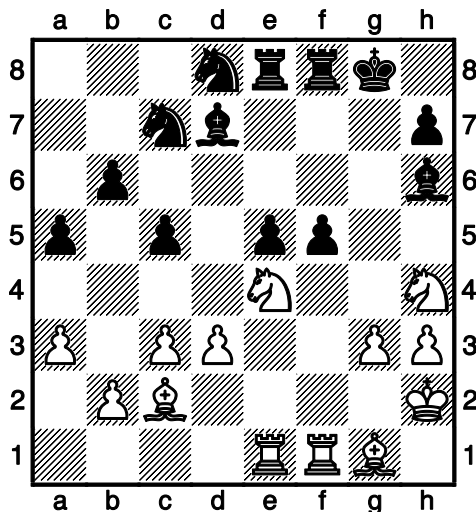
A number of Missouri players did quite well. You can find complete tournament results at <http://www.uschess.org/tournaments/2007/hs/> and my ChessCafe column covering the National High School Championship; Tournament at <http://www.chesscafe.com/text/scholastic31.pdf>.

WHITE TO MOVE



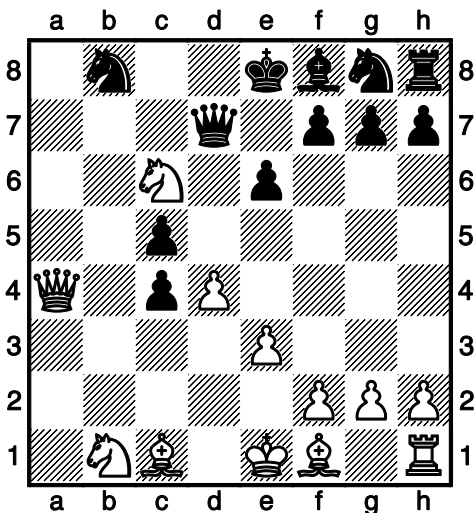
1W-Nxd7, 1B-Rxd7, 2W-Bxd5, 2B-Rxd5, 3W-b6!

WHITE TO MOVE



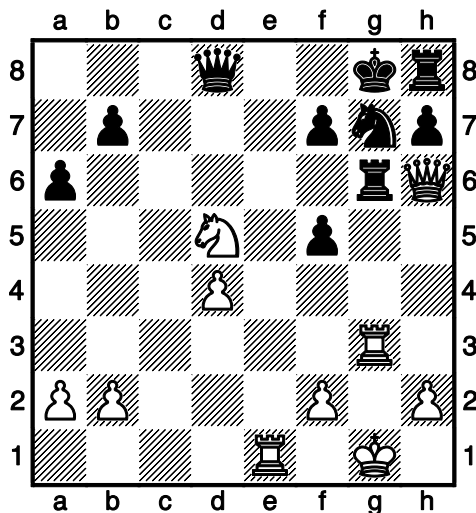
1W-Nd6, 1B-Re7, 2W-h4Nxf5, 2B-Bxf5, 3W-Nxf5, 3B-Re6, 4W-Bb3

WHITE TO MOVE



1W-Qa8!

WHITE TO MOVE



1W-Ne7+, 1B-Qxe7, 2W-Rxe7!(2B-Rxh6, 3W-Re8++)

GRANDMASTER MAURICE ASHLEY SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITION

By Ed Baur

Grandmaster Maurice Ashley played a twenty-one board simultaneous exhibition against local players on Wednesday, August 22 in Kirkwood. Ashley won nineteen games and drew two. This reporter and Todd Plagemann had the draws. Missouri Chess Association Treasurer Bill Wright deserves appreciation for organizing.

White, Maurice Ashley – Black, Ed Baur
King Pawn Game – Pirc Defense

1W-e4, 1B-d6, 2W-d4, 2B-Nf6, 3W-Nc3
3B-g6, 4W-Be3, 4B-Bg7, 5W-Qd2, 5B-Ng4,
6W-Bg5, 6B-h6, 7W-Bh4, 7B-g5, 8W-Bg3, 8B-f5,
9W-exf5, 9B-Bxf5, 10W-h4, 10B-e5, 11W-dxe5,
11B-Nxe5, 12W-hxg5, 12B-Qxg5, 13W-Bf4,
13B-Qg6, 14W-Nd5(threatens 15W-Nxc7+),
14B-Kd7, 15W-OOO, 15B-b8Nc6, 16W-f3,
16B-a8Rd8(probably a second best move,
16B-a8Re8 is probably better), 17W-Bb5, 17B-a6,
18W-Bxc6, 18B-Nxc6, 19W-Ne2, 19B-Kc8,
20W-Ng3, 20B-Be6, 21W-Ne4 21B-Bxd5
22W-Qxd5, 22B-h8Rf8, 23W-g3, 23B-Rf5,
24W-Qd3, 24B-Qe6, 25W-Qb3, 25B-Qxb3,
26W-axb3, 26B-Ne5, 27W-Bxe5, 27B-Rxe5,
28W-c5, 28B-Rf8, 29W-Rd3, 29B-e5Rf5, 30W-f4,
30B-Ra5(threatens 31B-Ra1+ winning the WHITE
h1-rook), 31W-Kc2, 31B-Re8, 32W-b4, 32-Ra2,
33W-Nc3, 33B-Bxc3, 34W-Kxc3, 34B-Re2,
35W-Rb1(threatens 36W-Kb3, trapping the
BLACK a2-rook), 35B-Ra4, 36W-Kb3, 36B-b5,
37W-cxb5, 37B-axb5, 38W-Rh1, 38B-Re4,
39W-Rxh6, 39B-a4Rxb4+, 40W-Ka3, 40B-Ra4+,
41W-Kb3(draw agreed)

White, Maurice Ashley – Black, Jennifer Laupp
King Pawn Game – French Defense

1W-e4, 1B-e6, 2W-d4, 2B-d5, 3W-exd5, 3B-exd5,
4W-c4, 4B-Nf6, 5W-Nc3, 5B-Be6, 6W-cxd5,
6B-Nxd5, 7W-Nf3, 7B-Nd7, 8W-Bd3, 8B-Be7,



**GRANDMASTER MAURICE ASHLEY
MOVES AGAINST MARGARET HUA**

9W-OO, 9B-OO, 10W-Re1, 10B-Re8, 11W-a3,
11B-c6, 12W-Bc2, 12B-d5Nf6, 13W-Bf4,
13B-Nb6, 14W-Ne5, 14B-Nc4, 15W-Nxc4,
15B-Bxc4, 16W-Bc5, 16B-Bd6, 17W-Qf3,
17B-Bxe5, 18W-dxe5, 18B-Qd2, 19W-Bf5,
19B-Nd5, 20W-Ne4, 20B-Qd3,
21W-Nf6+(threatens 22W-Bxd3), 21B-RESIGN

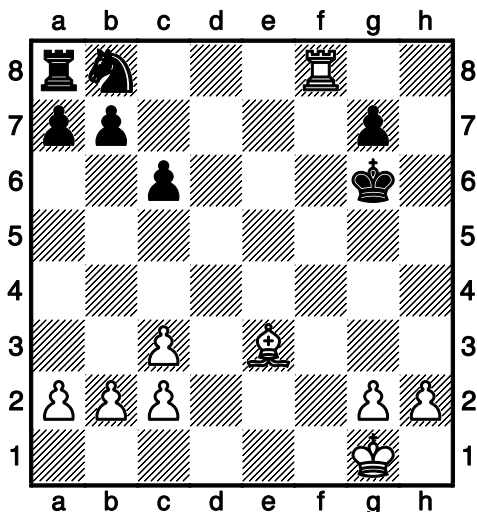
White, Maurice Ashley – Black, Al Howlett
King Pawn Game – Alekhine Defense

1W-e4, 1B-Nf6, 2W-e5, 2B-Nd5, 3W-c4, 3B-d6,
4W-d4, 4B-d6, 5W-exd6, 5B-exd6, 6W-Nc3,
6B-Be7, 7W-Bd3 7B-Nc6, 8W-Be3, 8B-Bf6,
9W-g1Ne2, 9B-OO, 10W-b3, 10B-Bg4,
11W-Qb1, 11B-h6, 12W-OO, 12B-Bxe2,
13W-Nxe2, 13B-Re8 14W-a3, 14B-a5, 15W-Qc2,
15B-d5, 16W-c5, 16B-Nc8, 17W-a1Rb1,
17B-Bg5, 18W-Qd2, 18B-Bxe3, 19W-fxe3,
19B-Qg5, 20W-Rf3, 20B-c8Ne7, 21W-b1Rf1,
21B-f5, 22W-Nf4, 22B-Nd8, 23W-Nh3, 23B-Qf6,
24W-Bxf5, 24B-Nxf5, 25W-Rxf5, 25B-Qe6,
26W-f1Rf3, 26B-Nc6, 27W-Qd3, 27B-Re7,
28W-Nf4, 28B-Qe4, 29W-Rxd5, 29B-a8Re8,
30W-Qxe4, 30B-Rxe4, 31W-Kf2, 31B-Kh7,

32W-Rd7, 32B-e8Re7, 33W-Rxe7, 33B-Nxe7,
34W-Nd3, 34B-Nc6, 35W-Rf7, 35B-Re7,

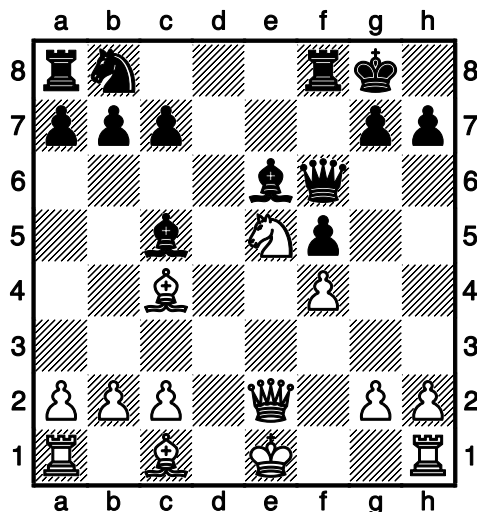
36W-Rxe7, 36B-Nxe7, 37W-e4, 37B-c6,
38W-Ne5, 38B-Kg8, 39W-Nc4, 39B-RESIGN

WHITE TO MOVE



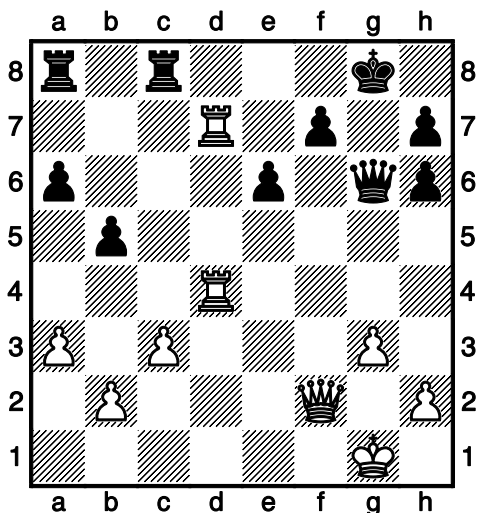
1W-Bf4!

WHITE TO MOVE



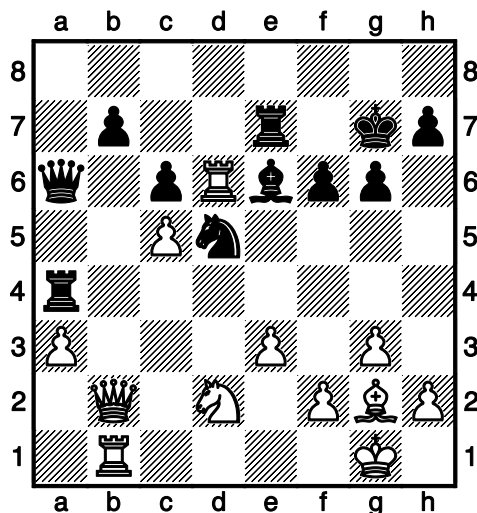
1W-Nd7, 1B-Nxd7, 2W-Qxe6+, 2B-Qxe6,
3W-Bxe6+, 3B-Rf7, 4W-Bxf7+!

WHITE TO MOVE



1W-Rg4!(1B-Qxg4, 2W-Qxf7+, 2B-Kh8,
3W-Qxh7++)

WHITE TO MOVE



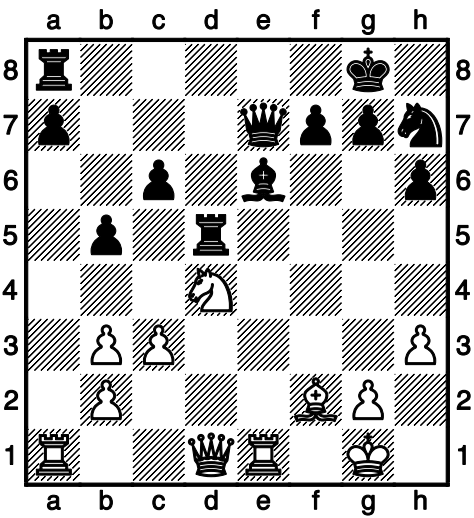
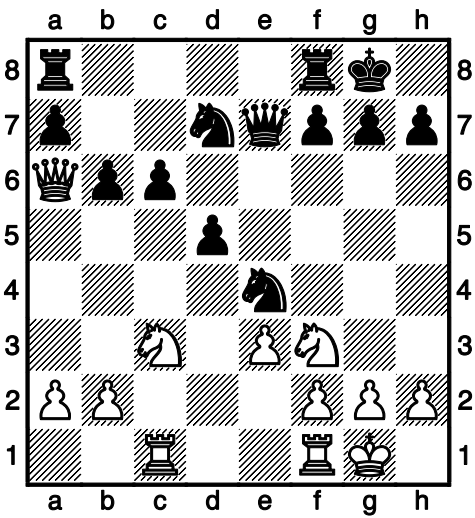
1W-Bxd5!(1B-cxd5, 2W-Rxa6 and 1B-Bxd5,
2W-Qxf6+!)

BOARD OR DIRECTORS ELECTION RESULTS

By Ed Baur

Missouri Chess Association election commissioner Jim Davies and Maurice Bock counted ballot votes on Saturday, July 7 at the tournament in Maryland Heights. The three candidates with the largest numbers of votes from Region 1, the three candidates with the largest numbers of votes from Region 2, and the three candidates with the largest numbers of votes from Region 3, have been elected to the Board of Directors for one year beginning in October, 2007. The winners deserve congratulations, and Jim Davies deserves sincere appreciation for serving as election commissioner.

Region 1 Saint Louis Area	Region 2 Kansas City Area	Region 3 Central Missouri Area
Edward Baur – 16 William Wright – 16 John Wiedner – 13 Loal Davis – 1 Jim Davies – 1	Bob Holliman – 12 Joe Conklin – 10 Ken Fee – 10 Bryon McLaughlin – 8 Ron Luther – 8 John Skelton – 7 Dave Kearns – 1	Tim Campbell – 22 Bob Howe – 18 Thomas Rehmeier – 18 Mike Clark – 9 Nick Beatty – 7

<p style="text-align: center;">WHITE TO MOVE</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">1W-Nxc6, 1B-Qd7, 2W-Ne7+, 2B-Qxe7, 3W-Qxd5!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WHITE TO MOVE</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">1W-Qb7, 1B-f8Rc8(1B-Qd6, 2W-Nxe4, 2B-dxe4, 3W-Rxc6), 2W-Nxd5, 2B-Qd6(2B-cxd5, 3W-Rxc8+!), 3W-Rxc6!</p>
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2007 MISSOURI SCHOLASTIC CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

By Ed Baur

The Missouri Scholastic Championship Tournament was played on Saturday, February 24 and Saturday, March 3 at Lewis and Clark Middle School in Jefferson City. The Senior High School Division was played on Saturday, February 24. A total of 193 players, representing 35 schools participated. Both Parkway Central High School and Clayton High School scored $13\frac{1}{2}$ points of a possible 16, and are both recognized as state champions. Parkway Central was awarded the first place plaque on tie breaker points.

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONS

FIRST PLACE TEAMS – Parkway Central High School and Clayton High School
BOARD 1 CHAMPIONS – Nick Karlow, Kevin Guo and Taylor Tyre
BOARD 2 CHAMPION – Josh Morris
BOARD 3 CHAMPIONS – Christopher Richmond and Charles Johnson
BOARD 4 CHAMPIONS – Mohammed Siddiqi and Curtis Beasley

The Junior High Division was played on Saturday, March 3. A total of 494 players representing 142 schools participated.

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONS

NINTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION – Rockhurst High School

NINTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION – Jake Amann
EIGHTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION – Ladue Middle School
EIGHTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION – Henry Cao
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPIONS – Chesterfield Day High School and McKinley Middle School
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS – Isaiah Gadson and Rio Pimentel
FIFTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION – Pembroke Hill High School
FIFTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS – Kevin Cao and William Tong

The playoff tournament, to determine the Missouri representatives in the Arnold Denker Tournament of State Champions and the Polgar Tournament of Champions was played on March 3. Based on performances in the Senior High School Division, eighteen players were invited. Eleven accepted the invitation. Nick Karlow and Tyler Severance, both with 3 points, were the top scoring boys. Tess Butcher, with $1\frac{1}{2}$ points was the top scoring girl.

2007 MISSOURI SPRING OPEN TOURNAMENT

By Ed Baur

The Missouri Spring Open Tournament was played on Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1 in Saint Louis. The tournament served as the fourth qualifying event for the Missouri Invitational Tournament. There was a total of 36 players, representing Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and Kansas. Bill Wright was the organizer and this reporter and John Wiedner were the directors.

AWARD WINNERS

First Place – Jim Voelker, Steve Bange and Zebedee Fortman Jr. – 4 points
 Class B – Craig Hines, Matt Barrett and Nick Karlow – 3¹/₂ points
 Class C – William Tong and Bob Howe – 3 points
 Class D – Jacob Wilkins – 3 points
 Class E – Luke Brodland – 3¹/₂ points
 Novice – Don Harper and Luke Herbst – 2 points
 Unrated – Bobby Barrow – 2 points

	NAME	RATING	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	ROUND 4	ROUND 5	SCORE
1	JAMES VOELKER	2112	W-12	W-7	D-5	D-4	W-10	4.0
2	STEVEN BANGE	1940	W-28	D-16	W-11	W-5	D-3	4.0
3	ZEBEDEE FORTMAN JR	1900	W-21	W-17	D-4	W-14	D-2	4.0
4	TODD PLAGEMANN	1935	W-13	W-10	D-3	D-1	D-6	3.5
5	JAMES POLLITT	1835	W-22	W-20	D-1	L-2	W-16	3.5
6	CRAIG HINES	1791	W-32	W-31	H	D-8	D-4	3.5
7	NICK KARLOW	1741	W-34	L-1	W-23	D-15	W-14	3.5
8	MATTHEW BARRETT	1760	L-31	W-29	W-32	D-6	W-17	3.5
9	LUKE BRODLAND	1035	D-29	D-12	D-13	W-28	W-15	3.5
10	BARRY WALKER	1680	W-33	L-4	W-31	W-19	L-1	3.0
11	WILLIAM TONG	1491	W-26	D-19	L-2	D-13	W-21	3.0
12	BOB HOWE	1500	L-1	D-9	D-28	W-23	W-22	3.0
13	JACOB WILKINS	1452	L-4	W-33	D-9	D-11	W-19	3.0
14	KEVIN JOHNSON	2000	W-18	D-15	W-16	L-3	L-7	2.5
15	BRAD SCHLOSSER	1736	W-25	D-14	D-19	D-7	L-9	2.5
16	HENRY CAO	1564	W-24	D-2	L-14	W-18	L-5	2.5
17	JOE HOFFMANN	1500	W-36	L-3	H	W-20	L-8	2.5
18	JOHN SLATTERY	1417	L-14	W-25	H	L-16	W-27	2.5
19	KEVIN CAO	1770	W-23	D-11	D-15	L-10	L-13	2.0
20	BRADLEY HERBST	1553	W-27	L-5	W-34	L-17	N	2.0
21	ARJUN KHURANA	1267	L-3	L-24	W-36	W-34	L-11	2.0
22	RUSSELL HAMMERSMITH	1227	L-5	W-27	L-24	W-33	L-12	2.0
23	JOHN WIEDNER	1114	L-19	W-26	L-7	L-12	W-33	2.0
24	LUKE HERBST	978	L-16	W-21	W-22	N	N	2.0
25	THOMAS MCGRATH	1083	L-15	L-18	H	W-35	D-28	2.0
26	BOBBY BARROW		L-11	L-23	L-27	W-36	W-32	2.0
27	DON HARPER	825	L-20	L-22	W-26	W-32	L-18	2.0
28	CHANSAMONE KHOTSPHOM	1340	L-2	H	D-12	L-9	D-25	1.5
29	CESAREO RODRIGUEZ	1749	D-9	L-8	H	N	N	1.0
30	WILLIAM WRIGHT	1400	W-35	N	N	N	N	1.0
31	ARI MOSKOWITZ	1086	W-8	L-6	L-10	N	N	1.0
32	JAKE AMANN	1181	L-6	W-36	L-8	L-27	L-26	1.0
33	MARGARET HUA	1079	L-10	L-13	W-35	L-22	L-23	1.0
34	ROBERT HOSSFELD	1048	L-7	W-35	L-20	L-21	N	1.0
35	JOSHUA WIEDNER	694	L-30	L-34	L-33	L-25	W-36	1.0
36	JAMES DORAN	797	L-17	L-32	L-21	L-26	L-35	0.0

2007 SAINT LOUIS OPEN TOURNAMENT

By Ed Baur

The Saint Louis Open Tournament was played on Saturday, April 28 and Sunday, April 29 in Saint Louis. The tournament served as the fifth qualifying event for the Missouri Invitational Tournament. There was a total of 55 players, representing Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Arizona and New Mexico. Bill Wright was the organizer and this reporter and Thomas Rehmeier were the directors.

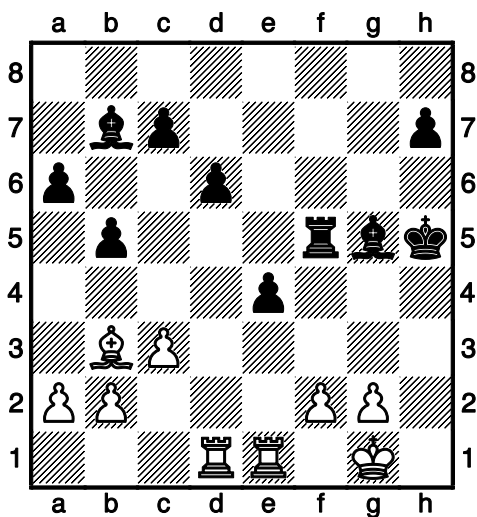
AWARD WINNERS

First Place – Ron Luther – 4¹/₂ points
 Expert – Bob Holliman, Zebedee Fortman and Maurice Bock – 4 points
 Class A – Daniel Huff, Steve Bange and Zebedee Fortman Jr. – 3¹/₂ points
 Class B – Nick Karlow and Nathan Swinger – 3¹/₂ points
 Class C – Doug Howe – 3 points
 Class D – Jimmy Nugent – 3 points
 Class E – Jake Amann – 2 points
 Novice – Don Harper and Yi Zhao – 2 points
 Unrated – Paul Yoder – 2 points

	NAME	RATING	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	ROUND 4	ROUND 5	SCORE
1	RONALD LUTHER	2247	W-29	W-11	W-8	W-6	D-2	4.5
2	BOB HOLLIMAN	2127	D-28	W-46	W-12	W-14	D-1	4.0
3	ZEBEDEE FORTMAN	2059	B	W-18	D-9	D-15	W-14	4.0
4	MAURICE BOCK	2000	W-37	W-23	L-14	W-19	W-15	4.0
5	ROBERT JACOBS	2100	W-35	D-12	D-7	D-28	W-25	3.5
6	KEVIN JOHNSON	2000	W-32	W-27	W-13	L-1	D-10	3.5
7	DAVID LONG	2004	W-36	D-25	D-5	W-16	D-9	3.5
8	DANIEL HUFF	1965	W-30	W-20	L-1	W-33	D-11	3.5
9	STEVEN BANGE	1939	W-31	W-21	D-3	D-10	D-7	3.5
10	ZEBEDEE FORTMAN JR	1917	W-38	W-33	H	D-9	D-6	3.5
11	NATHANIEL SWINGER	1822	W-43	L-1	W-25	W-35	D-8	3.5
12	NICK KARLOW	1729	W-51	D-5	L-2	W-26	W-48	3.5
13	TODD PLAGEMANN	1941	W-22	W-16	L-6	W-31	N	3.0
14	SELDEN TRIMBLE	1922	W-17	W-34	W-4	L-2	L-3	3.0
15	JAMES POLLITT	1843	W-42	W-40	H	D-3	L-4	3.0
16	BRAD SCHLOSSER	1732	W-44	L-13	W-36	L-7	W-34	3.0
17	CESAREO RODRIGUEZ	1724	L-14	W-43	H	D-34	W-35	3.0
18	ROBERT STEPP	1720	W-45	L-3	D-30	D-38	W-37	3.0
19	DENNIS HUMPHRIES	1700	L-40	W-24	W-32	L-4	W-36	3.0
20	KEVIN CAO	1692	W-50	L-8	L-35	W-39	W-28	3.0
21	DOUGLAS HOWE	1507	W-53	L-9	L-22	W-41	W-38	3.0
22	JIMMY NUGENT	1286	L-13	W-47	W-21	L-23	W-33	3.0
23	ROGER SMITH	1767	W-39	L-4	H	W-22	N	2.5
24	GUNNAR ISAACSON	1700	H	L-19	W-29	D-30	D-31	2.5
25	JENNIFER LAUPP	1683	W-41	D-7	L-11	W-42	L-5	2.5
26	MATTHEW CONWAY	1662	L-46	W-39	H	L-12	W-42	2.5
27	HENRY CAO	1582	W-54	L-6	L-31	W-50	D-32	2.5
28	BOB HOWE	1492	D-2	H	W-46	D-5	L-20	2.5
29	WILLIAM TONG	1536	L-1	D-51	L-24	W-40	W-44	2.5
30	CHARLES WARD	1375	L-8	W-44	D-18	D-24	H	2.5
31	CARL DOLSON	1351	L-9	W-53	W-27	L-13	D-24	2.5
32	DANIEL TUTTLE	1352	L-6	W-54	L-19	W-46	D-27	2.5
33	ERIC EWALT	1548	W-55	L-10	W-40	L-8	L-22	2.0

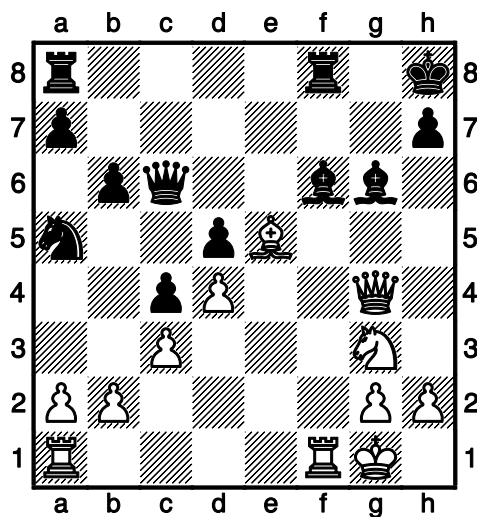
34	DERRICK BARTOTTO	1526	W-52	L-14	D-38	D-17	L-16	2.0
35	RAYMOND SONG	1471	L-5	W-45	W-20	L-11	L-17	2.0
36	NAKUL DESHPANDE	1455	L-7	W-41	L-16	W-45	L-19	2.0
37	ADRIAN LAMB	1434	L-4	L-50	W-54	W-51	L-18	2.0
38	DOUGLAS PICHEN	1227	L-10	W-55	D-34	D-18	L-21	2.0
39	JAKE AMANN	1132	L-23	L-26	W-53	L-20	W-47	2.0
40	DON HARPER	937	W-19	L-15	L-33	L-29	W-51	2.0
41	YI ZHAO	851	L-25	L-36	W-55	L-21	W-50	2.0
42	RUSSELL HAMMERSMITH	1210	L15	W-52	H	L-25	L-26	1.5
43	JOHN WIEDNER	1196	L-11	L-17	H	L-44	W-53	1.5
44	LYNN LAMPHEAR	1000	L-16	L-30	H	W-43	L-29	1.5
45	BLAINE RUSSELL	979	L-18	L-35	W-52	L-36	D-46	1.5
46	MATTHEW RAPP	788	W-26	L-2	L-28	L-32	D-45	1.5
47	JOSHUA WIEDNER	707	L-48	L-22	H	W-54	L-39	1.5
48	THOMAS REHMEIER	1634	W-47	N	N	N	L-12	1.0
49	JOHN BOYER	1558	N	N	W-50	N	N	1.0
50	MARGARET HUA	1227	L-20	W-37	L-49	L-27	L-41	1.0
51	THOMAS MCGRATH	1094	L-12	D-29	H	L-37	L-40	1.0
52	PAUL YODER	1175	L-34	L-42	L-45	L-53	W-54	1.0
53	DANIEL BAKER	681	L-21	L-31	L-39	W-52	L-45	1.0
54	JAMES DORAN	741	L-27	L-32	L-37	L-47	L-52	0.0
55	CARL CLYNE		L-33	L-38	L-41	N	N	0.0

WHITE TO MOVE



1W-g4+, 1B-Kxg4, 2W-Be6!

WHITE TO MOVE



1W-Rxf6, 1B-Rxf6, 2W-Rf1, 2B-Rf8, 3W-Qg5,
3B-Kg7, 4W-Rxf6, Rxf6, 5W-Bxf6+, 5B-Qxf6,
6W-Nh5+!

SPRING 2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SUMMARY

The Missouri Chess Association Board of Directors met Sunday, May 6 in Columbia. Bill Wright, Ed Baur, Byron McLaughlin, Mike Clark, Thomas Rehmeier, Bob Howe and Ken Fee were present. Tony Rich and Wayne Bartlett were absent.

Missouri Class Championships Tournament will be played in Columbia on July 14 and July 15. Details are posted on the association website.

The Missouri State Invitational and the Missouri Open Tournament will be played in Columbia on September 29 and September 30. Wayne Bartlett will be the director. As approved by the Board of Directors in the Fall, 2006 meeting, the 30 move draw rule will be in effect. Details are posted on the association website.

Thomas Rehmeier was named the new Missouri Chess Association webmaster. Thomas has reworked homepage and has worked to keep tournament announcements and cross tables up to date. Cross tables from Missouri tournaments are now posted on the MCA website within a few days of the event.

Treasurer Bill Wright gave the Treasurer's report, showing a balance of \$3,167.56, down from the \$3,440.11 that was reported at the beginning of the fiscal year, Sept 1, 2006.

Membership Coordinator Wayne Bartlett, was not present to present a membership but his written report indicated 204 members. The board agreed there was need to improve communication with our members. To help, they requested asked the Membership Coordinator notify members by e-mail in these situations: to welcome a new member, to notify those members whose membership is about to expire and to announce when the latest Missouri Chess Bulletin is available.

The question of giving out invitations to the runner up at Missouri State Invitational qualifying tournament was discussed. It was pointed out that the current rules did not cover this point. However, Ed Baur pointed out that the USCF rulebook did have a provision for this. The board agreed no action needed to be taken, as the directors had followed the USCF rules.

The tie breaking system for upcoming Missouri Invitational Championship Tournament was reviewed. The following system, which rewards players who play hard for wins, was approved. The first tie breaker is most wins, the second tie breaker is most wins with black and the third tie breaker is the Sonneboern-Berger system.

Expanding the 30 move draw rule to all invitational tournaments was discussed, but will be readdressed at the October Board of Directors meeting, when the new board has been installed.

The Missouri Scholastic Championship Tournament will be moved from its present location in Jefferson City to a larger facility in Columbia next year. The tournament had simply outgrown the middle school site. With this move, all grade levels will play on the same date. The Denker and Polgar qualifying tournaments, will be moved to an April date. The board is considering replacing those with an open style tournament. This will allow any scholastic players interested in trying to qualify. Ken Fee has agreed to put together a proposal for holding those tournaments next April.

The board continued discussion on the idea of allowing advertising on the website. Consultations with an attorney have cleared any legal and liability issues, so the board is ready to create a formal policy. Mike Clark has agreed to research this topic and present ideas at the next meeting.

Saint Louis Region director Bill Wright reported he has recently met with a Saint Louis philanthropist named Rex Sinquefield. Mr. Sinquefield is an avid chess player who was recently featured in the Saint Louis Post Dispatch. Mr. Sinquefield has expressed interest in helping with several chess activities, including a scholastic chess program for Saint Louis schools and possibly providing a large facility for chess activities. Board members will be meeting with him again to help facilitate this exciting opportunity.

SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

There was a special Board of Directors meeting on Sunday, July 24.

Bob Howe, Ed Baur, Bill Wright, Tony Rich, Mike Clark, Thomas Rehmeier were present, and Bryon McLaughlin participated by telephone.

The Board of Directors issued this statement.

The Missouri Chess Association Board of Directors would like to express its sincere regret for the current controversy occurring in the Kansas City area among some of Missouri's strongest and most active players. It's our view that this war of words is detrimental to chess, and hope it is peacefully resolved. The Board of Directors decided to let the current procedures of the MCA work to handle this matter. Only the voters of the state elect board members, and the officers are reelected every year. The Board of Directors decided to be more active in the supervision of the Missouri Chess Bulletin editor. We welcome everyone's input and contributions to the bulletin, but will be enforcing a policy for the Missouri Chess Bulletin avoiding detrimental topics and focusing on positive chess promotion. It is our sincerest hope that all the members involved in this controversy feel welcome to participate in the upcoming Missouri Open, and all other future tournaments. We believe everyone has good things to contribute to the Missouri chess community.

Drawing Chess / Fighting Chess

By Loal Davis

Current opinion is that the game of chess, properly played, should result in a draw. Therein lies a “slight” problem; we don't particularly like the result. Draws are not “glorified” in our literature; the fight is, but the “split” result is not. This has become more pronounced in recent years because it is not always necessary to play for the full point. A case in “point”; I recently stumbled across a reprint of an article (www.chesscafe.com) written by GM Paul Keres to the Burt Hochberg, who was then the editor of Chess Life. I have extracted the following two paragraphs.

“I have always been critical to the half point tactics, as you call it, in tournament chess. But I cannot fully blame the players by doing so. In my opinion, the first step in this wrong direction has been made by FIDE, and it still is continued. Take all the tournaments in World Championship series, for instance. It is good, of course, that these tournament include players all over the world. But this target should not be achieved by the World Championship, as most of the players, competing in the preliminaries, have in fact nothing to do with this title. The result is, that preliminary tournaments are played only for further qualification, not only for the first, but a couple of first places, with the only purpose to secure one of the first n places. The creative side of the game does not matter, the point is the King. As the participants are of uneven strength, every leading grandmaster will plan his “simple mathematics”, where to get the necessary points. And, of course, it is not reasonable to take a risk against any of the rivals, when points can be obtained easier from weaker opponents. Only, if the mathematics does not go according to plans, there may be necessary to “bite” some of the rivals. In my opinion, tournaments like this will lead to death of creative chess, this kind of game which thousands and millions of “puffs” like so much, and what was the reason for beginning to play chess for everyone of us. For some reasons I am quite happy to be beaten by Spassky in 1965, which gave me a good opportunity of retreating from this unsound system of competition.

Furthermore, the half point tactics is sponsored by many, and comparatively easy obtainable titles, offered by FIDE. Now almost every of the international tournaments must be some IA, IB or like that type, to give the participants the possibility of getting an international grandmaster or master title, or confirming one of these titles. As far as I can understand, the normal way in every tournament should be a tough fight for first prize, for every participant. But in these various indexed tournaments only a few players are really interested in coming first. One needs his 10 points, the other 9, the third 7 etc., to get their corresponding titles. And here again the mathematics dominates. But what about the tournament, the games, the fight for the leadership, the dying art of chess? Proceeding this way we may soon encounter the fact that chess will lose interest among public at all.”

Notice that Keres said (first paragraph) that he does not fully blame the players. Why not? Because the battlefield has been drawn, the targets set, and the objectives “met”. In this case, it all depends on who you are as to what your objectives are, but the battlefield itself has already been drawn by the tournament organizer or the big FIDE in the sky. In the international arena, if a tournament organizer doesn't like repeated drawn results from a particular player, that player may not be invited back to participate in next year's tourney. Most of us should be so lucky as to have to worry about such things. At the national level, not all players are invited in accordance with their style, but as to their playing results (point gathering or rating gathering strength), and at the local level you just enter and play. I don't believe the “problem” is the draw, but the fight. A blood curdling schism, feet in the mud, dust thrown in the eyes, swinging fists, fighting tooth nail and tong – ah yes – we chess players are a “peace loving” lot aren't we? But a “non-fight” we tend to not like – yet – we reward that behavior, because that is the battlefield that has been drawn. Remember, a string of draws is not going to win a tournament, match, or greatly modify your rating. But if the battles have been won in previous rounds, and there are only relatively small skirmishes left, then who can blame a general for preserving his men for the next war. It is not necessary to lose men, get bloodied, or manufacture a headache when the war has already been won. If we want to increase the number of wins, then we should reward that effort.

I haven't thoroughly thought this through, but I it would be interesting if instead of awarding a single point for a win, a half point for a draw and a goose egg for a loss, if we changed the battlefield a little. Now if we award a full point for a draw and two points for a win – when you think of it – nothing is actually changed; the relative values of win/loss/draw remain the same. But if we were to award a zero for a loss, a full point for a draw, and three points for a win – now that would be interesting. In other words two draws do not equal a win; three draws do. A win and two draws would have the same scoring result in today's tournament as two wins and a loss; 2 points. But given the point system of 0/1/3 – a win and two draws would result in 5 points, and two wins and a loss would result in 6 points. Now there would be an incentive to play for the win. Remember that this would have to be applied to the entire tournament; you could not just “change the game” going into the last round. Yes – of course there are mammoth problems with FIDE and USCF, but maybe we could keep the

“rating stuff” the same with the 0/5/1 “business as usual”, and distribute tournament prizes via the 0/1/3 “system”. At any rate, it's an idea that, while most likely “bonkers” in the scenario(s) I've given above, bear some fruit by tossing the ideas around a little. But whether it is “playing with points” or something else, I think it's important to put a little different target before the players if we expect them to change their playing results – give them something to fight/win for.

I have attempted to apply this “weird” point/count system and quickly realized that it would not affect the results of a match at all. It would not have affected the 2007 Kansas City Masters Invitational one iota – all contestants ending in exactly the same place. I didn't have the opportunity to apply it to other round robin events, but did find it interesting applying it to the top 10 slots of the 2006 US Championship.

GM Shulman	1	1	1	1	1	1/2	1	1	1/2	8
GM Kaidanov	1	1	1	1	1/2	1	0	1	1	7 1/2
GM Izonias	1	1	1	1	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	7 1/2
GM Shabalov	1	1	1	1	1/2	1	1	0	1	7 1/2
GM Kacheishvili	1	1	1	1	1	1/2	0	1	1	7 1/2
GM Benjamin	1	1	1	1	1	1/2	1	0	1	7 1/2
GM Gurevich	1	1	1	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	7 1/2
IM Cordova	1	1	1	1	1/2	1	1/2	1	1/2	7 1/2
GM Fedorowicz	1	1	1/2	1	1	1/2	1	1	1/2	7 1/2
IM Almeida	1	1	1	1/2	1	1	0	1	1	7 1/2

Notice that Shulman placed first and the remaining 9 players finished in a heap tied for second.

And now the 0/1/3 application.

GM Shulman	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	1	23
GM Kaidanov	3	3	3	3	1	3	0	3	3	22
GM Izonias	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	3	21
GM Shabalov	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	0	3	22
GM Kacheishvili	3	3	3	3	3	1	0	3	3	22
GM Benjamin	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	0	3	22
GM Gurevich	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	3	3	21
IM Cordova	3	3	3	3	1	3	1	3	1	21
GM Fedorowicz	3	3	1	3	3	1	3	3	1	21
IM Almeida	3	3	3	1	3	3	0	3	3	22

Shulman again finishes first, but there is a stratification of the other players. So below is a sort of this “top 10 table” by scoring results.

GM Shulman	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	1	23
GM Kaidanov	3	3	3	3	1	3	0	3	3	22
GM Shabalov	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	0	3	22
GM Kacheishvili	3	3	3	3	3	1	0	3	3	22
GM Benjamin	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	0	3	22
IM Almeida	3	3	3	1	3	3	0	3	3	22
GM Izonias	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	3	21
GM Gurevich	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	3	3	21
IM Cordova	3	3	3	3	1	3	1	3	1	21
GM Fedorowicz	3	3	1	3	3	1	3	3	1	21

Here it's easier to see that wins have been rewarded where the repeated draws, not so much.

At any rate – food for thought – it may well be spoiled food – but it's an idea, and there are few nowadays to address this issue.

Although I tend to like the “30 move draw rule” - a player cannot offer a draw before move 30 – I also realize that it is very artificial. We can still shuffle pieces until we pass move 130 and we're both blue in the face, but if both players refuse to fight, well there's an end to it. There are many examples throughout chess history where violent draws (good fights) end in a perpetual check very early on.

Of note is the so-called “Sofia draw rule”.

“There is a rule in place at this tournament: The players should not talk during the games; additionally they should not offer draws directly to their opponents. Draw offers will be allowed only through the Chief Arbiter in three cases: a triple-repetition of the position, a perpetual check and in theoretically drawn positions. The Chief-Arbiter is the only authority who can acknowledge the final result of the game in these cases. Short form: you are not allowed to offer or accept draws and must play on until the game is technically over. The arbiter will see to it that you do so.”

"Early" draw offers have generally occurred in my games around move 15 or later when I offer, but I have played opponents who offer at any and all times throughout the game. I respect their decisions in making the offer whenever they want - with one exception. I once played some "character" who was literally offering a draw with every move. Ridiculous (my opinion); although the "rules" don't say anything against this behavior. I think it would be interesting if chess would take a little something from another game. In backgammon, you can "double" (play for twice the stakes) at any time during the game. But once done, the doubling cube is in your opponents "court" and you can no longer double; it is up to your opponent to double you, when again the doubling cube is in your hands to offer, should you choose, and your opponent must wait. Personally, I think this principle should become established in chess; once a draw is offered, then "shut up" - if your opponent has declined, then it is up to him to offer in return; you've made your point and I see nothing gained by repeated offers as the answer was already given.

A few experiences when I was in high school and college have led me to be careful about the offering of draws. I remember at least one offer on my part where I was audibly laughed at over the board - as if to say - you've got to be kidding? I didn't like the response and have been extremely careful (for that reason) ever since. In Fischer's "My Sixty Memorable Games", Fischer had the black side of a King's Indian Defense against Petrosian (chapter three - Portoroz 1958). Fischer writes, "I offered the draw, not realizing that it was bad etiquette". I think the reason is that Fischer was slightly worse and it "should" have been left up to Petrosian to offer the draw. Now I'm not sure whether Fischer's offer was incorrect or not - and I'm also not sure Fischer is the person I should be listening to when it comes to proper manners, but I have taken that story to heart and try not to emulate the "problem" that Fischer had.

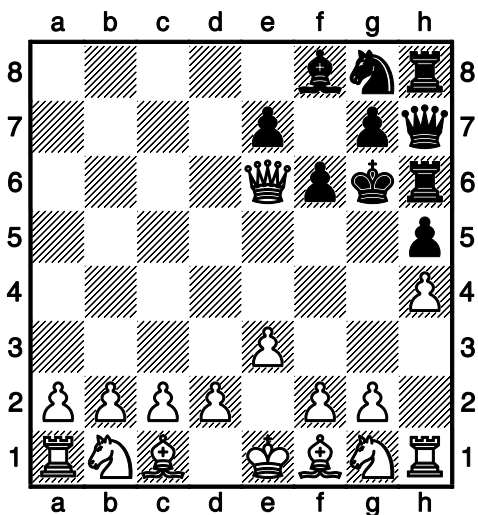
Personally, I don't offer a draw in an inferior position because - quite frankly - I think a loss after that offer would be worse than a straight loss - so I wait for my opponent to offer and/or screw up. But let's say that (in my case) a draw offer occurs and I turn it down, later getting the worse of the position. How do I feel? - well - that's water under the bridge - I can kick myself, but I probably had a reason for declining in the first place and I have learned to let it go. Now if I were offered a draw and that acceptance would win the tournament, then I would accept; the hard work being behind me and done with; remember, I had to work hard to get into that winning position. In that case I still would most likely not offer earlier than moves 15-20 - again - because if it were refused and I lost - I would feel worse - so I might offer when the position had clarified somewhat. But that's MY offer and MY past that color MY perception and MY decision nowadays. But HIS offer is another thing - especially when I could win the tournament with accepting. The only instance I can think of in not accepting a "super-early" draw that would win a tournament is if I were at least a point and a half ahead of the field. In that case, I have nothing to lose (the tournament is mine anyway) and I can enjoy a good game of chess and get a good lesson in at the same time.

I'd like to finish off with a real piece of chess history. It occurred in tenth round of the German National Championship 1997. I had heard about this many years ago and attempted to look it up on the Internet. I was originally of the opinion that these were two titled players in contention for top prize(s), but after many searches through FIDE's databases, I failed to find any ratings for these guys; perhaps they were stripped of their ratings and titles. Why? Well as the story goes, Jan Kopp and Alexander Dany had agreed to a draw over a cup of coffee well before the last round; didn't play a move, and reported their result. The tournament organizers said they had to play a real game. So the two sat down and played a couple of moves, agreed to a draw, and again attempted to report their result. The tournament organizers were incensed, stating that if the two of them did not play a real game, that there was a good possibility they would be thrown out of the tournament and their previous results nullified. There was a lot of yelling about the "rights of the chess players", the "rights of the audience" (this was played before a packed auditorium of spectators), the "rights of fighting chess", etc. The two sat down and once again began their game; I believe they played something like Nf3 Nf6, Nc3 Nc6, Ng1 Ng8, Nb1 Nb8, etc. and quickly arranged a three-fold repetition. Yelling from all corners again ensued; the two of them stating they had played a real game. The tournament committee stated that if the two of them would not play a "real" game of chess, they would be fined, kicked out the tournament, and reported to FIDE. At any rate, the two players were allowed to "cool down" and begin their game after a 20 or 30 minute break. They went off somewhere, and returned to the stage to produce the following historic game.

Jan Kopp – Alexander Dany – GER-ch U13 Friedrichroda (10), 1997

1W-e3(A bit off beat, but playable. Van Kray's Opening can transpose into many things, but right here is where the sanity ends.), **1B-a5**(What is this?), **2W-Qh5**(The audience was beginning to raise its eyebrows. Was there perhaps an error in the transfer of moves to the demonstration board?), **2B-Ra6**(Wait a minute; something has got to be wrong. Can't White just win

the exchange?), **3W-Qxa5** (The audience was now unable to maintain its silence; some laughter, some snickers, and some audible - "What the!), **3B-h5**(Oh come on now, isn't the Queen hanging?), **4W-h4**(The audience was now convinced that there was something very wrong, but repeated requests to verify the unfolding position on the board resulted in silencing gestures coupled with nodding heads, indicating that that all was "on track".), **4B-a6Rh6**, **5W-Qxc7**(Does White have a death wish?), **5B-f6**(Is Black a pacifist?), **6W-Qxd7+**(Capturable four different ways. Does Black bite?), **6B-Kf7**(He does not. Still utter astonishment from the audience.), **7W-Qxb7**, **7B-Qd3**(And now the arbiters were at a complete loss as to what to do. The audience was hooting, and howling, some cheering with each move. Our two contestants were "studiously" at work with their thumbs buried in their ears endeavoring to concentrate amid the extraneous noise in the auditorium), **8W-Qxb8**, **8B- Qh7**(Oh - of course - we don't want our Queen captured do we?) **9W-Qxc8**, **9B-Kg6**(Now - was White going to play Bd3+ and put an end to this nonsense?), **10.Qe6!**



Wait a minute, Black is without a move, and not in check. It's stalemate,

It turns out, this is actually a composition of Samuel Loyd (January 31, 1841–April 10, 1911). He was born in Philadelphia and raised in New York, was an American puzzle author, and recreational mathematician. As a chess composer, he authored a number of chess problems, often with witty themes. At his peak, Loyd was one of the best chess players in the U.S., and was ranked 15th in the world, according to Chessmetrics. After many years Loyd had composed the shortest stalemate he could muster – in twelve moves. And that record stood for many years, until it was improved upon – by Loyd himself. The above game is currently the shortest stalemate possible on the chessboard (10 moves). If you find a shorter one, you can make yourself a nice little niche in history. Apparently our two German players had, during their cool-down session, run off to the local library and concocted their final game.

Lest you think the world has seen the “last” of the previous game, please note that the above “game” was played, move for move, between Hughes and Dyce in 1996 (WLS-ch Cardiff), Lazaridis and Spyrououlos in 2005 (GRE-ch Greece), and most recently between Piceu and Geirnaert in 2006 (BEL-ch Namur).

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

2007 MISSOURI INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT
2007 MISSOURI OPEN TOURNAMENT
SEPTEMBER 29 AND SEPTEMBER 30
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI
DETAILS ON MISSOURI CHESS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE – mochess.org

OCTOBER 6
SAINT CHARLES OPEN TOURNAMENT
SAINT CHARLES, MISSOURI
DETAILS – alhowlett.net

OCTOBER 13
BOBBY FISCHER OPEN TOURNAMENT
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI
DETAILS – Charles Ward, 573-443-6685

OCTOBER 13
SAVANNAH TOURNAMENT(SCHOLASTIC)
SAINT JOSEPH, MISSOURI
DETAILS – kcchess.org

OCTOBER 20
FARMINGTON 100 PERCENT GUARANTEED OPEN
PARK HILLS, MISSOURI
DETAILS – springfichess@yahoo.com

OCTOBER 27
MISSOURI GRADE CHAMPIONSHIP
TOURNAMENT(SCHOLASTIC)
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI
DETAILS – kcchess.org

NOVEMBER 3
MARYLAND HEIGHTS SWISS – V
MARYLAND HEIGHTS, MISSOURI
DETAILS – alhowlett.net

NOVEMBER 10
GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE
TOURNAMENT(SCHOLASTIC)
O'FALLON, ILLINOIS
DETAILS – gatewaychess.org

NOVEMBER 16, NOVEMBER 17 AND NOVEMBER 18
NATIONAL ACTION TOURNAMENT(SCHOLASTIC)
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI
DETAILS – uschess.org

DECEMBER 1
GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE BOARD
TOURNAMENT(SCHOLASTIC)
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI
DETAILS – gatewaychess.org

DECEMBER 1
MARYLAND HEIGHTS SWISS – VI
MARYLAND HEIGHTS, MISSOURI
DETAILS – alhowlett.net

DECEMBER 8
CHRISTMAS TOURNAMENT(SCHOLASTIC)
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
DETAILS – kcchess.org

DECEMBER 8 AND DECEMBER 9
JEFFERSON CITY OPEN TOURNAMENT
(MISSOURI INVITATIONAL QUALIFIER)
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI
DETAILS – mochess.org

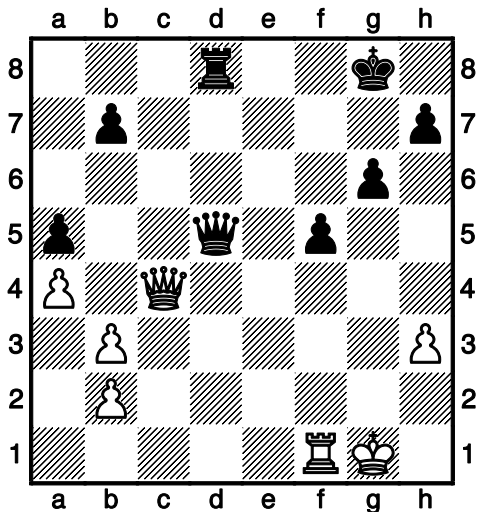
JANUARY 12
GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE TEAM
TOURNAMENT(SCHOLASTIC)
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI
DETAILS – gatewaychess.org

JANUARY 12
PEMBROKE TOURNAMENT(SCHOLASTIC)
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
DETAILS – kcchess.org

JANUARY 19, JANUARY 20 AND JANUARY 21
2008 NEW YEAR OPEN
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
DETAILS – power.pawn.net

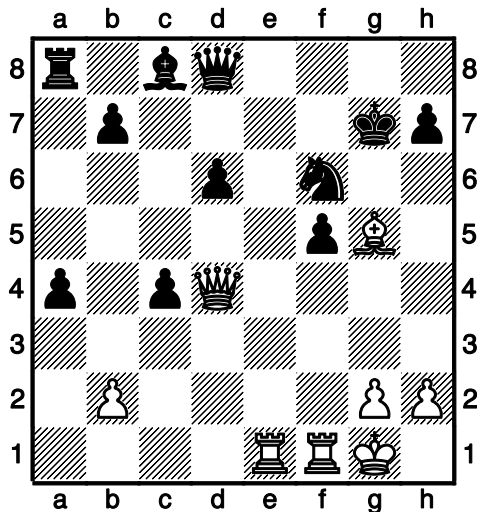
JANUARY 26
GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE CLASS
TOURNAMENT(SCHOLASTIC)
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI
DETAILS – gatewaychess.org

WHITE TO MOVE



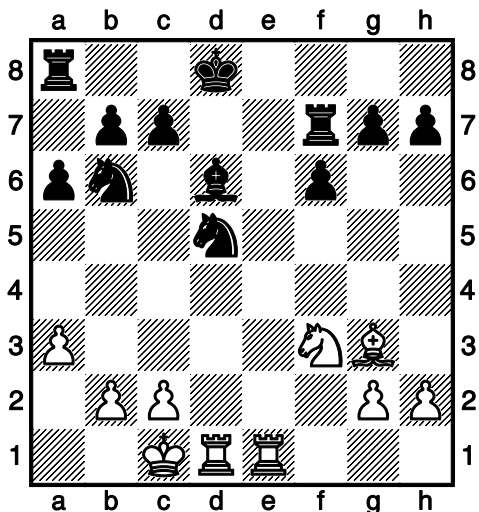
1W-Rd1!(1B-Qxc4, 2W-Rxd8+, 2B-Kg7,
3W-bxc4!)

WHITE TO MOVE



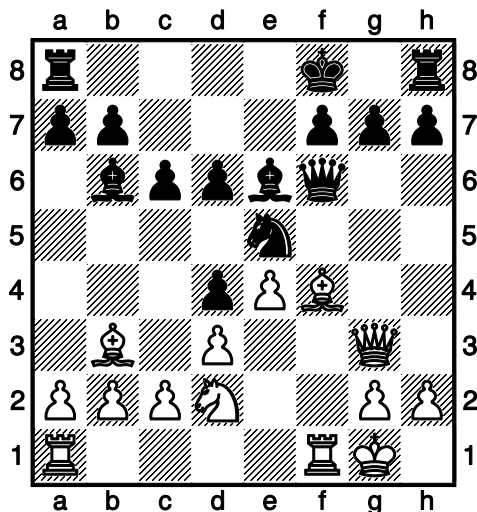
1W-Re8, 1B-Qxe8, 2W-Qxf6+, 2B-Kg8, 3W-Bh6,
3B-Qf7, 4W-Qd8+, 4B-Qf8, 5W-Qxf8++

WHITE TO MOVE



1W-c4, 1B-Ne7(1B-Nxc4, 2W-Rxd4!), 2W-b5!

WHITE TO MOVE



1W-Bxe5, 1B-Qxe5, 2W-Qxe5, 2B-dxe5,
3W-Bxe6!

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