

The Missouri Chess Bulletin

Winter 2004

Michael Brooks

MCA Hall of Fame Inductee



Features:

Michael Brooks - MCA Hall of Fame
Adjournment? Time Delay? Sudden Death?
The State of the USCF
Scholastics

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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From the Editor



by *Tony Rich*

Happy Holidays chess fans! With the beginning of a new year, we have some wonderful things in store. Bob Holliman has increased the number and frequency of his tournaments in Kansas City, MO. It seems like there is one just about every weekend! This is great news for the players in that area of Missouri. I challenge other tournament directors to rise to the challenge and offer more tournaments in other areas of the state. I know there is a demand for more tournaments in Columbia, Rolla, and St. Louis. I am sure we can meet the needs of the Missouri chess community.

Scholastic chess is doing well in general. The Gateway Chess League (www.gatewaychess.org) organizes two scholastic tournaments a month. Also, there are some local scholastic tournaments in many cities in Missouri. The schedule is great, as it means there is always a tournament for students. If you would like to be an active member of the scholastic chess community, please feel free to contact me and I'll get the information you need. There are many ways to help out, from being an assistant TD or a coach, to offering chess lessons and promoting scholastic chess. Check out page 11 for more information about scholastic chess and chess in the school curriculum.

I have also taken the time to post some of the frequently asked questions on America's Foundation for Chess' webpage. They range from things like "how do I find a coach for my school?" to "how do I get chess as part of the school curriculum".

A couple of articles from the last issue of the MCB apparently raised some eyebrows. I will attempt to publish every response and editorial I receive. However, I will not involve the MCA in derogatory dialogue. This is not a forum to air dirty laundry, but it is a forum to discuss chess! I will cover anything from openings to politics, as long as it is constructive. Please keep the articles coming!

There is a great article written by Selden Trimble discussing Michael Brooks' induction to the Missouri Chess Association Hall of Fame. Michael is an International Master and is very active throughout Missouri. If you happen to see him at a tournament, stop and congratulate him. He is a great guy and will take the time to talk to you. Check out the article and games, starting on page 8.

For those of you who run or participate in tournaments, I encourage you to send me your games for publication. If you have time to annotate them, that would be great. If you don't, that's okay too. The more games I receive, the more I can share with everyone else. The USCF sells carbon copy scoresheets for five cents a piece. This is a very small cost for the benefit.

So, in closing, I encourage everyone to send in something for the Missouri Chess Bulletin. Articles, games, letters to the editor, and just about anything else are welcome. Share your opinion with others and see what can be accomplished.

As always:

Please send submissions to:

Tony Rich - MCB
1335 Independence Rd., Apt. A
Rolla, MO 65401

Thanks,
Tony

Puzzle 1

Black to move and win



Solution on page 23

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 opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor or the MCA. Please continue to send us your thoughts on the MCB, chess politics, or anything else chess related.

I got a chance to check out the latest issue of the Missouri Chess Bulletin. I must honestly say that it was, as usual, a job extremely well done by you! I would say that your chess writing skills are at least 2350!! Again, great work!
Julio Santiago - St. Louis



Puzzle 2
Black to move and win

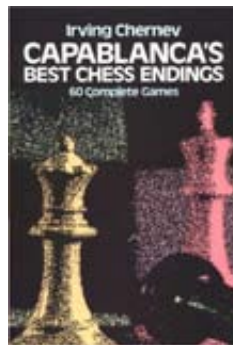


Solution on page 23

Book Review

Capablanca's Best Chess Endings

by Tony Rich



Title: Capablanca's Best Chess Endings

Author: Irving Chernev

Publisher: Dover Books

ISBN: 0-486-24249-8

I purchased *Capablanca's Best Chess Endings* about six months ago. I went through the first couple of games and put the book down. Right around finals at school, I came across it again and picked it up; what a mistake! I couldn't put the book down. Chernev does a great job of picking quintessentially Capablanca games, identified by their simplistic style. Capa rarely went for wild complications, preferring to nurse small advantages to bring home the point.

This book has 60 of Capablanca's games, with heavy annotation by Chernev. Occasionally, Chernev borrows an antidote or some analysis from other prominent writers, including Capablanca. Now I must warn you, Chernev is probably the biggest Capablanca fan. Accordingly, it may be difficult to understand Capablanca's weaknesses, since Chernev seems to overlook many. Chernev has a knack for accumulating inspirational and clear instructional material, which is probably why Capablanca was his idol.

Capablanca's Best Chess Endings is organized chronologically with a nice index in the beginning. Also, at the end of the book, there is an index that breaks the games down by theme. For example, if you are looking for an endgame where Capa had pawns versus an opponents bishop, check out game number 38. This is a very handy tool when using this book as a reference. The other nice thing is that Chernev includes a three page bibliography. He sites many books and magazines, including some general works, tournament books, and endgame manuals.

At \$9.95, this is the best investment you can make to improve your chess. I can't wait to apply the knowledge I've gained from this book!

USCF - Better Off Dead?

by: Bob Holliman

The following views do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor, the board, or the MCA. --ed

Having just returned from a dismal chess tournament I found the MCB, in printed form, in my box. What follows is, well, editorial comment? No, just some pure politics. Anyone looking for chess should buy an Informant, or, better yet, wait till I get all the details of my "USCF death sale" worked out and buy the stuff from me.

John Donaldson laments the financial problems facing the USCF, and I question his whine. Donaldson was right in the political thick of the mess supporting those who helped bring about this mess. He can plead neither ignorance nor excuse. John was a voter who helped elect a number of failures to the USCF Policy Board/Executive Board or just plain "bored." Fear not, I have no objection to personal choice; John just strikes me as being smarter than this. He is one of the friendliest, approachable, and social titled players you will ever meet. If you see him somewhere take the opportunity to introduce yourself and ask his opinion on books, training and what not. I've enjoyed a few conversations with John, so don't think that, in any way, I am picking on him.

In 1996 I campaigned directly against Bill Goichberg for the position of Vice-President of the USCF. While I don't plan to write the inside story of the campaign, I will give you, gentle reader, a short background. Playing in the 1996 US Masters, I ran into Tom Dorsch from California in round 6 on the black side of a center-counter defense—an ugly affair, drawn in something like 30 moves. Oh, the politics....returning to my room the elevator stopped and the door opened on another floor. There stood Mr. Dorsch waiting to board. Being a voter, though I don't think he knew I was, I decided to ask him some questions about his campaign for treasurer. Tom allowed me to quiz him for a few minutes and then told me who else was running. He also mentioned that Bill Goichberg was running unopposed for V.P. At that moment I decided to run, as the voters needed a choice and the USCF needed its drains cleaned out. The last thing the USCF needed then or now is more of Goichberg's influence.

Understanding that Goichberg, via his position as an "employer" of TDs, has considerable electoral pull (as well as sway over the way USCF operates) is critical. Goichberg has always sought to have the best times for his events while the US Open is relegated to some

disgusting time in August when late June would be perfect. I could go on, but any junior high student can comprehend the significance of this situation.

Goichberg was elected 194-172 (if my failing memory serves—I can, however, assure you he won the election and thus ensured this fiscal mess) and his sole contribution from 1996-1999 was that people should play "doubles." Doubles, my friend, would salvage the USCF. Strange, "doubles" is a tennis format, not a chess format.

In the '96 campaign I wrote several letters to the voters dealing with issues, none more pressing than trying to educate 412 people on the 2 things USCF had going for it: the rating system (an intangible) and a franchise on the book/equipment business—at that time. If you grasp the marketing power of these two things, no Amazon.com could have stood in the way. What USCF lacked was leadership, vision, and a comprehension of the Internet. [Also lacking was] a board interested in the USCF's survival.

In what has to be the biggest joke in print, Donaldson says, "Even Mike Cavalho, who in retrospect turns out to have been the best Executive Director the Federation has had the past decade, ..." Donaldson may be an IM, and he may have a GM norm or two, but he ain't got enough brains to come in out of the rain here. Cavallo was a nightmare. Cavallo is attributed with the following quote "The Internet is the CB craze of the 90s." (CB, folks, stands for "Citizens Band" radio—the thing truckers talk on. Back in the late 70s or early 80s (I told you my memory was failing) CB radios obtained a fad status for several months.)

I refer to Cavallo as "Million Dollar Mike." When you count up the admitted 700,000 in losses he "managed" and throw in his 130,000 a year pay (salary plus bonus) over one million dollars of USCF member's money went down the toilet under Cavallo's tenure. Perhaps Donaldson only means to say that Cavallo lost less money than anyone else? Niro was like his namesake. He fiddled while Rome burned to a crisp.

Meanwhile, [let's look] back at page 4 of the fall 2003 MCB. If you look at the bottom of Donaldson's second paragraph you will find something amusing. It is the obvious cash starved USCF! It's amusing because I've said it for years. Others (Dubeck, Berry) have been warning the organization of its horrid fiscal position but the politically charged mismanagement continued to ravage the financial position of the organization.

continued on page 22

Chess and the Internet

By Tony Rich

Chess on the internet is very exciting these days. After the fall of kasparovchess.com, I was certain that I would never again find good chess news and games on the internet. However, I have found many great resources that I will share with you now.

Playing Chess on the Internet

There are many great places to play chess on the internet. Depending on your level of play and the features you would like, there are a few options. The premiere chess servers belong to ICC chess. They can be found at www.chessclub.com. ICC provides guest-access to the servers, as well as memberships. With guest access, you can only play unrated games, watch non-GM games, and have limited access to the games library. With a membership (\$49 a year) you get full access to games, you can watch GM games, and you can keep a library of your favorite games. There are also events, like live coverage of a world championship match. Access to this is limited to members only. If you can swing the \$49 a year, this is definitely the way to go.

The next most popular server is probably ChessNet, found at www.chessnet.com. This service is slightly cheaper (\$30 a year), but is a good deal for the money. Again, you have access to libraries, are able to view GM games, and participate in tournaments. The biggest downside to this server is the client software. The program is bulky and sometimes difficult to understand.

Finally, for the casual chess player, there is Yahoo's games section, found at games.yahoo.com. This service is completely free, but doesn't compare in quality to ICC or ChessNet. The servers tend to be slower, and the competition weaker. There are less-than-sportsmanlike players often found here, which can be irritating to deal with.

Online Databases

Another nice thing about the internet is the plethora of games available for free! I visit these sites frequently. For Missouri player's games, the best place to go is the MCA's website (www.tranquility.net/~czar/MoChess/Games.htm). There you will find an amazing collection of games played in Missouri events. A java viewer is provided to view these games on the web.

For more global games, there are two places that meet my needs; one is Chess Lab (www.chesslab.com) and the other is ChessDB (www.chessdb.com). These sites include historical and modern games from around the world. You can search by players' names, results, or positions. One could play through the first 10 moves of a game and search for all games that reached that position. You can further refine your search to only games that white (or black) won, games from a certain player reaching that position, or games played recently (or historically) reaching that position.

Chess News and Events

I used to go to KasparovChess.com for my news coverage, but that doesn't exist anymore. Accordingly, I began a search for sites that could meet this need. I was surprised by the number I found. Below are the sites I most frequently visit.

For St. Louis chess news, I go to Jim Voelker's webpage (www.jimvoelker.com). This gives me a nice chronological snippet of events that have occurred recently. If any of you have St. Louis chess news that you would like posted there, please send an email to jvoelker@yahoo.com.

On an international level, I often visit Chess Base and Chess Café. Chess Base can be found at www.chessbase.com and Chess Café is located at www.chesscafe.com. Both of these sites provide unique information that is very useful. Chess Base tends to feature more news type items, while Chess Café tends to focus more on things like editorials, book reviews, and game annotation.

Chess Radio

Now I bet those are two words you never thought you would hear together. Fear not, the time has come when you can listen to chess coverage! I stumbled across this site about a year ago and now I'm hooked! Unfortunately, you can't "tune in" to the broadcast in the traditional sense. On the internet (remember the topic of this article?) you can "stream" audio from a webpage. On Chess.fm (www.chess.fm), you can use Windows Media Player (Windows) or MPlayer (Linux) to stream the audio from their page. Coverage ranges from live events to interviews with strong players. I would strongly recommend you check this out!

A Response to Sudden Death

By Bob Holliman

Let me take a contrary position against my good friend, Jim Davies. As a player, coach, director, organizer, promoter, 1/11th of the state champion (?!?!), etc, I like sudden death time controls, period. But, I don't approve of all this Mickey-Mouse nonsense about add time, subtract time, time-delay, time out, time in, time overboard, Time magazine. When you play in one of my G/2 events you get 120 minutes, period.

As a player/coach I like the drama that a time loss imposes on any player, it gives the game a romantic sense like a 2am train to Budapest in the 1960s-70s. The need to manage the time you are given to play and the accountability of consequence when you loose is important. (I loose quite a number of games on time – my fault, not yours.)

“its real simple: your flag falls, you loose except for some stupid positions that one (or both) sides are being pig-headed about.”

As an organizer it's great because I can tell a player that the last round will be over by “x”, no ifs, ands, adjournments, multiple time controls about it. That player then knows the approximate time they will be home by (if they are in Kansas City), be they local or driving. I just played in the Western States Open (you should too – every year just like me: the October '04 dates are 15-17th, make your reservations at the Sands Regency in Reno - NOW) and guess what held up the whole tournament? The FIDE rules in the Open section. If it was sudden death then it would have ended and the whole tournament would have run on time, every round. (I do need to point out that this is a 40/2, 20/1, 20/30 continuous event!)

As a director its real simple: your flag falls, you loose except for some stupid positions that one (or both) sides are being pig-headed about.

Jim nearly reaches the right conclusion but lets go of the argument when he states, “*I fear too many of those who volunteer* (emphasis mine) *to direct tournaments routinely assume that players are content with sudden death controls.*” I have to disagree. If I as a player am not content with sudden death, I won't play. A vast number of volunteer TDs must try and secure sufficient entries to cover the prizes and cost of a facility as well as publicity. (I could write a few lines here about those “chess players” who suffer from the illusion that these hotels, community centers and meeting rooms are free; that the flyer you received was printed for free and the post office delivered it for nothing—get the point?) The TD needs the assurance sudden death gives him to conclude an event.

Folks, I love you all dearly BUT chess will NEVER be a popular sport with millions and millions in commercial sponsorship so local organizers need to be able to appeal to as many players as they can. In today's society most players won't play several 2-day events in a year. I hold 3 “weekend” events a year and the rest are one day events. Sometimes I wonder if that's what people want so I ask, but they keep telling me that this is a good tournament, don't change it.

Sudden death meets the TD's need! Sudden death meets the player's need to focus! Sudden death meets the organizer's need to be able to vacate the rented property by a specified time to avoid further charges.

Disclaimer: I have not written this mess to engage anyone in a discussion. The views expressed are those of the author and may or may not be correct. Quotes are subject to aging memory. Reader discernment is advised.

Puzzle 3 Black to move and win



Solution on page 23

Are Adjourments Fair?

By Selden Trimble

In the last issue of the Missouri Chess Bulletin, page 6, Jim Davies voiced some objections to the “sudden death” time control now in common use in USCF tournaments. He argues for a return to the adjourments of games which are not finished before the start of the next round. His objections are well-founded and based on his many years of serious tournament play. As I understand it, Jim’s position is that the quality of chess play is degraded by requiring that the result of a game be settled after a fixed amount of time has expired. He is especially concerned about poor quality of play in the endgame.

But I believe that the use of sudden death is an improvement over the old use of adjourments. To explain why, I feel obliged to remind the reader of how adjourments worked. There were no computers. Tournament directors entered results on “pairing cards” and made next-round pairings by hand. Depending on the director, about a half-hour or fifteen minutes or, sometimes, five minutes before the next round was to start, the director would inform the players that their game was to be adjourned. The player on the move would “seal” his move and give it to the director. This move could not be changed and the opponent would find out about it only when the game was resumed at the direction of the director. The director then had to pair the two players by making assumptions about how the game would later end. The next round would then start.

There is no question that this system worked. But there were certainly problems associated with it. One involved how the players were paired for the next round. Another involved when the adjourned game was to be finished. And there was a third problem that didn’t show up so much in USCF weekend tournaments but was a big problem in international play: The players would get their friends to help them analyze the position. Bobby Fisher used to raise a stink about the Russians doing this.

Sudden death avoids all of these. Today, the third problem mentioned above would exist at USCF weekend tournaments.

From what I can tell, a large percentage of players now have portable computers with very strong chess playing programs in them. Some have the Bell Laboratory complete analysis of six- or seven-piece endgames in them. In an adjournment, the use of such a computer by one player and not the other is absolutely unfair. It means that a new player has been substituted for the original player. It can be argued that this would rarely happen. But I believe that a tournament organizer and a director have an absolute obligation to the players to see to it that conditions are such that no cheating can occur. It is very wrong to the overwhelming number of honest players to allow a condition to exist so that an unscrupulous low-life can win by cheating. The fact that it might happen rarely is not a reason I find persuasive.

Jim’s concern about a lowering of the quality of play is also a concern of mine. But no matter what the time control is, this concern can always be raised. Some arbitrary control is necessary, and what it should be can only be determined by trial and error. There is one addition to sudden death that does help in allowing a won game to be preserved even in dire time straits, namely, the time-delay control. Typically, in using this, five seconds elapse before the clock is started. This is precious little time, but it does give a player who knows how to win his position a chance to win it. I do not claim this is perfect. I do not think anything is. But I believe it is better than the old system of adjourments.

Puzzle 4 Black to move and win



Solution on page 23

Michael Brooks - MO Chess Hall of Fame

By Selden Trimble

Michael A. Brooks, the latest member of the Missouri Chess Hall of Fame, has been an International Master since 1989 and has had many, many games published in "Chess Life." Space does not permit listing all his accomplishments, but since 1981 he has been the Missouri State Chess



Michael Brooks, 2003 MO Open

Champion six times and has lost out on five other occasions only because of tie-breakers. In March, 1989, in Chicago, Mike won the Midwest Masters with a score of 5 1/2 - 1/2, beating GM Eduard Gufeld and drawing with GM Sergey Kudrin. (You can find his smiling picture in the August, 1989, issue of "Chess Life.") He was one of sixteen people who played in August, 1990, for the title of U.S. Champion. In December, 1994, Mike won the North American Open in Las Vegas with four wins and two draws. Two of his wins were against GM Alex Yermolinsky and GM Smbat Lputian. His top USCF rating was 2630. Mike resides in the Kansas City area and is a supporting member of the Westport Chess Club.

One of his more recent accomplishments was his last-round draw in the 2003 Missouri Open against GM Pavel Blatny. That game and several of Mike's other games are annotated below by Loal Davis.

"A bad position does not discourage me, it's a coincidence that is an aspect of your profession. Possibly with the exception of Karpov, everybody gets into a bad position once in a while, so that's not a reason at all to simply lose them. You also have to find a way to save lost positions and try to win them. If possible." - Tony Miles

Modern Defense

MO Open 2003

W: IM Michael Brooks 2539

B: GM Pavel Blatny 2487

Annotations by Loal Davis

1.e4 c6 2.d4 g6

The Caro "Can't"? No - It's a transposition to the Modern Defense. I really think someone should come up with an opening name other than "modern". It's going to look pretty silly in the year 5003 when someone refers to this as the "Modern Defense".

3.Bd3 Bg7 4.c3 d6 5.Nf3 Qc7 6.Nbd2 Nd7 7.0-0 e5

OK - Now we're transposing into a King's Indian Defense. (GM) Yasser Seirawan has often played this (reversed - as Black) when employing the Caro Kann Defense against the King's Indian Attack.

8.a4 Ngf6 9.a5 0-0 10.Re1 Rd8 11.dxe5 dxe5

12.Qc2 Nc5 13.Bf1 Ne6 14.Nc4 Ne8 15.Be3 f6 1

6.Red1 Bf8 17.b4

I may well not be qualified to pass judgement on these two players and/or this game - but this never really looks to be any more than a draw - White having the edge throughout.

17...Nd6 18.Nxd6 Bxd6 19.Nd2 Be7 20.Nc4 Nf8

21.Rxd8 Qxd8 22.f4

Good for you. This makes it very tough for Black. I've attended several lectures by (IM) John Donaldson who has a very healthy view of isolated pawns. He says it's important to know how to play with and against them. They are NOT always winning or losing. Often it's an absolute necessity to accept an isolani to win or draw, when keeping the Pawn position "intact" may actually lose. In this case, White is attempting to utilize and expand on his slight advantage in space; Black is not in a position to affect pressure against e5 or e4.

22...exf4 23.Bxf4 Be6 24.Rd1 Qe8 25.Nd6 Bxd6

26.Rxd6 Rd8 27.Qd2 Rxd6 28.Qxd6 a6 29.Qc7

Qd7 30.Qb8 Qc8 31.Qxc8 Bxc8

Even with the Queen exchange, Black is slightly worse.

32.Kf2 Kf7 33.Bd6 Ne6 34.Ke3 Ke8 35.Bc4 Kd7

36.Bg3 Ke7 37.Bb8 Nf8 38.Ba7 Be6 39.Bc5+

Michael is fighting hard to bring home the point.

39...Kf7 40.Be2 Nd7 41.Bd6 h5 42.Kd4 Ba2 43.Bg3

Ke6 44.c4 Bb1 45.Bd1 Ne5 46.c5 Ba2 47.h4 Ng4

48.Be2 Kd7 49.e5 f5

49...fxe5+ 50.Bxe5 Nxe5?? 51.Kxe5 is a good example of an extremely bad/lost Bishop ending for Black. He suffers from a lack of space, mobility, and ALL of his Pawns are targets.

50.Bf3 Be6 51.Bf4 Ba2

Black can only shuffle in attempts to hold the line. Alas, the blockade on e6 is sufficient to do so.

52.Bg3 Be6 53.Bxg4 53...fxg4 54.Ke4 Bf5+ 55.Kf4

Ke6 56.Kg5 Kf7 57.Bf4 Be6 1/2-1/2

Sicilian Defense

20th NAO StillwaterUSA 2001

W: IM Michael Brooks 2511

B: GM Yuri Shulman 2568

Annotations by Loal Davis

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7
6.Be3 Nf6 7.Be2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.f4 d6 10.Qe1**

This maneuver was first played/analysed by Geza Maroczy. It involves playing Rd1, Nb3, sometimes Qg3, and "rolling" the attack to the Kingside. It was championed by Efrim Geller who studied it in great detail and had tremendous success with it against the world's elite.

10...Nxd4 11.Bxd4 e5

The previous exchange and this "stab" is an attempt by Black to equalize.

12.fxe5 dxe5 13.Qg3 Bc5 14.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 15.Kh1

Sidestepping the drop of the Knight on f6.

15...Kh8 16.Rad1 Be6 (diagram)



In going over many Brooks games from a multitude of databases, it has become apparent to me that NOWHERE is Brooks more dangerous than when he has completely mobilized his forces. He digs very deeply in these situations.

Notice that he is playing a Grandmaster who is rated over him. The following sequence is quite startling, not easy to see at first (at least for me), and was what originally attracted me to the game. There may well be a better/stronger continuation than the one Brooks selects, but remember that winning is not the only result in a chess game. Sometimes it may be just as important to avoid losing.

17.Rxf6!? gxf6 18.Qh4 Qe7

Of course 18...Kg7 19.Qg3+ Kh8 20.Qh4 gives White exactly what he is looking for - a draw.

19.Rd7!!

This is the beautiful stinger that was obviously seen before the Rook sacrifice on f6.

19...Qxd7

19...Bxd7 20.Nd5 Qd6 21.Nxf6 Qxf6 (21...Kg7 22.Qg5+ Kh8 23.Qh6 forces Black to take the Knight anyway.) 22.Qxf6+ still gives a draw (perpetual check between g5 and f6) - and perhaps the opportunity of hunting for more.

20.Qxf6+ Kg8 21.Qg5+ ½-½

Sicilian Defense

US Open Chicago 1994

W: IM Michael Brooks

B: D. Middleton

Annotations by Loal Davis

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Be2

He's sliding into a variation that was first played by Alekhine - and later Karpov.

5...Bg7 6.Nb3 Nf6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.0-0 d6 9.Bg5

This was Alekhine's idea; he even used to play this as Black (reversed) against the English. A Bishop on g5, as opposed to the "normal" development on e3, puts more pressure on the center (especially the d5 square).

9...Be6

9...Qb6? 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.Nd5 followed by taking on f6 is a good example of what Black should avoid - the removal of his Dragon Bishop, a mangled Kingside, an isolated d6 Pawn, and a gaping hole on d5.; 9...a6 was successfully employed by (GM) Larry Christiansen against (GM) Alexander Fishbein in the 2002 US Championships.

10.Kh1 Rc8 11.f4 Na5 12.f5 Bc4 13.Bd3 Nxb3

14.axb3 Bxd3 15.Qxd3 a6 16.Rae1 b5 17.Nd5

Nxd5 18.exd5 Be5

Attempting to cover e7.

19.c3 Rc5 (diagram)



Brooks finds a slick way to gain a move in this position. Check the position after move 23 and you'll see Black in exactly the same position - but not Brooks.

20.Be3 Rc8 21.Bh6

Bg7 22.Bg5 Be5

23.Qh3 Rc5

24.Rxe5! dxe5 25.f6

With threats against e7 and a Queen penetration to h6 (supported by a Pawn or Bishop on f6), White forces the curtain to come down.

1-0

"Right up until life's last checkmate, Mikhail Tal, eight chess champion of the world, still had the sorcery in his wand and in his eyes. His games will continue to inspire new generations of players to find the swashbuckling and the beautiful in chess." Al Lawrence, Executive Director, USCF, 1988 - 1996

Sicilian Defense

Midwest Masters Open, 1989

W: IM Michael Brooks

B: GME Gufeld

Annotations by Loal Davis

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6
6.Bg5 Qb6 7.Nb3 e6 8.Be2 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Be3
Qc7 11.f4 a6 12.a4 b6 13.Bf3 Bb7 14.Qe2 Nd7
15.Rad1 Nc5 16.Qf2 Rad8 17.Kh1 Rfe8 18.Rd2
Bf6 (diagram)



The primary problem for White in the open Sicilian (in my opinion) is that he can NOT do "Nothing". If White sits back, looks at the position, or holds the line, he will (quite often) succumb to Black who is constantly unravelling

his pieces in the execution of a Queenside minority attack coupled with central breaks. Brooks does "Something".

19.e5!? dxe5 20.Nxc5 Rxd2 21.Bxd2 bxc5 22.Ne4
Be7 23.Nxc5 Bxc5 24.Qxc5 exf4 25.b4
The character of the game has completely changed. White is expanding with his Queenside majority in attack.
25...e5?!

An interesting try - that appears to not quite work.

26.b5 axb5 27.axb5 e4 28.Re1

"Simple" - Black is experiencing a pin coupled with back row problems.

28...f5 29.bxc6 Qxc6 30.Qxc6 Bxc6 31.Be2 g5

As "compensation" for his piece Black is attempting to initiate a Pawn roller on the Kingside.

32.Kg1

Good - ALL pieces into play and removing the King from that relationship with the Bishop on c6.

32...Bd5 33.c4 Be6 34.c5 Rc8 35.Rc1 Bd5 36.Bb4
Kf7 37.Bb5

Wasn't it Nimzovich who said "Passed Pawns Must Be Pushed"? White battles for c6 and has a ready-made answer to the "hanging" pieces on the 'b' file.

37...Rb8 38.Bc4 Ke6 39.Bxd5+ Kxd5 40.c6

Yes - it was Nimzovich.

40...Rc8

40...Rxb4 41.c7 is out of the question.

41.c7 g4 42.Ba5 e3 43.Rd1+ Kc6 44.Rd3 Kb7

45.Kf1 Ra8 46.Rd8 1-0

Ruy Lopez - Steinitz Defense

20th NAO Stillwater USA, 2001

W: IM Michael Brooks 2511

B: J. Dennison

Annotations by Loal Davis

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 e5 3.Bb5 d6 4.d4 exd4 5.Nxd4 Bd7
6.Nc3 Nf6 7.Bxc6 bxc6 8.Qf3

This variation of the Spanish Game was played extensively in the 1921 World Championship match in Havana between Jose Capablanca and Emanuel Lasker. Neither of them played 8.Qf3.

8...c5

[8...g6 9.e5 dxe5 10.Bg5 Be7 (10...Bg7 11.Ne4) 11.Nxc6 Bxc6 12.Qxc6+ Nd7 (12...Kf8 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Rd1 Black's Queen is overworked.) 13.Bxe7 Kxe7 14.0-0-0 Rb8 15.Rxd7+ Qxd7 16.Nd5+ Kd8 17.Qf6+

9.Nf5 Bxf5

9...g6 10.Bg5 gxf5 11.e5 dxe5 12.Bxf6 Again - Black's Queen is overloaded.

10.Qxf5 c6

Black is definitely worse, but both 10...g6 ; and 10...Rb8 have got to be better. Black's last tries to control 'd5', but he's falling seriously behind in development and his central Pawns are looking quite brittle.

11.0-0 Be7 12.Rd1 Qd7 13.Qxd7+ Nxd7 14.Bf4
Ne5 15.Bxe5 dxe5 (diagram)



Out of an advantageous opening, passing through a brief middlegame, and into a winning ending.

16.Nb1!

The text only looks "backward". Knights love outposts; White aims for c4.

16...Rb8 17.b3 Rd8

With 17...c4 18.Nd2 cxb3 19.axb3 White still arrives at c4 and has isolated targets everywhere.

18.Rxd8+ Bxd8 19.Na3 0-0 20.Rd1 Bc7 21.Rd7

Rd8 22.Rxd8+ Bxd8 23.Nc4 Bc7 24.Kf1 Kf8

25.Ke2 Ke7 26.Kd3 Ke6 27.Nb2 f5 28.f3

Yes - an e4 Pawn keeps control over d5 and f5 - not letting Black's King penetrate.

28...g6 29.Kc4 fxe4 30.fxe4 Kd6 31.Na4 Bb6 32.g3

Eventually Black must run out of Pawn moves on the Kingside. Then, material drops on the other side of the board.

32...h6 33.h3 h5 34.a3 Bd8 35.Nxc5 Bg5 36.Nd3

Be3 37.b4 g5 38.g4 hxg4 39.hxg4 Bb6 40.Kb3 a5

41.Nb2 1-0

Scholastics

The following article appeared on page 39 of the September 2003 Chess Life. It is always nice to see you people succeed, especially when they are from Missouri! I predict great things from Stephanie and we at the MCA wish her luck! -ed

It's easy to tell children that success is something we create for ourselves. It's far better when they learn it on their own. That is exactly what happened to Stephanie Klimczak at the 2003 National Elementary Chess Championships in Nashville this year - she learned firsthand that success is something we create for ourselves.

GETTING INTERESTED

Stephanie's interest in chess began last year as a fourth grader in Mr. Bart Robertson's room. Mr. Robertson fully understands the benefits of including chess in the elementary classroom, but chess is not part of the school's fourth-grade curriculum plan.

Mr. Robertson is a problem-solver, however, so he conducted chess lessons for his class each Monday during morning recess. Stephanie liked the game of chess immediately and never complained about missing her recess.

During one lesson, Mr. Robertson casually mentioned an upcoming national tournament in Portland, Oregon. This caught the attention of Stephanie, as her third-grade teacher moved to Portland the previous summer and invited Stephanie to visit her and the Oregon Trail. And a chess competition sounded very exciting to Stephanie, a seasoned ice-skating competitor.

COMPETING

Stephanie joined the USCF and played in the 2002 National Elementary Chess Championship in Portland, Oregon. Not surprisingly, Stephanie faced some tough challenges. In fact, she lost five straight games before winning her sixth and seventh rounds. She placed 598th out of the 680 kids in her section (K-6 Under 900).

However, she loved the competition and was not one bit discouraged by her finish - in fact, she was only determined to do better next year. At the awards ceremony, Stephanie was awed by the size of the trophies given to the top finishers. At that moment, she decided that she wanted to improve her playing ability and come back the next year and try to place in the top 25.

In spite of the overwhelming defeat, Stephanie left Portland motivated to become a better chess player.

MOTIVATION

Often, motivation is short lived. This was not the case with Stephanie. When she returned to Kansas City, she purchased numerous chess books, found a private coach, started playing on the Internet and began studying the game of chess.

Don't get me wrong, Stephanie does lots of other things too. She plays the piano and is a competitive ice skater; she's on her school's basketball and math teams and she loves to knit and sew. However, throughout the entire year, Stephanie never lost sight of her goal to become a better chess player.

SUCCESS!

Stephanie was very excited to attend the 2003 Elementary Nationals in Nashville. She knew she had achieved her goal of becoming a better chess player and was very hopeful that she would land a spot in the top 25. At the end of the first two days of the competition, Stephanie had won her first five games, which was a complete reversal of the previous year's results.

Stephanie went on to win one more game and finished with a score of six wins and one loss. This finish put Stephanie fifth in her section (K-5 Under 900). Her trophy was presented to her on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry by Grandmaster Susan Polgar!

Puzzle 5 White to move and win



Solution on page 23

America's Foundation for Chess

The following is the frequently asked questions from America's Foundation for Chess. This is a national organization aimed at promoting chess in schools. For further information, please visit www.af4c.org. -ed

We'd like to start a school chess club. Where can we get advice?

The United States Chess Federation (www.uschess.org) can help you with a club, especially if you want to be affiliated with USCF (which will cost you only \$40/year and will give you special prices on equipment, a magazine, and access to the wider world of scholastic chess.) If you just want to get kids together to play chess after-school, you don't need much advice, but some of the following questions and answers might be useful.

How do we become part of the AF4C Scholastic Initiative?

We currently are working with eight schools in the Greater Seattle area. Our plans are to expand both locally and nationally. If you would like to be on our mailing list for potential schools, please contact Heather Ramsey at 206-675-0490.

What curriculum should we use to teach chess?

We suggest the following materials for chess instruction:

- Lev Alburt, *The Comprehensive Chess Course*. This can be supplemented by a handbook from the U.S. Chess Center called "Critical Thinking Lesson Plan." You can order Alburt's book from many sources, including USCF, but the supplement must be ordered through the U.S. Chess Center at www.chessctr.org.
- *Chess Rules for Students*, by John Bain. This can be ordered directly from Learning Plus, P.O. Box 713, Corvallis OR 97339
- *Bobby Fischer Teaches Chess*, available in most bookstores
- Yasser Seirawan's six-part "Winning Chess" series, specially *Play Winning Chess and Tactics*. (Some of these are out of print.)
- *Think Like a King*, a comprehensive solution for scholastic chess programs
- *Chess Mates*, a CD published by Interplay. Especially good for younger players.
- Chess4kids is an organization with a web-based program for clubs and young players. Visit www.chess4kids.com.
- *Maurice Ashley Teaches Chess*, CD training tool and full-featured chess program by Davidson/Simon & Schuster (Beginning and Intermediate players) PC and MAC.
- *Chessmaster 8000*, CD for beginner to advanced players. PC Only.

AF4C Classroom Chess Curriculum teaches students how to play chess, while emphasizing how skills used during the game apply to different subjects, including history, math, language and even business. Our teachers coach students on the process of evaluating moves. Students are encouraged

to take several key steps before moving the pieces: observe the board carefully, analyze the situation in the game, evaluate several alternatives, and choose the best move. Then, once the choice is made, students are taught to execute the move with clarity and confidence. We also emphasize the importance of polite and friendly behavior in competition (such as shaking hands before and after games), and we include discussions of emotional issues involved in winning and losing. Adding these elements to a chess curriculum increases the likelihood that children are improving their problem solving skills in the classroom, as well as other areas of life.

How can we finance a chess club at our school?

America's Foundation for Chess does not generally provide grants to other chess organizations. Most schools finance their clubs through student fees, PTSA allocations, and/or grants from local community foundations.

How is the AF4C Scholastic Initiative different from a chess club?

A rapidly growing number of schools in North America have chess clubs, which typically meet after school (and sometimes at lunch) one day each week from about November until March. These clubs are, of course, voluntary, and focus on a balance of fun and competition. Most charge a fee to cover the cost of coaching and materials. The AF4C Scholastic Initiative works within the existing classroom structure. Its goal is neither to maximize competitive chess skills nor simply to have fun. Rather, we hope to develop chess as a tool that regular classroom teachers can use to support their existing academic, social, and emotional goals. This goal has several ramifications:

- Classroom teachers are critically important. Their job is to find ways to connect chess to their regular programs.
- All students in the class learn to play chess.
- Chess instruction involves more discussion and group problem solving.
- The process of teaching chess emphasizes how the player thinks and why a move is strong or weak.
- The goal is to transfer intellectual, social, and emotional qualities from the game of chess to the larger world of school success.

"... It was in this tournament that I had the pleasure of winning one of my most sensational games (against Tarrasch). I introduced a new move in the Max Lange Attack, which was being exhaustively analyzed around that time, with many efforts made to refute it. My new move reestablished the strength of the attack and it has stood up for over twenty years. Ever since that game, few masters have permitted the Max Lange to be played against them. I believe, however, that I have finally found the refutation to the move myself!" - Frank J. Marshall

Games

Slav Defense

St. Louis Fall Open

W: Zebedee Fortman III 1896

B: Jon Winick 1667

Annotations by Zebedee Fortman

As I approached this game, I felt cocky about my play based on my results in the Los Angeles Open, which was 4-1. Because of this, I felt my opponent would blunder early, and I would checkmate him in a few moves after that blunder.

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3. e3 Bf5 4. c4 c6 5. Qb3 Qb6 6. Nc3 e6 7. c5 Qc7 8. Qa4 Be7 9. b4 Nbd7 10. Be2?

A passive move for a position that requires aggressive play will lead to a losing position. Be2 is that type of move. 10. b5 O-O 11. Bb2 Ne4 12. Be2 e5 13. O-O Nxc3 14. Bxc3 e4 15. Nd2 Bg5 16. bxc6 bxc6 17. Rfb1 Nf6 18. Ba5 Qd7 19. Rb3 Bg4 20. Ba6 Rab8 21. Rab1 Rxb3 22. Qxb3 Bf3 23. Bf1 Qg4 24. h3 Qh5 25. gxf3 Bh4 26. Bg2 exf3 27. Nxf3 Ne4 28. Nxh4 Qxh4 29. Be1 Qh5 30. Qd1 Qh6 31. Rb7 f5 32. Qb3 f4 33. Rb8 f3 34. Rxf8+ Kxf8 35. Qb8+ Ke7 36. Qc7+ {1-0 Ortega, L-Trumpf, W/Cesenatico 1998/EXT 2000 (36)}

10... O-O 11. b5 e5 12. Bd2?

After I made the move, I didn't realize that I limited my knight on f3 to h4 or g1 when Black pushed his pawn to e4. As the game progressed, my ego began to shrink by the second.

12. Bb2 exd4 13. exd4 Rab8 =+

12... e4 13. Nh4 Be6 14. g3

With this move, I have weakened the light squares around my kingside and created holes for Black to place a knight, bishop or queen to attack me.

14... Ng4

14... Bh3 15. Bf1 Bxf1 16. Kxf1 =+

15. Ng2 g5

Restricting the movement of the knight on g2.

16. O-O

Fritz 6: I should have played h4 to free my knight on g2 because he never really became active until the end of the game. 16. h4 gxh4 17. Nxh4 cxb5 18. Qxb5 Ndf6 19. Rb1 Rab8 20. Qb3 Rfd8 0.41/8

16... Ngf6 17. Qd1

Another passive move for White, which undeveloped my queen; this time Black makes White pay dearly for his mistake. 17. f4 would help stop the kingside attack and let my pieces concentrate more on White's queenside attack. 17... exf3 18. Bxf3 Rfe8

17... b6 18. bxc6 Qxc6 19. Bb5 Qc7 20. c6? -+

I wanted to keep the space advantage on the queen side and hoped that I could one day push the pawn on c6 down Black's throat. 20. cxb6 Nxb6 21. Rc1 Nc4

20... Nb8 21. Qa4 Rc8 22. Rfc1 a6 23. Qb3

I was hoping that Black would take my bishop on b5 and I could recapture with my knight, which will help clear the way for the pawn on c6 to advance.

23... Bd6 24. a4

Now if Black captures the bishop, his knight on b8 will be a dead piece unless Black gives up the knight for a pawn.

24... axb5 25. axb5 Rxa1 26. Rxa1 Qe7 27. Na4

Bc7 28. Bb4 Qe8 29. Rc1

Because Black could sacrifice his knight and gain both White's c6 and b5 pawns, which would destroy my counterplay, I had to protect my pawn on c6.

29... Bh3 30. Qa3 Qe6 31. Rc2 Ng4 32. Ne1 Qh6

33. f3?

I wanted to use the lateral movement of the rook to protect my pawn on h7. In turn, I did open my kingside for more of Black's pieces to infiltrate the light squares. Fritz 6: 33. Be7 Nxh2 34. Kxh2 White can only hope to survive Black's attack. -1.59/10 **33... Qf6 34. Rf2??**

Now, I just gave up the exchange for no reason and didn't see the Black's knight attacking the f2 square. Yes, A players do make blunders. Fritz 6: 34. f4 -2.62/11

34... Nxf2 35. Kxf2 exf3

To me, this position was critical in coming up with a correct plan. At this point, I wanted to resign but I knew my only chance of winning lay in removing the blockade of my pawn on c6. Therefore, I knew that I had to find some way to exchange my dark square bishop for Black's dark square bishop. As for Black, you will see that his plan is to set up mating traps and hope that White will fall into one.

36. Be7 Qe6?

This move allows White's dark square bishop to f4, which will enable White to remove the bishop on c7 from blockading the pawn on c6.

37. Bxg5 Re8 38. Nd3 h6?

Black decided that he wanted to help White achieve his plan of moving his bishop to f4. I was certainly thankful for Black's generosity.

39. Bf4 Bxf4??

Through Black's generosity, the pawn on c6 has freedom and the Black's pawn on b6 is in danger of falling too.

40. Nxf4 Qf5 41. Qd3 Re4 42. c7 Nc6 43. bxc6 Qc8

44. Nxd5 Re8 45. Naxb6 Qe6 46. Nd7

Yes, I saw the knight fork on f6 but in this position, the knight on d5 is worth more than the rook, which has to stay on the eighth rank to protect the pawn on c7 from promotion. Fritz 6: 46. c8=R Kg7 47. Rxe8 Qxe8 48. c7 Bg4 49. Qc4 Qe4 50. Qc6 Qg6 8.00/12

46... Bf5 47. N7f6+ Kf8 \$4 48. Qa3+ Kg7

49. Nxe8+ Qxe8 50. Qd6 Bc8 51. Qe5+ Kg8?

52. Qxe8+ 1 - 0

Was this a game for the ages? No way!! At least one lesson should be learned from this game. In order to improve your chess game, you need to be able to assess your strengths in the position and come up with a plan to use that particular strength in order to receive a decisive result in your favor.

English Opening

Missouri Open 2003

W: John Koonce 1463
B: Ken Jones 2337

1. c4 g6 2. g3 Bg7 3. Bg2 e5 4. Nc3 d6 5. d3 f5
6. Nf3 Nf6 7. O-O O-O 8. Bd2 Nc6 9. Rb1 a5
10. Bg5 h6 11. Bxf6 Qxf6 12. Nd5 Qf7 13. a3 Be6
14. Nd2 Nd8 15. e3 g5 16. b4 axb4 17. axb4 c6
18. Nb6 Ra3 19. Qc2 h5 20. Ra1 Rxa1 21. Rxa1 h4
22. Rf1 hxg3 23. fxg3 Qh5 24. Qd1 g4 25. h4 f4
26. exf4 exf4 27. Ne4 Bd4+ 28. Kh1 fxg3 29. Rxf8+
Kxf8 30. Qf1+ Ke7 31. Nxc3 Qxh4+ 32. Bh3 Qxc3
0-1

Reti Opening

Missouri Open 2003

W: Gabriel Zlavog
B: Michael Bergeron

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. a3 Bxc3+ 5. bxc3
dxc4 6. Qa4+ Nd7 7. e4 Ngf6 8. Bg5 O-O 9. e5 h6
10. exf6 Nxf6 11. Bxf6 Qxf6 12. Qxc4 e5 13. Nf3
Be6 14. dxe5 Bxc4 15. exf6 Bxf1 16. Rxf1 Rad8
17. Nd2 gxf6 18. Ra2 c5 19. f3 Rd3 20. Rc2 Re3+
21. Kf2 Rfe8 22. Ne4 Rd3 23. Nxf6+ Kf8 24. Nxe8
Kxe8 25. Re1+ Kd8 26. Ke2 Rd7 27. Rd2 b5
28. Red1 Rxd2+ 29. Rxd2+ Kc7 30. Kd3 c4+
31. Kd4 Kc6 32. Re2 a5 33. Re7 f6 34. Re6+ Kd7
35. Rxf6 h5 36. Ra6 a4 37. Rb6 Ke7 38. Rxb5 h4
39. Kxc4 Kf6 40. Kb4 Kg6 41. c4 Kf6 42. c5 Ke6
43. Kxa4 Kd5 44. Kb4 Kd4 45. c6 Kd3 46. c7 Ke3
47. c8=Q Kf2 48. Qc2+ Kg1 49. Rd5 Kxh2 50. Qf2
Kh1 51. g4 hxg3 52. Rd1# 1-0

Sicilian Defense

Missouri Open 2003

W: F. Carrow 1357
B: Jim Ellis 2200

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. f3 e5
6. Nb3 Be6 7. Bb5+ Nbd7 8. c4 Be7 9. Nc3 O-O
10. Bxd7 Nxd7 11. Nd5 Nb6 12. Qd3 Rc8 13. Nd2
f5 14. O-O Na4 15. Qa3 Nc5 16. Qxa7 Bxd5 17. b4
Ra8 0-1

French Defense

Missouri Open 2003

W: Tim Boyd 1600
B: Hughes Lee 708

1. d4 e6 2. e4 d5 3. exd5 exd5 4. Nf3 Nf6 5. Bg5
Be7 6. Bd3 O-O 7. O-O Bg4 8. Nbd2 Nc6 9. c3 Re8
10. Qc2 Ne4 11. Bxe7 Rxe7 12. Nxe4 dxe4
13. Bxe4 Bxf3 14. Bxf3 Qe8 15. Qd2 Rd8 16. Rfe1
Rdd7 17. Bg4 Rxe1+ 18. Rxe1 Re7 19. Rxe7 Qxe7
20. h3 a5 21. f4 Qf6 22. Qe3 h6 23. Bf3 Ne7
24. Bxb7 Nf5 25. Qe5 Qd8 26. Qxf5 Qe7 27. Be4
g6 28. Qe5 Qh4 29. Kh2 h5 30. Qxc7 Kg7 31. g3
Qf6 32. Qe5 Qxe5 33. fxe5 g5 34. d5 Kf8 35. d6
Ke8 36. c4 Kd7 37. c5 Kd8 38. c6 Kc8 39. c7 a4
40. Bf5+ Kb7 41. c8=Q+ Kb6 42. d7 Ka5
43. d8=Q+ Kb4 44. Qd6+ Kb5 45. Qcc5# 1-0

Ruy Lopez

Missouri Open 2003

W: Pavel Bereza 2283
B: Charlie Ward 1455

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. O-O
Be7 6. d4 Nxe4 7. Qe2 d5 8. Nxe5 Bd7 9. Bxc6
bxc6 10. Re1 O-O 11. f3 Nf6 12. Nxd7 Nxd7
13. Qxe7 Re8 14. Qxe8+ Qxe8 15. Rxe8+ Rxe8
16. Kf2 c5 17. dxc5 Nxc5 18. Be3 Ne6 19. c3 c5
20. Na3 d4 21. Bd2 d3 22. Re1 Rd8 23. Nc4 Nc7
24. Be3 Ne6 25. Rd1 Rd5 26. b3 f5 27. Nb2 f4
28. Bc1 c4 29. bxc4 Rd8 30. Rxd3 1-0

Reti Opening

Missouri Open 2003

W: Jim Mc Laughlin 2248
B: Craig Butler 1417

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. g3 d5 4. Bg2 c6 5. Nf3 Bd6
6. b3 Nbd7 7. Bb2 Ne4 8. O-O f5 9. Nbd2 Qe7
10. Rc1 O-O 11. Ne1 Ba3 12. Qc2 Bxb2 13. Qxb2
Qb4 14. Ndf3 b5 15. cxd5 cxd5 16. Nd3 Qa5
17. Rc6 Ndf6 18. Nfe5 Ng4 19. Rfc1 Nxe5
20. Nxe5 b4 21. Bxe4 fxe4 22. Rc7 Qb5 23. Qd2 a5
24. Qg5 Ra7 1-0

French Defense

Missouri Open 2003

W: Ron Luther 2200
B: Sivar Srinivasan 1400

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5 Ne7 5. Bd2 c5
6. dxc5 Nbc6 7. f4 Bxc5 8. Nf3 a6 9. Bd3 Qc7
10. a3 b5 11. b4 Ba7 12. Rb1 Rb8 13. Qe2 Nd4
14. Nxd4 Bxd4 15. Rb3 Bd7 16. Rf1 Ng6 17. Rf3 f6
18. Nxd5 exd5 19. Bxg6+ Kf8 20. c3 hxg6 21. cxd4
Bg4 22. Rbc3 Qb6 23. Rc5 Bxf3 24. Qxf3 Rd8
25. h3 Kf7 26. Qc3 f5 27. Rc6 Qb8 28. Qc5 Rhe8
29. Rxa6 Qc8 30. Rc6 Qb8 31. Rb6 Qc8 32. Rxb5
Qxc5 33. Rxc5 Rc8 34. Rxd5 Rcd8 35. Rxd8 Rxd8
36. Bc3 Ke6 37. Kd2 Kd5 38. Kd3 Ra8 39. Bb2
Ra6 40. h4 Rb6 41. g3 Ra6 42. Kc3 Kc6 43. Kc4
Ra4 44. d5+ Kb6 45. e6 Kc7 46. Kb5 Ra8 47. Be5+
Kd8 48. d6 Rxa3 49. Bxg7 Rd3 50. Bf6+ Kc8
51. Kc6 1-0

Collie System

Missouri Open 2003

W: Bill Wright 1404
B: Loal Davis 2232

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. e3 c6 4. Bd3 Bg4 5. Nbd2
Nbd7 6. c3 e5 7. dxe5 Nxe5 8. Be2 Ned7 9. O-O
Bd6 10. Nd4 Bxe2 11. Qxe2 O-O 12. N2f3 Re8
13. Re1 Ne4 14. Nf5 Bc7 15. Ng3 Qf6 16. Rf1 Re7
17. Qc2 Rae8 18. Rb1 g6 19. c4 Nb6 20. b3 Qc3
21. Rb2 Qxc2 22. Rxc2 dxc4 23. bxc4 Nxc3
24. hxg3 Rd7 25. Bb2 Na4 26. Ba1 c5 27. Rb1 Bb8
28. Kh2 f5 29. Nd2 Red8 30. Nf3 Re8 31. Rd2
Rxd2 32. Nxd2 b6 33. Nf3 Rd8 34. Ng5 Rd2
35. Nh3 h6 36. Re1 Kf7 37. e4 fxe4 38. Rxe4 Rxa2
39. Bh8 Rc2 40. Re3 Rxc4 41. Ng1 b5 42. Ne2 b4
43. f4 Nb6 44. Rd3 Re4 45. Ng1 c4 46. Rd8 Bc7
47. Rd1 a5 48. Nf3 c3 49. Nd4 Nc4 50. Nb5
50. Re7 0-1

Polish Opening

Missouri Open 2003

W: Mark Smith 1311
B: Quinn Parks 1897

1. b4 Nf6 2. Bb2 g6 3. e3 Bg7 4. Nf3 O-O 5. Be2 d6
6. O-O e5 7. d3 a5 8. a3 Nc6 9. b5 Ne7 10. Nbd2 c6
11. bxc6 Nxc6 12. c4 Re8 13. Qc2 d5 14. cxd5 Nxd5
15. Rac1 Be6 16. Qb1 Qe7 17. Ne4 Rac8 18. Nc5
b6 19. Nxe6 Qxe6 20. h3 Qd6 21. Nd2 Qb8 22. Bf3
Nde7 23. e4 Bh6 24. Rfd1 b5 25. Bg4 Rcd8 26. Rc5
Qd6 27. Rc3 Nd4 28. Nb3 b4 0-1

Reti Opening

Missouri Open 2003

W: Peter Immer 1247
B: Ken Fee 1834

1. c4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3. b3 Bf5 4. d3 e6 5. a3 c6
6. Nd4 Bg6 7. e3 Be7 8. Be2 O-O 9. O-O Nbd7
10. Nd2 Nc5 11. Qc2 e5 12. N4f3 e4 13. Ne5 exd3
14. Nxd3 dxc4 15. Qxc4 Bxd3 16. Bxd3 Qxd3
17. b4 Qxc4 18. Nxc4 Nd3 19. Rb1 Nxc1 20. Rfxc1
Rfd8 21. f3 b6 22. Ne5 c5 23. b5 a6 24. Nc6 Re8
25. e4 Bf8 26. a4 axb5 27. Rxb5 Rxa4 28. Rxb6 c4
29. Rb5 h6 30. Ne5 Bd6 31. Nc6 Bf4 32. Rc2 Nd7
33. Kf1 Bxh2 34. g4 Ne5 35. Nd4 Bf4 36. Kg2 Nd3
37. Kf1 Ra1+ 38. Kg2 Ne1+ 39. Kf2 Nxc2 40. Nxc2
Ra2 41. Rc5 Rxc2+ 42. Kf1 Ra8 0-1

French Defense

Missouri Open 2003

W: Denny Marbourg 1783
B: IM Michael Brooks 2490

1. e4 c5 2. c3 e6 3. d4 d5 4. e5 Qb6 5. a3 Bd7 6. b4
cxd4 7. cxd4 Bb5 8. Bxb5+ Qxb5 9. Nc3 Qc6
10. Bb2 Nd7 11. Rc1 Nb6 12. Nf3 Nc4 13. Qb3 b5
14. O-O Ne7 15. Rfd1 Nc8 16. Nd2 N8b6 17. Nxc4
Nxc4 18. Nb1 Be7 19. Nd2 O-O 20. Qf3 a5
21. bxa5 Rxa5 22. Rc3 Qa8 23. Rb3 Nxb2
24. Rxb2 Rxa3 25. Qe2 b4 26. Nb3 Rc8 27. Qb5
Rb8 28. Qe2 Rc8 29. Qb5 Rc4 30. Nc5 Rxd4
31. Rdb1 Ra5 32. Qb6 Bxc5 0-1

Queen's Gambit Accepted

Missouri Open 2003

W: Gabriel Zlavog 1650

B: Selden Trimble 1888

1. d4 d5 2. c4 dxc4 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. e3 Bg4 5. Bxc4 e6
6. O-O Nbd7 7. Nc3 c5 8. d5 exd5 9. Nxd5 Be7
10. h3 Be6 11. Nxf6+ Bxf6 12. Bxe6 fxe6 13. Qb3
Qb6 14. Qxb6 Nxb6 15. Rb1 O-O 16. e4 Nc4 17. b3
Ne5 18. Nxe5 Bxe5 19. Be3 b6 20. Rfd1 Rad8
21. Bg5 Bf6 22. Bxf6 gxf6 23. Kf1 Kf7 24. Ke2 Ke7
25. Rd3 Rxd3 26. Kxd3 Rd8+ 27. Ke3 Rd4 28. a3
a5 29. f4 Kd6 30. g4 Kc6 31. h4 Kd6 32. g5 f5
33. e5+ Ke7 34. Rb2 Rd7 35. Kf3 Ra7 36. a4 Rd7
37. h5 Rd3+ 38. Kg2 Rd4 39. Kf3 Kf7 40. Re2
Rd1 41. Re3 Rh1 42. h6 Rd1 43. Ke2 Rd4 44. Kf3
Kg6 45. Rc3 Kh5 46. Ke3 1/2-1/2

French Defense

Missouri Open 2003

W: Artem Kononov unr.

B: Zeb Fortman 1834

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Nge2 dxe4 5. a3
Be7 6. Nxe4 Nf6 7. N2g3 O-O 8. c3 b6 9. Bd3 Ba6
10. Nxf6+ Bxf6 11. Qf3 Bxd3 12. Qxa8 c6 13. Bf4
e5 14. dxe5 Bg5 15. Be3 Bxe3 16. fxe3 Qc7
17. O-O-O Bb5 18. a4 Bxa4 19. Rd4 c5 20. Rxa4
Nc6 21. Rxa7 Nxa7 22. Qd5 Rd8 23. Qe4 Re8
24. Rd1 Nc6 25. Qf5 Nxe5 26. Ne4 f6 27. g4 Qe7
28. g5 fxe5 29. Nxe5 g6 30. Qf4 c4 31. Kb1 Rf8
32. Qh4 h5 33. Qg3 Nd3 34. Nf3 Kh7 35. Rg1 Rf6
36. Nd4 Qf7 37. Nc2 Rf1+ 38. Rxf1 Qxf1+ 39. Ka2
Qc1 40. Qc7+ Kh6 41. Qxb6 Qxc2 42. Qb8 Qe2
43. h4 Qxb2+ 44. Qxb2 Nxb2 45. Kxb2 g5 0-1

King's Indian Attack

Missouri Open 2003

W: Gunter Kellotat 1700

B: Pavel Bereza 2283

1. e4 d6 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. d3 e5 4. g3 Be7 5. Bg2 O-O
6. O-O c6 7. Nbd2 Qc7 8. a4 Re8 9. Nc4 Bf8 10. h4
d5 11. exd5 cxd5 12. Nxe5 Rxe5 13. Bf4 Bd6
14. Nd4 Bd7 15. Bg5 Be6 16. f4 Re3 17. Bxd5 Qc5
18. Bxb7 Qxd4 19. Kh2 Nbd7 20. Rf3 h6 21. c3 Qb6
22. Rb1 Bg4 23. d4 Qxb7 0-1

English Opening

Missouri Open 2003

W: Bob Holliman 2139

B: Tim Boyd 1635

1. c4 e5 2. Nc3 Nf6 3. g3 d5 4. cxd5 Nxd5 5. Bg2 c6
6. Nf3 Qc7 7. O-O Nd7 8. d3 Be7 9. Bd2 O-O
10. Rc1 Nxc3 11. Bxc3 Re8 12. Nd2 Bf8 13. Ne4
Nb6 14. Ba5 f5 15. Nc5 Qf7 16. a3 Nd7 17. Nb3
Nf6 18. Nd2 Be6 19. Bc3 Bd6 20. Qa4 Qh5 21. Qd1
Ng4 22. h3 Nf6 23. Nc4 Bxc4 24. dxc4 Rad8 25. e3
Qf7 26. Qe2 f4 27. e4 fxe3 28. fxe3 Qg6 29. Kh2
Be5 30. Rf5 Bd4 31. Be1 c5 32. b4 b6 33. Rb1 Nd7
34. Rb3 Rf8 35. g4 Rxf5 36. exf5 Qh6 37. b5 Qc1
38. Bd5+ Kh8 39. Rg3 Nf6 40. Be6 Qf4 41. Kg2 h6
42. h4 Rd6 43. g5 Ne4 44. Rg4 Nc3 1-0

Modern Defense

Missouri Open 2003

W: Jim Ellis 2200

B: Milton Garber 1694

1. e4 d6 2. d4 g6 3. Nc3 c6 4. Nf3 Bg7 5. a4 Bg4
6. Be2 Qb6 7. a5 Qc7 8. 0-0 Nbd7 9. Be3 e5
10. dxe5 Bxf3 11. Bxf3 dxe5 12. Qd3 Ngf6 13. Rfd1
0-0 14. Qc4 Rfc8 15. g3 Ne8 16. Bg4 Nef6 17. Bh3
h5 18. f3 Bf8 19. Rd2 b5 20. axb6 Nxb6 21. Qa2
Rd8 22. Rxd8 Qxd8 23. Qa5 Nc4 1/2-1/2

King's Indian Defense

Missouri Open 2003

W: Craig Butle 1417

B: Thomas Rehmeier 1190

1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. c4 d6 4. Nc3 Nf6 5. Nf3 O-O
6. Be2 Nbd7 7. O-O e5 8. h3 Re8 9. Be3 exd4
10. Bxd4 Nxe4 11. Bxg7 Kxg7 12. Qd4+ Qf6
13. Nd5 Qxd4 14. Nxd4 c5 15. Nb5 Nef6 16. Rfe1
Nxd5 17. cxd5 Re7 18. Bc4 Rxe1+ 19. Rxe1 Ne5
20. Nxd6 Nxc4 21. Nxc4 Bd7 22. Re7 Rd8 23. Ne5
Be8 24. d6 Rxd6 25. Rxe8 Rd1+ 26. Kh2 Re1
27. Re7 Kf6 28. Rxf7+ Ke6 29. Nd3 Kxf7 30. Nxe1
b5 31. Kg3 1-0

Ruy Lopez

Missouri Open 2003

W: Jim Davies 2009
B: William Immer 1440

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Bc5 5. O-O d6
6. c3 b5 7. Bc2 Bg4 8. h3 Bxf3 9. Qxf3 Nf6 10. d3
h6 11. Nd2 O-O 12. Nb3 Bb6 13. Bd2 a5 14. a4 b4
15. Rad1 Qd7 16. Bxh6 Ne7 17. Bg5 Qe6 18. d4 c6
19. Be3 Qd7 20. dxe5 Bxe3 21. exf6 Bxf2+
22. Rxf2 Ng6 23. fxg7 Kxg7 24. Qf6+ Kh7
25. Rxd6 Qc7 26. e5 Qa7 27. Rd4 Kg8 28. Bxg6
fxg6 29. Qxg6+ Qg7 30. Qe6+ 1-0

Sicilian Defense

Missouri Open 2003

W: James Evans 1330
B: Dan Mc Laughlin unr.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nc6 5. Nc3 a6
6. Nxc6 bxc6 7. Be3 Nf6 8. g3 Bb4 9. Bg2 Bb7
10. O-O d6 11. Na4 Ba5 12. c4 e5 13. b4 Bxb4
14. Rb1 c5 15. a3 Bxe4 16. Bxe4 Nxe4 17. axb4
cxb4 18. Rxb4 O-O 19. f3 a5 20. Rb6 Nf6 21. Rxd6
Qc7 22. Bb6 Qxc4 23. Nc5 Ra6 24. Qd3 Rxb6
25. Qxc4 Rxd6 26. Ne4 Rd4 27. Nxf6+ gxf6
28. Qa6 a4 29. Qxf6 Re8 30. f4 exf4 31. Qxd4 fxg3
32. Qf4 Re7 33. Qxg3+ Kf8 34. Qa3 Ke8
35. Qxa4+ Kd8 36. Rd1+ Kc8 37. Qa6+ Rb7
38. Rd8+ Kxd8 39. Qxb7 1-0

Sicilian Defense

Missouri Open 2003

W: Mike Kirkpatrick 1164
B: John Koonce 1463

1. e4 c5 2. Bc4 Nc6 3. Nf3 g6 4. Nc3 Bg7 5. d3 Na5
6. Be3 Nxc4 7. dxc4 d6 8. Qd2 Nf6 9. e5 Ng4
10. exd6 Nxe3 11. Qxe3 Qxd6 12. Rd1 Bxc3+
13. Qxc3 Qe6+ 14. Qe5 f6 15. Qxe6 Bxe6 16. b3
Kf7 17. Ke2 Rhd8 18. h3 Rd6 19. Rd3 Rad8 20. g4
b6 21. Rhd1 h5 22. Nh2 Bc8 23. f4 Bb7 24. Kf2 Be4
25. Rxd6 Rxd6 26. Rc1 Rd2+ 27. Ke3 Rxh2
28. Kxe4 Rxh3 29. g5 Rh2 30. a3 Rd2 31. Ke3 Rd6
32. b4 Rd4 33. bxc5 bxc5 34. Rb1 Rxc4 35. Rb7
Rc3+ 36. Ke4 a5 37. gxf6 Kxf6 38. Rb6+ Kf7
39. Ke5 a4 40. Ke4 0-1

Budapest Defense

Missouri Open 2003

W: Trent Crews 1536
B: Thomas Gossel 1997

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e5 3. dxe5 Ng4 4. Nf3 Bc5 5. e3 Nc6
6. Nc3 O-O 7. a3 a5 8. b3 Re8 9. Bb2 Ngxe5 10. g3
Nxf3+ 11. Qxf3 Ne5 12. Qd1 d6 13. h3 Bf5 14. e4
Qf6 15. Qe2 Bg6 16. Bg2 Nd3+ 17. Kd2 Nxb2
18. Kc2 Qxf2 19. Qxf2 Bxf2 20. g4 Bd4 21. Kxb2
Bxe4 22. Bxe4 Rxe4 23. Kc2 Bxc3 24. Kxc3 Re3+
25. Kc2 Re2+ 26. Kc3 Rae8 27. Rad1 f6 28. Rd3
Kf7 29. Rf1 R2e3 30. g5 R8e5 31. gxf6 gxf6
32. Rf3 Rxf3 33. Rxf3 f5 34. b4 axb4+ 35. axb4 Kf6
36. Kd4 Re4+ 37. Kd5 c6+ 38. Kxd6 Rxc4 39. Rb3
f4 40. b5 Rd4+ 41. Kc7 cxb5 42. Rxb5 f3 43. Rxb7
f2 44. Rb1 Rf4 45. Rf1 Kg5 46. Kd6 Kh4 47. Ke5
Kg3 48. h4 h5 0-1

King's Indian Attack

Missouri Open 2003

W: Mark Smith 1897
B: Frank Whitsell 1339

1. e4 Nf6 2. d3 d6 3. g3 g6 4. Bg2 Bg7 5. f4 Nc6
6. Nf3 Bg4 7. c3 O-O 8. O-O e5 9. h3 Bd7 10. Be3
Nh5 11. Kh2 exf4 12. gxf4 f5 13. Qd2 Qe7 14. exf5
Bxf5 15. Na3 a6 16. Rael Qf7 17. Ng5 Qxa2
18. Nc4 h6 19. Bd5+ Kh8 20. Nf7+ Kh7 21. Ra1
Qb3 22. Nb6 Qb5 23. Bc4 Qxb6 24. Bxb6 Rxf7
25. Bxf7 cxb6 26. d4 Rf8 27. Bd5 Bd7 28. Rael Bf6
29. Be4 Bh4 30. Re3 Kg7 31. Ref3 Nf6 32. Bb1
Be6 33. Rg1 Bf7 34. d5 Ne7 35. c4 Nh7 36. f5 Ng5
37. Rff1 Kh7 38. Qf4 1-0

"The chess-board is the world; the pieces are the phenomenon of the universe; the rules of the game are what we call the laws of nature. The player on the other side is hidden from us. We know that his play is always fair, just, and patient. But also we know, to our cost, that he never overlooks a mistake, or makes the smallest allowance for ignorance."

— T.H. Huxley 1825-1895

Queen Pawn Game

Missouri Open 2003

W: Wes Willis 1638
B: Jim Voelker 2160

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 c5 3. e3 cxd4 4. Nxd4 e5 5. Nf3 Nc6
6. Bb5 Qa5+ 7. Nc3 Bb4 8. Bd2 Bg4 9. Nxd5
O-O-O 10. Bxc6 Bxd2+ 11. Qxd2 Qxd2+ 12. Nxd2
bxc6 13. Nc3 Ne7 14. f3 Be6 15. O-O-O Nd5
16. Nxd5 cxd5 17. Nb3 f6 18. Nc5 Bf7 19. Rd3 Kc7
20. Ra3 Kb6 21. Na4+ Kb5 22. Nc3+ Kb6 23. Rd1
Rd7 24. Rd3 Rc8 25. Na4+ Kc7 26. Rdc3+ Kd8
27. Rxc8+ Kxc8 28. Nc3 Kb7 29. Na4 Kc6
30. Rc3+ Kd6 31. b3 Rb7 32. Rd3 Kc6 33. Nc3 Rd7
34. a4 Bg6 35. Rd2 Kc5 36. Kb2 Bf7 37. Na2 Rb7
38. c3 a5 39. b4+ Kb6 40. Ka3 Rc7 41. Kb2 Rc4
42. Rd3 Kc7 43. Ka3 Kb6 44. Rd1 axb4+ 45. cxb4
Rc2 46. Rg1 d4 47. Nc1 d3 48. Rd1 d2 49. Nb3 Rc3
50. a5+ Kb5 51. Kb2 Rxb3+ 52. Kc2 Rxe3
53. Kxd2 Rb3 54. Ke1 Rxb4 55. Rd7 Bg6 56. Rxc7
Kxa5 57. Rg8 f5 58. Ra8+ Kb5 59. Rb8+ Kc4
60. Rc8+ Kd3 61. Kf2 Rb2+ 62. Kg1 e4 63. fxe4
fxe4 64. Rd8+ Ke2 65. h3 e3 66. Rf8 Ke1 67. Rf1+
Kd2 68. Rf6 Rb1+ 69. Kh2 e2 70. Rd6+ Bd3 0-1

Sicilian Defense

Missouri Open 2003

W: Neelesh Sarawate unr.
B: Trent Crews 1536

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 g6 5. Nc3 Bg7
6. Be3 Nf6 7. Be2 O-O 8. h3 Nc6 9. Qd2 Re8 10. f4
a6 11. g4 Nxd4 12. Bxd4 b5 13. g5 Nd7 14. f5 Be5
15. O-O-O Bb7 16. fxc6 hxc6 17. Rhf1 Qa5
18. Kb1 Rab8 19. Bf3 Rec8 20. Nd5 Qxd2
21. Rxd2 Bxd5 22. exd5 Rc4 23. Be3 Bf4 24. Bxf4
Rxf4 25. Rdf2 Ne5 26. Kc1 Rc8 27. b3 Rxf3
28. Rxf3 Nxf3 29. Rxf3 Rc5 30. Rd3 f6 31. h4 Kf7
32. Kd2 a5 33. c3 f5 34. Rd4 e6 35. dxe6+ Kxe6
36. Kd3 d5 37. a3 Ke5 38. Kc2 f4 39. Kd3 f3
40. Kc2 f2 41. Rd1 Kf4 42. Rf1 d4 43. Rxf2+ Kg4
44. Rf6 Rxc3+ 45. Kb2 Kxh4 46. Rxc6 a4 47. bxa4
bxa4 48. Rg8 Rb3+ 49. Ka2 Kh5 50. g6 Rg3 51. g7
Kg6 52. Rd8 Kxc7 53. Rxd4 Rg2+ 54. Kb1 Kf6
55. Rxa4 Ke6 56. Rb4 1/2-1/2

Polish Opening

Missouri Open 2003

W: Quinn Parks 1311
B: Wes Willis 1638

1. b4 c6 2. Bb2 d5 3. e3 Bf5 4. Nf3 e6 5. Be2 Nf6
6. a3 h6 7. d3 Nbd7 8. Nbd2 Bd6 9. c4 O-O 10. O-O
Rc8 11. c5 Bb8 12. h3 Qc7 13. Re1 e5 14. Nf1 e4
15. Nd4 Qe5 16. Nxf5 Qxf5 17. Ng3 Qg6 18. Bh5
Qg5 19. Bg4 Rcd8 20. Bxd7 Rxd7 21. Bxf6 Qxf6
22. dxe4 Bxc3 23. fxg3 Qe5 24. exd5 Rxd5 25. Qf3
Rfd8 26. Kh2 Rd3 27. Rad1 Qc3 28. Rxd3 Rxd3
29. Rd1 Rxd1 30. Qxd1 Qxa3 31. Qd4 Qb3
32. Qd8+ Kh7 33. Qd4 Qe6 34. Qf4 Qe8 35. g4 Kg8
36. Qd4 f6 37. e4 Qe5+ 38. Qxe5 fxe5 39. Kg3 Kf7
40. Kf3 Ke6 41. Ke3 Kf6 42. Kf3 b6 43. cxb6 axb6
44. g3 g5 45. Ke3 Ke6 46. Kd3 Kd7 47. Kc4 Kd6
48. Kc3 b5 49. Kd3 c5 50. Kc3 cxb4+ 51. Kxb4 Kc6
52. Kc3 Kc5 53. h4 b4+ 54. Kd3 b3 55. Kc3 b2
56. Kxb2 Kd4 57. Kc2 Kxe4 58. Kd2 Kf3 59. hxg5
hxg5 60. Kd3 e4+ 61. Kd2 Kf2 0-1

Sicilian Defense

Missouri Open 2003

W: Ken Fee 1834
B: Jim Ellis 2200

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Bd3
Nc6 6. Nxc6 bxc6 7. c4 e5 8. O-O Be7 9. Nc3 O-O
10. Qe2 Re8 11. b3 Qc7 12. Bb2 Be6 13. Rfd1
Rad8 14. Rac1 Qb8 15. Bb1 Bf8 16. Rc2 g6
17. Bc1 Nh5 18. Be3 Nf4 19. Qf1 Bg7 20. Ne2 d5
21. cxd5
21. exd5 cxd5 22. c5 d4 23. Nxf4 (23. Bxf4 exf4 24. Rcd2) or
21. exd5 cxd5 22. c5 d4 23. Nxf4 dxe3 24. Nxe6 exf2+ 25. Rxf2
Rxe6 26. Be4
21... cxd5 22. exd5 Nxd5 23. Bc1 Bf5 24. Rb2 Bxb1
25. Rxb1 Nb4 26. a3 Rxd1 27. Qxd1 Rd8 28. Qf1
Nc2 29. Bb2 Qxb3 30. Bxe5 Qxa3 31. Bxc7 Kxc7
32. Qc1 Qd3 33. Qb2+ f6 34. Ng3 Rd7 35. h3 h5
36. Qb3 Qxb3 37. Rxb3 Re7 38. Rc3 Nd4 39. Rc4
Re1+ 40. Kh2 Nb5 41. Rc5 a6 42. Rc6 h4 43. Nh1
Ra1 44. g3 hxg3+ 45. Nxc3 Nd4 46. Rb6 f5 47. Kg2
a5 48. Ra6 a4 49. Nf1 a3 50. Ne3 a2 51. Ra7+ Kh6
52. Nd5 Ne2 53. Kf3 Nd4+ 54. Kg2 Nb5 55. Ra5
Rd1 56. Rxa2 Rxd5 0-1

continued from page 4

You need to understand that, in the USCF, the last thing a politician does is tell the truth. The facts don't matter; all that matters is if you look good while the organization falls apart. Witness the failure of then President R. John McCrary at the 2003 meeting: losses made public, he resigns from office and leaves. But wait, McCrary was telling us we had money, the office was fine, and all was well. Sorry, Charlie, this is no fairy tale with a story-book ending. Ditto the "one-year wonder" named Smith from Florida who resigned in disgrace in 2000 as "President." It seems people want the title but don't have a clue as to how to run a business. I've said it so many times; I think I have a copyright: The USCF is a business; it should be run like one.

Donaldson further says "... there is a lot of evidence to support the position that the office in New Windsor was overstaffed." Yes, John, what was your first clue and when did you discover it? For anyone that wants to have some simple math fun (yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus and math can be fun) go back a couple of years and count the known number of employees at HQ, multiply by 35,000 (rough salary and benefits cost per capita in New Windsor) and see what your salary cost is... add more for higher "titles." See that figure??? Now multiply by the then adult membership figure and do the same for scholastics. Then, subtract about 140,000 a year for Chess Life "cost" to life members (got red ink?) and subtract the cost for CL to regular members who pay dues. Also subtract out the cost of School Mates. Plenty of red ink in this picture, one could call it a Picasso in his "red" period instead of his "blue" period. Now you can add in the profit from the B&E business if you can find it. What a mess. This is not rocket science. Despite being a rocket scientist, Frank Camaratta could not figure it out! Frank has done some time on the board but his only real contribution to the USCF was when then President Denis Berry would let Frank chair the Delegate's meeting. Frank could keep a meeting moving but he "thought" that the LMA was alternately a savings account or the delegate's money. Who knows, I hear Enron could use a finance guy.

Donaldson blames this fiscal problem, at least in part, on an antiquated computer system, when the truth of the matter is that NOTHING in the New Windsor office is so complex that it requires heavy duty computing power. The needs are simple bookkeeping, a rating process, desktop publishing for Chess Life, and what else?

Let's go on to the top of column 2! Again I quote, "Don't forget the USCF owns its building in New Windsor outright and still has several hundred thousands dollars in Life Member Assets at its disposal." Ah, just a minute there John. The Life Members own the building – not the USCF. The life-members had their Life Member's Asset fund drained to support the incompetence that has "managed" the USCF into this mess. Recently a buddy of past-President Don Schultz has loaned \$300,000 to the USCF. When you are not at least BBB- credit look outside for funding. I don't even want to go into the Schultz story. Buy a copy of ChessDon (don't waste your money), get some high-water pants on and a clothespin for your nose, it's a "fascinating read." (I've never read the book, dental work is more exciting than the political life of Don Schultz.)

Donaldson concludes by pleading for everyone to renew now and buy a book. This is populace trash and won't save this organization. The best way to help the USCF is to put it out of its misery. After all, when I bought a life membership, I thought it was my life time... not the organizations! Is anyone up for a little class action? It's my understanding that for part, if not all of the past several years, the "leaders" had no D&O coverage.

Chess won't die when the USCF goes under. Regional leaders are able to keep lines of communication open for tournament announcements and even put out a monthly publication. There will be strong and weak regions but, at some point, I could even see them all merging to "try again" under a national name.

Disclaimer: I have not written this mess to engage anyone in a discussion of the USCF. The views expressed are those of the author and may or may not be correct. Quotes are subject to aging memory. Reader discernment is advised.

"Rubinstein's character is too noble for the rough and tumble of life. His colleagues know best the splendor of his personality, his consideration for others. So solicitous is he that his opponent be not disturbed in his reflection, that as a matter of principle, he leaves the board after each move, and only returns after his adversary has completed his play. Naturally much time is lost thereby, and his own thinking suffers, and many a surprising loss of Rubinstein can no doubt be attributed to this factor." - Dr. Hannak

WINTER THAW IV

FEB 28-29, 2004 SPRINGFIELD MO

5-Holliman Modified, G/2 - no add or delay. Southside Senior Ctr, 2215 S Fremont Ave, Springfield MO 65804 Ph: 417-890-1313. Reg 8:30-9:30 on 2/28. Rds: 10, 2:30, 7; 9, 1:15 EF: \$30 paid by 2/24, e-mail and at the door \$40. \$\$b/50 \$150 - 50, Class Prizes \$100 each X,A,B,C,D,U1200&Unr. More \$\$ per entries. Byes: max of two irrevocable 1/2 point byes must commit before round 2. Ent: Bob Holliman, PO Box 1871, Indep MO 64055. 816-836-0568—no calls after 2/26, call the center phone on Saturday morning. USCF membership required

See www.chessmasterbob.com for modified pairing details.

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Heart of America Grand Prix event

Puzzle Solutions

Puzzle 1:

1... Qg1+ 2. Bxg1 Rxc1+ 3. Kh2 Nf3#

Puzzle 2:

1... Ra1+ 2. Kxa1 Qa3+ 3. Kb1 Rb8#

Puzzle 3:

1... Qxe3+ 2. Kxe3 Rxd3+ 3. exd3 f4#

Puzzle 4:

1... Rh3+ 2. gxh3 Qh2#

Puzzle 5:

1. Bxh6 gxh6 2. Qxh6 Rfc8 3. Re3 Qb6 4. Nf1 +-