



TENNESSEE CHESS NEWS

SUMMER 2008

VOLUME 51

NO. 3

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Tennessee Chess Association Tournament Calender from the TCA Website

Aug. 30-31, 2008

Tennessee Open Championship

\$4,000 Guaranteed; 30 Grand Prix Points

Open; Amateur U1600; Novice U1200

Cumberland Co. Community Complex

1398 Livingston Road, Crossville

Hotel: Best Western Leisure Inn

Reservations: 931-484-1551

Entries: Harry Sabine

931-484-9593; e-mail: hdsabine@citlink.net

September 27, 2008

Tennessee Senior Open

Nashville Chess Center

Entries: Chris Prosser

615-426-7105; e-mail: RegionIII@aol.com

October 11, 2008

Cumberland Co. Fall Open

Cumberland Co. Community Complex

Crossville, TN

931-484-9593; e-mail: hdsabine@citlink.net

Nov. 29, 2008

48th Mid-South Open

Hampton Inn, Memphis, TN

Entries: Memphis Chess Club

e-mail: gpylant@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIPS

Beginning at the 2008 Tenn. Open Championship, TCA annual dues will be \$15 for a *regular* membership or *student* membership. Additional members of a family may join for one dollar each, but only one issue of **TCN** will be mailed per family. For those wishing to join after March 1st of any year, a \$20.00 membership is available for the remainder of that year and includes the following year. All non-patron memberships expire August 31.

Tax-deductible Patron Memberships are available beginning at \$100 per year for those who wish to help support the TCA and the FFTC. These memberships expire one year from the date of payment. Patron membership categories and benefits are as follows:

PATRON \$100

- One year TCA Membership and FFTC membership plus a key ring.

PATRON KING \$300

- All Patron benefits plus one year free TCA and FFTC membership for all members of the Patron King's immediate family & free entry into the TN State Scholastic Individual Regional Tournament for the member and all members of the Patron King's immediate family.

PATRON MASTER \$500

- All Patron King benefits plus one free entry to any TCA or FFTC sponsored Open Chess Tournament. The Patron Master or any member of his/her immediate family can use such free entry.

PATRON GRANDMASTER \$1000 (or more)

- All Patron Master benefits plus a chess clock and their name on a permanent plaque to be placed on the wall at the home of the TCA and FFTC.

TOURNAMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

TCN prints listings of upcoming tournaments that require TCA membership in each issue for free. Submit complete TLA information to Malcolm Estrada, Tournament Coordinator.

E-MAIL: straightleg@aol.com

TN CHESS NEWS STAFF

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**TCN publishing schedule and
deadline for submissions:**

Spring 2008 - May 1 covering

Feb, Mar, and Apr events

Deadline: Apr 11, 2008

Summer 2008 - Aug 1 covering

May, Jun, and Jul events

Deadline: July 11, 2008

Fall 2008 - Nov 1 covering

Aug, Sept, and Oct events

Deadline: Oct 11, 2008

Winter 2009 - Feb 1 covering

Nov, Dec, and Jan events

Deadline: Jan 11, 2009

Please submit material by e-mail
to: lsdick@tds.net



TENNESSEE CHESS ASSOCIATION & FOUNDATION FOR TENNESSEE CHESS

PATRON MEMBERS

 Patron Grandmaster 

Dr. Martin Katahn

 Patron Member 

Dr. Juan T. Aristorenas

R. K. Shimabukuro

Brian Vogt



The Tennessee Chess Hall of Fame was established to honor those members who have distinguished themselves through their outstanding achievements in chess, either in competition or in chess organization or promotion. Peter Lahde is chairman of the electing committee, and guidelines for nominations are posted onsite.

TCA HALL OF FAME

Peter Lahde	1990
Robert Coveyou	1990
Jerry Sullivan	1990
Martin Southern	1990
Tom Finucane	1990
Robert Scrivener	1990
L. Hunter Weeks	1990
John Hurt	1992
James A. Sweets	1993
Rea Hayes	1997
James A. Wright	1998
Dr. Martin Katahn	2002
David Burris	2003
Albert Hodges	2005

NOTATIONS FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 2008 TN Open is rapidly approaching, and with it, the end of a very busy year for the TCA Board. Since January, the Board has appointed an Acting President, re-worked the budget and prize fund for the TN Open (after a \$3,000 loss last year), appointed a new Tournament Coordinator and East TN Director, found a new home for the TN Open and the new Class Championship (replacing the NTWO), appointed new members to the NCC Board, created a new committee to deal with all TCA adult events, and dealt with an increase in TCA dues. I applaud all of the Board members for their dedication and hard work.

This has been the busiest summer I have had in 18 years. Sadly, I spent part of the day (July 29th) at the funeral of Susie Lahde. If you ever wanted to see Peter smile, all you had to do was wait for Suzie to enter the room. Suzie had that effect on everyone she met. Most of us (wood-pushers to Grand Masters) have family or loved ones that tolerate our strange hobby. After you read this article, go and thank them for their patience and understanding, and for the countless hours they allow us to spend at this great game of Chess.

Finally, we look forward to a new year of TCA events. We will have a re-vamped TN Open, a new Class Championship, the Regional and State Scholastics, the TN Senior Open, a revitalized web-site, and the return of a State Blitz Championship. Come to one, two, or all of these events-and bring friends. The 2008 TN Open will also usher in a new President, returning me to my role as Secretary. Serving as your Acting President has been a pleasure and a great privilege. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity.

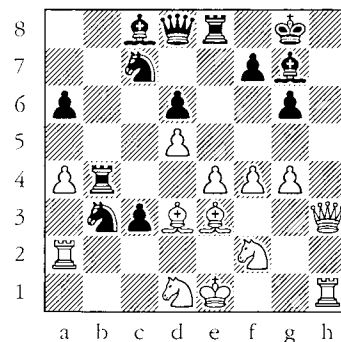
Chris Prosser, Acting President

Tennessee Open Championship Aug. 30-31
3 Sections; 30 moves/20 min & SD/60; \$60 entry
Cumberland Co. Community Complex, Crossville

FROM THE EDITOR

Many of you have asked whether the minutes of the TCA Board meetings are public and whether we are able to provide the membership with a financial statement. All our meetings are public unless for some reason we need to call a closed meeting to discuss some sensitive matter. If you wish to attend one, just ask your Regional Director when and where the meeting is being held. And we definitely want you to show up at the Annual Membership meeting that is held in conjunction with the Tennessee Open. **This year's membership meeting will be at 2:00 pm on Saturday**, before the start of Round 2. Come give your input and help decide who the Officers will be throughout the year. We are fortunate to have Secretary Prosser's summaries of the Board's last three meetings included in this issue. See the following page. Also, Treasurer Angela McElrath-Prosser has provided a financial summary that shows all activity for the current fiscal year. See page 6.

I was reviewing a game played in the Swedish Championship where the eventual co-champion impressed with his play in



Tikkanen, H-Berg, E.
Swedish Champ., 6.06.08
Black to make 24th move.

a Benoni position. Worried of White's kingside attack and prompted by the White king lingering uncastled, Berg made a speculative sacrifice of a piece with Nxd5 that paid off because White continued to forgo castling. Though the play wasn't perfect, it did show the problems that a player faces when they eschew castling. Many games in this issue also highlight the consequences of not castling. For examples of these disasters, see Wheeler vs. Collins (page 18) and Chavez vs.

Remick (page 19). These are instructive if not classical examples of the punishment for not castling. Also See Beaty vs. Davis, page 13. In Knowles-Davison, page 14, and Chavez vs. Jones (p. 19), uncastled Black manages to scrape out draws mainly because of maintaining the initiative most of the game-but in both cases could have lost had White not overlooked something. The moral: castle.

Summary of the 07-08 TCA Board Minutes

January 19, 2008:

Mike Cross and Paul Semmes stepped down from the Board. Chris Prosser was appointed Acting President, and Malcolm Estrada was appointed Tournament Coordinator. A committee was formed to re-work the layout and prize funds for the 2008 TN Open and the 2009 NTWO after substantial losses at both events this year. Harry Sabine, Teresa Wilson, and Sam Strang were appointed as TCA representatives on the Nashville Chess Center Board.

February 23, 2008:

Victor Suich was appointed the new East TN Director. Leonard Dickerson reported that the cost of publishing and mailing the magazine had risen. Angela McElrath-Prosser reported on the losses at the TN Open and the NTWO (over \$4500 in combined losses). Chris Prosser reported on the recommendations of the tournament committee. The Board had a lengthy discussion on the layout for the 2008 TN Open. The Board agreed to a four thousand dollar prize fund, and the addition of adding Grand Prix points. The Board acknowledged the accomplishments of R.O. Mitchell (who passed away last year). TCA dues were increased to \$15 for the 2008-09 year.

May 17, 2008:

The Board adopted a new layout and site for the inaugural 2009 TN Class Championship Tournament (the Martin Luther King weekend in Nashville). A permanent tournament committee was formed to deal with the layout of all TCA adult events. The TCA tournament guarantee was dissolved. Harry Sabine met with the Regional Scholastic Coordinators in June. The Board agreed to require TCA membership for the State Individual Scholastic finals.

A summary of the TCA Board minutes and financial reports will be included in the August issue of the TCN each year.

TCA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For Fiscal Year 2008 (Year Ending August 31)

As of July 26, 2008

REVENUES:

Membership Dues	1,479.00
Income from TN Open 2007	2,435.00
Income from TN Open 2008	0.00
Income from North TN Winter Open 2008	5,204.03
Income from Region 1 Scholastics 2008	1,440.00
Income from Region 2 Scholastics 2008	1,218.10
Income from Region 3 Scholastics 2008	961.12
Income from Region 4 Scholastics 2008	400.00
Income from Ribbons	37.50
Income from Book Seller	69.00
Donations	150.00
Other	0.00
Other - USCF Dues pass thru	284.00
Interest on Investments	3.05

Total Revenues	\$13,680.80
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EXPENSES:

Chapter Admin. - Insurance and Fees	0.00
Treasurer	0.00
Hall of Fame Committee	0.00
Tournaments	16,252.06
Secretary/Membership	49.45
Newsletter	1,349.62
Internet	362.83
Scholastic Coordinator	0.00
Scholastic Regions	1,040.00
Other - Ribbons	0.00

Total Expenses	\$19,053.96
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Decrease in Unrestricted Net Assets	-\$5,373.16
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2008 Rea Hayes Open

The Rea Hayes open (sponsored by the Hayes family in conjunction with the Chattanooga Chess Club) was held in Hixson, TN-a northern suburb of Chattanooga-on June 21st. It was a four-round Swiss conducted at 60-min S.D. that offered 6 grand prix points with a guaranteed prize fund of \$1,100. The Open Section drew 11 players, two of which were masters; and the Reserve Section (Under 1600) had 25 participants.

Jerry Wheeler and David Hater (of Georgia) emerged with 3.5 points and shared first place honors. Brian McCarthy took clear third with 3.0 points, having drawn both of the top finishers. Clear 4th place was captured by Ellis Jones who now lives in North Carolina. This once-Tennessean proved that he still knows how to wield the plank, giving some upstart youngsters a nice spanking! Even in his loss he played ambitiously. You can check out McCarthy's tense encounter with first-place finisher David Hater on page 18, but you aren't going to get any thrills from McCarthy's 2-move grandmaster draw with Wheeler! Wheeler's game with Russell Collins (page

18) does show his qualification as a champion, though.

The large Reserve Section was truly competitive. Clayton Gotwal and Mark Wendland (of Georgia) fought out an Accelerated Dragon in the 4th round to tie with each other for 3.5-point scores and secure first/second place honors. Their championship game can be found on page 20. Then followed the 3-point scorers in a tie for 3rd-6th place honors: Benjamin Blair, Frank Hotz (KY), B. Wieb Vandeer Meer, and Anthony Ballou.

The Chattanooga Chess Club produced a nice tournament bulletin, which is truly rare for a one-day affair. It contains a detailed history of the event, crosstables, and well over 45 games broken out by rounds. The games appearing here were gleaned from the tournament bulletin. And if there had been a best combination prize, it may have went to Chavez due to his destructive combination in his 16-move encounter with William Remick. (See page 19.)

**The Tennessee Tempo
- back in action
August 27th!**

REA HAYES OPEN 2008

CROSSTABLES

OPEN SECTION

	Post	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Tot
1. Jerry T Wheeler TN	2204	W11	W8	W5	D3	3.5
2. David A Hater GA	2045	W7	D3	W8	W5	3.5
3. Brian McCarthy OH	2210	W4	D2	W6	D1	3.0
4. Ellis E. Jones NC	1822	L3	W7	W9	D6	2.5
5. W David Presley GA	1727	W6	W9	L1	L2	2.0
6. Chris B Chavez TN	1882	L5	W11	L3	D4	1.5
7. Michael H Bacon GA	1734	L2	L4	D10	W8	1.5
8. Russell Collins TN	1780P	W10	L1	L2	L7	1.0
9. Thomas Trivers TN	1610	H	L5	L4	--	0.5
10. Malcolm Estrada TN	1459	L8	--	D7	--	0.5
11. William Remick GA	1775	L1	L6	--	--	0.0

RESERVE SECTION

	Post	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Tot
1. Clayton Gotwals TN	1527	WF	W6	W5	D2	3.5
2. Mark Q Wendland GA	1478P	W15	W10	W9	D1	3.5
3. Benjamin Blair TN	1532	L17	W20	W8	W11	3.0
4. Frank Hotz KY	1467P	--	W21	W17	W9	3.0
5. B. Wieb Van DerMeer	1377	W11	W13	L1	W14	3.0
6. Anthony Ballou TN	1305	W16	L1	W13	W15	3.0
7. Malcolm Estrada TN	1466	--	W19	H	W17	2.5
8. Mark C. Talley TN	1164P	W25	D17	L3	W16	2.5
9. Sanchit Wadhawan	1194	W20	W12	L2	L4	2.0
10. Peter Morzinski GA	1147P	W21	L2	L14	W22	2.0
11. Steve T. Gibson AL	1277	L5	W25	W19	L3	2.0
12. Erick L Lorinc TN	1086	W22	L9	L15	W24	2.0
13. Andrew Hater GA	1254	W23	L5	L6	W19	2.0
14. Timothy Staley GA	1034	L18	W22	W10	L5	2.0
15. Matthew Klawonn TN	1016	L2	W24	W12	L6	2.0
16. Chris Schult TN	852	L6	W23	W20	L8	2.0
17. Mark Flatman GA	1099	W3	D8	L4	L7	1.5
18. Philip Pennington	1559	W14	--	--	--	1.0
19. Larry O Grohn TN	973	W24	L7	L11	L13	1.0
20. Taylor Morris TN	598P	L9	L3	L16	W23	1.0
21. Kevin Hong TN	589P	L10	L4	L22	W25	1.0
22. Bharath Venkatesh	484P	L12	L14	W21	L10	1.0
23. William D Hong TN	102P	L13	L16	bye	L20	1.0
24. Tanay Patri TN	678P	L19	L15	W25	L12	1.0
25. William E. Pyle TN	445	L8	L11	L24	L21	0.0

John Hurt Memorial 5

The John Hurt Memorial was played on July 19, 2008. It was a 4-game 60 min. Swiss that attracted 28 players.

Graham Horobetz, who is rated 1717, took an undefeated first place with 4.0 points. Edgar Davison gave up a first-round draw, which resulted in him finishing a clear 2nd with 3.5 points. The tense 4th round battle between Horobetz and Kovalic for 1st place is annotated on page 23. And Davison's lengthy clash with Robbins in the 4th final round is given on page 13. Also significant is that 2400 Curt Jones made a cameo appearance in the tournament for one game. He might be returning to activity-so watch out!

Some of the more critical games from the event are included throughout this issue. More complete information on the tournament, including crosstables, can be found on the Memphis Chess Club's home: www.memphischess.com.

♠--♠--♠--♠--♠--♠--♠--♠

35th LPO: Master Patrick Tae

The 35th Lipkin/Pfefferkorn Open took place in Winston-Salem from 7-25-27. The Open Section had 14 players

in it, six of which were masters. Patrick Tae of Oak Ridge played 5 of these masters and ended up with 3.5 points and in a 4-way tie for second. First place was taken by Timur Aliyev who gave up a draw to Patrick and another master. Note that I say another master: Patrick Tae has officially become a USCF National Master; his gain of 33 points in the tournament was enough to elevate his class!

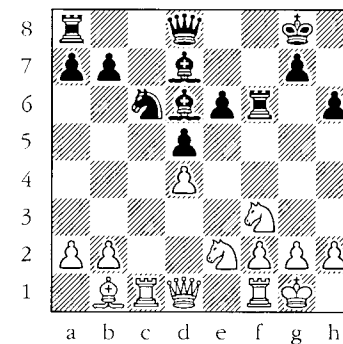
Matthew Marsh of Knoxville took a clear 7th place with 2.5 points. In the Under 2200 Section, Joshua Suich tied for 2nd with 3.5 points, losing no games. And in the Under 2000, Peter Suich tied for 7th place with 3.0 points; and Corry Marsh tied for 7th place in the Under 1800. Below is a key game showing how resourceful Patrick had to be to obtain his title.

35th LPO (Round 1)
Patrick, Tae (2180)
Craig, James (2322)
Result "1-0"

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 Nf6
 4. e5 Nfd7 5. Bd3 c5 6. c3
 Nc6 7. Ne2 cxd4 8. cxd4
 f6!?

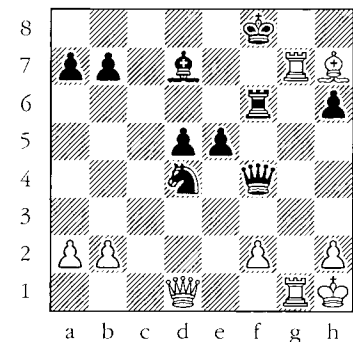
With his pieces cramped, Black is in no hurry to castle. He invites the complications of Nf4 simply because his bishops'

future is unclear: 9. Nf4 Qe7 (9... Nxd4? 10. Qh5+ Ke7 11. exf6+ Nxf6 12. Ng6+ +/-) 10. Qh5+ Qf7 11. Bg6 hxg6 12. Qxh8 Nxd4 13. O-O Nxe5 =/+ 9. exf6 Nxf6 Though drawish, Black is still having problems getting his bishops into the game. 10. O-O Bd6 11. Nf3 O-O 12. Bg5 Bd7 13. Rc1 h6 Better was Rc8 or Qb6. This move creates white-square weaknesses. 14. Bxf6 Not as good as Bf4 but Patrick perhaps is unaware of the potential problems. Rxf6 15. Bb1



Rxf3! Black's compensation for the exchange is clear, with a rook plus pawn and continuing initiative. But it is unclear that Black is going to be able to mount much force against White's weakened kingside. More likely is that his pawns will tell in the endgame. 16. gxf3 Qh4 17. f4 Bxf4 18. Nxf4 Qxf4 19. Rc3 Rather than attack with Qc2, White

smartly decides to prepare his own attack down the g-file as well as shore up his defenses. **Nxd4 20. Rg3 Rf8 21. Kh1 e5 22. Rfg1 Rf7 23. Bg6 Rf6** Black retains a small advantage with Re7. Both players have less than 5 minutes remaining to reach the next time control-and don't forget that Patrick has been a national scholastic blitz champion. **24. Bh7+ Kf8 25. Rxg7**



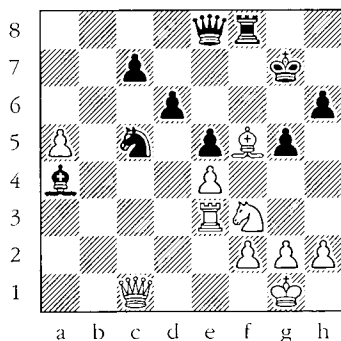
Bc6?? Necessary to hold a draw was Rf7. 26. Rc7 Ke8 27. Rg8+ Rf8 28. Rc8+ Ke7 29. Rcx f8 Nf5 30. Rxf5 d4+ 31. Kg1 Qe4 32. Rf7+ 1-0

16th Battle of Murfreesboro

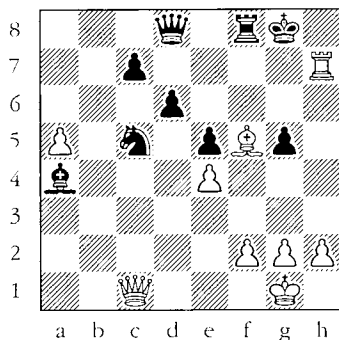
August 16 5-SS
 Rnd 1, G/30; Rnd 2, G/60;
 Rds 3, 4, & 5, G/75
 Grace Lutheran Church
 Murfreesboro, TN
 Telephone: 615-895-7989

Rea Hayes 2008, Open (1)
David Presley (1687)
Christian Chavez (1895)

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. c4 Bb4+ 4. Bd2 Qe7 5. Nc3 b6 6. e3 Bxc3 7. Bxc3 Ne4 8. Bd3 Bb7 9. O-O d6 10. Rc1 O-O 11. Re1 f5 Black clamps down on e4, but the position is still just drawish. 12. Bb1 Nd7 13. d5 Nxc3 14. Rxc3 e5 15. b4 a5 16. Ra3?! axb4 17. Rxa8 Bxa8-/+ 18. Qa4 g5 (18... Nc5) 19. Bxf5 Nc5 20. Qc2 b5 21. e4 bxc4 22. Qxc4 Kh8 23. Re3 h6 24. Qxb4? Bxd5 25. a4 Bc6 With such a strong knight, Black would do good just to play Be6 and trade down into the endgame. 26. a5 Qe8 27. Qc4 Kg7 28. Qc1 Ba4



29. Nxg5! hxg5 30. Rh3 Qd8?! The queen is too valuable to be tied down as a defender. Black should gladly just play Rxf5 and allow his two pieces to control the position. 31. Rh7+ Kf6 32. Rh6+ Kf7 33. Rh7+ Kf6 34. Rh6+ Kf7 35. Rh7+ Kg8



36. Qe3?! White misses the simple win of Qc4+ and now is vulnerable to a combination himself. (36. Qc4+ d5 37. Qxc5 Rxf5 38. Rxc7 Rf8 39. exd5) 36... Rf7 Removing the defender with Rxf5 should easily hold a draw: 36... Rxf5 37. Qh3 Qf6 38. Rh6 Rxf2 39. Rxf6 Rxf6 40. Qc8+ Kf7 41. Qxc7+ Ke6 =. 37. Qh3 Qf6 38. Rh6 g4 39. Qh5 Winning is Qg4+, too. Qg7 40. Rg6 Bb5 41. Rxg7+ Kxg7 Even though White is winning big time, he lost the game. 0-1

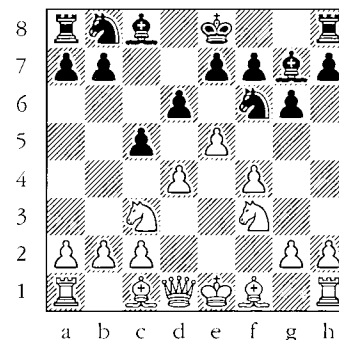
Rea Hayes 2008, Open (1)
David Hater (2033)
Mike Bacon (1742)

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. c3 Nf6 4. Be2 g6 5. O-O Bg7 6. Re1 Nbd7 7. Bf1 O-O 8. d4 cxd4 9. cxd4 b6 10. Nc3 Bb7 11. h3 a6 12. Bd3 Rc8 13. a4 Qc7 14. Be3 Qb8 15. Qb3 Qa8 16. Nd2 Rb8 17. f3 Rfc8 18. Rac1 Ne8? Black is shifting all his weight to the queenside

but he overlooks a simple tactic: Bc4 would now win a pawn by force. 19. Bb1?! Well, f7 is still weak, needing the rook's defense. Nc7 20. Ba2 Ne6 21. Ne2 Rxc1 22. Rxc1 Rc8 23. Nc4 Qa7 24. Kh2 h5 25. Na3 Rxc1 26. Bxc1 Qb8 27. Kh1 Qc7 28. Be3 Kh7 29. Nf4 Nxf4 30. Bxf4 White's space advantage and slight pressure was enough to secure the win. 0-1

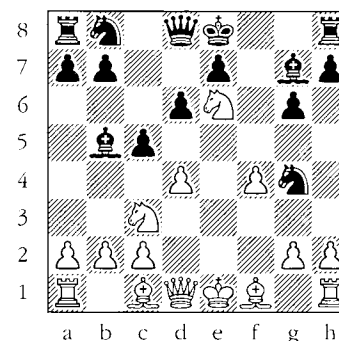
Rea Hayes 2008, Open (1)
Russell Collins (1819)
Malcolm Estrada (1451)

1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 4. f4 Bg7 5. Nf3 c5 Castling is recommended here. Know your openings at least to 10 moves deep! 6. e5



Ng4?! (6... dxe5 7. Bb5+ Nc6!=) 7. Bb5+ A pawn can be won by force with the simple dxc but the game continuation also has some strong points. Bd7 8. e6 fxe6 (8... Bxb5 9. exf7+ Kxf7 10. Ng5+ Kg8 11. Nxb5 Qd7 12. dxc5 +-) 9. Ng5 Bxb5

10. Nxe6



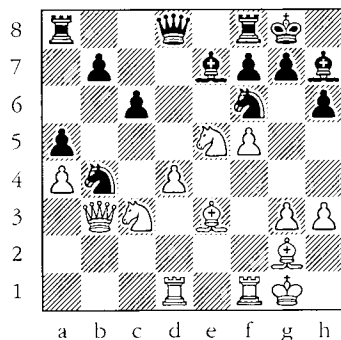
Qd7 (10... Bxd4 11. Nxb5 (11. Nxd8 Bf2+ 12. Kd2 Be3+ 13. Ke1 Bf2+ =) 11... Qa5+ 12. Qd2 Qxd2+ 13. Kxd2 Nc6 14. Nbx4 cxd4 15. Nc7+ Kd7 16. Nxa8 Rxa8 +/=) 11. Nxg7+ Kf7 12. Nxb5 Kxg7 13. Qe2 Nc6 14. d5 Nd4 15. Nxd4 cxd4 16. Qe4 Rhf8 17. Qxd4+ Nf6 18. O-O a6 19. b3 e5 20. dxe6 e.p. Qxe6 21. Bb2 Rac8 22. Rfe1 Qd7 23. c4 Rce8? Black needs to get out the pin with Kg8. 24. Rxe8 Qxe8 25. Qxd6 Rf7 26. Be5 Qd7 27. Rd1 Materially bereft, White lost on time. 1-0

WARNING! CELL PHONE
use in tournament room is
PROHIBITED

if your cell phone rings while games are in progress, you could be penalized - even forfeited.

John Hurt Memorial 5 (4)
 Russell Robbins (1702)
 Edgar Davison (1805)

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. g3 Bf5 4. Bg2 e6 5. O-O Be7 6. c4 c6 7. Nc3 O-O 8. Nh4 Bg4
 Winning the c-pawn is possible but it may not be worth it, especially since the White's mighty bishop would gain some range. 9. h3 Bh5 10. Nf3 White should have followed through with g4; now Black has the opportunity to assume an initiative. h6 (10... Bxf3 11. Bxf3 dxc4 12. e4 Nbd7 =/+) 11. Ne5 Nfd7 12. Nf3
 The net effect of all of White's maneuvering is a pawn deficit. dxc4 13. a4 Na6 14. e4 Reclaiming the pawn with Nd2 was proper. Nb4 15. b3 cxb3 16. Qxb3 a5 17. Be3 Bg6 18. Rad1 Nf6 19. Ne5 Bh7 20. f4 Nd7 21. f5 exf5 22. exf5 Nf6



23. Ng6! A computer-type move! Most players would continue with g4. Bxg6 24. fxg6 Qc7 25. Bf4 Bd6 26. Ne4

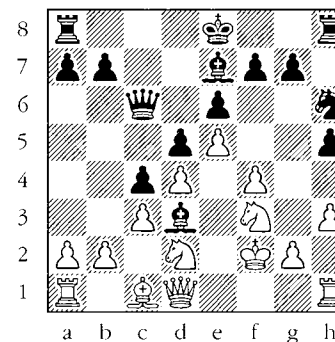
Nxe4 27. Bxe4 Kh8 28. Bxd6 Qxd6 29. Rxf7 Rxf7 30. gxf7 Rf8 31. Qf3 Qf6 Better was g6. 32. Qxf6 gxf6 33. Bg6 Kg7 34. Bh5 Rxf7? Black over-reacts. The f-pawn is no longer a threat. He should start his own threats with b5. 35. Bxf7 Kxf7 36. Kf2 Ke6 37. Kf3 Kd5 38. Kf4 Nc2 39. Kf5 ?? (39. Rb1 Nb4 40. Ke3 +/-) 39... Ne3+ 40. Kxf6 Nxd1 41. g4 Nf2 42. Kg6 Nxb3 43. Kxb6 Kxd4 44. Kh5 c5 45. Kh4 Nf4 46. Kg3 Ke4 47. g5 c4 0-1

John Hurt Memorial 5
 Mark Beatty (1634)
 Jim Davis (1728)

1. e4 Nc6 2. Nf3 d5 3. exd5 Qxd5 4. Nc3 Qh5? 5. Nb5 Kd8 6. Be2 Bg4 7. Nbd4 Trading pieces is the last thing that White should be doing now with Black's king stuck in the center. Nc3 was indicated. Nxd4 8. Nxd4 Bxe2 9. Qxe2 Qxe2+ 10. Nxe2= e5 11. d4 Bd6 Better is exd, to temporarily close the d-file with the Black king still stuck in the center. Also okay is e4. 12. Be3 Nf6 13. O-O-O Ke7? 14. Rhe1 Ng4 Again, e4 is better. Black is proceeding without sensing the danger of the rook lineup. 15. dxe5 Nxe5 16. Nd4 Kf6 17. Nb5 Bb4 Playing Rhd8 was required. Now even the immediate Bd4 kills Black. 18. c3 Ba5 19. Bd4 1-0

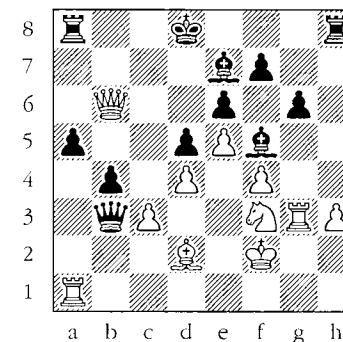
John Hurt Memorial 5
 Chase Knowles (1565)
 Edgar Davison (1805)

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. c3 Black has maneuvered White into a bad opening because Black has the best of a Caro-Kann and a French, since his bishop will be outside the pawn chain. Nc6 5. Bb5 Qb6 6. Qb3 c4 7. Bxc6+ Qxc6 8. Qd1 Bf5 9. Nd2 e6 10. f4 h5 11. Ngf3 Bd3 12. Kf2 Nh6 13. h3 Be7



Black has just about every advantage except a material one: space, the two bishops, line control, and the initiative. 14. Ne1 Bg6 15. Ndf3 Nf5 16. Nc2 b5 17. Ne3 h4 18. Nxf5 Bxf5 19. Rg1 a5 20. g4 hxg3+ 21. Rxg3 g6 22. Qf1 Kd7 23. Be3 b4 24. Bd2 Qa4 Capturing on c3 with the followup of a4 was better. But still Black retains some advantage. (24... bxc3 25. Bxc3 a4) 25. b3 cxb3?! However, Qb5 or c6 was better than this move which superficially seems

like it is winning a pawn. 26. axb3 Qxb3 Dropping the queen back to c6 was better. Now White gets the upper hand. 27. Qb5+ Kd8 28. Qb6+



Though the game is given as drawn here, White is actually winning: 28... Kc8 29. cxb4 Bc2 (29... Qc4 30. Rcl) 30. Ng5 1/2-1/2

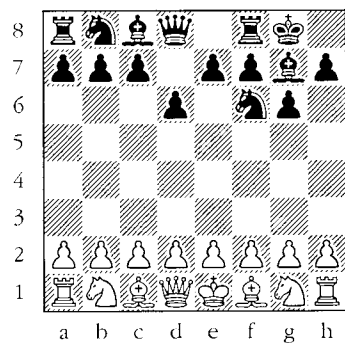
John Hurt Memorial 5
 Greg Turner (1919)
 Aaron Smith (1668)

1. e4 c6 2. Nf3 d5 3. exd5 cxd5 4. Bb5+ Bd7 5. Bxd7+ Nxd7 6. b3 Ngf6 7. O-O e6 8. Bb2 Bd6 9. d3 O-O 10. Nbd2 Qc7 11. h3 Rac8 12. c4 dxc4 13. dxc4 h6 14. Qe2 Nh7 15. Ne4 Be7 16. Nd4 a6 17. Rad1 Nc5 18. Nxc5 Qxc5 19. Nxe6?! fxe6 20. Qxe6+ Rf7 21. Rd7? Nf8 This forcing move might be the part of the combination that White overlooked. 22. Qd5 Nxd7 23. Qxd7 Bh4 24. Qg4 Bxf2+ 25. Kh1 Rcf8 26. b4 Qe3 27. Bc1 Qd3 28. Rd1 Bg3! 29. Bf4 Rxf4 0-1

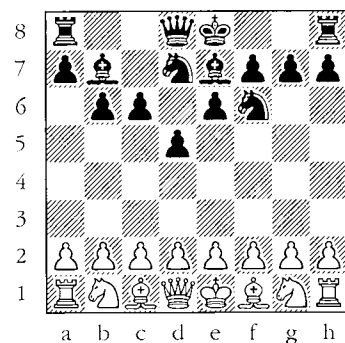
Scholastic Corner: A Universal Defense

Beginning scholastic players immediately get into trouble when White opens the game with a move other than e4. And their fear is multiplied if the opponent dares such really esoteric moves as b3, c4, or f4. I've even seen them squirm when their opponent opens with Nf3, simply because they can't get in their customary e5. At their early stage of development, it is not economical to teach them an opening reply to every possible White opening. And it certainly isn't necessary because blunders predominate, negating the best opening schemes. Too, it is not necessary to teach them winning opening responses. Just show them a system to get their pieces out without getting immediately mated or over-ran and later inaccuracies will equalize their opportunities. To this end, it behooves you as a teacher to introduce them to a universal opening that can handle all "surprises."

There are two universal defenses that Black can use against any opening: a Kings-Indian setup (Diag. 1) and a Slav Setup (Diag. 2).



Diag. 1 Kings Indian Setup



Diag. 2 Slav Formation Setup

The Kings Indian Setup can be used against any opening, even e4. When it is played in response to e4, it is termed the Pirc Defense or Modern Defense. When it is used against d4, its variations are called Kings Indian Defense or Benoni. It can also be used as an attack system by White, called the Kings Indian Attack—a favorite of past World Champion Bobby Fischer. Because of its extreme flexibility, it is

dubbed the Busy Man's Opening because many lazy (or older) chess players rely on it solely, avoiding the need for excessive study of openings. However, I'm not going to advocate this setup for your beginners, mainly because they might get caught fumbling around in the center trying to fianchetto their bishop. Besides, there is a stock attack of swapping off that black-squared bishop and attacking down the h-file.

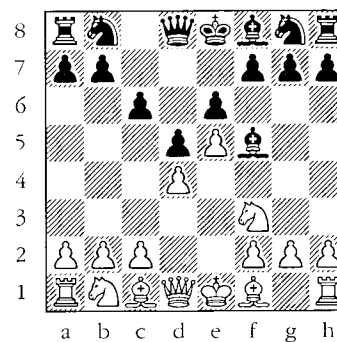
I'm championing the Slav Formation Setup. I'm trusting that your players can cope with e4-openings, so I'm recommending the Slav setup for all non-e4 openings until they have time and skill to acquire more potent counters. Actually, a form of this opening can be used against e4: the Caro Kann (Diag. 3). But its transpositions can be dangerous if you really

don't know the opening.

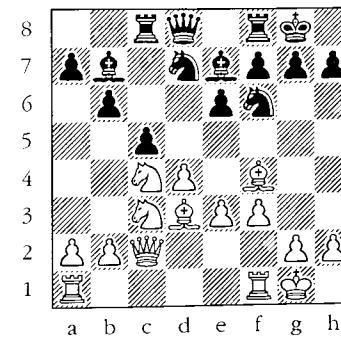
We'll look at a move order to transpose into the Slav Setup. Other developments should be similar: 1. d4 c6 2. c4 d5 3. Nc6 e6 4. Nf3 Nf6 5. Bf4 (or g5) Be7 6. e3 0-0 7. Bd3 Nbd7 8. 0-0 b3 9. Ne5 Bb7, giving us the skeleton of Diag. 2.

The cautions for Black pertain to his bishop placement. He certainly can often place his bishop on d6, but then e4-e5 threats of forking the bishop and knight can be a problem. As for his white-square bishop, it can find its way into the game by either Ba6 or Bb7. Generally, the pawn break of c5 sets it free to rake White's kingside, as demonstrated in the example game of Diag. 4, below.

Remember, Diag. 2 is always achievable through move transposition.



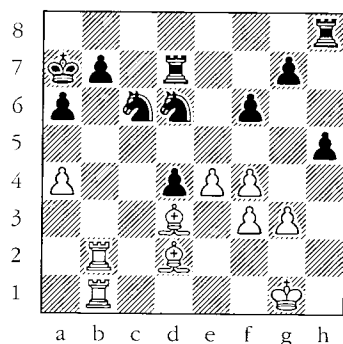
Diag. 3 Caro Kann versus e4.



Diag. 4 Bishop unleashed with c5

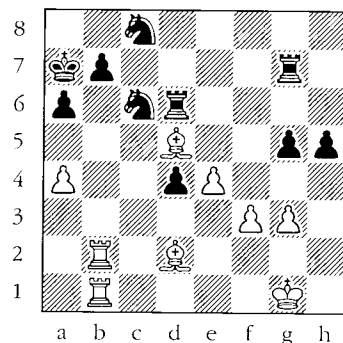
Rea Hayes Open (1)
Remick, William
Wheeler, Jerry
Result "0-1"

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 e5 5. Nb5 a6 6. Nd6+ Bxd6 7. Qxd6 Qf6 8. Qa3 Qg6 9. Nd2 Nge7 Because of White's inferior retreat with his queen, d5 is already possible. 10. Qg3 d6 11. Bd3 Be6 12. c3 O-O-O 13. b4 d5 14. Bb2?! d4 Stronger was swapping queens and then capturing the e-pawn: 14... Qxg3 15. hxg3 dxe4 16. Bxe4 f5 17. Bc2. 15. cxd4 Better was Rcl. Qxg3 16. hxg3 Nxb4 17. Bb1 exd4 18. O-O f6 19. a3 Nbc6 20. f4 h5 21. Nf3 Bg4 22. Bd3 Kb8 23. Rab1 Ka8 24. Bc1 Nc8 25. Bd2 Ka7 26. Rb2 Bxf3 A little better is Rhe8, hanging onto the bishop for a few more moves. 27. gxf3 Rd7 28. Rfb1 Nd6 29. a4



Rg8 Already g5 is possibly because of the active knights: 29... g5 30. fxg5 Ne5 31. Be2 d3 32. Bd1 Ndc4

33. Ra2 (33. gxf6 Nxb2 34. Rxb2 Nc4 35. Ra2 Rf8 36. Bc3 +/-) 33... Nxd2 34. Rxd2 Nc4 35. Rf2 fxg5) 30. Rb6 Nc8 31. R6b2 g5 Playing Nd6 first was preferable. Now the bishop springs to life. 32. Bc4 Rgg7 33. Be6 Rd8 34. fxg5 fxg5 35. Bd5 Rd6



36. f4? (36. Bxg5! Rxg5 37. Rxb7+ Ka8 38. Rb8+ Ka7 39. R1b7#) 36... a5 37. f5 h4 38. Bxg5 Nb4 39. Bf4 (39. Rxb4 axb4 40. gxh4) 39... Rd8 (39... Nxd5 40. Bxd6 Nxd6 41. exd5 Nxf5 =) 40. Be5 Rg4 and though White's advantage is significant, the game was given as a win by Black. 0-1

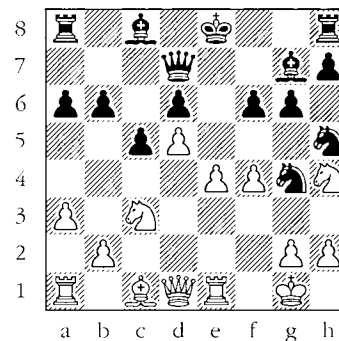
16th Battle of Murfreesboro

August 16 5-SS
Rnd 1, G/30; Rnd 2, G/60;
Rds 3, 4, & 5, G/75
Grace Lutheran Church
Murfreesboro, TN
Telephone: 615-895-7989

TCN/Summer 2008_17

Rea Hayes 2008, Open (2)
Jerry Wheeler (2200)
Russell Collins (1819)

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. d4 e6 3. c4 b6 4. a3 c5 5. d5 exd5 6. cxd5 d6 7. Nc3 g6 8. e4 Bg7 9. Bb5+ Bd7 10. Bxd7+ Nbx7 11. Bf4 Qe7 12. O-O a6 13. Re1 Nh5? Simple castling or perhaps Ng4-e5 was better. Now Black is getting into difficulties. 14. Bg5 f6 15. Bc1 Ne5 16. Nh4 Pressuring Black with various threats. Qd7?! (16... c4 17. Nf5! {17. g4 f5!}) 17. f4 Ng4

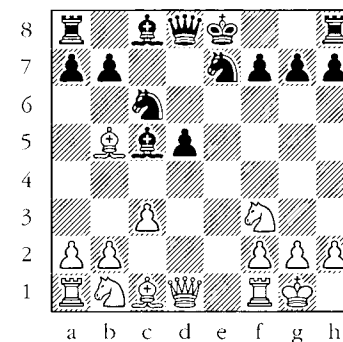


18. Nf5! (18. h3 Nh6 19. g4 g5) 18... Nh6 19. Nxg7+ Nxg7 20. e5 fxe5? Of course Black shouldn't be opening lines while sitting uncastled, especially with his uncoordinated pieces. 21. fxe5 Nh5 22. exd6+ (22. g4! Nd4 23. exd6+ Kf8 24. Ne4 Qb5 25. Rf1+) 22... Kd8 23. b4 Again, g4 is effective but the chosen method is just as good and keeps the kingside tight. Qxd6 24. Ne4 Qe5 25. Bg5+ Kc7 26. Bf6

Qf4 27. g3 Qh6 Black resigns 0-1

Rea Hayes 2008, Open (2)
Brian McCarthy (2209)
David Hater (2033)

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. c3 d5 4. exd5 exd5 5. d4 Bd6 6. Bb5+ Nc6 7. O-O Nge7 8. dxc5 Bxc5

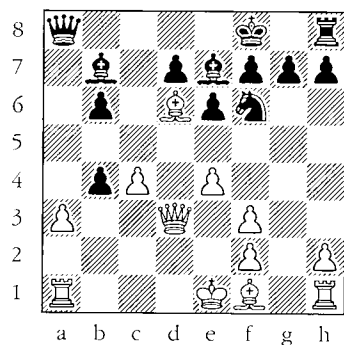


9. Ne5?! White is doing very well out of the opening, already having saddled Black with an isolated pawn. However, he should probably follow Nimzovich's dictum of blockade-and-destroy with Nbd2. O-O 10. Nxc6 bxc6 +/- Now Black is okay. 11. Bd3 Bf5 12. Bf4 Bxd3 13. Qxd3 Ng6 14. Bg3? Qf6 (14... f5! 15. h3 f4 16. Bh2 Qg5) 15. Nd2 Rfe8 16. Qf3 Qxf3 17. Nxf3 Re2 18. Rab1 Rae8 19. Rfe1 f5 20. Rxe2 Rxe2 21. Kf1 Re7 22. Nh4 Better is 22. b4 Bb6 23. Bd6. 22... Nxe4 23. Bxe4 Re4 24. Bg5 h6 25. Bd2 Kf7 26. Re1 a6 27. f3 Rxe1+ 28. Kxe1 Ke6 29. Bf4 g5 30. Bd2 Bd6 31. g3 0-1

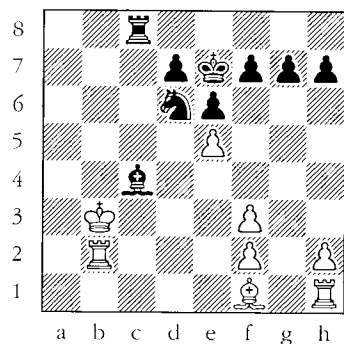
TCN/Summer 2008_18

Rea Hayes 2008, Open (4)
Christian Chavez (1895)
Ellis Jones (1803)

Ellis played fearlessly throughout the tournament. 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Qc2 c5 5. dxc5 Bxc5 6. Nf3 b6 7. Bf4 Bb7 8. a3 Nc6 9. b4 Nd4 10. Qd3 Better than capturing the knight. Nxf3+ 11. gxf3 Be7 12. e4 a5? Lingerling a mite too long in the center. 13. Nb5 axb4 Why not just castle-perhaps fear of the opened g-file? The material sacrifice is not much, but the king blocking the other rook's entry into play is serious. 14. Nc7+ Kf8 15. Nxa8 Qxa8 16. Bd6



Qa5 (16... Nxe4! Kudos to Fritz! 17. Bxe7+ Kxe7 18. Qd4 Ng5) 17. Ke2 Ne8 18. Bxe7+ Kxe7 19. Rd1 Bc6 20. Qd2 Qxa3= 21. Rb1 b3 22. Qb2 Qxb2+ 23. Rxb2 Ba4 24. Kd3 b5 25. cxb5 Nd6 26. Kc3 Bxb5 27. e5 Rc8+ 28. Kxb3 Bc4+?

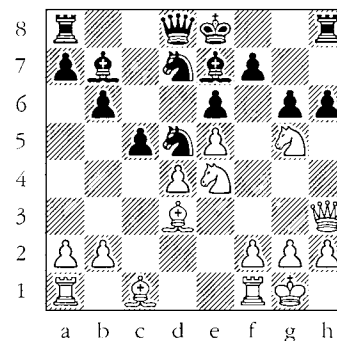


29. Bxc4? (29. Kb4! Rb8+ 30. Kc3 Rxb2 31. Kxb2 Bd5 32. exd6+) 29... Nxc4 30. Rc2 Na5+ 31. Kb2 Rxc2+ 32. Kxc2 Nc6 33. f4 g6 34. Kd3 f6 35. Ke4 d5+ 36. exd6+ e.p. Kxd6 37. h4 f5+ 38. Ke3 Ne7 39. h5 Nd5+ 40. Kf3 Ke7 41. Kg3 Kf6 42. h6 Ne7 43. Kf3 g5 44. fxg5+ Kxg5 45. Rd1 Draw agreed 1/2-1/2

Rea Hayes 2008, Open (2)
Christian Chavez (1895)
William Remick (1787)

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 d5 Black should have considered playing c6 or e6 first. He really needs a pawn in the center so that he can smoothly develop. 3. cxd5 Qxd5 4. Nc3 Qd8 5. e4 b6 Black could have played e5, which would have given him at least a shaky foothold in the center. 6. e5 This is premature. Nf3 or Bf4 were better moves. This pawn

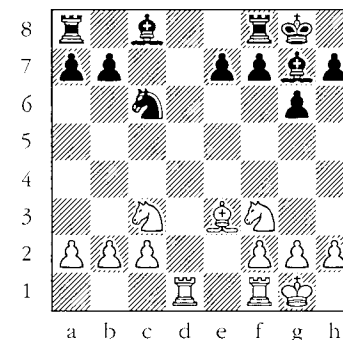
move creates a hole and gives Black's knight good anchorage. Since White's pawns have lost their dynamism, Black's opening scheme doesn't appear too bad. Nd5 7. Bd3 Bb7 8. Nf3 e6 9. O-O Be7 10. Ne4!? Nd7 Castling looks dangerous but may be Black's best chance. Certainly just playing h6 would be an improvement. 11. Nfg5 h6 12. Qh5 g6 Castling followed by c5 seemed appropriate but then Fritz revealed an unappetizing continuation where Black needs to play precise to survive: 12... O-O 13. Nh7 Kxh7 (13... Re8 14. Bxh6 +-) 14. Nd6+ Kg8 15. Nxb7 Qe8 16. Bxh6 f5 17. Qxe8 Rfxe8 18. Bb5 Nf8 +/- 13. Qh3 c5



Overlooking or ignoring White's threat. (13... Nb4 14. Bb1 Bd5 15. Be3 c5 16. f4 +/-) 14. Nxe6! fxe6 15. Qxe6 Nf8? 16. Bb5+ Black resigns 0-1

Rea Hayes 2008, Reserve (4)
Clayton Gotwals (1501)
Mark Wendland (1423)

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 g6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nc6 5. Nc3 Bg7 6. Be3 Nf6 7. Bc4 O-O 8. O-O Nxe4= The stock Accelerated Dragon equalizing approach. 9. Nxe4 d5 10. Bxd5 But this is not usual. White generally tries to hang onto that bishop. Qxd5 11. Nc3 Qd7 12. Nf3 Qxd1 13. Raxd1



Be6 Black is in the position to shatter White's pawns on both sides of the board. Better is Bg4 or Bf5: 13... Bf5 14. Rd2 Rfd8 15. Rfd1 Rxd2 16. Rxd2 Nb4 17. Nh4 Be6 18. a3 Bxc3 19. bxc3 Nd5. 14. a3 b6 15. Nd4? Nxd4? (15... Bxd4! 16. Bxd4 Bf5) 16. Bxd4 Bc4 17. Bxg7 Kxg7 18. Rfe1 e6 19. b3 Ba6 Draw agreed. 1/2-1/2

Pete Lahde's loving wife Susanna passed away July 24, 2008. Services were held Tuesday, July 29th. Please express your condolences to Pete. If you feel a need to do more, you may make out a donation in her name to the Arlington Methodist Church.

Cumberland Co. Spring

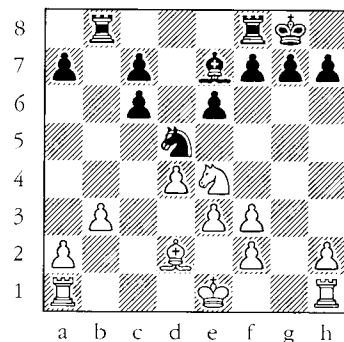
The Cumberland Co. Spring was held July 12th at the Community Complex in Crossville. This 4-round Game 60 Swiss fielded 36 players in the Open Section and 22 players in the Under 1000 Amateur Section.

USCF Executive Director Bill Hall won the tournament with an undefeated 4.0 points. Bill sealed his victory by defeating his co-worker Alan Kantor (who finished with 2.5 points) in the final round. Tied for 2nd and 3rd were Peter and Joshua Suich, who both scored 3.5 points. Cary Carter and Gus Zacharias emerged with 3.5 points to share honors as champions in the Under 1000 Section.

Below is one of the games from the event, proving that Jay Sabine can play chess as well as direct chess events!

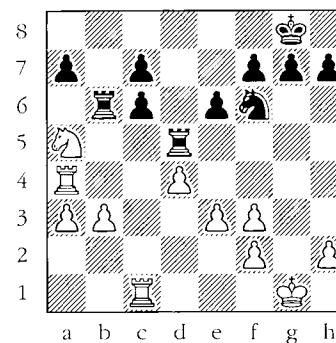
Cumberland Co-July08 (3)
Jay, Sabine (1501)
Wadhawan, Sanchit (1194)

1. d4 d5 2. c4 Nc6 3. Nf3 Bg4 4. e3 Nf6 5. Nc3 e6 6. cxd5 Nxd5?! Best is 6... exd5, keeping a pawn in the center and nearing equality. 7. Bb5 Qd6?! Possibly leading to a draw is: 7... Bb4 8. Bd2 O-O 9. O-O (9. Bxc6 bxc6 10. Ne4 Bd6 11. Rcl Rb8 12. b3 Qe7 = Black would then have threats of e5, Nb4, Ba3, and even f5.) 9... Nce7. 8. Bd2 Be7 9. Ne4 Qd7 10. Qa4 Bxf3 11. Bxc6 Qxc6 12. Qxc6+ bxc6 13. gxf3 Rb8 14. b3



Bb4? Missing the last opportunity to try and remedy the damaged queenside pawn structure. Playing f5 with the idea of following up with c5 was the way to go: 14... f5 15. Nc3 c5 16. Nxd5 exd5 17. Rcl Rb5 and Black's weaknesses are manageable. Now Black is doomed to passivity, and Jay demonstrates that he has

technique and knows how to utilize an open file. 15. Rcl Rb6 16. O-O Bxd2 17. Nxd2 O-O 18. a3 Rd8 19. Rc4 Nf6 20. Rfc1 Rd6 21. Ra4 Rb7 22. Nc4 Rd5 23. Na5 Rb6 24.



Rxc6 Best was **Nxc6**, threatening Ne7+. Now Black is given hope through an equalizing continuation. **Rxa5** 25. **Rxc7** The in-between move that had to be seen before Rxc6 was braved. **Rg5+** 26. **Kf1 Ne8?! (26... g6** 27. **Rxa7 Rxb3** 28. **Rxf7 Rxa3** 29. **Rg7+ Kh8** 30. **Rxh7+ Nxh7** 31. **Rxa3 Rh5** and with White's pawns damaged and on one side of the board, Black has good drawing chances.) 27. **Re7 Kf8** 28. **Rxa7 Nd6** 29. **b4 Rgb5** 30. **Red7 h5** 1-0

Tennessean's Again Have a Peachy Time in GA

The Georgia State Championship was held May 16-18 at the Atlanta Chess Center. In the 22 player Open Section, Tennessee's Ron Burnett took clear first

with 4.5 points; and Todd Andrews scored 4.0 points to capture clear second. Burnett, who won the event last year, gave up his only draw in the 4th round when he split the point with Andrews. **David Vest, Serdar Ozdemir, and Javid Aceil** are the official co-champions of Georgia, scoring 3.5 points.

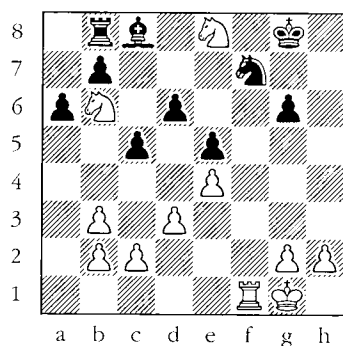
Jim Mundy and Paul Farb tied for first with 4.5 points in the U2000 Section and the U1600 Section was won by Jeffrey Miller and Ryan Christianson who each scored 4.5 points.

Kentucky Open

The 2008 Kentucky Open took place June 7-8. This 5-round event featured 4 Sections and 100 players, 63 of which played in the Open Section. Mesgan Amanov of Illinois won the event with 5 points. Davis Whaley-the highest scoring Kentuckian-took an undefeated second place with 4.5 points. Ronald Burnett, Peter Bereolos, and Jerry Wheeler tied for 3-7th with 4.0 points. In the Under 1600 Section, Victor Suich had an impressive 3.5 points, tying for fourth. Ryan Winstead of Kentucky won the Under 1600 Section with an undefeated 4.5 points.

John Hurt Memorial 5 (4)
Graham Horobetz (1799)
Jeff Kovalic (1806)

1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. f4 g6
4. Nf3 Bg7 5. Bc4 e6 6. f5
Nge7 Capturing with gxf is
was better, with a planned
followup of queenside
castling and using the g-file
as an attack line: 6... gxf5
7. exf5 d5 8. Bb3 Nge7 9.
fxe6 Bxe6. 7. fxg6 fxg6 8.
O-O O-O 9. d3 Na5 Better and
drawish was the simple d5.
10. Bb3 Nxb3 11. axb3 a6 12.
Bg5 d6 13. Qd2 Qc7 14. Bh6
Nc6 15. Bxg7 Qxg7 16. Na4
Qc7?! Better was b5. 17. Qh6
Qg7 18. Qxg7+ Kxg7 19. Nb6
Rb8 20. Ng5 Rxf1+ 21. Rxf1
Nd8 22. Nxh7! Nf7 Better was
just taking the knight and
allowing the White rook to
come to f8. 23. Nf6 e5 24.
Ne8+ Kg8



25. Nxc8 Clearer and just as
potent is producing a king
vs. king battle with Rxf7:
25. Rxf7 Kxf7 26. Nxd6+ Ke6
27. Ndx8. 25... Rxc8 26.
Rxf7 Rxe8 27. Rxb7 Rd8 And

White demonstrates good
technique to finish cleanly:
28. Ra7 a5 29. Kf2 Kf8 30.
Kg3 Rb8 31. Kg4 a4 32. Rxa4
Kf7 33. Kg5 Rh8 34. Ra7+ Ke6
35. h3 Rh5+ 36. Kxg6 Rh8 37.
Rg7 Rf8 38. Kh7 Rf2 39. h4
Rxc2 40. h5 Rxb2 41. h6 Rxb3
42. Rg3 c4 43. Rg6+ Kf7 44.
dxc4 Rb4 45. Rg7+ Kf6 46. g4
Rxc4 47. g5+ Ke6 48. g6 Rxe4
49. Ra7 Rg4 50. g7 e4 51.
g8=Q+ Rxg8 52. Kxg8 e3 53. h7
d5 54. h8=Q Kf5 55. Rf7+ Ke4
56. Qh7+ Kd4 57. Rf4+ Kc3 58.
Qb1 d4 59. Qd1 d3 60. Qe1+
1-0

TN Tempo Time: 8.7.08!

The Tennessee Tempo will kick
off their third season with the
U.S. Chess League on
August 27th (a Wednesday) at
8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard
Time. Their challenger will
be the Carolina Cobras, who
outplayed us last year. The
Tempo will be playing most
Wednesday evenings through
November at their home, the
Nashville Chess Center.
Their games will also be
broadcasted on the Internet
Chess Club. The current
line-up for 2008, subject to
additions, is:

1. IM Ronald Burnett
2. FM Todd Andrews
3. FM Peter Bereolos
4. Brian McCarthy
5. FM Jerry Wheeler
6. Gerald Larson
7. Gainer Phay

TCN/Summer 2008_23

To keep up with the Tempo,
League news, and highlighted
games, visit them on the
U.S. Chess League's website:
<http://uschessleague.com>.

Rea Hayes 2008, Open (4)
David Hater (2033)
David Presley (1687)

1. e4 c6 2. d3 d5 3. Nd2 e5
4. Ngf3 Bg4 5. h3 Bxf3 6.
Qxf3 Nf6 7. Qg3 Nbd7 8. Be2
Bc5 9. exd5 cxd5 10. O-O Qc7
!? Black is gambling that he
will get enough counterplay
down the g-file that it is
worth the pawn. 11. Qxg7 Rg8
12. Qh6 Rg6 13. Qh4 O-O-O
14. Nb3 Bb6 15. Re1 White,
similarly, dares Black to
take the pawn and open a
path to his king--but
White's threats are more
immediate: (15... Qxc2?! 16.
Bd2 Qxb2 {16... Kb8 17. Bc3}
17. Bc3 Qa3 18. Bb4 Qb2 19.
Bd6) Rdg8 16. Bf1 Ng4? Now
black throws a whole piece
into the fire, though his
pressure down the open file
does not justify it. 17.
hxc4 Rxg4 18. Qh3 e4 19. Be3
Ne5 20. Be2 Nf3+ 21. Bxf3
exf3 22. Bxb6 axb6 (22...
Qd7 23. Qxf3 Rxg2+ 24. Qxg2
Rxg2+ 25. Kxg2 Qg4+ 26. Kf1
Qh3+ 27. Ke2 axb6 and
White's advantage is still
overwhelming.) 23. Re8+ Rxe8
24. Qxg4+ Kb8 25. Qg3 Qxg3
26. fxg3 Re2 27. gxf3 Rxc2
28. Rb1 Kc7 29. Kf1 Much
simpler is Rc1, trading off
Black's real chance at
counterplay. Kd6 30. Nc1
Ke5 31. Ne2 Rd2 32. d4+ Kf5

33. Ke1 Rd3 34. Kf2 Rd2 35.
Ke3 Rc2 36. Kd3 Rc6 37. Rc1
Rh6 38. Rc7 f6 39. Rxb7 Rh1
40. Rxb6 Rd1+ 41. Ke3 Black
resigns 1-0

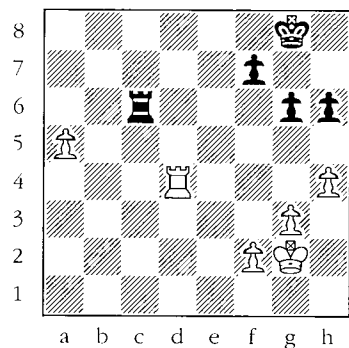
Rea Hayes 2008, Open (2)
Tom Trivers (1629)
David Presley (1687)

1. c4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. Nc3
Bg7 4. g3 O-O 5. Bg2 d6 6.
O-O e5 7. d3 c6 8. Rb1 Be6
9. Bg5 Nbd7 10. b3 Qc7 11.
Nd2 Perhaps better is Qc1,
planning on trading bishops
and at least keeping the
knight strongly posted. h6
12. Bxf6 Nxf6 13. Qc2 Rac8
14. Rbc1 White needs some
counterplay. Perhaps b4 was
a better move, which extends
the range of his bishop and
goes along with his attempt
at white-square control.
Rfd8 15. Nce4 Nxe4 16. Nxe4
f5 Black's space advantage,
the two bishops, and a solid
position give him a strong
advantage but White's
position is solid, too. 17.
Nd2 Qd7 18. f4 d5 19. fxe5
Bxe5 20. Nf3 Bg7 21. c5 d4!
Keeping the position open
and making a target of the
e-pawn. 22. Nd2 Re8 23. Nc4
Bxc4 24. Qxc4+ Kh7 25. Rce1
Re3 26. Rf3 Rce8 27. Rxe3
Rxe3 28. Qc2 Qe7 29. b4 g5
30. g4? fxg4 31. Be4+ Kh8
32. Rf1 g3! 33. Rf3 gxh2+
34. Kh1 Be5 Also strong is
g4. 35. Rxe3 dxe3 36. Qd1
Qf7 37. Bg2 Qxa2 38. Qf1 Bf4
39. Qc1 and White resigns
0-1

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Rooks Behind Passers

Consider the position of Diagram 1. White is able to

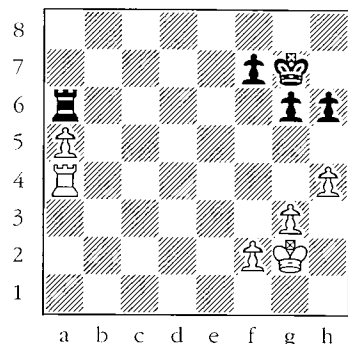


Diag. 1 Where does the White Rook Belong?

defend his pawn by either placing it at a4, d5, or checking and then posting it at a8. While any placement may win with less than exact defense, the additional activity that the rook gains by being placed behind the passed pawns almost insures a win. Three related positions to Diag. 1 will be examined with possible sequences of moves. Study of these examples should add weight to the argument that rooks are more effectively placed behind passed pawns.

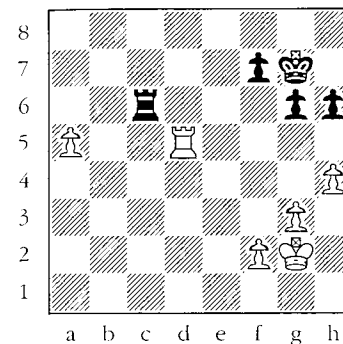
First, let's test the position with the rook placed behind the pawn. See Diag. 2. I set the position up with a master-level computer opponent. Play proceeded from the diagram

1... Kf6; 2. Kf3 Ke5; 3. Ke3



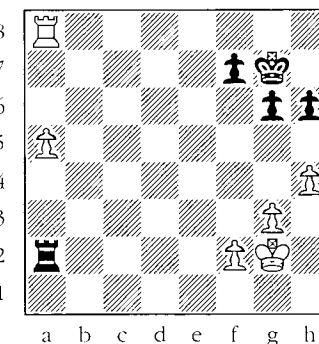
h5; 4. Kd3 Kd5; 5. Kc3 Kc5; 6. Ra2! Kb5; 7. Kd4! Note how White now shifts his attack to the abandoned kingside pawns of Black. This is the typical winning method in such a position: *tie the rook (or king) down to defending the passed pawn from queening and attack the helpless pawns on the other side.* 7... Rd6+; 8. Ke5 Re6+; 9. Kf4 Ka6; 10. Kg5! Re5+; 11. Kh6 Rf5; 12. Kg7 Rf3; 13. Kg8 Rf6; 14. Kf8 Rf3; 15. Kg7 Rf5; 16. f4 and White wins easily.

Back to Diag. 1. What would have been the outcome if White had decided to defend the pawn laterally by going to d5? Well, the game could very well end in a draw-especially if Black is able to get behind the pawn! After White plays Rd5, let us proceed with Kg7 simply so that we can get the example position of Diag. 3:



Diag. 3. White allows Black to get behind the passer.

Now suppose White gets aggressive with his king ... 1. Kf3?! Rc3+; 2. Ke4 Rc2; 3. Ke3 Ra2!; 4. h5!? gxh I played this "weakening" move to illustrate just how difficult a time White has of winning such positions with a more passively placed rook. Allowing White to capture the g-pawn and keeping the Black pawn structure intact would almost certainly lead to a draw because Black can easily make a passed h-pawn. 5. Rxh Kg6; 6. g4 f6; 7. f4?! Ra4! (Cutting off the White king.); 8. Rf5 Kg7; 9. Rb5 Kg6; 10. Rh5 Kg7; 11. Kf3 Rd3+! (Keeping the White king from getting to h5 where it could become strong.); 12. Kf2 Kg7; 13. Rb5 Kh7; 14. Rd5 Kg7; 15. Rc5 Kh7; 16. Rb5 Kg6; 17. Rh5 Rb3; 18. Kg2 Ra3. And White could make no progress.



Diag. 4 White is passive.

Now, consider Diagram 4, above, where the White rook is less favorably placed in front of the passed pawn. Black has good drawing chances because he defends against the pawn queening and also attacks Whites pawns at the same time. The strategy for Black is force White to bring his king to the queenside to help queen his pawn. While White moves to the queenside, Black then dashes in among the defenseless White pawns on the kingside. He then (1) captures one or two of White's kingside pawns, (2) sets up his own passed pawn, (3) sacrifices his rook for White's passed pawn, and (4) races to obtain his own queen.

From Diag. 4, a line of play could proceed: 1. a6 (Note how the Black rook now

commands another rank and the White Rook is more confined.) 1... Kf6; 2. Kf3 h5; 3. Ke4 Rxf; 4. Kd5 Ra2!; 5. Kc6 Kf5; 6. Kb7 Kg4; 7. Rf8 Kxg3; 8. a7 Kxh4; 9. Rxf g5; 10. a8=Q Rxa8; 11. Kxa8 and it is Black who wins! White could have played better, of course, but the drawing strategy would have been the same.

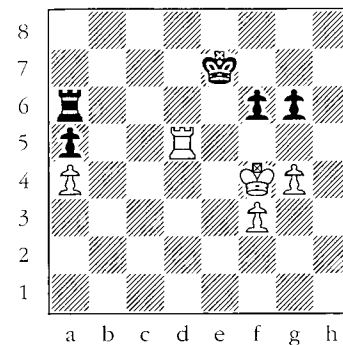
Also consider that if White had played his pawn to a7 as soon as possible, then the White king would have been less able to help queen it for as soon as he goes to b3 to protect the pawn, the Black rook will start to relentlessly check him from the rear. If the pawn is played to a7, Black must guard against moving his king to the sixth rank because a rook check from White sets up promotion of a-pawn. Hence the Black king needs to shuffle between g7 and h7.

To refresh my knowledge of these positions, I played from Diag. 4 against a 2500-level ChessMaster 9000 opponent last week. White, understanding that every move of the pawn decreases his rook's vertical movements, avoided moving the a-pawn until he was almost forced. The game proceeded: 1. g4 Ra3 (confining the king); 2. f4 h5; 3. gxh5 (if 3. g4, I planned to play f5 with an

easier draw prospect) gxh5; 4. Ra6 Kh7 (It is very important to understand that playing f6 will probably lose after White responds with f5. This is because the Black king will likely get caught in a forced queening sequence. White will eventually play a6 and go to the queenside to assist his pawn. If Black then temporarily moves his rook off the a-file to snatch the h-pawn, for instance, then White can play Ra8-a7+, Rb7, a7, Rb8+, d8=Q.) 5. f5 Kg7; 6. Kh2 Kh7; 7. Ra7 Kg7; 8. Kg2 Kf6; 9. a6 Ra5; 10. Kh3 Rxf5; 11. Rb7 Ra5; 12. a7 Ra3+; 13. Kg2 Kg6; 14. Kf2 f6; 15. Rc7 Kf5 and Black easily drew the game.

Though the play may not have been precise, the drawing approach is correct and embodies the technique that I am attempting to illustrate. The draws arising from the attacking rook not being behind the passed pawn are not unusual. They are the norm. If you are defending from behind the pawn, you have every right to expect to draw. In fact, it may even be wise to give up a pawn to assure that you can play your rook behind the passer!

Consider the correspondence game St. Petersburg versus London played from 1886-1888, Diag. 5:



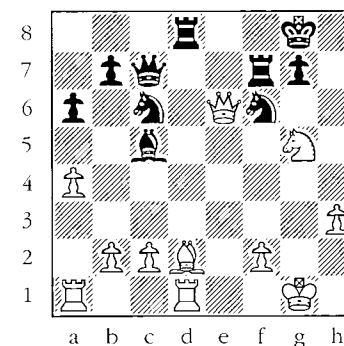
Diag. 5. Black to confidently sac a pawn.

Rather than passively wait around and let White move his king to the queenside and eventually capture his a-pawn, Black immediately goes on "attack"! 1... Rc6!; 2. Rxa Rc4+; 3. Ke3 Kf7!; 4. Ra8 Kg7; 5. a5 Ra4! Getting behind the passer. 6. a6 Kh6!; 7. f4 g5; 8. fxg fxg; 9. Kd3 Kg7! and by moving between g7 and h7 Black easily held the draw.

The moral is clear: Rooks belong behind passed pawns.

Rea Hayes Open Section (3)
David Presley (1687)
Jerry Wheeler (2200)

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 c5 3. dxc5 Qa5+ 4. Nc3 Qxc5 5. e4 d6 6. Bb5+ Bd7 7. Be3 Qc7 8. Bd3 e6 9. Qe2 a6 10. O-O Be7 11. a4 Nc6 12. Rfd1 O-O 13. h3 Rfe8 14. g4 d5 15. g5?! dxe4 16. Nxe4 Nd5 17. Nc5 Rad8 18. Nxd7 Rxd7 19. Be4 Red8 20. Bd2 Bc5 21. Bxh7+? This sac is unjustified but it almost works! Kxh7 22. g6+ Kg8 23. Ng5 Nf6 24. gxf7+ Rxf7 25. Qxe6



Nd4? = (25... Rxd2! 26. Rxd2 Qg3+) 26. Qc4?? Nf3+ 27. Nxf3 Bxf2+ 0-1

The Grenkeleasing Rapid World Championship will begin as part of the Chess Classic Mainz, which takes place July 28-August 3 in Germany. **World Champion Vishy Anand** will try for the eighth time in a row to defend his rapid (30-min/Game) chess title. He has won the main event of the Chess Classic ten times. His main competition is thought to be Russian GM Morozovich and 17-year old Magnus Carlsen of Norway-who has a winning streak this year, winning big tournaments like Wijk aan Zee and Baku, and recently placing third in Biel.



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