



SUMMER 2010

VOLUME 53

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- Aug. 21, 2009 **Lakeway Summer Open**
Lakeway Community Church, Morristown, TN
Victor Suich (423) 586-4351; vesuich@bellsouth.net
- Sept. 3–5, 2009 **Tennessee Open Championship**
Clarion Inn (playing site and tournament hotel)
970 S. Jefferson Ave., Cookeville, TN
Three Sections: Open, Amateur U1600, and Novice U1200
Harry Sabine (931) 484-9593; hdsabine@citlink.net
- Sept. 4, 2009 **Tenn. Open Scholastic Chess Tournament**
Clarion Inn (played simultaneous with TN Championship)
Four round Swiss; USCF Rated; Game/30 Sudden Death
- October 9, 2009 **Cumberland Co. Fall Open**
Cumberland Co. Community Complex, Crossville
Harry Sabine (931) 484-9593; hdsabine@citlink.net

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TCA annual dues are \$10 for a *regular* membership or *student* membership. Additional members of a family may join for one dollar each, but only one copy of printed **TCN**'s will be available per family. Both regular and patron memberships are for a 12-month period, starting in the month of purchase and expiring after a 12-month period.

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. The Patron membership categories are:

PATRON — \$100; PATRON KING — \$300; PATRON MASTER — \$500; PATRON GRANDMASTER — \$1000+

The benefits that pertain to the different level of patronage are currently being refined and will be detailed on our website soon.

TOURNAMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

TCN prints listings of upcoming tournaments that require TCA membership in each issue for free. Submit complete TLA information to Larry Grohn, Tournament Coordinator: E-MAIL: LarryGrohn@comcast.net

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TCN PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Spring 2010 — Scheduled for May 1st covering Feb, Mar, and Apr events

Deadline for submission: Apr 18, 2010

Summer 2010 — Scheduled for Aug 1 covering May, Jun, and Jul events

Deadline for submission: July 18, 2010

Fall 2010 — Scheduled for Nov 1 covering Aug, Sept, and Oct events

Deadline for submission: Oct 18, 2010

Winter 2011 — Scheduled for Feb 1 covering Nov, Dec, and Jan events

Deadline for submission: Jan 18, 2011

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

PATRON MEMBERS

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Paul Semmes
Brian Vogt

TENN HALL OF FAME

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. Below is a listing of the current members and their year of induction.

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

FROM THE EDITOR

Our inaugural Yearbook issue!

The Summer **TCN** represents our first "yearbook" issue, a recapitulation of the tournaments and articles from the first three online publications of the fiscal year along with the events and tournaments that occurred during the Summer quarter (encompassing May, June, and July). The hard copy version of the yearbook issue is available only to those who have paid TCA dues. However, the online version of the magazine has been published on our website and is available to the general public.

Speaking of availability, while the magazine has been freely available for a year now, it is likely that many of you weren't able to view the diagrams encoded within the Adobe Acrobat file (pdf) because the chess fonts were not been properly embedded into the pdf-document. This problem has been resolved. The diagrams have been reformatted from the Zurich font into the Habsburg font. So if you have tried viewing the online **TCN** in the past but was unable to view the diagrams, please revisit the site and open the reformatted files.

Moreover, if you have problems viewing the pdf of the TCN or accessing the online game files, please complain loudly. We need to hear your complaints. Only two people complained to me that they were getting gibberish while trying to read the online **TCN**. Hence I figured that the majority of the readership was having no problems accessing the magazine's content and was not in a panic to address a few complaints. But when I did take the time to see if I could address the problem that a few were having, I discovered that many should be having the same concerns. Let the TCA know what we can do to improve the website and make it more functional for you.

Many significant tournaments occurred during the summer quarter, such as the Southern Class Championship held in Nashville during late April, the 2010 U.S. Cadet Championship that was held in Cookeville during July, and the Tenn. Open Senior Championship that was held during May in Crossville. Because I had to include a summary of the preceding three quarters, my reporting for this quarter was limited by space and cost. The Senior Open and the Southern Class Championship received the emphasis. More games from the Southern Class would have been included in this issue had I timely received them. Still, many exciting battles from the event were transcribed. Be sure to check out the winner's game on page 23! The next issue will have many more games from the Southern Class as well as a large selection of the games from the Cadet Championship.

The articles and tournaments included in this issue from earlier during the year are those that were deemed the most significant. The majority of the material from the earlier issues has been placed up front in chronological order. In some cases the original articles have been updated slightly to reflect information that later became available.

Note that a scholastic tournament is being run along with the Tenn. Open Championship this year. This separate Game/30 Sudden Death tournament will award trophies for 1st through 10th place for all sections. For those who are playing in the Tennessee Open this year, please **reserve your rooms at the Clarion Inn by August 20th.**

64th Tennessee Open Championship Sept. 3-5, 2010

Clarion Inn Cookeville, TN

5 Round Swiss Time: 30/80, then Game/60 Class Prizes

\$4050 Guaranteed Prize Fund & Plaques/Awards

Scholastic Chess Tournament Sept. 4, 2010

4 Round Swiss Time: Game/30 SD

2009 Tenn. Open Championship

The 63rd Tenn. Open Championship was held in Crossville, TN at the Cumberland Co. Community Complex on September 5- 6. The three-sectioned, five-round Swiss used the unusual time control of 30 moves in 80 minutes followed by 60 min/SD.

With 35 participants, the **Open Section** of the championship was almost as large as the Amateur Section (Under 1600) and the Novice Section (Under 1200) combined. And it was also a strong turn-out, with 13 players rated Expert or better. Therefore it was not a big surprise when co-championships emerged from the competitive section: **Ronald Burnett, Patrick Tae, and David Justice** each accumulated 4.0 points and are the 2009 co-Champions of Tennessee. Patrick had the hardest path to the top, having to face both the other two co-champions and overcome last year's champion, Todd Andrews (who finished this year with 3.5 points). Patrick's games against Andrews and Justice immediately follow this article.

Victor Suich and William Van Deer Meer both finished with 4.0 points in the **Amateur Section** to be crowned co-champions. Victor actually beat Van Deer Meer in their 4th round encounter but gave up two other draws in the stiff competition.

In the **Novice Section**, 882-rated **Jordan Hoyos** went undefeated to capture the Novice Championship. Kevin Hong and Alex Perhac shared second place with 4.0 points.

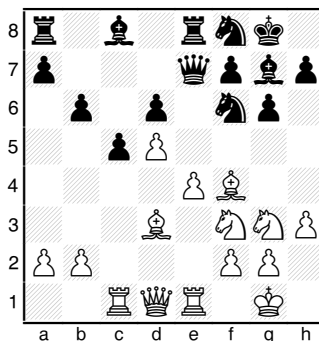
With 35 players in the Open Section, 17 in the Amateur

Section, and 21 players in the Novice Section, the registrants could not quite offset the offered prize fund of \$4,000. However, this loss (over \$1,000) was expected as previous year's monetary losses have been even more traumatic. To be able to host a state championship and offer attractive prizes and plaques is one of the main reasons that the Tennessee Chess Association must require dues of at least ten dollars.

See the crosstables for the sections on pages 29-33. Games from the tournament are included throughout the issue. Additional games are included in a downloadable pgn file (TNOpen09) or can be viewed using the game player on our website.

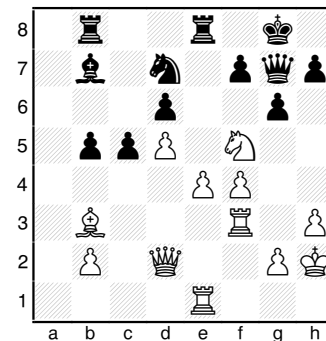
Tennessee Open - 3 Todd Andrews-2360 Patrick Tae-2219

1. d4 d6 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nc3 c6 4. e4 Nbd7 5. Bd3 e5 6. O-O Be7 7. Be3 O-O 8. Ne2 Re8 9. c3 Bf8 10. Ng3 g6 11. h3 Bg7 12. Re1 exd4 13. cxd4 c5 14. Rc1 b6 15. Bf4 Nf8 16. d5 Qe7



17. Nd2 (17. Bb5! Bd7 18. Bf1 threatening e5, after having protected the d-pawn) 17... N6d7 18. Bb5 Rd8 19. Nc4 Ne5 20. Qd2 (20. Nxe5 Bxe5 21. Bxe5 Qxe5 22. Rc3 Bd7 23. Bd3 b5 +/-) 20... Nxc4 21. Bxc4 Nd7 22. Bg5 Bf6 23. Bxf6 Qxf6 24. f4 a6 25. a4 Re8 26. Rc3 Rb8 27. Rf3 Qg7 28. Bb3 A little better is Qe2 followed by

e5. Bb7 29. Kh2 b5 30. axb5 axb5 31. Nf5



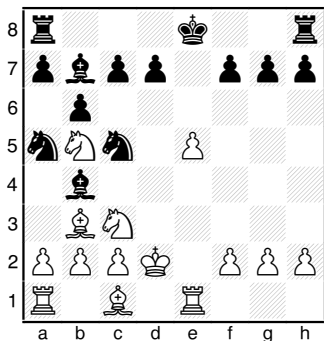
gxf5 Fritz recommends: 31... Qf6 32. Nh6+ Kg7 33. Ng4 Qd4 = 32. Rg3 Qxg3+ 33. Kxg3 fxe4 34. f5 f6 35. Qa5 Ne5 36. Qc7 Nf7 37. Kf2 Better may be Rxe4: 37. Rxe4 Rxe4 38. Qxb8+ Kg7 39. Ba2 Re3+ 40. Kf2 Re7 41. g4 h6 42. Qa7 c4 43. Qb6 +- 37... c4 38. Rxe4 Bxd5 39. Rg4+ Kf8 40. Bd1 Rb7 41. Qa5 Ne5 42. Rd4? Nc6 43. Qa3 Nxd4 44. Qxd6+ Ree7 45. Qxf6+ Rf7 46. Qh8+ Ke7 47. Qxd4 Rxf5+ 48. Kgl Kd6 = 49. Qh8 Rff7 (49... Rbf7 50. Be2 Bxg2 51. Bxc4 bxc4 52. Kxg2 =/+ 50. Bg4 Kc5 51. Qc8+ Bc6 52. Be6 Rfe7 53. Qf8 Bd5 54. Bf5 Kd4 55. Qf6+ Kc5 56. Qf8 Kd4 57. h4 b4 58. Qf6+ Kc5 59. g3 Still playing to win the drawish game. Rf7 60. Qe5 Rbe7 61. Qf4 Re2 62. g4 Rfe7 (62... Rxb2 63. Qe3+ Kb5 64. Qe8+ Ka6 65. Qc8+ =) 63. Qb8 Rxb2 64. Qc8+ Bc6 65. Qf8 Rbe2 66. Bxh7 Kb5 67. Bf5 Re8 68. Qd6 Ra8! 69. Qd4 Raa2 70. Kf1 Rad2 Decisive is Red2. 71. Qf4 Rh2 (71... Bg2+ 72. Kgl Re1+ 73. Kh2 Rh1+ 74. Kg3 Rh3#) 72. Qb8+ Ka4 73. Ke1 Rdg2 74. Qa7+ Kb3 75. Qe3+ c3 76. Be6+ 0-1

Tennessee Open-1 Alan McCormick-1733 Patrick Tae-2219 Result 0-1

1. e4 e5 2. d4 exd4 3. Qxd4 Nc6 4. Qe3 Nf6 5. e5 Nd5 Possible is Ng4, but this sacrificial line should only lead to equal play-if you know the sharp lines: 5... Ng4 6. Qe2 d5 7. exd6+ Be6

McCormick-Tae, cont.

8. Nf3 Bxd6 9. Ng5 Nd4 10. Nxe6 fxe6 11. Qxg4 Nxc2+ 12. Kd1 Nxa1 13. Qxe6+ 6. Qe4 Nb6 7. Nf3 Qe7 8. Nc3 Qb4 9. Qe2 Na4 10. Qc4 Qxc4 11. Bxc4 Bb4 12. Kd2 (12. Bd2 Nxc3 (12... Nxb2? 13. Bb3) 13. bxc3 Bc5 +/-) 12... Na5 13. Bb3 A little better is Bb5, helping to clarify the pin of the White knight. Nc5 14. Re1 b6 15. Nd4 Bb7 16. Ndb5 Better was the simple f3.

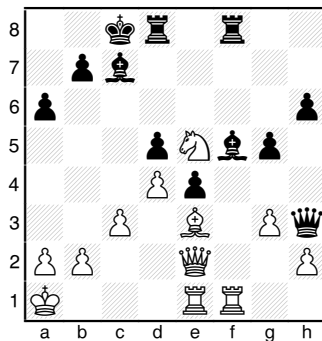


O-O-O! 17. a3?? (17. Nxa7+ Kb8 18. Nab5 d6 19. exd6 Ba6 20. Kd1 Bxc3 21. Nxc3 Rxd6+ 22. Bd2 Rhd8 -/+) 17... Ncxb3+ 18. cxb3 Nxb3+ 19. Kd3 Bxc3 20. Kxc3 Nxa1 21. Bf4 a6 22. Nd4 Bxg2 23. Rxa1 Be4 24. h4 f6 25. Rg1 Bg6 Playing Re8 also works, threatening to fork the two pieces with fxe. 26. h5 Bxh5 27. Rxg7 fxe5 28. Bxe5 Rdg8 29. Re7 Re8 30. Nf5 Rhf8 31. Rxe8+ Rxe8 32. Bg3 Bg6 33. Ne3 Be4 34. Ng4 d5 35. Nf6 Re6 36. Nh5 c5 37. Nf4 Re8 38. b4 Kb7 39. Nh5 d4+ 40. Kd2 c4 41. Nf6 Re6 42. Nd7 c3+ 43. Kc1 d3 44. Nc5+ bxc5 0-1

Tennessee Open-5
David Justice - 2096
Patrick Tae - 2219
Result 1/2-1/2

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 f5 The tactical Schliemann

demonstrates co-champion Tae's willingness to enter complications. 4. Nc3 fxe4 5. Nxe4 d5 6. Nxe5 dxe4 7. Nxc6 Qg5 8. Qe2 Nf6 9. f4 Qxf4 10. Ne5+ c6 11. d4 Qh4+ 12. g3 Qh3 13. Bc4 Be6 14. Bf4 O-O-O 15. O-O-O Bd6 16. Rde1 Finally deviating from Book, with Kb1 and R(h)-f1 being recommendations. Rhf8 17. Kb1 Bc7 18. c3 Nd5 19. Rhf1 h6 20. Ka1 g5 21. Bc1 Bf5 22. Bxd5 cxd5 23. Be3 a6 24. Bg1??



Bd7? (24... Bxe5 25. dxe5 Bg4 26. Qe3 Qxf1! {Not being cute, but necessary to avoid a perpetual check.} 27. Qc5+ Kd7 28. Qd6+ Ke8 29. Qg6+ Qf7) 25. Rxf8 Rxf8 26. Nxd7 Qxd7 27. Rf1 Rxf1+ 28. Qxf1 Qg4 -/+ 29. Be3 Qf3 30. Qg1 b5 31. Kb1 Qe2 32. Kc1 Bd8 33. Qf2 Qxf2 34. Bxf2 h5 35. Be3 Kd7 36. Kd2 Ke6 37. Ke2 Kf5 38. Kf2 Bc7 39. Kg2 a5 40. b4 a4 (40... axb4 41. cxb4 Bd6 42. a3 g4 43. Kf2 Be7 44. Ke2 and though Black's pieces are better placed, it still likely a draw.) 41. h3 Bd6 42. Kf2 Kg6 43. g4 Bf4 44. Ke2 Bg3 45. Kd1 Black has a slight advantage but no penetration point. 1/2-1/2

**Tennessee Girls
Chess Championship
Graham Gibson wins**

Contributed by Alvin Harris

Nineteen of Tennessee's best girl chess players competed in this year's Tennessee

Girls Chess Championship at the Nashville Chess Center on April 24. The tournament was open to any girl in grades K - 12 who is a Tennessee resident. When the dust cleared, **Graham Gibson** was awarded the title of 2010 Tennessee Girls Champion, receiving an engraved glass trophy.

Gibson lived up to her top rating and defeated all of her opponents to finish with a perfect 4.0 score. Gibson is an 11th grade home-school student from Cordova, Tennessee.

Joann Welch finished second with 3.5 points, giving up a draw to last year's champion Autumn Douthitt in the 3rd round. Douthitt finished in sixth place with 2.5 points after losing to champion Graham Gibson in the final round.

This year's tournament coincided with Nashville's Country Music Marathon and Half-Marathon which ran right by the Chess Center on Belmont Blvd. "Fortunately, the girls who played today were not distracted by the runners, the band playing right next door or the stormy weather," said Chief TD Alvin Harris. "Even with everything going on outside, the girls all did a great job of focusing on their games and playing excellent chess."

The top ten finishers received trophies. All other players took home a chess book or a set of tournament pieces and a vinyl carrying bag.

† † † † † † †

The **U.S. Cadet Championship** was held at the Cumberland Co. Bank of Crossville, TN from July 12-16. This national invitational tournament is staged for the top eight highest-ranked players in the United States under age 16.



The Tennessee Tempo is back this year and stronger than ever before. In fact, Team Manager Peter Bereolos has even dared to use the "p"-word - powerhouse! This is because they have two grandmasters at their service since they now have 4-time U.S. Champion GM Shabalov to backup the service of GM Ehlvest, who was annexed last year. Despite the strengthening provided by the grandmasters, the *Tempo* has only won 14.5 of its 36 games played in the league. Shabalov has played in three of their matches and has won 2 of his 3 games. (Shabalov is contracted to play only 5 games.) Ehlvest has played in six of the *Tempo's* matches and has not lost a game.

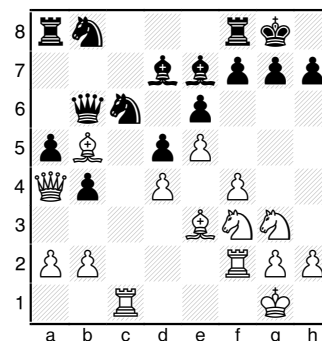
Below is a record of the *Tempo's* activity in the league, and two of their games from their match against the Miami Sharks are presented. Their last match took place on November 4 against the Baltimore Kingfishers. (It could be seen online at 8:00 p.m. ET on the Internet Chess Club.) So the Tempo finished with 16 points out of 40 games. The below table was updated after the Fall issue of the *TCN* for completeness.

2009 Match Record of the Tennessee Tempo			
Date	Opponent	Color	Score
Sept. 02	Philadelphia Inventors	B	2.5-1.5
Sept. 09	Arizona Scorpions	W	2.0-2.0
Sept. 16	Chicago Blaze	W	1.5-2.5
Sept. 21	Miami Sharks	B	2.0-2.0
Sept. 30	Seattle Sluggers	B	1.5-2.5
Oct. 07	Dallas Destiny	W	1.5-2.5
Oct. 14	Chicago Blaze	B	1.5-2.5
Oct. 21	Seattle Sluggers	W	0.5-3.5
Oct. 28	San Francisco Mech.	B	1.5-2.5
Nov. 4	Baltimore Kingfishers	W	1.5-2.5

An outsider can't answer the question of whether the investment in grandmaster talent was worth it. It is the *Tempo's* opinion that counts-literally. In assessing the performance of one's contract players, it is not sufficient to simply look at their wins versus loses (though Ehlvest was the MVP). Adding a player like Shabalov to your roster gives you an even chance to compete with any of the super power teams. Such an investment is a psychological boost to the entire team, establishing hope and a desire to fight. To me, the gamble was successful.

USCL Miami vs Tennessee - 4
September 21, 2009
Alejandro Moreno Roman-2331
John Bick - 2260

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6
4. e5 Nfd7 5. Nce2 c5 6. c3
Nc6 7. f4 b5 8. Nf3 b4 9.
cxb4 cxb4 It seems that Nxb4
would be more consistent,
keeping pressure on d4 and
leaving the b-file open for
action by the rooks. 10. Ng3
Qb6 11. Be3 Be7 12. Rc1 a5
Perhaps Ba6 was better,
freeing the rook to play to
the c-file in defense and
doing more to interfere with
White's castling. 13. Qa4
Ndb8 14. Bb5 Bd7 15. O-O O-O
16. Rf2



Nxe5! 17. Bxd7 Nexd7 18.
Rfc2 Stronger was f5. Bd6
19. h3 g6 Better is the
immediate Qa6 followed by
Nb6, which keeps the rooks
out, beats back the White
queen, and obtains a post
for the knight on c4. 20.
Nf1 Qa6 -/+ Fritz 11
evaluates Black as being a
full point up. 21. Ne5
Necessary was Ne1. Nb6 22.
Qb3 f6! 23. Rc6 (23. Nf3??
a4) 23... Nxc6 24. Rxc6 fxe5
Better was Rfd8, keeping
White's bishop out of the
game. 25. dxe5 Bc7 26. Rxc7
Nc4 27. Ng3 Nxe3 28. Qxe3
Rf7 29. Rxf7 Kxf7 30. f5 Qa7
Snuffling out counterplay
and heading to an easily won
endgame. 31. Qxa7+ Rxa7 32.
f6 Rc7 White resigns 0-1

Notwithstanding this win,
the *Tempo* still couldn't net
the Sharks, again drawing.

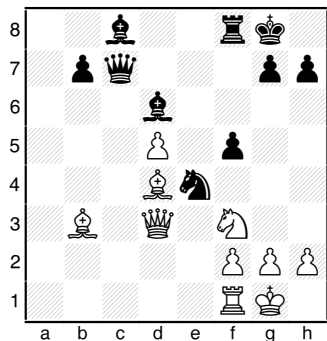
USCL Miami vs Tennessee

September 21, 2009

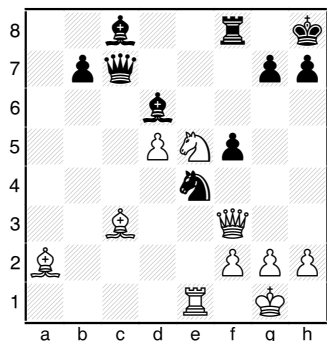
Ron Burnett - 2380

Blas Lugo - 2351

1. Nf3 d5 2. d4 Nf6 3. c4 c6 4. e3 e6 5. Nbd2 Nbd7 6. Bd3 Bd6 7. O-O O-O 8. e4 e5 Less enterprising and far more common is dxe4, which maintains the Slav structure of the queenside pawns. 9. cxd5 cxd5 10. exd5 exd4 11. Ne4 Nxe4 12. Bxe4 Nc5 13. Bb1 d3 14. b4 Ne4 15. Qxd3 f5 16. a3 a5 17. Bb2 Also advantageous for White is b5, but Black can get threatening active with Qf6. axb4 18. axb4 Rxa1 19. Bxa1 +/- Qb6 (19... Bxb4 20. Bxg7 Kxg7 21. Qd4+) 20. Ba2 Fritz11 prefers Qd4 or Nd2. Qxb4 21. Bd4 Qa5 22. Bb3 Qc7



23. Ne5!?! A much more dynamic choice than Fritz's idea of Qe3 followed by Rc1. However, Black's accurate move cancels Burnett's try for a brilliancy prize. Nc5 = 24. Qf3 More drawish is Bxc5 followed by Nc4. Kh8 Getting the king off the dangerous diagonal and, thus, really threatening the knight. 25. Re1 Qa5 26. Bc3 Qc7 27. Ba2 Ne4



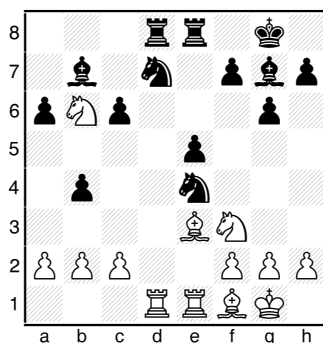
28. Rxe4?? Confusing his combination. The elements are there but this is not the sequence. Fritz shows the accurate move to be: 28. Bb4! Bxb4? (28... b5 29. Bxd6 Qxd6 30. Nf7+ Rxf7 31. Rxe4 Bd7 =) 29. Ng6+ hxg6 30. Qh3+ Kg8 31. d6+. 28... fxe4 29. Qxf8+ Bxf8 30. d6 Bxd6! (30... Qxc3 31. Nf7+ Kg8 32. Nh6+ Kh8 33. Nf7+ =) 31. Nf7+ Kg8 32. Nxd6+ Kf8 33. Nxe4 Qe7 34. Bd5 Bf5 35. Ng3 Bg6 and with the knight's activity cancelled, the game is essentially over. 36. Bf3 b5 37. h3 b4 38. Bd4 b3 39. Ne2 Qa3 40. g3 b2 41. Bxb2 Qxf3 42. Nd4 Qd3 43. Ne6+ Ke7 White resigned 0-1

TN Championship - 4

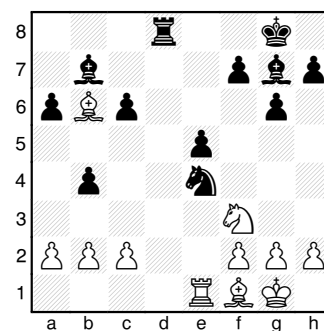
Patrick Tae

Ronald Burnett

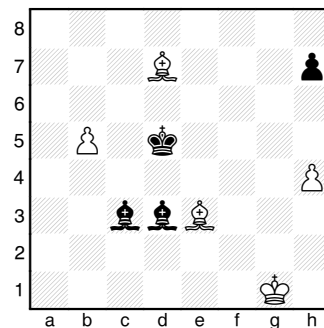
1. e4 g6 2. d4 d6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. Be3 c6 5. Qd2 b5 6. Bd3 Nd7 7. Nf3 Qc7 8. O-O Ngf6 9. Rad1 O-O 10. Rfe1 a6 11. Bh6 e5 12. dxe5 dxe5 13. Be3 Bb7 14. Bf1 Rad8 15. Qd6 Qxd6 16. Rxd6 b4 17. Na4 Nxe4 18. Rdd1 Rfe8 19. Nb6 Burnett has consumed only 5 minutes since he played Qd6, which indicates that the next moves were expected.



Nxb6?! Much less complicated is the simple Nf6 or Nc5. Now White assumes an initiative. 20. Rxd8 Rxd8 21. Bxb6



Rb8 Tae took 8 minutes to see this rejoinder but has, himself, been moving briskly. 22. Rxe4 c5 23. Rc4 Bxf3 24. Bxc5 Bd5 25. Rxb4 Rc8 26. Bd6 f5 27. Rb8 Rxb8 28. Bxb8 Bxa2 29. Bxa6 e4 30. c3 Kf7 31. Ba7 Ke6 32. g3 Kd5 33. Be3 Bc4 34. Bb7+ Kd6 35. Bf4+ Kc5 36. g4 Bd5 37. Be3+ Kd6 Already Black is near the draw, having properly hustled his king into the action. 38. Ba6 Bf6 39. gxf5 gxf5 40. Bb5 Be5 41. Ba4 +/- Ba2 42. Bc2 Be6 43. Bd2 Bc4 44. b3 Be2 45. b4 Kd5 46. Bb3+ Bc4 47. Ba4 Bd3 48. Bd7 f4 49. h4 e3 50. fxe3 fxe3 51. Bxe3 Bxc3 52. b5



Bxb5! Excellent alertness! Black recognizes that he has a drawn endgame because White will be left with the wrong colored bishop to queen his remaining pawn. 53. Bxb5 Bd4 54. Bxd4 Kxd4 55. h5 Ke5 56. Bd3 Kf6 57. Kg2 Kg7 58. Kf3 h6 59. Kf4 Kh8 1/2-1/2 By tying the 2008 co-champion, Patrick proved that he is worthy.

North TN Winter Open

The Tenn. Winter Open was held on Jan. 9-10th at Henry Horton State Park in Chapel Hill. It was a 10-pt Grand Prix tournament of five rounds played G/120 with a guaranteed prize fund of \$2,200. Sixty players attended the event which had six sections ranging from Pawns (U1000) to Kings (Open). (Unrated players were required to play in the Bishops Section.) Four of the sections were combined because of their size (the Kings and Queens and the Bishops and Knights) but this did not affect the prize distribution. Chris Prosser competently directed the quality tournament and even the inclement weather did not prevent it from being a success.

Ronald Burnett and **Todd Andrews** tied with 4.0 to dominate the **Kings and Queens (U2000) Section**. Zaki Tanis, rated 1799, was the top finisher of the Queens Section with 3.0 points. The second and third place finishers of the Queens Section were Corry Marsh and Eleanor Barkley with 1.5 points.

Ashraf Armanios won the **Rooks (U1750) Section** with 4.5 points, giving up a draw only to second place finisher Ben Li who finished clear second with 4.0 points.

Randall Vaughn—a lower-rated Knight—picked up a whopping 131 points by winning the **Bishops (U1500) and Knights (U1250) Section** with a remarkable five points. Undefeated **Malcolm Estrada** and **Austin Lillis** tied with 4.0 points for second and third place honors, over all. Malcolm was the top finisher of the Bishops while 969-rated Austin Lillis was the second place finisher of the Knights Section. His high finish

was reflected by the 167 point jump that his official rating experienced. Jordan Smith of Kentucky took second-place in the Bishops Section with 3.0 points, a score that four other players shared in this tough division.

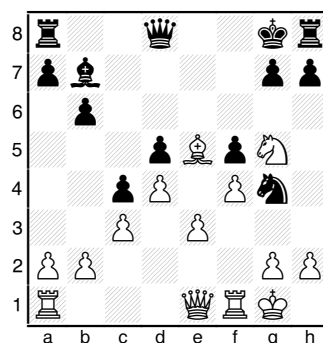
The **Pawns (U1000) Section** had 8 players and, hence, some really competitive games. But **Donnie Douglas** still managed to give up only one draw to dominate the section with 4.5 points. Adrian Gellert and Rachel Weishaar both had 3.5 points and shared 2nd and 3rd-place honors.

Below are two games from the champions of their respective sections: a battle between the first- and second-place finishing Bishops (U1500) and the co-winners of the Kings and Queens Section. All games submitted from the Open Section (Kings and Queens) are included in this issue. However, because so many games were submitted from the sections, all are not included in this issue but can be found in a viewable and downloadable format on our website. And—thanks to Roy Manners—we have some photos from the event!

NTWO - Bishops
Malcolm Estrada - 1466
Jordan Smith - 1277
Result 1-0

1. Nf3 d5 2. d4 e6 3. Bg5 Be7 4. Bf4 Nd7 5. Nbd2 Ngf6 6. e3 c6 7. c3 b6 8. Bd3 Bb7 9. O-O c5 10. Ne5 c4 Black effectively seals his own bishop out of the game while killing his tension on the center. Too, it is seldom that this move produces enough queenside counter play to match White's quicker kingside play and action in the center. 11. Bc2 Bd6?? Malcolm properly awarded this move the "??". 12. Nxf7 Kxf7 13. Bxd6 Nf8 14. Be5 Ng6 15. f4 Ne7 Redeploying to attack the

backward pawn on e3. 16. Nf3 Nf5 17. Bxf5 exf5 18. Ng5+ Kg8 19. Qe1 Better is Bxf6 followed by a battle between a knight and bad bishop. Ng4?



20. Bxg7 Malcolm alertly pounced on this game-winning tactic based on a knight fork. Qe7 21. Bxh8 Kxh8 22. Rf3 A little better is Qh4 followed by Rad8. h6 23. Rh3 Better was h3, but the issue is not really in doubt. Kg7 24. Nf3 Qxe3+ 25. Qxe3 Nxe3 26. Rg3+?! (26. Re1! Re8 27. Nd2) 26... Kf6 27. Ne5 Ng4 28. h3 Nxe5 29. fxe5+ Kf7 30. Rf1 Bc8 31. Rf4 Be6 32. Kh2 Rh8 33. Rgf3 Kg6 34. g4 Rf8 35. gxf5+ Rxf5 36. Rxf5 Bxf5 37. Kg3 Kg5 38. h4+ Kg6 39. Kf4 Be6 40. Kg3 Bf5 41. Re3 Be4?! 42. Kf4 Kf7 43. Rxe4 dxe4 44. Kxe4 1-0

NTWO - Open (4)
Ronald Burnett - 2403
Todd Andrews - 2343

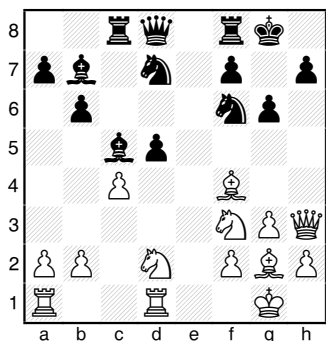
1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3. c4 dxc4 4. e3 e6 5. Bxc4 c5 6. dxc5 Qxd1+ 7. Kxd1 Bxc5 8. Ke2 Nc6 9. a3 Nd7 10. b4 Be7 11. Bb2 Bf6 12. Bxf6 gxf6 Nxf6 just leaves Black's pieces cramped for awhile. Now e5 is controlled and there is the potential of reducing the pieces even more, approaching a draw. 13. Nbd2 Rg8 14. g3 Nde5 15. Rac1 Bd7 16. b5 If White had to win, Bb3 would be the move of choice. Na5 17. Nxe5 fxe5 18. Bd3 f5 White could continue with e4 if he was intent on winning, but a draw of respect was agreed. 1/2-1/2

NTWO - Open

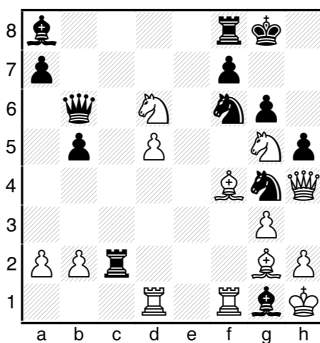
Matthew Marsh - 2132

Justin Arnold - 1946

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5
 4. g3 Bb4+ 5. Bd2 Be7 This hyper-refinement might give Black some extra but I don't quite see its worth unless it is to discourage the fianchetto of White's black-squared bishop or decrease White's protection of d4; otherwise, there is no tempo gain. 6. Bg2 O-O
 7. Qc2 c6 8. O-O Nbd7 9. Bf4 Well, this is a lousy square for the bishop. So maybe Black's refinement worked?
 b6 10. Nbd2 Bb7 11. Rfd1 Rc8 12. e4 c5 (Also playable is Nh5: 12... Nh5 13. Be3 f5 14. exf5 exf5 15. Nb3 f4) 13. exd5 exd5 14. dxc5 Bxc5 = 15. Qf5 g6 16. Qh3

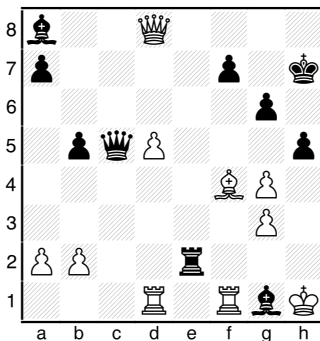


b5!? 17. cxd5 (Fritz11 suggests: 17. b4 Bxb4 18. Rab1 Qa5 19. Ng5 bxc4 20. Rxb4 Qxb4 21. Rb1 Qxb1+ 22. Nxb1 c3 23. Nxc3 Rxc3) 17... Qb6 18. Ng5 Rf1 seems more prudent. White threatens Nxh7 when the knight on d7 can become loose. Bxf2+ 19. Kh1 h5 20. Nde4 Rc2 21. Nd6 Better was Rac. Ng4! 22. Rf1 Fritz11 suggest Bf3. Ndf6 23. Rad1 Better was Nxb7, reducing attackers and freeing up the White pieces for counter play. Ba8-+ 24. Qh4 Ndx7 can be played to get the passed pawn moving. Bg1 (See Diagram, next column) 25. Nge4 Nxe4 26. Nxe4 Re8 27. h3 Rxe4 28. hxg4 Rxc2! 29. Kxc2 (29. Be3 Rxe3 30. Kxc2 Re2+ 31. Kh1 Bd4) 29... Re2+ 30. Kh1 Qc5?? Black took 2 minutes to make this move, so it is



After 24... Bg1!?

probable that he saw Rh2+ winning the queen but not the game. Stronger is Bd4. Both are short on time: White has 9 min. and Black has 5 min. remaining. 31. Qd8+ Kh7



32. Rd2? (32. Be3!! This nice line clearing interference sac would win for White: Rh2+ 33. Kxg1 Qxe3+ 34. Kxh2) 32... Rxd2 33. Be3 Bxd5+ 34. Kxg1 Qxe3+ 0-1

NTWO - Open (4)

Tanas Zaki - 1799

Alataiwi Ali - 1821

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nc3 Nf6
 4. Nf3 e6 5. Bg5 Be7 6. e3 Ne4 A stonewall defense seems to be the only option available to Black after this move. 7. Bxe7 Qxe7 8. Bd3 f5 9. Ne5 O-O 10. O-O Nd7 11. f4 Ndf6 Better seems to be a trade of both knights rather than leaving the White knight dominant on e5. Now White should swap his bishop for the knight on e4 and try for a good knight versus bad bishop position. 12. Rc1 Bd7 13. cxd5 exd5

14. Qb3 Be8 (14... Nd2 15. Qxb7 Nxf1 16. Rxf1 a5 17. Na4 Rfb8 =) 15. Na4? Nd2 16. Qc2 Nxf1 17. Rxf1 Ne4-/+ 18. b3 Rf6 Better was Rc8. 19. g4 fxg4 Better was Bd7. 20. Bxe4 dxe4 21. Qxe4 Black still has an advantage but White's eternal knight on e5 provides much compensation. Rh6 (21... Bg6 22. Qg2 (22. f5 Raf8 23. Qg2 Bxf5) 22... h5 23. h3 gxh3 24. Qxh3 Raf8-/+) 22. Nc5 Qh4 23. Qg2 b6 Better was Bf7, hindering the knight transferring to the kingside and planning Bd5. 24. Ne4 Bf7 25. Ng3 Rf6 Necessary was Qh3. 26. Ne4 (26. Nxc6 Re8 27. Ne5+/=) 26... Rh6 27. Ng5 Bd5 28. e4 Be6 29. d5 cxd5 30. exd5 Bc8 The notation ends here with White claiming an advantage. 1-0

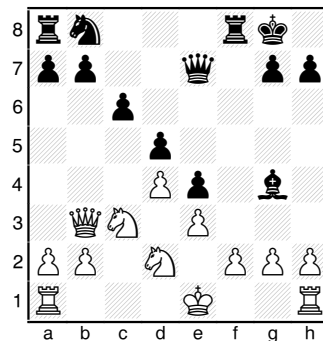
NTWO - Kings & Queens (2)

Corry Marsh - 1706

Alataiwi Ali - 1821

1-0

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nc3 Nf6
 4. Nf3 e6 5. Bg5 Be7 6. e3 Ne4 7. Bxe7 Qxe7 8. Nd2 f5 9. cxd5 (9. Ndx4 fxe4 10. Qh5+ g6 11. Qh6 gives White some advantage but leaves him potentially vulnerable on f2.) 9... exd5 10. Bd3 O-O 11. Bxe4 fxe4 12. Qb3 Nd7 would have seen Black maintaining a small edge. Bg4



13. Nxd5?! (13. Ndx4 Qf7 14. f3 Bc8 15. Nc5+/-) 13... cxd5 14. Qxd5+ Kh8 (14... Be6 15. Qxe4 Qf7 16. O-O Nc6) 15. Qxe4 Qd7 Black needs to make his gains

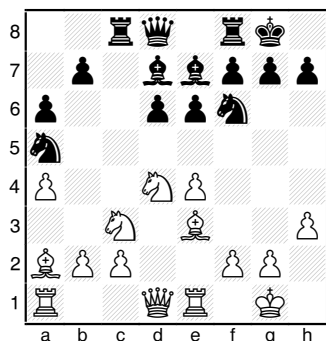
before a true endgame ensues. 16. O-O Nc6 17. f3 Bf5 18. Qh4 Rae8 19. Qf2 Bd3 (19...Nb4 20. Nc4 (20. e4? Bxe4) 20... Nd3 21. Qd2) 20. Rfe1 b6 21. Nf1 Bc4 Better was a5. 22. Ng3 Nb4 23. b3 Bd5 24. Qd2 Nc6 25. e4 Bf7 26. d5 Ne5 27. Rac1 Bg8 28. Nf5 g6 29. Nd4 Rc8 30. Rxc8 Rxc8 31. Rc1 Kg7 32. Rxc8 Qxc8 33. Qb2 Kf6? Black cannot allow this pin. Kf8 would allow him to retain chances. 34. Nc6 Qc7 35. f4 g5 36. Qxe5+ Qxe5 37. fxe5+ 1-0

NTWO - Open (4)

Ali Alataiwi - 1821

Will Stevenson - 2138

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. d4 cxd4 5. Nxd4 a6 6. a4 Nc6 7. Bc4 e6 8. O-O Be7 9. h3 O-O 10. Be3 Bd7 11. Re1 Rc8 12. Bb3 Nxc6 or Qd2 is suggested. Na5 13. Ba2



Rxc3 14. bxc3 Nxe4+/- Fritz11 gives Black a 0.4 advantage. 15. Qd3 Nc5 16. Qe2 Nxa4 17. Bd2 Fritz suggests Qd3, but hardly anyone trying to win is going to continue to let Black move about with tempo. Bf6 18. Bb3 Nc5 19. Qe3 White has nothing better than the miserable Ba2. e5 20. Ne2 (Fritz suggests the sacrificial Bd5, but White still can't hold the balance: 20. Bd5 exd4 21. cxd4 Na4 22. Qf4 b5 23. Qxd6 Bc6) 20... Naxb3 21. cxb3 Nxb3 22. Rab1 Nxd2 23. Qxd2 Bc6-/+ Black's energetic play has produced a textbook example of the effectiveness of the exchange sacrifice.

And now the bishops will show why they can sometimes prove equal to the rooks on an open board. 24. Ng3 Bg5 25. Qd3 g6 26. Ne4 Be7 27. c4 Qa5 28. Ra1 Qc7 29. Nc3 Rc8 30. Nd5 Qd8 31. Rd1 Bg5 32. Nb4 Ba4 33. Ra1 Be8 34. Nd5 Rc5 I'm not positive that this was the 34th move because the score sheet was marred. However, the remainder of the game matches the score. 35. Red1 Bd7 36. Nb4 Be6 37. Qxd6 Qxd6 38. Rxd6 Rxc4 39. Rb6 Bd2 40. Nd3 Rc7 41. Rab1 Bf5 42. R1b3 Kg7 43. Rd6 e4 44. g4 (44. Nc5 Rxc5 {44... Bf4 45. Rd5} 45. Rxd2 b5 46. g4) 44... Be6 45. Rxe6 fxe6 46. Nb2 b5 47. Kf1 Rc3 48. Rxc3 Bxc3 49. Nd1 Bd4 50. Ke2 b4 51. f3 0-1

NTWO - Open (2)

Todd Andrews - 2343

Donny Gray - 2115

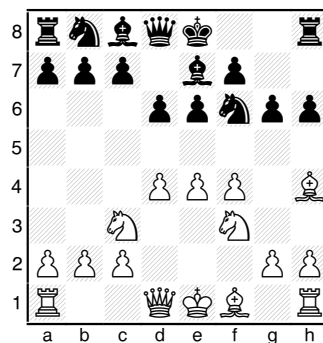
1. d4 c6 2. c4 d5 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. e3 e6 5. Nc3 Be7 6. Bd3 dxc4 7. Bxc4 b5 8. Bd3 a6 9. Qe2 Bb7 10. O-O Nbd7 11. e4 h6 More promising seems to be c5. 12. Rd1 Qc7 13. e5 Nd5 14. Nxd5 cxd5+/- Black's white-squared bishop is entombed. 15. Bd2 O-O 16. h4 Rfc8 17. h5 Nf8 18. Nh2 f6? This creates significant white-square weaknesses. Nh7 was better, planning Ng5 or Bg5 19. exf6 Bxf6 20. Qg4 Kh8 21. Nf3 Qf7 22. Re1 Rc6 23. Bf4 Rac8 24. Re2 Rb6 25. Rae1 Rcc6 26. Re3! Planning to use the rook along the third rank. Bc8 If Nd7, Qg3. 27. Ne5 Bxe5 28. Bxe5 Rb7 29. Rf3 Qe7? 30. Qxg7+ and Rxf8 is mate. 1-0

NTWO - Open(5)

David Justice

Ronald Burnett

1. e4 g6 2. d4 d6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 h6 5. Bh4 Better is Bxf6, in the spirit of a Trompovsky. e6 6. f4 Be7 7. Nf3



Nxe4!? Radical and perhaps unsound. 8. Bxe7 Nxc3 9. Bxd8 Nxd1 10. Bf6 Ne3 11. Ke2 Nxc2 12. Rc1 Rg8 Best is probably castles, but Ron wants to use his king as a fighting piece to compensate for his material deficit. And bad, of course, is Nxd4+ because of White will be able to subsequently snap off the c-pawn. 13. Rxc2 Nd7 14. Bh4 c6 15. Kd1 Kf2 looks a little better, using the king to shore up the kingside and allowing the rooks full sway on the queenside. f6 16. Bc4 Kf7 17. Re1 d5 Slightly better is Nb6, but Black is not interested in swapping any pieces. 18. Bd3 g5 19. fxc5 hxc5 20. Bg3 Ke7 Denying the bishop the a3-f8 diagonal. 21. Nd2 a5 22. Bf5 Nf8 23. a4 Ra6 24. Bd3 Rb6 25. b3 Rb4 26. Bf2 The more active Rc5 would relieve the piece cramp but would give up the d-pawn which serves to restrain the central pawn storm: 26. Rc5 Rxd4 27. Kc2 e5 28. Rxa5 Ne6 29. Bf2 Rxd3 (29... Rf4 30. Bb6 Rh4 31. Rh1 Rgh8 32. h3 Nf4 33. Bf1 Bf5+ and Black is making sure progress) 30. Kxd3 Nf4+ 31. Kc3 Nxc2 32. Rd1 Fritz says that Black is only a 1-point minus, and it is obvious that the mass of pawns will cost White at least a piece. 26... Bd7 27. Rc5 b6 28. Rc3 Kd6 29. Bc2 Be8 30. Bf5 Bh5+ After 31. g4 Black can even afford to swap bishops with Bg6. Though White still has a plus, he has to be uncomfortable facing the advancing pawns. 1/2-1/2

Tenn. Regional Individual Qualifiers

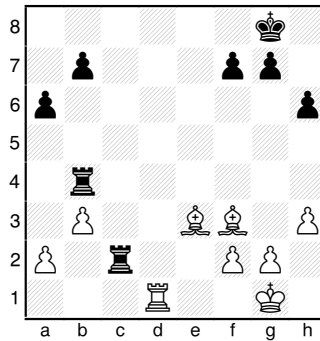
The Regional Qualifying tournaments for Tenn. scholastic players took place on January 23, 2010. The unrated 5-round events with mixed time controls of G/30 (Rounds 1 & 2) and G60 (Rounds 3-5) were held in the four regions of the state to qualify eight candidates per grade range and region for participation in the February 13th Individual Finals. Some very large sections (generally the Elementary) were expanded to 6 rounds with the latter rounds being conducted at G45. Consequently, some of the events lasted a complete 12 hours from registration through awards!

The top ten finishers in each section are shown on pages 16 and 17. These will not necessarily be the eight regional finalists that actually participate in the Finals, but they certainly will give you an idea of whom the candidates are. You can find the complete and updated listing on the Tenn. Chess Association's website (tnchess.org).

Most of the last round games of the Regionals were hotly contested. But because of the fast time limit and reluctance of many scholastic players to keep score, few score sheets are available for publication. But Region 1 did provide a thriller that was captured!

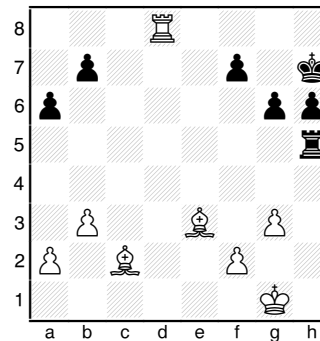
The competitive Jr. High Section of the Region 1 Individual Qualifier ended in a three-way tie with Corry Marsh, Andrew Simonsen, and Sanchit Wadhawan. Playoff games of Game/10 with 5 sec. delays were required to determine the champion. Following is the essence of the position with which Sanchit (playing

White) awed the body of onlookers. Black just played Rc2



Position from Jr. High Playoff Game. White (Sanchit) to move.

Sanchit impressed the audience with 1. Rd8+ Kh7 2. a3! Rh4 3. g3 Rxb3 4. Be4+ g6 5. Bxc2 Rh5 (forced)



Position from Jr. High Playoff Game. White (Sanchit) to move.

6. Bd4! Mate is unavoidable.

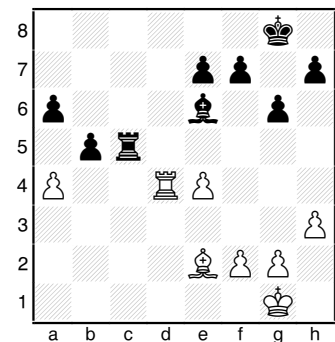
Those were applaudable moves to find with the clock ticking down. Then he again proved his worthiness to be dubbed number one in his next playoff game, below.

**Reg. 1 Qualifier TieBreaker
Corry Marsh - 1701
Sanchit Wadhawan - 1543**

Just as in the first game when he defeated Simonsen, Sanchit made a couple of excellent moves - especially considering that the game was conducted at a quick pace.

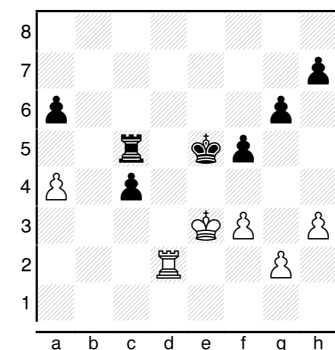
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 d5 4. cxd5 Nxd5 5. e4 Nxc3 6. bxc3 Bg7 7. Nf3 c5 8. Be3 Nc6 9. Be2 O-O 10. O-O a6

They blitzed the first 10 moves off using only 30 seconds each. This move was the first to give Corry pause. 11. Rb1 (11. d5 Ne5 12. Bxc5 Nxf3+ 13. Bxf3 Bxc3 14. Rc1 Bb2 15. Rc2 Be5 16. Bd4+/-) 11... b5 12. dxc5 After the game, Sanchit told Corry that this exchange is generally weak in the Grunfeld. Indeed d5 is good and a4 might even be feasible. 12... Bxc3 13. Qxd8 Rxd8 14. Rfd1 Rxd1+ 15. Rxd1 Be6 16. Nd4 Of course a3 is better, but there is not enough time for prolonged thought. Nxd4 17. Bxd4 Bxd4 18. Rxd4 Rc8 19. h3 The immediate a4 is necessary. Rxc5 20. a4



Marsh - Wadhawan Playoff. Black to make 20th move.

Bc4 This idea is best implemented with Rc1+ for now White has Bf1. 21. Bxc4 bxc4 22. Rd8+ Kg7 23. Rd2 e6 24. Kf1 f5 25. exf5 exf5 26. f3 White shouldn't further weaken his pawns. Rushing with his king is required. Kf6 27. Ke2 Ke5 28. Ke3



Marsh - Wadhawan Playoff. Black to make 28th move.

Rd5 (28... f4+! 29. Ke2 c3

30. Rc2 Kd4) 29. Rc2?! (29. f4+ Kd6 30. Rb2 Rd3+ 31. Ke2 Rb3 32. Rd2+ Kc5) 29... Rd3+ 30. Ke2 Kd4 31. Rd2 (More resistance was offered by Rb2 but it still looks bad for White: 31. Rb2 Ra3 32. Rd2+ Kc3 33. Rd7 Rxa4) 31... Rxd2+ 32. Kxd2 c3+ 33. Kc2 Kc4 34. g4 fxg4 35. hxg4 g5 36. a5 Kb4 37. Kd3 Kb3 38. Ke4 c2 39. Kf5 c1=Q 40. Kf6 Qf4+ 41. Kg7 Qe5+ 42. Kxh7 Qf6 43. Kg8 Qe7 44. Kh8 Kc4 45. f4 gxf4 46. g5 Qxg5 47.h7 Kd5 48. Kh8 Ke6 49. Kh7 Kf7 50. Kh8 Qh6# 0-1

49th Mid-South Open

Twenty-two players participated in this G/60, one-day tournament held on November 28 in Memphis.

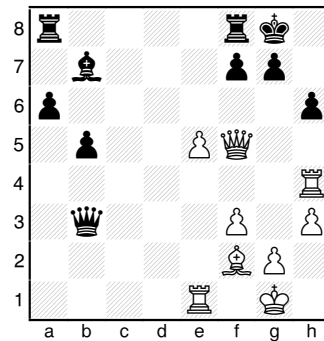
Kenneth Turner took clear first with 3.5 points, and four other players tied for second place with 3.0 points. Among these was 1600-rated Patrick Coleman who further distinguished himself by winning the Under 1600 Section award. In the competitive **Under 1200 Section**, **Michael Collins** topped the field with a perfect 4.0. The strength of this five-player section was illustrated by all players scoring two points or better!

Games from the event can be found at memphischessclub.homestead.com/games.html.

49th Mid-South Open -4
November 28, 2009
Graham Horobetz - 2006
Kenneth Turner -1907
Result "0-1"

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 exd4 4. Bc4 Be7 5. c3 Na5 6. Qxd4 There is no need to give the bishop up, so Bd3 is better. This would leave the knight doing nothing on a5. But perhaps White was hoping that Black would over-react and play 6... Bf6

when Bxf7+ could follow? **Nxc4 7. Qxc4 d6** Better is the immediate 7... Nf6. If then 8. e5 d5 9. Qe2 Ne4. **8. Be3 Nf6 9. Nbd2 O-O 10. h3** Unnecessarily guarding against Ng4 but lingering in the center another move. **a6** Better was the forcing d5. **11. O-O b5 12. Qd3 Bb7 13. Nd4 d5 14. e5 Ne4 15. f3 Ng3 16. Rfe1 = c5 17. Nf5 Nxf5 18. Qxf5 d4 19. cxd4 cxd4 20. Bf2 Bb4 21. Rad1** Wrong rook for the pin remains, but still okay. **Qa5 22. a3??** (Qf4 or Qd3 was okay.) **Bxd2 23. b4 Qxa3 24. Rxd2 Qxb4 25. Rxd4 Qb3 26. Rh4 Rg4** threatens an immediate draw with Rxg+ **h6**



27. f4?! (27. e6 fxe6 28. Qg4 Rad8 29. Rxh6 Rd1 30. Rxd1 Qxd1+ 31. Kh2 Qd7 32. Qg6 Be4 33. Qxe6+ =) 27... **Qd5 28. Rg4? Bc8 29. Rxc7+ Kxc7 30. Qf6+ Kh7 31. f5 Bb7 32. Kf1 Qxc7+ 33. Ke2 Qf3+ 34. Kf1 Qxh3+ 35. Ke2 Qf3+ 36. Kf1 Qg4 37. Re3 Rad8 38. Rg3 Rd1+ 39. Be1 Qxc3 0-1**

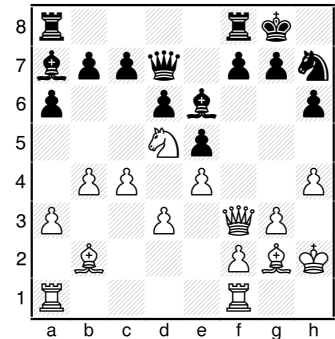
49th Mid-South Open -3
November 28, 2009
David McPherson - 1712
James Councill -1452
Result "1-0"

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 d6 4. c3 Bd7 5. d4 Nf6 6. Nbd2 a6 7. Ba4 Ne7? 8. Bb3 Securing a safe pawn was dxe5. **exd4 9. cxd4 Bg4** Better was Nc6 to control e5 and continue development, but Black probably feared Ng5. (9... Nc6 10. Ng5 d5 11. O-O h6) **10. O-O g6?!** Black is too slow

developing. Again, Nc6 was required. **11. h3 Bxf3 12. Qxf3 Bg7 13. e5 dxe5 14. dxe5 Nd7?? 15. Qxf7# 1-0**

49th Mid-South Open -2
November 28, 2009
Chase Knowles - 1651
Charles Herbers -1997
Result "1-0"

1. c4 e5 2. Nc3 Nf6 3. g3 Bc5 4. Bg2 d6 5. Nf3 Nc6 6. O-O a6 7. a3 O-O 8. b4 Ba7 9. Bb2 Bg4 10. h3 Be6 11. d3 h6 12. e4 Qd7 13. Kh2 Nd4 14. Nd5 Nxf3+ 15. Qxf3 Nh7 16. h4??



f5? The queen was dead after 16... Bg4, though 17. Bh3 could delay the execution. **17. Bh3 c6?** Necessary was Rae8 to avoid knight forks on c7 and enable fxe. **18. exf5 cxd5** (18... Bxf5? 19. Bxf5 Rxf5 20. Qxf5 Qxf5 21. Ne7+) **19. fxe6 Rxf3 20. exd7 dxc4 21. dxc4 Nf6 22. Rad1 Ne4 23. Bxe5** Better than this was the simple c5, which shuts out the bishop. **Raf8 24. Bxd6 Rxf2+ 25. Rxf2 Rxf2+ 26. Bg2 Bb6 27. Bc5 Nxc5 28. d8=Q+ Bxd8 29. Rxd8+ 1-0**

Scholastic Chess Tourney

September 4, 2010
 4 Round Swiss Game/30

Clarion Inn of Cookeville

TN Individual Finals

On Feb. 27th, the Tenn. Individual Finals tournament was again hosted by Tennessee Technological University (TTU). **Peter Suich** emerged as undefeated champion in the **High School Championship** with a perfect score and pocketed the \$4,000 yearly-scholarship money. Three other players tied for 2nd-4th place. After the 10-minute tie-break games were held to determine who would receive the \$2,500 per year Service Scholarship, **George Woodbury** captured the second-place money over Chase Knowles and Graham Gibson.

Jason Fu won the **Jr. High Championship** by defeating higher-rated Nathan Vogt in the last round. Jason had a perfect score, while both Vogt and Neglia Salvatore tied for 2nd-3rd with 4.0 points.

In the **Elementary Section**, **Arum Jambulapati** captured clear first with 4.5 points, being trailed by three others who had 4.0 points: Alexander Qin, Max Friedman, and Kevin Hong.

Shaun Burgess (who was rated about two classes above his opposition) scored a perfect 5.0 to promote himself as champion of the **Primary Section**. Four others trailed him with 4.0 points (Weston Sharpe, Nina Bhat, Joshua Kouch, and Lucas Pao).

Crosstables of the tournament along with a nice bio of the players are available online as the Tenn. Chess Assoc. Website: tnchess.org. Photographs of the champion are also included there!

Below are three games from the Reg. 4 Ind. Qualifying tournaments. No games were submitted from the Finals.

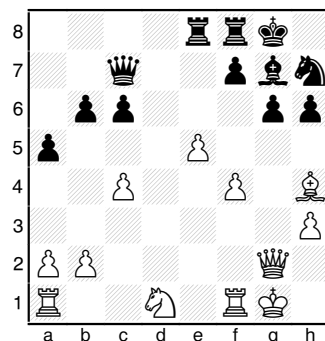
Reg. 4 Indiv. Qualifier

Feb. 13, 2010

Chase Knowles - 1787

Graham Horobetz - 2011

1. c4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 4. g3 Bg7 5. Bg2 O-O 6. Nf3 a6 7. O-O Nbd7 8. e4 e5 9. dxe5 dxe5 10. Bg5 c6 11. Qc2 (11. Qd6 Re8 12. Rad1 Qb6 13. Rd2 Bf8 14. Qd3 h6 +/-) 11... Qc7 12. Nd2 Fritz had White at a slight plus if he had followed up with the logical Rad1. Being unsure of the knight's destination, it now considers the game equal or favoring Black. a5 13. f4?! Now we know why the knight moved! But this radical move is unjustified, weakened both the king's position as well as the Black squares. Ng4 Stronger was h6, but this move still retains a nice edge, too. 14. Nd1 If f5, then Bf6 or h6. h6 This is slightly more forcing than the immediate exf4. 15. Bh4 exf4 16. gxf4 Nc5 Fritz11 gives Black a 0.68 edge. 17. h3 Nf6 Fritz recommends g5, but few would be in a hurry to play it. 18. e5?! Better was Nb3, challenging Black's strongly posted knight. Also okay is f5, which restricts Black's other bishop. Bf5 (18... Nh5!) 19. Qc3 Nh7?! Much better was Nh5. 20. Qe3 = b6 21. Ne4 Bxe4 22. Bxe4 Nxe4 23. Qxe4 Rae8 24. Qg2



g5 25. fxg5 (25. Bg3 Kh8 26. Nc3 gxf4 27. Bxf4 Bxe5 28. Bxe5+ Rxe5 -/+) 25... hxg5 26. Bxg5 Nxg5 27. Qxg5 Rxe5 28. Qf4 Qd7 29. h4 f5 30. Rf3? Necessary was Nc3 to defend e4 and bring the

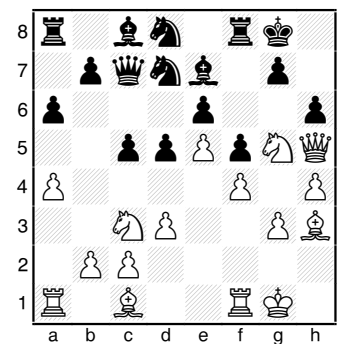
other rook into the game. Re4 31. Qg5?? Rg4+ 32. Rg3 Rxc5 33. Rxc5 Qd4+ 34. Kf1 Qxc4+ 35. Kg2 Qxh4 36. Rg3 f4 37. Rh3 Qg4+ 38. Kh2 Qe2+ 39. Kh1 f3 40. Nf2 Qxf2 41. Rg1 Qxb2 More consistent would be Rf4, threatening Rh4. 42. Rhg3 f2 43. Rf1 Qxa2 44. Kg2 Qd5+ 45. Kh2 a4 46. Rh3 Be5+ 47. Rg3+ Bxg3+ 48. Kxg3 Qg5+ 49. Kh3 Rf4 50. Rxf2 Rh4# 0-1

Reg. 4 Indiv. Qualifier

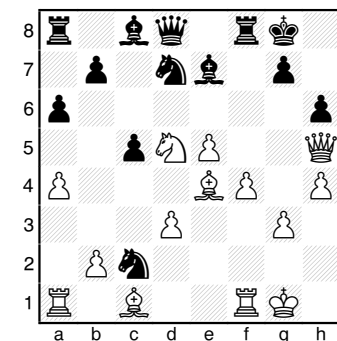
Graham Horobetz - 2011

Graham Gibson - 1651

1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. f4 e6 4. Nf3 d5 5. d3 Be7 6. g3 Nf6 7. e5 Nd7 8. Bg2 a6 9. a4 Qc7 10. O-O O-O 11. h4 f6 12. Bh3 f5 13. Ng5 Nd8 14. Qh5 h6



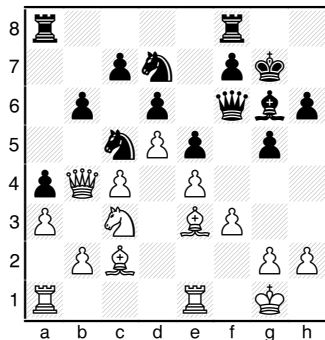
15. Nxe6! Nxe6 16. Nxd5 Qd8 17. Bxf5 Nd4 (17... Nb6 18. Nxe7+ Qxe7 19. Be4 Nd4 +/- 20. a5 Bh3 21. axb6 Nxc2 22. Bd2 Nxa1 23. Rxa1 Fritz gives Black a 1.4 advantage.) 18. Be4 Nxc2



19. Qg6 Black's best is returning the piece with Nf6. Nxa1 20. e6 Rf5 21. Bxf5 Nf6 22. Qf7+ Kh8 23. Nxe7 Qe8 24. Ng6+ Kh7 25. Ne5+ Kh8 26. Bd2 Nb3 27. Bc3 b5 (27... Qxf7 28. Nxf7+ Kg8 29. Nd6 Nd4 30. Bxd4 cxd4 31. Rcl +-) 28. axb5 axb5 29. g4!? b4 30. Ng6+ Kh7 31. Bxf6 1-0

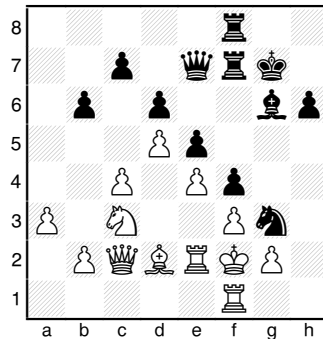
Reg. 4 Individ. Qualifier
Shane Franklin - 1231
Graham Horobetz - 2011

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Qc2 O-O 5. Bg5 h6 6. Bh4 Nc6 7. Nf3 d6 8. e3 e5 9. d5 Nb8 10. a3 Bxc3+ 11. Qxc3 a5 12. Nd2 a4 13. Bd3 Nbd7 14. O-O Nc5 = 15. Bc2 Bg4 16. f3 Bh5 17. e4 (17. g4 Bg6 18. Bxg6 fxg6 would favor Black.) 17... g5 18. Bf2 Nfd7 19. Rfel Bg6 20. Nf1 b6 Better was the immediate f5. 21. Ng3 Qf6 22. Qb4 Rfe8 23. Be3 Kh7 24. Ne2 Kg7 Better was g4. Now Black wins the a-pawn with advantage. 25. Nc3 Rf8 26.



Bxa4 Capturing with Nxa4 was better. Nxa4 (26... Nd3! 27. Qb5 Nxe1 28. Qxd7 Rfd8 29. Qxc7 Nxf3+ 30. gxf3 Rxa4 31. Nxa4? Qxf3 32. Bf2 Bxe4 33. Kf1) 27. Nxa4 Qe7 +/- 28. Nc3 f5 29. Rf1 Rf7 30. Rf2 Raf8 31. Raf1 Better was exf5 so that the bishop could be maintained on an effective diagonal. f4 32. Bd2 Nf6 Nc5 was better, threatening Nd3 and keeping the White queen out of the game. 33. Qb3 g4 34. Qc2 g3!? 35. Re2 gxh2+ 36. Kxh2 Nh5 37. Kg1? Be1 would have threatened the immediate

invasion. (37. Be1 Qg5 38. Rh1! Ng3 39. Bxg3 fxg3+ 40. Kg1 Bh5 41. Qd2) 37... Ng3 38. Kf2 (38. Rcl Qh4 +- 39. Reel Kh8 40. Ne2 Qh1+ 41. Kf2 Nxe4+ 42. fxe4 Qh4+ 43. Kg1 f3)

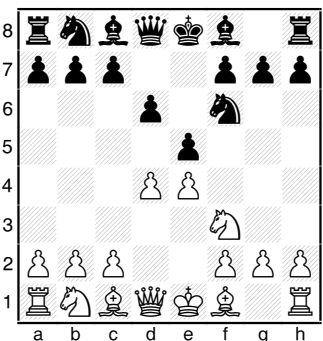


38... Qh4 39. Ke1 (39. Qb3 Bh5 40. Ke1 Rg8 41. Ref2 Nxf1 42. Kxf1 Kh8 43. c5 {43. Nd1 Qh1+ 44. Ke2 Rxc2} 43... Rfg7) 39... Nxe4+ 40. Kd1 Nf2+ 41. Kc1 Bxc2 42. Kxc2 e4 43. Nxe4 Nxe4 44. Rxe4 Re7 45. Bc3+ Kh7 46. g3 Qh2+ 47. Kd3 Rxe4 48. Kxe4 Qe2+ 49. Kd4 Qe3# 0-1

An interesting game occurred between elementary players in the Team Finals. The players avoided the usual lines of the Petroff Defense with some spirited play.

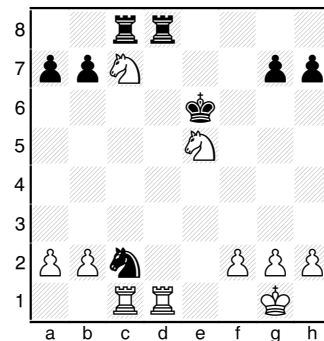
Elementary Team Finals
Board 3, Round 2
Joshua Leow - 1044
Elsa Wilson - 847

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. d4 d6!?



4. dxe5 More popular is 4. Nc3, offering Black a transposition to the Philidor Defense. Nxe4 5.

exd6 Now Qd5 followed by Bg5 gives more. cxd6? Certainly the simple Bxd6 is better. 6. Bf4 Nc6 7. Bc4 Bg4 Black could assume an initiative with Qf6, hitting the bishop and b2. 8. Qd5 Be6 9. Qxe4 Be7?? Playing d5 would have limited the loss to only a pawn. 10. Bxe6 Qa5+ 11. Nc3?! Defending with the obvious Bd2 would have won another piece. fxe6 12. Qxe6 Nb4 13. O-O Best was Bxd6, threatening mate on e7. Nxc2 14. Bxd6 Qd8 15. Rad1 Qd7 16. Qxd7+ Best is Qe4, hitting the knight and retaining all other threats. Kxd7 17. Bxe7+ Kxe7 18. Nd5+ Kf7 19. Rcl Rhd8 20. Rfd1?! Best was Nc7 followed by Rxc2. Rac8 21. Ne5+ Had White played the better Ng5+, the king could not have approached without being exposed to a check on e7 which would have forked his rook. Ke6 22. Nc7+



Rxc7?! Best is Kxe5 when White must be careful that he does not expose his back rank: (22... Kxe5 23. Rxd8 Rxd8 24. f4+! {24. Rxc2 Rd1#} 24... Ke4 25. Rxc2 Rd1+ 26. Kf2 Kxf4) 23. Rxd8 Kxe5 24. Rd2 Nb4 25. Rxc7 Nxa2 26. Rxb7 a5 27. Rxc7 a4 28. Rxh7 Ke4 29. Rd8 Nb4 30. Re7+ Kf5 31. Rf8+ Kg6 32. Rf3 Nd5 33. Re8 Kg7 34. Re4 Nf6 35. Rxf6 Kxf6 Black plays on because it is a team game. 36. Kf1 Kf5 37. Re8 Kf6 38. Ke2 Kf7 39. Re3 Kf6 40. Kd3 Kf5 41. Kc4 Kf6 42. Kd4 Kg5 43. Ke5 and White gave mate on the 49th move. 1-0

Tenn. Regional Team Qualifiers

On March 6, the Tenn. State Scholastic Team Chess Qualifying tournaments were held in the four regions of Tenn. to determine those who would become eligible to become the state team champions. The below teams and the next top-three finishers in the respective sections went on to represent their regions in the state finals.

Championship Teams of Regional Qualifiers

Reg. 1 Championship Teams

HS: Webb HS
 JH: Farragut MS
 Elem: Sequoyah Elem.
 Prim: Woodland Elem.

Reg. 2 Championship Teams

HS: McCallie School
 JH: Crossville Home
 Elem: CSTHEA
 Prim: CSTHEA

Reg. 3 Championship Teams

HS: Hume-Fogg Magnet
 JH: Shanan Home School
 Elem: Meigs Magnet
 Prim: Univ. School of Nashville

Reg. 4 Championship Teams

HS: White Station
 JH: Memphis University
 Elem: Sycamore Elem.
 Prim: Grahamwood

In the Elementary Section of Region 1, Sequoyah and Woodland both finished with 3.0 points. But Sequoyah won the 10-min. tie-break games and emerged as over-all champion. Moreover, in Region 4 the Elementary Section was very competitive. Three teams finished with 3.0 points. Their tie-break finish was Sycamore Elem., Grahamwood, and White Station Middle School. (Trailing by only a half point was St. George.)

In Region 1, it is noteworthy that the powerful Webb Middle School already had 3.0 points in the third round. Why didn't they win? They made the mistake of substituting in an Alternate on Board 3 above a registered player on Board 4. They failed to properly substitute toward the top, and, consequently, had to forfeit their third-round win. Since they achieved only a draw in their last round, they ended up not even qualifying to represent the region. So be warned: substitute properly or risk forfeiture.

Heroics were also demonstrated in Region 1. In the Jr. High and High School Sections there were only three Middle School Teams and four High Schools. So that all teams would get four competitive games to prepare for the Finals, the teams were offered the opportunity to combine their sections. This of itself was no big deal. But this merger was a real threat to the high school teams because the middle schools averaged equal or higher ratings! Hence the high school teams were understandably hesitant to commit to this arrangement, especially if they had a goal of obtaining the first place honors. The three high school teams did courageously agree to combine with the Jr. High teams. And the final scores did reflect their "fears" as

the Farragut Middle won the section with 3.5 points, a full point above second-place finishers Webb and Oak Ridge High School. (Of course, the trophies and qualification were granted based on divisions.)

Home schools really showed their prevalence and strength in Region 2. The top three lower divisions were dominated by home schools. CSTHEA (Chattanooga Southeast Tennessee Home Education Assoc.) and Crossville Home School finished first and second, respectively, in both the Primary and Elementary Sections while switching places in the Jr. High division. It is very likely that these home schools will also be a factor next year.

For a break-down of the qualifiers by region and section, check out the results on the Tenn. Chess Assoc. website. Games from the tournament appear throughout this issue.

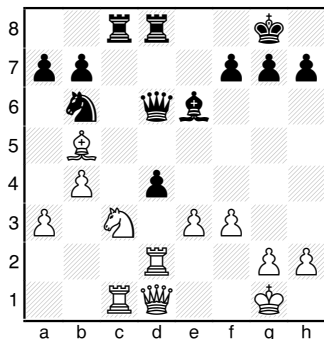
Team Finals Elem Rd 1/Bd 2 March 27, 2010

Carter, Mekhi - 670
Friedman, Max -1549

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Bc5 4. O-O Nf6 5. d3 h6 6. c3 O-O 7. Nbd2 d6 8. Re1 Ng4 9. h3? Nxf2 10. Qe2 Nxd3+ 11. Kf1 Nxe1 12. Nxe1 Qf6+ 13. Nef3 Be6 14. Nb3 Bb6 15. Be3?? Overloading his own defending piece. Bxe3? Wrong capture. With 16. Bxe6 White could minimize the damage. 16. Qxe3?? Bxc4+ 17. Kf2 Qf4 18. Qxf4 If you are going to play on, keep some pieces to try for counterplay. Otherwise you just rush to a hopeless endgame. exf4 19. Rd1 Bxb3 20. axb3 Rfe8 21. e5? Nxe5 22. Nxe5?! dxe5 23. Rd7 Rac8 24. Kf3 f5 25. b4 g5 26. g4 e4+ 27. Kf2 e3+ 28. Ke2 f3+ 29. Ke1 Of course if Kxf3, then the e-pawn queens. e2 30. Kf2 e1=Q+ 31. Kxf3 Re3+ 32. Kg2 Rg3+ 33. Kh2 Qg1#

Reg. 1 Team Qualifier (4)
 March 6, 2010
 Corry Marsh
 Charles Blue
 Result ½ - ½

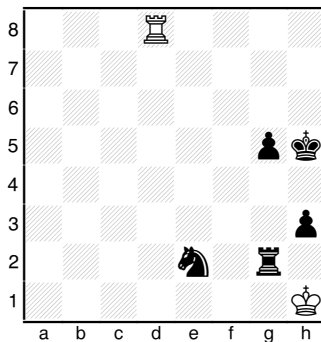
1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nc3 Nf6
 4. Nf3 Bf5?! This is premature. Qb3 can cause problems here, at the least crippling Black's queenside pawns: 5. Qb3 Qb6 6. Qxb6 axb6 7. cxd5 cxd5 8. e3 +/- 5. e3 Nbd7 6. Bd2?! Better was Bd3 or, first, cxd5. e6 7. cxd5 exd5 8. Be2 Bd6 9. O-O O-O 10. a3 c5?! Ne4 was better. This move weakens Black's position and gives White an easy target on d5. Now White can continue strongly with Nb5, dxc5, and either Rcl or Nbd4. 11. dxc5 Bxc5 12. b4 Bd6 13. Nd4 Be6 14. Ncb5 Nb6 15. Nxd6 Qxd6 +/- 16. Nb5 Qd7 17. Bc3 Ne4 18. f3 Better was Qd4 because the text unnecessarily weakens White's pawn structure and takes a nice attack square from White's bishop. Nxc3 19. Nxc3 = Rac8 20. Rc1 Rfd8 21. Bb5 Qd6 22. Rf2 d4!?! (22... Nc4 23. Bxc4 dxc4 =/+) 23. Rd2



This natural move looks strong but actually just concedes a real advantage to Black. Qe5! -+ 24. e4 (24. Rd3 a6 25. Ba4 Bf5 26. e4 Be6 27. Bc2 Bc4 28. Rd2 Qg5 -+) 24... Bb3 25. Qxb3 dxc3 26. Rxd8+ Rxd8 27. Bc4 Qd4+ 28. Kf1 Qxc4+ 29. Qxc4 Nxc4 30. Rxc3 b5 31. a4 a6 32. Kf2 g6 33. axb5 axb5 Black increased his advantage from this position but failed to win because Marsh was able to obtain what appeared to

be a perpetual check. Though there was still a problematical win present, Black didn't look too deep into the position because all his team needed at that time was a half point to win the match. Below is the position from which the draw resulted:

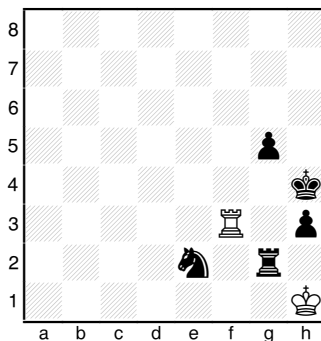
ANALYSIS



Position could have resulted in a win.

White to move tried to engineer a perpetual check. Indeed, Black conceded that the game was drawn after a few tentative moves. But he could have pressed on and got the win: 1. Rh8+ Kg4 2. Rh4+ Kf3 3. Rf4+ Ke3 4. Re4+ Kd2 5. Rd4+ Ke1 6. Rd1+ Kf2 7. Rf1+ Kg3 8. Rf3+ Kh4

ANALYSIS

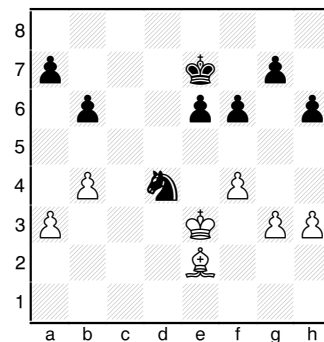


Winning position after 8... Kh4.

9. Rxh3+ (9. Rf4+ g4) 9... Kg4 10. Kxg2 Nf4+ but, as stated above, Blue did not persist but settled for the draw. 1/2-1/2

Team Finals - High School
 Neel Martin - 1020
 Rohith Parvathareddy - 1660

1. e4 c6 2. Nf3 d5 3. Nc3 dxe4 4. Nxe4 Nd7 5. d4 Worth a thought was 5. Qe2 when N(g)-f6 could reveal 6. Nd6++ Ngf6 6. Bd3 Nxe4 7. Bxe4 Nf6 8. Bd3 Bg4 9. O-O e6 Worth playing at the scholastic level is Bxf3 to snatch a pawn: 9... Bxf3 10. Qxf3 Qxd4 11. Be3 Qg4. Though Fritz assesses this as drawish because White's two bishops and development perhaps offset Black material, it is likely that Black will win when two equally matched scholastic players are playing. 10. Re1 Bd6 11. Bg5 O-O 12. c3 h6 13. Bh4 Be7 14. h3 Bxf3 15. Qxf3 Nd5 16. Bxe7 Qxe7 17. Re2 Qc7 18. g3 Rad8 19. a3 Rd7 20. c4? Exposing the d-pawn to a terminal attack. Nf6 21. Qe3 Rfd8 22. d5 b6 Black could have obtained a whole pawn by simply capturing but he gives White the chance to go astray and capture one of pawns. 23. Qe5 Qxe5 24. Rxe5 cxd5 25. cxd5 Rxd5 26. Rxd5 Rxd5 27. Rd1 Ne4 28. Bc2 Rxd1+ 29. Bxd1 Nd6 30. Be2 f6 31. f4 Kf7 32. Kf2 Ke7 33. Kf3 Definitely better is Bd3, trying to dominate the knight. Nf5 34. b4?? Necessary was Bc4. Now White loses a queen-side pawn and any hope of a draw. Nd4+ 35. Ke3



Nc2+ Instead of the simple capture of the bishop and an easy win, Black's pawn snatching later cost him the game. 0-1

Tenn. Team Finals

The Tenn. State Scholastic Team Finals Chess tournament was held March 27 at the Roaden University Ctr. of Tenn. Technological Univ. The top 16 teams from each region competed in their respective divisions to determine not simply which team is the best but-in the particular case of the High School teams-who would secure their future with TTU's scholarship monies. TTU awards four-year University Service Scholarships to the first and second-place finishing teams of the High School Section, with \$4,000 per year being granted to each of the four members of the first place team and \$2,500 per year each to four members of the second place team.

In the **High School Section**, **White Station High** emerged undefeated, winning all their matches by 3 or more points. (The intimidating team was composed of Roh Parvathareddy, Chase Knowles, Jonathan Beatty, Nishit Reddy, Oscar Carrillo, and Jordan Berryhill.) There was a three-way tie between Hume-Fogg Magnet, Webb High School, and McCallie School for the \$2,500 second-place scholarship monies. Tiebreak games of 10-min were conducted to determine which of the three teams would take the money. In the first thrilling tie break session, McCallie held Webb to a draw. So another tie-breaking session was necessary-which also ended in a draw! Finally, Webb triumphed in a third tie-break session. However, they still needed to get through Hume-Fogg before they could claim the money. This was not to be. **Hume-Fogg** (composed of Vikas Kumar, Manu Nair, Max Breyer, Michael Schoenfield,

Jacob Schafer, and Andrew Yang) won the 10-min. tie breaker and collected the \$2,500 scholarships for their school.

In the **Junior High Section**, Memphis University School and **Farragut Middle School** both ended up with 3.5 points, a full point ahead of the field. After a tie-break session, **Farragut Middle** (Jason Fu, Charles Blue, Kevin Hong, and Kai Smith) took the title and notched their first victory as divisional team champions of Tennessee.

In the **Elementary Section**, favored Grahamwood Elementary suffered a forfeit-loss to St. George in the third round. This catapulted **St. George's Independent School** (Shaun Burgess, William Federman, Carter Burgess, Richard Kuehn, and John Mann) into the driver's seat and they drew their match with powerful White Station Middle School in the last round to earn the title of the Tennessee Elementary Team State Champions. (They

scored 3.5 team points in doing so-almost perfect!)

Grahamwood (Nina Bhat, Joshua Kouch, Kevin Cao, Michael Rotz, Allen Wu, and Justin Couch) displayed outright dominance in the **Primary Section**, winning every individual game that they played except one. They showed that their 200-rating point spread was meaningful as they out-paced second-place finishing University School of Nashville by a full point, earning themselves yet another Championship title.

Below is a photograph of the Junior High Championship team. Photographs of the all the championship teams are available online for viewing at the TCA website. Crosstables of the event are presented on pages 14-17. Several games from the event are annotated throughout this issue.

Photo submitted by Kathy Blue.



2010 Jr. High Champions: Farragut Middle School
Charles Blue, Kevin Hong, Jason Fu, and Kai Smith

Clash of the Doyens

The Tenn. Senior Open was again held at the accommodating Fair Park Senior Center in Crossville on May 14-16. The tournament featured a three-day schedule that folded into a two-day schedule after the third round. In effect, it was like having two separate tournaments going on in the initial rounds. The tournament was well attended with 29 players participating, though last year's champion Robinson was not in the mix.

Leonard Dickerson managed to negotiate the tournament path without a loss, though he did yield a draw in a game that he could have lost to the past Georgia Senior Open (and winner of the 2010 South Carolina Senior), Donny Gray. Dickerson won the event with 4.5 points, trailed by Donny Gray and Paul Semmes who both had 4.0 points. Many games from these competitors follow.

The tournament was again opened with remarks from the Mayor. (See photos on next page.) And the Fair Park Senior Center again provided free soft drinks and assorted goodies each round to all the participants. Prizes ranging from books (donated by the USCF), bottles of wine, and tickets to the Cumberland Co. Playhouse were given out each round—in bulk! Too, a both unique and expensive chess set was awarded for the biggest upset. Winchester came close to winning this prize in the second round with his game with Donny Gray, presented below.

What the game shows is that seasoned players can play any one game well, regardless of their rating. This competitive game also represents the spirit in

which most of the games of the tournament were conducted. With prizes being given out in each round, though, it was almost like attending a party! Though the attendance dropped from last year, many of the players were new comers. Hence the future of chess for doyens looks bright in Tennessee.

And as you play through the below game, keep in mind that Winchester is rated below 1000!

♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♠

When playing someone that is vastly higher rated than you it is very easy to get discouraged and almost be defeated before you even move one pawn. There is the other side of this subject as well. What about when you are the higher-rated player in this situation? Then you have the tendency to play fast and careless.

But the truth is that anyone can play way over their head on occasion. You just have to forget ratings and go for it!

At the recent TN Senior Open my 2nd round game had all of the above and then some. Most likely in all my tournaments my 2nd round opponent was the lowest player I have ever played. If I have played others in his rating range I have forgotten.

Here is what happened:

Harold Winfield (975)

Donny Gray (2120)

[Annotations by D. Gray]

1. e4 c6 2. c4 d5 3. e5!?

Been playing the Caro Kan for 100's of years. Never seen this before!!

3.... g6

Not the best. I found out later that one should just play d4 here and get a much better game than the text.

4. h3!? Again a move I would not have done. And

one not found in the archives.

4.... Bg7 5. Nf3 Nh6

Again d4 would have been better.

6. d4

Already I do not like my position. White is doing great.

6.... Oo 7. Nc3 Nf5?! 8. c5

g4 here was to be considered

8.... b6 9. b4 a5 10. b5 bc

11. dc e6 12. Rb1 cb 13. Bb5

Black is getting cramped.

When is this guy going to

start making mistakes!???

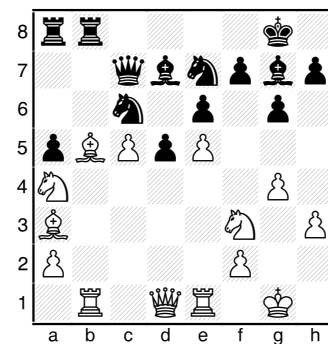
13.... Bd7 14. Oo Nc6 5. Re1

White has an active

position, to say the least.

15.... Qc7 16. Ba3 Rfb8 17. g4

Nfe7 18. Na4



18.... Ne5

Played very quickly [whereas, Nc8 retains an edge - ed.]. And—as most of the time in tournament play—as SOON as I took on e5 I realized that he could force the win of the exchange! He has to play correctly but it exists. Ugh—he finds the moves!

19. Ne5 Bb5 20. Nb6!

Not bad. Not bad at all

20.... Be8 21. Na8 Ra8

So there it was. I am the exchange down to a player 1145 rating points below mine! In cases like this you must try to create as much counter play and complications as possible. With the two bishops and the passed pawn, I try to force the issue in that manner.

22. Nf3 Nc6 23. Re2 Rd8

Here Fritz12 says black has the advantage! However, during the game I sure did not have that impression.

24. Rd2

I was glad to see this. This allows my bishop to come to f7 and my pawns to start moving

24... f6 25. Nd4 Nd4 26. Rd4 Bf7 27. Rd3 Bf8

[Stronger was the immediate e5, producing a plus. - ed.]

28. Rdb3 Rc8 29. Rb6?!

I did not understand this move. I was, of course, expecting Rb7.

29... Bc5 30. Bc5 Qc5 31. R6b5 Qc7 32. Rb7 Qc3 33. R1b3 Qe5 34. Rb2?!

I see no purpose to this move.

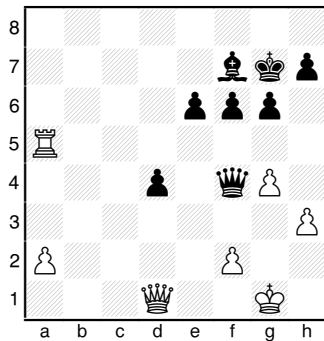
34... Qg5

Playing for a cheap shot. Rcl wins the queen. However, much better is Kg7 and then he cannot force my rook off the board.

35. Rb8!

Of course. Now my tricks are dead.

35... Rb8 36. Rb8 Kg7 37. Rb5 Qf4 38. Ra5 d4



39. Ra3

Much better seems to be Ra7 and pushing that rook pawn [which allows White to maintain a 1.5 advantage, according to Fritz11 - ed].

39... e5 40. Qf3?

Now I have two choices. One try is to trade queens here and take the rook pawn with my bishop. However, it was not clear if I could win this at the time, but I most definitely would rather be on the black side of this any day of the week. But Qc1 just looked good-if only I could find a way to follow it up. Only problem was that I only had about 5 minutes left on the clock for the remainder of the game. He had about 25

minutes on his side of the clock. So what to do? What to do?

40... Qc1+

I found it.

41. Kh2 e4!

Deflection theme. Of course if Qe4 then he drops the rook. So he is forced to play Qg3, the only square that protects the rook from death.

42. Qg3 e3 43. Re3

If 43. fe I then have a neat little trick. Before I take the rook, I first stop at b2 with a check. This will ruin his entire day. But after Re3 there is nothing but resignation on the horizon, anyway.

43... de 44. Qe3 Qe3 45. fe Ba2

And after a few more moves he resigned. Whew!! A few different choices by white and I would have been the victim of a giant upset, based on ratings.

Advice to you lower-rated players: never let a big rating difference get you down. Just play the best you can and see what happens!! And what ever you do ... do NOT underestimate Harold Winfield!!!!!!!

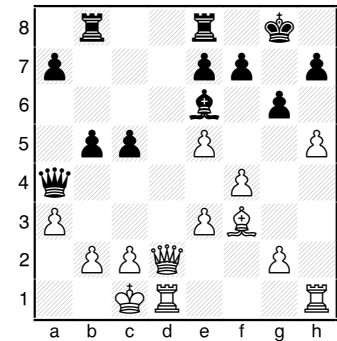
TN Senior Open

Leonard Dickerson - 2200

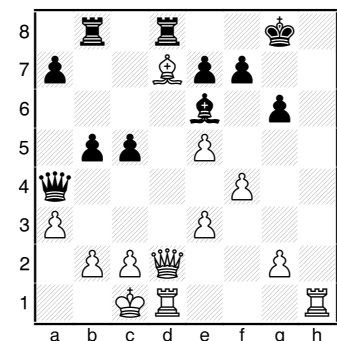
Paul Semmes - 1954

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. Nc3 d5 4. Bf4 c6 5. Qd2 Nbd7 6. e3 Bg7 Possibly good is 6... Nh5 7. Bg5 h6. 7. h4 O-O 8. Be2 Re8 9. Ne5 Nxe5 10. Bxe5 Ne4 11. Nxe4 Bxe5 12. dxe5 dxe4 13. O-O-O Be6 If Black swaps queens, his e-pawn may become indefensible. 14. Qb4 Qc7 Fritz agrees with this. I wrongly feared Qb6 and later destruction of my queenside pawn with a bishop sacrifice : 14... Qb6 15. Qxe4 Bxa2 16. b3 Bxb3 (16... a5 17. Qa4) 17. cxb3 Qxb3 18. Qc4 Qa3+ 19. Kc2 b5 20. Qb3 Qc5+ 21. Qc3 Qb6 22. h5 And the piece will tell, as White still has a kingside attack. g5 23. h6 c5 24. Rd6 Qc7 25. Bxb5 Reb8 26. Rd7 Qb6 27. e6 f6 28. Rb1 +- 15.

Qxe4 Qa5 Fritz recommended 15... Bd5 but White still persists with 16. Qf4 f6 17. h5 g5 18. Qg3 Qxe5 19. f4 Qc7 20. h6 Kh8 +/-) 16. a3 Qc5 17. Qd4 Qa5 18. f4 c5 19. Qd2 At the board, I had trouble seeing this variation produced by Fritz, mainly because I was uncomfortable with Black eyeing my queenside: 19. Qe4 b5 20. h5 b4 21. hxg6 hxg6 22. f5 bxa3 23. b3 Qc3 24. Qh4 Qxe3+ 25. Kb1 Qxe5 26. Qh7+ Kf8 27. Qh8+ Qxh8 28. Rxh8+ Kg7 29. Rxe8 Rxe8 30. fxe6 +- 19... Qa4 20. Bf3 Rab8 (20... h5! 21. Qc3 Rab8 22. Qxc5 Rec8 23. Rd4 {I missed this move.} Qb3 24. cxb3 Rxc5+) 21. h5 b5



22. Bc6 This is not as destructive as the immediate hxg6, but at least I could calculate the whole sequence. (22. hxg6 b4 23. gxf7+ Bxf7 24. Qd3 Bg6 25. Qc4+ e6 26. Rd6) 22... Rec8 (22... Rf8 23. hxg6 fxg6 24. Bd5) 23. hxg6 hxg6 24. Bd7 Rd8



25. Qe1 Rxd7 26. Qh4 Rxd1+ 27. Kxd1 Rd8+ 28. Kc1 Bf5 29. Qh8# 1-0

Southern Class Championship

The 9th Southern Class Championship was held in Nashville, TN from April 23-25. It was ran by the Continental Chess Association with Chief TD Steve Immitt. Among the 136 participants, many Tennesseans distinguished themselves in this event.

Ronald Burnett, Peter Bereolos, and Doug Hyatt all captured 3.5 points to tie for third in the Masters Section, trailing winner Jaan Ehlvest of New York (4.5) and second-place finisher Bradley Denton of Alabama (4.0).

In the Class A Section, Marco Belitz tied for second with 4.0 points behind winner James Pollitt of Indiana (4.5 points).

Ali Alataiwi dominated the Class B Section with an undefeated 5.0 points. Moreover, clear second was also captured by a Tennessean with 4.0 points, Salvatore Neglia.

The Class C Section was also won by a Tennessean, Michael Robertson, who won with 4.5 points. Jeffrey Burrows tied for third with 3.5 points.

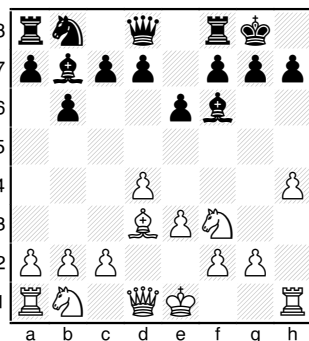
The Class D Section was totally dominated by Tennesseans: Modesto Garcia and Scott McCormick shared first place with 4.5 points; Alvin Zhang took clear third with 4.0 points; and Randall Vaughn and Isabel Gellert tied for fourth with 3.5 points.

The Class E Section saw Jesse Austen placing highest among Tennesseans by taking second with 4.0 points behind the undefeated winner Schuyler Read of Kentucky. David Haworth tied for third with 3.5 points.

A few games from the tournament are included in this issue. The Fall *TCN* will highlight the majority of the submitted games.

Southern Class - Class C Jeff Burrows - 1607 John Maddox, III - 1542

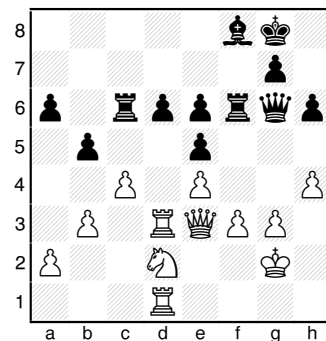
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bg5 Be7
4.e3 0-0 5.Bd3 b6 6.h4 Bb7
7.Bxf6 Bxf6



8.Bxh7+?! Kxh7 9.Ng5+ Kg8?
Black maintains an advantage with Kh6. 10.Qh5 Bxg5?? Rf8 saves a half point. 11.hxg5 f5 12.g6 1-0

Southern Class - Open (2) David Justice (2150) Dan Fleetwood (1852)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Bc5 6.Nb3
Ba7 7.0-0 d6 8.Qg4 Qf6 9.Qg3
e5 10.Nc3 Ne7 11.Be2 I'm
uncertain what this
accomplishes. 11...Nbc6
12.Bg5 Qg6 13.Qh4 h6 14.Bxe7
Nxe7 15.Rad1 Qe6 Better was
b5, continuing development.
16.Nd5 Nxd5 17.Rxd5 Qe7
18.Qg3 0-0 Equal was Be6:
18... Be6 19. Qxg7? 0-0-0
threatening Rd-g8 20. Qg3
Bxd5 19.Rfd1 Rd8 20.Bg4 Be6
21.Bxe6 fxe6 22.R5d2 Rac8
Better was Rf8. 23.Kh1 Rc4
24.f3 Be3 25.Rd3 Bf4 26.Qf2
Qc7 27.c3= b5 28.g3 Bg5
29.h4 Be7 30.Kg2 Rf8 31.Qe3
Rf6 Better was a4. 32.Nd2
Rc6=+/+ 33.Kh3 Bf8 34.b3 Qf7
35.Kg2 Qg6 36.c4



Rc7?! Better was Rf7. Now the queen invades. 37.Qb6 bxc4 Rather than bringing the knight powerfully into the game, Fritz suggests sacrificing the b-pawn with Qf7 and following up with d5. 38.Nxc4 Qf7 39.a4 g5 40.hxg5 hxg5 41.Nxd6 Bxd6 42.Qxd6 g4 [42...Rc2+ 43.R3d2 Rxd2+ 44.Rxd2 g4 (44...Rxf3?? 45.Qd8+ Qf8 46.Qxg5+) 45.fxg4 Qg6 46.Qxe5+-] 43.Qd8+ Kg7 44.Rd7 Rc2+ 45.Kg1 Rxf3 46.Qg5+ Kf8 47.Rd8+ Qe8 48.Rxe8+ Kxe8 49.Rd8+ Kf7 50.Rd7+ 1-0

Southern Class - Open (4) Emory Tate - 2392 Peter Bereolos - 2338

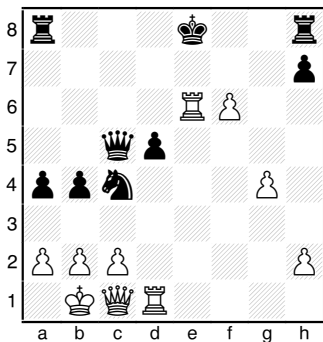
1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 e6 3.e4 c5
4.d5 if e5, h6 counters.
4...d6 5.dxe6 Bxe6 6.Nc3 Be7
7.Qd2 0-0 8.f4 Re8 Though
Black's move maintains
equality, this wing advance
is best countered by an
advance in the center:
[8...d5 9.exd5 (9.e5 Ne4
10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.Nxe4
dxe4=+/+) 9...Nxd5 10.0-0-0
Nxc3=] 9.Bb5 Bd7 10.Bxd7
Nbx7 11.Nge2 b5 12.Ng3 b4
13.Nce2 h6 14.h4!? Qb6
Knowing Tate's desire to
attack, Peter takes the
practical course. Fritz11,
of course, advises taking
the piece but doesn't give
Black a real plus. 15.0-0-0
Bf8 16.Qd3 Qc6 17.e5 Fritz
suggests Bxf6 and considers
this move weak. 17...dxe5
18.Nf5 Fritz suggests e4,
with a big advantage to
Black. Draw agreed.

Southern Class – Class A

Marco Belitz – 1878

Corry Marsh – 1731

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6
 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e5 Nfd7 6.Bxe7
 Qxe7 7.f4 a6 8.Qd2 Nb6
 9.0-0-0 Bd7 10.Nf3 Bb5 Black
 resorts to this radical
 means to rid himself of his
 bishop. Fritz considers
 acquiring a strong bishop
 best, even though Black
 might get some queenside
 chances. I agree with
 White's practical decision
 to ignore the capture and
 continue developing. 11.Kb1
 [11.Nxb5 axb5 12.Bxb5+ c6
 13.Bd3 Rxa2 14.Kb1 Ra4=]
 11...Bxf1 12.Rhxf1 Capture
 with the other rook is
 better. 12...Nc4 13.Qc1 b5
 14.g4 b4 15.Na4 Nd7 16.f5 c5
 17.f6!? gxf6 18.exf6 Qf8
 19.dxc5 Nxc5 20.Nxc5 Qxc5
 21.Nd4 a5 22.Rfel a4 23.Nxe6
 fxe6 24.Rxe6+



24...Kf7? Necessary was Kd7.
 25.Rde1 [25.Re7+! Kxf6
 26.Rde1 and mate in eight
 moves.] 25...h6 26.g5 Rae8
 27.Re7+ Better was g6+,
 winning a rook. 27...Kg6
 28.Rg7+ Kh5 29.Qd1+ Kh4 and
 White won. 1-0

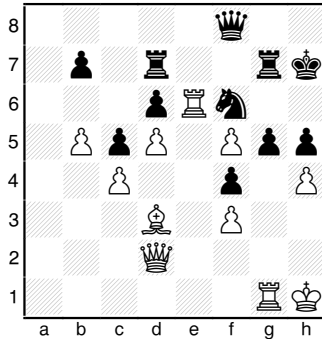
Southern Class – Open (2)

Bill Hall – 2084

Matthew Marsh – 2111

1.Nf3 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 g6
 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 0-0 6.Be2 e5
 7.d5 a5 8.0-0 Na6 9.Ne1 Nd7
 10.Be3 f5 11.f3 f4 12.Bf2 g5
 13.Rb1 Rf6 14.a3 Qe8 15.b4
 Rh6 16.g4 A little better is
 h3. 16...fxg3 17.Bxg3+= Nf6
 18.Qd2 Nh5 19.Ng2 [19.Qxg5?
 Nf4 20.Kh1 Rg6] 19...Nf4

20.Rfc1 Bh3 21.Ne3 axb4
 22.axb4 Rd8 A little more
 forcing was Nxe2 followed by
 Qf7. 23.Ncd1 c5 24.b5
 [24.dxc6 bxc6 25.Nf5 Bxf5
 26.exf5+/=] 24...Nb8
 Passive. Now White assumes
 a small edge. 25.Nf2 Bc8±
 26.Nfg4 Rg6 27.Nf5 h5
 28.Nge3 Nd7 29.Kh1 Nf6
 30.Rg1 Kh7 31.Bd3 Ng8
 32.Nxg7 Rxg7 33.Bxf4 exf4
 34.Nf5 Bxf5 35.exf5 Nf6
 36.Rbe1 Qf8 37.Re6 Rdd7



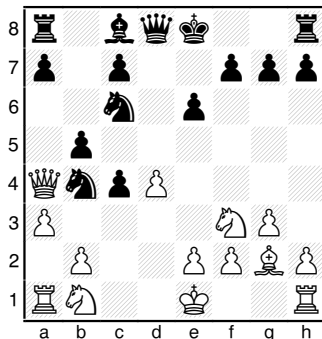
38.h4! gxh4 39.Rg6 Rxg6
 40.fxg6+ Kg7 41.Qxf4 Ng8
 42.Qf5 Stronger is swapping
 queens and activating the
 king. 42...Qxf5 43.Bxf5 Ne7
 44.Be4 Ng8 45.Kg2 Kh6 46.f4
 Re7 47.Kh3 Rxe6 48.dxe6 Ne7
 49.Bxb7 Kxg6 50.Be4+ Kf6
 51.b6 1-0

Southern Class – Open

Bradley Denton – 2221

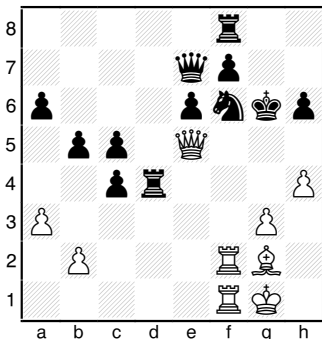
Gary Newsom – 2040

1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.Nf3 Nf6
 4.g3 dxc4 5.Bg2 Nc6 6.Qa4
 Bb4+ 7.Bd2 Nd5 8.Bxb4 Ndx4
 9.a3 b5



10.Qd1 [10.Qxb5 Nc2+ 11.Kd2
 Bd7 12.Kxc2 Nxd4+ 13.Nxd4
 Bxb5 14.Nxb5 Rb8 and the

three pieces may be enough
 for the queen but White's
 poor placement of his king
 might become a problem.]
 10...Nd5 11.0-0 Bb7 12.Qc2
 0-0 13.Rd1 Qe7 14.e4 Nf6
 15.Nc3 a6 16.e5 Nd5 17.Ne4
 Na5 18.Nc5 Bc6 19.h4 h6
 20.Nd2 Nb7 21.Nde4 Nxc5
 22.Nxc5 Qe8 -/+ Newsom
 maneuvers well, and, indeed,
 has a slight advantage.
 23.Qe2 Nb6 24.Bh3 Nd7 25.Ne4
 Bxe4 26.Qxe4 Nb6 27.f4 Qe7
 28.f5 Nd5 29.Rf1 c5 30.f6
 gxf6 31.exf6 Nxf6 32.Qf4 Kg7
 33.Qe5 Rad8 Fritz confirms
 that Black is winning.
 34.Bg2 Rxd4 35.Rf2 Kg6
 36.Raf1



36...Ng4?? [36... Ng8 (also
 providing protection for the
 queen) 37.h5+ Kh7 38.Bh3
 (38.Be4+ f5) 38...Rdd8-+]
 37.Be4+ Rxe4 38.h5+ Kh7
 39.Qxe4+ f5 40.Rxf5 Rxf5
 41.Rxf5 Kh8 42.Rf4 Nf6
 43.Qg6 1-0

Southern Class – Open (3)

Will Stevenson – 2157

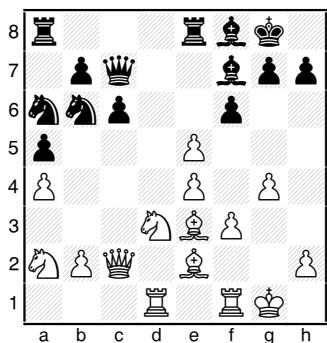
Anthony Crowley – 1933

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5
 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Bxf6
 gxf6 10.Nd5 Bg7 11.c3 Ne7
 Stronger was f5. 12.Nxe7
 Qxe7 13.Bd3 f5! 14.0-0 0-0
 15.exf5 e4 16.Re1 b4??
 17.Rxe4 Qa7 18.Rxb4 Rb8
 19.Rxb8 Qxb8 20.f6! Bxf6
 21.Qh5 Re8 22.Qxh7+ Kf8
 23.Nc4 d5 24.Qh6+ Ke7
 [24...Bg7 25.Qd6+ Qxd6
 26.Nxd6] 25.Re1+ Be6 26.Ne3
 Rh8 27.Nxd5+ Kd7 28.Nxf6+
 Kc6 29.Be4+ 1-0

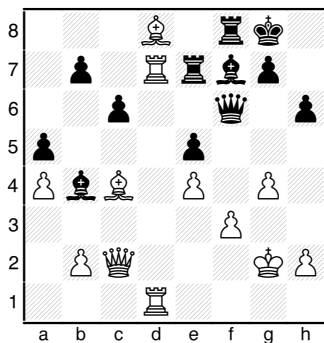
Southern Class - Open (4)
GM Jaan Ehlevest - 2651
NM Bradley Denton - 2221

This 4th round battle between first-place finisher Jaan Ehlevest and second-place finisher Bradley Denton represented the tournament well and showed why these strong masters dominated the event. GM Ehlevest demonstrated some very instructive endgame technique in this effort.

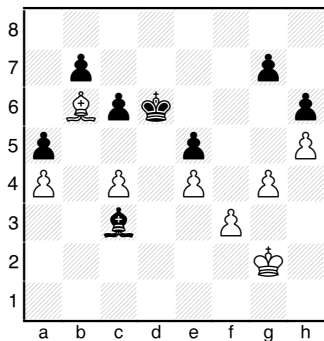
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nh4 Bg4 10.f3 Bh5 11.g4 Bg6 12.e4 Nfd7 13.Ng2 White's attack on the bishop has given him a significant space advantage on the kingside, but at the cost of weakening his kingside pawn structure. 13...Re8 Played to protect the e-pawn just in case h4 would prompt f6. Even though Black's development lags and White has a space advantage, the game is still even. 14.Be3 a5 15.Qb3 Nb6 16.Be2 Na6 Nbd7 might be a little better to support e5 and perhaps provide a shield for the queen along the d-file. 17.Rad1 f6 18.Nf4 Bf7= 19.Qc2 Bf8 20.Na2 Qc7 21.Nd3 e5 22.dxe5 The consistent d5 might be better to keep Black cramped but Black seems to still be holding strong with Rc8. [22.d5 Rac8 23.Rc1 Bd6 24.Qd2 Nb8= (24...Nxa4 25.b3 Nb6 26.dxc6)]



22...Nc4 [Fritz11 indicates that Bxa2 is possible (but Nc4 is still stronger): 22...Bxa2 23.b3 Nxa4] 23.Bf2 Nxe5 24.Nxe5 fxe5 25.Bc4 According to Fritz, b3 was better. Now Fritz suggests b5 with advantage to Black: 25...Nb4 [25...b5 26.Bxf7+ Qxf7 27.axb5 cxb5 28.Nc3 b4=+/+] 26.Nxb4 Bxb4 27.Rd3 Qe7 28.Rfd1 Qf6 More careful is Rad8, but this still maintains equality while attacking. 29.Kg2 h6 30.Rd7 Re7 31.Bb6! Rf8 32.Bd8

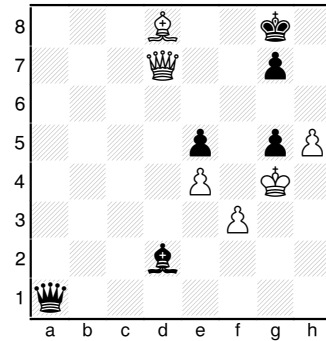


32...Bxc4 33.Qxc4+ Qf7 34.b3 Qxc4 35.bxc4 Rxd7 36.Rxd7 Rf7 37.Rc7 Rxc7 38.Bxc7 Bc3 White has entered the endgame with a small advantage (better bishop and no pawns stuck on black) but probably not enough to expect a win. Fritz suggests f4 now. 39.h4 Kf7 40.h5 Ke6 41.Bb6 Kd6 Played with thoughts of eventually freeing the a-pawn for a run at queendom.

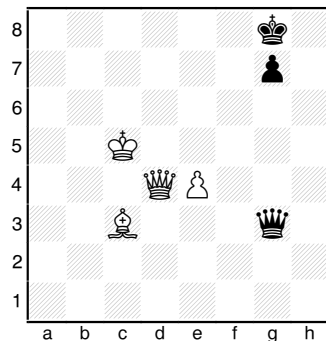


42.g5! Excellent! Opening up another attack front to create a second weakness. 42...hxg5 43.Kg3 Bd2 44.Kg4 Ke6 45.Bd8± b5 46.cxb5 cxb5 47.axb5 a4 48.b6 a3 49.b7 a2

50.b8Q a1Q 51.Qc8+ Kf7 52.Qd7+ Kg8



53.Qxd2 This is a strong practical move that maintains a winning advantage, but Fritz does reveal that a forced mate in 6 was available: [53.h6! gxh6 54.Qe6+ Kf8 55.Be7+ Kg7 56.Bf6+ Kf8 (56...Kg6 57.Bxe5+ Kh7 58.Qf7#) 57.Qe7+ Kg8 58.Qg7#] 53...Qg1+ 54.Kf5 Qf1 55.Bxg5 Qxf3+ 56.Kxe5 Qxh5 57.Kf4 Qf7+ 58.Kg3 Qc7+ 59.Bf4 Qb6 60.Kf3 Qb3+ 61.Be3 Qf7+ 62.Bf4 Qb3+ 63.Kg2 Qb1 64.Qd5+ Kh7 65.Be3 Qc2+ 66.Kf3 Qb1 67.Ke2 Qc2+ 68.Bd2 Qa4 69.Qd3 Kg8 70.Bc3 Qa2+ 71.Ke3 Qg2 72.Qd5+ Kh7 73.Qf5+ Kg8 74.Qe5 Qg1+ 75.Kd3 Qf1+ 76.Kd4 Qf2+ 77.Kc4 Qa2+ 78.Kb5 Qb1+ 79.Kc5 Qg1+ 80.Qd4 Qg3 Finally, the checks come to an end—and so does the game.



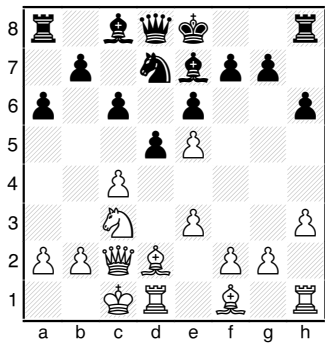
81.Qxg7+ Qxg7 82.Bxg7 1-0

See the next issue of the TCN for more games from the Southern Class Championship.

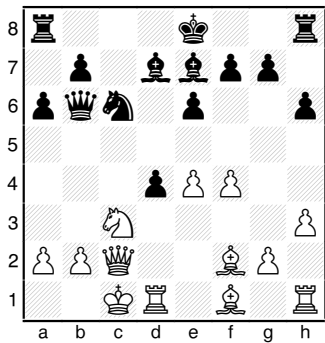
TN Senior Open (5)

**David Mueller
Leonard Dickerson**

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nc3 Nf6
4. e3 e6 5. Nf3 Nbd7 6. Qc2
a6 7. h3 h6 Recommended is
the immediate b5. 8. Bd2 Be7
9. Ne5 Nxe5 10. dxe5 Nd7



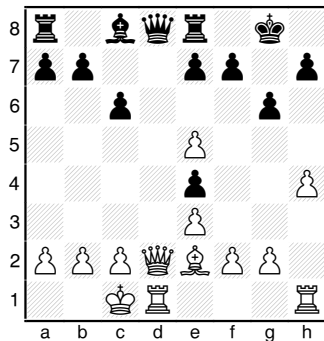
11. O-O-O?! (11. f4 Bh4+ 12. Ke2 dxc4 13. Ne4 O-O 14. Bb4 Be7 15. Qxc4 Bxb4 16. Qxb4 f6 17. Rd1 fxe5 18. Qd6 Qe8 =/+)
11... Nxe5 12. cxd5 cxd5 I preferred this capture, giving my pieces a little more room. 13. e4 d4 14. Be3 Nc6 15. f4? (15. Bxd4! Nxd4 16. Qa4+ b5 17. Qxd4 {17. Bxb5+ axb5 18. Qxa8 O-O -+} 17... Qxd4 18. Rxd4 Bb7 -/+) 15... Qb6 I entirely missed the simple Qc7 and berated myself over it. Too, Fritz showed that e5 was even stronger: 15... e5 16. Bf2 Nb4 17. Qb1 (17. Qa4+ Bd7 18. Qb3) 17... Bd7 -/+ 16. Bf2 Bd7! I knew castling was safe and Fritz even gives it was a 1.4 advantage, but I was trying to set up the following trap that my opponent felled into.



17. Na4? (17. Qd3 Qc7 18. Bxd4 Nxd4 19. Qxd4 Qxf4+ 20. Kc2 O-O-O 21. e5 Qxd4 22. Rxd4) 17... Qc7 Settling for a pawn when more was available: 17... Qa5! 18. a3 {18. b3 b5 19. Nb2 Nb4 20. Qd2 Nxa2+} 18... Rc8 19. Kb1 Nb8. 18. e5?? (18. Bxd4 Qxf4+ 19. Qd2 Qxe4 20. Be3 Ne5 21. Nc3 Rc8) 18... b5 19. Nc5 Nb4 20. Qe4 Qxc5+ 21. Kb1 Qd5 (21... Bc6 22. Qxd4 Qc2+ 23. Ka1 Rd8 24. Bd3) 22. Qxd5 Nxd5 0-1

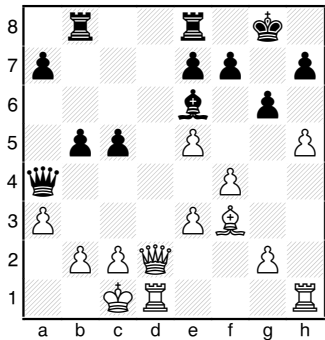
**TN Senior Open (4)
Leonard Dickerson - 2203
Paul Semmes - 1954**

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. Nc3 d5 4. Bf4 c6 5. Qd2 Nbd7 6. e3 Bg7 Possibly good is Nh5: 6... Nh5 7. Bg5 h6 =)
7. h4 O-O 8. Be2 Re8 9. Ne5 Nxe5 10. Bxe5 Ne4 11. Nxe4 Bxe5 12. dxe5 dxe4 13. O-O-O If Black swaps queens, his e-pawn may become indefensible.

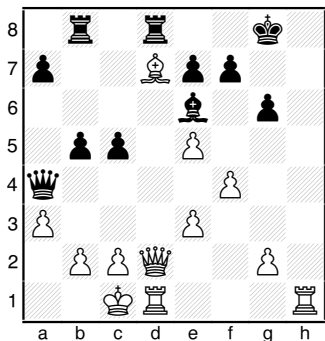


Be6 14. Qb4 Qc7 Fritz agrees with this. I feared Qb6 and later destruction of my queenside pawns with a bishop sacrifice: 14... Qb6 15. Qxe4 Bxa2 16. b3 Bxb3 (16... a5 17. Qa4) 17. cxb3 Qxb3 18. Qc4 Qa3+ 19. Kc2 b5 20. Qb3 Qc5+ 21. Qc3 Qb6 22. h5 and the piece will tell, as White still has a kingside attack. g5 23. h6 c5 24. Rd6 Qc7 25. Bxb5 Reb8 26. Rd7 Qb6 27. e6 f6 28. Rb1. 15. Qxe4 Qa5 (15... Bd5 Recommended by Fritz. 16. Qf4 f6 17. h5 g5 18. Qg3 Qxe5 19. f4 Qc7 20. h6 Kh8 +/-) 16. a3 Qc5 17. Qd4 Qa5

18. f4 c5 19. Qd2 (I was not able to see this line by Fritz: 19. Qe4 b5 20. h5 b4 21. hxg6 hxg6 22. f5 bxa3 23. b3 Qc3 24. Qh4 Qxe3+ 25. Kb1 Qxe5 26. Qh7+ Kf8 27. Qh8+ Qxh8 28. Rxh8+ Kg7 29. Rxe8 Rxe8 30. fxe6) 19... Qa4 20. Bf3 Rab8 (20... h5! 21. Qc3 Rab8 22. Qxc5 Rec8 23. Rd4 {I missed this move and so did not attempt this whole variation.} Qb3 24. cxb3 Rxc5+) 21. h5 b5



22. Bc6 This is not as destructive as the immediate hxg6, but at least I could calculate the whole sequence. (22. hxg6 b4 23. gxh7+ Bxf7 24. Qd3 Bg6 25. Qc4+ e6 26. Rd6) 22... Rec8 (22... Rf8 23. hxg6 fxg6 24. Bd5) 23. hxg6 hxg6



24. Bd7! Rd8 25. Qe1 Rxd7 26. Qh4 Rxd1+ 27. Kxd1 Rd8+ 28. Kc1 Bf5 29. Qh8# 1-0

2011 Scholastic Tournaments

Individual Regionals	January 29
Individual Finals	February 19
Team Regionals	March 5
Team Finals	March 26

Opening Ceremony at Tenn. Senior Open Ch



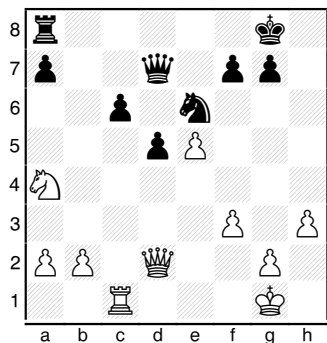
USCF Pres. Bill Hall providing welcome at the Fair Park Senior Ctr. while the competitors await their first round battles on Saturday morning.



The dignitaries (Mayor J. H. Graham, Tournament Dir. Harry Sabine, and USCF President Bill Hall) in the background as the battle begins.

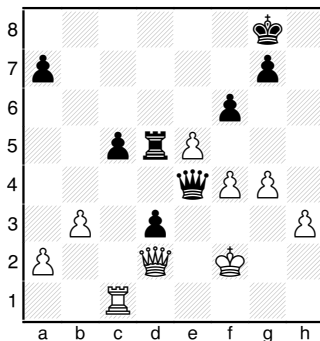
TN Senior Open (3)
Alan Kantor - 2000
Joe Roberdeau - 1703

1. e4 e6 2. c4 d5 3. exd5 exd5 4. d4 Nf6 5. Nc3 c6 6. Bd3 Be7 To be considered is dxc4, setting up a potential target on d4. 7. Nge2 O-O 8. O-O Bg4 9. f3 Bh5?! Certainly dxc4 was better now. 10. Nf4 Bg6 11. Bxg6 Better was Nxc6. hxc6 12. c5 (12. cxd5 cxd5 13. Qb3 Nc6 =) 12... b6 13. cxb6 Qxb6 14. Na4 Qc7 15. Nd3 Bd6 =1 16. h3 Nbd7 17. Be3 Nh5 18. Bf2 Rfe8 19. Re1 Bg3 It seems as Black is systematically trying to trade off pieces, not particularly willing to mix it up. 20. Qc2 Ndf6 The finesse of 22... Bh2+ 21. Kh1 Bg3 would temporarily divert White's queenside pressure. 21. Rac1 (21. Bxc3 Qxc3 22. Qxc6 ?? Rec8 23. Qa6 Rc2) 21... Bxf2+ 22. Qxf2 Rxe1+ 23. Rxe1 Nf4 24. Ne5 Nd7 25. Qd2 Ne6? 26. Nxc6 Qd6 27. Ne5 Nxe5 28. dxe5 Qd7 29. Rc1 White should leave the rook on e1 protecting his pawn and play simply b3. Later the knight can maneuver from a4 to c4 if Black advances his pawn duo.

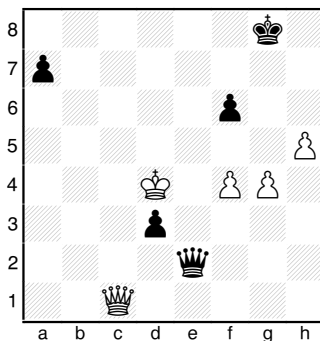


d4! 30. Nc5 Nxc5 31. Rxc5 d3 32. Kf1 Rb8 33. b3 Rb5 34. Rc3 Rd5 35. f4 c5 Stronger was the immediate Qf4, threatening Rxe5. 36. Kf2 Qf5 37. g4 Qe4 = White's weakened kingside offers Black some chances of drawing. 38. Rc1 f6? With g5 Black could have knocked the props out from under

White's shaky kingside: 38... g5! 39. Qe3 Qxf4+ 40. Qxf4 gxf4 41. Rd1.



39. exf6 White should jump at the chance to activate his queen which has been relegated to passive defense; moreover, this move could force a transition to a won endgame: 39. Qe3! Qxe3+ 40. Kxe3 fxe5 41. fxe5 d2 42. Rd1 Rxe5+ 43. Kxd2+- 39... gxf6 40. Re1 Qd4+ 41. Kf3 Again, Qe3 is strong: 41. Qe3! c4 (41... Qb2+ 42. Kf3 Rd8 43. Rd1 Qc3 44. h4) or (41... d2 42. Rd1 Qd3 43. Kf3 Qc2 44. Ke2) 42. bxc4 Rd8 43. c5 +- 41... Rd8 42. h4 c4 43. bxc4 Qxc4 44. h5 Qd5+ 45. Kf2? Proper was Kg3. Now Black can equalize by threatening to penetrate on the second-rank with tempo. Rc8 46. Rc1 Fritz suggests Qb4. Rxc1 47. Qxc1 Qxa2+ 48. Ke3? Definitely Kg3 is better, not allowing the time-gaining check that could promote the d-pawn. Qe2+ 49. Kd4

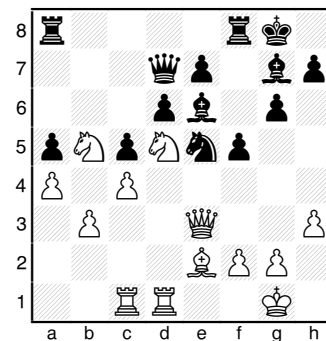


Qc2? (d2! 50. Qc8+ Kf7 51. Qb7+ Qe7 52. Qb3+ Qe6 53. Qb7+ {53. Qd1 Qe1 54. Qb3+ Kg7 55. h6+ Kxh6 56. g5+ Kg6

57. Qc2+ f5 58. Qc6+ Kh5 59. Qf3+ Kh4} 53... Ke8 54. Qb8+ Ke7 and the checks run out) 50. Qe3 Qe2 51. Qxd3 Qxg4 52. Qb3+ 1/2-1/2

2010 Tenn. Senior Open (2)
Bruce Goodwin - 1656
Paul Semmes - 1953

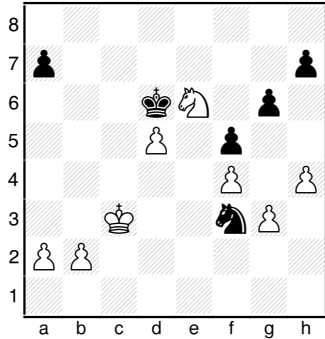
1. e4 Nf6 2. e5 Nd5 3. Nf3 c5 4. c4 Nb6 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Be2 g6 7. d4 cxd4 8. Nxd4 Nxe5? Correct was d5: 8... d5 9. exd6 Qxd6 10. Ndb5 Qxd1+ (10... Qb8? 11. c5) 11. Kxd1 Kd8 +/- 9. b3? (9. c5 Nbc4 10. f4 Bg7 11. fxe5 Nxe5 Though White has a 2.6 advantage, Black does have two pawns and a wonderful bishop to compensate for the pawn minus.) 9... Bg7 10. Be3 White still gets an edge but no piece: 10. c5 Nc6 11. Be3 Nxd4 12. Bxd4 e5 13. Be3 d5! 14. cxd6 O-O. 10... d6 11. O-O O-O 12. Rc1 a5 13. Ndb5 Be6 14. a4 Nbd7 =/+ 15. Qd2 Rc8 16. Na7 Ra8 17. Rfd1 b6 18. Nab5 Nc5 19. Bxc5 Fritz suggests Nd4, defending while attacking, but Black is still doing well. bxc5 20. h3 Qd7 21. Qe3 f5 More sturdier is Rab8 followed by Nc6, targeting the queenside and using the bishop's sweep. 22. Nd5?! White should have played f4.



f4 +- 23. Qd2 f3 24. Bf1 fxc2 25. Be2 (25. Bxc2 Nf3+ 26. Bxf3 Rxf3 27. Nb6 Qb7 28. Qe2 {28. Nxa8 Rxh3! 29. f3 Rg3+} 28... Be5 29. Nxa8 Rxh3) 25... Bxh3 26. Nb6 Qf5 27. Qd5+ e6 28. Qxd6 Qxf2+ 29. Kh2 g1=Q+ 0-1

Tenn. Senior Open Ch (1)
 David Mueller - 1665
 Bill Murray - 1270
 Annotator David Mueller

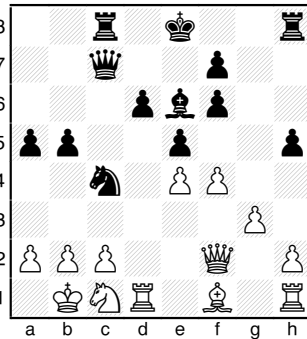
The start of my tournament had me nursing a small advantage into the endgame, where I thought I had it all figured out.



40. Ng5! Nxg5 41. hxg5 Kxd5
 42. Kd3 Kc5 (42... a5 43. b3 Kc5 44. a3) 43. a3 a5 44. b4+! axb4 45. axb4+ Kxb4 46. Kd4 This was the key position where now White has the opposition and Black must waste a move. Kb3 47. Ke5 Kc3 48. Kf6 Kd3 49. Kg7 Ke3 50. Kxh7 Kf3 51. Kxg6 Kg4 52. Kf6 Kh5 53. Kxf5?? Stalemate! 1/2-1/2 Hugely embarrassing.

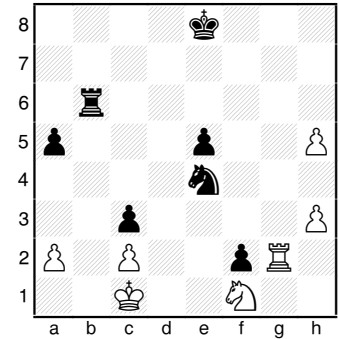
Tenn Senior Open Ch (4)
 Dan Fleetwood - 1858
 David Mueller - 1665
 Annotated by David Mueller

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. Be3 e5 7. Nb3 Be6 8. f3 h5 Played by Topalov among others, to slow down White's g4 pawn advance. 9. Qd2 b5?! Too soon, since White hasn't castled yet. 10. O-O-O (10. a4!?) 10... Nbd7 11. Kb1 Nb6 12. Qf2 Nc4 13. Bg5 Be7 14. Bxf6 Bxf6 15. g3 Rc8 16. Nd5 I read in a book on the opening that White can't win simply by controlling d5. So I didn't panic and commenced operations on the queenside. a5 17. Nxf6+ gxf6 18. f4 Qc7 19. Nc1



Wow! I thought if my name was Tal or Fritz 12 that I would surely sacrifice with 19...Nxb2, but a draw was the best outcome I could see, and I wasn't even sure if that was forced. Bg4 20. Rd3 Qc5 21. Qxc5 dxc5 22. h3? Bf3 23. Rh2 I thought he might exchange R vs. B and P by 23. Rxf3?! Nd2+ 24. Ka1 Nxf3 25. Bxb5+ Ke7 26. c3 but now the knight can be brought back into play with exf4 27. gxf4 and then the open files are huge for Black's rooks. 23... Bxe4 24. Rc3 Nd6 25. fxe5 I expected 25. Re3!? threatening Bxb5+. 25... fxe5 26. Re3 f5 27. Bd3 c4 Taking the d3 square away from the knight. 28. Bxe4 fxe4 (28... Nxe4!? Deserves further analysis. I was worried about 29. Rg2 Rg8 30. g4) 29. Ne2 Rf8 I actually thought about 29... O-O!? but thought that my king should be in the center for the endgame. In the later course of the game I was sure wishing for my King to be on g8 though. 30. g4?! Rf3! 31. Rxf3? (31. Ra3! Courtesy of the computer. Former World Champion Vasily Vasilievich Smyslov said a few years ago "... I was looking at my game with Savon recently. And I found so many mistakes with the computer, just one mistake after another. And I considered that game one of my best") 31... exf3 32. Nc3 b4 33. Nd5 Ne4 (33... e4!?) 34. Kc1 c3 35. bxc3 (35. b3!? Black is able to make use of the open b-file, so it is probably

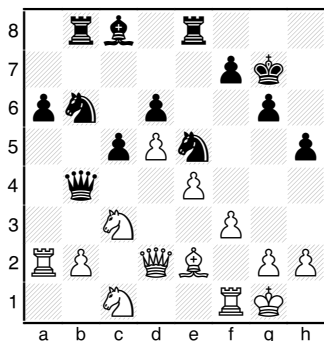
better to keep things closed.) 35... bxc3 36. gxh5 f2 (36... Nd2!? Is another idea I considered, tightening a mating net with an eventual ...Rb8. I thought the move I played was more "direct.") 37. Ne3 Rb8 38. Rg2! An excellent move, providing White counterplay. Rb6 39. Nf1



Nd2! I thought this move should be winning easily. 40. Kd1 (40. Rxf2 ?? Rb1#) 40... Rb1+ 41. Ke2 Rxf1 42. h6! Now, a knight up, but still I had some worries about this h-bomb! Could I even lose? Rh1 43. Rxf2 Rxb3 44. Rf5 Nc4 45. Rf6 Rh2+?! Not the best, but I'm not sure that Black has a forced win, for example: 45... Na3!? 46. Kd1 Rh1+ 47. Ke2 Nxc2 48. Kd3 Nb4+ 49. Kxc3 Nxa2+ 50. Kb2 Rh2+ 51. Kb3 Ke7 52. Ra6; and 45... Re3+ accomplishes nothing, as 46. Kf2 Rh3 47. Ke2. 46. Kd3 Na3 47. Re6+? This move makes things more critical for White. Simply 47. Kxc3 probably draws. 47... Kf7 48. Rxe5 Rh3+! 49. Ke2? (49. Re3! {Computer.}) 49... Nxc2 50. Rxa5 Now the win is forced. Nd4+ 51. Ke1 (51. Kd1 c2+ 52. Kd2 Rh2+ 53. Kc1 Rh1+ 54. Kd2 c1=Q+); or (51. Kf2 c2 52. Rc5 Kg6 53. Ke1 Rh2 54. a4 Nf3+ 55. Kf1 c1=Q+ 56. Rxc1 Rh1+ 57. Kf2 Rxc1) 51... c2 52. Ra7+ Kg6 53. Rc7 Rh2 Threatening ...Nf3+ 54. h7 Rxb7 55. Rxb7 c1=Q+ 0-1 So I was fortunate to win this penultimate round game, giving me the chance for the championship....

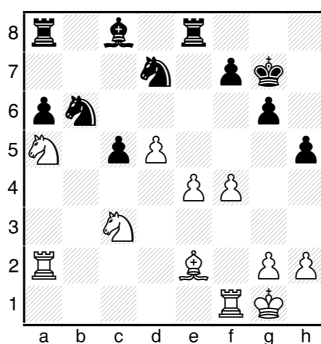
Tenn. Senior Open Ch (3)
David Mueller - 1665
John Patty - 2200
Annotated by David Mueller

The upset victory of this game was partly a result of my resolve to ease the embarrassment from my Round 1 fiasco. 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. f3 c5 4. d5 Bg7 5. Nc3 d6 6. e4 O-O 7. Be3 e6 8. Qd2 exd5 9. cxd5 a6 10. a4 Re8 11. Bd3 Somewhat similar to our game was Khismatullin (2583) - Inarkiev (2628) Moscow 2006 which continued 11. a5 b5 12. axb6 Qxb6 13. Nge2 Nbd7 14. Na4 Qc7 15. Nec3 Rb8 16. Be2 Ne5 17. O-O Rb4 18. Ra3 Bd7 19. Rfa1 Reb8 20. Nd1 Nc4 21. Bxc4 Rxc4 22. Nac3 Bc8 = 11... Nbd7 12. Nge2 Ne5 13. O-O Rb8 14. a5 b5 15. axb6 Qxb6 16. Ra2 Nfd7 17. Nc1 h5 I had expected 17...Nxd3 and now decided to keep my bishop. My plan now was h3, f4, and f5. 18. Be2 Qb4 An active move, looking to play 19...Nc4. 19. Bh6 Nb6 Black had a lot of options here. Possibly best was 19... Qd4+ with an easy equality, but Black probably wanted to maintain more tension against his underdog opponent. 20. Bxg7 Kxg7



21. b3! Fighting for the key c4 square, and anticipating a strong reply to Black's next move. c4 22. Qd4! Pinning both the pawn, and the knight. I thought Black's next move was more or less forced. Qc5 A draw offered, but I decided to press on. [(22... Kh7 23. f4 Ned7 24. Bxc4 is a clear

pawn up); (22... g5 23. Nd3 Qxb3 24. Rb1 trapping the queen); and (22... a5!? A computer move, which is an interesting try. For example: 23. f4 cxb3 24. Nxb3 Qxd4+ 25. Nxd4 Nec4 26. Nc6 Ra8)] 23. Qxc5 dxc5 24. f4 cxb3 Maybe better is: 24... Ng4 25. bxc4 Ne3 but after 26. Re1 Nexc4 27. Nb3 the pawn on c5 goes down. 25. Nxb3 Ned7 26. Na5 Ra8



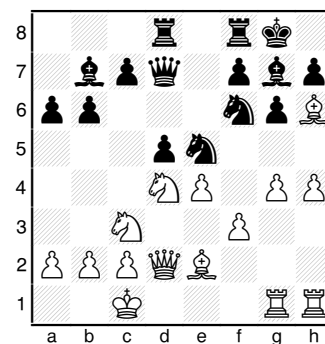
27. Rb1 The Black position has fallen apart. White has a strong pawn center and better mobility of his pieces. I decided to embarrass the knight on b6. f6 28. Rab2 Black Resigns.

Though clearly disappointed with his own performance, Mr. Patty was kind in his praise of my efforts. I think the analysis shows that he got in trouble mainly through trying to force a win in the game—probably pressured by a draw that he had made in the previous round. I was surprised to be able to accept a resignation at this point, but the computer agrees, assessing the position as +3.0 for White. One possible continuation that shows the paths of Black's game is: 28. Rab2 Rb8 29. Nc6 Ra8 30. Rxb6 Nxb6 31. Rxb6 a5 32. d6 Kh6 33. Bb5 Bd7 34. Nxa5 Rxa5 35. Bxd7 Rd8 36. Be6 1-0

2010 Tenn. Senior Open (4)
Paul Semmes - 1953
Michael Hale - 1593

1. e4 d6 2. d4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. Be3 Nf6 5. f3 O-O 6. Qd2

Nbd7 7. O-O-O e5 Black should consider c6 followed by b5 to generate some queenside counter play. 8. Nge2 b6 This is surely ill-considered. It indicates that Black is not thinking of attacking the queenside. Too, the plan of Bb7 and a breakdown of White's pawn chain on the kingside is a little too slow when queenside castling has occurred. 9. Bg5 More challenging is g4, getting on with the kingside pawn roller. Bb7 10. g4 exd4 11. Nxd4 Ne5 12. Be2 Qd7 13. Bh6 a6 14. h4 Rad8 15. Rdg1 d5



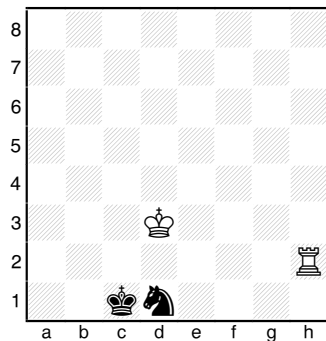
16. Nf5!?. (Also strong is the immediate Bxg7, since Black's knight on e5 is unprotected: 16. Bxg7 Kxg7 17. Qg5) 16... Ne8? (16... dxe4! 17. Qg5 {17. Qxd7? Nfxd7 18. Nxc7? [18. Bxg7 exf3 19. Bxf8 Kxf8 20. Bxa6 Bxa6 =] 18... exf3 19. Rh2 Nf6!} 17... Nfxg4 18. fxg4 f6 19. Qf4 gxf5 20. gxf5 Rf7 21. Nxe4 +/-) 17. Nxc7 Nxc7 18. Qf4 (18. f4! d4 19. Nd5 Bxd5 20. exd5 Qxd5 21. fxe5) 18... Qe7 Better was f6. 19. h5 Rd6 20. Bxa6!?. It's hard to resist tactical shots like this, but the simple exd followed by Re1 was stronger. Bc6? Considering the alternates and loss of a tempo, Black should have captured the piece regardless of what else follows. (20... Bxa6 21. Nxd5 Rxd5 22. exd5 f6 +/-) 21. exd5 Bxd5 22. Re1 Re6 23. Nxd5 Nd3+ 24. Bxd3 Rxe1+ 25. Kd2 Qc5 26. Nf6+ Kh8 27. Rxe1 Ne6 28. Rxe6 fxe6 29. Bxf8 1-0

Scholastic Corner

Rook vs. Knight—Easy?

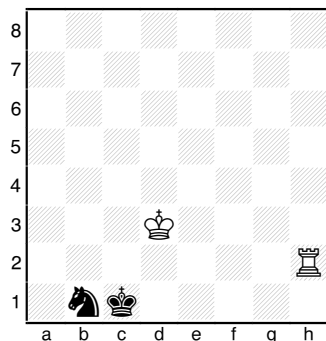
In the January issue of *Chess Life*, the Rook versus Knight Ending was assessed as easy. So easy, in fact, that it was detailed in two sentences without a diagram. Additionally, International Arbiter Eric Schiller stated that “the rules of chess should stipulate that Rook vs. Knight is a technical draw, noting relevant exceptions.” Hence it behooves us to have an instance grasp for this “automatic” draw. First of all, if your rook and knight are widely separate, there is a good chance that you will lose!

In Diagram 1 you can clearly see why the knight is able



Diag. 1 Ideal position with Black to move; else loss.

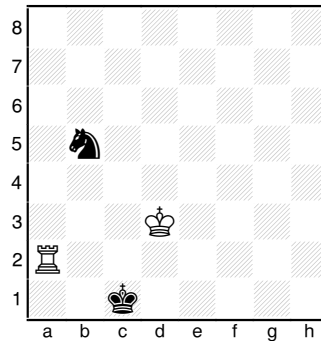
to command a draw even when the weaker king is trapped on the back rank. The knight naturally keeps the kings out of opposition with its sheltering moves. Diagram 2 shows that even



Diag. 2 Easy draw.

with the knight on a worse square, though, the draw is easy.

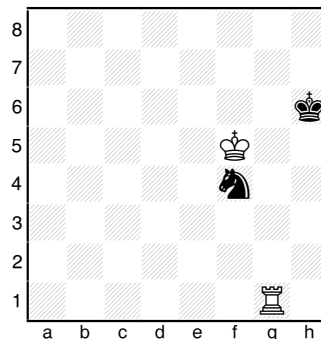
If 1. Ra2 Kd1 and no progress has been made. If, say, 1. Rg2 Na3 2. Ra2! Nb1!. If Black had played 2... Nb5, then his separation from the king would have been fatal. Observe Diag. 3. White



Diag. 3 Loss (after 2... Nb5).

continues 3. Ra6! driving the knight further from the king. Now any king move loses the knight or allows mate. So, 3... Nc7 is forced, whereupon the knight is netted with 4. Rc6+.

Diagram 4 below shows another challenging position for Black to hold the draw.



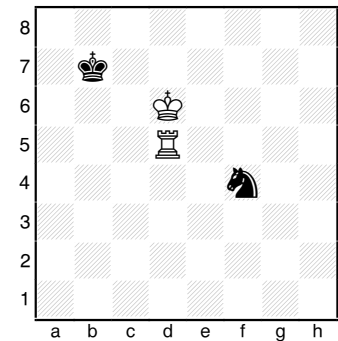
Diag. 4 Danger!

Observing the guideline of keeping the knight and king close, one might play 1... Nh5. But then White wins instantly with 2. Rh1! when the king is forced to abandon the knight. Hence, 1... Nd5 looks reasonable, keeping the kings out of opposition. However, this should lead to a loss after

2. Rg5!. The knight has become separated from the king and will become the target of the hunt rather than the king.

Whether the king or knight is the primary target depends on how distant the pieces are. Almost always, though, if the knight can be driven to the side of the board and is not adjacent to the king, then it can be stalemated and won.

Diagram 5—the conclusion of a 1257 Arabic manuscript—demonstrates this. White shows the most effective method of corralling the



Diag. 5 Knight hunt.

knight by playing 1. Rd2, staying two diagonal lengths from the knight—just as the king is positioned! Note that this pattern both avoids all checks and takes squares from the knight. Now if Black tries 1... Ng6 2. Rf2 herds him to the edge of the board. If then 2... Kb6 3. Rf6 Nh4 (note the diagonal configuration) 4. Ke5+ Kc5 5. Ke4 closes on the helpless knight. And if from Diagram 5 Black had tried 2... Kb6, then 2. Ke5 Ng6+ 3. Kf6 Nf4 (diagonal configuration, again) 4. Kf5 Nh5 5. Rg2! and the knight dies after Rg5.

The moral is, keep your knight close and keep your king out of corners. Though masters might categorize this draw as “easy,” lessers should approach it with respect.

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