

Northwest Chess May 2009

\$3.95

Pay secure attendance
To the King
For it is a heavy
Burden for one piece
To know so clearly
That it is he
Who bears the weight
Of responsibility
For the game-
He, whose role definitively
Marks him as the sole
Impetus of the success...
Or the pitiable reason
For the crucial defeat
Of his kingdom

Mind your king well,
For he is innately unable
To safeguard himself against predators
His footprints are,
Sorrowfully too often,
Left behind as the fearful remnants
Of a direct and physically close
Threat to his well being
His unfortunate viewpoint
And singular steps mockingly
Force him into becoming
En prise,
And more often than not
The object of desolate ruin.

A threat to him results in "check"
His unforeseen doom, in a fool's mate

Respect the prowess
of the Queen.
For she is a heavy piece
Who seeks the hanging of other
players
And saturates her pretty appetites
For both protection and destruction
By feeding ravenously on
All imposingly eager antagonists

Keep her arranged, and alert
In a perching, and unseen stance
'til she pounces in unlimited direction
Upon on her disparate prey
Annihilating them in front
Of their credulous countrymen
And languid king

Then, encourage her to retreat,
Call "j'adoube"
And give her respite with a vigilant
eye.

For it is she who has the supremacy
To embrace her king in secure hands
Though forlornly, she too may meet
her impending defeat
Or her necessarily sacrificial doom

And to her death or to purgatory
She will go where she will remain
Until a lowly praiseworthy pawn
Reaches the final edges of the realm
Fulfilling his soul mission
That is of
The celebration of her
Renowned reincarnation
And her reentrance into the game

**Caïssa Gives Odds to a Duffer
Who Wishes to Engage
In a Round of Romantic Chess**

By: Cecily Alexis Anderson

poem continues on page 16

Northwest Chess

Contents

May 2009, Volume 63,05 Issue 737

ISSN Publication 0146-6941

Published monthly by the Northwest Chess Board.
Office of record: 3310 25th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98144

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

Northwest Chess, PO Box 84746,
Seattle WA 98124-6046.

Periodicals Postage Paid at Seattle, WA

USPS periodicals postage permit number (0422-390)

NWC Staff

Editor: Ralph Dubisch,
editor@nwchess.com

Publisher: Duane Polich,
publisher@nwchess.com

Business Manager: Eric Holcomb,
eric@holcomb.com

Board Representatives

David Yoshinaga, Karl Schoffstoll,
Duane Polich & Mark Ryan

Entire contents copyright 2009 by Northwest Chess.
All rights reserved. Published opinions are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or the Northwest Chess Board.

Advertising Rates

Display ads run \$150 for a full page, \$100 for tournament ads; \$85 for a half-page, \$60 for tournament ads; \$50 for a quarter page, \$30 for an eighth of a page, and \$10 for a business card-size ad. Additional charges apply if the staff must do layout work. A 15% discount is available for two or more consecutive ads of the same size.

Event Announcement Rates

Each appearance in the *Future Events* listings costs \$20. Please arrange payment for ads and Grand Prix fees with the Business Manager.

Advertising & Copy Deadline

Ads and submissions must be received by the 10th of the month for the items to appear in the next issue (e.g., **no later than May 10 for the June issue**).

Submit all ads, payments, and subscriptions to:

Business Manager, Northwest Chess
Eric Holcomb

1900 NE Third St, Ste 106-361
Bend OR 97701-3889

Eric@Holcomb.com
www.nwchess.com

Submissions

Submissions of games, stories, photos, art, and other **original** chess-related content are encouraged! Multiple submissions are acceptable; please indicate if material is non-exclusive. All submissions are subject to editing or revision. Send via U.S. mail to:

Northwest Chess

Duane Polich, Publisher
PO Box 37, Bellevue, WA 98008

or via e-mail to:

editor@nwchess.com

Cover: Poem by Cecily Alexis Anderson

Page 3:	Editor's Desk	Ralph Dubisch
Page 4:	Oregon State Championship Games	Corey Russell
Page 14:	Opening Arguments	Harley Greninger
Page 16:	Caïssa Gives Odds, continued	Cecily Alexis Anderson
Page 19:	Tacoma Chess Times	Gary Dorfner
Page 19:	This Month in NWC History	Russell Miller
Page 20:	Washington State Championship Games	William Schill
Page 23:	Games Corner: Oregon Championship	Charles Schulien
Page 26:	And In The End	Dana Muller
Page 30:	NW Grand Prix Standings	Murlin Varner
Page 31:	Seattle Chess Club Events	
Page 32:	Future Events & Calendar	

We are very sad to report the death of 19-year-old National Master Landon Brownell, a resident of both Corvallis, Oregon, and Tucson, Arizona, in an automobile accident in Bakersfield, California, on April 21, 2009. Landon was a past member of the Catalina Foothills High School chess team in Tucson, coached by FM Robby Adamson, and he won the National High School Championship in 2006. Landon tied for second in the 2008 Oregon Championship, was equal fourth in the 2007 Oregon Open, and equal fifth in the 2006 Oregon Open.

Northwest Chess Knights

Please donate today to help Northwest Chess!

Patrons, 2008-2009

King (\$1000+): Russell Miller

Queen (\$500-\$999):

Rook (\$250-\$499): Ralph Dubisch, Washington Chess Federation, Portland Chess Club

Bishop (\$100-\$249): Michael Omori family, Oregon Chess Federation

Knight (\$50-\$99): Robert Brewster, Steve Buck, Murlin Varner

Pawn (\$15-\$49): Darby Monahan, Mark James

Contributions may be sent to the Northwest Chess Business Manager, and are greatly appreciated!

Fast free delivery on chess sets and supplies

free delivery for orders over \$100 to US address - chess sets boards - pieces - clocks - computers - equipment - etc

1-800-348-4749

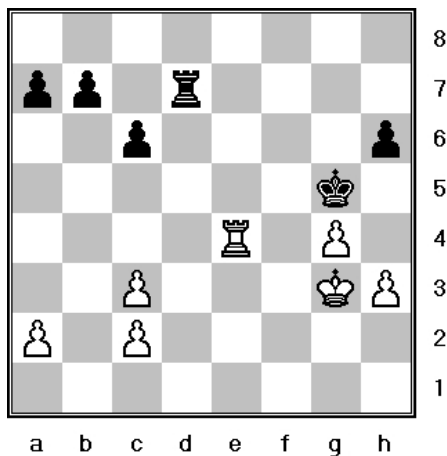
PO Box 705

Lynden, WA 98264

contact@chesshouse.com



CHESSHOUSE.COM
smart minds. great memories.



From the Editor's Desk

Ralph Dubisch



Last issue was, of course, the April issue of *Northwest Chess*. Some people, and some publications, engage in the occasional practical joke at the beginning of April, but frankly, I don't really approve of this. I've seen otherwise serious and more-or-less reputable folks run into some flack for presenting spurious historical stories as fact, and having gullible chessplayers fall for it, hook, line, sinker, rod, reel, and rowboat. (For those in the know, a mention of *Inside Chess*, Akiba Rubinstein, and lost diary should make my point.) So it was with some satisfaction that I wrapped up the issue last month, thinking that I'd managed to avoid all mention of the evil April Fool's Day.

Not so fast, Ralph. When I received my issue in the mail (yes, I subscribe just like the rest of you), I paged through it to make sure the printer hadn't turned any pages upside-down – not that there would be anything to do about it at that point, as I'm one of the last people to receive their copy, but still, I like to be sure. Turn, turn, turn.... I glance at the starting diagram of Dana Muller's endgame column.... turn.... My jaw drops, and I flip back a page.

Completely unintentionally, I managed to play an April Fool's joke on myself. In case you were wondering, no, we don't check everything with a chess engine first. For proof, see the diagram, reproduced above.

Dana's strategic comments on this position were extensive, and quite brilliant. They were so clear, concise, and authoritative that it really didn't occur to me that I might be printing a "White to move and mate in three" diagram in front of them. Tactics trump strategy.

Actually, the joke continues: nobody else has mentioned this. It seems to be a case of "if you don't see it right away, you just don't see it." Dana assures me that he didn't do this on purpose (for those who know Dana's sense of humor, however....), so I'll resist the temptation to print one of his pages upside-down. This time.

Elliott Neff tells me that **GM Varuzhan Akobian** is doing 2 lecture/simuls from 5-8pm at Chess4Life on June 20 and June 27. Elliott also taught a chess camp in Hong Kong in April, if everything went as planned. Pretty cool.

Duane Polich has asked me to mention the **Washington Open**. It's in **Spokane**. That's in Eastern Washington. Same state as those other cities, you know, Seattle, Tacoma, Bellingham, Olympia.... Same state, not some foreign country. Hop a bus, a plane, a train; carpool or drive yourself over the mountains and play – or if you already live on that side of the Cascades, you don't even have altitude sickness in transit for an excuse. Register now and play some chess. It's a big deal; the Washington Open was last held in Spokane over 50 years ago, so don't wait around for the next time, just in case. **IM John Donaldson** is confirmed to play. He's coming up from California. Now *that's* a foreign country.

From *NWC* Business Manager **Eric Holcomb**: Now that most of you have filed your taxes, I would like to do a quick reminder that *Northwest Chess* is required to collect sales tax for magazines sent to Washington addresses. This reflects the big difference in the Washington and Oregon tax systems – Oregonians pay up to 9% of their income as income tax, whereas Washingtonians pay about 9% on their purchases as sales tax. As Business Manager, I still receive some payments from Washington addresses without the sales tax. These payments will only be good for 11 months (on a 12-month subscription), an effective tax rate of 9.1%. When you renew, please remember to include the tax – it will help assure that *NWC* has enough funds to continue publishing the magazine each month. If you're unsure of your tax rate (which varies from city to city), please consult the tax table on the *NWC* website, "Magazine" section. Also, please make your check or money order payable to *Northwest Chess* (not WCF or OCF), or use PayPal on the website. Thank you very much!

Oregon Championship Games

Corey Russell Annotates

Corey's result at the Oregon Championship wasn't the best, and many players in his position might have just tried to quickly forget the games, instead of commenting them for publication. Not Corey! He spent hours annotating these, including his thinking during the play, and a few extras gleaned from post-mortems and after-action analysis.

This is exactly what you should do, too. Commenting your own games as soon as possible after an event gives you a record of your thinking processes and state of mind during play. In order to improve, you must self-evaluate. Then, get a coach or strong player that you trust to go over your analysis and help you identify any weaknesses in your game.

Corey did not use a chess engine to assist him with these notes.

The lack of engine analysis means that yes, there are a few tactical errors. Yes, there are debateable assessments. Corey has put himself out there for you and me to see, figuratively baring his soul, showing us the reality of how a chessmaster analyzes and evaluates, not the idealized fiction in which we see every possibility and considered all of the complications.

Frankly, I was very impressed.

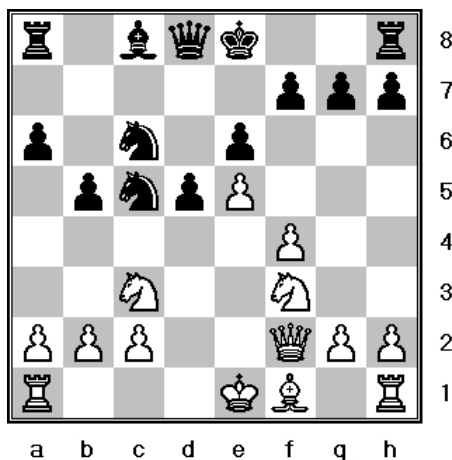
I considered running this article with little editing and no additional comments, but in the end, I decided to add a few (*very few*) notes of my own bracketed and in italics, pointing out a couple of places that I disagree with Corey's conclusions. If it's me doing so, I'll add my initials. If it's a computer engine, I'll give credit to Fritz.

– Ralph Dubisch

Corey Russell – Mike Janniro
Oregon Championship, Round 1
Portland, Oregon, February 14, 2009

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. e5 Nfd7
5. f4 c5 6. Nf3 Nc6 7. Be3 a6 8. Qd2 b5 9.
dxc5 Bxc5 10. Bxc5 Nxc5 11. Qf2

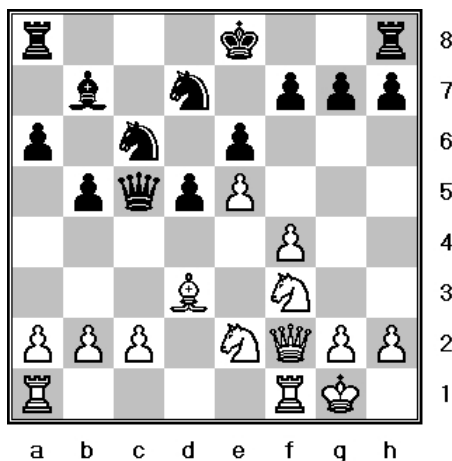
All of this is well treaded book. Nick Raptis has tried 11. ...Qb6 against me, but Mike decided to try something different.



11. ...Qe7 12. Bd3 Bb7 13. 0-0 Nd7 14.
Ne2

This is played to get a strong knight at d4.

14. ...Qc5



I now have two main alternatives. I can play 15. Ned4 or 15. Qxc5. At the board had a tough time deciding which was better, as they both seemed like viable choices. One guide is value of the pieces (that is value on the board not normal base value). After 15. Ned4 then my white queen has 7 possible moves, the respective black queen has 11 moves. This means his queen was better and since trading queens doesn't lose I

should have done that.

{I don't think counting the legal moves available to a piece is quite the same thing as determining its value in a position, and in this particular position I prefer the white queen to the black one. I especially don't like 15. Qxc5, which, by initiating an exchange, helps bring the black knight forward into the center. – RD}

15. Ned4

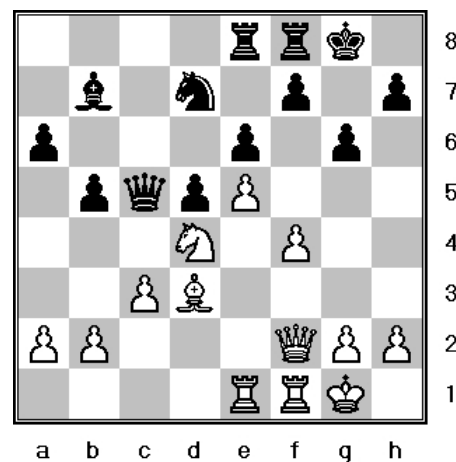
?! Dubious.

{! Best! – RD}

15. ...Nxd4 16. Nxd4 0-0 17. Rae1 g6

A good move. Pretty hard for White to take advantage of the black square weaknesses with the queen tied to the defense of d4. Which leads us to White's next move.

18. c3 Rae8



Another good defensive move. This move makes 19. g4?! and 20. f5? very unpalatable with all the potential pressure on e5. I realize by now trading queens is really what I need to do to make any progress, which is the true intent of my queen sortie on the kingside.

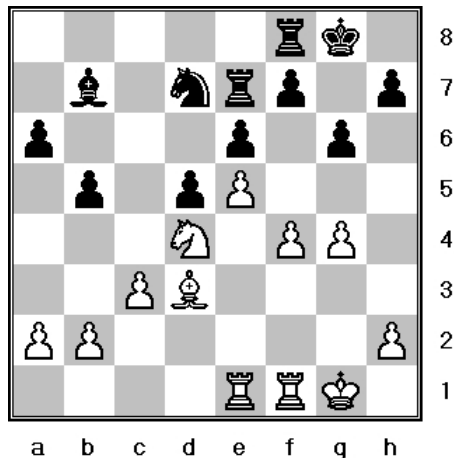
{Hmm, I'm still not thrilled with the idea that queens must be exchanged. White has a space advantage, and in theory exchanges tend to help Black. I'm not sure g4 and f5 is the only attacking plan, and it's not required to lead with the queen. I'd be pretty interested in the kingside attacking chances aided by a rook lift to the third rank. If you get a rook to h3 first, it's hard for Black to reply to Qh4 with ...Qe7, anyway. It's interesting that Corey never mentions the one outstanding positional feature here, namely the outposted knight vs the bad bishop; maybe too obvious? – RD}

19. Qh4 Qe7

Black not surprisingly doesn't want to stick around for 20. Kh1 and 21. Nf3 and 22. Ng5. Queen trade nips that in bud since 20. Qh6 isn't dangerous because 20. ...f6 and everything is covered.

20. Qxe7 Rxe7 21. g4

? While thematic, there's a better plan for White, especially since a ...Nc5 and ...Ne4 is likely play by Black. By keeping the pawn back if 21. Kf2 f6 22. exf6 Rxf6 23. g3! would be option. And if nothing Ke3 will come with edge to White.



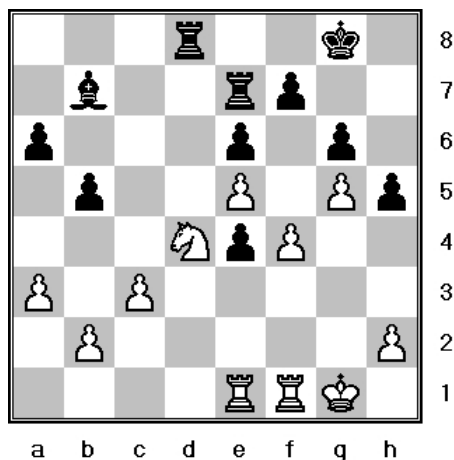
21. ...Nc5 22. Bb1 Ne4 23. Bxe4 dxe4 24. g5

24. f5 exf5 25. gxf5 Rxe5 just loses a pawn. With the text was trying to fix the pawns so that I can get my king to e3. This does give Black an extra tempo to further his plans.

24. ...Rd8 25. a3

Necessary as Black was threatening 25. ...b4! If Black can give White isolated a and c pawns he should have sufficient play.

25. ...h5



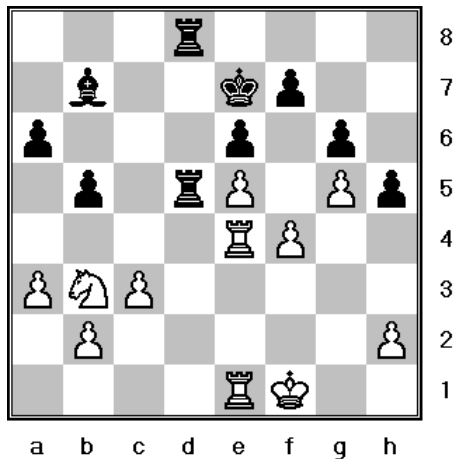
Here is White's last chance to prove an advantage: 26. Kf2, with the idea of Ke3, Rd1, Rd2, Rfd1 +=. The text gives Black equality.

26. Rf2 Rd7 27. Nb3

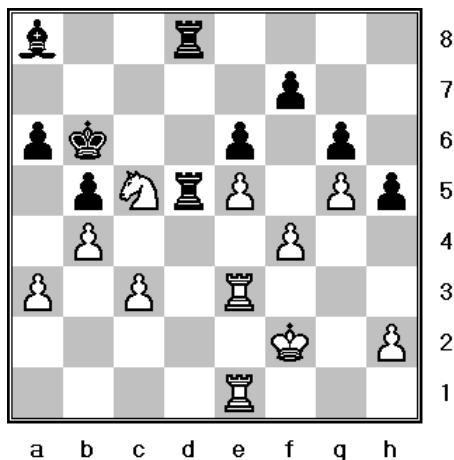
I wasn't happy about an exchange sac possibility on d4 and also didn't like putting my rook in a pin with 27. Rd1 b5! with idea of ...b4 =.

{Fritz wants to allow the sac.}

27. ...Rd5 28. Rfe2 Kf8 29. Kf1 Ke7 30. Rxe4



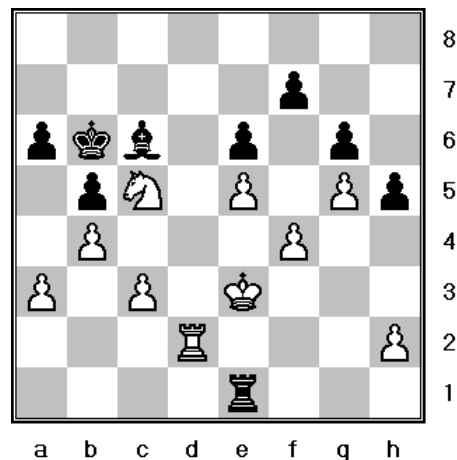
30. ...Rd3 31. R4e3 R3d5 32. Kf2 Kd7 33. Nd4 Kc7 34. b4 Kb6 35. Nb3 Ba8 36. Nc5



36. ...Rd2+ 37. R3e2 R2d5 38. Ke3 Bc6 39. Ra1 Rd1 40. Rxd1 Rxd1 41. Rd2

If White could just play Rd8, Rf8 and Rxf7, Black's king side would crumble. ...but...}

41. ...Re1+ 42. Kf2 Rh1 43. Ke3 Re1+



Despite being a pawn up, White didn't see anything better than repeating. Note that if White had this exact position but say the g-pawn at g3 instead, then Black can't win the f4 pawn like he can in many lines and if that's true Rd8 and Rf8xf7 would be strong.

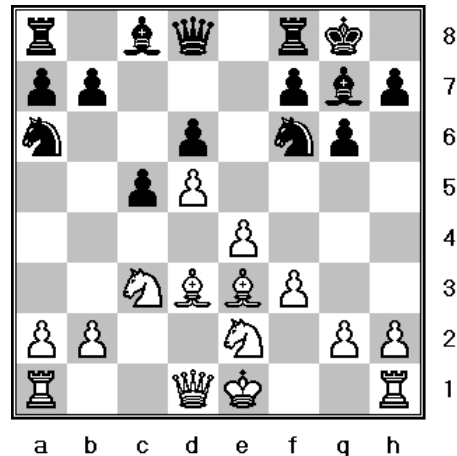
1/2-1/2

Radu Roua – Corey Russell
Oregon Championship, Round 2
Portland, Oregon, February 15, 2009

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5

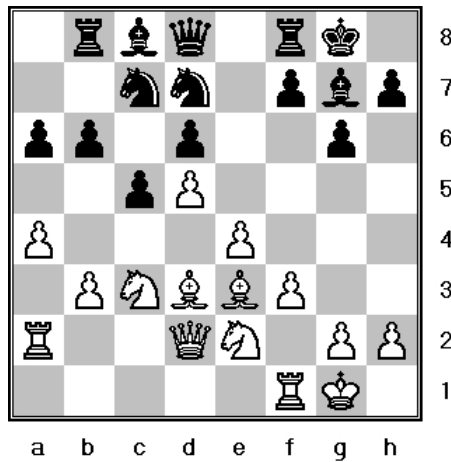
Last time I played Benko Gambit vs. Radu (3. ...b5) but he won and I didn't really like the position we obtained. So decided to do an opening I actually have never played before in tournament practice (Benoni). However, have played white side of it many times including against numerous masters so was familiar with the ideas, not to mention Benoni close brother of Benko gambit.

3. ...g6 4. Nc3 Bg7 5. e4 d6 6. f3 0-0 7. Bd3 e6 8. Nge2 Na6 9. Be3 exd5 10. cxd5



10. ...Nc7 11. Qd2 a6 12. a4 b6 13. 0-0

Rb8 14. b3 Nd7 15. Ra2



! A suprisingly useful move. Gets the rook off the a1-h8 diagonal, but is still ready to take control of the a-file should Black play ...b5.

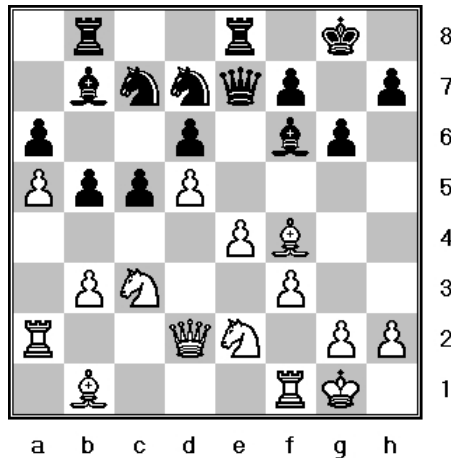
15. ...b5 16. a5

This pawn has a cramping effect on Black's game. While it could theoretically be a liability, it's difficult for Black to attack it from his cramped position.

16. ...Re8 17. Bb1 Bb7

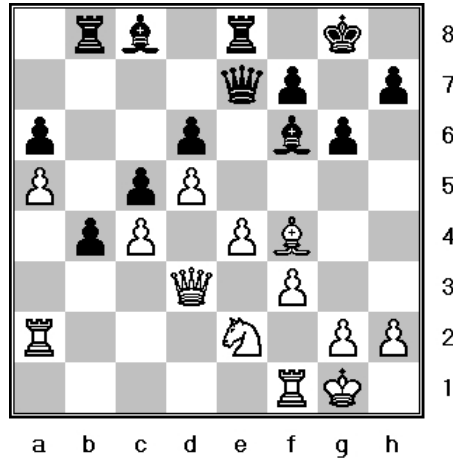
This bishop didn't have much a future on the h3-c8 diagonal with all those pawns on white. Also this leaves the possibility of playing ...c4 at some point and still be able to deal with Nd4-c6.

18. Bg5 Bf6 19. Bf4 Qe7



20. Nd1 b4 21. Ne3 Nb5 22. Nc4 Ne5
23. Bd3 Nxc4 24. Bxc4 Na3 25. Qd3 Nxc4
26. bxc4 Bc8

Wanted to allow the b8 rook to support a possible b-pawn push and now that Nd4 is impossible can consider ...f5 if the timing is right.



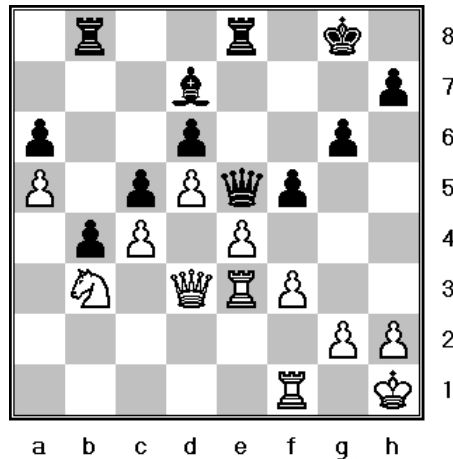
27. Nc1 Bd4+ 28. Kh1 f5 29. Re2

Of course not 29. exf5? Bxf5 which would energize Black's position.

29. ...Qf6 30. Nb3 Be5 31. Bxe5

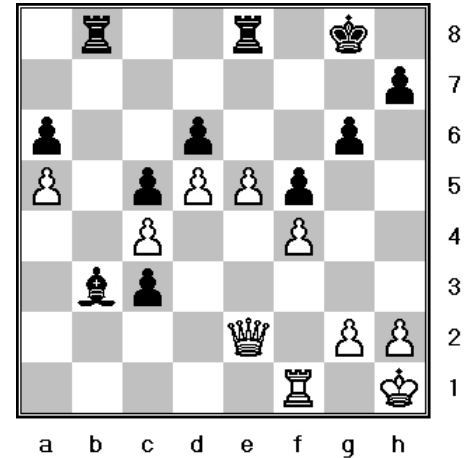
Seems pretty forced. 31. Bd2?! f4 seems pretty promising for Black.

31. ...Qxe5 32. Re3 Bd7



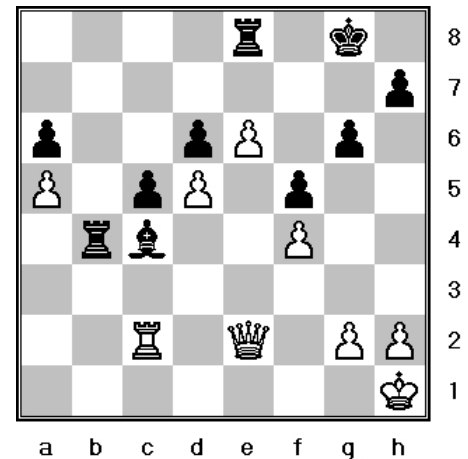
This seemed reasonable at the time but White got a lot of impetus from playing f4 himself, so perhaps Black should play f4 first then this move.

33. f4 Qc3 34. e5 Ba4 35. Qe2 Bxb3
36. Rxc3 bxc3



After the game Radu said his chess program recommended 37. h3!? c2 38. Rc1 Rb4 39. Kh2 Rxc4 40. Rxc2?! Rxc2 41. Qxa6. Black's airy king, poor coordination of Black's pieces and White's passed pawns make this line possible.

37. e6 c2 38. Rc1 Rb4 39. Rxc2 Bxc4



! 40. Rxc4?? would lead to mate after 40. ...Rb1+ and giving material back with 40. Qxc4 Rxc4 41. Rxc4 Rb8 would give

PORTLAND CHESS CLUB
8205 SW 24th Ave
Portland, OR 97219
503-246-2978

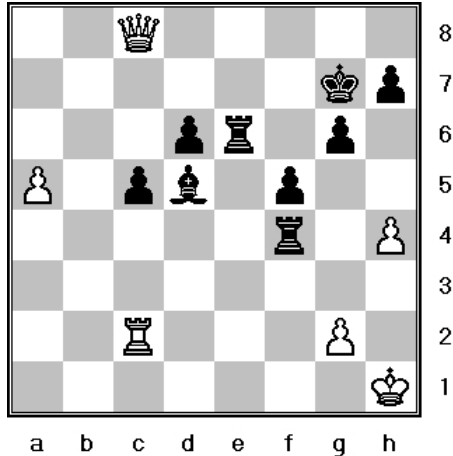
For information on membership
and coming events:
www.pdxchess.org

Black a favorable endgame.

40. Qd2 Bxd5

! White still can't take, as 41. ...Rb1 would still lead to mate if White captured the bishop.

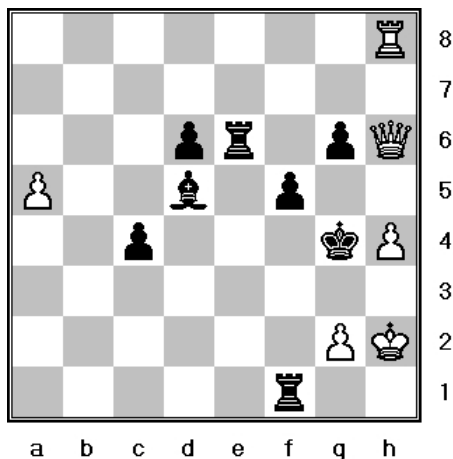
41. h4 Rd4 42. Qe2 Rxe6 43. Qxa6 Rxf4 44. Qc8+ Kg7 45. Qd8



45. ...Be4

?? Losing the thread. The white h-pawn is far more dangerous to Black than the black d-pawn is dangerous to White in this position. Therefore 45. ...Ree4 was vital to eliminate that h-pawn. Notice that White couldn't respond 46. g3?? since 46. ...Re1+ 47. Kh2 Rh1 is mate!

46. Rb2 c4 47. Rb8 Rf1+ 48. Kh2 Kh6 49. Qd7 Bd5 50. Rh8 Kh5 51. Qxh7+ Kg4 52. Qh6

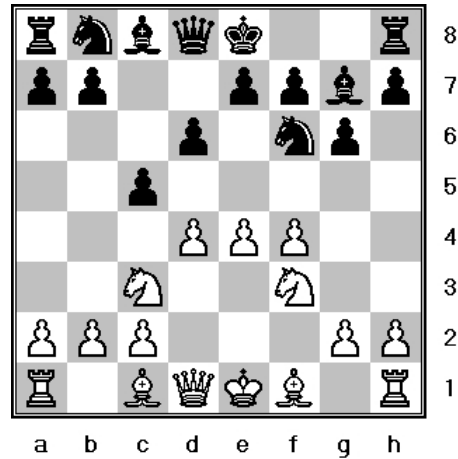


With a killer threat of Qg5 mate. Note that sacrificing back with 52. ... Bxg2 53. Qg5+ Kf3 54. Qxg2+ Ke3 55. Qxf1 doesn't help. So therefore black resigned here.

1-0

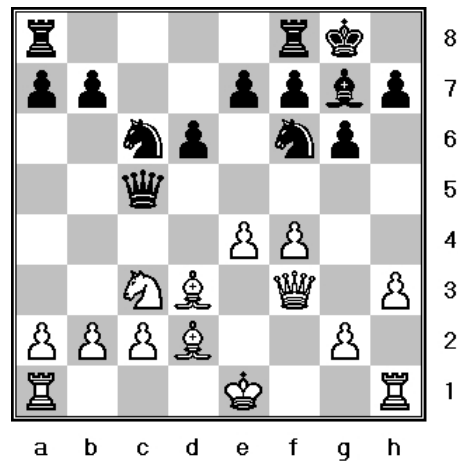
**Corey Russell – Roger Martin
Oregon Championship, Round 3
Portland, Oregon, February 15, 2009**

1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 4. f4 Bg7 5. Nf3 c5



I was familiar with the Seirawan "draw" line but quite frankly wanted to win so did something different. For those unfamiliar the draw line goes 6. Bb5+ Bd7 7. e5 Ng4 8. e6 fxe6 9. Ng5 Bxb5 10. Nxe6 Bxd4 11. Nxd8 Bf2+ 12. Kd2 Be3+ with a draw by perpetual check.

6. dxc5 Qa5 7. Bd2 Qxc5 8. Bd3 0-0 9. Qe2 Bg4 10. h3 Bxf3 11. Qxf3 Nc6



If the "automatic" move 12. 0-0-0, then 12. ...Nd4 gives me problems. 12. Qg3 blocks my g-pawn, Qe3 blocks my dark squared bishop, Qe2 is en prise, 12. Qf1 Nh5 is problematic and the coup de grace 12. Qf2?? loses the queen to Nb3 check. The text move makes Qf2 retreat much better.

12. Be3 Qa5 13. 0-0

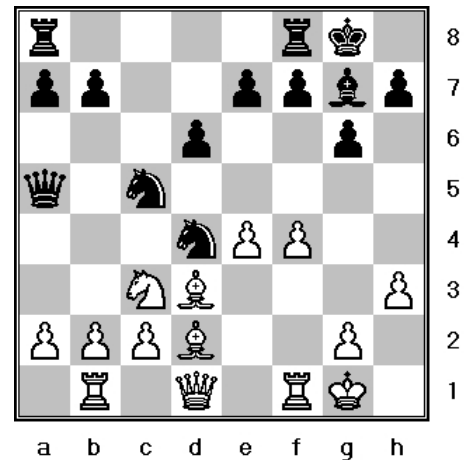
13. 0-0-0 would be more "adventurous", but any attack by White on the king side

would be very slow, while Black on the other hand is well poised to attack White should he castle long. So instead thought playing strategically would give me a better chance.

13. ...Nd7 14. Bd2 Nc5 15. Rab1

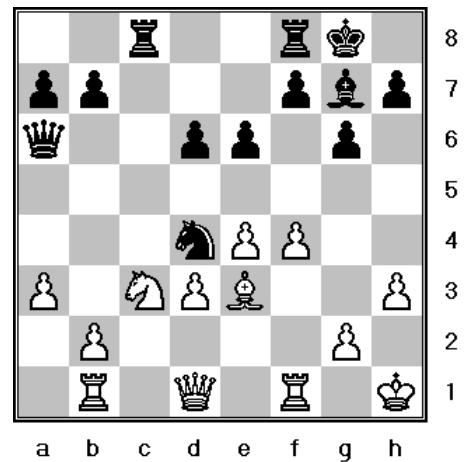
Besides getting my rook off the long diagonal, this also forces Black to declare himself as White is threatening 16. b4 Nxb4 17. Nd5 and game over.

15. ...Nd4 16. Qd1

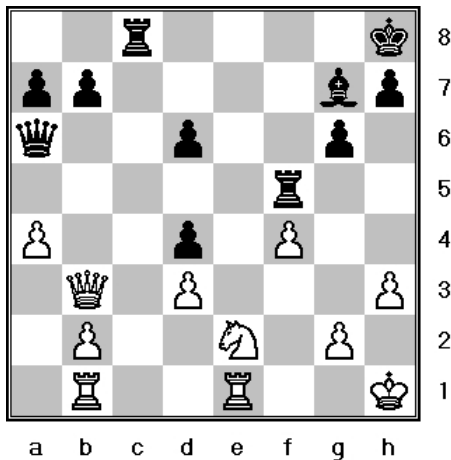


I wanted to keep an eye on c2 and e2 (Black's knight) and also discourage any ...Qh5 by Black. In addition placing my queen on same diagonal as my king with 16. Qf2 seemed too generous. Want to give my opponent SOME challenges.

16. ...Nxd3 17. cxd3 e6 18. a3 Rac8 19. Kh1 Qa6 20. Be3



20. ...f5 21. Re1 Nb5 22. Ne2 e5 23. a4 Nd4 24. Bxd4 exd4 25. exf5 Rxf5 26. Qb3+ Kh8

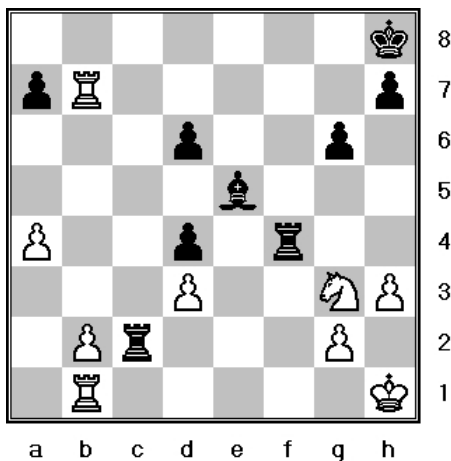


Black pieces are well placed. White wants to get initiative so I decide to sac a pawn here.

27. Ng3 Rxf4 28. Re7 Be5

! This is an energetic move. Black sacs the pawn right back because he thinks he will get advantage in the endgame.

29. Qxb7 Qxb7 30. Rxb7 Rc2



When I originally envisioned this position I planned on queen side passers with 31. Rxa7?? Rff2 32.Nf1 Rxc2 33. b4 but then noticed 33. ...Rg5! with the unstoppable threat of Rcg2 which would mate me on either g1 or h2. This forces my text move.

31. Rf1 Rxf1+ 32. Nxf1 Bf4 33. g3

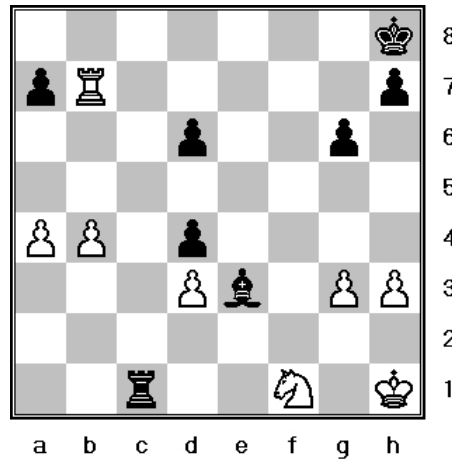
This was critical since 33. Rxa7?? Rc1 34. Kg1 Be3+ would win a piece for black.

33. ...Be3 34. b4 Rc1 35. Kg2 Rc2+ 36. Kh1

Of course white doesn't play 36. Kf3?? Rf2+ since that would win black a piece. And if 36.Rf2 37. Nh2 is best. The

position seems level.

36. ...Rc1



Black couldn't see better than repeating here nor did White so a draw was agreed.

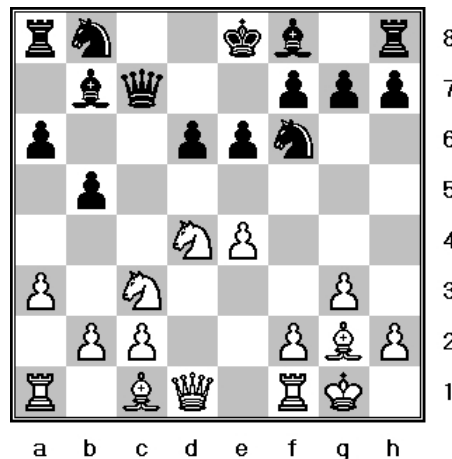
1/2-1/2

**Mike Morris – Corey Russell
Oregon Championship, Round 4
Portland, Oregon, February 16, 2009**

1. e4 c5

Last time I played Mike as Black we played a French Defense. Unfortunately for me, thanks to the large number of games Mike has played against Nick Raptis, another master who has been known to essay the French Defense, Mike has huge experience playing the White side and in fact got a large advantage. Hence 1. ...c5.

2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. g3 b5 7. Bg2 Bb7 8. 0-0 e6 9. a3 Qc7



This is an important move. With Black's hanging bishop he always needs to be wary of a possible e5 by White.

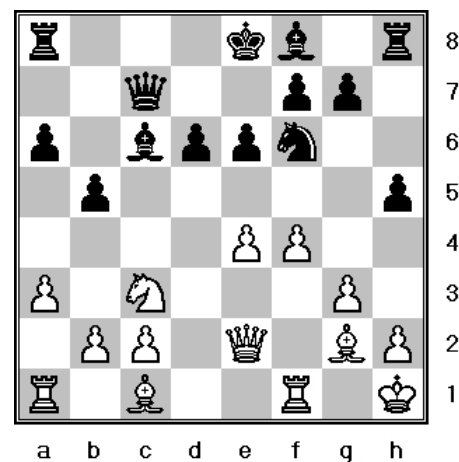
10. f4 Nc6

Mike was surprised by this move. He thought I would play ...Nbd7. However, exchanges free up my position and in addition I would argue White's d4 knight is far superior to Black's queen knight, so I don't mind the exchange if the timing is right. It has the added benefit of making White wary of tricks along the g1-a7 diagonal.

11. Kh1 h5

This felt like an energetic way to play to me. Also I didn't see any way White can favorably open the center to try to get at Black's king at the moment.

12. Nxc6 Bxc6 13. Qe2



White has the "positional" threat of 14. Nd5! exd5 15. exd5+ Be7 16. dxc6. My move develops a piece and stops that.

13. ...Be7 14. Be3

A natural move but overlooks a deep strategical/tactical idea Black found. In the post mortem Mike thought 14. h3 is better. However 14. ...Qb7 would seem to give Black a fine game since White doesn't really have a good solutions for the pressure on his e-pawn.

14. ...h4

The beginning of a 6-move strategical combination.

15. g4 h3 16. Bf3 Qb7 17. Bd4 d5

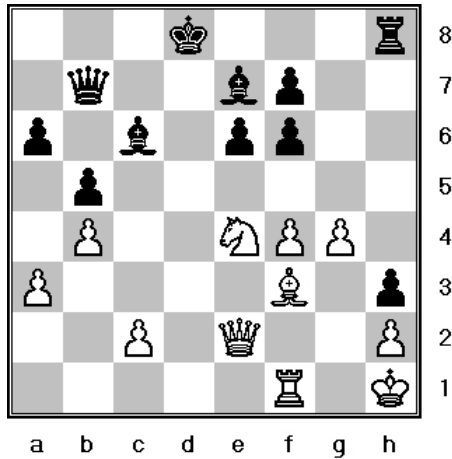
!!

18. Bxf6 dxe4

Now it becomes clear why it important to play ...h3 first. Had Black's pawn been back at h5 and White's bishop at g2, White could simply ignore the e-pawn and take on e7. But by playing h3 first, it caused the f3

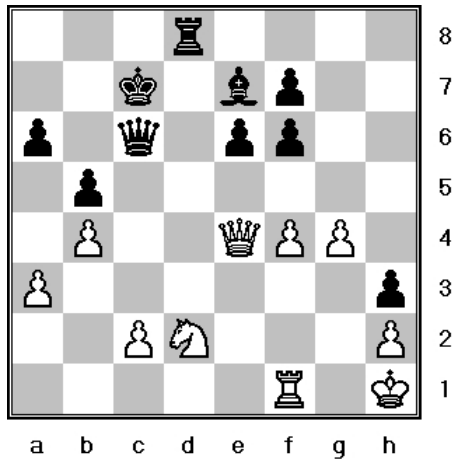
bishop to be tempoed by the e-pawn. When the smoke clears Black will have the better game.

19. Nxe4 gxf6 20. Rad1 Rd8 21. Rxd8+ Kxd8 22. b4



! I thought this was a good move by white. This restrains the possible scope of the black dark squared bishop, makes possible outpost at c5 for the knight and also restrains Black's queen side. Black is still better, unfortunately for White.

22. ...Kc8 23. Nd2 Rd8 24. Bxc6 Qxc6+ 25. Qe4 Kc7



! This move gets the black king a commanding position for the endgame. White has no choice but to trade.

26. Qxc6+ Kxc6 27. Nf3 Kd5

{Fritz says 28. Ng1 gives White better chances than the rook check next.}

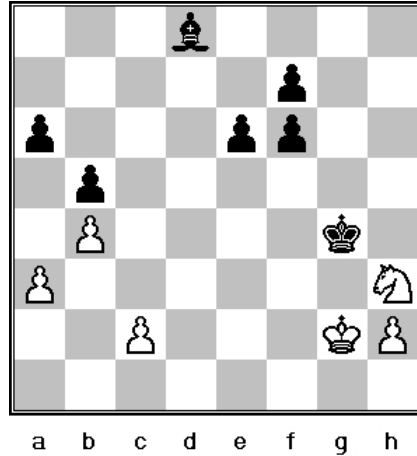
28. Rd1+ Ke4

?! While Black is still better after this, not sure why I went to win a kingside pawn when I could play 28. ...Kc4 and win three queenside pawns. The doubled f-pawns are

actually quite effective at stopping the White kingside majority, and the black bishop can stop White's h-pawn. I am playing this series of moves too fast.

{! Best. This move should just win. – RD}

29. Rxd8 Bxd8 30. Ng1 Kxf4 31. Nxb3+ Kxg4 32. Kg2



32. ...Bb6

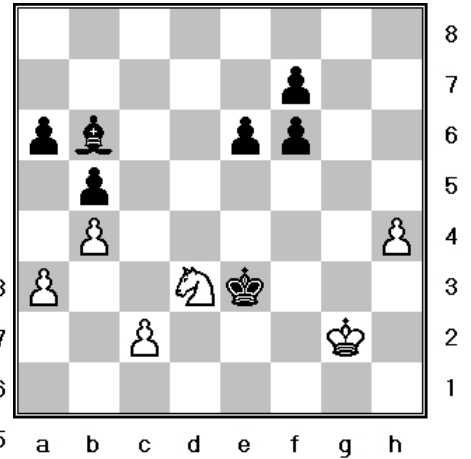
? The whole premise of this move is quite faulty. I thought White couldn't trade because he was a pawn down. But the truth is that once pieces are exchanged White can just sac his pawns since there is no bishop to stop one of them to queening also if i take his king will be close enough to stop my passed pawns and the center pawns will take ages in that position to get anywhere near queening also the passed h-pawn is a factor as well. Instead the move that begged to be played was 32. ...f5! This would help mobilize the passed pawns in the center and posting the bishop at f6 covers queening square for White's h-pawn and supports his own e-pawn advance and forces White to be wary of a possible ...Bb2 incursion as well.

{! Best again! – RD}

33. Nf2+ Kf4

{Black has leapt to wrong conclusions, and has lost objectivity here. His original plan of exchanging minor pieces is the clear win. It goes something like this: 33. ...Bxf2 34. Kxf2 f5 35. c4 (presumably the plan that most worried Corey) 35. ...bxc4 36. a4 c3! 37. Ke1 (or Ke2 or Ke3, when the f-pawn soon advances with check) 37. ...f4 38. b5 c2 39. Kd2 f3 40. bxa6 f2 41. a7 f1/Q 42. a8/Q c1/Q# – RD}

34. Nd3+ Ke3 35. h4



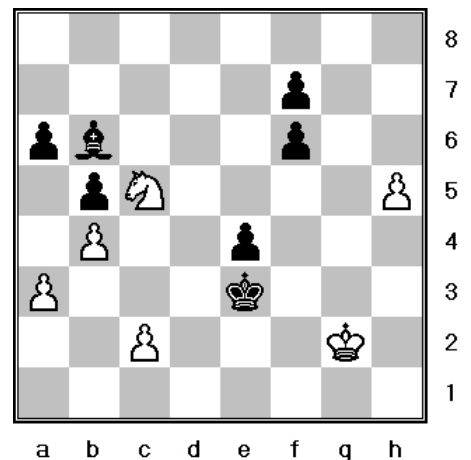
Here is Black's last chance to win. Was critical to both mobilize his passed center pawns and make squares available for the black bishop to stop the h-pawn. therefore 35. ...f5! was the move. Possible line is 36. Ne5 Bd8 37. h5 Bf6! (not 37. ...f6 38. Nd7 Be7 39. h6 and Black's bishop can't stop the h-pawn) 38. Nxf7 e5 39. h6 e4 40. h7 Kd2 41. h8(Q) Bxh8 42. Nxb3+ Kxg4 32. Kg2

35. ...e5

?? Within seconds realized this was the wrong move. And within 60 seconds realized not only was the wrong move but a fatal move. Now black tries make the best of a bad situation.

{Actually, Black is probably still winning, but he needs to find the right plan to stop that h-pawn. – RD}

36. h5 e4 37. Nc5

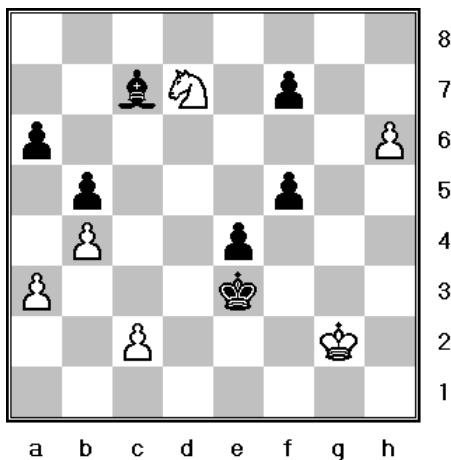


Black isn't winning anymore but he still has a chance to salvage a draw out of this mess. 37. ...Bxc5 38. bxc5 Kd2 39. c6 e3

40. c7 e2 41. c8(Q) e1(Q) White would queen first and have an outside passed h-pawn BUT White's king has nowhere to hide so a draw by perpetual check is very likely.

{Black needs to find 37. ...Bc7 to win now, threatening ...Bf4 to gain a tempo preventing Nc7, which guards e5. After 38. h6, he follows by playing the bishop to the long diagonal and clearing the f-pawn forward, in that order. – RD}

37. ...f5 38. h6 Bc7 39. Nd7



39. ...Kd2 40. h7 f4 41. h8=Q Ke2 42. Qd4 f3+ 43. Kg1 Bf4 44. Qxe4+ Be3+ 45. Kh2 f2 46. Qd3+

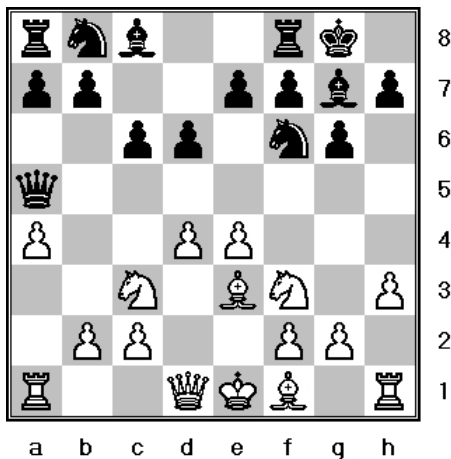
1-0

Corey Russell – Steven Breckenridge
Oregon Championship, Round 5
Portland, Oregon, February 16, 2009

1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Nc3 d6 4. Nf3

I had tried Austrian Attack vs a Pirc in an earlier round so decided to change up.

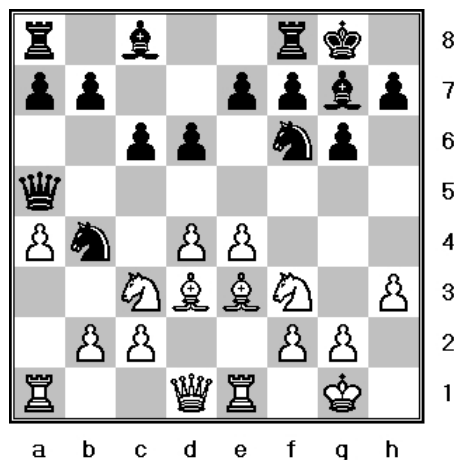
4. ...Nf6 5. h3 0-0 6. Be3 c6 7. a4 Qa5



8. Bd3

Here my opponent expected 8. Qd2. But that would allow ...b5 which in fact is exactly what he said he would play if I did that. The whole point of a4 is to *delay* b5, hence my move.

8. ...Na6 9. 0-0 Nb4 10. Re1

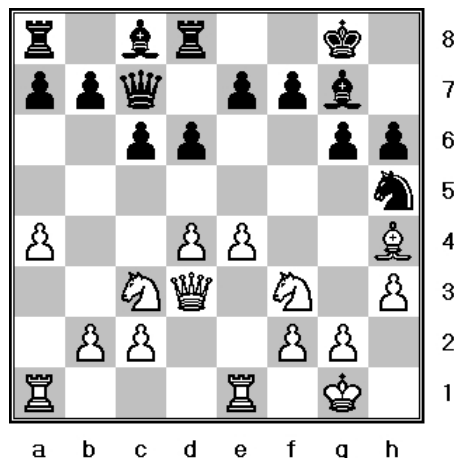


Here my opponent was surprised I gave up the bishop for the knight. However, just where was the bishop to go? e2? That would weaken my control of e4 (which was the whole reason the bishop got posted to d3 in the first place) and c4 will get hit with a ...d5 tempo by black. Re1, on the other hand, improves one of my pieces and *threatens* Bf1. In addition Black is trading a piece that will have moved three times for a piece of mine that has only moved once. That is usually good for me.

10. ...Nxd3 11. Qxd3 Rd8 12. Bd2

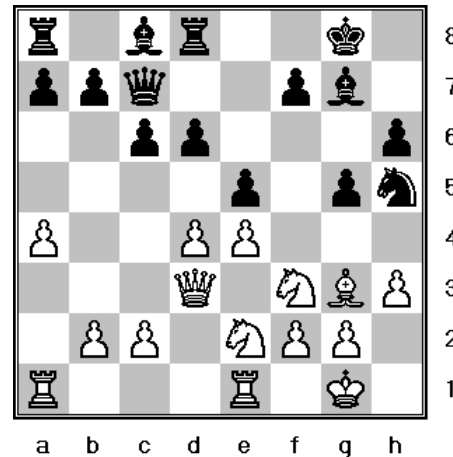
This plan White embarks didn't turn out too well. Instead Rd1 to both stop ...e5 (for the moment) and to help prepare d5 by White makes more sense.

12. ...Qc7 13. Bg5 h6 14. Bh4 Nh5



A nice idea. Threatens 15. ...g5 16. Bg3 Nxd3 17. fxg3 which would both give me doubled pawns and get two bishops for two knights in a position where the likelihood my opponent can open lines with pawn breaks a certainty. Not something was looking forward to, so tried...

15. Ne2 g5 16. Bg3 e5



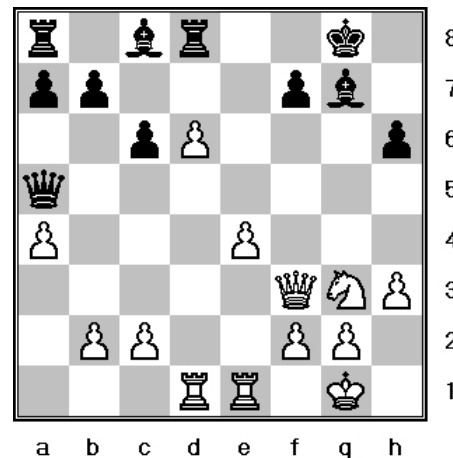
17. Rad1

White has a desperate idea but this is the wrong rook! Red1 was correct as this makes any ...Qa5 by Black *not* hit a possibly undefended rook at e1.

17. ...g4 18. dxe5

! Interesting, but shouldn't work.

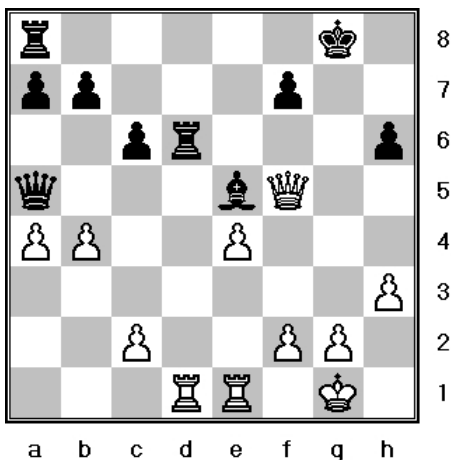
18. ...Nxd3 19. Nxd3 gxf3 20. exd6 Qa5 21. Qxf3



21. ...Be5

21. ...Rxd6 makes more sense since Black can take the rook at e1 if White takes.

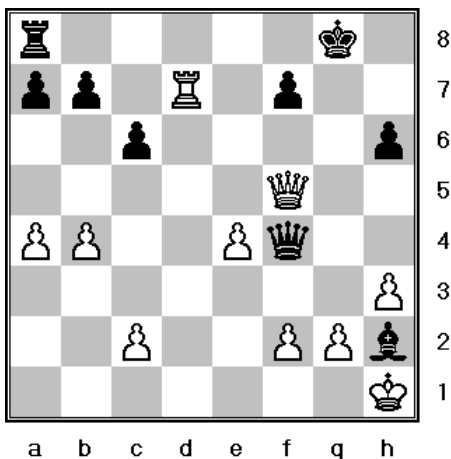
22. Nf5 Bxf5 23. Qxf5 Rxd6 24. b4



24. ...Rxd1

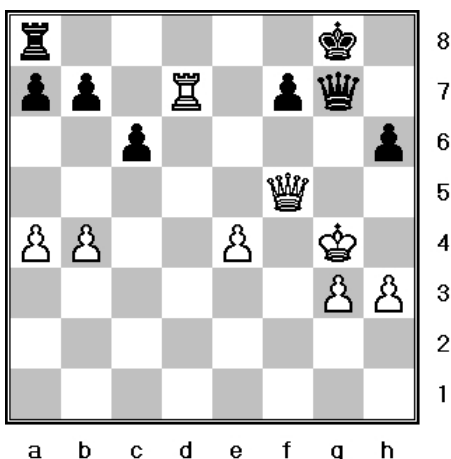
? Instead 24. ...Qd8! keeps black's piece.

25. Rxd1 Qc7 26. Rd7 Bh2+ 27. Kh1 Qf4



The only move to both cover the queen and the threatened mate at f7-h7.

28. g3 Bxg3 29. fxg3 Qc1+ 30. Kg2 Qxc2+ 31. Kf3 Qc3+ 32. Kg4 Qg7+



33. Kh4

Played quickly but wrong. Didn't realize at the time but was important to stop ...Qg6 by Black Therefore in that vein 34. Kh5! Rf8 35. e5 Qxg3 36. e6 is much more promising.

33. ...Re8 34. Rxb7 Rxe4+ 35. g4 Qg6

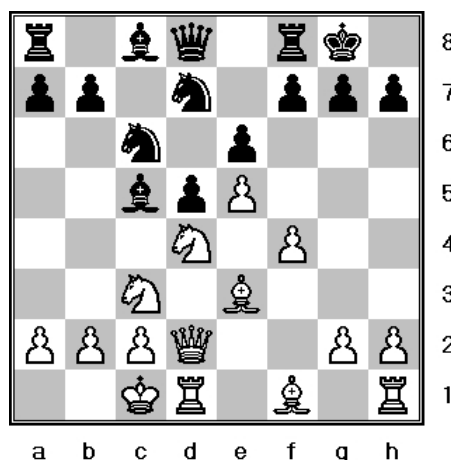
Black offered a draw here and had to agree with him because shortly after trading queens White will have to "waste" a move with Kg3 otherwise Black will go to the 3rd rank, play ...g5 and ...Rxh3 check.

1/2-1/2

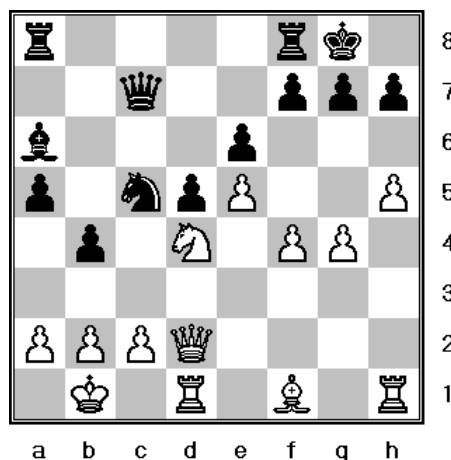
For Corey's round six encounter with Carl Haessler, see the April 2009 issue.

Corey Russell – Mike Pendergast Oregon Championship, Round 7 Portland, Oregon, February 21, 2009

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. e5 Nfd7 5. f4 c5 6. Nf3 Nc6 7. Be3 cxd4 8. Nxd4 Bc5 9. Qd2 0-0 10. 0-0-0



10. ...Nxd4 11. Bxd4 a6 12. h4 b5 13. h5 b4 14. Ne2 a5 15. g4 Qc7 16. Bxc5 Nxc5 17. Nd4 Ba6 18. Kb1

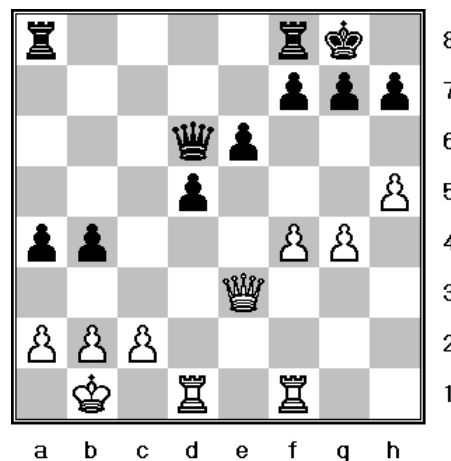


Was time to get the king off the same file as the black queen.

18. ...Ne4 19. Qc3 Bxf1 20. Rhxfl a4

21. ...a3 is a huge strategical threat by Black. White needs to thwart this even if it costs a pawn.

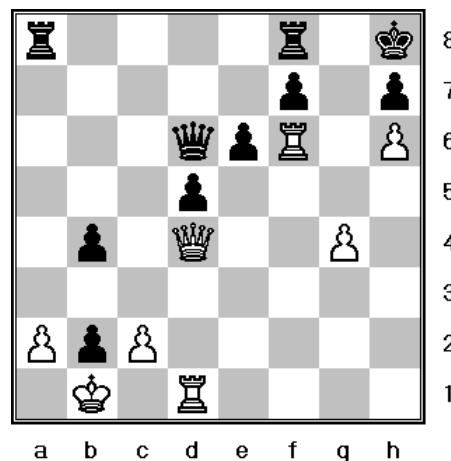
21. Nb5 Qc6 22. Nd6 Nxd6 23. exd6 Qxd6



24. f5 a3 25. f6 gxf6 26. Rxf6 axb2 27. h6 Kh8

Forced, otherwise white mates at g7.

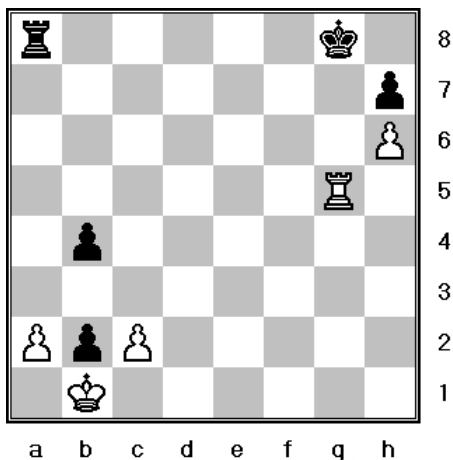
28. Qd4



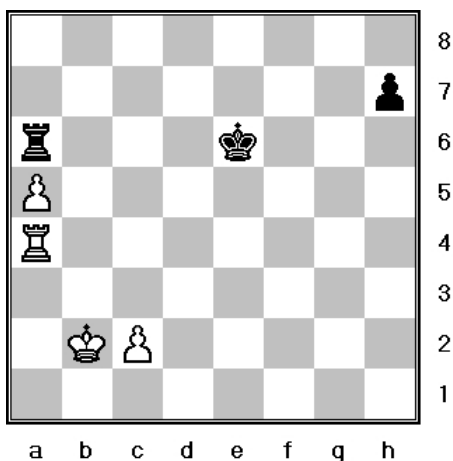
28. ...Kg8 29. Rg6+! fxg6 30. Qg7 mate doesn't help, so Black's reply is forced. Gives White advantage in the endgame.

28. ...e5 29. Rxd6 exd4 30. Rxd4 f5 31. gxf5 Rxf5 32. R6xd5 Rxd5 33. Rxd5 Kg8 34. Rg5+

Black's weak queen side pawns aren't going anywhere, this move probes Black to see if Black would move away from the h-file. Because if Black does that Rg7 and pick up Black's last king side pawn.



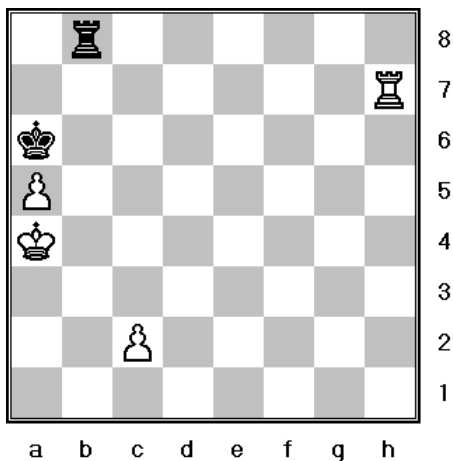
34. ...Kh8 35. Rb5 Kg8 36. Rxb4 Ra6
37. a4 Rxh6 38. a5 Ra6 39. Ra4 Kf7 40.
Kxb2 Ke6



41. Kb3 Kd5 42. Kb4 Kc6 43. Ra3 Ra8
44. Rc3+ Kb7 45. Rh3 Rb8

! A great move. Passive play like 45.
...Rh8 won't help black.

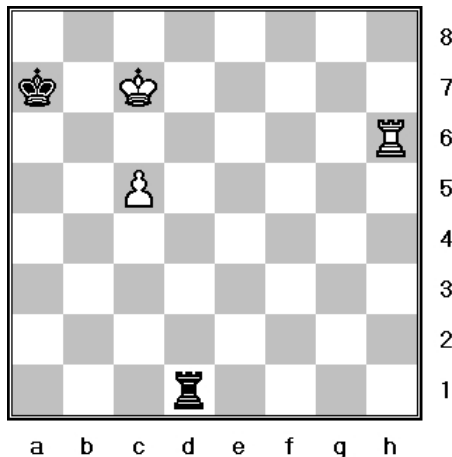
46. Rxh7+ Ka6+ 47. Ka4



47. ...Rb1

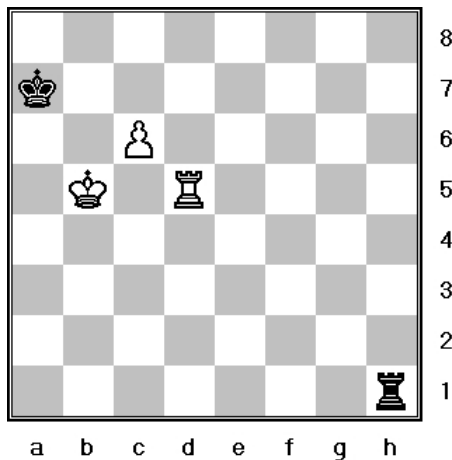
? This isn't a bad move per se, but Black has better: 47. ...Rb4+! (48. Kxb4 stalemate!) 48. Ka3 Rb5 (48. ...Kxa5?? 49. Ra7+ wins). Black wins the a-pawn and White's king is cut off from support of the c-pawn by the black rook. White can still try to win, but Black would have excellent chance to draw.

48. Rh6+ Ka7 49. c4 Kb7 50. a6+ Ka7
51. Ka5 Ra1+ 52. Kb5 Rb1+ 53. Kc5 Rc1
54. Kd5 Rd1+ 55. Kc6 Kxa6 56. c5 Ka7
57. Kc7



57. ...Rg1 58. Rh7 Rg8 59. c6 Rf8 60.
Rd7 Rh8 61. Rd8 Rh6 62. Rd4 Rh7+ 63.
Kd6 Rh6+ 64. Kc5 Rh5+ 65. Rd5 Rh6 66.
Kb5 Rh1

! Guaranteeing the draw. White's problem is he has no place to shield himself from the rook checks to draw black needs to play off this.



67. Kc5 Kb8 68. Kb6 Rb1+ 69. Rb5
Rc1 70. Rh5 Rb1+ 71. Rb5

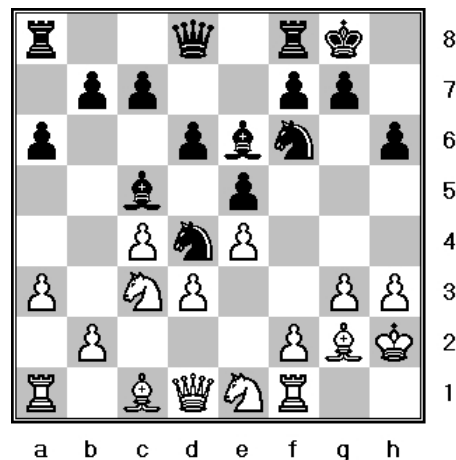
I offered a draw on this move since it is

clear he has successfully defended the ending.

1/2-1/2

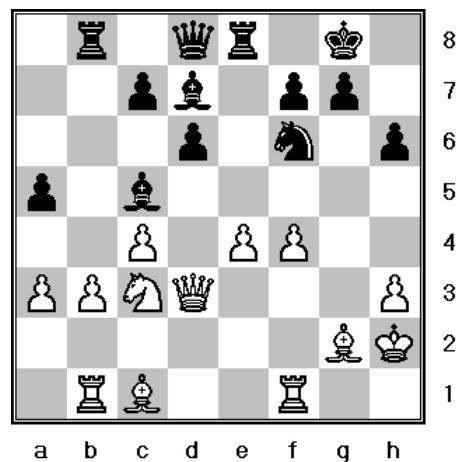
Nick Raptis – Corey Russell
Oregon Championship, Round 8
Portland, Oregon, February 22, 2009

1. c4 Nf6 2. Nc3 e5 3. g3 Nc6 4. Bg2
Bc5 5. d3 0-0 6. Nf3 d6 7. 0-0 h6 8. a3 a6
9. Ne1 Bg4 10. h3 Be6 11. e4 Nd4 12. Kh2



Black has finished development and he needs to make a plan. Queenside break or ...f5 are likely ones. I believed the f5 break favored White since his knight, bishop and queen were all prepared to take advantage of light squares. So therefore chose queenside break.

12. ...b5 13. b3 Rb8 14. Rb1 bxc4 15.
dxc4 a5 16. f4 exf4 17. gxf4 Re8 18. Nf3
Nxf3+ 19. Qxf3 Bd7 20. Qd3



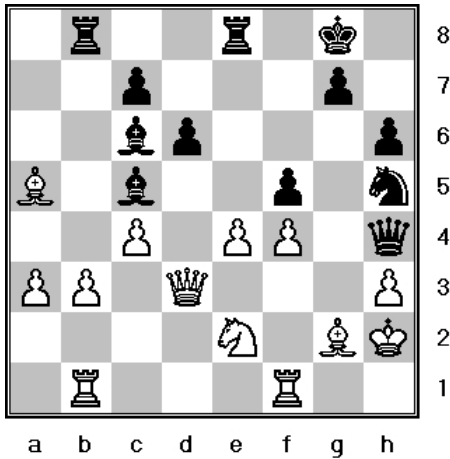
20. ...Nh5

? 20. ...Bc6 gives White a lot of technical difficulties and was analyzed extensively in the post mortem. The text looks tempting but leads to disaster for Black.

21. Ne2 Qh4 22. Bd2 Bc6

This plan doesn't work, but can't offer an improvement. After black's ill-timed kingside sortie White just has a clear advantage.

23. Bxa5 f5

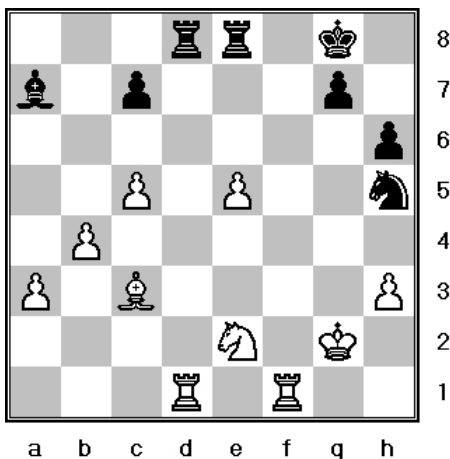


If White were forced to take, this would be a fantastic move, viz: 23. exf5? Rxe2! 24. Qxe2 Qg3+ 25. Kh1 Qxh3 mate! However White has much better than taking the pawn...

24. e5 Bxg2 25. Kxg2

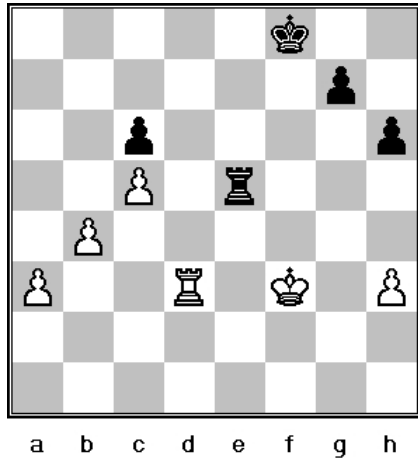
25. ...dxe5 26. Qd5+ Kh8 27. Qxc5 wins a piece for White. And if Black can't take, then White is just winning now.

25. ...Rbc8 26. Be1 Qe7 27. Qxf5 Qf7 28. Qxf7+ Kxf7 29. b4 Ba7 30. Bc3 dxe5 31. fxe5+ Kg8 32. Rbd1 Rcd8 33. c5



Simple but strong.

33. ...c6 34. Rxd8 Rxd8 35. Nf4 Nxf4+ 36. Rxf4 Bb8 37. Rd4 Re8 38. Rd3 Kf8 39. Kf3 Bxe5 40. Bxe5 Rxe5



41. Rd6 Rf5+ 42. Ke4 Rh5 43. Rxc6 Rxh3 44. b5 Rb3 45. b6 h5 46. Rc7 h4 47. b7 h3 48. Rc8+ Kf7 49. b8=Q Rxb8 50. Rxb8 h2 51. Rh8

White has no more ways to make a mistake and Black can not offer any more resistance so therefore resigned. One thing I noticed once I got home from this tourney is that the cards were really stacked against me this tournament – not only did I get five blacks but also got black against *all* the other masters in the tournament. Good thing I like challenges.

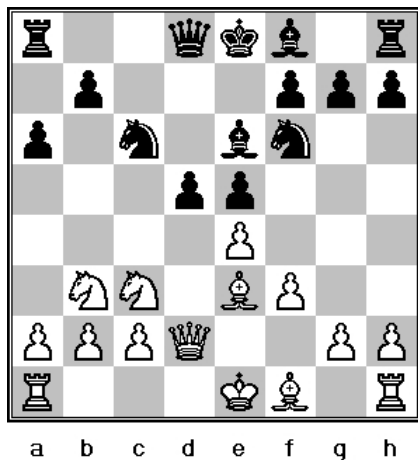
1-0

**Daniel Gay – Corey Russell
Oregon Championship, Round 9
Portland, Oregon, February 22, 2009**

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. Be3

Unfortunately I still need to study this line more for Black. Schulien did this line against me and I tried standard Schevenigen ideas of ...b5, ...Nbd7, etc. but got steam rolled. Wasn't interested in a repeat performance so thought I'd try a line I felt comfortable with.

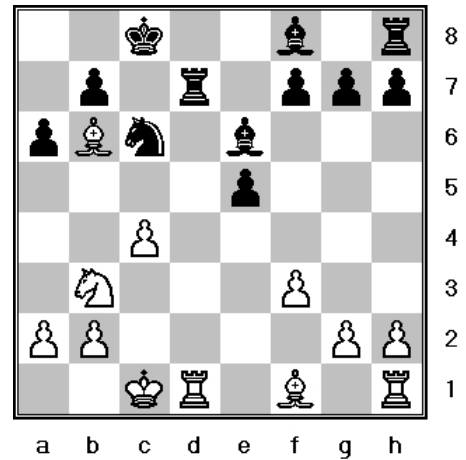
6. ...e5 7. Nb3 Be6 8. f3 Nc6 9. Qd2 d5



10. exd5 Nxd5 11. Nxd5 Qxd5 12. Qxd5

I was happy to see this. I thought 12. Qf2 would have made it more difficult for me.

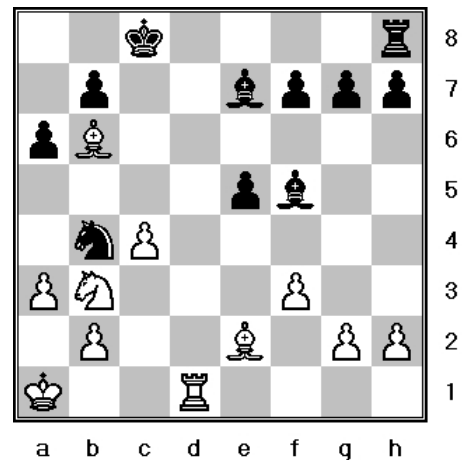
12. ...Bxd5 13. 0-0-0 0-0-0 14. Bb6 Rd7 15. c4 Be6



16. Rxd7 Kxd7 17. Be2 Be7 18. Rd1+ Kc8 19. Kb1 Nb4

?! Dubious. 19. ...Bd8 followed by 20. ...Bc7 and 21. ...Rd8 makes more sense.

20. a3 Bf5+ 21. Ka1



21. ...Bc2 22. axb4 Bxb3 23. Rd5 Bxb4 24. Rxe5 Ba4 25. c5 Re8 26. Rxe8+ Bxe8 27. Bc4 Bd2 28. Kb1 Bf4 29. h3 Bc7 30. Bxc7 Kxc7 31. Bd5 f6

I offered a draw here. White has the better placed bishop but the c5 can easily become a liability so white accepted.

1/2-1/2

It took 6.5 hours to annotate my nine games. I used the freeware program WinBoard to input and enter my comments into a PGN file, then e-mailed the file to editor@nwchess.com. Now you guys can annotate your games and send them too!

Opening Arguments

by Harley Greninger



The 2009 Amber Rapid/Blindfold tournament was unexpectedly won by Levon Aronian of Armenia. Aronian is definitely no slouch, being ranked number 11 in the world at 2750. Nevertheless, he had to overcome the very best on earth. The tourney fielded the six top-ranked players in the world, and eight of the top ten players, including the current World Champion Vishy Anand and top-ranked Veselin Topalov.

Combined		Rapid		Blindfold	
1. Aronian	14	1. Anand	7	1. Aronian	7
2. Anand	13½	Aronian	7	Carlsen	7
Kramnik	13½	Kamsky	7	Kramnik	7
4. Carlsen	13	4. Kramnik	6½	4. Anand	6½
5. Morozevich	11	5. Carlsen	6	Morozevich	6½
6. Karjakin	10½	Karjakin	6	6. Leko	5½
Topalov	10½	7. Topalov	5	Topalov	5½
8. Kamsky	10	8. Ivanchuk	4½	8. Ivanchuk	5
Leko	10	Leko	4½	Radjabov	5
10. Ivanchuk	9½	Morozevich	4½	10. Karjakin	4½
11. Radjabov	9	11. Radjabov	4	11. Wang Yue	3½
12. Wang Yue	7½	Wang Yue	4	12. Kamsky	3

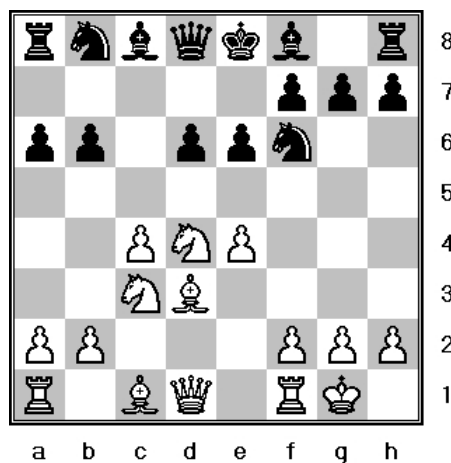
My favorite game of the event was the Rapid game Topalov versus Kamsky. Conveniently occurring on the heels of the Topalov-Kamsky Candidates Match, this was a superb artistic achievement for Gata.

Topalov – Kamsky Amber 2009 Rapid, Round 10 Nice, France, 2009

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4
a6 5. Bd3

Reaching one of the positions we had anticipated would occur in the Topalov-Kamsky Candidates match.

5. ...Nf6 6. 0-0 d6 7. c4 b6 8. Nc3



It's curious to note that Fritz 11 initially indicates that White is near winning here.

Clearly, computers fail to grasp the concept of the 'coiled-spring' effect of such hedgehog setups.

8. ...Bb7 9. a4!?

This idea had been introduced into GM play by Beliavsky back in 1986. After the further advance to a5, White hopes to gain initiative on the Q-side, which will be a nice compliment to his central space advantage.

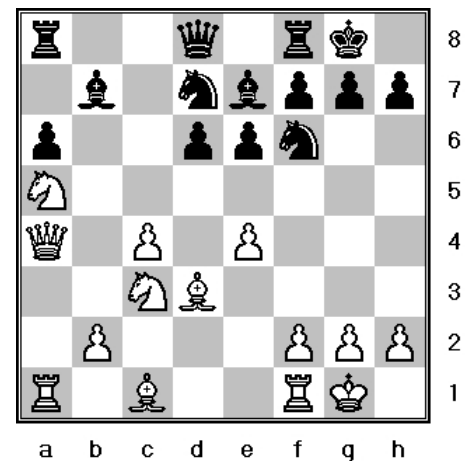
9. ...Be7

9... Nc6 10. Nxc6 Bxc6 11. Qf3 Be7 12. Qg3 O-O 13. Bh6 Ne8 14. Be3 g6 with slightly better prospects for White. Beliavsky (2585)-Ionescu (2495)/Sochi 1986; 1-0 in 56 moves.

10. a5 bxa5 11. Qa4+ Nbd7

Here's our first new move. Previously in Karjakin (2686)- Akesson (2478) Dresden 2007, Black had played the other Knight to d7, gaining equality after 11... Nfd7 12. Be3 O-O 13. Qxa5 Qxa5 14. Rxa5 Rc8 15. Be2 Ne5 16. Ra4 Nbd7 17. f3?! (Better is 17. f4) 17. ...Rab8 =

12. Nb3 0-0 13. Nxa5



After a cursory examination of the position, one would think that White has a fine position. The Knight at a5 exerts pressure on b7 and c6, White can now gain the bishop pair at any time, White has more space, Black's pawn at a6 (after the removal of the b7 bishop) may become fatally weak and Black is somewhat cramped. All this aside, Kamsky demonstrates the hidden strength of Black's position!

13. ...Qc7 14. f3

If White plays the immediate 14. b4, then Black can equalize at once with 14. ...Ne5. Also, Black has a comfortable game after 14. Nxb7 Qxb7 15. b4 a5! 16. bxa5 Nc5 17.

Qc2 Bd8.

14. ...Rab8!? 15. b4

The greedy 15. Nxb7 Rxb7 16. Qxa6 loses to 16. ...Ne5.

15. ...Ba8

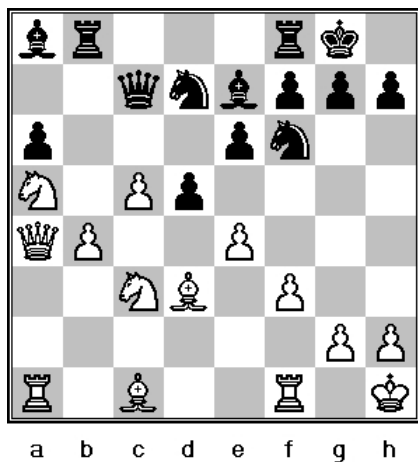
Now 15. ...Ne5 can be answered by 16. Be2. Now that Black has preserved his QB, the thematic d6-d5 is 'in the air.' Black also threatens 16. ...Qb6+, which explains White's next.

16. Kh1 d5!

Unleashes the latent power of his pieces! The Hypermoderns were the first to unveil the possibilities which lie in the 'coiled-spring' setups. Although this concept is common knowledge today, few execute such positions as beautifully as Kamsky does in this game.

17. c5

Best. White doesn't have time to play 17. exd5 due to 17. ... Bxb4! and Black gains a clear advantage. For example, 18. Ne4 exd5 19. Nxf6+ Nxf6 20. cxd5 Nxd5. (20. ...Rfd8 is also quite good.)



17. ...Qe5!

This powerful centralizing move gives Black a huge initiative.

18. Bd2

18. Bb2 is unplayable due to Nxc5! I would prefer the geometric 18. Qa3 over what Topalov played. White now falls into difficulties.

18. ...Qd4!

The Queen creeps into the heart of White's position.

19. Qc2

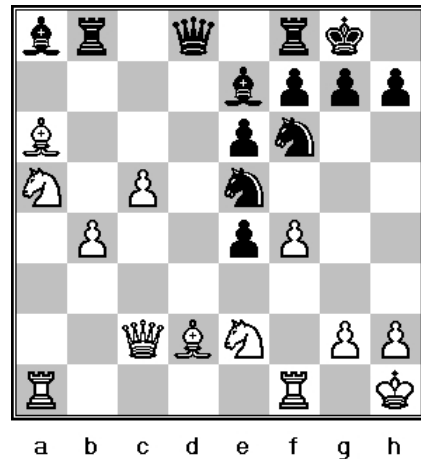
As Viktors Pupols would say, "Box!" (meaning 'the only move').

19. ...Ne5

The safe way to maintain the pressure. No need to go into the double-edged 19... Rxb4?! 20. Ne2! Qxc5 21. Bxb4 Qxc2 22. Bxc2 Bxb4. Even though Black has obvious

compensation for the Exchange, it would not be the cleanest way to play the position.

20. Bxa6 dxe4 21. Ne2 Qd8 22. f4



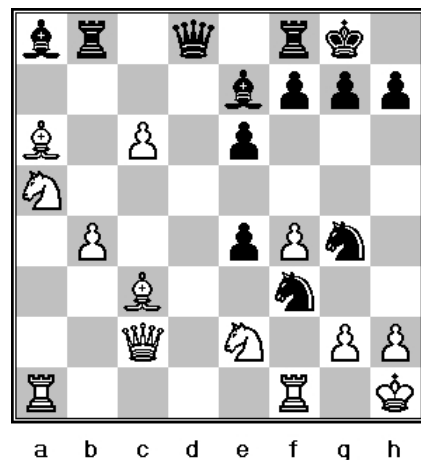
It's clear that White cannot allow the further opening of the a8 bishop's diagonal.

22. ...Nf3! 23. Bc3

White's position totally collapses after 23. gxf3 exf3 24. Nc3 (or 24. Ng3 f2+ 25. c6 Qd5+ wins the house.) 24... f2+ 25. c6 Bxb4.

23. ...Ng4 24. c6

If now 24. gxf3, Black can continue to play beautifully with 24. ...exf3 25. Ng3 Ne3 26. Qd2 f2+ 27. c6 Qxa5!



24. ...Nfxh2!

Playing to win the King, rather than the exchange after ...Ne3.

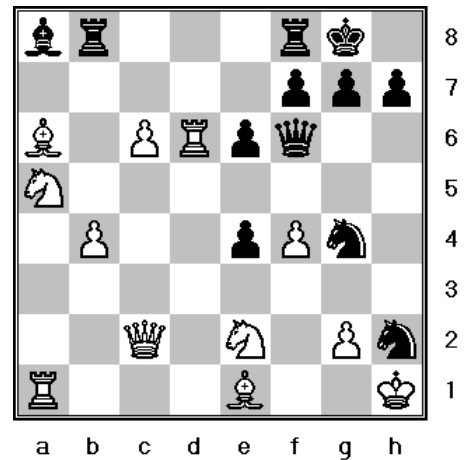
25. Rfd1 Bd6

Looking to transfer the Queen to the decisive h4 square. Another method of accomplishing the same thing would be by 25... Qb6 26. b5 Qf2, when White would be unable to play 27. Be1 due to the beautiful 27. ...Nf3!! 28. Bxf2 (there is no defense) 28. ...Nxf2#.

26. Be1 Qf6

Now that h4 is unavailable, let's try for h6...

27. Rxd6?



It's difficult to blame Topalov for missing Black's next dazzling shot. White should seal up with 27. Qc3! e5 (27. ...Qh6 28. Qh3 holds) 28. Rxd6 Qxd6 29. fxe5 Qh6 30. Qh3 although Black must still be better.

27. ...Nf3!!

The coup de grace! I'm sure Topalov had expected 27. ...Qh6, when 28. Ng1! holds the kingside and White can proceed to cash in his material advantage. Or 27. ...Qxa1 28. Qc3, when White also survives.

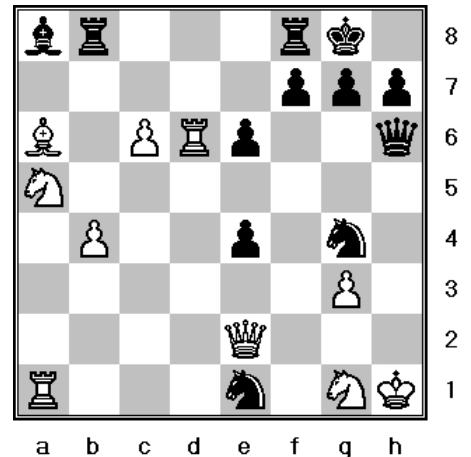
28. Ng1

Nor does 28. gxf3 offer relief after 28. ...Qh6+ 29. Kg1 Qh2+ 30. Kf1 Ne3#.

28. ...Nxe1 29. Qe2

Or 29. Rxe1 Qh4+ 30. Nh3 Qxe1+.

29. ...Qxf4 30. g3 Qh6+!



Mate is forced. (Can you work out the mate in seven after 31.Nh3?).

"I wanted to prove to myself that I can play Sicilians also. Not just some stupid Spanish torturing manoeuvring crap!" – Kamsky (paraphrased, otherwise viewer discretion would be advised)

0-1

poem continued from front cover

Be careful not allow your attentions
To stray from the Good Bishop
When in need of salvation
For because he interposes
surreptitiously under the
Guise of a slanted perspective
Be leery of his swift movements
Which may extend to the corners of
the board

It is he who moves without notice,
Without noise, or the expectation
Of the evil enemies he seeks to destroy
Though Heavenly projection
He lies in wait, watching
Through a lens of eternal judgment

When in strategic placement
He is highly capable of a
Spirited, unforeseen
And devilishly
Long diagonal
Attack of the soul
Of his
Opponent's strategy

Be careful not to dismiss the
countergambits of
The knight
For though he takes only
Two straight steps before turning
To his side, his family forks are often
Unforeseen by his enemies
His agility allows him
To take advantage of the outposts
Resulting in a smothered mate

Defeating the minds of those who
Are unable to appreciate the abstract
Possibility of his patterned movements

His most prominent, though pagan
victim

Is often the rook that stands firmly
In a guise of a protective fortress
Laid in his cramped, solid ground
And often unexpectedly
Within the Bishop's unforeseen
clutches

Steer clear of the rook,
For though he stands firm
He is stuck within his foundation
And often unable to bring
To fruition the moves he
Desires to make
Sliding only forward and backward
And side to side
His vulnerability is often a tempting
decoy
To the deflection others
As he zugzwangs

Oh yes, let's not forget the passive
pawn's ample kicks

While he may be taken en passant
Perhaps he serves well as a moving
impediment

To the desires of all pieces
When a poised pawn is put to death
It is often without remorse
Be forewarned, however, for when in
contract

With the King
The endgame may result
In a bloody triangulation of defeat
Be wary of those who play with rules
Of reincarnation, for that same
queened pawn
May through underpromotion
Earn rebirth in the form of any other
Player.

Take heed, gentle Duffer,
When ending your round
Of romantic chess
For when you care to engage in
Reflective post-mortem
Pay secure attention to the king,
For it is a heavy burden
For one piece to know. . .

*Cecily Alexis Anderson is a middle school
English teacher – and poet – in Baltimore
County, Maryland.*

VISITORS WELCOMED
at the
OREGON CITY / WEST LINN CHESS CLUB
Pioneer Adult Community Center
Tuesdays: 7-10 pm 615 Fifth St. Oregon City
For more information (enter by basement door
503-744-0997 on Washington St.)



Washington Open Chess Tournament May 23-25, 2009 in Spokane!

Washington Chess Federation

WA Open Sections/Entry Fees (by April 15 / May 15 / on site)

OPEN

EF \$79 / \$89 / \$99

PREMIER (U2000)

EF \$69 / \$79 / \$89

RESERVE (U1700)

EF \$59 / \$69 / \$79

BOOSTER (U1400)

EF \$49 / \$59 / \$69

Free entry to GM's, IM's, WGM's.

\$25 entry option for juniors under age 21 playing for medal only. Three medals awarded per section.

\$8,000 Prizes Guaranteed by the Gary Younker Foundation!

Hosted by the Spokane Chess Club

Open	Prem.	Res.	Boos.
\$1,000	\$400	\$350	\$300
\$600	\$300	\$250	\$150
\$400	\$250	\$200	\$100
\$300	\$200	\$150	\$100
\$200	\$150	\$100	\$100
U2150	U1850	U1550	U1100
\$400	\$250	\$200	\$120
\$250	\$150	\$100	\$ 80
\$150	\$100	\$100	\$120(*)
\$100	\$100	\$100	\$ 80 (*)

(*) Prizes for unrated players.

\$100 Martha Jane Miller Memorial

Prize for top woman in open section.

All prizes will be mailed after the event.

Entries/Information:

Dan Mathews

WCF Tournament Coordinator

730 Olympic Ave

Edmonds, WA 98020

Cell Phone (425) 218-7529

New! dthmathews@aol.com

Make checks payable to Washington
Chess Federation (WCF).

Online registration available at

www.nwchess.com.

Red Lion River Inn, 700 N Division Street, Spokane, WA 99202.

This location is 100 yards from the Spokane club's normal tourney site at the Schoenberg Center at Gonzaga University. Hotel reservations: (509) 326-5577, or toll free (800) Red-Lion. Ask for \$99 chess rate. (Some Red Lion customers may qualify for a lower online rate.)

Registration/Byes: Saturday 8:15-9:15AM for 3-day, or 3:30-4:15 PM if entering with one half-point bye. Sunday 8:15-9:00 AM for 2-day, or 9:00-9:30 AM if entering 3-day event with two half-point byes. Two half-point byes available, which must be requested in advance, or at site before the announced cutoff time.

Format/Ratings: Four sections (see bar at left), six round Swiss system, USCF rated. The Open Section is also FIDE rated. USCF May supplement ratings will be used. Unrated players may play in open or booster section only, and are eligible for top five prizes in open and the two unrated prizes in booster section.

Time Controls: 3-day schedule: 40/2 Hrs., SD/1 Hr. 2-day schedule: Rounds 1-3: Game/60 minutes. (Rounds 4-6 same as 3-day schedule.) Both schedules: Digital clocks preferred. 5-second time delay used from start of game.

Rounds: 3-day schedule: Saturday: 10:00AM, 5:00PM, Sunday: 10:00AM, 5:00PM, Monday: 9:00AM, 3:30PM. 2-day schedule: Sunday: 9:30AM, 11:45AM, 2:30PM, then join 3-day schedule for rest of tourney. WCF annual meeting: 3:30 PM Sunday, May 24.

Memberships: USCF and either WCF or OCF membership required in all sections, OSA. Memberships (including USCF) must be current or paid fully.

Miscellaneous: 2009 Chess Cafe Grand Prix event (50 pts), Harmon Memorial NW Grand Prix event. Please bring set, board and clock. No smoking. No computers. Please use entry form (when available) for a list of all discounts and fees, and to indicate schedule, section, side events and byes requested.

Entries/Prizes/Info: See bar at left. Online entry available on NWC website.

Side Events:

May 23 Washington Open Scholastic. See NWC website, or contact David Hendricks, WCF Scholastic Director, 2439 220th Place NE, Sammamish, WA 98074, ph. 425-868-3881, e-mail: DavidCHendricks@comcast.net.

May 24 (Sunday night) WA Open Blitz Championship. Format: 6 round Swiss in 2 sections, Open and Reserve (U1700). EF: \$25.00 (until May 21st), \$30.00 at site, \$10.00 discount if playing in main tourney. TC: G/5. Not USCF rated. WCF/OCF membership required, OSA. Reg. by 9:00 PM. Rds: 9:30, 9:45, 10:00, 10:15, 10:30, 10:45. 11:00 PM playoff to break ties for 1st place. Prizes (b/26): Open 1st \$100.00 + plaque, 2nd \$50.00, U1900 \$40.00; Reserve 1st \$100.00 + plaque, 2nd \$50.00, U1500 \$40.00.

May 24 WA Open Novice Championship. Format: one section 5 round Swiss, open to U1200 or unrated. TC: G/45. EF: \$12.00 (until May 21st), \$16.00 at site. Reg. 9:00-9:45 AM. Rds: 10:00, 11:45, 1:30, 3:15, 5:00. Prizes: trophies 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 1st, 2nd U1200, U1100, U1000, U900, U800, Unrated. WCF/OCF membership required (option to pay \$5 tournament membership instead of \$17 or \$25 full-year membership).

Revised 4/11/2009 (new e-mail for Dan Mathews).

A Heritage Event!

110th Annual U.S. Open Aug. 1-9, 4-9 or 6-9

CELEBRATE USCF'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY BY PARTICIPATING IN THIS TRADITIONAL EVENT!

New features this year include 4-day option requiring only 3 nights hotel stay for most players, and later start for 6-day option so most will need only 5 nights hotel stay.

TYPE: 9 round Swiss System, Time Control: 40/2, SD/1 (4 day option, Rds. 1-6, G/60).

SITE: Indianapolis Marriott East, 7202 East 21st St, Indianapolis IN 46219. Luxurious hotel with great lighting in tournament room! Phone: 317-352-1231. **Hotel Rate:** \$99 single/quad.

PRIZES: \$50,000 in prizes based on 500 paid entries, else proportional, except \$40,000 (80% of each prize) minimum guarantee. A one section tournament with Class prizes. Top 5 US players qualify for 2010 US Championship.

Many side events: including US Blitz Championship 8/8. USCF Delegates meeting 8/8-9, workshops 8/5-7, USCF Awards Luncheon 8/8 noon, GM lectures & simulms to be announced.

Choice of three schedules: Traditional: 40/2, SD/1. One round daily at 7 pm, except rd. 9, 8/9 at 3pm. 6-Day Option: 8/4 7 pm, 8/5-7 12 noon & 7 pm, 8/8 7 pm, 8/9 at 3pm. 4-Day Option: 8/6 2 pm, 5 pm & 8 pm; 8/7 10 am, 1 pm, 3:30 pm & 7 pm, 8/8 7 pm, 8/9 3pm. All schedules merge after Round 6 & compete for same prizes.

Projected prizes: Top Places: \$8000-4000-2000-1500-1000-800-600-500, clear winner \$200 bonus. If tie for first, top two on tiebreak play speed game (white 5 minutes, black 3 minutes and gets draw odds, 5 second delay) for bonus and title. Class Prizes: Top Master (2200-2399): \$2500-1200-800-500. Top Expert (2000-2199): \$2500-1200-800-500. Top Class A (1800-1999): \$2500-1200-800-500. Top Class B (1600-1799): \$2500-1200-800-500. Top Class C (1400-1599): \$2000-1000-600-400. Top Class D (1200-1399): \$1500-700-500-300. Top Class E or below (under 1200): \$1500-700-500-300. Top Unrated: \$800-400-200.

SPECIAL PRIZE for Washington State Residents:

Stephen Christopher Memorial 2009 US Open

Prize \$500.00 for the best score by a player or players USCF rated under 2000.

Half Point Byes: must commit before round 4; up to 3 byes allowed for 2000/up, 2 byes for 1400-1999, one bye for Under 1400/Unr. Zero point byes are always available in any round.

Entry Fee: Online, \$135 by 5/15, \$155 by 7/29. By mail, \$137 postmarked by 5/15, \$157 postmarked by 7/23. By phone, \$140 by 5/15, \$160 by 7/29. At site, all \$180. GMs free.

Entry: USCF, ATTN: 2009 US Open, PO. Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557. Online entry: <https://secure.uschess.org/webstore/tournaments.php>. **Phone entry:** 800-903-8723.

Tournament website:

main.uschess.org/tournaments/2009/usopen/.

FIDE rated, no cell phones. Bring a clock - none supplied. Sets/boards supplied for tournament but not for skittles. **WCL JGP.**

March was a busy month for tournaments at the club.

The Sunday Quads were held on 3/1. There was only 1 quad with 3 players. The winner was Dennis Ambler from Everett. The Wed. Night Quads was held on 3/11. There were 2 quads with 7 players. The winners were: Quad #1, David Wight, 3.0; Quad #2, Drayton Harrison, 3.0.

The Northwest Open was held on March 14-15 with 15 players. The winners were: 1st Huso Hadzic, 4.5, \$52.00; 1st in Group #1, Mike MacGregor, 4.0, \$31.00; 1st in Group #2, Vernon Vanpoucke, 3.0, \$29.00; 1st in Group #3, Mike Kamrath, 2.0, \$28.00.

The March Madness Quads were held on 3/20. There were four Quads with 15 players total. The winners were: Quad #1, Jose Silva, 3.0; Quad #2, David Wight, 3.0; Quad #3, Geo Criddell, 3.0; Quad #4, Gary Dorfner, 2.5 points.

Tacoma Chess Times

by Gary Dorfner



The TCC Gambit Tourney was held on 3/27. There were ten players in all. Winners: 1st, Peter Marriott, 3.0; 2nd, Steve Buck, Larry Anderson, and David Wight, 2.0 each. The prizes for these one day or night tournament were chess books.

TD for all events was Gary Dorfner.

The McChord AFB Championship was held February 28 at the base. There were two sections with nine players in all.

The winners were: Active/Retirees Section, 1st, Amos Matsick and Dale Bateman, 3.0 each. Youth Section, 1st, Alan Duell and Alex Stephens, also with 3.0 each.

TD, Gary Dorfner.

The Tacoma Chess Club vs Seattle Chess Club Match was held in Seattle on March 7.

S.C.C.	2	3	T.C.C.
William Schill	1	0	Mike MacGregor
Geoff Gale	0	1	Paul Bartron
Fred Kleist	½	½	Allen Smith
David Kelly	½	½	Tony Fernandes
Boas Lee	0	1	Gary Dorfner

This Month in Northwest Chess History

by Russell Miller



1949

Editor Jack Finnigan of Gig Harbor Washington's second effort in the editor chair. Postal Chess section was under the leadership of Neil Power of Snohomish. The listed feature editors: Richard Allen of Seattle, T. Patrick Corbett of Seattle, Jim Schmitt of Portland. Peter Husby of Everett was the circulation manager.

Arthur Duke of Portland won the Pacific Northwest Masters-Experts held in Tacoma with a 5-0 score. Olaf Ulvestad of Seattle scored 3.5-1.5, Charles Joachim of Seattle and C. Crain of Tacoma won 2 and lost 3, George Reddington 1.5-3.5 with fellow Portland, Oregon, player Jim Schmidt at 1-4. The Seattle CC hosted the Washington State Speed Championship which was won by Glen Muller: 13 players took part and Muller's score was 11-2. Richard Allen was close behind at 10-3. That event proved to be so much fun they did it again the next Saturday with the same result: Muller won 8 and drew one. Kitsap club played speed also with Nourse the winner of the A section, 4-0.

Jim Schmitt won the Portland CC championship for 1949 with 12.5-5.

In the Puget Sound League report, Tacoma downed Seattle 8-2, Everett scored over YMCA 6/5-3.5. Bellingham drew with Kitsap 5-5. Tacoma was leading the league at this report.

The Washington State College CC was trying to arrange a radio match with the UofW.

1959

16-page issue done by Editor Dan Wade of Seattle. He announced that Buz Eddy of Seattle was going to take over the editor slot with the next issue. Wade had been editor for the better part of the previous seven years. Dan said he was planning on playing more chess after he no longer had to spend 40-50 hours of each month putting out the chess news.

In a playoff match, Dr. David Groenig downed Gordon Cornelius for the 1959 Spokane CC title.

The report of the annual meeting of the Washington Chess Federation was given. Election of officers was the main business with Max Mage elected President, Dan Wade V.P., W.H. Raleigh Treasurer, Buz Eddy WCL Editor, Fred Howard Publicity Director, Al Livingston Tournament Director, R.R. Merk Circulation

Director, Robert Karch Rating Director, and in a contested election for Secretary, Charles Joachim defeated Dr. A. A. Murray.

Eight teams were taking part in the Seattle High School League with Lincoln on top after 6 rounds.

Deane Moore of Portland gave a report as Oregon Editor. Ivars Dalbergs was atop the Portland CC Ladder. In Portland High School league play, John Bell of Roosevelt was the best board 1 player; board 2, Frank Nettleton of Clackamas; board 3, Jerry Uyena of Roosevelt; Board 4, John Davis of Clackamas; Board 5, Dave Paproff of Roosevelt. Roosevelt is leading the league at the halfway point in play. The Portland CC took on a group from Eugene and won the match, 7.5-4.5.

Buz Eddy of Seattle won the Panhandle Jr held in Sandpoint Idaho. Willy Brandal won the West Seattle CC championship, 9-0.

14 players took part in the Wallace High event won by Stephen Sala, 11-2. The Seattle CC championship of 10 players was won by Viesturs Seglins 8-1.

35 players took part in the Puget Sound Open this year. Top score was 5.5-5 by Olaf Ulvestad. Jim McCormick was 2nd on tiebreaks over Clark Harmon, at 5-1.

171 players were listed in the Northwest Ratings report in this issue of WCL.

In his monthly "10 years ago in Washington Chess" column, R. R. Merk noted that of the 55 postal chess players listed in 1949, 7 were still active in 1959.

Weaver was the top of the postal rating list in this May 1959 issue.

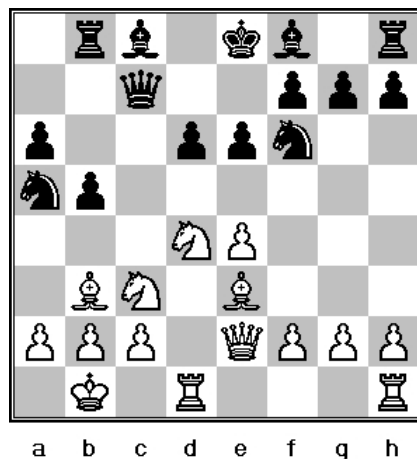
Washington Championship Games

William
Schill
Annotates

Do not be superstitious; it is bad luck!

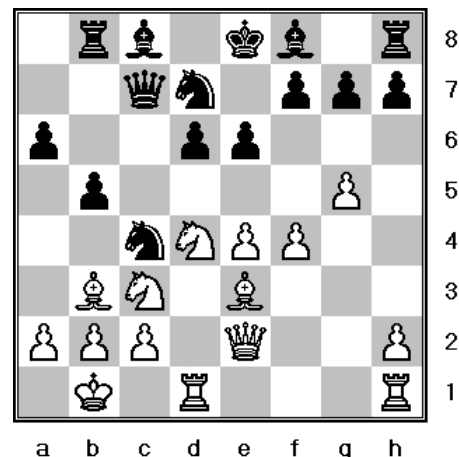
Costin Cozianu – William Schill
Washington Championship, Round 1
Bellevue, Washington, February 2009

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4
Nf6 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Be4 e6 7. Be3 a6 8. Qe2
Qc7 9. 0–0–0 Na5 10. Bb3 b5 11. Kb1 Rb8



Black is clearly playing for a win and White has to get busy.

13. g5 Nd7 14. f4



Why this move? I know that g2-g4-g5 is coming and the knight on f6 will have to retreat to d7, so the bishop on b3 must be blocked otherwise after ...Nf6-d7, Bxe6 is coming. Additionally I conceived of the plan ...Nf6-d7-b6 and then ...Nxb2, and after Kxb2 black has ...Na4+ and gets the piece back. Since I never get to play Nxb2 the whole idea is poor, and indeed Rb8 is the beginning of my troubles. I should have seen from a distance that the flaw in the concept is that both knights make all my moves then come off the board! Material may end up even, but all the remaining black men would still be at home.

A greedy alternative is 11. ...b4 12. Na4 Nxb3 13. cxb3 Nxe4. My old copy of Fritz still likes Black here. On the Chessbase site the data is White 75%. I never considered winning a pawn this early with my king in the center. And yet I had never seen Kb1 before, and I even consider Bb3 to be inaccurate; Bd3 is normal. Trying to make something out of White's early move to b1 warped my thinking. I did not want to capture on b3 because it would give White an open c-file for his rooks to invade. 11. ...Nc4?? 12. Ncxb5 axb5 13. Nxb5 Qb8 14. Bxc4.

12. g4 Nc4

12. ...b4 13. Na4 (13. g5 Nxb3 14. cxb3 bxc3 15. gxf6 and Black looks better again; I should have been a pawn hunter – clearly!) 13. ...Nxe4. This would really be throwing sand in the 2500-player's face. But at least

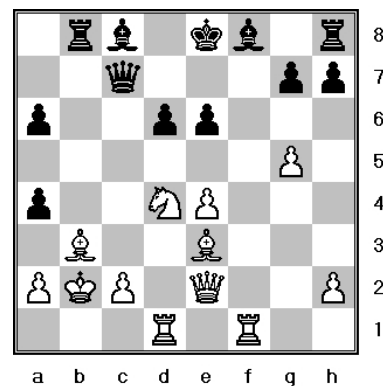
I did not even threaten the e4 pawn with ...Bb7, so he never had to play f3, and now the f-pawn will charge forward and open up my king.

14. ...Ndb6 15. f5

After I spent 30 minutes (!) on Rb8, not following through on my plan just left me too short on time to handle resulting positions.

15. ...Bd7

15. ...Nxb2 16. Kxb2 Na4+ 17. Nxa4 (17. Bxa4 bxa4+ 18. Nb3 a3+) 17. ...bxa4 18. fxe6 fxe6 19. Rhf1.

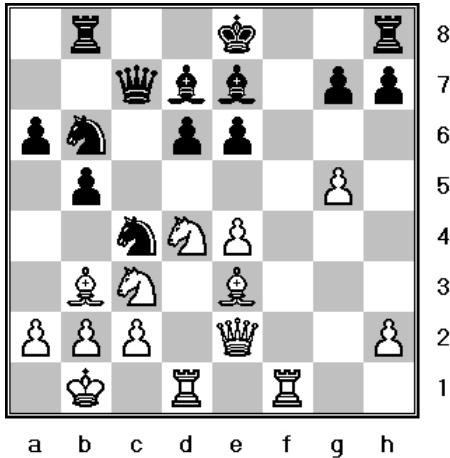


The pawn hungry computer still likes Black here, I was not brave enough to follow through with my plan seeing that all my guys are on the back rank. Even though I do think White is winning here I wish I had gone this way. Instead Black slips under the waves without a fight.

16. fxe6 fxe6 17. Rhf1 Be7

Too bad Black cannot castle queenside, eh? 17. ...b4! 18. Nd5. Yet another better try;

which side would you choose, however? 18. ...exd5 19. exd5 Be7.

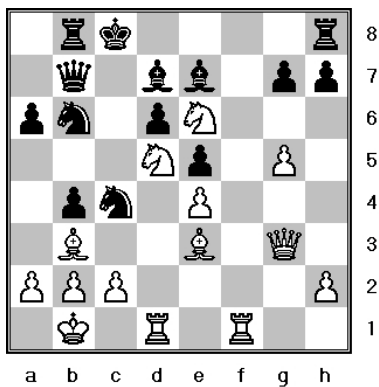


18. Qf3 Kd8

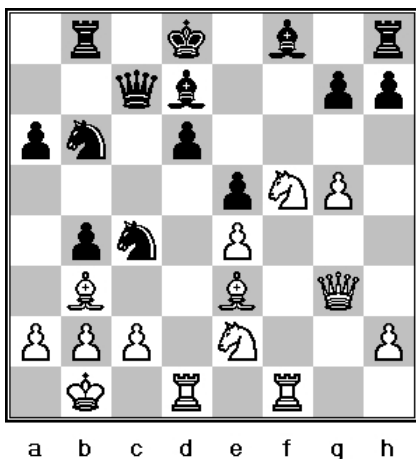
18. ...b4 19. Nce2 Nxe3 20. Qxe3 Nc4 21. Qd3 Ne5 22. Qh3 looks just hopeless.

19. Qg3 b4 20. Nce2 e5

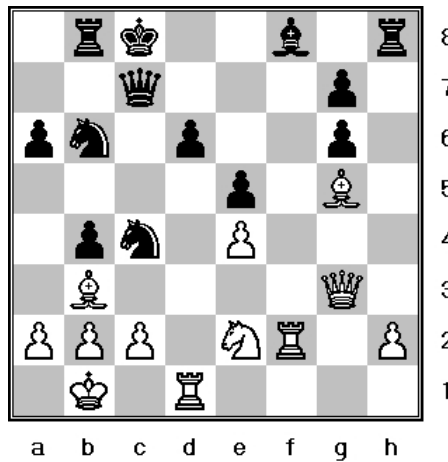
20. ...Qb7 21. Nf4 e5 22. Nde6+ Kc8 23. Nd5±



21. Nf5 Bf8



22. g6 Bxf5 23. Rxf5 hxg6 24. Bg5+ Kc8 25. Rf2



Here White will soon play Rdf1, and although ...Kb7 might survive for a while, I decide to hope for a quick move by White in my time trouble to get out of this mess.

25. ...Nd7? 26. Rf7!

I will have a hard time explaining this to my elementary school students, but I just resigned at this point. I am a pawn up, and yet Black has no move at all. White will be playing Qg4, and if ...Ncb6 then Be6 when Bf6-e3xb6 is one win. 26. Rdf1 Nf6 27. Bxf6 Nd2+; still, White is better, much!

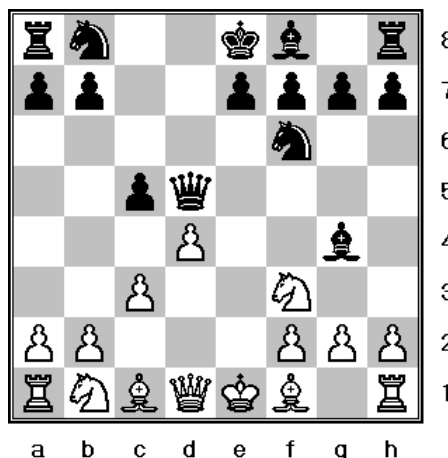
1-0

**Ignatio Perez – William Schill
Washington Championship, Round 4
Bellevue, February 2009**

1. e4 c5 2. c3

Just figures! He decides to play my own line against me, and the funny thing is I was going to do the same thing and play the Dragon against him!!

2. ...d5 3. exd5 Qxd5 4. d4 Nf6 5. Nf3 Bg4



This is considered Black's most solid set-up. An IQP position will result with the problem c8 bishop outside the pawn chain.

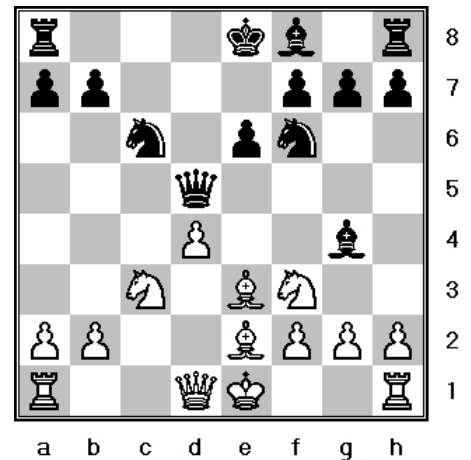
6. Be2

I much prefer the following with White: 6. dxc5!? Qxd1+ 7. Kxd1 e5 8. b4 e4 9. h3.

6. ...e6 7. Be3

Interestingly, White should throw in h3 much earlier than he did. I would have to retreat to h5 at this point, and not playing ...Rd8 at the correct time would force me into the game continuation instead of allowing me the one additional chance of escaping the pressure with ...Bf5 later.

7. ...exd4 8. exd4 Nc6 9. Nc3



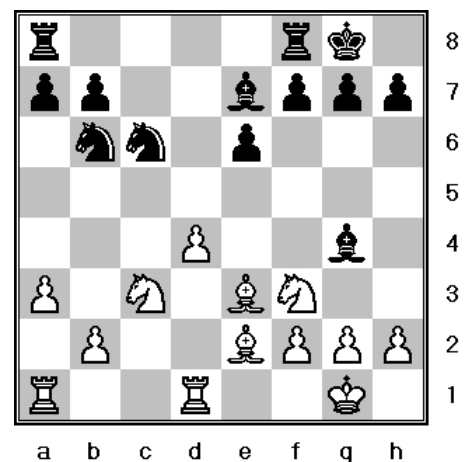
9. ...Qa5

9. ...Qd6 is the most respected move, but I wanted to get Ignatio out of his prep, and the other move is nearly as good.

10. 0-0 Be7 11. a3

Not the sharpest.

11. ...Nd5! 12. Qb3 Qb6! 13. Qxb6 Nxb6 14. Rfd1 0-0?!

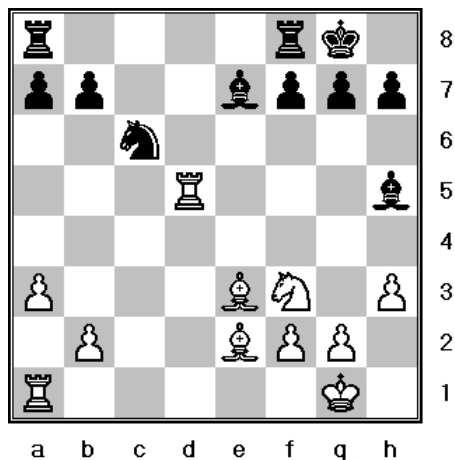


I relax too soon; White has let slip his advantage on moves 11–13, and I quickly make two second-best replies and give it right back to him. 14. ...Rd8.

15.h3 Bh5?!

15. ...Bf5 16. d5 (16. g4?! Bc2 17. Rd2 Bb3=+) 16. ...Nxd5 17. Nxd5 exd5 18. Rxd5 Be6= 19. Rb5?! b6.

16. d5! Nxd5 17. Nxd5 exd5 18. Rxd5



Now I am teetering on the edge of yet another loss. Only active defense will save this one.

18. ...Bxf3

18. ...Bg6 19. Rd7

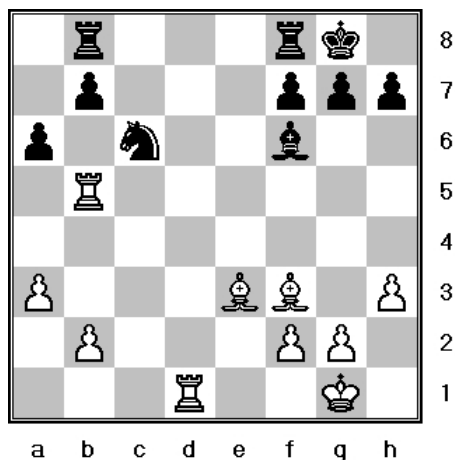
19. Bxf3 Bf6

First this bishop then the black knight get to work.

20. Rb5 Rab8 21. Rd1

21. Rc1; 21. Bf4 Nd4! 22. Bxb8 Nxb5.

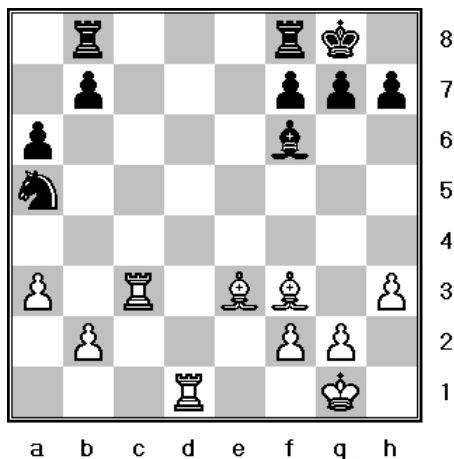
21. ...a6



I could give myself a string of ! here because black just manages to defend, and

indeed even gets some winning chances as Ignatio over-presses.

22. Rb6 Bd8 23. Rb3 Na5 24. Rc3 Bf6



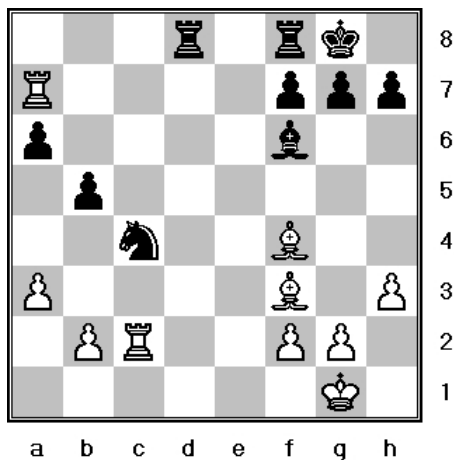
25. Rc2

25. Bd4.

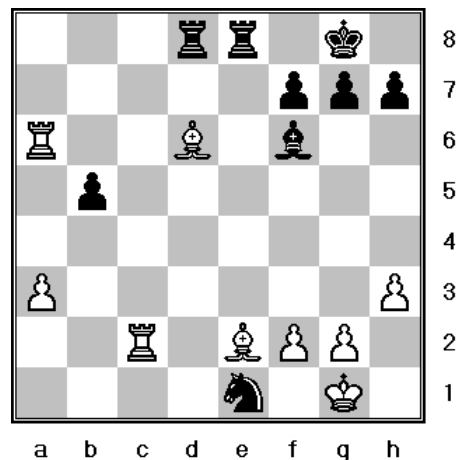
25. ...b5

An amazing transformation! Neither black pawn is attacked and there is even pressure on b2.

26. Rd7 Nc4 27. Bf4 Rbd8 28. Ra7

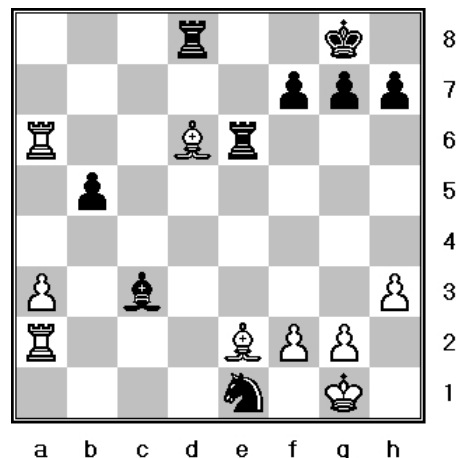


28. ...Nxb2 29. Rxa6 Nd3 30. Bd6 Rfe8
31. Be2 Ne1!



Honestly, I thought I was going to win this game now. White always has a way out.

32. Rd2 Bc3 33. Ra2 Re6



34. Bc7

A SAVE!

34. ...Rxa6 35. Bxd8 Ra8 36. Be7 b4 37. Bc4 Rxa3

I had only seconds left, and he was tempted to play Re2, but if I make time control he loses.

38. Rxa3 bxa3 39. Bxa3 Nc2

I think even Sophia rules would let us call this a draw!

½–½

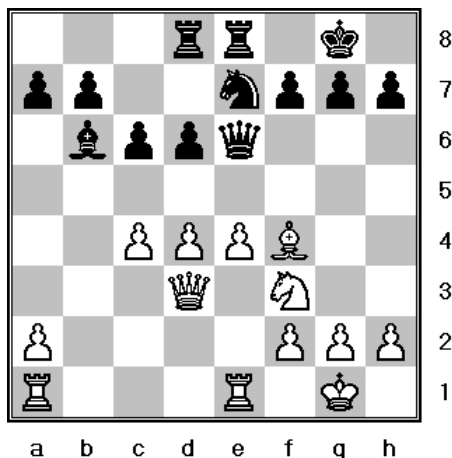
**FIDE Master William Schill
offers private lessons and school coaching.
He can be reached by e-mail:
masterschill@hotmail.com**

Games Corner: Oregon Championship by Charles Schulien



Mike Morris – Carl Haessler
Oregon Championship, Round 2
Portland, February 15, 2009

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 Nd4 4. Nxd4
exd4 5. 0-0 Bc5 6. d3 c6 7. Bc4 d6 8. Nd2
Qe7 9. c3 Be6 10. Bxe6 Qxe6 11. Nf3 dxc3
12. bxc3 Ne7 13. d4 Bb6 14. Re1 0-0 15.
Qd3 Rfe8 16. Bf4 Rad8 17. c4



Carl pointed out that this advance leads to weak squares which Black later exploits.

17. ...Ng6 18. Bg3?!

18. Bd2 allows the bishop much more flexibility: 18. ...Qg4 19. a4 Nf4 20. Bxf4 Qxf4 21. a5 Bc7 22. a6 b6 23. g3 Qg4 24. Kg2, and White maintains his edge in space, though it provides very little advantage here.

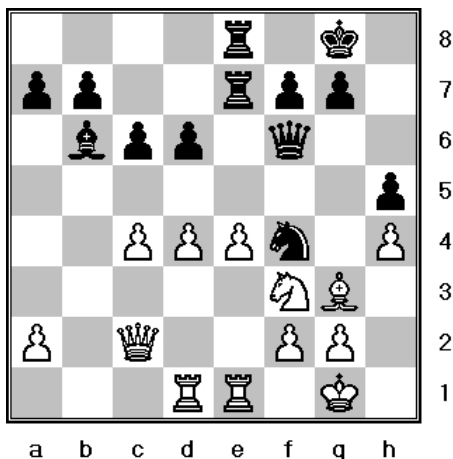
18. ...Qf6 19. Qd2 Rd7

19. ...c5 20. d5 (White should settle for 20. dxc5 Bxc5) 20. ...Rxe4! is a nice tactical possibility.

20. Rad1 Rde7 21. Qc2 h5 22. h4

White should advance in the center while he still can: 22. c5 Bc7 (22. ...dxc5 23. dxc5 Bc7 24. Bxc7 Rxc7 25. e5 clearly favors White.) 23. cxd6 Bxd6 24. e5, and Black must resort to tactics in order to avert a material loss – but White keeps his strong pawns in the center. A sample line continues 24. ...Qe6 25. Ng5 Qd5 26. Re3 forces Black on the defensive: 26. ...Bc7 27. h4. Or 22. e5 dxe5 23. dxe5 Qe6 24. h3 +=.

22. ...Nf4?



It is surprising that White could exploit the slightly unstable position of this knight. 22. ...Qe6 aiming for g4 was more solid, but both players overlooked some tactical points.

23. e5?!

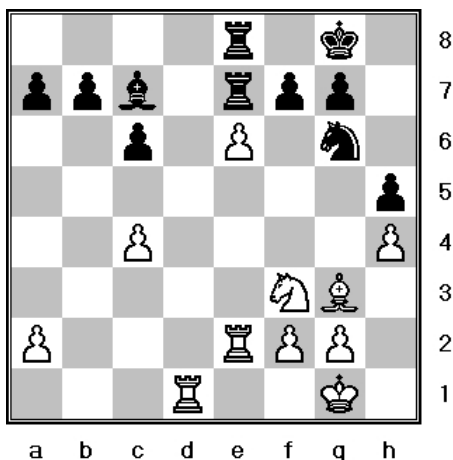
23. Ng5! is much better, menacing a pawn advance. 23. ...c5 (23. ...d5 24. Qd2! guards e1 while threatening the knight) 24. Re3! planning Rf3 with a winning pin.

23. ...dxe5 24. dxe5 Qg6 25. Qxg6 Nxg6

White's advanced pawns definitely represent weaknesses in the endgame.

26. Re2 Bc7 27. e6?!

27. Rb1 b6 28. Rbe1.



27. ...fxe6

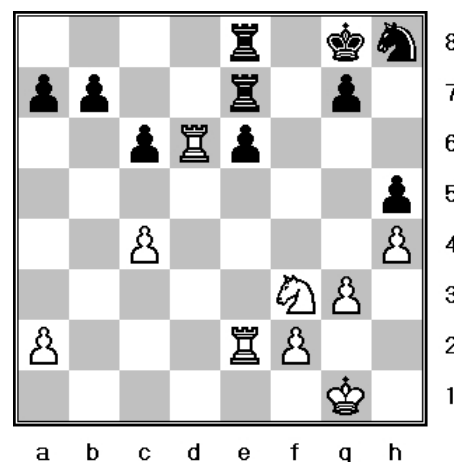
27. ...Bxg3 28. exf7+ Kxf7 29. Rxe7+

Nxe7 30. fxg3 Ng8 =+. Black's extra queenside pawn and better pawn structure are very evident factors.

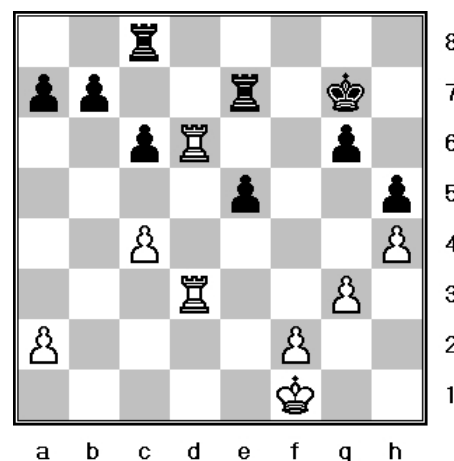
28. Bxc7 Rxc7 29. Rd6

29. g3.

29. ...Rce7 30. g3 Nh8!



31. Ne5 Nf7 32. Rd4 Nxe5 33. Rxe5 g6 34. Rd6 Kf7 35. Kf1 Rc8 36. Re3 Rce7 37. Rf3+ Kg7 38. Re3 e5 39. Red3 Rc8



40. Ke2?

White plays a "safe" time control move, but in so doing misses his best chance for counterplay. 40. Rf3! planning Rff6. Black cannot oppose rooks: 40. ...Rf8 41. Rxf8

Kxf8 42. Rxc6.

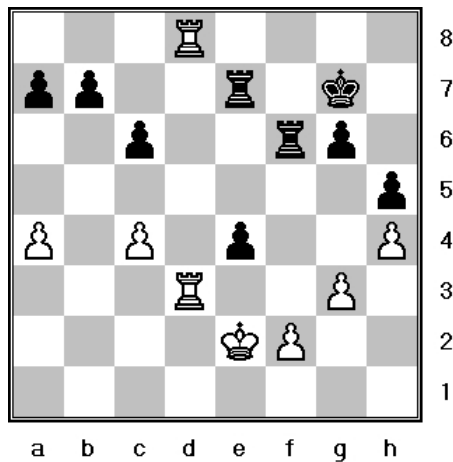
40. ...Rf8 41. a4

41. Rd7. As Mike noted afterward, exchanging one pair of rooks increases his drawing chances. The side with the extra pawn often wants either two rooks – increasing the attacking chances – or no rooks in such an ending.

41. ...Rf6 42. Rd8 (42. Rd7)

42. ...e4

42. ...Rff7 is more solid.



43. Rb3?

43. R3d7. Again this exchange is correct! Understanding of key endgame concepts cannot be replaced by calculation in practice.

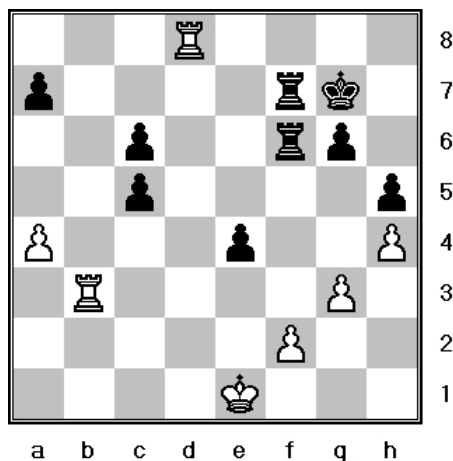
43. ...Ref7

Black's rooks coordinate to attack a clear target, so now he can maintain the extra pawn while fighting for the initiative.

44. Ke1 b6 45. c5?!

45. Rb2.

45. ...bxc5



46. Re3

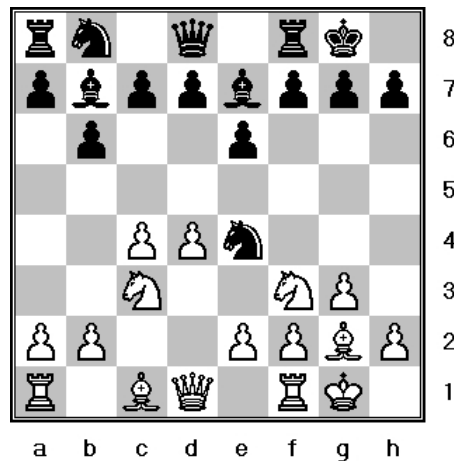
46. Rb2 was White's last chance to resist. 46. ...e3 47. f4! is not decisive.

46. ...Rxf2 47. Rxe4 Ra2 48. Ra8 Rb7 49. Kf1 Rb1+ 50. Re1 Rxe1+ 51. Kxe1 Rxa4 52. Rc8 Ra6 53. Rc7+ Kf6 54. Ke2 Ke5 55. Rg7 Kf5 56. Kd3 Ra3+

0-1

Radu Roua – Carl Haessler
Oregon Championship, Round 9
Portland, February 22, 2009

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. g3 b6 4. Bg2 Bb7
5. 0-0 Be7 6. c4 0-0 7. Nc3 Ne4



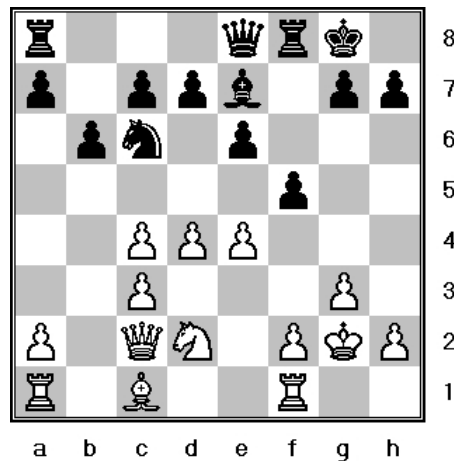
8. Qc2

If White wishes to play aggressively, he should choose 8. Bd2 f5 9. d5.

8. ...Nxc3 9. bxc3?!

White gains no initiative to balance the pawn weakness. 9. Qxc3 is the solid but drawish main line.

9. ...f5 10. Nd2 Bxg2 11. Kxg2 Nc6 12. e4 Qe8!



Correctly seeing that Black needs to

activate his queen.

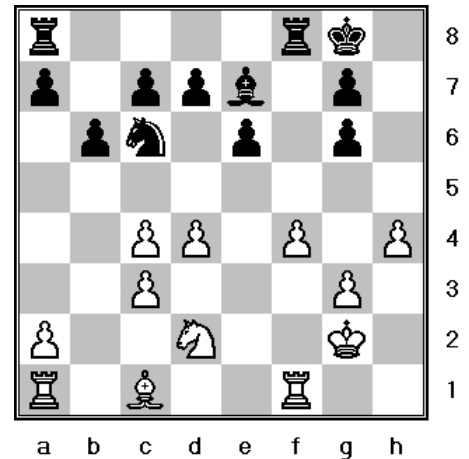
13. f4 fxe4

13. ...Qg6 right away was equally good.

14. Qxe4 Qg6!?

14. ...Qh5 was possible too, but Carl wishes to simplify the game.

15. Qxg6 hxg6 16. h4

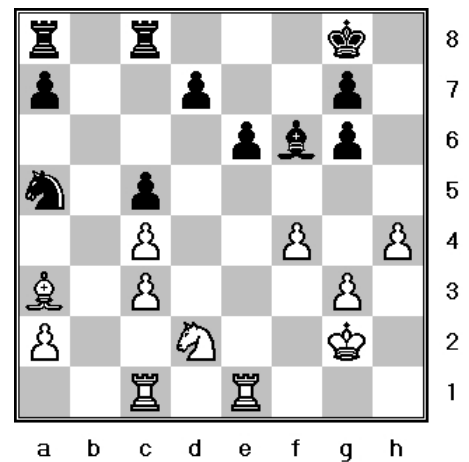


16. Nf3 Kh7 17. Rd1 Na5 18. c5 Rad8 19. Rb1 is much more interesting for White than the course of the game.

16. ...Na5 17. Re1 Bf6

A slight inaccuracy, allowing White to develop his bishop. 17. ...Rf5 and the rook patrols his fourth rank, discouraging counterplay and awaiting his chance to attack weak pawns. If 18. Re5 Rxe5 19. fxe5 g5 (or 19. ...Rf8) increases Black's chances.

18. Ba3 c5 19. Rac1 Rfc8 20. dxc5?! bxc5



21. Re4

White's rook makes a poor impression on e4. 21. Ne4 Be7 22. Nd2 Rab8 23. Rb1 allows White to oppose rooks.

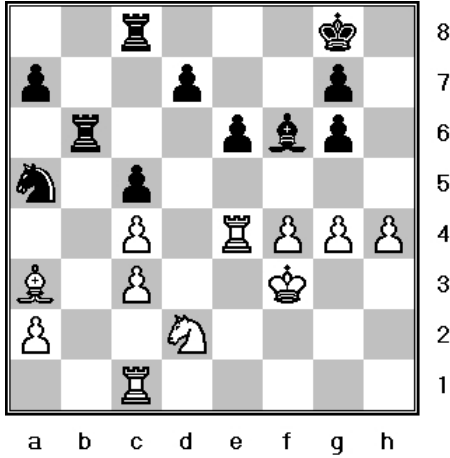
21. ...Rab8

21. ...Rc6!? 22. Re3 Rb8.

22. Kf3

22. Nf3 Rb6 23. Rd1 improves coordination of the white pieces.

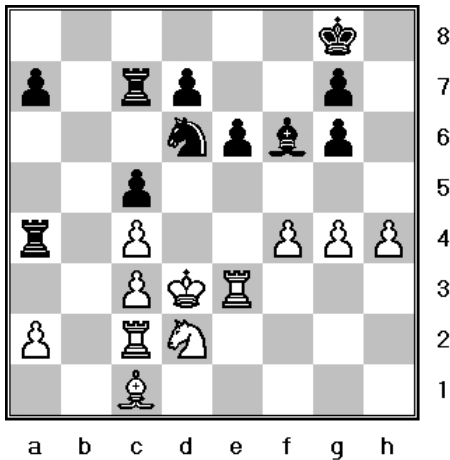
22. ...Rb6 23. g4?!



23. ...Ra6

23. ...Rd6 24. Rc2 Rd3+ is an even better use of Black's rook. After 25. Re3 Rxe3+ 26. Kxe3 Bxh4 27. g5 Be1, Black's advantage is probably decisive.

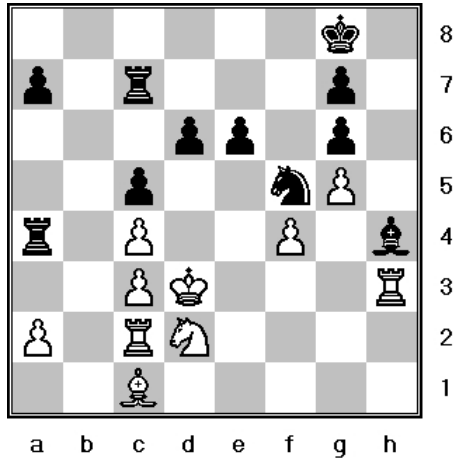
24. Rc2 Nb7 25. Bc1 Nd6 26. Re3 Rc7 27. Ke2 Ra4 28. Kd3



28. ...Bxh4?!

Black would do better to continue maneuvering with 28. ...Rc6, activating this piece.

29. g5 Nf5 30. Rh3 d6?!



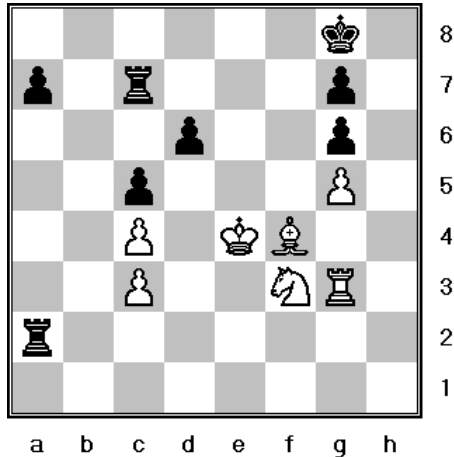
31. Nf3

31. Nf1! prevents ...Bg3, and Black would have something to worry about.

31. ...Bg3 32. Rg2 e5?

32. ...Rb7 activating the rook is best.

33. Rhxg3 Nxg3 34. Rxg3 exf4 35. Bxf4 Rxa2 36. Ke4



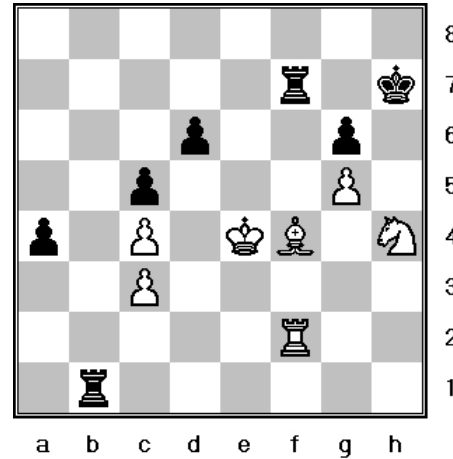
White's active pieces guarantee an easy draw at worst – but he has so few pawns that serious winning chances will be hard to come by. Certainly not 36. Bxd6? Rd7.

36. ...Ra6 37. Nh4 Rf7 38. Rf3 Rb6 39. Kd5 a5 40. Nxg6 Kh7 41. Nh4 g6 42. Ke4

42. Bxd6 Rd7 43. Rf6 a4 wins for Black.

42. ...a4 43. Rf2 Rb1?!

43. ...a3 44. Ra2 Ra7 is more accurate, forcing White's rook on the defensive. Then 45. Kd3 Rb1 and though the position is drawish, White cannot readily simplify it further, so Black may play on.



44. Rh2! Kg8 45. Bxd6 a3?

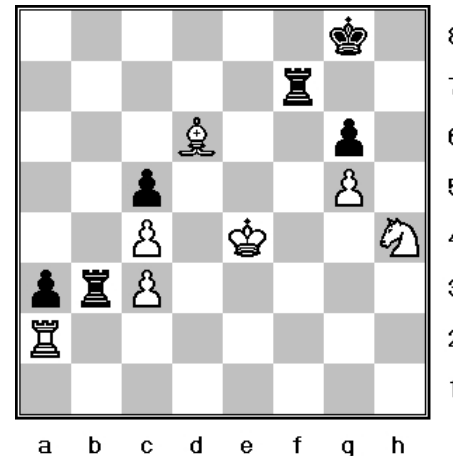
45. ...Rh7! is much better, paralyzing the white knight.

46. Ra2

46. Nxg6 is complicated, but Black is fine: Rb2 47. Rh8+ Kg7 48. Rh6! and White threatens mate, so 48. ...Re2+ 49. Kd3 Rff2 50. Nf4 a2 51. Rh1 Rb2, when White needs to look for a draw; for example, 52. Be5+ Kf8 53. Rh8+ Ke7 54. Ra8 Rf1 55. Ra7+.

46. ...Rb3

46. ...Rd7 47. Bxc5 Re1+ looks safer.



47. Bxc5

47. Nxg6 Rg7 48. Ne7+ Kf7 49. Bxc5 Rxc5 50. Nd5 leads to an endgame that Black would rather not have to defend.

47. ...Rxc3 48. Rxa3 Rxc4+ 49. Bd4 Rxd4+ 50. Kxd4 Rf4+ 51. Ke5 Rxc4 52. Kf6 Rb4 53. Ra8+ Kh7 54. Ra7+ Kh8 55. Kxc7 Rb6+ (Philidor's draw) 56. Kh5 Kg8 57. g6 Rb1

1/2-1/2

And In The End

by Dana Muller

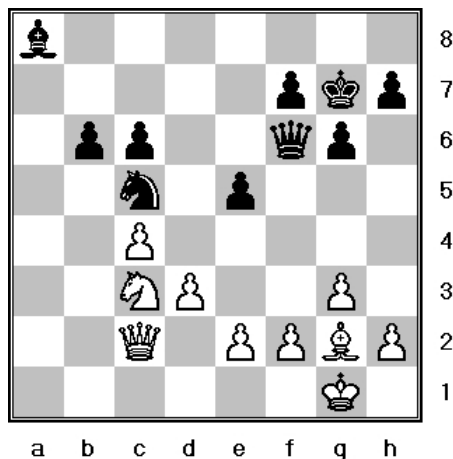


When does a middle game become an endgame? It's not so easy to define when the transition occurs. Some players would define a position as an endgame as soon as the queens come off the board!

Glenn Flear, in his book **Practical Endgame Play – beyond the basics**, defines an endgame as having at most one piece for each side. Therefore, according to Flear, rook and pawn endings are true endgames, but rook versus two minor pieces are not. GM Flear invents a new term for at most two piece positions; they are referred to as "NQE" as in "Not Quite an Endgame." Since a number of my columns have more than one piece for each side, does this mean I should change the title of the column to, "And In The (not quite) End?"

Anyway, this month we take a break from rook and pawn endings and look at a queen + bishop versus queen + bishop NQE.

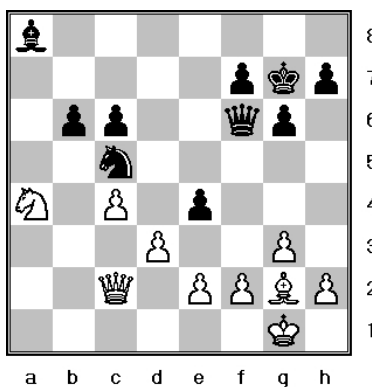
Dana Muller – Allen Thompson
Puget Sound League
December, 1988



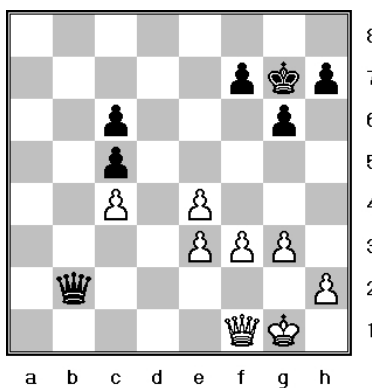
White's edge consists of a more compact pawn structure and Black having an awkwardly placed piece – the bishop on a8. If White is to make a serious winning attempt, the time is now; given several free moves, Black will reroute his Ba8 to a more active location and equalize. The initial plan is to use the exposed nature of the black b- and c-pawns in conjunction with the loose bishop on a8 to force the black queen into a passive location. The next stage of the plan is to advance the d-pawn to d4 (of course this is prepared with e3) in order to restrict the black b- and c-pawns. At this point much depends on the specific position as to whether a break-through with either c5 or d5 is possible, or whether opening a second front with h2-h4-h5 is best. Black's best-placed piece is the knight on c5; to make progress, White needs to eliminate it.

26. Ne4

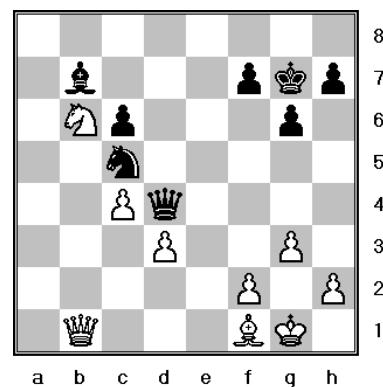
The other possibility is 26. Na4, attacking b6 in addition to the Nc5. If Black exchanges with 26. ...Nxa4, then 27. Qxa4 Bb7 28. Qa7. A better try for Black is 26. ...e4.



Two possible lines are: 1) 27. Nxc5 Qa1+ 28. Bf1 bxc5 29. dxe4 Bb7 30. Qd3 Bc8 31. e3 Bh3 32. f3 Bxf1 33. Qxf1 Qb2;



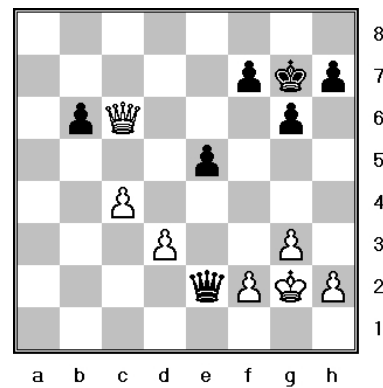
2) 27. Nxb6 exd3 28. exd3 Bb7 29. Qb1 Qd4 30. Bf1



30. ...Ne6 31. Na4 Bc8 32. Qb2 Qxb2 33. Nxb2 c5. In both cases White has a material advantage, but converting it into a win is a long way off. I decided to take the initiative instead of gaining material and losing the initiative. I am still not sure which path is objectively stronger.

26. ...Nxe4

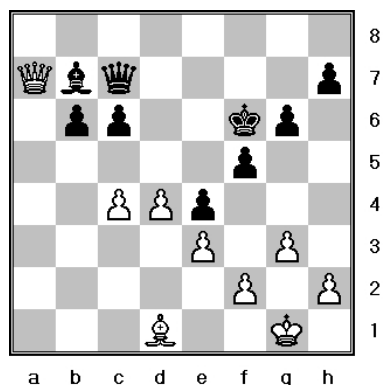
26. ...Qe7 deserves a look. 27. Nxc5 Qxc5 28. Qa4 Qa5! 29. Bxc6 Bxc6 30. Qxc6 Qe1+ 31. Kg2 Qxe2,



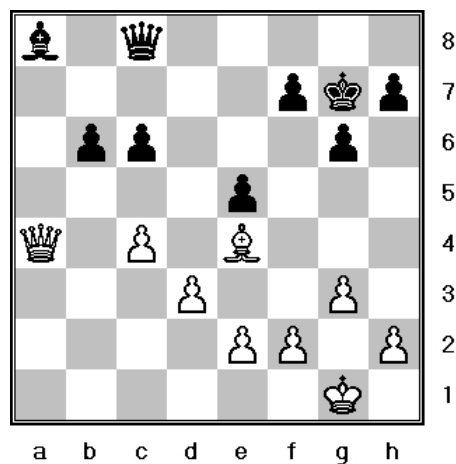
but 27. Qa2 Bb7 (Nxe4 Bxe4 leads to positions similar to the game) 28. Qa7 seems to force Nxe4 anyway.

27. Bxe4 Qd8

27. ...Qd6 28. Qa4 Bb7 29. Qa7 Qc7 reaches the game position with an extra move for Black. I'm not sure it's of much help unless Black wants to advance the kingside pawns. For example: 30. e3 f5 31. Bf3 Kf6 32. d4 e4 33. Bd1.



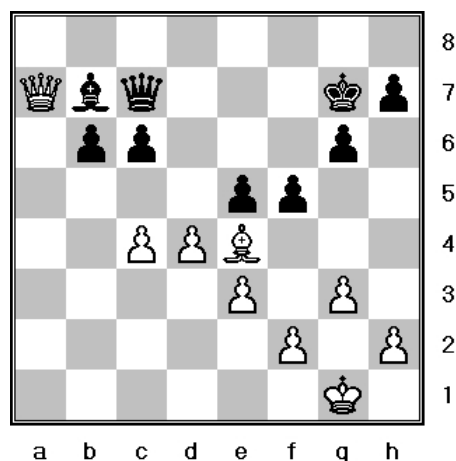
28. Qa4 Qc8



29. e3

White is planning the advance d3-d4 and then either d5 or c5 as appropriate.

29. ...Bb7 30. Qa7 Qc7 31. d4 f5

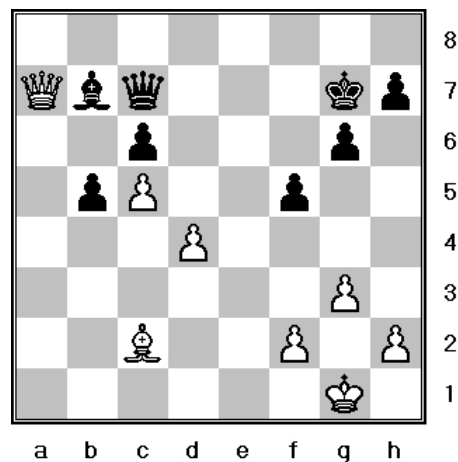


The idea is to either force the white bishop off the h1-a8 diagonal or block it's influence with ...e5. This is necessary preparation for Black's next move. This seems to be the only active plan; the alternative is to sit tight with something like 31. ...exd4 32. exd4 Kg8. I can understand Black's reluctance to play so passively, as White can slowly improve his position with moves like h4 (-h5-h6?), Kg2, Bf3 (actually 33. h4 h5 34. Bf3 idea d5 looks good).

32. Bc2 exd4 33. exd4 b5

This was Black's plan. The white bishop is off the h1-a8 diagonal, so the c-pawn is no longer pinned. The alternate break with 33. ...c5 is less good: 34. d5 with the idea of Bc2-a4-c6 is hard to stop. Black's queen lacks squares that defend both the Bb7 and the pawn b6.

34. c5



I remember being somewhat surprised that Black would voluntarily play b5, since it further restricts the black bishop. However, ...b5 does have some positives: the pawn is no longer exposed on b6 (freeing the queen to some extent) and it is a protected passed pawn. Exchanging queens will like equalize, while trading both queens and bishops may even favor Black. For the time being, the lineup of black pieces on his second rank is awkward.

34. ...Qd7

If 34. ...Qe7 35. d5. If 34. ...Qf7 35. Bb3 Qxb3 36. Qxb7+ Kh6 37. Qxc6.

35. Bb3

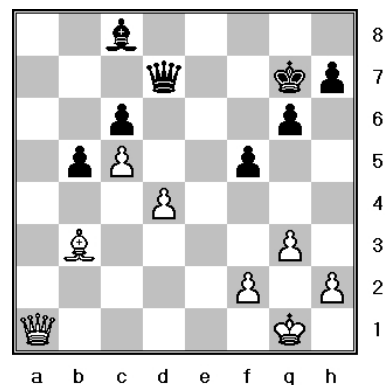
Perhaps 35. Bd1 with the idea Bf3 is better; the d5 break is still supported and there are no perpetual check threats down the e-file.

35. ...Bc8

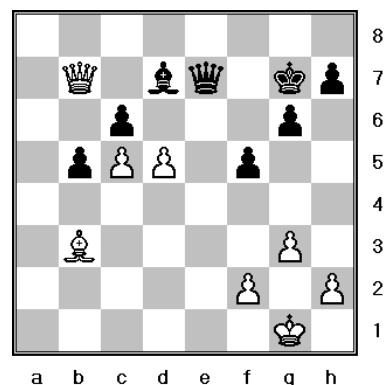
Offering to exchange queens and one more step toward getting the bishop back in play.

36. Qb8

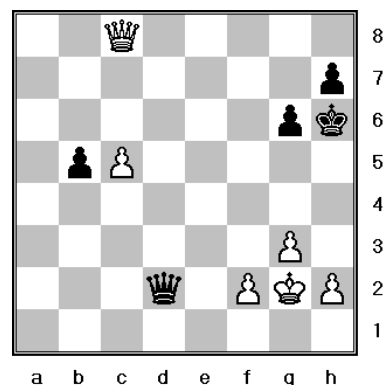
36. Qa1 is an interesting alternative, probably better than Qb8.



The king moves 36. ...Kf8 37. d5 cxd5 40. Qh8+ and 36. ...Kh6 37. Qc1+ Kg7 38. Qe3 both are good for White. That leaves 36. ...Qd8. Play could continue 37. d5+ Qf6 38. Qa8 Bd7 39. Qb7 Qe7

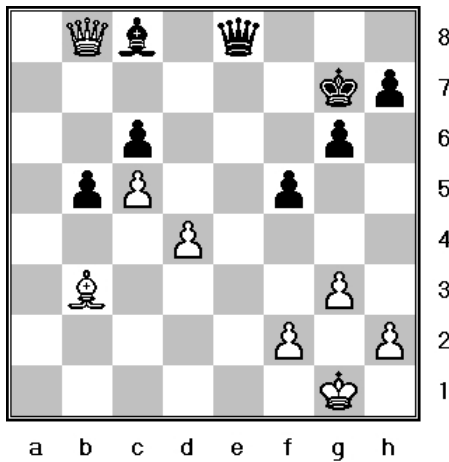


40. Bc2 (stopping Qe1+ - Qe4+ ideas) 40. ...Kh6 (is there better?) 41. dxc6 Qe1+ 42. Kg2 Be6 43. c7 Qd2 44. Bxf5 Bxf5 45. c8(Q) Bxc8 46. Qxc8



with decent winning chances.

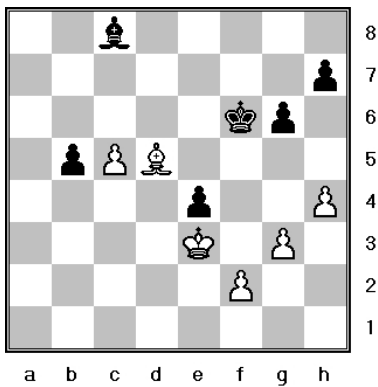
36. ...Qe8



Excellent: ...Qe1+ followed by ...Qe4+ is a potential perpetual check threat, though White might potentially squirm out to h4 by answering 37. ...Qe1+ 38. Kg2 Qe4+ 39. f3 Qe2+ 40. Kh3 Qf1+ 41. Kh4, depending on the status of serious threats for both sides, of course. A further unraveling of the queenside with 37. ...Bd7 is also a threat.

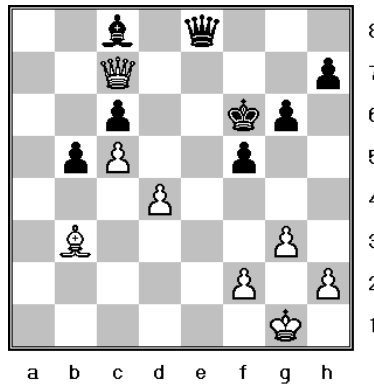
37. Qc7+ Qd7?

Oops! This voluntarily removes the queen from the e-file. 37. ...Bd7 may be playable, although 38. Kf1 Kh6 39. h4 Bc8 40. Qf4+ Kg7 41. d5 Qe4 42. Qxe4 fxe4 43. Ke2 Kf6 44. Ke3 cxd5 45. Bxd5



is promising for White.

37. ...Kh6 (38. Qf4+) and 37. ...Kf6!?

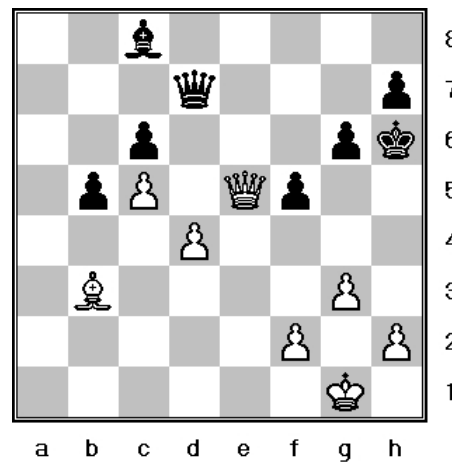


are both possible, though, when Black may have sufficient counterplay to hold.

38. Qe5+

This is why ...Qd7 was inferior: the white queen now commands the e-file.

38. ...Kh6



Forced.

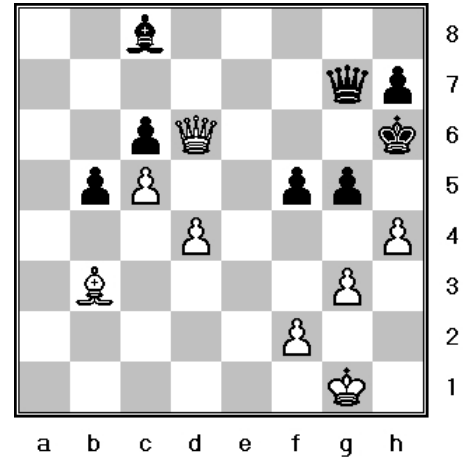
39. h4 Qg7

Loses by force, but there aren't any good alternatives.

40. Qf4+ g5

Not 40. ...Kh5 41. Bd1 mate.

41. Qd6+



41. hxg5+ was also strong, winning at least the bishop with a series of queen checks.

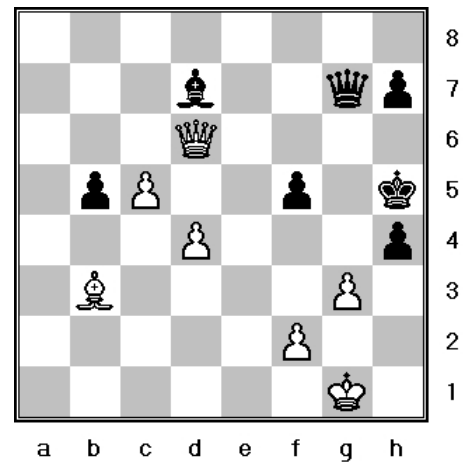
41. ...Kh5

41. ...Qg6 loses the bishop (or worse) in all lines: 42. hxg5+ Kh5 (42. ...Kxg5 43. Qd8+; 42. ...Kg7 43. Qc7+) 43. Bd1+ Kxg5 44. Qd8+.

42. Qxc6 Bd7

If 42. ...Bb7 43. Qd6 Bf3 44. hxg5.

43. Qd6 gxh4?



Leads to mate, but against other moves 44. hxg5 followed by the rapid advance of the c-pawn should win.

44. Bd1+ Kg5 45. f4#

1-0

Carl A. Haessler
Lessons • Lectures • Exhibitions

USCF Life Master
3-Time Oregon Champion

(503) 358-7871
ssmith6154@aol.com

Chess Schools and Camps

Chess4Life

Teaching life skills through chess

Offering:

- Chess camps
- Tournaments
- Chess classes
- Private lessons
- Afterschool programs

Serving all skill levels, from beginners to national champions!

www.chess4life.com | kids@chess4life.com | 425.283.0549



"Train Your Brain!"

RADU ROUA
Chess Master

Tel: 503-880-0581
Chess Vision, Inc.
11918 SE Division St. PMB 279
Portland, OR 97266-1037
RADU@chessvision.net
www.chessvision.net

Tournaments • Weekly events in Bellevue and Bothell
Chess School • Chess Camps beginning in June
GM simul June 20&27 • Chess cruise August 21-28

Tournaments in Portland
Chess Camps beginning in June

**Help us reach
critical mass.
Join and post to the
NW Chess Forum at
www.nwchess.com**

Send renewals and changes of address to the business manager:

Eric Holcomb
NW Chess Business Manager
1900 NE Third St, Ste 106-361
Bend OR 97701-3889
Eric@Holcomb.com

34th Paul Keres Memorial Chess Tournament

Dates Friday, May 15 to Monday, May 18, 2009
Location Spratt Shaw Community College, 1176 8th Ave, New Westminster BC
Sections Open, Under 2000, Under 1600
Time Control Game/90 + 60 second increment or game/150
Round Times Friday 6:30 (Open Section only); Saturday 10:00, 5:00 Sunday 10:00, 3:30 Monday 9:00 ASAP
Prizes first prize **guaranteed** in each section: \$1,000 (Open), \$600 (U2000), \$400 (U1600)

Entry Fees (Open / U2000 / U1600)
 Before or on March 27, 2008 \$110 / \$95 / \$80
 Before or on May 1, 2008 \$130 / \$110 / \$90
 At site \$150 / \$125 / \$100

Discounts Born after May 20, 1989 or before May 20, 1944 - 50% (proof of date of birth required)

Surcharge FIDE rated players w/o titles - 25% FIDE Titled Players - free entry
 \$25 extra for those players rated under 2000 who wish to play in the Open.

Registration Online registration and payment at www.juniorchess.ca or by mail to BC Junior Chess, 1689 141a St, Surrey V4A 8K2. Make checks payable to Chess for Children

On-site Open Section: Friday, May 15, 5:30 to 6:00 pm
U2000 and U1600: Friday, May 15 or Saturday, May 16, 8:30 to 9:30 am

Miscellaneous CFC rated, Open Section also FIDE rated; boards provided, **please bring clocks.**

Contact Ken Jensen ChessBC@shaw.ca (604) 728-7491

Further details: www.juniorchess.ca; all dollar amounts in Canadian dollars; CFC membership required

Clark Harmon Memorial Northwest Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, statsmeister

Our standings below include all 19 events held in 2009, through April 5th. This includes three events with multipliers, the Gresham Open (2x), the Seattle City Championship (2x), and the Dave Collyer Memorial (Spokane, 3x). The next events with multipliers are the Clark Harmon Memorial (Portland, 3x), the Green Open (Seattle, 2x), and the Washington Open (Spokane, 5x). Multiplier events are the way to really boost your point totals.

We do not have a sponsor for this year's grand prix yet. We are continuing with the name from the past years, but the donor(s) to the prize fund do have naming rights. In previous years, the added money has generally been \$1000 (\$800 in 2007, I believe), and is split equally between the Washington and Oregon prize pools. Without a donor, the prizes handed out at the end of the year will be significantly smaller. We have had corporate, individual and organization sponsors in the past, and would encourage anyone who is in position to donate to consider being the sponsor for 2009. We will even accept a shared sponsorship, such as happened a few years back when the OCF and WCF shared the sponsorship.

As you look through the lists below, you will see some familiar names and some new names. If you have watched these lists closely over the years, you will also note some missing names. For instance, Brett Becker, Steven Buck and Paul Bartron are not currently cracking the leaderboard. I would imagine those three will return to our tables before the year gets too much older. The Oregon Masters list has the same three names, in the same order as all of last year. In Washington's Class C, August and Darby have picked up right where they left off last year. Kate Tokareva is on the list again, but two classes up the charts. When you play a lot, this tends to happen, at least for a while. (When I play a lot, my rating tends just to dribble like a basketball off of my rating floor.) And, finally, there is a noticeable lack of Canadians in our "other places" list. I expect this, too, will change soon.

Get out and play, and get your name immortalized in a future *NWC*.

Oregon

Washington

Masters

1 Raptis, Nick	44	1 Collyer, Curt	19.5
2 Roua, Radu	12	1 Sinanan, Joshua	19.5
3 Haessler, Carl	9	3 Koons, Nat	18
.....		4 Pupols, Viktors	16
.....		5 MacGregor, Michael	11.5
.....		6 Bragg, David	4

Experts

1 Gay, Daniel	30	1 Watts, Peter	34
2 Breckenridge, Steven ...	16.5	2 Chen, Howard	17.5
2 Shuey, Paul	16.5	3 Merwin, Steve	16.5
4 Morris, Michael	11	4 May, Andy	11
5 Heywood, Bill	5	5 Hadzic, Huso	6.5
.....		6 Julian, John	6

Class A

1 Esler, Brian	20.5	1 Hickey, Patrick	37
1 Surak, Steve	20.5	2 O'Gorman, Peter	26.5
3 Evers, Jason	14.5	3 Mathews, Dan	25
4 Banner, Richard	12	4 Rodriguez, Odysseus	23.5
5 Herrera, Robert	11	5 Cambareri, Michael	22.5
6 Tezcan, Yaman	10	6 Ummel, Igor	21

Class B

1 Yoshinaga, David	19.5	1 Tokareva, Kate	24
2 Grom, Alex	18.5	2 Campbell, Tim	22
3 You, Sean	15	3 McAleer, James	21.5
4 Niro, Frank	14	4 Schmidt, Martin	21
5 Friesen, Daniel	13.5	5 Teng, Yun	21
6 Frojen, Ken	6	6 Walton, John	20

Class C

1 Tse, Kalen	24.5	1 Piper, August	32
2 Dietz, Arliss	23	2 Monahan, Darby	27
3 Witt, Steven	20.5	3 Baker, Ted	22
4 Midson, Tony	13	4 Feng, Roland	19
5 Sharp, Austin	12.5	5 Nicoski, Aaron	19
6 Rodriguez, Edwin	12	6 Bashkansky, Ethan	16.5

Class D and Below

1 Jacobson, Deel	11.5	1 Burney, James	18
2 Nguyen, Austin	11	2 Luong, Anne	15
3 Le Grove, Jeremy	10	3 Schumaker, Peter	14
4 Skalnes, Erik	9	4 Jehn, Stuart	12.5
5 Chu-Kung, Ben	8.5	4 Richards, Jerrold	12.5
6 three tied	6	6 Lampman, Becca	11.5

Overall Leaders, by State

1 Raptis, Nick	44	1 Hickey, Patrick	37
2 Gay, Daniel	30	2 Watts, Peter	34
3 Tse, Kalen	24.5	3 Piper, August	32
4 Dietz, Arliss	23	4 Monahan, Darby	27
5 Esler, Brian	20.5	4 O'Gorman, Peter	26.5
5 Surak, Steve	20.5	6 Mathews, Dan	25
5 Witt, Steven	20.5	7 Tokareva, Kate	24
8 Yoshinaga, David	19.5	8 Rodriguez, Odysseus	23.5
9 Grom, Alex	18.5	9 Cambareri, Michael	22.5
10 Breckenridge, Steven ...	16.5	10 Campbell, Tim	22
10 Shuey, Paul	16.5	11 Baker, Ted	22
12 You, Sean	15	12 McAleer, James	21.5
13 Evers, Jason	14.5	13 Ummel, Igor	21
14 Niro, Frank	14	14 Schmidt, Martin	21
15 Friesen, Daniel	13.5	14 Teng, Yun	21

Players from Other Places

	name	state	rating	pts.
1	Havrilla, Mark	ID	1921	36.5
2	Leslie, Cameron	ID	1646	24
3	Armstrong, Nathan	MS	1725	22
3	Weyland, Ronald	ID	1599	22
5	Subedi, Avinaya	ID	1533	17.5
6	Donaldson, W John	CA	2426	15
6	McLaughlin, Edward	MT	1750	15
6	Hansen, Douglas	MT	1731	15
6	Pallares, Henry	MT	1600	15
10	Weyland, Phillip	ID	1864	13.5
10	Carpenter, Romie	MT	1809	13.5
10	Martin, Robert	MT	1697	13.5
13	McCourt, Daniel	MT	1689	12
14	McBroom, William	MT	1588	10.5
15	Cohen, Richard	WY	1500	9
15	Kennedy, Tim	MT	1455	9
15	Strong, Murray	MT	1413	9

Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

Address ↙
17517 15 Ave NE ↙
Seattle WA 98155
Infoline ↗
206-417-5405
www.seattlechessclub.info
kleistcf@aol.com

♣ **May 16, June 13** **Saturday Quads** ♣
Format: 3-RR, 4-ply sections by rating. **TC:** G/120. **EF:** \$7 (+\$5 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free entry for future quad. **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10:00-2:15-ASAP. **Misc:** USCF, WCF/OCF memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

♣ **May 3, 31** **Sunday Tornado** ♣
Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/64. **EF:** \$17 (+\$5 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 from each EF goes to prize fund). **Reg:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Rds:** 11:30-1:50-4:10-6:30. **Misc:** USCF, WCF/OCF memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

May 2 **SCC Novice**
Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and unrated. **TC:** G/75. **EF:** \$11 by 1/28, \$16 at site. (\$2 disc. for SCC mem., \$1 for mem. of other dues-req'd CCs in WA, OR, & BC). **Prizes:** Memberships (SCC, WCF, USCF). **Reg:** 9-9:45a.m. **Rds:** 10-12:45-3:30-6. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3 or 4—commit at reg.). **Misc:** USCF memb. req'd. NS, NC.

-
• **Attendance at this year's previous tournaments** •
• *Novice* (1/31)–5; *Quads* (1/10)–10, (2/21)–20, (3/14)–17; *Tornados* •
• (1/4)–12, (2/1)–12, (3/1)–16, (4/5)–14; **Seattle City Championship** (1/ •
• 16-18)–21; **Seattle Spring Open** (3/27-29)–36. •
.....

**Green Open II
at the SCC!!!**

G/90 + 30 sec./move

4-round Swiss

May 9-10

See the March or April
issues of *Northwest Chess*
for details.

Emerald City Open
June 19-21

A two-section, five-round Swiss with a time control of 40/2 & SD/1 (Rd 1 of 2-day schedule – G/64). The prize fund of \$800 is based on forty entries.

a Harmon Memorial Grand Prix event

Open		Reserve (U1700)	
First	\$200	First	\$140
Second	\$130	Second	\$90
U1950	\$95	U1450	\$65
		Unr	\$20

Upset (rds 1-4) \$15

Entry Fees: \$33 if rec'd by 6/17, \$42 at site. **SCC members**—subtract \$9. Members of other dues-required CCs in BC, OR, and WA—subtract \$4. **Unr**—free with purchase of 1-year USCF and WCF. **Add \$1** to any EF for 2-day schedule.

Registration: Fri. 7-7:45 p.m., Sat. 9-9:45 a.m.

Rounds: Fri. 8, Sat. (10 @ G/64)-12:30-6:45, Sun. 11-5.

Byes: 2 (Sunday rounds, commit at registration).

Miscellaneous: USCF & WCF membership req'd. No smoking. No computers.

Future Events

♣ indicates a NW Grand Prix event ♣

♣ May 30

PCC Game-in-60 ♣

Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland OR 97219. **Format:** 4-SS **TC:** G/60. May switch to 5-SS and G/45 if entries > 25. **EF:** \$20, \$5 disc for PCC memb. No adv ent. **Prizes:** \$\$200 b/20. \$60-40-30, U1800 35, U1500 35. **Reg:** 9-9:30 am. **Byes:** 1 HPB if req at reg. **Misc:** USCF & OCF/WCF memb req, OSA. **Info:** portlandchessclub@gmail.com, 503-246-2978, www.pdxchess.org.

♣ June 20 – 21

Newport June Open ♣

Site: Central Lincoln PUD Building, 2129 N. Coast Highway (south of Wal-Mart), Newport, Oregon. **Format:** 5-SS. **TC:** 40/90, G30. **Rds:** Sat 10, 2:30, 7. Sun 9:30, 2(or ASAP). **EF:** \$35 if received by June 18, \$40 the day of tournament. **Prizes:** \$1,000 b/35, Overall 1st Place- \$150; 2nd Place- \$90, Under 2000- 1st \$90; 2nd \$60; Under 1800- 1st \$90; 2nd \$60; Under 1600- 1st \$90; 2nd \$60; Under 1400- 1st \$90; 2nd \$60; Under 1200- 1st \$60; Under 1000- 1st \$60; Unrated- 1st \$40; Trophy to the top scholastic player. **Reg:** Sat. June 20, 8:45-9:30am. **Bye:** (1) 1/2 point bye in any round if requested before registration closes. **Misc:** USCF membership required. **Info:** Bill Barrese, (541) 563-7033; blbrs2020@yahoo.com. Bill Barrese, 3599 E. Alsea Hwy., Waldport, OR. 97394 or email: centralcoastchess@yahoo.com .

May 2009

2	SCC Novice	Seattle CC, www.seattlechessclub.info, 206-417-5405	Seattle, WA
2	PCC Saturday Quads	Portland CC, www.pdxchess.org, 503-246-2978	Portland, OR
3	♣ SCC Sunday Tornado	Seattle CC, www.seattlechessclub.info, 206-417-5405	Seattle, WA
3	TCC Sunday Quads (G/30)	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA
5	PCC Tuesday Quads begin	Portland CC, www.pdxchess.org, 503-246-2978	Portland, OR
8-22	Pierce County Champ. Playoff	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA
9-10	♣ H.G. Pitre's Green Open II	Seattle CC, www.seattlechessclub.info, 206-417-5405	Seattle, WA
13	TCC Wednesday Night Quads (G/15)	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA
15-18	34th Paul Keres Memorial	Ken Jenson, www.juniorchess.ca, 604-728-7491	Vancouver, B.C.
16	♣ SCC Saturday Quads	Seattle CC, www.seattlechessclub.info, 206-417-5405	Seattle, WA
16	Sammamish May Swiss (w/adult section)	Bruce Kovalsky, www.groupchessclass.info, Bruce@Kovalsky.com	Sammamish, WA
23-25	♣ Washington Open	Spokane CC, www.spokanechessclub.org, 509-270-1772	Spokane, WA
29	TCC Elimination Tourney (G/10)	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA
30	♣ PCC G/60	Portland CC, www.pdxchess.org, 503-246-2978	Portland, OR
30	Java Fusion Coffee Shop Tourney	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA
31	♣ SCC Sunday Tornado	Seattle CC, www.seattlechessclub.info, 206-417-5405	Seattle, WA

June 2009

2	PCC Tuesday Quads begin	Portland CC, www.pdxchess.org, 503-246-2978	Portland, OR
4-7	Las Vegas Chess Festival, National Open	www.vegaschessfestival.com	Las Vegas, NV
5-7/3	TCC City Championship	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA
6	PCC Saturday Quads	Portland CC, www.pdxchess.org, 503-246-2978	Portland, OR
7	TCC Sunday Quads (G/30)	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA
10	TCC Wednesday Night Quads (G/15)	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA
13	♣ SCC Saturday Quads	Seattle CC, www.seattlechessclub.info, 206-417-5405	Seattle, WA
19-21	♣ SCC Emerald City Open	Seattle CC, www.seattlechessclub.info, 206-417-5405	Seattle, WA
20-21	♣ Newport June Open	Bill Barrese, centralcoastchess@yahoo.com, 541-563-7033	Newport, OR
27	♣ PCC G/60	Portland CC, www.pdxchess.org, 503-246-2978	Portland, OR
27-28	TCC Economy Tourney	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA

July 2009

5	♣ SCC Sunday Tornado	Seattle CC, www.seattlechessclub.info, 206-417-5405	Seattle, WA
5	TCC Sunday Quads (G/30)	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA
8	TCC Wednesday Night Quads (G/15)	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA
10-24	TCC Firecracker Swiss	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA
11-12	TCC Evergreen Empire Open	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA
18	♣ SCC Saturday Quads	Seattle CC, www.seattlechessclub.info, 206-417-5405	Seattle, WA
18	PCC Saturday Quads	Portland CC, www.pdxchess.org, 503-246-2978	Portland, OR
24-26	♣ SCC Seattle Seafair	Seattle CC, www.seattlechessclub.info, 206-417-5405	Seattle, WA
24-26	BC Open	www.bcopenchess.pbwiki.com	Victoria, B.C.
25	♣ PCC G/60	Portland CC, www.pdxchess.org, 503-246-2978	Portland, OR
28	Carl Haessler First Pitch! 7:05 PM	Portland Beavers vs Las Vegas 51s	Portland, OR
31	TCC Quads (G/15)	Tacoma CC, www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com, 253-535-2536	Tacoma, WA

August 2009

1-9	110th U.S. Open Championship	USCF, www.uschess.org, 800-903-8723	Indianapolis, IN
-----	------------------------------------	---	------------------

For free scholastic tournament listings, please visit www.nwchess.com.