

EN PASSANT

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on the cover...

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This summer Montreal's Andre Langlois put on yet another terrific event in his home town, won impressively by GM Eduardas Rozentalis with 8.5/11 and a performance rating of 2753. The story of the event, however, was that of Canadian IM Pascal Charbonneau, who deservedly earned his first GM norm by finishing fifth and scoring 6.5/11! IM David Ross analyzes a selection of interesting games, and Yves Vaillancourt contributes the photography.

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Editorial, and Letters to the Editor.

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IM Andrei Sokolov returns with another installment of his popular "Apprentice's Workshop" series. This time he talks about Rules and Exceptions and Beauty in Chess.

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"GM Factory" columnist IM David Ross this time introduces junior talents Nikita Kraiouchkine Justin McDonald.

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Veteran organizer Hal Bond these days is dedicated to building a Canadian chess tradition in his home town of Guelph. FM Robert Hamilton notched up an IM norm of his own at this year's Guelph Pro-Am International, together with several other notable performances by top Canadians!

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Across Canada.

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IBC	Canadian Open crosstable
OBC	Canadian Open crosstable



Editorial

IA Jonathan Berry has sent both a photo of tournament winner GM Alexander Moiseenko, and a revised and improved version of the Canadian Open crosstable from the last issue, which are reprinted with thanks here and on the two back cover pages!

As the result of a motion from the recent AGM in Kapuskasing, future issues of the magazine will keep the Top Canadian listings, but from now on the mass rating lists appear only once a year in August. This kind of information is of course readily available online, and so interested readers are referred to the website of the Chess Federation of Canada at www.chess.ca. This change, a positive one in my view, frees up an average of five or six pages per issue for additional content!

Readers, however, will no doubt also notice two more important changes: we have gone to 44 pages instead of 48, and the magazine cover is no longer printed on high-quality paper stock. The new CFC Executive has been looking at ways to reduce printing costs, and these decisions are the result of their inquiries with the printer in Ottawa.

And with that same attention towards budget expenditures also came their decision to review the editorship of *En Passant* magazine, followed by a call for proposals on the CFC website, and a successful low bid by your new editor, Kitchener FM Hans Jung, who will kick off his work on the magazine with the December issue! I would like to ask all of my regular contributors to support Hans in his new position, and direct any magazine inquiries to him from this point onward.

As I write these last few paragraphs of my final magazine editorial, I am somehow reminded of writing my first and rather tentative one back in the summer of 1998. Some thirty-two issues have been printed with my name on them since, and so I would like to take this opportunity and express my sincere thanks not only to our readership, but especially those players and organizers with whom I have had the privilege and pleasure of working in the last five years. Many of your wonderful contributions are

remembered, and were always appreciated. Thank you very much!

As for my plans after the magazine ... aside from increasing my involvement in several ongoing software projects ... I will be doing more authoring for ChessBase GmbH in Germany in the near future, with a Training-CD on the Grünfeld Indian Defense due out by christmas. But best of all, there should be more time left over for actually playing chess!

Knut Neven



Alexander Moiseenko

Letters

Nanaimo, BC

In the report on the 2003 Canadian Open, I omitted to mention Philip G. Haley, the inventor of Accelerated Pairings and in particular the inventor of Haley Accelerated Pairings. I did not use Haley Accelerated Pairings, but rather the Systeme Accélééré Degréssif, which borrows the acceleration technique from Mr. Haley's groundbreaking system, but applies it differently, and adds refinements.

Jonathan Berry

Toronto, ON

I beg to differ concerning your assessment of the effect of the computer on the sporting aspect of chess by directing your attention to

the dwindling membership of the Canadian Correspondence Chess Association. I admit that the databases available from the Internet, together with the tremendous calculating power of the microchip, represent a hitherto unthinkable opportunity to advance our grasp of the game. On the other hand, there are those of us whose sole purpose in playing, aside from the social niceties and the pleasure of expanding our circle of friends, is – if at all possible and observing the etiquette of due sportsmanship – in the words of the immortal Bobby Fischer, to beat the heck out of our opponents. (I am paraphrasing.)

Andrew Pressburger

CFC Offer

Obtain the latest Chess Informants for \$34.95!!!

Join the CFC standing order list for Informant and get the latest up to date Informants shipped to you for the retail price of \$34.95. That is \$10 off our regular retail price of \$44.95. To be added, simply contact us to be put on the list, and provide your VISA or MasterCard number to us. The corresponding Informant CD can also be sent for an extra \$4.

Annual Membership	Adult			Junior			Jr. Part.			Family		
	CFC	Prov	\$\$	CFC	Prov	\$\$	CFC	Prov	\$\$	CFC	Prov	\$\$
Alberta	36	5	41	24	3	27	12	1	13	18	2.50	20.50
British Columbia	36	12	48	24	3	27	12	3	15	18	6	24
Manitoba	36	17	53	24	10	34	12	3	15	18	8.50	26.50
New Brunswick	36	5	41	24	3	27	12	2	14	18	2.50	20.50
Newfoundland	36	3	39	24	2	26	12	2	14	18	1.50	19.50
Nova Scotia	36	7	43	24	3	27	12	3	15	18	3.50	21.50
Northwest Territories	36	0	36	24	0	24	12	0	12	18	0	18
Ontario	36	7	43	24	3	27	12	2	14	18	3.50	21.50
Prince Edward Island	36	0	36	24	0	24	12	0	12	18	0	18
Quebec	36	0	36	24	0	24	12	0	12	18	0	18
Saskatchewan	36	0	36	24	0	24	12	0	12	18	0	18
Yukon	36	0	36	24	0	24	12	0	12	18	0	18
Foreign	36	0	36	24	0	24	12	0	12	18	0	18

"Note" The **CFC** column is the amount collected by the Chess Federation of Canada. The **Prov** column is the amount collected by each provincial association. The **\$\$** column is the amount the member must pay.

Adult Memberships are open to anyone over the age of 17. Pay the amount in the Adult \$\$ column.

Junior Memberships are open to individuals aged 17 or less. Pay the amount in the Junior \$\$ column.

Junior Participating Memberships are open to individuals aged 17 or less. These members can play in tournaments, but do not receive *En Passant*. Pay the amount in the Participating \$\$ column.

Family Memberships: the first member pays the Adult fee in the \$\$ column. Each other member at the same address pays the Family fee in the \$\$ column.

Life Membership rates depend on age: 30 & under \$720; 31–40 \$630; 41–50 \$540; 51–60 \$450; 61 and over \$360. Provincial dues are not included in Life rates. Supply proof of age if over 30.



Coming Events

The Coming Events advertising section is brought to you by the Chess Federation of Canada.

Note: This is free for all CFC-Rated events.

Players: When you enter by mail, include your name, address, CFC number, expiry date, rating and date published (if you are entering your first CFC event, you are probably an unrated player), and birthdate if you are a junior – all with your entry fee.

CFC membership is required in these tournaments except where indicated. If you buy a CFC membership with your entry, obtain a receipt from the organizer. Please bring your chess pieces, boards and clocks. Unless stated otherwise all tournaments are Non-Smoking and No Computers.

Summary

Date: Dates of the event
Place: Location of the event
Rds: Number of rounds
Type: Rating type either Regular or Active and either Swiss or Round Robin (RR)
Times: Round times, “/” = next day
TC: Time Controls, SD means Sudden Death – all remaining moves in fixed time
EF: Entry Fee.
Sec: Sections tournament is broken down into
Prizes: \$\$BEN = Prizes based upon entries, \$\$Gxx = Guaranteed prize of xx
Reg: Registration time instructions
Org: Tournament organizer and contact information
Misc: Other important information
UNR Unrated; **Jr.** Junior; **Sr.** Senior, **Cd.** Cadet (under 16) **Bye n** A half-point bye is available in round(s) **n** if requested in advance with entry; **CC** Chess Club; **S** Smoking allowed.

Organizers of CFC-rated events should send notices to: The CFC, 2212 Gladwin Crescent, E-1, Ottawa, ON, K1B 5N1 by the 25th of each even numbered month (e.g., February). Notices must state the name of the organizer and whether smoking is allowed. A prize fund is considered to be guaranteed by the organizer unless explicitly stated otherwise.

A tournament in a small town (under 75,000 population) may qualify for an LTIP grant. Write to the CFC for details of this program.

Ontario

London CC SD-T #1-3

Date: October 4; November 8; December 6
Place: Forest City Kiwanis Senior Centre, 78 Riverside Dr, London 4
Rds: Regular Swiss
Times: 10, 12, 3, 5
TC: G/60
EF: \$17; \$15 Jr
Sec: Open, U1600
Prizes: \$\$BEN
Reg: 09:15–09:45 at site
Org: Steve Killi (519)642–3684 skilli2119@rogers.com

KW Oktoberfest Open

Date: October 10–12
Place: Kitchener City Hall
Rds: 5
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 7 / 9:30, 3:30 / 9:30, 3:30
TC: 30/90, SD/60
EF: \$40; less \$5 Jr/Sr; \$10 late fee after October 3
Sec: Open, U2000, U1600
Prizes: \$\$BEN
Reg: 18:00–18:30 at site; or cheques to Neil MacLeod, 71 Mt.Hope Street, Kitchener, ON, N2G 2J5
Org: Neil MacLeod (519)571–0889 swocl@hotmail.com
Misc: Bye 1–4

Ottawa Chess Club Active

Date: October 11
Place: 235 Queen Street
Rds: 5
Type: Active Swiss
Times: 10:30, 11:45, 1, 2:15, 3:30
TC: G/30
EF: \$25
Prizes: \$\$BEN
Reg: 09:30–10:15 at site
Org: Neil James Frarey
Misc: Bye 1–3; bring sets, clocks

Brantford Active Series #2-5

Date: October 18, January 17, March 27, April 17
Place: Grace Community Center, 7 Burnley Avenue
Rds: 6
Type: Active Swiss
Times: 11, 12, 1, 3, 4, 5
TC: G/25
EF: \$30; \$25 Jr
Prizes: \$\$BEN
Reg: 10:15 at site
Org: Lee Hendon (519)754–0444 actives@brantchess.com

Toronto Senior Active Championship

Date: October 26
Place: Bradgate Arms, 54 Foxbar Road 5
Rds: Active Swiss
Times: 10:15, 11:30, 1:30, 2:45, 4
TC: G/30
EF: \$15
Prizes: \$\$BEN
Reg: At site; or cheques to Martin Jaeger, #1201–755 York Mills, Toronto, ON, M3B 1X5
Misc: DOB before October 27, 1953; bring sets, clocks

National Capital Open

Date: October 31 to November 2
Place: Bronson Center, 211 Bronson Avenue, Ottawa
Rds: 5
Type: Regular Swiss.
Times: 3 Day 7 / 10, 4 / 9, 3; 2 Day 10, 1, 4 / 9, 3
TC: 3 Day 30/90, SD/60; 2 Day Rds1&2 G/60
EF: \$40; \$10 late fee
Prizes: \$\$BEN
Reg: 3 Day 17:30–18:30; 2 Day 08:30–09:30; or cheques to National Capital Open, 5 Gervin Street, Ottawa, ON, K2G 0J6
Org: Neil James Frarey
Misc: Bye 1–4; bring sets, clocks; EOCA GP event

Guelph Fall Pro-Am

Date: November 1–2
Place: Room 335, Guelph University Centre
Rds: 5
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 9:30, 1:30, 5:30 / 9:30, 1:30
TC: G/90+20
EF: Pro \$50; U2000, U1700 \$30; less \$5 Jr/Sr; \$10 late fee
Sec: Pro, U2000, U1700
Prizes: \$\$BEN Pro; Amateur trophies
Reg: 08:15–09:15 at site, or cheques to Hal Bond, 6 Wildwood Place, Guelph, ON, N1H 7X9
Org: Hal Bond halbond@rogers.com

Agincourt CYCC Qualifier

Date: November 15
Place: Stephen Leacock CI, 2450 Birchmount Road, Agincourt
Rds: 6
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: ASAP
TC: G/30
EF: \$10
Prizes: Medals
Sec: U18, U16, U14, U12, U10
Reg: Cheques to Chris Field, Stephen

Org: Leacock CI, 2450 Birchmount Road, Agincourt, ON, M1T 2M5, before November 15
Chris Field (416)396-8042
 chris.field@tel.tdsb.on.ca
Misc: DOB on January 1, 2004; bring sets, clocks; ON CYCC Qualifier

Seaway Valley Open

Date: November 15-16
Place: McIntosh Country Inn and Conference Centre, 12495 County Road 2, Morrisburg
Rds: 5
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 9, 2, 7 / 9:30, 2:30
EF: \$35 before November 15; \$5 late fee
Prizes: \$ \$BEN
TC: 30/80, SD/60
Reg: 08:00-08:45 at site; or cheques to Au Diapason Inc, c/o Raymond Lacroix, 41 Kingslea Crescent, Cornwall, ON, K6H 2J2
Org: Raymond Lacroix, Stijn De Kerpel
Misc: Bye 1-3; bring equipment; EOCA GP event

Pan American Youth Championship Qualifier

Date: December 30 to January 1
Place: Parkhill Stanley Park Community Hall, 4012 Stanley Park Road, Calgary
Rds: 5
Type: Boys Regular Swiss, Girls TBA
TC: 30/90, SD/45
Times: 9, 1:30 / 9:00, 2 / 10:00
EF: \$150 by December 15; \$200 at site; discount if also entered in Canadian Junior Championship
Sec: Boys, Girls (only if minimum of 10 entries)
Prizes: Funding towards World Junior Championship for top finisher(s)
Reg: 19:00-20:00 at site; or cheques to Chess Federation of Canada, 2212 Gladwin Crescent E-1, Ottawa, ON, K1B 5N1, by December 15
Org: Vonnie Eng (403)287-2370
 cowntown88@aol.com
Misc: Quality Hotel (800)361-3422

Canadian Junior Championship

Date: January 2-6
Place: Quality Hotel and Conference Centre, 3828 Macleod Trail South, Calgary
Rds: 9
Type: Boys Regular Swiss, Girls TBA
TC: 30/90, SD/60
Times: 9, 2 / 9:30, 3 / 9:30, 3 / 9:30, 3 / 9:30
EF: \$150 by December 15; \$200 at site
Sec: Boys, Girls (only if 10+ entries)
Prizes: Funding towards World Junior Championship for top finisher

Reg: 19:00-20:00 at site; or cheques to Chess Federation of Canada, 2212 Gladwin Crescent E-1, Ottawa, ON, K1B 5N1, by December 15
Org: Vonnie Eng (403)287-2370
 cowntown88@aol.com
Misc: Billets etc available if requested by December 15; \$69 at Quality Hotel (800)361-3422; lecture and blitz event; dinner on January 2, please confirm attendance with registration

Ontario Open

Date: May 22-24
Place: Holiday Inn, 664 Colborne Street, Brantford
Rds: 6
Type: Regular Swiss
Sec: Open, U2000
Times: 10, 4 / 10, 4 / 10, 4
TC: G/120+30
EF: \$60, \$40 Jr by March 15; \$80, \$50 Jr by May 21; \$100, \$60 at site
Reg: 08:30-09:45 at site; or cheques to Christopher Mallon, 56 Deerpark Avenue, Brantford, ON, N3R 8B1
Org: Christopher Mallon (519)756-7535
 dcmallon@rogers.com
Misc: Bye 1-4 max 2; FIDE rated; SWOCL GP event

British Columbia

Croatian Community CC

Date: Sundays
Place: Croatian Cultural Center, 3250 Commercial Drive, Vancouver
Rds: 5
Type: Active Swiss
Times: 1, ASAP
TC: G/30
Org: Robert Topic (604)298-0543
 bernardtopic@shaw.ca

Culture Jam II Active

Date: October 4
Place: Sprott-Shaw College, 2750 Rupert Street, Vancouver
Rds: 5
Type: Active RR
Times: 10, ASAP
TC: G/30
EF: \$15
Prizes: ChessBase CD
Org: Vas Sladek (604)787-4553
 chessfm@shaw.ca

UBC Tuesday Night October November

Date: October 7, 14, 21, 28; November 4
Place: UBC Student Union, Room 215
Rds: 5
Type: Regular Swiss

Scarborough Chess Club Tournament Schedule

All events have the following information in common unless noted otherwise.

Place: Scarborough Chess Club, Stan Wadlow Park Clubhouse, 373 Cedarvale Road (1 block east of Woodbine, 2 blocks south of O'Connor Drive)

Info: scarboro@idirect.ca
 http://webhome.idirect.com/~blamb/

Org: Bryan Lamb
 (416)446-5938 or
 (416)877-7328
 blamb@idirect.com
 scarboro@idirect.ca

Misc: SCC membership required (\$100 Adult, \$75 Sr, \$50 Jr). Events are CFC rated (CFC membership required). Entry fees to events covered by club membership. Half price for additional family members and players from the same school.

Special Events

Thursday Evening Events

TC: 30/75, SD/30
Times: 19:30, weekly

Saturday Afternoon Events

TC: 30/90, SD/30
Times: 13:30, weekly

Times: 7 / 6:30 / 6:30 / 6:30 / 6:30
TC: 40/90, SD/60
EF: \$15; \$12 UBC members; \$8 Jr; Masters and new CFC free
Prizes: \$ \$BEN
Reg: 18:30-19:00 at site
Org: Lyle Craver (604)980-2040
Misc: Bye 1-4

Vancouver Little Mountain Active #4

Date: October 15, 22
Place: Little Mountain Neighbourhood House, 3981 Main Street
Rds: 6
Type: Active Swiss
Times: 7, ASAP
TC: G/30
EF: \$10; \$5 Jr/Sr
Prizes: Trophies, certificates, software
Reg: 18:45 at site
Org: Eduardo Azmitia (604)582-5586; Carmen Miranda (604)879-7104

Kelowna Harvest Fest

Date: October 18–19
Place: Boys&Girls Club, 1633 Richter St
Rds: 5
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 9, 2, 7 / 10, ASAP
TC: 30/90, SD 60; G/60 Junior
EF: \$25; \$20 Sr; \$15 Jr; \$5 Junior Sec
Prizes: \$\$BEN
Sec: Open, Junior
Reg: 08:00 at site
Org: Grant Rice (250)979-0009
ridebike@okanagan.net
Misc: Bring sets, clocks

Stop the Machine FIDE Invitational

Date: October 24–26
Place: Sprott-Shaw College, 2750
Rupert Street, Vancouver
Rds: 5
Type: Regular RR
Times: 6:30 / 10, 3:30 / 10, ASAP
TC: G/120+30
EF: \$80; \$50 FIDE rated
Prizes: \$\$G150, ChessBase CD
Reg: Before October 19
Org: Vas Sladek (604)787-4553
chessfm@shaw.ca
Misc: CFC 2000+ only; FIDE rated

UBC Tuesday Night November December

Date: November 18, 25;
December 2, 9, 16
Place: UBC Student Union, Room 215
Rds: 5
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 7 / 6:30 / 6:30 / 6:30 / 6:30
TC: 40/90, SD/60
EF: \$15; \$12 UBC members; \$8 Jr;
Masters and new CFC free
Prizes: \$\$BEN
Reg: 18:30–19:00 at site
Org: Lyle Craver (604)980-2040
Misc: Bye 1–4

Vancouver Little Mountain Active #5

Date: November 19, 26
Place: Little Mountain Neighbourhood
House, 3981 Main Street
Rds: 6
Type: Active Swiss
Times: 7, ASAP
TC: G/30
EF: \$10; \$5 Jr/Sr
Prizes: Trophies, certificates, software
Reg: 18:45 at site
Org: Eduardo Azmitia (604)582-5586;
Carmen Miranda (604)879-7104
Misc: Bring sets, clocks

Vancouver Little Mountain Active #6

Date: December 10, 17
Place: Little Mountain Neighbourhood
House, 3981 Main Street
Rds: 6
Type: Active Swiss
Times: 7, ASAP
TC: G/30
EF: \$10; \$5 Jr/Sr

Prizes: Trophies, certificates, software
Reg: 18:45 at site
Org: Eduardo Azmitia (604)582-5586;
Carmen Miranda (604)879-7104
Misc: Bring sets, clocks

Kamloops Grand Prix Events

Date: January 24, February 21,
September 18, October 23,
November 20
Place: South Kamloops Secondary
School Cafeteria, 821 Munro St
Type: Regular Swiss
Rds: 4
Times: 9:15, 12, 3, 6:30
TC: 35/60, SD/30
Reg: 08:45–09:00 at site
EF: \$20; Jr \$5; Sr \$15
Prizes: \$\$BEN
Reg: 09:00–09:30 at site; or cheques
to George Hara, c/o South
Kamloops Secondary School,
821 Munro Street, Kamloops,
BC, V2C 3E9
Org: George Hara (250)376-8776
geohara@hotmail.com
Misc: Bye 1–3; bring sets, clocks

BC Interior Secondary School Championship

Date: March 6
Place: South Kamloops Secondary
School Cafeteria, 821 Munro
Street, Kamloops
Rds: 6
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 9:30, ASAP
TC: 40/60, SD/15
EF: \$15 by January 31; \$20 by
February 1; \$25 by February 15
Prizes: Plaques, certificates
Reg: 08:30 at site; or cheques to
George Hara, c/o South
Kamloops Secondary School,
821 Munro Street, Kamloops,
BC, V2C 3E9
Org: George Hara (250)376-8776
geohara@hotmail.com
Misc: Bye 1–5; bring boards, sets,
clocks; full time G8–12 students

BC Amateur Championship

Date: April 9–10
Place: South Kamloops Secondary
School Cafeteria, 821 Munro St
Type: Regular Swiss
Rds: 6
Times: 9:30, 1, 4:30 / 9:30, 1, 4:30
TC: 30/60, SD/45
EF: \$30, Jr \$5, Sr 20 by February 15;
\$35, Jr \$10, Sr \$25 by February
28; \$40, Jr \$15, Sr \$30 by March
15; \$50, Jr \$20, Sr \$40 thereafter
09:00–09:30 at site; or cheques
to George Hara, c/o South
Kamloops Secondary School,
821 Munro Street, Kamloops,
BC, V2C 3E9
Org: George Hara (250)376-8776
geohara@hotmail.com
Misc: Bye 1–5; eligibility <2200 only

Alberta

ECC John Tournaments

Date: Monday nights
Place: Edmonton Chess Club
Rds: 4
Type: Active Swiss
TC: G/30
EF: \$2
Reg: 18:30–19:15 at site
Org: John Quiring (403)468-9173

Alberta Open

Date: October 11–13
Place: Mackenzie Room, Delta
Edmonton Centre Suite Hotel,
10222 – 102 Street, Edmonton
Rds: 6
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 10:30, 3:30 / 9:30, 5 / 9:30, 1:30
TC: 45/90 SD/45
EF: \$25; \$20 Jr
Sec: TBA
Prizes: \$\$G1000
Reg: 09:00–10:00
Org: ACA; Ford Wong (780)481-6474
fordie@shaw.ca
Misc: Alberta Closed Qualifier; ACA
AGM Sunday 14:00

New Brunswick

Bathurst CRCC Tornados

Date: November 8
Place: NBCC Cafeteria, Youghall Drive
Rds: 4
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 9, 11:30, 2:30, 5
TC: G/60
EF: \$20, \$10 U14
Prizes: \$\$BEN
Reg: Leo Legacy (506)783-3121
leolegac@nb.sympatico.ca
Misc: Bring sets, clocks

Nova Scotia

Maritime Open

Date: October 11–13
Place: Room A201, DalTech Campus
of Dalhousie University, 1360
Barrington Street, Halifax
Rds: 6
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 12, 6 / 10, 4 / 10, 3:30
TC: 30/90, SD/60
EF: \$35; \$30 Sr; \$25 Jr; \$15 Cd
Prizes: \$\$BEN
Reg: 10:00–11:00 at site; or cheques
to David Kenney, 28 Brookfield
Ave, Dartmouth, NS, B2V 1V1
David Kenney (902)462-7455
Org: David Kenney (902)462-7455
Misc: Bring sets, clocks

2003

The Montreal International

by IM David Ross

This year's Montreal International was strengthened by the presence of legendary GM Oleg Romanishin of the Ukraine, and boasted the strongest field to date with an average rating of 2515.

Readers may be wondering how your author managed to get into such a prestigious event, but this surprising anomaly is easily explained by the fact that I was organizer Andre Langlois' sixth choice on a long list of replacements who all turned out to be unable or unwilling to play! Such good fortune on my part could not be refused, in spite of the fact that competing at such a high level with only minimal preparation and after a lengthy break would prove to be a difficult task.

The front runners in the event were the top rated contenders Onischuk and Rozentalis, with the former holding a narrow lead for many rounds until a loss against Nataf allowed Eduardas to overtake him close to the finish line. The two in fact faced each other the last round, with Rozentalis holding off Alexander to post an impressive 8.5/11 final tally and 2753 performance rating! Among the Canadians only Montreal's IM Pascal Charbonneau impressed at 6.5/11 and his first GM title norm...

Notes by
David Ross

**Rozentalis, Eduardas
Nataf, Igor**
*Montreal International (1),
2003*

Sicilian: Rossolimo B31

Rozentalis starts his campaign with a fine positional game against French GM Igor Nataf.

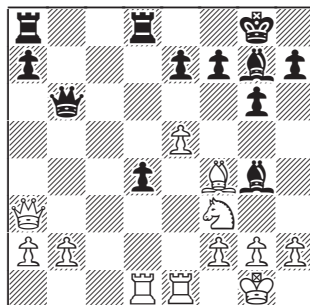
1.e4 c5 2.♟f3 ♘c6 3.♙b5 g6 4.0-0 ♙g7 5.c3 ♟f6 6.♞e1 0-0 7.d4 d5 8.e5 ♟e4 9.♙xc6 bxc6 10.♟bd2 cxd4 11.cxd4 c5 12.dxc5 ♟xc5 13.♟b3 ♟xb3 14.♟xb3 d4

It is too soon to say if this advance is better than 14 ...♙g4.

15.♙f4!?N ♙g4 16.♟a3 ♟b6

Also possible is the centralization 16...♟d5!?

17.♞ad1 ♞fd8?



An important improvement is 17...♙xf3!? 18.gxf3 e6 since the text allows White to build up an attack quickly.

18.♟xc7! ♙xf3 19.gxf3 ♟xb2 20.e6 ♞f8

White's rook reaches the seventh rank with decisive force after 20...fxe6?? 21.♞b1!

21.♟d7! ♟xa2 22.e7 ♞fe8 23.♞a1 ♟b3 24.♞xa7 ♟c3

Also quite hopeless for Black is the defensive try 24...♟xf3 25.♞xa8 ♟xa8 26.♙c7.

25.♞xa8 ♟xe1+ 26.♟g2 ♞xa8 27.♟d8+ ♞xd8 28.exd8♟+ ♙f8 29.♙d6 1-0.

Notes by
David Ross

**Ross, David
Lesiege, Alexandre**
*Montreal International (1),
2003*

Catalan E04

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♟f3 ♟f6 4.g3 dxc4 5.♙g2 ♟c6 6.♟a4 ♙b4+ 7.♙d2 ♙d6

Although today's effort is my best from the event, I am so out of touch with current theory that I didn't realize Kramnik has already played this idea against Karpov and Anand!

8.♟xc4 0-0 9.0-0 e5 10.♟xe5 ♟xe5 11.dxe5 ♙xe5 12.♙c3 ♟e7 13.♙b4

A surprise for Alexandre.

13...♙d6?!

Both of us thought after the game that White is a little better after 13...♟e6!? 14.♙d2 but after a second look it seems that Black has equalized after 14...♞e8 15.♟c2 c6 16.♙c4 ♙c7.

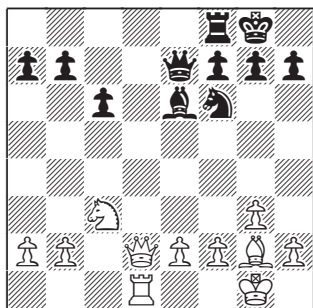
14.♙xd6 ♟xd6 15.♟c3 c6 16.♞ad1 ♟e7 17.♞d2 ♙e6 18.♟f4!N

Incredibly this position has arisen before, albeit with the inferior 18.♟h4.

18...♞ad8

Most likely 18...♞fd8 is the more accurate rook move.

19.♞fd1 ♞xd2 20.♟xd2



20...d7

Instead of the text Black can also try 20...e8!? when an optimist behind the White pieces might think he is slightly better.

21.h3 f6!?

A cool move to defuse any possible benefit from an advance of White's kingside pawns.

22.g2 e5 23.b3 a6 24.g3

Also good is 24.e4 f7 25.g3 with a small edge.

24...e8 25.g6 f7 26.e3 c8 27.e4 d8 28.d4 g8?

After 28...xd4 29.exd4! e6 30.c5 d6 31.ex6 xe6 32.a5 White intends 33.d5 but Black is not really any worse.

29.a4?

Both players are short of time, and White should prefer 29.c5!

29...xd4 30.exd4 g8 31.g5+ g7 32.g6

White keeps a pleasant initiative after 32.g7!

32...g8 33.g5+

And the very real possibility of posting nothing but zeros on the crosstable in this tournament now prompted me to take off some of the pressure and call it a day!?

1/2-1/2.

Rozentalis and Bluvshstein were the only winners in round two, allowing Eduardas to keep his half point lead on the pack.

Notes by
David Ross

**Rozentalis, Eduardas
Vera, Reynaldo**

*Montreal International (2),
2003*

Sicilian: Alapin B22

1.e4 c5 2.c3 f6 3.e5 d5 4.f3 d6 5.c4 e6 6.d4 cxd4 7.cxd4 e7 8.0-0 0-0 9.c3

Incredibly this normal looking position has occurred only five times in my large database.

9...xc3 10.bxc3 c6 11.exd6 xd6

The other capture 11...xd6 also makes sense.

12.e1

We have transposed into a better known and very difficult line for Black. Objectively speaking White is probably not very much better, but the statistics don't bear this out for Black, who scores very poorly from here.

12...b6 13.g5! xg5

Perhaps 13...h6 is better, although the pawn on h6 could easily become a target later.

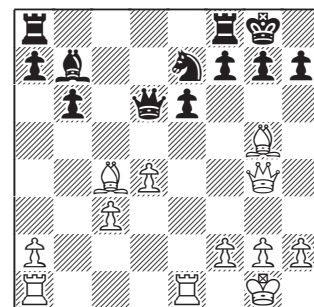
14.xg5 b7 15.g4

White now enjoys a big advantage with the bishop pair and attacking chances against Black's king. The potential weakness of f/c3 along the half open c/file is not relevant at this moment.

15...e7?



Reynaldo Vera



Correct is 15...fe8. Now White has a tactical shot.

16.xe6! h5 17.g3

Also possible is 17.g3 or 17.h4.

17...fxe6 18.xe6 d7?

After 18...xg2! 19.xd6 (or 19.g3 e3 d5!) 19...xh3 20.xe7 f3 the opposite colored bishops provide Black with good drawing chances.

19.xe7 xh3 20.gxh3 f7 21.ae1 d5 22.a3 c8

2003 Montreal International

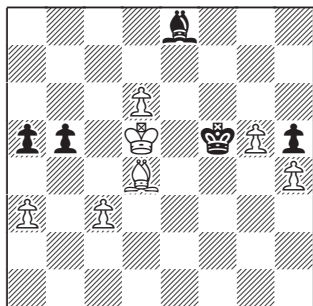
##	Player	Old	Perf	New	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	##
1	Rozentalis, Eduardas	2613	2753	2642	X	=	=	1	1	=	=	=	1	1	1	1	8=
2	Onischuk, Alexander	2657	2712	2668	=	X	1	0	=	1	=	1	=	1	1	1	8
3	Legky, Nikolay	2516	2652	2547	=	0	X	=	1	=	=	=	=	1	1	1	7
4	Nataf, Igor	2595	2645	2605	0	1	=	X	=	=	=	=	1	1	=	1	7
5	Charbonneau, Pascal	2466	2620	2502	0	=	0	=	X	=	1	=	1	=	1	1	6=
6	Romanishin, Oleg	2561	2539	2556	=	0	=	=	=	X	=	=	=	=	1	=	5=
7	Barsov, Alexei	2542	2504	2534	=	=	=	=	0	=	X	=	=	=	=	=	5
8	Lugovoi, Alexei	2566	2502	2552	=	0	=	=	=	=	=	X	1	0	0	1	5
9	Vera, Reynaldo	2543	2432	2519	0	=	=	0	0	=	=	0	X	1	=	=	4
10	Lesiege, Alexandre	2605	2426	2565	0	0	0	0	=	=	=	1	0	X	1	=	4
11	Bluvshstein, Mark	2465	2402	2453	0	0	0	=	0	0	=	1	=	0	X	1	3=
12	Ross, David	2362	2303	2350	0	0	0	0	0	=	=	0	=	=	0	X	2

Here too the opposite colored bishops complicate matters, but Rozentalis shows excellent technique in converting his advantage.

23. ♖e8+ ♜xe8 24. ♖xe8+ ♜h7
25. ♖e5 ♖d7 26. f4 ♜g8 27. f5 ♖f7
28. ♜f2 g6

Surely 28... ♖d5 is a better try. The remainder is no longer difficult.

29. fxg6 ♖xg6 30. ♜e3 ♖c7 31. ♜d2
♖f7 32. ♖e7 ♖d7 33. ♖g5+ ♜h7
34. ♖f6 ♖g6 35. ♖e5 ♖f7 36. d5!
♖f2+ 37. ♜e3 ♖f5 38. h4 ♖xg5
39. hxg5 b5 40. ♜d4 ♖e8 41. ♜c5
♜g6 42. h4 ♜f5 43. ♖d4 ♜e4 44. d6
♜f5 45. ♜d5 a5



46.g6 1-0.

Notes by
David Ross

Lugovoi, Alexei
Legky, Nikolay

*Montreal International (2),
2003*

Benoni: Snake A60

1. d4 ♖f6 2. c4 e6 3. ♖c3 c5 4. d5
exd5 5. cxd5 ♖d6 6. ♖f3 ♖c7
7. ♖g5 h6 8. ♖h4 ♖a5

The Snake has transformed itself into a weird Nimzo Indian!

9. e3 ♜b6 10. ♖xf6! ♜xf6 11. ♖c1
0-0 12. ♖e2

White has nothing special here, but I don't see anything sharper to test Black's setup.

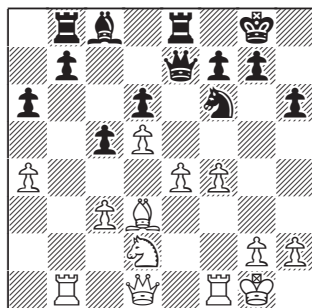
12... ♖xc3+ 13. bxc3

Of course 13. ♖xc3 is also fine.

13... d6 14. 0-0 ♖d7 15. ♖d2 ♜e7
16. e4 ♖e8 17. f4?

Considering what happens next, this pawn advance is far too ambitious!

17... ♖b8 18. a4 a6 19. ♖b1 ♖f6
20. ♖d3



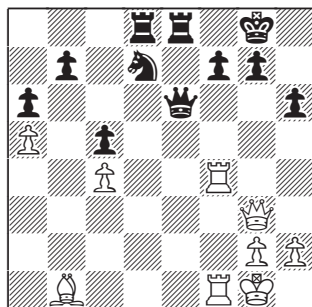
20... ♖xd5! 21. ♜b3 ♖c7 22. ♜b6
♖d5 23. ♜b3 ♖f6 24. c4 ♖d7
25. ♖be1 ♖c6 26. ♖b1 ♖d7?

It is hard to imagine what made Black reject 26... b5! 27. axb5 axb5 28. cxb5 ♖xb5 29. ♜d3 (or 29. ♜g3 ♖b4) 29... ♜d7 with a winning position.

27. ♜g3 ♖bd8 28. a5 ♜f6 29. e5
dxe5 30. ♖e4 ♖xe4 31. ♖xe4 exf4?

Better looks 31... ♜e6!? or 31... ♜d6!?

32. ♖exf4 ♜e6



Somehow White has conjured up sufficient counterplay!



Nikolay Legky

33. ♖xf7! ♜e3+ 34. ♜xe3 ♖xe3
35. h4 ♖b3??

Why not 35... b5!

36. ♖e4! ♖f6 37. ♖xb7 ♖a3 38. ♖f3
♖xa5 ½-½.

In round three Rozentalis finally coughed up a draw against Barsov, while Onischuk scored his first win at the expense of Ross who misplayed the opening horribly. Legky won an Exchange Slav against Lesiege, and Nataf prevailed in a nice attacking game against Vera. But without a doubt the most interesting matchup today was that between Canada's two young IMs!

Notes by
David Ross

Charbonneau, Pascal
Bluvshstein, Mark

*Montreal International (3),
2003*

French: Advance C02

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. c3 ♖d7
5. ♖f3 ♜b6 6. a3 c4?!

Black usually follows up on 5... ♜b6 with 6... ♖b5 in order to exchange light squared bishops. Mark's move order looks inaccurate since it allows his opponent to quickly strike on the queenside with the b3 break, which is usually something Black is able to prevent with a timely ... ♖a5.

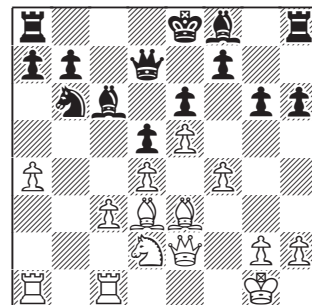
7. ♖bd2 ♖c6 8. b3! cxb3 9. ♖xb3
♖a5 10. ♖xa5 ♜xa5 11. ♖d2

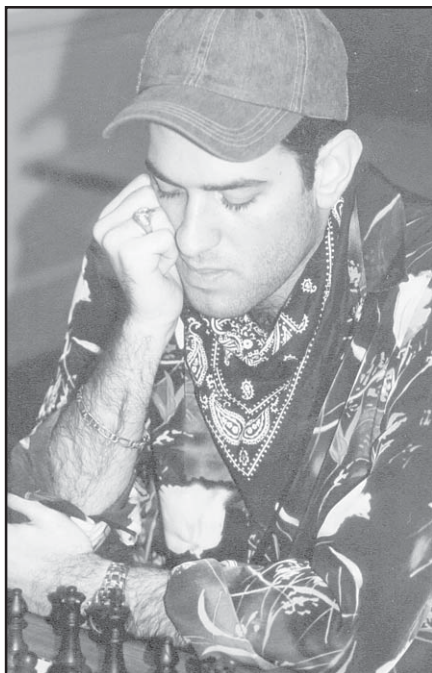
Statistically Black scores a miserable 29 percent from this position!

11... ♜c7 12. ♖d3 h6 13. 0-0 ♖e7
14. ♜e2 ♖c8 15. ♖e3 ♖b6 16. ♖d2
♖c6

Black's stands so poorly that even the incredibly risky 16... ♜xc3 might be worth a second look.

17. f4 g6 18. ♖fc1 ♜d7 19. a4!?





Igor Nataf

Pascal decides that his development lead and superior coordination will decide the game.

19... ♖xa4 20.c4! ♜b2 21.cxd5 exd5 22. ♖b1 ♖b5 23. ♖f3

Black cannot construct an adequate defense in the face of so many threats.

23... ♜d3 24. ♖c3 ♖c8?? 25. ♖xc8+ ♖xc8 26. ♖f1! ♖c3 27. ♖xa7 ♖b4 28. ♖a8+ ♜e7 29. ♖xh8 ♜xe5 30. ♖xb5 ♖xe3+ 31. ♖h1 ♜c6 32. ♜f1 1-0.

Notes by
David Ross

Vera, Reynaldo
Nataf, Igor

*Montreal International (3),
2003*

King's Indian: Classical E99

This win by Nataf must have been especially sweet because Vera had beaten his King's Indian setup in Kapuskasing just one week earlier.

1.d4 ♜f6 2.c4 g6 3. ♜c3 ♖g7 4.e4 d6 5. ♖e2 0-0 6. ♜f3 e5 7.0-0 ♜c6 8.d5 ♜e7 9. ♜e1 ♜d7 10. ♖e3 f5 11.f3 f4 12. ♖f2 g5 13. ♖c1 ♖f6

Since Black has a decent score from this position, it is imperative that White reacts sharply before his opponent's kingside attack gains too much momentum.

14.c5!?

This pawn sacrifice temporarily diverts Black's attention, but I have my doubts about its soundness.

14... ♜xc5

Here 14...dxc5 might also be playable, but looks wrong on general principles.

15.b4 ♜a6

The knight looks a bit clumsy here at first, but actually slows down White's play on the c-file very effectively.

16. ♜d3

The exchange 16. ♖xa6 bxa6 must be wrong, since it removes an important defender from White's kingside.

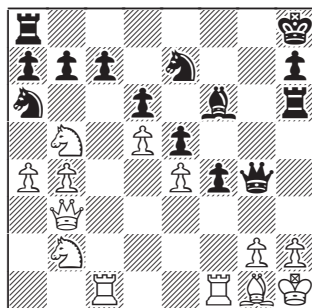
16... ♖h6 17.a4 ♖e8 18. ♖h1 ♖d7N

This is a likely improvement over 18...c6 from Lopez Martinez-Volokitin, Leon EU ch tt (5), 2001.

19. ♖b3 ♖h8 20. ♜b2?

At this moment 20. ♖g1! might be more accurate, because then 20... ♖h5 can be answered by 21. ♜f2! Now Black is winning the race!

20... ♖h5 21. ♖g1 g4! 22.fxg4 ♖xg4 23. ♖xg4 ♖xg4 24. ♜b5 ♖f6



25. ♜xc7??

Hard to believe, but the computer likes 25. ♜xa7! when 25... ♖g6 (White is also safe after 25... ♖h4 26. ♖f3 ♖g5 27. ♜d3 ♖g3 28.h3; or 25... ♖g8 26. ♖f3) 26. ♖c2 ♖ag8 looks impressive, but offers nothing concrete for Black.

25... ♜xc7 26. ♖xc7 ♖e2 27. ♖d1 ♖xe4!

The ending after 27... ♖g6! 28. ♖c2 ♖xg2 29. ♖xe2 ♖xe2 30. ♜d3 ♖xe4 is also winning comfortably.

28. ♜c4 ♜f5 29. ♖f2 ♖h4 30. ♖xh4 ♖g8

Why not just 30... ♜xh4!

31. ♖f3 ♖xf3 32.gxf3 ♖xh4 33. ♖d2

White's only hope is 33. ♖xb7 but then the same 33...e4 still wins for Black.

33...e4 34. ♖f7 ♜g3+ 35. ♖g1 ♜e2+ 36. ♖f1 ♖g1+ 0-1.

Rozentalis stayed in the lead by collecting win number three when Ross hung a pawn in a perfectly reasonable position. Meanwhile Legky won his second game in a row against an obviously out-of-form Bluvshstein. Onischuk failed to convert a nice advantage with a miscalculation, but the coolest game of the round was that between Lesiege and Romanishin.

Notes by
David Ross

Lesiege, Alexandre
Romanishin, Oleg

*Montreal International (4),
2003*

Nimzo Indian: Rubinstein E43

1.d4 ♜f6 2.c4 e6 3. ♜c3 ♖b4 4.e3 b6 5. ♖d3 ♖b7 6. ♜f3 0-0 7.0-0 ♖xc3 8.bxc3 c5 9. ♜d2

Logical, as White needs to play for the central advance e4.

9...d6 10.e4 cxd4 11.cxd4 e5! 12.f4!?

Very energetic! White looks better here, but Black defends calmly.

12... ♖e8

More sensible than 12...exd4 13.e5! (but not 13. ♖b2? ♜c6) 13...dxe5 14.fxe5 ♜fd7 15. ♜f3 with compensation for White.

13.fxe5 dxe5 14.d5 ♜bd7 15. ♜b3 ♖c8 16.g4!?

Once again the most active. White is just a little better after 16. ♖a3.

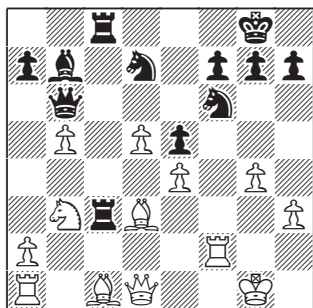
16...b5!?

An amazing resource, but not quite sound! Instead 16...h6 17.g5 hxg5 18. ♖xg5 ♖e7 looks a little better for White, although we cannot really fault Romanishin for declining to play such a position.

17.cxb5 ♖b6+ 18. ♖f2!

The only move, since 18. ♖g2?! ♖c3 19. ♖d2 runs into 19... ♜xd5!!

18... ♖c3 19.h3 ♖ec8



20. ♖b2?

But here 20.g5! ♖e8 (also very good for White is 20... ♖h5 21. ♖xh5 ♖xd3 22. ♖xf7+ ♖h8 23. ♖g2 ♖xb5 24. ♖a3 ♖a4 25. ♖af1 ♖xe4+ 26. ♖h2; or 20... ♖c5 21. ♖xc5 ♖xc5 22. gxf6 ♖xc1 23. ♖xc1 ♖xc1+ 24. ♖xc1 ♖xc1+ 25. ♖g2 ♖c3; and finally 20... ♖xd3 21. ♖xd3 ♖c3 22. ♖xc3 ♖xf2+ 23. ♖xf2 ♖xe4+ 24. ♖e1 ♖xc3) 21. ♖e2 ♖g6 22. ♖d2 leads to a big advantage for White!

20... ♖e3! 21. ♖xc3 ♖xc3 22. ♖f3 ♖xd3

The position after 22... ♖xd3 23. ♖xe3 ♖xe3 24. ♖c2 ♖xe4 25. ♖c7 ♖xd5 26.g5 ♖f8 27.gxf6 ♖xf6 looks unclear.

23. ♖xd3 ♖xd3 24. ♖c2 ♖xe4 25. ♖c7 ♖xd5 26. ♖xd7 h5 27. ♖xa7 ♖xh3! 28. b6 hxg4 29. b7 ♖g3+ 30. ♖h2 ♖h3+ 31. ♖g1 ♖g3+

A terrific fighting draw!

½-½.



Alexander Onischuk

Rozentalis won again, this time defeating Charbonneau who blundered in an already inferior position. Lesiege and Romanishin both won for the first time in the tournament, while Vera and Ross drew fairly quickly. Meanwhile Onischuk started his ascent to second place with this defeat over Legky.

Notes by David Ross

Legky, Nikolay
Onischuk, Alexander
*Montreal International (5),
2003*

King's Indian: Fianchetto E67

1.d4 ♖f6 2. ♖f3 g6 3.g3 ♖g7
4. ♖g2 0-0 5. 0-0 d6 6.c4 ♖bd7
7. ♖c3 e5 8. ♖c2 ♖e8 9. ♖d1 c6
10.e3

So far the players are following the game Witt–Spraggett, CA 1980! With his next move Black retains a flexible position.

10... a6 11.dxe5 dxe5 12. ♖g5?! ♖e7
13. ♖ge4 ♖xe4 14. ♖xe4 ♖c5
15.b3?

The position after 15. ♖xc5 ♖xc5 16.e4 is equal, whereas now Black takes over control of the d/file.

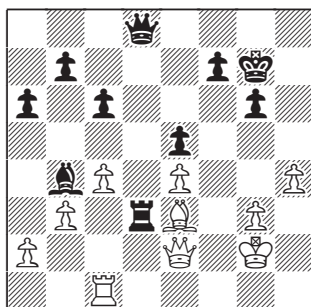
15... ♖xe4 16. ♖xe4 ♖g4 17. ♖d2
♖ad8 18. ♖b2 ♖xd2 19. ♖xd2 ♖d8
20. ♖e1 ♖f6 21. ♖c1 h5 22. ♖g2 h4
23.h3 ♖f5 24. ♖xf5 ♖xf5 25.e4
♖g5 26. ♖c2

White can reclaim the d/file and equality with 26. ♖d1!

26... hxg3 27.fxc3 ♖d3 28. ♖c1 ♖d8
29. ♖e3 ♖f8 30. ♖e2

Better is 30. ♖f2!? ♖d7 31.g4. Instead White soon commits a fatal mistake.

30... ♖b4 31.h4 ♖g7 32. ♖c1?!



32... ♖c5! 33. ♖xc5 ♖d2 34. ♖c2
♖xe2+ 35. ♖xe2 ♖d1 36. ♖f2 ♖h1
37. ♖b4 ♖h6 38. ♖e7 ♖h5 39. ♖f6



Alexei Lugovoi

♖a1 40. ♖g2 ♖g4 41. ♖f2 ♖c3
42. ♖e3 ♖d2+ 43. ♖e2 ♖d6 44. ♖g5
f6 45. ♖d2 ♖a3 46. ♖e3 ♖c1
47. ♖d6 ♖c2+ 48. ♖d2 ♖d1 49. ♖d3
f5 50. exf5 gxf5 51.h5 e4 52. ♖d8
♖f3+ 53. ♖e1 e3 54.h6 exd2+
55. ♖xd2 ♖g2+ 0-1.

Notes by David Ross

Lugovoi, Alexei
Lesiege, Alexandre
*Montreal International (5),
2003*

Nimzo Indian: Rubinstein E59

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 e6 3. ♖c3 ♖b4 4.e3
0-0 5. ♖d3 d5 6. ♖f3 c5 7. 0-0 ♖c6
8.a3 ♖xc3 9.bxc3 dxc4 10. ♖xc4
♖c7 11. ♖d3

White has tried many different ideas in the old main line of the Nimzo Indian without ever establishing a clear path to an advantage. In the subsequent play Alexei attempts to open the position for his bishops, but this is no easy task against the well-coordinated Black forces.

11... e5 12. ♖c2 ♖e8 13.dxe5 ♖xe5
14. ♖xe5 ♖xe5 15.f3 ♖d7 16.a4
♖ad8 17. ♖e1 ♖c6 18.e4 ♖d5
19. ♖d2 ♖f4 20. ♖f1 c4

So far it's all established theory, with Black comfortably drawing all five games in my database from this position.

21. ♖e3

White doesn't have much after
21. ♖xf4 ♜xf4 22. ♜f2 ♜d2.

21... ♖d3 22. ♖xd3 cxd3 23. ♜b2?!

Lugovoi attempts to improve on the
previously played 23. ♜d2.

23... ♜e6!?

Also attractive for Black looks the
immediate counterstrike 23... f5?!

24. ♖d4

The greedy 24. ♖xa7? lands White in
big trouble after 24... ♜h6 25. h3 (or
25. g3 ♜h5 26. ♜g2 f5!) 25... ♜xh3!
26. gxh3 d2!

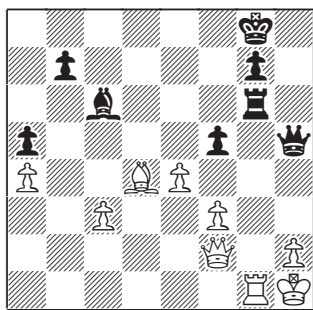
24... ♜h5 25. ♜f2 ♜h6 26. g4 ♜g6 27. ♜h1 ♜a5 28. ♜ed1 h5!? 29. gxh5 ♜xh5 30. ♜xd3 ♜e8 31. ♜e3 a5

White really has no favorable way to
prevent Black's kingside break ...f5
which is guaranteed to generate
plenty of compensation for the pawn
sacrifice.

32. ♜g1 ♜ee6! 33. ♜ee1 f5!

It is instructive to note how impotent
White's bishop is in the coming
defense. Opposite colored bishops,
while an important drawing resource
in many endgames, often benefit the
attacker in middlegame positions
where one side has play against the
opponent's king.

34. ♜xg6 ♜xg6 35. ♜g1?



35... fxe4 36. ♜xg6 ♜xg6 37. h4 exf3 38. ♜h2 ♜f7 39. ♜g3 ♖xa4 40. ♜b8+ ♜h7 41. ♜g3 ♖c6 42. ♜f4 ♜g6+ 43. ♜g4 ♜xg4+ 44. ♜xg4 a4 45. c4 a3 46. h5 a2 47. ♜g3 b6 48. ♜f2 ♜h6 49. ♜e3 ♜xh5 50. ♖xg7 ♜g4 51. ♖e5 ♖e8

Alexandre concludes the game in
attractive fashion, as it now becomes
clear that White's remaining pawn is
doomed.

0-1.



Eduardas Rozentalis

Notes by

David Ross

**Charbonneau, Pascal
Rozentalis, Eduardas**

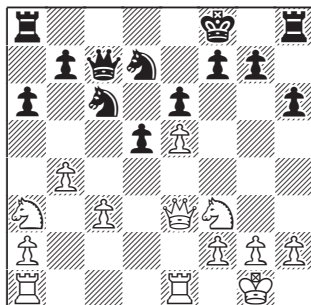
**Montreal International (5),
2003**

French: Advance C02

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. c3 ♖d7
5. ♖f3 ♜b6 6. ♖d3 ♖b5 7. dxc5
♖xc5 8. b4 ♖xd3 9. ♜xd3 ♖f8
10. 0-0 ♖e7 11. ♖e3 ♜c7 12. ♖a3
a6 13. ♖c5N

A new move, but the usual 13. c4
doesn't offer White much either.

13... ♖ec6 14. ♖xf8 ♜xf8 15. ♜fe1
♖d7 16. ♜e3 h6



17. c4!?

White initiates great complications
that are difficult to evaluate. A more
careful approach is 17. ♖c2!?

17... ♖xb4 18. ♜ab1 a5 19. ♖b5 ♜c5

Maybe playable, but needlessly risky
looks 19... ♜xc4 20. ♖d6 ♜xa2 21. ♖d4
♖xe5!

20. ♖fd4?

Rozentalis is a well known endgame
specialist, and so Pascal rejects 20. a3!?
♜xe3 (White is also a bit better after
20... ♖c6 21. ♜xc5+ ♖xc5 22. cxd5
exd5) 21. ♜xe3 ♖c6 22. cxd5 exd5
23. ♖c7 ♜d8 24. ♖xd5 g5! with a small
endgame advantage.

20... dxc4 21. ♖d6 ♜g8 22. a3 ♖d3

Also reliable looks 22... ♖d5!?

23. ♜b5 ♜xa3 24. ♖xc4 ♜c3 25. ♖d2 ♖c5?

The ending after 25... ♖7xe5 26. ♜xe5
(White loses material after 26. ♜b3
♜c5 27. ♜xd3 ♖xd3 28. ♜xd3 ♜d8)
26... ♜c8 27. ♜xe6 ♖xe1 28. ♜xc3
♜xc3 29. ♜xe1 is very promising for
Black.

26. ♖4b3! ♖a4 27. ♜a1 ♖db2? 28. ♜e2?!

Black's pieces are tied up rather
awkwardly, and after 28. ♜e4! White
may even be a little better in spite of
the two pawn deficit.

28... b6! 29. ♖e4 ♜c7 30. ♖d4?

Pascal begins to lose the thread of the
game. Much better is 30. ♜c1! ♜d7
31. ♖d6 with unclear complications.

30... ♜c8! 31. h4 ♜c4 32. ♜d2 ♖d3 33. ♜xa4!?

A reasonable try in a difficult situation.

33... ♜xa4 34. ♜xd3 ♜c4 35. ♜e3 ♜c1+ 36. ♜h2 ♜xe3 37. fxe3 a4 38. ♜xb6 ♜a8

The ending is difficult for White, but
not necessarily lost.

39. ♖c3

Black ends up with a winning
advantage after 39. ♜b2 ♜h7 40. ♜a2
♜hc8 41. ♖d6 ♜c3 42. ♖xf7 ♜g6
43. ♖d6 ♜xe3 44. ♖xe6 ♜xe5 45. ♖f4+
♜h7 largely because White's knights
lack solid footing after so many pawns
have disappeared from the board.

39... a3 40. ♖a2 ♜h7 41. ♖c6 ♜hc8 42. ♜g3 ♜a4 43. ♜f3 ♜xh4 44. ♜a6 ♜h1 45. ♖cb4 ♜f1+ 46. ♜e2 ♜a1 47. ♜xa3 ♜c5 48. ♜a7 ♜g6

Pascal has rounded up Black's passer
with the help of the two knights, but
left himself in a position that is
difficult to defend on the other side of
the board.

49. ♜d7 ♜b1 50. ♜d2 ♜xe5 51. ♖d3 ♜g5 52. ♜f2 ♜f5+ 53. ♜g3 ♜b3

54. ♖ac1 ♖a3 55. ♜e2 ♜h7 56. e4
 ♖fa5 57. ♜f2 ♖a2 58. ♖d1 g5
 59. ♖c1 ♜g6 60. ♜e3 h5 61. g3
 ♖2a3 62. ♖c8 ♖a8 63. ♖c5 ♖d8
 64. ♜c3 ♜f6 65. ♜e5?? ♖xc3+ 0-1.

Notes by
David Ross

Romanishin, Oleg
 Bluvshstein, Mark

Montreal International (5),
 2003

Queen Pawn D02

1. d4 ♜f6 2. ♜f3 e6 3. g3 c5 4. ♜g2
 cxd4 5. 0-0 d5 6. ♜xd4 e5 7. ♜b3
 ♜e6 8. ♜c3 ♜e7 9. f4

Amazingly, White has not managed to
 win a single game with this move in
 my database!

9... exf4 10. gxf4

The alternative 10. ♜f4 looks playable.

10... g6 11. ♜h1 ♜c6

As played in Tischbierek–Hracek, DE
 BL 2000, while Romanishin–Ulibin,
 Moscow 1994, continued 11... 0-0.

12. ♜e3 0-0 13. ♜d4N

White tried 13. ♜d2 with equality in
 several earlier games.

13... ♜d7!?

More forcing is 13... ♜xd4! although
 after 14. ♜xd4 ♜g4 15. ♜g1 ♜f6
 16. ♜b4 a5 17. ♜b3 d4 18. ♜d5 ♜g7
 19. ♖ad1 the position looks equal.

14. ♜xe6

A surprise decision. White hopes that
 the bishop pair together with some
 attacking chances compensates for
 strengthening Black's center in this
 way.

14... fxe6 15. ♜g1 ♖ad8 16. e3 ♜c5
 17. ♜e2 ♜e7!?

Black has nothing to complain about,
 but here he should prefer 17... ♜b4!?

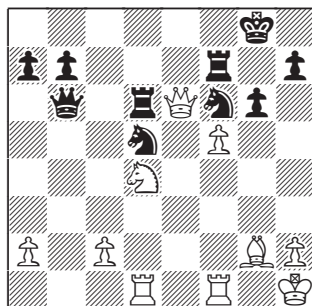
18. ♖ad1 ♜c7 19. ♜b5 ♜b6 20. b4!
 ♜xb4 21. e4 ♜c5?

Mark should definitely try 21... ♜a6!
 22. c3 (or 22. exd5 exd5 23. c4 ♜f5)
 22... ♜a3 23. exd5 exd5 24. ♜xa7 ♜f5
 with a better position than in the
 game.

22. ♜xc5 ♜xc5 23. ♜d4

The point. White wins back his pawn
 with a good position.

23... ♜b6 24. exd5 ♜exd5 25. ♜xe6+
 ♖f7 26. f5! ♖d6



27. fxg6! hxg6

Forced, since accepting the sacrifice
 with 27... ♖xe6 28. gxf7+ ♜f8
 29. ♜xe6+ ♜xe6 30. ♜xd5 ♜xd5
 31. ♖de1 ♜e3 32. ♖f3 is disastrous for
 Black.

28. ♜c8+

White keeps only a small edge after
 28. ♜xd5 ♖xe6 29. ♜xe6 ♜g7 30. ♜xf7
 ♜xf7.

28... ♖d8 29. ♜h3 ♜e7?

After 29... ♖dd7 (also no good is
 29... ♖e7 30. ♜g3 ♜e4 31. ♜xe4 ♖xe4
 32. ♜f5) 30. c4 ♜b4 31. c5! Black has
 no defense against the dual threats of
 ♜b5-d6 and ♜e6. That leaves 29... ♖d6
 as Mark's best try, although White is
 clearly better here too.

30. ♜e6 ♖xd1 31. ♖xd1 ♜fd5 32. c4
 ♖h7 33. ♜g3 ♜xe6 34. cxd5 ♜d7
 35. d6 ♜f5 36. ♜xg6+ ♖g7 37. ♜d5+
 ♜h8 38. ♜e6 b5 39. ♖d3 ♜xd6
 40. ♖h3+

An incredibly energetic game!

1-0.



Mark Bluvshstein

Notes by
David Ross

Vera, Reynaldo
 Charbonneau, Pascal
 Montreal International (6),
 2003

Reti A07

1. ♜f3 d5 2. g3 c6 3. ♜g2 ♜g4 4. b3
 ♜d7 5. ♜b2 ♜gf6 6. 0-0 e6 7. d3
 ♜e7 8. ♜bd2 0-0 9. h3 ♜h5 10. e4
 h6

Most games proceed with 10... a5 in
 this position.

11. ♜e1 ♜e8 12. d4?! f5!? 13. exd5
 exd5 14. c4

An option is 14. ♜e6+ though it's not
 clear that the queen is comfortable on
 its lofty perch deep in Black territory.

14... ♜c7 15. ♜c1 ♜f6 16. ♜e5 ♜e4
 17. g4! ♜e8 18. f3

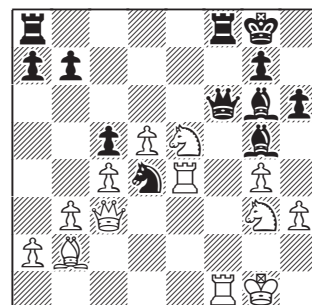
The knights work well together after
 18. ♜c2 ♜e6! with a small edge to
 Black in the possible line 19. gxf5
 ♜xd2 20. ♜xd2 ♖xf5 21. ♜d3 ♖f8
 22. ♖ae1 ♜f4.

18... ♜g3 19. ♖e1 ♜h4! 20. ♜f1 fxg4
 21. fxg4 ♜e4 22. ♖e2 ♜e6 23. ♜xe4
 dxe4 24. ♜e3 ♜g5! 25. ♜c3 c5!
 26. d5?

After this mistake White's position
 begins to disintegrate. Much better is
 26. dxc5! ♜xc5 (but not 26... ♜e7?
 27. b4) 27. b4 ♜a4 28. ♜d4 ♜xb2
 29. ♜xb2 a5! with a nominal edge to
 Black.

26... ♜d4 27. ♖xe4 ♜f6 28. ♜g3
 ♜g6 29. ♖f1

The attempt to relieve the pressure
 with several exchanges by 29. ♜xg6
 ♜xg6 30. ♜f5! ♜xf5 31. gxf5 ♖xf5
 32. ♖g4 still keeps Black firmly in
 charge.



29... ♜xf1+!

Another way to cash in for Black is
29...♖xe4 30.♗xf6 ♖xf6 31.♗e3 ♖xe5
32.♗xe4 ♗f3+ 33.♖h1 ♖xb2.

30.♗xf1 ♖xe4 31.♗e1 ♖d3
32.♗g3 ♖ae8 33.♖g2 ♖f4
34.♗xd3 ♖xe1 35.♗xe1 ♖e8
36.♗f3 ♗xf3 37.♖xf3 ♖xg3
38.♖xg3 ♖e2 39.♖c1 ♖xa2 40.d6
♖f7 0-1.

Notes by
David Ross

Nataf, Igor
Lesiege, Alexandre
*Montreal International (6),
2003*

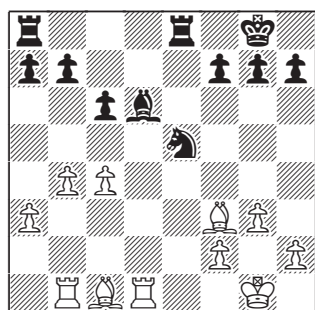
Petroff C42

1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗f6 3.♗xe5 d6
4.♗f3 ♗xe4 5.d4 d5 6.♖d3 ♖d6
7.0-0 0-0 8.c4 c6 9.♗c2 ♗a6 10.a3
♖e8 11.♗c3 ♖g4 12.♗xe4 dxe4
13.♖xe4 ♖xf3 14.♖xf3 ♖h4 15.g3
♖xd4 16.♖b1N

Igor's novelty is not likely an
improvement over the well
established alternative 16.♖e3.

16...♗c5 17.b4 ♖d3 18.♖xd3
♗xd3 19.♖d1 ♗e5?

Alexandre around here miscalculates
something, and soon lands in a
difficult endgame. Normal instead is
19...♖e1+!? 20.♖xe1 ♗xe1 21.♖d1
with only a nominal edge to White.



20.♖xc6 bxc6 21.♖xd6 c5 22.bxc5
♗xc4 23.♖a6 ♖e1+ 24.♖g2 h6
25.c6 ♖c8 26.h4 ♗b6 27.♖xa7
♖xc6 28.♖a6 ♖cxc1 29.♖xc1
♖xc1 30.♖xb6 ♖a1 31.♖b3 h5
32.♖f3 ♖a2 33.♖e3 f6 34.f4 g5
35.fxg5 fxg5 36.hxg5 ♖g7 37.♖d3
♖g6 38.♖c4 ♖xg5 39.♖b5 ♖f2
40.a4 ♖f5+ 41.♖b4 1-0.

Notes by
David Ross

Bluvshtein, Mark
Lugovoi, Alexei
*Montreal International (6),
2003*

Sicilian: Richter Rauzer B63

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 ♗c6 6.♖g5 e6
7.♖d2 ♖e7 8.0-0 0-0 9.♗b3 a5?!

Black's results with this move are
abysmal, and so most players prefer
9...♖b6.

10.a3 a4 11.♗d4 h6N

So far Black players have tried 11...d5.

12.♖xf6! ♖xf6 13.♗db5 ♖b6
14.f4! ♖d8 15.♖b1 ♖a5 16.h4 d5
17.exd5 exd5!?

Instead 17...♖xc3! 18.♗xc3 exd5
doesn't look so bad.

18.♗xd5 ♖xd5 19.♖xd5 ♖e6
20.♖d3 ♗a7 21.♖d6! ♖xb5
22.♖xb5 ♖xb5 23.♖b4 ♖a6
24.♖c5 ♗c6 25.f5 ♖e7 26.♖f2
♖c4 27.♖he1

Three minors vs two rooks usually
favors the pieces, but here Mark has
an idea that roughly balances the
chances. Note that 27.♖d7?? ♖b5
28.♖a1 ♖f6! is a really bad idea!

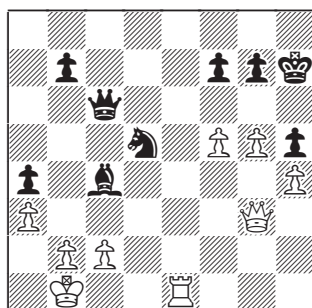
27...♖b5

Now Black's bishops coordinate
beautifully after 28.♖e3 ♖f6 29.c3 and
so Mark continues with his original
plan.

28.♖xe7!? ♗xe7 29.g4

White's king is now safe, and Black's
minors for the moment do not work
together very well. The remainder of
the game looks like a time scramble.

29...h5?! 30.♖e1 ♗d5 31.g5 ♖c6
32.♖g3 ♖h7?



33.b3?



Alexandre Lesiege

Black's king turns out to occupy a
very unlucky square, but White fails
to take advantage with 33.g6+! fxg6
34.♖e6 ♗c3+ 35.bxc3 ♖b5+ 36.♖c1
♖xe6 37.♖xg6+ ♖h8 38.♖xe6 and a
likely winning advantage.

33...axb3 34.cxb3 ♖a6??

Again Lugovoi misses the same
decisive shot. Instead 34...♖e2! keeps
Black on top.

35.g6+! fxg6 36.♖e6 ♗c3+ 37.♖a1
♖h1+ 38.♖e1 ♖c6 39.fxg6+ ♖xg6
40.♖xc3 ♖d3 41.♖d4 ♖f5 42.a4
♖g4 43.♖f2 ♖g6 44.♖b2 ♖d7
45.♖e2 ♖d3 46.♖e7 ♖e4 47.♖c5
♖b1+ 48.♖a3 ♖f3 49.♖c3 ♖g6
50.♖d4 ♖c6 51.♖e3 ♖g4 52.♖xg4
hxg4 53.♖e5 g3 54.♖h5+ ♖g8
55.♖g5 g2 56.♖b4 ♖h7 57.♖c5 g6
58.a5 ♖e4 59.b4 ♖h6 60.b5 ♖f3
61.♖d4 ♖e2 62.b6 ♖f1 63.♖e3
♖g7 64.♖f2 ♖f6 65.♖xg2 1-0.

Among the many decisive games in
this round is the following important
win by Onischuk over Romanishin.
This would, in fact, be Oleg's only loss
of the tournament! Elsewhere
Rozentalis hangs a pawn against
Legky, but manages to hold on for the
draw. Meanwhile Pascal takes a huge
step towards his first GM norm with a
nice win over Vera, and Bluvshtein
wins a tactical game against Lugovoi.
Nataf scores a technical win over
Lesiege to start his own run up the
leaderboard to third place.

Notes by
David Ross

Onischuk, Alexander
Romanishin, Oleg

Montreal International (6),
2003

Nimzo Indian: Classical E43

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♖b4
4.♖c2 d5 5.cxd5 ♗xd5

This is Romanishin's pet line against the Nimzo Indian.

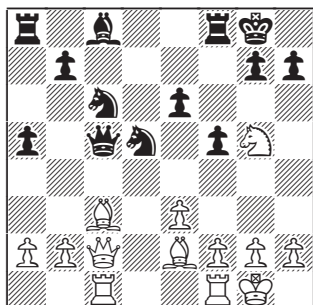
6.e3 0-0 7.♗d2 ♗xc3 8.♗xc3 c5

Very rare. Black got a draw with 8...b6 in Ivanchuk-Short, Shenyang FIDE WC (1) 2000.

9.dxc5 ♗xc5 10.♖c1

White must be better here.

10...a5 11.♗f3 ♗c6 12.♗e2 ♗d5
13.♗g5? f5 14.0-0



14...♗xe3

Black has little choice, since declining the offer just leaves him standing worse.

15.♗d3 ♗xf1 16.♗xh7 ♗e5?

Incredibly, the position after 16...♗xh7 17.♗h3+ ♖g8 18.♗xg7 ♗g3!! 19.♗h8+ ♖f7 20.♗h5+ ♗xh5 21.♗xh5+ ♖xg7 22.♖xc5 e5 looks about equal! But 16...♖d8! is maybe best, when it's not clear that White has sufficient compensation after 17.♗h3 ♖e7 18.f4 (or 18.♖xf1 e5) 18...♗d4 19.♗xd4 ♖xd4 20.♗g5 g6 21.♗xf1 (21.♗h6 ♖g7) 21...♖g7.

17.♗h3 ♗g4

White is much better after 17...♗g3 18.hxg3 ♗g4 19.♗xf8.

18.♖xf1 ♖d8 19.♗g5!

Also quite strong is 19.♗xg4! f5 20.♗xg4 ♖c7 21.♗g5 e5 22.♗e4 and White's attack continues.

19...♗h6 20.♗h5 e5 21.♗g6 ♖a6
22.♗xa6 bxa6 23.♗h7+ ♖f8
24.♗h8+ ♗g8 25.♗f3 ♖b7

26.♗xe5 ♖d6 27.♗h5 ♗h6
28.♗g5 ♖b6 29.♖e1

A tough result for Romanishin, who lost the game after missing just one move.

1-0.

Onischuk gains another half point on Rozentalis on the leaderboard, while Lesiege has one of his bright moments to score against Bluvshstein. Nataf is in complete control in his game vs Ross, and then survives a serious error in time trouble. Barsov, meanwhile, suffers his only loss in the event in a sensational game vs Charbonneau. Pascal punishes some indecisive play from his opponent in the early going, but then lets the Russian get back in the game with a possible perpetual check sequence. Alexei now wants more, but inexplicably forgets about the clock and loses on time!

Notes by
David Ross

Lugovoi, Alexei
Onischuk, Alexander

Montreal International (7),
2003

Nimzo Indian: Rubinstein E54

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♖b4 4.e3
0-0 5.♗d3 d5 6.♗f3 c5 7.0-0 dxc4
8.♗xc4 cxd4 9.exd4 b6 10.♗g5
♖b7 11.♗e2 ♗bd7

This line is named after Karpov in one of my Nimzo Indian books. Black is very solid, but as usual White has good piece play to compensate for the isolated pawn.

12.♖ac1 ♖c8 13.♗e5

Very likely 13.♗a6 or 13.♗d3 are better tries for an advantage, since Black has done quite well in practice after the text.

13...♖c7 14.♗b5 ♖b8 15.♗xd7

Both players must have considered and then rejected 15.♗xf7! since it is unlikely that White's material advantage after 15...♖xf7 16.♗xe6 is the significant factor in the position. Interestingly enough, the analysis engines on my computer all want to play this way!

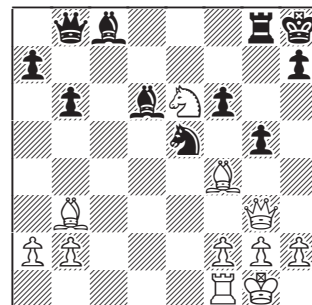
15...♗xd7 16.♗g4 ♖h8 17.♗f4 e5
18.dxe5 ♗xe5 19.♗g3 f6 20.♗d4
♗d6 21.♗e6?

Clearly much better is 21.♗f5!

21...♖g8! 22.♖b3 g5?!

Black is actually a little better after the correct 22...♖xc1 23.♖xc1 g5 24.♗xe5 ♗xe5 25.♗h3.

23.♖xc8 ♗xc8?



24.♗c1?

We have reached a critical moment, and what turns out to be the turning point in the game. Instead of the text, White has 24.♗xg5! fxg5 (Black doesn't look ok after 24...♖g6 25.♖e1!; or 24...♖g7 25.♖d1!) 25.♖e1 ♗e6 (since 25...♖e8 26.♗xg5 wins for White) 26.♗xe5+ ♗xe5 27.♖xe5 ♖c7 28.♖c3 ♖xc3 29.bxc3 ♗xb3 30.axb3 with chances to convert the extra pawn in the rook ending.

24...♗g6

Here 24...♗a6! is decisive!

25.f4 ♗xe6 26.♗xe6 gxf4 27.♗h3
♖d8 28.♗f5 ♖g7 29.♗g4?

White keeps more or less equality with 29.♖h1!

29...♖c7 30.♗xg6 hxg6 31.♗xf4
♖c5+ 32.♖h1 ♖b4! 33.a3

More efficient is 33.h3. The remainder is easy for Black.

33...♖xb2 34.♖d1 ♖xa3 35.h4
♗e7 36.♖xd8 ♗xd8 37.h5 g5
38.♖f5 gxf4 39.♗g6+ ♖f8
40.♖h6+ ♖e8 41.♖g6+ ♖d7
42.♖f5+ ♖c7 43.h6 ♖a1+ 44.♖h2
♖e5 0-1.

Notes by
David Ross

Charbonneau, Pascal
Barsov, Alexei

Montreal International (7),
2003

French: Advance C02

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 ♗c6
5.♗f3 ♗d7 6.♗e2 ♗ge7 7.♗a3
cxd4 8.cxd4 ♗f5 9.♗c2 ♖b6 10.0-0
♖c8 11.♖h1



Pascal Charbonneau

Curiously, Alexei lost this very position in the best game of last year's event, viz. Degraeve-Barsov, Montreal Int. (9) 2002.

11...d6 12.g4 d7 13.d6

The game has transposed into Grischuk-Gulko, North Sea Cup 2000, won eventually by White.

13...h5!?

I have spent considerable time on the analysis of this game in the past few days, and I'm not at all sure anymore that this move is a good idea! Worth looking into is 13...b5.

14.gxh5 d5

Again 14...b5! looks right.

15.d6 d6!

Alexei felt after the game that this move is the source of Black's difficulties in this position, and suggested 15...d6! as a possible improvement.

16.d6 d6 17.b3 d8

White looks a little better after 17...d6 18.dxb4 dxb4 19.d6 d8 20.d3; while 17...d7 can easily transpose to the game.

18.d2 d7 19.d4 d8 20.g1 d8

Is Black's king really safer here than on e8, and, if so, was the trip worth three precious tempi?

21.d2 d7 22.d3 d6 23.d3 d8 24.d2 d6 25.dxf5! dxf5 26.dxf5 exf5 27.d1 d8 28.d2

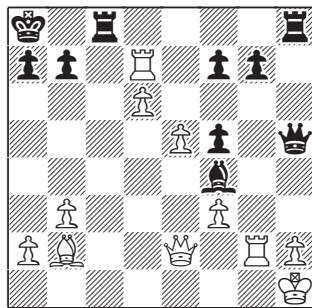
h6 29.d5 d2

White happily wins material and the game after 29...d6?? 30.dxc6!

30.d5 d6 31.f3?

It seems odd that White now misses 31.dxc6! bxc6 32.d7.

31...d5! 32.d5 d4 33.d2 d7 34.d7 d8 35.d5 d8! 36.d6



White's position somehow looks much better, but it turns out that Black's drawing resource is rather difficult to stop!

36...d2! 37.dxc2 dxf3 38.d4

Not so easy to calculate in a time pressure situation is the risky looking 38.dg1 d3+ 39.d2 dg4+ 40.d1 dxf2 41.dxf2 with equality after 41...f4! But even more shocking is what happens next. Barsov, perhaps looking for more than the perpetual check after 38...d2+ 39.dg1 d8g2+ 40.d2g2 d1+ 41.d2 (or 41.d1 dg4+) 41...d4+ etc, lets his remaining minutes tick away and loses on time!

1-0.

Notes by
David Ross

Lesiege, Alexandre
Bluvshstein, Mark

Montreal International (7),
2003

Nimzo Indian: Rubinstein E42

1.d4 d6 2.c4 e6 3.d3 d4 4.e3 c5 5.dge2 b6 6.a3 d5 7.b1 d7

A far more popular alternative for Black is 7...d6.

8.d2 dxc3

Again 8...d6 or else the move 8...d6! are also playable.

9.dxc3!

Reshevsky once tried 9.dxc3 d6 10.f3 in Reshevsky-Dimitrijevic, Lugano op 1987.

9...d6 10.d3 d6 11.d5!?

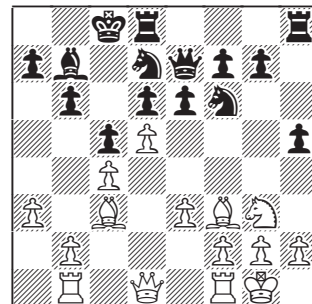
Fewer chances for an advantage are offered by 11.dxc5 dxc5 12.dh5 d5 13.d5 0-0.

11...d6 12.d2 0-0-0!

Quite promising for Black looks 12...0-0 13.e4 (13.dxe6 dxe6 14.0-0 d8 is about equal) 13...dxe4! 14.d7 (Black is better after 14.dxe4 exd5 15.d3 d4 16.dxd4 cxd4 17.0-0) 14...d7 15.dxe4 exd5 16.d3 d8.

13.0-0 h5! 14.d3

The consequences of 14.b4 h4 15.dh5 h3 are unclear.



14...e5?

The wrong idea. Black is not worse after 14...e5!

15.d5 d8 16.e4 g6 17.d3 d8 18.d2 d7 19.b4 d7 20.f4 f6 21.f5 g5 22.d5! d7 23.g4 d7 24.d2 d8 25.a4 cxb4 26.dxb4 d7 27.a5 d5 28.gxh5 g4 29.d2 d5 30.axb6 axb6 31.d1 d7 32.dg2 d8 33.c5! dxc5

Or 33...dxc5 34.d4! with a similar fate for Black.

34.dxb6 d6 35.d6+ d7 36.dxc5 dxc5 37.d4+ d8 38.d6+ 1-0.

In round eight Alexander Onischuk picks up the necessary point with a powerful game against Lesiege, while the big news of the round is Pascal's first GM norm by virtue of scoring a nice win over yours truly! The gallery was packed this night in anticipation of Pascal's possible achievement and, as fate would have it, I had the best seat in the house!

Notes by
David Ross

Ross, David
Charbonneau, Pascal
*Montreal International (8),
2003*

Sicilian B40

1.e4 c5 2.♟f3 e6 3.d3 ♟c6 4.♟bd2
♟d6!?

A funny move order, but likely to just transpose into a King's Indian Attack. My refusal to play theoretical positions in this tournament, brought about by my lack of preparation, predictably led to many wretchedly passive positions!?

5.c3 ♟c7 6.♟e2 ♟ge7 7.♟c2 0-0
8.a3 a5! 9.b3 d5 10.♟b2 e5!

This move came as a surprise, and in his discomfort White now starts to consume oceans of time on the clock.

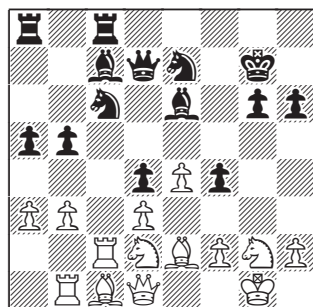
11.0-0 h6 12.♟fe1 d4 13.cxd4
cxd4 14.♟ec1 ♟e6!

Pascal's pieces are well coordinated, and he enjoys a considerable space advantage. On the other hand, the only positive thing that can be said about my position at this moment is that it is solid.

15.♟d1 ♟d7 16.♟e1 g6 17.♟c2
♟fc8 18.♟c1!?

Doubling rooks with 18.♟ac1 makes more sense.

18...♟g7 19.♟b1 b5 20.g3 f5
21.♟g2 f4 22.gxf4 exf4



23.e5?

This idea doesn't work, but White is happy to finally work up some activity for his pieces.

23...g5 24.♟e4 ♟xe5 25.♟c5 ♟d6
26.♟e4 ♟d8 27.♟c5 ♟ab8 28.♟b2
♟g6 29.♟e1 ♟b6?

Finally a mistake that allows White to level the chances. Unfortunately my time was now very short, and the



David Ross

remaining moves had to be flashed out in blitz mode. Much better for Black than the text is 29...♟d7!

30.♟xb5 g4 31.♟c2 f3 32.♟f1 ♟d7
33.♟xb6! ♟xb6 34.♟xd4

You just have to love those knights!

34...♟d5 35.♟c1 ♟h7 36.♟xc8
♟xc8 37.♟d2 ♟a6 38.b4 axb4
39.axb4 ♟f8 40.b5 ♟a4 41.♟c2?
♟a7 42.♟c6

The right idea, but played one move too late! After 41.♟c6! White keeps some compensation.

♟c7 43.♟a4 ♟xc6 44.bxc6 ♟f5!
45.♟a8

White spent nearly all of his remaining time searching in vain for something better, but his best chance is likely the ending after 45.♟g3 ♟f6 46.♟xe5 ♟xe5 47.♟e4+ ♟g6 48.♟xg4 ♟xc6 49.d4.

45...♟xc6 46.d4 ♟xe4 47.dxe5
♟f4! 48.♟e8 ♟g6! 49.e6 ♟h3+
50.♟h1 ♟xf2+ 51.♟g1 ♟h3+
52.♟h1 f2+

The audience applauded after the game in appreciation of such a good fight, and I offered my congratulations to Pascal on achieving his first GM norm. Renewed confidence is an amazing thing in chess, as he went on to score his second and well deserved norm only two weeks later at the American Continental with a 2650 performance rating!

0-1.

Notes by
David Ross

Onischuk, Alexander
Lesiege, Alexandre
*Montreal International (8),
2003*

Slav D30

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♟f3 ♟f6 4.e3 e6
5.♟bd2

Karpov has occasionally employed this unusual setup, which provides a good way to avoid the more theoretical main lines.

5...♟e7

Alexandre can also try 5...c5!?

6.♟d3 0-0 7.0-0 b6 8.e4 ♟b7
9.♟e2 dxe4 10.♟xe4 ♟bd7
11.♟d1 ♟c7 12.♟g5 c5

This advance usually signals that Black has achieved equality, but today we are dealing with an exception!?

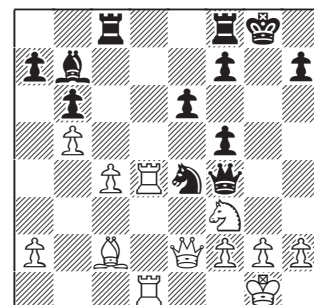
13.dxc5 ♟xc5N

Alexander went on to win after 13...bxc5 14.♟xf6+ ♟xf6 15.♟xh7+ ♟xh7 16.♟d3+ ♟g8 17.♟xd7 ♟xd7 18.♟xd7 ♟xb2 19.♟b1 ♟xf3 in the earlier game Onischuk-Mikhaletz, 2000.

14.♟xf6+ ♟xf6 15.♟xf6 gxf6
16.♟c2 ♟f4 17.b4 ♟e4

White is a little more comfortable after 17...♟xf3 18.♟xf3 ♟xf3 19.gxf3 ♟a6 20.a3.

18.♟d7! ♟c6 19.♟d4 f5 20.♟ad1
♟ac8 21.b5 ♟b7



22.♟xe4! ♟xe4

Better than 22...fxe4 23.♟e1!

23.♟d2 e5 24.♟d7 ♟a8 25.♟xa7
♟cd8 26.♟a3! ♟d6?

A critical error, though after 26...♟h8! White is also close to winning.

27.♟f1! ♟xd1 28.♟xd1 ♟xc4
29.♟g3+ 1-0.

In round nine Rozentalis matches Onischuk with a win of his own to remain half a point out of first place, while Charbonneau coasts home with a draw against Nataf and the GM norm in his pocket!

Notes by
David Ross

Bluvshstein, Mark
Onischuk, Alexander
*Montreal International (9),
2003*

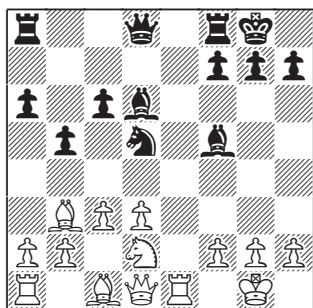
Ruy Lopez: Marshall C89

1.e4 e5 2.♟f3 ♘c6 3.♙b5 a6
4.♙a4 ♟f6 5.0-0 ♙e7 6.♞e1 b5
7.♙b3 0-0 8.c3 d5 9.exd5 ♟xd5
10.♟xe5 ♟xe5 11.♞xe5 c6 12.d3

This is not better than 12.d4.

12...♙d6 13.♞e1 ♙f5 14.♟d2?!

Much more common is 14.♟f3.



14...♟f4! 15.♟e4

White might try 15.d4 next time.



Oleg Romanishin

15...♟xd3! 16.♟xd6 ♜xd6 17.♙e3
♟g6! 18.♞f1 ♟xb2

Black has picked up a pawn, and converts his advantage with little trouble.

19.♟d2 ♟d3 20.f4 c5 21.♙c2
♞ad8 22.♞ad1 c4 23.♙d4 ♞fe8
24.♙xd3 cxd3 25.♞de1 h5! 26.♞f3
h4 27.♞fe3 ♞xe3 28.♞xe3 f6 29.a3
♞e8 30.♟a2+ ♟h7 31.♟f2 h3
32.♞xe8 ♟xe8 33.gxh3 ♟h5
34.♟d2 ♟xh3 35.♙f2 ♟g4+
36.♙g3 ♟f3 37.♙e1 ♙e4 38.♙g3
♟g6 39.♙e1 ♟f5 40.♙g3 g6 0-1.

Notes by
David Ross

Charbonneau, Pascal
Nataf, Igor
*Montreal International (9),
2003*

Sicilian: Sveshnikov B33

1.e4 c5 2.♟f3 ♘c6 3.d4 cxd4
4.♟xd4 e5 5.♟b5 d6 6.♟1c3 ♟f6
7.♙g5 a6 8.♟a3 b5 9.♟d5 ♙e7
10.♟xe7 ♟xe7 11.♟d3 ♙b7
12.♙xf6 gxf6 13.0-0-0 d5 14.exd5
♟xd5 15.♟xd5 ♟xd5 16.c4

White is unlikely to achieve anything with 16.♞g1 0-0-0 17.g3.

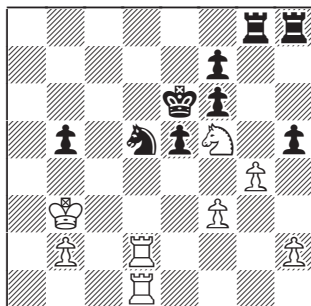
16...♟b4 17.cxb5 ♟xa2+ 18.♟c2
♙d5! 19.♙c4

Not likely 19.bxa6 ♟e7! with lots of activity for Black!

19...♙xc4 20.♟xc4 axb5 21.♟d6+
♟e7 22.♟f5+ ♟e6 23.♟g7+ ♟e7
24.♟f5+ ♟e6 25.g4

This looks very strong, but Black finds a fantastic defense!

25...♟b4+ 26.♟b3 ♟d5 27.♞d2
♞ag8 28.f3 h5 29.♞hd1



29...hxc4!

Forced, but as it turns out perfectly fine for Black!

30.♟g3 gxf3 31.♞xd5 ♞xg3



Alexei Barsov

32.hxc3 ♟f5 33.♟c3 ♟g4 34.♞d7
♞h7 35.♟d3 f5 36.♟e3 ♞h2
37.♞1d2 f4+ 38.gxf4 exf4+ 39.♟d3
f2 40.♞d1 ♟f3 41.♞xf7!

The ending is complicated, but also looks drawn after 41.♞a7 ♞h3 42.♟d4 (but not 42.♞aa1 ♟g2+ 43.♟d2 ♞b3 44.♞ab1 f5 45.♞dc1 f3 46.♞f1 f4 47.♞fc1 ♞e3 and Black wins) 42...♟g2 43.♞aa1 ♞f3 44.♞f1 ♞b3 45.♟e4 ♞b4+ 46.♟e5 f3 47.b3 ♞xb3 48.♟d4.

41...♞h3 42.♟d2 ♞g3 43.♞f1 ♞g4
44.b4 ♞g2 45.♟d3 ♞g4 46.♞f8
♞g5 47.♟d4 ♟e2 48.♞xf2+ ♟xf2
49.♞xf4+ ♟e2 50.♞h4 ♟d2
51.♞h2+ ♟c1 52.♞e2 ♟b1 53.♞f2
♞h5 ½-½.

The following fantastic game by Igor Nataf from round ten turned out to be critical in determining the top finishers in the final standings! Meanwhile Eduardas Rozentalis set up the last round showdown between the two top rated GMs with an important win against Mark Bluvshstein.

Notes by
David Ross

Nataf, Igor
Onischuk, Alexander
*Montreal International (10),
2003*

Scotch C45

1.e4 e5 2.♟f3 ♘c6 3.d4 exd4
4.♟xd4 ♙c5 5.♙e3 ♟f6 6.♟b5!?

Very unusual and considered suspect by theory! Does Nataf have a new idea in mind?

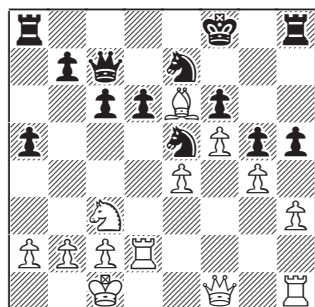
6... ♖xe3! 7. ♙xc3 ♜h4+ 8. g3 ♜d8 9. ♜g4 ♜f8 10. ♜f4 d6 11. ♜1c3 ♜ge7 12. ♜c4 f6?

White builds up strong pressure after this. Considerably more accurate is the move order 12... ♜e5!? 13. 0-0 (even worse is 13. ♜b3 ♜7g6 14. ♜f1 [or 14. ♜f2 ♜h3] 14... ♜g4) 13... f6 14. ♜b3 with an edge to Black.

13. 0-0-0 ♜g6 14. ♜f1 ♜ce5 15. ♜b3 ♜g4 16. ♜d2 ♜d7 17. h3 h5 18. ♜d4 c6?

This idea works out badly, but I have precious little else to suggest for Black in this difficult situation.

19. ♜f5! ♜xf5 20. exf5 ♜e7 21. e4 ± a5 22. ♜e6 ♜c7 23. g4 g5



24. h4!

Black's kingside defense collapses after this advance, and Nataf wins in a direct attack on the king.

24... ♙gxh4 25. ♜xh4 ♜b6

Also bad is 25... ♜xg4 26. ♜h3.

26. ♜d1! ♜g7 27. ♙gxh5 ♜h7 28. ♜g2 ♜hg8 29. ♜g6! ♜d8 30. ♜f4 ♜f8 31. ♜h2 ♜h8 32. ♜e3 ♜e8 33. ♜hg2 ♜5xg6 34. ♙fxg6+ ♜g7 35. ♜h2 f5 36. exf5 ♜xg6 37. f6+ 1-0.

Today's only decisive game finds your writer on the receiving end of a horrible beating. Rozentalis, on the other hand, nets the required half point to become the 2003 Montreal International Champion.

Notes by
David Ross

**Onischuk, Alexander
Rozentalis, Eduardas**
*Montreal International (11),
2003*

Nimzo Indian: Classical E32

1. d4 ♜f6 2. c4 e6 3. ♜c3 ♜b4 4. ♜c2 0-0 5. a3 ♜xc3+ 6. ♜xc3 b6 7. ♜g5 ♜a6

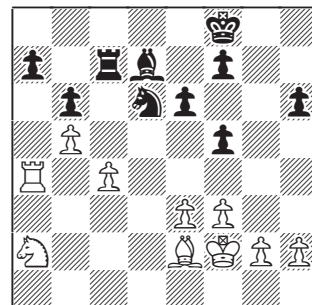
Rozentalis has played this line before, so it could not have come as a surprise to Onischuk. White is usually a little better, but the opponent's position is difficult to crack.

8. ♜f3 ♜c6 9. e3 ♜e8 10. ♜h3 h6 11. ♜xf6 ♜xf6 12. ♜xf6 ♙xf6 13. b4 ♜b7 14. ♜f4 f5 15. ♜e2 ♜e7 16. f3 d6 17. ♜f2 c5 18. ♜hd1 ♜ed8 19. dxc5 dxc5 20. ♜xd8+ ♜xd8 21. ♜d3 ♜c8 22. ♜b1 cxb4 23. axb4

♜c7 24. ♜a1 ♜c8 25. ♜a4 ♜f8 26. b5 ♜d6 27. ♜c1?

To be preferred is 27. ♜f4 with a small edge to White.

27... ♜c8! 28. ♜a2 ♜d7



Black now gets in the critical queenside pawn advance 29... a5 and with that the position completely levels out.

½-½.

Congratulations to Andre Langlois and his team for putting together a memorable event, GM Eduardas Rozentalis on his fine victory and, of course, once again young Pascal Charbonneau on his first GM norm! Eduardas keeps winning tournaments by virtue of his amazing technique, rather than sharp opening play or irresponsible decisions in the middlegame, which I believe is quite a remarkable feat in such strong and distinguished company!

22nd Annual



Grand Prix

Grand Prix Prizes

First Prize:	\$422
Second Prize:	\$222
Third Prize:	\$122
1950-2199	\$202
1700-1949	\$202
Under 1700	\$202
Unestablished Rating:	\$122
Total Prizes:	\$1494

First, second and third prizes go to the players who accumulate the most points in the Open sections of seven events. Other prizes are won by those accumulating the most points in all events, in any section. Rating category is determined by established rating at the time of their first tournament in the then current Grand Prix. All others are eligible for the Unestablished Rating prize. For more info visit our website at www.eoca.org

Grand Prix Schedule

1. Renfrew Open P. Naish August 23-24
2. RA Fall Open J. Chyurlia September 20-21
3. National Capital Open N. Frarey October 31 to November 2
4. Seaway Valley Open S. De Kerpel November 15-16
5. RA Winter Open M. Holmes January 10-11
6. Kingston Open R. Hutchinson February 7-8
7. RA Spring Open J. Chyurlia March 6-7
8. McIntosh Open S. De Kerpel April 3-4
9. Arnprior Open M. Wasmund May 1-2
10. Eastern Ontario Open N. Frarey June 5-6



Apprentice's Workshop

with IM Andrei Sokolov

Rules and Exceptions and Beauty in Chess

Why do we like chess? One reason, perhaps, is that it allows us to demonstrate mental superiority over an opponent. But for most of us such competitive aspects are not the most important after all. Occasionally an opportunity presents itself to become an artist in the creation of a brilliant idea, and to touch, however briefly, that which is beautiful in the game. At these times, even winning the game with the help of a bad mistake from the opponent gives less satisfaction than the idea itself. The composition must not be spoilt, either by you or the opponent! Occasionally, the pull of such a brilliant idea can interfere with the normal course of events even at the highest level. Tigran Petrosian, in his first match for the World Championship against Boris Spassky in Moscow 1966, was leading by two games without any defeats after eleven games. But then in game twelve, Tigran fails to seize the perfect combination.

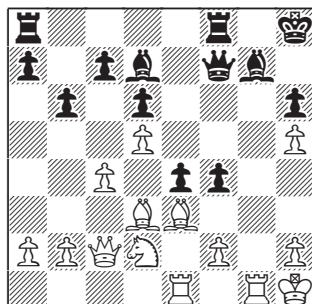
Notes by
Andrei Sokolov

Petrosian, Tigran
Spassky, Boris

Moscow Wch (12), 1966

English A42

1. d3 g6 2. c4 d7 3. d4 d6 4. d3 d7 5. e4 e6 6. d2 b6 7. 0-0 d7 8. d3 e7 9. c2 h6 10. ad1 0-0 11. d5 e5 12. c1 h7 13. g3 f5 14. exf5 dxf5 15. d3 d8 16. g2 d6 17. d4 d5 18. d2 d7 19. h1 e7 20. d4 d3 21. g1 d7 22. d3 e8 23. d1 f7 24. c2 h8 25. d2 d5 26. dxf5 gxf5 27. g4 e4 28. gxh5 f4



29. xg7!! xg7 30. g1 e5

Also completely hopeless is 30...exd3 31. xd3 xg1+ 32. xg1 g8+ 33. h1! fxe3 34. xe3 g5 35. d4! e8 36. h4 xh5 37. d4+ ee5 38. d6; or else 30...d4 31. xg4 xg4 32. d4+ g8 33. dxe4 f7 34. f3 g5 35. g6 e7 36. d4 when Black's ship sinks fast.

31. d3!! exd3

Even worse is 31...exf3 32. d2 followed by 33. d3.

32. dxe5?

And here is the miss at the critical moment! Natural and decisive is 32. xd3 d5 33. dxe5 d3 34. d4 dxe5 (or 34...d4+ 35. d3+) 35. dxe5+ h7 36. g7+ h8 when the bishop and extra pawns easily overcome the rook after 37. dxc7+ g8 38. g7+ h8 39. dxa7+ g8 40. g7+ h8 41. g3+ h7 42. d3.

32...dxc2 33. d4! dxe5 34. dxe5+ h7

The position is almost the same, but here Black's d/c2 just holds the balance and forces White to settle for perpetual check only.

35. g7+ h8 36. f7+ g8 37. g7+ h8 38. g6+ h7 39. g7+ 1/2-1/2.

The outcome of the game itself did not have a significant influence on the match at this moment, since Petrosian

still remained with a big lead. However, subsequently Tigran lost confidence and control over the match, losing twice in the next seven games while playing much worse than he had in the first half of the confrontation!

Another brilliant combination that is well known and inextricably linked with other beautiful ideas in chess is the following.

Notes by
Andrei Sokolov

Steinitz, William
Von Bardeleben, Curt
Hastings 1895
Italian Game C54

1. e4 e5 2. d3 d6 3. d4 d5 4. c3 d6 5. d4 exd4 6. cxd4 d4+ 7. d3 d5?!

The more common 7...dxe4 is much better than the text.

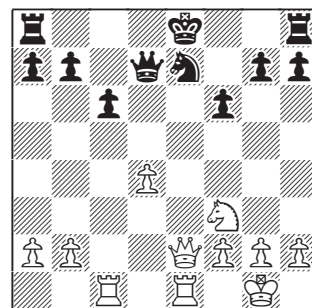
8. exd5 dxd5 9. 0-0 d6

The capture on c3 with 9...dxc3 (or 9...dxc3 10. bxc3 dxc3 11. dxf7+ f8 12. b3 dxa1 13. a3+ d7 14. d1 and White wins) 10. bxc3 dxc3 11. b3 is far too risky and leaves White with a very strong initiative.

10. d5 d7 11. d5! d5 12. d5 d5 13. dxe7 dxe7 14. d1 f6 15. e2 d7 16. d1

Nearly eighty years after the game, GM Zaitsev discovered that 16. d1! f7 17. d5+!! fxe5 18. dxe5 is White's surest way to victory!

16...c6?!



It turns out that Black can equalize with 16...f7! since the exchange sacrifice 17. xe7+! (here 17. c4+ d5 is only equal) xe7 18. dxe7+ xe7 19. dxc7+ d6 20. dxb7 d8 is better for Black. White's problem after the text is that his opponent will almost surely play 21...f7 followed

by 22...d5 when the isolated pawn should give Black the better chances.

17.d5!!

The correct answer, and the right moment to recall an important principle of chess play: in the diagrammed position White is better because he has a development lead. However, such an advantage is only temporary if White does not continue forcefully and allows his opponent to catch up. Accordingly, Steinitz follows one of his own rules of chess theory, which postulates that the side with the advantage must attack or else let the advantage slip out of his hands!

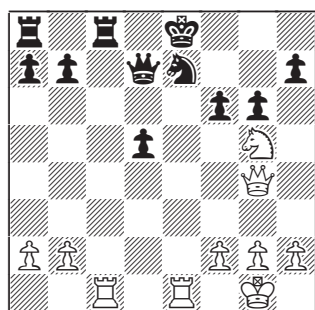
17...cxd5

Von Bardeleben sees that 17...f7 18.dxc6 dxc6 19.ccd1 leaves White with a decisive initiative and, since he already has ideas about his own counterplay, isn't too afraid of the coming attack against his king.

18.d4 f7 19.d6 h8

Black defends against 20.c7 although perhaps 19...c6 is a tougher defense. After 20.c5 c8 21.b5 b8 (much worse is 21...d8 22.d7 d6 23.xd5+ g6 24.g4) 22.a6 a8 (but not 22...bxa6 23.xd5+) 23.xd5+ g6 24.c5 d8 25.e4+ f5 26.h4 the situation isn't too clear, but I do not doubt that White wins here as well!

20.g4! g6 21.dg5+ e8



Already quite a few years ago some computer program found that White gets a winning endgame with the simple 22.xh7! But in that case, of course, no one would remember this nearly century old game!

22.xe7+!! f8!

This was Von Bardeleben's idea when he played 17...cxd5. Steinitz now cannot make any captures because of his own weak back rank.

23.f7+! g8! 24.g7+! h8!

Naturally 24...f8 25.xh7+ xg7 26.xd7+ is not an option.

25.xh7+!!

After this last blow Von Bardeleben left the tournament without resigning the game first. Now the possible conclusion is 25...g8 26.g7!! h8 when the open h-file allows the queen to hunt down Black's king with 27.h4+ xg7 28.h7+ f8 29.h8+ e7 30.g7+ e8 31.g8+ e7 32.f7+ d8 33.f8+ e8 34.f7+ d7 35.d6#.

1-0.

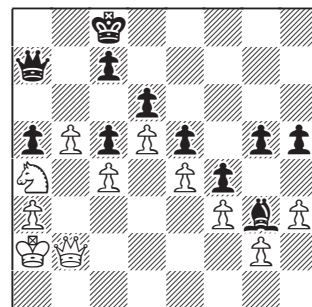
Here the checking sequence with an unprotected rook makes a very strong impression! Another view on the subject of beauty, however, was given by a coach of mine, GM Vladimir Bagirov, who liked to say that "here is the beauty of chess assailed, and impossible to protect"! An interesting approach, though I still prefer the alternative "beauty in chess is the exception and not the rule"! In chess there exist many common rules and principles involving, for example, the strength of pieces, or defending one's weaknesses, which are likely correct in 95% of all cases.

Occasionally, however, these commonly applied principles do not work, as in cases like the one just examined. But rather than focus on combinations to illustrate my topic, I would like to focus on another type of exception. Sometimes it is possible, for example, that the weaker side in an otherwise hopeless situation is able to offer tough resistance against much superior forces. An example might be a minor piece fighting against a queen. In the following game such a great advantage was not enough

against an opponent who manages to build a secure fortress.

Notes by Andrei Sokolov

Petrosian, Arshak
Hazai, Laszlo
Erevan, 1970



Black is certainly worse, perhaps lost already, and so he must search very hard for a way to escape his fate. Hazai has noticed that the position is almost completely closed, however, and so he tries desperately for a way to lock the queenside in order to stop his opponent's play.

32...xb6! 33.xb6+?

Already in some trouble on the clock, Arshak cannot resist the temptation! And who would have thought that the extra queen is now insufficient to force victory? The correct way is 33.d2 followed by piling up on and eventually winning Black's a/.

33...cxb6 34.h4

The game is of course drawn if Black is allowed to play 34...h4.

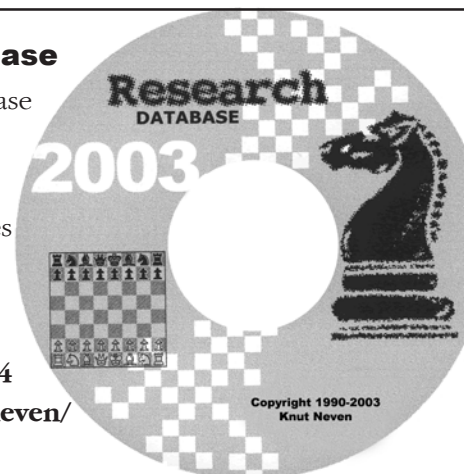
34...gxh4 35.d2 h3! 36.gxh3 h4!

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Nicely played! Black's fortress is complete, and even White's queen is unable to break through.

½-½.

The interest here does not lie in the fight itself, there really wasn't one, but in the fact that the bishop was able to lock the position in such a way as to prevent the only access to Black's fortress. This type of mechanism is common in studies and compositions, but much more unique in tournament play. Another much more interesting example is the following encounter.

Notes by
Andrei Sokolov

Beikert, Guenther
Sokolov, Andrei

*Cappelle la Grande op (3),
1995*

Trompowsky A45

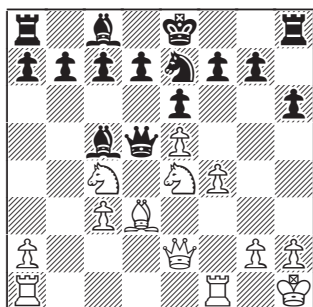
1.d4 ♖f6 2.♙g5 e6 3.e4 h6 4.♙xf6
♜xf6 5.e5 ♜e7 6.♙d2?!

An interesting idea: White offers a pawn in exchange for several tempi. I would prefer the normal 6.c3 but that is only a matter of taste.

6...♜b4!? 7.♙g3 ♜xb2 8.♙d3 ♙c6

Black wins a second pawn, and this is actually a good illustration of the fact that such opening play by White often demands several consecutive sacrifices in order to support his counter initiative. The balance of the game is now 'all or nothing'.

9.O-O ♙xd4 10.♙c4 ♜c3 11.♙fd2
♙c6 12.♙e4 ♜d4 13.c3 ♜d5 14.f4
♙c5+ 15.♜h1 ♙e7 16.♜e2

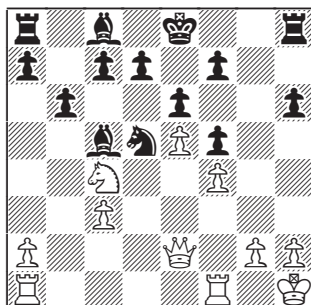


White appears to have at least sufficient compensation for his material investment, and his opponent must be concerned with the safety of both his king and queen, not to mention serious problems with piece development.

16...b6!!

Very well played! Black ignores his opponent's main threat and allows his queen to be captured. Very important is the fact that Black takes the initiative in the process, thus limiting the strength of White's main attacking piece. Later we will discuss these factors in more detail!

17.♙f6+ gxf6 18.♙e4 f5 19.♙xd5
♙xd5



Black has in fact enough material for the queen, but here his bishop pair and firm control of the light squares actually give him the advantage. White soon faces a very unpleasant attack along the g/file.

20.♜f3 ♙b7 21.♙d2

Much too slow. Such an imbalance in material usually requires very strong measures! A much better attempt is 21.♜b1! with the idea of eliminating at least one of Black's dangerous bishops. Play might continue 21...♜g8?! (or 21...a5 22.♜b5!) 22.♙a5 ♙xf4 23.♜xf4 ♙xg2+ 24.♜xg2 ♜xg2 25.♜xg2 bxa5 26.♜h4 with a rather unclear position. However, Black can avoid all this with the very cool move 21...♙c6!

21...♜g8 22.♙b3 ♙e3! 23.g3

White hardly has anything better, since there is no other way to protect ♙f4 and 23.♜xe3 ♙xe3 24.♜xe3 ♜xg2 is just lost for White.

23...♙xf4! 24.gxf4 ♙xf4 25.♜f1
O-O-O

At the moment Black has only a bishop and a handful of pawns for the queen. Normally this is not enough when there are no passed pawns, but here the bishop easily holds its own against the lady!

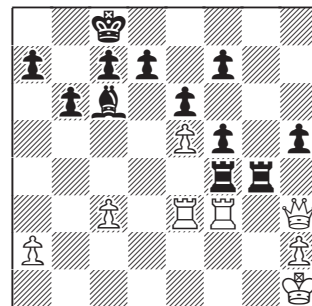
26.♙c5!

Nice try!

26...♙c6!

Black reacts carefully! The hasty 26...bxc5? 27.♜b1 ♙d5 28.♜xb7 ♜xb7 29.♜b5+ loses his advantage.

27.♙d3 ♜g4 28.♜e1 ♜dg8 29.♙xf4
♜xf4 30.♜ee3 ♜gg4 31.♜h3 h5!



The final blow! Black demonstrates that he is not in a hurry to win back material, and the win can come, for example, by creating a passed pawn on the queenside. White can offer no resistance.

0-1.

White's troubles in this game are indicative of those experienced in general by the side with the queen when defending against several minor pieces. One of the most common defensive ideas in chess is to exchange off attacking pieces to limit the opponent's aggressive potential. But when playing with the queen against several lesser pieces this is not possible, and the queen therefore often proves to be a rather ineffective defensive piece. The same idea applies to the principle of overprotection: if the queen is involved in the defense, most trades turn out very unprofitable for the owner of the lady!

Notes by
Andrei Sokolov

Bilek, Istvan
Gligoric, Svetozar
Teeside (8), 1972

English: Botvinnik A24

1.c4 ♙f6 2.♙c3 g6 3.g3 ♙g7
4.♙g2 O-O 5.d3 c6 6.e4 d6 7.♙ge2
♙bd7 8.O-O e5 9.h3 ♙h5 10.♜h2
♙c5 11.♙e3 ♙e6 12.d4 c5 13.dxc5
dxc5 14.♙d5 ♙d4 15.f4

White gains the initiative.

15...♙e6 16.f5 ♙xd5 17.exd5

I would prefer the alternative capture 17.cxd5!?

17...♟f6

Also possible of course is 17...♟xf5 18.♞xc5 ♞d6.

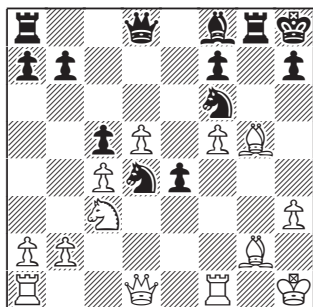
18.g4 gxf5 19.gxf5?!

A risky move. Much better looks 19.♞xd4 exd4 20.♞xf5 when the opposite colored bishops promise White intense pressure.

19...♟h8 20.♞c3 e4!

An excellent reaction! Black gives a central pawn in order to increase the scope of his bishop, and prevent 21.♞e4 with advantage to White.

21.♟h1 ♞g8 22.♞g5 ♞f8!!



What an idea! Readers should notice that virtually all of the dark squares in White's position are weak, and so Gligoric wants to exchange White's queen bishop – even at the cost of sacrificing his queen for two minor pieces. Afterwards, the game is decided on the dark squares!

23.♞xe4

White, perhaps, should avoid the game continuation in favor of 23.♟d2 (Black is clearly better after 23.♞xf6 ♟xf6 24.♞xe4 ♟h4) even though he still has problems after 23...♞e7.

23...♞xe4!

Black has no back way, since 23...♞e7 now runs into 24.d6!

24.♞xd8 ♞g3+ 25.♟g1 ♞xd8

White emerges with a huge material advantage, but that is not the most important factor in the evaluation of the position. Black, even without any concrete immediate threats, can calmly build up his position, and eventually leaves his opponent unable to cope with his problems.

An interesting experiment for my readers is to set up this position against a computer program: at first the evaluations give a win to White, and only when Black later refuses to take the rook with his knight does the

machine realize that White is in serious trouble!

26.♞f3 ♞d6 27.♟d3 ♞de8!

Black prefers to keep his knight! White cannot force the exchange sacrifice until Black finds the right moment to cash in.

28.♞af1?

A characteristic panic reaction in this kind of situation: in his attempt to reduce the pressure White offers too much material. The liquidation now leads to a lost ending.

28...♞xf1 29.♞xf1 ♞e2+ 30.♟h1

Even worse than this is 30.♟f2 ♞g3+ 31.♟f3 ♞d4+.

30...♞g3+ 31.♟g1 ♞xf1 32.♟xf1 ♞g3

The situation is quite thematic: the opposite colored bishops render White's defense very difficult, since his bishop cannot offer resistance on the dark squares. White desperately tries for some activity, but it is too late.

33.♟d1 ♞eg8 34.♟h5 ♞xg2

35.♟xf7 ♞e5 36.f6 ♞d4 0-1.

An attractive piece of chess strategy by the famous Szvetozar Gligoric! Such possibilities of course do not present themselves very often, though perhaps not as seldom as might be supposed. Accordingly, some practical advice is in order: the most important idea for either side in positions with a material imbalance is activity. The side who manages to take the initiative is very often the one that is able to demonstrate an advantage.

In Beikert–Sokolov we saw how exchanging the opponent's most dangerous pieces can be an effective strategy, thus leaving the other side with many fewer active possibilities. The side with the minor pieces, for example, often prefers bishops, since the queen is unable to compete with control of the same diagonal occupied by the bishop. Opposite colored bishops can be very useful also, once again making it more difficult for the side with the queen to defend the 'wrong' color complex. But now let's return to our theme of beauty in chess, with an examination of several interesting situations involving passed pawns.

Notes by

Andrei Sokolov

**Shirov, Alexei
Yudasin, Leonid**

Moscow (7), 1994

Nimzo Indian: Rubinstein E42

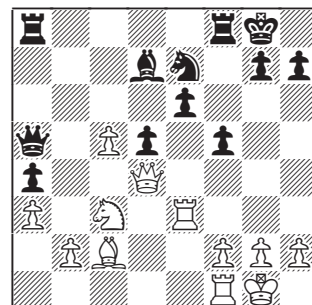
1.d4 ♟f6 2.c4 e6 3.♞c3 ♞b4 4.e3 c5 5.♞ge2 cxd4 6.exd4 d5 7.c5 ♞e4 8.♞d2 ♞xd2 9.♟xd2 a5 10.a3 ♞xc3 11.♞xc3 a4 12.♞d3 ♞d7!? 13.O-O ♞c6 14.♞c2

Ivanchuk immediately ran into trouble after 14.♞ae1? ♞xd4! 15.♞xd5 ♞c6 16.♞b6 ♞a5! when the weakness of ♞/c5 gave Black the advantage in the game Ivanchuk–Seirawan, Tilburg 1992. Note that 17.♟xa5?? is not possible in view of 17...♞f3+ 18.♟h1 ♟h4 19.h3 ♟f4.

14...♞e7 15.♞ae1 b6 16.♟d1 bxc5 17.dxc5 ♟a5 18.♟d4 O-O! 19.♞e3

Worse is 19.♞xh7+?! ♟xh7 20.♟h4+ ♟g8 21.♟xe7 ♞a7 22.♟d6 ♞d8! with a small edge to Black.

19...f5?



This move seems like a very secure reaction to limit White's attacking chances on the kingside, but it is actually a mistake! Black's best move is 19...♞fc8 with an unclear position after 20.♞h3 (once again 20.♞xh7+?! ♟xh7 21.♟h4+ ♟g8 22.♟xe7 misses the mark after 22...♟d8!) 20...♞g6 21.♞xg6 hxg6 (21...fxg6 22.♞e4!) 22.♟h4 f6 23.♟h7+ ♟f7 24.♞h6! ♞g8 25.♞xg6 ♟xc5 26.♟h5 ♞ac8!

20.♞xa4! ♞xa4 21.♞xc6 ♞g6 22.b4!

Not so good is 22.♞xd5?! ♞b3! whereas after the text Shirov's connected passers together with his well coordinated forces ensure White's advantage.

22...♟a7 23.b5 ♟a5 24.b6 ♞e8 25.♞xd5!?

Passed pawns must press forward! They become more powerful as they approach their queening square, and for this reason Shirov preferred 25.b7! ♖b8 26.♖b6! after the game.

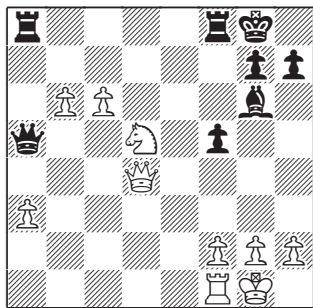
25... ♖f7 26.♖xg6!

Alexei is never afraid of sacrifices in his quest to realize the dominant feature of the position. Here he needs time to push his pawns, and so the rook disappears from the board without losing any time!

26... ♖xg6

The only move, as mate follows after 26...hxg6?? 27.♗e7+ ♖h7 28.♗h4#.

27.c6



That's the position Shirov wanted! Black has an extra rook, but those passers are well supported and have already reached the sixth rank! The situation remains far from clear, however, as Black's major pieces stand ready to offer stiff resistance against the intruders. If Black succeeds in stopping them, he wins.

27... ♖ae8?!

The critical moment, and I cannot explain why Yudasin avoids the very natural 27...♖ad8 28.♖d1! (Black wins after 28.♗e7? ♖f7 29.♗h4 [I cannot find anything better for Alexei, and while it does not loose immediately, White cannot hope for more than a draw after 29.♗b2?!] 29...♗xb6 30.♗c4+ ♖xe7 31.♖e1+ ♖d6 32.c7 ♖de8!) 28...♖fe8 29.h4 ♖f7 30.♗f6+! gxf6 31.♗xd8 ♖xd8 32.♖xd8+ ♖g7 33.c7 with a draw by perpetual check after 33...♖e6 34.b7 ♖e1+.

Interestingly enough, both Shirov and Moiseev do not mention this idea in their annotations to the game, even though the outcome of a draw by perpetual check is not uncommon in cases involving intuitive sacrifices.

28.b7 ♖f7

Black cannot afford to weaken his back rank with 28...♖e1? 29.h3 ♖xf1+

30.♖xf1 ♖e8 and White wins after 31.♖g1. Moiseev gives 28...♗b5 but this is also bad because of 29.a4! ♗xc6? 30.b8♗ ♖xb8 31.♗e7+.

29.♗b6 ♖e6

Yudasin already understands that he has no winning chances. Shirov's pawns are too close to promotion.

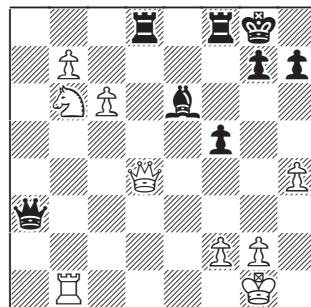
30.h4?!

Shirov decides against 30.c7! with an extra pawn after 30...♗a7 31.c8♗ ♖xc8 32.bxc8♗ ♖xc8 33.♗d6.

30... ♗xa3 31.♖b1

The earlier complications have left both players in time trouble, which explains the inaccuracies that follow. This time 31.c7?! ♗a7! only equalizes, but here 31.♖a1! is an even better way for the rook to assist the pawns.

31... ♖d8?



The deciding mistake in time trouble. Yudasin allows his opponent to remove one of the defenders of Black's back rank, and the resistance is broken! Black's best defense is 31...♗a2! 32.♖b4 ♖b8 33.♗d6! when Black can keep fighting.

32.♗xd8!! ♖xd8 33.c7 ♖f8

Or 33...♗d6 34.cxd8♗+ ♗xd8 35.♗c8 ♖xc8 36.b8♗.

34.b8♗ f4 35.♖e1 ♗d6 36.c8♗ 1-0.

I actually had the pleasure of witnessing this game live, and I remember the deep impression that Shirov's play after the initial sacrifice 20.♖xa4 made on everyone in the audience. His entire focus, as if an artistic production of some sort, was on the movement of his pawns in complete disregard of common chess logic. Armed ten years later with a top computer program an analyst can spot several rough moments in the proceedings, but they cannot spoil the overall impression of Shirov's brilliant conception!

Unfortunately it is more difficult to identify beauty in chess than in other artistic endeavors. Music and even painting or sculpture are almost universally appreciated and require very little expertise or technical understanding. In chess, however, beautiful ideas do require a certain level of competency from the observer in order to be fully accessible and appreciated. The chess fan is a unique creature, in that he derives pleasure not only from the outcome of the struggle, but also the process and the ideas that shape a game from start to finish. The perception of beauty in chess is a somewhat subjective matter, and depends to some degree on individual tastes and preferences. Most of my readers, however, will have found at least some pleasure in the examples dealing with material imbalances in this article.

Can we draw any conclusions or offer some handy advice on the subject of beauty in chess and how it can be applied to our own practice? Critical, for example, would be for a player during the game to be able to sense the moment when an exceptional idea might be 'in the air'. But the answer to this question, unfortunately, has to be an emphatic "No"! Else beauty in chess could be reduced to little more than a technical method! On the other hand, let me offer the following indicators:

- 1) the coordination of your forces is relatively high
- 2) an important target in your opponent's position can be attacked quickly
- 3) preferably such a target is located near the opponent's king
- 4) your sacrifice removes a critical defender and forces the opponent to react passively
- 5) there has to be a clear way to increase the pressure
- 6) your position doesn't offer easy marks for your opponent's queen to attack – remember that being on the defensive usually means trouble

And a final word of caution: if not all of these factors are present, or if a strong defensive idea exists for your opponent, then your brilliant sacrificial idea is probably better left unplayed! Beauty in chess, in these cases, is likely to cost you the whole point!

GM



by IM David Ross

This time I will partly keep my promise to my readers and include something on kids who are not from the Montreal or Toronto areas.

First, however, I must mention 7-year-old Nikita Krakouchkine, a recent arrival in Montreal, who is quite simply the most promising talent I have ever come across. He has already defeated many experienced tournament players, including one Expert, in Active chess. Nikita made his debut on the national stage recently, when he showed very deep theoretical knowledge and an eye for tactics at the Canadian Junior Championship that were characteristic of players many years his senior.

Notes by
David Ross

**Godbout, Mathieu
Kraïouchkine, Nikita**

Shawinigan CA ch jr (6), 2003

Grünfeld: Exchange D88

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 g6 3.♗c3 d5

One of Kasparov's favorite choices. Black temporarily surrenders the center, but with the intention of fighting for it again later.

4.cxd5 ♗xd5 5.e4 ♗xc3 6.bxc3 ♗g7 7.♗e3 c5 8.♗c4 ♗c6 9.♗e2 0-0 10.0-0 cxd4 11.cxd4 ♗g4 12.f3 ♗a5 13.♗xf7+

The Sevilla Variation was debated on several occasions in matches for the world title between Karpov and

Kasparov. Black is fine, but he needs to know some theory. From my perspective as a trainer I cannot imagine teaching such a young player theoretical lines of this depth, but after looking at this game I might reconsider!

13...♗xf7 14.fxg4 ♗xf1+ 15.♗xf1 ♗d7

So White wins a pawn, but his exposed king and generally poor piece coordination provide compensation for his opponent. Among Black's alternatives are 15...♗d6!? and 15...e5!?

16.♗c1?

Why White would return his extra pawn is a complete mystery to me. Instead he should try something like 16.g5!? or 16.h3!

16...♗xg4 17.♗c2?

Nikita's fine plan can be prevented with the much better 17.♗d3!

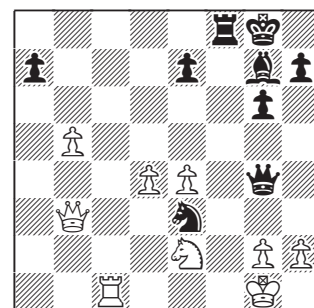
17...♗f8+ 18.♗g1 b5!

Nikita shows that he has gone beyond memorizing a few moves, and that he understands the position on a deeper level. White will have to be very careful now in order not to end up standing worse.

19.a4!

Mathieu is up to the task. The text slows the opponent just enough to prevent Black from posting all his pieces to the desired squares.

19...♗c4 20.axb5 ♗xe3 21.♗b3+



21...♗d5!

How many adults would make this cool move? The knight is lost no matter what, and so Black insists on his own terms.

22.♗xd5+ e6 23.♗c4 ♗xc4 24.h3 ♗d8?!

After 24...♗h6! Mathieu needs to find 25.♗c3! to maintain equality.

25.♗d1 ♗d5! 26.♗a4 ♗e4 27.♗c4 ♗d5 28.♗a4 ♗e4 29.♗c4

Neither player can accomplish much here, so the game ends in a draw. Simply an amazing game from a 7-year-old youngster!

½-½.

I had the pleasure of meeting Justin McDonald at the Canadian Junior in Shawinigan last month. Justin finished third last year in the U12 Section at the CYCC and went on to represent Canada in Greece last November at the WYCC. Justin has developed impressive tactical vision in his games, which is likely in part the result of his work with Kitchener FM Hans Jung, together with a focus on sound middlegame play and endgame technique. His first coach, Hal Bond, seems to have left Justin with an appreciation of the game and a desire for learning that is not often seen in players of his age. In the following game Justin defends well to draw the higher rated 14-year-old Kishor Ramaswamy from Montreal.

Notes by
David Ross

**Ramaswamy, Kishor
McDonald, Justin**

Shawinigan CA ch jr (3), 2003

Queen Pawn A48

1.d4 ♗f6 2.♗f3 d6 3.c3 g6 4.♗g5 ♗g7 5.♗bd2 0-0 6.e3 b6

A reliable way of meeting this variation.

7.♘c4!?

More accurate looks 7.a4 while 7.♘d3!? ♘b7 8.♘xf6 ♘xf6 9.h4!? was played by GM Gata Kamsky not too long before he left the world of chess for medical school at the age of 19!

7...♘b7 8.0-0 ♘bd7 9.♖c2 ♖c8 10.♖fe1

More ambitious is 10.e4!?

10...♖e8 11.a4 a5?!

Black's ♖/c8 can exert much more influence with 11...c5! 12.a5 cxd4 13.exd4 ♘xf3 14.gxf3 ♖c7 and unclear complications.

12.e4!

Now White is a little better.

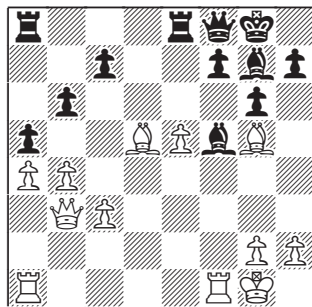
12...e5 13.dxe5 ♘xe5 14.♘xe5 dxe5 15.b4 ♖a8 16.♖b3 ♖e7 17.f4

Kishor invokes a very ambitious plan to bomb Black on f7 after the opening of the f/file.

17...♖f8

Another possible defense is 17...exf4 18.e5 ♖d7!! 19.♘f3 ♘g4 20.♘xf4 ♖f5!

18.♖f1! ♘xe4 19.♘xe4 ♘xe4 20.fxe5 ♘f5 21.♘d5?!



Better is 21.♘f6!

21...♖a7?!

The exchange sacrifice 21...♖xe5!? 22.♘xa8 ♖xa8 reminds me of a valuable piece of advice offered to me many years ago: FM Jonathan Berry, my first formal coach at age 15, taught me that a bishop and pawn are quite often worth a rook when the

other bishop comes as part of the bargain!

22.g4!? ♘e6 23.♘xe6 ♖xe6 24.♖ad1! c5?

The sequence 24...♖a8! 25.♖d7 ♘xe5 26.♖xf7 ♖xf7 27.♖xf7 ♖xf7 28.♖d5 ♖ae8 29.bxa5 bxa5 30.♖xa5 is only a little better for White.

25.♖d8?!

A better try is 25.bxa5! (Black isn't much worse after 25.♖xf7!? ♖xf7 26.♖d8+ ♘f8 27.♘h6 ♖ae7! 28.♖xf8+ ♖xf8 29.♘xf8 ♖xf8) 25...bxa5 26.♖b5! ♖a8 (or 26...♖xe5 27.♖d8 ♖xg5 28.♖xf8+ ♘xf8 29.♖f4 h5) 27.♖d7 ♖b8 28.♖xa5 ♘xe5 and now 29.♖dxf7! with advantage for White.

25...♖e8 26.♖fd1 ♖a8 27.♖xa8 ♖xa8 28.bxa5 bxa5 29.e6?! fxe6 30.♖xe6+ ♖h8 31.♖f1 ♖e8

With a more reliable opening repertoire and additional experience Justin should easily pass the 2000 rating milestone very soon.

½-½.

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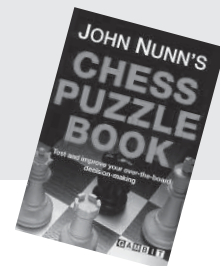
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CFC Club Listing

Associations

Canadian Correspondence Chess Association

The official Canadian affiliate of the International Correspondence Chess Federation offers post or eMail chess.
Contact: CCCA, 1669-Front Rd W, L'Orignal, ON, K0B 1K0
Misc: ccca@hawknnet.ca

Clubs

Beacy Cove Elementary CC

Place: Beachy Cove Elementary School, Beachy Cove Rd, Portugal Cove, St. Philip's, NF
Time: lunchtime
Contact: Julie Huntington 895-0853
caplinbay@nf.sympatico.ca
Misc: students welcome

Goulds Elementary CC

Place: Goulds Elementary Cafeteria, Doyles Rd, Goulds, NF
Time: 18:30-20:30 Thursdays
Contact: Malcolm Simpson 745-3190
hcc.simma@hccsj.nf.ca
Misc: for grades K to 8

Goulds CC

Place: Goulds Town Hall Public Library, Main Rd, Goulds, NF
Time: 20:30 Wednesdays
Contact: Malcolm Simpson 745-3190
hcc.simma@hccsj.nf.ca
Misc: everyone welcome

Hava Java CC

Place: 216 Water St, St. John's, NF
Time: 07:30-23:00 casual weekdays, 09:00-23:30 casual weekends
Contact: Rob Collins (709)753-5282

St. John's CC

Place: University Centre Cafeteria, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, NF
Time: 19:30 Tuesdays
Contact: Alick Tsui (709)726-9538
Misc: everyone welcome

UPEI Charlottetown CC

Place: Room 207, Dalton Hall, UPEI, Charlottetown, PE
Time: 18:30-22:00 Tuesdays
Contact: Fred McKim (902)894-4171

Halifax Bluenose CC

Place: Room 307, Dalhousie University Student Union Building, 6136 University Ave, Halifax
Time: 18:30-22:45 Mondays
Contact: David Kenney (902)462-7455
dkenney@accesscable.net

Wolfville East Kings CC

Place: Wolfville Town Library
Time: 19:00 Mondays
Contact: Tom Cosman (902)542-9443
Jack Hynes nstn2003@fox.nstn.ns.ca

St. John's Vanier Chess Club

Place: Vanier Elementary School, Ennis Ave, St. John's, NF
Time: Saturdays 09:30-11:00, September to June
Contact: Les Barbour (709)722-5925
Misc: Grades K-6

St. Anne CC

Place: 715 Priestman St, Fredericton, NB
Time: 19:30-22:45 One evening per week September through May
Contact: Chris Maund
chris.maund@gnb.ca

University of King's College CC

Place: HMCS Wardroom, University of King's College, Halifax, NS
Time: 20:00 Wednesdays
Contact: Chris Harbord

Dartmouth Senior CC

Place: Atlantic Superstore, Community Room, 9 Braemar Dr, Dartmouth, NS
Time: 19:00-22:00 Tuesdays
Contact: Philip Boyle (902)462-0273
Roy Yetmen (902)464-9888

Northumberland CC

Place: Old Westside School Willow Ave, New Glasgow, NS
Time: 18:00 Wednesdays
Contact: northumberlandchess@hotmail.com

Saint John CC

Place: New Brunswick Community College, 950 Grandview Ave, Saint John, NB
Time: 19:30 Mondays
Contact: Ken Duff (506)634-7961
duff@nbnnet.nb.ca
www.fundy.csd.unbsj.ca/~duff/

Chaleur Regional CC

Place: NBCC Youghall Dr, Bathurst, NB
Time: 14:00-23:00 Sundays
Contact: Leo Legacy (506)783-3121
sophia@nb.sympatico.ca

Lunenburg CC

Place: Mug and Anchor Pub, Mader's Wharf, Mahone Bay
Time: 18:00 Tuesdays
Contact: Steve Saunders (902)624-9361
ssaunders@fox.nstn.ns.ca
Misc: best to call or write first

Cafe Pi

Place: 4127 Blvd St. Laurent, Montreal, PQ, H2W 1Y7
Time: 10:00-24:00
Contact: Vanessa Kiss (514)286-4828
cafepi2001@hotmail.com

St. Jerome La Variante CC

Place: Municipal Library, 450 La Salette, Bellefeuille, PQ
Time: 19:00-23:00 Mondays
Contact: Jean Luc Grenier, 924 Citiation, Bellefeuille, PQ, J0R 1A0 (450)438-8202 jlgrenier@videotron.ca
www.multimania.com/lavariante/index.htm

Montreal CC

Place: 480 Bourke, St. Bourke Boul, Bouchard, apt #1b, Montreal, QC
Time: 13:00-20:00
Contact: Yolande Beauvais (514)522-3927

Saint Jean Club d'echecs

Place: 100 rue Bernard, Saint Jean, PQ
Time: 19:00 mercredis
Contact: Diane Mongeau (450)347-5577; Gaetan Morin (450)346-2517
clubechecsstjean@multimania.com

Val D'or Les Cavaliers

Place: D'Or 51 St. Jacques, Val D'Or, Abitibi, PQ
Time: 19:00-24:00 Wednesdays
Contact: Alain Authier (819)280-2400
alain.authier@sympatico.ca

Hull CC

Place: 120 Charlevoix, Hull, PQ
Time: 18:45 Tuesdays
Contact: Robert Pilon 777-8776
robertpilon@videotron.ca

Drummondville CC

Place: Drummondville, PQ
Misc: www.membres.lycos.fr/Ced_4/Index.html

Cornwall Au Diapason Inc

Misc: www.audiapason.ca/

Arnprior CC

Place: c/o Miles Wasmund, RR #1 Braeside, ON
Time: 19:00 Mondays
Contact: Miles Wasmund (613)623-2056

Lakefield College School CC

Place: Lakefield College, Lakefield, ON, K0L 2H0
Time: Weekdays
Contact: Alex Reid, alexreid19@yahoo.ca

Ottawa RA CC

Place: RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr,
Ottawa, ON
Time: 19:30 Thursdays, 13:00 Sundays
Contact: Doug Burgess 271-2995 or
592-2790

Ottawa CC

Place: Chapters, 47 Rideau St, Ottawa,
ON
Time: 19:00 Wednesdays
Contact:
ottawachessclub@hotmail.com
www.ottawachessclub.com/

Carleton University CC

Place: Room 213, Tory Building,
Carleton University Campus, 1125
Colonel By D, Ottawa, ON, K1S 5B6
Time: Starts September 2003
Contact: Waqas Iqbal
knightmarez@postmark.net
Misc: http://carletonchess.cjb.net

Ottawa CC

Place: Chapters, 47 Rideau St, Ottawa
Time: 19:00 Wednesdays
Contact:
ottawachessclub@hotmail.com
Misc: Free membership

Ottawa Youth CC

Place: Dalhousie Community Center,
755 Somerset St W, Ottawa, ON
Time: Sunday Afternoons
Contact:
Ottawayouthchessclub@rogers.com

Kanata CC

Place: 186 Morrena Rd, Kanata, ON
Time: 19:00-22:00 Mondays
Contact: Jenny Belousov
kanatachessclub@hotmail.com

Queen's University CC

Place: Memorial Room, John Deutsch
University Centre, Queen's University,
Kingston, ON
Time: 19:00-23:00 Wednesdays,
September to April
Contact: Frank Dixon
frzephyr@hotmail.com

Kingston CC

Place: Princess St United Church, 484
Albert St, Kingston, ON
Time: 18:00-23:00 Mondays
Contact: Peter Sibbald (613)387-3620
sibbald@king.igs.net
Misc: www.members.tripod.com/
kingstonchess/index.htm

Brockville CC

Place: 241 Pizza, 101 King St W,
Brockville, ON
Time: 19:00-22:00 Tuesdays
Contact: Scott Goodwin
(613)345-6062
spookgoodwin@sympatico.ca

Port Hope CC

Place: The River Cafe, 20 Walton St,
Port Hope, ON, (905)885-0112
Contact: Harley Babcock-Doyle
(905)885-7075 PHCC@aemail4u.com

Burlington CC

Place: Burlington, ON
Time: 19:00 Wednesdays
Contact: Kerry Liles
kerryliles@rogers.com
Misc:
www.burlingtoncc.freesevers.com/

South Western Ontario Chess League

Misc: www.swocl.com

Kingsview CC

Place: Franklin Horner Community
Centre, 432 Horner Ave, Toronto, ON
Time: 19:30-23:00 Wednesdays
Contact: Geof Bridge (416)503-1381
Kim Chelvan (416)259-1038 Pat
Lumia plumia2000@hotmail.com Misc:
www.groups.msn.com/
kingsviewchessclub/
yourwebpage.msnw

Oshawa Durham CC

Place: Durham College Main Campus,
Cafeteria, Simcoe St N, Oshawa, ON
Time: 19:00-23:00 Thursdays
Contact: Larry Luiting (905)668-0774
luiting@rogers.com

Agincourt CC

Place: L'Amoreaux Community
Recreation Complex, 2000 McNicoll
Ave, Scarborough, ON
Time: 12:00-18:00 first three Sundays
of month, 19:00-22:30 first and third
Tuesdays of month
Contact: Alex Knox (416)493-0019
Shivaharan Thuraiarah
thurai@idirect.com

Huntsville CC

Place: Huntsville, ON
Time: 18:00-23:30 Tuesdays
Contact: John Campbell
(705)789-6675

Barrie Optimist CC

Place: Optimist Clubhouse, Bayfield St
N, Barrie, ON
Time: Every other Sunday
Contact: Susan Inch
sinch@sympatico.ca Bryan Wood at
728-5295

The Knight Game CC

Place: 8440 County Rd 56, Utopia,
ON, L0M 1T0
Time: 19:00-24:00 Sundays
Contact: Lucy Bonjour (705)424-2438

Barrie CC

Place: Optimist Club of Barrie,
Bayfield St N, Barrie, ON

Time: 19:00-24:00 Wednesdays
Contact: Bryan Wood (705)728-5295

Peterborough CC

Place: YMCA, George & Murray St,
Peterborough, ON
Time: 19:00-22:30 Thursdays,
19:00-22:30 Sundays, 13:00-16:30
Sundays
Contact: Wayne Vandervoort
(705)743-3463

Peel CC

Contact: John Brown (905)458-6791
PO Box 50990, Unit 111-25 Peel
Centre Dr, Brampton, ON, L6T 5M2
Misc: peelchessclub@canada.com

Anapolis CC

Place: 2185 Stavebank Rd,
Mississauga, ON
Time: 19:00 Tuesdays
Contact: Frank Vilkelis (905)279-1867

Mississauga CC

Place: Erindale Colledge, University
Toronto Mississauga Campus, South
Building, Faculty Club
Time: 19:30-23:00 Thursdays
Contact: Rick Walters (905)278-2707
m_c_c2000@yahoo.ca
Misc: www.ca.geocities.com/
m_c_c2000/

Oriole CC

Place: Oriole Community Resource

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(416)281–5838 thurai@idirect.com

Antibes CC

Place: Antibes Community Centre,
140 Antibes Dr, Toronto, ON
Time: 18:00–22:00 Fridays
Contact: Michael Barron
(416)739–6257
barron045@yahoo.com

Scarborough CC

Place: Stan Wadlow Park Clubhouse,
373 Cedarvale Ave, Toronto, ON
Time: 13:00–18:00 Sundays,
18:45–23:00 Tuesdays, 18:45–23:00
Thursdays
Contact: Bryan Lamb (416)391–4777
or blamb@idirect.com
www.webhome.idirect.com/~blamb/

Willowdale CC

Place: Earl Bales Community Centre,
Sheppard & Bathurst, Toronto, ON
Time: 18:45 Tuesdays
Contact: Nicholas Varmazis
(416)221–6306,
phaedon29@yahoo.com

Rouge Valley CC

Place: 5400 Lawrence Ave E,
Scarborough, ON
Time: 19:00–22:00 Tuesdays
Contact: Ernie Mucignat
(416)284–5860
goodcheer@rogers.com
www.members.rogers.com/
rouge-valley-cc/

Toronto City CC

Place: Burger King, 530 Yonge St,
Toronto, ON
Time: 13:00 Mondays
Contact: Ian Corkish (416)324–9989

Bayview Games Club

Place: 1681 Bayview Ave, Suite #202,
Toronto, ON
Time: 18:00–01:00 weekdays;
12:00–01:00 weekends and holidays
Contact: Vlad Dobrich (416)722–9709

Brampton CC

Place: Heart Lake United Church, 85
Sandalwood Parkway E, Brampton,
ON, L6Z 4S3
Time: 19:00–23:00 Tuesdays
Contact: Al McKee (905)455–3289 or
Barry Thorvardson (905)846–2177
www.cybersolutions.net/chess/
bramptonchess.htm

Brantford CC

Place: 7 Burnley Ave, Brantford, ON
Time: 19:00–23:30 Thursdays
Contact: Tony Ficzero (519)752–0715

binkie@execulink.com or Rob
Gashgarian (519)751–4157
gashgar@netcom.ca
www.execulink.com/~binkie/

Whitby Montessori School

Place: 301 Byron St S, Whitby, ON
Time: 19:00 first and third Tuesdays
of month
Contact: Phil Gebhardt
(905)430–8201

Polonia CC

Place: Polish Cultural Centre, 4300
Cawthra Rd, Mississauga, ON
Time: 19:30–23:00 Wednesdays
Contact: Caesar Posylek
(905)686–7942 ckr@rogers.com or
cesarposylek@rogers.com

Tottenham CC

Place: New Tecumseth Library, 8
Queen St N, Tottenham, ON
Time: 12:00–16:00 Sundays
Contact: www.home.portal.ca/~mrt/
tcc/

Windsor CC

Place: CAW Center, University of
Windsor, Windsor, ON
Time: 19:00–23:00 Tuesdays
Contact: chessmen@wincom.net
www.wincom.net/chessmen/

University of Windsor CC

Place: University of Windsor, Windsor,
ON
Time: TBA
Contact: Justin Teeuwen, President:
justin_teeuwen@hotmail.com

Riverside CC

Place: Riverside Library, 6305
Wyandotte St E, Windsor, ON
Time: 18:00–21:00 Tuesdays,
12:00–17:00 Saturdays
Contact: Valentine Hompoth
(519)251–8151
photo1com@hotmail.com

Kitchener–Waterloo CC

Place: Kitchener City Hall, 200 King St
W, Conestoga Room, Kitchener, ON
Time: 19:00–23:00 Tuesdays,
13:00–17:00 Sundays
Contact: Brian Clarke (519)742–2423
bclarke1661@rogers.com
www.kwchessclub.com/

London CC

Place: Kiwanis Senior Center, 78
Riverside Dr, London, ON
Time: 18:30–22:15 Thursdays
Contact: Steve Killi (519)642–3684
skilli2119@rogers.com

Thornbury CC

Place: L.E. Shore Memorial Library, 183
Bruce St S, Thornbury, ON
Time: 18:00–20:00 Thursdays

Contact: Ruth Major (519) 599–3681
rmajor@post.library.on.ca

Sarnia CC

Place: Milano Subs and Pizza, 468
Christina St N, Sarnia, ON
Time: 19:00–22:30 Wednesdays
Contact: Ben Vanderwillik 337–2732
or Sam Carr 383–7202 or James Mack
lkchess@yahoo.com
www.geocities.com/lkchess/scc.html

St.Catharine's CC

Place: Currie St & Dieppe Rd,
St.Catharines, ON
Time: 18:00–21:00 Tuesdays &
Thursdays
Contact: Keith Wight (905)937–5838
Doran Hallett (905)646–6725

Concordia CC

Place: 429 Ottawa St, Kitchener, ON,
N2M 3P6
Time: 19:30–24:00 Thursdays
Contact: Stephen Kennel
(519)632–7508
stephen.kennel@sympatico.ca

Hamilton City CC

Place: YMCA, 79 James St S, Hamilton,
ON
Time: 19:00 Fridays
Contact: Marco Greco (905)387–5178
chesshamilton@canada.com
www.hwc.org/link/hccc/

Knights In Shining Pink Armour Chess Club

Place: Hamilton, ON
Time: Weekdays
Contact: Teri Flynn
greenerpastures@sympatico.ca
www.greenerpastures.ca
Misc: For girls ages 7–11

Welland CC

Place: Hooker St Community Centre,
45 Hooker St, Welland, ON
Time: 19:00–23:00 Thursdays
Contact: Andy Coulombe, 63 Harrison
St. Welland, ON

Dark Horse CC

Place: Lockerby Composite School,
1391 Ramsey View Ct, Sudbury, ON
Time: 18:00–21:00 Tuesdays
Contact: Mavros Whissell
(705)673–6199
mavros@hotmai.com

Parry Sound Central Georgian Bay Chess Association

Place: Optimist Centre, 36 Smith Cr,
Parry Sound, ON
Time: 18:30–21:30 Tuesdays
Contact: Robert Hiuser

Thunder Bay Central Canada Chess League

Contact: John Rutherford

(807)622-6773
chessguy_ah@yahoo.ca, Box 29132,
Thunder Bay, P7B 6P9
Misc: www.members.shaw.ca/
chessforall/

Thunder Bay Chapters CC

Place: Chapters Bookstore
Time: 13:00–16:00 Sundays

Regina CC

Place: Cathedral Neighborhood
Center, 13th Ave & Retallack St,
Regina, SK
Time: 19:00–23:00 Wednesdays
Contact: John McIntyre
(306)949-2249
jemcintyre@sk.sympatico.ca
www.accesscomm.ca/nonprofits/rcc/

Black Knights CC

Place: Box 130, Eyebrow, SK
Time: 15:05–16:30 Wednesdays
Contact: Brendon Shields
(306)759-2238 or Erik Anderson
(306)759-2536

Saskatoon CC

Place: Browser's on Campus,
University of Saskatchewan
Time: 17:00 Mondays
Contact: Jamin Gluckie
jlg532@mail.usask.ca (306)934-8053
Misc: http://homepage.usask.ca/
~jlg532

Calgary CC

Place: Days Inn Hotel, 16 Ave NW,
Calgary, AB
Time: 19:00 Tuesdays
Contact: www.albertachess.org

Wainwright CC

Place: Showtime Video, Main St,
Wainwright, AB
Time: 19:00–22:00 Thursdays
Contact: Allen Tinio
altinsky@telusplanet.net
(780)842-4123 or Kevin Hay
khay@telusplanet.net (780)842-2714

Edmonton CC

Place: 10440 108 Ave, Edmonton, AB
Time: 19:00 Mondays and Thursdays
Contact: 424-0283
EdmontonChessClub@yahoo.com
www.edmontonchess.org/

Edmonton Junior CC

Place: 10440 108 Ave, Edmonton, AB
Time: 2nd Saturday of each month
Contact: Bruce Thomas
(780)473-1557
rovingchessnuts@shaw.ca or Brian
McDonald (780)778-5082
Brianmc40@hotmail.com

Delwood CC

Place: Delwood Community Hall,
7515 Delwood Rd, Edmonton, AB

Time: 14:30–16:00 Thursdays, 18:30
Tuesdays
Contact: Bruce Thomas
(780)473-1557
rovingchessnuts@shaw.ca

Whitecourt Junior CC

Place: St. Joseph High School,
Whitecourt, AB
Time: 10:00–15:30 Last Sunday each
month
Contact: Brian McDonald
(780)778-5082
whitecourt_junior_chess@hotmail.com

Parksville Sicilian Soldiers

Place: 170 West Hurst, Parksville, BC
Time: 18:30–21:30 Mondays

New Westminster Royal City CC

Place: Olivet Baptist Church, 6134
Queens Ave, New Westminster, BC
Time: 19:30–23:00 Tuesdays
Contact: Chris 520-3731

White Knights CC

Place: Haidaway Inn, Port McNeill, BC
Time: 19:00–22:00 Tuesdays
Contact: Ray Phillips 956-4566
rphillip@island.net or Bill Kraus
284-6162 bicat@capescott.net

Langley CC

Place: Brookwood Senior Center,
19899 36th Ave, Langley, BC
Time: 19:00–23:00 Mondays
Contact: Hugh Long (604)530-4693

Surrey CC

Place: David Brankin School Library,
9160 128 St, Surrey, BC
Time: 19:15 Tuesdays
Contact: Bill Lee

PoCo CC

Place: Wilson Centre, Port Coquitlam
Recreation Complex, 2150 Wilson
Ave, Port Coquitlam, BC
Time: 19:00–22:00 Thursdays
Contact: Nathan Bauman
(604)340-6208
pococheessclub@chessmastery.com

Vancouver CC

Place: YMCA, 955 Burrard St,
Vancouver, BC
Time: 18:30–22:00
Contact: David Hunter 588-2560

Vancouver Junior CC

Place: 2265 West 41, Vancouver, BC
Time: 14:30–16:30 Saturdays
Contact: Frank Ho (604)266-0974 or
Maria Ho (604)271-8168

Little Mountain CC

Place: Little Mountain Neighbourhood
House, 3981 Main St, Vancouver, BC
Time: 19:00 3rd & 4th Wednesday of
each month
Contact: Carmen Miranda

(604)879-7104 or Eduardo Azmitia
(604)582-5586

North Vancouver CC

Place: St. Thomas Aquinas High
School, 541 West Keith, Vancouver,
BC
Time: 19:00 Wednesdays
Contact: Joe Osvald 980-4249
coolguy@mortimer.com or Joe
Gesler 926-6409 or John Kaufman
988-4236 or David Stewart
omm_eng@bc.sympatico.ca

Victoria CC

Place: 609 Fisgard St, Victoria, BC
Time: 18:30–22:30 Mondays
Contact: Lynn Stringer (250)658-5207
chess@ryre.com www.ryre.com/
chess/

The Knights Kids CC

Place: Romanian Community Center,
110-426 10 St, New Westminster, BC,
V3M 3Z2
Time: 18:30–20:00 Wednesdays
Contact: Valer Demian, 55-902 Clarke
Rd, Port Moody, BC, V3H 1L5,
(604)936-1757 vdemian@shaw.ca
www.romanians.bc.ca/activitati/
club_sah.shtml

Nanaimo CC

Place: MGM Restaurant, Nicol St,
Nanaimo, BC
Time: 19:45 Wednesdays
Contact: Glen Beaudin 753-0102

Bonsor CC

Place: Burnaby Bonsor Recreation
Centre, Bonsor Ave, Burnaby, BC
Time: 12:00–16:00 Mon, Wed, Fri
Contact: Alan Griffith (604)299-6605
a.m.griffith@telus.net

Central Park CC

Place: Esquires, Wilson & Kingsway,
Burnaby, BC
Time: 16:00–22:00 Saturdays
Contact: James Kerry
James_Kerry@hotmail.com

Yellowknife CC

Place: Subway, 5103-50th St,
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2P1
Time: 19:00 Mondays
Contact: Neil Sutherland



The Guelph Pro-Am International

Building a Tradition

The Guelph Pro-Am International has quickly established itself among the premier events on Canada's summer calendar. By attracting elite players from around the world, the competition offers top Canadians a rare opportunity to achieve coveted title norms. For other chess enthusiasts, the tournament is a yet to be discovered gem. Hosted among the tall trees and century old buildings at the University of Guelph, the event offers both a relaxing chess vacation and a rare opportunity to mingle with some of the world's best.

by FM Robert Hamilton

This, combined with the fact that Guelph is but a short distance away from convenient transportation links to metropolitan Toronto bodes well for the event's future success and growth. Behind all good events there are good organizers, and Guelph is no exception. The event is the initiative of veteran Canadian chess supporter Hal Bond, who is dedicated towards making incremental improvements and building a Canadian tradition.

On With the Show

This year's championship section boasted more than twenty internationally titled players among the thirty-eight entries, including defending champion Nikolay Legky, and fellow GMs Alexander Moiseenko, Alexei Barsov, Walter Arencibia, Pia Cramling and Juan Manuel Bellon Lopez, as well as IMs Tomas Hutter and Edward Porper. Leading the Canadian charge were IMs Yan Teplitsky and Mark Bluvshstein, FMs Robert Hamilton and Goran Milicevic, and talented future stars Thomas Roussel Roozmon and Christian Stevens. In addition, Canadian chess historians were delighted to see the return of Toronto's maverick master, FM John McPhail to competitive play after a lengthy absence.

A CDrom on the event can be ordered for \$20 via credit card from the CFC, or by cheque from Hal Bond, 6 Wildwood Place, Guelph, ON, N1H 7X9, Canada

When the dust had settled, the event was won jointly by GM Alexei Barsov and IM Tomas Hutter with the fine score of 7/9, while Canadians Robert

Hamilton and Thomas Roussel Roozmon achieved IM norms! Although Barsov is not considered to be among the world's very elite, Alexei is capable of showing extremely strong chess. He was also the steadiest performer in the field, and it took five straight wins from the vastly talented Danish IM Tomas Hutter to catch up to the tournament leader. Canadian Robert Hamilton achieved his IM norm with an excellent 3/4 score against GM opposition, and finished in a tie for third with GM Alexander Moiseenko and IM Edward Porper at 6.5/9. Top ranked Alexander Moiseenko pulled himself together in the second half after a rather shaky start, while Israeli IM Edward Porper's uniquely disturbing board manner betrays a very strong player who is capable of turning in great performances!



Juan Manuel Bellon Lopez

Spain's GM Pia Cramling scored 6/9 to win sixth place outright after an important last round win over Cuban GM Walter Arencibia. Pia, once the media darling of the chess world in pre-Polgar days, is married to GM Juan Manuel Bellon Lopez. Half a point behind at 5.5/9, FM Nelson Castaneda split his share of seventh place with Canadians Thomas Roussel Roozmon and Yan Teplitsky. The virtually



Nelson Castaneda

unknown Castaneda sprinted out to a sensational 5/5 start, but faltered in the second half in the face of very strong and determined opposition. Not to be outdone, however, the young and tremendously talented Thomas Roussel Roozmon began his campaign with a draw against Cramling and a win over defending champion Nikolay Legky! By the final round a near-2500 performance and an easy IM norm had been secured. A loss to Barsov in round eight spoiled Canadian super-IM Yan Teplitsky's chances for a higher finish, especially when this disaster was followed by a misguided refusal to take the draw against IM Tomas Hutters in the final round.

Among the remaining players, Canadian IM Mark Bluvshtein went unbeaten against four GMs and entertained realistic chances for a GM norm until he lost a complicated tilt against Robert Hamilton in round eight. The no-shows included GM Walter Arencibia, who got mated in a short game vs Hamilton in round two and lost to Cramling in round nine.



Walter Arencibia

Defending champion GM Nikolay Legky managed only 5/9 after losing his equanimity at the hands of Tomas Roussel Roozmon in the second round. GM Juan Manuel Bellon Lopez lost to Canadian Christian Stevens in the first round, and would finish the event with another dramatic failure in the last round vs Robert Hamilton.

Notes by
John MacPhail

Bellon Lopez, Juan Manuel
Stevens, Christian
Guelph Pro-Am Int. (1), 2003
Queen Pawn: Veresov D01

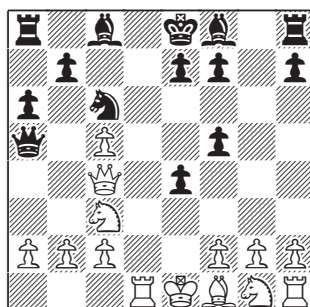
1.d4 d5 2.♗c3 ♗f6 3.♕g5 c5

Interesting, but probably not very sound.

4.♗xf6 gxf6 5.e4 dxe4 6.dxc5 ♗a5
7.♗d5 a6 8.♗c4

Surely the simple 8.0-0-0 is not bad.

8...♗c6 9.♗d1 f5



10.♗e2

White is in trouble, and his best bet now might be 10.♗a4 with some hope of surviving an inferior ending.

10...♗g7 11.♗f1 ♗e6 12.♗d5 0-0
13.♗h3 ♗xd5 14.♗xd5 e6 15.♗d1
♗fd8 16.c3 ♗e5 17.♗b3 ♗xd1+
18.♗xd1 ♗b5+ 19.♗e2 ♗xb3
20.axb3 ♗d7 21.g4

Desperation, but White is lost anyway after, for example, 21.b4 a5.

21...fxg4 22.♗xg4 ♗xc5 23.♗g1
♗f8 24.♗h5 h6 25.f3 ♗xb3
26.fxg4 ♗d2+ 27.♗e2 ♗xe4
28.♗f1 ♗d6 29.♗f4 ♗e7 30.♗d3
♗c8 31.♗f3 ♗c4 32.h3 a5 33.♗g1
♗f8 34.♗a1 b6 35.♗f2 ♗e7
36.♗g4 f5 37.♗e3 ♗c5 38.♗g1
♗f6 39.♗g6 ♗g5 40.♗g7+ ♗f6
41.♗d7 ♗e5 42.♗xd6 ♗xe3
43.♗d1 ♗c5 44.♗c6 ♗g5 45.♗e2
♗e3 46.♗c4 e5 47.h4+ ♗xh4
48.♗xh6+ ♗g3 49.♗d2 ♗e4

50.♗g6+ ♗g4 51.♗xg4+ ♗xg4
52.♗e6 e4 53.♗e2 ♗f4

An impressive performance by Christian Stevens.

0-1.

Notes by
Robert Hamilton

Hamilton, Robert
Arencibia, Walter
Guelph Pro-Am Int. (2), 2003
Nimzo Indian: Rubinstein E56

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♗b4 4.e3

I haven't studied theory in a long time, and often seek unconventional lines as a means of avoiding theory. In Guelph, however, I decided to play reliable main lines and work from reasonable positions in spite of my theoretical handicap.

4...c5 5.♗d3 ♗c6 6.♗f3 d5 7.0-0
dxc4 8.♗xc4 0-0 9.a3 ♗a5
10.dxc5!?

In the Larsen Variation 10.♗d3 is a very common move, whereas the text is considered inadequate by theory since it allows Black to weaken his opponent's queenside pawn structure, albeit in exchange for the bishop pair and some interesting possibilities!?

10...♗xc3 11.dxc3 ♗a5

Recommended by theory as best. After 11...♗xd1 12.♗xd1 ♗e4 13.a4! White has a reasonable advantage.

12.♗e2 ♗xc5

At some point Black has to find an improvement, but here 12...♗xc3 13.♗b2 is bad, and White also has superior prospects after 12...♗e4 13.a4.

13.e4! ♗e5?!

After this White obtains a comfortable initiative. Black obviously fears 13...e5 14.a4 when White can combine ♗a3 and ♗g5 ideas to present Black with problems on f7. Black's most reliable option might be 13...b6.

14.♗xe5 ♗xe5 15.♗d3

White's aggressive intentions against the Black king are clear, and Arencibia is left with very few squares on which to create counterplay.

15...♗d7 16.f4 ♗xc3

A difficult decision to criticize. Black takes a pawn as some form of



compensation for his inferior position, and it seems fairly clear that refusing to do so does not really change the character of the game.

**17. ♖b2 ♔c5+ 18. ♔h1 ♔e7
19. ♖f3!**

White goes directly for the king, which is quite justifiable in view of his grip on the central dark squares and lack of Black counterplay on the queenside.

19... c6 20. h3 h6 21. e1

White is in no hurry to advance the central pawns, as there are several strong building moves available to significantly improve his position first. In the meantime, Black lacks equally constructive defensive ideas.

21...♖fd8 22.♘b1 ♜ac8 23.♖g3
♜c7

Such a modest move emphasizes Black's difficulties in opposing White's buildup.

24. ♖c3 b6 25. h3 ♜b7 26. ♜b4!

White's position has improved considerably in the past six moves, and he is now ready to initiate the decisive assault. The text drives the queen from the defense of the dark squares surrounding Black's king, and in some lines threatens to invade with Qf8 .

26...♔d7 27.e5 ♘e8

After 27...d5 28.♖g4 Black must critically weaken his kingside with 28...g6.

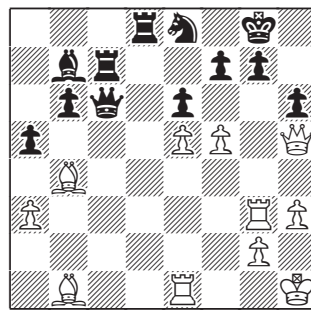
28. ♖h5 ♜c6

And not instant disaster after 28...♔h8
29.♙f8 f5 30.exf6 ♖xf6 31.♙xg7+.

29.f5

A tragic reversal would be 29.♔xh6
♔xg2+!

29...a5



Notes by

John MacPhail

Legky, Nikolay
Roussel Roozmon, Thomas
Guelph Pro-Am Int. (2), 2003
Various: Torre A46

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 e6 3.♙g5 h6
4.♙h4 g5 5.♙g3 ♘h5 6.e4 ♘xg3
7.hxg3 ♙g7 8.c3 d6 9.♘bd2 ♘c6
10.♙d3 ♖e7 11.♖b3 b6 12.♙b5
♙d7 13.♖c4 ♘a5 14.♙xd7+ ♖xd7
15.♖e2 c5 16.d5 exd5 17.exd5+
♖e7 18.a4 f5 19.♖xe7+ ♖xe7
20.0-0-0 ♖he8 21.♘h2 ♖f7 22.g4
fxg4 23.♘xg4 ♖g6 24.♖he1 a6

25.♘c2 h5 26.♜e3 ♜b7 27.g4 h4
28.♜f5 b5 29.f4 gxf4 30.♜xh4+
♞f7 31.♜f5 ♙e5 32.♞e2 ♞h8
33.♜e4 ♞ag8 34.g5 ♞e8 35.g6+

Based, perhaps, on some miscalculation.

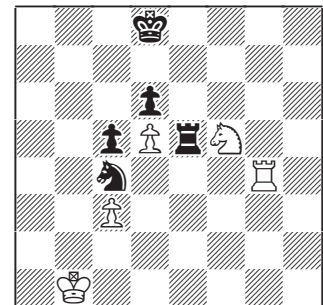
35...♔xg6 36.♖g1+

White disdains the perpetual check after 26. ♖g5+ ♔f6 27. ♖e4+.

36...♣f3 37.♠eg2 ♠h5 38.♠g7 f3
39.♠f2 ♠g8 40.♠xf3+ ♣e7
41.♠xh5 ♠xg1 42.axb5 axb5
43.♠hg3 ♠g2+ 44.♣c1 ♠g1+
45.♣c2 ♠g2+ 46.♣b1

And after this refusal to settle for a repetition Black is probably already better.

46...b4 47.♟f5+ ♖d7 48.♟e3 ♜e2
49.♟g3 ♜xg3 50.♜xg3 bxc3
51.bxc3 ♟a5 52.♟f5 ♟c4 53.♜g7+
♖d8 54.♜g4 ♜e5



55. g7

The losing move. White may be able to draw with 55. $\Delta h6!$? but this verdict is by no means reliable.

55... ♖e3 56. ♖g5 ♖xg5 57. ♖e6+ ♜e7 58. ♖xg5 ♖xd5 59. ♜c2 ♜f6 60. ♖e4+ ♜e5 61. ♖d2 ♖f4 62. ♖c4+ ♜d5 63. ♖b6+ ♜e4 64. ♖d7 ♜e3 65. ♖f6 d5 66. ♖d7 c4 67. ♖e5 ♖d3 68. ♖c6 ♖e1+ 69. ♜d1 ♖g2 70. ♖b4 ♖f4 71. ♜c2 ♜e2 72. ♜c1 ♖d3+ 0-1.



Notes by
Tomas Hutters

Stevens, Christian
Peredun, Andrew

Guelph Pro-Am Int. (5), 2003

English A22

One of the really nice things about a relatively small event like this one is that the field soon becomes a bit like a big family, and one cannot help but share in the drama and emotional ups and downs of the other family members. How is MacPhail doing today? Is the coffee ready? Who will babysit Anna? Anyway, this game in particular was certainly not one of the best of the tournament, but it is filled with curious moments that gave rise to some nice associations and conversations during and after the round...

1.c4 e5 2.♖c3 ♘f6 3.♗f3 e4 4.♗g5 b5!

Practically forced, and a nice gesture by Andrew, considering the presence of the inventor of this line, GM Juan Manuel Bellon Lopez, who played it with some success back in the 1970s!

5.d3! ♗b4!?

The traditional main line goes 5...bxc4 6.dxe4 h6 7.♗xf7! with a clear edge for White. Black, of course, rarely plays this way anymore. And for me the position on the demonstration board brought back nice memories of a win that went 7.♗f3 ♗b4 8.e5 ♗e4 9.♖d4 ♗xc3 10.bxc3 ♗c6 11.♖xc4 ♗a6 12.♖b3 ♗a5 13.♗a3 ♖b8 14.♖c2 d6 15.0-0 0-0 16.exd6 cxd6 17.♗xd6 ♖f6 18.♗xf8 ♖xf8 19.e3 ♗b4 20.♖d2 ♗xa2+ 21.♖c2 ♖g6+ 22.♗d3 ♗xc3 23.♖b1 ♖xb1 24.♖xb1 ♖c6 25.♖e2 ♗a4+ 26.♖b3 ♗xd3+ 27.♖xd3 ♗b4+ 28.♖xc3 ♗xd3 29.♖b8+ ♖e7 30.♖xd3 ♗a6+ 31.♖c3 ♖f1 32.♖b7+ ♖f6 33.♖xa7 ♖xf2 34.♖a6+ ♖e7 35.♖a7+ ♖e8 36.♖a8+ ♖e7 37.♖a7+ ♖d6 38.♗d4 ♖xe3+ 39.♖c4 ♖e4 40.♗xf7 ♖d5+ 0-1 Sorensen-Hutters, DK 1990.

6.dxe4 ♖e7 7.♗d2?

White has a healthy extra pawn after 7.cxb5!

7...0-0?

After 7...bxc4! material is equal, and Black should be fine.

8.a3?

Again 8.cxb5! or 8.♗xb5 is the right idea.

8...♗xc3 9.♗xc3 ♗xe4?

Instead 9...bxc4 10.e5 ♗g4 11.♗f3 ♖c5 12.e3 ♗c6 is better for White, but not clearly lost for Black.

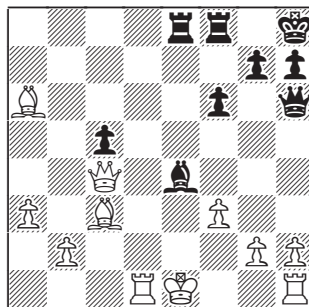
10.♗xe4 ♖xe4 11.cxb5 a6 12.bxa6 c5?

Now Black is dead! Practically any other move is better, provided that it doesn't put something en prise or allows what happens next.

13.♖d6! ♗xa6 14.♖d1 ♗b7 15.♖xd7!

A healthy appetite is a good thing in life as well as in chess.

15...♖ab8 16.f3 ♖e3 17.♖d2 ♖e7 18.♖d6 ♖e3 19.♖e5 ♖h6 20.e4 f6 21.♖e6+ ♖h8 22.♗xa6 ♖be8 23.♖c4 ♗xe4



Black has been lost for some time, and now the game finishes in a way which, somehow, feels like a logical conclusion to this baroque masterpiece!

24.0-0 1-0.

Notes by
John MacPhail

Mikanovic, Goran
Legky, Nikolay

Guelph Pro-Am Int. (6), 2003

Benoni A60

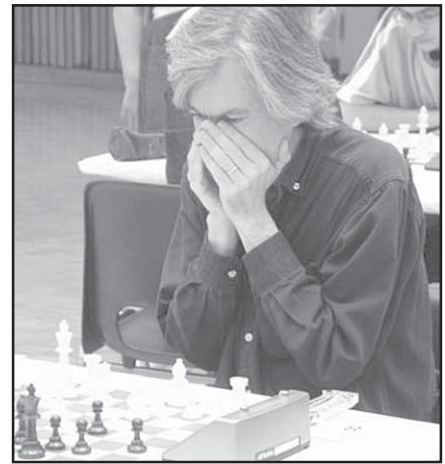
1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.♗c3 exd5 5.cxd5 ♗d6 6.♗f3 ♗c7 7.g3 d6 8.♗g2 0-0 9.0-0 a6 10.a4

White tried the alternative 10.a3!? in Vladimirov-Kasimdzhanov, Namangan 2000.

10...♖e8

Lawson-Legky, Guelph Pro-Am Int. (4) 2003, reached the same position!

11.h3 ♗bd7 12.♗d2



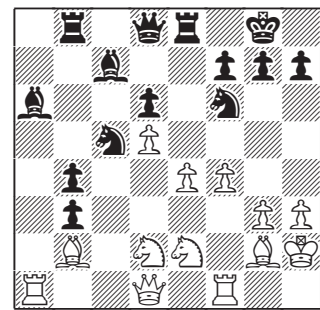
John MacPhail

Perhaps an effective Anti-Snake-Benoni might be called the Mongoose Attack, but here Black is able to get in ...b5 for an advantage.

12...♖b8 13.e4 b5 14.axb5 axb5 15.f4

Correct seems 15.b3!? when Black cannot claim c5 for his knight as in the game.

15...c4 16.b4 cxb3 17.♗b2 ♗c5 18.♖h2 b4 19.♗e2 ♗a6?



Nikolay allows a surprisingly effective exchange sacrifice, whereas 19...♗fxe4 20.♗xe4 ♗xe4 21.♗d4 ♖f6 22.♖e1 ♖g6 23.♖xb3 f5 24.♖g1 ♗b6 should win comfortably.

20.♖xa6! ♗xa6 21.♗d4 ♖b6 22.♗c6 ♖d7 23.♖xb3 ♗c5 24.♖c4 b3 25.♖d4 ♖a8 26.♗c4 ♗a4

Although complex, the line 26...♖b5 27.e5 ♗e8 28.♖e1 ♗d8 29.♖e3 f5 30.exd6 ♗e4 31.♗xe4 fxe4 32.♖xe4 ♗f6 33.♗b6e5 ♖b7 seems to lead only to a small edge for White.

27.e5 ♗xb2 28.♗xb6 ♗xb6 29.♖xb6 ♗c4

White has a crushing advantage.

30.♖d4 dxe5 31.♖xc4 exf4 32.♖xb3 fxe3+ 33.♖xe3 ♖h8 34.♖b1 h6 35.♖b8+ ♖xb8

36. ♖xb8+ ♕h7 37. ♖e5 ♖e8
 38. ♖e7 ♖xe7 39. ♖xe7 ♖d6
 40. ♖g3 f6 41. ♖f1 g6 42. ♖d3 f5
 43. ♖f4 ♖g7 44. ♖e5 ♖f7+ 45. ♖d4
 ♖f6 46. ♖c8 h5 47. ♖b5 h4 48. d6
 g5 49. ♖e2 g4 50. hxg4 fxg4
 51. ♖xg4 ♖xd6 52. ♖xd6 h3
 53. ♖xh3 ♖g6 54. ♖e5 ♖g7 55. ♖f5
 ♖f8 56. ♖f6 ♖g8 57. ♖f7 ♖f8
 58. ♖h7 ♖e8 59. ♖e5 ♖f8 60. ♖d7+
 ♖e8 61. ♖e6 ♖d8 62. ♖d6 ♖e8
 63. ♖g6+ ♖d8 64. ♖c5 ♖c8
 65. ♖h5 ♖d8 66. ♖b7+ ♖c8
 67. ♖c6 ♖b8 68. ♖b6 ♖c8 69. ♖g4+
 ♖b8 70. ♖c5 ♖a8 71. ♖f5 1-0.

Notes by
John MacPhail

Peredun, Andrew
 Predescu, Sebastian

Guelph Pro-Am Int. (6), 2003
 Sicilian: Sozin B86

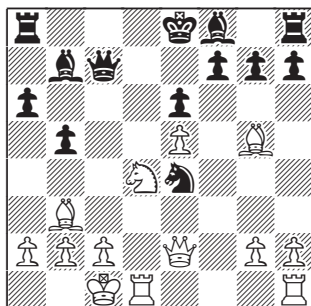
A Sicilian Sozin comes out looking like
 Morphy versus Anonymous!

1.e4 c5 2. ♖f3 d6 3. d4 cxd4
 4. ♖xd4 ♖f6 5. ♖c3 a6 6. ♖c4 e6
 7. ♖b3 ♖bd7 8. ♖e2

Looks reasonable, but not covered in
 Small ECO on the Sozin.

8...b5 9. ♖g5 ♖c5 10. 0-0-0 ♖c7
 11. f4 ♖b7 12. e5 dxe5 13. fxe5
 ♖fe4 14. ♖xe4 ♖xe4?

The position looks about equal after
 14...♖xe4 15. ♖hf1 ♖c8 16. ♖b1 ♖xb3.
 After the text, Black has a basic
 tactical shot to end the game.



15. ♖xb5 axb5 16. ♖xb5+ ♖c6
 17. ♖a4 1-0.

Notes by
John MacPhail

Teplitsky, Yan
 Barsov, Alexei

Guelph Pro-Am Int. (8), 2003
 Queen's Gambit: Tartakower D58

1. c4 e6 2. ♖f3 d5 3. d4 ♖f6 4. ♖c3
 ♖e7 5. ♖g5 h6 6. ♖h4 0-0-0 7. e3 b6
 8. ♖b3

The current game casts some doubt
 on this move, so perhaps White
 players should prefer one of the
 many available alternatives, such as
 8. cxd5, 8. ♖e2, 8. ♖c1, 8. ♖d3, 8. ♖b3,
 8. ♖b1 and 8. ♖c2.

8...♖b7 9. ♖xf6 ♖xf6 10. cxd5
 exd5 11. ♖d1 ♖e8 12. a3 ♖e7
 13. ♖d3

White's principal alternative is 13. ♖e2
 ♖d6 (White has prevented 13... c5)
 14. O-O a6 15. ♖e5 ♖d7 with good
 play for Black.



Yan Teplitsky

13...c5 14. ♖b1

Evidently Black also has a good game
 after 14. dxc5?! d4! 15. 0-0 bxc5 (but
 not 15...♖xf3 16. gxf3 ♖d7 17. exd4)
 16. ♖e4 (or 16. ♖e2 ♖b6 17. ♖xb6
 axb6 18. exd4 ♖c6 with advantage to
 Black) 16...♖xe4 17. ♖xe4 ♖xe4
 18. ♖b7 ♖c6 19. ♖xc6 ♖e8 20. ♖xc5
 dxe3 21. fxe3 ♖xb2 with an edge.

14...♖a6 15. 0-0 g6 16. ♖fe1 ♖c8
 17. ♖d2 ♖g7 18. ♖d1 ♖e8 19. ♖e2
 ♖c7 20. ♖f4 ♖e6 21. ♖xe6+ ♖xe6
 22. dxc5 bxc5 23. ♖a2 ♖b6
 24. ♖xd5 ♖xd5 25. ♖xd5 ♖xb2

Black has built up a winning position,
 but here 25...c4! (25...♖xb2 26. ♖d6 is
 a bit annoying) 26. ♖e2 ♖xb2 is a
 more efficient way to clamp down on
 White's counterplay.

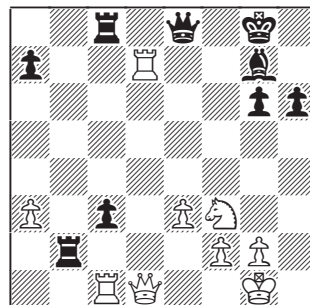
26. ♖c2 c4 27. h4 ♖g8 28. h5 ♖g7

Or the simple 29...♖xa3!?

29. hxg6 fxg6 30. ♖c1 ♖b2

Since White can scarcely afford to use
 his queen for blockading duty, driving
 it away might not be the right idea.
 More sensible, and in fact stronger is
 29...c3! 30. ♖d3?! ♖a4.

31. ♖d1 c3 32. ♖d7



32...♖f8

White's counterplay is no longer a
 joke since, for example, the hasty



Pia Cramling

32...c2?? 33.♖xg7+ turns the tables in an instant. A computer might play 32...a5 or 32...a6 in this position, but the human solution is 32...♖h8! followed by 33...c2 with good chances to score the full point.

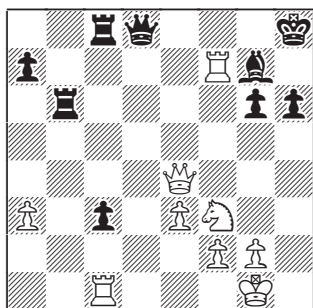
33.♖d5+ ♖h8 34.♖f7

Why not 34.♖xa7 c2 35.♗e5 ♖f5 36.♗f7+ ♖h7 37.♗g5+! ♖h8 38.♗f7+ with a draw?

34...♖d8

Of course not 34...♖xa3? 35.♖xg7! ♖xg7 36.♖d7+ and White wins.

35.♖e4 ♖b6



A little stronger is 35...♖d6! 36.♖xa7 (Black retains winning chances after 36.♗d4?! ♖f8 37.♖xf8+ ♖xf8) 36...c2 37.♗e1! ♖b1 38.♖xb1 c1♖ 39.♖xc1 ♖xc1 40.♖f1 ♖d2 41.♖e8+ ♖h7 42.♖xg7+ with perpetual check.

36.♗e5?

White can turn the tide with 36. ♗d4!

36...♖d6

The game is over after 36...♖d2!

37.♖e7 ♖h7 38.♗f7 ♖f6 39.♖xa7 ♖f8 40.♖d5 c2

Things get a little messy at the end, but White really has no more chances.

41.♖c7 ♖b1 42.♖7xc2 ♖xc1+ 43.♖xc1 ♖xf7 44.♖c2 ♖a1+ 45.♖h2 ♖f5 46.♖e6 ♖h5+ 47.♖g3 ♖g5+ 48.♖h2 ♖f1 49.♖e4 ♖e5 50.♖c6 ♖h5+ 51.♖g3 ♖g5+



Frank Pushkedra



Robert Hamilton and Tomas Hutters

52.♖h2 ♗e5+ 53.f4 ♖h5+ 54.♖g3 ♗g7 55.♖d6 ♖e1+ 56.♖f3 ♖h1 57.♖f2 ♖a5 58.♖g3 ♖h5 59.♖e6 ♖e1 60.♖f3 ♖e2 61.♖h3 ♖a5 62.♖h2 ♖xa3 63.e4 ♖c1 64.e5 ♖e1 65.♖d7 ♖h1+ 66.♖g3 ♖e1+ 67.♖f2 ♖f1 68.♖d2 ♖xf2+ 69.♖xf2 ♖xf2 70.♖xf2 h5 71.g4 h4 72.♖g2 ♖g8 73.♖h3 ♗xe5 0-1.

Notes by

Tomas Hutters

**Porper, Edward
Hutters, Tomas**

Guelph Pro-Am Int. (8), 2003

Bogo Indian E11

This game proved critical in the final standings overall, as well as the hunt for a GM norm for both players. But another factor that made the game special was the fact that Edward and I had just spent two weeks together at the Kitchener Futurity, which taught me that he plays healthy, classical chess. Maybe a bit too classical, and maybe a weakness for me to exploit!

1.d4 e6 2.c4 ♗b4+ 3.♗d2 a5 4.♗f3

In round six, Thomas Roussel Roozmon played 4.g3 and after 4...d5 failed to appreciate the difference between this position and a standard Catalan.

4...♗f6 5.♗c3 b6 6.g3 ♗b7 7.♗g2 ♗xc3!?

To my knowledge, this move has only been tried in a handful of games. In my case it is an improvisation over

the board, but the fact that GM Oleg Romanishin has played it lends some support to Black's idea.

8.♗xc3 ♗e4 9.♖c1!?

Too hard a verdict? I think this routine move deserves to be called dubious. White does not challenge the ♗e4 and lets Black freely choose a very flexible setup. In Flesh–Romanishin, Dortmund (10) 1976, White played 9.♖c2.

9...♗a6!?

Black plays with the well known idea of 10...♗b4 11.a3? ♗a2!

10.a3!?

And White takes the threat a bit too seriously. Better is 10.0-0 since on 10...♗b4 White has a good reply in 11.♖b3.

10...c5! 11.d5!?

Very sharp, but clearly based on a misjudgment of the position! Porper needs 1.5/2 for his GM norm, and so a win with White is just about required. More sensible is 11.dxc5 ♗xc3 12.♖xc3 ♗xc5 with rough equality, though White's queenside pawns can become weak later.

11...0-0 12.♗h4 exd5 13.cxd5 ♗xc3 14.♖xc3 d6 15.0-0

The absence of two sets of minor pieces and Black's superiority on the queenside suggest that White and not Black is worse in this Benoni structure!

15...b5 16.e4 c4!?

Again very sharp. Black sets up ...♗c5-d3 but at the same time loses some grip in the center. More prudent

therefore is 16...b4 17.♖e3 ♗f6 with a comfortable position in which the fate of the game does not hang on every move.

17.♗d4! g6 18.♗d2?

White hesitates, or maybe he was seduced by a kingside attack that doesn't exist? Much better is 18.f4! ♖c5 19.e5 with a very sharp position.

18...♖c5 19.♗h6?

Sometimes having no plan is actually better than having a bad one?!

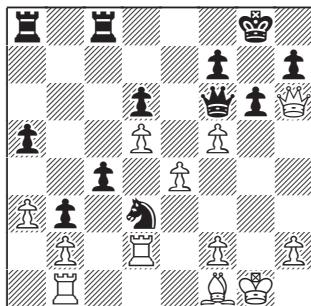
19...♗f6! 20.♖f5 ♖c8!

My analysis engine insists that 20...♖fe8 is stronger, but I will play the text in my next game as well. Black looks forward to a very uneven fight between his knight and White's bishop!

21.g4 ♖xf5 22.gxf5 ♖d3 23.♖b1 ♖fc8

White for now relies on the tactic 23...♖xb2 24.♖h3 but his position is probably lost already. In time Black's queenside pawns will be unstoppable, and the knight might eventually land on f4 to wreak havoc on White's disorganized and positionally bankrupt kingside.

24.♖f1 b4 25.♖c2 b3 26.♖d2



Goran Milicevic

The following sacrifice, which was prepared on move twenty, gave me some aesthetic satisfaction.

26...♖xb2! 27.♖dx2 a4

In practice, White is defenseless against the coming pawn avalanche.

28.fxg6 hxg6 29.♖xc4

Edward decides to return the piece and come up for some air before the pawns completely suffocate White on the queenside. A funny if somewhat irrelevant line is 29.♗c1 c3 30.♖e2 c2 31.♖b2 ♗xb2 with a decisive advantage for Black.

29...♖xc4 30.♖e2 ♖ac8

Material balance has been restored, and Black's remaining positional trumps are quite decisive.

31.♗g2 ♖c2 32.♖xc2 ♖xc2 33.♗e3 ♖c3!



Mark Bluvshstein

Black secures g5 or f3 for the queen.

34.♗d2

Another logical conclusion is 34.♗e2 ♗g5+ 35.♗f1 ♖c1+ 36.♖xc1 ♗xc1+ 37.♗g2 b2.

34...♗f3+ 35.♗g1 ♖c2

Now on 36.♗e3 ♗xe3 37.fxe3 b2 Black has absolute control over the seventh rank. A nice tribute to Aaron Nimzovich and fellow Danish chess great Bent Larsen.

0-1.



Amanda Benggawan

Notes by

John MacPhail

**Moiseenko, Alexander
Castaneda, Nelson**

Guelph Pro Am-Int. (8), 2003

Queen's Gambit Orthodox D60

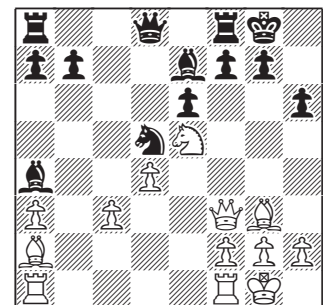
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♖f3 ♖f6 4.♖c3 ♖e7 5.♖g5 0-0 6.e3 ♖bd7 7.♖d3 h6 8.♖h4 c5 9.0-0 cxd4 10.exd4 dxc4 11.♖xc4 ♖b6 12.♖b3 ♖d7 13.♗d3 ♖fd5

Small ECO considers only 13...♖bd5 14.♖xd5 with an edge to White.

14.♖g3 ♖b4 15.♗e2 ♖c6 16.a3 ♖d4d5 17.♖e5 ♖xc3 18.bxc3 ♖a4 19.♖a2 ♖d5

Perhaps 19...♖c8!?

20.♗f3



White now threatens 31.c4 followed by 32.♗xb7 and it's not so clear how Black should respond. Perhaps the most natural move is 20...b6 while moving the bishop to f6 or g5, and even the more active and therefore risky 20...♗a5 look like reasonable alternatives.

20... ♖a5

An interesting position. If White goes ahead and wins a pawn with the line suggested in the previous note, then Black would like to counter with ... ♖e2+ and ... ♖xd4. The possibility exists that some unforeseen tactic will embarrass one or both of Black's bishops, but White has also weakened his center and moved the queen offside. So what to do?

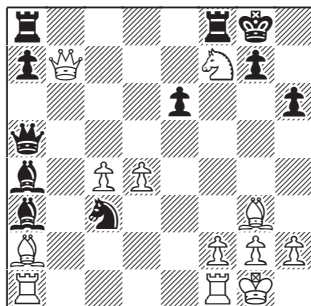
For the moment Black loses material if he tries ... ♖xc3 or ... ♖xa3 while ... ♖xc3 allows ♖xb7. Therefore, quite conceivably, White should take a moment and first improve the position of his king's rook. It is, however, not at all clear if 21. ♖fe1 is any better than 21. ♖fb1 while 21. ♖fc1 puts the rook on a square that is under attack when Black takes on a3 with the bishop. Moiseenko, in the end, goes for the forcing continuation!

21.c4

Crafty considers the alternatives 21. ♖fb1 b6 22. ♖b3 ♖ac8 23.c4 ♖f6 24. ♖h4 ♖fd8 25. ♖e3 ♖e8 26. ♖xf6 ♖xf6 27. ♖e1 ♖xe5 28.dxe5; or 21. ♖fe1 ♖ac8 22. ♖xd5 exd5 23. ♖c6 ♖xc6 24. ♖xe7 ♖xc3 25. ♖g4 ♖e8

26. ♖xb7 ♖c2; and finally 21. ♖fc1 ♖ac8 22.c4 ♖g5 23. ♖cb1 ♖c3 24. ♖b4 ♖xa2 25. ♖xa2 ♖e7 26.c5 b6 as slightly better for White.

21... ♖c3 22. ♖xb7 ♖xa3 23. ♖xf7



So far everything is forced, but now Nelson goes astray very quickly?!

23... ♖b6 24. ♖f3 ♖xd4 25. ♖e5 ♖xe5 26. ♖xe5 ♖xf3 27. ♖xf3 ♖b2 28. ♖ae1 ♖c2 29. ♖xe6 a5 30. ♖b6 ♖a3 31. ♖a1 ♖d8 32.h4 ♖d1+ 33. ♖xd1 ♖xd1 34. ♖b3 a4 35. ♖xd1 ♖xd1 36. ♖a6 ♖c3 37. ♖e5 ♖f8 38. ♖d7+ 1-0.

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Across Canada



Canada

Ukrainian IM Alexey Maly Visits Canada

My visit to Canada was prompted by my participation in the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program, which provides a unique opportunity for undergraduate students to work as interns in the Canadian House of Commons in Ottawa for two months. Chess, however, also figured prominently on my calendar, and with the assistance of Neil James Frarey I was able to take part in three events. First came the Eastern Ontario Open in Ottawa, a short event with only five rounds organized by Mr. Holmes. The winner was decided in the following game from the last round.

Notes by
Alexey Maly

Maly, Alexey
Al Rayyan, Mohammad
Ottawa op (5), 2003
Slav D46

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.e3 ♟f6 4.♙d3 e6

The strongest move in this position is 4...e5.

5.♟f3 ♟bd7 6.0-0 ♙e7

Probably no better than 6...♙d6.

7.♟bd2

This is a decent alternative to the usual 7.♟c3.

7...0-0 8.e4 dxe4 9.♟xe4 ♟xe4

My previous experience in this position wasn't too successful viz. 9...b6 10.♙f4 ♙b7 11.♟xf6+ ♟xf6 12.♙e2 c5 13.dxc5 bxc5 14.♙ad1 ♙b6 15.♙e5 ♙ad8 16.♙d2 ♙a8 17.♙fd1 ♙d4 18.♙g5 ♙fd8 19.♙xf6 ♟xf6 20.♙xh7+ ♟xh7 21.♙xd4 ♙xd4 22.♙xd4 cxd4 23.♙h5+ ♟g8 24.♙xf7+ 1/2-1/2 Maly-Ermolaev,

Kharkov Kaissa 2003. Black should prefer this to the text.

10.♙xe4 c5?!

Better is 10...♟f6.

11.♙c2 cxd4 12.♙xd4 ♟c5

Black also failed to solve all of his problems after 12...♙f6 13.♙e4 g6 14.♙b1 ♙a5 15.a3 ♙e5 16.b4 ♙c7 17.c5 ♙d7 18.♙d4 ♙c6 19.♙xc6 ♟xc6 20.♙e3 in the game Van Herman-Krueger, Hamburg, 1993.

13.♙g4!N

The queen exchange 13.♙d1 ♙xd4 14.♙xd4 e5 15.♙b5 ♙e6 16.b3 ♙fd8 17.♙e3 did not give White much in Zilberman-Hansen, Oberwart 1998; but better than the text is 13.♙e5! b6 14.♙h5 g6 15.♙h6 ♙b7 16.♙g5 ♙xg5 17.♙xg5 ♙d4 18.b3 with a comfortable edge.

13...f5?!

Black should go for 13...e5 and resolve his problems with the development of ♙/c8 after 14.♙h5 e4 15.♙g5 ♙f5 16.♙d1 ♙b6 17.b3.

14.♙g3 ♙e8 15.♙g5?!

Better looks 15.♙f4 b6 16.♙e5 ♙f7 17.♙ad1 ♙b7 18.b4 ♙e4 19.bxc5 ♙xc2 20.♙d7 with a small advantage.

15...♙xg5 16.♙xg5 e5 17.♙e3 ♟d7?

After this Black's position becomes very difficult. His last chance is 17...e4!? 18.♙xc5 exf3 19.♙fe1 ♙g6 20.♙d5+ ♙f7 21.♙xf7+ ♙xf7 22.gxf3 and White is not really much better.

18.♙ad1 e4 19.♟d4 a6

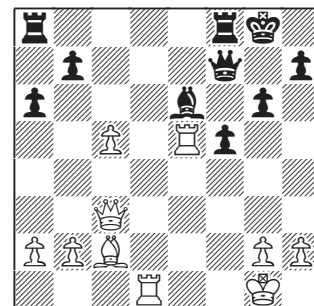
Black is in trouble on the clock. To be preferred is 19...♙e5 20.f3 ♟f6 21.c5 ♟h8 22.♙c3 ♙e6 23.♙xe6 ♙e6 24.fxe4.

20.f3 exf3 21.♙xf3 g6 22.♙fe1 ♙f7 23.c5! ♟h8

A better try is 23...♙f6 24.♙b3+ ♟h8 25.♙e6 but again with a clear White advantage.

24.♙e6 ♙e5 25.♙xe5 ♙xe6 26.♙c3 ♟g8?

A big mistake of course, but after 26...♙xa2 27.♙a1 ♙c4 28.♙xa2 White is also much better.



27.♙xe6 1-0.

Next came an event held in beautiful Brantford, not far from Toronto. My thanks to Mr. Hallon for organizing the tournament, and to Mr. Handon for his assistance with my accommodation. Five consecutive wins were required to take first place, with the most difficult coming in round three against a very resourceful opponent.

Notes by
Alexey Maly

Maly, Alexey
Roetteler, Martin
Brantford op (3), 2003
King's Indian: Classical E98

1.d4 ♟f6 2.c4 g6 3.♟c3 ♙g7 4.e4 d6 5.♟f3 0-0 6.♙e2 e5 7.0-0 ♟c6 8.d5 ♟e7 9.♟e1 ♟e8 10.♙e3 f5 11.f3 ♟h8 12.a4 ♟g8 13.a5 ♙h6 14.♙f2 ♟gf6 15.♟d3 f4?N

A novelty, but not a good one?! Black has just about solved the problem of his dark squared bishop, and now voluntarily shuts it in again. Better is 15...♙h5 16.c5 ♟ef6 17.b4 a6 18.♙b2 ♟f4 19.♟c4 ♙e7 20.♟h1 ♙d7 21.cxd6 cxd6 22.♙b6 ♙ad8 with equality in Gelfand-Polgar, Dos Hermanas 1996.

16.c5 g5 17.cxd6 cxd6 18.a6 b6 19.♟b4 ♙g8 20.♟c6 ♙d7 21.♟b5 g4 22.♟bxa7?!

White has built up an excellent position, and now decides to force the play. As it turns out, however, it is necessary to first protect my king with something like 22.♙c2 g3 23.♙e1 gxh2+ (or 23...♙f7 24.h3 ♙h5 25.♙d3 ♙xh3 26.gxh3 g2 27.♙f2) 24.♟xh2 ♙h5 25.♙h1 ♟g3 26.♙xg3

fxg3+ 27.♔g1 ♕f4 28.♙d3 ♖f6
29.♗e2 and White keeps a small
advantage.

**22...♞xa7 23.♜xa7 ♜xa7 24.♗b3
g3**

There is also the very interesting
possibility 24...gxf3 when I do not see
anything better for White than
25.♙xb6 ♞xg2+ 26.♗h1 ♜g4 27.♙xa7
♞xh2+ 28.♗h1 ♞g2+ with perpetual
check. Also possible, of course, is
24...♜d7 25.♗c4 gxf3 26.♙xf3 ♜c7
27.b4 ♜xa6 28.♙e2 f3 29.♙xf3 when
White is a little better.

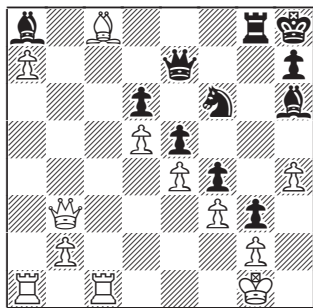
25.♙xb6 ♜f7?

Missing an opportunity to try for
25...gxf3+ 26.♗h1 (26.♗xh2 ♜g7
27.♞f2 ♜g3+ 28.♗g1 ♜g4) 26...♜g7
27.♞f2 ♜h5 (27...♜c7 28.♗b4 ♜a8
29.♙xd6 ♜xb6 30.♙xb6 (but there is
also 28.g4 fxg3 29.♞g2 when White
has some chances in a dangerous
looking position) 30...♙g5 31.♙c4
♙h4 is equal) 28.♗c2 ♜g3+ 29.♗xh2
♙d7 30.♗g1 ♜g5 and Black wins!

26.h4! ♜c7 27.♙xc7??

Zeitnot on both sides! White does not
see that 27.♞fc1! ♜a8 28.♗f1 ♞e8
29.♙g1 ♙f8 30.♗c3 ♙d7 31.b4 leads
to an advantage.

**27...♜xc7 28.a7 ♙b7 29.♞fc1 ♜e7
30.♙a6 ♙a8 31.♙c8**



White already looks forward to an
easy win after ♙h3 but now my
ingenious opponent comes up with a
very interesting tactical resource!

31...♜xe4! 32.fxe4 f3 33.♞c4

The extra pawn after 33.♜xf3 ♙xc1
34.♞xc1 ♜xa7+ 35.♗f1 ♜g7 36.♙f5
♞f8 37.b4 ♞b8 38.♗c3 is not so easy
to realize for White.

33...♜xh4 34.♙h3 fxg2

After 34...f2+ 35.♗f1 (but not 35.♗h1
♜xh3+! 36.gxh3 g2+ 37.♗h2 g1♗+
38.♞xg1 fxg1♗#) White is winning.

35.♜xg2 ♞f8

After White's reply Black no longer
has any chances!

36.♜xg3!! ♞g8 37.♞a3!

Now all of White's pieces suddenly
converge on the opposing king. The
rest is pretty simple.

**37... ♞xg3+ 38.♞xg3 ♙g5 39.♞g4
♜e1 40.♞c8+ ♜g7 41.♞xa8 ♜h6
42.♞xg5 ♜d2+ 43.♜h1 ♜xg5
44.♞f8 ♜c1+ 45.♙f1 ♜e3 46.a8♜
1-0.**

My third and final competition took
place in Montreal due to an
unexpected invitation from Mr.
Roussel, and help once again with
accommodations from Mr. Langoua.
Much stronger opposition this time,
with an average rating of 2304 in a
FIDE category 3 event. Californian
David Pruess had a terrific 8.5/9 result
for first place and a well deserved IM
norm, while I finished back at 6/9 in a
share for second place with Michael
Schleifer.

Notes by **Alexey Maly**

**Voskanyan, Vahagn
Maly, Alexey**

Montreal PQ ch (3), 2003

Caro Kann: Classical B19

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.♜c3

Another game from the same event
did not turn out well for me after
3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 ♖f6 5.♜c3 e6 6.♜f3
♙e7 7.cxd5 ♜xd5 8.♙d3 ♜c6 9.0-0 0-0
10.a3 ♖f6 11.♙c2 b6 12.♜d3 ♙b7
13.♞e1 g6 14.♙h6 ♞e8 15.♞ad1 ♞c8
16.♜g5!N ♜g4?? 17.♜xf7 ♜xf7
18.♜f3+ ♖f6 19.♙b3 ♙d6 20.d5! ♜a5
21.dxe6+ ♜e7 22.♜d5+ ♙xd5
23.♙xd5 ♞f8 24.b4 with a winning
advantage for my opponent in
Pruess-Maly, Montreal PQ ch 2003.

**3...dxe4 4.♜xe4 ♙f5 5.♜g3 ♙g6
6.♜f3 ♜d7 7.h4 h6 8.h5 ♙h7
9.♙d3 ♙xd3 10.♜xd3 ♜gf6
11.♙d2 e6 12.0-0-0 ♙e7 13.♜e2**

This idea does not work out well for
White. Much better is 13.c4 b5!
14.cxb5 cxb5 15.♜xb5 ♞b8 with an
unclear position.

13...0-0 14.♜e5

In Tiviakov-Magem, Buenos Aires
1996, White demonstrated another
plan with 14.♞he1 c5 15.♜f5 cxd4!
16.♜3xd4 (Black is also better after
16.♜xe7+ ♜xe7 17.♜xd4 ♞fc8!)

16...♙c5 17.♜xh6!? (17.♜xe6?!)
17...gxh6 18.♙xh6 ♞e8 19.♜f3 ♙f8
20.♙g5 ♞c8 21.♜b1 ♞c5 22.♙h4
♞xh5?! (22...♙g7!). It seems to me
that Black has no problems in these
positions.

14...c5 15.♜xd7

Another possibility is 15.dxc5 ♙xc5
16.♜xd7 ♜xd7 17.♙xh6 ♜a4 with
unclear play.

15...♜xd7 16.dxc5 ♜a4

In Berezovich-Izoria, Moscow 2000,
Black was better after 16...♜d5
17.♜b1 ♜xc5 18.♙c3 ♜c6 19.f3 ♜d5
20.♙d4 b5 21.♜e4 ♞fd8 22.♜c3 b4
23.♜xd5 ♞xd5 24.g4 ♞ad8.

17.♜b1 ♙xc5

Or 17...♞fc8.

18.c4!N

The main idea behind this new move
is to control d5.

18...b5!?

This may not be the strongest reply,
but it makes sense to counter
immediately on the queenside.

**19.♞h4 ♞fd8 20.♞c1 ♞ab8 21.♙c3
♙e7 22.♜e4 ♜xe4 23.♞xe4 b4
24.♙e5 b3 25.axb3**

Better is 25.a3 ♞b7 26.♞g4 f6 27.♙c3
e5 with an edge to White.

25...♞xb3 26.♞g4 f6 27.♙c7

In time trouble White now forces the
play. The calm alternative 27.♙c3 still
gives him a small edge.

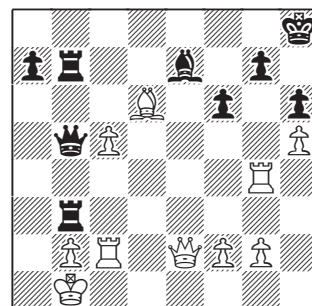
27...♙d7 28.c5 ♜c6?

Afterwards it became clear to me that
28...♜b5! 29.♜xb5 ♞xb5 30.♙d6
♙xd6 31.cxd6 ♞d5 is much stronger.

29.♙d6 ♞db7 30.♜xe6+

White is better after 30.♞c2.

30...♜h8 31.♞c2 ♜b5 32.♜e2??



But this final mistake costs White the
game. Vahagn has to force the draw
with 32.♜c8+ ♜h7 (since 32...♙d8
33.♜xd8+ ♜h7 34.♙e5 fxe5 35.♜d2

♖f1+ 36.♗c1 [36.♗a2?? ♖a3!!] is better for White) 33.♗f5+. The remainder does not require comment.

32...♖xb2+ 33.♖xb2 ♗xe2
34.♖xb7 ♕xd6 35.cxd6 ♗xg4
36.d7 ♗d1+ 37.♗b2 ♗h7 38.♖xa7
♗d4+ 39.♗b3 ♗d5+ 40.♗b4 ♗g8
41.g4 ♗f8 0-1.

Playing chess in Canada was a pleasure. I met very interesting people and, of course, received some pocket money! Hopefully I will be able to return very soon for another chess vacation.

Rep: Alexey Maly



BC

British Columbia

Vancouver BC Open

After a year's absence the BC Open returned with a vengeance, attracting a total of 73 players for the largest turnout in many years! It's not entirely clear why so many players decided to come out this time, though perhaps the promotional efforts of Peter Stockhausen had something to do with it. The event started at the Vancouver Bridge Centre, but due to a double booking was moved to the Croatian Community Centre for the final two days. The players managed to ignore a bit of noise from several other groups in the building, but our thanks are nevertheless due to Robert Topic for making this facility available at such short notice!

20-year-old IM-elect **Jiri Jirka** is this year's British Columbia Open Champion. Jiri has already won numerous youth events in his native Czech Republic, and is currently in Victoria for a month visiting family friends. Jirka won the tournament in convincing style with five wins, followed by a last round draw to secure top spot. FM Jack Yoos, Fanhao Meng and Nigel Fullbrook tied for second with 4.5/6, while **Jesse Bouvier** also scored 4.5/6 to secure the U2100 prize and free entry into the BC Closed Championship later this year. Yamei Wang scored 4/6 with

wins over Gerry Neufahrt and Joe Oszvald for second place in the U2100. Meanwhile **Curtis Lister**, **Tony Verma**, **Evgeni Goutor**, **Ernie Krzyzowski** and **Andrey Kostin** split the U1900 prize money.

In the U1800 Section **Sumon Chai Phonchiangkong** led by 1.5 points after five rounds and could afford to lose his last round game. Petr Labik, Richard Reid and William Jung tied for second place, while **Tiffany Tang** claimed the U1600 prize ahead of James Taylor, Rodolfo Planas, Jamie Harper, Lesley Cheng and Vlad Gaciu. Meanwhile **Lo-Ching Chow** took home the U1400 money ahead of Alvin Chi.

Notable particularly in the U1800 Section were the strong performances by several junior players, many of whom are successfully making the transition from junior tournaments to much larger Open events with longer time controls. This bodes well for the future of BC chess, even if the young upstarts are causing discomfort for their elders. As one veteran player ruefully put it, "these juniors just don't hang pieces any more!"

Org: Katherine Davies;
TD/Rep: Stephen Wright



AB

Alberta

Calgary Chess Club Summer Active #2

Held at the new club venue at the Days Inn on 16th Avenue, the event drew ten players who watched **Julia Kerr** take first place with a perfect 5/5 score. Janna Poliakov, Tom McKay and Roy Yearwood tied for second a full two points behind at 3/5. The event was made more interesting by several surprise upsets, including the following encounter between the eventual winner and her much higher rated opponent.

Notes by
Julia Kerr
Kerr, Julia
Chrumka, Jeff
Calgary active (4), 2003
Dutch: Stonewall A90

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.♖c3 ♖f6 4.g3 d5
5.♕g2 c6 6.♖h3 ♕d6 7.♕f4

Another possibility is 7.c5 ♕e7 8.♕f4 b6 9.♗a4 bxc5 10.dxc5 ♖h5 11.b4 ♖xf4 12.♖xf4 also with an advantage for White.

7...0-0 8.♕xd6 ♗xd6

Black should not let his opponent exchange dark squared bishops.

9.c5

This idea is quite common in games at the Master level.

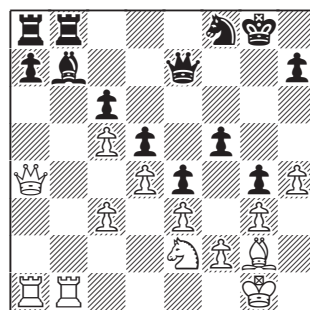
9...♗e7 10.♖f4 ♖e4 11.♖d3 ♖xc3
12.bxc3

Later on White can play for the advance c4 so the doubling of c/pawns is not a problem.

12...♖d7 13.e3 e5 14.♗b3 e4
15.♖f4 g5 16.♖e2 b5 17.h4 g4
18.a4 bxa4 19.♗xa4 ♕b7

Black's remaining bishop has a hard time finding suitable work, given that the pawn structure reduces it to little more than an oversized pawn.

20.0-0 ♖fb8 21.♖fb1 ♖f8



22.♖f4

White's decision to trade knights is correct, since Black is left with a very poor bishop.

22...♖e6 23.♖xe6 ♗xe6 24.♕f1
♗c8 25.♗a2

White prepares the decisive breakthrough c4 which results in a very strong passed pawn on the c/file.

25...♗g7 26.c4 ♗e6 27.cxd5 cxd5
28.♗a5 a6 29.♗c7+ ♗f7 30.♗e5+
♗f8

A better try is 30...♖f6 as White now wins a piece for nothing.

31.c6 1-0.

TD: Alexandre Rodioukov;
Rep: Justin Snelling



Ontario

St.Catharines Is It Summer Yet Active

This end of July event found **Jura Ochkoos** and Grimsby's **Frank Pushkedra** in a share for first, while Peter Bos and John Erickson split the U2000 prize money. Elsewhere Ivan Kudelka and Greg Barrett shared top spot in the U1700 Section.

TD/Org/Rep: Keith Wight

Barrie 2 in 1 Active #1-2

In the first of our two Active events **Albert Runstudler** finished in front of Istvan Kiss in the Open Section, while **Adrian Wood** took the U1600 Section. Meanwhile 10-year-old **Melissa Darbyson** of North Bay won the U1200 Section. In the second event, **Tom Carleton** took first in the Open Section, followed by Allan Courtney in second place. A special thanks to the Kitchener people for supporting our first venture after twelve years.

Rep: Bryan Wood



Newfoundland

St.John's Newfoundland Open

This year Grant Spraggett was the surprise entry in our traditional Labour Day event at the University, but also notable was the play of 10-year-old Aman Hambleton, who earned a MVP award at this year's National Chess

Challenge in Montreal. Edwin Tsui defended well against Spraggett but finally lost on time, while Andrew Smith held Grant to a well played draw. This left **Grant Spraggett** in clear first with 4.5/5, followed by Andrew Smith, Edwin Tsui and Aman Hambleton tied for second with 3.5/5.

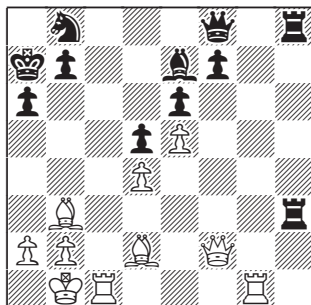
Notes by Alick Tsui

Tsui, Edwin
Spraggett, Grant

St.John's NF op (3), 2003

Pirc B06

1.e4 g6 2.d4 ♟f6 3.♟c3 d5 4.e5
♟h5 5.♟f3 ♟g4 6.♟e2 c6 7.h3
♟xf3 8.♟xf3 ♟g7 9.♟f4 ♟d7
10.♟e2 e6 11.♟d1 h5 12.g4 ♟e7
13.♟e3 a6 14.♟g1 g5 15.♟h2 hxg4
16.♟xg4 ♟f5 17.c3 ♟xh3 18.0-0-0
♟a5 19.♟b1 0-0-0 20.♟g3 ♟dh8
21.♟e3 ♟xe3 22.♟xe3 ♟b8
23.♟g4 ♟3h7 24.f4 gxf4 25.♟xf4
c5 26.♟f5 ♟h5 27.♟c2 cxd4
28.cxd4 ♟h3 29.♟f2 ♟d8 30.♟d2
♟f8 31.♟b3 ♟a7 32.♟c1 ♟b8?



33.♟c7 ♟c6 34.♟c1 ♟b6
35.♟7xc6+ bxc6 36.♟a4 ♟h1
37.♟e1 ♟8h7 38.♟e3 c5 39.♟c3
♟a7 40.dxc5 ♟xc5 41.a3?!

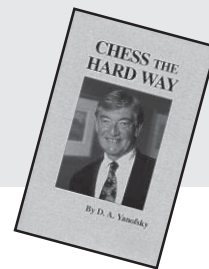
White has put up a tenacious defense so far, but in time trouble now misses the much better 41.♟f2 ♟xc1+ 42.♟xc1 ♟c8 43.♟xc5+ ♟b7 44.b4 ♟h4 45.♟d2 ♟c4 46.♟b2.

41...♟b6 42.♟a1 ♟b8 43.♟d7

And White shortly lost on time. The position, in any case, is quite lost.

0-1.

Rep: Alick Tsui



Chess The Hard Way

by D. A. Yanofsky

Diagrams: 354 Pages: 236

Catalogue #: 3449

Members Price: \$19.95

Non-Members Price: \$21.95

Chess the Hard Way is about the life and times of a great Canadian Grandmaster. This selection of 129 games gives the reader a picture of the fighting chess he always championed throughout his career. Abe Yanofsky was a child prodigy, Canada's first Grandmaster and the most important Canadian chess personality of the 20th Century. In 1939 he was discovered by the chess world when, at fourteen, he played second board for the Canadian team at the Chess Olympiad in Buenos Aires. He was the youngest player at the event and he achieved a score of 85 per cent. Abe Yanofsky went on to win many tournaments, including a win over the World Champion Mikhail Botvinnik at Groningen in 1946. He was Canadian Champion eight times and British Champion once. In his professional career, Abe Yanofsky was a distinguished lawyer and a Queen's Counsel. He received the Order of Canada for his contributions to chess.

Top Rating Lists

These lists include current members that have been rated in a CFC event within the last twelve months

Top Canadians

1. Lesiege, Alexandre	QC	2565
2. Tyomkin, Dimitri	ON	2534
3. Zugic, Igor	ON	2514
4. Charbonneau, Pascal	QC	2502
5. Teplitsky, Yan	ON	2484
6. Hergott, Deen	ON	2475
7. O'Donnell, Tom	ON	2462
8. Bluvshstein, Mark	ON	2458
9. Hebert, Jean	QC	2455
10. Nickoloff, Bryon	ON	2450
11. Schulte, Oliver	BC	2435
12. Hamilton, Robert	ON	2433
13. Hartman, Brian	ON	2432
14. Quan, Zhe	ON	2430
15. Cummings, David	ON	2430
16. Yoos, John C.	BC	2425
17. Livshits, Ron	ON	2425
18. Glinert, Stephen	ON	2389
19. Findlay, Ian	ON	2383
20. Reeve, Jeff	AB	2382
21. Spraggett, Grant	NL	2372
22. Dougherty, Michael	ON	2366
23. Schleifer, Michael	QC	2362
24. Ross, David	QC	2350
25. Ochkoos, Jura	ON	2348
26. Roussel Roozmon, T	QC	2345
27. Mikanovic, Goran	QC	2341
28. Day, Lawrence	ON	2338
29. Berry, Jonathan	BC	2331
30. Milicevic, Goran	ON	2331
31. Vaingorten, Yaaqov	ON	2330
32. Ristovic, Nenad	AB	2328
33. Divljan, Igor	ON	2325
34. Duong, Thanh Nha	QC	2324
35. Krnan, Tomas	ON	2324
36. MacPhail, John	ON	2319
37. Al Rayyan, Mohammad	ON	2318
38. Gansvind, Valeriya	BC	2316
39. Neven, Knut	AB	2305
40. Filipovich, David	ON	2302
41. Tipu, Vincentiu	ON	2302
42. Pushkedra, Frank	ON	2300
43. Saleh, Maher	ON	2300
44. Moffat, Andrei	ON	2295
45. Howarth, Anthony	PE	2293
46. Vlaovic, George	MB	2292
47. Pacey, Kevin	ON	2290
48. Valdizon, Armando	ON	2285
49. Kiviaho, Robert	ON	2285
50. Stevens, Christian	ON	2285
51. Scoones, Dan	BC	2284
52. Huber, Gregory	AB	2283
53. Barclay, Wayne	ON	2278
54. Lipnowski, Irwin	MB	2276
55. Morin, Glenn	BC	2276
56. Djerkovic, Miladin	ON	2276
57. Bailey, Doug	ON	2273
58. Zendrowski, Jay	ON	2269
59. Garcia, Alvaro	ON	2268
60. Aronov, Yuri	ON	2265

Top FIDE

1. Lesiege, Alexandre	QC	2535
2. Spraggett, Kevin	ON	2530

3. Tyomkin, Dimitri	ON	2471
4. Teplitsky, Yan	ON	2467
5. Zugic, Igor	ON	2455
6. Bluvshstein, Mark	ON	2447
7. Charbonneau, Pascal	QC	2442
8. Ivanov, Igor	QC	2438
9. Linskiy, Oleg	QC	2424
10. Hebert, Jean	QC	2422
11. Suttles, Duncan	BC	2420
12. Pelts, Roman	ON	2417
13. Nickoloff, Bryon	ON	2413
14. Hartman, Brian	ON	2405
15. Schulte, Oliver	BC	2397
16. Hergott, Deen	ON	2385
17. Cummings, David	ON	2377
18. Yoos, John C.	BC	2370
19. O'Donnell, Tom	ON	2367
20. MacPhail, John	ON	2365
21. Glinert, Stephen	ON	2362
22. Schleifer, Michael	QC	2356
23. Amos, Bruce	ON	2355
24. Milicevic, Goran	ON	2348
25. Livshits, Ron	ON	2344
26. Piasetski, Leon	BC	2337
27. Harper, Bruce	BC	2336
28. Spraggett, Grant	NL	2335
29. Coudari, Camille	QC	2325
30. Findlay, Ian	ON	2325

Top Women

1. Gansvind, Valeriya	BC	2316
2. Charbonneau, Anne Marie	QC	2061
3. Benggawan, Amanda	ON	2029
4. Mongeau, Diane	QC	2029
5. Kagramanov, Dina	ON	2028
6. Khaziyeva, Dinara	QC	2015
7. Wang, Yamei	BC	1967
8. Smith, Hazel	ON	1959
9. Goutor, Valentina	BC	1958
10. Sviridovitch, Alina	ON	1955

Top 19&20

1. Charbonneau, Pascal	20	QC	2502
2. Glinert, Stephen	19	ON	2389
3. Raheb, David	20	ON	2258
4. Lawson, Eric	19	QC	2255
5. Tang, Charlie	19	ON	2231
6. Masse, Hugues	20	QC	2214
7. Rolfe, Warrick	19	ON	2199
8. Henson, Joshua	20	MB	2154
9. Bachand Fleurent, J	19	QC	2125
10. Tang, Edward	19	BC	1984

Top 17&18

1. Divljan, Igor	17	ON	2325
2. Kapadia, Ronak	18	NB	2174
3. Cai, Allan	18	ON	2174
4. Ng, Gary	17	NS	2099
5. Charbonneau, Anne	18	QC	2061
6. Benggawan, Amanda	17	ON	2029
7. Kagramanov, Dina	17	ON	2028
8. Khaziyeva, Dinara	17	QC	2015
9. Henry, Liam	17	ON	2009
10. Wang, Yamei	17	BC	1967

Top 15&16

1. Bluvshstein, Mark	15	ON	2458
2. Roussel Roozmon, T	15	QC	2345
3. Krnan, Tomas	15	ON	2324
4. Stevens, Christian	16	ON	2285
5. Meng, Fanhao	15	BC	2256
6. Predescu, Sebastian	15	ON	2248
7. Buscar, Michael	16	ON	2113
8. Davies, Lucas	15	BC	2089
9. Ramaswamy, Kishor	15	QC	2024
10. Kazmaier, Daniel	15	AB	2020

Top 13&14

1. Quan, Zhe	13	ON	2430
2. Panjwani, Raja	13	ON	2166
3. Vincent, Trevor	13	MB	2052
4. Peng, David Yu	14	ON	1984
5. Goutor, Valentina	14	BC	1958
6. Vadachkoria, Irakli	13	ON	1926
7. Pauric, Allen	14	ON	1906
8. Jacobs, Chaim Akiva	13	ON	1825
9. Khayutin, Constantine	14	ON	1822
10. Dinca, Cornelia	14	AB	1777

Top 11&12

1. Noritsyn, Nikolay	12	ON	2209
2. Thavandiran, Shiyam	11	ON	2184
3. Smith, Hazel	12	ON	1959
4. Sviridovitch, Alina	11	ON	1955
5. Kaminski, Victor	12	AB	1937
6. Davies, Noam	12	BC	1903
7. Eshleman, Brandon	12	AB	1853
8. McDonald, Justin	12	ON	1818
9. Hambleton, Aman	11	NL	1737
10. Hier, David	12	ON	1722

Top 10&Under

1. Mai, Lloyd	10	ON	1703
2. Fan, Brendan	10	ON	1666
3. Yuan, Yuanling	9	ON	1609
4. Kraiouchkine, Nikita	8	QC	1577
5. Kaminski, Thomas	8	AB	1546
6. Martchenko, Alex	10	ON	1465
7. Szalay, Karoly	10	ON	1396
8. Kleinman, Michael	9	ON	1374
9. Raymer, Elliot	10	BC	1360
10. Gibson, Kevin	10	ON	1356

Top Active Ratings

1. Ross, David	QC	2443
2. Cummings, David	ON	2410
3. McTavish, David	ON	2358
4. Findlay, Ian	ON	2354
5. Bailey, Doug	ON	2343
6. Ochkoos, Jura	ON	2306
7. Bluvshstein, Mark	ON	2301
8. Pushkedra, Frank	ON	2299
9. Kiviaho, Robert	ON	2289
10. Reeve, Jeff	AB	2288
11. Jung, Hans	ON	2254
12. Valdizon, Armando	ON	2234
13. Devenport, Martin	ON	2233

Olympic Fund Update

Recent Donations

Mrs. Eve J. Prentice	\$900.00
D. O'Donnell	\$32.00
Steven Feldman	\$37.50
Louis Fournier	\$200.00
Vaclav Sladek	\$3.00
Charles Bowles	\$50.00
Roy Jones	\$15.00
Vaclav Sladek	\$3.00
James Cairns	\$150.00
N. J. Varmazis	\$60.00
Harry Weijs	\$20.00
Current Balance	\$1470.50

Every two years the Chess Federation of Canada sends our very best players to represent Canada at the Chess Olympiad. Among all of the national and international events funded by the CFC each and every year, this is the most prestigious and by far the most expensive. The Olympiad is frequently hosted in distant locales, and thus funding travel expenses for our teams represents a considerable burden for such a small organization.

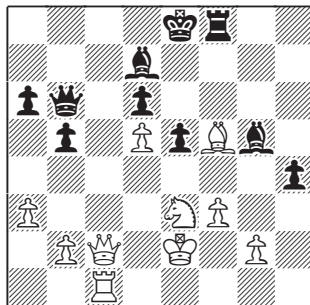
We can all be proud of our successes at the Olympiads, and we should also be grateful to those individuals who have lent their support by making a donation to our Olympic Fund. It is with your help that we are able to continue to fund our international participation and programs!

**Bluvshtein, Mark
Miton, Kamil**

Bled ol (12), 2002

Sicilian: Sveshnikov B44

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 cxd4
4.♘xd4 e5 5.♘b5 d6 6.♘1c3 a6
7.♘a3 b5 8.♘d5 ♘ge7 9.c4 ♘d4
10.♙e3 ♘xd5 11.cxd5 f5 12.♙d3
fxe4 13.♙xe4 ♘f5 14.♙d3 ♘xe3
15.♙xe3 ♙a5+ 16.♙e2 ♙e7
17.♙d3 g6 18.h4 ♙f8 19.h5 gxh5
20.♘c2 h4 21.♙xh7 ♙d7 22.a3
♙b6 23.♘e3 ♙c8 24.♙ac1 ♙c4
25.f3 ♙xc1 26.♙xc1 ♙d4 27.♙c2
♙b6 28.♙f5 ♙g5

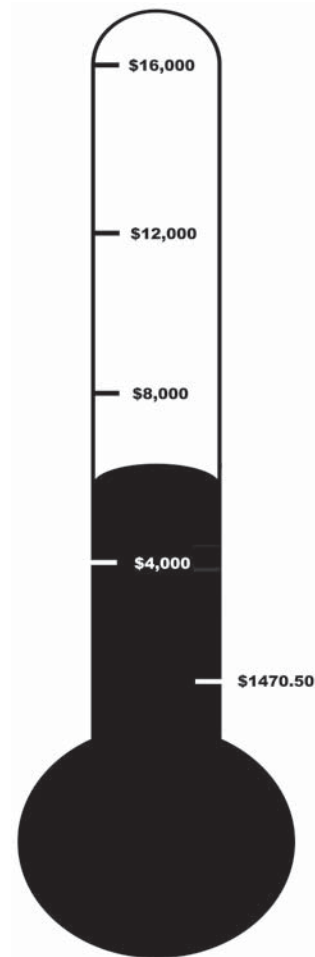


29.♙xd7+ ♙d8 30.♙c8+ ♙e7
31.♘f5+ ♙xf5 32.♙e8+ ♙f6
33.♙f8+ 1-0.



Please make cheques out to "The Chess Federation of Canada" and mail to 2212 Gladwin Cres E-1, Ottawa, ON, K1B 5N1, Canada.

Thank You!



Kapuskasing - 2003 Canadian Open

###	Player	ELO	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	##
Open Section													
1	Moiseenko, Alexander	2658	D35	W39	W12	W8	D2	D15	W4	W13	W5	D9	8
2	Wojtkiewicz, Alexander	2583	W19	W10	W13	W4	D1	W5	D15	D3	D12	D8	7=
3	Iljushin, Alexei	2593	W26	D14	D9	D5	D25	W56	W37	D2	D15	W12	7
4	Christiansen, Larry	2585	W27	W20	W15	L2	W6	D8	L1	D14	W56	W16	7
5	Arencibia, Walter	2562	W21	W31	D16	D3	W24	L2	W35	W7	L1	W15	7
6	Nataf, Igor	2589	W28	W18	D8	W16	L4	D7	D13	L12	W14	W20	6=
7	Kudrin, Sergey	2578	D20	W42	D14	D25	W41	D6	W11	L5	D24	W26	6=
8	Hauchard, Arnaud	2536	W92	W41	D6	L1	W10	D4	W24	D15	D9	D2	6=
9	Tyomkin, Dimitri	2530	W29	D0	D3	W55	D13	D35	D14	W31	D8	D1	6=
10	Porper, Eduard	2475	D32	L2	W21	W42	L8	W41	D20	W35	D11	W25	6=
11	Krnan, Tomas	2256	L15	L28	W36	W32	W17	W18	L7	W26	D10	W24	6=
12	Vera, Reynaldo	2549	D41	W54	L1	W30	D14	W68	D31	W6	D2	L3	6
13	Cramling, Pia	2528	W22	W34	L2	W52	D9	W25	D6	L1	D18	D27	6
14	Perelshteyn, Eugene	2520	W36	D3	D7	D24	D12	W16	D9	D4	L6	W30	6
15	Jonkman, Harmen	2464	W11	W35	L4	W29	W31	D1	D2	D8	D3	L5	6
16	Bellon Lopez, Juan	2463	W37	W50	D5	L6	D140	L14	W25	W32	W30	L4	6
17	Cummings, David	2458	L44	D22	L41	W60	L11	W34	W40	D20	W35	W29	6
18	Zatonskih, Anna	2463	W33	L6	W44	L31	W28	L11	D32	W41	D13	D19	5=
19	Fierro Baquero, Martha	2353	L2	D32	D48	D56	W21	L20	W43	W29	D27	D18	5=
20	Quan, Zhe	2343	D7	L4	W50	W57	L35	W19	D10	D17	W31	L6	5=
21	Meng, Fanhao	2328	L5	D48	L10	W76	L19	W116	W23	L22	W38	W32	5=
22	Wang, Hao Yuan	2275	L13	D17	L35	W65	W34	D26	L56	W21	D32	W31	5=
23	Panjwani, Raja	2207	L31	W65	D32	W78	L71	L24	L21	W34	W40	W35	5=
24	Patterson, Roger	2186	D69	W74	W43	D14	L5	W23	L8	W37	D7	L11	5=
25	Balbutin, Nelson	2151	D61	W99	W85	D7	D3	L13	L16	W59	W58	L10	5=
26	Ross, David	2385	L3	W66	D0	D73	D30	D22	W36	L11	W37	L7	5
27	Pogonina, Natalija	2380	L4	W36	W37	D28	D16	L31	W58	L30	D19	D13	5
28	Lobach, Pavel	2367	L6	W11	W34	D27	L18	L32	D41	L56	W44	W38	5
29	Predescu, Sebastian	2280	L9	W71	W56	L15	W23	L37	W39	L19	W36	L17	5
30	Lipnowski, Samuel	2107	L62	W89	W96	L12	D26	D59	W33	W27	L16	L14	5
31	Pira, Davoud	2438	W23	L5	W33	W18	L15	W27	D12	L9	L20	L22	4=
32	Stevens, Christian	2262	D10	D19	D23	L11	W44	W28	D18	L16	D22	L21	4=
33	Rolfe, Warrick	2237	L18	W49	L31	W39	L37	W71	L30	L36	D47	W0	4=
34	Demmery, Steve	2208	W0	L13	L28	D68	L22	L17	W44	L23	W43	W36	4=
35	Gersov, Evgeny	2392	D1	L15	W22	W59	W20	D9	L5	L10	L17	L23	4
36	Tang, Charlie	2270	L14	L27	L11	W70	W92	W75	L26	W33	L29	L34	4
37	Kret, Ted	2226	L16	W67	L27	W64	W33	W29	L3	L24	L26	L44	4
38	Barber, Glen	1816	L39	D106	L99	L90	W116	D72	W69	W44	L21	L28	4
39	Tot, Nandor	2091	W38	L1	W91	L33	W42	L55	L29	D54	L57	L0	3=
40	Wing, Richard	1813	L42	D108	L58	L89	W46	W44	L17	W77	L23	L0	3=
41	Lawson, Eric	2287	D12	L8	W17	W44	L7	L10	D28	L18	L0	L0	3
42	Palsson, Halldor	2106	W40	L7	W82	L10	L39	W111	L0	L0	L0	L0	3
43	Quiring, John	2005	W82	D87	L24	W84	D51	L54	L19	L53	L34	L57	3
44	Kleist, Frederick	2251	W17	D0	L18	L41	L32	L40	L34	L38	L28	W37	2=
45	Zivcak, Martin	0	W94	D79	L70	W92	L67	L0	L71	L0	L0	L0	2=
46	Amar, Oscar	1511	L0	D0	D0	W133	L40	L92	L0	L0	L0	L0	2
47	Graves, Charles	1961	D0	D0	L0	L0	L0	L0	L0	L0	D33	L0	1=
48	Ginsburg, Mark	2416	L50	D21	D19	L0	L0	L0	L0	L0	L0	L0	1
49	Cooke, Mathew	1975	W91	L33	L81	L124	L0	L0	L0	L0	L0	L0	1

Expert 2000-2199 Section

50	McTavish, David	2195	W48	L16	L20	W67	W75	W52	W54	D55	D51	D56	6=
51	Nahutin, Yevgeni	2062	W79	D62	L78	W93	D43	W58	D55	D52	D50	W59	6=
52	Krayushkin, Victor	2181	W84	D73	W87	L13	W53	L50	W57	D51	D55	D54	6
53	Kagramanov, Dina	2085	D74	W60	L73	W81	L52	L57	D59	W43	W110	W55	6
54	Ng, Gary	2087	W76	L12	D88	W62	D56	W43	L50	D39	D59	D52	5=
55	Rohanchuk, Ed	2074	W77	D0	W61	L9	D58	W39	D51	D50	D52	L53	5=
56	Davies, Lucas	2065	W96	W70	L29	D19	D54	L3	W22	W28	L4	D50	5=
57	Mayo, Alvah	2123	L73	W83	W138	L20	L68	W53	L52	L58	W39	W43	5
58	Palmer, Jordan	2018	D80	L61	W40	W77	D55	L51	L27	W57	L25	W0	5
59	Egorov, Mikhail	2111	L70	W90	W80	L35	W71	D30	D53	L25	D54	L51	4=

A 1800-1999 Section

60	Wong, Wylon	1812	D0	D0	W107	L17	W65	W67	W70	D61	D62	W66	7
61	Morabito, Matthew	1882	D25	W58	L55	W126	D74	W66	W73	D60	L65	W68	6=
62	Goutor, Valentina	1830	W30	D51	D0	L54	D69	W76	D68	W63	D60	W65	6=
63	Robinson, Kenneth	1990	D0	D0	L93	W125	L70	W69	W64	L62	W72	W71	6
64	Davies, Noam	1901	D81	D0	W111	L37	W72	D73	L63	W71	D74	W70	6
65	Lane, Travis	1890	W98	L23	W108	L22	L60	W77	W74	W73	W61	L62	6
66	Henry, Liam	1985	W93	L26	W92	W102	L73	L61	D67	W75	W70	L60	5=
67	Smith, Andrew	1918	W88	L37	W106	L50	W45	L60	D66	L72	W76	W0	5=
68	Wang, Yamei	1905	L87	W112	W110	D34	W57	L12	D62	L70	W73	L61	5
69	Tsui, Edwin	1883	D24	L85	L74	W106	D62	L63	L38	W140	W77	W73	5

70	Shahi, Bahram	1841	W59	L56	W45	L36	W63	W74	L60	W68	L66	L64	5
71	Puiras, Jarmo	1943	W86	L29	D0	W95	L59	L33	W45	L64	W75	L63	4=
72	Solis, Jaime	1883	D0	D81	L102	W97	L64	D38	D76	W67	L63	D77	4=
73	Smith, Hazel	1849	W57	D52	W53	D26	W66	D64	L61	L65	L68	L69	4=
74	Whissell, Mavros	1812	D53	L24	W69	W105	D61	L70	L65	W76	D64	L0	4=
75	O'Connor, Michael	1982	D85	D80	D86	W99	L50	L36	W77	L66	L71	D76	4
76	Keep, Richard	1812	L54	W101	W134	L21	D77	L62	D72	L74	L67	D75	3=
77	Faust, Steven	1804	L55	W118	W129	L58	D76	L65	L75	L40	L69	D72	3
B 1600-1799 Section													
78	Abi Ayad, Zohayr	1664	D0	W114	W51	L23	W96	D86	W81	W90	W79	D84	7=
79	Goutor, Evgeni	1772	L51	D45	D0	W118	W95	W82	W90	W86	L78	D80	6=
80	Ede, Albert	1771	D58	D75	L59	W110	W94	L81	W83	W85	W86	D79	6=
81	Panjwani, Dilip	1705	D64	D72	W49	L53	W83	W80	L78	W87	D84	W88	6=
82	McKay, Brian	1760	L43	W117	L42	W111	W91	L79	L84	W95	W94	W89	6
83	MacLeod, Neil	1673	W120	L57	L84	W134	L81	W91	L80	W93	W97	W87	6
84	Smith, Maurice	1797	L52	D102	W83	L43	D0	W96	W82	D88	D81	D78	5=
85	Nurmi, Kari	1735	D75	W69	L25	L113	W110	D89	W93	L80	L87	W91	5
86	Tripp, Mark	1718	L71	W124	D75	W101	W89	D78	D87	L79	L80	D90	5
87	Uuetoa, Harold	1716	W68	D43	L52	W104	L90	W99	D86	L81	W85	L83	5
88	Lawson, Jonathan	1708	L67	W123	D54	D117	L93	W95	W89	D84	D91	L81	5
89	Livingston, Alex	1634	W139	L30	D116	W40	L86	D85	L88	W98	W90	L82	5
90	Juma, Sadiq	1628	W140	L59	D115	W38	W87	W93	L79	L78	L89	D86	5
91	Mattson, Marv	1724	L49	W116	L39	W138	L82	L83	W99	W92	D88	L85	4=
92	Zimninski, Nick	1709	L8	W126	L66	L45	L36	W46	W97	L91	D95	W119	4=
93	Dinca, Cornelia	1766	L66	W137	W63	L51	W88	L90	L85	L83	D96	D94	4
94	Thomas, Mario	1657	L45	W132	L104	D116	L80	L97	W98	W96	L82	D93	4
95	Sadeghi Aval, Pouya	1611	W132	D0	D0	L71	L79	L88	W96	L82	D92	D98	4
96	Rivas, Edgar	1780	L56	W104	L30	W115	L78	L84	L95	L94	D93	W97	3=
97	Jones, Avery	1606	D0	D115	D118	L72	L99	W94	L92	W100	L83	L96	3=
98	Katainen, Ernest	1694	L65	L138	L114	W107	L111	D110	L94	L89	W100	D95	3
99	Davidian, David	1767	D0	L25	W38	L75	W97	L87	L91	L0	L0	L0	2=
100	Harder, Nancy	1642	L117	L125	L133	L136	L120	W139	L110	L97	L98	L112	1
C 1400-1599 Section													
101	Yuan, Yuanling	1535	W130	L76	W123	L86	W104	W106	W117	W105	W102	D103	7=
102	Kraiouchkine, Nikita	1518	W131	D84	W72	L66	D113	L117	W115	W106	L101	W104	6
103	Mattson, Dane	1482	D114	L111	L122	W130	L106	W119	W109	W108	W113	D101	6
104	White, Chris	1456	W128	L96	W94	L87	L101	W121	W113	W117	W105	L102	6
105	Hawley, Robert	1554	L126	W130	W137	L74	W114	W113	W108	L101	L104	D109	5=
106	Deimert, Elroy	1599	W133	D38	L67	L69	W103	L101	W121	L102	W117	D108	5
107	Kathiramalainathan, K	1593	L134	W136	L60	L98	D0	L118	D0	W119	W116	W113	5
108	Newman, Eric	1554	W127	D40	L65	L122	W118	W109	L105	L103	W111	D106	5
109	Bush, David	1539	L123	W131	L124	W127	D115	L108	L103	W120	W112	D105	5
110	Kleist, Carol	1590	W125	D0	L68	L80	L85	D98	W100	D116	L53	W118	4=
111	Vera, Jesus	1587	D0	W103	L64	L82	W98	L42	W120	L113	L108	W117	4=
112	Von Keitz, Michael	1566	W122	L68	L126	W128	D117	L115	L116	W118	L109	W100	4=
113	Carrier, Maurice	1492	L138	W139	W135	W85	D102	L105	L104	W111	L103	L107	4=
114	Lyall, David	1492	D103	L78	W98	D129	L105	D120	D118	W115	L0	L0	4
115	Tuason, Alfred	1443	D129	D97	D90	L96	D109	W112	L102	L114	D118	D116	4
116	Aliev, Inara	1426	W136	L91	D89	D94	L38	L21	W112	D110	L107	D115	4
117	Korhonen, Gaylord	1400	W100	L82	W119	D88	D112	W102	L101	L104	L106	L111	4
118	Geley, Shawn	1465	W135	L77	D97	L79	L108	W107	D114	L112	D115	L110	3=
119	Mignault, Robert	1572	L124	W133	L117	L137	L121	L103	W0	L107	W120	L92	3
120	Berube, Claude	1410	L83	L135	L0	W140	W100	D114	L111	L109	L119	L128	2=
121	Rutherford, John	1584	L137	D0	D0	L123	W119	L104	L106	L0	L0	L0	2
D U1400 Section													
122	Harper, Jamie	1333	L112	D0	W103	W108	W124	L123	W138	W137	W128	W127	7=
123	Chung, Kevin	1260	W109	L88	L101	W121	W131	W122	W124	W125	D127	W133	7=
124	Smith, Duncan	1368	W119	L86	W109	W49	L122	W129	L123	W126	W137	W135	7
125	Nadeau, Gabrielle	1372	L110	W100	W16	L63	D138	L137	W132	L123	W129	W131	5=
126	Nadeau, Dominique	1333	W105	L92	W112	L61	L129	W131	D134	L124	W138	W130	5=
127	Nadeau, Francois	1336	L108	L129	W100	L109	W132	W128	D137	W138	D123	L122	5
128	Filion, Nikesh	1058	L104	W140	D0	L129	D133	L127	W136	W132	L122	W120	5
129	Lawson, Bianca	1042	D115	W127	L77	W128	D126	L124	D130	D135	L125	W138	5
130	Migneault, Dominik	1290	L101	L105	W140	L103	D135	W133	D129	W136	D131	L126	4=
131	Plamondon, Andreanne	1189	L102	L109	W139	W132	L123	L126	W135	W134	D130	L125	4=
132	Chan, Michael	1392	L95	L94	W136	L131	L127	W140	L125	L128	W139	W137	4
133	Milinkovic, Mate	1389	L106	L119	W100	L46	D128	L130	D0	W139	W134	L123	4
134	Pyykka, John	1385	W107	D0	L76	L83	W137	L138	D126	L131	L133	W139	4
135	Hawley, Gordon	1073	L118	W120	L113	L139	D130	W136	L131	D129	W140	L124	4
136	Thrones, Tyler	947	L116	L107	L132	W100	W139	L135	L128	L130	W0	W140	4
137	Tsui, Alick	1374	W121	L93	L105	W119	L134	W125	D127	L122	L124	L132	3=
138	Smith, Stephanie	1172	W113	W98	L57	L91	D125	W134	L122	L127	L126	L129	3=
139	O'Connor, Joseph	0	L89	L113	L131	W135	L136	L100	W140	L133	L132	L134	2
140	Tessier, Adam	0	L90	L128	L130	L120	W141	L132	L139	L69	L135	L136	1
141	Lo, Jonathan	0	L0	L0	L125	L0	L140	L0	L0	L0	L0	L0	0