

New Zealand Chess

Magazine of the New Zealand Chess Federation (Inc)

October 2011

Volume 38 Number 4

Ben Hague's Golden Run



Ben winner at

The Merv Morrison Memorial

The Waikato Open

and the

Kapiti and Hamilton Rapids

Plus In this Issue

**Visiting Icelandic GM - New Column by Martin Sims –
Discover the Tarrasch Free Chess Training Program –
And columns by Steve Willard, IM Herman van
Reimsdijk and Roger Nokes**

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The Merv Morrison Memorial 2011

Ben Hague and John Dunas edge out Mike Steadman

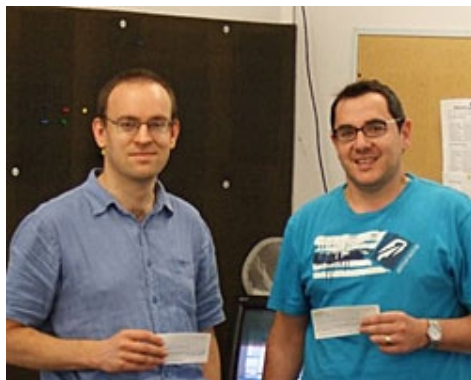
By Mike Steadman

The Rugby World Cup made the Centre effectively off-limits over our usual Labour Weekend so we shifted to the following weekend. Unfortunately this meant we had to shorten the time control to get a decent number of rounds in.

We went with 1 hour plus 10 seconds time control. Sure, four rounds makes for a really long Saturday, but the club (i.e. me) is not really keen on bye rounds (they have a tendency to mess up events), even if it does give us oldies a rest. My feeling is that these weekenders are rightly an endurance test as well. But perhaps if we try this again we will go with a Friday night round and three rounds on Saturday.

We didn't get too many grumbles about the time control, apart from Bob, who had some unfortunate time trouble episodes, especially his last round draw with Antonio. Bob was cruising but messed up a winning Rook endgame in the 10 second scramble.

There were two divisions as usual, with an approximately 50/50 split. Heaps of late entries meant a late start, then the upsets



started in round 1 and continued through to end.

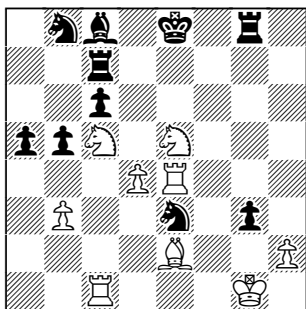
In Round 1 Ben Hague tried something against Mark Brimble that did not really work. He ended in a position Knight and Rook vs Queen. Mark was very short on time and saw a way to get a perpetual check, he took it and got the half point. All the other top boards won pretty comfortably.

Round 2 saw a few tough games and a couple of upsets. Leonard McLaren played his student Luke Li; Luke was looking OK, but got carried away and lost the game. Bob Smith played Daniel Han, was a pawn down, but managed to swap into a Rook

endgame with all pawns on the same side and drew comfortably. John Duneas played Antonio Krstev; Antonio had a very bad Slav, he'd taken the pawn earlier in the game and gave up the centre, John got a winning position, muffed it and then Antonio was back in the game. As is usual with Antonio, he managed to draw a game he shouldn't have. The round had the unfortunate game where Richard Stuart thought he had picked up his Ng8, instead he had the f pawn in his hand and had just played 1...f6. Ben Hague went on to crush him.

Duneas,John (2134) - Krstev,Antonio (2237)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 dxc4 6.e3 b5 7.Ne5 Bb7 8.Be2 a6 9.0-0 h6 10.Bh4 g5 11.Bg3 h5 12.f4 g4 13.Bh4 Be7 14.f5 exf5 15.Rxf5 Bc8 16.Rf1 Be6 17.Qe1 Nd5 18.Bxe7 Qxe7 19.Qf2 Ra7 20.Ne4 Rg8 21.Rac1 Rc7 22.b3 cxb3 23.axb3 h4 24.g3 a5 25.Nc5 f6 26.Ned3 hxg3 27.Qxg3 f5 28.Qe5 Bc8 29.e4 Ne3 30.Rf4 Qxe5 31.Nxe5 fx4 32.Rxe4 g3



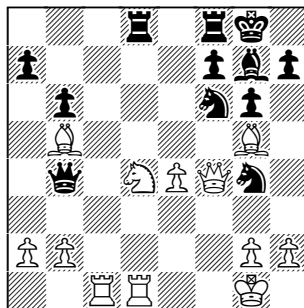
33.Nf3+? 33.h4! simply wins one knight or the other 33...Re7 34.hxg3 Rxg3+ 35.Kf2 Nf5 36.Rxe7+ Kxe7 37.Bd3 Rg4 38.Re1+ Kd6 39.Ne4+ Kc7 40.Rc1 Kb6 41.d5 Rf4

42.Nc3 Nh4 43.Be2 Nxf3 44.Bxf3 Bg4 45.Kg3 Rxf3+ 46.Kxg4 Rf8 47.dxc6 Nxc6 48.Nd5+ Kb7 49.Kg5 Rf7 50.Nc3 b4 51.Ne4 Nd4 52.Nd6+ Kb6 53.Nxf7 Nxb3 54.Rh1 a4 55.Ne5 a3 56.Nd3 ½-½

Round 3 saw McLaren vs Steadman on board 1 and a c3 Sicilian. I played the early g6 line I saw played against Ker at an Olympiad. Black got easy equality and a quick 'GM draw'. Daniel Han vs Ben Hague was an interesting game until one lazy move by Ben allowed Daniel to crash through the middle, win a piece and eventually the game. Bob Smith vs John Duneas was a great escape for Bob, he dropped a piece cold in the early part of the game, John drifted and managed to allow Bob to swap all the pawns off and get to a drawn endgame.

Han,Daniel (2236) - Hague,Ben (2292)

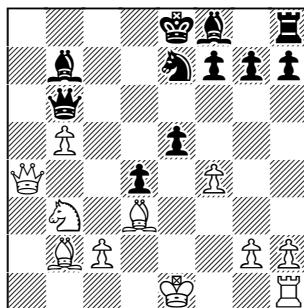
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.d4 g6 4.Nc3 Bf5 5.Nh4 Bd7 6.e4 Bg7 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 e5 9.Nf3 exd4 10.Nxd4 Re8 11.f3 Nc6 12.Be3 Qe7 13.Qd2 Ne5 14.Rfd1 c6 15.Rac1 Rad8 16.Bf1 Bc8 17.Nc2 b6 18.Nd4 Bb7 19.Qf2 d5 20.cxd5 cxd5 21.Bb5 Rf8 22.Bg5 dxe4 23.Nxe4 Bxe4 24.fx4 Neg4 25.Qf4 Qb4



26.e5! h6 27.Bxf6 Nxf6 28.exf6 Bh8
 29.Bc4 Kh7 30.Rc3 Qd6 31.Qxd6 Rxd6
 32.Rcd3 Bxf6 33.b3 Rd7 34.Nb5 Rxd3
 35.Rxd3 a6 36.Nd6 b5 37.Bd5 Kg7
 38.Nxf7 Rc8 39.Nd6 Rc1+ 40.Kf2 Be5
 41.Ne4 Bxh2 42.b4 Bf4 43.Bb3 g5 44.Nc5
 Kg6 45.Nxa6 Kf5 46.Rd5+ Kg4 47.Bd1+
 Kh4 48.Nc5 Rb1 49.a3 Ra1 50.Rd3 Ra2+
 51.Kf3 Bc1 52.Rd4+ Kh5 53.Kg3+ Kg6
 54.Rd6+ Kf5 55.Rd5+ Kg6 56.Rd6+ Kf5
 57.Bg4+ Ke5 58.Re6+ Kd5 59.Rxh6
 Rxa3+ 60.Bf3+ Kc4 61.Na6 Bd2 62.Rc6+
 Kd4 63.Kg4 Bf4 64.g3 Be3 65.Nc7 Ra4
 66.Ne6+ Ke5 67.Nxg5 Rxb4+ 68.Kh5
 Rb2 69.Re6+ Kd4 70.Ne4 b4 71.Nd6 Bc1
 72.g4 Rh2+ 73.Kg6 b3 74.Nf5+ Kc5
 75.Rc6+ Kb4 76.Rxc1 b2 77.Rc7 Kb3
 78.Rb7+ Ka2 79.Bd5+ Ka1 80.Ra7+ Kb1
 81.g5 Kc1 82.Rc7+ Kd2 83.Rb7 Kc1
 84.Ba2 Rh3 85.Kf6 Ra3 86.Rc7+ Kd2
 87.Bb1 Ra1 88.Rc2+ 1-0

Steadman, Mike (2342) - Krstev, Antonio
 (2237)

1.e4 e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e5 c5 4.b4 c4 5.b5 a6
 6.bxa6 b5 7.Nc3 Bxa6 8.Bb2 b4 9.Ne2
 Nc6 10.Ned4 Nge7 11.a3 Qc7 12.axb4
 Nxe5 13.b5 Nxf3+ 14.Qxf3 Bb7 15.Rxa8+
 Bxa8 16.Qa3 Bb7 17.Qa4 Qb6 18.d3
 cxd3 19.Bxd3 e5 20.Nb3 d4 21.f4

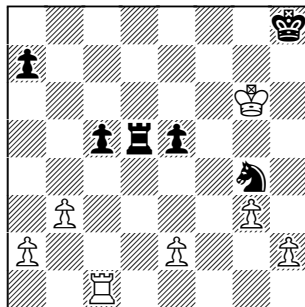
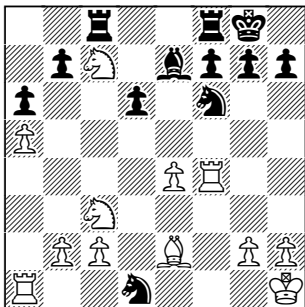


Round 4 and Steadman vs Krstev was a Wing Gambit, as in the George, Antonio did not take the pawn, a very weird game developed, one weak move by Antonio allowed a quick attacking finish. Dordevic vs Smith was a Sicilian with Ivan just getting on with the attack, Smith got into trouble and ended up an exchange down and Ivan converted the point easily. McLaren vs Han saw Daniel playing his usual game where he looked worse, swapped into an endgame that looked better for White, but in fact the endgame was much better for Daniel and he duly collected a well earned point. Duneas vs Li was a Queens Indian where initially John was better, then he swapped into an endgame where he dropped a piece, Luke proceeded to misplay the endgame and went on to lose a wild game.

21...exf4? 21...Nd5! defends, instead now black gets torn to pieces 22.Bxd4 Qe6+ 23.Kd2 Qd5 24.Re1 Qxg2+ 25.Re2 Qd5 26.c4 Qd7 27.c5 Bd5 28.c6 Qd6 29.Be5 Bxb3 30.Qxb3 Qe6 31.Bc4 Qg6 32.Qa2 Nc8 33.Qa8 Qf5 34.Bd6+ 1-0

Dordevic, Ivan (2149) - Smith, Robert
 (2379)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.0-0 Nbd7
 9.a4 Rc8 10.f4 Be7 11.Kh1 0-0 12.Be3
 Qc7 13.a5 exf4 14.Rxf4 Ne5 15.Nd4 Nc4
 16.Nxe6 Nxe3 17.Nxc7 Nxd1



18.N3d5!? good, but 18.N7d5! winning a whole piece is better 18...Bd8 19.Bxd1 Rxc7 20.Nxc7 Bxc7 21.e5 Re8 22.Bf3 dxe5 23.Rc4 Bd6 24.Bxb7 e4 25.Rc8 Rxc8 26.Bxc8 Nd5 27.Bxa6 Nb4 28.Bb7 e3 29.a6 Bc5 30.a7 Bxa7 31.Rxa7 f5 32.Bf3 Nxc2 33.Kg1 g5 34.h3 h5 35.g4 hxg4 36.hxg4 Nd4 37.Bd5+ Kh8 38.gxf5 Nxf5 39.b4 Nd4 40.Re7 Ne2+ 41.Kf1 Ng3+ 42.Ke1 Nf5 43.Re5 Nd4 44.Be4 Kg7 45.Rxg5+ Kf6 46.Rd5 1-0

Duneas,John (2134) - Li,Luke (2223)

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.Qc2 Bb7 6.Bg2 Ne4 7.0-0 d5 8.Nfd2 f5 9.Rd1 Be7 10.Nxe4 fxe4 11.f3 exf3 12.Bxf3 0-0 13.Nc3 e5 14.Be3 cxd4 15.Bxd4 Nc6 16.Bf2 Ne5 17.Be4 Rxf2 18.Bxh7+ Kh8 19.Kxf2 Bc5+ 20.Kg2 Nxc4 21.Qg6 Ne3+ 22.Kh3 e5 23.Qh5 Qf6 24.Rxd5 Qh6 25.Qxh6 gxh6 26.Rxc5 Bg2+ 27.Kh4 bxc5 28.Be4 Rb8 29.b3 Bxe4 30.Nxe4 Rb4 31.Kh5 Rxe4 32.Kxh6 Ng4+ 33.Kg6 Rd4 34.Rc1 Rd5

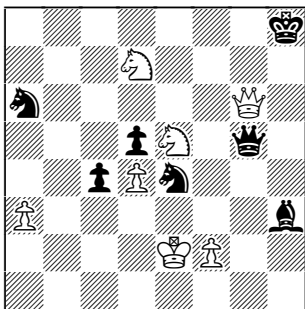
35.b4! Despite the piece minus, Houdini thinks white is slightly better here 35...Ne3 36.bxc5 Rd7 37.c6 Rc7 38.Rc5 Ng4 39.h4 e4 40.Kf5 Nf2 41.Ke6 e3 42.Kd6 Rc8 43.Re5 Ng4 44.Rh5+ Kg7 45.Rg5+ Kf6 46.Rxg4 Rd8+ 47.Kc5 Rd2 48.c7 Rxe2 49.c8Q Rc2+ 50.Rc4 1-0

Round 5; Han v Steadman was a Dutch as usual, I sacrificed a pawn and then went on the attack. The machine doesn't like it, but the position was hard to play as White. I got a winning attack, misplayed it, but then Daniel blundered in time trouble. I missed the 2 move checkmate and had to win a long endgame, finishing with N+N+B against bare king. The extra knight confused me and so I did a normal N+B mate and ignored my extra knight.

Duneas v Dordevic was a Grunfeld that John dismantled with ease. Krstev v McLaren was Leonard's second f3 Nimzo, he played his early Nc6 and Antonio didn't play the sharpest line and Leonard outplayed him right through to a nicely won Rook endgame.

Han, Daniel (2236) - Steadman, Mike (2342)

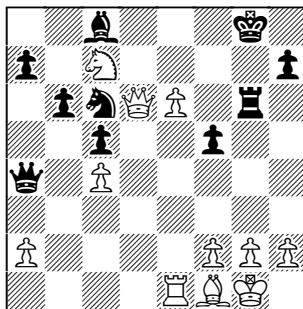
1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 f5 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 d5 5.c4 c6 6.0-0 Bd6 7.b3 Qe7 8.Ne5 0-0 9.Qc2 a5 10.Nd2 Na6 11.Ndf3 Ne4 12.a3 c5 13.e3 b6 14.cxd5 exd5 15.Bb2 Bb7 16.Rfc1 Rac8 17.Qd1 a4 18.Bf1 axb3 19.Qxb3 c4 20.Qxb6 Rf6 21.Qa5 Bc7 22.Qe1 g5 23.Bc3 Bd6 24.Rcb1 f4 25.exf4 gxf4 26.g4 Kh8 27.Ra2 Rg8 28.Rab2 Bc8 29.h3 h5 30.Nh2 f3 31.Rb6 Rf4 32.Qe3 hxg4 33.Rxd6 gxh3+ 34.Rg6 Qf6 35.Rb6 Qxb6 36.Rxg8+ Kxg8 37.Qxf4 Be6 38.Nhx3 Nxc3 39.Qh6 Ne4 40.Nd7 Qd6 41.Qg6+ Kh8 42.Nfe5 Qe7 43.Bxh3 Qg5+ 44.Kf1 Qc1+ 45.Kg2 Qg5+ 46.Kf1 Bxh3+ 47.Ke2



47...Qxg6?? 47...Qd2+ 48.Kf3 Qxf2# or 47...Nc3+ 48.Kf3 Bg2# 48.Nxg6+ Kg7 49.Nf4 Bxd7 50.Nxd5 Bc6 51.Ne3 Nd6 52.d5 Bb5 53.Kd2 Kf6 54.f4 Ne4+ 55.Kc1 Nac5 56.Kb2 Nd3+ 57.Kb1 Nxf4 58.a4 Ba6 59.Ka2 Ke5 60.Ka3 Nxd5 61.Nxc4+ Bxc4 62.a5 Kd4 63.Ka4 Nc5+ 64.Ka3 Nc7 65.Kb2 and Black eventually won 0-1

Duneas, John (2134) - Dordevic, Ivan (2149)

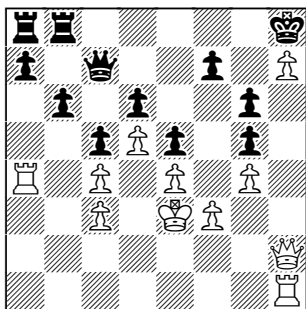
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 c5 9.d5 Qa5 10.Rc1 e6 11.c4 Qa3 12.Bd3 Rd8 13.Ne2 Nc6 14.0-0 b6 15.Rfd1 Nb4 16.Nc3 Ba6 17.Bf1 f5 18.exf5 gxf5 19.Bh6 Bf6 20.Bg5 Rf8 21.dxe6 Nc6 22.Bxf6 Rxf6 23.Nd5 Rg6 24.Rc3 Qa4 25.Re1 Re8 26.Nc7 Re7 27.Qd6 Bc8 28.Rg3 Reg7 29.Rxg6 Rxg6



30.e7! Rxd6 31.e8Q+ Kg7 32.Qxc8 Rg6 33.Qd7+ Kh6 34.Re7 Kg5 35.Rxh7 Qc2 36.Ne6+ Kf6 37.Qf7+ Ke5 38.Qxg6 Nd4 39.Nxd4 cxd4 40.Re7+ 1-0

Krstev, Antonio (2237) - McLaren, Leonard (2318)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 Nc6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.e4 Ba6 8.Bd3 Na5 9.Qe2 d6 10.g4 Qd7 11.a4 Nb3 12.Rb1 Nxc1 13.Rxc1 Qxa4 14.Kf2 e5 15.h4 c5 16.Nh3 Bc8 17.Qb2 Qc6 18.Be2 Bd7 19.h5 h6 20.d5 Qc7 21.Ke3 Nh7 22.Ra1 Ng5 23.Bd1 0-0 24.Ba4 Rfb8 25.Nxg5 hxg5 26.h6 g6 27.h7+ Kh8 28.Qh2 Bxa4 29.Rxa4



29...b5! Amusingly, the white pawn on h7 assures the safety of black's king 30.cxb5 Rxb5 31.Qh6 c4 32.Rb4 Rxb4 33.cxb4 Qd8 34.Rc1 Rc8 35.Kd2 Qf6 36.Qh2 Qxf3 37.Qe2 c3+ 38.Kd1 Qxe2+ 39.Kxe2 Kxh7 40.Rc2 Kg7 41.b5 f5 42.Kd1 Rc4 43.Ra2 c2+ 44.Kc1 Rc7 45.Ra6 fxe4 46.Rc6 Rb7 47.Kxc2 g3 48.Rc3 Rxb5 49.Rxe3 Rb4 50.Ra3 Rxe4 51.Rxa7+ Kh6 52.Rd7 g4 53.Rxd6 g3 54.Rb6 Rd4 55.Rb3 Rxd5 56.Rxe3 g5 57.Kc3 Kg6 58.Rf3 g4 59.Rf8 Kg5 60.Kc4 Rd4+ 61.Kc5 g3 62.Re8 Kf5 63.Rf8+ Ke4 64.Rg8 Kf3 65.Rf8+ Rf4 66.Ra8 g2 67.Ra1 Kf2 68.Ra2+ Kg3 69.Ra1 Rf1 0-1

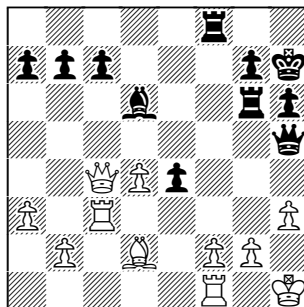
Round 6; Steadman v Duneas was a mainline Slav and was an early draw. Hague v McLaren was a Queens Indian, Ben got good pressure for his pawn and crashed through for a nice win. Dordevic v Han was a typical win for Han, the Petrof struck a White player trying too hard to win. Smith v Li was an even endgame where Luke dropped a piece cold, game over.

Thornton v Krstev was a typical Antonio game, Gino was better and went into the endgame with all the winning chances and

then proceeded to lose.

Dordevic, Ivan (2149) – Han, Daniel (2236)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Re1 f5 9.c4 Nb4 10.cxd5 Nxd3 11.Qxd3 0-0 12.Nc3 Bb4 13.Qc4 Bd6 14.Nxe4 fxe4 15.Bg5 Qe8 16.Ne5 Qh5 17.Be3 Bg4 18.Nxe4 Qxe4 19.h3 Qf5 20.a3 Rf6 21.Rac1 Rg6 22.Kh1 Rf8 23.Qe2 h6 24.Rf1 Kh7 25.Rc3 Qxd5 26.Qc4 Qh5 27.Bd2



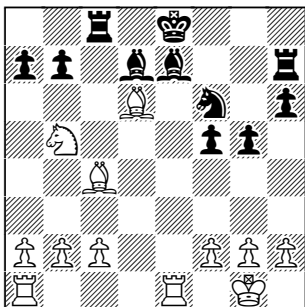
27...b5! 28.Qc6 Qe2 0-1

Round 7; Hague v Steadman was a quick and easy crush for Ben, a weekend anti Dutch worked a treat, swapping Queens gave White a huge game and Ben made no mistakes taking the point. Han v Duneas was another solid Slav. Daniel dropped a pawn and sent his pieces towards the King. John made a horrendous move which allowed a Queen sacrifice and a forced 2 move mate, but Daniel missed it, went downhill, missed an opportunity to win an exchange, then finally lost the game. Krstev v Smith was a Benoni where the

table was turned on Antonio (he plays the Benoni himself), Smith got a nice position, swapped into a winning Rook and pawn endgame, messed up in time trouble and only managed to draw.

Hague, Ben (2292) – Steadman, Mike (2342)

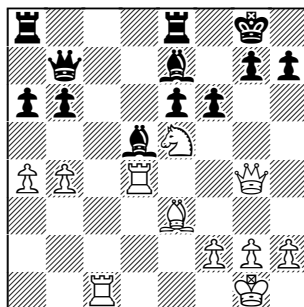
1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 f5 3.d5 Be7 4.dxe6 dxe6
5.Qxd8+ Bxd8 6.e4 Nc6 7.exf5 exf5 8.Bc4
Nf6 9.0-0 h6 10.Re1+ Be7 11.Bf4 Kd8
12.Nc3 g5 13.Ne5! Nxe5 14.Bxe5 Rh7
15.Nb5 Bd7 16.Bxc7+ Ke8 17.Bd6 Rc8



18.Bxe7! 1-0

Han, Daniel (2236) – Duneas, John (2134)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4
Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Qe2
Bg6 10.e4 0-0 11.Bd3 c5 12.Na2 Ba5
13.Bg5 Qb6 14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.Rac1 Qb6
16.Bb5 a6 17.Be3 Qd8 18.Bxd7 Qxd7
19.b4 Bd8 20.Bc5 Re8 21.Nc3 b6 22.Rfd1
Qb7 23.Be3 Nxe4 24.Nxe4 Bxe4 25.Ne5
Bd5 26.Qg4 Be7 27.Rd4 f6



28.Nc6? 28.Qxg7+!! Kxg7 29.Rg4+ Kh8
30.Nf7# would have been pretty 28...Bf8
29.b5 axb5 30.axb5 Rac8 31.Qh5 Bc5
32.Rg4 Bxe3 33.fxe3 Rf8 34.Rh4 g6
35.Qg4 f5 36.Qa4 Rc7 37.Qc2 Ra8 38.e4
fxe4 39.Rg4 Rf8 40.h4 Rf5 41.Rg3 Rcf7
42.Qe2 Qc7 43.Rcc3 Qf4 44.h5 Rg5
45.Rxg5 Qxg5 46.hxg6 hxg6 47.Rc2 e3!
48.Nb4 Rf2 49.Rc8+ Kh7 50.Rc7+ Kh6
0-1

So final results had Ben Hague and John Duneas 1st= and Mike Steadman 3rd. In the under 1800 event Hilton Jacobs played the time control to perfection and came through to win the event. There was a 4 way tie for second between Alphaeus Ang, Byron Lam, Leo Zhang and Michael Budd. So the event was over for another year, with a new name on Merv's cup. The electronic boards were a great hit, and only Bob seemed to be really upset about the time control. A bit of fun, not quite a rapid, but hardly classical chess as we normally understand it

Merv Morrison Memorial Crosstable

No	Name	Loc	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Duneas, John	2134	5.5	13:W	7:D	6:D	9:W	8:W	3:D	4:W
2	Hague, Ben	2300	5.5	21:D	15:W	4:L	14:W	13:W	5:W	3:W
3	Steadman, Mike	2342	5	20:W	8:W	5:D	7:W	4:W	1:D	2:L
4	Han, Daniel	2236	4.5	17:W	6:D	2:W	5:W	3:L	8:W	1:L
5	McLaren, Leonard	2318	4.5	22:W	9:W	3:D	4:L	7:W	2:L	10:W
6	Smith, Robert	2379	4.5	19:W	4:D	1:D	8:L	10:W	9:W	7:D
7	Krstev, Antonio	2237	4	10:W	1:D	16:W	3:L	5:L	12:W	6:D
8	Dordevic, Ivan	2149	4	14:W	3:L	22:W	6:W	1:L	4:L	13:W
9	Li, Luke	2223	4	18:W	5:L	11:W	1:L	14:W	6:L	16:W
10	Li, William	1975	3.5	7:L	13:D	15:W	12:W	6:L	19:W	5:L
11	Zhang, William	1667	3.5	15:D	12:W	9:L	13:L	17:D	18:D	20:W
12	Thornton, Gino	2236	3.5	16:D	11:L	21:W	10:L	19:W	7:L	17:W
13	Tsoi, Nicole	1862	3	1:L	10:D	20:W	11:W	2:L	16:D	8:L
14	Stone, Andrew	1889	3	8:L	20:W	19:W	2:L	9:L	17:D	15:D
15	Stuart, Richard	2087	3	11:D	2:L	10:L	18:W	16:L	22:W	14:D
16	Yang, Scott	1936	3	12:D	21:W	7:L	19:L	15:W	13:D	9:L
17	Wright, Caleb	1945	2.5	4:L	19:L	18:D	21:W	11:D	14:D	12:L
18	Power, Wayne	1922	2.5	9:L	22:L	17:D	15:L	20:W	11:D	21:D
19	Taylor, Richard	2064	2	6:L	17:W	14:L	16:W	12:L	10:L	22:L
20	Seabrook, Roy	2053	2	3:L	14:L	13:L	22:W	18:L	21:W	11:L
21	Brimble, Mark	1978	2	2:D	16:L	12:L	17:L	22:W	20:L	18:D
22	Perry, Roger	2017	2	5:L	18:W	8:L	20:L	21:L	15:L	19:W

Icelandic GM Helgi Gretarsson Visits

Iceland has a small population just 1/15th of New Zealand's yet there are twelve Icelandic Grandmasters. Descended from the Vikings, whose fame comes from war and plundering, and not economics, the Icelanders were confounded by the trickeries of international finance, and 3 of their 4 banks collapsed in the 2008 recession. It is expected then that Iceland's President will bestow on GM Helgi Gretarsson a medal as thanks for the thousands of Kroner he brings home after plundering NZ rapid tournaments. With an exchange rate of 11cents to 1 Kroner Helgi is virtually a millionaire after winning just two tournaments! Helgi gained the GM title after winning the World Youth Championship at age 17. In Iceland he once played an exhibition match with Garry Kasparov on Icelandic TV, blindfold. Helgi

continued on page 11

Joe Sapeta

By Barry Hooton

Sadly I have to announce the death from cancer of Joe Sapeta on the 4th of November after a short illness. Joe joined the Papatoetoe Chess Club in 2000 and immediately was well liked with his warm and friendly personality. In the last 2 years Joe was our Secretary and did a lot of work in the funding area. Our club is fairly relaxed so we have some talking on club night and one lasting memory I will always have, that will always bring a smile to my face, is when Joe's opponent makes a good move, suddenly Joe says 'Well, don't worry about me!'. This normally caused a funny response from his opponent.

Joe will be missed by all members of the Papatoetoe Chess Club and our hearts go out to his family who Joe always put first. Joe is survived by his wife and four children aged between 16 and 24.

Andrew Stone (1905) v Joe Sapeta (1324) 10.07.2011

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 Nc6 5.Bc4 e6 6.Nf3 d6 7.O-O Be7 8.Qe2 Ne5 9.Nxe5 dxe5 10.Rd1 Qc7 11.Bb5+ Kf8 12.Be3 Nf6 13.Rac1 Qa5 14.a3 a6 15.b4 Qxa3 16.Bc5 axb5 [... Bxc5 17.Rd8+ Ke7 18.Rxh8 Qxc1+ 19.Nd1 axb5 20.bxc5 Ra1 21.g4 Qxd1+ 22.Qxd1 Rxd1+ 23.Kg2 Rd8 wins Fritz 6] 17.Rd8+ Ne8 18.Qe3 f6 19.Bxe7+ Kxe7 20.Qc5+ Kxd8 21.Rd1+ Bd7 22.Qxb5 Nd6 23.Rxd6 Qc1+ 24.Rd1 Qxd1+ 0-1

Joe Sapeta (1324) v Roger Perry (2034) 26.06.2011

1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 e5 6.Rb1 Nge7 7.Nf3 d6 8.O-O O-O 9.Bd2 d5 10.cxd5 Nxd5 11.Ne4 b6 12.Bg5 f6 13.Bd2 Be6 14.a3 a5 15.Qa4 Qd7 16.Rbc1 Rac8 17.Qb5 Rfd8 18.Rc2 Bh3 19.Rfc1 Bxg2 20.Kxg2 h6 21.Qc4 Kh7 [21.....Nd4] 22.Qb5 Rb8 23.Nc3 Nc7 24.Qc4 Ne6 25.Qh4 Ncd4 26.Ne4 Nxc2 27.Bxh6 Rf8 28.Bg5+ Kg8 29.Nxf6+ Rxf6 30.Bxf6 Ncd4 31.Nxe5 Qe8 [31.....Qb7+] 32.Bxg7 Kxg7 33.Qe4 Ng5 34.Qe3 Nf7 35.f4 Nxe5 36.fxe5 Qe6 37.Rf1 Re8 38.Qf4 Nxe2 39.Qe4 Nd4 40.Rf6!

GM Helgi Gretarsson cont from page 10

said of the game, 'I had a good position but lost on time...' While here he only dropped one half point, to Scott Wastney. At the Wellington Club he easily accounted for IM Anthony Ker in a series of blitz games. Of his visit to NZ Helgi said

"I am really happy I contacted you and played chess here in New Zealand. It has been very enjoyable, more enjoyable than I expected and my enthusiasm has returned. Of course I hate to lose and here in NZ it seems I always win :-). But yesterday (Sunday at Ross Jackson's place) I was reading all of Ross' books and bulletins and woke up to how much work it would be to keep up with the professionals (those damn Russians) and all their knowledge"

Ben Hague's Golden Run

Waikato Open added to 2011 Triumphs

Ben Hague has been enjoying a fine run recently, following up his win at the Merv Morrison with another tournament victory, this time on his own, at the Waitako Open. Ben also won the Kapiti Rapid, the Hamilton Rapid and came second in the Wellington Rapid behind visiting Icelandic GM Helgi Gretarsson.

Scott Humphries summarises the Waikato Open.

The 2011 Waikato Open attracted 19 Open and 19 U1800 players to battle over six rounds and what seemed like a long weekend, as we started on Friday night and went to 6pm Sunday. In the Open event, Ben Hague on 5 points took out 1st place, a repeat of his 1st place last year. Noel Pinic did well to secure 2nd on 4.5 and it was a 3 way tie for third on 4 points between Bob Smith, Daniel Han and Paul Garbett. Rating group prizes were shared between Peter Stuart and Roger Perry (group 1) and William Zhang took out rating group 2 – a good achievement since William was the lowest rated in the Open!

In the U1800 event, Michael Budd took first on 5.5, followed by Richard Dare 2nd on 5. There was a 4-way tie for 3rd



Ben Hague (right) with Scott Humphries

between Karl Holdo, Nigel Crombie, Hamish Shierlaw and Joy Shu Yan Qin. As most of this group were also in rating group 1, they all received a group prize. The rating group 2 prize went to Daniel Gong.

Len Whitehouse Cup for best performance by a local player(s): Daniel Han, Michael Budd

The William Lynn Trophy for the top performance by a local junior player: Daniel Gong

Some highlights of the tournament were Noel Pinic's good game to beat IM Paul Garbett (black) in round 2 with a Dutch defence opening line reply that Noel copied from a Ben Hague game in a previous tournament!

William Zhang in round 6 against Bob Smith played a neat combination to remove Bob's Rooks, and the position resolved into an endgame where Bob had 2 Knights vs 1 Knight and 3 pawns. Bob sacrificed a Knight for 2 Pawns and the game ended as a draw - which was a great result for William, given the 600+ rating difference

between the two of them.

Michael Budd played well to win in the U1800 event, only giving up a draw against second place getter Richard Dare. But often his opponents, for unknown reasons

considering the long time control, got themselves got into time trouble, sometimes for much of the game. Third place was shared by Karl Holdo, Nigel Crombie, Hamish Shierlaw, Joy Shu Yan Qin

Waikato Open Crosstable

No	Name	Loc	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	HAGUE, BEN	2331	5	14:W	7:W	6:W	2:D	3:W	4:D
2	PINIC, NOEL	2221	4.5	19:W	4:W	3:D	1:D	5:W	6:D
3	SMITH, ROBERT W	2355	4	12:W	5:W	2:D	6:W	1:L	8:D
4	GARBETT, PAUL A	2346	4	15:W	2:L	11:W	0:D	7:W	1:D
5	HAN, DANIEL	2253	4	17:W	3:L	14:W	12:W	2:L	10:W
6	STUART, PETER W	2034	3.5	18:W	9:W	1:L	3:L	17:W	2:D
7	PERRY, ROGER L	2009	3.5	10:W	1:L	16:W	15:D	4:L	13:W
8	ZHANG, WILLIAM JEIWEN	1761	3.5	11:D	16:D	15:D	13:W	12:D	3:D
9	BENNETT, HILTON P	2123	3.5	16:D	6:L	13:L	19:W	14:W	12:W
10	KRISHNAMACHARI, RAMESH	1800	3	7:L	0:W	12:L	16:W	11:W	5:L
11	WRIGHT, CALEB	1966	3	8:D	13:W	4:L	0:D	10:L	16:W
12	SEABROOK, ROY	1959	2.5	3:L	17:W	10:W	5:L	8:D	9:L
13	EADE, DON	1858	2.5	0:	11:L	9:W	8:L	18:W	7:L
14	LYNN, K WILLIAM	1873	2.5	1:L	18:W	5:L	0:D	9:L	17:W
15	WAGNER, STEFAN	1943	2.5	4:L	19:W	8:D	7:D	0:L	18:D
16	ROSSITER, PHILIP E	1808	2	9:D	8:D	7:L	10:L	19:W	11:L
17	DOLEJS, DAN	1820	2	5:L	12:L	19:W	18:W	6:L	14:L
18	LYALL, SIMON	1806	1.5	6:L	14:L	0:W	17:L	13:L	15:D
19	SMITH, VIVIAN J	1816	1	2:L	15:L	17:L	9:L	16:L	0:W

B Grade Winner Michael Budd



Second Place Noel Pinic



Tournament Results Summary

Icelandic GM Helgi Gretarsson visited New Zealand in November on a trip connected to his speciality with Iceland University, fisheries stock management. Helgi is a former World Youth Champion, a victory that gained him qualification for the GM title. Although he afterwards made

a decision to concentrate on his studies and not pursue a professional chess career, and he hasn't played competitive chess for some time, this didn't stop him playing and winning two one day rapid tournaments in the lower North Island, Wellington Open Rapid and Gordon Hoskyn Memorial Rapid

Results

MIT Rapid December 3 – Won by Paul Garbett and Daniel Shen; 3rd Tony Carpinter

Gordon Hoskyn Memorial Crosstable

No	Name	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Gretarsson, Helgi	2462 5.5	13:W	4:W	3:D	2:W	8:W	6:W
2	Ker, Anthony	2375 5	15:W	5:W	6:W	1:L	3:W	4:W
3	Wastney, Scott	2283 4	12:W	9:W	1:D	6:D	2:L	8:W
4	McDonald, John	2029 4	18:W	1:L	7:W	9:W	11:W	2:L
5	Nyberg, Michael	2026 4	20:W	2:L	13:W	8:L	7:W	9:W
6	Noble, Mark	2319 3.5	14:W	11:W	2:L	3:D	10:W	1:L
7	Ansell, Alan	2124 3.5	21:W	10:W	4:L	11:D	5:L	12:W
8	Jackson, Ross	1927 3	19:L	20:W	14:W	5:W	1:L	3:L
9	Davis, Justin	1967 3	17:W	3:L	19:W	4:L	15:W	5:L
10	King, Mathew	1930 3	16:W	7:L	12:D	13:W	6:L	11:D
11	Forster, Bill	1974 3	22:W	6:L	15:W	7:D	4:L	10:D
12	James, Jack	1747 3	3:L	17:W	10:D	14:D	19:W	7:L
13	Smith, Chris	1879 3	1:L	18:W	5:L	10:L	21:W	20:W
14	Stewart, James	1793 3	6:L	22:W	8:L	12:D	16:W	15:D
15	Sims, Martin	1814 2.5	2:L	19:W	11:L	20:W	9:L	14:D
16	Timergazi, Layla	1267 2.5	10:L	21:D	20:L	17:W	14:L	19:W
17	Moore, Nicholas	1368 2.5	9:L	12:L	22:W	16:L	18:D	21:W
18	Cooze, Brent	1642 2.5	4:L	13:L	21:W	19:L	17:D	22:W
19	Wang, Alan	2	8:W	15:L	9:L	18:W	12:L	16:L
20	Stewart, Murray	1585 2	5:L	8:L	16:W	15:L	22:W	13:L
21	Brockway, Andrew	1707 1.5	7:L	16:D	18:L	22:W	13:L	17:L
22	List, Robert	1502 0	11:L	14:L	17:L	21:L	20:L	18:L

Gordon Hoskyn Memorial Rapid December 10 – Won by GM Helgi Gretarsson (Iceland) ahead of IM Anthony Ker. Scott Wastney, John McDonald and Michael Nyberg 3rd =

Hamilton Moving Rapid October 16 - Won by Ben Hague with a pile up of seven players 2nd = Noel Pinic, Daniel Han, Richard Dare, Michael Budd, William Lynn, Don Eade and Daniel Runcan

Wellington Open Rapid November 20 – Won by GM Helgi Gretarsson (Iceland) with a clean sweep ahead of Ben Hague

Wellington Open Rapid Crosstable

No	Name	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Gretarsson, Helgi	2462 6	9:W	11:W	4:W	2:W	6:W	3:W
2	Hague, Ben	2355 5	19:W	3:W	7:W	1:L	11:W	6:W
3	Davis, Justin	1967 4	13:W	2:L	12:W	9:W	4:W	1:L
4	Burns, Chris	2016 4	20:W	18:W	1:L	7:W	3:L	12:W
5	Nijman, Brian	2086 4	15:W	7:L	8:W	6:L	13:W	11:W
6	Wastney, Scott	2283 3.5	10:W	12:D	16:W	5:W	1:L	2:L
7	Sellen, Ian	1916 3.5	21:W	5:W	2:L	4:L	12:D	16:W
8	Capper, David	1631 3.5	23:+	16:L	5:L	18:W	9:D	14:W
9	Farrington, Lawrence	1800 3.5	1:L	17:W	21:W	3:L	8:D	15:W
10	Brockway, Andrew	1707 3.5	6:L	14:L	17:W	21:W	15:D	19:W
11	Forster, Bill	1974 3	17:W	1:L	15:W	14:W	2:L	5:L
12	Jackson, Ross	1927 3	14:W	6:D	3:L	19:W	7:D	4:L
13	Li, Henry	1366 3	3:L	15:L	0:W	16:W	5:L	17:W
14	Timergazi, Layla	1267 3	12:L	10:W	20:W	11:L	19:W	8:L
15	List, Robert	1502 2.5	5:L	13:W	11:L	20:W	10:D	9:L
16	Shierlaw, Hamish	1471 2.5	0:D	8:W	6:L	13:L	18:W	7:L
17	Moore, Nicholas	1368 2	11:L	9:L	10:L	0:W	21:W	13:L
18	Cunningham, Pat	1582 2	24:+	4:L	19:L	8:L	16:L	0:W
19	Holdaway, Stewart	1750 2	2:L	20:W	18:W	12:L	14:L	10:L
20	Marney, John	1482 2	4:L	19:L	14:L	15:L	0:W	21:W
21	Subra, Januek	1003 1	7:L	0:W	9:L	10:L	17:L	20:L

MIT Rapid Crosstable

No	Name	Loc	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Daniel Shen	1987	5	15:W	4:W	2:D	5:W	3:D	7:W
2	Paul Garbett	2338	5	14:W	3:W	1:D	7:W	6:D	5:W
3	Anthony Carpinter	2125	4.5	20:W	2:L	21:W	15:W	1:D	6:W
4	Leonard McLaren	2192	4	12:W	1:L	6:L	16:W	17:W	9:W
5	William (Xiang Wei) Li	1890	3.5	17:W	9:W	7:D	1:L	13:W	2:L
6	Khuedet Jashari	1945	3.5	19:W	8:L	4:W	9:W	2:D	3:L
7	Robert Smith	2267	3.5	21:W	10:W	5:D	2:L	15:W	1:L
8	Peter Stuart	2082	3	16:D	6:W	9:L	12:D	11:D	10:D
9	Noel Pinic	2200	3	22:W	5:L	8:W	6:L	19:W	4:L
10	Hilton Bennett	2024	3	18:W	7:L	16:D	11:D	12:D	8:D
11	Robert Gibbons	1936	3	13:D	16:D	17:D	10:D	8:D	12:D
12	Helen Milligan	1958	3	4:L	19:D	22:W	8:D	10:D	11:D
13	John Duneas	2107	3	11:D	15:L	19:D	21:W	5:L	22:W
14	Hans Gao	2004	3	2:L	20:W	15:L	19:L	22:W	21:W
15	Michael Steadman	2264	2.5	1:L	13:W	14:W	3:L	7:L	16:D
16	Daniel Runcan	1909	2.5	8:D	11:D	10:D	4:L	18:D	15:D
17	Antonio Krstev	2062	2.5	5:L	22:D	11:D	18:W	4:L	20:D
18	William (Jeiwen) Zhang	1831	2.5	10:L	21:L	20:W	17:L	16:D	19:W
19	Alan Ansell	2124	2	6:L	12:D	13:D	14:W	9:L	18:L
20	Vinod Kumar	1947	2	3:L	14:L	18:L	22:W	21:D	17:D
21	Nathan Goodhue	2000	1.5	7:L	18:W	3:L	13:L	20:D	14:L
22	Neil Gunn	1978	.5	9:L	17:D	12:L	20:L	14:L	13:L



**GM Helgi Gretarsson v IM Anthony Ker
Gordon Hoskyn Memorial**



**Daniel Shen and Paul Garbett winners at
MIT Rapid**

Hamilton Mooving Rapid Crosstable

No	Name	Feder	Loc	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	HAGUE, BEN	2000	6		7:W	6:W	2:W	3:W	4:W	5:W
2	PINIC, NOEL	2211	4		20:W	8:D	1:L	10:W	9:W	3:D
3	HAN, DANIEL	2164	4		4:D	9:W	21:W	1:L	11:W	2:D
4	DARE, RICHARD J	1742	4		3:D	20:W	8:W	9:D	1:L	14:W
5	BUDD, MICHAEL	1504	4		6:L	14:W	22:W	7:W	12:W	1:L
6	LYNN, K WILLIAM	1829	4		5:W	1:L	17:W	11:L	13:W	12:W
7	EADE, DON	1725	4		1:L	13:W	25:W	5:L	17:W	15:W
8	RUNCAN, DANIEL I	1921	4		12:W	2:D	4:L	17:D	21:W	11:W
9	WAGNER, STEFAN	1910	3.5		16:W	3:L	18:W	4:D	2:L	20:W
10	QIN, JOY SHU YAN	1182	3.5		17:D	11:L	24:W	2:L	19:W	18:W
11	ANG, ALPHAEUS	1493	3		22:L	10:W	15:W	6:W	3:L	8:L
12	MITCHELL, ROBERT S	1657	3		8:L	18:W	14:W	13:W	5:L	6:L
13	JACKSON, RICHARD K	1167	3		15:W	7:L	16:W	12:L	6:L	22:W
14	TEE, NATHAN	1089	3		26:W	5:L	12:L	24:W	20:W	4:L
15	KONG-LIM, YU LE	604	3		13:L	26:W	11:L	25:W	16:W	7:L
16	CROMBIE, WILLIAM R	1579	3		9:L	25:W	13:L	23:W	15:L	21:W
17	KONG-LIM, QI LE	736	2.5		10:D	19:W	6:L	8:D	7:L	23:D
18	LOPER, BRETT	1379	2.5		23:W	12:L	9:L	21:D	24:W	10:L
19	QIN, NICOLE	847	2.5		21:D	17:L	23:L	26:W	10:L	25:W
20	SEABROOK, ROY	1745	2		2:L	4:L	26:W	22:W	14:L	9:L
21	DARE, LILLIAN	1213	2		19:D	22:W	3:L	18:D	8:L	16:L
22	TEE, NIGEL	909	2		11:W	21:L	5:L	20:L	25:W	13:L
23	TEE, NIKOLAI	859	2		18:L	24:L	19:W	16:L	26:D	17:D
24	WANG, TONY		1.5		25:L	23:W	10:L	14:L	18:L	26:D
25	TAYLOR, AARON	939	1		24:W	16:L	7:L	15:L	22:L	19:L
26	KRUGER, RUBEN		1		14:L	15:L	20:L	19:L	23:D	24:D
27	SYMON, BENJAMIN	1335	.5		0:D	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:
28	SYMON, CHRISTOPHER	1078	.5		0:D	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:

Let Me Entertain You

No.1

By *Martin Sims*

A new column from Martin Sims (Palmerston North)

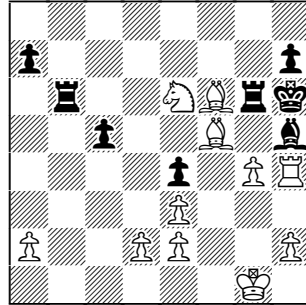
Many decades ago I realised I would never be a good chess player. How frustrating it is to have so much passion for something but so little talent. Instead of collecting opening variations I started collecting interesting/odd/fun games and positions and in each issue of our mag I would like to share some of these with you. If you would like to share your treasures please email me at martinsims54@gmail.com and I will acknowledge you if I publish your contributions.

This issue is dedicated to breaking the rules. You know, the rules we get taught when we take up our wonderful sport. One of these “rules” is to try and get both pawns in the centre. Play through the following game quickly (or just look at the diagram at the end).

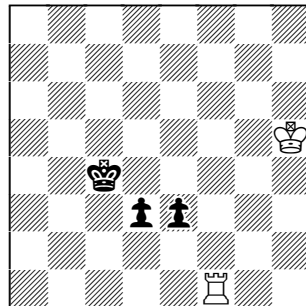
DeFotis, Greg – Bisguier, Arthur, US Championship, 1972

1.g3 e5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Bg2 c6 4.Nf3 e4 5.Nd4 d5 6.Nc3 Bc5 7.Nc2 dxc4 8.0-0 Bf5 9.Ne3 Bxe3 10.fxe3 Bg6 11.Qc2 Qe7 12.b3 cxb3 13.Qxb3 0-0? 14.Rxf6! gxf6 [14...Qxf6 15.Qxb7] 15.Ba3 c5 16.Nd5 Qd6 17.Rf1

Nd7 18.Bh3 f5 19.Bb2 Ne5 20.Bxf5 Kg7 [20...Bxf5 21.Rxf5 Rfe8 (21...f6 22.Nxf6+) 22.Nf6+] 21.Bh3?! [21.Bxg6! fxe6 (21...hxe6? 22.Rf6) 22.Rf4!!] 21...f5 [21...f6 22.Nxf6 Rxf6 23.Qxb7+] 22.Qxb7+ Kh6 23.Bc3! Rab8?! 24.Qc7 Qxc7 25.Nxc7 Nd7? 26.Ne6 Rg8 27.Rf4 Rb6 28.Rh4+ Bh5 29.Bxf5 Rg6 30.g4 Nf6 31.Bxf6 1-0



Amazing! White never moved his e or d pawns! And now on to another broken rule. Further on in our chess education we are taught that two pawns on the 6th will defeat a Rook, but ...



Prokes,L

White to play and draw, 1939

1.Kg4 e2 [1...d2 2.Kf3 Kd3 3.Ra1 e2 4.Ra3+ Kc2 5.Ra2+ Kc1 6.Ra1+ Kb2 7.Kxe2] **2.Rc1+ Kd4** [A. 2...Kb3 3.Kf3 d2 4.Rb1+ Kc2 5.Kxe2; B. 2...Kd5 3.Kf3 d2 4.Rc5+ Kxc5 5.Kxe2] **3.Kf3 d2 4.Rc4+ Kd3 5.Rd4+ Kxd4 6.Kxe2 Kc3 7.Kd1 Kd3 ½-½**

Next issue: a marvelous little book and a position from it shown to me in 2005 by Mark van der Hoorn.

George Trundle 2011 Continued

The last issue's George Trundle report included several games annotated by the winner (including one twice – sorry about that). Here are two more annotated games from that event.

Justin Davis writes;

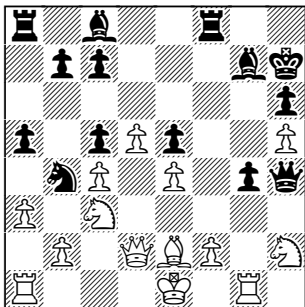
Round 8, having found myself out of the race for first place, the next best thing on the to do list is to collect the scalp of the top seed;

Alan Ansell – Justin Davis

George Trundle Qualifier

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 The King's Indian Defense - one of black's most aggressive choices, and a fav of World Champions Fischer and Kasparov **5.Be2 0-0 6.Be3** [6.Nf3 Is the classical main line, instead Alan chooses a sideline. White

wants to attack on the kingside himself rather than defend against black's automatic kingside attack in the main line] **6...e5 7.d5 a5 8.g4 Na6 9.g5** Although Whites attack on Black's kingside looks strong, g5 maybe shuts down the full use of c1-h6 line giving Black more defensive options, is h4 better? An interesting question for theory **9...Nd7 10.h4 f5 11.gxf6 Bxf6** I prefered Bx as Nx run into h5 which looked dangerous at the board **12.Nf3 Ndc5 13.Ng5?! White's** hoping to provoke a weakness [13.Qd2 Bg4 14.Ng5 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 h6 16.Ne6 Nxe6 17.dxe6 Bxh4 18.Nd5 h5 19.0-0-0 Nc5 20.Rdg1 Kh7 21.e7 Bxe7 22.Qxh5+ gxh5 23.Rxh5# Is a dream outcome for white and was seen in Havaskori-Berek Budapest 2005] **13...h6** now in fact White has given Black more defense options as h5 is now met with ...g5 **14.Nf3 Bg7 15.Rg1 Kh7 16.Qd2 Nb4** Black's knights set up many potential dangerous tactical motifs eg a3 Nb3, Nd3+ Rxf3 etc **17.h5?! [17.Bxc5!? dxc5 18.a3 Na6 19.0-0-0 Bd7 20.d6 a charging d-pawn post-mortem idea, which the iron monster shows is level for black 20...Bc6! 21.d7 Nb8!; 17.Rg3!?!] 17...g5!** closing down White traffic to Black's King **18.Bxc5** [All sacs against Black's King fail 18.Nxg5+ hxg5 19.Bxg5 Bf6-+; 18.Bxg5 hxg5 19.Nxg5+ Kh8 20.h6 Bf6-+] **18...dxc5 19.a3? = g4! 20.Nh2** [During the post mortem White thought different Knight moves may save his bacon 20.Nxe5? Bxe5 21.axb4 Qh4 22.Kd1 (22.0-0-0 Bf4) 22...cxb4+ and Black is winning 23.Nb5 Rxf2; 20.Ng5+ hxg5 21.axb4 cxb4 22.Nd1 Rf4 23.Ne3 Qf8 24.Nxg4 a4 and Black has a slight advantage] **20...Qh4!**



21.Nxg4? [The last chance was 21.Rg2 Rxf2 22.Rxf2 g3 23.0-0-0 gxh2=] **21...Bxg4 22.Bxg4** [No help was 22.Rxg4 Qh1+ 23.Bf1 Rxf2! 24.Qxf2 Nd3+ and black wins] **22...Rxf2! 23.axb4 Rg2+! 24.Kd1 Qxg4+!** White resigns. 0-1

And Bob Smith's contribution;

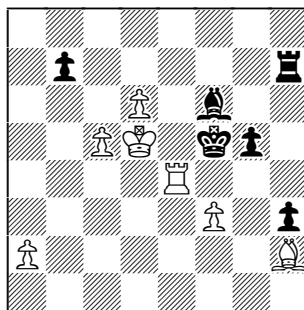
After a tired performance, including butchering at least one stone-cold win, with three rounds to go I was staring down the barrel of a ratings disaster. It was a tough run home against FM Bobby Cheng, IM Igor Goldenberg and GM Darryl Johansen. First up was Cheng – a draw in a wild game. Next up was Goldenberg – and I decided to have another sharp fight.

Bob Smith – Igor Goldenberg

George Trundle 2011

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.Be2 0-0 9.g4 Be6 10.g5 Nd7 11.h4 a5 12.Nd5 a4 13.Nd2 a3 14.b3 f5 15.gxf6 Nxf6 The first new move. In Smith-Goldenberg Oceania Zonal Fiji 2007 Igor played 15...Bxf6 and eventually lost. So this was the improvement. **16.Nxf6+ Bxf6 17.Bc4!?** [17.Bg4 Bf7] **17...d5 18.exd5 Bxd5 19.Ne4**

Nd4 [19...Bxc4 20.bxc4 White's pawns aren't pretty, but his knight certainly is, and black's b pawn is a target.] **20.c3 Bxc4 21.bxc4 Qa5 22.Kf1! Nf5 23.Qd5+ Kh8** [23...Qxd5 24.cxd5 Nxe3+ 25.fxe3 Bxh4+ 26.Ke2 Bf6 27.Rab1] **24.Qxa5 Rxa5 25.Bc5 Rc8 26.Bb4 Ra6 27.c5 Bxh4?! 28.Rd1! Rd8 29.Ke2 Raa8 30.Rxd8+ Rxd8** [30...Bxd8 31.Rd1] **31.Nd6 Nxd6 32.cxd6 Bf6 33.Rd1?! Better 33.Kf3!** idea Ke4 to d5. **33...Rd7?! Black misses his chance. Better was 33...Kg8. 34.Kd3 Kg8 35.Ke4 Kf7 36.Kd5 Rd8 37.Bc5!** To pin black down with 38.Rb1. **37...h5 38.Rb1 Rd7 39.f3 Bd8** [39...e4 40.fxe4 Bxc3 41.e5] **40.Bxa3 Kf6 41.c4 Kf5 42.c5 h4** [42...Kf4 43.Ke6] **43.Bb2 g5** [43...Bf6 44.Re1 Kf4 45.Bxe5+ Bxe5 46.Rxe5 Kxf3 47.Re7 Rd8 48.Rxg7] **44.Bxe5 h3 45.Re1 Rh7 46.Bh2 Bf6 47.Re4!**



White's rook multi-tasks, controlling the open file, holding back the black king, stopping ...g4 and stopping ...Rh4. **47...Rh8 48.d7** According to Fischer passed pawns must be pushed **48...Ra8 49.a4 Ra6 50.Re5+! Bxe5** [50...Kg6 51.Re6 Rxe6 52.Kxe6 Bd8 53.Be5 zugzwang. 53...Bf6 54.Bxf6 h2 55.d8Q h1Q 56.Qg8+ Kh6 57.Qxg5+ Kh7 58.Qg7#] **51.d8Q Bxh2 52.Qc8+ Kg6**

53.Qxh3 Bg1 54.Qf1?! (Simpler was 54.Qd7) 54...Bxc5 55.Kxc5 Rxa4 56.Qb1+ Kh6 57.Qxb7 Rf4 58.Kd6 Kg6 59.Ke5 Rf5+ 60.Ke4 Rf4+ 61.Ke3 Rh4 62.Kf2 Rf4 63.Kg3 Kf6 64.Qc6+ Kg7 65.Qe6 Kh7 66.Qd6 Kg7 67.Qe5+ Kg6 68.Qe8+ Kh6 69.Kf2 Rh4 [69...Rf6 70.Ke2 Rf4 71.Ke3 Rf6 72.Ke4 Rf4+ 73.Ke5 Kg7 74.Qh5] 70.Qe6+ Kg7 71.Qf5 Kh6 72.Qf6+ Kh5 73.Qg7 Black resigns. 1-0

I finished the tournament with a comfortable draw with black against Johansen and the consolation of scoring 2/3 against the top three place-getters. Rating damage was minimal.

The Tarrasch Chess GUI

By Bill Forster

In a recent edition of NZ Chess Magazine, Roger Nokes shared with readers an early foray into the world of chess computing. He described how he envisaged a program he decided to call "Chessbase" (it's true), and how he made a certain amount of progress towards creating the program. Roger's story made me smile. I know only too well how the chess and programming can make for an addictive combination that can absorb far too many hours. I'll start off by admitting that unlike Roger I have no claims as a visionary at all. My efforts have all been in recent years. Obviously I was aware that Chessbase and its ilk already "owned" the

market, and this was unlikely to be a path to fabulous riches.

Nevertheless, I decided to go ahead and build my own chess program. Why? As a ChessBase user I had learned how use it is for preparing for serious tournament games. But it seemed to me that the rich feature set that equips it so well for that task, makes it a less than ideal tool for other common chess tasks. I thought that might be a reason so many players seemed to be alienated and intimidated by chess computing. For example when I started working on this magazine, I noticed how many serious players are quite incapable of saving their games in standard computer format.

It seemed to me there were plenty of people who would benefit from a program that made it as simple as humanly possible to perform a few basic chess tasks;

- Set up an arbitrary position on the computer and see how a strong engine evaluates the position.
- Play a training game with the computer, from any position, with either colour. Allow the clocks to easily be set to arbitrary times and by default give the computer less time than the human.
- Store a modest set of annotated games on the computer in standard format. Perhaps to replace a drawer full of scoresheets, or maybe to create a tournament .pgn file.

For the last three years or so bringing this vision to life has been a very satisfying hobby activity for me. The result has been a

program I call “The Tarrasch Chess GUI”. You can download it from my website, www.triplehappy.com. If you have seen an old version of Tarrasch, take another look. It has recently had a major functionality boost. I get a lot of nice feedback from people all around the world who kindly tell me how much they enjoy using the program. Some of them express their appreciation in the traditional fashion with \$US which is particularly nice, although entirely optional. My goal is to steadily build on the firm foundation that now exists, and create an ever more capable program without losing the simplicity and ease of use that makes Tarrasch special. I’d like to widen the audience further as well, which will unfortunately compel me to develop skills in the strange and alien arts of promotion and marketing.

A more interesting (for me) challenge will be to broaden the range of computing platforms the program runs on. Windows has ruled the roost for two decades. But new and interesting devices and environments seem set to marginalise the traditional PC and its operating system in the years ahead.

The “GUI” part of the name indicates that Tarrasch is a “Graphical User Interface”. The world of chess computing is divided into GUIs and engines. Engines are the programs that understand chess and calculate good moves. GUIs are the programs that show a chess board on the screen and allow you to make moves with the mouse. An engine without a GUI is like a brain without a body – it has no way of

Continued on Page 31

A Mutual Zugzwang

By IM Herman Claudius van Riemsdijk

In my upcoming book, about tactics, I deal mainly with the four tools chess players use to enforce their tactical needs. Three of them are very obvious: checks, threats and captures. The fourth one we find almost exclusively in the endgame using the German term 'zugzwang'. I like Hooper and Whyld's quotation in "The Oxford Companion to Chess" (2nd edition, page 458): "zugzwang, a German word, now Anglicised, for a position in which whoever has the move would obtain a worse result than if it were the opponent's turn to play. All chess positions may be classified in one of three categories according to their time characteristics: (1) the great majority, in which both players could profit by having the move; (2) those in which only one player would be at a disadvantage on account of having to move; (3) those in which both players would be at a disadvantage if obliged to move. Some authorities refer to (2) and (3) as zugzwang and reciprocal zugzwang respectively...". Although I would add that reciprocal zugzwang is more commonly known as mutual zugzwang.

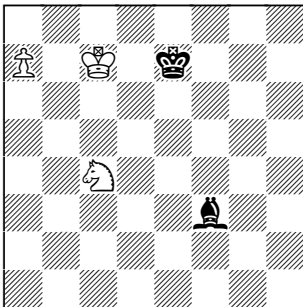
In modern chess, zugzwang is intimately connected to stalemate. If stalemate wasn't a draw, a rule universalised in the 19th Century, chess would be a totally different

game.

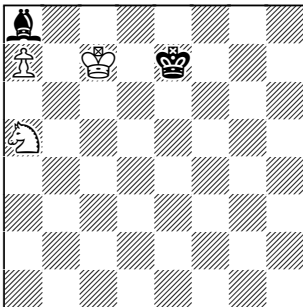
I found this instructive anonymous study in '365 Selected Endings' (Norman Whitaker & Glenn Hartleb, published as a bilingual German/English edition in Heidelberg, 1960, diagram 227).

Anonymous

'365 Selected Endings' # 227

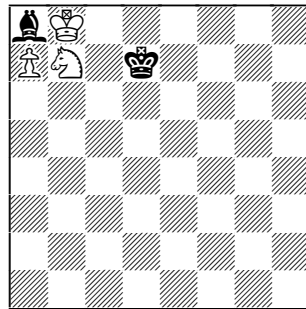


After 1.Na5 Ba8



we come to the key position, a winning constellation for white. It doesn't matter if the black king stands on e6, e7 or e8. **2.Kc8! Ke8** [2...Kd6 3.Kb8 Kd7 4.Nb7 wins, as we'll see later on] **3.Nc4! Ke7** [3...Bg2 4.Nd6+ Ke7 5.Nb7] **4.Kb8! Kd8** [4...Kd7? 5.Nb6+ Kd8 6.Nxa8; 4...Bg2?

5.Na5 Ba8 6.Kxa8] **5.Na5** Taking the bishop allows black to use a standard drawing technique; the defending king goes to the square of the same color on which the knight stands. So [5.Kxa8 Kc8] The knight stands on c4, so the king goes to the white square c8, not c7. This has to do with the inability of the knight to break its even rhythm. He always goes white/black/white/black. This allows black's king to shuttle between c7 and c8 forever confining white's king to a8. **Kd7 6.Nb7!**

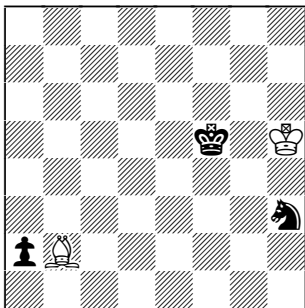


This is a mutual zugzwang. If black plays he loses immediately and if it's white turn to move it's already a draw! **6...Kc6 7.Kxa8 Kc7 8.Nd6**, winning.

With the black king on e6, white wins with the immediate **2.Kb8 Kd6** (2...Kd7 3.Nb7) **3.Nc4+ Kd7 4.Nb6+ Kd8 5.Nxa8** and with the black king on e8, white finishes the position with **2.Nc4 Ke7** (Black cannot move the bishop because of 3.Nd6+ followed by 4.Nb7) **3.Kb8 Kd8** (3...Kd7 4.Nb6+) **4.Na5 Kd7 5.Nb7** etc.

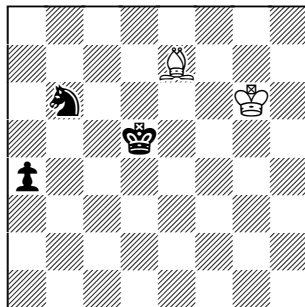
After this explanation it's not difficult to follow the finish to the game Gashimov-Ponomariov (Fide World Cup – Kanthy-

Mansiysk, 2011) in which the following position occurred:

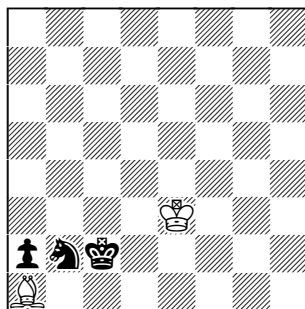


82.Kh4 Nf4 83.Kg3 Ke4 84.Ba1 Nd3 85.Kg2 Ke3 86.Kg3 Nc5 87.Kg2 Ke2 (87...Kd2) 88.Kg3 Na4 89.Kg2 Nb6 (89...Kd2) 90.Kg3 Nc4 91.Kg2 Ne3+ 92.Kg3 Nd1 93.Kg2 Ke3 94.Kg3 Kd2 95.Kf3 Kd3 96.Kf4 Kc2 97.Ke4 Nb2 98.Ke3 Na4! (98...Kb1?? 99.Kd2 =) 99.Ke2 (reaching the anonymous study, with colours reversed) 99...Kc1! 100.Kd3 Kb1 101.Kd2 Nb2 (second diagram from the anonymous study) 102.Kc3 Kxa1 103.Kc2 Nd3, 0-1.

Possibly the main reason that this captured my attention was the fact that I had witnessed the game Sakaev - Sunye (São Paulo, 1991) and in those days we spend a lot of time (no tablebases!) after the game to find the right solution. After 74.Kxg6 the next diagram was on the board.



The game followed with 74...Kc4 75.Kf5 Nd5 76.Bf8 Nb4 77.Ke4 a3 78.Bg7 Kb3 79.Bf8 Kc2 80.Be7 a2 81.Bf6 Nd3 82.Ba1 Nb2 83.Ke3 Nc4+ [83...Na4 84.Ke2 Nc5 85.Ke1 Kb1 86.Kd1 (86.Bg7 Nd3+ 87.Kd2 Nb2) 86...Na4 87.Kd2 Nb2] 84.Ke2 Nb6 85.Bg7 Na4 86.Ba1 Nc5 [86...Kc1!] 87.Bg7 Nb3 88.Ke3 Nd2 89.Ke2 Nb1 90.Ba1 Nc3+ 91.Ke3 Na4 92.Ke2 Nb2 [92...Kc1!] 93.Ke3



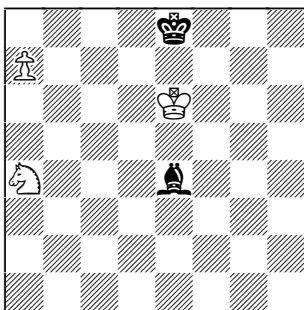
93...Kb1? [93...Na4! establishes the winning constellation for black] 94.Kd2 Now we have a familiar mutual zugzwang, black to move is in zugzwang and can only draw. 94...Nc4+ We have already seen why taking the piece in the corner is only good enough for a draw, 94...Kxa1 white replies 95.Kc1, putting the king on the same

coloured square as the knight on b2 and the since the knight can only move to an opposite coloured square it can never drive white's king away. It is worth noting that it is this same property of the knight that creates the mutual zugzwang in our key second position. **95.Kd1 Na5 96.Bg7** [96.Kd2?? Nb3+ 97.Kd1 Nxa1!] **96...Nb3 97.Bf6 Nc5 98.Bg7** [98.Ba1?? Na4 99.Kd2 Nb2] **98...Nd3 99.Ba1 Nb4 100.Bg7** [now 100.Kd2 , on the same color of the knight's square, would be ok] **100...Nc2 101.Kd2 Na3 102.Kd1 Nc4 103.Ba1 Ne3+ 104.Kd2** ½-½.

Now we look at some related studies:

F.J. Prokop

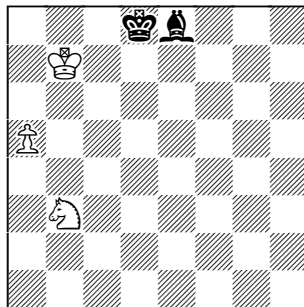
365 Selected Endings # 228



1.Ke5! (1.Nb6? Bb7! 2.Kd6 Kd8 3.Nc4 Kc8 4.Na5 Ba8 with a draw) **1...Ba8 2.Nb6 Bb7 3.Ke6! Kd8 4.Kd6 Ke8 5.Kc7 Bg2 6.Nc8** (or 6.Nc4 and 7.Nc5) **6...Ba8 7.Kb8 Kd8** (7...Kd7 8.Nb6+) **8.Nd6 Kd7 9.Nb7** and so on.

Kuznetsov

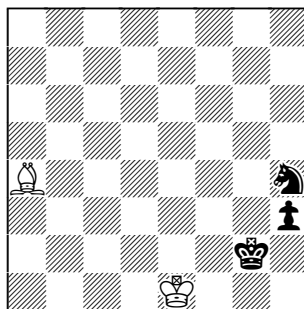
365 Selected Endings # 229



1.a6 Bh5 [1...Bb5 2.a7 Kd7 3.Kb8 Bc6 4.Nc5+; 1...Bf7 2.Na5 Bd5+ 3.Kb8; 1...Bg6 2.Nc5 followed by Kb8] **2.Nd4!** [2.Na5? Be2 3.a7 Bf3+ 4.Kb8 Ba8! as we have already seen] **2...Kd7 3.Kb8 Bf7 4.Nc6 Bd5 5.Na5** and with the pawn still on a6, there is no secret.

Sam Loyd

365 Selected Endings # 230



1.Bd7! [1.Bc6+? Kg1 2.Bh1 Kxh1 3.Kf1 Kh2 4.Kf2 Ng6 5.Kf1 Kg3 6.Kg1 Ne5 7.Kh1 Ng4 8.Kg1 h2+] **1...h2 2.Bc6+ Kg1 3.Bh1 Ng2+ 4.Ke2 Kxh1 5.Kf1**, with a draw as we explained in the Sakaev-Sunye game.

Readers Mailbag

by US Correspondent Steve Willard

Steve Willard's recent columns recounting his correspondence chess adventures have provoked interest from the curious and those keen to adopt his unconventional tactics.

Q: Thanks for shedding some illumination on the murky world of postal chess. I wonder if you have tested your mettle with international competition? If so, do tell...

A: You're quite welcome man! That's a bit of a sticky wicket there but let me do the math-- yep, been over seven years now so statute of limitations has been reached and I can legally discuss. I did try my hand at international correspondence chess, yes, and was having a good go of it, but then the wheels came off. I was representing the United States of America (well, actually I was playing one of the lower boards for "Team Guamanian" but that's a story for a different day) in an 11-team event. Okay, so about a dozen moves into the games and I decided to up the ante.

Borrowing an old trick from Arthur Conan Doyle, I mailed anonymous letters (from London, I should add) to each of my opponents: words literally cut out of

magazines and pasted on a plain white sheet, which simply stated, "I know what you have done! The Truth will be Revealed and Justice Not Denied! I have told all to the News of the World!" My ploy worked like a charm as within a couple days of receipt, three (yes, 3!) of my opponents had packed up and fled to parts unknown. An outstanding success I am sure all readers will agree! I highly recommend this tactic for any important correspondence tournament.

Now 3-0 is an admirable way to start any tournament and I should have stopped there and just played chess, but I couldn't. I am just too—what is the word?—competitive for my own good sometimes. I waited several months and then launched another of my devious schemes but this time disaster of a magnitude rarely seen in postal chess ensued: I was duly censured and subsequently declared "Persona non grata" by several countries. And thus ended my international dreams. I should like to note, however, that I am still on very good terms with the whole of Australasia so please keep me in mind for future events!

Q: I will be visiting Orlando, Florida soon and wondered if you might send me name/address of "Old-timer" from your previous article as I thought it might be fun to play in a senior event whilst the grandkids run amok at Disney World.

A: Thanks for the kudos! Ahhh, when I wrote "he traded in his cane for a Segway Personal Transporter and soon became a fierce competitor on

the senior circuit,” I really should have made it clear that he had abandoned chess for tennis. Hard to believe, perhaps, but I’m telling the truth.

Though his serve and volley still needs some work, he is amazingly agile and quick to the net. Add the ability to perform sudden 360s on his Segway (picture a pirouetting ballerina) and you get an idea about the power behind his returns. My sources also report that his backhand is particularly wicked, though the sudden g-forces do cause the occasional blackout. Not to worry, Old-timer is securely lashed to his steed (strong bungee cords) and though unconscious he remains a feared opponent: his trajectory is unpredictable plus it is hard to keep one’s composure with the knowledge that, at any moment, old-timer’s grip will fail and his racket will become a high-velocity javelin.

For a time, there was an excellent video on YouTube but it was removed because toward the end of the clip, Old-timer had rocketed from the court and plunged into a nearby pond. You should have heard the applause! Sadly, at this point, his Segway shorted out and the resultant voltage emission had a devastating effect on the delicate aquatic eco-system. But, hey, if you play tennis I’m sure he’d love to meet you!

Q: I find your story about El Diablo particularly fascinating, speaking as a licensed proponent of “modern inter-subjective psychoanalysis.” Please provide more details surrounding your decision to accept draw offer so that I may include in future lectures .

A: Oh, you are too kind! Let’s see...what else can I divulge? Well, for starters you should know that in the beginning I had tried to shield myself from paranoia. I kept telling myself “look, if convicts went about exacting revenge every time they lost a postal chess game, then surely somebody would have caught on by now.” And then I picked up my Chess Life magazine to examine the Golden Knights registration form. To my horror, I immediately noticed a small box near the bottom of the mail-in form: “Check here if you do not wish to have an opponent who is incarcerated.” Minutes later I was being rushed to the hospital with acute chest pains and sudden-onset hyperventilation!

Look, here’s the thing you need to realize: Americans are a highly litigious lot and for this reason businesses here employ a staggering number of lawyers and their primary job (their *raison d’être*) is to minimize financial liability. That said, if you closely examine any product, say in the grocery store, you will see all manner of warnings and disclaimers. Now, and this part is crucial, many of these inscriptions were added precisely after a real person had been injured and then subsequently awarded, via trial by jury, some generous compensation package-- and it makes no difference if the injury resulted from extreme stupidity on the part of the victim or not!

Pick up a bottle of orange juice or large jar of olives, for example, and you’re liable to see things along these lines: “do not drop container on foot” / “do not snort contents into nasal sinus” / “do not pour liquid into

eyes or ears” / “do not attempt to bake, grill, boil, steam, or microwave package” / “do not introduce contents to lawnmowers, chainsaws, nor any gasoline reservoir attached to a mechanical device” / and so on and so forth. That being the case, when I saw that little opt-out box on the tournament form, I became absolutely cognizant, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that somebody somewhere had previously turned down a draw offer and then been horribly stalked & terrorized! May sound crazy to you...but first go ahead and watch “Cape Fear” and “Dead Calm” (both movies undoubtedly based on true events) and then get back to me...

Q: Have you any idea how to more widely popularize chess?

A: I do indeed! And if allowed by the fine editorial staff of this fantastic magazine, I hope to be able to present my recommendations on these very pages in the coming year. Until then... I would like to end by wishing all y'all a Very, Merry Christmas.

Letter from the Kingside

Remembering Tal

by Roger Nokes

It is nearly 20 years since the world lost one of its true chess geniuses. In June 1992 Mikhail Tal, the eighth world chess champion, died leaving behind a legacy of immortal games. In 2006 the Russian Chess Federation initiated an annual Tal Memorial Tournament in Moscow in recognition of Tal's stature within the chess community, and the 2011 version of this event has just begun as I write this column.

A number of memorial tournaments are held around the world each year in recognition of some of the chess greats. One of the most long running is the Capablanca Memorial held annually in Cuba. I am interested in how chess players invited to these events approach these tournaments. After all they are not just another Linares, or Wijk aan Zee or any other of the multitude of regular contests in the chess calendar. Memorial events have a special focus, a theme if you like, whereby the tournament is more than just a chess competition. A player of renown is to be remembered and respected for their contribution to our chess heritage. Do the players consciously adjust their preparation in some way to recognise their predecessor? Do they adjust their play?

Mikhail Tal is almost unique in the annals of chess history. He rose rapidly to the chess summit, defeating Botvinnik in the 1960 World Championship at the age of 23. The score was emphatic – 12½ – 8½. What is incredible in light of the modern game is that Botvinnik and Tal had never met over the board before their championship showdown. You can be assured that if Anand and Carlsen play for the world title in the next few years they will already have a healthy 60 or some games between them on record.

Tal, “the Magician from Riga”, brought a combative style of chess that was characterised by impenetrable tactics and wild sacrifices. In the era of powerful chess engines many of these sacrifices have been demonstrated to have been unsound. Who cares? Tal played these sacrifices for many reasons, often more for psychological than chessical reasons. He placed his opponent, and it wasn't only inferior opponents, under enormous pressure and forced them into “his world”. Have we seen such a player since then? We have certainly seen great attacking players but I don't think any of them match Tal for his sheer wizardry on the chess board.

One gets the impression that Tal viewed life as a source of joy and fun. His chess was almost what one would call cheeky. How dare he sacrifice pieces, against world class grandmasters? There is a story recounted in Gligoric and Wade's book on the World Chess Championship (Batsford Ltd, 1972) of an incident in the 1959 Candidates Tournament. Tal was prone to starring at his opponents during a game,

and in silent protest Pal Benko donned dark glasses. Tal's response was to mimic his opponent but he selected glasses of outlandish shape, causing laughter in the tournament hall.

I don't think Tal took himself that seriously at times. A couple of his quotes from the Wikipedia website are worth recounting:

"There are two kinds of sacrifices: sound ones, and mine."

"They compare me to Lasker, which is an exaggerated honour. He made mistakes in every game and I only in every second one!"

And then a quote that gives you some idea of exactly the type of chess maze his opponents would face when playing him:

"You must take your opponent into a deep dark forest where $2+2=5$, and the path leading out is only wide enough for one."

Unfortunately Tal's love for life also translated into a dissipative lifestyle of drinking and smoking that left him with poor health from an early age. During the Candidates Tournament of 1962 when he was only 26 he had to withdraw for health reasons. One wonders to what level Tal could have risen if his body had not let him down. While plagued with poor health even in his later years he was a force to be reckoned with, winning, jointly with Karpov, the Tournament of Stars in Montreal in 1979. In this event he was the only undefeated player.

So let us return to the Tal Memorial and the

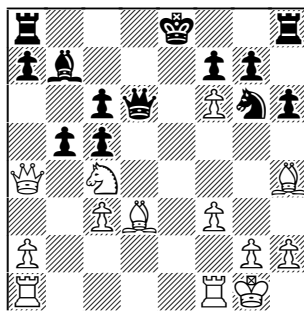
question I posed. Do the players invited to this event think about Tal himself and his style of play? Only 4 rounds have passed so far and despite the high percentage of draws there have been some interesting and somewhat unconventional games. A major contributor is Magnus Carlsen, not that much different in age to Tal when he swept away Botvinnik. If you haven't looked at the games from this event, and by the time you read this article it will be well over, take some time to do so. I would highly recommend Carlsen's games against Gelfand and Kramnik. In both cases Carlsen's play is provocative and highly creative. Poor Gelfand must have felt he was truly in a "deep dark forest where 2+2=5". His position looked overwhelming and yet through precise play Carlsen was the one who found the narrow "path leading out". Similarly Kramnik must have been bewildered by Carlsen's concessions in the opening, only to find that he was fighting for his life for a draw. I think Tal would have approved!

In memory of the man and his chess here is one of his creations.

Mihail Tal - Hans Joachim Hecht
Varna Olympiad 1962

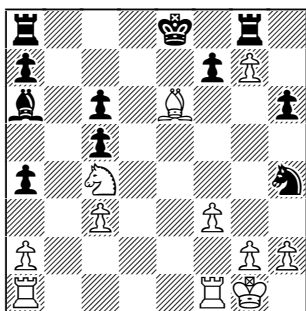
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.Nc3 Bb4
Hecht chooses a solid defensive opening. Why play to your opponent's strength?
5.Bg5 Bb7 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 d6 9.Nd2 e5 10.f3 Qe7 11.e4 Nbd7 12.Bd3 Nf8
The position is positional in nature with the typical tensions that arise from the Nimzo-Indian Defence. White has the two bishops but his crippled queenside pawn structure makes it difficult for him to

activate them. Black, having exchanged his dark squared bishop looks to camp his pawns on black squares and confine the white bishops. **13.c5!?** Tal will not be constrained and looks to sacrifice material in order to open diagonals for his bishops. The evaluation of the move is probably not objective. The resulting position is probably fine for Black but... **13...dxc5 14.dxc5 Qxe5 15.Qa4+ c6** [15...N8d7 16.Bb5 Rd8 17.Qxa7 Qxc3 18.Rd1 c6 19.Be2 Ba8 seems good for Black. The move played weakens the d6 square which leads to important themes later.] **16.0-0 Ng6** [16...Qd6 17.e5 Qxd3 18.exf6 looks likely the way that Tal would have continued (but who knows!). He has open lines against the Black king at a small material cost.] **17.Nc4 Qe6 18.e5 b5** Black appears to have controlled matters and White has a number of pieces under attack. **19.exf6!**



Fantastic, classic Tal. The chess engine tells me the position is lost for White but watch how Tal finds ways to keep his attack rolling even without his queen. **19...bxa4 20.fxg7 Rg8** [20...Kd7? 21.Rfd1 Kc8 22.gxh8Q+ Nxh8 23.Bf5 is a disaster for

Black. Notice the key role the d6 square plays in White's attack. Did Tal see its significance when he played Qa4+?] **21.Bf5 Nxh4** [21...Qxf5 22.Nd6+ Kd7 23.Nxf5 Nxh4 24.Nxh4 Rxc7 looks like a reasonable alternative although it depends on which minor pieces Black would like left on the board. While a pawn down White has a superior pawn structure, better development and an easier game to play.] **22.Bxe6 Ba6**



[22...fxe6 23.Nd6+ again leads to a less than pleasant ending for Black. Notice the d6 theme again. This time forking the black bishop instead of the queen.] **23.Nd6+ Ke7** **24.Bc4 Rxc7** **25.g3 Kxd6** **26.Bxa6 Nf5** We have arrived at another ending of a similar to those considered earlier. In this case Black has retained his knight instead of his awkwardly placed bishop, but again White has plenty of play for the pawn. Tal finishes clinically. **27.Rab1 f6** **28.Rfd1+ Ke7** **29.Re1+ Kd6** **30.Kf2 c4** **31.g4 Ne7** **32.Rb7 Rag8** **33.Bxc4 Nd5** **34.Bxd5 cxd5** **35.Rb4 Rc8** **36.Rxa4 Rxc3** **37.Ra6+ Kc5** **38.Rxf6 h5** **39.h3 hxg4** **40.hxg4 Rh7** **41.g5 Rh5** **42.Rf5 Rc2+** **43.Kg3 Kc4** **44.Ree5** The

double rook ending is very good for White and the passed g pawn will be decisive. **44...d4** **45.g6 Rh1** **46.Rc5+ Kd3** **47.Rxc2 Kxc2** **48.Kf4 Rg1** **49.Rg5 1-0**

The Tarrasch Chess GUI cont from page 22

interacting with the world and manifesting its thoughts. Most chess computing hobbyists actually prefer to write engines rather than GUIs. It is easier to get started and perhaps more fun. Early in the process I actually wrote a small engine (“the Tarrasch Toy Engine”) to complement my new GUI, but that is a whole other story!

If you are interested in Tarrasch, you can read much more about it on the web.

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