

New Zealand Chess

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**2010 George Trundle Tournament
Provides its First NZ IM Norm**

Ted Frost – 1927 - 2010



**Puchen Wang draws with super GM Gata Kamsky at
World Open**

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IM Guy West Returns to Claim 2010 George Trundle

Mike Steadman Gains First NZ IM norm at GT

By Mike Steadman

The George Trundle IM qualifying tournament scored a notable success this year by producing an IM norm for one of the Kiwis, meeting the rationale for the tournament. Fittingly the norm went to the tournament's driving force, organiser Mike Steadman. Mike reports.

This year's tournament was complicated by the normal October time slot coinciding with the Olympiad in Russia, so I had to shift the event to the July holidays. I wanted to try and refresh the field a bit (I say that every year, but I try). So we invited Bobby Cheng as a replacement for Tim Reilly, he was a Kiwi, but now flies an Aussie flag, so his FM qualification was a direct swap. Solomon's rating of over 2400 is too good to turn down and allows us to have some lower rated Kiwis in the field, so for the 5th time running Solo gets the nod again. Darryl Johansen was replaced with the return of Guy West who played in the first event we ran.

An invite went to Gawain Jones again, but he is slack at email and when I heard that Herman Van Riemsdijk was keen to come down, I locked him in. A few days later Gawain finally responded and said he would play, but too late. We had our

standard Kiwis as well except for Croad who had gone overseas, allowing Daniel Shen, the winner of last year's qualifier, to come into the field. The rating average meant a 6.5 score from 9 was required for a norm.

At the last minute Stephen Lukey had family issues and couldn't play. Gino Thornton was promoted and luckily Bobby Cheng got a huge rating lift in the July list, so the average stayed above the magic 2286 average required for a 6.5 score IM norm.

Round 1

The heavyweight clash of the round was Van Riemsdijk vs Solomon, Stephen seemed to be pressing but Herman managed to hold him out and a draw was the result. Smith vs Cheng was a Bd2 line of the Winawer, Smith plays it a lot tamer than Solomon and there wasn't much in the game and it ended calmly in a draw. Hart vs Chen was a solid Queens Gambit line, Daniel was as solid as ever and never looked in danger, a draw was the final result. West vs Watson saw Bruce return to his Sicilian, Guy played 2. f4 and a maneuvering closed position soon developed. Bruce looked comfortable and although he lost a pawn, the opposite coloured Bishops should have ensured a

draw, but a one move blunder tossed the half point away. Steadman vs Thornton was a Classical French. Gino swapped all the bits on d4 thinking he had an easy draw, but his pieces were awkwardly placed and he soon lost a pawn and although he had pressure, his long term survival chances weren't good and he duly lost.

van Riemsdijk, Herman (2416) - Solomon, Stephen (2423)

George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (1.4), 03.07.2010

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bb3 Be7 8.Be3 0-0 9.f4 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 e5 11.fxe5 dxe5 12.Bxe5 Qa5 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.0-0 Be6 15.Qf3 Rac8 16.Nd5 Qc5+ 17.Kh1 Bxb2 18.Rad1 b5 19.Qf2 Rfe8 20.a4 Qxf2 21.Rxf2 bxa4 22.Bxa4 Red8 23.c4 Ba3 24.Bb5 g6 25.Rfd2 Kh8 26.h3 h5 27.e5 Bc5 28.Kh2 h4 29.g3 hgx3+ 30.Kxg3 Bf5 31.h4 Rb8 32.Kf4? Herman is tired from the long trip over and his danger awareness deserts him, he missed the pawn sac which gives Black a lot of activity, this is when Stephen is at his most dangerous. Nf6 was better to swap a pair of rooks and a draw would be the right result. **32...a6 33.Bxa6 Rb3 34.Re2** The position is bad now, question of whether Black can win, the White King can't get safe. [34.Bb5 Rh3 35.Re1 Bf8 36.Kg5 Rf3 37.e6 fxe6; 34.Rg2 Rh3 35.Re1 Rxh4+ 36.Kg3 Rh3+ 37.Kf4 f6 38.Rge2 Ra8 39.Bb7 Bf8 40.exf6 Bd6+ 41.Re5 Ra2] **34...Kg7** [34...Bf8! 35.Rg2 Bh6+ 36.Rg5 Rh3 37.Rdg1 Rxh4+ 38.Kf3 Be4+ 39.Kf2 Bxd5 40.cxd5 Bxg5 41.Rxg5 Rxd5 And Black wins easily, the Bf8 move was the key to see, this repositioning of the Bishop is a good trick

to remember, often occurs and can be a winner.] **35.h5 Ra8 36.hxg6 Bxg6 37.Bb5 Raa3 38.Rf1 Rd3 39.Nf6 Re3 40.Rxe3 Bxe3+ 41.Kg4 Bd4 42.Nh5+ [42.Re1 Ra2 43.Nh5+ Kg8 44.Bc6 Bc3 45.Nf6+ Kg7 46.Re3 Bd4] 42...Kh6 43.Nf4 Bxe5 44.Nxg6 fxxg6 45.Rf3 Ra2 46.Rh3+ Kg7 47.Bc6 Rf2 48.Rf3 Rg2+ 49.Kh3 Rg1 50.Bd7 g5 51.c5 Rd1 52.c6 Rd4 53.Rf5 g4+ 54.Kg2 Bc7 55.Rg5+ Kf6 56.Rxg4** Draw agreed ½-½

Round 2

Hart vs Smith; could Ralph bounce back in his 2nd year at the GT, he was killed by Smith last year. It was not to be, the madness kicked in and Smith seemed to play normal moves and Ralph collapsed. Cheng vs West was an interesting b6 line of the Benko. Bobby seemed to get a nice position, refused the draw offer, lost a pawn and then the game.. Watson vs Van Riemsdijk was an unlucky loss for Herman, he appeared to be slightly better, but Watson managed to swap all the heavy pieces and Herman miss-read a knight endgame. The final moves were like a composition by Bruce, another example of his endgame skill. Shen vs Thornton was a French with Daniel playing his anti French against the Classical line. Gino tried a different move, sacrificed a number of pawns, but was finally wrapped up by Daniel, a good win. Solomon vs Steadman was a Stonewall Dutch, reaching the normal position with White owning e5 with his knights. But a central bust by Black found the knight in a precarious position and the light squared Black Bishop was a monster on e4. The light squares proved the undoing and a quick combination in the

middle of the board ended Solo's resistance

Solomon, Stephen - Steadman, Mike

George Trundle 2010, 04.07.2010

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 Stephen surprised me with d4 last year, he is predominantly an e4 man, last year he tricked me into a modern, this year, e6 allows me to swap to a French if they play d4. The Dutch was my "new" weapon against d4 for this event. **3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 c6 5.Nf3 d5 6.0-0 Bd6 7.b3 Qe7 8.a4 a5** It is important to block the a pawn, Kasparov showed against Short that a good plan for White here is to play a5 and steamroll the queenside pawns up the board with a Queen on b2 and rooks on the files. **9.Ba3 Bxa3 10.Nxa3 0-0 11.Nc2 Nbd7** Black can play the other way which is b6, Bb7 and Na6 to b4, but I thought that Stephen was unfamiliar with this opening so I would try the Bishop on a6, has its advantages, but does not support d5 like it does on b7. **12.Nce1 b6 13.Nd3 Ba6 14.Rc1 Rac8 15.Nfe5 Ne4** I wanted to encourage f3. weakens e3 and also blocks the g2 Bishop from putting pressure on d5 when c5 is played. **16.f3 Nef6 17.Qd2 Nxe5 18.Nxe5 c5=** Offered a draw here, not because I thought he would take it, but just to put him off track a bit. I had seen these kind of positions where the isolated pawns are weak in the endgame, but offer dynamic chances in the heavy piece middle game, Stephen naturally refused. **19.f4 Rfd8 20.cxd5 Nxd5 21.dxc5 Nb4** [21...Rxc5? 22.Nc6 A tricky variation in some ways to see, but a good one to remember, White is winning as Black has nothing for the exchange.] **22.Qe3 bxc5 23.Bf3 Qd6** This was the kind of position I had seen when I played c5, it is equal, but

easier for Black to play. **24.Kf2 Nd5 25.Bxd5 exd5** Look at the transformation. the Knight on e5 looks beautiful, but does nothing, just see in a few moves how good the Black Bishop becomes, Black is close to winning now, the white squares are terminally weak. **26.Rfd1 Qb6 27.Rd2 Bb7 28.Rdc2 d4 29.Qd3 Be4 30.Qc4+ Rd5 31.e3 Rcd8 32.Rd2 Qh6** Discovered a weakness in my chess in this event, I struggle to see opponents horizontal moves (only Rooks and Queens are the culprits), however I see them for myself, this was a good one, the Queen is going to invade the white squares, note the loose Rook on d2. **33.h4 Kf8 34.exd4?? Rxe5** And so the mighty Knight is gone, exd4 was a mistake, but in time trouble and a bad position, good moves are hard to find. **35.Qb5 Qh5 36.Rc3 Red5 37.Rxc5 Qf3+ 38.Ke1 Qxg3+ 39.Kd1 Qg1+ 40.Ke2 Qg4+** White Resigns. Was just important to get to the time control and keep his King on this side of the board, now Black takes everything with check and wins as he pleases. A nice win over a strong IM. 0-1

Round 3

Things weren't getting any easier for Ralph, West vs Hart was one of his weird openings and it went very nicely for Guy. He reached two Bishops vs two Knights and then converted rather easily. Van Riemsdijk vs Cheng was another sad defeat for Herman. He had completely outplayed Bobby in a Tarrasch French and in time trouble allowed some tricks, missed a combination and lost. Steadman vs Watson was a Scandinavian which was a surprise, Mike chose an early Bd2 line which would transpose into a Nf6 Caro Kann when Black played gxf6. But Bruce played exf6

and was slightly worse. Bruce played slightly inaccurately and his position was soon lost. Thornton vs Solomon was a Gino special, he got his openings mixed up and confused Stephen, who didn't play the best line giving Gino plenty of play. He never gave Stephen a chance and wrapped up the point. Smith vs Chen saw Smith try to play a main line Slav as White with the sharp g4 line, but Daniel knew it well and diffused it easily, another comfortable draw for Daniel.

Thornton,Gino(2181) - Solomon,Stephen (2423)

George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (3.4), 05.07.2010

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Qd2 f5 9.e3 0-0 10.g3 Nc6 11.Bd3 e5 12.Ne2 b6 13.0-0 cxd4 14.cxd4 Bb7 15.Bb2 Qe7 16.Bc4 Na5 17.Ba2 e4 18.Nc3 Rad8 19.fxe4 fxe4 20.Rxf8+ Kxf8 21.Rf1+ Nf6 22.Rf5 Ba6 23.Nd5 Qe6 24.Qb4+ Kf7 25.Nxf6 Qxa2 26.Nh5+ Ke6 27.Nxg7+ Kd7 28.d5 Kc8 29.Ne6 Be2 30.Qc3+ Nc4 31.Nxd8 Qxb2 32.Qxb2 Nxb2 33.Nc6 Nc4 34.Kf2 Bg4 35.Rf8+ Kc7 36.a4 a5 37.Rf4 Bd1 38.Rxe4 Nb2 39.Nd4 Bxa4 40.h4 Kd6 41.Re6+ Kc5 42.h5 Nc4 43.Rh6 Kxd5 44.Rxh7 Ne5 45.Rg7 Be8 46.h6 Bg6 47.Nf3 Nd3+ 48.Ke2 Be4 49.Rd7+ Kc5 50.Rxd3 a4 51.Rd4 Black resigns 1-0

Round 4

Solomon vs Chen and things got worse for Solo, against Daniel he tried too hard and lost again. Watson vs Thornton saw Gino win, sacrificing a pawn and getting very active, Gino crashed through for a nice win. Cheng vs Steadman was another

Stonewall Dutch and showed again what a great weapon these kind of openings are against juniors. Van Riemsdijk vs Hart was another failure for Ralph, he was surprised by Herman with a Pirc and was outplayed with Herman's best win of the event. Smith vs West was a gift to Guy, Bob had a huge position and was really pressuring when he made an inexplicable blunder and dropped a piece in the middle of the board.

Shen,Daniel (2163) - Solomon,Stephen (2423)

George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (4.1), 06.07.2010

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.d3 Nc6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.c3 d6 6.Nbd2 0-0 7.Bb3 Be6 8.Bc2 d5 9.0-0 dxe4 10.dxe4 a5 11.a4 Bc5 12.Qe2 Nh5 13.Nb3 Bxb3 14.Bxb3 Nf4 15.Bxf4 exf4 16.Rad1 Qe7 17.Qb5 Ra6 18.Rd5 Rb6 19.Qc4 Bd6 20.Re1 Be5 21.Red1 g6 22.Rb5 Bd6 23.Rdd5 Rxb5 24.Rxb5 Rd8 25.Rxb7 Ne5 26.Nxe5 Bxe5 27.Rb5 f3 28.h4 fxe2 29.Qxf7+ Qxf7 30.Bxf7+ Kxf7 31.Rxe5 Rd2 32.Rxa5 Rxb2 33.Rc5 Re2 34.Rc4 h5 35.Kxg2 Kf6 36.a5 Ra2 37.Rc5 Ra1 38.Kf3 Rh1 39.a6 Ra1 40.Rc6+ Ke5 41.Rxg6 c6 42.Rxc6 Rxa6 43.Rc5+ Kd6 44.Rxh5 Rc6 45.Rh6+ Ke5 46.Rh5+ Ke6 47.Kf4 Rxc3 48.Rh6+ Kf7 49.f3 Ra3 50.Rd6 Ke7 51.e5 Ra4+ 52.Kg5 Ra1 53.f4 Rg1+ 54.Kf5 Rh1 55.Rh6 Rf1 56.Rh7+ Kf8 57.e6 Kg8 58.Rd7 Kf8 59.h5 Rf2 60.Kg6 Ke8 61.f5 Rf1 62.Kf6 Black resigns 1-0

Watson,Bruce (2274) - Thornton,Gino (2181)

George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (4.2), 06.07.2010

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 Be7 5.0-0 0-0 6.b3 c5 7.e3 Nc6 8.Bb2 dxc4 9.bxc4 Qd3 10.Qb3 Rd8 11.Rd1 Qf5 12.d4 Bd7 13.d5 exd5 14.cxd5 Nb4 15.Nc3 e4 16.Qxc4 Rac8 17.Qb3 a5 18.Nd4 Qh5 19.a3 a4 20.Nxa4 Nbx4 21.Nb6 Nxb6 22.Qxb6 Ng4 23.Rac1 Qxh2+ 24.Kf1 Qh5 25.Rxc8 Nxe3+ 26.fxe3 Qxd1+ 27.Kf2 Bxc8 28.Bxb7 Qd2+ 29.Kf3 Bh3 30.Ne2 h5 31.Kf2 Qd1 32.e4 Qf1+ White resigns 0-1

Cheng,Bobby - Steadman,Mike
George Trundle 2010, 06.07.2010

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 This is a good system against Bobby, he likes to play 2.Nc3 against 1...f5, so the e6 and then f5 gets around this. I also noted in his games, he has a fondness for Bg5. The Dutch is an opening that does not lend itself to Bg5, so was a good choice against him. 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 c6 5.Bg2 d5 6.Bf4 This is the move he prepared for me, only one square short of his favourite, has it's advantages in that it stops the Bd6 and Qe7 format from the Solomon game, but the drawback is that h6 and g5 has a hit which is often a theme in the Stonewall. 6...Be7 7.Qc2 0-0 8.0-0 Qe8 I played Qe8 because Nbd7 allows cxd5 and black has to take back with the c pawn as the f pawn is unprotected. This sunk Bobby into deep thought and I realised he had memorised a line and now he was on his own. He followed standard junior practice and went downhill as his positional understanding of these kinds of positions is not tuned as yet (no doubt his coach will plug this gap, but was good to get the point before he learns it :-)). 9.Rc1 Was really unsure about this move, often f2 is a target for Black, this seemed a very clumsy place

to put this Rook. 9...Qh5 10.Nbd2 Nbd7 11.Ng5 This just has to be bad, guess he missed my h6 move. 11...Nb6 12.c5 h6 Both c5 and d h6 were played instantly. I think we evaluated the position differently, when Bobby sunk into deep thought again, I knew I had won this little battle. Black is looking good here, c5 has taken the sting out of any White Queenside play and the Kingside attack can begin. 13.Nxe6 Again a surprise, this improves Black's "bad" Bishop and removes an important defender. 13...Bxe6 14.cxb6 axb6 15.a4 Ne4 16.e3 Rac8 17.Nf3 Bb4 18.Qb3 Ba5 This sequence put the Bishop slightly off-side, but did activate it and it now controls a couple of important squares. Also keen to get active while Bobby was struggling, his body language was showing he wasn't happy with his lot. 19.Rd1 Rfd8 20.Rac1 Qe8 I liked this move, it is to improve my last piece. The white squared Bishop is moving to h5 where it will be a huge pain for White, Bobby missed the point of this move as will become clear. 21.Ne1 Bf7 22.Nd3 Bh5 23.f3 Nd2 24.Qa2 What a transformation, Black is well on top now. I saw an opportunity to get a Rook for 2 pieces and thought the positions looked good for Black, so went for it. 24...Nxf3+ 25.Bxf3 Bxf3 26.b4 Bxd1 27.Rxd1 c5 [27...Bxb4 28.Nxb4 Qe4 29.Nd3 Ra8 30.Qb3 Ra6 31.Nb4 Ra5 32.Nd3 Rda8 33.Nf2 Qe7 34.Qxb6 Rxa4 It is not winning, but Black won't lose and it is easier to play Black here. The move I chose gave Bobby a chance, but he played instantly and it was a mistake.] 28.dxc5? [28.bxa5 c4 29.Nf2 bxa5 30.Rb1 Rd7 31.Rb5 There are no open lines and now White will either get one of the pawns back, or Black will get very tied up.]

28...bxc5 29.bxa5 c4 30.Nb4 g5 31.Nxd5 Rxd5? A mistake, I was getting short on time and saw a way to get to a winning Rook and pawn endgame, Qe6 was so much stronger, saw it, but just took the easy way out to cash in the point, almost cost me as you will see. 32.Rxd5 gxf4 33.gxf4 Qxe3+ 34.Qf2 Qxf2+ 35.Kxf2 c3 36.Rd1 c2 37.Rc1 Kf7 38.Ke3 Ke6 39.Kd3 Kd5 This is the position I had seen when I played 31... Rxd5, easy win and gets me to the time control. 40.Rxc2 Rxc2 41.Kxc2 Ke4 Didn't think this endgame was tricky, otherwise I'd have gone to c4 which is an easy win, take the a pawns and win by forcing White to spend time taking the remote b pawn. 42.Kd2 Kxf4 43.Ke2 Ke4 44.Kf2 h5 45.Ke2 Kf4 46.Kf2 Kg4 47.Kg2 h4 48.Kf2 Kh3 49.Kg1 f4 50.Kh1 f3 51.Kg1 Kg4 52.Kf2 Kf4 53.Kf1 Ke3 54.Ke1 f2+ 55.Kf1 Kf3 56.h3 Ke3 57.a6 bxa6 58.a5 Kd4 59.Kxf2 Kc5 60.Ke3 Kb5 61.Kd4 Kxa5 62.Kc5 Ka4 63.Kc4 a5 White Resigns, a good slog, but almost let it slip. 0-1

Hart, Ralph (2223)- van Riemsdijk, Herman (2416)

George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (4.4), 06.07.2010

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Be3 Ng4 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bc1 Bg7 7.Be2 Nf6 8.Nf3 0-0 9.h3 c6 10.a4 Nbd7 11.Be3 e5 12.Qd2 exd4 13.Nxd4 Nc5 14.f3 Re8 15.0-0-0 Qa5 16.b3 a6 17.Nb1 Qxd2+ 18.Nxd2 Nd5 19.Bf2 Nc3 20.Rde1 d5 21.Bd3 Nxd3+ 22.cxd3 Na2+ 23.Kb1 Nb4 24.exd5 Rd8 25.Nc2 Nxd3 26.Bh4 Nxe1 27.Rxe1 g5 28.Bg3 Bf5 29.d6 Bf8 30.Nc4 b5 31.Nb6 Rab8 32.d7 Rxb6 33.Bc7 Rxd7 34.Bxb6 Rd2 White resigns 0-1

Round 5

West vs Shen was a great piece of opening preparation by Guy. He had seen how Daniel had been exposed by Johansen in Sydney with c4 and e4 against his Nf6 and e6. Daniel had done some work, but not enough and Guy demolished him. Van Riemsdijk vs Smith was an Accelerated Dragon where Herman got his line wrong and Bob got a nice position. He outplayed Herman and although a long game, scored a nice win. Steadman vs Hart was a great opportunity for Mike to get his 5th point, but he missed some chances for Ralph and a good defence allowed Ralph to swap into a drawn Rook and pawn versus Bishop endgame. Thornton vs Cheng saw Gino mess up his Queens Indian opening, then recovered and entered into a drawn endgame which he proceeded to find a way to lose. Solomon vs Watson saw Bruce revert back to his favourite Sicilian and secured a nice draw.

West,Guy (2325) - Shen,Daniel (2163)

George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (5.1), 07.07.2010

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 d5 4.e5 d4 5.exf6 dxc3 6.bxc3 Qxf6 7.Nf3 c5 8.d4 h6 9.Bd3 Nc6 10.0-0 Bd6 11.Qe2 Bf4 12.Ba3 Bd6 13.Rfe1 0-0 14.Rad1 Rd8 15.dxc5 Bc7 16.Nd4 e5 17.Nb5 Ba5 18.Qc2 b6 19.Be4 Bg4 20.Rd6 Rxd6 21.cxd6 Rc8 22.Bxc6 Rxc6 23.Qe4 Bd7 24.Nxa7 Bxc3 25.Rc1 Rxd6 26.Bxd6 Qxd6 27.Nb5 Qd2 28.Qc2 Qxc2 29.Rxc2 Bb4 30.Nc7 Bc6 31.Nd5 Bc5 32.Rb2 b5 33.Rxb5 Bxb5 34.cxb5 Kf8 35.b6 Ke8 36.b7 Bd6 37.Nb4 Black resigns 1-0

Round 6

Shen vs Watson was Daniel playing his specialty against Bruce's Sicilian and securing another draw. Cheng vs Solomon revealed good preparation by Solo, he found a nice line and got Bobby into a difficult positional game. He proceeded to outplay him and earned a nice win. Hart vs Thornton turned into another bad day for Ralph. Gino played a nice game and scored another good win. Smith vs Steadman was a continuation of their French discussions. Bob played a strange Queen manoeuvre and Black gained an easy position. A mistake allowed Bob to break out with an exchange sacrifice and Black was struggling. But Bob had used too much time and had to accept the repetition. West vs Van Riemsdijk was a controlled draw by Guy, no risks were needed when he was so far out in front.

Round 7

Van Riemsdijk vs Shen was a controlled Ruy Lopez. Herman had played similar positions before and used hardly any time, Daniel ran out of ideas and succumbed to a kingside attack. Steadman vs West became a sad loss for Mike, turning down two draw offers and then his position drifted. Guy turned the screws and won the game. Thornton vs Smith showed some good preparation by Bob. He recognised that Gino plays terribly against the King's Indian, and he continued the trend by completely outplaying Gino. Solomon vs Hart was a fine French by Solo, he played a nice game and demolished Ralph. Watson vs Cheng developed into a slow English with both Bishops fianchettoed by Bruce. Both tried hard, but a draw was the final

result.

van Riemsdijk, Herman (2416) – Shen, Daniel (2163) George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (7.1), 09.07.2010

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 0-0 9.d4 Bg4 10.Be3 exd4 11.cxd4 d5 12.e5 Ne4 13.Nc3 Nxc3 14.bxc3 Qd7 15.h3 Bh5 16.g4 Bg6 17.Bg5 Ba3 18.Qd2 Na5 19.Nh4 Nc4 20.Bxc4 bxc4 21.Nxg6 hxg6 22.Qc2 Rab8 23.Rab1 Rb6 24.Rxb6 cxb6 25.f4 Re8 26.f5 gxf5 27.gxf5 b5 28.Rf1 Bf8 29.Qg2 b4 30.Qg3 bxc3 31.Bf6 Qa7 32.Qg4 Kh7 33.Qh4+ Kg8 34.Kh1 c2 35.Rg1 Rb8 36.Bxg7 Bxg7 37.Qf6 Kf8 38.Qxg7+ Ke8 39.Qg8+ Ke7 40.f6+ Black resigns 1-0

Steadman, Mike - West, Guy
George Trundle 2010, 09.07.2010

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 Surprise number one. I was all ready for a Benko, but maybe he was put off by his close win against Bobby and the b6 line which I have played a few times. **3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3** Thought I would move away from the f3 line, didn't know what he prepared, but thought he might be less familiar with the e3 line. **4...0-0 5.Bd3 d5** Don't think he realised, but this gives me a chance to get back into the f3 line. Have played this a number of times and always enjoyed the experience. **6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 b6 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Ne2 Ba6 10.0-0 c5 11.Ng3** [11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.Qd3 Nb8 White gains a move on the game, so this was a better way to play this.] **11...Bxd3 12.Qxd3 Nc6 13.Ra2 Re8 14.f3 Qd7 15.Re2 Rad8=** Knowing what I know now, maybe taking the draw offer would have been the smart play, but the position was

too interesting to stop here. **16.Bb2 Re6 17.Rd1 cxd4 18.cxd4 Na5 19.e4 Rc8 20.e5 Ne8 21.f4 Rec6 22.f5 Nc4** All been played before, question is whether White's kingside attack will beat Black's on the Queenside. **23.Ba1 Qd8 24.Qf3?** [24.f6 White needed to strike, the Bishop on a1 comes into play in a lot of lines. I missed Qg5 which this move stops. **24...gxf6 25.Nf5 fxe5 26.dxe5 Re6 27.Qg3+ Rg6 28.Qf4 Rc7 29.e6 f6 30.Qf3 Rc5 31.Bd4** White has more than enough compensation for the pawn here.] **24...b5 25.Reel Qg5= 26.Rd3?** Refusing the draw was a mistake, the position was starting to trend against White, still equal, but Black's game is getting easier to play and we were starting to run out of time, should have taken the half point and ran. **26...Nc7 27.Bc3 a5 28.Ne2 Rb8 29.Qh3?** This was a bad move, another one of those horizontal moves escaped me, I completely missed it and White is much worse now. **29...Rh6 30.Rg3= Rxh3** No more draw, Guy realised he is winning and proceeded onwards. **31.Rxg5 Rd3 32.Ra1 b4 33.axb4 axb4 34.Rb1 Na6 35.Be1 b3 36.e6 b2?** [36...Na3 37.Rb2 fxe6 38.fxe6 Rd1 39.e7 Nc7 40.Kf2 Nc4] **37.e7?** [37.f6 My last chance to confuse matters, missed f6 again :-(37...fxe6 (37...g6 38.e7 Nc7 39.Bg3 Rxg3 40.hxg3 h6 41.Re5 Na3 42.Rxb2 Rxb2 43.e8Q+ Nxe8 44.Rxe8+ Kh7 45.Nc3) 38.Rxg7+ Kh8 39.Re7 Re3 40.Nf4 Rxe1+ 41.Rxe1 b1Q 42.Rxb1 Rxb1+ 43.Kf2 Rb8 44.Nxe6] **37...f6 38.Rg4 Re3 39.Nc3 Na3 40.Nxd5 Nxb1** White Resigns, a real heart breaker, could have drawn, and won, but lost. The norm required 1.5 from 2 games and 1 of them was against IM Van Riemsdijk, I never make things easy for myself! 0-1

Solomon, Stephen (2423) - Hart, Ralph (2223) George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (7.4), 09.07.2010

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Bb4 5.e5 h6 6.Bd2 Bxc3 7.bxc3 Ne4 8.Qg4 g6 9.Bd3 Nxd2 10.Kxd2 c5 11.h4 Bd7 12.h5 g5 13.f4 Rg8 14.Nf3 Nc6 15.fxg5 Qa5 16.g6 0-0-0 17.Qf4 fxe6 18.hxg6 Rdf8 19.Qxh6 Nxd4 20.Qxf8+ Rxf8 21.g7 Nxf3+ 22.gxf3 Rg8 23.Rh8 Qd8 24.Rxg8 Qxg8 25.Rg1 Kc7 26.c4 dxc4 27.Bxc4 b5 28.Bd3 b4 29.Kc1 Ba4 30.Rg2 a5 31.Bc4 Bd7 32.f4 Kb6 33.f5 Qb8 34.g8Q Qxe5 35.Qd8+ Kc6 36.Bb5+ Kxb5 37.Qxd7+ Black resigns 1-0

Round 8

Shen vs Cheng was Daniel's other line against the French, a controlled draw. Hart vs Watson was good preparation by Ralph, he played a sharp line of a Queen's Indian and Bruce did not know the refutation, and was crushed. Smith vs Solomon was the longest game of the event, Bob had played well to get to a winning position and immediately bungled it and allowed Solo to slip out with a draw. West vs Thornton was a crush. Gino got himself into a Slav, had no idea what he was doing, played a known bad line and was crushed. Van Riemsdijk vs Steadman was a continuation of their French discussions, Herman got pressure but castled the wrong way and allowed Black to get play against the King, Mike won a nice game.

Hart, Ralph (2223) - Watson, Bruce (2277)

George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (8.2), 10.07.2010

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.a3 Bb7 5.Nc3 d5 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.e4 Nxc3 8.bxc3 Bxe4 9.Ne5 c6 10.Qh5 g6 11.Qe2 Bf5 12.g4 Qd5 13.gxf5 Qxh1 14.Nxf7 Qd5 15.fxg6 Rg8 16.Bg2 Qf5 17.Be4 Qh3 18.Qc4 Rxg6 19.Ng5 Rxg5 20.Bxg5 Qg4 21.Bxc6+ Nxc6 22.Qxc6+ Kf7 23.Qxa8 Qg1+ 24.Ke2 Qxa1 25.Qxa7+ Kg6 26.Bd2 Qa2 27.Qa8 Bh6 28.Qg8+ Kf6 29.Qh8+ Kg6 30.f4 Qd5 31.Qe5 Qg2+ 32.Kd3 Kf7 33.Qc7+ Kf6 34.Qxh7 Qxh2 35.Qe4 b5 36.Qe5+ Kf7 37.Qxb5 Bxf4 38.Bxf4 Qxf4 39.Qh5+ Ke7 40.Qe5 Qf1+ 41.Kc2 Qg2+ 42.Kb3 Qb7+ 43.Kc4 Kf7 44.a4 Black resigns 1-0

West,Guy (2325) - Thornton,Gino (2181)
George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (8.4),
10.07.2010

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Bd6 5.d4 c6 6.Bd3 0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.e4 dxe4 9.Nxe4 Nxe4 10.Bxe4 Nf6 11.Bc2 b6 12.Bg5 Be7 13.Qd3 g6 14.Rad1 Bb7 15.Ne5 Nd7 (=) 16.Bf4 Nxe5 17.Bxe5 Qd7 18.Qg3 Rfd8 19.Rd3 c5 20.Qh3 f5 21.dxc5 Qe8 22.cxb6 Rxd3 23.Bxd3 axb6 24.a3 Rd8 25.Re1 Qc6 26.Bf1 Qd7 27.Bc3 Be4 28.b4 Bf8 29.Qg3 b5 30.f3 Black resigns 1-0

VanRiemsdijk,Herman - Steadman,Mike
George Trundle 2010, 10.07.2010

1.e4 e6 For me this was a must not lose game. Herman and I had played the French twice against each other to date and the score was one win each.. Herman wasn't playing well in this event, so I was hopeful my trusty French would do the business. 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 Our previous two outings were a Bb4 loss and Nc6 win. I didn't think Nc6 would work again, so tried door number 3 for this game. Do like the

Classical, but it doesn't seem to like me, and I have a terrible score with it, but I think I am to blame more than the opening :-). 4.Bg5 Bb4 5.e5 h6 6.Bd2 Bxc3 7.bxc3 Surprise, Herman's pet line is Bxc3, guess he thought I was all prepared for this. 7...Ne4 8.Qg4 g6. I think the g6 lines are more dynamic than the Kf8 lines, that's what I hoped anyway. 9.Qf4 The idea behind this line is that White wants to take back on d2 with his Queen so he can still castle Kingside. It has good statistics, but I had seen a line by Moscalenko which I wanted to try. 9...c5 10.Bd3 Nxd2 11.Qxd2 Nc6 12.Nf3 c4 13.Be2 Bd7 14.h4 Qe7 This was the try, Black might head to a3 in certain lines and castle Queenside and push the pawns, at least it was a plan :-). 15.h5 g5 16.Nh2 f5 17.exf6 Qxf6 18.Ng4 Qg7 White has to be better here. I was getting a bit concerned, needed to find a way to draw and then beat Daniel in the last round for an IM norm. I saw the Rook lift idea when I played the Qe7, so we'd see if it held my game together. 19.0-0-0 0-0-0 20.Rde1 Rhf8 21.Bf3 Rf5 22.Re3 b5 23.Rhe1 Qf8 24.Kb2 Kc7 25.Ne5 Nxe5 26.Rxe5 Rf4 Was happy the Knight had gone, unless White can sacrifice the exchange on e6 and get something, Black is very good now, the King on b2 is starting to become concerned. Black's game holds together because the Bishop is pinned to the f2 pawn. 27.Qe3 b4 28.Ka1 Rb8 29.Rb1 [29.Rxe6 Bxe6 30.Qxe6 Qd6 31.Qe7+ Qxe7 32.Rxe7+ Kd6 33.Rh7 bxc3 34.Rxh6+ Kd7 35.Rh7+ Kc6 36.Rh6+ Kb5 37.a4+ Kxa4 So the Exchange sacrifice does not work.] 29...bxc3 30.Qxc3 Rxb1+ 31.Kxb1 Qb8+ 32.Kc1 Qb6 And the d pawn drops, Black is on his way to victory, no more draw thoughts. Guy's game was a

long time ago. **33.g3 Rxd4 34.Rxg5** This move shocked me (another horizontal move I didn't look at. But after I calmed down, I didn't think there was a perpetual and that I was still winning. **34...hgx5 35.h6 e5 36.h7 Qh6 37.Qa5+ Kc8 38.Bxd5 g4+ 39.Kb2 Qxh7 40.Qc5+ Kd8 41.Qf8+ Be8 42.Qd6+ Kc8 43.Be6+ Kb7 44.Bd5+ Rxd5** And this was it, pretty straight line calculation really, but all I needed was a chance to give some material back and then danger is gone and I am winning. **45.Qxd5+ Bc6 46.Qxe5 Qe4 47.Qg7+ Kb6 48.Kc3 a5 49.a3 Kb5 50.Kb2 Ka4 51.Qc3** Setting up a nasty trap, Bb5 would be horrendous mistake and would lose instantly to Qb3+, cxb3 and cxb3 mate - would have been horrible to fall for this, these IMs, they are very tricky, you need to watch them all the time. **51...Bd5 52.Qg7 Qf3 53.Kb1 Kxa3 54.Qb2+ Ka4 55.Qd4 Qe4 56.Qc3 Qe6 57.Qd4 Qe1+ 58.Ka2 Qe4** White Resigns, a good win and all the pressure was eased, now a half point with White against the drawing master Daniel Shen and norm number 1 would be in the bag. 0-1

Round 9

Steadman vs Shen was a repeat of the West vs Thornton game. Daniel knew the correct line and a quick draw was agreed. Thornton vs Van Riemsdijk was a nicely played Queen's Gambit by Thornton, he was better at the end, but was happy to get a draw off Herman. Solomon vs West was a great win by Guy, Solo got tied up and dropped a pawn, and the game followed. Watson vs Smith was another attempted King's Indian by Bob, but Watson plays these types of positions well and got a nice win. Cheng vs

Hart was a Dutch, Ralph threw the kitchen sink at Bobby, but cool defence allowed Bobby to notch up the point.

Solomon,Stephen (2423) - West,Guy (2325) George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (9.3), 11.07.2010

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Nxc6 Qf6 6.Qf3 Qxf3 7.gxf3 bxc6 8.Nc3 Ne7 9.Be3 Bxe3 10.fxe3 d6 11.f4 0-0 12.Bd3 f5 13.Kd2 fxe4 14.Nxe4 Bf5 15.Rhg1 Rae8 16.h4 Nd5 17.Nc3 Nxe3 18.Rae1 Bxd3 19.cxd3 Nf5 20.Rxe8 Rxe8 21.Ne4 Rb8 22.Kc3 h6 23.h5 Rf8 24.Kd2 Ne7 25.Rf1 Rf5 26.Ng3 Rb5 27.b3 Nf5 28.Ne4 Rb8 29.Rc1 e5 30.Ke2 Kf7 31.Kf3 a5 32.Kg4 Ne3+ 33.Kf3 Nd5 34.Nxc5 dxc5 35.Rxc5 Ke6 36.Ke4 Rb5 37.Rxb5 Nc3+ 38.Kd4 Nxb5+ 39.Kc5 Na7 40.d4 g6 41.hxg6 h5 42.f5+ Kf6 43.Kd5 Nb5 44.a4 Nc3+ 45.Kc4 h4 46.Kxc3 h3 White resigns 0-1

Watson,Bruce (2274) - Smith,Robert (2273) George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (9.4), 11.07.2010

1.Nf3 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 0-0 6.Be2 Nbd7 7.0-0 e5 8.Rb1 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nc5 10.f3 Bd7 11.Be3 a6 12.Qd2 Rc8 13.Rfc1 Ne6 14.Nb3 Bc6 15.Nd5 Nd7 16.Na5 Kh8 17.b4 f5 18.exf5 gxf5 19.f4 b6 20.Nxc6 Rxc6 21.Bf3 Rc8 22.g3 Rb8 23.Bf2 Nc7 24.Qd3 a5 25.a3 e5 26.Nxc7 Qxc7 27.Rd1 Rf6 28.Bd5 e4 29.Qc2 axb4 30.axb4 b5 31.Bd4 Rg6 32.Bxg7+ Rxg7 33.Be6 bxc4 34.Bxf5 Rxb4 35.Bxd7 Rxb1 36.Rxb1 Rxd7 37.Qxe4 d5 38.Qe8+ Kg7 39.Rb8 Qc5+ 40.Kg2 Re7 41.Qg8+ Black resigns 1-0

Cheng,Bobby (2332) - Hart,Ralph (2223)

George Trundle NZ Masters 2010 (9.5),
11.07.2010

1.Nf3 b6 2.g3 Bb7 3.Bg2 e6 4.0-0 f5 5.c4
Nf6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.d4 0-0 8.Qc2 Na6 9.Rd1
Qe8 10.a3 Qh5 11.d5 Nc5 12.Bf4 d6
13.b4 Nce4 14.dxe6 g5 15.Nxg5 Ng4
16.Ngxe4 Qxh2+ 17.Kf1 fxe4 18.e3 Bh4
19.gxh4 Rxf4 20.exf4 e3 21.Bxb7 exf2
22.Qd3 Qxf4 23.Bxa8 Black resigns 1-0

So the final table shows where everyone finished:

Place	Name	Feder	Rtg	Score	Berg.
1	West, Guy	AUS	2325	8.5	34.75
2	Steadman, Michael	NZL	2277	6.5	24.25
3	Smith, Robert W	NZL	227	3.5	18.50
4-5	Shen, Daniel	NZL	2163	4.5	17.75
	Cheng, Bobby	AUS	2332	4.5	15.50
6-9	Watson, Bruce R	NZL	2274	3.5	14.75
	Van Riemsdijk, Herman C.	BRA	2416	3.5	14.25
	Solomon, Stephen J.	AUS	2423	3.5	12.50
	Thornton, Giovanni Antonio	NZL	2181	3.5	10.75
10	Hart, Ralph	NZL	2223	2	9.00

Guy West had a super tournament and was in a class of his own. This is the second time he has played and has won it both times – something us Kiwis need to work on. I got my first IM norm after a shaky loss to West leaving me 1.5 points remaining from 2 games, but beating Herman allowed me the chance to make a soft draw with Daniel to ensure the norm score. Bob Smith was his usual fighting place, he let a couple points disappear which saw him missing out on a norm as well. Daniel Shen had a great event, has a reputation for being a drawing specialist and people took risks if they wanted to beat him, and some paid the price. Bobby Cheng recovered his event to finish on the same score, hopefully he will return and

should be better for the experience. Bruce, Herman and Solo all had tournaments to forget. They played a couple of good games each, but mingled this with some bad results. Gino was expected to struggle but he took a couple of good scalps and would have been pleased with his efforts. Ralph struggled for the 2nd year running, this field leaves nowhere to hide when things aren't going your way.

After several attempts we have had our first NZ IM Norm from this tournament, our aim in the first place. We hope that there will be more to come. Next year will need to be at the same time of year again due to the rugby World Cup being held in the October time slot, so it's off to work I go to get the players booked again for 2011.

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IM Herman van Reimsdijk wins North Island Tournament and Bob Smith becomes 2010 North Island Champion

By Bill Forster

The Chess Enterprises New Zealand North Island Chess Championship was held from July 12th through 16th in the salubrious confines of the near new Old Boys' Pavilion in the otherwise historic and hallowed Auckland Grammar School in Epsom.

In a refreshing development, the tournament was organised by a new chess club on the scene, the Chess for Miracle club. The ebullient Victor Wang, father of Puchen, is the public face of this club, and was ever-present during the event, infecting everyone with his enthusiasm and bonhomie. The organisational team behind the event was rounded out by the sponsor's representative Paul Spiller, and the ultra experienced arbiter Bob Gibbons. As far as I could tell this experienced team smoothly managed a friendly and trouble free event. I finally achieved (an admittedly sad) personal ambition by serving on the disputes committee (thank you clubmate John Gillespie, for the nomination). But naturally there were no disputes, which took some of the gloss off this otherwise magnificent achievement.

A decent turn out of thirty eight players fronted up for the first round of eight. The seedings were headed by the experienced international guests IM Herman van

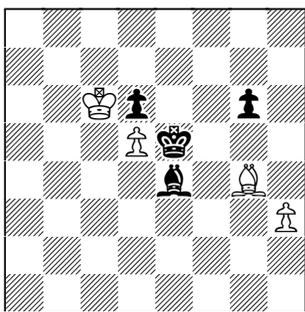
Riemsdijk from Brazil, and IM Stephen Solomon from Australia. The no less experienced local, FM Bob Smith was close behind, all three of these were backing up from the George Trundle the previous week. There was then a gap back to a group of three 2100ish players in John Duneas, Antonio Krstev and Peter Stuart. Benji Lim and Peter Fraemohs were the other players over 2000 in the field. Young Vassili Chesterkine (1940) from Tahiti was another to provide international flavour. The following week he pipped Hans Gao in a young guns rapid match. Vassili speaks no English and his 2nd round clash with van Riemsdijk provided a slight transcription headache for Bob Gibbons as he interpreted one Portuguese scoresheet and one French one.

Plenty of other experienced tournament players were also straining at the leash, and as is traditional in the North Island, a big group of largely unheralded but potentially dangerous juniors filled out the field.

The first day saw only one round and no upsets at all, with the top half of the field picket fencing. Amongst the top players, one talking point was a gift point for van Riemsdijk due to a premature resignation from Mike Roberts. The second round was another business as usual round with seeds 1-9 playing seeds 10-18 respectively and in each case the favourite again prevailed. The

third round was the final round of comparative mismatches, from this point on the top players would be battling amongst themselves. This round saw the first hint of an upset, as I got lucky with a dubious pawn grab against John Duneas. John worked out a nice sacrificial refutation but played his moves in the wrong order. Five players still had perfect scores after this round, the three top guns plus Krstev and Forster.

The fourth round saw a couple of tournament highlights. Van Riemsdijk played a lovely flowing attacking game as black against Krstev. This is our featured annotated game, with notes by the winner. Meanwhile an absorbing ending saw gritty Bob Smith superbly outplaying endgame expert Stephen Solomon to join Van Riemsdijk at the top. The denouement is shown below. Some naive spectators (well me) thought the game was heading towards a draw, but in reality white's (Solomon's) king has drifted offside and as a consequence the good bishop versus bad bishop factor is decisive



51.Be6? Better is h4 immediately giving up the d pawn. 51...g5! White is in zugzwang as any bishop move leaves one vital pawn

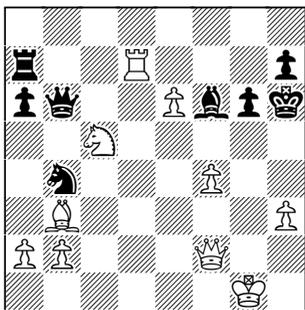
unprotected 52.Bf7 Bf3 53.Bg8 Bh1 54.Bf7 Be4 55.Be6 Bg2 56.Bg4 Bxd5+ 57.Kd7 Be4 58.Ke7 d5 59.Be2 d4 60.Kf7 d3 61.Bf1 d2 62.Be2 Kf4 63.Kg7 Bf3 0-1

The fifth round saw Smith as white and van Riemsdijk taking a rest with a quick draw. I joined van Riemsdijk and Smith with a reasonably smooth win over Judy Gao. Solomon bounced back with a nice attacking win from the black side of an exciting opposite sides castling Semi-Slav against Alex Huang to be half a point back. Duneas completed the top five with a nice positional win on the white side of another Semi-Slav versus Krstev.

Round six saw Solomon and van Riemsdijk avoid each other for the last time. All three top seeds took the opportunity to beat lower rated players. Herman expertly picked out a flaw in his room mate's opening repertoire and smashed me with the Pseudo Yugoslav attack in the Accelerated Dragon. Smith overwhelmed Duneas' Alekhine in a nice game and Solomon took down Peter Fraemohs.

As often happens, the penultimate round was critical to the outcome of the tournament. The two top seeds met at last. Solomon surprised van Riemsdijk with an unusual twist in the Spanish. After the game Herman said that it is amazing how Solo has had something tricky ready in every game they have played. Herman was momentarily unsettled but Solo missed his best chance and Herman succeeded in getting a grip on the position. In the following position Herman had his last big think and the spectators were expecting a beautiful finish in a position pregnant with

tactical opportunity.



It turned out that Herman was not even thinking about lines like 38.e7! Rxd7 (or 38...Bxe7 39.Rxe7 Rxe7 40.Qh4+ Kg7 41.Qxe7+) 39.e8=Q Bd4 40.Qf8+ Kh5 41.Bd1#. Instead he was deciding between 38.Na4 and 38.Ne4 two moves that would guarantee slightly different winning endings. His eventual choice of **38.Na4** is Rybka's second favourite (after **38.e7**). Herman is an expert in opposite coloured bishop endings, and can even look back to a win of this type against former world champion and legendary endgame specialist Smyslov. So perhaps unsurprisingly Solo's renowned endgame skill failed to save him for the second time in this tournament. Meanwhile on the adjacent board Peter Stuart was successfully digging in and resisting Bob Smith's material advantage. The final round was something of an anticlimax, and unfortunately it was all my fault. Herman was leading with 6.5 from 7. Bob was second on with 6 and I followed with 5.5. Second and third were paired with Smith playing white, so naturally enough Herman concluded it would be necessary to win to avoid sharing first prize, a difficult assignment as black against the super solid

Peter Stuart. Imagine his surprise and delight when he spotted Bob and I shaking hands barely five minutes after the start of the session. A few minutes later Herman and Peter were doing the same. After Bob blitzed out the introductory moves of another damn Pseudo Yugoslav attack in the Accelerated Dragon he stunned me with a draw offer. Now philosophically of course like all true gentlemen I am totally opposed to wimpish short draws, especially in the final round. I was firmly committed to battling to the death in a bloody but noble quest for unlikely glory. But it never really occurred to me that Bob would see the opportunity to painlessly secure the trophy as leading NZ player and the Grand Prix points as outweighing the slight risk of a huge upset. In the end somewhat reluctantly I decided to forget my principles and consider the draw offer as a compliment to be gratefully accepted.

There were four remaining players with a chance of winning main prizes. They each had five points and were playing each other, so winners would share 3rd place with me. I watched greedily hoping for draws. No such luck with Hans Gao versus Stephen Solomon. Solomon smoothly outplayed his opponent, ruthlessly exposing the weaknesses in white's Kings Indian Attack. Alex Huang versus Judy Gao saw Alex demonstrating an exception to conventional wisdom as his queen and bishop outclassed queen and knight. Judy's knight ran out of squares and dropped off and when queens were exchanged as well, those hoping for a draw looked to be up against it. But then some rather dodgy endgame technique from Alex almost allowed Judy to reach a theoretical draw of

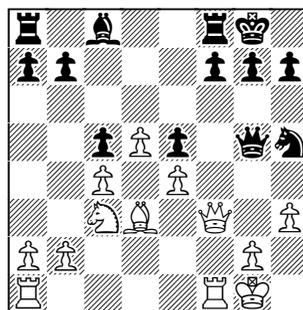
7th rank c pawn versus queen and remote king. Almost but not quite. Sharing 3rd place as 14th seed amounted to a great result for Alex. Further down the table some of the youngsters will look back on some big upsets as highlights of their tournament. Alphaeus Ang (1087) beat John Gillespie (1517) to collect the "DD Smash" upset prize. Dan Dolejs generously sponsored this amusingly named prize. David Rong (1450) did well with 4.5 points, including a win over Don Eade (1871).

Krstev, Antonio (2071) - Van Riemsdijk, Herman Claudius (2416)

Auckland ch NZ North Island (4.2),
14.07.2010 Annotated by IM Herman van Riemsdijk

1.d4 c5 2.d5 Nf6 3.c4 e5 I had seen in my preparation that my opponent had used a very solid 'f3' System against my beloved Benkö (also against the Nimzoindian which was one of the reasons for not playing 1... Nf6 and 2... e6) and so I fall back into an old love (3... e5, the Closed Benoni). I hadn't played it since 1998 but in a quick draw this year in the São Paulo League
4.Nc3 d6 5.e4 Be7 I tried a couple of times
5... g6. This gave me a nice win over GM Larry Evans but 5... Be7 is more 'in the spirit' and generally I feel more comfortable in this kind of position
6.Bd3 Nbd7 7.f4 This is rarely played and is quite sharp
7...exf4 Black wouldn't like to allow
8. f5
8.Bxf4 Ne5 8... Nf8 is of course an option but I didn't like 9 e5 which I evaluated as clear advantage for white
9.Bxe5 dxe5 GM Mihai Suba, author of the excellent 'Dynamic Chess Strategy' would ask: is White's 'Static Advantage' better than Black's dynamic possibilities on the king side?
10.h3?! My opponent played

this because he wanted to play Nf3 without being bothered by ... Bg4. This move accentuates the weakness of the black squares and gives a tempo away
10...0-0 11.Nf3 Nh5 Heading for the black squares and indirectly defending the e5 pawn
12.0-0 Bg5 13.Nxg5 [13.Nxe5 Be3+ 14.Kh2 is an option. Black can force a draw now by 14... Bf4+ but 14... Qg5 15. Ng4 Bf4+ 16. Kg1 f5 gives him a very nice initiative for the pawn]
13...Qxg5 14.Qf3



14...a5! I was very happy to make this move. This 'rook lift' is the best way to bring my only useless piece into the fight
15g4 I sensed panic at the other side of the board. 15. Ne2 Ra6 16. Bc2 looks more appropriate. Nevertheless I like my position a lot
15...Ra6 16.Rae1 [16.h4 Qg6 17.g5 h6 gives black also a great advantage]
16...Rh6 Probably 16... Rg6 or 16... Rf6 give black similar advantages
17.Rf2 Nf4 18.Bf1 I'm unhappy to confess that I missed this move in my analysis. When I went for 16... Ra6 I thought that 18. Rh2 would be forced. The nice blow 18... Bg4!
19. hxg4 Rxh2 20. Kxg2 Qh4 was waiting
18...Qh4 [18...Rf6 19.Qg3 h5 is more precise]
19.Re3 Rg6 [19...Rf6 20.Qg3 Qg5 is again better]
20.Qg3?! (Continued page 21)

North Island Championship 2010 Results

Place	Name	Rtg	Score
1	VAN RIEMSDIJK, HERMAN	2416	7
2	SMITH, ROBERT W	2353	6.5
3-5	SOLOMON, STEPHEN	2423	6
	FORSTER, WILLIAM	1984	6
	HUANG, ALEX	1891	6
6	STUART, PETER W	2061	5.5
7-12	DUNEAS, JOHN	2166	5
	GAO, JUDY	1953	5
	KRSTEV, ANTONIO	2103	5
	LIM, BENJI	2041	5
	GAO, HANS	1916	5
	CORNFORD, LINDSAY	1894	5
13-15	FRAEMOHS, PETER	2035	4.5
	DOLEJS, DAN	1785	4.5
	RONG, DAVID	1450	4.5
16-24	TSOI, NICOLE	1707	4
	ROBERTS, MICHAEL H	1710	4
	CHESTERKINE, VASSILI	1940	4
	LYALL, SIMON	1731	4
	CASILANG, ARTHUR	1816	4
	EADE, DON	1871	4
	SMITH, VIVIAN J	1766	4
	MARTIN, PAUL	1724	4
	GOH, ROBERT	1300	4
25-27	KOLEV, STEFAN	1416	3.5
	BURROWS, GRANT	1466	3.5
	GILLESPIE, JOHN G	1517	3.5
28-33	MUKKATTU, PHILIP	1705	3
	KOLEV, HRISTO	1279	3
	ANG, ALPHAEUS	1087	3
	LEE, RYAN	1192	3
	GENG, KAREN	500	3
	WU, YOUNG	700	3
34	ZENG, DEMING	500	2.5
35	FENG, DAHLIA	500	1.5
36-38	WANG, LUKE JINTAO	1070	1
	LIN ZOU, CAROLYN	694	1
	LIN ZOU, OLIVER	595	1

Play the Nimzo-Larsen Attack—Part III

Our USA Correspondent reports on his favourite opening, his discovery of a complete refutation of the Alekhines Defence and a chance encounter with super GM Hikura Nakamura

By Steven Willard

Hello there and thanks for stopping by! Since I am contractually obligated to finish my three-part series on 1. b3 -- what is up with you guys and trilogies anyway? -- first a few words about my beloved opening. No doubt you recall that earlier this year I graciously sponsored the “Come to America and play in the U.S. Open with me” contest. I wasn’t actually there for the drawing but I understand that almost all of you submitted your names, that they were deposited in the proverbial hat, and that one lucky winner was then selected—Alan Aldridge! Proof, if you needed it, that there is such a thing as Karma and that it does figure into all things, chess included. You see, Aldridge had selflessly volunteered to run my lottery and then he ends up the victor! What other cosmic explanation could there be?

Now imagine yourself transported to California and the US Open. It’s the 9th and final round and a glorious win will give

your correspondent a share of the “A” division prize. The only thing standing between me and roughly a thousand dollars is a 2124 whizz-kid. How best to prepare for such an important encounter? Well, I can’t say that this will work for everybody but Mr Aldridge and I headed to the swimming pool, ordered burgers, fries, refreshing mojito cocktails, then played casual games of blitz chess! Why such a cavalier attitude? Because I had the white pieces, you see, and I already knew my trusty b3 Nimzo Indian would grant me an advantage. Preparation, not required!

I arrived at my board early and found my opponent already there. If FRITZ were a person then, unarguably, this is what he would look like! He sat staring at the board, his eye darting from square to square, no doubt running through his extensive opening hash tables. As I sat down I became aware of a distinct high-pitched whirling noise emanating from his cranium; this was not going to be easy! We shake hands, he starts my clock, and I confidently advance my b-pawn! The effect was immediately noticeable: before my move, he’s a miniature jet preparing for takeoff; after 1. b3, the sound a computer makes when its plug has been yanked from the socket. Now, I am not exaggerating here, he literally looked heavenward and froze for about 10 minutes. His gaze was so pronounced, in fact, that I began to look up at the ceiling too, just in case there was some danger that I needed to be aware of—a large hairy insect or a precariously hung chandelier.

And so...eventually: 1. b3 e5 2. Bb2 Nc6 3. e3 Nf6 4. Bb5 Bd6 5. Na3! and so it was

that I built up a nice advantage (positional and clock)—thank you Ilya Odessky! (The Nimzo-Larsen Attack: a Friend for Life, chapter 3). I would like to add that I went on to win the game and the money; however, that's not exactly what happened. I did develop quite the kingside attack and for a long while it looked like I might win but eventually he found a clever (computer-like, I must add) defence and the game was drawn. Admittedly I was still quite pleased with the result, as doubtful I would have fared as well against his favourite defences.

What else is new? Well, I recently refuted, in its entirety, the Alekhine's defence. (Yes, even the pesky 1. e4 Nf6 2. e5 Ng8 line.) On the advice of my legal team, I will not be going into exactly how I managed to pull this off, at least not until the various lawsuits (which are still being filed by the numerous medical universities that believed I was harnessing their computing power for the good of mankind) have been settled. Oh, but it was a magnificent undertaking and I had such big plans: in addition to the shock waves felt throughout the chess universe, the tome (over 54,000 pages!) would have been the absolute finest feat of publishing ever! Dwarfing by some magnitude even the Oxford English Dictionary!

Sadly, it was not to be. Shortly after selecting a prestigious publishing company, word of my success leaked out and I was slapped with a restraining order, and from New Zealand of all places! And what exactly was the legal basis for such a motion? Well, you may be surprised to learn, it had nothing to do with intellectual property rights, international commerce

regulations, patents that were pending, etc. etc. No, it was far from superficial—the lawsuit had been filed on behalf of “a concerned citizen” (let's call him R.D. to protect his identity) who alleged that my book threatened irreparable environmental harm! At first I was skeptical to say the least, but the legal brief was soon followed by a phone call: R.D. wanted to ensure that I understood the gravitas of the situation.

In 1988, playing at the Plaza International tournament, Ortvin Sarapu had held Spassky to a draw (with the black pieces, no less). Well, later that same night, the great man had had an epiphany (probably brought on by his earlier cerebral exertions at the board, nobody knows for sure) in which it became clear that there was a direct mystical linkage between the vitality of the Alekhine's Defence and the ecological health of the Wairarapa! This could all be explained, and this was the key point R.D. insisted, by the fact that the kiwi bird had been made supernaturally manifest in the bold knight that leapt to f6! Though this seems like something that would have been mentioned in the marvelous book “Mr. Chess” I could have no doubts whatsoever that R.D., a devout naturalist to be sure, was acting in the interests of conservation—he was positively feverish! And so, in the end, I opted not to publish my findings; agreeing that my legacy should live on in the mighty rimu and the totara.

Before signing off, there is one more thing, which I should have mentioned earlier. While at the swimming pool, Mr Aldridge and your correspondent had the good fortune of bumping into Hikaru Nakamura.

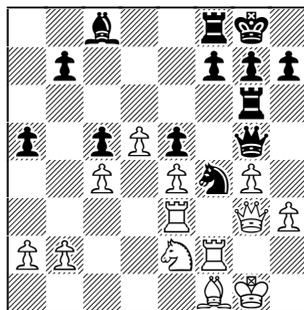
Nakamura was swimming back and forth when he noticed our chessboard and swam to the side to ask after our tournament, possibly mistaking us for a pair of IM's busy with intense preparation for the evening round. Unsure of the swimmer's identity, Mr Aldridge mistook the super GM for someone he thought he'd seen on board 126, and carefully probed by asking the swimmer if he was playing in the chess tournament? Nakamura replied that he was in fact the number one player in the USA! But no, wasn't playing only visiting. The embarrassment over he graciously granted us an audience. He was preparing to head to Amsterdam to compete in the NH Tournament and was absolutely brimming with confidence. (Though, for the sake of journalistic integrity, I should point out that he politely declined our invitation to engage in blitz chess...so perhaps he was not feeling quite so confident.) In any event, it was a thrilling conversation. I can't go into details here as most of it was "off the record," what I can relate is that: he knows that he is one of the strongest blitz players in the world, he would definitely love to visit New Zealand, and his aspirations include becoming the World Champion! During our goodbyes, he took Mr Aldridge's business card and promised to be in touch! Now I'm not sure if he was sincere or not but he did include a LOTR quote in a tweet that he sent right before his crucial last round game vs Gelfand. He went on to win that game and the blitz playoff against Anish Giri to win the tournament. So that certainly seems to bode well for future US-NZ bilateral chess relations!

North Island Championship Annotated Game

Continued from page 17

**Krstev, Antonio (2071) - Van
Riemsdijk, Herman Claudius (2416)**
Auckland ch NZ North Island (4.2),

[20.Ne2 is almost an equalizer] **20...Qg5**
21.Ne2?



Now it's a disaster **21...Nh5! 22.gxh5 Qxh5**
23.Kh2 Rxc3 24.Nxc3 Qh4 25.Rb3 g6
26.Rb5 f5 27.Rxc5 f4 28.Nh1 g5 29.d6 g4
30.Kg1 Bd7 [30...g3 31.Nxc3 fxg3
32.Rxf8+ Kxf8 33.Rxc8+ Kf7 34.d7 Qf6
would have been a more dramatic way to
win!] **31.hxc4 f3 32.Bd3? Qxc4+ 33.Kf1**
Qh3+ 34.Ke1 Qxh1+ 35.Bf1 Qh6 36.Rd5
Qc1+ 0-1

How to win the NZ Championship in 11 not so easy games – Part Two

Continued from the April edition, IM Anthony Ker concludes his narrative of his journey to an 11th NZ Title, won at the 2010 Championship.

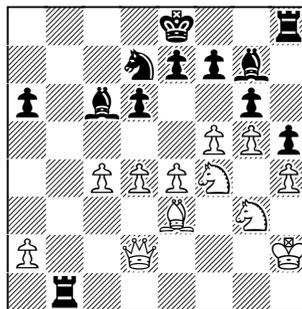
Round 6

Thornton, Gino (2214) - Ker, Anthony (2423) NZ Championship Auckland (6.1), 07.01.2010

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Be3 c6 5.f3 b5 6.g4 h6 7.Qd2 Bg7 8.h4 h5 9.g5 Nfd7 10.Nge2 Nb6 11.Ng3 Qc7 12.Bd3 N8d7 13.Nce2 a6 14.f4 e5 15.c3 Nc4 16.Bxc4 bxc4 17.f5 Qb7 18.0-0 cxd4 19.cxd4 Rb8 20.Nf4 Nf8 21.Rab1 Bd7 22.b3 Bc6 23.bxc4 Qxb1 24.Rxb1 Rxb1+ 25.Kh2 Nd7 (=) 26.fxg6 0-0 27.gxf7+ Rxf7 28.Qc2 Rb4 29.Qe2 Rf8 30.a3 Rb3 31.Ne6 Rfb8 32.Nxg7 Rb2 33.Bd2 Kxg7 34.Nxh5+ Kg8 35.Ng3 Ra2 36.Nf1 Rb1 37.Kg2 Rxa3 38.Qg4 Nf8 39.Kf2 Bd7 40.Qh5 Bh3 41.Nh2 Rh1 42.Bf4 Ra2+ 43.Ke3 Rb1 44.d5 Rb3+ 45.Kd4 e5+ White resigns 0-1

Black against Gino Thornton and once again my Pirc Defence is put to the test. The opening moves are all book but my queenside counterplay is too slow and my

king stays in the center far too long. I am squirming with 20...Nf8 and decide to unbalance the position by exchanging my queen for two rooks, hoping this will change the complexion of the game. Fearing the worst I offer a draw after 25...Nd7.



In his younger days Gino might have cravenly accepted but this time he quite correctly turns my offer down, as his position is much better and he knows it. I shed a couple of pawns getting my king to (relative) safety on g8. Gino continues to press the attack. In these types of position it's no use defending grimly – I have to counterattack or I'm dead. So as quickly as possible I mobilize my rooks to invade down the b-file and onto White's first 3 ranks. I succeed in tying Gino's knight and bishop to defence and after 38...Nf8! the

game starts to turn in my favour. My knight keeps the White queen at bay and my rooks are creating problems. Eventually Gino's king flees into the middle of the board but after 45..e5+ he loses his entire army: 46 dxe6 Nxe6+ 47 Kd5 Nxf4+ 48 Kxd6 Nxd5 and if that wasn't bad enough the knight is trapped also! The alternative 46 Bxe5 is met by 46..Rd2#.

This was a narrow escape for me - at one point Fritz assessed my position as minus 3 pawns – but I didn't abandon the situation as hopeless, keep looking for ways to make it difficult for Gino, unbalanced the material situation and sacrificed some pawns for counterplay, all of which contributed to the final result. Gino must have been thinking “why haven't I won this position yet?” and eventually “whatever happened to my great position?”

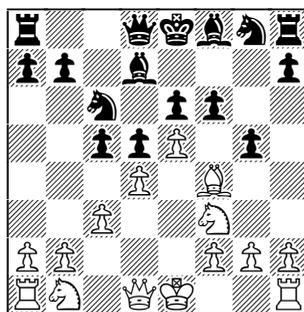
Round 7

Ker,Anthony (2423) - Krstev,Antonio (2057)NZ Championship Auckland (7.1), 08.01.2010

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bd7 6.Be2 f6 7.Bf4 g5 8.Nxg5 Nge7 9.Bh5+ Ng6 10.Nxh7 Rxh7 11.Bxg6+ Rf7 12.Bxf7+ Kxf7 13.Qh5+ Kg8 14.Qg6+ Bg7 15.Bh6 Qf8 16.exf6 Qxf6 17.Qxg7+ Qxg7 18.Bxg7 Kxg7 19.dxc5 Ne5 20.Na3 Nd3+ 21.Ke2 Nxb2 22.Rab1 Na4 23.Rxb7 Nxc5 24.Rc7 Rc8 25.Rxc8 Bxc8 26.Ke3 Kf6 27.Rb1 Na4 28.Rb8 Ba6 29.Rf8+ Ke5 30.f4+ Kd6 31.Kd4 Be2 32.Ra8 a6 33.c4 Nc5 34.cxd5 exd5 35.Rd8+ Nd7 36.Rh8 Bf1 37.g4 Bg2

38.Nc2 Nc5 39.f5 Na4 40.Ne3 Black resigns 1-0

I am White against Antonio Krstev. This is a good match-up for me – Antonio is a fine player and was scoring well in this tournament but he has always struggled in our games. Another French and early in the opening Antonio lashes out at my dark-squared bishop with 7...g5



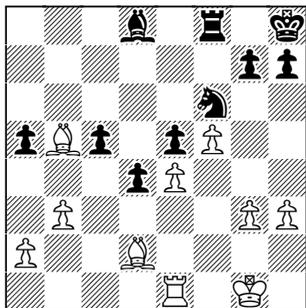
This turns out to be a ghastly mistake and after 8 Nxg5! and 10 Nxh7! Black's kingside is smashed and he loses two pawns and the exchange. The game is decided by move 18 but Antonio battles on for another 22 moves before conceding defeat. Afterwards he explains that g5 is thematic but it must be prefaced by moves like cxd4 and Bb4+ - he played it too early.

Round 8

Watson,Bruce (2297) - Ker,Anthony (2423) NZ Championship Auckland (8.1), 09.01.2010

1.c4 d6 2.g3 e5 3.Bg2 f5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.d3
 Be7 6.e4 fxe4 7.dxe4 0-0 8.Nge2 Be6 9.b3
 c5 10.0-0 Nc6 11.Nd5 Qd7 12.f4 Bg4
 13.f5 Nd4 14.Ndc3 a6 15.h3 Bxe2
 16.Nxe2 b5 17.Qd3 Kh8 18.Bd2 Rab8
 19.Rac1 Bd8 20.Rfe1 a5 21.Nxd4 cxd4
 22.cxb5 Rxb5 23.Bf1 Rc5 24.Rxc5 dxc5
 25.Qb5 Qxb5 26.Bxb5 Bb6 27.Kg2 Ra8
 28.g4 h6 29.Kf3 Kg8 30.h4 Ne8 31.g5
 hxg5 32.hxg5 Nd6 33.Bc6 Ra7 34.Rh1
 Kf8 35.Rh8+ Ke7 36.Rg8 Nf7 37.g6 Nd8
 38.Rxg7+ Kf6 39.Rxa7 Bxa7 40.Bd5 Bb6
 41.Bh6 Black resigns 1-0

Things are going well. I have 6½/7, a full point ahead of my nearest rival Nic Croad. Despite this I am anxious about my next game - Black vs Bruce Watson. Bruce is one of the old school (Small, Nokes, E Green, Sarapu, Garbett) that dominated NZ chess when I was climbing the ranks. He is a very solid player and knows his stuff. Plus he is an English player, an opening I am having trouble with. Sure enough we start with an English but Bruce diverts into the early e4 lines, which I am not prepared for. Struggling in unfamiliar territory I use a lot of time trying (and failing) to find the best plan. After 26.Bxb5



Bruce has exactly the sort of position he likes – two bishops, better pawn structure, bad Black bishop. I am strategically lost and furthermore rapidly running out of time. The next fifteen moves are a miserable time for me, frantic thrashing about as Bruce closes in for the kill. His technique is excellent and he makes it look easy. Meanwhile Nic wins his game to draw level.

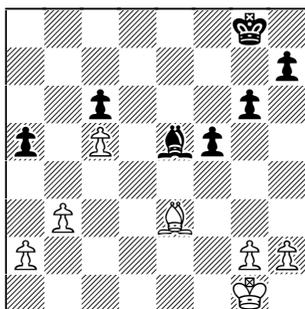
Round 9

Ker,Anthony (2423) - Shen,Daniel (2221)
 NZ Championship Auckland (9.1),
 10.01.2010

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.e5 Qe7 7.Qe2 Nd5 8.c4
 Nb6 9.Nc3 a5 10.Qe4 g6 11.Bd3 Bg7
 12.0-0 0-0 13.f4 f5 14.Qe2 Re8 15.Be3 d6
 16.c5 Nd5 17.Bc4 Bb7 18.Qf3 dxe5
 19.Nxd5 cxd5 20.Bxd5+ Bxd5 21.Qxd5+
 Qe6 22.Rad1 Qxd5 23.Rxd5 Rad8
 24.Rfd1 Bf6 25.fxe5 Rxd5 26.Rxd5 Rxe5
 27.Rxe5 Bxe5 28.b3 c6 29.Bd2 Bc7 30.a4
 Kf7 31.b4 axb4 32.Bxb4 Ke6 33.a5 Bb8
 34.a6 Kd5 35.Kf2 Kc4 36.Ba3 Kb5
 37.Ke3 Kxa6 38.h3 Be5 39.g4 Kb5
 40.gxf5 gxf5 41.Kd3 Ka4 42.Bc1 Kb4
 43.Be3 Bf6 44.Ke2 Be7 45.Kf3 Bxc5
 46.Bd2+ Kc4 47.Kf4 Kd3 48.Ba5 Be3+
 49.Kxf5 c5 50.Ke5 c4 51.Kd5 h5 52.Bb4
 Bd4 53.Ke6 Ke4 54.Kf7 Kf5 55.Bd2 c3
 56.Bc1 c2 57.Ke7 Be5 58.Kd7 Bf4 59.Bb2
 h4 60.Kc6 c1Q+ 61.Bxc1 Bxc1 62.Kd5
 Kf4 63.Kd4 Kg3 64.Ke4 Bf4 White
 resigns 0-1

Today I am White against top junior player Daniel Shen. I am determined to make up

for my poor play yesterday and furthermore I hate losing to juniors. Well OK I hate losing full stop but I try especially hard against young players. If you let them win once that is the end. No respect. We begin with a Scotch game and Daniel plays the modern Nb6 line instead of the older Ba6 move ... the bishop doesn't have much of a future on a6 after b3. I proceed cautiously, gaining a slight advantage but nothing special and we liquidate down to a bishop and pawn endgame. This is the position after 28...c6



With about 10 minutes left I calculate a forcing variation involving charging the a-pawn down the board. It doesn't quite work but I badly want it to succeed and decide to try it anyway. Big mistake. Daniel hoovers up my pawns with his more active king and proceeds to accurately convert his advantage. I try to get my king to h1 to block his last pawn but my access is blocked and I concede defeat. Disaster! Nic is now in the lead. Have I blown the tournament?

Round 10

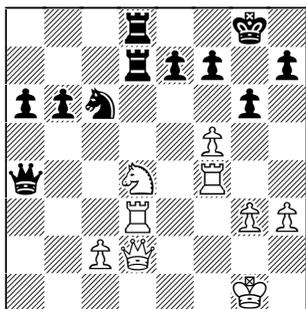
Hart,Ralph (2276) - Ker,Anthony (2423)
 NZ Championship Auckland (10.2),
 11.01.2010

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.g3 Bg7 5.Bg2
 0-0 6.Nge2 Nbd7 7.0-0 e5 8.h3 Rb8 9.a4
 b6 10.Be3 a6 11.f4 cxd4 12.Bxd4 Bb7
 13.e5 Ne8 14.exd6 Nxd6 15.Bxb7 Rxb7
 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Nd5 Kg8 18.Nd4 Nb8
 19.f5 Nc4 20.b3 Qxd5 21.bxc4 Qxc4
 22.Ra3 Rd7 23.Rd3 Rfd8 24.Rf4 Qxa4
 25.Qd2 Nc6 26.Ne6 Qa1+ 27.Rf1 Rxd3
 28.cxd3 Qe5 29.Nxd8 Qxg3+ 30.Qg2
 Qxg2+ 31.Kxg2 Nxd8 32.fxg6 hxg6
 33.Ra1 Ne6 34.Rxa6 Nf4+ 35.Kf3 Nxd3
 36.Rxb6 Kg7 37.Rb7 Kf6 38.Rb3 Nc5
 39.Ra3 e6 40.Kg4 Nd7 41.Rf3+ Kg7
 42.Ra3 f5+ 43.Kg3 Kf6 44.Ra7 Nc5
 45.Ra8 Ne4+ 46.Kf3 Ng5+ 47.Kg3 e5
 48.Rf8+ Kg7 49.Ra8 Ne6 50.Ra6 Kf6
 51.Rb6 e4 52.Ra6 f4+ 53.Kg4 f3 54.h4 f2
 55.Ra1 e3 56.Kf3 Nd4+ 57.Kg2 Kf5
 58.Ra5+ Ke4 59.h5 gxh5 60.Rxh5 Kd3
 61.Re5 Ke2 White resigns 0-1

Black against Ralph Hart, a game I feel I must win to stay in contention. Ralph is a tricky player, very tactically alert and I am not surprised he won the lightning championship. The game starts with my favourite Pirc and Ralph selects the g3 line, a solid choice promising an interesting struggle ahead. Ralph cannot restrain himself and lunges with 13 e5 but my defences are sound. 18 Nd4 causes a moment of panic but 18...Nb8 turns out to be a surprisingly effective counter. After 19...Nc4! Ralph has nothing better than to drop a pawn. So far so good, but just to make sure I snatch a second pawn with

24...Qxa4. This one is poisonous. After
25...Nc6 I think I am fine...

12.01.2010



1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 g6
5.Nf3 Bg7 6.Na3 cxd4 7.Bc4 Qe4+ 8.Be3
Nh6 9.Nb5 Na6 10.cxd4 0-0 11.0-0 Bg4
12.Nc3 Qc6 13.Bd5 Qd7 14.Bxh6 Bxh6
15.Ne5 Bxd1 16.Nxd7 Bg4 17.Nxf8 Rb8
18.h3 Bc8 19.Nxh7 Nc7 20.Rfe1 Kxh7
21.Bxf7 e6 22.d5 Bd2 23.d6 Na6 24.Red1
Bxc3 25.bxc3 Bd7 26.Re1 Nc5 27.Re5
Nd3 28.Re4 Kg7 29.Bxe6 Nc5 30.Rae1
Nxe4 31.Rxe4 Bc6 32.Rf4 Rf8 33.Rxf8
Kxf8 34.f4 b6 35.g4 Kg7 36.d7 Black
resigns 1-0

...until Ralph unleashes 26 Ne6!! When
your opponent plays an unexpected and
seemingly powerful move it's a good idea
to stop and take a hard look at the position.
Maybe there's a flaw. But alas, not this
time. After detailed examination of the
possibilities I realize I must lose an
exchange and we go into a knight + 2P vs
rook endgame. My winning chances have
disappeared but I'm still OK for a draw.
And then something strange happens.
Ralph plays very cautiously, I gradually
advance my pawns and after 54...f2 I am
winning again.

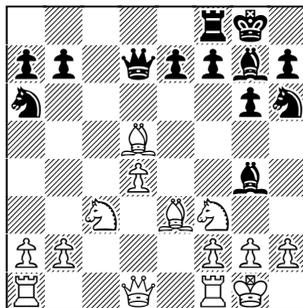
So going into the last round Nic and I are
tied on 7½ points while Daniel Shen is
lurking just behind us on 7. I have the
White pieces against Bob Smith, who has
come through the field after a slow start.
We begin with the same c3 Sicilian I
played in round 3. I think "what nasty
surprise has Bob cooked up for me?" I
needn't have worried. Bob is in the middle
of a house move from Waitakere to
Tauranga and hasn't had time to research
my earlier games. So we play down the
same variation and reach this position after
13 moves:

This game was my most important one of
the championship. I halted my losing
streak, recovered from the shock of seeing
my advantage disappear after 26 Ne6, and
ground out a win in a difficult endgame.

Round 11

**Ker,Anthony (2423) - Smith,Robert
(2368)**

NZ Championship Auckland (11.1),



While contemplating my next move I notice an interesting tactical possibility and play 14 Bxh6 Bxh6 15 Ne5! This comes as a surprise to Bob but he responds quickly with 15...Bxd1. This is a mistake. It was essential to play 15...Qxd5 16 Nxd5 Bxd1 17 Nxe7+ Kh8 18 Rxd1 White wins a pawn but Black is still in the game. After 15... Bxd1 I win an exchange and a couple of pawns. I can scarcely believe my good fortune – Bob is normally a very tough player to beat but here I am in the final game of the NZ Championship oodles of material up. “Don’t blow it” I keep saying to myself and play very slowly and carefully. Even so Bob manages to win the exchange back but now he is three pawns down and it’s hopeless. He resigns after 36 moves.

I look anxiously over to Nic’s game. Has he overcome Chris Depasquale? No, Chris has risen to the occasion, holding Nic to a draw in a hard-fought game. I am the New Zealand Champion.

Puchen Wang at the World Open

Puchen Wang's chess has taken a back seat to his double major degree in the USA recently, but in July he played in the World Open in Philadelphia. The World Open is a big money tournament with a half dozen grades and it attracts several hundred players in search of the lucrative prizefund.

Over 30 GMs took part this year. Puchen

finished with a score of 6/9, placing 18th. The top 17 were all Grandmasters and five GMs finished behind Puchen. His results included a draw with GM Evgeny Najer and a loss to GM Robert Hess.

The highlight for Puchen was a draw against super GM Gata Kamsky. In a game that lasted late into the night, Puchen defending found several accurate moves in a time scramble to save the point. Victor Wang reports Kamsky was surprised at Puchen's strong defence and generous in his praise afterwards.

IM Wang Puchen (2469) - GM Kamsky,G(2702)

38th World Open, Philadelphia, 04.07.2010

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 g6 6.0-0 Bg7 7.Nb3 d6 8.N1d2 Nf6 9.Nc4 b5 10.Nca5 Bd7 11.c4 0-0 12.c5 dxc5 13.Nb7 Qe7 14.N7xc5 Rd8 15.Bg5 h6 16.Bh4 Nc6 17.Qe2 g5 18.Bg3 Nd4 19.Nxd4 Qxc5 20.Nb3 Qb6 21.Rac1 Rac8 22.h4 Be8 23.hxg5 hxg5 24.e5 Nd5 25.Rxc8 Rxc8 26.Qg4 Nf4 27.Bxf4 gxf4 28.Qxf4 Rd8 29.Rd1 Rd5 30.Be2 Rxe5 31.Bf3 a5 32.Nd2 Rf5 33.Qg4 Kf8 34.Ne4 Rd5 35.Rxd5 exd5 36.Ng3 Bxb2 37.Bxd5 Qc5 38.Qf5 Qc1+ 39.Kh2 Qc3 40.f4 Qh8+ 41.Nh5 Qh6 42.g4 Qg6 43.Qc8 Qd6 44.Qf5 a4 45.Ng3 Qg6 46.Kg2 b4 47.Qc8 Qb6 48.Ne4 Qb5 49.Qd8 Qe2+ 50.Kg3 Qe3+ 51.Kg2 Qxf4 52.Bc6 Qe5 53.Kf3 b3 54.Bxe8 Qxe8 55.Qd2 f5 56.gxf5 Qh5+ 57.Kg2 Qxf5 58.Qb4+ Kg7 59.Qxa4 bxa2 60.Qxa2 Qxe4+ 61.Kf2 Bd4+ 62.Kg3 Be5+ 63.Kf2 Qf4+ 64.Ke1 Bc3+ 65.Kd1 Qf1+ 66.Kc2 Qe2+ 67.Kb3 Qe6+ 68.Ka3 Qd6+ 69.Kb3 Qd5+ 70.Ka3 Qc5+ 71.Kb3 ½ - ½

Ted Frost 1927-2010

**Died Peacefully 15 July
2010**

By Ross Jackson

Ted Frost was an exceptional contributor to New Zealand Chess. At different times he served in all the major administrative roles in the Chess Federation – President, Secretary, Treasurer, Ratings Officer, and Editor of the New Zealand Chess Magazine. He was involved in introducing ratings, and established the Chess Friends Trust for junior development which he oversaw to its target of \$20,000. Ted was one of the select few honoured as Life Members of the New Zealand Chess Federation and of Wellington Chess Club

In 2007 Ted was asked to write his biography for NZ Chess Magazine. This was published in four parts under the title “Seven Decades of Chess in New Zealand”. It is an important record for New Zealand’s chess history. The first two parts featured in New Zealand Chess Vol. 34 no. 2 April 2007 pp 14-17 and included nine of his most memorable games. The second two parts were published in Volume 34 no. 4 August 2007 pp13-16 and feature a further five games. One cannot improve on Ted’s own words, and I recommend readers to those articles; but his achievements in life were much more than those modestly described.

Ted was born in New Plymouth in 1926. In a sense he had two concurrent careers- journalism and chess. In journalism he

began work as a message boy at the Evening Post in Wellington in 1943. He progressed to working as a reporter for the Manawatu Evening Standard, the Central Hawkes Bay Press in Waipukerau, and Napier’s Daily Telegraph. It was in Waipukerau that he was introduced to chess. He quickly discovered that he had a knack for the game and was also soon made Secretary of the Waipukerau chess club - the beginning of a lifetime of service in administration of chess clubs. He returned to The Evening Post as a parliamentary reporter and later editorial writer. Ted was the first New Zealand recipient of the Commonwealth Press Union fellowship in 1960.

Ted's chess skills were progressed through many social games against a close friend, Les Cook, who had learnt both chess and his profession as a watchmaker while a prisoner of war in Germany in World War 2. There were many interesting opponents in those early years. One, Warne Pearse, was the brother of the legendary Richard Pearse, and was in no doubt that Richard was the first man to fly. Warne Pearse was an opponent in the First Class (second tier) category of Congress which Ted won. Ted was always a determined chess adversary. In 1951 when Ortvin Sarapu arrived in New Zealand he gave a simul for Congress players. The score was 19 wins, two draws and two losses; one of the losses was to Ted.

Ted departed from the Evening Post to spend a decade in public relations, first with Unilever and then with the Manufacturers Federation. One accomplishment in this time was to be part of the development of the stylised kiwi

which is the emblem for New Zealand exports. He returned to journalism to head the Wellington Polytechnic journalism course, then became managing editor of the Hawera Star. Although a reputable provincial newspaper it was considered a surprise when Ted was recommended and accepted to be editor of the Dominion, the flagship newspaper of the Capital. The Dominion was intensely disliked by then Prime Minister Robert Muldoon who reportedly remarked that he didn't know if it was a promotion or demotion when Ted moved from the Hawera Star. It was not an easy assignment on many levels. Not only did Ted have to contend with an aggressive Prime Minister, desperate to push through a policy of "Think Big" energy projects and trample all criticism, but also belligerent newspaper unions and their industrial disputes. Amicable resolutions were impossible because the Dominion's ownership company, Independent Newspapers Ltd, had decided to fund acquisitions rather than properly resource its existing newspapers.

Even in chess administration, Ted had much earlier been placed in a no-win situation between warring factions. The national chess Association had once been based in Wellington, (Auckland being an administrative centre). Wellington Chess Club, which then had the country's strongest players, had separated into two clubs, Wellington and a splinter group, Civic Chess Club. The dispute was outwardly over whether to retain round robin competition or introduce the Swiss system. But the conflict was also one of personal animosities. With regional clubs at each other throats Ted, being an independent newcomer, was asked to take

the chair. The conflict was only resolved by moving the chess headquarters away from Wellington to Auckland, where it now remains. It would be more than 40 years before Wellington Chess Club and Civic chess club would re-unite, by means of the then much larger Civic club absorbing Wellington and its assets plus accepting the Wellington name. After retiring from active chess playing, Ted administered chess Friends until his end. He was never idle, dedicating himself to new causes. He was very involved in plantings at Castlecliff in Wanganui where he lived, and was due for Civic recognition. In his final year he joined the Labour Party, a reflection mostly of his core belief in achievement through community action. I came to know Ted when I joined Wellington Chess Club in 1984. Ted's son, Tim, was President, Ted was Secretary and Jonathan Sarfati was Club Captain. I knew Ted as a warm hearted, dynamic, caring, decisive man, absolutely passionate about the game we love, dedicated to its progress and extraordinarily generous in the time he gave. To Tim and all Ted's family I extend my deepest condolences. Ted's loss is shared by all chess players who were privileged to have known him.

Two of Ted's games annotated by JD Sarfati

A Feneridis- E. Frost All-Wellington Championship 1968. A good win against the then convincingly leading player of Wellington, who hardly ever lost to other Wellingtonians in those days. This win allowed Ted tie Fenny for the All-Wellington title. **1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be2** (rather passive) **9...Nbd7**

[9...Qe7 aiming for either ...c5 or an eventual ...e5] **10.Qb3 a5 11.Rd1 Rc8** (not the right time to determine the place for the R) **12.Na2 Nd5 13.Bd2 Bd6?! 14.Nc3 14.Nb4** (a N is much better here than the B, attacking a couple of key squares that White would otherwise like to play on) **15.e4** (Good, but all the same, the centre is not as strong as it looks) **15...Bg6 16.Bg5** (driving the Q to a better square, while the B itself will turn out to be loose there) **16...Qe8! 17.Rd2 Bb8 18.Re1 e5! 19.dxe5 Nxe5 20.Red1** [20.Nh4 was the unobvious move that leaves Black's N on e5, keeping the Q off that square; **20.Nxe5 Qxe5 21.f4 Qc5+! 22.Kh1** (22.Kf1 Qe3 23.Rd7 Ba7 mating) **22...h6 23.f5 Qe5 24.g3 Bxf5 25.exf5 hxc5** with a P up and good position as well] **20...Nxf3+ 21.gxf3** (forced, because of 21.Bxf3 Bxh2+ 22.Kxh2 Qe5+) **21...h6 22.Rd8?** (now White is lost; moving that loose B back to e3 would have left Black with only a slight plus) **22...Rxd8 23.Rxd8** [23.Bxd8 Qe5 and White can't defend h2] **23...Qe5! 24.f4 Qc7 25.Rxf8+ Kxf8 26.Bh4 Qxf4 27.Bg3 Qc1+** (thanks to this check, Black keeps the extra P. And the B swap leaves White's Q-side dark squares weak) **28.Kg2 Bxg3 29.hxc3 Qc2 30.Qxc2 Nxc2 31.Bg4 Nd4 32.Bc8 b5 33.f3 Ke7 34.Kf2 Kd6 35.Ke3 Kc5 36.axb5** (this makes Black's job easier, since he can now make an outside passed P) **36...cxb5 37.Bd7 f6 38.f4 Bf7 39.g4 Be6 40.Bxe6 Nxe6** (Many say that such N endgames are like P endgames. Indeed, it is almost as easily won. But a P endgame wouldn't have allowed the elegant promotion combination by which Black wraps up the point.) **41.Nd5 Kc4 42.Nc3 b4 43.Ne2 a4 44.Nc1 b3 45.Nd3 Nxf4!! 46.Nxf4 a3 47.bxa3 b2 0-1**

E.Frost- J.D. Sarfati

Wellington C C Championship 1990

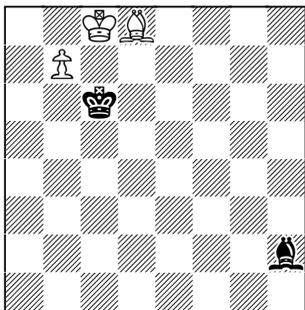
I was joint NZ Schoolpupils Champ that year, while Ted had returned after a few years, so this tourney was the first time I'd seen him. The veteran soon had me in difficulties, but missed some good chances.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.Qc2 (this move of Ted's puzzled me at the time. It's quite a sensible way to decline the Benko) **4...bxc4 5.e4 Ba6?!** (this is right in a normal Benko, but here, trying to hold the P misplaces Black's pieces as Ted correctly judged) **6.Nc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 d6 8.f4 Nfd7** (such unhealthy contortions to try to prevent e5, which happens anyway) **9.Nf3 g6 10.Ne2** (a good idea, but it would have been better implemented by Nd1, which doesn't obstruct the Bf1, and can head to e3, defending the Pd5 so the e5 push is much stronger. This would give White a clear advantage.) **10...Qc7 11.Bc3 Nf6 12.e5 dxe5 13.Bxe5** (White can't recapture with the P because his Pd5 is hanging, unlike the line in the previous note. But this P is left quite weak anyway.) **13...Qa5+ 14.Bc3 Qb6 15.g3 Bg7 16.Bg2 0-0 17.Ne5 Bb7** (finally realizing that it was just self-obstruction to try to hold that P) **18.Nxc4 Qb5 19.Ne3 Na6 20.a3 Nc7 21.Rd1 Rfd8 22.0-0 Ncx5 23.Bxd5** (White should not have exchanged this valuable fianchettoed B) **23...Nxd5 24.Nxd5 Bxd5 25.Bxg7 Kxg7 26.Rd2 Qb3?** [26...Bb7 followed by Qc6 would make White miss his B badly.] **27.Qxc5 Qc4 28.Rc1 Qxc5+ 29.Rxc5 Be4 30.Rxd8 Rxd8 31.Re5! Bf3 32.Rxe7 Rd2 33.Kf2 Bh5 34.b4 Kf6 35.Re3 Ra2** (fortunately, Black's active pieces are enough to hold the draw) **36.b5 Bxe2 37.Rxe2 1/2-1/2.**

Resources in Same Colour Bishops Endings (Part Two)

By IM Herman van Riemsdijk

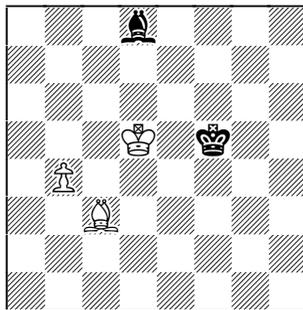
The first real important contribution to the Same Colour Bishops Endings, was made by the Genovese Luigi Centurini (1820-1900) in 1856. Another Italian, the Venetian Carlo Salvioli (1848-1930) published it (probably for the first time) in his 'Teoria e Pratica del Giuoco degli Scacchi' (Venice 1885-8, in 4 volumes). Centurini's studies were presented in the form of 'lessons'. The most interesting in my point of view is his 'Third Lesson'.



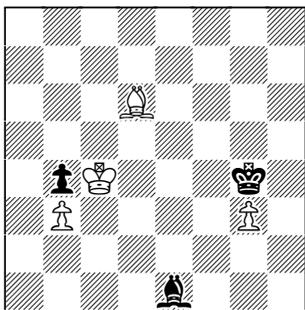
1.Bh4 The Idea is to bring the Bishop to a7. 1 Bg5 or 1 Bf6 would have the same effect. Against the latter 1... Kd5 wouldn't work as a defence because of 2 Bh4 and the black king cannot stop the bishop coming to a7.

1... Kb6 [Or 1... Kb5, but not 1...Be5? 2.Bf6 Bh2 3.Bd4 Bg3 4.Ba7 Bf4 5.Bb8 Be3 6.Bh2 Ba7 7.Bg1!] **2.Bf2+ Ka6 3.Bc5!** This is the right way to bring the bishop out of his 'protected' corner. **3... Bg3 4.Be7!** Now the threat is to bring the bishop back to d8 and play the winning Bc7. This forces a black king's peregrination back to c6. **4... Kb6 5.Bd8+ Kc6 6.Bh4!** This nice decoying idea gives white the necessary tempo to come to a7. **6... Bh2 7.Bf2 Kb5 8.Ba7 Ka6 9.Bb8 Bg1 10.Bg3 Ba7 11.Bf2, winning.**

The following position occurred in the game Capablanca-Janowsky, New York 1916, the Polish Grandmaster Dawid Janowsky (1868-1927: challenged Emanuel Lasker twice for the world title in 1909 and 1910. He lost both matches by a large margin) surprisingly resigned.

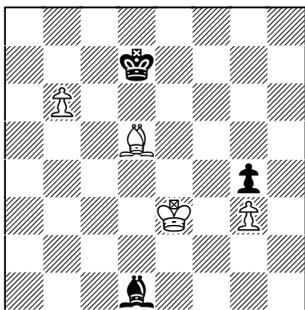


Would Janowsky have known Centurini's 'Second Lesson', he could have saved the game with 1...Kf4! 2.Bd4 Kf3! 3.b5 Ke2! 4.Ba7 Kd3 5.Kc6 Kc4! The idea that you have to glue to the white pawn is the important thing to know.



The game Taimanov-Fischer (Buenos Aires 1960) showed us that the American genius was totally aware what he had to do:

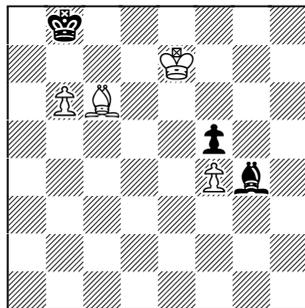
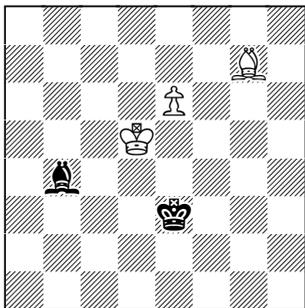
1.Bxb4 Bxg3 2.Bc3 Bd6 3.Kd5 Be7 4.Bd4 Bb4 5.Kc4 Ba5 6.Bc3 Bd8 7.b4 Kf4 8.b5 Ke4 9.Bd4 Bc7 10.Kc5 Kd3 85.Kc6 Kc4 86.Bb6 Bf4 87.Ba7 Bc7 ½-½. Without much trouble!



1.Kf4 In his excellent "Hogeschool van het Eindspel" (pg 121), world champion Max Euwe analyses this position of the game Pilnik-Milic (Beverwijk, 1955) thoroughly. This analysis is a simplified version of that. I added some comments with the help of

Nalimov Tablebase. **1...Kc8 2.Be4** Or 2.Be6+ Kx7 3.Bxg4 and now not 3...Ba4? because White wins with nice maneuvering: 4.Bf3+ Kxb6 5.g4 Kc7 6.g5 Kd6 (*The alternatives aren't good either: 6...Bc2 7.Be4 or 6...Be8 7.Ke5 Kd7 8.Kf6*) 7.g6! Ke7 8.Kg5 Bb3 9.Kh6 Kf6 10.g7 Bg8 11.Be4 Ke5 12.Bh7 Ba2 13.Bb1 Bg8 14.Kg6 Bb3 15.Kh7 Kf6 16.Kh8 Kg5 17.Bh7 Kh6 18.Bg8 Bc2 19.Ba2 Bh7 20.Bb3 and Black is in Zugzwang. Correct is 2...Bc2 (*Also enough is 2...Bb3 3.Bf3+ Kxb6 4.g4 Kc7 5.g5 Bf7 6.Ke5 Kd7 7.Kf6 Ke8 8.Kg7 Ke7 9.Be4 Be8 10.Bg6 Ba4 11.Bf7 Bc2 12.Bg8 Bb1 13.Bh7 Ba2 14.Kh6 Bf7*) 3.Bf3+ Kxb6 4.g4 Kc7 5.Be4 Bb3! (5...Bd1 6.g5 Bh5 7.Kf5 Kd8 8.Kf6 Kd7 9.Bg6 Bd1 10.Bf5+ Ke8 11.g6 Bb3 12.Be6 Bc2 – *Of course also not 12...Bxe6 13.Kxe6 Kf8 14.Kf6 Kg8 15.g7 – 13.g7 Bh7 14.Kg5 Ke7 15.Kh6 etc.*) 6.Ke5 Kd7 7.Kf6 Ke8 8.g5 Bf7! 9.Bg6 Kf8!, drawing with a nice stalemate motive. **2...Kb8 3.Bc6 Kc8 4.Bd5 Kb8 5.Kg5 Kc8 6.Be6+ Kb7 7.Bxg4 Ba4!** Or 7... Bc2! but not 7...Bb3? 8.Bf3+ Kxb6 9.Kf6! Kc5 10.Ke5! (*10.g4? Kd4! 11.g5 Ke3 12.Bh5 Bc2 13.Ke5 Be4 14.Bg4 Bg6 15.Kf6 Be8 16.Be6 Kf4 and the King is on time.*) 10...Kb6 11.Kd6 Bc2 12.g4, with an easy win. **8.Kf6 Kxb6 9.Ke7 Kc7 ½-½.** With what we have learned it's easy to deduct that also 9... Kc5 was enough for a draw.

How subtle this fight can be was shown in the game Forintos-Liberzon (Match Hungary x USSR, Moscow 1971):



White has Just moved Ke5-d5. Forintos now played **1...Kd3?**

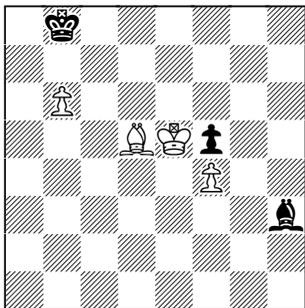
It's a logical looking move because the Black king wants to glue to the white pawn on d5 if the the white King comes to d7. He lost after **2.Bf6 Ba3 3.Bd8 Bb4 4.Bc7 Be7 5.Kc6 Ke4 6.Kd7 1-0**

Heading with his King to f3 was one of the ways to draw: **1...Kf3 1...Be7 2.Be5 Bd8 3.Kd6 Bg5 4.Kd7 Ke4 5.Bd6 Kd5 6.Be7 Bd2 7.Bh4 Bb4** was also ok. **2.Be5** Or **2.Bf6 Kg4 3.Bd8 Kf5 4.Bc7 Be7 5.Bd6 Bg5 6.Bf8 Bh4 7.Kd6 Ke4 8.Be7 Be1 9.Kd7 Kd5. 2...Be7 3.Kc6 Ke4 4.Kd7 Bg5 5.Bd6 Kd5** and there is no way to make progress.

All these positions look very similar. As in so many occasions on the chess board a little detail makes the difference. Next position is from the game Santasiere-Kashdan (Boston 1938) after move 119... f6-f5. The blocked pawns are on the f file (not the g file). This allows White to keep both his pawns!

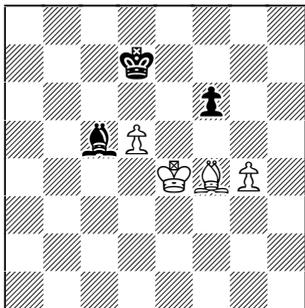
Anthony Edward Santasiere (1904-1977) was a colourful but lesser known American Master. The to the Orang Utan (1. b4) related opening 1. Nf3 d5 2. b4 is called the Santasiere's Folly which he tried for a couple of times. He also wrote the very interesting poem "Names – only Names", which Edward Lasker published in his classic "The Adventure of Chess". In this ending he outplayed Isaac Kashdan, who in theory was much superior to him!

120.Kf6 Bh3! Or 120...Kc8 121.Bg2 Kd7 122.Kg5 Kd6 123.Be4 Bh3 124.Bxf5 Bg2 125.Bh7! Kc6 (125...Bh3 126.Be4) 126.f5 Kxb6 127.f6 Bd5 128.Kg6 Kc5 129.Kg7 Kd6 130.Bg8+, winning. **121.Ke5!** 121.Kg5 may lead to a draw after 121... Kc8 122.Bf3 Kb8 123.Bd5 Kc8 124.Be6+? (124. Kf6) 124... Kb7 125.Bxf5 Bg2 126.Bd3 Bh3 127.Be2 Kxb6 128.Bg4 Bf1 129.f5 Kc5 130.f6 Bc4 131.Kg6 Kd6 132.Kg7 Ke5 133.Bh5 Kf4! (133...Kf5?? 134.Bf7 Be2 135.Bg6+) 134.Bf7 Be2 135.Bb3 Bh5 136.Bc2 Kg5, with a clear drawing pattern. **121...Kc8 122.Bf3 Kb8 123.Bd5**



123...Kc8 Or 123...Bg4 124.Bg2 Kc8 125.Kf6 Kd8 126.Kg5 Kc8 127.Be4, as before. **124.Be6+ Kb7 125.Bxf5 Bf1 126.Be6 Bd3** If 126...Kxb6 127.f5 Kc7 128.f6 Kd8 129.Bf7! Bb5 130.Kf5! Bd3+ 131.Kg5 Bc2 132.Kh6 Ba4 133.Bg8 Be8 134.Kg7 Bh5 135.Bh7 Ke8 136.Bg6+ Bxg6 137.Kxg6 Kf8 138.f7, queening in a two more moves. **127.Kd4** The point: White will defend the c pawn with 128. Kf5, **1-0**.

To finish a quite simple zugzwang from the game Prasad-Anand (India 1985). The victim was World Champion Anand in his early years. To be exact, the year in which he became an IM.



1.Be3! Ba3 Or 1...Be7 2.Bd4 Kd6 3.Bb2 Bd8 4.Ba3+ Kd7 5.Kf5, and Black is running out of good moves. **2.Bd4 Ke7 3.Kf5 Kd6 4.Bxf6 Kxd5 5.g5 Bf8** Or 5...Bc1 6.g6 Bh6 7.Bb2: zugzwang. **6.Bb2 Be7 7.g6 Bf8 8.Kf6 Ke4 9.Kf7 Kf5 10.Bc1**, with a classic zugzwang, **1-0**.

Tournament Results

August 21st 2010 - **3rd Gordon Hoskyn Memorial Rapid**, Palmerston North
A-Grade

1st Justin Davis
2nd= IM Anthony Ker & Mathew King
B-Grade
1st Daniel Yuan
2nd= Micheal Yuan, David Bell, Jack James

August 13th-15th 2010 - **Waikato Open**
Open:

1st: Ben Hague (ENG)
2nd= Bob Smith and Noel Pinic
Under 1700: 1st= Michael Budd, Gary Judkins and Ruchira Silva

September 5th 2010 - **Kapiti Rapid**
1st= IM Anthony Ker & IM Russell Dive
3rd Brian Nijman

B-Grade
1st Alistair McGowan
2nd David Paul
3rd= Andrew Brockway , Stewart Holdaway, Lawrence Farrington & Anil Jhurani
C-Grade
1st= Jack James & Bob List
3rd= Jacky Zeng, William Qihao Zhang, Brian Luo, John Ansell & Johnny Hynes

Letter from the Kingside

Swashbuckling

by Roger Nokes

Two young grandmasters take their places at the board. The event is the super-grandmaster double round robin King's tournament in Romania. The man behind the white pieces is, according to the latest rating list, the strongest player in the world and the second highest rated player of all time. His style is classical, the current World Champion, Vishwanathan Anand, has been quoted as saying. He produces wins from positions in which he has little or no advantage through his innate sense of the right move in any position. His opening repertoire ranges from the English to the Catalan to the Ruy Lopez. Across the board is the strongest player ever produced by China. A rock solid super-grandmaster who recently enjoyed an extended period without defeat against the world's elite. As Black he chooses reptilian defences in which his opponents can find no chink from which to leverage an advantage.

The game begins. The audience, both present at the venue and waiting around the world on the internet, wonder what opening will appear on the board. Both players move their e pawns forward two squares. A gambler would have laid almost certain odds on a Petroff Defence, one of Wang

Yue's favourite methods for blunting the initiative of the White player. Taken by surprise he sees Magnus Carlsen choose 2 f4 and we witness that rare spectacle of the King's Gambit, a opening relegated to the 19th century, being assayed at the very highest level in the 21st century.

Did you catch this game at the time or have you seen it since? Chess players in New Zealand whose memories go back far enough (I won't mention how far) will remember that the King's Gambit was a favourite of mine for a number of years early in my chess career. It always electrifies me just a little to see my old friend employed by better players than me and that enjoyment is amplified when the rickety old opening proves once again better than its reputation. Yue chose a non-critical, but fundamentally solid line in response to Carlsen's unexpected second move (it is the first time he has played the opening in a serious event as far I know) and Carlsen achieved little more than a central pawn majority. But still this slight advantage was sufficient for White to squeeze out an impressive victory.

The big question of course is what is the role of the swashbuckling openings of the 19th century in modern chess. Are they simply oddities employed as surprise weapons? Or is there really an opportunity for these openings to experience a renaissance in the age of professional chess and computer analysis engines?

It was not that long ago that Garry Kasparov re-energised the Scotch Opening, another relic of the past. Such was Kasparov's insight into the potential of this

opening that it remains today as a serious weapon in the hands of some of the world's elite players, Magnus Carlsen included, who defeated Peter Leko in a beautiful game at the Pearl Spring event in China last year. The exciting aspect of this revitalisation process is that it is not unusual for the old opening to reappear in a new suit of clothes. In other words an opening that had tactical themes perhaps in its original manifestation now possesses positional subtleties and goals as well. Such is the endless appeal of the game and the depth of its possibilities.

The King's Gambit in its original manifestation in the days of Morphy and Zukertort and their contemporaries was designed to produce an overwhelming kingside attack straight from the opening. Games lasted 20 odd moves because of the risks involved. Swashbuckling at its zenith. Chess in many ways resembled the warfare of the time. Honour was paramount. If someone offered a piece as a sacrifice one was obliged to accept it even though it may not have been best. Contrast this with the King's Gambit in the 20th century. For certain the popularity of the opening plummeted compared to the previous century (in one on-line database in which over 400 games of Zukertort are recorded well over half were King's or Evans Gambits). But interestingly some of the world's elite's players found good cause to make use of this opening. In the same database there are 45 games, between 1945 and 1994, with Bronstein controlling the white pieces, and his victims include Tal and Yusupov! But for a King's Gambit fan like me Spassky will always be the name synonymous with the opening. According

to the database he never lost a single game from the 30 odd games he played in top level chess, and he defeated such players as Fischer, Bronstein, Karpov and Seirawan.

The King's Gambit of the 20th century was a different opening to that of the previous 100 years. Positional themes began to enter the threads running through the openings objectives. In its purest sense the diversion of the black e pawn to the f file is completely positional, providing White with a preponderance of pawns in the centre for the price of a little discomfort for his or her king and a pawn. Tactical possibilities still abound of course but they are not the be all and end all. Carlsen's victory over Yue is a classic example of a King's Gambit leading to a slight positional edge due to the presence of his additional central pawn.

I am sure that the King's Gambit still possesses many secrets that are yet to be discovered. The fact that players such as Fischer himself, Spassky and Bronstein not only played the opening but scored very well with it, indicates that superficially dismissing the opening as unsound is simply not based on evidence. I long to see the time when a player of Carlsen's calibre breathes new life into the "old dog" and gives the chess world a gift for the new century.

There are so many King's Gambit games that deserve another look. There is the classic Spassky-Bronstein game, from the 1960 USSR Championship in Leningrad, that must be one of the most beautiful attacking games ever played, Then there is the historically fascinating game between

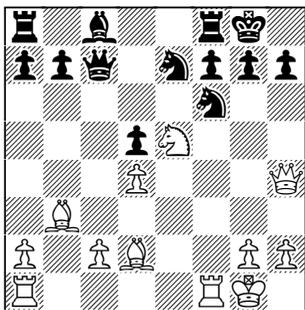
Spassky and Fischer at Mar del Plata in 1960 where Fischer gained a middle game advantage only to find himself pressurised by one of the greatest chess fighters until he could no longer defend against White's attack. And then of course there is Carlsen-Yue played 50 years after these two classic victories by Spassky. Instead I will give another relatively recent King's Gambit miniature played between two of the modern greats, Alexander Morozevich and Vishwanathan Anand. Morozevich is one of the truly creative and original players in the world today, and of course he plays the King's Gambit!

**Morozevich, Alexander (2605) -
Anand, Viswanathan (2715)**

PCA/Intel-GP Moscow (2.3), 30.04.1995

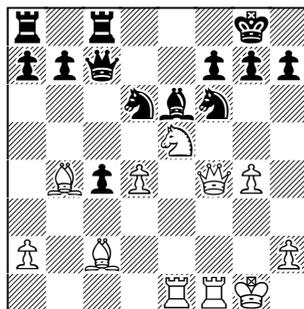
1.e4 e5 2.f4 This was a rapid event so no doubt Morozevich felt a little risk was in order. However, even in 1995 Anand was viewed as one of the best rapid players in the world. It's a brave decision. **2...exf4** and my chess engine already reassures me that Black has an advantage of more than half a pawn. **3.Bc4** The Bishop's Gambit has always been a poor cousin to the Knight's Gambit **3 Nf3**. Both are aimed at a rapid kingside piece development to allow White to take possession of the potentially important f file, thus creating the attacking possibilities for which the opening is famous. In response to the knight development Black often plays the "freeing" move d5 (as Yue did against Carlsen). The Bishop's Gambit is specifically designed to slow this advance even it might cost White the right to castle. **3...Nf6** [3...Qh4+ 4.Kf1 Nc6 5.Nf3 Qg4 6.d4 is more critical. The resulting position perfectly reflects the underlying themes of

the opening. White demands command of the centre and is prepared to sacrifice both material and his right to castle to gain it. The resulting fight is likely to be of a positional nature. It is interesting to observe how the evaluation of the position by Hiarcs changes as the engine has more time to delve into the intricacies of the position. It's initial reaction is an evaluation of - 1.07. After 5 minutes this has changed to - 0.60. Yes the King's Gambit can be subtle.] **4.Nc3 c6 5.Bb3 d5 6.exd5 cxd5 7.d4 Bb4 8.Nf3 0-0?!** [8...Qe7+ 9.Ne5 Nc6 10.0-0 Nxd4 11.Bxf4 Nxb3 12.axb3 looks like a more ambitious continuation for Black. It allows him to retain his extra pawn and eliminate the white squared bishop that is applying such pressure to d5. With the simplifications in the centre White's task of generating a dangerous initiative on the kingside will be considerably more difficult.] **9.0-0 Bxc3 10.bxc3 Qc7 11.Qe1** [11.Qd2 Be6 12.Qxf4 Qxc3 13.Bd2 Qc8 is another alternative that leaves White with a very playable position. His two bishops, half-open f file and black square control offer him more than sufficient compensation for the pawn.] **11...Nc6 12.Qh4 Ne7** [There is really no way to save the f pawn so Black looks to trade the it for the doubled c pawn. Black could try 12...Bg4 13.h3 Bxf3 14.Rxf3 Rae8 15.Bxf4 Qd7 16.Raf1 when an interesting battle between the two knights and two bishops would ensue. White has crippled queenside pawns and along with the strong point on e4 Black is not without chances.] **13.Bxf4 Qxc3 14.Bd2 Qc7 15.Ne5**



This is the type of King's Gambit position where, depending on your temperament, you could argue for the superiority of either colour. The implacable machine prefers Black, no doubt because of the extra pawn. The King's Gambit aficionado, who is so used to being a pawn down and who has no intention of ever entering an endgame where the extra soldier might be felt, would opt for White here. The f file has been cleared, and the black squared bishop is unopposed. **15...Nf5** Personally I would prefer Ng6 to shore up the kingside and apply pressure on the e5 knight, but the move played seems like a reasonable alternative due to the pressure that applies to d4. **16.Qf4** this is an awkward square for the queen and perhaps this was Anand's motivation for his previous move. The f4 square is an important route for both the rook to f6 and the bishop to g5. With the queen's presence White's kingside initiative is slowed and he must find an alternative plan. **16...Be6** **17.Bb4 Rfc8** **18.g4!?** This is typical Morozevich, but really if White wishes to continue with his kingside action he is obliged to make this advance in order to clear the logjam on the f file. **18...Nd6** **19.Rae1 Nfe4** **20.c4?!** I really like this

move, not because it is best but because it is so in keeping with the philosophy of the opening. Material is secondary, pressure and dynamism are paramount. The problem here is that Black has a very strong riposte which effectively casts doubt on the whole idea. However, we have no clue to how much time remained for each player at this point, and it is entirely plausible that this sacrifice was played at just the point when Black was suffering from a lack of time. Of course the opposite could also be true, and White is playing roulette! **20...dxc4** **21.Bc2** **Nf6?**

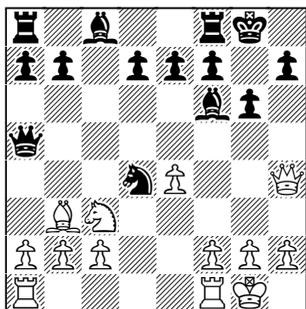


[Black goes astray allowing a lovely finish from Morozevich. Correct, and probably winning, is 21...Qb6! 22.Rxe4 (or 22.Bxd6 Nxd6 23.g5 Qd8 24.Re3 g6) 22...Qxb4 23.Re3 and Black is two pawns to the good with no significant problems with his kingside defence.] 22.g5 Nh5 23.Qf3 g6 24.Nxg6! hxg6 25.Bxg6 fxg6 26.Rxe6 and White has crashed through. 26...Qf7 **27.Qd5 Nf5** **28.Rxf5** and Black is defenceless after 28...gxf5 29.g6. A King's Gambit in the great tradition of Spassky - sacrifice, risk, pressure and victory! **1-0**

A Queen Sacrifice – From Correspondence GM Mark Noble

Mark has provided this game from his recently completed successful tournament that qualified him as a correspondence Grandmaster

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 g6
5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bc4 0-0 8.Bb3
Ng4 9.Qxg4 Nxd4 10.Qh4 Novelty I think
10.....Qa5 11.0-0 Bf6
(If 12.Qh6 then Bg7 13.Qh4 Bf6=) (or
12.Qh6 Bg7 13.Qg5 Qxg5 14.Bxg5 Nxb3
15.axb3 Bxc3 16.bxc3 and the game is
even)



12.Qxf6 !? (here white gives up a queen
looking for the 2 peices to run all over
blacks bad king and pawns, most
computers would think this is crazy)
12.....Ne2+ 13.Nxe2 exf6 14.Nc3 (heading
back for d5 and atacking at f6) 14.....d6
15.Nd5 Be6 (if 15.....f5 16.Bd4 with idea

Ne7#) 16.Nxf6+ Kg7 17.Bd4 Rfc8
(stopping any knight checks winning the
exchange) 18.c3 (making Bishop on d4
stronghold) 18...Rc6 19.f3 (no hurry here
yet holding e4) 19....Bxb3 20.axb3 Qb5
21.b4 (holding pawn) h5!? 22.h3 (here
white can win a second pawn with Nxh5+
not so sure about this idea and I already
had seen another plan) 22...Kf8 23.Be3
Kg7 24.Nd5 Kh7 (of cause white can draw
with Nf6+ but I'm thinking I have a lot
better) 25.Rf2 ! (this is a great move setting
up for my big attack just needed to hold b2)
25.... Ra6 (black looks for swaps) 26.Re1 (
now all white's piece's are on their best
squares) 26...Qc4 (black tries to win b2
pawn) 27.f4 Ra2 28.f5! (black is in trouble
now the white rook on f2 is about to enter
the game down the f file) 28.....g5
(stopping the open file but dropping yet
another pawn)
29.Nf6+ (no hurry for Bxg5) 29.....Kg7
(Kh8 is much the same) 30.Bxg5 Rh8
(holding h5 pawn) 31.Kh2 !! (this move
kills black position even if most computers
can't see it) 31....Qb3 32.Rf3!! (another
great move getting ready for Rg3)
32.....Qxb2 (watch out for Qxg2 #)
33.Rg3 (idea 34.Bc1 winning queen)
33.....Qc2 34.e5 (the final blow opening up
the e file for my last piece) here black
resigns 1-0 main reasons are (34.....Qxf5
35.Be3 (if queen to g file white is piece
up)35....Kf8 36.exd6 Qxf6 37.Bc5 (with d7
#) b6 38.d7+ bxc5 39.Re8#)

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