

# ***New Zealand Chess***

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## **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Queenstown Classic**



***Mike Steadman takes the Silver Rook – GM Darryl Johansen  
Tournament Tiebreak Winner***

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***Letter to the Editor***

Dear Editor

I came across the following in a recent issue of BCM. The article was about Nimzowitsch and mentioned a school friend, S Hindin. The passage reads "Hindin retained his interest in the game and later became champion of New Zealand 1937-8." Can any chess historian tell me more about Mr Hindin please? There are a few of his games in Peter Stuart's excellent NZ database.

Regards

*Martin Sims*

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# Mike Steadman 2012 New Zealand Champion

## *The New NZ Champ describes his Queenstown Tournament and first win of the Silver Rook*

**By Mike Steadman**

With nearly one hundred and fifty players including plenty of titled players, a good event was in prospect. All aspiring NZ Olympiad players were here; clearly it would be a key event for selection. Previous experience suggested that the key to success would be to be reasonably placed about round 6 and then string some wins together in the money rounds at the end. 6.5 was the score needed to be NZ Champion in the first two events and was likely to be a winning score again (Tech Ed: I'm not sure how Mike is accounting for the reduction to nine rounds this time).

In round 1 I had black against Hamish Gold. I had only ever played Hamish in lightning and a quick look in the database showed he was an 1.e4 man. Assuming he would spend all his time getting something ready for the French, I threw in a Sicilian. He immediately responded 2 b4, the wing gambit. I didn't want to make things easy for him so declined the gambit with b6.



### **Mike Steadman and IM Herman van Reimsdijk**

We were both on our own and pleasingly the 400 rating point difference showed up immediately. He started moving pieces he had already developed. It wasn't long before black won a pawn, then a piece, an exchange and then the game. Always good to get the first round out of the way.

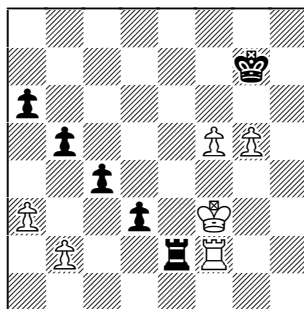
Round 2 and I was white against Koerler. There wasn't much about this young kid that I could find, so I decided to just play 1.d4 and see what he would do. Hopefully I would be able to positionally outplay him. He avoided my Queens Gambit exchange variation with an early Be7, so I reverted to

the Bf4 line. He spent a couple of moves swapping off the dark squared Bishop and opened the h file in the process. He then tried to play it like a Slav with the pawn swap and b5 and a6, but White had too much time; I got in a3 and b4 and then had a clamp on c5 breaks. He tried to break in the centre and this led to him being more or less forced to sacrifice an exchange. White took a while to unravel, but a win was always certain.

Round 3, black against George Xie as in Geelong. I hoped to put up a better fight this time. I prepared a new idea against his anti-Dutch line, hoping he would repeat. The good news was that I got to play the new idea, the bad news was that he played logically, got a space advantage, and my position was terrible. I had to give up two knights for a rook, but I saw a trick. George played a bit quickly and allowed me to play my one chance. I managed to level up the material and get into a Queen endgame, but unfortunately he had a huge passed pawn on d6. I tried some tricks, but George saw them all and I had to resign in the end.

Round 4, white against Alek Safarian. I had played him once before and struggled. I tried a new line against his Slav, got a bad opening and was in some trouble. He didn't play the sharpest line and I managed to unwind and make it to an endgame that looked as if I should hold. He pushed for a win by sacrificing his rook for two passed pawns; this should have backfired, but I missed my winning chance and duly lost – oh those endgames :-).

**Steadman,Michael (2258) - Safarian,Alek (2036) [D30]**  
**1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c6 4.e3 Nf6 5.Nbd2 Nbd7 6.Bd3 b6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Ne5 Bb7 9.cxd5 Nxe5 10.dxe5 Nxd5 11.Bc4 b5 12.Be2 0-0 13.Qb3 a6 14.f4 Qb6 15.Rf3 c5 16.Nf1 Rad8 17.a3 f6 18.exf6 Rxf6 19.Qc2 c4 20.Kh1 Rdf8 21.Rh3 g6 22.Bf3 Bc5 23.Bd2 Bc8 24.Re1 R6f7 25.Rg3 Bb7 26.h4 Ne7 27.Bxb7 Qxb7 28.h5 Qd5 29.hxg6 hxg6 30.e4 Rh7+ 31.Nh2 Qd7 32.Bc1 Qa7 33.Rd1 Bf2 34.Rf3 Bd4 35.g3 e5 36.Kg2 Nc6 37.f5 gxf5 38.exf5 Qd7 39.Qe4 Ne7 40.g4 Qc6 41.Qxc6 Nxc6 42.Re1 Rd8 43.Nf1 Kg7 44.Rh3 Rxb3 45.Kxh3 Rh8+ 46.Kg2 Na5 47.Re2 Rc8 48.Bd2 Nb3 49.Bc3 Rd8 50.Ng3 Nc1 51.Rd2 Nd3 52.Kf3 Rh8 53.Bxd4 exd4 54.Ke4 Nc5+ 55.Kf4 d3 56.Ne4 Nxe4 57.Kxe4 Re8+ 58.Kf3 Kf6 59.Rh2 Ke5 60.Ke3 Kd5+ 61.Kd2 Rg8 62.Rg2 Ke5 63.Ke3 Re8 64.Rf2 Kf6+ 65.Kf4 Re2 66.g5+ Kg7 67.Kf3**



**67...Rxb2??** This looks like it wins, and I was fooled. Afterwards Tao showed us the win for White. **68.Rxb2 c3 69.f6+ Kg8 70.Rxb5??** [70.f7+ This was the move to see, you need to set up the mating net or drag Black's King to the f file so Rf2 and King to e3 is with check which gets the



pawns. 70...Kf8 (70...Kxf7 71.Rb1 Kg6 72.Ke3 d2 73.Kd3 Kxg5 74.Kxc3) 71.Rh2 c2 (71...Kxf7 72.Rh7+ Kg6 73.Rc7 c2 74.Ke3 Kxg5 75.Kxd3) 72.g6 c1Q 73.Rh8+ Ke7 74.f8Q+] **70...c2 71.Rb8+ Kf7 72.Rc8 d2 73.Rxc2 d1Q+ 74.Re2 Qd5+ 75.Kf4 Kg6 76.Re5 Qd6 77.a4 Qd4+ 0-1**

Round 5, I bounced down and got the Kiwi Geoff Davies. I played a French, he was kind of making it up as he went, I slowly pushed out and got a won endgame. I won 2 pawns and he resigned before I had to win the Rook endgame.

Round 6. I was white against the Canadian Fairbairn. He looked to be a Modern Dutch player, so I decided I would take it on having suffered a few setbacks in that opening myself. The opening turned out as expected, he played a Modern and I got a nice position. Stephen decided to sacrifice the exchange to get some play. Instead of taking an extra pawn, I saw shadows and played a weak plan. I put my Rook on a weird square and got into trouble. I had to give the change back and folded into a drawn endgame. A disappointing result. Oh well, at least I was left with a simple recipe, to get to 6.5 I had to win my last 3 games.

Round 7 and I was black against Englishman Malcolm Armstrong. I played him at the last Queenstown, that was a hard fought draw on the black side of a Modern. This time I would try my Dutch and see if that helped. Malcolm tried the early d5 line that Ben Hague crushed me with in the Merv Morrison. I had of course looked up the line and played the improvement/equalizing line. He was

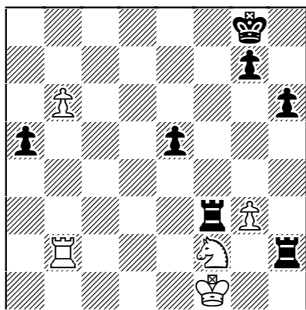
surprised and drifted; he castled queenside and black's game was starting to play itself when he allowed a simple fork. He resigned shortly after.

So with two rounds to go, Garbett and Dive were on 5, Ker and I had 4.5, so it was all up to who wanted it the most, and the luck of the draw of course. In round 8 that draw saw GM Hazdenolgh vs Steadman, FM Illingworth v Garbett, Dive vs GM Jones and FM Ove Weiss Hartvig v Ker. Garbett won an exchange and looked to be clearly winning but couldn't convert. Dive played a main line King's Indian that transposed into delayed Benko. Gawain knows how to play this opening and won. Ker's Pirc was attacked and he lost a long endgame. My opponent surprised me and took on my Dutch. He tried to play the Nh3 line against the Stonewall, but I played my favourite move order trick, transposing into the d6 Classical Dutch where Nh3 is ineffective. He sacrificed an Exchange, but didn't get enough for it. I managed to swap all the pieces off and converted the endgame to a rook and two pawns vs rook. This endgame I do know how to win, and so I notched up my third career GM scalp.

**Haznedaroglu, Kivanc (2447) - Steadman, Michael (2258) [A91]**

**1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 c6 5.Nh3?** This is a mistake that is regularly played. The reason is that it is only good once Black has played d5. If White wants to play this type of line, he needs to play Nd2 or Qc2 to waste a move and only after Black plays d5 does he play Nh3. **5...d6 6.0-0 Be7 7.Nc3 Qc7 8.e4 e5 9.dxe5** All my other opponents in this line had played d5, Black gets a comfortable game. This way is

not much better for White. **9...dxe5 10.exf5 Bxf5 11.Ng5 0-0 12.Be3 Na6** At first sight you might think that White is better, Black has an isolated King pawn, but in fact Black is better, his position is easier to play and when the knights protect each other on c3 and e4, they don't actually perform effectively. **13.Nge4 Ng4 14.Qe2 Nxe3 15.fxe3 Bb4 16.c5 Qe7 17.Rxf5?** This came as a complete shock, Black is better, maybe he decided to mix it up, but I couldn't see the compensation. **17...Rxf5 18.Na4 Rd8 19.a3 Ba5 20.Nd6 Rff8 21.b4 Bb6 22.Nxb7 Qxb7 23.cxb6 axb6 24.b5 Nc7 25.Bxc6 Qa7** So he has a pawn for his exchange, but with 2 open files Black is better. Just a question of swapping bits into an endgame and Black should win. **26.Nc3 Ne8 27.Ne4 h6 28.Qg4 Qf7 29.Qe2 Qb3 [29...Nf6 30.Nxf6+ Qxf6 31.e4 Rd6 32.Bd5+ Kh8 33.Kg2 Qe7 34.Rf1 Rdd8 35.Rxf8+ Rxf8] 30.Nf2 Nf6 31.a4 Qc3 32.Ra2 Nd5 33.Bxd5+ Rxd5 34.Kg2 Rfd8 35.Rc2 Qb4 36.Rc4 Qd2 37.Kf1 Qxe2+ 38.Kxe2** OK, so stage one complete, now to invade with the rooks and win stuff! **38...Rd2+ 39.Ke1 Ra2 40.Ne4 Rxh2 41.Nf2 Rf8 42.Rc2 Rf3 43.a5 bxa5 44.Rb2 Rxe3+ 45.Kf1 Rf3 46.b6**



This looks scary, but I had seen a line

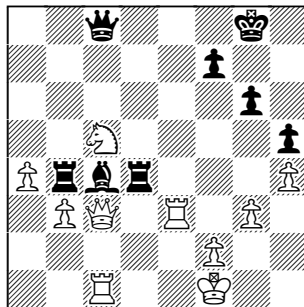
coming that gets me into a won rook and pawn ending, looking good. **46...Rhxf2+ 47.Rxf2 Rb3 48.Ra2 Rxb6 49.Rxa5 Rf6+ 50.Ke2 Re6 51.Ke3 Kf7 52.Ke4 Kf6 53.Ra7 Rd6 54.Kf3 g6 55.Rh7 h5 56.g4 hxg4+ 57.Kxg4 Rd4+ 58.Kf3 Rf4+ 59.Ke3 Kg5 60.Re7 Rf5 61.Re6 Kh5 62.Ke4** The key here is the Knight pawn is all you need to win once the King is cut off. So jettison the other pawn as it is just confusing us :-)  
**62...Rf1 63.Rxe5+ Kg4 64.Kd3 g5 65.Ra5 Re1 66.Kd2 Re8 67.Ra1 Kf3 68.Ra3+ Kf2 69.Ra4 Rd8+ 70.Kc2 Rg8 71.Kd3 g4 72.Ke4 g3 73.Ra2+ Kg1 74.Kf3 g2 75.Ra7 Rb8 76.Ke2 Rh8 0-1**

So heading into the last round Garbett and I had 5.5 and a raft of players were sitting on 5. Garbett was white against Andrew Bird and I was white against Herman Van Riemsdijk. Clearly Paul had the better side of this draw, but I was encouraged that Herman is someone who plays for a win; we had played three times before for two wins and a loss. He is a big Benko fan, so I decided to take on the gambit and try to win. I used an unusual line I'd previously prepared for Anthony Ker but hadn't had a chance to play yet. I didn't get much from the weird manoeuvre, but my position was such that I was still a pawn up and could respond to any aggression from Herman. Sure enough Herman tried something and I struck, managing to win another pawn. But the game wasn't over as Herman came up with a surprising move and after a big think I came up with a counter that I thought was sound. Herman analysed the line the same way I did and we both missed that it should have lost. Shortly afterwards Herman made a mistake allowing me to swap my queen

for two Rooks and Herman had to resign. Previously Paul had suffered in the Berlin Defence. His opponent knew the systems and slowly moved into a won endgame. So this left me on 6.5 points, half a point ahead of Dive and Smith.

**Steadman,Michael (2275) - Van Riemsdijk,Herman C (2401) [A58]**

**1.d4 c5 2.d5 Nf6 3.c4 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 g6 6.Nc3 Bxa6 7.Nf3 d6 8.g3 Bg7 9.Bg2 Nbd7 10.0-0 0-0 11.Ne1** This was the line I had looked at. The idea is to get the Knight to e3, it protects d5 and c4 is a jump square on occasion. **11...Ne8 12.Nc2 Nc7 13.Ne3 Nb5 14.Bd2** This is not best, the position is about equal, the Knight needs to be swapped. [14.Nxb5 Bxb5 15.Qc2 Qa5 16.Nd1 Rfb8 17.Nc3 Ba6 18.Bd2 Qb4 19.b3] **14...Nd4 15.Re1 Qc7 16.b3 Rfb8 17.Rb1 Nb6 18.h3** The position is even. White can't do anything, I was relying on Herman's natural instinct to try and win. **18...Bc8 19.Nc2 Bd7 20.Ne3 Qc8 21.Kh2 h5 22.Nf1 Bf6 23.e3 Nb5 24.Ne4 Bg7 25.a4 Nc7 26.Bc3 Nbx d5 27.Bxg7 Kxg7 28.Nxd6 exd6 29.Bxd5 Nxd5 30.Qxd5 Ra6 31.h4 Be6 32.Qd3 Rb4 33.Nd2 Qa8** So I had managed to swap some pieces and still keep the pawn. Now to break up the central pawns. **34.e4 Kg8 35.Qc3 Rab6 36.e5 Bf5 37.Rbc1 Qb8 38.exd6** [38.Nc4! Rxb3 39.Qa5 R6b4 40.Nxd6 Rb2 41.Qxc5 Bd7] **38...Rxd6 39.Re3 Be6 40.Ne4 Rdd4 41.Nxc5 Bd5 42.Kg1 Qc8 43.Kf1 Bc4+?**



**44.Nd3??** This could have lost me the title - after a surprise, concrete calculation is needed. **44...Qh3+?** [44...Rxd3 45.Rxd3 Bxd3+ 46.Kg1 Qxc3 47.Rxc3 Black is going to round up the pawns and then win. Both Herman and I forgot the golden rule - reverse the combination and see if it works.; 44...Bxd3+ 45.Rxd3 Qxc3 46.Rxc3 This was the variation we both looked at and we were convinced won - mutual blindness.] **45.Ke1 Ba6 46.Rd1 Qd7??** [46...Qg2 47.Qc5 Bxd3 48.Rxd3 Rxd3 49.Rxd3] **47.Qxb4 1-0**

So, finally I was NZ Chess Champion. I was absolutely stoked to have finally got the silver rook. The Rook is the pinnacle of NZ chess and I could now put my name on one of the blocks. Getting the trophy back to Auckland was a struggle as the Silver Rook is big enough to take a seat of its own. However, you get noticed when you transport it around. So the next challenge is going to Wellington next year and trying to repeat the effort - it's always important to have goals :-)

# Queenstown 2012 Tournament Report

## GM Darryl Johansen surprise winner on tiebreak

**1<sup>st</sup> = with Chinese GMs Li Chao and Zhao Jun**

By Assistant Arbiter Craig Hall

The 2012 Queenstown International Open saw an excellent field, both for depth and numbers, but was almost scuppered by an accident involving chief organiser, IO Paul Spiller, as another driver lost control coming round a blind bend on the mountains outside Queenstown and hit the Spiller family van carrying most of the equipment! Luckily, the Spillers were largely unharmed (other than the damage to the nerves...), as was the gear, so the event was able to go ahead as planned.

A field of 148 were chasing a record prize fund, courtesy of major sponsor and promoter, GM Murray Chandler and Gambit Books, as well as the norms made possible by the strong field. There were 11 GMs, 11 IMs, 11 FMs, 4 WGMs, 4 WIMs, and 5 WFMs with players from over 20 countries taking part! Kiwis were also playing for a place in the Olympiad team, **Myer Tan NZ Chess Grand Prix** points for the 2012 season, and, most importantly, the Silver Rook for the NZ Champion, being awarded to the highest-placed NZ player, and the Major Open, being awarded to the highest-placed NZ player with a rating under NZCF 2100. The top seed was



**GM Darryl Johansen at the prizegiving**

Chinese GM, Li Chao, but with 11 GMs, the tournament was open. Candidates for the Silver Rook were most likely Dive, Ker or Garbett, but the nature of the event meant that it was also wide open, and the Major Open was exactly that, with likely candidates including Helen Milligan, Sue Maroroa, Justin Davis, Fuatai Fuatai, Nathan Goodhue, and Peter Stuart, to name a few!

The first round saw a number of upset draws, particularly Hans Gao holding IM

Stephen Solomon to a draw and Harry Press drawing with IM Russell Dive, as well Quentin Johnson's loss to Louie Ryan and Stephen Fairbairn's loss to Jean Watson.

Rozentalis, Eduardas 2592 Milligan, Helen 1979, 1.4

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5.O-O Bd6 6.c3 c5 7.Na3 Ne7 8.Nc4 Ng6 9.d4 Qe7 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Nfxe5 Bxe5 12.Qh5 Bd6 13.e5 Qe6 14.exd6 Qxc4 15.Re1+ Kf8 16.dxc7 Be6 17.Be3 b6 18.Rad1 Ke7 19.Qg5+ 1-0

Solomon, Stephen J 2375, Gao, Hans 1924, 1.18

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 a6 8.Qd2 Nbd7 9.g4 b5 10.Nc6 Qc7 11.Nxe7 Bb7 12.Ned5 Nxd5 13.Nxd5 Bxd5 14.Qxd5 O-O 15.Rd1 Bxb2 16.Qxd6 Qxc2 17.Qd3 Bc3+ 18.Bd2 Bxd2+ 19.Qxd2 Qxd2+ 20.Rxd2 Ne5 21.Be2 g5 22.Kf2 Rfd8 23.Rhd1 Rxd2 24.Rxd2 Rc8 25.Rd6 Rc6 26.Rxc6 Nxc6 27.Bd3 f6 28.Ke3 h6 29.f4 Kf7 30.Bc2 gxf4+ 31.Kxf4 Nd4 32.Bd1 Ke6 33.h4 a5 34.e5 fxe5+ 35.Ke4 a4 36.g5 hxg5 37.hxg5 a3 38.g6 b4 39.g7 Kf7 40.Kxe5 b3 41.Kxd4 bxa2 42.Bb3+ Kxg7 43.Bxa2 1/2-1/2

The second round was even more action-packed, as IM Andrew Brown held GM Ganguly to a draw, Alan Ansell drew with GM Johansen, Ivan Dordevic beat IM Ker and Ari Dale beat FM Lukey.

Dordevic, Ivan 2060 Ker, Anthony F 2359, 2.19

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

c5 6.Bb5+ Bd7 7.e5 Ng4 8.Bxd7+ Qxd7 9.d5 dxe5 10.h3 e4 11.hxg4 exf3 12.Qxf3 Na6 13.Bd2 Nb4 14.O-O-O O-O-O 15.Ne4 Qa4 16.Bxb4 Qxb4 17.c3 Qc4 18.Ng5 Rd7 19.f5 gxf5 20.gxf5 h6 21.Nxf7 Rh7 22.Ng5 Rh8 23.Ne6 Bf6 24.Kb1 Rd6 25.Qe3 Rxd5 26.Rxd5 Qxd5 27.Qxc5+ Qxc5 28.Nxc5 h5 29.Ne4 Be5 30.g3 Kd7 31.Kc2 Rh7 32.g4 h4 33.Rh3 b6 34.Kd3 Rh8 35.Ke3 e6 36.f6 Ke8 37.Kf3 Kf7 38.g5 Kg6 39.Kg4 Rd8 40.Rxh4 Rd1 41.Rh6+ Kf7 42.Rh7+ Kg8 43.Rxa7 Re1 44.Kh5 1-0

Lauterbach, Ingrid 2053 Ikeda, Junta 2349, 2.21

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.b3 b5 6.Qc2 bxc4 7.bxc4 Bb7 8.Qb2 Bxf3 9.exf3 c5 10.Be3 cxd4 11.Bxd4 Nc6 12.Be3 Rb8 13.Qc2 Qa5+ 14.Nd2 Be5 15.Bg2 Bxe3 16.fxe3 Qe5 17.Kf2 Rb2 18.Qc1 Nb4 19.Bf1 Nc2 20.Rb1 Qxe3+ 21.Kg2 Ne1+ 0-1

Round three saw even the top seeds start to falter, as IM James Morris drew with GM Jones and WGM Irine Sukandar held GM Sune Berg Hansen. FM Chris Wallis started his giant-killing run with a win over Turkish GM, Kivanc Haznedaroglu and Pengyu Cheng beat IM Herman van Reimsdijk.

King, Mathew J 1961 Lukey, Stephen G 2261, 3.24

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Ne2 Nc6 5.a3 Ba5 6.Be3 Nge7 7.g3 e5 8.Bg2 Bg4 9.b4 Bb6 10.Nxd5 Nxd5 11.exd5 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Bxd4 13.Rb1 Bc3+ 14.Kf1 Qf6 15.Qd3 Bxe2+ 16.Kxe2 Bd4 17.Qf3 Qg5 18.Qd3 Qf6 19.Qf3 Qh6 20.h4 O-O 21.e3

**e4 22.Qf4 Qa6+ 23.b5 Qxa3 24.Bxe4  
Rae8 25.Kf3 f5 26.Bd3 Qxc3 27.Rhd1  
Bb6 28.Qc4 Qf6 29.Re1 f4 30.Qxf4 Rxe1  
31.Rxe1 Qc3 0-1**

Duneas, John 2087 Brockway, Andrew  
1848, 3.37

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 c5 5.O-O  
Nc6 6.c4 b6 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.dxc5 Bxc5  
9.e4 Nf6 10.Qxd8+ Kxd8 11.Nc3 Ba6  
12.Rd1+ Ke7 13.e5 Nd7 14.a3 b5 15.b4  
Bb6 16.a4 Rac8 17.axb5 Nxb4 18.Ba3  
Ba5 19.Na2 Bxb5 20.Bxb4+ Bxb4  
21.Nxb4 Be2 22.Re1 Bxf3 23.Bxf3 Rc4  
24.Nc6+ 1-0**

The fourth round had some interesting pairings, and the upsets flowed, as untitled Australian, Trevor Tao (FIDE rating 2422), drew with GM Eduardas Rozentalis. On board 2, IM Akshat Khamparia also held GM Zhao Jun to a draw, as did IM Moulthun Ly against GM Zhao Xue. FM Wallis continued his run with a draw against GM Klaus Bischoff, IM Morris held GM Ganguly, FM Tim Reilly held GM Hansen and Luke Li held GM Haznedaroglu. WGM Sukandar beat IM Solomon, WFM Helen Milligan beat IM Ker and John Duneas drew with IM Guy West.

Haznedaroglu, Kivanc 2455 Li, Zuhao  
Luke 2165, 4.12

**1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.g3 c5 4.Bg2 cxd4  
5.Nxd4 d5 6.O-O Nc6 7.c4 Bc5 8.Nb3  
Be7 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Nc3 Be6 11.Nd4  
Nxd4 12.Qxd4 O-O 13.b3 Qd7 14.Rd1  
Rfd8 15.Bb2 b6 16.e3 Rac8 17.Qd3 Bc5  
18.Ne2 Bf5 19.Qa6 Qe7 20.Nd4 Bg4  
21.Re1 h6 22.a3 Bxd4 23.Bxd4 Rc2  
24.Re1 Be2 25.Qa4 Rdc8 26.Rxc2 Rxc2**

**27.b4 Bd3 28.Rd1 Bg6 29.Bf3 Qe6  
30.Qxa7 Kh7 31.Qa6 Qf5 32.Be2 Ne4  
33.Rf1 Rc1 34.f3 Rxf1+ 35.Kxf1 Ng5  
36.g4 Qb1+ 37.Kg2 Qe1 38.Bxb6 h5  
39.h3 h4 40.Bc7 Ne4 1/2-1/2**

Milligan, Helen 1979 Ker, Anthony F  
2359, 4.32

**1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7  
5.Be2 O-O 6.O-O Bg4 7.Be3 Nc6 8.Qd2  
e5 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Rad1 Qc8 11.Qc1 Rd8  
12.Rxd8+ Nxd8 13.h3 Bxf3 14.Bxf3 c6  
15.Rd1 Ne6 16.Ne2 Qc7 17.c3 a5 18.a4  
Bf8 19.Qc2 Bc5 20.Bxc5 Nxc5 21.Ng3  
Rd8 22.Rxd8+ Qxd8 23.Be2 h5 24.f3 Qb6  
25.Kh2 Ne6 26.Bc4 Nf4 27.Qd2 Qc5  
28.Bb3 Kg7 29.Nf1 h4 30.Ba2 Ne8  
31.Ne3 Nd6 32.Qf2 Kf8 33.Qd2 Ke7  
34.Ng4 b5 35.axb5 exb5 36.Ne3 Nc4  
37.Bxc4 bxc4 38.g3 hxg3+ 39.Kxg3 a4  
40.Kh2 Qb5 41.Kg3 f6 42.Kh2 Qb6  
43.Qf2 Kf7 44.Qd2 Ke7 45.Qf2 Qb5  
46.Qd2 Qb3 47.Kg3 Qb6 48.Kh2 Qe6  
49.Ng4 Nd3 50.Ne3 Kf7 51.Nd5 Qc8  
52.Qh6 Qf8 53.Qe3 Qb8 54.Nb6 Nxb2  
55.Qc5 a3 56.Nc8 Kg7 57.Qe7+ Kh6  
58.Qf8+ Kh7 59.Qf7+ Kh6 60.Ne7 Kg5  
61.Kg3 1-0**

Round five was another interesting round, as FM Wallis continued his good form with a win over GM Jones, Duneas drew with IM Dive and Ansell drew with IM West. The field compressed again at the top with GM Dejan Bojkov drawing against GM Chao, while a number of players joined them on 4.5 with wins to GM Rozentalis, GM Jun, GM Xue and GM Johansen, all with White. This was a particularly long round, as FM Junta Ikeda beat WGM Nadig Kruttiga in a KRN vs KR ending in over 100 moves, as Kruttiga couldn't quite

hold on till the 50<sup>th</sup> move.

Davis, Justin M 1985 Holdaway, Stewart 1746, 5.56

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 c5 3.c4 Nf6 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bd7 7.Qb3 Qc7 8.Bg2 Bc6 9.d4 e6 10.O-O cxd4 11.cxd4 Bd6 12.Bb2 Qe7 13.d5 Bxd5 14.Qc3 f6 15.e4 Bc6 16.e5 Bb4 17.Qb3 f5 18.Nd4 Bxg2 19.Kxg2 Kf7 20.Nxf5 Qg5 21.Qxb4 1-0

Benson, Christopher 1924 Mitchell, Robert S 1672, 5.58

1.Nf3 d6 2.d4 Bg4 3.Nbd2 Nf6 4.e4 e6 5.c3 Be7 6.Be2 O-O 7.O-O c6 8.e5 dxe5 9.Nxe5 Bxe2 10.Qxe2 Nbd7 11.Ndf3 Rc8 12.Be3 Nd5 13.Bd2 Bd6 14.Rad1 Qc7 15.c4 N5f6 16.Bg5 Rce8 17.Rfe1 Nh5 18.Nxd7 Qxd7 19.Ne5 Qc7 20.Qxh5 f6 21.Bxf6 gxf6 22.Ng4 Qg7 23.Nh6+ Kh8 24.Nf5 Qc7 25.Nxd6 Qxd6 26.Re3 Re7 27.Qh6 Qd8 28.Rde1 e5 29.f4 Ref7 30.dxe5 fxe5 31.fxe5 Qd2 32.h3 Rf2 33.R1e2 Rf1+ 34.Kh2 Qb4 35.b3 Qc5 36.Qd6 Qb6 37.e6 Qd8 38.Qe5+ Qf6 39.Qxf6+ R1xf6 40.e7 Re8 41.Rd3 Kg7 42.Rd7 Kf7 43.Rxb7 a5 44.Ra7 Rf5 45.Ra6 Rxe7 46.Rxe7+ Kxe7 47.Rxc6 1-0

Round Six was a bit shorter, but FM Wallis' norm chances took a hit with a loss to GM Hansen, GMs Chao, Rozentalis and Jun moved to the lead on 5.5 with wins over GMs Xue, Bojkov and Johansen respectively and Trevor Tao got his norm back on track with a quick win over IM Morris. WGM Xiaobing beat GM Bischoff in a major upset, while GM Ganguly was a little fortunate to win against IM Garbett. GM Jones collected the best game prize for his win over WGM Sukandar with a nicely

judged Queen-for-pieces trade. (see annotated games)

Morris, James 2354 Tao, Trevor 2422, 6.9  
1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 g6 4.e5 h5 5.f4 Bf5 6.Be3 Nd7 7.Nf3 e6 8.Qd2 Bb4 9.Be2 Rc8 10.O-O Nh6 11.a3 Be7 12.h3 c5 13.Nb5 a6 14.Nd6+ Bxd6 15.exd6 c4 16.Ne5 f6 17.g4 hxg4 18.hxg4 fxe5 19.fxe5 Qh4 20.Bf2 Qh3 21.Qg5 Ng8 22.Bh4 Rxh4 23.Kf2 Qh2+ 24.Ke3 Qg3+ 25.Rf3 Qxg4 26.Rxf5 Qxd4+ 27.Kf3 Qe4+ 28.Kg3 Qxf5 29.Kxh4 Nxe5 30.Qg3 Qe4+ 31.Kh3 Qxe2 32.Re1 Qh5+ 33.Kg2 Qg4 0-1

Smith, Robert W 2273, Chen, Pengyu 2056, 6.17

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4.Bxd7+ Qxd7 5.c4 Nc6 6.O-O g6 7.d4 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bg7 9.Be3 Nf6 10.f3 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 O-O 12.Nc3 Rfc8 13.b3 a6 14.Na4 Nh5 15.Bxg7 Nxb7 16.Nb6 Qc6 17.Nxa8 e5 18.Qd5 Rxa8 19.Qxc6 bxc6 20.Rfd1 Rd8 21.Rd2 Ne6 22.Rad1 Nd4 23.Rxd4 exd4 24.Rxd4 Kf8 25.e5 d5 26.exd5 cxd5 27.Kf2 Ke7 28.Ke3 Ke6 29.Ra4 Ra8 30.Kd4 1-0

Round Seven ended up being the longest round, thanks to another KRN vs KR ending, as the last game to finish took nearly eight hours(!), FM Illingworth holding out against GM Xue for 50 moves, and then a few more, as neither player appeared in a hurry to claim the draw. The only good thing about this game, from the arbiters' points of view, was that it was on a DGT board, so nobody had to manually enter it! FM Wallis' loss to GM Johansen made his norm chances even tougher, while putting Johansen back in the hunt for first as the top four boards drew. WGM

Xiaobing added another GM scalp to her collection, this time GM Haznedaroglu the unfortunate victim. Trevor Tao moved himself back into norm and tournament contention with a win over FM Tim Reilly. WIM Mararoa had a good result with a draw against IM West to put herself into first place in the Major Open, with 4, half a point ahead of Goodhue, Stuart, Milligan, Mathew King, and William Forster, and IMs Garbett and Dive moved into first equal in the NZ Championship with wins.

West, Guy 2323 Maroroa, Sue Y 2020, 7.24

**1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 b6 3.g3 Bb7 4.Bg2 g6 5.c4 Bg7 6.O-O O-O 7.d5 Ne4 8.Qc2 f5 9.Nbd2 Nd6 10.Nb3 c6 11.c5 Ne4 12.cxb6 axb6 13.dxc6 Nxc6 14.Ng5 Nd6 15.Be3 Nb4 16.Qd2 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 Ra4 18.Rfd1 Nc4 19.Qxd7 Qxd7 20.Rxd7 Nxe3+ 21.fxe3 Bxb2 22.Rb1 Bf6 23.Ne6 Rc8 24.Nbd4 Nc2 25.Kf3 Rxa2 26.Rxb6 Ne1+ 27.Kf2 Nd3+ 28.Kg2 Ne1+ 29.Kf1 Nc2 30.Kf2 Kf7 31.Rbb7 Nxd4 32.Nxd4 Rd2 33.Nb5 Rxd7 34.Rxd7 Ke6 35.Rd2 Kf7 36.Ra2 Rc5 37.Nd4 Rc3 38.Rd2 Rc5 39.Nf3 Rc7 40.Ra2 Rc4 41.Nd2 Rc3 42.Nf3 1/2-1/2**

Setiabudi, Allen 1966 Clarkson, Robert 1529, 7.43

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 h6 4.d4 exd4 5.O-O Bd6 6.e5 Be5 7.c3 Na5 8.Bxf7+ Kxf7 9.b4 Qe7 10.bxc5 Qxc5 11.cxd4 Qb6 12.Nc3 Nc4 13.Qd3 Qc6 14.d5 Qa6 15.e6+ dxe6 16.Qxc4 Qxc4 17.Ne5+ Ke8 18.Nxc4 exd5 19.Nxd5 1-0**

Round Eight brought some clarity to the main event, while muddying the waters for the Silver Rook and Major Open some

more, as GMs Chao and Jun moved to first equal with wins over GMs Rozentalis and Bojkov respectively. GMs Hansen and Johansen both won to keep themselves in the hunt, as did Trevor Tao, who also reached the required the score for an IM norm a round early. In NZ Championship results, GM Jones beat IM Dive, FM Illingworth drew with IM Garbett, and FM Steadman beat GM Haznedaroglu. In Major Open results, Maroroa drew to retain the lead, but now had to share it with Stuart and Fuatai.

Bird, Andrew Xie, 2216 George Wendi 2459, 8.13

**1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nc6 3.Nc3 e5 4.e3 Nf6 5.d4 cxd4 6.exd4 e4 7.Ne5 Qa5 8.c5 d6 9.Nc4 Qd8 10.d5 Nb8 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bxf6 gxf6 13.Nxe4 dxc5 14.Qa4+ Nd7 15.O-O-O Bg7 16.Ncd6+ Kf8 17.Qc2 Nb6 18.Nxc8 Rxc8 19.Ng3 f5 20.Nxf5 Bf6 21.Bc4 Qd7 22.g4 h5 23.h3 Na4 24.d6 Bxb2+ 25.Kb1 Bf6 26.g5 Nc3+ 27.Ka1 Ne4+ 28.gxf6 Qxf5 29.Rhe1 Qxf6+ 30.Qb2 Qxb2+ 31.Kxb2 Nxf2 32.Rd5 Nxb3 33.Rf5 Kg7 34.Rxf7+ Kg6 35.Rf3 Ng5 36.Bd3+ Kh6 37.Rf6+ Kg7 38.Rg6+ Kf7 39.Re7+ Kf8 40.Rf6+ 1-0**

Lukey, Stephen G 2261 Chen, Pengyu 2056, 8.23

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 d6 5.Nc3 exd5 6.cxd5 g6 7.e4 a6 8.Bf4 b5 9.Qe2 b4 10.e5 bxc3 11.exf6+ Kd7 12.Qc4 cxb2 13.Rb1 Qxf6 14.Bg5 Qg7 15.Qa4+ Kc7 16.Qa5+ Kb7 17.Bc1 Bf5 18.Rxb2+ Kc8 19.Rxb8+ Rxb8 20.Bxa6+ Kd7 21.Bb5+ Rxb5 22.Qxb5+ Kd8 23.O-O f6 24.Re1 Bd7 25.Qb8+ Bc8 26.Qb6+ Kd7 27.Qc6+ Kd8 28.Re8# 1-0**



Going into Round Nine, there were a large number of tie possibilities in the NZ Championship and Major Open, so organisers were left hoping for some decisive results to lessen the engraving! Trevor Tao achieved his IM norm simply by his opponent turning up to have a game, but ended up finishing third equal with a draw against GM Chao. GM Jun drew against GM Hansen after Hansen threw everything but the kitchen sink at him, but couldn't quite get there. GM Johansen caught the leaders with a win over GM Jones. Perhaps surprisingly, Darryl collected the trophy on tie-break, even though Li Chao B was unbeaten, had faced a tougher field, and indeed had spent the whole tournament in rather majestic Super-GM splendour on board 1. The explanation was perfectly reasonable; The pre-announced tiebreak method was that the title would go to the player with the most wins. WGM Sukandar and FM Ikeda also achieved IM norms with wins over WGM Kruttika and Eugene Schon respectively. FM Steadman finally won the Silver Rook as he won a nice game against IM van Reimsdijk, while IM Garbett lost to Andrew Bird. The Major Open also resolved itself nicely, as the leaders all lost, allowing Nathan Goodhue to win outright by beating John McDonald.

Schon, Eugene 2188 Ikeda, Junta 2349, 9.10

**1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 e6 3.g3 b6 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.O-O Nf6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.Re1 O-O 8.e4 d6 9.d4 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Qc8 11.Be3 a6 12.Rc1 Nbd7 13.f4 g6 14.f5 gxf5 15.exf5 Bxg2 16.fxe6 fxe6 17.Kxg2 Ne5 18.Bf4 Qxc4 19.Bxe5 dxe5 20.Rxe5 Rad8 21.Nd5 Qxd5+ 22.Rxd5 Rxd5 23.Qa4 b5 24.Qxa6**

**Rxd4 25.Qxe6+ Rf7 26.Rc2 Kg7 27.Rf2 Rd6 28.Qe3 Rd5 29.Rc2 Bd6 30.a3 Re7 31.Qf3 Rde5 32.Rd2 R7e6 33.Qb7+ Kg6 34.Qf3 h5 35.Qd3+ Kg7 36.Kh3 Ne4 37.Rc2 Rf6 38.Re2 Rfe6 39.Rc2 Rf5 40.Kg2 h4 41.Qd4+ Kh7 42.Rc8 h3+ 43.Kxh3 Ng5+ 44.Kg4 Rfe5 45.Qd3+ Re4+ 46.Kh5 Be7 0-1**

Stojic, Dusan 2294 Bennett, Hilton P 1965, 9.19

**1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Nf3 a6 5.Bc4 Nf6 6.Qe2 O-O 7.e5 Ne8 8.Bg5 dxe5 9.dxe5 c6 10.h4 Bg4 11.h5 Qc7 12.hxg6 hxg6 13.e6 f5 14.O-O-O Nd6 15.Bxe7 Nxc4 16.Bxf8 Qf4+ 17.Kb1 Bxf3 18.Bxg7 Bxe2 19.Bf6 1-0**

Goodhue, Nathan 1945 McDonald, John A 2068, 9.35

**1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.Qxd4 Nc6 5.Qd3 Nf6 6.e4 g6 7.Nc3 Bg7 8.f3 O-O 9.O-O-O Be6 10.g4 a5 11.a3 Nd7 12.Nb5 Nc5 13.Qe3 Ne5 14.g5 Qe7 15.h3 f5 16.f4 Nc6 17.e5 dxe5 18.fxe5 f4 19.Qe2 Qxg5 20.Nf3 Qe7 21.Rg1 Rad8 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23.Ng5 Bxb3 24.cxb3 Nxb3+ 25.Kc2 Rd2+ 26.Kxb3 Rxe2 27.Bxe2 a4+ 28.Kxa4 Bxe5 29.Bc4+ Kg7 30.Ne6+ Kh6 31.Bc1 Qf6 32.Rg4 Qf5 33.Rh4+ Qh5 34.Bxf4+ Bxf4 35.Rxh5+ Kxh5 36.Nxf4+ Kh4 37.Be6 Nd8 38.Nxc7 g5 39.Ng2+ Kg3 40.Ne3 h5 41.Kb5 Kf4 42.Nf1 Kf3 43.a4 1-0**

Despite the eventful day before the tournament, everything worked out well in the end. A great time was had, with many wonderful memories and photos resulting, and the chess was very good as well. I think I can speak for everyone at the event when I thank Murray Chandler from the

bottom of our hearts for the sponsorship and promotion of the event, which is clearly the biggest, best event in Oceania, and long may it continue!

## Queenstown Best Game Prize

**GM Gawain Jones annotates his game against Indonesian womens IM Irene Kharisma, which won the best game prize**

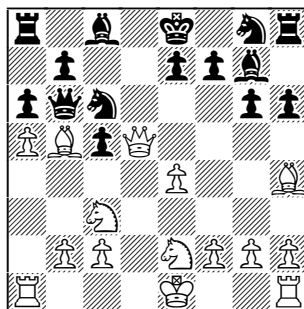
**Sukandar,Irine Kharisma (2325) - Jones,Gawain (2653)**

**1.e4 g6** I have a few main defences to 1.e4: The Dragon - in its many different forms, a couple of Spanishes and occasional Caro Kanns but Irene seemed well booked up on all those lines. Having lost the previous game I really wanted to bounce back and so the Modern seemed a decent choice; definitely risky but with good winning chances too. **2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Bg5!?** I'd never seen this move before and so I was on my own. It looked strange to me as the bishop is firing into open space but I now sunk into thought attempting to find a plan. **4...h6** [4...Nf6 would transpose to a more theoretical position and one where I thought the bishop achieved more. I've actually played this way myself as White and think it's quite a dangerous line.] **5.Bh4** [On the final night Anthony Ker suggested 5.Be3 as an interesting alternative. White argues that the pawn on h6 could be a

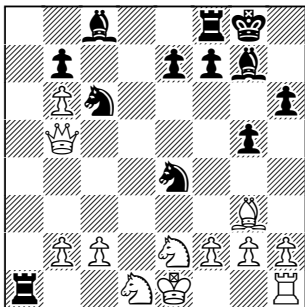
weakness and certainly following Qd2 it might be tricky to castle.] **5...c5!?** Possibly too ambitious. I tried to exploit the bishop on h4 being a little offside and transpose the position to a Dragon setup where I have a lot of experience. **6.dxc5!** The critical response. [6.Nf3 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Nc6 looks like a comfortable Dragon as the bishop is misplaced on h4. As it cannot come to d4 White will lose further time moving the attacked knight on d4.; 6.d5!? is the other possible structure but here I hoped to exploit White's vulnerability along the a1-h8 diagonal.] **6...Qa5** [6...dxc5 7.Qxd8+ Kxd8 looked pretty unpleasant. Not only will White gain a development advantage thanks to my vulnerable king but she also has a positional advantage thanks to her light square control, in particular d5. Were Black's pawn back on e6 she would have fewer holes and thus fewer problems.] **7.Bb5+** Actually when I decided to go into this line I had forgotten that this check gives the White king the f1 square. Another long think and a feeling of dread, I didn't want to have to defend another passive position against a player rated over 300 points below, these Open tournaments can be very cruel! **7...Nc6** [7...Bd7 was the other sensible way to defend against the check but 8.Bxd7+ Nxd7 9.cxd6 Bxc3+ (Actually I had sort of looked at this line before ...c5 and then I hoped that 9...Qb4?! might be tricky to defend against. Black threatens both the b2 pawn and ...Bxc3+ followed by taking on e4 when the bishop on h4 hangs. However 10.Nge2 Qxb2 11.0-0 keeps everything under control. Sure I can temporarily pick up a piece with 11...Bxc3 but 12.Rb1 Qa3 13.Rb3 regains the piece and leaves White with a strong initiative.) 10.bxc3 Qxc3+ 11.Kf1 felt a

little unpleasant to me, even if the computer tells me Black's more or less ok with 11...Rc8 It seems unlikely that Black will have many winning chances though.] **8.Nge2** Sensibly giving back the pawn. [8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.cxd6 Bxc3+ 10.bxc3 Qxc3+ 11.Kf1 Ba6+ 12.Ne2 Rd8 will likely regain the pawn with advantage.] **8...dxc5 9.Qd5** This might be the start of White's problems. Irene is playing aggressively and hoping to completely refute my opening play, a strategy that almost paid off but is of course risky. [9.0-0 was safer when I thought White had a small advantage but Black's position isn't bad either.; 9.Bxc6+ bxc6 is of course also possible and important to assess to work out who it favours. Doubled isolated pawns are of course generally very weak and White can hope to exploit them in the long term, perhaps by rerouting a knight round to c4. However that's not at all easy to achieve and Black has his trumps too. For starters the pawns aren't as weak as they look; they would be much more vulnerable if they were on an open file. They also protect the important central squares of d4 and d5 - a typical weak spot in the Dragon. The exchange has also given Black counterplay down the b file and along the a8-f1 diagonal. A typical fight between static and dynamic play, I prefer the dynamism of Black's position.] **9...Qb6** [I couldn't see a direct refutation of 9...Bd7 but I felt uneasy about it. I really didn't want to lose quickly and thought the game continuation was safer. The pawn on c5 is defended indirectly as 10.Qxc5 a6 wins back material. However it's not totally clear even here as White has 11.b4 when 11...Qxb4 12.Qxb4 Nxb4 13.Bxd7+ Kxd7 14.Rb1 looks better for White.] **10.a4** I

have to confess that I missed this move - a sign that my form wasn't there for much of Queenstown. Irene threatens a4-a5 forcing the queen away and thus winning the c5 pawn. 10...a5 is possible to defend but then White must be better thanks to her eternal control of the b5 square. Luckily I found the following strong idea. **10...a6 11.a5?!**



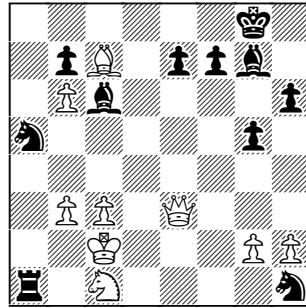
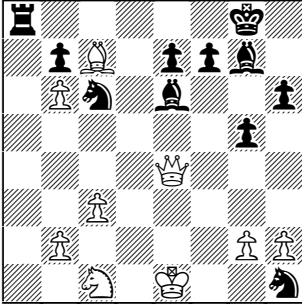
It's harsh to give this move as dubious but in fact White seems to be in a lot of trouble once she has won the queen. **11...axb5!** The whole point. In return for the queen I'll pick up rook and bishop and an initiative. [There was no time for cold feet 11...Qc7 12.Ba4! and there's no way to defend c5. The pins keep Black completely bound up.] **12.axb6 Rxa1+ 13.Nd1 g5!** It's important to play as actively as possible. Should White get time to castle then she'll have a clear advantage. **14.Bg3 Nf6 15.Qxc5 Nxe4 16.Qxb5?!** During the game I was really surprised by this move. [I felt 16.Qe3 was much safer but still I quite liked my dynamic potential. I was planning something like 16...Bf5 17.0-0 b4!/? to keep the White knights from using c3 and therefore she would still have problems coordinating her pieces.] **16...0-0**



Now it was Irene's turn for a long think. She has a material advantage, queen and pawn for the rook and bishop, but ...Rd8 is a big threat. After the game I was very happy as my calculation around here was all sound. **17.Bc7!?** Taking control of d8 but allowing a different tactic. [17.0-0 was of course the most logical and the move I needed something against when I sacrificed my queen. Here I was planning 17...Nd2! (The immediate 17...Rd8 is also possible but 18.Ndc3 Ra5 19.Qxa5 Nxa5 20.Nxe4 allows White to play on.) 18.Re1 Rd8 White is completely tied up. There's the threat of moving the knight when there's no defence of the d1 knight and it can't get out of the way as e1 is undefended - one of the points behind ...Nd2. The other threat is somehow more hidden as it requires a retreating move: ...Ra5 actually traps the queen! During the game I thought the only defence to both threats was 19.Bc7 Rd7 For a moment Black's pieces look uncoordinated but the two threats still stand. (19...Ra5? does still trap the queen but she gets two rooks for it with 20.Qxa5 Nxa5 21.Bxd8) 20.Ng3 The knight gets out of the way leaving e2 for the queen and defending against back rank ideas as the knight can drop back to f1. (Trying to run

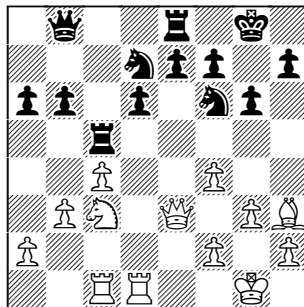
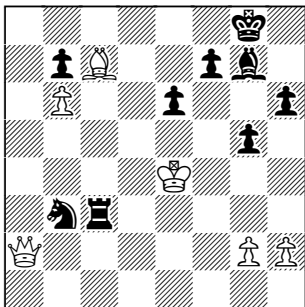
the queen with 20.Qf5 loses to 20...Nf3+ 21.gxf3 (21.Qxf3 Rxd1 wins everything.) 21...Raxd1 The other rook this time, and White loses at least a rook.) 20...Nd4! Followed by ...N4f3+ winning at least the exchange and a pawn.] **17...Rxd1+!** Now f2 isn't defended this tactic works. **18.Kxd1 Nxf2+ 19.Ke1** [During the game I thought 19.Kd2 was her last chance, so that there wouldn't be any back rank problems for White and so she could actually pick up the trapped knight. However 19...Nxb1 20.Qc5 Bxb2 21.Qg1 Bf5 22.Qxh1 Ra8 is still much better for Black. Material is roughly balanced: queen versus rook, bishop and pawn but the bishop pair are very strong and the White king rather exposed.] **19...Nxb1 20.c3** Irene plays sensibly and controls the d4 square. [Playing the same way as in the previous variation with 20.Qc5 no longer wins the knight as 20...Bg4 21.Qg1 Ra8 threatens ...Ra1+ 22.Kd2 Bxb2 and the knight still can't be taken as 23.Qxh1 Ra1 traps the queen.; 20.Kf1 Slowly plodding the king into the corner doesn't manage to pick up the piece either as the rook quickly activates on the a file., i.e. 20...Bg4 21.Kg1 Ra8 and Black's in time.] **20...Bd7** With rook, bishop and knight against queen Black should be winning but there are a couple of things Black has to be aware of. First of all, while White can't actually win the cornered knight it's not easy to bring it back into the game. Secondly White has some tricks utilising the advanced b6 pawn. **21.Qd5 Be6 22.Qe4** [22.Qf3 was Sue's suggestion and looks more accurate. White threatens Qf1 but again 22...Ra8 defends more than adequately.] **22...Ra8 23.Nc1**

### 31.Qe3



**23...Ra5!?** I was very happy at finding this move. Black has ideas of ...Rf5 and ...Nf2 to bring the knight out. The rook also controls the d5 square and can now react to the Qxc6 ideas with ...Rb5. [23...Ra1 felt rather risky to me but the computer has no fear 24.Kd2 (24.Qxc6 only loses a pawn here after 24...bxc6 25.b7 Rxc1+ 26.Kd2 Rg1 27.b8Q+ Kh7) 24...Na5 would actually be very similar to the game.] **24.Nd3 Bd5 25.Qg4 Ra1+ 26.Kd2 Be6 27.Qf3 Bc8** Cutting out Qxc6 tricks once and for all. [Initially I had planned 27...Na5 but 28.Nc5 didn't seem so clear.] **28.Nc1 Na5** But now her knight has gone passive I can activate mine. **29.b3** Both rook and knight are actually trapped in corners but I was pleased I managed to calculate the final course of the game. [White still doesn't have enough time to win the entrapped knight: 29.g3 Nc4+ and White lacks a good square for her king as I have lots of interesting forks available. 30.Kc2 (30.Kd1 Bg4!) 30...Bf5+! 31.Qxf5 Ne3+; Objectively 29.g4 was best although here I would have the tricky 29...Rb1 (29...Nc4+ 30.Kd3 Nxb2+ 31.Kc2 Ra3 32.Ne2 Na4 33.Qxh1 Ra2+ would also be decisive.) 30.Kc2 Nc4! 31.Nd3 Bxg4! continuing to use the knight forks] **29...Bd7 30.Kc2 Bc6**

[31.Qd3 Nf2 would allow the knight to escape.; 31.Qf1 Be4+ 32.Kb2 (32.Kd2 Nxb3+) 32...Rb1+ 33.Ka3 Bxc3 is also hopeless.] **31...Nf2!** It seems strange to put the knight en-prise but the tactics work for me. **32.Qxf2** [32.Kb2 Nd1+ was the point and so Irene had no time to capture the rook.] **32...Be4+ 33.Kd2** [33.Kb2 Rb1+ 34.Ka3 Bxc3 is completely winning; a nice point is that 35.Qe3 Rxb3+! 36.Nxb3 Nc4+ again picks up the queen.] **33...Nxb3+ 34.Ke3** [34.Nxb3 Ra2+ 35.Ke3 Rxf2 36.Kxf2 Bxc3 leaves Black in a trivially winning endgame with his extra two pawns.] **34...Rxc1 35.Kxe4 Rxc3** On the surface it looks like White has made progress. She has regained some material and is nominally only slightly down - rook, knight and two pawns for the queen. However the big issue is that the king on e4 is actually in very real danger. **36.Qa2** [In the post-mortem we had a quick look at 36.Kd5 but Black has at least 36...Rc6 followed by ...e7-e6+ and ...Rc6-c3 creating the same mating net.; 36.Be5 Nc5+ 37.Kd5 Bxe5 is no good either as 38.Kxe5 Nd3+ wins the queen.] **36...e6!**



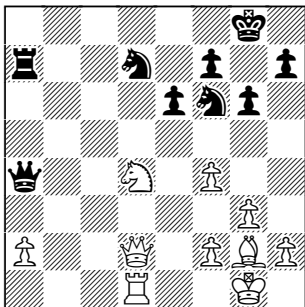
And Irene resigned as there's no way to prevent either ...f7-f5mate or ...Nb3-c5mate. A picturesque final position. 0-1

## **Annotated Games from Queenstown by GM Darryl Johansen**

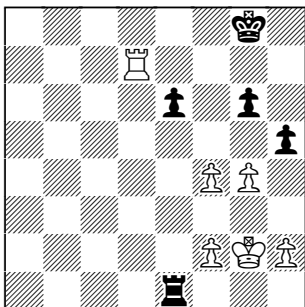
**Johansen, Darryl K (2403) -  
Bischoff, Klaus (2537)**

**1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 b6 3.g3 Bb7 4.Bg2 c5 5.0-0 g6** I'd half expected a double Fianchetto instead of Klaus' usual Hedgehog, hence I was able to peel off a bit of preparation. [5...e6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4 d6 etc.] **6.d4 cxd4 7.Qxd4 Bg7 8.Nc3 d6 9.Be3 Nbd7 10.Rfd1 Rc8 11.Rac1 0-0 12.Qh4 Re8 13.b3 a6 14.Bh3!?** I saw it in some Kramnik games; something may land on e6! However, white is working hereabouts with a tiny edge. **14...Rc7 15.Bh6 Bxh6 [15...Bxf3 16.exf3 Rc5] 16.Qxh6 Bxf3 17.exf3 Rc5 18.Qe3 Qb8 19.f4**

To be honest, I was content to draw with my "housemate" here; my tournament situation allowed it, I respected my opponent's ability, and I wanted an easy afternoon for a change. However, the 30 move draw rule didn't permit this, and who knows, maybe Klaus is ambitious? In any case, white's position is simple enough, such that I can just, "play". **19...e6 20.Qd4 b5?! [20...d5!=] 21.Qxd6 bxc4 22.bxc4 Rxc4 23.Qxa6 Rec8** I spent a bit of time here, pinching myself; yes I have an extra pawn, no my opponent has no magical tactic. **24.Ne2 Rc2?** Black now has to HOLD the draw. [24...Rxc1 25.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 26.Nxc1 Qb2 is better, but the bonus pawn remains.] **25.Rxc2 Rxc2 26.Nd4 Rc7 27.Qe2!?** [27.Bg2] **27...Qb4 28.Qd2 Qa4 29.Bg2 Ra7**

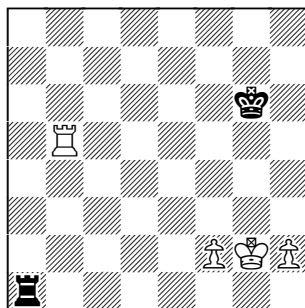


**30.Bc6?!** Here the "happy to draw", thing reared its ugly head. I wanted to have safe torture, rather than hard work. [30.Nc6! Ra6 31.Ne5 Nf8 32.Qd8± for example.] **30...Qxa2 31.Qxa2 Rxa2 32.Nxe6 fxe6?!** I expected, as a matter of course, 32....Ra7. [32...Nf8 33.Nd8!?: 32...Ra7] **33.Bxd7 Nxd7 34.Rxd7 Ra1+ 35.Kg2** This 4 vs 3 is drawn, especially if the e6 pawn can be traded. Drawing "drawn" endings is no simple task, however. **35...Re1 36.g4 h5?!**



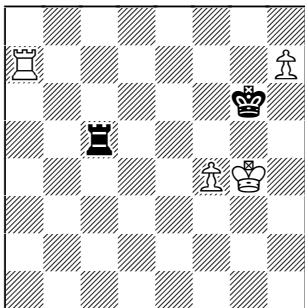
[36...e5 37.Re7 (37.f5!?) ] **37.gxh5!?** The chess engines want other moves. But the practical human has a different bent. **37...gxh5 38.Re7 Kf8 39.Rh7 e5 40.Rxh5 exf4 41.Kf3 Rf1 42.Rh4 Kg7 43.Rxf4** A drawn ending. As the late John Hanks said to me circa 1978; "It's all in the books"!

(i.e. it was a draw) when I adjourned a rook and four vs rook and three ending against him in Perth (he lost). An ignoramus, who apparently "moderates" on "Chess Chat", mentioned this as a drawn position. (Imputing that I was somehow lucky to win.) Ah the armchair warrior!! "Surrounded" by Fritz/Rybka/Firebird/Houdini etc etc. and under no competitive pressure, can make bold pronunciations regarding people, games and positions, about which they wouldn't have a chance in hell of handling with any aplomb, were they in the situation of the person concerned. **43...Ra1 44.Rb4 Kg6 45.Rb5 Rh1 46.Kg2 Ra1**

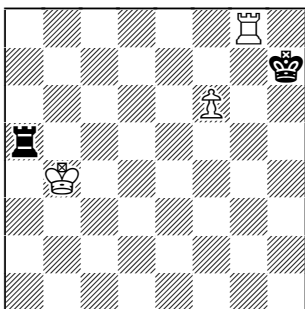


So it's a draw....But how does one (a) try to win with white? and (b) hold the draw with black? I first had the chance to analyse this ending when the late Greg Hjorth tried to win it against the late Terrey Shaw, in the 1981-82 Australian Championships in Melbourne. (Too many good people are late of recent.) To win; the rook pawn is a decoy; you will try to win with a favourable rook and bishop pawn vs.rook ending. To defend; the defensive King stays in front of the bishop pawn; the rook goes long, working from the rear. This, however, is a broad description of how

things "should" look. 47.h4 Rc1 48.f3 Ra1 49.Rc5 Rb1 50.Ra5 Rc1 51.Kg3 Rb1? [51...Rc4 Why not!] 52.Kg4 Rg1+ 53.Kf4 Rf1 [53...Rh1 54.Ra6+ Kf7 55.Kg5 Rg1+ 56.Kf5 Rh1 57.Ra7+] 54.Ra6+ Kf7 55.h5 Rb1 56.Kg4 Rb4+ 57.f4 Rb5 58.h6 Rc5 59.Ra7+ Kg6 60.h7

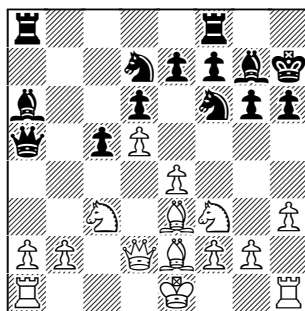


Now it is lost. May the warriors figure out where black went wrong. 60...Rc8 61.f5+ Kh6 [61...Kf6 62.Kh5 Kxf5 63.Rg7] 62.Kf4 Re8 63.Rd7 Ra8 64.Ke5 Ra5+ 65.Kd6 Ra6+ 66.Kc5 Ra8 67.f6 Kg6 68.Rg7+ Kh6 69.Rg8 Ra5+ 70.Kb4 Kxh7



71.f7! [71.Rg7+?? Kh8=] 1-0

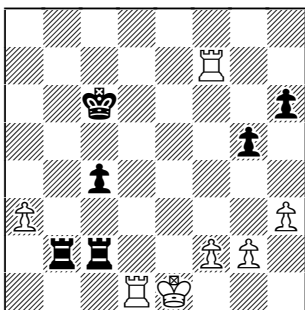
Johansen,D (2403) - Gu Xiaobing (2244) 1.d4 Nf6 2.e4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Bg5 The Averbakh. After whipping out some quick moves, my opponent ground her thumbs into her temples and then stared into space, as if she was trying to remember what the "refutation" of this system was. I gathered this was not expected....good! 6...h6 7.Be3 Nbd7 8.Qd2 c5 [8...e5 9.d5 Nc5 10.f3 a5?! (10...Ne8!? 11.b4 Na6 12.a3 f5) 11.0-0-0 Kh7 (11...h5) 12.g4 followed, if allowed by h4-h5, is so passive for black.] 9.d5 Kh7 10.Nf3 b5!? Like a Benko; here it's not a bad idea. 11.cxb5 a6 12.h3? [12.0-0 axb5 13.Bxb5 Ng4 14.Bf4; 12.a4 is normal in similar positions.] 12...Qa5 Now I grimaced internally; my finesse on the previous move was just feeble! 13.bxa6 [13.a4 axb5 14.Bxb5 Nxe4! 15.Nxe4 Qxb5] 13...Bxa6



My calculations after 12.h3 had me castling here. 14.Bxa6 [14.0-0? Nxe4 Works because of the loose bishop on e2.] 14...Qxa6 15.Qe2 Taking on the "Benko" ending was not what I envisaged a few moves ago. Here I needed to emulate the best efforts of the famous master Grovelstein. 15...Rfb8 16.Qxa6 Rxa6 17.Bc1 [17.0-0-0!? Nb6 worried me.] 17...Nb6 18.Nd2 Na4 19.Kd1 Nxb2+



20.Bxb2 Rxb2 21.Kc1 Rb4 22.Kc2 Nd7 [22...Ra3 looks even stronger.] 23.a3 Bxc3! 24.Kxc3 Rba4 25.Nc4 Nb6 26.Nxb6 Rxb6 Some dust has cleared; true, the pawn has been returned for some simplification, but even with only two rooks each black retains some pressure. 27.Rhe1 Kg7 28.e5!?! I didn't believe that passive defence would suffice. [28.f3 g5 29.Re2 Kf6µ] 28...dxe5!?! [28...Kf8] 29.Rxe5 Kf6 30.Re3 g5 31.Rf3+ Ke5!?! After a slowish opening, time-wise, my opponent had played some quick moves, and this was one of them! [31...Kg6] 32.Rxf7 I thought, "gobble up the pawns and hope (!) there is no win. 32...Kxd5 33.Rxe7 Rc4+ 34.Kd2 Rb2+ 35.Ke1 Rcc2 36.Rf7 c4 37.Rd1+ Kc6



I once adjourned with a double rook ending against Mihai Ghinda, at the Olympiad in Luzern in 1982. Analysis of the position had taught me a simple truth; the superior side (ie better passed pawn, king placement, etc), wants to trade a set of rooks! 38.Rf5! This good move, making difficult the black king's entry, probably shouldn't have saved the day. 38...c3 39.a4 Bizarre thing happened. After 38.Rf5, Ms. Gu, with about 25 minutes on her clock chewed up nearly all of her time looking

for the (non-existent) forced win. 39...Re2+ 40.Kf1 Rec2? A hurried move, but a lemon. [40...c2 41.Rc1 Re4 42.Rf3?! (42.Rb5!?! Ra2 43.Rb3 (43.Rb8 Is tougher.) ) 42...Kc5 43.Rc3+ Rc4 44.Rxc4+ Kxc4 45.Ke2 Kc3+ No forced wins, but long-term wins; 40...Rbd2] 41.g3! Breathing space! Notice how white avoids weakening the f4 square. [41.g4?! Rb4 intending ....Rf4.] 41...Ra2 42.Rd4 Not only has the danger for white passed, but black has to now think about drawing the position. 42...Ra3 43.Kg2 Rc1?! [43...Rca2 44.Rc4+ Kd6 45.Rfc5 Rxa4 46.Rxa4 Rxa4 47.Rxc3 h5±] 44.a5 Rc2? She's in limbo; my opponent's confident demeanour had completely vanished. 45.h4 gxh4? 46.Rxh4+- Rd2 47.Rxh6+ Rd6 48.Rh4 Rd5 49.Rc4+ Kd6 50.Rf6+ Ke5 51.Rf3! Rxa5 52.Rexc3 Rdb5 53.Ra3 "Checkmating" a rook! 53...Rxa3 54.Rxa3 Ke4 55.Rf3 Rb8 56.g4 Rb1 57.Rf5 1-0

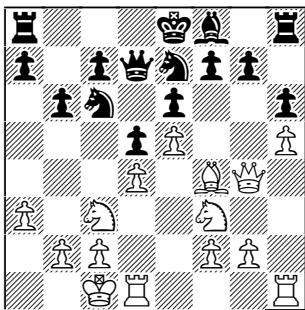
## Annotated Game from IM Herman van Riemsdijk

This was my sixth visit to beautiful New Zealand where I have made so many good friends! It was my third Queenstown Classic but although I enjoyed this wonderful resort very much (and was spotting the growing Brazilian working population there) my chess wasn't that good...

**Van Riemsdijk, Herman Claudius (2401)  
- Drummond, Matthew (2227)**

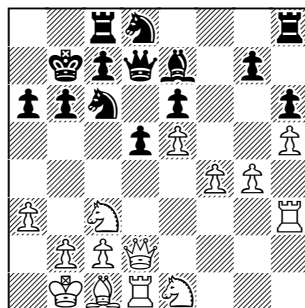
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.Qg4

**Bf8 6.Nf3 Ne7 7.Bg5 Ba6** [7...h6?! as has been played in some games is bad because of 8.Bxe7! Qxe7 (8...Kxe7 is maybe better but is really ugly) 9.Nxd5] **8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.h4** Starting my favorite setup against the blocked French structure **9...Nb4 10.0-0-0 h6 11.Bf4** [11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.h5 is quite in the spirit of what I like] **11...Qd7 12.a3 Nbc6** [12...h5!? is for sure an option to be considered for Black. After 13.Qh3 Nbc6 14.Kb1 Nf5 15.Rd3 White's position is more flexible though] **13.h5**



Hans Kmoch in his excellent *Pawn Power in Chess* (My Tartan Books edition dates from 1975; the original is from 1959) calls this (e5 and h5 against e6 and h6 with the other White's pawns coming to f4 and g4) the Quartgrip. It gives the more advanced formation many effective break possibilities. Of course the Quartgrip - as Kmoch himself states - serves perfectly against a minority when Black has only three pawns (e6, h6 and f7 or g7) as will happen in this game. The Quartgrip is probably the strategic feature with which I have collected most points. The great majority occur on the Kingside in the French and in the Caro-Kann. In the latter mostly with an open d file. 13...0-0-0 14.Kb1 White starts a rearrangement of its

pieces by unoccupying the congested g and f files. c1 is an ideal spot for the Bishop at the same time defending an eventual counter-attack at the Queenside as supporting White's Pawn phalanx on the Kingside. 14...Kb7 15.Bc1 Rc8 16.Qf4 Nd8 17.g4 a6 18.Rh3 A flexible resource. The rook on the third rank makes Black's c5 break more difficult and is ready to double with the other rook on either file. 18...Nec6 19.Ne1 Black is hesitating to break so White has all the time to make this rearrangement 19...Be7 20.Qd2 f6 My opponent senses that he will be overrun and tries to anticipate things 21.f4 fxe5 22.dxe5



White has achieved his goal. A dangerous and maybe winning Pawn structure on the Kingside. Both f5 and g5 breaks are very dangerous for Black 22...Nf7 23.Qe2 Rhd8 24.Rhd3 Qe8 25.Nf3 White completes its development. Black has the difficult task to be ready for both f and g ruptures 25...Bf8 26.g5 Now the natural break 26...hxg5 27.fxg5 Rd7 28.g6! Nh6 29.Nh2?! [29.Bxh6 gxh6 30.Ne4! dxe4 31.Rxd7 exf3 32.Qxf3 is winning. I saw this position but it wasn't that clear in my mind] 29...Nf5 30.Ne4?? [30.Ng4 and White's advantage is clear. I always quote to my pupils (**cont. on page 39**)

## Queenstown 2012 Crosstable

Rk.	Name	Rtg	FED	1.Rd	2.Rd	3.Rd	4.Rd	5.Rd	6.Rd	7.Rd	8.Rd	9.Rd	Pts.
1	GM Johansen Darryl K	2403	AUS	66w1	59b½	34w1	21b1	20w1	3w0	35b1	37w1	24b1	7.5
2	GM Li Chao B	2693	CHN	18b1	38w1	10b1	36w1	9b½	23w1	3b½	5w1	6b½	7.5
3	GM Zhao Jun	2569	CHN	44w1	49b1	28w1	4b½	6w1	1b1	2w½	9w1	7b½	7.5
4	IM Akshat Khamparia	2414	IND	98b1	79w1	37b1	3w½	5b0	80w½	50b1	19w1	22b1	7
5	GM Rozentalis Eduardas	2592	LTU	62w1	33b1	27w1	6b½	4w1	9w1	8b½	2b0	26w1	7
6	Tao Trevor	2422	AUS	56w1	57b1	51w1	5w½	3b0	22w1	60w1	10b1	2w½	7
7	GM Hansen Sune Berg	2572	DEN	58b1	39w1	13b½	60w½	38b1	35w1	24b½	14w1	3w½	7
8	GM Ganguly Surya Shekhar	2639	IND	125b1	50w½	42w1	22b½	43w1	28b1	5w½	26b½	16w1	7
9	GM Bojkov Dejan	2553	BUL	64b1	80w1	19b1	15w1	2w½	5b0	29w1	3b0	35b1	6.5
10	FM Ikeda Junta	2349	AUS	77w1	52b1	2w0	72b1	30w1	29b½	36b1	6w0	39b1	6.5
11	Bird Andrew	2216	AUS	127b1	24w0	56b1	47w1	19b0	61w½	73b1	36w1	28b1	6.5
12	FM Steadman Michael	2258	NZL	117b1	55w1	36b0	68w0	98b1	70w½	61b1	31b1	29w1	6.5
13	WGM Sukandar Irine Kharisma	2325	INA	88w1	65b1	7w½	25w1	23b0	24w0	59b1	40b1	30w1	6.5
14	Dragicevic Domagoj	2277	AUS	141w1	53b1	20w0	42b1	49w1	16b1	26w½	7b0	33w1	6.5
15	FM Illingworth Max	2388	AUS	92w1	87b1	30w1	9b0	51w½	52b1	23b½	28w½	37b1	6.5
16	FM Cheng Bobby	2375	AUS	111b1	45w0	44b1	69w1	46b1	14w0	80b1	18w1	8b0	6
17	FM Smith Robert W	2273	NZL	91b1	73w1	23b0	46w0	56b1	45w1	18b0	85w1	48b1	6
18	Zelesco Karl	1990	AUS	2w0	147b1	146w1	33b1	31w0	49b1	17w1	16b0	43w1	6
19	FM Stojic Dusan	2294	AUS	93w1	63b1	9w0	57b1	11w1	26b0	87w1	4b0	44w1	6
20	GM Bischoff Klaus	2537	GER	82b1	41w1	14b1	35w½	1b0	37w0	102b1	30b½	50w1	6
21	IM Dive Russell John	2345	NZL	112b½	137w1	102b1	1w0	79b½	41w1	48b1	24w0	47b1	6
22	IM Morris James	2354	AUS	104b1	68w1	24b½	8w½	45b1	6w0	72b1	23w1	4w0	6
23	GM Zhao Xue	2551	CHN	101w1	40b1	17w1	26b½	13w1	2b0	15w½	22b0	51w1	6
24	GM Jones Gawan C B	2653	ENG	135w1	11b1	22w½	45w1	35b0	13b1	7w½	21b1	1w0	6
25	IM Solomon Stephen J	2375	AUS	86w½	75b1	59w1	13b0	52w0	81b1	32w1	51b½	42w1	6
26	IM Ly Moulthun	2376	AUS	74b1	46w1	47b1	23w½	36b½	19w1	14b½	8w½	5b0	6
27	IM West Guy	2323	AUS	89b1	54w1	5b0	79w½	59b½	-½	76w½	87b1	53w1	6
28	IM Garbett Paul Anthony	2290	NZL	110b1	61w1	3b0	48w1	68b1	8w0	79b1	15b½	11w0	5.5
29	IM Van Riemsdijk Herman C	2401	BRN	90b1	48w1	45b0	32w1	50b1	10w½	9b0	38w1	12b0	5.5
30	WGM Nadig Kruttika	2234	IND	113b1	84w1	15b0	73w1	10b0	68w1	46b1	20w½	13b0	5.5



**1st= GM Zhao Jun, GM Darryl Johansen and GM Li Chao**

31	GM	Haznedaroglu Kivanc	2455	TUR	122b1	69w1	35b0	41w½	18b1	39w1	37b0	12w0	79b1	5.5
32		Pyke Malcolm	2132	AUS	96b1	36w0	55b1	29b0	86w½	122w1	25b0	58w1	81b1	5.5
33	FM	Hartvig Ove Weiss	2210	DEN	139b1	5w0	66b1	18w0	55½	110w1	64b1	71w1	14b0	5.5
34		Tang Jason	2030	AUS	137b½	112w1	1b0	111w1	37b0	55w0	105b1	104w1	71b1	5.5
35	FM	Wallis Christopher	2259	AUS	109w1	134b1	31w1	20½	24w1	7b0	1w0	63b1	9w0	5.5
36	IM	Xie George Wendi	2459	AUS	106w1	32b1	12w1	2b0	26w½	51b1	10w0	11b0	65w1	5.5
37	WGM	Gu Xiaobing	2244	CHN	129w1	132b1	4w0	52½	34w1	20b1	31w1	1b0	15w0	5.5
38		Drummond Matthew	2227	AUS	147w1	2b0	106w1	65b1	7w0	42b1	63w½	29b0	76w1	5.5
39		Schon Eugene	2188	AUS	105w1	7b0	92w1	81½	76w1	31b0	62w1	60b1	10w0	5.5
40		Matheson Laurence	2167	AUS	116b1	23w0	111b½	58w1	61b½	64w½	55b1	13w0	70b1	5.5
41		Li Zuhao Luke	2165	NZL	100w1	20b0	77w1	31b½	81w1	21b0	86w½	76b½	63w1	5.5
42		Dordevic Ivan	2060	NZL	130b1	71w1	8b0	14w0	93b1	38w0	103b1	80w1	25b0	5
43	FM	Lukcy Stephen G	2261	NZL	118b1	47w0	64b1	70w1	8b0	46w0	82b1	45w1	18b0	5
44		Bennett Hilton	1965	NZL	3b0	139w1	16w0	78b1	83b1	79w0	123b1	72w1	19b0	5
45		Chen Pengyu	2056	AUS	94w1	16b1	29w1	24b0	22w0	17b0	92w1	43b0	88w1	5
46		Pinic Noel	2066	NZL	114w1	26b0	109w1	17b1	16w0	43b1	30w0	50w0	90b1	5
47		Dale Ari	1994	AUS	121w1	43b1	26w0	11b0	75w0	91b1	88w1	49b1	21w0	5
48		Liu Yi	2072	AUS	78w1	29b0	108w1	28b0	77w1	75b1	21w0	86b1	17w0	5
49		Shen Daniel	2182	NZL	115b1	3w0	90b1	110w1	14b0	18w0	98b1	47w0	75w1	5
50	IM	Brown Andrew	2215	AUS	136w1	8b½	81w½	63b1	29w0	85b1	4w0	46b1	20b0	5
51		Replinger Marc	2241	GER	131b1	124w1	6b0	85w1	15b½	36w0	70b1	25w½	23b0	5
52	WIM	Lauterbach Ingrid	2053	ENG	99b1	10w0	91b1	37w½	25b1	15w0	71b0	56w½	103b1	5
53		Kempen Leon	1999	AUS	138b1	14w0	84b½	112w1	80b0	103w½	110b1	69w1	27b0	5
54		Burns Christopher John	2022	NZL	144w1	27b0	100w½	86b0	123b0	124w½	131b1	96w1	97b1	5
55		Koerber Matthias	1916	GER	128w1	12b0	32w0	114b1	33w½	34b1	40w0	68w1	57b½	5
56		Goodhue Nathan	1945	NZL	6b0	116w1	11w0	127b1	17w0	105b½	133w1	52b½	87w1	5
57	FM	Jones Brian	2092	AUS	67b1	6w0	93b1	19w0	104b0	84w½	111b1	64w1	55w½	5
58		Setiabudi Allen	1966	AUS	7w0	123b½	143w1	40b0	100w½	108b1	107w1	32b0	94w1	5
59		Ansell Alan	2079	NZL	120b1	1w½	25b0	82w1	27w½	86b½	13w0	62b1	60w½	5
60	FM	Reilly Tim	2266	AUS	108w1	81b½	76w1	7b½	62w1	-½	6b0	39w0	59b½	5
61		Armstrong Malcolm J	2016	ENG	95w1	28b0	78w½	100b1	40w½	11b½	12w0	77b½	89w1	5
62	WFM	Milligan Helen	1979	NZL	5b0	127w1	107b1	71w1	60b0	102w½	39b0	59w0	113b1	4.5
63	WIM	Guo Emma	2010	AUS	142b1	19w0	124b1	50w0	91b1	69w1	38b½	35w0	41b0	4.5
64		King Mathew	1961	NZL	9w0	105b1	43w0	109b1	107w1	40b½	33w0	57b0	123b1	4.5
65		Fuatai Fuatai	2031	NZL	107b1	13w0	113b1	38w0	110b0	93w1	104w½	112w1	36b0	4.5
66		Lovejoy David	1939	AUS	1b0	96w1	33w0	119b1	72w0	140b1	69b0	91w1	80b½	4.5
67		Mitchell Robert	1672	NZL	57w0	92b0	122b0	143w1	74b0	127w1	134w½	141b1	112b1	4.5
68		Safarian Alek	2036	AUS	123w1	22b0	136w1	12b1	28w0	30b0	77w½	55b0	110w1	4.5
69		Machdoem Andhika	2129	NZL	140w1	31b0	88w1	16b0	106w1	63b0	66w1	53b0	86w½	4.5
70		Fairbairn Stephen	2052	CAN	132w0	129b1	121w1	43b0	88w1	12b½	51w0	101b1	40w0	4.5
71	IM	Ker Anthony F	2359	NZL	103w1	42b0	101w½	62b0	121w1	96b1	52w1	33b0	34w0	4.5
72		Johnson Quentin J F	2127	NZL	84b0	97w1	89b1	10w0	66b1	104w1	22w0	44b0	77w½	4.5
73		Lester George E	2008	AUS	146w1	17b0	145w1	30b0	96w½	112b1	11w0	84b0	108w1	4.5
74		Benson Christopher	1924	NZL	26w0	78b0	126w1	75b0	67w1	107b0	100w½	140b1	120w1	4.5
75		Li William Xiang Wei	1672	NZL	102b½	25w0	104b½	74w1	47b1	48w0	125b1	79w½	49b0	4.5
76	WIM	Maroroa Sue	2020	NZL	97b½	83w1	60b0	84w1	39b0	111w1	27b½	41w½	38b0	4.5
77		Selnes Hamish	1904	AUS	10b0	133w1	41b0	115w1	48b0	99w1	68b½	61w½	72b½	4.5
78		Cekulis Maris	1640	AUS	48b0	74w1	61b½	44w0	82b½	89w0	117b1	122w1	85b½	4.5
79		Duneas John	2087	NZL	126w1	4b0	134w1	27b½	21w½	44b1	28w0	75b½	31w0	4.5
80	WGM	Smokina Karolina	2167	MDA	119w1	9b0	103w½	101b1	53w1	4b½	16w0	42b0	66w½	4.5
81		Stuart Peter	1991	NZL	148b1	60w½	50b½	39w½	41b0	25w0	83b1	102w1	32w0	4.5
82		Holland Dennis	1958	AUS	20w0	119b½	140w1	59b0	78w½	113b1	43w0	110b½	109w1	4.5
83		Simmonds Leteisha	1643	AUS	-½	76b0	135w½	108b1	44w0	106b½	81w0	134b1	125w1	4.5
84		Louie Ryan	1677	AUS	72w1	30b0	53w½	76b0	135w1	57b½	101w½	73w1	0	4.5
85		Ilic Ilija	2010	AUS	-½	-½	132w1	51b0	134w1	50w0	89b1	17b0	78w½	4.5
86		Gao Hans	1924	NZL	25b½	102w0	137b1	54w1	32b½	59w½	41b½	48w0	69b½	4.5



Gary Judkins, Chris Benson and Matthias Koerber



From India WGM Nadig Kruttika



Canterbury veteran Arie Nijman



Herman van Reimsdijk and Russell Dive



Bruce Kay and IM Anthony Ker







Tournament Sponsor and Instigator GM Murray Chandler with IM Herman van Reimsdijk



Adrian Fitney and Hamish Gold



Helen Milligan



Mattias Koerber and Jason Tang



GM Li Chao B and GM Zhao Xue

87		Mcdonald John	2068	NZL	133b1	15w0	110b0	117w1	89b1	123w1	19b0	27w0	56b0	4
88		Tsagarakis Angelo	1883	AUS	13b0	130w1	69b0	116w1	70b0	97w1	47b0	99w1	45b0	4
89		Seabrook Roy	1873	NZL	27w0	128b1	72w0	95b1	87w0	78b1	85w0	125w1	61b0	4
90		Voon Richard	1933	AUS	29w0	126b1	49w0	96b0	140w0	146b1	119w1	107b1	46w0	4
91		Zhang William Jie Wen	1849	NZL	17w0	95b1	52w0	145b1	63w0	47w0	116b1	66b0	128w1	4
92		Watharow Sean	1929	AUS	15b0	67w1	39b0	124w1	102b0	115w1	45b0	123w½	96b½	4
93		Rains Edward	1872	NZL	19b0	99w1	57w0	146b1	112w0	65b0	140w½	133b1	102b½	4
94		Zhang Leo	1587	NZL	45b0	104w½	112b0	118w1	111b0	129b½	121w1	98w1	58b0	4
95		Hughes Jack	1351	AUS	61b0	91w0	131b1	89w0	124b½	118w1	122b½	103w0	127b1	4
96	WFM	Tsoi Nicole	1715	NZL	32w0	66b0	125b1	90w1	73b½	71w0	106w1	54b0	92w½	4
97		Guo Jamie-Lee	1379	AUS	76w½	72b0	123w0	147b1	141w½	88b0	136w1	106b1	54w0	4
98		Davies Geoff	1943	NZL	4w0	140b½	119w½	136b1	12w0	100b1	49w0	94b0	132w1	4
99		Vuglar Shanon	1581	AUS	52w0	93b0	147w½	105b½	127w1	77b0	129w1	88b0	135w1	4
100		Brown Kevin M	1728	AUS	41b0	122w1	54b½	61w0	58b½	98w0	74b½	111w1	104b½	4
101		Flitney Adrian	1959	AUS	23b0	131w1	71b½	80w0	-½	117w1	84b½	70w0	105b½	4
102	WIM	Andersson Christin	2123	SWE	75w½	86b1	21w0	103b½	92w1	62b½	20w0	81b0	93w½	4
103		Holt Kenneth	1914	AUS	71b0	120w1	80b½	102w½	-½	53b½	42w0	95b1	52w0	4
104		Forster William	1910	NZL	22w0	94b½	75w½	144b1	57w1	72b0	65w½	34b0	100w½	4
105	WFM	Setiabudi Megan	1755	AUS	39b0	64w0	142b½	99w½	138b1	56w½	34w0	135b1	101w½	4
106		Jackson L Ross	1947	NZL	36b0	115w1	38b0	113w1	69b0	83w½	96b0	97w0	139b1	3.5
107		Clarkson Robert	1529	NZL	65w0	141b1	62w0	129b1	64b0	74w1	58b0	90w0	124b½	3.5
108		Ayaz Hacer	1846	TUR	60b0	142w1	48b0	83w0	116b1	58w0	120b½	115w1	73b0	3.5
109		Nijman Arie J	1834	NZL	35b0	138w1	46b0	64w0	120b½	133b0	146w1	142w1	82b0	3.5
110		Tionko Efrain	1865	AUS	28w0	144b1	87w1	49b0	65w1	33b0	53w0	82w½	68b0	3.5
111		Lim Kian Hwa	1922	MAS	16w0	114b1	40w½	34b0	94w1	76b0	57w0	100b0	137w1	3.5
112		Press Harry	1884	AUS	21w½	34b0	94w1	53b0	132b1	73w0	135w1	65b0	67w0	3.5
113		Yao Winston Yow-Jen	1807	NZL	30w0	135b1	65w0	106b0	114w1	82w0	142b½	130b1	62w0	3.5
114		Judkins Gary	1619	NZL	46b0	111w0	117b1	55w0	113b0	-½	139w0	147b1	141w1	3.5
115	WFM	Smith Vivian J	1752	NZL	49w0	106b0	138w1	77b0	145w1	92b0	141w½	108b0	134w1	3.5
116		Rains Timothy	1737	NZL	40w0	56b0	148w1	88b0	108w0	144b1	91w0	136b1	121w½	3.5
117		Gold Hamish	1830	NZL	12w0	143b1	114w0	87b0	144w1	101b0	78w0	132b½	133w1	3.5
118		Booth Anthony	1834	NZL	43w0	146b0	133w½	94b0	147w1	95b0	130w0	143b1	140w1	3.5
119		Holdaway Stewart	1746	NZL	80b0	82w½	98b½	66w0	125b0	138w1	90b0	129b1	122w½	3.5
120		Ang Alphaeus Wei Em	1643	NZL	59w0	103b0	141w1	134b0	109w½	121b½	108w½	139b1	74b0	3.5
121		Liu Brian	1825	NZL	47b0	148w1	70b0	122w½	71b0	120w½	94b0	131w1	116b½	3.5
122		Aldridge Alan L	1945	NZL	31w0	100b0	67w1	121b½	133w1	32b0	95w½	78b0	119b½	3.5
123		Millikan Erlend	1760	USA	68b0	58w½	97b1	-½	54w1	87b0	44w0	92b½	64w0	3.5
124	WFM	Fairley Natasha	1798	NZL	143w1	51b0	63w0	92b0	95w½	54b½	132w½	128b½	107w½	3.5
125		Davis Justin	1985	NZL	8w0	136b0	96w0	126b1	119w1	134b1	75w0	89b0	83b0	3
126		Renzies Elliott	1668	AUS	79b0	90w0	74b0	125w0	143b1	136b0	145w1	127w0	147b1	3
127		Cooper Nigel	1802	NZL	11w0	62b0	128w1	56w0	99b0	67b0	138w1	126b1	95w0	3
128		Shierlaw Hamish	1495	NZL	55b0	89w0	127b0	141b0	148w1	139b½	137w1	124w½	91b0	3
129		Kay Bruce	1823	NZL	37b0	70w0	130b½	107w0	137b1	94w½	99b0	119w0	145b1	3
130		Nicholls Leighton	1618	NZL	42w0	88b0	129w½	135b0	139w0	147b1	118b1	113w0	136w½	3
131		Pieri Enzo	1771	ITA	51w0	101b0	95w0	148b1	146w½	141b½	54w0	121b0	143w1	3
132		Watson Jean	1571	AUS	70b1	37w0	85b0	-½	112w0	-½	124b½	117w½	98b0	3
133		Stromer Kurt	1640	NZL	87w0	77b0	118b½	137w1	122b0	109w1	56b0	93w0	117b0	2.5
134		Brockway Andrew	1848	NZL	145b1	35w0	79b0	120w1	85b0	125w0	67b½	83w0	115b0	2.5
135		Janisz Andrew	1989	NZL	24b0	113w0	83b½	130w1	84b0	142w1	112b0	105w0	99b0	2.5
136		Glostein Bruce H	1787	NZL	50b0	125w1	68b0	98w0	142b0	126w1	97b0	116w0	130b½	2.5
137		Beckman John	1719	AUS	34w½	21b0	86w0	133b0	129w0	145b1	128b0	146w1	111b0	2.5
138		Dong Olivia	1114	NZL	53w0	109b0	115b0	139w1	105w0	119b0	127b0	148w½	146b1	2.5
139		Yeten Huseyin	1781	CYP	33w0	44b0	144w0	138b0	130b1	128w½	114b1	120w0	106w0	2.5
140		Brockman Roland	1703	AUS	69b0	98w½	82b0	142w½	90b1	66w0	93b½	74w0	118b0	2.5
141		Roura Federico	1850	NZL	14b0	107w0	120b0	128w1	97b½	131w½	115b½	67w0	114b0	2.5
142		Louie Jared	1230	AUS	63w0	108b0	105w½	140b½	136w1	135b0	113w½	109b0	0	2.5

144	Her Seong-June	1385	NZL	54b0	110w0	139b1	104w0	117b0	116w0	143b0	145w0	148b1	2
145	Clayton Ben	0	NZL	134w0	-1	73b0	91w0	115b0	137w0	126b0	144b1	129w0	2
146	Marks Joe	1221	AUS	73b0	118w1	18b0	93w0	131b½	90w0	109b0	137b0	138w0	1.5
147	Capper David	1802	NZL	38b0	18w0	99b½	97w0	118b0	130w0	148b1	114w0	126w0	1.5
148	van Rooyen Carlssen	1003	NZL	81w0	121b0	116b0	131w0	128b0	143w0	147w0	138b½	144w0	0.5

## Mike Steadman's Australian Championship

### By Mike Steadman

It had been a while since I had played a good hard tournament. So with Queenstown looking like it was going to be such a great event again, I decided a warm-up tournament was a good idea. The Australian Championship, to be held in Geelong, just out of Melbourne was a good fit. I talked to Ian Rogers and he explained the rules regarding their closed championships (every Olympiad year they have a closed event that becomes the key tournament for selection). So with a FIDE over 2250, I was pretty much guaranteed a place as long as someone higher in NZ didn't want to play.

Arriving on Boxing Day meant I luckily avoided some adverse weather drama by one day. Geelong is about an hour from Melbourne by bus. Charles Zworestine, the DOP for the event had organised a house for four; Charles, me, Zong Yuan and

Pengyu Chen (one of Zong Yuan's students). We were hoping any inter-house games would come early in the event, not later when it might mean something.

I was first there. I checked in and then shot down to the city centre for a look at the sales – it being Boxing Day. Not really my thing (Helen would have had a field day). Geelong is a pretty city, right on the coast, so it was a great walk. I came back to find everyone else had arrived. With IMs and GMs getting in free, anyone could turn up on the day and so no draw could be made, and it wasn't really possible to speculate with confidence. My initial thoughts were that I'd be the mug, rating wise, near the bottom of the field. This was far from accurate, as it turned out they let all kinds of up and coming dangerous juniors in as well. I ended up near the middle of the field.

There were 30 players with 23 of them under 25 years old. This was great for the future of Australian chess, but not good news for me given my suspect history



against Aussie juniors.

Round 1 and inevitably I got one of the numerous unheralded but dangerous Aussie juniors. I played a classical Dutch; lots of pieces got swapped off including the Queens. One lazy move later I dropped a pawn, then managed to pick up an exchange, but at the cost of two more pawns which was too high. All my wriggling was to no avail as the central pawns were far too strong – not the start I wanted.

Zong Yuan's opponent didn't get to the game in time and he lost by default. Bobby Cheng was on the wrong end of a big upset in round 1, losing to another junior. A few unexpected draws with Johansen, Xie, Solomon and Illingworth all drawing with juniors.

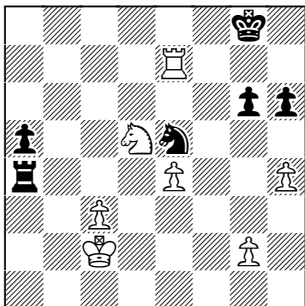
In round 2 and I was paired with Fedja Zulfic. I had played him in the SIO and had surprised his Grunfeld with a skunky Bd2 line. That was a nice crush, but I didn't imagine that trick would work again. But Caleb Wright and his wonderful computers came to my aid, he had been looking at 3.f3 as an anti Grunfeld type system. I looked at his file and decided to give that a crack. I had looked at Zulfic's games, he was not a big opening theorist and it was either Grunfeld or Benko's that he played. I was comfortable with either. Sure enough he went the Grunfeld route and sunk into thought after 3.f3. Success! He chose a bad plan, I won a pawn and swapped Queens into the bargain, I then slowly converted the point. It was great to get a win again. Game of the round was Solomon v Johansen, it was typical Solo all the way.

He got a bad opening on the white side of a Sicilian, Darryl won a pawn and swapped off to a Queen endgame. Solo gave up all 3 kingside pawns to eliminate one dangerous pawn (so now 3 pawns down), then managed to get 1 back. Two pawns down in an apparently hopeless queen ending Solo managed to engineer a repetition, wonderful stuff from Oceania's greatest ever swindler.

### **Steadman,Michael - Zulfic,Fedja**

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 d5** The point with this variation is it becomes a different position for the Grunfeld players (they don't get to take on c3 and get normal pressure). Of course, you have to be ready to play the Samisch. [3...e5 4.dxe5 Nh5 5.Nh3 Nc6 6.Bg5 Be7 7.Bxe7 Qxe7 8.Nc3 Qxe5 9.Qd2 This is about equal.] **4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nb6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.a4** [7.Nc3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.0-0-0 f5 10.h4 fxe4 11.h5 gxh5 12.d5 Ne5 13.Bh6 Nec4 14.Qg5 Rf7 This is the main line - but I wanted to try and make him think for himself.] **7...e5 8.d5 Bd7!?** I thought this wasn't the best, the Knights need d7. **9.Qb3 a5 10.Nc3** [10.d6! I missed this opportunity 10...Bxa4 11.dxc7 Qh4+ 12.g3 Bxb3 13.cxb8Q+ Rxb8 14.Bb5+ Nd7 15.gxh4 Black could safely resign.] **10...0-0 11.h4 h6 12.d6** Not quite as strong as before **12...Nc8 13.Qxb7 Bc6 14.dxc7 Bxb7 15.cxd8Q Rxd8** Now I just need to unwind some and make the pawn count. **16.Bc4 Nc6 17.Rd1 Nd4 18.Kf2 Nb6 19.Bd3 Rac8 20.Nge2 Nc4 21.Bc1 Bf8 22.Nxd4 exd4 23.Ne2 Ne5 24.Bb5 Rc2 25.Rd2** OK, but not the best, could have got the Bishop out first. [25.Bf4 Nc4 26.Rc1 Rxb2 27.Rxc4 d3 28.Rd1 Rxe2+ 29.Kf1 Rb2 30.Rc7] **25...d3 26.Rxc2 dxc2 27.Nc3 Bb4 28.Ke2 Bc6 29.Bxc6 Nxc6 30.Nd5 Kh7 31.Be3 Ne5**

32.Rc1 Rc8 33.Bd4 Nc6 34.Bc3 f5 35.Kd3  
 fxe4+ 36.fxe4 Bxc3 37.bxc3 Ne5+  
 38.Kxc2 Rc4 39.Rb1 Rxa4 40.Rb7+ Kg8  
 41.Re7



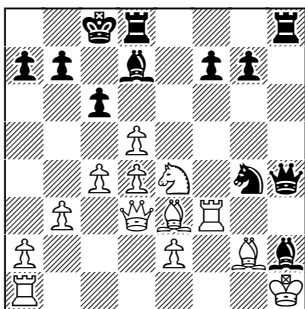
41...Rxe4? End of the time control and mistakes often occur. Wouldn't have effected the result however. 42.Nf6+ Kf8 43.Rxe5 Rxh4 44.Re4 Rh2 45.Rg4 Kf7 46.Nd5 g5 47.Ne3 Kg6 48.c4 h5 49.Rd4 h4 50.Rd6+ Kh5 51.Rh6+ Kxh6 52.Ng4+ Kh5 53.Nxh2 g4 1-0

Round 3 had me black against house mate Pengyu Chen. I only had a few games to go on; they were all 1.e4. I prepared a move order trick that I was confident would waste whatever preparation he and Zong Yuan had put together for me. Unfortunately I was the one whose preparation was wasted when he played 1.c4 instead. I assumed he had cooked up something for my Dutch so I tried to dodge that with a Slav. He played the g3 system, and I didn't have to know much to get a solid position. Instead of playing d4, he played b3 and Bb2. I played e5 and just grabbed the centre. Once the f3 Knight had to leave home, I didn't mess around, I just trundled the h pawn up the board and opened his King up. A nice attack and a

good win.

### Chen, Pengyu - Steadman, Michael

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 c6 4.Nf3 Bd6 5.0-0  
 Now's the time to choose. I can still play a Dutch with f5, but it is a completely different game without d4. Thought that was what Pengyu and his coach had worked on. Thought I'd play like a Slav - I mean, how hard could it be? :-)  
 5...Nf6 6.b3 Qe7 7.Bb2 e5 8.d4 e4 I was pretty happy with my position here; Black has a small advantage, more importantly my game is easier to play. Exactly the kind of position you want these juniors in; making things up is not their strength.  
 9.Ne5 Nbd7 10.Nxd7 [10.f4 h5 11.Nc3 h4 12.gxh4 Rxh4 13.Qe1 I think White had to try this type of line and keep the Black pieces out.]  
 10...Bxd7 11.Nc3 h5 12.Bc1? Qe6 13.f3 h4 14.fxe4 hxg3 15.hxg3 [15.e5 Rxh2 16.Rxf6 Rxg2+ 17.Kxg2 Qh3+ 18.Kf3 Bxe5 19.dxe5 gxf6 20.Bf4 0-0-0 Black has heaps for the piece as the White King will never find peace.]  
 15...Bxg3 16.Qd3 Qg4 17.exd5 Bh2+ 18.Kh1 Qh4 [18...0-0-0 19.Rf3 Bd6+ 20.Kg1 Rh2 21.Kf1 Qxg2+]  
 19.Rf3 Ng4? [19...Bg4 20.Bb2 Bxf3 21.Qxf3 Ng4 22.Ne4 Bf4+ 23.Kg1 Be3+]  
 20.Be3 [20.Ne4 Qe1+ 21.Rf1 Bc7+ 22.Kg1 Qh4 23.Rf3 0-0-0 24.d6 Qh2+ 25.Kf1 Bxd6 Black is still better but there is still a long way to go] 20...0-0-0 21.Ne4



**21...Bf4+ 22.Rh3 Qxh3+ 23.Bxh3 Rxxh3+ 24.Kg1 Rxe3 25.Qc2 Re8 26.Nc5 Rg3+ 0-1**

Round 4 and I was white against Junta Ikeda. I had played him way back in 2006 at Queenstown, but five years is an eternity with these juniors and he is now a really strong player. I decided to take on his Nimzo. Instead of my usual f3, I had in mind a wrinkle in the e3 setup. But Junta deviated with an early c5 rather than his customary b6. I played a move he hadn't seen before and when he responded with a sharp b5 pieces were flying all over the board. I won a pawn, but his pieces got active. I missed an opportunity, my position became passive, he rounded up his pawn and proceeded to deal to me. A second loss, but an enjoyable game.

Round 5 and I was Black against Dragicevic. I had played him once before in a last round Queenstown game. That time I played a very poor French and got hammered. I felt the French needed a chance to recover, so decided to play it again, hopefully more sanely. He played a Kings Indian Attack, I played the main line and he had a small combination on d5 that

didn't win him anything, but left him with a slight edge. The position was always easier for White to play, I played a weak move and allowed a combination that netted him a pawn. The resulting Rook and pawn endgame was always lost for Black. A loss to end the year.

So, we went into the tournament break, I was on 2 from 5. After checking out the Geelong New Year's Eve fireworks display we had a quiet night indoors. I resolved that the second half of the tournament would be better. I was starting to feel my game coming back together, and I was determined to start the new year off with some wins.

Next up I was white against Ishan Ferozkohi, a player from Perth. Looking at his games he seemed to me to be all tactics and positionally a bit unaware. I thought I would slow things down and see how he went. So I played 1.d4 but then went for the Marshall Attack (sometimes I find it hard to stick to the plan :-). He avoided the critical stuff and came up with an unusual plan instead. When the smoke cleared, he was a couple of pawns down and lost. An easy point to start the year off.

Another annoying junior next; Anton Smirnov is about 10 or so, but the size of my 7 year old boy Mathew. Assuming his father would prep him for our game, I thought I would borrow a line from Bruce Watson to try out his theory. The plan worked to perfection, he had the same trouble controlling the breaks as I did against Bruce. When I got the b5 break in, the best white could do was head into a heavy piece endgame a pawn down. I

swapped the bits off and had a Rook endgame a pawn up. Unfortunately I should study endgames more, I suck at them. I rushed and Anton managed to find a line that drew, very disappointing.

Round 8, and yet another junior, Jonus Muller. It was a f3 Nimzo, he didn't know his theory and I got a nice variant of the d5 main line. He finally managed to swap the pieces off and get his pawn back, but the endgame with two bishops on an open board with black pawn weaknesses meant an easy win.

January 5<sup>th</sup> was another day off and I went to Melbourne and bought some toys for Mathew. Hopefully before completely destroying them he would get some fun out of them. Then it was back to Geelong where I had worked my way back up to the higher boards where inevitably a good player would be lying in wait. It turned out to be Sydney GM-elect George Xie. I had played him twice before with a win to each of us. My win was with the Nc6 line against the French Tarrasch. George had just crushed Bobby Cheng in this line, so I naturally assumed he would have the temerity to go for it again. I was planning a new wrinkle for him and hoped to keep him on the hop. No such luck, he played 1.Nf3 and went for my Dutch. I had worked on the line since my loss to Goldenberg at the George and tried a new idea. I thought I was okay and went for an attack, but an exchange sacrifice out of the blue turned the game around completely. My pieces that were looking good for an attack were suddenly on bad squares, I had weak pawns and was undeveloped. My position collapsed within a short space of time.

Basically George taught me a lesson.

So round 10 and I am white against James Morris. A tough customer for me as he seems to beat me regularly. Anyway, this time I decided to play an open game and he went with the Sicilian. I tried a double fianchetto system, but got stuck defending my 2 central pawns. James played around them, attacked them and finally broke through in the centre. Another loss on the scoreboard.

Round 11, and another very young junior, this time Karl Zelesco (who would later play very well in Queenstown). Long tournaments without enough players tend to produce these artificially large floats towards the end. I had stuffed up the maths when I booked my flight and I needed to finish the game within 3.5 hours. Karl is a 1.e4 player, so I thought I would roll out a Sicilian and play it like a rapid. The good news is I made my flight with time to spare, the bad news is that he exploited my poor, too fast, play and I got dealt to!

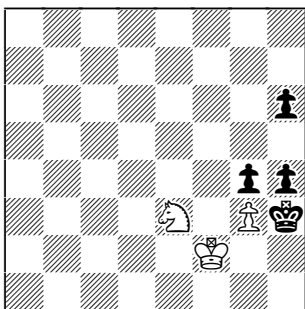
Darryl Johansen was a clear winner of the event, he took control after beating Zong Yuan Zhao and never let up. He won with a point cushion and a group of 4 trailed in his wake.

The tournament was fun, even if I played like an old hack. I played four highly rated players and lost to all of them. Not good for the rating. Time to get home, have a week with my son, and purge this event from the memory banks. But I told myself that I had got my bad tournament out of the way, and now I was all set for Queenstown, the one I really cared about!

# LET ME ENTERTAIN YOU - #2

By Martin Sims

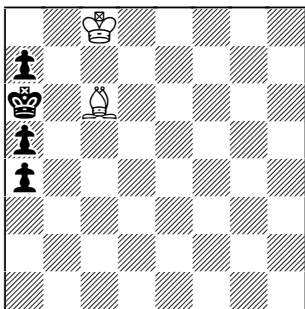
I have had feedback! Caleb Wright, the energetic organiser in Mount Maunganui, has submitted two positions with a common theme. Caleb calls these, “clever little positions”.



**Troitzky**

White to play and win, 1906

1.Ng2 hxc3+ [1...Kh2 2.Nxh4 Kh3 3.Nf5 h5 4.Kg1 h4 5.gxh4] 2.Kg1 h5 3.Kh1 h4 4.Nf4#



**Sachodakin**

White to play and win, 1932

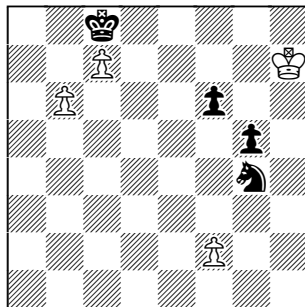
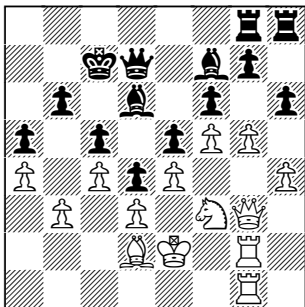
1.Kc7 a3 2.Ba4 a2 3.Kc6 a1Q 4.Bb5#

Did you enjoy these? I hope so; but, in a way, this is not an important question. The point of this column is that Caleb enjoyed these and he remembers them. Wherever he travels he can show fellow players “his” little problems. So tell me your happy/memorable positions, combinations or games – items that have stuck in your memory. It’s like your favourite song of all time. Mine is the long version of The Doors “Riders On The Storm”. This song has been in my head for four decades ... and so has the following game (ideally play through the whole game or join the action on move 49):

**Gurgenidze, Bukhuty - Khasin, Abram [B40]**

24th USSR Chess Championship, 1957 (5), 26.01.1957

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d3 d5 4.Nbd2 Nc6 5.g3 Bd6 6.Bg2 Nge7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Re1 Qc7 9.c3 Bd7 10.Qe2 f6 11.a3 a5 12.a4 Rae8 13.Nf1 d4 14.N1d2 e5 15.Nc4 Nc8 16.Nfd2 Be7 17.Qf1 Rd8 18.f4 Be6 19.f5 Bf7 20.Qf3 Nd6 21.Nxd6 Rxd6 22.c4 Nb4 23.Re2 Nc2 24.Rb1 Ne3 25.Nf1 Qd7 26.b3 Nd1 27.Re1 Nc3 28.Rb2 Rb6 29.Qg4 Ra8 30.Bf3 Raa6 31.Bd1 Rb4 32.Rg2 Nxd1 33.Qxd1 Rab6 34.Nd2 (with the threat of 35.Ba3) 34...Ra6 35.g4 h6 36.h4 Kf8 37.Kf2 Ke8 38.Reg1 Kd8 39.Ba3 Rbb6 40.Nf3 Rc6 41.Be1 Rc8 42.Bd2 Kc7 43.Qe1 b6 44.Ke2 Raa8 45.Qg3 Bd6 46.g5 Rg8 47.Qf2 Rh8 48.Qg3 Rag8 49.gxh6 gxh6 50.Qxg8 Rxg8



51.Rxg8 Bxg8 52.Rxg8 Qf7 53.Rg6 h5  
 54.Nh2 Bf8 55.Nf1 Qh7 56.Rxf6 Be7  
 57.Rh6 Qg8 58.Rg6 Qh7 59.Bg5 Bxg5  
 60.Rxg5 Kd8 61.Ng3 b5 62.axb5 a4  
 63.bxa4 Qa7 64.Rg8+ Kd7 65.Rg7+ Kd6  
 (a good stalemate try) 66.Rg6+ Kd7  
 67.Ra6 Qb8 68.f6 Qg8 69.Ra7+ Ke6  
 70.Rg7 Qh8 71.Nf5 Kxf6 72.b6 Qe8 73.b7  
 Qxa4 74.b8Q Qc2+ 75.Ke1 Qc1+ 76.Kf2  
 Qd2+ 77.Kg1 Qe1+ 78.Kh2 Qf2+ 79.Rg2  
 Qf4+ 80.Ng3 1-0

I discovered this game in the Otago Chess Club's library sometime between 1972 and 1976 in a very rough, hand typed booklet – no databases back then! But this is how we got to see games; and this game has stuck in my memory. It might bore many but I admire White's patience and imaginative play. There is only one thing "wrong" with this game – the player of the White pieces should have been Tigran Petrosian!!

In 2005 Mark van der Hoorn stayed with me, lending his expertise to run the North Island Schools Team Championship. He talked about a little book; he didn't have it with him, but he remembered this study

Troitzky – the same composer as above  
 White to play and draw, 1896

1.f3! [1.Kg6? Nxf2 2.Kxf6 g4 3.Ke6 g3  
 4.Kd6 Nd3 5.b7+ Kxb7 6.Kd7 Nc5+ 7.Kd8  
 Ne6+--+] 1...Ne5! 2.Kg7 Nxf3 [2...Nd7  
 3.Kg6 Kb7 4.Kf5] 3.Kxf6 g4 4.Kf5!  
 [4.Ke6? g3 5.Kd6 g2 6.b7+ Kxb7 7.Kd7  
 Ne5+] 4...g3 5.Kg4 g2 6.Kh3! g1Q  
 [6...g1B 7.Kg2; 6...g1N+ 7.Kg2] 7.b7+  
 Kxc7 8.b8Q+ Kxb8 stalemate ½-½

After Mark left I tracked the book down courtesy of NZ Chess Supplies. It is "Brilliant Chess Studies" by Kuznetsov, published in Moscow in 1998. It is a marvellous book to take with you wherever you go. It fits easily into your pocket but its 450 studies ensure hours of entertainment. It is the only chess book I have taken on two trips to Europe.

This column has been about happy memories and readers are invited to share theirs. If you would like to contribute, please email me at [martinsims54@gmail.com](mailto:martinsims54@gmail.com).

# Letter from the Kingside

## *Chess On The Move*

by Roger Nokes

Today we are all mobile. That statement sounds rather odd but I am sure you know what I mean. Nearly everyone has a mobile phone, a smartphone, a tablet, a laptop or some other device that provides them with information and communication while they are on the move. Can you remember what it was like before smartphones hit the market? While some early smartphones existed a decade or more ago it really wasn't until the early 21<sup>st</sup> century that devices resembling today's smartphones hit the market. The first Blackberry was released in 2002 and, surprisingly, the first iPhone wasn't on the market until 2007!

Today smartphones and their larger cousins, the digital tablets such as the Galaxy, Xoom and iPad, are commonplace and very much taken for granted. These ingenious little devices originally brought communication capability, then personal assistant tools and finally a mobile computing platform that would rival desktop computers of a decade ago. It is this computing capability that has led, in my opinion, to the real attraction of these devices for huge numbers of people. Suddenly a little box the size of half a pack of cards, or perhaps a thin paperback can

provide you with computer applications that range from extraordinarily realistic computer games, to word processors and other productivity tools, to maps, eBook readers, and the list goes on and on.

Considering the incursion of computers into the world of chess it is no surprise that chess apps for mobile devices have appeared in significant numbers. The dominant app markets are those for Google's open Android OS and those for Apple's propriety OS, iOS, sold through Apple's Appstore. I have little experience with Android devices so my comments will very much focus on Apple's iPhone, iPod and iPad but as far as I can tell many of the apps available for the Apple market are also available for Android.

Do a simple search of the Apple Appstore for apps that refer to the word "chess" and you find an astounding 643 iPad apps and 1056 iPhone apps. These apps, the majority of which are free or sell for just a few dollars, are as varied as their names and number would suggest. There are apps that allow you to play chess with or without a chess engine, there are databases, chess books, chess for kids, apps that allow you to join an on-line chess community and so on. It seems there are more apps available for these mobile devices than there are for laptops and desktops.

As an avid iPad user, who seems to have all of his life contained within the slim frame of this modern miracle, and chess lover, I have invested in a few chess apps that provide me with plenty of diversion.

Shredder, the well known chess engine,

provides a very nice app for playing chess against an opponent of varying strength. This very usable app is very strong (if you wish to get hammered) and it is my "opponent" of choice. It has very limited ability to store games and its analysis feature is very frustrating, simply giving you a clock-like dial that gives an evaluation of the position. Considering the engine is analysing and evaluating millions of variations it beats me why this information couldn't be displayed if desired.

Chessbase has entered the mobile market with CB Online which provides online access to its very large database of games. Supposedly continually brought up to date this app is very useful for the tournament player away from home (and with a fast internet connection). Hopefully future releases will provide a better search capability.

Recently I purchased Hiarcs Chess. Of course this is another name familiar to those who use chess engines. This app is a cross between Shredder and CB Online in that it provides a typical environment in which to play games against a strong chess engine, while at the same time providing a simple database management tool. PGN databases can be loaded and accessed but not searched unfortunately. Hopefully that will happen in the next release along with the removal of the rather annoying spring-loaded movement of the pieces.

Chess.com offers online chess competitions as well as access to some training options including a range of video lessons if you buy a subscription.

One of the more interesting developments, e+Chess Books, is an app that brings chess books to the tablet environment while offering capabilities that a hardcopy chess book simply can't provide. The concept is not novel but it is certainly engaging and, from my limited perusal, very well implemented in the e+Chess Books environment. The book is interactive, the inbuilt chess board of course means that a separate chess board is not required, there are audio files, and plenty of navigation options. Most books include quizzes, tests or puzzles. Download the app for free and then buy books for your library through the app's own bookstore. The rather nice thing about this app is that it has Kiwi roots with well-known NZ chess personalities Hilton Bennett and Helen Milligan the driving forces behind the app's development. If you haven't done so already check it out.

I am persuaded that the tablet environment offers serious chess options for the tournament player. Perhaps in the early days (actually I think we're still in the early days!) the apps on offer didn't really compete with those available for their big cousins in the computer world. I don't think this is the case anymore although there is still some work to be done in the database area. If you haven't already done so I recommend that you take the plunge.

Six years ago I wrote my first Letter from the Kingside. The subject of my first column was the inaugural Queenstown Chess Classic. This summer I had the pleasure of attending the third Queenstown event, and while I was only able to attend for a single day I once again came away with a real appreciation of the efforts of



Murray Chandler, Paul Spiller and their team in organising such a wonderful event on NZ soil. In case you didn't hear the news Australian GM Darryl Johansen completed a very successful summer campaign by following up his clear victory in the Australian Championship by taking first place on tie-break in Queenstown.

It was very easy to spend 3 or 4 hours engrossed in the games, appreciating the fighting spirit, witnessing the upsets, feeling the heartbreaks and enjoying the emergence of new Australasian chess talent. The game below is evidence of the last of these.

**Karl Zelesco - Robert W Smith**  
Queenstown Chess Classic 2012

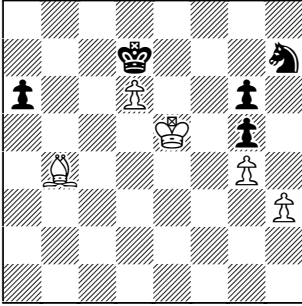
**1.d4** This game was played in the 7th round of the Queenstown Classic, just as things were hotting up. Bob Smith, playing Black, is well known on the Australasian chess scene. A FM with oodles of experience from countless NZ championships and Olympiads he is a tough and very unforgiving opponent. Playing White is 12 year old Australian Junior Karl Zelesco, unknown to me and probably to Bob before the Queenstown event. Rated less than 2000 he would be up against it. **1...Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.d5 e5 4.Nc3 d6 5.e4** Bob's choice of opening, the Schmidt Benoni, is a good one. It is strategically complex, offers lots of play and should enable Bob to generate an unbalanced position where his extra experience and strength will bring him the full point. **5...Be7 6.g3 0-0 7.Bg2 Na6 8.Nf3 Nc7 9.h3 a6** As always in this opening White enjoys a slight edge due to his extra space and easier coordination.

Even so both sides have a range of plans. Black is aiming for the b5 and f5 breaks, the latter perhaps preceded by g6, while White is interested in the mirror-image plans of b4 and f4. Sometimes White expands on the kingside with g4 making the f5 break harder to achieve and to increase his stranglehold on his space advantage. The g4 plan doesn't quite fit so well with the fianchettoed bishop as White would like to have ready access to the g file with one of his rooks. **10.a4 Rb8 11.a5 b5 12.axb6 Rxb6** As in the Modern Benoni when the b5 break is made after White has advanced his a pawn to a5 the queenside structure causes problems for both players. A weak a pawn vs a weak b pawn. **13.0-0 Nfe8 14.Ne1 f5** [14...Bg5 is the logical continuation for a number of reasons. Firstly, the black squared bishop is Black's problem piece and so exchanging it makes perfect sense. Secondly, the opposing bishop plays an important defensive role protecting the backward b pawn, and thirdly, just on general considerations, when your position is cramped exchanging one pair of minor pieces can give your other pieces a bit more air. To prevent the exchange White may continue 15.f4 exf4 16.gxf4 Bf6 17.Nf3 Bxc3 18.bxc3 which leads to a sharp position which would probably suit the more experienced player.] **15.Nd3 Nf6 16.Kh2** [16.exf5 Bxf5 17.f4 Nd7 looks like a more energetic approach for White. By playing f5 without the preparatory g6 Black has been forced to recapture on f5 with a piece and this leaves White access to the e4 square and removes some of the dynamism from Black's position. Even so it is a matter of taste.] **16...fxe4 17.Nxe4 Bf5 18.Qe2 Qe8** White retains just a minimal edge because of his

control of e4 and easier play. The black knight on c7, while doing a sterling job at defending a6, is not well placed and this piece is often a problem for Black in these types of pawn structure. **19.g4 Bxe4 20.Bxe4 Nxe4 21.Qxe4 Qg6?!** This move is very committal, and if Black was wanting to create active counterchances this doesn't seem the best way to do it. The doubled g pawns are of no particular concern at present but they represent a long term weakness that will be difficult to eliminate. **22.Qxg6 hxg6 23.Bd2 e4!?** Perhaps this was the move that Balck was relying on to bring his position alive. It clears the way for the bishop to take up residence on the important a1–h8 diagonal, forces the white knight from its dominant position on d3 and prevents White from advancing his f pawn. Against a young and inexperienced opponent the plan looks to be a good one. The reason I have chosen this game is because of the mature coolness with which Karl plays the remainder of the game. **24.Ba5 Rb7 25.Rfe1!** This looks very dangerous but it is exactly the right move. It seems that Black penetrates to the seventh rank and wins a pawn but the gains are illusory and it is White who gains a positional advantage. Well-played by the youngster! **25...exd3 26.Rxe7 Rxf2+ 27.Kg3 Rf7 28.Rxf7 Kxf7 29.Bc3** White is a pawn down and it will be some time before he regains it but his position is dominant because of the superiority of his minor piece, activity of his king, and the weakness of the black pawns. **29...g5 30.Kf3 Rb8 31.Ke3 Rh8 32.Rf1+ Kg6 33.Rf3** A nice finesse. White's advantage is growing. While Black lacks a solid plan White can look to pressurise the weak Black pawns. But having said that would I

expect a 12 year old ranked less than 2000 to have the skill to defeat a 2250 player in this position? To be honest my feeling at the time was no. **33...Ne8 34.Ba5 Nf6 35.Bc7 d2 36.Kxd2 Rc8 37.Ba5 Re8 38.Re3** Black is squirming and trying to get active but now the rooks will come off and the dominance of the bishop over the knight becomes even more pronounced. Black is now in hot water. **38...Kf7 39.Rxe8 Kxe8 40.Kd3 Nd7 41.b4 [41.Bc3 g6 42.Ke4 Kf8 is an alternative that keeps Black tied down, but the breakthrough is still some time away. White's choice aims to generate a passed pawn as quickly as possible and give the bishop even more scope for its operations.] 41...cxb4 42.Bxb4 Ke7 43.Kd4** Black's defence is now very tricky. The bishop has a range of squares from which to target the weak pawns on d6 and g5, and Black is busy protecting the pawns and trying to prevent White from making the c5 advance. **43...Nf6?! 44.Bd2 Nh7** I can't quite convince myself that placing the knight on h7 to protect the g5 pawn is the right plan. The knight does a fine job on d7 controlling e5 and c5 and perhaps the king was better placed to lend support to g5. Without the doubled g pawns Black would probably hold this ending without too much trouble, but the extra weakness is one too many. **45.Ke4 g6 46.Kd4 Kd7 47.c5 dxc5+ 48.Kxc5 Nf6 49.Kd4 Kd6 50.Bb4+ Kd7 51.Ke5** White is playing very precisely. He has created the passed pawn and brought his king to a dominant square to support its advance and target the kingside pawns. **51...Nh7 52.Ba5 Ke7 53.Bb4+ Kd7 54.d6**

## Cont from page 22



[At the time I thought that finally Karl had thrown away the win. I fancied placing Black in zugzwang as follows in order to force the retreat of the Black king and the penetration of its opposite. But after 54.Ba3 a5 55.Bc5 Ke8 56.Kd6 a4 it's not clear how White makes further progress. The Black knight always seems to be able to return to f6 and d7 at the right moment.] **54...Nf8** While the pawn advance has seemingly compromised White's control of the white squares on c6 and e6 (and prevented the bishop from covering f8) the key is that Black cannot prevent the white king penetrating to the kingside pawns. **55.Kf6 Ne6 56.Kxg6 Nf4+ 57.Kxg5 Nxb3+ 58.Kf5 a5 59.Ba3** What an mature positional display by the young Australian! I am very impressed. And in case you thought this might be a once only performance, two rounds later, in the final round, Karl defeated another kiwi international, Stephen Lukey. **1-0**

(and surely it has been said before): there is no Strategy so good that it can resist bad Tactics!] **30...Nxe5** Grabbing the pawn, defending his own Rook and therefore threatening at the same time my Rook and my Knight! **31.Nc5+** I was very lucky to have this check! **31...Bxc5 32.Qxe5 Bd6 33.Qe2 Ng3 34.Qg4 Ne4 35.Qg2 Qh8 36.Rh3 Bxh2?!** [36...Rf8 looks much better] **37.Rxh2 Nd6 38.Qe2 Qg8** Here my opponent offered a draw. I rejected on the base that my coming up **g** passed Pawn would give me reasonable chances **39.Qe5 Rf8 40.Re1 Re7 41.Qg5 Nf5 42.Rhe2 Ree8 43.Qg2 Nh4 44.Qg4 Nf3 45.Rh1 e5 46.h6 gxh6 47.Rxh6 Rf6 48.Rg2 Qe6** Its quite comprehensible that Black doesn't want his Queen as the blocking piece of Pawn **g7** but after swapping the Queens White is becoming comfortable again **49.Qxe6 Rfxe6 50.g7 Rxh6 51.Bxh6 Rg8 52.Rg6** And white has the edge **52...Nh2** [Stopping 53.Rf6 because of 53...Ng4; 52...Nd4 53.Rf6 Nc6 54.Rf7! and the White Bishop is ready to come to f6. 54...e4 fails because of 55.Bf4] **53.c3 c6??** Black's turn to blunder! But life is not easy for him now. The king's path as follows will force e4 and many weaknesses will appear: e.g. [53...c5 54.Kc2 a5 55.Kd1 a4 56.Ke2 e4 Now forced because of the 57.Rg2 threat 57.Ke3 end the King comes in] **54.Rf6** and black resigned, **1-0**. 54...Ng4 55.Rf7+ etc.

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