

# ***New Zealand Chess***

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Volume 40 Number 3



- The Trusts Open -      Also**
- **Oceania Senior Championship,**
  - **Oceania Zonal in Fiji,**
  - **Auckland CC Weekender... and more**

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Please send all reports, letters and other contributions to the Editor at [bill@nzchessmag.com](mailto:bill@nzchessmag.com).

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Editor: Bill Forster

Proofreader: Martin Sims

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New Zealand Chess Federation (Inc)

PO Box 216, Shortland Street, Auckland

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## **Double Celebration**

On the cover: WFM Viv Smith (left) and Linda Cooper, Waitakere Licensing Trust President, cut a cake at the 36th Trusts

Open to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Waitakere Chess Club. Viv was awarded the New Zealand Order of Merit in the Queen's Birthday Honours for services to chess. An article about her many contributions will feature in a future issue, after the investiture.

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## The 36<sup>th</sup> Trusts Open – *by FM Bob Smith*

**F**inding the perfect chess venue is a little like Speights' southern man's search for love ("She's a hard road finding the perfect woman boy!").

36 years after starting the Trusts Open (formerly the Waitakere Licensing Trust Open) I thought I had cracked it. The up-market Trusts Stadium in West Auckland looked like being the ultimate venue.

Two years after funding requirements forced us out of the Lincoln Green Motor Hotel (now the Quality Hotel Lincoln Green), the Stadium promised plenty of space in carpeted rooms for tournament games and analysis.

For the first time in many years there was also ample room for New Zealand Chess Supplies to sell their wares. As an added touch I was aiming to broadcast the five top games live on the internet, and to show the first three boards live on closed circuit monitors.

But, as the saying goes, the best laid plans of mice and men... more on that later.

A reduction in funding forced the host club, Waitakere, to reduce the prize-fund slightly this year, but at \$6000 it was still way ahead of most other New Zealand tournaments and easily qualified as a Super Class event in the Myer Tan Grand Prix.



For the first time the tournament was also part of the Yulgilbar Think Big Oceania Grand Prix.

As always, the promise of six hard games, plenty of Grand Prix points and a healthy prize fund attracted many of the country's top players.

Jetting in from Wellington was current New Zealand Champion Scott Wastney

But his journey was nothing compared to that of FM Luke Li, who flew all the way from his new hometown, Melbourne.

Other top ten players included defending champion FM Ben Hague, International Master Paul Garbett, tournament organiser FM Bob Smith and NM Leonard McLaren. In all, 105 players competed in separate A, B, C and Junior tournaments – a slight increase on last year.

## The Opening

**The first round** produced a few hiccups, notably Wastney conceding a draw to David Evans and Smith letting an easy win slip against Caleb Wright. But the biggest shock was Don Eade's win over John Duneas (rating difference 267), for which he received one of the three \$10 upset prizes awarded each round.

**In round two** some of the less fancied players started to show good form. Nathan Goodhue held Garbett to a draw, while Chris Burns also took a half point off McLaren. Of the 36 players in the A tournament, only three had full points after just two rounds – Hague, Luke Li and Hans

Gao.

**After round three** the \$150 bonus offered for six wins was safe already. Hague and Li played out a careful draw, while Garbett comfortably beat Gao. This meant Hague, Li and Garbett were joined in the lead on 2.5/3 by three other players.

Burns continued his good form by beating Noel Pinic. McLaren outplayed Goodhue, and Smith found a crushing tactic against Jeffrey McCrone.

## The Middlegame

**It was Saturday afternoon** when dreams of the perfect venue were rudely shattered. Despite promises that the stadium would be quiet over Queen's Birthday Weekend, some casual basketballers took to the courts below with a boom box.

All attempts at persuasion failed (perhaps chess players aren't tough enough?), so everyone had to grin – or grimace? - and bear it. Despite the noise one player who did keep his focus was Ben Hague, who beat Smith in a game which earned the \$100 Best Game prize, judged by Grandmaster Murray Chandler.

Others who appeared to relish the racket were Burns, who added to Gao's misery, and Duneas, who beat Huang. Goodhue also kept up with the pace with a win over Wright. Meanwhile Wastney and Garbett fought to a standstill, and Li and McLaren blocked up the board for a draw.

Leading scores after round four: Hague 3.5, Burns, Duneas, Wastney, McLaren, Li,

Garbett 3.

**On a somewhat quieter Monday morning** Hague dispatched Burns without appearing to raise a sweat. Duneas continued to make the most of his Swiss gambit, beating Roger Perry. Goodhue also stayed in the picture with a win over McCrone. McLaren and Wastney drew, as did Li and Garbett. Smith bounced back with a good win over Helen Milligan.

## The Endgame

Going into the final round, Hague was the clear leader on 4.5/5, with Duneas on 4. Half a point further back were Burns, McLaren, Li, Smith, Wastney, Garbett and Goodhue.

So a lot depended on the vagaries of FIDE's favourite new pairing system, Vega, which often seems to be like spinning a roulette wheel!

For most players in the leading bunch Burns or Goodhue would have been the desired opponents. Garbett did indeed get Burns, which on paper looked like a mismatch. But Goodhue was somehow paired down to Scott Yang, who was a further half point back on 3 points.

Hague drew the peaceably minded Duneas, who perhaps couldn't believe his luck after playing no-one in the top 15 in the previous five rounds. Meanwhile Smith was paired with McLaren and Wastney got Li.

For the accountants the interesting maths was that for those on 3.5 a win was worth up to \$500, while a draw or loss was

probably worth nothing.

The top board played out according to predictions – at least those of the writer! The tournament rules meant that Hague and Duneas couldn't agree a draw before 30 moves. But they solved that problem with true Kiwi ingenuity (Ben is a Kiwi now) by simply repeating the position ten times (!) before halving the point.

Burns caused perhaps the upset of the tournament with a good win over Garbett – showing that he's been working very hard on his calculating ability. Goodhue made the most of his fortuitous pairing with a relatively easy victory over Yang.

But as you might expect Wastney against Li and Smith versus McLaren were ding-dong battles. After a hard fought 71 moves Wastney and Li agreed a draw. But that was nothing compared to Smith-McLaren, which lasted 119 moves over five hours and held up the prize-giving. Eventually Smith claimed the draw in a rook against rook and knight endgame, leaving both players empty-handed.

## The Outcome

So Ben Hague successfully defended his title with 5/6 and earned \$900 – plus another \$100 for the best game.

Sharing second, and winning \$500 each, were the less fancied Burns, Duneas, and Goodhue. Half a point behind, McLaren, Li, Smith and Wastney could only lament the vagaries of Vega and hope fortune smiled on them next time.

The B Tournament for players under 1800 was won by Leo Zhu, with 5.5/6, followed on 5 by Byron Lam, one of three players whose requests to play in the A Tournament were declined. The other two ambitious fellows were Hao Jia and Johnson Li. Jia shared third on 4/5 with Leighton Nicholls, Harry Cui and Waitakere Chess Club President John Francis, while Li tied for seventh on 3.5.

The C Tournament (Under 1500) was won by local player Jordan Lewis with 5/6, a victory that as former coaches, my wife Viv and I can perhaps take some pride in. Lewis finished half a point ahead of Tony Wang and Arvin Lim, son of noted player Ben, who won the Grade One prize in the A Tournament.

Finally, the Junior Tournament (Under 12 and under 1200) was taken out by Darrick

### A Grade Crosstable

Pos	NAME	Rtg	T	Pts	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Hague, Ben	2416	FM	5.0	+W24	+B14	=W6	+B7	+W2	=B3
2	Burns, Christopher J	2098	--	4.5	+B30	=W5	+B10	+W11	-B1	+W9
3	Duneas, John	2184	--	4.5	-B29	+W25	+B27	+W18	+B17	=W1
4	Goodhue, Nathan	2151	--	4.5	+B34	=W9	-B5	+W23	+B16	+W14
5	McLaren, Leonard J	2319	NM	4.0	+W28	=B2	+W4	=B6	=W8	=B7
6	Li, Luke (Zuhao)	2375	--	4.0	+B19	+W18	=B1	=W5	=B9	=B8
7	Smith, Robert W	2325	FM	4.0	=B23	+W15	+B16	-W1	+B13	=W5
8	Wastney, Scott	2453	FM	4.0	=B15	+W26	+B17	=W9	=B5	=W6
9	Garbett, Paul A	2334	IM	3.5	+W22	=B4	+W11	=B8	=W6	-B2
10	Pinic, Noel	2225	--	3.5	=W35	+B21	-W2	=B15	+W12	=B11
11	Gao, Hans	2261	--	3.5	+B27	+W29	-B9	-B2	+W24	=W10
12	Lim, Benjamin U	2117	--	3.5	=B25	=W23	+B29	=W13	-B10	+W19
13	Milligan, Helen	2040	WFM	3.5	=W32	+B31	=W14	=B12	-W7	+B26
14	Yang, Scott	2156	--	3.0	+W20	-W1	=B13	=W19	+B27	-B4
15	Evans, David J	2016	--	3.0	=W8	-B7	+W21	=W10	-B19	+W23
16	McCrone, Jeffrey	2098	--	3.0	=W31	+B32	-W7	+B26	-W4	=B20
17	Perry, Roger L	2119	--	3.0	=W21	+B35	-W8	+B30	-W3	=B22
18	Huang, Alex	2112	--	3.0	+W36	-B6	+W34	-B3	=W20	=B21
19	Li, William (Xiang W	2001	--	3.0	-W6	+B36	=W30	=B14	+W15	-B12
20	Hair, Philip I	1901	--	3.0	-B14	=B24	=W31	+W28	=B18	=W16
21	Gilmour, Mark	1888	--	3.0	=B17	-W10	-B15	+B35	+W31	=W18
22	Marko, Helmut S	1968	CM	3.0	-B9	-W34	+B36	=W25	+B32	=W17
23	Wright, Caleb	1966	--	2.5	=W7	=B12	=W26	-B4	+W30	-B15
24	Power, P Wayne	2008	--	2.5	-B1	=W20	=B25	+W32	-B11	=W27
25	Ang, Alphaeus WeiErn	1878	--	2.5	=W12	-B3	=W24	=B22	=W33	=W28
26	Gong, Daniel	1800	--	2.5	+W33	-B8	=B23	-W16	+B29	-W13
27	Runcan, Daniel I	1927	--	2.5	-W11	+B33	-W3	+B34	-W14	=B24
28	Zhang, William Jiewe	1950	--	2.5	-B5	-W30	+W33	-B20	+W34	=B25
29	Eade, Don	1917	--	2.0	+W3	-B11	-W12	=B31	-W26	=B30
30	Gautam, Asheesh	1825	--	2.0	-W2	+B28	=B19	-W17	-B23	=W29
31	Lyall, Simon	1824	--	2.0	=B16	-W13	=B20	=W29	-B21	=W35
32	Robinson, Will	1842	--	2.0	=B13	-W16	+W35	-B24	-W22	=B33
33	Tanoi, T Edward	2096	--	2.0	-B26	-W27	-B28	+W36	=B25	=W32
34	Martin-Buss, Sean	1892	--	1.5	-W4	+B22	-B18	-W27	-B28	=W36
35	Liu, Brian	1925	--	1.5	=B10	-W17	-B32	-W21	=B36	=B31
36	Yao, Winston Yow-Jen	1862	--	1.0	-B18	-W19	-W22	-B33	=W35	=B34

Pan, who conceded just one draw to runner-up Jack Sun. Clear third was Brijesh Sivabalan.

## The Conclusion

Once again many thanks are due to the West Auckland Trusts and the Trusts Community Foundation for their support.

Waitakere Licensing Trusts President Linda Cooper opened the tournament and presented the prizes.

She also helped to cut a cake celebrating the Waitakere Chess Club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary (see the cover picture). Later on Monday evening past and present members gathered for a special dinner to mark the occasion.

The club also had something else to celebrate during the tournament: the award of a Queen's Service Medal to Life Member Viv Smith in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Overall, it was a successful tournament which I hope everyone enjoyed. After some teething problems, the DGT boards and television monitors provided chess fans on-site and on the net with blow by blow coverage of the top boards.

And, as usual, there were no disputes, making for a relaxed weekend for experienced arbiters FA Bruce Pollard and FA Keong Ang.

The only negative was the round four racket. As organiser, I apologised to all players during the event for the unforeseen noise. Anyone who knows me knows that I

am big fan of good playing conditions. The search is on for the perfect venue for the 37<sup>th</sup> Trusts Open.

**B Tournament Standings:** Leo Zhu (5.5/6) 1, Byron Lam (5) 2, Hao Jia, Leighton Nicholls, John Francis, Harry Cui (4) 3-6, Johnson Li, Thomas Chen, Viv Smith (3.5) 7-9 ... 24 players.

**C Tournament Standings:** Jordan Lewis (5/6) 1, Tony Wang, Arvin Lim (4.5) 2-3, Vanya Burduk, Ally Tang, Nicholas Huang, Luke Wang (4) 4-7 ... 26 players

**Junior Tournament Standings:** Darrick Pan (5.5/6) 1, Jack Sun (5) 2, Brijesh Sivabalan (4.5) 3, Justin Mo, Arul Gaundar (4) 4-5 ... 19 players.

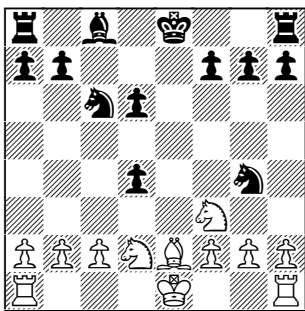


## Smith, Robert W - Hague, Ben

Notes by Ben Hague, with additional commentary by Quentin Johnson from the Otago Daily Times.

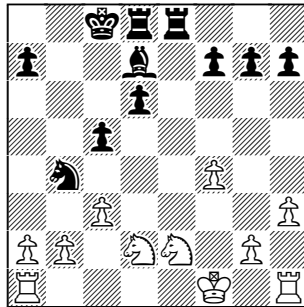
**1.e4 Nc6 2.d4 e5 3.Nf3 exd4 4.Bc4** I was a bit surprised by this. I think the 5...Ng4 line is probably the best for Black, but I

couldn't remember the details and so went in for the safe option on a couple of occasions. **4...Nf6 5.e5 Ng4** QJ: A relative sideline in the Scotch Gambit, Black having earlier failed to entice his opponent into the Nimzovitch Defence. White chooses the most popular response that soon leads to an ending, but sharp alternatives are 6 0-0 and 6 Bxf7+! **6.Qe2 Qe7 7.Bf4 d6** [7...f6 for example is a reasonable attempt to refute White's opening outright.] **8.exd6 Qxe2+ [8...cxd6 and again keeping more tension in the position would be a serious alternative. I just wanted to get developed.] 9.Bxe2 Bxd6 10.Bxd6 cxd6 11.Nbd2?!**



QJ: The normal move here is 11 Na3! with the idea of Nb5xd4 regaining his pawn, while at the same time defending c2 against Black's next move. [11.Na3 This was the move I was concerned about. 11...Be6 (11...a6 12.Rd1 d5 13.Nxd4 is a small, safe edge for White; 11...Nge5 12.Nb5 0-0 13.Nfxd4 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 is a similar edge.) 12.Nb5 d3 13.Bxd3 0-0-0 when again the weakness of the d6 pawn is a concern, but I've got a bit more activity than in the other lines.] **11...Bf5 12.Bb5?!** [12.Nb3!? This gets messy 12...Bxc2 13.Nbxd4 Be4 14.Rd1 Nge5 15.Nb5 Bxf3 16.gxf3 Rd8

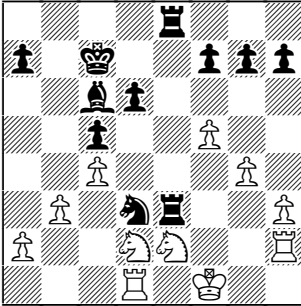
17.Nxd6+ Ke7 and White has regained the pawn at the cost of his structure. Black can press, but it's drawish.] **12...0-0-0** [QJ: Black has an ingenious way of remaining a pawn up 12...Bxc2 13.Nxd4 Bd3! however the simpler option of giving the pawn back retains an edge because White has difficulty fully developing] **13.Bxc6 bxc6 14.Nxd4 Rhe8+ 15.Kf1** Now White's got the pawn back at the expense of activity, which should be more serious. **15...Bd7 16.h3 Ne5 17.f4 c5 18.Ne2** QJ: 17.c5! shows that White's position is vulnerable once the power of the bishop is unleashed. So if here [18.fxe5?! cxd4 19.exd6 Bb5+ 20.Kg1 Re2 21.Rd1 Rxd6 with the idea of 22...d3!] **18...Nc6 19.c3?!** This is the point where I felt I should win (19.a3 looks less natural but I don't see how to stop Kf2, Rhe1, Rad1 when White should hold.) **19...Nb4!**



QJ: A decisive penetration to d3 **20.g4** [20.cxb4 Bb5 21.Re1 Rxe2 22.Rxe2 Re8 23.bxc5 Rxe2 24.Nb3 Rxb2+ 25.Kg1 dxc5 26.Nxc5 Rxa2 is the sort of thing I was aiming for. The a-pawn will be very quick.] **20...Nd3 21.b3 Re3 22.Rh2 Bb5** QJ: Denying the c4 square to the white knight, which would chase his rook from e3. White is reduced to complete passivity, awaiting



the final attack. 23.c4 Bc6 24.f5 Rde8  
25.Rd1 Kc7

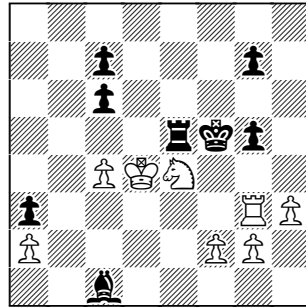


Around here I was trying to find a way to reduce White to complete immobility. His five pieces have four moves between them but I couldn't see a way to reduce that to zero. Instead I have to win prosaically by opening the position up for my more active pieces. 26.Nb1 g6 27.fxg6 fxg6 28.Nbc3 QJ: Most resilient was returning the knight to d2, to protect f3, but after [28.Nd2 h5! followed by 29... Bd7 the white kingside pawns will topple] 28...Rf8+ 29.Kg1 Ne5 QJ: The threat of 30...Nf3+ forces White to give up the h-pawn 30.Rf2 Rxf2 31.Kxf2 Rxb3 32.Ng1 We both thought that [32.Rg1 would get mated, but it appears that it doesn't quite work. White is still lost though. 32...Nd3+ 33.Kf1 Rf3+ 34.Kg2 g5 and the g4 pawn will eventually drop off.; QJ: A blunder in a lost position, as White must also lose the g-pawn after either 32.g5 Rf3+ 33.Kg1 Rf5; or 32.Rg1 g5 followed by 33...Rh4] 32...Rxc3 0-1

Other Games, with light notes by the Editor;

**Evans,David - Wastney,Scott**  
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5

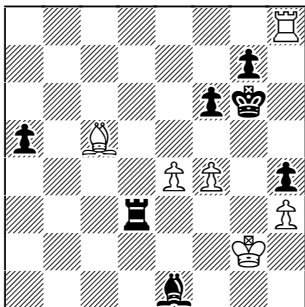
8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Ne7 10.h3 Ng6 11.Bg5+ Ke8 12.Rad1 Bd7 13.Rd2 h6 14.Rfd1 hxg5 15.Rxd7 Bd6 16.e6 Nf8 17.Rxf7 Nxe6 18.Rf5 Rf8 19.Rxf8+ Kxf8 20.Ne4 Be7 21.c3 a5 22.Ne5 Bf6 23.Nd7+ Ke7 24.Ndc5 Nxc5 25.Nxc5 b6 26.Ne4 a4 27.Kf1 a3 28.b3 Ra5 29.c4 Bb2 30.Ke2 Re5 31.Kf3 Rf5+ 32.Ke2 Ke6 33.Rd8 b5 34.Rd3 bxc4 35.bxc4 Ra5 36.Rg3 Re5 37.Kd3 Bc1 38.Kd4 Kf5



After being pressured throughout the game, it's understandable Black should attempt to seize the initiative, but this is too optimistic 39.Rf3+! Bf4 40.g4+ Ke6 41.h4? [Simply 41.Rxa3 is good enough for a big advantage, the game now peters out.] 41...Ra5 42.hxg5 Bxg5 43.Nc5+ Ke7 44.Rf5 Bf6+ 45.Kd3 g6 46.Nb3 Rxf5 47.gxf5 gxf5 48.Nd4 Bxd4 49.Kxd4 Kd6 50.c5+ Ke6 51.f4 Kf6 52.Kc4 Ke6 53.Kd4 Kf6 54.Kc4 Ke6 55.Kd4 Kf6 ½-½

**Eade,Don - Duneas,John**  
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.d3 d6 9.h3 Na5 10.Nbd2 c5 11.c3 Nxb3 12.Nxb3 Bb7 13.Bg5 Re8 14.Nbd2 h6 15.Be3 Bf8 16.Nf1 d5 17.exd5 Qxd5 18.d4 cxd4 19.cxd4 Rac8 20.dxe5 Qxd1 21.Rexd1 Bxf3 22.gxf3 Rxe5 23.Ng3 Rd5 24.Rac1

Rxc1 25.Rxc1 Bd6 26.Ne4 Be5 27.b3  
 Nxe4 28.fxex4 Rd6 29.Rc8+ Kh7 30.Ra8  
 Bc3 31.Bc5 Rd1+ 32.Kg2 a5 33.Ra7 f6  
 34.a3 Rb1 35.a4 Rxb3 36.axb5 Rxb5  
 37.Bf8 Kg8 38.Ba3 Rb3 39.Bd6 Rb2  
 40.Bc5 Bb4 41.Bd4 Rd2 42.Bb6 Ra2  
 43.Kg3 Kh7 44.f4 h5 45.Bd4 Be1+ 46.Kf3  
 Kh6 47.Ra8 Ra3+ 48.Kg2 Rd3 49.Rh8+  
 Kg6 50.Bc5 h4



Black's extra pawn should be the most important factor, but.... 51.f5+ Kf7?? 52.Rf8# 1-0

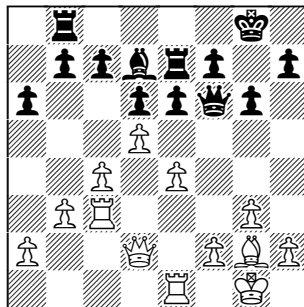
### Garbett,Paul - Gao,Hans

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 d6 5.Nf3  
 0-0 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Nc3 a6 8.b3 Rb8 9.Nd5  
 e6 10.Nxf6+ Bxf6 11.Bh6 Re8 12.Rc1 Bd7  
 13.d5 Ne5 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.Qd2 Bg7  
 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.e4 Qf6 18.Rc3 Re7  
 19.Re1 Kg8

### *Don't forget*

You can play through all the material  
 onscreen through our website

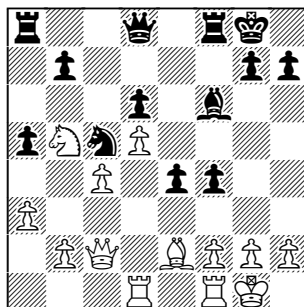
[www.nzchessmag.com](http://www.nzchessmag.com)



20.e5! dxe5 21.d6 Winning material  
 21...cxd6 22.Qxd6 e4!? 23.Qxb8+ Re8  
 24.Qxb7 Qxc3 25.Qxe4 e5 26.Qe3 Qc2  
 27.Qe2 Qc3 28.Rd1 Bf5 29.Qd2 Qd4  
 30.Qxd4 exd4 31.Bf1 Bg4 32.Rxd4 Bf3  
 33.Rd3 Bg4 34.Re3 Rd8 35.Bd3 Kg7  
 36.f3 1-0

### McCrone,Jeffrey - Smith,Robert

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6  
 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.Bg5 Nbd7  
 9.0-0 Be7 10.Nd5 Bxd5 11.exd5 0-0 12.c4  
 a5 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Nd2 Nc5 15.Qc2 Bg5  
 16.Nb1 f5 17.Nc3 e4 18.Nb5 Bf6 19.Rad1  
 f4 20.a3

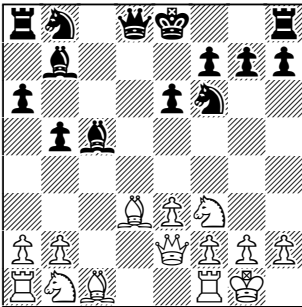


20...f3! 21.g3 [if 21.gxf3 Be5! with a  
 decisive attack] 21...fxe2 22.Qxe2 a4 23.f3  
 exf3 24.Rxf3 Be5 25.Rdf1 Qe7 26.Kg2

Rxf3 27.Rxf3 Rf8 28.Re3 Qf6 29.h4 Bxb2  
 30.Nxd6 Bd4 31.Ne8 Qf1+ 32.Qxf1 Rxf1  
 33.Re2 Rb1 34.Re7 Kf8 35.d6 Rd1  
 36.Nc7 Bf6 37.Ne6+ Nxe6 38.Rxe6 Kf7  
 39.Re4 Rxd6 40.c5 Rd4 41.Re2 Rc4  
 42.Rd2 Ke7 43.Rd6 Rc3 44.g4 Rxa3 0-1

### Hague, Ben - Burns, Chris

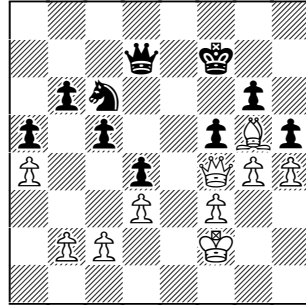
1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 dxc4 4.e3 e6  
 5.Bxc4 c5 6.0-0 a6 7.Qe2 b5 8.Bd3 Bb7  
 9.dxc5 Bxc5



10.Bxb5+ Nbd7 11.Bd3 0-0 12.e4 Qc7  
 13.Nc3 Ng4 14.h3 Nge5 15.Bf4 Nxf3+  
 16.Qxf3 Ne5 17.Qg3 Bd6 18.Rac1 Nf3+  
 19.Qxf3 Bxf4 Apparently a case of  
 premature resignation. Nd5 looks good at  
 first glance, but black can give up the  
 queen for two rooks [19...Bxf4 20.Nd5  
 Qxc1 21.Rxc1 Bxc1=] 1-0

### Goodhue, Nathan - Garbett, Paul

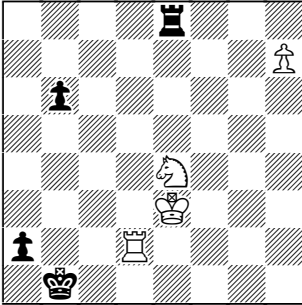
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Nc3 a6 4.a4 Nc6 5.g3  
 d5 6.Bg2 Nf6 7.exd5 exd5 8.0-0 d4  
 9.Re1+ Be7 10.Ne4 0-0 11.Nxf6+ Bxf6  
 12.d3 Be6 13.Bf4 Bd5 14.Ne5 Bxe5  
 15.Bxe5 Re8 16.Bf4 Qd7 17.Qh5 Bxg2  
 18.Kxg2 b6 19.Bd2 g6 20.Qg5 a5 21.Qf6  
 Re6 22.Rxe6 Qxe6 23.Qf3 f5 24.Re1 Qd7  
 25.Bg5 Rf8 26.h4 h5 27.Qf4 Kf7 28.f3  
 Re8 29.Rxe8 Kxe8 30.Kf2 Kf7 31.g4



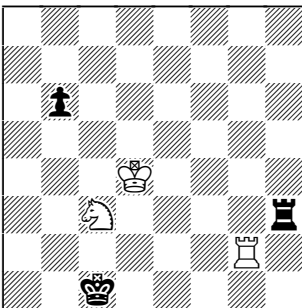
31...Ke6! Black is close to zugwang, but  
 fortunately has some safe king moves  
 32.gxf5+ gxf5 33.Qg3 Qg7 34.Qh2 Ne5  
 35.Qh1 Qb7 36.Qd1 Qd5 37.Qe2 Kf7  
 38.Bf4 Kf6 39.Bg5+ ½-½

### McLaren, Leonard - Goodhue, Nathan

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4  
 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bb4  
 9.Qd2 Nc5 10.Bd3 Nxd3+ 11.cxd3 Bd7  
 12.a3 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Ba5 14.0-0 Bb6  
 15.Bxb6 Qxb6+ 16.d4 0-0 17.f5 f6  
 18.fxe6 Qxe6 19.exf6 Rxf6 20.Rxf6 gxf6  
 21.Re1 Qd6 22.Qh6 Bf5 23.Rf1 Bg6  
 24.Qf4 Qxf4 25.Rxf4 Kg7 26.Nxd5 Rc8  
 27.Nc3 Rc6 28.d5 Rb6 29.Rd4 Bf5 30.b4  
 Kf7 31.Kf2 a5 32.b5 Rd6 33.g4 Bg6  
 34.Ke3 h5 35.gxh5 Bxh5 36.Ne4 Rd8  
 37.Nc5 b6 38.Na4 Rd6 39.Nb2 Rd8  
 40.Nc4 Rb8 41.Nd6+ Ke7 42.Nf5+ Kd7  
 43.Ng3 Bg6 44.Rg4 Bb1 45.Rg7+ Kd6  
 46.Rf7 Kxd5 47.Rxf6 Ke5 48.a4 Bc2  
 49.Rc6+ Kb4 50.Rxc2 Kxa4 51.Rb2 Ka3  
 52.Rb1 Rh8 53.Nf1 Ka2 54.Rd1 Rh5  
 55.Rd2+ Kb1 56.Ng3 Rxb5 57.h4 a4  
 58.h5 a3 59.h6 a2 60.h7 Re5+ 61.Ne4 Re8



This ending features two study-like situations 1) **62.h8Q?** This leads to a theoretical draw. White's last pawn is too precious to be surrendered like this. Instead White can neutralise the 'a' pawn and retain the 'h' pawn 62.Kd3! Rd8+ (62...a1Q 63.Nc3+ Kc1 64.Rc2# is a recurrent theme) 63.Kc4 b5+ (63...Rxd2 64.Nxd2+ and 65.h8Q wins) 64.Kb3 a1N+ 65.Kb4 Rf8 66.Rh2 Rh8 67.Nd6 wins **62...Rxb8 63.Nc3+ Kc1 64.Nxa2+ Kb1 65.Nc3+ Kc1 66.Rg2 Rh3+ 67.Kd4**

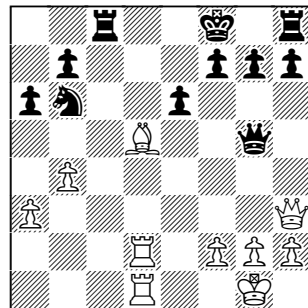


2) Normally R+N v R is a draw but here Black's immobilised king means his position is critical. If White can defend c2 with his king, then Rc2 is mate. For this reason the b pawn is a 'false friend' because it enables the white king to reach the key

b3 square without being checked away from behind. **67...Rh4+?** The only saving move is 67...b5! Taking the pawn at any time spoils White's idea, but in the meantime the path to b3 is blocked off. **68.Kd3 Rh3+ 69.Kc4 Rh4+ 70.Kb3 1-0**

### Burns,Chris - Garbett,Paul

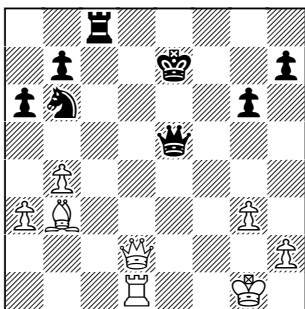
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c3 Nf6 4.e5 Nd5 5.a3 d6 6.d4 cxd4 7.cxd4 Bd7 8.Bd3 Bc6 9.0-0 Nd7 10.Re1 Rc8 11.b4 a6 12.Ra2 dxe5 13.dxe5 N7b6 14.Ng5 Be7 15.Qh5 Bxg5 16.Bxg5 Qd7 17.Rd2 Ba4 18.Qg4 Bb5 19.Be4 Kf8 20.Qh3 Bc6 21.Nc3 Qc7 22.Red1 Qxe5 23.Nxd5 Bxd5 24.Bxd5 Qxg5



**25.f4! Qxf4? 26.Bxe6!** Chris lands some powerful blows in this phase of the game. Note the preparatory 25.f4 deprives Black of a Qxd2 back rank trick here. **26...Rc1! 27.Qd3 Rxd1+ 28.Rxd1 Ke7 29.Bxf7!** Black's king is fatally exposed **29...Rc8 30.g3 Qe5 31.Bb3 g6 32.Qd2**

### Stop Press

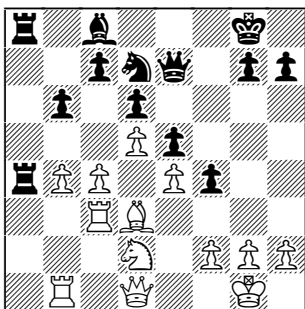
Layla Timergazi and Leo Zhang joint winners of NZ Junior Rapid Champs



32...Kf8 33.Qf2+ Finally picking up extra material 33...Kg7 34.Qxb6 Rc3 35.Bd5 Rxa3 36.Qd4 Qxd4+ 37.Rxd4 b6 38.Rd2 Ra1+ 39.Kf2 Rb1 40.Rd4 Rb2+ 41.Kg1 a5 42.bxa5 bxa5 43.Ra4 Rb5 44.Bc6 Rc5 45.Be4 Kf6 46.Kf2 h6 47.Ke3 h5 48.Rd4 g5 49.Rd5 Rc3+ 50.Kd4 Ra3 51.Rf5+ Ke6 52.Rxg5 h4 53.g4 Rh3 54.Rxa5 Rxh2 55.Ra6+ Kf7 56.Ke5 h3 57.Ra7+ Kg8 58.Kf6 Rf2+ 59.Bf5 1-0

### Duneas, John - Hague, Ben

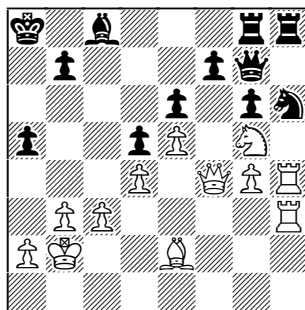
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Qe7 5.e3 b6 6.Bd3 Bb7 7.Nc3 Bxc3 8.Bxc3 Ne4 9.Rc1 d6 10.0-0 Nd7 11.Qe2 0-0 12.Nd2 Nxc3 13.Rxc3 e5 14.d5 f5 15.e4 f4 16.b4 a5 17.a3 axb4 18.axb4 Ra4 19.Rb1 Rfa8 20.Qd1 Bc8



21.Bc2 R4a7 22.Bd3 Ra4 23.Bc2 R4a7 24.Bd3 Ra4 25.Bc2 R4a7 26.Bd3 Ra4 27.Bc2 R4a7 28.Bd3 Ra4 29.Bc2 R4a7 30.Bd3 Ra4 31.Bc2 Five repetitions so as to get to move 30 apparently ½-½

### Goodhue, Nathan - Yang, Scott

1.b3 d5 2.Bb2 Nd7 3.d4 c5 4.e3 e6 5.Bd3 Ngf6 6.Nd2 g6 7.f4 h5?! 8.Ngf3 Bg7 9.Ne5 Nxe5 10.fxe5 Ng4 11.Qf3 Bd7 12.h3 Nh6 13.g3 Qg5 14.0-0-0 cxd4 15.exd4 0-0-0 16.Kb1 Bc6 17.Qf2 Nf5 18.Nf1 Kb8 19.Bc1 Qe7 20.c3 Rd7 21.Nh2 Rc7 22.Nf3 Bh6?! 23.Bxh6 Nxb6 24.g4 hxg4 25.hxg4 Rcc8 26.Qg3 a6 27.Rh2 Bd7 28.Kb2 Rcg8 29.Rdh1 Qf8 30.Ng5 Ka7 31.Qf4 Qg7 32.Rh4 a5 33.R1h3 Bc8 34.Qf6 Qf8 35.Qf4 Qg7 36.Be2 Ka8



37.Qf6! Qf8 38.Qf4? [38.Nf3! Threatening g5 and winning material because 38...Nxg4 fails to 39.Qxh8 Rxh8 40.Rxh8 winning the Bc8] 38...Qg7 39.Qh2 f6 40.Rxh6 Rxh6 41.Rxh6 fxe5 42.Rh7 Qf8 43.Bd3 Rg7 44.Rh8 Rg8 45.Rxg8 Qxg8 46.Qh6 Qd8 47.Qxg6 Bd7 48.Qf6 Qxf6 49.exf6 Be8 50.Bb5 Bf7 51.c4 Kb8 52.c5 Kc7 53.Ka3 b6 54.b4 axb4+ 55.Kxb4 Kb7 56.cxb6 Kxb6 57.a4 Kb7 58.Kc5 Kc7 59.a5 Kb7 60.Kd6 Kb8 61.Ke7 1-0

# NZ Chess History

**Charles William Benbow 1842-1908**

The editor has received some interesting correspondence from Eduardo Bauzá Mercére of New York. Whilst browsing in the archives of the New York public library, Eduardo stumbled on some 19<sup>th</sup> century New Zealand chess. More about that in a moment. Eduardo describes his limited previous interest in New Zealand chess;

“I am from Argentina, but have lived in New York for almost 30 years now. Logically, I’m mainly interested in Latin American and (North) American chess.

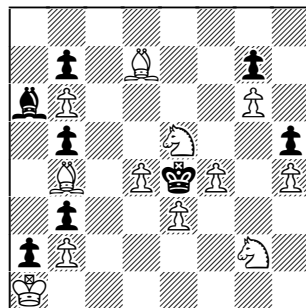
The only connection I can think with NZ chess is that at the Buenos Aires Olympiad of 1978, in the first round, I was the arbiter to the West Germany-NZ match. A very chaotic day, the round started late, but a very calm Hübner took care of Sarapu in the adjournment, and Unzicker beat Chandler by doubling rooks in the seventh. No recollection about the other two boards.”

It's not every day that the two most accomplished players in NZ history front up against two genuinely world class players. It's worth looking up this match in the database, all four games were interesting. Unfortunately it was not one of our giant killing days, the other games were Vernon Small 0-1 Hans Joachim Hecht and Otto Borik 1-0 Peter Stuart.

The historical games Eduardo found all featured an interesting figure from the early

days of chess in New Zealand, Charles William Benbow 1842-1908. Benbow was born in the UK and came to New Zealand in 1875 where he was a significant figure in New Zealand chess for the rest of his life. Due to just a few games just before leaving the UK Benbow appears in the “Edo Historical Ratings” online database, which calculates his peak rating as 2112, (good enough for a world ranking of 133 in 1873!). That doesn't sound very impressive, but may be due to tiny sample size. A counter-indication is a drawn two game mini-match (two draws) with the great German master von der Lasa who visited Wellington in 1887. At his peak (admittedly many years earlier) von der Lasa was one of the very best players in the world. (peak Edo Historical Rating 2690 in 1851!).

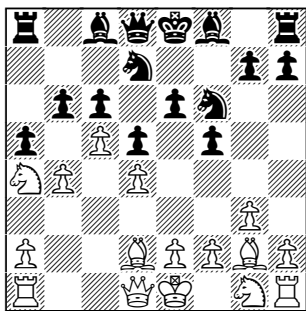
Another string to Benbow's bow was problem composition. Here is a mate in 6, published in the 1876 (solution at end of article).



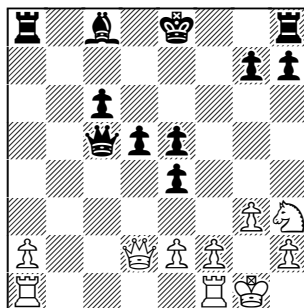
Eduardo located two Benbow games in a pair of chess columns in the American periodical *Turf, Farm and Field* from 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March 1880. The games were from a three game correspondence match (one win, one loss, one draw) with Henry Charlick of Adelaide. Although the column was edited by the famous master Captain George Mackenzie, it appears that the annotations are lifted from earlier publication in the London based *Field* magazine. Here is Benbow's win, with the original annotations.

### Charlick, Henry - Benbow, Charles William

**1.d4 f5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e6 4.g3 c6 5.Bg2 d5 6.c5** An ill-considered move, which immediately gets White into trouble: b3 was the correct play. **6...b6** The proper reply, giving Black a decided superiority. **7.b4 a5** Ed: Mike Steadman has often told me there is nothing a Dutch player likes better than playing b6 and a5 against the premature c5 and b4. "As soon as I see c5 I know I am playing a mug" is the inimitable Steadman phrasing. **8.Na4 Nbd7 9.Bd2 Qb3** would have saved the pawn for the time, though White would still have been left with an inferior game.

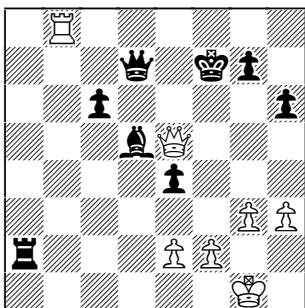


**9...axb4** Black now forces a pawn very ingeniously, and obtains also a great advantage in position. **10.Bxb4 bxc5 11.dxc5 Nxc5 12.Nxc5 Bxc5 13.Bxc5 Qa5+ 14.Qd2 Qxc5 15.Nh3** White is naturally anxious to bring out his knight, in order castle, and he evidently dare not play in to f3 on account of the reply Ne4. The present move, however greatly increases his difficulties, and it seems to us he should have played as follows [15.Qc1 Qd6 16.Nf3 Ne4 17.Qb2 0-0 18.0-0 with a much better game than he obtains by the line of play adopted.] **15...Ne4 16.Bxc4** Evidently compulsory **16...fxe4 17.0-0 e5**



Black has now practically a won game. **18.Kg2 0-0 19.Rac1 Qd6 20.Ng5** Quite fatal, as the knight cannot now be saved. 20.Ng1 was imperative, bad as it was. (Ed: the rest of the game amounts to a mopping up exercise) **20...Qd7 21.Rc5** He has nothing better. **21...h6 22.Nxe4 Qh3+ 23.Kg1 dxe4 24.Rxe5** He of course dare not take the c pawn, on account of Bb7 followed by e3. [Ed: Houdini points out that after 24.Rxc6 Bb7 white has 25.Qd5+ Kh8 26.Qe6 although he remains lost] **24...Be6 25.Qc3 Bd5** Black has played the whole game with great skill, and now leaves White without the slightest resource.

26.Re7 Rf7 27.Rxf7 Kxf7 28.Rb1 Qc8  
29.Qe5 Rxa2 30.Rb8 Qd7 31.h3



31...e3 32.fxe3 [Of course if 32.Qxe3? Ra1+ followed by Rh1 mate] 32...Be4 33.Qf4+ Qf5 34.Rb7+ Kg6 35.Kf2 Bd3 All this finely played by Black. 36.g4 Rxe2+ 37.Kg3 Qd5 38.Qd4 Black mates in three moves 0-1

Remarkably, Eduardo found yet another Benbow game in an American magazine, an 1880 correspondence win against FC Collins of London, originally published in the Adelaide Observer and republished in the New York Clipper. All three games are available at [www.nzchessmag.com](http://www.nzchessmag.com).

Solution to problem:

1.Bc8 Kd5 2.Bh3 Ke4 3.f5 Kd5 4.Nf4+ Ke4 5.Nd5 Kxd5 6.Bg2#

**2013 Oceania Senior  
Championships  
by Craig Hall**

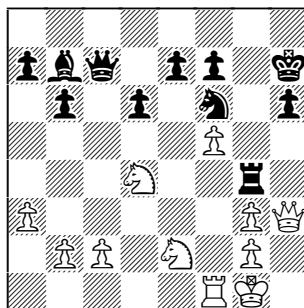
The 2013 Oceania Senior Championships, sponsored by Benson Insurance Brokers and Dancing Water Wines, was one of the most

evenly-contested tournaments an organiser could hope for. Even the relatively small field did not dampen spirits!

The first round largely went to seedings, although Arie Nijman was very lucky to take the whole point as Roy Keeling self-destructed in a drawn position. Viv Smith had a nice win over Paul Glissan.

**Glissan, Paul - Smith, Vivian**

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.f4 Bg7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Bd3 Na6 7.a3 c5 8.Be3 cxd4 9.Bxd4 Nc5 10.0-0 Nxd3 11.Qxd3 b6 12.Rad1 Bb7 13.f5 Rc8 14.Ng5 h6 15.Nf3 gxf5 16.exf5 Qc7 17.Rde1 Rfe8 18.Qd2 Kh7 19.Qf2 Ng4 20.Qh4 Bxd4+ 21.Nxd4 Nf6 22.Re3 Rg8 23.Rg3 Rxd3 24.hxg3 Rg8 25.Nce2 Rg4 26.Qh3



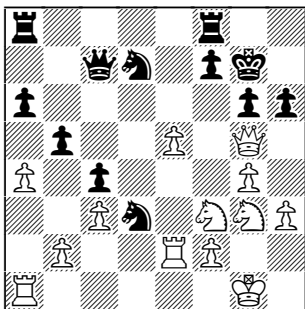
Black has built a harmonious attacking position 26...Qc5 [simpler is 26...Ba6! 27.c3 Qc5 28.Re1 Re4 winning material] 27.Kf2? Rather an eccentric response 27...Ne4+ Black stays on top after this but [27...Rxd4! 28.Nxd4 Qxd4+ 29.Ke2 leads to mate] 28.Ke3 Nf6 29.Rh1 Re4+ 30.Kd2 Rxd4+ 31.Kc1 Ng8 32.f6 exf6 33.Nxd4 Qxd4 34.Qh5 Bd5 35.Rd1 Qe3+ 36.Kb1 Be6 37.Rxd6 Qe1+ 38.Rd1 0-1



The second round saw David Lovejoy take the lead as the only player on 2/2 after a nice win over Tony Booth. Nijman and Helen Milligan traded down to an opposite-colour Bishop ending, Paul Glissan rebounded from his round one loss with a win over Bruce Dellaca, and Bruce Gloistein beat Keeling.

### Lovejoy,David – Booth,Anthony

Short notes to games by the Editor  
 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6  
 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Be7 7.Re1 0-0 8.d3 d6  
 9.c3 Bg4 10.Be3 Na5 11.Bc2 c5 12.Nbd2  
 Nc6 13.h3 Bh5 14.g4 Bg6 15.a4 Qc7  
 16.d4 c4 17.Bg5 Nd7 18.Bxe7 Nxe7  
 19.Nf1 d5 20.exd5 Nxd5 21.dxe5 Bxc2  
 22.Qxc2 Nf4 23.Qf5 Nd3 24.Re2 g6  
 25.Qg5 Kg7 26.Ng3 h6?

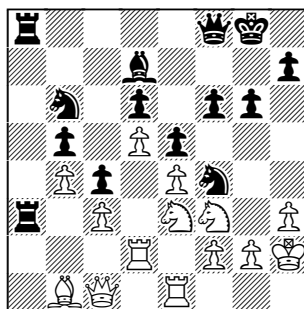


White has an opportunity... 27.Nf5+! Kg8  
 28.Qxh6 gxf5 29.Ng5 Nf6 30.exf6 1-0

The third round saw Milligan hold Lovejoy to a draw as the top two seeds clashed. Nijman joined Lovejoy in the lead with a lucky win over Smith after Smith blundered in a drawn position. Glissan was too good for Keeling, Gloistein beat Booth and Cooper drew with Dellaca (Lovejoy, Nijman 2.5, Milligan, Gloistein, Glissan 2).

### Milligan,Helen - Lovejoy,David

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6  
 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 0-0  
 9.h3 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.d4 Qc7 12.Nbd2  
 Bd7 13.Nf1 Nc4 14.b3 Nb6 15.d5 Ne8  
 16.Ng3 g6 17.Bh6 Ng7 18.Qd2 c4 19.b4  
 a5 20.a3 Ra6 21.Rad1 Bf6 22.Bg5 Bxg5  
 23.Qxg5 f6 24.Qh6 axb4 25.axb4 Ra2  
 26.Bb1 Ra3 27.Qc1 Rfa8 28.Nf1 Qa7  
 29.Ne3 Qb8 30.Re2 Qf8 31.Rdd2 Nh5  
 32.Re1 Nf4 33.Kh2



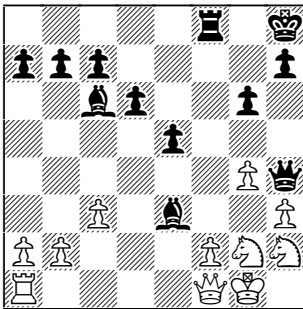
Black has manoeuvred effectively and is clearly on top on both sides of the board 33...R3a7? [Advancing rather than retreating was the right way 33...Qh6! and after for example 34.Ng1 Ra1 (threatening ...Nd3) 35.Red1 White is tied up and moves like ...R8a3, ...Na4, ...Nd3 are still in reserve] 34.Ng1 Qh6 35.Nf1 Rf8 36.Re3 Nc8 37.Ne2 Ne7 38.Bc2 f5 39.Qe1 Nxe2 40.Rex2 f4 41.f3 g5 42.Bd1 g4 43.fxg4 Bxg4 44.Ra2 Rfa8 45.Rxa7 Rxa7 46.Rd2 Bxd1 47.Qxd1 Ng6 48.Qg4 Qf8 49.Rf2 Qe7 50.Kg1 ½-½

The fourth round saw Nijman and Lovejoy draw, allowing Glissan to catch up with a win over Gloistein. Milligan beat Smith to stay close and Cooper beat Booth. Dellaca collected his first win over Keeling

(Nijman, Lovejoy, Glissan 3...)

### Gloistein, Bruce - Glissan, Paul

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nd2 g6 4.Be2 Nc6 5.c3 e5 6.d5 Ne7 7.Ngf3 Bg7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Bd3 Nh5 10.Bc2 Kh8 11.Nc4 Bg4 12.Ne3 Bd7 13.h3 Nf4 14.Ng4 f5 15.Ngh2 fxg4 16.Bxe4 Ng8 17.Qc2 Nf6 18.Bxf4 Nxe4 19.Be3 Nf6 20.g4 Nxd5 21.Rfe1 Nf4 22.Bxf4 Rxf4 23.Re4 Qf6 24.Qe2 Rxe4 25.Qxe4 Bc6 26.Qe3 Rf8 27.Ne1 Bh6 28.Qe2 Qh4 29.Qf1 Be3 30.Ng2



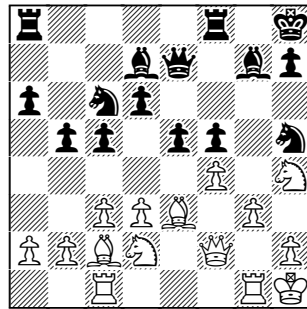
30...Qg3!! The more brutal 30...Rxf2! also wins, but the move played, reminiscent of 23...Qg3!!! in Lewitzky-Marshall Breslau 1912 (possibly the most famous single move in chess history) deserves extra style points. It is rare to see so many simultaneous pins. 0-1

The fifth round was the continuation of Lovejoy and Nijman at the top of the leaderboard as they beat Gloistein and Cooper respectively. Glissan and Milligan drew, Booth beat Keeling and Smith beat Dellaca (Lovejoy, Nijman 4, Milligan, Glissan 3.5...).

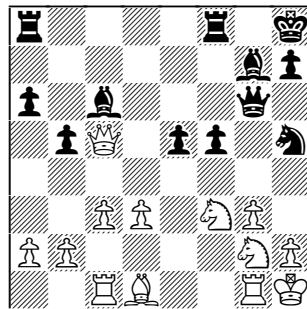
### Gloistein, Bruce - Lovejoy, David

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6

5.d3 b5 6.Bb3 Be7 7.0-0 d6 8.c3 0-0 9.Bg5 Na5 10.Bc2 e5 11.Nbd2 Nc6 12.Re1 Bd7 13.Qe1 Nh5 14.Be3 Bf6 15.Kh1 g6 16.Rg1 Bg7 17.g3 Qe7 18.Nh4 Kh8 19.f4 f5 20.exf5 gxf5 21.Qf2



21...Nd4!? 22.Bd1 Bc6+ 23.Ng2 Qf7? The knight is not safe on d4 indefinitely 24.fxe5 dxe5 Black's position is rather beautiful but with the f4 pawn gone White can now simply play c3xNd4 and remain a piece up! 25.Nf3?? Ne6 Normal service resumes 26.Bxc5 Nxc5 27.Qxc5 Qg6



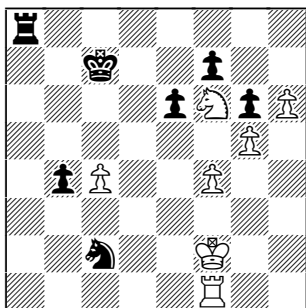
28.Nxe5?? Nxg3+! Mating 29.hxg3 Qh6+ 0-1

Round Six saw Lovejoy, Nijman and Milligan extend their lead over the rest of the field, as they beat Smith, Glissan and

Booth respectively. Dellaca picked up another point with a win over Gloistein and Keeling held Cooper to a draw (Lovejoy, Nijman 5, Milligan 4.5...).

### Nijman,Arie - Glissan,Paul

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Bg5 Bg7 5.Qd2 0-0 6.Bh6 c6 7.Bxg7 Kxg7 8.f3 b5 9.g4 b4 10.Nce2 a5 11.Ng3 Rh8 12.h4 Ba6 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.N1e2 Qc7 15.g5 Nd7 16.h5 c5 17.h6+ Kf8 18.0-0 cxd4 19.Qxd4 Qc5 20.Qxc5 Naxc5 21.f4 e6 22.Rad1 Ke7 23.Rd2 Nb6 24.b3 d5 25.exd5 Nxd5 26.Nd4 Rhc8 27.Re2 Nc3 28.Reel Kd6 29.Nf3 Nxa2 30.Ne5 Rf8 31.Nc4+ Kc7 32.Re5 Nd7 33.Rxa5 Rxa5 34.Nxa5 Nb6 35.Ne4 Ra8 36.Nc4 Nxc4 37.bxc4 Nc3 38.Nf6 Ne2+ 39.Kf2 Nd4 40.Nxh7 Nxc2 41.Nf6



**41...b3** [41...Na3! Controlling the queening square is compulsory] **42.Rb1! Ra2?** Giving up any chance of stopping the h pawn **43.Kf3 b2 44.h7 Na3 45.Rxb2 Rxb2 46.h8Q Rb3+ 47.Ke2 Nxc4 48.Qe8 Nd6 1-0**

The final round came and the battles were fierce. Lovejoy put away Dellaca quickly to assure himself of at least first equal, Milligan beat Cooper and Gloistein gifted Nijman the NZ Senior Championship by losing on time in a won position, much to Milligan's frustration! Smith drew with Keeling and Booth beat Glissan in the final result. It is a measure of the closeness of the top players in the competition that the top three were unbeaten and the fifth(!) tiebreak was required to find the Oceania Senior Champion! Congratulations to David Lovejoy, who intends to attend the World Senior Championship later this year. Arie Nijman finally wins the NZ Senior Championship and Helen Milligan was Oceania Senior Women's Champion.

## Crosstable

Pos	NAME	Rtg	Pts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Lovejoy David	1930	6.0	+B8	+W5	=B3	=W2	+B9	+B6	+W7
2	Nijman Arie J	1824	6.0	+B10	=W3	+B6	=B1	+W8	+W4	+B9
3	Milligan Helen	1978	5.5	+W9	=B2	=W1	+W6	=B4	+W5	+B8
4	Glissan Paul	1850	3.5	-W6	+B7	+W10	+B9	=W3	-B2	-W5
5	Booth Anthony J	1819	3.0	+W7	-B1	-W9	-B8	+W10	-B3	+B4
6	Smith Vivian J	1742	3.0	+B4	=W8	-W2	-B3	+B7	-W1	=W10
7	Dellaca Bruce	1601	2.5	-B5	-W4	=B8	+B10	-W6	+W9	-B1
8	Cooper Nigel	1772	2.5	-W1	=B6	=W7	+W5	-B2	=B10	-W3
9	Gloistein Bruce H	1790	2.0	-B3	+W10	+B5	-W4	-W1	-B7	-W2
10	Keeling Roy L	1648	1.0	-W2	-B9	-B4	-W7	-B5	=W8	=B6

## The Oceania Zonal – by *Paul Spiller*

**F**iji hosted its third Oceania Zonal Chess Championships at the island resort of Sonaisali from May 4<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> under the guidance of its long serving president, Dr Virgilio de Asa. The resort is situated 30 minutes drive north from Nadi airport and is a popular family tourist resort and was an ideal location in which to combine some serious chess with a holiday. The tournament was originally going to be held at the Naviti resort on the Coral Coast (sister hotel to the Warwick which was host for the first Oceania Zonal held in Fiji in 2002), however a major fire at the Naviti late last year meant that a change of venue was necessary.

A total of 38 players entered the Open division and 14 in the Womens which was certainly more than in previous Fiji Zonal events but from my perspective it was somewhat disappointing to only have four kiwis competing and two of these were Bob and Viv Smith, the official New Zealand reps. In contrast 29 entered from Australia including a good proportion of their young talented players including 12 year old Anton Smirnov and Karl Zelesco, 14 year old Ari Dale, 16 year old Justin Tan as well as their slightly older compatriots IM Max Illingworth, Jonas Muller and Blair Mandla. Of particular note was the entry of two players from the Solomon Islands, Danny Lui and Price Tepuke, who represented their country well in what was their first overseas event.

The tournament was officially opened on Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> by the Permanent

Secretary from the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Mr Josefa Sania. It is interesting to note here that chess is given a relatively high profile in Fiji and was given coverage in the local papers as well as featuring on the nightly television sports report. This is largely due to the hard work of the Fiji Chess Federation executive and in particular Dr de Asa who has been the driving force behind Fiji chess for many years.

### Round One

The first major surprise occurred as early as round 1 when Australian junior Oscar Wang (Elo 2008) held top seed GM Darryl Johansen (Elo 2430) to a draw in an exchange French. The other games went according to seeding with NZ players Ivan Dordevic defeating local Fijian player Noel Adricula, Bob Smith defeating Gary Bekker and Paul Spiller going down to IM Gary Lane.

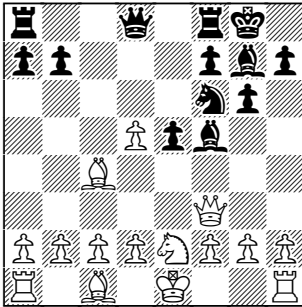
### Round Two

The second round followed closely on the afternoon of Day One and produced a huge upset when New Zealander Ivan Dordevic (Elo 2095) defeated Australian IM Gary Lane after turning the tables in a complicated Sicilian Defence, going from two pawns down to catching Gary's king in a mating net. Definitely a game to play through ! In other kiwi games, FM Bob Smith was held to a draw by Australian Jonas Muller (Elo 2039) while Paul Spiller had a tough second round draw when paired against top seed GM Johansen and came off second best!

## Gary Lane – Ivan Dordevic

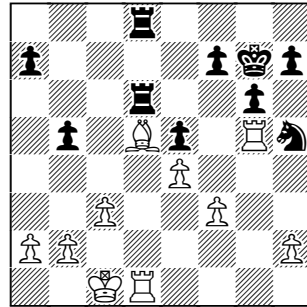
*Notes by Ivan Dordevic*

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nd4 4.Bc4 g6  
5.Nf3 Bg7 6.Nxd4 cxd4 7.Qf3 Nf6 A more  
natural square for the knight than in the  
main line [7...Nh6] 8.Nb5 [8.e5 dxc3  
9.dxc3 Qb6 10.exf6 Qxf6 11.Qxf6 Bxf6=]  
8...0-0 9.Nxd4 [9.e5 Ng4 10.Qxg4 d5  
11.Qxd4 dxc4<sup>3</sup>] 9...d5 10.exd5 e5 11.Ne2  
Bf5!?

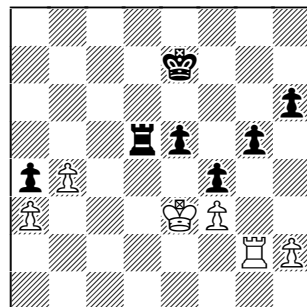


A new move... For two pawns black has better development and more coordinated pieces. Any white pawn move to release pieces from the first rank would open the position in black's favour. 12.Bb3 White spent a lot of time on this move. Better was [12.Qb3] 12...Be4 A simple way to equalise was [12...e4 13.Qe3 Nxd5 14.Qc5 Nc7] 13.Qg3 Qc8 [13...Nh5 14.Qh3<sup>2</sup>] 14.d3 Nh5 15.Qe3 Bxg2 16.Rg1 Qg4? With idea 17...Nf4. Better was [16...Nf4 17.Nxf4 exf4 18.Qxf4 Re8+ 19.Be3 Bxb2 20.d6 Qc3+ 21.Kd1 Qf6=] 17.Qg5 Qxg5 18.Bxg5± Bf3 19.d6 Bf6 20.Nc3 Rfd8 21.Ne4? A psychological mistake made under increasing time pressure. The previous slow development made white to wish to castle as soon as possible. The game is now equal. Better was [21.Bxf6 Nxf6 22.Rg5 Rxd6 23.Rxe5±] 21...Bxe4 22.dxe4 Rxd6=

23.Bd5 Rad8 24.0-0-0 [24.Bxb7 Bxg5  
25.Rxg5 Rd2 26.Rc1 Nf4 27.Ba6 Rxf2  
28.Kxf2 Nh3+ 29.Ke3 Nxc5=] 24...b5  
25.c3 Kg7 26.f3? Bxg5+ 27.Rxg5



27...Nf4 White was probably calculating [27...Kf6 28.Rg2 Nf4 29.Rgd2=] 28.Kc2 [28.Rxe5 Kf6] 28...Nxd5 29.exd5 Rxd5 30.Rxd5 Rxd5 31.b3 f5 32.Rg2 Kf6 33.c4 Rc5 34.Kc3 a5 Blocking b4 square 35.a3 g5 36.Rd2 Ke7 Not allowing white rook to get into the game via d8 37.Rg2 h6 38.Kd3 [38.h4 Kf6 39.hxg5+ hxg5 40.Rd2 g4] 38...a4 39.cxb5 Rxb5 40.b4 Rd5+ 41.Ke3 [41.Kc4 Kd6 42.b5 Rd4+ 43.Kc3 Kc5] 41...f4+



42.Ke2 [42.Ke4 Ke6 (and mate on d4)] 42...e4+- 43.fxe4 Rd4 44.Kf3 Rd3+ 45.Kg4 Rxa3 46.Kh5 Kf6 47.b5 Rh3+

**48.Kg4 Rb3 49.Ra2?? Kg6** next move mate with 50...h5 0-1

### Round Three

FM Igor Bjelobrk defeated compatriot Alek Safarian to take the outright lead with 3/3. A group of seven players were half a point back including kiwis FM Bob Smith (after defeating local Manoj Kumar) and Ivan Dordevic who continued his good start by drawing with GM Johansen. Paul Spiller got off the mark with a win against one of the Solomon Island representatives, Danny Lui.

### Round Four

Igor Bjelobrk kept up his winning ways and maintained his perfect score by defeating IM Max Illingworth (Elo 2423) . Jonas Muller continued his early good form by defeating IM Vladimir Feldman (Elo 2233) to move to 3.5/4. He was joined on 3.5 points by young Australians Ari Dale (Elo 2222) [ after Bob Smith went astray] and Justin Tan who defeated Ivan Dordevic. This marked a turning point and drop of form for Ivan who started suffering from lack of sleep wobbles ! Paul Spiller blundered a pawn against local Fiji junior champion Ronald Terebea and never recovered. Not a good round for New Zealand !

### Round Five

Justin Tan powered into the lead when he whipped up a kingside attack from seemingly nowhere and overwhelmed Igor. It was a determined display by a young player who has steadily risen into one of Australia's top juniors. This gave him the outright lead on 4.5 points. Ari Dale and Jonas Muller drew to join Igor on 4 points.

Bob Smith drew with Blair Mandla but Ivan lost to talented 12 year old Anton Smirnov. Paul defeated Price Tepuke, the other Solomon Islands representative player. The heavyweight clash between GM Johansen and IM Lane, both previous Oceania zone champions, ended peaceably in a draw leaving them tied with several others on 3.5 points.

### Round Six

The top encounters : Muller – Tan; Dale – Bjelobrk; Smirnov – Illingworth and Johansen – Feldman all ended in draws. Gary Lane ground out a win against Bob Smith to join the group on 4.5 points who trailed the leader Justin Tan by half. Unfortunately Ivan's sleep woes continued to take their toll and he went down to Ilija Ilic. I drew with local player Arvind Goru.

### Round Seven

Unlike the previous round (which was the last of the double round days), all the top boards had decisive outcomes ! The critical encounters saw Justin Tan defeat IM Gary Lane, Igor Bjelobrk overcome Jonas Muller, Ari Dale upset IM Max Illingworth, Darryl Johansen defeat Blair Mandla and Anton Smirnov defeat IM Vladimir Feldman. Certainly a very bloodthirsty round. On the kiwi front, I drew with local player John Caldeira while Bob and Ivan defeated their Australian opponents Francesco Antoniazzi and Bill Egan respectively.

With two rounds to go leading scores were as follows: Justin Tan 6 points, FM Igor Bjelobrk 5.5 points, GM Darryl Johansen, Anton Smirnov and Frank Lekkas 5 points, Jonas Muller, IM Max Illingworth, IM Gary Lane and Oscar Wang 4.5 points.

## Round Eight

Top seed GM Darryl Johansen put himself back into contention by defeating leader Justin Tan. This allowed FM Igor Bjelobrk to reclaim the tournament lead by defeating Anton Smirnov. Ari Dale also moved into a share of second by winning his game against compatriot Frank Lekkas. FM Bob Smith played resourcefully to draw against IM Vlad Feldman whilst Paul Spiller improved his score to 4 points with a nice win against Noel Adricula. Ivan Dordevic drew against top rated Fijian player Calvin Prasad.

Going into the last round top scores were: FM Igor Bjelobrk 6.5 points, GM Darryl Johansen, Ari Dale & Justin Tan 6 points, IM Gary Lane & IM Max Illingworth 5.5 points.

## Round Nine

The last round produced a large amount of tension and several dramatic finishes. With a lot to play for including a place in this year's World Cup knock-out tournament at stake this was inevitable. Top board pairings were: FM Igor Bjelobrk (6.5 points) vs GM Darryl Johansen (6 points); Justin Tan (6 points) vs IM Max Illingworth (5.5 points); IM Gary Lane (5.5 points) vs Ari Dale (6 points). Justin Tan and IM Max Illingworth could not break the deadlock in their game and had to be content with a draw. This allowed Ari Dale to leapfrog Justin Tan into clear second place after he upset IM Gary Lane. The board one encounter seemed to be on a knife-edge with top seed Grandmaster Darryl Johansen seemingly under some pressure. The game ended abruptly when Igor's queen and bishop combined to produce mating threats which could not be

defended. So Igor triumphed finishing on 7.5 points ahead of Ari Dale on 7 points in clear second. Third place was taken by Justin Tan on 6.5 points. In fourth equal were GM Darryl Johansen, IM Max Illingworth, and Anton Smirnov. FM Bob Smith finished with a win over Australian Alek Safarian to tie 7<sup>th</sup> =. Paul Spiller drew with Leon Kempen to finish on 4.5 points. Unfortunately Ivan did not finish well, losing to Fijian junior champion Ronald Terebea. This was unfortunate since he had started so strongly with a win over IM Gary Lane and draw with GM Johansen.

Congratulations to Igor Bjelobrk on his great tournament and best of luck as he represents Oceania in the forthcoming World Cup event. Igor will be awarded the IM title at the next FIDE assembly as will several other players be awarded FIDE titles that they have qualified for.

Certainly this was an event very much dominated by the younger generation of (mainly) Australian junior players and shows the results of their coaching programmes over the last few years. There are lessons to be learned here for other Oceania countries.

The tournament concluded with an enjoyable closing ceremony with presentations being done by members of the FIDE Development Commission who were visiting Fiji during the Zonal to participate in meetings with Oceania Development Commission representatives. These included Allan Herbert from Barbados, Hal Bond from Canada and Rupert Jones from the UK. The evening concluded with a wonderful dinner banquet

on the beach which was thoroughly enjoyed by all participants and their families. It was a great way to conclude what had been a very memorable event.

Congratulations are due to the Fiji Chess Federation for hosting another successful FIDE Oceania Zonal Championship.

## Crosstable

Pos	NAME	Rtg	Pts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Bjelobrkr Igor	2329	7.5	+W24	+B11	+W19	+B5	-W3	=B2	+W17	+B6	+W4
2	Dale Ari	2222	7.0	+W25	+B14	=W3	+B8	=W17	=W1	=B5	+W12	+B7
3	Tan Justin	2249	6.5	+B23	+W12	=B2	+W22	+B1	=B17	+W7	-B4	=W5
4	Johansen Darryl	2430	6.0	=B15	+W21	=B22	+W13	=B7	=W18	+B9	+W3	-B1
5	Illingworth Max	2423	6.0	+W28	+B9	=W18	-W1	+B10	=B6	=W2	+B17	=B3
6	Smirnov Anton	2194	6.0	+B37	=W20	-B17	+W15	+B22	=W5	+B18	-W1	+B12
7	Lane Gary W.	2412	5.5	+B21	-W22	+B28	+W14	=W4	+B8	-B3	+W15	-W2
8	Smith Robert W	2227	5.5	+B31	=W17	+B20	-W2	=B9	-W7	+B25	=W18	+B19
9	Mandla Blair	2123	5.5	+B26	-W5	=B23	+W25	=W8	+B19	-W4	=B13	+W17
10	Zelesco Karl	2169	5.5	+W27	-B19	=W24	+B29	-W5	+B32	-B12	+W23	+B20
11	Fancy Stuart	2091	5.5	+B16	-W1	=B25	+W32	-B12	-W23	+B29	+W24	+B18
12	Lekkas Frank	2045	5.0	+W34	-B3	+W27	-B19	+W11	+B14	+W10	-B2	-W6
13	Plew Jeffrey	2043	5.0	+B32	-W18	+B26	-B4	+W30	=W20	=B23	=W9	=B15
14	Prasad Calvin	2018	5.0	+B35	-W2	+B33	-B7	+W26	-W12	=B20	=W22	+B23
15	Wang Oscar	2008	5.0	=W4	-B28	+W34	-B6	+W29	+B27	+W24	-B7	=W13
16	Terubea Ronald	1642	5.0	-W11	-B24	+W38	+W21	-B20	+B34	-W19	+W25	+B22
17	Muller Jonas	2039	4.5	+W33	=B8	+W6	+B18	=B2	=W3	-B1	-W5	-B9
18	Feldman Vlad.	2233	4.5	+W29	+B13	=B5	-W17	+W19	=B4	-W6	=B8	-W11
19	Safarian Alek	2011	4.5	+B36	+W10	-B1	+W12	-B18	-W9	+B16	=W20	-W8
20	Kumar Manoj	2012	4.5	+W38	=B6	-W8	=B24	+W16	=B13	=W14	=B19	-W10
21	Spiller Paul	1987	4.5	-W7	-B4	+W35	-B16	+W37	=B26	=W32	+B30	=W28
22	Dordevic Ivan	2095	4.0	+W30	+B7	=W4	-B3	-W6	-B24	+W27	=B14	-W16
23	Goundar San.	1936	4.0	-W3	+B30	=W9	=B27	=W24	+B11	=W13	-B10	-W14
24	Ilic Ilija	1981	4.0	-B1	+W16	=B10	=W20	=B23	+W22	-B15	-B11	=W26
25	Antoniazzi F.	1735	4.0	-B2	+W35	=W11	-B9	=W28	+B30	-W8	-B16	+W32
26	Arvind Goru	1659	4.0	-W9	+B38	-W13	+W33	-B14	=W21	=B31	=W28	=B24
27	Egan Bill	1719	4.0	-B10	+W36	-B12	=W23	+B31	-W15	-B22	=W29	+B33
28	Kempen Leon	1996	4.0	-B5	+W15	-W7	-B30	=B25	=W31	+W35	=B26	=B21
29	Puccini Jack	1891	4.0	-B18	=W32	+B31	-W10	-B15	+B33	-W11	=B27	+W35
30	Adricula Noel A	1654	4.0	-B22	-W23	+B36	+W28	-B13	-W25	+B37	-W21	+W38
31	Bekker Gary	1827	4.0	-W8	=B34	-W29	+B35	-W27	=B28	=W26	=B32	+W36
32	Caldeira John	0	3.5	-W13	=B29	+W37	-B11	+W34	-W10	=B21	=W31	-B25
33	Fareed Menash	0	3.0	-B17	+W37	-W14	-B26	-B36	-W29	+B38	+W34	-W27
34	Aich Alexander	0	3.0	-B12	=W31	-B15	+W38	-B32	-W16	=B36	-B33	+W37
35	Lui Danny	0	3.0	-W14	-B25	-B21	-W31	+B38	+W36	-B28	+W37	-B29
36	Terubea Keez	0	2.5	-W19	-B27	-W30	-B37	+W33	-B35	=W34	+B38	-B31
37	Tepuke Price	1721	2.0	-W6	-B33	-B32	+W36	-B21	+W38	-W30	-B35	-B34
38	Senewiratne V.	0	0.0	-B20	-W26	-B16	-B34	-W35	-B37	-W33	-W36	-B30

NZ Players 8,21,22; FIJ 14,16,20,23,26,30,32,33,36,38; SOL 35,37; PNG 11, others AUS.



## **Auckland Chess Centre May Weekender by FM Mike Steadman**

So, time for the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekender of the year. I took on board the findings from the first event and added the option for the half point bye on the Saturday and also compressed the time table. Not sure if this made a difference, but we had 37 entries this time (7 more than the March event). We also had 4 players over 2100, not many, but 100% more than the March event ☺, statistics! Keong set up the electronic boards to test them in time for the Waitakere. So the top 3 boards were being piped to the internet, bit of fun for the punters.

[Ed: I visited this tournament on the last day and detected a little bit of hostility from some quarters on account of the reduced number of working electronic boards after the Wellington Congress – Can I just put it on the record here that for that event I *received* at least one badly damaged board (protective cover over the electronics broken off) – and I only ever got three boards working – the same as other events in 2013].

Anyway, round 1 got underway, only Hans Gao was the surprise, he managed a draw with Caroline Yan, almost 1000 points rating difference. Otherwise all games proceeded as per rating.

Round 2 was carnage for the rating list, draws littered the score table, only a few of the leaders managed to score the full point.

Only a handful of players, including the regular Ben Hague were on 2 from 2.

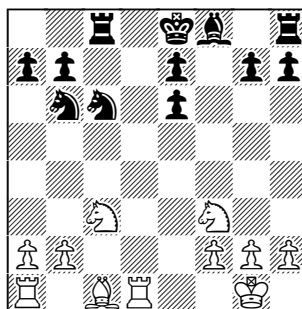
Round 3 and only Ben remained on 100%, a clutch of players chased on 2.5 including Steadman, Gao, Duneas, Runcan and Duneas. A number of the leaders took the bye opportunity during this round, so it gave Ben the chance to extend his lead.

Round 4 Ben and Hans both won and set up a clash for the next morning. A host of players followed on 3.

Round 5 saw the two leaders play and this was a big upset – Hans defeated Ben in a nice game and went half a point into the lead. Steadman beat Tanoi and kept in touch and Helen Milligan had her 4<sup>th</sup> win to get in the frame.

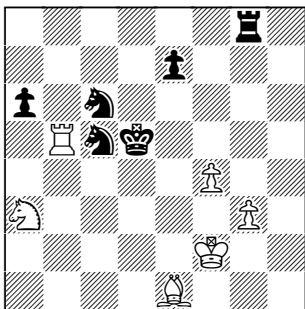
### **Hague, Ben - Gao, Hans**

**1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 Nf6 4.e5 Nd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Bc4 Nb6 7.Bb3 d5 8.exd6 Qxd6 9.0-0 Be6 10.Na3 dxc3 11.Nb5 Qxd1 12.Rxd1 Rc8 13.Bxe6 fxe6 14.Nxc6**



This is pretty much the main line and Black has a pretty good score from here. It is tough for White to get the pawn back and there really is only two results from here -

draw or Black wins. **14...h6 15.Ne4 g5 16.Nc5 Kf7** [16...Nd8 17.Be3 Bg7 18.Rab1 Nc4 19.b4 b6 20.Ne4 Nf7 Black still has his pawn, not worth much, but it still lives. He is still better.] **17.Nxb7 Bg7 18.Rb1 Nb4 19.Be3 Nc4 20.Bd4 e5 21.Bc3?** [21.Bc5 Na6 22.b4 e4 23.Ne1 Neither player can do much, the position is pretty drawish in this line.] **21...Nxa2 22.Be1 Rb8** [22...e4 23.Nd4 Rb8 24.Na5 Nxb2 Black is winning, 2 pawns up.] **23.Rd7 e4 24.Nd2 Ne5 25.Rc7 Nb4 26.Nd6+ Ke6 27.N6xe4 Nbc6 28.h4 Rhf8 29.hxg5 hxg5 30.b4 Rxb4 31.Rxb4 Nxb4 32.Nxg5+ Kd5 33.Nde4 Nbc6 34.Nc3+ Kc4 35.Ne6 Rg8 36.Nxg7 Rxg7 37.f4 Nf3+ 38.Kf2 Nfd4 39.Ne4 Kd5 40.Ng5 Kd6 41.Rb7 Ne6 42.Ne4+ Kd5 43.Nc3+ Kc4 44.g3 Rg8 45.Kf3 Ncd4+ 46.Kf2 Nc6 47.Nb5 Nc5 48.Na3+ Kd5 49.Rb5 a6**



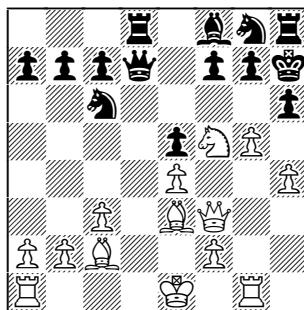
**50.Rb1?** [50.Rb6 Nd4 51.Kf1 This way White keep his pawn, now he drops a pawn again and is worse.] **50...Nd3+ 51.Kg2 Nxf4+ 52.Kf3 Ne6 53.Rb6 Ned4+ 54.Kg2 a5 55.Ra6 Nb3 56.Rb6 Rb8 57.Rxb8 Nxb8 58.Kf3 Nc6 59.Kf4 e5+ 60.Kf5 Ncd4+ 61.Kf6 Nf3 62.Bc3 e4 63.Bxa5 Nxa5 0-1**

Round 6 was Gao vs Milligan and Helen

forgot her plans and got crushed in a nice game by Hans. Steadman vs Hague was the usual crazy affair. Steadman won 2 pawns but Hague had chances and sacrificed a piece. Steadman was running low on time and decided to take the line that secured a draw.

### Gao,Hans - Milligan,Helen

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Be7 5.c3 0-0 6.Bb3 d5 7.Qe2 dxe4?** This is a mistake. The golden rule is the player that relinquishes the central pressure is normally worse. This move gives Black a cheerless position and she is duly punished. A move like Re8 or Be6 keeping the central tension are much better. **8.dxe4 Bg4 9.h3 Bh5 10.Nbd2 Bxf3 11.Qxf3 Qd7 12.Nf1 Rad8 13.Bc2 h6 14.Ng3** As you can see White's game plays itself, simple moves and the pieces gather around Black's king, the attack is almost undefendable. **14...Nh7 15.h4 Nf6 16.Nf5 Kh7 17.Be3 Rg8 18.g4 Rh8 19.g5 Ng8 20.Rg1 Bf8**

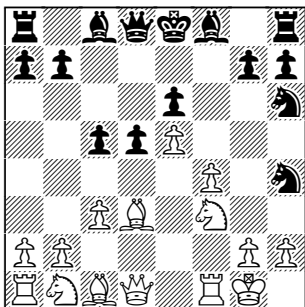


This could a composition - "how did Black get his King to h7?". If you get a position like this, you know you are losing, and badly. **21.Bb3 g6 22.Rd1 Qe8 23.Nxh6 Nxh6 24.gxh6 Rxd1+ 25.Kxd1 Nd8 26.h5 Ne6 27.Kc2 Qe7 28.hxg6+ fxg6 29.Qg4**

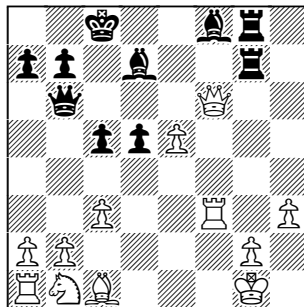
1-0

## Steadman, Mike - Hague, Ben

1.d4 Nc6 2.d5 Ne5 3.f4 Ng6 4.e4 e6  
5.dxe6 fxe6 6.Nf3 d5 7.e5 Nh6 8.Bd3 c5  
9.c3 Nh4 10.0-0



[10.Ng5 Nxc2+ (10...N6f5 11.g4 Ne7 12.Nxh7 Ng2+ 13.Kf2 Nh4 White is a little better, but the King might be a problem later.) 11.Kf1 Nh4 12.Qh5+] **10...Nxf3+ 11.Qxf3 Be7!?** [11...c4 12.Bc2 Bc5+ 13.Be3 Bxe3+ 14.Qxe3 0-0 15.Nd2 Nf5 16.Bxf5 Rxf5 White is better due to the Knight vs bad Bishop endings. Swap the major pieces off and Black will be squeezed to death.] **12.Qh5+ Nf7 13.Bxh7 Bd7 14.Qg6** [14.Nd2 Qb6 15.c4 Kf8 16.Nf3 Be8 17.Ng5 This was more to the point, the other pieces get over to the Black King. The line plays allows Black to get out of his troubles and open lines to the White King instead.] **14...Qb6 15.Qxg7 Bf8 16.Qg6 0-0-0 17.Qc2 Nh6 18.h3 Bb5 19.Rf3 Rd7 20.Bg6 Rg7 21.f5 Nxf5 22.Bxf5 exf5 23.Qxf5+ Bd7 24.Qf6 Rhg8**



**25.Qxb6 Rxc2+ 26.Kf1 Rg1+ 27.Kf2 R1g2+ 28.Kf1 Rg1+ 29.Kf2 R1g2+ 30.Kf1 Rg1+ ½-½**

The lunch break had the usual complaints and discussions about what needed to be scored by who for the players to maximise their payouts. As before we used the rule that you had to take the highest placed prize money. So people were trying to figure out what the score for the 2-5 place would be and therefore what their grade prize share would be.

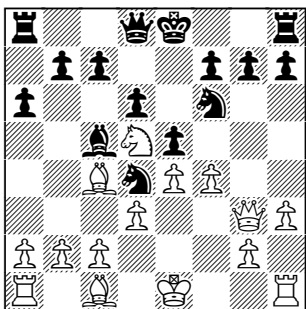
Round 7 and Gao vs Steadman was an easy draw for Hans, he defused any nonsense with the Alekines and swapped to a dead draw. So this ensured a win for Hans and Steadman either 2<sup>nd</sup>=, 3<sup>rd</sup>= or 4<sup>th</sup>= depending on results. Hague vs Green was an interesting game that ended in a draw just when the game got interesting. So 2 more joined Steadman on 5, the only remaining game was between Wheeler vs Runcan. We had the ridiculous situation where with the results known, Bruce would get 2<sup>nd</sup> on his own if he won, but a draw would get him 2<sup>nd</sup>= and therefore less than he would winning his grade with 2 others. The game was looking good for Bruce, he

then made a mistake and it was looking like a certain draw. Runcan offered a draw and Bruce preferred to resign and lose rather than take the draw offer. Guess we need to change the rules for the next event ☹. [Ed: As a visiting spectator I needed the locals to explain to me the rather bizarre spectacle of a player resigning in response to a draw offer. The concise summary was that this was “Auckland rules”. No wonder their housing market is crazy too].

**Hague, Ben - Green, Ewen**  
**1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nc3 Bc5 4.Nf3 d6**  
**5.Bc4 Nf6 6.d3 a6 7.Nd5 Bg4 8.h3? [8.c3**  
 This is the main move and seems obvious,  
 White is better and has done well from this  
 position. 8...0-0 9.b4 Ba7 10.h3 Bxf3  
 11.Qxf3 Nxd5 12.Bxd5] **8...Bxf3 9.Qxf3**  
**Nd4 10.Qg3**

## Crosstable

POS	NAME	Rtg	T	Fed	Pts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Gao, Hans	2204	--	NZL	6.0	=B26	+W17	+B13	+W12	+B2	+W11	=W4
2	Hague, Ben	2355	FM	NZL	5.0	+W23	+B18	+W11	+B3	-W1	=B4	=W6
3	Runcan, Daniel I	1927	--	ROU	5.0	+B27	=W13	+B22	-W2	=B7	+W21	+W9
4	Steadman, Michael V	2232	FM	NZL	5.0	+B21	=W12	+B7	=BYE	+W10	=W2	=B1
5	Ang, Alphaeus WeiErn	1737	--	NZL	5.0	+B28	=W9	-B12	=W19	+B15	+W16	+B11
6	Green, Ewen M	2204	FM	NZL	5.0	+W25	=B7	=BYE	+W21	=B8	+W20	=B2
7	Zhang, Leo	1756	--	NZL	4.5	+B32	=W6	-W4	+B24	=W3	+B25	=W10
8	Duneas, John	2074	--	NZL	4.5	+B15	+W20	=B10	=BYE	=W6	-B9	+W14
9	Wheeler, Bruce	2098	--	NZL	4.5	+W19	=B5	=BYE	+W15	=B20	+W8	-B3
10	Tanoi, T Edward	1911	--	NZL	4.5	+W24	+B31	=W8	=BYE	-B4	+W22	=B7
11	Milligan, Helen	2006	WFM	NZL	4.0	+W35	+B14	-B2	+W16	+W18	-B1	-W5
12	Perry, Roger L	1803	--	NZL	4.0	+W34	=B4	+W5	-B1	=W22	-B14	+B20
13	Mukkattu, Philip	1673	--	NZL	4.0	+W29	=B3	-W1	-B22	=W32	+B24	+W25
14	Gong, Daniel	1589	--	NZL	4.0	+B30	-W11	-B15	+W27	+B19	+W12	-B8
15	Wang, Tony	1135	--	NZL	4.0	-W8	+B33	+W14	-B9	-W5	+B31	+W23
16	Zhang, Jasmine	1006	--	NZL	4.0	-W18	+B37	+W25	-B11	+W23	-B5	+B30
17	Crombie, William R	1617	--	NZL	4.0	+W37	-B1	-W24	=BYE	+B26	=B18	+W27
18	Charamova, Jennya	1843	--	NZL	3.5	+B16	-W2	=B19	+W26	-B11	=W17	=B21
19	Huang, Nicholas	1232	--	NZL	3.5	-B9	+W28	=W18	=B5	-W14	+B32	=B22
20	Lyall, Simon	1741	--	NZL	3.5	+W33	-B8	+W35	+B23	=W9	-B6	-W12
21	Li, Johnson	1518	--	NZL	3.5	-W4	+B34	+W31	-B6	+W24	-B3	=W18
22	Liu, Brian	1622	--	NZL	3.5	+B36	=BYE	-W3	+W13	=B12	-B10	=W19
23	Qin, Joy Shu Yan	1555	--	NZL	3.0	-B2	+W26	+B27	-W20	-B16	+W28	-B15
24	Yan, Sarah	1034	--	NZL	3.0	-B10	+W30	+B17	-W7	-B21	-W13	+W31
25	Holdaway, Stephen	1382	--	NZL	3.0	-B6	+W32	-B16	+W28	+B31	-W7	-B13
26	Yan, Caroline	1293	--	NZL	3.0	=W1	-B23	+W34	-B18	-W17	=B29	+W36
27	Wang, Aaron	1063	--	NZL	3.0	-W3	+B29	-W23	-B14	+W34	+B33	-B17
28	Burduk, Vanya	0	--	NZL	3.0	-W5	-B19	+W37	-B25	+W29	-B23	+W33
29	Masfen-Yan, Nathanie	0	--	NZL	3.0	-B13	-W27	+B30	=W33	-B28	=W26	+W32
30	Pan, Darrick	0	--	NZL	2.5	-W14	-B24	-W29	=B36	+BYE	+B35	-W16
31	Sivabalan, Brijesh D	0	--	NZL	2.0	+BYE	-W10	-B21	+B35	-W25	-W15	-B24
32	Su, Danny	776	--	NZL	2.0	-W7	-B25	+W36	=BYE	=B13	-W19	-B29
33	Lin Zou, Oliver	602	--	NZL	2.0	-B20	-W15	=BYE	=B29	+W35	-W27	-B28
34	Fu, Alex	933	--	NZL	2.0	-B12	-W21	-B26	+W37	-B27	-B36	+BYE
35	Qin, Nicole Shu Yu	1084	--	NZL	2.0	-B11	+W36	-B20	-W31	-B33	-W30	+B37
36	Mo, Julian	0	--	NZL	2.0	-W22	-B35	-B32	=W30	=B37	+W34	-B26
37	Mo, Justin	0	--	NZL	1.5	-B17	-W16	-B28	-B34	=W36	+BYE	-W35



**10...Nh5 11.Qg4 b5** [11...Nxc2+ 12.Kd1 Nxa1 13.Qxh5 c6 14.Nc3 g6 15.Qf3 b5 16.Bb3 Nxb3 17.axb3 White can resign, the reason for c3 is to keep the Knight from d4.] **12.Bb3 Nxb3 13.axb3 c6 14.Qxh5 cxd5 15.fxg5 0-0 16.Bg5 Qe8 17.exd6? Bxd6?** [17...Qe5 18.d4 Bxd4 19.Qg4 Bxb2 20.Ra2 Bc3+ 21.Bd2 dxe4 Black is much better, Ben was off his game in this game.] **18.0-0-0 Qe5 19.Qg4 f6 20.Bh6 Rf7 21.exd5 f5 22.Qg5 Kh8?** [22...Qxd5 Luckily for Ben, Ewen wanted a draw (Ed: an important factor was that Ewen was now short of time), the Bishop on h6 is terminal with correct play. 23.Rd1 Kh8 24.Re2 gxf6 After Kh8, Qh5 is a saving resource for the Bishop and the game is equal again.] ½-½

## 2013 Upper Hutt Rapid

The 2013 Upper Hutt Rapid featured a huge surprise when unheralded, unrated junior Vaibhav Sharma came from nowhere to share 1st= with IM Anthony Ker and Brian Nijman on five out of six on the day.

Unfortunately there is a postscript to this

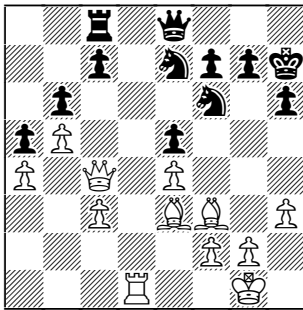
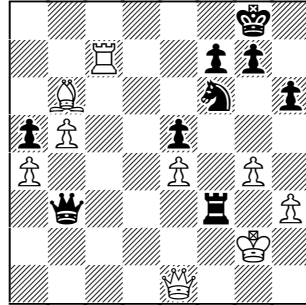
remarkable story. Vaibhav's triumph on the day will not feature in the official records of the tournament or in Grand Prix reckoning. The official joint winners are now Ker and Nijman with Mark Noble and Scott Wastney joining the money winners at 3rd= with 4.5 out of 6. Upper Hutt Chess Club has done the honourable thing and made sure all five prizewinners have received the maximum prize as either decided on the day or in the subsequent recalculation, so Vaibhav can continue to enjoy his winner's prize.

The full details of this rather unsatisfactory situation are rather nuanced and subtle. A concise summary is that Vaibhav arrived after the round one draw, minutes before the start and was not paired. Under those circumstances he correctly received a zero point bye. Subsequently he scored four out of five, but given his zero point start never actually competed with the top players. But when calculating the score at the end of the day, his bye was (wrongly) counted as one point, like other byes on the day. If Vaibhav had been on time it's possible he may have had a one point bye in round one, but not inevitable as there were other unrated players, in any case he would not have got such a favourable draw in later rounds. Vaibhav is blameless and I must admit part of me hopes he never reads this or otherwise learns that his triumph has been tempered somewhat.

Here is an exciting last round win that propelled Brian Nijman to 1st=, annotated by the winner.

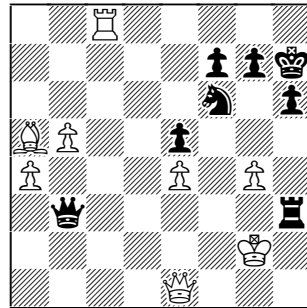
**Michael Nyberg – Brian Nijman**  
**1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.Nd2 Nc6 4.Ngf3 Nf6**

5.c3 e5 6.Be2 dxe4 7.dxe4 Bc5 8.0-0  
 [Interesting is 8.b4 Bd6 9.Qc2 (not 9.Nc4  
 Nxe4 10.Qc2 f5) 9...a5 10.b5 Ne7 11.Nc4  
 Ng6 12.0-0 Qe7 13.Nxd6+ cxd6 14.Ba3 0-  
 0 15.Rfd1 Rd8 and White is slightly better]  
**8...a5 9.Qc2 Bg4** [Preferable is 9...Qe7  
 10.Nc4 h6 with approximate equality]  
**10.Nc4 Qe7 11.Ne3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Bxe3**  
**13.Bxe3 0-0 14.Rad1 h6 15.Qb3 b6 16.h3**  
**Rfd8 17.Qc4 Qe8 18.a3 Rac8 19.b4 Kh7**  
**20.b5 Rxd1 21.Rxd1** [or 21.Bxd1 Ne7  
 22.Bb3 Ng6] **21...Ne7 22.a4**



[A good plan for White is to advance the c  
 pawn to c5, eg 22.Qd3 Ng6 23.c4 Nf8  
 (23...Nh4 24.Be2) 24.c5 bxc5 (24...Ne6  
 25.cxb6 cxb6 26.Bxb6 Rb8 27.Qd6 White is  
 a pawn up) 25.a4 Ne6 26.Qc3 Nd4  
 27.Qxc5 Nxf3+ 28.gxf3 Qe6 29.Kg2 White  
 has a solid advantage] **22...Ng6 23.g3 Nf8**  
**24.Kg2 Qe6 25.Qe2** [25.Be2 After White  
 is still slightly better] **25...Qb3** Black  
 seizes the initiative **26.Bg4 Re8 27.Ra1**  
**Ne6 28.Bf5+ Kg8 29.Bxe6?! Rxe6 30.f3**  
**Rd6** [Not 30...Qxc3? 31.Rc1 Qb3 32.Rxc7  
 Qxa4 33.Rb7=] **31.g4 Qxc3 32.Rc1 Qd3**  
**33.Qe1** [33.Kf2 holds things together  
 better] **33...Qb3 34.Rxc7 Rd3** [34...Qxa4  
 35.Qe2 Qb3 36.Rc6 Rd1 was the right way  
 to maintain Black's advantage] **35.Bxb6**  
**Rxf3**

**36.Bxa5** This is tempting but better is  
 [36.Bf2! defending h3 indirectly 36...Kh7  
 getting away from rook checks 37.b6 Rxh3  
 giving up the exchange for two pawns is  
 the only path to advantage 38.Bg3 Qxb6  
 39.Rc2 Rxc3+ 40.Qxc3 Qd6] **36...Rxb3**  
**37.Rc8+ Kh7**



**38.Qf2?** This natural move has a tactical  
 refutation. There is only one good move in  
 this position. [After 38.Rc3 Rxc3 39.Bxc3  
 Qxa4 40.Qe2 (or 40.b6 Qc2+ 41.Qf2!  
 Qxc3 42.b7 Qb3 43.Qf5+ g6 44.Qxf6  
 Qb2+ 45.Kg3 Qxb7 46.Qxe5 Qb3+ Black  
 keeps some winning chances) 40...Nd7  
 41.Be1 Nc5 Black is somewhat better]  
**38...Rh2+! 39.Kxh2 Nxc4+ 40.Kg2 Nxf2**  
**41.Kxf2 Qxa4 0-1**

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