

New Zealand Chess

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April 2014

Volume 41 Number 2



Nigel Short in NZ – Also

- **Scott Wastney on the Adelaide Counter Gambit**
- **More Congress Games**
- **Rapid Tournaments... and much more**

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Globe Hopping GM

Early in March, Grandmaster and former World Championship Challenger Nigel

Short paid a quick visit to Auckland. He was here to lobby the decision makers in New Zealand chess on behalf of Garry Kasparov, who is challenging the incumbent Kirsan Ilyumzhinov for the position of FIDE President. Nigel found time to play a simultaneous exhibition (page 5) and to grant an interview (page 10).

Cover Photo: Nigel Short v Gino Thornton at the simul. Credit: Helen Milligan

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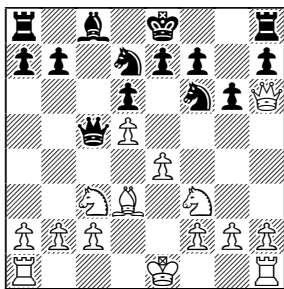
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Chess Tactics – by FM Scott Wastney

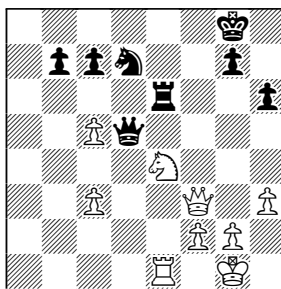
I have created puzzles from recent games from overseas (I haven't had any national tournament games to browse through this time). The side to move must force the win of material or checkmate. In some cases it is only winning a pawn, but as we all know, this can be enough to win a game. The star rating system is described on the right:

- ★ A clever idea, but not much to calculate.
- ★★ A clever idea that requires some calculation, but the calculation is fairly straight forward.
- ★★★ A clever idea that needs to be carried out in a precise way to take into account defensive resources, or the forced sequence is quite long.

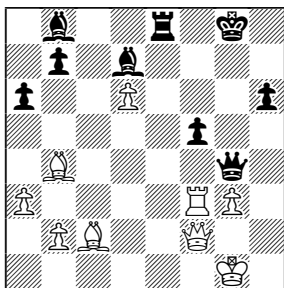
Solutions are on page 28



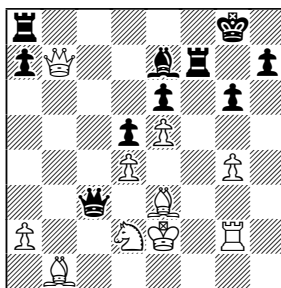
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Chevannes (2200) – McNab (2453), 4NCL 2014



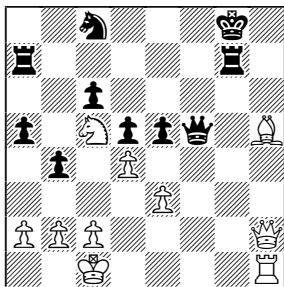
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Fressinet (2709) – Hammer (2647), Ch-Eur 2014



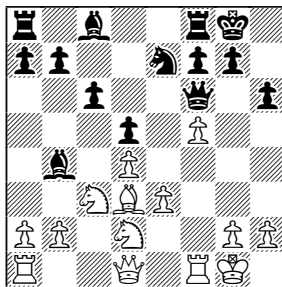
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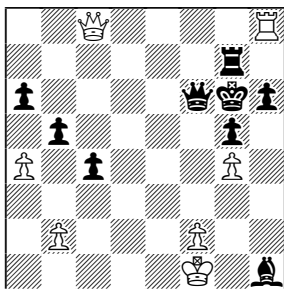
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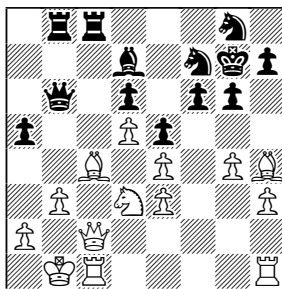
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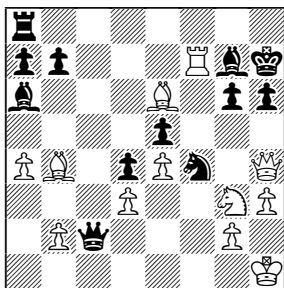
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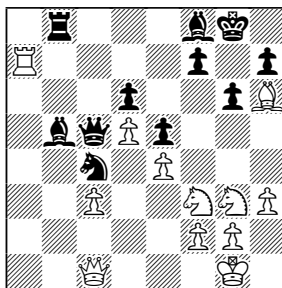
No. 7 *White to move* ★★
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No. 8 *Black to move* ★★
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No.9 *White to move* ★★★
 Williams (2449) – L'Ami (2398), Batavia,
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No. 10 *White to move* ★★★
 Harikrishna (2706) – Nakamura(2789), Tata
 Steel 2014

Nigel Short's Devonport Simultaneous

There was plenty of interesting chess as Nigel took on twenty five keen amateurs in a simultaneous exhibition at the new National Chess Centre (thank you Murray Chandler) in Devonport. Nigel's final score was 86% (+20 =3 -2). The top four boards provided tough competition, with Gino Thornton and William Li winning on boards one and two, and Judy Gao and Richard Cotty holding draws. Judy was never in trouble, but the other three profited from lapses from Nigel. The only other blemish for Nigel came way down on board 17, where Richard Jiang produced a remarkable effort that just fell short of victory. This was the last game to finish and both players deserved the

appreciative round of applause from the spectators.

Nigel Short – Gino Thornton (Board 1)

Annotated by Gino Thornton

1.d4 This came as a surprise. But as Helen said, sometimes players in simul's vary their openings so they do not have too many similar positions. **1...Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd3 d5 6.exd5** Choosing a quieter continuation **6...exd5 7.Nge2 Re8 8.Bd2 c6?** [8...Bd6 9.Rc1 a6 10.0-0 Nbd7] **9.0-0 Nbd7 10.f3 c5** I need to break up the centre and not allow him to get in e4. **11.a3 cxd4 12.exd4** [12.axb4 dxc3 13.Bxc3

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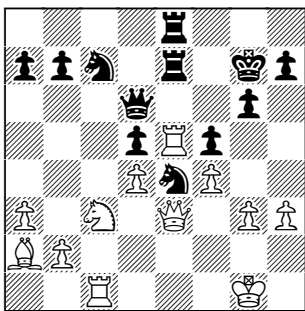
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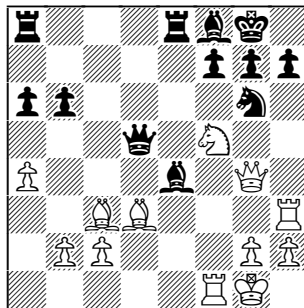
Rxe3±] 12...Bd6 13.Rc1 Nf8 Not really sure where I should be putting my pieces. I'm really a poor player when I don't have the initiative. I just shuffle around... 14.Bf4 Ne6 [not 14...Be6? 15.Bxd6 Qxd6 16.Nb5 Qd7 17.Nc7] 15.Be5 Ne7 Not really making much progress. Just trying to hold a few key squares 16.f4+- Ng4 17.Qd2 [17...Qb3 Is a better move to keep pressure] 17...f6 18.Bxd6 Qxd6 I'm sort of OK now, I felt. 19.Ng3 Bd7 20.Rf3 Re7 21.Nf5 Bxf5 22.Bxf5 Nh6 23.Bb1 Rae8 24.h3 f5 25.Rff1 g6 26.Ba2 Kg7 27.g3 Ng8 28.Rfe1 Nf6 [28...Rxe1+ 29.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 30.Qxel Nf6 31.Qe5 Qd7=] 29.Re5 Ne4 30.Qe3



Nigel was moving quickly and there were not many boards left so I couldn't get much time to think. 30...a6? 31.g4!?! fxe4 32.hxe4 Nf6 33.Qf3 Qb6 I am slightly better now. I am threatening his weakened pawns. 34.Rd1 Rxe5 35.fxe5 Rxe5 36.Na4 Qa7 37.Nc5 Rg5 38.Rf1! [38.Re1! Rxe4+ 39.Kh2 Qb6 40.Re7+ Kh8 41.Kh3 Qd6 42.Rxc7 h5∞] 38...Qb6+- 39.Kh1 Rxe4 Here Nigel resigned. His attack has dried up and I'm about to mop up the rest of his pawns. 0-1

Nigel Short - William Li (2)

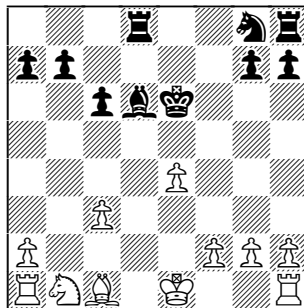
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.a4 e6 7.Be3 Nc6 8.Nb3 b6 9.Bd3 Bb7 10.f4 Be7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Rf3 e5 13.Rh3 exf4 14.Bxf4 Ne5 15.Nd4 Ng6 16.Be3 Re8 17.Nf5 Bf8 18.Qf3 Ne5 19.Qg3 d5 20.Bd4 Ng6 21.exd5 Nxd5 22.Rf1 Nxc3 23.Bxc3 Be4 24.Qg4 Qd5



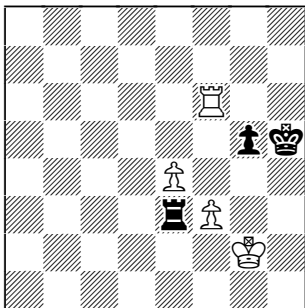
25.Qh5? A simple oversight [25.Kh1±] 25...Bc5+ Winning the exchange 0-1

Nigel Short - Richard Cotty (4)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.b4 Bxb4 5.c3 Be7 6.d4 d6 7.dxe5 Na5 8.Bxf7+! Nigel hoovers up a free pawn 8...Kxf7 9.Qd5+ Be6 10.Qxa5 c6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.exd6 Bxd6 13.Ng5+ Ke7 14.Nxe6 Kxe6



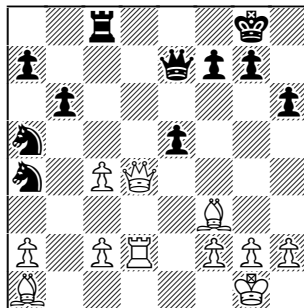
Black's development advantage constitutes a little compensation. Richard keeps the initiative for a long time, not letting Nigel settle and assert his authority. 15.Be3 Nf6 16.f3 Bc7 17.Ke2 Nh5 18.Na3 Be5 19.Rab1 b5 20.c4 a6 21.Nc2 Nf4+ 22.Bxf4 Bxf4 23.Rbd1 Rxd1 24.Rxd1 Bxh2 25.Nd4+ Kf6 26.Nxc6 bxc4 27.Nb4 Be5 28.Nxa6 Ra8 29.Nb4 Ke6 30.Rc1 Bd6 31.Rxc4 Bxb4 32.Rxb4 Rxa2+ 33.Kf1 Nigel has liquidated to a pawn up rook ending, but Black's king and rook are both better placed. Conventional thinking is that the ending is an ideal setting for a grandmaster to outplay his opponent (and the simul provided plenty of examples), but Richard defends well, not letting Nigel's king into the game. 33...g5 34.Rb5 Kf6 35.Kg1 h5 36.Kh2 Re2 37.Kg3 Rd2 38.Rb6+ Kf7 39.Rh6 h4+ 40.Kh3 Re2 41.Rd6 Kg7 42.Rd5 Kg6 43.g3 hxg3 44.Kxg3 Re1 45.Rd6+ Kh5 46.Rf6 Re2 47.Kh3 Re3 48.Kg2



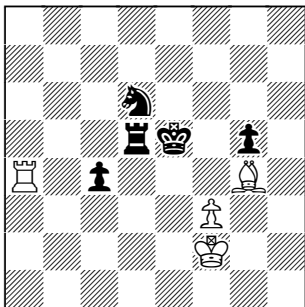
48...g4!= Winning a pawn or forcing liquidation to a drawn king and pawn ending. 49.Kf2 Rxf3+ 50.Rxf3 gxf3 51.Kxf3 Kg5 52.Ke3 Kf6 ½-½

Nigel Short – Richard Jiang (17)
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.exd5 Nxd5

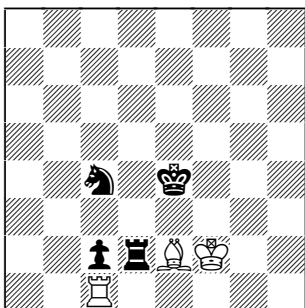
5.Nf3 Bb4 6.Bd2 0-0 7.Bd3 h6 8.Qe2 Bxc3 9.bxc3 Nd7 10.c4 Ne7 11.0-0 Nf6 12.Rad1 c5 13.dxc5 Bd7 14.Ne5 Nc6 15.Bc3 Qe7 16.Nxd7 Nxd7 17.Be4 Rac8 18.Bf3 Nxc5 19.Qe3 b6 20.Rd2 Rfd8 21.Rfd1 Rxd2 22.Rxd2 Na4 23.Ba1 Na5 24.Qd4 e5



25.Qxe5? Black has fully recovered after a dodgy opening. After this move the game reaches an ending where White doesn't have his bishop pair but does have weak queenside pawns. Richard surprised Nigel with a whole series of accurate endgame moves 25...Qxe5 26.Bxe5 Nxc4 27.Re2 Nxe5 28.Rxe5 Kf8 29.Be4 Nc3 30.Bf5 Rd8 31.h4 Nxa2 32.Re4 Nc3 33.Rc4 Ne2+ 34.Kf1 Nd4 35.Bg4 f5 36.Bh3 g5 37.hxg5 hxg5 38.f3 a5 39.Kf2 f4 40.Bg4 Ke7 41.g3 fxg3+ 42.Kxg3 Rd5 43.c3 Nf5+ 44.Kf2 Nd6 45.Rc7+ Kf6 46.Rc6 b5 47.Ra6 a4 48.c4 bxc4 49.Rxa4 Ke5



Black has won one of the weak pawns and is now steadily converting it. This phase of the game feels more like Short – Kramnik than a simul game ! **50.Ke3 c3!** This pawn can't be stopped! **51.f4+ gxf4+ 52.Rxf4 c2 53.Rf1 Nc4+ 54.Kf2 Rd2+ 55.Be2 Ke4 56.Rc1**

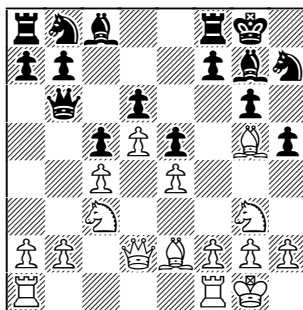


56... Kd4?? A shame, only a couple more careful moves were required, eg **56...Nb2 57.Ke1 Ke3** and White needs to move the attacked bishop, but then fatally loses control of d3 (...Nd3+!) or d1 (...Rd1+!) **57.Ke1!** Nigel grabs the get out of jail free card **57...Kc3 58.Bxc4 Rh2 59.Be2 Rh1+ 60.Bf1 Kb2 61.Rxc2+ Kxc2 62.Ke2 Kc3 63.Bg2 Rh2 64.Kf3 Rxc2 65.Kxg2 ½-½**

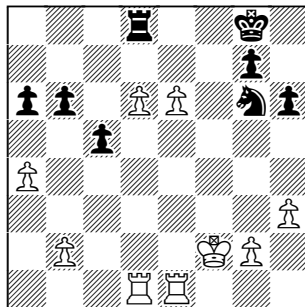
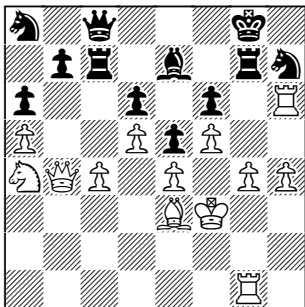
Possibly Nigel's best game was this lovely effort against Daniel Gong, featuring a positional piece sacrifice.

Nigel Short – Daniel Gong (7)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 Bg7 5.Nge2 0-0 6.Ng3 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Be2 h5 9.Bg5 e5 10.0-0 Qb6 11.Qd2 Nh7



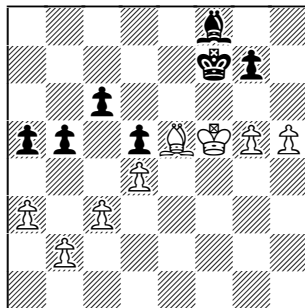
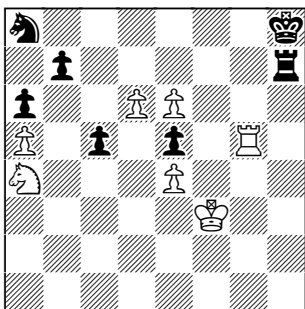
12.Bxh5! Nigel explained in the interview that he couldn't resist the temptation to play real chess, even though a safety first approach is more normal simul strategy. It's a correct sacrifice, White gets two pawns and huge positional compensation. **12...gxh5 13.Nxh5 f6 14.Be3 14.Bh6!** is objectively stronger, but Nigel prefers a slower approach, White's compensation is enduring **14...Rf7 15.h3 Qd8 16.f4 Qe7 17.f5 Bd7 18.Rf3 Na6 19.Rg3 Kh8 20.Rg4 Rg8 21.Rh4 Bf8 22.Kh2 Nc7 23.a4 a6 24.a5 Be8 25.Ne2 Qd8 26.b4 cxb4 27.Qxb4 Rd7 28.g4 Bxh5 29.Rxh5 Na8 30.Nc1 Qc8 31.Nd3 Rc7 32.Rc1 Qd7 33.Kg2 Rg7 34.Kf3 Kg8 35.h4 Be7 36.Rg1 Qe8 37.Qb3 Qf7 38.Nb2 Qe8 39.Na4 Qf7 40.Qb4 Qe8 41.Rh6 Qc8**



Nigel cannot improve his position further and finally undertakes direct action **42.c5! dxc5 43.Qc4 Kf8 44.g5! fxxg5 45.hxg5 Nxxg5+ 46.Bxxg5 Bxxg5 47.Rh8+** The point, White regains his piece with an undiminished initiative **47...Rg8 48.Rxxg8+ Kxxg8 49.Rxxg5+ Kh8 50.d6** Completely decisive **50...Rh7 51.Qe6 Qd8** The only way to avoid mate is **51...Qxe6 52.fxe6** resulting in this position;

These positions illustrate the grandmasters' preferred simultaneous strategy of slowly pushing their opponents off the board. This game ended **37.e7 Nxe7 38.dxe7 Rxd1 39.e8Q+ Kh7 40.Rxd1 b5 41.Rd6 bxa4 42.Qg6+ Kg8 43.Rd8# 1-0**

Finally let's look at an instructive little piece of GM technique that popped up in two different games. Against Paul Morten on board 13 this position arose after 38 moves.



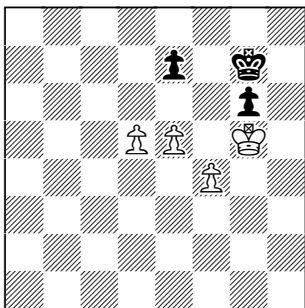
Daniel quite rightly rejects this as an unacceptable option, although it would have been very aesthetic **52.Qxe5+ 1-0**

A similarly catastrophic position for Black did actually arise in the game with Brijesh Sivabalan on board 22

We all learn as beginners to avoid a "crippled" wing majority, instead keeping it "healthy" as it advances to create a passed pawn. The key to this is to push the unopposed pawn first. But often in endgames with very reduced material and

two pawns facing one on the seventh rank, the apparently anti-positional idea of advancing the opposed pawn instead can be correct. So it is here, Nigel played **39.g6+! Ke7** if 39...Kg8 40.Ke6 with a brutal Zugzwang as Black's bishop has no move so 40...b4 41.cxb4 axb4 42.a4 and queens. **40.h6 1-0**

On board 5 against Daniel Runcan this position arose after 58 moves;



Although 59.d6 does win, Nigel played 59.e6! instead which is more convincing because it requires no calculation. Black resigned immediately. If we want to rationalise why this little trick (if you can call it that) is so often effective; basically it retains the tension for an extra move, very useful if the defender has no active possibilities. If the defender can only mark time, he will face that much more pressure when the second pawn is advanced to the sixth rank, because there are now multiple ways a pawn advance to the seventh might occur (either pawn may end up advancing and both a capturing advance and a protected passed pawn on the seventh is threatened).

The Nigel Short Interview

It's not often a world famous Grandmaster visits our shores, so when Nigel graciously agreed to an interview, we grabbed the rare opportunity.

NZCM: I'm not going to do the New In Chess thing and ask your favourite colour etc...

NS: My favourite cuisine is Indian. Definitely.

NZCM: Let's move on to the really important topics. Do you agree that Brendon McCullum's mammoth innings in the second test against India at the Basin Reserve was the greatest rearguard action in the history of the game ?

NS: Well if not it was certainly right up there. Brendon McCullum is an absolute hero. Actually I have always been a fan of his batting but, until recently, he never seemed to have the discipline for Test matches. I watched his 300, on the Internet, with my wife.

NZCM: I suppose I should be asking about chess. Tell me about your work for Garry Kasparov's FIDE presidency bid. Are you working for him on a formal basis ?

NS: It's an informal relationship. I'm actually a veteran of three campaigns now. In 2006 I lobbied for Bessel Kok. I travelled extensively in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. In 2010 I threw myself into the fray again. This time around my

involvement has been more laid back, but I really think we have a good chance of winning. At the very least it will be close this time, don't expect a repeat of 2006 or 2010.

NZCM: We have a new young world champion. We may be finally seeing the end of the Kirsan era. Do you think chess might be on the threshold of a brave new world?

NS: Obviously I think a Kasparov win will be great for chess in many ways. One benefit that will be immediately obvious is his ability to attract corporate sponsorship. He has already raised millions just for the campaign. I can see a really significant flow of money into chess if we get the right result in Tromso.

I think the future for chess is rosy. For one thing there are now many more countries where chess is a popular sport. China is the obvious one, chess was almost unknown there, now China is a chess powerhouse. Similarly, before Vishy Anand India was a mediocre chess country, but it's now very strong. It's a similar story in other emerging countries, Vietnam for example. With some proper administration the potential for chess to become a real sport is there. Obviously we can never be as popular as more visual sports like tennis and football, but there is a decent place for chess. Chess has the reputation as the ultimate mind sport, links to educational achievement and many other things going for it. Some changes at the top and proper administration will really help.

NZCM: You are famously well travelled,

tell us about your travel bug.

NS: I'll visit anywhere once (smiles). Although I will say that North Korea is towards the bottom of my list. I missed my big opportunity to go to Syria, that would have been nice. In general I don't have any problem travelling to Middle Eastern destinations. I was coach and a guest of the government in Iran. Iraq is problematic, they do have explosions from time to time. I am not an admirer of Saudi Arabia, it's a very repressive place and that mutes my desire to go there. I used to have a goal to travel to one hundred countries, but now I'm up to 103 with a couple more after this trip. So taking my lead from cricket I suppose the new goal is 150. Unfortunately unlike cricket there is an upper limit.

When I say I love to travel, I mean I like to arrive, meet people, explore cultures. Sitting in a plane for an extended period is very unpleasant and exhausting. Unfortunately coming to New Zealand is far from ideal in that respect. The trip from Athens to London is four hours, that's not too bad, but anything above that is increasingly problematic as I get older. Having a bad back doesn't help the situation.

NZCM: Your interest in travel and your life as a chess professional go together well.

NS: I like my travel to be purposeful. Travelling to play in a chess tournament is probably my most common reason for travelling. After that comes giving exhibitions and chess political advocacy, as in this current trip to New Zealand.

Simply holidaying is probably my last reason. My wife and I now have a holiday home and that greatly cuts down on pure holiday travel.

NZCM: Most of your generation has stepped back from the grind of open competitions. What keeps you coming back for more ?

NS: I continue to enjoy playing well in general and winning tournaments in particular. I have something of a stamp collector's mentality, I like to collect tournament wins in different places. In 2013 I won or shared first three times; In Sweden at the Sigeman tournament in Malmo, at the Tanzanian Open and the Canadian Open. That's a reasonable return for the year. These days I don't get invited to many very strong tournaments because my rating is too low, so if I want to play tournament chess, I have to play open tournaments.

NZCM: How do you work on your chess these days ?

NS: I don't really work on my openings. Obviously I follow tournaments, play through new games, and also I play online a lot. In this way I absorb information, but not in an organised way. I do specific preparation opponent by opponent during chess tournaments. I think that if I did serious analytical work it would make a positive difference to my chess, but not enough of a difference for it to be worth it to me.

NZCM: Magnus Carlsen's approach to opening preparation is starkly different

from his recent predecessors. What are your thoughts about that and do you think it says something important about modern chess ?

NS: I think Magnus' openings are better than people give him credit for. I think he is a very shrewd psychologist. His approach to openings is definitely a sign of the times, it reflects a broader trend. It's an inevitable process. Engines are becoming so strong, that if you prepare your openings in the traditional way, focussing on the main lines, debating these lines again and again, you find yourself in an arms race with your competitors. This approach is not attractive to strong chess players, they want to play the man, not the technology he has at his command and the innovations it discovers. Tellingly even Kramnik now recognises the need to change, he recognises that opening preparation is now becoming less important.

NZCM: You are a sought after columnist and commentator, and as a writer your short pieces are invariably entertaining and erudite. As a commentator your insights are eye-opening for the average player. Have you ever been tempted to enter the arena in long form ? Might we still see a games collection or an instructional manual ?

NS: I do like to write but I think I am basically at home writing shorter pieces. Just as some literary figures prefer short stories to novels. I greatly enjoy the satisfaction of completing an article and sending it off. Obviously writing a whole book would offer that satisfied feeling much less often! As well as that, it seems to me that writing chess books is not a great

way to make money. A chess book that sells even a few tens of thousands of copies is exceptional. I would certainly consider doing a Best Games book, or a Life in Chess type book without games. But I don't feel a pressing need. In many ways I am delivering autobiographical material in small pieces, with my articles.

NZCM: Your writing can sometimes be controversial. I can recall some angry "Letters to the Editor" after a New In Chess piece on the more social aspects of Chess Olympiads.

NS: Many people have told me they particularly enjoyed that article, a few had negative reactions. New In Chess did some polling and found that I was both their most liked author and their most disliked author (smiles). I liked that and considered it a compliment. I think it's better to offend a reader than bore them.

NZCM: Does your wife read your articles ?

NS: Yes. I don't think she liked the article you mentioned (smiles).

NZCM: Tell us about your Devonport simultaneous.

NS: It wasn't a noticeably good or bad performance. I did lose on the top two boards, but against good players this can happen in an exhibition. On the top boards the games are often decided by tactics and blunders creep in, especially if you are tired and jetlagged. I was doing quite well in both those games, was better in both, but well, these things happen. A young player

on one of the lower boards certainly made an impression on me. He didn't play the opening well, but then at a certain point he started playing a lot of good moves in a row. [see Nigel Short-Richard Jiang in the games section]. I was quite lucky to draw that game and certainly his rating is inaccurate at the moment, he should have been much closer to the top board.

NZCM: I did notice one game where you sacrificed a piece for purely positional reasons, and followed up with a convincing slow burning exploitation of a basically permanent bind [See Nigel Short-Daniel Gong in the games section]. I didn't think this sort of thing was very practical in simultaneous exhibitions.

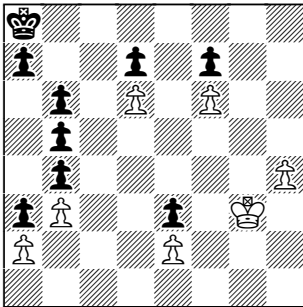
NS: Well sometimes you just feel that practical considerations should be put aside and you want to play actively to punish your opponent's inaccuracies and also to have fun. I certainly enjoyed that game

The Sarapu Cup

Paul Macdonald is head coach at Chess Power, a private company that provides coaching to children. (Also a new NZCF affiliated club, see the end pages). Paul reports that Chess Power have renamed one of their junior events to "The Sarapu Cup" in honour of twenty times New Zealand Chess Champion, the late Ortvin Sarapu.

Paul's very nice tribute to Ortvin can be read in full on Chess Power's website at <http://www.chesspower.co.nz/webapps/i/88>

One of Ortvin's favourite studies features in the tribute.



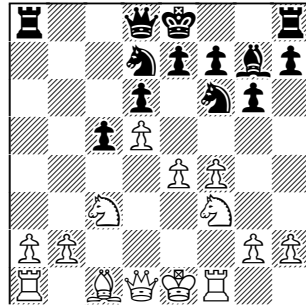
This is best thought of as two separate challenges. First, Black to move and draw. Second, with successful completion of stage one as a prerequisite, White to move and win. Solutions at the end of this article.

Paul includes a moving story about Ortvin's very last game, which Paul witnessed in person. Unfortunately the game itself was presumed lost. Paul decided to try to find Ortvin's son Peter to tell him about the tribute. An internet search was successful, Peter is now living in Queensland. A surprise bonus emerged after making contact. Peter was able to provide Ortvin's scoresheet for the now no longer lost last game !

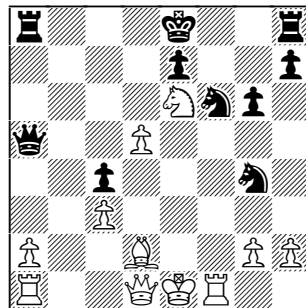
Ortvin Sarapu - Sriram Ramankumar

Club game 12 April 1999

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6
Bxa6 6.Nc3 g6 7.f4 d6 8.Nf3 Bg7 9.e4
Bxf1 10.Rxf1 Nbd7

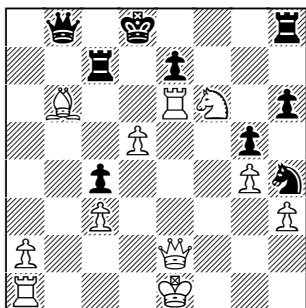


Nbd7 is often unwise in Benko positions where White has already got in f4, because it deprives the other knight of a safe retreat square. **11.e5!** Uncompromising and effective. **11...dxe5 12.fxe5 Ng4 13.e6 fxe6 14.Ng5 Bxc3+ 15.bxc3 Ndf6 16.Nxe6 Qa5 17.Bd2 c4**



White's position is certainly pregnant with possibilities. What is the best way to increase the pressure ? **18.Qe2!** Winning. The retreat of the unstable knight on g4 is cutoff, and a devastating threat of Rxf6 if the g4 knight moves is setup. Black has no way of dealing with both these factors. **18...Rc8** Liberates the queen from defending against Nc7+ at least **19.h3 Nh6 20.Rxf6!** Even stronger than the alternative 20.Bxh6 which would at least allow Black

some respite with 20...Qxc3+ 20...Nf5 If Black wants to continue the game he cannot allow Bxh6 as well (The hanging knight on h6 limits the defensive options after 20...exf6 ensuring a rout 21.Nc5+ Kf7 22.Qe6+ Kg7 23.Qd7+ Nf7 24.Ne6+) 21.Nf4 White is happy to keep the extra piece as well as a continuing attack. Black should really resign but fortunately for us he chooses to let Ortvin complete a devastating demonstration of attacking prowess 21...Kd8 22.Re6 g5 23.Nh5 h6 24.g4 Nh4 25.Nf6 Qa7 (25...exf6 allows a simple mate after 26.Rd6+ Kc7 27.Qe7+ Kb8 28.Rb1+) 26.Be3! Qb8 27.Bb6+ Rc7



28.Rxe7! Ortvin's final move is a good one (28...Qxb6 29.Re8+ Rxe8 30.Qxe8#) 1-0

Solution to study. Black to play draws by Ka8-b7-a6-a5 then a6 and stalemate! White to play can defeat this defence, but only by underpromoting to a knight three times! 1.h5 Kb7 2.h6 Ka6 3.h7 Ka5 4.h8N a6 5.Ng6 fxc6 6.f7 g5 7.f8N g4 8.Ne6 dxe6 9.d7 e5 10.d8N e4 11.Nc6# 1-0

The Hawkes Bay Rapid

Magnus Macfarlane reports

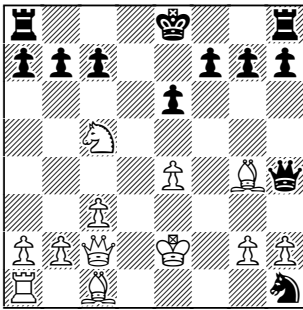
There was a good turn out (46 with 2 no shows) and a happy tournament, won by Bob Smith and Mark Noble in the A Grade and Asheem Gautam in the B. In the more than 26 entry Junior tournament the Genesis Potini inspired Gisborne Eastern Knights Club fielded 12 entries of whom Paraone Luiten-Apirana was the winner. Prizes were awarded to the youngest player (who also made 4th in Junior) and oldest (who was the manager of the boards sets and clocks), to the best art deco outfits (Viv Smith and George Perry) and to the person who guessed what the old machine was. Claire a non chess player correctly described it as an audio chess move indicator, and Jim Benson who was once a Napier player, recalled its use in the old club under the instruction of old Pete, a German who claimed to have survived the Eastern Front in WWII because his German commander liked playing chess with him some miles back from the line. I lost all my games proving that with all time spent on being the organiser and none on preparing for the chess that organisers should not play! A special mention of Keong Ang giving up some holiday time to be part time chief arbiter.

Mark Noble - Alphaeus Ang

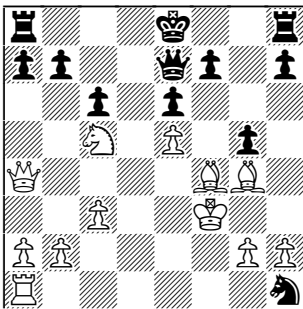
Annotated by Mark Noble

1.e4 Nc6 2.d3 Nf6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nbd2 Bg4 5.Be2 Bxf3 6.Bxf3 e6 7.c3 dxe4 8.dxe4 Be5 9.Qc2 Ne5 10.Be2 Nfg4 11.Bxg4 Castles looked risky at the time with Qh4 coming attacking f2 and h2 11...Nd3+ Totally missed by me at the time and it looked like big trouble 12.Ke2 Maybe better is Kf1 but still in shock from the sac, no idea how to play as well might have been my problem 12...Nxf2 13.Nb3 Nxh1

14.Nxc5 Qh4



About now I have no idea but it is Mark Noble and I do some crazy things so any thing is possible here **15.Kf3!!** After some thinking I found this really good idea and as it happens the computer agrees with me! **15...Qf6+ 16.Bf4** Looks bad for white but in fact he is winning all lines from here which I had seen **16...g5 17.Qa4+! c6 18.e5** Black has no good moves now and the power of the white knight is about to win the game **18...Qe7**



19.Ne4! A great move keeping White's best piece, there's no hurry for the knight on h1 **19...gxf4 20.Nd6+ Kf8 21.Rxh1** Not the best move but it still leads to winning lines **21...Kg7 22.Qxf4 Rhf8 23.Ne4** Time to control f6 **23...Rad8 24.Re1 Rd5 25.Kg3**

Rd3+ 26.Bf3 h6 27.Nf6 Rh8 28.Qe4 Rd2 29.Re2 Rxe2 30.Bxe2 Qc5?? 31.Qg4+ Kf8 32.Nd7+ Ke7 33.Nxc5 and white won 1-0

Three way tie at the Ninth B.O.P. Rapid

by Caleb Wright

Five more players than last year brought the Ninth BOP Rapid total numbers to 56 players this time around. I have to say a proud moment for the organisers at the Mt.Maunganui RSA chess club - the biggest increase in player entries for some time. The event got off to a well organised timely start on the day and entry wise beforehand - I suspect increasing the late fee to twenty dollars helped prompt some possibly otherwise last minute payments. A big thank you to those who were patient plus paid in good time.

The A group.

Mike Steadman and Ben Hague's always drawish draw, Noel Pinic's loss to Mike's Dutch, and Bob Smith's win over Gino Thornton were the early key games to see the standings after round three as Mike Steadman, Bob Smith, and Ben Hague each on 2.5pts.

Round four opened things up with Bob winning a long technical same colour Bishop each and pawns ending against Mike, while Gino won a more active rook and unbalanced but better pawn structure endgame against Ben. Top standings: Bob Smith 3.5 pts, Gino Thornton, Noel Pinic 3

pts, Mike Steadman, Ben Hague 2.5 pts.

Round five saw the Mike roll out his as yet unclassified hybrid - 'is it a French, is it a Slav, is it a Dutch or is it something else ?' (Ed this involves Mike playing e6,d5,c6,f5 in order as his first four moves) to win against Gino. Noel played a whirlwind tactical game to win against Bob. (Ed: Unfortunately Noel could not reconstruct this game for the magazine). Top standings: Noel Pinic 4 pts, Mike Steadman, Bob Smith, Ben Hague 3.5 pts, Gino Thornton, Daniel Runcan 3 pts.

Final round: Needing a half point to come first equal and playing Ben Hague, Noel Pinic became 'Noel Panic', and lost against Ben, who played a steady careful well earned win. The other leaders also had well deserved wins.

Final standings: 1st= Mike Steadman, Bob Smith, Ben Hague 4.5pts,
4th= Noel Pinic, Gino Thornton 4pts. Total of 16 players.

B group.

A good group of 27 players, this turned out to be a race between a handful of players with Daniel Gong emerging from the pack to win with 5.5 points, 2nd place went to Joy Qin on 5 points having lost to the group tournament winner, and Asheesh Gautam was third on 4.5 points. There were plenty of enjoyable games in this more relaxed group of players. Some had travelled far to get to the event and the experience was certainly welcomed and lessons were learned and earned. A key last round game (among a few deciding the top placings), was winner Daniel Gong's game against William Lynn. Daniel in the lions

den saw off a routine 'Wild Bill' attack.

Under 1200/12yrs group

It was pleasing to see a number of new players acquaint themselves to a Chess tournament environment. Aaron Wang won all his games, one and a half points clear of new Sri Lankan girl Hewa Weerasiri.

Conclusion

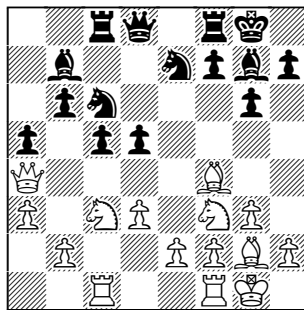
Many thanks must go to all those players who supported, entered, travelled, the local Committee, last but not least Keong Ang for his work as Arbiter operating a smooth tournament. Next year will be the tenth B.O.P. Rapid !

Gino Thornton - Bob Smith

Annotated by Bob Smith

While, like a lot of rapid games, my round three encounter with Gino Thornton was not exactly accurate, it did show the benefit of playing actively – my main aim for the tournament. But how to do that against Gino's favourite 1.Nf3?

1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.0-0 e6 6.Nc3 Nge7 7.d3 d5 8.cxd5 exd5 9.a3 0-0 10.Rb1 a5 11.Bd2 b6 12.Qa4 Bb7 13.Rbc1 Rc8 14.Bf4



Bay of Plenty Rapid, A grade

Pos	NAME	Rtg	T	Fed	Pts	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Steadman, Michael V	2232	FM	NZL	4.5	+W14	+B4	=W3	-B2	+B5	+W10
2	Smith, Robert W	2274	FM	NZL	4.5	=B10	+W9	+B5	+W1	-B4	+W6
3	Hague, Ben	2367	FM	NZL	4.5	+W12	+B7	=B1	-W5	+B10	+W4
4	Pinic, Noel	2228	--	NZL	4.0	+B13	-W1	+B10	+W11	+W2	-B3
5	Thornton, Giovanni A	2178	--	NZL	4.0	+W16	+B8	-W2	+B3	-W1	+B12
6	Runcan, Daniel I	1986	--	ROU	3.0	=B8	+B16	+W7	-W10	+B11	-B2
7	Bennett, Hilton P	2004	CM	NZL	3.0	+B11	-W3	-B6	=W13	=W14	+B15
8	Ang, Alphaeus Wei Er	1632	--	NZL	3.0	+W6	-W5	-B11	+W9	-B15	+B16
9	Lim, Benjamin U	2003	--	NZL	3.0	=W15	-B2	=W14	-B8	+W16	+B13
10	Jackson, L Ross	1975	--	NZL	2.5	=W2	+B15	-W4	+B6	-W3	-B1
11	Marko, Helmut S	1876	CM	PNG	2.5	=W7	+B12	+W8	-B4	-W6	=B14
12	James, Jack	1979	--	NZL	2.5	=B3	-W11	+W16	+B14	=B13	-W5
13	Spiller, Paul S	1954	CM	NZL	2.5	=W4	=B14	+W15	=B7	=W12	-W9
14	Milligan, Helen	1957	CM	NZL	2.0	=B1	=W13	=B9	-W12	=B7	=W11
15	Smith, Vivian J	1740	WFM	NZL	1.5	=B9	-W10	-B13	-B16	+W8	-W7
16	Wright, Caleb	1880	--	NZL	1.0	=B5	-W6	-B12	+W15	-B9	-W8....

Auckland Chess Centre Weekender (page 36)

Pos	NAME	Rtg	T	Fed	Pts	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Hague, Ben	2385	FM	NZL	5.0	+B21	+W13	+W7	+B4	=W2	=B3
2	Garbett, Paul A	2345	IM	NZL	5.0	+W29	+B18	+W5	=BYE	=B1	+W6
3	Duneas, John	2198	--	NZL	4.5	+BYE	=B8	+W14	+B15	=W5	=W1
4	Smith, Robert W	2342	FM	NZL	4.5	+B23	+W20	=B6	-W1	+B28	+W15
5	Thornton, Giovanni A	2207	--	NZL	4.5	+B31	+W19	-B2	+W13	=B3	+W12
6	Lim, Benjamin U	2126	--	NZL	4.0	+W32	+B22	=W4	=B9	+W7	-B2
7	Li, William Xiang We	2184	--	NZL	4.0	+B26	+W28	-B1	+W16	-B6	+W20
8	Ang, Alphaeus Wei Er	1981	--	NZL	4.0	+B39	=W3	-B12	+W18	+B19	=W10
9	Krstevic, Antonio	2103	--	NZL	4.0	+W38	+B10	=BYE	=W6	-B12	+W23
10	Gibbons, Robert E	2072	--	NZL	4.0	+B40	-W9	=BYE	+B24	+W22	=B8
11	Milligan, Helen	2049	CM	NZL	4.0	+W37	=B17	=BYE	=W19	=B20	+W21
12	Morrell, Gordon	2248	--	CAN	3.5	+W24	-B15	+W8	=B14	+W9	-B5
13	Lyall, Simon	1846	--	NZL	3.5	+W33	-B1	+W23	-B5	+W14	=B16
14	Fan, Allen Chi Zhou	1773	--	NZL	3.5	+B35	+W21	-B3	=W12	-B13	+W28
15	Eade, Don	1911	--	NZL	3.5	+B36	+W12	=BYE	-W3	+B17	-B4
16	Matejevic, Bojan	0	--	SRB	3.5	=B20	+W26	+W38	-B7	+B25	=W13
17	Bennett, Hilton P	2110	CM	NZL	3.5	+B25	=W11	=BYE	=B22	-W15	+B29
18	Taylor, Richard	1850	--	NZL	3.5	+B34	-W2	=BYE	-B8	+W30	+B31
19	Nicholls, Leighton	1965	--	NZL	3.0	+BYE	-B5	+W27	=B11	-W8	=B22
20	Gilmour, Mark	1890	--	NZL	3.0	+W16	-B4	=W29	+B32	=W11	-B7
21	Chen, Wei Kai	1723	--	NZL	3.0	=W1	-B14	+W33	+B26	+W31	-B11
22	Zhang, Leo	1999	--	NZL	3.0	+B30	-W6	+B31	=W17	-B10	=W19
23	Huang, Nicholas	1602	--	NZL	3.0	=W4	+W34	-B13	+B38	+W24	-B9
24	Wang, Aaron Ziwen	1382	--	NZL	3.0	=B12	+W36	+B25	-W10	-B23	+W35
25	Li, Rodney Xiang Rei	1127	--	NZL	3.0	=W17	+B37	-W24	+B36	-W16	+B33
26	Qin, Nicole Shu Yu	1305	--	NZL	3.0	=W7	-B16	+B39	-W21	+W40	+B32
27	Li, Leo Xiang Yu	829	--	NZL	3.0	=B28	+W40	-B19	-W31	+B39	+W36
28	Gong, Daniel Hanwen	1989	--	NZL	2.5	+W27	-B7	=W32	+B29	-W4	-B14
29	Qin, Joy Shu Yan	1627	--	NZL	2.5	=B2	+W35	=B20	-W28	+B34	-W17
30	Pan, Darrick	1045	--	NZL	2.5	=W22	-B38	=B35	+W34	-B18	+W39
31	Zhang, Jasmine	1342	--	NZL	2.0	=W5	+B33	-W22	+B27	-B21	-W18
32	Ansell, David	1231	--	NZL	2.0	=B6	+W39	=B28	-W20	=B35	-W26
33	Qin, Oscar Shu Xuan	0	--	NZL	2.0	=B13	-W31	-B21	+BYE	+W37	-W25
34	Picken, Oliver	0	--	NZL	2.0	=W18	-B23	+W37	-B30	-W29	+W38
35	Xu, David	0	--	NZL	2.0	=W14	-B29	=W30	+B40	=W32	-B24
36	Huang, Yan Yu	0	--	NZL	2.0	=W15	-B24	+W40	-W25	+B38	-B27
37	Zhang, Toby	872	--	NZL	1.5	=B11	-W25	-B34	=W39	-B33	+B40
38	Su, Danny	1079	--	NZL	1.0	=B9	+W30	-B16	-W23	=B36	-B34
39	Fu, Alex	812	--	NZL	0.5	=W8	-B32	-W26	=B37	-W27	-B30
40	Barry, Jacob	1073	--	NZL	0.0	=W10	-B27	-B36	-W35	-B26	-W37

Hawkes Bay Rapid, A grade (page 15)

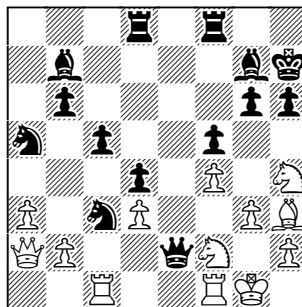
Pos	NAME	Rtg	T	Fed	Pts	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Smith, Robert W	2274	FM	NZL	5.5	+B11	+W4	=B2	+W3	+B9	+W6
2	Noble, Mark F	2310	FM	NZL	5.5	+W14	+B12	=W1	+B6	+W4	+B3
3	James, Jack	1979	--	NZL	4.0	+W6	+B7	+W9	-B1	+W12	-W2
4	Ang, Alphaeus Wei Er	1632	--	NZL	4.0	+W8	-B1	+W12	+W7	-B2	+W9
5	Sharko, Andrei V	1860	--	NZL	3.5	=W9	-B8	+W14	-B12	+W11	+W10
6	Smith, Christopher	1840	--	NZL	3.0	-B3	+W11	+B13	-W2	+B7	-B1
7	Cooze, Brent	1625	--	NZL	3.0	+B10	-W3	+W8	-B4	-W6	+B14
8	Jackson, L Ross	1975	--	NZL	3.0	-B4	+W5	-B7	-W10	+B14	+W12
9	Benson, James	1454	--	NZL	2.5	=B5	+W10	-B3	+W13	-W1	-B4
10	Milligan, Helen	1957	CM	NZL	2.5	-W7	-B9	=W11	+B8	+W13	-B5
11	Timergazi, Layla	1853	--	NZL	2.5	-W1	-B6	=B10	+W14	-B5	+B13
12	Spiller, Paul S	1954	CM	NZL	2.0	+B13	-W2	-B4	+W5	-B3	-B8
13	List, Robert	1575	--	NZL	1.0	+W12	+B14	-W6	-B9	-B10	-W11
14	Macfarlane, Magnus	1881	--	NZL	0.0	-B2	-W13	-B5	-B11	-W8	-W7

80th NZ Correspondence Championship (page 20)

TD Noble, Mark F.

			1 1	2 2	3 3	4 4	5 5	6 6	Tot	Place
1	NZL GM Noble, Mark F.	2514		½ ½	1 ½	½ 1	1 1	1 1	8	1
2	NZL Gibbons, Robert E.	2333	½ ½		½ ½	½ 1	1 1	1 1	7.5	2
3	NZL Davis, Justin	2224	½ 0	½ ½		½ ½	1 1	1 1	6.5	3
4	NZL Lynn, William	2179	0 ½	0 ½	½ ½		1 ½	1 1	5.5	4
5	NZL Edwards, Bevan J.	2200P	0 0	0 0	0 0	½ 0		1 0	1.5	5
6	NZL Dolejs, Dan	2200P	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 0		1	6

14...d4 Sometimes you have to give (squares) to get. 15.Ne4 Nd5 16.Bg5?! (16.Nd6 Nxf4 17.Nxb7 Nxe2+ 18.Kh1 Qe7 19.Rce1 Nxc3+ 20.hxc3 Qxb7) 16...Qd7 17.Bd2 h6 White's Bd2 and Ne4 are tripping over each other. 18.Nh4 Kh7 19.f4 f5 20.Bh3?! Qe7 21.Qb3 Rcd8 22.Nf2 Qxe2 23.Bxa5?? (23.Rc2 Qe7 24.Re1 Qc7 with the idea of ...Ne3+) 23...Nxa5 24.Qa2 (24.Qb5?? Bc6 25.Qa6 Ra8) 24...Nc3



25.Qa1 Nb3 An ignominious end for her majesty. 26.Rce1 Nxa1 (27.Rxe2 Nxe2#) 0-1

Exciting Times for Correspondence Chess in NZ

by Mark Noble

Recently NZCF took over the organisation of correspondence chess in New Zealand. Under this new regime, the 81st NZ Correspondence Championship kicked off at the start of March 2014. With master administrator Michael Freeman now at the helm, dramatic changes can already be seen with a comparatively huge field of fifteen players in total. To see this in perspective, consider that last year's championship had a total of six participants (see previous page for completed results of that tournament).

Some points of interest this year include the family participants with the Jeftha Brothers Ludfie & Armeen and husband and wife Mathew King and Malia Donnelly.

The field includes the current champion Correspondence GM Mark Noble and former Champions Bob Gibbons & Peter Goffin.

Full field, with ratings, in rating order (P=provisional);

Mark Noble 2490, Bob Gibbons 2356, Peter Goffin 2339, Mathew King 2261, Owen Pritchard 2202, Bevan Edwards 2160P, Ludfie Jeftha 2160P, Armeen Jeftha 2160P, Malia Donnelly 2160P, Nigel Cooper 2160P, Earl Roberts 2130, John Henning Eide 2090, Dan Dolejs 1972, Phil Cook 1923, Ken Reed 1829

You can track tournament progress on the web at;

www.iccf-webchess.com/event?id=42337

Similarly you can view last year's completed tournament, which includes many exciting tactical games at;

www.iccf-webchess.com/event?id=36207

Book Review: Judit Polgar, From GM to Top Ten

This book, the second of an autobiographical trilogy, receives an unqualified recommendation from me. Why do I love it so much ? It starts with the sumptuous production values. The book feels good, looks good, and shines with the quality that only comes from uncompromising attention to detail. What's more it is clearly a labour of love, and the author's warm and engaging personality lights up the page.

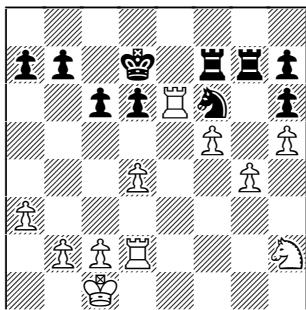
The book ostensibly doubles as an instruction manual. However if that makes you think of some turgid and boring tome, think again. This is the chessic equivalent of an entertaining thriller, not a worthy literary novel. It just so happens that enjoying the entertainment provides instructive value almost as a virtuous side effect. Very importantly, you can simply read the book in your favourite armchair. This is possible because diagrams are placed at just the right intervals to allow the average club hacker to follow along. Judit doesn't clog the book up with too many variations, she focuses on ideas, plans, and

the personal and psychological aspects of the chess struggle. One little detail that helps distinguish this book comes from a habit Judit adopted from the start – she has always written clock times on her scoresheets. Having this information available literally for every move of her career, adds a whole new dimension to analysis of competitive chess, one that Judit exploits expertly.

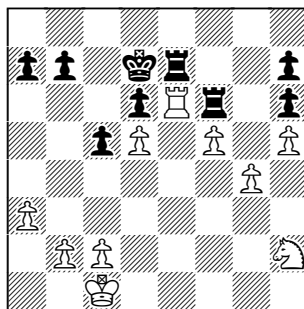
Here is just a tiny sample of what you can expect from this book. (I wish I had room for as many diagrams and comments as the book itself).

Polgar - Barua

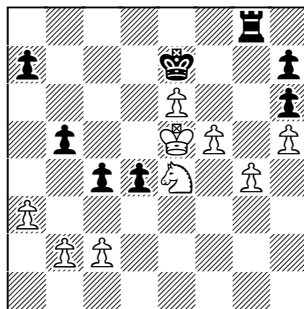
Biel Interzonal, 1993



26.d5! c5 My opponent must have thought that nothing had changed strategically after these pawn moves. White still does not seem to have a key to open Black's fortress. Had he spotted my hidden idea, he might have looked for an alternative. **27.Rxf6!** Despite the computer's scepticism, this is the clearest winning plan, not allowing Black any chance to escape. The usefulness of my d5 pawn will be revealed after just a few moves **27...Rxf6 28.Re2 Re7 29.Re6!**



Caging the enemy pieces in a relatively narrow area and dooming Black to absolute passivity. Without the support of the d-pawn, this would have been impossible. **29...Rf8 30.Kd2 30...Rxe6 31.dxe6+! 31...Ke7 32.Ke3 Kf6 33.Kf4 b5 34.Nf3 Rg8 35.Nd2 Ke7 36.Nf1 d5** Preventing the invasion through d5, but allowing an equally dangerous one through e5. **37.Nd2 37...Kd6 38.Nf3 d4 39.Nd2 c4 40.Ne4+ Ke7 41.Ke5**



Finally, my king and knight are on optimal squares. Facing the prospect of being crushed by my pawns, Barua resigned. This win made me feel better and the cold almost vanished as if by a miracle. **1-0**

Chess Openings – by FM Scott Wastney

I received my first reader request from NM Leonard McLaren: “How about the King’s Gambit – has it been refuted yet?” I can discuss my own experiences and offer an idea for black. One of the fears of meeting 1.e4 with 1...e5 is that the white player could play something off-beat like the King’s Gambit. This could be their speciality and if you choose to go down a mainline they will obviously know it and may well have something prepared. So how should you prepare for facing the King’s Gambit?

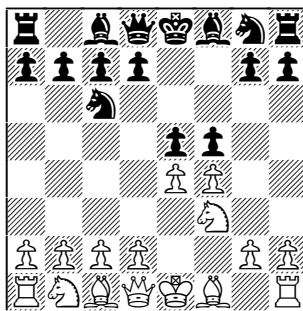
It was in 2005 that I first decided to start meeting 1.e4 with 1...e5. I had something I wanted to play against the Ruy Lopez, but how was I going to meet all the non-Ruy Lopez possibilities? This is where a good repertoire book is really helpful and I used John Emms: “Play the Open Games as Black” (Gambit, 2001). In my very first game venturing 1...e5 I faced the King’s Gambit. My opponent, rated 2678, was GM Nigel Short who was giving a simultaneous exhibition. Nigel was initially confused by the players being seated in order of playing strength that was the reverse to the direction he was moving around. I was also in a state of shock myself facing the King’s Gambit! We followed theory that I knew: 1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 g5 4.Bc4 Bg7 5.d4 d6 6.0–0 h6 7.c3 Nc6. Here Nigel played the unusual 8.Na3 (Emms covers 8.g3 or 8.h4 in his book), which I assume was because Nigel had by now worked out that I wasn’t the bottom ranked player and feared I would be heavily booked up in the mainline. White

ended up being a pawn down, basically for very little, and I went onto win.

After playing 1...e5 for a while now, I’ve had time to accumulate new parts to my repertoire and as discussed in the previous article, my general approach to openings has changed since 2005. I now prefer to find something less studied and build my own repertoire.

Introducing the Adelaide Counter Gambit

1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 f5



My interest in this line stems from two theoretical articles written in the mid-90’s (but read by me much later than this). The first by GM Tony Miles and then a follow up by GM Matthias Wahls, both from 1995 in the NIC periodical Analysis of current opening practice, volumes 36 and 38.

Let me quote Tony Miles, by way of an introduction:

“The Adelaide Counter Gambit (so named

after it's place of invention, and pretty much the only place where it is still played) 1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6! 3.Nf3 f5!! *I first suggested this idea to the then Australian Champion Alex Wohl. After some initial scepticism the line was subjected to rigorous testing in smoke-filled laboratories and found to be remarkably viable”.*

I've taken the liberty of naming two main lines after their pioneers giving the amusingly named Wahls' and Wohl's variations!

Before I get onto the Illustrative games and theoretical section, I would like to first show some lines where white loses quickly. I tested this line in some on-line blitz games. My problem was that not many people play the King's Gambit, and when they did they lost rather pathetically. My opponents were rated in the 2000 to 2200 range - too high to lose the way they did, but maybe it shows King's Gambit players don't handle surprises all that well. One game went 1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.fxe5 (really?) 3...Qh4+ and black wins. Two games went only slightly better for white 1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 f5 4.Nxe5 Nxe5 5.fxe5 Qh4+ and black wins again. One of these opponents played me a second time and improved with 1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 f5 4.exf5 (best) e4 5.Ne5 Nf6 (Wahls' variation) 6.Be2 Bc5 7.Bh5+ Kf8 8.Nf7 (not good) Qe8 9.Nxh8 Nxh5 and black is clearly better. I should mention that after 1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 white can transpose to the Vienna Opening with 3.Nc3. Another option is 3.Bc4. Miles recommended 3...f5 against this as well, while Wahls "looked in vain for a way for white to equalise" against 3...Nf6!

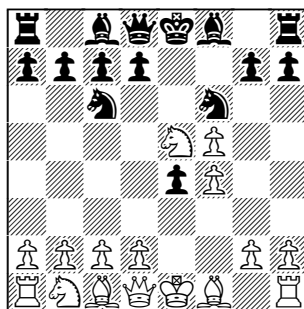
I should also mention that I am aware that the Scottish GM John Shaw has recently published a book on the King's Gambit. More than a book - more like a life's work with years in the writing. I haven't had the chance to see this book, but only know from GM David Smerdon's review that Shaw gives "some reasonable coverage" to the Adelaide Counter Gambit, and "it's a shame that the Australian connection is left out". I only hope that my humble effort here isn't thwarted by what Shaw has produced in his book.

Illustrative Games

Ziegler,A (2410) - Pedersen,D (2260) [C30]

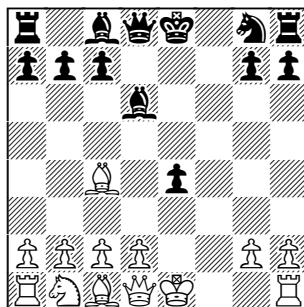
Nordre Efteraar Aarhus 1998

1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 f5 4.exf5 White wanted to gambit a pawn to take control of the centre but now it's as if the roles have been reversed – Black is playing the King's Gambit against the King's Gambit! 4...e4 5.Ne5 Nf6 I call this move Wahls' variation.

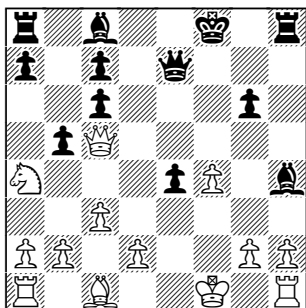


6.Be2 White is attempting a sort of reversed Cunningham's gambit idea (1.e4

e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 Be7) 6...Bc5! 7.Bh5+ Kf8 As mentioned in the introduction 8.Nf7 is a poor move here and is met with 8...Qe8 9.Nxh8 Nxh5 with advantage to black since the knight on h8 will eventually be captured. 8.Nc3 Qe7 9.Na4 White is desperate to remove the c5 bishop so he can continue to develop and castle. 9...Bd4 10.Nxc6 dxc6 11.c3 Nxh5 12.Qxh5 g6! Black is prepared to offer a second pawn for open lines 13.fgx6 hxg6 14.Qg5 White tries to ease his defence with a queen exchange. 14...Bf6 15.Qc5 And again 15...Bh4+ 16.Kf1 b5! Exploiting the poor position of the Knight.



Black has a clear advantage here. White cannot safely castle because of 8.0-0 Qh4 8.g3 Bxg3! gives Black a decisive attack. Therefore he continues 8.Qh5+ g6 9.Qe2 Qh4+ 10.Qf2 Qxf2+ 11.Kxf2 Nf6 Black has a lead in development with open lines to attack. 12.Nc3 Bd7 13.h3 Bc5+ 14.Ke1 0-0-0 15.Rf1 Rhf8 16.Be2 Bc6 17.g4 Nd7 18.d3 It goes against chess principles for white to open lines with his king stuck in the centre, but white's position is miserable in any case and it is hard to suggest anything else. 18...exd3 19.Bxd3 Rfe8+ 20.Be2 Ne5 21.Bg5 Rd7 White resigns. He is powerless against the threat of 22... Nf3+ 0-1



17.Qxc6 bxa4! Winning material is one way i.e. 17...Rb8 18.Nc5 Rb6 19.Qd5 Rh5 but white prefers to sacrifice for mate 18.Qxa8 Qc5! 19.Qxc8+ Ke7 0-1

Theory

Gongora Montes,B (2256) - De la Paz,F (2442)

Carlos Torre Memorial Merida Mexico
2006

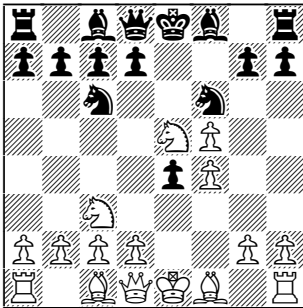
1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 f5 4.Bc4? fxe4 5.Nxe5 Nxe5 6.fxe5 Not 6.Qh5+ Ng6 7.f5 Qh4 and white doesn't win his piece back. d5 7.exd6 Bxd6

Part 1 Wahls' variation 4.exf3 e4 5.Ne5 Nf6

I am giving Wahls' variation 1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 f5 4.exf3 e4 5.Ne5 Nf6 as the mainline. White's alternatives to 5.Ne5 don't look all that promising i.e: 5.Qe2? Qe7? or 5.Ng5?! and there seems to be no advantages with having the knight on g5 instead of e5. For example 5...Nf6 6.Be2

(6.Nc3 d5) Bc5! 7.Bh5+ Kf8 8.Nc3 (8.Nf7 Qe8 9.Nxh8 Nxh5) 8...d5 9.Na4 Be7 10.0-0 Be7 11.0-0 Bxf5. After 5.Ne5 Wahls recommends 5...Nf6, but there is a good alternative which is 5...Nxe5 6.fxe5 Qe7 which I have called Wohl's variation (first played in game Gallagher – Wohl, Kuala Lumpur,1992). However, for the purposes of this article I will just concentrate on Wahls' variation. Here White has tried:

(A) 6.Nc3! I believe this is Whites best option and therefore made this the longest section in this article.

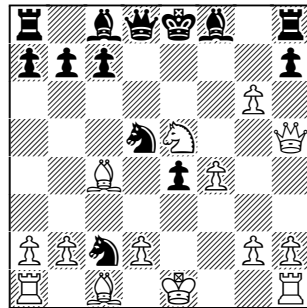


It is now a mistake to play 6...Bb4 because of 7.Nxe4! which gave white an advantage in Maes,W (2245) - Bauer,C (2528), Montpellier 1999. The point being that 7...Nxe4 8.Qh5 g6 9.fxg6 is winning for white.

Instead Wahls recommended the subtlety of losing a tempo with 6...Bd6 7.d4 Bb4 8.a3 Bxc3 9.bxc3 d6 10.Ng4 Nxg4 11.Qxg4 0-0=. But his analysis does not stand up to computer scrutiny and 10.Bc4! is an improvement when 10...dxe5? 11.fxe5

Black is losing. For example trying to trade his way out of difficulties with 11...Nxe5 12.dxe5 Qxd1 13.Kxd1 Ng4 fails to 14.e6! Nf2+ 15.Ke2 Nxh1 16.Bg5+-. Wahls also thought 6...d6 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.g4 h5 9.g5 Nd5 was ok for black, but I fail to see why White isn't clearly better a pawn up here after 10.Nxe4 Bxf5 11.d3.

My attention has been focused on the interesting but rather risky 6...Nd4!? which was given a ? by Wahls. The most natural move reply is 7.Bc4 (7.d3!? d6 8.Ng4 exd3 9.Bd3 Bxf5± may well be White's best, but I think Black is still ok here) 7...d5! 8.Nxd5 Nxd5 9.Qh5+ and this was assessed as +/- by Wahls. But going deeper into this line things are not nearly so certain 9...g6 10.fxg6 At first sight this looks really bad for Black, but he is still right in the game after Nxc2+!



11.Kf2! If 11.Kd1?? then Nce3+ 12.Ke1 Nxg2+ followed by 13...Nxf4-+; also 11.Kf1?! staying out of the path of a bishop coming to c5 or a Queen coming to h4 seems more natural, but is not so good after 11...Nf6 12.g7+ Nxh5 13.gxh8=Q (13.Bf7+ is essential) 13... Qh4!+ and

white has no good answer to the threat of Qe1 checkmate. **11...Nf6! 12.g7+ Nxh5 13.gxh8=Q Nf6!**∞ There is no time now for 13...Qh4+ 14.g3 Nxc3 15.Bf7+ Ke7 16.Ng6+ +-. After 13...Nf6 the position is very double-edged. A sample line to show some ideas is as follows: **14.Rb1 Bf5 15.b3 Qd6 16.Rb2 0-0-0 17.Rxc2 Bh6 18.Qxd8+ Qxd8 19.Ke1 Bxf4 20.Rf1 Nd5 21.Bxd5 Bxe5 22.Rxf5 Qxd5**± Deep Rybka 4 - Houdini 4, rapid 2014. I had these two chess engines play some rapid games to test 6...Nd4. Houdini drew when White, and won when Black.

Incidentally, what happens after **6...Nd4!? 7.Nxe4**? I suggest the following line is at least equal for Black **7...Nxe4 8.Qh5+ g6 9.fxg6 Nf6 10.g7+ Nxh5 11.gxh8=Q Qh4+**.

If my idea of **6...Nd4!?** does not suit your tastes (or you discover a flaw in my analysis), then another possible try is **6...Qe7!?** **7.Ng4 Nxc4 8.Qxc4 Qf7!?** **9.Nxe4 Qxf5 10.Qxf5 Bxf5** and black probably has compensation for the pawn but this needs further study.

(B) 6.Be2 Bc5! 7.Bh4+ Kf8 8.Nc3 (8.Nf7 Qe8 9.Nxh8 Nxh5±) **Qe7 9.Na4 Nxe5** Also good is **9...Bd4!?** as in the Illustrative game **10.fxe5** (10.Nxc5? Nf3+ 11.gxf3 Nxh5±) **10...Qxe5 11.Nxc5 Qxc5**±

(C) 6.d3 exd3 7.Bxd3 Bc5 8.Nc3 0-0 and black has active play as white cannot castle quickly.

(D) 6.d4 d6 now **7.Nxc6 bxc6** looks fine for black. For example **8.g4** can be met by **8...Nd5 9.h4 h5**. Black also gained

a clear advantage against **7.Bb5** in Panbukchian (2340) - Kozhuharov (2375) Bulgaria 2005 which continued **7... dxe5 8.fxe5 Bxf5 9.exf6 Qxf6 10.0-0 Bd6 11.Bxc6+? bxc6 12.Bf4 0-0 13.Nc3 Rae8 14.Qd2 Bxf4 15.Rxf4 g5 16.Rff1 e3**±

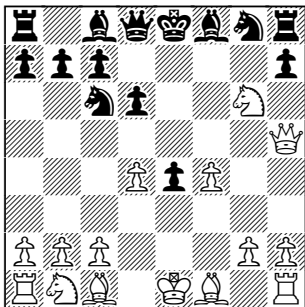
(E) 6.g4 Qe7!? Wahls considered **6... Nd5** and **6...Nh5** which are also possible **7.g5 Nxe5! 8.gxf6** (8.fxe5! Nd5) **8...Qxf6 9.Qh5+** (9.fxe5? Qh4+ 10.Ke2 Be7 -) **9... Nf7**±

(F) 6.Bc4?! d5 (6...Qe7!?) **7.Bb5 Bxf5! 8.Nxc6 bxc6 9.Bxc6+ Bd7 10.Bxd7** (10.Bxa8 Bg4) **10...Qxd7 11.0-0 Bc5+ 12.Kh1 0-0** and black has good compensation for the pawn.

(G) 6.Bb5?! Qe7 7.Be6 dxc6± Sandor (2350)-Wall (2369) Bayern, 2000.

Part 2 Whites main fourth move alternatives

(A) 4.d4 “This excellent-looking continuation is in fact rather weak” is what Wahls had to say. **4...fxe4 5.Nxe5 d6 6.Qh5+?** better is **6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.d5 Bd7 8.c4 Nf6 9.Nc3 g6 10.Be2 Bg7 11.Qc2 0-0** Perez Costa – Mitkov (2509) Aceimar, 1999 **6...g6 7.Nxc6**



7...Nf6 8.Qh4 Nxd4 9.Nxh8 Nxc2+
10.Kd1 Nxa1 11.Be2 Bg7 12.Bh5+ Kf8
13.Nf7 Qe8-+ (Wahls).

(B) 4.d3 d6! 5.Nc3 Nf6 I call this the
"Symmetrical Variation" 6.g3 (6.Be2 Be7
7.0-0 0-0 8.fxe5 dxe5 9.exf5 Bxf5 10.Ng5
Bc5+ (10...Nd5 ♣ Rybka) 11.Kh1 Qd7
12.Bf3 Ng4= Wahls) 6...g6 7.Bg2 Bg7 If
this was two school children playing they
would be giggling by now 8.fxe5 dxe5
9.Bg5 h6 10.Be3 0-0 11.0-0 (11.exf5=)
11...fxe4 (11...f4 12.gxf4 exf4 13.Bxf4
Nxe4! ♣) 12.dxe4 Be6= Ivanchuk,V (2754)
- Nakamura,H (2733) Rapid, France 2010.
It's not two school children after-all!

(C) 4.Nc3 fxe4 5.Nxe5 (5.Nxe4?! d5
6.Nc3 e4 ♣) 5...Nf6!?! Wahls suggests this
move with no further analysis. White has
several options here:

(C1) 6.d3 Qe7!?! (6...exd3!?! leads to
the positions in C2)

(C2) 6.d4 exd3 7.Bxd3 Bc5 8.Ne4
Nxe5 9.Nxc5 Nxd3+ 10.Qxd3 Westerinen
(2410) - Liiva (2425) now 11...Qe7+
12.Qe3 d6 ♣

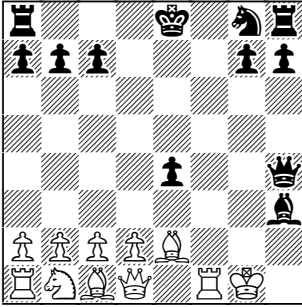
(C3) 6.Bc4 d5 7.Bb5 Bd7 doesn't seem
to lead to much for white.

(C4) 6.Nxe4!?! (Bangiev) when 6...
Nxe4 7.Qh4+ g6 8.Nxg6 hg 9.Qg6+ Ke7
10.Qxe4 is unclear and not a comfortable
position for black to play in practice.
Computer analysis suggests 6...Qe7! 7.d3
Nxe4 8.Nxc6 dxc6 9.dxe4 Qxe4+ 10.Qe2
Bf5 ♣.

(C5) 6.g4? This is just asking for
punishment 6...Nd4! 7.g5 d6 8.gxf6 Qxf6
and with the mate threat on h4 white is just
busted.

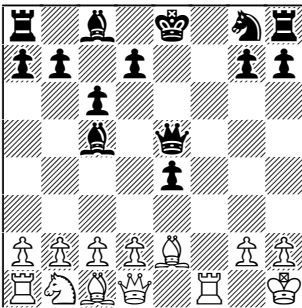
Part 3 White's less dangerous fourth move alternatives

(A) 4.Bc4? fxe4 5.Nxe5 Nxe5 6.fxe5
Not 6.Qxh5+ Ng6 7.f5 Qh4 -+ 6...d5
7.exd6 Bxd6 8.0-0 If 8.Qh5+ g6 9.Qe2 is
the illustrative game Gongora Montes
(2256) - De la Paz (2442), while 9.Qb5+ c6
10.Qb3 is a strange computer suggested
Queen manoeuvre to cover the g3 square,
but after 10...Nf6 ♣ black stands better.
Also 8.g3 Nc6 ♣ 8...Qh4 9.g3 Bxg3!
Black's attack is decisive. For example an
attractive finish would be: 10.hxg3 Qxg3+
11.Kh1 Bg4 12.Be2 Qh4+ 13.Kg1 Bh3



14.Qe1 Qg5+ 15.Kf2 e3+! 16.dxe3 Qg2#

(B) 4.Bb5? fxe4 5.Nxe5?! Nxe5 6.fxe5 c6!? The straight 6...Qg5 also looks strong 7.Be2 The reason I favour 6...c6!? is because after the obvious reply 7.Bc4 then 7...d5 reaches the same position as in the 4.Bc4 line, but with the extra black move c6 – see Part 3A 7...Qg5 8.0-0 Bc5+ 9.Kh1 Qxe5



and Black has the advantage. But is it more-so than if he'd played the straight 6...Qg5? White can improve in this whole line with 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nxe5 Nf6 (6...Qh4+!?) and I think Black is slightly better

here anyway. Overall I don't consider either 4.Bc4 or 4.Bb5 gives black anything to worry about, and even black can count on gaining the advantage.

Scott Wastney is available for email or internet chess coaching. Please contact Scott on kiwichess@xtra.co.nz or visit my homepage to find out more about me <http://kiwichess.ediy.co.nz/>

Please also remember to contact me if you have an opening you would like me to discuss in the next issue of NZ Chess.

Solutions to Chess Tactics

- No 1 **1...Qxf2+ 2.Kxf2 Ng4+** followed by **3...Nxb6**
- No 2 **1.Nf6+ Nxf6 2.Qxd5 Nxd5 3.Rxe6** wins the exchange
- No 3 **1...Ba7** wins the exchange
- No 4 **1...Qxe3 2.Kxe3 Bg5+** followed by **3...Rxb7**
- No 5 **1.Bg6!** A sacrifice which opens either the 7th rank or f-file for the attack **1...Rxb7 2.Qh8+ Kf7 3.Rh7+** or **1...Qxg6 2.Qh8+ Kf7 3.Rf1+ Ke7 4.Qf8#**
- No 6 **1.Nde4 dxe4 2.Nxe4 Qh4 3.g3 Qh3 4.Nf2** traps the queen
- No 7 **1.Rxb6+ Kf7 (1...Kxh6 2.Qh8+ Kg6 3.Qh5#) 2.Rxf6+**
- No 8 **1...Rxc4! 2.Qxc4 Rc8** traps the queen and after **3.Qxc8 Bxc8**

4.Rxc8 Qxe3 white gets two rooks for the queen, but his position is collapsing. For example **5.Nf2 g5!**

No 9 **1.Rxg7+ Kxg7 2.Bf8+!** The only way to win which was missed in the game. Both captures **2...Rxf8 3.Qe7+** and **2...Kxf8 3.Qf6+** lead to mate.

No 10 **1.Nh5!!** Now if **1...Bxh6 2.Qxh6 gxh5 3.Qg5+ Kf8 4.Qe7+** or **1...gxh5 2.Qg5+ Kh8 3.Qf6+ Kg8 4.Qxf7+** or **1...Qxa6 2.Nf6+ Kh8 3.Bxf8** (threatening **4.Qh6**) **3...Ne3 4.Bxd6+-**. In the game black tried **1...Bg7 2.Bxg7 Qxa7 3.Qh6 f5 4.Ng5 1-0**

for?) **4...b4 5.Bg2 d5 6.0-0 Be7** (6...Nbd7 7.Nbd2 c5 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.Nb3 Be7 10.Nfd4 Bb7 11.a5 The idea here is that the b pawn does not get supported and can fall and all endgames are winning for White. Russell plays a different way and allows the pawn to be swapped.) **7.c4 bxc3 8.bxc3 0-0 9.c4 c6 10.Nbd2 Nbd7 11.Qc2 Ba6 12.Re1 c5 13.e4 Nxe4 14.Nxe4 dxe4 15.Rxe4 Bb7** Black's game is trending ever so slightly in his favour, the pawns look a little precarious. **16.Re1 cxd4 17.Bb2 Bf6 18.Nxd4 Bxg2 19.Kxg2 Qc7 20.Red1 Rab8 21.Ba3 Rfc8 22.Rac1 Qb7+ 23.Kh3** This is not a nice move to play. Black is a little better, but with Russell's time trouble issues, this is a very dangerous place to have a King, and Ben is just the kind of player that would set up nasty traps. **23...Nc5**

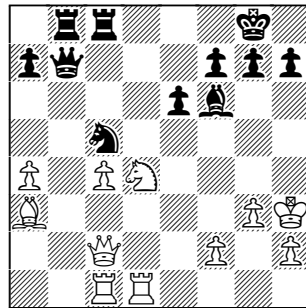
NZ Championship Games - Continued

Mike Steadman concludes his coverage of the best games from Congress

Round 6

Russell Dive – Ben Hague

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 b5 Important game this one, Russell to consolidate his lead, Ben to get into the mix. This opening is right up Ben's alley, interesting chess will unfold. **4.a4** (4.Nbd2 Bb7 5.Nb3 Be7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 a5 8.a4 b4 Black has an OK position - what more could you ask

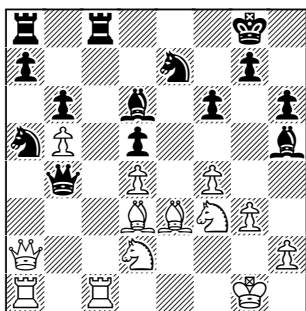


24.Nb5? This loses because it allows **Qf3** and then **Nc5-e4-g5** (24.Rb1 Qa8 25.Rxb8 Qxb8 26.f3 h6 27.Bxc5 Rxc5 28.Nb3 Rc8 29.c5 The position is about equal, but still 11 moves to find in time trouble) **24...Qf3! 25.Bb4 Ne4 26.Be1 Ng5+ 27.Kh4 h5 0-1**

Leonard McLaren – Mike Steadman

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c3 d5 This is a sneaky

line, you have to be ready to play an Advance French, never a problem for me. **4.exd5 exd5 5.d4 Nc6 6.Be3 c4** This is the line I had found. Saw a game where Nunn beat Mickey Adams in about 30 moves, has to be good doesn't it? **7.b3 cxb3 8.axb3 Bd6 9.Bd3 Nge7** This is the idea for Black, isolated pawn, but good piece activity and White's game is actually not as good as it looks. **10.b4 b6** An important idea - the Knight needs to be able to get to a5 when White throws in b5. **11.Nbd2 0-0 12.Qb1 h6 13.0-0 Bg4 14.b5 Na5** This position looks good for White, but in fact Black is going to be good in a few moves. One of those positions the computer struggles with. **15.Ne5 Bh5 16.f4 f6 17.Nef3 Qc7** Now White loses a pawn, the house is beginning to fall. **18.g3 Qxc3 19.Rc1 Qb4 20.Qa2 Rfc8**



21.Nh4? (21.Rcb1 Qc3 22.Ne1 Kh8 23.Bf2 Qc7 Black is a safe pawn up.) **21...Rc3!** After this move the tactics are all in Black's favour and he inevitably wins more material **22.Rcb1 Qa3 23.Qc2 Rxc2 24.Rxa3 Rxd2 25.Rc3 Rxd3 26.Rxd3** What a success this opening has been, White is dead, just needs finishing off now. **26...g5 27.fxg5 fxg5 28.g4 Bxg4 29.Rb2 Nc4 30.Rf2 Bd7 31.Ng2 Bxb5** White could

resign. **32.h4 Rf8 33.Rxf8+ Kxf8 34.hxg5 Nxe3 35.Rxe3 hxg5 36.Re6 Bb4 37.Ne3 Bc3 38.Rxe7 Bxd4 0-1**

Round 7

Anthony Ker – Puchen Wang

1.e4 c5 2.c3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.Nf3 e6 5.d4 cxd4 6.cxd4 d6 7.Bc4 Nc6 8.Qe2 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nc3 Nxc3 11.bxc3 dxe5 12.dxe5 Qa5 This is pretty much the main line in this variation, now Anthony goes away from the main line, not a good experiment. **13.Bd3** (13.Bd2 Rd8 14.Rfe1 Bd7 15.Bb3 Be8 16.Qe4 Qc5 17.Ng5 g6 18.Qh4 h5 19.Qf4 Bxg5 20.Qxg5 This is more in the spirit, of the line. For the damaged pawns, Black has terminal dark squares and no Bishop to help.) **13...Rd8 14.Rd1 g6 15.Rb1 b6 16.Bg5!?** Bb7 (16...Bxg5 17.Nxg5 Qxe5 18.Qxe5 Nxe5 19.Be4 Rxd1+ 20.Rxd1 Rb8 21.f4 White has compensation for the pawn. Puchen wants none of this and goes for the safe option, the pawn on c3 is the target.) **17.Qe3 Qxc3 18.Bxe7 Nxe7 19.Rbc1 Qb4 20.Ng5 Qg4 21.Ne4 Bxe4 22.Qxe4 Qh5** (22...Qxe4 23.Bxe4 Rxd1+ 24.Rxd1 Rc8 25.f3 Rc7 Black is in no danger of losing, but a long endgame will ensue trying to Queen that extra pawn.) **23.Be2 Qh6**

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Tournament website: www.newzealandchess.co.nz
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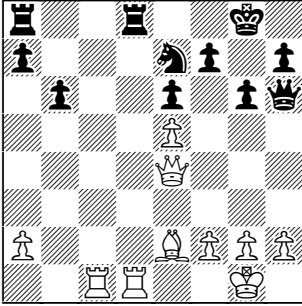


2014 New Zealand Champion:
International Master Puchen Wang

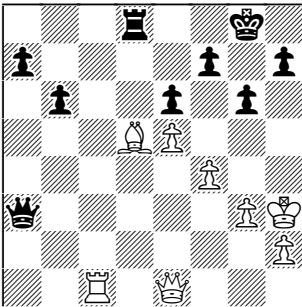


A POISON PAWN GRAND PRIX EVENT

38.Kg3 b5 39.Qa5 Qd7 40.Qd2 b4
41.Qxb4 d2 42.Qc4+ Qf7 0-1



24.f4 (24.Qb7 This is the way to make Black regret not swapping Queens. Look at the difference between the two pieces, White has compensation for the pawn now.) 24...Nd5 25.g3 Qf8 26.Bf3 Rac8 The world is all good now, Puchen can go about converting the win. 27.Kg2 Rxc1 28.Rxc1 Qa3 29.Qe1 Qxa2+ 30.Kh3 Qa3 31.Bxd5

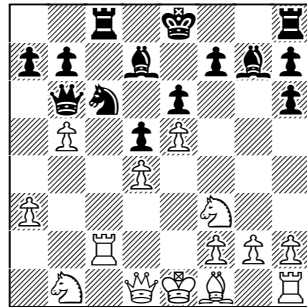


31...exd5! (31...Rxd5 32.Rc3 Qb2 33.Qc1 Qxc1 34.Rxc1 The two pawns will win, the moved played gives White some practical chances to fozzle.) 32.e6 (32.Rc7 d4 33.e6 f6 34.e7 Re8 35.Qe6+ Kg7 36.Qd7 Kf7 37.Qd5+ Kg7 38.Qd7 And a draw, Anthony misses his chance.) 32...Qe7 33.exf7+ Qxf7 34.Qd2 d4 White could resign now. 35.Re1 d3 36.g4 a5 37.Re3 a4

Ben Hague – Mike Steadman

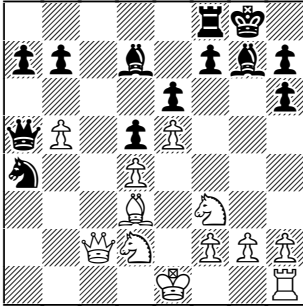
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Qb6 A rare move for me, I wanted to try something, but Ben surprises me too. 6.a3 Nh6 7.b4 cxd4 8.Bxh6 This is the surprise, not a big problem as I play the early Nh6 at times, so the doubled h pawns are a feature of some of my games, and not a really big problem. 8...gxh6 9.cxd4 Bd7 10.Ra2 This is the new approach, White brings the Rook to c2 and leaves the Knight at home for the time being. (10.Be2 Rc8 11.0-0 Bg7 12.Qd2 0-0 13.Ra2 (13.Nc3!? Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Bxe5 15.Ndb5 Bxb5 16.Nxb5 a6 17.Rad1 axb5 18.Qxh6 Bg7) 13...f6 14.b5 Ne7 15.exf6 Rxf6 16.Nc3 Ng6 A wild position, but shows you the ideas behind the line for Black. For the doubled pawns Black has active pieces and pressure on the d pawn, along with the 2 Bishops. Anyway, I prefer Black in these kinds of positions, but then again I am a French bigot :-)

10...Rc8 11.Rc2 Bg7 12.b5?

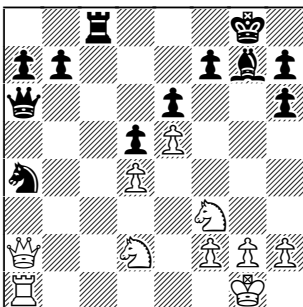


This has to be a mistake, the pawns become very weak. White missed the Knight bouncing back out to b6 too help clean up the weak pawns. (12.Nc3 0-0 13.Na4 Qd8

14.Nc5 Rc7 15.b5 Ne7 16.a4 Ng6 White is maybe slightly better, but Black will get activity with f6 again.) 12...Ne7 13.Rxc8+ Nxc8 14.a4 Qa5+ 15.Nbd2 Nb6 The pawns begin to fall, White needs something quickly. 16.Bd3 Nxa4 17.Qc2 0-0



The h7 pawn means nothing compared to getting the other Rook active. White has no time to get his pawn back. 18.0-0 (18.Bxh7+ Kh8 19.Bd3 Rc8 20.Qb1 Nc3 21.Qb2 Qa2 22.Qxa2 Nxa2 23.0-0 Nc1 24.Ne1 Nxd3 25.Nxd3 Bxb5 26.Rc1 Rxc1+ 27.Nxc1 And the 2 Bishops and 2 passed pawns win easily.) 18...Rc8 19.Qa2 Bxb5 20.Bxb5 Qxb5 21.Ra1 Qa6



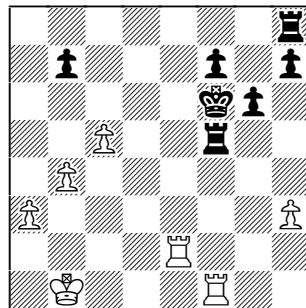
The Knight is safe because of the Rc1+ and Rxa1. 22.Nb3 b5 23.h4 Qc6 24.Rc1 Nc3 25.Qd2 Qc4 Game over, the piece is lost,

or an Exchange goes with the Ne2 check. A French player's dream. 0-1

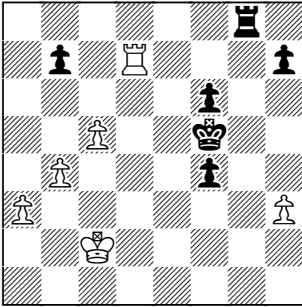
Round 8

Anthony Ker - William Li

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.dxc5 (6.Be2 cxd4 7.cxd4 e6 8.Nc3 This is easily the main line here, but dxc5 is not all doom and gloom.) 6...Qxd1+ 7.Kxd1 e5 8.b4 a5 9.Bb5 (9.b5 Nd8 10.c6 bxc6 11.h3 Bxf3+ 12.gxf3 Bc5 13.Kc2 Ne7 14.Nd2 It might not be clear but White is better here. Pawns may be ugly, but those two Bishops are going to be monsters.) 9...Nge7 10.Nbd2 (10.Kc2 Bxf3 11.gxf3 axb4 12.cxb4 0-0-0 13.Bxc6 Nxc6 14.Bd2 Not much in this, but enough that Anthony could probably outplay William.) 10...axb4 11.cxb4 0-0-0 12.Bxc6 Nxc6 13.a3 Nd4 14.h3 Bxf3+ 15.gxf3 g6 16.Ra2 Nxf3 (16...Bh6 17.Ne4 Nb3+ 18.Nd6+ Rxd6+ 19.cxd6 Nxc1 20.Rc2+ Kd7 21.Rxc1 Bxc1 22.Kxc1 Rc8+ 23.Kb2 Rc4 Black is better in this endgame, pawn structure is better and d6 will fall soon.) 17.Kc2 Nd4+ 18.Kb1 Ne2 19.Ne4 Nc1 20.Rxc1 Be7 21.Re2 Kd7 22.Nc3 Bg5 23.Rg1 Bf6 24.Ne4 Ke6 25.f4 Rd5 26.Nxf6 Kxf6 27.fxe5+ Rxe5 28.Rf1+ Rf5



29.Rxf5? (29.Rd1 Rf3 30.Rd6+ Kg5 31.Rb6 Rxh3 32.a4 The white pawns are more advanced and he should win.)
 29...gxf5 30.Kc2 Rg8 31.Rd2 f4 32.Rd6+ Kf5 33.Rd7 f6

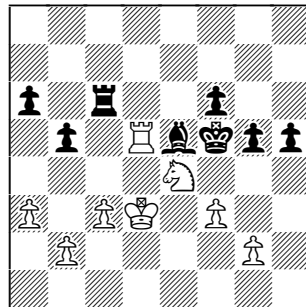


34.Rxb7?? (34.Kd2 Re8 35.Rd3 Rg8 36.b5 Ke4 37.c6 bxc6 38.bxc6 Rg2+ 39.Kc3 Rg1 40.Rd2 f3 41.c7 Rc1+ 42.Rc2 Rxc2+ 43.Kxc2 f2 They could agree a draw here. The move played is horrible, now his King gets cut off and the f pawn will queen.)
 34...f3 35.Kd2 Re8 0-1

Bob Smith - Russell Dive

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.dxc3 Russell had plenty of practice with this line during the event, surely there is another line against the Petroff :-). 6...Be7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.0-0-0 Ne5 10.Be2 (10.Kb1 Re8 11.Nd4 a6 12.f3 c5 13.Nb3 Be6 14.Qf2 Qc7 15.h3 Nc4 16.Bxc4 Bxc4 17.Qg3 Bf8 18.Bf4 Is the best I could find for White, shows Black really has no worries against this line, Russell is onto a winner here.) 10...Ng4 This is why Be2 scores badly, Black gets the 2 Bishops and a easy game now. 11.Bd4 c5 12.h3 cxd4 13.hxg4 dxc3 14.Qxc3 Bxg4 15.Qd3 h6 16.Nd4 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Black is a cold pawn up and has

the Bishop vs Knight endgame coming. 17...Qb6 18.Qg3 Bf6 19.c3 Rfe8 20.Rxd6 Qb5 (Better is 20...Qa5! 21.Nd4 Bxd4 22.Rxd4 Qxa2 23.Rhd1 A hard one to convert, but White's King has a few holes around it.) 21.Nd4 Bg5+ 22.Kb1 Qc5 23.Rd7 Bf6 24.Qf3 Rad8 25.Nb3 (White would have saved the day with 25.Rxb7 Qg5 26.Rxa7 Qg6+ 27.Ka1 Bxd4 28.cxd4 Rxd4) 25...Qe5 26.Rhd1 Rxd7 27.Rxd7 b5 28.a3 Qe6 29.Qd5 a6 30.Qxe6 Rxe6 31.Kc2 g5 32.Kd1 Kg7 33.Nc5 Rc6 34.Ne4 Be5 35.Ke2 Kg6 36.Rd5 f6 37.Kd3 h5 38.f3 Kf5



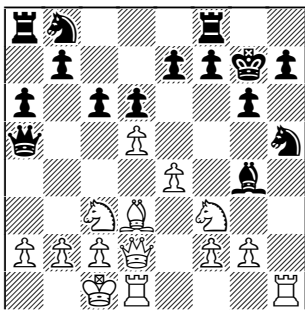
White has drifted and Black's King gets active and will clean up the weak pawns. 39.b3 Kf4 40.c4 bxc4+ 41.bxc4 Rb6 42.Ke2 h4 43.c5 Rb5 44.Rd2 f5 45.Nf2 Kg3 46.Nd3 Bc7 47.a4 Rb1 48.Ne1 Ba5 49.Rd1 Rxd1 50.Kxd1 g4 51.fxg4 fxg4 0-1

Round 9

Leonard McLaren - Anthony Ker

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Be3 a6 6.Bd3 Bg4 7.Qd2 This is the kind of thing that Leonard plays, but it just looks planless to me (Ed: Although Leonard almost makes the direct Fischer plan of O-

O-O, Bh6, h4, h5, hg then check, check and mate work), Black has easy equality and has good scores against these kind of setups. **7...Nc6 8.d5 Nb8 9.Bh6 0-0 10.h4 c6 11.0-0-0 Qa5? 12.h5** Things have heated up here. White is much better now, just the place where Anthony is at his most dangerous. **12...Nxb5 13.Bxg7 Kxg7**

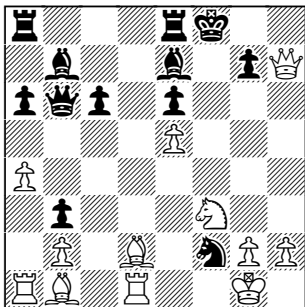


14.Rh4 (14.Qg5 Bxf3 15.gxf3 Nf6 16.Qh6+ Kg8 17.e5 dxe5 18.Ne4 Nbd7 19.dxc6 bxc6 20.Bc4 Rfd8 21.Rdgl Black is helpless against the threats to g6 and his King.) **14...Bxf3 15.gxf3 Nd7 16.Rxh5 gxh5 17.Qg5+ Kh8 18.e5 Rg8 19.Qxe7** (19.Qf5 Nf8 20.exd6 exd6 21.Qxf7 Ng6 22.Qxb7 cxd5 23.Bxg6 hxg6 24.Rxd5 Qd8 25.Ne4 The computer defends as Black, but White's position is much easier to play and Black's King is permanently unsafe. The move played allows Black to consolidate.) **19...Nxe5 20.Qxd6 Nxd3+ 21.cxd3 Qd8 22.Qe5+ f6 23.Qxh5 Rg5 24.Qf7 Rg7 25.Qh5 cxd5 26.Re1 Rc8 27.Kb1 Qg8 28.Qf5 Rc6 29.a3 Rg1 30.Rxg1 Qxg1+** Black is now winning, typical Anthony stuff. Soak up the pressure, be losing at some stage, but win anyway. **31.Ka2 d4 32.Nd5 Qg8 33.Kb1 Qe6 34.Qxe6 Rxe6** Game over **35.Nf4 Rc6 36.Ne2 h5 37.Nf4 Rc5 38.Nh3 h4 39.b4 Rc3 40.Nf4 Kh7**

41.Kb2 Kh6 0-1

Russell Dive – Mike Steadman

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 c6 This was the new Russell, gone were the Englishes, and out came mainlines. I started making it up from here, but after the miserable loss yesterday, was keen to mix it up and not go down on my knees. I get my wish :- (**3.c4 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5 8.Bd3 a6 9.a4** Thought I was going to repeat the line Gino and I had played, so was worried about whatever the chess engines had come up with, but no, here was Russell's line. **9...Bb7 10.0-0 Be7** (10...b4 11.Nb1 c5 12.Nbd2 Be7 13.Qe2 0-0 14.a5 Qc7 15.Rd1 Nd5 This might be more in spirit of the line, hard to know what is happening.) **11.Qe2 0-0 12.Rd1 Qb6 13.Bd2 Rfe8 14.e4 e5?** This is just a bad move and gets rightly punished. Black needed to play the move he was preparing all game. (14...c5 15.e5 c4 16.Bc2 Nd5 17.Ng5 Nf8 18.Qh5 Bxg5 19.Bxg5 Ng6 20.Ne4 White's game is more pleasant to play, the Knight on d5 is Black's only good piece.) **15.dxe5 Ng4 16.e6 fxe6 17.e5 Nc5?** This was all based on a faulty combinaton, Russell saw the move I missed. Shows why he's the IM and I am not. (17...b4 18.Qe4 Qxf2+ 19.Kh1 Qh4 20.Nxh4 Nf2+ 21.Kg1 Nxe4 22.Nxe4 Bxh4 23.Nd6 White is still winning, Black is doomed here.) **18.Be2** (18.Ne1 Nh6 19.Bxh6 gxh6 20.Ne4 Black's position is to be pitied. Would you really like to be playing Russell in this position?) **18...b4 19.Ne4 b3 20.Bb1 Nxe4 21.Qxe4 Nxf2 22.Qxh7+ Kf8**



23.Rf1! This is the move I'd missed, now my planned Philidor's smothered mate with Nh3+ Qg1+ and Nf2 mate fails because Nxg1 comes with a discovered check. I can resign, mate is close at hand. **23...Bc5**
24.Bg5 1-0

Auckland CC March Weekender

by *FM Mike Steadman*

We intend to hold 3 weekender events again this year. The idea is we look to the calendar and check for the gaps and offer a different kind of event to see if the idea takes off. We had been experimenting with various time controls last year, and none of them seemed to really fit the needs. This time we tried 60 minutes plus 30 second increments. It drops 30 minutes off the standard time control but allows us to add a 6th round, seemed like a good compromise to us. We allowed the players to have a bye in the first 4 rounds, some wanted to watch the rugby Saturday night and not play chess – imagine that :-)

This year we got 40 players, so this can be counted as a success, we need 38 to break even – so looks like we can try this again.

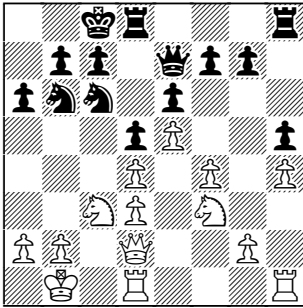
As usual Ben Hague was the favourite, but Paul Garbett and Bob Smith both entered as well as a couple of strong 2100 players. Hopefully Ben wouldn't have the simple coast home he has had in all the events to date post congress.

The first couple of rounds went to form and there were no real surprises. Round 3 saw Bob drop a half point, Paul beat Gino to be on 3 with Ben who dealt to William Li – they were then leading the field. In round 4 Ben beat Bob and took charge of the event as Paul took a bye . Bob was unlucky to lose and effectively took him out of the hunt for first. So Ben had a half point advantage on Paul and their game in round 5 was key to deciding the event. In the end a draw was the result, so Ben was pretty much guaranteed 1st and he had played the key players. The last round was a race by all players for the minor places. John Duneas managed to draw and Paul Garbett won and Benji Lim, this took him to 1st equal with 4 people sharing 3rd =.

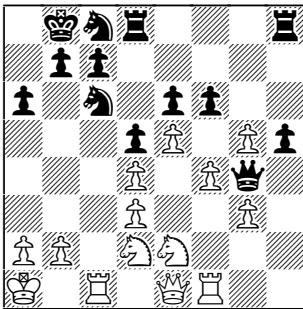
Bob Smith – Ben Hague

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e5 Nfd7 6.Bxe7 Qxe7 7.f4 a6 8.Nf3 Nb6 (8...c5 9.Qd2 Nc6 10.dxc5 Qxc5 11.0-0-0 b5 12.Ne2 Nb6 13.Ned4 Bd7 14.Nxc6 Bxc6 15.Nd4 Bd7 16.h4 This is the kind of stuff White should be doing. Looks risky, but the d4 Knight is a monster and the attack will get going.) 9.Qd2 Bd7 10.0-0-0! This is not so good now, Black gets the chance to swap off the light squared Bishop. **10...Bb5 11.Bd3 Nc6 12.Kb1**

Bxd3 13.cxd3 0-0-0 14.h4 h5

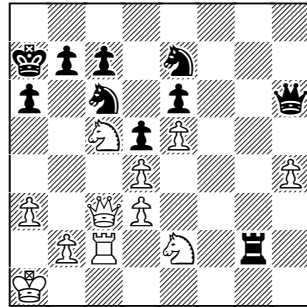


Black has fully equalised here, White should be looking to settle for a draw, something has gone wrong. **15.Rc1 f6 16.g3 Qf7 17.Ne2 Qg6 18.Ka1 Qg4 19.Rhf1 Kb8 20.Qe1 Nc8 21.Nd2 g5?** A bit too optimistic, White now gets another go on top **22.hxg5**

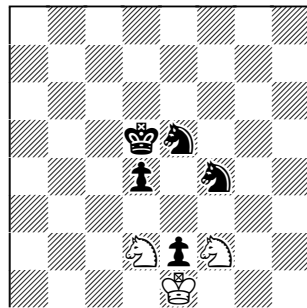


22...fxg5 23.Nb3 (23.fxg5 Rhf8 24.Nf4 Nxd4 25.Qe3 Nc6 26.Rxc6 bxc6 27.Nb3 A thematic Exchange sac, the knights are really strong and the Rooks have no files to work with.) **23...N8e7** (23...h4 24.Rxc6 bxc6 25.Nc5 Nb6 26.gxh4 Rxh4 27.Rg1 Qf3 28.fxg5 Rh2 Unlike the last version, Black has some activity that would worry White.) **24.fxg5 Qxg5 25.Rf6?** (25.Nc5 Rh6 26.Rf7 Rdh8 27.Nf4 h4 28.gxh4 Qxh4

29.Qxh4 Rxh4 30.Nfxe6 White is a healthy pawn up and should win.) **25...Rh6 26.Rxh6 Qxh6 27.Nc5 Rg8 28.Qc3 Ka7 29.a3 h4 30.gxh4 Rg2 31.Rc2**



31...Qe3 32.Nc1 Rxc2 33.Qxc2 Nxd4 34.Qc3 Nb5 35.Qc2 Qxe5 36.Nd7 Qd6 37.Qc5+ b6 38.Qxd6 Nxd6 White can possibly hold, but in these time controls..... **39.Kb1 Kb7 40.Kc2 Nf7 41.h5 Nf5 42.Ne2 e5 43.Nf6 c6 44.Kd2 Kc7 45.Ng4 Kd6 46.Ke1 N7h6 47.Nh2 Ke6 48.Kf2 c5 49.b4 cxb4 50.axb4 a5 51.bxa5 bxa5 52.Nc3 Ng7 53.Nf3 Nxb5** Now it is over **54.Nd2 Nf4 55.Nb3 Nxd3+ 56.Ke2 Nf4+ 57.Kd2 d4 58.Nd1 Kd5 59.Nxa5 Ng4 60.Nb3 e4 61.Ke1 Ne5 62.Kf1 Nc4 63.Kf2 e3+ 64.Ke1 e2 65.Nf2 Ne5 66.Nd2 1-0**

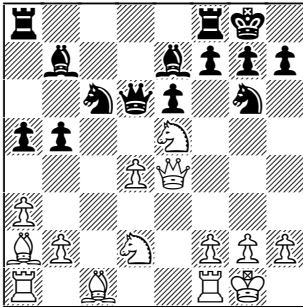


A symmetrical, and rather picturesque final

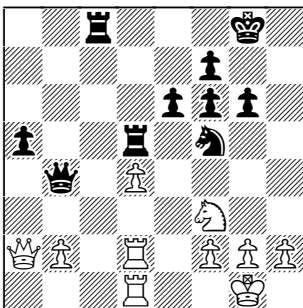
zugzwang. Next move White must move one of the knights allowing instant mate.

Ben Hague – Paul Garbett

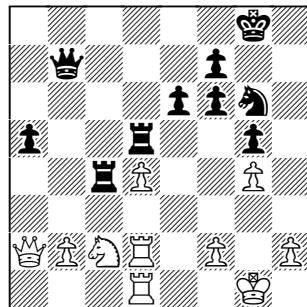
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c3 Nf6 4.e5 Nd5 5.d4 cxd4 6.Bc4 Nc6 7.cxd4 d6 8.0–0 Be7 9.Qe2 0–0 10.a3 a5 11.Nbd2 Nf4 12.Qe4 Ng6 13.exd6 Qxd6 14.Ba2 b5 15.Ne5 Bb7



(15...Ncxe5! 16.Qxa8 Nc6 17.a4 Qc7 18.axb5 Bb7 19.Qxf8+ Kxf8 20.bxc6 Qxc6 When there are many minor pieces on the board, the Queen is almost always stronger than the two Rooks.) 16.Nxg6 hxg6 17.Nf3 Rad8 18.Be3 Ba8 19.Qg4 Bf6 20.Rfd1 Ne7 21.Bf4 Qb6 22.Be5 Bd5 23.Bxf6 gxf6 24.Bxd5 Rxd5 25.Rd2 Rfd8 26.Rad1 Qd6 27.Qe4 b4 28.axb4 Qxb4 29.Qc2 Rc8 30.Qb1 Nf5 31.Qa2



31...Rc4 (31...Nxd4 32.Rxd4 Rxd4 33.Nxd4 Qxd4 34.Qa1 Qb4 35.h3 Rc2 36.b3 Rc3 37.Rb1 Black can torture White for a long time. He has a simple plan, just push the Kingside pawns and see what happens. At some stage it will create a passed pawn.) 32.g4? Ne7 (32...Nxd4 33.Rxd4 Rxd4 34.Rxd4 Rxd4 35.Nxd4 Qxd4 36.h3 Qd2 Black again can torture White for ages. No chance of losing with every chance of victory.) 33.Kg2 g5 34.Ne1 Ng6 (34...Rcx4 35.Rxd4 Rxd4 36.Rxd4 Qxd4 37.Qxa5 Qxg4+ Black should win, the Queen and Knight will be a force with the White King having no shelter.) 35.Nc2 Qb7 36.Kg1



36...Rxc2!?! (36...Nh4! and Black's pieces are swarming all over White) 37.Rxc2 Nh4 38.Kf1 Rb5 39.Qc4 Qh1+ 40.Ke2 Qe4+ 41.Kf1 Qh1+ 42.Ke2 Qf3+ 43.Kd2 Qf4+ 44.Ke2 Qe4+ 45.Kf1 Qh1+ 46.Ke2 A game where Black had many chances and White had few. ½–½

The July issue of New Zealand Chess will be delayed until August due to the Editor's travel plans. Hopefully he will pick up some chess stories on the trip.

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- Ashburton, contact Secretary Ken Pow, (03) 308 3655. email pw@ashcoll.school.nz
- Auckland Chess Centre, contact Club President Bruce Wheeler, (09) 630 2042
- Canterbury, contact Secretary Craig Hall, Ph. 021-1289-543, email canterbury@chess.org.nz
- Chess for Miracle (Auckland), contact Victor Wang, email chesswangnz@gmail.com.
- Chess Power, contact: Paul Macdonald, 0800-4-CHESS, email paul@chesspower.co.nz.
- Gisborne Eastern Knights, contact Al Hutchinson, email alhutchinson216@gmail.com; also contact Noble Keelan, phone 022 326 9840
- Hamilton, contact Secretary Ian Kennedy, email ian_kennedy@clear.net.nz
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- Judkins Chess (Hamilton), contact President Gary Judkins, email g.judkins@stpauls.school.nz
- Kapiti, contact R Kingston, email zandro@xtra.co.nz
- Karamea, contact Secretary David Roberts, (03) 7826 979, email davidatarapito@gmail.com
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- Mount Maunganui RSA, Contact: Caleb Wright, email first25plus5@gmail.com
- Nelson, contact Dan Dolejs, 027-687-1447 or 538 0707
- New Plymouth, contact Errol Tuffery (06) 758 2626
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- Papatoetoe, contact John McRae, (09) 278 4520
- Upper Hutt, contact Club Captain Roger Smith, (04) 971 6528, email roger.smith.uh@gmail.com
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- Wanganui, contact Bill Maddren, (06) 344 3298
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