

New Zealand Chess

Magazine of the New Zealand Chess Federation (Inc)

October 2014

Volume 41 Number 4



New Zealand at the Tromso Olympiad Also

- ***Richard Sutton Remembered***
- ***North Shore Open***
- ***New Problem Column and much more***

Official publication of the New Zealand Chess Federation (Inc), published quarterly: January, April, July, October

All games available electronically at www.nzchessmag.com

Please send all reports, letters and other contributions to the Editor at bill@nzchessmag.com. Send subscriptions enquiries to subs@nzchessmag.com.

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Annual Subscription Rates

NZ: \$24.00 plus postage \$4.00 total \$28.00

International: NZD 24.00 plus postage NZD 12.00. Send cheques to NZCF at the address below or check nzchessmag.com for online payment options.

Advertising Rates

Full page \$50.00

Half Page Horizontal \$30.00

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PO Box 216, Shortland Street, Auckland

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Cover: Layla Timergazi meets Olympiad poster girl, Elise Sjøttem Jacobsen of Norway. Photo credit: Helen Milligan

Columnists

Regular columnist Scott Wastney takes a well-earned break this time out, I am sure readers will be pleased to hear he has confirmed his involvement for 2015.

A new columnist has offered his services, and accordingly this issue sees the debut “Problem Kingdom” column from Linden Lyons of Melbourne. Please take a look, for the uninitiated this could be an introduction to a whole new realm of chess enjoyment.

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NZ at the Women's Olympiad – by Peter Stuart

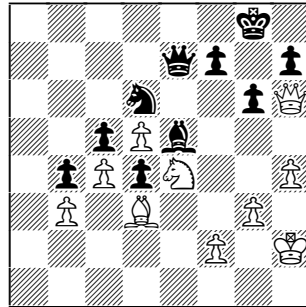
The increase in number of teams in the Women's Olympiad continued, with 136 teams at Tromsø, three of them from host country Norway. New Zealand's team of Helen Milligan, Marany Meyer, Judy Gao, Nicole Tsoi and Layla Timergazi was seeded 73rd, about where we have been in recent Olympiads.

It was clear that we'd be up against a top seed in the first round and it turned out to be India, ranked fifth. An average rating difference of well over 400 was indeed ominous, though Judy's exchange sac gave her adequate compensation and Nicole was at least not worse in the middlegame . . . until the huge rating difference took over in all four games.

Cameroon was our round 2 opponent and their four unrated players were comfortably beaten to bring us to 50%.

Magne, Sylviane Kouokam - Meyer, Marany (2064) [A45]

1.d4 Nf6 2.e3 g6 3.Bd3 d6 4.h3 Bg7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.0-0 Nc6 7.c3 a6 8.b3 e5 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.e4 Nd7 11.Ba3 Ne7 12.Qc2 c5 13.Nbd2 b5 14.Bb2 Bb7 15.Rfe1 Qb6 16.Rab1 Rfd8 17.c4 b4 18.Nf1 Nc6 19.Ne3 Nd4 20.Bxd4 exd4 21.Nd5 Qd6 22.Qe2 Re8 23.Nh4 Rac8 24.Qd2 Nb6 25.g3 a5 26.Re2 Bxd5 27.exd5 Qd7 28.Kh2 Rxe2 29.Bxe2 Re8 30.Bd3 a4 31.Nf3 axb3 32.axb3 Nc8 33.Re1 Nd6 34.Rxe8+ Qxe8 35.Qf4 Qe7 36.h4 Bf8 37.Ng5 Bg7 38.Ne4 Be5 39.Qh6



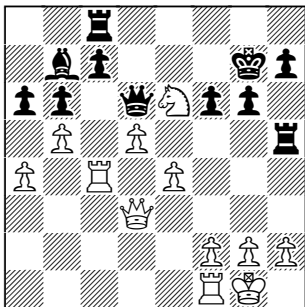
39...Nxe4! 40.Bxe4 Bxg3+ 41.fxg3 Qxe4 42.d6 Qe6 43.Qf4 Kf8 44.d7 Qxd7 45.Qb8+ Qe8 46.Qd6+ Qe7 47.Qb8+ Kg7 48.Qf4 f5 49.Kh3 d3 50.Qf2 Qd6 51.Qd2 Qd4 52.Qg5 Qg4+ 0-1.

Gao, Judy (1947) -

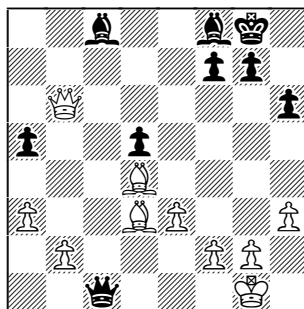
Tchouateu, Tankeu Stephanie

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 Nf6 3.e3 e6 4.Nf3 g6 5.Nbd2 Bg7 6.Bd3 0-0 7.Ne5 Nbd7 8.c4 Nxe5 9.Bxe5 Nd7 10.Bxg7 Kxg7 11.b4 b6 12.cxd5 e5 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Qc2 Nxd3+ 15.Qxd3 Bb7 16.e4 Re8 17.0-0 Re5 18.Nf3 Rh5 19.Rac1 Rc8 20.b5 Qe7 21.Rc4 a6 22.a4 f6 23.Nd4 Qd6 24.Ne6+

Errata: In some copies of the July 2014 issue the Reti study on page 33 was incorrectly labelled 'White to play and win' instead of the correct 'White to play and draw'.



Qc1+



24... Kg8 25.g3 axb5 26.axb5 Bxd5
27.exd5 Rxd5 28.Rd4 c5 29.Rxd5 Qxe6
30.Rd8+ 1-0.

Then it was Lithuania (36th seed) in round 3 with a 300 point difference in average rating. Nicole's half-point was our lot here.

Finally, an opponent with similar ratings in the 4th round – Guatemala, seeded 74th. Helen and Marany drew games with fluctuating fortunes – Helen's opponent missed a win and so did Marany. Judy lost an unbalanced but roughly equal ending but Layla won an interesting ending to tie the match.

Timergazi, Layla (1874) -

Mencos, Maria (1808) [D35]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5
5.Bg5 Nbd7 6.e3 c6 7.Nf3 Be7 8.Bd3 0-0
9.0-0 Re8 10.Qc2 Nf8 11.Ne5 h6 12.Bh4
N8d7 13.Nxd7 Bxd7 14.a3 a5 15.Na4 b6
16.Rfb1 Qc7 17.Bg3 Qb7 18.Qb3 Bd8
19.Be5 Ng4 20.Bf4 Nf6 21.Re1 Be6 22.h3
Qd7 23.Be5 Ne4 24.Qc2 Nd6 25.Rac1
Re8 26.Ba6 Nb7 27.Bd3 c5 28.dxc5 Nxc5
29.Nxc5 Rxc5 30.Bc3 Be7 31.Qd2 Rec8
32.Bd4 Rxc1 33.Rxc1 Qb7 34.Rxc8+
Bxc8 35.Qc3 Bf8 36.Qb3 Qc6 37.Qxb6

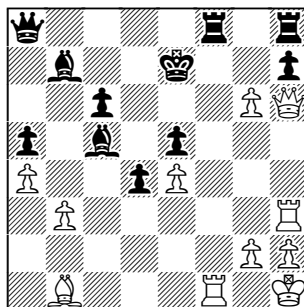
38.Bf1 (Kibitzing, I just assumed that 38.Kh2 could be satisfactorily met with 38...Qd2 but not so: 39.Qd8 Qxd3 40.Qxc8 Qb5 41.Qd8 winning, as White will win one of the black queenside pawns. So the king move was better.) 38...Bf5 39.Qb3 Bc2 (39...a4!? was the best try, when the win is not so clear.) 40.Qc3 Qd1 41.Bb6 (41.f3!? Bf5 42.Kf2 a4 43.Bc2 also looks good.) 41...a4 42.Ba5 Bb3 43.Qe1 Qc2 44.Bc3 Qf5 45.Be2 Bc5 46.Bd1 Qe4?! (46...Bxd1 47.Qxd1 Qd7 48.b4 axb3 49.Qxb3 d4 50.Bxd4 Bxd4 51.exd4 Qxd4 52.a4 should be winning as the white king is not too exposed to possible perpetuals.) 47.Bxb3 axb3 48.Qd1 Qc4 49.Qd2 (49.Qg4! was immediately decisive.) 49...Qe4 50.Bd4 Qc2 (50...Qb1+! 51.Kh2 Qc2 52.Qc3 Bxd4 53.Qxd4 Qxf2 54.a4 Qc2 55.a5 Kh7 is dynamically equal.) 51.Qc3 (Now the f2-pawn is safe.) 51...Bxd4 52.Qxd4 Qc4 53.g3 Kf8 54.a4 f6 55.a5 Kf7 56.a6! Qxa6 57.Qxd5+ Qe6 58.Qxe6+ Kxe6 (The king and pawn ending is clearly won.) 59.Kf1 Kd5 60.Ke2 h5 61.Kd3 g5 62.g4 (62.Kc3 does also win, but why bother calculating variations after 62...Ke4 etc.) 62...hxg4 63.hxg4 Ke5 64.f3 f5 65.gxf5

Kxf5 1-0.

Jamaica (88th seed) was next, with a 2000+ WIM on top board. Helen got a nice attack going but didn't quite nail the point. Only Layla on board 4 scored when she trapped her opponent's queen. Good time now to have the first rest day!

Milligan, Helen (1938) - Richards-Porter, Deborah (2024) [B42]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Qc7 6.0-0 Nf6 7.Qe2 d6 8.c4 Nc6 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.Nc3 Be7 11.Kh1 e5 12.f4 0-0 13.f5 Bb7 14.Bg5 Rfd8 15.Rac1 Re8 16.b3 Qa5 17.Rfd1 Rad8 18.Bd2 Qc7 19.Na4 Nd7 20.Qe1 Qb8 21.Ba5 Rc8 22.Qe2 Qa8 23.c5 d5 24.Bb1 Qa7 25.Nb6 Nxb6 26.Bxb6 Qa8 27.a4 a5 28.Qh5 g6 29.Qg4 Kg7 30.Rc3 d4 31.Rh3 Rh8 32.Rf1 Rcf8 33.Bc7 f6 34.Qh4! (The passive 34.Rc1 is okay, too, but the text keeps up White's attacking chances.) 34...Bxc5? (34...Kf7 was best but after 35.Bb6 White can continue with her attack on the kingside.) 35.Qh6+ Kf7 36.Bxe5 (Kibitzing, I thought this tempting but the unprotected rook on f1 is a problem. Therefore 36.Bd3! when Bxc5 is a real threat. The machine also comes up with 36.b4! allowing the light-square bishop to enter the game decisively.) 36...fxe5 37.fxg6+ Ke7



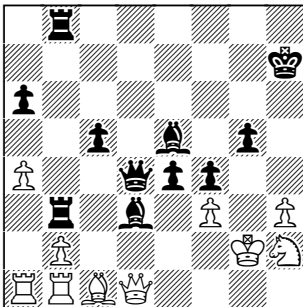
38.Rf7+? (If only that damn bishop was already on d3. White can, however, still win with 38.Qg7+! Kd8 (38...Ke6 39.Rf7+-) 39.Bd3 though the choice on move 38 was not easy with the clock ticking . . . unless you're a machine, of course.) 38...Rxf7 39.gxf7 Bd6 40.Qg5+ Kd7 41.Bd3 Qd8 42.Qf5+ Kc7 43.Rxh7 Rxh7 44.Qxh7 Bf8 45.h4 Bc8 46.Qh5 Qd6 47.g4 Qf6 48.g5 Qf4 49.g6 Bg4 50.Qg5 Qxg5 51.hxg5 Bh5 0-1.

Aruba, seeded 117th with two unrated players on the top boards, looked eminently beatable in round 6 and so it proved, though Nicole let go a knight to make it 3-1. Then came Norway 3, a mainly teenage team seeded 91st. Obviously, you can't take too much notice of unknown teenagers' ratings but the 1-3 loss was certainly a bit disappointing. Nicole self-destructed and Scott Wastney described the Norwegian ambush on boards 2 and 4 in the last issue. So 1-3.

In round 8 we had a comfortable win 3½-½ over 103rd seed Trinidad & Tobago. Layla's score now was an impressive 5½/7, meaning she needed just half a point in one of her next two games for the WFM title.

**Smith,Javanna (1747) -
Milligan,Helen (1938) [C77]**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6
5.d3 d6 6.0-0 g6 7.Nc3 Bg7 8.a3 0-0
9.Ne2 Bg4 10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.Ng3 c5 12.h3
Bd7 13.Be3 Rb8 14.Qc1 Qe7 15.c4 Rb3
16.Nd2 Rb7 17.Qc3 Rfb8 18.Rfb1 Ne8
19.Nf3 f5 20.Bg5 Qf7 21.Bc1 Rb3
22.Qd2 f4 23.Ne2 h6 24.Qd1 g5 25.Nh2
Nf6 26.Nc3 h5 27.Nd5 Nxd5 28.cxd5 c6
29.dxc6 Bxc6 30.g4 Bb5 31.a4 Bxd3 32.f3
d5 33.exd5 Qxd5 34.gxh5 Qd4+ 35.Kg2
e4 36.h6 Be5 37.h7+ Kxh7 (Ed: An
unusually complete picture of complete
domination that definitely deserves a
diagram)

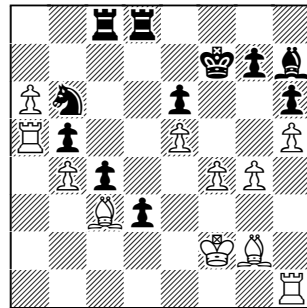


38.h4 exf3+ 39.Kh1 Bxb1 0-1.

Uganda, seeded 102nd, was next up, another team with an unrated player on board one ahead of rated players. Helen drew a close struggle while Marany slaughtered her opponent on board 2. Nicole won on board 3, first winning a pawn then losing it back and finally taking advantage of endgame errors. Board 4 was tragic, Layla building up a winning position in a very unbalanced endgame, but then losing the plot.

**Timergazi,Layla (1874) -
Mutesi,Phiona (1632) [D31]**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 f5 4.Nf3 c6 5.g3
Nf6 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.c5 Bc7 8.b4 Ne4 9.a4
Bd7 10.Nxe4 fxe4 11.Bg5 Qc8 12.Ne5 0-0
13.Bh3 Bxe5 14.dxe5 Qe8 15.Bf4 Qh5
16.Bg2 Be8 17.h4 Bg6 18.Qc3 Bf5 19.f3
exf3 20.exf3 Qe8 21.h5 h6 22.Qd4 Qf7
23.Bd2 Nd7 24.Bc3 Rae8 25.Ke2 b6
26.cxb6 axb6 27.a5 c5 28.Qf4 d4 29.Bd2
d3+ 30.Kf2 Rc8 31.a6 c4 32.Bc3 Rfd8
33.g4 Bh7 34.Qxf7+ Kxf7 35.f4 b5
36.Ra5 Nb6



37.Rxb5? (Unfortunately, "greed is good" is an inappropriate policy here. The best way was the direct 37.a7 Nd5 (37...Na4 38.Rxa4 bxa4 39.b5 d2 40.Rd1 Rc7 41.b6+-) 38.Bxd5 exd5 39.Ke3 d4+ 40.Bxd4 d2 41.f5 c3 42.e6+ Ke7 43.a8Q Rxa8 44.Rxa8 Rxa8 45.Bxc3 winning easily.) **37...Na4 38.Bd2** (The unlikely looking 38.Rc1! was the only way to keep any advantage and may still be winning, e.g. 38...d2 39.Bxd2 Rxd2+ 40.Kg3 Rxd2+! (the best try) 41.Kxg2 Bc4+ 42.Kf2 c3 43.a7 Rc7 44.Ra5 with much the better chances after either 44...Nb2 or 44...Nb6.) **38...c3 39.Be3?** (The d2-bishop has to be let go in order to maintain the blockade of the black pawns and either

39.Bb7 or 39.g5!? should be holding.)
39...d2 (Black is winning now.) **40.a7 c2**
41.Bxd2 Rxd2+ 42.Ke3 Rd1 43.Rb7+
Kf8 44.Rc7 Rxc7 45.a8Q+ Ke7 46.Ke2
Nc3+ 0-1.

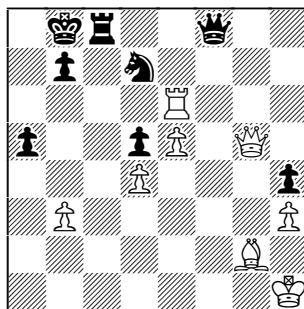
Two rounds to go and we had 50%, 9 out of 18 match points. Australia (seeded 51st) was our opponent in round 10.

Helen played too passively and Marany lost a pawn but reached a probably tenable, if difficult, rook ending before a horrible king move lost it. Judy went unsoundly berserk but had chances to equalise in the complications; unfortunately she didn't manage to take them. Layla took our only half-point in a double edged game, giving her the necessary 6 points from 9 games for the WFM title.

Yu, Sally (1953) - Timergazi, Layla (1874) [B11]

1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3 Bg4 4.h3 Bxf3
5.Qxf3 e6 6.g3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Bb4 8.e5 Nfd7
9.Qg4 Bf8 10.d4 c5 11.Ne2 cxd4 12.f4
 (Better was 12.Nxd4 with the idea 12...Nxe5 (Black should play 12...Qb6) 13.Nxe6! fxe6 14.Qxc6+ Qe7 15.Qc8+ Qd8 16.Qe6+ Qe7 17.Qc8+ Qd8 18.Qe6+ with repetition.) **12...Nc6 13.0-0 h5 14.Qf3**
Be5 15.Kh1 Qe7 16.a3 a5 17.Qd3 Nb6
 (Fritz likes 17...h4 18.g4 0-0 believe it or not.) **18.b3 g5 19.Bb2 Nd7** (19...gxf4)
20.Nxd4 (20.b4!∞) **20...Nxd4 21.Bxd4**
Re8 (∩21...Bxd4) **22.c3 h4 23.g4 gxf4**
24.Rxf4 Qg5 25.Raf1 Rf8 (∩25...0-0)
26.Qh7 (The other side was better: 26.Qb5!) **26...Qe7** (26...Nxe5! 27.Bxe5 Qxe5 28.Rxf7 Rh8 29.Qg7 Qxg7 30.Rxg7 Bxa3 31.Rxb7 Rh6 32.Rff7 Rb8! =)
27.Qd3 (Strange retreat. Better seems 27.g5) **27...Bxd4 28.cxd4 Qxa3 29.g5**
Qe7 30.g6 fxe6 31.Qxg6+ Kd8 32.Rf7

Rxf7 33.Rxf7 Qe8 34.Qg5+ Kc7 35.Re7
Qf8? (35...Qg8 was the only move: 36.Qxg8 Rxg8 37.Rxe6 Rg3 and Black is holding.) **36.Rxe6 Kb8**



37.Qxh4 (37.Rd6! and the connected pawns will decide.) **37...Rc1+** (37...Qb4! activating the queen, though 38.Qf4 keeps White on top.) **38.Kh2 Rc2 39.Rg6** (39.Rd6!) **39...Rc3 40.e6?** (40.Rd6 or 40.Bxd5 and White is well on track for the full point. After the text, Black finally gets counterplay.) **40...Qd6+ 41.Kg1 Rc1+ 42.Bf1 Nf8 43.Rg8 Rc2= 44.Qg3 Qxg3+ 45.Rxg3 Nxe6 46.h4 Rc7** (46...Nxd4 was fine, too.) **47.Rg4 Rh7 48.Bd3 Rh6 49.Bf5 b5 50.Bc2 Kc7 51.Kf2 Kd6 52.Ke3 Ke7 53.Bd3 b4 54.Bg6 Kf6 55.h5 Ng7 56.Rf4+ Kg5 57.Bc2 Rc6** (Or 57...Rxb5) **58.Rf7 Rxc2 59.Rxg7+ Kxh5 60.Rd7 Rc3+ 61.Kd2 Rxb3 62.Rxd5+ Kg6 63.Rxa5 Kf6 64.Rb5 Ke6 65.Kc2 Rc3+ 66.Kd2 Rb3 1/2-1/2.**

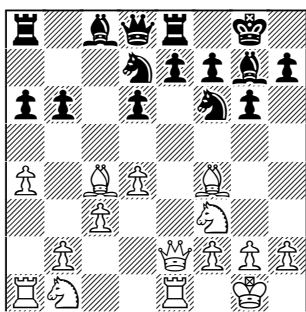
The second rest day, after round 10, saw Judy departing so the team for the final round was predetermined. Layla's final round result could not affect her WFM title, as it could be discarded once the 6/9 had been achieved.

Nicaragua, seeded 79th with similar ratings an almost identical average rating for the match, was our opponent. Helen gained a clear advantage but it gradually disappeared while Marany was slightly worse for some time but equalised in the ending. Nicole won quickly with a typical Bxf7 sacrifice. Layla won a pawn but then blundered a piece . . . except that her opponent failed to grab her chance and Layla eventually made her extra pawn count. So a 3-1 victory.

Tsoi, Nicole (1787) -

Granados, Maria (1899) [A45]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 c5 3.e3 cxd4 4.exd4 g6 5.c3 Bg7 6.Nf3 0-0 7.Bc4 a6 8.a4 d6 9.0-0 Nbd7 10.Re1 b6 11.Qe2 Re8



12.Bxf7+! Kxf7 13.Ng5+ 1-0.

The nice recovery in the last four rounds got the team back to 50% (11 MP from 11 rounds) with 21 game points. Final placing was 73rd – exactly where we started! Apart from the top few and bottom few positions of course, you can't read a lot into the scores in Swiss tournaments since everyone meets a different field. We can be happy with our final score but it would have been nice to have achieved the same score

against slightly stronger opposition! A title gained by the only team member without one was a nice bonus.

Obviously Layla's score was the stand-out but the top two board players Helen and Marany had similar performance ratings. The team's individual results were:

	Rtg	Score	Perf
Helen Milligan	1938	3/9	1883
Marany Meyer	2064	5/9	1911
Judy Gao	1947	2½/8	1719
Nicole Tsoi	1787	3½/8	1774
Layla Timergazi	1874	7/10	1888

41st North Shore Open - by Peter Stuart

The 41st North Shore Open was held on the weekend of the 6th and 7th September at the National Chess Centre in Devonport. This was the first venue change for decades. The only problem was the sun which annoyingly circled around the building shining through different windows. This problem should be solved by the next event to be held here (already held by the time you read this).

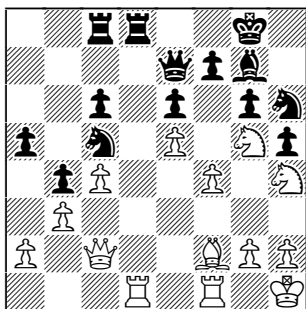
The same two favourites as last year were again the top two seeds, though in reverse order as Puchen Wang had meanwhile crept ahead of Ben Hague, by just five points. They were followed by Paul Garbett, Leonard McLaren, Mike Steadman and Ralph Hart, all over 2300 or close to it. School interfered again with Hans Gao and Hao Jia, among others no doubt, too busy swotting.

The upsets started in the first round (where else?) with Hart losing unnecessarily to William Zhang – he could have claimed a draw by threefold repetition and really had no reason to play on. Antonio Krstev after Daniel Johns sacrificed a piece for a strong attack.

Johns, Daniel - Krstev, Antonio

[B09]

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.f4 Bg7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Bd3 c6 7.0-0 b5 8.e5 dxe5 9.dxe5 Qb6+ 10.Kh1 Ng4 11.Qe2 a5 12.Ne4 Na6 13.c3 Bf5 14.Nd4 Nh6 15.Be3 Qc7 16.Ng5 Bxd3 17.Qxd3 e6 18.Qe4 Rac8 19.c4 b4 20.b3 Rfd8 21.Rad1 (White might also have considered 21.Ndxc6!? fxe6 22.Nxe6 Qd7 23.Nxd8 Qxd8 24.Rad1 ± when he has a strong initiative.) 21...Nc5 22.Qc2 Qe7 23.Ndf3 Nf5 24.Bf2 h5 25.Nh4 Nh6??



(25...Nxb4 26.Bxb4 Rxd1 27.Rxd1 Rd8 28.Bf2 is better for White but not the disaster that the text move was.) 26.Nxg6! fxg6 27.Qxg6 (27.Rxd8+ Rxd8 28.Bxc5 Qxc5 29.Nxe6 was another way.) 27...Nb7 (Or 27...Rxd1 28.Rxd1 Nb7 29.Nxe6 Qf7 30.Qxg7+ Qxg7 31.Nxg7 Kxg7 32.Rd7+ and Black can resign.) 28.Nxe6 Rxd1 29.Rxd1 Nd8 (Avoiding the loss of the b7–

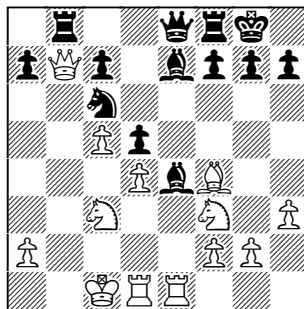
knight but worse is to come.) 30.Ng5 Nd7 31.Qh7+ Kf8 32.Bc5 Qxc5 33.Ne6+ Ke8 34.Nxc5 Bf8 35.Ne6 Ng4 36.Rd2 Ngh6 37.Qd3 1-0.

Wang, Hague and Garbett all doubled their score in round 2, Paul presumably forgetting about the Swiss gambit that worked so well for him last year. Leo Zhang drew a close fought game against McLaren.

Steadman, Michael - Hague, Ben

[B03]

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.d4 d6 5.c4 Nb6 6.exd6 exd6 7.h3 Be7 8.Nc3 Bf5 9.Be3 0-0 10.Be2 d5 11.c5 Nc4 12.Bf4 (12.Bxc4 has been played in half of the 16 games in my Mega database and Fritz has a clear preference for it over alternatives, yet it has performed poorly. Still, it looks the best way to me. But then what would I know about Alekhine's Defence?) 12...Nxb2 13.Qb3 Nd3+ 14.Bxd3 Bxd3 15.Qxb7 Qe8 (After 15...Qd7!? 16.Qxc7 Qe6+ 17.Be3 Rab8 king safety will likely be a major factor.) 16.0-0-0 Be4 17.Rhe1 Rb8

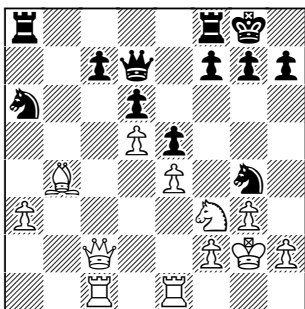


18.Qa6 (Greed, in the form of 18.Qxc7, might not have been very good here but the

alternatives were, unfortunately, worse.)
18...Bxf3 19.gxf3 Qd7 20.Qd3 Bf6 21.Be5 Bxe5 22.dxe5 Nb4 23.Qe2 Qc6 24.Qe3 Qa6 25.a4 Qc4 26.Re2 Qb3 27.Rd4 Qa3+ 28.Kd1 c6 29.Rg4 Qa1+ 30.Kd2 Na2 31.Qd4 Qc1+ 32.Kd3 Nb4+ 33.Qxb4 Rxb4 34.Rxb4 Qh1 35.Re3 Qxh3 36.Rb7 Qf5+ 37.Kd4 Qf4+ 38.Kd3 Qc4+ 0-1.

Zhang,Leo- McLaren,Leonard [E33]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 Nc6 5.Nf3 d6 6.Bd2 0-0 7.a3 Bxc3 8.Bxc3 a5 9.b3 Qe7 10.g3 e5 11.d5 Nb8 12.e4 Nbd7 13.Bg2 Nc5 14.Nd2 Bd7 15.0-0 Nh5 16.Rae1 b5 17.Re3 Qg5 18.b4 axb4 19.Bxb4 Na6 20.Nf3 Qe7 21.cxb5 Bxb5 22.Rc1 Nf6 23.Bf1 Bxf1 24.Kxf1 Qd7 25.Kg2 Ng4 26.Ree1



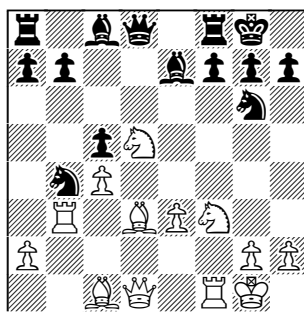
26...f5 27.Qc6 Qf7 28.Rc2 fxe4 29.Ng5 Qh5 30.h4 e3 31.fxe3 Nxb4 32.axb4 Ra3 33.Rc3 Rf2+ 34.Kg1 Raa2 35.Qxc7 Rg2+ 36.Kh1 Rh2+ 37.Kg1 Rag2+ 38.Kf1 Rf2+ 39.Kg1 Rhg2+ 40.Kh1 Rh2+ ½-½.

On to the “half-point bye” round: No fewer than 8 players, including Ben and Mike, took the free half point. This left Garbett and Wang fighting for the lead. Paul sacrificed a pawn in the opening and

probably had some compensation for a while but a knight swap left him not only a pawn down but with several isolated pawns; Puchen’s technique was not taxed too much after that. Perhaps the most interesting game of the round was Browne-Leo Zhang, a Richter-Veresov with an unusual response from Leo leaving both players in the dark theory-wise. There were moments of madness later before Jeremy forced a draw by repetition.

Garbett,Paul - Wang,Puchen [A09]

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 d4 3.e3 Nc6 4.b4 dxe3 5.fxe3 Nxb4 6.d4 e6 7.Nc3 Ne7 8.Rb1 Na6 9.Bd3 Ng6 10.0-0 Be7 11.Rb5 c5 12.d5 exd5 13.Nxd5 0-0 14.Rb3 Nb4



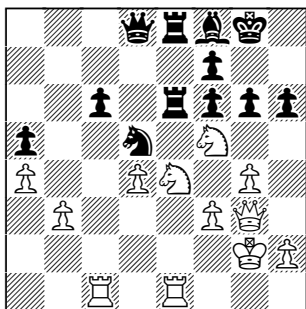
15.Nxb4 (15.Bxg6 hxg6 16.e4 is probably better but it is doubtful whether White has adequate compensation for the pawn now.) 15...cxb4 16.Bb2 a5 17.Bd4 Be6 18.Qa1 f6 19.Rbb1 Rc8 20.Rbc1 Be5 21.Qb1 Bf7 22.Rfd1 Qe7 23.Re1 Rfe8 24.Kf2 b6 25.Kg1 Qd6 26.Kf1 Nf8 27.Bf5 Rc7 28.Red1 Qe7 29.Qd3 Bg6 30.Bxg6 Nxb6 31.Bxc5 Rxc5 32.Qd6 Qxd6 33.Rxd6 b5 34.Nd2 Ne5 35.Rd5 Rec8 36.Rxc5 Rxc5 37.Nb3 Rxc4 38.Rd1 a4 39.Nd4 Kf8 40.Ke2 Nc6 41.Nxb5 Ke7 42.Rd2 Rc1

43.Nd4 Nxd4+ 44.exd4 Kd6 45.d5 a3
46.Ke3 Rb1 47.Kd3 Rb2 0-1.

Browne,Jeremy - Zhang,Leo

[D01]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bg5 h6 4.Bxf6 exf6
5.g3 Bf5 6.Bg2 c6 7.e4 dxe4 8.Nxe4 Be7
9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 0-0 11.c4 Nb6 12.b3
Qd7 13.Qd2 Rfd8 14.Rad1 Bh3 15.Qf4
Bxg2 16.Kxg2 Rac8 17.g4 a5 18.a4 Qc7
19.Qf3 Bf8 20.N2g3 Re8 21.Nf5 Nd7
22.c5 Rcd8 23.Ned6 Re6 24.Rfe1 b6
25.cxb6 Nxb6 26.Ne4 Rde8 27.Qg3
(27.Nxh6+ gxh6 28.Nxf6+ Rxf6 29.Qxf6
Nd5 30.Qf3 Rb8) 27...Qd8 28.f3 Nd5
29.Rc1 g6



30.h4? (White was in serious trouble anyway, but the text should be fatal.)
30...Kh7+ 31.Kh3 gxf5 32.gxf5 Bd6
33.Nxd6 Nf4?? (33...Rg8 34.Qh2 Rxd6
and White can resign. ; Also winning was
33...Rxe1 34.Rxe1 Rxe1 35.Nxf7 Qg8
36.Ng5+ hxg5 37.Qxe1+) 34.Qxf4 Rxe1
35.Nxf7 (35.Nxe8!? Rxe8 36.Rxc6 may
well be winning for White but it wouldn't
be fun to play with either colour.) 35...Qd5
36.Qxh6+ (36.Rxe1 Rxe1 37.Nxh6 Rd1
38.Qg4 Kh8 39.Qh5) 36...Kg8 37.Qh8+
½-½.

Scores after 3 rounds: Wang 3; Hague & McLaren 2½; Garbett, Browne, L.Zhang, Macdonald & Hair 2; Steadman, Duneas, Ang, McCrone, Johns & Fan 1½.

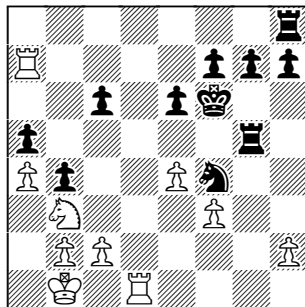
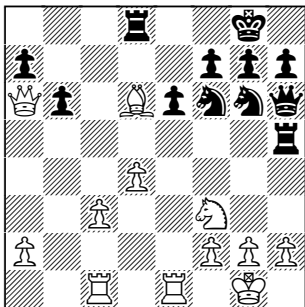
In the top-board game Wang-McLaren, Leonard went for a kingside piece attack which never really looked to have much chance of success while leaving his queenside very exposed. Hague-Garbett saw a theoretical line ending tamely in an ending that should have been roughly equal but Ben managed to gain some initiative at the cost of a pawn which he soon regained. Ben queened first but Paul still had a strong g-pawn which may well have saved the game.

Further down, Steadman played the Benko Gambit for maybe the first time in a good many years. Things were at least even from Ang's point of view until Mike was able to sacrifice knight for two pawns, after which he took control.

Wang,Puchen - McLaren,Leonard

[E54]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0
5.Bd3 d5 6.Nf3 c5 7.0-0 cxd4 8.exd4 dxc4
9.Bxc4 b6 10.Bg5 Bb7 11.Qe2 Nbd7
12.Rac1 Bxc3 13.bxc3 Qc7 14.Bd3 Rac8
15.Rfe1 Rfe8 16.Bh4 Qf4 17.Bg3 Qh6
18.Bb5 Red8 19.Bd6 Nf8 20.Be7 Rd5
21.Bd3 Rh5 22.Bd6 Ng6 23.Ba6 Bxa6
24.Qxa6 Rd8

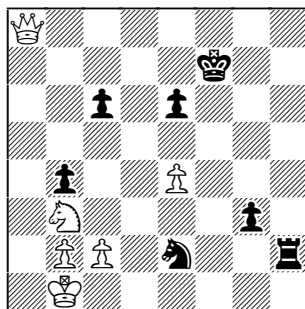


25.Qxa7 Ne4 26.Bg3 Nxc3 27.fxc3 Ra5
 28.Qxb6 Rda8 29.Ra1 Rxa2 30.Rxa2
 Rxa2 31.d5 Nf8 32.dxc6 fxc6 33.Qb3 Ra8
 34.Qb7 Rd8 35.h3 Qg6 36.Kh2 h6
 37.Ne5 Qf5 38.Nc6 Re8 39.Ne7+ Rxe7
 40.Qxe7 Qd3 41.Qc7 Kh7 42.Ra1 Qf5
 43.Qf4 Qc5 44.Qe4+ Ng6 45.Ra6 1-0.

26...Rg2 (The machine comes up with the surprising 26...Ne2 27.Nxa5 but not many human beings would dream of such a move. 27...Rd8!! 28.Rxd8 Rg1+ 29.Ka2 Nc1+ with a draw by perpetual check) 27.Rdd7 Rf8 28.Nxa5 Ne2 (28...Rxb2 or maybe 28...h5 seem more natural to me.) 29.Nb3 g5? (Again 29...Rxb2 looks more logical, but Paul does have a devious plan.) 30.a5 h5 31.a6 (31.h3!? would slow down (a little) Black's kingside play.) 31...g4 32.fxc4 hxc4 33.Rxf7+! (White had to be careful here and finds the move that gives him the best practical chances of a win.) 33...Rxf7 34.Rxf7+ Kxf7 35.a7 Rxb2 36.a8Q g3

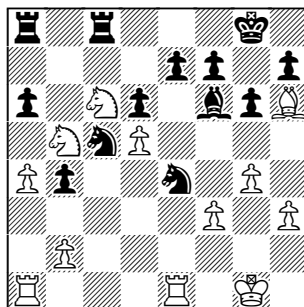
Hague, Ben - Garbett, Paul [B48]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6
 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Qd2 Nf6 8.0-0-0
 Be7 9.f3 b5 10.g4 Nxd4 11.Qxd4 Bb7
 12.Kb1 Rc8 13.g5 Nh5 14.Rd2 Bc5
 15.Qxc5 Qxc5 16.Bxc5 Rxc5 17.Rg1 Nf4
 18.a4 b4 19.Na2 a5 20.Nc1 Ke7 (Better was 20...Bc6 = as after the text move White is able to develop an initiative down the d-file.) 21.Nb3 Re5 22.Bb5 Bc6 23.Bxc6 (23.Rgd1 Rxc5 24.Nxa5 Bxb5 25.axb5 Rxb5 (25...d5 26.Rd4±) 26.Rxd7+ Kf6 27.Nc4±) 23...dxc6 24.Rgd1 (24.h4 is another possibility, first protecting the g-pawn, but then Black can challenge on the d-file with 24...Rd8 and should be holding.) 24...Rxc5 25.Rd7+ Kf6 26.Ra7



(Now the idea of ...Ne2 becomes clear.)
 37.Qa7+ Kg6 (37...Kf6!?) 38.Qb8 Rf2?

(38...g2 gives White the choice between 39.Qg8+ Kf6 40.Qd8+ Kf7 41.Qd7+ Kf6 with perpetual check, or 39.Qxh2 g1Q+ 40.Qxg1+ Nxc1 41.Nd4 c5 42.Nxc6 c4 43.Nd4 when the ending should be drawn.) **39.Qg8+ Kf6** (39...Kh5!? was the best chance but the timer was doubtless playing a considerable role by this time. After 40.Qh8+ Kg4 41.Qg7+ the game goes on with the black king perhaps able to support his rook.) **40.Qh8+** (40.Nc1! g2 41.Qf8+ Kg5 42.Qxf2 g1Q 43.Qxc2 +-.) **40...Kg6 41.Qh4 Rh2** (41...g2! 42.Qxf2 g1Q+ 43.Qxg1+ Nxc1 transposes to the 38...g2 note after 40...Nxc1.) **42.Qg4+** (Finally an epic endgame is all over!) **42...Kh7 43.Nc1 Nd4** (43...Nxc1 44.Qxg3 Rh1 45.Qg2 is winning too.) **44.Qxg3 Rxc2 45.Qd3 e5 46.Qxc2 1-0.**



Ang, Alphaeus -

Steadman, Michael [A57]

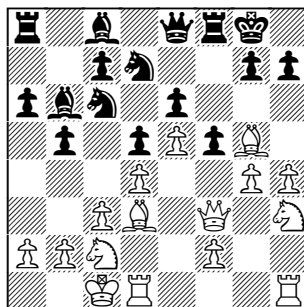
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.Qc2 d6 5.e4 bxc4 ((Presumably prep by Mike as Alphaeus had played the 4.Qc2 line at least a couple of times, in one of which games Black continued with 5...g6) 6.Bxc4 g6 7.Nc3 Bg7 8.h3 0-0 9.Nf3 Ba6 10.Qe2 Qb6 11.0-0 Nfd7 12.a4 Bxc4 13.Qxc4 Qb4 14.Qxb4 cxb4 15.Nb5 Na6 16.Nfd4 Bf6 17.Nc6 Nac5 18.Bh6 Rfc8 19.g4 Nxe4 20.Rfe1 Ndc5 21.f3 a6

22.Nba7? (22.fxc4 axb5 23.axb5 Re8 24.Rxa8 Rxa8 25.b6 Bxb2 (25...Ra6? 26.e5 Bxe5 27.Nxe5 dxe5 28.Rc1 Rxb6 (28...Nb7 29.Rc8+) 29.Rxc5+-) 26.Nxc7+ Kh8 27.Be3 Nb7 28.Kf1±) **22...Rc7** (Black now gives up an exchange but will have two extra pawns.) **23.fxc4 Bxb2 24.Rab1 Bc3 25.Re2 Rxa7 26.Nxa7 Rxa7 27.Be3 Rc7 28.Bxc5 dxc5 29.Kg2 a5 30.Rc2 Rb7 31.Kf3 Bd4 32.Rb3 g5 33.Ke2 Kg7 34.Kd3 Kf6 35.Kc4 Ke5 36.Re2 Rb6 37.Rf3 f6 38.Re1 Rb8 39.Re2 Kd6 40.Re1 Kc7 41.Re2 Kb6 42.Re1 h5 43.Rh1 Rh8 44.Rff1 Kc7 45.gxh5 Rxh5 46.h4 gxh4 47.Rh3 Kb6 48.Rf4 Rg5 49.Rfxh4 Be5 50.Rh7 Bd6 51.Rh1 Rg2 52.Kb3 Rg3+ 53.Kb2 c4 54.R7h3 Rg2+ 55.Kb1 Kc5 56.Rf3 Be5 57.Rhf1 Bd4 58.Rf5 Kd6 59.Rd1 Be5 60.Rh5 c3 61.e5+ fxe5 62.Rh6+ Kd7 63.Re1 Bd4 64.Rc6 b3 65.Kc1 Ra2 66.Kb1 Ra1+ 67.Kxa1 c2+ 68.Rc3 Bxc3# 0-1.**

Scores after round 4: Wang 4; Hague 3½; Browne & L.Zhang 3; Steadman, McLaren, Duneas, Johns & Fan 2½; Garbett, Macdonald & Hair 2.

Predictably, the top board game was very, very brief draw. Puchen was half a point

clear of Ben and a draw would give the latter at least second equal, probably with only one other. The fact that Puchen had the white pieces may well have influenced Ben's decision to accept the draw offer. Duneas's attempt to gain counterplay from an inferior position by sacrificing a knight for 3 pawns was likely his best chance but it didn't quite work. The win gave Jeremy a share of second place. Only Leo Zhang could join the second place tie but he opened the centre prematurely and Steadman got a strong initiative.



16...Ndx5!? 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Qg3 Nxd4
 19.f3 Nf6 20.Rde1 Nd7 21.Nd4 Bxd4
 22.cxd4 c5 23.Rhg1 Rf7 24.Bh6 Nf6
 25.Nf4 Raa7 26.Bxf5 Rae7 27.Bc2 cxd4
 28.Nd3 Rc7 29.Ne5 Rfe7 30.Bg5 Qf8
 31.h5 Kh8 32.Kb1 Ra7 33.Nc6 Qe8
 34.Nxa7 Rxa7 35.Bxf6 gxf6 36.Qf4 Qf7
 37.Qxd4 e5 38.Rxe5 1-0.

Browne, Jeremy - Duneas, John [C14]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e5
 Nfd7 6.h4 0-0 7.Bd3 f6 8.Qh5 f5 9.Nh3
 Qe8 10.Qf3 Nc6 11.Nb5 Bb4+ 12.c3 Ba5
 13.0-0-0 a6 14.Na3 b5 15.Nc2 Bb6 16.g4

41st North Shore Open 6/7 September 2014

Pos	NAME	Rtg	T	Fed	Pts	1	2	3	4	5
1	WANG, Pu Chen	2456	IM	NZL	4.5	+B13	+W21	+B6	+W4	=W2
2	HAGUE, Ben	2451	FM	NZL	4.0	+W11	+B5	=BYE	+W6	=B1
3	BROWNE, Jeremy A	2130	--	NZL	4.0	=W14	+B16	=W7	+B12	+W10
4	MCLAREN, Leonard J	2317	NM	NZL	3.5	+W17	=B7	+W10	-B1	+W12
5	STEADMAN, Michael V	2294	FM	NZL	3.5	+B12	-W2	=BYE	+B11	+W7
6	GARBETT, Paul A	2362	IM	NZL	3.0	+B15	+W8	-W1	-B2	+B14
7	ZHANG, Leo	2077	--	NZL	3.0	+B19	=W4	=B3	+W14	-B5
8	JOHNS, Daniel P	1923	--	NZL	3.0	+W18	-B6	=B13	+BYE	=W9
9	FAN, Allen Chi Zhou	1879	--	NZL	3.0	-B21	=W15	+B19	+W13	=B8
10	DUNEAS, John	2194	--	NZL	2.5	=B22	+W20	-B4	+W16	-B3
11	ANG, Alphaeus Wei Er	2060	CM	NZL	2.5	-B2	=W19	+B22	-W5	+W20
12	MACDONALD, Paul	1977	--	NZL	2.0	-W5	+B18	+B21	-W3	-B4
13	MCCRONE, Jeffrey	2073	--	NZL	2.0	-W1	+B17	=W8	-B9	=W15
14	HAIR, Philip I	1926	--	NZL	2.0	=B3	+W22	=BYE	-B7	-W6
15	MILLIGAN, Helen	2048	CM	NZL	2.0	-W6	=B9	=BYE	=W18	=B13
16	ZHANG, William Jiewe	1961	--	NZL	2.0	+B20	-W3	=BYE	-B10	=W17
17	RUNCAN, Daniel I	2046	--	ROU	2.0	-B4	-W13	=BYE	+W19	=B16
18	KRSTEV, Antonio	2130	--	NZL	2.0	-B8	-W12	=BYE	=B15	+W22
19	LYALL, Simon	1841	--	NZL	1.5	-W7	=B11	-W9	-B17	+BYE
20	HART, Ralph	2283	--	NZL	1.5	-W16	-B10	=BYE	+W22	-B11
21	HUANG, Alex (W)	2107	--	NZL	1.0	+W9	-B1	-W12	=BYE	--
22	RIVAS VILLANUEVA, An	1938	--	CHI	0.5	=W10	-B14	-W11	-B20	-B18

Puchen's victory was just as convincing as last year, even if he did fail to make another picket fence!

There was a similar situation in the last round of the B-grade with Paul Kamberi winning his first four games and drawing, though not quickly, with the only player who could catch him, Jasmine Zhang. Jordan Lewis caught up with Jasmine in the final round to share second place with 4 points while Rodney was alone in 4th place on 3½ points.

Beatrice Ang and Richard Meng shared first prize with 4½/5 in the one-day Junior Rapid on the Saturday. They drew their round 3 clash and won the rest of their games.

Memories of Richard Sutton

- by Ben Martin

I first met Richard Sutton in 1979 when I played in the junior section of the Otago Chess Club. Each Friday night, Gerald Williams somehow managed to chivvy a large bunch of noisy, excitable schoolchildren into sitting at chessboards opposite each other and playing in (relative) silence. Every so often Richard would take a group of us into a separate room for some coaching. He was softly-spoken and unassuming, but he had the knack of catching and holding our attention as he showed us a piece of tactics, or explained the finer points of an endgame. A decade later I tried doing some schoolpupil coaching myself and realised it was much harder than he made it look! Later I joined

the adult section of the club and we played many times. Win, lose or draw, he was always friendly and polite.

Richard had a very distinguished academic career - he was Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Otago for a number of years and he served on the Law Commission from 1992 to 1997 - but it was typical of his modesty that he never talked about his accomplishments outside chess. Here is a story that illustrates his character well. Many years ago we were playing in the Otago team in a Bledisloe Cup inter-club match. This was in the dark days before the internet; matches were played by telephone and took most of the afternoon and evening. The idea was that moves were relayed over the phone; when a move arrived, it was written on a slip of paper then taken by a runner to the appropriate board. A couple of hours into Richard's game, his opponent made a seemingly illegal move. After much confusion, it was established that one of the opponent's earlier moves had been mistranscribed at the Otago end and played incorrectly on Richard's board. Immediately and without hesitation, Richard resigned the game. It's fair to say that as a teenager with a fierce competitive instinct, I didn't understand this decision, but now I admire it for the integrity and sportsmanship it shows.

Richard was one of my favourite opponents. Our games were always exciting because of his sharp, uncompromising style (from our 31 games we had only eight draws). He was particularly lethal with the two bishops. The following game is typical of our struggles.

Sutton, Richard - Martin, Ben

Otago Club Championships A Grade, 1989

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3

Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 The

Poisoned Pawn variation of the Winawer.

Black sacrifices most of his kingside in

return for activity and pressure on the

queenside. Richard was never afraid to

accept material, trusting in his ability to

beat off the attack. 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7

cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6 11.f4 Not (11.cxd4?

Nxd4!) 11...Bd7 12.Qd3 dxc3 13.Qxc3 13.

Nxc3 looks more natural, unblocking the B

on f1 and aiming at b5, but capturing with

the Q is also popular, as it keeps more

control over d4. 13...0-0-0 14.Rb1 Kb8 A

quiet continuation, planning a

redeployment with ...Bc8 followed by ... b6

and ... Bb7. The main line here is 14 ...

Nf5. A later Sutton-Martin game continued

(14...Nf5 15.Rg1 d4 16.Qd3 Be8 17.g4

Nfe7 18.Rg3 f6 19.exf6 Nd5 20.Bg2 Nxf6

21.Rb5 Bg6 22.f5 exf5 23.Bf4 Qd7 24.gxf5

White seems to have a good game, but his

king is exposed and this eventually tells

against him. 24...Bf7 25.c4 Nh5 26.Rxg8

Rxg8 27.Bg3 Nxc3 28.hxc3 Re8 29.Bd5

Re3 30.Qd2 Bxd5 31.Rxd5 Qh7 32.Kd1

Qh1+ 33.Kc2 Qe4+ 34.Kd1 Rd3 0-1)

15.Bd2 Rc8?! (15...d4 is more active,

staking out some space in the centre. If

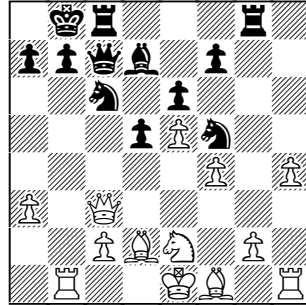
16.Nxd4 then 16...Nxd4 17.Qxd4 and now

both 17...Bc6 and (17...Bb5 give Black

strong pressure. After the text, Black's

position becomes very passive.)) 16.h4

Nf5



17.Rh3! A strong, thematic move. White

protects the sensitive squares g3 and e3,

and prepares to double Rs on the b-file.

17...a6 18.h5 Rg4 19.h6 Ka8 20.Qc5!

White probes the dark-square weaknesses

on Black's queenside. 20...Rh8 21.Nc3

Qa5 To stop 22. Na4 and 23. Nb6+.

22.Nb5! Qd8 23.Nd6 Forcing the

exchange of Black's best piece, the N on f5.

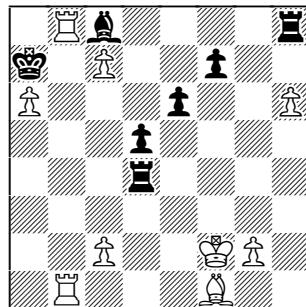
23...Nxd6 24.exd6 Qc8 25.Rhb3 Nd8

26.Qc7 Threatening 27. Bxa6. 26...b5

27.a4 Qxc7 28.dxc7 Nc6 29.axb5 Nd4

30.Bc3 Rxf4 31.Bxd4 Re4+ 32.Kf2 Rxd4

33.bxa6 Bc8 34.Rb8+ Ka7



35.R1b7+! The cleanest way to finish.

35...Bxb7 36.Rxh8 Rd2+ 37.Kg3 Rxc2

38.axb7 Kxb7 39.c8Q+ 1-0

John Nunn's Chess Course – *an Excerpt*

As promised in the last issue, here is an excerpt from the new book from Gambit Publications. The following game is presented in Chapter 4, Piece Activity. This clash of giants, in one of the greatest of all tournaments is not as well known as might be expected. Readers of a certain age will probably remember Gerald Abrahams' original Teach Yourself Chess book. Abrahams presented this as one of his illustrated games and wrote "Very rarely has a great master been so outplayed and so deprived of control. The game is a study in the use of open lines and useful squares".

The following excerpt is reproduced with permission from Gambit Publications.

Improving Piece Position

In quiet middlegame positions lacking tactical opportunities, it can sometimes be hard to think of a constructive plan. In this case, it's worth looking for a method of improving the position of one of your pieces. While the benefits of such a manoeuvre may not be immediately apparent, it's surprising how often it comes in handy later on. In the following game, Lasker obtains a winning position against one of the world's strongest players by doing little more than improving the position of first one piece and then another. Games like this are more instructive than a sacrificial brilliancy, because the opportunity for a brilliancy only comes very rarely, whereas chances to improve piece placing arise in almost every game.

Game 23

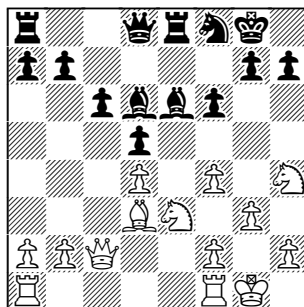
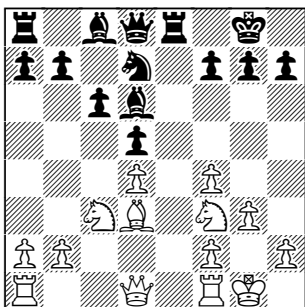
Alekhine - Lasker

New York 1924

Queen's Gambit Declined

Exchange Variation

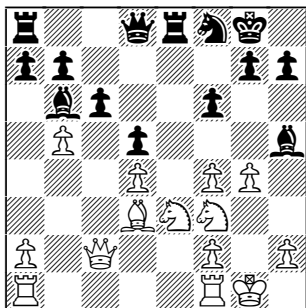
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nbd7 These days 4...Be7 is considered the most flexible move, but there's nothing wrong with developing the knight first. **5.cxd5** The Exchange Variation is perennially popular line in the Queen's Gambit. It sometimes leads to the traditional minority attack on the queenside, but there are many games which follow a radically different course, including the present one. **5...exd5 6.Bf4** White's big decision in many lines of the classical Queen's Gambit is whether to develop the bishop to f4 or g5. **6...c6** A necessary precaution as otherwise Nb5 can be awkward. **7.e3 Nh5 7...Be7** would transpose back to standard variations. **8.Bd3?!** Although in some positions White can allow the exchange of minor pieces on f4, here it is not particularly good as the d4 pawn becomes a potential long term weakness. The standard continuation is 8.Bg5 Be7 (Black cannot hunt the bishop down by 8...f6 9.Bh4 g5? due to 10.Nxg5) 9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.Qc2; while Korchnoi has successfully tried 8.Bg3. **8...Nxf4 9.exf4 Bd6 10.g3 10.Ne5** looks more aggressive, but 10...Qb6 already obliges White to sacrifice a pawn, so Alekhine prefers a more modest continuation. **10...0-0 11.0-0 Re8**



The change in the pawn-structure has an impact for both players. The main advantage from White's point of view is the possibility of jumping into e5 with a knight, but the benefits of this are limited because Black can always expel the knight by playing ...f6. Black, although slightly short of space at the moment, has good long term chances based on his two bishops and White's isolated d-pawn. **12.Qc2 Nf8** The best move since after 12...Nf6 Black will no longer be able to play ...f6 to chase away a knight from e5. **13.Nd1?** White aims to transfer this knight to e3, where it both prevents Black from developing his bishop to g4 and opens up the possibility of occupying f5. However, the move has a concrete flaw. **13.Ng5?!** doesn't achieve anything and Black is slightly better after **13...g6 14.Rfe1 f6 15.Rxe8 Qxe8 16.Nf3 Bg4** so the best continuation was the conventional; **13.Rfe1** , with a roughly equal position. **13...f6?** Missing the chance to cause White serious inconvenience by **13...Bg4 14.Ne5 Bh3 15.Re1 Qb6** , when there is no way to defend the d4-pawn. **14.Ne3** Now the position is once again roughly level. **14...Be6 15.Nh4**

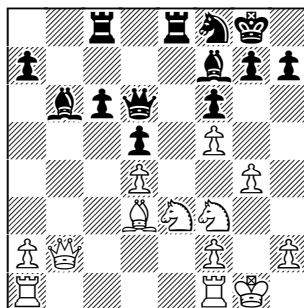
The opening is effectively over and Lasker has to find a plan. White has no immediate threats, so Black has considerable flexibility in the way he arranges his pieces. However he should not play planlessly since given time White may be able to develop an initiative on the kingside. A good first step is generally to see what advantages your position possesses, and what targets there are in the enemy position. Here Black has the long-term asset of two bishops, but more immediately White's isolated d-pawn is currently undefended and a good target to attack. There is not much point attacking the d-pawn by ...Qb6, as the simple reply Rad1 meets the threat while developing a piece to a useful square. It's much more to the point to attack the pawn with minor pieces and this can be achieved by ...Bc7-b6, a particularly attractive option since the bishop at the moment is only staring at the securely defended f4-pawn. It will then be up to White to find a good way of defending his d-pawn. **15...Bc7! 16.b4 Bb6 17.Nf3?!** It looks wrong to reverse the earlier move to h4 and it would have been better to defend the pawn indirectly by **17.Rad1**, when **17...Bxd4 18.Bxh7+ Nxh7 19.Rxd4** leads to equality. **17...Bf7** The f3-

knight is the weak link in White's position since it is tied down to the defence of the d-pawn, which suggests the plan of harassing the knight by Bf7-h5. White will be reluctant to meet this manoeuvre with g4, as then his f4-pawn would become weak. Once again Black finds the right plan by looking for a weakness in the enemy position and working out how to reposition his pieces to exploit it. **18.b5** The alternatives 18.Qb2 Bh5 19.Be2 Re4 20.Rad1 Ne6 and 18.Bf5 Bh5 19.Bg4 Bxg4 20.Nxg4 Re4 21.Rad1 Ne6 also favour Black. As soon as White's queen-and-bishop line-up is disturbed, the knight is freed from the defence of the h7-pawn and can then move to e6 to step up the pressure against d4. The move played proves ineffective because White's pieces are poorly placed to support any kind of minority attack on the queenside. **18...Bh5** **19.g4**



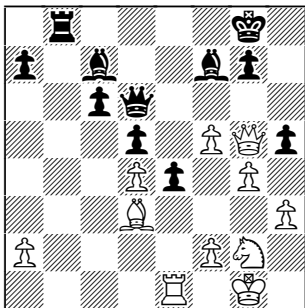
Alekhine decides this is the lesser evil, but now he may have to advance the f4-pawn at some stage, which will weaken his dark squares and block the pressure against h7. **19...Bf7** **20.bxc6 Rc8** Lasker could have played simply 20...bxc6 because 21.Qxc6?! Ne6 22.f5 Nxd4 23.Nxd4 Bxd4 24.Rae1 Rc8 gives Black a huge advantage based on

White's very weak dark squares. **21.Qb2?** Voluntarily giving up the pressure along the b1-h7 diagonal is wrong. Instead White should continue 21.a4 Rxc6 22.Qb1, which at least threatens 23.a5. Black retains the advantage but White is fighting. **21...bxc6** There is already a very unpleasant threat of 22...Qc7 23.f5 (or 23.Ng2 Ne6) 23...Qf4 and White's position crumbles. **22.f5 Qd6**



Here too 23...Qf4 is a very awkward threat **23.Ng2** Without doing anything spectacular, Black has seized complete control of the game and forced White totally on the defensive. **23...Bc7** Although h2 is currently defended, White now has to worry about ideas such as ...h5 followed by ...Nh7-g5. **24.Rfe1?!** After this White is lost. The last chance was to try to block the b8-h2 diagonal by 24.Rac1 h5 25.g5 fxg5 26.Ne5, but after 26...Rxe5 (the simple 26...Bb6 is also very good) 27.dxe5 Qxe5 28.Qxe5 Bxe5 White is in big trouble in any case as Black has two connected passed pawns supported by the bishop-pair. **24...h5** **25.h3 Nh7** White can delay but not prevent the deadly ...Ng5. **26.Rxe8+ Rxe8** **27.Re1 Rb8** It's much better to keep the rooks on the board because Black may soon start chasing the white king around by

...Qh2+ and ...Qh1+, and then the more heavy force he can use in the attack the better. **28.Qc1 Ng5 29.Ne5** A desperate attempt to block the diagonal leading to h2, but Black also wins after **29.Nxg5 Qh2+ 30.Kf1 fxg5 31.Qxc6 Ba5 29...fxe5 30.Qxg5 e4**



The lethal diagonal is opened once again. **31.f6 g6 32.f4 32.Qh6 Qxf6** is also hopeless for White. **32...hxc4** Not **32...exd3?** **33.gxh5** , when White unexpectedly develops some counterplay. **33.Be2 gxh3** Black is already two pawns up and if White moves the knight, the f4-pawn falls as well. **34.Bh5 Rb2 35.Nh4 Qxf4 36.Qxf4 Bxf4 0-1**

Olympiad Impressions *by Paul Spiller*

On August 4th my wife Joanne & I arrived at the Olympiad in Tromsø, Norway after having spent a month beforehand travelling around Italy and Greece on a much needed vacation. I wanted to attend as a delegate this year instead of appointing a proxy as has been done on recent occasions. This year was particularly significant being a presidential

election year and the climax of a long political campaign between the incumbent president Kirsan Ilyumzhinov and his presidential opponent and former world chess champion, Gary Kasparov. I was keen to experience a General Assembly and have the opportunity to meet delegates from other countries, in particular those from Oceania since I was also intending to stand as the zone 3.6 president taking over from Brian Jones who had indicated his intention of standing down from the position.

By the time we arrived on the evening of the 4th, the Olympiad was well underway, teams having already played three rounds. We were met at the airport and together with the English and Spanish delegates transferred to our respective hotels. Joanne and I were booked into the Rica Ivshavhotel, close to the other main hotels and a relatively short walking distance from the playing hall. Tromsø is set against a spectacular backdrop of snow capped mountains. The airport on one side of the island is connected to the CBD where the tournament was held by a series of tunnels, large enough to accommodate several roundabouts. There was a story that emerged one day that the tunnels were temporarily closed because of several moose that were causing traffic chaos !

Tromsø is a relatively small community of 20 - 30,000 people that boasts the most northerly university in the world. It also features the world's most northerly planetarium which has an interesting scientific interactive centre and a quite spectacular cinematic presentation of the Aurora Borealis northern lights. There were

several other very interesting museums in Tromsø including the Polar museum featuring the history of the sealing and whaling industry which was the economic mainstay in bygone years. Of special interest to me was the display of Anatoly Karpov's extensive chess stamp collection at the Tromsø museum and Polaria, the aquatic centre.

Before the main General Assembly began, I took the opportunity to attend several of the Commission meetings including the Social Action Commission, the Development Commission, the Chess in Schools Commission and the Anti-Cheating Committee. I also attended the Continental Asia meeting (Sheik Sultan bin Khalifa was returned as president ahead of his opponent Prospero Pichay) and chaired an Oceania Zone 3.6 meeting during which I took on the role of zone president for a 4 year term. The General assembly took place from August 11th until 14th at the Tromsø University, several kilometres from the CBD. Delegates were transported by buses from the main pick-up point in central Tromsø and returned at various times later in the evening.

The Commission meetings were informative and gave me a better understanding of how FIDE functions across a broad spectrum of activities. There are many genuine and hard-working people involved on many fronts. I did experience, however, the quite considerable animosity, even open hostility to certain Commissions and officials at some of these meetings. Some delegates forcibly expressed the opinion that their countries were receiving unfair treatment or even neglect in terms of

allocation of resources. All does not seem harmonious within FIDE at the moment. Nowhere was this more evident in the FIDE presidential election that was held on August 11th. Predictably, this was an emotional pressure cooker with vocal sparring from both sides. The process of the actual voting seemed very laborious and time-consuming which took up the majority of the first day. Day two was cancelled because of a technicality . The African continent had been unable to come to agreement over the selection of the Continental president which meant the General Assembly could not proceed. Day three was bogged down by further voting for Commission positions and the vote for the 2018 Olympiad (which was won by Batumi, Georgia). Day 4 which should have seen some meaningful discussion on the various Commission recommendations was ineffectual because a quorum could not be reached. Of the 170+ countries represented on Day 1 for the Presidential election, only 74 or so were represented on the last day, many delegates returning home after Kirsan was re-elected. Overall the experience of the General Assembly was one of disappointment and frustration and I believe that this was also the case for many delegates. On the other hand, the overall experience of attending an Olympiad after 34 years (the last one that I attended was Malta, 1980) was very rewarding and enjoyable. Having the opportunity of catching up with many chess friends and being able to watch the world's chess elite is priceless.

Games of the 41st Olympiad – NZ Men at Tromso

The New Zealand Open (formerly “Men's”) Olympiad team put in a reasonable, if slightly below par, performance at Tromso. Our team was seeded 76th but ultimately placed 98th.

Wang and Luke Li against GMs Gajewski (2659) and Mateusz (2640) respectively).

Individual performances are summarised in the following table;

Round by round the team's matches were as follows;

Round	Opponent	Seed	Our Score
1	Burundi	164	4:0
2	Poland	15	1:3
3	Nigeria	107	1½:2½
4	Ghana	156	3½:½
5	Iraq	98	2:2
6	Dominican Republic	83	3½:½
7	Switzerland	51	½ :3½
8	Paraguay	48	0:4
9	Lebanon	108	2:2
10	Nepal	128	3½:½
11	Sri Lanka	120	1½:2½

	Rtg	Score	Perf
Puchen Wang	2449	7/10	2463
Russell Dive	2318	4/9	2171
Luke Li	2365	4½/9	2277
Anthony Ker	2316	4½/9	2199
Ben Hague	2320	3/7	2103

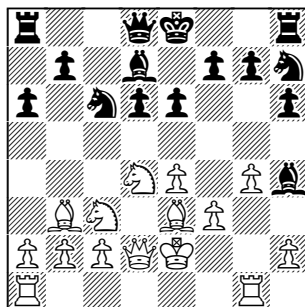
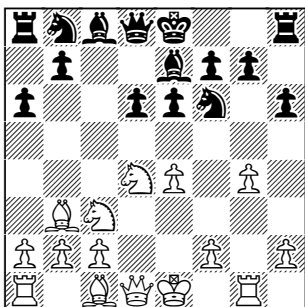
Clearly Puchen Wang was our outstanding player and he enhanced his reputation and his rating.

Puchen, Russell and Ben have kindly provided the following annotated games.

Salih,Akar Ali Salih (2315) [Iraq]-Wang,Puchen (2449) [B86]

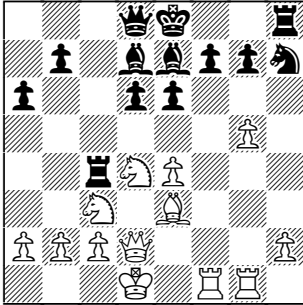
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bb3 Be7
 Unfortunately here I mixed up my variations and played Be7. During my preparation, I expected my opponent to play 6.Bg5 instead so I didn't prepare for 6.Bc4. (7...b5; 7...Nbd7 are also playable.)
8.g4 h6 9..Rg1

Like most competitors in most sports the NZ team ended up beating weaker competitors, losing to stronger competitors and competing closely with roughly comparable competitors. There you go, all sport journalism summarised and disposed of in one sentence. The reason for the disappointing final position on the table stands out clearly – the disappointing close losses to Nigeria and Sri Lanka – teams we might reasonably expect to beat. On the other hand there were bright spots – including a comprehensive win over the Dominican Republic and a very creditable effort against the super strong all GM Polish team (featuring draws for Puchen

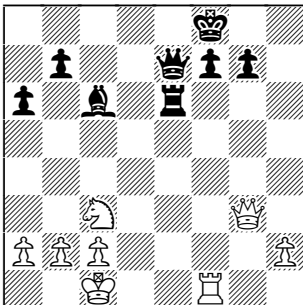


9...Nc6 This is invariably played. I think the reason 9...Nbd7 is not played as often is due to the Bxe6 sacrifice (although probably inaccurate), which is very difficult to calculate over the board. A sample line runs (9...Nbd7 10.Bxe6?! fxe6 11.Nxe6 Qa5 12.Nxg7+ Kf7 13.Nf5 Nxe4 14.Qe2 Re8 15.Nxh6+ Kf8□ the king must protect the e8-rook. 16.Qc4 d5□ 17.Qxd5 Qxd5 18.Nxd5 Ne5♣) **10.Be3 Bd7** This move allows black to retain the option of recapturing on c6 with the bishop if white decides to exchange the knight. (10...Qc7 is also possible with a different pawn structure. 11.h4 h5 12.gxh5 Nxh5 13.Nxc6 bxc6 14.Qf3÷) **11.f3** This move protecting g4 may not be necessary as black wasn't really threatening to capture it anyway. (11.Qe2 Rc8 (11...b5!? 12.0-0-0 b4? this is a mistake falling for a nice trick. 13.Nxc6 Bxc6 14.Qc4±) 12.0-0-0 Na5 13.f3 b5±; 11.Qd2 Rc8?! in this position is less accurate because the rook might be well placed on a8.(11...b5!? 12.f3 (12.0-0-0? now this is a mistake because white does not have the Qc4 resource compared with the 11.Qe2 variation. 12...b4 13.Nxc6 Bxc6 14.Ne2 Nxe4 15.Qxb4 d5 16.Qb6 Qxb6 17.Bxb6 Bb5♣) 12...Ne5 13.0-0-0 b4±)) **11...Nh7 12.Qd2 Bh4+ 13.Ke2**

Here I started to realize that even though white lost the right to castle, the position is not that clear. Black's h4 bishop and h7 knight are misplaced and it is still not clear where to generate counterplay. I think the position is objectively dynamically balanced. (13.Bf2? fails to 13...Ng5 14.Bxh4 Nxd4±) **13...Na5** Preventing the knight exchange and pressure on the d6 pawn. **14.Raf1 Rc8 15.Kd1 Nc4?** releasing the tension too fast. (△15...b5!? 16.a3!? (16.f4 b4 17.Nce2 (17.Na4 0-0 18.Qxb4 (18.g5 Bxa4 19.gxh6 g6 20.Bxa4 Nc4 21.Qc1 Qa5±) 18...Rb8 19.Qc3 Bb5♣) 17...Be7 18.g5 Nxb3 19.axb3 hxg5 20.fxg5 g6∞) 16...Qc7 17.f4 Nxb3 18.cxb3 Qb7±) **16.Bxc4 Rxc4 17.f4 Be7 18.g5?** (△18.Kc1 b5 19.a3 improving the position of the king is better. White has good chances on the kingside.) **18...hxg5 19.fxg5**



19...Nxc5 Perhaps white missed this?
20.Nf5? (20.h4!? I was worried about this move. 20...Rxc3 (20...Rxc3 21.Qf2 Rh7 22.Rxc3!+- (22.Bxc3? Rxd4+=)) 21.Qxc3 Nxc4 22.Qb4∞) **20...exf5 21.Bxc3 Bxc5 22.Rxc3 Rxd4?** (22...Qf6 23.Rg3 Rd4 24.Rd3 Rxd3 25.cxd3 Qe5-+ clear pawn up.) **23.Qxd4 Qxc3 24.Qxd6 fxe4 25.Qb8+** (25.Nd5 this move would have forced a draw. 25...Bg4+ 26.Ke1 Qc1+ 27.Kf2 Qd2+ 28.Kg1 Qd4+ 29.Rf2 Qd1+ 30.Rf1 Qd4+=) **25...Qd8** (25...Ke7? 26.Qxh8 Bg4+ 27.Ne2±) **26.Qe5+ Kf8 27.Kc1 Rh6 28.Nxe4 Qe7 29.Qb8+ Be8 30.Nc3 Re6 31.Qg3 Bc6**

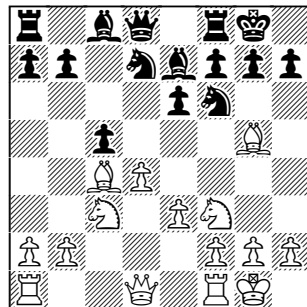


Black may have a slight edge here but we were both short on time at this point. In the end I was lucky to have won this game.

The rest is not so important. **32.Rd1 Kg8 33.Nd5 Qc5 34.Nf4 Qe3+ 35.Qxe3 Rxe3 36.Rf1 Re5 37.Kd2 Rf5 38.Ke3 g5 39.Rg1 Kh7 40.Nd3 Kh6 41.Nb4 Rf3+ 42.Kd4 Rf2 43.Nd3 Rxh2 44.Ne5 Rh4+ 45.Kc5 f6 46.Nxc6 bxc6 47.Kxc6 Rc4+ 48.Kb6 Rxc2 49.Rb1 g4 50.Kxa6 g3 51.b4 Rxa2+ 52.Kb6 f5 53.b5 Kg5 54.Kc7 f4 55.b6 f3 56.Kd6 Ra8 0-1**

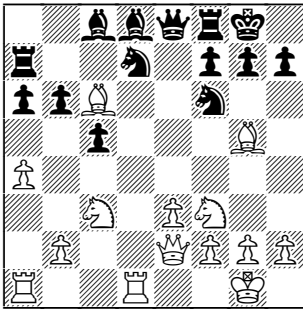
Wang, Puchen (2449) - Olape, Bunmi (2273) [Nigeria] [D60]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Bd3 0-0 8.0-0 dxc4 9.Bxc4 c5

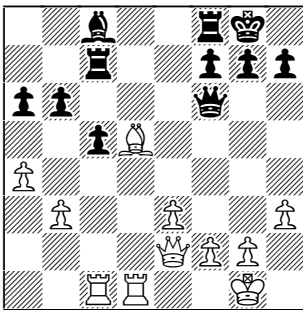


The position is similar to a Queen's Gambit Declined. White should have a slight edge here. **10.Qe2 a6 11.a4 b6 12.Rfd1 Qe8** (12...cxd4 13.Nxd4 Qe8 (13...Bb7 14.Nxe6 fxe6 15.Bxe6+ Kh8 16.Bxf6+-) 14.Nc6 Bb7 15.Nxe7+ Qxe7 16.Bf4±) **13.d5** At this point I thought I was going to win quickly but I was very wrong. **13...exd5 14.Bxd5 Ra7** My opponent has defended very accurately. (14...Nxd5 15.Nxd5 Bxc5 16.Nc7 Qe7 17.Nxa8 Bf4 18.Rxd7 Qxd7 19.Nxb6±) **15.Bc6?** Although attractive, this is wrong. (15...Bf4 Nh5 (15...Nxd5 16.Nxd5 Bd8

17.Bd6) 16.Be5 Bf6 17.Bd6 Be7 18.Bc4 Bb7 19.Nh4 Bxd6 20.Rxd6 Nhf6 21.Rad1±) 15...Bd8□

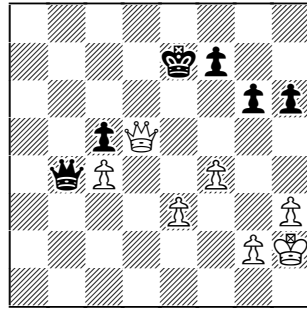


(15...Rc7 originally I wanted to meet this with 16.Ne5 This is why I played Bc6 but I did not anticipate black's next move.) 16.Bxf6? (△16.Bf4 Bc7 17.Bxd7 Nxd7 18.Bd6 Bxd6 19.Rxd6 Qe7 20.Rad1±; 16.Rd6!? Bc7 17.Rxf6 gxf6 18.Bh6 (18.Nd5? fvg5! 19.Bxd7 Qd8̄) 18...Qe6 19.Bd5 Qg4 20.Bxf8 Kxf8 21.Qc2 Qh5± is still better for white but less clear because the doubled pawns are offset by black's bishop pair which can become quite strong.) 16...Bxf6 17.Ne4 Qe7 18.Rac1 Rc7 19.Bd5 Be5 20.h3 Nf6 21.Nxe5 Qxe5 22.Nxf6+ Qxf6 23.b3



Black is close to equality but the game is

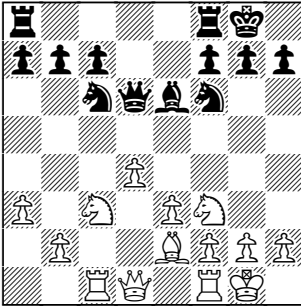
not over. 23...h6 24.Rd2 Rd8 25.Rcd1 Rcd7 26.f4 Kf8 27.Kh2 Re8 28.Qf3 Red8 29.Qf2 Qc3 30.Rd3 Qb4 31.Qc2 b5? 32.Bc6 Rxd3 33.Rxd3 Rxd3 34.Qxd3 Ke7 35.axb5 axb5 36.Bxb5 Be6 37.Bc4 Bxc4 38.bxc4 (38.Qxc4!?) 38...g6 39.Qd5



I am not sure this position is winnable with correct defence from black. 39...Kf8 40.e4 Kg8 41.e5 Qb6 42.Qd7 Qa6 43.Qd5 Qc8 44.Qd3 Kg7 45.Kg3 h5 46.Kf2 Qe6 47.Ke3 Qa6 48.Kf3 Qb7+ 49.Kg3 Qc8 50.Qd6 Qf5 51.Kf3 (51.Qxc5 Qd3+ 52.Kh2 Qd2=) 51...Kg8 52.Qd8+ Kh7 53.Qd5 Kg7 54.Qe4 (54.e6! fxe6 (54...Qxe6 55.Qxe6 fxe6 56.Ke4 Kf6 57.h4+-; 54...Qxd5+ 55.cxd5 fxe6 56.Ke4 Kf7 57.Ke5±) 55.Qd6 h4 56.Qe7+ Kg8 57.Ke3± gives better chances.) 54...Qd7 55.Kg3 Qd2 Now the game is equal as the black queen is too active. 56.Kh2 Qf2 57.Kh1 Qf1+ 58.Kh2 Qf2 59.Qf3 Qd4 60.Qf1 Qe4 61.h4 Qd4 62.Kg3 Qe3+ 63.Kh2 Qd4 64.g3 Qe4 65.Kh3 Qf5+ 66.Kh2 Qe4 67.Kg1 Qd4+ 68.Kg2 Qe4+ 69.Kf2 Qd4+ 70.Kf3 Qc3+ 71.Kg2 Qc2+ 72.Kg1 Qc3 73.Kf2 Qd4+ 74.Kg2 Qe4+ 75.Kg1 Qd4+ 76.Kh2 Qe4 77.Kg1 Qd4+ 78.Kg2 Qe4+ 79.Kh3 Qf5+ 80.Kh2 Qc2+ 81.Kg1 Qe4 82.Qc1 Qd4+ 83.Kh2 Qf2+ 84.Kh3 Qe2 85.Qc3 Qf1+ 86.Kh2 Qf2+

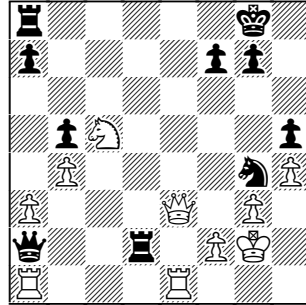
87.Kh1 ½-½

**Hague,Ben (2320) -
Rwamavubi,Jean Bosco
[Burundi] [D38]**

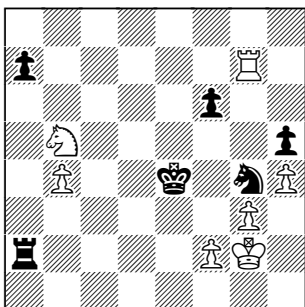


This was my first game in an Olympiad, and I was quite nervous. It was the biggest event I've ever been a part of, and the TV cameras, ratio of one arbiter for every four games and top class GMs wandering around the hall made this totally unlike any other chess tournament I've played in. I couldn't find out much about my opponent before the game, so I was relieved when it became obvious quite quickly that he wasn't an unknown genius, just unknown. I was quite pleased with the tactic I found here, **16.e4** is a sort of meta-fork, threatening two forks. I can't actually remember coming across anything similar before, and the extra piece meant that the game didn't last much longer (1-0, 28). After this I started to think that Olympiads might not be that difficult, a notion I was very quickly disabused of.

**Thompson,Edward Nii Lamptey
[Ghana] (1854) - Hague,Ben
(2320) [E11]**



This game was pretty forgettable in many ways, but has the unique distinction that it's the only game of mine that's had Garry Kasparov as a spectator. I'd just played Ng4 and my opponent had already reached out to play RxQ before thinking better of it. I looked up from the board and saw the great man. White then reached for his knight, and I'm told by Hilton that Kasparov then pulled a whole range of faces. Probably unconnected, but sadly my opponent fairly quickly spotted that I take the queen with check and eventually played the best move. **36.Qe8+** (36.Rxa2 Nxe3+ 37.Rxe3 Rxa2; 36.Qe4 Rxf2+ 37.Kg1 Rf1+ 38.Rxf1 Qh2# This would have been a nice finish, but I suspect that White didn't spot 36.Qe4, never mind the refutation.) **36...Rxe8 37.Rxe8+ Kh7 38.Rxa2 Rxa2 =+ 39.Ne4 Rxa3 40.Re7 Kg6 41.Ng5 f6 42.Ne6 Ra2 43.Rxg7+ Kf5 44.Nd4+ Ke4 45.Nxb5**

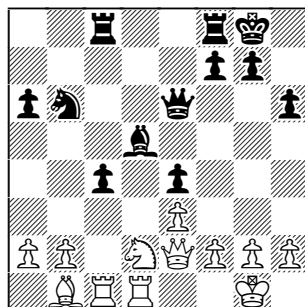


45...Rxf2+ 46.Kg1 Kf3 47.Rxa7?? This was the really embarrassing part of the game, and I'm very glad that Kasparov wasn't around to see this as I played 47...Kxg3 rather than (47...Rg2+ 48.Kf1 Ne3+ 49.Ke1 Re2# and only drew (1/2-1/2, 61)) 1/2-1/2

Hague, Ben (2320) - Al-Khattab Ghassan M. Ali Ajm [Iraq] (2140) [A46]

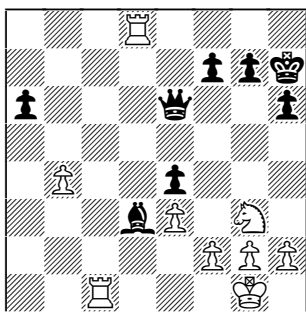
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bg5 Be7 4.e3 b6 5.Bd3 Bb7 6.0-0 0-0 7.c4 d5 8.Nc3 Nbd7 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Rc1 c5 11.dxc5 Here I should really have kept the tension with (11.Bf5 , but I was worried about 11...c4 However, after the simple 12.b3 cxb3 13.Qxb3 d5 is really weak, so White would be comfortably better. I wanted to get on with the battle against the hanging pawns, but it was a lazy decision.) 11...bxc5 12.Bb5 h6 13.Bh4 a6?! 14.Ba4?! (14.Bxd7 I missed this rather unintuitive and computery line which gives up both bishops for knights in order to exploit a random tactic. 14...Qxd7 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Na4 Qe7 17.Nxc5 Bxb2 18.Rb1 Qxc5 19.Rxb2 and White is clearly better.) 14...Nb6 15.Bc2 Ne4 16.Bxe7 Qxe7 17.Nxe4!? Another tricky decision to

make. Capturing with the knight is the maximalist approach as my bishop is potentially a good piece, however my pieces do lose some coordination so capturing with the bishop would have been the easier option. (17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Nd2 Rad8 19.Qc2 Rd3 20.Nb3 ~) 17...dxe4 18.Nd2 c4 19.Qe2 Rac8 20.Bb1 Bd5 21.Rfd1 Qe6?!



I've nearly managed to unravel now, and if I can manage to play Nf1-g3 then the future should be rosy with a few ways to increase the pressure, e.g. Rd4 and Rcd1, Qd2(e1)-a5 or Nf5-d4. Black could've thrown a spanner in the works here with (21...Na4 as the tactics work for him after 22.Nxc4 (22.Nf1 was necessary, but after 22...Qb7 Black is clearly more active than in the game continuation.) 22...Bxc4 23.Rxc4 Rxc4 24.Qxc4 Nxb2) 22.Nf1 Na4 If Black can get in Nc5-d3 I have a problem, so I need to act quickly to stop that. 23.Qd2 Rfd8 24.b3 cxb3 25.axb3 Nc5?! (25...Nb6 was the safe and probably better option, but he saw no reason to change his plan of bringing the knight to d3.) 26.b4 Nd3 27.Bxd3 Bb3? He had to accept that his plan hasn't worked and head for a pawn-down ending after (27...Rxc1 28.Rxc1 exd3 29.Qxd3 +/-) 28.Bc4?! I

thought this was a really clever move when I played it, but the computer points out that (28.Bxa6 leads to the same sort of thing, but with an extra pawn. 28...Qxa6 29.Qxd8+ Rxd8 30.Rxd8+ Kh7 +-) **28...Bxc4** There's nothing else, e.g. (28...Qf6? 29.Bxb3 Rxd2 30.Rxc8+ Kh7 31.Rxd2 +-; 28...Rxd2? 29.Bxe6 Rxc1 30.Rxc1 Rb2 31.Bxb3 Rxb3 32.Rc4 +-; 28...Qxc4? 29.Rxc4 Rxd2 30.Rxc8+ Kh7 31.Rxd2 +-) **29.Qxd8+ Rxd8 30.Rxd8+ Kh7 31.Ng3 Bd3!?**

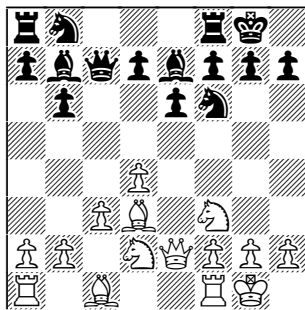


In two rooks v queen positions who wins generally depends on who gets coordinated first. I have an advantage there because the bishop is struggling to find employment. To try to increase this to decisive proportions I decided to sac' a pawn in order to improve my rooks placement while putting his queen offside. **32.h4 Qe7 33.Rcc8 Qxh4 34.Rh8+ Kg6 35.Rc6+ f6** After the forcing sequence I have a target on g7 which I start ganging up on. **36.Rg8 Qg4 37.Rc7 Kh7 38.Re8** Obviously not (38.Rgxf7+ Qxf7 39.Rxf7+ Kxf7 with at best an equal ending) **38...h5 39.Ree7 h4 40.Nh5 Qd1+ (40...Qxh5 41.Rxf7+ Kh8 42.Rgd7 and he has to give up the queen to avoid mate. 42...Qe8 43.Rh7+ Kg8 44.Rcg7+ Kf8 45.Rh8+ Kxf7 46.Rxe8 +-) 41.Kh2 Kh6 42.Nf4 Qg4 43.Re8 g6 44.Rg8 45.Rxg6** would be a simple way of getting a winning ending against most moves, and 45.Nh3 intending 46.Rh8# may be a quick win. **1-0**

41.Kh2 Kh6 42.Nf4 Qg4 43.Re8 g6 44.Rg8 45.Rxg6 would be a simple way of getting a winning ending against most moves, and 45.Nh3 intending 46.Rh8# may be a quick win. **1-0**

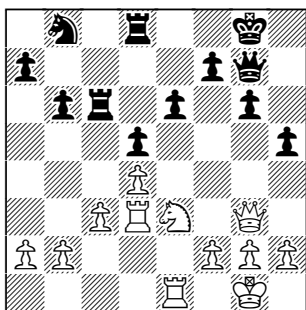
Galappaththi Chinthaka Anurud [Sri Lanka] (2125) – Dive, Russell (2318) [A47]

The team plan before the start of this game was for me to draw with Black against Sri-Lanka's best performing player. **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 b6 3.e3 Bb7 4.Bd3 c5 5.0-0 e6 6.Nbd2 cxd4 7.exd4 Be7 8.Qe2 (8.Ne5 0-0 9.f4 d6 10.Ng4 Nbd7 11.Qe2 Qc7 12.Nxf6+ Nxf6 13.Nf3 Rfe8 14.Bd2 Bf8 15.Rael g6 16.Qf2 Bg7 17.Qh4 a6 18.g4 Qc6 19.f5 exf5 20.Rxe8+ Rxe8 21.gxf5 b5 22.Bh6 Qd5 Siebrecht,S (2417)-Iordachescu, V (2603)/Port Erin 2006/CBM 114 ext/0-1 (32)) 8...0-0 (8...d6 9.Ne4 Nbd7 10.Bf4 Qc7 11.Neg5 h6 12.Ne4 0-0 13.h3 Rfe8 14.c3 Rad8 15.Rad1 Bf8 16.Bb1 Qc6 17.Rfe1 Nxe4 18.Bxe4 Qxe4 19.Qxe4 Bxe4 20.Rxe4 b5 21.Re2 Nb6 22.Rc2 Rc8 23.Rdc1 Jaiswal,P (2234)-Ismagambetov,A (2523)/ Gurgon 2009/CBM 128 Extra/0-1 (42)) 9.c3 Qc7N**



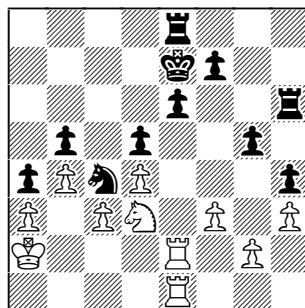
(9...Nc6 10.Re1 Nd5 11.Nf1 f5 12.c4 Ndb4 13.Bb1 Bf6 14.a3 Na6 15.Rd1 Rc8 16.b4

Ne7 17.Ba2 Kh8 18.Bb2 Ng6 19.Ng3 Nf4
 20.Qe3 Nxg2 21.Kxg2 f4 22.Qe2 fxg3
 23.hxg3 Bxf3+ 24.Qxf3 Filgueira,H
 (2376)-Godoy,C (2210)/Villa Ballester
 2003/CBM 092 ext/ 1-0 (35)) **10.Re1 Re8**
11.Nf1 Nc6 12.Ng3 Rac8 13.Bg5 Given
 time, the plan is to play d6 and to re-route
 the knight to d7. **13...Nb8 (13...g6**
14.Bb5=) 14.Bxf6± Bxf6 15.Nh5 Qd8
16.Ne5 g6 17.Nxf6+ Qxf6 18.Ng4 Qg7 A
 fianchettoed bishop can be strong on
 offence and defence, I was hoping a
 fianchettoed queen would be even better!!!
19.Qe3 h5 20.Ne5 d6 21.Nc4 Red8
22.Qg3 Rc6 23.Rad1 Ba6 24.Ne3 Bxd3
25.Rxd3 d5



My opponent had been putting me under
 some pressure during the game, with this
 move I could feel the balance of the game
 shifting in my favour. **26.Nc2 Rcc8**
27.Rde3 Nc6 28.R3e2 b5 29.a3 a5 30.Qd3
Rb8 31.b4 Quite a concession to make,
 however allowing Black to continue with
 his minority attack with b4 also wasn't that
 pleasant. **31...Rdc8 32.h3 Qf6 33.Na1**
(33.Re3 Rb7=) 33...a4 I decided to wait
 for my opponent to put his knight on a1,
 before I committed to this move. Clearly I
 want to prevent him from getting his knight
 to c5 if I can. **34.Nc2 Ne7 35.Rc1 Nf5**

36.Qd2 Nd6 37.Ne1 Qf5 (37...Nc4
38.Qa2) **38.Qd3 Ne4** Time pressure on
 both sides was having an impact at this
 point. **39.Rec2 Rb6 40.f3 Ng3 41.Qxf5**
Nxf5 42.Kf2 h4 43.Nd3 g5 44.Nc5 White
 finally achieves what he has been trying to
 do for a number of moves. **44...Kg7 45.Re2**
Rh8 46.Ke1 Rh6 47.Kd1 Nd6 48.Kc2 Nc4
49.Ra1 Rb8 50.Kb1 Re8 51.Ka2 Kf8
52.Rae1 Ke7 53.Nd3



My opponent offers a draw. What to do? I
 think I have a slight edge, however my
 opponent has a clear advantage on the
 clock. Puchen has already won his game.
 Luke and Anthony's games are still going,
 they are both very messy and any result is
 possible on both boards. In front of the
 match arbiter, I ask Hilton for his advice.
 He tells me it is my decision to make. I
 eventually decide to go with the team plan
 before the start of the game and take the
 draw. ½-½

Oceania Seniors Championship 2014

Five New Zealanders competed in a 38 strong field for the 2014 Oceania Seniors Championship in Sydney in July.

The top two players, IM Gary Lane and our own FM Bob Smith enjoyed a clear class gap over the rest of the field. Their individual battle was a rather uneventful

draw, so victory in the tournament depended on who could most completely dominate the rest of the field. Ultimately Bob missed out on a share of the title due to conceding a final round draw against David Lovejoy. That game was interesting in all stages, and both players had chances to win.

2014 Oceania Seniors Championship

No	Name	Feder	Rtg	Loc	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Lane, Gary W	NSW	2353	2424	6.5	17:W	12:W	8:W	2:D	11:W	6:W	4:W
2	Smith, Robert W	NZ	2255	2300	6	27:W	19:W	4:W	1:D	16:W	5:W	6:D
3	Cabilin, Jeff	NSW	1903	1919	5	21:W	11:L	22:D	9:W	20:W	8:D	13:W
4	Hursky, Karel P	NSW	2044	1873	4.5	22:W	15:W	2:L	20:D	12:W	7:W	1:L
5	Murray, Bruce D	NSW	2118	2006	4.5	9:D	13:W	26:W	16:D	7:D	2:L	15:W
6	Lovejoy, David	QLD	1919	1827	4.5	35:W	30:W	11:W	7:D	0:D	1:L	2:D
7	Rose, Adrian P	NSW	2064	2040	4.5	31:W	26:D	9:W	6:D	5:D	4:L	17:W
8	Kempen, Leon	VIC	1936	1881	4.5	24:W	14:W	1:L	18:D	17:D	3:D	16:W
9	Staak, Eric	SA	1691	1623	4.5	5:D	33:W	7:L	3:L	32:W	23:W	18:W
10	Baterowicz, Mark	NSW	1726	1634	4.5	11:L	35:W	12:D	13:L	28:W	29:W	26:W
11	Luchtmeijer, Ton	NSW	2068	2031	4	10:W	3:W	6:L	15:W	1:L	16:D	12:D
12	Korenevski, Oleg	QLD	1914	1757	4	36:W	1:L	10:D	32:W	4:L	21:W	11:D
13	Watson, Robert A	NSW	1840	1732	4	37:W	5:L	29:D	10:W	19:D	26:W	3:L
14	Sandalciyan, Aram	NSW	1704	1739	4	25:W	8:L	0:D	19:D	27:W	15:L	28:W
15	Glissan, Paul	NSW	1848	1782	4	29:W	4:L	30:W	11:L	31:W	14:W	5:L
16	Wan, Dennis	NSW	1815	1764	3.5	34:W	18:W	20:D	5:D	2:L	11:D	8:L
17	Smith, Vivian	NZ	1759	1658	3.5	1:L	36:W	18:D	22:W	8:D	20:D	7:L
18	Jones, Brian A	NSW	2008	1971	3.5	23:W	16:L	17:D	8:D	21:D	25:W	9:L
19	Rewais, Sarwat	NSW	1913	1845	3.5	38:W	2:L	21:D	14:D	13:D	22:D	20:D
20	Spiller, Paul	NZ	1961	1858	3.5	33:D	32:W	16:D	4:D	3:L	17:D	19:D
21	Cooper, Nigel	NZ	1722	1578	3.5	3:L	28:W	19:D	27:D	18:D	12:L	32:W
22	Egan, Bill	ACT	1701	1497	3.5	4:L	37:W	3:D	17:L	33:W	19:D	27:D
23	Low, Frank	NSW	1753	1616	3.5	18:L	38:L	33:D	34:W	24:W	9:L	29:W
24	Simmonds, Rex	NSW	1670	1548	3.5	8:L	34:D	31:L	30:W	23:L	37:W	33:W
25	Shaw, Ralph	NSW	1719	1311	3.5	14:L	29:L	36:W	31:D	37:W	18:L	30:W
26	Ilic, Ilija	NSW	1901	1835	3	28:W	7:D	5:L	29:W	0:D	13:L	10:L
27	Bolens, Johnny	NSW	1925	1647	3	2:L	31:D	38:W	21:D	14:L	30:D	22:D
28	Dick, Graham	NSW	1468	1468	3	26:L	21:L	35:W	38:W	10:L	31:W	14:L
29	Sike, Paul	NSW	1437	1437	2.5	15:L	25:W	13:D	26:L	38:W	10:L	23:L
30	Dunn, Paul	ACT	1195	1195	2.5	0:W	6:L	15:L	24:L	35:W	27:D	25:L
31	Clarkson, Robert	NZ	1661	1638	2.5	7:L	27:D	24:W	25:D	15:L	28:L	34:D
32	Quek, Bob	NSW	1612	1418	2.5	0:D	20:L	34:W	12:L	9:L	35:W	21:L
33	Oswald, Franz	VIC	1597	1496	2.5	20:D	9:L	23:D	37:D	22:L	34:W	24:L
34	Pascoe, John L	NSW	1434	1434	2	16:L	24:D	32:L	23:L	36:W	33:L	31:D
35	Renzies, Elliott	VIC	1593	1449	2	6:L	10:L	28:L	36:W	30:L	32:L	38:W
36	Baldwin, A(Tony) C	NSW	1535	1411	2	12:L	17:L	25:L	35:L	34:L	38:W	37:W
37	Singleton, Tim	NSW	1412	1297	1.5	13:L	22:L	0:W	33:D	25:L	24:L	36:L
38	Greenwood, Norman	NSW	1651	1492	1	19:L	23:W	27:L	28:L	29:L	36:L	35:L

New Zealand Chess Federation Inc.



New Zealand Chess Congress 2015

- Open to all chess players, any nationality
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Weekend of 10th-11th January 2015



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Tournament website: www.newzealandchess.co.nz
Venue information: www.devonportstpauls.co.nz



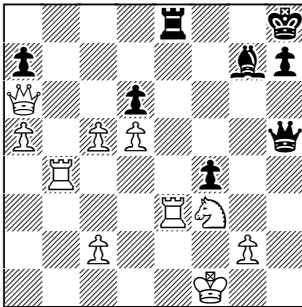
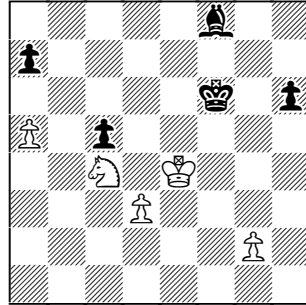
2014 New Zealand Champion:
International Master Puchen Wang



A POISON PAWN GRAND PRIX EVENT

Smith,Bob (2255) - Lovejoy,David (1919) [C41]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nbd7
 5.Bc4 Be7 6.a4 0-0 7.0-0 c6 8.Bb3 b6
 9.h3 Bb7 10.Re1 Ne8 11.Be3 Nc7 12.Qe2
 Bf6 13.Rad1 Qe7 14.Rd2 Rad8 15.Red1
 Kh8 16.d5 c5 17.a5 g6 18.Ra1 Ra8
 19.Rdd1 Bg7 20.Nd2 f5 21.f3 Nf6 22.Ra4
 Ba6 23.Bc4 Bxc4 24.Qxc4 b5 25.Nxb5
 Nxb5 26.Qxb5 Rab8 27.Qc4 fxe4 28.fxe4
 Nh5 29.b3 Qh4 30.Raa1 Nf4 31.Bxf4 exf4
 32.Nf3 Qg3 33.Rab1 g5 34.Qe2 g4
 35.hxg4 Qxg4 36.Kf1 Rbe8 37.b4 Qg6
 38.bxc5 Rxe4 39.Qa6 Re3 40.Rd3 Qh5
 41.Rb4? Rfe8 42.Rxe3

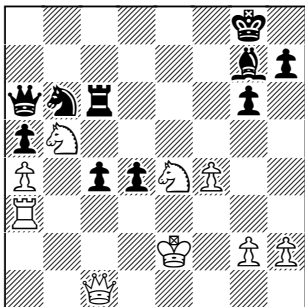


42...fxe3? (42...Qh1+! 43.Ngl fxe3 and Black's simultaneous threats of Rf8+ and e2+ are completely fatal) 43.Ke2 dxc5 (43...Qg6! still wins) 44.Rh4 Qf5 45.Qd3 Qxd3+ 46.cxd3 Rd8 47.Re4 h6 48.Kxe3 Rxd5 49.Rc4 Bf8 50.Ke4 Rd7 51.Ke3 Kg7 52.Nd2 Kg6 53.Re4 Re7 54.Nc4 Rxe4+ 55.Kxe4 Kf6

56.a6? (56.Kd5! wins the 'a' pawn and the game) 56...Ke6 57.g4 Kd7 58.Kd5 Be7 59.Ne5+ Kc7 60.Nc6 Bf8 61.Nxa7 Kb6 62.Nb5 Kxa6 63.Nc7+ Kb6 64.Ne6 Be7 65.Nf4 Bg5 66.Ne2 Kb5 67.Nc3+ Kb4 68.Ne4 Be3 69.Kc6 c4 70.dxc4 Kxc4 71.Kd6 Kd4 72.Nf6 Bg5 73.Nh5 Ke4 74.Ke6 Kf3 75.Kf5 Bd2 76.Nf6 Bg5 77.Ne4 Bf4 78.Nc5 Bg5 79.Nd3 Bd2 80.Ne5+ Kg3 81.Nc4 Bc1 82.Ne5 Kh4 83.Nf3+ Kg3 84.Nd4 Bd2 85.Nc6 Bc1 86.Ne5 Bd2 87.Ng6 Bc1 88.Ne7 Kh4 89.Ng6+ Kg3 90.Ne5 Bd2 91.Nc4 Bc1 92.Nd6 Kf3 93.Ne4 Bf4 94.Nc3 Bc1 95.Nd5 Bd2 96.Nf6 Bc1 97.Nd7 Bd2 98.Nc5 Be3 99.Ne6 Bd2 100.Nc5 Be3 101.Ne4 Bf4 102.Nf6 Bd2 103.Nd5 Bc1 104.Nc3 Bg5 105.Ne4 Bc1 106.Nc5 Bg5 107.Nd3 Bd2 108.Nc5 Be3 109.Ne4 Bc1 110.Nc3 Bg5 111.Nb5 Be3 112.Nd6 Bg5 113.Ne4 Bc1 114.Nc5 Be3 115.Nd3 Bd2 116.Ne5+ Kg3 117.Nc6 Be3 118.Ne7 Bc1 119.Ng6 Bg5 120.Ne5 Bc1 121.Nd3 Bd2 ½-½

Here is a satisfyingly brutal mopping up exercise from Viv Smith.

Egan,Bill (1701) - Smith,Vivian (1759)



33...d3+ 34.Kd2 Nxa4 35.Rxa4 Qxb5
36.Qa3 c3+ 37.Kc1 Qb2+ 0-1

A Trip to the Library by *Bill Forster*

One of the things that helps motivate me to work on the New Zealand Chess Magazine is the knowledge that each of the three most famous public library chess collections in the world subscribes to our little magazine. One of these collections is comparatively handy, if you've never visited the State Library in Melbourne, I'd strongly recommend it as a great excursion for any chess lover. On a recent European trip I decided to take the opportunity to visit an even more prestigious collection, at the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (National Library of the Netherlands) in the Hague. Travelling from Amsterdam is really very easy, the superb Dutch railway system has a direct link to the Hague (the Dutch political capital), departing every 30 minutes, and taking only 50 minutes. It's easier than taking a suburban train to Upper Hutt. I was expecting a sleepy overgrown Dutch village, but the Hague (Den Haag in Dutch)

has had something of a transformation in recent years, and presents itself as a futuristic mini-Manhattan to visitors arriving by rail. The library is right next to the railway station (there's a handy signpost on platform nine) in the middle of this high rise precinct.

The first difference from a trip to the Melbourne collection is apparent when you present yourself at reception. The Dutch library is not open to the general public, only to members. Fortunately you can become a member on the spot and free of charge. In fact this apparent negative is actually something of an advantage – only serious students of the game seem to frequent the collection. In Melbourne there are always hordes of students “studying” (i.e. chatting and instagramming with their mates). And the chess boards attract a lot of casual players. In fact there always seem to be elderly East European chaps playing in Melbourne. Somehow these players seem to accompany almost every move with a loud shout of CHECK! Or maybe NO! YOU CAN'T DO THAT YOU'RE IN CHECK! There is none of this in the Hague, just blissful reverential silence.

Once inside the first thing I did of course was to check out the presentation of New Zealand Chess Magazine. Happily, it is prominently displayed, right next to New In Chess in fact. Presumably the magazines are organised according to perceived quality and influence. After that I was faced with the perennial problem of circumstances like this: With only a few hours available, how to make effective use of the time when there is enough material present to happily absorb a lifetime? Of

course it's a hopeless dilemma with no decent solution. I did what I always do – I randomised.

The first book I picked up was a gem that absorbed about half of my available time without really scratching the surface of one book. “Carl Schlechter! Life and Times of the Austrian Chess Wizard” is a monumental work of scholarship which apparently absorbed the last fifteen years of author Warren Goldman's life. Tragically, Goldman died just before seeing his effort in print. My eye was probably drawn to the book because I have a longstanding interest in the Lasker-Schlechter match of 1910, scene of perhaps the greatest of all chess history controversies. With a +1 -0 =8 score going into the last game, why did the great drawing master Schlechter apparently play for a win in the final game ? Was there a clause in the match contract requiring him to win the match by two games in order to become world champion ? If there was such a clause why did Lasker also play as if only a win would suit ? I was interested to see how Goldman tackled this subject. In short methodically and exhaustively, with a determination to seek out all relevant original sources, some of which were found in the very same library I was visiting that day.

After presenting all his findings in objective and methodical detail without any sign of picking a side, I was pleased to see Goldman declare that he felt that he owed the reader his opinion on “the great controversy”. He starts by hedging, stating that the original match contracts seemed to be lost forever, and that consequently an absolute and definitive answer is eternally

unobtainable. Given that constraint however, Goldman feels that as unlikely as it seems, the great weight of evidence indicates that Carl Schlechter really could have become World Champion that day by drawing one more game. He chose instead to try and increase his winning margin due to a remarkable, old fashioned kind of sportsmanship.

Incidentally the name Warren Goldman rang a bell and eventually I worked out where I had encountered him before. This gives me the opportunity to fulfill a longstanding ambition – to finally publish a negative chess book review in the New Zealand Chess Magazine. Although his Schlechter book cemented Goldman's reputation as an outstanding chess historian, his earlier book “New Ideas in Old Settings” is perhaps the second worst chess book ever published. (The notorious 'The Major Tactics of Chess' by Franklin K Young reigns unchallenged forever in this category). To be fair to Goldman, the problems with his book were due mainly to abysmal composition and typesetting. Those problems were so severe however that they rendered the book completely unintelligible. Even working out the putative subject of the book (the 1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3. Qf3 Caro Kann sideline) was a major challenge !

Much of the chess collection at the Hague is not on display – a pity, but an endemic problem for huge collections. Of course if you have time and inclination material can be retrieved on request. (Melbourne has the same issue – one day I hope to investigate the situation at the Cleveland Public Library). There are a lot of biographies and

other chess history books (like Goldman's Schlechter book) on display, and a huge variety of immaculately presented bound volumes of chess magazines. On a whim I decided to look up Hans Kmoch's famous "Game of the Century" article from Chess Life and Review in 1956. It is easy to forget that although Bobby Fischer played that game in the fashion of the colossus he eventually became, at the time he was just another talented 2200 teenager who actually finished in the bottom half of the tournament table. Remember that next time you filter out games by sub 2500 players when you're doing a database search.

With my attention captured by the perennially fascinating subject of Bobby Fischer, I went back to the biographical section and spent some quality time with a handsome volume of Fischer memorabilia reproduced from the collection of American connoisseur David DeLucia.

Much of the book comprises annotated reproductions of Fischer's personal writing. Of course Fischer's descent into paranoia and anti-Semitic rage in the latter years of his life is well documented, but still seeing graphic demonstrations of this in crazy, angry handwritten script is strangely gripping. Readers are likely familiar with the controversy over the Batsford edition of Fischer's magnum opus "My 60 Memorable Games". Although ultimately Fischer did present some serious and substantial grievances, the impression one gains from reading his notes is that he had a rather irrational and obsessive reaction to the planned Batsford book right from the beginning. Indeed Mr Fischer reveals himself as something of a reverse cultural

imperialist with an undisguised loathing of seemingly straightforward cultural differences, like the different conventions that distinguish British and American English. It's all a bit exhausting, and I was relieved at one point to discover a little antipodean flavour with at least a hint of humour. Fischer writes;

What's next an "Australian version" of "My 60 Memorable Games"? Hello Mate, Dingo Softback Books of Brisbane Australia is proud to inform you that we have just acquired from Batsford with our own hard earned Australian dollars the right to publish a brand new Australian edition of your book "My 60 Memorable Games". As I'm sure a man with your brains can readily appreciate we speak a bit differently 'down under'. Accordingly, we shall be making alterations in your book 'My 60 Memorable Games' to make the book suitable for the Australian public.....

I wonder what Bobby Fischer would have made of Melbourne master Chris DePasquale's (wonderful) book "My 60 Memorable Columns"?



Definitely not in Alphabetical Order

Problem Kingdom

by Linden Lyons

- Submissions and comments to: problem.kingdom@gmail.com
- Judge for 2014-2015: Geoff Foster

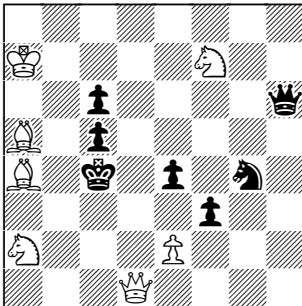
Welcome to *Problem Kingdom*. Here I will present problems that I hope will appeal both to chess players and experienced problemists. I am looking for original compositions with checkmate in two, three, or more moves, but will also welcome other genres like selfmates and helpmates.

I would like to thank Geoff Foster (Australia) for agreeing to be judge for 2014-2015: he will rank the problems that appear during this period.

In **Problem 1** by Maryan Kerhuel, White must checkmate Black in two moves.

Problem 1

Maryan Kerhuel (France)
Original



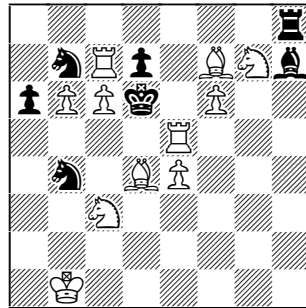
#2

A first move by White that solves a problem is called the **key**, while one that is thwarted by only one black defence is called a **try**. Maryan's problem contains two tries. The first try is 1 Nc3? (threat 2 Bb3), but Black can defend with 1 ... Qd2! The second try is 1 Bc3? (threat 2 Qb3), but 1 ... fxe2! The key is 1 **e3!** (threat 2 Qb3) with the variations 1 ... Nxe3 2 Ne5 and 1 ... Qxe3 2 Nd6. Thematic moves are underlined: in each try, White moves to c3 and threatens mate on b3. After the key, both of Black's defences occur on e3.

The theme of Alberto Armeni's **Problem 2** is White's departure from and arrival on the e5 square.

Problem 2

Alberto Armeni (Italy)
Original



#2

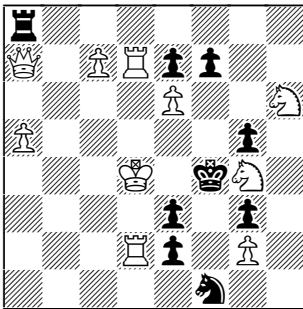
Set play: 1 ... dxc6 2 Re6; 1 ... Bxe4+ 2 Nxe4; 1 ... a5 2 Nb5. The first try is 1 Rb5? (threat 2 Be5), with 1 ... Re8 2 Nxe8; 1 ... Bxe4+ Nxe4; 1 ... axb5 2 Nxb5; 1 ... Nxc6/Nd3/Nd5 2 R(x)d5; but 1 ... Nc5!

The second try is 1 Re7? (threat 2 Rxd7): 1 ... Nc5 2 Be5; 1 ... Bf5 2 Nxf5; 1 ... Bxe4+ 2 Nxe4; but 1 ... Rd8! The key is 1 Rf5! (threat 2 e5): 1 ... Re8 2 Nxe8; 1 ... Bxf5 2 Nxf5; 1 ... Nxc6/Nd3 2 Rd5.

Alberto's next two mover (**Problem 3**) focuses on the d4 square. It also demonstrates cyclic mates (represented below with the letters A, B, and C).

Problem 3

Alberto Armeni (Italy)
Original



#2

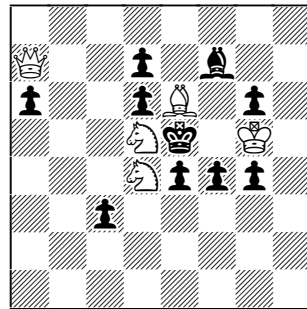
Set play: 1 ... Rb8 2 cxb8(Q/B). There are two non-thematic tries. The first is 1 Qb7? (threat 2 Qe4/Qf3): 1 ... f5 2 Qf3; 1 ... e1(N)/Nh2 2 Qe4; but 1 ... Nxd2! The second is 1 Qc5? (threat 2 Qe5/Qf5): 1 ... fxe6 2 Qe5; 1 ... f6 2 Qf5; but 1 ... Rxa5. There are then four thematic tries. The first is 1 Kc4? (threat 2 Qd4/R2d4/R7d4 [A/B/C]): 1 ... Rd8 2 A/B; 1 ... Rxa7 2 B/C; 1 ... exd2 2 C/A; but 1 ... Nxd2+! Second is 1 Kd5? (threat 2 A/B): 1 ... exd2 2 A; 1 ... Rxa7 2 B; 1 ... Nxd2 2 Qxe3; but 1 ... fxe6+! Third is 1 Kd3? (threat 2 A/C):

1 ... Rd8 2 A; 1 ... Rxa7 2 C; 1 ... Nxd2 2 Qxe3; but 1 ... e1(N)+! Fourth is 1 Kc5? (threat 2 B/C): 1 ... Rd8 2 B; 1 ... exd2 2 C; but 1 ... Nxd2! The key is 1 Kc3! (threat 2 A/B/C): 1 ... Rd8 2 A/B; 1 ... Rxa7 2 B/C; 1 ... exd2/e1(Q/B) 2 C/A; 1 ... Nxd2 2 Qxe3.

Problem 4 by Leonid Makaronez is a three mover.

Problem 4

Leonid Makaronez (Israel)
Original



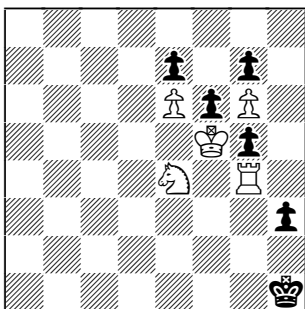
#3

The key is 1 Nxf4! (zugzwang): 1 ... c2 2 Nb5! (2 Nf5? gxf5!) axb5 3 Qa1; 1 ... e3 2 Nf5! (2 Nb5? Ke4!) gxf5 3 Qxe3; 1 ... g3 2 Nf3+ exf3 3 Qe3; 1 ... d5 2 Qc5 Bxe6 3 Nxc6; 1 ... B~ 2 Nc6+ dxc6 3 Qg7; 1 ... a5 2 Nb5 ~ 3 Qd4. The sweeping movements by the queen are particularly pleasing.

Rauf Aliovsadzade runs the #3 section of the American magazine *StrateGems*, and he welcomes original three movers for publication, his email address is (rauf.aliovsadzade@gmail.com).

In **Problem 5** he presents a twin. First solve the diagram (mate in six moves), then move the knight to d3 for a new problem.

Problem 5
Rauf Aliovsadzade (USA)
Original

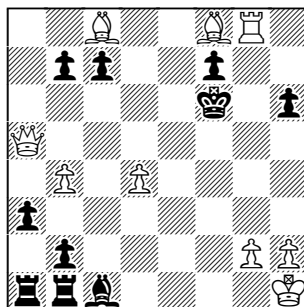


#6 (a) Diagram; (b) Ne4 on d3

(a) White has no waiting move to allow the short mate 1 ... h2 2 Nf2#, so **1 Nd2!** h2 2 Rg3! g4 3 Kxg4 f5+ 4 Kh3 f4 5 Rf3 Kg1 6 Rf1. (b) Again, White has no waiting move permitting 1 ... h2 2 Nf2#, so **1 Ne1!** h2 2 Rg2! g4 3 Kxg4 f5+ 4 Kh3 f4 5 Nd3 f3 6 Nf2.

Problem 6 is selfmate in three moves, i.e. White moves first and forces Black, against his will, to mate the white king by the third move.

Problem 6
Maryan Kerhuel (France)
Original



S#3

There are several tries in this problem (unusual in selfmates, yet they are the main interest here). Maryan has requested that solvers attempt to find the solution, which I will provide in the next issue. Please email me your comments on this or on any of the other problems.

With this issue featuring a great many games, it's probably a good idea to remind readers that they can get the best of both worlds by reading the magazine and stepping through the games online at the magazine's website;

www.nzchessmag.com

The John Nunn's Chess Course Excerpt is located in the "Recent Highlights" section.

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