

New Zealand Chess

Magazine of the New Zealand Chess Federation (Inc)

October 2015

Volume 42 Number 4



A typical NZ chess scene – from the North Shore Open

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.

Editorial

Editor: Bill Forster.

Columnists: Scott Wastney, Herman van Riemsdijk, Linden Lyons.

Proofreader: Ian Sellen.

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

NZCF Contact Details

New Zealand Chess Federation (Inc)

PO Box 216, Shortland Street, Auckland

The NZCF Website is a superb resource for all aspects of competitive chess in NZ including a chess calendar and full results of all significant tournaments. Go to www.newzealandchess.co.nz

On the Cover:

Does the French really suit Gary Judkins' style?
Photo credit: Simon Lyall

Variety is the Spice of Life (Again)

This issue includes tournament reports, some top New Zealand players annotating key games, some chess history and some (whimsical) chess future. Plus an interview with Emil Melnichenko from the study world, more original problems and some authoritative endgame lessons from renowned expert Herman van Riemsdijk. Also sacrificial carnage and some reader contributed content. There's even a cartoon (kind of).

Contents

- 3 The 42nd North Shore Open**
Peter Stuart
- 12 The 2015 Waikato Open**
Mike Steadman annotates
- 17 The George Trundle Masters 2015**
Nic Croad annotates
- 19 It was a Coincidence!**
- 20 Old Themes Revisited**
Herman van Riemsdijk
- 28 Emil Melnichenko Interview**
- 32 Sacrifice Everything**
- 34 Chess History**
- 35 Bishop takes on Queen**
Russell Hosking
- 36 Problem Kingdom**
Linden Lyons

The 42nd North Shore Open

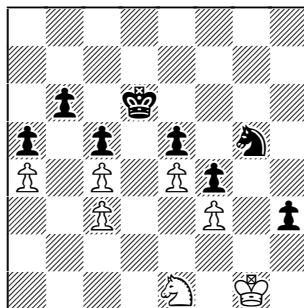
by Peter Stuart

The 42nd North Shore Open was again held at the National Chess Centre in Devonport. Numbers were up compared to last year's disappointing entry but still below most earlier years. Four or five top players from the Auckland region were overseas at the time of the tournament so the field was not as strong as it might have been.

Alexei Kulashko was a welcome returnee who last won the event in 1999 and his main rivals looked like being Leonard McLaren, Evan Capel and Ralph Hart while Gordon Morrell and John Duneas couldn't be under-rated. Then there were the "little ones" – Alphaeus Ang, Daniel Gong, Leo Zhang and Alan Fan are all rated over 2000 these days.

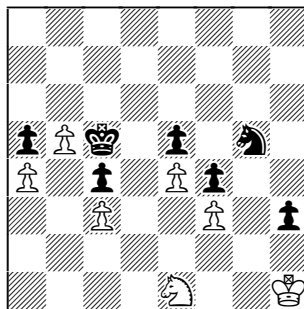
The "Youth vs Experience" match-ups started in the first round when Zhang drew with top seed Kulashko in an interesting ending.

**Zhang, Leo (2089) -
Kulashko, Alexei (2133)**



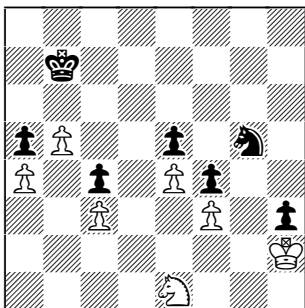
Position after 71. Kg1

In this blocked position even the knights can't do anything much. If the Black king comes to h4 then the White king must be able to reply with Kh2. Alexei takes his last chance to play for a win by sacrificing a pawn on the queenside to open a route for his knight to infiltrate: **71...b5 72.cxb5 c4 73.Kh1 Ne6 74.Nc2 Ng5** (74...Nc5 doesn't work: 75.Na3 Nxa4 76.Nxc4+ Kc5 77.Nxa5 Kxb5 78.Nb7 Kc4 =) **75.Ne1 Kc5**



76.Kh2? (The Black king is heading for b6 so that after ...Ne6-c5xa4 it can capture the

b5-pawn and protect the a-pawn. White needs to be able to play his king to h2 (attacking the h-pawn) when the Black king goes to b6. After the text move (and Black's reply) White will be in zugzwang. So correct was 76.Kg1 Kb6 77.Kh2 Ne6 78.Kxh3 Nc5 79.Kg4 Nxa4 80.Kf5 Kxb5 81.Kxe5 Nxc3 82.Nc2 with a draw.) **76...Kb6 77.Kh1 Kb7?** (Now the Black knight CAN sneak inside the White position via c5, e.g. 77...Ne6! 78.Nc2 (78.Kh2 Nc5 79.Kxh3 Nxa4 80.Kg4 Nxc3 81.Kf5 Nxb5 82.Kxe5 Kc5 and the Black pawns cannot be stopped.) 78...Nc5 79.Na3 Nxa4 80.Nxc4+ Kxb5 81.Nxe5 and the a-pawn should be decisive. I imagine time was a factor by now.) **78.Kh2?**



(78.Kg1! is the only move.) **78...Kc7?** (78...Kb6 79.Kh1 Ne6+!) **79.Kh1 Ne6** (Black could try 79...Kb7 again as White might play 80.Kh2? again!) **80.Nc2 Nc5** (80...Ng5 81.Ne1 Kb7 again gives White the chance to go wrong.) **81.Na3 Nxa4 82.Nxc4 Nxc3 83.b6+** (83.Nxa5 is also okay.) **83...Kb7 84.Nxa5+ Kxb6 85.Nc4+ Kc5 86.Nxe5 Kd4 87.Ng4 Nxe4 ½-½**

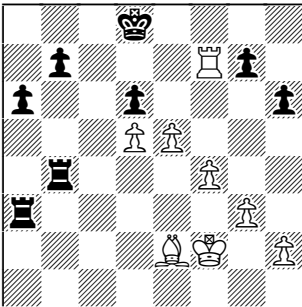
Otherwise nothing sensational happened in the first round. The top board clash in round 2 was another Youth vs Experience

game – and another (bigger) upset when Leonard rather lost the plot after building up a nice winning position. Probably the most interesting game in the whole tournament was the game Morrell-Zhang where the oldies got some revenge. Four players started with two wins: Capel, Duneas, Ang and Gong.

Ang,Alphaeus Wei Ern (2165) -McLaren,Leonard J (2336) [E33]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 Nc6 Unusual but whether Leonard knows much about it or just played it to avoid Alphaeus's "book" I don't know. **5.Nf3 d6 6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.Qxc3 0-0 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bxf6 Qxf6 10.b4 e5 11.d5** (Maintaining the tension with 11.e3 may have been slightly better but Black can be happy with his opening choices.) **11...Nd4 12.e4 (12.Rd1 12...Bg4 13.Nxd4 exd4 14.Qd3 c6 (14...a5!?) attempts to take advantage of Black's development advantage. The same idea was also playable two moves earlier.) 15.f3 cxd5 16.cxd5 Bd7 17.Rd1 Ba4 18.Rd2 Rac8 19.Qxd4 Rc1+ 20.Kf2 Qxd4+ 21.Rxd4 Rfc8 22.Rd2 Ra1** A major transformation. The Black rooks are very active and his bishop is better. White sort of hasn't got out of his opening yet! So the missing Black pawn matters little. **23.Rg1 Rcc1 24.f4 Kf8 25.e5 Ke7 26.g3 a6 27.Rb2 Bb5 28.Bxb5 Rxg1 29.Be2 Rgb1 30.Rd2 Rxa3 31.Rc2 Rxb4 32.Rc7+ Kd8 33.Rxf7**

42nd North Shore Open – Open Grade

Pos	NAME	Rtg	T	Fed	Pts	1	2	3	4	5
1	Capel, Evan T	2270		MAS	4.5	+B17	+W20	+B5	+W6	=B3
2	McLaren, Leonard J	2336	NM	NZL	4.0	+W21	-B5	+B24	+W17	+B6
3	Kulashko, Alexei	2411	FM	NZL	3.5	=B9	+W23	=B7	+W8	=W1
4	Milligan, Helen	2092	CM	NZL	3.5	=W18	+B15	=BYE	=W7	+B5
5	Ang, Alphaeus Wei Er	2165	CM	NZL	3.0	+B12	+W2	-W1	+B13	-W4
6	Gong, Daniel Hanwen	2128	CM	NZL	3.0	+B14	+W13	+B8	-B1	-W2
7	Morrell, Gordon	2191		CAN	3.0	=B19	+W9	=W3	=B4	=W13
8	Duneas, John	2181		NZL	3.0	+W10	+B11	-W6	-B3	+W19
9	Zhang, Leo	2089		NZL	3.0	=W3	-B7	+W15	=B12	+W18
10	Post, Martin J	1918		NZL	3.0	=B8	=B22	+W21	+W14	=B11
11	Lyall, Simon	1808		NZL	3.0	+W22	-W8	+B20	=B19	=W10
12	Hair, Philip I	1910		NZL	3.0	-W5	+B21	=BYE	=W9	+B22
13	Hart, Ralph	2253		NZL	2.5	+W16	-B6	+W18	-W5	=B7
14	Riding, Christopher	1824		NZL	2.5	=W6	+B16	=BYE	-B10	+W23
15	Mukkattu, Philip	1767		NZL	2.5	=BYE	-W4	-B9	+W25	+B17
16	Johns, Daniel P	1987		NZL	2.5	-B13	-W14	=BYE	=B23	+W24
17	Fan, Allen Chi Zhou	2017		NZL	2.0	-W1	+B25	+W23	-B2	-W15
18	Serrate, Michael	1822		NZL	2.0	=B4	=W19	-B13	+W20	-B9
19	Runcan, Daniel I	1973		ROU	2.0	=W7	=B18	=BYE	=W11	-B8
20	Krstev, Antonio	2133		NZL	2.0	+W24	-B1	-W11	-B18	+BYE
21	Lim, Benjamin U	2080		NZL	2.0	-B2	-W12	-B10	+BYE	+W25
22	Kumar, Vinod	2091		IND	2.0	-B11	=W10	=BYE	+B24	-W12
23	Zhang, Jasmine Haoma	1769	WCM	NZL	1.5	+W25	-B3	-B17	=W16	-B14
24	Gilmour, Mark	1870		NZL	1.0	-B20	+BYE	-W2	-W22	-B16
25	Cooper, Nigel	1876		NZL	0.5	-B23	-W17	=BYE	-B15	-B21



33...Re4 (33...dxe5 34.fxe5 Re4 was better when the White central pawn duo is falling.) **34.Bg4** With the pawn still on f4 this is possible and White suddenly has genuine counterplay and Black can no longer just coast to a win. **34...dxe5** (34...Rc4!?) **35.d6!** There are several

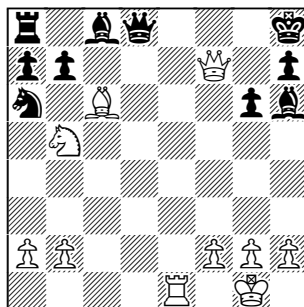
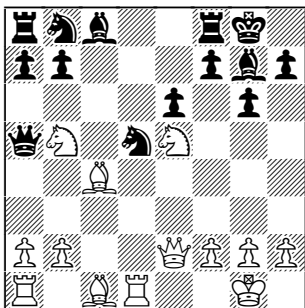
tempting rook moves on the 7th rank but the text move is the only one to hold!
35...exf4 Absolutely the only move to hold!
36.Rf8+ Re8 37.Rf7 Ra2+ 38.Kf1 h5 39.Bh3 Rxh2 40.Rd7+ Kc8 41.Re7+ Rxh3?? (41...Kd8 42.Rd7+ with repetition was how the game might have been expected to end.) **42.d7+ 1-0**

Morrell, Gordon (2092)

-Zhang, Leo (2089) [B21]

1.Nf3 g6 2.e4 c5 3.d4 cxd4 4.c3 dxc3 5.Nxc3 Bg7 6.Bc4 d6 7.0-0 (7.Qb3 e6 8.Bf4 Nc6 9.Rd1 gives White a huge lead in development.) **7...Nf6 8.Qe2?** (8.e5!?!±) **8...0-0 9.Rd1 Qa5** (9...Nc6!?) **10.e5 Ng4 11.exd6 exd6 12.Nb5 Re8** and White regains his pawn but Black can complete his development okay.) **10.e5 dxe5**

11.Nxe5 e6 (11...Nc6 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Qxe7 and Black has enough play to compensate for his weakened pawn structure.) **12.Nb5 Nd5** (12...a6 13.b4! Qxb4 14.Ba3 Qa5 15.Bxf8 Bxf8 16.Nd6 Bxd6 (forced in view of the weak f7-pawn) 17.Rxd6 Nc6 18.Nxc6 bxc6 19.Rad1 with a long-lasting initiative for White.)



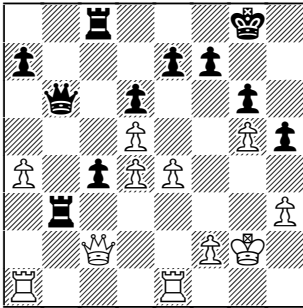
13.Nxf7! Rxf7 14.Rxd5 exd5 15.Bxd5 Qd8 (15...Bd7 16.Bxf7+ Kxf7 17.Qc4+ Be6 18.Qc7+ Qxc7 19.Nxc7 b6 20.Nxa8 Be5 21.Bg5 Bxb2 (21...Bd5 22.Re1) 22.Re1 Na6 23.Bd8 and the knight will escape.) **16.Qc4** (16.Bxf7+ Kxf7 17.Bg5! with a powerful attack.) **16...Kf8** Right idea, but the king really needed to go to h8 so as to be able to maintain control of the g8-square with the queen. **17.Bg5 Bf6 18.Bh6+ Bg7** (After 18...Rg7 the simple 19.Nc7 looks best.) **19.Bxf7** (The computer rather likes the crazy-looking 19.Qc3 leaving pieces en pris all over the place.) **19...Bxh6 20.Re1** (20.Bg8!?) **20...Kg7 21.Be8?** (The materialistic 21.Nc7 was the way to go, though the game is by no means over.) **21...Na6 22.Qf7+ Kh8 23.Bc6**

23...bxc6? Black has to get his c8-bishop out of the way (off the back rank) with gain of tempo and two engines I've had access to disagree on whether 23...Be6! or 23...Bd7! is best. Either move seems to give Black some chances to hold. **24.Re8+** It's all over now. **24...Qxe8 25.Qxe8+ Kg7 26.Qxc6 Rb8 27.Nd6 Rb6 28.Qc3+ Kg8 29.Qc4+ Kg7 30.Nxc8 Rf6 31.Ne7 Rf7 32.Nd5 Nb8 33.Qc3+ Kg8 34.Nf6+ Kf8 35.Qb4+ 1-0**

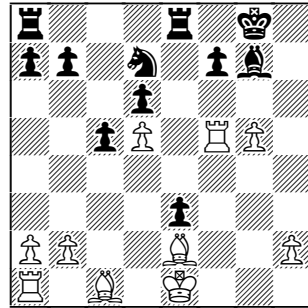
Round three saw two more Youth vs Experience match-ups on the top two boards. The score was one-all. Alphaeus wasted two tempi against Evan in an off-beat Benko Gambit and got into trouble as a result while Daniel won a pawn and eventually converted it. Top seed Kulashko dropped another half point against Morrell while McLaren and Hart bounced back from round 2 defeats. Capel and Gong still had 100% after 3 rounds, followed by nine players on 2 points.

Ang, Alphaeus Wei Ern (2165)
- Capel, Evan T (2270) [A57]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.d5 b5 4.Qc2 bxc4 5.e4 d6 6.Bxc4 g6 7.Nf3 Bg7 8.0-0 0-0 9.h3 Ba6 10.Bf4? Bxc4 11.Qxc4 Nh5 12.Bc1 Nd7 13.Nc3 Rb8 14.g4 Nh6 15.Re1 h5

16.g5 Ne8 17.Qe2 Qa5 18.Qc2 Ne5
 19.Nd2 (19.Nxe5 Bxe5 was the lesser evil.)
 19...c4 20.Kg2 Nd3 21.Rf1 Qa6 22.Nf3
 Nc7 23.Ne1 Nxe1+ 24.Rxe1 Nb5 25.Be3
 Rfc8 26.a4 Nxc3 27.bxc3 Rb3 28.Bd4
 (28.Bd2 is ugly but necessary.) 28...Bxd4
 29.cxd4 Qb6



e.g. 12...Qe7 13.Bf3 Bxe4 14.Nxe4 f5
 15.0-0 fxe4 16.Re1 and White has chances
 to regain the pawn.) 12...Qe7 13.Bf3 h6
 14.g4 (14.Qe2 may limit the damage a bit.)
 14...hxg5 (14...Bxg4 is also good.) 15.gxf5
 gxf5 16.fxg5 fxe4 17.Be2 e3 18.Qf5 Qe5
 19.Rf1 Qxf5 20.Rxf5 Nd7



White has so many weaknesses you need a
 calculator to count them. 30.Red1 (Slightly
 better, but still dire, was 30.Rab1 Rxb1
 31.Qxb1 Qxd4 32.Qb7 Qc5 33.Qxe7 c3-+)
 30...c3 31.e5? dxe5 32.Re1 Rb2 33.Qe4
 Qxd4 34.Qxd4 exd4 35.Rxe7 Rd8
 36.Rae1 c2 37.d6 Rbb8 38.Rc7 Rb1 39.d7
 Rxe1 40.Rc8 c1Q 41.Rxd8+ Kh7
 42.Rh8+ Kxh8 43.d8Q+ Kh7 44.Qf6 Qc7
 45.Qxd4 Qe5 46.Qxa7 Qe4+ 47.f3 Re2+
 48.Qf2 Rxf2+ 49.Kxf2 and according to
 my computer Black is about 26 pawns up
 so we won't bother with the rest of the
 moves, Black checkmating on move 64 0-
 1

21.Bh5 (21.a4 was worth considering, to
 develop the rook via a3.) 21...Re7 22.Ke2
 Rf8 23.Rb1 Bd4 24.b3? (24.b4 was the
 last chance to try generating activity but
 Black remains well on top.) 24...Kg7!
 25.Rf3 Rh8 26.Rh3 Nb6 27.Bg4 Rxh3
 28.Bxh3 Nxd5 29.Kf3 Nc3 30.Ra1 Nd1
 31.Rb1 e2 32.Bd2 e1Q 33.Bxe1 Rxe1
 34.Bc8 Re3+ 35.Kg2 Nc3 36.Rf1 Re2+
 37.Kg3 b6 38.h4 Ne4+ 39.Kg4 Nd2
 40.Rf5 Re5 41.h5 Rxf5 42.Kxf5 Nf3
 43.Bb7 Ne5 44.Ke4 f6 45.g6 Ng4 46.Kd5
 Be5 47.Ke6 Nh6 48.Bf3 f5 49.Bc6 f4
 50.Bf3 b5 51.Bc6 c4 52.Bxb5 c3 53.Bd3
 f3 54.Kd5 f2 55.Kc4 c2 0-1

**Duneas,John (2181) - Gong,Daniel
 Hanwen (2128) [A69]**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2
 0-0 6.f4 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Nf3 exd5 9.cxd5 Re8
 10.Qc2 (10.e5 is normal.) 10...Nxe4
 11.Nxe4 Bf5 12.Nfg5 (12.Nfd2 looks
 better, avoiding the looming threat of ...h6,

In round 4 Daniel sacrificed a pawn on the
 top board but Evan gradually consolidated
 his booty and the game was decided by a
 simple tactic which cost Daniel a piece.
 Kulashko's risky play led to a winning
 attack versus Duneas against Allen Fan.
 and McLaren's 2.c3 Sicilian worked well



NEW ZEALAND
CHESS
FEDERATION

123rd New Zealand Chess Congress



- Open to all chess players, any nationality
- Winners crowned New Zealand Champions
- \$12,000 in prizes

Organised by the **New Zealand National Chess Centre** (in conjunction with the NZCF) at Devonport St Paul's, 100b Victoria Road, Devonport, Auckland.



New Zealand Open Championship

2nd-10th January 2016



New Zealand Major Open (under 2100)

2nd-10th January 2016



Mad Morning Blitz 1 & 2

3rd and 4th January 2016



New Zealand Open Junior Championship

5th-10th January 2016 (morning games)



New Zealand Rapid Championship

11th-12th January 2016



New Zealand Lightning Championship

12th January 2016

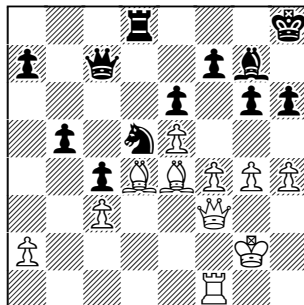
Tournament website: www.newzealandchess.co.nz

Venue information: www.devonportstpauls.co.nz



A POISON PAWN GRAND PRIX EVENT

yet again. The game Hart-Ang featured the craziest looking opening of the tournament, an oversight in an equal ending costing Ralph the game. Milligan missed an early middlegame winning chance but Morrell then gradually got on top, reaching a clearly won position but overlooking an exchange sacrifice that could have turned the tables. Maybe the draw was a fair result!



With one round to go Capel, on 4 points, had a whole point lead. On 3 points were Kulashko, McLaren, Ang and Gong while Morrell, Milligan, Post and Lyall all had 2½ points.

Kulashko,Alexei (2133)

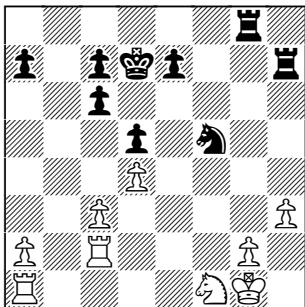
- Duneas,John (2181) [D75]

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.cxd5 Nxd5 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 0-0 8.0-0 c5 9.d4 Qa5 10.Bd2 Nc6 11.Qb3 Qa6 12.e3 Be6 13.d5 (Sacrificing a pawn, for which I doubt that White gets adequate compensation. probably best was 13.Qb2 with an equal position.) 13...c4 14.Qc2 Bxd5 15.e4 Be6 16.Ng5 Bd7 17.f4 Bg4 18.Rae1 h6 19.h3 Bd7 20.Nf3 e6 21.g4 Qa5 22.e5 Ne7 23.Nd4 Bc6 24.Nxc6 Nxc6 Now the bishop pair does give White meaningful compensation for the missing pawn. 25.Be3 Rac8 26.Rd1 Rfd8 27.Be4 Kh8 28.Kh1 Qc7 29.h4 Qe7 30.Qf2 b6 31.Rxd8+ Qxd8 32.Kg2 Qc7 33.Qf3 Ne7 34.Rd1 Rd8 35.Bd4 Qd7 36.Qe2 Nd5 37.Rf1 Qc7 38.Qf3 b5

Now the fun starts: **39.f5!?** **Bxe5?** (39...b4!?) **40.Bxd5** (40.fxe6!! Bxd4 41.cxd4 fxe6 42.Bxd5 exd5 43.Qf6+ Kh7 44.Re1+-) **40...exd5** **41.fxg6 fxg6?** (41...Bxd4 42.cxd4 Qe7 (f6+ has to be prevented) 43.Re1 Qxh4 and after another only move Black even has counterplay and there's no win for White.) **42.Qf4! Re8** **43.Qxh6+ Qh7** **44.Rf8+ Rxf8** **45.Qxf8+ Qg8** **46.Bxe5+ Kh7** **47.Qe7+ Kh6** **48.Bf4+ 1-0**

Hart,Ralph (2253) - Ang,Alphaeus Wei Ern (2165) [B00]

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 f5 3.exf5 d5 4.b4 Nxb4 5.Nd4 Nf6 6.Be2 g6 7.fxg6 hxg6 8.c3 Nc6 9.Qc2 Kf7 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.d4 Bf5 12.Bd3 Bxd3 13.Qxd3 Qd6 14.Ba3 Qe6+ 15.Qe2 Bh6 16.Qxe6+ Kxe6 17.0-0 Rh7 18.Re1+ Kd7 19.Bc1 Bxc1 20.Rxc1 Rah8 21.h3 g5 22.f3 g4 23.fxg4 Nxg4 24.Nd2 Ne3 25.Nf1 Nf5 26.Rc2 Rg8



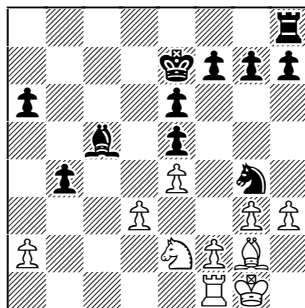
27.Re1? Blundering a pawn, after which saving chances are pretty much absent. 27.Kh2 and 27.Rfg2 are two possibilities for an equal endgame where White has the better pawn structure, Black the greater activity. 27...Rxxh3 28.Ree2 Nd6 29.Re3 Rxe3 30.Nxe3 Rg3 31.Nf1 Rd3 32.Nh2 Ne4 33.Nf3 Rxc3 34.Rb2 c5 35.Kh2 cxd4 36.Nxd4 e5 37.Nf3 Kd6 38.Rb7 d4 0-1

The final round pairing of Kulashko and Capel was a bit disappointing, nothing much except exchanges really happening in a 20-move draw. This obviously guaranteed Evan a clear first place while Alexei had to wait a while to see what his final placing might be.

McLaren won a nice game against Gong while Ang got the downfloat but came unstuck against Helen Milligan, who thereby jumped into the major prize winning group as the only player in the 2½ point group to win her final game – Lyall-Post and Morrell-Hart were both drawn.

Gong, Daniel Hanwen (2128) - McLaren, Leonard J (2336) [B80]
 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.g3 Nc6 7.Bg2 Bd7 8.Ndb5

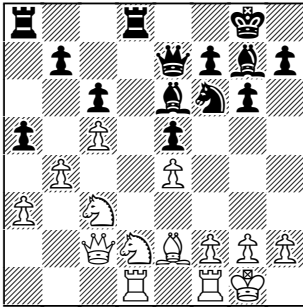
(8.0-0 is by far the main move but knight moves are not unknown.) 8...Qb8 9.Bf4 Ne5 10.Bxe5? Giving up the bishop pair can't be right. True, White has the better pawn majority but the endgame is a way off yet and White's remaining bishop lacks any scope while the Black ones have some nice diagonals available. 10...dxe5 11.Qd3 a6 12.Na3 b5 13.Ne2 Qc7 14.0-0 b4 15.Nc4 Bb5 16.b3 Rd8 17.Qf3 Bxc4 18.bxc4 Qxc4 19.Rfd1 Rxd1+ 20.Rxd1 Bc5 Taking the c2-pawn is probably safe enough but completing development before exercising greed makes sense. 21.Qd3 Qxd3 22.cxd3 The endgame brings no relief for White - the Black initiative rolls on. 22...Ng4 23.Rf1 Ke7 24.h3



24...Nxf2 25.Rxf2 Rc8 26.d4 exd4 27.Nf4 d3 28.Nxd3 Bxf2+ 29.Kxf2 Rc2+ 30.Kf3 a5 31.Bf1 Rxa2 32.Be2 b3 33.Bd1 Rd2 34.Be2 b2 35.Nxb2 Rxb2 36.Ke3 Rxe2+ 37.Kxe2 Kd6 38.Kd3 Ke5 39.Kc4 Kxe4 40.Kb5 e5 0-1

Ang, Alphaeus Wei Ern (2165) - Milligan, Helen (2092) [E94]
 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 Nbd7 7.0-0 e5 8.Be3 c6 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Nd2 Qe7 11.a3 Nc5 12.Bxc5 Qxc5 13.b4 Qe7 14.Qc2 Be6 15.Rad1

Rfd8 16.c5 a5



17.Na4? (Black was already a bit better but this probably concedes a winning advantage. Better was 17.Nf3 and the fight goes on.) **17...axb4 18.axb4 Rd4 19.Nb6?!** (Either 19.Ra1 Rxb4 20.Rfb1 Rd4; or 19.Nc4 Rxc4 20.Bxc4 Bxc4 21.Qxc4 Rxa4 were at least a bit more resistant.) **19...Ra2** It's all over now. **20.Qc3 Raxd2 21.Rxd2 Nxe4 22.Qe3 Nxd2 23.Ra1 h6 24.Ra8+ Kh7 25.h3 Qg5 26.Qa3 Rd8 27.Rxd8 Qxd8 28.Qa7 Qd4 29.Qxb7 Qxb4 30.Qxc6 Ne4 31.Na4 Qe1+ 32.Kh2 Qxe2** and the rest is not worth playing through, Black checkmating on the 45th move **0-1**

Evan Capel was never in trouble and enjoyed a fairly easy ride to a clear first place and a \$500 payday. Leonard McLaren's clear second place was also well deserved, just that one oversight in round 2 (a delayed Swiss gambit?) in an otherwise consistent performance. Alexei Kulashko has just recently returned to over-the-board play after a long holiday and displayed some signs of rust which will no doubt soon disappear.

I guess Experience won out over Youth in the end but they certainly didn't have

things all their own way. The kids' day is doubtless coming!

The under-2100 prize was shared by Philip Hair, Martin Post and Leo Zhang while Simon Lyall took the under-1900 prize.

The B-grade (under 1800) was won by Prashant Mistry with a picket fence after defeating last year's winner Paul Kamberi in the penultimate round. Kamberi tied with Richard Meng and Kate Song for second place on 4 points. The under-1400 prize was shared among Leo Li, Nicole Qin and Mathew Steadman.

The Junior Rapid (under 12 & under-1200) on the Saturday was jointly won by Sravan Renjith and Sam Zhuang with 4½/5 while Eric Liang took third place on 3½

Cartoon

The New Yorker wants \$USD 298 that we don't have for permission to reprint an Avi Steinberg cartoon, so you'll just have to imagine the picture. An old guy is playing chess with a toaster (just go with it) as his friend watches. The friend is saying

I remember when you could only lose a chess game to a supercomputer

Mike Steadman Wins the Waikato Open

Mike Steadman won the 2015 Waikato Open a full point clear of the chasers (see crosstable below). Sivaram Manoharan won the separate under 1800 tournament. Mike has annotated his wins in the last two rounds.

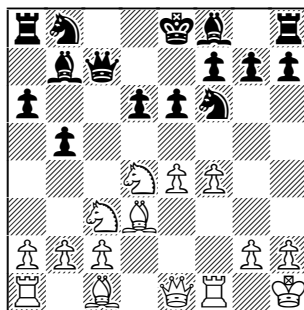
Hague, Ben (2455)

– Steadman, Mike (2304) [B00]

Notes by Mike Steadman

Sunday is Red Socks day at the Waikato and you need to win both games if you want to win this event. Ben had been pretty solid against my French, so I decided to try

a Sicilian line that Spassky used to play, maybe that would give me more chances.
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Bd3 (6.Be3 Nf6 7.f3 Bb4 8.Qd2 d5 9.Nde2 dxe4 10.a3 Ba5 11.b4 exf3 12.bxa5 fxe2 13.Bxe2 Qxa5) **6...Nf6 7.0-0 d6 8.f4 b5 9.Kh1 Bb7 10.Qe1**

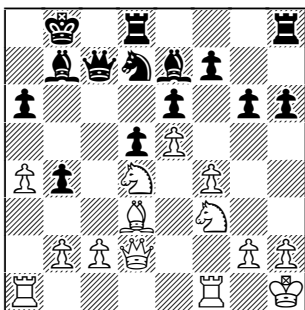


First surprise, the main move if there is one is Qe2. I think that on e2 the Queen does a

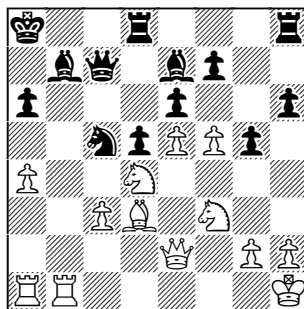
Waikato Open 2015

Pos	NAME	Rtg	T	Fed	Pts	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Steadman, Michael V	2304	FM	NZL	5.0	+W17	=B9	+W16	=B3	+B4	+W2
2	Dive, Russell J	2429	IM	NZL	4.0	+B23	+W6	+B4	=BYE	=W3	-B1
3	Smith, Robert W	2373	FM	NZL	4.0	+W20	=B14	+W11	=W1	=B2	=B7
4	Hague, Ben	2455	FM	NZL	4.0	+W8	+B15	-W2	+B9	-W1	+B14
5	Gong, Daniel Hanwen	2128	CM	NZL	4.0	=BYE	+B13	+W9	=B14	=W8	=W6
6	Timergazi, Layla	2180	WFM	NZL	4.0	+W19	-B2	+W15	=B8	+W14	=B5
7	Ang, Alphaeus Wei Er	2165	CM	NZL	4.0	=BYE	-B11	+W20	+B10	+W16	=W3
8	James, Jack	2005	NZL	3.5	3.5	-B4	+W22	+B18	=W6	=B5	=W11
9	Noble, Mark F	2314	FM	NZL	3.5	+B21	=W1	-B5	-W4	+B15	+W12
10	Lim, Benjamin U	2080	NZL	3.5	3.5	=BYE	=W18	=B17	-W7	+B13	+B16
11	Runcan, Daniel I	1973	ROU	3.0	3.0	=BYE	+W7	-B3	--	+W18	=B8
12	Duneas, John	2181	NZL	3.0	3.0	=BYE	-B16	=W13	+B19	+W17	-B9
13	Fan, Allen Chi Zhou	2017	NZL	3.0	3.0	=BYE	-W5	=B12	+BYE	-W10	+B17
14	Han, Daniel	2247	NZL	2.5	2.5	=B18	=W3	+B19	=W5	=B6	-W4
15	Gibbons, Robert E	2083	NZL	2.5	2.5	+B22	-W4	-B6	=BYE	-W9	+B19
16	Post, Martin J	1918	NZL	2.0	2.0	=BYE	+W12	-B1	=W17	-B7	-W10
17	Smith, Vivian J	1826	WFM	NZL	2.0	2.0	-B1	+W23	=W10	=B16	-B12
18	Dare, Richard J	1806	NZL	2.0	2.0	=W14	=B10	-W8	=BYE	-B11	=W20
19	Zhang, Jasmine Haomo	1769	WCM	NZL	2.0	2.0	-B6	+B20	-W14	-W12	+B22
20	Cooper, Nigel	1876	NZL	2.0	2.0	-B3	-W19	-B7	=W21	+BYE	=B18
21	Lynn, K William	1849	NZL	1.5	1.5	-W9	--	--	=B20	--	+W22
22	Qin, Nicole Shu Yu	1318	NZL	1.5	1.5	-W15	-B8	+B23	=BYE	-W19	-B21
23	Krishnamachari, R(W)	1930	NZL	0.0	0.0	-W2	-B17	-W22	-BYE	-BYE	--

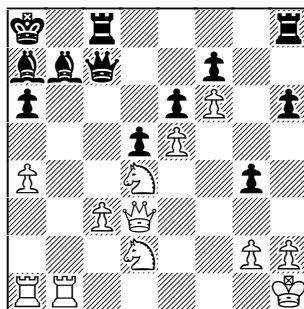
bit more (guards g4 and c2), but I guess Qe1 allows a Knight to return to e2. **10...Nbd7 11.Nb3 Be7 12.a4 b4 13.Nb1** I was pretty pleased with the game so far, Black gets in d5 and the rule is normally Black is trending to better if he can play d5 safely. **13...d5 14.e5 Ne4** This is the point, Black is OK with White taking the Knight, the c2 pawn becomes hard to defend and one day the b7 Bishop will come to haunt White, Black is ever so slightly better. **15.N1d2 Nec5 16.Qg3 g6** This might look ugly, but leaves Black the option of castling either side and the Bishop can defend the dark squares. **17.Nd4 0-0-0** This was a risk, but I thought my King would be safe enough and I needed to attack Ben, he doesn't like it. **18.N2f3 h6 19.Bd2 Ne4 20.Qe1 Nxd2 21.Qxd2 Kb8**



This was the kind of position I saw when I played 0-0-0, I thought it would be all on. I was only really concerned about the two pieces for a rook sac, but I figured Ben likes to attack, so I gambled. **22.c3** (22.Bxg6 fxc6 23.Nxe6 Qa5 24.Nxd8 Qxd8 25.a5 Wasn't sure about this, but felt the two Bishops have to come into their own at some stage.) **22...bxc3 23.bxc3 g5 24.Rfb1 Ka8 25.Qe2 Ne5 26.f5**

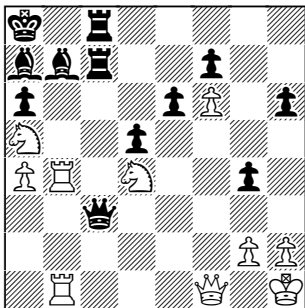


26...g4 This was a key move, I had to get that knight away from being able to jump to d4 after any knight sacrifices. **27.Nd2 Rc8!?** (27...h5 28.fxe6 fxe6 29.N2b3 Nxd3 30.Qxd3 Rc8) **28.f6** I thought this was the key mistake, it seemed to me the best chances were with taking and leaving permanent pressure on e6. (28.fxe6 fxe6 29.Nxe6 Nxe6 30.Bxa6 Bc6 31.Qxg4 Rce8 32.Qxe6 Bg5 33.Qg6 Bxd2 Just the kind of mess Ben likes, thank goodness he missed 29...Bc5 below :-)) **28...Nxd3 29.Qxd3 Bc5 30.N2b3 Bb6 31.Nd2 Ba7**



Black is just winning now, just watch for tricks from Ben and collect the point. **32.Rb3 Qxe5 33.Rab1 Rc7 34.Qf1** Here it is, now is the time to be weary, Ben has set a little trap. The rule here is, we are

winning, just control the chaos, improve your worst piece. **34...Rhc8** (34...Bxd4?? 35.Rxb7 Rxb7 36.Qxa6+ Always watch for tricks through to the end!) **35.Rb4 Qe3 36.N2b3 Qxc3 37.Na5**



37...Qxb4 Resigning time, the weak back rank proves too much for White and he would lose too much booty. Rxb4 Rc1, Kg1 e5 and the knight drops off.(37...Qxb4 38.Rxb4 Rc1 39.Kg1 e5 Winning the knight. After say 40.Nxb7 exd4 41.Qxc1 Rxc1+ 42.Kf2 d3+ Black makes a new Queen) **0-1**

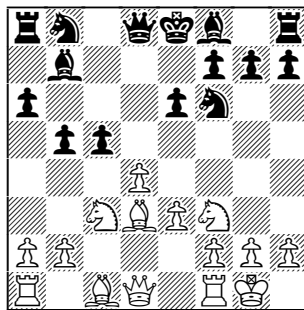
Steadman, Mike (2304) - Dive, Russell (2409) [A40]

Notes by Mike Steadman

This was the key game, Russell and I were in the lead by half a point to a whole bunch. My thoughts were they are all pussies and they would all draw. [Ed: It's always fun editing Mike's material, even when you're making judgement calls on whether to blunt his words - The game commentary here reminds me of a combination of the Chess for Tigers chapters on playing time trouble addicts and heffalumps (animals who are stronger than tigers). When I play Russell it's

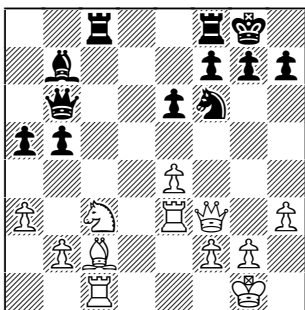
inevitably me who collapses in time trouble (or before time trouble for that matter) so I have difficulty relating to Mike's narrative].

So I had a draw in hand if Russell decided to offer it, I wasn't going to. So worst case (Ed: assuming Russell doesn't actually win!) first equal, but I thought Russell believed he needed to beat me, I am the mug. But he has shown a weakness for the clock and this plus 30 seconds would be my friend again if he tried to squeeze me. **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c6** First surprise, I had wanted to try something against his Nimzo, maybe next time. He has played this a6 Slav before, but I couldn't remember any of it. **3.Nc3 d5 4.e3 a6 5.Bd3** (5.Qc2 b5 6.b3 Bg4 7.Nge2 Nbd7 8.h3 Bh5 9.Nf4 Bg6 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.Be2 This seems to be the way all the big guns are diffusing this line. Just slowly slowly and the two Bishops should count for something in the long run.) **5...dxc4 6.Bxc4 b5 7.Bd3 Bb7 8.Nf3 e6 9.0-0 c5**



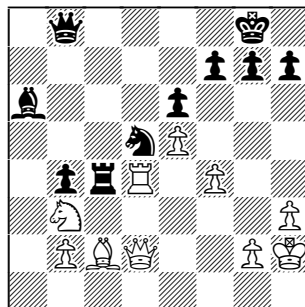
White has nothing here, Black has to be slightly better, but no great shakes. My hope was this is the kind of position that Russell would use up a lot of time squeezing the advantage. I just needed to keep only slightly worse. **10.Qe2 Nbd7**

11.Rd1 cxd4 12.Nxd4!? I thought the normal move was probably exd4, but this would make Russell's job easier, he then had a plan and would snuffle about tweaking against the isolated pawn. With this, he was still better, but plans took a bit more thought. (12.exd4 Be7 13.Bg5 0-0 14.a3 Nb6 15.Ne5 Rc8 16.Rac1 Nbd5 17.Ne4) **12...Qb6 13.Bc2 Rd8 14.a3 Bd6 15.h3 0-0 16.e4 Ne5** Black is slightly better, White has trouble getting his pieces coordinated, but nothing is hanging, so all good for Russell to dwell on how to win. **17.Nf3 Nxf3+ 18.Qxf3 Be5 19.Re1 Rc8 20.Bf4** I just want to swap pieces and alleviate the annoying pressure, White's game clings on and Russell dwells... **20...Bd4 21.Rac1 a5** (21...e5 22.Bg5 h6 23.Bxf6 Qxf6 24.Qxf6 gxf6 25.Bb3 Kg7 This is a better option for Black, he could torture me with the two Bishops for ages, I would not be happy and put big dollars on Russell squeezing me in this kind of position every time.) **22.Be3 Bxe3 23.Rxe3**



Black has made some progress here, he just needs to keep thinking and find the best plan. **23...b4 24.Ne2 Rfd8** (24...Qd6 25.Rd3 Qe5 26.Rd4 Rfd8 27.Qg3 Qxg3 28.Rxd8+ Rxd8 29.Nxg3 Rc8 30.axb4 axb4 31.Rd1 Ugly, but White hangs on due

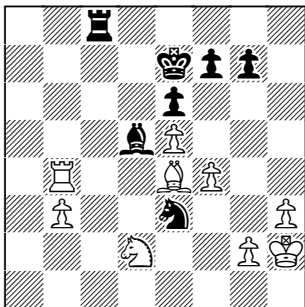
to the back rank mate.) **25.axb4 axb4 26.Bd3 Rxc1+ 27.Nxc1 Qa5 28.Re1 Qe5 29.Qe2** Annoyingly for Black, White is holding on and the pieces are OK now, Black is now only slightly better. **29...Ra8** This is not great. Russell is down to 30 second increments only and he is still clinging to the notion of winning when a draw offer is now required. (29...h6 30.Nb3 Nh5 31.Qc2 Nf4 32.Bf1 f5 33.Qc5 No chance of seeing this in 30 second increments, but White is still OK) **30.Qd2 Qc5 31.Nb3 Qb6 32.e5 Nd5 33.Re4** Played just to scare him while short of time with a rook to the Kingside etc. **33...Ba6 34.Bc2 Qb5 35.Kh2 Rc8 36.Rd4 Qb8 37.f4 Rc4?**



And here is the mistake, now Black loses a pawn and the key thing is I was sure the shock would cause more errors. **38.Qd3 Qc8 39.Qxh7+ Kf8 40.Qh8+ Ke7 41.Qxc8** Maybe not the best, but I was down to five minutes, and I thought this would win due to depression, the fight would have gone and mistakes would follow. (41.Qh4+ Ke8 42.Bd1 Rxd4 43.Nxd4 Kd7 (43...Qc5 44.Ba4+) 44.f5 This was great for White, but no need as I was sure the other line would win.) **41...Rxc8 42.Be4 Bc4!?** (42...Nxf4

43.Rxb4 Bd3 44.Bb7 Rc4 45.Na5 Rxb4
 46.Nc6+ Kd7 47.Nxb4 This would be very
 hard to win, but time was against Russell
 and mistakes follow mistakes) 43.Nd2 Ne3
 44.b3 Bd5 45.Rxb4

something when he has to take it. There are
 now dangers to White's King. 50...Rc2
 51.Ne1 Re2 52.e7 The point, my Knight
 for a Queen is always a good trade, Black
 can resign... 52...Kd4 53.e8Q Nf1+ 54.Kg1



A piece and 2 pawns up, game over. The
 lesson here, Russell is the better player, but
 he can't play with 30 second increments
 only no matter what he thinks. 1-0

That's two pawns, even I can win this.
 45...Rc3 46.Bxd5 exd5 47.Rb7+ Ke6?
 48.Nf3 Kf5 49.Rxf7+ Ke4 50.e6 Simple
 chess, just Queen the pawn and win

PAPATOETOE CHESS CLUB (PTCC) HISTORY

I am collating all information I can on the Papatoetoe Chess Club. This would include

- Anecdotes
- Information on PTCC open tournaments and venues
- Club tournaments and games
- Officers of the club
- Club Rooms
- Club Members
- Photographs

Please include dates if possible and any information connected to PTCC that I may not have thought of. If it is an anecdote please indicate if I can include your name.

Please contact –

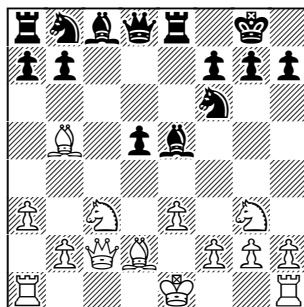
Barry Hooton

barryhooton@xtra.co.nz

0274506140

George Trundle Masters

IM Stephen Solomon of Queensland headed off long time colleague and rival GM Darryl Johansen of Victoria to win this year's incarnation of the George Trundle Masters at the Auckland Chess Centre. In third place, with the best New Zealand performance by some margin (see the crosstable on the next page) was FM Nic Croad. Nic annotates a fine win against Paul Garbett for your viewing pleasure.



So far White has developed his pieces a little slowly, and has left Black with an isolated d-pawn, but not one where this is well blockaded. **12...d4 13.Nd1?** (White should have preferred 13.Bxe8 dxc3 14.Bxf7+ Kxf7 15.Bxc3 Bxc3+ 16.Qxc3 Be6² after which he has a slightly favourable material balance (Rook and two pawns against two minor pieces) without serious middle game problems to follow.; Following 13.Nce4 dxe3 White must accept an isolated pawn on e3 14.fxe3 (Not 14.Bxe3 Qa5+-- winning the bishop on b5.) 14...Nxe4 15.Nxe4 Bd7³; Black is also winning after 13.exd4 Bxg3+ 14.Bxe8 Qxe8+ 15.Kf1 Bd6+ with two pieces against only a rook and pawn.) **13...Bd7 14.Bxd7 Nbx7 15.0-0**

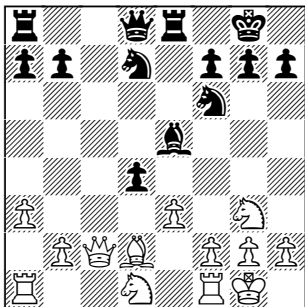
Garbett,Paul Anthony - Croad,Nicolas [E46]

Notes by Nic Croad

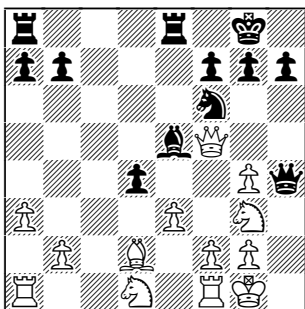
**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0
5.Nge2 c6 6.Bd2 d5 7.a3 Bd6 8.Ng3 Re8
9.Qc2 e5 10.dxe5 Bxe5 11.cxd5 exd5
12.Bb5**

George Trundle NZ Masters 2015

Pos	NAME	Rtg	T	Fed	Pts		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Solomon, Stephen J	2366	IM	AUS	7.5		-	=W	=W	+B	=W	+B	+W	+B	+B	+W
2	Johansen, Darryl K	2419	GM	AUS	7.0		=B	-	=W	+W	=B	+W	=B	+B	+B	+W
3	Croad, Nicholas	2257	FM	NZL	6.0		=B	=B	-	+W	=W	=W	+B	+W	+W	-B
4	Le Roy, Brice	2260	FM	FRA	4.5		-W	-B	-B	-	+W	+W	=B	-W	+W	+B
5	Wastney, Scott	2340	FM	NZL	4.5		=B	=W	=B	-B	-	=W	=W	+W	=B	=B
6	Watson, Bruce R	2232	FM	NZL	4.0		-W	-B	=B	-B	=B	-	=W	+W	+W	=B
7	Garbett, Paul A	2262	IM	NZL	3.5		-B	=W	-W	=W	=B	=B	-	-B	+B	=W
8	Zelesco, Karl	2306	FM	AUS	3.0		-W	-W	-B	+B	-B	+W	+W	-	-W	+B
9	Smith, Robert W	2233	FM	NZL	2.5		-W	-W	-B	-B	=W	-B	-W	+B	-	+W
10	Reilly, Tim	2226	FM	AUS	2.5		-B	-B	+W	-W	=W	=W	=B	-W	-B	-

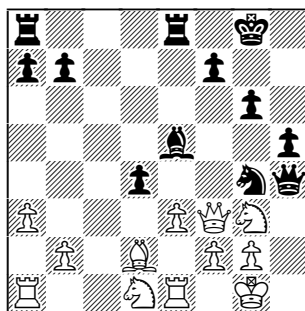


15...Ng4?! This is the beginning of a speculative piece sacrifice. (I wanted to play the stronger move 15...Rc8 16.Qf5 g6 17.Qg5 but decided that this didn't cause serious problems for White. Though I did consider the position after 17...Bxg3 18.hxg3 (Not 18.Qxg3? Ne4-+ winning the bishop on d2.) 18...Rc5 19.Qf4 Re4 20.Qf3 I didn't notice Black is close to winning now. 20...Ne5 21.Qe2 Rc2-+) **16.Qf5** (The knight can't be kicked away by 16.h3 due to 16...Nxf2 17.Kxf2 Qh4-+) **16...Qh4 17.h3 Ndf6 18.hxg4**



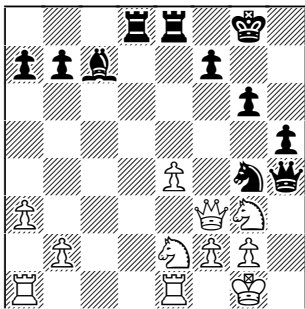
Now I played the move **18...g6!?** preventing White from bailing out into an endgame. (After 18...Nxc4 White has the bailout 19.Qh5 (19.Re1 Bxg3 20.fxg3 Qh2+ 21.Kf1 Qh1+ 22.Ke2 Qxg2+ 23.Kd3

Ne5+ 24.Kc2 Nf3-+) 19...Bxg3 20.Qxh4 Bxh4 and I thought Black had lost a lot of the advantage after white now recaptures on d4. Looking at the following variation, where the computer maintains a large advantage to Black, this appears to be optimism on the computer's part. 21.exd4 Rad8 22.Re1 Rxe1+ 23.Bxe1 Bf6 24.Ne3 h5 25.Nxg4 hxg4 26.Bc3 Bxd4 27.Bxd4 Rxd4 28.Rc1 Rd7µ Black's extra pawn is going to be very difficult to realise now.) **19.Qf3 Nxg4 20.Re1 h5**



Black needs to complete a couple of moves to make a decisive mating threat, including both h5 and d3. Then the mating sequence is ...Qh2+, ...Kf1, ...Bxg3, and ...Qh1# (20...d3 21.Nf1 Bh2+ 22.Kh1 Bg3+ 23.Kg1=) **21.e4?** (Here or on the next move White should aim for a forced draw with 21.Nf1 Bh2+ 22.Kh1 Bg3+ 23.Kg1 Bh2+=, its quite dangerous for White to carry on however and following 24.Nxh2 Qxh2+ 25.Kf1 Qh1+ 26.Ke2 Qh4µ Black has a threat of d3+ and Ne5+ winning the White queen.) **21...d3?** (The more accurate move order was 21...Qh2+ 22.Kf1 Preventing Nf1. 22...d3 and now if White decides to block the bishop capture on g3 with 23.Bf4 then Black sets up the same trick with tempo, 23...Qh4 (Threatening

Nh2+) 24.Kg1 Nh2—+ with the same idea as the game.) **22.Bf4?** (After the best 22.Nf1 Black should take the perpetual check as there are insufficient pieces to continue the attack. 22...Bh2+ 23.Kh1 Bg3+ 24.Kg1=) **22...Nh2 23.Qxd3 Bxf4 24.Nc3 Ng4 25.Nce2 Rad8 26.Qf3 Bc7!**



Re-deploying the bishop onto the a7-g1 diagonal which is too difficult to defend. **27.Nc3 Bb6 28.Re2 Ne5** and the White queen is trapped. **0-1**

It was a Coincidence!

Regular readers will no doubt remember Scott Wastney's excellent article on the Adelaide Counter Gambit in the April 2014 issue. Recently Scott was chagrined to discover an article published at about the same time, covering much the same ground, in New In Chess magazine's prestigious "Yearbook" series. Unfortunately the Yearbook article predated the NZ Chess Magazine issue. This editorial note serves simply to alert anyone interested that the overlap was simply an unfortunate coincidence.

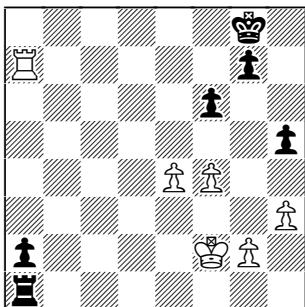
While the casual reader will no doubt skip over this with barely a glance, it is really intended for serious students and researchers. So, if you happen to be a chess historian, reading this in 2064 as part of an attempt to discover how the Adelaide Counter Gambit emerged from obscurity to dominate serious chess, well then this one's for you.

(While we're having this little time tunnelling chat, I can't help but share my excitement about the state of chess in New Zealand in 2064. Let's start with the recent World Championship match between Mohinder Ching Billabong (Aus) and Waimarama McCaw Feng Shui (NZ). 136 Classical bullet games. All Adelaide Counter Gambits as it happens. Wai turned back the challenge of Mad Mo again! What's that, three successful defences? And she becomes the first human to break the Elo 3500 barrier. Of course the future is secure as well. Another three young grandmasters emerged from the Gisborne school alone this year. Chess is just about set to transcend its status as national sport and become a state religion instead!

Finally, I can't miss the opportunity to comment about the importance of good administration in all of this. FIDE world headquarters is now firmly bedded down in Devonport. Sultan Murray Chandler has been unchallenged as FIDE president for twenty years now. With his third generation cybernetic body now smoothly auto-updating there's no reason his reign can't last for a thousand years!).

Old Themes Revisited *by IM Herman van Riemsdijk*

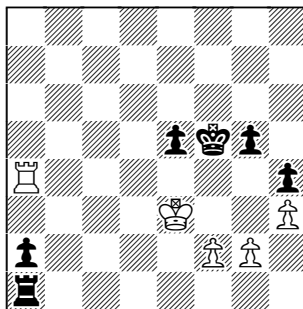
In the last New Zealand Congress the ending Zhu-Milligan drew my attention. I collected some other similar positions and present them as an update to my article “**Rook and Pawn Endings – The Outside Passed Pawn**”, published on page 26 in New Zealand Chess # 2/2009.



Zhu, Karl Kai – Milligan, Helen 122nd NZL Congress – Auckland 2015 Position after 35...a2

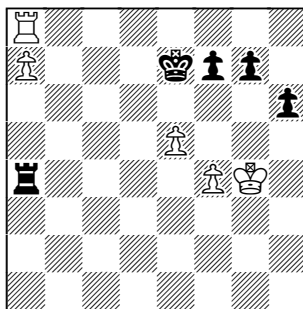
36.e5 fxe5 37.fxe5 Kf8 38.e6 g6 39.Kg3 Ke8 40.Kf2 It is quite wise to play 40.Kh2 in this kind of situation. White’s move doesn’t lose but its good policy to avoid tactical problems with a badly placed King on f2 (See next example). 40...h4 41.e7 g5 42.Ra8+ Kxe7 43.Ra7+ Kd6 44.Ra6+ Kc5 45.Ra8 g4 46.hxg4 h3 47.gxh3?? A blunder. The correct 47.Kg3 is not difficult to find. 47...Rh1 48.Ra5+ Kb6 49.Rxa2 Rh2+ 50.Kg3 Rxa2 and the remaining moves are not really relevant: 0-1 in 65 moves.

In the next example, White didn’t have the same chance to play Kg3.



Bijlstra, Wim – Cordovil, João Calella Open, 1979 Position after 62...a2

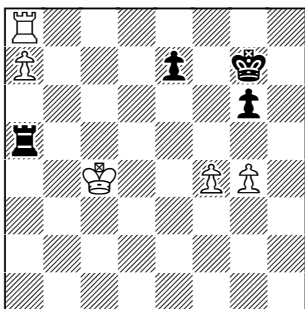
63.Ke2 e4 64.Ra8 e3! 65.Kf3 Ke5 66.Ra7 g4+ 67.hxg4 Or 67.Ke2 exf2 68.Kxf2 g3+ 69.Ke2 Rg1 and so on. 67...h3! 68.Ra5+ Kd6 69.Ra6+ Kc7 70.gxh3 exf2 71.Kxf2 Rh1 72.Rxa2 Rh2+ 73.Kf3 Rxa2 74.h4 Ra4 75.h5 Kd6 76.h6 Ke5, 0–1. Nice play from the former Portuguese champion!



**Panchanatham,Vignesh –
Sinha,Sahil
Las Vegas, 2014
Position after 53...Ra4**

54.Kf3 White missed a chance to win with 54.Kh5! Ra1 55.f5 Now the deadly threat is 56.f6+ gxf6 57.e6!! which will follow soon. **54...Ra3+ 55.Ke4?** It was still time to come back. **55...h5 56.f5 h4 57.Kf4 57.f6+ gxf6 58.e6 h3 59.exf7 Kxf7 60.Rh8 h2** is now too late. **57...h3 58.Kg5 h2 59.f6+ gxf6+ 60.exf6+ Kd7 61.Rh8 Ra5+ 62.Kg4 Rxa7 63.Rxh2 Ke6 64.Rf2 Ra4+ 65.Kg5 Ra5+ ½–½.**

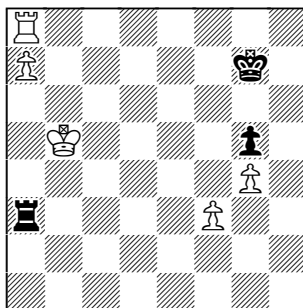
When I played in Brasschaat – a very lovely place in Belgium – last year, I saw another intriguing position played out. White had been pushing for almost 20 moves without really improving.



**Dardha,Arben – Miesen,Fabian
Brasschaat Open, 2014
Position after 56.Kc4**

56...e6? Black lost his patience. A draw could have been achieved waiting. I give a line as an example: 56...Ra1 57.f5 gxf5 58.gxf5 Ra2 59.Kd5 Ra6 60.Kc5 Ra1

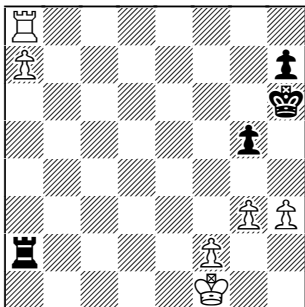
61.Kc6 Ra2 62.Kd7 Kf7 (One of the few moments that this move doesn't fail to White's f6) 63.Kc7 Kg7 only move (but not something like 63...Ra1? 64.Kb6! Rb1+ 65.Kc5 Ra1 66.f6! winning) and White cannot make progress. Now it's an easy win: **57.Kb4 Ra1 58.Kc5 Ra6 59.Kb5 Ra1 60.Kb6 Rb1+ 61.Kc6 Ra1 62.Kd6 Ra6+ 63.Ke7 Rc6?** Or 63...Kh7 64.Kf7 with a zugzwang. **64.Rg8+ 1–0.**



**Negi,Parimarjan –
Kasimdzhanov,Rustam
41st Olympiad – Tromso, 2014
Position after 65.Kb5**

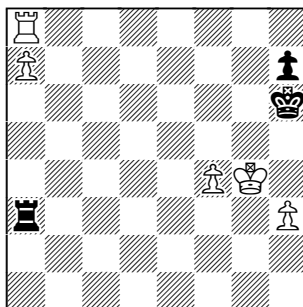
This is a tricky position! Whenever possible the black rook must remain glued to the f3 pawn across the rank. **65...Ra1?** The former world champion went astray. 65...Kh7 is the only drawing move. If the white king goes to the sixth rank than you check him until he comes back to the fifth and the rook can come back safely to a3. Checking on the third line does not allow the white king to pass the 'f' file because the rook takes on f3 with check and comes back to the 'a' file. We know already that even with two pawns up, it's a draw when the second pawn is on the 'g' or 'h' file.

66.Kb6! Rb1+ 67.Kc6 Rc1+ Now 67...Ra1 loses to 68.Rd8 or 68 Rc8. After exchanging the rooks the resulting pawn ending is totally lost. **68.Kd6 Rd1+ 69.Ke6**, 1-0. After 69...Re1+ 70.Kf5 frees the way for the 'f' pawn.



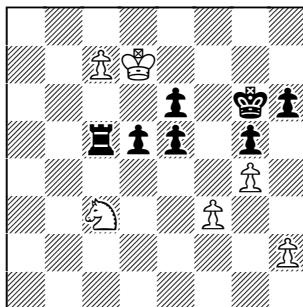
**Santos Ruiz,Miguel - Capellades
Subirana,Marc
Linares, tt ESP, 2014
Position after 63.a7**

Chess teaches us that you have to be careful even after achieving everything you have dreamed about: **63...Kg7 64.f4 gxf4 65.gxf4 Ra1+ 66.Ke2 Ra2+ 67.Kf3** What is more simple than approaching the rook and then when he cannot check you any more push the 'f' pawn? **67...Ra3+ 68.Kg4 Kh6!?** what a dirty trick :-)



69.f5?? White completely loses his mind and falls in the trap. After 69.h4 Ra4 70.Kf3 is still winning. **69...Rxa7!** That's a cold shower! **70.Rg8 Ra4+ 71.Kg3 Ra3+ 72.Kh4 Rf3 73.Kg4 Ra3 74.h4 Ra4+ 75.Kh3 Rxb4+! 76.Kxb4**, ½-½.

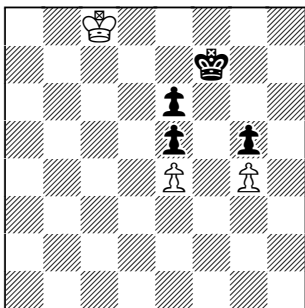
I also collected some recent endings concerning the “Six Squares System in Pawn Endings” (New Zealand Chess 2008/3, page 24 and 2011/1, page 18).



**Finkel,Alexander - Deutsch,Eyal
Israel tt ch, 2015
Position after 48... Rc5**

49.Ne4? The simplest way to win was pointed out by Alex Baburin in Chess

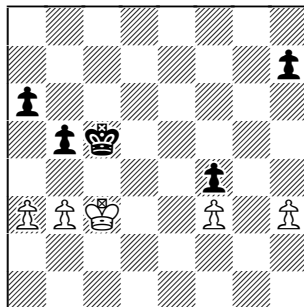
Today and is not so difficult to find: 49.Na4 Rcl 50.Kd6 Rxc7 51.Kxc7 e4 52.fxe4 dxe4 53.Kd6; or 49.c8=Q Rxc8 50.Kxc8 e4 51.fxe4 d4 52.Nd1 Kf6 53.Nf2 Ke5 54.Kd7 d3 55.Nxd3+ Kxe4 56.Kxe6 Kxd3 57.Kf5 Ke3 58.Kg6 Kf3 59.h3, winning. **49...dxe4 50.fxe4 h5!** It is very important to take away White's h3 tempo. **51.h3 hxc4 52.hxc4 Kf7** (52...Rxc7+ 53.Kxc7 Kg7! is also a draw) **53.c8=Q Rxc8 54.Kxc8**



Black to play and draw

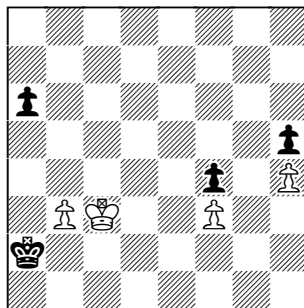
54...Ke8?? Key squares are e6, e7 and e8, forming a six squares system at the sixth, seventh and eighth ranks. The defender needs all six squares, a white and black on each of the ranks. [Ed: The six empty squares Black needs are f6,f7,f8 and g6,g7,g8 – Assuming White has no tempo moves, the correct move for Black is to locate his king on the square within this system that is occupied by the White king in a corresponding (same colour) six square system b6,b7,b8 and c6,c7,c8 – 54...Ke8?? would not be a mistake if e6,e7,e8 and f6,f7,f8 were a viable six square system (in this case corresponding to the complex c6,c7,c8 and d6,d7,d8) but it is not viable as Black can never place his King on e6].

The only move is 54...Kg8! **55.Kc7!** (only winning move) **55...Ke7 56.Kc6!** Black could now draw if he could play 56...Ke6. If he'd played 54...Kg8! 56...Kg6 would be possible, keeping the White king out. **56...Kf6 57.Kd6, 1-0.**

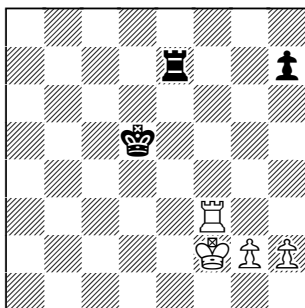


Medeiros, Thauane - Dalanhol, João Vitor São Paulo Open, 2015 Position after 39.h3

39...b4+! 40.axb4+ Kb5 41.h4 h5 42.Kb2? White had to play 42.Kc2 Kxb4 43.Kb2 a5 44.Kc2 Kc5 (But not 44...Ka3? 45.Kc3 Ka2 46.b4 a4 47.b5 and it is White to win) 45.Kc3 Kb5 46.Kd3 Kb4 47.Kc2. **42...Kxb4 43.Kc2 Ka3 44.Kc3 Ka2!**



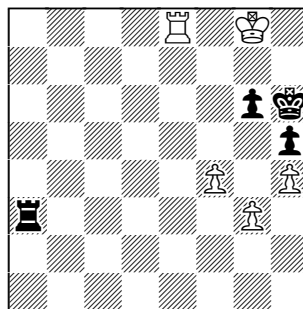
In similar situations it is possible to play 44...a5 but here 45.Kc4 Kb2 46.b4 a4 47.b5 a3 48.b6 a2 49.b7 a1=Q 50.b8=Q+ Kc2, with equality. 45.b4 The key squares are now b3, b2 and b1. 45...Ka3 46.Kc4 Ka4 47.Kc3 Ka3 48.Kc4 Kb2 49.Kd4 Kb3 50.Ke4 Kxb4 51.Kxf4 a5 52.Kg5 a4 53.f4 a3 54.f5 a2 55.f6 a1=Q 56.Kg6 Qg1+ 57.Kh7 Qb1+ Much easier was 57... Qf2 58.Kg7 Qxh4 58.Kh8 Kc5 59.f7 Qb8+ 60.Kg7 Qg3+ 61.Kh8 Qe5+ 62.Kg8 Qe6 63.Kh8 Qf6+ 64.Kg8 Kd5 65.f8=Q Qxf8+ 66.Kxf8 Ke6! (Only winning move) 67.Kg7 Kf5 68.Kf7 Kg4 69.Kf6 Kxh4 70.Kf5 Kg3, 0–1.



**Portela,Alberto – Garrido
Piriz,Pablo
Linares 80th ch ESP, 2015
Position after 52...Kd5**

53.Re3? To go for the rook exchange it was necessary to check first with 53.Rd3+! If now 53...Ke5? 54.Re3+ Kf6 55.Rxe7 Kxe7 the endgame is won. After 53...Kc4, now 54.Re3 is good and White has very good chances to win the rook ending. 53...Rxe3 54.Kxe3 Ke5= 55.Kf3 Kf5 56.g4+ Kg5 57.Kg3 Kg6 58.Kf4 Kf6 59.h3 Kg6 60.h4 Kf6 61.Ke4 Ke6 62.Kd4 Kd6 63.Ke4 Ke6

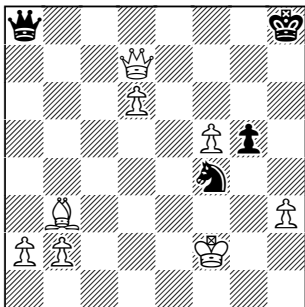
64.Kf3 Kf7 65.Ke3 Ke7 66.Kf2 Kf6 67.Kg3 Kg7 68.Kh3 Kf7 69.Kg2 Kg6 70.Kg3 Kg7 71.Kf4 Kf6 72.g5+ Kg7 73.Kf5 Kf7 74.h5 Ke7 75.g6 Kf8 76.Kf6 Kg8 77.g7 h6 78.Kg6, 1/2–1/2.



**Kunin,Vitaly – Chandler,Patrick
Hofheim, 2015
Position after 70.Kg8**

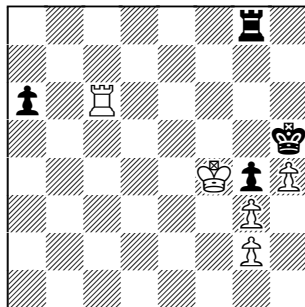
White's threat is 71.f5 and if 71...gxf5 72.Re6#. 70...Ra7?? Black had to protect the sixth rank with 70...Ra6! but of course he was worried with White's possibility to play Re7 and Rh7#. 71.f5! Rg7+ Or 71...Ra6 72.f6! Rxf6 73.Re7 g5 74.Rh7+ Kg6 75.Rg7+ Kf5 76.Rxg5+ Ke6 77.Kg7 Rf3 78.Kg6 Rf8 79.Kxh5. 72.Kf8 gxf5 73.Re6+ Rg6 Or 73...Kh7 74.Re7, winning also. 74.Kf7, 1–0.

Coming back to my article "Stalemate!" (New Zealand Chess # 3/2013, page 27), there was a nice example in a recent top-game.



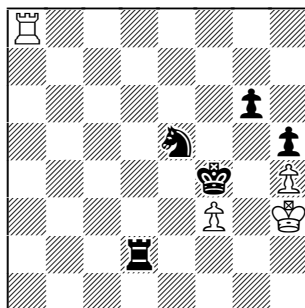
**Jakovenko,Dmitry –
Gelfand,Boris
Fide Grand Prix – Khanty-
Mansiysk, 2015
Position after 48.Kf2**

48...g4! It is an art getting rid of your own pieces, this is the only possible chance.
49.hxg4?? Unbelievable that a 2700+ player falls into this hole! The moves that first came to my mind where 49.Kg3 and 49.Qa4 but there must be a lot of others winning possibilities. **49...Qg2+ 50.Ke3 Nd5+! 51.Kd4** Or 51.Kd3 Qf3+ 52.Kd2 (Squares **c4** and **e4** are of course forbidden. 52.Kd4 Qe3+ 53.Kxd5 Qd4+ 54.Kc6 Qb6+ 55.Kd5 Qd4+ 56.Ke6 Qf6+ 57.Kd5 Qd4+ 58.Kxd4, as in the game) 52...Qe3+ 53.Kd1 Qd3+ 54.Kc1 Qe3+ 55.Kc2 Qe2+ 56.Kc1 Qe3+, with a perpetual check. **51...Qf2+ 52.Kxd5 Qd4+ 53.Kxd4**, ½–½.



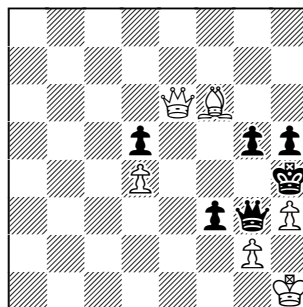
**Braeuer,Franz – Smeets,Jan
Bundesliga – Schwaebisch Hall,
2015
Position after 57...Kh5**

58.Rxa6?? Is grabbing pawns – like the last moving little animal – inherent for human beings? 58.Rf6! is clearly the safest way to glory. Now the mad rook makes a draw unavoidable! **58...Rf8+ 59.Ke3 Re8+ 60.Kf2** The white king has no place to hide. The reader may try... **60...Re2+**, ½–½.



**Freire,Airon – Andor,Jorge
São Paulo Open Group B, 2014
Position after 51.Kh3**

51...Nxf3?? Grabbing pawns is not a privilege of professionals. Amateurs are also very good at it! It reminds me the maxim I always teach to my pupils: 'If you have clear winning material, don't go for more before first evaluating the dynamic conditions of the position'. **52.Rf8+ Ke4 53.Rxf3??** But here the difference between pros and amateurs: a more experienced player would not miss **53.Rf4+! Ke5 54.Rxf3**, with a draw. **53...Rh2+!** Unstalemating! **54.Kxh2 Kxf3 55.Kh3 Kf4 56.Kg2 Kg4 57.Kh1 Kxh4 58.Kh2 Kg4 59.Kg2 h4 60.Kh2 Kf3 61.Kh1 Kf2 62.Kh2 g5 63.Kh1 g4**, 0-1.



Roinos,Ilias – Bodirosa,Predrag Isthmia Open – Vrachati, 2015 Position after 58...f3

59.gxf3? Here at least captured pawn was creating pressure! But White missed a beautiful forced manoeuvre with **59.Bxg5+!** If **59...Kxg5 60.Qg8+ Kf4** (or **60...Kh4 61.Qd8+ Qg5 62.g3+**, winning the queen) **61.Qb8+**, winning; and if **59...Qxg5 60.Qe1+! Qg3 61.Qe7+ Qg5 62.g3+**, winning. **59...Qxf3+** Of course **59...Qh2+** or **59...Qg2+** would do it at once. **60.Kg1 Qg2+!**, 1/2-1/2.

First Saturday Tournaments in Hungary

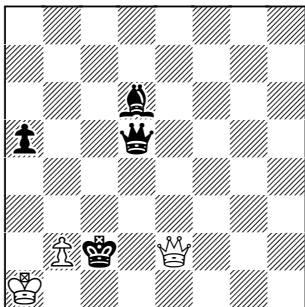
Consider this classic approach to pursuit of FIDE Norms!

Remaining tournaments this year;

7th-17th November and 5th-15th December.

Contacts:

- Brian Mak (firstsaturdaychess.marketing@gmail.com>)
- László Nagy (firstsat@hu.inter.net)
- www.firstsaturday.hu



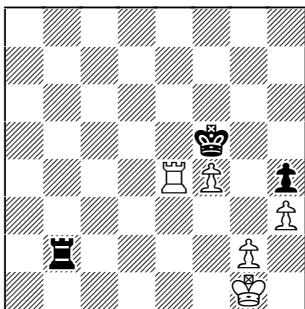
**Smirnov, Anton – Zhao Zong
Yuan**

Canberra, 2015

Position after 116.Qe2+

116...Kb3? Blocking the last mobile pawn is many times like taking the last pawn! Correct was 116...Qd2 117.Qc4+ Kd1 118.Qf1+ Qe1 119. Qd3+ Kc1 with very good winning chances **117.Qd3+!**, ½–½.

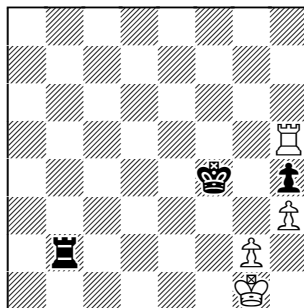
The next ending is not about grabbing pawns but is quite instructive.



Kuljasevic, Davorin – Saric, Ante
Croatian Championship –
Opatija, 2015

Position after 58...Kf5

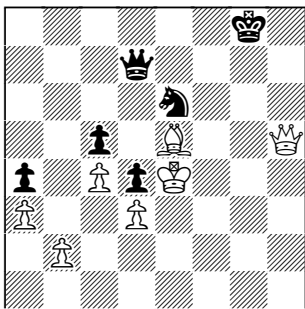
59.Re5+?! This can be seen as a mistake but maybe the game is anyway a draw. The best try is maybe 59.Re8 hoping for 59...Kxf4 60.Rg8 but 59...Rb1+ 60.Kh2 Rf1 61.Re5+ Kf6! 62.g4 hxg3+ 63.Kxg3 is a theoretical draw. **59...Kxf4 60.Rh5** This position deserves an extra diagram!



Black to play and draw

60...Rb4! **61.Kh2** Of course 61.Rxh4+ is followed by 61...Kg3 62.Rxb4 and stalemate saves a game again!. **61...Ke3 62.Rf5 Rf4 63.Re5+ Re4 64.Rf5 Rf4 65.Rg5 Ke4 66.Kg1 Ke3 67.Re5+ Re4 68.Rh5 Ra4 69.Rg5 Rf4 70.Ra5 Rd4 71.Kh2 Kf4 72.Rh5 Ke3 73.Rg5 Rc4 74.Rf5 Rf4 75.Re5+ Re4 76.Ra5 Rb4 77.Ra3+ Kf4 78.Rf3+ Kg5 79.Re3 Rb1 80.Re5+ Kg6**, ½–½.

To finish, an old but very cute tactical example:



**Pietzsch, Wolfgang -
Fuchs, Reinhart
East Germany, 1963
Black to play and draw**

1...Qc6+! 2.Kf5 Ng7+! 3.Bxg7 Qg6+!!, ½-½.

**Emil Melnichenko
Interview**

The previous issue featured two studies by New Zealand composer Emil Melnichenko. Emil is a teacher/librarian in the Engineering Faculty at the University of Auckland. The following email interview with Emil was conducted with the idea of exposing New Zealand Chess Magazine readers to the world of studies, one of the many obscure but fascinating specialised niches the world of chess abounds with.

How did your interest in chess studies arise?

I come from a chess playing family. My mother taught me the basics and my father introduced me to strategy, and, more importantly, that there was beauty in chess. Both my brothers play too and we would often play one another. Although my father was a strong player he was proud that I managed to beat him in a game when I was 13. We followed famous matches (e.g., Fischer-Spassky) and played through games from books and journals. We would often analyse games and positions together and it is a small step from this to marvelling over what might have happened in different circumstances, for instance, by playing this move instead of that, or removing or adding a pawn here or there, to creating a scenario based on a game. Like my father, I kept notes and notebooks of such interesting positions but these were confined to a drawer and it was not until my brother, Milan, sent one of my positions to a student magazine where it was published that I realized that my creations were actually publishable. Milan had always maintained that some of my discoveries were as good as what was already in print but I did not believe him, so, were it not for him, quite possibly I would have had nothing published. After this, I began sending positions with solutions to journals overseas where they were accepted for publication. I was not aware that a world of studies existed until later when I saw compositions by celebrated authors, particularly the Armenian Genrikh Kasparyan and the Russian Vladimir Korol'kov whose works I admired. Studies are an art form and complement my interest in music (I play guitar) and painting and all involve pattern recognition. I enjoyed playing chess but

the competition was lacking and I gradually lost interest in garnering points in favour of exploring and finding the objective truth contained within a position. Played games contain many flaws often from both sides and brilliancies often falter in the cold light of analysis when it is found that there are several ways of winning, and the loser is often the player who made the last or worst mistake. Playing chess also requires an opponent and preparation. For such reasons, I became absorbed in studies and so sacrificed the psychology and society of the game for the truth and beauty of its art, albeit often in solitude.

How does the world of study composition work?

As in o-t-b chess, there are many who do not compose, or only very rarely, and there are enthusiasts, eccentrics, plagiarists and egoists. Essentially, a player or composer identifies an attractive idea or theme and presents it in a workable matrix either only for publication or for judgement in a competition after which s/he might be sufficiently motivated to produce another work. Often a composer creates studies that s/he stores away for later entry to a major tournament while others cannot wait to see their name in print. Sometimes, judging takes years (I once waited 8 years for a result where NZ was portrayed as a chess developing nation). There are talks at gatherings, online discussions, presentations and commentators, detractors and celebrants as anywhere and also cook hunters (those who try to bust the work by finding a flaw) and correctors who do the opposite while others point out a possible alternative computer solution after 100

moves when the study showed a win within 10 moves. There are organizers and benefactors (I won \$1000 for first prize in a study tourney celebrating an author's jubilee where the prize money came from him). Competitions often do not have prize money but many do, with money often from a chess organization. There are debates and arguments, sometimes heated, over the virtues of certain works or codes of ethical behaviour. In short, the world of chess, composed or played, is as in any field of human endeavour with its foibles and, fancies, fantasies and fallacies.

How do composers typically publish their work?

Every player comes across interesting positions in a game of his/her own or someone else's and even analyses what might have happened in certain contingencies, especially in post-mortem analysis. If the idea or combination in the game is striking enough, you might wish to share it with others but in studies You need to dress it up so that it appears in the best possible light, that is, without flaws that ruin the effect and as economically or with as few pieces as possible so that the idea is stark and clear. You often add an introduction if possible so that the critical position with the key idea or theme arises normally as from a game, so you add or remove pieces accordingly until you are satisfied. You check and recheck the soundness of your analysis with and without computer assistance before plucking up courage and sending it to the editor of usually a chess journal or newspaper, or even a competition if you consider it a superior work, and wait for the

outcome to see if it is accepted without further work on your part. If published, your offering will be evaluated by computers, readers and judges for its soundness and originality. A study cannot have (an) alternative solution(s), every move must be the one and only best move (for White) and You must consider all the pertinent side variations for both sides. Black's play should ideally be equally clever to White's. A composition must also be original and cannot be anticipated by very similar previous work whether it is by yourself or someone a century ago. With a database of well over 70,000 studies to draw upon, it is getting more difficult to create original, unanticipated work because chess has logical constraints whereas in other art forms these are considerably reduced. How many times have we seen a painting of a vase of flowers or heard a simple melody based on triads, hundreds of times if not thousands, but they are considered acceptable when in chess the presentation of the same idea would be rejected unless it offered something new.

Does the study composition world revolve around competitions?

Not at all, there are probably many players and budding enthusiasts who have discovered interesting positions that will never appear in print. There are compilers of studies, study enthusiasts and commentators and study presenters who never enter competitions or may not compose at all, just as there are players who have never entered a chess tournament. There are serious composers who have never entered a work for any competition (e.g., Alois Wotawa) and there

are others who submit work only to tourneys (e.g., Mario Matous) but never to those competitions where composers' best works are compared and judged. Each composer chooses the level of involvement that best suits him/her. There are formal tourneys where the entries are all anonymized before being judged by one or more judges and where unsuccessful studies are returned to their authors. There are also informal competitions where studies are published in a journal or newspaper or online after being scrutinized by editors and computers and later judged by readers and/or (a) judge(s) where everyone learns the outcome immediately and where faulty studies are identified. Competitions may be on a theme, e.g., pawnless or a major piece versus a minor piece or wins only or without captures. A controversial issue is the use of computers in composition. At first, many opposed their use as it is possible to harvest interesting Zugswang positions from the 6-man EGTB (Endgame Tablebase) that, with an introduction, could be presented as a study. It was also thought that study composition would die because computers would make any apparent discovery redundant. However, since then the general consensus appears to be that it does not matter how a composer works as only the end result counts. There are those who try to pass off a solely computer-analysed position as a study but in general this is unsuccessful because the play is stilted, dry and even unintelligible to humans and has no aesthetic appeal. A similar threat occurred in played o-t-b chess but people play on regardless. Who cares if computers are better! After all, chess is essentially a social game.

Is there some way composers measure themselves against their peers, something like ratings in normal chess?

Studies are judged on aesthetic criteria such as (degree of) originality, economy (fewer men), thematic content, surprise element, elegance (number of pieces and how they interact), even the x-factor but judging is subjective because we all have various ideas on what constitutes or should constitute such criteria. Evaluating composers is a little like judging music composers or artists. Attempts have been made to objectify or even computerize judging but without success and many top composers are strongly opposed to numerical, formularised judging. There are international competitions that try to identify leading practitioners that certain composers purposely avoid and, of course, judging is subjective anyway. A composer may win a major competition but not be placed at all in the next and often you are deemed to be only as good as your last work. A composer might enter a strong work in one tourney and an indifferent one elsewhere because that is all that s/he has at the moment. However, there is the FIDE Album that gathers "the best of the best" compositions already published within a three year period in all fields of chess (including problem, fairy, retrograde analysis, self- and help-mates of which I know virtually nothing) after appraisal by a panel of judges. However, even though the judges are officially appointed through their accumulated points in FIDE Albums, many composers choose not to submit work and deceased authors obviously cannot, so that any picture of who are the best is never complete. Nevertheless, those

who follow the study world have their own favourite composers and are aware of who has won or featured prominently in competitions.

What are the most important websites and magazines?

There are many and everyone has their favourites. For instance, I visit Uralskii Problemist www.selivanov.ru the recently deceased Iurii Akobia's site at akobiachess.gol.ge and read EG (magazine) when and if I have time. The Kotesovec website offers insights at www.kotesovec.cz as does Emil Vlasak's at www.vlasak.biz/evcstud.htm and Tim Krabbe's is fascinating (he is a Dutch novelist and chess enthusiast, google for the address). Yochanan Afek has his hands in many chess study and o-t-b chess pies and David Gurgenzidze is my favourite extant composer. I have had over 200 studies published in at least 30 countries (including Mongolia), and some of my favourite magazines like Schakend Nederland no longer exist but the most important magazine without question is EG. Others I refer to include Uralskii Problemist, Schach, The Problemist, Sinfonie Scacchistiche, Rochade-Europa, Phénix, Die Schwalbe, Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsiya, and Šachová skladba to name a few.

How much time do you personally put into study composition? Do you work steadily or in fits and starts?

There was a time when I spent much of my waking hours on composition but that was long ago. Nowadays, I wait for an idea to

crystallise or germinate from something I have seen or imagined before committing myself to analysis to see if it can be realised. There is always a gestation period of days or weeks if not longer when I consider how to tackle an idea and try to find a way of expressing it. Having computer software that allows you to check your analysis for soundness and write up work for publication saves enormous time (one study alone took 2 years to write up by hand as it involved 29,000 moves written on so many pages of foolscap). I might spend an hour or two a day at most looking at possible positions to find a matrix to express an idea but more usually less than that and this is almost always on a bus commuting. I have a NZ made 2D plastic magnetic set for this for which I make pieces once they are lost in transit although there is nothing like using a larger 3D wooden set for composing. Most of my composing is entirely mental without pieces or board where I imagine everything. I jot down possible positions with key variations if they appear to work but it can take more than a hundred permutations to settle on a final, hopefully best, setting. I usually work constantly for years on one study after another without a break until I have had enough and vow never to undertake another, a promise that often only lasts a few months. I have discovered that a fresh eye is conducive to creativity and a tired mind is only good for repeating what you already found before.

Do you ever play chess yourself (online? clubs? tournaments?)

Unfortunately, I do not have time and the nearest I get to actual playing is teaching

young people how to play. The last game I had was on mid-city Queen Street last year with a large set against "Jamaica's no. 1" (Ed: I am sure I won't be the only one who has a theory on the true identity of this gentlemen) watched by a large crowd when nobody else wished to play and everyone took a step backward leaving me at the front. It was literally a 5 minutes each side game. He stepped up the speed of play in the middle game as they do and he blundered and lost, which was nice for me. I feel a player is obliged to keep up with the game and study openings as I once did. I can easily imagine not getting out of the opening to an 11 year old. One of my brothers struggled on the back foot throughout his last game to a Fried Liver Attack he had never met before and even though he drew it left an enduring memory.

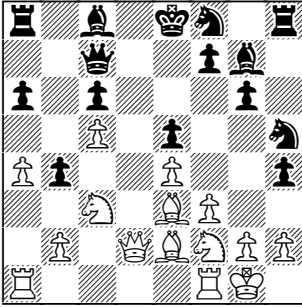
Sacrifice Everything

There's no New Zealand connection unfortunately, but chess is a universal language and this will be a treat for any chess lover who has not seen it before. A high level game in which White, literally, sacrifices all his pieces. (Spotted on Edward Winter's website).

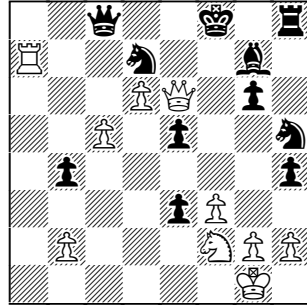
**Serper, Grigory (2575)
- Nikolaidis, Ioannis (2440) [E70]**

St Petersburg, 1993

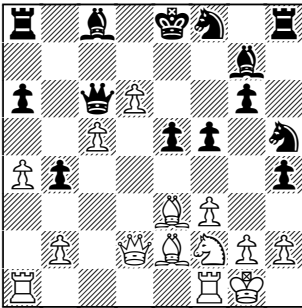
**1.c4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.d4 d6 4.Nc3 Nf6
5.Nge2 Nbd7 6.Ng3 c6 7.Be2 a6 8.Be3 h5
9.f3 b5 10.c5 dxc5 11.dxc5 Qc7 12.0-0 h4
13.Nh1 Nh5 14.Qd2 e5 15.Nf2 Nf8 16.a4
b4**



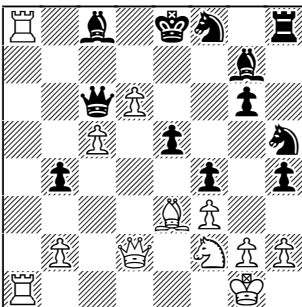
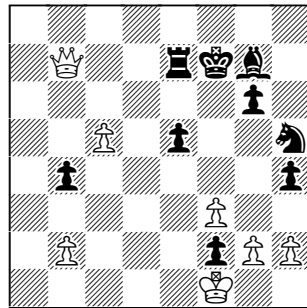
17.Nd5! cxd5 18.exd5 f5 19.d6 Qc6



Although White allows the Nf2 to be captured with check, a pedant might argue this is really an exchange rather than a sacrifice... 28.Rxd7 exf2+ 29.Kf1 Qe8 30.Rf7+! Qxf7 31.Qc8+ Qe8 32.d7 Kf7 33.dxe8Q+ Rxe8 34.Qb7+ Re7



20.Bb5! axb5 21.axb5 Qxb5 21...Qb7 22.c6! is amusing 22.Rxa8 Qc6 23.Rfa1 f4



24.R1a7! Nd7 Very pretty is 24...fxe3 25.Qd5! Qxd5 26.Rxc8# 25.Rxc8+ Qxc8 26.Qd5 fxe3 27.Qe6+ Kf8

...However White makes up for that by sacrificing his Queen twice, the offer is refused the first time... 35.c6! e4 36.c7 e3 37.Qd5+ Kf6 38.Qd6+ Kf7 39.Qd5+ Kf6 40.Qd6+ Kf7 ...but not the second time 41.Qxe7+! Kxe7 42.c8Q and after making a second new Queen, White is finally content to mop up routinely Bh6 43.Qc5+ Ke8 44.Qb5+ Kd8 45.Qb6+ Kd7 46.Qxg6 e2+ 47.Kxf2 Be3+ 48.Ke1 1-0

(Perhaps readers might suggest similarly sensational games for publication here)

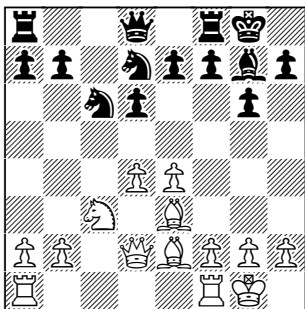
Chess History

In the last issue regular correspondent Eduardo Bauza rescued an interesting game from obscurity, demonstrating that A.W. Gyles of Wellington was something of an opening pioneer to-boot. This was not the first time Gyles had played 3...g6 in the Alapin Sicilian and indeed as noted last time there are no earlier examples of the move in the standard databases. Not content with this, the remarkable Mr Bauza's hobby of scouring old newspapers and magazines has found three hitherto unknown examples from around the turn of the century. In two of them Eugene Delmar, an interesting early American master, plays Black. The following game now holds the record as the earliest instance of 3...g6 extant. It's an interesting struggle in all its phases, and well worth a look.

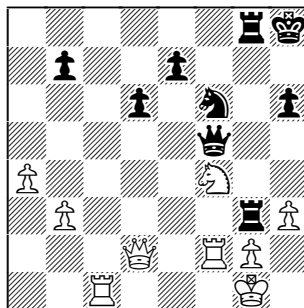
Simonson, Gustave - Delmar, Eugene [B22]

Manhattan CC-ch New York, 17.06.1893

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 g6 4.d4 cxd4
5.cxd4 Bg7 6.Nc3 d6 7.Be3 Bg4 8.Be2
Bxf3 9.Bxf3 Qb6 10.Nd5 Qd8 11.0-0 Nf6
12.Nc3 0-0 13.Qd2 Nd7 14.Be2

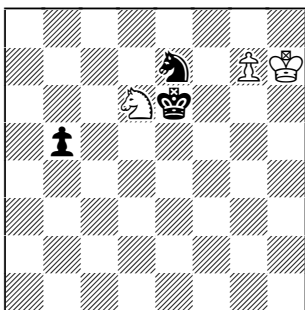


14...f5!? A twentieth century position, and now a twentieth century move 15.exf5 gxf5 16.f4 Qe8 17.d5 Nd8 18.Nb5 Qf7 19.Nxa7 Nf6 20.Bf3 Qe8 21.a4 Kh8 22.Nb5 Qg6 23.Nc3 Nf7 24.Bd4 Rg8 25.Nb5 Ne4 26.Bxe4 fxe4 27.Nc7 Rac8 28.Ne6 So far Black's attempts to counterpunch have rebounded, but undeterred he continues to seek activity 28...e3 29.Qxe3 Bxd4 30.Qxd4+ Ne5 The knight is activated in an unusual way 31.Rf2 Rc4 32.Qd2 Ng4 33.Re2 Qh5 34.h3 Nf6 35.b3 Rcc8 36.Rd1 h6 37.Re3 Rg6 38.Re2 Nxd5 The computer finds a nice sacrificial drawing line (38...Rc3 39.f5 Rxh3!! 40.fxg6 Rh1+ 41.Kf2 Qh4+ 42.Kf3 Qg4+=) 39.Rf2 Nf6 40.f5 Rg3 41.Rc1 Rcg8 42.Nf4 Qxf5



Black's attempts to conjure a worthwhile attack are finally bearing fruit 43.Ne2? Qxf2+! Leading to a pawn up ending 44.Kxf2 Ne4+ 45.Ke1 Nxd2 46.Nxg3 Nxb3 47.Rc3 Nc5 48.Ra3 Ra8 49.Nf5 Rxa4 50.Rxa4 Nxa4 51.Nxe7 Kg7 52.Nf5+ Kf6 53.Nxd6 Nc5 54.Kf2 Ke6 55.Nb5 Kd5 56.Kg3 Na4 57.Kh4 Kc5 58.Nc7 Kc6 59.Ne6 Kd6 60.Nd4 Nc3 61.Kh5 Kd5 62.Nf5 Ne2 63.Kxh6 Nf4 64.g4 Nxh3 65.g5 White has played the ending better and Black's advantage is nothing but a memory now. It was time to

give up the Knight for White's last pawn and shake hands. Delmar's attempt to keep the game going is suicidal **65...Nf2?? 66.g6 Ne4 67.g7 Nf6 68.Kg6 Ke6 69.Nd4+ Ke7 70.Nb5 Ng8 71.Kh7 Nf6+ 72.Kg6 Ng8 73.Nc3 Ke6 74.Ne4 b5 75.Nc5+ Ke7 76.Kh7 Kf7 77.Ne4 Ne7 78.Nd6+ Ke6**



79.Nc8! Nxc8 80.g8Q+ and 1-0 in 97 moves source: NY Sun, 19 JUN 1893, p. 6; NY Recorder, 21 JUL 1893

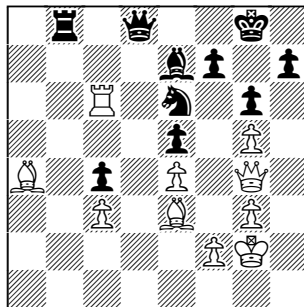
Bishop takes on Queen *by Russell Hosking*

White bishop: I warn you, Your Majesty, that if you stray from the path of virtue you'll be punished.

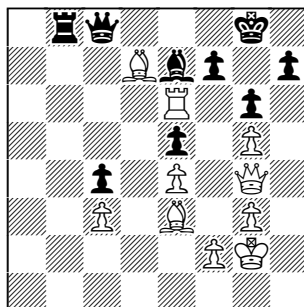
Black queen: And who'll punish me you cheeky cleric?

White bishop: You'll see.

In my game against Dave Lynch (January 2015 issue) I put an unprotected bishop on a square next to Dave's queen. The bishop attacked the queen and cleared a file for my queen to threaten mate, ending the game. Another example of the theme appears in Fischer's "My 60 Memorable Games". Let's start with the position after **38...Qd8** in Fischer- Shocron Mar del Plata, 1959.



39.Rxe6 If now **39...fxe6** then **40.Qxe6+** followed by **41.Qxe5** and White has a dominating position. **39...Qc8** Black pins the Rooks so what is White to do? Here's what: **40.Bd7! 1-0**



If **40...Qxd7** the Queen is no longer protected by the Rook on b8 and so is lost after **41.Rxg6+**. If **40...Qd8** or **40...Qf8 41.Rxe5**

I recently had a look at a book on chess tactics to see if this Bobby Fischer gem was included and it was. Rightly so as it both delights and instructs.

The last words go to the White Queen: Ouch! Yes, you are a cheeky cleric but you're also clever.

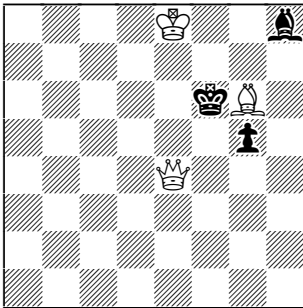
Problem Kingdom

by Linden Lyons

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

Problem 29

Alberto Armeni (Italy)
Original

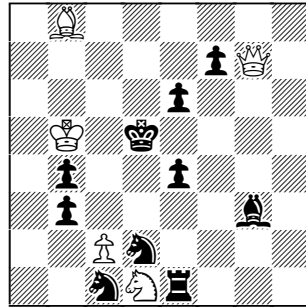


#2

Problem 29 is a miniature twomover. Set play: 1 ... Bg7 2 Qf5. First try: 1 Kf8? (threat 2 Qf5) Bg7+! Second try: 1 Bf7? (zugzwang) with 1 ... Bg7 2 Qe6 (not 2 Qf5, as in the set play, so this is a changed mate) and 1 ... Kg7 2 Qg6, but 1 ... g4! Key: 1 Bh7! (thr. 2 Qe7) with 1 ... Kg7 2 Qg6.

Problem 30

Alberto Armeni (Italy)
Original

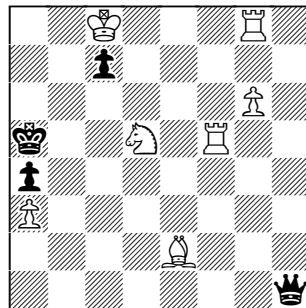


#2

The key of **Problem 30** is **1 c3!** (thr. 2 Qd4). Variations: 1 ... f6 2 Qb7; 1 ... e5 2 Qxf7; 1 ... bxc3 2 Nxc3; 1 ... Bf2/Be5 2 Q(x)e5; 1 ... Nf3 2 c4; 1 ... Ne2 2 Ne3.

Problem 31

Seetharaman Kalyan (India)
Original



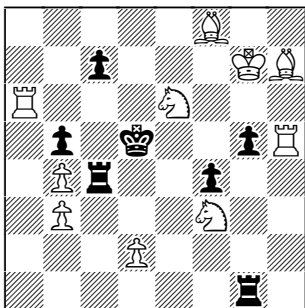
#2

In **Problem 31**, the knight and rook on the fifth rank form a **battery**, i.e. the rook 'fires' at its target when the knight moves. There are five **battery mates** in the solution. Key: **1 Kxc7!** (thr. 2 Ra8). Variations: 1 ... Qc1+ 2 Nc3; 1 ... Qh7+ 2

Ne7; 1 ... Qh2+ 2 Nf4; 1 ... Qh8 2 Nf6; 1 ... Qg1 2 Ne3. Note that three of these variations are **cross-checks**, i.e. checks (or checkmates) in response to checks.

Problem 32

Petro Novitskiy (Ukraine)
Original



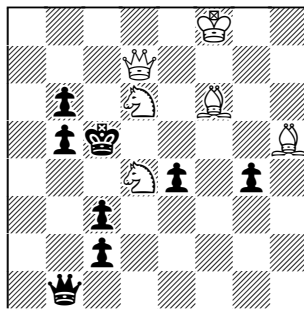
#2

In **Problem 32**, the set play is 1 ... **Rc6** 2 Nxf4 [A] and 1 ... **Re4** 2 Nxc7 [B]. First try: 1 d4? (thr. 2 Nxf4 [A]) with 1 ... Rxd4 2 Nxc7 [B], but 1 ... Rg4! Second try: 1 Bc5? (thr. 2 Nxc7 [B]) with 1 ... Rxc5 2 Nxc4 [A], but 1 ... Rxb4! The excellent key swaps a pinned black pawn for a pinned white knight: **1 Nxb4!** (thr. 2 Bg8). Variations: 1 ... Re1 2 Ne4; 1 ... Rxb4+ 2 Rxb4; 1 ... **Rc6/Re4** 2 B(x)e4. This problem features the **pseudo le Grand theme**: the threat and mating move in one try (A and B after 1 d4?) are reversed after another try (B and A after 1 Bc5?). There are also **changed mates** after 1 ... **Rc6** and 1 ... **Re4**: A and B in the set play, and 2 B(x)e4 in the post-key play.

Problem 33

Leonid Makaronez (Israel)

Original

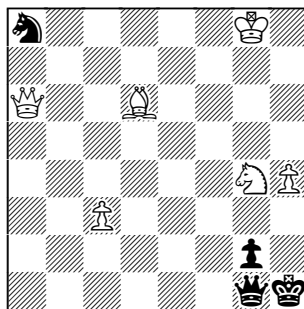


#3

A delightful feature of the key to **Problem 33**, **1 Be7!** (thr. 2 Nf7+ Kc4 3 Ne5), is that it allows Black to play check (in response to which White plays a **cross-check**): 1 ... Qf1+ 2 Nf5+ Kc4 3 Qxb5. The black king also has a couple of flight squares: 1 ... Kb4 2 Nf7+ Ka4 3 Qa7 and 1 ... Kxd4 2 Ne4+ Kxc4 3 Bf7. Note that 1 ... Kd5 fails to defeat the threat.

Problem 34

Mikhail Kostylev & Alexander Melnichuk
(Russia)
Original

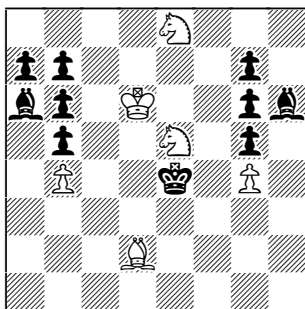


#7

In **Problem 34**, White creates a bishop-queen battery. Key: **1 Qd3!** (thr. 2 Qh3+ Qh2 3 Qxh2#). Variations: 1 ... Qa7! 2 Qh3+ Kg1 3 Bh2+ Kh1 4 Bb8+! (battery) Kg1 5 Bxa7+ Kf1 (5 ... Nb6 6 Qg3 Kf1/Kh1 7 Qf2/Qh2) 6 Qd3+ (switchback) Ke1 7 Bf2 (model mate); 1 ... Qb6! 2 Qh3+ Kg1 3 Bh2+ Kh1 4 Bc7+!! (battery) Kg1 5 Bxb6+ Nxb6 6 Qg3 Kf1/Kh1/N~ 7 Qf2/Qh2/Qe1.

Problem 35

Wilfried Neef (Germany)
Original

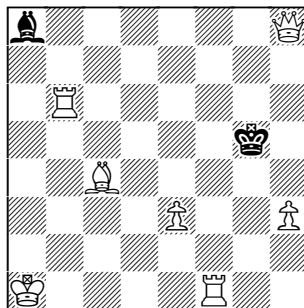


#13

In **Problem 35**, the e8-knight leaps its way to the other side of the board. **1 Nc7!** Kd4 2 Nd5 Ke4 3 Be1 Kd4 4 Bf2+ Ke4 5 Ne7 Kf4 6 Nc8 Ke4 7 Nxa7 Kf4 8 Nc8 Ke4 9 Nxb6 Kf4 10 Nd5+ Ke4 11 Nc3+ Kf4 12 Kd5 b6 13 Ne2.

Problem 36

Benjamin Glover Laws
Leeds Mercury 1885
(version by L. Lyons)



=2

Problem 36 is my version of a 19th-century composition. White's aim is to stalemate Black in two moves. Set: 1 ... Bd5 2 Bxd5. Try: 1 Qh7? (zz), but 1 ... Be4! Key: **1 Bd3!** (zz). Variations: 1 ... Bh1 2 Rxh1; 1 ... Bg2 2 Rg1; 1 ... Bf3 2 Rxf3; 1 ... Be4 2 Bxe4; 1 ... Bd5 2 Rb5; 1 ... Bc6 2 Rxc6; 1 ... Bb7 2 Rxb7. The original problem (b6Q/7/1R6/6k1/2B5/p3P2P/rpP5/1K3R2, S#2) is selfmate in two moves (i.e. White forces Black, against his will, to checkmate the black king). The play is the same, but each variation ends with 2 ... Ra1#. This final move, requiring four extra pieces, is only incidental. The problem is much tidier as a stalemate twomover

Go Ahead, Make My Day!

Concerned that your favourite tournament wasn't covered? Unhappy that your painful loss is here but that brilliant win is missing? Take the initiative and write it up yourself! Nothing makes the editor happier than an unsolicited submission. Especially fresh, interesting content from fresh new writers.

(Thanks to Russell Hosking for rising to the challenge, others please take note)

New Zealand Chess Club Directory

- 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.
- Gisborne Eastern Knights, contact President Colin Albert, email c_albert80@hotmail.com.
- Hamilton, contact Secretary Ian Kennedy, email ian_kennedy@clear.net.nz
- Hawke's Bay (Hastings & Napier), contact Secretary Stewart Hyslop, (06) 879 8078, email s.hyslop@actrix.co.nz
- Howick-Pakuranga, contact Secretary Tony Booth, (09) 534 6392, email tonybooth@ihug.co.nz.
- Invercargill, contact Gary McLean, mcleangj@xtra.co.nz, phone (03) 216 7990.
- Judkins Chess (Hamilton), contact President Gary Judkins, email g.judkins@stpauls.school.nz
- Kapiti, contact President Guy Burns, email gyroburns@gmail.com
- Karamea, contact Secretary David Roberts, (03) 7826 979, email davidatarapito@gmail.com
- Manawatu Knights, contact Mark Noble, 027-338-2040 or (06) 3237003, email xn7223@paradise.net.nz
- 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
- North Canterbury, contact Secretary Mark Williams, email brannie@clear.net.nz
- North Shore, contact Club Captain Peter Stuart, (09) 449 1812, email pstuart@xtra.co.nz
- Otago (Dunedin), contact otagochess@clear.net.nz
- Papatoetoe, contact John McRae, (09) 278 4520
- Remuera Junior, contact Angela Cook, 021 1385635.
- Upper Hutt, contact Club Captain Roger Smith, (04) 971 6528, email roger.smith.uh@gmail.com
- Waitakere, contact President John Francis, (09) 626 2213, email diaries@ihug.co.nz.
- Wanaka, contact John Garrett, johngarrett@xtra.co.nz.
- Wanganui, contact Bill Maddren, (06) 344 3298
- Wellington, contact President Ross Jackson, (04) 499 1769, (04) 902 1707, email Lrjackson@xtra.co.nz

NEW ZEALAND CHESS SUPPLIES

P.O. Box 122 Greytown 5742

Phone: (06) 304 8484

email: chess.chesssupply@xtra.co.nz

website: www.chess.co.nz

100% New Zealand Owned & Operated

*See our website for new and second hand book lists,
wood sets and boards, electronic chess and software*

Plastic Chessmen 'Staunton' Style - Club/Tournament Standard

No 280 Solid Plastic - Felt Base Pieces with 2 Extra Queens	95mm King	\$ 16.00
No 298 Plastic Felt Base 'London Set'	98mm King	\$ 22.50
No 402 Solid Plastic - Felt Base Extra Weighted with 2 Extra Queens	95mm King	\$ 24.50
Plastic Container with Clip Tight Lid for Above Sets		\$ 7.50
Draw String Cloth Bag for Above Sets		\$ 6.50

Chessboards

510 x 510mm Soft Vinyl Roll-Up Mat (Green & White Squares)		\$ 8.50
510 x 510mm Soft Vinyl Roll-Up Mat (Dark Brown & White Squares)		\$ 8.50
450 x 450mm Soft Vinyl Roll-Up Mat (Dark Brown & White Squares)		\$ 10.00
430 x 430mm Soft Vinyl Roll-Up Mat (Green & White Squares)		\$ 7.50
450 x 450mm Deluxe Folding Hard Vinyl (Dark Brown & Off White Squares)		\$ 27.50
500 x 500mm Folding Hard Vinyl (Dark Brown & White Squares)		\$ 13.50

Chess Move Timers (Clocks)

Analog Clock in Wood Case		\$ 48.00
DGT Easy Game Timer		\$ 66.00
DGT Easy Plus Game Timer - Black		\$ 74.00
DGT 2010 Chess Clock & Game Timer		\$ 124.00
DGT 3000 Chess Clock & Game Timer		\$ 144.00

Club and Tournament Stationery

Cross Table/Result Wall Chart 430mm x 630mm		\$ 4.00
11 Rounds for 20 Players or 6 Rounds for 30 Players		
Scoresheets NZCF Duplicate Carbonised - 84 Moves		\$ 0.12
Score Pad - Spiral Bound Room for 50 Games of Scoresheets		\$ 3.50
Score book - Spiral Bound - Lies Flat at Any Page		\$ 7.00
50 Games of 80 Moves with Index and Diagram for Permanent Record		

Magnetic Chess

Magnetic Chess & Checkers (Draughts) 65mmK - 325 x 325mm Folding Vinyl Board		\$ 14.50
Deluxe Magnetic Portable Wood Chess Set 38mmK - 200 x 200mm Wood Board		\$ 57.50

Demonstration Boards

640 x 720mm Roll-Up Vinyl - Magnetic Pieces (Green & White Squares)		\$ 76.00
660 x 760mm Roll-Up Vinyl - Slot in Pieces (Green & White Squares)		\$ 52.00

**WE ARE BUYING CHESS LITERATURE OF ANY AGE AND CONDITION
TOP PRICES PAID
EVERYTHING FOR CHESS AT N.Z.C.S.**