

Florida **CHESS**

FLORIDA CHESS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

COVID 2020



This year the Florida State
Championship was named the Harvey
Lerman Florida State Championship, but
the event was canceled for 2020, to be
held next in 2021

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Florida Champions

State	Mykola Bortnyk	Scholastic	Ryan Hamley
Top K-8	Raghav Venkat	Top Girl	Cindy Jie
Blitz	Adithya Bala	Quick	Corey Acor
Senior	George Grasser		

FCA Membership Dues

Send to the FCA (c/o Treasurer) or online

Regular	—	\$20 (for two years)
Scholastic (under 20)	—	\$15 (for two years)
Club Affiliate	—	\$30 (for two years)
Family	—	\$30 (for two years)
Life	—	\$200 (10 times Regular Dues)

Check your mailing label for membership expiration date.

Florida Chess Association (FCA) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization devoted exclusively to the promotion of chess in Florida. FCA is the official USCF affiliate for the state of Florida. FCA web site — <http://www.floridachess.org>

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Editor Speaks

It has been a long Pandemic and this issue is now named the **COVID2020** issue. I did finally get to complete it with a lot of interesting articles, so I hope you enjoy it. Many of them were items I found that were from the past and not reported upon.

I found an old article about when Donald Benge came to our town to declare me **World Champion of Conquest**. That was a great honor that was written up in the Sentinel Star Orlando newspaper. The photo of that paper is poor quality, and I apologize for it, but it was the best I could do. Donald Benge was sometime later killed in an automobile accident where he lived in California, so I'll never be able to write about him again... and I'll miss him.

You will also notice that my picture is on the cover of this issue. I was honored to have the **Florida State Championship** event named after me. It replaces Arnold Denker's name from the event. Unfortunately, the event was canceled for 2020, but will be held in 2021...hopefully and for many following years.... again hopefully.

And finally, notice the **Great puzzle of the Covid** on the back cover. It seems to be impossible to solve. But it can be. Try to find it.

Lastly, there is a lot one can do on the internet if you wish to continue playing chess. So please support this magazine by sending in reports on anything you wish to write about. I try to publish all stories, photos, and annotated games that I receive. Just send it to harvey@floridachess.org and I'll put it in the next issue of floridaCHESS.

Please check the FCA website floridaCHESS.org

If your membership is expiring, we ask that you take this special opportunity to renew and help us continue to promote chess in Florida. Please renew online at floridaCHESS.org under "Membership".

Harvey Lerman

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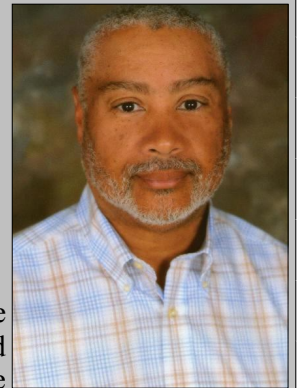
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Joel Channing - Trustee

from the President's desk

2020 Covid President's Message



Dear Members and Friends,

COVID times continue with 40 million infected world-wide, 8 million in the U.S. and 200K American lives lost. In Florida, 750K have contracted the virus with 16K deaths labeled as COVID related. Over the board chess has all but vanished as the world tries to adhere to infectious disease experts encouraging and governments mandating everyone to maintain a 6-foot personal bubble to slow the spread or wear face masks. It is a strange time seen last around the turn of the 20th century with the Spanish Flu. Since my last message the entire world shutdown and people were told to stay indoors. Businesses closed, churches closed, parks closed, sports stopped and the people identified as "essential workers" have become the new heroes around the world. It has been strange to say the least.

Our beloved game and all the over the board meet-ups, tournaments, training, conventions, championships also shutdown. This drove all of us to make the sideline activity of online chess and training to be the only way to stay home and get in a game. As a result, online chess has exploded with sources like chess.com, Twitch, Chess24, LiChess, ICC, YouTube and podcasts boom. Streaming video feeds have become million dollar businesses for favorites like Nakamura and others who we never heard of before. Even tournament juggernaut, the Continental Chess Association was forced to hold online tournaments. Also, anti-cheating detection programmers are in demand and their programs are crunching miles of pgn game data to catch cheaters in post-tournament analytics. Social media is buzzing with chess content like never before. Our adaptation to this new normal has come without instructions, but the nimble have found a way.

(President's desk continued on page5)

Letters

Dear Harvey

I am a USCF member, although I live in Australia. Congratulations on floridaCHESS - it is outstanding. I have a couple of requests, if you will forgive me.

Firstly, I like floridaCHESS so much I'd really like to buy some paper copies (I am old-fashioned like that). Do you have any available? I will probably buy a copy of all available issues if they are not too expensive to post halfway around the world.

Secondly, I'd like to ask a big favor. I really liked your "My best move" page in Chess Life. I produce a magazine called Patzer (I can send you a PDF if you are interested), and I would like your permission to use your move in a similar feature that we are running. (Don't be offended - we use the word Patzer with pride!) If you agree, I wonder if you'd have time to answer the following questions:

1. What events do you most enjoy playing in?
2. Do you have an especially memorable tournament?
3. Is your rating going up or down, and do you care?
4. Do you study chess, and if so, what aspects?
5. Do you have any goals in chess?

I already have answers to the questions, When did you start playing and When did you first join a club from the Chess Life article.

If this is an intrusion, I apologize - please ignore me!

Best wishes.
Derek Roebuck
Editor, Patzer

*I felt honored about what he wrote and was delighted to agree with what he wanted to do. My answer to him follows.
~ED.*



Dear Derek,

Thank you very much for all the nice things you said about me! I am shocked that someone from so far away has been reading about me. But you are mistaken about one thing. I did play in my first major tournament when I was a young man living in Hartford Connecticut... it was for the state championship. I won my game against the defending champion, and then was told that I would have to play another game in an hour and then more the following Sunday. My body rebelled against that and I gave up playing in major chess tournaments for the rest of my life.

But I was very active in chess, by starting chess activities in every company I worked in, by running state scholastic tournaments, by teaching chess, and by running tournaments for the Florida Chess Association... even being its President for a couple of years. But I am now 83 years old. I continue to produce floridaCHESS magazine, though this year there may be only one more issue because of the Pandemic.

You will notice that I always include a feature called "Harvey Lerman plays chess" which shows the many things I did for chess. Well, I'll be starting something called Harvey Lerman doesn't play chess. I have found another game, "Empire Deluxe" that I have been playing against their computer that is a real war game that makes Chess look like a game for kids!

Back to your e-mail.... I do have a lot of floridaCHESS issues and you can have them at about \$1 each (plus shipping charges).

You also have my permission to write about me in "Patzer" magazine (please send me all magazines which include stories about me!).

Now lets see if I can answer your questions (but please note that I suffer from dementia and have forgotten about 90% of my past life, but my wife remembers most of it!).

1. I don't play in chess events anymore.
2. I remember my first memorable tournament but not much others.
3. My rating was about 1975 when I started and then ended at 1950 and I didn't play in much after that... and I don't care! (Florida has now named their State Championship after me... it previously was called the "Arnold Denker State Championship"!)
4. I read the games in ChessLife and try to find why the move made is so good!
5. I have no other goals in chess except to continue floridaCHESS and to eventually produce an issue called "Harvey Lerman Plays Chess" which will include all the articles I previously wrote about "Harvey Lerman Plays Chess".

Thanks again for you interest. I may include it in "Letters to the Editor" in my next issue!!

Harvey

(President's desk continued from page 3)

In our state, however, we have been mostly quiet without over the board activity. It stopped our scheduled Women/Girl's & Senior State Championships. People who rely upon in-person chess training and events for income have not been able to meet as state and municipal governments would not allow groups to meet or hotels to book gatherings over a handful of people. I last reported one of the final events was the Corona Open in Clearwater back in mid-March. There were ZERO rated events in Florida in April. Some signs of life in May with two held online by Palm Beach Chess. Since then there have been 21 rated events at the new FCA Miami area affiliate, Chess Club Bobby Fischer, leading the way with 15 in-person events with all players wearing masks. In Tampa, F.C.A. affiliate, Alton Academy 4 Chess, has also begun to hold OTB rated events and training for children. In other words, OTB is crawling back to life, but the risk of infection continues to impact its rise.

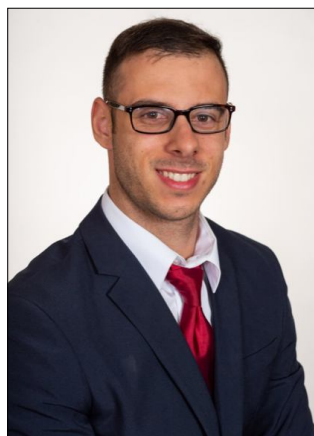
Within the Association, our F.C.A. board member election cycle is complete and we are working to support both online chess, new media options and the return to OTB chess. In fact, we have already reserved the Wyndham in Orlando for the State Scholastic Championship in March. US Chess has also scheduled the National Grades Championship in Orlando this December. FIDE has also begun promote championship events in early 2021. We hope and pray for the return of normalcy.

See you over the board soon, I hope,

Kevin

Northwest - Member Spotlight: Colby "Rocco" Ferrero

by Kevin Pryor



The Northwest region covers most of the counties of the panhandle and the section of Florida called The Big Bend. Alachua County is by far the most chess active section of this region, especially with scholastic chess. It is basically Florida's Title Town with perennial powerhouse schools like Oak Hall, Williams Elementary, Lincoln Middle & Buchholz High registering championships or placing at National K-12 tournaments.

The area with the next most immediate opportunities are the larger panhandle cities of Tallahassee and Pensacola. New F.C.A. member, Rocco Ferrero, is a young man who has a strong connection with both of these cities. Rocco renewed playing chess in 2015 when his roommate at Pensacola's University of West Florida rekindled his appreciation for the game on a small portable chess set. Rocco had learned to play years earlier at North Broward Prep in Boca Raton and played in a K-5 section of the Broward County Championship in 2006. Rocco remembers "It wasn't long before I was winning against him and I wanted to play against stronger players." This led him to start showing up at meetings of the Pensacola Chess Club where the players ranged from Beginner to Class A and even a few titled players. According to Rocco, "I lost a lot of games, but it drove me to study to get stronger and eventually I started winning."

Upon transferring to F.S.U. he got involved in organizing chess activity at the university and became their recognized chess organizer in addition to being a Chess Player. As before he reached out to the local chess community and connected with Banghao & Ben Chen's club and the remnant of the former Tallahassee Chess Club. The Chen family helped to get him back involved with rated tournament chess events both locally and out of town. Within a few years he has raised his official rating to over 1600, but his online Blitz rating is over 2100. Although he graduated in 2019, he continues to keep parts of the F.S.U. chess club alive by managing their Facebook page, but laments the club has essentially disbanded.

Today, he is a sales representative for a software company, but Rocco continues to support the chess infrastructure in the area. He teaches kids, helps the Chen's while supporting area meet-ups with former TCC members. He wants to see Tallahassee chess revived to where there are consistent Open events and more school based training around the city and at the university. We applaud Rocco's enthusiasm for growing chess and we intend to help him anyway we can.

Kevin Pryor

Thursday Knights Class
by Alton Academy 4 Chess

Thursday Knights... 4 Weeks Session
Beginners - Intermediate Chess Class

Chess Makes You Smart, We Make it Fun...

This class will close at 12 students, we have 9 student spots left.

Do you want more hands on
chess instruction with
coaches?



This class is an in-home 1 & 1/2 hour

FLORIDA'S TOP PLAYERS

(Using latest USCF Rating Supplement's "Top 100" Lists, except for "OVERALL")

UNDER AGE 18

Kumar, Nikhil	15	2428
Venkat, Raghav	15	2305
Zhao, Erick	11	2270
Ngo, Bach	11	2220
Hamley, Ryan Edward	17	2198
Chen, Benjamin Lj	15	2192
Hernandez, Ronald	12	2160
Kumar, Naman	13	2147
De La Colina, Nicolas	15	2097
Yang, Andy, Jr	14	2064
Stone, Vincent William, Iii	14	2058
Alvarez, Xavier	16	2054
Gao, Marvin	11	2054
Shukla, Aniket	11	2018
Lang, Jayden	11	1996
Pothuri, Abhiram	10	1994
Reddy, Satvik	15	1992
Gospodinov, Antony	13	1987
Chakrabarti, Brejesh	10	1985
Wang, Alan John	16	1982
Shibata, Robert Shintaro	13	1982
Yisrael, Shama	16	1979
Ramaswamy, Rohit	15	1975
Singh, Keshav	14	1973
Mayes, Timothy	16	1972
Eickelman, Connor	17	1962
Sibbitt, Brandon	16	1947
Starkman, Elliot	16	1945
Cruz, Jancarlo	16	1930
Guan, Michael Xukun	12	1914
Farragut, Cannon	9	1909
Yao, Jerry	11	1899
Shen, Jason (Haohan)	13	1890
Wu, William	11	1889
Cheng, Leon	12	1869
Sattaru, Sritej Sai	10	1830
Ziegler, Nate Ryan	10	1789
Bynum, Jacorey	11	1779
Yu, Dylan	10	1763
Nair, Advait Shankar	11	1757
Wu, Alice	11	1754
Yang, Maxwell	7	1663
Huang, Jolie	10	1643
Jiang, Benjamin	10	1638
Elvers, Tristan	8	1379
Guan, Tovy	7	1162
Gupta, Anay	7	1158
Kumar, Ishir	7	1077
Kaidask, Platon	7	1069
Siddiqui, Elias	7	1019

CHESS COACHES

Professional - Level V

Mark Ritter

National - Level IV

Tania Kranich-Ritter

Tim Tusing

Advanced - Level III

Miguel Ararat

GIRLS U<21

Tianhui (Cindy) Jie	19	2014
Shama Yisrael	16	1975

SENIORS (65+)

Fabio Larota	69	2282
Stephen Stoyko	72	2241
Constantine Xanthos	73	2200
Sergey Berechenko	74	2200
William Cornwall	76	2147
Jose Hernandez	66	2133

WOMEN

Tianhui (Cindy) Jie	2014
Shama Yisrael	1975

TOP BLITZ

Julio Becerra	2659
Robert M Perez	2497
Corey Acor	2451

TOP QC

Robert M Perez	2394
Corey Acor	2336
Alex Barnett	2323

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OVERALL *

GM OLEXANDR BORTNYK	2665
GM JULIO J BECERRA	2590
IM MYKOLA BORTNYK	2587
IM YUNIER LEYVA RIVERA	2499
ROBERT M PEREZ	2497
IM NOE TUTISANI	2482
FM MARCEL MARTINEZ	2474
FM JORGE LEON OQUENDO	2473
IM JOHN GABRIEL LUDWIG	2461
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FM COREY ACOR	2330
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TRUNG NGUYEN	2225
RYAN EDWARD HAMLEY	2223
BACH NGO	2222
STEVEN ANDREWS	2221
PEDRO HERNANDEZ-PEREZ	2221
ERIC COOKE	2218
RODELAY MEDINA	2203
CONSTANTINE XANTHOS	2200
AJ GOLDSBY	2200
CM JUAN EDUARDO M PEREIRA	2200

* Active FL Masters with Current Ratings

CORRESPONDENCE

Keith Rodriguez	2360
Dana Sylvander	2179
Paul B. Ott	2102
David Spencer	2014
Allen Jeffrey Woollen	2029

Memories of an Adjourned Reshevsky v Fischer Game US Championship, Dec 1965

by John Dellova

My friend Mark Van Auken and I were playing in a gigantic Bill Goichberg high school tournament at the Henry Hudson Hotel, in Manhattan. That hotel was home to the Manhattan Chess Club and also that year's US Championship. Mark and I were sixteen year old bumpkins from Long Island playing in our first rated tournament, an eight round Swiss, a round in the morning and another in the afternoon. In those days most people living on Long Island had just moved there from somewhere else, in Mark's case it was Queens, and in mine Brooklyn, so when I say we were bumpkins I'm only talking about chess, not in having seen the big city.

After one of the morning rounds the two of us broke for lunch, which we'd spent in the rooms used by the Manhattan Chess Club. An elderly man wearing a suit and bow tie (I believe it had been Edward Lasker) said we could see Sam Reshevsky and Bobby Fischer continue their adjourned US Championship game, if we cared to. We cared to!

I don't know if the room we went to was for the championship games, or just adjournments. In my memory there were six two player game tables, and the tournament had 12 players. Each table had a display wall board with pieces moved by hand, and an audience area for at least a hundred onlookers, so now I'd say it was the tournament hall, but I can't be on that point. The right side of the room had large windows, I believe the drapes were open, and a young man in a business suit, reading a large newspaper, probably either the New York Times or The Wall Street Journal. He was the only onlooker on that side of the aisle. In the two seats ahead of us there were a pair of boys with an old fashioned insert cardboard pocket set that used to be used by correspondence players. They were a year or two younger than myself and Mark and they were a bit too noisy whispering back and forth about the endgame position: queen and pawns vs Rook and Pawns, Fischer's king tucked on the h-file alongside his isolated triple g-pawns! Reshevsky's queen lurked menacingly along the back rank with Fischer's rook in the center holding his four pawns together (b-pawn and the three isolated g's), Reshevsky's king guarding his own a pawn. On move 60 Fischer had moved his lead pawn to g5, inviting Reshevsky to take it with his hTpawn. And the game was adjourned for the second time (The first had been after Fischer's 34th move). It had developed from a Nimzo-Indian Defense.

There were several grandmasters and international masters around the playing tables in the front of the room: Sam Reshevsky waiting to resume play wearing a vest but no tie and the sort of small canvas cap that was popular with taxi drivers. Robert and Donald Byrne stood together nearby, the future GM Duncan Suttles a few feet away and I believe Dr Anthony Saidy was near Suttles. Hans Kmoch, the tournament director, stood to the left of the game table holding the adjournment envelope. The two whispering boys were a bit annoying but other than that there was very little noise. I remember seeing Donald Byrne say something to his brother and Robert nodded, but it wasn't audible to me. Probably it was something about Fischer being late.

And then he appeared, walking in long strides from the cushioned double door behind us, passing quickly, the best dressed person by far wearing a solid black suit with a straight tie and shiny black shoes, holding a trench coat across his left arm. A few quick nods to his fellow players and he sat down, pausing only to shake Reshevsky's hand.

Kmoch brought the envelope and revealed the sealed move. Reshevsky passed on taking the offered pawn and instead moved his own to h-5. Fisher craned his neck forward a bit, not surprised but not happy either. The two boys whispering increased and the Great Robert J. glared at them, then said something to Kmoch, pointing to the pair of culprits. The tournament director came over and, in his low gentlemanly voice said: "Mr. Fischer requests you both leave the room." Actually, Mr. Fischer, whose glare I could see very clearly, looked as though he wanted to see their heads on a pair of spikes. The two boys stood without incident and left, going up the same aisle that Fischer had strode down a few minutes earlier. The guy in the suit looked over at my friend and myself and grinned, as though saying "Five spectators and Fischer's just had two of them kicked out!"

Fischer craned forward again and shook his head, if he took the pawn he'd be checkmated and if he didn't take the pawn he'd also be checkmated! He stopped his clock and shook Reshevsky's hand. The two of them spoke amiably about the game, each gesturing at some part of the board, probably discussing the middle game, as the guy with the newspaper left hurriedly and looking up the aisle I saw the pair of ejected boys standing just outside the double door looking toward the wall boards, but they didn't reenter.

Mark and I went up to the table and both asked Fischer and Reshevsky to sign our game books, which they did. Fischer didn't go off in a huff, didn't pull a tantrum, instead he sat with a smile on his face as though visiting with an old friend. Supposedly he was still angry at Reshevsky over their aborted Piatagorsky match, but I didn't see any hint of that. I wanted to say something but had nothing to say so what came out was "I'm from Brooklyn, too."

Reshevsky smiled but didn't laugh at such a dumb remark, Fischer grinned and said, in a friendly tone, "Isn't that something!" as though he'd really meant it.

We got everyone else's autographs as well. Donald Byrne signed my book and said "Here you go, Brooklyn." in a

playful tone. The man I think must have been Dr Saidy signed and below him Duncan Suttles, who said, genuinely surprised "You want my autograph?" He was gallantly bringing up the rear of the field and not too much older than myself or my late friend Mark. I went over to Hans Kmoch, who was pleasantly surprised at being asked but he was also a great chess figure, and a long time international master.

Despite losing that game Fischer won the tournament, as he won all the US Championships he participated in, and this was his last. The two of us left a few minutes later, before any of the players as our afternoon round was closing in.

I'm a bit annoyed that in the movie Pawn Sac Robert Fischer was made out to be screwy from the start. That was never my impression, certainly not in the mid-60s when I saw him several times. He'd always give me a playful smile and would nod, "Hi Brooklyn" as he passed with his long strides. This isn't only my own opinion; in the decades I lived and played in New York I'd met many people who knew Fischer personally. They'd all laugh about him being eccentric, a bit odd perhaps, but we all liked him.

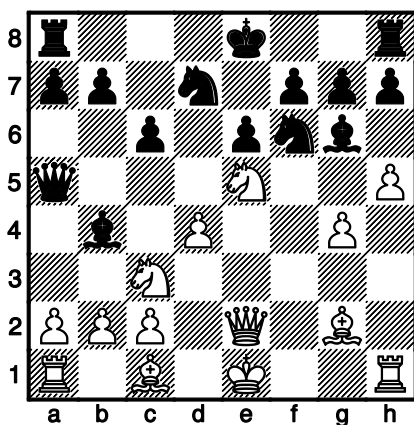
After seeing that movie I saw several young players becoming obnoxious as though that would make them better players. It doesn't. Fischer didn't decide to act that way and wouldn't have followed that path if he'd been given a choice. I'm sure of that.

I'd like to thank my friend Mark Ryan, long time top chess master, for pushing me to write this article during the past several years, and my friend Paul Tomaino, long time club and tournament organizer, for his insightful editorial suggestions upon reading the first draft. And of course Harvey Lerman, for expressing interest several years ago when I told him of the experience, and for ultimately publishing this article.

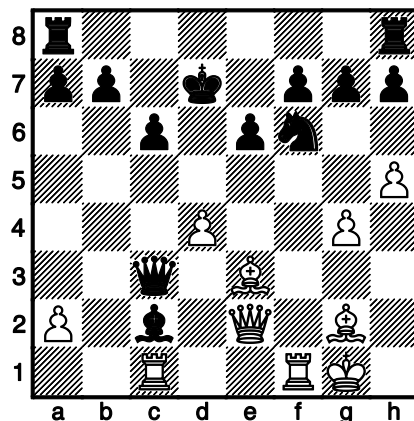
Central Florida Chess Club games on Chess.com at G/15 +10sec organized by Larry Storch

Tim Bowler (1519)
Makaio Krienke (1765) [D00]
Live Chess Chess.com, 16.05.2020
[Lerman, Harvey]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e4 dxe4 4.f3 exf3
5.Nxf3 Bg4 6.h3 Bh5 7.g4 Bg6 8.Ne5
Nbd7 9.Qe2 e6 10.Bg2 c6 11.h4 Bb4
12.h5 Qa5



13.0-0 Bxc3 14.bxc3 Qxc3 15.Nxd7
Kxd7 16.Be3 Bxc2 17.Rac1



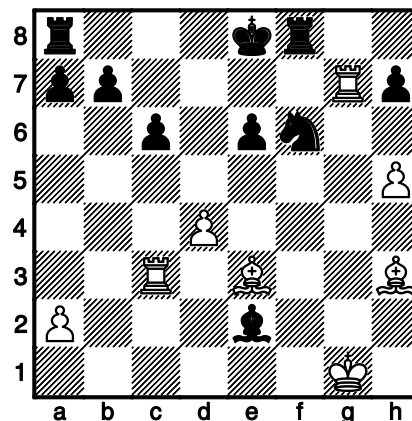
17...Nxg4?

Black must play B-d3! at this point to retain the advantage.

18.Rxf7+ Ke8 19.Rf3 Bd3 20.Rxc3?

Now White returns the advantage back to Black. Q-d1! would have kept White's advantage.

20...Bxe2 21.Rg3 Rf8 22.Bh3 Nf6
23.Rxg7



23...Nd5?

Now the game is equal. Black needed to play R-f7! 24.h6 RxR 25.PxR Kxp to keep the advantage.

24.Rb3 Bc4 25.Rxb7 Nxe3
26.Rge7+ Kd8 27.Red7+ Ke8
28.Re7+ Kd8 29.Red7+ Ke8 30.Re7+
1/2-1/2

(Continued on page 13)

Some games from recent events by Miguel Ararat



Staley, Tim (884)

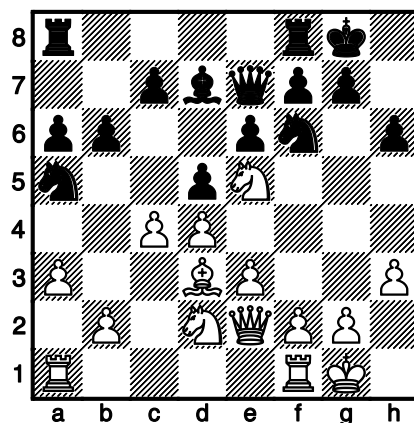
Jamieson, Helen (919) [D02]

Southwest Open Dallas Texas (5.34),
06.09.2020

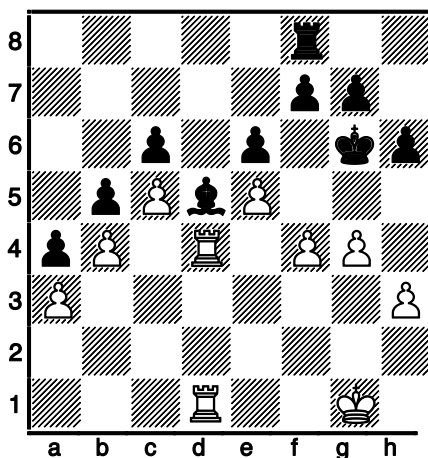
[Ararat, Miguel]

Tim Staley drove from Florida to Texas to play this over the board game!

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 [The current main move order in the London System. In the past 2.Nf3 was the main line. **2...e6** [2...Nf6 3.Nf3 g6] **3.Nf3 Nf6 4.h3** Currently, London players consider to avoid this move in favor of more dynamic alternatives. **4...Nc6** Black blocks his c pawn and now his d5-e6 structure lacks the center counter c7-5. Black uses the c7-c5 pawn break to open up the c file after cxd4 and create play on the queenside. However, 4.h3 from White gives Black an ok position. **5.e3 Bd6 6.Bxd6 Qxd6 7.Bd3 0-0 8.c3 Qe7 9.Qe2 a6** [9...e5 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Nxe5 Qxe5] **10.Nbd2 h6** Black neglects the center and missed the opportunity to use his Nc6 and Qe7 to free his position (light square bishop) with e6-e5 **11.0-0 b6** Jamieson gives Stanley the opportunity to play White's thematic pawn central advance e3-e4. **12.a3** [12.e4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Bb7 14.Rfe1± If Black react with e5 here, White has a nasty surprise in store for him. 14...e5 15.Nxf6+ Qxf6 16.dxe5+-] **12...Bd7 13.c4?! [13.e4 dxe4 14.Nxe4 Nd5±; 13.Bxa6 White wins a clear pawn.] 13...Na5 [13...dxc4 14.Nxc4 b5 15.Ncd2 e5=] 14.Ne5**



Be8? Black avoids the trade of a knight for his bishop. Yet, a concrete approach to the position reveals he is losing material and the position requires from Black to capture on c4 to play b6-b5 with tempo on a piece on c4 at the same time that the hanging pawn on a6 is covered. To play chess in general terms and evaluations is comfortable, but to make progress a concrete approach to the game is required. ([14...Nxc4 15.Ndxc4 dxc4 16.Bxc4=] **15.Rac1 Nc6** [15...c5 16.cxd5 exd5 17.Bxa6? b5 Traps the white bishop.] **16.Nxc6 Bxc6 17.c5 b5 18.Nf3 Nd7 19.b4 a5** [19...e5 20.dxe5 Nxe5 21.Bb1 Nc4] **20.Qd2** [20.Bxb5] **20...a4 21.Ne5 Nxe5 22.dxe5 Qg5 23.f4 Qg3 24.Rf3 Qh4 25.Qf2 Qxf2+ 26.Rxf2 Rad8 27.Rd2** Whites sets a trap anticipating Black desire to increase the scope of his bishop with d5-d4. **27...d4 [27...Be8] 28.exd4 Rxd4 29.Bh7+ Kxh7 30.Rxd4 Kg6 31.Rcd1 Bd5 32.g4 c6**



This position reminds me of the game Maroczy – Rubinstein, Karlsbad 1907 after the Black exchange sacrifice **23...RxBd3** to get a strong centralized bishop on d5. In this game Black may opt for passive defense or to create play against the White king with h5. **33.Rf1 Bc4 [33...h5] 34.Rf2 Bd5 35.h4 Kh7 36.f5 f6 37.Re2 Bc4 38.Re3 Bd5 39.fxe6 Re8 40.exf6 gxf6 41.Rf4 Kg7 42.g5 Bxe6 43.Rxf6 h5 [43...Bd7 44.Rxe8 Bxe8 45.Kf2** The Black king is box in and White can march his king to e3, play Rxc6 and after BxR, KxB promote the white pawn on c6.] **44.Rexe6** Black blunders the bishop and the game is over. **44...Rd8 45.Re7+ Kg8 46.Rg6+ Kf8 47.Ree6 Rd1+ 48.Kf2 Rd2+ 49.Re2 Rd4 50.Rf6+ Kg7 51.Re7+ Kg8 52.g6 Rd2+ 53.Ke1 Rh2 54.Re8+ Kg7 55.Ref8 Rxh4 56.R8f7+ Kh6 57.g7+ Kh7 58.Rf4 Rh1+ 59.Rf1 Rh3 60.Rg1 Re3+ 61.Kf2 Re4 62.g8Q+ Kh6 63.Qg7# 1-0**

Bach, Ngo (2077) [D00]

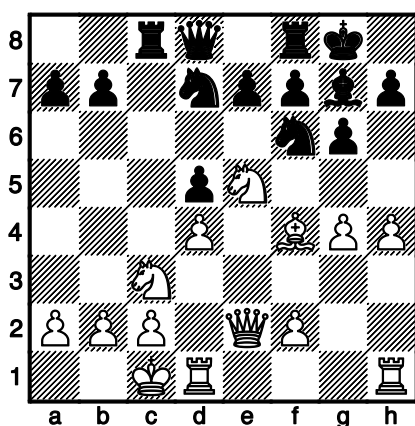
IM Christopher, Yoo (2204)

Barber 2020 Online Chess.com,
02.08.2020

[Ararat, Miguel]

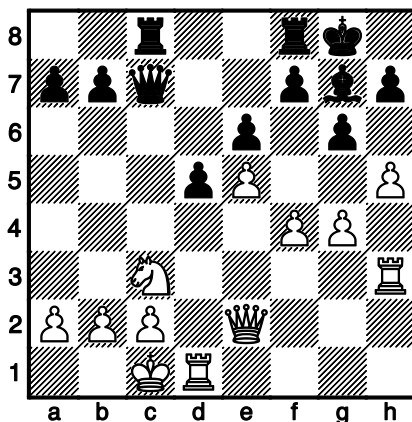
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Nc3 [3.c4 is the more popular option here, however Black has multiple choices such as, 3...Bg7, 3...c5, 3...d5/d6, 3...c6.] **3...d5** The main weapon to face 3.Nc3 [3...d6 Transpose to a Pirc Defense. The key question to consider is who will be at home in the resulting positions? A d4 player with e4 experience or a Black player with the Pirc as part of his repertoire.] **4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 0-0 6.Be2** White's set up is very flexible and can be tailor to face strong and weaker opposition. [6.Bd3 c5 7.0-0 Bg4=] **6...Bg4** Black wants to remain flexible, avoids c5 and threatens to weaken White's control over e5 by exchanging on f3. [6...c5 7.0-0 cxd4 8.exd4 Bg4 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Bxf3 Nc6 and Carlsen was unable to use the bishop pair ½-½ (85) Carlsen, M (2837)–Ding, L (2774) Saint Louis 2017] **7.Ne5 Bxe2 8.Qxe2 c6** A good choice that defends the pawn on

d5, stops any Nc3-b5 ideas and open the d8-a5 diagonal for the Black queen. **9.h4** Direct play. **9...Nbd7** **10.g4 c5** **11.0-0-0** White castles when his kingside attack is on the fast lane. **11...cxd4** **12.exd4** This was Yoo's strategy to play out of the opening to keep pieces on the board (avoided the knight exchange on e5 early in the game) and to open the c-file in case White castle long as in the game. White is better, but in this opposite side castle positions require good combination of defensive and attacking moves and errors are waiting to be made. **12...Rc8**



We have a Sicilian Dragon Type position, in consequence White must watch out for thematic Sicilian tactics. **13.Rh3** Good sense of danger. Black was threatening the "old trick" Rxc3 that weakens White's king and the e4 square (Akopian-Kasparov?) [13.h5 Rxc3 14.hxg6 fxg6 15.bxc3 Ne4] **13...e6** **14.h5 Nxe5** Black exchange pieces to tame White's kingside initiative. **15.Bxe5 Nd7** **16.f4** In a opposite side castle middlegame this move strikes as slow, yet White retains the initiative and can play for a direct attack against the Black king, force Black to weaken his pawn structure with f6 or to play a textbook example of bad bishop versus knight with not risk of losing. Considering the early stage of the game, the importance of the game and the caliber of the opponent, the move 14.f4 makes perfect sense from a practical point of view. [16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.f4 Qc7 with a similar plan than in the game. 18.Qd2 a6 19.hxg6 hxg6 20.Rdh1 Rh8 21.f5 White crashes

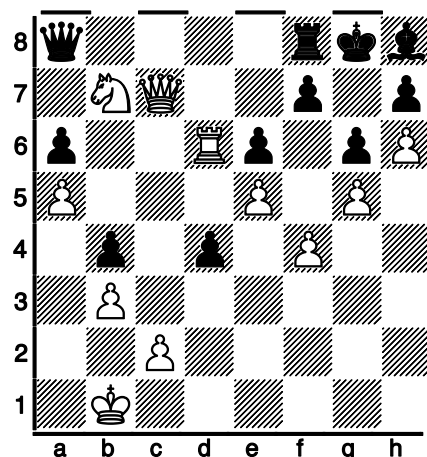
through Black's kingside.] **16...Nxe5** [16...Bxe5 17.dxe5; 16...f6 this move does not work because it weakens the light squares around the Black king. 17.Bd6 Re8 18.hxg6 hxg6 19.Qd3] **17.dxe5** [17.fxe5?! f6 18.exf6 Qxf6 White still better, but Black's pieces are more active than after 17.dxe5.] **17...Qc7**



IM Yoo follows the standard plan in opposite side castling positions and deploys his queen to an active square without losing time. Nevertheless, NM Ngo shows the potential of 17.f4 and switches to a positional bind instead of race to checkmate the Black king. [17...f6!? Forces white to sacrifice the knight to establish a bind in the position similar than in the game. 18.h6 Bh8 19.Nxd5 exd5 20.e6 Re8 21.f5] **18.h6 Bh8** **19.g5** This prevents f6 "forever". White plays with an extra piece now and Black's hopes are in tactical shot against the white king. **19...a6** **20.Nb1 Qd7** **21.Rd4 Qc7** [21...b5 Black push his queenside pawns the queenside pawns, but without an active bishop on the a1-h8 diagonal Black's attack can not prosper. 22.Rc3 a5 23.Rxc8 Rxc8 24.b3] **22.Rc3 Qb6** **23.Rd1 Rxc3** **24.Nxc3 Rc8** [24...d4 Loses to the pin on f2. 25.Qf2 Rd8 26.Ne4] **25.Qd2** White can improve the position at a slow pace since Black lacks counter play. **25...Rc4** **26.b3 Rc8** **27.Na4 Qc7** **28.Kb1 b5** **29.Nb2 Qb7** **30.Qb4 Qc7** **31.Rc1 Qb6** [31...Qc3 32.Qxc3 Rxc3 33.Nd3 Makes white task easier than in the game.] **32.a4** White gains more space on the queenside and starts pushing Black off the board. **32...Qc6**

33.Qd4 Rb8 **34.a5 Qc7** **35.Qb4 Ra8**

The next part of White's plan is to penetrate black's position using the c-file. Since there is no open files White will maneuver his pieces to force black out of the c file and then penetrate. **36.Nd3** White will maneuver his knight to c5. **36...Qd8** **37.Nc5 Qc7** **38.Nd3 Qd8** **39.Rd1 Qc7** **40.Rd2 Rd8** **41.Nc5 Qa7** **42.Rd3 Qa8** **43.Rc3 Qa7** **44.Nd3 Qb7** **45.Qc5 d4** The first pawn move in almost twenty moves which highlights the predominant maneuver nature of White plan to conquer more space. **46.Qc6 Qa7** **47.Rc5 Rf8** **48.Qc7** After eighteen moves the white queen trades places with her black counterpart (c7 square) **48...Qa8** **49.Rc6** Shoots down Yoo's queen. **49...Re8** **50.Nc5 b4** **51.Nb7 Rf8** **52.Rd6**



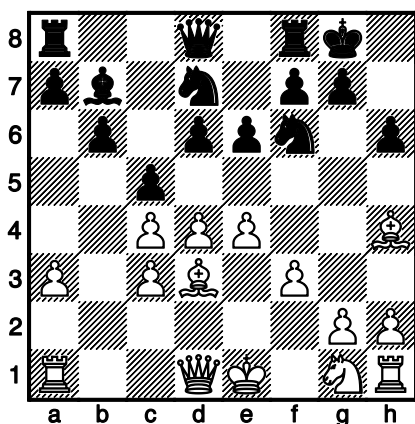
Black resigned with all his pieces on the edge of the board. Instructive positional squeeze by NM Bach Ngo. It is rare to see an opposite side castling middlegame to end in a positional squeeze. **1-0**

Walt,Cunningham
M,Smith [E28]

US Junior, 1962
[Ararat,Miguel]

1.d4 Nf6 **2.c4 e6** **3.Nc3 Bb4** **4.e3** The Rubinstein system against the Nimzoindian. **4...0-0** **5.a3 Bxc3+** **6.bxc3 b6** [#] White has the bishop pair and a strong center while Black has not weaknesses and a target to attack, the c4 pawn. The resulting

middle-games from the this position revolve around the positional factors mentioned above. Model games for Black are Botvinnik – Capablanca, AVRO 1938 for White Kasparov – Polgar, Tilburg 1997 **7.Bd3 Bb7 8.f3** White prepares to set up a central pawn roller Botvinnik style. **8...c5 9.e4** [9.Ne2 currently this is the way GMs play this position with a complex battle ahead, even Kaidanov falters in these type of positions (despite winning the game) **9...Nc6 10.e4 Ne8 11.0-0 Ba6 12.f4 f5 13.d5 Na5 14.e5 Bxc4 15.Bxc4 Nxc4 16.d6 b5 17.Qd3 g6 18.Be3 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Qb6 20.a4 Ng7 21.axb5 Qxb5 22.Rfb1 Qc6 23.Qf3 Qd5 24.Rb7 Rfd8 25.c4 Qd2 26.Rxd7 1-0 (26) Kaidanov,G (2604)–Gutov,A (2467) Moscow 2008] **9...d6 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4 Nbd7****



Black breaks the pin, but surrenders his thematic plan on the dark squares with Nc6–e5–g5. Now Black needs to be careful to avoid losing ground. [11...Nc6 12.Ne2 e5 13.0-0 g5 14.Bf2=] **12.Ne2** going for a Y-structure is the safest path for Black. 12.Re8 is not a terrible move, but Black is drifting away from safe positions. **12...Re8 13.0-0 Rc8 14.f4± Qc7** Black is playing the right moves following the wrong plan. Black needs to control the advance e4–e5 that is the reason playing e6–e5 is the normal plan before going after White queenside weaknesses. In this game Smith goes directly for the white pawn on c4. Most players believe that tactical mistakes make you lose, this game shows that if you follow the wrong plan you can also end with a

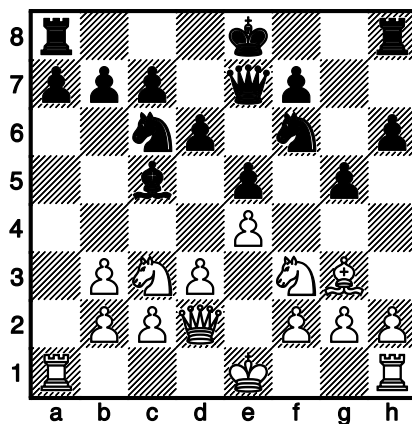
losing disadvantage. **15.Ng3= Ba6??** [15...cxd4 16.cxd4 b5=] **16.e5** White crashes through Black's center and removes the key defender on f6. **16...Nh7 17.Nh5** [17.Qg4 f5 18.Bxf5 exf5 19.Nxf5] **17...Qc6 18.Qg4**

Black resigned in view of **18...g6 19.Bxg6 fxc6 20.Qxg6+ Kf8 21.Qg7# 0-1**

Jag,Dixit (1021) Analaya,Muneepeerakul (1155) [C50]

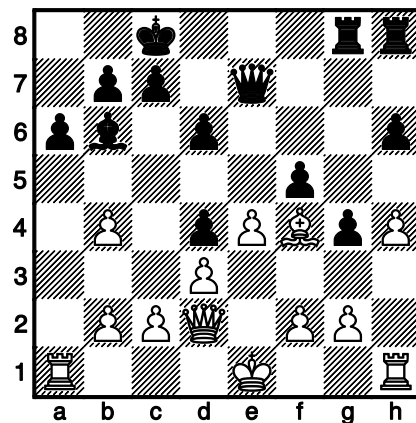
Play N Stay 2020-09-27 (3),
27.09.2020
[Ararat,Miguel]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Nc3 [4.Ng5 is the Fried Liver Attack. 4...d5 5.exd5 Na5 6.Bb5+ c6 7.dxc6 bxc6] **4...Bc5 5.d3 d6** [5...a6 is also possible as in the following game in which Aronian got a slight advantage but ended losing the game to Kramnik. 6.Nd5 Nxd5 7.Bxd5 d6 8.Be3 Bxe3 9.fxe3 0-0 10.0-0 Nb8 11.b4 Nd7 12.Qd2 c6 13.Bb3 a5 14.a3 Nf6 15.h3 h6 16.Rab1 b5 17.Qc3 Bd7 18.Rf2 Qb6± 1-0 (37) Kramnik,V (2800)–Aronian,L (2794) Berlin 2018] **6.Bg5 Be6 7.Bb3 h6 8.Bh4 g5± 9.Bg3 Qe7 10.Qd2?! [10.Nd5= Bxd5 11.exd5 Nd4] 10...Bxb3 11.axb3±**



11...0-0-0 Courage! and consistency. This counter intuitive move (to castle on the flank your opponent has a semi open file) is the only way to get an advantage. **12.Nb5** White proves a6 and expect to use the Black pawn as an "attacking hook" in the future. **12...a6** [12...d5 13.exd5 Nxd5 14.0-0

a6 15.Nc3 f5] **13.Nc3 Nd4?! with the king in the center is better to play d5 and open the center to go after the White king. [13...d5 14.exd5 Nxd5] 14.Nxd4 exd4 15.Ne2 Rdg8 [15...d5 16.e5 Nd7 17.f4] 16.b4 Bb6 17.h3 g4 18.h4= Nh5 19.Nf4 Nxf4 20.Bxf4 f5**



Black opens up the center and white needs to find a safe place for his king. **21.Kd1?! White decided to bite the bullet and keep the king in the center since 0-0 leaves the h4 pawn hanging and 0-0-0 removes the white rook from the a file. [21.0-0 fxe4 22.g3 to defend the hanging pawn on h4. Black has a small advantage and can create a pass pawn with e4–e3 (22.dxe4?! Qxh4+) ; 21.0-0-0 fxe4] 21...fxe4 22.dxe4 Qxe4+ Black has a decisive advantage thanks to his material advantage, better coordinated pieces and safe king. 23.Kc1 Qxg2 24.Re1 Qf3 25.Bg3 Re8 26.Rxe8+ Rxe8 27.Kb1 Qh1+ 28.Ka2 Qd5+ 29.b3 Qf3 [29...d3 Black can sacrifice a pawn to increase the scope of his own bishop, weaken the white pawn on b3 and transition to a won rook and pawn endgame if white trades queens off. The type of pawn sacrifice Florida resident, GM Lars Bo Hansen advocates in his training sessions. No matter if white accepts or declines the pawn the position clarifies in Black's favor. 30.Qxd3 Qxd3 31.cxd3 Re2+] 30.Rd1 Re2 31.Qd3 Qxd3 32.Rxd3 Rxc2+ 33.Kb1 Rc3 34.Rxc3 dxc3 35.Kc2 a5 36.bxa5 Bxa5 37.Bf4 h5 38.Bg5 Bb6 39.Kxc3 Bxf2 40.Be7 g3 41.Bf8 g2**

Lessons:

1. To get the upper hand in some chess position you need to take risk such as castling on the flank your opponent has a semi open file.
2. When your opponent has the king in the center look for ways to open up the position.
3. The realization of some advantage in chess requires to invest a pawn or two to clarify the position. In other words, trade material for the transition to a won endgame (well that implies you need to work on your endgame skills to use this method. Perhaps John Nunn's Endgame Exercise can help) 0-1

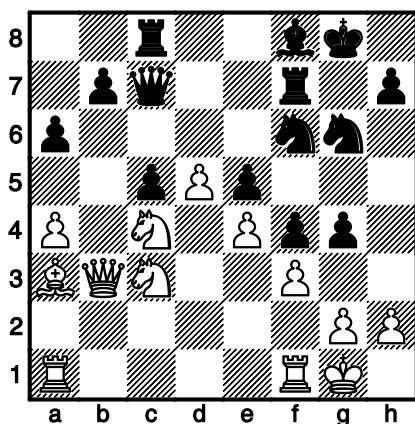
(Continued from page 9)

Larry Storch (2013)

Arnold Banner(1883) [E97]

Live Chess Chess.com, 09.05.2020
[Lerman,Harvey]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0-0
5.e4 d6 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7
9.Nd2 Nd7 10.b4 f5 11.a4 f4 12.Bg4
Nf6 13.Bxc8 Rxc8 14.c5 g5 15.f3 Ng6
16.Ba3 a6 17.Nc4 Rf7 18.b5 Bf8
19.Qb3 dxc5 20.b6 g4 21.bxc7 Qxc7



22.Rfd1 Bd6 23.Qb6 Rd7 24.Rab1
gxf3 25.gxf3

By opening up the path to Black's King, Black will soon find out that he has a lost game.

25...Nh4 26.Kf2 Ne8 27.Rg1+ Kf7
28.Nxe5+! Bxe5 29.Qe6+ Kf8
30.Rg8#
1-0

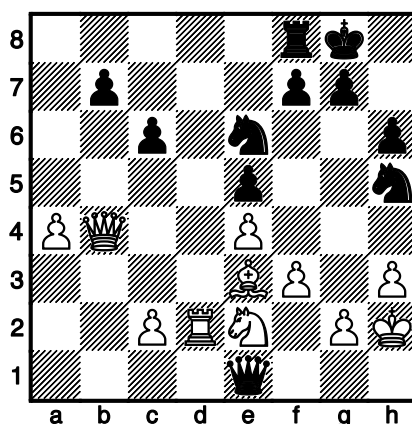
Bob Persante (2020)

Theo Slade (1889) [C27]

Live Chess Chess.com, 18.07.2020
[Lerman,Harvey]

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Bc5 4.d3 c6
5.Nf3 d6 6.h3 0-0 7.0-0 d5 8.Bb3
dxe4 9.dxe4 Qe7 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4
Nbd7 12.Qe2 Bd6 13.a3 Nc5 14.Ba2

Be6 15.b4 Ncd7 16.Bxe6 Qxe6
17.Nd2 a5 18.bxa5 Rxa5 19.Nc4
Raa8 20.Nxd6 Qxd6 21.a4 Nc5
22.Rfd1 Qe7 23.Qc4 Ra5 24.f3 Rfa8
25.Bf2 Nh5 26.Be3 Ne6 27.Rd2 Rd8
28.Rad1 Rxd2 29.Rxd2 Ra8 30.Kh2
Qh4 31.Ne2 Qe1 32.Qb4 Rf8



33.g3?

The losing move. 33.a5 Nef4
34.Nxf4 Qg3+ should hold.

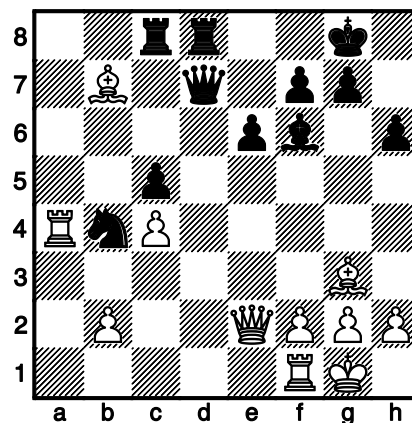
33...Nxc3 34.Nxc3 Qxe3 35.Rd3 Qf2+
After 36.Kh1 Nf4 37.Qd2 Qxc3
white is lost.
0-1

Martin Hansen(1926)

Andrew Catlin (1739) [C10]

Live Chess Chess.com, 27.06.2020
[Lerman,Harvey]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4
Nd7 5.Nf3 Ngf6 6.Bg5 Be7 7.Nxf6+
Nxf6 8.Bd3 h6 9.Bh4 c5 10.c3 cxd4
11.Nxd4 Nd5 12.Bg3 0-0 13.0-0 Bf6
14.Nf3 Bd7 15.Ne5 Rc8 16.Be4 Bc6
17.Nxc6 bxc6 18.Qa4 Qb6 19.c4 Qd4
20.Qc2 Nb4 21.Qe2 a5 22.Rab1 Nxa2
23.Ra1 Nb4 24.Rxa5 Rfd8 25.Ra4 c5
26.Bb7 Qd7

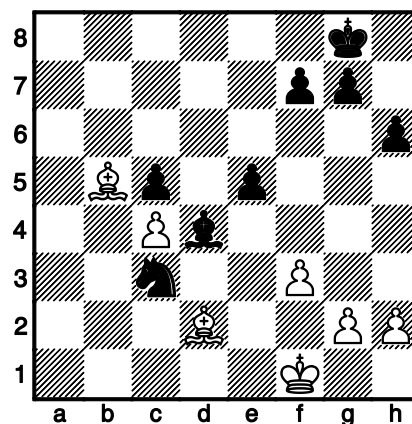


27.Bxc8?!

The computer suggests 27.Rxb4
cxb4 28.Bxc8

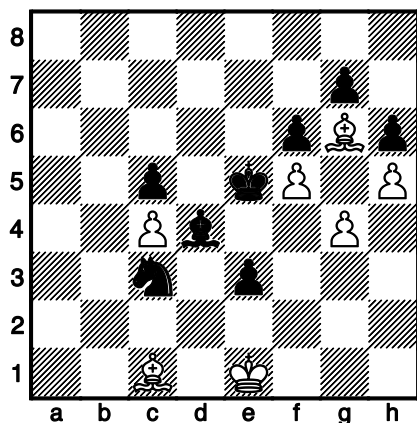
27...Qxa4 28.Bb7 Qb3 29.Rb1 Nd3
30.Ba6?

Better is 30.Be4 Nxb2 31.Bc7
30...Nxb2 31.Bb5 Qd3 32.Qxd3 Rxd3
33.Kf1 Bd4 34.Bf4 Rd1+ 35.Rxd1
Nxd1 36.f3 e5 37.Bd2 Nc3



The computer considers the position now to be equal.

38.Bc6 Kf8 39.h4 Ke7 40.h5 Kd6
41.Be8 Ke7 42.Bc6 Kd6 43.Be8 f6
44.g4 Nb1 45.Bc1 Nc3 46.Ke1 e4
47.f4 Na2 48.Ba3 Be3 49.Bg6 Nc3
50.f5 Ke5 51.Bb2 Bd4 52.Bc1 e3



Black has little-by-little been able to move his extra pawn and King down the board, while White seems to be lost now.

53.Bb2 Kf4?

53...Na2! was the best move here.
54.Bxc3 Bxc3+ 55.Ke2 Bd4 56.Be8 Kxg4 57.Bg6 Kf4 58.Bh7 Ke4 59.Bg6 Bc3 60.Bh7 Bd2 61.Bg6 Kf4 62.Bh7 Kg4 63.Bg6 Kg5 64.Kf3 Bc1 65.Ke2 Kg4 66.Kd1 Bb2 67.Ke2 Bd4 68.Be8 Kxf5

Now Black has finally gotten to an easy ending being 3 pawns ahead.

69.Bc6 Kf4 70.Bf3 Kg3 71.Bc6 Kf4 72.Bd5 f5 73.Bc6 Kg4 74.Bf3+ Kg5 75.Kf1 g6 76.hxg6 Kxg6 77.Kg2 Kg5 78.Kh3 Kf4 79.Be2 Ke4 80.Kg2 f4 81.Bd1 Be5 82.Be2 Bd6 83.Bf3+ Kd3 84.Kf1 Kxc4 85.Ke2 Kc3 86.Bh5 Kd4 87.Bf3 c4 88.Kd1 Kc3 89.Kc1 Kd3 90.Kd1 Ba3 91.Ke1 c3 92.Be2+ Kc2 0-1

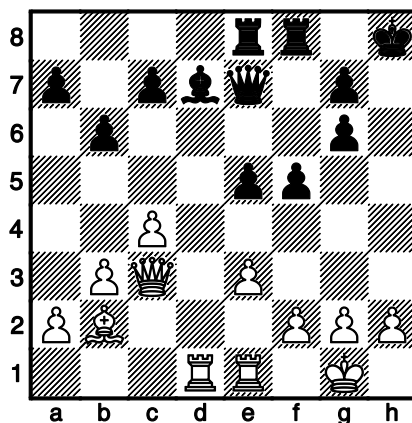
GM Aleksei Aleksandrov (2408)

Corey Acor (2637) [A52]

Live Chess Chess.com, 17.10.2020

[Lerman,Harvey]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ng4 4.e3 Nxe5 5.Nc3 Nbc6 6.Be2 Ng6 7.Nf3 Be7 8.Nd5 d6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Bd2 Bf6 11.Nxf6+ Qxf6 12.Bc3 Qe7 13.Qd2 f5 14.Rfe1 Bd7 15.Rad1 Rad8 16.b3 Kh8 17.Bb2 b6 18.Qc3 Nce5 19.Nxe5 dxe5 20.Bh5 Rde8 21.Bxg6 hxg6



22.Qxe5

White is now a pawn ahead.

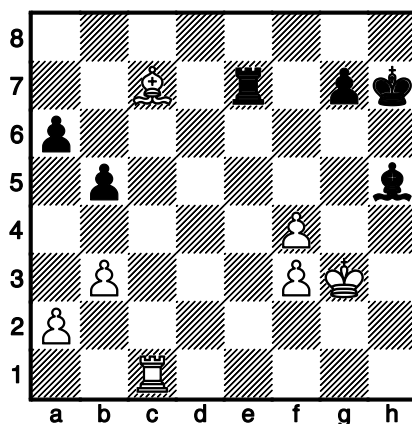
22...Bc8 23.Qxe7 Rxe7 24.f3 Bb7 25.h4 Kg8 26.Kf2 Rfe8 27.Rd4 Kf7 28.c5 b5 29.g4 Bc6 30.Rf4 Bd7 31.c6 Bc8 32.Bd4 a6 33.Rg1 Kg8 34.gxf5 gxf5 35.h5 Kh7 36.Rh4 Be6 37.Rh2 f4!?

Giving up another pawn, but opening up a way to White's King.

38.exf4 Rd8 39.Be5

The computer says B-c3 would have been better.

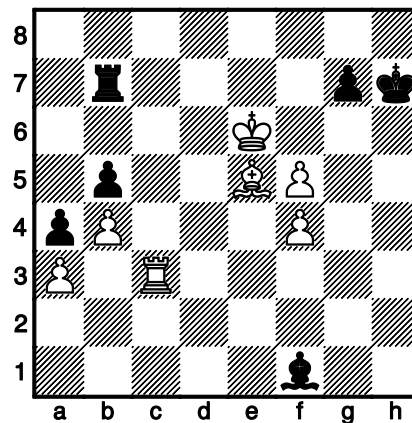
39...Rd2+ 40.Kg3 Rxh2 41.Kxh2 Bd5 42.Kg3 Bxc6 43.Rc1 Be8 44.Bxc7 Bxh5



Black finally gets back one of his pawns.

45.Be5 Be8 46.Kg4 Bd7+ 47.Kg5 Rf7 48.Rc7 a5 49.Ra7 a4 50.Ra6 Rf5+ 51.Kh4 Rf7 52.b4 Rf5 53.Rd6 Rf7 54.a3 Re7 55.Kg3 Be6 56.Kf2 Bc4 57.Ke3 Bb3 58.Ke4 Bc2+ 59.Kd5 Bb3+ 60.Kc5 Bc4 61.Kb6 Rf7 62.Rd4 Be2 63.Rd2 Bc4 64.Kc5 Re7 65.Rc2

Bd3 66.Rh2+ Kg8 67.Kd6 Rf7 68.Rg2 Bc4 69.Rg1 Be2 70.Rg3 Bc4 71.Rg2 Bd3 72.Rd2 Bc4 73.Rc2 Ra7 74.f5 Rf7 75.Rg2 Kh7 76.f4 Bd3 77.Rg5 Bc4 78.Rg3 Be2 79.Rc3 Bf1 80.Ke6 Rb7



With bishops of opposite color it has been hard for either player to find a way to penetrate, but White finally breaks through.

81.f6 Rb6+ 82.Ke7 gxf6 83.Bxf6 Rb7+ 84.Kd8 Kg6 85.Be5 Rf7 86.Rc1 Bd3 87.Rc3 Bc4 88.Ke8 Ra7 89.Kd8 Rf7 90.Re3 Kf5 91.Bd6 Be6 92.Re5+ Kf6 93.Bc5 Rd7+ 94.Kc8 Rd5+ 95.Kc7 Rxe5

But Black still is able to hold out and the game will end a draw. Good battle by both players!

96.Bd4 Bc4 97.Bxe5+ Kf5 98.Kc6 Bf1 99.Kc5 Be2 100.Kd4 Bf1 101.Kc3 Bc4 102.Kd4 Bf1 103.Kc3 Bc4 104.Kd4 Bf1

1/2-1/2

How the U.S. Amateur Team South Tournament was saved in 2002

This material originally appeared in the June 2002 *Chess Life* and is used with permission of US Chess.

U.S. Amateur Team South A Big Success



by Harvey Lerman

It was truly a blessing in disguise when the USCF leadership cancelled the 2002 Amateur Team South. When we found out about the cancellation, we strongly objected, won back the tournament, added a separate scholastic section and organized the most successful Amateur Team South ever. Special thanks to Larry Storch, the Central Florida Chess Club and Don Schultz for helping to make all this happen! The site chosen was the Ramada Plaza Gateway Hotel, a property located right by Disney.

Sinn and Punishment (2197), the Gainesville, Florida team that tied for first with the winning 2001 team, entered and became the top-rated team.

Larry Storch hoped to field a team headed by Miles Ardaman of South Carolina, as he had in the past. But Miles had the Land of The Sky in his sights, so another top player was needed. Don Schultz was building a team with Arnold Denker and excitedly submitted the names. But due to a little miscalculation, his team was a few rating points too high and he was persuaded to give up his top player to Storch. Storch's team, *Three Knights and a Rookie* (2172), was considered a favorite, as their fourth-board rookie, Daniel Ludwig (1888), one of the top 11-year-olds in the country, had been beating masters in recent events. In the last round Storch's and Schultz's team met and the encounter was decided in the final game when young Daniel shocked his opponent by knighting rather than queening a pawn!

Daniel Fernandez, the new Florida State Champion and his friend Matthew Hoekstra of South Carolina again formed a team rated just under 2200, but a sudden withdrawal left their team, *Four of a Kind*, with a 2136 rating. These three teams, along with the Miami team, *4 Get About It* (2183), were considered the favorites.

There were both three-day and two-day playing options and by Round 3 there were only four teams with perfect records. These were paired in the third

round with *An Officer and Three Gentlemen* upsetting *Sinn and Punishment*, while *Four of a Kind* overcame *Three Knights and a Rookie*. When *Officer* then beat *Knights* in the fourth round, all they needed was a draw in the last round to be clear champions. But that was not to be, as they were defeated by *4 Get About It*, allowing four teams to tie for first and requiring the U.S. Team tiebreaks to decide on the winner; and this was ... *An Officer and Three Gentlemen*. This team was made up of Alfonso Gabbedon, Wilmer Chavira, Jason Earley (the Officer), and Charles Greene. Second and third were *Four of a Kind* and *Three Knights and a Rookie* respectively, while *4 Get About It* came in fourth.

Likewise the race for board prizes was tied with all top finishers at 4½-½. Tiebreaks determined that one player from each of the top-four finishing teams earned a board prize. These were: Board 1 Javier A. Torres of *4 Get*, Board 2 Matthew Hoekstra, Board 3 Jason Earley of *An Officer and Three Gentlemen*, and Board 4 Daniel Ludwig.

In the Blitz side tournament the two-man team of Larry Storch and Daniel Ludwig won on tiebreaks over Wilmer Chavira and Salvador Infante.

When the players in Florida were arguing about holding a Southern event, the Northern teams were probably thinking: "Boy, those Southerners have attitudes." That was why, in the team name contest, this writer was partial to the name *Southern Dudes with Attitudes*. But the winner was *My Other Car Is a Portisch*. The Scholastic name winner was *Knights of the Square Table*.

In each of the sections, the top teams received a multitude of prizes — a plaque, an Excalibur chess computer and the new Excalibur GameTime II clock. A special thanks goes to Excalibur for their support of this event. The Amateur Team South logo, originated by Mack Tyner, was used not only on the plaques, but on the trophies and the program as well. The tournament was run by Harvey Lerman, NTD, with assistance "on the floor" from Franc Guadalupe.

THESE 2 GAMES WERE ANNOTATED BY 2019 U.S. WOMEN'S CHAMPION WGM JENNIFER YU. THIS MATERIAL ORIGINALLY APPEARED IN THE OCTOBER 2019 *CHESS LIFE KIDS* AND IS USED WITH PERMISSION OF US CHESS AND WGM JENNIFER YU.

Chess is a complicated game with tons of tactics like forks, skewers, and discovered attacks. One of the coolest moves to play on the board is a sacrifice. A sacrifice is when you give away a piece for some sort of compensation, like an attack or a good position. However, you need to be super careful before sacrificing a piece, no matter how pretty it looks. If it works, you've tricked your opponent and played a game that you can brag about to your parents and coaches. You might even go down in history, because the most famous chess games usually involve sacrifices. There's nothing spookier than giving away material—but it's worth it if you crush your opponent. But if your sacrifice doesn't work, your opponent will gobble up that tasty treat—and no one wants that!

German Adolf Anderssen was renowned for his brilliant sacrificial play. Here are some of his most famous TRICKY games:

THE IMMORTAL GAME KING'S GAMBIT ACCEPTED (C33)

Adolf Anderssen
Lionel Kieseritzky
London, England, 06.21.1851

1. e4 e5 2. f4 exf4 3. Bc4 Qh4+ 4. Kf1 b5 5. Bxb5 Nf6 6. Nf3 Qh6 7. d3 Nh5 8. Nh4 Qg5 9. Nf5 c6 10. g4 Nf6 11. Rg1 cxb5 12. h4 Qg6 13. h5 Qg5 14. Qf3 Ng8 15. Bxf4 Qf6 16. Nc3 Bc5 17. Nd5 Qxb2 18. Bd6 Bxg1



Even though this game was played many years ago in 1851, it is still studied today because of Anderssen's devious

tricks. That's why this game is called the Immortal Game, because it'll be remembered forever and never die! Anderssen just sacrificed his rook on g1, allowing it to be taken by the black bishop. It might look like he is in trouble, since he is down by a rook (and bishop he gave up on move 11) and his a1-rook is under attack by Kieseritzky's queen. But ... looks can be deceiving! Anderssen has several pieces huddled around Kieseritzky's king and he is going for the kill, no matter how many pieces he has to give away in the process!

19. e5!

What rook? Anderssen ignores the threat of the black queen on the a1-rook and continues with his attack. The idea of e5 is to cutoff the black queen on the a1-h8 diagonal, no longer defending the g7-pawn.

19. ... Qxa1+

Gobble gobble ...

20. Ke2 Na6??

Kieseritzky misses Anderssen's now famous combination. Can you find it?

Kieseritzky had to play 20. ... Ba6, making room for the black king to run away to c8 later. However, after 21. Nc7+ Kd8 22. Nxa6 Anderssen is winning because the black king is still so weak, as can be seen in the variation 22. ... Nxa6?? 23. Qxa8+ Nb8 24. Qxb8 mate.

21. Nxc7+

This move makes perfect sense, but it's Anderssen's follow up that makes this game legendary.

21. ... Kd8 22. Qf6+!!

Onward! Anderssen gives away a full queen, forcing Kieseritzky to capture with his g8-knight ...

22. ... Nxf6 23. Be7 mate!!



Boo! The idea of giving away the queen is a decoy to deflect the g8-knight from defending the e7-square. Anderssen is down by a queen, two rooks, and a bishop but he still wins! The black king is completely dominated by three sneaky minor pieces. An immortal position.

THE EVERGREEN GAME EVANS GAMBIT ACCEPTED (C52)

Adolf Anderssen
Jean Dufresne
Berlin, Germany, 1852

Another famous game featuring some of the most beautiful sacrifices in chess history is the Evergreen Game. This game was played in Berlin in 1852 between Anderssen and Jean Dufresne. Let's dive in!

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Bc5 4. b4

Already a sacrifice! This is the Evans Gambit.

4. ... Bxb4 5. c3 Ba5 6. d4 exd4 7. O-O d3 8. Qb3 Qf6 9. e5 Qg6 10. Re1 Nge7 11. Ba3 b5 12. Qxb5 Rb8 13. Qa4 Bb6 14. Nbd2 Bb7



15. Ne4 Qf5 16. Bxd3 Qh5 17. Nf6+ gxf6 18. exf6 Rg8



Dufresne's last move 18. ... Rg8 attempts to get active counterplay. Can you see what his threat is? The rook pins the g2-pawn so the knight on f3 is hanging if the black queen takes it. How do you think Anderssen should respond?

19. Rad1!?

Anderssen completely ignores the threat on his knight and continues to develop his pieces and stay active. He's using the idea of defending by attacking. But the question is put to the test: is the knight on f3 a trick or a treat? What would you play if Black plays 19. ... Qxf3?

19. ... Qxf3??

Dufresne takes the bait and snatches up the knight. Anderssen must prove that he has a concrete line after his knight sacrifice in order to stay alive.

20. Rxe7+!

Sacrificing the Exchange!

20. ... Nxe7?

20. ... Kd8 21. Rxd7+ Kc8 (No better is 21. ... Kxd7?? 22. Bf5+. Double checks are extremely dangerous since neither piece can be taken, because the other piece will still be giving check. 22. ... Ke8 23. Bd7+ Kd8 24. Bxc6+ Qxd1+ 25. Qxd1+ Bd4 26. Qxd4+ Kc8 27. Qd7 mate) 22. Rd8+ Kxd8 (22. ... Rxd8?? 23. gxf3 Oops! Since the rook left the g-file the queen on f3 is simply hanging!) 23. Bf5+ Qxd1+ (It is mate after 23. ... Bd4?? 24. Rxd4+ Nxd4 25. Qd7 mate) 24. Qxd1+ Nd4 25. Bh3 when Black is worse but still alive; 20. ... Kf8 21. Re3+. The bishop on a3 gives a discovered check once the rook moves!

21. Qxd7+!!

Fourth time's a charm! Anderssen sacrifices another piece, this time his queen! He lures the black king away from the back rank and into the line of fire.

21. ... Kxd7 22. Bf5+

Double check!

22. ... Ke8

22. ... Kc6 23. Bd7 mate.

23. Bd7+ Kf8 24. Bxe7 mate.



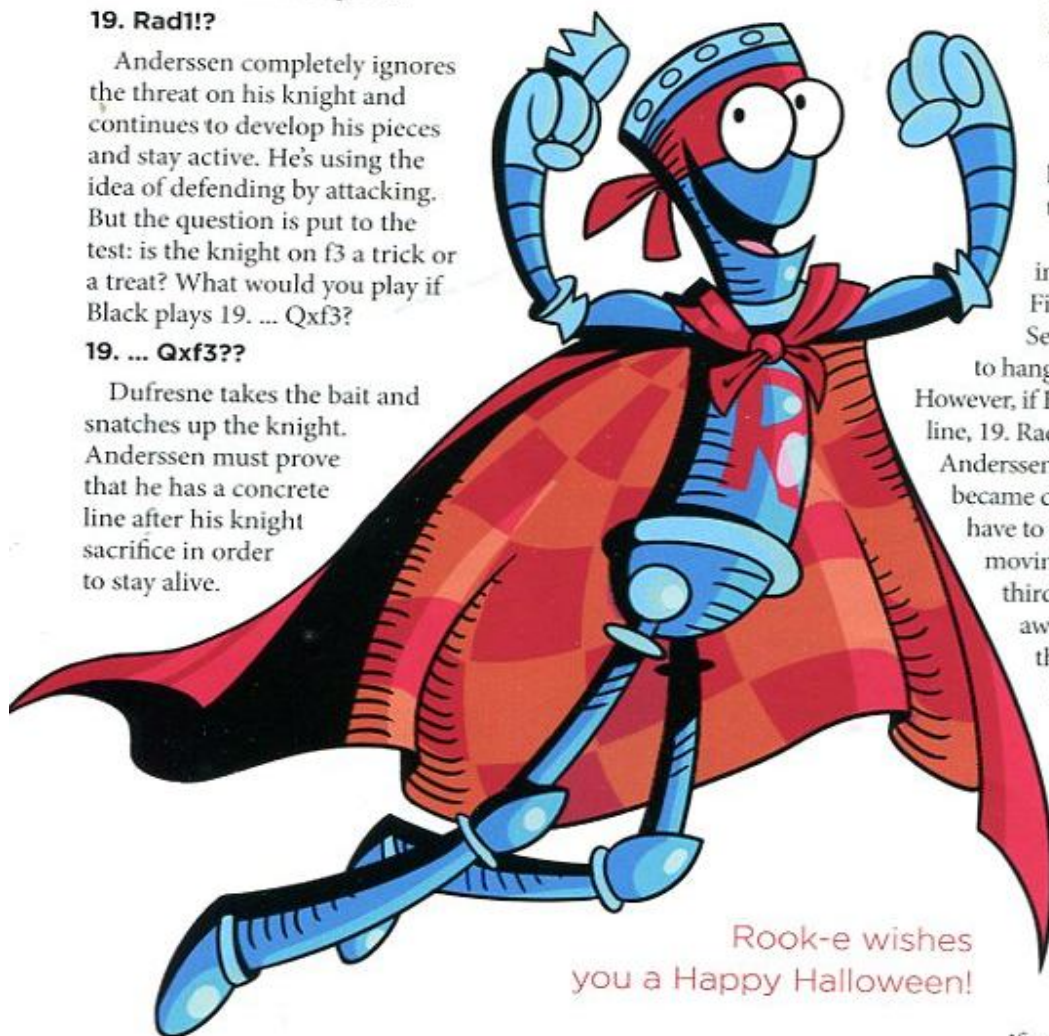
A beautiful checkmate! The black king is completely dominated by the two bishops and the pawn on f6.

This famous game teaches many instructive points about sacrifices. First, the line opening 17. Nf6+.

Second, Anderssen leaves his knight to hang on f3 on purpose as a trap.

However, if Black had seen this forced mating line, 19. Rad1 was still a useful move, because Anderssen activated his rook, where it later became deadly on the d-file. He also didn't have to spend a tempo defending or moving the f3-knight. 20. Rxe7+ was the third sacrifice that lured the c6-knight away from the a4-e8 diagonal, opening the d7-pawn to the white queen. All of his pieces were perfectly placed, aiming at the black king. This decoy allowed Anderssen to shatter Black's sketchy kingside defense and expose Dufresne's king. It's important to note that Anderssen had to see this entire combination before playing 19. Rad1; otherwise he would risk losing a piece for nothing!

Calculation and creativity are key if you're going to be tricky!



Rook-e wishes
you a Happy Halloween!

Florida Chess Online Summer Grand Prix Series

By FCA Vice President NM Bryan Tillis

In times of COVID19, tournament chess in Florida simply did not stop because we could no longer meet in person. The Palm Beach Chess Club picked up the gauntlet and kept students of the game motivated and raised money for Florida Chess with a tournament series. We highly encourage chess clubs in Florida to run online events. Something to keep in mind, any affiliate of the FCA that is providing online or in person tournaments is open to advertise using the resources of the FCA. I am often asked: "What is the benefit of being an FCA Affiliate?" well, access to advertising and support to help promote and grow your tournaments in our great state to a higher level. If you would like any assistance with advertising, running events online, or just generally have questions, feel free to contact me bryan@floridachess.org I am always here and happy to help to promote chess in Florida.

Without any further ado, let's take a look at an interesting encounter between a scholastic student and master from our summer Grand Prix:

Hansen, Martin (2255) - Anthony, Zhang (1314) [C03]

FL Chess GP 1 lichess.org, 20.08.2020

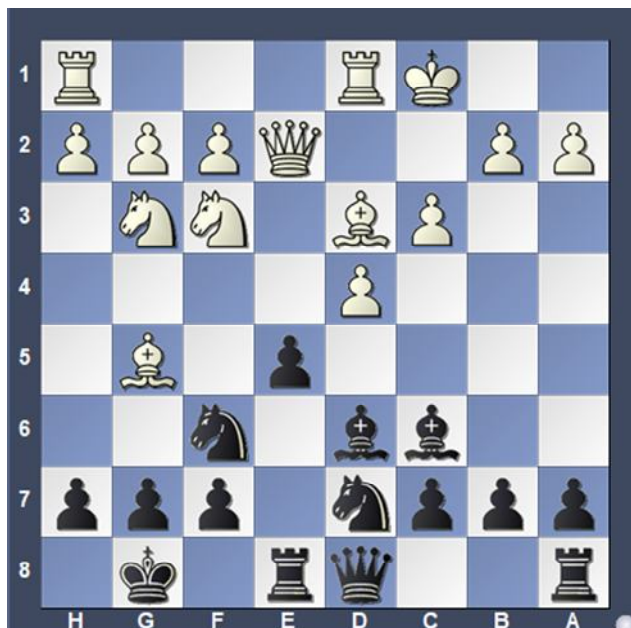
[notes by NM Tillis]

1.e4 The single greatest point of online events with many games...it gives players with a big mismatch in rating the opportunity to play. This is a fantastic point for young players looking to gain more experience against tested veterans. This game at 10min+2sec shows the volatility of playing rapid time controls and the fun positions that can evolve. **1...e6** **2.d4 d5** **3.Nd2 dxe4** **4.Nxe4 Bd7** Black chooses the solid and rare Fort Knox variation. The line has a reputation to be a bit dry but it is solid.



5.Bd3 Nf6 [5...Bc6 The best move order for Black to avoid early captures on the f-file. 6.Nf3 Nd7 7.Qe2 Ngf6 Now, if captured, Black can simply replace the Knight with his twin, an interesting position for both sides.] **6.Nf3** [6.Nxf6+ Black messes up the move order a bit and could be punished. We do not want to be required to capture back with the Queen here as the lady could very well find herself in trouble. 6...Qxf6 7.Nf3 h6 A passive concession is needed to not be trapped, White carries some edge here.] **6...Bc6** **7.Ng3** White had the opportunity again to capture on f6 with the same

6...Qxf6 7.Nf3 h6 A passive concession is needed to not be trapped, White carries some edge here.] **6...Bc6 7.Ng3** White had the opportunity again to capture on f6 with the same themes from the previous note. **7...Bd6 8.c3 0-0 9.Bg5 Nbd7** The dust has settled a bit and equality has been reached. **10.Qe2 Re8 11.0-0-0** An aggressive idea to create attacking motifs in the future.**11...e5**



12.dxe5 [12.d5 A strong move to soften up the defender's kingside. 12...Bxd5 13.Bxh7+ Kxh7 14.Rxd5 With a better position.] **12...Nxe5 13.Nxe5 Rxe5 14.Qd2 Bxg2 15.Rhg1 Bf3** [An interesting moment, after grabbing the pawn, Black is a bit better but needs to navigate the tactics in the position linked to the freshly opened g-file.] **16.Rdf1 h6** [A reasonable move but misses a big opportunity.] [16...Rd5 Pins the Bishop where White has a large amount of difficulty dealing with this threat. 17.Kc2 Bxg3 18.Rxg3 Be4 Where Black should have a decisive edge with accurate play.] **17.Bxh6 gxh6 18.Nh5+** [This natural move could have cost White the game!] [18.Qxh6 Is absolutely crushing! 18...Ng4 19.Nf5 Rxf5 20.Bxf5 Black has nothing but cheap spite checks at this point.]



Continued on next page.

18...Rg5 [White is now comfortably winning, a huge missed opportunity for the young player.[18...Ng4 19.Qxh6 Qg5+ Black is up material and is safe.] **19.Rxg5+ hxg5 20.Qxg5+** The rest of the game is a matter of technique by the master. **20...Kf8 21.Qg7+Ke8 22.Nxf6+ Ke7 23.Re1+ Be5 24.Rxe5+ Kd6 25.Re3 Bc6 26.Qg3+ Kc5 27.Re5+ Kb6 28.Qe3+ Qd4 29.Qxd4#** Overall, an interesting game going back to the old adage: Chess is 99% tactics. 1–0

FL Online Grand Prix



Jonathan Miniello



NM Martin Hansen



Nicholas Hillberg

Moving Forward: Online Chess

Weekly now on Tuesday nights Palm Beach Chess runs free tournaments on lichess.org with rotating time controls (G/15, G/10, G/5, G/3, G/1 with increments added in for even greater time control variability based on club member requests). If you have never berserked on lichess in a 1min game, we offer you the opportunity for the chess thrill of your life. Simply join the Palm Beach Chess team on lichess to be able to participate: <https://lichess.org/team/palm-beach-chess>

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Palm Beach Chess

Team leaders: ● ChessScholar_Coach, ○ NM tillis

Chat room

This team is for Rated (Lichess.org & USCF Online Rated) & Unrated Play. We welcome all active United State Chess Federation members and especially welcome our Florida players.

In order to join, click "Join Team," and provide your USCF ID number with your full name and lichess.org name in the "message" box. No one can play in your place and you may not receive assistance during your games.

We take every measure to assure fair play and any player suspected of cheating will be reported to not just lichess but official chess bodies as well. We will have cash prizes in our USCF Online Rated events. Join to not miss the action!

If entering a Rated tournament, upon completion of an entree form and payment, you will receive the password via the email address provided in Wufoo once confirmed.

Brought to you by palmbeachchess.com stay up to date on our tournaments by following us on social media: facebook.com/PalmBeachChess/ or instagram.com/palmbeachchess/

All of our tournaments will be covered on Twitch and posted to YouTube (search Palm Beach Chess). We will have game commentary and analysis (with a reasonable delay as a preventative measure for cheating): twitch.tv/palmbeachchess.

Location: Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

An added bonus to all of our online events, we provide commentary live on Twitch: twitch.tv/palmbeachchess:



We hope that this article inspires others to share their story with online chess during the pandemic and beyond.

Premier Chess classes

Fall 2020 Virtual Group Class for Seniors

Friday Mornings at 11:00 AM EST

October 9-December 18 (No Class on 11/27)

Class will be taught by Premier Chess CEO National Master Evan Rabin, who has run programs for all ages and skill levels through organizations ranging from the law firm Kramer Levin to the nursing home Village Care.

Class will be open to all players aged 65+.

Classes will be held on Zoom and feature and incorporate live lectures, practice games and puzzles. We will have a 8-1 student-teacher ratio.

Here are some of the reasons why seniors should learn chess:

- 1) Chess keeps one's mind sharp as it is mentally stimulating.**
- 2) Chess helps relieve stress.**
- 3) There is some research that shows chess lowers the risk of Alzheimer's Disease.**

Learn More about Premier Chess: www.premierchess.com

For live commentary and tidbits from previous classes, see twitch.tv/premierchess.

Cost for 10 sessions is \$199.

Questions: Reach out to Evan Rabin, CEO of Premier Chess at evan@premierchess.com or (917) 776-1306.

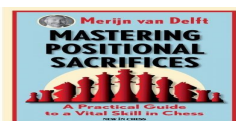
Register: https://www.events4chess.com/events/?event_ID=1258

*****Use PROMO CODE "USCHESS" by end of week for 10% off**

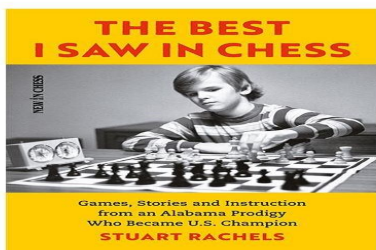


In the past months the world was a standstill due to COVID 19. In contrast, the chess publishing companies were more active than ever and released a massive amount of high quality books and DVD's. This is probably my longest book review column ever, but what can you expect with a combination of "free time" and a stack of hard to put down books? Several books in this column have either a high chance to win awards in the future or to become references in chess starting with

Mastering Positional Sacrifices by IM Merijn van Delft.



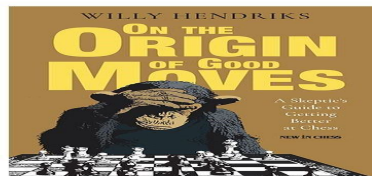
The positional sacrifice in chess is a well know idea yet, it lacks a systematic classification and good material to study. IM Merijn van Delft book addresses both shortcoming mentioned above and provides a clear path to master the subject. **Mastering Positional Sacrifices** is a must read if the reader want to understand and master positional sacrifices in chess. Period.



The Best I saw in Chess is a book written by IM Stuart Rachels a former chess prodigy from Alabama, a university professor and a former US chess champion (the youngest since Bobby Fischer). What makes this book special? In my opinion the **The Best I saw in Chess** benefits players of different levels and skills. For example, the developing player will find in **The Best I saw in Chess**, good solid chess instruction and analysis, the practical player benefit from the methods and tips to improve your chances to win, the player in a plateau may find inspiration and motivation in Rachel's eye opener explanation of the difference between will to win versus will to prepare. **The Best I saw in Chess** belongs to a class on his own because the way the games were analyzed by the author (human then the chess engine assisted analysis) **The Best I saw in Chess** is a must read this coming winter break.



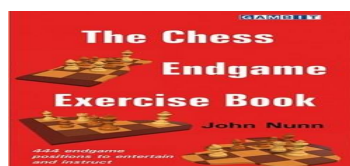
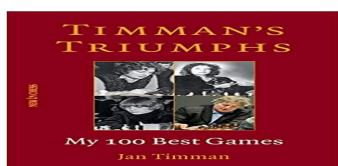
The complete Chess Swindler by Australian GM David Smerdon takes swindle in a chess game to a "professional" level. All chess players have the bitter memories of full points going to the drain after our opponents swindles us. **The complete Chess Swindler** explains to the reader in under three hundred pages, the "science" behind swindles. The author describes three key concepts to become a chess swindler, the psychology of swindles, the swindler's tool box, core skills required to find swindles. This book will help score points from apparent hopeless positions. **The complete Chess Swindler** is a comprehensive chess resource to master the art of saving games from the jaws of defeat.



On the Origin of Good Moves by IM Willy Hendriks is a book about the development of chess knowledge and the human ability to play well. Hendrix uses the games from the masters (starting with Polerio) to put flesh to his exploration of the evolution of chess. For example, the early trust of the h pawn (ignoring the center) that is a frequent suggestion from the modern chess engine in several positions was actually pioneered by Adolf Anderssen centuries ago. In this context, **On the Origin of Good Moves** was a suggested reading in a recent FIDE workshop on chess engines (online) that I participated. It was funny that after the lecturer suggested **On the Origin of Good Moves**, I raised my review copy and the whole group cracked a laugh. The Hendrix book will make the reader think about the progress of chess from a different and fresh perspective.

Lemos's Manifesto 2K from 1500 to 2500

Argentinian GM Damian Lemos is a well know presenter of chess materials and iChess DVD's. Damian has recently released **The Lemos's Manifesto 2K from 1500 to 2500**, a package of DVDs that provides the chess aficionado with a lot chess material of quality and systematically organized for self-study. The first part of the manifesto will lay the foundation of basic chess skill to top club level. The second part covers the material to reach a rating that starts with a "2". **Lemos's Manifesto 2K** is the most cost effective DVD set for chess improvement I come across in a long time.



Timman's Triumphs My 100 Best Games by GM Jan Timman

Jan Timman was one of my favorite players in the 90' along with John Nunn. Both players have a multifaceted chess career as elite players, composers and writers. In the past years I had the pleasure to review many of Timman's chess books and enjoy his annotation, chess stories and analytical work. In **Timman's Triumphs My 100 Best Games** the author will instruct and entertain chess players of any level. The author uses a candid way to talk about himself and the stories behind every game and some of his opponents, making the book personal and a window into the life of one of the most influential players in the chess. **Timman's Triumphs My 100 Best Games** instructs and entertains.

GM John Nunn, is a well know player, chess composer and endgame expert. Here is Nunn's latest work on the endgame, **The Chess Endgame Exercise Book** for those looking to learn and training their endgame skills. Beside the treatment of different endgames **The Chess Endgame Exercise Book** provides the most concise and clear explanation about two difficult chess endgames for the class player, named knight versus bishop and rook versus a minor piece. In two pages the authors give you the models to understand these complex endgames and the right positions to solve. I doubt there is a more amateur friendly author than John Nunn to explain endgames to amateur players.

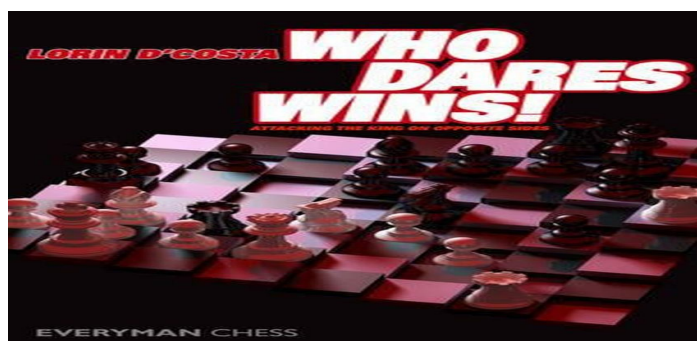
My book recommendations on tactics this issue are **600 Modern Chess Puzzles** by GM Martyn Kravtsov and **A Modern Guide to Checkmating Patterns** by Vladimir Barsky. The Kravtsov's book has innovative ways to train tactics such as practicing choosing between two similar moves. A valuable skill in practical chess. The Barsky's book is a more systematic approach how the individual characteristics of the chess pieces created checkmate patterns. Both books are suitable for players under 2000, with Barsky's book friendlier with players in class E.

Ragozin complex. Five years ago I had the pleasure to review Christof Sielecki's repertoire book on the NimzoIndian and Bogro Indian and the present effort follows on the same standards of quality and coherence. The repertoire is very detailed and the delivered which makes the Chessable platform the ideal tool to master the repertoire. If you want to take on high end opening like the Nimzoindian a great deal of memorization and understanding is required. Fortunately, if you have the drive to understand and play the Nimzo with proficiency, then Lifetime Repertoire The Nimzoindian-Ragozin is the way to go by a long shot.

An Idiot-Proof Chess Opening Repertoire by FM Graham Burgess is an easy to learn to play repertoire for White and Black. The backbone of the repertoire is the English (as White) the Scandinavian against 1. e4 and the Queens Gambit Accepted to respond to 1.d4. As usual, Burgess does a great job with the concrete analysis of critical positions, but in my opinion the main three values of the book are the explanations at the end of complex variations or positions, the systematic work on move orders to prevent dealing with heavy theoretical continuations, finally, the author have extensive experience in opening analysis and all that experience is melted in **An Idiot-Proof Chess Opening Repertoire**. Burgess new chess opening repertoire is both, high quality and a one stop resource for your opening needs. I forgot to mention that the size of the book is ideal to take it to tournaments!

GM Michael Roiz The English 1. c4-e5 (Modern Chess) GM Michael Roiz developed a couple of chess databases in pgn format on the English opening for **Modern Chess**. I was very impressed with Roiz's educational and analytical work. Despite the advance nature of the database, the author made the material accessible to the diligent class player. For example, Roiz starts the explanations of the material with a summary of typical positions and key ideas before delving into the advance opening material. Most of Roiz's recommendations end with a +/- and place Black at cross roads. Black can choose to stay passive and Whites have all the play or to sacrifice a pawn and take a lot of risk to shake off White's pressure. Ross' work is in the interface between Class A players and professionals.

Lifetime Repertoire **The Nimzoindian-Ragozin** by [FM Daniel Barrish](#) and [IM Christof Sielecki](#) is currently the best repertoire resource on the Nimzoindian/



Finally, I would like to recommend the book **Who Dares Wins!** By IM Lorin D'Costa because the author explains the attack on opposite flanks in a very comprehensive and clear way. Five years after I read the book the ideas I learnt still present (that it was how I "sensed" 14. f4 in the game NGO- Yoo (2020, Barber tournament) was not as bad as the chess engine rated it. That observation allowed me to annotate the game (in this issue) from a flexible point of view instead of labeling it as?!. This book and most books this review can be purchased from **Chess for Less** (a Florida business), a long time contributor and supporter this column.

Regional Reports

West News

THE CHALLENGES OF PRESERVING CHESS DURING CORONAVIRUS

by Timotey Gospodinov

When the new virus hit America during the middle of March 2020, I decided to stop running OTB tournaments (my last one was on March 14). On March 18th, I created an online chess club...**Saint Petersburg Chess Club** at <https://www.chess.com/club/saint-petersburg-chess-club>.

Following that, I reached an agreement with Chess.com and they gave me permission to run Online Chess tournaments. Chess.com reviews each game for any potential signs of cheating such as through the use of engines. Our online club now has 220 members, with most of them familiar with others from OTB tournaments. On March 28th, I hosted my first online chess tournament and it went above expectations with more than 30 players! I started running online tournaments every Saturday and so far, I have ran 21 tournaments. Even when we start OTB tournaments again, I plan to keep online tournaments going once per month.

Our Saint Petersburg Chess Club also participates in a World Chess.com Club League and we are in a division with 50 others teams across the globe. We played 8 weeks in row and did great! That was a very exciting experience for all of us. Right now, our club plays at Chess.com daily league with teams around the world which is a new experience for all of us. In these difficult times. I stopped my 1:1 chess lessons and started strictly online ones, so I keep chess alive at Saint Petersburg.

It's impossible to deny that coronavirus has impacted the chess community and the way we play chess together, but I believe that it's also opened the door for new potential ideas and ways to not only play with each other, but learn. I am looking forward to an ever-growing chess community in not only Saint Petersburg, but all of Florida!

Central Florida Chess Club

sent by Larry Storch

Just an update to keep you informed of what the **Central Florida Chess Club** is doing. Kevin Sibbitt and I organized and administered 18 online rapid chess tournaments on **chess.com**. We started out offering \$250 in prizes for a \$15 entry fee. All through June we had excellent results but things changed once other organizers started getting into the fun. Specifically the **Continental Chess Association** began offering all their regular tournaments online and that took quite a few of our masters and experts away. Our participation dwindled but not our spirit. Determined to stay relevant during the pandemic we changed our format offering free entry fee and \$125 in prizes. Obviously this can drain our treasury so we moved to every other Saturday at 2pm for our tournaments. Participation increased dramatically and we are once again a very popular choice for Saturday games. How long can we give away \$150 per tournament (\$125 in prizes, \$25 in administration costs)? Well, we still have a healthy treasury so we will continue this through the end of the year then reassess.

I wanted to take a moment here to acknowledge the work Kevin has done. Anyone entering our events must register on our website. Kevin has created that registration process along with a database that keeps track of all players who participate including their usernames, email addresses and preferred method of payment (We offer Paypal, Amazon gift cards, checks or donation to the club). In addition there is a link on our website where you can click on a chess.com username and it takes you to that player's USCF rating page!

So, I encourage you to check out our efforts 1. Go to our regular webpage and click on Events, online tournaments. Also, 2. go to chess.com and join our online club. Simply click on connect, clubs and search for Central Florida Chess club then join. Once you do that you can click on members and see our 223 current members or click Live tournaments and see the crosstables from all our events. You can even leave comments on our online chess club.

In closing, the Central Florida Chess Club continues to be relevant in these bizarre pandemic times. Once it is safe, we will resume in person events. So stay safe !

Central News

by Paul Leggett

The advent of COVID-19 has effectively frozen all OTB play, but the Central Florida region has blossomed online, particularly at **Chess.com**.

Mike Moschos (1467)

Paul Leggett (1572) [C42]

Villages Chess.com Tournament

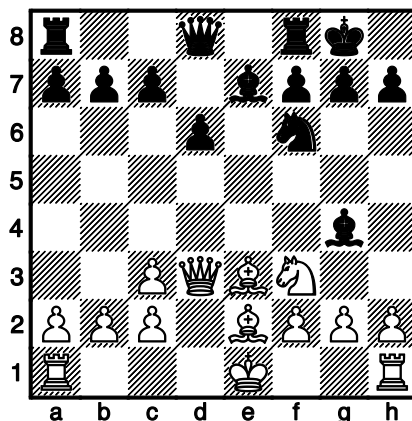
Chess.com, 25.08.2020

[Leggett, Paul]

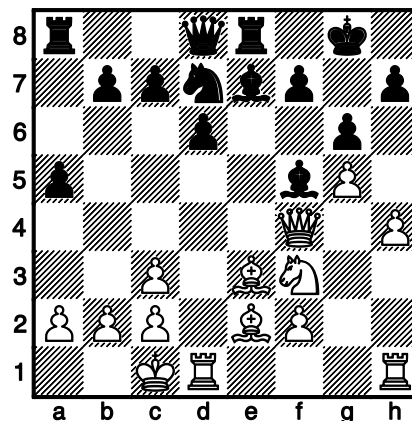
The Central Florida Chess Club has experimented with their Saturday online Swiss tournaments (when they split their Swiss into two sections, I think it will finally blossom), and the Villages Chess Club has run weekly free tournaments organized by new FCA Board Member Mike Moschos. As an example of the games online, I have decided to show a win where Mike Moschos demolished yours truly in one of the Villages tournaments. Enjoy! Paul

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 Mike and I had played many online games already, so I decided to play something I had looked at briefly, but never played before. It definitely made things interesting, adverse result for me notwithstanding. **3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.dxc3 Bg4?! The first sign that I don't really know what I am doing. 7.Be2 [7.Be3 Nd7 8.h3 Bf5**

9.Qe2 Be7 10.Nd4 Bg6 11.g4 0-0 12.Bg2 c5 13.Nf5 Bxf5 14.gxf5 Qa5 15.Bd5 Nf6 16.Qd2 Nxd5 17.Qxd5 b5 18.Rg1 Bf6 19.0-0-0 Kh8 20.Kb1 b4 21.c4 Rad8 22.h4 Be5 23.Bg5 f6 24.Be3 Qa4 25.Rd3 Qd7 26.f4 Rfe8 27.fxe5 Rxe5 28.Qg2 Rxf5 29.Rxd6 Rf1+ 30.Bc1 1-0 (30) Delgado Ramirez, N (2554)-Navarro Segura, R (2241) Merida 2004] **7...Be7 8.Be3 Nd7 9.Qd2 Nf6 10.Qd3N 0-0**



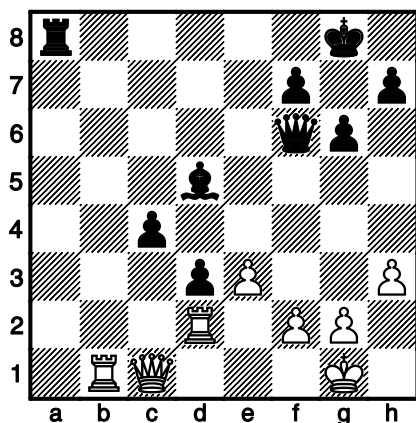
11.0-0-0 This is a fairly straightforward and equal position, so I certainly can't blame the result of the game on the opening. Mike merely played better! **11...Re8 12.h3 Bh5 13.g4 Bg6 14.Qc4 a5?! [14...c6 15.Qb3 b5? 15.g5 Nd7? [15...d5! 16.Qd4 Ne4 17.Qxd5 Bd6 18.Rhe1 c6 19.Qd4 Qc7=] 16.h4± Bf5? [16...Bh5] 17.Qf4± g6?**



This is poor play. I am merely creating levers for my opponent to pry open my kingside. **18.h5** Mike quickly takes advantage of it. **18...Nf8 19.hxg6 Bxg6 20.Bd3 Ne6?! [20...Qd7] 21.Qh4+-** Now White is winning and only the fact that it was a rapid game explains my loss on time, when the reality was that I was completely lost for many moves. **21...h5 22.Rhg1 Bf8 23.Nd4 Bg7 24.Nf5 Qd7 25.Nh6+ Kh8 26.f4 Qe7 27.f5 Bxh6 28.fxg6 fxg6 29.Bxg6 Rg8 30.Qxh5 Rxg6 31.Qxg6 Bg7 32.Rh1+ Kg8 33.Qh7+ Kf8 34.Rdf1+ Ke8 35.Qg8+ Nf8 36.Bd4 Bxd4 37.cxd4 Qe3+ 38.Kb1 Kd7 39.Qf7+ Kc6 40.Qf3+ Qxf3 41.Rxf3 Ng6 42.Rh6 Rg8 43.Rf6 Ne7 44.g6 Nd5 45.Rf7 b5 46.g7 Re8 47.a3 b4 48.Rh8 Re1+ 49.Ka2**

An excellent demonstration by one of the FCA's new Board Members! **1-0**

(Anony Mouse game continued from page26)



Prophylaxis!

35.e4 Be6 36.Rdb2 Kg7

[36...c3 also wins.]

37.Qe3 c3 38.e5 Qd8 39.Rb6 c2 40.Rf1 d2 41.Rd6 d1Q 0-1

For some reason, although Steve has always been higher-rated, I have managed a surprisingly plus score against him. In spite of this, Steve has maintained a Master rating since I first met him some time in the 1980s, and himself has clipped many a titled player.

This game was preceded by a successful Budapest Defense, so Steve chose 2.Nf3 to sidestep that option for Black. Black employs one widely recommended defense — playing for a center break.

Eventually, Black is able to grab space

and create a Pawn-grip, leading to a Botvinnik-type exchange sacrifice to restrain White's pieces further, enabling Black to maneuver his pieces and force the duo through to their destination.

Anony Mous Annotates

Another game from the ages



Anony Mous
our Chess-playing monk

Andrews, Steve
Mous, Anony [A48]
1985

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5

Inviting a Benoni

3.c3

Preferring a Colle structure

3...b6

Keeping the "Drawing Line" of overprotecting the square e4 such that if White breaks with e4, eventually a lot of material gets exchanged and the result is a near dead "tablas".

4.Bf4

London System

4...Bb7 5.e3 d6

Changing tacks. Black is now playing in the center, himself. The double-fianchetto System is a good choice to avoid the main lines in the London.

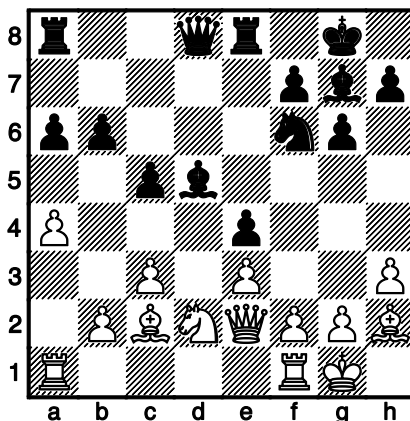
6.h3 g6 7.Be2 Bg7 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.a4 a6 10.Nbd2 0-0 11.Bh2

Playing a "Standard Move", but is it necessary yet? Seems awfully slow... should probably activate the R or Q.

11...Re8

Preparing... e5. Black may already be better.

12.Bd3 e5 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 dxe5 15.Qe2 e4 16.Bc2 Bd5?!



I don't like this move. Black clearly has a space advantage, but really lacks a clear follow-up plan. 16. ...Qe7 seems right, getting the Q off the d-file. The best I can imagine for a reason for the text move, is to tempt White to play the weakening 17.c4.

17.Rfd1 Qc8 Planning to increase control of the White squares.

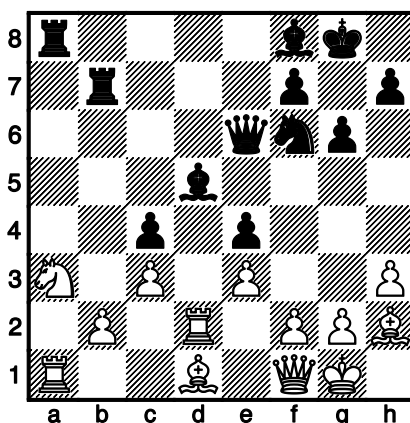
18.Nc4 Qe6 19.Na3 Bf8! White's Bh2 is shut out, so Black reroutes his dark-squared B to where it will support the Q-side pressure.

20.Rd2? b5! Clearance! The P-sacrifice opens up lines for black's Rs & Bs.

21.axb5 axb5 22.Qxb5 Greedy or desperate, hard to tell.

22...Re7! 23.Qf1 [23.Qxc5?? Rb7 Causes indigestion and bleeding! Black breaks through, and the pinned White Na3 is in danger of falling back into the box.]

23...Rb7 24.Bd1 c4!



Thanks to 20.Rd2?, White's pieces operate in harmonious discord... meaning they are all tripping over one another.

25.Be2 Bxa3 26.bxa3 Rb3

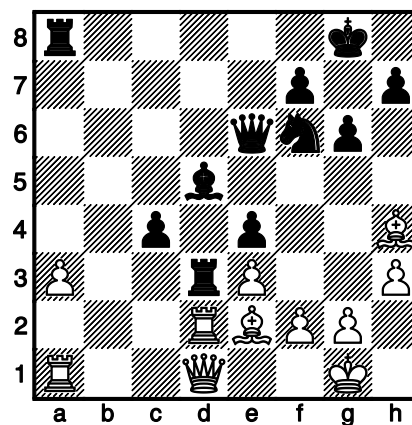
Black regains his P for starters. Of course he recognizes that his N will become far more valuable than either of White's Bs.

The position is already -+.

27.Qc1 Nd7 28.Qd1 Nf6

Black missed this shot, but it doesn't change the evaluation.

29.Bg3 Rxc3! 30.Bh4 Rd3!!



The famous Botvinnik Exchange Sacrifice!

31.Bxd3 exd3 32.Bxf6

Necessary, or Black simply redeploys his N to any number of safe spots on White's Q-side.

32...Qxf6 33.Rb1?

[33.a4? Seems more resilient.]

Technique is still required. Schematic thinking indicates that Black should solidify the dark squares, resist exchanges unless clearly winning, overprotect d3 so c3 can be forced through. First, of course, is King safety to prevent annoying back-rank checks.

33...Rxa3 34.Qc1 Ra8!

(Anony Mous game continued on page 25)

CHESS CALENDAR

Florida Chess Tournaments Clearing House

6 Perry Lane, FL 32701

harveylerman@brighthouse.com (407)629-6WIN (629-6946)

Date	Event	Location	Contact
2020			
Mar 14-15	Florida State Girl's and Women's Championship **	Franklyn Academy - Boynton Beach	FCA
Mar 27-29	18th annual Southern Class Championships **	Wyndham Orlando Resort - Orlando	CCA
Apr 24-26	National Jr High School (K-9) Championship **	Hyatt Regency - Jacksonville-Riverfront	USCF
May 1-3	27th Space Coast Open **	International Palms Resort - Cocoa Beach	SCF
Jun 6-7	Florida Royal Chess Tour 2020: Spring Classical	University of Central Florida - Orlando	OCC
Jun 19-21	CFCC 2020 Sunshine Open & Scholastic	Holiday Inn Resort - Orlando-Lake Buena Vista	CFCC
Jul 24-26	2020 Southern Open	Wyndham Orlando Resort - Orlando	CCA
Sep 4-7	Harvey Lerman Florida State Championship **	Days Hotel by Wyndham Celebration-Kissimmee	BRCC
Oct 2-4	CFCC Autumn Open	Holiday Inn - Lake Buena Vista	CFCC
Oct 10	National Chess Day		USCF
Nov 20-22	19th Annual Turkey Bowl	Marriott Hotel - Coral Springs	BRCC
Dec 11-13	National Grades K-12 Championships **	Rosen Shingle Creek - Orlando	USCF

2021

Dec 3-5	National Grades K-12 Championships	Rosen Shingle Creek - Orlando	USCF
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** CANCELED

FCA Florida 2020 Affiliates

Alton Academy 4 Chess
Archimedean Middle Conservatory Chess Club
Bortnik's School of Chess LLC
Capablanca Chess Academy
B & B Chess Club
Chess with Cochez
Jacksonville Chess Club
ScholasticChess LLC
CHESS 4 US
Space Coast Chess Foundation, Inc.
SW Florida Chess Club
Boca Raton Chess Club
Florida College Chess Foundation
The Stormont Kings Chess Program
Daytona Beach Chess Club
Florida Scholastic Chess League
Palm Beach Chess
Ocala Chess Club
Florida School for the Deaf & Blind
Chessregister.com
Chess Club Bobby Fischer

Other Contacts

M.DadeColl	(305)237-8901
P.Dyson	(321)452-9863
A.Goldsby	(850)484-7803
J.Haskel	(561)302-4377
M.Hutsko	(305)779-7341
G.Luna	(305)300-2055
C.Stormont	(305)552-1493
T.Washington	(407)721-4262
BAC	BayAreaChess.com

Other Affiliates and Organizations

ACP	: American Chess Promotions	(478)973-9389
BM	: Beatriz Marinello	(917)553 4522
CACC	: Castle Chess Camp	(404)314-3142
CCA	: Continental Chess Association	(914)496-9658
CFCC	: Central Florida Chess Club	(407)629-6946
FSCL	: Florida Scholastic Chess League	(786)444-2467
HCA	: Hanley Chess Academy	(714)925-3195
VILLC	: The Villages Chess	(407)497-2261
KCF	: Kasparov Chess Foundation	(773)844-0701
OCC	: Orlando Chess Club	(407)721-4262
OCG	: Orlando Chess & Game Center	(407)248-0818
SCSC	: Space Coast Scholastic Chess	
SCF	: Space Coast Chess Foundation	(321)431-3060
TCC	: Tallahassee Chess Club	(850)345-7838
USCF	: United States Chess Federation	(800)903-8723

Organizers: Please contact the clearing house when scheduling a tournament.

Florida Chess Association, Inc.
6 Perry Lane
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701-7948

**** CANCELLED ****

2020 HARVEY LERMAN FLORIDA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

SEPTEMBER 4-7 OR 5-7, 2020

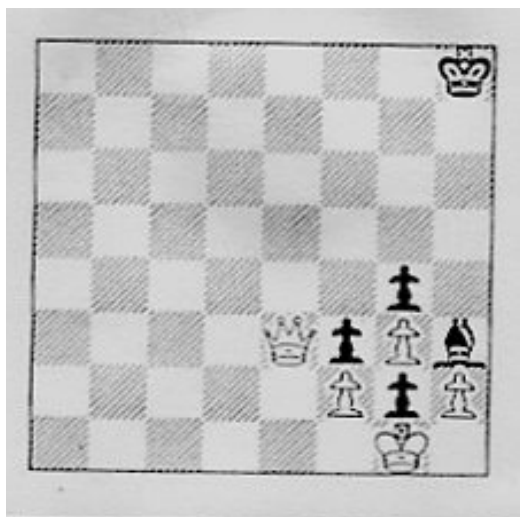
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New Rules for Online Chess

Using **chess.com** with a Zoom-call showing the players, has to have each player setup two unmuted Zoom cameras (one with a side view). No one else could be in the room.



Great puzzle of the Covid

White to play and win.

This would seem to be an easy puzzle as the only pieces that can move are **White's Queen** and **Black's King**. The others are stuck inside like the rest of us waiting for this Covid to be finished!

But how can White force a win...even if White takes Black's Bishop the game would end as a stalemate.

But White can win! Can you find it? A prize may be awarded to the 1st player that can solve this puzzle.

See floridaCHESS.org for a complete list and details of Florida chess events.