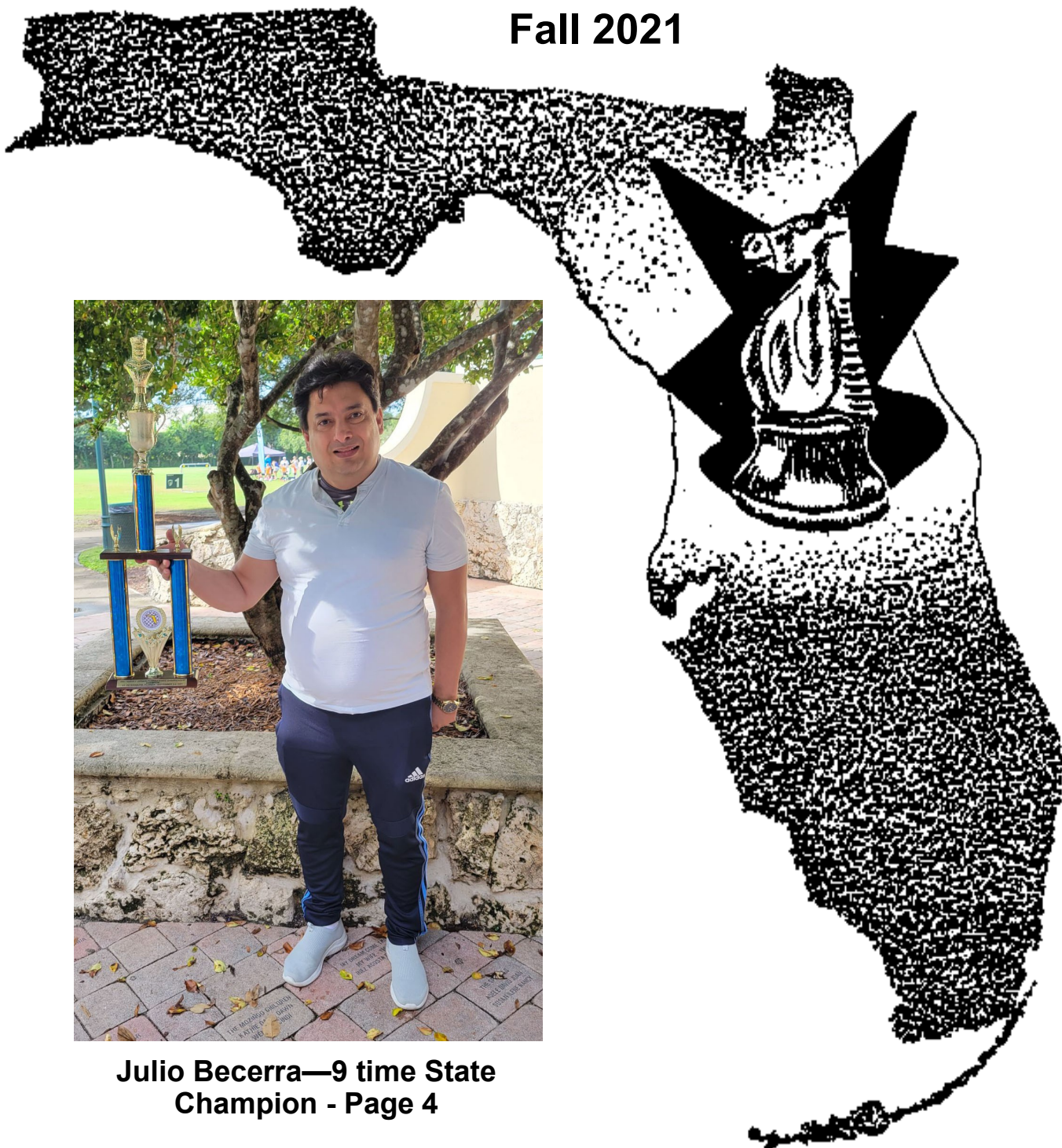


Florida **CHESS**

FLORIDA CHESS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

Fall 2021



Julio Becerra—9 time State
Champion - Page 4

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FCA Membership Dues

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

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

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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The opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Florida Chess Association, its Board, or anyone else.

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Editor Speaks



Harvey Lerman's 28 year long & illustrious record as Editor of floridaCHESS gives him "legendary" status in the Florida Chess Community and while there is no "filling those shoes", I am excited to take on the Editor's duties for our state's foremost chess publication.

I will be leaning on Harvey and the FCA Board of Directors as I organize the magazine each quarter, but in preparing the first issue of 2022 I will also be looking to you, our membership, for ideas, stories, interviews, game analysis, photographs, illustrations and more. I want to introduce some new features and will be trying a new format next year as well. Some of the new features under consideration are:

"Collector's Corner"—Do you collect chess sets? Chess pieces? Chess books? Chess in Art? Games or Variants? A signed score sheet or magazine cover? Maybe T-shirts? There are a lot of possibilities here, send me your stories...

"Brush with Fame"—Have you played a world champion or movie star? Gotten the autograph of your favorite Chess star? Or maybe a selfie with them? Or maybe you had lunch with Bobby Fischer or Kevin Pryor and want to share the experience. We will stick our toe in the water here and see what you have to offer. Tell me about your "Brush with Fame." Everyone will be glad you did.

"The Open File" - Members of the FCA are busy making chess happen in our state. My plan is for you to highlight these people so others can be inspired by their efforts and accomplishments.

"Light on the right" - I'm looking to showcase the humorous side of the game and the players in this section... So, let's keep it light... on the right.

Student Chess— When I became a member of the FCA in the mid -90's, we had a publication called "Skittles" that was designed for our younger members. Currently, there is a youth invasion in our state and I will strive to shine a light on this robust component of Chess in Florida.

Tournament Coverage— This area will remain a mainstay of our Magazine. Champions, up and comers, game reports, and ideally some insight of the behind the scenes efforts to put on successful tournaments in the State of Florida.

In this issue? We'll highlight the winners at the Harvey Lerman State Championship, celebrate National Chess Day (and International Chess Day), review games, books, and hear from many of the FCA board members as they give their regional reports and observations.

Thanks again to FCA President, Kevin Pryor, and the FCA Board of Directors for this opportunity to serve the chess community.

Yours in Chess,

George Foote
Editor, floridaCHESS

from the President's desk

2021 Fall President's Message

Dear FCA members and friends,



For the last 20 months or so, I've worked to keep my finger on the pulse of chess in Florida throughout the pandemic. At one point all chess had stopped with only Chess Club Bobby Fischer in Miami providing signs of life, but now we can say without a doubt, OTB Chess is back...and big! There have been record numbers of participants for annual events that have returned. Our own Florida State Championship is recorded on US Chess at 221 players, a new record. A few months earlier the Southern Open had a record-breaking 359 players. Other local events are also seeing a swell in activity. Players who had not played OTB in years have decided to come back to the game along with a new crop of online-only players. This new wave of chess enthusiasts who have been wanting to try out OTB has helped to increase tournament participants. We needed this.

On the administrative side of chess, we conducted the annual Board Member election and two first-timers were elected, Ray Ratliff of Jacksonville and Anthony Cipollina of Daytona. Daa'im Shabazz of Tallahassee returned after a short season away from the board while Tim Staley, Bryan Tillis and myself were reelected. I would like to also recognize Matt Kolcz and longtime Board Member, Steve Lampkin for their service. Steve, in particular, served on the board for over a decade before deciding not to seek another term. He would have easily won had he decided otherwise. Our new board is already at work on delivering value added service to chess players in our state. We also transitioned this issue of the floridaCHESS magazine from me (after Harvey retired with 28 years as Editor) to George Foote. This is George's first issue and we look forward to continued excellence in chess publication while passing the Editorial baton.

The grand plan for our board is to ensure we conduct the four OTB events as we originally planned in 2020. Our four events are the Lerman Florida State Championship, Florida Senior Championship, Florida Women's Championship and Scholastic Championship. The scholastic event is already booked for March 11-13 at the Wyndham International Resort in Orlando. We are working on setting dates and locations for the other two. The 2022 State Championship is set for September 3-5 at the DoubleTree in Palm Beach Gardens.

Finally, I was elected to the US Chess Executive Board and I thank the chess players of Florida for helping me place second with over 1,000 votes. I plan to continue to serve Florida Chess either directly or indirectly for the foreseeable future. I would not be there without you and will not forget who helped to put me there.

Please continue to stay safe.

See you over the board,

Kevin

2021 Inaugural Harvey Lerman Florida State Championship

by Jon Haskel

Delayed by one year due to the pandemic, the Florida State Championship made its debut under the name of the Harvey Lerman Florida State Championship at the Hilton Hotel St. Petersburg Carillon Park. The tournament namesake also made an appearance to say hello to the many players he has gotten to know over the years. Harvey also provided three chess books, signed by him, that were provided to three winners in a random drawing. The tournament had not taken place in St. Petersburg since 2008. There were 221 participants in the main event, which surpassed the old record of 215, also set in St. Petersburg.

In the main event GM Julio Becerra finished all alone in first place. Julio is a multi-time winner of the State title. Jeffrey Reinberg and IM Yunier Leyva Rivera shared the State Blitz title with Jeffrey getting the trophy on tiebreaks. Gunnar Andersen was the State Quick Chess champion. There were 79 participants in the Blitz tournament and 30 in the Quick Chess tournament.

I would like to thank Tim Gospodinov, Krista Alton and Arthur Alton for helping to direct these tournaments. Finally, may next year be "maskless"!



Tournament Namesake,
Harvey Lerman, sporting a
State Championship T-shirt



State Champion -
Julio Becerra wins it all for the
9th time. Congratulations!



Melakah Yisrael, U2100
Winner, Florida State
Championship



Oscar Gonzalez, U1800
Winner, Florida State
Championship

Becerra Rivero, Julio (2499) -
Wood, Jack (1934) [B07]
 Harvey Lerman Florida State fol-
 lowchess.com 04.09.2021

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6
 3.Nc3 e5 4.dxe5 dxe5
 5.Qxd8+ Kxd8
 6.Bc4 Be6 7.Bxe6 fxe6
 8.f3 [8]Bc5 [1:10]
 9.Nh3 [1:13]Nc6 [8]
 10.Na4 [3:25]Bb4+ [1:28]
 11.c3 [1:05]b5 [9:55]
 12.cxb4 [7]bxa4 [5]
 13.Bd2 [5:57]Rb8 [10:15]
 14.a3 [2:47]a5 [18:00]
 15.Bc3 [57]Rb5 [27]
 16.Nf2 [5:20]Nd7 [3:13]
 17.Nd3 [2:53]Kc8 [6:00]
 18.h4 [2:39]Kb7 [1:58]
 19.Kf2 [1:12]Rf8 [1:34]
 20.Rhd1 [2:26]g6 [52]
 21.Rac1 [4:52]Nf6 [3:30]
 22.Ke3 [1:12]axb4 [15]
 23.axb4 [15]Nd7 [21]
 24.Ra1 [1:33]Ra8 [5]
 25.Ra2 [1:39]Nd4 [1:07]
 26.Bxd4 [3:13]exd4+ [5]
 27.Kxd4 [9]c5+ [16]
 28.bxc5 [1:22]e5+ [6]
 29.Kc4 [4:12]Kc6 [6]
 30.b4 [1:29]Rc8[8]
 1-0

More Winners from the Harvey Lerman Florida State Championship...



Keval Doshi, U1500 Winner,
Florida State Championship



Jeffrey Reinberg 2021 Florida
State Blitz Champion



Kiani Walker, U1200 Winner
Florida State Championship



Gunnar Andersen 2021 Florida
State Quick Chess Champion

FLORIDA'S TOP PLAYERS (Using latest USCF Rating Supplement's "Top 100" Active Player Lists, except for "OVERALL")							
Players 18 & Under			GIRLS U<19			OVERALL (active masters)	
Kumar, Nikhil	17	2442	Amy Xing	18	1555	GM OLEXANDR BORTNYK	2678
Ngo, Bach	13	2302	Shama Yisrael	17	1948	IM DANIEL FERNANDEZ	2521
Venkat, Raghar	17	2285	Jennifer Hoyos	16	1400	ROBERT M PEREZ	2494
Kumar, Namar	14	2201	Gia Burk	15	1127	GM RENIER GONZALEZ	2481
Hernandez, Ron	14	2167	Sisira S Yerrajennu	14	1773	GM RONALD W HENLEY	2456
Chen, Benjamin Lj	17	2164	Alice Wu	13	1797	IM YUNIER LEYVA RIVERA	2454
Gao, Marvin	13	2158	Jolie Huang	12	1720	FM NIKHIL KUMAR	2442
Chakrabarti, Brejesh	11	2155	Elena Anastasia	11	1372	FM COREY ACOR	2371
Stone, Vincent William	15	2091	Coco Yao	10	1100	MarLLa Bortnyk	2352
Yang Jr., Andy	16	2064	Maanya Rao	9	909	FM MARK RITTER	2341
Shukla, Aniket	13	2057	Sophie Li	8	994	ROBERTO ALVAREZ FERREIRO	2330
Gospodinov, Antony	15	2032	Karina Prasad	7	703	FM DALTON PERRINE	2330
Pothuri, Abhiram Sai	12	2012	Eleanor Jang	6	722	BACH NGO	2330
Drum, Robert David	16	2011	SENIORS (65+)			RAGHAV VENKAT	2285
Wang, Alan John	18	2009	Paul H. Fields	65	2264	FM ARNALDO FERRAGUT	2284
Ricci, Nicholas Michael	18	2009	Stephen Stoyko	72	2227	BRYAN TILLIS	2270
Singh, Keshav	16	2002	Javier Antonio Torres	69	2225	DAGOBERTO DIAZ	2268
Ziegler, Nate	12	1957	Sergey Berechenko	74	2200	FM CESAR JOSE VALIDO	2267
Starkman, Elliot	18	1947	William Cornwall	76	2147	TROY E DALY	2267
Shen, Jason	14	1940	Jose Hernandez	66	2134	NICHOLAS ROSENTHAL	2259
Farragut, Cannon	11	1920	WOMEN (active in last year)			FM LUIS BARREDO	2255
Ligotti, John Joseph	15	1907	Mariia Bortnyk		2352	MARTIN HANSEN	2255
Marian, Aaron	11	1823	Yaniet Marrero Lopez		2304	TODD CHARLES BRYANT	2242
Yang, Maxwell	9	1726	Evgenia Hansen		2161	MR. BRITT RYERSON	2241
Roy, Ayush	10	1620	Vladlena Ciubara		2133	CM ANTONIO ARENCIBIA	2234
Petrella, Gerard	10	1457	Amelia Hernandez		2095	ROBERT YORISAN RAMIREZ	2228
Wu, Winston	7	1448	Tianhui (Cindy) Jie		2015	FM JAVIER ANTONIO TORRES	2225
Kaidash, Platon	9	1439	Deborah Alegria Cruz		1984	RYAN EDWARD HAMLEY	2223
Datta, Riyaan	9	1397	Shama Yisrael		1948	PEDRO HERNANDEZ-PEREZ	2221
Jani, Aakash	6	1330	Idara Ramos		1867	CARLOS ANDRETTA	2212
Ratlif, Ryan	7	1194	TOP BLITZ			RAVINDRA WIJESUNDERA	2210
Overlingas, Akeras	8	1169	Julio Becerra		2659	NAMAN KUMAR	2201
Kumar, Ishir	8	1157	Robert M Perez		2496	ERIC COOKE	2200
Thomas, Henry	8	1140	Corey Acor		2452	THEODORE LUKE SLADE	2197
CORRESPONDENCE			TOP QC			HAN SCHUT	2188
			Julio Becerra		2557	ABHIMANYU BANERJEE	2180
			Robert M Perez		2387	YANDRI MORALES	2175
			Corey Acor		2344	ESTEBAN OQUENDO	2172
			CHESS COACHES			MIGUEL RECIO	2171
			Professional - Level V			RONALD HERNANDEZ	2167
			Mark Ritter			MR. JOSE CABRERA	2166
			National - Level IV			BENJAMIN LJ CHEN	2164
			Tania Kranich-Ritter			OSCAR LUIS MARQUEZ	2157
			Tim Tusing			REYNIER MONTERO	2142
			Miguel Ararat			LEOVEL BARBON	2128
			FIDE Instructor License			MR. EDUARD ZHAKAMUKHOV	2124
			Miguel Ararat			JUAN C POZA	2124

Affiliate Spotlight—Volusia County Chess Club

by Anthony Cipollina

It's been a wild couple of years. The end of 2019 saw a return to tournament chess in the Volusia County area with our VCCC monthly G25d5 dual rated tournaments, and the VCCC saw much growth and success even organizing a team to enter the 2020 United States Amateur Team South where we took the first place under 1700 section and I took the board 2 prize and also tied for first



overall with a score of 4.5/5. The only thing we didn't get was the prize for best name. That went to "The Fractured but Whole." We still took great joy when we heard the tournament director call out "T's Nutz is the winner of the under 1700 section."

Alas, then covid hit. Everything was forced to close down for a month. Upon reopening, I was faced with a decision, shut down the club or keep it open and accept the risks. During the time of the shutdown, I kept everyone together with our Facebook group, and I took the opportunity to create www.volusiacountychessclub.com. Monitoring the group, I noticed there was still a great desire to play over the board chess. The Queen's Gambit boom

also stoked that desire. I decided to keep it going by taking proper precautionary measures, spacing out the players, providing hand sanitizer and cleaning wipes for wiping down the pieces, and masking wearing. Since then our club has grown safely and consistently. I even got to teach a chess camp at the Museum of Arts and Sciences and became elected to the FCA Board where I'm happy to be serving not just our local community but our Florida players as a whole!

Volusia County Chess Club meets every Tuesday at Game Masters at 2550 South Nova Road in South Daytona from 6 to 10. I established a club rating system, post our weekly club rated tournaments on our website, and stream our board 1 live to Facebook every week. I hope to start our monthly USCF rated tournaments again soon. I just need to secure a location for doing so. As I write this, I am getting ready to head out to Barnes and Noble at the Tanger Outlets for our second weekly casual meeting. I hope to include a game from one of our USCF rated tournaments in my next posting. Please follow us on Facebook and our website for more information.



“Games Around the World Exhibition” World Chess Day Celebration

by NM Bryan Tillis

Palm Beach Chess was happy to partner with the Norton Museum of Art for World Chess Day. It is a dream for chess organizers to partner with an organization of high stature to broaden our reach with the community. We were able to meet many new faces who have since started coming to our weekly chess club at Habit Burger Grill. We are always looking for new opportunities to expand our club.

The events of the day were broken down into two events:

Learn to Play Chess: 10:00am-12:00pm

Chess Master Challenge and Simultaneous Exhibition:

12:30pm-2:00pm

The day started smoothly with many players ranging from complete beginner all the way up to International Master

stopping by to check out the event or listen to lectures provided by PBC staff.

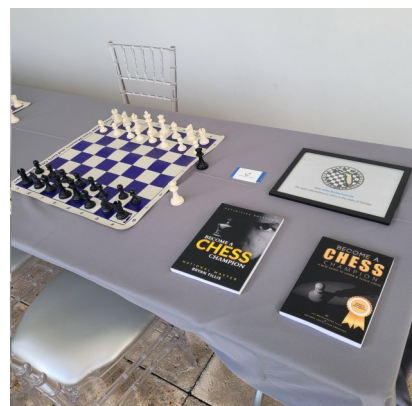


The Museum is Modern & Beautiful



The Calm Before The Storm

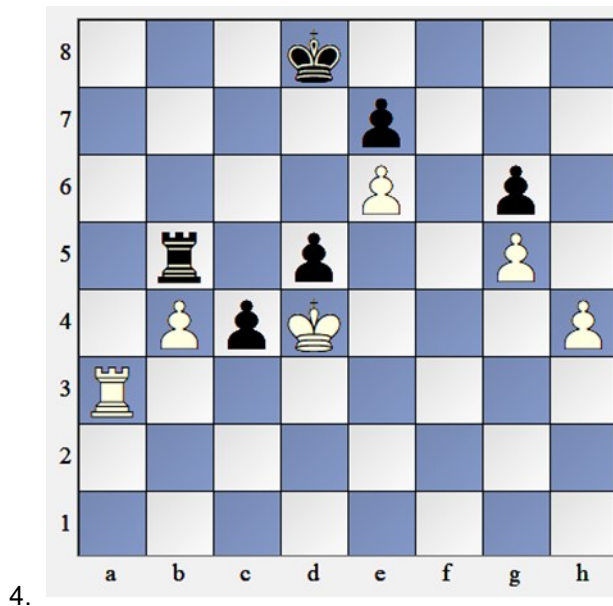
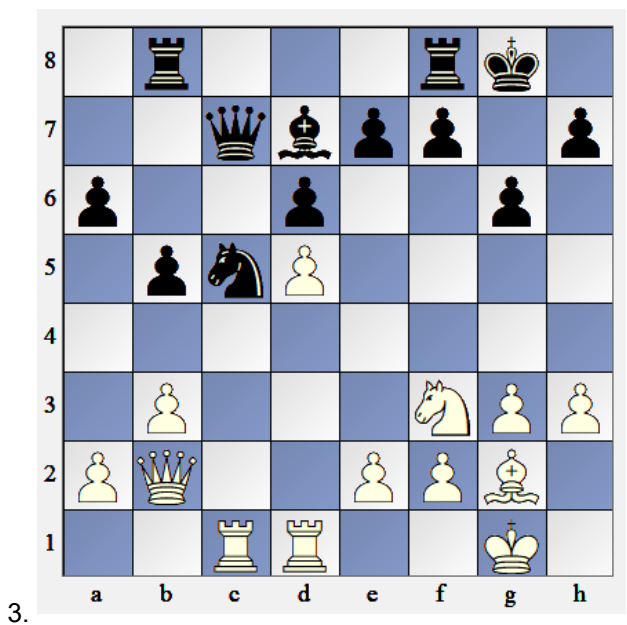
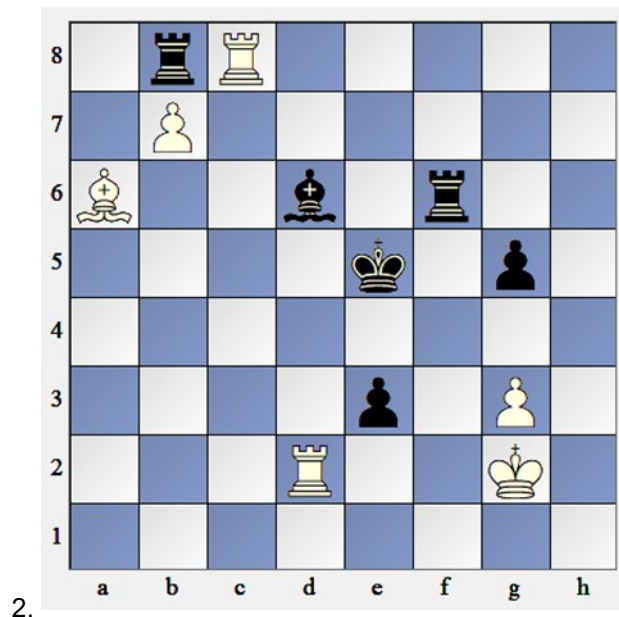
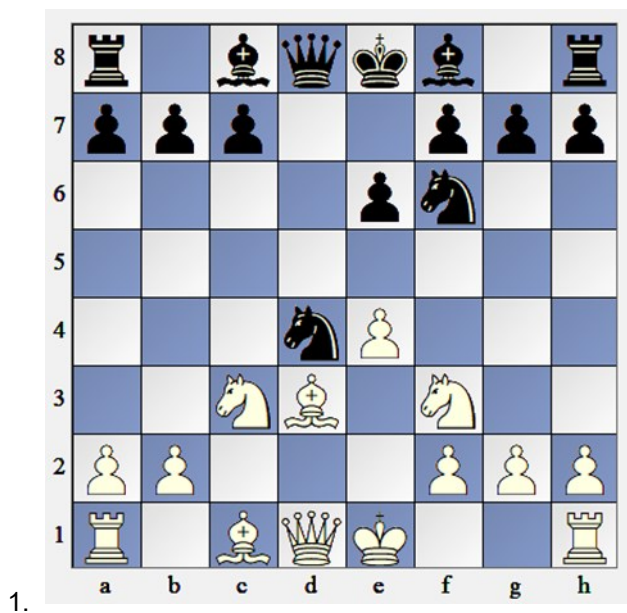
Then the fun began with an 18 board simul. I will be honest when initially proposing to do the simul that I had no idea I would have such a strong field. The majority of players had a USCF rating above 1600 and pairing this with a strict time limit made for an interesting and difficult task. I am happy to say I survived the onslaught and was able to score an unbeaten 17/18 against my formidable opponents. On the following page the reader will be able to test themselves with key tactical moments from the simul.



A bit of advertising for the Florida Chess Association, we provided all sets to the players at the end of the sessions.

Credit to Matthew Kolcz for the great pictures from the event.

In all tactical problems it is White to Move:



Answers on the following page.

Norton Museum Exhibits:



Problem 1: 7... Nxd4 8. Nxd4 Qxd4 9. Bb5+ Wins the Queen.

Problem 2: 1. Rxd6 Rxd6 2. Rxb8 Rxa6 3. Re8+ where White will Queen on the following move.

Problem 3: 12. b4 Na4 13. Rxc7 Nxb2 14. Rb1 Na4 15. Rxd7 with a decisive material advantage.

Problem 4: 1.h5 gxh5 2.g6 Kc7 3.Ra8! Rxb4 4.g7 c3+ 5.Kxc3 Rg4 6.g8Q Rxg8 7.Rxg8 White wins.



Two pictures simply do not do this fantastic museum justice. If you are ever in the West Palm Beach area, we strongly suggest checking out the Norton as they not only have wonderful exhibits but also a fantastic staff. It was a pleasure working with them and we will definitely have more events in the future!

More information on the Palm Beach Chess club can be found on palmbeachchess.com

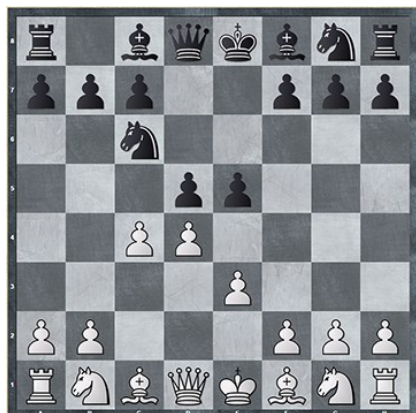
Some games from recent events by Miguel Ararat



(1) Galbraith, Scott (1550) - Leslie, Scott (1440) [C44]
2021 THE VILLAGES 21- CLASS-, 12.07.2021
[Ararat, Miguel]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e5 3.e3 [3.dxe5 d4 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.a3 Nge7 6.Bg5 Bg4 7.Nbd2 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Bg3 Nf5 10.Qc2 Qe7 11.Qe4 h5 Black is clearly better in: 1/2-1/2 (55) Mamedyarov, S (2809)-Nepomniachtchi, I (2751) Moscow 2018]

3...Nc6 [3...exd4 4.exd4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Bxd2+ 7.Nbxd2 0-0 8.Be2 dxc4 This variation takes the game to positional channels away from the spirit of the Albin Counter gambit. The IQP was an asset in: 1/2-1/2 (65) Jussupow, A (2595) -Kasimdzhanov, R (2670) Germany 2005]



4.cxd5 Qxd5 5.Nc3 Bb4 [Black follows an active path and creates an unbalanced position.]

6.Bd2 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 [After this recapture the Black queen will be comfortable in the center.]

[7.bxc3 Nf6 8.c4 Qd6 0-1 (28) Tarini, G (2150)-Adhiban, B (2689) Chess.com INT 2019]

7...exd4 8.exd4 [White take on an IQP under less favorable conditions than in the game Jussupow - Kasimdzhanov, 2005, because the first player is behind in development.]

8...Nf6 9.Nf3 Ne4 [9...Bg4 10.Be2 0-0 -0 with pressure against the IQP and easy play in the middlegame for Black.; 9...0-0 10.Be2 Bg4 Black is a move down compare to 0-0-0 (the black rooks stills on a8)]

10.Be2 Nxc3= [Black fixes White's pawn structure and now the "new c pawn" will push the Black queen away from the center.]

11.bxc3 0-0 12.0-0 Re8 13.h3 Ne7 14.c4 Qd8 15.Bd3 Bf5 16.Rc1 Bxd3 [16...Qd7 Gives Black a better version than in the game. 17.d5 b6 18.Re1 Bxd3 19.Qxd3 Ng6]

17.Qxd3 Ng6 18.Qd2= b6 19.Rc2 Rc8 20.a4 Qf6 [In this quiet position White can lose after the natural Rfc1.]

21.Rfc1 [21.Re1 Nf4 is = is White removes the rook on c2 from the double attack Qg6. 22.Rc3]

21...Nf4 22.Re1? Rxe1+ [22...Qg6 23.Rxe8+ Rxe8 24.Nh4 Qh5 25.g3 Nxh3+]

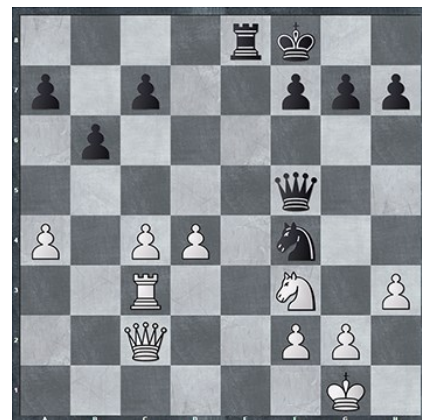
23.Qxe1?? [White leave the rook on protected and the double attack on g2 and c2 wins on the spot.]

23...Qf5 [23...Nxg2 is not the best continuation but Black retains a winning advantage. 24.Qe4 Nf4]

24.Rc3= [Both players lack a clear plan such to what endgame should they transition or how can play exploit his superior pawn structure (transition to a knight or pure pawn endgame for example)]

24...Kf8 25.Qd2 Re8 26.Qc2? [A positional mistake that allows Black to transition to a favorable endgame.]

26...Qf6?! [26...Qxc2 27.Rxc2 Re2 28.Rxe2 Nxe2+ 29.Kf1 Nc3 30.a5 bxa5 Remember this position later in the endgame.]



27.Re3? Qd8 [Black blunders a pawn and White gets a strong initiative.]

[27...Nxh3+ 28.gxh3 Rxe3 29.fxe3 Qxf3]

28.Qxh7 Rxe3 29.Qh8+ [29.fxe3 Ng6]

29...Ke7 30.Qxd8+ [White needs his queen to exploit the expose location of the Black king.]

30...Kxd8 31.fxe3 [Now Black collects the white pawn on a4 and equalizes with Nd3-Nb2.]

31...Ne2+ 32.Kf2 Nc3 33.Ne5 Ke8 34.a5 [White needs to use his pawn as bait for the black knight.]

[34.Ke1 Nxa4 35.Kd2 In endgames piece activity is critical. The black knight on a4 is passive in contrast to its white counterpart on e5.]

34...bxa5= 35.Ke1 a4 [Too direct, f6 gives White the chance to go wrong.]

[35...f6 36.Nc6 a4 37.Nxa7?? a3]

36.Kd2 Ne4+ 37.Kc2 f6 38.Nc6 a6 39.Nb4 a5 40.Nc6 Kd7 41.Nxa5 Kd6 [41...c5 42.d5]

42.Kb2 g5 43.Ka3 Nc3 44.Kb4 Nd1 45.e4 Ne3 46.c5+ Kd7 47.g4 Nc2+? [Black needs to play a3 first then the check to be safe.]

[47...a3 48.Kxa3 Nc2+ 49.Kb3 Nxd4+]



48.Kc3 Ne3 49.Nc4 Nd1+ 50.Kb4 Nf2 51.e5 fxe5 52.Nxe5+ Ke6 53.Nf3 Ne4 [53...Nxb3 Liquidates the position and secure the draw. 54.Kxa4 Kd5]

54.Kxa4 [Black is two pawns down clearly losing.]

54...Kd5 55.Kb4 Nf2 56.Nxg5 Nxh3 57.Nxh3 [A good game to understand the importance of endgame skills when the tactics do not decide the game in the middlegame.]

1-0

(7) Ngo,Bach (2302) - Becerra,Julio (2588) [D37]

Harvey Lerman Florida State Champ, 11.05.2021
[Ararat,Miguel]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 [4.g3 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Be7 A fashionable way to meet the Catalan, Black moves his bishop twice, but in the process forces the White bishop to the unfavorable square d2. 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Qc2 Ne4 9.Bf4 c6 10.Nc3 g5 11.Bc1 f5 1/2-1/2 (30) So,W (2822)-Nakamura,H (2793) Saint Louis 2017; 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nc3 c6 The exchange variation is a weapon use for White to play for two results. In this Carlsbad structure White plays on the queenside to create a weak pawn (minority attack) and Black plays on the

kingside. Below master level Black suffers in this structure against a higher rated opponent. Perhaps, Black players can find inspiration in the game Habaica - Aronian, 2007. 6.Bg5 Be7 7.Qc2 g6 8.e3 Bf5 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Nbd7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Nd2 Re8 13.Rad1 Nf8 14.Bxf6 Bxf6 15.e4 dxe4 16.Ndxe4 Bg7 17.d5 Qc7 18.Qc4 Rab8 19.dxc6 bxc6 0-1 (33) Hobaica,J (2427)-Aronian,L (2741) Khanty-Mansiysk 2007; 4.Bf4 This move introduces an interesting idea. White develops his queenside pieces and castle long! No it is not a blitz idea, actually a model game is Gurevich-



Sokolov 55th URSS Champ.]

4...Be7 5.Bf4 0-0 6.e3 Nbd7 [6...c5 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.Qc2 Nc6 9.a3 Qa5 10.0-0 dxc4 11.Bxc4 Be7 12.g4 b5 13.Bxb5 Bb7 14.Nd2 Nb4 15.axb4 Bxb4 16.Nc4 Qa1+ 17.Kd2 Bxc3+ 18.Ke2 Qa2 19.Ra1 1-0 (19) Gurevich,M (2630)-Sokolov,A (2600) Moscow 1988]

7.Qc2 c5 8.Rd1 cxd4 9.Rxd4 Qa5 10.Bg3

1/2-1/2

(8) Hamley,Ryan (2215) - Andersen,Gunner (2338) [D97]

Florida State Championship, 04.09.2021
[Ararat,Miguel]

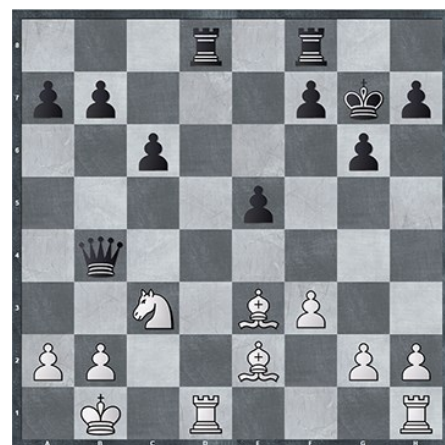
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Qb3 dxc4 6.Qxc4 0-0 7.e4 Nc6 8.e5 [8.Be2 Bg4 9.d5 with thematic play in the center and a long positional struggle ahead such as in: 1-0 (61) Anand,V (2790)-Leko,P (2745) Monte Carlo 2001]

8...Be6 9.exf6 Bxc4 10.fxg7 Kxg7 11.Bxc4 Nxd4 12.Nxd4 Qxd4 13.Be2 e5 [13...Qb4 14.a3 Qb3 15.Bd1 Qc4 16.Be2 Qb3 17.Bd1 Qc4 18.Be2 Qb3 19.Bd1 1/2-1/2 (20) Aronian,L (2648)-Sutovsky,E (2666) Reykjavik 2004]

14.Be3 Qb4 15.0-0-0 Rad8 16.f3 c6 [seems as a natural way to restrain the white knight and prepare a future pawn storm.]

[16...Rd6 with play along the third rank is a plan suggested by the chess engine.]

17.Kb1 [[#] A moves that shows White is planning to keep one rook to potentiate the power of the three minor pieces. White needs a rook to protect the back rank while he makes progress on the kingside.]



17...Qa5 18.Ne4 Rxd1+ 19.Rxd1 Rd8 [[#]]

20.Rc1 h6 21.g4 [White mobilize his king side pawns and aims to take control of critical squares around the black king. Black will try to do the same in the queenside. White has a solid position that can be improved, yet black has enough resources to hold his position. White's pieces and pawn coordinated really well and prevent any intrusion by the black pieces. Importantly, Black can not penetrate along the d file. It is worth to mention that the key piece in this position is the white rook. If you remove both rooks and give the move to white, Black is wining by more than 3 points!]

21...Rd7 22.a3 b6 23.h4 c5= 24.g5 h5 25.Ka2 Qa4 26.Bf2 Qc6 27.Bg3 Re7 [Black surrenders the d file to defend

his e pawn and white takes the opportunity to dominate the file and tilt the scale in his favor.]

[27...Kf8 28.Bxe5?? Qe6++-]

28.Rd1 Qe6+ [28...Rd7 29.Bxe5+ Kf8 30.Bd6+]

29.Kb1 Re8 30.Nf6 Rc8 31.Rd5 Qh3 32.Bxe5 Qxh4 33.Ba6 [An instructive game on the importance of piece exchanges, piece coordination and the decisive role of the control of an open file in strategic endgames.]

1-0

(2) Wang, Ellen (2088) - De la Colina, Nicolas (2056) [A54]

North American Youth Championship, 23.08.2021

[Ararat, Miguel]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nf3 [4.dxe5 dxe5 5.Qxd8+ Kxd8= 0-1 (33) Roussel Roozmon, T (2487)-Bacrot, E (2721) Montreal 2009]

4...e4 [4...exd4 5.Nxd4 Be7 Gives Black a solid position, the white pawn on c4 takes the ideal square away from the bishop on f1.]

5.Nd2 Bf5 6.Qb3 Qc8 7.e3 c5 [White closes the center and Black has to find a way to activate his pieces.]

[7...c6 8.h3 Be7 9.g4 Bg6 10.g5 Nh5 11.Ndxe4±]

8.d5 [#]

8...Be7 [8...g6 9.h3 h5 10.Qc2 Bg7 11.Ncxe4 Nxe4 12.Nxe4 0-0 White a pawn up and stands better.]

9.Qc2 Na6 10.a3 Bg6 11.Ncxe4 Nxe4 12.Nxe4 [The game continuation suggest that the plan with g6 and Bg7 offers Black better chances.]

12...0-0 13.Bd3 Nc7 14.0-0 b5 15.b3 a5 16.Bd2 Qd7 [#]

17.a4 [17.cxb5 Aiming for a Benko/Benoni type position with a white knight on c4 or b5. 17...Nxb5 18.a4 Nc7 19.Nc3 Bxd3 20.Qxd3]



17...bxc4 18.bxc4 Bd8 19.Nc3 Bxd3 20.Qxd3 Bf6 21.Ra2 Na6 22.Nb5 Nb4 23.Qb3 [White sacrifice the exchange to avoid the exchange Bxb4 and give Black a pass pawn.]



[23.Bxb4 axb4 24.e4]

23...Nxa2 24.Qxa2 Rfd8 25.Qc2 g6 26.Re1 Re8 27.Qd3 [27.e4 Be5 28.f4 Bd4+ with a double edge position and chances for both sides.]

27...Bg7 28.Rb1 Reb8 29.h3 Qe7 30.Re1 Re8 31.Rc1 [White clearly wants to hold her position and avoid the risk of pressing for a win with e4.]

31...Ra6 32.Qe2 Qd7 33.Qd3 Qe7 34.Qe2 Qd7

1/2-1/2



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West Regional Report by Timotey Gospodinov W RVP



More and more chess clubs are Opening in West Florida. The Saint Petersburg Chess Club used to be Open once a week, but now we are Open two or three days per week. We meet every Friday from 6:00-11:00 pm for friendly games and sometimes we organize unrated Blitz chess tournaments. Every 1st Saturday of the month we have a rated Swiss chess tournament, and we also have rated Quad chess tournaments. Recently, we have had over 30 players at our tournaments. The tournaments for the rest of the year include:

Swiss- 10/2; 11/6; 12/4
Quad- 9/11; 10/16; 11/13; 12/11

Every Sunday from 2:00 pm we have a group chess lessons for beginners and Intermediate players.

For more information about chess tournaments, online or in person lessons and anything about chess in Saint Petersburg you can visit our website - <https://chessclubjoy.webs.com/>

Scholastic chess is growing in Tampa. More schools are opening up this fall for after school chess programs. Currently, Tampa has 3 big chess companies Board One Academy, Stalz Chess Academy, and Alton Academy 4 Chess. All these coaches have several successful chess programs for students. Scholastic rated over the board chess tournament are organized by Alton Academy 4 Chess. These tournaments are held monthly, the next one will be September 18th, registration is open at www.alton4chess.com.

Unrated Chess in Pinellas County

The "PCS Chess" club was created during the pandemic to give residents of Pinellas County (St. Pete / Clearwater area) more opportunities to meet online for informal chess. It has grown quite a bit in a year and a half!

- The majority of members are school students and staff, with a current total of nearly 400 members representing 25 elementary, 12 middle, and 13 high schools in Pinellas County.
- PCS Chess has held over 15 friendly matches against other clubs in the USA and overseas.
- PCS Chess has also held over 180 in-house arenas and Swiss tournaments, and now offers three arenas, one open Swiss, and one K-12 Swiss tournament each week.

The friendly matches included participation by invitation in the 20/20 Championship League, an international chess league with over 100 clubs representing schools, universities, and communities around the world. Last season Pinellas played teams in England, Gibraltar, Scotland, South Africa, USA, & Wales. The new season is starting in September, with Pinellas facing off against a Slovenian club.

The growth of PCS Chess is also inspiring the creation of a high school chess league in Pinellas County. This league will involve unrated matches between at least one private and five public high schools. Matches will be played on chess.com, so schools will have the flexibility to play either online or over the board.

If you live or work in Pinellas County, then PCS Chess is for you! Log into your chess.com account, then go to www.chess.com/club/pcs-chess/join and join the action. Contact George Avlonitis on chess.com (gavlonitis) or by email (avlonitisg@pcsb.org) for more information

Northeast Regional Report by Ray Ratliff NE RVP



Hello Northeast Florida Chess! My name is Ray Ratliff and I am the Florida Chess Association newly elected Vice President of the Northeast Region. Our Region includes the counties of Nassau, St. John's, Putnam, Clay, Duval, Bradford, Union, Volusia, Baker, Columbia, Suwanee, Flagler, Hamilton, and Madison. I want to start by thanking the previous VP George Foote and I only

hope to add to his accomplishments and continue to push chess in a positive direction. There is no time to waste, so let's get started! Every newsletter we will spotlight a chess organization or club in our region to help build awareness and to promote a conversation between players and organizers. In this article we are highlighting the Nocatee Chess Club!

I recently visited the Nocatee Chess Club with my son Ryan and had the pleasure of meeting the founders, Aryaman Bansai and his father Dilesh. Aryaman invited us to join their Sunday neighborhood chess meet up at the Colony Pavilion in 20 mile at Nocatee. The location has a playground and a covered pavilion and many friendly chess players. We met at 3pm and immediately started playing chess and having a great conversation about the origins of the club and what they are now trying to accomplish. They, like many other clubs, took their chess online due to the pandemic and are now trying to meet in person for some friendly games. They also provide basic to intermediate chess instruction and hold unrated tournaments. There is no cost associated with the meet ups and I can say from first-hand experience, you will have a blast. You can connect with Aryaman, his dad Dilesh and the Nocatee Chess Club by visiting their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/nocateechessclub> or by simply showing up to their Sunday meet ups. Come learn, play, talk, and get to know your NE Florida chess community.

NE Region Clubs and Organizations

- Amelia Island Chess Club - Amelia Island - Thomas Rowan
- Cheesy Chess Club - St. Augustine - Estelle Thibodeau
- Chess for Charity - Jacksonville - Ray Ratliff
- Jacksonville Chess Club - Kevin Pryor
- The Knight School - Jacksonville - Reb
- New Smyrna Beach Chess Club - Steve Baker
- Nocatee Chess Club - Nocatee - Dilesh Bansai
- Preschool at San Marco Chess Club - Jacksonville
- ScholasticChess.org - Jacksonville - George Foote & Kevin Pryor
- St. Augustine School for the Deaf & Blind - St. Augustine
- Volusia County Chess Club - Anthony Cipollina

Central Regional Report

by Paul Leggett C RVP



Chess continues its post-COVID renaissance in central Florida with the reintroduction of local club tournaments, which are the backbone of chess in Florida. As I type this, the Central Florida Chess Club has just wrapped up its "Back To The Board" weekend tournament, and The Villages

Chess Club has completed and rated its August Swiss at the Villages. In each case the attendance was in the +/- 40 range, with quick filling of registration due to limited seating.

Going forward, we have some quality events on the horizon:

October 16th - The Connor Eickelman Lake County Classic

October 23rd - The Central Florida Scholastic Grand Prix 2

January 21-23rd - The CFCC 2022 Winter Open

January 29th - The Central Florida Scholastic Grand Prix 3

For details and to register, go to www.chessregister.com/ events

Make space on your calendar, and register early-tournaments fill up fast these days, and seats are limited in our modern COVID chess world.

See page 26 for a game from the recent Villages one day swiss tournament, where Expert Michael Damey comes out on top against yours truly after a very hard-fought and back-and-forth game. Enjoy!

Paul Leggett
Central Region VP



North West Regional Report

by Daa'im Shabazz NW RVP



Chess in Northwest Florida is starting to sprout once again as the pandemic had pushed activity online for the past year. In the capital city of Tallahassee, Black Dog Cafe has been the chess watering hole for decades. Due to the pandemic, the games are being played outside on the deck with Lake Ella as the backdrop.

FCA Board member Daa'im Shabazz was able to get a few games amongst the 10-12 players assembled. The enthusiasm was good and in the days of cell phones, the apps seems to have replaced physical chess clocks. A number of Florida State students (past and present) were getting in games as well as long-time residents like Richard Kennedy.

As social activities get back to a natural flow, Tallahassee hopes to host tournaments in the near future. Rocco Ferraro, a 2019 Florida State graduate, stated that he is ready to see chess blossom once again in the capital city. The Tallahassee Chess Club has been largely dormant, but there may be a rebranding of the "Capital City Chess Club" in the near future. The FSU Chess Club has an active Facebook presence, "Chess Club at Florida State University" with photos and other chess content.

Panama City Chess Club has seen a gradual increase of attendance at their weekly Wednesday meetings at Books-a-Million (811 E. 23rd St.). The group meets from 5-7pm and they are looking to add to the usual 6-8 people who come out to engage in battle. The contact e-mail is pcbchess@yahoo.com.

If you're in the panhandle of Florida, come out and play a game of chess!



South Regional Report

by Jon Haskel SVP



The Miami Chess Open is taking place October 22-24 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Doral. Send an email to chessclubbobbyfisher@gmail.com for more information. The 19th Annual Turkey Bowl is taking place November 12-14 at the Marriott Hotel in Coral Springs. For more information send an email to jon@bocachess.com. The 2022 U.S. Amateur Team Championship South is returning to South Florida for the first time since 2013. It will be taking place February 4-6 in West Palm Beach. The 2022 Harvey Lerman Florida State Championship is also returning to South Florida. It will be taking place September 3-5 in Palm Beach Gardens.

Palm Beach Chess is continuing to run a quad tournament and a blitz tournament each month in northern Palm Beach County. The email address for more information is nmbtillis@gmail.com. In Fort Lauderdale, the Fireman's Cove Chess Club is currently

meeting on Wednesdays and Sundays at the Panera Bread on Federal Highway in Fort Lauderdale. The club's email address is FortLauderdaleChess@gmail.com.

The South Miami Chess Club is continuing to run monthly tournaments at Evelyn Greer Park, 8200 SW 124th Street, Pinecrest, FL 33156. For more information send an email to southmiamicc@gmail.com. In my tournament chess travels this summer, which gladly have resumed after the pause for the pandemic, it was nice to see some familiar faces from South Florida on the road, Maxwell Yang and Nicolas De la Colina (both multiple times).



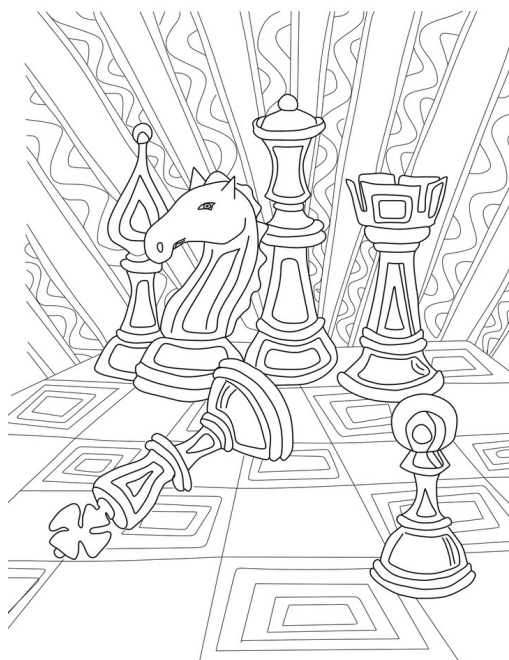
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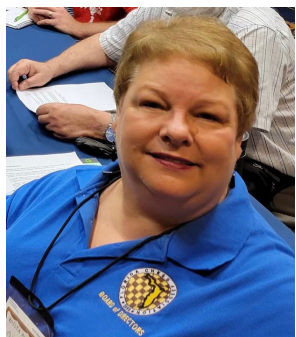
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Some Thoughts on the Southern Open...

by Krista Alton



I have worked the Southern Open, since 2016. The Southern Open is a large 3-day money tournament organized by Continental Chess and played in Orlando every July. I have always enjoyed working this 3-day event. This tournament began its long run in 1993; since the beginning the player participation has been anywhere from 136 – 250. In 2019, we had 199 players participate in this tournament. Last year, the event was canceled due to Covid. For 18 months, large over-the board tournaments have been silenced. Now summer 2021 the Southern Open was back and with a ROAR! This past July 23rd - 25th, we had 371 awesome players coming from all parts of Florida and other states to battle it out in the Florida heat.

Not only was the Southern Open this year the biggest in its 28 year history, but the corresponding Blitz tournament, held on Saturday night, was 3 times the size. Many Florida Chess Association board members were playing in the tournament, Kevin Pryor, Tim Staley, Matthew Kolcz, and Paul Leggett. FCA board member Harvey Leman also worked the tournament. The year's event was exciting with a multitude of Grand Masters, International Masters, Fide Masters, National Masters, Candidate Masters, and 2 Woman's Grand Masters. However, what was exciting to me was the 38 unrated players. My passion is to help these players and their families better understand the workings of a large rated tournament.

So who else was in this tournament? Well, I met Gary who was with his bride who are on an extended honeymoon so he could play before going to Estonia to do mission's work. I met Omar, who was inspired by the Netflix series "The Queens Gambit" to try his hand in his first tournament. I met Buster who lives in Anchorage Alaska, who took his summer vacation to come and play in this tournament. I met Dante an unrated player who decided to try his luck in the U1800 section and won! Dante's first rating after 5 games played is 2027! I met so many great people and helped so many new players with all their questions that one gentleman brought me coffee Saturday morning just to say thanks.

Over-the-board chess tournaments are back!!!

The Chess Wizard's Wayback Machine (circa 1995)



Hollywood Chess President, Steve Cernobyl, and Tournament Organizer/Director, Harvey Lerman displaying Joshua Waitzkin's new book - "Attacking Chess"

2021 Florida Senior Championship

Game annotations by Paul Leggett, Peter Dyson, IM Javad Maharramazade, and Andy Catlin. All photographs courtesy of Matthew Kolcz. Special thanks to Mike Moschos, who made this tournament a reality.



(1) Leggett, Paul (1777) - Diaz Castanet, Jorge (2026) A48

FCA Senior Championship The Villages, FL (2), 10.07.2021

Paul Leggett

1.d4 d6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bg5 g6 4.Nbd2 Bg7 5.c3 0-0 6.e4 Bg4?! 7.h3 Bxf3 8.Qxf3± Nbd7 9.Bc4

The idea behind this is that, if Black plays ...h6 to move the bishop, the g6 pawn becomes weak, since f7 is pinned. 9.Bd3 is probably best, but the engines debate the optimal location for this bishop.

9...e5 10.0-0 h6 11.Bh4!?

11.Be3 is far better, and I kicked myself for not doing so after I hit the clock.

11...c6 12.Rfe1N Qb6 I perceived this as a mistake, but I failed to capitalize on it.

13.Bxf6?! Nxf6 14.dxe5 dxe5 15.Bb3= Qc7 16.Rad1 a5 17.a3?! Kh7 18.Nc4 Rad8 19.Bc2 b5 20.Ne3 Qe7 21.g4

I had designs on the light squares around the Black king, and f5 in particular. The game move is roughly a 5th choice engine move, but it required my opponent to spend a lot of time, and created an environment where he could err.

21...h5?! Which he promptly did. 22.g5 22.Nf5! immediately is best. **22...Nd7 23.h4 f6**

24.Nf5! My opponent did not expect this, and spent 21 minutes on his reply.

24...Qf7 24...gxf5 25.Qxh5+ Kg8 26.Bb3+ (26.g6 was my top candidate move while I was waiting, and I suspect it is what I would have actually played, since the calculation was clear and simple.) 26...Rf7 27.g6 Kf8 28.Qh7 and the engines give a mate in 14 with best play, but the result is clear.

25.Nd6 Qe6 26.Nf5 He spent some time here- I was curious to know if he would repeat the position.

26...fxg5 27.hxg5 Nc5= I had 70 minutes left, and my opponent had 32 here.

28.Rxd8 Rxd8 29.b4 My idea here was to recapture with the c-pawn, so my queen would cover b3, allowing my bishop to seize the diagonal. Opposite color bishops favor the attacker.

29...axb4?! 30.cxb4± Nd7?? 31.Rd1!+- White is seizing files and diagonals, and Black's pieces are awkwardly placed and not working together.

31...Rf8 32.Qh3 Nb6 33.Rd6 Qe8 34.Nh4

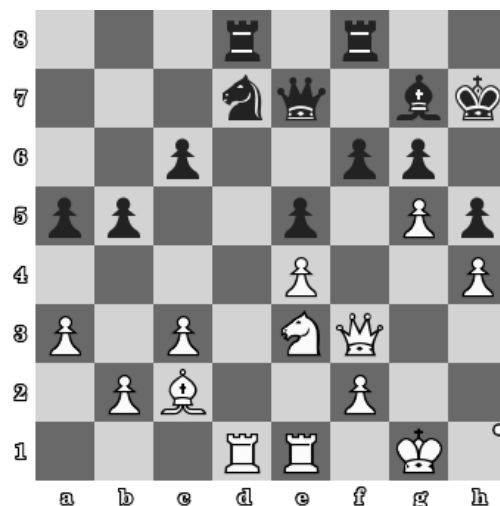
35.f3?? Basically throwing away the win. **35.Nxg6!+-**

35...Qe7= 36.Rxg6 Rxh4 37.Rxg7+ Kxg7 38.Qxh4 Qf7 39.Qg3 Nc4 40.Bb3 The engines scream draw here for every reasonable move.

40...Qa7+ 41.Kh2 Qxa3 42.Bxc4 Qb2+ 43.Be2 I had miscalculated, thinking I could snag the e5 pawn and avoid a repetition.

43...Qxe2+ 44.Kh3 Qf1+ 45.Kh4 Kg6 46.Qxe5 Qh1+ 47.Kg3 Qg1+ I offered a draw here, realizing that after blocking the check from h1 with Qh2, my f3 pawn would be hanging.

½-½



1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Bf5 I had originally planned to play 2...Nf6 but I chickened out and fell back to my Baltic/Keres stuff. I get good games with it, and it's hard to let go.

3.Bf4 This is the most popular opening in Florida, bar none. Expect to see it, and be surprised when you don't.

3...e6 4.e3 Bd6 5.Bg3 Nf6 6.Bd3 Ne4 7.c3!? GM Morozevich has been one of my Master Models for this defense: 7.c4 c6 8.0-0 Nxc3 9.hxc3 Bg4 10.Nc3 Nd7 11.Qb3 Rb8 12.Rfe1 0-0 13.Rac1 Qf6 14.Nh2 Bh5 15.Be2 Bg6 16.Qd1 dxc4 17.Bxc4 e5 18.d5 e4 19.Rc2 Ne5 20.Ng4 Qg5 21.Nxe5 Bxe5 22.dxc6 bxc6 23.Rd2 h5 24.Bb3 Rbd8 25.Rxd8 Rxd8 26.Qe2 h4 27.gxh4 Qxh4 28.g3 Bxg3 29.fxg3 Qxg3+ 30.Kf1 Rd6 31.Qa6 Bf5 32.Bxf7+ Kh7 0-1 (32) Le,T (2931)-Morozevich,A (2594) Chess.com INT 2020

7...Qe7!? 8.Qc2 Nd7= 9.Nbd2 9...0-0N Very lazy of me, and it cost me a center pawn.

9...Nxc3 10.hxc3 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 f5=

10.Nxe4 dxe4 11.Bxe4 Bxe4 12.Qxe4 Nf6 13.Qc2 The computer says White is winning, and among computers and GMs it would be true. At my level, a half-open file, a tempo for castling, and a newly-energized state of mind can go a long way.

13...c5 14.0-0 Bxg3 15.hxc3 I learned from GM Sam Shankland how valuable an outpost g4 can be in these kinds of positions.

15...cxd4 16.exd4 Generally speaking, my plan was to organize a minority attack on the queenside, and trade down to a rook and pawn vs rook ending I could draw. Or something like that! **16...Rac8 17.Rfe1 Rfd8 18.Rad1 b5 19.Qb3 a6 20.Ne5 20.d5!**

20...Nd5 21.Re4 My opponent is playing for mate, when he should be playing to disarm anything I do, and aim for a winning pawn-up ending.

21...Rd6 22.Rde1 Nb6 23.Qd1+- I'm still losing badly, but losing and lost are not the same.

23...f6 This was obviously objective bad (making e6 weak on a half-open file??), but when you are losing, the objectively best moves won't help. I have to hit the chaos button- that, or just resign and go to lunch. I wasn't that kind of hungry.

24.Nd3 Nc4 25.Qe2 Re8 26.b3 This is not an objectively bad move, but I saw an opportunity to imprison my opponent's rook over on the kingside, making me almost a "piece up".

26...f5 An intermezzo forcing the rook to an awkward square. It looks dangerous, but I can economically defend against any mate threats. It's the extra queenside pawn that has me worried.

27.Rh4 Nb6 28.f4?

Positionally, almost a "helpmate" against the rook. White still has the advantage, but I am no longer losing.

28...Nd5 29.Rc1 Rc8± 30.Nc5 Nf6? Very poor. 30...b4! is the minority attack-approved way to equalize the game.

31.Re1 Kf7 Not necessary, and too extravagant.

31...Qa7! is a cool move, with ideas on the White king involving a Black knight on g4. That outpost starts to become a factor. I did not see this idea until later in the game.

32.b4 Rcc6? 33.a4!? bxa4 34.Qa2?! Qd8?! 35.Qxa4 Qb6 It was here that I started having ideas about White's king. White is still winning, but our respective margins for error are changing. 35...h5 is more prudent.

36.Qb3 The pin on the b-pawn became a small "red flag" for me, along with the loose rook on d1.

36...a5± 37.Rd1!? h6= 38.Rh1 White wants to recover his missing rook, but there are constant threats of ...Ng4 and associated forks with which to contend.

38...axb4 39.cxb4 39.Qxb4 would have minimized Black's play, but it is hard to adjust after being in a winning mindset only to have it dissipate. **39...Qb5!? 40.Kf2??** An understandable desire, but now White is just lost.

40...Ng4+-+ 41.Kf3 Rb6+- 42.Rhe1 Qc6+ 43.d5 Qxc5 This was a form of the idea I had seen back on move 36, with the pin on the b-pawn.

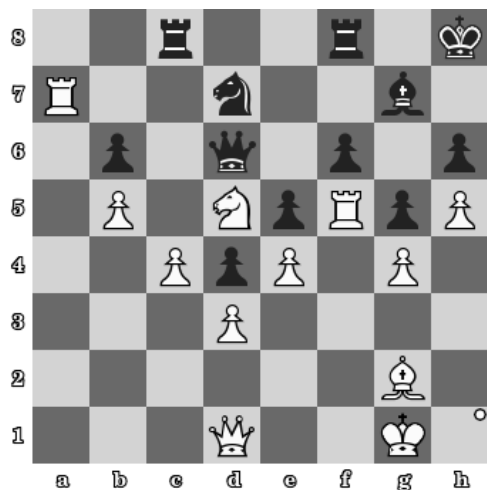
44.dxe6+ Ke7 45.bxc5 Rxb3+ 46.Ke2 Rb2+ 47.Kf1 Rxd1 48.Rxd1 Ne3+

0-1

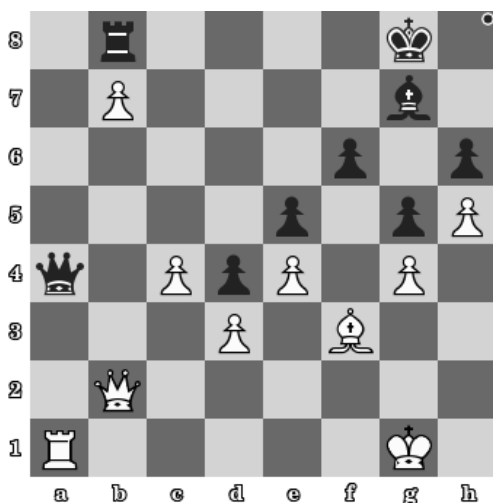
(3) Zlotnikov, Mikhail (2256) - Damey, Michael (2000) A34

FCA Senior Championship The Villages, FL (3), 11.07.2021

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 c5 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.e4 d6 6.Nge2 e5 7.0-0 0-0 8.d3 h6 9.h3 Nc6 10.Be3 Qe7 11.Qd2 Kh7 12.Rab1 Nd4 13.f4 Bd7 14.b4 b6 15.a3 Bc6 16.b5 Bd7 17.a4 Qd8 18.g4 Qc8 19.fxe5 dxe5 20.Rf2 Be6 21.Rbf1 Nd7 22.Ng3 f6 23.Nd5 Qd8 24.Qd1 Rc8 25.h4 Qe8 26.h5 g5 27.Bxd4 cxd4 28.Nf5 Bxf5 29.Rxf5 Qe6 30.R1f2 Rf7 31.a5 Rff8 32.Ra2 Qd6 33.axb6 axb6 34.Ra7 Kh8



35.Rxd7! Qxd7 36.Nxb6 Qc7 37.Nxc8 Rxc8 38.Qb3 Qc5 39.Rf2 Ra8 40.b6 Ra3 41.Qb2 Ra8 42.Rf1 Rb8 43.b7 Qc6 44.Rb1 Kg8 45.Bf3 Qa4 46.Ra1?



46...Rxb7! 47.Rxa4 Rxb2 48.Ra8+ Kh7 49.Kf1 Rb7 50.Rc8 Rb1+ 51.Ke2 Rc1 52.Kd2 Rc3 53.c5 Bh8 54.Bd1 Ra3 55.c6 Bg7 56.Rb8 Rc3 57.Bb3 Bh8 58.Bd5 Kg7 59.Rb7+

1-0



Ferreiro,Roberto Alvarez (2407) - Dyson,Peter (2074) E11

FCA Senior Championship The Villages, FL (5), 11.07.2021

Peter Dyson and IM Javad Maharramazade

G90/Incr10. This game was played in the last round. No less than 6 players had a chance to win or tie for first place. There were two players on 3.5 points. Andy Catlin and IM Zlotkinov. They drew. The players in this game were both on 3 points, and there were two other players on 3 points that got paired with players on 2.5, and both those 3 point players won. The win here by Alvarez Ferreiro pulled him into a 5-way tie for first, and having the best tiebreaks, he won the title. Comments and analysis are by Dyson unless other noted, assisted by Stockfish. Additional comments and analysis is provided by IM Javad Maharramazade (JM).

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 Bb4+ 4.Nbd2 d5 5.e3 0-0 1:29/1:29 (indicates remaining time for each player).

6.a3 Be7 7.Qc2 JM does not like this. Not clear where Queen should be, and gives Black target for ...c8.

7...b6 Black wanted to prepare ...c5 with ...b6 first, but JM suggests ...c5 can be played without further preparation.

7...c5 JM **8.cxd5 cxd4=** (8...exd5 Black can sac and build on lead in development. **9.dxc5 a5 10.Rb1 a4 11.Bb5 Qa5=**)

8.Bd3 c5 My idea is to trade the center pawns and put pressure on the resulting isolated d-pawn. JM: Now that have already played ...b6, could delay this and finish development first with ...b7 and ...b7.

9.0-0 Bb7 10.b3 Nbd7 1:20/1:20 Now I adopt a plan based on the idea of preparing ...e4 depending on what White does. With the Bishop coming to b2, I also want to keep a White pawn on d4 so I don't face two Bishops aimed at my King. JM: Looks about equal here. White will have to move the Queen again.

11.Bb2 Rc8 12.Qb1 JM: White admits that the moving the Queen to c2 wasted a tempo.

12...Rc7 12...cxd4 JM suggests Black can head for the hanging pawn position, especially with White's Rooks disconnected. **13.exd4 dxc4 14.bxc4 Qc7 15.Ne5 Rfd8** Looks like OK version of hanging pawns for Black. JM

13.cxd5 exd5 14.Ne5 cxd4?! 14...g6= Stockfish

15.exd4 White misses an opportunity to claim a small edge. JM: The pawn recapture results in a symmetrical position. Looks equal. White does not have a real advantage. Queen on b1 is in way of Rooks. White will need to move it again. Benefits to White are the Knight outpost on e5. Offsetting this, Black already has a Rook on the c-file, so Black's Rooks are better than White's Rooks.

15.Bxd4 Maybe White can keep the diagonal open, as I can't swap off the Knights immediately. **15...Nxe5 16.Bxe5 Bd6 17.Bxf6 Qxf6 18.Bxh7+ I** only considered to here, seeing I would be down a pawn. Stockfish continues this line with advantage to Black! **18...Kh8 19.Bd3 (19.Bf5 d4 20.exd4?? (20.Be4 dxe3 21.fxe3 Qh6) 20...Qh6-+) 19...Qh6 20.h3 d4!; 15.Nxd7!** Stockfish. Likes my idea for White of capturing on d4 with the Bishop, but only after this zwischenzug. **15...Qxd7 16.Bxd4±** JM. White's best plan is to play against the isolated pawn.

15...Re8 1:16/1:07

16.f4 JM. The main point is to further prop up the e5. On other hand, it weakens White's position. He no longer is able to control e4 with a pawn, whereas Black has the possibility of ...f6 to boot White's e5.

16.Re1 JM. White can consider improving his Rooks. Either this or move the Queen and then bring the a1 into play.

16...Bd6 Preventing f5 for the moment. I am looking for an opportunity to play ...e4 and then boot the e5 out of e5. JM. f5 is not a real threat. It would block the Bishop and weaken the support of the e5. So Black should welcome it. That said, ...d6 is a normal move. Another option is ...a8.

17.b4 This is a bit mysterious. I thought White might want to reposition his Bishop to the a2-g8 diagonal, or perhaps play b5 creating a future anchor for c6. But overall this seems slow. JM. This creates another weakness (along with e4), now on c4. Black can consider ...a6 and ...b5 and routing the c4 to c4.

17...Nf8 The problem with this move is that now White can play f5. Of course, the downside for White is that for the moment, his battery with the a1 and e5 is blocked.

17...Qa8 I wanted to play ...a8 but during the game I thought it was bad. Looking at it later, I did not see an issue. I probably missed that I have ...c6 to cover my Rooks after the exchange on d7. **18.Nxd7 (18.Ndf3 Ne4 19.Bb5 Nf8** JM. This exchange sac can be considered here, seeking light squared domination. **20.Bxe8 Qxe8) 18...Rxd7 19.Bb5**

18.f5

JM. Don't like this. Same reasons as above (blocks the d3 and weakens White's control of e5).

18...Qa8 JM. This move is fine, but Black has alternatives.

18...a6± Stockfish. JM: This looks nice, can then follow with ...d7. Can also play ...d7 without first playing ...a6.; **18...h6** JM. A different plan, bringing the other Knight to e4, taking advantage of White's pawn advance, giving up protection of g5. This way, Black keeps his blockading e5 on f6. (This became a factor in another few moves). For example **19.Re1 N8h7 20.Qd1 Ng5**

19.Qe1 White thought for a long time here. JM: This makes better sense than ♖e1. This keeps the Rook on the Kingside behind the f-pawn, so when the ♘ leaves, White has f5–f6.

19.Re1 I had not analyzed ♖e1, but spent most of my time the prior move determining if White could prevent ...♘e4, and perhaps is what White was analyzing as well. 19...Ne4 I play this anyway, however.... JM: preferable is one of the alternatives for Black discussed earlier. ...a6, ...♘d7, or ...h6. 20.Nxe4 dxe4 21.Bxe4 Bxe4 22.Rxe4 f6 I calculated to here, seeing I was winning the Knight. It looks like I will also be able to take a pawn on e5 after the Knight drops, but I did not look at this during the game. 23.Qa2+ This was the other line I had to check during the game. Thanks to the loose Rook on e4, I have everything covered. 23...Kh8 24.Nf7+?? (♠24.Re2 Stockfish. 24...a5!= Taking the ♘ right away would backfire.) 24...Rxf7 and Black is winning. 25.Rxe8 (25.Qxf7 Qxe4) 25...Qxe8

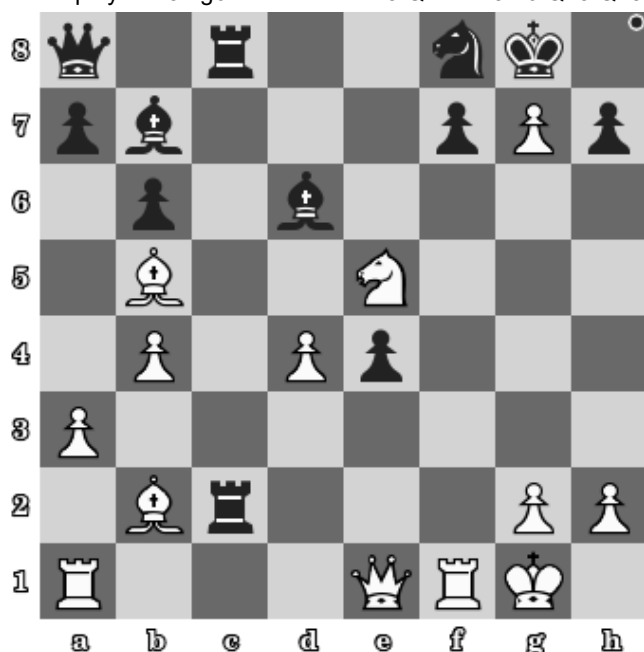
19...Ne4 20.Bb5 Rec8 36/52

21.Nxe4 dxe4 22.f6

JM. Black has allowed White this advance. Now get wild complications in a crazy, unbalanced position.

22...Rc2 This was very tempting.

23.fxg7?! ♠23.Rf2 Stockfish says White should not spend the tempo required to capture on g7, but it seems a natural move for any human player. 23...g6 24.Ba4 Rxf2 25.Qxf2 Bd5 26.Qe3 Qb8 27.Re1 (27.Qh6? Ne6 28.Bd7 Bf8?) 27...Ne6=



23...Ng6!? Stockfish says Black is now better. `Not 23...Rxb2?? 24.gxf8Q+ Rxf8 25.Qg3+ Kh8 26.Nxf7+ White is winning. **24.Rf2** ♠ Not 24.Nxf7?? e3 JM. 25.Nh6+ Kxg7 26.Rf7+ Kh8! The Knight is taboo, but after the King tucks to h8, Black is winning. White can't defend both g2 and b2.

24...e3?? The decisive error. This throws the game away for Black. JM: Black's only mistake. This often happens in these crazy positions where one side makes the decisive mistake.

24...Rxb2!

Stockfish. I overlooked this. After this White will need to walk a narrow path to keep his disadvantage to a minimum. Granted the position is complicated and easy for both players to make mistakes. But this first move in the combination should not have been hard to spot. 25.Rxb2 Nxe5 26.dxe5 Bxe5 It should be easy to calculate to this position and see that the exchange can be recovered, leading to a better position for Black, but lots of work still ahead. But maybe Black has something better? 27.Rd2 This is the best try. Now Black's best will be to take the Rook, either now or after playing e3 first. (27.Re2? Qb8!!—+ This star move! This move was not obvious! After this, Black is on the path to victory. JM: Black has a powerful dark squared bishop and should want to hold on to it! In addition to the battery against h2, the Bishop has an important defensive role to cover Black's dark squares. Let's consider some tries by White. (27...Bxa1?! Black is still on top after this, but the Bishop is better than the Rook! Although I don't know I would have realized this during the game. 28.Qxa1 Qb8? For example 29.Qf6 Qc7 30.h4 Rd8 31.Re1 Rd2 32.Be2 Qd6 and Black is slowly making progress) 1) What if White tries to hang on to his extra material? (Not that Black would take it anyway...)

28.Rd1? (2) What about blockading the e-pawn? 28.Re3 Bxh2+ 29.Kh1 Bf4 30.Rh3 Qe5 31.Qf1 Rc2 32.Rd1 Bc8 33.Rh4 Bg3 34.Rd8+ Kxg7 35.Re8 Be6+ For example 36.Rg4+ Kh6 This looks scary for Black, but the King will dance away from the checks. Still I would not want to face this with the clock ticking, so the "second best" approach of taking the Rook on a1 earlier starts to look attractive. 37.Rxe6+ fxe6 38.Qf8+ Kh5 39.Rxg3 Qxg3 40.Qf7+ Qg6 and White is out of checks.; 3) Can White use the pawns to blunt the Bishop? 28.g3 Bd4+ 29.Re3 Qe5 This ends all resistance 30.Rd1 Bxe3+ 31.Qxe3 Qxb5 wins) 28...Bxh2+ 29.Kh1 (29.Kf1 This is still bad for White 29...Bg3 30.Rf2 Qe5 No, you can't have my Bishop for that sorry Rook! 31.Bd7 Ba6+ 32.b5 e3 33.bxa6 Bxf2 34.Qe2 Qh2 35.Qa2 Qg1+ 36.Ke2 Qxg2+ 37.Bxc8 Bh4+ 38.Kxe3 Qxa2+) 29...Bg3 30.Qd2 Qe5 Black is winning. 31.Bd7 Qh5+ 32.Bh3 e3! Black wants ...Wxh3+ 33.Qd7 Qxe2+) 27...e3! 28.Re2 Bxa1 Stockfish. Black has a small edge. (28...Qb8?! After White's Rook dance to e2 this is less convincing than in the other lines. 29.Rxe3 Bxh2+ 30.Kh1 Qf4 31.Re8+ Kxg7 32.Qe3=)

25.Qxe3 Bxg2 25/31 26.Nxf7 Black is lost, but White makes it harder than it had to be.

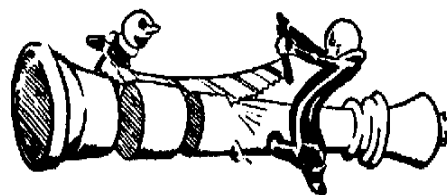
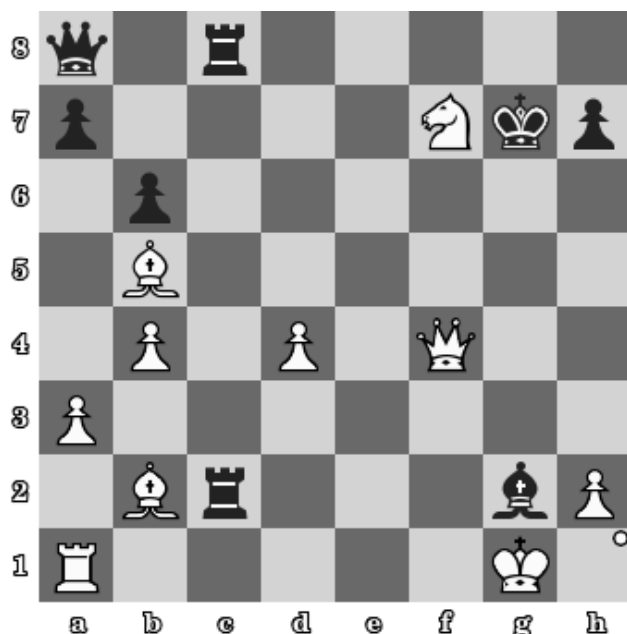
26.Ng4 JM. In some lines the ♖ on f7 is loose. So this, looking for ♖h6+, or ♖h6 and ♖f6. 26...Rxf2 27.Qxf2 Bf4 Trying to defend against both Knight checks. 28.d5 Bg5 (28...Bxd5 29.Qxf4!! This would be a nice finish. 29...Nxf4 30.Nh6#) 29.Qxg2 wins

26...Nf4? I messed up the move order.

26...Rxf2 This was my best try, but White is still much better. 27.Qxf2 Nf4 (27...Bf4 Stockfish. Covering the h6 square. 28.d5 Bxd5 Now we see the difference between ♖xf7 and ♖g4 as suggested by JM (in the latter situation, White had ♖xf4!! 29.Nh8!! An amazing idea from Stockfish. 29...Qb8 30.Nxg6 hxg6 31.Re1 White is winning thanks to the protected pawn on g7. This move allows the White Rook to defend along the second rank, after say, Black plays ...Qxh2 followed by ...Wxh2 and ...Bc2+.) 28.Bd7 A key defensive resource that I did not notice during the game. (28.Nh6+ This is very tempting but I did not find a mate for White. My threat of mate will eventually have to be dealt with. BUT, once again my analysis was faulty and Stockfish shows the win for White. 28...Kxg7 29.d5+ (29.Nf5+ Stockfish's improvement. 29...Kg6 30.Qg3+! Kxf5 31.Bd7+ Ke4 32.Re1+ Kd5 33.Qb3+ Rc4 34.b5+ with the fatal threat of ♕e6+) 29...Kxh6 30.Qh4+ Kg6 31.Qf6+ Kh5 32.Bd7 Ne2+ 33.Kf2 Rf8) 28...Nd3 (28...Kxf7 29.Bc1 It looks like I have too much material hanging. 29...Rxc1+ 30.Rxc1 Kxg7 31.Qg3+ Kf7 Well, if I could actually reach this position, it looks like I am still in the game.) 29.Qxg2 (29.Qf6 Stockfish. Now it is game over.) 29...Qxg2+ 30.Kxg2 Rc2+ 31.Kf3 Rxb2 32.Rg1 Rf2+ 33.Ke4 Rxf7 34.Be6

27.Rxf4 Bxf4 28.Qxf4 Kxg7? 16 Here I considered a number of candidate moves searching for a defense, but all fall short.

28...Qe4 but White still has a winning position.; I ruled out 28...Rxb2?? 29.Nh6+ Kxg7 30.Qg5+ Kf8 31.Qf6#; 28...Qf3 I spent more time on this move than ...Wxe4, and I thought I was losing, which likely also led me to rejecting ...Wxe4 as too similar. 29.Nh6+ Kxg7 30.Qg5+ Kf8 31.Qg8+ Ke7 32.Qg7+ Stockfish puts an end to my dreams of escape. 32...Kd6 33.Qe5#



29.Re1! This is a killer. I did not see it coming.

29...Qf3 30.Qg5+ Kf8
31.Qe7+ Kg8 32.Nh6+ Kh8 33.Qe5+
and it is mate next move.

1-0

— Reviews by Miguel Ararat —

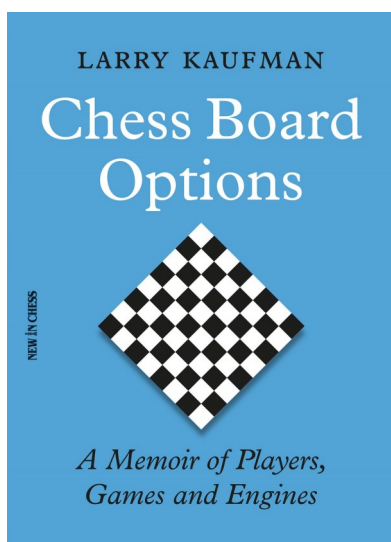


This season, chess publishers release a tide of high-quality material to meet the needs of chess lovers, beginners, club players and more skilled players. This is not a surprise due to the new interest in chess fueled by the Queens Gambit movie and the rise in online chess during the pandemic. In this issue, I am pleased to offer superb readings to different segments of my readers.

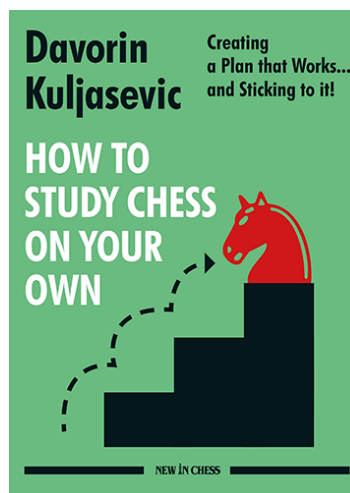
Chess enthusiasts will love reading **Chess Boards Options A Memoir of Players Games and Engines** by GM Larry Kaufman. GM Kaufman is a chess player with an extensive background in chess programming and experience in Japanese chess. When you put Kaufman's career in book format the result is a fascinating story that links his chess games, personal experiences (including his role as a real figure portrayed in the movie *The Queens Gambit*) and the development of chess engines in one single thread. Importantly, the author explains an often unappreciated contribution of chess engines to human chess praxis, the use of dynamic ways to play the game away from crude materialistic considerations.

Chess Boards Options A Player's Memory Games and Engines is a well written book, by a qualified and knowledgeable author that reaches an audience beyond the spheres of chess.

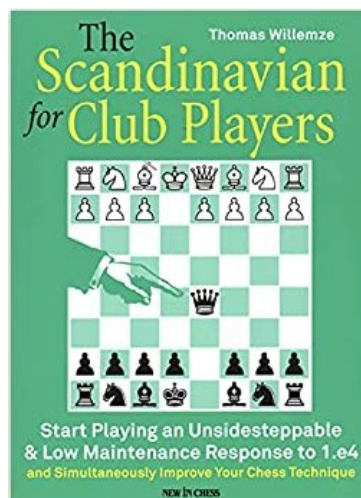
Club players are for a treat with Davorin Kuljasevic's **How to Study Chess on your Own**, **The Scandinavian for Club Players** by Thomas Willemze, **The London System in 12 Practical Lessons** by Oscar Prado, **Caruana's Ruy Lopez a White Repertoire for Club Players**, **The Flexible Open Spanish** by Ernst and **Ruy López Powerbase** by Chessbase.



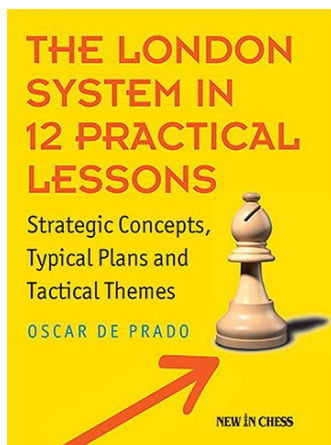
How to Study Chess on your Own by GM Davorin Kuljasevic is a book with a novel approach to help players work at chess. The author covers key aspects of chess improvement previously neglected or ignored by previous authors. For example, Kuljasevic emphasizes and explains the role of the right mentality, a plan of structural study and the systematic use of your study time to make progress in chess. Additionally, the author compiled a list with quality chess resources to point the reader in the right direction and save valuable time and money. **Kuljasevic** classified the chess resources according to the player's chess skills making his manual useful to beginners and advance players alike. The author has really made an extra effort to provide the best cost-effective tool to improve yourself. Now let's take a look at a list of opening books and digital resources that in my opinion fit **Kuljasevic's** suggestion of study your openings deeply (he was actually quoting nine times Hungarian champion and opening expert, Lajos Portish)



The Scandinavian for Club Players by Thomas Willemze is a repertoire book for Black against 1.e4 based on 1... d5. The author suggests that after 2.exd5 Black continues with Qxd5 followed by Qa5. Willemze is an expert in teaching middle game strategy to club players (his book *Chess Toolbox* comes to mind) and he uses that knowledge to explain the thematic plans in the Qa5 Scandinavian for both colors in a clear manner. The book is enriched with a series of memory markers and training positions to play the opening successfully.



The London System in 12 Practical Lessons by Oscar Prado is a sequel to his previous book *The Agile London System*. The content of this book is divided in twelve lessons that be easy incorporated in any study plan making it ideal for the club player with an improving plan in progress. In this effort, Prado goes beyond opening moves to explain three key aspects to master any opening named thematic tactics, typical plans and the strategic concepts. Important Prado discusses new ideas and developments in the London System in lesson eleven, which is a time saver to the non-professional chess player.

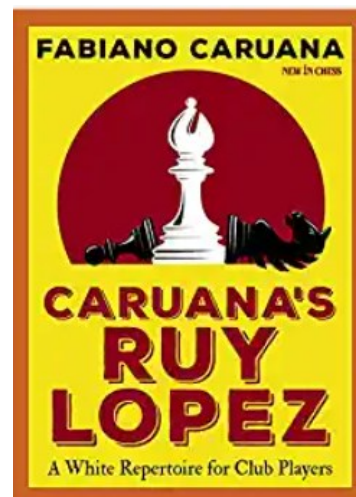


Caruana's Ruy Lopez a White Repertoire for Club Players is a club friendly version of Caruana's three ChessBase DVD's on the Ruy Lopez. The author's ability to put together an opening repertoire for White in a little over two hundred pages is remarkable. In this book, Caruana shows both, a high degree of proficiency in one of the oldest chess openings and an unusual understanding of the needs of club players. For example, against the Berlin Defense, Caruana proposes 4.0-0 instead of the complex and theoretically demanding 4.d3 (his opening choice to compete at high level). The reader can check the game Caruana – Dominguez in the 2021 US Championship to see why 4.d3 is not an amateur friendly choice in a repertoire book. In my opinion, this book illustrate how different are the opening choices for professionals and amateurs. Caruana broke the popular statement in chess "If professional player plays X variation at high level and scores then club players can follow in his footsteps". **Caruana's Ruy Lopez** is a must-read for any club player eager to play the Roll Royce of chess openings, The Ruy Lopez.

To be fair with the players defending the black pieces here is an opening resource to challenge White's Ruy Lopez. **The Flexible Open Spanish** by Dutch GM Sipke Ernst. In Caruana's words, The Open Spanish is the more direct and combative way to meet the Ruy Lopez and GM Ernst show the amateur player how to do that. The author covers the main Spanish Open line along with the sidelines and objectively assess the black chances, including the main line with Qe2. The game Smeets-Ernst, 2019 (draw in 73 moves) illustrates a thematic double rook endgame in the variation mentioned above, so the repertoire is tournament tested. **The Flexible Open Spanish** is the most up-to-date resource in this variation, explained in a clear manner.

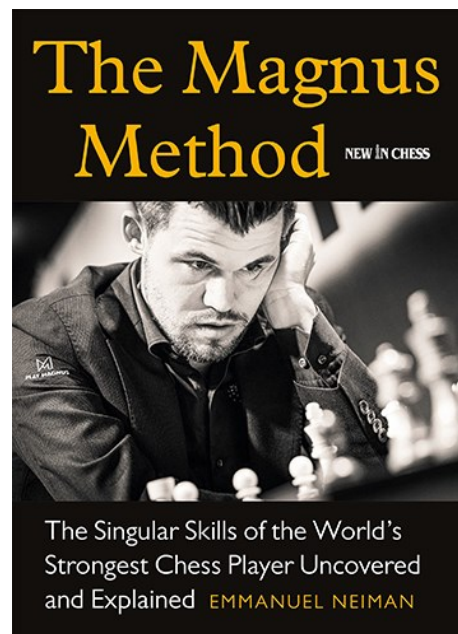
Players using the Ruy Lopez will benefit from studying quality model games to better understand that opening. A very economical resource with hundreds of model games in the Ruy López is **Ruy López Powerbase** by Chessbase. The power base has only quality games and saves the user the tasks of finding and selecting quality hardware to start the opening scan.

Advanced chess players and trainers may benefit from a variety of chess resources to enhance their chess and training skills respectively. Nieman's book *The Magnus Method* and *The Opening Encyclopedia 2021* by ChessBase complete the list.



The Magnus Method by Emmanuel Neiman provides a trainer perspective on the play of Magnus Carlsen. The author dissects what mental and technical qualities set Magnus apart from the rest of elite chess players. Neiman explains why Magnus approach to chess opening was important to save classical chess. Particularly, Carlsen structural approach in contrast to the search for the best move in every position. **The Magnus method** is a revelation about the chess toolkit of today's chess world champion. Highly recommended.

The Opening Encyclopedia 2021 is a key resource to start opening analysis and tournament preparation for advanced chess players. This DVD contains hundreds of Chessbase opening surveys supplemented with over twenty hours of video. Simply put, *The Opening Encyclopedia 2021* is the most cost-effective resource for preparing and study chess openings.



Online Game Review

By Paul Leggett, Central Regional VP

(1) Damey, Michael (2000) - Leggett, Paul (1811) [B22]

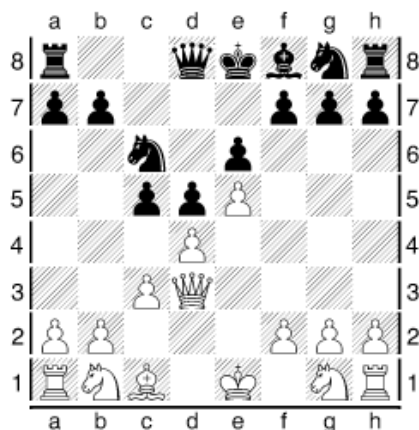
Villages CC August Swiss (3), 28.08.2021
[Leggett, Paul]

This game was played with a 45 minute time control, and many moves were played relatively quickly. The result is that many moves were less than perfect in sharp positions, and there is lots of punctuation for moves where the evaluation of the position changed significantly. This should not automatically be viewed as a judgment on the quality of the game. Instead of viewing "?" or "???" as criticisms, I think it is better to view each instance as an opportunity to treat the relevant position as a positional or tactical problem to be solved. There was lots of 3rd party commentary about this game at the tournament when the game finished, and the general conclusion was that opinions were all over the place, and no one was sure what was going on until the end. Based on the question marks, it is safe to say that the confusion applied to the players as well. Enough said-enjoy!

1.e4 d5 2.e5 [2.exd5 is the main line.]

2...c5 3.c3 Bf5 [3...Nc6]

4.d4 e6 5.Bd3 Bxd3 6.Qxd3 Nc6



[This is essentially a French Defense, Advance Variation, where Black has managed to trade off light square bishops.]

7.a3 Qb6 8.Nf3 Nge7 9.0-0 Nf5 10.b4!? cxd4 11.Rd1?! [11.b5]

11...dxc3? 12.Nxc3 Be7? [Returning the favor.]

13.Nxd5!± Qd8 14.Nxe7?! [14.Qc2; 14.Qe4]

14...Qxe7?? [14...Qxd3 15.Rxd3 Nfxe7=]

15.Bg5 [I missed this move.]

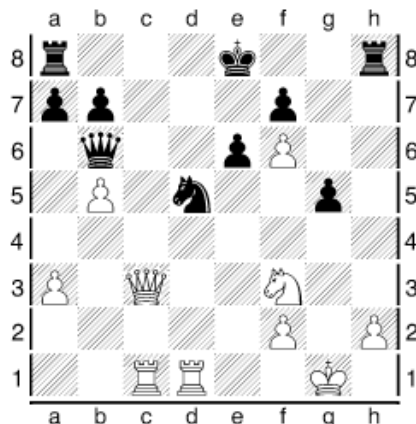
15...Qc7 16.b5 Nce7 17.Rac1 Qd8 18.Qc3!? [18.Qe4; 18.Qb3]

18...Qb6? [18...Nd5]

19.g4! h6 20.gxf5 hxg5 21.f6 [White is over +5 here, and the win should be easy, but short time and open lines add drama where none should be.]

21...gxf6 22.exf6 Nd5 [

23.Rxd5! [An excellent example of accurate



judgment regarding the relative value of material in the position.]

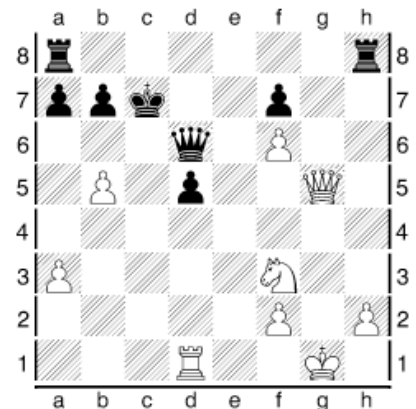
23...exd5 24.Re1+? [24.Qe1+ is the correct follow up, which practically wins on the spot.]

24...Kd8?? [24...Kf8=]

25.Qe5+-- Qe6 26.Qxg5 Qd6 27.Rd1?? [27.Re7!+--]

27...Kc7--+ [

By a strange twist of fate, Black is now winning.]



28.Rc1+ Kd7?? [28...Kb6!+--]

29.Ne5+? [29.Qf5+--]

29...Ke8?? [29...Ke6+--]

30.Re1 Qe6 [Fat Fritz 2 finds a forced mate for White with any other Black move here.]

31.Nf3 Qxe1+ 32.Nxe1 Kd7 33.Qxd5+ Kc7 34.Qxf7+ Kb6 35.a4 Rae8 [Black is clearly lost,

but the clock compelled me to attempt a swindle.]

36.Nf3 Rhf8 37.Qg6 [

This move was a shock to both of us, but it does not really change the assessment of the position. White simply has too many pawns at this stage. Nevertheless, inferior, time-driven play swings the game back and forth a little more. I will refrain from further punctuation on moves, as the clock ruled here.]

37...Rg8 38.Qxg8= [38.Qg3 keeps the win.]

38...Rxb8+ 39.Kf1 Rf8 [39...Ka5]

40.Ne5= [The only move to maintain a draw.]

40...Kc7 [Losing the game.]

[40...Ka5 41.f7 Kxa4 42.h4 Kxb5 43.h5 a5 leads to a draw, as the a-pawn will promote with check.]

41.f7 Kd6 42.f4 [This was the move I had missed, and I realized the curtain was about to drop.]

42...Ke6 43.Kf2 Rc8 44.Kg3 Ke7 45.h4 Kf8 46.Kg4 Rc1 47.Kf5 Kg7 48.Ke6 [At the conclusion of the game, Michael exclaimed "Now THIS is a game that should be in the FCA newsletter!" While I surely did not enjoy losing, I very much enjoyed the sharpness of the contest- so here it is!]

1-0



OTB at Punta Gorda First Baptist Church

By Jerry McGowin

First Baptist Church Punta Gorda hosted the first over the Board Tournament on Saturday, May 8 2021. 19 Players showed. Local player, Dr Thomas won with a perfect score, Mark Hamel, finished second (from Sarasota) and Dr. Thomas' nephew from California came in third. Jack Zhou won the top Scholastic Prize.

Special shout out to Pastor Bill Frank, who made this event happen. Also, thank you to the players, it is always a blessing, as a TD to have understanding competitors. Many thanks to Mark Hamel, who advertised this event, its success was, in large part due to him. Thank you Florida Chess Association and Bryan Tillis for your encouragement.

This was the first open event I have been a TD where Scholastic and Adults played in the same tournament. I thought it went very well. I expect big things to happen with the many scholastic programs



A key game from round 3. *Annotations by Bryan Tillis.*

Mark Hamel vs. Matt Wesly, 5/17/2021, Opening English Opening: King's English Variation, Two Knights Variation, Keres Variation

1. c4 e5 2. Nc3 Nf6 3. g3

A very solid move order for White. When the e-pawn is not pressured it gives Black an extra developmental opportunity here:

3... c6 4. Nf3 e4 5. Nd4 c5

This move is a bit awkward and goes against the natural plan, better was: (5... d5 6. cxd5 Qb6 7. Nb3 cxd5 8. Bg2 Nc6 9. O-O Be6 10. d3 Rd8 With a dynamically balanced game.)

6. Nc2 h5 A creative move but Black needed development. Black is in a deep hole here.

7. Bg2 h4 8. Nxe4 Nxe4 9. Bxe4 A pawn in hand, the rest is a matter of technique.

9... hxg3 10. hxg3 Rxh1+ 11. Bxh1 Nc6 12. d4

A good practical move, when up material, trade down to simplify the win.

12... Qf6 13. Be3 cxd4 14. Bxd4 Nxd4 15. Qxd4 Qxd4 16. Nxd4 Bb4+ 17. Kd1 d6 18. Kc2 Rb8 19. Bd5 Bd7 20. Rh1 Activating the last piece.

20... Ke7 21. Rh7 Kf6 22. Rh4 Bf5+ 23. Nxf5 Kxf5 24. Rf4+ Ke5 25. Rxf7 b5 26. f4+ Kd4 27. b3 Re8 28. e4 bxc4 29. bxc4 Bc5 30. Rxc4

There are simply too many past pawns.

30... Rh8 31. f5 Rh2+ 32. Kb3 Rh1 33. f6 Rf1 34. f7 Rf3+ 35. Kb2 Ba3+ 36. Kc2 Rf2+ 37. Kb3 Bc1 38. Rg8 Rb2+ 39. Ka4 Rxa2+ 40. Kb5 Rf2

Good technique by the winner. 1-0

Photo Gallery—National Chess Day at MOSH

By Joe Whale

Gallery of photos from National Chess Day Tournament held at the Museum of Science and History in Jacksonville, Florida. The 81 player event included chess exhibits, game reviews, and a Chess Art competition.



K-5 Winners—Oak hall



K-8 Winners - Academy Prep
Lakeland



Board 1—Joseph Cagle v. Sofie Li



K-5 3rd place - Durbin Creek Elem.



Round 2 Action



Chess in the Museum

National Chess Day at MOSH Photo Gallery - continued.



Chris Cui—Oak Hall



K-12 Winners— Oak Hall



Two of the Four DGT top boards



Are those pieces made of stone?



Professor Chess - post round analysis.



K-8 Winners—Oak Hall



National Chess (& family) Day!



Chess sets in all shapes and sizes



Luke Lyle- Fernandina Beach High



Coach Tim guards the entry to the hall



K- 12 —Abror Kurbanov



More Top Board DGT action.



FCA 2021 Annual Board Meeting— St. Petersburg, FL

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USCF : US Chess Federation	(800)903-8723
VCCC : Volusia County Chess Club	(386)316-3700

In Memorium

John Dellova 1949-2021



My good friend John Passed suddenly in September of 2021. I first met John at the Orlando Chess Club back in the early 70's. In the late 70's he moved back to his home town New York. Later I ran into John at a tournament in New York in 1983. He offered to show me around the Town. He took me to the Marshall Chess Club where John had spent a lot of time back when Fischer & Reshevsky were playing there. He also showed me where diamonds were cut & polished as I was into selling Jewelry at that time. John was a Civil War buff and he told me about his visits to certain battle grounds. He was also an Author & had written a lot of fiction novels. John is up there right now trying to get a game with Fischer as he had met him many times at the Marshall Club. Rest in peace . John you won't be forgotten .

Mark Ryan

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CHESS CALENDAR

Florida Chess Tournaments Clearing House
Paul Leggett
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Date	Event	Location	Contact
2021			
Nov 12-14	19th Annual Turkey Bowl	Marriott Hotel - Coral Springs	BRCC
Nov 20	56th Jacksonville City Championship	Holiday Inn - I-295 & Baymeadows - Jax	JaxCC
Dec 3-5	National Grades K-12 Championships	Rosen Shingle Creek - Orlando	USCF
2022			
Jan 7-9*	7th Annual Gulf Coast New Year's Open	Embassy Suites Hotel - Fort Meyers	BRCC
Jan 8	San Marco Scholastic	Southside Baptist Church - Jacksonville	SCO
Jan 21-23	Winter Open	Holiday Inn Lake Buena Vista	CFCC
Feb 4-6**	2022 U.S. Amateur Team Championship South	Ramada Hotel - West Palm Beach	BRCC
Feb 5	24th Annual Jax Scholastic Championship	St. Marks Ark - Jacksonville	SCO
Mar 11-13	FCA Scholastic State Championship	Wyndham International Resort - Orlando	FCA
Mar 26-27	CFCC Championship	Orlando Chess & Games	CFCC

*or 8-9

**or 5-6

FCA Florida 2021 Affiliates

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Volusia County Chess Club
Scott Campbell
Richard Francis
Shang Shu Jiang
Maggie O'Hara
Zahina Porto (affiliate)
Michael Sheroff

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

Florida Chess Association, Inc.
14260 Newberry Rd. #236
Newberry, FL 32669

Nov. 12-14, 19th Annual Turkey Bowl, Marriott Hotel - Coral Springs

Dec. 3-5, National K-12 Grade Championships - Rosen Shingle Creek - Orlando



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