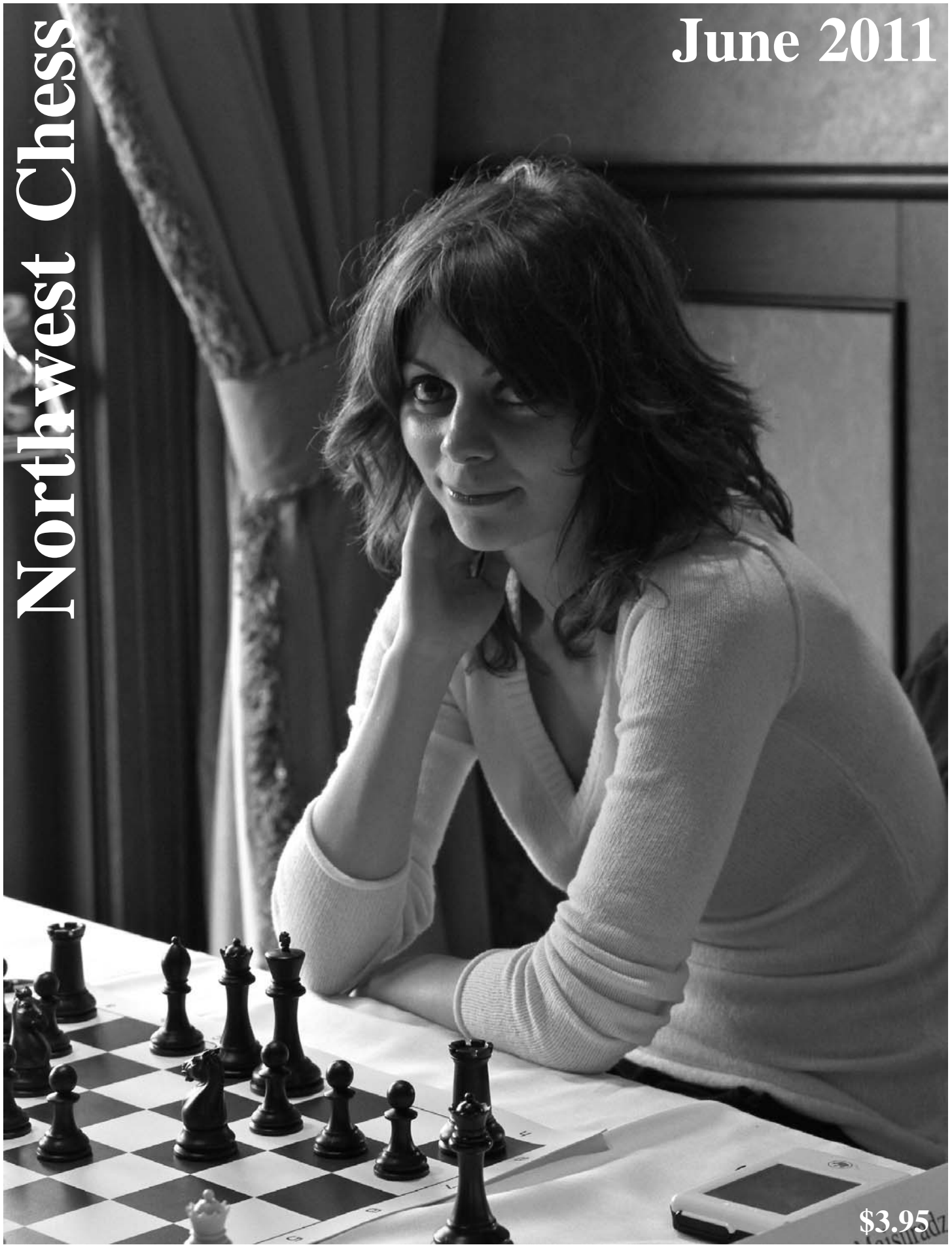


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Photo credit: Polly Wright

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From the Editor's Desk

Ralph Dubisch

I got mail! From my inbox straight to page three:

Hey Ralph,

I was going over some of the games from the Oregon Championship with my Chess Assistant program, and when I reached the tenth move of the Deeth/Esler game, CA popped up a unique game from my database that had reached the same position.

It had been played in 2004 in Parsippany, NJ, with none other than Charles Schulien on white!

Suppose he would have recognized it had he been doing the analysis? This is especially funny since Schulien had been scheduled to play in the event. Was Deeth channeling? Small world....

– Murlin

Wait, you mean you not only read the magazine, but you also play over the games? That's pretty hardcore, Mr. Varner. I mean, I have to play over the games, but only because it's my job. I always figured most people only read the text parts (or not), then (choose one): A) store the issue in a random box for posterity; B) find the nearest recycling bin; C) line the bird cage.

I was saddened to hear about Larry Parr. We grew up at the same time in the NW, although he was in Washington and I was in Oregon, so we never got to know each other well.

However, we were stationed in Europe at the same time. I just happened to run into him one time in Germany. We were both enjoying a nice spring day, probably in Fulda, Germany, where I was stationed, although I don't remember for sure where. I had just purchased an ice cream! Anyway, of course we had to share war stories, so we talked about and compared our work in the military.

His story was the more interesting. He was a Russian interpreter with a very high security classification, because who knows what secrets he might learn translating Russian. I asked him if it was hard work. "No," he said. "We have a higher security clearance than our supervisor. If the work gets to be too much, we simply assign a classification too high for our supervisor to read and set it aside. He can't tell if we have translated it or not, so our work is done for the day!"

– Mike Schemm

Yup, that sounds like the Larry Parr I knew. Cool story, Mike! Thanks for sharing.

Late breaking news: IM Georgi Orlov tied for first in the 2011 edition of the Keres Memorial in Vancouver, BC. He's now won the tournament ten times, according to Steven Wright of the BCCF.

Last round game: **IM Leon Piasetski – IM Georgi Orlov**

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 0-0 5. d4 d6 6. Be2 Nbd7 7. 0-0 e5 8. Qc2 c6 9. Rd1 Qe7 10. Bf1 exd4 11. Nxd4 Ng4 12. Qd2 Nb6 13. f3 Ne5 14. b3 c5 15. Nde2 f5 16. Rb1 fxe4 17. Nxe4 Rxf3 18. Qxd6 Qe8 19. N2g3 Bf5 20. Rb2 Bxe4 21. Nxe4 Nf7 22. Qxc5 Rxf1+ 23. Kxf1 Bxb2 24. Re1 Qe5 25. Bxb2 Qxb2 26. Qe7 Kg7 27. c5 Nd5 28. Qxb7 Rf8 29. Ng5 Kh6 30. Ne6 Nd8+ 0-1

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National Open, page 3;
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Fifth Annual Grand Pacific Open

by Roger Patterson

A record attendance was set (again!) at 104 players in this year's Grand Pacific Open. The tournament attracted its first GM and WGM, Igor Rausis and Nino Maisuradze respectively, a selection of national (and world) and provincial junior champions, players from Europe, across the US (including nine from Washington and Oregon), and across Canada.

Side events at the GPO (free for participants in the main event) were again popular and included a scholastic event, active tournament, blitz, and bughouse (aka double chess or Siamese chess). Full crosstables and details for these events can be found linked on the tournament webpage www.grandpacificopen.com.

As always, the event was held at the Hotel Grand Pacific, a very nice hotel located in Victoria's Inner Harbour next to the BC legislature and across the street from US ferry connections. All equipment was provided and \$4250 in guaranteed prizes. Stay tuned for announcements on next year's event – same place, same time (Easter) 2012, same venue!

The main event was convincingly won by WGM Nino Maisuradze with a 6-0 score with wins against most of the highest rated players. Coming in with 5.5 points in a surprise second place was Vancouver junior Loren Brigham Laceste who, despite his A class rating, took out a number of masters and experts. He now also qualifies for the BC closed. Most of the favourites by rating and title wound up in the pack tied for 3rd well back at 4.5 points or (shudder) even lower. Top Washington and Oregon players: Mike Schemm, Mike Murray, Sarah May, Alexandra Botez, and Troy Pendergraft, all with 3.5 points. In Sarah's case that was good enough for a tie for the U1700 prize and \$300.

Full crosstables and details for the Grand Pacific Open and for the side events can be found linked on the tournament webpage www.grandpacificopen.com.

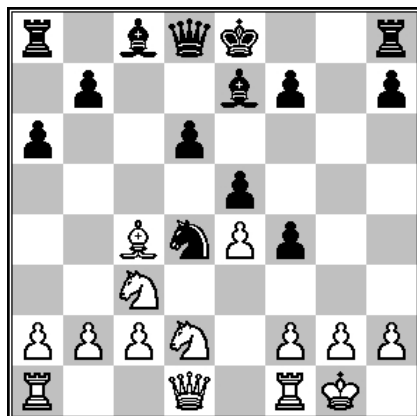
Selected Games:

This fifth round win by Maisuradze against BC Champion FM Jack Yoos put her in the driver's set in clear first before the

final round.

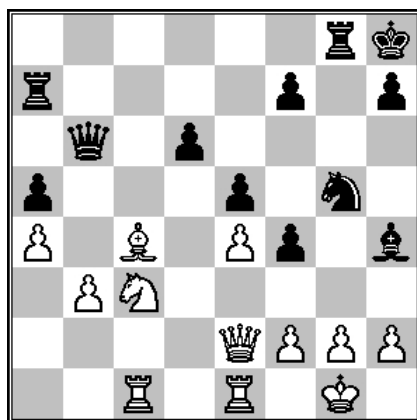
Jack Yoos – Nino Maisuradze Grand Pacific Open, Round 5 Victoria, BC, April 24, 2011

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 exd4 4. Nxd4 e5 5. Nb5 d6 6. Be3 Nf6 7. Bg5 Be7 8. Bxf6 gxf6 9. Nd2 a6 10. Nc3 f5 11. Bc4 Nd4 12. 0-0 f4



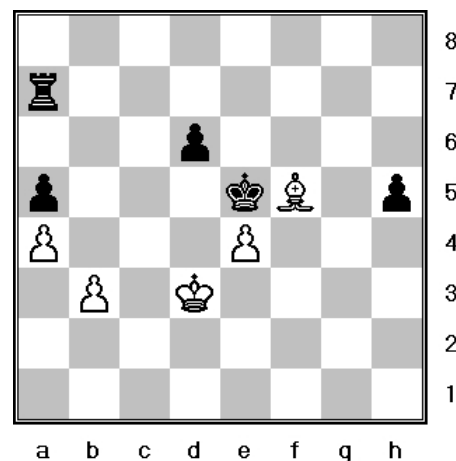
a b c d e f g h

13. Qh5 0-0 14. Rac1 b5 15. Bd5 Ra7 16. Nb3 Ne6 17. a4 b4 18. Na2 a5 19. c3 Ng7 20. Qd1 Ba6 21. Re1 bxc3 22. Nxc3 Qb6 23. Rc2 Kh8 24. Nd2 Bd3 25. Rc1 Bh4 26. Qf3 Ba6 27. b3 Ne6 28. Nc4 Bxc4 29. Bxc4 Ng5 30. Qe2 Rg8



a b c d e f g h

31. g3 fxg3 32. hxg3 Bxg3 33. Kf1 Nh3 34. Qf3 Qxf2+ 35. Qxf2 Bxf2 36. Red1 Be3 37. Rb1 Be5 38. Ke2 Ng1+ 39. Kd3 Rg2 40. Rf1 Nh3 41. Bxf7 Nf4+ 42. Rxf4 exf4 43. Be6 Bb4 44. Nd5 f3 45. Rf1 f2 46. Ne3 Rh2 47. Ng4 Rh3+ 48. Ke2 Bc5 49. Nxf2 Rh2 50. Kf3 Rxf2+ 51. Rxf2 Bxf2 52. Kxf2 Kg7 53. Ke3 Kf6 54. Bf5 Ke5 55. Kd3 h5

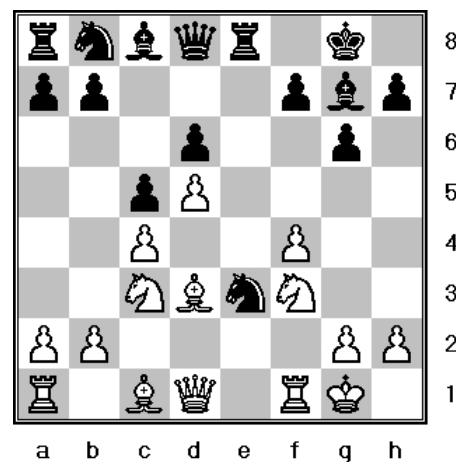


0-1

In the final round, local master Harry Moore was faced with playing Maisuradze and given the other pairings, it looked like a draw would be at best a many way tie for third and worth not much in the way of prize money. So, he turned down an early draw offer and had an easy draw in the middlegame but played on. Eventually he missed something in time pressure and Maisuradze showed fine technique to bring in the win. The irony is that all the other games did not go as one would have expected – a draw would have netted him clear third and \$400 instead of the eight-way share and \$60 that he actually got.

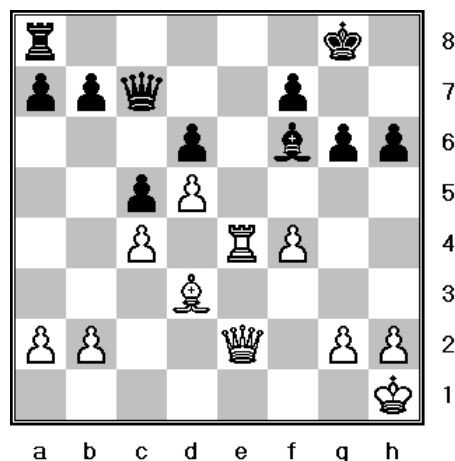
Nino Maisuradze – Harry Moore Grand Pacific Open, Round 6 Victoria, BC, April 25, 2011

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. f4 0-0 6. Nf3 c5 7. d5 e6 8. Be2 exd5 9. exd5 Re8 10. 0-0 Ng4 11. Bd3 Ne3

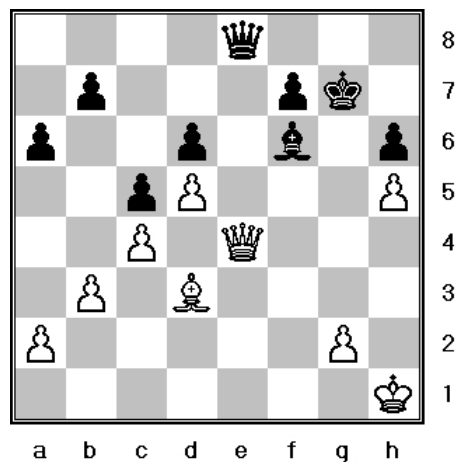


a b c d e f g h

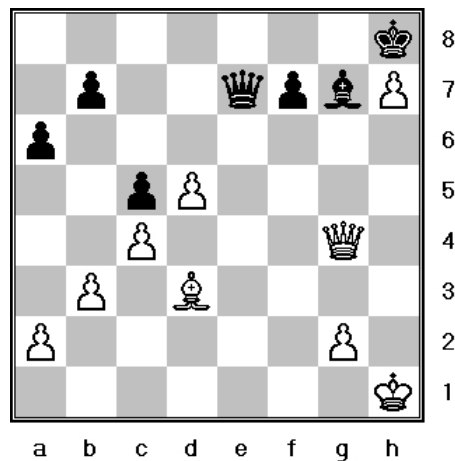
12. Bxe3 Rxe3 13. Qd2 Re8 14. Rae1 Rxe1 15. Rxe1 Bg4 16. Ng5 h6 17. Nge4 Bf5 18. Kh1 Na6 19. Nb5 Bxe4 20. Rxe4 Nc7 21. Nxc7 Qxc7 22. Qe2 Bf6



23. h4 Kg7 24. h5 g5 25. Qg4 Rh8 26. b3 a6 27. Qf5 Qd8 28. Re2 gxf4 29. Qxf4 Re8 30. Rxe8 Qxe8 31. Qe4

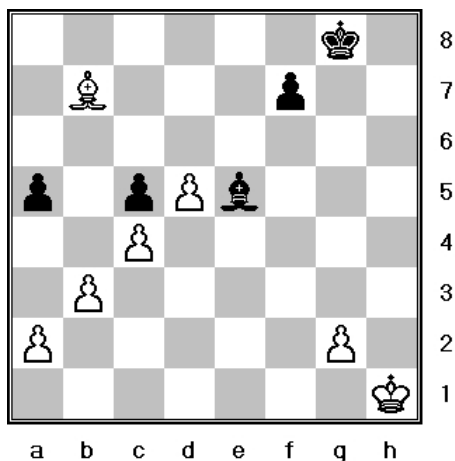


31. ...Be5? 32. Qh7+ Kf8 33. Qxh6+ Bg7 34. Qxd6+ Kg8 35. Qg3 Kh8 36. Qh4 Be5 37. Qe4 Kg8 38. h6 Qe7 39. h7+ Kh8 40. Qg4 Bg7

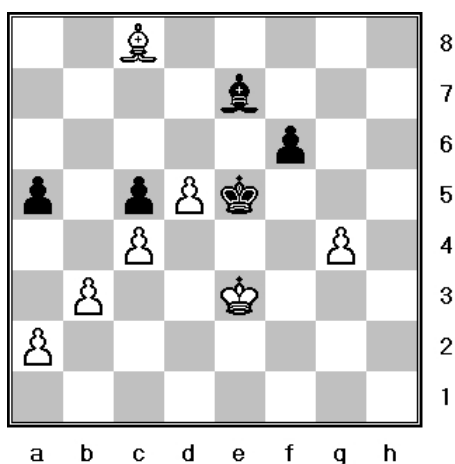


41. Qg3 Qe8 42. Bf5 Be5 43. Qg8+ Qxg8 44. hxg8=Q+ Kxg8 45. Bc8 a5 46.

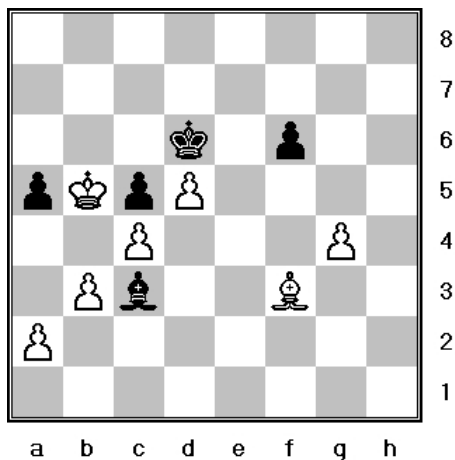
Bxb7



46. ...Kg7 47. Kg1 Bd6 48. Kf2 Kf6 49. Ke3 Ke5 50. Bc8 Be7 51. g4 f6



52. Kd3 Bf8 53. Kc3 Bh6 54. Kb2 Kd6 55. Ka3 Bd2 56. Bf5 Bc3 57. Ka4 Bd2 58. Kb5 Bc3 59. Be4 Bd2 60. Bf3 Bc3



61. a3 Bd2 62. Kb6 Bc3 63. b4 cxb4 64. c5+ Kd7 65. c6+ Kc8 66. d6 Bd4+ 67. Kxa5 bxa3 68. Bd5 Be5 69. Be6+

1-0

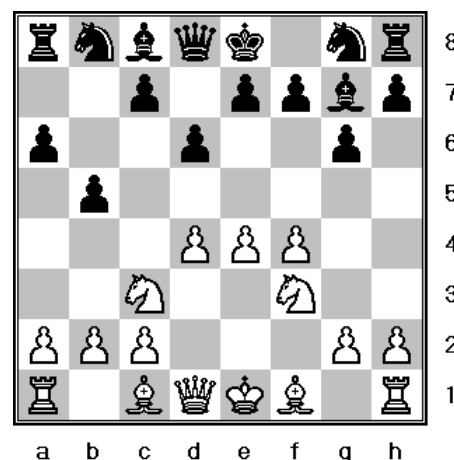
Roger Patterson – Lawrence Day
Grand Pacific Open, Round 4
Victoria, BC, April 24, 2011

1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Nc3 a6

Younger readers might be surprised at this but there was a time when pretty much everybody in BC (and Canada) (and Washington for all I know) played this way – start with g6, some obscure pawn moves on the flank coupled with putting the knights on the rim. Typically this was all justified by some sharp tactics resulting in material win or a positional concession by White.

Lawrence, of course, is an old time proponent of such play. I'm very much a classical player and find it all hard to understand. It's been a long time since I've had to play against these types of systems.

4. f4 b5 5. Nf3 d6



6. a4

According to the databases 6. Bd3 is the most common here, but I've learned the hard way that this often results in White walking into Black's ...c5, so White then protects d4 with Ne2, and then Black has c4 trapping the bishop.

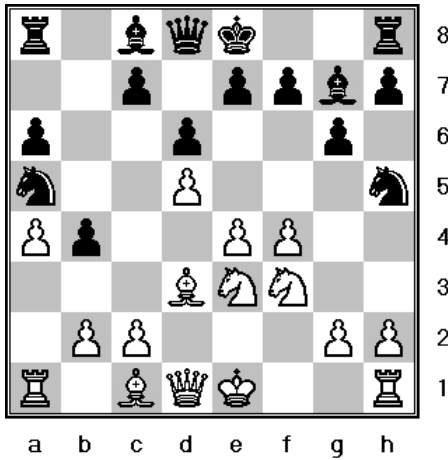
In fact, this happened in the very next round in Roback – Day.

6. ...b4 7. Nd5 Nc6 8. Ne3?!

I had planned 8. c3 but then realized I had nothing prepared for 8. ...bxc3 9. bxc3 e5 10. fxe5 dxe5.

At the time, this seemed bad to me for White with his center being undermined in a typical way for this variation. In the light of day, Fritz assures me I had nothing to worry about.

8. ...Nf6 9. Bd3 Nh5 10. d5 Na5



11. g3

I didn't take 11. Nc4 seriously as a way to defend the f4 pawn as it seemed wrong to let Black trade off one of those knights on the rim, but g3 weakens White's kingside too much.

11. ...0-0 12. 0-0 c6 13. Qe1

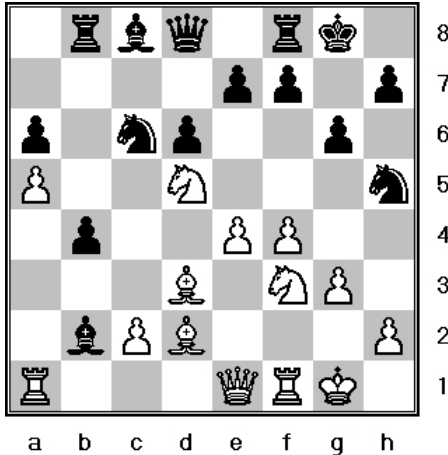
With the goal of freeing up the bind Black has on White's queenside by forcing play on the b4 pawn.

13. ...cxd5 14. Nxd5 Rb8 15. Bd2 Nc6 16. a5

Stopping ...Qb6+ tricks but 16. c3 was better.

16. ...Bxb2

16. ...b3 17. Bc3 is fine for White.



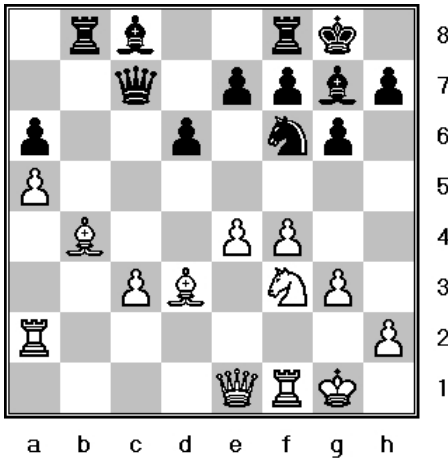
17. Ra2?

I had convinced myself that 17. Rb1 was better but my hand made this move anyway. The rook is exposed on a2 to a white-squared bishop hit with tempo.

17. ...Bg7 18. Nxb4 Nxb4 19. Bxb4 Qc7

Perhaps 19. ...Be6 now.

20. c3 Nf6



21. Qe2

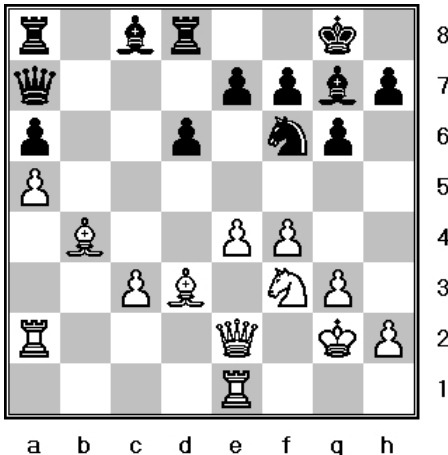
And Black is better. His opening is a success.

White does not have effective play against either the center or kingside, his queenside is rigid, and eventually White's king should find himself exposed to attacks along the diagonals and laterally from the queenside. Black can, for example, transfer his knight to c5, put his queen and bishop on a8, b7 and life will be difficult for White.

I tanked for a while here and came to the conclusion I needed to try and put my knight on b6 to coordinate my pieces better. Fortunately, Lawrence started to lose his way around about this point.

21. Nd2? Bh3 22. Rf2 Ng4 23. Re2 Bxc3.

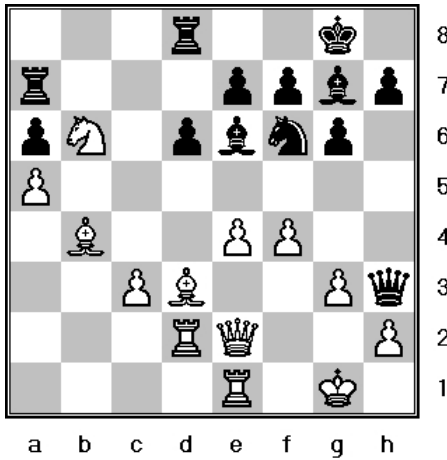
21. ...Qa7+!? 22. Kg2 Rd8 23. Re1 Ra8?



"Undeveloping" the rook.

There are no real threats to the a-pawn and Lawrence's plan of bringing the queen to the kingside is not dangerous.

24. Nd2 Qd7 25. Nc4 Qh3+ 26. Kg1 Be6 27. Nb6 Ra7 28. Rd2

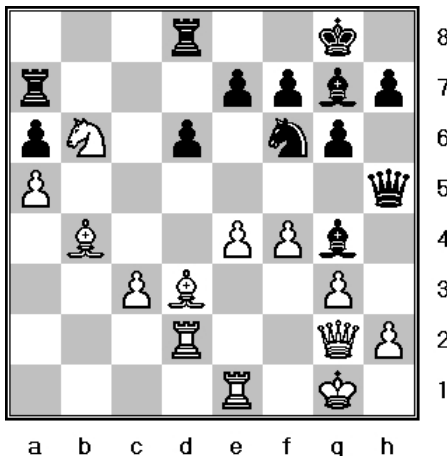


28. ...Bg4 29. Qg2 Qh5

Hoping for tricks against the unprotected Rd8. Around here we were both in time pressure.

In this tournament, and most Canadian tournaments, the time control involves a 30-second increment which is enough to write your move down but not enough to calm down or take any breaks from the game (and you are sure to start to regret drinking so much water earlier...). It's not as frantic as a five-second delay, but still fairly intense.

28. ...Bg4 29. Qg2 Qh5



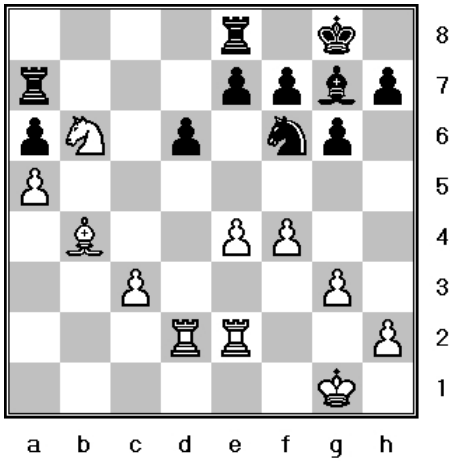
30. Be2

According to Fritz, White is better and can play, for example, e5 with a large advantage.

Although I didn't think Black's kingside demonstration was dangerous, I still wanted that white-squared bishop and queen off the board.

30. ...Bxe2 31. Qxe2 Qxe2 32. Rxe2 += Re8

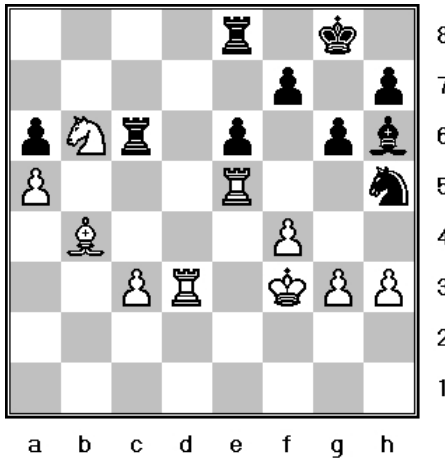
{See diagram at the top of the next column.}



33. h3

Played to take the g4 square from the knight, but e5 immediately activates all of White's pieces.

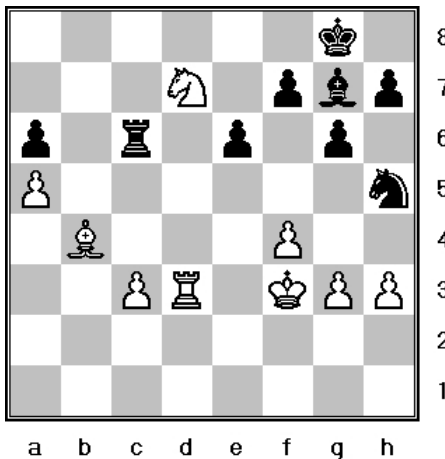
33. ...Nh5 34. Kg2 Rc7 35. Rd3 Rc6 36. Kf3 Bh6?! 37. e5 dxe5 38. Rxe5 e6



39. Nd7

Black starts to face tactical tricks. Those pieces on the rim don't look so happy now.

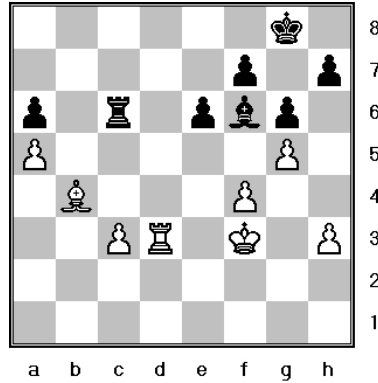
39. ...Rec8 40. Rc5 Bg7 41. Rxc6 Rxc6



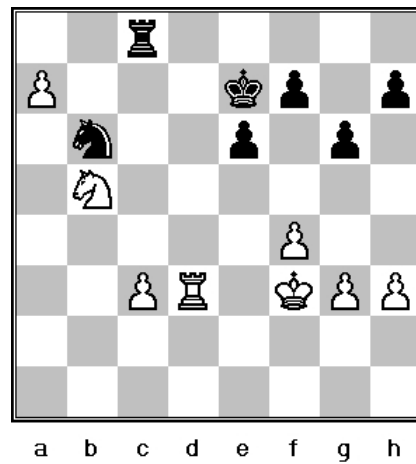
42. Nb8?

In time pressure I saw my tactical shot

and played it instantly but missed the win of a piece with 42. g4 Nf6 43. Nxf6+ Bxf6 44. g5.



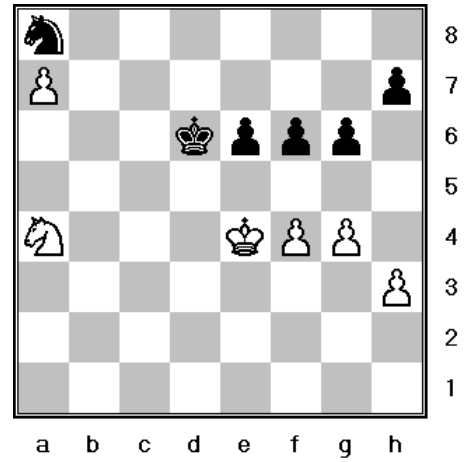
42. ...Rc8 43. Nxa6 Nf6 44. Nc7 Bf8 45. Nb5 Nd5 46. Bxf8 Kxf8 47. a6 Ke7 48. a7 Nb6



49. c4?

Time pressure finally gets to me and I crack. Simply Rd4 and normal moves should win.

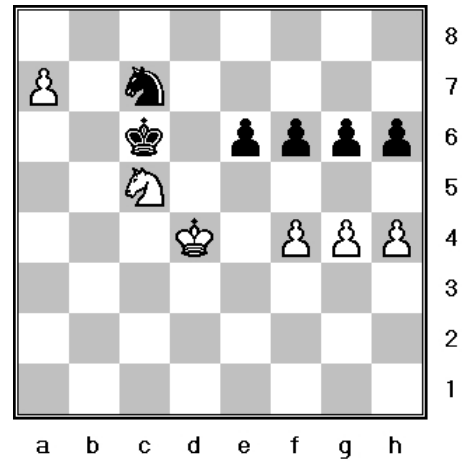
49. ...Rxc4 50. Rc3 Rxc3+ 51. Nxc3 Kd7 52. Na4 Na8 53. Ke4 Kd6 54. g4 f6



55. Kd4

55. g5 offered more play (and is a bit messy to analyze).

55. ...h6 56. h4 Kc6 57. Ne5 Nc7



58. a8=Q+?

58. Kc4 still kept some play. The text immediately equalizes.

58. ...Nxa8 59. Nxe6

1/2-1/2



Reno: Far West Open

by Phillip Carson and Ralph Dubisch

At the Far West Open in Reno, April 22-24, 2011, California's young IM Steven Zierk took clear first with 5.5/6. Dereque Kelley and David Rupel from Washington were among the nine players tied for fourth place in the open section with 4/6. Gil Lapid Shafirri (WA), Fred Kleist (WA), and Paul Romero (OR) scored 3.5/6.

Each of the above-mentioned Northwest players lost only one game: Kelley lost in round two to GM Melikset Khachiyani (CA), who finished clear second, and drew with GM Sergey Kudrin (CT) and Fred Kleist; Rupel fell to GM Kudrin in round one, later drawing with NM Robert Akopian (CA) and FM Ali Morshedi (CA); Shafirri lost

to IM Zierk in round three, and later drew with both Kleist and Romero; Kleist lost to IM Enrico Sevillano (CA); Romero lost to FM Morshedi.

In class C, Phillip Carson (OR) joined a three-way tie for second place with 4.5/6, gaining nearly 100 rating points in the process. August Piper (WA) scored 4/6 without losing any games, while Kerry Van Veen (WA) and Carol Mayer-Kleist took different routes to score 3.5. Van Veen scored all 3.5 of her points in the first four games (then lost to tournament winner Alexander Feghhi (CA) in round five and to Carson in round six), while Mayer-Kleist scored 2.5 in her last three games.

* * *

Phil Carson supplies our on-the-scene reporting and some of his own games:

The Northwest was well represented in the class C section with Kerry Van Veen going undefeated the first two days. I think that NW players were half of the class C with August, Kerry, Carol and myself all doing well. The last round I played Kerry on board two, both of us having only lost to the eventual (and undefeated) section winner.

It was a game that we both played for a win; Kerry could have eliminated material and played rook vs two minors. She sacrificed a knight with Nxf6, but she was too timid for the follow-up pawn push to open up files for her rooks.



Photo credit: Phillip Carson

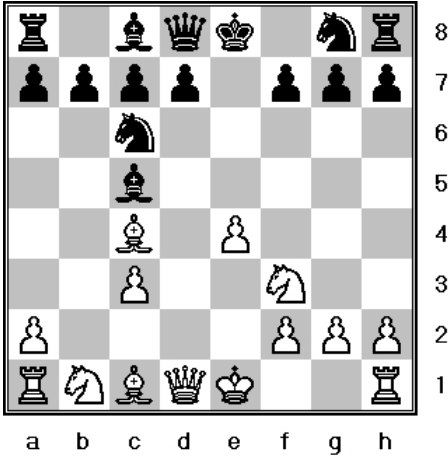
Notes by Phil Carson (PC) and Ralph Dubisch (RD). All punctuation (!, ?, and so on) is the opinion of the latter.

**Phil Carson – Tom Allen
Far West Open, C, Round 5
Reno, Nevada, April 24, 2011**

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 exd4 4. Bc4 Bb4+

PC – I have been studying the Nf6 variations a lot lately for playing against doubled pawn on the c-file. I wasn't really prepared for this.

5. c3 dxc3 6. bxc3 Bc5



7. 0-0

PC – Consideration should be given to 7. Bxf7+ Kxf7 8. Qd5+ Kf8 9. Qxc5+ d6 10. Qe3.

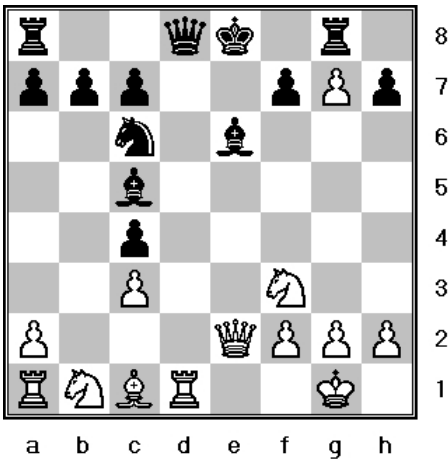
7. ...Nf6 8. e5 d5 9. exf6

PC – I don't think that playing to double the pawns on the c-file works here because White's queenside pawns are broken up.

9. ...dxc4 10. fxg7 Rg8 11. Qe2+

RD – Possible is 11. Qxd8+ Nxd8 12. Re1+ Ne6 13. Bh6, with an unclear situation.

11. ...Be6 12. Rd1

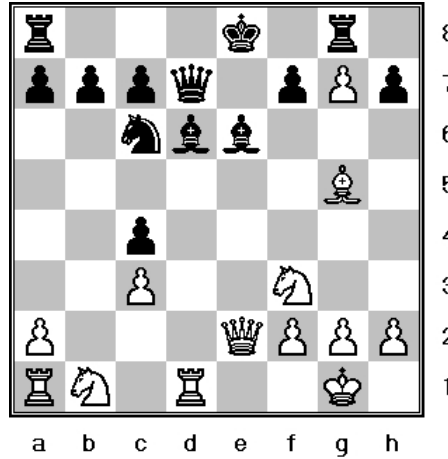


12. ...Bd6

PC – Black's queen belongs on c8-h4 diagonal. White's lack of development safeguards Black's king for now.

RD – 12. ...Qf6 looks very good for Black.

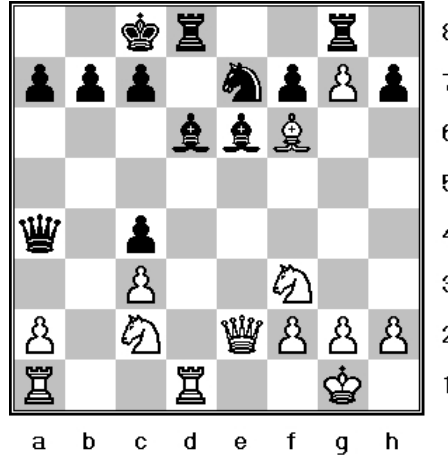
13. Bg5 Qd7



14. Bf6

RD – 14. Nbd2 Rxc7 15. Ne4 strikes at the weak f6-square, and Black can't escape the fork by running ...Kf8 due to an eventual Bh6, pinning.

14. ...Ne7 15. Na3 Qa4 16. Nc2 0-0-0



17. Ng5

PC – Also available is 17. Rxd6 Rxd6 18. Bxe7.

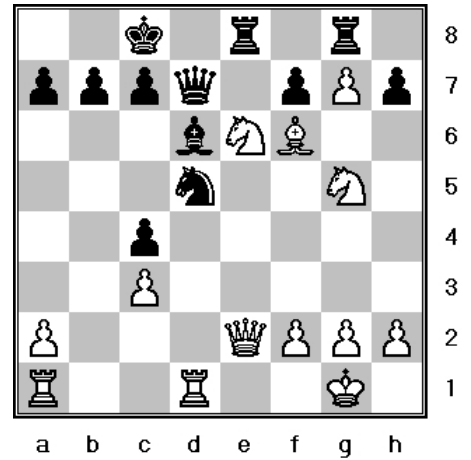
RD – Hmm, I'd call that "Instead, winning is 17. Rxd6." Two pieces are simply worth more than a rook here.

17. ...Qd7 18. Nd4

RD – 18. Nxe6 fxe6 (18. ...Qxe6 19. Qxe6+ fxe6 20. Rxd6 again) 19. Qxc4.

18. ...Rde8 19. Ndx6 Nd5??

RD – Better seems 19. ...fxe6 20. Qxc4, though White is still happy.

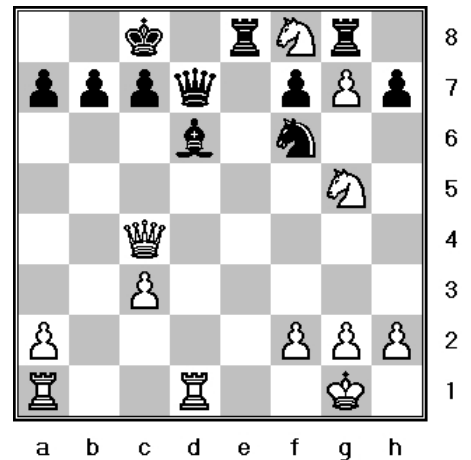


20. Qxc4

PC – I think Black hoped for 20. Rxd5 Bxh2+, eliminating an attacking piece.

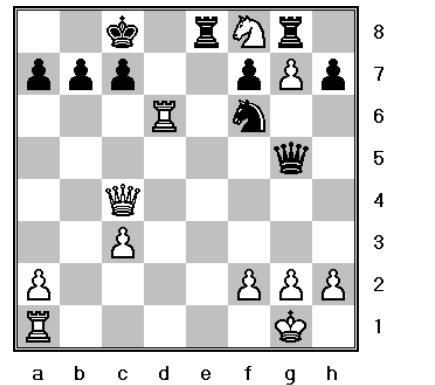
RD – So give him what he hoped for: 20. Rxd5! Bxh2+ 21. Kxh2 Qxd5 22. Rd1 Qc6 23. Nf8! That's three (count 'em, *three*) minor pieces for one rook.

20. ...Nxf6 21. Nf8



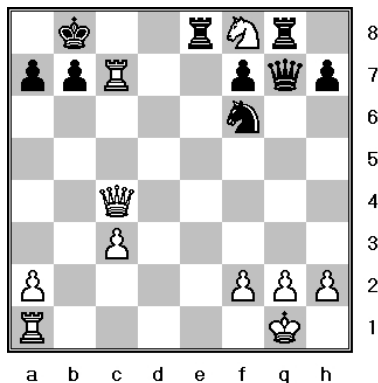
21. ...Rxf8?

RD – After 21. ...Qf5! 22. Rxd6 Qxg5, White needs a miracle just to stay in the game.



As it turns out (and courtesy of Fritz), White actually has a miracle available: 23.

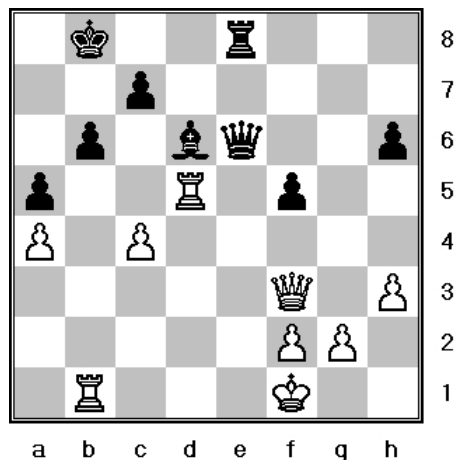
Rc6!! (not 23. Rxf6 Rxc7! 24. g3 Qxf6 and wins) 23. ...Re7 (or 23. ...Nd5 24. Rc5 Rd8 25. Nxb7 Qxc7 26. g3 c6; the main tactical point of 23. Rc6 is 23. ...Qxc7? 24. Rxc7+ Kb8



25. Rxb7+! Ka8 26. Rxa7+! Kxa7 27. Qa4+ Kb8 28. Rb1+ Kc7 29. Qa5+ Kd6 30. Rb6+ Ke7 31. Qc5+ Kd8 32. Rb8# – you can work out for yourself why Black can't play 23. ...bxc6) 24. Rxf6! Qxf6 25. Qg4+ Kb8 26. Nd7+ Rxd7 27. Qxd7 Qxc7 28. Qh3 – with equality!

22. gxf8=Q+ Rxf8 23. h3 h6 24. Ne4 Nxe4 25. Qxe4 f5 26. Qf3 Kb8 27. Rab1 b6 28. c4 Qe7 29. a4 a5 30. Rd5 Re8 31. Kf1 Qe6

RD – 31. ...Bb4 keeps the struggle going longer.



32. Rxa5

RD – 32. c5! wins outright.

32. ...Qxc4+ 33. Kg1 c6

RD – A more tenacious (if ultimately doomed) defense is 33. ...Qe4 34. Qxe4 fxe4.

34. Rxb6+ Kc7 35. Rb1 Bb4 36. Rxf5 Re7 37. Rf4

1-0

Kerry Van Veen – Phil Carson Far West Open, C, Round 6 Reno, Nevada, April 24, 2011

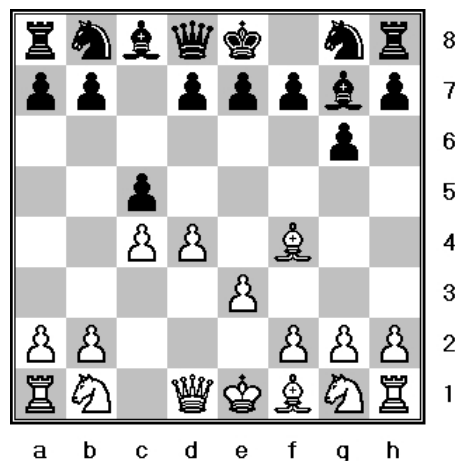
1. d4 g6 2. c4 Bg7 3. Bf4

PC – The Northwest was dominant during this tournament in the Class C section. Four of the people on the top five boards were from Washington or Oregon; unfortunately, we played each other. Kerry and I so far had only one loss each, both to the eventual section winner. The winner of this match had best chance for at least a share of second place depending on the results on board one. So we both played to win if possible.

RD – Developing the bishop to f4 leaves the queenside dark squares weaker, especially b2 and d4. It's probably not the ideal posting for the bishop against a fianchetto plan.

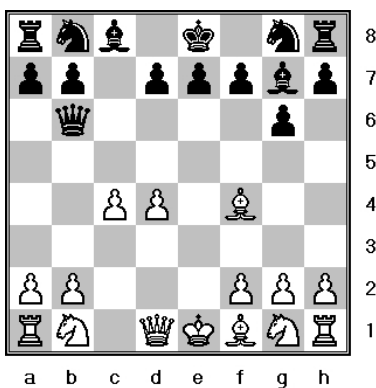
3. ...c5 4. e3

RD – 4. Be5 is an unusual idea here.



4. ...Nf6

RD – 4. ...cxd4 5. exd4 Qb6 is a typical attempt to maximize the effect of the bishop on the long diagonal.



6. Nc3 Qxb2 (6. ...Qxd4 7. Qxd4 Bxd4 8. Nb5 Bb6 9. Be5 f6 10. c5 Ba5+ 11. Bc3 Bxc3+ 12. Nxc3 might offer White some

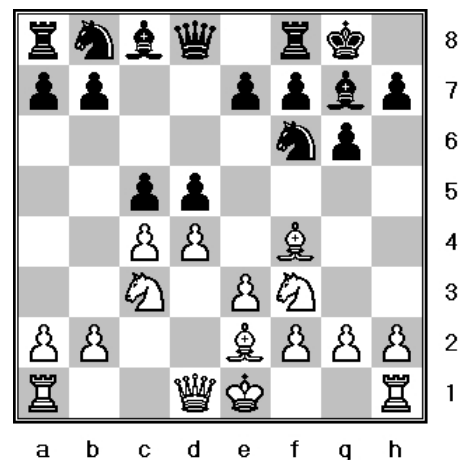
compensation for the pawn in the form of development and space, though it's certainly worth a look for the Black side; 6. ...Bxd4 is also possible) 7. Nb5, when White is making threats against c7 and Black's queen could find itself in some trouble.

Also typical of this kind of attempt by Black is that both sides are running tactical operations before development is completed, and thus risk getting over-extended.

5. Be2 0-0

RD – Or the thematic 5. ...cxd4 6. exd4 Qb6. White doesn't seem to believe in the old saw, "knights before bishops."

6. Nf3 d5 7. Nc3

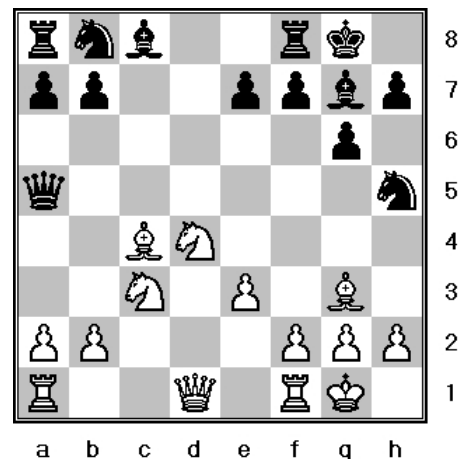


7. ...dxc4

PC – This position cries for 7. ...e6. I will suffer dearly for a long time.

RD – I can't say I agree with this. Well, yes, you're going to suffer for a long time, but I'm not convinced that ...e6 is the panacea.

8. Bxc4 cxd4 9. Nxd4 Nh5 10. Bg3 Qa5 11. 0-0



11. ...e5

PC – Still I need to play ...e6. 11. ...e5 is a move played by a class C player needing aggression to play well.

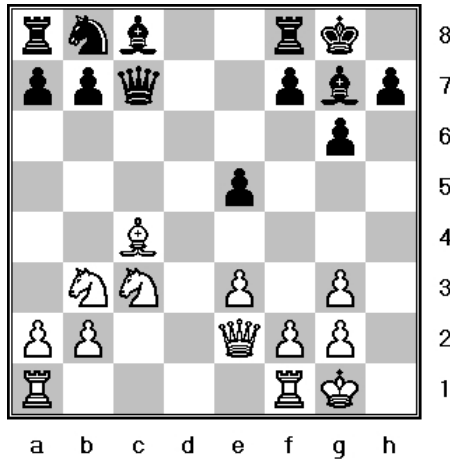
RD – I agree that ...e5 isn't good. I think I'd choose 11. ...Nxg3 12. hxg3 Nc6 here.

12. Nb3 Qc7 13. Qe2 Nxd3

PC – If White had been able to fit in h3 allowing the bishop a flight square this bishop would have been very dangerous. As it ended up Black's minor pieces were more valuable than White's rooks.

RD – Too early to conclude that last.

14. hxg3

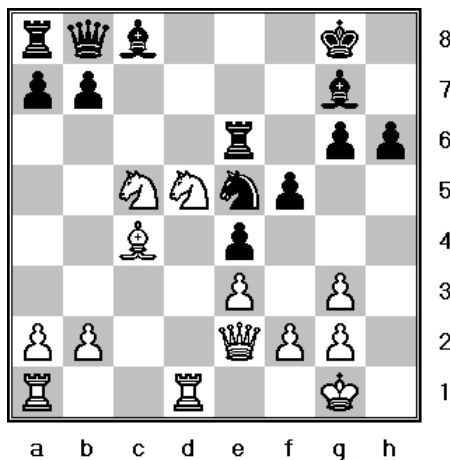


14. ...Nc6

PC – This has to be the key to my defense. White is cleaning Black's clock here. Black's only chance is to accept going down the exchange and hoping to have superior minor pieces.

RD – I think I prefer 14. ...Nd7 15. Nd5 Qd6 16. Rad1 Nb6, which appears quite defensible. "Hoping" isn't the kind of compensation for the exchange that I like.

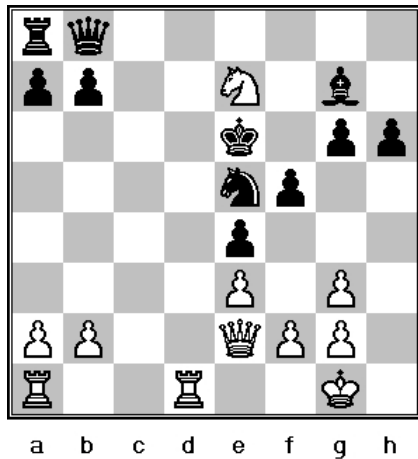
15. Nd5 Qb8 16. Nc5 Re8 17. Ne4 Re6 18. Rfd1 h6 19. Qf3 f5 20. Nc5 e4 21. Qe2 Ne5



22. Nxe6

RD – Even better, and clearly winning, are either 22. Nf4 or 22. Ne7+.

22. ...Bxe6 23. Ne7+ Kf7 24. Bxe6+ Kxe6



25. Nxd6?

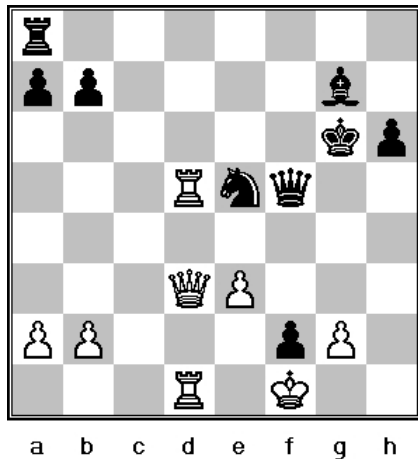
PC – White considered this a blunder in post-game analysis. During the game it was the move I feared the most if followed up by pawn pushes on the kingside opening up files for the white rooks. It will take at least three moves for Black to bring the queen and rook into the defense.

RD – I agree with Kerry on this one. Simply retreating 25. Nd5 leaves White with a decisive material advantage, so why speculate?

25. ...Nxg6 26. Qc4+

RD – 26. g4 gives White some chances to break up the center pawns and get at the black king.

26. ...Kf6 27. Qc3+ Ne5 28. f4 exf3 29. Rd5 Kg6 30. Rad1 f2+ 31. Kf1 Nf7 32. Qd3 Qc8 33. g4 Ne5 34. gxf5+ Qxf5



PC – White should be playing for a rook vs two minor piece ending here and

exchanging off the major pieces. Black will not be able to protect the queenside pawns effectively against a rook.

35. Rd6+ Kg5 36. Qd5

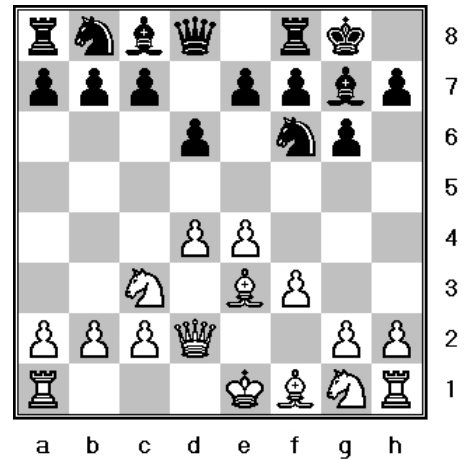
PC – This was White's last chance to exchange off the majors.

36. ...Rf8 37. e4 Qf4 38. Qe6 Rf7 39. Qd5 Qh2

0-1

**Mark Dolson – Phil Carson
Far West Open, C, Round 3
Reno, Nevada, April 23, 2011**

1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Be3 d6 4. Nc3 Nf6 5. f3 0-0 6. Qd2



6. ...e5

PC – In a similar position as White (my pawn on f4 versus f3) my opponent played a stinker move, ...b6, because he didn't know what to play here. I had suggested either ...c5 or ...e5 as best. Here I think that ...e5 is best.

RD – Although I won't argue that ...e5 is unplayable, I think the kind of KID positions you're aiming for are more appropriate if White has spent a move and also weakened the queenside for a future 0-0-0 by playing c4. Instead of an immediate ...e5, I'd choose some kind of waiting game involving ...c6 (intending ...b5). Allowing White to close the center and concentrate his forces on the kingside seems a bit dangerous.

7. 0-0-0

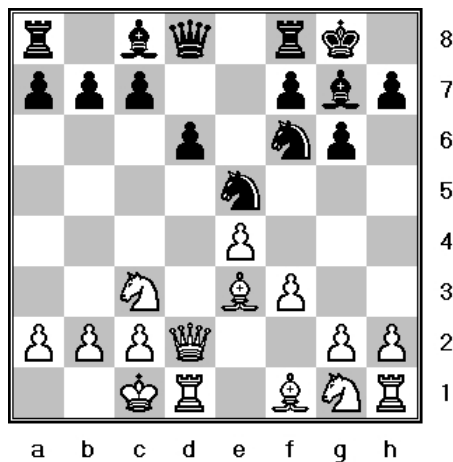
RD – 7. d5 followed by the kingside storm looks reasonable.

7. ...exd4 8. Bxd4 Nc6 9. Be3 Ne5

PC – In this position Black's bishop belongs on e6, rook on e8 and the Knight needs to attack c4. I don't think the order is

important as the position is still closed.

RD – The position is actually semi-open, and White has several trumps. He has control of the longer half-open file, a pawn storm that will gain time while attacking the black pieces, and good king safety. So I think the move order might matter, and I'd pick ...Be6, since I'm not at all comfortable putting the knight where it invites the pawns to advance and I like to get that pesky development finished.

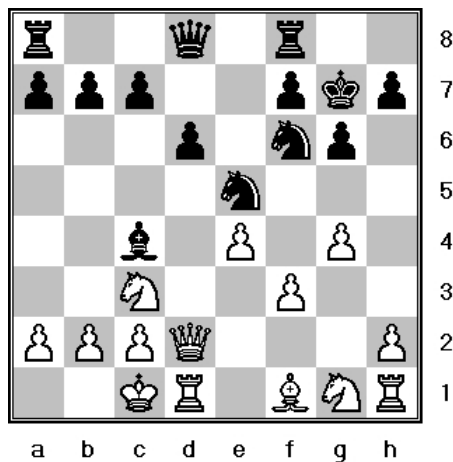


10. Bh6

PC - I think that this is speculative without the pawns being advanced. 10.f4 is what White really needs.

RD – This move seems reasonable to me.

10. ...Be6 11. Bxg7 Kxg7 12. g4 Bc4?



13. h4

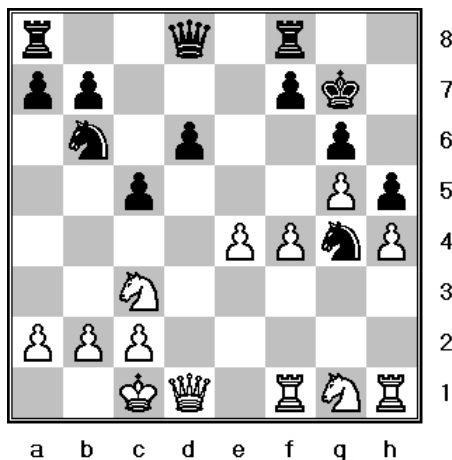
RD – At this point White can just win a piece with 13. f4 Bxf1 14. fxe5.

13. ...Bxf1 14. Rxf1 h5 15. g5

PC – This move allows Black to close up the kingside and White's kingside push will peter out eventually.

15. ...Nfd7 16. Qd4 Nb6 17. f4 c5 18. Qd1 Ng4

PC – An unassailable outpost for the horse that ensures king safety.



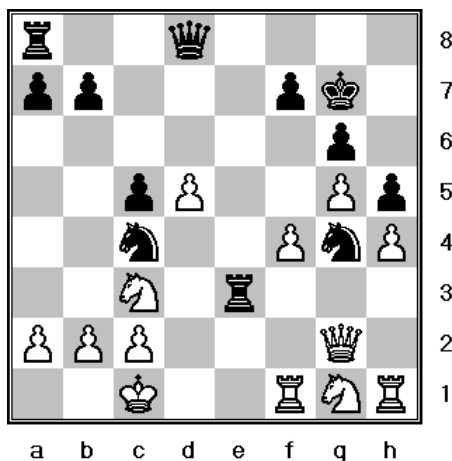
19. Qe2

RD – White should maintain contact with the d5-square: 19. Qf3. A later f5 push would hold some promise, too, with white major pieces lined up on the file. Or White could challenge that knight with Nh3-f2, if there's nothing better going on.

19. ...d5 20. exd5?

RD – This capture allows Black to activate all his pieces. 20. f5 is an interesting alternative with chances for both sides.

20. ...Re8 21. Qd3 Re3! 22. Qd2 Nc4 23. Qg2



23. ...Rxc3!! 24. bxc3 Nce3

RD – 24. ...Nge3!, intending ...Qb6-b2# or perhaps even better, 24. ...Qb6! first. Black basically forces checkmate and/or wins the white queen for virtually nothing.

25. Qe2 Nxf1 26. Qxf1 Qxd5 27. Rh3 Qxa2 28. Kd2 Qe6 29. Qb5 b6 30. Qd3 Nf2 31. f5 Qe5 32. Re3 Nxd3

0-1

Book Reviews IM John Donaldson



Wojo's Weapons: Winning with White – Volume 2 by Dean Ippolito and Jonathan Hilton

IM Dean Ippolito and NM Jonathan Hilton are back with their second in a series of opening volumes based on the games of the late Alex Wojtkiewicz. While the first volume was devoted primarily to the Catalan and Slav, in *Wojo's Weapons: Winning with White – Volume 2* (Mongoose Press 2011, www.Mongoosepress.com, paperback, 320 pages, figurine algebraic, \$29.95), attention is focused solely on the fianchetto variation of the King's Indian.

The authors present their treatment of the subject matter in the form of 78 well-annotated games that contain not only critical analysis but plenty of explanatory prose. In keeping with Wojtkiewicz's style, variations tend not to be highly-theoretical main lines (for example 8.b3 against against the Panno, not 8.d5 or 8.h3), and the emphasis is more on understanding.

This is not say that the proposed repertoire is without sting nor that the authors don't improve on Wojo's play when warranted. One example is the line 1. Nf3 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. g3 Bg7 4. Bg2 0-0 5. d4 d6 6. 0-0 c5 7. dxc5 dxc5 8. Ne5!?. This symmetrical variation is a deceptively dangerous system for Black that was a proven point-winner for Wojt. Now after the correct move, 8. ...Nfd7!, White does best with 9. Nd3 (and not Wojo's 9. Nxd7).

Wojo's Weapons: Winning with White – Volume 2 is an excellent guide to the White side of the fianchetto King's Indian that is ideally suited for players from 1800 on up.

Experts on the Anti-Sicilian

edited by Jacob Aagaard
and John Shaw

Experts on the Anti-Sicilian (Quality Chess 2011, 440 pages, paperback and hardback, figurine algebraic, \$29.95 for pb) is a book that is going to sell a lot of copies and deservedly so. Like *Experts vs. the Sicilian*, another Quality Chess production, this is a group effort involving numerous opening experts who examine primarily non-Open Sicilian variations where White forgoes 3.d4.

Experts on the Anti-Sicilian, edited by Jacob Aagaard and John Shaw, is written primarily but not exclusively from Black's point of view. Chapters 13 to 20 (pages 317-401) are devoted exclusively to 1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. Bb5, a variation closely identified with the Russian-Dutch GM Sergei Tiviakov. This system, which looks somewhat like a mirror image of a Rossolimo Attack, is very flexible and not all that well-analyzed compared to other Sicilian lines. White has a wealth of plans to choose from including play on all sides of the board depending on how Black reacts. Sometimes he plays Bxc6 and on other occasions the Bishop finds a home on c4. The delay of the development of the king knight means that f2-f4 often prefaces Nf3. The early Nc3 on move two means that active attempts like the anti-Grand Prix favorite 1. e4 c5 2. f4 d5 are not available. This is the first time I have seen this variation get such exhaustive treatment. Ditto for 1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. Bc4 which receives over 40 pages!

This book breaks a lot of new ground and varies from previous anti-Sicilian books by the likes of Gallagher, Rogozenko and Palliser in recommending 3. ...d6 against 3. Bb5. This chapter by the Swedish GM Tiger Hillarp Persson not only covers the Rossolimo proper but also examines 4. d4 cxd4 5. Qxd4 Bd7 6. Bxc6 Bxc6, proposing interesting and fresh play after both 7. Nc3 h6!? 8. Be3 e5 and 7. c4 f5!?

One of the highlights of the book is Jacob Aagaard's 60-page answer to 2. c3 Sicilian. Rogozenko also proposed classical development with 1. e4 c5 2. c3 Nf6 3. e5 Nd5 4. d4 cxd4 5. cxd4 d6 6. Nf3 e6 7. Bc4 Nc6 8. 0-0 Be7 in his *Anti-Sicilians: A Guide for Black* published by Gambit in 2003, but

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Boris Avrukh

1) 3...e6 versus the Grand Prix Attack p.7

Jacob Aagaard

2) A Classical Repertoire against 2.c3 p.21

Tiger Hillarp Persson

3) Beating 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 with 3. ...d6 p.70

4) Beating 2. Nf3 d6 3. Bb5† with 3. ...Nd7! p.102

Andrew Greet

5) Moscow Variation with 5.c4 p.120

Christian Bauer

6) 2. Nf3 d6 3. Bc4 p.152

7) 2. Nf3 d6 3. c3 Nf6 4. h3 – ...g6-lines p.194

8) 2. Nf3 d6 3. c3 Nf6 4. h3 Nc6 p.213

9) 2. Nf3 d6 3. c3 Nf6 4. h3 – Rare Lines p.226

10) King's Indian Attack p.246

11) 2. Nf3 e6 3. c3 d5 4. e5 d4 p.276

Milos Pavlovic

12) A 10-minute repertoire against the Closed Sicilian p.309

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13) Tiviakov Grand Prix p.317

14) 3. ...Nd4 – Early Deviations p.329

15) 4. Bc4 g6 p.340

16) 4. Bc4 e6 5. Nf3 – Minor Lines p.355

17) 4. Bc4 e6 5. Nf3 – 5. ...Nf6 6. 0-0 p.364

18) 4. Bc4 e6 5. Nge2 – 5. ...Qc7 p.377

19) 4. Bc4 e6 5. Nge2 – 5. ...Nf6 6. 0-0 a6 7. a4 p.379

20) 4. Bc4 e6 5. Nge2 – 5. ...Nf6 6. 0-0 a6 7. d3 p.389

Colin McNab

21) Beating 2. a3 with 2. ...g6 p.402

22) Beating 2. f4 with 2. ...d5 p.406

23) Beating 5. f3 with 5. ...e5 p.417

John Shaw

24) 2. d3 – A Black Repertoire p.425

Peter Heine Nielsen

25) Beating 2.b3 with 2...g6 432

the present material is much more detailed, going even beyond what Sveshnikov offered in his mammoth tome on 2. c3 last year.

There are many opening novelties in this book but the one that stands out the most to me occurs after 1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. f4 e6 4. Nf3 d5 5. Bb5 Ne7 6. exd5 exd5 7. Qe2, and now Avrukh has come up with 7. ...f6!,

denying White the use of the e5-square and preparing ...Kf7!. The Israeli GM's main line goes 8. 0-0 Kf7 9. Qf2 Nf5 10. Bxc6 bxc6 11. b3 c4! 12. Na4 Bd6 13. Bb2 Re8 with complex play.

A pdf excerpt of this book can be found at www.qualitychess.co.uk .

Highly Recommended

Washington Scholastic Results

by Gary Dorfner

Washington Bughouse Championship

Held April 29 at the Tacoma Convention Center. There were 42 teams, 14 in the K-3 section and 28 in the 4-6 section.

In the K-3 section:

Vikram Ramasamy, Hellen Keller Elementary;	
Fred Smolak, Samantha Smith Elementary	10 points
Karen Haining, Ridgecrest Elementary;	
Liam Reis, Rock Creek Elementary	7 points
Kavi Singh, Redmond Elementary;	
Jordan Price, Redmond Elementary	6 points
Logan Gnanapragasam, Meridian Park Elementary;	
Julien Goldstick, Meridian Park Elementary	6 points

In the 4-6 Section:

Kanish Puri, Evergreen Elementary;	
Nicolo Gelb, Lakeside Elementary	8 points
Kyle Haining, Ridgecrest Elementary;	
Jothi Ramesh, Meridian Park Elementary	8 points
Coley Fannin, Charles Wright Academy;	
Noah Fields, Charles Wright Academy	8 points

Prizes were trophies & medals.

Washington Elementary Individual Championship

Held Saturday, April 30, at the same site. Kids from all over the state showed up to compete in this tournament.

There were 1175 players in all: 90 in Grade 1, 180 in Grade 2, 238 in Grade 3, 194 in Grade 4, 196 in Grade 5, 130 in Grade 6, 102 in the K-Section, 33 in the I Love Chess ILC2 1-3 section and 12 in the ILC2 4-6 section. There were 146 schools represented in this event.

Individual winners

Grade 1

Neil Chowdhury, Somerset Elementary	5 points
Aryan Deshpande, Stevenson Elementary	5 points
Jaden Zhang, Lowell Elementary	5 points

They were all three undefeated.

Grade 2

Freya Gulamali, Bellevue Children's Academy	5 points
Omkar Shetti, Challenger Elementary	5 points
Richard Yang, Spiritridge Elementary	5 points

Grade 3

Derek Zhang, Spiritridge Elementary	5 points
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Michael Han, Apollo Elementary	5 points
Jan Buzek, View Ridge Elementary	5 points
Michelangelo Barozzi, View Ridge Elementary	5 points

Grade 4

Roland Feng, Thurgood Elementary	5 points
Bryce Tiglon, Louisa May Alcott Elementary	5 points
Brendon Zhang, Creekside Elementary	5 points
Jothi Ramesh, Meridian Park Elementary	5 points

Grade 5

Nathan Lee, Spiritridge Elementary	5 points
Kyle Haining, Ridgecrest Elementary	5 points
Sangeeta Dhingra, Louisa May Alcott Elem.	5 points

Grade 6

Samuel He, Thoreau Elementary	5 points
Trevor Johnson, Heritage Christian Academy	5 points
Faris Gulamali, Stevenson Elementary	5 points

K-Section

Stan Zhong, Cherry Crest School	5 points
Andrew Streidl, Evergreen Elementary	4.5 points
Anthony He, Cedar Crest Academy	4.5 points

Team awards

Section 1-3

Spiritridge Elementary	19 points
Lowell Elementary	17.5 points
Open Window Elementary	16 points
Wedgwood Elementary	16 points
Soundview Elementary	15.5 points

Section 4-6

Spiritridge Elementary	17.5 points
Lowell Elementary	17 points
Louisa May Alcott Elementary	17 points
Meridian Park Elementary	16.5 points

I Love Chess Sections

ILC 1-3 Section

Quinn Chow, Bush School	4.5 points
Jad Gorman, Epiphany	4.5 points

ICL 4-6 Section

Dorian Clay, Cherry Crest	5 points
Nathan Lovitt, Downing	3.5 points

All received trophies & medals.

Washington State Jr. High/Middle School Individual Championship

Held at the Convention Center on Saturday, April 30, continuing the Open Section at the hotel across the street on Sunday, May 1. There were 87 players in all, 22 in the Open Section, 38 in the Reserve Section, and 27 in the U-1000 Section. The winners were:

Open Section

Sarah May, Home Schooled, 4.5 points, \$100

Sarah had to battle Becca Lampman in the last round for 1st place.

Nicolo Gelb, Lakeside Middle School, 4 points, \$70

Mayhul Arora, Odle Middle School, 3.5 points, \$35

Andrew Porisch, Odle Middle School, 3.5 points, \$35

Reserve Section

Cameron Blecha, Horizon Middle School 5 points

Will Spencer, The Overlake School 4 points

Billy Aho, Horizon Middle School 4 points

Brian Julian, Charles Wright Academy 4 points

Aho lost to Spencer in round five. Had he won he would have tied for first.

Under 1000 Section

Christopher Pyles, Home Schooled 5 points

Ian Richards, Onalaska Elem./Middle School 4.5 points

Patrick Lam, Vanesselt School 4 points

Tyler Moore, Twin Falls Middle School 4 points

Winners in the Reserve & Under 1000 each received trophies and medals. Pyles beat Lam in round three then Moore in round five to finish first.

Washington/Hoyt Elementary Tournament

Held at Mason Jr. High/Middle School April 16. There were 76 players in all, 35 in the K-3 Section, 22 in the 4-6 U900 Section, 15 in the 4-6 Open, and four in the 7-Adult Section.

Individual winners

K-3 Section

Ramiro Ibarra, St. Charles Borromeo 5 points

Peyton Crossley, New Hope Christian 4 points

Jahan Bains, Charles Wright Academy 4 points

Marc McNamee, Camas Elementary 4 points

Ibarra beat Crossley in round four.

4-6 U900

Dustin Lirazan, New Hope Christian 5 points

Ethan Carlson, Northwood Elementary 4 points

Nicholas Mooney Northwood Elementary 3.5 points

Chase Crossley, New Hope Christian 3.5 points

Carlson lost to Lirazan in round two.

4-6 Open

Elias Simon, New Hope Christian 5 points

Ryan Ratliff, New Hope Christian 5 points

Maxwell Lence, Home Schooled 4 points

Lence lost to Simon in round 1.

7-Adult

Kuljit Bains, Charles Wright Academy 2.5 points

Todd Damish, Adult 2 points

The 7- Adult section was run as a quad.

Team Standings

K-3

St. Charles Borromeo 14.5 points

Camas Prairie 13 points

New Hope Christian 12.5 points

Washington/Hoyt 10 points

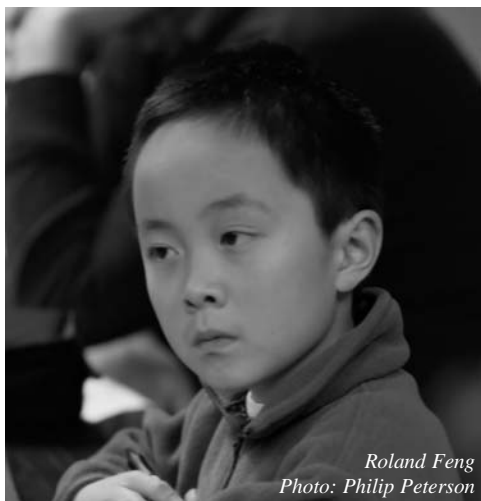
4-6

New Hope Christian 18.5 points

Northwood Elementary 13.5 points

Washington/Hoyt Elementary 9 points

Sakai Elementary 6 points



Roland Feng
Photo: Philip Peterson



Andrew He
Photo: Philip Peterson



Sarah May
Photo: Andrei Botez

Theoretically Speaking

by Bill McGeary



GM Wells' Queen's Gambit, part five of five.

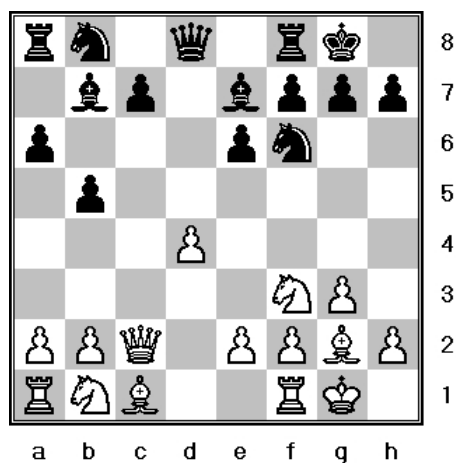
GM Wells has done well with the lines in the Queen's Gambit he has chosen to defend.

Of course, he can't expect to play the sharp lines that we have seen so far in every game. For instance, the Catalan opening is a dangerous line that doesn't carry the sharp reputation.

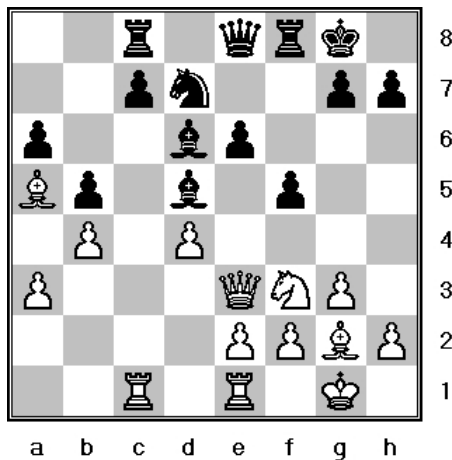
Wells has mainly used three lines against the Catalan, **1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. g3 d5**.

First he has played the "main" mainline as Black:

4. Bg2 Be7 5. Nf3 0-0 6. 0-0 dxc4 7. Qc2 a6 8. Qxc4 b5 9. Qc2 Bb7.

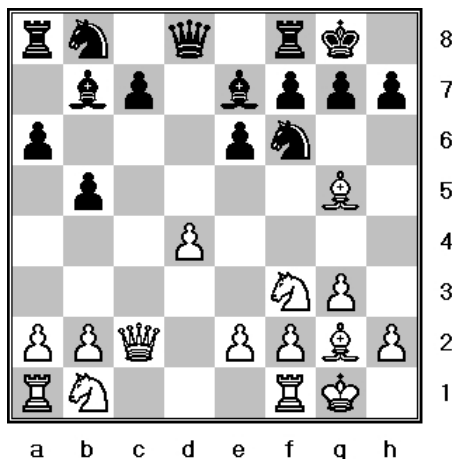


Huzman at Dresden 2007 played **10. Bd2** which is now the main line. There followed **10. ...Be4 11. Qc1 Nbd7 12. Ba5 Rc8 13. Nbd2 Ba8 14. a3 Qe8 15. b4 Bd6 16. Re1 Ne4 17. Nxe4 Bxe4 18. Qe3 Bd5 19. Rac1 f5**

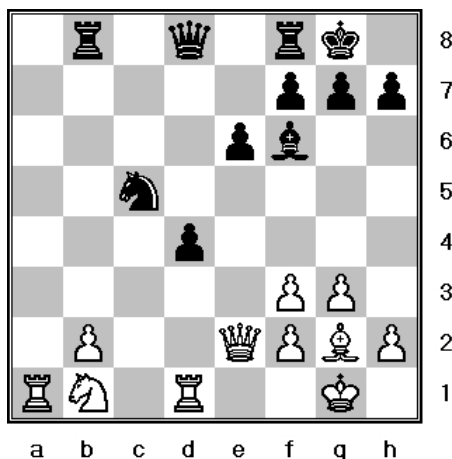


Black appears to be a bit stretched and lost in 54 moves.

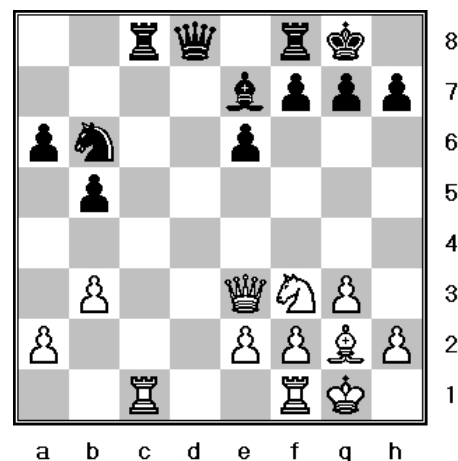
Irish IM Mark Quinn had played **10. Bg5** against Wells in 2003:



10. ...Nbd7 11. Rd1 Rc8 12. a4 c5 13. axb5 axb5 14. Qb3 cxd4 15. Qxb5 Bxf3 16. Bxf6 Bxf6 17. exf3 Rb8 18. Qe2 Nc5.

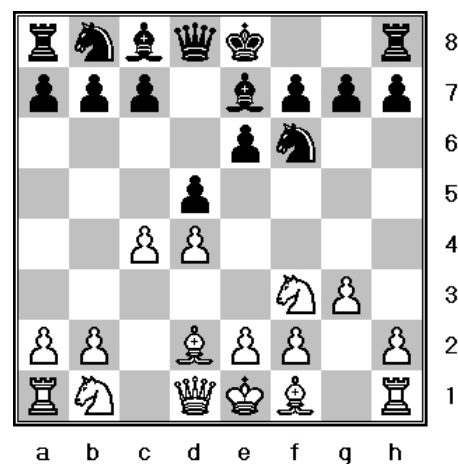


Black has the advantage and went on to win. The value of the c5 advance in this game can't be underestimated when you compare Kunte – Wells played later in 2003. Same moves up to 10. **Bg5 Nbd7, then 11. Bxf6 Nxf6 12. Nbd2 Rc8 13. Nb3 c5 14. dxc5 Be4 15. Qc3 Bd5 16. Rac1 Nd7 17. Qe3 Bxb3 18. Qxb3 Nxc5 19. Qe3 Na4 20. b3 Nb6;**



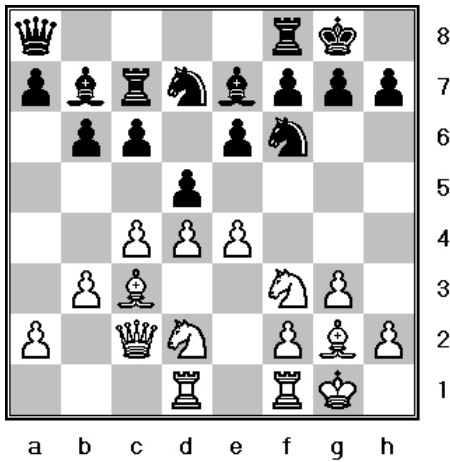
White has a small advantage due to the influence of the Bg2, but more importantly Black isn't active as in the Quinn game.

A different defense to the Catalan in Wells' experience is **1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5 4. g3 Bb4+ 5. Bd2 Be7.**

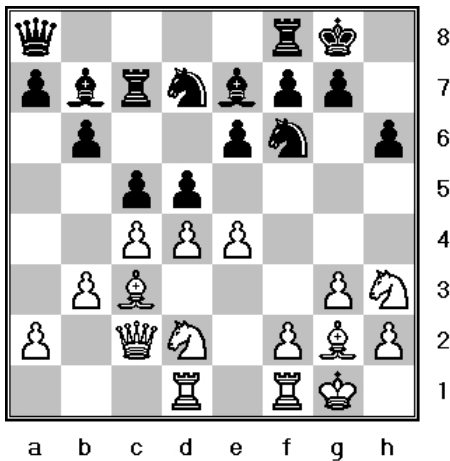


This line with a check and then retreat is a small finesse to limit White's options with the black-square bishop. In 1998 Wells played this against a player, Juarnig, and after **6. Bg2 0-0 7. 0-0 c6 8. Qc2 Nbd7 9. b3 b6 10. Bc3 Bb7 11. Nbd2 Rc8 12. e4**

Rc7 13. Rad1 Qa8,

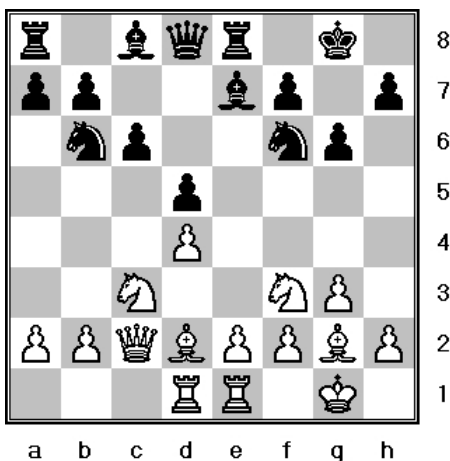


Black punished the impudent 14. Ng5 h6 15. Nh3 with 15. ...c5!, winning on move 25.



Very nice how the blocked battery Qa8/Bb7 sprang to life.

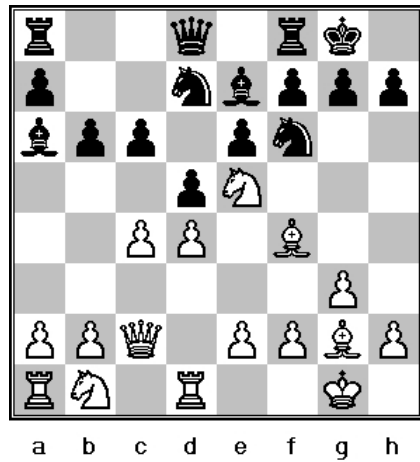
At Queenstown New Zealand in 2009 Wells played this line versus Bakker and after 5. Bd2 Be7 6. Bg2 0-0 7. 0-0 Nbd7 White ceded the advantage with 8. cxd5 exd5 9. Nc3 c6 10. Qc2 Re8 11. Rfe1 g6 12. Rad1 Nb6.



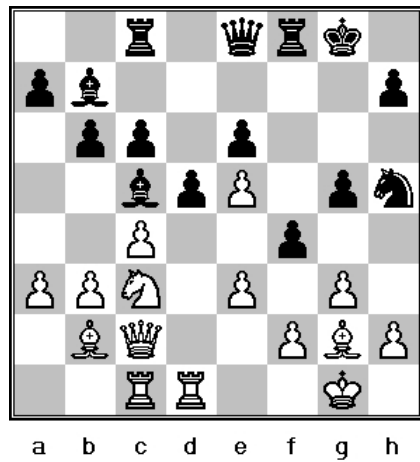
Black is equal and outplayed his

opponent later.

Another game at Queenstown found GM Daryl Johannsen on the White side playing more circumspectly: 5. Bd2 Be7 6. Bg2 0-0 7. 0-0 c6 8. Qc2 b6 9. Bf4 Nbd7 10. Rd1 Ba6 11. Ne5 trying to begin play on the h1-a8 diagonal.



11. ...Nxe5 12. dxe5 Nh5 appears a bit out of place: 13. Bc1 f5 14. b3 Bc5 15. e3 g5 16. Nc3 Bb7 17. a3 Qe8 18. Bb2 Rc8 19. Rac1 f4, when Black is active, but also a little exposed around g8.

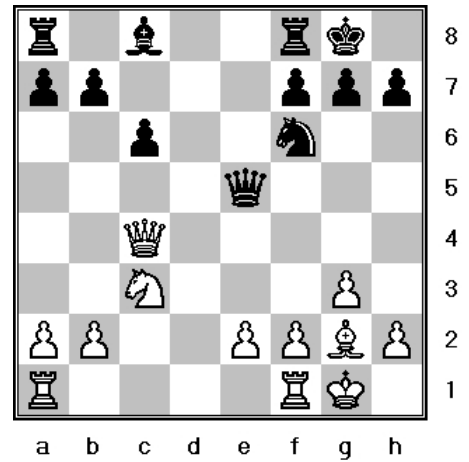


So, this closed variation with the intermediate check on b4 appears a solid line with chances to outplay an unprepared opponent.

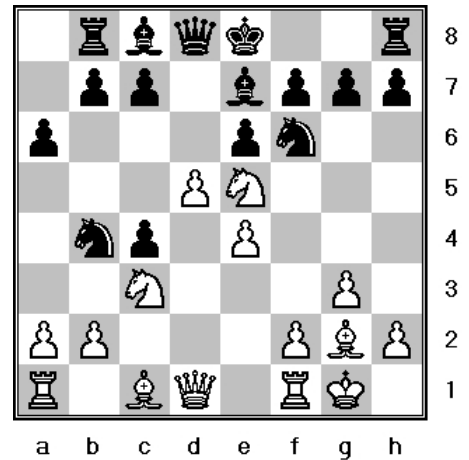
The last line Wells has played is 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5 4. g3 dxc4 5. Bg2 with 5. ...Nc6. GM Lalic in a rapid event in 2003 tried 6. Qa4 Bb4+ 7. Bd2 Bd6 8. Ne5 when a draw was agreed. Obviously not a serious test of the line.

At the same event in Halifax 2003 IM (later GM) Gordon tried 6. Qa4 Bb4+ 7. Bd2 Bd6 8. Qxc4 0-0 9. 0-0 e5 10. dxe5 Nxe5 11. Nxe5 Bxe5 12. Bc3 Qe7 13. Bxe5

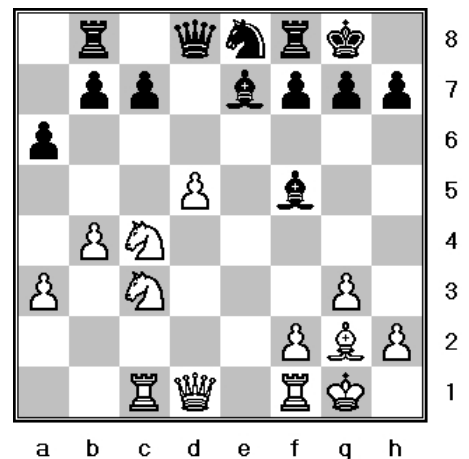
Qxe5 14. Nc3 c6 with equality.



The move 5. ...a6 (instead of 5. ...Nc6) has appeared in a couple of Wells' games, usually followed by a quick ...Nc6 such as against IM Dearing in 2004: 5. Bg2 a6 6. 0-0 Nc6 7. Nc3 Rb8 8. e4 Be7 9. d5 Nb4 10. Ne5

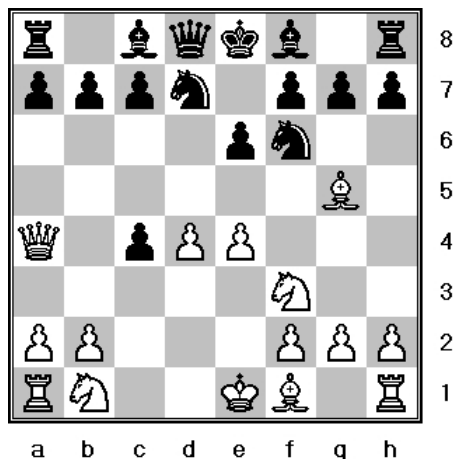


10. ...exd5 11. exd5 Bf5 12. a3 Nd3 13. Nxc4 Nxc1 14. Rxc1 0-0 15. b4 Ne8 when Black is solid but a bit passive.

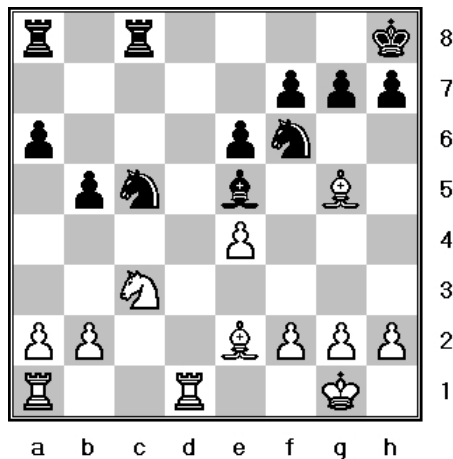


It's not clear, to me at least, what function the a6/Rb8 tandem has.

A different offshoot, similar to some lines in the second part of this series, was witnessed in games Wells played as Black versus GM Mark Hebden. At Hastings 2001 Hebden, well known for his own ideas, tried a little bit of a tricky move order: **1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3. c4 e6 4. Bg5** (instead of 4. Nc3) **4. ...dxc4 5. Qa4+ Nbd7 6. e4**, when the counterplay Black is accustomed to in the Vienna variation is eliminated by the Qa4.



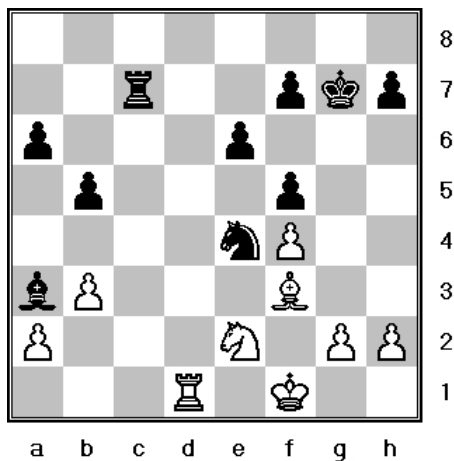
Wells still found play with **6. ...a6 7. Bxc4 c5 8. 0-0 cxd4 9. Nxd4 Bd6 10. Be2 0-0 11. Qc2 b5 12. Nc6 Qc7 13. Ne7+ Kh8 14. Qxc7 Bxc7 15. Nxc8 Rfxc8 16. Nc3 Be5 17. Rfd1 Nc5**.



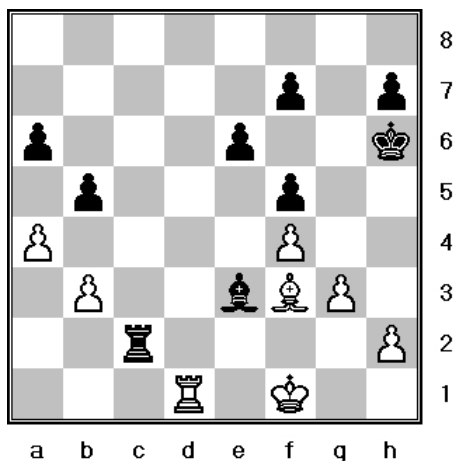
Black is targeting the e4 pawn and has ideas down the c-file. After **18. Bxf6** Wells played **18. ...gxf6** in order to prevent any f4 ideas as well as minimizing back rank threats.

After **19. Bh5 Ra7 20. Rac1 Rac7 21. b3 Kg7** White was faced with a pawn dropping off.

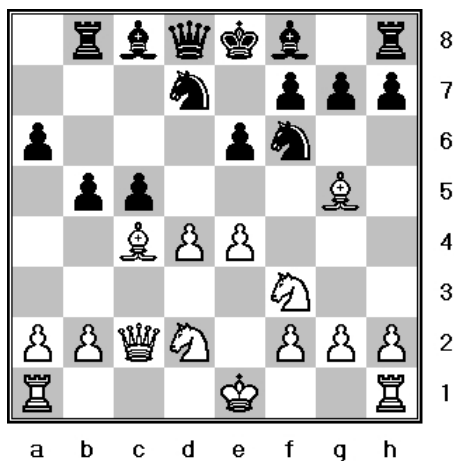
He tried to seek tactical relief or a bishops of opposite color ending with **22. Ne2 Nxe4 23. Rxc7 Rxc7 24. f4 Bd6 25. Bf3 f5 26. Kf1** (26. Bxe4 Bc5+) **26. ...Ba3**.



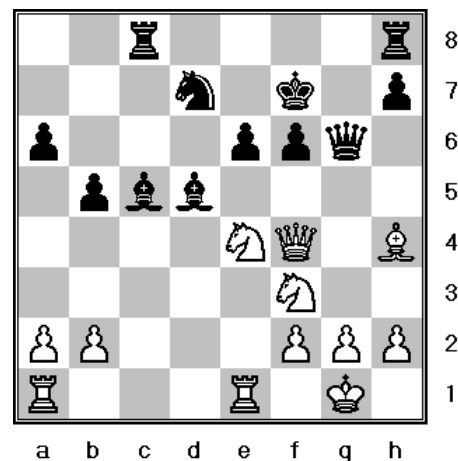
Hebden may have thought he had found a way out with **27. Ng3 Nf6 28. Nh5+ Nxh5 29. Bxh5 Kh6 30. Bf3**, but **30. ...Bc1 31. g3 Rc2 32. a4 Be3** showed that Black was still making progress (and later won):



At Gibraltar 2004 the combatants resumed; this time Wells altered move order with **6. ...c5**. Hebden jumped at the chance with **7. Nbd2**, with ideas that the Nb1 will be better placed on c4, and that White might be able to gain something on the c-file as long as it is open. Wells responded with **7. ...a6 8. Bxc4 Rb8 9. Qc2 b5**

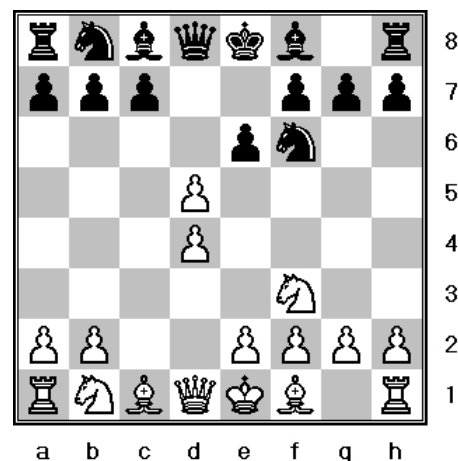


The game became fully engaged with **10. Bxe6 fxe6 11. e5 Bb7 12. 0-0 Be7 13. exf6 gxf6 14. Bh4 Rc8 15. Qb3 Bd5 16. Qe3 Kf7 17. Rfe1 Qg8 18. dxc5 Bxc5 19. Qf4 Qg6 20. Ne4**, when Wells accepted a nominally worse endgame because of the threat Nxf6/Ne5+.



After **20. ...Qf5 21. Qxf5 exf5 22. Nxc5 Nxc5** a draw was eventually agreed. An interesting question is what would happen at move 18 if Black had captured with the Nd7 on c5? This keeps the Be7 guarding f6 and the Nc5 will defend e6 and e4. The keys for Black in the line are the central black squares, quick development with an emphasis on the c-file and keeping the Black king safe.

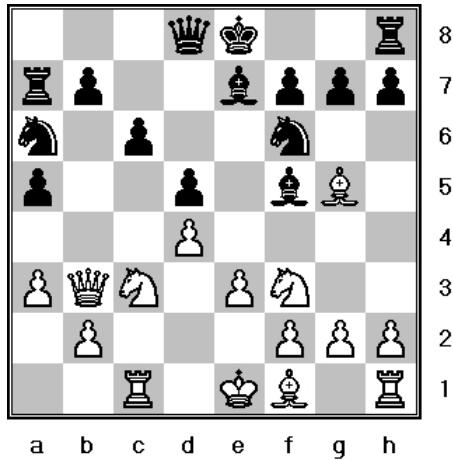
The final thing to talk about is **1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3. c4 e6 4. cxd5**.



This line is not considered too difficult for Black in theory because White has played Nf3 already. The thinking is twofold, first off White has forfeited the opportunity to play an exchange QGD with Nge2 and f3, secondly White generally wants to control the b1-h7 diagonal with Qc2/Bd3 – a plan that isn't advanced by an early Nf3.

Wells has played Black in this a couple of times and the results hold to theory.

Against Mattick at Kreuzberg 1991 the game went (4. cxd5) 4. ...exd5 5. Nc3 c6 6. Bg5 Be7 7. Qc2 Na6 8. e3 Nb4 9. Qd1 Bf5 10. Rc1 a5 11. a3 Na6 12. Qb3 Ra7.

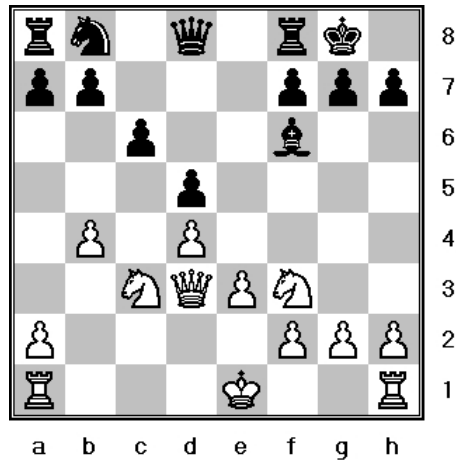


Both sides look a bit awkward, but because of the easy development and the Bf5 Black is ok; Wells won in 25 moves after a blunder.

Against Mendoza in London 1994 Wells chose the more direct 6. ...Bf5 7. e3 Nbd7

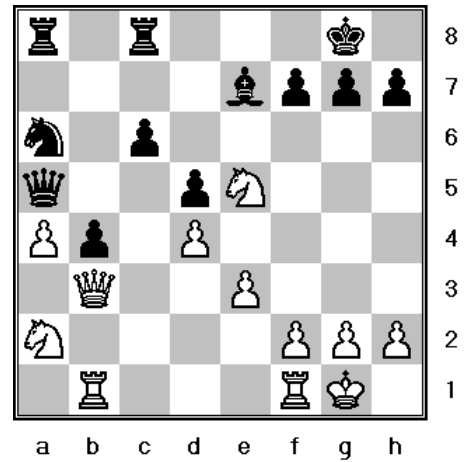
8. Bd3 Bxd3 9. Qxd3 Be7 10. 0-0 0-0 11. Rae1 Re8 with simple equality.

The most interesting encounter Wells has had in this was against GM Arkell at Hastings 1991. Arkell has his own interpretation of the exchange QGD and wasn't adverse to the opening sequence: 4. cxd5 exd5 5. Nc3 c6 6. Bg5 Be7 7. e3 Bf5 8. Bd3 Bxd3 9. Bxf6 Bxf6 10. Qxd3 0-0 11. b4, which is Arkell's idea.



Wells responded with 11. ...a6 12. a4 Be7 13. Rb1 b5 14. 0-0 a5! 15. bxa5 b4 16.

Na2 Qxa5 17. Qb3 Na6 18. Ne5 Rfc8.



Black is fine.

So ends our exploration of the line in the QGD that Wells plays. It seems a fine way to play with the Black pieces should the opponent decline going into the Nimzoindian.

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Type: Rated 5 Rd. Swiss **Registration:** 9:00-9:45 AM (no advance entries)

Rds: Saturday 10 am, 2 pm, 6 pm; Sunday 10 am & 3:30 pm

Time Control: Game in 120. **Entry Fee:** \$25

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The 2011 Robert Karch Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, compiler

Depending on printing and mailing schedules, either the Washington Open just happened or is about to happen. If it is the former, and you weren't in attendance, then it is likely that a number of people just passed you by in the race for Grand Prix points. If the latter, then you still have time to join in and keep up. The Washington Open is/was the number two event on our calendar this year, with a 5x multiplier. (The number one event is the Portland Chess Club Centennial, coming August 12-14, with a 6x multiplier!) An event with such a high multiplier gives entrants the opportunity for a lot of points and can leave non-attendees scrambling to catch back up. Anyway, whether it is over, or about to begin, the Washington Open will do a lot to make the standings below rather meaningless. It is very likely that most, if not all, of the leaders this time next month will be people who came to Renton, WA over Memorial Day weekend.

But never fear, your chances are not over! With other multiplier-worthy events, such as the above mentioned PCC Centennial in August, the Seafair Open a little earlier in the summer, and the Oregon Open over Labor Day weekend, this summer will provide you with plenty of opportunities to add great numbers to your point totals. All sorts of non-multiplier events are also available to incrementally raise your standings. All you have to do is attend and play.

As is the case most months, some of our leaders have moved up to become leaders in the next higher class. One such player is V. Alexandra Botez, who just went from being the Oregon leader in Class A to holding the same honor among Oregon Experts. If you compare lists, you will find a couple more players who have also gained a class yet remained on the leader board. Standings below are current through May 10 and use players' peak ratings through June. 292 players have competed in one or more GP events through the first four months (and a week) of 2011. (Which raises one question in my mind, which is, where are all the Washington Masters hiding?)

Oregon

Washington

Masters

1 Breckenridge, Steven ...40	1 Bragg, David R 37.5
2 Haessler, Carl A 37.5	2 Pupols, Viktors 32.5
3 Raptis, Nick 34	3 Chen, Howard J 12
4 Russell, Corey J 15	4 Milat, Marcell 6
5 Roua, Radu 14
.....

Experts

1 Botez, V Alexandra 53.5	1 Bartron, Paul R 41.5
2 Esler, Brian J 44	2 Ummel, Igor 35
3 Brooks, Curtis 43.5	3 Schemm, Michael 28
4 Gutman, Richard G 33.5	4 Moroney, Timothy 22.5

5 Gay, Daniel Z 28.5	5 Merwin, Steven E 16.5
6 Davis, Mikeal 28.5	6 Sen, Samir 14.5

Class A

1 Sherrard, Jerry 44	1 Buck, Stephen J 69
2 Cigan, Jason 40.5	2 O'Gorman, Peter J 49.5
3 Ellis, Jason 37	3 McAleer, James L 46.5
4 Chu-Kung, Ben 34.5	4 Szabo, Marcell 39.5
5 Grom, Alex 26.5	5 Kiiru, Joseph K 34.5
6 Waterman, Jeremy 19.5	6 He, Daniel M 31

Class B

1 Shimada, Masakazu 36	1 Kramlich, Dan 50
2 Wen, David 31	2 Fields, Noah 37
3 Sun, Maxwell S 25.5	3 Lampman, Becca 31
4 Fisette, Robert A 22.5	4 Ackerman, Ryan S 29.5
5 Parnon, Calvin J 21.5	4 Ambler, Dennis L 29.5
6 Hultman, Jan M 20	6 Nicoski, Aaron M 27.5

Class C

1 Midson, Tony 16.5	1 Monahan, Darby P 46.5
2 Brusselback, Lon 14	2 Piper, August 35
3 Falbo, Clement E 13.5	3 Hanna, Mark S 30.5
4 Meaders, Jedidiah 13	4 Zhang, Brendan 26
5 Esler, Megan C 12	4 Yokela, Joshua S 26
6 Maynard, Maurice 11.5	6 Varner, Murlin E 24.5

Class D and Below

1 Jewel, Nathan 19.5	1 Richards, Jerrold 31
2 Stevens, Matthew 11.5	2 Jones, Davey V 22.5
3 Petrachioiu, Ilie 10	3 Thomas, Arjun 19.5
4 Goodlett, Joshua M 9	3 Haining, Breck 19.5
5 Six tied at 8	5 Hare, Howard A 15
.....	6 Two tied at 13.5

Overall Leaders, by State

1 Botez, V Alexandra 53.5	1 Buck, Stephen J 69
2 Esler, Brian J 44	2 Kramlich, Dan 50
2 Sherrard, Jerry 44	3 O'Gorman, Peter J 49.5
4 Brooks, Curtis 43.5	4 McAleer, James L 46.5
5 Cigan, Jason 40.5	4 Monahan, Darby P 46.5
6 Breckenridge, Steven ...40	6 Bartron, Paul R 41.5
7 Haessler, Carl A 37.5	7 Szabo, Marcell 39.5
8 Ellis, Jason 37	8 Bragg, David R 37.5
9 Shimada, Masakazu 36	9 Fields, Noah 37
10 Chu-Kung, Ben 34.5	10 Ummel, Igor 35
11 Raptis, Nick 34	10 Piper, August 35
12 Gutman, Richard G 33.5	12 Kiiru, Joseph K 34.5
13 Wen, David 31	13 Pupols, Viktors 32.5
14 Gay, Daniel Z 28.5	14 Richards, Jerrold 31
14 Davis, Mikeal 28.5	14 Lampman, Becca 31
.....	14 He, Daniel M 31

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ROUND TIMES: Friday 11 & 7; Saturday 9 & 7; Sunday 10 & 5;

REGISTRATION: Friday, 9:00am-10:45 am.

ENTRIES: \$110. Pre-registration received by August 8 deduct \$10. Free entry to GM's and IM's (\$100 deducted from any prizes); Refund of \$20 to guests registered at hotel for at least 2 nights, payable at end of tournament (one refund per room).

USCF & OCF/WCF membership required; OSA or out-of-Northwest pay \$5 OCF tournament fee. USCF August list used to determine ratings. FIDE ratings used for foreign players without USCF ratings. Unrated players limited to place prizes in Championship Section and U1200/unr in Amateur Section.

FIDE RATED CHAMPIONSHIP SECTION —
Open to all; total prize fund \$4500
PRIZES: \$2000-1000-500
U2200: \$500-300-200

AMATEUR SECTION—Open to all under 2000; total prize fund \$5500
PRIZES: \$1000-600-400
U 1800: \$500-300-200
U1600: \$500-300-200
U 1400: \$500-300-200
U 1200/unr: \$300-200

SIDE EVENT: Saturday Afternoon Blitz start 3:30 pm; 8 double-round Swiss \$20 entry fee; 80% of entries returned as prizes: 1st 50%; 2nd 25%; U2000 25%

SPECIAL VISITOR GM SUSAN POLGAR:
Saturday afternoon 10-board clock simul
Sunday morning breakfast topic, "The Bobby Fischer I Knew."

HOTEL: Lloyd Center Doubletree special chess rate (mention tournament); single occupancy \$99; double occupancy \$109; plus tax. For hotel reservations call 1-800-996-0510.



MORE INFO and list of tournament sponsors: www.pdxchess.org

..... Bring sets, boards and clocks; none supplied. • Any player winning \$600 or more must complete IRS form with SSN before payment.

Name (Last, First): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

USCF ID _____ Rating: _____ USCF Expire _____

Email: _____ Bye Requests: _____

FIDE Rated Championship Section

Amateur Section

Send a check or money order payable to Portland Chess Club to: Mike Morris, 2344 NE 27th Ave, Portland, OR, 97212

Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

Address
 ↗ 2150 N 107 St ↖
 ↘ Seattle WA 98133 ↙
 Infoline
 ↗ 206-417-5405 ↖
 www.seattlechess.org
 kleistcf@aol.com
 Address for Entries
 SCC Tnmt Dir
 2420 S 137 St
 Seattle WA 98168

SCC Fridays

Typical Friday fare is one round of an ongoing tournament (free to SCC members, no prizes) played at a rate of 40/90, 30/60.

It's Summertime: June 3, 10, 17, 24.

Firecracker Swiss (G/13): July 1.

Hot-as-Hades: July 8, 15, 22, 29.

Dog Days Swiss: August 5, 12, 19, 26.

Workingman's Qds (G/24): Sept. 2.

Autumn Leaves: Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30.

How to Find the SCC

Look for the Northway Square East Building, just across I-5 from Northgate Mall, with large signs proclaiming "Northwest Kidney Centers" and "City University." The main entrance is reached by turning east on N. 107th Street from Meridian Ave. N. The club is in the basement.

Attendance at 2011's events

• Novice (1/8)-2, (4/16)--3; Quads (1/22)-17, (2/5)-19, (3/19)--32, (4/16)--22, (5/14)--24; Tornados (1/2)-16, (1/30)-19, (2/27)--26, (3/27)--24, (4/17)--22, (5/8)--10; City Championship (1/14-16)-33; Spring Open (4/1-3)--56, Yaz Lecture/Book-signing (4/10)--60, Adult Swiss (4/30-5/1)--10.

June 15; July 6, 20

1st & 3rd Wed. Quick Quads

Format: 3-RR. **TC:** G/20. **EF:** \$5 (+\$3 for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free EF for future QQ. **Reg:** 6:15-6:45 p.m. **1st Rd:** 7 p.m. **Misc:** USCF memb. req'd. NS. NC.

♣ June 5, July 17

Sunday Tornado ♣

Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/64. **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 from each EF goes to prize fund). **Reg:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Rds:** 11:30-1:50-4:10-6:30. **Misc:** USCF, WCF/OCF memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

♣ June 18, July 9

Saturday Quads ♣

Format: 3-RR, 4-plyr sections by rating. **TC:** G/120. **EF:** \$9 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free entry for future quad. **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10:00-2:15-ASAP. **Misc:** USCF, WCF/OCF memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

♣ July 22-24

Seattle Seafair ♣

Format: 5-SS. **TC:** 40/2 & SD/1 (2-day schedule - Rd 1, G/64). **EF:** \$41 if rec'd by 7/20, \$50 at site. **GMs, IMs, & WGMs**-FREE. **Unrated**-Free with purchase of 1-yr USCF & 1-yr WCF. **SCC members**-subtract \$11. Members of *other dues-required CCs* in BC, OR, and WA-subtract \$5. **Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.** **Prize Fund:** \$1620 b/60, 6/prz grp. **Prizes:** \$300-195-115 gtd., U2200 140, U2000 135, U1800 130, U1600 125, U1400 120, U1200 60, UNR 45, Upset (rds 1-4) 10/rd, Plus Score Pool 215. **Reg:** Fri. 7-7:45pm, Sat. 9-9:45am. **Rds:** Fri. 8, Sat. (10 @ G/64)-12:30-6:45, Sun. 11-5. **Byes:** 2 (Sunday rounds, commit at reg.). **Misc:** USCF, WCF/OCF memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

Emerald City Open

June 24-26

A two-section, five-round Swiss with a time control of 40/2 & SD/1 (Rd 1 of 2-day schedule - G/64). The prize fund of \$800 is based on forty-two entries.

a Karch Memorial Grand Prix event

Open		Reserve (U1700)	
First	\$200	First	\$140
Second	\$130	Second	\$90
U1950	\$95	U1450	\$65
		Unr	\$20

Upset (rds 1-4) \$15

Entry Fees: \$33 if rec'd by 6/22, \$42 at site. **SCC members**-subtract \$9. Members of other dues-required CCs in BC, OR, and WA-subtract \$4. **Unr**-free with purchase of 1-year USCF and WCF. **Add \$1 to any EF for 2-dayschedule.**

Registration: Fri. 7-7:45p.m., Sat. 9-9:45a.m.

Rounds: Fri. 8, Sat. (10 @ G/64)-12:30-6:45, Sun. 11-5.

Byes: 2 (Sunday rounds, commit at registration).

Miscellaneous: USCF & WCF membership req'd. No smoking. No computers.

Future Events

♣ indicates a NW Grand Prix event ♣

June 4

Washington Senior Adult Championship

Site: Tacoma Chess Club, 409 Puyallup Ave., Room 11, across the street from Alfred's Café & 2 blocks down the hill from the Tacoma Dome. Format: 4 round swiss (for those over age 50). TC: G/60. Reg: 9:00-9:45 AM, Rds: Sat. 10:00, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30 OR ASAP. EF: \$25, Prizes: (B/12) 1st \$60+Plaque, 2nd \$50, 1st U2000, U1700, U1400 \$40. Winner seeded into WA Championship Invitational section. 1 HPB available. NS NW NC. USCF & NW (WCF) memb req. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner 8423 E. B St. Tacoma Wash. 98445. Ggarychess@aol.com (253)535-2536. Make checks payable to Gary Dorfner.

June 9-12

National Open

Las Vegas, Nevada. International Chess Festival. See display advertisement on page 3.

June 18-19

Newport June Open

Presented by the Central Coast Chess Club. Site: Central Lincoln P.U.D. Newport, Oregon. 219 N. Coast Highway (south of Walmart) Format: 4-SS. Time Control: 40/90; SD 30. Entry fee: \$35. If received by June 17. \$40. The day of the Tournament. PRIZE FUND: \$1000.00 based on 35 entries. The prize fund will be prorated to the actual number of entries. PRIZES: 1st Place-\$150.; 2nd Place-\$90.; Under 2000- 1st Place-\$90.; 2nd Place-\$60.; Under 1800- 1st Place-\$90; 2nd Place-\$60; Under 1600- 1st Place-\$90.; 2nd Place-\$60.; Under 1400- 1st Place-\$90.; 2nd Place-\$60.; Under 1200- 1st Place-\$60; Under 1000- 1st Place-\$60; Unrated- \$40. Registration: Sat. June 18, 9:15-9:45AM. Rounds: Sat. 10:00AM; 2:30PM; 7:00PM, Sun. 9:30AM; 2:00PM. No Computers. No Smoking. Info: Tournament Director- Bill Barrese; Phone (541)563-7033; Advanced E-Mail registration: bllbrs2020@yahoo.com.

♣ June 25

Portland Chess Club G/60 ♣

4SS, G/60. TD may switch to 5SS and G/45 if more than 25 entries. Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR. EF: \$20, \$5 discount for PCC Members. OCF/WCF and USCF memb req'd, OSA. No advance entries. Reg: 9-9:30. Byes: 1/2 point bye if requested at reg. Prizes: (\$200/b20) \$60-\$40-\$30 U1800, U1500 \$35 each. Info: portlandchessclub@gmail.com, 503-246-2978, www.pdxchess.com.

♣ July 2-3

48th Evergreen Empire Open ♣

Site: Tacoma Chess Club, 409 Puyallup Ave., Room 11, across the street from Alfred's Café & 2 blocks down the hill from the Tacoma Dome. Play to improve your USCF rating & to gain N.W. Grand Prix points. Format: Five (5)-round Swiss (two 1/2-point byes available upon advance request). Registration: 9:00-9:45 AM. Time Control: Round 1, G/60; Round 2, G/90; Rounds 3-5, G/120. Rounds: Saturday, 10:00 (G/60), 1:00 (G/90), 4:00 (G/120); Sunday, 10:00 and 2:00 or ASAP (G/120). Byes: two half-point byes available. Entry Fee: \$12 for all rounds, \$10 for four rounds (one half-point bye), or \$8 for three rounds (two half-point byes). Entries: Mail entries to Tacoma Chess Club, c/o Gary Dorfner, 8423 East B St, Tacoma, WA 98445. (Checks payable to Gary Dorfner.) Information: Gary Dorfner, Tournament Director (253-535-2536), e-mail ggarychess@aol.com. Note: All players (unrateds included) must have both USCF and WCF (or other state) memberships to play. They may purchase both memberships on site. NS/NC/NW.

July 9-10

Oregon Senior Championship


Oregon City, OR. Age 50+. See display advertisement on page 20.

♣ August 12-14

Portland Chess Club Centennial Open ♣

Lloyd Center Doubletree Hotel, Portland, OR. See display advertisement on page 22.


NWC back issues – Due to storage limitations, your business manager will only be able to retain printed back issues of Northwest Chess for about three years after publication. If you still prefer paper, and you're missing any issues from late 2007 to date, please contact the business manager as soon as possible to order the copies you're missing. The cost for most back issues is only \$1.00 each plus postage, and you can request a convenient PayPal invoice. The cost for the June-July 2010 and November 2010 special editions will be \$2.00 each. For a content summary and downloadable PDF file of many back issues, go to http://www.nwchess.com/nwcmag/back_issues.htm. Thank you!



"Train Your Brain!"

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