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\$ 2

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Winner of the 1998 Fred Cramer Award for Best State Magazine!



Judit Polgar and Boris Gulko, winners of the 1999 U.S. Open

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Send submissions (paper or disk) with your phone number to P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023-0501; or e-mail to txchess@connecti.com. Fax available (voice call first). Deadline next issue: October 15.

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Cover photo: Selby Anderson



1. Black to move
Knife-Cue-Ball, ICC blitz 1998



2. White to move
Dejmek-Rogalski, World Open 1998



3. White to move
Littlejohn-M. Weinberg, DFW "D"



4. White to move
Anderson-Wharton, DFW Open 1998



5. Black to move
D. Kaufman-Ardaman, Orlando 1979



6. White to move
Ardaman-Tew, FL 1984



7. White to move
Ardaman-Nardaurea, Maitland 1984



8. Black to move
Roberts-Ardaman, Gainesville 1985



9. White to move
Ardaman-A. Muir, Lugano 1987

Doug Root wins Dallas Brainstorm

IM Doug Root won the Dallas Brainstorm Open, held August 1-2 at the Harvey Hotel. The highest rated player in Texas at 2574, Root defeated the two top UT-Dallas players Ziane and Doss en route to a perfect 5-0 score. Noureddine Ziane came in second with 3.5.

Doug's wife, WIM Alexey Root, gave a lecture and simul the Friday night before the tournament, with a simul result of -2, =3, +4. The Roots live in Denton with their children Clarissa, age five, and William, who will turn two this October. (See Alexey's article on page 6 for signs of Clarissa's chess progress.)

The turnout of 111 players was a big improvement over the 39 of the last Brainstorm, held May 30-31 at Rose State College in Oklahoma (also won by Root.) The Brainstorm organizers, the Austin Meridian group from Oklahoma which includes Brad West and Fred Roper, have gotten sponsorships from Pepsi and Cyber-

hall to help underwrite the generous \$5,000 guaranteed prize funds. The next Brainstorm in Texas is planned for November 14-15 in Houston.

Fred Roper directed with assistance from Luis Salinas.

Dallas Brainstorm Prize Winners

OPEN: 1st: Doug Root, 5. 2nd: Noureddine Ziane, 3.5. 3rd+4th: Jason Doss, Keith Hayward, Ali Morshedi, 3.
U2000: 1st+2nd: Jahangir Ahmed, Andy Olsen, 4.5. 3rd + 4th: Mark Kile, Curtis Fukuchi, Jonathan Cearley, 4.
U1600: 1st+2nd: Charles Rego, Taras Odushkin, 4.5. 3rd+4th: Luz Ramirez, Roy Gonzalez, William Trowbridge, 4.
U1200: 1st+2nd+3rd: Bobby Tubar, Chamu Chimhau, Manuel Espino, Daniel Shen, 4.

Center Counter C01

Doug Root 2574

Steven Grubbs 2055

Dallas Brainstorm 1998 (1)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.Qa4



Obscure but good! My database gives 4...g6 5.Nf3 Bg7 6.dxc6 0-0 7. d4 bxc6 8.Be2 c5 9.dxc5 Na6 10.0-0 Qc7 11.Nc3 Nxc5 12.Qa3 Bb7 13. Be3 Nfe4 14.Nxe4 Nxe4 15.Rfd1 ± Aronson-Martidis, Lucerne 1982.
 4...Bd7 5.Qb3 Qc7 6.Nc3 cxd5 7. cxd5 g6 8.Bc4 Qc8 9.d4 Bg7 10. Nf3 0-0 11.0-0 b6 12.Re1 Qd8 13. Ne5 Ne8 14.Bg5 Bf6 15.Bh6 Bg7

16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Bb5 Bxb5 18. Nxb5 Nd6 19.Rac1 Nxb5 20.Qxb5 Re8 21.d6! exd6 22.Qd5 Na6 23. Qxf7+ Kh8 24.Re3 Rg8

On 24...dxe5 25.Rh3 h5 26.Qxg6 h4 27.Qg4, White regains the material with interest (27...Re7 28.Rc8).
 25.Rh3 1-0

Notes by IM Doug Root

French Advance C02

Noureddine Ziane 2325

Doug Root 2574

Dallas Brainstorm 1998 (4)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Qb6 6.Be2 cxd4

Recently 6...Nh6 7.Bxh6 gxh6 (7...Qxb2 8.Be3! ∞) has become popular.

7.cxd4 Nh6 8.b3

Safer is 8.Nc3 Nf5 9.Na4.

8...Nf5 9.Bb2 Bb4+ 10.Kf1 0-0

Black has also sought to prevent 11.g4 with 10...h5, or played 10... Be7 with the idea of 11.g4 Nh4.

11.Nc3

Nimzovich gives the line 11.g4 Nh6 12.Rg1 f6 13.exf6 Rxf6 14.g5 Rxf3 15.Bxf3 Nf5 with a strong Black attack. Perhaps best is 11.a3.



11...Bxc3

With this move, Black prevents 12.Na4, and the White bishop on c3 is a target for later tactics.

12.Bxc3 f6 13.exf6

If 13.g3 then 13...fxe5 14.dxe5 d4 15.Bd2 (15.Bb2 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Ne3+) 15...d3 16.Bxd3 Nxe5 17.Be4 (17.Nxe5 Nxc3+ Δ 18...Qxf2 mate) 17...Nxf3 18.Bxf3 Nd4 19.Be3 (19. Bg2 Nxb3) 19...Qb5+ 20.Be2 Qc6 21.Kg1 Nxe2+ 22.Qxe2 b6, with a strong attack.

Another try is 13.Qd2 fxe5 14. dxe5 Bd7 15.h4 and ...

(a) 15...a5 16.Rd1 Be8 17.g4 Nh6 18.Bd4 Nxd4 19.Nxd4 a4 20.h5

axb3 21.axb3 Nf7 22.Qe3 h6 23.Kg2 Ng5 24.f3 Bd7 25.Ra1 Qb4 26.Rxa8 Rxa8 27.Rc1 Ra2 28.Qc3 Qb6 29.Kg3 Bc6 30.Bd3 Kf8 31.Bb1 Qc7? (31...Ra6) 32.Bxa2 Qxe5+ 33.Kg2 1-0. J. Ivanov-Velimirovic, Aran-djovac 1993.

(b) Root suggests 15...Rd8, when possible is 16.g4 d4 17.Bb2 Ne3+ 18.fxe3 Nxe5 with complications. 13...Rxf6 14.g3 Bd7 15.Kg2 Rf8 16.Rf1 Be8 17.Ne5



17...Nh4+!

After 45 minutes of thought I decided that this move was best. If instead 17...Ncxd4 18.Bd3 Nb5 19.Bb2 Nbd6, White has some compensation for his pawn in the form of the two bishops. Also, 17...Nxcg3 is insufficient after 18.Kxcg3 Ne5 19.dxe5 Rxf2 20.Bd4 Rxf1 21.Bxf1 Rxf1 22.Bxb6 Rxd1 23.Rxd1 axb6 24.Rc1 Bc6 25.b4 b5 26.Rc3, with better chances to White. 18.gxh4

I was most worried about 18.Kh3, when best appears to be 18...Nxe5 19.dxe5 Rxf2 20.Bd4 Rxf1 21.Bxf1 Qd8! 22.Bc5 (22.gxh4 Rf4 23.Bg1 Qxh4+ 24.Kg2 Bg6 25.Bd3 Rg4+ 26.Kh1 Rxcg1+ 27.Kg1 Qd4+) Rf3 23.Be2 Bh5 24.Qd2 b6 25.Bg1 g5 26.Bxf3 Nxf3 27.Qe3 g4+ 28.Kg2 Qa8 followed by ...d4 with good attacking chances.

Alternatively, White could try 18.Kh1, but Black gets the upper

hand by 18...Nxe5 19.dxe5 Rxf2 20.gxh4 d4 21.Rxf2 Rxf2 22.Bd4 Qc6+ 23.Bf3 Rxf3 24.Kg1 Qe4 with a powerful attack. 18...Nxe5 19.Ba5

Alternatives are no better: 19.dxe5 Rxf2+ 20.Rxf2 [20.Kh1 d4] 20...Qxf2+ 21.Kh1 (21.Kh3 Qe3+) d4 22.Bxd4 Bc6+ is devastating. Possible is 19.h5, although ...Nf7-g5 gives Black a positionally winning position. 19...Qxa5 20.dxe5 Rf4 21.Bg4 Qb6 22.f3 h5

I played this rapidly, since I was worried about impending time pressure in the sudden death time control (G/120). More precise is 22...Bb5 23.Re1 Rxcg4+ 24.fxg4 Qf2+ 25.Kh1 Qxh4 26.Rg1 Rf2 27.Rg2 Be2 28.Qxe2 Rxe2 29.Rxe2 Qxc4 with a clearly winning position. 23.Bh3 Rxh4 24.Qd2 Rhf4 25.Rac1 Bg6 26.Qf2 Bd3

Also, 26...Qxf2+ 27.Rxf2 Bf5 is adequate.

27.Qxb6 Bxf1+ 28.Rxf1 axb6 29.Bxe6+ Kh8 30.Bxd5 R4f5 31.Re1

White retains better drawing chances by keeping the rooks on the board with 31.Bxb7 Rxe5 32.Be4.

31...Re8 32.Bxb7 Rfxe5 33.Rxe5 Rxe5 34.a4 Kh7 35.Be4+ Kh6 36.Kg3 Rg5+ 37.Kf2 Rc5 38.h4 Rc3 39.Bd5 g5

Running low on time, I rushed things. Better is 39...Kg6 keeping more pawns on the board.

40.hxc5+ Kxc5 41.Kg3 h4+ 42.Kh3

In time pressure, White returns the favor. After 42.Kg2 it is more problematic for Black to break through. Best is 42...Rd3 43.Bc4 Rd4 followed by bringing the Black king to the queenside to win. 42...Rd3 43.Bc4 Rxf3+ 44.Kg2 Rf4 45.Kh3 Kf6 46.Be2 Ke5 47.Bg4 Kd6 48.Kxh4 Kc5 49.Kg5 Rxc4+ 50.Kxc4 Kb4

White's king is too far away to stop Black's pawn. 0-1

KI Attack A08
Noureddine Ziane 2325
John Hendrick 1982

Dallas Brainstorm 1998 (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d3 Nc6 4.g3 d5 5.Nbd2 Bd6 6.Bg2 Nge7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Re1 Qc7 9.Qe2 f6 10.c4 dxc4 11.Nxc4 e5 12.Be3 Be6 13.Nfd2 b6 14.Rec1 Rfd8 15.b3 Rac8 16.Nb2 Qd7 17.f4 Bb8 18.f5 Bf7 19.g4 Nd4 20.Qf2 Nec6 21.Nf3 Nxf3+ 22.Bxf3 Bd6 23.Kh1 Kh8 24.h4 Rg8 25.g5 Qe8 26.Rg1 Bh5 27.g6 Bxf3+ 28.Qxf3 h6 29.Qh5 Bf8 30.Nd1 Nb4



31.Nf2 Nc2 32.Bxh6 gxh6 33.Ng4 Rxc6 34.fxg6 Nxa1 35.Nxh6 Bg7 36.Nf5+ Kg8 37.Qh7+ Kf8 38.Qxc7 mate 1-0

Sicilian Defense B20

Doug Root 2574
Jason Doss 2331

Dallas Brainstorm 1998 (3)

1.e4 c5 2.b3 Nc6 3.Bb2 e5 4.f4 exf4 5.Nf3 Nge7 6.Nc3 Ng6 7.Nd5 d6 8.Be2 Be6 9.0-0 h5 10.d4 Qd7 11.Ng5 Bg4 12.Nxf4 Nxf4 13.Rxf4 Bxe2 14.Qxe2 f6 15.Nh3 cxd4 16.Rf5 0-0-0 17.Rxh5 Rxh5 18.Qxh5 d5 19.exd5 Qxd5 20.Qxd5 Rxd5 21.Nf4 Rd7 22.Re1 Bb4 23.Re8+ Kc7 24.Nd3 b6 25.Kf2 Re7 26.Rxe7+ Bxe7 27.Kf3 Bd6 28.h4 f5

(Continued on page 29)

If You Are Five, You Can Teach Chess!

by WIM Alexey Root

Researchers in cooperative learning have pointed out that "while we tend to make much use of interaction between teacher and students and between curriculum materials and students in traditional instruction, we tend to ignore the instructional potential of student-to-student interaction." (1) In other words, we – as teachers and adults – tend to tell children what to learn and how to learn in it. Or ask them to learn individually from curriculum materials like worksheets or textbooks.

In chess, it is often said that it takes an hour to learn the rules of chess but a lifetime to master them. Even with this commonplace – that the basic rules of chess are easy – we tend to have experienced adults at chess clubs and in classrooms teaching the rules of chess to children. Or, in chess classes, we have students working individually on worksheets about chess rules or basic mates. But what if there is a large group of children who want to learn chess, and not enough adults available to teach?

Such a situation occurred at a recent meeting of the Denton Chess Club. I was one of four adults in the room. But two of the adults were locked in a speed chess battle, and the other adult was playing a game against a teenager. From the recreation center gym adjoining the chess club room, several children came in wanting to learn chess. "Clarissa," I called to my five year old, "Could you teach this nine-year-old how to play chess?"

I had my doubts that Clarissa was up to this task. Although she knows the rules, she has trouble applying them. Sometime she moves her knights illegally. More often, she overlooks "obvious" captures. But Clarissa gamely accepted the challenge of teaching a nine-year-old. Beginning with the pawns, she described and demonstrated on the board how each piece moved. Since the pieces and pawns were all in their original positions, I was especially struck by the care she used in explaining how the rook moves. Clarissa moved a pawn off of h2 and put it on g3. She explained, "If the pawn was on this square [g3], because it had captured something there, then you could move the rook [on h1] out."

I had to leave her game for a while, to check up on the other children. Two of them were already playing each other, and I asked one boy how his knights had arrived on c4 and g4. He put the c4 knight on b1, and cor-

rectly showed how it had moved to a3 and then c4. But the g4 knight, put back on g1, could not get back to g4. He said, "Oh, I guess it should be here [g1-f3-h4]." Play continued. This illustrates one principle of cooperative learning: the adult acts as a resource, monitoring children who are actively playing and learning.

In the meantime, Clarissa and the nine-year-old finished their game. Clarissa offered a tie, reporting to me, "I was ahead on pieces but I didn't see how to win." The nine-year-old was immensely impressed with chess, and immediately taught his seven year old brother how to play. Within minutes, the two boys were playing a game.

Many tournament chessplayers first learned chess from a sibling or a peer, at home or in their neighborhood. Perhaps the potential of children teaching children can be exploited in more formal chess settings, like chess clubs or classrooms learning chess. Once children learn the rules, cooperative learning strategies could still be employed. For example, children working with partners or in teams could try to solve simple mates together. Or, once notation is learned, each child could study an opening with a partner and then try to teach it to other classmates.

According to research, cooperative learning works best when there are both group goals and individual accountability. Robert Slavin's remarks about "student team learning" are illuminating, and I've added some chess interpretations in brackets: "In these techniques, teams may earn certificates or other team rewards if they achieve above a designated criterion [i.e. learning a mate or an opening at a certain level]. This focuses the activity of the team members on tutoring one another and making sure that everyone on the team is ready for [an] assessment that students will take without teammate help . . . students contribute to their teams by improving [on assessments] over their own past performance. This is intended to ensure that high, average, and low achievers (i.e. better or worse chessplayers) are equally challenged to do their best, and that contributions of all team members will be valued." (2)

With chess introduced as part of the regular school day, i.e. the Dallas Area Chess in the Schools program, the question of how to teach chess to all students present in classrooms becomes paramount. The Chess-in-Education Committee delegates' report called for an approach for teaching chess to children who may not have any interest in tournament chess. Committee chairman Sunil Weeramantry wrote, "The committee is presently considering such an approach [one suited for non-tournament students] and hopes that this approach

(Continued next page)

Victims of our own success?

by Forrest Marler

There is a problem occurring in chess today that needs to be addressed. For the past few years scholastic membership in USCF has been skyrocketing while memberships overall are showing slight gains. So what's the problem, you ask? Well, simply put, regular (adult) memberships are on the decline. Close to half of the USCF members now are scholastic and the retention rate is very low once the kids are out of school. Little in the past has been done to promote chess at the college level. That is beginning to change. Former USCF president Tim Redman of the University of Texas at Dallas is the chairman of the USCF College Chess Committee and has gotten the USCF to accept a new college club membership program. He has also helped bring about the chess scholarship at UTD. George John, one of our delegates to the USCF, proposed that college students be allowed to pay the Youth rate while in college.

But isn't all of this really just a USCF problem? No, because what is affecting USCF nationally is also affecting us statewide. Texas has one of the largest scholastic programs in the country. Recently I called USCF and was told that nationally 43% of the 86,000 USCF members are Scholastic/Youth players and 53% of the 5,400 Texas USCF players are Scholastic/Youth. We need to look into ways of reversing the trend of disappearing players, ways to keep our players involved after graduation.

As school teachers many of you know that there is a feeling of pride when you see former students continuing their education, yet we don't seem to be trying to do the same for our scholastic players and that's a crying shame.

What are we not doing right here? Obviously we can attract kids to play. In fact, some schools have to limit the size of their teams so that the coaches aren't overwhelmed. Perhaps it's the whole team concept, schools travel as a team, they compete as a team, they celebrate as a team, they drown their sorrows as a team. Where is the individual here? It takes a team to play baseball, basketball, or football. Teams play chess too. But an individual player cannot play a baseball, basketball or football game alone. (Okay, maybe Michael Jordan could do it, but who else?) Teams are important, but not so important that they hurt our game. Tell kids that they can still play when they graduate.

In 1999, the US Chessathon will be held in San Antonio. Perhaps we should be looking at a display for

college chess and for adult chess as well as scholastics. Scholastic members cannot remain scholastic members. They either turn into adult members or former members. We need to stop the latter. ♣

Texas juniors who placed at Nationals

(Source: July/August *School Mates*)

National Elementary Championships

K-3 team: 23rd-24th: Virgie Lu Children's Center, Houston, TX, 9.

National Junior High Championships

K-8 team: 5th-7th: Lanier MS, Houston, TX, 19. *10th-11th:* Oliveira MS, Brownsville, TX, 18.

K-8 U750 teams: 6th-8th: Ysleta MS, El Paso, TX, 20. *11th:* Tafolla MS, San Antonio, TX, 18.5.

National High School Championships

Championship: 13th-30th: Enrique Rios, 5.5. He tied with Stanislav Ritvin, Jordy Mont-Reynaud, Jennifer Shahade and Jennie Frenklakh, among others.

Championship team: 5th-6th: Bellaire HS, Houston, TX, 18. *20th-24th:* St. Mark's School of Texas, Richardson, TX, 15.5.

Under 1000 novice team: 24th-25th: Bellaire HS, Houston, TX, 14.

Root (continued from page 6)

will convince educators that chess benefits the student population as a whole." (3) Weeramantry does not detail what approach his committee is developing. Perhaps cooperative learning techniques – whose positive effects on achievement, self-esteem, and acceptance of others have been documented by research – might be a starting point for the Chess-in-Education Committee and other chess teachers.

Notes

(1) J. Oakes, *Keeping Track: How Schools Structure Inequality* (Yale University, 1985), p. 208.

(2) R.E. Slavin, "Cooperative Learning and Student Achievement," *School and Classroom Organization*, ed. R.E. Slavin, Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 1989), p. 131.

(3) S. Weeramantry, "Chess-in-Education Committee," *Delegates Call* (New York: United States Chess Federation, 1998), p. 33. ♣

Correction to last issue: In "Texas Juniors in USCF June Top 50 lists" (p. 9), we omitted two players in age 8/under: **Althorp A. Arandela** and **Erick Cordova**, who tied for #46 with 1054 ratings. Thanks to Manuel Espino for pointing this out.

UTD exerts influence nationwide

COLLEGE CHESS

Katie Stone



I am pleased to say that in the past two weeks I have received word that two universities are starting to consider beginning chess programs.

Bob James, the organizer of the 1999 Texas Scholastic State Championship in Corpus Christi notified me that Texas A&M Corpus Christi may be starting a chess program and might even give away a chess scholarship next year at Mr. James' tournament. Mr. James said that nothing has been finalized as the idea is still much in the works.

Warner Brown is an instructor at Montgomery College in Baltimore, MD. Mr. Brown contacted me last week because he is interested in starting a chess program at his school. He has already started teaching a chess class for which the students can get college credit! The chess program at UTD inspired Mr. Brown to start a chess program at his school.

Both these schools seem to be "catching on" to the idea we already know at UTD – that chess players represent the type of college student we want at our university. Mr. Brown asked me all sorts of questions from how to get a formal budget at his school for his chess program to asking about the Pan Am Championships we are hosting this year in Dallas.

These situations are very gratifying not only to me personally, but to UTD on the whole. It is very obvious that the UTD Chess Program served as the example for these other schools' initiatives in starting chess programs. Hopefully, one day chess programs will be in every school – just as common as college basketball teams.

Once universities begin to realize that most chess players are good students, I think we will begin to see chess programs sprouting up all over the country. Universities attempt to recruit academically superior students for their schools, and once they realize that chess players are a perfect group to target, chess programs and chess as a game will be much more popular outside the chess world. After all, the game of chess is associated with intelligence, so once we get just a little further in presenting chess as an activity just as rewarding and just as popular as basketball or football, we may then even figure out a way for chess players to make their living (a good living) in the U.S. by playing chess.

Count two more for UTD

Add two more names to the distinguished list of UTD prospects. Vinay Bhat and Harutyun Akopyan were both awarded UTD chess scholarships at the Denker High School Championship this past week in Hawaii. Bhat and Akopyan tied for second place, each finishing with four out of five points. Romanian Florin Felecan, who currently lives in Evanston, IL won first place. As a graduating senior, he was not eligible for the prize, which was offered to the top player who had completed grades 8-11.

Vinay Bhat, a resident of Los Angeles, CA has a rating of 2329. Bhat was a participant in the prestigious Cadet Championship this year along with David John of Houston – another UTD chess scholarship recipient.

Although Bhat is only a freshman in high school right now, he will be able to defer his acceptance of the scholarship until he graduates.

Harutyun Akopyan lives in San Jose, CA and has a rating of 2377. Akopyan is currently a junior in high school and is most likely, unlike Bhat, already looking for colleges. Hopefully his recent award will sway his decision.

Dean leaves UTD

On a sad note, Jim Dean, UTD's third board, has decided to go back to Indiana. Mr. Dean had previously been attending Ball State University before coming to UTD, and has decided to return there to pursue a degree that UTD does not offer.

Katie Stone is the Director of Publicity and Recruiting for the UT Dallas Chess Program.

Banned in Greenville!

GM Yasser Seirawan took a vacation from chess during the U.S. Open in Hawaii, and gave moral support to his wife Yvette. Yaz is a great storyteller, and I wanted to pass the following along to readers.

Chess has been *banned* in the Greenville, North Carolina schools! Kids did not want to break up their games when lunch time was over, so they continued play during class using magnetic sets. When teachers confiscated the sets, the students continued to play their adjournments **blindfold**, passing notes in class! Now chess is banned in their school system. – SKA

DFW Open and Class Championships

by Brad Bradford

A total of 36 players spent the Fourth of July weekend enjoying the fireworks at the DFW Open and Class Championships, and split a purse of \$930. In the Open section, Jason Doss defeated Selby Anderson in the fourth round, taking a half point advantage into the Sunday morning's round 5. However, Steven Grubbs drew Doss in round five, dropping Doss back into a tie with Anderson. Both Doss and Anderson won in the final round, thus sharing first place with scores of 5-1 and splitting the \$300 in prizes. Top Expert prize of \$100 was won by Steven Grubbs with a score of 4.5. With 2.5, Sam Irby won the Class A prize.

In the Class B/C section, 15-year-old Jonathan Walsh won with a score of 5-1, collecting the first place Class B prize. John Baker took second B with a score of 4-2. Another Dallas youth, Luz Ramirez had the best score among C players with a score of 3.5 and Charles Woods came in second among the C players, scoring 3. The Class D section was won by two regular Dallas Chess Club members, Kris Littlejohn with 5.5 and Martin Alexander with 5.

Thanks to Luis Salinas for another excellent directorial performance.

A few observations by Selby Anderson

Most of the strong Dallas players were nowhere to be found, but I wasn't complaining. Except for Doss, the UT-Dallas bunch was evidently away on summer break,

while others may have gone to the World Open. But never mind – we 2300 players didn't get much respect from the class A's. Eric Wiggins (1814, now in the eleventh grade) had me busted after the opening, and Hugh West (1800) had a winning game against Doss.

It was a safe bet that with only eleven players in the Open section, there would be some strange pairings down the road. If you want a good example of "forced pairings," just look at these for round 6:

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Jason R. Doss (4.0) | John Hendrick (3.0) |
| 2 | Selby K. Anderson (4.0) | James M. Murphy (1.5) |
| 3 | T. Samuel Irby (2.5) | Mark Gracey (1.0) |
| 4 | James A. Wharton (2.0) | Steven Grubbs (3.5) |

By rights, I should have had to play Grubbs – except that would have resulted in other people playing each other twice. Luis Salinas said that some TD's would prefer that option anyway, on the grounds that putting a winner to the test takes precedence over the chess experience of the other players.

DFW Open Prize Winners

OPEN: 1st + 2nd: Jason Doss, Selby Anderson, 5. Expert: Steven Grubbs, 4.5. Class A: Sam Irby, 2.5. **CLASS B/C:** 1st: Jonathan Walsh, 5. 2nd: John Baker, 4. Class C: Luz Ramirez, 3.5. **CLASS D:** 1st: Kris Littlejohn, 5.5. 2nd: Alexander Martin, 5.

Nimzo-Indian E48

Jason Doss 2335

James Wharton 1970

DFW Open 1998 (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Bd3 d5 6.Nge2 cxd4 7.exd4 dxc4 8.Bxc4 0-0 9.0-0 Nbd7 10.a3

10.Qd3 a6 11.a4 Nb6 12.Bb3 Nbd5 13.Rd1 b6 14.Bg5 Be7 15.Nd5 Nd5 16.Bd5 ed5 17.Be7 Qe7 = Ehlvest-Aronson, Tallinn 1983.

10...Be7 11. Bf4

11.Qd3 Nb6 12.Ba2 Bd7 13.Bg5 Rc8 14.Rfc1 Na4 = Panczyk-Barbulescu, Polancia Zdroj 1984.

11...Nb6 12.Ba2 Bd7 13.Qd3 Bc6 14.Rad1 Nbd5 15.Bg3 a6 16.Bb1 g6 17.Rfe1 Nh5 18.Be5 f6 19.Bg3 Nxc3 20.hxc3 Bd6 21.Ne4 Qc7 22.

Ba2 Kg7 23.N4c3 Nxc3 24.Nxc3 e5 25.d5 Bd7 26.Rc1 Qb6 27.Ne4 Rac8 28.b4 Rc7 29.Qe3 Qxe3 30. fxe3 Rxc1 31.Rxc1 Bb8



32.Nc5 Rc8 33.Rd1 Bg4 34.Rd3

b6 35.Ne6+ Kf7 36.a4 Bd6 37.b5 a5 38. e4 Ke7 39.Bb3 Rc1+ 40. Kh2 Bb4 41.d6+ Bxd6 42.Nd8 Be5 43. Nc6+ Kf8 44.Nd8 Bg1+ 45.Kh1 Bc5+ 46.Kh2 Draw

Sicilian B22

Mark Gracey 1863

Selby Anderson 2321

DFW Open 1998 (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c3

Good move order! White avoids the lines with ...Bg4 that are frequently seen after 2.c3 d5.

3...d5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.d4 Nf6 6. Be2 Nc6 7.0-0 cxd4 8.cxd4 Be7 9. Nc3 Qd6

9...Qd8 10.Bg5 0-0 11.Qd2 b6 12. Rfd1 Nb4 13.Ne5 Bb7 14.Rac1

Nfd5 15.Bxe7 Nxe7 = Bjelajac-Gheorghiu, Novi Sad 1984.

10.Nb5 Qd8 11.Bf4 Nd5 12.Bg3 0-0 13.Rc1

13.Bc4!? a6 14.Bxd5 axb5 15.Bb3 Bd6 16.Be5 (Boey-Barlov, Luege 1981) 16... Na5!? - ECO.

14...a6 14.Nc3 Nf6 15.Bd3 b6 16. Ne4(?)

Black welcomes piece trades. More troublesome is 16.a3 with the idea of Bb1 and Qd3.

16...Bb7 17.Bb1 Rc8 18.Qd3 g6 19.Rfd1 Nb4 20.Nxf6+ Bxf6 21. Qb3 a5 22.Be5 Bg7 23.a3 Bd5 24. Qe3 Nc6 25.Be4 f6 26.Bf4 Qd7 27. Re1 Ne7! 28.Bh6?! (28.h4!?) Rxc1 29.Qxc1 Rc8 30.Qd2 Bxe4 31. Rxe4 Qd6 32.Re1 Qd5 33.Bxg7 Kxg7 34.h3 Rc6 35.Rc1 a4 36.Kf1 Qb5+ 37.Kg1 Rc4 38.Rc3 Nd5 39. Rxc4 Qxc4 40.Ne1 g5 41.g3 Kg6 42.Nc2



Black has done what he could to make the "IQP" a liability, but the win is still a hard sell.

42...Qb3 43.Ne3 Nxe3 44.fxe3 Kf5 45.Kf2 Ke4 46.Qe2!

Oops! It's full throttle reverse, since 46...Qd3?? 47.Qf3 is mate!

46...Kf5 47.Qf3+ Kg6 48.Qe2 h5 49.Kg2 Qd5+ 50.Qf3??

Better is 50.Kh2 Qe4 51.Kg1 g4 52.hxg4 hxg4 53.Kh2 Kg5 54.Kg1 Qf3 55.Qe1 hunkering down, but with 55...f5 and a long king walk to e4(!) Black appears to be winning.



50...g4!

Ironically, Black wins by giving himself an isolated queen pawn.

51.Qxd5 exd5 52.hxg4 hxg4 53. Kf2 Kf5 54.Ke2 Ke4 55.Kd2 f5 56. Ke2 b5 57.Kd2 Kf3 58.Kc3 Kxe3 59.Kb4 f4 60.gxf4 g3 61.Kxb5 g2 62.Kxa4 g1(Q) 63.b4 Kxd4 64.b5 Kc4 0-1

Modern Benoni A70

Selby Anderson 2320

Eric Wiggins 1810

DFW Open 1998 (2)

1.d4 c5 2.d5 e6 3.c4 exd5 4.cxd5 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.e4 g6 7.h3 Bg7 8. Nf3 0-0 9.Bd3 b5 10.Nxb5

Karpov prefers 10.Bxb5.

10...Re8 11.0-0 Nxe4 12.Re1 a6 13.Na3

Also good is 13.Qa4 Bd7 14.Qa3 Qb6 15.Nc3 ±

13...Nf6 14.Rxe8+ Nxe8 15.Bg5 Bf6 16.Qd2 Bb7 17.Bc4?

Inexplicably, White takes away c4 from his knight. Correct is 17. Be4 Nd7 18.Re1 Nb6 19.b3! Δ Nc4 ± Epishin-Topalov, Las Palmas 1994; or 18...Bxg5 19.Nxg5 Nef6 20.Nc4 Nb6 21.Nxb6 Qxb6 22.Bf3 ± Azeev-Nepomnyashi, St. Petersburg 1995.

17...Nd7 18.Re1 Nc7 19.Qf4 Bxg5 20.Nxg5 Nf6 21.Rd1?!

Passive. After the better 21.Ne4 Nxe4 (21...Nce8!?) 22.Qxe4 Rb8 Black has only a slight pull (not 22...Qf6? 23.Qe7! ±).

21...h6 22.Nf3?

Black is slightly better after 22. Ne4 Nxe4 23.Qxe4 Qf6 24. Qc2 Re8 25.Nb1 Δ Nc3. The text just loses a pawn for nothing.

22...Bxd5?

After 22...Kg7!, White can do nothing but watch his d-pawn get clipped. Yup, the kid had me busted.

23.Qxh6 Bxc4?!

White's hitherto hapless horse at a3 snorts in approval. (That's my tribute to Ardaman's alliterative annotations for this issue!)

Alternatively, 23...Bxf3(!) 24. Qxg6+ is not as bad as it looks: 24... Kh8 25.Qh6+ Nh7 26.gxf3 d5... (a) 27.Qc6? Qe7! 28.Bxd5? Qe2! and ...Rg8+ with a winning attack; (b) 27.Bd3 Qg5+ =; (c) 27.Kh2 Qf6 =. 24.Nxc4 d5 25.Nce5 Ne6



26.Nxf7! Kxf7 27.Ne5+ Kg8

There's no running away by 27... Ke7 because of the knight fork at c6. 28.Qxg6+ Ng7 29.Qf7+ Kh7 30. Qg6+ Kg8 31.Qf7+ Kh7 32.Rd3 Qf8

This walks into a winning pin, but on 32...d4 White has 33.Rf3 Nfe8 (33...Nfh5 34.Rf5) 34.Qg6+ Kg8 35.Rf8+! and 36.Qf7 mate. Or 33.Rg3! Nfe8 34.Rg6! (Δ Rh6+) 34...Qh4 35.Nf3 Qh5 36.g4 +.

33.Qg6+ Kg8 34.Rf3 Re8 35.Rxf6 Qe7 36.Nf3 1-0

I felt very lucky to have won that game.

Catalan Opening E06

Steven Grubbs 2016

Mark Gracey 2016

DFW Open 1998 (2)

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.cxd5 exd5 4.d4

The Exchange Catalan is so innocuous I'm not even sure if that is a proper name in any book. Without central tension the Bg2 is lifeless. (After writing this, I noticed that Art Garey used it to defeat Denker in the U.S. Open – see p. 23. In both games, the e4 break mixed it up.)

4...Nf6 5.Nf3 Be7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 c6 8.a3 Bf5 9.Nc3 Nbd7 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.b4 Re8 13.e3 Nb6 14.Rc1 Ne4 15.b5

I can't blame White for speculating, as Black already stands better. 15...Nxa3 16.bxc6 bxc6 17.Qa4 Qd6 18.Nd2 Bd3 19.Rfe1 Reb8?!

Since Black is not ready to follow with ...Rb4 (Qxa3) or ...Qb4 (Qxc6) I question this move – especially when the Ra8 is stuck on the long diagonal. Stronger is 19...Nc4 20.Nb3 Nb6, untangling the loose pieces and making d5 a strong point.



20.e4! dxe4?

This loses, but Black's advantage may be gone anyway: (a) 20...Qb4 21.Qxc6 dxe4 22.Bxe4 Bxe4 23.Ndxe4 Bxd4 24.Nd5 ∞/=; (b) 20...Bb5 21.Nxb5 (21.Qa5 Bxd4 22.exd5 Bb6! 23.Nxb5 cxb5 -/+) 21...cxb5

22.e5! bxa4 23.exd6 Rb2 24.Bxd5 Rd8 25.Ne4 Bxd4 26.Rc7 ∞.
21.Ndxe4 Qb4 22.Nxf6+ gxf6 23.Bxc6 Qxa4 24.Nxa4 Bb5 25.Bxa8 Rxa8 26.Nc3 Bd7 27.Nd5 Kg7 28.Rc7 Be8 29.Rce7 Bc6 30.Nc7 Rc8 31.d5 Nb5 32. Ne6+ Kg8 33. dxc6 fxe6 34.R1xe6 Nd4 35.Re8+ Kf7 36.R6e7+ 1-0

Dutch Defense A80

Hugh West 1800

Jason Doss 2335

DFW Open 1998 (2)

1.Nf3 d6 2.d4 f5 3.Bg5!? g6!?

With a knight at f3, I'd probably give into the urge to play 3...h6.

4.Nc3 Bg7 5.g3

A practical choice. The "automatic" 5.e4 gives Black good play after 5...fxe4 6.Nxe4 Nf6 7.Bd3 Bg4 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Nc6 10.c3 0-0.

5...Nf6 6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.Bg2 0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.0-0 e5 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.h4 Ng4 12.e4 Bg7 13.Kb1 Qf6 14.h5



14...Nxf2!?? 15.e5!

I am guessing that Doss saw this but gambled on the result.

15...dxe5 16.Nd5 Qd6 17.Qxf2 e4 18.Ng5 c6 19.Nxh7!

A materialistic solution is 19.Nc3 (not 19.Nf4 Qf6 20.c3 Qxg5) 19...Qb4 20.Qe3 h6 21.Nh3 g5 22.a3 Qa5 23.Rd6 ±.

19...Kxh7 20.hxg6+ Kg8

Forced, since 20...Kxg6 21.Nf4+ would lose the queen.

21.Nf4

Strong is 21.Qf4!, e.g. 21... Qe5 22.Qxe5 Be5 23.Ne7+ Kg7 24.Rh7+ Kf6 25.g7 +; or 21...Qd8 22.Nc7 Qf6 23.c3 Rb8 24.Nd5 ±.

21...Qe5 22.c3 Be6 23.Qe2 Rfd8 24.Qh5 Bc4 25.Qg5 Bf6 26.Qh6 Qa5 27.Qh7+ Kf8 28.a3

28.b3? Rxd1+ 29.Rxd1 Qxc3 30.g7+ Bxg7 31.Qf5+ Kg8 -+. 28...Bg8



29.Qh6+

White has a draw for the asking: 29.g7+ Bxg7 (29...Kf7 30.Qh5+ Ke7 31.Bxe4 ± or 31.Ng6+ =) 30.Ng6+ Kf7 31.Nh8+ = (or 31.Qh5!?).

Besides that, 29.Qxb7! is a good winning shot, as 29...Rdb8? gets mated (30.g7+ Bxg7 31.Ng6+).

29...Bg7 30.Qg5 Bb3 31.Rdf1?

31.Rxd8+! Rxd8 32.Bxe4 ± (32...Rd2 33.Qxf5 check).

31...Kg8 32.Bxe4 Rd2 33.Nd5?

Against the threat of ...Rxb2+, best is 33.Rc1. Then 33...Qb5 34.Bc2 Bxc3 35.bxc3 Bxc2+ 36.Ka1 Bb3 37.Qe7 Ra2+ 38.Kb1 Bc4+ 39.Qb4 Rxa3 leaves Black with an edge, but not necessarily a won game.

33...Bxd5 34.Bxd5+

34.Qxd2 Bxe4+ -/.

34...Qxd5 35.Qe7 Qb3 36.Qf7+ Qxf7 37.gxf7+ Kxf7 38.Rxf5+ Kg6 39.Rhh5 Bf6 40.g4 Re8 41.Rf1 Ree2

0-1

Sicilian Paulsen B42

James Wharton 1970

James Murphy 1810

DFW Open 1998 (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Qc7 6.0-0 b5 7.Nc3 Bb7 8.Re1 Nc6 9.Nd5

A generic anti-Sicilian sacrifice. 9...exd5 10.exd5+ Nce7 11.Bxb5



I won't gild this wildflower with "objective" analysis. Enjoy!

11...0-0-0 12.c4 axb5 13.Nxb5 Qb8 14.Be3 Nf5 15.Ba7 Qa8 16.Bb6 d6 17.Nc7 Qb8 18.a4 Nf6 19.a5 Nd7 20.Nb5 Nxb6 21.axb6 Ne7 22. Na7+ Kd7 23.Qa4+ Bc6 24.dxc6+ 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E48

Jason Doss 2340

Selby Anderson 2320

DFW Open 1998 (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd3 c5 6.Nge2 d5 7.0-0 cxd4 8.exd4 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Nc6

This is supposed to be as good as Wharton's 9...Nbd7, which got him a draw with Doss in round one - but I think his move is much easier for the defense!

10.a3 Be7 11.Be3 b6 12.Qd3 Bb7 13.Rad1 Na5 14.Ba2 Qc8?!

Here I start to get carried away with aggressive intentions (...Ba6). Steadier is 14...Rc8.

15.Bg5 Ba6 16.Qh3 Nc4 17.Bb1 g6 18.Qh4 Qd8 19.Bd3 b5 20.Bxc4 bxc4 21.Ng3

A post-mortem suggestion by Doss was 21.d5!? exd5 21.Nd4 Qb6! 22. Rfe1 Bd8 - unclear.

21...Bb7



22.d5! h6?

I imagined this to be forced. Not yet it isn't! 22...exd5! (a) 23.Nge4 Nxe4 24.Bxe7 g5! 25.Bxd8 gxh4 26.Bxh4 Nxc3 =; (b) 23.Rfe1! h6! 24.Qxh6 Ng4 25.Bxe7 Nxb6 26. Bxd8 Rfxd8 27.Nce2 +=.

23.Qxh6 Ng4 24.Bxe7 Nxb6 25. Bxd8 Raxd8 26.dxe6 fxe6 27.Rfe1 Bd5 28.Rd4 Rd7 29.Red1 Rfd8 30.Nge4 Nf5 31.Nf6+ Kg7 32. Rxd5 exd5 33.Nxd7 d4!?

A little joke: 34.Ne5?? dxc3! +. Actually, 34.Nc5! wins anyway, but Doss sensibly goes with a fool-proof plan that doesn't require ten moves of airtight analysis.

34.g4 Nh4 35.f4 Rxd7 36.Kf2 Rb7 37.Rxd4 Rxb2+ 38.Kg3 Ng2 39. Rxc4 Ne1 40.Rc7+ Kf8 41.f5 gxf5 42.gxf5 Rg2+ 43.Kf4 Rxh2 44. Rxa7 Rc2 45.Ne4 Rc4 46.f6 1-0

English Opening A38

Steven Grubbs 2100

Jason Doss 2340

DFW Open 1998 (5)

1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 Nf6 5.0-0 0-0 6.Nc3 Nc6 7.d3 d5 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Bd2 Nc7 10.a3 e5

11.Rb1 Qe7 12.Qc1 Ne6 13.Bh6 Ned4 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Re1 Bg4

The blockade with 15...Nb3 16. Qd1 Be6 is not easy to hold after 17.Nd2, answering ...Ncd4 or ...Nca5 with 18.Nd5.

16.Nd2 Rac8 17.h3 Be6 18.Qd1 Rfd8 19.Qa4 a6 20.Rec1 b5! 21. Qd1

The a6 pawn was taboo owing to 21...Ra8 and 22...Rdb8.



This is one of those positions where the side with the space advantage is supposed to win in a romp. That's theory; in practice, I don't see a clear continuation, and Grubbs is not one to knuckle under.

Black would like to play 21...f5 to take away e4 from White's knights, but it also takes away a retreat for his d4 knight (22.e3).

21...c4 22.e3 Nf5 23.dxc4 Bxc4 24.Qe1 is similar to the game continuation.

21...h5 22.Nce4 c4 23.e3 Nf5 24. dxc4 Bxc4 25.Qe1 Bd3 26.Ra1 Na5 27.b4 Bxe4 28.Nxe4 Nc4 29. Nc5 a5 30.Nb7 Rd7 31.Nxa5 Rdc7 32.Nxc4 bxc4 33.b5 Qc5 34.a4 Nd6 35.Qc3 f6 36.Bc6 Rxc6 37. bxc6 Qxc6 38.h4 Qf3 39.a5 Ne4 40. Qe1 g5 41.a6!?

41.hxg5 Nxg5 (or fxg5) 42.Qf1! Δ Qg2 consolidates more easily.

41...gxh4 42.a7 hxg3 43. fxg3 Ra8 43...Nxg3!? (a) 44.a8(Q)?? Rxa8 45.Rxa8 Qh1+ 46.Kf2 Qh2+! 47.

Kf3 e4+ 48.Kf4 Qh4 mate!; (b) 44.
Kh2 h4 45.Qg1 Δ Qg2 ±.
44.Rxc4 h4



45.Rxe4

A winning line may be 45.gxh4 Qg4+ 46.Kh2 Rh8 (a) 47.Rc2 Ng5! (47...Rxb4+? 48.Qxh4 Qxh4+ 49.Kg1 +-) 48.a8(Q) Rxa8! (48...Nf3+? 49.Qxf3 Qxf3 50.Ra7+ +-) 49.Rg2! (49.Rxa8? Nf3+ 50.Kh1 Qh3+) 49...Rxa1 50.Qxa1 Qh3+ 51.Kg1 Qe3+ =; (b) 47.Rxe4! Qxe4 48.Qg3+ Kf7 (48...Kh7 49.Rg1; 48...Kh6 49.Ra6) 49.Qh3!! Qc2+ 50.Qg2 +- and White wins the rook ending.
45...Qxe4 46.gxh4 Kf7 47.Kh2 Rh8 48.a8(Q) Rxa8 49.Rxa8 Qxa8 50.e4 Qa2+ 51.Kh3 Qb3+ 52.Qg3 Qc2 53.Qf3 Qd2 54.h5 Qg5 55.Qg4 Kg7 56.Qxg5+ fxg5 57.Kg3 Kh7 58.Kh3 Kg7 59.Kg3 **Draw**

Dunst Opening A00

Jason Doss 2340
John Hendrick 2000

DFW Open 1998 (6)

1.Nc3 c5 2.g3 d5 3.e4 d4 4.Nce2 e5 5.d3 g6 6.Bg2 Bg7 7.f4 Ne7 8.Nf3 Nbc6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nh4 f6 11.f5 Bd7 12.g4 g5 13.Nf3 b5 14.h4 h6 15.Ng3 Nc8 16.Bd2 Nd6 17.Qc1 Ne8 18.Nh5 Rf7 19.Rf2 Bh8 20.Bf1 Ng7 21.Nxf6+ Qxf6 22.hxg5 hxg5 23.Bxg5 Qd6 24.Rh2 Ne8 25.Rh6 Qf8 26.Rg6+ Rg7 27.Bh6 Rxg6 28.Bxf8 Rxg4+ 29.Kf2 Kxf8 30.Bh3 Rf4 31.Qg1 Bf6 32.Qg6

Ke7 33.a4 b4 34.Rg1 Nd6 35.Qh7+ Nf7 36.Rg8 Rxg8 37.Qxg8 Ng5 38.Bg2 Nxf3 39.Bxf3



Now Black, with a nice material plus, commits hara-kiri. A mysterious end to a mysterious game.
39...Bxf3 40.exf5 Nd8 41.Qd5 1-0

QP Opening D02

Wilson Neil 1605
Jonathan Walsh 1760

DFW Class B/C (1)

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.b3 Be7 6.0-0 Ne4 7.Bb2 h5 8.Nbd2 Nxd2 9.Qxd2 g5 10.c4 g4 11.Ne5 Nxe5 12.dxe5 c6 13.f3
It appears that Black will be punished for his precipitous attack.
13...gxf3 14.Rxf3 h4 15.Raf1 Bg5 16.Qd4 hxg3 17.Rxf7



17...b6 18.Qg4?? (18.Qd3! Δ Rg7 +-) 19...Be3+ 19.R1f2 gxf2+ 20.

Kf1 Qg5 21.Qxg5 Bxg5 22.Rg7 Bh6 23.Rg4 Bd7 24.Kxf2 0-0-0 25.cxd5 cxd5 26.e4 Rdf8+ 27.Ke2 dxe4 0-1

Bird's Opening A03

Kris Littlejohn 1211
Marc Weinberg 1145

DFW Class D (5)

1.f4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 e6 4.b3 Bd6 5.Bb2 0-0 6.Be2 c5 7.0-0 b6 8.Ne5 Bb7 9.a4 Nbd7 10.Bb5 a6 11.Be2 Bb8 12.Nxd7 Nxd7 13.Bd3 Qh4 14.Rf3 h6 15.Rh3 Qe7



16.Bxg7! Re8 17.Qg4!? 1-0
17.Rg3(!) was "unanswerable," but the text is good enough: 17...f5 18.Qg6 Nf8 (18...Qf7 19.Qxh6!) 19.Bxf8+ Kxf8 20.Rg3! +.

Helpmate! (B/C section)



41.Kf5?? Rg5 mate!

0-1

Rohrbaugh, Huddleston share San Antonio chess title

by Selby Anderson

James Rohrbaugh and Doug Huddleston tied for first at the San Antonio City Championship, held July 25-26 at Methodist Hospital. They each scored 4.5 points in the five-round event and won \$125. Rohrbaugh, who defeated top-rated Eric Dimazana in Round 4, appeared to be on his way to clear first but was unable to convert a winning endgame against defending champion José Silva in the final round. Huddleston, who had drawn a tense little game with Silva in Round 4, got a walk when Dimazana didn't show up for the last round. Silva finished with 4 points, but out of the money.

Also tied with 4 points each were Martin Gordon, Al Fulton and Enrique Rios. They each won \$75 of the combined U2200, U2000 and U1800 prizes. The first U1600 prize went to Daniel Rupley (1314), whose 3-2 score bested 23 other players to win the \$75 U1600 prize. The U1400 prize of \$50 was split by unrateds Ty Elliott and Chang Paek, each with 2.5.

This was my first solo flight as TD for a weekend Swiss. I was planning to play, but Greg Wren didn't sleep well and asked me to direct. I had a passing familiarity with Swiss-Sys, but not with the DOS system on the club's laptop. Pairing with cards turned out to be pretty easy, although an inspection of the wall chart reveals bonehead errors like two A players ranked out of order, and a player with his third white playing another with his third black!

But I didn't feel nearly as bad about those gaffes as what happened at the start of round five. It shows that a master player can make stupid beginner mistakes as a TD

that rank with falling into a Scholar's Mate.

It has been over ten years since a TD asked me, "Please tell me you're not withdrawing." That's because with a computer you just say "Okay," push a button and crank out new pairings in a couple of minutes.

With only Dimazana-Rohrbaugh left to finish in Round 4, I made the pairings based on either a win or draw result. With five minutes to round time I wrote up the pairing sheet. Then Dimazana resigned, and came up to say, "I'm withdrawing."

I let out a mock "Aaaaah!" much as Richard Lopez does when he gets a bad position in blitz. Then I blurted out, "Okay, clear the room." Very unprofessional - a good TD bites the bullet, finds a quiet corner of the building and makes everyone wait. It might have delayed the round 20 minutes.

Now Dimazana said, "Okay, I'll play." I said thank you, posted the pairings and started the round on time, allowing the top two boards to start late.

About ten minutes later with 40 people well into their openings, Eric came up to me outside the door and asked "Is it okay if I just resign without playing?"

My heart sank. "No."

"What if I just play a few moves and then resign?"

I caved in and said that would be okay. (By the way, it's not. The rule book does not cut slack for good intentions.)

Dimazana left the building for the day, first telling Doug Huddleston that he was "resigning." No moves were played.

For what it's worth, if I had paired the round Huddleston would

have been paired with David Rangel, who at that time was on his way back to San Luis Potosi. No one, including the person who took him to the bus station (Silva), ever told me he was withdrawing. As Huddleston sardonically observed, he seemed destined to get a free point in round five. When Rohrbaugh failed to convert his pawn plus against Silva, Huddleston also got a share of the city chess title.

A total of 49 players, including 12 juniors, competed. The distribution of players was a surprise, with over half the field below 1600; the usual median has been about 1800.

Notes by J.P. Hyllin

Larsen's Opening A01
Charles Cunningham 1458
J.P. Hyllin 2136

S.A. City Chp. 1998 (1)

1.e3 Nf6 2.b3 d5 3.Bb2 Nbd7 4.g3 e5 5.Bg2 Bd6 6.Ne2 0-0 7.0-0 e4 8.d3 Qe7 9.Nd2 Ne5?!

9...Rd8 would have been better. I was impatient with my light-squared bishop, and I thought the upcoming tactics would make for a fun game.

10.dxe4 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12. Be4 Bg4 13.f3 Bh3 14.Rf2

I missed that. Originally, I had seen 14.Re1 Nxf3+ 15.Bxf3 Qxe3+, mating.

14...Ng4 15.Bxh7+ Kxh7 16.fxg4 Qxe3?!

After my 14th move, I had intended 16...Bg4 17.Qd4 Qg5, but Selby correctly pointed out that Black has better with 17...f5! and White will likely return the pawn in the face of 18...Bc5 or 18...Re8. Unfortunately, here I realized White can improve with 17.Bxg7! 17.Nf4! Bxf4

Black has no choice but to correct White's kingside pawns.

18.gxf4 Rad8 19.Qf3! Qxf3

After 19...Rfe8!? (Δ Qe1+) White is still on top with 20.Be5! Qxf3 21.Rxf3 Bxg4 22.Rg3 f6 23. Bxc7 Rd7 24.Rxg4 Rxc7 25.Rg2 \pm . 20.Rxf3 Bg4 21.Rg3 Bf5 22.Rxg7+ Kh6 23.Rg5!



My heart sank when I realized that 23...Rg8 24.Bf6! would force me to abandon the d file, allowing White to take it and generate some serious threats. Right about now I began to feel deflated. I had thrown a lot of stuff at him, and he didn't crack. I thought I still had good chances to draw, though. 23...Bg6 24.h4 Rfe8?

Black is not doing so badly after 24...f6 25.Rg2 Be4 26.Rf2 Rg8+ 27. Kh2 (or 27.Kf1) 27...Rd6! Δ ...f5 \pm 25.f5 Re4

I calculated 25...Bh5 26.Bg7+ Kh7 27.Bf6, but here I missed 27...Rd1+. I am likely lost in the resulting position, but that probably puts up more resistance.

Picturesque is 25...Bh7 26.Bg7 mate!

26.fxg6 Rxh4 27.Re5 Kxg6 28.Rf1 Rd2

Here I'm hoping for a move that allows Rg4-h4 perpetual, but I thought White was intending 29. Rf2 Rf2 30.Kf2 Rh2 31.Kf3 Rc2 32. Re2, which still gives me some hope because of the prospects of a wrong colored rook pawn to go with his bishop.

29.Rf6+! Kh7 30.Rxf7+ Kg6 31. Rg7+ 1-0

Pirc Defense B07

Al Fulton 1799

John DeMott 1341

S.A. City Chp. 1998 (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.Bc4 Bg7 5.Qe2 0-0 6.e5 Ne8 7.f4 e6 8. Nf3 d5 9.Bd3 Qe7 10.h4 Nd7 11. h5 c5 12.hxg6 c4 13.gxf7+ Rxf7 14. Bxh7+ Kf8 15.Ng5 1-0

QGA D20

Chuck Barbour 1741

Eric Dimazana 2250

S.A. City Chp. 1998 (2)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nc3 Nd7!?

3...e5, 3...c5 and 3...a6 are about equal.

4.e4 Nb6 5.Nf3 (5.Bxc4!?) Bg4 6. Be2 Bxf3 7.Bxf3 e6 8.0-0 Nf6 9. Re1 Be7 10.Be3 c6 11.Qc2 0-0 12. Rad1 Rc8 13. a3 Qc7 14.Rd2 a6 15.Red1 Nfd7 16.d5 cxd5 17.exd5 exd5 18.Nxd5 Nxd5 19.Bxd5 Nf6 20.Bf3 b5 21.Bd4 Rfd8 22.g3 Rd7 23.Bxf6 Rxd2 24.Rxd2 Bxf6 25. Be2 g6 26.Rd1 Qc6 27.Rc1 Rd8 28.a4 Rd6 29.b3 c3 30.Bd3 Bd4 31.Re1 Rf6 32.Rf1 h5 33.axb5 axb5 34.Be4 Qc5 35.Kg2 h4 36.f3 Qc8 37.g4 Be5 38.Rd1 Qb8 39.Kh3 Rd6 40.Rxd6 Qxd6 41.Qd3 Qc5 42.Qc2 Qe3 43.Kg2 Qf4 44.Kh3 Kg7



0-1

QGD Slav D18

Jim Rohrbaugh 2200

Enrique Rios 1738

S.A. City Chp. 1998 (2)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c6 3.d4 d5 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Qe2 Bg6 10.e4! Bxc3 11.bxc3 Nxe4 12.Ba3 Nxc3?

Better is 12...Qc7 Δ 0-0-0, although White has good attacking



San Antonio champions Doug Huddleston and Jim Rohrbaugh

chances for the pawn. After the text, best is 13.Qb2 with the point that 13...Nxa4 14.Qb3! has the double threat of Qxa4 and Bxe6. On other knight moves such as 13...Nd5, 14.Qxb7 gives White a plus.



13.Qe3!? Nd5

13...Ne4 leaves the situation unclear. Now White is able to pin down Black's king in the center for the long term.

14.Bxd5 cxd5 15.Rfc1 Nb6 16.Ne5 Nd7

16...Rc8 Δ ...Nc4 was a better try, but not 16...Nxa4 17.Qb3 Nb6 18.Qb5+.

17.Rc3 Be4 18.Qg3 Nxe5 19. Qxe5 h6 20.Rac1 Qb6 21.Qxg7 Rh7 22. Qg8+ Kd7 23.Qxa8 1-0

Sicilian B40

Martin Gordon 1871

Jose Luis Silva 2205

S.A. City Chp. 1998 (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3!? d5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bg2 Nf6 6.0-0 Be7 7.d4 0-0 8.Nc3 Nc6 9.Bg5 h6 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.dxc5 Be6 12.Qd2 Na5 13.b4 Nc4 14.Qe1 Re8 15.Rc1 Bg4 16. Ne2 Bb2 17.Rd1 a5

Also strong is 17...Qf6 18.Rd3 d4! Δ ...Bc3.

18.b5 Na3 19.c3 Nb5 20.Qd2 Ba3 21.Ned4 Nc7 22.Rb1 Na6 23.Rxb7 Nxc5 24.Rbb1 Ne4 25.Qf4 Bxf3 26.Qxf3 Nd2 27.Qxd5 Qf6 28.Nb5 Rad8 29.Qc6 Re6 30.Qc7 Nxb1 31.

Rxb1 Rd2 32.f4 Bf8 33.Nd4 Rd6 34.Kh1 Rxa2 35.Re1 a4 36.Qc8 Rb6 37.Bd5 Rd2 38.Bg2 Rbb2 39. Rg1 a3 40.Nf3 Rf2 41.Nd4 a2 42. Qa8 Rb1 0-1 (time)

Sicilian Najdorf B93

Doug Huddleston 2136

Bruce Lewkowsky 1795

S.A. City Chp. 1998 (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f4 Nc6 7. Be3 Ng4 8.Bg1 g6 9.Be2 e5 10. Nxc6 bxc6 11.g3 h5 12.h3 Nh6 13. fxe5 Qg5 14.Qd3 dxe5



15.h4 Qe7 16.0-0 Ng4

16...Be6 17.Na4! Qb4 18.Nb6 Rb8 19. a3 and 20.Qxa6±.

17. Bc5 Bh6+ 18.Kb1 Qc7 19.Bd6 Qd7 20.Bxg4 hxg4 21.Qc4 Qe6 22. Qxc6+ 1-0

Hodgson Attack D00

Eric Dimazana 2250

Jim Rohrbaugh 2200

S.A. City Chp. 1998 (4)

1.d4 d5 2.Bg5 h6 3.Bh4 c6

GM Edmar Mednis writes in the July *Chess Life* that 3...c6 takes "most of the fun out of playing the Hodgson." White can reply 4.Nf3, or the more provocative 4.e3 giving Black the option of ...e5!? later. 4.e3 Qb6 5.b3 e5!

The quiet 5...Bf5 is good also. Now 6.dxe5 Nd7 7.Nf3 (7.f4

Qxe3+) 7...g5! 8.Bg3 Bg7 Δ Ne7-g6 gives Black excellent play on the long diagonal.

6.Nf3 Bg4 7.Be2 Bxf3 8.Bxf3 Nd7 9. 0-0 Be7 10.Bxe7 Nxe7 11.Bg4?!

Eric was happy with the outcome of the opening, but I think he underestimated the strength of Black's position.. A better choice would have been 11.c4.



11...exd4!

Not 11...f5? 12.Bxf5! Nxf5 13. Qh5+.

12.Bxd7+ Kxd7 13.exd4 Nf5 14. c3 Rae8 15.Nd2 Re7 16.a4 Rhe8 17.a5 Qa6

The threat to invade at d3 or e2 is so annoying, White is virtually forced to try a sacrifice while Black's king is still in the center.

18.c4 Nxd4 19.Qg4+ Ne6 20.cxd5 cxd5 21.Rac1 Rd8 22.f4



22...Qd3!

This fine defensive move nips White's attack in the bud, answering 23.f5 with 23...Qd4+ and 23.Nf3 with 23...Qe3+ and 24...Qxf4. Less clear is 22...Qa5 23.Nf3 Δ f5. 23.Nc4 Ke8! 24.Ne5 Qd4+ 25.Kh1 Kf8 26.Qf5 Kg8

Who'd have guessed ten moves ago that Black would castle by hand *kingside*? 27.Rce1 Nf8 28.h3 Qb4 29.Nd3 Qd6 30.Rxe7 Qxe7 31.Re1 Qd7 32.Qh5 d4!

More thematic centralization, with ...Qd5 as a wet blanket on White's hopes of keeping any initiative.

33.Qc5 Qd5 34.Qb4 Ng6 35.Re2 Rd7 36.Kh2 Qf5 37.Qd2 Re7 38.Rxe7 Nxe7 39.Kg3 Qd5 40.b4 Nf5+ 41.Kf2 Ne3 42.Ne1 Qe4 43.g3 Nd5 44.b5 Nc3 45.b6 axb6 46.axb6 Nd5 47.Qd3 Qe3+ 48. Kf1

Easy is 48.Qxe3 dxe3+ 49.Ke2 Kf8. Rohrbaugh is accurate to the end.

48...Nxb6 49.Qb5 Qe6 50.f5 Qc4+ 51.Qxc4 Nxc4 52.Ke2 Ne5 53.Nd3 Nxd3 54.Kxd3 Kf8 55.Kxd4 Ke7 0-1

KID Four Pawns E77

José Luis Silva 2205

Doug Huddleston 2136

S.A. City Chp. 1998 (4)

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.e5!?

Curtin once wrote that 9.e5 is "out of business," but it's still good for fun.

9...Ne4 10.cxd5

10.Nxd5 Nc6 11.Qc2 f5 12.exd6 Qxd6 13.0-0 Be6 14.Rd1 Nd4 -/+ Don Marcott - Gilberto Hernandez, Texas State Championship 1990.

10...Qa5!?

ECO gives 10...Nxc3 11.bxc3 Nd7 12.e6 fxe6 13.dxe6 Nb6 14.0-0 Bxe6 15.Ng5 (I. Ivanov-Hernandez, St. John 1988) 15...Bd5 -/+. White

has also tried 12.0-0 with unconvincing results. A trap is 12...dxe5 13.fxe5 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.Bh6 Qh4 0-1 (Gillen-Roberts, Duisberg 1992 and Oswald-Abraham, Dresden 1993!)

11.0-0 Nxc3 12.bxc3 Bg4

12...Na6 13.Rb1 Re8 14.Bc4 Rb8 15.Rb5 Qd8 16.e6 fxe6 17.dxe6 d5 18.e7 Rxe7 19.Bxd5+ Kh8 20.c4 = Laengl-Holl, Germany 1992.

13.Rb1 Nd7 14.e6 Nb6 15.Ng5 Bxe2 16.Qxe2 Nxd5 17.Rxb7 Nxc3 18.exf7+ Kh8 19.Qg4?!

This loses a tempo, as soon becomes clear. Better is 19.Qf3 Qxa2 (19...Bd4+ 20.Be3) 20.Qh3... (a) 20...h6 21.Bb2 Qc4 22.Ne6 Ne2+ 23.Kh1 Nd4 24.Re1 Kh7 25.f5 Qc2 26.Ng5+ Kh8 27.Bxd4 cxd4 28.f6 +; (b) 20...h5 21.f5 Ne2+ 22.Kh1 Qc4 23.Re1 Nxc1 24.fxg6 Qg4 25.Qxg4 hxg4 26.Rxc1 ±

19...Bd4+ 20.Kh1 Qa6 21.Qf3 d5 22.Re7 Ne4

22...Nxa2 23.Bd2 Rab8 24.Rfe1 Qd6 25.Qh3 h5 26.Rd7 ±. 23.f5!



Clearing the c1-h6 diagonal sets up a nasty shot, e.g. 23...Qf6? 24.Nxh7! Qxe7 (24...Kxh7?? 25.Qh3+ forcing mate) 25.Nxf8 Qxf7 (25...Rxf8 26.Qh3+ Kg7 27.Bh6+ --) 26.Nxg6+ Kg8 27.Be3 ±.

Sensibly, Huddleston ducks for cover and forces a perpetual.

23...Qxf1+

Draw

English Opening A39

Jim Rohrbaugh 2200

José Luis Silva 2205

S.A. City Chp. 1998 (5)

1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 g6 6.g3 Bg7 7.Bg2 0-0 8.0-0 Nxd4 9.Qxd4 d6 10.Qd3 a6 11.Be3 Bf5 12.Qd2 Qd7 13.Rfc1!?

Safer is 13.Bd4 to head off an attack with exchanges: 13...Bh3 14.Bxf6 Bxf6 15.Bxh3 Qxh3 16.Nd5 Qf5 17.Qd3 Qxd3 18.Nxf6+ Kg7 19.Nh5+ Kh6 20.exd3 Kxh5 21.Rfe1± Bareev-Smirin, USSR 1990. 13...Bh3 14.Bh1 Ng4 15.Bd4 Bh6 16.e3 f5 17.Nd5 e5 18.Bc3!

White can get in trouble with 18.Nb6 Qg7! 19.Nxa8? exd4!, although 19.Bc3 Rd8 is playable. 18...f4!??

This forcing variation is seductive, and Silva needed a full point to keep his title. Objectively better is 18...Rae8 19.f3 Nf6 20.Bg2, and the mutual weaknesses at e3 and d6 just about cancel each other out.

19.exf4 exf4



A typical Silva melee is reached, but Rohrbaugh keeps his cool.

20.Qd4! Ne5

The other way was 20...Bg7 21.Qxg7+ Qxg7 22.Bxg7 fxg3 23.fxg3 Kxg7 24.Nf4! forcing Black to give up the exchange with 24...Rxf4.

(Continued on page 29)

How I almost won \$6,000 at the World Open

by NM Mark Dejmek

"Hey, buddy . . . wanna play a game of chess for six thousand dollars?"

Not a question many chess-players are likely to hear, but this sentiment is realized every year in Philadelphia around the Fourth of July at the granddaddy of big-bucks tournaments, the World Open. And this year, I found myself faced with such an encounter.

My rating having slipped below the 2200 level (only temporarily, of course), I decided to try my luck at the 1998 World Open. A \$10,000 first prize and no masters to play – what could be better?

After eight hard-fought rounds, I found myself on Board 2 in the last round needing a win to earn a three-way tie for first and a six thousand dollar prize. Alas, my hopes were dashed as I got outplayed by a provisionally rated player from the Philippines, and had to settle for a final score of 6.5-2.5 and a ninth place finish – good enough for \$450.

Below are three of my more interesting games along the way: one an all-out assault, one a sharp counter-punching battle, and the last a delicate endgame.

Ruy Lopez C63

Mark Dejmek 2160

Timothy Rogalski 2070

World Open 1998 (4)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 f5 4.d3

I have tried nearly every reasonable move for White here at one time or another, including 4.Nc3, 4.d4, and 4.Bxc6. This was my first attempt with 4.d3.

4...fxe4 5.dxe4 Nf6 6.Nc3

I found out after the game that theory regards this as inaccurate because of the ensuing bishop pin, and 6.0-0 is normally preferred.

6...Bb4 7.0-0 Bxc3 8.bxc3 d6 9. Qd3

I like the dynamism in the position. White has the two bishops and possibilities of c4-c5.

9...Be6

This leads to trouble. The quiet-er 9...Bd7 is better.

10.Ng5!? Bg8

If the bishop leaves the a2-g8 diagonal, White will play the annoying 11.Bc4.

11.f4 h6

Black understandably chases away the knight, but this costs an important tempo and also weakens Black's king position.

12.Nf3 Bh7

If 12...exf4, then White breaks through with 13.e5 dxe5 14.Nxe5 (but not 14.Qg6+ Bf7 15.Qxg7? Rh7+) 14...Qxd3 15.cxd3 Bd5 16. Bxc6+ Bxc6 17.Nxc6 bxc6 18.Bxf4 and White is much better.

13.Qc4 Bxe4 14.fxe5 Bd5

This looks natural, but a better try is 14...dxe5 15.Nxe5 Qd5! 16. Qxd5 Bxd5 17.Nxc6 bxc6 18.Bd3 ±. 15.Qe2 dxe5



16.Ba3!

This is much better than recapturing. White takes e7 and d6 away from the queen and f8 away from the king. Now White has the two bishops, an open center, and Black's

king stuck in the center. All of this for the cost of a pawn.

16...Bxf3

16...e4 17.Rad1+.

17.Rxf3

This is much better than the tempting 17.Qxe5+?!, for after 17... Kf7 18.Bc4+ Kg6 19.Qg3+ Kh7! (but not 19...Bg4? 20.Bd3+ Kh5 21. h3+) 20.Rxf3 ± Black hangs on.

17...Qd5 18.Rd1 Qe6 19.Bc4 Qg4

Where else?

20.Rxf6! Qxe2 21.Bxe2

Okay, a purist might point out that 21.Bf7 mate is somewhat more efficient (21.Re6+ also leads to mate), but I saw a pretty win and didn't look for more. At this point, my opponent looked up, smiled, and extended his hand. 21...gxf6 22.Bh5 mate is a very pretty, pure mate, where each of White's pieces plays an equal role. 1-0

KI Attack A04

Ahmoad Ware 2140

Mark Dejmek 2160

World Open 1998 (7)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d3 Nc6 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.0-0 Nh6!?

I have tried this move in similar positions, with reasonable success.

7.c3 0-0 8.Nbd2 Rb8 9.a4

Many KIA players make this move automatically, but often it only helps to facilitate Black's queenside play.

9...a6 10.Ng5 Ng4 11.h3 Nge5 12.Qe2 h6 13.Ngf3 b5 14.axb5 axb5 15.Nh4

A good move. On 15.Nxe5 I intended 15...dxe5 with good play for Black.

15...Bb7 16.f4 Nd7 17.Ndf3 Ra8

This is the right idea. White's rooks have more scope than Black's, so it makes sense to exchange. Moreover, the absence of the White rook will make it easier for Black

to penetrate on the queenside.

18.Be3 Rxa1 19.Rxa1 b4 20.Qd2 Qb6 21.f5!?

Very sharp. I thought White was sacking a piece here, but he has another idea.

21...g5 22.f6! Nxf6 23.Nf5

So White has traded a pawn for a square, and his active play on the kingside gives him full compensation.

23...bxc3 24.bxc3 Ra8

Again this idea.

25.Rxa8+

White cannot avoid the exchange. If 25.Rf1, then 25...Qb3 and Black is too active.

25...Bxa8 26.h4

Perhaps White can improve here. For example, 26.Nxg7 Kxg7 27.Bxg5 hxg5 28.Qxg5+ should lead to a draw, as even if Black avoids the perpetual check, White gets enough play, e.g., 28...Kf8 29.Qh6+ Ke8 30.Qh8+ Kd7 31.Qxa8 c4+ 32.d4 Nxe4 33.Ne5+ dxe5 34.Bxe4 exd4 35.Bxc6+ Qxc6 36.Qa7+ Ke8 37.Qxd4 =.

26...Ng4 27.hxg5

27.Bxg5!? is another idea, e.g., 27...c4+ 28.d4 Qb1+ 29.Qc1 (29.Bf1? Qxe4+) 29...Qxe4 30.Nxh6+ Nxh6 31.Bxh6 Bxh6 32.Qxh6 Nd8 =.

27...Qb1+ 28.Bf1 Nce5 29.N3h4



29.Nxe5 is better, but the text looks ominous.

29...c4!

Black needs to find an active move or else be overrun on the kingside, and this is it. He opens up the g1-a7 diagonal and attacks the support of the e4 pawn.

30.gxh6 Bf6 31.Bg5 cxd3 32.Nxe7+

32.Bxf6 is also no help: 32...exf6 33.Ne7+ Kh8 34.Nd5 Qc2+.

32...Bxe7 33.Bxe7

The threat of 33.Qg5+ looks imposing, but Black has everything under control.

33...Qb6+ 34.Kh1

34.Kg2 Bxe4+ 35.Kh3 Nf2+ 36.Kh2 Neg4+ 37.Kg1 Nh3 mate.

34...Bxe4+ 35.Ng2 Nf3 0-1

Alekhine's Defense B02

Mark Dejmek 2160

Viktor Levine 2170

World Open 1998 (8)

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.c4 Nb6 4.d4 d6 5.exd6 cxd6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Be3 Bg7 8.Bd3 Nc6 9.Nge2 0-0 10.0-0 Bg4 11.h3

The main line is 11.f3, which allows the tactical trick 11...Bf5 (with the idea of 12.Bxf5? Nxc4!). I prefer the text move.

11...Bxe2 12.Bxe2

I have never decided which recapture is better, 12. Bxe2 or 12. Nxe2.

12...d5 13.c5 Nc8 14.Rc1

14.Qb3!? is worthy of consideration, e.g., Rb8 15.Rfd1 ± (15.Qxd5 Nxd4 16.Bc4 Qxd5 17.Bxd5 ∞).

14...e6 15.Qa4 N8e7 16.Rfd1 Nf5 17.Bb5 Nxe3 18.fxe3 Ne7 19.Bd3!

White settled on this idea after taking a "big think". Black must not be allowed to maintain a knight at f5.

19...Nf5 20.Bxf5 gxf5

Black would prefer to play 20...exf5 and pile up on the e3-pawn but his own d5-pawn becomes weak and White can exploit this immediately with 21.Qb3 ±. After 20...gxf5, I

was convinced that White's queenside structure should be sufficient to win the game, but the key to making this happen is to first secure the kingside, and then push the queenside pawns at the right moment. I envisioned a plan with the White queen on f2 and knight on f4.

21.Qb4 Bh6 22.Rd3 Qg5 23.Ne2 Rab8 24.Qe1 Kh8 25.Qf2 Rg8 26.b4 a6 27.a4 Rg7 28.Rc2! Rbg8 29.Nf4 Qg3 30.Qxg3 Rxg3 31.Rdc3! Rc8 32.Kf2

White must not get careless. For example, 32.Kh2? runs into 32...Rxe3 33.Rxe3 Bxf4+ 34.Rg3 Rg8±. **32...Bxf4 33.exf4 Rg7 34.Rg3**

The immediate 34.c6!? deserves consideration, but I thought that getting a set of rooks of was the sure, safe way.

34...Rxg3 35.Kxg3 Kg7 36.Kh4 Kf6 37.Rc3 Rc7

Black is crippled by the fact that he can never trade the remaining set of rooks, as the pure pawn endings are completely lost for him.

38.Rg3 Rc8 39.Kh5 h6! 40.Kh4

So the kingside excursion has come to nothing. (Of course not 40.Kxh6?? Rh8 mate). Fortunately, White has a "Plan B."

40...Ra8 41.Rc3 Ke7 42.Kg3 Rc8 43.Kf2 Ra8 44.Rg3!

The idea is to tie down the Black king to the kingside and to force Black's rook to deal with White's king on the other wing.

44...Kf6

This is a mistake. The king can keep an eye on the kingside from e7 (for example, 45.Rg7 Kf6) while still maintaining the ability to transfer quickly to the other wing if necessary.

45.Ke2 Rc8 46.Kd2 Ra8 47.Kc3 Rc8 48.Kb3!

Following the cardinal rule of the endgame: "Do not hurry." White correctly realizes that before pushing a pawn, the best square

(Continued on page 29)

Judit Polgar and Boris Gulko win U.S. Open

by Selby Anderson

Judit Polgar and Boris Gulko tied for first at the Cardoza U.S. Open, held Aug. 1-9 in Kailua-Kona on the "big island" of Hawaii. They each scored eight points in the nine-round event to win \$3,750. It was the first U.S. Open victory for both GM's, and also the first time a woman has won the event.

The top-seeded Judit, from Budapest, Hungary, is the world's top female player. She was accompanied by her parents and sister Sofia. An IM, Sofia has been relatively inactive of late and finished with 6.5.

Gulko has the rare distinction of being a former Soviet champion and U.S. champion. Just before the Open he won the Saitek U.S. Masters in Honolulu, scoring 7.5 out of 9.

Tied for second place with 7.5 were GM's Alex Wojtkiewicz of Poland, Ian Rogers of Australia and World Junior Champion Tal Shaked of Tucson, AZ (\$1,000 each).

There were 304 players. The TD staff included Carol Jarecki, Al Loeff and Andy Thall from Laredo.

Texas was also well represented on the boards, with Mikhail Langer of Austin posting the best result (6). Tied with 5.5 were David John, John Patty and myself. Art Garey and Tim Redman scored 5 points.

George John (David's father) assisted with the demo boards, and ferried moves to the commentary room where IM Maurice Ashley put on quite a show. Luis Salinas and Clarence Callaway rounded out the Texas contingent at the USCF Delegates Meeting (along with Redman, Thall, John and myself.)

There were two familiar Texas names in the U.S. Masters results: Igor Shtern and Miles Ardaman (who now lives in Columbia, SC). Both scored 4.5, or 50%.

English Opening A33

IM John Watson
GM Judit Polgar 2715

U.S. Open 1998 (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.Nc3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.g3 Qb6 7.Nb3 Ng4 8.e3 f5 9.Qe2 a5 10.Bg2 a4 11. Nd4 Bc5 12.Ndb5 0-0 13.0-0 Nce5 14.Rb1 h5 15.b4 axb3 16.axb3 Qd8 17.b4 Be7 18.c5 h4 19.e4 fxe4 20. Nxe4 hxg3 21.hxg3 Nf6 22.Nxf6+ Bxf6 23.Bf4 Nf7 24.Be4 Ng5



25.Bg6

It is tempting to play for mate – only by a miracle does Black escape.

On the other hand, the win of the exchange is forced: 25.Bc7 Qe8 26. Nd6 Qe7 27.Nxc8 Raxc8 (27... Rfxc8 28. Bxb7 +-) 28.Bd6 +-. 25...Nh3+ 26.Kg2 Nxf4+ 27.gxf4 Bg5!

Does this mean 26.Kh2 would have been winning? No! In that case Black had a resource just as effective: 27...Be5!! setting up ...Qh4+ (if 28.Qh5 Bxf4+ Δ ...Bh6), and Black can go for more than a draw.

28.f5 Bh6 29.Rb3 b6 30.Nd6 bxc5 31.Rh1 cxb4 32.Rxb6 Qg5+ 33.Rg3 Qxb6 34.Rh3 Qg5+ 35.Rg3 Qh6

IM Maurice Ashley found that White is still drawing after 35... Ba6! 36.Qd1 Qh4 37.Rh3 Bf1+! 38.

Qxf1 Qg5+ 39.Rg3 Qh4 40.Bh7+!? Qxh7 41.Rh3 Qxh3+ 42.Kxh3 =. 36.Rh3 Qg5+ 37.Rg3 Draw

King's Indian E61

GM Boris Gulko 2691
GM Eduard Gufeld 2549

U.S. Open 1998 (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0-0 5.Bg5 c5 6.d5 d6 7.Nd2 h6 8. Bh4 Qb6 9.Rb1 g5 10.Bg3 Nh5 11. e3 Nxg3 12.hxg3 f5 13.f4 gxf4 14. gxf4 Nd7 15.g4 Nf6 16.g5 hxg5 17.fxg5 Ng4 18.Qf3 Rf7 19.Qg3 e5 20.e4 f4 21.Qh4 Ne3 22.Nf3 Bxg4 23.Qh7+ Kf8 24.Nh4 Nf1 25.Ng6+ Ke8 26.Qg8+ Bf8 27.Rh8 Qc7 28. Nxf8 Rg7 29.Ne6+ Rxg8 30.Rxg8+ 1-0

King's Indian E94

GM Georgi Kachieshvili 2565
GM Judit Polgar 2715

U.S. Open 1998 (8)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Nf3 e5 7.0-0 Na6 8.Re1 exd4 9.Nxd4 Re8 10.Bf1 Ng4 11.f3 Ne5 12.Be3 Nc5 13.Qd2 Ne6 14.Nc2 Qh4 15.Rad1 f5 16. exf5 gxf5 17.b3 Kh8 18.Nd5 Rg8 19.Kh1 Bd7 20.f4 Ng4 21.Bg1 Rae8 22.g3 Qh5 23.Bg2 Nc5 24. Nxc7 Ne4 25.Bxe4 Rxe4 26. Rxe4

White wants to plug the diagonal. Taking the second pawn with 26.Qxd6? loses brilliantly: 26...Bc6 27.Nd5 Bf8! 28.Qc7 Nxh2! 29.Bh2 Qf3+ 30.Kg1 Bc5+ 31.Nce3 Rxe3! 26...fxe4 27.Nd5

The second pawn can still mean trouble: 27.Qxd6 Bc6 (a) 28.Ne3?? Nxe3 29.Bxe3 Qf3+ +; (b) 28.Rf1? e3+ 29.Nd5 Bf8! 30.Qe6 (30.Qd8 Bc5 +) 30...Qh3! +; (c) 28.Nb4! e3 (one of several forced draws) 29. Nc6 Nf2+ 30.Bxf2 Qf3+ =. 27...Ne5 28.Bd4 Nf3 29.e2 Bc6

30.Bxg7+ Rxg7 31.Nf6 Qf7 32. Rxd6 Qe7 33.Qd1 Rg6! 34.Qa1 Qxd6 35.Nxe8+ Kg8 36.Nxd6 Rxd6 37.Ne3 Rd2 38.Nf1 Rf2 39. Qd1 Kf7 40.Qb1 0-1 (time)

Black is winning anyway with 40...Ne1!! (a) 41.Qxe1 e3+ 42.Kg1 Rg2+ 43.Kh1 Rxg3 mate; (b) 41. Ne3 Re2 42.Qc1 (42.Nd5 Nf3) 42... Nf3 43.Nf1 e3 44.Qxe3 Ng5+ 45. Kg1 Nh3 mate; (c) 41.Kg1 Rg2+ 42.Kh1 Rb2! 43.Qxb2 e3+ 44.Kg1 Nf3+ 45.Kh1 (45.Kg2 Ng5+ 46.Kg1 Nh3 mate) 45...Ng5+ 46.Qg2 e2 +-.

Truly an amazing game.

In round three, three Texas players I got draws with GM's! Langer drew Wojtkiewicz on board 3, John drew Blatny on board 4 and Patty drew Shaked on board 8. Me, I got flattened by a California expert who had just beaten GM Hodgson!

Sicilian Najdorf B96

Mikhail Langer 2255

GM Alek Wojtkiewicz 2695

U.S. Open 1998 (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qc7 8.Bxf6 gxf6 9.f5 Nc6 10.fxe6 fxe6 11.Bc4 Nxd4 12.Qxd4 Rg8 13.Rf1 Rxg2 14.0-0-0 Qc5 15.Qxf6 Qg5+ 16.Qxg5 Rxg5 17.Na4 Re5 18.Nb6 Rb8 19.Rde1 Be7 20.Rg1 Bd8 21.Rxg8+ Ke7 22.Nxc8+ Rxc8 23.Bd3 Rc7 24.Rh8 h5 25. Rf1 Kd7 26.Kd1 Be7 27.Rf7 Kc6 28.Rfh7 Bf6 29.Rxc7+ Kxc7 30. Rh6 Be7 31.Ke2 Kd7 32.Kf3 Rg5 33.a4 Bf8 34.Rh7+ Bg7 35.Kf4 Rg1 36.b3 Ke7 37.Rxh5 Kf7 Draw

Langer has an extra pawn, but he's not well placed to convert it.

QGD Meran D46

David John 2249

GM Pavel Blatny 2666

U.S. Open 1998 (3)

1.c4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.d4 e6 4.e3 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4

b5 8.Bb3 a5 9.0-0 a4 10.Bc2 a3 11. bxa3 Bxa3 12.Bxa3 Rxa3 13.Bb3 Ra5 14.Re1 c5 15.dxc5 Nxc5 16. Qxd8+ Kxd8 17.Ne5 Ke8 18.Nc6 Ra6 19.Nb4 Rb6 20.Bd1 Bd7 21. e4 Na6 22.Nxa6 Rxa6 23.Bb3 b4 24.e5 bc3 25.exf6 gxf6 26.Rac1 Ke7 27.Rxc3 f5 28.Rd3 Ba4 29. Bxa4 Rxa4 30.a3 h5 31.Rb1 Rc8 32.h3 Kf6 33.Rb4 Rc1+ 34.Kh2 Rxb4 35.axb4 Rb1 36.Rd4 e5 37. Rc4 f4 38.f3 Kf5 39.Rc7 f6 40.Rb7 h4 41.b5 Kg6 42.b6 Kf5 43.Rb8 Ke6 44.Re8+ Kf7 45.Rb8 Kg6 46. Rb7 Rb2 47.Kg1 Rb5 48.Rb8 Kg7 49.b7 Rb2 50.Kf1 Rb6 51.Kg1 Rb1+ 52.Kf2 f5 53.Re8 Rb2+ 54. Kg1 Rxb7 55.Rxe5 Kf6 56.Ra5 Re7 57.Ra6+ Re6 58.Ra5 Rd6 59.Rb5 Ra6 60.Rb4 Ra1+ 61.Kf2 Ra2+ 62.Kg1 Draw

French Winawer C18

GM Tal Shaked 2561

John Patty 2200

U.S. Open 1998 (3)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Ne7 8.Nf3 Nbc6 9.Be2 Qa4 10.dxc5 Ng6 11.Be3 Ngxe5 12.Nxe5 Nxe5 13.Bd4 Nc6 14.Bxg7 Rg8 15.Bd4 Rxg2 16.Rb1 Nxd4 17.cxd4 Qxa3 18.Bd3 Rg7 19.Kf1 e5 20.Qh5 Bg4 21.Qxe5+ Kf8 22.h3 Be6 23.Rxb7 Re8 24.Rb8 Bc8 25.Qd6+ Kg8 26. Rb1 Qc3 27.Qc6 Kf8 28.Qd6+ Kg8 29.Qc6 Kf8 30.Qd6+ Draw

Catalan Opening E07

Art Garey 2141

GM Arnold Denker 2328

U.S. Open 1998 (7)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 c6 5.Bg2 Nbd7 6.0-0 Be7 7.cxd5 exd5 8.Nc3 0-0 9.a4 a5 10.Qc2 Re8 11.Ne5 Nxe5 12.dxe5 Ng4 13. Bf4 Bb4 14.e4 d4 15.Rad1 Nxe5 16.Bxe5 Rxe5 17.Ne2 c5 18.f4 Re8 19.f5 b6 20.f6 g6 21.Qc1 Re6 22. Rf4 Ba6 23.Nc3 Rf6 24.Nd5 Rd6 25.Rh4 Be2



26.Qh6 Rxd5 27.Qxh7+ Kf8 28. exd5 Bxd1 29.d6 Qxd6 30.Qh8+ Ke7 31.Re4+ Kd7 32.Qxa8 c4 33. Qe8+ Kc7 34.Qxf7+ 1-0

I had a mediocre tournament, punctuated by blundering away a won ending to lose to yet another California expert, Randy Hough. (By way of consolation, he offered to support my run for USCF Policy Board.) Here is my best effort:

John Dowling 2158

Selby Anderson 2317

U.S. Open 1998 (4)



44.Rxe3 fxe3 45.Rg4 Rf7+ 46.Ke2 Rf2+ 47.Ke3 Rxb2 48.Re4

I saw this coming, and knew I was getting into a cutthroat ending. My queenside passers will be offset by White's advanced king position with chances to form a mating net.

48...Rxb3 49.Re7+ Kg6 50.Rxc7 Kf6 51.Ke4 a4 52.Rc6+ Ke7 53. Ke5 Kd7 54.d5 a3 55.Rh6 a2 56. Rh7+ Kc8 57.Ra7 Rb2 58.d6

On 58.Kd6, I intended 58...Kb8! (58...b5? 59.Kc6 Kb8 60.Kb6 b4 61. d6 Rh2 =) 59.Ra3 (or 59.Ra6 Kb7, and this rook still gets hit with a tempo by the b-pawn) 59...b5 60. Kc6 b4 61.Ra5 b3 62.d6 Rd2, and

Black wins by a hair.

58...Rb5+ 59.Ke6 Ra5 60.Rxa5 bxa5 61.Ke7 a1(Q) 62.d7+ Kb7 63. d8(Q)

The first race is a tie, so Black forces queens off and starts the second heat!

63...Qe5+ 64.Kf7 Qc7+ 65.Qxc7+ Kxc7 66.Ke7

It looks like another tie race is

on the way – but I can force White's king to sit in check when I queen.

66...Kc6! 67.Ke6 Kc5! 68.Ke5

Now I "have him where I want him."

68...a4 69.d4+ Kb5 70.d5 a3 71.d6 a2 72.d7 a1(Q)+ 73.Ke6 Qd4 74. Ke7 Qe5+ 0-1

Pal Benko, I hope you can find room for this in your column! ♣

David John's summer of chess

It has been a remarkable summer for Texas high school champion David John. He began by tying for second in the Texas state championship with an undefeated 4.5/6.

In July he went to Nashville as the bottom seed of an eight-player field in the elite U.S. Cadet Championship. He finished in a tie for third with a 50% score (3.5/7).

At the U.S. Open in Hawaii he played his first grandmaster, Pavel Blatny (FIDE 2520, USCF 2666) of the Czech Republic. David held on in a tough rook and pawn ending and got a draw! (See previous page.)

Next he was paired with U.S. champion Joel Benjamin. David had just read some new opening theory on Philidor's Defense and decided to try it out. It turned out the book theory was bad, and Benjamin found the flaw. David lost a pawn but he stayed in the fight. Benjamin got into time trouble and played a few less-than-best moves; nevertheless the GM was able to win.

David finished with a respectable 5.5/9, in good company with Gregory Shahade and Irina Krush.

See next page for David's write-up on the Denker Tournament.

Paul Morphy Open

A week after returning from the U.S. Open, David played in the Paul Morphy Open, held Aug. 19-20 in New Orleans. He played in a small

Open section with 14 players by the end. It resembled a grandmasters' reunion more than a regional chess tournament, with six GM's and one IM who is a candidate GM and over 2500 FIDE. The top-seeded player was Alexander Shabalov, who has the highest USCF rating of any active player, currently 2720.

After convincing wins against a strong "A" player and an expert, David was paired as Black against GM Shabalov. At move 24 David had a won position, leading 21-year-old GM Giorgi Kacheishvili of Georgia (the country) to comment: "David played like genius!" – then adding: "But after that he made some terrible moves."

The game became tense and prolonged. Playing before as many as 50 spectators, and under extreme time pressure, David held a draw!

Shabalov-John [B84] 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2 a6 7.0-0 Nf6 8.Be3 d6 9.f4 Be7 10.Bf3 0-0 11.g4 Nxd4 12.Qxd4 e5 13.Qd2?! Bxg4 14.fxe5 dxe5 15. Bxg4 Nxf4 16.Nd5 Bc5!! 17.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 18.Kh1 f5! 19.h3 Nf6! 20. Nxf6+ Rxf6 21.Rxf5 Rxf5 22.exf5 Rf8 23.Qd3 Qc6+ 24.Kh2 g6? (24... e4) 25.Rf1 Rxf5 26.Rxf5 gxf5 27. Qxf5 Qc7 28.Kg2 Qc6+ 29.Kg3 Qd5 30.b3 Kg7 31.c4 Qd6 32.Qe4 b6 33. Kf3 a5 34.Ke2 Kh6 35.Qd5 Qf6 36. a3 e4! 37.Qxe4 Qb2+ 38.Kf3 Qxb3+

39.Kg4 Qd1+ 40.Kf5 Qh5+ 41.Kf6 Qg5+ 42.Ke6 Qd8! 43.Qf4+ Kh5 44.Qf5+ Kh6 45.Qf6+ Qxf6 46. Kxf6 Kh5 47.Ke6 Kh4 48.Kd6 Kxh3 49.Kc6 Kg3 50.Kxb6 h5 51.c5 h4 52. c6 h3 53.c7 h2 54.c8(Q) h1(Q) 55. Qc7+ Kf2 56.Kxa5 Qa8+ 57.Kb4 Qe4+ 58.Qc4 Qb7+ 59.Kc3 Kg1 60. a4 Qf3+ 61.Qd3 Qc6+ 62.Kb4 Qb7+ 63.Ka3 Qe7+ 64.Ka2 Qe6+ 65.Kb2 Qb6+ 66.Kc1 Qc5+ 67.Qc2 Qa3+ 68. Kb1 Qb4+ 69.Ka2 Qd6 70.Qc3 Qe6+ 71.Ka1 Qf5 72.a5 Qf1+ 73.Kb2 Qe2+ 74.Kb3 Qe6+ 75.Kb4 Qe4 76. Kc5 Qb7 77.Qd4+ Kf1 78.Qf6+ Kg1 79.Qb6 Qh7 80.a6 Kf1 81.Qf6+ Kg1 82.Qd4+ Kh1 83.Kc6 Qg6+ 84.Qb6 Qc2+ 85.Kb7 Qb3+ 86.Qb6 Qf7+ 87.Ka8 Kh2 88.Qd6+ Kh3 89.Qd3+ Kh4 90.Qe4+ Kg5 91.Qe5+ Kh4 92. a7 Qb3, Draw!

As a reward, David got an "easier" player, GM Alex Wojtkiewicz (only USCF 2716). This game also drew a huge crowd, because when David lost he was ahead by five pawns. Perhaps many in the crowd thought that David was winning.

In his last round David "got off easy," playing Black again against IM Rashid Ziatdinov (FIDE 2525, USCF 2506). It was another tense game, and David in time pressure chose to take a forced draw instead of play for a very unclear win that could have easily led to defeat.

(Continued on page 26)

The Denker Tournament of High School Champions

by NM David John

Thee 1998 Arnold Denker Tournament of High School Champions was challenging for two reasons.

First of all, the competition was very fierce as many of the nation's top young players were seeded into the tournament: eventual winner Florin Felecan (IL, 2588), Marcel Martinez (FL, 2361), Harry Akopyan (CA/North, 2377) and Vinay Bhat (CA/South, 2329).

Almost as challenging was the fact that the players had to force themselves to sit behind chess boards for up to six hours, while nearly everyone else was enjoying the amazing Hawaiian weather!

This is my excuse for finishing ninth, even though I did not play any of these top juniors, nor did I miss out on many of Hawaii's attractions. Nevertheless, the Denker was a great tournament in an even more fantastic environment.

Now, on to the chess. My first game was quite pleasing, as I beat Michael Troendle, the Louisiana state representative, who had upset former Denker champion John Bick in his state's high school championship. I was expecting the game to be very hard, and I was a little nervous, since I did not want to end up like John Bick.

In my second round I played Zhong Lu, a 2076 rated expert from Maryland. I was a little better with Black, but played too cautiously and gave up a draw. My third round was a real disaster. I was playing on third board against Arizona's Brian Peterson, a near expert player who had already upset Sean Nagle, a strong master. I had Black and tried out the French Defense, which was a big risk. He obviously showed me why, since a few

positional mistakes cost me the game. I will watch out for this guy in the future. The next round paired me against Hawaii's Dexter Nakamoto, a near expert also. I played a drawish opening and he easily drew after 30 moves or so. In the last round I had Black against Michael Mosher, a 1758 player from Iowa. I show this game for amusement only, as he lost a piece very early.

In the end, I had 3 points out of 5 and was very happy to be a part of this elite tournament. I certainly hope to be back next year!

Notes by NM David John

King's Indian E94

David John 2240

Michael Troendle 1762

Denker Tmt. 1998 (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Nf3 e5 7.0-0 exd4 8.Nxd4 Re8 9.f3 Nc6 10.Nc2!?

I had a similar position with Black against Anderson [TK 39/4: 19] and he played this move, which keeps pieces on and forces Black to play positional chess. [David had played 9...c6, so I was restraining ...d6-d5. - Ed.]

10...a5 11.Bg5 Be6 12.Qd2 Nb4? 13.Nxb4 axb4 14.Nb5! b3 15.axb3? (15.a3) 15...Rxa1 16.Rxa1 Bd7 17. Nc3 Qb8 18.Bh6 Be6 19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.Qd4 Qd8 21.Rd1 Qe7 22. Qa7 Bc8 23.b4 Kg8 24.Qd4 b6 25. b5 Bb7 26.Ra1 Ra8 27.Rxa8+ Bxa8 28.b4 Nd7 29.Bf1 Bb7 30. Na4 Ba8 31.Nb2 Bb7 32.Nd3 Ba8

Black has improved his position a little, but is playing too passively. White has a resource now. 33.Qa1! Qd8 34.Qa7 c6?

On 34...Qb8 35.Qxb8 Nxb8 36. c5 Black must undouble the pawns or reckon with 37.c6! rendering Black's minor pieces useless. 35.bxc6 Bxc6 36.Qa1 b5 37.c5 dxc5 38. bxc5 Qe7 39.Qd4 h5 40. Nb4 Qe6

And White won shortly after making time control. 1-0

Philidor's Defense C41

Yu Zhong Lu 2076

David John 2240

Denker Tmt. 1998 (3)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.h3 c6 8.a4 Qc7 9.Bg5 b6 10.Re1 a6 11. Qd2 Bb7 12.d5!? cxd5 13.Bxd5 Bxd5 14.Nxd5 Nxd5 15.exd5 Bxg5 16.Nxg5 h6

After this massive liquidation, the position looks like it came out of a Najdorf. Black is maybe a little better.

17.Ne4 f5 18.Nc3 Nf6 19.Qe2 Qb7 20.Rad1 Rac8 21.f4 e4 22.Rd4 Rc5 23.Red1 Rfc8 24.R1d2 b5 25. axb5 axb5 26.Rb4! Nxd5 27.Nxd5 Rxd5 28.Rxd5 Qxd5 29.Rxb5 Qd4+ 30.Kh2 Rc5 31.Rb8+ Kh7 32.c3! Qd3?!

Perhaps better would have been 32...Qd5, and Black would have some chances to win.

33.Qxd3 exd3 34.Ra8 Rb5 35.b4 d5 36.Ra2 d4 37.Rd2 dxc3 38. Rxd3 c2 39.Rc3 Rxb4 40.Rxc2 Rxf4 41.Kg3 g5

Draw

Black is up a pawn, but it doesn't matter.

English Opening A11

Michael Mosher 1758

David John 2240

Denker Tmt. 1998 (5)

1.c4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.cxd5 cxd5 4. g3?

This is not "hypermodern", it is just bad. Better is d4 with an exchange Slav.

4...d4! 5.Ne4?

5.Nb1 and Black is fine anyway.

5...f5 6.Nc5??

Forced is 6.Ng5 e5 +-.

6...Qd5!

And Black won shortly after winning a piece. 0-1

Tournament Crosstables

DFW Open Championship

Dallas, July 3-5

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	total
1 Jason Doss	2337	=6	+10	+5	+2	=3	+4	5.0
2 Selby Anderson	2321	+7	+9	+4	-1	+6	+8	5.0
3 Steven Grubbs	2016	-9	+7	+10	+5	=1	+6	4.5
4 John Hendrick	2027	=5	+8	-2	=6	+7	-1	3.0
5 Samuel Irby	1824	=4	+6	-1	-3	X	-7	2.5
6 James Wharton	1972	=1	-5	+8	=4	-2	-3	2.0
7 Mark Gracey	1863	-2	-3	+11	-8	-4	+5	2.0
8 James M. Murphy	1812	H	-4	-6	+7	F	-2	1.5
9 Eric Wiggins	1814	+3	-2	U	U	U	U	1.0
10 Hugh West	1800	+11	-1	-3	U	U	U	1.0
11 Robert Smeltzer	1600	-10	U	-7	U	U	U	0.0

DFW Class B/C Championship

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	total
1 Jonathan Walsh	1760	+8	+14	+6	=3	=4	+5	5.0
2 John M. Baker	1600	-10	+11	+9	U	+3	+4	4.0
3 Osvaldo Ramirez	1632	H	H	+7	=1	-2	+6	3.5
4 Luz Ramirez	1594	H	H	+14	+6	=1	-2	3.5
5 Lloyd Uhler	1744	-6	=9	+10	+8	+7	-1	3.0
6 Charles E. Woods	1524	+5	+10	-1	-4	+8	-3	3.0
7 Daniel Salazar	1715	=9	+12	-3	+10	-5	U	2.5
8 Neil Wilson	1600	-1	H	+12	-5	-6	+9	2.5
9 Paul Huspeni	1503	=7	=5	-2	=11	=10	-8	2.0
10 Michael Harvey	1491	+2	-6	=5	-7	=9	-13	2.0
11 Roger Gaiha	1657	-14	-2	B	=9	U	U	1.5
12 Doyle Lobaugh	1535	H	-7	-8	+14	U	U	1.5
13 Robert Smeltzer	1600	U	U	U	U	U	+10	1.0
14 Stanley Weinberg	1500	+11	-1	-4	-12	U	U	1.0

DFW Class D Championship

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	total
1 Kristo Littlejohn	1211	+11	+10	+7	=2	+3	+5	5.5
2 Martin Alexander	1270	+8	+4	=3	=1	+6	+9	5.0
3 Marc Weinberg	1145	+12	+9	=2	+4	-1	=6	4.0
4 James Owsley	1109	+5	-2	+9	-3	+10	+11	4.0
5 Alan Kornsey	1304	-4	=6	+10	+8	+9	-1	3.5
6 Anthony Pugliese	1059	H	=5	+8	+7	-2	=3	3.5
7 Jason Starnes	1235	-9	+11	-1	-6	+8	+10	3.0
8 Aaron Weinberg	1084	-2	+12	-6	-5	-7	B	2.0
9 Phillip Woods	1066	+7	-3	-4	+12	-5	-2	2.0
10 Jasmine Dilucci	719	B	-1	-5	+11	-4	-7	2.0
11 Daryl Williams	unr.	-1	-7	-12	-10	B	-4	1.0
12 Randall Rap	unr.	-3	-8	+11	-9	U	U	1.0

San Antonio City Championship

San Antonio, July 25-26

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 James Rohrbaugh	2200	+32	+6	+4	+9	=3	4.5
2 Doug Huddleston	2136	+22	+14	+26	=3	X	4.5
3 Jose Luis Silva	2205	+30	+13	+5	=2	=1	4.0
4 Albert Fulton	1799	+31	+24	-1	+12	+10	4.0
5 Martin Gordon	1871	+35	+27	-3	+14	+15	4.0
6 Enrique Rios	1738	+42	-1	+33	+30	X	4.0
7 Ernie Shown	1990	+43	+10	-9	H	+26	3.5
8 John W. Ade	1924	H	U	+39	+31	+21	3.5
9 Eric Dimazana	2250	+23	+21	+7	-1	F	3.0
10 Greg Vega	1682	+41	-7	+25	+16	-4	3.0
11 David Rangel	2200	+34	=15	+37	=19	F	3.0

12 Richard C. Lopez	1603	+49	-19	+36	-4	+31	3.0
13 Paulus Muljadi	1742	+40	-3	=22	=20	+34	3.0
14 Alan Bast	1632	+46	-2	+43	-5	+32	3.0
15 Raymond H. Smith	1722	+45	=11	+20	H	-5	3.0
16 John Paul Hyltin	2091	-33	+35	+34	-10	+23	3.0
17 Daniel Rupley	1314	H	+39	-29	=27	+30	3.0
18 Diego Gamboa	1623	-24	-38	+28	+43	+33	3.0
19 Aaron Golden	1879	+36	+12	H	=11	U	3.0
20 Bret Lynn	1624	+44	=29	-15	=13	=22	2.5
21 Charles E. Barbour	1741	+47	-9	+32	=23	-8	2.5
22 Pierce Tilton	1494	-2	+41	=13	=37	=20	2.5
23 Leica Tilton	1565	-9	+47	+38	=21	-16	2.5
24 Ty Elliott	unr.	+18	-4	-30	=25	+43	2.5
25 Ryan Park	1406	-29	+46	-10	=24	+40	2.5
26 Bruce Lewkowski	1795	+38	+33	-2	H	-7	2.5
27 Duane Solley	1609	+48	-5	-31	=17	+39	2.5
28 Chang Paek	unr.	H	-37	-18	+41	+38	2.5
29 John Hendrick	2027	+27	=20	+17	U	U	2.5
30 Juan Carrizales	1525	-3	+40	+24	-6	-17	2.0
31 John DeMott	1341	-4	+49	+27	-8	-12	2.0
32 Gerald Castleberry	1500	-1	+42	-21	+35	-14	2.0
33 Charles Cunningham	1458	+16	-26	-6	+44	-18	2.0
34 Freddy Jones	1508	-11	+45	-16	+36	-13	2.0
35 Adrian Kochis	1380	-5	-16	+42	-32	+44	2.0
36 James Fleener	1383	-19	+48	-12	-34	+45	2.0
37 Allen Eckert	1749	H	+28	-11	=22	U	2.0
38 Kent Patterson	1304	-26	+18	-23	H	-28	1.5
39 Wallace Short	1292	H	-17	-8	+46	-27	1.5
40 James Nielsen	1179	-13	-30	=46	+49	-25	1.5
41 Jeremy Lee	1041	-10	-22	H	-28	+48	1.5
42 John Ade-Sanders	1091	-6	-32	-35	=48	-49	1.5
43 Bradley Sawyer	1406	-7	+44	-14	-18	-24	1.0
44 George Todd	751	-20	-43	X	-33	-35	1.0
45 Martha Ade	1060	-15	-34	+48	-47	-36	1.0
46 Barbara Ade	1019	-14	-25	=40	-39	H	1.0
47 Brian Giovanini	1163	-21	-23	F	+45	U	1.0
48 Ann Hyltin	unr.	-27	-36	-45	=42	-41	0.5
49 Joseph A. Lopez	unr.	-12	-31	H	-40	-42	0.5

Brainstorm Dallas Open

Dallas, August 1-2

Open

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Doug Root	2574	+6	+13	+3	+2	+8	5.0
2 Noureddine Ziane	2325	B	+7	=4	-1	+3	3.5
3 Jason Doss	2331	+11	+10	-1	+4	-2	3.0
4 Keith Hayward	2295	=15	+16	=2	-3	+10	3.0
5 Ali Morshedi	2007	=9	-8	+16	=6	+13	3.0
6 Steven Grubbs	2055	-1	+14	=7	=5	=9	2.5
7 John Hendrick	1982	+12	-2	=6	=9	=11	2.5
8 Gary Simms	2224	-10	+5	H	+13	-1	2.5
9 Larry Moss	2201	=5	-15	+11	=7	=6	2.5
10 James E. Berry	2023	+8	-3	H	+15	-4	2.5
11 Rudy Tia	2055	-3	+12	-9	+14	=7	2.5
12 Matthew Campbell	2132	-7	-11	H	+16	B	2.5
13 Lewis McClary	2088	+14	-1	+15	-8	-5	2.0
14 John DiLucci	1790	-13	-6	B	-11	+16	2.0
15 David Hater	2050	=4	+9	-13	-10	U	1.5
16 Joe T. Gilbert	1733	B	-4	-5	-12	-14	1.0

U2000

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Jahangir Ahmed	1900	+36	+5	+3	+6	=2	4.5
2 Andy Olsen	1909	+17	+22	+12	+4	=1	4.5
3 Mark Kile	1966	+9	+19	-1	+15	+11	4.0
4 Curtis Fukuchi	1977	+24	+33	+10	-2	+8	4.0
5 Jonathan Cearley	1781	+13	-1	+28	+18	+10	4.0
6 Robert Chalker	1900	=21	+16	+7	-1	+15	3.5
7 Glen Rudelis	1780	+23	=31	-6	+16	+20	3.5

8	Larry Deputy	1801	=15	+21	+27	+20	-4	3.5
9	Andres Suarez	1721	-3	=26	+25	+27	+17	3.5
10	Larry J. Young	1908	+32	+11	-4	+19	-5	3.0
11	Jonathan Walsh	1787	+34	-10	+29	+12	-3	3.0
12	Vince Parsons	1860	+25	+29	-2	-11	+21	3.0
13	Frank Arzipe	1607	-5	+36	-14	+32	+22	3.0
14	Steven D. Young	1807	-16	=25	+13	=21	+23	3.0
15	Trong Nguyen	1636	=8	+35	+33	-3	-6	2.5
16	Scott Griggs	1640	+14	-6	=17	-7	+26	2.5
17	James A. Farren	1714	-2	+30	=16	+26	-9	2.5
18	Tres Roring	1675	-31	+23	+22	-5	=19	2.5
19	Samuel T. Irby	1844	+26	-3	+32	-10	=18	2.5
20	Roberto Lactaotao	1642	X	H	+31	-8	-7	2.5
21	John Sneed	1679	=6	-8	+35	=14	-12	2.0
22	Hugh West	1800	+30	-2	-18	+28	-13	2.0
23	Robert Smeltzer	1601	-7	-18	+30	+29	-14	2.0
24	Marvin Bolden	1758	-4	-28	H	=25	+27	2.0
25	Robert H. Sanders	1660	-12	=14	-9	=24	=30	1.5
26	John M. Baker	1649	-19	=9	+37	-17	-16	1.5
27	Matthew Hughes	1631	=35	+37	-8	-9	-24	1.5
28	Wallace Brady	1651	-33	+24	-5	-22	=29	1.5
29	Lloyd Uhler	1682	+37	-12	-11	-23	=28	1.5
30	Simon Teichmann	1636	-22	-17	-23	X	=25	1.5
31	Eric Wiggins	1865	+18	=7	-20	U	U	1.5
32	Hector Martinez	1700	-10	+34	-19	-13	U	1.0
33	Rohit Parthasarathy	1859	+28	-4	-15	U	U	1.0
34	Rajeev Parthasarathy	1614	-11	-32	+36	U	U	1.0
35	William P. Gibson	1800	=27	-15	-21	U	U	0.5
36	Daniel Salazar	1692	-1	-13	-34	U	U	0.0
37	Daniel Wagner	1917	-29	-27	-26	F	U	0.0

U1600

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Charles Rego	1597	+19	=28	+17	+16	+3	4.5
2 Taras Odushkin	1211	+9	+37	H	+12	+7	4.5
3 Luz Ramirez	1527	+11	+29	+10	+4	-1	4.0
4 Roy Gonzalez	1553	+30	+23	+15	-3	+8	4.0
5 William Trowbridge	1396	-8	+34	+21	+28	+10	4.0
6 Doyle Lobaugh	1400	+35	-15	=11	+29	+16	3.5
7 Mike Cathey	1581	+38	=16	+28	X	-2	3.5
8 Micah McClain	1586	+5	-17	+20	+18	-4	3.0
9 Chuck Newton	1427	-2	+26	+30	=15	=14	3.0
10 Salvador Luna	1570	+31	+25	-3	+17	-5	3.0
11 Martin Alexander	1282	-3	+24	=6	+19	H	3.0
12 Eddie Griffin	1582	-29	+31	+13	-2	+20	3.0
13 Kristo Littlejohn	1366	-15	+36	-12	+26	+24	3.0
14 David Hilleman	1227	+24	+18	H	F	=9	3.0
15 Benjamin Tiller	1578	+13	+6	-4	=9	U	2.5
16 Ryan West	1421	+36	=7	+33	-1	-6	2.5
17 Alex Salas	1421	+34	+8	-1	-10	=18	2.5
18 Michael Harvey	1517	+26	-14	+25	-8	=17	2.5
19 Curtis Felkner	1400	-1	+27	=29	-11	+30	2.5
20 Jason Stames	1236	=37	+32	-8	X	-12	2.5
21 Russell N. Brown	1571	-25	+38	-5	=30	+31	2.5
22 Jeffrey E. Carter	1567	-23	-30	+32	=31	+29	2.5
23 Paul Phipps	1298	+22	-4	H	F	+28	2.5
24 Todd Douglas	1480	-14	-11	+27	+25	-13	2.0
25 James Fleener	1366	+21	-10	-18	-24	+32	2.0
26 Michael Sneed	1269	-18	-9	+34	-13	+36	2.0
27 William Wilbur	1229	-28	-19	-24	+34	+35	2.0
28 Erik Hayward	1481	+27	-1	-7	-5	-23	1.5
29 David Zachary	1248	+12	-3	=19	-6	-22	1.5
30 Jesse Arthur	1291	-4	+22	-9	=21	-19	1.5
31 Forrest Marler	1359	-10	-12	+36	=22	-21	1.5
32 Jesus Arrendondo	1220	=33	-20	-22	+35	-25	1.5
33 Charles Cunningham	1444	=32	+35	-16	U	U	1.5
34 Colin Barnett	1054	-17	-5	-26	-27	B	1.0
35 Brad West	949	-6	-33	B	-32	-27	1.0
36 Elvis Vest	979	-16	-13	-31	B	-26	1.0
37 Jason Kindred	1487	=20	-2	U	U	U	0.5
38 Hubert Daniels	1292	-7	-21	U	U	U	0.0

U1200

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Bobby Tobar	1190	+12	+13	+4	+2	-3	4.0
2 Chamu Chimhau	unr.	+11	+16	+3	-1	+9	4.0
3 Manuel Espino	1112	+19	+7	-2	+10	+1	4.0
4 Daniel Shen	1067	+8	+14	-1	+9	+7	4.0
5 Brian Young	1155	=6	-9	+17	+15	+10	3.5
6 Bruce Venable	unr.	=5	-10	+11	+16	+12	3.5
7 Tommy Wornick	835	B	-3	+8	+12	-4	3.0
8 Timothy Tam	unr.	-4	+18	-7	+13	+14	3.0
9 Robert Baptist	unr.	=10	+5	+13	-4	-2	2.5
10 Alva Anderson	1167	=9	+6	+15	-3	-5	2.5
11 Jed Shen	1053	-2	=15	-6	+20	+16	2.5
12 James Goerke	unr.	-1	+17	+14	-7	-6	2.0
13 Erick Cordova	1063	+20	-1	-9	-8	+18	2.0
14 Tibble Roring	837	+18	-4	-12	+19	-8	2.0
15 John Mayes	1172	H	=11	-10	-5	+19	2.0
16 Jose A. Hernandez	1172	=17	-2	+20	-6	-11	1.5
17 Jasmine DiLucci	796	=16	-12	-5	-18	+20	1.5
18 Daryl Williams	unr.	-14	-8	-19	+17	-13	1.0
19 Jeri Oxford	unr.	-3	-20	-18	-14	-15	1.0
20 Jeffrey Liu	704	-13	+19	+16	-11	-17	1.0

B=bye H=1/2 pt. bye U=unplayed X=forfeit win F=forfeit loss
r/e = re-entered Players in each point group are listed by tiebreaks.

Solutions

1. Cue-Ball (Mike Simpson) won with 1...Rd1! 2.Qxd1 Qxc3+ 3.Ka3 (3.Kb1 Qb2 mate) 3...Qa5 mate.

2. 1.Bc4 Qg4 (1...Qc8 2.Rxf6 gxf6 3.Qh5 mate) 2.Rxf6! Qxe2 3.Bxe2!? (3.Bf7 mate!) and Black resigned because 3...gxf6 3.Bh5 is mate.

3. 1.Bxg7! Re8 (1...Kxg7 2.Qg4+) 2.Qg4!? (2.Rg3! +-) and Black resigned. The game might have continued 2...f5 3.Qg6 Nf8 (3...Qf7 4.Qxh6 Qxg7 5.Rg3 +-) 4.Bxf8+ Kxf8 5.Rg3 Qf7 6.Qxh6+ Ke7 7.Rg7 +-.

4. 1.Nxe5 dxe5 (1...Rxc2 2.Nxg6+ keeps both pawns: 2...Kf7?? 3.Nxh8+) 3.d6+! Qxd6 4.Qxd6+ Kxd6 4.Rd1+ Ke6 5.Rxc7 Rd8 and Black resigned.

The next set is a tribute to five-time Texas champion FM Miles Ardaman, who this summer moved to Greenwood, South Carolina.

5. 1...Qg4+ 2.f3 (2.Ke1 Rd1 mate) 2...Qg2+ 3.Rf2 (3.Ke1 Nxc3 +-) 3...Qxf2+! 4.Bxf2 Ng3 mate!

6. 1.Nf5! Nxc4 (1...Rc8 2.Ne7+; 1...Nc8 2.Rd4+ Kc6 3.Rd8 Re5 4.Rxc8 Rxf5 5.Rb8 Kxc7 6.Rb5) 2.bxc4+ Ke6 (2...Kc6 3.c8(Q)+! Rxc8 4.Ne7+; 2...Kc5 3.Ne7; 2...Ke5 3.Ne7) 3.Ng7+ 1-0.

7. 1.Rxf6! Kxf6 (1...Nxf6 2.Be5 with a winning pin) 2.Rxd5! and Black resigned because of 2...exd5 3.Qc3+ Ke6 4.Qe5 mate. A nice double exchange sac.

8. 1...Bd4+ 2.Kh1 c1(Q)+ 3.Bxc1 Rf1+ 4.Bxf1 Qxe4+ 5.Bg2 Qe1+ 6.Bf1 Qxf1 mate. Sweet!

9. 1.hxg6! ... (a) 1...Nxe2 2.Rxh7 mate. (b) The game ended 1...Nf6 2.Rxh7+! Nxh7 3.Qh5 1-0. (c) 1...h6 2.Bxh6! Nxe2 (2...Bxh6 3.Qh5 Kg7 4.Qxh6+ Kf6 5.g7+) 3.Bg5+ Bh6 4.Bxh6! soon forces mate with Bf8.

Back cover solution: 1.Bb8 f2 2.Rc7 Kh2 3.Rh7 mate.

Tournament Calendar

Oct. 10-11: Texas Scholastic K-12 Grade Championships and Collegiate Championships. 6-SS. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 6701 S. Main St., Houston, 713-797-1110. Mention chess for HR: \$79 up to 4/room. Res. By 9/25. Open to Texas residents and schools. 14 separate tournaments, 1/grade (K-12) plus a college section. Trophies to top 10 individuals and top 5 teams (top three players added for team scores, no more than 2 teams per school) in each tournament. Awards for best novice team/individual in each section. Winner of 12th grade section wins 4-yr. scholarship to the UT-Dallas, worth up to \$12,000. EF: \$20 if postmarked by 9/25, \$25 if postmarked by 10/2. \$35 at site. Do not mail after 10/2. Ent: Southwest Chess Enterprises, 4060 Old Town Rd., Dallas, TX 75244. Entry must include name, USCF ID (or new/pending), grade and school. Incomplete entries to be charged at-site entry fee. E-mail: bradb4@iadfw.net Reg. Fri. 7-9 pm., Sat. 8-9:30 am. Sat. reg. may require 1/2 pt. bye for Rd. 1. Sat. rds (G/45) 10-12:30-2:30-4:30. Sun. rds (G/60) 10-1. Half pt bye avail. any one rd., if requested before rd. 2. 5-SS Rated Quick (G/10) tourney Sat. 6:30 pm \$EF \$5. Trophy prizes. Bughouse tourney Sat. 9:00 pm. EF \$10/team. Trophy prizes. Parent/Child team tourney Fri. 8:00 pm. EF \$10/team. Trophy prizes. Sets provided, please bring clocks if possible. NS, NC, W. www.neosoft.com/~george/chess/tx98grade.html

Oct. 18: Texas A&M Fall Open. 3-SS, 30/60, SD/30. 110 Koldus Bldg. (across from Rudder Tower), Texas A&M Univ., College Station. \$\$/ent. EF: \$20, TCA req. Reg. 10-10:30, Rds. 10:30-1:30-4:30. Ent: Dusan Djuric, 1018 Holt St., College Station 77840. 409-696-5504 h, 845-5522 w, djuric@ariel.tamu.edu. NS. NC. W.

Nov. 14-15: Brainstorm Houston. See *Chess Life*.

Nov. 27-29: Texas Open. See back cover ad.

Dec. 26-29: Pan Am Intercollegiate. See ad, p. 30

David John (continued from page 22)

Overall David finished with a FIDE performance rating of 2466 (International Master level) and a USCF performance rating of 2532! He finished 3-1 to tie with two other players for top U2400, each winning a third of \$1,125.

John to play in Governor's Cup

David John will represent Texas at the third annual Governor's Cup, to be held Sept. 11-13 in Sioux Falls, SD. Texas champion Eugene Curtin declined to play, and John as second place finisher was next in line. Several prominent titled players are expected to compete. ♠

Highlights of the USCF Delegates Meeting

- The Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC) Bylaws proposal PASSED. This incorporates direct vote by adult USCF members of their state USCF Delegates and Alternate Delegates (totaling 500), who in turn elect the Policy Board. A motion to change this system to direct membership vote of Policy Board was tabled by a roll call vote of 44 to 28, with 16 abstentions.*
- PB member Bill Goichberg's motion to boycott the Olympiad in Elista FAILED. (Note: The U.S. State Department had advised against a boycott.)
- Home school teams will now be permitted at USCF National Events. (See commentary next page)
- A rule change was made: previously, at the start of a game, if Black was absent White could either make his move and start Black's clock, or simply start Black's clock and not make a move. Either way, White was moving before his clock was running. Under the new rule, White must start his own clock and make his move on his own time. This rule change puts USCF rules in accordance with FIDE rules.
- In another rule change, events that are listed as FIDE-rated in the TLA section of *Chess Life* must be played under FIDE rules, not USCF rules. Again, the intent is to bring greater conformity with FIDE rules.

At the awards banquet, U.S. Champion and Deeper Blue "coach" Joel Benjamin was honored as Grandmaster of the Year. World famous chess problemist Dr. Milan Vukcevic, an International Master and repeat nominee for the Nobel Prize in engineering, was inducted into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame. Faneuil Adams and Glenn Petersen were honored for distinguished service. Yasser Seirawan was named Journalist of the Year. At the end of the Delegates Meeting, I was recognized as recipient of the Fred Cramer award for best state magazine.

* Of the Texas delegates, Callaway, Redman, Thall and I voted to table; John and Salinas voted against. George John simply wanted to hear the issue debated. (He was not present last year.) Luis Salinas was concerned about the legality of indirect voting in Illinois, where USCF is incorporated. But Harold Winston, a former USCF president from that state, said that is not a problem.

In 1991 a TCA poll endorsed direct election of the Policy Board. At the time there was no middle ground proposal for election of delegates or voting members. I am persuaded that most people, who don't attend USCF meetings, can best judge candidates in their own state. A famous name doesn't necessarily a good candidate make, while volunteers who earn their stripes in the trenches may be at a disadvantage in a direct national election. That's my opinion; I would like your feedback! —SKA

A Team of Their Own COMMENTARY

Home schooled players shall represent their local public school, for all National Scholastic Team competition, when local guidelines permit them to participate as a member of that school, in extra-curricular activities. Home schooled players from school districts that do not permit such participation shall be allowed to form teams under their local Home School Association.

From unofficial summary of the 1998 Delegates Meeting

When I attended the Scholastic Committee meeting in Hawaii in the role of an interested observer, I experienced quiet panic as I leafed through the draft of proposed national scholastic regulations. For under the header of teams it clearly stated, "There shall be no mixed school or home school teams."

Didn't this rule directly contradict a recent Policy Board directive? Here was cognitive dissonance, if ever there was such a thing. My worst fears of self-interested coaches controlling the process behind the scenes were realized!

I noticed the date of the draft: April 19, 1998. Then I checked the date of the Policy Board motion endorsing the concept of home school teams: May 31. (The motion, by Jim Eade, had passed 6-0 with one abstention.) Maybe the sequence of dates held out hope.

As the members grappled with the issue of the bids process for Super Nationals, and whether there should even be Super Nationals, the meeting lumbered toward the dinner hour before the evening's round. Would the home school agenda item be quashed with a whimper?

At last, co-chairman Ralph Bowman spoke to the final issue of the agenda. In the stentorian tones of a documentary narrator, he said that homeschooling is a growing movement and is not going away. I felt as if I was hearing Lawrence Welk say "Rock and roll is here to stay." Not only that, he cited the Policy Board directive as something that could not be ignored or turned aside. In short, the initiative I had drafted with Al Woolum's help, introduced by Rachel Lieberman in February, was going to the floor of the Delegates' Meeting with the blessing of the Scholastic Committee. It was modified, because some states assign home schoolers to public schools for sports teams.

On the floor, the home school team motion sailed through. I was not surprised when Alan Benjamin of New York rose to speak against it. My surprise came when Al Losoff of Illinois changed sides from last year to deftly answer the old objections.

Brenda Hardesty deserves much of the credit for turning the tide of opinion on this issue. The Austin TD,

homeschool mom and Region VI director argued eloquently in the March-April *TK* "Coaches' Corner" (sent out to many USCF voting members.) She went on to canvass key Scholastic Committee members at the Junior High nationals in Phoenix.

An important person in crafting the compromise language of the motion, by which state affiliates certify home school teams, was TCA scholastic director Al Woolum. A member of the USCF Scholastic Committee for three years (1991-93), he came to Texas in 1994 with a track record of being a staunch opponent of home school teams. So what happened?

In his own words: "My opposition was based on my experience with some unscrupulous types who tried to stack teams for the nationals. When I moved to Texas in 1994 I met my first 'real' home-school group, the Peace Academy team, headed by Richard Driggers. His group changed my mind about the issue. I helped him in his efforts to draft letters and understand the opposition he would face in his lobbying efforts.

"It was also my suggestion to avoid a blanket rule that would force all states to accept home schoolers. I discovered in my travels as a scholastic tournament vendor that many states had a problem with home schoolers and wouldn't accept them under any circumstances. That's why I suggested the peer review process whereby home school teams could qualify for nationals by playing in their state championship with the approval of their fellow coaches. It is an adoption of something that is done in California High Schools Athletic leagues where I coached. . . .

"It wasn't easy for a public school teacher like myself to come to the support of home-schoolers but the bottom line was getting more kids into chess, not debating the merits of different school systems.

"Congratulations to all of you in Texas who worked so hard to bring this issue forward and win a very difficult political victory. I hope our home-schoolers go to nationals next year and set a positive example for those who have denied them for so long."

Special thanks go out to Richard Driggers of Fort Worth, who got the ball rolling with the first Delegate Motion on home school teams back in 1994.

My experience at the USCF workshops and Delegates Meetings in Kailua-Kona this year affirmed my confidence in the governance process, and in the power of the press. Not the least, it affirmed the value of standing up for what you believe, if you only have patience and the willingness to answer objections made in good faith, point for point.

— Selby Anderson

LETTERS

TK busted?

After reading that I somehow allowed Naiser a chance at a win in our state championship encounter, I did a little checking over the board and with Genius.

Naiser-Simpson
Texas State Championship 1998



Position after 22...0-0-0
Is 23.b4 winning for White?

While I concede that 22...f6! was a much better move than castling, I disagree with your evaluation of 23.b4 as winning in every variation for White. The line I picked out on my skittles set without benefit of electronic brain went 23...Kb8 24. b5 Be8 (better than your 24...Bd7) 25.Ba3 Qc7, where the attack on the e-pawn gives Black breathing room to set up a defense. (Perhaps you reached this position but overlooked 26.Bd6?? Qxd6.) [No way!]

I should have given some space to 24...Be8, but since this shuts Black's kingside forces out of play I thought it would give White time to bring his superior queenside force to bear without the need for immediately forcing continuations.

For instance, how does Black

organize his defense after 25.Rhc1! (instead of 25.Ba3)? One try is 25...Rd7 (to oppose the file with ...Rc7), but 26.b6! thwarts this plan:

(a) 26...axb6 27.a5 Rc7 (27...b5 28.a6 +-) 28.Rxc7 Qxc7 29.axb6 Qd8 30.Ra7 Bc6 31.Ba3 h5 (31... Bf8 32.Bxf8 Rxf8 33.Qa1 Qxb6 34. Ra8+ +-) 32.Bc5 Rg8 33.Qa1 +-;

(b) 26...a6 27.Bb5! Rd6 (27... Rd8 28.Ba3 +-; 27...axb5 28.axb5 +-) 28.Qb4! Rd7 29.Bxd7 Qxd7 30. Rc7 Qd8 31.Ra1 +/-.

Against GOOD moves, though, 25.Rhc1 is no threat. How about the rather obvious 25...b6 with the idea ...Qb7: 26.a5 Qb7 27.axb6 Qxb6 28. Qg4! Qe3! (only response to avoid the threatened Bd4) 29.Qxg7 Bxb5! 30.Qxf7 (If White takes the second piece his own queen is toast, but remarkably the game is still drawn after 30.Bxb5 Rhg8 31.Bd4 Qd2+ 32.Kh1 Rxc7 33.Bxa7+ etc.) 30... Bxd3 31.Qc7 Ka8 32.Qc6+ =.

I looked at 29.Bd4, and it wasn't any better. Okay, you proved that Black's queen is just as annoying as White's. But if they come off, White's localized advantage in force on the queenside still gives him a strong attack.

So instead of 28.Qg4!?, White plays 28.Qxb6+! axb6 29.Ra6 Rd7 (29...Kb7 30.Bd4; 29...d4 30.Be4) 30.Rca1 Rb7 31.Ra8+ Kc7 32. Rc1+ Kd7 33.Rcc8 Rc7 34.Rd8+ Ke7 35.Ba3+ Rc5 36.Rdb8! +-.

Genius didn't find anything superlative about 23.b4 either. In one of your lines it recommends (after 23...Kb8 24.b5 Bd7) 25.Ba3 Qe8 26. Bc5 Ka8! 27.Bxa7 Bxe5. That's a little airier around my king than I would feel comfortable with against Naiser (i.e. after 28.Qxe5 Kxa7 29.Qc7!?), and most humans would not envy Black's king position, but Genius thinks Black is still better.

See what Genius thinks about 29.b6+! Kxb6 (29...Ka8 30.a5 Bb5 31.a6! +- also leads to a mating attack) 30.Rhb1+ Ka7 31.Rb5!! Bxb5 (31...Rc8 32.Ra5+ Kb6 33.Rb1+ Ka5 34.Qe1+!) 32.axb5+ Kb6 33. Rc1 Rc8 34.Qd4+, forcing mate. The only way to stave off mate in these lines involves throwing the queen to the wolves.

Will you be releasing a book compilation of "Bust the Editor" soon?

Michael Simpson
Austin

It's too skimpy to release just yet! I enjoyed the dialog, and anyone who cares to wade through it will find some instructional value.

To readers who might not know, Michael is our past TCA president and a criminal defense attorney. As demonstrated above, he can put up quite a dogged defense indeed.

Now there's a TK bust

In your editorial comments on the game Mikhail Langer - David John [July-August TK, page 19] you note that I had missed an opportunity to escape with a draw when I played 58.Ke4 instead of superior 58.Rg1.

Langer - John
Texas State Championship 1998



Position after 57...Rf2

You are absolutely correct that after 58.Rg1 Re2+ 59.Kd4, it's a book draw. However, 58..Re2+ is not the strongest move (to put it mildly). In fact, Black has two ways to win after 58.Rg1.

The simplest is to play 58...Rf4 (back) followed by Rb4 and g4. A little more complicated is 58...Rf3 with the plan of Rh3, Kh5, g4 and Rf3. Still, it could very well be that 58.Rg1 was giving Black a bigger opportunity to go wrong than 58.Ke4, as 58...Re2+ is very tempting.

As for a genuine losing move, I think White has to go back to move 15 (!). As noted by David John, 15.h5? is a big mistake. White takes away from itself a very important g5 square which it needs to trade dark-squared bishops.

Mikhail Langer
Austin

This confirms again the elusive subtlety of rook and pawn endings.

Brainstorm (cont'd from p. 5)

29.g4 fxg4+ 30.Kxg4 Kd7 31.Kf5 Ke7 32.Kg6 Kf8 33.h5 Bg3 34.a4 Bd6



35.b4 Bxb4 36.Nxb4 Nxb4 37. Bxd4 Nd5 38.Bxg7+ Kg8 39.Be5 Ne7+ 40.Kf6 Nc6 41.Bc3 Kh7 42. Ke6 Nb8 43.Kd6 Na6 44.Kc6 Nc5 45.Bd4 Na4 46.Kb5 1-0

S.A.Chp. (cont'd from p. 17)

21.Nb6 Qg4 22.Nxa8 ffg3 23.hxg3 Also good is 23.Bd5+ Kh8 24. Qxg4 gxf2+ 25.Kh1 Bxg4 26.Rf1 Ra8 27.Rxf2 ±.



23...Bxc1

After 23...Nf3+ 24.Bxf3 Qxf3, it is Black who gets mated: 25. Qh8+ Kf7 26.Qxh7+ Ke6 (or 27... Ke8 27.Re1+ Kd8 28.Qe7+ Kc8 29. Qc7 mate) 27.Re1+ Kf5 28.Qd7+ Kg5 29.Bd2+ Kh5 30.Qxh3 mate. 24.Rxc1 Rxa8 25.Qxg4 Bxg4 26. Bxb7 Ra7 27.Bd5+ Kf8 28.Bxe5 dxe5 29.b4 Ke7 30.f3 (30.a4) Bd7 31.Kf2 Kd6 32.Ke3?

White's advantage starts to evaporate. Better is 32.Rd1 or 32. Be4. 32...a5! 33.a3 axb4 34.axb4 Ra3+ 35.Ke2 Rb3 36.Rd1 Rxb4 37.Bg8+ Ke7 38.Bxh7 Rb2+ 39.Ke3 Rb3+ 40.Ke4 Draw

Sicilian Hedgehog B44
Martin Gordon 1871
Raymond Smith 1722
S.A. City Chp. 1998 (5)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 e6 5.Nb5 d6 6.c4 a6 7.N5c3 Nf6 8.Be2 Be7 9.Be3 0-0 10.0-0 b6 11.f3 Nd7 12.Nd2 Bf6 13.Rc1 Bd4 14.Bf2 f5 15.Bxd4 Nxd4 16.Nb3 Nxb3 17.axb3 Nf6 18.Qd3 Bb7 19.exf5 exf5 20.Qxf5 Qe7 21.Qd3 Rae8 22.Rfd1 d5 23.cxd5 Nxd5 24.Qc4 b5 25.Nxd5 Qxe2 26.Ne7+ 1-0

Dejmek (cont'd from page 19)

for the king is a3, which will allow the rook to transfer over quickly. Meanwhile, Black can only shuffle his rook back and forth.

48...Ra8 49.Ka3! Rc8 50.b5 The other idea is 50.a5!? Δ Ka4, b5.

50...a5 51.b6 Rb8 51...Ke7 is essential, after which Black still retains hopes of saving the game.

52.Rb3 Ke7 But now this is too late.

53.Rb5 Ra8 53...Kd7 is not much help, e.g., 54.Rxa5 Rg8 55.Rb5 Rxc2 56.a5 Rg3+ 57.Rb3 Rg8 58.Ka4 ±. After the text, White sends Black to the canvas with a nifty one-two punch.



54.c6! bxc6 55.Rxa5!

It was clear that my opponent overlooked this, as he sank into deep thought here.

55...Rb8 56.Ra7+ Kd6 57.a5 c5 58.dxc5+ Kxc5 59.Ka4!+-

Keeping the king out of b5. Now White can drive the king back to the d-file, and the pawns will march home. The rest is mop-up. 59...f6 60.Rc7+ Kd6 61.Kb5 d4 62.a6 e5 63.a7 Ra8 64.Rc6+ Kd5 65.b7 Rxa7 66.b8Q Ra1 67.Rc5+ Ke4 68.Qb7+ Kxf4 69.Qf3+ Kg5 70.Rc8 Rb1+ 71.Ka4 Ra1+ 72.Kb3 Rc1 73.Rg8+ Kh4 74.Qg3+ Kh5 75.Qg6+ 1-0

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DALLAS, TX 1998

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Collegiate Team: Each team consists of 4 players with one or two alternates. 6-SS, 45/2, SD/1. \$\$ G: 1000-600-400-200-100, trophies to top 10 teams, top boards 1-4, top teams U2000, U1800, U1600, top 2-year school, top small school. EF: \$120 for first team, \$100 each additional team, post marked by 12/1, else \$140, \$120. See team eligibility rules in TLA in Chess Life.

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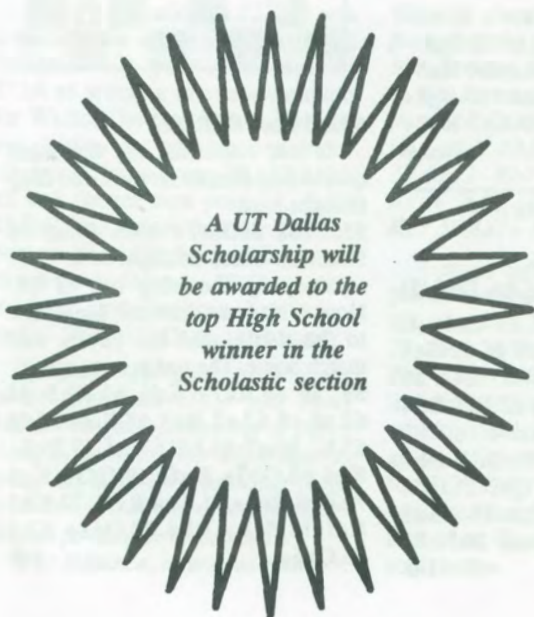
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Thanksgiving weekend
Friday thru Sunday
Nov. 27-29

6 round Swiss
40/2, SD/1

2 half-point byes available

Doubletree Club Hotel, 1111 NE Loop 410 (Nacogdoches exit), San Antonio, TX
Reservations: (800) 222-tree or (888) 444-club. Rates start at \$59, reserve by Nov. 10th.

\$2500 total b/50 entries per section - 2/3 of all prizes guaranteed

Open section:

Top: 1st \$500, 2nd \$250; **U2200:** 1st \$250, 2nd \$125; **U2000:** 1st \$200, 2nd \$100.
(Unrated limited to top two prizes in the Open section.)

Reserve section (under 1800):

Top: 1st \$300, 2nd \$200; **U1600:** 1st \$175, 2nd \$125; **U1400:** 1st \$125, 2nd \$75;
Unrated: \$75. (Unrated limited to Unrated prize in the Reserve section.)

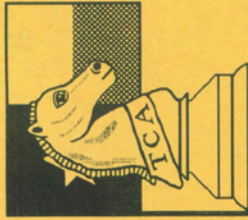
"U----" prizes are based on the highest score by any player rated below the rating shown.

Entry fees: \$40 if received by Nov. 24, \$50 at site. Junior (under 19) entry fees:
\$20 advance, \$25 at site; a junior entry counts 1/2 of an adult entry towards
the "based on" number of players. USCF and TCA membership required, other
states accepted. Make checks payable to "SACC".

Registration: 9 - 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 27th. **One or two** half point byes available
any round(s) with notice before Round 1.

Rounds: Friday: 11:30 - 6, Saturday: 9:30 - 4, Sunday: 9 - 3:30

Entries: San Antonio Chess Club, P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023

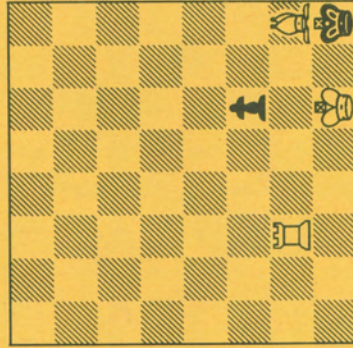


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See inside front cover for
TCA membership information.

Henry Levcovich, 1990



Mate in three
Solution: page 25

