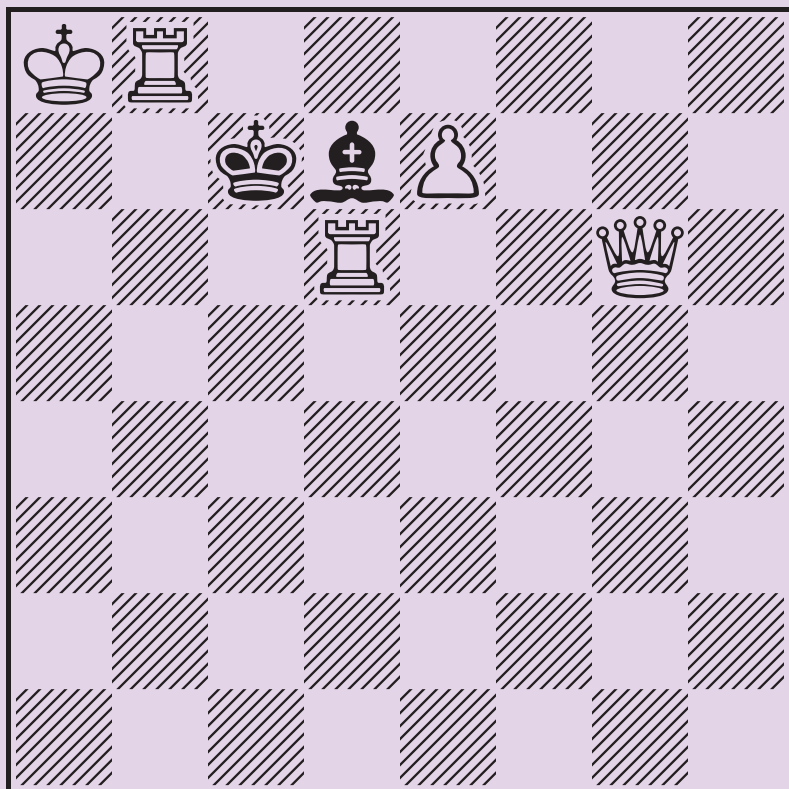


VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

The bimonthly publication of the
Virginia Chess Federation

2004 - #3



Tim Rogalski, circa 1980

Mate in Two

Solution on page 22

VIRGINIA CHESS

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2004 - Issue #3

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Virginia Chess is published six times per year by the Virginia Chess Federation. VCF membership dues (\$10/yr adult; \$5/yr junior) include a subscription to Virginia Chess. Send material for publication to the editor. Send dues, address changes, etc to Circulation.

The **Virginia Chess Federation (VCF)** is a non-



profit organization for the use of its members.

Dues for regular adult membership are \$10/yr. Junior memberships are \$5/yr.

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2004 Virginia Open

by Mike Atkins

THERE WERE TWO STORIES for this year's Virginia Open, contested June 18-20 in Springfield. One was the date change to June, as an experiment, running the event as a warm up for the World Open. The other was the appearance of six-time US Champion GM Walter Browne. How did these things come about?

GM Browne folded his World Blitz Chess Association in November 2003, retroactive to the last appearance of *Blitz Chess* magazine in August 2003. He announced at the time that he would honor the balance due to current members with credits towards merchandise and participation in simultaneous exhibitions. I immediately wrote to him about the possibility of doing a simul at Arlington Chess Club on the night before the Virginia Open in June 2004. We had lots of Arlington Chess Club members with credit in the WBCA, so it would be a perfect opportunity for them to get repaid and for the VCF to get Browne into the Virginia Open.

This is where the other story comes into play. As fate would have it, the special edition June Virginia Open fell beautifully into Browne's east coast tour schedule. He came to Virginia straight from the Vermont CCA International. Afterwards he had time for the Kopec Chess Camp, in Pennsylvania, before proceeding on to the World Open.

Browne notwithstanding, the 2004 Virginia Open was not as strong normal. The was certainly not a failure—the VCF still made a little money on the event—but we expected about a dozen more players.

Thursday, June 17

GM Browne began with an entertaining lecture in which he presented his game against GM Steve Winer from the Vermont tournament. He followed with a short question and answers session and then began the simul around 8:00 pm. It wasn't finished until around 12:30 am—quite a long time for a 23-board exhibition. During play Browne asked me about the average rating of the players, remarking that they seemed quite strong and that there must be a few experts in the crowd.

In the end Browne finished with 19 wins, 3 draws and 1 loss. The only defeat was administered by 10-year-old(!) Darwin Li. Browne also said that his game with James Guill was one of the best simul games he had ever played!



WALTER BROWNE - DARWIN LI

SIMUL 2004

TARRASCH

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 Nf3 c5
5 cxd5 exd5 6 g3 Nc6 7 Bg2 Bg4
8 Bg5 Bxf3 9 Bxf3 Nxd4 10 Bxd5
Qa5 11 Bxf6 gxf6 12 e3 Nc6
13 Bxc6+ bxc6 14 Qf3 Qb6 15 O-
O-O Rb8 16 Rd2 Bg7 17 Qe4+
Kf8 18 Qf5 Re8 19 Rhd1 h5 20 h4
c4 21 Rd7 Rb8 22 Rxf7+ Kxf7
23 Rd7+ Kf8 24 Qe6 Qxb2+ 25 Kd1
Qa1+ 26 Ke2 Rb2+ 27 Rd2 Rxd2+
28 Kxd2 Qb2+ 0-1

WALTER BROWNE - JAMES GUILL

SIMUL 2004

BOGO INDIAN

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 Bb4+ 4 Nbd2
O-O 5 a3 Bxd2+ 6 Qxd2 a5 7 b3 d6
8 Bb2 Nbd7 9 Qc2 Re8 10 Rd1 Qe7
11 e4 e5 12 d5 Nc5 13 Nd2 Bd7
14 Be2 Rf8 15 O-O Ng4 16 Bxg4
Bxg4 17 Rde1 Bd7 18 f4 f6 19 b4
axb4 20 axb4 Na6 21 Bc3 b5 22 cxb5
Bxb5 23 Rf3 c6 24 dxc6 Rfc8 25 Nf1
Rxc6 26 Ne3 Qa7 27 Kh1 Nc7 28 Nf5
Ne8 29 Qd2 Bc4 30 fxe5 dxe5 31 b5
Rcc8 32 b6 Qxb6 33 Ne7+ Kh8
34 Nxc8 Rxc8 35 Bxe5 fxe5 36 Rf8+
Bg8 37 Qa2 1-0

Friday, July 18

AS WITH MOST SWISS SYSTEM EVENTS, the early rounds of the 2004 Virginia Open ran largely true to form. There were a few upsets, of course, but no major carnage that looked to alter the ultimate

outcome of the tournament. Browne began with two more games against Arlington Chess Club regulars.

THOMAS REHLE - WALTER BROWNE

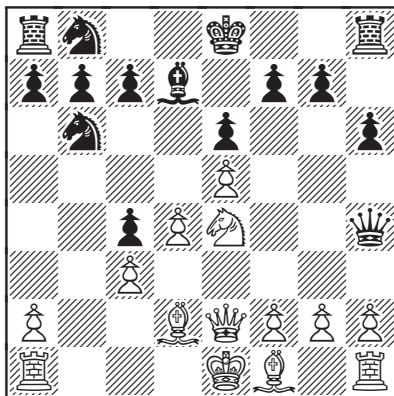
SICILIAN

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4
Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 f3 e5 7 Nb3 Be6
8 Be3 Nbd7 9 Qd2 Be7 10 O-O-O
b5 11 g4 Nb6 12 h4 b4 13 Nb1 a5
14 Bb5+ Nfd7 15 Bxb6 Qxb6 16 Ba4
O-O 17 Qe2 Rfc8 18 N1d2 Qc7
19 Qd3 Nb6 20 Bb5 a4 21 Na1 Bxa2
22 Qe3 d5 23 exd5 Nxd5 24 Qd3
Nc3 25 Rde1 Rd8 26 Qf1 Nxb5
27 Qxb5 a3 28 Ne4 Bc4 0-1 Note
this first appearance of a theme that
would recur throughout the weekend:
a queen unexpectedly trapped on an
open board.

WALTER BROWNE - ALEX BARNETT

QUEEN'S GAMBIT

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 Nf3 dxc4
5 e4 Bb4 6 e5 Nd5 7 Bd2 Bxc3 8 bxc3
Nb6 9 Ng5 h6 10 Ne4 Qh4 11 Qe2
Bd7 Now check this out...





12 Nf6+!! gxf6 13 g3! Theme appearance #2. 13...Bc6 14 gxh4 Bxh1 15 f3 fxe5 16 Qxe5 Rg8 17 Kf2 Nd5 18 Bh3 Nd7 19 Qe2 Bxf3 20 Qxf3 Rg6 21 Ke2 O-O-O 22 Qxf7 Rf6 23 Qg7 c5 24 Rf1 cxd4 25 cxd4 Rxf1 26 Kxf1 Rf8+ 27 Ke2 Rf6 28 Qg8+ Kc7 29 Bxe6 c3 30 Bxd7 Nb6 31 Bh3 1-0

Elsewhere, state champion Danny Miller played adventurously and former champion Rusty Potter debuted his latest opening choice.

DANIEL MILLER - LARRY LARKINS FRENCH

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Bd3 c5 6 c3 Nc6 7 Ne2 cxd4 8 cxd4 f6 9 Nf4 Nxd4 10 Qh5+ Ke7 11 Ng6+ hxg6 12 exf6+ Nxf6 13 Qxh8 Kf7 14 O-O e5 15 Nf3!? Nxf3+ 16 gxf3 Nh5 17 Be3 Bh3 18 Rfc1 Qf6 19 Rc7+ Be7 20 Qh7 (if 20 Qxa8 Black still has to prove

it after 20...Nf4 21 Bxf4 Qxf4 22 Bf1 Qg5+ 23 Kh1 Qf5 24 Bxh3, but Miller had calculated a safer way.) 20...e4 21 fxe4 Qf3 22 Rxe7+! Kxe7 23 Qxg6 d4 24 Bxd4 Qxd3 25 Bc5+ Kd7 26 Qxh5 Kc6 27 Rc1 1-0

MICHAEL DAMEY - RUSTY POTTER SCOTCH

1 e4 e5 For the first time in 20 years, after 13 months of preparation, according to Potter. 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 exd4 4 Nxd4 Bc5 5 c3 Qf6 6 Be3 Nge7 7 g3 Bb6 8 Bg2 O-O 9 O-O d6 10 Na3 Qg6 11 Nc4 Bg4 12 f3 Bd7 13 Nxb6 axb6 14 f4 f5 15 Nb5 Rac8 16 e5 dxe5 17 fxe5 Nxe5 18 Bf4 Bxb5 19 Bxe5 Bxf1 20 Qxf1 Nc6 21 Bf4 Qf7 22 c4 Kh8 23 Bd5 Qf6 24 Qf2 Rfe8 25 Rd1 Re7 26 h4 h6 27 Qd2 Rce8 28 Kf2 Ne5 29 Bxe5 Qxe5 30 Bf3 c6 31 b3 Ra8 32 a4 f4 33 gxf4 Qf6 34 Kg3 Raes 35 h5 Re3 36 b4 Qf5 37 Rh1 Rxf3+ 38 Kxf3 Qe4+ 0-1



Former state champion Rusty Potter and former (six time!) US champion Walter Browne shake hands prior to their 3rd round game at the 2004 Virginia Open. Photo by Mike Atkins



68th Annual

VIRGINIA CLOSED STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Sept 4-6, 2004

Holiday Inn Express

6401 Brandon Ave

Springfield, Virginia 22150

Conveniently located at the junction of I-95, I-495 & I-395

**Open to Virginia residents, military stationed in Virginia,
and students at Virginia colleges and universities with
valid student ID for Fall 2004 semester.**

6-SS, 30/90, SD/1. \$\$2500 b/100 (re-entries count 50%) *Open*: \$600-300-200-150, top Expert, A each \$100; trophies to 1st overall, top X, A. Title of Virginia State Champion to 1st overall. *Amateur (under 1800)*: \$425-225-150, top C, D, U1200, Unr each \$100, top Upset \$50; trophies to 1st, top C, D, U1200. Title of Virginia State Amateur Champion to 1st overall. *Both*: Trophies to top Senior (60+), Junior (U18) and Woman for entire tournament with all 1pt added to Open section scores. EF: \$50 if rec'd by 8/27, \$55 at site. Re-entry with ½ pt bye allowed after rd 1 only for \$30. Reg Saturday June 4, 9am-12:30pm. Rds 1-7, 11-5, 10-3:30. Two irrevocable ½ pt byes allowed, must commit with entry, none allowed after 1st round starts. W, NS, FIDE. Tiebreaks for determining state titles: Cumulative, MM, S. Hotel: \$79 Reserve before 8/20, 877-800-6696 or local 703-644-5555, mention tournament & ask for chess rate. Plenty of nearby eateries and places to visit. *Enter*: Michael Atkins, PO Box 6139, Alexandria VA 22306. Make checks to "Virginia Chess" For more info, email matkins2@cox.net or online www.vachess.org/2004closed.htm

ANNUAL VCF BUSINESS MEETING
Saturday Sept 4, 10am-12 Noon



Round three found GM Browne playing Potter, the 3-time Virginia State Champion. There was the very last game to finish and Rusty commented toward the end that it had been a long slow death, one of those games in which someone is slowly smothered.

RUSTY POTTER - WALTER BROWNE NIMZOINDIAN

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 c5
5 Bd3 Nc6 6 Ne2 cxd4 7 exd4 d5 8
cxd5 Nxd5 9 O-O O-O 10 Bc2 Re8
11 Qd3 g6 12 Bb3 Bd6 13 Ne4 Be7
14 Bh6 Na5 15 Bxd5 exd5 16 N4c3
Nc4 17 b3 Bf5 18 Qg3 Nd6 19 f3 Bh4
20 Qf4 g5 21 Qd2 Re6 22 g3 Rxh6
23 gxh4 Rxh4 24 Nxd5 Bh3 25 Rf2
Nb5 26 Ndc3 Nxd4 27 Rd1 Nxe2+
28 Qxe2 Rd4 29 Re1 h6 30 Ne4 Qb6
31 Kh1 Bf5 32 Ng3 Bg6 33 Qe7 Rf4
34 Kg2 Qc6 35 Qe3 b6 36 Rc1 Qe8
37 Re2 Qxe3 38 Rxe3 Rds 39 Rc7 a5
40 Rb7 Rd2+ 41 Re2 Rd6 42 h3 Kg7
43 Ne4 Rd3 44 Nf2 Rdxfs 45 Rxb6
Rc3 46 Ra6 Rc5 47 Ra7 h5 48 Rd2 h4
49 Rb2 Bc2 50 Re7 a4 51 Re2 axb3
52 axb3 Bf5 53 Re3 Rb4 54 Nd1 Be6
55 Nf2 Rcb5 56 Kh2 Rxb3 57 Rbxb3
Rxb3 58 Rxb3 Bxb3 59 Ne4 Kg6 60
Nc5 Bd5 61 Nd3 Kf5 62 Nf2 Kf4 63
Nd3+ Ke3 64 Ne5 f5 65 Nd7 g4 66
hxg4 fxg4 67 Nf6 g3+ 68 Kh3 Bf3
69 Nh7 g2 0-1

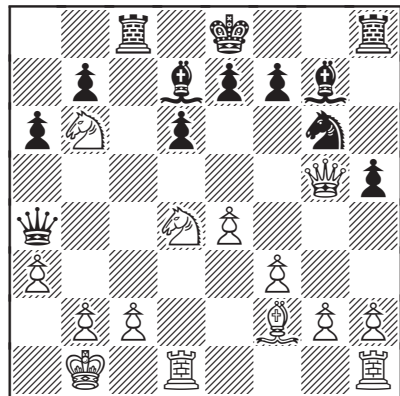
DANIEL MILLER - CHRISTIAN VOGLER SICILIAN

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 Bb5+ Bd7 4 Bxd7+
Qxd7 5 O-O Nc6 6 c3 Nf6 7 d4 e6 8
d5 Ne5 9 dxe6 Nxf3+ 10 Qxf3 fxe6

11 Rd1 Qc6 12 Nd2 O-O-O 13 e5
Nd5 14 Nc4 b5 15 Qg4 Qd7 16 Rxd5
bxc4 17 Rd1 d5 18 b3 h5 19 Qe2 Qb5
20 Bg5 Re8 21 Rab1 Be7 22 bxc4
Qa6 23 Qb2 Kc7 24 Bxe7 Rxe7 25
cxd5 exd5 26 Rxd5 Qc6 27 Qa3 Rb8
28 Qxa7+ Rb7 29 Rxb7+ Qxb7 30
Qxc5+ 1-0

ANDREW SAMUELSON - OLADAPO ADU SICILIAN

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4
Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 Be3 Ng4 7 Bg5 h6
8 Bh4 g5 9 Bg3 Bg7 10 Be2 h5 11
Bxg4 Bxg4 12 f3 Bd7 13 Qd2 Nc6
14 Bf2 Rc8 15 O-O-O Qa5 16 Kb1
Ne5 17 Nb3 Qb4 18 a3 Qc4 19 Nd5
Qc6 20 Nd4 Qa4 21 Qxg5 Ng6 22
Nb6 Oops!



Theme appearance #3.

22... Bxd4 23 Nxa4 Bxf2 24 Nc3 b5
25 Qd2 Bc5 26 Nd5 Bc6 27 Rhe1 f6
28 f4 Kf7 29 g3 Rhd8 30 Nb4 Bb7
31 Nd3 Rh8 32 e5 f5 33 exd6 Bxd6
34 Ne5+ Bxe5 35 fxe5 Bf3 36 e6+
Kg7 37 Qd4+ Kh7 38 Rd3 Be4 39
Rc3 Rcd8 40 Qf2 Rd6 41 Rxe4 fxe4



42 Rc5 Kg7 43 Qf7+ Kh6 44 Qf5 e3
 45 Qxh5+ Kg7 46 Qg4 Rxh2 47 Rg5
 Rh6 48 Qe4 Rd1+ 49 Ka2 Re1 50
 Rf5 Rhh1 51 Rf3 Ra1+ 52 Kb3 e2 53
 Rf7+ Kh6 54 Qe3+ Kh5 55 Qxe2+
 Kg5 56 Qe3+ Kg4 57 Qf3+ Kg5 58
 Rf5+ Kh6 59 Qe3+ Kg7 60 Rf7+ Kg8
 61 Qe4 1-0

In round four it was the reigning state champion's turn to take a crack at the visiting grandmaster. Down a pawn, Miller tried a sacrifice that Browne refused to pocket the full point.

WALTER BROWNE - DANIEL MILLER SEMI-SLAV

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 Nf3 e6 5
 e3 Nbd7 6 Qc2 Bd6 7 g4 dxc4 8 Bxc4
 Nd5 9 e4 Nxc3 10 Qxc3 Qe7 11 Bg5
 Bb4 12 Bxe7 Bxc3+ 13 bxc3 Kxe7

14 Ke2 e5 15 dxe5 Nc5 16 Ke3 Bxg4
 17 Nd4 g6 18 f4 Rad8 19 a4 Be6 20
 Be2 a5 21 f5 gxf5 22 exf5 Bc8 23
 f6+ Kf8 24 Bc4 Rg8 25 Rhg1 Rg6 26
 Kf4 Nxa4 27 Rgd1 Re8 28 Rxa4 b5
 29 Nxb5 Rg4+ 30 Kf3 cxb5 31 Bxb5
 Rg6 32 Bxe8 Bg4+ 33 Rxg4 1-0

In round 5 it was the new Maryland Chess Association President and long-time local battler Harry Cohen who played GM Browne—to a draw! Fritz saw Browne ahead a little the whole game, but Harry ahead after the final exchange.

WALTER BROWNE - HARRY COHEN SLAV

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 Nc3
 dxc4 5 a4 Bf5 6 e3 e6 7 Bxc4 Nbd7
 8 O-O Ne4 9 Nd2 Ndf6 10 Ndxex4



Ernie Schlich presents the Amateur Section plaque to winner (with a 5-0 sweep!) Andy Briscoe. Photo by Mike Atkins.



Nxe4 11 f3 Nxc3 12 bxc3 Be7 13 e4 Bg6 14 Bf4 O-O 15 Qb3 b6 16 Rad1 Bg5 17 Bg3 Bh4 18 Bxh4 Qxh4 19 Ba6 Qe7 20 Qc4 c5 21 d5 Rfd8 22 dxe6 Qxe6 23 Qxe6 fxe6 24 Bc4 Kf7 25 a5 Ke7 26 Rxd8 Rxd8 27 axb6 axb6 28 Ra1 Be8 29 Ra7+ Rd7 30 Ra8 Rd1+ 31 Kf2 Rc1 32 Bxe6 Bc6 33 Rc8 Bxe4 34 fxe4 ½-½

Andrew Samuelson and **Harry Cohen** scored 4-1 to tie for 2nd-3rd. IM Oladapo Adu and Miller split 4th. Top Expert was **Jeremy Hummer**, whose draw in round 5 versus Miller was the last game to finish in the tournament. Class A was won by **Thomas Rehle**. Both Hummer and Rehle had 4-1 score.

Andy Briscoe went 5-0 to win the Amateur Section, a result that almost didn't happen at all. Several people were encouraging Andy to put his 1800+ rating into the Open group, but he clearly had better ideas and designs on the cash. His final game was a seesaw battle: win, loss, draw and finally a win. Several rivals with a stake in the outcome watched the struggle but eventually left disappointed.

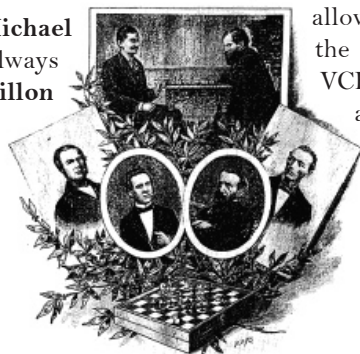
North Carolina's **Michael McHale** and UVa's always tough **Barry Quillon**

shared 2nd/3rd with 4½-½ scores. **Dr Sanda Costescu** was top class B, and **Raymond Cheng** joined her with 4-1 to take the class C honors. **Kyle Askine** took class D and **Darren Banh** was Top Under 1200.

Michael Atkins and **Ernie Schlich** directed for the VCF, with assistance from William Marshall Denny.

The Springfield Holiday Inn Express is a good site for tournaments, with a large well-lit room and *plenty* of places for hungry chess players to eat nearby after the game. One place they should not be eating is from the hotel's free breakfast spread if they were not hotel guests! The hotel observed more than a few chess players coming in off the street heading to the breakfast area for food. This probably seems like an innocent act by some, but it makes it hard to rent the hote. *Please* think about things like this if you are not staying at a hotel and there is food offered: it isn't there for you just because you are a chess player. It's there for the hotel's paying guests. Nothing in the

chess tournament contract allows non-guests to eat the food and besides, the VCF always provides food at its adult tournaments as part of Vuhginya Truhdishun!





Remembering Richard Delaune

by Macon Shibut

International Master and four-time Virginia State Champion Richard Delaune died unexpectedly over Memorial Day weekend. He was just forty-nine years old.

I only knew Richard as a chess player. Aside from one dinner at my house in 1991, shortly after the birth of my first child, my contacts with him were all at tournaments and chess clubs. Can you claim to have been close to someone when you know next to nothing of him apart from chess? Perhaps not, but Richard's sudden and surprising death nonetheless hits close to home. There were simply *so many* of those times, great fun times, at tournaments and chess clubs—meals and car rides, late night analysis sessions, mind-clearing walks and chatter between rounds.



Whatever life “away from the board” that he had, it's hard to imagine that Richard was ever really very far from chess. For as long as I've been involved in organized chess, Richard Delaune was always there. In fact, I was thinking about Richard for over a year before I actually met him! In the summer of 1973 I was a precocious newcomer to chess. I'd played the amateur section of a couple local tournaments and done pretty well, scoring 4-1 each time. So I was a bit full of myself, and as July turned to August I talked openly about winning the junior prize at the upcoming Labor Day state championship. The

wiser veterans just smiled. They knew from hard experience about a kid down in Williamsburg or somewhere, a couple years older than me but light years ahead in terms of chess skill. I relished the challenge—even if, deep down inside, I was relieved when I scanned the crosstable and discovered that my “rival” had not turned up at the championship that year! Not that it mattered; having badly overestimated my worth, I scored just $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$ to finish well behind Mike Cossette in the race for that junior prize.

Still, as I licked my wounds throughout the following year, it was not Cossette



but the rumored Delaune guy who I continued to fancy as my rival. He was the one who the old hands at my Richmond Chess Club all respected. Exactly one year later, at the 1974 Virginia Closed, I finally met him in the flesh. Soon thereafter I finally began to grasp the reality of what distance separated us. I had made decent progress over the preceding twelve months; in a different year, a different place, I might have contended for some junior title. But even that would not have put me on Richard's radar as any sort of a worthy "rival," for that same year, still a teenager, he won his first championship: not the junior championship, mind you, but the overall, adult Virginia State Chess Championship.

He successfully defended the championship in 1975 and would go on to win again in 1981 and 1985. He doubtless would have won even more, possibly eclipsing Charlie Powell's record of seven titles, had he not disqualified himself by moving to Maryland. Generally speaking, he was the best player in Virginia for at least a decade. At the same time, he began to make noise on the national level against the best American players of his generation.

RICHARD DELAUNE - YASSER SEIRAWAN FRENCH

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 Nc6 4 Ngf3 Nf6 5 e5 Nd7 6 Nb3 a5 7 a4 Be7 8 Bb5 Ncb8 9 h4 h6 10 c3 b6 11 h5 c6 12 Bd3 Ba6 13 Bxa6 Nxa6 14 Be3

Nc7 15 Nh2 b5 16 Qg4 Kf8 17 f4 Qb8 18 0-0 f5 (If 18...bxa4 19 f5 Qxb3 20 fxe6 White would have a strong attack.) 19 exf6 Nxf6 20 Qd1 bxa4 21 Rxa4 Qb5 22 Ra2 Rg8 23 f5 exf5 24 Rxf5 Ne8 25 Rf3 g5 26 Ng4 Kg7 27 Ne5 Rf8 28 Nc5 Bxc5 29 dxc5 Ne4 30 Bd4 Kg8 31 Rxf8+ Kxf8 32 Qf3+ N8f6 33 Ng4 1-0

My first game against Richard did not occur until the Virginia Open in 1978. It established the template of our games for years to come: I would throw myself into the attack, obsessed with doing something "active." Richard would proceed calmly, seemingly unimpressed by my threats. Inevitably, the time would come when my initiative waned and Richard's counterattack set in, usually with decisive effect...

RICHARD DELAUNE - MACON SHIBUT 1978 VIRGINIA OPEN DUTCH

1 Nf3 e6 2 g3 f5 3 Bg2 Nf6 4 0-0 Be7 5 d3 0-0 6 Nbd2 d6 7 e4 fxe4 8 dxe4 Nc6 9 Qe2 e5 10 c3 Qe8 11 Nh4 Kh8 12 Nc4 Ng8 13 Nf3 Qh5 14 Ne3 Nh6 15 h4 g5 16 Qd1 gxh4 17 Nxh4 Ng4 18 Bf3 Rg8 19 Nxc4 Bxc4 20 Bxc4 Rxc4 21 Nf5 Rag8 22 Kg2 Qg6 23 Qf3 Bf8 24 Bd2 Nd8 25 Rh1 Ne6 26 Rae1 Qf7 27 Rh2 Nf4+ 28 Bxf4 exf4 29 Reh1 fxg3 30 fxg3 R4g5 31 c4 R8g6 32 Rxh7+ Qxh7 33 Rxh7+ Kxh7 34 Qb3 d5 35 cxd5 Rb6 36 Qc2 Kg8 37 b3 Bd6 38 Qc3 Bf4 39 Kf2 Bd6 Black lost on time 1-0



continued



There were, however, enough variations on this basic theme that I got to lose all sorts of different positions against Richard: good positions and bad, active and passive, sacrificing or grabbing material. One of our most memorable meetings was at a tournament in Toronto in 1985. Richard and I (along with Steve Odendahl, Stan Fink and Jerry Kearns) had traveled all that way on the same plane, sat talking in the customs line at the airport for hours, only to be paired against one another in the very first round! This seemed doubly unfortunate for me since my lifetime score in our series at that point was something like 0-4. But a wondrous thing happened, and in the middlegame I was thinking that I finally had him.

**MACON SHIBUT – RICHARD DELAUNE
TORONTO 1985
CARO KANN**

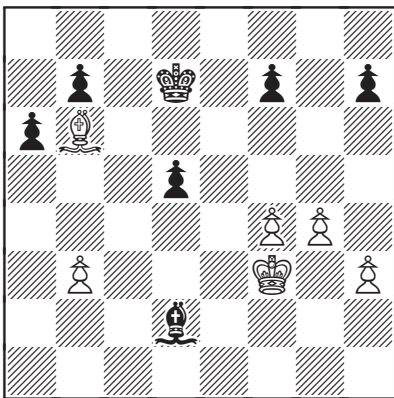
1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 Bd3 Nc6 5 c3 Nf6 6 Bf4 g6 7 Nf3 Bf5 8 Bxf5 gxf5 9 Ne5 Qb6 10 Qe2 Nxe5 11 Bxe5 Rg8 12 0-0 Nd7 13 Bg3 Rg6 14 Na3 a6 15 c4 (A pawn sacrifice to initiate my usual, full-out assault on Richard's barricades.) 15...Qxd4 16 Rad1 Qe4 17 Rfe1 Qxe2 18 Rxe2 dxc4 19 Nxc4 (This was the target position. White has all his pieces centralized and active. Black's development lags and his position appears uncoordinated. Richard was taking a long time with his moves, picking his way through the minefield.) 19...0-0-0 (Probably necessary, but I reckoned that my bishop's excellent

diagonal would make life interesting for Black's king.) 20 Red2! (The pin is very awkward for Black.) 20...Bg7 21 Ne3! (And this would seem to be a most unpleasant move to meet. White clears the c-file for a possible rook check while simultaneously attacking f5. The knight might go on to d5, hitting e7 and re-establishing contact with b6.) 21...Rc6! (Pressed to the wall, Richard finally decided to give up the f5-pawn. I was very optimistic at this point since I recover the pawn and retain a seemingly menacing position. Moreover, Richard had fallen into terrible time pressure, with only a minute or less to reach move 40.) 22 Nxf5 Bf6 (But what to play now? My pieces are as active as possible and there is no obvious way to improve the position. I decided simply to give my king an escape off the back rank. The fundamental advantage remains, I told myself, and besides, it might make things even harder on Black, given his clock situation, if I don't threaten him directly.) 23 h3





Rc5 (In fact, Black has defended very well and his position is not much worse. This is the sort of critical, transitional moment in a game that often brings about the downfall of players who fail to adjust to the changing situation. The fact that I misevaluated the position turned out to be more than adequate compensation for Black's severe time shortage.) **24 Ne3 e6 25 b3 Nb6 26 Kf1 Rxd2 27 Rxd2 Bg5** (Black consistently relieved the pressure through exchanges while White, still chasing the mirage of a knockout blow, never found a constructive plan.) **28 f4 Bh6 29 Ng4 Bg7 30 Bf2 Rc1+ 31 Ke2 Nd5 32 g3** (By now I was slipping into time pressure myself. With that came tactical missteps, which Richard pounced upon instantly. Here **32 Kf3** was better, to clear e2 for the rook.) **32...Bc3! 33 Rd3 Rc2+ 34 Kf3 Nb4 35 Rd6 Rxa2 36 Bb6 Rd2 37 Rxd2 Bxd2 38 Nf6 Nd5 39 Nxd5 exd5 40 g4 Kd7**



The time scramble was over and it was time to survey the damage. I was

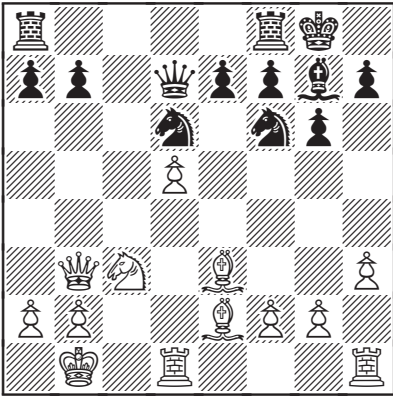
a pawn down. My healthy kingside majority offered some counterplay, however. Generally speaking, White has chances to hold the draw. I'm certain Richard would have found a way to hold it had the colors been reversed. However, I was emotionally wrecked by the previous turnabout, and this left me no realistic hope in what followed. In fact, the bishop ending has a number of interesting subtleties that make it worthy of study and analysis—and I saw none of them at the board. The concluding moves were:

41 f5 Kc6 42 Bd8 b5 43 h4 Kd7 44 Bf6 a5 45 g5 a4 46 bxa4 bxa4 47 h5 Ke8 48 Ke2 Bb4 49 h6 Kf8 50 Kd3 Bc5 51 Kc3 Kg8 52 Kd3 a3 53 Kc2 d4 54 Kb3 d3 55 Kc3 Be7 56 Bd4 Bxg5 57 Kxd3 Bxh6 58 Ke4 Bc1 59 Kd3 Bb2! 0-1

A couple rounds later in the same tournament, Richard achieved one of the star results of his chess career: a draw versus Victor Korchnoi, who was ranked perhaps third in the world at that time. Obviously he was thrilled but Richard maintained his characteristic balance about what had happened. I remember marveling at how calm he was, whereas I would have been bouncing off the ceiling with glee. Later that night we went out to eat and someone at the restaurant asked him if Korchnoi was the strongest player he'd ever beaten or drawn. Richard laughed and said, "He's the strongest player I've ever seen!"



WHAT STYLE of player was Richard Delaune? It seems to me that of the great role models, he most resembled Botvinnik. As with Botvinnik, one often saw Richard maneuvering around the edges of semi-open positions with some kind of blocked or blockaded situation in the center.



MACON SHIBUT – RICHARD DELAUNE
ARLINGTON 1989
Position after 16 Kb1

By the time this game was played I was already a veteran ‘customer’ of Richard’s and so had some perspective on his way of looking at positions. As Black here, I would probably have placed my rooks on the c- and d-files. Richard, however, selected a different course. His Nd6 is an excellent piece and so Black is already satisfied with the status quo in the center. Therefore: **16...Rfb8!?** After this he obtained play by advancing his queenside pawns with abandon, unconcerned with whether or

not they got taken. For once I managed to defend myself and this game eventually ended in a draw. I bring it up here, however, because I remember how in the instant he moved his rook to b8, it struck me that I should have expected this because it was such a characteristic, pure ‘Delaune move.’

To further extend the comparison, Richard played many of Botvinnik’s signature openings, eg, the Dragon Sicilian, the Brontein/Larsen variation of the Caro Kann and especially the English Opening as White. He was especially fond of this latter opening, which seemed a perfect compliment to his skill in semi-open positions.

RICHARD DELAUNE – STEVE MAYER
RICHMOND 1986
ENGLISH

1 c4 Nf6 2 Nc3 c5 3 Nf3 e6 4 g3 b6 5 Bg2 Bb7 6 0-0 Be7 7 d4 cxd4 8 Qxd4 d6 9 Bg5 a6 10 Bxf6 Bxf6 11 Qd3 0-0 12 Rad1 Be7 13 Ng5 Bxg5 14 Bxb7 Ra7 15 Be4 f5 16 Bg2 Rd7 17 f4 Bf6 18 e4 g6 19 Rfe1 (White has achieved enormous central pressure by simple, natural moves. Soon enough, Black cracks. It’s hard to suggest what Black was supposed to do in this game.) **Re8 20 exf5 gxf5 21 Rxe6 Rxe6 22 Bd5 Re7 23 Qxf5 Kf7 24 Ne4 1-0**

Whatever the opening, he seemed well-prepared. Richard was also a correspondence player of some note. I imagine much of his tournament preparation grew out of having worked out lines in postal trials. Here is one of these games:



WALTER MUIR - RICHARD DELAUNE
N AMERICA CC CHAMP 1978
SICILIAN

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4
 Nf6 5 Nc3 g6 6 f4 Nc6 7 Nxc6 bxc6
 8 e5 Nd7 9 exd6 exd6 10 Be3 Be7 11
 Be2 Nf6 12 0-0 0-0 13 Kh1 Re8 14
 Qd2 d5 15 Bf3 Bf5 16 Rad1 a5 17
 Na4 Rb8 18 Qf2 Ng4 19 Bxg4 Bxg4
 20 Rde1 Bh4 21 g3 Bf6 22 Bb6 Qd7
 23 Bxa5 d4 24 Nb6 Qf5 25 Qd2 Re3
 26 Kg1 Rbe8 27 Nc4 Re2 28 Qd3
 Qd5 29 Rxe2 Bxe2 30 Re1 Bxd3 31
 Rxe8+ Kg7 32 cxd3 h5 (32...Qf3 also
 looks strong) 33 Re4 h4 34 g4 h3 35
 Bb6 c5 36 Bc7? (This would seem
 to be some sort of oversight, as now
 Black wins material by a direct and
 forcing sequence.) 36...Qd7 37 g5
 Qg4+ 38 Kf2 Qg2+ 39 Ke1 Qg1+
 40 Kd2 Qxh2+ 41 Re2 Qxe2+!
 (The point—White's double attack is
 ineffectual because Black can get a new
 queen.) 42 Kxe2 h2 43 gxf6+ Kg8 44
 Kd2 h1Q 45 Kc2 Qg2+ 46 Nd2 Qc6
 47 Be5 Qa4+ 48 Nb3 Kh7 49 Kc1
 Qb5 50 Kc2 g5 51 fxg5 c4 52 Bxd4
 cxb3+ 0-1

A quick search of the database yields an impressive résumé for Richard against 'big name' opponents. I give a few examples below. After he earned the International Master title, it seemed to me that his ambition in chess ebbed a bit, which is of course only natural. Perhaps there were more important things going on in that other life, away from chess, as well. In any case, Richard's rating slipped a bit and I even

managed to beat him a couple times. He responded to reverses with the same equanimity that he displayed in victory, recalling the famous Kipling couplet: "If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster / And treat those two impostors just the same..." With a ready laugh and a certain angular quality to his way of standing or moving, Richard always seemed upbeat. I never saw even a mild display of temper from him, which is amazing in the high-strung environment of chess competitions.

AS I WRITE THIS, I am preparing to leave in just a few days for Philadelphia and the World Open. More than once I heard Richard say that this was his favorite tournament. We played in a lot of these together, sharing more than a few games and restaurant tabs. It is unimaginable that I will not see him there again this year.

RICHARD DELAUNE - PAVEL BLATNY
1998 NEW YORK OPEN
ENGLISH

1 c4 Nc6 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 g3 e5 4 Nc3
 Bb4 5 Nd5 Bc5 6 Bg2 d6 7 d3 Nxd5
 8 cxd5 Ne7 9 Nd2 Bd7 10 0-0 0-0 11
 Rb1 a5 12 b3 f5 13 Bb2 Qe8 14 Rc1
 Ng6 15 Nf3 Bb6 16 e3 a4 17 b4 Bb5
 18 Ng5 Rc8 19 Re1 h6 20 Ne6 Rf7
 21 d4 e4 22 f3 Bd3 23 fxe4 fxe4 24
 Qg4 Ne7 25 Bxe4 Bxe4 26 Qxe4 Qb5
 27 Rf1 Qxd5 28 Qg4 Nf5 29 Nxc7
 Qg2+ 30 Kxg2 Nxe3+ 31 Kh3 Nxc4
 32 Rxf7 Kxf7 33 Nf5 h5? (a blunder;



33...Nf2+ 34 Kg2 Nd3 35 Rf1 Ke6 was right) 34 Nxd6+ cxd6 35 Rxc8 Ke6 36 Rb8 Kd5 37 Rxb7 Bd8 (37...Bxd4 38 Bxd4 Kxd4 39 Ra7 was also hopeless) 38 b5 Bf6 39 Rh7 Nf2+ 40 Kg2 Nd3 41 Rxh5+ Kc4 42 b6 1-0

RICHARD DELAUNE – ALEXANDER FISHBEN
1992 WORLD OPEN
BENONI

1 c4 Nf6 2 Nc3 g6 3 e4 d6 4 d4 Bg7 5 f3 0-0 6 Bg5 (Richard's longtime favorite against the King's Indian) 6...c5 7 d5 e6 8 Qd2 exd5 9 cxd5 h6 10 Be3 (It's still theory and 10 Bxh6 has favored Black after 10...Nxe4 11 Nxe4 Qh4+ 12 g3 Qxh6 13 Qxh6 Bxh6 14 Nxd6 despite White's extra pawn) 10...h5 11 Be2 a6 12 a4 Re8 13 h4 Nbd7 14 Nh3 Ne5 15 Nf2 Rb8 16 0-0 Nh7 17 g3 b5 18 axb5 axb5 19 Kg2 Bd7 20 Rfc1 Bh8 21 Ra7 b4 22 Ncd1 Ra8 23 Rca1 Rxa7 24 Rxa7 Qb8 25 Ra2 Bb5 26 b3 Qb7 27 Nb2 f5 28 Ra5 Bxe2 29 Qxe2 fxe4 30 fxe4 Nf6 31 Bf4 Neg4 32 Nc4 Nxf2 33 Nxd6 Qxd5 34 Nxe8 N6xe4 35 Nc7 Qf5 36 Qc4+ Kh7 37 Qe6 Nd3 38 Ra7 Nxf4+ 39 gxf4 Kh6 40 Qxf5 gxf5 41 Ra6+ Kh7 42 Ne6 Bc3 43 Rc6 Nd2 44 Nxc5 Kg7 45 Rb6 Kf7 46 Nd3 Nxb3 47 Nxb4 Bd2 48 Nd3 Nd4 49 Rd6 Be3 50 Rh6 Ne6 51 Kf3 Bd2 52 Ne5+ Ke7 53 Rh7+ Kf8 54 Rxh5 Kg7 55 Nd3 Bc3 56 Rxf5 Nd4+ 57 Kg4 Nxf5 58 Kxf5 Kh6 59 Kg4 Bd4 60 Ne5 Bc3 61 Nf7+ Kg6 62 Nd6 Bb2 63 Nf5 Bc1 64 h5+ Kf6 65 Ng3 Bb2 66 Ne4+ Kg7 67 Kg5 Bc1 68 Nf2 Be3 69 Ng4 Bc1 70 Kf5 Bd2 71 h6+ Kg8 72 Nf6+ Kh8 73 Ne4 Bc1 74 Ng5 1-0

RASHID ZIATIDINOV – RICHARD DELAUNE
1998 WORLD OPEN
SICILIAN

*Notes based on analysis by David Sands,
 "Remembering Richard Delaune,"
 Washington Times 6/12/04*

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 e6 6 Be2 Qc7 7 0-0 a6 8 Be3 b5 9 Nxc6 dxc6 10 f4 b4 11 Na4 Rb8 12 Bf3 Be7 13 b3 0-0 14 c3 Rd8 15 Qc2 bxc3 16 Qxc3 Bb4 17 Qc2 e5 18 f5 a5 19 Rfd1 Nd7 20 Be2 Be7 21 Bc4 Bb7 22 Rac1 Ba3 23 Rb1 Be7 24 h3 Rbc8 25 Kh2 h6 26 Qe2 Bg5! 27 Bf2 Rf8 28 Rd3 Rcd8 29 Rbd1 Be7 30 h4 c5 31 g4 Nf6 32 Nc3 (Δ g5) Rd4! 33 Rxd4 (Accepting with 33 Bxd4 exd4+ 34 Kg1 dxc3 will lead to the complete collapse of the proud White center, while Black's two bishops will go crazy in the open position.) exd4+ 34 Bg3 Bd6! 35 e5 Bxe5! 36 Bxe5 Qxe5+ 37 Qxe5 Nxc4+ 38 Kg3 Nxe5 39 Na4 Nxc4 40 bxc4 Rc8 41 Re1 Ba6 42 Re5 f6 43 Re7 Rd8 44 Nb2 d3 45 Ra7 Rd6 46 Kf2 d2 47 Nd1 Bxc4 48 Rxa5 Rd5 49 Ke3 Bf1 50 Ra8+ Kh7 51 Rb8 Rd3+ 52 Kf2 Bh3 0-1

VICTOR KORCHNOI – RICHARD DELAUNE
TORONTO 1985
QUEEN'S PAWN

1 d4 e6 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 g3 b5 4 Bg2 Bb7 5 0-0 Be7 6 Ne1 Bxg2 7 Nxg2 c5 8 dxc5 Bxc5 9 c3 0-0 10 Bg5 d5 11 Qb3 a6 12 Bxf6 Qxf6 13 a4 bxa4 14 Rxa4 Nc6 15 Nd2 Rfc8 16 Qa2 a5 17 Nf4 Rab8 18 e3 Bb6 19 Kg2 h6 20 Nf3 Rd8 21 Rd1 Bc7 22 Rd2 Rb7 23 h3



Ne5 24 Nxe5 Qxe5 25 Qa3 Bd6 26
 Qa1 Bc7 27 Qd1 Rdb8 28 Nd3 Qf5
 29 Qg4 g6 30 Qd4 Bb6 31 Qf4 Qxf4
 32 Nxf4 Bc7 33 Nd3 Bb6 34 Kf1 f6
 35 Ke2 Kf7 36 e4 dxe4 37 Rxe4 Rd8
 38 Rc4 Rbd7 39 f4 g5 40 Rc6 Bc7 41
 fxg5 hxg5 42 g4 Bf4 43 Rd1 e5 44
 Rc4 Ke7 ½-½

Memorial contributions may be made to the US Chess Center, Attention Richard K Delaune Jr Memorial Chess Tournament, 1501 M St NW, Washington, DC 20005. Proceeds from the Arlington Chess Club's July 23 blitz tournament will also go into this fund.



Readers' Games & Analysis



VIRGINIA CHESS *is very pleased to have received the following submission from state champion Daniel Miller:*

THE 2004 US AMATEUR TEAM was my second-best tournament ever. I am once again enjoying chess. My one loss this tournament received national press in *Chess Life*, so I do not feel guilty for presenting two of my wins. The Editor described my games from the 2003 Virginia Closed as "interesting"; perhaps these will be considered interesting as well. In the Amateur Team I beat 3 consecutive masters in rounds 3-5. Here are my games from rounds 3 and 4. As always, I annotate with emphasis on the players' thinking during the game and without computer assistance in order to be more entertaining and to give a more accurate portrayal of what is required to play master level chess.

DANIEL MILLER - JUSTIN SARKAR
2004 USATE
SICILIAN

Notes by Daniel Miller

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 Bb5+ (Against the Sicilian I interchange the Moscow/Rossolimo, Alapin and Smith-Morra Gambit. I have prepared each line equally and can choose based on my opponent or my mood. I have no knowledge of any open Sicilians, but how can my opponent take advantage if I never play 3 d4? I used the same approach in preparing my systems vs the Caro Kann, learning three separate lines equally.) **3...Nd7** (Kasparov's choice) **4 0-0 Ngf6** (4...a6?! 5 Bxd7+ Bxd7 Black gets a material advantage [*ie, the bishop pair -ed*] but gives up too much time.) **5 Re1 e5** (This is not considered a mistake by theory but it should be



9th Annual

NORTHERN VIRGINIA OPEN

Nov 6-7, 2004

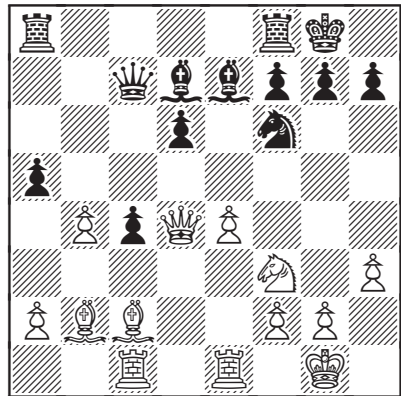
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6401 Brandon Ave,
Springfield Va, 22150

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6-SS, G/100. \$\$2,400 (top 3 G, rest b/80): \$575-350-250, top X, A, B, C, D each \$180, top U1200 \$150, top Unrated \$100, top Upset \$75. EF \$45 if rec'd by 8/27, \$55 at site. Reg 8:45-9:45, rds10-2-6, 10-2-6. Two irrevocable ½-pt byes allowed, must commit before 1st round starts. Hotel: 703-644-5555, reserve before 10/22, mention the tournament and ask for \$79 chess rate. Plenty of local eateries and places to visit. W, NS, FIDE Enter: Michael Atkins, PO Box 6139, Alexandria VA 22306. Make checks to "Virginia Chess". Info matkins2@cox.net or online www.vachess.org/nova.htm

20 Point Grand Prix

as d6 and d5 are terminal weaknesses throughout the middlegame.) **6 c3 Be7 7 d4 0-0 8 h3** (Ideas behind 8 h3 are the same as in Ruy Lopez lines with similar structure.) **8...a6 9 Ba4 b5 10 Bc2 Qc7** (I considered this position to be a Ruy Lopez where White has been able to play Ba4-c2 in one move but Black's queen knight is more active on d7 than a5. At this point my mind recalled a Ruy Lopez game of Dvoretsky that I once played through, where he played b4 in a similar position. One idea of 11 b4 is to open lines and create space for an assault on the Black king.) **11 b4 cxd4 12 cxd4 Nb6 13 Nbd2 Bd7** (if 13...Qc3 14 Rb1 Δ Bb2) **14 Bb2 exd4 15 Rc1!** (Using tactics to achieve strategic aims: White threatens e5 and Bh7 while playing a rook to the only open file with tempo.) **15...Nc4 16 Nxc4 bxc4 17 Qxd4** (Piece activity, control of the center, and fewer pawn islands make White's position better. My next goal is to convert my dynamic advantage—piece energy—into a static one—either material or mate.) **17...a5**





Achieving some counterplay; at this point many variations involving e5, Qh4 were enticing me but, as I looked carefully, Black always had the pawn push to c3 at opportune times. If I responded in those variations to ...c3 with Bxc3, and after ...Qc3 then Bh7+, Black could play ...Nxb7 and his bishop on e7 would hit my queen on h4. However, I felt that a few careful preliminary moves would allow me to neutralize his chances for counterplay. Then my attack would be irresistible.

18 Bb1! (The best move of the game. It takes the c-file and protects the a2 square.) **18...axb4 19 Rxc4 Qa5 20 e5** (not 20 Rxb4? d5) **20...dxe5 21 Rxe5 Qd8** (Forced, as the bishop and queen were both hanging.) **22 Qh4** (Δ Re7) **22...Be6** (While looking for ways to execute the Black king, I was struck by the following variation: 23 Rf4 (Δ Rxf6) g6! 24 Ng5 Nh5 25 Qh5—forced, as White has overextended and cannot go back—25...gh5 26 Bh7+ Kh8, and neither 27 Re6 f6 nor 27 Rd5 f6 28 Rd8 Rad8! seem to give White enough. But wait! I can deflect the queen to an unprotected square. So I played...) **23 Rd4 Qc7** (the most natural retreat) **24 Rf4 h6** (Now 24...g6? loses: 25 Ng5 Nh5 26 Qxh5 gxh5 27 Bxh7+ Kh8 28 Rc5mate) **25 Rg5?!** (a speculative, probably incorrect sacrifice but consistent with my previous moves) **25...hxg5** (if 25...Kh8 26 Qxh6+ gxh6 27 Rh4 Qc1+ 28 Bxc1 Ng8 29 Bb2+ f6) **26 Nxb5 Rfd8** (This gives Black counterplay based on my weak back rank. I knew at this point

20th annual

Emporia Open

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Ruritan Rd, Emporia, Va
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5-SS, 40/90, SD/60. \$\$G 500, \$400 class prizes b/5: \$250-150-100, X (if no X wins top 3), A, B, C each \$75; D, E each \$50. EF \$35 rec'd by 10/6, \$45 site, free to unrated (no separate prize). Scholastic players may pay \$10 EF & play for book prizes only. Reg 9-9:45am, rds 10-3-8, 9-2.

Significant refreshments provided w/EF, no additional charge. VCF membership req'd, \$10/yr & avail at site. W. Info: Virginia Chess Federation, Woodrow Harris, 1105 West End Dr, Emporia, VA 23847 or email harrisfw@adelphia.net.



10 Grand Prix points

I was probably lost but felt I would win!) **27 Bh7+** (Activating the light-squared bishop with tempo; it was at this point that I saw, within a larger tree of variations, the particular continuation that actually ended the game.) **27...Kf8 28 Bd3!** (tight tactics, giving my opponent every opportunity to misstep as time pressure approaches) **28...Qxf4??** (Also weak was 28...Rxd3



29 Qh8+ Ng8 30 Nxe6+ losing the queen. I was absorbed in the complications surrounding Black's only move, 28...Ke8, when, he played the text after twenty minutes' thought. It leads to a forced mate.) **29 Qh8+** (Played in just *one second*, leaving my opponent was visibly shaken.) **29...Ng8 30 Bxg7+ Ke8 31 Bb5+ 1-0**

Justin Sarkar is one of America's top junior players, and this win enabled our team to draw our match versus the top seed. My student Danny Derby, who played like a master throughout the tournament (4 wins and 2 draws), won on board four. It is certainly no fluke he has finished 2nd in the last two state championships.

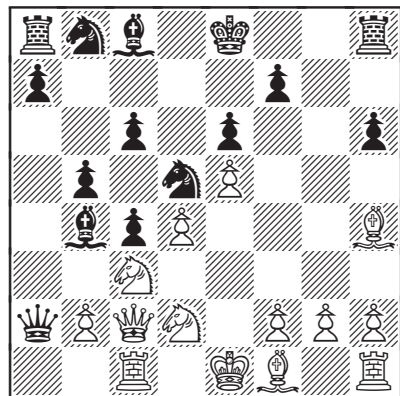
The team we played in round 4 consisted of two masters and two experts, giving them and had a very high seeding. We managed to win the match, however, by a score of 2½-1½, with Danny drawing an expert on board four and Rodney Flores soundly outplaying a strong expert with the Black pieces on Board three, in conjunction with this win:

NELSON CASTANEDA – DANIEL MILLER
2004 USATE
SLAV

Notes by Daniel Miller

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 Nf3 e6 5 Bg5 dxc4 6 e4 b5 7 e5 h6 8 Bh4 g5 9 Nxg5 Nd5!? (Alatorsev's variation. There is a general consensus that it is unsound. However, that usually works to Black's advantage in practice, as

many players neglect to prepare adequately as White. In fact, I have used this line as part of my repertoire for four years with excellent results. I prepared it very thoroughly for the 2000 state championship, using Fritz to find novelties and rehabilitate lines thought to be bad. I have played this hundreds of times on ICC and have an insanely positive score with it, even against titled players. This is not due to the virtues of the line itself, but to the vast disparity in familiarity with the line. Often my opponents find themselves out of book in positions that I have previously put on Fritz and solved for the next dozen or so moves.) **10 Nf3?! (If White is to seek an advantage, he must play the main line: 10 Nxf7 Qxh4 11 Nxh8 Bb4) 10...Qa5 11 Qc2?** (I've seen even GMs and IMs play this natural developing move, which just loses. Paradoxically, White must unpin the Knight by interposing the queen, 11 Qd2, even though Black's bishop is coming to b4.) **11...Bb4 12 Rc1 Qxa2** (This would not be possible if the queen were on d2.) **13 Nd2**

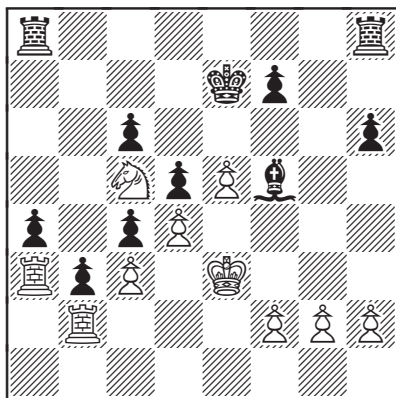




I have had this position numerous times and consider Black's advantage to be decisive. White's counterplay is based on the central dark squares, pressure down the f3-a8 diagonal and insecurity of Black's king. In my preparations I decided on the following plan to neutralize White's counterplay: *a)* force the exchange of queens by trading knights; *b)* trade dark squared bishops, which might seem counter-intuitive but it does neutralize pressure on the dark squares; *c)* plant the other knight on d5 to solidify my position on the long diagonal. After that, Black's space and material advantage on the queenside will win.

13...Nxc3 14 bxc3 Qxc2 15 Rxc2 Be7 16 Bxe7 Kxe7 17 Be2 Na6! 18 Bf3 Bd7 19 Ne4 Nc7 20 Kd2 Nd5 —+ **21 Re1 a5 22 Nc5?!** (This allows Black to use tactics to activate his pawn roller. White's knight can prance around the dark squares but can't hit anything.) **22...b4 23 Bxd5?!** (I believe White had to sacrifice the exchange with **23 cxb4 c3+ 24 Rxc3** to generate some level of counterplay. The N on d5 was strong and trading a rook for knight and pawn, while still losing, would open up the position.) **23...exd5** (The correct recapture—away from the center. Activating the bishop was more important than minimizing the number of pawn islands. Black has a 5-2 majority on the queenside, which is now much better than White's 4-2 on the kingside.) **24 Rb2 b3 25 Ra1 a4!** (The pawn cannot be captured. If **26 Ra4?? Ra4 27 Na4 Ra8 28 Nc5 Ra1**

White can't move.) **26 Ra3** (forced) **26...Bf5 27 Ke3**



I had not used much time up to here, but now went into a half-hour think. I knew I was winning but wanted to be extremely careful and solve the position to the end. White still cannot capture on a4. In fact, White is completely tied up even without Black using his king rook. I wanted to play **27...Bc2** to immobilize the b2 rook, but how would I win then?

I needed to activate my unused Rook on h8. If I could activate my rook by trading my h pawn for one of his, he wouldn't have an answer to the rooks. *Activate long-range pieces by trading pieces.* My reasoning was this: If I play **27...Bc2**, he will answer **28 g4!** so that he can meet h5 with g5. Therefore, I need to push ...f6—but that would let his knight out of the box, for example: **27...Bc2 28 g4 f6 29 ef6 Kf6 30 Nd7+ Ke6 31 Ne5.**

Therefore, I prepare ...f6 by first playing my rook to a7 to make the d7



square unavailable for his knight. The danger with that in general is that it leaves my queenside unprotected, suggesting that he sacrifice his knight on b3 for two pawns and some activity. But if my bishop is on c2, b3 is overprotected and the sacrifice on b3 is not an option for White. So again, 27...Bc2 not only restricts the rook on b2 but it turns out that it enables Black to activate his unused rook.

27...Bc2! (Thanks to his well-considered plan, Black was in complete control throughout the rest of the game. Such a theoretical and strategic victory was a welcome rest from the tactical slugfest of the previous round.)
28 g4 Ra7 29 Kf4 f6 30 h4 Rf8 31 exf6+ Kxf6 32 Ke3 Re8+ 33 Kf4 Re1 34 f3 Kg6 35 h5+ Kf6 36 Kg3 Re3 37 Kf2 Rxc3 38 Ke2 Kf7 39 Nxa4 Rd3 40 Ra1 Rxd4 0-1

Thanks also to Tim Rogalski, who continues to send us excellent stuff...

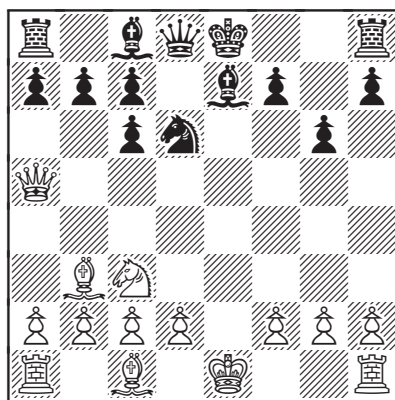
DAN EASLEY – TIMOTHY ROGALSKI CORRESPONDENCE 1997

VIENNA

Notes by Tim Rogalski

(This game against a correspondence master features a blunder that permits a queen sacrifice culminating in a king hunt. The blunder could not be perceived as bad initially; in fact, it appeared to be a perfectly harmless and natural move.) **1 e4 e5 2 Nc3 Nf6 3 Bc4** (After years of playing this position from either side, I have come to believe that 3 f4 gives White better winning chances. There's just something suspect about a plan that permits Black to capture a center pawn safely on move three.) **3...Nxe4 4 Qh5 Nd6 5 Bb3 Be7** (The text takes all the fun out of the so-called Frankenstein-Dracula variation of the Vienna Game. Very exciting play, on the other hand, arises out of 5...Nc6 6 Nb5 g6 7 Qf3 f5 8 Qd5 Qe7 9 Nxc7+ Kd8 10 Nxa8 b6 11 d3 Bb7 12 h4 f4 13 Qf3 Nd4 with good compensation for the exchange. One

amazing continuation is 14 Qg4 h5! 15 Qxg6 Rh7!?) The complications are very messy, eg this line given by E Schiller: 16 Nxb6 axb6 17 Rh2 Rg7 18 Qxh5 Bxg2 19 c3 Be4!! 20 cxd4 Rxg1+ 21 Kd2 Nf5! 22 dxe4 Qb4+ 23 Kc2 Nxd4+ 24 Kd3 Nxb3 25 Qxe5 Bg7! 26 Qc7+ Kxc7 27 Bxf4+ Be5!! 28 Bxe5+ Kc6 29 Rxg1 Qd2+ 30 Kc4 Na5#) **6 Nf3 Nc6 7 Nxe5 g6 8 Nxc6 dxc6 9 Qa5??**



This is the blunder that looks so innocent that even Fritz 5.32 considers it a viable candidate. In fact, White is on



the edge of an abyss but, oblivious to any danger, he takes no steps to remedy his predicament. GM Soltis explained such mistakes in both the introduction and page 3 of his excellent book *The Art of Defense in Chess*. (By the way, this book is one of my 'Top 10 Desert Island Books' because the examples are always fresh, no matter how many times I re-read them.

Knowing what I know I would quickly play 9 Qd1 here. Then White can breathe a sigh of relief and answer 9...0-0 10 0-0 Nf5 with 11 Ne2. On the other hand, both 9 Qf3 and 9 Qe2 would allow Black to go after the two bishops with 9...Nf5 threatening Nd4.

9...0-0 10 0-0 b5! (A very satisfying move to play, after which White's game steadily degrades. Remarkably, Fritz barely gives this any consideration; yet, it is one of the first moves a Shogi player would consider, to utilize the *aji* in a Japanese Chess position.) **11 Re1?** (If 11 Qb4?? Nc4 trapping the queen; or if 11 a4? Nb7 12 Qa6 b4 13 Ne4 Nc5 14 Qe2 Nxb3 15 cxb3 Be6 with the initiative plus two bishops, better pawn structure, and better development! White's last opportunity to escape the clank of the prison doors was 11 Ne2. After possibly 11...Nb7 12 Qc3 c5 13 a4 c4 14 Ba2 a6 15 Qf3 his queen remains active.) **11...Nb7** (Now, however, it's too late. This move turns on the powerful humming magnet of the sub-atomic particle generator, and, like the T-X model in *Terminator 3*, the White queen is helplessly pinned

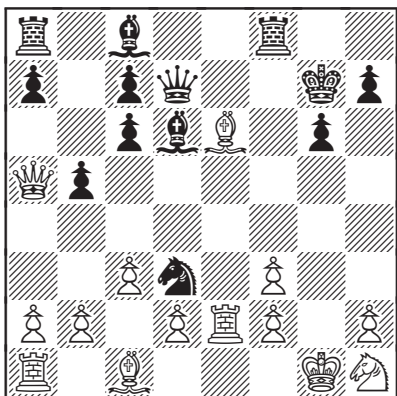
OSCAR SHAPIRO DC OPEN

October 9-10, 2004
Gonzaga College High
School gymnasium
17 I St NW, Washington, DC

\$\$\$G 3000 in 4 Sections. *Open*: 4-SS, 40/2, SD/1 \$\$500-300-200, U2200 150100, top Upset 100. DC Championship title and trophy to top DC resident. EF \$48 by 10/2. Reg 1011, rds 11:30:6, 115. *Amateur (open to U2200)*: 5-SS, 40/100, SD/1. \$\$ 300200100, U2000/Unr 15075, U1800 10050. DC Amateur Championship title and trophy to top DC resident. EF \$43 by 10/2. Reg 89, rds 9:30-2:30-8, 11-4:30. *Reserve (open to U1600)*: 5-SS, 40/100, SD/1. \$\$225-150-100, U1400 100 50. EF \$38 by 10/2. Reg 89, rds 9:30-2:30-8, 11-4:30. *Booster (open to U1200)*: 4-SS, G/45. \$50+trophy for 1st, trophies and medallions thru 15 places. EF \$13 by 10/2. Reg 12-1, rds 1:30-3:30-5:30-7:30. *All*: EF \$7 more after 10/2. Make checks payable to "DCCL", mail to US Chess Center, 1501 M St, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Please do not send entries to site or call there for info. Info: 202-857-4922. NS. 20 Grand Prix points



down to a6, barely able to move a finger.) **12 Qa6 Qd7 13 Ne4 Kg7 14 c3?** (This creates a gigantic hole on d3 for Black's pieces to occupy. White should have used a spoon to chip away at the prison walls, 14 a4) **14...Nc5** (Another possibility was 14...Re8 15 d4? Bd6! Winning because there is no answer to the threat of Rxe4 followed by Nc5) **15 Qa5** (After 15 Nxc5 Bxc5 16 Qa5 Re8 17 Rf1 (17 Rxe8? Qxe8 18 Kf1 Bf5 leads to a forced mate) 17...Qd3! Black would be winning, already threatening mate with 18...Bxf2+! 19 Kxf2 Re2+ 20 Kg1 Rxc2+! 21 Kxc2 Bh3+ 22 Kf2 Qxf1+ 23 Ke3 Re8+ 24 Kd4 Qg1+ 25 Kd3 Bf5#) **15...Nb7 16 Qa6 Nc5** (It's always wise to repeat moves to gain time on the clock—even in correspondence chess!—plus it demoralizes the opponent to have his defenselessness rubbed in his face.) **17 Qa5 Nd3 18 Re2 f5 19 Ng3 f4 20 Nh1 f3 21 gxf3 Bd6! 22 Be6**



22...Re8!! (22...Qd8, 22...Qe7 and 22...Bxh2+ all win too, but the text is the strongest and prettiest.) **23 Bxd7**

Rxe2 24 h4 (Not 24 Bxc8? Re1+ 25 Kg2 Nf4+ 26 Kg3 Rg1+ 27 Kh4 g5#) **24...Bxd7 25 c4 Re1+** (I overlooked a forced mate by 25...Bh3! 26 Qc3+ Kh6 27 Ng3 Bxc3 28 fxc3 Rg2+ 29 Kf1 Re8! 30 Qxd3 Rxd2+ 31 Kg1 Re1+ 32 Qf1 Rxf1#) **26 Kg2 Nf4+ 27 Kh2 Ne2+ 28 f4 Bxf4+ 29.Ng3 Bxc3+** (29...Nxc3! 30 fxc3 Rae8 was stronger since 31 gxf4 is answered by 31...R8e2+ 32 Kg3 Rg1+ 33 Kf3 Bg4#) **30 fxc3 Rf8 31 Qxa7 Ref1! 32 Kg2 c5! 33 Qxc5 Bc6+! 34 Qd5** (White saw the end and played a spite move instead of allowing 34 Qxc6 R8f2+ 35 Kh3 Ng1+ 36 Kg4 h5+ 37 Kg5 Nh3#) **34...Rg1+ 35 Kh3 Rxc3+ 0-1**

Alex Dunne published this game in his *Chess Life* column, June 1998.

Solution to my Mate in 2 from the front cover: 1 Qe6!, with the main continuation being 1...Bxe6 2 e8N!# I composed this in the 1980s and it appeared in both Benko's *Chess Life* column and Kavalek's syndicated newspaper column. In my experience, masters average about 20 seconds to solve it, B-players as long as 20 minutes. Comments about the game or the problem? Please email me at mik@access-4-free.com





Arlington Chess Club Championship

by Mike Atkins

The Arlington Chess Club Championship produced two new titleholders this year. Ray Kaufman emerged as the 2004 Club Champion. His score of 4½-½ was equaled by Boris Privman and John Meyer, but Ray was the sole club member among the winning trio. He keeps the title in the family, as Dad Larry won the title in the two previous tournaments.

Tyler Cook won the Amateur (under 1800) title on tiebreaks over three other ACC members: Jim Cope, Steve Linett, and Manoj Sapre. They all scored 3-2. Tyler only joined the club at the tournament and his first act as a member is the win the Amateur Championship!

Several young players had amazing starts. David Paden, rated 1477, began the weekend with wins over players rated 2017, 1889 and 2098. After that, reality took hold somewhat as he then lost to Ray Kaufman and always-tough New York master Vlad Grechikhin. Paden should nevertheless gain well over 100 points for his performance, and skip the 1500's altogether. David used to be more known as Chris Sevilla's brother; now he is known as a rapidly improving player!

Other prizewinners included Timothy Rogalski, Martin Stengelin & Tim Hamilton (= top expert); Dave Long (A); Dustin Harris (D); Thomas McGrath (under 1200); and Jacob Feldman (2nd cumulative upset, after Paden).

We have a potential active sponsor for upcoming GMU tournaments, so look for the return of George Mason University/Arlington as an active ACC tournament site!

FRED NELSON – RAY KAUFMAN SICILIAN

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 g6 6 Be3 Bg7 7 f3 Nc6 8 Qd2 0-0 9 Bc4 Bd7 10 0-0-0 Rc8 11 Bb3 Nxd4 12 Bxd4 b5 13 h4 a5 14 a3 b4 15 axb4 axb4 16 Nd5 Nxd5 17 Bxg7 Kxg7 18 Qxd5 Kg8 19 Qg5 Rc5 20 Rd5 Qa5 21 Kd2 Bc6 22 h5!? Bxd5 23 exd5 Qc7 24 Qh6 g5 25 Qxg5+ Kh8 26 Qf4 Qa5 27 Qe4 Rfc8 28 Qxe7 Rxd5+ 29 Bxd5 Qxd5+ 30 Kc1 b3 31 Qf6+ Kg8 32 h6 Qe5 33 Qxe5 Rxc2+ 34 Kd1? (34 Kb1! dxe5 35 Rc1!) 34...dxe5 35 Rh4 Rxb2 36 Rb4 f6 37 g4 Kf7 38 Kc1 Rc2+ 39 Kb1 Rc3 40 f4 Kg6 41 fxe5 fxe5 42 Rb6+ Kg5 43 Re6 Rc5 44 Kb2 Rb5 0-1



Scholar's Mate

by Emily Rhodes

SCHOOLS OUT for summer, and scholastic chess players have plenty of time to read a few chess books to improve their game. Here are some books that are commonly recommended by chess coaches in our area:



- ♟ *Bobby Fischer Teaches Chess* by Bobby Fischer is the first book we recommend for beginning players.
- ♟ *USCF's Official Rules of Chess* by the USCF is a must-have for serious chess players.
- ♟ For general chess knowledge, *Comprehensive Chess Course Volumes 1 & 2* by Lev Alburt and Roman Pelts, *Beginning Chess* by Bruce Pandolfini, and *Maurice Ashley Teaches Chess* by Maurice Ashley are recommended reads.
- ♟ *Winning Chess Tactics* by Yasser Seirawan, *The Ultimate Chess Puzzle Book* by John Emms, *Simple Chess* by Michael Stean, *The Chess Tactics Workbook* by Al Woolum, *Winning Chess Strategy for Kids* by Jeff Coakley, and *Chess Tactics for Students* by John Bain are several recommendations to improve in the areas of strategy and tactics.
- ♟ If you're looking for master game collections, try *Winning Chess Brilliances* by Yasser Seirawan, *Best Lessons of a Chess Coach* by Sunil Weeramantry, and *The World's Greatest Chess Games* by Graham Burgess, John Nunn, et al.
- ♟ Most kids enjoy puzzles. A few puzzle books to work through over the summer include *200 Checkmates for Children* by Fred Wilson, *Chess Puzzles for Children* by David Levin, *1001 Winning Chess Sacrifices and Combinations* by Fred Reinfeld, *Simple Checkmates* by A J Gillam, and *Pandolfini's Endgame Course* by Bruce Pandolfini.
- ♟ If videos or DVDs are more your speed, try Bruce Pandolfini's videos on beginning chess and chess openings, *Chess Starts Here* by Bruce Pandolfini & Josh Waitzkin, *ProChess Video Volumes 1 & 2* by Yasser Seirawan, and *How to Play Winning Attacks* by Patrick Wolff. And, of course, if you're just looking for entertainment, watch *Searching for Bobby Fischer*.



Some local schools in the Richmond area have chess programs that donate books in honor of special achievements by students involved in scholastic chess, such as earning a spot as one of the top 100 players in the nation for specific age groups. Parents and grandparents are also encouraged to make a lasting contribution to the schools their children attend by donating chess books. Also, it doesn't hurt to offer gently used chess books to local libraries or chess programs.

The VSCA is sponsoring two K-5 chess tournaments this summer: July 17th at Bettie Weaver Elementary in Chesterfield County and August 21st at Springfield Park Elementary in Henrico County. We'd love to hear about other tournaments, and receive notation from scholastic players and news from around the state. Please send your information or comments to Emily Rhodes at kimberlyrhodes@comcast.net or phone (804) 747-7773.

ATLANTIC OPEN

Aug 27-29 - Wyndham Washington Hotel
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5-SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75). \$\$G 20,000. In 7 sections: *Open*: \$1800-1000-500-300, clear winner bonus \$200, top U2400/Unr \$1000-500. If tie for 1st, top 2 on tiebreak play speed game Sun 10:15 pm for title & bonus prize. *FIDE*. *Under 2200*: \$1400-700-400-200. *Under 2000*: \$1400-700-400-200. *Under 1800*: \$1400-700-400-200. *Under 1600/Unr*: \$1300-700-400-200, Unrated \$400-200, no Unrated may win over \$500. *Under 1400*: \$1000-500-300-200. *Under 1200*: \$700-400-200-100. 1 year ICC membership to top U2300, U2100, U1900, U1700, U1500, U1300, 1000-1099, 900-999, 800-899, U800.

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3-day schedule: Reg ends Fri 6:30pm, rds 7:30, 11-6, 10-4:15. 2-day schedule: Reg ends Sat 10am, rds 11-2:30-6, 10-4:15. ½ pt byes allowed, byes for rds 3-5 must commit before rd 2. Hotel \$72-72, 202-429-1700, reserve by 8/6 or rate may increase. (Regular rate at this luxury hotel is about \$200!) Car rental 800-331-1600, use AWD D657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. Parking \$6/day to 2am or \$12/day overnight; garage has limited space. *Enter*: Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills NY 12577. 845-496-9658, www.chesstour.com. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com 8/26.

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