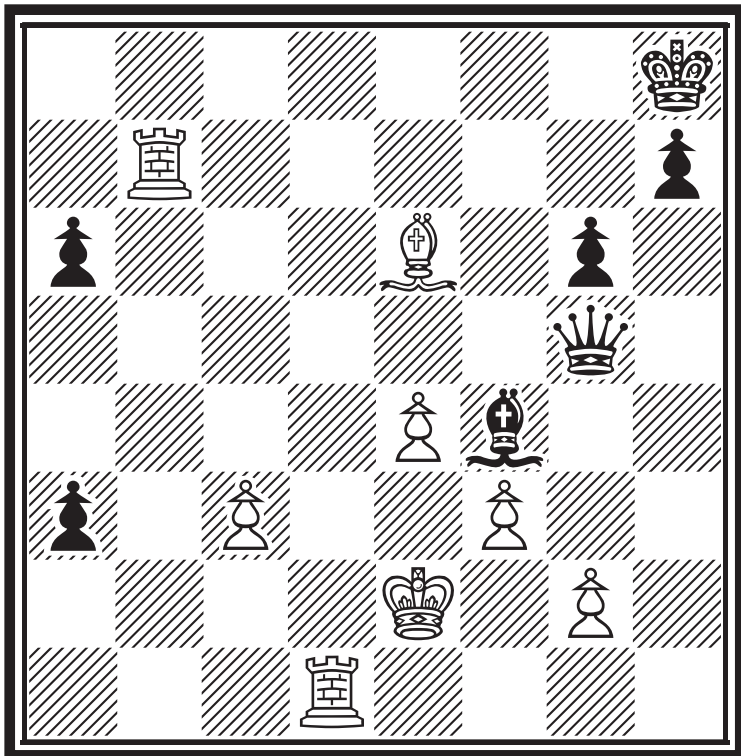


VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

The bimonthly publication of the
Virginia Chess Federation

2016 - #6



Tim Rogalski - Andy Rea
2016 Cherry Blossom Classic

White to Play

(see page 14)

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

2016 - Issue #6

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David Zofchak Memorial

by Ernest Schlich

THE 24th ANNUAL David Zofchak Memorial was a success. Congratulations to Martin Spencer, of NY who won clear 1st in the open section with a score of 4-1 and was the beneficiary of the rd 5 forfeit. Joseph Jackson was paired on board 1. Unfortunately, he thought the round started at 5pm so missed playing at 2pm.

Lucas Revellon won clear 2nd with a score of 3½-1½. Derick Brothers was the clear winner of the Under 1600 section with a score of 4½-1½. He has just recently returned to tournament chess after being away since 2002. There was a 3-way tie for 2nd-4th—well played to Joseph Miklos, Jeff Jones and Gabriel Keeling, all from outside Virginia.

Although we only had 26 players this year, the event was enjoyed by all. For the first time since the tournament was played at Lake Wright Sleep Inn, we had a noise generating meeting on Saturday night in the conference rooms next to our tournament room. I announced the potential noise problem and several players took 3rd round byes. We lost at least 6 players who went to the World Championship in NYC. I hope they enjoyed the trip and the match.

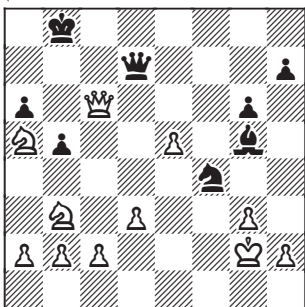
I want to thank Chris Pinto who teaches and is the chess coach at the Elizabeth City Middle School in NC. He has brought several of his students to the Zofchack Memorial for the past several years. Two years ago, we changed the format to a 2-section event and attendance increased to 44 and 40. I am expecting that next year's event will again go over 40 players. The VCF is always happy to increase prizes when attendance permits.

Dexter Wright - Stephen Johnson King's Gambit Declined

1 e4 e5 2 f4 Bc5 3 Nf3 d6 4 Bc4 Be6 5 Bxe6 fxe6 6 fe5 dxe5 7 d3 Nc6 8 Qe2 Qe7 9 Be3 Nd4 10 Bxd4 exd4 11 Nbd2 e5 12 O-O Nf6 13 Nc4 Bd6 14 Nh4 g6 15 Nf3 O-O-O 16 Rfb1 Nh5 17 g3 Rhf8 18 Rf1 Rf6 19 Nfd2 Rdf8 20 Rxf6 Rxf6 21 Rf1 Rxf1+ 22 Qxf1 Qg5 23



Qf7 Be7 24 Qe8+ Bd8 25 Qe6+ Kb8 26 Qxe5 Qg4 27 Qxd4 Bf6 28 Qd5 a6 29 e5 Bg5 30 Qf3 Qd4+ 31 Kg2 [31 Qf2 and 31... Qxf2+, 31...Qd7 or 31...Qd5 all leave White with the advantage] 31...b5? 32 Nb3 [32 Na5! Qb6 33 Ndb3 should win easily] 32... Qd7 33 Nca5 c6 34 Qxc6 [34 Nc5!] 34...Nf4+



35 gxf4? [The win was still there after 35 Kf1. But now...] 35...Qg4+ 36 Kf2 Bh4+ 37 Ke3 Qg1+ 38 Kf3 Qf2+ 39 Ke4 Qg2+ 40 Kd4 Bf2+ 41 Kc3 Be1+ 42 Kd4 Bf2+ ½-½

Stephen Johnson - Christopher Pinto Morra Gambit

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 c3 dxc3 5 Nxc3 Nc6 6 Bc4 d6 7 O-O Nf6 8 Qe2 Be7 9 Rd1 Qc7? 10 Nb5 Qb8 11 Bf4 e5 12 Bg5 a6 13 Bxf6 gxf6 14 Nc3 Bg4 15 h3 Nd4 16 Rxd4 Bxf3 17 Qxf3 exd4 18 Nd5 Qd8 19 Rc1 Rc8 20 Qg4 Kf8 21 Nb6 Rc7 22 Qh5 Qe8 23 Qh6+ Kg8 24 Bxf7+ Qxf7 25 Rxc7 Qf8 26 Rc8 Bd8 27 Qxf8+ Kxf8 28 Rxd8+ Kg7 29 Rxh8 Kxh8 30 Kf1 1-0

William Stokes - Steve Johnson King Pawn

1 e4 e5 2 Qh5 Nc6 3 Bc4 g6 4 Qf3 Nf6 5 c3 Bg7 6 h3 d6 7 g4 Be6 8 d3 Qd7 9 Bg5 O-O-O 10 Bxf6 Bxf6 11 Qxf6 d5 12 exd5 Bxd5 13 Bxd5 Qxd5 14 Qf3 e4 15 dxe4 Rhe8 16 Kf1 Rxe4

DMV Centreville Rated Ladder

The DMV Centreville Rated Ladder meets on Monday nights at 6 pm. The time control is 30/90, SD/30, d5. Rated ladder games and membership to the club are 100% free! A \$25 IHOP gift card will be awarded to the player who scores the most ladder points in every 3-month period. The address for the club is 13810 Braddock Road, Centreville, Virginia. There is no on-site registration available. Please preregister via email (dmvchess@gmail.com) or text message (703-415-6600). Preregistration should allow players to receive their pairings a few days in advance. We hope to see you soon at the DMV Chess Club!—Josh Hiban



17 Nd2 Qb5+ 18 c4 Qxb2 19 Rb1 Qxd2 20 Qxe4 Qxa2 21 Nf3 a5 22 Kg2 Rd6 23 Rb5 Re6 24 Qd5 a4 25 Rhb1 Re2 26 Qc5 Nd8 27 Qa7 b6 28 Qa8+ Kd7 29 Rd1+ Ke6 30 Nd4+ 1-0 Stokes: *"After I gobbled up that juicy knight, I almost ended up with a case of severe indigestion! I played Steve last at an invitational tournament held at The Chess House years ago. This one is a testament to my opponent's fighting spirit and creativity!"*

Steve Johnson - Gerard Wasserbauer
Blackmar Diemer

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 dxe4 4 f3 exf3 5 Nxf3 Nc6 6 Bc4 Nf6 7 O-O Be7 8 Bf4 a6 9 Qe1 Nxd4 10 Rd1 Nxf3+ 11 Rxf3 Bc5+ 12 Kh1 Qe7 13 Bg5 Bd7 14 Ne4 Qf8 15 Bxf6 Bc6 16 Bh4 Be7 17 Bxe6 f6 18 Rc3 g5 19 Rxc6 bxc6 20 Qc3 c5 21 Qb3 Bd6 22 Qa4+ 1-0

Gerard Wasserbauer - Chris Pinto
Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 c3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 cxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 Nf3 Bg4 7 Be2

50th annual

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March 24-26, 2017

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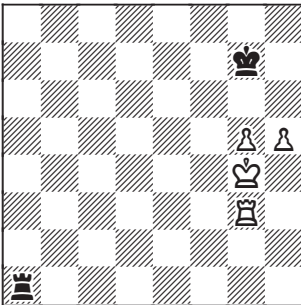
5-SS, rd 1 (Friday) G/120 d5, rds 2-5 (Sat-Sun) 40/115, SD/30 d5. \$\$3600 Guaranteed! 2 Sections: *Open (FIDE rated)*: \$650-410-300-240, top X, A each \$200. *Amateur (U1900)*: \$420-250-190, top B, C, D, U1200 each \$160, top Unr \$100. Both: Plaques to 1st place overall. EF \$75 if rec'd by Tues. 3/21, \$90 starting 3/22 and on site. VCF Mem required for Virginia residents (\$10 Adults, \$5 Jr under 19). On site entry Friday 5-7pm, rds 7:45pm, 10am-4pm, 10am-4pm. One ½ pt bye allowed. Enter by Sat 9:30am with bye (re-entry after losing Friday — \$40). Hotel \$100 chess rate, res. by 2/24 at 1-800-228-920. www.marriott.com, 703-471-9500. *Enter*: mail checks payable to "Virginia Chess Federation" to Mike Hoffpauir, ATTN: VA Open, 405 Hounds Chase, Yorktown, VA 23693. On-line entry www.vachess.org. Info: andrerea2@yahoo.com.

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e6 8 O-O Nc6 9 d5 Bxf3 10 Bxf3
 Ne5 11 dxe6 Nxf3+ 12 Qxf3 fxe6
 13 Rd1 Qa5 14 e5 dxe5 15 Qxb7
 Rd8 16 Qc6+ Kf7 17 Rxd8 Qxd8
 18 Qxa6 Bc5 19 Qe2 Qb6 20 Na4
 Qb4 21 Nxc5 Qxc5 22 Be3 Qb4
 23 Rc1 Rf8 24 Qd2 Qxd2 25 Bxd2
 Ne4 26 Bc3 Nxc3 27 Rxc3 Rd8 28
 Rc1 Rd2 29 Rb1 Ke7 30 a4 Kd7
 31 b4 Ra2 32 a5 Kc6 33 b5+ Kb7
 34 a6+ Kb6 35 Kf1 Rc2 36 Ra1
 Rc7 37 Ke2 Rc8 38 a7 Ra8 39 Ke3
 Kxb5 40 Ke4 Kc6 41 Kxe5 Kd7
 42 Ra6 [42 h4] 42...h6 43 Rd6+
 Kc8 44 Kxe6 Rxa7 45 Rd2 Ra6+
 46 Kf7 Ra7+ 47 Kg6 Re7 48 f4
 Kc7 49 f5 Kc6 50 f6 gxf6 51 Kxf6
 Re4 52 Kf5 Re7 53 h4 Kc7 54 g4
 Re3 55 Kg6 Re6+ 56 Kh5 Rc6 57
 Rf2 Kd7 58 Rf7+ Ke8 59 Rh7 Kf8
 60 Rxh6 Rc5+ 61 g5 Kg7 62 Ra6
 Rc7 63 Rf6 Rc4 64 Ra6 Rc7 65
 Ra4 Rf7 66 Kg4 Rf1 67 Ra3 Rg1+
 68 Rg3 Ra1 69 h5 Ra4+ 70 Kh3
 Ra1 71 Rf3 Rh1+ 72 Kg4 Rg1+
 73 Rg3 Ra1



74 h6+? [74 Rf3 Rg1+ 75 Kf5 Ra1
 76 h6+] 74...Kg6 75 Rg2 Ra5 76
 Kf4 Ra4+ 77 Ke3 Ra3+ 78 Kf2
 Ra2+ 79 Kg1 Ra1+ 80 Kh2 Ra4
 81 Kh3 Ra3+ 82 Kh4 Ra4+ 83
 Rg4 Ra1 84 Kh3 Ra3+ 85 Kh2
 Ra2+ 86 Rg2 Ra4 87 Kg1 Ra1+
 88 Kf2 Ra2+ 89 Kf3 Ra3+ 90 Ke4
 Ra4+ 91 Kd5 Ra5+ 92 Kc6 Ra1 93
 Rh2 Ra8 94 Kb7 Rf8 95 Kc7 Ra8
 96 Rg2 Ra1 97 Kd6 Ra6+ 98 Kc5
 Ra5+ 99 Kb4 Ra1 100 Rh2 Ra8
 101 Kc5 Kxg5 102 h7 Rh8 1/2-1/2

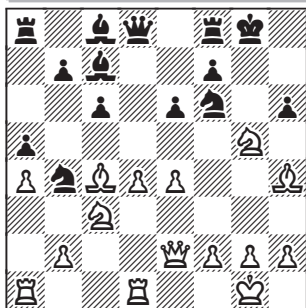
Nick Failon - William Stokes Slav

Notes by Nick Failon

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 Nf3 c6 4 e3
 e6 [4... b5 is the critical try.] 5
 Bxc4 Nf6 6 O-O Bd6?! [This is just
 running into an e4-e5 with tempo and
 Black will need to waste more time
 moving the bishop again.] 7 Nc3
 Bc7 8 Qe2 a5 9 a4 [Not best, but
 I'm not allowing a queenside storm
 as his counterplay, and I'm fine with
 giving up the b4 square.] 9...Na6
 10 e4 Nb4 11 Rd1 O-O 12 Bg5 h6
 13 Bh4 g5? [This is weakening and
 tactically flawed.] 14 Nxc5

(See diagram next page)

14...hxg5 15 Bxg5 Bxh2+
 [trying to save his position
 somehow by getting out of the
 pin] 16 Kxh2 Qc7+ 17 e5 Ne8
 18 Bh6 [Black should give up the



“This is what happens when you dare a person to hit you! I was counting on defending along the 7th, but it was curtains when my king was dragged there (and before)!” —Stokes

exchange here, but the position wouldn't be worth playing out.] 18...Ng7? 19 Bxg7 Kxg7 20 Qg4+ Kh8 21 Kg3 1-0
A fun finishing move.



VCF Cup *by Andrew Rea*

In with the news, out with the old!? Not so fast, as our champions from the 2016 VCF Cup most certainly merit recognition!! We have multiple class winners, but we start with the winner of our Most Games category: Gideon Lohr! We cannot have a successful tour without the participation of our players, so recognition of this level of support is well deserved!

Onward to our Class Champions! Winning Class E/Unrated, congratulations to Samarth Bhargav, as well as worthy plaudits to Eric He, winner of Class D! Please be aware the complete list, of all players and our Category Champions, can be found on our website, www.vachess.org

Moving along, Ronen Wilson wins the Class C category, and Crecencio Burke finishes atop Class B, excellent! Our winners are determined by their results, with a factor accorded to the difficulty of opposition—one cannot simply get a good result or two, one needs to build, it pays to be present, consistent, and skilled! A fine result as well for our Top Class A, David Siamon, as well as Top Expert, Jason Morefield!

Saving the very best for the end, it was a very close race for the Overall Champion. Justin Lohr earned silver, just missing overtaking our Champion with a good result at the final event in Charlottesville. However, our 2016 VCF Cup Champion, Alex Jian, had built enough of a lead to withstand the final onslaught! *Boo-yah!* A worthy effort by all of our competitors!

Already we have started the 2017 VCF Cup season, launched by the Washington Chess Congress, the Emporia Open, the Northern Virginia Open, and the David Zofchak Memorial. This takes us through end of November, but be aware there will surely be other VCF Cup tournaments, including the Virginia Open, the Cherry Blossom Classic, the Charlottesville Open.. And who knows, if all goes well, stay tuned, we are trying to also arrange that the 2017 US Open as well meets the criteria! Best wishes to all of our players, your support is greatly appreciated!



Reflections

REFLECTIONS



Looking Back on an Amateur Chess “Career”

by *Mark Warriner*

BÊTE NOIRE

Everybody has one—a particular opponent you just can’t handle. They run over you like a possum at midnight on a back country blind curve at 60 mph. Bang. You never had a chance once you pressed the clock. When they play you, they’re hotter than a bear in a fur coat eating chili-peppers on the Fourth of July.

There have been many documented situations where strong players, really strong players, have an opponent that simply has their number. Perhaps the most famous are, by my counts: Kasparov-Shirov (15 wins to *zero*), Korchnoi-Tal (11-to-4), and in our day of course Carlsen-Nakamura, 12-to-1 (not counting rapid/blitz). I’m sure there are others.

Marvin Winfree played in Richmond a few decades ago when I was first getting my chess legs. Problem was, he kept cutting them out from under me. He was a strong expert and never gave this sucker an even break. I remember Marvin frequently chewed and twirled a toothpick around while playing a game. I don’t know why, but for some reason it stuck in my memory. He was soft-spoken and focused on each game. He was always willing to point out a few things to me after the games. He seemed amused at my efforts. Maybe he thought he might have been wasting his time, but if so he was kind about it.

Mark Warriner – Marvin Winfree
Richmond City Chess Championship 1985
English

1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 c5 3 c4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 g6 5 g3 Bg7 6 Bg2 Nc6 7 O-O O-O 8 Nc3 Nxd4 9 Qxd4 d6 [So we arrived at a position that has been played many times before.] **10 e4** [10 Bg5 Be6 11 Qf4 Qa5 12 Rac1 Rab8



13 b3 Rfc8 14 Qd2 a6 15 Be3 b5 16 Ba7 bxc4 17 Bxb8 Rxb8 18 bxc4 Bxc4 19 Rfd1 Nd7 20 Nd5 Qxd2 21 Nxe7+ Kf8 22 Rxd2 Kxe7 23 Rxc4 Rb1+ 24 Bf1 Nc5 25 Kg2 a5 26 e4 Ba1 27 f4 f6 28 Re2 Ke6 29 Rec2 Bb2 30 Be2 h5 31 Rd2 Ba3 32 f5+ gxf5 33 exf5+ Ke5 34 Rcd4 Kxf5 35 Rd5+ Ke6 36 Rxd6+ Ke7 37 Rc6 1-0 37 Fischer-Spassky, Reykjavik 1972. Even though I'd played over this game from the '72 World Championship, but I didn't remember it—shame, shame... Not too many strong players go for 10 e4 (10 Qd3 is the trend these days). I was thinking 'Maroczy Bind?' but I had no understanding of it.] **10...a6 11 Qd3 Rb8 12 a4 Qa5** [12...Ng4 13 Qe2 Be6 14 Nd5 Ne5 15 Be3 Bxd5 16 cxd5 b5 17 axb5 Rxb5 18 Rfb1 Qc8 19 Bf1 Rb4 20 Rxa6 Rxe4 21 b4 Qf5 22 Rb3 Nf3+ 23 Kg2 Nd4 24 Qd1 Nxb3 25 Qxb3 Bd4 26 Bd3 Bxe3 27 Qb2 Qxf2+ 28 Qxf2 Bxf2 29 Bxe4 Bd4 30 b5 Kg7 31 Kf3 Kf6 32 Kf4 Bc5 33 Bf3 Rb8 34 Be2 e5+ 35 dxe6 fxe6 36 Rc6 Ra8 37 Ra6 Ra7 38 g4 g5+ 39 Ke4 d5+ 40 Kd3 Rxa6 41 bxa6 e5 42 Kd2 e4 43 Bb5 d4 44 Bc6 Ke5 45 h3 h6 46 Bb7 Kf4 47 Bd5 Ke5 48 Bc6



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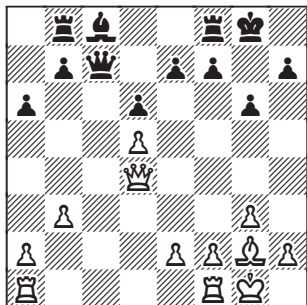


Bb6 49 Bb7 d3 50 Kc3 Kf4 51 Bd5 Ke3 52 Bb3 Ke2 0-1 Lekic-Nikolic, Nis 1993] **13 Bd2 Qh5 14 Nd5** [drops a pawn and blocks in the light-square bishop] **14...Nxd5 15 cxd5 Bxb2 16 Rab1 Bf6 17 Rfc1 Bd7 18 a5** [no need to cede b5 to Black like that] **18...Bb5 19 Qf3** [and really no need to trade queens when already down a pawn] **19...Qxf3 20 Bxf3 Rfc8 21 Rxc8+** [still more unnecessary trading] **21...Rxc8 22 Be3 Kg7** [22...Rc3 would have presented White with significant problems.] **23 Bg2 Rc3 24 Bf1 Bxf1 25 Kxf1 Ra3 26 Bd2 Ra1 27 Rxa1 Bxa1 28 Ke2 Kf6 29 f3 Bd4 30 Kd3 Bg1 31 h4 Kg7 32 Be1 b5 33 Bc3+** [White has been trying to resist as best as possible but by failing to play 33 axb6 it might be over, if it wasn't already.] **33...Kf8 34 e5 Bf2 35 exd6 exd6 36 g4 Bxh4 37 Ke4 Bf2 38 Bb4 Bc5 39 Bxc5** [It was lost anyway, but this was... amateurish. There's no excuse, but I'd only been playing for about a year at the time. Much to learn!] **39...dxc5 40 d6 Ke8 41 Kd5 c4 42 Kc6 Kd8 0-1**

Mark Warriner – Marvin Winfree
1985 Virginia Closed State Championship

English

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 Nf3 cxd4 4 Nxd4 g6 5 b3 [Trying something a little bit different since the first encounter didn't go so well.] **5...Bg7 6 Bb2 O-O 7 g3 a6 8 Bg2 Qc7 9 Nc3 Nc6 10 O-O Rb8 11 Nd5** [Two of the three games in my database (none significant) continue 11 Rc1 here, which a couple of the engines I have prefer. The move played is probably okay too.] **11...Nxd5 12 cxd5 Nxd4 13 Bxd4 Bxd4 14 Qxd4 d6** *(diagram)*



So we reached a position where I thought, "Okay, I can hold this." But we have an expert playing an amateur here and execution is everything.

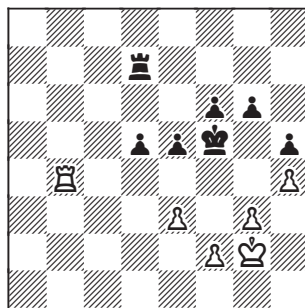
15 Rfc1 Qd8 16 Rc3 b5 17 a3 [Of course 17 Rac1 was requisite.] **17...b4 18 axb4 Qb6 19 Qd2** [I have no idea why I didn't exchange queens with a better position.] **19...Kg7 20 h4 h5 21 Qf4** [21 Rc4 maintained better chances.] **21...Qxb4 22 Qxb4** [Tossing away what little advantage remained; 22 Qc1 instead.] **22...Rxb4 23 Ra4 Rxa4 24**



bxax4 Bd7 25 a5 Bb5 [For some reason I repeated giving Marvin the b5 outpost for his light-square bishop. Strange! My subsequent poor technique, especially failing to continue actively, cost me any drawing chances.] **26 e3 Rb8 27 Rc1 Bd3 28 Ra1 Rb2 29 Rd1 Bb5 30 Ra1 Kf6 31 Bf3 Ke5 32 Kg2 Bc4 33 Rc1 Bxd5** [Taking here could have cost Black the win. Better to have continued improving the position as now White gets active counterplay.] **34 Bxd5 Kxd5 35 Rc7 Ke6 36 Ra7 Ra2 37 Rxa6 Kf6 38 Ra7 d5 39 a6 e6 40 Ra8 Kf5 41 a7 f6** [Amateurs often don't know endgames. I was—and in a lot of cases, am still—unaware of proper technique. Evidently both sides slipped last turn. White should not box in his rook by playing the pawn to a7, and Black should not expose the entire rear of his pawn group by advancing its base to f6] **42 Rb8** [But there was still no reason to give up the pawn like that.] **42...Rxa7 43 Rb5 Rd7 44 Rb4 e5**

I don't know whether White had any drawing chances, but my knowledge wasn't up to the task in any case. My vague (and perhaps incorrect) understanding is that with fewer pawns perhaps, but with this many remaining I think Black can prevail. Editor?

Your vague understanding seems more or less on target. Such positions with 3 pawns versus 2 are mostly drawn, whereas the ending with 4 versus 3 is defended with difficulty. Logic suggest the odds of holding 5 versus 4 would be even more daunting in most instances. —ed



45 Kf3 d4 46 e4+ [Pitiful flailing ensues. Mea culpa.] **46...Ke6 47 Rb6+ Rd6 48 Rb2 Rc6 49 Rb7 f5 50 Rb2 Rc3+ 51 Ke2 fxe4 52 Rb6+ Kf5 53 Kd2 Ra3 54 Rb2 e3+ 55 fxe3 Rxe3 0-1**

Marvin Winfree – Mark Warriner
1986 Virginia Open 1986
Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nc6 5 Nc3 d6 6 g3 Be7 [This was our only game with Marvin playing White. I had absolutely no idea what I was doing and had prepared nothing seriously against 1 e4 at the time. Here I dabbled in the Sicilian and got caught with my hand



in the cookie jar. One does not “dabble” with the Sicilian.] **7 Nb3 a6 8 a4 Bf6** [Probably not a stellar idea, leaving the defense of d6 like that. Just 8...Nf6] **9 Bg2 Nge7 10 O-O O-O 11 a5 b6** {I have no idea why I didn’t calculate the simple consequence of this.} **12 axb6 Qxb6 13 Qxd6 Rd8 14 Qc5 Bd4** [not better than 14...Qc5] **15 Qxb6** [Okay, but engines indicate White could have gone for more with 15 Qa3. I’ll leave working that out to you if you’re interested.] **15...Bxb6 16 Na4 Bc7 17 Be3 Rb8 18 Rfd1 Rxd1+** [Black’s game is for naught anyway, but if one chooses to continue, better to try and find moves that improve the position or create chances than to trade down. Fight, resist!] **19 Rxd1 e5 20 Nac5** [20 Nbc5 was better, not allowing 20...Bb6] **20...h6 21 f3 a5 22 Bf1 Kh7 23 Kf2 f6 24 Bc4 Ra8** [24...a4 25 Nd2 Rxb2 26 Nxa4 at least gives more counterplay] **25 Ne6 Bxe6 26 Bxe6 Rd8** [Again that bad impulse to trade when worse. White’s up a pawn and has the bishop pair. It takes a little maneuvering, but this is just a mop-up operation.] **27 Rxd8 Nxd8 28 Bd7 Kg8 29 Ke2 Kf7 30 Nc5 Nec6 31 Bc8 Bb6 32 c3 Ke7 33 Kd3 Na7 34 Ba6 Kf7 35 Bc4+ Kg6 36 Bd5** [36 Nd7 Bxe3 37 Nf8+ Kh5 38 Kxe3 and now Black has to play 38...f5 to avoid mate, but I doubt most players at my level would find this line during a game situation.] **36...Nac6 37 Kc4 Ne7 38 Kb5 Bxc5** [38...Nc8 offered more resistance. Again, avoid trading when down as it typically helps only your opponent.] **39 Bxc5 Nxd5 40 exd5 Nb7 41 d6 Nd8 42 Kxa5 1-0**

Mark Warriner – Marvin Winfree
Richmond City Chess Championship 1986
Caro-Kann

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 dxe4 4 Nxe4 Nd7 5 Nf3 Ngf6 6 Nxf6+ Nxf6 7 Bd3 Bg4 8 c3 e6 9 h4 [TN, at least according to my database, and probably not a good one. I can offer no explanation as to what I was thinking. Given that Marvin responded with ...Bh5, it’s even possible that I simply wrote the move down incorrectly and it should be 9 h3, given that the difference wouldn’t seem to affect the rest of the game.] **9...Bh5 10 Bf4 Bd6 11 Bxd6 Qxd6 12 Be2 O-O 13 Ne5 Bxe2 14 Qxe2 Rfd8 15 O-O c5 16 Rfd1 a6 17 Nc4 Qc7 18 dxc5 Qxc5 19**



Ne5 b5 20 c4 bxc4 21 Nxc4 Nd5 22 Rac1 Qb5 23 Qe5 Rab8 24 Rd4 Qe8 25 Rcd1 Qf8 26 a3 Rb5 27 Qe2 Rdb8 [So a fairly long way into the game, and while perhaps both sides may have eschewed better moves or plans, they don't seem to have made a major error. Until...] 28 b4 [White falls asleep at the switch and makes a one-move howler. Ouch. It hurts to waste good effort.] 28...Nc3 29 Qd2 Nxd1 30 Qxd1 R5b7 31 Ne5 Qe8 32 Nc6 Rc8 33 Rd8 [Four games into my "lessons" with Marvin, and still I can't stop trading when down material. Sigh.] 33...Rxd8 34 Qxd8 Qxd8 35 Nxd8 Rc7 0-1

Mark Warriner – Marvin Winfree
VCU Summer Tournament 1986

Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 a6 5 Nc3 Qc7 6 Be2 Nf6 7 Be3 [The main move here would have been 7 O-O. We've already established that I didn't know much about the Sicilian at the time, and here I'm trying the White side. With apologies, this game is largely a demonstration of an amateur fuffing about without any knowledge of strategy, piece placement, structure, etc, versus an experience expert. Very embarrassing in retrospect, but this is how one learns if one won't study away from the board. So, don't do what I did if you want to improve more quickly.] 7...Bb4 8 Qd3 Nxe4 [Nice; this amateur certainly didn't see that tactic—now if 9 Qe4 Bc3 10 bxc3 Qxc3+ picking up the a1 rook] 9 O-O Nxc3 10 bxc3 Bxc3 11 Rab1 d5 12 f4 [Had to try 12 Rb3 here if I intended to continue. I present the rest of the game for posterity (not a fan of partial game scores) and without comment as honestly I was just going on inertia and disgust and had stopped formulating evaluations or plans. Emotion is a fickle motivator.] 12...O-O 13 Rf3 Nd7 14 Rh3 Nf6 15 g4 b5 16 Qd1 Ne4 17 Rb3 b4 18 Nf3 f6 19 Bd3 a5 20 g5 f5 21 Nd4 g6 22 Nb5 Qg7 23 Rb1 Ba6 24 Bxe4 Bxb5 25 Bd3 Bxd3 26 Qxd3 Rfe8 27 Bd2 Ra7 28 Be3 Rc7 29 Bb6 Rc4 30 Be3 0-1 It was more than a little frustrating that after five games, I seemed to be playing worse than during the first. I'm guessing that after the first four loses, I was starting to get the proverbial "psyched out."



Mark Warriner – Marvin Winfree

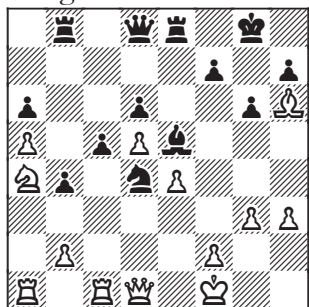
1988 Virginia Open

Benoni

So this was my sixth, and as it turned out unfortunately the last attempt, to nick Marvin for a point or half-point. **1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 d5** [I decided that I wasn't going down the 3 Nf3 road yet again, given that I kept losing. What I didn't know what that Marvin knew a lot more about the "Son of Sorrow" than did I. (*Modern Benoni: Son of Sorrow, Survery of a Structure*, Steffen Zeuthen, Special-Trykkeriet 1973, ISBN 87-87461-00-5). So, from the frying pan into the proverbial fire.] **3...e6 4 Nc3 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 6 Nf3 g6 7 g3 Bg7 8 Bg2 O-O 9 O-O Na6** [Certainly playable, though it scores just a little bit worse than either 9...a6 or 9...Re8] **10 h3** [10 Nd2 is much more commonly played.] **10...Nc7 11 a4** [We're still barely in what I like to call "GM territory", ie grandmasters have actually played this. Of course that is no guarantee of correctness, but for an amateur, okay. 11 e4 (To wit: 11 e4 is more common however, to wit 11...Nd7 12 Bf4 Qe7 13 Re1 f6 14 Nh2 Rb8 15 Be3 b5 16 f4 b4 17 Na4 Nb5 18 Rc1 Re8 19 Nf3 Qf8 20 Bf2 Bb7 21 Bf1 Nc7 22 Nd4 Kh8 23 Nc6 Ra8 24 Nxb4 f5 25 e5 dxe5 26 Nxc5 Nxc5 27 Bxc5 Qf7 28 Bd6 Nxd5 29 Bc4 Qf6 30 fxe5 Qg5 31 Qf3 Nxb4 32 Qxb7 Nd3 33 Bxd3 Qxg3+ 34 Qg2 Qxd3 35 Rcd1 Qb5 36 b4 Rac8 37 Qd5 Qa6 38 Bc5 Qa4 39 e6 Qa3 40 Rd3 Qb2 41 e7 a6 42 Qe6 1-0 Korchnoi-Tringov, Luzern 1982)] **11...b6** [11...Re8 is also still good] **12 Re1** [12 e4 right away probably is better] **12...Rb8 13 Nd2 a6 14 e4 b5 15 a5** [Why compromise my position like that? Don't know what I was thinking. 15 axb5 axb5 16 Nb3 b4 17 Na4 Nb5 18 e5 dxe5 19 Naxc5 Ne8 20 Be3 Ned6 21 Na5 Ra8 22 Nc6 Rxa1 23 Qxa1 Qc7 24 Qa4 Nd4 25 Bxd4 exd4 26 Re7 Qb6 27 Qxb4 Qxb4 28 Nxb4 Bf6 29 Re1 h5 30 Nc6 Bf5 31 Rd1 Nc4 32 b3 Nb2 ½-½ Medic-Misanovic, Makarska Tucepi 1995)] **15...Nd7** [So what little I have learned in the last 30 years has told me to stop and just look at a given position and think in general terms. Should I have aimed for and allowed a position like this? Nope. While engines don't think it's a total mess, White is struggling to find good squares for pieces, and the pawn breaks almost all favor Black. How is White going to get in e5 at some point? Well, he's not, at least not easily.] **16 Qc2 b4 17 Na4**



Nb5 18 Nc4 Nd4 [ouch] **19 Qd3 Ne5 20 Nxe5 Bxe5 21 Bh6** [21 f4 Bg7 22 Nb6 Bd7 23 Nxd7 Qxd7 and Black's for choice] **21...Re8**



22 Rec1 [22 Nb6] **22...Bd7** [22...f5 might have been better] **23 Bf1** [This just makes a big mess. Again, 23 Nb6] **23...Bb5 24 Qd1 Bxf1 25 Kxf1** (diagram)

25...Qd7

So apparently Black missed out on a very nice attack here after 25...Bxg3. It's a little hard to work out without an engine (at least for this amateur), but apparently it hinges on the Black queen getting to d5 and then a rook to e2, supported by the d4 knight. White has to give up a lot material to prevent mate. Some sample lines: 26 fxg3 (26 Qg4 Bh4) 26...Rxe4 27 Kg1 (27 Qd3 Qf6+ 28 Kg1) 27...Qf6 28 Qd3 Qf5 29 Rf1 Qxd5 30 Rad1 c4 31 Nb6 Rxb6 32 Qd2 Re2

26 Kg2 Bg7 [Wow. A huge error and my only realistic shot to ever beat Marvin. 26...f5 was correct again, trying to access e2 for the rook and the ensuing attack.] **27 Bxg7 Kxg7 28 Rxc5** [Nice. Okay, it was the only move to keep White's advantage, but not a bad find for an amateur.] **28...Nb3 29 Qxb3 dxc5 30 Nb6** [Clunk. Just like that, advantage out the window. Of course 30 Nxc5 had to be played.] **30...Qb5 31 f3** [Noooo! Why on earth expose the king this way? After 31 Qe3 White would be still playing.] **31...Qe2+ 32 Kg1 f5 33 Rf1 fxe4 34 fxe4** [This is even more horrible. Something like 34 d6 at least tried to continue fighting.] **34...Rxe4** [Wow again. Just 34...Rf8 ended things quickly.] **35 d6** [The errors keep coming. I don't recall whether time was a factor, but I'm guessing so. Now this is really bad because of 35...Rf8. 35 Rf2 instead, though it's still lost.] **35...c4** [again eschewing the easy win] **36 Qf3 Qxf3 37 Rxf3 Rd8 38 d7 Rd4** [38...c3 39 bxc3 b3] **39 Kf1 Rf8 40 Rxf8 Kxf8 41 Nxc4 Rxd7 42 Ke2 Ke7 43 Ke3 Kd8 44 Ne5 Rc7 45 Kf4 Ke7 46 Nd3 Kd6 47 Kg5 Rb7 48 Nf4 Ke5 49 Nd3+ Kd4 50 Nf4 Kc4 51 Ne6 Rb5+ 52 Kh6 Rh5+ 0-1**

Marvin passed away about a quarter of a century ago. It was mostly chess players who showed up at the service, which said a lot. Marvin really enjoyed chess, and we really enjoyed playing a good player.



Tim Rogalski - Andy Rea
2016 Cherry Blossom Classic
Giuoco Piano

Notes by Tim Rogalski

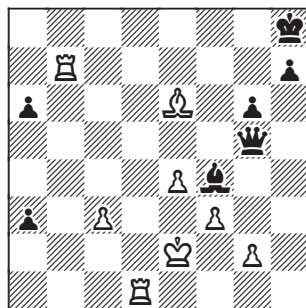
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Bc5 4 c3 Nf6 5 d3 [I gave up playing 5 d4 when I convincingly lost a 9 d5 Moeller Attack to a fellow correspondence master. He responded 9...Bf6!? and eventually improved on book—yet 9...Ne5! is much stronger. Nobody knows this little secret. Now you do.] **5...O-O 6 O-O d5 7 exd5 Nxd5 8 Re1 Nb6 9 b4!? Bd6 10 Bb3 Bf5 11 b5 Na5 12 Bc2 Nd7 13 Nbd2 a6 14 a4 c6?** [This is why I love the Spanish treatment of the Italian game (played predominantly in the 2016 Bilbao). Now all my pieces spring to life.] **15 bxc6 Nxc6 16 Nc4 Bc7 17 Ba3 Re8 18 Rb1 Qb8 19 Ne3!** [It was very satisfying knowing that I was going to win the bishop pair, which is worth an extra half-pawn. Everybody likes being up material.] **19...Be6 20 Ng5 Nf6 21 Nxe6 Rxe6 22 Bb3** [In David Bronstein's 200 OPEN GAMES, he mentions that this is the ultimate desire of every Spanish Bishop, taking direct aim at the Black king. This unopposed piece becomes a Killer Bishop, and makes the final move of the game.] **22...Re8 23 Nf5 Qd8 24 Qf3 e4 25 dxe4 Ne5 26 Qe2 Ng6?** [This looks safe, yet I completely overlooked 27 Bxf7+! Kxf7 28 Qc4+ Re6 29 Nd4 Qc8 30 Rxb7! I have read the toughest tactic book on the market, Charles Hertan's FORCING CHESS MOVES, but instead of thinking like a computer, I still think like a human. Maybe I should Think Like a Grandmaster.] **27 Rbd1? Qb8 28 Qc4 Ne5 29 Qe2!** [I was going to play 29 Qd4 yet I saw a clever way to repeat moves and gain some time on the clock. No chance. Andy was very uncooperative.] **29...b5!? 30 Ne7+ [30 Be7! was simpler but I did not want my Spanish Bishop to be smothered with ...Nc4, even for the sake of a pawn, so I devised a way to get him to d5] 30...Kh8 31 Nd5 Bd8 32 Nxf6 Bxf6 33 Bd5 Ra7 34 Bc5 Rd7** [My two bishops and extra pawn are winning, but



now I get too fancy. I recently watched the excellent Lucas Anderson YouTube video, “The Life and Games of Mikhail Tal”, where he mentions that Tal would go out of his way to avoid an exchange of queens to sustain an attack. 35 axb5 Qxb5 36 Qxb5 axb5 37 f4! is a straightforward endgame win.] **35 Rb1? Qc7 36 Bd4 bxa4 37 Rb7 Qd6 38 Rb6 Qe7 39 Bxe5?** [Winning the exchange entails giving up one of the bishops and activating Black’s pieces. I should have been content with 39 Rxa6] **39...Bxe5 40 Bc6 Rd6 41 Rb7 Bxh2+!** [Very alert! Increased adrenaline started surging through my veins, and the pressure felt like my eyeballs were bleeding.] **42 Kf1 Qh4 43 Bxe8 Bf4 44 Qb2 Rd2?** [This wins my queen, yet the sharp 44...a3! would have turned the tables. I would then have just too many ways to go wrong. There was insufficient time on my clock to navigate the jungle of variations.] **45 Qxd2 Bxd2 46 Rd1 Bf4 47 Bxf7 g6 48 Bc4** [48 Be6 intending 49 Bh3 was better] **48...Qh1+ 49 Ke2 Qh5+ 50 f3 Qg5 51 Kf1 Bg3 52 Be6 a3 53 Ke2 Bf4 54 Kf1 Qh4 55 Ke2 Qg5**

After the game, Andy stated that he was considering offering a draw at this point—and I was considering repeating the position! I felt discouraged with only 1:40 left on my clock. Until I saw...

56 g3!!



Yes!!! I calmly sat back and admired the moment along with the dozen or so spectators who were intently watching the game. I was now comfortably in the zone. I awarded this crushing move one exclamation mark, Andy gave it two.

56...Bxg3 57 Rdd7! [This seals the deal, but I should have played like Smyslov and enthusiastically screwed the rook into the board.] **57...Qh4 58 Re7 Qh2+ 59 Kd3 Bc7 60 Rbxc7 Qd6+ 61 Bd5 1-0** What a fight! My compliments to Anand Dommalapati for directing such a fine tournament. It is a nice quality touch to provide clocks and triple-weighted pieces on wooden boards, not just on the top boards but on all the top dozen tables!



Mark Hyland - Adam Chrisney

ACC Ladder 2016

Nimzoindian

Notes by Adam Chrisney

This is not submitted as a “great game” for the ages. Both players made notable mistakes in the middle game. But it is a rare game finished by checkmate with only a bishop and knight on the board. In addition, the last half of the game was conducted by Black with nothing more to work with than the 5-second delay as he had only 2 seconds remaining on his clock! (The game was played under a 30/90, SD/60, d5 time control as part of the ongoing Arlington Chess Club ladder. Unlike a typical weekend Swiss System tournament, the ladder nearly always pairs opponents rated within 50 points of each other.)

You can see I fumble around looking for the mate under time pressure—“*knows its there but just can't remember the pattern*”. From the 126th (!) turn White was counting moves, but got mated before he could invoke the 50-move draw rule. There were also potential three-fold repetitions but neither player had the complete scoresheet necessary to uphold such claims by that point. The fact that I can present the full score here is thanks to spectator Steve Jablon, who recorded them for his own study! Enjoy -A Chrisney

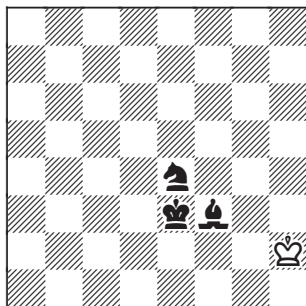
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 Bxc3+ 5 bxc3 d6 6 Nf3 Nbd7 7 Bd3 c5 8 O-O O-O 9 Qc2 e5 10 Rd1 Qc7 11 a4 Kh8 12 a5 g6 13 Bb2 Ng8 14 Ng5 Ndf6 15 h3 Qe7 16 a6 b6 17 Re1 Kg7 18 e4 Nh5 19 Nf3 Qf6 20 Bc1 h6 21 Nh2 Nf4 22 Re3 Qe7 23 Rf3 Ne6 24 d5 Ng5 25 Rg3 Nh7 26 Be3 Nhf6 27 Be2 Nh7 28 Bd3 Nhf6 29 Qe2 Kh7 30 Rf3 Ne8 31 Qc2 Nc7 32 Rf1 Nxa6 33 Rg3 Qh4 34 Nf3 Qe7 35 Nh2 Qh4 36 Nf3 Qe7 37 Ne1 Nb8 38 f4 Nd7 39 f5 gxf5 40 Rxf5 Ndf6 41 Rf1 Rb8 42 Qf2 Rb7 43 Rf3 Ne8 44 g4 f6 45 Ng2 Rf7 46 Kh2 Kg7 47 Qh4 Qd8 48 Qh5 Kh7 49 g5 Ng7 50 g6+ Kh8 51 Qh4 Ne8 52 gxf7 Rxf7 53 Qh5 Rh7 54 Nh4 Qd7 55 Rg1 Ne7 56 Ng6+ Nxg6 57 Rxg6 Qf7 58 Rfg3 Ng7 59 Qh4 Ne8 60 Rg1 Bd7 61 Qg3 Rg7 62 Rxh6+ Rh7 63 Qh4 Bc8 64 Rgg6 Qxg6 65 Rxh7+ Qxh7 66 Qg3 Qg7 67 Qh4+ Kg8 68 Be2 Kf7 69 Bh6 Qg8 70 Qh5+ Qg6 71 Qh4 Ke7 72 Bf3 Ng7 73 Be3 Bd7 74 Qh8 Ne8 75 Bh6 a5 76 Bf8+ Kd8 77 Bxd6 Qg7 78 Qxg7 Nxg7 79 Bf8 Ne8 80 Bh5 a4 81 Bd1 a3 82 Bb3 Kc7 83 Bh6 Nd6 84 Bc1 Nxe4 85 Bxa3 Nxc3 86 h4 Bg4 87 Kg3 Bh5 88 Bc2 Kd7 89 Bf5+ Ke7 90 Bb2 Ne2+ 91 Kf2 Nd4 92 Bh3 Kd6 93 Bc1 b5 94 Bf1 bxc4 95 Bxc4 Nf5 96 Bd2 Nxb4 97 Kg3 Nf5+ 98 Kh3 Ne7 99 Kh4 Bf7 100 Be2 Bxd5 101 Bh6 f5 102 Bf8 Ke6 103 Bh6 f4 104 Bg4+ Nf5+ 105 Kg5 Be4 106 Bf8 c4 107 Bb4 f3 108 Be1 c3 109 Bxf3 Bxf3 110 Bxc3 e4 111 Kf4 Nd6 112 Be1 Kd5



113 Bf2 Kc4 114 Be1 Kd3 115 Ke5 Nc4+ 116 Kf4 Bh1 117 Kg3 e3 118 Kf4 Bc6 119 Kg3 Be8 120 Kf4 Bh5 121 Kg3 Nd2 122 Kg2 Ke2 123 Bg3 Ne4 124 Bf4 Bf3+ 125 Kh2 Kf2 126 Bxe3+ Kxe3

(diagram)

127 Kh3 Kf4 128 Kh4 Nf6 129 Kh3 Bg4+ 130 Kg2 Ne4 131 Kf1 Kf3 132 Ke1 Ke3 133 Kf1 Bf3 134 Ke1 Nf6 135 Kf1 Bd1 136 Kg2 Ne4 137 Kh3 Be2 138 Kh4 Kf4 139 Kh3 Bf3 140 Kh4 Nf6 141 Kh3 Nh5 142 Kh4 Ng7 143 Kh3 Ne6 144 Kh4 Nd4 145 Kh3 Nf5 146 Kh2 Ne3 147 Kh3 Nf1 148 Kh4 Nd2 149 Kh3 Ne4 150 Kh4 Nf6 151 Kh3 Nd7



152 Kh2 Ne5 153 Kh3 Ng6 154 Kh2 Nh4 155 Kh3 Ng2 156 Kh2 Kg4 157 Kg1 Kg3 158 Kh1 Bg4 159 Kg1 Be2 160 Kh1 Nf4 161 Kg1 Nh3+ 162 Kh1 Bf3 *mate* 0-1

Nick Failon - Tan Nguyen 2016 Northern Virginia Open English

Notes by Nick Failon

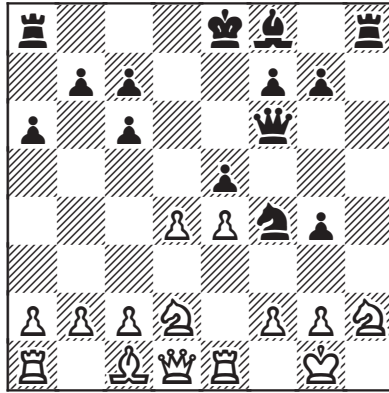
1 d4 d6 2 c4 e5 3 Nf3 e4 4 Ng5 f5 [We are already in territory I am not familiar with, so I need to feel my way through this.] 5 Nc3 Be7 6 Nh3 Nf6 7 e3 O-O 8 Nf4 c6 9 d5 [Probably not best, but I wanted to prevent my opponent from playing ...d5 himself.] 9...g5 10 Nh5 Nxh5 11 Qxh5 Nd7 12 Qd1 [Just safe play and not worry about getting my queen trapped after an eventual ...g4] 12...Ne5 13 b3 Qa5 14 Qd2 Bf6 15 Bb2 c5? 16 Be2? Bd7? 17 O-O-O? [For two turns each my opponent and I both overlook a simple Nxe4 tactic, winning White a pawn.] 17... Qc7 [finally getting out of Nxe4] 18 f3 exf3 19 gxf3 Ng6 20 f4 Rae8 21 Rdg1 g4 22 h3 h5 23 hxg4 hxg4 24 Rh6 Kg7 25 Nb5!? [This is not the easiest way to play, and unnecessarily complicates things. Simply 25 Rgh1 was much more straightforward, but I wanted play along the a1-h8 diagonal.] 25...Bxb5 26 Bxf6+? [Mistake, this kills my play and once again the right way would have been simply 26 Rgh1] 26...Rxf6 27 Rgh1 Bd7 [White is down a piece but has plenty of compensation.] 28 Rh7+ Kg8 29 Qb2 Ref8? [big mistake, allowing the crushing blow] 30 Bxg4! [The winning tactic, allowing my queen to swing to h2 with unstoppable threats.] 30...fxg4 31 Qh2 Qa5? [missing the finish] 32 Rg7+ [lights out!] 1-0



Pick N Play – Sac or Die

by Mike Callaham

Mike Callaham continues his series derived from Lazlo Polgars' 5334 PROBLEMS, COMBINATIONS AND GAMES. See the previous issue of VIRGINIA CHESS for a more complete explanation. —ed



This is Polgar #4942. So why this one? Well, Black has to continue the attack with another sac or they're done. The other thing is that mistakes come in pairs. Surprise can affect your thinking even when it's in your favor! To repulse an attack requires creativity and skill as well. And finally the analysis positions are unclear and make for great Pick-n-Play. Take both sides of this one and you'll put some wins on both sides.

1...N_xg2 2 Ndf1?!

Be aware, Black sacked a piece to get to this position! White should be looking to favorably return material to neutralize the attack.
 2 Re2! Nf4 3 dxe5 Qxe5 4 Ndf1 Nxe2+ 5 Qxe2 f5 6 Qe3 O-O-O 7 Qf4 Qxe4 8 Qxe4 fxe4 9 Nxg4

2...N_xe1 3 Qxe1 0-0-0?

Either 3...exd4! or 3...Bd6! would result in the same thing same after

White responds 4 Qd1 or 4 Qe2, eg 3...exd5 4 Qd1 Bd6 5 Qxg4 Rh4 6 Qf5 Bxh2+ 7 Nxh2 Qxf5 8 exf5 Kd7 9 Bg5 Rh5 10 Nf3 Rah8

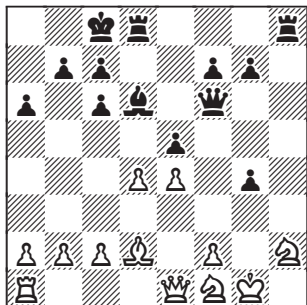
4 Bd2?

4 Qe2 Re8 5 Qxg4+ (5 dxe5!? Qxe5 6 Qxg4+ Kb8 7 Ng3 Bd6 8 c3 Qb5 9 a4 Qb3 10 Nhf1 ♞; 5 Nxg4?! Qh4 6 Ng3 exd4 7 Qf3 Re6 8 Nf5 Qh5 9 Qg2 Rg6 10 f3 Bc5 11 Kf1 Kb8 ♞) 5...Kb8 6 Nf3



exd4 7 Bf4! (7 e5 Qd8 8 Ng3 Qd5 9 Bd2 f6 10 exf6 gxf6) 7...c5 8 Ng3 Qb6 9 Rb1 ♣

4...Bd6!? You could have played ...exd4 or ...Rh4 and been on the right path too!



5 d5?

Also not yet 5 Nxg4? Black is winning after either 5...Qh4 6 f3 Qh1+ 7 Kf2 exd4 8 e5 Bc5 9 b4 Bb6; or (5...Qg6 6 f3 exd4 7 e5 Bc5 8 Kg2 f5 9 exf6 gxf6 10 Qe6+ Kb8

White needed to hold the space, go for some material, and redevelop! If Black decides to fight occupation of the center with pieces, White gets time to get his knights anchored and/or aggravate the pawn structure!

5 Qe2 is a better try. 5...Rh4 6 Nxg4 (6 Ng3 exd4 7 e5 Qxe5 8 Qxe5 Bxe5 9 Bg5 Rxb2 10 Kxb2 Rd5 -+ Black ultimately winds up 4 pawns for the piece! This is a crazily imbalanced, perfect Pick n Play position!) 6...Qg6 (6...Qe6 7 f3 Rdh8 8 dxe5 Bxe5 9 c3 Bd6 10 Re1 Qxa2 22 e5) 7 f3 exd4 8 e5 f5 9 exd6! Rxd6! 10 Qf2 Rh8 11 Qg3 fxg4 12 Qxg4+ Qxg4+ 13 fxg4 ♣

16...cxd5 17 exd5 e4 18 Qxe4 Bxb2+ 19 Nxb2 Rxb2 20 Qxg4+ Kb8 0-1 A master resignation if I ever saw one! 21 Kxb2 Qxf2+ and 22...Rh8 will follow.

Prepare for the 2017 US Open in Norfolk!




Virginians: It is time for all of us to make our plans to attend the 2017 US Open. As you no doubt know, the tournament will be held in Norfolk from July 29 to August 6 at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel. You can reserve your room NOW at www.sheratonnorfolkwaterside.com. In 1996, the last time the US Open was held in the Commonwealth, 106 of the 543 main event participants were Virginians. That's almost 20% of the field. Our aim is to do at least that well in 2017. To encourage participation the VCF Board of Directors already has agreed to fund the Early Entry Fees/Registration for winning players from the 2016 Virginia Closed and the 2017 Virginia State Scholastic and College Championships. The Board also plans to have a raffle in 2017 to fund additional fully or partially-paid entries, as well as having a hospitality suite one day or evening during the tournament. Watch future issues of VIRGINIA CHESS and the VCF Website (www.vachess.org) for more details.



The Virginia Chess Federation and the City of Virginia Beach proudly present ...

2017 Virginia State Scholastic & College Chess Championships

Friday Night, Saturday and Sunday, March 10th - 12th, 2017

<p>Place</p>	<p>Holiday Inn Virginia Beach – Norfolk Hotel & Conference Center; 5655 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach, VA – 757-499-4400</p>
<p>Tournament Format and Player Eligibility</p>	<p><u>T H E R E A R E F O U R T O U R N A M E N T S ! !</u></p> <p>#1 and #2. Friday Night Blitz & Bughouse: March 10th. Four or five rounds of Blitz and Bughouse, you can register for either event. Blitz has 3 Sections (K-5, K-12, and College), Bughouse has 2 Sections (K-5 and K-12), no College Bughouse. Time control is Game-in-5, no time delay, with 2 games per Round in both Blitz and Bughouse. See schedule and awards below. On-site Registration for Blitz and Bughouse closes 5:15 PM, and Round 1 is at 6 PM. Open to any Scholastic or College Player, you do not need to be a Virginia resident to play Blitz or Bughouse. Players must bring a chess clock.</p> <p>#3. The Main Event—2017 VA State Scholastic & College Chess Championships: Sat and Sun, March 11th and 12th. Five (5) Sections—K-3, K-5, K-8, K-12 and College. College plays 4 rounds, all on Saturday, the Scholastic Sections play Six Rounds on Sat & Sun. Players can "play up" into a higher section. Scholastic players must be attending a public, private or home school in VA. College Section players must be enrolled in a VA college or university, or be a Virginia Resident attending college out-of-state. Titled GM or IM college players cannot be more than 25 years old as of September 1, 2016.</p> <p>#4. Parents and Friends (P&F) Tournament: For adults only (e.g. parents, coaches, family friends and other adult players), no scholastic or college players. 4 USCF-rated games, with rounds 1-3 on Sat. at G/45 time control, and Round 4 on Sun. at G/60. See below for Registration instructions and Round Times. See www.vachess.org for details.</p>
<p>Registration</p> 	<p>Early Entry: The Early Entry Fees are \$25 for P&F, \$20 for Blitz or Bughouse, \$50 for the Main Event. You have 2 ways to enter early: 1) Online at www.vachess.org, or 2) by Mailing your Entry Form and payment using the 2nd page of this form. NOTE: Early Entry ends on Monday, March 6th.</p> <p>Late Entry: Begins Tuesday, March 7th and also on-site Friday, March 10th from 3-9PM at the Tournament Hotel. Late Entry Fee for Blitz and Bughouse is \$30 per player, \$35 for P&F, and \$65 for the Main Event. Blitz & Bughouse Registration closes at 5:15PM sharp! Un-registered Blitz or Bughouse Players arriving after 5:15 can register to play starting with Round 2. Entries and payments for Parents & Friends will be accepted on Saturday until 11AM at the tournament hotel. On-site payments can be made by check, cash or credit card.</p> <p>No Main Event registrations after 9 PM Friday evening without the express approval of the Chief TD. Entries will not be accepted by phone or email.</p> <p>Main Event Players not paid in full by 9 PM March 10th RISK NOT BEING PAIRED for Round 1.</p> <p>A limited number of Team Rooms are available: Details at www.vachess.org.</p>
<p>Schedule of Events</p> 	<p>Check-in and Late Registration: 3-9PM on Friday, March 10th. Check-in is only for players who need to pay fees, who have questions, or who want to enter Blitz or Bughouse (Blitz & Bug Registration closes at 5:15 PM sharp!). Arrive at the Registration Desk by 9 PM Friday to pay. Cash, check or credit card accepted at the tournament site.</p> <p>Round Times: Blitz & Bughouse Rd 1 @ 6 PM Fri, March 10th. For the Main Event, Rds 1-4 are on Sat. March 11th @ 9AM, 12-noon, 3 PM, and 6 PM. Rds 5 and 6 on Sun. March 12th @ 8:30 AM and 12-noon. For the P&F Tournament, Rd 1 Sat. at 12:30PM, Rd 2 at 3:30PM; Rd 3 at 6:30PM; Rd 4 Sun. at 9AM.</p> <p>Time Controls: Blitz & Bughouse, Game-in-5, no time delay. Main Event—Rds 1-3 (G/60; delay 5), Rds 4-6 (G/90; delay 5). P&F is G/45 delay 5 for Rds 1-3 and G/60 delay 5 for Rd 4.</p> <p>Awards Ceremonies: Blitz & Bughouse Awards—Saturday before Rounds 3 and 4. P&F Awards handed out before start of Round 6 in the main tournament. Main Event Awards handed-out by section on Sunday afternoon as soon as possible after each section's final round.</p> <p>Chess Sets and Boards: Will be provided. IF YOU OWN A CHESS CLOCK, BRING IT.</p>
<p>Awards</p> 	<p>In the Main Event, Players and Teams who finish in 1st Place earn the title of "2017 VA State Champion" For a list of all prizes, see the tournament web site at www.vachess.org.</p> <p>If there is a tie for 1st place in either the K-8 or K-12 Section with a perfect 6.0 score there will be a 1-game "Armageddon" Blitz Playoff between the TOP 2 FINISHERS based on tie-breaks. The winners of the K-8 and K-12 Sections are eligible to represent VA at prestigious National Chess events in late July 2017 as part of the U.S. Open (being held in Norfolk in 2017). The top girl in K-12 is eligible to represent VA at the National Girl's Tournament of Champions in late July during the U.S. Open.</p>
<p>Hotel Information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official Tournament Hotel: The Holiday Inn Virginia Beach – Norfolk Hotel & Conference Center. • Early Bird Reservation Period: December 1st – January 1st, for \$99 plus taxes. • Advance Reservation Period: January 2nd – February 7th, for \$109 plus taxes. • On February 8th, the chess rate may no longer be available ... don't press your luck! • Reserve your rooms at www.vachess.org, or call the hotel directly to make your bookings!
<p>Questions</p>	<p>See the Tournament Home Page at www.vachess.org for more information and directions to the site. Additional questions? Contact Mike Hoffpauir at 757-846-4805 or email to mhoffpauir@aol.com. Please do not contact the hotel to ask questions about the Tournament!</p>

Virginia Chess
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