

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

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2017 - #2



Massimo Campigli, El Juego de Ajedrez (1921)

VIRGINIA CHESS

Newsletter

2017 - Issue #2

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2017 Virginia Open

The 2017 Virginia Open was played March 24–26 at the Washington Dulles Airport Marriott. The Open section resulted in a massive 6-way tie for 1st between our reigning state champion Qindong Yang, former state champions Andrew Samuelson & Macon Shibut, IMs Tegshsuren Enkhbat & Praveen Balakrishnan, and up-and-coming young master Andy Huang. They all scored 4-1. Mike Fellman was top Expert, a half-point behind the co-winners. Saad Al-Hariri & Josh Hiban split the class A prize.

In the Under 1900 section, Ted Udelson & Wael Shreiba tied for 1st with 4½ points each. Akshay Kobla & Richard Rieve shared =3rd. Alan Lofdahl, Sudarshan Sriniaiyer, David Lin, Frank Huber & Roy Rhodes all claimed a piece top class B. Other class prize winners included Brenan Nierman, Mengyi Li, Pranav Konduru & Naveen Balakrishnan (= D); Andrew Welbaum (under 1200); and Jerry Wells (unrated).

A total of 96 players participated. The Elo system proved especially predictive as the six Open section winners were indeed the six highest-rated entrees! Anand Dommalapati directed with assistance from Andy Rea.

Praveen Balakrishnan - Robert Fischer

Ruy Lopez

Notes by Macon Shibut

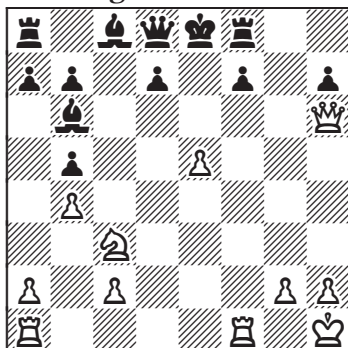
One of best, and certainly the most striking, game at this year's Virginia Open was played in the last round on board 2. It would surely have won the Brilliancy Prize had there been one. **1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 Nf6 4 O-O Bc5** [It's very common these days for White to avoid the "Berlin Wall" endgame (4...Nxe4 5 d4 Nd6 6 Bxc6 dxc6 7 dxe5 Nf5 8 Qxd8+ Kxd8) by 4 d3, in which case Black replies 4...Bc5. But Black evidently wants to play those positions in any case, so he declines the invitation to the endgame. However, this in turn gives White additional options...] **5 Nxe5! Nxe5 6 d4** [Now 6...Bd6? would be bad because of 7 dxe5 Bxe5 8 f4 Bd6 9 e5 so Black has to scramble already. Maybe 6...Nxe4!?] **6...c6** [Not only attacking the bishop but also giving his queen an exit as in the



possible continuation 7 Be2 Bd6 8 dxe5 Bxe5 9 f4 Qb6+ 10 Kh1 Bxb2] 7 dxe5 Nxe4 8 Qg4!? [mixing it up, although simply 8 Bd3 was also good] 8...Nxf2 9 Qxg7 Rf8 10 b4! [if 10 Rxf2!? cxb5 (10...Qb6 11 Nc3 Bxf2+ 12 Kh1 would be more akin to the game) 11 Nc3 Qh4 Black is okay] 10...Bb6 [He should play 10...Bd4! so that if, as in the game, 11 c3 Bb6 12 Bh6 Ng4+ 13 Kh1 Nxb6 14 Qxh6 cxb5 White doesn't have Nc3!] 11 Bh6 Ng4+ 12 Kh1 Nxb6 13 Qxh6 cxb5 14 Nc3 (diagram)

Black's position is enormously difficult despite being a piece ahead. His queenside is completely bottled up and the squares d6 and f6 invite decisive entry by White's knight.

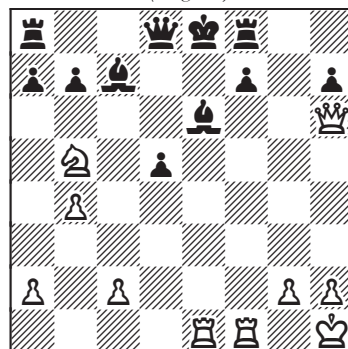
14...d5! [the only try] 15 Nxb5! [Not for the sake of the pawn of course, but to threaten Nd6+. Opening the e-file by 15 exd6 looks unconvincing after 15...Be6 16 Ne4 Kd7] 15...Bc7 16 e6! [in the style of Morphy!] 16...Bxe6 17 Rae1 (diagram) 17...Kd7?



Black finally cracks after a heroic effort. He could still defend by 17...Bd6! adding extra protection to Rf8. For example:

i) 18 Rxe6+ fxe6 19 Qxe6+ Be7 Black even wins;

ii) 18 Rxf7! Rxf7 19 Nxd6+ Qxd6 20 Rxe6+ Re7! White's back rank weakness unexpectedly emerges as the key factor. White must force a draw by 21 Qh5+! Kf8 22 Qh6+



18 c4! d4 19 Nxd4 Bxc4 [19...Re8 was only slightly better: 20 Nxe6 fxe6 21 Rd1+ Bd6 22 c5 etc] 20 Qh3+ Be6 21 Nxe6 1-0

Here are a couple other games that were being played on top boards at the same time as Balakrishnan-Fischer, determining the final standings.



Andrew Samuelson - Tegshsuren Enkhbat

Caro-Kann

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 f3 Qb6 4 Nc3 dxe4 5 fxe4 e5 6 dxe5 Be6 7 Nf3 Nd7 8 Qd4 Bc5 9 Qd2 [*Presumably Andy knows what he's doing, but this does look strange—ed*] 9...Be7 10 Na4 Qc7 11 Qc3 Nh6 12 Be3 Ng4 13 Bd4 Rc8 14 Nc5 Nxc5 15 Bxc5 Bxc5 16 Qxc5 Qb6 17 Qxb6 axb6 18 Bd3 c5 19 h3 Ne3 20 Kf2 Nc4 21 b3 Na5 22 Bb5+ Ke7 23 c4 Rhd8 24 Rhd1 Ra8 25 Ke2 h6 26 Ne1 Rxd1 27 Rxd1 Nc6 28 Bxc6 Rxa2+ 29 Rd2 Rxd2+ 30 Kxd2 bxc6 31 Nd3 g5 32 Kc3 Bd7 33 Nb2 Kd8 34 Na4 Kc7 35 Kd2 Be6 36 Kc3 Bd7 37 Kd2 Be6 38 Kc3 Bd7 ½-½

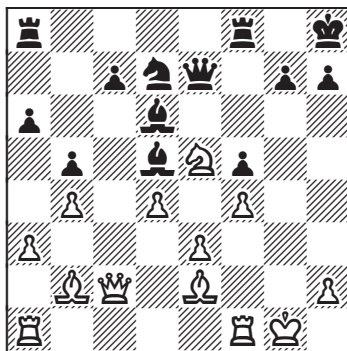
Macon Shibut – James Richardson

Nimzowitsch/Larsen

Notes by Macon Shibut

1 b3 e5 2 Bb2 Nc6 3 e3 Nf6 4 c4 d5 5 cxd5 Nxd5 6 a3 Bd6 7 d3 O-O 8 Nf3 Kh8 9 Be2 f5 10 Nbd2 Qf6 [*Not an ideal spot on the diagonal opposite White's bishop. 10...Qe7 was better and in fact Black says *j'adoube* next turn.*] 11 Nc4 Qe7 12 O-O Bd7 13 b4 a6 14 d4 e4 15 Nfe5 Be8 [*15...f4!?*] 16 Qb3 Nf6 17 f4 17 Rac1 17...exf3 18 gxf3?! [*In view of Black's accurate and vigorous reaction to the text, 18 Bxf3 must have been better*] 18...b5! 19 Nxc6 Bxc6 20 Ne5 Bd5 21 Qc2 Nd7! [*A critical moment. White is losing control of his bastion e5. My original intent was 22 Rad1 to defend indirectly thanks to the undefended Bd5, but now I saw 22...Qe6! reinforcing the bishop and threatening captures on e5 as well as the skewer ...Bb3. Therefore, White must play 22 f4, although I would not have volunteered to surrender e4 and extend the diagonal of his bishop that way.*] 22 f4 (*diagram*)

For one turn Black has the advantage, but he must find the way to secure it. 22...Nf6? was not the answer because



Continued page 6





118th Annual...

US Open Chess Championship

July 29-Aug 6, Aug 1-6, or Aug 3-6, 2017

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel, 777 Waterside Dr, Norfolk, Va 23510

9-SS, three schedule options: **Traditional** (One round daily at 7pm except final round (8/6) at 3pm). **6-Day Option** (First 6 rounds 8/1 at 7pm., 8/2 noon & 7pm, 8/3 noon & 7pm, 8/4 at noon, then merge into the traditional schedule for round 7 at 7pm on 8/4). **4-Day Option** (First 6 rounds 8/3 at noon, 3pm, 7pm & 10pm, 8/4 noon & 3pm, then merge into the traditional schedule for round 7 at 7pm on 8/4). All schedules merge after rd 6 and compete for the same prizes. Rd 7 at 7pm 8/4, rd 8 at 7pm 8/5, & Rd 9 at 3pm 8/6. **Time Control** 40/120, SD/60, d5, 4-Day Schedule rds 1-6 at G/60 d5, rds 7-9 at 40/120, SD/60, d5. **\$\$\$50,000(projected) b/500 entries, \$40,000 Guaranteed:** \$8000-4000-2000-1500-1000-800-600-500 +\$200 to clear winner; in case of tie, top 2 play 'Armageddon game' (White 5 minutes, Black 3 minutes and gets draw odds) for title and \$200 bonus; top Master (2200-2399) \$2500-1200-800-500; X (2000-2199) \$2500-1200-800-500; A \$2500-1200-800-500, B \$2500-1200-800-500; C \$2000-1000-600-400; D \$1500-700-500-300; E & below \$1500-700-500-300; Unrated \$800-400-200. Mixed Doubles (may be won in addition to a place or class prize) \$600 (ie, \$300 each player); U 1800 \$320; Husband & Wife \$300; Mother & Son \$300; Father & Daughter \$300; Brother & Sister \$300 (\$150 each player); Coach & Student \$300 (\$150 each player). **Mixed Double average team rating must be under 2200.** July 2017 rating supplement will be used, unofficial ratings used if otherwise unrated. CCA ratings used if above US Chess. Foreign player ratings usually 100 points added to FIDE or FQE, 200+ added to most foreign national ratings, no points added to CFC. Highest of multiple ratings generally used. ½ **pt byes** up to 3 allowed for rating 2000/up, 2 allowed for 1400-1999, one allowed for Under 1400 or unrated. Limit 1 allowed in last two rounds. All must commit before rd 4. Zero-point byes available in any round. All byes request at least two hours before the round in question. **Enter Online** \$145 by 6/26, \$165 by 7/17, \$185 after 7/17. **By Mail** \$147 postmarked by 6/26, \$167 postmarked by 7/17, \$187 after 7/17; do not mail after 7/24! US Chess Federation, Attn: US Open, PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557. **By Phone** \$150 by 6/26, \$170 by 7/17, \$185 after (800) 903-8723, no phone entries after 7/28 (by the close of business at the Office)! Contact backroom@uschess.org with changes or questions about entries. **On Site** \$190. GMs and WGMs play free. All entries must be made at least 2 hours before your first game. July Rating Supplement will be used. Any refunds will be mailed from the US Chess Office following the conclusion of the event. Accelerated pairings may be used. **Hotel** \$114, Call (866) 716-8134, mention "US Chess", reserve by July 7 or rate may increase.



Side Events

Weekend Swiss, July 29-30. 5-SS, G/60 d5 \$\$1150 G: \$200-100-50, U2200/Unr \$160, U2000 \$150, U1800 \$140, U1600 \$120, U1400 \$100, U1200 \$80, Unrated \$50. EF \$40, Unrated free if paying US Chess dues. On-site reg 10-11:30am Saturday 7/9, Rds noon-3pm Saturday, 10-12:30-3 Sunday.

US Open Bughouse, Sat July 29 G/5 d0. EF \$20 per team. \$\$ 80% of entry fees returned in prizes. Reg ends 10am, rd 1 10:30am.

US Open Scholastic Championships, Sun July 30. Open to all USCF members entering grade 12 and below. 4-SS in 4 Sections: Junior High - High School (open to players entering Kindergarten through the 12th grade in the fall, all ratings), Junior High - High School Under 1200 (open to players entering Kindergarten through the 12th grade in the fall rated below 1200—No Unrated!), Elementary (open to players entering Kindergarten through the 6th grade in the fall, all ratings), Elementary Under 1000 (open to players entering Kindergarten through the 6th grade in the fall rated below 1000—No Unrated!) Large sections may be further split into multiple sections. Trophies to the Top 3 in each section. Additional trophy prizes possible based on the number of entries. Schedule: Noon-1:30-3:00-4:30. Awards Ceremony at 6pm. Time Control Game/30 d5. Online \$25 by 7/10, \$35 after. By mail \$27 postmarked by 7/10; \$37 postmarked by 7/17 Do not mail after 7/17; By phone, \$30 by 7/10, \$40 after until 7/22 by 5pm CDT.

US Open Quads—one day events held Mon, July 30; Wed, Thu, Fri August 2, 3, 4. G/30 d5. EF \$20, reg 9:30-11:30am, Rds noon-1:30-3:00. \$\$ 50 to first in each quad.

Tuesday August 1 US Open Quad G/60 d5. EF \$20, reg 9-10am, rds 10:30-1-3:30. \$\$ 50 to first in each quad.

21st Annual US Open Golf Event, Wed August 2. Contact Michael Wojcio by email: runninghillsandpushups@gmail.com EF \$10 plus green fees.

US Open Tennis Tournament, Saturday August 5

US Open National Blitz Championship, 7-double SS (14 games), G/5 d0. Blitz rated, higher of regular or Blitz rating used. EF \$40, free to Unrated players if paying USCF dues. Reg 9-11:30am, rd 1 begins Noon. \$\$2000G: \$\$400-200-150, U2200 \$200-100, U2000 \$200-100, U1800 \$180-90, U1600/Unrated \$140-70, U1400 \$100, U1200 \$70.

Meetings & Workshops

August 2-4 Workshops & Committee Meetings

Sat August 5 Awards Luncheon

August 5-6 Delegates' Meeting

Other Events

The 2017 Arnold Denker Tournament of High School Champions—annual event held in conjunction with the US Open. 51 high school champions from each state affiliate and District of Columbia compete to determine who will be crowned Denker Champion of Champions. Founded in 1985 by GM Arnold Denker (1914-2005).

The 2017 Dewain Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions—founded in 2011 by Dewain Barber to provide a competition comparable to the Denker tournament for younger students.

The 2017 National Girls' Tournament of Champions—In the model of the Denker and Barber Tournaments for Girl champions from across the United States.

300 US Chess Grand Prix Points — A Heritage Event — US Chess Junior Grand Prix



White can get away with 23 Qxf5 when any discovered attacks by Black moving his knight again will be defused by Qh5 gaining a tempo by the threat Ng6+. The proper course was 22...Be4! and after 23 Bd3 now 23...Nf6. Black will wind up with a good knight on e4 versus a poor Bb2. Still after 24 Bxe4 Nxe4 25 Kh1 I think White's game is tenable because my knight is not bad itself, and if Black eliminates it ...Bxe5 then dxe5 makes my bishop somewhat better (the d4 square), and in addition I would have a protected passed pawn.

My opponent sensed that his moment was at hand but his reaction was too excitable. The sight of his bishop firing through the vicinity of my king spurred him to attack rather than consolidating a positional gain.

22...Rf6? 23 Bf3 [The crisis has passed; Black's knight cannot establish itself on e4] **23...Bxf3 24 Rxf3 Bxe5?** [Further impulse to do something forcing for forcing's own sake. This exchange could happen any time if necessary, and at this moment it does nothing to help Black's cause. 24...a5 or 24...Nb6 were better.] **25 dxe5 Rg6+ 26 Rg3 Rxf3+ 27 hxf3 c5 28 bxc5** [28 Qxf5! may be better. If then 28...cxb4 29 axb4 Qxb4 30 Bd4 Black is tactically vulnerable, eg 30...Qe7 31 Qe4 Qe8 32 Qb7 etc. If instead 28...c4 (this was the move I expected; I superficially evaluated that his protected passed pawn might make winning a long, difficult slog) 29 Rd1 Nf8 30 Rd6 White achieves a domination or sorts, eg 30...Rd8 31 Rxd8 Qxd8 32 Bd4. A slightly better version of this for Black was available by 28...Rf8 (probably best) 29 Qc2 c4 30 Rd1] **28...Qxc5 29 Qd3** [I decided against the capture on f5 from the previous note in light of this move. Time shortage was adding to Black's problems now and I reckoned this gave him a lot to think about—Qxd7, e6, Bd4, Rc1 *et al*] **Nf8 30 Rc1 Qb6 31 Bd4 Qg6 32 Kf2 Ne6** [32...Rd8 looks better] **33 Rc6 Qh6** [Threatening harassing checks. The tactical trick 33...Nxf4? doesn't work because of 34 Qc2!] **34 Kg1 Nxf4?** [Still doesn't work; 34...Qh3? was also bad because White can take the knight and there is no perpetual check. The correct move was 34...Qg6! and I would have to regroup and try 35 Kf2 Qh6 36 Qf1] **35 Qc2!** [mate is threatened, the queen is attacked, and there is no way to ward off both] **35...Nh3+ 36 Kg2 1-0** The conclusion could have been 36...g6 37 Rc8+ Rxc8 38 Qxc8+ Kg7 39 e6*mate*

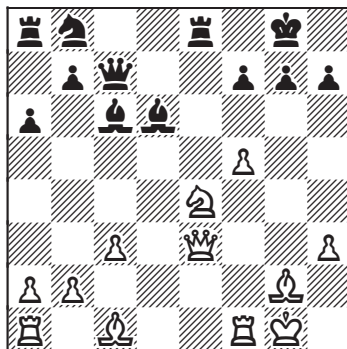


Andrew Samuelson - Mike Fellman

Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 h3 e6 7 g4
d5 8 exd5 Nxd5 9 Nde2 Bb4 10 Bg2 O-O 11 O-O Nxc3 12 Nxc3
Qc7 13 Qf3 Bd6 14 Ne4 Be5 15 c3 Bd7 16 Qe3 Bc6 17 f4 Bd6
18 f5 exf5 19 gxf5 Re8 *(diagram)*

20 b4 Nd7 21 f6 Bxe4 22 Bxe4 Nxf6
23 Rxf6 gxf6 24 Qf3 Rxe4 25 Qxe4
Qxc3 26 Qg2+ Kh8 27 Bb2 Qe3+ 28
Kh1 Be5 29 Rg1 f5 30 Bxe5+ Qxe5
31 Qxb7 Qe4+ 32 Qxe4 fxe4 [Hard
to believe that White is going to win
this, obviously with mistakes by Black,
but no crass blunders. Chess is just
really cruel sometimes.] 33 Rc1 Re8



34 Kg2 Kg7 35 Kg3 f5 36 Kf4 Kf6? 37 Rc5! e3 38 Rxf5+ Kg6
39 Rg5+ Kf6 40 Rg1 Rc8 41 Kxe3 Rc3+ 42 Kd4 Rxh3 43 a4 a5
[doesn't work, although by this point Black is in difficulties 43...
h5 44 Rc1 h4 45 Rc6+ Kg7 46 Rxa6 Rb3 47 Kc4 h3 48 Rd6 h2 49
Rd1 Rh3 50 Rh1±] 44 b5 Rh4+ 45 Kc5 Rxa4 46 b6 Rb4 47 Ra1
Ke6 [47...h5 48 Rxa5 Rb2 49 Rb5] 48 Rxa5 Rb1 49 Kc6 Rc1+ 50
Kb7 Kd6 51 Rh5 Rb1 52 Rxh7 Rb2 53 Rh6+ Kd7 54 Kb8 Rg2
55 b7 Rg8+ 56 Ka7 Kc7 57 b8Q+ 1-0

Robert Fischer - Tegshsuren Enkhbat

Réti

1 Nf3 d5 2 g3 c6 3 Bg2 Bg4 4 d3 Nd7 5 Nbd2 e6 6 b3 Qf6 7 Rb1
Bb4 8 Bb2 Bc3 9 Qc1 Bxf3 10 Bxf3 Bxb2 11 Qxb2 e5 12 O-O
Ne7 13 c4 O-O 14 b4 Qd6 15 b5 Rad8 16 Qb4 Qe6 17 Qa5 Nf6
18 Qxa7 Ra8 19 Qxb7 Rfb8 20 Qc7 Rc8 21 Qb6 Rxa2 22 Rfd1
h6 23 bxc6 Nxc6 24 Ra1 Rxa1 25 Rxa1 e4 26 Bg2 Qe5 27 Nb3
dxc4 28 dxc4 Rb8 29 Qxc6 Rxb3 30 Rd1 Rb2 31 Bh3 Rxe2 32
Qc8+ Kh7 33 Bf5+ g6 34 Qf8 Qe8 35 Qxe8 Nxe8 36 Bd7 Nf6
37 c5 Nxd7 38 Rxd7 Kg7 39 Rd4 ½-½



Mike Fellman - Bill Carroll

Semi Slav

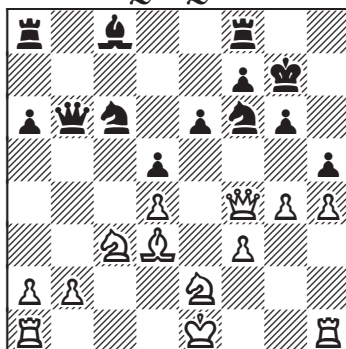
A theoretical duel! **1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 Nc3 e6 5 Bg5 dxc4 6 e4 b5 7 e5 h6 8 Bh4 g5 9 Nxc4 hxc4 10 Bxc4 Nbd7 11 g3 Bb7 12 Bg2 Qb6 13 exf6 c5 14 d5 O-O-O 15 O-O b4 16 Na4 Qb5 17 a3 Nb8 18 axb4 cxb4 19 Be3 Bxd5 20 Bxd5 Rxd5 21 Qe2 Nc6 22 Rfc1 Rd3** [A famous Kasparov – Tal game from 1983 went 22...Ne5 23 b3 c3 24 Nxc3 bxc3 25 Rxc3+ Kb8 26 Qc2 Bd6 27 Bxa7+ Kb7 28 b4 Nc6 29 Be3 Be5 30 Rxc6 Bxa1 31 Rc7+ Kb8 32 Ba7+ Ka8 33 Be3 Kb8 34 Ba7+ Ka8 35 Bc5 Kb8 36 Rxf7 Be5 37 Ba7+ Ka8 38 Be3 Rd7 39 Qa2+ Kb8 40 Ba7+ Kc8 41 Qxe6 Qd5 42 Qa6+ Qb7 43 Qc4+ Qc7 ½-½] **23 b3 Rxb3** [departing from Yegiazaryan-Sargsyan, Yerevan 23...Qe5 24 Nb2 Rxe3 25 Qxe3 Qh5 26 h4 c3 27 Qd3 Bc5 28 Ra6 Kc7 29 Na4 Bb6 30 Nxb6 axb6 31 Rca1 Qd5 32 Qe3 Qb5 33 Qf4+ Kb7 34 Qe4 Qd5 35 Qe3 Qb5 36 Qf3 Qd5 37 Qe2 Nd4 38 Ra7+ Kc6 39 Qa6 Nf3+ 40 Kf1 Nd2+ 41 Kg1 ½-½] **24 Qxc4 Qxc4 25 Rxc4 Kb7 26 Rac1 Ra3?** [26...Ne5 27 Rc7+ Ka6 28 Rxa7+ Kb5] **27 Rxc6 Rxa4 28 Rc7+ Ka6 29 Rxa7+ Kb5 30 Rxf7 Bd6 31 Rb7+ Ka5 32 Rd7 Bf8 33 Rc8 b3 34 Ra7+ Kb4 35 Rb8+ Ka3 36 Bc1+ 0-1**

Saad Al-Hariri - Trung Nguyen

King's Indian

Notes by Saad Al-Hariri

1 d4 g6 2 c4 Bg7 3 e4 d6 4 Nc3 Nf6 5 Be3 O-O 6 f3 a6 7 Qd2 c6 8 g4 b5 9 Bh6 [wasting no time removing this defender/sniper from his trench] **9...bxc4 10 Bxc4 Kxc7 11 Bxc4 d5 12 exd5 cxd5 13 Bd3 Nc6 14 Nge2 e6** [14...e5 was much better] **15 h4 h5 16 Qf4 Qb6** (diagram) **17 Rg1** [I had to convince myself that b2 will prove itself poisonous, or at least hard to digest, and proceed with my attacking plan.] **17...Qxb2 18 Rb1 Nb4 19 Bxc6** [sacrifice with more damage to the kingside] **19...fxg6 20 Qg5 Nd3+ 21 Kf1 Nh7 22 Qe3 Qc2** [22...hxg4 was probably more accurate] **23 gxh5 e5** [forcing a way for the dormant bishop]





Alex Jian - Praveen Balakrishnan

Nimzoindian

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 Qc2 O-O 5 a3 Bxc3+ 6 Qxc3 b6 7 Bg5 Bb7 8 f3 d5 9 e3 Nbd7 10 cxd5 exd5 11 Bd3 Re8 12 Ne2 h6 13 Bh4 Rxe3 14 Bxf6 Nxf6 15 Bh7+ Kxh7 16 Qxe3 Ba6 17 Nc3 Qd7 18 O-O-O Bc4 19 Rhe1 Ng8 20 Qf2 Bb3 21 Rd3 a5 22 Rde3 b5 23 Nb1 a4 24 Nd2 Bc4 25 Nxc4 dxc4 26 Re5 c6 27 Qe3 Qd6 28 Qe4+ g6 29 Re8 Nf6 30 Rxa8 Nxe4 31 Rxe4 Qxh2 32 Re2 Qg1+ 33 Kc2 Qxd4 34 Ra8 Qd3+ 35 Kc1 c3 36 R8e3 cxb2+ 37 Kxb2 Qd4+ 38 Ka2 c5 39 Re4 Qd5+ 40 Ka1 Qd1+ 41 Kb2 Qb3+ 42 Kc1 Qxa3+ 43 Kd2 b4 44 Re7 Qc3+ 45 Kd1 Kg7 46 Rd2 a3 47 Ra7 c4 48 Rdd7 Qb3+ 49 Ke2 c3 50 Rdc7 a2 51 Ke3 Qe6+ 52 Kd3 Qd6+ 53 Kc2 Qxc7 0-1

Terry Luo - Tan Nguyen

Modern

1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 Nf3 d6 4 c3 Nd7 5 Bd3 e6 6 O-O Ne7 7 Nbd2 O-O 8 Bc2 b6 9 Re1 Bb7 10 Nf1 c5 11 Ng3 Rc8 12 Be3 Nf6 13 h3 cxd4 14 Nxd4 e5 15 Nb5 Ba6 16 a4 Bxb5 17 axb5 Qd7 18 Qe2 d5 19 Red1 Qc7 20 Bb3 dxe4 21 Ra6 Nf5 22 Nxf5 gxf5 23 Rda1 f4 24 Rxa7 Qd6 25 Bc1 Kh8 26 Rxf7 Rxf7 27 Bxf7 Qd7 28 Bb3 Bh6 29 Qd2 Qg7 30 Qd6 f3 31 g3 e3 32 Ra7 e2! 33 Qxe5 Re8 34 Bxh6 [34 Be6 Nd7!] 34...e1=Q+ 35 Kh2 [35 Qxe1 Rxe1+ 36 Kh2 Ng4+! 37 hxg4 Qxh6mate] 35...Qxf2+ 36 Kh1 Qg2mate 0-1



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2017 Virginia Scholastic Championship

by *Andy Rea*

The Holiday Inn-Virginia Beach proved to be an excellent host for the 2017 Virginia Scholastic Championship, March 11-12—plenty of space for our players and teams, another feather in the cap for our event organizer, Mike Hoffpauir! I was selected to be the Chief Tournament Director, a matter of being first among equals with our outstanding staff. Problems were few due to my colleagues' excellent support and especially due to the sportsmanship of our 464 players!

We had five sections—six if we include Family and Friends, dominated this year by Daniel Miller—and we had great competition in all groups. As can be viewed from the crosstables posted online at <http://www.vsches.org/results/results.php?t=201703111> —see *Editor's Note at bottom of page!*—our K-3 had many striving for the title, but in the end no one could keep pace with Brian Tay, who scored one of two 6-0 results on the weekend! The K-3 Team Champion was also clear, McNair ES from Herndon scoring that title!

Editor's Note:

As Andy notes, the Scholastic Championship crosstables are available online at the address given. There is also a link to these crosstables from the VCF's home page, www.vachess.org. Andy and I had some discussion about his interest in possibly printing the crosstables here in *Virginia Chess*. I made an editorial decision not to do so, as they would have filled approximately 8 pages (ie, about a third of the entire issue). However, *Virginia Chess* is the VCF's publication of historical record, so it is not a ridiculous proposition that we should publish full crosstables of the federation's signature events (Virginia Closed State Championship, Virginia Open, Scholastic Championship... others?). Crosstables have appeared in our newsletter in the (distant) past, but as Mark Warriner notes in his column this issue, that may have been more a matter of needing material to fill space rather than any real interest in preserving these records.



My personal opinion is that crosstables are not terribly interesting, they take a relatively large amount of space (especially if the event drew 464 players, as did these Scholastics), they're a hassle to format for publication, and they are readily available from either organizer websites or, for any rated tournament, from the USCF website. So, I am comfortable with my decision not to print them here. However, I would be interested to hear reader feedback on this, either pro or con.



K-5 landed with two well deserving co-champions at $5\frac{1}{2}$ out of 6. On tiebreak Jason Liang lands ahead of his fellow winner Samarth Bhargav for the state K-5 Champion title! And again, those Mustangs from McNair ES scored the Team Championship for K-5. Their program started from not much some 4-5 years ago and has been built to a powerhouse by Georgina Chin. (A *Virginia Chess* article waiting to happen should she want to share her thoughts on the success of her program!)

K-8 was very close to having two players at 6-0, but when the dust settled in the final round game between Andy Huang and Trung Nguyen, it was only a draw. So, no Armageddon playoff for Justin Paul, who managed to win his final round and finish off that other 6-0! Justin will also be the Virginia representative at the national Barber Tournament, held late July concurrently with the US Open... which will be at nearby Norfolk! As for our teams, it was Joyce Kilmer MS from Vienna earning the K-8 Team Championship with a simple formula our other team titlists had: keep scoring points, do not turn draws into losses, stay alert always!

A matter well known by perennial K-12 Team Champion Thomas Jefferson HSST from Alexandria... but they surely had a run for their money from Chantilly HS. TJ prevailed by quite the narrow margin of $19\frac{1}{2}$ to 19! The individual titles for K-12 were also closely contested. A key game from round 5 saw IM Praveen Balakrishnan edge WFM Jennifer Yu in a knight ending that finished with a combined 9 seconds on their clocks! While alone at 5-0, Praveen could see that this was not a done deal; he still had to get at least a draw with Black against Justin Lohr in the final round. Justin was not keen on bailing out with an early draw, that's not how he rolls (to be fair, not sure if Praveen was ready to go with an early draw either) and in fact he built a strong position some 20 moves into the game. But here our International Master showed more good nerves by limiting the damages to a manageable burden. White's best efforts were not quite good enough to win, leaving Praveen alone at first, $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$, our K-12 Champion! He will represent Virginia at the Denker Tournament running concurrently with the US Open!

Meanwhile, that round 5 loss by Jennifer set about unexpected competition for Top Girl and a chance to represent Virginia at the National Girls Tournament of Champions. Three players began the final rounds at 4-1,



but it was Jennifer alone who would win her final game. However—late breaking news—Jennifer has declined to defend her NGTOC title this year, so it will be Vivian Cao-Dao ($4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$) taking the spot!

Our College section featured many an upset. When said and done, the top ranked player could only muster 3 out of 4, thus not among the trio of co-champions at $3\frac{1}{2}$. They are Luke Campopiano (William and Mary), Benjamin Vaughan (University of Virginia) & Vignesh Rajasekaran (also University of Virginia). And yes, with two players in the crowd for first, UVa was also winning the College Team title! However, on tie-break it was William & Mary's Campopiano who prevailed as individual champion!


As in previous years, we had two side events on Friday evening as a prelude to the weekend festivities. The Bughouse Tournament was won by the team of Akshay Kobla & Varun Vonteru, scoring 9-1. University of Virginia won the Bughouse team title. As for the Blitz, we had two tied for first in the College Section at 5-1 and Aditya Ponukumati ended with better tiebreak than Jeevan Karamsetty. K-12 Blitz was also a tie for first at $8\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ between Trung Nguyen (better tiebreak!) and Isuru Attanagoda. Home cooking for nearby Grace Academy! No, just scoring more points for the K-12 Blitz Champions. Competition was also very tight in K-5 blitz, with three players scoring 7-1: Arnav Gupta's tiebreaks edged Avith Vijayram & Samarth Bhargav. McNair ES won the team prize.

What a great tournament our Scholastic Championships continues to be. Congratulations to all of our players for their participation, best wishes to all of our champions! And cheers to the 2018 edition—on to Roanoke!

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Reflections

REFLECTIONS



Looking Back on an Amateur Chess “Career”

JUST ‘CAUSE

No, not “just cause” as in a worthy endeavor, because gosh knows most of my games wouldn’t sniff at that notion. I mean these games are presented “just because.” In the roughly three years I’ve been subjecting readers to my pitifully amateurish attempts (my sincerest apologies, but hey, it’s not like the by-line doesn’t warn you), I’d never had anyone mention anything about “Reflections” to me. Until now. In the past couple of months, three very nice readers of rating strengths ranging from Class E to a Master told me they enjoyed reading and looked forward to my ruminations. And our Editor informed me that he received some informal positive feedback too. Wow, and thank you! So, I figured I’d better make a concerted effort at stepping up my ‘game’ and produce some worthy material, just because. That, and I feel our esteemed Editor would appreciate a few less typos and grammatical errors on my part... *ahem*. Sorry ‘bout that, Macon. Gee whiz, and to think I managed and trained Technical Editors for a decade too, ouch. Well, this is all for fun and entertainment, and isn’t intended to be completely serious, though chess is one of the most technical of pastimes.

Trivia Question: Who was the last “full-time” Editor of the VCFN before Macon, waaay back around 1991? A big no-prize for the correct guess, to be revealed at the end of this article.

Mark Warriner – Woody Harris

**1990 Virginia Correspondence Champ - Preliminaries
Alekhine**

1 e4 Nf6 2 Nc3 d5 3 e5 d4 4 exf6 dxc3 5 fxg7 cxd2+ 6 Qxd2 Qxd2+
7 Bxd2 Bxg7 8 O-O-O Nc6 9 Bb5 Bd7 10 Nf3 O-O-O 11 Rhe1 [So far, a well-known line for Alekhine Defense players. I was following a line in *The Alekhine for the Tournament Player* by Lev Alburt & Eric Schiller



(ISBN 0-7134-1596-7, Batsford 1985). Yes kids, this was back when databases and computers weren't around and you had to dig through these things called "books." Trust me, they won't hurt you and you can actually still learn from them. I knew a little about the Alekhine as my friend Eugene Brown loved to play it, as did our two-time guest & three-time US Champion Lev Alburt. So, this was a natural for me. At this point, my opponent, former VCF President Woody Harris, deviated from my material, though his continuation is now pretty much standard.]

11...e6 12 Ng5 [The preferred line, with the aim of developing White's knight and then possibly the dark-squared bishop to better squares using the threat of taking on f7, forking the rooks.] **12...Ne5** [This move was not in any of my source material at the time, nor was it within my personal experience; at least that I could remember. For what it's worth, engines seem to slightly prefer 12...Rdf8, which is also recommended by noted Alekhine Defense guru GM Vladimir Bagirov.] **13 Bxd7+ Rxd7 14 Bc3** [White had to choose between the text and 14 Bf4 Rxd1+ 15 Kxd1 (15 Rxd1 h6 16 Ne4 Ng6) 15...Rd8+ 16 Ke2 We're already almost into the endgame here and Black must choose between 16...Nc6 or 16...Ng6. At this point, White doesn't really care because Black's equalized (I think), and what's the point of that? If White wants to press this position, 14 Bc3 was the principled move.] **14...h6?** [The only other game that I'm aware of continued 14...Rxd1+ 15 Rxd1? Please allow a digression here; it's important to play 15 Kxd1 to get the king active, instead of capturing with the rook and allowing Black complete equality. You could think of this as "greater equality" versus "lesser equality". There is a very interesting concept discussed in a book by Paul Davies (*The Edge of Infinity*, ISBN 978-0671440633, Simon & Schuster, 1982), "greater versus lesser infinity" which seems perfectly suited to explain the complex intricacies in chess of distinguishing between two seemingly equal moves that aren't really equal. The basic idea is that you can draw two lines of differing lengths—let's say one that is an inch long and a second that is three inches long. Curiously, you can draw an infinite number of lines from a distinct point in the short line to a distinct point in the longer line without ever exhausting the number of lines that can be drawn; there are an infinite number of points in both



lines. Of course, one line is longer than the other line—and hence you can say that there exists a “greater” and a “lesser” infinity. And here you might have thought that I was simple-minded and that you would never get a physics lesson reading this article. Well, you’d have been half correct (*wink*). Chess is wonderful in that the trees of variations grow quite rapidly, and we delight in the pruning process, or at least most of us do. We have to decide at every turn whether to pursue these branches and whether the greater or lesser branches yield fruit. Right about now I’m betting that if Woody is reading this, he’s thinking “*gee, all I was doing was trying to play a decent game of chess...*” End of Digression. Back to that game I was quoting (after 15 Rxd1?) 15...Rg8 16 f4 Nc4 17 Nxf7 Bxc3 18 bxc3 Ne3 19 Rd4 Nxg2 20 Re4 Rf8 21 Ng5 Rxf4 22 Rxf4 Nxf4 23 Nxh7 Kd7 24 Ng5 Ke7 25 Ne4 e5 26 Kd2 Ke6 27 c4 Kf5 28 Ng3+ Kg4 29 Ke3 Kh3 30 Nf1 Kg2 31 Nd2 Kxh2 32 Nf3+ Kg3 33 Nxe5 Ne6 34 Nd3 Kg2 35 Ke4 Kf1 36 Kd5 Nd8 37 Ne5 Ke2 38 c5 Kd2 39 c4 Kc3 40 c6 bxc6+ 41 Kc5 a5 42 Nf3 Kb2 43 Kd4 Kxa2 44 Kc3 c5 45 Nd2 Ne6 46 Ne4 a4 47 Kc2 c6 48 Kc3 Kb1 49 Nd2+ Kc1 50 Ne4 Kb1 51 Nd2+ Ka2 52 Ne4 a3 53 Kc2 Nd4+ 54 Kc3 Kb1 55 Nd2+ Kc1 56 Nb3+ Nxb3 0-1 56 Rutter – Forman, Birmingham 2006] **15 Rxd7 Kxd7 16 Bxe5?** [Good for equality only. White keeps his extra pawn after 16 Ne4 Rg8 17 Bxe5 Bxe5 18 Nc5+ Kd6 19 Nxb7+ Kd5 20 c4+ Kd4 21 Na5 threatening Nc6] **16...Bxe5 17 Nxf7 Bf4+ 18 Kd1 Rf8 19 Ne5+ Bxe5 20 Rxe5 Rxf2 21 Re2 Rxe2?** [This loses because White can create an outside passed pawn on the kingside, which forces the Black king to chase after it, in turn allowing White’s king to gobble the Black’s remaining queenside pawns. It was weird; I had calculated this out to be sure, and I had a funny feeling he wouldn’t realize it just led to a forced loss and play it. Sure enough!] **22 Kxe2 Kd6 23 g4! Ke5 24 Ke3** [Of course White’s king must oppose Black’s.] **24...c5 25 c4 b6 26 a4 Kf6 27 h4 Kg6 28 Ke4 Kf6 29 Kf4** [Not a mistake, but there was no reason not to play 29 g5+ immediately.] **29...Kg6** [29...e5+ would have prolonged the agony by just one move] **30 Ke5 Kf7 31 b3** [31 g5 wins faster] **31...Ke7 32 g5** [Finally.] **32...hxg5 33 hxg5 Kf7 34 g6+ Kxg6 35 Kxe6 Kg5 36 Kd6 1-0**



James Gardner - Mark Warriner

1990 Virginia Correspondence Champ - Preliminaries

Tchigorin

1 **Nf3 Nc6!** [Yeah baby! The 1990 Virginia Correspondence Championship was a two-tiered event. Players were allowed to enter multiple sections and the top three from each section advanced. In this section, I decided to “just have fun” and played some off-beat stuff for my personal amusement.] 2 **d4 d5 3 e3 Bg4 4 Nbd2** [I’d thought we were headed for a Tchigorin Defense, but this gets more obscure.] 4...**e6** [I thought hard about 4...e5 but was determined to get him out of book and on his own ASAP. I was working out of the now charmingly quaint *Encyclopedia of Chess Openings* (ECO), as we were almost all forced to in those days. Okay, yes, some preferred limiting themselves to the “trusty” and single-volume *Modern Chess Openings* (MCO)] 5 **c3 a6** [I simply decided I didn’t want to deal with the queen knight getting pinned. Duh.] 6 **h3** [As I’m sure I’ve written before, I can hear one of the old versions of the Fritz engine saying “And now, we’re on our own.”] 6...**Bxf3** [This might even should get a “?” as it gives up my bishop pair and cedes White his for no compensation. I’m not sure now why I didn’t play either 6...Bf5 or 6...Bh5 as there’s nothing in my old notes. Shame!] 7 **Nxf3 Nf6 8 Bd3 Bd6 9 O-O O-O 10 Re1** [This allows Black to dictate events whereas 10 c4 would have forced him to react: 10...dxc4 11 Bxc4 e5 12 a3 a5] 10...**e5 11 dxe5 Nxe5 12 Nxe5 Bxe5 13 Qc2 Re8 14 c4 dxc4 15 Bxc4 b5** [Ambitious. 15...c6 or 15...Qe7 is more circumspect.] 16 **Be2 Rb8** [Allowing White too much play. His pieces are a bit cramped, why allow them a chance to breath? Therefore 16...c5 and if 17 Qxc5? (17 Rd1 Qc7) 17...Qa5] 17 **a3** [17 Rd1; 17 a4 Qe7 18 axb5 axb5] 17...**Qe7** [or 17...c5] 18 **Bd2 Ne4** [*Wink*—tricks! 18...c5] 19 **Bf3?** [Sometimes tricks work! Now Black can play for an edge.] 19...**Nxd2 20 Qxd2 c5** [Finally. Black’s whole idea is that White’s b-pawn can’t really move right now as it’s pinned to the rook. So keep it fixed on b2 and eventually capture it.] 21 **Be2?** [Does nothing to stop Black’s plan. 21 Bd5 or 21 Red1] 21...**c4 22 Ra2?** [Awkward and cements the loss of the



pawn, and then the game. 22 Qc2 or 22 Rab1] **22...Red8** [22...Rbd8 might have been a bit better] **23 Qc2 g6** [It's either this or 23...a5 and White is basically in zugzwang as all moves lead to loss. He could still battle after 23...c3 24 bxc3 Rbc8 25 a4 Rxc3 26 Qb1 b4 27 Rd1 a5 28 Rxd8+ Qxd8] **24 Raa1** [24 Rd1 Rxd1+ 25 Qxd1 Rd8 26 Qc2 Rd6 27 Ra1 (27 b3 c3) Qd7] **24...c3** [24...a5 was better] **25 bxc3 Rbc8 26 Red1 Rxc3 27 Rxd8+ Qxd8 28 Qa2** [28 Qd1 Qc7 29 Bf3 is more of a fight.] **28...Qc7 29 Bf1?** [A surprisingly bad blunder in correspondence play. 29 Bd1 Qd6 30 Be2 Qc5 31 Qb1 Rxe3 32 fxe3 Qxe3+ 33 Kh1 Bxa1 34 Bxb5 Be5 35 Bxa6 Kg7 36 Qd3 Qe1+ 37 Qf1 Qg3 38 Kg1 Qxa3 and the fight rages on.] **29...Rc2 30 Qb1 Bxa1 31 Qxa1 Rc1 0-1** Black's next move will be 32...Qc4.

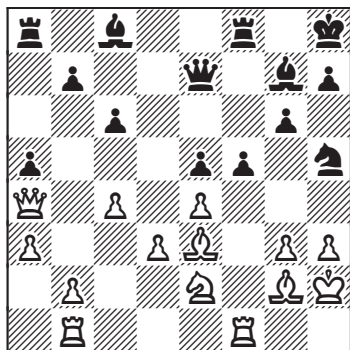
Mark Warriner – Jaime Foote

11th US Correspondence Champ – Preliminaries (1992-93) English

1 c4 [At the time this game was played, my opponent was a rated Master, so I put forth special effort in this game. Interestingly, it turned out to be an especially effortless win.] **1...e5 2 g3 d6 3 Bg2 f5** [I just felt like being a stinker here and getting weird. Actually, it's not really that weird; one Garry Kimovich Kasparov had won several games with this at that point in time, and went on to win a few more years later.] **4 Nc3 Nf6 5 d3 g6 6 e4 c6 7 Nge2 Bg7 8 O-O O-O 9 h3 a5** [For instance, 9...Be6 10 exf5 gxf5 11 Be3 Qe7 12 Qd2 Kh8 13 Rae1 Nbd7 14 f4 Rg8 15 Kh2 Qf7 16 Bf3 Rae8 17 b4 e4 18 dxe4 fxe4 19 Bxe4 Bxh3 20 Kxh3 Nxe4 21 Qd3 Bxc3 22 Qxc3+ Nxc3 0-1 22 Gruenberg –Kasparov, Hamburg 1987] **10 Be3 Kh8** [Probably not as good as either 10...Be6 or 10...Nh5] **11 Rb1 Na6** [Again, either 11...Be6 or 11...Nh5 were probably better.] **12 a3 Nh5** [Finally; and there again that idea of a move being good over and over. I recall a vaguely queasy feeling about having both knights 'on the rim' but they seemed okay here.] **13 f4** [13 exf5 gxf5 14 f4 would seem to cut out a lot of Black's play.] **13...Qe7** [Black was flailing about a bit for a plan. I was mostly just trying to keep pieces on effective squares and steadily improve the position. 13...exf4 might be better but things get kinda murky, eg 14 gxf4 Be6 15



Nd4 Qe7 16 Nxe6 Qxe6; or 14 Nxf4 Nxc3 15 Rf3 g5 16 Rxc3 gxf4 17 Bxf4 Nc5 18 Qd2] 14 Kh2 Nc5 [This shouldn't have led to more than equality. 14...fxe4 15 Nxe4 Bf5 16 fxe5 Bxe5 17 Bh6 Bg7 18 Bxg7+ Kxg7] 15 fxe5 [Heading into troubled waters. 15 d4 Nxe4 16 Nxe4 fxe4 17 fxe5 Rxf1 18 Qxf1 dxe5 19 d5] 15...dxe5 [White



is a little worse, but far from lost.] 16 Na4? Can't explain this move. It's just bad! 16 Bxc5 Qxc5 17 Na4 Qe3 18 Rf3 Qg5 19 Nb6 Rb8 20 Nxc8 Rbxc8 might also be in Black's favor, but there seems nothing wrong with 16 exf5 gxf5 17 d4] 16...Nxa4 17 Qxa4 (diagram)

17...f4 [the thematic breakthrough in this type of position] 18 gxf4? [He had to go for 18 Bd2 fxg3+ 19 Nxc3 Nf4 and now either 20 Qd1 Qh4 21 Qf3 Bxh3 22 Bxh3 Qxh3+ 23 Kg1 Bh6; or 20 Be1 Qg5 21 Qc2 Qh6 22 Rh1 Bxh3 23 Bxh3 Rad8 24 Kg1 Nxc3+ although honestly, White's in trouble anyway.] 18...exf4 19 Bd2

Pick your move order, it doesn't really matter:

19 Bd4 f3 20 Rxf3 (20 Bxf3 Bxd4 21 Nxd4 Qe5+) 20...Bxd4 21 Rxf8+ (21 Nxd4 Qe5+ 22 Kh1 Ng3+ 23 Rxc3 Qxc3) 21...Qxf8 22 Rf1 Be5+ 23 Kg1 Qc5+ 24 d4 Bxd4+ 25 Nxd4 Qxd4+ 26 Kh2 Qxb2 19 Nxf4 Rxf4 20 Rxf4 (20 Bxf4 Nxf4 21 Rxf4 Be5 22 Rf1 Bxf4+ 23 Rxf4 Qe5 24 Kg3 g5) 20...Be5 21 Rf1 Nxf4 22 Bxf4 Bxf4+ 23 Rxf4 Qe5 24 Kg3 g5

Changing Address?

Please notify the membership secretary if your address is changing! You can email changes/correction to Georgina Chin at gleechin15@gmail.com



19...f3 20 Rxf3 [If 20 Bxf3 Qd6+ 21 Kg2 Qxd3 and now 22 Bf4 Nxf4+ 23 Nxf4 Qd2+ 24 Be2 Rxf4 25 Qd1 Bxh3+; or 22 Qd1 Bxh3+ 23 Kxh3 (23 Kh2 Bxf1) Rxf3+ 24 Rxf3 Qxf3+ 25 Kh2 Be5+ 26 Kg1 Qg4+ and mate is inevitable.] **20...Rxf3 21 Bxf3 Qd6+** [21...Qh4 was a bit more accurate, but the text works.] **22 Kg2 Qxd3 23 Qd1 Bxh3+ 24 Kf2** [24 Kxh3 Qxf3+ 25 Kh2 Be5+ 26 Kg1 Qg4+ reaches a forced mate seen previously.] **24...Rf8 25 Ng1** [This allows mate in two; White can only chose which square.] **25...Bd4+ 0-1**

Trivia Answer: Me (with sincerest apologies)! Yep, yours truly took a stab at it for three issues a long time ago. I did so well I was rewarded with an early retirement. In my defense, at that time I was very young, totally inexperienced, and had only a typewriter (!), some scotch-tape to cut & paste a master together to take to the printers, and a bucket load of enthusiasm and good intent. And we know where the later leads. Forget about CPUs, database or engines. Believe it or not, those hadn't graced most people's homes at that point, much less their phones. And phones mostly hung on the wall or sat on a desk in those days. I had no one lined up to contribute material. The third and last issue I helmed had something like one or two games along with pages of crosstable results as material was scarce. And to think I went on to parlay that into a 15+ year career in Technical Editing and Quality Assurance, among other things. Sheesh.

At any rate, thank you again for the kind remarks about the column. While you're at it, please be sure to thank our Editor. We're very fortunate to have Macon. He's extremely dedicated, having kept Virginia players well informed and entertained for many years, all for nothing more than simple thanks and a love for the game. Thank you, Macon. I think it fair to say that I speak for the readers when I say we really appreciate your efforts, style and sensibilities. They are a perfect fit for *Virginia Chess*.





Chess Clubs

Please send additions / corrections to the Editor.

▲ Alexandria: Kingstowne Chess Club, Kingstowne South Center, 6080 Kingstowne Village Parkway, Tuesdays 7-9:30pm, info Gary McMullin, gary.at.kcc@gmail.com, (571) 295-5463 **▲ Arlington:** Arlington Chess Club, Arlington Forest United Methodist Church, 4701 Arlington Blvd, Fridays 7:30pm. Registration for rated Ladder and Action events ends 8pm. Blitz/Quick tourney first Friday of each month. Info www.arlingtonchessclub.com or email chrisney2@gmail.com **▲ Arlington Seniors Chess Club,** Madison Community Center, 3829 N Stafford St, Mondays, 9:30am, info 703-228-5285 **▲ Ashburn:** Ashburn Chess Club, Sakasa Tea and Coffee House, 44927 George Washington Blvd, Suite 125. Tuesdays 5pm, Saturdays 3pm. Bring board and set. Info www.meetup.com/Ashburn-Chess-Club/ or Scott Knoke, 703-433-2146 **▲ Blacksburg:** Chess Club of Virginia Tech, GB Johnson Student Center, Rm 102, Virginia Tech, Wednesdays 7-9pm **▲ Centreville:** DMV Rated Ladder, 13810 Braddock Rd. Rated games (time control 30/90, SD/30, d5) Mondays 6pm, PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED via email (dmvchess@gmail.com) or text message (703-415-6600). **▲ Charlottesville:** Charlottesville Chess Club, St Mark Lutheran Church, Rt 250 & Alderman Rd, Monday evenings **▲ Senior Center,** 1180 Pepsi Place, 6-8pm on Thursdays. Info 434-244-2977 **▲ Chesapeake:** Great Bridge United Methodist Church, corner of Battlefield Blvd & Stadium Dr, Tuesdays, 6:30-10pm, info 686-0822 **▲ Culpeper:** Culpeper Chess Club, Culpeper County Public Library, 271 Southgate Shopping Center, Culpeper, VA 22701. Wednesdays 6:30-8:30pm 540-727-0695 **▲ Danville:** Danville Chess Club, Danville YMCA, 810 Main Street. Mondays 6:30-9:30 pm. Info John Thompson 434-799-8898 **▲ Fort Eustis:** contact Sorel Utsey 878-4448 **▲ Fredericksburg:** Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania area chess players get together every Friday evening 6-10pm on the second floor of Wegman's in Central Park. **▲ Glenss:** Rappahannock Community College-Glenns Campus Chess Club, Glenns Campus Library, Tuesdays 8-10pm in the student lounge, info Zack Loesch 758-5324(x208) **▲ Gloucester:** Gloucester Chess Club, Gloucester Library (main branch), Tuesdays 5-8pm, www.co.gloucester.va.us/lib/clubschess.html **▲ Harrisonburg:** Shenandoah Valley Chess Club, Trinity Presbyterian Church, corner of S High (rt 42) & Maryland Ave (Port Republic Rd), Fridays 7:30pm **▲ McLean:** Booz Allen Hamilton CC, Hamilton Bldg, Rm 2032, 8283 Greensboro Dr. Thursdays, info Thomas Thompson, 703-902-5418, thompson_thomas@bah.com **▲ Mechanicsville:** Mechanicsville Chess Club, various times and locations—see www.mechanicsvillechessclub.org for up-to-date details **▲ Stonewall Library,** Stonewall Pkwy, Mondays 6:30-9pm 730-8944 **▲ Norfolk:** Larchmont Public Library, 6525 Hampton Blvd, Wednesday 6-9pm **▲ ODU Chess Club,** Webb Univ Ctr, Old Dominion University, info www.odu.edu/~chess **▲ Orange County:** Wilderness Branch Library Chess Club, 6421 Flat Run Rd, Locust Grove VA 22508 most 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 6:30-8:30pm 540-854-5310 **▲ Reston:** Reston Community Ctr Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Rd, Thursdays 6:30-9:30 pm. Limited number of sets & boards available or bring your own. No fee but you must sign-in at each meeting **▲ Richmond:** Henrico Chess Club, Virginia Center Commons food court, 10101 Brook Rd, Glen Allen, Va, Wednesdays & Fridays 6-9, www.henricochessclub.com, 443-823-5530 **▲ Huguenot Chess Knights,** The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 10660 Duryea Drive, Richmond, Va 23235-2107, 1st & 3rd Friday of each month, 7-11pm, info Walter Chester 804-276-5662 **▲ Panera Bread Chess,** Panera Bread-Ridge Shopping Center, 1517 N Parham Rd, Richmond, Va 23229. Thursdays 6-10 pm, casual games, blitz, rapid or no clock. Lots of tables and room to play, heated outdoor patio. **▲ Roanoke:** Roanoke Valley Chess Club, Saturday afternoons 1-6pm in the coffee shop of the Roanoke Natural Foods Co-Op, 1319 Grandin Road SW. For more information www.roanokechess.com or write PO Box 14143, Roanoke, VA 24038, (540) 725-9525 **▲ Stafford:** Bella Cafe, 3846 Jeff Davis Highway, Stafford VA 703-291-5690 very chess friendly - games most days - more show up Tuesdays 6-9pm **▲ Virginia Beach:** Tidewater Community Chess Club, Bldg D ("Kempsville") Cafeteria, Tidewater Community College Va Beach Campus, 1700 College Crescent Rd. Mondays 7-10pm **▲ Warrenton:** Warrenton Chess Club, St James Episcopal Church, 73 Culpeper Street, Warrenton VA 20186, Thursdays 6:40pm info <http://warrentonchessclub.com/> or email jonathan@maxwellchess.com Occasionally the church is unavailable and the club meets 1 mile away at the Warrenton Community Center, 430 East Shirley Avenue, Warrenton VA 20186 - check web page for announcements. **▲ Waynesboro:** Augusta Chess Club, Books-A-Million, 801 Town Center Dr, every Saturday 10am-noon. Contact Alex Patterson 540-405-1111 or AugustaChessClub@gmail.com **▲ Winchester:** Winchester Chess Club, Westminster-Canterbury Home for the Elderly, Tuesdays 7pm

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