

# CalChess Journal

Winter 2014

## Naroditsky, Shankland Among Winners at 3<sup>rd</sup> Bay Area International



Khachiyan, Mikhalevki and Roiz win  
5<sup>th</sup> Annual Golden State Open  
CalChess Grade Level Championship

# CalChess Journal



Winter 2014

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*Cover Photos by Richard Shorman*

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## CalChess President's Message

From Tom Langland



The 2014 chess year has certainly started off with a bang! The top players had the opportunity to match skills with over a dozen Grandmasters at the Bay Area International with Darwin Yang getting his final GM norm and Tatev Abrahamyan achieving her final IM norm, along with your President getting his final IA norm. Following that was the 5th Annual Golden State Open with a \$25,000 ALL guaranteed prize fund. For our scholastic players the Grade Level State Championships, the Girls State Championships and the Age Level Championship were major events. Finally every level player could form team to compete in the US National Amateur Team West in mid-February.

Over the board chess is still alive and thriving in Northern California. As I look at the chess calendar, I see tournaments scheduled for almost every single weekend for both the Open and Scholastic calendar. For chess players, we are lucky to live in an area with such huge abundance of opportunities to play, even with the advent of online play. Take the time to get away from the computer screen and test those skills in some face-to-face battles.

I want to take this opportunity to especially thank Scott Mason for taking on the editing of this issue of the Journal. Without energetic people like Scott stepping up to make things happen, none of our hugely successful chess community would be possible. Please let him know how much you appreciate this issue and encourage him to continue, and obviously if you can lend your assistance in any way to support his efforts, we all benefit.

Finally, I want to alert all our scholastic players to sign up for our upcoming 39th Annual CalChess State Scholastic Championships. I really want to reach out and inspire parents and coaches to bring your young players to this historic and prestigious tournament. This is the BIG ONE! Because the National Junior High Championships is scheduled at the same time as our main event on April 26-27, we have split our Junior High Championship off to the weekend of April 12-13. This will also give those Elementary school players who would like to prepare for the later Championship event, a unique opportunity play in both events! Even Junior High players can play in both events, with the winners of the earlier event receiving the State Championship Titles.

Tom Langland  
CalChess President

*The CalChess Journal accepts submissions pertaining to chess, especially chess in Northern California. All Organizers are encouraged to send in a story, pictures and games (with or without notes) from their events. Articles, games and photographs should be submitted in electronic form to [scott@calchess.org](mailto:scott@calchess.org)*

## Recent Events

### United States Amateur Team West

Each Presidents Day Weekend, there are four “Amateur Team” tournaments held across the United States. For the last three years, the Bay Area has had the honor of hosting the United States Amateur Team West. The others are the South held near Ft. Lauderdale, FL, the North held near Chicago, IL and the East held in Parsippany, NJ.

This years event attracted 52 teams to the Santa Clara Convention Center. Players compete in teams of four players (with or without an alternate) that must have an average team rating of below 2200. In addition to the honors for winning the team event, individuals can win prizes for having the best performance on their respective boards. There is also a contest for the best team name as judged by the players.

The tournament ended with five teams tied for first place with 5/6 match points. The last round was particularly intense as the last game would have a huge impact on the standings. That game, De Guzman-Lu, is presented in this article with notes by the

winner. With five teams tied, the tiebreaks determined the final standings and who would represent the West against the winners from the South, North and East.

Winning the event for the second year in a row with the best tiebreaks was the team from the Norcal House of Chess. This years team was comprised of GM Enrico Sevillano, IM Ricardo De Guzman, FM Ronald Cusi and Shafieen Ibrahim. They now get the opportunity to play against the winning team from the other three tournaments for the title of National Champion. Last year, they won the National title so they are hoping to repeat that performance.

The other teams that scored 5/6 match points were “Undercover Llamas”, “Abusement Park”, “Bay Area Berkeley United”, and “Nohunterhere”. The “Undercover Llamas” were comprised of IM Luke Harmon-vellotti, NM Vincent Huang, Julian Lin, and Carl Harmon-vellotti. “Abusement Park” was NM Vignesh Panchanat, Allan Beilin, FM Tanuj Vasudeva, and Paul

## US Amateur Team West

### Winning Teams

*Five Teams Tied for 1st*

1<sup>st</sup> (tiebreak) 5/6

#### **“Norcal House of Chess National Champions”**

GM Enrico Sevillano  
IM Ricardo De Guzman  
FM Ronald Cusi  
Shafieen Ibrahim

2<sup>nd</sup> (tiebreak) 5/6

#### **“Undercover Llamas”**

IM Luke Harmon-vellotti  
NM Vincent Huang  
Julian Lin  
Carl Harmon-vellotti

3<sup>rd</sup> (tiebreak) 5/6

#### **“Abusement Park”**

NM Vignesh Panchanat  
Allan Beilin  
FM Tanuj Vasudeva  
Paul Richter

4th (tiebreak) 5/6

#### **“Bay Area Berkeley United”**

FM Cameron Wheeler  
NM Albert Lu  
Teemu Virtanen  
Josiah Stearman

5th (tiebreak) 5/6

#### **“Nohunterhere”**

Daniel Liu  
Jack Qijie Zhu  
Joshua Cao  
Edward Li



### Board Prizes

Bd. 1 Ashik Uzzaman 6/6  
Bd. 2 NM Albert Lu 5.5/6  
Bd. 3 FM Ronald Cusi 6/6  
Bd. 4 Kevin Rosenberg 5.5/6

### Best Name

"We'd Play the Endgame like Carlsen (if we could only get there)"

Richter. "Bay Area Berkeley United" was the team of FM Cameron Wheeler, NM Albert Lu, Teemu Virtanen and Josiah Stearman.

"Nohunterhere" which was the team from the Liu Chess Club was comprised of Daniel Liu, Jack Qijie Zhu, Joshua Cao and Edward Li.

"Nohunterhere" also won the prize for Top Club.

In addition to the top places, the following teams won for their rating classes.

"Sentestrat" comprised of Simon Rubinstein-salzedo, Varun Jalan, Theodore Biyiasas and Ruth Haring won the U2000 prize. The family team "Canafe Pawnzors" won the U1800 prize with the players Arthur Canafe, Abraham Canafe, Aaron Canafe and Andrew Canafe.

Top under 1600 was won by "Whose Move is it Anyway?" comprised of Sloan Setiadikurnia, Michael Shelton, George Yunin Wang and Sean Patric Gospe.

"Golden Horse" consisting of Andrew Peng, Kevin Pan, Samuel Lim and Christopher W Yoo won the U1400 prize. Finally, top U1200 was won



52 Teams Competed

Photo by Richard Shorman

by "Chess Champs" with the team members Edward Detrick, Sri H Doddapaneni, Arnav Lingannagari, Kumar Sta Chandra and Jonathan Liu.

Winners of the prizes for the best on each board were Ashik Uzzaman with 6/6 to take the prize for the first board. NM Albert Lu was the winner on board two with 5.5/6 points. On board three, FM Ronald Cusi won with a score of 6/6. On board four Kevin Rosenberg won the board prize with 5.5/6.

For the best name competition, the winning name was "We'd Play the Endgame like Carlsen (if we could only get there)".

There were also other categories of team prizes. Winning the prize for best family team was "Beyond Chess" comprised of IM Kongliang Deng, WIM Xiaosha Lu, Queena Deng and

Tim Deng. Winner of the top High School prize was "The Mighty Matadors" with the players NM Kesav Viswanadha, Neel Apte, Daniel Zheng and Kevin Rosenberg. The "Barbaric Queens" won the top Female Team award with the teammates Uyanga Byambaa, Enkhmaa Nyangar, Enkhj Gomboluudev and Amuuna Zulkhuu. Top Elementary School Team was won by "Gomes ES – Fremont" with Ganesh Murugappan, Jason Shuhe Zhang, William Sartorio and Avyay Varadarajan on the team. "Salesforce Chess Club" won the prize for the top Industry team with the players Ashik Uzzaman, Spen Scorcelletti, Gan Mathrubootham and Mallikarjunaiah Nellore. The top Middle school team was "Hillview MS – Menlo Park" with the teammates Viswanathan Swaminathan, Elias Khaled Nasr, Jonathan

Song Liu, Kip Gorey and Curtis Heller.

The tournament was organized by Salman Azhar and Bay Area Chess with Tom Langland, John McCumiskey and Jordan Langland directing.

The first game NM Albert Lu annotates his intense last round upset win that created the five way tie for first. Special thanks to Albert for allowing the organizer to publish his notes.

**White:** IM R. de Guzman (2502)  
**Black:** NM Albert Lu (2240)  
D61 Queens Gambit Declined

### Notes by NM Albert Lu

This was the last round of the Amateur Team West, top board, and I was board 2. We were playing a cheese team with 2 2500s, 1 2300 and 1 1400. We were down by a point and needed a win to contest for first.

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Bg5 0-0 6.e3 a6 7.Qc2 Nbd7 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Bd3 c6 10.0-0 Re8 11.Rab1**

He comes out slightly better out of the opening.

**11...a5 12.a3 Nf8**

12...b5 first might've been better. I don't waste time going to f8 and back.

**13.b4 axb4 14.axb4 b5 15.Ne5 Qb6**

15...Bb7 16.Rfc1 Qb6

**16.Rfc1**

16.Nxc6 Qxc6 17.Bxb5 Qe6 18.Bxe8 Nxe8 19.Bxe7 Qxe7 20.Nxd5

**16...h6 17.Bh4**

We both missed a tough to see Nxc6 move. 17.Bxf6 Bxf6 18.Nxc6 Qxc6 19.Bxb5 Qe6 20.Bxe8 Qxe8 21.Nxd5

**17...Bb7 18.h3 N8d7 19.f4 Nxe5 20.fxe5 Nd7 21.Bf2**

Bad move. He will never accomplish e4 so there is no point behind this move. Better to go Bg3 or Bxe7.

**21...Nb8**

With the idea of 22.e4 Na6 23.exd5 Nxb4 24.Rxb4 Bxb4 25.d6 We see here an imbalance, but both sides have chances, which was a position I would willingly take against my higher rated opponent.

**22.Rf1 Na6 23.Na2 Bc8**

Repositioning my bishop onto a far better diagonal

**24.Qd2 Nc7**

Among other ideas, Ra4 then Na6 would put a lot of pressure on the pawn.

**25.Nc3 Be6 26.Bc2 Ra3**

Slowly, I am beginning to outplay my opponent, and I reach a relatively comfortable position.

**27.h4**

27.Qd3 g6 28.Nxd5 Rxd3 29.Nxb6 Rc3 30.Bd1 Rb8 31.e4 Rxb6 32.d5 Rb7 33.dxe6 Nxe6 better for me

**27...h5 28.Ne2 g6 29.Kh2 Bg4 30.Bg3 Ne6**

Reaching the time control.

**31.Nc1 Ng7**

With the idea of securing f5.

**32.Nb3 Ra2 33.Nc1**

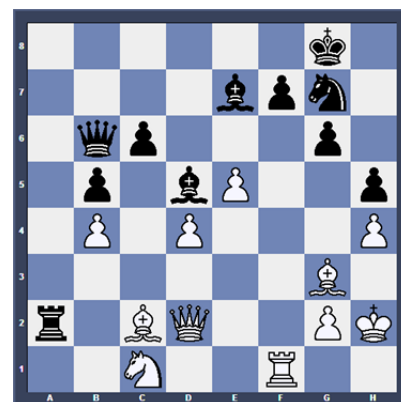
By this point, the match score was 1-1 and my first board, Cameron Wheeler, was winning, so he told me that a draw was fine. I had reached a clearly better position, so I thought he would take the draw.

**33...Ra3 34.Rb3 Rea8 35.e4 Be6**

He outplayed himself by not taking the draw. White is in big trouble here, as my pieces are completely coordinated and his are in a mess.

**36.exd5 Bxd5 37.Rxa3 Rxa3 38.Ne2 Ra2 39.Nc1** (diagram)

Missing a simple tactic.



**39...Bxb4**

39...Rb2 was also fine because of this easy to see trick  
40.Nd3 Qxd4--+

#### 40.Qf2 Ra3

White was down to 15 minutes with 53 minutes left for Black.

#### 41.e6

He went for bluffing and tactics. However, that may have been a smart decision as now he might be able to attack and I can't torture him for another 2 hours.

#### 41...Bxe6 42.Be5 Be7?!

A small mistake. Allows him to get some control and mess up the position a bit. 42...Nf5 43.Bxf5 Bxf5 44.Qf4 Qd8 Was far better and allows me to be simply winning and up two pawns.

#### 43.Qf4 Qd8

At this point, Cameron Wheeler took a draw because I had high winning chances and their first board, Enrico Sevillano, managed to hold on to his position and reach an equal endgame.

#### 44.Qh6 Bf8 45.Kg1 Bc4 46.Bf6 Qc8 47.Re1 Rg3

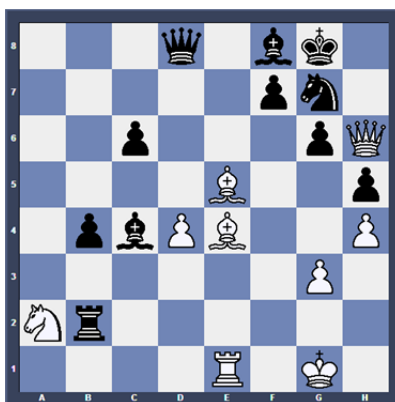
Another mistake. I am having a lot of trouble converting these positions because there are so many options for me. 47...Bd5 with the idea of Qg4 was a better move which retains full control over the position.

#### 48.Be5 Rc3 49.Bb1 Qd8 50.g3 b4 51.Na2 Rb3 52.Be4 Rb2 (diagram)



Round 4 match between "Nohunterhere" on the left and winners "Norcal House of Chess National Champions" on the right. Photo by Richard Shorman

A bit of a mistake because of a simple double attack.



#### 53.Nc1

53.Qc1 is a tough move to consider because retreating that queen is not one of the moves that pops up, but it is very effective, but my advantage was so large that I am still winning. 53...Re2 54.Rxe2 Bxe2 55.Qxc6 Bg4 56.Nc1 the only problem is that now his pieces are coordinated and it will be tougher to beat him.

#### 53...Bd5

Around this point I am starting to slip up. I am making the wrong moves, as I am going for a counter-attack, when in reality I should be pushing my pawns with 53...b3. There is not much he can do without my help to further attack the kingside.

#### 54.Nd3 Rb3 55.Nc5 Rc3

Around this time, people started clustering around my board. This was possibly the most important game of the round, and there were already about 15 people watching. It was a pretty tense atmosphere. Also, at this time, he had about 10 minutes while I had 20 minutes. 55...Rxc3+ 56.Bxc3 Nf5 57.Qf4 Bd6 58.Qg5 Be7 59.Qf4 Bd6 60.Qg5 was a line I saw, but I needed a win, and in team tournaments, always put your needs behind your team's needs. 60...Qxg5 61.hxg5 Bxc3

#### 56.Bb1 Qc8 57.Kh2 Qg4 58.Ne4 Bxe4 59.Bxe4 Ra3



I start to get my counter-attack going on the kingside. This is when my play really starts to move forward.

**60.Bb1 Qf3 61.Kg1 Qc3 62.Kf2 Qf3+**

62...Qb2+ 63.Re2 (63.Kg1 Rf3 is completely winning.) The only excuse for this is after 63...Qxb1 64.Bxg7 Qf5+ 65.Kg2 I missed the Qf5+ move. I had far too little time.

**63.Kg1 Qc3 64.Re2 Ra1 65.Kf2**

We were both below 5 minutes. There was a lot of tension in the air as there were about 20–25 people around us. I became pretty nervous.

**65...Ra8 66.Be4 b3 67.Kg2? Ra2 68.Rf2 Rxf2+?**

missing a tactic 68...Qe1 69.Qf4 Rxf2+ 70.Qxf2 Qxe4+ time is a very strong factor in this game.

**69.Kxf2 b2 70.Qe3 Qc1**

70...b1Q winning a piece

**71.Qd3 f5 72.Qb3+ Kh7 73.Bd3 Qd2+**

73...c5 74.d5 (74.Bf4 c4 75.Bxc1 bxc1Q winning. The idea didn't come to me during that game.) 74...c4

**74.Kf3 Qb4?!±**

Throwing away most of my advantage but reaching a clear endgame where only I have chances to win. I didn't have enough time to think what else to do. By this time, we

both had about 1–2 minutes, and we had to move as fast as possible.

**75.Qxb4 Bxb4 76.Bb1 Ne6 77.Ke3 Kg8 78.Kd3 Be1 79.Kc2 Kf7**

79...Bf2

**80.Kxb2 Nf8 81.Ba2+ Ke7 82.Kc2 Nd7 83.Bf4 Bb4 84.Kd3 Bd6?**

Misevaluating the position as Bxd6 is simply a draw.

**85.Bg5+**

85.Bxd6+=

**85...Ke8 86.Ke3 c5 87.d5 Ne5 88.Kd2?? Nf3+ --+**

I massively relaxed after this move because I knew I won the game.

**89.Ke2 Nxf5 90.hxf5 Bxf3 91.Kf3 Be5**

Winning later on in this easily won position. It was a very satisfying finish as both sides had about 10 seconds left. Luckily, we have time delay. Overall, I felt like this was an extremely exciting game, and a great success for my team. Unfortunately we only got 4th place, even though we were tied for first.

**0–1**

Our next game is a win in round four from NM Roger Poehlmann that he was kind enough to annotate for us.

**White:**NM R. Poehlmann(2264)  
**Black:** Josh Bowman (2087)  
A37 English Opening

### *Notes by NM Roger Poehlmann*

Berkeley Chess School vs Stanford-B, Board 1. The Big Game! Go Bears!

#### **1.g3**

As a transpositional device, this move avoids the Queen's Indian and Hedgehog, and deserves equal respect with 1.Nf3 and 1.c4.

#### **1...c5 2.Bg2 Nc6 3.c4**

3.e4 will transpose to a Big Clamp (or Closed Sicilian) which Black usually avoids by playing 1.e4 c5 2.g3 d5!

#### **3...g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.a3**

[5.Nf3 e6 6.d4!? was a gambit played several times by Miles and Chernin in the 1980's, and after cxd4 7.Nb5 d5 8.cxd5 Qa5+ neither 9.Nd2 nor 9.Qd2 have proven to give White an advantage.

#### **5...a5 6.Nf3 e5 (diagram)**



#### **7.d4!? cxd4 8.Nb5**



But now ...Qa5+ is impossible for Black!

### 8...Nf6

8...d6 9.e3 Nge7 10.exd4 0-0 and Black emerged unscathed in Poehlmann-Watson, Berkeley Club Championship 2012.

### 9.Nd6+ Ke7 10.c5

10.Ng5 Qb6 11.Ngxf7 Rf8 12.Nxc8+ Raxc8 13.Ng5 gives White nothing, but 10.Nxe5! Nxe5 11.Qxd4 Nc6 12.Qc5 would have been crushing.

### 10...b6 11.Nxe5 Nxe5 12.Bxa8 Ba6!?

12...bxc5 13.Nxc8+ Qxc8 14.Bg2 would have given White a safe, clear plus.

### 13.Bg2?

13.Bb7 was my opponent's post-game suggestion: 13...Bxb7 14.Nxb7 Qa8 15.Qxd4 is winning. 13.Qxd4

Nfg4 14.Bg5+ f6 was what I spent most of my time on, but there isn't a good continuation of the attack: 15.Bf3 fxe5 16.Bxg4 Nf3+ wins the queen for Black.

### 13...bxc5 14.Bf4!?

14.Ne4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 d5 and White is several tempi down on the 12...bxc5 line, so Black has good compensation for the exchange here. Since my team captain didn't reiterate his earlier advice of "Don't take any unnecessary risks" this round, I offered a knight sacrifice.

### 14...Kxd6!

Our silicon masters confirm that this gutsy move is Black's best choice.

### 15.b4 Nh5?

Black should have tried 5...Nd5 or 15...Qb6 here.

### 16.bxc5+ Ke7 17.Bg5+ f6 18.Qxd4 fxe5 19.Qd6+ Ke8

### 20.Qxa6 Nf3+

20...Qf6 21.Qxf6 Nxf6 22.Rb1 would be roughly equal, but since Black can be a piece up after 20...Nf3+ he naturally tries for more, but the opposite-colored bishops, the offside knight, and the undeveloped Rh8 prove to be too many problems to solve in time pressure.

### 21.Bxf3 Bc3+ 22.Kf1 Bxa1 23.Kg2 Bg7 24.Rd1 Nf6 25.c6

Pawns on the sixth rank like this are almost worth a piece.

### Qc7 26.Qb7?

26.Rd3! dxc6 (26...Rf8 27.Re3+ Kd8 28.Qa8+ Qc8 29.c7+ Kxc7 30.Qxa5+ Kb8 31.Qb6+ Qb7 32.Qxb7#) 27.Bxc6+ Kf8 28.Rb3 Nd7 29.Bxd7 Qxd7 30.Rb8+ Kf7 31.Rb7+-

### 26...Qxb7

26...Kd8 27.Qb5 Re8 28.Qxg5 Re7∞

### 27.cxb7 Ke7 28.Rc1 g4?

28...d5! 29.Rc7+ Kd6 30.Rxg7 g4 31.Bxg4 Nxe4 32.Rxe7 Rb8∞

### 29.Rc8 gxf3+ 30.Kxf3 Nd5 31.Rxe8 Bxe8 32.b8Q

Touchdown, Bears!

### Bf6 33.Qa8 1-0

In our next game FM Alfredo De La Cruz plays a nice attack against expert Andrew Kao in this first round game. For this and the remaining games



Salman Azhar giving pre-round instructions.

Photo by Richard Shorman

analysis was assisted by  
Houdini 4.0B 6cpu.

**White:** FM A. De La Cruz(2508)  
**Black:** Andrew Kao (2096)  
E17 Queens Indian Defense

**1.c4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.g3 b6  
4.Bg2 Bb7 5.O-O Be7 6.d4  
O-O 7.d5 exd5 8.Nd4 Ne4  
9.cxd5 Bxd5 10.Nf5 Bc6**

If 10...c6 11.Ne3 Nf6 12.Nxd5  
Nxd5 13.Bxd5 cxd5 14.Qxd5  
and White recovers the pawn  
with long term pressure on  
the queen pawn as seen in  
Dudas-Bandy, Hungary 2009.

**11.Nxg7! Kxg7 12.Bxe4 f5!?  
13.Bc2N**

Previously played was 13.Bg2  
in Pomar Salamanca-Franco  
Raymundo, Zaragoza 1957.

**13...Bd6 14.Nc3 Na6  
15.Be3**

Worth considering is 15.e4!  
Qf6 (15...f4? 16.e5! Bxe5  
17.Qh5+-) 16.exf5 Kh8 17.Ne4  
Bxe4 (17...Qxf5? 18.Nxd6+-)  
18.Bxe4± and White has a  
pawn plus, the two bishops  
and a space edge.

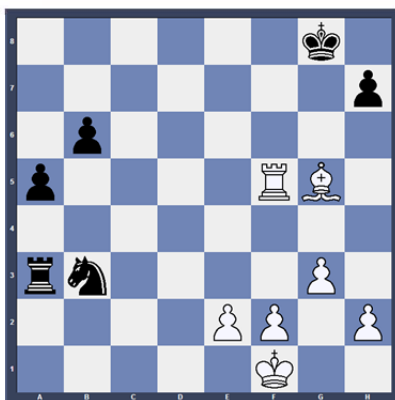
**15...Qf6 16.a3 Nc5 17.Nd5  
Qe6 18.Nf4 Bxf4 19.Bxf4  
Qd5?!**

An alternative was 19...Qf6  
20.Bxc7 Qxb2

**20.Qxd5 Bxd5 21.Bxc7  
Rfe8 22.Rfe1 Rac8 23.Bf4  
Nb3!? 24.Rad1! Rxc2  
25.Rxd5 Re7 26.Kf1 Kg8  
27.Bg5!? Rf7 28.Red1  
Rxb2 29.Rxd7 Rxd7  
30.Rxd7 a5 31.Rd5 Ra2  
32.Rxf5 Rxa3? (diagram)**



GM Enrico Sevillano (right) battles IM Kongliang Deng (left). Photo by Richard Shorman



**33.Bh6!** and mate is  
unavoidable. **1-0**

Admit it, at some point in  
your chess career you have  
spent time analyzing the Fried  
Liver Attack. In our next  
game from round 4, WFM  
Uyanga Byambaa plays it  
against NM Robert Hatarik,  
who allows it believing it to be  
an unsound choice.

**White:**WFM U. Byambaa(2113)  
**Black:** NM R. Hatarik(2210)  
C57 Two Knights Defense

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4  
Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Nxd5**

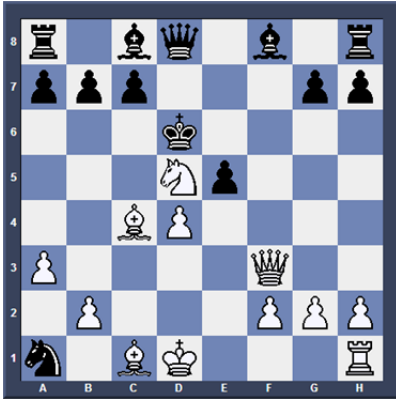
**6.Nxf7 Kxf7 7.Qf3+ Ke6  
8.Nc3 Ncb4! 9.a3 Nxc2+  
10.Kd1 Nxa1**

10...Nd4! 11.Bxd5+ (11.Qe4 c6  
12.Re1 Kf7! 13.Nxd5 cxd5  
14.Bxd5+ Be6! ECO) 11...Kd6  
12.Qg3 (12.Qf7 Qe7 13.Ne4+  
Kd7 14.Nc5+ Kd6 15.Nxb7+  
Bxb7 16.Qxe7+ Bxe7 17.Bxb7  
Rab8 18.Be4 Nb3 ECO )  
12...c6 13.Re1 Qe7 14.Bc4 b5  
15.Rxe5 bxc4 16.Rxe7+ Kxe7  
17.Qh4+ Kf7 18.Qxd4 led to a  
win in Ducay-Foglar, Slovakia  
2013.

**11.Nxd5 Kd6**

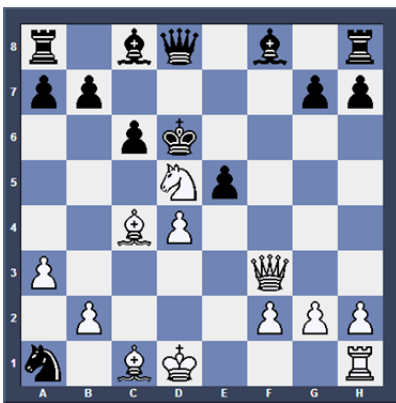
11...Kd7 12.d4! Bd6 13.dxe5  
Bxe5 14.Qd3!± with an attack  
- Estrin ECO; Robert told me  
he looked at it and 11...Qh4!,  
which he considered during  
the game, was what the  
computer kicked out as best  
here.

**12.d4 (diagram)**



After the game Robert and many passersby (including a couple of masters) spent a great deal of time looking at the sequence 12...Qh4 13.dxe5+ Kc5 which he had considered playing during the game. After much time trying various ways to chase the king around, no clear win was found. Of course Robert computer checked it that night and it immediately found the line 14.Qd3! when the planned 14...Qd4 trying to trade queens fails to 15.b4+-

12...c6 (diagram)



13.Bf4!N

WFM Byambaa finds a brilliant way to conclude the attack. 13.Re1 had been tried in Cser-Brouwer, email 2009

13...Be6 14.Bxe5+ Kd7

15.Nc7 Bxc4 16.Qf5+ Ke7  
17.Re1! Qc8 18.Bf4+ 1-0

18.Bf4+ Be6 19.Rxe6+ Qxe6  
(19...Kd8 20.Re8#) 20.Qxe6+  
Kd8 21.Qe8#

Winning the prize for best performance on Board 1 was Ashik Uzzaman. Here is his win from Round 3.

White: Arvind Sankar (1991)  
Black: Ashik Uzzaman (1990)  
B36 Sicilian Defense, Maroczy

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4  
4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.c4

The Maroczy Bind. White grabs space and tries to squeeze Black. Black must try to strike back at the center at some point with ...b5, ...d5 or ...f5.

5...Nf6 6.Nc3 Nxd4  
7.Qxd4 Bg7 8.Be3 d6  
9.Be2 0-0 10.Qd2 Ng4  
11.Bxg4 Bxg4 12.Bd4 Be6  
13.Bxg7 Kxg7 14.0-0 a6

14...Bxc4?? 15.Qd4+- winning the bishop.

15.Qd4+ f6 16.f4!? Rc8  
17.Nd5 b5! 18.b3 bxc4  
19.bxc4

The c-pawn becomes a nice target.

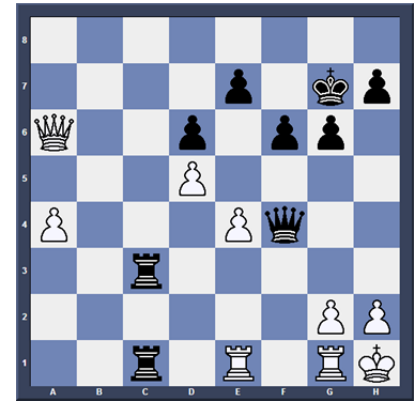
19...Rc5 20.Rab1 Bxd5!?

Black allows White to get rid of a weakness but at the cost of control of the c-file.

21.cxd5 Qc7 22.Qb2 Rc8  
23.Qb7 Rc2 24.Qxa6?!

24.Qxc7 R8xc7

24...Qc5+ 25.Kh1 Qc3  
26.Rbe1 Qd2! 27.Rg1 Qxf4  
28.a4?! R8c3! 29.Re2 Rc1!  
30.Ree1? (diagram)



30...Rh3!! 31.g3

31.gxh3 Qf3+ 32.Rg2 Rxe1+  
33.Qf1 Rxf1#

Qf3+ 0-1

31...Qf3+ 32.Rg2 Rxe1+  
33.Qf1 Rxf1#

Sloan Setiadikurnia from the team "Whose Move is it Anyway?" got off to a great start with upset wins over masters in the first two rounds. In the first round it was a win in a time scramble. Here is the win from the second round.

White: S. Setiadikurnia (1886)  
Black: NM Eric Shiller (2200)  
B78 Sicilian Defense, Dragon

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

We have arrived at the main line Yugoslav attack.

9...Bd7 10.0-0-0 Rc8



### 11.Bb3 Nxd4!?

11...Ne5 is the main line. Alternately Black can try the Soltis variation with 11...h5.

### 12.Bxd4 b5 13.Nd5 Nxd5 14.Bxd5 a5 15.Bxg7

Eliminating the Dragon Bishop.

### 15...Kxg7 16.a3 Qc7 17.Qd4+ Kg8 18.Rd2 Rb8 19.e5!? b4

19...dxe5 20.Bxf7+ Kxf7  
21.Qxd7 Qxd7 22.Rxd7 Ke6  
23.Rhd1=

### 20.exd6 exd6 21.axb4 Rxb4!? 22.Qf6! a4?!

22...Bc6 was worthy of consideration.

### 23.Re1! a3?

Consistent but better was 23...Be8.

### 24.bxa3 Rb5 (diagram)



### 25.Re7! Rxd5 26.Rxd5 Qc4 27.Qd4 Qa2!?

A worthy try but Black runs out of checks.

### 28.Rxd7 Rc8 29.Qd3 Qa1+ 30.Kd2 Re8 31.Qd4 Qe1+

### 32.Kd3 Qd1+ 33.Kc3 Rc8+ 34.Kb4 Rb8+ 35.Ka5 Ra8+ 36.Kb6 Qb1+ 37.Qb4 Qg1+ 38.Rd4 Qf1 39.R4xd6 Ra6+ 40.Kb7 1-0

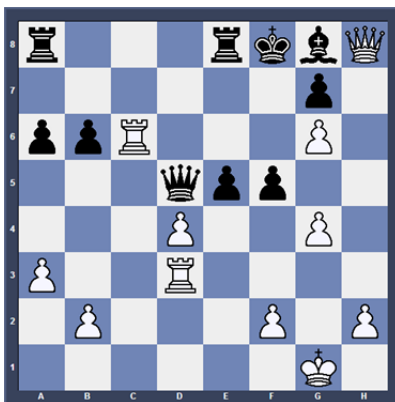
Andrew Kao crashes through with a nice attack in this game from round 4.

White: Andrew Kao (2096)  
Black: Rohan Desikan (1697)  
D13 Slav Defense

### 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.c4 c6 4.Nc3 Bf5 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.Qb3 b6 7.Bf4 Nc6 8.e3 a6 9.Rc1 Na5 10.Qa4+ Bd7 11.Qc2 e6 12.Bd3 Nc6 13.0-0 Be7 14.Qe2 Nb4 15.Bb1 0-0 16.a3 Nc6 17.Rfd1 Nh5 18.Ng5!? Nxf4 19.Bxh7+ Kh8 20.exf4 Bxg5 21.fxg5 Kxh7 22.Qh5+ Kg8 23.Rd3! e5 24.g4 f5?

Better was 24...g6 25.Qh4  
Bxg4 26.Qxg4 Nxd4∞

### 25.g6! Re8 26.Nxd5! Be6 27.Qh7+ Kf8 28.Qh8+ Bg8 29.Rxc6 Qxd5 (diagram)



### 30.Rf6+! gxf6

30...Ke7 was the last chance to hang on.

### 31.Qxf6+ Bf7 32.g7+ Kg8 33.Rh3 Bh5 34.Rxh5 1-0

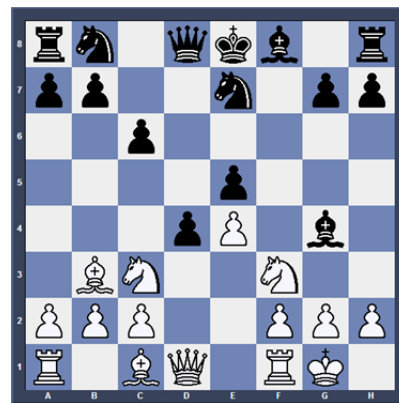
In round 2, Andrew Peng scored a nice upset win.

White: Andrew Peng (1606)  
Black: Sam Sloan (1920)  
C40 Damiano's Defense

### 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f6!? 3.Bc4

3.Nxe5 Qe7 4.Nf3 d5 5.d3  
dxe4 6.dxe4± Schiffrs-  
Chigorin, St. Petersburg 1897]

### 3...Ne7 4.Nc3 c6!? 5.d4! d5 6.Bb3 Bg4 7.dxe5 fxe5 8.0-0 d4? (diagram)



### 9.Nxe5! Qb6!?

9...Bxd1?? 10.Bf7#

### 10.Qxg4 dxc3 11.Bf7+ Kd8 12.Rd1+ Kc7 13.Bf4 Qb5 14.Nc4+ 1-0

14.Nc4+ Qe5 15.Bxe5#

In this last round game, George Mandrusov scores a nice endgame win.

White: Arvind Sankar (1991)  
Black: G. Mandrusov (2042)  
C42 Petroff Defense



1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.dxc3 Be7 7.Bf4 Nc6 8.Qd2 Be6

8...Bg4 9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0-0 Re8 11.Kb1 Bf6= Michell-Tylor, Hasting 1935/36.

9.Bd3 Qd7 10.0-0-0 0-0-0 11.Kb1 h6 12.Bb5 g5 13.Be3 a6 14.Ba4 Bf6 15.Bd4 Bxd4!? 16.cxd4

Threatening d5.

16...Bd5 17.Bb3!? Bxf3 18.gxf3 Qf5 19.Qd3 Qf6 20.c3 Rde8 21.Rde1 Kb8 22.Bc2!? Re7 23.Rxe7 Qxe7 24.Qe4 Qd7 25.Qg4 Qe6 26.Qxe6 fxe6 27.Re1

Better might be 27.h4

27...e5 28.Be4 exd4! 29.Bxc6 bxc6 30.cxd4 Rf8 31.Re6 Rxf3 32.Rxh6 Rxf2 33.Rg6 Rxh2 34.Rxg5 Rh4! 35.d5 cxd5 36.Rxd5 Rh2 37.a3 Kb7 38.Ka2 Kc6 39.Rd3 d5 40.Kb3 Kd6 41.Rg3 Rh6 42.Kc3 c5 43.Kb3!? c4+ 44.Kc3 a5 45.b3 Rh4! 46.bxc4 Rxc4+ 47.Kb3 a4+ 48.Kb2 Kc5 49.Rg8 Rh4 50.Rc8+?

White can try 50.Ra8 to slow up Blacks progress.

50...Kd4! 51.Ra8 Ke3 52.Ra5 Rd4!?

52...Rh2+ 53.Kc3 d4+ 54.Kb4 d3 55.Kxa4 d2 56.Rd5 Rh4+ 57.Kb3 Rh1 58.Kc2 Rc1+ -+

53.Rc5 Ke4?!

53...Rd2+ 54.Kc1 d4 55.Ra5 Rh2 56.Rxa4 d3 57.Ra8 Rh1+ 58.Kb2 d2 59.Re8+ Kf4!-+

54.Rc8! Rd2+ 55.Kc3 Rd3+ 56.Kb4 Rb3+ 57.Kxa4 Rb7= 58.Ka5 d4 59.Re8+ Kd3 60.Rd8 Kc3 61.a4 Rb4! 62.Rh8?

better was 62.Rd5 and White is hanging on by a thread.

62...d3! 63.Rh3 Rd4 64.Kb5 Rd5+ 65.Kb6 Kc4 66.a5 d2 67.Rh1 Rd6+ 68.Kb7 Kb5 69.Rb1+ Kxa5 70.Ra1+ Kb4 71.Rd1 Kc3 72.Kc7 Kc2 73.Rxd2+ Rxd2 0-1

## CalChess Girls Championship

The CalChess Girls State Championship took place on February 1st, 2014 at the St. Marks School in San Rafael, CA. 75 girls participated in this years event.

In the Seventh and Eighth grade section, two girls tied for the title. They are Ashritha Eswaran and Serafina Show. Twelve Girls competed in this section.

The Fourth and Fifth grade section was the largest with 27 players. Kavya Sasikumar and Aria Lakhmani tied for first in this section sharing the title.

Both girls had perfect scores of 4-0.

Shree Jay and Audrey Chiang tied for the title in the Second and Third Grade section.

In the Kindergarten and First Grade section, Allyson Wong took sole first place winning all her games. Tied for second and third place were Erin Law and Ramita Shanker.

The tournament was organized and directed by Ray Orwig.

## CalChess Girls Championship

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Ashritha Eswaran  
Serafina Show

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Kavya Sasikumar  
Aria Lakhmani

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
Shree Jay  
Audrey Chiang

K & 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Allyson Wong

## Fifth Annual Golden State Open

Over Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend 286 players competed in the Fifth Annual Golden State Open. The event took place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Concord, CA.

A total of \$25,000 in prizes were up for grabs. The tournament was divided into six sections. It also had a variety of schedules allowing players to compete over two, three, or four days. Six Grandmasters and four International Masters competed in the event.

Three Grandmasters tied for first in the Open section. They were Melikset Khachiyanyan from Southern California, Victor Mikhalevski from Israel and Michael E Roiz also from

Israel. GM Mikhalevski took the Golden State Open Champion title on tiebreaks. Each player won \$1,833.33 for their efforts with Mikhalevski earning an extra \$100 for winning the title. Tying for 4th-7th place and each winning \$250 were GM Alexander Ipatov, IM Ricardo De Guzman, IM Luke Harmon-vellotti, and IM Roman Yankovsky. Winning the U2350 prize and receiving \$750 each were FM Andy Lee and Vignesh Panchanatham.

In the Under 2200 section, Rayan Taghizadeh and David Rupel tied for first and second place each winning \$1200. In clear third was Art Zhao winning

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Golden State Open

### Open

1-3	GM Victor Mikhalevski GM Melikset Khachiyanyan GM Michael Roiz	5.5
4-5	GM Alexander Ipatov IM Ricardo De Guzman IM Luke Harmon-vellotti IM Roman Yankovsky	5
U2350	FM Andy Lee Vignesh Panchanatham	

### Under 2200

1-2	Rayan Taghizadeh David Rupel	6
3	Art Zhao	5.5
4-5/ U2050	Daniel Giordani Josiah Stearman Paul Romero Jeffrey Tao Ed Cohen Ashik Uzzaman Hovik Manvelyan	5

### Under 1900

1	Mark Booker	6
2-4/ U1750	Alexander Feghhi Severo Caluza Zolboo Lkhagvasuren Arul Viswanathan	5.5
5 U1750	Stewart Taylor Samuel Mason Daniel Trimbach	5

### Under 1600

1-3/ U1450	Chinguun Bayaraa Paul Zeman Truman Tang Clarence Harris	5.5
4-5/ U1450	David Dashoff Evan Howard David Kazuma Fujii	5



Some of the Top Boards

Photo by Richard Shorman

Under 1300

1-3	Ethan Kho Diego Herrera Geoffrey Evan Meredith	5.5
4	Michael D'alonsi	5
5	Noah Quanrud Ariel Shahar	4.5
U1150	Jake Bolen Jeffery Zang	5 4.5

Under 1000

1	Ardak Kapbasov	6
2	Kavya Sasikumar	5.5
3-4	Litesh Kurella Kevin Michael Prough	5
U800	Sanjana Senthil	4.5
U600	Jared Zurlo	3.5
Unr	Clark Kho	5

\$500 for his efforts. Tying for 4th-5th and for the two U2050 prizes winning \$228.57 each were seven players. They are Daniel Giordani, Josiah Stearman, Paul Romero, Jeffrey Tao, Ed Cohen, Ashik Uzzaman, and Hovik Manvelyan.

The Under 1900 section was won by Mark Booker. He won \$1600 for his performance. Tying for 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> U1750 were Alexander Feghhi, Severo Caluza, Zolboo Lkhagvasuren, and Arul Viswanathan each winning \$500. Tied for fifth were Steward Taylor and Samuel Mason each collecting \$150. Winning \$250 for the second place U1750 prize was Daniel Trimbach.

Four players tied for 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> and the first U1450 prize in the Under 1600 section. They are Chinguun Bayaraa, Paul Zeman, Truman Tang and Clarence Harris each winning

\$650. Tying for fifth and the second U1450 prize were David Dashoff, Evan Howard and David Kazuma Fugii each taking home \$266.67.

In the Under 1300 section, the three players tied for 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> were Ethan Kho, Diego Herrera, and Geoffrey Evan Meredith. Taking clear fourth place and winning \$300 was Michael D'alonsi. The first U1150 prize of \$300 went to Jake Bolen. Three players tied for fifth and the second place U1150 prize each winning \$183.33. They are Noah Quanrud, Ariel Shahar, and Jeffery Zang.

The Under 1000 section was won outright by Ardak Kapbasov taking home the \$400 prize. Clear second place was Kavya Sasikumar. Three players tied for third and fourth place and the first Unrated prize. They are Litesh Kurella, Kevin Michael Prough and Clark Kho. Winning the U800 prize was Sanjana Senthil and winning the U600 prize was Jared Zurlo.

As part of the main tournament there was also a special prize for top mixed doubles team consisting of one male and one female player. This prize was won by the team of GM Melikset Khachiyani and Chenyi Zhao. Taking second in this category was the team of IM Luke Harmon-vellotti and Carmen Pemsler. There were a total of



GM Khachiyani Photo by Richard Shorman

eleven mixed doubles teams competing.

In addition to the main tournament, there was also a Blitz tournament on Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. 16 players competed in the Blitz event. The tournament was won by IM John Bryant. Tying for second were Hans Moke Niemann and Anthony Blessing. The top player under 2100 was Carl Harmon-vellotti. Winning the under 1800 prize was Stewart Spada and winning the U1500 prize was Jake Bolen.

For full results and cross tables of all sections, please visit

[www.goldenstateopen.com](http://www.goldenstateopen.com).

The Golden State Open is one of the many large tournaments put on nationally by the Continental Chess Association. The tournament was directed by National Tournament Director and



International Arbiter Wayne Clark. National Tournament Directors Tom Langland and John McCumiskey assisted with directing duties.

Below are some games from the event. All analysis checked with Houdini 2.0c Pro.

In this first round game tournament winner GM Melikset Khachiyan plays a temporary pawn sac on move six that cracks open the opponents kingside and strands his king in the middle for some time.



286 Players Competed

Photo by Richard Shorman

**White:** GM M. Khachiyan(2616)  
**Black:** Derek Slater (2144)  
 B04 Alekhines Defense

**1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6  
 4.Nf3 Nc6!? 5.c4 Nb6**  
 (diagram)



**6.e6**

A temporary pawn sacrifice that locks in the Bishop on c8.

**6...fxe6**

Not 6...Bxe6? 7.d5+- winning a piece.

**7.Nc3 g6 8.h4 Bg7 9.h5 e5  
 10.d5 Nd4 11.hxg6 hxg6  
 12.Rxh8+ Bxh8 13.Bd3 c5**

13...Kf7?! attempting to hang onto the pawn doesn't work. 14.Nh4 Bf5 15.Bxf5 Nxf5 16.Nxf5 gxf5 17.Qh5+ Kg8 18.Bh6 Qe8 19.Qxf5±; 13...Bf5? is even worse 14.Nxd4 exd4 15.Bxf5 gxf5? 16.Qh5+- and Black will be getting mated.

**14.dxc6 bxc6∞ 15.c5N**

15.Nh4 has been played before in 2009.

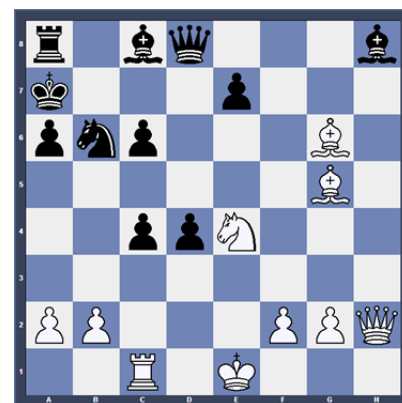
**15...dxc5 16.Bxg6+ Kd7  
 17.Ne4!? Kc7! 18.Bg5 c4!?  
 19.Rc1 Kb8 20.Nxd4 exd4**

20...Qxd4?! 21.Bxe7 Qxd1+ 22.Rxd1±

**21.Qh5 a6 22.Qh2+**

22.Bxe7 Qxe7 23.Qxh8 may pick up a pawn but White wisely wants to keep the bishops on the board.

**22...Ka7** (diagram)



**23.Qh7! Be6 24.Bxe7!?  
 Qc7 25.a4!? a5 26.Qh4 d3  
 27.Bf6 Bxf6 28.Qxf6 Bd5  
 29.Kd2 Rb8?!**

Better may have been 29...Nxa4 30.Ra1 Bxe4 31.Qd4+ c5 32.Qxe4 Nxb2 when the black pawns are menacing.

**30.Rh1⊕ 1-0**

Had it not been for the time issue, Black's position is still ok. 30.Rh1 Nd7! 31.Qd4+! Ka8∞ and there is no immediate knock out blow but White will have a lasting initiative.



GM Michael Roiz from Israel is another one of the winners of the Open section. In this 5<sup>th</sup> round game he and his opponent play a line of the Grunfeld Defense leading to extremely sharp play.

**White:** NM H. Manvelyan(2357)  
**Black:** GM Michael Roiz (2614)  
 D93 Grunfeld Defense

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 c5 6.dxc5 Qa5 7.Rc1 dxc4 8.Bxc4 0-0 9.Nf3 Qxc5 10.Nb5!?** (diagram)

The text leads to complications and sharp play. More popular here is 10.Bb3



**10...Be6!**

From Megabase, white only scores 28.5% after this sharp move from black. With this move black allow white to win the exchange but in compensation black's bishops become active and white's king stays exposed.

**11.Nc7 Bxc4 12.b3 Nc6 13.Nxa8 Qa5+ 14.Qd2 Qxd2+ 15.Nxd2 Bd5N**

15...Bd3 led to a long draw in

Drugy - Chiburdanidze, Brussels 1987

**16.Nc7 Rd8**

Another option is 16...Bxc2 17.Rg1 Bh3∞

**17.Nc4 Nh5!?**

Opening up the dark squared bishop. Things would still be unclear after 17...Bxc2 18.Rg1 Be4.

**18.Bg3**

Possibly better was 18.Nxd5 Rxd5 19.0-0 Nxf4 20.exf4 remaining up the exchange.

**18...Nb4 19.f3**

A sharp alternative was pinning the bishop with 19.Rd1 e6 (19...Bc3+ 20.Ke2∞) 20.Bh4∞ (20.e4 Nc2+ 21.Ke2 Bxc4+ 22.bxc4 Nd4+ 23.Ke3 Nc2+ 24.Ke2 Nd4+=)

**19...Nxc3 20.hxc3 Rc8**

20...Nd3+ 21.Ke2 Nxc1+ 22.Rxc1 would lead to rough equality but Black certainly wants to keep things complex to maximize his practical chances.

**21.Nb5**

21.Nxd5 Nxd5 22.0-0 b5 23.Na3 Nc3 24.Rc2 leads to a better ending for White.

**21...a6 22.Na7 Rc7 23.Kd2 Nxa2∞ 24.Ra1!?**

White gives back the exchange to cool things down. He could try 24.Rc2 Nb4 25.Rcc1∞

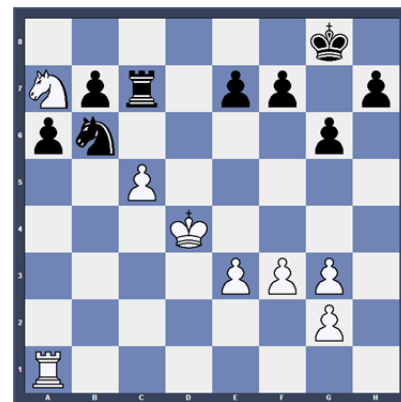
**24...Bxa1**

24...Bc3+! 25.Ke2 Bxa1 26.Rxa1 b5 27.Nxb5 axb5 28.Rxa2 bxc4--+

**25.Rxa1 Bxc4**

Possibly better was 25...b5 26.Rxa2 bxc4 27.bxc4 Bxc4 28.Ra4 Bf1 29.Ra1 Bxc2 30.Rxa6 Bxf3 31.Nb5--+

**26.bxc4 Nb4 27.Kc3 Nd5+ 28.Kd4 Nb6 29.c5** (diagram)



**e5+! 30.Kxe5 Rxc5+ 31.Kd6 Rc2 32.Rb1 Nc4+ 33.Ke7 Rb2 34.Rd1 Nxe3 35.Rd8+ Kg7 36.g4 Re2 37.Rd7 Nxc4+ 38.Kd8 Nf6 39.Rxb7 Re8+ 40.Kc7 Re7+ 41.Kb6 Rxb7+ 42.Kxb7 a5 43.Kb6 0-1**

43.Kb6 a4 44.Nb5 Nd5+ 45.Ka5 h5 46.Kxa4 Nf4 47.g3 Ne2 48.g4 h4--+

In the next game, played in round 5 by IM Roman Yankovsky, he obtains a favorable good knight vs. bad bishop position.

**White:** IM R. Yankovsky (2489)  
**Black:** NM C. Wheeler (2300)  
 C14 French Defense

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6**

**4.Bg5 Be7 5.e5 Nfd7  
6.Bxe7 Qxe7 7.f4 a6 8.Nf3  
c5 9.Qd2 Nc6 10.dxc5  
Nxc5 11.Bd3 0-0 12.0-0  
f6 13.Rae1 fxe5N**

Both 13...Bd7 and; 13...Nxd3 have been played before in this position.

**14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.Rxe5**

Threatening Nxd5.

**15...Qd6 16.Ne2** (diagram)



**16...Nxd3!?**

Black reduces the number of pieces pointing at his kingside but this allows White a long term edge because of his good knight vs. black's bad bishop and black's backward e-pawn. 16...Nd7 17.Rh5 Nf6 is one way to give the kingside more protection.

**17.cxd3 Bd7 18.Nd4± Qb6  
19.Qf2 Rf6 20.Rc1 Rc8  
21.Rxc8+ Bxc8 22.g3 Bd7  
23.Re1**

Preparing to relocate the knight to a better square.

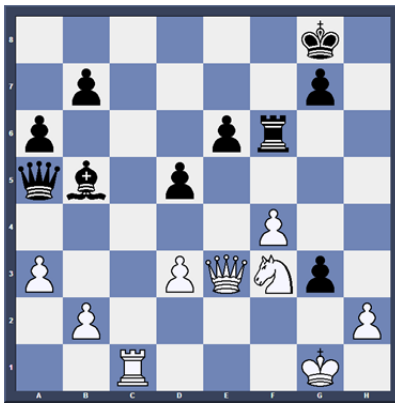
**23...h5**

23...g5!? is worthy of consideration with the idea to trade pawns lessening any

white advantage and to open up lines around the white king with hopes to complicate things.

**24.Nf3 Qa5 25.a3 Bb5  
26.Qe3 h4 27.Rc1 hxg3?**  
(diagram)

better was 27...Bc6±



**28.Rc8+! Kf7**

28...Kh7 29.Ng5+ Kg6  
30.Qxg3! Bd7 (30...Kf5 31.Ne4  
e5 32.Qg5+ Ke6 33.Qxe5+ Kf7  
34.Qxd5+-) 31.Nxe6+ Kf7  
32.Nd8+ Kg8 33.Nxb7+ Bxc8  
34.Nxa5+-

**29.Ne5+ Ke7 30.Qc5# 1-0**

Well respected National Master, Coach and Blogger Michael Aigner demonstrates his tactic skills in this game from round 5.

White: NM M. Aigner (2237)  
Black: Eric Steger (1916)  
C45 Scotch Game

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4  
exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Be3  
Qf6 6.c3 Nge7 7.Bc4 a6**

More common is 7...Ne5

**8.0-0 Ne5 9.Be2 d6 10.f4  
N5c6 11.Kh1 Ba7N**

Both 11...0-0 and 11...Bd7 have been tried in other games.

**12.Na3 0-0 13.Nac2 Ng6  
14.Qd2 Qe7 15.Bd3**

Worth a look is 15.f5!? Nxd4 (15...Nge5 16.f6! gxf6 17.Bh6 Re8 18.Ne3 with an attack) 16.cxd4 Nh8 with excellent prospects.

**15...Re8 16.Qf2 Nxd4  
17.cxd4 c5!?**

Black could try either 17...Nf8; or 17...Bd7

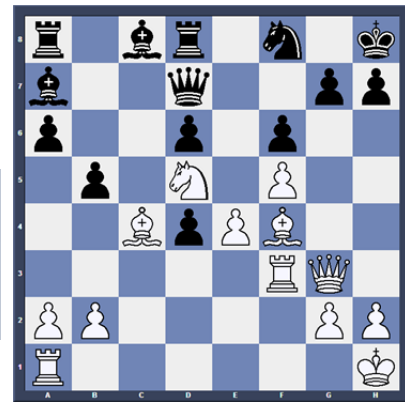
**18.f5! Nf8 19.Qg3!**

Threatening f5-f6.

**19...f6 20.Bf4! Rd8 21.Ne3**

21.e5 opening lines and taking advantage of whites superior development could also be considered.

**21...Kh8 22.Nd5 Qd7  
23.Bc4 cxd4 24.Rf3 b5**  
(diagram)



**25.Nxf6! Qe7**

Not 25...gxf6 26.Qg8#

26.Bd5 Bb7 27.Bxb7 Qxb7  
 28.Nh5 Qf7 29.Qg4 Nd7  
 30.Rg3 Nf6 31.Nxf6 gxf6  
 32.Qh4 Bc5 33.Rg6 Rf8  
 34.Rg4 Rg8 35.a3 Rxc4  
 36.Qxc4 a5 37.Rd1 b4  
 38.Qf3 Rb8 39.a4 Re8  
 40.Bg3 Qa2!?

Probing Whites position but the queen could easily get locked out of play.

41.Bh4! Rf8

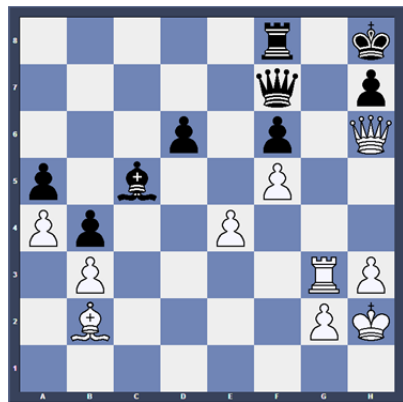
41...Qxb2? 42.Bxf6+ Kg8  
 43.Qg3+ Kf7 44.Qg7#

42.b3! Qc2 43.h3 Qc3  
 44.Rd3 Qc1+ 45.Kh2 Qh6!?

Giving up a pawn. 45...Qc2  
 46.Bf2 Qb2 is better.

46.Bf2 Rc8 47.Bxd4 Qf8  
 48.Bb2 Qf7 49.Qf4 Qe7  
 50.Qh6! Rf8 51.Rg3 Qf7?  
 (diagram)

Giving up a second pawn.  
 51...d5 with the threat  
 of ...Bd6 might have been a  
 better try.



52.Rg6! Be3 53.Rxf6 Bxh6  
 54.Rxf7+ Kg8 55.Rxf8+  
 1-0

With a won ending.

FM Andy Lee, winner of the  
 U2350 prize, gets a nice upset  
 win in this 5<sup>th</sup> round game  
 against IM John Bryant.

White: IM John Bryant (2516)  
 Black: FM Andy Lee (2314)  
 C14 French Defense

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4  
 Bc5 4.d3 Nf6 5.Bb3 d6  
 6.c3 Bg4 7.Nbd2 Qd7 8.h3  
 Bh5 9.Ba4 a6 10.g4N Bg6  
 11.Nf1

The knight is heading for f5.

11...b5 12.Bc2 d5! 13.Qe2  
 h6 14.Ng3 dxe4!? 15.dxe4  
 0-0= 16.Be3 Bxe3 17.fxe3!?

17.Qxe3 would keep things  
 roughly equal but White  
 wants to create some  
 imbalances in the position.

17...Rad8 18.Nh4 Na5  
 19.Nhf5 Bxf5 20.exf5 Nc4  
 21.b3 Na3! 22.Bd1 Qc6  
 23.Rc1 b4 24.Qb2?  
 (diagram)

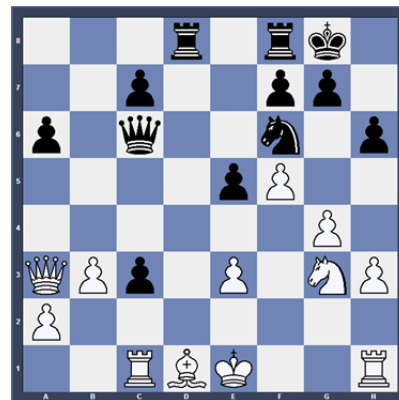
Better is 24.c4



24...bxc3! 25.Qxa3?!  
 (diagram)

25.Rxc3 Rxd1+! 26.Kxd1 Qf3+

27.Kc1 Ne4!-+



25...Qg2!-+ 26.Nf1 Qxh1  
 27.Qxa6 Qxh3 28.Qe2!  
 Ne4 29.Qh2! Qxh2  
 30.Nxh2 Rd2! 31.Nf1 Rxa2  
 32.Bf3 Nf2 33.Bd5 Rd8  
 0-1

33...Rd8 34.Bc4 Nd3+  
 35.Bxd3 Rxd3-+

In the following game from  
 round 3, NM Colin Chow wins  
 a pawn and skillfully converts  
 it to a win.

White: FM Andy Lee (2314)  
 Black: NM Colin Chow (2211)  
 C14 French Defense

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6  
 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e5 Nfd7  
 6.Bxe7 Qxe7 7.f4 a6 8.Nf3  
 c5 9.Qd2 Nc6 10.dxc5  
 Nxc5 11.Bd3 b5 12.a3 Bb7  
 13.0-0 b4!?N

13...0-0 was played before in  
 the game Gramstad - Kozlov  
 ICCF email 2006

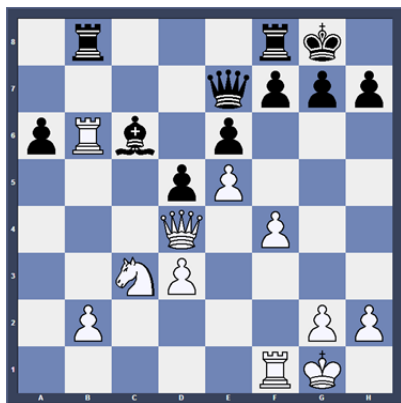
14.axb4 Nxd3 15.cxd3  
 Qxb4 16.Qf2 0-0

Taking the pawn leads to an  
 unclear position 16...Qxf4

17.Qb6 (17.Ra4 Qf5 18.Qb6 Nd8∞) 17...Rb8 18.Rxa6 0-0 19.Ra4∞

**17.Ra4 Qe7! 18.Nd4 Nxd4 19.Qxd4 Bc6 20.Rb4 Rab8 21.Rb6?!** (diagram)

The text loses a pawn. Better is 21.Rxb8 Rxb8 with approximate equality.



**21...Qa7! 22.Rb4 Qxd4+ 23.Rxd4 Rxb2̄ 24.f5 a5 25.f6!? Rb4 26.Ne2 Rfb8 27.fxg7 Kxg7 28.Rdf4 Rxf4! 29.Nxf4 a4 30.Nh5+ Kf8 31.Rc1 Rb6 32.Kf2 d4!**

Keeping the white king from entering the center.

**33.Rc2 a3! 34.Kg3 Ke7 35.Nf6 Kd8 36.Kf4**

36.Nxh7? Bd5!-+ And White will have to give up his rook to stop the pawn.

**36...Ra6 37.Ra2 Kc7 38.h4**

38.Nxh7 Kb6 39.h4 Kc5 40.h5 Kb4 41.h6 Kb3 42.Ra1 Ra8 43.Nf6 a2 44.h7 Rh8 45.Kg5 Bb5! 46.Kh6 Bxd3 47.Kg7 Rxh7+ 48.Nxh7 Bxh7 49.Kxh7 Kb2 50.Rd1 a1Q-+

**38...h6 39.g4 Ra8 40.h5 Kb6 41.g5! hxg5+ 42.Kxg5 Bb5!**

The only way to hold the advantage.

**43.h6 Bxd3 44.h7 Bxh7 45.Nxh7 d3 46.Kf6!**

This is white's best chance.

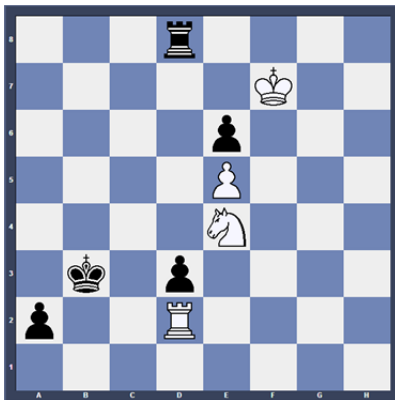
**46...Kc5 47.Ng5**

47.Kxf7 Ra7+ 48.Kxe6 Kc4 (48...Rxh7? 49.Rxa3 Kc4 50.Rxd3! Kxd3 51.Kd6! Ke4 52.e6 Kf5 53.e7 Rh8 54.Kd7 Rh7 55.Kd8=) 49.Ng5 Kb3! 50.Ra1 Kb2 51.Rh1 a2 52.Rh2+ Kb3 53.Rxa2 Rxa2 54.Ne4 Kc4 55.Nd6+ Kc5 56.Ne4+ Kd4 57.Kf5 Re2-+

**47...Kb4 48.Ne4 Kb3! 49.Rd2! Rd8?**

49...a2! 50.Rxd3+ Kc4 51.Rd1 a1Q-+

**50.Kxf7 a2** (diagram)



**51.Rxa2?**

51.Nc5+! should hold 51...Ka3 52.Rxa2+ Kxa2 53.Nxd3 Rd7+ 54.Kf6=

**51...Kxa2 52.Kxe6 Kb3 53.Ke7 Rd4! 54.Nc5+ Kc4 55.Nxd3 Rxd3 56.e6 Kc5 0-1**

56...Kc5 57.Ke8 (57.Kf7 Kd6

58.e7 Rf3+ 59.Ke8 Re3-+) 57...Kd6!-+

Abhishek Handigol scored a nice upset win in their first round game in the open section. The game also includes an underpromotion.

**White:** A. Handigol (1964)  
**Black:** NM M. Zaloznyy (2263)  
C41 Philidor Defense

**1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nf3 Nbd7 5.Be3 Be7 6.Qd2 c6 7.Bd3 Ng4 8.0-0 Nxe3 9.Qxe3N**

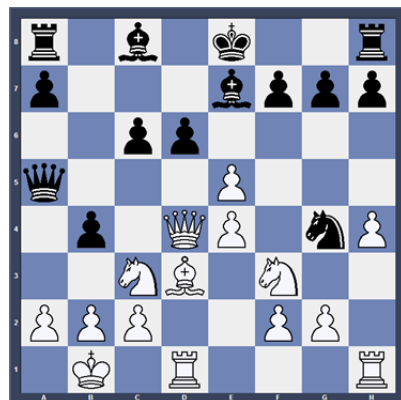
9.fxe3 had been played previously but the text move seems reasonable.

**9...b5 10.h4 Qa5 11.Kb1 Nf6!?**

Black offers a pawn to open lines for his bishops and speed his attack against the white king. It would have more chance of success were his king already castled.

**12.dxe5 Ng4 13.Qd4 b4?!** (diagram)

13...dxe5 14.Nxe5 Bf6 15.Qc5!? Nxe5? (15...Qb6 16.Qxb6 axb6 17.Nxg4±) 16.Nxb5!∞]





14.exd6! c5?! 15.Qxg7 Bf6  
16.Bb5+ Kd8 (diagram)

16...Qxb5 17.Qxh8+!+-



17.Ng5 Bd7

17...Bxg7 18.Nxf7#; 17...Qxb5!  
18.Nxf7+ Kd7 (18...Ke8  
19.Qxh8+ Bxh8 20.Nxb5 Kxf7  
21.d7+-) 19.Qxg4+ +-

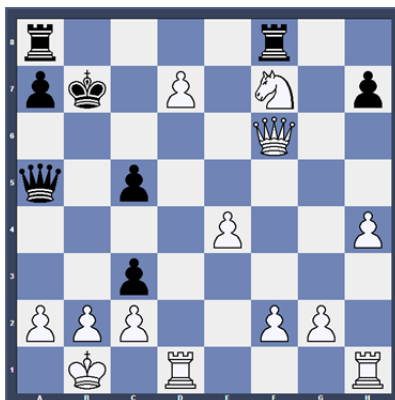
18.Nxf7+ Kc8 19.Bxd7+!  
Kb7 (diagram)



20.Bc8+! Kb8

20...Raxc8 21.Nd8+ Ka6  
22.Qb7#; 20...Kxc8 21.Qxg4+  
+-

21.Qxg4+- bxc3 22.Qf4  
Kxc8 23.d7+ Kb7 24.Qxf6  
Rhf8 (diagram)



25.d8N+! Raxd8 26.Nxd8+  
Rxd8

26...Ka8 27.Qc6+ Kb8  
28.Qb7#; 26...Kb8 27.Nc6+  
Kc7 28.Qd6+ Kb6 29.Nxa5+  
+-

27.Rxd8 Qb4 28.Rd7+ Kc8  
29.Qd8# 1-0

The next game is from the  
under 2200 section. Mark  
Farid Watson executes a nice  
attack in his third round game.

White: M. Farid Watson (2053)  
Black: D. Mosk-aoyama (1940)  
E14 Queens Indian Defense

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6  
4.e3 Bb7 5.Bd3 Be7 6.Nc3  
d5 7.0-0 0-0 8.b3 c5  
9.Bb2 Nbd7 10.cxd5 cxd4  
11.exd4!?

Accepting the isolated queen  
pawn. 11.Nxd4 is more  
common here and was played  
in a game in 2013 by GM  
Michael Roiz, one of the  
winners of the Open Section.

11...Nxd5 12.Nxd5 Bxd5  
13.Qe2N Nf6 14.Ne5 Bb7  
15.Rad1 Rc8 16.Bc4 Nd5  
17.f4 Qd6 18.Rde1 g6!?  
19.Qg4 Nf6 20.Qh3 Be4

21.a4 Bf5!? 22.g4! Be4  
23.Re3 Rfd8?! (diagram)

23...Bd5 Would be a more  
solid choice.



24.f5!

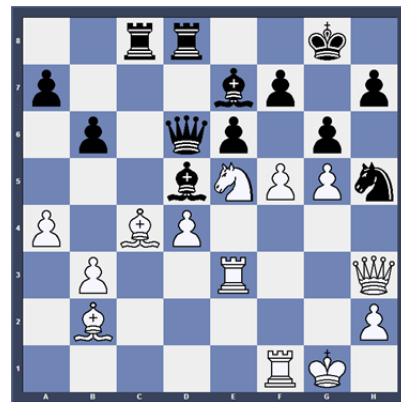
Equally effective is 24.Rxe4!  
Nxe4 25.Nxf7 Kxf7 26.Qxh7+  
Ke8 27.Qxg6+ Kd7  
28.Qxe4+-

24...Bd5

24...exf5? 25.Nxf7!+-;  
24...gxf5? 25.gxf5 Bxf5  
26.Rxf5!+-

25.g5 Nh5? (diagram)

25...exf5 26.gxf6 Qxf6 27.Bxd5  
Rxd5+- Leaves white up a  
pieces for two pawns and he  
still has an attack.



26.Nxf7! Kxf7

26...Nf4 27.Rxf4 Qxf4 28.fxg6  
hgx6 29.Nxd8+–

**27.fxg6+ Kxg6**

27...Ke8 28.gxh7 Kd7  
29.Qxh5+–

**28.Bd3+! Kg7 29.Qxh5!  
Rh8 30.Qf7# 1–0**

James Caid from Arizona  
plays a nice combination  
netting a rook in this upset  
win in the first round of the  
under 1900 section.

**White:** James Caid (1591)  
**Black:** Samuel Mason (1789)  
A12 English Opening

**1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 c6 3.b3 Nf6  
4.g3 Bf5 5.Bg2 e6 6.Bb2  
Nbd7 7.d3 Bc5 8.0–0 0–0  
9.Nbd2 b5!?N 10.Nd4  
bxc4 11.dxc4**

11.Nxf5!? is worthy of  
consideration

**11...Bxd4= 12.Bxd4 c5  
13.Bb2 Rc8 14.Re1 Qc7  
15.e4 dxe4 16.Nxe4 Rcd8  
17.Qd6! Qa5 18.a3 Nxe4  
19.Bxe4 Nf6 20.Qe5! Bxe4  
21.Rxe4 Rd3?**

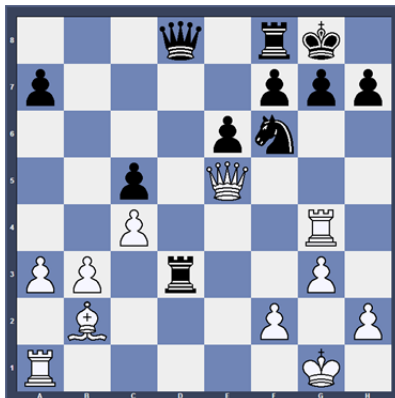
21...Qd2 22.Rg4? (22.Rf1∞)  
22...Qxf2+! 23.Kxf2 Nxc4+ –+

**22.Rg4!**

22.Qxf6! gxf6 23.Rg4+ Kh8  
24.Bxf6#

**22...Qd8** (diagram)

22...Nxc4?? 23.Qxc7#



**23.Rxc7+! Kh8**

23...Kxc7 24.Qg5+ +–

**24.Qg5**

24.Rg4! Rd4 25.Rxd4 cxd4  
26.Rd1+–

**24...Rf3 25.Qh6! Qd3  
26.Bxf6**

26.Rg4! Rg8 27.Bxf6+ Rxf6  
28.Qxf6+ Rg7 29.Qxc7#

**26...Rxf6 27.Qxf6 Qf5  
28.Qxf5+–**

Trading down to an easily won  
ending.

**28...exf5 29.Rg5 f4 30.Rf5  
fxg3 31.fxc3 Kg7 32.Rxc5  
Rb8 33.b4 Rb7 34.Rc1 Rb6  
35.b5 Rb7 36.Rc6 f6 37.a4  
Kg6 38.Rd6 Kg5 39.c5 Kf5  
40.c6 Rc7 41.Rd7 Rc8  
42.c7! Ke6 43.Rd8 Rxc7  
44.Rxc7 Kf5 45.Rxh7 Kg6  
46.Rhd7 f5 47.Rd6+ 1–0**

47.Rd6+ Kf7 48.R8d7+ Kf8  
49.Rxa7 Ke8 50.Rdd7 f4  
51.gxf4 Kf8 52.Ra8#

In the under 1600 section,  
Don Bishop scored a nice win  
in his 3<sup>rd</sup> round game.

**White:** Don Bishop (1493)  
**Black:** S. Tompkins (1063)  
B06 Modern Defense

**1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nf3 f6!?  
4.Bc4 e6 5.c3N Ne7 6.Be3  
h6!? 7.Nbd2 0–0 8.Qc2  
Kh8!?**

It is probably a better idea to  
hit back in the center with  
8...d5

**9.d5 Ng8?! 10.0–0–0**

White has finished his  
development way ahead of his  
opponent.

**10...e5 11.Nh4 Ne7 12.g3  
d6 13.f4 Bg4 14.Rdf1 g5!?  
15.fxc5**

15.h3!? exf4 16.gxf4 Bd7+–

**15...fxg5 16.Rxf8+ Qxf8  
17.Rf1 Bf6 18.Nf5 Bxf5  
19.exf5 Nd7 20.Ne4 Qg7!?  
21.g4 a6 22.Rh1!**

White plans on opening the h-  
file.

**22...b6 23.Bd3?**

Dropping a pawn. Better is  
23.Qa4

**23...Nxd5! 24.Bd2 Qe7?!**

Black would have been better  
to grab the outpost with  
24...Nf4

**25.h4+– Kg8?**

25...gxh4 26.Bxh6 Rg8 27.Bc4  
c6 28.Qd1±

**26.Nxf6+ Qxf6 27.hxc5  
hxc5 28.Rh5 Nf4 29.Bxf4  
exf4 30.Qh2 Nf8?**

30...Ne5 and Black is still in trouble, but at least he is still in the game.

**31.Rh6**

31.Bc4+! Kg7 32.Rh8 d5  
33.Bxd5 Qd6 34.Rg8+ Kf6  
35.Qh8+ Ke7 36.Qg7+ Ke8  
37.Rxf8+ Qxf8 38.Bc6+ Kd8  
39.Qxf8#

**31...Qe5 32.Qh1 Re8**

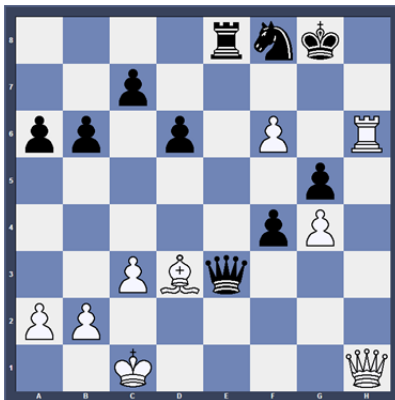
Better is 32...d5

**33.f6?**

33.Qh5 Should win quickly.

**33...Qe3+?** (diagram)

Black could hold with  
33...Qe1+ 34.Qxe1 Rxe1+  
35.Kd2 Re5 36.Bxa6=



**34.Kc2!+- Kf7? 35.Qh5+**

Winning a rook.

**35...Ke6 36.Qxe8+ Kd5  
37.Qxe3+-**

Trading off to a won ending.

**37...fxe3 38.Bf5 Ne6 39.f7  
Nf4 40.f8Q! e2 41.Qf7+!  
Ke5 42.Kd2 Ng2 43.Qe6+  
Kf4 44.Qxe2 b5 45.Qxg2  
c5 46.Re6 d5 47.Qf2# 1-0**

## CalChess Grade Level Championship 2013-14

The CalChess Grade Level Championship took place January 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at the Hyatt Regency in Burlingame near SFO. Over the two days 319 players in grades from Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade competed. The players were separated by grade to determine the State Champions for each grade level.

In addition to the individual titles there were also Team and Club titles awarded for each grade. Many of the larger chess groups in the Bay Area look forward to this event for this reason. A recent change to the CalChess Scholastic team rules now let a player play on a club team if the school doesn't have



Photo by Richard Shorman

enough players in their grade to field a team. This rule will also be in effect for the Scholastic State Championship in April.

Two players tied for first in

the Twelfth Grade, sharing the state title. They are Aamir Azhar and Suraj Nair. Third place went to Jordan Langland. Winning the Twelfth Grade team title was



8th Grade Champion Ladia Jirasek  
Photo by Richard Shorman

### Bay Area Chess.

In Eleventh Grade, Dennis Chen took clear first and the state title. Taking second place was Mitsuru Otsuka. Winning the team title was Leland High School from San Jose.

For Tenth Grade there was a tie for the state title between Joshua Cao and Charles Tang. Third place went to Brian Chan.

The Ninth Grade individual title was shared between Matt Ross Stecklow and Michael Lei Wang. Tied for third place were Alexander Kassil and Andrew Tang. The winning team was Marin Scholastic Chess.

Winning clear first in Eighth Grade and dominating the section was Ladia Ray Jirasek. He won the section with a round to spare finishing with 5.5/6 points, 1.5 points ahead

of the Second place winners. Three players tied for Second place. They are Chris Xiong, Nathan Auyoung, and Eric Zhu. Top club team was Berkeley Chess School and top school team was Delmar Middle School from Southeast Marin.

The Seventh Grade State Champion is Albert Qiu. Tied for second were Raymond Ji and Thomas Henry Kunze. Top school team was Lawson Middle School from Cupertino and the top club team was Marin Scholastic Chess.

Another dominating performance occurred in the sixth grade section. Winner and Sixth Grade State Champion Brian Wen won all of his games in the event. Clear second was Daniel Hwang. Tied for third were Kevin Zhu and Aria Lakhmani. Top club was Norcal House of



Photo by Richard Shorman

## CalChess Grade Level Individual Champions

### 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Aamir Ali Azhar  
Suraj Nair

### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

Dennis Chen

### 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

Joshua Cao  
Charles Tang

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Matt Ross Stecklow  
Michael Lei Wang

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Ladia Ray Jirasek

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Albert Qiu

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Brian Wen

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

David Pan  
Justin Feng

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Antarish Rautela

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Cal McCarty-snead  
Robert Reyes

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Kevin Pan  
Chinguun Bayaraa

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Arna Lingannagari  
Christopher Yoo

### Kindergarten

Adrian Kondakov



Chess and top school team was Bullis Charter School.

There were 35 kids competing for the fifth grade title with David Pan and Justin Feng tying for first and sharing the title. In third place was Iddo Zohar. Top club was Bay Area Chess and top school was Mission San Jose Elementary School.

In fourth grade, 47 players competed for the state title. The clear winner was Antارش Rautela. Three players tied for second place. They are Steven Hwang, Edison Shang and Eeswar Sree Kurli. Top club was Bay Area Chess and top school was Mission San Jose Elementary School.

Third grade had the largest turnout with 56 players competing for the state title. Two players tied for the title, each with perfect scores of 5/5 points. They are Cal McCarty-snead and Robert Reyes. Six players tied for third place. They are Annapoo Meiyappan, Edwin Sony Thomas, Sid Radhakrishnan, Nicholas Chang, Jonathan Zhang, and Shree Jay. Top school was Mission San Jose Elementary and top club was Berkeley Chess School.

Second Grade also ended in a tie for the state title between Chinguun Bayaraa and Kevin Pan. Maurya Palusa, Arjun Sankar, Simon Moscovici, Aidan Chen, Daniel Li and Sean Kwon tied for third place.

## CalChess Grade Level School Champions

### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

Leland High School

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Delmar Middle School

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Lawson Middle School

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Bullis Charter School

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mission San Jose Elementary

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mission San Jose Elementary

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Mission San Jose Elementary

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Mission San Jose Elementary

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Mission San Jose Elementary

### Kindergarten

Mission San Jose Elementary

Top school was Mission San Jose Elementary and top club was Bay Area Chess. Arna Lingannagari and Christopher Yoo tied for the first grade state title. Five players tied for third place. They are Camp Lacorazza, Samik Pattanayak, Andrew Yuxu Liang, William Chui and Yyom Vidyarthi. Top school was Mission San Jose Elementary and top club was

## CalChess Grade Level Club Champions

### 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Bay Area Chess

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Marin Scholastic Chess

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Berkeley Chess School

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Marin Scholastic Chess

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Norcal House of Chess

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Bay Area Chess

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Bay Area Chess

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Berkeley Chess School

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Bay Area Chess

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Liu Chess Club

### Kindergarten

Berkeley Chess School

the Liu Chess Club.

Clear winner of the Kindergarten state title was Adrian Kondakov. Bilguun Bayaraa, Nicholas Boldi, and Siddharth Arutla tied for second place. Winning the top school was Mission San Jose Elementary and top club was Berkeley Chess School.



Photo by Richard Shorman

In addition to the main event, there were also Bughouse and Blitz tournaments. Winning 1<sup>st</sup> place for Elementary in Bughouse was the team of F. Cavazos Garcia and Kumar Changra. Winning 1<sup>st</sup> place for Primary in Bughouse was

the team of Edwin Amaya and R. Cavazos Garcia. The first place winner for Elementary in the Blitz tournament was Dmitri Dobrynin while the first place prize for Primary went to Cal McCarty-snead.

Since the lower grades only played one day (Sunday) for the title, on Saturday there was a warm-up event for grades Kindergarten through third grade. This event was won by third grader Jonathan Zhang with 4.5/5 points. Tying for second place were Sathvik Lokesh and Nivedha Maniv, both in the second grade.

The tournament was organized by Salman Azhar with National Tournament Director Tom Langland acting as the Chief TD. Chief Computer TD was National Tournament Director John McCumiskey. Numerous other tournament directors and volunteers assisted as floor TDs and scorers.

## *Third Bay Area International*

The Third Bay Area International took place in Santa Clara from January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 to January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014. This years event attracted 14 Grandmasters, two Woman Grandmasters, 20 International Masters and two Woman International Masters. All told 74 players competed in the nine round Swiss system event.

Six players tied for first place: GM Anton Kovalyov from Canada, GM Bartlomiej Maciejka from Poland, GM Daniel Naroditsky from Foster City, GM Sam Shankland who

grew up in Orinda and was defending his title from the previous Bay Area International, IM Darwin Yang from Dallas, TX, and GM Wei Yi from China. Each player won \$1,083 for their efforts. Additionally, IM Darin Yang also won the U2500 prize while NM Daniel Gurevich won the U2300 prize of \$1,000.

It was a great tournament for those seeking title norms as well. Four players made norms: IM Darwin Yang made his final GM norm, Tatev Abrahamyan made her final

## Bay Area International 2014

1-6 GM Anton Kovalyov 6.5  
 GM Bartlomiej Maciejka  
 GM Daniel Naroditsky  
 GM Sam Shankland  
 IM Darwin Yang  
 GM Wei Yi  
 U2300 NM Daniel Gurevich 5.5

Norms Darwin Yang GM  
 Tatev Abrahamyan IM  
 Jeffery Xiong IM  
 Ni Shiqun IM/WGM



Photo by Richard Shorman

IM norm, Jeffery Xiong made an IM norm and Ni Shiquan from China made both an IM norm and WGM norm.

The tournament was organized by Arun Sharma and Salman Azhar. Directing the tournament were National TD Tom Langland and his son Jordan Langland.

There was some excellent chess played during the event. Here are some games from the winners. (You can also check out some tactics from the event in puzzle format on page 37) All analysis was verified with Houdini 2.0c Pro.

We start with Darwin Yang's final round win over GM Victor Mikhalevski giving Yang his final GM norm.

**White:** IM Darwin Yang (2463)  
**Black:** GM V. Mikhalevki (2536)  
 E60 Kings Indian Defense

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 e6 4.e4 d5 5.Nc3 dxe4 6.fxe4 e5 7.d5 Bc5 8.Nf3 Qd6 9.Bd3 0-0N**

9...Nbd7 was previously seen in Bologan -Nepomniachtchi, Poikovsky 2013

**10.Qe2 Bg4 11.h3 Bd7 12.g4 c6 13.Bh6 +=**

White has more space with pressure on e5 and the dark squares.

**13...Rc8 14.0-0-0 Bb4 15.Bd2 Na6 16.Kb1 Re8 17.Rhf1 cxd5 18.cxd5±**

White is well developed and now he has a protected passed pawn.

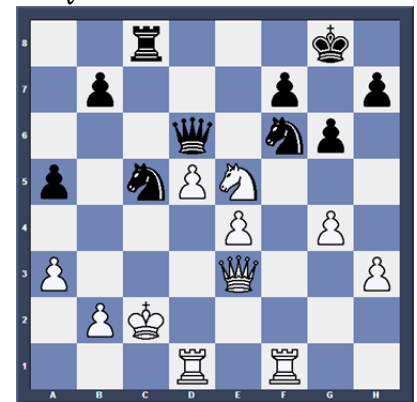
**18...Nc5 19.Bc2 Re7 20.a3 a5!? 21.Qe3 Bxc3 22.Bxc3 Ba4? (diagram)**

Better was 22...Bb5 23.g5 Nfd7±



**23.Bxe5!+- Rxe5 24.Nxe5 Bxc2+ 25.Kxc2 Rc8 (diagram)**

25...Qxe5 26.Qxc5 Nxe4 27.Qd4 Rc8+ 28.Kb3+-



**26.Nxf7! Qe7**

26...Kxf7 27.g5 Ncxe4+ 28.Kb1+-

**27.Kb1 Ncxe4**

27...Qxe4+ 28.Qxe4 Ncxe4 29.Ng5+-

**28.Nh6+! Kg7 29.Rfe1**

faster was 29.g5 Nc3+ 30.Qxc3 Rxc3 31.gxf6+ Qxf6 32.Rxf6+-

**29...Rc3?! 30.Qd4 Kxh6 31.bxc3 Nxd5!?**

There is no perpetual after 31...Qxa3 32.Rxe4 Qb3+ 33.Kc1 Nxe4 34.Qxe4 Qxc3+



35.Qc2 Qa3+ 36.Qb2+–

**32.Qxd5 Nxc3+ 33.Kc2 Qxe1**

33...Nxd5 34.Rxe7 Nxe7+–

**34.g5+! 1–0**

Next we have GM Wei Yi's win from Round 6.

White: WGM Wang Jue (2396)  
Black: GM Wei Yi (2607)  
B90 Sicilian Najdorf 6.Be3

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.f3 Be6 9.Qd2 0–0 10.0–0–0 Nbd7 11.g4 b5 12.Rg1 Nb6 13.Na5 Qc7 14.g5 Nh5 15.Kb1 d5!**

Once Black can successfully achieve ...d5 in the Sicilian they normally will have at least equalized.

**16.exd5 Nxd5 17.Nxd5 Bxd5 18.Be2N**

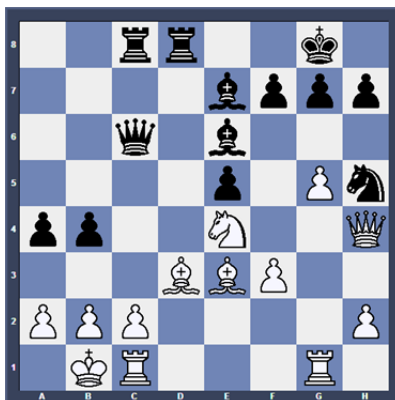
18.Qf2 was played in Nepomniachtchi - Sjugirov, Dagomys 2009

**18...Rfd8 19.Qe1 Rac8 20.Rc1 b4 21.Nb3 a5 22.Nd2 a4 23.Ne4 Qc6 24.Bd3 Be6?!**

Winning a pawn and destroying some of the Kings cover was 24...Qe6 25.Qh4 Bxa2+ 26.Ka1 g6–+

**25.Qh4?!** (diagram)

Better was 25.b3+



**25...Qd5!–+ 26.b3 axb3 27.axb3**

27. Nf6+ Nxf6! 28. axb3 Nh5 –+

**27...Qa5! 28.Rcd1**

an alternative was 28.Nf6+ Bxf6 29.Bxh7+ Kf8 30.gxf6 Nxf6–+

**28...Bxb3! 29. cxb3 Ra8 0–1**

GM Sam Shankland had another great performance in this tournament. Here is his win from round 4.

White: GM S. Shankland(2602)  
Black: IM L. Bregadze (2417)  
E21 Nimzo Indian 4.Nf3

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Nc3 0–0 5.Bg5 c5 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 cxd4 8.exd4 d5 9.Bd3 dxc4 10.Bxc4**

We have reached an Isolated Queen Pawn structure.

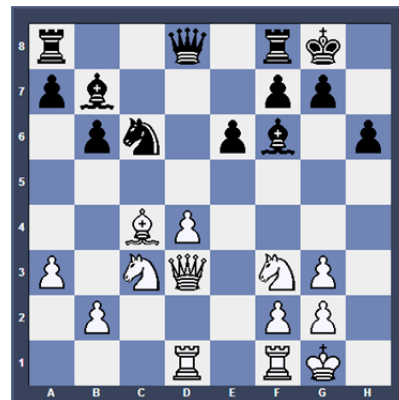
**10...Nc6 11.0–0 Be7 12.a3**

preventing ...Nb4 and preparing Qd3.

**12...b6 13.Qd3 Bb7**

**14.Rad1 Nh5 15.Bg3 Nxc3 16.hxg3 Bf6N** (diagram)

16...Qc8 was played in the game Usmanov -Mammadov, Kirishi 2011



**17.d5!**

Eliminating the isolated pawn and increasing his piece activity while Black still lags slightly in development.

**17...Na5 18.dxe6 Nxc4 19.exf7+ Rxf7 20.Qxc4±**

White is up a pawn and he has pressure on the a2–g8 diagonal.

**20...Qc8 21.Qb3 Bxc3 22.bxc3**

not 22.Qxc3? Qxc3 23.bxc3 Bxf3 24.gxf3 Rxf3=

**22...Qf5 23.Ne5 Qxe5 24.Rd7 Qe8 25.Rxb7 Kf8 26.Qd5 Rc8 27.Rd1 Rxb7 28.Qxb7 Rxc3 29.Qxa7 Rc6 30.Qa4 Re6 31.Qb4+ Kg8 32.Rd4!? Re1+= 33.Kh2 Qh5+ 34.Rh4 Qd1 35.g4 Rh1+!?**

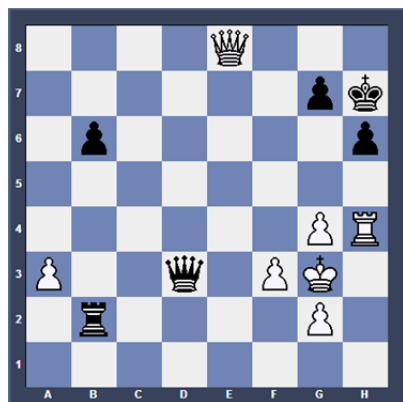
35...Qc1 36.Rh3=

**36.Kg3± Qd3+ 37.f3 Rb1 38.Qe7 Rb2?**



Better was 38...Qc2±

**39.Qe8+ Kh7** (diagram)



**40.Rxh6+! 1-0**

40.Rxh6+ gxh6 (40...Kxh6?  
41.Qh5#) 41.Qf7+ Kh8  
42.Qf6+ Kh7 43.Qxb2+-

GM Anton Kovalyov started off in round 1 with a win where he patiently showed his defensive abilities until he was able to turn the tables later in the game.

**White:** FM Breckenridge(2342)  
**Black:** GM A. Kovalyov (2617)  
B22 Sicilian Defense 2.c3

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 Nf6  
4.Bc4 e6 5.Qe2 Be7 6.e5  
Nd5 7.d4 cxd4 8.cxd4 Nc6  
9.0-0 Nb6 10.Bb5 a6**

Black could lock things up in the center with 10...d5 but prefers to keep the tension.

**11.Bxc6+ bxc6 12.Bd2N**

12.exd6 was played in Klimansky – Shneider, Alushta 1999

**12...Nd5**

An alternative plan was 12...a5 where Black would get some potential on the a6–f1 diagonal at the cost of slightly weakening the a-pawn.

**13.Rc1 Qb6 14.Na3± Bd7**

14...Qxb2 would give White great compensation for the pawn in the way of space, activity and good squares for his pieces after 15.Nc4 Qb8 16.Ba5±

**15.Nc4 Qc7 16.Ba5 Qb8  
17.exd6 Bxd6 18.Nfe5  
Bxe5 19.Nxe5**

White could also try 19.dxe5 with the idea of creating an outpost on d6.

**19...Qd6 20.Rc5 0-0  
21.Rac1 Rfc8 22.Qc4 Ne7  
23.Bb4 Qc7 24.Ba5 Qd6  
25.Bb4 Qc7 26.Ra5 Nd5  
27.Bd2**

27.Rxa6?? Rxa6 28.Qxa6 Nxb4+-

**27...Nb6 28.Qc5 Nd5  
29.Qa3 Be8 30.Nd3**

Black has compensation after 30.Rxa6 Qb7 31.Ra5 Rxa5 32.Bxa5 c5 33.Rxc5 Nf4 34.Nf3 Rb8 35.b4 giving him some pressure on the a8–h1 diagonal with ...h6 and ...g5–g4 to follow.

**30...Qd8 31.Nc5 Nc7  
32.Be3 Rcb8 33.Bf4?!**

Worth considering was 33.Ra4± getting the rook off the diagonal of the black queen and holding onto a slight edge with pressure against the pawns.

**33...Nb5! 34.Qa4** (diagram)



**Nxd4!± 35.Bxb8?!**

Better was 35.Kf1!? Rb5±

**35...Ne2+± 36.Kf1 Nxc1  
37.Bf4?!**

The only way to hang on was 37.Be5 Nd3 38.Bc3±

**37...Nd3-- 38.Be3 Nxb2  
0-1**

38...Nxb2 39.Qb4 (39.Qd4 Qxa5--+) 39...Nc4! 40.Rxa6 Rxa6 41.Nxa6 Qd3+ 42.Ke1 Na3! 43.Qd2 Nc2+ 44.Kd1 Nxe3+ 45.fxe3 Qxa6 46.Qd8 Qa4+ 47.Kc1 c5--+

Local Grandmaster and author Daniel Naroditsky shows his creativity with an interesting queen maneuver relocating it to a1 in this first round game.

**White:** GM Naroditsky(2535)  
**Black:** NM D. Studen (2285)  
B01 Scandinavian Defense

**1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3  
Qd6 4.d4 c6 5.Nf3 Nf6  
6.Ne5 Nbd7 7.Nc4 Qc7  
8.Qf3 Nb6 9.Ne5 Be6!?**

Black signals their intention to fianchetto the dark squared



U2300 Winner NM Daniel Gurevich  
Photo by Richard Shorman

bishop.

**10.Bf4 Qd8 11.Rd1 g6  
12.a4N**

12.Be2 has been played a couple times before and was seen most recently in Lomako-S. Kasparov, Lipetsk 2010.

**12...a5 13.Be2 Bg7 14.0-0  
0-0 15.Rfe1 Rc8 16.h3  
Nfd5 17.Nxd5 Bxd5 18.Qa3**

The start of an interesting queen maneuver.

**18...Qd6** (diagram)

18...Be6 19.Bg4 Bxg4  
20.Nxg4±



**19.Qa1!? Qb4**

19...c5 would give the best chance to equalize since it would likely liquidate White's strong pawn in the center.

**20.b3!± Rfd8?!**

Possibly better was 20...Bxe5 21.Bxe5 Nd7± but not many players would willingly give up the dark square bishop in this position.

**21.c3! Qd6 22.c4! Qf6**

Another option was 22...Be4 23.Qc1 Qb4 24.Bg4 f5 25.Rxe4!± but White is still dominating.

**23.Qc1 Be4 24.Bg4 Bf5  
25.Bg5 Qd6!?**

Slightly better was 25...Qe6

**26.c5!+- Qd5 27.cxb6 f6?!  
28.Be2!**

Threatening Bc4

**28...e6 29.Bc4 Qd6 30.g4!  
fxg5 31.gxf5 gxf5 32.Qxg5  
1-0**

What has consolidated and is a piece up.

One of the most exciting games of the tournament was played by NM Daniel Gurevich, winner of the U2300 prize. In this last round game he plays a nice sacrifice dragging the enemy king out from its shelter leading to a lasting attack.

**White:** NM D. Gurevich (2272)  
**Black:** NM E. Santarius (2343)  
C41 Philidor Defense

**1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5  
4.Nf3 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7  
6.0-0 0-0 7.a4 a6 8.Qe2**

8.a5 was played by Svidler recently (in 2013) against Ipatov at a tournament in Warsaw.

**8...b6 9.Rd1 exd4 10.Nxd4  
Bb7N**

10...Ne5 appeared in the game Schuette - Fischer, Seefeld 2003

**11.Bf4±**

White has a comfortable position and slight edge based on the pawn structure with a pawn on e4 vs. the pawn on d6.

**11...g6!? 12.Bh6 Re8  
13.Bxf7+ Kxf7** (diagram)



**14.Ne6!**

Drawing the king out into the open.

**14...Kxe6**

14...Qc8? 15.Ng5+ Kg8

16.Qc4+ d5 17.Nxd5 Bxd5  
18.Rxd5! Kh8 19.Rxd7+–

**15.Qc4+ d5 16.Rxd5?!**

16.Nxd5 Nxd5 17.exd5+ Kd6=

**16...Bf8!?**

16...Bxd5? leads to a mate in 4:  
17.exd5+ Kf7 18.d6+ Nd5  
19.Qxd5+ Kf6 20.Ne4# and  
16...Nxd5 17.exd5+ Kf7 18.d6+  
Kf6 19.Qf4+ Ke6 20.Re1+  
leads to eventual mate.

**17.Bg5 h6?**

Better was 17...Bxd5 18.Nxd5  
Ne5 19.Qb3 Kf7

**18.Rad1!+–**

Threatening mates with Rd6+  
or Re5+

**18...Bxd5 19.Nxd5! Kf7**

19...hgx5?? 20.Nf4+ Ke7  
21.Nxg6#

**20.Nxf6+ Re6 21.Rxd7+  
Qxd7 22.Nxd7 hgx5**

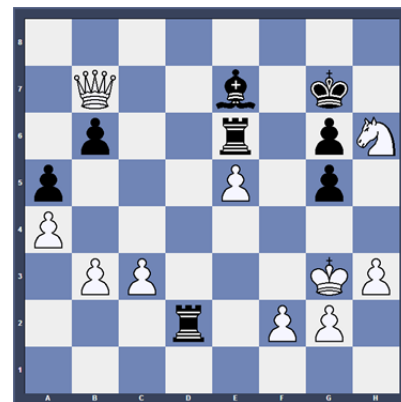
White has emerged with a  
queen for two rooks and a few  
pawns but Black has two  
pieces still sitting on their  
initial squares and the king is  
badly exposed.

**23.Ne5+! Kf6 24.Ng4+ Kf7**

24...Ke7? 25.Qxc7+ Ke8  
26.Ne5!+–

**25.Qxc7+ Be7 26.Qc4 Rd8  
27.h3 Bc5 28.c3 a5 29.e5  
Ke7 30.Qe4 Rd1+ 31.Kh2  
Rd2 32.Qb7+ Rd7 33.Qa8  
Rd8 34.Qe4 Rd2 35.Qb7+  
Rd7 36.Qf3 Rd2 37.b3 Rd8**

**38.Qe4 Rd2 39.Kg3 Kf7  
40.Qb7+ Be7 41.Nh6+ Kg7**  
(diagram)



**42.Qc8! 1–0**

42.Qc8 Bf8 (42...Kxh6?  
43.Qh8#; 42...Rxe5 43.Qg8+  
Kf6 44.Qf7#) 43.Qxe6 Kxh6  
44.Qxb6+–

## *The Weibel Fall Chess Quads 2013*

By Alan M. Kirshner, Ph.D.

The CalNorth Youth Chess  
Quads and Grand Prix at  
Weibel Elementary School  
this Fall continued the  
tradition, since 1999, of  
having the largest turn-out for  
Quads in California. The  
October 19, 2013 Quads had  
176 players. The November 9,  
2013 Quads turned out 214  
players and the December 14,  
2013 Quads produced 225  
players. Back at the turn of  
the century when scholastic  
tournaments were scarce, the  
Quads usually drew over 300  
players.

I was asked recently why I  
placed such an emphasis on  
the number of players that

attend even though I get a  
fixed stipend. My response  
was that it enabled me to  
provide Quads that were more  
equitable. With large  
numbers of players it is easier  
to create tables of four people  
with near identical ratings and  
of similar ages while avoiding  
players from the same schools  
or clubs. Admittedly, this task,  
even with large numbers, is  
not always easy. While the  
December 14 Quads had 225  
players, a fair number,  
perhaps 20%, came from  
three different schools.  
Raman Akella, my  
experienced director in  
pairing, and myself usually  
take about 15 minutes to

## Weibel Fall Grand Prix 2013

### Above 900 Rating

1	Arvind Ragunatham	135 pts
2	Mohamed Abdullah	110 pts
3	Nivita Reddy	100 pts
3	Jeremy Chen	100 pts

• • •

### Below 900 Rating

1	Daniel Xie	155 pts
2	Jash-Piam Parekh	145 pts
3	Ansh Kharbanda	140 pts
3	Pranav Ramesh	140 pts



group the players, however, this time we took 30 minutes discussing the best way to keep to our promise of equitable pairings. We finally succeeded. Sadly, we got started 10 minutes late. It had been a very long time since this had happened, as CalNorth Youth Chess prides itself on getting its events and rounds started on time.

Another advantage of large numbers is we can provide stipends or offer dividends to the well-known teachers, coaches and players we have in the Bay Area to come and go over games, do simuls and special lectures for the attendees. On December 14, we had our first book reading. In the past, authors like Eric Schiller and Francisco del Rosario have come to our events to publicize their chess books. This time, Grand Master Jesse Kraai came to read from his recently published book, Lisa, A Chess Novel. Of course, he avoided reading from those sections that some parents might not find suitable for their children. He also gave a simul and spent some time analyzing our players' games.

We also provide free internet access. The internet we set up allows those who may desire to also watch the top board in our Above 900 rating section. I still have one DGT board left from the days I ran the State Championships. These boards allow the game being played



Winners of the Below 900 Grand Prix Photo Courtesy of Alan M. Kirshner, Ph.D.

to be sent out over the internet. At the States we ran four boards and televised a fifth. We also set up, as we did at the States, a large demo board where various individuals analyze the game being played in real time. On December 14, the last Quad of the Grand Prix, Barry Curto, a correspondence Master, did most of the analysis.

December 14 was the last of the Grand Prix tournaments. Winners get much larger trophies plus other awards such as free entries to other CalNorth Youth Chess tournaments. The winners of this Fall's Grand Prix in the Above 900 rating section were:

- 1st: Arvind Rangunatham  
135 points
- 2nd: Mohamed Abdullah  
110 points
- 3rd: Nivita Reddy  
100 points

3rd: Jeremy Chen  
100 points

The winners of the Below 900 rating section were:

- 1st: Daniel Xie  
155 points
- 2nd: Jash-Piam Parekh  
145 points
- 3rd: Ansh Kharbanda  
140 points
- 3rd: Pranav Ramesh  
140 points

To view the results and see photographs and results from the Fall events plus our celebration of International Library Game Day, November 16, you can go to <http://www.CalNorthYouthChess.org/photographs.html>.

February 9, 2014, a Sunday, will see the biggest CalNorth Youth Chess tournament--our Seventh Annual Age Level. For the last two years we have



drawn more than 500 players. This year Carl Moy, the organizer, would like to see the record of 584 players broken. He will hold the Championships once again at

the Newark Pavilion. The Spring CalNorth Youth Quads will be held on March 8, April 5 and May 17. You can find links to these events at

<http://www.CalNorthYouthChess.org/Tournaments.html>.

I hope your 2014 brings you lots of chess fulfillment and fun.

## ***The 3rd Annual McKinley Williams–John Easterling Community Chess Tournament***

By TC Ball

The cold snap in Richmond could not stop 44 die-heart chess players from turning up the heat at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual McKinley Williams–John Easterling Community Chess Tournament on Saturday December 7, 2013 at the Richmond Recreation Complex. The tournament was sponsored by the City of Richmond, Contra Costa College and the West Coast Chess Alliance (WCCA). The coordinators of the event were TC Ball and Gerl Jenkins of the WCCA. The City of Richmond is rapidly becoming



Photo Courtesy of TC Ball

a hot bed for chess in the East

Bay; this tournament is come off the heels of our very successfully National Chess Day Hilltop Mall Speed tournament on October 12, 2013.



Organizer TC Ball giving instructions before the first round. Photo Courtesy of TC Ball

The event was named after McKinley Williams, retired president of Contra Costa College and the late John Easterling. Williams was an ardent supporter of chess while he served at the College. He was also instrumental in bringing Maurice Ashley, the first African

American Grand Chess master, to the college, and encouraged chess as a learning tool to improve academic skills of students.

Mr. Easterling was a moving force in the East Bay chess community for many years before his passing. He taught many local players the game of chess and was responsible for keeping chess alive in this area.

We had an excellent turnout for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Community Chess tournament, with player coming from as far as Fairfield, Concord with most of the players coming from the City of Richmond. The age range of the participants ranged from 8 years of age to 76, with a lot of diversity. It was a quad type tournament, with 4 players per quad playing 3 games; the winner of each quad received a trophy. Fifteen players walked away with trophies, all youth



Photo Courtesy of TC Ball

participating will receive a chess medal.

A little known fact is that more people play chess in America than tennis and golf combined. More youth are starting to become interested in the Royal Game of Chess, this resurgence can be due in part to films like Brooklyn Castles and the realization by many educators are becoming

aware of the academic benefits of playing chess. Chess teaches valuable lessons that can easily transfer to students such as cause and effect relationship of decision that are made, developing critical thinking and spatial awareness, along with goal setting. Recognizing the cognitive and behavioral benefits of chess, it is an enrichment activity used in many affluent school districts.



Photo Courtesy of TC Ball

The City of Richmond has a rich chess history, dating back to the 1950's. If you are looking for a good game try the Richmond Senior Center on Macdonald on ever Friday from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The partnership developing between the City of Richmond Recreation Department and the West Coast Chess Alliance will insure that chess has a bright future in the City of Richmond. If you want more



information about chess in Richmond contact: TC Ball at (510) 439-6311 or by email at:

the [westcoastchessalliance@gmail.com](mailto:westcoastchessalliance@gmail.com).

## ***Black Dragon Third Annual Fall Invitational***

By J.B. McCann

East Bay afterschool enrichment program Black Dragon Chess held it's Third Annual Fall Invitational Tournament on November 23rd in Walnut Creek. Over sixty 1st-5th graders participated in a spirited five-round Blitz.

The champion at the end of the day was 1st-grader Alex Holstein of Montevideo Elementary School. Also finishing strongly was Alex's older sister Jessica (5th grade). A knack for chess seems to run in the family.

Tournament Co-Director J.B. McCann was proud of the good sportsmanship exhibited by all the kids, and of the very fun atmosphere of the tourney itself. A good time was definitely had by all!

Black Dragon Chess provides afterschool enrichment programs to schools in the San Ramon valley, Walnut Creek and surrounding areas. For more information visit the Black Dragon website: <http://blackdragonchess.blog>

### Black Dragon Fall Invitational

1 Alex Holstein	5
2 Julia Szambelan	4.5
3 Vincent Wu	4
4 Simon Lim	4
5 Ben Innocencio	4

[spot.com/](http://spot.com/)



## ***Richmond National Chess Day Blitz Tournament 2013***

By TC Ball and Scott Mason

On Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 the West Coast Chess Alliance based in Richmond, CA held their first annual National Chess Day Blitz Tournament. The Hilltop Mall helped sponsor the event and provided space out in the mall to hold the event. This provided an excellent

opportunity to promote chess in the Richmond area as many community members stopped by to watch and a few played casual games on the extra sets during the tournament.

To kick off the event, the Honorable Mayor of Richmond Gayle McLaughlin



Winner Arthur Liou receiving prize from TC Ball

### **Richmond National Chess Day Blitz**

1	Arthur Liou	9
2-3	Don Proffit Keith Storey	7.5
4-7	Ron Cusi Roger Poehlmann Hans Niemann Anthony Blessing	7

and Councilwoman Jovanka Beckles stopped by with a proclamation from the City of Richmond presented to the WCCA supporting our celebration of National Chess Day and our efforts to promote the game of chess in the City of Richmond.

Thirty players competed in the event including three masters and four experts. The event was an unrated blitz event played under US Chess Federation rules. Each player played two games against each opponent and there were five rounds total. Play started around 1:00 pm and finished shortly after 3:30pm.

The event was a fundraiser for the "Chess in Richmond School's Program". The event was sponsored by the City of Richmond, Hilltop Mall and the West Coast Chess Alliance (WCCA).



After five rounds of play, the clear winner was Arthur Liou with 9 out of a possible 10 points. Arthur has many impressive wins during the event including three wins against master opponents. For his efforts, Arthur received the first prize of \$200. Tied for second and third were Don Profit and Keith Storey each winning \$100. Don was extremely gracious and donated his prize the "Richmond Chess in School's Program"; with his donation we were able to raise \$330.00.

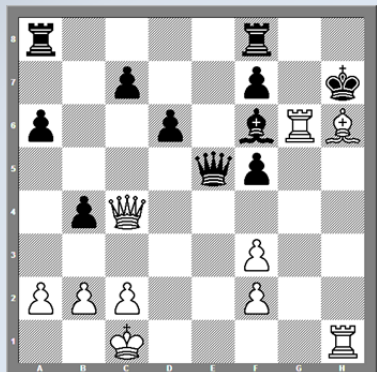
Special thanks to TC Ball for organizing. Thank you to Scott Mason and Gerl Jenkins for helping direct the event. And the WCCA registration team Maggie S. Ball and Myriah R. Ball.



## Bay Area International Tactics

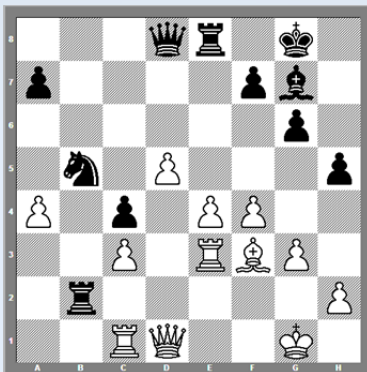
*These positions are from games played at the Bay Area International 2014. Solutions on page 46.*

1



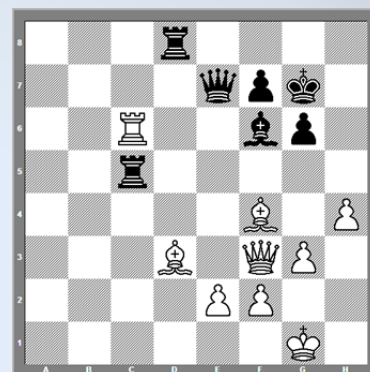
GM Wei Yi – IM John Bryant  
White to play

2



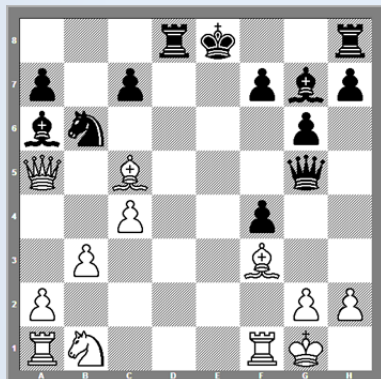
GM Sam Shankland – GM Gao Rui  
Black to play

3



GM B. Macieja – IM Darwin Yang  
White to play

4



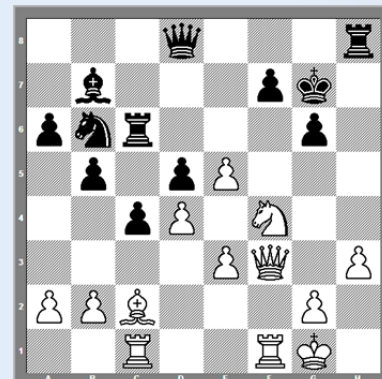
IM Josh Ruiz – GM Daniel Naroditsky  
Black to play

5



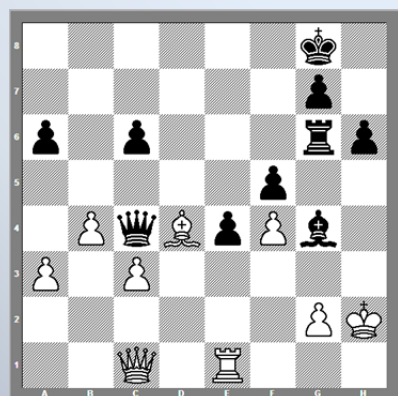
FM Yian Liou – NM Hayk Manvelyan  
White to play

6



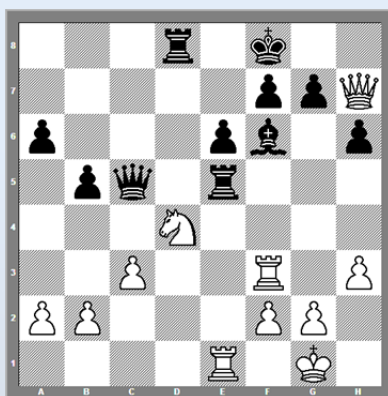
WIM S. Chevanes - H. Klotz-Burwell  
White to play

7



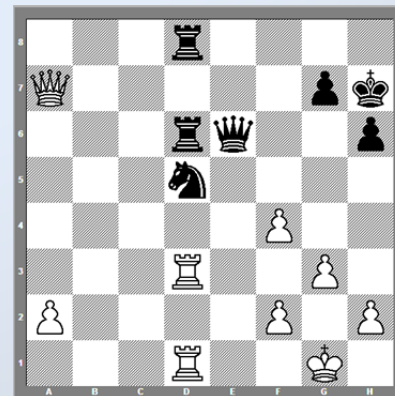
FM Sean Vibbert – IM Andrey Gorovets  
Black to play

8



IM Max Cornejo – FM S. Shivaji  
White to play

9



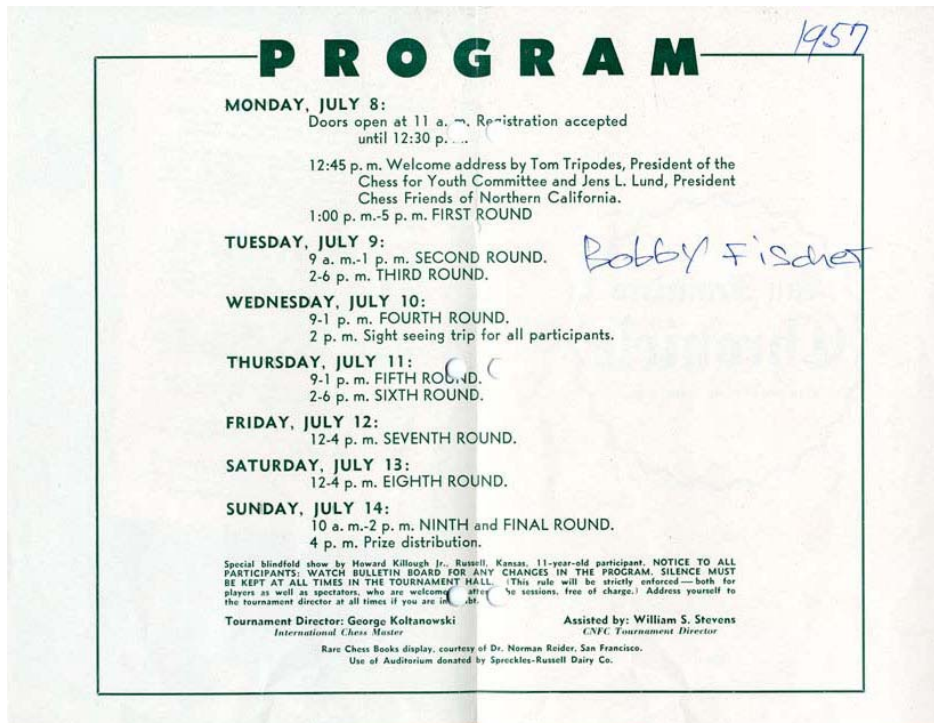
GM H. Hernandez – FM Sean Vibbert  
Black to play



## Out of the Past

By Kerry Lawless

Getting the 1957 US Junior for San Francisco was a real coup for SF's Chess for Youth Committee and the Chess Friends of Northern California! The tournament was ably directed by International Master and World Blindfold Champion George Koltanowski, with, as usual, more than a little help from his wife, Leah. Chess Friends of Northern California members, Florence and Bill Stevens, took care of the sandwiches for the entire week of the tournament, while Henry King created the beautiful signs which decorated the playing area. Since the tournament was



George Koltanowski's personal copy of the program signed by Bobby Fischer



played in the Spreckels-Russell Dairy Company's auditorium (1717 Mission Street, San Francisco), they supplied the milk, chocolate milk and ice cream, which were consumed in large quantities!



The nine round Swiss tournament started on July 8th and ended on July 14th. Thirty-three players from eight states (California, Kansas, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Texas, Oregon and Utah) took part. Brooklyn's fourteen-year-old Bobby Fischer (USCF 2231), the 1956 US Junior Champion, was, of course, the one to beat. But California also had some real contenders in Long Beach's fifteen-and-a-half-year-old Master (USCF 2240) Larry Remlinger, San Francisco's seventeen-year-

old Master (USCF 2222) Gilbert Ramirez and Los Angeles' Master (USCF 2233\*) Stephen Sholomson. Larry Remlinger had won the Long Beach Championship at age 12 and, until Fischer came along, had been considered the American prodigy; unfortunately, for whatever reason, Larry did not participate. Gilbert Ramirez had surprised everyone by winning the California Open Championship the previous fall, but astonishment knew no bounds when he won the California Closed State

Championship shortly thereafter. Stephen Sholomson, the Los Angeles High School Champion, had just recently emerged as a provisionally-rated master.

The first round, which was held on July 8th, saw only one upset...Northern California's own Gil Ramirez gave up a draw to out-of-stater Richard Owen, putting him under considerable pressure for the rest of the tournament, due to Bobby's continuous wins.

There were other activities besides the main tournament. George and Leah Koltanowski arranged for all the participants to be taken to see an evening showing of Pat Boone's newest picture, *Bernardine*, at the Fox Theater, the famous 4,651 seat movie palace on 1350 Market Street. On Wednesday, July 10th, there was a two part Rapid Transit (10-seconds a move) Championship. The first part consisted of three sectional round robins to determine who would play in the final championship round. Bobby won the finals and became the Junior Speed Champion. Chess Friends of Northern California's *Chess in Action* magazine wrote, "His skill in move-on-move play has been demonstrated against fast company at MICC (Mechanics' Institute Chess Club) on several occasions since. Old timers gasp!"



Ramirez,Gil - Fischer,Bobby ½-½  
E67 U.S. Junior Championship 1957

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.0-0 0-0 5.c4 d6 6.Nc3 e5 7.d4 Nbd7 8.h3 Re8 9.Qc2 exd4 10.Nxd4 Nb6 11.b3 c5 12.Ndb5 a6 13.Na3 Bf5 Black has a well developed game and the two open Bishop's files look dangerous. 14.Qd2 d5 15.g4 Bxg4 Typical Fischer. No retreat if a combination is possible! 16.hxg4 Nxg4 17.Bh3 Finds the safest way out of the many threats Black has. Qh4 18.Kg2 [ 18.Bxg4? Qxg4+ 19.Kh1 Re5-+ ] 18...d4 19.Qg5 Qxg5 20.Bxg5 f5 21.Bxg4 fxc4 22.Nd5 Nxd5 23.cxd5 d3 24.exd3 Prefers to give the exchange, he still would have two pieces for a rook. Bxa1 25.Rxa1 Re5 White will have to lose the two Q pawns, and the draw is the safest bet by far.

½-½

Unfortunately for Gil, the deciding game of the tournament came in round five. [see above game] Gil had to win this because of his first round draw against Richard Owen, but Bobby was just too aggressive about keeping the initiative. The annotations to the Ramirez-Fischer game were from the Chess in Action article from the July-August 1957 issue; they were probably written by the Tournament Director, George Koltanowski.

A first-hand account of the tournament from the San Francisco newsletter, the Precita Valley Chess Herald, said, "During the final round and last day, the Spreckels-Russell Dairy Co. auditorium became a little crowded.

Everybody wanted to be in on the final results. First prize, of course, went to Bobby Fischer. He got a typewriter--, and, he doesn't know how to type. Maybe he can trade it for a "Kingboard"! Guthrie McClain, editor of THE CALIFORNIA CHESS REPORTER, deserves a word of praise for his up-to-the-minute bulletins during the tourney, which appeared at the auditorium where the tourney was taking place and at a few chess clubs."

Bobby Fischer won the Milwaukee Journal Independent-Press Telegraph Trophy for ranking player under 15 years, the Herman Dittman Trophy and a Royal portable typewriter. Gil Ramirez won a RCA portable

radio and a trophy. Stephen Sholomson won a handsome leather bag and a trophy. Ronald Thacker, Mike Bredoff, Leonard Hill, Arthur Wang and Ralph Clark all won books. Fred Wreden won the Milwaukee Journal Independent-Press Telegraph Trophy for ranking player under 13 years. All the out-of-state entries, that did not win a prize, received a Kingboard as a souvenir of their San Francisco visit. Unfortunately, the definition of 'Kingboard' is lost to posterity!

## US Junior Championship (July 8-14, 1957, SF)

#	Player	Rating	Age	City	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Score	Median Points
1	Bobby Fischer	2231	14	Brooklyn, N.Y.	W19	W12	W4	W16	D2	W3	W5	W9	W6	8.5	27
2	Gilbert Ramirez	2222	17	San Francisco	D20	W18	W9	W3	D1	W6	W16	W8	D4	7.5	24
3	Stephen Sholomson	2233*		Los Angeles	W22	W7	W14	L2	W24	L1	W12	D6	W5	6.5	20.75
4	Ronald S. Thacker	1888		Richmond	W29	W15	L1	L6	W28	D8	W17	W16	D2	6	15.75
5	Mike Bredoff			Redwood City	L14	W20	W28	W11	D7	W10	L1	W12	L3	5.5	20.75
6	Leonard Hill			Mountain View	W27	L11	W23	W4	W16	L2	W7	D3	L1	5.5	19.75
7	Arthur Wang	1620*		Berkeley	W31	L3	W26	W9	D5	L12	L6	W18	W13	5.5	16.25
8	Ralph Clark A.	1867		Long Beach	W30	D26	L19	W22	D10	D4	W14	L2	W20	5.5	16
9	Robert Walker			Portland, Ore.	W17	W13	L2	L7	W29	W11	W24	L1	D10	5.5	15.75
10	Warren Miller			Albuquerque, N.M.	W28	L16	D22	W26	D8	L5	W27	W15	D9	5.5	11.75
11	Rex Wilcox	1837		Salinas	W33	W6	L16	L5	W21	L9	D13	W17	D12	5	15
12	Andrew Schoene	1842		Malaga, N.J.	W21	L1	W29	D14	W19	W7	L3	L5	D11	5	14.75
13	Thomas Heldt, Jr.			Albuquerque, N.M.	W23	L9	L15	W33	D17	W26	D11	W19	L7	5	10
14	David Krause			Palo Alto	W5	W32*	L3	D12	D15	D24	L8	W23	D16	5	7.5
15	Leighton Allen			San Francisco	W bye	L4	W13	L24	D14	D28	W21	L10	D19	4.5	13.75
16	William Haines			Sacramento	W25	W10	W11	L1	L6	W19	L2	L4	D14	4.5	12.75
17	Robert Dickinson	1990*		Redwood City	L9	W21	L24	W23	D13	W20	L4	L11	W26	4.5	10
18	Fred Wreden		10	San Francisco	D32	L2	L20	L21	W30	W22	W29	L7	W24	4.5	10
19	James Bennett			Fort Worth, Texas	L1	W27	W8	W32	L12	L16	W28	L13	D15	4.5	8.5
20	Richard Owen			Salt Lake City, Utah	D2	L5	W18	L29	W22	L17	W26	W24	L8	4.5	7.5
21	Howard Killough, Jr.	1544	11	Russell, Kas.	L12	L17	W25	W18	L11	W23	L15	D27	W29*	4.5	7.5
22	Ivan Vegvary	1550*		San Francisco	L3	W33*	D10	L8	L20	L18	W25	W31	W30	4.5	4.5
23	William Lee			San Francisco	L13	W bye	L6	L17	W25	L21	W30	L14	W31	4	3.5
24	James Schmerl	1650*		Piedmont	L26	W30	W17	W15	L3	D14	L9	L20	L18	3.5	6.25
25	Don Sutherland			San Francisco	L16	L29	L21	W31	L23	W32	L22	D30	W27	3.5	4
26	John Blackstone			San Jose	W24	D8	L7	L10	W32*	L13	L20	W28	L17	3.5	3.75
27	Allan Haley			Nevada City	L6	L19	W31	L28	W33*	W29	L10	D21	L25	3.5	3.5
28	Roy Hoppe			San Francisco	L10	W31	L5	W27	L4	D15	L19	L26	W bye	3.5	3
29	David Boganoff			Redwood City	L4	W25	L12	W20	L9	L27	L18	W bye	L21*	3	4.5
30	Bruce Pohoriles			Larkspur	L8	L24	L33	W bye	L18	W31	L23	D25	L22	2.5	6.25
31	J. N. Krug			San Rafael	L7	L28	L27	L25	W bye	L30	W32*	L22	L23	2	
32	Steve Joplin			Oakland	D18	L14	W bye	L19	L26	-	-	-	-	1.5	
33	Lincoln Fong			San Francisco	L11	L22*	W30	L13	L27*	-	-	-	-	1	

### *My Friend John Grefe*

By Michael Anderson

*International Master John Grefe passed away on Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 at the age of 66. What follows is the transcript of a speech given at the Memorial held at the Mechanics Chess Club on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014.*

Good afternoon everybody –  
My name is Mike Anderson

and I was both a student and friend of John Grefe.

It would be safe to say that I knew John from 1976 to 2013. Thirty seven years.

I experienced many sides of John. The International Master of chess side, the spiritual side, the humorous side, the kind side, the sports

fan side and the grumpy side etc. etc.

I first met John sometime in the early to mid 1970's. I saw him at one of the Paul Masson chess tournaments and walked up and asked him: "Mr. Grefe, What do you think of Alexander Kotov's approach to analyzing variations in his book 'Think Like a

Grandmaster'?" He said unequivocally: "Not much, that's not how people think!" I guess THAT was my first lesson from John. A year before he had won the 1973 title of United States Closed co-Chess Champion. I watched him play that day... And I noticed that he played with a picture of a "Guru" next to his board. What really interested me was during one of his rounds he played a red-headed somewhat long haired chess player that had a little button-like-picture of himself next to HIS side of the board. He sported a faint smirk on his face. There they were... both had their pictures... and both playing chess. At the end of the game, the red-headed guy said "I guess his Guru was stronger than mine."

In 1976 I moved to Berkeley in order to attend university. It was in Berkeley that my relationship with John deepened.

As I got to know John more and more, I noticed that he was a very measured individual. He epitomized the saying - "Think, before you speak." In normal human intercourse you would assume that John was spontaneous. That would be a mistake. He simply possessed a phenomenally quick and disciplined mind. When answering a question related to chess or not, he had a certain cadence in his speech

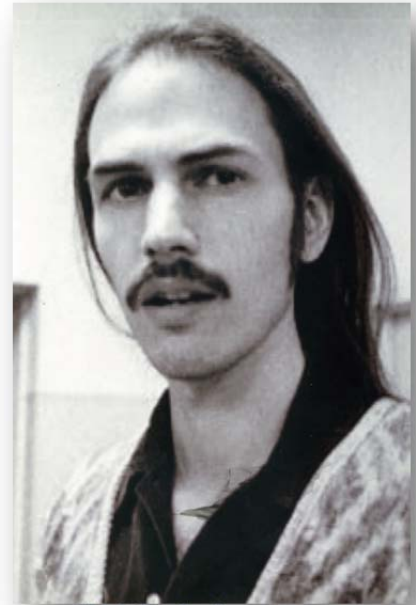
– very controlled.

He was always willing to go over my games... showing me in instantaneous fashion where I missed tactics, and stratagems.

His real passion was in playing over grandmaster games.

We must have gone over 1000's of games. In the late 70's we would go over to the Cafe Espresso on North Side Berkeley. The crowd consisting of Charlie Motz, Jimmy Stewart, Jim Waide, Swaminathan Subramaniam and myself would gather around... Grefe would deftly go over the games... demonstrating several alternative ideas... showing tactics as to why one move lost and another won.

Years passed and we migrated from one Cafe to the next... Grefe always had "nicknames" for everything... People, places and things. For instance he called the Cafe Espresso – "Cafe DePresso" because of the extremely poor lighting. After the Cafe Espresso got turned into a laundry mat – We took up haunts at "Cafe Ariel" – We spent several years there going over the fantastic games of Kasparov and others. But then the "Cafe Ariel" later got turned into a hamburger place called "Barneys" – We then migrated to "Cafe Milano" – John really liked the Cafe Milano... with



IM John Grefe 1947-2013  
Photo by Richard Shorman

its vaulted ceilings... and loft. Good players would show up there: David Strauss, Mark Leski and Gustavo Lima Darcy and the notorious Chis Ramayrat.

It was there when Bobby Fischer played his return chess match with Boris Spassky. After the second game Grefe stated: "He's lost a step" We went through the match games and John punched holes in Fischer's play. But heaven never lasts... One day 2 chess players got into a fist fight... and management through all the chess players out.

John was bummed. In his usual manner however he brushed it aside... and we moved to the I – House. There Sandy – the owner dedicated a wonderful chess table with a bronze plaque – stating in so many words "Chess players are always welcomed" Home



at last. It was there that John showed me a fantastic game that Kasparov had played.

Kasparov vs Topalov – Wijk aan Zee 1999... I remember him showing me the position and asking me what I would play after 23...Qd6? Without really analyzing I said “QxQ”? To which he showed me Kasparov's move 23.Rxd4... My mouth fell open. What a move. We played through the game and I was amazed at all the lines that John investigated... It also made me feel good that he showed me this game. Like I mattered.

As far as chess mentoring went... the most important advice that I ever received from John was of a psychological nature. One day, “at his office” – (The Cafe Roma which is now the Cafe Estrada on the corner of College and Bancroft – was what John called – “My office”) ... On that day I told John, “Man, I gotta beat this guy...” referring to some chess opponent. John replied: “You put waaaay too much emphasis on 'Winning and Losing' – Do you remember what attracted you to the game? You should play chess because you enjoy it. Forget about winning and losing!” I was stopped in my tracks. He hit home. I had forgotten what drew me to the game. In my quest to win at all costs... I no longer had fun.

John's advice took root and the anxiety and fear of losing

lost its sting. I played stress free chess. I gained 200 rating points and almost made master that year – 1992.

On another occasion during one of the Mechanics Marathons I had played against a “C” player and grabbed an exchange and a pawn. I soon had a lost game due to lack of piece coordination and development. I showed John the game and he just shook his head and said “You have got to respect the game.” That also, stuck with me.

John made money by teaching chess. He worked with *Elizabeth Shaughnessy* at the Berkeley Chess School.

I remember on several occasions going to visit John and watched him analyze the kids chess games.

From 2010 to 2013 a lot of us met at Dr. Walter Wood's house on Saturday afternoons. Grefe would go over countless Grandmaster games with Walter Wood, Christopher Hume and myself.

John had developed a great repertoire of sayings to illustrate a point that he was trying to make when it came to teaching chess. Here is a list that I remember on more than one occasion:

- “Sixteen men, get'm all out.” (making a point about developing chess pieces)

- “Retreat leads to defeat.” (moving a knight or other piece to a back rank)
- 'My intuition tells me “I should calculate!”' (as a way to rebuff a student when they suggest a move based upon intuition)
- In response to a student who moves a piece instantly without thinking he would say the following: “Oh, you have an uncanny ability to assess a chess position – instantaneously... Unlike you, I have to analyze the variation.” (He would then take a little time and refute the move)
- When a student would miss a tactic he would often state: 'You seem to be suffering from a “Severe lack of tactical awareness”' (This happened so often to Walter Wood he actually coined an acronym called: “SLOTA”)
- "If you have castled kingside do not play P-KN4 unless it wins" (advice to a particular student who wants anonymity)

The spiritual side of John Grefe was clearly eastern mystic. John had studied several Vedic Texts. And post-Vedic texts. Including but not limited to the Upanishads, The Bhagavad Gita , The Mahabharata etc etc.

John also knew Russian. I remember a couple of years ago he came to my apartment where I have a big TV which is hooked up to a Play-Station

which in turn has a built-in-browser. John really liked my TV because he could surf the web with a 70inch monitor. He directed me to a Russian website and said "Now, if you are really serious about chess you can come to this website and read the latest free analysis way before "New In Chess" publishes it. The entire website was composed of the Cyrillic alphabet. But John, I don't know Russian. He said "It's not that hard. Here, this word means black and this word means white and on and on he went telling me I just needed a chess players vocabulary and I would be set.

John was also a prolific reader... He had read every Jack Reacher book ever written. He loved to read Tom Clancy, Robert Ludlum, John Grisham, Michael Crichton, Ian Fleming and the list just goes on. Authors I have never even heard of. But that was John.

His favorite TV series while growing up was: "The Beverly Hill Billies"

Once he sang the entire song for me with this silly look on his face. I had to laugh. I

couldn't believe that he remembered all the Lyrics from 50 years ago.

I could go and on about John ... I knew him pretty well.

We shared similar beliefs concerning eastern mysticism. We both read Meher Baba, Ramana Maharshi, and Sri Nisargaddatta.

John was not a Hindu, but he did believe in a frame of mind called "Enlightenment." In his own way John pursued enlightenment.

On his deathbed I brought a photograph of Sri Ramana Maharshi and as feeble as John was, he reached out and held it staring at the picture. He could barely breath yet he mustered all his strength grasping the photo... and stared into it... gradually he lost consciousness, and his grip loosened...

We shall miss John. We will miss his wit, his humor, and his friendship.

Here are a couple of games showing Johns tactical ability... one is his famous win against GM Miguel Najdorf.

**White:** IM John A Grefe  
**Black:** J. Harris  
Australian Open 1974  
B72 Sicilian Defense

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Be2 0-0 8.f4 d6 9.Nb3 a6 10.g4 e5 11.g5 Ne8 12.h4 f6 13.Bc4+ Kh8 14.h5 fxe5 15.hxe6 h6 16.Rxe6+ Bxe6 17.Qh5 Kg7 18.fxe5 Bxe5 19.Qh7+ Kf6 20.Nd5+ 1-0**

**White:** IM John A Grefe  
**Black:** GM Miguel Najdorf  
Lone Pine 1976  
C41 Philidor Defense

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Qe2 c6 8.a4 Qc7 9.h3 exd4 10.Nxd4 Re8 11.Bf4 Ne5 12.Bb3 Nfd7 13.Rad1 Bf8 14.Bc1 Nc5 15.Ba2 d5 16.f4 Ned7 17.e5 Nb6 18.a5 Nbd7 19.Qh5 Ne6 20.Nf5 Qxa5 21.Rf3 Nb6 22.Rg3 g6 23.Qh4 Na4 24.Rxd5!! Qb6+ 25.Be3 Qb4 26.Rb5!! Nxc3 27.Rxb4 Ne2+ 28.Kh2 Nxe3 29.Qxe3 Bxb4 30.Nh6+ Kh8 31.f5! Nd8 32.fxe6! fxe6 33.Qf4 Bf8 34.Nf7+ Nxf7 35.Qxf7 Be6 36.Bxe6 Bg7 37.Bd4 Rad8 38.Bc3 b5 39.Bd7 Rf8 40.Qe7 1-0**

## CalChess State Title Events

Apr 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2014

### CalChess Jr. High School (K-8) State Championship

Hyatt Regency SFO, Burlingame

April 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, 2014

### CalChess Scholastic Super States (K-12 except Jr. High)

Santa Clara Convention Center

For details please visit [calchess.org](http://calchess.org)

## Upcoming Scholastic Tournaments

Sat, Mar 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Youth Chess Quads	Weibel Elementary, Fremont
Sat, Mar 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	NHC Scholastic Swiss	Norcal House of Chess, Fremont
Sat, Mar 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Sacramento Kids Swiss & Quads	Courtyard, Rancho Cordova
Sun, Mar 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Cupertino Kids Swiss & Quads	Courtyard Marriott, Cupertino
Sat, Mar 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Let's Play Chess Swiss	Resurrection Church, Santa Clara
Sun, Mar 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	San Mateo County Champ	Courtyard Marriott, Foster City
Sun, Mar 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	San Mateo Kids Quads	Courtyard Marriott, Foster City
Sat, Mar 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2014	San Francisco Scholastic Chess	Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
Sat, Mar 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2014	Milpitas Chess4Less Kids Swiss & Quads	Bay Area Chess Center, Milpitas
Sun, Mar 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2014	Cupertino Kids Swiss & Quads	Courtyard Marriott, Cupertino
Sun, Mar 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Contra Costa County Champ	Courtyard Marriott, San Ramon
Sun, Mar 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Contra Costa County Quads	Courtyard Marriott, San Ramon
Sat, Apr 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Foster City Kids Swiss & Quads	Courtyard Marriott, Foster City
Sun, Apr 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Fremont Kids Swiss & Quads	Courtyard Marriott, Fremont
<b>Sat-Sun, Apr 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2014</b>	<b>CalChess Jr. HS (K-8) State Champ</b>	<b>Hyatt Regency SFO, Burlingame</b>
Sat, Apr 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Sacramento Kids Swiss & Quads	Courtyard, Rancho Cordova
Sun, Apr 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Cupertino Kids Swiss & Quads	Courtyard Marriott, Cupertino
Sat, Apr 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Milpitas Chess4Less Kids Swiss & Quads	Bay Area Chess Center, Milpitas
Sun, Apr 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	San Ramon Kids Swiss & Quads	Courtyard Marriott, San Ramon
<b>Fri-Sun, Apr 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, 2014</b>	<b>CalChess Scholastic Super States</b>	<b>Santa Clara Convention Center</b>

For details please visit [calchess.org](http://calchess.org)



## *Upcoming Regular Tournaments*

Sat, Mar 8 <sup>th</sup> -Sun, Mar 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	A.J. Fink Amateur Champ	Mechanics, San Francisco
Sat, Mar 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Milpitas SuperSwiss	Bay Area Chess Center, Milpitas
Fri, Mar 14 <sup>th</sup> -Sun, Mar 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	March Madness Champ	Bay Area Chess Center, Milpitas
San-Sun, Mar 22 <sup>nd</sup> -23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2014	NHC Spring Champ	Norcal House of Chess, Fremont
Sat, Mar 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2014	Max Wilkerson Open G/45	Mechanics, San Francisco
Sat, Mar 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Berkeley G/45 Swiss	Hillside Elementary, Berkeley
Sun, Mar 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Cupertino DuperSwiss	Courtyard Marriott, Cupertino
Fri, Apr 4 <sup>th</sup> -Sun, Apr 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Spring Champ	Bay Area Chess Center, Milpitas
Sat-Sun, Apr 12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Modesto Championship	Doctors Medical Center, Modesto
Sun, Apr 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Cupertino DuperSwiss	Courtyard Marriott, Cupertino
Sat-Sun, Apr 26 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Frank Doyle Open	Exchange Bank, Santa Rosa
Sat, May 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2014	14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Charles Powell Memorial G/45	Mechanics, San Francisco
Sun, May 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	8 <sup>th</sup> Annual Ray Schutt Memorial Blitz	Mechanics, San Francisco
Sat-Mon, May 24 <sup>th</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Best of the West State Champ	Santa Clara Marriott

*For details please visit [calchess.org](http://calchess.org)*

## *Bay Area International Tactics – Answers*

- White mates in three: 1. Bxf8+ Kxg6 (1...Bh4 2. Qxh4+ Kxg6 3.Qh6#; 1...Qh2 2.Qxf7+ Kh8 3.Qg8#) 2. Rh6+ Kg5 3. Qh4#
- Black saves their knight and wins an exchange and rook with 1...Qb6 2.Qe1 Bxc3! 3.Rcxc3 Nxc3 4.Qxc3 Rb3 (4.a5 Ne2+ 5.Qxe2 Rxe2 6.axb6 Rxe3 7.Kf2 Ra3 -+) 5.a5 Qxe3+ -+
- White wins at least a Bishop with 1.Rxf6! Qxf6 (1...Kxf6 2.Bg5+ winning the queen) 2.Bh6+ Kxh6 3.Qxf6 +- and if Black doesn't take the rook, White retreats it remaining up a Bishop.
- Black won a Queen for Rook and Bishop with 1...Bd4+ 2.Bxd4 Qxa5 3.Bxh8 -+
- White forces mate with 1.Nf6+ gxf6 (1...Kh8 2.Qxh7#) 2.Bxf6 when Black can only give up material to delay it.
- White won an exchange and a pawn after 1.Ne6+ Rxe6 (1...fxe6 2.Qf7+ Kh6 3.Qxg6#) 2.Qxf7+ Kh6 3.Qxe6 +-
- Black brings home the point with 1...Bf3! 2.Rg1 (2.gxf3 Qa2+ leads to mate; 2.Qd2 Rxc2+ -+) 2...Qe2! 3.Qf1 Rxc2+ -+
- White wins material with 1.Rxe5 Qxe5 (1...Bxe5 2.Nxe6+ +-) 2. Qh8+ Ke7 3.Nc6+ Kd6 (3...Kd7 4.Nxe5+ +-) 4.Nxe5! Rxh8 5.Nxf7+ K~ 6.Nxh8 +-
- Black won material by creating some back rank problems for White 1...Nxf4! 2.Rxd6 (2.gxf4 Rxd3 -+) 2...Rxd6! 3.Qa4 Qe2 -+ (or 3...Rd2 or 3...Rd3 also work)