



Price \$3.00



**2014 MICHIGAN SENIOR
CHAMPION**

David Hahn

Winter 2014



Published by the **Michigan Chess Association**
 Affiliated with US Chess Federation
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 Send submissions to michessmag@gmail.com
 Editor: **Jeff Aldrich**

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Michigan's Top 100

November 2014 USCF Rating List

(From USCF Website, Regular Rated within Last Year)

Rank	Player	Rating	Rank	Player	Rating
1	FM Seth Homa	2467	51	Andrew Schremser	1998
2	FM Atulya Shetty	2410	52	Surya Parasuraman	1986
3	FM Safal Bora	2382	53	Alan Gregg	1986
4	FM Edward Song	2378	54	Daniel Sajkowski	1982
5	FM Nathan Solon	2287	55	Loyd Gentry	1981
6	Ben Li	2263	56	Ronald Williams	1974
7	Ameer Ghobrial	2254	57	Mike Williams	1971
8	Michael Bowersock	2250	58	Michael A Smith	1971
9	FM David Sprengle	2235	59	Kyle Webster	1969
10	Jalen Wang	2234	60	Jacob Fortuna	1958
11	Thomas Hartwig	2230	61	Kevin Jackson Sr	1958
12	WCM Apurva Virkud	2220	62	Justin Chen	1950
13	Michael Chen	2214	63	Eric Larson	1947
14	Thomas Ward	2208	64	David Moody	1946
15	Kevin Noren	2207	65	Gregory Harris	1943
16	Evgeniy Khain	2205	66	Jennifer Skidmore Smith	1941
17	Kevin Czuhai	2200	67	Michael R Smith	1939
18	Eugene Brumley	2186	68	Tony West	1938
19	Timothy McGrew	2181	69	Zoran Stojanovski	1937
20	Robert O'Donnell	2178	70	James Sawaski	1936
21	Ariel Levi	2177	71	Zachary Smith	1935
22	John Brooks	2167	72	Allen Wickersing	1931
23	Ratko Bojanovic	2166	73	Robert P Savage	1929
24	Anthony Nichols	2162	74	Phil Roe	1928
25	David Hahn	2137	75	Stanley Jarosz Jr	1928
26	Alexander Deatrick	2134	76	Daniel Libby	1923
27	Manis Davidovich	2122	77	Krishna Venkatasubba	1914
28	FM Andrew Hubbard	2113	78	Duane Croel	1912
29	Robert Ciaffone	2100	79	Evan Giampa	1909
30	Jack Wood	2096	80	Adam Masek	1906
31	Bronson Gentry	2093	81	Gary Robinson	1902
32	Ricardo Lastra	2081	82	Jeff Aldrich	1900
33	Chris Hankinson	2080	83	Leroy Walker	1896
34	Peter Chen	2066	84	Evan Hawver	1892
35	William Rhee	2059	85	Kiran Bemarker	1889
36	Andrew Catlin	2046	86	Alan Sun	1885
37	Bradley Rogers	2046	87	Dan Hronchek	1884
38	Gjergj Dodaj	2043	88	Raymond Garrison	1882
39	Salah Chehayeb	2042	89	Stewart Wilkinson	1880
40	Justin Brown	2039	90	Brandon O'Neil	1877
41	Benjamin Brandt	2037	91	Todd McAuliffe	1869
42	Manmohan Das	2026	92	Sasha Konovalenko	1866
43	Kameron Tolliver	2021	93	Clara McGrew	1858
44	Joshua Posthuma	2016	94	Tim Ritter	1857
45	Michael Dang	2011	95	Isaac Zylstra	1849
46	Faris Gabbara	2002	96	Justin Meek	1845
47	Gregory Bailey	2001	97	Jean-Paul Pegeron	1844
48	Barry Endsley	2000	98	Justin Aldrich	1843
49	John Drexel	2000	99	Will Brooks	1839
50	Morgan Everett	2000	100	Ronald DeLuca	1838

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<http://www.jinchess.com/chessboard/composer/>
 by Alexander Maryanovsky

Current Michigan Champions

2014 Michigan Open	FM Seth Homa
2014 Michigan Open Reserve	Jeff Futrell
2014 Michigan Open Booster	Derek Yan
2014 Michigan Amateur	Surya Parasuraman
2014 Master/Expert	FM Seth Homa
2014 Expert Champion	Michael Chen
2014 Class A Champion	Michael A Smith
2014 Class B Champion	James Karakos
2014 Class C Champion	Ronald Grzegorzczuk
2014 Class D Champion	Adam DeHollander
2014 Class E Champion	Nick Applebee
2014 Novice Champion	Chandrashekar Mani
2014 Bottom-Half Class Over 1900	Apurva Virkud
2014 Bottom-Half Class U1900	Andrew Schremser
2014 Bottom-Half Class U1700	Brandon Vasos
2014 Bottom-Half Class U1500	Connor Linn
2014 Bottom-Half Class U1300	Eric Wright
2014 Bottom-Half Class U1100	Dakshesh Daruri
2013 Michigan Action	Jennifer Skidmore
2013 Michigan Quick	Ariel Levi
2014 Michigan Speed	Alexander Deatrick
2014 Senior Champion	David Hahn
2014 Senior Reserve Champion	Ron Grzegorzczuk
2013 Michigan Correspondence	Barry Endsley
2013 Michigan Women's	Jennifer Skidmore
2013 Michigan Women's Reserve	Gisele Motley
2014 Primary K-3 Team	Chrysler Elementary D
2014 Primary K-3 Team Reserve	Ann Arbor King Kramnik
2014 Elementary K-5 Team	Cornerstone Troy Barnard
2014 Elementary K-5 Team Reserve	Roeper Team A Schedule Team Roeper Philosophy
2014 Elementary K-6 Team	University Prep A
2014 Junior High K-9 Team	Ann Arbor Clague A
2014 Junior High K-9 Team Reserve	Our Lady of Good Counsel
2014 High School 9-12 Team	Ann Arbor Huron HS
2014 High School K-12 Team Reserve	Clio HS A
2014 Michigan Junior	Edward Song
2014 Michigan Young Junior	Michael Chen Surya Parasuraman
2014 Michigan Young Junior Reserve	Jacob Traschenko Pochmara DeJuan Ali-Tubbs
2014 Michigan Children's	Justin Liang
2014 Michigan Children's Reserve	Ethan White Avaneesh Prasad
2014 Michigan Young Children's	Nathan Ouyang
2014 Michigan Young Children's Reserve	Sohan Madishetty
2014 Michigan Collegiate	Tony West
2013 Scholastic Club K-12 Team	Ann Arbor Huron Detroit Country Day
2013 Scholastic Club K-12 Individual	Alan Sun
2013 Scholastic Club K-8 Team	Detroit City Chess Club
2013 Scholastic Club K-8 Individual	Michael Chen Joshua Posthuma
2013 Scholastic Club K-5 Team	J-FORCE
2013 Scholastic Club K-5 Individual	Siddharth Jha
2013 Scholastic Club K-3 Team	Detroit City Chess Club
2013 Scholastic Club K-3 Individual	Aiden Song Yashwant Dubbaka Michael Lu

Editor's Column

Congratulations go out to board members, Jennifer Skidmore and Michael Smith as they were married on September 27, 2014. They held a reception on October 18 at the Palm Palace restaurant in Ann Arbor where many friends from the chess community attended. They both do a lot for MCA and especially with our Scholastic events. Be sure to wish them well the next time you see them at an MCA event.



There is a new way to support MCA. If you regularly shop online at Amazon, a portion of your purchase can be donated to a non-profit organization of which MCA qualifies. Be sure to go to michess.org and find this picture that include a link to set you up with MCA:

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Table of Contents

2014 Michigan Open.....	5
Ad: 2015 Michigan Scholastic Team Chess Championship.....	16
2014 Michigan Senior Championships.....	17
Michigan Players at the U.S. Senior Open.....	18
2014 Barber Tournament of K-8 State Champions.....	20
2014 Denker Tournament of High School Champions.....	21
Memorium: Ronald Finegold.....	23
Ad: 2014 Michigan Action Championship.....	25
Michigan Chess Clubs.....	26
Michigan Chess Tournament Calendar.....	27
Ad: 2015 Michigan Master/Expert & Class Championships	
.....	Back Page

Chess Associations in Michigan

Michigan Chess Association	www.michess.org
West Michigan Chess	www.westmichiganchess.com
Lake Superior Chess Association	www.lakesuperiorchess.org

Websites for chess clubs in Michigan are listed in "Chess Clubs" near the back of the magazine.

National/International Chess Websites

United States Chess Federation	www.uschess.org
World Chess Federation (FIDE)	www.fide.com
Chess Federation of Canada	www.chess.ca
English Chess Federation	www.englishchess.org.uk
German Chess Federation	www.schachbund.de
Russian Chess Federation	www.russiachess.org

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2014 Michigan Open

The 2014 Michigan was held over the weekend of August 29 through September 1 at the Doubletree Hotel in Dearborn. Seth Homa was the Champion for the second consecutive year.

For the first time, the Michigan Speed Championship was included as separate side event on Sunday between rounds 4 and 5. This was by far the largest attendance for the Speed event with 57 total players. It was run as a 5 round double swiss (play each opponent twice) so there would be a definite end time and everyone would be done for the evening round.

2014 Michigan Open - Open Section Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Score
1	Seth Homa	2462	W38	W10	W33	D4	W16	D2	W5	6.0
2	Edward Song	2367	L18	W36	W30	W11	W29	D1	W4	5.5
3	Jalen Wang	2206	W9	W41	L6	W19	½	W15	W13	5.5
4	Ben Li	2170	W28	W23	W13	D1	D5	W16	L2	5.0
5	Alexander Deatrack	2059	½	W42	W50	W7	D4	W10	L1	5.0
6	Manis Davidovich	2115	W56	W44	W3	L16	D23	D7	W19	5.0
7	Andrew Schremser	1973	D50	W49	W35	L5	W27	D6	W16	5.0
8	Salah Chehayeb	2028	W37	W18	L16	L23	W28	W29	W22	5.0
9	Rohan Talukdar	1895	L3	L20	W47	W48	WF	W45	W17	5.0
10	Gregory Bailey	1953	W43	L1	W28	W55	W12	L5	D11	4.5
11	Joshua Posthuma	1987	L24	W40	W39	L2	W18	W33	D10	4.5
12	Tony Bao	2116	W32	D24	W17	D15	L10	D25	W23	4.5
13	Vladimir Drkulec	2027	W52	W53	L4	D27	W21	W23	L3	4.5
14	David Moody	1938	L53	W52	D20	W31	L17	W49	W33	4.5
15	Manmohan Das	2011	W58	W51	½	D12	½	L3	W25	4.5
16	Apurva Virkud	2240	W31	W27	W8	W6	L1	L4	L7	4.0
17	Kameron Tolliver	2011	W47	W26	L12	D24	W14	D22	L9	4.0
18	Brandon O'Neil	1830	W2	L8	L55	W57	L11	W34	W36	4.0
19	Mike Williams	1976	W34	D35	D24	L3	W26	W30	L6	4.0
20	Henry Zhang	1766	L41	W9	D14	L45	D35	W46	W38	4.0
21	Jeff Aldrich	1929	W54	L33	D26	W35	L13	D40	W42	4.0
22	Krishna Venkatasubba	1912	½	D55	W54	½	W45	D17	L8	4.0
23	Tony West	1912	W57	L4	W46	W8	D6	L13	L12	3.5
24	Lily Zhou	1823	W11	D12	D19	D17	L33	D27	D29	3.5
25	Kyle Webster	1961	L26	W32	D31	D44	W36	D12	L15	3.5
26	Daniel Motoc	1800	W25	L17	D21	D49	L19	W51	D30	3.5
27	Surya Parasuraman	1927	W48	L16	W51	D13	L7	D24	D28	3.5
28	Loren Schwiebert	1801	L4	W57	L10	W54	L8	W35	D27	3.5
29	Stanley Jarosz	1942	L51	W58	W53	W33	L2	L8	D24	3.5
30	Jeffrey Zhu	1896	L46	W47	L2	W53	W44	L19	D26	3.5
31	Evan Hawver	1820	L16	W48	D25	L14	D51	D43	W45	3.5
32	Ronald DeLuca	1856	L12	L25	L34	W56	D54	W48	W43	3.5
33	Andrew Hubbard	2147	W40	W21	L1	L29	W24	L11	L14	3.0
34	Vijay Kodali	1712	L19	L39	W32	W46	L41	L18	W51	3.0
35	Sofia Stanesco-Bellu	1333	W39	D19	L7	L21	D20	L28	Bye	3.0
36	Harrison He	1746	½	L2	W38	D41	L25	W47	L18	3.0
37	Sasha Konovalenko	1769	L8	D45	L49	L40	W56	D39	W53	3.0
38	Nick Schwerin	1846	L1	D43	L36	D52	W57	W50	L20	3.0
39	Jean-Paul Pegeron	1875	L35	W34	L11	L43	D48	D37	W52	3.0
40	Alan Sun	1889	L33	L11	D52	W37	W43	D21	---	3.0
41	Justin Chen	1954	W20	L3	D44	D36	W34	---	---	3.0
42	Daniel Tressel	1810	½	L5	D43	D51	½	W44	L21	3.0
43	Akash Narayanan	1642	L10	D38	D42	W39	L40	D31	L32	2.5
44	Rachel Tao	1656	W45	L6	D41	D25	L30	L42	D47	2.5
45	Ronald Williams	1961	L44	D37	W56	W20	L22	L9	L31	2.5
46	Nathan Ouyang	1403	W30	L50	L23	L34	W52	L20	D54	2.5
47	Julian Wellman	1839	L17	L30	L9	Bye	W53	L36	D44	2.5
48	Muhan Luo	1580	L27	L31	WF	L9	D39	L32	W57	2.5
49	Raymond Garrison	1915	½	L7	W37	D26	½	L14	---	2.5
50	Isaac Zylstra	1806	D7	W46	L5	½	½	L38	---	2.5
51	Karthik Vuyyuru	1596	W29	L15	L27	D42	D31	L26	L34	2.0
52	Soumya Kulkarni	1726	L13	L14	D40	D38	L46	W54	L39	2.0
53	Robert Henderson	1613	W14	L13	L29	L30	L47	W57	L37	2.0
54	Daniel Hou	1580	L21	Bye	L22	L28	D32	L52	D46	2.0
55	David Hahn	2100	½	D22	W18	L10	LF	---	---	2.0
56	Michael Skidmore	1800	L6	½	L45	L32	L37	Bye	---	1.5
57	Aiden Song	1544	L23	L28	Bye	L18	L38	L53	L48	1.0
58	James Alexander	1852	L15	L29	LF	---	---	---	---	0.0

2014 Michigan Open - Reserve Section Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Score
1	Jeff Futrell	1685	W20	W11	W34	W30	W9	W15	W4	7.0
2	Dwayne Bard	1654	D77	W87	D65	W67	W32	W17	W8	6.0
3	Justin Aldrich	1727	W42	D65	W31	W38	D8	W16	D5	5.5
4	Joy Chen	1546	D71	W104	W26	W77	W33	W14	L1	5.5
5	Patrick Schilling	1620	W59	D31	D67	W84	W39	W21	D3	5.5
6	Eric Hobson	1424	W78	L36	D41	W60	W31	W30	W15	5.5
7	Ayush Das	1472	W98	W106	W76	D17	L15	W48	L18	5.5
8	Michael Motoc	1576	W35	W44	W10	D33	D3	W19	L2	5.0
9	Brian Bezrutch	1473	W73	W107	W16	W12	L1	D33	D13	5.0
10	Gisele Motley	1164	W64	W23	L8	L32	W67	W80	W47	5.0
11	Lewis Melton	1392	W19	L1	L50	W106	WF	W34	W37	5.0
12	Zhehai Zhang	1599	W84	W43	W51	L9	L14	W68	W35	5.0
13	Brian Liu	1377	L18	W61	W68	W49	D48	W75	D9	5.0
14	John Blake	1711	Bye	Bye	½	½	W12	L4	W32	5.0
15	Dominic Johnson	1678	W54	D49	W36	W21	W7	L1	L6	4.5
16	Raymon Burwelljr	1641	W69	W47	L9	W40	W35	L3	D22	4.5
17	Adam Gaisinsky	1640	W58	W81	D38	D7	W51	L2	D27	4.5
18	Gary Swathell	1663	W13	D22	D49	W90	D30	W38	L7	4.5
19	Anthony Holden	1653	L11	W93	W69	W43	W45	L8	D23	4.5
20	Kyle Schwiebert	1508	L1	D62	W72	W59	L37	W60	W57	4.5
21	Chris Schmidt	1728	W79	W92	W90	L15	W22	L5	D25	4.5
22	John Farley	1449	W61	D18	W92	W36	L21	D37	D16	4.5
23	Patrick Kinnicutt	1490	W94	L10	L35	W73	W84	W39	D19	4.5
24	Alex Mcneilly	Unr	L31	D75	W62	W95	D66	W65	D28	4.5
25	Kamauri Washington	1523	L50	D72	W98	D58	W40	W69	D21	4.5
26	Saano Murembya	1415	W83	D66	L4	L37	W103	W70	W59	4.5
27	Mike Nikitin	1431	W56	L33	D87	W71	½	W66	D17	4.5
28	Dwight Evans	1561	½	½	L40	W63	W52	W54	D24	4.5
29	Dipankar Roy	1383	W88	L30	L70	W94	D56	W78	W48	4.5
30	Jeannie Zhang	1591	W57	W29	W39	L1	D18	L6	D44	4.0
31	Nicholas Konovalenko	1519	W24	D5	L3	W57	L6	W58	D41	4.0
32	Torrance Henry Jr	1529	W46	W70	L33	W10	L2	W42	L14	4.0
33	Jeffrey Guilfoyle	1784	W55	W27	W32	D8	L4	D9	---	4.0
34	Jason Zheng	1567	W82	W40	L1	L39	W55	L11	W69	4.0
35	Jared Ge	1254	L8	W105	W23	W53	L16	W51	L12	4.0
36	Dewayne Van Horn	1554	W60	W6	L15	L22	L42	W71	W56	4.0
37	Elaine Walquist	1628	D52	L77	W46	W26	W20	D22	L11	4.0
38	Max Zhu	1488	W72	W50	D17	L3	W80	L18	D46	4.0
39	Eric Wright	1246	W99	W53	L30	W34	L5	L23	W68	4.0
40	Jalen Woods	1311	W48	L34	W28	L16	L25	W74	W65	4.0
41	Raghuram Shastry	1300	L90	W102	D6	L54	W72	W64	D31	4.0
42	Michael Thomas	1318	L3	W101	L47	W105	W36	L32	W67	4.0
43	Larry Martin	1364	W96	L12	W106	L19	W74	L45	W66	4.0
44	Christopher Hausner	1353	W105	L8	W88	L76	D78	W50	D30	4.0
45	Noel Bedy	1535	D93	D52	W63	W74	L19	W43	---	4.0
46	Bruce Webster	1182	L32	D109	L37	W104	W81	W79	D38	4.0
47	Norman Haygood	1567	W85	L16	W42	W70	½	½	L10	4.0
48	Ronald Grzegorzczuk	1653	L40	W82	W55	W65	D13	L7	L29	3.5
49	Mike Day	1510	W89	D15	D18	L13	D58	L57	W86	3.5
50	Micale Garland	1166	W25	L38	W11	L51	D79	L44	W81	3.5
51	Christian Hausner	1465	W91	W74	L12	W50	L17	L35	D55	3.5
52	Ellen Tao	1337	D37	D45	L53	W107	L28	D61	W78	3.5
53	Manuel Kaner	1604	W62	L39	W52	L35	L69	W82	D54	3.5
54	Siddharth Jha	1382	L15	D89	W86	W41	½	L28	D53	3.5
55	Connor Linn	1340	L33	W91	L48	W88	L34	W73	D51	3.5
56	Micah Nelson	1006	L27	L63	W82	W108	D29	W96	L36	3.5
57	Christian Yanish	1288	L30	D83	W104	L31	W85	W49	L20	3.5
58	Madhav Ramesh	1304	L17	W97	½	D25	D49	L31	W83	3.5
59	Stefano Lee	1259	L5	W103	D81	L20	W95	W77	L26	3.5
60	Arjun Bajaj	1211	L36	W78	W79	L6	½	L20	W77	3.5
61	Antonio Valdiviabush	985	L22	L13	W89	L68	W108	D52	W92	3.5
62	Anvit Rao	1190	L53	D20	L24	L72	W97	W93	W79	3.5
63	Forest Zhang	1301	L66	W56	L45	L28	D93	W99	W80	3.5
64	George Jones	1513	L10	W94	L84	D85	W99	L41	W87	3.5
65	Lauren Bradford	1443	W101	D3	D2	L48	W70	L24	L40	3.0
66	Austin Ye	1600	W63	D26	L77	W100	D24	L27	L43	3.0
67	Jason Ye	1430	D104	W71	D5	L2	L10	W94	L42	3.0
68	Alex Valdivia	1438	W102	L90	L13	W61	W87	L12	L39	3.0
69	Paul Michel Jr	1350	L16	W99	L19	W93	W53	L25	L34	3.0
70	Jade Ge	1208	W109	L32	W29	L47	L65	L26	W101	3.0
71	Elijah Harrison	1187	D4	L67	W109	L27	D100	L36	W96	3.0
72	Feng Zhong	1139	L38	D25	L20	W62	L41	D95	W99	3.0
73	Charisse Woods	1105	L9	L108	W96	L23	W92	L55	W95	3.0
74	Sean McCormick	754	Bye	L51	W108	L45	L43	L40	W94	3.0

75	Marc Whitworth	1630	L100	D24	W107	L/2	W77	L13	---	3.0
76	Brandon Vasos	1621	W103	W100	L7	W44	---	---	---	3.0
77	George Goeminne	1419	D2	W37	W66	L4	L75	L59	L60	2.5
78	Koushik Ray	Unr	L6	L60	W102	W89	D44	L29	L52	2.5
79	Dorian Smalley	1408	L21	W86	L60	W92	D50	L46	L62	2.5
80	Thomas Remsperger	1611	L87	W85	D100	W81	L38	L10	L63	2.5
81	Eric Zhong	1394	W97	L17	D59	L80	L46	W98	L50	2.5
82	Zade Koch	1217	L34	L48	L56	W83	W107	L53	D89	2.5
83	Dakshesh Daruri	983	L26	D57	L95	L82	W91	W103	L58	2.5
84	John Ryskamp	1298	L12	W96	W64	L5	L23	½	---	2.5
85	Sriamsha Dubbaka	1110	L47	L80	W97	D64	L57	L86	W104	2.5
86	Anthony Liao	1208	L92	L79	L54	W102	D88	W85	L49	2.5
87	James O'Neil	1216	W80	L2	D27	½	L68	½	L64	2.5
88	Devin Feng	883	L29	Bye	L44	L55	D86	L92	W106	2.5
89	Shivam Jha	1099	L49	D54	L61	L78	½	W105	D82	2.5
90	William Prusaitis	1600	W41	W68	L21	L18	½	---	---	2.5
91	Brian Wu	1067	L51	L55	L105	D97	L83	W107	W103	2.5
92	Alex Guo	1533	W86	L21	L22	L79	L73	W88	L61	2.0
93	Justin Schilling	888	D45	L19	D103	L69	D63	L62	D98	2.0
94	Chauncey Beard	1144	L23	L64	W101	L29	W105	L67	L74	2.0
95	Shidnei Austin	1498	L106	D98	W83	L24	L59	D72	L73	2.0
96	Jeremy Rebenstock	853	L43	L84	L73	W101	W106	L56	L71	2.0
97	Medha Tripathi	958	L81	L58	L85	D91	L62	D102	W105	2.0
98	Thomas Hosmer	1078	L7	D95	L25	L103	W104	L81	D93	2.0
99	Marisa Ricci	617	L39	L69	Bye	WF	L64	L63	L72	2.0
100	Gary Ugrinovskiy	1338	W75	L76	D80	L66	D71	---	---	2.0
101	Michael Lu	1011	L65	L42	L94	L96	Bye	W106	L70	2.0
102	Amiyatosh Pwnanham	Unr	L68	L41	L78	L86	½	D97	W107	2.0
103	Yashwant Dubbaka	1281	L76	L59	D93	W98	L26	L83	L91	1.5
104	Steven Fu	986	D67	L4	L57	L46	L98	Bye	L85	1.5
105	Alan Rebenstock	Unr	L44	L35	W91	L42	L94	L89	L97	1.0
106	Jason Ouyang	1159	W95	L7	L43	L11	L96	L101	L88	1.0
107	Viraj Mohile	810	W108	L9	L75	L52	L82	L91	L102	1.0
108	Gordon McCall	1357	L107	W73	L74	L56	L61	---	---	1.0
109	Winston Cowans	1550	L70	D46	L71	LF	---	---	---	0.5

2014 Michigan Open - Booster Section Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Score
1	Derek Yan	916	W47	W10	W16	W2	D3	W18	W8	6.5
2	Kameron Wilson	1026	W23	W17	W7	L1	W21	W14	W3	6.0
3	Maxwell Motley	1161	W30	W20	W15	Bye	D1	W16	L2	5.5
4	Theodore Gregg	1002	W52	D12	W6	D10	W5	½	W14	5.5
5	Samuel Thompson	842	W33	L19	W28	W13	L4	W21	W18	5.0
6	Rajesh Anand	1036	W32	W7	L4	L17	WF	W34	W20	5.0
7	Jacob Gaisinsky	864	W49	L6	L2	W44	W32	W15	W19	5.0
8	Elan Hong	750	Bye	L37	W50	W40	W10	W27	L1	5.0
9	Jonathan Chen	921	W29	L11	D30	W15	W31	D22	W26	5.0
10	Jeffrey Yang	1140	W25	L1	W12	D4	L8	W31	W22	4.5
11	Eric Li	Unr	W42	W9	D19	L27	W28	D26	D13	4.5
12	Justin Song	1144	W24	D4	L10	L34	W42	W33	W27	4.5
13	Rohit Ray	932	W53	L22	W42	L5	W38	W29	D11	4.5
14	Jacob Glenn-Bradley	1051	W43	L15	W39	W19	W20	L2	L4	4.0
15	Andrew O'Doherty	824	W51	W14	L3	L9	W23	L7	W35	4.0
16	Anna Sun	1088	W38	W21	L1	W24	W27	L3	---	4.0
17	Paul Johnson	Unr	W36	L2	W25	W6	L18	L20	W30	4.0
18	Sai Vepa	920	W40	L48	W53	W22	W17	L1	L5	4.0
19	Joseph Downs	990	W31	W5	D11	L14	½	W24	L7	4.0
20	Solmon Foster	851	W41	L3	W29	W48	L14	W17	L6	4.0
21	Ethan Guo	877	W45	L16	W44	W32	L2	L5	W38	4.0
22	Morgan Ross	800	W50	W13	Bye	L18	D26	D9	L10	4.0
23	Constantin Stanesco-Bellu	617	L2	L25	W52	W36	L15	W39	W34	4.0
24	Michael Zheng	804	L12	W52	W36	L16	W37	L19	W29	4.0
25	Anitej Bhaskar	782	L10	W23	L17	W45	L29	W40	W33	4.0
26	Julia Shen	871	W37	Bye	D43	D30	D22	D11	L9	4.0
27	Zachary Massat	933	D35	W39	W48	W11	L16	L8	L12	3.5
28	Shelbi Stanfield	1082	L48	W35	L5	W53	L11	D32	W43	3.5
29	Shamanth Shastri	593	L9	W46	L20	W39	W25	L13	L24	3.0
30	Aaryan Gupta	705	L3	W41	D9	D26	L33	W37	L17	3.0
31	Imoni Mabson	674	L19	D33	W37	W43	L9	L10	D32	3.0
32	Luke Hausner	668	L6	W47	W34	L21	L7	D28	D31	3.0
33	Ashwin Balaji	313	L5	D31	D35	W50	W30	L12	L25	3.0
34	Michael Aldrich	824	W44	L36	L32	W12	W35	L6	L23	3.0
35	Cameron Abrams	661	D27	L28	D33	W41	L34	W36	L15	3.0
36	Walter Linn	810	L17	W34	L24	L23	W47	L35	W49	3.0
37	Parker Frye	567	L26	W8	L31	W42	L24	L30	W45	3.0
38	Tejas Ayyagari	675	L16	L44	W45	W47	L13	W49	L21	3.0
39	Talmage Turner	796	W46	L27	L14	L29	W45	L23	W44	3.0
40	Ethan Chen	568	L18	L42	W51	L8	W44	L25	W46	3.0
41	Anthony Li	378	L20	L30	W46	L35	W53	D43	D42	3.0
42	Nolan Donovan	751	L11	W40	L13	L37	L12	W47	D41	2.5

43	Aditya Bapat	679	L14	W51	D26	L31	½	D41	L28	2.5
44	Andreas Boscariol	Unr	L34	W38	L21	L7	L40	W51	L39	2.0
45	Emily Kinnicutt	416	L21	Bye	L38	L25	L39	W53	L37	2.0
46	Saghana Parasuraman	113	L39	L29	L41	W51	L50	W52	L40	2.0
47	Canaan Thomas	510	L1	L32	Bye	L38	L36	L42	W52	2.0
48	Nikhila Anand	681	W28	W18	L27	L20	LF	---	---	2.0
49	William Dumbur	136	L7	½	½	---	W52	L38	L36	2.0
50	Mihir Naik	230	L22	L53	L8	L33	W46	½	---	1.5
51	Anuj Bapat	277	L15	L43	L40	L46	½	L44	Bye	1.5
52	Wendy Zhang	560	L4	L24	L23	Bye	L49	L46	L47	1.0
53	David Huang	655	L13	W50	L18	L28	L41	L45	---	1.0

2014 Michigan Speed Championship

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1	Alexander Deatrack	2080	W29,2.0	W19,2.0	W5,2.0	L2,0.5	W10,2.0	8.5
2	Jalen Wang	2206	W37,2.0	W18,2.0	W16,2.0	W1,1.5	D3,1.0	8.5
3	Bill Calton	2330	W41,2.0	D9,1.0	W12,2.0	W8,2.0	D2,1.0	8.0
4	Manis Davidovich	2138	W43,2.0	W14,2.0	L8,0.0	W18,2.0	W17,2.0	8.0
5	Joshua Posthuma	1985	W30,2.0	W27,2.0	L1,0.0	W39,2.0	W11,1.5	7.5
6	Kameron Tolliver	1993	W48,2.0	W12,1.5	L10,0.5	W22,2.0	W14,1.5	7.5
7	Bronson Gentry	2124	W47,2.0	L20,0.5	D17,1.0	W28,2.0	W25,2.0	7.5
8	Lloyd Gentry	1993	W36,2.0	W15,2.0	W4,2.0	L3,0.0	D9,1.0	7.0
9	Jeffrey Zhu	1896	W50,2.0	D3,1.0	W26,2.0	D13,1.0	D8,1.0	7.0
10	Tony Bao	2116	W38,2.0	W28,1.5	W6,1.5	W25,1.5	L1,0.0	6.5
11	Andrew Hubbard	2147	W40,2.0	W21,2.0	D25,1.0	D17,1.0	L5,0.5	6.5
12	Dominic Johnson	1678	W54,2.0	L6,0.5	L3,0.0	W31,2.0	W34,2.0	6.5
13	Brandon O'Neil	1830	W34,1.5	W23,2.0	D28,1.0	D9,1.0	D16,1.0	6.5
14	Julian Wellman	1839	W44,2.0	L4,0.0	W35,2.0	W40,2.0	L6,0.5	6.5
15	Michael Motoc	1605	W55,2.0	L8,0.0	D30,1.0	W42,2.0	W26,1.5	6.5
16	Salah Chehayeb	2028	W35,2.0	W22,2.0	L2,0.0	D19,1.0	D13,1.0	6.0
17	Andrew Schremser	1975	W32,2.0	W42,2.0	D7,1.0	D11,1.0	L4,0.0	6.0
18	Alan Sun	1889	W46,2.0	L2,0.0	W20,2.0	L4,0.0	W39,2.0	6.0
19	Chris Schmidt	1745	W45,2.0	L1,0.0	W33,2.0	D16,1.0	D23,1.0	6.0
20	James Karakos	1789	W51,2.0	W7,1.5	L18,0.0	D34,1.0	W27,1.5	6.0
21	Tim Ritter	1857	W31,2.0	L11,0.0	D29,1.0	D38,1.0	W37,2.0	6.0
22	Vijay Kodali	1712	W53,2.0	L16,0.0	W48,2.0	L6,0.0	W38,2.0	6.0
23	Ronald Williams	1961	Bye,1.0	L13,0.0	W47,2.0	W41,2.0	D19,1.0	6.0
24	Jeff Aldrich	1928	D49,1.0	L26,0.0	W32,2.0	D37,1.0	W40,2.0	6.0
25	Mannohan Das	2011	W33,2.0	W39,2.0	D11,1.0	L10,0.5	L7,0.0	5.5
26	Henry Zhang	1784	Bye,1.0	W24,2.0	L9,0.0	W29,2.0	L15,0.5	5.5
27	Jeannie Zhang	1600	W56,2.0	L5,0.0	D42,1.0	W30,2.0	L20,0.5	5.5
28	Daniel Motoc	1786	W52,2.0	L10,0.5	D13,1.0	L7,0.0	W36,1.5	5.0
29	Arjun Bajaj	1387	L1,0.0	W52,2.0	D21,1.0	L26,0.0	W49,2.0	5.0
30	Jade Ge	1208	L5,0.0	W54,2.0	D15,1.0	L27,0.0	W51,2.0	5.0
31	Michael Lu	1011	L21,0.0	W43,2.0	D38,1.0	L12,0.0	W48,2.0	5.0
32	Anvit Rao	1199	L17,0.0	D41,1.0	L24,0.0	W52,2.0	W47,2.0	5.0
33	Timothy Heller	1335	L25,0.0	W53,2.0	L19,0.0	D46,1.0	W50,2.0	5.0
34	Samuel Thompson	842	L13,0.5	D49,1.0	W55,2.0	D20,1.0	L12,0.0	4.5
35	Brian Liu	1377	L16,0.0	W45,2.0	L14,0.0	D49,1.0	W46,1.5	4.5
36	Anthony Liao	1208	L8,0.0	W56,2.0	L39,0.0	W54,2.0	L28,0.5	4.5
37	Alex Guo	1533	L2,0.0	D50,1.0	W44,2.0	D24,1.0	L21,0.0	4.0
38	Nathan Ouyang	1426	L10,0.0	W51,2.0	D31,1.0	D21,1.0	L22,0.0	4.0
39	Justin Aldrich	1702	W57,2.0	L25,0.0	W36,2.0	L5,0.0	L18,0.0	4.0
40	Mike Day	1510	L11,0.0	W46,2.0	W49,2.0	L14,0.0	L24,0.0	4.0
41	Dewayne Vanhorn	1568	L3,0.0	D32,1.0	W50,2.0	L23,0.0	D42,1.0	4.0
42	Paul Mills	1197	Bye,2.0	L17,0.0	D27,1.0	L15,0.0	D41,1.0	4.0
43	Brian Bezrutch	1473	L4,0.0	L31,0.0	D45,1.0	D44,1.0	W57,2.0	4.0
44	Sai Vepa	903	L14,0.0	D47,1.0	L37,0.0	D43,1.0	W54,2.0	4.0
45	Viraj Mohile	712	L19,0.0	L35,0.0	D43,1.0	D53,1.0	W55,2.0	4.0
46	Thomas Hosmer	1078	L18,0.0	L40,0.0	W53,2.0	D33,1.0	L35,0.5	3.5
47	Ayush Das	1472	L7,0.0	D44,1.0	L23,0.0	W55,2.0	L32,0.0	3.0
48	Jared Ge	1254	L6,0.0	W57,2.0	L22,0.0	D51,1.0	L31,0.0	3.0
49	Jason Ouyang	1159	D24,1.0	D34,1.0	L40,0.0	D35,1.0	L29,0.0	3.0
50	Justin Song	1144	L9,0.0	D37,1.0	L41,0.0	W56,2.0	L33,0.0	3.0
51	Michael Aldrich	824	L20,0.0	L38,0.0	W57,2.0	D48,1.0	L30,0.0	3.0
52	Sean McCormick	760	L28,0.0	L29,0.0	D56,1.0	L32,0.0	Bye,2.0	3.0
53	Cameron Abrams	661	L22,0.0	L33,0.0	L46,0.0	D45,1.0	D56,1.0	2.0
54	Nolan Donovan	597	L12,0.0	L30,0.0	Bye,2.0	L36,0.0	L44,0.0	2.0
55	Mihir Naik	187	L15,0.0	Bye,2.0	L34,0.0	L47,0.0	L45,0.0	2.0
56	Paul Johnson	Unr	L27,0.0	L36,0.0	D52,1.0	L50,0.0	D53,1.0	2.0
57	Parker Frye	636	L39,0.0	L48,0.0	L51,0.0	Bye,2.0	L43,0.0	2.0

Seth Homa (2462)
Nick Schwerin (1846)
 Michigan Open (1)
 Dearborn, August 2014
 Queen's Pawn: Torre, D03
Notes by Seth Homa

The opening round of the 2014 Michigan Open nearly ended with a double upset on the first two boards! Brandon O'Neil defeated Edward Song on board two.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bg5 Be7 4.Nbd2 d5 5.e3 Nbd7 6.c3 b6

This seemed to weaken the c6-square prematurely so I sought to use this to my advantage and probe his queenside.

7.Qa4 0-0 8.Qc6

Hit and run tactics. The queen will eventually have to turn back so as to avoid getting trapped, but my plan was to disrupt Black's position just a little bit.

8...Rb8 9.Bf4 Ne8 10.Qa4

Otherwise ...b5 and ...Rb6.

10...a5 11.Bd3 Bd6 12.Bg3 Ndf6 13.Ne5

White starts seizing the advantage around these parts.

13...Bd7 14.Qc2 b5 15.0-0 g6 16.Rad1 Ng7 17.Bh4 Be7 18.Nb3! a4 19.Nc5!

Everything is going smoothly so far.

19...Be8

19...Bxc5? would be very bad on account of 20.dxc5 and Ng4 is a threat.

20.b3

White's pieces are all very nice but he needs a road into Black's position. It's time to open up the game when my activity will be put to good use.

20...axb3 21.axb3 Nf5 22.Bg5 h6 23.Bxf5 hxc3

Time to open the game!

24.Bxe6! fxe6??

This should have been the losing move. 24...Kg7!? would have been an interesting try, with counterplay along the h-file.

25.Nxe6??

Winning instantly was 25.Nc6!! Bxc6 26.Qxg6+ Kh8 27.Nxe6 threatening both the queen and mate on g7. There is a lingering suspicion in the back of my mind that this variation did in fact occur to me but I got distracted by other thoughts while he was pondering over move 24.

25...Qd6 26.Nxf8 Bxf8 27.c4

I thought my advantage was quite large but this was a miscalculation. 27.Nxg6 does not really carry any oomph after 27...Ng4 28.Ne5 Nxe5 29.dxe5 Qxe5

27...bxc4 28.bxc4 Nd7 29.Nxd7 Qxd7 30.cxd5 Bf7 31.e4

Black did not play the last few moves very well and my advantage has again become quite serious. The adventures are not over yet!

31...Bg7 32.Qc3

The two bishops are limited in scope by my pawns but they cannot readily advance just yet.

32...Re8 33.Rfe1 Bf8 34.Rc1 Bg7 35.Qd2

I did not take on c7 because I was afraid that after 35.Qxc7 Qxc7 36.Rxc7 Bxd4 Black would place his bishop on e5 and it would be difficult to move my little guys up the board.

35...g4 36.Qf4 Rc8

Here both players missed 36...Bxd4 37.Rxc7 Qxd5!

37.Red1 Kh7 38.Rc6 Bh6 39.Qg3 Bf8 40.Rdc1 Bd6

White's advantage is finally winning.

41.Qb3?

The first move after move 40 was a massive mistake.

41...Bf4!

Nick is quick to pounce. I was just about to move my rook along the first rank when suddenly I realized that would be fatal due to ... Qxc6!

42.R1c3 Qe8!

Provoking moves I don't want to make.

43.e5

The desirable 43.Qc2 runs smack into an undesirable 43...Bxd5! due to back-rank mate threats.

43...Rb8! 44.Qd1 Bxd5 45.Rxc7+ Kh6

According to the math, White is up a serious amount of material. However, Black has tremendous compensation in his active pieces. My extra pawns are all immobile.

46.g3 Bg5 47.Ra7

Luckily for me, the position was also mind-bendingly complex for my opponent as well!

47...Bf3??

I am not sure what he was intending with this.

48.Rxf3!

White gladly enters an ending with three pawns for the piece. Suddenly the roles are reversed and Black's king is the one that is exposed and mine is perfectly safe.

48...gxf3 49.Qxf3 Qe6 50.Kg2 Rb3

White was well on top but this ends the game immediately.

51.Qf8+ Kh5 52.Rh7+ 1-0

A crazy game!

Loren Schwiebert (1801)
Ben Li (2170)
 Michigan Open (1)
 Dearborn, August 2014
 Sicilian: Moscow, B52
Notes by Michael Chen

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4.Bxd7+ Qxd7 5.0-0 Nf6 6.Qe2 Nc6 7.c3 e6 8.d4 cxd4 9.cxd4 d5 10.e5 Ne4 11.Nbd2 Nxd2 12.Bxd2 Be7 13.Rac1 0-0 14.Rfd1

Out of the book

14...Rac8 15.h4

White starts to attempt a kingside attack as Black does not have many defenders on the king side.

15...f6 16.Bf4 f5 17.Ng5 h6 18.Qh5 Bd8 19.Nf3 Bb6 20.Qg6 Qf7 21.Qxf7+ Rxf7 22.Bd2 Rfc7 23.Bc3 Nb4 24.Bd2

24.Ra1 This move is necessary to avoid the loss of a pawn. However Black's pieces are a lot more active and Black is still better. 24...Nc2 25.Rac1 Na3

24...Rxc1 25.Bxc1 Nd3

25...Nxa2 A hanging pawn. 26.Bf4 (26.Bd2 Attempting to trap the knight does not amount to anything. 26...Rc2 27.Rb1 Kf7) 26...Nb4 27.Rd2

26.Rxd3

26.Bxh6 White has the option of a desperado here. 26...Nxb2 27.Rc1

26...Rxc1+ 27.Kh2 Rc2 28.b3

28.Rb3 is better 28...Rxf2 29.a4 Re2 30.Rb5 Re4 31.a5 Bxd4 32.Nxd4 Rxd4

28...Rxa2 29.Kg3 Ba5 30.h5 Bb4 31.Nh4 Be1 32.Ng6 Kf7

32...Rxf2

33.Rd1 Bxf2+ 34.Kf3 b5 35.g3

Black's bishop is trapped but Black still has sufficient compensation for it.

35...a5 36.Nf4 Rb2 37.Nd3

37.Ne2 It is hard to say whether this move is better. 37...Bxg3 38.Nxg3 Rxb3+ 39.Kf4 b4 40.Rc1 Black is also winning here.

37...Bxd4 38.Nxb2 Bxb2 39.Rd2 Bxe5 40.Rc2 a4 41.bxa4 bxa4 42.Ra2 Bf6

42...Bd6 Black should use the tempo to advance the e-pawn

43.Rxa4 Bg5 44.g4

44.Ra7+ Kf6 45.Ra6 White's plan is to try to hold the e6 pawn in place. As long as the e-pawn cannot advance, White's king and rook should be able to stop the d-pawn.

44...f4?

Blocks his own bishop

45.Rb4?

White missed his chance to draw 45.Ra7+ By active play, Black can

prevent White from making any progress
45...Kf6 46.Ra6 Ke5 47.Rb6 Be7 48.Rb7
Bf6 49.Rb4 Bg5

45...e5

Now the three passed pawns are too
much for the rook to handle.

46.Rb7+

Too late

46...Be7 47.Rb5 Ke6 48.Rb6+ Bd6

49.Rb7 e4+ 50.Ke2 f3+ 0-1

Greg Bailey (1953)

Seth Homa (2462)

Michigan Open (2)

Dearborn, August 2014

Bird: Dutch, A03

Notes by Seth Homa

**1.f4 d5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 Bg7 4.e3 Nh6
5.Nbd2 0-0 6.Bd3 c5 7.c3 Qc7**

We have a Dutch Stonewall with colors
reversed.

8.0-0 Bf5

When White has played an early Nbd2,
he has to be extremely careful that Black
cannot play a timely ...cxd4. Such a
capture usually forces an awkward
recapture as the desirable exd4 would
leave the f4-pawn en prise. However,
after 8...cxd4 9.exd4! Qxf4 10.Ne5 Qh4
11.Ndf3 White gets interesting play.

9.Bxf5 Nxf5 10.Qe2 cxd4!

The right moment to exchange.

11.Nxd4

The difference can be seen after 11.exd4
Qxf4! 12.Ne5 Qe3+; Meanwhile, 11.cxd4
would hand Black the open c-file.

11...Nd6 12.g4?!

Greg said that this plan had worked well
for him in a previous game, but with the
center still unresolved I cannot believe
this idea can be correct.

12...Nc6 13.Qg2

Attacking d5, but Black can ignore it.

13...e5!

The old saying goes, "A flank attack is
best met by a blow in the center."

14.Ne2

The basic point is the following variation:
14.fxe5 Nxe5 15.Qxd5 Nxe4

**14...Ne7 15.e4 exf4 16.Nxf4 d4 17.cxd4
Bxd4+ 18.Kh1 Qc2 19.Nf3 Qxg2+
20.Kxg2 Bg7**

A new phase begins. White has escaped
into an endgame but his problems persist
due to his many pawn weaknesses.
Black's pieces, meanwhile, are about to
jump into action.

**21.Nd5 Nxd5 22.exd5 Nc4 23.Rb1 Rfd8
24.Rd1 Rac8**

The pressure on White's position is huge.
It will be very, very difficult to avoid
material losses.

**25.Rd3 Rc5 26.b3 Ne5 27.Nxe5 Bxe5
28.Kf3!**

Active defense. White pitches a pawn and
asks Black to solve some tricky
questions.

28...Bxh2 29.Bh6

This was White's idea. Black is up
material but he will have back-rank
issues.

29...Rcxd5!

This capture looked dangerous but I
found a neat trick that squashed most of
White's compensation.

30.Rxd5 Rxd5 31.Re1

If 31.Rc1 then 31...Rd8 would be fine for
Black as my bishop covers the c7 entry
square.

31...Be5!

Blocking the e-file and centralizing my
bishop on a powerful post.

32.Ke4

This double attack was my main source
of concern when I took the d5-pawn on
move 29.

32...Rd8!

The bishop is immune to capture due to
33...Re8+.

33.Rf1 Re8 34.Kd5 f6

After this, White only has some residual
activity that has to be dealt with.

**35.Be3 a6 36.Bb6 Rc8 37.Bc5 Kg7
38.b4 Kf7**

Black is in no rush.

**39.Rh1 Rd8+ 40.Ke4 Rh8 41.Rh6 Kg7
42.Be3 Bd6!**

Threatening ... Re8+ with ...Rxe3 and
also ...Bxb4 is an idea.

**43.Rh1 Re8+ 44.Kf3 Bxb4 45.Rb1 a5
46.a3 Bxa3 47.Rxb7+ Re7 48.Rb8**

I spent a long time here trying to figure
out the best way to convert. Eventually I
decided to sacrifice my a-pawn (too
difficult to advance with a white rook on
a8). More important was to exchange
bishops as my guy is rather useless.

**48...Rc7! 49.Ra8 Bc5 50.Rxa5 Bxe3
51.Kxe3 Rc3+ 52.Kf2**

Black has one last task to complete. I
cannot avoid one last trade of pawns, but
the exchange must be made in the correct
manner. K+R vs K+R with f- and h-
pawns is a theoretical draw.

**52...Rh3! 53.Kg2 Rh4 54.Ra7+ Kh6
55.Kg3 g5!**

The plan is revealed. Black will play
...Kg6 and ...h5 when the two connected
passed pawns will ensure an easy victory.

**56.Ra8 Kg7 57.Ra7+ Kg6 58.Ra6 h5
59.gxh5+ Rxh5 60.Kg4 Rh4+ 61.Kg3
Rb4 62.Rc6 Re4 63.Kf3 Re1 64.Kg4
Rf1 65.Ra6 Rf4+ 66.Kg3 Kh5 67.Rb6
f5 68.Rf6 Rg4+ 69.Kf2 f4 70.Rf8 Rg3
71.Ra8 Rb3 72.Ra1 Kg4 73.Rg1+ Kf5
74.Ra1 Rb2+ 75.Kg1 Kg4 76.Ra5 f3!**

The conversion will be easiest if I lead
with the bishop pawn for reasons that
will be seen shortly.

**77.Rc5 Kf4 78.Kf1 g4 79.Rc4+ Kg3
80.Rc1**

This is the position Black had in mind
since move 60. Due to the passive
placement of the white rook, this
endgame would be won even if the g4-
pawn did not exist.

80...Rh2! 0-1

White resigned in view of 81.Kg1 f2+
82.Kf1 Rh1+ 83.Ke2 Rxc1 etc.

Seth Homa (2462)

Andrew Hubbard (2147)

Michigan Open (3)

Dearborn August 2014

Indian: Torre, A46

Notes by Seth Homa

Of all the seven games I played, I liked
this one the most.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bg5 c5 4.e3 b6?!

Black falls into a positional opening trap.
Andrew was coming off the 3-day
schedule and may still have been caught
up in the pace of the faster time control.

5.d5!

This is the point. With this temporary
pawn sacrifice, White will have a
pleasant iron-clad grasp on the d5-
square.

5...exd5

Played after a 25-minute think. If he had
let the d5-pawn live then his
development would have been severely
cramped.

6.Nc3 Be7 7.Nxd5 Bb7 8.Bxf6 Bxf6 9.c3
Shutting down the f6-bishop's scope. The
backward d-pawn and the hole on d5 will
mean a miserable life for Black.

**9...Nc6 10.Bc4 0-0 11.0-0 Re8 12.Qd3
d6 13.Rad1**

White piles up on the d-file. Black lacks
any meaningful counterplay.

13...Ne5

Black is hoping that an exchange of
pieces will help ease the pressure on his
position.

14.Nxe5!

Beginning a transformation of
advantages. I am allowing Black to
"correct" his pawn structure in order to

win the d-file. This changes my favorable pawn structure to a dynamic plus.

14...dxe5

The other recaptures would have allowed f2–f4 with advantage.

15.Qf5!

Threatening discovered attacks on the black queen as well as an invasion on the d-file with a white rook. Coupled with the bishop and queen, the pressure on f7 would be unbearable.

15...Bc8!

The best move under the circumstances.

16.Nxf6+ Qxf6 17.Qxf6 gxf6

White has regained the better pawn structure! However, it will not be easy to attack the doubled pawns. More important will be White's control of the only open file on the board.

18.Rd6 Kg7

Black cannot solve his problems through exchanges. For example: 18...Be6 19.Bxe6 fxe6 (Or 19...Rxe6 20.Rd7) 20.Rd7 and Rfd1.

19.Rfd1 Re7

Black's problems were compounded with having 26 minutes left to make move 40.

20.f3!

I like this move a lot. It was very difficult to decide on placing a pawn on a light square, but a wall of pawns along the h1–a8 diagonal will help deaden the enemy bishop. My own bishop will remain quite active.

20...f5?

This doesn't look like a bad move now, but this pawn will prove a target later on.

21.Kf2 Bb7 22.a4!

Grabbing space and laying the groundwork for a later a4–a5, creating some queenside pawn weaknesses. Yet another pawn on a light square!

22...Rb8 23.Bb5

Suddenly menacing Bd7 and Bxf5.

23...Rc7

Black, under huge pressure on the board, was facing terrible time pressure by this point. 7 minutes remaining.

24.b3!!

This is a horrible move to face when low on time. I am keeping all options open on how to break into Black's position. Black must calculate all of them. 24.Rd7 was strong as well, but in general you don't want to play forcing moves when your opponent is in time pressure because he'll be looking at those moves the most.

24...a6

Now the b6–pawn has become loose.

25.Bd7!

And because of that, White transforms his advantages yet again. Now I am fine with a bishop exchange.

25...Bc8 26.Bxc8 Rxc8 27.R1d5! Re8 28.Rc6 Re7 29.Rdd6

White is in.

29...Reb7

Black is just barely holding on to all of his weak pawns. I need something to tip his position over.

30.Kg3!

Black is just about in zugzwang. My simple idea is to eat the f5–pawn with my king via h4 and g5. Note that the queenside pawn structure is perfect. If Black plays ...a5 I will close the queenside forever with c4! If he instead tries ...b5, then I will play a5.

30...Kf8 31.Rd5 Re8 32.e4

A small change of plans. I was getting leery of possible counterplay against my g2–pawn should my king go wandering. This fear was unwarranted.

32...fxe4 33.fxe4 Kg7 34.Rdd6 Reb8 35.Kg4!

Back on the right track. Kf5 is the threat.

35...h5+ 36.Kf5!

I don't want that pawn. I'll take this pawn!

36...b5 37.a5 c4 38.b4 Re8 39.Rxa6 1–0

With 5 seconds left and his pawns beginning to fall, Andrew decided to call it a day. After round 3, only 4 players remained perfect: Apruva Virkud, Ben Li, Manis Davidovich and myself.

Joshua Posthuma

Jean-Paul Pegeron

Michigan Open (3)

Dearborn, August 2014

Queen's Gambit Accepted: Showalter (Bogolubov), D24

Notes by Michael Chen

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6 5.a4 e6 6.e4 Nc6

6...Bb4 = is the book move

7.Bxc4 b6

Black needs to castle as soon as possible as the center will be opened. This move can be played later. 7...Be7 8.0–0 0–0 And white is only slightly better.

8.0–0

Black can still play Be7 here.

8...Bb7

This leaves Black's king in the center while White can open up with d5.

9.d5 exd5 10.exd5 Nb4

10...Na5 This move gains a tempo on the White bishop. 11.Bg5 (11.Ba2 then 11...Be7 12.Rb1 Bc8 13.b4 Nb7 and black will be able to castle fine but White still

has a more active position and a lot better.) 11...Nxc4 12.Qe2+ Be7 (12...Qe7 13.Qxc4 0–0–0) 13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.Qxc4

11.Bg5 Be7 12.Bxf6 Bxf6

12...gxf6 Black needs to do this so he can still castle, although it greatly damages his pawn structure. 13.Nd4 Qd7 Black has to castle long here (13...0–0? 14.Qh5! White is going to have a strong attack on the kingside)

13.Re1+ Be7 14.Qe2

Now the pin on the dark-squared bishop prevents black from castling.

14...Kf8 15.Ne5 Bd6 16.Qh5 g6 17.Qh6+ Kg8 18.Ng4!

White is threatening Re8+ followed by Nf6#. This can only be prevented by f5 which still loses the queen for a rook and a knight. Other attempts will all fail.

18...Bc8

18...Be7 19.Rxe7 ! 19...Qxe7 20.Ne4 f5 21.d6+ Bd5 22.Nef6+; 18...Bf8 19.Re8 And the bishop is pinned to the king; 18...f5 19.Re8+ Qxe8 20.Nf6+ Kf7 21.Nxe8 Rxe8

19.Re8+! 1–0

Black is mated.

Ben Li (2170)

Seth Homa (2462)

Michigan Open (4)

Dearborn, August 2014

Modern Benoni: Classical (Czerniak), A77

Notes by Seth Homa

Ben is improving so rapidly that he won the Under 2200 prize...even though he is closing in on 2300! His official published rating, used for pairing purposes, was still 2170! Kids grow up so fast these days.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Nd2 Nbd7 8.e4 Bg7 9.Be2 0–0 10.0–0 a6 11.a4 Re8 12.Qc2 Ne5

This appeared to have surprised Ben, who sank into a long think.

13.Nc4

Definitely not the most testing move, according to theory.

13...Nxc4 14.Bxc4 Ng4!

A common motif in this structure.

15.h3 Ne5 16.Be2

An exchange of knights almost always helps Black in the Benko Gambit and Modern Benoni. Normally Black suffers a little from lack of space and he'll have both of his knights wanting to be on the e5–square. Exchanging a pair of knights considerably eases Black's task. Black is already equal here.

16...f5!?

I spent an enormous amount of time calculating lines like 16...Qh4 17.f4 Bxh3 but eventually decided that 16...f5 would give me a nice game without the risk. The tournament situation did not dictate that I go nuts for no reason. At least...not yet.

17.f3

I felt this move couldn't be very good (weakens more dark squares) but did not find any super big drawbacks to it.

17...Bd7

Finishing development cannot be bad but maybe there was better. Almost immediately after moving I regretted not playing 17...Qh4 intending to meet 18.Be3 with 18...f4 and a lock on the e5-square for all of eternity.

18.Bf4 Qf6 19.Be3

In this encounter, Ben plays the early middlegame a little timidly. This is only due to his lack of experience and familiarity with some openings.

19...f4 20.Bf2 g5

I'll be completely honest - after playing 20...g5, I thought I would win the game. Black has a total grip of the e5-square, White has wasted some tempi and my attack is quite fast. Meanwhile, where is White's counterplay on the queenside?

21.Ra3!

Starting from here, Ben will find resource after resource. This is the mark of a good chessplayer. 21.Ra3! combines offense and defense. The rook could be useful in patrolling the 3rd rank. Meanwhile, it is headed to b3 to tie Black down a little to the b7-pawn.

21...Rad8 22.Rb3 Bc8

Defending the b7-pawn economically. Meanwhile, my bishop will still help carry through the ...g4 push.

23.Nb1!

Rerouting the knight to c4.

23...h5

Here come the pawns!

24.Nd2 Qg6 25.Nc4 Nxc4 26.Bxc4 Be5 27.Be2 Rd7

Continuing to hold off on ...g4 until I'm good and ready.

28.Rb6!

Threatening Bxc5 or Qxc5.

28...Qg7 29.Rd1 Rf7 30.b4!

White finally has his counterplay on the queenside. Apparently I put off playing ...g4 too long. Now the game becomes really crazy.

30...cxb4 31.Rxb4 Rc7!? 32.Rc4! Rxc4 33.Qxc4 Bd7 34.Qb3! b5 35.axb5 axb5

I thought playing on the queenside would give White an added worry. He will have

Michigan Chess

to stop my outside passed pawn and prevent ...g4 from becoming too strong.

36.Rc1

Counterplay, counterplay, counterplay. Now Rc7 is an idea. I came to the realization that Black was no longer better and that I had also better be a pinch careful that my grand plans didn't come completely crashing down.

36...Bd4!

Computers ruin all the drama in chess. The first of the 0.00 evals begin to appear.

37.Qb4! Bxf2+ 38.Kxf2 g4!

The only move to stay in the game. I pitch the d6-pawn to get at the white king.

39.hxg4 hxg4 40.Qxd6 gxf3! 41.Bxf3!

41.gxf3?? Qg3+ 42.Kf1 Bh3#

41...Qb2+ 42.Be2! Qd4+!

Keeping the game alive. An immediate draw would arise after 42...Qxc1 43.Qg6+ with a perpetual check.

43.Kf1!

White loses after 43.Ke1?? Qxe4 and the black queen does everything - prevents Rc2, threatens mate and stops Qg6+.

43...Qxe4 44.Qxd7!

Accurate. 44.Bf3?? Qd3+ 45.Kg1 Qe3+ 46.Kh2 Re7! would win for me.

44...Qxe2+ 45.Kg1 Qe3+ 46.Kh2 Qg3+ 47.Kg1 Qe3+ 48.Kh2 Qg3+ 49.Kg1 Re1+ 50.Rxe1 Qxe1+ 51.Kh2 Qh4+ 52.Kg1

My last trick was 52.Qh3?? Qxh3+ 53.Kxh3 b4 and black queens.

52...Qe1+ 1/2-1/2

Who says that draws are boring? Ben played some very mature chess this tournament and would have been a very deserving champion had he won in the final round.

Andrew Schremser (1976)

Alexander Deatrick (2110)

Michigan Open (4)

Dearborn, August 2014

Giuoco Piano: Greco, C54

Notes by Alexander Deatrick

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4

3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.cxd4 This is the more common move order for what we played.

3...exd4 4.Bc4 Bc5 5.c3 Nf6 6.cxd4 Bb4+ 7.Bd2 Bxd2+ 8.Nbxd2 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5

I think this is an underrated position for white (theory treats this position as essentially equal). White gets great activity in return for a single pawn weakness.

10.Qb3 Nce7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Rfe1 c6 13.Ne4 Nb6 14.Bd3 Be6?!

The problem with this move is that now Nc5 will be very strong. 14...Ned5 15.Nc5 Qc7 16.Rac1 Rd8 17.Ne5 g6 18.Be4 Kg7 19.h3±

15.Qc2 Ng6 16.Nc5± Bc8

16...Bd5!? A very interesting and sound pawn sacrifice. White is still better, but at least black gets activity. 17.Ne5 It's best for white to just maintain the pressure. (17.Nxb7?! Qc7 18.Nc5 Bxf3 19.gxf3 Qf4 20.Bxg6 (20.Be4 Nh4 21.Bxh7+ Kh8 22.Be4 Qg5+ 23.Kf1 Qg2+ 24.Ke2 Rfe8±) 20...hxg6 21.Qe4=) 17...Qc7 18.Re3±

17.Rad1 Qc7 18.Ne5 Rd8 19.Be4 Nd5 20.Nxg6?!

Why trade off centralized pieces for relatively inactive ones? 20.a3!±; 20.Bxd5 cxd5

20...hxg6 21.Bxd5?!

There is no reason for white to simplify. This throws away what was left of white's advantage.

21...cxd5 22.Qb3 b6 23.Nd3 Bf5= 23...Ba6?! 24.Ne5 Rac8 25.Qa4±

24.Rc1 Qd6 25.Ne5 Rdc8

Either rook is fine to c8, but Rdc8 safeguards a7 so that's what I played.

26.Qa4 f6!

Correctly identifying that white has no sound play on c6.

27.Rc6?!

Considering what happened in the game, this move is unsound and overextends white. 27.Nf3 a5= I would take black here (the bishop is a bit better than the knight here), but objectively the position is still pretty much even.

27...Qe7 28.Nf3 Qb7

Luring White into a trap.

29.Rec1??

29.Rc3 Rxc3 30.bxc3 Rc8±

29...Rxc6!

Neither of white's recaptures work.

30.Qxc6

30.Rxc6 Bd7-+

30...Rc8!!-+ 31.Qxb7!?

Andrew decided to be nice and let me finish the game with style.

31...Rxc1+ 32.Ne1 Rxe1# 0-1

Andrew Hubbard (2147)

Stan Jarosz (1942)

Michigan Open (4)

Dearborn, August 2014

Sicilian: Alapin (Smith-Morra), B22

Notes by Peter Chen

1.e4 e5 2.c3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nf3 e6 6.cxd4 Nc6 7.Bc4 d6 8.0-0

Winter 2014

dx5 9.dxe5 Nb6 10.Bd3 Be7 11.Qe2 11.Nc3 11...0-0 12.Rd1 Qc7 13.Qe4 g6 14.Nc3 h5 15.h4 Rd8 16.Bf4 Nb4 17.Be2 Rxd1+ 18.Rxd1 N6d5 19.Rc1

19.Nb5 might be better. White hangs a pawn but has much better development. 19...Qb6 20.Nd6 This is a good spot for the knight. 20...Bxd6 (20...Nxa2? 21.Rxd5 exd5 22.Qa4 Bxd6 23.exd6 Black has to giveup the a2 knight.) 21.exd6 This gives black weak dark squares that could be exploited by white.

19...Nxc3 20.Rxc3 Qa5 21.Bd2 Qd5

Black cannot take the pawn here. If 21...Qxa2 22.Rxc8+ Rxc8 23.Qxb7 Re8 24.Bb5 Qb1+ 25.Kh2 Rf8 26.Qxe7± White wins two bishops for a rook with good positions

22.Qf4

22.Qxd5 Nxd5 23.Rc1 Bd7=

22...Qxa2 23.Rxc8+!?

Now this does not work anymore. White can only get two pieces for a rook and two pawns.

23...Rxc8 24.Bxb4 Qa4 25.Bd2 Qxf4 26.Bxf4 Rc2 27.Bd2?!

This move unnecessarily tied down white's pieces. 27.Nd4 Rxb2; 27.Bd3 Rxb2 White's two bishops are still powerful.

27...Rxb2 28.g3 a5 29.Bd3 a4 30.Bc1 Rb3 31.Ne1 a3

The a3 pawn is difficult to stop.

32.Bc2 a2 0-1

Greg Bailey (1953)

David Hahn (2100)

Michigan Open (4)

Dearborn, August 2014

Pirc, B07

Notes by Peter Chen

1.f4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.e4 d6 4.d4 Nf6 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.c4 Bg4 7.d5

7.Be3

7...Bxf3 8.gxf3

8.Qxf3 is a little better 8...Nd4 9.Qf2 (9.Qd1) 9...Ng4 10.Qg3 Qd7

8...Nd4 9.Nc3

9.Be3 is also playable. 9...c5 10.Nd2

9...c5 10.0-0

10.Be3

10...Qd7 11.Kg2

Prevents Qh3.

11...Nh5 12.Be3 f5 13.Ne2 0-0 14.Ng3 Nxg3 15.hxg3 e6 16.Qd2 exd5 17.exd5 Rae8 18.Rae1 b6 19.Rh1

The h-file does not provide much opportunity for the rook. 19.Bg1

19...Rf7 20.Bf2 Ree7 21.b3 Bf6 22.Rxe7 Rxe7 23.Re1 Qe8 24.Rxe7 Qxe7 25.g4 fxe4 26.fxe4 Qd7 27.Kg3

Gives black a chance to win a pawn. 27.Qd1 This is a better move.

27...h5

Not fast enough. 27...Bh4+! Black overlooks this move. The bishop is indirectly protected. 28.Kh3 h5 29.f5 hxg4+ 30.Kg2 Bxf2 31.Qg5 Qf7 32.Kxf2 Nxf5µ Black is up a pawn, and white has no kingside pawns left.

28.Qd1

28.gxh5 gxh5 29.Qd1

28...hxg4 29.Bxg6 Nf3 30.Qd3 Bh4+

31.Kg2 Qg7 32.Qf5

Good move.

32...Bxf2 33.Qe6+

33.Kxf2?? Qd4+ 34.Kf1 Qd1+ 35.Kf2 Qe1+ 36.Kg2 Qg1#

33...Kh8 34.Qe8+ Qg8 35.Qxg8+

35.Kxf2

35...Kxg8 36.Kxf2

The g4-pawn is now difficult for black to guard.

36...Kg7 37.Bh5 Nd4 38.Bxg4 b5 39.Bd1 b4 40.Ke3 Kf6 41.Bg4

41.Ke4

41...a5 42.Kd3 Kg6 43.Be6 Kf6 44.Ke4?

Leaves the e2 square unguarded. This now allows black to play Ne2, then Nc3.

44...Ne2 45.Bd7 Nc3+ 46.Kd3 Nxa2

47.Bg4 Nc3 48.Bd7 Ke7 49.Bc6 Kf7

50.Bd7 Kf6 51.Ke3 Kg6 52.Be8+ Kf6

53.Bd7 Nb1 54.Kd3 Na3 55.Kd2 Ke7

56.Bc6 Kd8 57.Kc1 Ke7 58.Kd2 Kf7

59.Kc1 Kf6 60.Bd7 a4 61.bxa4

This creates opportunity for both sides. 61.Bxa4 This move is safer. Neither side can do much.

61...Nxc4 62.Kc2 Ne3+ 63.Kb3 Nxd5 64.f5?

64.a5 More assertive. The side pawn is the hardest for the knight to guard. 64...Nxf4 65.Kc4 Ke5 66.a6 Nd5 67.a7 Nc7 68.Bc6=

64...c4+ 65.Kb2 Nb6 66.Bc6 Kxf5? 1-0

The notation ended here. The resulting position should be a draw, but white somehow wins. Black misses this winning move: 66...c3+ allows knight to come to c4 to guard a5 square 67.Kb3 Nc4 68.Kc2 Kxf5+ Black should win in this position easily.

Apurva Virkud (2240)

Seth Homa (2462)

Michigan Open (5)

Dearborn, August 2014

Modern Benoni: Classical, A70

Notes by Seth Homa

Apurva started the event playing some excellent chess. At the start of round 5, she lead the whole field with 4.0/4.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6

It is my opinion that the only thing riskier than playing the Modern Benoni is playing it in back-to-back games! Still, I needed to win as Apurva was half-a-point ahead of me in the standings.

7.h3 Bg7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.Bd3

Apurva had had this very position earlier in the tournament against Sal. She rarely deviates from her opening repertoire so I prepared a special line for this game.

9...Nh5

Combative. Apurva was also out of book now. If memory serves, Sal played 9...a6 and the game continued 10.a4 Nbd7 11.0-0 Re8 12.Bf4 Qc7 In general, I believe this type of setup in the Modern Benoni to be way too passive for Black even if objectively it may be fine.

10.0-0 Nd7 11.Be3 Re8 12.Re1 a6 13.a4 Ne5 14.Be2 Nxf3+ 15.Bxf3 Nf6 16.Qd2 Rb8?!

Moving too quickly.

17.a5?!

Rybka notes that 17.Bf4! with the idea of e5 is very annoying for Black. This is why I should have started with 16...Nd7. I would have had ...Ne5 now.

17...Nd7

Apurva had consumed 18 minutes while I had used just 4.

18.Bh6

First new move.

18...Bxh6 19.Qxh6 Ne5

I was torn between two different plans here. 19...Ne5 goes for straight central play while 19...b5 would aim for queenside play. For example: 19...b5 20.axb6 Qxb6 21.Ra2 Ne5 22.Be2

20.Be2 f5 21.exf5

21.f4?? Nf7 would have been cute.

21...Bxf5 22.Qd2 Nf7 23.b3 Qf6 24.Bg4!

This was such an annoying move. I felt the game hovered dangerously close to a position where White, even if she doesn't have an advantage, can play for just two results (win or draw). Considering that a draw would mean no longer being in control my own fate, this was a bad

situation to be in! I sank into deep thought.



24...Kf8!

First thing is first - the trade of bishops must occur on the f5-square so I can prevent Ne4. Second of all, White's attack against my king is most dangerous when all the rooks are on the board. This second part is what ...Kf8 was designed to do - trade off all the rooks. Why this is my strategy when I desperately need a win will be explained shortly. Just to illustrate White's main idea, let's look at: 24...Bxg4 25.hxg4 Kg7 26.f3 White will plunk a knight into the e4-square, maybe continue with g5 and try to exploit the dark squares around my king. This must be avoided at all costs.

25.Rad1 Rxe1+ 26.Rxe1 Re8 27.Rxe8+ Kxe8

So what has Black gained by exchanging all of the rooks besides king safety? The point is this - White has many weak pawns in her camp that need protection. They are even more vulnerable now that some potential defenders have been removed from the board. The position remains roughly equal due to White's activity, but I have given myself something to work with.

28.Qe3+ Kf8 29.Bxf5 Qxf5

The clocks at this point read: White - 34 minutes, Black - 56 minutes. Plenty of time to reach move 40. However, Apurva now sank into a deep think. White has to play very accurately to avoid falling into a worse position.

30.Qe4?

This should hand Black a big advantage but I miss my chance!

30...Qf6?

I rejected 30...Qe5! for reasons I couldn't remember after the game when entering notes into my database. The basic point is that White is lost in a knight endgame if my knight gets to e5. For example: 31.Qxe5? Nxe5 32.Kf1 Nd3 and the

knight can hop into c1, b4, f4, etc.; 30...Qxe4?? would have been a horrible mistake because of 31.Nxe4 Ke7 32.f4! and my knight cannot get into the game.

31.Qe3?

I think she must have missed my next move. Best was 31.Qc4 although it's easy to see why she rejected it on general grounds - it does nothing to prevent Black from centralizing his pieces.

31...Qd8!

Suddenly the a5-pawn is a goner.

32.Ne2

White moves to create counterplay against my king but it proves too slow as my queen can jump quickly back into the game after winning material. She was also in time trouble with 7 minutes to make 8 moves.

32...Qxa5 33.Qc1

The intended 33.Nf4 misses its mark after 33...Qa1+ 34.Kh2 Qe5!

33...Qa2 34.Nf4 Qxb3! 35.Qa1

I did not fear 35.Ne6+ because of the cute trick 35...Ke7 36.Qe1 Qxd5! and funnily enough, White cannot use the discovered check to win my queen because of ...Qe5.

35...g5!

The most forcing, and therefore the best way to clarify the situation.

36.Nh5 Qxd5 37.Qg7+

This looks scary but it's nothing to be afraid of.

37...Ke7 38.Qxh7 Kd8!

Running away to the safety of the queenside.

39.Qg8+ Kc7 40.Nf6 Qe6 41.Nh7

This mistake allows the game to come to a quick conclusion but Black was winning regardless.

41...Qe1+ 42.Kh2 Qxf2 0-1

I suspect she may have intended 43.Nxg5!/? but only now saw that 43...Qf4+ 44.g3 Qd2+! picks up the knight. Therefore, she resigned.

Alexander Deatrck (2059)

Ben Li (2170)

Michigan Open (5)

Dearborn, August 2014

Sicilian, B50

Notes by Alexander Deatrck

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 Nf6 4.Be2 g6 5.0-0 Bg7 6.Re1 0-0 7.Bf1 Nc6 8.h3 e5!

This is still theory, but black is at least equal here. White scores a measly 46% from here.

9.d4?!

This is ambitious, but dubious. White should accept that he isn't any better with 9.d3

9...cxd4 10.cxd4 exd4 11.Nxd4

11.Bf4!?

11...Nxd4 12.Qxd4 Re8

Black has a solid edge here because white has serious trouble finishing his development. 13...Nxe4 is a serious threat.

13.Bc4?!

13.Bb5 White has to develop with tempo.

13...Re5 14.Ba4 Be6

13...d5!

Somehow I completely overlooked this move. 13...Nxe4!/? 14.Bxf7+ My idea with 13. Bc4 14...Kxf7 15.Qd5+ Be6 16.Qxb7+ Qd7 17.Qxe4 Bxh3 18.Qf3+ Kg8 19.Rd1 Bg4

14.Bb3!

It's usually best to admit you made a mistake, and just try cut losses. 14.Bb5? Nxe4 15.Qa4 Re5+

14...Bf5?!

A bit too fancy. 14...dxe4 15.Qxd8 Rxd8 16.Nc3 Bd7 17.Nxe4 Nxe4 18.Rxe4 Bc6 White is only slightly worse here.; 14...Nxe4! 15.Qxd5 Be6 16.Qxd8 Rxd8 Black is a lot better here; how will white develop his queenside?

15.e5!

Surprisingly, white is actually doing fine here.

15...Nd7 16.Qxd5?

16.f4 Qh4 17.Rd1= Black has great activity, but his d-pawn is weak.

16...Nxe5 17.Rd1?!

17.Qxd8 Rxd8 18.Rf1 White will probably lose a pawn, but he still might hold on.

17...Qxd5

17...Qc7!+

18.Bxd5 Nd3?

18...Bc2 Some fancy footwork with his bishop guarantees black a winning position. 19.Rf1 Bd3! 20.Rd1 Be2! 21.Rd2 (21.Re1 Nd3) 21...Nc4 22.Bxc4 Bxc4 23.Nc3 Re1+ 24.Kh2+

19.Nc3 Nb4 20.Bf4 Nxd5

Now the position quickly simplifies into a drawn ending.

21.Rxd5 Rad8 22.Rad1 Bf6 23.Rxd8 Rxd8 24.Rxd8+ Bxd8 25.Be3 a6 26.Bd4

Black has a tiny edge due to the two bishops.

26...Kf8 27.f3 Ke8 28.a3 Kd7 29.Kf2 Kc6 30.Ke3 Bg5+ 31.f4 Be7 32.g4 Be6 33.Ne4 f5 34.Ng5

34.Bf6! fxg4 35.hxg4 Bf8 (35...Bxf6?
36.Nxf6 h6 37.Ke4±) 36.Kf3=

34...fxg4 35.hxg4

35.Nxe6!? gxh3 36.Kf3 Kd5! It looks as if black is simply winning, but there is a trick! 37.f5! gxf5 38.Ng7 Bxa3!! (38...h2 39.Kg2 Ke4 40.Ne6 Bd6 41.Bb6=; 38...Kxd4 39.Nxf5+) 39.bxa3 Kxd4 40.Nxf5+ Kc3 41.a4 Kb3 42.Nd6= And white will hold.

35...Bxg4 36.Nxh7 Bf5 37.Nf6 a5 38.Ne4 Kd5 39.Nd2?!

39.Nc3+!? Kc4 40.Bb6 Kb3 41.Bd4±

39...Bc2?!

39...g5! 40.Bc3 g4 41.Bxa5 Bc5+ 42.Ke2 Bd7± White will have a lot of trouble holding against the bishop pair and passed g-pawn.

40.Bc3 Bc5+ 41.Ke2 a4 42.Nf3 Bf5 43.Nd2 Bd4 44.Kf3 b5

44...Bxc3 45.bxc3=

45.Kg3 b4!?

Ben chooses to break on the queenside, forcing me to make a difficult and time-consuming decision. I was able to calculate the correct path, however.

46.Bxd4!

46.axb4 Bxc3 47.bxc3 a3; 46.Bxb4 Bxb2 **46...Kxd4 47.axb4 Kd3 48.Nb1! Kc4!** The endgame is drawn, but this makes my life the most difficult. 48...Kc2?! 49.Nc3 Kb3 (49...Kxb2 50.Nxa4+ Kb3 51.Nb6=) 50.b5 a3 51.bxa3 Kxc3 52.Kh4=

49.Nd2+ Kxb4 50.Kh4??

This does not work, but fortunately for me Ben missed the win. 50.Kf3 Kc5 51.Ke3 Bc2 I missed that white can simply move his knight back and forth in this position. 52.Nf3 Kc4 53.Nd2+ Kc5= (53...Kb4 54.Kd4=)

50...Kc5 51.Kg5 Kd4 52.Nf3+ Kd3??

52...Kc4! The black king doubles back, and black wins because white cannot hold onto b2. 53.Nd2+ Kd3 54.Nf3 Kc2 55.Ne5 In the game, it was white's move here! Black can simply take the pawn. 55...Kxb2+—

53.Ne5+ Kc2 54.Nc4=

White has a perfect fortress. 54.Nxg6 Kxb2 55.Kxf5 a3+—

54...Kb3 55.Nb6 Be4 56.Kf6 Kb4 57.Ke5 Bc2 58.Kd4 Kb3 59.Ke5 Kb4

59...Kxb2 White still draws here. 60.Nxa4+ Bxa4 61.f5 g5 62.f6 Bb3 63.Kf5=

60.Kd4 Bf5 61.Ke5 Kb5 62.Nd5 Bc2 63.Nc3+ Kb4 64.Nd5+ Ka5 65.Kd4 Kb5 66.Ke5 Bf5 67.Kd4 Bd7 68.Ke5

Kc5 69.Nc3 Kb4 70.Nd5+ Kb3 71.Nb6 Kxb2 72.Nxa4+ Bxa4 73.f5 g5 ½-½
Draw agreed.

Vladimir Drkulec (2027)

Jeff Aldrich (1929)

Michigan Open (5)

Dearborn, August 2014

Slav: Rubinstein, D11

Notes by Peter Chen

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.b3 Bf5 5.Nbd2 e6 6.g3 Be7 7.Bg2 Nbd7 8.0-0 9.Nh4 Bg4 10.h3 Bh5 11.g4 Bg6 12.Nxg6 hxg6 13.Bb2 Qc7 14.Rc1 Qf4?

It might be too early to bring the queen out. There isn't any good squares for the queen to stay.

15.e3 Qh6

From that position, the queen isn't controlling many squares, and its mobility is limited.

16.Qe1 Bd6

Threatens Nxg4

17.f4 g5 18.Nf3 Ne4 19.fxg5 Nxg5

20.Nxg5 Qxg5 21.Bf3 Be7

Trying to prevent h4. However, the bishop is better placed on the original h2-b8 diagonal. 21...f5 This allows black to gain some space for his pieces. 22.h4 Qg6 23.g5 Nf6

22.Rc2

With the idea of Rh2 and then h4.

22...Qh6 23.Bc1

23.e4 might be next, and with those two moves, white has brought all his pieces into the game.

23...Bg5 24.Rh2 Bh4

Black could have played Bh4 directly instead of Bg5, then Bh4, losing a tempo.

25.Qe2 Qg6

25...Bg3 26.Rh1 Qh4

26.Rg2 Nf6 27.g5 Ne4 28.Bxe4 dxe4 29.Rg4

29.Ba3! Drives the f8 rook away to weaken the f7 pawn 29...Rfe8 (29...Rfd8 30.Qg4 Qh7 31.Be7+—; 29...Rfc8 30.Qg4 Qh7 31.Rxf7+—) 30.Qg4 Qh7 31.Qf4 Qh5 32.Rg4+—

29...Qh5 30.Ba3 f5??

Black tried to keep the rook on the f-file, but this allows white to open the g-file to attack the Black king.

31.gxf6

White now threatens a discovery attack Rxg7+ winning the queen for a rook.

31...Rxf6 32.Rxg7+ 1-0

Seth Homa (2462)

Edward Song (2367)

Michigan Open (6)

Dearborn, September 2014

Slav: Rubinstein, D11

Notes by Seth Homa

Battle of the two highest seeds. Before the game, I lead the field with half-a-point. By the end of it, about half-a-dozen players would have a legit shot at first place! This just goes to show how exciting this year's Michigan Open was.

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.e3 Bg4 5.h3 Bxf3 6.Qxf3 e6 7.Nc3 Nbd7 8.Bd3 Bb4 9.0-0 0-0 10.Qd1!?

Stepping out of a future ...e6-e5-e4 push and possibly planning Qb3 next.

10...Qc7 11.a3 Be7

I was expecting ...Bxc3 instead. I was beginning to like how the game was developing.

12.Bd2 Rac8 13.c5 e5 14.b4 e4 15.Be2

I was really pleased to have reached this position as my queenside pawn storm is well underway and Black has no corresponding kingside attack started yet. Ed fights back, though.

15...b6!?

Usually playing on the side of the board where your opponent is stronger is not a wise idea but it worked out in this game!

16.Qa4 Ra8 17.Rfc1

I had high hopes for my position around here.

17...a5!? 18.Qc2

I badly wanted to play 18.b5!? but despite my best efforts I couldn't be certain that White still had the advantage after something like 18...bxc5 19.bxc6 Nb8 20.dxc5 Na6!? 21.Nb5 Qxc6

18...Qb7 19.Rcb1 axb4 20.axb4 b5

Draw offered. Indeed, the position is now just equal. I do not believe in any White advantage here. However, Ed had 17 minutes left to make 20 moves so I searched for a way to keep the game alive. I hit upon an interesting idea.

21.Qc1!? Rxa1 22.Rxa1 Ra8 23.Rxa8+

Instead, after something like 23.Ra3 Rxa3 24.Qxa3 White has no way into Black's camp. The black queen covers all entry squares and if I reroute my knight to a5, well, it would still accomplish nothing.

23...Qxa8 24.Nxb5!

Going for it. Actually, despite the small material disadvantage, I estimated my losing chances as minimal. Meanwhile Black might easily lose his way through

the complications having just 13 minutes left.

24...cxb5 25.Bxb5 Nf8 26.Bf1!

White's bishop pair support the connected passed pawns beautifully.

26...Ne6 27.b5

Black's task is made difficult by not knowing which pawn will advance next. If he sets up for a possible blockade on the b6-square then I'll play b6. If he prepares a blockade on the c6-square, I'll play c6.

27...Nd7

Preparing a counter-sacrifice.

28.Qb2 h6 29.b6 Qb7 30.Qb5 Nexc5!

Sacrificing the material back is the best choice.

31.Bb4!?

I thought this might shake him with 2 minutes remaining but Ed kept a cool head. Rybka points out the try 31.dxc5 Bxc5 32.Be2! with the idea that Black cannot take on b6! 32...Bxb6 33.Bg4! Nf6 34.Ba5 h5 35.Bd1 Nd7 36.Bb3! with advantage. I can't really blame myself for missing this line, though.

31...Qxb6 32.Qxb6 Nxb6 33.dxc5 Na4 34.Bb5 Bxc5!

After this precise capture, the danger has passed and the game steadily heads towards a draw. 34...Nxc5?! 35.Bc6 Kf8 36.Bxd5 would provide White with enough reason to play on.

35.Bxa4 Bxb4 36.Bc6 f5 37.Bxd5+ Kh7 38.g4 Kg6 39.Be6 fxc4 40.hxc4 Kf6 41.Bf5 Ke5 42.Bg6 Be7 43.Kg2 1/2-1/2

A well-played game on both player's parts, I think. Huge credit to Ed for saving what appeared to be a sure loss in horrendous time pressure! For me, the result of the game was for sure disappointing as I knew I would have Black for the 3rd time in 4 games to end the tournament in what would probably be a must-win game.

Greg Bailey (1953)

Alexander Deatruck (2059)

Michigan Open (6)

September 2014

Bird: Dutch, A03

Notes by Alexander Deatruck

1.f4 Nf6 2.b3 d5 3.Nf3 g6 4.e3 Bg7 5.Bb2 0-0 6.Be2 c5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Ne5 Qc7 9.Nxc6 Qxc6 10.Bf3 Qb6?!

10...Qd7 And black will play ...b6 and ...Bb7

11.Nc3 Qd8 12.Na4 b6 13.c4 Bb7 14.d3 Qd7=

The position is roughly equal, although I would take black.

15.Qe2 Rad8 16.e4? dxe4 17.dxe4 Nxe4!

Winning a pawn, although white gets some compensation.

18.Bxg7

18.Bxe4 Bxb2 19.Nxb2 (19.Qxb2 Bxe4) 19...Qd4+

18...Kxg7 19.Rad1

19.Bxe4 Qd4+

19...Nd6

19...Qf5! 20.Qb2+ (20.Bg4 Qf6) 20...Qf6 21.Qxf6+ exf6 22.Bxe4 Bxe4+

20.Bxb7

20.Nc3! And white has almost full compensation.

20...Qxb7 21.Rde1 Rd7

21...Nf5!+

22.g4!

White must go for broke or black will certainly convert his extra pawn.

22...e6 23.Qe5+ Kg8 24.Nc3 Rfd8?! 25.f5!=

I completely overlooked this move. White now has full compensation for the pawn.

25...Re8

Only move. 25...Re7 26.fxc6 fxc6 27.Nd5!+-; 25...exf5 26.Nd5+-

26.f6?!

26.fxc6!?! fxc6 (26...hxc6?? 27.Re3+-); 26.Qf4! Qb8 27.f6 Red8 28.Nd5!?! Objectively equal, but white is having ALL the fun.

26...Red8? 27.Re3?! Ne8 28.g5?!

28.Nd5!?! Rxd5 29.cxd5 Qxd5 30.Qxd5 Rxd5+

28...Rd2+-

White's attack is nowhere to be seen. Black is winning.

29.Rf2 Rxf2 30.Kxf2 Qd7?!

30...h6! 31.gxh6 Qh1 32.Qg3 Qc1!+-

31.Kg2?!

31.Ne4! Nd6 32.Nxd6 Qxd6 33.Qxd6 Rxd6 34.Ke2 h6+ White is worse but may not yet be lost.

31...Qc6+ 32.Kg1 Rd2 33.Re2 Rd4 34.Qg3 h5! 35.h3 Nd6 36.Qe5 Qf3 37.Qh2??

In time trouble, my opponent panicked. 37.Re3 Qa8! (37...Qf5 38.Qxf5 gxf5+- This was my plan, which is also winning.) 38.Re2 Nf5+- And white literally has no good moves. Black's pieces will come flooding in.

37...Qxc3 38.Qg2 Qc1+ 39.Kh2 Qf4+ 40.Qg3 Qxc3+ 41.Kxg3 Nf5+ 42.Kg2 0-1

And white resigned.

Alexander Deatruck (2059)

Seth Homa (2462)

Michigan Open (7)

Dearborn, September 2014

Sicilian: Alapin, B22

Notes by Seth Homa

The top three boards saw pairings that would leave everyone with the chance of a first place finish: BD1 - Deatruck (5.0) vs Homa (5.0), BD2 - Song (4.5) vs Li (5.0), BD3 - Drkulec (4.5) vs Wang (4.5).

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c3 d5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.d4 Nf6 6.Be3

It was a small relief to see this variation as I still had positive memories from the victory that secured my second IM-Norm earlier in the year.

6...cxd4 7.cxd4 Bb4+ 8.Nc3 0-0 9.Bd3 b6

This typically leads to positions with a hanging pawn structure which I love.

10.0-0 Bxc3 11.bxc3

And there we have it - White's c- and d-pawns constitute the so-called "hanging pawn" structure.

11...Ba6!

Already fighting for the c4-square.

12.Bxa6

It is best to displace the knight on the rim. In the last round of the St Louis Invitational, IM Bregadze chose 12.a4 against me but I got a comfortable position after 12...Bxd3 13.Qxd3 Nc6 14.c4 Qe4 15.Qc3 Rac8 16.Nd2 Qf5 17.Nb3 Ne4 18.Qe1 Rfd8 and then a winning one after 19.a5?! b5! 20.d5 bxc4 21.dxc6 cxb3 22.Qb4 Rxc6 23.Bxa7?? Nd2! 24.Rfd1 Rcd6 25.Rdc1 Qf6! 26.Re1 b2 27.Rad1 Nf3+ 0-1 Bregadze-Homa St Louis 2014.

12...Nxa6 13.Qb3

Played quickly. I was now out of book. Taking on b3 would be wrong as it would strengthen White's pawn mass while revealing an attack against my a7-pawn.

13...Nb8

It seemed correct to reposition my knight ASAP.

14.c4 Qd6 15.c5?!

A very committal decision. Usually it is unwise to make this advance too quickly as the light squares fall into Black's hands and the Be3 becomes passive. On the other hand, Alexander was tempted by White's lead in development and aggressive appearance.

15...bxc5 16.dxc5 Qd5 17.Rfd1?

Rybka's top choice, but during the game I thought this was the mistake that turned

the game in my favor! Strange game, chess.

17...Qxb3 18.axb3 Nd5!

With the d-file closed, White has no way to make use of his massive lead in development. The c5-pawn will not be advancing any time soon.

19.Ne5 Rc8 20.Rd4 f6

I thought the c5-pawn was too hot to take, but the computer seems to like the capture.

21.Nd3 Nc6!

Finally the computer starts coming around to my viewpoint that Black is simply better.

22.Rda4 Rab8

This is the key point. My a7-pawn is not nearly as weak as the b3-pawn. My knight on c6 is doing double duty.

23.b4 e5!

Eerily reminiscent of my third round game with Andrew Hubbard. My e5- and f6-pawns limit the scope of White's minor pieces.

24.Bd2!

The threat of ...e4 was in the air, but now White is awkwardly exposed on the d-file.

24...Rd8!

A very difficult move to meet. The idea is 25...Nde7 possibly mixed with 26...e4.

25.Kf1??

After this, the game is over. White's lack of air for his king can be seen in lines like: 25.R1a3 Ndx b4! 26.Bxb4 Nxb4 27.Rxb4 Rxb4 28.Nxb4 Rd1#; I thought the best move for White was to continue 25.Be1! and if 25...e4!? to continue 26.b5! Rxb5 27.Rxe4 although I stand better after 27...a5

25...Nde7! 26.Ke2

There are no good options. 26.R1a3 would be met by the simple 26...e4 winning a piece.

26...Nd4+ 27.Kd1 Nb3 28.Rb1 Nxd2!

Cleanest. After 28...Rxd3 Alexander had planned the tricky 29.Rxb3! Rxb3 30.Kc2! although Rybka points out that after 30...Rd8! 31.Kxb3 Rxd2 32.Rxa7 Black is still ahead. However, White can hope to resist thanks to his queenside passed pawns.

29.Kxd2 e4 30.Rxa7 Nc6 0-1

White resigned. It took 6 hours and 100 moves on board two to figure out whether Ben Li would split the Championship title with me, but eventually Edward Song ground down Ben and converted his extra pawn advantage. A tough event for everyone involved! A lot of good chess was played

in the Open section this year. I was especially happy to withstand everyone's best attempts to dethrone me! It makes me a better player. Next year I will attempt the threefold repetition. ☺

David Moody (1938)

Andrew Hubbard (2147)

Michigan Open (7)

Dearborn, September 2014

Queen's Knight Attack, A00

Notes by David Moody

1.Nc3

I wasn't in the mood for a theoretical discussion, so on a whim tried an old favorite from the 1970s. Black shouldn't have much trouble equalizing, and can transpose to just about any defense he prefers. Here, he goes down one of the few independent paths.

1...d5 2.e4 d4

The most critical line, though Black will do well with careful play. Some available transpositions are 2...c6 (Caro-Kann), 2...e6 (French), 2...Nf6 (Alekhine or Scandinavian). 2...dxe4 has a few tricks, but is also safe for Black.

3.Nce2 c5

Probably the most reliable line for Black is 3...e5 and 4...Be6. White needs to post his f1-bishop on c4 to get good play, and preventing this makes Black's life much easier.

4.Ng3 e5 5.Nf3 Bd6 6.Bc4 Nc6 7.d3 h6

Apparently worried about pieces plopping onto g5. This turns out to be a weakness later, but it's hard to imagine that right now.

8.0-0 Nge7 9.Nh4 0-0

This may be castling into it. The position is not unlike those in the Spanish or Italian Games where, with the center closed, White maneuvers his QN over to the kingside and gets a strong attack. True, White hasn't got the space advantage he normally has in those openings, but there are still a lot of pieces over there and the bishop on c4 is priceless.

10.Qh5!?

It was already move 10. I was impatient to get going. But the Bxh6 sacrifice is a enough of a worry for Black to take defensive measures to stop it. Perhaps 10...Na5, trying to neutralize the bishop on c4 is a better idea.

10...Bc7 11.f4 Qd6?

Reinforcing h6, but walking right into a shot.



12.Bxf7+! Kh7

12...Rxf7 13.Qxf7+ Kxf7 14.fxe5+ wins the exchange and a pawn, and after 12...Kh8 13.f5 Qf6 14.Ng6+ Nxc6 15.fxc6 the threat of 16.Bxh6 blows Black out of the water.

13.f5 Qf6

He cannot allow 14.f6. The point of 12...Kh7 is that 13.Ng6 is not check, so Black can respond with 13...Rxf7.

14.Bg6+ Kg8

14...Kh8 15.Bxh6 is crushing, and 14...Nxc6 15.fxc6+ loses the queen.

15.Nf3

Now 15.Bg5 is a threat, and Black's queen must get out of Dodge.

15...Nxc6 16.fxc6 Qe6?

16...Qe7 looks relatively best, but Black is working on a plan to break the attack by trading queens, even if it costs a bit more material.

17.Nf5 Rxf5 18.exf5 Qxf5 19.Ng5 Qg4

Forcing the trade of queens, except for the small detail that they never come off the board.

20.Nh7! Bd6

Do I really need to point out 20...Qxh4 21.Rf8#? A bit trickier is 20...Be6 21.Qxg4 Bxg4 22.Rf7 Bd6 23.Bxh6! gxh6 24.Nf6+ Kh8 25.Rh7#, though of course Black can avoid the mate by further material gifts.

21.Nf6+! gxf6 22.Qxh6 Qd7 23.Rxf6 Qg7

Else 24.Rf7 is deadly.

24.Rxd6 Bf5

Trading queens does nothing to relieve the predicament of Black's king.

25.Bg5 Nb4

Fleeing the scene of carnage.

26.Rf1 Rf8 27.g4 1-0

Why worry about the queenside pawns when you can give one up on the kingside? Especially since 27...Bxc6 28.Rxf8+ is mate next move, and otherwise the computer evaluation is passing the double digit mark in White's favor.

2015 MICHIGAN SCHOLASTIC TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

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EVENT	SITE	OPEN TO	RNDS	TIME CONTROL	REG. DEADLINE	TROPHIES	ENTRIES
PRIMARY K-3 CHAMPIONSHIP February 7, 2015	U of M Dearborn Fairlane Conference Center 19000 Hubbard Dr Dearborn, MI 48126	K-3	5-SS 9, 11, 1, 3 and 5	G/45 or G/40 5sec delay Rounds 1, 2, & 3 G/60 or G55 5 sec delay Rounds 4 & 5	postmarked by 1/28/15 online by <u>1/30/15</u>	Top 10 teams + all at 3.5 Board Prizes: Gold 5 pts, Silver 4-4.5 pts Bronze 3.5 pts	ALL TEAMS \$55 Jennifer Skidmore PO BOX 8064 Ann Arbor, MI 48107 (734) 678-0463 jmscamelot@gmail.com
PRIMARY K-3 RESERVE February 7, 2015		K-3 U150	5-SS 9, 11, 1, 3 and 5			Top 7 teams + all at 3.5 Board Prizes: Gold 5 pts Silver 4-4.5 pts Bronze 3.5 pts	
ELEMENTARY K-5 CHAMPIONSHIP February 7, 2015		K-5	5-SS 9, 11, 1, 3 and 5			Top 10 teams + all at 3.5 Board Prizes: Gold 5 pts, Silver 4-4.5 pts Bronze 3.5 pts	
ELEMENTARY K-5 RESERVE February 7, 2015		K-5 U300	5-SS 9, 11, 1, 3 and 5			Top 7 teams + all at 3.5 Board Prizes: Gold 5 pts Silver 4-4.5 pts Bronze 3.5 pts	
ELEMENTARY K-6 CHAMPIONSHIP February 7, 2015		K-6	5-SS 9, 11, 1, 3 and 5			Top 10 teams + all at 3.5 Board Prizes: Gold 5 pts Silver 4-4.5 pts Bronze 3.5 pts	
JR. HIGH K-9 CHAMPIONSHIP February 28, 2015	Oakland Center Oakland University 2200 N Squirrel Rd Rochester, MI 48309	K-9	5-SS 9, 11, 1, 3 and 5	G/45 or G/40 5sec delay Rounds 1, & 2	Postmarked by 2/18/15 or online by <u>2/20/15</u>	Top 10 teams + all at 3.5 Board Prizes: Gold 5 pts Silver 4-4.5 pts Bronze 3.5 pts	ALL TEAMS \$55 Jennifer Skidmore PO BOX 8064 Ann Arbor, MI 48107 (734) 678-0463 jmscamelot@gmail.com Questions: HS Team. Michael Smith redwing_85@hotmail.com (734) 625-5057 JH Team. Jeff Aldrich jeffchess@charter.net (810)955-7271
JR. HIGH K-9 RESERVE February 28, 2015		K-9 U700	5-SS 9, 11, 1, 3 and 5	G/60 or G55 5 sec delay Rounds 3, 4, & 5		Top 7 teams + all at 3.5 Board Prizes: Gold 5 pts Silver 4-4.5 pts Bronze 3.5 pts	
HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP 9-12 February 28, 2015		High School "A" teams. <i>One team per school</i>	4-SS 9:30, 12, 2:45, 6	G/60 or G/55 5sec delay Rounds 1, & 2		Top 10 teams Board Prizes: Gold 4 pts Silver 3.5 pts Bronze 3 pts	
HIGH SCHOOL RESERVE K-12 February 28, 2015		Additional HS teams or HS teams rated U1000 K-12	4-SS 9:30, 12, 2:45, 6	G/75 or G70 5 sec delay Rounds 3 & 4		Top 6 teams Board Prizes: Gold 4 pts Silver 3.5 pts Bronze 3 pts	

\$10 Processing Fee for all entries not completed online by deadline; \$10 Processing Fee for section changes Sat. Morning

Our new online registration system can be accessed either through the tournament advertisement on our website at <http://www.michess.org> or accessed directly at <http://www.onlineregistration.cc>. Just scroll down to Michigan Chess Association tournaments. Payment will now be done online. Both USCF and MCA memberships can be purchased through MCA's new online registration system with your tournament registration. It is recommended that USCF memberships be purchased with your tournament registration through MCA's online registration system, since this costs the same as buying directly from USCF and helps support MCA.

2014 Michigan Senior Championships

From Four Draws to Four Wins

The Michigan Senior Championships were held Eastside Senior Center where the Genesee County Chess Club meets on a weekly basis. The tournament was held over the weekend of October 11-12. David Hahn, form Saginaw, drew all four of his games last year, but bettered that result by winning all four games this year.

Ron Grzegorzcyk also won all four games on his way to sweeping the Reserve (U1600) section. Jeff Aldrich was the tournament director.

2014 Michigan Senior – Open Section Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Score
1	David Hahn	2100	W4	W6	W2	W3	4.0
2	Thomas Ward	2210	W9	W7	L1	W4	3.0
3	Ronald Williams	1911	W10	W5	D7	L1	2.5
4	Jean-Paul Pegeron	1804	L1	W9	W6	L2	2.0
5	Gregory Bailey	2002	L6	L3	W8	Bye	2.0
6	James Karakos	1789	W5	L1	L4	D8	1.5
7	Robert Ciaffone	2100	W8	L2	D3	---	1.5
8	Thomas LaForge	1808	L7	W10	L5	D6	1.5
9	Lonnie Rutkofske	1808	L2	L4	D10	---	0.5
10	William Wingrove	1641	L3	L8	D9	---	0.5

2014 Michigan Senior - Open Section Prizewinners



2nd Place: Thomas Ward



1st U1800: James Karakos

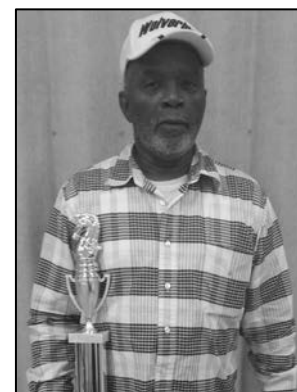
2014 Michigan Senior – Reserve (U1600) Section Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Score
1	Ronald Grzegorzcyk	1597	W5	W6	W3	W4	4.0
2	Larry Martin	1384	D4	W11	W5	D3	3.0
3	Alex McNeilly	1528	W9	W7	L1	D2	2.5
4	Brian Bezrutch	1583	D2	W10	W6	L1	2.5
5	Thomas Kampfert	1392	L1	W9	L2	W7	2.0
6	George Goeminne	1443	W8	L1	L4	W9	2.0
7	Paul Mills	1197	W11	L3	W10	L5	2.0
8	Sean McCormick	896	L6	½	L9	W10	1.5
9	Jonah Lowery	1225	L3	L5	W8	L6	1.0
10	Ralph Carter	503	Bye	L4	L7	L8	1.0
11	Ed Mandell	1482	L7	L2	---	---	0.0

2014 Michigan Senior - Reserve Section Prizewinners



Champion: Ronald Grzegorzcyk



2nd Place: Larry Martin



1st U1400: Thomas Kampfert

Tom LaForge (1808)

Bob Ciaffone (2100)

Michigan Senior (1)
Flint, October 2014
Sicilian: Paulsen, B43

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 a6 4.d4 cxd4
5.Nxd4 d6 6.g3 b5 7.Bg2 Bb7 8.0-0 Nf6
9.Re1 Qc7 10.a4 b4 11.Na2 Nbd7
12.Bg5 Be7 13.Nxb4 d5 14.c3 dxe4
15.Qe2 0-0 16.Red1 Rfd8 17.Bf1 Nc5
18.Qc4 Rac8 19.a5 Qb8 20.Qe2 h6
21.Be3 Bf8 22.f4 exf3 23.Nxf3 e5
24.Bg2 Ng4 25.Nd2 Nxe3 26.Qxe3 Bxg2
27.Kxg2 Qb7+ 28.Kh3 Ne6 29.Qb6
Ng5+ 30.Kh4 Qg2 0-1

David Hahn (2100)

John-Paul Pegeron (1804)

Michigan Senior (1)
Flint, October 2014
Catalan: Open (Classical), E04

1.c4 e6 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 d5 4.Nf3 c5 5.0-0
Nc6 6.d4 dxc4 7.Qa4 Bd7 8.Qxc4 Na5
9.Qd3 c4 10.Qd1 Bc6 11.Nc3 Be7
12.Bg5 a6 13.Re1 0-0 14.e4 b5 15.d5
exd5 16.exd5 Bb7 17.Nh4 Re8 18.Nf5
Bf8 19.Nh6+ gxh6 20.Rxe8 Qxe8
21.Bxf6 Be8 22.d6 Rb8 23.Ne4 Nb7
24.Bc3 Bg7 25.Bxg7 Kxg7 26.Qd4+
Kg6 27.Qf6+ Kh5 28.Bf3+ Bg4 29.Qf5#
1-0

James Karakos (1789)

Greg Bailey (2002)

Michigan Senior (1)
Flint, October 2014
King's Indian: Classical (Kazakh), E91

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
5.Nf3 Na6 6.Be2 c5 7.d5 0-0 8.0-0 Bd7
9.Nd2 Nc7 10.f4 a6 11.a4 Rb8 12.a5 b5
13.axb6 Rxb6 14.e5 Nfe8 15.Nf3 Qb8
16.Qc2 Rb4 17.h3 e6 18.exd6 Nxd6
19.Ne5 Bxe5 20.fxe5 Nxc4 21.Ne4 Nxe5
22.Nf6+ Kg7 23.Qd2 Rh4 24.Qg5 Nxd5
25.Nxd5 exd5 26.Qxh4 Re8 27.Qf6+
Kg8 28.Bh6 Nf3+ 29.Bxf3 Qe5 30.Bxd5
Bf5 31.Bxf7# 1-0

David Hahn (2100)
James Karakos (1789)

Michigan Senior (2)
Flint, October 2014

King's Indian: Sämisch (Steiner), E81

1.c4 g6 2.Nc3 Bg7 3.d4 Nf6 4.e4 d6
5.Nge2 Nc6 6.f3 0-0 7.Bg5 Na5 8.Nc1
c5 9.d5 e5 10.Qd2 Bd7 11.Be2 a6 12.0-0
Qe8 13.Nd1 b6 14.b4 Nb7 15.Rb1 b5
16.a3 Nh5 17.bxc5 dxc5 18.cxb5 axb5
19.Nc3 Nd6 20.Be3 c4 21.Bc5 Ra6
22.Bxd6 Rxd6 23.Nxb5 Bxb5 24.Qb4
Qd8 25.Qxb5 Nf4 26.g3 Qg5 27.Kh1
Nh5 28.Qc5 Nxc3+ 29.hxc3 Qxc3
30.Qf2 Qf4 31.Bxc4 g5 32.Nd3 Rh6+
33.Kg1 Qf6 34.Kg2 Rg6 35.Qg3 Ra8
36.Qg4 h5 37.Qf5 Qe7 38.Qxc6 1-0

Thomas Ward (2210)

David Hahn (2100)

Michigan Senior (3)
Flint, October 2014

Pirc: Byrne, B07

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Bg5 Bg7
5.f3 c6 6.Qd2 b5 7.h4 Nbd7 8.Bd3 Bb7

9.Nh3 e5 10.d5 cxd5 11.Nxd5 Bxd5
12.exd5 h6 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Bxb5
Bxb4+ 15.Nf2 Bxf2+ 16.Kf1 Bc5 17.b4
Bb6 18.a4 a5 19.c3 h5 20.g4 Qf6
21.Qe2 Rd8 22.Kg2 Qf4 23.Rab1 Ke7
24.Bxd7 Rxd7 25.Rb2 Rdd8 26.bxa5
Bc5 27.Rb7+ Kf6 28.g5+ Qxc5+ 0-1

Alex McNeilly (1528)

Ron Grzegorzczuk (1597)

Michigan Senior Reserve (3)
Flint, October 2014

Slav: Modern Exchange, D13

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Nc3 Nf6
5.Nf3 e6 6.Bf4 Nc6 7.e3 Be7 8.a3 0-0
9.Bd3 g6 10.Rc1 a6 11.0-0 Kg7 12.h3
Bd6 13.Bxd6 Qxd6 14.Na4 Nd7 15.Nc5
b6 16.Na4 Bb7 17.Qe2 f6 18.Rfd1 Ne7
19.b4 e5 20.Bb1 e4 21.Ne1 Bc6 22.Nc3
b5 23.Ba2 Nb6 24.Bb3 Nc4 25.Bxc4
bxc4 26.Qb2 Rfb8 27.Nc2 Qd7 28.Ra1
Ba4 29.Rdb1 g5 30.Nxa4 Qxa4 31.Qc3
Nc8 32.f3 Nd6 33.Ra2 Qd7 34.Ne1 h5
35.Kh2 Qf5 36.Rc1 Qe6 37.Rf2 Kf7
38.f4 g4 39.h4 g3+ 40.Kxg3 Rg8+

41.Kh2 Qg4 42.Qd2 Qxh4+ 43.Kg1 Nf5
44.g4 Rxg4+ 45.Ng2 Rg3 46.Kf1 Qg4
47.Qe2 Rf3 48.Rxf3 exf3 49.Qf2 0-1

David Hahn (2100)

Ron Williams (1911)

Michigan Senior (4)
Flint, October 2014

Réti: Gambit, A09

1.Nf3 Nc6 2.g3 e5 3.d3 d5 4.Bg2 Nf6
5.0-0 Be7 6.c4 d4 7.b4 Bxb4 8.Nxe5
Nxe5 9.Qa4+ Nc6 10.Bxc6+ bxc6
11.Qxb4 Nd7 12.Ba3 a5 13.Qa4 Ra6
14.Nd2 c5 15.Bxc5 Bb7 16.Bxd4 0-0
17.Qb5 Qc8 18.Rab1 Bc6 19.Qg5 f6
20.Qg4 Qe8 21.e4 Qf7 22.f4 h5 23.Qe2
Qg6 24.f5 Qh7 25.Nf3 Re8 26.Nh4
Raa8 27.Ng6 Nf8 28.Nxf8 Kxf8 29.Qf2
Kf7 30.Qf4 Re7 31.e5 Rae8 32.e6+ Kg8
33.Bc5 1-0

Cruising Through the U.S. Senior Open: Ariel Levi Captures Second Place Behind GM Walter Browne by Jean-Paul Pegeron

For the first time in 15 years the U.S. Senior Open took place on a cruise ship. Michigan was well represented in terms of numbers and performance.

We sailed from Fort Lauderdale on September 14 for a week on board the Royal Caribbean Allure of the Seas with stops in Nassau, St Thomas and St Martin. The chess tournament was well organized by Alan Losoff from New York and efficiently directed by Bill Snead from Texas. Sets and clocks were provided. The six rounds took place at 1:30 PM with a 90' and 30" increment time control. A liberal bye policy permitted players to take two ½ point byes or one 1 point bye through round 4 enabling them to enjoy excursions on the islands.

GM Walter Browne (2470) six time US champion and 11 time U.S. Open champion led the field of 34 players which included 4 masters and 5 experts. Michigan was well represented with 4 players: Ariel Levi (2155), Greg Bailey (1948), Jean-Paul Pegeron (1875) and William Shaw (1327). Ariel Levi had an outstanding tournament reaching the final round with 4.5 points to play Walter Browne. Their drawn game was a formality but it enabled Ariel to claim the

second prize. Greg Bailey finished with 4 points to earn a share of first prize in the U2000 group. Jean-Paul Pegeron finished with 3 points and William Shaw with 2 points enough to share the first prize in the U1500 group.

Any doubts about GM Walter Browne's sharpness were cleared when he also won the Blitz tournament and disposed of 11 opponents in a simultaneous demonstration on Tuesday evening. He was also available for lessons.

The cruise part of the event was wonderful in all respects. Plans are under way to have another U.S. Senior Open on a cruise ship in 2016. A great way to mix pleasure with pleasure!

William Marcelino (2198)

Ariel Levi (2155)

U.S. Senior Open (5)

Bahamas, Cruise Ship Allure of the Seas,
September 2014

Sicilian: Alapin (Smith-Morra), B22

Notes by Ariel Levi

Going into the fifth round of this 34-player tournament, I had 3.5 points out of 4, and was in a second-place tie with 2 other players. GM Walter Browne was leading with 4 points, so this was a crucial game that would determine who

would be paired against him in the last round.

In this game, I obtained a reasonable position from the opening, but then made a sequence of rook moves that worsened my position. After making a blunder that lost the exchange, I fought on by using the bishop pair to annoy my opponent. Eventually, a series of inaccurate moves by Marcelino allowed me back into the game, after which a blunder on his part gave me the advantage and ultimately a win.

1.e4 c5 2.c3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.cxd4 d6 7.Bc4 dxe5

This is less often played than 7...Nb6, after which 8.Bb5 dxe5 9.Nxe5 Bd7 usually follows. I assumed that Marcelino was familiar with that line and I therefore played a less common variation that I knew reasonably well that would yield an imbalanced yet playable position.

8.Nxe5

A more critical line is 8.Bxd5 Qxd5 9.Nc3 Qd6 10.d5 Nd4 11.Nxd4 exd4 12.Qxd4 e5 13.Qd3 Bd7 with approximate dynamic equality.

8...e6 9.0-0 Be7 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Nc3 0-0 12.Qf3 Rb8

With the idea of activating the rook and later trading off the light-squared bishops

with Ba6. However, better was the more direct 12...Qb6, e.g., 13.Rd1 Ba6 14.Bxa6 Qxa6 15.Ne4 Qb6 16.b3 a5 with a good game. If white plays 14. b3 in this line, black can trade both bishop and knight and follow up with an eventual c5, when white will likely end up with a passed d pawn and black with a passed c-pawn, resulting in an even position.

13.Rd1 Rb6

The first in a sequence of 4 unfortunate rook moves that simply made my position worse. Again, better was Qb6 followed by Ba6.

14.Ne4 Rb4?

Here, a better move is the Rybka suggestion 14...f5, which would equalize after 15.Nc5 e5 16.b3 e4 17.Qc3 Bd6. During the game, I considered 14...f5, but rejected it because it seemed to create new weaknesses and I didn't see the followup move 15...e5 after 15.Nc5.

15.b3

Now white has the positional threat of Ba3, following by trading off the dark-squared bishops and gaining control over the c5-square. Therefore, I played:

15...Rb8

However, this allows some tactics based on the unprotected rook. Better was 15...Rb7.

16. Qg3

A strong move, directly attacking the rook. A tricky alternative that also takes advantage of the unprotected rook was 16.Bh6. Then, after 16...Rb6, the game could continue 17.Qg3 Bf6 18.h3 Kh8 19.Nxf6 Qxf6 20.Bg5 Qg6 21.Qd6 Rg8 22.Bd2 with advantage to white.

16...Rb6 17.Bd2 Qc7

At this point, I was willing to settle for an unpleasant endgame, which would have arisen if White had played 18.Qxc7 Nxc7 19.Ba5 Rb7 20.Nc5 Bxc5 21.dxc5 Nd5 22.Rd2. White decided to keep the queens on, while threatening 19.Ba5.

18.Qf3 Rb8?

Another rook move, this one to forestall 19.Ba5. But this loses the exchange by force. Better was 18...Rb7, which allows black to fight on in a slightly worse position, for example: 18...Rb7 19.Rac1 Ba3 20.Rc2 Qb6 21.h3 f6

19.Bxd5 cxd5 20.Bf4 dxe4

If 20...Qb6, white would play 21.Qg3 or 21.Bxb8 dxe4 22.Qg3 with a big advantage.

21.Bxc7 exf3 22.Bxb8 a6

I didn't want to allow white 2 connected passed pawns.

23.Bg3

White is still winning after this, but 23.Rac1 or 23.Ba7, with the idea of Bc5, would be more straightforward. I now had the slight hope that white's bishop on g3 would be a target for my kingside pawns.

23...Bb7 24.gxf3?

I was hoping for this, mainly because 24.Rac1 was much stronger. Now I can play a useful move that makes things a little more difficult for my opponent.

24...Ba3

I knew that with best play on both sides, I would lose. However, I did have 2 active bishops as a trump. I remembered that GM Jonathan Rowson, in his book The Seven Deadly Chess Sins, recommended that a player who is down the exchange but has the 2 bishops should try to annoy his opponent by keeping the bishops "in his face." Here, I tried to follow this advice, as Ba3 controls the c1-square and the previously bad light-squared bishop threatens to capture on f3 and hassle a rook moving to a light square such as d1, d3, or b1. Meanwhile, white has to watch out for Bb2 in some lines. White now protects the loose f3-pawn but walks into a strong pin by the monster bishop on b7.

25.Kg2

Better is 25.Rd3

25...g5 26.h3

White should probably have returned the exchange, as in the following recommendation by Rybka: 26.Rd3 g4 27.d5 Bxd5 28.Rxd5 gxf3+ 29.Kxf3 exd5 30.Rg1 Kh8 31.Rd1 Rd8 32.Rd4 Bc5 33.Ra4 d4 34.Ke2. White would retain good winning chances.

26...h5

Advancing the kingside pawns was an obvious plan, to attack the pinned f3-pawn and the bishop on g3.

27.h4? g4 28.Rd2?

28.d5 was better

28...Bxf3+ 29.Kh2 Rc8

The tide has finally turned, and now I have at least a slight advantage. The position is also easier to play for black than for white.

30.Bf4? Bc1

An unpleasant move to meet. White should probably have left the attacked rook where it was and allowed black to take it. Instead:

31.Rxc1? Rxc1

Now black has a big advantage. White has to watch out for mating threats by black's rook and bishop.

32.Be5 Kh7 33.Kg3 Kg6 34.Kf4 f6

35.Bd6 Re1

Game over. White can't stop the threat of 36...e5+

36.Rd3 e5+ 37.dxe5 fxe5+ 38.Bxe5 Re4+ 39.Kg3 Rxe5 40.Rd6+ Kf5 41.Rxa6 Rd5 42.a4 Rd1 43.Ra5+ Ke4 0-1

After this game, I was in clear second place with 4.5 out of 5. In the sixth and final round, I played GM Browne, who had 5/5. The game lasted about 5 minutes, as I accepted the draw that Browne offered on the tenth move. This gave Browne first place, while I retained sole second place. All in all, it was a well-run tournament in an unusual setting (a cruise ship) that I had not experienced before.

Greg Bailey (1948)

Alan Casdan (2225)

U.S. Senior Open (4)

Bahamas, Cruise Ship Allure of the Seas, September 2014

English: Anglo-Indian, A15

Greg Bailey met Ohio master Alan Casdan in round 4: "I was winning if I keep the Queens on. The game was going south when I offered the draw."

1.f4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.c4 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 0-0 6.Be2 Nc6 7.d3 d6 8. 0-0 Rb8 9.Bd2 Ne8 10.Qc1 Nc7 11.Nd1 b5 12.Bc3 Nd4 13.Nxd4 cxd4 14.Ba5 Qd7 15.cxb5 Ne6 16.a4 Nc5 17.Ra3 a6 18.b4 Nb7 19.Qc7 Ra8 20.Qxd7 Bxd7 21.b6 Rfc8 22.Bf3 Nxa5 23.bxa5 Rc5 24.Nb2 Rxa5 25.Rfa1 Rb8 26.Nc4 Rc5 27.Rb1 Bf8 28.Raa1 1/2-1/2

Gary Bagstad (1700)

Greg Bailey (1948)

U.S. Senior Open (5)

Bahamas, Cruise Ship Allure of the Seas, September 2014

Sicilian: Closed, B24

In round 5 Greg was paired against Gary Bagstad from Colorado. Although rated 1700 he was performing at a much higher level having drawn a master and won against two class A players. Greg commented: "This game brought him back to earth."

1.e4 e6 2.d3 c5 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.f4 Nge7 7.Nf3 0-0 8.0-0 d5 9.e5 a6 10.h3 b5 11.Ne2 a5 12.g4 f5 13.Qe1 Nb4 14.Qd1 c4 15.d4 Bd7 16.a3 Nbc6 17.Qe1 Qb6 18.c3 b4 19.Bd2 ba3 20.bxa3 a4 21.Rb1 Qa7 22.Qd1 Rfb8 23.Qc2 Rb3 24.Qa2 Rab8 25.Rxb3 cxb3 26.Qb2 Na5 27.Bc1 Nc4 28.Qb1 b2 0-1

2014 BARBER TOURNAMENT OF K-8 STATE CHAMPIONS by Michael Chen

The Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions was held this year in Orlando, Florida at the Rosen Centre Hotel. I felt very fortunate to be able to represent Michigan at this prestigious tournament. It took place from July 26th to July 29th. Taking place alongside the Barber was the Denker Tournament, the National Girls Invitational Tournament (NGIT) and the U.S. Open. The field of the Barber Tournament consisted of players from 48 states. It was an extremely strong field with 9 national masters. However, I didn't happen to encounter any of the other eight masters.

We left early in the morning of the first day of the tournament at around 4:00 A.M. We drove three hours to the Detroit airport. The plane ride was about two hours long, just long enough for me to take a short nap. I was surprised at how much bigger the Orlando airport was than the Detroit one. We collected our luggage and headed to the bus station where we chanced upon meeting Edward Song, Michigan's Denker representative. The bus ride was about one hour long and when we got to the hotel it was about 1:00 P.M. Unfortunately, we couldn't check in till three, which was also when the opening ceremony started. The opening ceremony passed without incident.

My tournament started off badly. In the first round I was white against Andy Wu, from Florida, who was rated around 1800. I was able to get a good position in the middle game but unfortunately I squandered my advantage later on. Soon he got the upper hand and managed to win a pawn. We traded off into a minor piece endgame. Luckily for me, my opponent could not find any good plans and offered me a draw, one which I was all too happy to accept.

In my second round, it still did not get much better. I was paired against Arden Markin from Alabama who was rated about 1900. He got a position that had a lot of pressure on the h-file and my h-pawn forcing me to lock the position. Eventually queens were traded off and we ended up in a deadlocked position. My third round was against Vikram Srivastava from Ohio, who is rated about 2000. Things finally started to turn around for me. Early on I was able to gain a spacial and developmental

advantage. Eventually I was able to launch a successful kingside attack due to the fact that almost all his pieces were on the queenside and could not defend his king

In my fourth round, I played against Dex Webster from Louisiana who was also rated about 2000. He got an early advantage out of the opening but he was unable to consolidate his advantage. We reached a pretty even middle game until he got himself into time pressure. Eventually I was able to attack several weaknesses on the queenside and was able to win several pawns. At the end, he blundered his queen. In my fifth game I was white against Emmanuel Carter who was rated about 2100. He offered a draw early in the match. I was uncomfortable with my position so I accepted. In the final round I was paired against Arshaq Saleem from Iowa. I was half a point off the lead. In the opening I was able to activate my pieces pretty easily. Then I was able to put a lot of pressure on his b-pawn which I was able to win. After several tactical mishaps by my opponent, I was able to end up a piece up.

I was the first person in contention to finish. Gradually most other players also finished, leaving only one, very important, game. The final game was between David Brodsky of New York and Advait Patel of West Virginia. Both of the players had 4 points going into this round. Already there were four other players tied with me with 4.5 points. Both players were in time pressure; Advait had slightly more time and also an extra pawn in a Rook and Pawn endgame. At first it appeared that the game would end in a draw in which case it would be a 6-way tie for first. In the end, however, Advait managed to pull out a win, launching him into clear first and leaving us in a four-way tie for second. Had Advait drew that game, I would have been part of a sixth-way tie for first, but ironically I would have finished only sixth due to my low tiebreaks. Now I was part of a 4-way tie for second but finished fifth!

This year there was also a State vs. State competition. It compared the combined score from all three junior events for each state. With a score of 12.5, Michigan, coincidentally, also finished in a tie for second place but placed in fifth place on

tiebreakers, exact the same as my standing. The top state, New Jersey finished with 13 points so it was very close. The closing ceremony was entertaining and we were all able to relax and enjoy.

I was pretty happy with my score and place but slightly disappointed with my performance. Although I scored a solid 4.5/6, I was disappointed that I did not play any masters or anybody with a relatively high rating.

Michael Chen (2202)

Vikram Srivastava (1988)

Barber Tourney of K-8 Champions (3)

Orlando, FL, July 2014

Sicilian: Alapin, B22

Notes by Michael Chen

1.e4 c5 2.c3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Bc4 e6 6.0-0 Be7 7.d4 cxd4 8.cxd4 8.Bxd5 exd5 9.cxd4

8...b6 9.Bxd5 exd5 10.Qa4

10.Nc3 I had originally thought that I could win a pawn with this move. However with 10...Ba6 11.Re1 Bb4 black can save his pawn. 12.Bg5 Qc8 White still has a really good position here.

10...Bb7 11.Nc3 Na5 12.Bf4 0-0 13.Rac1 Rc8 14.Rfe1 Rc4 15.Qc2 d6 Black tries to consolidate his doubled pawns.

16.Qd3 dxe5 17.Nxe5 Rc8 18.Qg3 Nc4 19.Ng4? Bg5

19...Nxb2? 20.Nh6+ Kh8 21.Rxe7 Qxe7 22.Nf5 Qf6 23.Be5; 19...Bh4 The best move for black. 20.Qf3 Nxb2 Now black can safely take the pawn.

20.Bxg5 Qxg5 21.b3

I was hoping to keep his knight isolated on the queenside so it can't defend on the kingside when I attack.

21...Na5

21...f5 This is the best move here. 22.Ne5 Qxg3 23.hxg3 with a pretty even position.; 21...Nd6 I thought he was going to try this. 22.Qxd6 Qxg4 23.Nxd5 Rcd8 24.Ne7+ Kh8 25.Qg3=

22.h4 Qd8

22...Qg6 23.h5 Qg5 (23...Qxh5 24.Nf6+) 24.f4 Qd8

23.Re5

Just putting pressure on d5 and also preparing to bring the other rook into the attack. 23.Nh6+ Kh8 24.Nf5 Qf6 25.Qe5 Qxe5 26.dxe5 White has an advantage here due to the bad placement of the black pieces.

23...Kh8 24.Rce1 Rc6
 24...f5 25.Nh6! f4 (25...gxh6?? 26.Re7 Rg8 27.Qe5+) 26.Qg4 gxh6 27.Re7 Rg8 28.Qh5 Rg6 29.b4

25.Ne2

Bringing the final piece into the attack. Meanwhile black's knight and bishop still cannot participate in the defense. 25.Rxd5; 25.Nxd5 Free pawn!

25...f5 26.Nh2

26.Ne3 is better 26...Rg6 27.Qf4 Rgf6

26...Rd6

26...Rg6 27.Qf4 Rgf6 28.Nf3

27.Nf4 Bc8 28.Re7 Rg8 29.Nf3 Nc6

30.Ng5

White's rook is safe for an important tempo as White threatens mate.

30...Rf6 31.Nf7+ Rxf7 32.Rxf7 Nxd4

33.Ree7

33.Ng6+ hxg6 34.Qxg6 Qxh4 35.Rxg7+—

33...Be6 34.Nxe6

34.Rxg7 Qxe7 35.Rxe7 Rxg3 36.fxg3 Bg8

34...Ne2+

During the game I had completely overlooked this move and had a moment of panic. In fact I had planned to take the knight if he took my queen because I did not see his queen hanging!

35.Kh2 Qxe7

35...Nxg3 36.Nxd8 (Even 36.fxg3 White still has a tiny advantage here.)

36.Rxe7 Nxg3 37.Kxg3 h6 38.Kf4 1–0

Dex Webster (2035)

Michael Chen (2202)

Barber Tourney of K-8 Champions (4)

Orlando, FL, July 2014

Spanish: Exchange (Gligoric), C69

Notes by Michael Chen

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6

5.0–0 Bd6 6.d4 exd4 7.Qxd4 f6 8.Be3

Ne7 9.Nbd2 Be6 10.Qc3 0–0

10...Ng6 This is the main line. 11.Nd4

Qe7 12.Nxe6 Qxe6

11.Nc4 Ng6 12.Nd4

12.Rad1

12...Bf7 13.Rad1 Ne5 14.Nxe5

14.Nxd6 cxd6 15.Nf5 d5 16.Bc5 Re8

17.Nd6±

14...fxe5 15.Nf5 Qf6 16.f4 Bh5 17.Rde1

17.Rd2 Probably a better move. White can keep his rook on the d-file which is more active than the e-file. 17...Rae8

17...Qe6

Getting my queen out of the line of fire.

18.Ng3 Bf7 19.f5 Qf6 20.Qd2 Rad8

21.Qe2

21.Qc1

21...Be7 22.Rd1 Rd6 23.Rd2 Rfd8 24.Rfd1 b5 25.b3 c5

Attempting to get something going on the queenside.

26.c4

26.Bxc5?? Rxd2 27.Rxd2 Bxc5+

26...Rxd2 27.Rxd2 Rxd2 28.Bxd2 Qd6

29.Be3 Qd7 30.Nh5 Qe8

Hoping to scare the White knight away before attempting anything on the queenside.

31.g4 bxc4 32.bxc4 Qa4

White cannot defend his loose pawns.

33.Qb2?!

Attempts to counterattack, but leaves the king exposed

33...Qd1+ 34.Kf2?

34.Kg2 Is a suprisingly better move, but black is still winning. 34...Bxh5 35.gxh5 Qg4+ 36.Kf1 Qh3+ 37.Ke2 Qg2+ 38.Bf2 Qxe4+

34...Bxc4

34...Bxh5! Wins a piece. 35.gxh5 Bh4+ 36.Kg2 Qg4+ 37.Kf1 (37.Kh1 Qf3+ 38.Kg1 Qxe3+) 37...Qh3+ 38.Kg1 (38.Ke2?? Qxh2+ Wins white's queen.) 38...Qxe3+

35.f6 gxf6 36.h3 Qf1+ 37.Kg3 Qe1+ 38.Kf3 Qh1+ 39.Kf2?? Qh2+ 0–1

2014 DENKER TOURNAMENT OF HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONS by Edward Song

The 2014 Denker Tournament of High School Champions was held in Orlando, Florida from July 26 to July 29, along with the Barber Tournament of K-8 champions, the National Girls Invitational, and the U.S. Open. I earned the right to represent Michigan in this tournament by winning the Michigan Junior Championship in March. I was excited for this tournament, as I was fresh from winning the Cadet chess championship only a few days before this tournament, so I had the few days to rest at home and do some quick preparation for the tournament. Knowing that I am one of the top seeds but also knowing that there are some other very strong players, including a few I met from the Cadet, I knew that the tournament is going to be very tough.

My mom and I arrived to the tournament together with Barber representative and friend Michael Chen and his mom. I saw many of my old friends from previous times, including Michigan player Mandy Lu, who represented New Hampshire for the Denker. Before the rounds started there was the opening ceremony, where

everyone got a gold medallion and their state flag to be used for the tournament. After the ceremony, I went back to my room and rested until the 1st round started.

At that time, I did not know that I was in for a nasty surprise. In the 1st round, I was paired against a 2000+ rated player with black. The opening was strange, and I equalized easily, but I started playing several bad moves leading to a difficult position for me. Then instead of trying to press for many moves, my opponent chickens out and forces a repetition, leading to a draw. This was a disappointing result and an unpleasant surprise, but I also thought my opponent was being cowardly when he tried to force a draw in a better position, in fear of my high rating, which is quite a typical mistake and tendency for lower rated players.

I was paired against a 1900 from Hawaii the 2nd round with white. I decided to try a new opening, and it worked, as I got an easy win. In the 3rd round I was paired against a 2200 from Massachusetts. The opening didn't go too well, but I

outplayed my opponent to achieve a winning position. Unfortunately, in time trouble, I messed up the win and tried to win a better but drawn endgame for many moves, but I could not achieve it, so it was a draw. Another disappointing result, but I knew that I have to stick with it. Also credit goes to my opponent's nice defensive and tricky play. Still, with 2/3, I thought I didn't have much hope.

The 4th round was another easy victory against a 2100 from South Carolina, when I simply demolished the hedgehog with white. With 3/4, I was in tied 6th place, behind five players with 3.5/4. I managed to defeat one of the 3.5/4 players in the 5th round in an interesting game on board 3 to get to tied 3rd place with one other person before the final round while both top two board games ended in a decisive result.

The two players in 1st place with 4.5/5 were Josh Colas and Chris Gu, two players I met at the Cadet championship. They were paired against each other, while I was paired against the other guy with 4/5, Kevin Cao. I thought if I win and the top board ends in a draw, I could

continue the trend of having a Michigan player tie for first in the Denker for three years in a row. Also, Josh told me about his intention to hold Chris to a draw the night after we both finished our 5th round games. Remembering how easily Josh held Chris to a draw at the Cadet, even when he was in horrible form, I thought my chances looked good. I managed to win my last round in an interesting time scramble to reach 5/6, but this time Josh was not able to hold Chris off and lost the game, sending Chris to first place with 5.5/6, which meant I was in 2nd place. Overall, I was slightly disappointed in not tying for first, but I was satisfied with my performance anyway, especially after recovering from a slow start. I managed to earn \$500 for 2nd place and also gained a few rating points to break the 2400 barrier. I would like to thank the MCA for the stipend and allowing me the opportunity to represent Michigan at the Denker. I would also like to thank my friends and family for rooting for me throughout the tourney.

Nicky Korba (2274)

Edward Song (2367)

Denker Tourney of HS Champions (5)

Orlando, FL, July 2014

Four Knights: Rubinstein (Henneberger), C48

Notes by Edward Song

For the final two rounds, I was pretty much in must-win situations, as I had 3/4 at this point and still wanted to fight for 1st.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bb5 Nd4 5.0-0

The main move is 5.Bc4 with some interesting complications, but this is the type of position I wanted in such a critical situation.; Nicky told me he was briefly considering 5.Nxd4 which is a drawish line, and the main line goes 5...exd4 6.e5 dxc3 7.exf6 Qxf6 8.dxc3 but he didn't want to waste a white. However, this made me happy, as I have greater chances for victory. In case he went for this line, I thought of the game Short-Kramnik 2011, when Kramnik ended up winning in this line.

5...Nxb5 6.Nxb5 c6 7.Nc3 d6 8.d4 Qc7 This is similar to a Philidor, but I have the bishop pair, so black has no problems.

9.Bg5 Be7 10.Qd3 Bg4

More aggressive than the simple 10...0-0

11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.d5 0-0

Slightly inaccurate. 12...Rd8 ...13.h3 Bc8

13.h3 Bc8

Now the rook on a8 is blocked, that's why Rd8 is better. 13...Bh5 The bishop is misplaced here.; 13...Bd7 fails to tactical reasons: 14.dxc6 bxc6 (14...Bxc6 15.Nd5±) 15.Rad1 Be7 16.Nxe5

14.Rfd1 c5

I did not want to make such a committal move so early, but this is almost forced. 14...Be7 15.Nxe5!; 14...Rd8 after this all my pieces are misplaced, and I'll probably have to go c5 eventually.

15.Nd2

White wants to attack the queenside, but I found a good idea. 15.a4 This is probably more slightly more accurate, but I would probably just go 15...b6

15...a6

15...Bd7 16.a4 g6 17.Nb5 Qb8 18.Nc4 Be7

16.a4 b6!

Stopping his queenside play. I thought maybe I can start my own play on the queenside with b5. Of course I have the plan of g6 and f5.

17.Rdb1 Bd7 18.b4 Rfc8

Now white has some problems to solve.

19.bxc5?!

White wants to attack the queenside by opening the position, but this is dangerous because black can also attack on the queenside and has the two bishops. After this white is in some trouble, but other moves don't appeal either. After 19.Ra3 black can close the queenside if he wants (of course he doesn't have to): 19...c4 (19...g6 It's probably better to wait a little bit.) 20.Qe2 b5 Then he can play on the kingside.; 19.b5 a5 Black also can close the queenside this way, but white has good chances to hold after 20.Nc4 because black has to constantly care for the b6 and d6 pawns. He also has to beware of sacrifices on a5.

19...Qxc5 20.Rb3 g6

Black has almost no risk of losing here.

21.Qe3 Bd8 22.Ra2 Qxe3 23.fxe3 Rc5 24.Nd1 Rac8

24...b5! 25.axb5 Bxb5 White's position is extremely unpleasant here.

25.c4 b5!

The only way to break through.

26.axb5 axb5 27.Nb2 Kf8

27...bxc4 28.Nbxc4 Rxc4 29.Nxc4 Rxc4 30.Rb8 Rc8 31.Rxc8 Bxc8 32.Ra8

28.Nd3?

Tactically bad. 28.cxb5 Bxb5 White's pieces are misplaced, black has the two bishops, and the e3 and e4 pawns are

constant worries, but the position is a little drawish because all the pawns are on the same side.

28...Rxc4! 29.Nxc4 bxc4 30.Rb7 cxd3 31.Rd2

31.Rxd7 Bb6!! A difficult move to find. White's d7 rook is misplaced and can't help catch the d3 pawn.

31...Ke7

But now black is easily winning.

32.Rxd3 Rc7 33.Rb8 Rc4 34.Ra3 Ra4 35.Rxa4 Bxa4+

White's pawns on e4 and e3 are simply too weak to protect.

36.Kf2 h5 37.g3 Bd7 38.Rb7 Ba5 39.g4 hxd4 40.hxd4 Kd8 41.Ra7 Bb6 42.Ra8+ Ke7 43.Kf3 Kf6 44.Rb8 Bc5 45.Rb7 Ba4 46.g5+ Kxg5 47.Rxf7 Bd1+ 48.Kf2 Kg4 49.Rg7 g5 50.Rh7 Bc2 51.Rh1 Bxe4 52.Rg1+ Kf5 0-1

Edward Song (2367)

Kevin Cao (2314)

Denker Tourney of HS Champions (6)

Orlando, FL, July 2014

Spanish: Closed, C84

Notes by Edward Song

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.d3 d6 7.c3 Bg4

I did not know much of this line.

8.h3 Bh5 9.Nbd2 0-0 10.Re1 Nd7 11.Nf1 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 Nc5 13.Bc2 a5 14.Ne3

14.Be3!? I did not want to give up the two bishops, but this is interesting. 14...Bg5 15.d4 Bxe3 16.Qxe3 Nd7 17.f4

14...Bg5 15.g3

15.b3 b5! 16.Bb2 b4 17.c4 Ne6

15...a4?!

Allows me to employ an interesting idea. 15...Qd7!? 16.h4 Bxe3 17.Bxe3 f5 18.exf5 Rxf5 19.Qg4±; 15...Re8 Making a simple move is probably the best. 16.h4 Bh6 and I'm not sure what white can do here.

16.h4 Bh6 17.Qd1!

The idea is that the a4 pawn is targeted, so black cannot play Ne6.

17...Re8 18.f3?!

A strange move, but it protects the e4 pawn, so I'm ready to play d4.

18...b5 19.d4 exd4?!

I think this is unnecessary and too early.

20.cxd4 Nd7 21.f4!

Now I have a huge space advantage.

21...g6 22.e5

Getting the e4 square for the bishop. There are many possibilities here. 22.d5!? Nb4 23.Bb1; 22.Ng4 Bg7 23.Be3

22...Qb8?!

□22...dxe5 23.dxe5 Nc5

23.Be4 Ra6 24.Ng4 Bg7 25.Be3 Ne7
26.Bf3 Rd8

26...c5!?

27.Qc2 d5 28.Bf2

Now I can slowly prepare the advancement of my kingside pawns.

28...Nf8 29.Qd3 Ne6 30.h5 Nf5 31.Qd2
Black simply has no counterplay.

31...Nf8 32.Nh2

About here both of us entered into time trouble, but I handled the time much better.

32...Ne7 33.Kg2 f5

An attempt to close the kingside, but it fails.

34.exf6 Bxf6 35.Ng4!

Now I trade off his dark squared bishop.

35...Nf5 36.Nxf6+ Rxf6 37.g4

And now I win the exchange, although I have to be careful not to overextend my kingside pawns.

37...Ng7 38.Bh4 Rf7 39.Bxd8 Qxd8
40.Re5 c6 41.h6! Nge6 42.f5!

Aggression! I thought it was necessary.

42...Nc7 43.Rae1 Qf6?

Played with 3 seconds left. This hastens the end. 43...Nd7

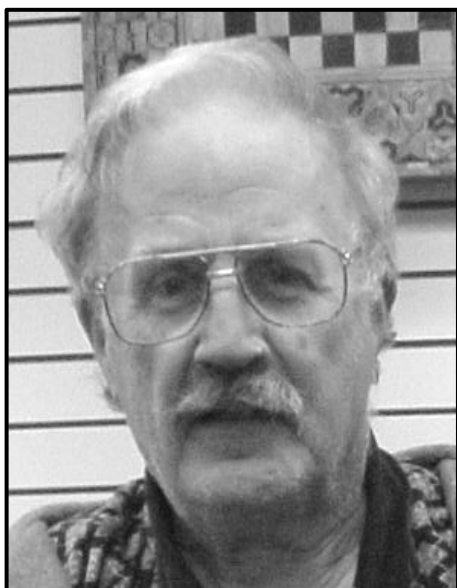
44.g5 Qd6 45.f6

With a pawn on f6 like that there is no way black can save the game.

45...Nd7 46.Re7 Rxe7 47.fxe7 Kf7
48.Bg4 Ke8 49.Qf2 c5 50.dxc5 Qc6
51.Bxd7+ Kxd7 52.e8Q+ 1-0

IN PASSING: MCA HALL OF FAME MEMBER, RONALD FINEGOLD

From the Editor: In the previous issue, we reported the passing Ronald Finegold, on July 15, 2014 at the age of 78. The follow is a re-print of the article published in the March/April 2003 issue of Michigan Chess magazine following his induction into the MCA Hall of Fame.



Information compiled by **Mark Finegold**

Ron Finegold joined the Michigan Chess Association in the late 1950's. His first major success was equal 2nd in the 1958 Michigan Open with 5.5 out of 7, behind former French champion Stephan Popel's perfect score. He was a National Master for a great number of years and is a Life Master.

In 1961, he took clear first with a 5-0 score at the Glass City Open in Toledo, Ohio, where the field of well over 100 players included several masters.

Ron was the 2nd Board prize winner at the 1962 Pan-Am Intercollegiate for Wayne State University's chess team, which finished in third place among several dozen teams at the Philadelphia event.

Earlier in 1962, he took a trip with other Michigan players to the U.S. Open in San Antonio, Texas. In this tournament, which featured many grandmasters such as Benko, R. Byrne, Lombardy, and Bisguier, as well as grandmasters and IM's from Europe and South America, Ron finished 15th with 8 points out of 12. Coincidentally, he had identical 8-point performances in the other two U.S. Opens in which he participated, Ventura (Calif.) 1971 and Dearborn 1992.

Ron played his best-known tournament game at the 1963 Western Open in Bay City. Bobby Fischer, irritated by perceptions of Soviet cheating and poor treatment by international organizers, accepted an invitation to the Western Open. Ron was paired with Bobby in Round Five in what turned out to be Bobby's longest game of the tournament. Fischer finally squeezed out a win in a complex ending (see this game below).

Ron scored first place or equal first in three Motor City Opens. Equal first in the 1971 Flint Open ahead of many masters including Larry Gilden and Eugene Martinovsky. Winner of dozens of USCF-rated tournaments including at least four tournaments in 1980. First place in the Cleveland Open, scoring 5-0 over many masters from Ohio, Michigan and Illinois in the late 60's. Ron is a veteran of many Michigan and national events, including the Michigan Open, the Michigan Speed Championships, the Motor City Open, the World Open and the Chicago Open.

In the blitz side event at the 1991 National Open in Chicago, he defeated GM Walter Browne, founder of the World Blitz Chess Association. Later that year, Ron finished in clear 2nd at the Canadian Open blitz tournament in Windsor. He also holds the unique distinction of scoring an undefeated 24

wins and 4 draws in a series of "Insanity" tournaments that used to be held in Cincinnati, Detroit and Toledo in the 60's and early 70's, making him the Insanity Champion.

Ron is the father of Ben Finegold, highest-rated International Master in the United States and three-time U.S. Championship participant, and NM (and life master) Mark Finegold.

This special game, we will present unannotated:

Robert Fischer

Ron Finegold

Western Open (5)

Bay City, 1963

French: Winawer, C15

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3 Bxc3+
5.bxc3 dxe4 6.Qg4 Nf6 7.Qxg7 Rg8
8.Qh6 Rg6 9.Qe3 b6 10.Bb2 Bb7 11.0-0
0-0 Nbd7 12.h3 Qe7 13.Ne2 0-0-0
14.c4 e5 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Rxd8+ Kxd8
17.Nf4 Rg8 18.Be2 Kc8 19.Rd1 Rd8
20.Rxd8+ Kxd8 21.Qg3 Ng6 22.h4 Nxf4
23.Qxf4 Ne8 24.h5 Bc8 25.h6 Qd6
26.Qg5+ Qe7 27.Qd5+ Qd6 28.Qg5+
Qe7 29.Qg3 Bf5 30.Qf4 Qe6 31.g4 Bg6
32.Qg5+ Qe7 33.Qd5+ Qd6 34.Be5
Qxd5 35.cxd5 f6 36.Bg3 Ke7 37.Kd2
Nd6 38.Ke3 b5 39.Bxd6+ Kxd6 40.Kd4
a6 41.c4 bxc4 42.Bxc4 a5 43.Ba2 f5
44.gxf5 Bxf5 45.Bb3 Bg6 46.Ba4 Bf5
47.Be8 Ke7 48.Ke5 Bg4 49.Bg6 Bd7
50.Bxh7 c5 51.dxc6 Bxc6 52.Bxe4 Bxe4
53.Kxe4 Kf6 54.f4 1-0

Lester Van Meter (2350)

Ron Finegold (2125)

Region V Open (2)

Monroe, 1986

Irregular Queen's Pawn: Polish, A40

Notes by **Tim McGrew**

Here is a very strange game that bears the unmistakable stamp of Ron Finegold's strategic imagination. Beginning with a

decidedly odd opening, Ron steers the game into French like channels. Before long Black is a pawn ahead, then two pawns -- I'm sure White was still wondering how this all happened -- and Ron tightens the coils until his opponent collapses.

1.d4 b5!?

The insanity starts early in this game. Is this move even legal here? Yes, It is known as the Polish Defense -- but you may live long before one of your opponents ventures it. Michael Basman advocated this in the late 1970's and Julian Hodgson messed around with it in the early 1980's, but it achieved its greatest respectability (if you can call it that) when Boris Spassky adopted it successfully in 1990.

2.e4 Bb7!?

Still more insanity! Black offers to swap a wing pawn for a center pawn. Is this good for White because he gains time, or is it bad because center pawns are more valuable than wing pawns?

3.Qd3

I take this as a sign that White is somewhat out of his depth. In the Orangutan, 1.b4 d5 2.Bb2 Qd6!? is a respectable idea, so perhaps White is borrowing plans. But as the game goes on we get the strong impression that White's queen is out of place in the center. Is there nothing better? 3.Bxb5 looks like a principled continuation. Black can (and should) grab back the pawn, though there is a truly demented alternative. 3...Bxe4 (3...f5?! should fail for direct tactical reasons, though it gets rather involved when one tries to prove this exhaustively: 4.exf5 Bxg2 5.Qh5+ g6 6.fxg6 Bg7! Relatively best: Black will recapture the new White queen on g8 with his king. 7.gxh7+ Kf8 8.hxg8Q+ Kxg8. Since White's queen is still under fire, Black gets the rook on h1 after all. But where did all the Black king-side pawns go? 9.Qg6 Bxh1 10.Bf4 Nc6 11.Ne2 Rb8 12.Nbc3 Rb6 13.Qg3 d6 14.Bc4+ Kf8 15.0-0 Na5 16.Rg1 and Black gave up the madness in Pohl-Leisebein, corr 1990.) 4.Nf3, White's development is good and he is going to gain another tempo with Nc3 some time soon, so we must evaluate the position as better for White. Yet this is probably what Finegold was hoping for. The position is sufficiently unbalanced that White cannot play in a wholly risk-free manner. It is not too hard to imagine White drifting just a little and finding himself in a late

middlegame where Black's center pawns really do matter more than White's spent initiative. 3.Nd2! is probably the safest move. Now that e4 is defended Black needs to attend to his own hanging pawn, and after 3...a6, White has two approaches that are rather convincing: 4.Ngf3 (4.a4 b4 5.a5 e6 6.c3 c5 7.Ngf3 Nf6 8.Bd3 d5 9.e5 Nfd7 10.Bb1 Nc6 11.0-0 Nxa5 12.Ng5 Be7 13.f4 Nc6 14.Nxe6!! A tremendous sacrifice that requires further sacrifices for its justification. 14...fxe6 15.Qh5+ Kf8 (15...g6 16.Bxg6+! hxg6 17.Qxg6+! Kf8 18.f5! Qe8 19.fxe6+ Nf6 20.Qg5 Rh5 21.Qg4!+-) 16.f5 Nf6 17.exf6 Bxf6 18.fxe6 Qe8 19.Qxd5 cxd4 20.Ne4 Qe7 21.Rxf6+ gxf6 22.Bh6+ Kg8 23.Qf5 Rf8 24.Qg4+ and Black resigned just in the nick of time in Fatalibekova-Dubinskaya, Yalta 1995.) 4...e6 5.Bd3 c5 6.dxc5 Bxc5 7.0-0 Ne7 8.a4 bxa4 9.Rxa4 0-0 10.Nb3 Bb6 11.e5. Once again, this space gainer is the key to White's attack. 11...Ng6 12.Ng5 f6 13.Nxh7! Nxe5 14.Nxf8 Qxf8 15.Rh4 f5 16.Qh5 Nbc6 17.Be3 Qd8 18.Nc5 Ng6 19.Rh3 Bxc5 20.Qxg6 Bf8 21.Bg5! Qa5 22.Be2 Be7 23.Bh5 Ne5 24.Qh7+!! This is the sort of move that makes us all want to play chess! 24...Kxh7 25.Bf7# Tatai-Skembris, Budva Zonal 1981.

3...e6 4.Nd2 a6 5.a4 bxa4 6.Rxa4 d5 7.e5 c5 8.dxc5 Nd7

The position is already slipping out of White's control. Keep your eye on Black's knights -- they are destined to be developed in strange ways!

9.Qg3 Nxc5 10.Rg4 Nh6

It is becoming increasingly clear that this rook is a liability rather than an asset. Yet how hard it is for the stereotyped thinker to take all of this in! Can Black's knights really be dangerous on these odd squares? The sobering answer is that they can be very dangerous there indeed.

11.Rg5 g6 12.b4 Nd7 13.Bd3

There goes a pawn. And what a pawn -- it was the only thing restraining Black's a-pawn, which is now a latent threat whenever the question of an endgame arises. If you had to lay bets on which Black pawn will become a queen, isn't that the one you would choose? Keep this in mind so that you will be properly confused later.

13...Bxb4 14.Ngf3 Nc5

Ron goes his own way. 14...Be7! picks up even more material since the rook has no decent place to hide.

15.Qh4 Nxd3+ 16.cxd3 Bf8 17.0-0 Nf5!

There's that odd development of the knight again -- one square further forward than knights are supposed to be. Come to think of it, that means one square closer to the center. Perhaps there's a moral here...

18.Qa4+ Qd7

Black is naturally delighted at the thought of exchanging queens.

19.Qxd7+?

White seems to be determined that he can outplay his opponent if he can just get past the present bad spell in the game. This is not a very healthy attitude to take toward someone who has outplayed you convincingly in the opening and early middlegame. But we should not be too harsh: 19.Qa1 is not exactly an attractive move.

19...Kxd7 20.Rg4 Bc6

"No, you will not be allowed to set up a blockade on the a4 square."

21.Ng5 Ke8 22.Nb3 Bb5 23.Rd1 h5 24.Rf4 Rc8

Aiming for the forking square c3.

25.h4 Rc3 26.Na5 Rxd3

There goes a second pawn. How do these things happen?

27.Rxd3 Bxd3 28.Nb7 Be7 29.Nd6+ Nxd6

A minor inaccuracy. 29...Bxd6 helps things to come off in the right order, e.g. 30.exd6 Nxd6 and Black is a solid three(!) pawns ahead while the f-pawn is firmly defended.

30.exd6 Bxg5 31.hxg5 e5 32.Rf3 Be4 33.Ra3

So White gets to take the a-pawn after all. But meanwhile his d-pawn cannot be held, and Black still has the passed d-pawn. Let's take that as our new candidate for a potential queen and see whether our second guess is better than the first.

33...Kd7 34.Rxa6 d4 35.f4

White is trying hard to break up Black's pawns, but his bishop on c1 is vulnerable.

35...Rc8 36.Ba3 exf4 37.Ra7+ Kc6 38.Rxf7 Bf5

Holding the extra material firmly.

39.Kf2 d3

Passed pawns must be pushed!

40.Rc7+

Seeking salvation in an endgame with bishops of opposite colors. There is a myth that all such endings are drawn, but it ain't necessarily so.

40...Rxc7 41.dxc7 Kd5

Black's king is needed in the center -- the White c-pawn cannot queen anyway.

42.Bc1

42.Kf3 allows 42...Bg4+ 43.Kf2 d2 44.c8Q Bxc8 45.Ke2 f3+! with a finish similar to the game.

42...Ke4 43.Bd2 h4 44.Bc1 Bc8 45.Ke1 Kf5 46.Kd2 f3! 0-1

A nice breakthrough caps Black's strategic masterpiece. White cannot hold after 47.gxf3 h3 when the Black h-pawn cannot be stopped.

William Wright (1965)

Ron Finegold (2150)

Region V Open (5)

Detroit, 1990

Queen's Gambit: Albin (Lasker Trap), D08

Notes by **Tim McGrew**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 d4 4.e3?

It has been known for about a century that this move is a mistake, ever since three opponents in consultation fell into it against Emmanuel Lasker. Yet the refutation requires precise handling by Black. Ron Finegold gives us a model game from Black's perspective that shows exactly how the tactics should be handled.

4...Bb4+ 5.Bd2 dxe3 6.Bxb4

Apparently White is winning a piece for very little trouble. 6.fxe3 gives Black two good options. The complex line runs 6...Qh4+ 7.g3 Qe4 8.Qf3 Bxd2+ 9.Nxd2 Qxe5 regaining the pawn immediately, when White will have difficulties with his e-pawn later on. But a simpler way to handle the position is 6...Bxd2+ 7.Qxd2 Qxd2+! 8.Nxd2 Nc6 9.Ngf3 Nge7. Black will castle queen-side and focus on the doubled, isolated pawns on the e-file, one of which is almost sure to fall. In a famous 1899 game, Blumenfeld, Boyarkov and Falk in consultation chose 6.Qa4+. Emmanuel Lasker replied with the natural 6...Nc6 but after 7.Bxb4 Lasker played the tricky 7...Qh4!?, which is pretty effective, but it is simpler just to play 7...exf2+ 8.Kxf2 Qh4+ 9.Ke2 Qxc4+ 10.Ke1 Qxb4+ leaves Black a pawn up in a queenless middlegame.

6...exf2+ 7.Ke2

White must keep his king close to the queen.

7...fxg1N+!

Here is the trick that makes it all work for Black. The thoughtless 7...fxg1Q? allows

8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Rxg1 and there is no skewer on the diagonal from g4 to d1.

8.Ke1

But what should Black do now? A queen exchange leaves the knight trapped on g1.

8...Qh4+ 9.Kd2

9.g3? Qe4+ picks up the rook on h1.

9...Nc6!

Now that White's king is on the d-file, Black plays to castle queen-side with all possible speed. He has two pieces to clear out of the way, and he develops both of them with threats so that White never has time to consolidate.

10.Bc3 Bg4! 11.Qe1 0-0-0+ 12.Ke3

White's king is very exposed, but as it turns out Black has a different aim here. He wants to trap White's queen! And that is exactly what happens.

12...Qg5+! 13.Kf2

13.Ke4? Bf5# makes a pretty picture.

13...Rd1 14.Qe4 Bf5


14...f5 15.exf6 Nxf6 16.Bxf6 Qxf6+ is also very effective.

15.Qe3 Rxf1+! 0-1

White must lose the queen and get mated shortly thereafter.

2014 MICHIGAN ACTION CHAMPIONSHIP

Ann Arbor, December 13, 2014

SITE:	Pierpoint Commons East Room 2101 Bonisteel Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48109
DIRECTIONS:	University of Michigan North Campus
FORMAT	6-SS USCF & MCA required.
ENTRY FEE:	\$25 by 12/9, After: \$35
ADVANCE REGISTRATION:	Online Registration Preferred: https://www.onlineregistration.cc/ Michael Smith,  P.O. Box 8064, Ann Arbor, MI 48107; redwing_85@hotmail.com ; (734) 625-5057
ON-SITE REGISTRATION:	9:30-10:30am
ROUNDS:	11:00 - 12:45 - 2:00 - 3:15 - 4:30 - 6:15
TIME CONTROL:	G/30;d5
PRIZES	1st \$150 plus trophy 2nd \$100, 3rd \$75 Top A, B, C, D, E, U1000, U800/Unrated: each \$75

Michigan Chess Clubs

Ann Arbor Chess Club Wed 6pm-10pm; Espresso Royale, 324 S State St; Eric Wright (734) 846-4432 *Parking available at the Maynard St Parking structure. No Dues. Bring a set and a clock! All are welcome, young and old, of all playing strengths.*

Bay City Chess Club Tue 8:00am-4:00pm; Bay City Mall food court, 4101 E. Wilder Rd.; Mike Snobeck (989) 686-8001

Benton Harbor, Solid Grounds Cafe Chess Club Thur 6:30-9:00pm; Solid Grounds Cafe, 124 Water Street, Benton Harbor, MI; 49022 "in the Arts District"; Carl Brecht e-mail: carlbrecht@netscape.net; *All ages welcome! Hours of cafe for play anytime at www.Solid-groundsCafe.com*

Cadillac Chess Club Wed 6:00-10:00pm; Horizon Books, 115 S. Mitchell; Terry Oss (231) 775-6143 or Duane Croel (231) 885-1249

Canton, Carrel Chess Club Thu 6:00-9:00pm, and as needed for tournaments; Westland Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland, MI 48185; Michael Carrel (734) 377-4907.
<http://carrelchessclub.webs.com/>

Dearborn, Ford Chess Club Tue 5:00-8:00pm; Ford Motor Co World Headquarters Cafeteria; North Entrance, Michigan Ave & Southfield Fwy; Norm Haygood (248) 366-0954; George Oprean (586) 756-4967; e-mail: nhaygoodjr@aol.com or Archangel365@comcast.net

Detroit City Chess Club Fri 5:00-9:00pm; Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA), 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48202; Kevin Fite kevin@fite.com; Sherman Redden (313) 657-2268; reddden@detroitcitychessclub.com; <http://www.detroitchessclub.com>

East Lansing Chess Club Tues 1pm-4pm, Fri 10am-3:30pm; East Lansing Seniors Program, 819 Abbott Road; karndt@ci.east-lansing.mi.us (517) 337-1113; Mervin J. Draper; e-mail: pjdbad@aol.com

Elkhart County Chess Club Tue 7:00-10:00pm; First Congregational Church, 3rd & Marion St. in downtown Elkhart, IN ~ 7 miles south of State line; Roger Blaine (574) 257-9033 e-mail: reblaine@hotmail.com

Flint Public Library Chess Club 1st & 3rd Sat 3-5:30pm; Flint Public Library, 1026 E. Kearsley St, Flint, MI 48502; Check the Library website calendar to confirm dates: <http://www.fpl.info/> or Alonzo Hill ahill@fpl.info

Flint, Genesee County Chess Club Tue 6:30-9:30pm; Eastside Senior Citizens Center Activity Room, 3065 N. Genesee Rd; Flint, MI 48506; Jeff Aldrich (810) 955-7271, e-mail: jeffchess@charter.net

Grand Rapids Area Chess Club Tue 7:00-10:00pm; Common Ground Coffee, 1319 Fulton E, Grand Rapids; Eugene Brumley (616) 987-0131; e-mail: eugenebrumley@gmail.com

Greenville Chess Club Thu 6:30-8:30pm; Greenville Area Community Center, 900 East Kent Rd; Robert Wilson (616) 754-9163 e-mail: gacc@oneisp.net; *All levels welcome. No cost to participate. Come have fun!*

Grosse Pointe Chess Club Tue, 7:30-10:00pm; Downtown Borders, 17141 Kercheval St, North of Cadieux; Tim Kuhn (313) 884-0118 e-mail: timkuhn@yahoo.com

Holly, Calvary Knights Chess Club Sat 2:00-5:00pm; Calvary United Methodist, 15010 North Holly Rd, Holly, MI 48442; David Crutcher (248) 942-4904; e-mail: dcrutche@hotmail.com;
<http://calvaryknights.webs.com/>

Holland Chess Club (interschool scholastic chess club) Sat 9:30-11:00am; Eagle Crest Charter Academy, 11950 Riley St, Holland; David Posthuma (616) 283-7703 davep@echurchessential.com; Website: www.hollandchessclub.com

Jackson Chess Club Thu 7:00pm; Cottage Inn Pizza, 1208 W. Michigan Ave.; Lineas Baze (517) 788-6324 e-mail: zalmon@prodigy.net; *All ages and ratings welcome, from novice to expert. No dues or fees for membership. Rated and unrated games available.*

Kalamazoo Chess Club Sun 3:00pm; Bigby's Coffee Shop, 6800 S. Westnedge Ave., Portage, MI, 49002 Tim McGrew e-mail: timothy.mcgreg@wmich.edu

Kalkaska, Cherry Street Elementary Chess Club; Wed 3:00-4:00pm; Cherry Street Elementary, 315 South Cherry St; Rich Hilts e-mail: wizerman@hughes.net; Website: www.mrhiltsclass.com/chess_club.htm

Kentwood Chess Club; Hours of the bookstore: Mon-Sat 9:00am-10:00pm, Sun 10:00am-7:00pm.. Schuler Books & Music 2660 28th St SE Grand Rapids, MI 49512. It meets in the café area on Tue, Wed, & Fri from 6-10pm. Antowine Jordan e-mail: pilot_cougar_chess@live.com

Lansing Chess Club Wed 6:00 - 10:00 PM; Room 127, LCC Technology and Learning Center, NE corner of Capitol and Shiawassee. Tuesdays, 6:00 - 8:00 PM; Gone Wired Cafe, 2021 East Michigan Ave; David Sundeen (517) 394-8080; Tony Nichols e-mail: sensie48910@yahoo.com;
<http://www.lansingchessclub.blogspot.com>

Livingston County Chess Club Mon 6:00-9:45pm; Hartland Senior Center, 9525 E. Highland Rd (M-59), Howell, MI 48843, ¼-mile west of US-23; Ken Lamb (810)-599-4134; Matt Trujillo (810)-225-3000; Website: <http://www.livingstoncountychessclub.blogspot.com/> Email: livingstoncountychessclub@hotmail.com or lcchess@yahoo.com

Livonia Chess Club Wed 12:00-5:00pm; Senior Citizens Bldg, SE Corner of Five Mile Rd & Farmington Rd; George Geominne; e-mail: geologoe@twmi.rr.com; Bob Mekus (313) 592-1450

Marquette Chess Club Thur 7:00pm; Masonic Building, 128 West Washington St; Tom Hogan (906) 869-1719

Mesick Public Library Chess Club Thu 3:00-5:00pm; 207 North Eugene Street, Mesick, MI 49668; Greg Bailey or Duane Croel (231) 885-2604

Midland Chess Club Mon 7:00pm (Sep-May); Midland High School Rm 245, 1301 Eastlawn; John Warner (989) 839-8290

Muskegon Chess Club Mon & Thur, 7:00 - 10:00 PM; Barnes & Noble Bookstore (in cafeteria), 5275 Harvey St., Muskegon, MI; Steve Dumas (231) 798-2968 e-mail: stevedumas1@comcast.net; *Minimum age: 10*

Oak Park Chess Club Thu 6:30-10:30pm; Oak Park Community Center, 14300 Oak Park Blvd. (9.5 Mile, west of Coolidge) (248) 691-7555

Petoskey Chess Club Tue 7:00-10:00pm; Horizon Books, 319 E. Mitchell St., Petoskey; Dave Mitchell (231) 548-1478

Port Huron Chess Club Thu 6:30-10:00pm (except holidays); Palmer Park Recreation Center, 2829 Armour St, Port Huron, 48460; Lon Rutkofske (810) 388-9219 e-mail: ishking@aol.com; Website: <http://porthuronchessclub.yolasite.com/>

Redford Chess Club Fri 2:30-4:30pm; Thurston High School, 26255 Schoolcraft; Eric Nelson (313) 535-4000 x1110 e-mail: nelson01@southredford.net

Saint Clair Saturday Chess Club Sat 9:00am-12:00pm Burger King, Corner of Clinton and River Rd; Jaime Chan (810) 326-3745 e-mail: jaime@saturdaychess.com; Website: www.saturdaychess.com

Saint Joseph Chess Club Wed 6:00-8:00pm; Saint Joseph Public Library, 500 Market St; Tony Palmer (269) 982-5128

Sault Ste. Marie, Sugar Island Chess Klub Thu 7:00pm; Hilltop Bar, 5389 E 1 1/2 Mile Road, Sugar Island; Glen Schmiede (906) 635-5791, e-mail: gschmiede@nodinwifi.com

South Bend Chess Club (Indiana) Thu 7:00-10:00pm; Meijer Store, 5020 Grape Rd, Mishawaka, IN ~4 Miles south of State line. Grape Rd 1/4 Mile South of Douglas Rd. Roger Blaine (574) 257-9033; e-mail: reblaine@hotmail.com

Spring Lake District Youth Chess Club (Ages 8-18) 2nd Mon 4:00-5:30pm; Spring Lake District Library, 123 E. Exchange St; Lisa Donner: (616) 846-5770 x107

Troy Chess Club (casual chess) Thur 6:30-10:15pm; Troy Community Center, 3179 Livernois Ave., Troy (248) 524-3484 (I-75 exit 69, east on

Big Beaver Rd 1/4 mile to Livernois. U-turn. 1 Block N of Big Beaver, W. of Livernois.) Don Mailing: (248) 391-2940

Troy Youth All-Star Chess Club Sat 3:00-5:00pm; Troy Community Center -3179 Livernois Rd, Troy, MI 48083. The club is open to any K-12 students who are interested in improving his/her chess skills. Come in and have fun! Club information:

<http://games.groups.yahoo.com/group/TYASCC/>. Feng Zhong, xyzf99@yahoo.com (248) 825-6192. Chris Hausner, chausner_mi@yahoo.com (313) 575-5617

Traverse City Chess Club Wed 6:00-11:00pm; Horizon Books, 243 E Front St, Traverse City; Joe Revnell (231) 633-1323

Universal Chess Club Mon-Sat 12:00-6:00pm, Sun 12:00-5:00pm; 27170 Dequindre (just north of 11 mile in Parkview Square strip Mall, around back); Ed Mandell (586) 558-4790

e-mail: allthekingsmench@aol.com; Website: www.allthekingsmenchess.com; *All Ages/strengths welcome! Sets provided; clocks for rent. Snacks & beverages are available for purchase*

Michigan Chess Tournament Calendar

December 2014 / January 2015

Online Registration for MCA Events:

<https://www.onlineregistration.cc>

Online MCA Membership Join or Renewals:

<https://onlineregistration.cc/memberships/MCA/index.php>

Online Payments Accepted, Instant Feedback of Registration/Membership.

MCA recommends purchasing membership through our new online system prior to attending local events to avoiding processing delays.

All events require USCF and MCA memberships, and are No Smoking, No Computers unless otherwise stated. Memberships can be purchased at any tournament. Other state memberships are acceptable for non-Michigan residents. Please send your tournament announcements via e-mail to jeffchess@charter.net.

PLEASE NOTE! Events listed are a service of MCA. MCA is in no way responsible for cancellations or changes. Be sure to always contact your organizer! Website @ <http://www.michess.org>

DECEMBER TOURNAMENTS:

Dec 1 – Dec 22 UNIVERSAL MONTH-LONG SWISS

All The King's Men Chess Supplies and Brain Games in the Parkview Square Strip Mall, 27170 Dequindre Rd, Warren, MI 48092. **4-SS.** One Rd each Mon night. **TL:** G/90;d5. **Rds:** 6:15pm each week. **EF:** \$25. **Reg:** 4:30-5:30pm. **\$\$:** 70% of Entries. **Ent/Info:** Dr. Ed Mandell, (586) 558-4790. Email: allthekingsmench@aol.com, www.allthekingsmenchess.com

Dec 6 Thinkers Challenge #2

Adoba Hotel-Dearborn, 600 Town Center Drive, Dearborn, MI 48126. **4-SS.** LUNCH: Concessions available on site. SUPERVISION: All children must have adult supervision. TDs will supervise playing area. Divisions: Unrated K-1, 2-3, 4-7 Rated: U600, U900, U1100, U1400, Open (Current USCF memb reqd. **TL:** G/45; d0. **Rds:** 1st Rd 9am, Finish 4pm. **EF:** \$20. **Reg:** weplaychess.webs.com. Mail certified money orders to: Tom Nelson, 7354 S Quince Court, Centennial, CO 80112. **Reg** 9pm Thu before a tourney. **\$\$:** Trophies to Top Five each scholastic div. **Ent/Info:** Tom Nelson (303) 880-4332 or weplaychess@comcast.net

Dec 7 Lansing Mini-Swiss

Lansing Community College, Room 310, 422 North Washington Square, Lansing, MI 48933. **3-SS.** Sections of 8 by rtg. **Reg:** 9-9:45pm **Rds:** 10am-1:30pm-4:30pm. **EF:** \$21 **TL:** G/85;d5. **\$\$:** 1st \$74, 2nd \$48 each sect; 3-0 = \$100. **Ent/Info:** Tony Nichols, sensie48910@yahoo.com, 517-394-3676

Dec 9 Genesee County C.C. Action Quads

Eastside Senior Citizens Center Activity Room. 3065 N. Genesee Rd, Flint. **3-RR,** Sect of 4 by Rtg, **TL:** G/25;d5. **Rds:** 6:30-7:30-8:30pm. **EF:** \$5 **REG:** 6-6:25pm **\$\$:** \$15/Quad. **Ent&Info:** Jeff Aldrich, (810) 955-7271, jeffchess@charter.net

Dec 12-14 PALMER LAKE OPEN

Palmer Lake Lodges, 59270 S Burr Oak Rd, Colon MI 49040. **6-SS.** Half-point byes avail all rounds, req before reg ends. R1 byes not reflect to the cost of the tourney package. **TL:** G/115;d5 **Rds:** Fri 7pm, Sat.

10am-2:30pm-7pm, Sun 10am-2:30pm. **EF:** \$150 per person: Includes 2-nights lodging, 6 meals, & tourney entry fee. **Reg:** Must pre-register; no on-site registrations. **Check-In:** Fri 3-6pm. **\$\$:** \$300-\$200-\$100 (b/24): **Ent/Info:** www.intecsus.org, e-mail: intecsus@yahoo.com, 785-906-0402; CC payments: 773-816-8928.

Dec 13 ★★ 2014 MICHIGAN ACTION CHAMPIONSHIP

Ann Arbor, *See Page 25 for Details*

Dec 14 Troy Youth All-Star CC Action Quads

Troy Public Library, 510 W. Big Beaver. Troy, MI 48084. **3-SS.** **Reg:** 1pm for Payment. Advance only via e-mail/text. NO on-site registrations. **Rds:** 1:30-2:30-2:30. **EF:** \$5 by 12/12, \$10 on 12/13 **TL:** G/30 (G/25;d5). **\$\$:** 1st \$10, 2nd \$6 each quad. **Ent/Info:** TYASCC-owner@yahoogroups.com.

JANUARY 2015 TOURNAMENTS:

Jan 5 – Jan 26 UNIVERSAL MONTH-LONG SWISS

See Dec 1-22 Event for Details

Jan 10-11 ★★ 2015 MICHIGAN MASTER/EXPERT & CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS ★★

Radisson Hotel Lansing, 111 N. Grand Ave, Lansing, MI 48933. (517) 482-0188, \$104.95+tax by 1/2/15, after if space available. Be sure to mention MCA. Visit www.radisson.com/lansingmi - Promotional Code CHES15. Let us know if you are staying at the hotel. **5-SS** 8 Sections - 8 State Championship Titles!! Master/Expert, A, B, C, D, E (U1200) & Novice (Sat) / Fun Swiss (Sun): Both U1000/Unrated. **Class Sections:** **RDS:** Sat: 10-2:30-7, Sun: 10-2:30. **TL:** G/110;d5. **Novice/Fun Swiss:** **RDS:** 10-11:30-1:30-3-4:30. **TL:** G/30;d5. **Ent/Info:** Jeff Aldrich, P.O. Box 40, Flint, MI 48501, E-mail: jeffchess@charter.net, (810) 955-7271. **REG:** Online: <https://onlineregistration.cc/>. On-Site: Sat: 8-9am, Fun Swiss: Sun 8:30-9:30am. **EF:** Advance entries must be paid by 1/8. ALL paid after 1/8 will be \$10 more. M/X \$45 (U18 \$5 off) by 1/8 (Free to GM/IM/FM/2200+, Advance EF deducted from prize); A,B,C,D,E \$42 (U18 \$5 off); Novice: \$25 by 1/9; Fun Swiss \$15. **\$\$:** \$2850 GTD. M/X: \$300-\$200, X \$230, U2100 \$120. A,B,C,D,E: \$180-\$120, U1900/U1700/U1500/U1300/U1100 \$100. Novice/Fun Swiss: Trophy to Top 5 overall, Top U800, Top U700, Top U600, 1st Unrated. **State Champions** (Top Michigan Resident): Master/Expert, Expert, and Each Class plus Novice. Trophies for all place-winners listed above.

Jan 17 Thinkers Challenge #3

Horatio Williams Foundation, 1010 Antietam Ave, Detroit, MI 48207. *See Dec 6 Event for other Details*

PLAN AHEAD CALENDAR:

Feb 7 ★★ 2014 MICHIGAN ELEMENTARY TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS Dearborn *See Page 16 for Details*

Feb 28 ★★ 2014 MICHIGAN JUNIOR HIGH TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS Rochester *See Page 16 for Details*

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2015 MICHIGAN MASTER/EXPERT & CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR EIGHT STATE CHAMPION CLASS TITLES!

Lansing, January 10-11, 2015

SITE:	Radisson Hotel Lansing, 111 N. Grand Avenue (near the State Capitol in Downtown Lansing), (517) 482-0188
DIRECTIONS:	From East: I-496 to Grand Ave (Exit 7A), Right on Grand Ave. From West: I-496 to Pine/Walnut Streets (Exit 6), Left on Grand Ave.
ROOM RATE	\$104.95 + tax by January 2, 2015, after if space available. www.radisson.com/lansingmi - Promotion Code: CHES15 <i>Let us know if you are staying at the hotel for the tournament.</i>
8 SECTIONS:	Master/Expert (FIDE Rated), A, B, C, D, E (U1200) Novice (Sat)/Fun Swiss (Sun): U1000/Unrated, 1-Day Each
MEMBERSHIPS:	Must be a member of the US Chess Federation & Michigan Chess Association. (Members of other state associations OK)
CLASS ELIGIBILITY:	The most recent USCF rating supplement will be used for determining ratings. Players must play in the class in which their rating indicates. Unrated players must play in the Novice section. Players may request to play up in class (or unrated players may request being seeded into a class) if their recent tournament history shows achievement into that class. The tournament director must approve all requests and will assign a rating to the player within the rating window of that class.
ADVANCE ENTRY FEES:	M/X: \$45 (U18 \$5 off), Free entry to GM, IM, FM, & 2200+, adv entry fee deducted from prize A, B, C, D, E: \$42 (U18 \$5 off), Novice: \$25; Advance entries must be paid by January 8. ALL entry fees paid after January 8 will be \$10 more. Fun Swiss: \$15
ADVANCE REGISTRATION:	Online: https://onlineregistration.cc/ Jeff Aldrich (TD), P.O. Box 40, Flint, MI 48501; Make Checks Payable to MCA . jeffchess@charter.net ; (810) 955-7271
ON-SITE REGISTRATION:	Saturday: 8:00-9:00am Fun Swiss: 8:30-9:30am
ROUNDS:	M/X, Class Sections: Sat 10am, 2:30pm, 7 pm; Sun 10am, 2:30pm Novice/Fun Swiss: 10am, 11:30am, 1:30pm, 3pm, 4:30pm
TIME CONTROL:	M/X, Class Sections: G/110;d5 Novice/Fun Swiss: G/30;d5

\$2850 GUARANTEED PRIZE FUND

Master/Expert (GPP 10): 1st \$300, 2nd \$200; **Expert:** \$230 **U2100:** \$120

Class A, B, C, D, E: 1st \$180, 2nd \$120; **U1900/U1700/U1500/U1300/U1100:** \$100

Novice/Fun Swiss: Trophies to Top 5 Overall, Top U800, Top U700, Top U600, Top Unrated.

State Champions (Top Michigan Resident): Master/Expert, Expert, and Each Class plus Novice. Trophies for all place-winners listed above.