MICHIGAN CHESS

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First Step

Congratulations to Seth Homa on earning his first IM norm. He did this at the Golden State Open in California and shares all his games from that event with us.

April - May 2013

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Michigan's Top 100

March 2013 USCF Rating List

(From USCF Website, Regular Rated within Last Year)

Rank	Player	Rating	Rank	Player	Rating
1	FM Atulya Shetty	2438	51	Barry Endsley	2000
2	Aaron E Kahn	2390	52	William Rhee	2000
3	FM Seth Homa	2389	53	Reynaldo Santiago	2000
4	Jiaxu Ye	2345	54	Loyd Gentry	1993
5	Leonid Strugach	2289	55	Peter Chen	1991
6	Safal Bora	2247	56	Gary Pratt	1990
7	FM David Sprenkle	2245	57	Jacob Fortuna	1975
8	Michael Bowersock	2245	58	Bronson Gentry	1972
9	Eric Fischvogt	2224	59	Joseph Paris	1963
10	Kevin Czuhai	2216	60	Jennifer Skidmore	1960
11	Edward Song	2206	61	Manmohan Das	1951
12	Kevin Noren	2201	62	Justin Chen	1945
13	John Brooks	2200	63	Michael A Smith	1942
14	Thomas Hartwig	2191	64	Gregory Bailey	1935
15	Ariel Levi	2186	65	Joel Halloran	1932
16	Ameer Ghobrial	2180	66	Ashley Carter	1929
17	Alisher Sanetullaev	2164	67	Phil Roe	1925
18	Michael Chen	2154	68	Zoran Stojanovski	1923
19	Robert O'Donnell	2152	69	James Sawaski	1919
20	Eugene Brumley Jr	2145	70	Allen Wickering	1917
21	FM Andrew Hubbard	2143	71	Duane Croel	1915
22	Jalen Wang	2136	72	Gene Hickey	1913
23	Evgeniy Khain	2129	73	Ben Li	1913
24	Jason Whitten	2127	74	Kevin Jackson Sr	1908
25	Anthony Nichols	2110	75	Tony West	1905
26	David Hahn	2107	76	Daniel Libby	1903
27	Howard Bromberg	2105	77	Kyle Webster	1903
28	Ratko Bojanovic	2105	78	Justin Brown	1901
29	Matthew Sellers	2101	79	Stanley Jarosz Jr	1900
30	Manis Davidovich	2100	80	Don Vandivier	1890
31	Robert Ciaffone	2100	81	Ronald Williams	1888
32	Cornel Ferenti	2077	82	Kameron Tolliver	1884
33	Tony Palmer	2074	83	Michael R Smith	1881
34	Epiphany Peters	2073	84	Tom Manion	1880
35	Alex Strugach	2066	85	Mandy Lu	1870
36	Apurva Virkud	2063	86	Raymond Garrison	1869
37	Martijn Otten	2057	87	Gary Robinson	1865
38	Bradley Rogers	2055	88	Michael Dang	1861
39	Alexander Deatrick	2034	89	Thomas Triplett	1858
40	Salah Chehayeb	2031	90	Joshua Posthuma	1858
41	Andrew Catlin	2029	91	Rob Drake	1856
42	Benjamin Brandt	2024	92	Gary Kitts	1855
43	Eric Larson	2022	93	Michael Marson	1855
44	Leyun Wang	2020	94	Bryan Wilson	1854
45	Morgan Everett	2016	95	Mengshuang Li	1853
46	Andrew Konishi	2016	96	Stewart Wilkinson	1840
47	Jeff Aldrich	2009	97	Thomas LaForge	1833
48	Alan Gregg	2002	98	Douglas Fick	1832
49	Ron Finegold	2000	99	Lonnie Rutkofske	1831
50	John Drexel	2000	100	Binu Gerald	1826

Current Michigan Champions

2012 Michigan Open	Atulya Shetty
2012 Michigan Open Reserve	Lawrence Yuhas
2012 Michigan Open Booster	Jason Zheng
2012 Michigan Amateur	Jennifer Skidmore
2013 Master/Expert Champion	Andrew Hubbard
2013 Expert Champion	Thomas Hartwig
2013 Class A Champion	Michael A Smith
2013 Class B Champion	Joshua Posthuma
2013 Class C Champion	Scott Faust
2013 Class D Champion	Sasha Konovalenko
2013 Class E Champion	Adam DeHollander
2013 Novice Champion	Daniel Tressel
2012 Bottom-Half Class Over 1900	David Sprinkle
2012 Bottom-Half Class U1900	Mandy Lu
2012 Bottom-Half Class U1700	Loren Schwiebert
2012 Bottom-Half Class U1500	David Meyer
2012 Bottom-Half Class U1300	Alex White
2012 Bottom-Half Class U1100	Leigh Ziegler
2012 Michigan Action	Bogdan Vioreanu
2012 Michigan Quick	Atulya Shetty
2012 Michigan Speed	Atulya Shetty
2012 Senior Champion	Morgan Everett
2012 Senior Reserve Champion	Alan Kaufman
2011 Michigan Correspondence	Barry Endsley Eric Fischvogt
2012 Michigan Women's	Jennifer Skidmore
2012 Michigan Women's Reserve	Anna Sun
2012 Primary K-3 Team	Redford Washington Parks F
2012 Primary K-3 Team Reserve	Detroit F.L.I.C.S. A
2012 Elementary K-5 Team	Redford Washington Parks B
2012 Elementary K-5 Team Reserve	Redford Washington Parks D
2012 Elementary K-6 Team	Ann Arbor Clague Capablanca
2012 Junior High K-9 Team	Ann Arbor Greenhills A
2012 Junior High K-9 Team Reserve	Redford Washington Parks F
2012 High School 9-12 Team	Ann Arbor Skyline
2012 High School K-12 Team Reserve	Byron
2012 Michigan Junior	Atulya Shetty
2012 Michigan Young Junior	Jalen Wang
2012 Michigan Young Junior Reserve	Luke Hawver Daniel Khain
2012 Michigan Children's	Ben Li Harrison He
2012 Michigan Children's Reserve	Anirban Sarkar
2012 Michigan Young Children's	Justin Liang
2012 Michigan Young Children's Reserve	Thomas Brown
2012 Michigan Collegiate	Nitai Leve
2012 Scholastic Club K-12 Team	Ann Arbor Huron
2012 Scholastic Club K-12 Individual	Jalen Wang
2012 Scholastic Club K-8 Team	Troy All-Stars
2012 Scholastic Club K-8 Individual	Ben Li Daniel Motoc
2012 Scholastic Club K-5 Team	Troy All-Stars
2012 Scholastic Club K-5 Individual	Brian Wilson Jr Josiah Smith
2012 Scholastic Club K-3 Team	J-FORCE Roeper Rough Riders
2012 Scholastic Club K-3 Individual	Anthony Liao Aiden Song Justin Sui

From the Editor's Desk

Seth Homa's IM norm event was the same weekend as our Michigan Master/Expert and Class Championships, so you won't find Seth there, but you will find plenty of coverage of the 2013 Class in this issue as well. We also cover the 2012 Scholastic Club Championship from last November.

Looking ahead, our next issue will focus on the Scholastic Team events from February. Often times, we won't get pictures of the full team that won a trophy. If you have complete team photos to share, send your pictures to michessmag@gmail.com.

To spread things out, the Michigan Junior events from March will show up in the July/August issue along with coverage of the Michigan Amateur (see the Back Page so you can play in it).

Always remember that this is your magazine, I just put it together.

In addition, many thanks to the following individuals for their contributions to this issue:

Andy Catlin
Thomas Hartwig
Douglas Fick
Joshua Posthuma
Jennifer Skidmore
Apurva Virkud
Jacob Fortuna
Scott Faust
Michael Bowersock
Michael Smith
Seth Homa

Editor, Jeff Aldrich

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by Alexander Maryanovsky

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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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You can connect with the Michigan Chess Association on Facebook™! Just search for "Michigan Chess Association" and Like MCA! It's that simple!

2013 MICHIGAN MASTER/EXPERT & CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2013 Michigan Master/Expert & Class Championships were held at the Radisson Lansing Hotel in downtown Lansing for the 8th consecutive year. 166 players attended the event. For the first time, the Novice section was held as a one day event on Saturday only. Jeff Aldrich +was the tournament director.

Prize Winners and Crosstables

2013 Michigan Master/Expert Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1	Andrew Hubbard	2107	W7	W2	W9	D6	D3	4.0
2	Safal Bora	2200	W15	L1	W7	W10	W6	4.0
3	Thomas Hartwig	2175	W13	W14	½	W4	D1	4.0
4	Awonder Liang	2093	W8	W19	½	L3	W9	3.5
5	Maggie Feng	2000	D9	W20	L6	WF	W11	3.5
6	Edward Song	2209	W16	D10	W5	D1	L2	3.0
7	John Dowling	2000	L1	Bye	L2	W18	W14	3.0
8	Michael Bowersock	2227	L4	½	W14	D11	W15	3.0
9	Manis Davidovich	2094	D5	W21	L1	W12	L4	2.5
10	Steven Cooklev	2144	W12	D6	½	L2	D13	2.5
11	Anthony Nichols	2109	D21	D17	W19	D8	L5	2.5
12	Benjamin Brandt	2011	L10	D18	W22	L9	W19	2.5
13	Andrew Catlin	2022	L3	D16	½	W20	D10	2.5
14	Vladimir Drkulec	2051	W22	L3	L8	W21	L7	2.0
15	Apurva Virkud	2025	L2	D22	W16	D17	L8	2.0
16	Tony Palmer	2092	L6	D13	L15	Bye	D18	2.0
17	Jason Whitten	2132	D20	D11	½	D15	---	2.0
18	Alan Gregg	2027	L19	D12	D20	L7	D16	1.5
19	Kevin Czuhai	2200	W18	L4	L11	LF	L12	1.0
20	Morgan Everett	2010	D17	L5	D18	L13	---	1.0
21	Gary Pratt	2002	D11	L9	½	L14	---	1.0
22	Kevin Noren	2203	L14	D15	L12	---	---	0.5

Master/Expert Champion:
Andrew Hubbard

Expert Champion
Thomas Hartwig

Master/Expert 2nd Place
Safal Bora

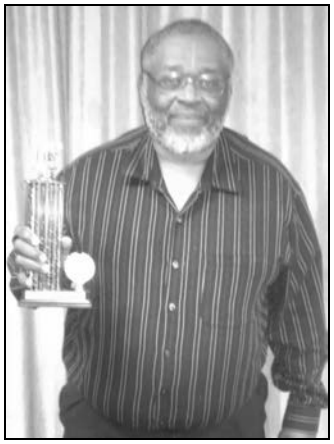
Master/Expert 1st U2100:
Awonder Liang

2013 Michigan Class A Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1	Michael Smith	1882	W5	W13	D2	D4	W9	4.0
2	William Rhee	1982	W18	W11	D1	D5	W6	4.0
3	Jennifer Skidmore	1948	L6	W10	W7	W8	W4	4.0
4	Ben Li	1901	W10	W6	W8	D1	L3	3.5
5	Jacob Fortuna	1962	L1	W19	W9	D2	W13	3.5
6	Ronald Williams	1872	W3	L4	W17	W13	L2	3.0
7	Stanley Jarosz Jr	1900	W17	L8	L3	W18	W14	3.0
8	Evan Hawver	1800	Bye	W7	L4	L3	D15	2.5
9	Gregory Bailey	1948	D14	W15	L5	W12	L1	2.5
10	Frederick Kung	1817	L4	L3	WF	W17	D11	2.5
11	Adream Liang	1885	W15	L2	½	D14	D10	2.5
12	Lonnie Rutkofske	1825	W16	L14	½	L9	W17	2.5
13	Tom Manion	1913	W19	L1	W14	L6	L5	2.0
14	Thomas Triplett	1865	D9	W12	L13	D11	L7	2.0
15	Manmohan Das	1970	L11	L9	1/2	W16	D8	2.0
16	Kyle Webster	1937	L12	1/2	L18	L15	Bye	1.5
17	Michael Skidmore	1800	L7	W18	L6	L10	L12	1.0
18	Kevin Jackson Sr	1890	L2	L17	W16	L7	---	1.0
19	Robert Bemben	1819	L13	L5	LF	---	---	0.0

Class A Champion:
Michael A Smith

Class A: 2nd Place
William Rhee



Class A: 1st U1900
Ronald Williams

Jennifer Skidmore also tied for first place in Class A.

This Photo and Photo of Thomas Hartwig Courtesy of Jacob Fortuna

2013 Michigan Class B Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1	Joshua Posthuma	1777	W11	W8	W4	W2	W3	5.0
2	Andrew Schremser	1643	W12	W14	W5	L1	W4	4.0
3	Isaac Zylstra	1737	W16	W13	½	W10	L1	3.5
4	Stan Beckwith	1704	W7	W9	L1	W6	L2	3.0
5	Chris Schmidt	1771	L8	W15	L2	W16	W7	3.0
6	Glen Schmiege	1728	D15	D7	W9	L4	W10	3.0
7	Richard Glew	1792	L4	D6	W15	W13	L5	2.5
8	Jeff Futrell	1675	W5	L1	L14	D11	W16	2.5
9	Timothy P Johnson	1616	Bye	L4	L6	W12	D11	2.5
10	Brandon O'Neil	1731	L13	W17	W16	L3	L6	2.0
11	Kenneth Tack	1690	L1	L12	Bye	D8	D9	2.0
12	Justin Aldrich	1739	L2	W11	L13	L9	Bye	2.0
13	Nathan Metcalf	1619	W10	L3	W12	L7	---	2.0
14	Krishna Venkatasubba	1742	W17	L2	W8	---	---	2.0
15	Richard Wilson	1617	D6	L5	L7	Bye	---	1.5
16	John Smalec	1622	L3	Bye	L10	L5	L8	1.0
17	Kwame Hooker	1675	L14	L10	---	---	---	0.0

Class B Champion:
Joshua Posthuma

Class B: 2nd Place
Andrew Schremser

2013 Michigan Class C Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1	Rachel Tao	1489	W30	W32	D2	W9	D3	4.0
2	Scott Faust	1562	W29	W18	D1	D3	W8	4.0
3	Nick Schwerin	1479	W21	W27	W12	D2	D1	4.0
4	Justin Jacqmain	1495	D7	W28	D9	W22	D5	3.5
5	Melissa Lee	1547	D20	D22	W13	W12	D4	3.5
6	John Brauker	1531	L13	W26	W16	W24	D10	3.5
7	Lily Zhou	1407	D4	D30	D18	W19	W21	3.5
8	Mike Nikitin	1512	D28	W20	W10	D11	L2	3.0
9	Vince Valente	1559	D22	W14	D4	L1	W24	3.0
10	Christopher Hausner	1411	W31	D11	L8	W18	D6	3.0
11	Noel Bedy	1501	W17	D10	W19	D8	---	3.0
12	Zhehai Zhang	1489	W15	W23	L3	L5	D16	2.5
13	Surya Parasuraman	1417	W6	L19	L5	D15	W30	2.5
14	Austin Ye	1462	D19	L9	D21	D23	W27	2.5
15	David Meyer	1597	L12	LF	W28	D13	W20	2.5
16	Erica Forshaw	1409	L18	W29	L6	W31	D12	2.5
17	Marilyn Smith	1409	L11	W31	W27	D20	---	2.5
18	Jacob Brasseur	1501	W16	L2	D7	L10	D19	2.0
19	Soumya Kulkarni	1564	D14	W13	L11	L7	D18	2.0
20	Michael Pappas	1427	D5	L8	W30	D17	L15	2.0
21	Mark Servinsky	1574	L3	D25	D14	W26	L7	2.0
22	Nathan Wood	1440	D9	D5	W23	L4	---	2.0
23	Zachary Johnson	1549	W24	L12	L22	D14	D25	2.0
24	J.R. Udvadia	1431	L23	WF	W32	L6	L9	2.0
25	Ayush Das	1425	L32	D21	1/2	D27	D23	2.0
26	Frank Lee	1417	L27	L6	Bye	L21	W31	2.0
27	William Ignasiak	1525	W26	L3	L17	D25	L14	1.5
28	Karthik Vuyyuru	1412	D8	L4	L15	D30	D29	1.5
29	Karthik Baskaran	1444	L2	L16	L31	Bye	D28	1.5
30	Sam Costanzo	1574	L1	D7	L20	D28	L13	1.0
31	Vijay Sriram	1505	L10	L17	W29	L16	L26	1.0
32	Eugene McClure	1547	W25	L1	L24	---	---	1.0

Class C: 1st Place
Rachel Tao

Class C: 2nd Place / MI Champ
Scott Faust

Class C 1st U1500
Nick Schwerin

2013 Michigan Class D Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1	Rohan Talukdar	1347	W18	W5	W3	W4	L2	4.0
2	Sasha Konovalenko	1276	L3	W20	W15	W7	W1	4.0
3	Dan Holt	1388	W2	W19	L1	D8	W6	3.5
4	Douglas Reist	1318	D17	W12	W7	L1	W10	3.5
5	Nickolas Jennings	1344	W9	L1	L6	W16	W8	3.0
6	Alex Strobehn	1258	L7	W18	W5	W13	L3	3.0

7	Justin Liang	1329	W6	W14	L4	L2	D12	2.5
8	Jose Ybarra	1285	D14	W10	1/2	D3	L5	2.5
9	Jeannie Zhang	1264	L5	W16	W19	L10	D11	2.5
10	Jacob Crandell	1330	D15	L8	W20	W9	L4	2.5
11	Adam Waller	1324	D20	D15	D13	D14	D9	2.5
12	Robert Shibata	1297	1/2	L4	D14	W15	D7	2.5
13	James Lemon	1303	1/2	W17	D11	L6	D14	2.5
14	Jason Ye	1397	D8	L7	D12	D11	D13	2.0
15	John Ryskamp	1261	D10	D11	L2	L12	Bye	2.0
16	Nicholas Konovalenko	1200	L19	L9	Bye	L5	W17	2.0
17	Paul Mills Jr	1206	D4	L13	L18	Bye	L16	1.5
18	Andrew Campbell	1266	L1	L6	W17	---	---	1.0
19	Evgeny Epshtein	1300	W16	L3	L9	---	---	1.0
20	Ed Mandell	1229	D11	L2	L10	---	---	0.5

Class D: 1st Place
Rohan Talukdar

Class D: 2nd Place / MI Champ
Sasha Konovalenko

Class D: 1st U1300
Alex Strobehn

2013 Michigan Class E Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1	Adam DeHollander	1120	W6	W5	W11	W2	D3	4.5
2	Adam Gaisinsky	1020	W9	W3	W10	L1	D5	3.5
3	Charles Cassidy	1120	W7	L2	W16	W10	D1	3.5
4	Akash Narayanan	1152	D13	D18	W17	D5	W9	3.5
5	Donald Jones	1199	W14	L1	W12	D4	D2	3.0
6	Christian Hausner	1043	L1	D8	W13	D7	W10	3.0
7	Greg Brazee	1037	L3	W14	D18	D6	W12	3.0
8	Theodore Gregg	1014	L12	D6	½	W16	W11	3.0
9	Mario Arnson	1116	L2	W13	½	W11	L4	2.5
10	Saano Murembya	1188	W17	W12	L2	L3	L6	2.0
11	You Zhou	1082	W18	W16	L1	L9	L8	2.0
12	Joshua Vander Meulen	1087	W8	L10	L5	W17	L7	2.0
13	Ellen Tao	1046	D4	L9	L6	W15	D16	2.0
14	Ken Lambdin	1083	L5	L7	L15	Bye	W17	2.0
15	Jack Li	850	L16	L17	W14	L13	Bye	2.0
16	Connor Linn	1187	W15	L11	L3	L8	D13	1.5
17	Tim D Johnson	1052	L10	W15	L4	L12	L14	1.0
18	Nick Applebee	1188	L11	D4	D7	---	---	1.0

Class E: Champion
Adam DeHollander

Class E: 2nd Place
Adam Gaisinsky

2013 Michigan Novice Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1	Daniel Tressel	Unr	W11	W6	W18	W2	W4	5.0
2	Thomas Hosmer	Unr	W7	W23	W15	L1	W14	4.0
3	Daniel Khain	948	W13	W29	W5	L8	W10	4.0
4	Robby Riles	921	W27	W16	W22	W9	L1	4.0
5	Preston Johnson	776	W28	W20	L3	W12	W9	4.0
6	Arjun Bajaj	783	W21	L1	W25	W24	W8	4.0
7	Alexander Bemben	484	L2	W37	D20	W13	W23	3.5
8	Ian McDowell	957	W30	L22	W16	W3	L6	3.0
9	Christian Duran	978	WF	W26	W14	L4	L5	3.0
10	Noah DeHollander	Unr	W25	L15	W17	W23	L3	3.0
11	Emmanuel Richardson	598	L1	W34	W28	L15	W25	3.0
12	Derek Waldron	Unr	W17	L14	W29	L5	W26	3.0
13	Steven Fu	311	L3	W32	W26	L7	W22	3.0
14	Bryce Richardson	795	W35	W12	L9	W22	L2	3.0
15	Luke Hawver	859	W31	W10	L2	W11	---	3.0
16	Michael Aldrich	464	W38	L4	L8	W28	W21	3.0
17	Charlie Reese	541	L12	W33	L10	W35	W27	3.0
18	Ryan Hawver	799	W34	W24	L1	W21	---	3.0
19	Justin Homister	509	L20	W38	L21	W34	W24	3.0
20	Walter Linn	Unr	W19	L5	D7	L26	W33	2.5
21	John Ristich	Unr	L6	W30	W19	L18	L16	2.0
22	Jack Smith	570	W36	W8	L4	L14	L13	2.0
23	Julius Allbee	777	W33	L2	W27	L10	L7	2.0
24	Khushi Afre	262	WF	L18	W30	L6	L19	2.0
25	Agniva Bhaumik	462	L10	W35	L6	W31	L11	2.0
26	Aravinda Kalimi	673	W37	L9	L13	W20	L12	2.0
27	Luke Hausner	310	L4	W36	L23	W29	L17	2.0
28	Aaron Gauthier	Unr	L5	W31	L11	L16	W37	2.0
29	Caden Che	581	W32	L3	L12	L27	W35	2.0
30	Christopher Gauthier	333	L8	L21	L24	W37	W34	2.0
31	Savonna Richardson	129	L15	L28	W36	L25	D32	1.5
32	Bryce Lapham	Unr	L29	L13	L34	W36	D31	1.5
33	Arthi Narayanan	110	L23	L17	D37	W38	L20	1.5
34	Aryan Afre	113	L18	L11	W32	L19	L30	1.0
35	Benjamin Gauthier	Unr	L14	L25	W38	L17	L29	1.0
36	Robin Ray	Unr	L22	L27	L31	L32	W38	1.0
37	Samuel Colson	Unr	L26	L7	D33	L30	L28	0.5
38	Adele Colson	Unr	L16	L19	L35	L33	L36	0.0

Novice: Champion
Daniel Tressel

Novice: 2nd Place
Thomas Hosmer

Novice: 1st U700
Alexander Bemben

Novice: 1st U600
Emmanuel Richardson

Novice: 3rd Place
Daniel Khain

Novice: 4th Place
Robby Riles

Novice: 1st Unrated
Noah DeHollander

Novice: 5th Place
Preston Johnson

Novice: 1st U800
Arjun Bajaj

Greg Bailey & David Meyer work on some post-game analysis.
Photo courtesy of Jacob Fortuna

Thomas Hartwig (2175)
Andy Catlin (2022)
Michigan Master/Expert (1)
January 2013
Dutch, A84
Notes by Thomas Hartwig

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Qc2
This move is a small subtlety with the point of leaving open the option to respond to the Stonewall with a system involving the moves Bf4, Nc3, etc. The other point is that I wanted to defer Nc3 unless my opponent commits to the Stonewall. This way I can meet lines with ...Bb4+, with simply Bd2 as in the game. 4.Nc3 Bb4

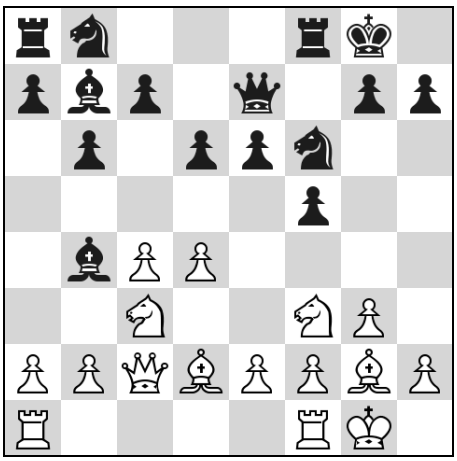
4...b6
4...d5 5.Nc3 c6 6.Bf4 Be7 7.e3 0–0 8.Bd3 Ne4 9.g4
5.g3 Bb7 6.Bg2 Bb4+ 7.Bd2 Qe7 8.0–0 0–0
I had expected Black to throw in an exchange on d2 here. 8...Be4 9.Qb3; 8...Bxd2 9.Nbxd2 0–0 10.d5!?

9.Nc3

Before playing this move I sank into thought. Black's position didn't look right to me because I ought to be able to play something like 9.Bg5 or 9.Bf4 leaving his bishop flapping in the breeze. I finally decided that I couldn't find any advantage there, so I played the game move. Unfortunately, I miscalculated something because I thought that the line 9...Bxc3 10.Bxc3 Ne4 11.Nd2 would be winning for White when I chose this move. 9.Bg5 h6 10.Bf4 Bd6 11.Bxd6 cxd6÷; 9.Bf4 Bd6÷; 9.Bc1!? Be4 10.Qd1 Nc6 11.a3 Bd6 12.Nc3 a5 13.Bg5±

9...d6!?

This was another surprise for me, because now after I play 10.d5, he has created some serious light squared weaknesses. Especially there are some lines where the square e6 can be juicy for a knight, for example. A better move was 9...Bxc3, although the positions arising in the game after 9...d6 10.d5 are still quite difficult to analyze correctly so I can't call this a definite mistake. 9...Bxc3 10.Bxc3 Be4 (10...Ne4 11.Be1 *(11.Nd2 Nxc3 12.Bxb7?? Nxe2+ 13.Kg2 Nxd4)* 11...Nc6 12.e3±) 11.Qb3±



10.d5! Bxc3

The immediate 10...exd5 needed to be considered but White is at least OK there. 10...exd5 11.Nxd5 (11.Nd4!? Bxc3! 12.Nxf5! *(12.Bxc3 Ne4!)* 12...Qxe2 13.Qxc3*ƒ*) 11...Nxd5 12.cxd5 Bxd2 13.Qxd2±

11.Bxc3 e5??

This turns out to be a serious miscalculation. Black had to try 11...exd5 here no matter what the outcome. However, it actually would have worked out well for him after 12.Nh4 Ne4!, so I would have had to find 12.Bxf6! with ongoing initiative. 11...exd5 12.Bxf6 *(12.Nh4 Ne4)* 12...Rxf6 13.Ng5!↑

12.Qxf5 Nxd5 13.Qe4 Nxc3 14.Qxb7 Nxe2+ 15.Kh1

Black had seen all this on move 11, but he had not realized that his knight on e2 will not get out. That means that White is winning a piece and already winning.

15...e4

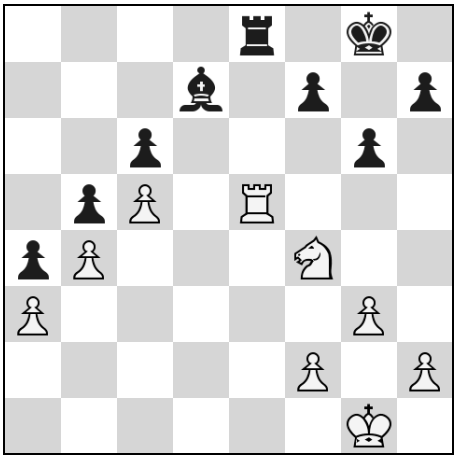
Black may as well attempt to complicate, but this is no better than anything else. 15...Nd7 16.Rae1 Nc5 17.Qd5+

16.Qxa8 exf3 17.Qd5+ Kh8 18.Bxf3 c6 19.Qd3 Nd4 20.Qxd4 Rxf3 21.Rae1 Qf7 21...Qf8 22.Re6

22.Qxd6 1–0

Scott Faust (1562)
Karthik Baskaran (1444)
Michigan Class B (1)
January 2013
English: Closed Sicilian, A25
Notes by Scott Faust

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 Bc5 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.e3 d6 6.Nge2 0–0 7.0–0 Bf5 8.a3 a5 9.d4 exd4 10.exd4 Bb6 11.Be3 Bg6 12.Qb3 Rb8 13.Rad1 Qe7 14.Nf4 Ng4 15.Ncd5 Qe8 16.Rfe1 Qd8 17.Nxb6 cxb6 18.Nd5 Nxe3 19.Rxe3 Re8 20.Rxe8+ Qxe8 21.Qc3 Qd8 22.Re1 Bf5 23.Qe3 Be6 24.b3 Ra8 25.Nf4 Bf5 26.Be4 Bd7 27.Nd3 a4 28.b4 Qf6 29.Bxc6 bxc6 30.c5 dxc5 31.dxc5 b5 32.Nf4 g6 33.Qe5 Qxe5 34.Rxe5 Re8



This looks quite drawish, but with the exchange of rooks I have a knight vs. bishop endgame, and all my pawns are on the wrong-colored squares for Black's bishop to attack.

35.Rxe8+ Bxe8 36.Ne2 Kg7 37.Kg2 Kf6 38.Kf3 Bd7 39.Ke3 Ke5 40.Nc3 f6 41.f4+ Ke6 42.h3 h6 43.Ke4 Ke7 44.h4 Bf5+ 45.Kd4 Ke6 46.Nd1 h5 47.Ne3

The knight posting to e3 will prove to be very important later.

47...Bh3 48.Ke4 Bf5+ 49.Kf3 Bb1 50.g4

If 50...hxg4 I will recapture with the king and invade.

50...hxg4+ 51.Kxg4 Be4 52.h5 gxh5+ 53.Kxh5

Because of 47. Ne3, Black's king now cannot invade and attack the base of White's pawn chain.

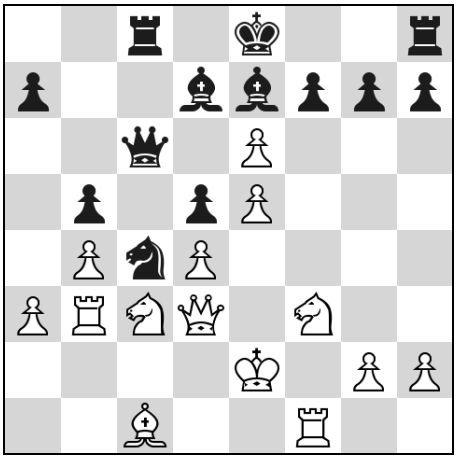
53...Bf5 54.Kh6 Bd3 55.Kg7 Ke7 56.f5 Bb1 57.Kg6

Covering the pawn so the knight can move off e3. Note Black's king has been forced back and cannot invade White's queenside.

57...Be4 58.Ng4 Bb1 59.Nxf6 Bd3 60.Nh5 Kf8 61.Nf4 Bc4 62.Kf6 Ke8 63.Kg7 Bf7 64.f6 Bb3 65.Nd3 Bd5 66.Ne5 Bb3 67.Nxc6 Kd7 68.Ne5+ Ke6 69.f7 Kxe5 70.f8Q 1–0

Kyle Webster (1937)
Lon Rutkofske (1825)
Michigan Class A (1)
January 2013
French: Advance (Bishop Swap), C02
Notes by Douglas Fick

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bd7 4.f4 c5 5.c3 Nc6 6.Nf3 cxd4 7.cxd4 Qb6 8.a3 Nh6 9.b4 Nf5 10.Bb2 Ne3 11.Qd3 Nxf1 12.Rxf1 Na5 13.Nc3 Nc4 14.Bc1 Qa6 15.Rb1 Rc8 16.Rb3 b5 17.Ke2 Be7 18.f5 Qc6 19.fxe6



19...Qxe6! 20.h3 0–0 21.Ng5 Bxg5 22.Bxg5 f6 23.Bf4 fxe5 24.dxe5 Nxe5 25.Qxd5 Ng6+ 26.Be3 Rfe8 27.Kd2 Rcd8 28.Bg5 Bc6! 29.Qxd8 Rxd8+ 30.Bxd8 Qd7+

Given a ? on the scoresheet as the Rb3 was hanging.

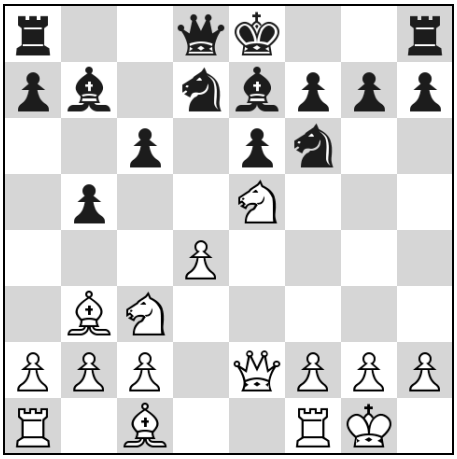
31.Kc2 Qxd8 32.Rd1 Qf8 33.g4 h6 34.Nd5 Ne7 35.Ne3 Be4+ 36.Kc1 Qc8+ 37.Kb2 Qe6 38.Rc3 Qe5 39.Rd8+ Kh7 40.Re8 Bg6 41.Rf8 Nd5 42.Nxd5 Qxd5 43.Rf2 Qd4 44.Rff3 Qd1 45.Rf5 Bxf5 46.gxf5 Qd4 47.Kc2 Qf2+ 48.Kb3 Qxf5 49.Re3 Qd5+ 50.Kc3 Qc4+ 51.Kd2 h5

51...Qd4+ 52.Ke2 Qxe3+ 53.Kxe3 Kg6 and Black saves himself a lot of hassle not having to deal with a Q vs R ending and potentially letting White land a swindle. As the play shows though Black has everything under control and wins fairly routinely.

52.Rc3 Qd4+ 53.Rd3 Qb2+ 54.Ke3 Qe5+ 55.Kf2 Kh6 56.Rf3 g6 57.Kg2 Qe4 58.Kf2 h4 59.Re3 Qf4+ 60.Ke2 Kh5 61.Rf3 Qc1 62.Re3 Qc2+ 63.Kf3 Qc7 64.Ke4 a5 65.bxa5 Qxa5 66.Kf4 Qa4+ 67.Kf3 Qd4 68.Ke2 Kg5 69.Rf3 Qc4+ 70.Ke3 Qc3+ 71.Ke4 Qe1+ 72.Re3 Qd2 73.Kf3 Kf5 74.Re8 Qd5+ 75.Kf2 Qa2+ 76.Kg1 Qxa3 77.Kg2 Qg3+ 78.Kh1 Qxh3+ 79.Kg1 Qg3+ 80.Kh1 Qf3+ 81.Kg1 Qg4+ 82.Kh2 b4 83.Re7 h3 84.Rf7+ Kg5 85.Rf2 b3 86.Kh1 Qe4+ 87.Kh2 Qe5+ 88.Kh1 b2 89.Rf1 Qe4+ 90.Rf3 Qxf3+ 91.Kh2 Qg2# 0–1

Andrew Hubbard (2107)
John Dowling (2000)
Michigan Master/Expert (1)
January 2013
Scandinavian: Classical (Viñoles), B01

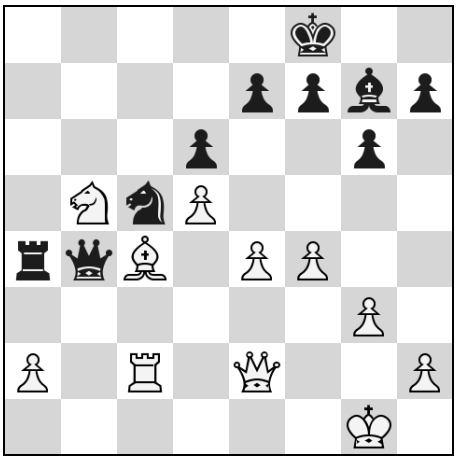
1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd8 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 c6 6.Bc4 b5 7.Bb3 e6 8.0–0 Bb7 9.Ne5 Nbd7 10.Qe2 Be7



11.Nxf7! Qb6 12.Nxh8 Nf8 13.Bxe6 1–0

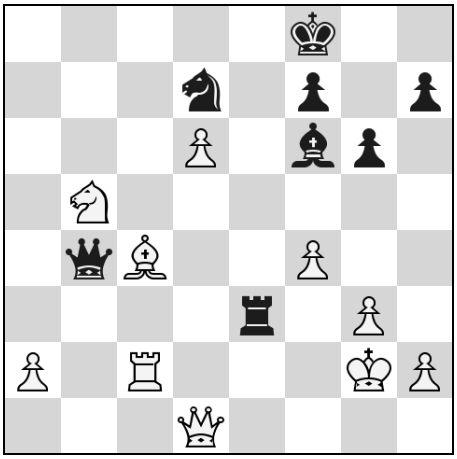
Isaac Zylstra (1737)
John Smalec (1622)
Michigan Class B (1)
January 2013
Benko Gambit: Accepted (Fianchetto), A58
Notes by Douglas Fick

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 Bxa6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Nf3 Bg7 8.g3 0–0 9.Bg2 d6 10.0–0 Nbd7 11.Qc2 Qb6 12.Rd1 Rfb8 13.Rb1 Qb7 14.e4 Nb6 15.b4 cxb4 16.Rxb4 Qc8 17.Nd4 Kf8 18.Nc6 Rb7 19.Bd2 Nc4 20.Rxb7 Bxb7 21.Nd4 Nd7 22.Ndb5 Ndb6 23.Qb3 Ba6 24.Bf1 Bxb5 25.Nxb5 Nxd2 26.Rxd2 Na4 27.Rc2 Nc5 28.Qe3 Ra4 29.f4! Qa8 30.Bc4 Qa5 31.Qe2 Qb4



A Benko that hasn't gone according to plan for Black. White often has this powerful middlegame idea around the pawn storm starting with the pawn duo on e4 and f4.

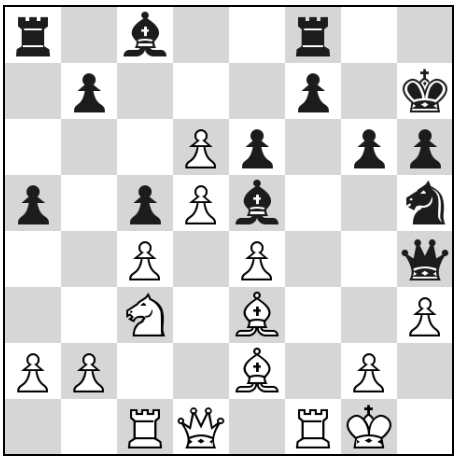
32.e5! Ra5?! 33.exd6 exd6 34.Nxd6 Bd4+ 35.Kg2 Ra8 36.Nb5! Re8 37.Qf3 Re3 38.Qd1! Bf6 39.d6 Nd7



40.Qd5! Re6 41.Qc6 1–0
Or 41.Nc7! also convinces.

Stan Beckwith (1704)
Richard Glew (1792)
Michigan Class B (1)
January 2013
King's Indian: Classical, E91
Notes by Douglas Fick

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0–0 6.Be2 Nbd7 7.0–0 c5 8.d5 h6 9.Bf4 Nh5 10.Be3 Kh7 11.Rc1 a5 12.Nh4 Ne5 13.f4 e6 14.fxe5 Qxh4 15.exd6 Be5 16.h3 Nf4



16...Qg3 looks stronger. 17.Bxc5 Qh2+ 18.Kf2 Nf4 *(18...Qg3+* is perpetual check if Black wants to bail out.*)* 19.Bf3 Qg3+ Moves like this are why we have the term "Fritzy" as only a computer or a tactical genius would play this. *(19...exd5 20.Nxd5 Nxg2 21.Bxg2 Qg3+ 22.Ke2 Qxg2+ 23.Kd3 f5* is a more human looking line where again both sides have chances in an extremely chaotic position.*)* 20.Ke3 *(20.Kxg3 Nd3+* is mate in 5.*)* 20...Nxg2+ 21.Kd3 and both sides have chances in this highly unclear position.

17.Rf3 exd5 18.Bxf4 Bxf4 19.Rc2 d4 20.Qf1 Be3+ 21.Kh2 Be6 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.cxd5 Kg7 24.Rxc5 Qxe4 25.Rc7 Qe5+ 26.Kh1 Rae8 27.Rcxf7+ Rxf7 28.Rxf7+ Kg8 29.d7 Rd8 30.Bc4 Qd6 31.Rf6 Qxd7 32.d6+ Kh8 33.Rxg6 Bg5 34.Qe2 Re8 35.Qf2 Kh7 36.Bd3 Qd8 37.Qf7+ Kh8 38.Qg7# 1–0

Vladimir Drkulec (2051)
Thomas Hartwig (2175)
Michigan Master/Expert (2)
January 2013
Slav: Delmar, D12
Notes by Thomas Hartwig

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.e3 Nf6 4.Nf3
This is a subtle move order which has been played by Carlsen and others. The point is that after ...Bf5, White will probably get the bishop pair eventually after Nh4, so he can try to claim an advantage. Similarly after 4...Bg4 he will get the bishop pair after 5.h3. However, if Black tries to play the Semi-Slav with 4...e6, White has a better version because he has not yet committed to Nc3. 4.Nc3 e6
4...Bf5
4...e6 5.Bd3!; 4...Bg4 5.h3 Bxf3 *(5...Bh5 6.Qb3 Qb6 7.Ne5)* 6.Qxf3
5.Nc3 e6 6.Qb3

Usually White plays the immediate 6.Nh4 instead. 6.Nh4 Be4 *(6...Bg6 7.Nxg6 hxg6 8.g3)* 7.f3 Bg6 8.Qb3 Qb6 9.Nxg6 hxg6 10.Bd2

6...Qb6 7.Bd2!?

This move would be an interesting moment for white to play 7.c5, since black is not ready to respond with 7...Qxb3 yet. Whenever he plays ...Qxb3, he has to be in time to get in ...a6, ...Nbd7, and ...Rc8 before white plays b4 and b5. However, just 7...Qc7 is OK. The move White chooses also allows me to "nearly" win a pawn with the immediate 7...Qxb3 and 8...Bc2, however white has a clever defensive trick so the position would have remained balanced. 7.c5 Qc7 *(7...Qxb3 8.axb3 a6 9.b4 Nbd7 10.b5)*

7...Nbd7

7...Qxb3 8.axb3 Bc2 9.b4! Bxb4 10.Nxd5!

8.c5 Qxb3

In this position, Black is in time to play ...a6 and ...Rc8, so this is fine. The position is very close to equal.

9.axb3 a6 10.b4 Rc8 11.Nh4 Bg6 12.Nxg6 hxg6 13.f4 Ne4!? 14.Nxe4 dxe4 15.g3 Be7 16.Bg2 f5 17.Ke2?!

I don't think that White should allow 17...g5. During the game I was expecting 17.h4, and I thought that it was going to be very hard to imagine how either side could win after that. 17.h4

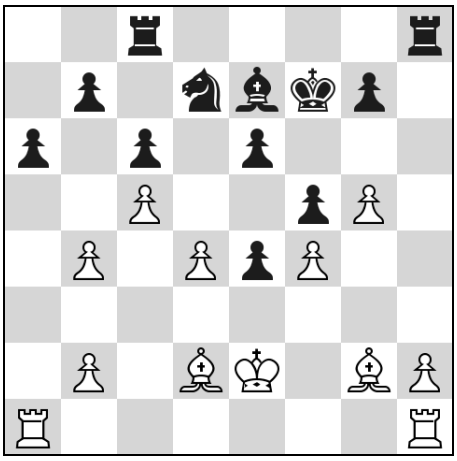
17...g5 18.g4?

White's last move gave me hope, but this move gives Black a clear advantage. White has misevaluated the resulting position because now he gets two new weak pawns on f4 and d4 which are potential targets.

18...gxf4 19.exf4 Kf7

The computer initially prefers 19...Rh4, but after letting it think for a while it evaluates both moves as being about equally advantageous for Black. 19...Rh4 20.h3 Nf6

20.g5



20…Nf8!

I like this move as it sets a trap, which my opponent fell into. I almost played the normal 20...Rh4, fixing White's weaknesses and preparing maneuvers like ...Rh8, ...Nf8–g6, ...Bd8–c7, etc. However, then I realized that I should allow 21.h4 because I have time to blockade and win the pawn. It doesn't look like it should be possible, however white's pieces are too poorly placed and he cannot arrange to attack the rook with his light squared bishop in time.

21.h4?! Rh5! 22.Kf2 Ng6 23.Ra3 Rch8

The computer prefers the clever intermezzo 23...Rd8 24.Be3 Rdh8, but this is OK too. 23...Rd8 24.Be3 Rdh8

24.Bf1

White makes a decision not to defend passively, so he prepares to play Bxa6 instead. This is understandable but probably a wrong decision, since white is definitely lost in the resulting ending.

24...Rxh4 25.Rxh4 Rxh4 26.Bxa6 bxa6 27.Rxa6 Nxf4 28.g6+ Kxg6 29.Bxf4 Rxf4+ 30.Ke2 Bf6 31.b5 Bxd4 32.Rxc6

On 32.bxc6 I would have played the simple move 32...Be5, winning. However, the computer points out a nice finesse which is to get in ...Rf2+ and ...Rc2 first, and only then play ...Be5. 32.bxc6 Rf2+ *(32...Be5 33.b4)* 33.Ke1 Rc2 34.b4 Be5

32...Rf2+ 33.Ke1 Rxb2 34.b6 Bxc5 35.Rxc5 Rxb6 0–1

White resigned a few moves later.

Safal Bora (2200)
Andrew Hubbard (2107)
Michigan Master/Expert (2)
January 2013
Queen's Pawn: Zukertort (Catalan), D02
Notes by Douglas Fick

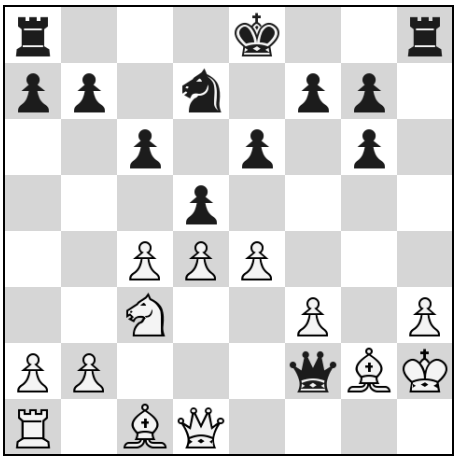
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Bg4 4.0–0 Nbd7 5.d4 e6 6.c4 Bd6 7.Nc3 c6 8.h3 Bh5 9.g4 Bg6 10.Nh4 Nxg4 11.Nxg6 hxg6 12.e4 Bh2+ 13.Kh1 Qh4 14.f3

Black to play and win.

14...Nf2+

Fritz says 14...Bc7 is slightly stronger but I guarantee almost any human would choose this instead.

15.Rxf2 Qxf2 16.Kxh2



16...Rxh3+

Boom. After this shot Black has an irresistible attack.

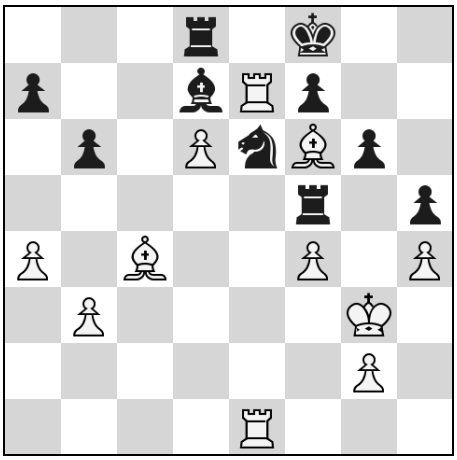
17.Kxh3 0–0–0 18.Bg5 Nf6

18...Rh8+ 19.Kg4 Rh5 seems more to the point but the text wins easily enough.

19.Bxf6 gxf6 20.Qh1 f5 0–1

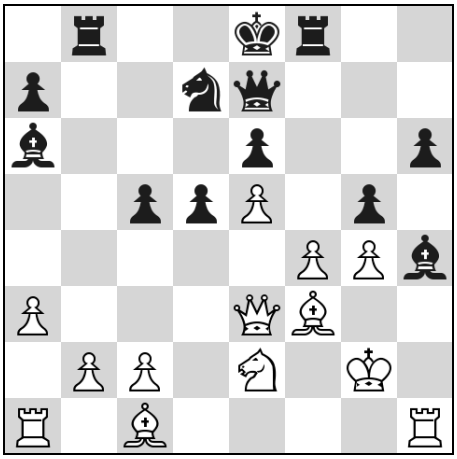
Awonder Liang (2093)
Kevin Czuhai (2200)
Michigan Master/Expert (2)
January 2013
Scotch, C45

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 e5 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Qf6 5.Be3 Bc5 6.c3 Nxd4 7.cxd4 Bb4+ 8.Nc3 Qg6 9.Qb3 Bxc3+ 10.Qxc3 Qxe4 11.Qxc7 Ne7 12.Qe5 Qxe5 13.dxe5 Nc6 14.f4 d6 15.exd6 0–0 16.Bb5 Re8 17.Kf2 Bd7 18.Rhe1 Re4 19.Bd3 Re6 20.Bc5 Rf6 21.Kg3 b6 22.Ba3 h5 23.h4 Nd4 24.Re7 Rd8 25.Rae1 g6 26.b3 Ne6 27.Bc4 Rf5 28.Bb2 Ra5 29.a4 Kf8 30.Bf6 Rf5



31.R7xe6 and White won.

Tony Palmer (2074)
Andy Catlin (2022)
Michigan Master/Expert (2)
January 2013
Notes by Andy Catlin



White is under pressure. Dr. Palmer makes some great defensive moves.

21.Rxh4!

Black's threat was 21...gxf4 22.Nxf4? Bg5

21...gxh4 22.b4! d4 23.Qe4 Bb7?!

23...Rg8!∓ keeps the queen out of g6 with threats like ...Rxg4 and ...Bb7.

24.Qg6+ Qf7 25.Qxf7+ Rxf7 26.Bxb7 Rxb7 27.bxc5 Nxc5

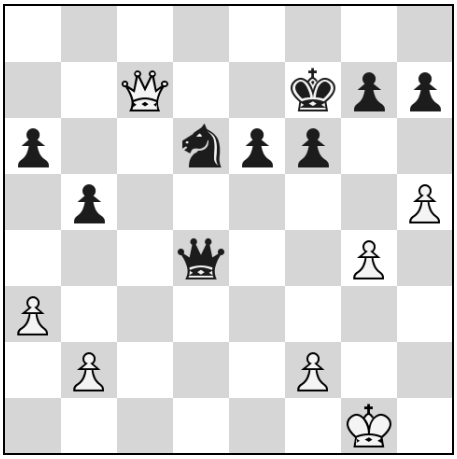
Dr. Palmer and Czuhai both said after the game that Black should try to keep an advantage with 27...d3!

28.Nxd4 Rfd7 29.Be3 Rb2 30.Kh3 ½–½

A tough position neither of us was gung-ho on playing out.

Richard Glew (1792)
Glen Schmiege (1728)
Michigan Class B (2)
January 2013
Caro-Kann: Panov, B14
Notes by Douglas Fick

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 e6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Nf3 Be7 7.Bd3 0–0 8.0–0 Nbd7 9.Re1 b6 10.Bf4 Re8 11.Nb5 Bb4 12.Re2 dxc4 13.Bxc4 Ba6 14.a3 Bf8 15.Rc1 Bxb5 16.Bxb5 Nd5 17.Bg3 a6 18.Bc6 Rc8 19.Ne5 N5f6 20.Rec2 Re7 21.Bb7 Rxc2 22.Rxc2 Nxe5 23.Rc8 Qd7 24.Bxe5 Qxb7 25.Rb8 Qd5 26.h4 Re8 27.Rxe8 Nxe8 28.Qg4 f6 29.Bg3 Bd6 30.Bxd6 Nxd6 31.h5 Qf5 32.Qe2 b5 33.g4 Qd5 34.Qd2 Kf7 35.Qa5 Qxd4 36.Qc7+



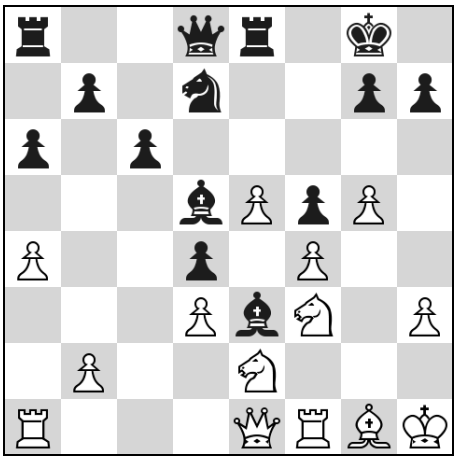
36...Kf8

36...Ke8! 37.Qc6+ *(37.Qb8+ Kd7)* 37...Kd8 38.Qa8+ Ke7 and White has no more checks.

37.Qd8+ Kf7 38.Qd7+ Kg8 39.Qd8+ Kf7 40.Qd7+ Kg8 41.Qd8+ Kf7 ½–½

Frederick Kung (1817)
Jenny Skidmore (1948)
Michigan Class A (2)
January 2013
Philidor: Jaenisch, C41
Notes by Douglas Fick

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 exd4 5.Nxd4 Be7 6.Bb5+ c6 7.Bd3 0–0 8.0–0 Re8 9.h3 a6 10.a4 Nbd7 11.Be3 Nc5 12.Kh1 Bf8 13.f3 Nh5 14.Qe1 Nxd3 15.cxd3 d5 16.Nde2 Be6 17.Bg1 Be7 18.Bh2 Bh4 19.g3 Bf6 20.Ng1 Bd4 21.Nce2 Be3 22.g4 Nf6 23.e5 Nd7 24.f4 f5 25.g5 d4 26.Nf3 Bd5 27.Bg1



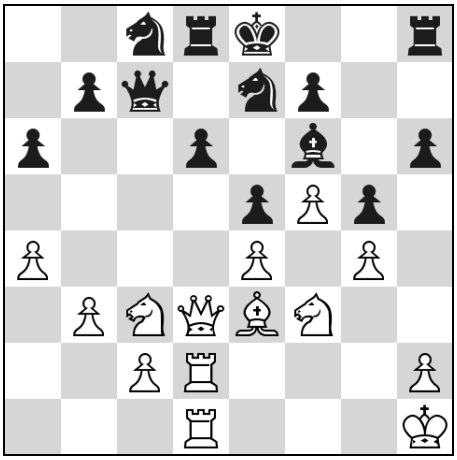
27...Nxe5!? 28.fxe5 Rxe5 29.Qh4 Bxg5 30.Qf2 c5 31.Kh2?! Re3! 32.Rae1

32.Qg2 Qd6+ 33.Kh1 Rxd3 is pretty grim for White.

32...Rxf3 33.Qxf3 Bxf3 34.Rxf3 Qd5 35.Nf4 Qxf3 0–1

Andrew Schremser (1643)
Krishna Venkatasubba
Michigan Class B (2)
January 2013
Sicilian: Najdorf (Byrne), B90
Notes by Douglas Fick

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 Ng4 7.Bc1 Nc6 8.f3 Nge5 9.f4 Bg4 10.Be2 Bxe2 11.Ncxe2 Nd7 12.Be3 Qc7 13.0–0 e6 14.Nc3 Nb6 15.f5 e5 16.Nf3 Ne7 17.Kh1 Nc4 18.Bc1 Rd8 19.Qd3 Nb6 20.Be3 Nec8 21.Rad1 Be7 22.g4 h6 23.b3 Bf6 24.Rd2 Ne7 25.a4 Nbc8 26.Rfd1 g5?!



27.Bf2

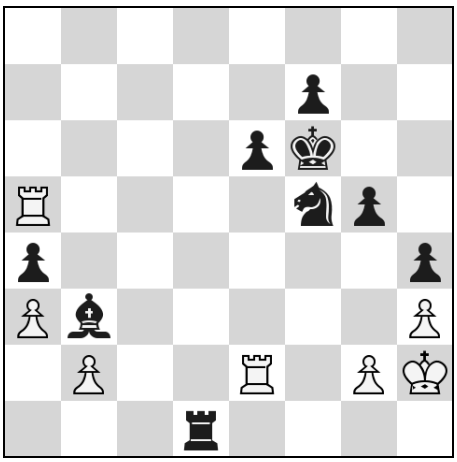
27.fxg6! fxg6?! *(27...Nxg6? 28.Nd5; 27...Qd7 28.gxf7+* and White is up a pawn plus the attack.*)* 28.Bxh6! Rxh6 29.g5 Bxg5 30.Nxg5 with a huge attack coming fast down the f-file.

27...h5!² 28.Rg1 h4 29.h3 Rg8 30.Rgd1 Qc6 31.Qe3 b6 32.Rd3 b5 33.axb5 axb5 34.b4 Qc4 35.Qd2 Nc6 36.Nd5 Bh8

37.Qe1 Nd4 38.Bxd4 exd4 39.Nxd4 Bxd4 40.Rxd4 Qxc2 41.Nf6+
41.e5!
41...Kf8 42.Nxg8 Kxg8 43.Qe3 f6 44.e5 Qc6+ 45.Kg1 Re8 46.e6 Re7 47.Qd3 Ra7 48.Rd5 Rb7 49.Qd2 Rc7 50.Ra1 Kg7 51.Ra5 Rb7 52.Ra8 Rc7 1–0
White went on to win.

Tim P Johnson (1616)
Stan Beckwith (1704)
Michigan Class B (2)
January 2013
Sicilian: Scheveningen (Paulsen), B84
Notes by Douglas Fick

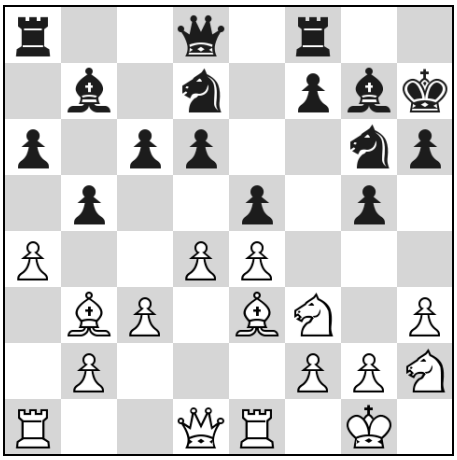
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f4 e6 7.Be2 Be7 8.Be3 Nbd7 9.Bf3 Rb8 10.h3 Qc7 11.0–0 b5 12.a3 Nc5 13.e5 dxe5 14.Nc6 e4 15.Nxb8 exf3 16.Nxa6 Bxa6 17.Qxf3 0–0 18.Rfd1 Na4 19.Nxa4 bxa4 20.Rd2 Bb7 21.Qe2 Ne4 22.Rdd1 Bf6 23.c3 Bd5 24.Rac1 Bb3 25.Bd4 Qxf4 26.Re1 Ng3 27.Qf2 Bxd4 28.Qxd4 Qxd4+ 29.cxd4 Nf5 30.Re4 h5 31.Kf2 Rd8 32.Rc3 Rxd4 33.Re2 h4 34.Rc8+ Kh7 35.Rc7 Kg6 36.Kf3 Kf6 37.Re1 Bd5+ 38.Kf2 Rd2+ 39.Re2 Rd3 40.Ra7 Bb3 41.Kg1 g5 42.Ra5 Rd1+ 43.Kh2



43...Ng3 44.Rf2+ Kg6 45.Ra7
45.Rf1 Rxf1 46.Rxg5+ Kf6! 47.Rg6+ Ke7 48.Rxe6+ Bxe6
45...Rh1# 0–1

Justin Aldrich (1739)
Kenneth Tack (1690)
Michigan Class B (2)
January 2013
Robatsch: Geller, B06
Notes by Douglas Fick

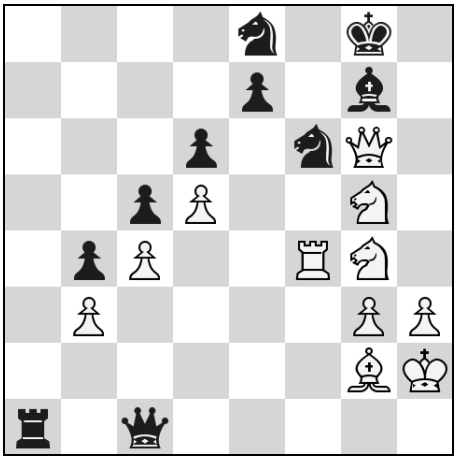
1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.c3 d6 4.Nf3 a6 5.h3 Nd7 6.Be3 b5 7.Bd3 Bb7 8.0–0 e5 9.Re1 Ne7 10.a4 c6 11.Nbd2 0–0 12.Bc2 h6 13.Bb3 Kh7 14.Nh2 g5 15.Ndf3 Ng6



16.Nxg5+! Kg8
16...hxg5 17.Qh5+ Kg8 18.Qxg6+–
17.Qh5 Nf4 18.Bxf4 1–0

Jacob Fortuna (1962)
Greg Bailey (1948)
Michigan Class A (3)
January 2013
King's Indian: Fianchetto (Yugoslav), E65
Notes by Douglas Fick

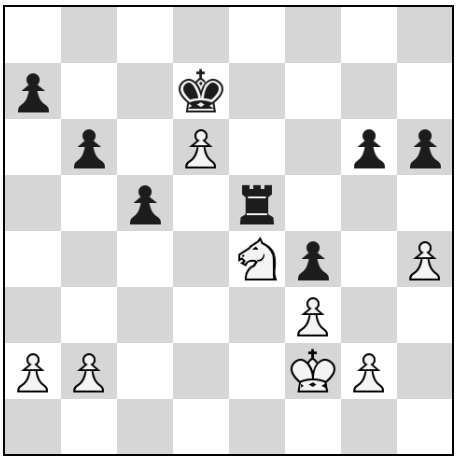
Jacob Fortuna has provided excellent video commentary of this and several other games from the Michigan Class at his blog:
http://chesscoachfortuna.blogspot.com/
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.g3 c5 5.d5 d6 6.Bg2 0–0 7.0–0 Na6 8.Nc3 Bd7 9.h3 Nc7 10.a4 b6 11.Ne1 a6 12.e4 b5 13.axb5 axb5 14.Rxa8 Qxa8 15.b3 b4 16.Nb1 Qa1 17.Nd2 Ra8 18.Nc2 Qc3 19.e5 Nfe8 20.e6 Bc8 21.exf7+ Kxf7 22.Ne3 Nf6 23.Nb1 Qa1 24.Nd2 Nd7 25.Kh2 Ne5 26.Ne4 Ne8 27.f4 Nd7 28.f5 Ndf6 29.fxg6+ hxg6 30.Ng5+ Kg8 31.Qc2 Qc3 32.Qxg6 Ra1 33.Rf4 Bg4 34.Nxg4 Qxc1



White to play and mate in two.
35.Nh6+ Kh8 36.Ngf7# 1–0

Jacob Brasseur (1501)
Scott Faust (1562)
Michigan Class C (2)
January 2013
Alekhine: Modern (Larsen), B04
Notes by Scott Faust

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 dxe5 5.dxe5 Bg4 6.Bc4 e6 7.0–0 c6 8.Qe2 Be7 9.Rd1 0–0 10.Bd3 Nd7 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Qxf3
Hiarcs gives 12...Nxe5 a better score than what I chose next.
12...Qc7 13.Qe4 g6 14.Bh6
I saw this coming when I moved the g-pawn. Attacking White's queen will allow me to at least get the rook out of the way.
14...f5 15.exf6 Rxf6 16.Bg5 Nc5
Gaining a tempo by attacking White's queen again.
17.Qg4 Rf7 18.Bxe7 Qxe7
For the moment all of Black's pieces are protected, and Black has the lead in development.
19.Na3 Raf8 20.f3 Ne3
White hands Black a knight fork. How can Black refuse?
21.Qd4 Nxd1 22.Rxd1 Nxd3 23.Rxd3 c5 24.Qe3 b6 25.Nc4 e5 26.Nd2 Qf6 27.Ne4 Qf4 28.Qxf4 exf4 29.Kh2 h6 30.Rd6 Kg7 31.h4 Re8 32.Rd2 Ree7
Planning to seize control of the d-file with ...Rd7.
33.c4 Rd7 34.Rd5 Rxd5 35.cxd5 Rd7 36.d6 Kf7 37.Kh3 Ke6 38.Kg4 Rf7 39.Kh3 Kd7 40.Kh2 Rf5 41.Kg1 Re5 42.Kf2

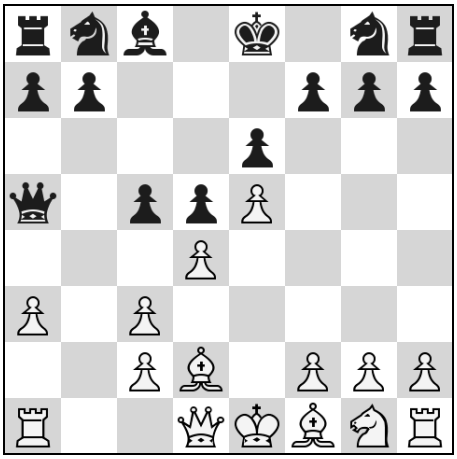


Black can now safely take the knight and lose the exchange. White's d-pawn will fall, and Black will stand in front of White's e-pawn, creating an opportunity for Black's queenside pawns to move forward.
42...Rxe4 43.fxe4 Kxd6 44.Kf3 Ke5 45.a3 a6 46.b3 b5 0–1

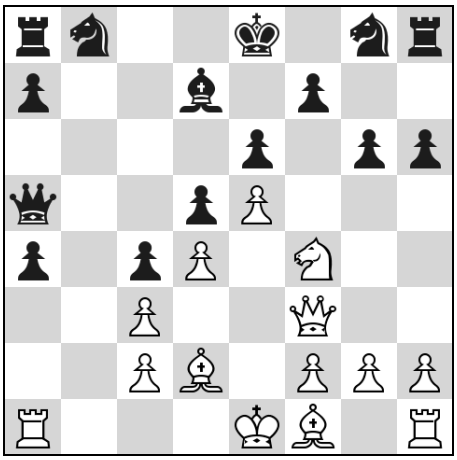
White cannot stop Black from creating a passed pawn. If 47. g3 or 47. g4 then 47...fxg3 either directly or en passant and 48. Kxg3 Kxe4 and Black has pawn majorities on both sides of the board. 47. a4 bxa4 or 47.b4 c4 have the same effect since White's king will need to chase down pawns, leaving room for Black's King to stroll in.

Michael Bowersock (2227)
Vladimir Drkulec (2051)
Michigan Master/Expert (3)
January 2013
French: Advance Winawer, C18
Notes by Michael Bowersock

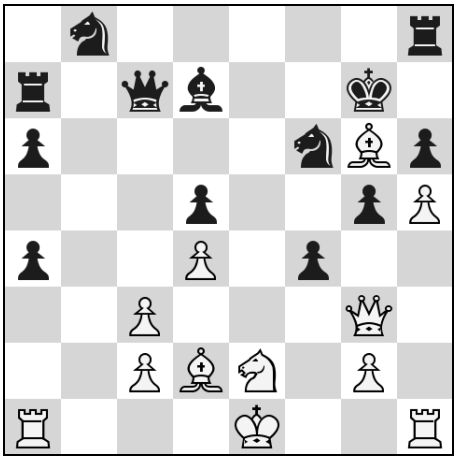
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2



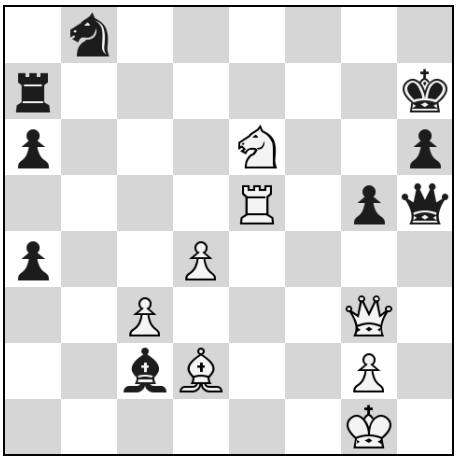
7...c4?!
The whole purpose of putting the queen on a5 is to go to a4 and attack the d4 pawn, now the queen is misplaced.
8.a4?!
Not bad, but unnecessary. The queen doesn't want to go to a4 now anyway, but on the other hand I wanted to repositon my bishop at some point with Bc1–a3. 8.Qg4 Kf8 *(8...g6 9.h4 h5 10.Qf4 Nc6 11.Nh3 Qd8 12.Ng5 Nh6 13.a4* White's position is very comfortable here.*)* 9.Nh3 and the knight will go to h5 and Black's position is already in jeopardy
8...Bd7?!
8...Ne7 and Black will castle and be equal.
9.Qg4 g6 10.Nh3
10.Nf3 h6 11.Be2 Ne7 12.0–0 Bxa4 13.Rfb1 b5 This position is strange. I'm not really sure what's going on here.
10...b5?
Black's position becomes a bit sketchy here.
11.Qf3 h6 12.Nf4 bxa4
12...Nc6 13.h4 bxa4 14.h5 g5 15.Nh3



13.Bxc4 Qc7 14.Bd3 Ne7 15.h4
15.0–0 was better and then just playing 15...16.Bc1 followed by 17.Ba3
15...a6 16.h5 g5 17.Ne2 Ng8 18.Qg4?
18.c4! dxc4 19.Be4 Bc6 20.Nc3 Kf8 21.0–0 Ne7 22.Bc1 Bxe4 23.Nxe4 Nd5 24.Rxa4
18...f5 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.Bg6+ Kf8 21.Qf3 Kg7 22.Qh3
22.c4 Qxc4 *(22...dxc4 23.Bc3 Rf8 24.d5!)* 23.Qa3 Nc6 24.Bd3
22...Ra7 23.f4
23.Qd3 -- 24.f4
23...e5 24.Qg3 exf4



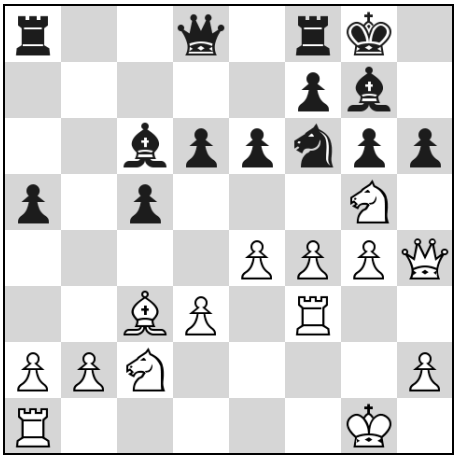
25.Nxf4 Ne4 26.Bxe4 dxe4 27.0–0 Rf8 28.Rae1
28.c4! Kg8 29.d5 Rb7 30.Ne2 Rxf1+ 31.Rxf1 Qxg3 32.Nxg3+–
28...Kh7 29.Rxe4 Bf5 30.Re5
30.Ne2!?[2]
30...Bxc2 31.Ne6
31.Rf2! gxf4 32.Bxf4 Qf7 33.Be3 Qg7 34.Qxg7+ Kxg7 35.Rxc2 Raf7 36.Re6
31...Rxf1+ 32.Kxf1 Qf7+ 33.Kg1 Qxh5



34.Bxg5! Nd7 35.Bf4
35.Nf4!
35...Qf7 36.Qh4 Qf6 37.Bg5 Nxe5 38.Bxf6 Ng6 39.Ng5+ Kg8 40.Qxh6 a3 41.c4 a2 42.d5 Re7 43.Kh2 Re5 44.Qg7# 1–0

Jenny Skidmore (1948)
Stan Jarosz (1900)
Michigan Class A (3)
January 2013
Sicilian: Closed (Zukertort), B23
Notes by Douglas Fick

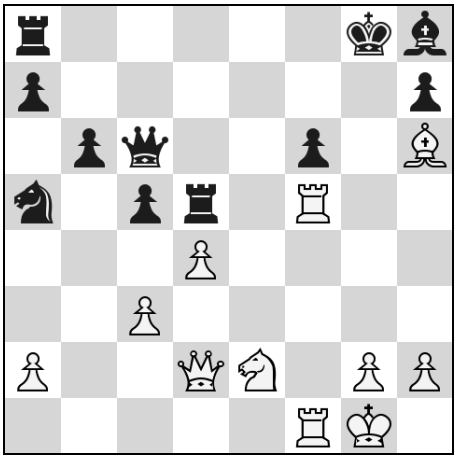
1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bb5 Nd4 6.0–0 Nxb5 7.Nxb5 d6 8.c3 Bd7 9.Na3 Nf6 10.d3 0–0 11.Qe1 b5 12.Nc2 a5 13.Bd2 b4 14.Qh4 bxc3 15.Bxc3 e6 16.g4 Bc6 17.Ng5 h6 18.Rf3 Nxg4



18...d5! gives Black the advantage since 19.e5?! fails to 19…d4 20.exf6 Qxf6!
19.Qxg4 hxg5 20.fxg5 Bxc3 21.bxc3 Kg7 22.Raf1 Ra7 23.Rf6 d5 24.Qh4 Rh8 25.Qf2 Qe7 26.Ne3 dxe4 27.Nc4 Rh5 28.h4 exd3 29.Nd6 1–0
The position is about even here, though White went on to win.

Joshua Posthuma (1777)
Stan Beckwith (1704)
Michigan Class B (3)
January 2013
Grünfeld: Spassky, D87
Notes by Joshua Posthuma

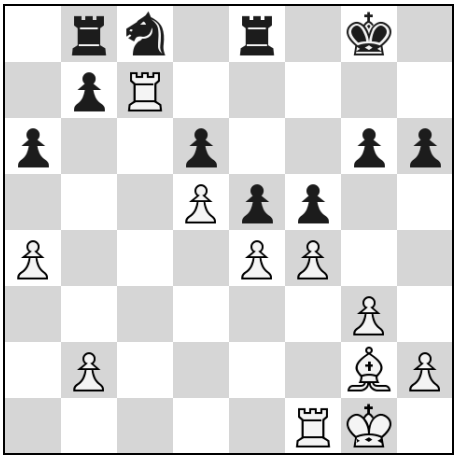
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7
This is the main line Grunfeld. Black allows White to get a big center, and then aims to try to break it down, and control the center with pieces.
7.Bc4 0–0 8.Ne2 c5 9.0–0 Nc6 10.Be3 Qc7 11.Rc1 Rd8 12.Qd2 Na5 13.Bd3
I wanted to keep the bishop pair. I didn't want Black to have a light squared bishop that I could not easily challenge.
13...b6
All of Black's pieces are on the queenside, so I decided to try to break through Black's defenses, and attack while his pieces weren't coordinated.
14.Bh6 Bh8 15.f4
This is a little double edged, because it opens up a diagonal towards my king, but that shouldn't be important as long as I have that great bishop on h6.
15...e6 16.f5 f6
He is trying to cover the 7th rank laterally with his queen, but this move does more bad for his king than it does good for his king.
17.Rf3 exf5
If the a5 knight ever moves, Bc4+ would be game over.
18.exf5 Bxf5 19.Bxf5 gxf5 20.Rxf5 Qc6 21.Rcf1
Bringing in more firepower. :) I don't have any immediate threats, except for just building my attack up. He has to be careful about his 8th rank though, now that I have doubled rooks on the f-file.
21...Rd5?
Loses on the spot to a tactic.



22.Qg5+!
And again you see the power of the h6 bishop.
22...Kf7 23.Qh5+
23.Rxd5 also works because the f-pawn is pinned, but I was afraid of 23...Rg8 and I didn't want to have to worry about checkmates on g2.
23...Ke7
23...Ke6 would just run into 24.Nf4+ *(*or *24.Rxd5 Qxd5 25.Nf4+)*
24.Rxd5 Rg8 25.Nf4
Dealing with all of Black's threats. Black has absolutely no compensation for the rook now.
25...Nc4 26.Re1+ 1–0

Thomas Hartwig (2175)
Awonder Liang (2103)
Michigan Master/Expert (4)
January 2013
King's Indian: Fianchetto (Panno), E63
Notes by Thomas Hartwig

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0–0 5.Nf3 d6 6.0–0 Nc6 7.Nc3 a6 8.Qd3 e5 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Qxd8 Rxd8 11.Bg5 Be6 12.Nd2 h6 13.Bxf6 Bxf6
13...Rxd2 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.b3²
14.Nde4 Be7 15.Nd5 Bxd5 16.cxd5
All of this was my preparation (not specifically for Liang), which continued with 16...Nb4 resulting in a slightly better position for White. I had also looked at 16...Nd4, but I couldn't remember it so now I had to start thinking on my own. However, by now I had accumulated a large lead on the clock. Also, the position is much more unpleasant for Black than it looks.
16...Nd4
16...Nb4 17.Nc3 c6 18.dxc6 Nxc6 19.Bxc6 bxc6 20.Rad1²
17.e3 Nb5 18.Rac1 Bd6 19.Rc2
The immediate 19.a4 was also strong but this doesn't hurt anything.
19...f5 20.Nxd6 cxd6 21.a4 Na7 22.Rc7 Rab8 23.e4
Also strong was 24.Rfc1. This position has now become extremely bad for black because I am able to maintain my rook on the seventh rank, and his knight is out of play. 23.Rfc1 Rdc8 *(23...Rbc8 24.R1c3!)* 24.e4
23...Nc8
I hadn't seriously considered this move, however he resorted to it because the natural 23...Rdc8 is equally bad. Now, because Black is not even in a position to challenge my rook with ...Rc8, I don't have to double rooks and I can quickly open lines on the kingside with 24.f4 instead. 23...Rdc8 24.Rfc1
24.f4 Re8
24...Rf8 25.Bh3! *(25.fxe5 dxe5 26.exf5 gxf5 27.Bh3 Nd6)* 25...exf4 *(25...Rf7 26.Rxf7 Kxf7 27.exf5)* 26.exf5

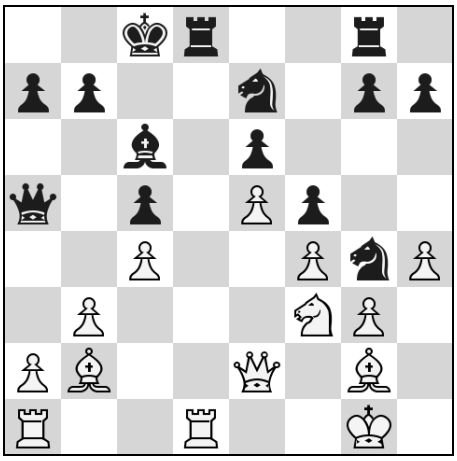


25.Rd7
This move is a clincher, because now he can hardly move without losing material.
25...Nb6
Black makes a desperate bid for activity, but he had nothing better. 25...Re7 26.Rd8+; 25...b5 26.a5!
26.Rxd6 Nxa4 27.Rxg6+ Kh7 28.exf5 Nxb2 29.Rc1 Rbc8 30.Rxc8 Rxc8 31.Rb6 Rc1+ 32.Bf1 Nd1 33.Rxb7+ Kg8 34.d6 Ne3 35.Kf2 Ng4+ 36.Ke2 Kf8 37.Rb8+ 1–0
Despite the result, my opponent actually played well and I am proud of my own play in this game. In fact, he started thinking on move 8 so it looks like he had to invent several moves of theory over the board. I was happy to get the result, because now when my opponent becomes a grandmaster in a few years, I will be able to say I beat him! (*Ed. note:* Awonder Liang, age 9, scored 3/3 against the murderers' row of Bowersock, Czuhai, and Davidovich in his other games...)

Greg Bailey (1948)
Lon Rutkofske (1825)
Michigan Class A (4)
January 2013
Bird: Dutch, A03
Notes by Douglas Fick

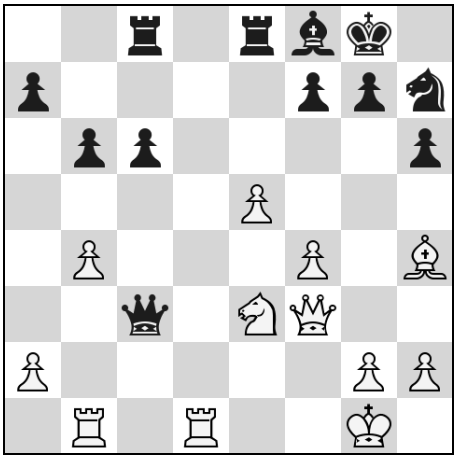
1.f4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.b3 c5 4.Bb2 Nc6 5.c3 Ne4 6.d3 Nd6 7.Nbd2 Nf5 8.Kf2 Qc7 9.g3 f6 10.e4 dxe4 11.dxe4 Nh6 12.h3 Nf7 13.Nc4 Bd7 14.Ne3 e6 15.c4 0–0–0 16.Qe2 Be7 17.Bg2 Rhg8 18.Nd5

Qa5
18...exd5 19.exd5 Nb4 *(19...Bd6 20.dxc6 Bxc6)* 20.a3 Na6 *(*or *20...Nxd5!?* AC*)* 21.Qxe7 Nd6 22.Qe2 Rge8 and Black is better according to Fritz.
19.Nxe7+
19.Bc3! first, then capturing on e7 may be even better, since it further offsides Black's queen. AC
19...Nxe7 20.e5 f5 21.h4 Nh6 22.Rhd1 Ng4+ 23.Kg1 Bc6



24.Rd6! Be4
After this Black's game falls apart and it's over but the position was probably beyond saving. 24...Kb8 25.Rxe6 Nc8 is the only real way to limit the damage but after 26.Rxc6 bxc6 it's easy to see White has an excellent position.
25.Ng5! Bxg2 26.Kxg2 Rxd6 27.exd6 1–0
Black resigned since he's losing at least a piece since if the knight moves then Qxe6+ wins the Rg8.

Frederick Kung (1817)
Mike Skidmore (1800)
Michigan Class A (4)
January 2013

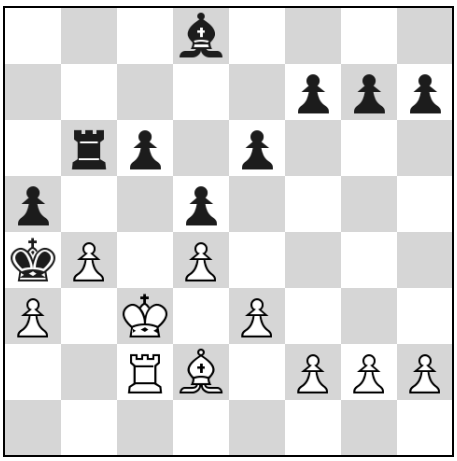


White to Play

26.Rb3! **1–0**
Wins Black's queen. Black resigned in a few more moves.

Brandon O'Neil (1731)
Isaac Zylstra (1737)
Michigan Class B (4)
January 2013
Slav, D10
Notes by Douglas Fick

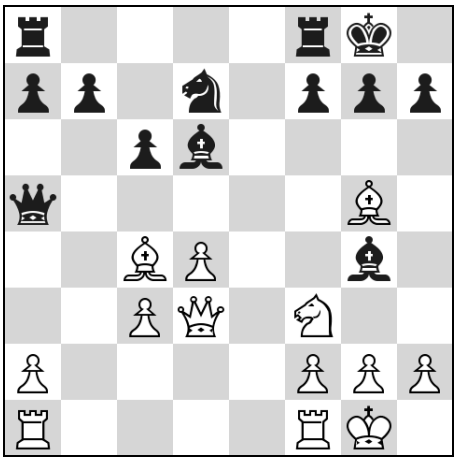
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e3 Bf5 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.Bd3 Bxd3 7.Qxd3 e6 8.Nf3 Be7 9.Qb5+ Qd7 10.Ne5 Qxb5 11.Nxb5 Na6 12.Bd2 Nd7 13.Nxd7 Kxd7 14.Ke2 Rhc8 15.a3 Nc7 16.Nxc7 Kxc7 17.Rhc1+ Kb6 18.Kd3 Rc6 19.Rxc6+ bxc6 20.Rc1 Rb8 21.b4 Rb7 22.Rc2 Kb5 23.Bc1 a6 24.Bd2 Rb6 25.Kc3 Ka4 26.Ra2 Rb7 27.Kd3 Bd8 28.Rc2 Rb6 29.Kc3 a5



30.bxa5?? Rb3# 0–1
Ouch.

Andrew Hubbard (2107)
Thomas Hartwig (2175)
Michigan Master/Expert (5)
January 2013
Petrov: Classical (Mason), C42
Notes by Thomas Hartwig

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Bd6 7.0–0 0–0 8.c4 c6 9.Nc3 Nxc3 10.bxc3 dxc4 11.Bxc4 Bg4 12.Qd3 Nd7 13.Bg5?!
The main line is 13.Ng5, which leads to wild complications that are supposed to end up in a draw. The move my opponent played in the game is not very good, because after my reply Black starts to take over the initiative. 13.Ng5 Nf6 14.h3 Bh5 15.f4 h6 16.g4 hxg5 17.fxg5 b5 18.Bb3 Nxg4 19.hxg4 Qd7 20.gxh5 Qg4+ 21.Kf2 Rae8 22.Rg1 Qh4+ 23.Kg2 Qh2+ 24.Kf1 Bf4 25.Qf3 Re1+ 26.Kxe1 Qxg1+ 27.Ke2 Bxc1 28.Rxc1 Qxc1 29.g6 Re8+ 30.Kd3 Qb1+ 31.Kd2 Qe1+ 32.Kd3 Qb1+=
13...Qa5



14.h4?!
This was a difficult decision for white which he reached after long thought. He should have played the natural 14.Bh4, but probably he thought it was not possible due to 14...Qh5. Due to the resource 15.Bg3 Bxf3? 16.Bxd6!, it is possible. 14.Bh4 Qh5?! 15.Bg3 Bxf3? 16.Bxd6!
14...Qf5
This turned out to be the last chess decision which I had to make in the game. The good thing about it is that I trusted my intuition and avoided 14...h6. I couldn't see a totally clear refutation, but my intuition was that his attack might be too strong after 15.Bxh6 Bf5 16.Qd2 gxh6 17.Qxh6, since my bishop is attacked on d6 and white keeps the initiative. The computer agrees and gives white a winning advantage in that position. The move I played instead is just a solid equalizer after which black's position is very comfortable. However, the strongest move was 14...Bf5 after which I keep the queens on and Black's position should be slightly better in the middle game due to the strange placement of white's pawn on h4. 14...h6 15.Bxh6 Bf5 *(15...gxh6 16.Qg6+)* 16.Qd2 gxh6 17.Qxh6; 14...Bf5 15.Qd2 Nb6 16.Bb3 Nd5
15.Qxf5 ½–½
Now my opponent offered a draw. I thought the position was close to equal, although it is already slightly more comfortable for Black. Given the tournament situation, I accepted.

Steven Cooklev (2144)
Andy Catlin (2022)
Michigan Master/Expert (5)
Sicilian: Scheveningen (Paulsen), B85
January 2013
Notes by Andy Catlin

The computer engines said we were both idiots. OK, maybe so, but as tournament co-winner Hartwig told me after our round 1 game, "The Scheveningen is very hard to play for White below grandmaster level."

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Be2 a6

On the board next to us, Michael Bowersock and Apurva Virkud had reeled off the same six starting moves. Bowersock has annotated his nice attacking game for this issue!

7.a4 Be7 8.0–0 Qc7 9.f4 Nc6 10.Be3 0–0 11.Kh1 b6?

"A mistake" - Steven.

12.e5 Nd7?

12...dxe5 13.Nxc6 Qxc6 14.fxe5 Nd5 15.Nxd5 exd5²

13.Bd3?

13.exd6!+–

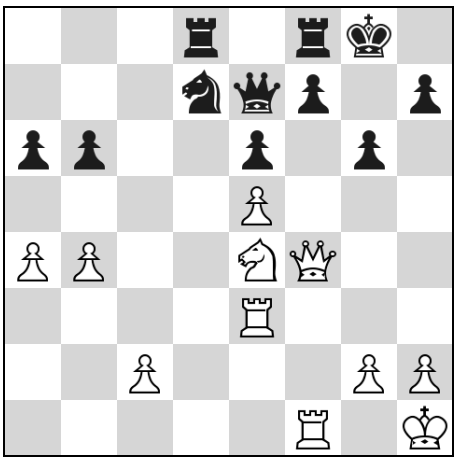
13...Nxd4 14.Bxd4 dxe5 15.fxe5 g6

15...Bc5!

16.Qf3 Bb7 17.Be4 Rab8 18.Rae1 Bc5 19.Bxc5 Nxc5 20.Bxb7 Qxb7 21.Qf4 Qe7 22.Re3

22.b4! Nd7 23.Ne4 with a clear advantage

22...Rbd8 23.b4 Nd7 24.Ne4



24...f5!

Black escapes.

25.exf6 Nxf6 26.Ref3

26.Nxf6+ leads to a colorful forcing line: 26...Rxf6 27.Qc4 Qxb4! 28.Qxa6 Qxa4! 29.Qe2 Rd2! 30.Qe1 Qc6µ; 26.Ree1 is also playable here.

26...Nxe4 27.Qxe4 Rxf3 28.Qxf3 Rf8 29.Qxf8+ Qxf8 30.Rxf8+ Kxf8 31.Kg1 Ke7 32.Kf2 a5 33.bxa5 bxa5 34.Ke3 Kd6 35.Kd4 e5+ 36.Ke4 h6 37.g4 g5 38.Ke3 Kd5 39.Kd3 Kc5 40.Ke4 Kd6 41.Ke3 Kd5 42.Kd3 Kc5 ½–½

42...Kc5 43.Ke4 Kd6= *(43...Kb4 44.Kxe5 Kxa4 45.Kd5 Kb4 46.c4 a4 47.c5 a3 48.c6 a2 49.c7 a1Q 50.c8Q Qh1+ 51.Kd4 Qxh2 52.Qc4+* is a dead draw.*)*

Michael Bowersock (2227)
Apurva Virkud (2025)
Michigan Master/Expert (5)
January 2013
Sicilian: Scheveningen (Paulsen), B84
Notes by Michael Bowersock

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Be2 a6 7.0–0 Be7 8.a4 0–0 9.Be3 Qc7 10.f4 b6 11.g4

11.Bf3 Bb7 12.g4 Nc6 13.g5 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Nd7 15.Qd2 Rfe8 16.Bg2 Bf8 17.Rf3²

11...Bb7 12.Bd3 Nc6 13.g5 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Nd7 15.Qh5

15.Be3

15...e5 16.Be3 exf4 17.Rxf4 Ne5 18.Raf1 Rae8?!

Not really sure why Black played this move

19.Rh4 h6 20.Rh3 Bd8 21.gxh6 g6

It is usually ok in these positions for Black to sacrifice the h pawn, a pretty typical idea.

22.Qe2 Bc8 23.Rg3

23.Nd5 may have been a bit better.

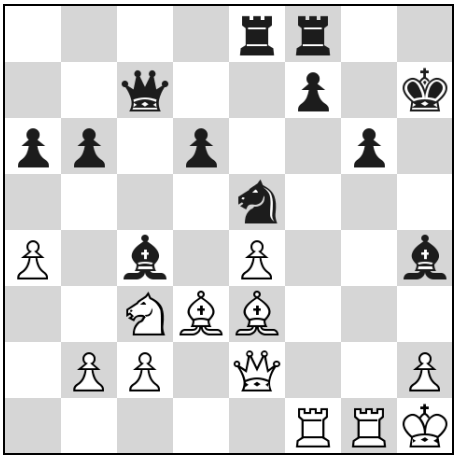
23...Be6 24.Kh1

To give my rook a square to go to

24...Bh4 25.Rgg1 Bc4 26.h7+!?

Good intentions but shouldn't work.

26...Kxh7



27.Rf5 Nxd3?

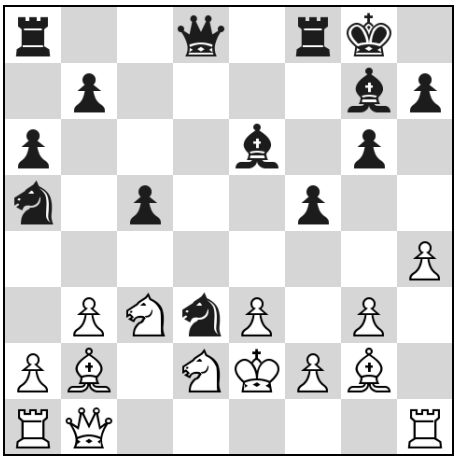
This just loses a piece

28.cxd3 Bxd3 29.Qh5+ 1–0

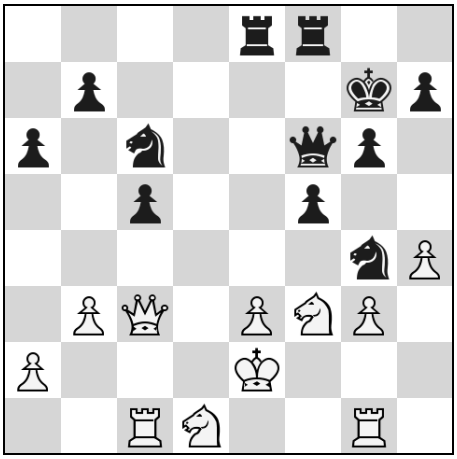
If Apurva takes on h5 then the rook will capture with mate, and if she moves her king back I will take on h4 and be up a piece.

Vladimir Drkulec (2051)
John Dowling (2000)
A81 Dutch Leningrad
Michigan Master/Expert (5)
January 2013
Notes by Douglas Fick

1.d4 d6 2.Nf3 f5 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 g6 5.h4 Bg7 6.c4 0–0 7.Nc3 Nc6 8.d5 Na5 9.Nd2 c5 10.Qc2 a6 11.e3 e5 12.dxe6 Bxe6 13.b3 d5 14.cxd5 Nxd5 15.Bb2 Nb4 16.Qb1 Nd3+ 17.Ke2



17...Nxf2! 18.Rf1 Ng4 19.Nd1 Bd5 20.Bf3 Bxf3+ 21.Nxf3 Qd6 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.Qc1 Nc6 24.Rg1 Rae8 25.Qc3+ Qf6 26.Rc1



26...Nd4+! 27.Nxd4 cxd4 28.Qd3 Nxe3 29.Kf2 f4 30.Rc7+ Rf7

30...Kg8 is even stronger

31.Rxf7+ Kxf7 32.Nxe3 dxe3+ 33.Kg2 f3+ 34.Kh2 e2 35.Qd5+ Kg7 36.Qxb7+ Re7 37.Qb4 f2 38.Ra1 f1Q 39.Rxf1 exf1Q 0–1

Isaac Zylstra (1735)
Joshua Posthuma (1784)
Michigan Class B (5)
January 2013
Queen's Gambit: Albin, D08
Notes by Joshua Posthuma

In this game, I was playing my rival, Isaac Zylstra, to see who would win the Michigan Class B title. Isaac had 3.5/4 going into the game, and I had 4/4, so I just had to avoid a loss.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e5

The Albin Counter Gambit. It can be very sharp, which is what I like. :)

3.dxe5 d4 4.Nf3

I haven't seen this be played before, but it IS a book move in this position.

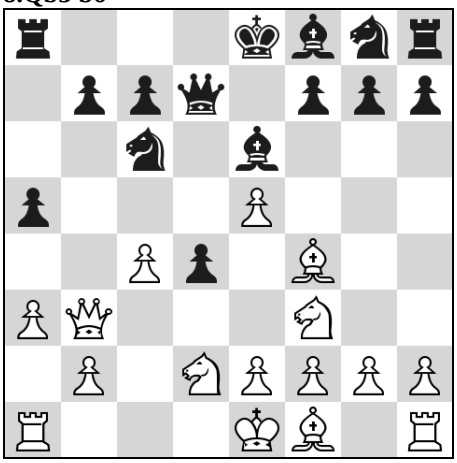
4...Nc6 5.Bf4 Be6?!

The bishop really belongs on g4 in this line, so this was a mistake. Better is 5...Bc5 followed by 6.-- Nge7 and 7.-- Bg4

6.Nbd2 Qd7 7.a3 a5!?

Stopping any immediate b4 ideas, although this is dangerous because now I can't castle queenside.

8.Qb3 b6



After a long think. Normally, a person in my position would just play 8...a4 and allow repetition after 9.Qxb7 Ra7 10.Qb5 Ra5 11.Qb7 , which I probably should have done. I spent 15 minutes on this move deciding if I was o.k. with a draw, or if I wanted to go for the win. I though Isaac was probably fighting for a win also so that he could get first place, I didn't even want to give him the chance. I don't really know why.

9.Qd3

This move looks a little awkward, but the goal is simple: Attack d4.

9...Bc5

That's never a very comfortable square for a bishop, but it was the only square that I could go to so that my knight has access to e7. Also, it gives one more defender to d4.

10.Rd1 Nge7

I'm not in too much danger here.

11.Ne4 Ng6 12.Bh6?

This move looks like a good attacking move, but if black plays right, white will actually be in a little trouble after e5 falls. Stockfish says that before this move, the evaluation was +0.4, but after Bh6 it was –1.5. 12.Bg3 was much better, and White still has a fine position.

12...0–0

Although I did have to be careful. Almost any other move lost on the spot.

13.h4 Ngxe5 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.Qg3

Forking my knight and checkmate. What do I do?

15...f6

A discovered defense from the queen.

16.Nxf6+?

White should just accept a worse (maybe not even worse) position, and retreat his pieces instead of trying to continue his unsound attack.

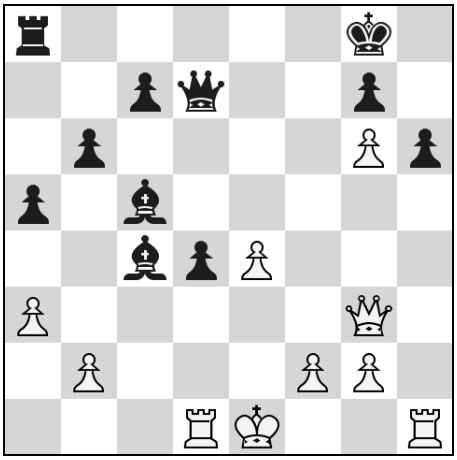
16...Rxf6 17.Bg5 Rf5 18.e4 Rxg5

Now I have two pieces for the rook.

19.hxg5 Nxc4 20.g6 h6

I have to be careful of that g6 pawn, and potential 7th rank or back rank checkmates.

21.Bxc4 Bxc4



Now, not only do I have 2 pieces for the rook, but it's the bishop pair, and I have cut off White's king from castling.

22.Rc1 Ba6

I went here and not to b5 because I want my queen to be able to go to b5, and threaten checkmate. Also, my queen would not be tied down to defending the bishop after Qb3+

23.Qb3+ Kh8

23...Kf8? 24.Rh3

24.Kd2? Qg4 25.Rce1 Qxg6 26.Qd5 Rf8 27.Rh2 Rxf2+ 28.Kc1 Qg3 29.Reh1 Qe3+ 30.Kb1 Qd3+ 31.Ka1 Rf1+ 32.Ka2 Bc4+ 33.b3 Qc2# 0–1

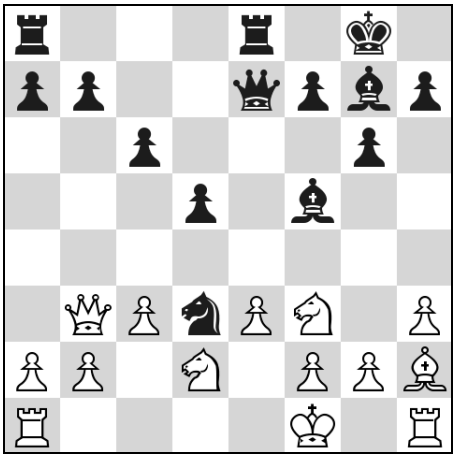
Mike Nikitin (1512)
Scott Faust (1562)
Michigan Class C (5)
January 2013
Indian, A45
Notes by Scott Faust

Wikipedia defines a chess miniature as "A short game (usually no more than 20 to 25 moves)...Usually only decisive games (not draws) are considered miniatures." If memory serves me correctly, this is my first one.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4

This opening is called the London System, but Hiarcs wants to classify it as A45 Trompowsky Attack. Someday I'll figure out the intricacies of Hiarcs.

2...d6 3.e3 c6 4.c3 g6 5.Nf3 Bg7 6.Bd3 0–0 7.Nbd2 Nbd7 8.h3 Re8 9.Qb3 e5 10.Ng5 Qe7 11.Bh2 d5 12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.Be2 Nfd7 14.Ngf3 Nc5 15.Qd1 Ned3+ 16.Bxd3 Nxd3+ 17.Kf1 Bf5 18.Qb3



18...Nxf2 19.Kxf2 Qxe3+ 20.Kg3 Be5+ 21.Kh4 Qh6#
0–1

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Rounds: Saturday 10:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m.

Time Control: G/120 Subtract 5 minutes for digital clocks with 5 second delay

Format: 5 round swiss 6 sections

Memberships: USCF and MCA required

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Under 1900	$40 subtract $5 if under 18	1st $150 + trophy, under 1800 $75
Under 1700	$40 subtract $5 if under 18	1st $150 + trophy, under 1600 $75
Under 1500	$40 subtract $5 if under 18	1st $150 + trophy, under 1400 $75
Under 1300	$40 subtract $5 if under 18	1st $150 + trophy, under 1200 $75
Under 1100	$25 subtract $5 if under 18	Trophies to 1st, 2nd, under 1000, under 900

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Ann Arbor, MI 48107

2012 Michigan Scholastic Club Championships

2012 Michigan Scholastic Club (K-12) Team Standings

No.	Club Team	Score
1	Ann Arbor Huron	14.5
2	J-FORCE	13.5
3	Detroit Country Day	12.5
4	Holland	9.0
5	Ann Arbor Greenhills	4.0
6	Ann Arbor Monsters	3.0

2012 Michigan Scholastic Club (K-12) Individual Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1	Jalen Wang	2104	W17	W10	W9	D3	W7	4.5
2	Alan Sun	1730	W25	W13	W4	D6	D3	4.0
3	Justin Chen	1948	W18	W24	W5	D1	D2	4.0
4	Andrew Schremser	1459	W19	W14	L2	W11	W9	4.0
5	Zachary Smith	1595	W29	W11	L3	W15	W12	4.0
6	Jeffery Zhang	1626	W22	W20	D8	D2	W10	4.0
7	Alexander Deatrick	2047	1/2	W16	W13	W8	L1	3.5
8	Ricky Warnicke	1767	W21	W12	D6	L7	W24	3.5
9	Marco Lorenzon	1643	W23	W15	L1	W20	L4	3.0
10	James Lemon	1337	W30	L1	W25	W18	L6	3.0
11	Franklin Bromberg	989	W31	L5	W19	L4	W22	3.0
12	Valerie Peng	1382	W26	L8	W23	W21	L5	3.0
13	Syed Arbab	1332	W33	L2	L7	W19	W18	3.0
14	Adam Abu-Shtayyah	Unr	W16	L4	L18	W23	W20	3.0
15	Reagan Turedi	1158	W28	L9	W22	L5	W25	3.0
16	Jacob Crandell	1308	L14	L7	W30	W26	W21	3.0
17	Raphael Wieland	859	L1	L19	W31	D28	W29	2.5
18	Nicholas Recker	912	L3	W26	W14	L10	L13	2.0
19	Jamil Rehemtulla	585	L4	W17	L11	L13	W30	2.0
20	Matthew Song	1123	W27	L6	W29	L9	L14	2.0
21	So Stanescu-Bellu	816	L8	W33	W24	L12	L16	2.0
22	Naveen Fujii	710	L6	W27	L15	W31	L11	2.0
23	Ajay Gudivada	769	L9	W31	L12	L14	W28	2.0
24	Anirudh Chitale	1286	W32	L3	L21	W29	L8	2.0
25	Nir Glazer	722	L2	W32	L10	W30	L15	2.0
26	Sai Kilaru	391	L12	L18	W27	L16	W32	2.0
27	Robby Abbaduska	Unr	L20	L22	L26	Bye	W33	2.0
28	Andy Hsiao	Unr	L15	L29	W32	D17	L23	1.5
29	Aravinda Kalimi	674	L5	W28	L20	L24	L17	1.0
30	Dara Nafiu	207	L10	Bye	L16	L25	L19	1.0
31	Robert Martinez	Unr	L11	L23	L17	L22	Bye	1.0
32	Jacob Zoerhoff	Unr	L24	L25	L28	W33	L26	1.0
33	Dhiraj Surapaneni	102	L13	L21	Bye	L32	L27	1.0

2012 Michigan Scholastic Club (K-8) Team Standings

No.	Club Team	Score
1	Troy All-Stars	17.0
2	Ann Arbor Clague	15.0
3	Michigan Chess Academy	14.5
4	Okemos	13.0
5	Windsor Friday Knights	13.0
6	J-FORCE	13.0
7	Spring Lake	12.0
8	Schuchard/Jeanette	10.5
9	Ann Arbor Greenhills	10.0
10	Holland	9.5
11	Our Lady of Good Counsel	9.0
12	Ann Arbor Monsters	8.5
13	Petosky	8.5
14	East Lansing CC	8.0
15	Athens	4.0
16	All the Kings Men	3.5
17	EHUB	2.0

2012 Michigan Scholastic Club (K-8) Individual Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1	Ben Li	1918	W55	W30	W19	W8	W5	5.0
2	Daniel Motoc	1471	W73	W28	W9	W21	W7	5.0
3	Joshua Posthuma	1776	W43	W25	D18	W27	W6	4.5
4	Vijay Sriram	1414	W65	D26	W51	W18	W40	4.5
5	Karthik Vuyyuru	1374	W83	W48	W44	W11	L1	4.0
6	Ryan Li	1315	W81	W36	W24	W12	L3	4.0
7	Jason Ye	1435	W29	W38	W33	W22	L2	4.0
8	Andrew Alson	1330	W61	W35	W23	L1	W31	4.0
9	Aaron Glueck	1223	W76	W41	L2	W24	W39	4.0
10	Julian Wellman	1593	W63	W31	L11	W26	W37	4.0
11	Karthik Ravi	1243	W105	W74	W10	L5	W29	4.0
12	Michael Pappas	1435	W70	W66	W37	L6	W25	4.0
13	Jeremy Mathews	1420	W75	W47	L21	W30	W33	4.0
14	Surya Parasuraman	1354	W90	L23	W43	W38	W22	4.0
15	Marcus Badgett	1372	W53	W60	L22	W59	W21	4.0
16	Michael Motoc	1257	W82	L24	W63	W35	W42	4.0
17	Ryan Gudal	1325	W91	L51	W62	W23	W32	4.0
18	Eric Zhong	1289	W77	W39	D3	L4	W51	3.5
19	Sasha Konovalenko	1296	W71	W58	L1	D51	W57	3.5
20	Austin Ye	1435	L54	W95	D55	W61	W52	3.5
21	Saano Murembya	1149	W92	W52	W13	L2	L15	3.0
22	Connor Linn	1103	W64	W34	W15	L7	L14	3.0
23	Stefano Lee	863	W78	W14	L8	L17	W65	3.0
24	Gary Ugrinovskiy	820	W96	W16	L6	L9	W69	3.0
25	Josh Vandermeulen	1093	W86	L3	W73	W49	L12	3.0
26	Anna Sun	973	W97	D4	D45	L10	W73	3.0
27	Ayush Das	1406	W68	W57	D46	L3	D28	3.0
28	Darius Britton	1083	W69	L2	W54	D56	D27	3.0
29	Jason Knox	668	L7	W88	W66	W47	L11	3.0
30	Laurence Yang	981	W100	L1	W83	L13	W63	3.0
31	Nicholas Zepf	1057	W109	L10	W75	W53	L8	3.0
32	Jeffrey Zhu	1060	D45	D56	W70	W34	L17	3.0
33	Veronic Gawarecki	1161	W95	W54	L7	W67	L13	3.0
34	Tsz Yeung Xu	Unr	W49	L22	W36	L32	W74	3.0
35	Surya Krishnan	841	W85	L8	W71	L16	W61	3.0
36	Benjamin Kovacs	815	W50	L6	L34	W76	W64	3.0
37	Nicho Konovalenko	1185	W94	W62	L12	W60	L10	3.0
38	Daniel Gorelik	861	W99	L7	W82	L14	W68	3.0
39	William Harrison	804	W98	L18	W93	W44	L9	3.0
40	Karthik Baskaran	1628	L62	W94	W74	W46	L4	3.0
41	Aditya Kandula	763	W103	L9	D52	W84	D46	3.0
42	Duncan Darnell	1008	L52	W92	W68	W45	L16	3.0
43	Preston Johnson	697	L3	W97	L14	W92	W66	3.0
44	Brendan Cupchak	1108	W106	W79	L5	L39	W56	3.0
45	Andrew Joseph	Unr	D32	W80	D26	L42	W60	3.0
46	Adam Dehollander	1130	W101	W72	D27	L40	D41	3.0
47	Ben Diederich	1015	W93	L13	W65	L29	W62	3.0
48	Gurekmann Gill	878	W87	L5	L53	W82	W75	3.0
49	Josh Virk	760	L34	W98	W72	L25	W78	3.0
50	Tian Tian Hou	Unr	L36	W77	L60	W91	W67	3.0
51	Julia Shen	842	W107	W17	L4	D19	L18	2.5
52	Christian Duran	Unr	W42	L21	D41	W90	L20	2.5
53	Adhava Arivalagan	560	L15	W64	W48	L31	D58	2.5
54	Dipankar Roy	666	W20	L33	L28	W93	D59	2.5
55	Zack Werbrouck	709	L1	W99	D20	L57	W71	2.5
56	arnav Nadgir	759	D80	D32	W79	D28	L44	2.5
57	Immanue Arrington	889	W104	L27	D90	W55	L19	2.5
58	Anun Kumaran	830	W89	L19	L61	W94	D53	2.5
59	Marinos Bernitsas	866	L72	W101	W91	L15	D54	2.5
60	Zachary Hooper	828	W88	L15	W50	L37	L45	2.0
61	Bastiaan Phair	497	L8	W85	W58	L20	L35	2.0
62	Jack Harris	687	W40	L37	L17	W96	L47	2.0
63	Aaron Maloney	678	L10	W96	L16	W86	L30	2.0
64	Scott Miller	Unr	L22	L53	W89	W83	L36	2.0
65	Nicolas Miller	591	L4	W84	L47	W102	L23	2.0
66	M Johnson Kerketta	1061	W102	L12	L29	W77	L43	2.0
67	John Mcsween	812	L79	W87	W81	L33	L50	2.0
68	Nathan Peterson	580	L27	W100	L42	W85	L38	2.0
69	Nicole Keller	Unr	L28	L81	W87	W70	L24	2.0
70	Pratham Goswami	629	L12	W86	L32	L69	W90	2.0

71	Arham Jain	451	L19	W103	L35	W79	L55	2.0
72	Noah Kuehfuss	Unr	W59	L46	L49	L74	W92	2.0
73	Connor Barash	669	L2	W108	L25	W88	L26	2.0
74	Andrew Himebaugh	725	W108	L11	L40	W72	L34	2.0
75	Dylan Constantine	611	L13	W104	L31	W100	L48	2.0
76	Agniva Bhaumik	307	L9	W78	L84	L36	W97	2.0
77	Mathew Asher	431	L18	L50	W80	L66	W102	2.0
78	Olivia LaPrise	Unr	L23	L76	W105	W81	L49	2.0
79	Nicholas Wiesner	Unr	W67	L44	L56	L71	W91	2.0
80	Mattheas Boelter	Unr	D56	L45	L77	W95	D84	2.0
81	Samarth Somani	484	L6	W69	L67	L78	W99	2.0
82	Zac Harrison	378	L16	W107	L38	L48	W100	2.0
83	John Vallespir	574	L5	W106	L30	L64	W96	2.0
84	Elanor Tang	Unr	1/2	L65	W76	L41	D80	2.0
85	Alexander Bemben	Unr	L35	L61	W97	L68	W93	2.0
86	Cydney McKeel	Unr	L25	L70	W98	L63	W95	2.0
87	T.J. Christian	101	L48	L67	L69	W104	W98	2.0
88	Asa Gold	Unr	L60	L29	W106	L73	W94	2.0
89	Christopher Gauthier	Unr	L58	L91	L64	W103	W101	2.0
90	Jahlin Brooks	522	L14	W102	D57	L52	L70	1.5
91	Ciprian Savu	489	L17	W89	L59	L50	L79	1.0
92	Logan Costie	156	L21	L42	W99	L43	L72	1.0
93	Nathan Titus	Unr	L47	W105	L39	L54	L85	1.0
94	Nabeel Rehemtulla	257	L37	L40	W104	L58	L88	1.0
95	Justen Wilson	228	L33	L20	W103	L80	L86	1.0
96	Joey Green	Unr	L24	L63	W101	L62	L83	1.0
97	Billy Peralta	Unr	L26	L43	L85	W108	L76	1.0
98	Zachary Thornton	Unr	L39	L49	L86	W106	L87	1.0
99	Daniel Miller	Unr	L38	L55	L92	W105	L81	1.0
100	Gavin Lewis	Unr	L30	L68	W107	L75	L82	1.0
101	Bradley Brandvold	108	L46	L59	L96	W107	L89	1.0
102	Scott Snyder	Unr	L66	L90	W108	L65	L77	1.0
103	Mike Christian	Unr	L41	L71	L95	L89	W107	1.0
104	Jackson Kyle	Unr	L57	L75	L94	L87	W106	1.0
105	Sumit Basak	345	L11	L93	L78	L99	W108	1.0
106	Sophia Louden	Unr	L44	L83	L88	L98	L104	0.0
107	Katie Hotchkiss	Unr	L51	L82	L100	L101	L103	0.0
108	Fletcher Wyble	Unr	L74	L73	L102	L97	L105	0.0
109	Grace Morin	Unr	L31	---	---	---	---	0.0

2012 Michigan Scholastic Club (K-5) Team Standings

No.	Club Team	Score
1	Troy All-Stars	17.0
2	Windsor Friday Knights	16.0
3	Roeper	16.0
4	J-FORCE	15.0
5	Michigan Chess Academy	14.5
6	Ann Arbor Monsters	13.5
7	Okemos	13.0
8	CAFI	11.0
9	Schuchard	9.5
10	Holt	9.5
11	HC.com	6.5

2012 Michigan Scholastic Club (K-5) Individual Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1	Bryan Wilson Jr	1530	W65	W35	W28	W16	W7	5.0
2	Josiah Smith	1129	W56	W53	W19	W10	W5	5.0
3	Jason Zheng	1194	W67	W14	W12	D17	W11	4.5
4	Madhav Ramesh	887	D91	W80	W93	W21	W17	4.5
5	Zhehai Zhang	1479	W64	W37	W18	W9	L2	4.0
6	Justin Liang	1352	W66	W22	L11	W42	W29	4.0
7	Jeannie Zhang	1150	W55	W36	W13	W27	L1	4.0
8	Blake Bottesi	1044	W70	W49	D21	D29	W31	4.0
9	Robby Riles	1041	W71	W46	W31	L5	W33	4.0
10	Akash Narayanan	1001	W72	W48	W25	L2	W35	4.0
11	Rohan Talukdar	921	W74	W60	W6	W52	L3	4.0
12	Max Morrow	904	W51	W62	L3	W46	W50	4.0
13	Jade Ge	902	W75	W54	L7	W43	W32	4.0
14	Adam Gaisinsky	680	W85	L3	W63	W73	W27	4.0
15	Henry Zhang	Unr	W39	W33	L27	W40	W28	4.0
16	Robbie Moore	1093	W69	W41	W30	L1	D20	3.5
17	Joshua Mathews	1055	W90	W40	W20	D3	L4	3.5
18	James Xiu	921	W95	W50	L5	W44	D22	3.5
19	Joseph Weber	900	W76	W63	L2	W48	D25	3.5
20	Stephen Dzialo	842	W78	W104	L17	W45	D16	3.5
21	Brian Wu	727	W86	W101	D8	L4	W54	3.5
22	Rohan Ray	725	W100	L6	W56	W61	D18	3.5
23	Jainil Shah	633	L26	W91	D68	W67	W55	3.5
24	Matthew Zepf	510	L59	W100	D26	W92	W53	3.5
25	Frank Hou	Unr	W47	W32	L10	W34	D19	3.5
26	Ben Li	Unr	W23	L31	D24	W89	W52	3.5
27	Daniel Hou	1006	W94	W45	W15	L7	L14	3.0
28	Jonhan Chen	917	W96	W61	L1	W41	L15	3.0
29	Anvit Rao	885	W77	W81	D52	D8	L6	3.0
30	Sid Byrapaneni	798	W97	W59	L16	L50	W65	3.0
31	Anirban Sarkar	768	W79	W26	L9	W49	L8	3.0
32	Siddharth Jha	762	W103	L25	W62	W66	L13	3.0
33	Evan Barash	732	W98	L15	W38	W60	L9	3.0
34	Dylan Stafeil	710	L81	W77	W65	L25	W61	3.0
35	Avery Long	687	W110	L1	W64	W69	L10	3.0
36	Advaith Vuppala	661	W83	L7	L67	W91	W60	3.0
37	David Benkes-Toth	657	W58	L5	L66	W76	W63	3.0
38	Medha Tripathi	625	D93	W92	L33	D72	W66	3.0
39	Shivam Jha	618	L15	W79	L69	W77	W67	3.0
40	Rishi Kalyan	609	W105	L17	W70	L15	W69	3.0
41	Benjamin Stafeil	587	W109	L16	W51	L28	W70	3.0
42	Pavan Kannan	574	W106	L52	W71	L6	W75	3.0
43	Quan Nguyen	567	L101	W103	W95	L13	W72	3.0
44	Sai Vepa	561	L104	W78	W74	L18	W71	3.0
45	Kayden Pierre	558	W73	L27	W76	L20	W86	3.0
46	Ryan Cole	556	W57	L9	W75	L12	W79	3.0
47	Sherrye Ye	552	L25	W102	L73	W101	W87	3.0
48	Ari Bozann	548	W107	L10	W80	L19	W84	3.0
49	Cameron Stewart	544	W84	L8	W87	L31	W73	3.0
50	Adam Yost	528	W82	L18	W104	W30	L12	3.0
51	Kai Young	203	L12	W106	L41	W81	W89	3.0
52	Christian Hausner	1112	W68	W42	D29	L11	L26	2.5
53	Jayesh Mate	617	W87	L2	D72	W68	L24	2.5
54	Samantha Gramer	494	W102	L13	D59	W93	L21	2.5
55	Zachary Massat	441	L7	D57	W82	W59	L23	2.5
56	Rohan Shah	418	L2	W99	L22	D58	W92	2.5
57	Andy Armstrong	Unr	L46	D55	L89	W108	W93	2.5
58	Mitchell Chau	Unr	L37	L74	W100	D56	W91	2.5
59	Timmy Joseph	Unr	W24	L30	D54	L55	W90	2.5
60	Nikhil Somani	517	W99	L11	W101	L33	L36	2.0
61	Siddhar Nagisetty	506	W88	L28	W81	L22	L34	2.0
62	Jed Amoguis	494	Bye	L12	L32	L79	W104	2.0
63	Samuel Weiss	493	W108	L19	L14	W99	L37	2.0
64	Sriamsha Dubbaka	452	L5	W86	L35	L87	W103	2.0
65	Kristian Popov	451	L1	W83	L34	W104	L30	2.0
66	Abhina Keshamouni	441	L6	W110	W37	L32	L38	2.0
67	Blayze Karp	433	L3	W88	W36	L23	L39	2.0
68	Hanna Kim	412	L52	W98	D23	L53	D82	2.0
69	Rachel Li	394	L16	W85	W39	L35	L40	2.0
70	Eric Huang	326	L8	W109	L40	W85	L41	2.0
71	Uma Sriram	304	L9	Bye	L42	W88	L44	2.0
72	Samuel Kramer	250	L10	W108	D53	D38	L43	2.0
73	Apa Krishnamurthy	247	L45	W96	W47	L14	L49	2.0
74	Aodhan Beattie	244	L11	W58	L44	L86	W105	2.0
75	Simon Hood	202	L13	W84	L46	W102	L42	2.0
76	Khushi Afre	200	L19	W107	L45	L37	W101	2.0
77	Kaleb Packard	178	L29	L34	W83	L39	W98	2.0
78	Stuart Atkinsmith	168	L20	L44	L85	Bye	W107	2.0
79	Chris Zhang	166	L31	L39	Bye	W62	L46	2.0
80	Sophie Rees	107	Bye	L4	L48	L90	W102	2.0
81	Rohan Desai	Unr	W34	L29	L61	L51	W94	2.0
82	Prithvi Joshi	Unr	L50	D90	L55	W109	D68	2.0
83	Kristian Laveque	Unr	L36	L65	L77	W100	W108	2.0
84	Randall Novak	Unr	L49	L75	W105	W95	L48	2.0
85	Trisha Pal	Unr	L14	L69	W78	L70	W99	2.0
86	Gavin Shadrick	Unr	L21	L64	W98	W74	L45	2.0
87	Charlie Solomon	Unr	L53	W94	L49	W64	L47	2.0

88	Rohit Tattitali	Unr	L61	L67	W96	L71	W95	2.0
89	Owen Stroup	455	D92	L93	W57	L26	L51	1.5
90	Matthew Raymond	337	L17	D82	L92	W80	L59	1.5
91	Zion Johnson	191	D4	L23	W94	L36	L58	1.5
92	Andrew Grekin	Unr	D89	L38	W90	L24	L56	1.5
93	Divum Mittal	Unr	D38	W89	L4	L54	L57	1.5
94	Johnathan Hong	258	L27	L87	L91	W106	L81	1.0
95	Noah Newhard	218	L18	W105	L43	L84	L88	1.0
96	Cole Costie	203	L28	L73	L88	L98	Bye	1.0
97	Alex Wuycheck	142	L30	Bye	---	---	---	1.0
98	Alan Atkinsmith	Unr	L33	L68	L86	W96	L77	1.0
99	Aditya Bapat	Unr	L60	L56	W106	L63	L85	1.0
100	Christopher Cilwa	Unr	L22	L24	L58	L83	W110	1.0
101	Marcus Cohen	Unr	W43	L21	L60	L47	L76	1.0
102	Carson Finney	Unr	L54	L47	W110	L75	L80	1.0
103	Emmersyn Laprise	Unr	L32	L43	D108	D107	L64	1.0
104	Adam Levitt	Unr	W44	L20	L50	L65	L62	1.0
105	Sean Reid	Unr	L40	L95	L84	W110	L74	1.0
106	Christopher Ryder	Unr	L42	L51	L99	L94	W109	1.0
107	James Sneyd	Unr	L48	L76	D109	D103	L78	1.0
108	Jacob Toomey	Unr	L63	L72	D103	L57	L83	0.5
109	Steven Wulfekuhler	Unr	L41	L70	D107	L82	L106	0.5
110	Megan Hotchkiss	Unr	L35	L66	L102	L105	L100	0.0

2012 Michigan Scholastic Club (K-3) Team Standings

No.	Club Team	Score
1	J-FORCE	16.5
2	Roeper	16.5
3	Ann Arbor Monsters	15.5
4	Troy All-Stars	14.0
5	Okemos	14.0
6	Michigan Chess Academy	11.5
7	Schuchard	10.5
8	Windsor Friday Knights	9.0
9	HC.com	8.0
10	Our Lady of Good Counsel	4.5
11	DCR	3.5

2012 Michigan Scholastic Club (K-3) Individual Standings

No.	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1	Aiden Song	999	W38	W63	W61	W15	W4	5.0
2	Anthony Liao	953	W90	W31	W8	W25	W7	5.0
3	Justin Sui	629	Bye	W21	W46	W5	W14	5.0
4	Christopher Bernitsas	824	W67	W11	W27	W26	L1	4.0
5	Jack Li	807	W91	W32	W16	L3	W17	4.0
6	Jared Ge	752	W80	L34	W47	W18	W30	4.0
7	Arjun Bajaj	653	W93	W10	W28	W42	L2	4.0
8	Alex Guo	546	W97	W23	L2	W34	W29	4.0
9	Rishith Seelam	546	L22	W59	W76	W36	W33	4.0
10	Pranav Kannan	362	W13	L7	W74	W75	W25	4.0
11	Bryce Bottesi	316	W81	L4	W93	W39	W47	4.0
12	Theodore Morrow	107	W102	W96	L18	W85	W50	4.0
13	Alexander Novoselov	Unr	L10	W77	W67	W32	W27	4.0
14	Justin Wu	714	W79	D22	W24	W58	L3	3.5
15	Eric Zhang	645	W41	W70	W33	L1	D21	3.5
16	Caden Che	494	W92	W43	L5	D53	W35	3.5
17	Corin Tang	453	1/2	W35	W66	W22	L5	3.5
18	Rishab Jayaraman	433	1/2	W36	W12	L6	W42	3.5
19	Nicholas Keuten	352	L76	W52	D57	W87	W58	3.5
20	Tai Karir	Unr	1/2	W54	L22	W56	W53	3.5
21	Jeremy Kovacs	Unr	W62	L3	W91	W28	D15	3.5
22	Nathan Ouyang	Unr	W9	D14	W20	L17	W59	3.5
23	Charlie Reese	Unr	W64	L8	W70	D46	W57	3.5
24	Kaden Thornton	Unr	1/2	W62	L14	W49	W46	3.5
25	Graham Barash	644	W82	W50	W30	L2	L10	3.0
26	Kaivalya Kulkarni	594	W95	W75	W34	L4	---	3.0
27	Josh Gifford	542	W78	W40	L4	W38	L13	3.0
28	Yashwant Dubbaka	492	W56	W60	L7	L21	W75	3.0
29	Shreyas Talluri	452	W77	L42	W81	W43	L8	3.0
30	Yaseen Metwally	438	W65	W53	L25	W44	L6	3.0
31	Daniel Huang	352	W74	L2	L40	W82	W83	3.0
32	Luke Hausner	306	W87	L5	W41	L13	W76	3.0
33	Amy Xiu	301	W39	W45	L15	W40	L9	3.0
34	Megan Wu	299	W57	W6	L26	L8	W74	3.0
35	Stephanie Dzialo	268	W98	L17	W80	W61	L16	3.0
36	Eva Erhardt	204	W73	L18	W83	L9	W78	3.0
37	Aswath Karai	174	L43	L39	W94	W80	W81	3.0
38	Alexander Boyd	104	L1	W97	W60	L27	W65	3.0
39	Alan Bui	Unr	L33	W37	W51	L11	W70	3.0
40	Anish Krishnamurthy	Unr	W51	L27	W31	L33	W66	3.0
41	Jake Middleton	Unr	L15	W102	L32	W77	W63	3.0
42	Dean Olszweski	Unr	W68	W29	W88	L7	L18	3.0
43	Constantine Bellu	Unr	W37	L16	W64	L29	W71	3.0
44	Nicole Zhong	Unr	L50	W71	W68	L30	W61	3.0
45	Tony Peralta	782	W72	L33	L58	W88	D60	2.5
46	Nolan Donovan	431	W103	W83	L3	D23	L24	2.5
47	Oliver Schutt	294	D86	W49	L6	W78	L11	2.5
48	Shreya Kalyan	281	D54	L58	W99	L57	W87	2.5
49	Hayley Chenfang	107	Bye	L47	D87	L24	W88	2.5
50	William Harris	105	W44	L25	D56	W66	L12	2.5
51	Jaegun Song	105	L40	W94	L39	W95	D55	2.5
52	Tobias Tang	101	1/2	L19	W98	L63	W86	2.5
53	Luke Burmeister	Unr	W71	L30	W63	D16	L20	2.5
54	Mack Burmeister	Unr	D48	L20	W96	L59	W84	2.5
55	Bryan Chen	Unr	L70	L87	W100	W64	D51	2.5
56	Matt Keller	Unr	L28	W103	D50	L20	W85	2.5
57	Elliot Miller	Unr	L34	W95	D19	W48	L23	2.5
58	Chakor Sankaran-R	Unr	1/2	W48	W45	L14	L19	2.5
59	Elliott Varnum	Unr	1/2	L9	W84	W54	L22	2.5
60	Alex Zhang	Unr	W94	L28	L38	W92	D45	2.5
61	Breanna Beringer	561	W100	W76	L1	L35	L44	2.0
62	Connor Harrison	506	L21	L24	L65	W101	W92	2.0
63	Sullivan Klus	403	W101	L1	L53	W52	L41	2.0
64	Ioana Dumitrascu	392	L23	W92	L43	L55	W93	2.0
65	Mithran Kannan	265	L30	L74	W62	W91	L38	2.0
66	Jo Stassinopoulos	197	W99	W85	L17	L50	L40	2.0
67	Tanish Devaram	192	L4	Bye	L13	L76	W94	2.0
68	Ismael Metwally	157	L42	W101	L44	L74	W97	2.0
69	Katarina Bauer	107	1/2	D84	L78	L83	W95	2.0
70	Owen Schadler	105	W55	L15	L23	W93	L39	2.0
71	Vincent Zheng	105	L53	L44	Bye	W73	L43	2.0
72	Aryan Afre	101	L45	L80	W103	L84	W98	2.0
73	Truman Badra	Unr	L36	L81	W102	L71	W99	2.0
74	Jacob Gaisinsky	Unr	L31	W65	L10	W68	L34	2.0
75	Aristide Gardette	Unr	W84	L26	W89	L10	L28	2.0
76	Karma Gawa	Unr	W19	L61	L9	W67	L32	2.0
77	Aidan LaPrise	Unr	L29	L13	W101	L41	W89	2.0
78	Alexander Lyon	Unr	L27	W90	W69	L47	L36	2.0
79	Danielle Macorkindale	Unr	L14	L93	L95	WF	W91	2.0
80	Iyanu Nafiu	Unr	L6	W72	L35	L37	W90	2.0
81	Bora Sever	Unr	L11	W73	L29	W89	L37	2.0
82	Huron Tu	Unr	L25	L89	W97	L31	W96	2.0
83	Ethan White	Unr	W89	L46	L36	W69	L31	2.0
84	Aryan Bonula	263	L75	D69	L59	W72	L54	1.5
85	Alexander Bauer	136	1/2	L66	W86	L12	L56	1.5
86	Lucas Chenault	Unr	D47	L88	L85	W99	L52	1.5
87	Kilas Gallimore	Unr	L32	W55	D49	L19	L48	1.5
88	Kabir Sankaran-R	Unr	1/2	W86	L42	L45	L49	1.5
89	Isonga Murembya	145	L83	W82	L75	L81	L77	1.0
90	Gyan Goswami	102	L2	L78	L92	Bye	L80	1.0
91	Parini Rao	101	L5	W100	L21	L65	L79	1.0
92	Carson Hahn	Unr	L16	L64	W90	L60	L62	1.0
93	Suchir Nagisetty	Unr	L7	W79	L11	L70	L64	1.0
94	Arthi Narayanan	Unr	L60	L51	L37	W100	L67	1.0
95	Zizi Newhard	Unr	L26	L57	W79	L51	L69	1.0
96	Elvin Sahijdak	Unr	1/2	L12	L54	D98	L82	1.0
97	Owen Sheffer	Unr	L8	L38	L82	W102	L68	1.0
98	Quentin Zeller	Unr	L35	D99	L52	D96	L72	1.0
99	Lilia Brooks	Unr	L66	D98	L48	L86	L73	0.5
100	Daniel Hotchkiss	Unr	L61	L91	L55	L94	D101	0.5
101	Eddie Zhang	Unr	L63	L68	L77	L62	D100	0.5
102	Jonathan Deleon	Unr	L12	L41	L73	L97	---	0.0
103	Hibah Falteh	Unr	L46	L56	L72	LF	---	0.0

2012 Michigan Scholastic Club Prize Winners *(Photos courtesy of TD Michael Smith)*

K-12 Team: Champion
Ann Arbor Huron

K-12 Team: 2nd Place
J-FORCE

K-12 Team: 3rd Place
Detroit Country Day

K-12 Team: 4th Place
Holland

K-12 Ind: Champion
Jalen Wang

K-12 Ind: 2nd Place
Alan Sun

K-12 Ind: 3rd Place
Justin Chen

K-8 Team: Champion
Troy All-Stars

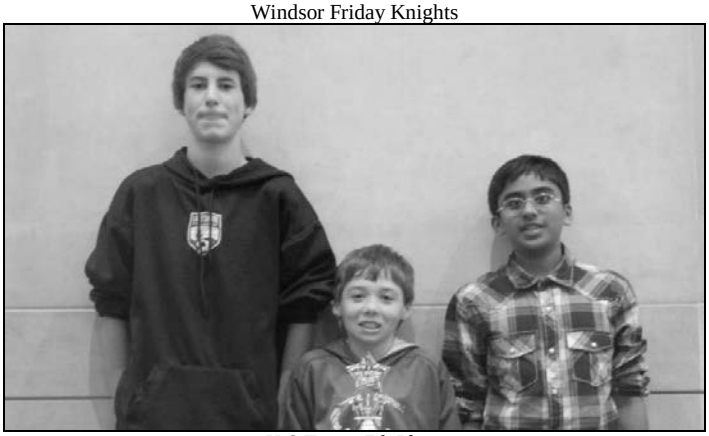
K-8 Team: 2nd Place
Ann Arbor Clague

K-8 Team: 3rd Place
Michigan Chess Academy

K-8 Team: 4th Place
Okemos

K-8 Team: 5th Place
Windsor Friday Knights

K-8 Team: 6th Place
J-FORCE



K-8 Team: 7th Place
Spring Lake

K-8 Ind: Co-Champions
Daniel Motoc & Ben Li

K-8 Ind: 3rd Place
Joshua Posthuma

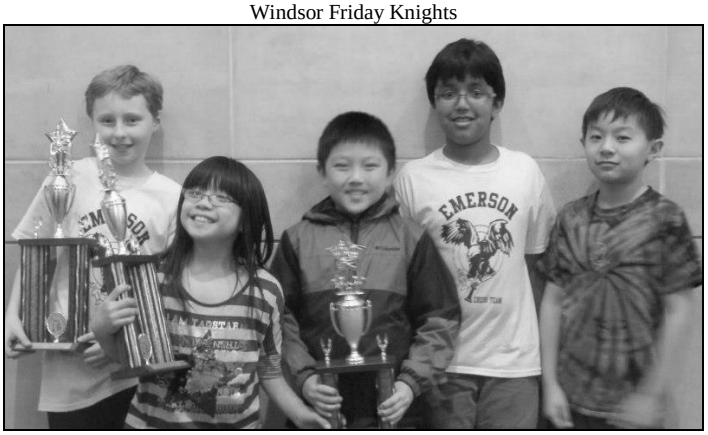
K-8 Ind: Tied for 4th through 17th Place

K-8 Ind: Tied for 4th through 17th Place

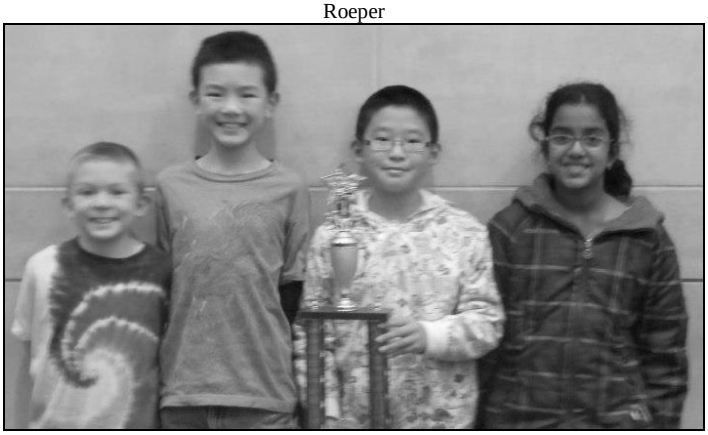
K-5 Team: Champions
Troy All-Stars

K-5 Team: 2nd Place
Windsor Friday Knights

K-5 Team: 3rd Place
Roeper



K-5 Team: 4th Place
J-FORCE



K-5 Team: 5th Place
Michigan Chess Academy

K-5 Team: 7th Place
Okemos

K-5 Ind: Co-Champions
Josiah Smith & Bryan Wilson Jr

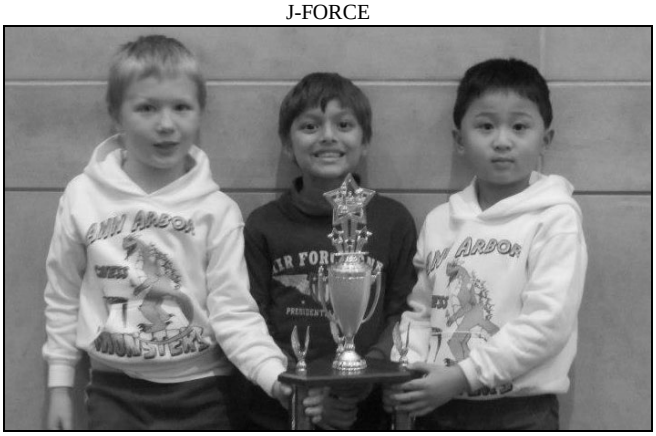
K-5 Ind: 3rd Place
Jason Zheng

K-5 Ind: Tied for 4th through 15th Place

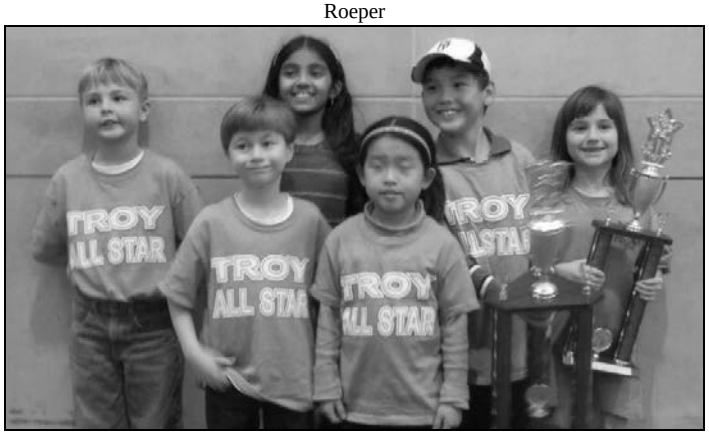
K-5 Ind: Tied for 4th through 15th Place

K-3 Team: Co-Champions
J-FORCE

K-3 Team: Co-Champions
Roeper



K-3 Team: 3rd Place
Ann Arbor Monsters



K-3 Team: 4th Place
Troy All-Stars

K-3 Team: 7th Place
Schuchard

K-3 Ind: Co-Champions
Justin Sui / Anthony Liao / Aiden Song

K-3 Ind: Tied for 4th through 13th Place

K-3 Ind: Tied for 4th through 13th Place

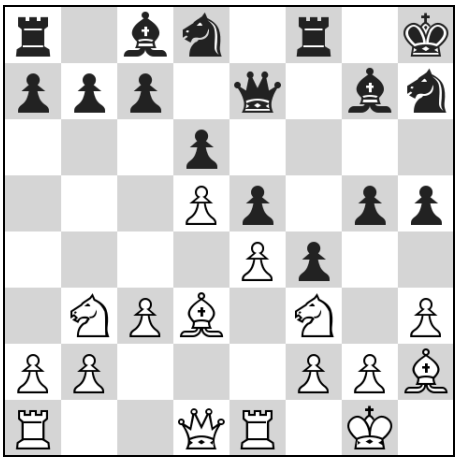
Seth Homa earns his first IM Norm at Golden State!

Seth has kindly annotated all of his games from the event.

Aleksandr Ivanov (2026)
Seth Homa (2352)
Golden State Open, Concord, CA (1)
January 2013
Indian: Torre (Nimzovich), A46
Notes by Seth Homa

Six hours before the first round, it had become clear that I had caught a cold. It wasn't one of those three-days-and-you're-good variety, either. No, this bugger lasted over two weeks! This tournament was proof that if you want something bad enough, nothing can stop you.

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bg5
The Torre Attack.
3...h6 4.Bh4
Even though my database claims this is the most popular move, no one had ever played it against me before!
4...d6
Pre-emptively taking the e5–square away from White's bishop (see next note).
5.e3 g5 6.Bg3 Nh5
Black is determined to hunt down this bishop. If Black had not started with 4...d6, White could have responded with the disrupting Be5.
7.Bd3
My opening knowledge ended here.
7...Bg7 8.0–0 f5
Ambitious.
9.Nbd2 0–0 10.Ne1?!
This cannot be right. White is clearly annoyed by the h5–knight.
10...Nf6?!
And this, in turn, might not have been the best. Probably Black should have just chomped the bishop.
11.h3 Qe7 12.e4?
Computers still won't recognize it, but this is the losing move. White's bishop gets locked out of play for the rest of the game.
12...f4! 13.Bh2 e5!
The h2–bishop is staring at a brick wall. GM Tarrasch once famously said, "If one piece stands badly then the whole position is bad." That seems like an apt description of White's game.
14.c3 Nc6 15.Nef3 Kh8
Stepping away from potential checks and clearing the g8 square for a rook. Black has a dream KID position.
16.Re1 Nh7
In the Main Line King's Indian Defense, White usually has his bishop on e2 and his f3–knight on h2 to suppress Black's kingside-pawn storm. That plan is obviously impossible here.
17.Nb3 h5
Practically forcing the following piece sacrifice.
18.d5 Nd8
If White does nothing, Black will just roll on the kingside.



19.Nxe5!
Pouncing on his last opportunity to mix it up.
19...dxe5 20.Qxh5
Here I had a long think. White has to make a lot of moves but if he can achieve the regrouping Qd1, f3, Kh1, Bg1 then Black will have to win the game all over again. Black won't have the g4–break anymore, and thus he'll be thrown on the defensive. White would play his c-pawn to c5 and his position would become hard to crack.
20...g4!?
Giving White a third pawn for the piece, but cutting off the escape of her majesty.
21.hxg4 Nf7 22.g5?
White thought this was the only way to save the queen, but now Black will have a strong attack without the material deficit. 22.f3 Nfg5 23.Kh1 *(23.Qh4?? Nxf3+ 24.gxf3 Qxh4* winning the queen.*; 23.Kf1??* The king had to go to h1 to save the bishop. For example: *23...Rf6 24.Qh4 Rh6 25.Qf2 Rxh2)* 23...Rf6

Check the label of your magazine. Is it time to renew?
Paul Kane, MCA Membership Secretary,
P.O. Box 458, South Lyon, MI 48178.
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24.Qh4 Rh6 25.Qf2 and here I had planned 25...Bxg4!! 26.fxg4 Nf6 and White's position collapses.

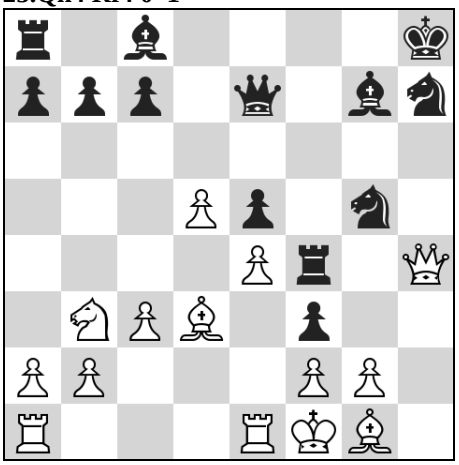
22...Nfxg5 23.Kf1 Rf6!

Threatening 34...Rh6, winning the bishop.

24.Bg1 f3!

Once more, cutting off the queen's escape.

25.Qh4 Rf4 0–1



Also possible was 25...Rh6! 26.Qg3 Rh3!! 27.gxh3 Bxh3+ 28.Qxh3 Nxh3; After 25...Rf4 , a possible variation was 26.Qh2 fxg2+ 27.Ke2 Bg4+ 28.Ke3 Nf3 29.Qxg2 Qg5 with a devastating attack.

Seth Homa (2352)
Daniel Naroditsky (2546)
Golden State Open, Concord, CA (2)
January 2013
Sicilian: Najdorf, B99
Notes by Seth Homa

This was easily the craziest game of my tournament.

1.e4

Daniel plays all kinds of different defenses with Black so I was curious to see what he would try.

1...c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6

The Najdorf!

6.Bg5

The best thing you can do when playing someone stronger than yourself is to choose a variation that you are comfortable with. I think a lot of my success in this event could be attributed to this strategy. I've played 6.Bg5 on and off my whole career.

6...e6 7.f4

Daniel was taking some time over these moves. I could tell he was trying to decide on a variation that would give me the most difficulty.

7...Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0–0–0 Nbd7 10.g4

Continuing the "Play what you know best" path of action.

10...b5 11.Bxf6 gxf6!?

Trying hard to get me into unfamiliar territory. However, this did not have the desired effect. Fischer had played a famous game in this line and I had even used 11...gxf6 myself as Black against Don Vandivier in a Michigan Open. The main line has always been 11...Nxf6 12.g5 Nd7 13.f5 Bxg5+ 14.Kb1 Ne5 15.Qh5 etc.

12.f5 Nc5?!

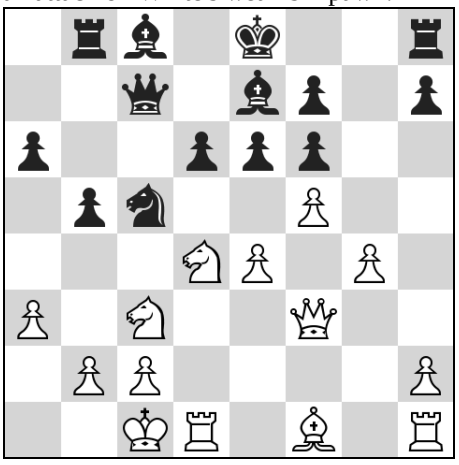
This is not a good move. Daniel has tried too hard to confuse me and now lands himself in a difficult situation. 12...Ne5 was the only move. My game with Vandivier continued: 13.Qh3 0–0 14.Rg1 Kh8 15.Qh6 Rg8 16.Be2 b4 17.Nb1 Bb7 18.Qf4 d5 19.Qg3 Rac8 20.c3 Qa5 21.fxe6 fxe6 22.Nxe6 bxc3 23.Nxc3 Rxc3+ 24.bxc3 Qxa2 25.Rxd5 Bxd5 26.exd5 Qxe2 White resigned. 0–1 Vandivier, D (1852)-Homa, S (2202)/Flint, MI 2006

13.a3

Normally this a3–move is frowned upon but it seemed necessary. Perhaps the immediate 13.g5!? was more accurate.

13...Rb8

Black prepares a standard way to break open the queenside: ...b4 axb4 Rxb4 with an attack on White's weak b2–pawn.



14.g5!

In such a position, every tempo is critical. One can neither waste time nor worry too much about material. Go for the king! Hand-to-hand combat now follows.

14...fxg5 15.fxe6 fxe6 16.Qh5+

I considered many options. If 16.e5 then 16...h5! was an interesting defense resource, depriving my queen of the h5–square.; Another line where ...h5 would come in useful was 16.Bh3 h5! and White must do something about the fork threat.

16...Kd8 17.Bh3

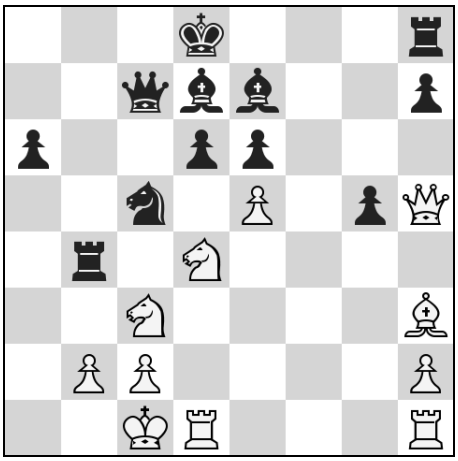
Perhaps this move is too slow. Another critical line was 17.e5 Bd7 18.exd6 Bxd6 19.Qxg5+ Kc8 but it seemed like Black would have overcome most of his difficulties.

17...b4!

Black has a moment to breathe so he takes the time given to create some counterplay.

18.axb4 Rxb4 19.e5! Bd7!

Literally the only move, but a good one. Now ...Qa5 is possible. 19...Qa5?? 20.Nc6+; 19...d5 would have lost after 20.Nxe6+! Bxe6 21.Bxe6 Nxe6 22.Nxd5 when a devastating discovered check would be impossible to meet.



20.Nxe6+!

Sensing that the initiative was close to passing onto my opponent, I calculated this sacrifice as best I could and went all in.

20...Nxe6 21.exd6 Bxd6 22.Nd5!?

22.Bxe6 may have been stronger.

22...Qa5!?

Another interesting line was 22...Rh4!? 23.Nxc7 Rxh5 24.Nxe6+ Bxe6 25.Rxd6+ Kc7 26.Rxe6 Rxh3 27.Rxa6 and despite White's extra pawn, the position looks close to equality after 27...Rf8 with counterplay against h2.

23.Bxe6!

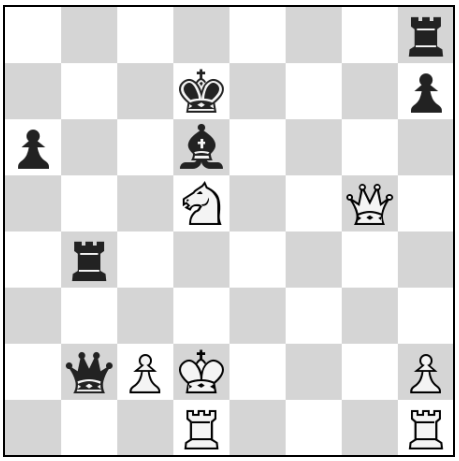
Only move. 23.Nxb4 Qa1+ 24.Kd2 Bxb4+ looked very bad.

23...Qa1+ 24.Kd2 Qxb2

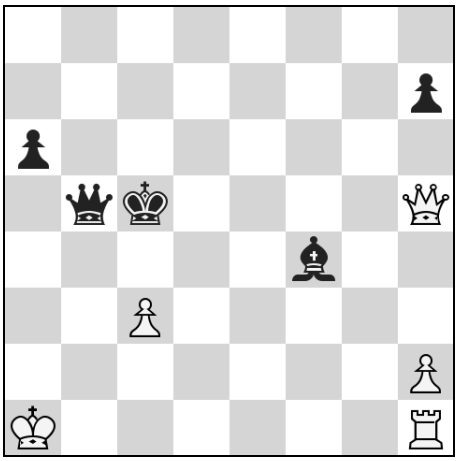
An absolutely chaotic position!

25.Qxg5+ Kc8 26.Bxd7+ Kxd7

Initially I wasn't sure what was going on here, but as soon as I saw the idea with 28.c3 I started feeling pretty good about my chances.



27.Nxb4! Qxb4+ 28.c3!
Black has no decisive checks. Meanwhile, White is up an exchange.
28...Qc4!
28...Bf4+?? 29.Kc2+! wins. It's check!; 28...Qb2+ would accomplish nothing after 29.Kd3
29.Qg7+ Kc6 30.Qg2+!
White repeats moves to get closer to the time control.
30...Kc7 31.Qg7+ Kc6 32.Qxh8 Bf4+ 33.Kc2!
Going the other way would lead to a draw.
33...Qe2+ 34.Kb3 Qb5+ 35.Ka3 Qa5+
Black offered a draw. The startling 35...Bc1+! was actually a more precise way to draw. We'll see why in a second. 36.Rxc1 Qa5+ 37.Kb3 Qb5+ 38.Kc2 Qe2+ 39.Kb1 Qb5+ etc.
36.Kb3
By repeating moves, White gives himself more time to consider an interesting way to avoid the perpetual check.
36...Qb5+ 37.Kc2 Qe2+ 38.Rd2!
White is forced to give one his rooks back to avoid the perpetual.
38...Qxd2+ 39.Kb1 Qd3+ 40.Ka1
Black has no checks!
40...Qb5
White should be winning here, but it is still not easy due to his exposed king and limited amount of material left on the board.
41.Qe8+ Kc5 42.Qh5+?
By choosing this maneuver I was thinking the bishop was lost. However, I missed an amazing defensive resource that spoiled an otherwise nice game. After the game, Daniel suggested 42.Qc8+ as being a better move.



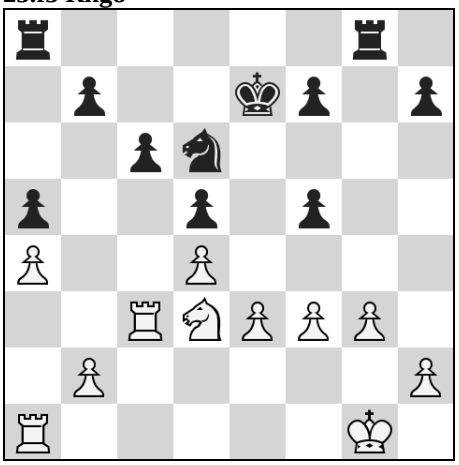
42...Kc4! 43.Qxb5+
It's too late...White now has nothing better. I had missed 43.Qe2+ Kxc3 44.Qf3+ Kc2!! and the bishop is immune to capture due to Black delivering checkmate.
43...axb5 44.Kb2 Be5!
The c-pawn is falling, and with it all of White's winning chances.
45.Rg1 ½–½

Eugene Perelshteyn (2602)
Seth Homa (2352)
Golden State Open, Concord, CA (3) January 2013
Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange, D35
Notes by Seth Homa

This game was the exact opposite of the last round - boring and dull! However, I was still pretty pleased not to give my 2600–rated opponent anything more than a minimal edge throughout the game.
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 c6 6.e3 Bf5
Leftover preparation from my norm tournament in St Louis back in November. Black's goal is extremely ambitious: if White does not punish Black for his early Bf5 move, then Black will already have equality. That's due to Black finding an active square for his "bad bishop" whilst preventing White from playing his "good bishop" to its natural square on d3.
7.Qf3!
This is virtually the only way to make Black "pay" for his premature development.
7...Bg6 8.Bxf6 Qxf6 9.Qxf6 gxf6

Black's pawn structure has been heavily damaged. However, it is surprisingly difficult for White to make use of this. Nigel Short has played this way with Black countless times and I can find only one loss of his in this line.
10.Nf3 Nd7 11.Be2 Nb6 12.0–0 a5
I was very happy with the result of the opening. White finished his development with normal moves but Black isn't under any immediate pressure.
13.Nh4 Bb4 14.a3 Be7
I didn't like the look of 14...Bxc3 15.bxc3 Na4 16.c4! Nc3 17.Bf3 dxc4 18.Rfc1! when White would firmly hold the initiative on the queenside.
15.a4!?
I didn't understand this. Maybe he just wanted to prevent ...a4. If 15.f4 then 15...f5 would have been adequate.
15...Bb4
Right back!
16.Rfc1
Just in case Black had ideas of . ..Bc2 with pressure on a4.
16...Nc8
Now that Na4 is impossible, the knight heads to d6 - a common spot for the knight in many QGD Exchange lines.
17.g3 Nd6 18.Ng2
I was a little worried by 18.Na2!?
18...Ke7 19.Nf4 Bf5
Suspecting White might be planning play in the center with f3 and e4 at some point, I redirect my bishop to e6 when I can then play ...f5 without burying my bishop.
20.Bd3
I don't think Black has any problems remaining after these piece exchanges. I regret not asking Eugene whether he ever considered getting three pawns for the piece with 20.Ncxd5+ cxd5 21.Nxd5+ Kd8 22.Nxf6 . My gut feeling was Black is doing perfectly fine after 22...Rc8

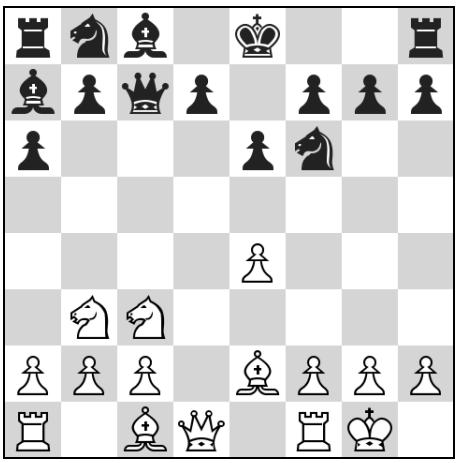
20...Bxd3 21.Nxd3 Bxc3 22.Rxc3 f5
Black has an absolute clamp on the e4–square.
23.f3 Rhg8



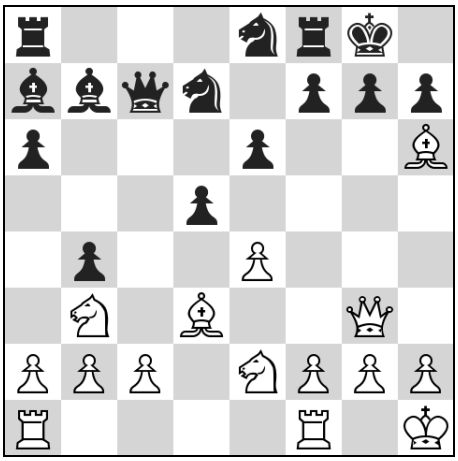
Black only really has to worry about two pawn breaks: e3–e4 and g3–g4. His goal for the rest of the game is render these breaks meaningless. Playing b2–b4 would only weaken a4.
24.Kf2 Kd8
Some seemingly random maneuvering begins.
25.Nf4 Kd7 26.h3 Rg7 27.Rg1 h6 28.Rcc1 Re8 29.b3 Reg8 30.Rg2 Rb8
Black is not really threatening ...b5 but it gave White something else to think about.
31.Nd3 f6 32.Rcg1 Ke7 33.g4
White has decided that the maneuvering has gone on long enough and makes his break.
33...Rbg8
However, Black is very well-placed to meet this thrust!
34.Nf4 fxg4
White needed to open the kingside to expose Black's weaknesses but now those weaknesses begin trading themselves off.
35.hxg4 f5
Liquidating another potential weakness.
36.gxf5 Rxg2+ 37.Nxg2
Trading off all rooks would have been an immediate draw.
37...Nxf5 38.Rh1 Kf6 39.Nf4 Re8
The e3–pawn and h6–pawn cancel each other out in terms of weaknesses.
40.Re1 Re7 41.Rg1!? Re8
Black ignores the offered e-pawn, but it turns out he could have taken. Black should definitely not take with the rook: 41...Rxe3? 42.Nh5+ Ke6 *(42...Kf7 43.Ng3)* 43.Ng7+ Kf6 44.Nxf5; But 41...Nxe3 42.Nh5+ Kf5 is a repetition of moves.
42.Re1 Re7 43.Rg1
It's impossible to reroute the knight to e5, as 43.Nd3 h5 44.Ne5 c5! is very strong, as we found after the game.
43...Re8 44.Re1 ½–½

Seth Homa (2352)
Mauricio Flores (2591)
Golden State Open, Concord, CA (4)
January 2013
Sicilian: Paulsen, B43
Notes by Seth Homa

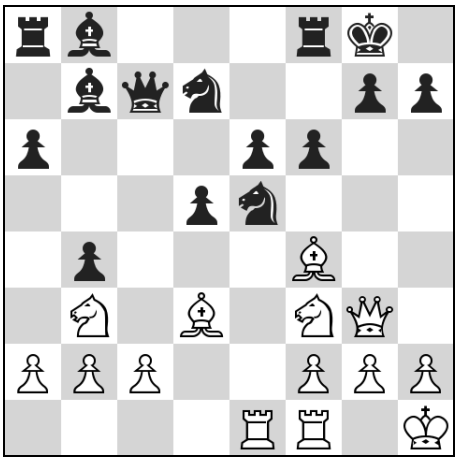
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7
Seemingly half of my open Sicilian games wind up in this position.
6.Be2
Trying something different this time. I thought he might transpose to a Taimanov.
6...Nf6 7.0–0 Bc5
He knew what I was up to and decided on this rare move. 7...Nc6 would have transposed to the Taimanov Sicilian.
8.Nb3
Probably 8.Be3 was to be preferred.
8...Ba7
Already a very rare position has appeared on the board. Most players in the past have chosen 8...Be7.



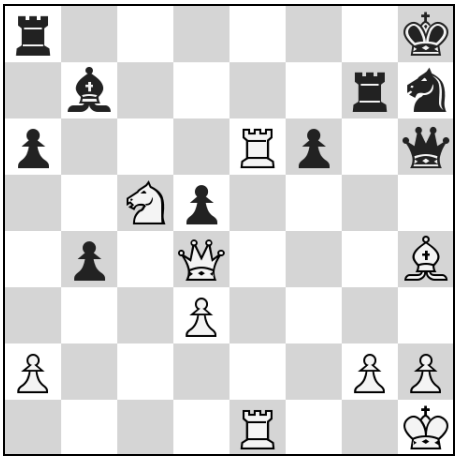
9.Qd2!?
This is not a new idea in chess (not by a longshot) but it took quite awhile to decide to play something so funky-looking in an actual game against an actual Grandmaster. It was inspired in part by knowing my opponent liked lines with ...h5 and also in part by noticing Black's kingside was weakened by the dark-squared bishop's absence.
9...0–0
9...h5 would be a very bad idea in view of 10.Qg5
10.Qg5 d6 11.Qh4 b5
He played this very quickly and for a fleeting moment I thought White might be winning!
12.Bh6 Nbd7 13.Qg3
I remember spending boatloads of minutes trying to make lines like 13.e5 dxe5 14.Bd3 work but to no avail. As a consequence, I was in bad shape on the clock all the way to move 40.
13...Ne8 14.Bd3 Bb7 15.Kh1
Something has gone wrong with White's approach and Black should be better.
15...b4 16.Ne2 d5 This blow was supposed to win a piece.



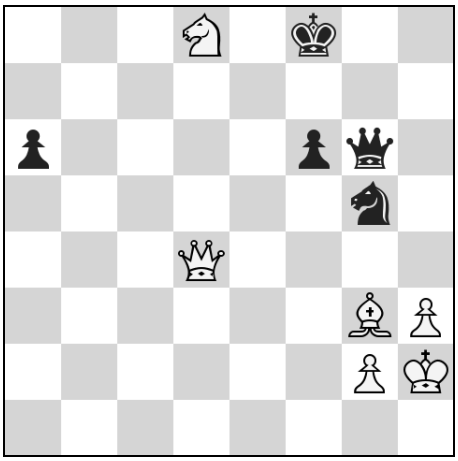
17.e5!
The only move. 17.Qxc7?? Nxc7 and Black has a double attack on my e4–pawn and h6–bishop.; 17.exd5?? Qxg3 18.hxg3 gxh6 would have lost a piece.
17...Nxe5?!
This walked into a nasty pin. Better was 17...Qxe5 but as my opponent said after the game, White had 18.Bd2! Qxg3 19.Nxg3 and the b4–pawn cannot be kept.
18.Bf4
Play now revolved around the pin for the next few moves.
18...Bb8 19.Ned4!
Planning Nf3 or Re1.
19...Nf6?!
My computer suggests the prophylactic 19...Bc8! protecting the e6–pawn in order to prepare ...f6. It gives this plan rough equality.
20.Nf3!
The game has turned to White's favor.
20...Nfd7 21.Rae1?!
Better was 21.Qh3! before bringing a rook to e1. For example: 21...h6 22.Rae1! and if Black tries to play like he did in the game with *(22.Rfe1?? Nxd3! 23.Bxc7 Nxf2+ 24.Kg1 Nxh3+ 25.gxh3 Bxc7* etc.*)* 22...f6 then 23.Qxe6+ Rf7 24.Bg6! wins on the spot.
21...f6



22.Qh3!
I could tell by his body language that he had missed this double attack earlier in his calculations.
22...g6 23.Qxe6+ Rf7
White has gotten his pawn back but matters are still far from clear. The clock was also becoming a big factor for both players. After my next move, I would have 23 minutes left to my opponent's 19.
24.Bg3
Despite Black's king being weak, despite my pieces being fairly active and despite my opponent suffering from a horrible pin, there is no immediate way for White to capitalize on any of this.
24...Qd8
I was most worried by 24...Qc6
25.Nfd4
Freeing the f-pawn and establishing the knight on a great central square.
25...Nf8 26.Qh3 Bd6
White's queen is not trapped after 26...Bc8 27.Qh4
27.f4 Nc4
Black seems like he has survived the worst. White's queen is on an offside square and the b2–pawn is a goner. However, White's attack nevertheless begins anew.
28.Qg4 Nxb2 29.Nf5!
White's ideas include Nh6+ and Nxd6 followed by f5 with a discovered attack on whichever piece recaptured on d6. White has regained the initiative.
29...Rd7 30.Nxd6 Rxd6
White: 15 minutes Black: 7 minutes to reach move 40.
31.f5 Rd7 32.fxg6 Rg7?!
A better practical try was 32...hxg6 with the idea of 33.Bxg6 Rg7 then with time running down I would have had to find something like 34.Bf7+!? Kxf7 35.Qxb4 Kg8 36.Na5 regaining my piece.
33.gxh7+ Kh8 34.Qd4!
Playing for a positional advantage and stopping any potential counterplay based on Black activating his bishop with ...d5–...d4.
34...Nxd3 35.cxd3 Nxh7
Material equality has been reestablished but all of White's pieces are more active than their counterparts. Not to mention that Black has weak pawns strewn all over the board.
36.Bh4 Rg6 37.Re6 Qf8
White 5 minutes: Black 6 minutes.
38.Rfe1 Qh6 39.Nc5 Rg7 White 2 minutes Black 3 minutes



40.Re8+
Time control reached with 17 seconds to spare. Whew. White wins a piece with this move but it was not easy to see that Black could not create trouble with a ton of passed pawns.
40...Rxe8 41.Rxe8+ Rg8 42.Rxg8+ Kxg8 43.Nxb7 Qc1+ 44.Qg1
This had to be seen before playing 40.Re8+.
44...Qc2 45.Qe1! Qxa2 46.Qxb4 Qe2 47.h3 Qxd3 48.Qg4+
Black's pawns are actually of no concern. They can't go anywhere if they are only supported by the queen. White switches to a direct attack to force Black to abandon the protection of his pawns.
48...Kh8 49.Nd6 Qb1+ 50.Kh2 Qb8 51.Bg3 Qf8 52.Qg6 Qg7 53.Qe8+ Qg8 54.Qd7 d4 55.Nf7+ Kg7 56.Ne5+ Kf8 57.Nc6
57.Be1! would have ended the game immmediately.
57...Qf7 58.Qxd4 Ng5 59.Nd8 Qg6

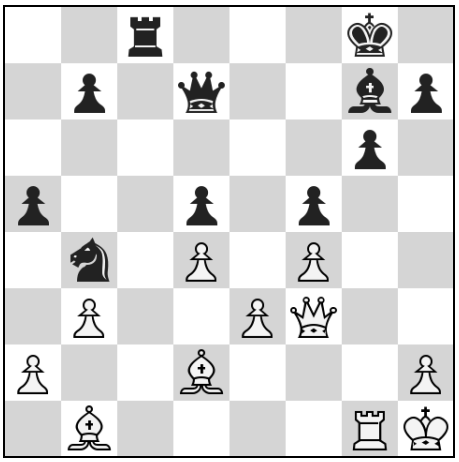


60.Ne6+!
Trading down into an easier-to-win endgame.
60...Nxe6 61.Qd6+ 1–0
White will regain his piece after 61...Kf7 62.Qd7+ and so Black chose to resign.

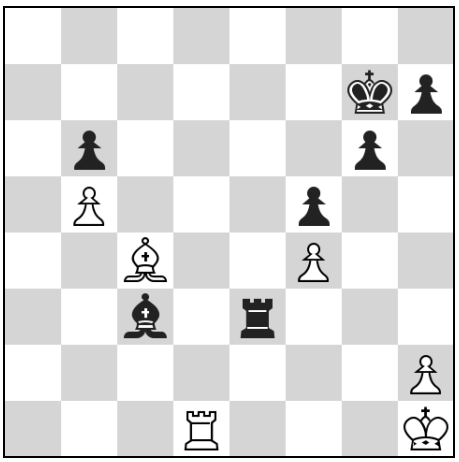
Leonid Gerzhoy (2561)
Seth Homa (2352)
Golden State Open, Concord, CA (5)
January 2013
Slav: Rubinstein, D11
Notes by Seth Homa

IM Gerzhoy is known as a very difficult man to beat so I was really happy at the result of this game. However, my opponent was clearly suffering from bad form. By this point in the tournament he had already drawn several people much lower rated than himself.
1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 Bg4 4.c4 c6
The game has transposed to a Slav Defense.
5.cxd5 Bxf3 6.Qxf3 cxd5 7.Nc3 Nc6 8.Bd2 e6 9.Bd3 Be7 10.0–0 0–0 11.Rac1 Rc8 12.Qh3 Nb4 13.Bb1 g6 14.f4 Ne8 15.g4
White: 37 minutes Black: 1 hour, 23 minutes. Opening preparation! 15.f5!? exf5 16.Rxf5 would have been very interesting.
15...Nd6 16.b3 f5
The opening phase has gone beautifully: I was way up on the clock and there was no trace of an advantage for White. The only potential drawback of my situation was that my stomach was making all kinds of strange gurgly noises. But enough of that - the readers might be eating while reading this.
17.gxf5 Nxf5 18.Kh1 Qd7 19.Rg1 a5 20.Ne2 Rxc1 21.Bxc1 Bf6 22.Ng3 Bg7 23.Nxf5 exf5 24.Qf3 Rc8 25.Bd2
This was probably the critical moment of the game. White: 14 minutes Black 37

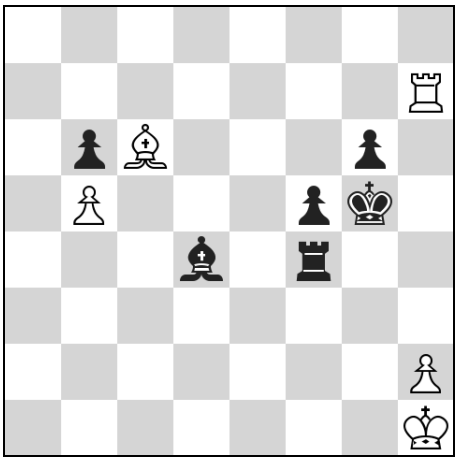
minutes.



25...Nxa2!?
I could tell by his reaction that this came as a rude shock. However, the position is still equal.
26.Bxa5?!
White's best response was 26.Bxa2! Rc2 27.Ra1 Rxd2 28.b4! and I thought a draw would have occured fairly shortly thereafter.
26...Nc3 27.Bxc3 Rxc3
Suddenly White cannot avoid the loss of a pawn.
28.b4 Bxd4! 29.Ba2 Rxe3 30.Qxd5+ Qxd5+ 31.Bxd5+ Kg7 32.b5 b6
White: 2 minutes Black: 31 minutes.
33.Rd1 Bc3
I would estimate that Black has good winning chances here although the drawing tendency of the opposite-colored-bishops should never be underestimated.
34.Bc4?!
The tradeoff of f-pawn for h-pawn can only help Black.



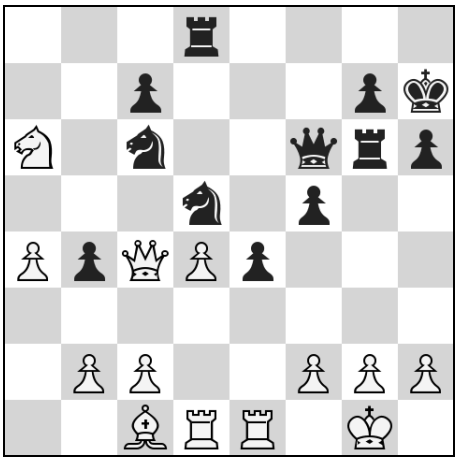
34...Re4!
Once the f4–pawn falls, Black gets an important passed pawn.
35.Rd7+ Kh6
It's never too late to shoot oneself in the foot. For example: 35...Kf6?? 36.Rf7#
36.Bg8 Rxf4 37.Rxh7+ Kg5 38.Bd5?
The losing move.
38...Bd4!
Bishops of opposite color are well-known for being drawish in an endgame. However, if you are on the attack they suddenly become a huge advantage for the stronger side. In this case, White's king is very short on squares.
39.Bc6



39…Kg4!
Threatening ....Rf1+ and ...Rg1 mate.
40.Bg2 Rf2!
Clearing the way for the f-pawn to move. At the same time, the rook is well placed to attack h2 in some lines.
41.Rh3 f4!
Now the game is decided.
42.Rd3 Be3! 43.Rd6 f3 44.Rxg6+ Kf5 0–1
After 5 rounds, I was sitting on 4.0/5 and tied for first place!

Seth Homa (2352)
Gregory Kaidanov (2670)
Golden State Open, Concord, CA (6)
January 2013
Spanish: Closed (Trajkovic), C88
Notes by Seth Homa

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0–0 b5 6.Bb3 Bb7
This was a very unpleasant surprise. In twelve years of chess no one had played this variation against me before! All I could remember was that it was sharp - not the most pleasant memory when playing someone of Kaidanov's class.
7.d3 Be7 8.Re1 0–0 9.a4 Re8 10.Nc3 b4 11.Nd5 Na5 12.Nxe7+
I reinvent the opening theory wheel for a long time.
12...Qxe7 13.Ba2 d5!
I had been taking 4–5 minutes per move only to have Gregory respond instantly. Most uncomfortable.
14.exd5 Qd6 15.Bd2 Bxd5 16.Bxd5 Nxd5 17.Qe2 Nc6
Despite being in the dark since move 6, I had done pretty well to get to this position while keeping an hour left on the clock. It's roughly equal still. However, I neither understood what was going on nor knew how to prevent my nose from impersonating Niagra Falls.
18.Qe4 h6 19.Be3 Re6 20.Rad1 Rd8 21.Nd2
It seemed correct to hone in on the c5–square.
21...Rg6
Black readies himself for a kingside attack.
22.Nb3 Qe6
Critical position - how to meet Black's idea of ...f5?
23.Bc1?!
While I'm not sure what the correct answer is, I am positive that this is not it.
23...f5 24.Qe2
Also probably not best.
24...Kh7 25.d4 e4 26.Nc5 Qe7
Another critical position.
27.Nxa6?! Qf6!
Suddenly I realized that my planned 28.Qd2 might lose immediately.
28.Qc4??
Which explains this horrible blunder. I dismissed 28.Qd2 (surely black has a strong attack regardless) on account of 28...Nxd4!? 29.Qxd4 Rxg2+ 30.Kxg2 *(*However, after *30.Kh1!?* Black might not have anything better than a draw by perpetual check after *30...Rxh2+ 31.Kxh2 Qh4+ 32.Kg1 Qg4+ 33.Kf1 Qh3+* etc.*)* 30...Nf4+ etc.



28...Na5 0–1
Oh. I've lost a piece. It seemed like a good time to resign - and so I did.

Kayden Troff (2454)
Seth Homa (2352)
Golden State Open, Concord, CA (7)
January 2013
Catalan: Open (Classical), E04
Notes by Seth Homa

Kayden would pick up his IM title in this tournament. Here he plays a fantastic game. Original play combined with pinpoint accuracy and awesome energy. It was also easily my worst game of the tourney.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Nf3 dxc4 5.Bg2 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 c5

A very rare line but it leads to some interesting chess.

7.0–0

This natural move had been hardly considered before as a serious try for an advantage. In my opinion, though, it is best.

7...Nc6 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.Qa4 0–0 10.Qxc4 Qe7 11.Nc3 e5

If Black has time for Be6, he'll be fine. Alas.

12.Bg5!

This highly annoying move gets ready to wreck Black's pawn structure after a later Nd5 or Ne4.

12...Be6 13.Qa4!?

Black is not likely in any trouble after the more "normal" 13.Qh4 h6 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Qxf6 gxf6 16.Ne4 Be7 with equality.

13...h6

Only while he was thinking did I realize that Bh4 might be an idea.

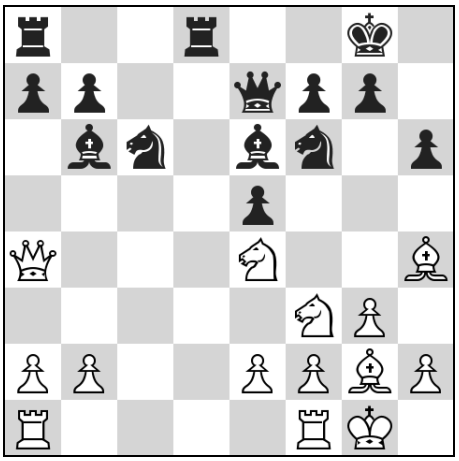
14.Bh4!

So many players at the scholastic level immediately trade when their bishop gets "questioned". The strongest players usually maintain the pin. Black has zero to complain about after 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Ne4 Qe7

14...Rfd8

Can you see why 14...g5 is bad? 15.Nxg5!! hxg5 16.Bxg5 and Ne4 or Nd5 is next, regaining the piece with interest.

15.Ne4 Bb6



16.e3!

This is a fabulous move, taking away the d4–square from my active pieces and deadening my b6–bishop. I was well-aware of the dangers this position held for Black but still could not do anything about it.

16...Bf5?! 17.Bxf6! gxf6 18.Nh4!

White utilizes a light-square strategy. If he controls all the light squares then Black's pawns must remain immobile - and therefore weak. Again, I recognized all this but could do nothing!

18...Bd7?

At the time I thought this move might solve all my problems - instead it merely increased them. If 18...Be6 then 19.g4! continues the light-square bind strategy. 19...Bxg4 20.Nxf6+ Qxf6 21.Qxg4+ and White would have been much better.; Or 18...Bh7 and again 19.g4! possibly to be followed by Ng3–h5 and/or Be4.

19.Qd1!

Just an awesome move. The queen fears not the discovered attack along the d-file. Meanwhile, her majesty is headed to h5.

19...f5?!

Beginning a series of one-move oversights. Not my finest hour.

20.Nd6!

I totally missed this.

20...e4 21.Nxb7!

And I totally missed that! 21.Nhxf5? Bxf5 22.Nxf5 Qg5 23.Nd4 Nxd4 24.exd4 Rxd4 with approximate equality.

21...Rdb8 22.Nd6

This was another move that totally escaped my vision.

22...Rd8 23.Ndxf5

Only now does White take this guy.

23...Bxf5 24.Nxf5 Qg5 25.Qa4 Qxf5 26.Qxc6

It is hard to give White any criticism but I thought it would be easier for White to convert his advantage with a direct attack. However, it is probably a moot point. I thought White would play 26.Bxe4

26...Rac8 27.Qxe4 Qxe4 28.Bxe4 Rd2

This is the reason I thought trading queens might not be the simplest way to win. Black's pieces are suddenly quite active (although he is obviously still three pawns down!).

29.Rac1!

Returning a pawn in order to activate his forces.

29...Re8??

Another terrible move. Black's only hope was 29...Rxc1 30.Rxc1 Rxb2 when bishops of opposite color give (very) slim drawing chances. With precise play, White should be able to win my f7–pawn or, failing that, the h6–pawn.

30.Rc2

I had simply missed this retort. Now all hope was lost.

30...Rxc2 31.Bxc2 Rd8 32.Rd1 Rxd1+ 33.Bxd1 a5 34.Kg2 Bd8 35.a3 Kf8 36.Kf3 Ke7 37.b4 Kd6 38.Kg4 axb4 39.axb4 Ke5 40.Kh5 Be7 41.b5 Bf8 42.b6 1–0

While not my best game, I really liked how White handled the opening and middlegame. Kayden is certainly worthy of his shiny new IM title!

Seth Homa (2352)
Hatarik,Robert (2147)
Golden State Open, Concord, CA (8)
January 2013
French: Tarrasch (Byrne), C04
Notes by Seth Homa

The previous day had ended in a disasterous 0/2 score. Norm chances looked slim all of a sudden. I came to the board with a renewed will to win and also some anti-congestion medicine. :-) Hatarik had drawn against IM Gerzhoy in the first round so I knew not to take him lightly.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nc6 4.Ngf3 Nf6 5.e5 Nd7

Believe it or not, but both players admitted to being out of book at this point. Not during the game, obviously, but afterwards.

6.Bb5 f6 7.exf6 Qxf6 8.Nf1 Bd6 9.Ne3

The idea behind White's maneuver is to play Ng4–e5 at some point.

9...0–0 10.0–0 Qg6

Preventing said maneuver.

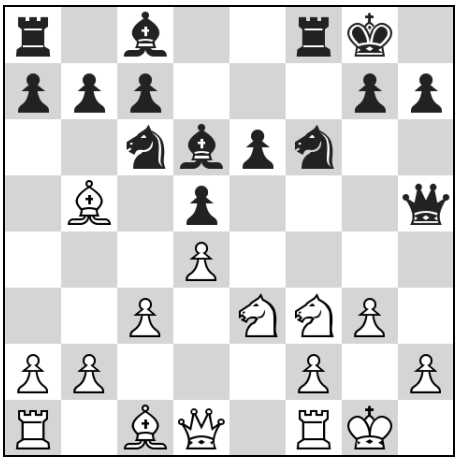
11.c3

Preventing possible sacrifices on f3.

11...Nf6

It was not so easy to find a plan for White here.

12.g3!? Qh5



13.Ng2!

Borrowing a plan from the Tarrasch French and also the QGD Exchange Variation. I seek to exchange Black's "good" bishop with Bf4 next.

13...Ng4 14.h4

Otherwise ...Rxf3 would have been slightly embarassing.

14...e5 15.dxe5 Ncxe5

15...Ngxe5!? 16.Qxd5+ Kh8 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 with compensation.

16.Nxe5 Qxe5 17.Bf4 Qe6 18.Bxd6

18.Re1 was probably better, but it was not so easy to leave f2 unprotected.

18...Qxd6

In a must-win game against a lower-rated opponent, White has not exactly gotten his "dream" position. If anything, Black appeared optically better to me. White's kingside has some holes in it and Black can create a central passed pawn.

19.Be2

Beginning a regouping. The bishop was doing nothing on b5.

19...Nf6

Securing the d5–pawn but it was a touch passive, obstructing the f8–rook. Later, my opponent and I came to the conclusion that 19...Ne5 was better.

20.Nf4 Bf5 21.Bf3

By attacking d5, White hoped to prevent Black from creating a passed pawn.

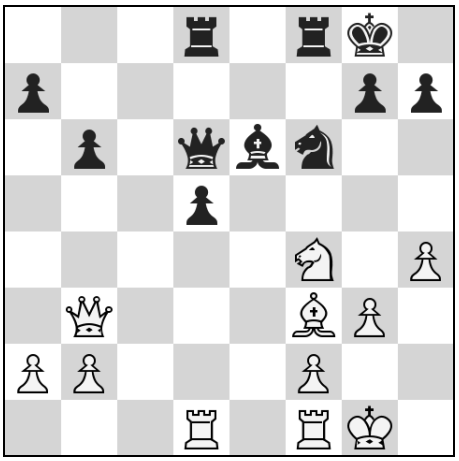
21...Rad8

It is hard to tell where Black's position began to slip. Over the course of the next few moves, though, it is clear something went wrong.

22.Qb3 b6 23.c4 c6 24.cxd5 cxd5 25.Rad1

White has created a serious weakness on d5. Black has gone from trying to take the initiative to being on the full defensive.

25...Be6



26.Rd4!

Preventing the pawn's advance and getting ready to double rooks.

26...Rd7 27.Rfd1 Rfd8

Setting up the position for an incredible tactic. The position is quite a sight - White has 5 pieces bearing down on d5 while Black has 5 defenders. One would normally expect White to slowly start creating a second weakness, either on the queenside or on the kingside. That was what I had started to do when I noticed a startling idea.

28.Nxe6!!

Exchanging a beautiful knight for a terrible bishop.

28...Qxe6 29.g4!

Black is helpless to prevent g5, removing a vital guardian of the d5–square. Robert later said he felt like stopping the clocks here, but "One feels that it is a rule that you cannot resign after a move like g4!"

29...Kh8

I provide some examples of why Black cannot protect his pawn. 29...Ne4 30.Rxe4 dxe4 31.Qxe6+; 29...Qf7 30.g5 Ne4 31.Bxe4 dxe4 32.Rxd7 Rxd7 33.Rxd7; 29...h6 30.g5 hxg5 31.hxg5

30.g5 Ng8 31.Bg4! 1–0

Better than immediately taking the d5–pawn. Black resigned. Shortly before the next game I was informed that a draw was all that was required for my first IM-norm!

Seth Homa (2352)
Zhanibek Amanov (2526)
Golden State Open, Concord, CA (9)
January 2013
Spanish: Closed (Trajkovic), C88
Notes by Seth Homa

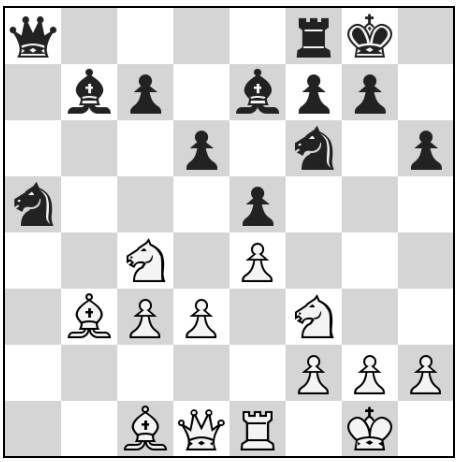
1.e4

No special preparation was done prior to this game as the pairings were very hard to predict.

1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0–0 b5 6.Bb3 Bb7 7.d3 Be7 8.a4 0–0 9.Re1 d6 10.c3 h6 11.axb5

Apparently a new move in this position.

11...axb5 12.Rxa8 Qxa8 13.Na3 b4 14.Nc4 bxc3 15.bxc3 Na5



16.Ba2!

I liked this move. Black has no useful discovered attack on my bishop and at the same time I do not develop his queen for him by taking on a5.

16...Nxc4 17.Bxc4 Nd7

What plan would you adopt for White? Take into consideration Black's plans.

18.h3!? Kh8

Introducing the prospect of ...f5. I had planned to meet 18...c6 with 19.d4! d5 20.dxe5 dxc4 21.Qxd7 In order for that to have worked I needed all my pieces on their current squares! That was one reason for h3. Another was preparation for Nh2, Qh5 and Ng4 with a kingside initiative.

19.Nh2 d5!?

The immediate 19...f5 can be handled easily with 20.Be6!; However, the f5–pawn plan can be improved upon: 19...Nb6 20.Bb3 f5 and I intended to meet it with 21.Qh5

20.exd5 Bxd5

21.Qh5!

White: 22 minutes Black: 26 minutes. With time starting to tick down, I presented Black with a maximum amount of choices: A) Take on g2, B) play ...f5, C) Take on c4. In order to make Black's life as complicated as possible, I also offered D) a draw before pressing my clock. Not for a moment did I think he would take the draw, but it threw some more stuff into the mix. It seemed to work - he spent 20 minutes on this move and 5 moves later I was up a pawn with no losing chances.

21...Bxc4

Black decided on a practical course and doubled my pawns. A look at some of the complications: 21...Bxg2 22.Bxh6 Nf6 23.Qg5 *(*Actually, *23.Qxe5!* is better.*)* 23...gxh6 24.Qxg2 Rg8 25.Ng4 Nxg4 26.hxg4 Qxg2+ 27.Kxg2 Rxg4+ with a likely draw.; 21...f5 22.Bxh6 gxh6 *(22...Nf6 23.Qg6!)* 23.Qxh6+ Kg8 24.Qg6+ and White has (at least) a draw by perpetual check.

22.dxc4

I thought about 22.Bxh6 on his time and deemed it insufficient.

22...f5?

A bad mistake. I expected 22...Qc6 in order to bring the queen into the game.

23.Nf3!

The knight reemerges. 23.Bxh6! might very well have been good too, but with Black low on time there was no need to risk it.

23...e4 24.Nd4

Suddenly Black is losing material. There are threats to the f5–pawn and still sacs on h6 to be concerned about.

24...Qe8

Bailing into an endgame. White: 19 minutes Black: 2 minutes.

25.Qxe8 Rxe8 26.Nxf5 Bf6

All is not lost for Black. There is compensation in the activity of Black's pieces and the weakness of my doubled pawns.

27.Bf4 Nb6 28.Bxc7 Nxc4 29.Bf4 Kh7 30.Ng3 Bxc3 31.Rc1 Be5 32.Rxc4

White's play could probably have been improved upon. However, the number one priority was securing my pawn advantage and also not losing.

32...Bxf4 33.Rxe4

If I had this position again, I would keep my rooks on the board with 33.Nxe4 That would probably provide better winning chances.

33...Rxe4 34.Nxe4

I had thought this endgame should be winning for White. Up material with all the pawns on one side of the board....all that is supposed to favor the side with the knight. I get agonizingly close to forcing a zugzwang later but it was not to be.

34...Kg6 35.g3 Kf5 36.f3 Bc7 37.Kg2 h5 38.Nf2 Bb8 39.Nd3 Bd6 40.Kf2 g6 41.Kg2 Bb8 42.Nf2 Bc7 43.Ne4 Bb8 44.g4+ hxg4 45.hxg4+ Kf4 46.Nc5 Bd6 47.Nd3+ Kg5 48.Kf2 Kf6 49.Ke3 Bb8 50.Ke4 Bc7 51.Nb4 Bd6 52.Nd5+ Ke6 53.f4 Kf7 54.Nb6 Ke6 55.Nc4 Bc7 56.Ne5 Kf6 57.Nf3 Bd6 58.Nd4 Bc7 59.Nb5 Bb8 60.Nc3 Kf7 61.Ne2 Bc7 62.Nd4 Bd6 63.Nf3 Bb8 64.Ne5+ Kg7 65.Kd5 Bc7 66.Ke6 Ba5 67.Nd3 Bc7 68.Ke7 Bb6 69.Ke6 Bc7 70.Ke7 Bb6 71.Ne5 Be3 72.f5 gxf5 73.gxf5 Bg5+ 74.Ke6 Bf6 75.Nd3 Bg5 76.Nc5 Bh4 77.Nb7 Bg5 78.Nd6 Bh4 79.Ne4 Bd8 80.Kd7 Bh4 81.Ke8 Kg8 82.Nd2 Kg7 83.Nf3 Bf6 84.Nh2 Bg5 85.Ng4 Bh4 86.Kd7 Kf7 87.Kd6 Bg3+ 88.Kd5 Bh4 89.Ke5 Bg3+ 90.Ke4 Bc7 91.Kf3 Bd6 92.Kg2 Bc7 93.Kf3 Bd6 94.Ne3 Bc7 95.Kg4 Bd6 96.Nc4 Bc7 97.Nd2 Bd8 98.Ne4 Be7 ½–½

I offered a draw which was then accepted. Follow my IM title chase as I travel next to the Philadelphia Open at the end of March!

West Michigan Chess

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Entries & Info**:** Jeff Aldrich, 7453 Whippoorwill Ln, Davison MI 48423

Phone: 810-955-7271, e-mail: jeffchess@charter.net

SITE:	**DETROIT MARRIOTT LIVONIA** 17100 North Laurel Park Drive Livonia, MI 48152						
ROOM RATE	Rates guaranteed through **August 16**, after if space available. **Standard King:** $94 (Group Code: MOSMOSA) **Double/Double:** $114 (Group Code: MOSMOSD) Includes Complimentary Full Hot Breakfast at hotel restaurant (Sweet Lorraine's) & Complimentary Wireless High Speed Internet Access **Phone:** 734-462-3100 **Online:** http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/dtwli-detroit-marriott-livonia/						
ELLIGIBLITY:	**USCF** membership required. **MCA** membership required for Michigan residents. OPEN Section will be **FIDE** rated.						
REGISTRATION:	Jeff Aldrich, 7453 Whippoorwill Ln, Davison MI 48423, 810-955-7271, jeffchess@charter.net On-Site: **(4-day):** Fri 5:30-6:30pm, **(3-day)**: Sat 9:30-10:30am, **(2-day)**: Sun 8:30-9:30am.						
ENTRY FEES:		**4-day Paid by 8/26**	**3-day Paid by 8/26**	**2-day Paid by 8/26**	**All after 8/26**		
	OPEN:	$55	$56	----------	$65		
	RESERVE:	$45	$46	$47	$55		
	BOOSTER:	$25	$26	$27	$35		
	Advanced: Must be received and paid by Mon, Aug 26. All entries paid after 8/26 are $10 more. **Juniors**: (U18) $5 discount. **Re-entry** allowed for 4-day advance price. **Free Entry** to GM/IM/FM/2200+ when registering by 8/26, $55 EF deducted from prize. Advance Payments: Check made payable to **MCA** or Credit Card/PayPal via PayPal e-mail. On-site payments: Cash, Check made payable to **MCA**, or Credit Card.						
SCHEDULE:	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7
4-day:	8/30, 7:30pm	8/31, 11:00am	8/31, 6:00pm	9/1, 10am	9/1, 7pm	9/2, 9am	9/2, 3:30pm
3-day:	8/31, 11:30am	8/31, 2:30pm					
2-day:	9/1, 10am	9/1, 11:30am	9/1, 1pm	9/1, 2:30pm			
TIME CONTROL:	**4-day**: 40/2, SD/1. **3-day**: Rounds 1&2, G/75 then merge, **2-day:** Rounds 1-4, G/30 then merge.						
MEMBERSHIP MEETING:	4:00pm Sunday, Sep 1. MCA members, make your voice heard!						

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U1600: $125; **U1500:** $125; **U1400:** $125; **U1300:** $125; **U1200:** $125

BOOSTER (Trophies only): 1st, 2nd , 3rd

U1000: 1st and 2nd; **U800:** 1st and 2nd**; U600** 1st and 2nd**; Unrated** 1st.

SPECIAL PRIZES

FOR TOP 2 CLUBS in the state of Michigan

(Gather your sparring partners and add the top 4 scores together)

2012 World Youth Championships

By Apurva Virkud

The 2012 World Youth Chess Championships were held in Maribor, Slovenia from November 7- November 19. This year the U.S. had the biggest delegation ever with 89 players and 13 coaches. Most of the US delegation stayed at Hotel Habakuk which was also the venue for the U8 Girls, U8 Open and U10 Girls. All the other sections were held 3 blocks away at the Dras Center. I was the official representative for the U14 Girls section. There were 119 players total and 6 other U.S. players in my section.

My mom and I reached Graz, Austria on November 5 via Detroit – Frankfurt. IM Ambartsoumian and a couple of U8 players were in the same flight as us. Our flight to Graz was delayed by an hour but the World Youth organizers were waiting at the airport. We reached Hotel Habakuk after an hour bus ride. Our room was newly renovated. Hotel Habakuk is situated by the Pohorje Mountains surrounded by forests.

We were welcomed by the U.S Ambassador to Slovenia, who said we were the largest US delegation ever to visit Slovenia. After our photo session with Ambassador Mussomeli, Michael Khodarkovsky and Aviv Friedman went over the technical regulations with the US Team.

The rounds began after the opening ceremony. I won the first round easily against a local Slovenian player. Round 2 was against second seed from Russia on Board 1. I was down a pawn, but managed to hold a draw. I was paired with another player from Russia and I lost. In Round 4, I was paired again with a Russian but I managed to win this time. The next day was a double round day. I lost against Ukraine and won against Turkey. So far I had 3½ out of 6.

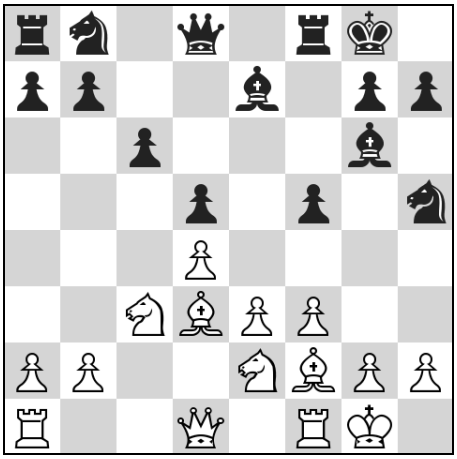
On the free day, my friends and I along with our parents roamed the streets of Maribor downtown and bought some souvenirs. In the evening, I prepared with GM Fedorowicz for the 7th round. I lost that round against Bulgaria. I was paired against my team mate in the 8th round which I won. The 9th round was against an unrated player from China. I ended up drawing that game. I managed to win the next 2 rounds against Slovenia and Russia, finishing the tournament with 7 out of 11. I tied for 14th but ranked 20th on tie-breaks.

Prior to the Closing Ceremony, we had our picture taken with the legendary Gary Kasparov. The U.S. team got 4 medals (2 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze) and finished 3rd overall.

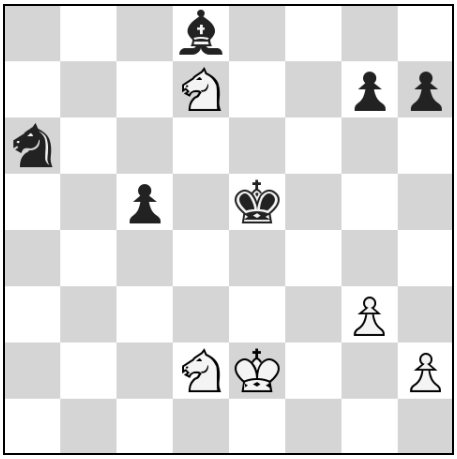
I would like to thank United State Chess Federation and Michigan Chess Association for the stipends. I would like to thank GM Fedorowicz for preparing me during the tournament and my parents and GM Gurevich for their support.

Apurva Virkud
Anatasya Paramzina
2012 World Youth Girls U14 (2)
September 2012
Queen's Gambit Declined, D35
Notes by Apura Virkud

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Be7 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bf4 c6 6.e3 Nf6 7.Bd3 Bg4 8.f3 Bh5 9.Nge2 Bg6 10.0–0 0–0 11.Bg3 Nh5 12.Bf2 f5



13.Kh1
13.g4!! fxg4 14.Bxg6 hxg6 15.fxg4 Nf6 16.Nf4! *(16.h3 g5)* 16...Qe8 *(16...Re8 17.Nxg6)* 17.Ne6+– g4 leads to a nice position for white.
13...Nd7 14.Rb1
14.g4 similar to the previous variation.
14...Bg5 15.e4 fxe4 16.fxe4 dxe4 17.Nxe4 Bh4 18.g3
18.Bg1 this is safer for white.
18...Be7 19.Qb3+ Bf7 20.Qxb7 Bxa2 21.Ra1 Bd5 22.N2c3 Rb8 23.Qxa7 Rxb2 24.Kg1 Be6 25.Rfb1 Rxb1+ 26.Rxb1 Nhf6 27.Qa6 Nb8 28.Qa4 Kh8 29.Ng5 Bg8 30.Nge4 Ng4 31.Rf1 c5 32.Bc4 Nxf2
32...cxd4 33.Ne2 (33.Bxg8 dxc3 34.Bb3 (34.Be6 Nxf2 35.Nxf2 *(35.Rxf2 Qb6)*) 34...Nd7 35.Qc4 Bf6 36.Nxf6 Nde5) 33...Nxf2 34.Nxf2 d3 35.Nxd3 Qb6+ 36.Nf2 Rxf2 37.Rxf2 Qb1+ 38.Kg2 Qe4+
33.Rxf2 Rxf2 34.Nxf2 Qxd4 35.Bxg8 Qxa4 36.Nxa4 Kxg8 37.Nb6 Kf7 38.Ne4 Na6 39.Nd2 Ke6 40.Kf2 Ke5 41.Ke2 Bd8 42.Nd7+



42...Kf5
42...Ke6 43.Nf8+ Kf7 *(43...Ke7 44.Nxh7 Kf7 45.Ne4)* 44.Nd7; 42...Kd5 43.Kd3 Ba5 44.Nc4 Nb4+ 45.Kc3 Na2+ 46.Kb3 Nc1+ 47.Kc2 Kxc4 48.Kxc1 Bc7 49.Kc2 h5 50.Nf8 Kd5 51.Ng6 Be5
43.Kd3 Ke6 44.Nf8+ Kf7 45.Nd7 Ke7 46.Ne5 Ke6 47.Nec4 Nb4+ 48.Ke4 Nd5 49.Nb3 Nf6+ 50.Kd3 Be7 51.Ne3 g5 52.Kc4 Nd7 53.Kd3 Ne5+ 54.Ke4 h5 55.Nf5 Bf8 56.Ne3 g4 57.Ng2 Ng6 58.Ne3 Ne5 59.Ng2 Nf3 60.Nf4+ Kf7 61.Nxh5 c4 62.Nc1 Ba3 63.Ne2 Bb2 64.Nhf4 Nxh2 65.Kd5 c3 66.Kc4 Nf1 67.Kb3 Kf6 68.Nxc3 Bxc3 69.Kxc3 Nxg3 70.Kd4 Kf5 71.Ng2 Nf1 72.Ne3+ Nxe3 73.Kxe3 Ke5 74.Kf2 Kf4 75.Kg2 g3 ½–½

Michigan Chess Clubs

Ann Arbor, Garden Market Café Wed 6:00-10:30pm (Regular Club); Garden Market Cafe, Huron Towers, 2200 Fuller Court Jennifer Skidmore e-mail: jmscamelot@gmail.com; *Special events listed on the MCA tournament calendar*

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; redden@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

Genessee County Chess Club (Flint) 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; Katy Ford (616) 240-0832; e-mail: katymford@sbcglobal.net

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

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.mcgrew@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 Washigton 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: nelser01@southredford.net
Saint Clair Saturday Chess Club Sat 10:00am-12:00pm Burger King, Corner of Clinton and River Rd; Tom Broyles, (810) 326-0121, TJBroyles@aol.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 Schmiege (906) 635-5791, e-mail: gschmiege@nodinwifi.com
South Bend Chess Club (Indiana) Thu7:00-10:00pm; 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
Taylor, Downriver Chess Club Sun 3:00pm to close; Fuddruckers Restaurant, 14680 Pardee; Terrence Price (734) 462-1181 e-mail: tepace24@hotmail.com
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.*

Michigan Chess Tournament Calendar April/May 2013

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!

APRIL TOURNAMENTS

Apr 13 Dexter Community Scholastic Chess Tournament K-8
Dexter Cornerstone Elementary School, 7480 Dan Hoey Rd, Dexter, MI, 48130. 4-**SS**, Four Sections (K-3 Unrated, K-3 Rated, K-8 Unrated, K-8 Rated). **TL:** G40 (G25;d5). **RDs:** 9:45-11:00-12:15-1:30; Awards: 2:45pm. **EF:** Unrated $10, Rated $15 by 3/9, $5 after, (K-3 MCA req'd, K-8 USCF & MCA req'd). **REG:** www.onlinedexter.com by 3/9 via e-mail **$$:** Top 3 in each section, additional prizes based on attendence. **Organizer:** Organizer: Rob Drake rmdrake@umich.edu 269-779-0193, **TD:** Jenny Skidmore jmscamelot@gmail.com

Apr 13 Chess For Charity IX
The River, 255 S. Squirrel Rd, Auburn Hills, MI, 48070, **5-SS**. **TL:** G/25;d5. **Rds:** 10-11-1-2-3. EF: $10 (Portion of the EF goes to the American Heart Association), USCF Cat 1 and above free. **$$:** Medals for top 3 in each section, plus top U900 and U1600 in the rated section. Additional medal for the best parent/child team in rated or unrated sections. All medal winners gain free admission to a future event. **Ent/Info:** Complete information at http://gamesinmichigan.com/chessforcharity; Dave Lame dave@gamesinmichigan.com, 248-543-1930

Apr 16 *Genesee County CC* QUICK SWISS
Eastside Senior Center, 3065 N. Genesee Rd. Flint, MI 48506. **5-SS**, One Section with Class Prizes. **Reg:** 6:00-6:25pm **Rds:** 6:30-7-7:30-8-8:30pm. **EF:** $5 **TL:** G/15. **$$:** 75%. **Ent/Info:** Jeff Aldrich 810-955-7271 jeffchess@charter.net

Apr 28 Canton Library Sunday Quads
Canton Public Library, 1200 South Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188. **3-RR**, Quads by Rating. **TL:** G/30; or G/25;d/5. **Rds:** 1:00pm - 2:30pm - 4:00pm. **EF:** $6 by Paypal only. NOTE Entry Fee Change. **Reg**: 12:30pm - 1:00pm. No On-Site Payments. **$$:** $15 Each Quad.
Entries/Info: Tim Heller (chessclub@wowway.com) OR Manmohan Das (mrwiz.usa@gmail.com)

MAY TOURNAMENTS

May 11 Dexter Community Scholastic Chess Tournament K-8 *See Apr 13*

May 14 *Genesee County CC* Blitz Championship
Eastside Senior Center, 3065 N. Genesee Rd. Flint, MI 48506. Format depends on attendance: Double RR with 10 or less, Single RR with 11-18, 6 round Double Swiss with 19 or more. **Reg:** 6:00-6:25pm **Rds:** 6:30-7-7:30-8-8:30-9pm. **EF:** $7 **TL:** G/5. **$$:** Awards to 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 1st U1800, U1600, U1400, U1200, U1000. **Ent/Info:** Jeff Aldrich 810-955-7271. jeffchess@charter.net

May 18 - 19 ★★2013 MICHIGAN AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP *See Back Page for Details*

PLAN AHEAD CALENDAR

Jun 11 *Genesee County CC* Free Rated Swiss

Jun 23 - 24 ★★2013 MICHIGAN BOTTOM HALF CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS ★★ *See Page 19 for Details*

Aug 30 – Sep 2 ★★2013 MICHIGAN OPEN ★★
See Page 36 for Details

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2013 MICHIGAN AMATUER
May 18-19, 2013

EVENT:	**2013 Michigan Amatuer Championship**
SITE:	**University Quality Inn** **3121 East Grand River Avenue** **Lansing, MI 48912**
ELLIGIBLITY:	**Open to players U2000** **USCF** membership required. **MCA** membership required for Michigan residents.
ENTRIES AND INFO:	Jennifer Skidmore 734-678-0463 jmscamelot@gmail.com PO BOX 8064 Ann Arbor, MI 48107
REGISTRATION:	See above, or on-site 8:30-9:30; paypal bills available upon request
ENTRY FEES:	U2000 $30 by May 10, Juniors: (U18) $25 by May 10 U800 $20 by May 10 All categories $10 more after 5/10 or on-site
FORMAT:	5-SS Open to players U2000 (2-day 5/18-19) One ½-point bye allowed in rounds 1-4 5-SS Open to players U800 (1-day 5/18)
SCHEDULE:	U2000 SATURDAY ROUNDS: 10, 2:30, 7 SUNDAY ROUNDS: 10, 2:30 U800 SATURDAY ROUNDS: 10, 11:15, 1, 2:15, 3:30
TIME CONTROL:	**U2000 G/120 U800 G/30**
PRIZES:	**TROPHIES: U2000** 1st, 2nd, 3rd; 1st, 2nd: U1800, U1600, U1400, U1200; U1000 1st Unrated; 1st Under 18; 1st Over 64 **TROPHIES: U800** 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th 1st, 2nd: U600, U400, UNR
HOTEL:	**University Quality Inn** Room Rate $90+tax Call 517-351-1440 by 04/17/13