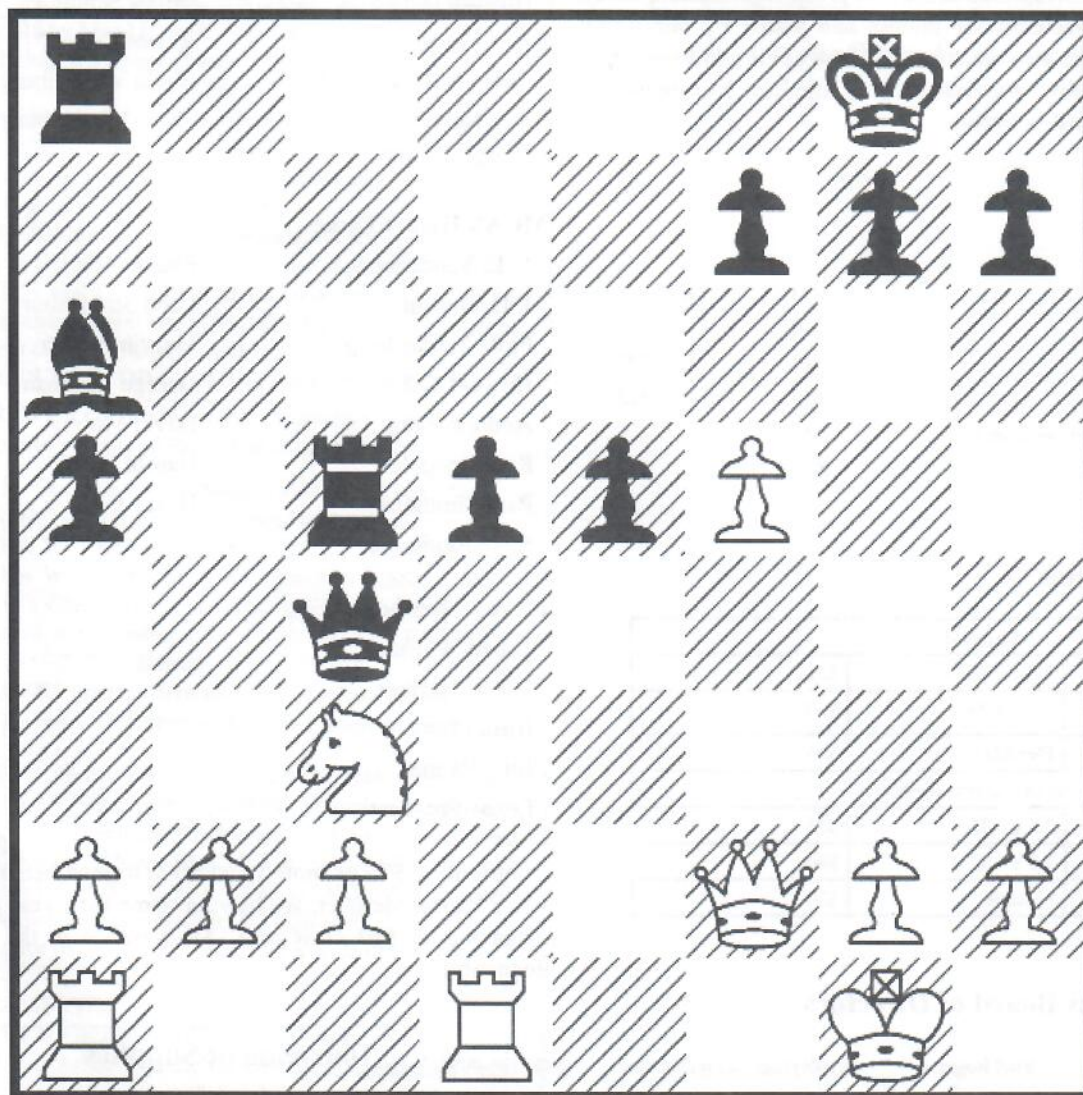


# MICHIGAN CHESS

Price \$3.00

White to move



Do you see it?

February/March 2009





Published by Michigan Chess Association  
 Affiliated with US Chess Federation  
 Edited by Nate Solon  
 michessmag@gmail.com  
 Online at www.michess.org

### Purposes and Services

The Michigan Chess Association is a non-profit organization, which promotes chess education for juniors and adults by publishing Michigan Chess. We also aid schools, chess clubs and local chess events with publicity, information and supplies; by organizing Michigan championship events.

### Membership Fees

	1 year	2 year	3 year
Adult (regular)	\$20	\$37	\$53
Junior (under 18)	\$10	\$18	\$25
Senior (over 64)	\$10	\$18	\$25
Participating Junior (no magazine)	\$5	-	-
Life Membership	\$400	-	-

### Advertising Rates

Standard Rates		
Full page	7.5 x 9.75	\$110
Half page	7.5 x 4.75	\$70
Quarter page	Flexible	\$45
Rates for Michigan Chess tournament organizers		
Full page	7.5 x 9.75	\$75
Half page	7.5 x 4.75	\$40
Quarter page	Flexible	\$20

### Michigan Chess Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	Brad Rogers	bradleyrogers22@msn.com	(586) 786-0096
<b>Vice President</b>	Jennifer Skidmore	jmscamelot@gmail.com	(734) 678-0463
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jeff Aldrich	jeffchess@charter.net	
<b>Secretary</b>	Ron Grzegorzcyk	rongrz@aol.com	(989) 662-6248
<b>Member at Large</b>	Ed Mandell	allthekingsmench@aol.com	(586) 786-0096
<b>Member at Large</b>	Andrew Dolgner	andrew.dolgner@gmail.com	
<b>Member at Large</b>	Paul Kane	(see below)	
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Paul Kane	paulgkane@gmail.com	(734) 845-6998

### Cover:

23. Na4!! wins the exchange. The position is from Atulya Shetty – Ben Finegold, 2008 Michigan Action Championship. Shetty found Na4, but Finegold eventually won in a time scramble (see page 23).

### Honorary Life Members

These people have been designated Honorary Life Members of the Michigan Chess Association in recognition of their services and contributions to chess in Michigan. They have honored MCA far more than the Association could honor them. [\* indicates deceased]

H. Jay Carr	Paul Poschel
Fred Cramer*	Paul Simmons
Howard Gaba*	Mike Skidmore
Ron Finegold	Harold Steen*
Thomas A. Jenkins*	Fjola Vandenburg*
Lou Kellner*	V. E. Vandenburg*
David Moody	

### MCA's Hall of Fame

V. E. Vandenburg	Paul Poschel
J. D. Brattin	Leon Stolzenburg
Fjola Vandenburg	Marvin Palmer
Howard Gaba	George Eastman
Andrew Palmi	David Moody
Ron Finegold	Harold Steen*
Paul Simmons	H. Jay Carr
Mike Skidmore	

### Patron Members

Robert W. Emke, Jr.  
 Robert Heritier  
 Toshio Imai  
 Tony Palmer  
 Tamas Proszkow

Contributing \$75 or more in addition to membership dues makes you a Patron Member. We list your name for a year plus send your magazine by first class post. All donation to the MCA are tax deductible.

### Tournament Supplies

The Michigan Chess Association will furnish, free of charge, score sheets and entry forms for tournaments requiring MCA membership. Please contact one for the following for these items:

Ed Mandell: (586) 558-4790  
 Jeff Aldrich: (810) 955-7271

For other supplies, like paring sheets, crosstables, etc., see the USCF website at <http://www.uschess.org/about/forms>.



## Michigan's Top 100

By Paul Kane

1	ROGELIO ANTONIO	2593
2	BEN FINEGOLD	2561
3	FRED LINDSAY	2409
4	BILL CALTON	2320
5	AARON KAHN	2302
6	SETH HOMA	2280
7	LEYUN WANG	2276
8	JUSTIN DANIEL	2260
9	NATHAN SOLON	2227
10	DMITRIY OBUKHOV	2213
11	DENNIS SEAWALD	2208
12	JIM MARFIA	2205
13	ERIC FISCHVOGT	2203
14	KEVIN CZUHAI	2200
15	JOHN BROOKS	2199
16	ARIEL LEVI	2194
17	TIMOTHY MCGREW	2170
18	AMEER GHOBRIAL	2160
19	JAMES CANTY III	2159
20	THOMAS HARTWIG	2153
21	ROBERT O'DONNELL	2152
22	ROBERT CIAFFONE	2104
23	DAVID HAHN	2100
24	CORNEL FERENTI	2090
25	EUGENE BRUMLEY	2087
26	TONY PALMER	2064
27	MICKEY MALOY	2062
28	JILESH GANDHI	2060
29	ALISHER SANETULLAEV	2051
30	PETER LINN	2049
31	MORGAN EVERETT	2029
32	SALAH CHEHAYEB	2028
33	JASON MORRIS	2027
34	ANDREW SCHILLEMANN	2022
35	BRADLEY ROGERS	2015
36	RON FINEGOLD	2003
37	REYNALDO SANTIAGO	2000
38	THOMAS MAZUCHOWSKI	2000
39	BARRY ENDSLEY	2000
40	ANTHONY NICHOLS	1999
41	TIMOTHY MORONEY	1992
42	ANDREW KOBALKA	1991
43	GJERGJ DODAJ	1984
44	JENNIFER SKIDMORE	1973
45	ATULYA SHETTY	1971
46	GARY KITTS	1970
47	PRASHANTHA AMARAS- INGHE	1961
48	STANLEY JAROSZ	1958
49	RATKO BOJANOVIC	1957
50	VESTER WILSON	1956

51	BRONSON GENTRY	1953
52	WILLIAM RHEE	1948
53	ANDREW CATLIN	1944
54	MICHAEL BOWERSOCK	1935
55	EDWARD BALL	1925
56	FREDERICK LAHR	1914
57	MATT HASSEN	1913
58	ALEXANDER LEHMANN	1910
59	SISIRA AMARASINGHE	1909
60	MARSHALL QUANDER	1906
61	JEFF ALDRICH	1905
62	GREGORY BAILEY	1905
63	JACK WOOD	1904
64	MICHAEL SMITH	1903
65	JEREMY SCHEIDT	1894
66	JUSTIN BROWN	1888
67	MANMOHAN DAS	1888
68	JACOB FORTUNA	1885
69	GENE HICKEY	1884
70	DON VANDIVIER	1884
71	EDWARD FEE	1881
72	ATTILA LEHOTZKY	1881
73	ASHLEY CARTER	1873
74	TODD MCAULIFFE	1872
75	BENSON SELITSKY	1869
76	JUSTIN BRERETON	1863
77	EDDIE BARBER	1862
78	RONALD WILLIAMS	1859
79	BENJAMIN BRANDT	1853
80	TONY WEST	1853
81	JEFF ALSON	1847
82	ZORAN STOJANOVSKI	1845
83	LOYD GENTRY	1842
84	RICHARD HENKE	1840
85	TOM MANION	1840
86	MIKE SEMERCIYAN	1839
87	NEAL ANDERSON	1837
88	OLIVER NIKOLOVSKI	1837
89	DEREK LI	1834
90	IAN EDGERLE	1833
91	RONALD WERHNYAK	1833
92	SCOTT THACH	1832
93	GEOFFREY FERGUSON	1828
94	HEATHER FLEWELLING	1828
95	ROB DRAKE	1827
96	DOUGLAS FICK	1816
97	THOMAS LA FORGE	1813
98	RAYMOND GARRISON	1810
99	I C MATIAS	1809
100	MICHAEL SKIDMORE	1804

## Michigan Champions

2008 Michigan Open State Champion	Ben Finegold
2008 Michigan Open Reserve	Jack Wood
2008 Michigan Open Booster	Jeff Futrell
2009 Master/Expert	Nate Solon
2009 Expert	Tony Palmer
2009 Class A	Matt Hassen
2009 Class B	Michael Chen
2009 Class C	Chris Irwin
2009 Class D	Zachary Johnson
2009 Class E	Timothy Johnson
2009 Novice	Robert Cassidy
2008 Bottom-Half Class Top Section	Dmitriy Obukhov
2008 Bottom-Half Class U1900	Shawn Bale
2008 Bottom-Half Class U1700	Peter Chen
2008 Bottom-Half Class U1500	Forrest Reddick
2008 Bottom-Half Class U1300	Melissa Lee
2008 Bottom-Half Class U1100/Unr	Anirudha Hagadali
2008 Amateur	Jennifer Skidmore
2008 Action	Ben Finegold
2008 Quick	Ben Finegold
2008 Speed	Ben Finegold
2008 Women's	Jennifer Skidmore
2008 Senior	Greg Bailey
2008 Senior Reserve	Ruben Ramon
2008 Junior Champion	Atulya Shetty
2008 Young Junior Champion	Michael Chen
2008 Young Junior Reserve	Chandler Creech
2008 Children's Champion	Kyle Webster
2008 Children's Reserve	Jordan Candie
2008 Young Children's Champion	Ivan Keener
2008 Club K-3	Michael Chen
2008 Club K-3 Individual	Matthew Young, Patrick Graham, and Clarice Whalen
2008 Club K-5	Detroit City Chess Club
2008 Club K-5 Individual	Xiao Xiao Zhong
2008 Club K-8	Detroit City Chess Club
2008 Club K-8 Individual	Michael Dang
2008 Club K-12	Detroit City Chess Club
2008 Club K-12 Individual	James Canty III
2008 Young Children's Reserve	Andrew Jenkins
2008 High School Team	Detroit Cass Tech A
2008 High School Team Reserve	Flint Kearsley C
2008 Junior High K-9 Team	Ann Arbor Greenhills
2008 Junior High K-9 Reserve Team	Redford Cornerstone B
2008 Elementary K-6 Team	Novi Meadows
2008 Elementary K-5 Team	Ann Arbor King Kasparov
2008 Elementary K-5 Reserve Team	Utica Roberts D Grand Blanc
2008 Primary K-3 Team	Mason Powerchess Silver
	Ann Arbor Thurston Rooks



# Table of Contents

5	<b>Michigan Class Championships</b>	Jacob Fortuna, Spencer Finegold, Chris Rolls, Jess Miller, Roy McCutcheon, and Nate Solon
12	<b>National K-12 Championships</b>	Jennifer Skidmore
15	<b>Thurston Chess Tournament</b>	Jeff Alson
17	<b>Michigan Women's Championship</b>	Jennifer Skidmore
20	<b>Tactics Quiz</b>	Tony Palmer
21	<b>English Opening</b>	Subhodh Kotekal and Tony Palmer
23	<b>Dynamic Endings</b>	Fred Lindsay
24	<b>Action/Speed/Quick Championships</b>	Ben Finegold
25	<b>Events Calendar</b>	Mike Skidmore

---

## **westmichiganchess.com**

User database

Annotated games

Opening articles

Tactics puzzles

Player interviews

Improvement contest

Scholastic focus

Event calendar

Thematic tournaments

Informative blogs

## **PLEASE VISIT!**



# Michigan Class Championships

**Jacob Fortuna**

**A** This was my second year playing in the A section of the Michigan Class Championships. I knew that it would be a tough tournament as I was only able to score 2 points in my section last year. My first round game was against the top seed of my section Anthony Nichols. Anthony was able to win the game in convincing fashion. Going into the second round I felt pressured to get at least a draw against Michael Skidmore.

Michael Skidmore was able to get a great position against me out of the opening. However, in the middle game he accidentally lost track of a knight and was a full piece down. Then, he found a very clever draw that was created by perpetual mate threats. I went on to win in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> rounds of the tournament. My last round opponent was Neal Anderson. I should mention that Neal and I have never played a rated game before.

*Jacob Fortuna*

*Neal Anderson*

*Michigan Class Championships (A)*

*Notes by Jacob Fortuna*

**1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. Bg5**

the Torre Attack. This was my first tournament game playing the Torre.

**4. ... d5 4. e3 c5 5. c3 Nc6 6. Bd3 Be7 7. Nbd2 c4 8. Bc2 O-O 9. O-O b5 10. a3 a5**

Here I was trying to decide between playing e4 and Ne5. I decided on Ne5 to possibly get my bad bishop on g5 exchanged for Black's good bishop.

**11. Ne5 Nxe5 12. dxe5 Nd7 13. Bxe7 Qxe7 14. f4 f6 15. exf6 Rxf6 16. g4 e5**

Here I paused for a moment and thought about how to use the fact that d5 was now weak and there was an idea of Qd5+ followed by Queen takes rook on a8. I considered 17. Nxc4, but

realized that this would not threaten to win the rook on f6, which playing Ne4 would do. I then had to think about the attack that would come after Neal plays 17. ... Qxg4+. With defensive moves available to me like Kh1 and Rf2, I felt confident in my decision to play for the exchange.



**17. Ne4 dxe4 18. Qd5+ Qe6 19. Qxa8 Qxg4+ 20. Kh1 Nb6 21. Qb8**

I had originally wanted to play 21. Qxe4, but I realized that 21. ... Bf5 would win my bishop on c2 and give black dangerous light square control over my king on h1.

**21. ... Rh6**

This was the moment in the game where I should have taken time to see that black has a very strong mate threat looming.

**22. Bxe4??**

For some reason I did not consider Qg3 to threaten mate and thought that I would still have Rf2 available for defense after the Queen and rook threatened mate.

**22. ... Qg3! 23. Bd5+ Kh8**

Unfortunately now I must sacrifice a full rook to avoid being mated. From this position Neal impressed me by continuing to look for best moves and playing slowly with the better position. This is something that I have struggled with and it definitely has cost me some potential wins.

**24. Rf2 Qxf2 25. Bg2 Qg3 26. h3 Rg6 27. Rg1 Qxe3 28. Rd1 h6 29. Rd8+ Kh7 30. Qxe5 Qxe5 31. fxe5 Bf5 32. Kh2 Re6 33. Rb8 Nd7 34. Rxb5 Rxe5 35. Rb7 Re2 0-1**

**Spencer Finegold**

**B** In round one I was black against Oleg Tsodikov and played a provocative Sicilian. After obtaining a slight advantage, around move 20 I hung a piece and resigned. In round two I was white against Jeff Guilfoyle and won (see my annotated game for details). I played my father's student Michael Dang in round three. I was white in a Nimzo-Indian and attacked the queenside. Eventually I won a piece and managed to win in a rook and bishop vs. rook endgame (we both had pawns of course).

My fourth-round game was rather interesting. I was black and met Kayeen Kemp's 1.d4 with 1...Nf6 then after 2.c4 c5 he took my c-pawn. I got into a crushing position out of the opening, up two pawns and had a strong queenside attack with his unprotected king exposed to my bishop pair and open c-file. Eventually Kemp attacked my king rook, but I let him take it to avoid a draw, but ended up losing when my attack faltered. In my last round game I was white against Peter Chen. I got into a Nimzo-Indian line and he played 4...d5, which I did not really know. He took my c-pawn and tried to save it with 6...b5 and 7...c6 opening up his queenside after I took his b-pawn. I eventually played Qe4 (I play Qc2 when meet with the Nimzo-Indian) trapping his rook and destroying his entire queenside. Up a rook, I traded down and he tried to create a fortress for a draw. I moved around with my two knights against his bishop pair and was contemplating sacrificing one of my knights to break the game open, and go into an endgame up the exchange and maybe a couple pawns. Chen made a slight miscalculation letting me break through without losing any material and resigned down a rook.



So overall I managed three wins and two losses gaining 54 rating points. I was paired up all five rounds since my unofficial rating was under 1600, and somehow in every one of my games white won (although I was better in both of my losses out of the opening). I had a great time playing skittles chess with some of the other competitors between rounds. I played a lot of 1-minute and 2-minute chess, which I would not recommend, and it felt like my tournament games took forever even though I was often the first one done in my section. Hopefully next year I will play slower, get my rating up, and give a detailed report on the A-section.

### Chris Rolls

**C**It's fair to say that I'm a relatively inexperienced chess player, having played sporadically for a couple years in high school about 18 years ago, and in 2 or 3 tournaments during that era. Recently I got the bug to start playing again. This time, though, I decided to try to maximize my improvement by taking lessons with Ben Finegold. I was encouraged by my first lesson, and walked away with the feeling that my "academic" chess is better than my practical game play. Hence, I need to play more games. Though I felt vastly unprepared, I took Ben's advice and decided to play in the Michigan Class Championships the following weekend. Since I had a rating of 1453 from way back when, I was placed in Class 'C'. I knew that this would be a challenge for me.

Chris Rolls

Ken Schell

Michigan Class Championships (C)  
2009.01.17

Notes by Chris Rolls

**1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Nf6 3. c4 c6 4. d4 cxd5**

I don't recall running into anyone meeting e4 with d5 in the past, so I tried to steer the opening to something similar to my recollection of a Queen's Gambit declined position. At this point I was suspecting that an isolated 'd'

pawn might be in my future.

**5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Nf3 Bf5 7. Bg5**

Playing 7. Qb3 may have been better here, pressuring the d5 and b7 pawns. After 7. ... e6 8. Qxb7 Qc8 (not 8. ... Nb4 due to Ne5 threatening Qxf7) I would have been up a pawn with a good position. After 7. ... Qb6 8. Qxb6 axb6 Black is left with a weak doubled queenside pawn structure.

**7. ... e6 8. a3**

I played 8. a3 to stop 8. ... Nb4, followed by 9. ... Nc2+, forking the king and rook. However, this was passive. 8. cxd5 cxd5 9. Bb5 Be7 10. Ne5 would have been much better.

**8. ... Be7 9. c5**

My idea with 9. c5 was to reduce the effectiveness of Black's dark squared bishop and to gain space. As I've recently come to learn, relieving tension in the center in this fashion is generally not the best idea.

**9. ... O-O 10. Bd3 Bxd3 11. Qxd3**

Here I wanted to trade pieces to remove Black's stronger light squared bishop and to prepare for castling kingside.

**11. ... Nd7 12. Be3 f6**

It was clear that the game was now highly focused on the center and I was expecting my opponent to prepare for an e6-e5 center break by playing 12. ... a5. I felt that 12. ... f6 was not the best move, as it allowed the possibility of Qxd5+ after e6-e5 and a pawn exchange.

**13. O-O Re8 14. Rfe1 a6 15. Rad1 Bf8 16. h3?**

Having had a long first game of the day, I found that more than 2 hours had already gone by in this game and I was struggling to keep focused. I wanted to play 16. h4, but couldn't think it through. This lost tempo hurt me later on.

**16. ... Qc7 17. g3 Rad8 18. Bf4 Qc8 19. h4 Be7?**

19. ... e5 would still have been much stronger for Black. After 19. ... Be7 I should have played 20. Rxe6, but I

was in a hurry to attack along the h-file, with time running short, and missed it.

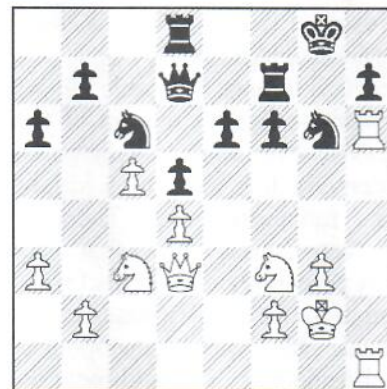
**20. Kg2?! Nf8?**

This opened the door for 21. Na4 and 22. Nb6!, trapping the queen. At a minimum, if Black defended by playing Nd7, it would have kept this knight from defending the kingside. Another missed opportunity.

**21. h5 g6 22. hxg6 Nxd7 23. Rh1 Bf8 24. Bh6 Qd7**

24. ... e5 was still available and stronger for Black.

**25. Bxf8 Rxf8 26. Rh6 Rf7 27. Rdh1**



At this point I'm envisioning 28. Qxg6+! and if 28. ... hxg6, then 29. Rh8+ Kg7 30. R1h7#.

**27. ... f5 28. Qe3?**

A few moves ago I saw 28. Ng5 from this position, but time was running short and I totally blew it here. Care must be taken as 28. Ng5 Rg7 29. Nxh7 Nf4+! wins White's queen, however, 28. Ng5 Rg7 29. Rxh7 e5 30. Rxg7+ Qxg7 31. Ne6 Nf4+ 32. Nxf4 exf4 33. Qxf5 leaves White in excellent shape.

**28. ... f4 29. Qd3 Rh7 30. g4**

**0-1 (time)**

I didn't win this game, but I learned many things from it, not the least of which is that I play too slowly! Unfortunately, my car broke down on Saturday night and I didn't make it back to finish the tournament on Sunday. I enjoyed the experience and the people that I met at the tournament though, and thank Jeff Aldrich and team for their organizing efforts. I also learned a few lessons that will fuel me along the road



to future chess improvement.

### Jess Miller

**D**The Michigan Class Championships provided an opportunity for me to bring three of my Cheboygan High School students to a significant USCF rated tournament. Living in the northern part of the state can be quite isolating when it comes to participating in competitive chess. However, this year I was especially motivated to bring my students down-state for some additional chess experience.

A German exchange student by the name of Finn Hilgendorff enrolled at Cheboygan High School this year. The regional director of his exchange program chose Cheboygan High School, because we are the only high school in the region that actually has a chess program, and Finn had written on his application that chess is his favorite activity. It turns out that Finn is no ordinary chess player. In fact he is among the top ten German junior chess players with a FIDE rating over 2000! It was obvious that Finn would not find any meaningful competition anywhere near Cheboygan, so we arranged to take him to the Michigan Experts/Masters Championships in Lansing.

As long as we were taking Finn, I decided to invite my other top two Cheboygan High School team members, Lou Agee and Cody Dodd. Unlike Finn, Lou and Cody are mere chess mortals, but they were delighted to participate in Class E. All the students had a great time at the tournament. Finn earned 2.5 points in the Experts/Masters Championships, with a win, three draws, and a loss. Lou and Cody earned 3 points and 2 points respectively in the Class E Championships. They all agreed that the best part of the entire experience was eating the Sunday Brunch at Clara's Depot Restaurant.

### Roy McCutcheon

**E**Up at 6 am to make the trek to Lansing from Canton I go only to arrive and have to wait almost an extra hour due to "printer technical problems." Although I hear

some grumbling among the 132 or so players, I get a chance to visit with friends, compare some war stories and generally relax before round one. Some play up and some play in novice and although my rating qualifies me for the bottom I choose to take my lumps in Class E. Plus players agree there is always an unrated ringer in the lower section which the results bore out.

Round 1: a rematch against a previous opponent results in a rare first round win for me as white. Interesting happening when opponent hits clock without moving a piece: can I move twice in a row: of course not. After the game, I have about an hour left so can view a few of the games at the big boy's table and grab a bite to eat. Relaxed and ready for round 2.

Round 2: Late start again, but Jeff Aldrich runs a good tournament. Playing another 1100+ opponent. Next to us is a young man with a fluorescent blue and red chessboard with blue and white pieces. My eyes hurt looking at this board and I have to take a minute to figure out who is white and who is black. My opponent offers the player next to him sunglasses to help him with the glare. They are politely declined and we all have a bit of a laugh but I am thinking I will object to this board in the unlikely event I face this player and he has the equipment option. Note to tell Ed Mandell of All The King's Men to stop selling these sets or at least give a disclaimer that objections may be lodged. If a player can use this set, then maybe I bring my Civil War Chess Set. Further, what is with these used up boards: I notice a few green and white(read dirty/brown) boards. I am not a fan of green and white but old and faded? I need to focus.

Round 3 Now at 1-1 and I have to drive back tonight in the snow, but I will not rush and the weather is what it will be. I draw Ben Chen another 1100+ player: what gives I lose and I get the second highest player in E? There oughta be a law, but I know Jeff has the pairings correct (Chen has lost a round as well). What's with these hotel tables?

Ben and I for the next 2+ hours will ride a wave on our board as the players 2 boards down place elbows and weight on the table rippling the effect so we are playing on an incline and decline about every other move. Table doesn't bother Ben who snaps a pawn and wins in the end game denying my paltry offer of a draw. Comments heard in the room during Round 3: "Get the TD" "Stop That" "I drew the game": can't place comments to players but I wonder why chess players who are so conforming to the rules of silence abandon that when their games conclude and try to review in the playing room while others continue the battle. He who has not done that cast the first pawn. I too am guilty of what I complain. The ride home back in snow is slower, but nothing of consequence.

Round 4: a new day and new hope to get back on the winning track: My first opponent with a lower rating. Will it be my turn again to gather a point? Not to be. Young player obviously on the way up and playing above his rating. At least that will be my story and I'm sticking to it. I am somewhat down as I know even a last round win will not get me a winning tournament record. 2-3 is the new goal.

Round 5: do I have a shot here playing my opponent who is only 4 points above my rating. A very enjoyable game ensues wherein I will lose the opposition and am forced to drop to 1-4 losing 50 rating points for the tournament. Funny moment in the game at move 10 or so I have my hand perched above the piece I am about to move as my opponent concludes that I am resigning and offers to shake my hand! Not so fast I say and think am I playing that badly? Maybe it was just an omen of things to come.

You would think I would be angry, disappointed in my showing and yes I would rather have those 50 points back, but where can you go and play 5 rounds of chess for \$30 and be able to observe some of the best players in action? I have concluded from speaking with other players that we are all a class



better as a spectator than we are as a player. Now the task still remains to improve to the spectator level over the board.

Backgammon anyone?

*Jack Emaus*

*Roy McCutcheon*

*Michigan Class Championships (E)*

*Notes by Roy McCutcheon*

**1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 4. Bd3 Nbd7 5. Be3 c5**

I abandon the Pirc with a premature c5. Better would be 5. ... Bg7 and preparing to castle.

**6. Nf3 Bg7 7. Qd2**

White now will attack the h6 square threatening the g7 bishop. I consider castling but I am intent on developing a queenside attack.

**7. ... Qb6 8. O-O-O a6**

Again I delay castling and if not then should play cxd4.

**9. Bh6 Bxh6 10. Qxh6 Ng4?**

I think I am being clever attacking the queen and threatening to fork white's rooks with 11.....Nxb2. This knight is unprotected and easily defended and again I should play 11....cxd4.

**11. Qg7 Rf8**

This exposes the h7 pawn to queen attack.

**12. Rdf1**

Better for white would be 12. Nd5 threatening queen and check on 13. Nc7.

**12. ... h5**

Better is Nf6 protecting the h7 pawn and attacking white's center.

**13. Ng5 Ndf6 14. Nd5 Nxd5 15. exd5**

Better for white would be 15. Nh7 followed by capturing the rook at f8.



**15. ... Nf6**

Another missed chance for me to play cxd4 and the beginning of the end will come with 16. Re1.

*[It looks like 15. ... cxd4 16. Nh7 would have been equally nasty for black. -Ed.]*

**16. Re1 Bd7 17. Qxf6 O-O-O 18. Rxe7 Rde8 19. Rhe1 Qd8 20. Nxf7 Rxf7 21. Qxf7 Rf8 22. Qxg6 Kb8.**

Although the game will last more than 32 more moves, I never recover from losing ground and missing cxd4.

1-0

**M**/X

**Nate Solon**

I went to the Class Championship mostly to have fun and get some magazine work done. The last slow, rated chess I played was the 2004 Pan American in Wichita, Kansas. Since then my chess experience has consisted of a few action tournaments and 4143 games of one-minute on ICC. In terms of over the board performance, I felt I could consider the tournament a success if I scored a few points and didn't embarrass myself.

Then something strange happened. I started winning. I had a perfect score after two rounds with quick wins against experts Morgan Everett and Vladimir Drkulec. In the third round, Dmitry Obukhov blundered in what had been a tense, roughly even struggle, and I found myself with three out of three after the first day.

I had not had much of a chance to eat

during the day, so after the last round I wandered out in search of food, but found only bars open. I walked into one, music blaring, and staked out a seat in a relatively well-lit corner. I ate my meal alone with a book, probably looking pathetic. As I was paying the bill, someone invited me over to another table and I thought why not. I made some new friends and stayed out later than I had planned, which did not seem like such a great idea on Sunday morning.

I was paired against Eric Torman, the highest rated player in the tournament (Ben Finegold having dropped out after round one).

*Nate Solon*

*Eric Torman*

*Michigan Class Championships (M/X)*

*Notes by Nate Solon*

**1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e3**

I chanced the Nimzo-Indian, a defense I never played before in my life, because I saw Torman play 4. f3 in a previous round, a line I know a little about. After 4. e3 I would have liked to set up the board and start over from the beginning.

**4. ... d5 5. a3 Bxc3+ 6. bxc3 O-O 7. cxd5 exd5 8. Bd3 b6 9. Ne2 Ba6 10. Bxa6 Nxa6 11. Qd3 Qc8**

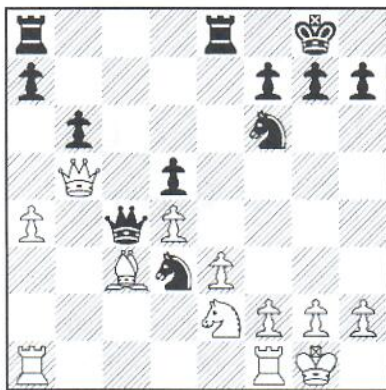
Trading the light-squared bishops was a big accomplishment for black, denying white the bishop pair and eliminating his good bishop to boot. In return, black's knight and queen are now awkwardly placed on the queenside.

**12. O-O c5 13. Bb2 Re8 14. a4**

White's last two moves were indecisive. It would have made more sense to play for e4 with Ng3 and f3. Now I saw a chance to activate my pieces on the queenside.

**14. ... cxd4 15. cxd4 Nb4 16. Qb5 Qc4 17. Bc3 Nd3**





The point of no turning back: the knight will be very active here, but it is also susceptible to being trapped.

### 18. Rad1 a6

A crucial move, knocking the queen off the f1-a6 diagonal. After 19. Qxb6 Ne4 black would have outstanding compensation for the pawn. If 19. Qxc4 dxc4 black has the upper hand, since his queenside pawns are ready to roll, while white's center is restrained. Torman continued to play to trap the knight, but he must have underestimated black's practically forced knight sacrifice.

### 19. Qb1 Nxf2 20. Rxf2 Rxe3 21. Qb4?

White's position is difficult, but he could have escaped with a nice defensive resource: 21. Rc1! Rxe2 22. Bb2 Rxb2 23. Qxb2 Qxa4 24. Qxb6 with a roughly even endgame.

### 21. ... Rae8 22. Re1?

Even here 22. Qxc4 dxc4 23. Rd2 Ne4 24. Rc2 Nxf2 25. Kxf2 would not have been so clear. But now it is really over.

### 22. ... Rxc3 23. Qxc3 Qxc3 24. Nxc3 Rxe1+ 25. Rf1 Rxf1+ 26. Kxf1 Kf8

Down two pawns, with no counterplay whatsoever, white's position is hopeless. He tries a little pawn sortie before packing it in.

### 27. g4 g5 28. h4 h6 0-1

In the last round, Seth Homa outplayed me with black, but I held on for a draw to win the tournament.

#### Michigan Master/Expert & Class Championships -- Master/Expert

No.	Name	St	Rate	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
1.	Nathan Solon (6).....	MI	2227	W19	W14	W8	W13	D3	4.5
2.	Tony Palmer (15).....	MI	2064	D9	W17	D4	W12	W5	4.0
3.	Seth Homa (3).....	MI	2280	W22	D10	D7	W8	D1	3.5
4.	Jilesh Gandhi (5).....	MI	2237	D17	D9	D2	D11	W10	3.0
5.	Kevin Czuhai (9).....	MI	2200	L12	W19	W18	W7	L2	3.0
6.	Andrew Schilleman (19).....	MI	2022	L7	L18	W19	W14	W17	3.0
7.	Dennis Seawald (8).....	MI	2208	W6	D13	D3	L5	D11	2.5
8.	Dmitriy Obukhov (7).....	MI	2213	W16	W12	L1	L3	D9	2.5
9.	Leyun Wang (4).....	MI	2276	D2	D4	D11	D16	D8	2.5
10.	Trevor Magness (10).....	IL	2157	W15	D3	L13	W17	L4	2.5
11.	Finn Hilgendorf (13).....	OH	2106	L13	W20	D9	D4	D7	2.5
12.	Atulya Shetty (20).....	MI	2020	W5	L8	W14	L2	D15	2.5
13.	Eric Torman (2).....	MI	2440	W11	D7	W10	L1	-U-	2.5
14.	Vladimir Drkulec (11).....	ON	2136	W20	L1	L12	L6	W22	2.0
15.	Prashantha Amarasinghe (21)...	MI	2007	L10	W22	L17	D18	D12	2.0
16.	Paul Maginley (18).....	OH	2026	L8	-H-	W22	D9	-U-	2.0
17.	Alisher Sanetullaev (16).....	MI	2051	D4	L2	W15	L10	L6	1.5
18.	William Gorham (12).....	OH	2121	L21	W6	L5	D15	-U-	1.5
19.	Morgan Everett (17).....	MI	2029	L1	L5	L6	-B-	-U-	1.0
20.	Emerson Cruz (22).....	MI	2002	L14	L11	-B-	-U-	-U-	1.0
21.	Benjamin Finegold (1).....	MI	2561	W18	-U-	-U-	-U-	-U-	1.0
22.	Eugene Brumley (14).....	MI	2087	L3	L15	L16	-H-	L14	0.5

#### Michigan Master/Expert & Class Championships -- Class A

No.	Name	St	Rate	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1.	Matt Hassen (8).....	MI	1913	W20	W8	W2	W4	D3	4.5
2.	William Rhee (7).....	MI	1948	W19	W14	L1	W13	W9	4.0
3.	Alan Gregg (2).....	MI	1980	D5	D18	W13	W7	D1	3.5
4.	Neal Anderson (15).....	MI	1837	W6	W7	-H-	L1	W10	3.5
5.	Michael R Smith (12).....	MI	1868	D3	D16	W18	-H-	W12	3.5
6.	Stanley Jarosz (5).....	MI	1958	L4	L15	-B-	W18	W13	3.0
7.	Jack Wood (9).....	MI	1904	W15	L4	W14	L3	D8	2.5
8.	Ian Edgerle (16).....	MI	1833	W11	L1	W16	L10	D7	2.5
9.	Anthony Nichols (1).....	MI	1999	W10	L13	-H-	W11	L2	2.5
10.	Jacob Fortuna (11).....	MI	1885	L9	D17	W19	W8	L4	2.5
11.	Ratko Bojanovic (6).....	MI	1957	L8	D20	W17	L9	W14	2.5
12.	Jennifer Skidmore (3).....	MI	1973	L14	D19	W15	W16	L5	2.5
13.	Michael A Smith (10).....	MI	1903	W17	W9	L3	L2	L6	2.0
14.	Justin Brereton (13).....	MI	1863	W12	L2	L7	W20	L11	2.0
15.	I.C. Matias (19).....	MI	1809	L7	W6	L12	D19	D17	2.0
16.	Gary Kitts (4).....	MI	1970	D18	D5	L8	L12	-B-	2.0
17.	Michael Skidmore (20).....	MI	1804	L13	D10	L11	-B-	D15	2.0
18.	Tom Manion (14).....	MI	1840	D16	D3	L5	L6	-U-	1.0
19.	Douglas Fick (17).....	MI	1816	L2	D12	L10	D15	-U-	1.0
20.	Raymond Garrison (18).....	MI	1810	L1	D11	-H-	L14	-U-	1.0

#### Michigan Master/Expert & Class Championships -- Class B

No.	Name	St	Rate	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1.	Michael Chen (5).....	MI	1740	W9	D16	W10	W6	W3	4.5
2.	Brendon Lee (7).....	ON	1722	W14	L6	W11	-X-	W7	4.0
3.	Joseph Meyer (6).....	MI	1734	W11	W4	W5	D7	L1	3.5
4.	Kayeen Kemp (15).....	MI	1645	W19	L3	D16	W8	W10	3.5
5.	Epiphany Peters (3).....	MI	1756	W12	W10	L3	W9	D6	3.5
6.	Eric Larson (2).....	MI	1762	W15	W2	D7	L1	D5	3.0
7.	Justin Aldrich (4).....	MI	1749	W13	W18	D6	D3	L2	3.0
8.	Spencer Finegold (18).....	MI	1617	L10	W12	W13	L4	W11	3.0
9.	Loren Schwiebert (16).....	MI	1634	L1	W20	W18	L5	D13	2.5
10.	Oleg Tsodikov (8).....	MI	1711	W8	L5	L1	W14	L4	2.0
11.	Peter Chen (14).....	MI	1659	L3	W17	L2	W18	L8	2.0
12.	Jeffrey Guilfoyle (13).....	MI	1685	L5	L8	W15	D13	D14	2.0
13.	Michael Dang (12).....	MI	1685	L7	W19	L8	D12	D9	2.0
14.	Evan Hawver (17).....	MI	1633	L2	D15	W19	L10	D12	2.0
15.	Bruce Roth (11).....	MI	1686	L6	D14	L12	D17	-B-	2.0
16.	Ryan Rokita (19).....	MI	1616	W20	D1	D4	-F-	-U-	2.0
17.	Daniel Libby (1).....	MI	1780	L18	L11	-H-	D15	W19	2.0
18.	Richard Wilson (10).....	MI	1688	W17	L7	L9	L11	-U-	1.0
19.	Justin Lu Chen (20).....	MI	1610	L4	L13	L14	-B-	L17	1.0
20.	Olaf Haakonstad (9).....	MI	1702	L16	L9	-U-	-U-	-U-	0.0

#### Michigan Master/Expert & Class Championships -- Class C

No.	Name	St	Rate	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1.	Chris Irwin (7).....	MI	1545	W19	W16	W2	-H-	W5	4.5
2.	Safal Bora (5).....	MI	1576	W9	W3	L1	W8	W7	4.0
3.	Gilbert Pointer (23).....	MI	1435	W21	L2	W23	W10	W12	4.0
4.	Alexander Deatrick (8).....	MI	1537	W24	W12	-H-	D7	W6	4.0
5.	Terry Combs (9).....	MI	1533	W22	D6	W14	W15	L1	3.5
6.	Glen Schmiede (2).....	MI	1587	W11	D5	D8	W16	L4	3.0

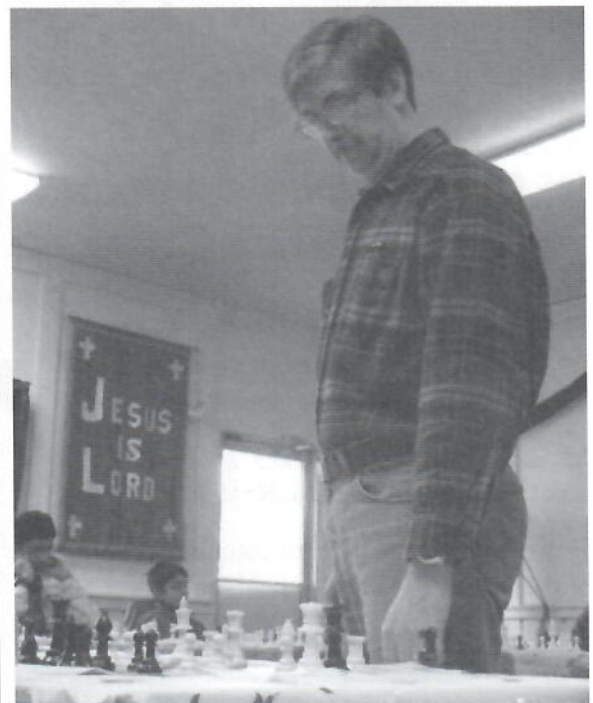


# Great Lakes Open Fundraiser Simul

Tim McGrew gave a simultaneous exhibition  
to raise money for the Great Lakes Open.



Simul participants



Tim McGrew

7. Jeff Futrell (12).....	MI 1522 W13	W23	D15	D4	L2	3.0
8. Andrew Elenbogen (14).....	MI 1510 D15	W9	D6	L2	W14	3.0
9. Zachary McComb (17).....	MI 1486 L2	L8	-B-	W21	W17	3.0
10. Kyle Webster (6).....	MI 1560 W20	D14	-H-	L3	W18	3.0
11. Kenneth Schell (15).....	MI 1505 L6	W24	D12	-H-	W16	3.0
12. Edward Song (25).....	MI 1416 W17	L4	D11	W13	L3	2.5
13. Matthew Trujillo (24).....	MI 1422 L7	-B-	-H-	L12	W20	2.5
14. Larry Hodge (22).....	MI 1438 W25	D10	L5	D17	L8	2.0
15. Kent Hershberger (1).....	MI 1598 D8	W25	D7	L5	-U-	2.0
16. John Brauker (26).....	MI 1408 -B-	L1	W22	L6	L11	2.0
17. Apurva Virkud (13).....	MI 1522 L12	D20	W21	D14	L9	2.0
18. Timothy P Johnson (16).....	MI 1503 L23	L22	W20	W19	L10	2.0
19. J.R. Udvadia (19).....	MI 1474 L1	D21	-H-	L18	W22	2.0
20. Nathan Metcalf (18).....	MI 1477 L10	D17	L18	W22	L13	1.5
21. Scott Faust (11).....	MI 1525 L3	D19	L17	L9	-B-	1.5
22. Edward Seczney (21).....	MI 1447 L5	W18	L16	L20	L19	1.0
23. DeWayne Van Horn (4).....	MI 1580 W18	L7	L3	-U-	-U-	1.0
24. Chris Rolls (20).....	MI 1453 L4	L11	-H-	-U-	-U-	0.5
25. Kwame Hooker (10).....	MI 1528 L14	L15	-H-	-N-	-U-	0.5
26. Leon Nash (3).....	MI 1580 -H-	-U-	-U-	-U-	-U-	0.5

## Michigan Master/Expert & Class Championships -- Class D

No.	Name	St	Rate	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1.	Zachary L Johnson (8).....	MI	1261	W7	W9	L3	W2	W6	4.0
2.	Ed Mandell (5).....	MI	1287	W6	W5	W4	L1	W7	4.0
3.	Terrian Frelix (2).....	MI	1374	L8	W11	W1	W4	W5	4.0
4.	Marco Lorenzon (4).....	MI	1288	W11	W8	L2	L3	W9	3.0
5.	Mandy Lu (11).....	MI	1205	-B-	L2	W7	W9	L3	3.0
6.	Jess Miller (10).....	MI	1232	L2	-B-	W10	W8	L1	3.0
7.	Shane Vorva (3).....	MI	1296	L1	W10	L5	W11	L2	2.0
8.	Alex Strobehn (7).....	MI	1268	W3	L4	D9	L6	D10	2.0
9.	Melissa Lee (1).....	ON	1382	W10	L1	D8	L5	L4	1.5
10.	Nick Applebee (6).....	MI	1282	L9	L7	L6	-B-	D8	1.5
11.	Nicole Dunwoodie (9).....	MI	1247	L4	L3	-H-	L7	-B-	1.5

## Michigan Master/Expert & Class Championships -- Class E

No.	Name	St	Rate	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1.	Timothy D Johnson (11).....	MI	1046	W18	W2	D5	W6	W4	4.5
2.	Andrew Campbell (4).....	MI	1122	W13	L1	W14	W9	W7	4.0
3.	Ben Chen (1).....	MI	1188	L6	W10	W19	W8	W5	4.0
4.	Theodore Gregg (7).....	MI	1094	W21	W20	W7	D5	L1	3.5
5.	Bruce Webster (8).....	MI	1083	W17	W14	D1	D4	L3	3.0
6.	Jeffery Zhang (12).....	MI	1046	W3	W17	L9	L1	W13	3.0
7.	Anirudha Hadagali (9).....	MI	1068	W15	W8	L4	W13	L2	3.0
8.	Demetrius Jackson (14).....	MI	955	W9	L7	W16	L3	W15	3.0
9.	Lou Agee (3).....	MI	1133	L8	W19	W6	L2	W11	3.0
10.	Paul Mills (10).....	MI	1055	W16	L3	L13	W14	W17	3.0
11.	Aaron House (23).....	MI	527	L14	-B-	D12	W15	L9	2.5
12.	Nathan Berman (5).....	MI	1109	L19	L15	D11	W18	W16	2.5
13.	Andrew Hanna (15).....	MI	953	L2	W18	W10	L7	L6	2.0
14.	Kyle Schwiebert (17).....	MI	805	W11	L5	L2	L10	W20	2.0
15.	Alex Patterson (20).....	MI	731	L7	W12	W20	L11	L8	2.0
16.	Jack Emaus (21).....	MI	682	L10	W21	L8	W19	L12	2.0
17.	Cody Dodd (19).....	MI	733	L5	L6	W21	W20	L10	2.0
18.	Rod Schaaf (22).....	MI	664	L1	L13	-B-	L12	W19	2.0
19.	Roy McCutcheon (16).....	MI	929	W12	L9	L3	L16	L18	1.0
20.	Thierry Laurens (13).....	MI	1042	-X-	L4	L15	L17	L14	1.0
21.	Freddie Noe (18).....	MI	793	L4	L16	L17	-H-	-N-	0.5

## Michigan Master/Expert & Class Championships -- Novice

No.	Name	St	Rate	1	2	3	4	5	Score
1.	Robert Cassidy (11).....	MI	nnnn	W7	W3	D2	W6	D4	4.0
2.	Terrence Taylor (13).....	MI	nnnn	W10	W9	D1	W3	D5	4.0
3.	John Zhang (2).....	MI	880	W12	L1	W4	L2	W9	3.0
4.	Ronald Larson (1).....	MI	955	W8	W6	L3	-H-	D1	3.0
5.	James Paquette (12).....	MI	nnnn	L6	W8	W10	D9	D2	3.0
6.	Joy Chen (5).....	MI	722	W5	L4	W11	L1	W12	3.0
7.	Timothy Quinlan (6).....	MI	703	L1	W12	L9	W13	W10	3.0
8.	Anthony Phifer (7).....	MI	597	L4	L5	W13	W11	-B-	3.0
9.	Arundhati Hadagali (3).....	MI	832	W11	L2	W7	D5	L3	2.5
10.	Gage Matthews (4).....	MI	798	L2	W13	L5	W12	L7	2.0
11.	Josh Elenbogen (9).....	MI	295	L9	-B-	L6	L8	W13	2.0
12.	Justin Homister (8).....	MI	429	L3	L7	-B-	L10	L6	1.0
13.	Madison Emaus (10).....	MI	255	-B-	L10	L8	L7	L11	1.0





# 2009 GREAT LAKES OPEN



**FRIDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 24-26, 2009**

**\$5,000 PRIZE FUND! • 60% Guaranteed!**

**MC CAMLY PLAZA HOTEL, 50 CAPITAL AVENUE, SW, BATTLE CREEK, MI 49037**

**FORMAT: 3 SECTIONS (OPEN, U1800, U1400) • 2-DAY & 3-DAY SCHEDULES**

**Merge after RD 2. Up to two 1/2-point byes allowed; must be requested prior to start of RD 3.**

**USCF and a STATE Membership Required – can be purchased On Site!**

## ENTRY FEE

**BY APRIL 1:**

**OPEN:** 2-Day \$72; 3-Day \$73; IM's, GM's Free (Early EF deducted from winnings). **U1800:** 2-Day \$62; 3-Day \$63. **U1400:** 2-Day \$52; 3-Day \$53. **Under Age 16,** deduct \$10.

**BY APRIL 20:**

**2-Day \$82–\$72–\$62; 3-Day \$83–\$73–\$63.**

**AFTER**

**April 20 or on Site: 2-Day \$92–\$82–\$72; 3-Day \$93–\$83–\$73**

## REGISTRATION

**3-Day: Fri, April 24: 5:00–6:29 PM**

**2-Day: Sat, April 25: 8:30–10:29 AM**

## TIME LIMIT

**3-Day: RDS 1-3, G-2hrs; RDS 4-5, 40/2, SD1**

**2-Day: RDS 1-2, G-60; RD 3, G-2hrs; RDS 4-5, 40/2, SD1**

## ROUNDS

**3-Day: Fri: 7 PM. Sat: 12, 4. Sun: 10, 4:30**

**2-Day: Sat: 11, 1:30, 4. Sun: 10, 4:30**



## SPECIAL EVENTS

**SAT, 8 PM: Blitz Tournament. EF: \$10 (90% payout). SUN, 9 AM: IM or GM Lecture. \$10**

**PRIZE FUND: \$5,000 • 60% Guaranteed**

**OPEN \$2,500** (b/42, min. 6 per prize group): 1st, 2nd: \$1,000, \$600; TOP X: \$350; TOP A: \$300; TOP U1800/UNR: \$250 (UNR elig. only for OPEN or U1800 prize).

**U1800 \$1,400** (b/32, min. 6 per prize group): 1st, 2nd: \$450, \$300; TOP C: \$250; TOP D: \$225; TOP U1400/UNR: \$175 (UNR elig. only for TOP or U1400 prize).

**U1400 \$1,100** (b/30, min. 6 per prize group): 1st, 2nd: \$425, \$275; TOP E: \$225; TOP U1000/UNR: \$175 (UNR elig. only for TOP or U1000 prize).

## STRICT RULE ENFORCEMENT

**CELL PHONES** must be turned **OFF** or in **SILENT MODE** in the Tournament Room. Infraction: Deduct 1/2 the remaining time or game forfeiture if less than 10 minutes remaining on clock for 1st infraction; automatic forfeiture for 2nd infraction.

**Infraction by spectator:** Banned from tournament playing areas for remainder of tournament.

**HEADPHONES:** Headphones cannot be used if opponent objects for any reason and cannot be used in the last Rd by players with a plus score. Player must be willing to present same to TDs for examination at any time. Failure to do so will result in removal from tournament without refund.

## LODGING

This AAA Four-Diamond Hotel is located in Downtown Battle Creek. Call Toll-Free 1-888-622-2659 for reservations or go online at <http://www.mccamlyplaza.com>. Ask for the Great Lakes Open chess rate (\$79/night)—must reserve by April 3rd for this great rate! Parking \$4, unlimited in and out privileges. Free parking in nearby areas on weekends.

**For directions to hotel, go online to <http://www.mapquest.com> or <http://www.yahoo.com/maps>**

**INFO & ENTRIES: Stan Beckwith (269) 964-2927, 84 Bond Street, Battle Creek, MI 49037-1907 or**

**Ed Mandell (586) 558-4790, All The King's Men • <http://www.allthekingsmenchess.com>**



# Michigan Players at K-12 National Championships

By Jennifer Skidmore

A small crowd of talented Michigan Juniors attended the Grade School Nationals at the Disney resort in Lake Buena Vista, Florida, Dec. 11-14. "Team Michigan" was composed of 10 players in grades 3-6 who collected 6 trophies and several "scalps" as they scored well against some very challenging opponents from around the country.

Two third graders from Michigan competed in their section. Both Joy Chen and Maushmi Chitale won class trophies as they won many games against players who were higher rated. Maushmi won in the final round against an opponent rated over 400 points higher! Joy's tournament was a bit of a roller coaster. She lost to the eventual section winner in round 1, and continued winning against lower rated players and losing to higher rated players until round 6 when she accepted her brother's challenge and won against a player higher rated than she. She annotated that game here:

*Joy Chen*

*Charlie Suskin*

*2008 National K-12 Championships*

*Notes by Joy Chen*

**1. d4 d5 2. c4 e5**

I don't get to play against this move often

**3. e3 c5**

I wasn't prepared for that.

**4. dxe5 d4**

The move was really strong and I didn't see it coming.

**5. exd4**

I was pretty happy for that I had undoubled my pawns.

**5. ... cxd4 6. Nf3 Nc6 7. Bd3**

I was trying to block the pawn from

coming further.

**7. ... Bg4 8. Nbd2**

It was kind of a bad move. I should have played h3.

**8. ... Bb4**

He could have played Nxe5.

**9. O-O Bxd2 10. Bxd2 Bxf3 11. Qxf3 Nxe5 12. Qe4**

Re1 is better.

**12. ... Qb8 13. Bc2 a6**

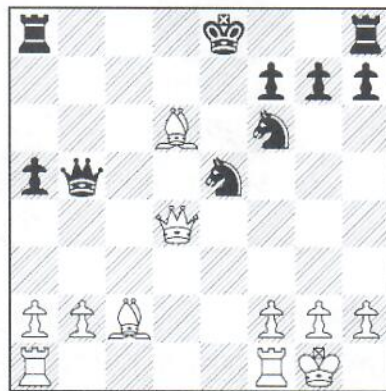
It left a pawn hanging. He should go for d3.

**14. Qxd4 Nf6 15. Bb4**

Now he can't castle.

**15. ... b5 16. cxb5 a5 17. Bd6 Qxb5**

That was BAD! What a poisoned pawn!



**18. Ba4 Nf3+**

Qxa4 is way better.

**19. gxf3 Nh5 20. Bxb5+ Kd8 21. Bc5+**

Re1 is a better move.

**21. ... Kc8 22. Qd7+ Kb8 23. Bc6 Ra7**

I don't know if there was a better move.

**24. Bxa7# 1-0**

He was 300 rating points higher than me.

Edward Song and Julian Wellman were the Michigan players in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade section. Both of these players were toward the top of their section for the entire tournament, beginning the event with 3 out of 4 points and entering the final round with 5 out of 6. Both boys drew in their final round so that they finished with 5.5 out of 7. They both finished in the top 10 for their efforts. They have both included games for your enjoyment.

*Julian Wellman*

*Yash Pershad*

*2008 National K-12 Championships*

*Notes by Julian Wellman*

**1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Nf6**

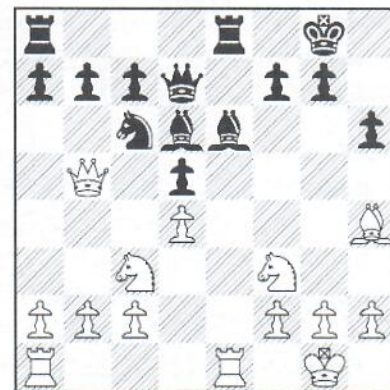
People usually didn't play that against me so I decided not to try to keep the pawn.

**3. Nf3 Nxd5 4. Bc4 e6 5. Bxd5 exd5 6. O-O Nc6 7. d4 Bd6 8. Re1+ Be6 9. Nc3 O-O 10. Bg5**

If f6 then Rxe6.

**10. ... Qd7 11. Qe2 h6 12. Bh4 Rfe8 13. Qb5**

I saw the discovery on the e-file and b5 looked like a good space for my queen to attack.





### 13. ... Rab8

13. ... a6 looked better because if Qxb7 then Reb8 trapping the Queen.

### 14. Kh1

I saw that 14. Nxd5 didn't work because of 14. ... Bxd5 15. Qxd5 bxa2+ 16. Kxa2 Qxd5 winning the queen.

### 15. ... a6 15. Qb3 b5

Nxd5 still doesn't work because Na5 wins the knight.

16. a3 Na5 17. Qa2 Rbc8 18. Re2 Nc4 19. Rae1 c5 20. b3 Nb6 21. dxc5 Bxc5 22. Ne5 Qc7 23. Ng4 Bd4 24. Nd1 Qf4 25. f3 h5 26. Bg3 Qg5 27. Nge3 h4 28. Bf2 Qf4 29. Nf1 Bxf2 30. Nxf2 Nd7 31. Qa1 Nf6 32. Qe5 Qxe5 33. Rxe5 Rxc2 34. Ng4 Nxg4 35. fxg4 Rc3 36. R1e3 Rec8 37. a4 Rxe3 38. Rxe3 bxa4 39. bxa4 d4 40. Re4 Rd8 41. Nd2 d3 42. h3 Rd6 43. Kg1 f5 44. gxf5 Bxf5 45. Rxh4 Re6 46. Rf4 Rf6 47. Kf2 Kf7 48. Ke1 Ke7 49. g4 Bd7 50. Rxf6 Kxf6 51. Ne4+ Ke5 52. Nc5 Bc6 53. Nxd3+ Kd4 54. Nb4 Bb7 55. Nc2+ Kc3

At this point I was down to four minutes so I stopped writing down the moves. In the rest of the game I decided to sacrifice everything for his g-pawn and got a draw.

1/2-1/2

*Edward Song*

*Zachary Holecek*

*2008 National K-12 Championships*

*Notes by Edward Song*

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e3 O-O 5. Bd3 d6 6. Ne2 e5 7. O-O Bxc3 8. Nxc3 a5 9. Qe2 Re8 10. dxe5 dxe5 11. Rd1 Qe7 12. e4?!

This is not so good. The d4 square is weak. 12. f3 is a better move.

12. ... h6 13. Be3 Nc6 14. Nd5 Nxd5 15. cxd5 Nb4 16. Bc4 Bd7 17. a3 Na6 18. Rac1 Rec8 19. Qf3 Be8 20. Qg3 Kh8 21. Bxa6

Not bad, not good either. Bishop is better than knight, but it is a bad bishop. I also helped his rook in the game.

### 21. ... Rxa6 22. Bc5 Qf6 23. Rd3 b6?

He blocked his rook by himself.

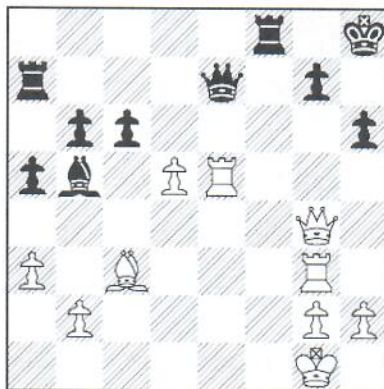
### 24. Be3?

Not very good. I can go 24. Rf3 Qg6 25. Qxg6 fxg6 26. Rf8+ Kh7 27. Be7 or 27. Be3. White is much better.

24. ... Qd6 25. Bd2 Ra7 26. f4 f6 27. fxe5 Qxe5 28. Qg4 Rd8 29. Bc3 Qe7 30. Re1 Bb5 31. Rg3

Not bad, but 31.e5 is a better.

### 31. ... c6 32. e5 fxe5 33. Rxe5 Rf8



He's trying to checkmate me.

### 34. Rxe7??

And I fell into his small trick. The best move is 34. h3 Qd7 35. Re6 Rf1+ 36. Kh2 Kg8 37. a4 h5 38. Qxh5 and white is better.

### 34. ... Rf1#

I was so disappointed that I made a big mistake that lost my winning game.

0-1

Anirudh Chitale, Apurva Virkud, and Justin Chen were three players from Michigan who entered into the 5<sup>th</sup> grade section. Anirudh had a very solid tournament, nearly winning a class prize himself while Apurva was plagued by draws. Justin earned a trophy for his efforts which included two wins against higher rated players. In the final round, he met former Michigan player Charlie

Fauman (now of Massachusetts) for the play-off of the 2007 Michigan Primary title that never happened. Justin has annotated that game here:

*Charlie Fauman*

*Justin Chen*

*2008 National K-12 Championships*

*Notes by Justin Chen*

1. d4 Nf6 2. Bf4 e6 3. Nf3 b6 4. e3 Bb7 5. Bd3 Be7 6. Nbd2 O-O 7. O-O c5 8. c3 d5

I am a queen's gambit player so I like my position so far.

### 9. Re1 Nc6 10. e4

I am not sure if he saw that the move hung a pawn.

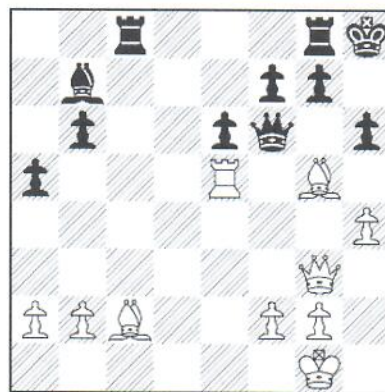
10. ... dxe4 11. Nxe4 cxd4 12. cxd4 Nxd4 13. Nxd4

Be5 is better.

13. ... Qxd4 14. Nxf6+ Qxf6 15. Qd2 a5 16. Rac1

I couldn't believe he didn't see my pin threat!

16. ... Bb4 17. Qe3 Bxe1 18. Rxe1 h6 19. Qg3 Kh8 20. h4 Rg8 21. Re5 Rad8 22. Bc2 Rc8 23. Bg5



It may seem that my queen was trapped, but I have Rxc2!!

### 23. ... Rxc2 24. Bxf6

I cannot take on f6 because of Qe3.

24. ... Rc1+ 25. Kh2 gxf6

See my threat on g2?



26. Qxg8+ Kxg8 27. Rb5 Rc6 28. Kg3 Ba6 29. Rb3 b5 30. Rd3 b4 31. Rd2 Bc4 32. Rc2 Bd5 33. Rxc6 Bxc6 34. f3 Kg7 35. Kf4 Kg6 36. Ke3 a4 37. a3 bxa3 38. bxa3 f5 39. g3 e5 40. f4 e4 41. Kf2 Kh5 42. Kg2 Kg4 43. Kf2 f6 44. h5 Kxh5 45. Kg2 Kg4 46. Kf2 h5 47. Kg2 e3+ 48. Kf1 Kf3 49. Kg1 e2 50. Kh2 e1=Q 51. g4 Qg3+ 52. Kh1 Kf2#

Kinda funny checkmate huh? As some of you may know, Charlie Fauman is from Michigan. He moved to Massachusetts about a year or so ago. This is the first time I have ever beaten him (and I have played him a lot!). I finished the tournament 5.5/7 in the 5th grade.

## 0-1

Kyle Webster (2008 Michigan K-5 champion) began the tournament with 3 out of 4 and finished with 5 out of 7, losing only to players who were 400-500 points higher rated than he. He finished in 14<sup>th</sup> place overall, playing one of the toughest schedules in his point group. Kyle has included a game in this article as well. Michael Dang had back to back draws with the top finishers (Michael Bodek, the eventual winner, and World Youth representative David Adelberg) in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade section in rounds 4 and 5, but finished out of trophy contention as he failed to score in the final two rounds. Alexander Deatricks faced some unexpected challenges in the early rounds, but scored in his final 4 rounds to finish strong with 4.5 out of 7.

*Kyle Webster*

*Liam Holzer*

*2008 National K-12 Championship*

*Notes by Kyle Webster*

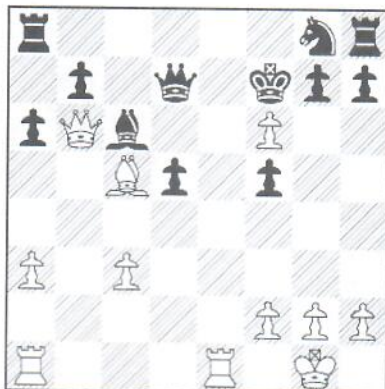
1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. c3 Nc6 5. Nf3 Qb6 6. Bd3 cxd4 7. cxd4 Bd7 8. 0-0 Nxd4 9. Nxd4 Qxd4 10. Nc3 a6

I do not know this line well, and I often get into trouble. I like when Black plays Qxe5. White gets good counter play with his pieces.

11. Re1 Bb4 12. Be3 Qh4 13. Qb3 Qe7 14. a3 Bxc3 15. bxc3 Bc6

His bishop looks like a big pawn.

16. Qb6 f6 17. Bc5 Qd7 18. Bf5!? exf5 19. exf6+ Kf7



My miscalculations put me in a difficult position. I thought I could move Re7 and win the Queen but I didn't see the Knight.

20. fxg7 Kxg7 21. c4!?

My last try to gain material. If 21. ... cxd4, then 22. Qb2+! Nf6 23. Re7+ wins the Queen.

21. ... Re8? 22. Rxe8! Qxe8 23. Bd4+ Nf6 24. cxd5

wins back the piece.

24. ... Qd7? 25. Bxf6 Kxf6 26. Qb2+ Kg6 27. Qxh8 Qxd5 28. f3 Qc5+ 29. Kh1 Qc4 30. Qe5 Qd3 31. Qe6 Kg5 32. Qe7+ Kg6 33. Re1 Qd5? 34. Re6+

Kh5 35. g4+ fxg4 36. Re5+ Qxe5 37. Qxe5 Kg6

Now this game will be a piece of cake for White.

38. Qe6+ Kg5 39. Qxg4+ Kh6

This move is the quickest way for Black to lose.

40. h4 Bxf3+ 41. Qxf3 Kg7 42. Qxb7+ Kf6 43. Qxa6+ Kg7 44. Kg2 Kh8 45. Qa7 Kg8 46. Kf3 Kf8 47. Ke4 Ke8 48. Kd5 h6 49. Ke6 Kf8 50. Qf7#

## All Michigan Players

3<sup>rd</sup> grade

Joy Chen - 1<sup>st</sup> 799-600 4.0

Maushmi Chitale - 3<sup>rd</sup> U600 3.5

4<sup>th</sup> grade

Edward Song - 6<sup>th</sup> overall 5.5

Julian Wellman - 8<sup>th</sup> overall 5.5

5<sup>th</sup> grade

Justin Chen - 12<sup>th</sup> overall 5.5

6<sup>th</sup> grade

Kyle Webster - 14<sup>th</sup> overall 5.0



Justin Chen and Joy Chen with trophies



# Thurston Tournament a Hit with New Players

By Jeff Alson

Photographs by Byron Bunker

Eighty-seven enthusiastic players from grades K-8 in the Ann Arbor area participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Thurston Chess Tournament on Saturday, January 24.

While the tournament is just one of many factors that have led to a real kids chess boom in Ann Arbor—most importantly the efforts of some of the state's top chess teachers such as Ray Garrison, Jennifer Skidmore, John Smalec, Ben Finegold, and others who work with hundreds of kids—the tournament has filled an important niche as a cheap and local opportunity for children and parents to experience their first kids chess tournament. There were 51 unrated players this year. In addition, the Ann Arbor News has published a full page of color photos about the tournament each of the last two years, helping to market chess to the broader community. The photos of the K-1 section, where the kids often appear to struggle to see over their pieces and who play their own version of “speed chess,” are always popular.

The top K-8 section was particularly strong this year, with the average rating of the ten players well over 1000 and no one rated below 800. Justin Chen and Marco Lorenzon, friends and classmates at nearby King Elementary, drew their game and were co-champions with 4.5 points. Oliver Barron of host Thurston Elementary won the K-5 Open with a perfect 5 points, with Duncan Darnell and Ryan Gudal of Thurston, and Ryan Li and Nicholas Darlington of King, all tying for second with 4 points. In the K-5 novice section, Daniel Khain of Angell Elementary took top honors with a perfect 4 points, while Justin Tseng of Summers-Knoll took second with 3.5 points. Allen Wu of Logan Elementary scored a



perfect 4 points to win the K-1 section, and runner-up was Phillip Kang of Angell with 3.5 points. Each participant won a participation certificate and chess piece key chain (maize or blue, of course!).

The tournament has helped solidify a chess tradition at the host school, Thurston Elementary in northeast Ann Arbor. Under the leadership of Ray Garrison, who teaches a weekly chess class at the school and who has directed the tournament since its inception, Thurston has been a major force in the statewide K-3 and K-5 tournaments. It has won four state titles in the last five years, including an unusual K-5 title in 2006 when the Thurston B team won the state title and the Thurston A team finished third!

Special recognition goes to Jim Vallem, the Thurston parent who conceived of and led the volunteer effort to organize the first tournament in 2004, and whose vision has continued to guide the tournament today. This year, the primary parent volunteers were Nejat Karabakal, Yuji Fujii, Gene Darnell, and myself, as well as another 20 parent volunteers who helped on tournament day. Byron Bunker documented the event with some wonderful photographs.



Left: Valentina Urrea ponders a queen move

Above: Zach Kubisiak playfully stares down his opponent



This game between Justin Chen and Marco Lorenzon (pictured right) was to determine the tournament winner. They both came in with perfect scores of four out of four. Marco went for a Leningrad Dutch and after a complex but roughly balanced middlegame they arrived at a deceptively tricky king and pawn ending.

*Justin Chen*

*Marco Lorenzon*

*Thurston Chess Tournament*

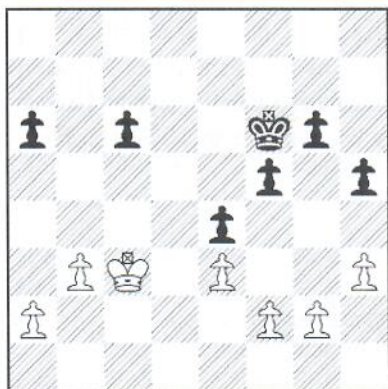
*Ann Arbor, Michigan, 2009.1.24*

*Notes by Jeff Alson and Nate Solon*

1. d4 f5 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Bg7 5. Nf3 d6 6. e3 Nc6 7. Be2 O-O 8. h3 a6 9. O-O Qe8 10. d5 Ne5 11. Nxe5 dxe5 12. c5 c6 13. Bc4 Kh8 14. Re1 cxd5 15. Nxd5 Nxd5 16. Qxd5 e6 17. Qd2 Qc6 18. Qd6 Qxd6 19. cxd6 Bd7 20. Rac1 Bf6 21. Bxf6+ Rxf6 22. Bb3 Bc6 23. Red1 Rd8 24. Rc2 Rd7 25. Rcd2 Kg7 26. Rc2 Rd8 27. Rcd2 Rd7 28. Bc2 Bd5 29. Bb3 Bc6 30. Kf1 h5 31. Rc2 Kh6 32. Bc4 Bd5 33. Bxd5 exd5 34. Rxd5 Rfxd6 35. Rxd6 Rxd6 36. Ke2 e4 37. Rc7 Rb6 38. b3 Kg5 39. Kd2 Kf6 40. Kc3 Rc6+?

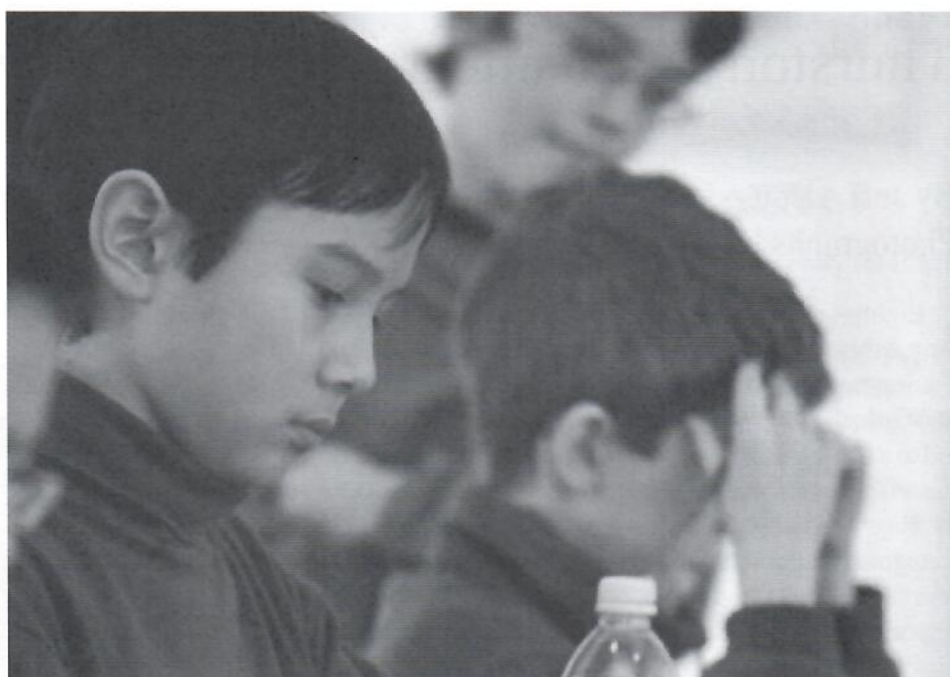
So far both sides have played sensibly, although white may have missed a chance to capitalize on his passed d-pawn. Now black heads for a king and pawn endgame, but this turns out to be losing for him. It would have been better just to wait and make white find a plan.

**41. Rxc6+ bxc6**



**42. Kc4 Ke6 43. Kc5 Kd7 44. Kb6?!**

The easiest way to win was 44. h4! It



might seem strange not to go after the a-pawn right away, but it makes sense once you understand what is going on. White can always break through on the queenside, but black has some tricky ways to make a passed pawn on the kingside. With 44. h4, white could have shut down black's kingside play once and for all, and continued on the queenside in peace. Play might have continued 44. ... Kc7 45. b4 Kb7 46. a4 Kc7 47. a5 and white's king will get into black's camp with an easy win. In light of this, maybe black should have tried ...h4 on the previous move.

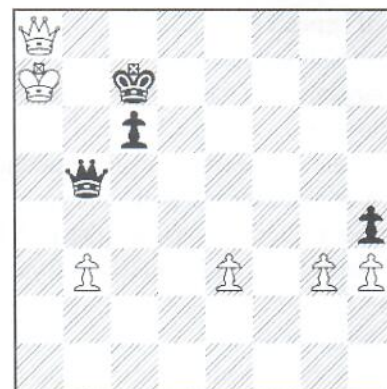
**44. ... h4 45. Kxa6 g5 46. Kb6?**

White could still have won with 46. Ka5! The point is that after 46. ... f4 47. exf4 gxf4 48. Kb4, his king gets back just in time to stop black's pawns.

**46. ... f4 47. a4 f3?**

This appears to draw, but black had a shocking win with 47. ... g4!! (the four pawns lined up on the fourth rank make a nice picture). Compared to 47. ... f3, he will either gain a tempo or queen on a better square. Black wins after either 48. hxg4 f3 49. gxf3 h3 50. a5 h2 51. a6 h1=Q 52. a7 Qh8 53. Kb7 Qc8+; or 48. a5 g3 49. fxg3 f3 50. gxf3 exf3 51. a6 f2 52. a7 f1=Q 53. a8=Q Qb5+ 54. Ka7

Kc7 [diagram]. Of course, it is not so easy to see all of that while your clock is ticking.



**48. gxf3 exf3 49. a5 g4 50. a6 gxh3 51. a7 h2 52. a8=Q h1=Q**

Now it looks as though the game will be drawn, since white will have to take a perpetual check to stop black from making another queen.

**53. Qxc6+ Ke7 54. Qe4+ Kf7 55. b4 h3 56. Qf4+ Kg6 57. b5 h2 58. Qg4+ Kf6 59. Qh4+ Kg6 60. Qg4+ Kf6 61. Qd4+ Kg6 62. Qd6+ Kg5 63. Qe5+ Kg6 64. Qd6+ Kg5 65. Qd5+ Kf6 66. Qd4+ 1/2-1/2**

A hard fought game in which both sides missed chances to win, but played very well overall. A draw and shared championship was a fair result.



# Women's Championship

By Jennifer Skidmore

One thing that I frequently tell my students is that sometimes, chess is less about what you *can* do than it is about what your opponent *can't* do. However, chess should also be about what girls *can* do.

Late in December, after this tournament, a podcast by Karen Hopkin in Scientific American discussed why no woman has ever been world chess champion. Her discussion was based on a scientific study which compared the ratings of the top 100 male chess players and female chess players in Germany. From this study, it was clear that the men were higher rated but that this bias was purely statistical. Thus, when there is a larger sample size of female players that a few more should reach the level of extreme talent that has been attained by the male world champions.

With these findings, our readers may wonder why we still have a women's chess championship. In addition to the Kellner fund for Michigan women's chess, this event is rather like a competitive party. On many previous occasions, there were female chess players whom I would encounter only once each year, at this event. These days, our field is much more experienced. In fact, more than half of the competitors were at the Scholastic Club Championships on the previous weekend either as players or directors. I tried to explain this to my boyfriend who wondered if girls and party meant hair-braiding, pillow fights, and easy-bake ovens. I scoffed at his sarcasm and suggested that he join us for the side-event, but he preferred to watch the Lions lose one of their 16 games.

For the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row, the Michigan Women's Championship boasted two sections and a side-event. Once again, the event returned to All The King's Men Chess Supplies in Warren, this time taking advantage of the extra playing hall at their new location.

Also, for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row, we had a new champion in the Reserve section, this time Kayla Thomas. She had a perfect tournament, defeating second place finisher Paige Mayville in round 3. Aru Hadagali, playing in her second tournament ever (and for the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in a row!) scored 2.5 points. Other players competing for the first time were also no strangers to chess tournaments as long-time ATKM clerks (and chess parents) Patti Reddick-Brooks and Marcie Kahn joined the field.

The open section was graced by 3 former champions including Ashley Carter (3-time winner), Heather Flewelling, 2005 co-champion, and myself (9-time winner). We were also the top 3 seeds. The rest of the field was comprised of 4 Michigan junior talents as well as the rapidly improving

Melissa Lee from Ontario. Melissa started off the tournament in a dramatic fashion scoring two upsets in the form of a round 1 victory over Ashley Carter, and a draw with Heather Flewelling. So, shocking was the round 1 result that the first draft of pairings (where all of the higher rated players were assumed to have won) needed to be redone. Sidnei Austin also had an upset in round 2 as she held Apurva Virkud to a draw.

I defeated Apurva Virkud in round 1 and Epiphany Peters in round 2. I then faced Heather Fwan in round 3. Most of you will remember the 2005 co-champion as Heather Swan. She is recently divorced and has changed her name back to Flewelling, but USCF wasn't willing to honor her request without lots of documentation that wasn't readily available to her, so I tried to help by changing her name, one letter at a time. I had my most challenging game against the tournament with Heather, but managed to win. Heather then finished in second play by defeating Epiphany in the final round and winning on tie-breaks over Apurva Virkud who won her final two rounds against Ashley Carter and Mandy Lu. Also in the final round, I defeated Melissa Lee, finishing the event with a perfect score and claiming the title for the 10<sup>th</sup> time.





Previous page: Jennifer Skidmore  
Clockwise from top right, Women's Championship  
top finishers: Heather Flewelling, Kayla Thomas,  
Paige Mayville, Mandy Lu, Epiphany Peters





**2009 ANN ARBOR WINTER OPEN**  
**SATURDAY and SUNDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 21-22, 2009**



**5-SS**

**2 SECTIONS: OPEN and RESERVE (U1600/UNR)**



**PRIZE FUND \$1,200** (b/50 paid entries)

USCF and MCA Memberships Required (can be purchased on site)

**ENTRY FEE: \$45 by FEBRUARY 15TH**

**\$55 ON SITE**

**REGISTRATION: Sat: 8:30 - 9:45 AM**

**TIME CONTROL: G-30/90, Then G-60**

**ROUNDS: Sat: 10 AM, 3 PM, 8 PM**

**Sun: 11 AM, 4 PM**

**TWO 1/2-POINT BYES AVAILABLE - MUST BE REQUESTED PRIOR TO START OF RD. 3.**

**PRIZE FUND: \$1,200**

**PRIZES (b/50). OPEN: 1<sup>ST</sup> \$350. 2<sup>ND</sup> \$200. TOP U2000/UNR \$125. TOP U1800/UNR \$100.**

**RESERVE (U1600/UNR): 1<sup>ST</sup> \$150. 2<sup>ND</sup> \$100. TOP U1400 \$65. TOP U1000 \$60. TOP UNR \$50.**

**CHIEF SENIOR TD: BEN FINEGOLD. ASSISTANT SENIOR TD: DR. ED MANDELL**

**TOURNAMENT WILL BE HELD AT:**  
**COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT ANN ARBOR**  
**3205 BOARDWALK, ANN ARBOR, MI 48108**  
**(734) 233-7917**

Email: [imfinegold@yahoo.com](mailto:imfinegold@yahoo.com)

**INFO and ENTRIES: BEN FINEGOLD (734) 233-7917**  
**1162 PADDOCK PLACE, APT 103**  
**ANN ARBOR, MI 48108**

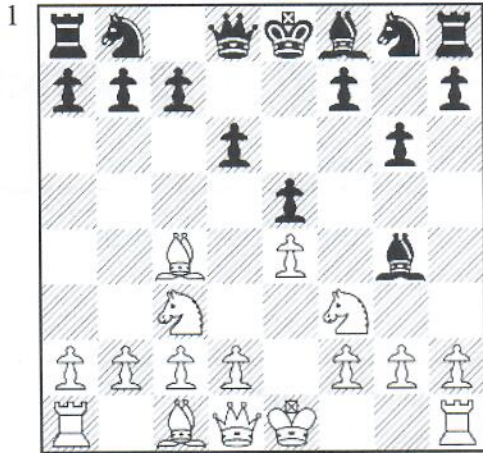
**Please make checks payable to Ben Finegold**



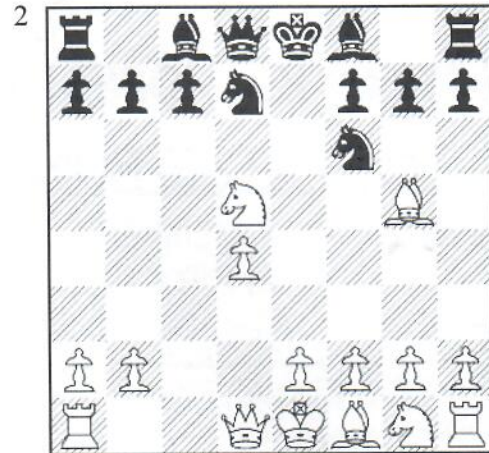
# Tactics Quiz

By Tony Palmer

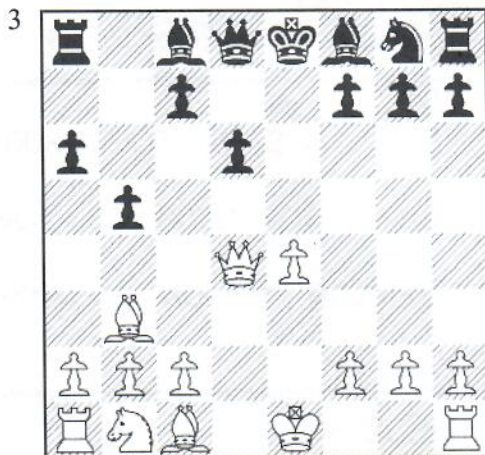
Opening traps are a great way to win miniatures, yet they are also a great way to lose miniatures. Number 1 is a well-known mating pattern while the rest are famous traps. First, find the tactic; second, name the trap (*solutions on page 27*).



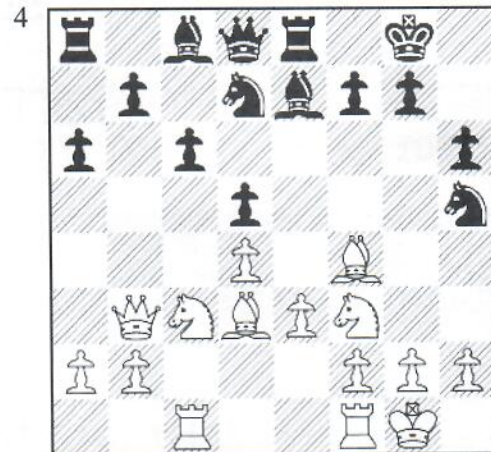
White to play



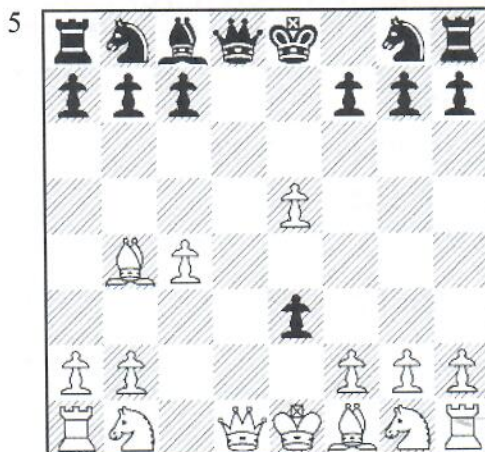
Black to play



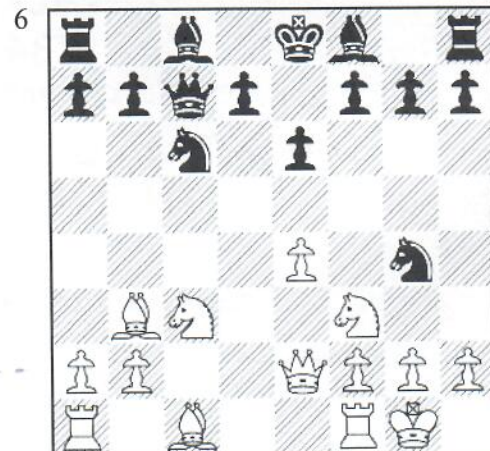
Black to play



White to play



Black to play



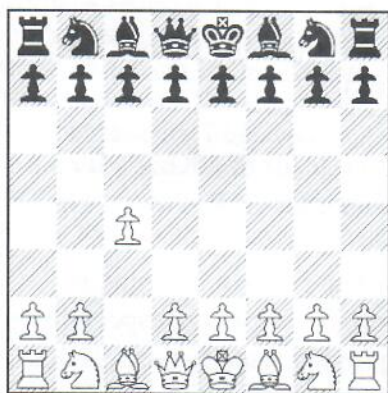
Black to play



# The English Opening

By Subhodh Kotekal and Tony Palmer

The English Opening (1. c4) was named after Howard Staunton from England who played it during his match against Saint Amant (Paris, 1843) and also in the first international tournament (London, 1851). The English Opening became more popular in the 20th century and was used by Botvinnik, Karpov and Kasparov in their world championship matches. Fischer used the English Opening to surprise Boris Spassky in their 1972 match. [1]



In the English Opening, white's objective is to control the d5 square from the flank, similar to a reversed Sicilian. Some lines combine Nc3 with Bg2 to further solidify control over d5. The English is a hypermodern opening, aiming at the center from the wing, compared to 1. e4 and 1. d4 openings which maintain a center pawn as a foothold. Black often meets 1. c4 with 1 ... e5, giving the real potential for white to gain space on the queenside while black has more play on the kingside, and this fundamentally unbalances the position.

Finally, since the c pawn is a flank pawn and not a center pawn, any trade for black's d pawn will result in an asymmetric pawn structure with more dynamic chances for both sides.

The chessgames.com database has 35,163 games with the English Opening, and these statistics for black's responses: 1 ... Nf6 32.3%, 1 ... e5 20.9%, 1 ... e6 13.7%, 1 ... c5 12.0%, and 1 ... g6 9.4%. The game becomes an English proper whenever black plays 1 ... e5 or 1 ... c5, while moves like 1 ... Nf6 and 1 ... e6 are flexible enough that the opening cannot be categorized yet.

Let's examine some illustrative games from four of the main lines of the English Opening:

1) 1. c4 e5

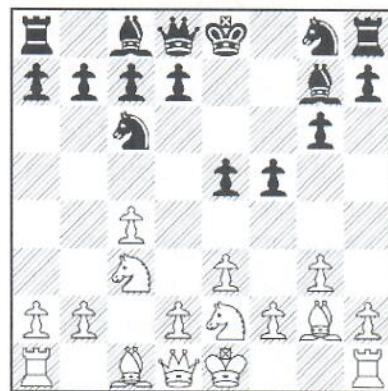
a) English Four Knights



Botvinnik-Levenfish (USSR Championship, 1940): 1. c4 e5 2. Nc3 Nf6 3. Nf3 Nc6 4. d4 exd4 5. Nxd4 (This variation is basically a reversed Sicilian for white with a

tempo in hand, plus white has already achieved the freeing d2-d4.) Bb4 6. Bg5 h6 7. Bh4 Bxc3+ 8. bxc3 (White has isolated doubled c pawns but the two bishops and more space as compensation.) Ne5 (8 ... 0-0 is possible; 9. Nxc6 dxc6 10. Qd4 Bf5.) 9. e3 Ng6 10. Bg3 Ne4 11. Qc2 Nxc3 12. hxc3 d6 13. f4 (13. c5!? may work here, but white waits two moves.) Qe7 14. Kf2 Nf8 (Black might castle instead.) 15. c5!? (A pawn sacrifice to open lines.) dxc5 16. Bb5+ Nd7 (16 ... c6? 17. Nxc6!) 17. Nf5 Qf6 18. Rad1 g6 (18 ... c6 19. Bc4 Nb6 20. Nd6+ Ke7 21. Bxf7 = per Fritz 7.) 19. Nxh6 Rf8 20. g4 a6 21. g5 (Zwischenzug.) Qe6 22. Be2 Nb6 23. Ng4 Ke7 (23 ... Nd7 would prevent white's knight from reaching f6.) 24. Nf6 Qc6 25. Rh7 Bf5 26. e4 Be6 27. f5 1-0 (27 ... Bd7 28. fxg6 & 29. g7 wins).

b) Staunton System (e3/Nge2 & g3/Bg2)



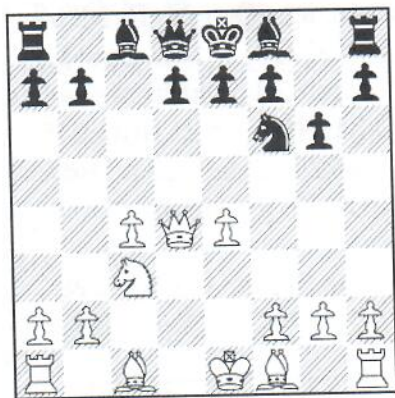
Smyslov-Kotov (Georgia, 1953): 1. c4 e5 2. Nc3 Nf6 3. g3 g6 4. Bg2 Bg7 5. e3 f5 6. Nge2 (This varia-



tion is distinctive because the KN develops at e2 instead of f3, so it may go to f4 later.) e4 7. d3 exd3 8. Qxd3 (White has better control of the center plus faster development.) Nf6 9. b3 d6 10. 0-0 0-0 11. Ba3 a5 12. Rad1 (White gets the rook off the long diagonal.) Nb4 13. Qd2 Qe7 14. Nf4 g5 15. Ncd5 Nbx d5 16. Nxd5 Qf7 17. Nxf6+ Qxf6 18. c5 a4 (18 ... f4 19. exf4 gxf4 20. cxd6 +/- per Fritz 7.) 19. cxd6 Rd8 20. Bd5+ Be6 21. Bb2! Qf7 (21 ... Qxb2 22. Bxe6+ Kh8 23. Qxb2 Bxb2 24. dxc7 wins.) 22. Bxe6 Qxe6 23. Bxg7 Kxg7 24. Qc3+ (White trades down into a won major piece endgame.) Kg6 25. dxc7 Rdc8 26. b4 1-0 (26 ... Ra6 27. b5 Rb6 28. Qc5 & 29. Rd8 is one winning line).

2) 1. c4 c5

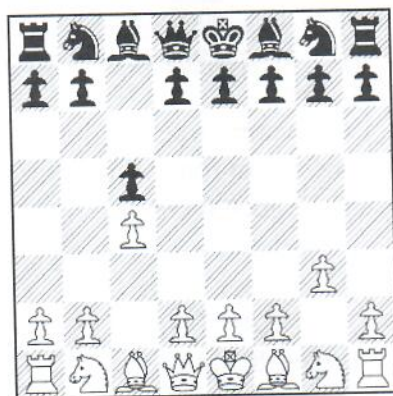
a) Maroczy Bind



Capablanca-Colle (Barcelona, 1929): 1. c4 Nf6 2. Nf3 c5 (The symmetrical English has a drawish reputation.) 3. Nc3 Nc6 4. d4 cxd4 5. Nxd4 Nxd4 (This trade is theoretically inferior since it allows white to develop the queen with tempo.) 6. Qxd4 g6 7. e4 (The game has transposed to a Sicilian Maroczy Bind.) d6 8. Be3 Bg7 9. f3 (White often advances f2-f3 to protect the e pawn and thus solidify control over d5, then consider

advancing f3-f4 later.) Qa5 10. Qd2 a6 11. Be2 Be6 12. Rc1 Rc8 13. b3 Nd7 14. 0-0 0-0 15. Nd5 (A thematic discovery.) Qd8 (15 ... Qxd2 16. Nxe7+ Kh8 17. Bxd2 wins a pawn.) 16. Qb4 Bxd5 17. cxd5 Rxc1 18. Rxc1 Qb8 19. Qc4 (The trades have given white control over the c file plus both bishops pointing at the queenside.) Bb2 20. Rc2 Bf6 21. f4 Rd8 22. Qc7 Qa8 23. Bg4 Nc5 24. e5 (Attacking the bishop while undermining the knight on c5 if black trades pawns.) Bg7 25. Qxe7 (White wins a pawn.) h5 26. e6! (A piece sacrifice to attack the king.) hxg4 27. exf7+ Kh7 28. Qh4+ Bh6 29. f5 g5 30. Bxg5 Kg7 31. Qxh6+ 1-0 (31 ... Kxf7 32. Qh7+ mates).

b) Fianchetto



Larsen-Sanguineti (Mar del Plata, 1958): 1. c4 c5 2. g3 Nc6 3. Bg2 g6 4. Nf3 Bg7 5. 0-0 (This line is essentially a King's Indian Attack for white, except the center pawns haven't moved yet.) d6 6. Nc3 Nh6 7. a3 0-0 8. Rb1 Bf5 9. d3 Qd7 10. Nd5 Rab8 11. b4 cxb4 12. Nxb4 Bh3 (Trading off light square bishops to weaken white's kingside.) 13. Bb2 Bxg2 14. Kxg2 Nf5 15. Bxg7 Kxg7 (Now black must mind the weak dark squares on his kingside.) 16. Qa4 Rfd8 17. Nxc6 bxc6 18. e4 Nh6 19. Nd4 Rxb1 20. Rxb1 c5 21. Qxd7 Rxd7 22. Nc2 Ng4

(This endgame should be drawn with best play.) 23. f4 f5 24. h3 Nf6 25. Kf3 e6 26. Ne3 Ng8 27. exf5 gxf5 28. g4 fxg4+ 29. hxg4 Ne7 30. f5 Kf6 31. Kf4 d5 32. g5+ Kf7 (32 ... Kg7? 33. f6+) 33. Ng4 Nc6 (Preventing 34. Ne5+.) 34. Rh1 1-0 (34 ... exf5 35. Rxh7+ Ke6 [35 ... Ke8? 36. Nf6+] 36. Rh6+ wins material.).

3) Transpositions:

a) 1 ... Nf6 2. d4 e6 can become a Nimzo-Indian (3. Nc3 Bb4), a Queen's Indian (3. Nf3 b6), or a Queen's Gambit (3. Nc3 d5).

b) 1 ... c6 transposes to the Queen's Gambit, Slav Defense (2. d4 d5) or the Caro-Kann Defense (2. e4 d5).

c) 1 ... f5 enters the Dutch Defense (2. d4 e6).

d) 1 ... g6 leads to a King's Indian formation after ... Bg7 & ... Nf6.

The English Opening is very popular for white, especially among higher rated players. Black must be prepared to face the English Opening, and both sides should be alert for transposition possibilities. Next time we'll examine one defensive system for black against the English Opening.

#### REFERENCES:

1. Wikipedia – English Opening
2. ChessGames.com database
3. Fritz 10



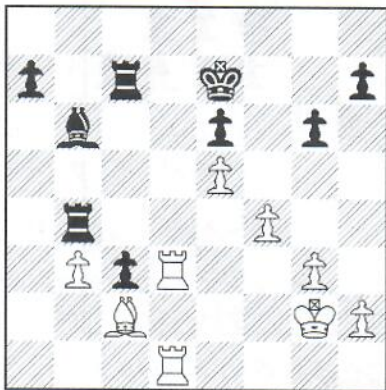
# Dynamic Endings

By Fred Lindsay

This is the third and likely final part of this series. You are also invited to send your analysis or comments to me at [fplindsay@aol.com](mailto:fplindsay@aol.com).

Dynamic endgames are much different than static. Planning is still important, but tactics play a much bigger role. Both players may have to decide whether to carry out their own plans or to counter their opponent's. A good sense of danger is important in making those decisions. Exact execution of a plan is required, unlike many static endings. In short, these positions should be approached in the same way as dynamic middlegame positions. A player at home in sharp middlegames should always be strong in dynamic endgames.

A good example of a dynamic endgame is Tony Renna--Murray Turnbull, Boston Futurity 1981.



White to play

The game was adjourned in this position. This position may look drawish because of the opposite colored bishops. Indeed, if the rooks were exchanged it would be a simple draw. Removing one set of rooks would also make the position drawish and much less dynamic. Black was of the opinion that he was winning because of his advanced, passed c-pawn. White does have difficulty defending against ideas involving opening queenside lines for

black's rooks. However, black's king is restricted by the kingside pawn formation and is a good target to attack. Remember that opposite colored bishops help the attacker.

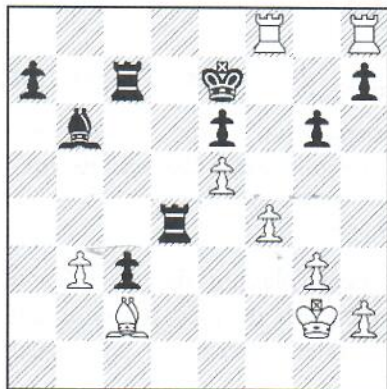
This is a very difficult endgame to solve at the board. The analysis below does not follow the actual game continuation very far. Unlike the static endgames it is relatively easy for engines like Rybka and Fritz to give an accurate analysis. To play it well requires the same approach as any sharp middlegame; look for direct threats, calculate forcing variations exactly, come up with reasonable plans and use your judgment and calculations to decide which plan is the most appropriate.

**41. Rd8 Kf7 42. Rh8 Kg7 43. Rdd8**

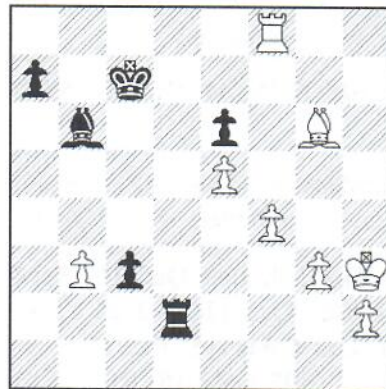
White has committed himself to the attack and can no longer defend his queenside. Black has a critical decision to make, pursue his own attack or try to stop white's.

**43. ... a5?**

His intended move, this loses by force. Better was 43... Rd4! This defensive move is the right idea. White is better, but it is hard to find a clear win. If rooks are exchanged white's attack will lose steam and black's passed pawn will remain strong. 44. Rdg8+ Kf7 45. Rf8+ Ke7!



Black wisely decides to give up his h-pawn. The alternative allows white to whip up a deadly attack (45. ... Kg7 46. g4 Kh6 47. g5+ Kh5 48. Kg3 Rcd7 49. Rxh7+ Rxh7 50. h4 Rd2 51. Be4 Rf2 52. Rg8 {mate in 3, Fritz}). The main line continues 46. Kh3 Kd7 (46... Rd2? 47. Ra8 Kd7 48. Rxh7+ Kc6 49. Be4+ Kc5 50. Rxc7+ Bxc7 51. Rxa7 Bb6 52. Ra4) 47. Rxh7+ Kc6 48. Rxc7+ Kxc7 49. Bxg6 Rd2 when white is better, but not clearly winning.



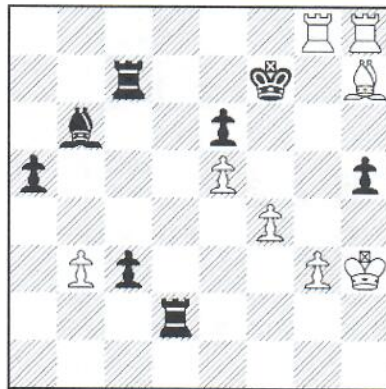
**44. h4! Rd4 45. Rdg8+ Kf7**

(45... Kh6 46. Rxg6+)

**46. h5 Rd2+ 47. Kh3 gxh5**

(47... Rxc2 48. h6)

**48. Bxh7**



Black only has spite checks left.



# Action/Speed/Quick Championships

Ben Finegold accomplished the threepeat as action, speed, and quick champion for the second year running. He annotated two of his games, including a wild time scramble finish against Atulya Shetty.

*Atulya Shetty  
Ben Finegold*

*2008 Michigan Action Championships  
Notes by Ben Finegold*

**1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 e6 4. O-O Nge7 5. d4**

This is unusual. Normally, white plays 5.c3 or 5.Re1. Here Atulya mixes systems, but, it fools me!

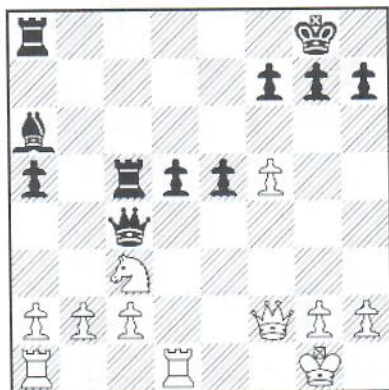
**5. ... cxd4 6. Nxd4 Qb6 7. Nxc6 Nxc6?!**

Recapturing with the pawn (7. ... bxc6) would have been better.

**8. Nc3 Bb4?! 9. Be3 Qa5 10. Bxc6 bxc6 11. Bd2 Qe5 12. Qe2 a5 13. f4 Ba6 14. Qf3 Qd4+ 15. Be3 Qc4 16. Bf2 d5 17. exd5 cxd5 18. Rfd1 O-O 19. Bd4 Bc5 20. Qf2 Rfc8 21. f5**

Both sides have played pretty well, and the game is about equal. However, I had a BIG time edge here, so was quite happy. Now, I overestimate white's attacking chances (I was worried about f6) and fatally weaken my d-pawn and make a tactical error.

**21. ... e5? 22. Bxc5 Rxc5**



**23. Na4!!**

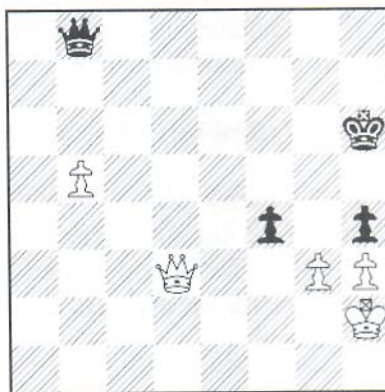
I completely missed this idea! Now white is threatening 24.Nxc5 and 24.Nb6. White is winning.

**23. ... d4 24. Nxc5 Qxc5 25. c3 Rd8 26. Rac1 Qd5 27. cxd4 exd4 28. f6 d3 29. fxg7 Rd6 30. b3 Rg6 31. Rd2 Bb7 32. Re1 Qd7 33. Qe3 Re6 34. Qf2 Be4 35. Qc5**

Threatening 36.Qf8 mate!

**35. ... Kxg7**

Here Atulya had less than 50 seconds, and I had less than 3 minutes, and we were both blitzing. We arrived at this position (or something very similar) and with less than 8 seconds on both of our clocks, the blitz finish was...



**1. gxh4?! f3+ 2. Kg1?? Qg3+ 3. Kf1 Qg2+ 4. Ke1 f2+ 5. Kd2 f1=Q+**

Now, Atulya did not realize he was in check, so tried Qxf1?!?! Unfortunately, this backfires for two reasons! (A) I get two extra minutes (illegal move) (B) Due to the touch move rule, he is required to play Qe2!?

**6. Qe2 0-1**

*Vester Wilson  
Ben Finegold*

*2008 Michigan Quick Championships*

**1. e4 c6**

I have been playing the Caro-Kann occasionally, so decided to try it out against Vester, instead of my usual Sicilian.

**2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 dxe4 4. Nxe4 Bf5 5. Ng3 Bg6 6. h4 h6 7. Nf3 Nd7 8. Bc4!?**

8.h5 or 8.Bd3 are almost always played.

**8. ... e6 9. Bf4?**

Misplacing the bishop.

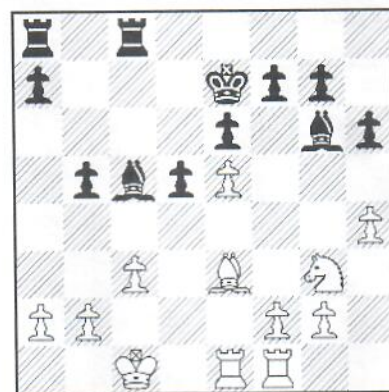
**9. ... Ngf6 10. Ne5 Nxe5 11. dxe5?**

11. Bxe5 is normal. Now the e5 pawn is weak, and Bf4 is even more misplaced.

**11. ... Nd5 12. Bxd5? Qxd5 13. Qxd5 cxd5 14. O-O-O?**

Strategically white is lost. He has misplaced all of his pieces, and handed over the two bishops. Now, he gives me a free attack to boot!

**14. ... Bc5 15. Rhf1 Ke7 16. Rde1 Rhc8 17. c3 b5 18. Be3??**



Walking into it!

**18. ... d4 19. Bd2 Bd3 20. Ne2 dxc3 21. Bxc3? b4**

Now white is totally lost. His next move is quite humorous, mainly due to the fact that he banged it out quickly, as if it saved the day!

**22. Kd2? Bxe2 23. Rxe2 bxc3+ 24. bxc3 Rab8 25. Kc2 Bd4 26. Kd3 Bxc3 27. Rc2 Bxe5 28. Rxc8 Rxc8 29. Ke4 Bd6 0-1**

Chess is easy.



# UNIVERSAL LATE WINTER SWISS

5-SS, G-120, 2- or 3-Day Schedule

FRIDAY, SATURDAY and SUNDAY

MARCH 6, 7 and 8, 2009



PRIZE FUND \$2,650 (b/58; b/min. 6 per class)



---

USCF AND MCA MEMBERSHIPS REQUIRED (can be purchased on site)

---

ENTRY FEE BY TUES., MARCH 3RD (Add \$10 after)

3-DAY: \$73, \$63 FOR OAGE 64, UAGE 16 OR UNR

2-DAY: \$72, \$62 FOR OAGE 64, UAGE 16 OR UNR

RE-ENTRIES: \$50 (ALLOWED ONLY FROM 3-DAY TO 2-DAY SCHEDULE)

Two 1/2-point byes allowed - must be requested prior to start of Rd. 3.

IM'S AND GM'S FREE! (Entry Fee of \$72 deducted from prize)

## TIME LIMIT

3-Day G-120. 2-Day RDS 1-2, G-45; Then Merge; RDS 3-5, G-120

REGISTRATION: 3-Day: Fri, March 6: 12:00-6:30 PM

2-Day: Sat, March 7: 10:00-11:30 AM

ROUNDS: 3-Day: Fri, 7 PM; Sat, 11, 4; Sun, 11, 3:30

2-Day: Sat, 12, 2, 4; Sun, 11, 3:30

PRIZE FUND: \$2,650 (b/58; b/min. 6 per class, 60% guaranteed):

\$600 for 1ST • \$400 for 2ND • \$250 for 3RD

TOP X, A, B, C, D, E, U1000/UNR: \$200 EACH

(Unrated eligible only for U1000/UNR or Overall prizes)

\$50 Gift Certificate for BIGGEST UPSET OF TOURNAMENT!

---

HEADPHONES CANNOT BE USED IF OPPONENT OBJECTS FOR ANY REASON. PLAYER MUST BE WILLING TO PRESENT SAME TO TD'S FOR EXAMINATION AT ANY TIME. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN REMOVAL FROM TOURNAMENT WITHOUT REFUND. CELL PHONES MUST BE TURNED OFF OR IN SILENT MODE WHILE IN THE TOURNAMENT ROOM.

---

Tournament Held At **ALL THE KING'S MEN CHESS SUPPLIES and BRAIN GAMES**

27170 Dequindre Road, Warren, MI 48092

in the **PARKVIEW SQUARE Strip Mall** (Around back), just N. of 11 Mile Road

(586) 558-4790 • Fax: (586) 558-2046

Info and Entries: Dr. Ed Mandell (586) 558-4790



# Michigan Chess Tournaments Calendar

All events require USCF and MCA memberships and are NoSmoking NoComputers unless otherwise stated. Memberships can be purchased at any tournament. Other state memberships are acceptable for non-Michigan residents. Send Announcements to : Mike Skidmore, 5483 Kathy Dr. Flint, Mi. 48506. (810) 736-6944 Work (810) 591-5329 Fax: (810) 591-9888. Email: Phish28@aol.com ★★MCA Championship Events 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! MCA WebSite @ <http://www.michess.org>

Courtesy of NICK POPE

## FEBRUARY TOURNAMENTS:

**Feb 2-23** UNIVERSAL Chess Club Month Long Swiss  
27170 Dequindre Rd Warren MI. (Just N. of 11Mile Rd in back of Parkview Sq Strip Mall) 4-SS 1RD each Monday of the Month. Dir. ENT&INF:Ed Mandell (586) 558-4790

**Feb 3** PARKVIEW WEEKLY TUESDAY QUICK SWISS  
5-SS. 27170 Dequindre Rd Warren MI. (Just North of 11Mile Rd in back of Parkview Square Strip Mall) Unrated. No memberships req. EF:\$15. REG:6 -6:45 RDS: 7-9:00 TL:G/10. \$\$:70% EF Dir. ENT&INF:Ed Mandell (586) 558-4790

**Feb 4** GENESEE Chess Club Unrated QUADS!  
Kearsley High School 4302 Underhill Dr, Fl int, MI. Dir: ENT&INF: Jeff Aldrich (810) 955-7271 h E-mail

## TEAM TOURNAMENTS: ☆☆

**The MICHIGAN CHESS SCHOLASTIC TEAM CHAMPS**  
**ALL ENTRIES:** Jennifer Skidmore 4151 Chester Dr #211 Ypsilanti, MI 48197.(734) 678-0463.E-mail jmscamelot@gmail.com

**Feb 7 MICHIGAN PRIMARY / ELEMENTARY TEAM CHAMP**  
PRIMARY K-3, ELEMENTARY K-5 U 500, ELEMENTARY K-5 ELEMENTARY K-6 Michigan State University MSU Union Abbott Rd and Grand River Lansing, MI 48824. 5-SS. 4 SECT. RD:1 9:00 am  
**Feb 14 ☆ MICHIGAN JR HIGH TEAM CHAMPS ☆ 5-SS**  
Southfield Birney Middle School 27225 Evergreen Rd Southfield, MI 48076 Rd 1 9:00 am. ENT&INF: Jeff Aldrich 7453 Whippoorwill Ln. Davison, MI 48423 Ph: (810)955-7271

**Feb 28 ☆☆MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS ☆☆**  
Kettering University Student Center 1700 W. Third St. Flint, MI 48504. 4-SS Rd.1 10am

**READ No ON SITE REGISTRATION AT ANY TEAM EVENT!**  
**ENTRY FEE FOR EACH TEAM IN TEAM EVENT \$40.**  
**MANDATORY CHECK IN 7:30-8:15 FOR EVERY TEAM EVENT.**

\$10 processing fee for incomplete or non on line entries

**Feb 8 Lansing's Mighty Mini Swiss**  
North Network Center 730 W Maple Lansing, MI 48906  
3- SS REG: 9:00-9:45 EF: \$21. TL: G/90 \$\$: 1<sup>st</sup> \$75 2<sup>nd</sup> \$48 ea sect. \$100 to 3 pt score in sect of 8. RDS: 10, 1:30, 4:30. ENT & INF: Tony Nichols, Email  
**Feb 10 PARKVIEW WEEKLY TUESDAY QUICK SWISS(See Feb 3)**

**Feb 15** UNIVERSAL Chess Club Unrated Beginners Open  
27170 Dequindre Rd Warren MI. (Just N. of 11Mile Rd in back of Parkview Sq Strip Mall) 4-SS Open to Unr. or U900 No mem req. EF:\$20 REG:11 -11:45 RDS:12-1:20-2:10-3:00.TL:G/25.\$\$:1<sup>st</sup> USCF, 2<sup>nd</sup> MCA. 3<sup>rd</sup> MCA Alt prize for mem. Dir.ENT&INF:Ed Mandell (586) 558-4790

**Feb 17** PARKVIEW WEEKLY TUESDAY QUICK SWISS(See Feb 3)

**Feb 21** UNIVERSAL Chess Club Unrated K-8 SWISS 5-SS G/25  
27170 Dequindre Rd Warren MI. (Just N. of 11Mile Rd in back of Parkview Sq Strip Mall) 5-SS Open to Unr. 2 Sect. K-3 and K-8 No mem req. EF:\$15 REG:10 -11:30 RDS:12-1:20-2:10-4:00-5:10. TL:G/25.\$\$:Large Trophies top 5 each sect. + Grade awards. Dir.ENT&INF:Ed Mandell (586) 558-4790

**Feb 21-22 ANN ARBOR WINTER OPEN** ♠♠

Courtyard by Marriott Ann Arbor 3205 Boardwalk Ann Arbor, MI 5-SS 2 Sect. **OPEN, Reserve (U1600)** EF:\$45 by Feb 15. \$55 after. REG:8:30-9:45. RDS: Sat 10-3-8 Sun 11-4. TL:30/90 then G/60.\$\$:b/50)  
\$1200 Total Prizes. OPEN 1<sup>st</sup> \$350, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$200, U2000/Unr \$125, U1800/Unr \$100. Reserve: 1<sup>st</sup> \$150, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$100, U1400 \$65, U1200 \$60, Unr \$50. Dir.ENT&INF:Ben Finegold 1162 Paddock Pl Apt 103 Ann Arbor, MI 48108. (734) 233-7917

**Feb 24** PARKVIEW WEEKLY TUESDAY QUICK SWISS(See Feb 3)

**Feb 25** GENESEE Chess Club **FREE** rated SWISS!  
Kearsley High School 4302 Underhill Dr, Fl int, MI. Dir: ENT&INF: Jeff Aldrich (810) 955-7271 h E-mail

**Feb 27 REMINDER! Game 6 Detroit Metro League Series**  
**MARCH TOURNAMENTS:**

**Mar 3** PARKVIEW WEEKLY TUESDAY QUICK SWISS  
5-SS. 27170 Dequindre Rd Warren MI. (Just North of 11Mile Rd in back of Parkview Square Strip Mall) Unrated. No memberships req. EF:\$15. REG:6 -6:45 RDS: 7-9:00 TL:G/10. \$\$:70% EF Dir. ENT&INF:Ed Mandell (586) 558-4790

**Mar 6** FRIDAY KNIGHT ACTION QUADS! #13  
2200 Fuller Court, Ann Arbor Garden Market Café (located main floor Huron Towers) *Come early and have dinner in the café.* 3-RR Quads by rtg. REG: 6:30- RDS: 7-8-9. EF: \$5 TL: G/30. \$\$: \$16 per quad. ENT&INF: Jennifer Skidmore 734-678-0463. E-mail

**Mar 8 Lansing's Mighty Mini Swiss**  
North Network Center 730 W Maple Lansing, MI 48906  
3- SS REG: 9:00-9:45 EF: \$21. TL: G/90 \$\$: 1<sup>st</sup> \$75 2<sup>nd</sup> \$48 ea sect. \$100 to 3 pt score in sect of 8. RDS: 10, 1:30, 4:30. ENT & INF: Tony Nichols, Email  
**Mar 10** PARKVIEW WEEKLY TUESDAY QUICK SWISS(See Mar 3)  
**Mar 11** GENESEE Chess Club **BLITZ EXTRAVAGANZA!!!**  
Kearsley High School 4302 Underhill Dr, Fl int, MI. Dir: ENT&INF: Jeff Aldrich (810) 955-7271 h E-mail



## MARCH SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENTS:

**Mar 14 - 15** ☆☆MICHIGAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS ☆☆

**READ** è **MANDATORY Check in 7:30 - 8:30 NO on site Reg!**

**ALL JUNIOR EVENTS** Michigan State University

MSU Union Abbott Rd and Grand River Lansing, MI 48824

**Mar 14** ☆☆Young Children's Reserve K-3. Open to U500. 5-SS MCA req. Sat. Mar 14 only. 5R-SS.TL:G/45 Rds.9-11 TL: G/60 Rds 1-3-5.Reg7:45-8:30.Ent:\$15 by Mar 6 \$25 by Mar 13.Troph top 5, & 4pts

**Mar 14** ☆☆ Children's Reserve K-5. Open to U700. 5-SS USCF MCA req. Sat Mar 14 only.. TL: G/45. Rds.9-11 G/60 Rds 1-3-5.

Reg.7:45-8:30.Ent:\$15 by Mar 6 \$25 by Mar 13 .Troph top 5 & 4pts

**Mar 14** ☆☆Young Children's Championship K-3. 5-SS MCA USCF req. Sat,urday Mar14 Only. TL:G/45 Rds. 9-11TL: G/60 Rds 1-3-5 Ent:\$15 by Mar 6 \$25 by March 13.Troph top 5+ top 3 K-3 & 4pts

**Mar 14** ☆☆ Michigan Children's Championship K-5. USCF MCA req. Sat, Mar 14 only. 5-SS. TL:G/45. Rds. 9-11 G/60 Rds 1-3-5. Ent:\$15 by Mar 6 \$25 by Mar 13 Troph top 5.+ top 3 grd 4-5 & 4pts

**Mar 14 or Mar 15 Children or Junior Sponsors** (Proceeds to MI JR) 3-SS Open.USCF. MCA req. Sat or Sun TL:G/60.Rds. 9-11-2. Reg. Ent:\$15 by Mar6 \$25 by Mar 13 Troph. Top 2 Medals top A,B,C,D,E

**Mar 15** ☆☆ Michigan Young Junior Championship K-8

USCF MCA req. Sun Mar15 only. 5-SS. TL:G/60. Rds. 9-11-1-3-5. Ent:\$15 by Mar 7 \$25 by Mar 13. Troph top 5. + top 3 gr 6-8. & 4pts

**Mar 15** ☆☆Michigan Young Junior Reserve K-8. Open to U800. U.S.C.F. MCA req. Sun, March 15 5-SS. TL:G/60. Rds 1-1-3-5. Ent:\$15

by Mar 7 \$25 by Mar 163 Troph. top 5 & 4pts

**Mar 14 - 15** ☆☆ Michigan Junior Championship K-12.

USCF MCA req. 5-SS. Sat. and Sun. Rds:10-2-6. then 10 - 2. EF:

\$15 by Mar 6, \$25 by Mar 13 TL:40/90 G30. Trophies:Top 5 + top 3 gr 9-12. & 4pts Scholarship: \$500 1st, \$250 2nd. High.School finisher to Denker Tournament of H.S. Champions at U.S.Open

**ALL PLAYERS TO SCORE 4 POINTS EARN A TROPHY!**

**ALL JUNIOR EVENTS:** Michigan State University MSU Union  
Abbott Rd and Grand River Lansing, MI 48824

ENT&INF: Jennifer Skidmore 4151 Chester Dr #211 Ypsilanti, MI 48197. (734) 678-0463. e-mail: jmscamelot@gmail.com

**Mar 17 PARKVIEW WEEKLY TUESDAY QUICK SWISS(See Mar 3)**

**Mar 24 PARKVIEW WEEKLY TUESDAY QUICK SWISS(See Mar 3)**

**Mar 25 GENESEE Chess Club ACTION QUADS**

Kearsley High School 4302 Underhill Dr, Fl int, MI. Dir: ENT&INF: Jeff Aldrich (810) 955-7271 h E-mail

**Mar 27 REMINDER! Game 7 Detroit Metro League Series**

**Mar 27 SWC 3rd Annual CVS Individual & Team Championship Rtd & Unr**

Mohawk Elem. 48101 Romeo Plank Macomb, MI 48044 EF: \$12 by Mar 15, +\$5 till Mar 25, **NO** on site registration. To register on line <http://www.cvs.k12.mi.us/commed/YouthWinter2009.pdf> 2 Sect **Rated K-3, K-12. U.S.C.F. req.** , Unrated K-2, 3, 4, 5, 6-9. **4-SS, 5-SS RDS 5:50- \$\$:** Trophies Top 3 ea. TL: **G/20 G/15** Sect. ENT& INF: Chantelle Mitchell, [successwithchess@comcast.net](mailto:successwithchess@comcast.net), 586-226-9082. , 3rd MCA Alt prize for mem. Dir.ENT&INF:Ed Mandell (586) 558-4790.

## APRIL TOURNAMENTS:

**Apr 10 FRIDAY KNIGHT ACTION QUADS! #14**

2200 Fuller Court, Ann Arbor Garden Market Café (located main floor Huron Towers) *Come early and have dinner in the café.* 3-RR Quads by rtg. REG: 6:30- RDS: 7-8-9. EF: \$5 TL: G/30. \$\$: \$16 per quad. ENT&INF: Jennifer Skidmore 734-678-0463. E-mail

## MAY TOURNAMENTS:

**May 1 FRIDAY KNIGHT ACTION QUADS! #14**

**May 10 Lansing's Mighty Mini Swiss**

## Solutions to Tactics Quiz

- 1) Legal's Mate Trap = 1. Nxe5! Bxd1? 2. Bxf7+ Ke7 3. Nd5# 1-0. Instead 1 ... dxe5 2. Qxg4 Nf6 and Black plays on.
- 2) Elephant Trap = 1 ... Nxd5! 2. Bxd8 Bb4+ 3. Qd2 Kxd8 0-1.
- 3) Noah's Ark Trap = 1 ... c5 2. Qd5 Be6 3. Qc6+ Bd7 4. Qd5 c4 wins a piece.
- 4) Rubinstein Trap = 1. Nxd5! Nxf4 (1 ... cxd5? 2. Bc7 traps the Queen) 2. Nxf4 wins a Pawn.
- 5) Lasker Trap = 1 ... exf2+ 2. Ke2 (2. Kxf2? Qxd1) fxg1=N+! 3. Rxg1? Bg4+ 0-1.
- 6) Siberian Trap = 1 ... Nd4! 0-1 (2. Nxd4 Qxh2#; 2. Qd1 Nxf3+ & 3 ... Qxh2#; otherwise 2 ... Nxe2+). White had just played 1. Bb3? but a more common continuation is 1. h3? Nd4! winning the Queen for two pieces.



## **2009 Michigan Junior (K-12)**

**(Mar 14-15)**

### **Site:**

**Michigan State Union**

S.E. CORNER OF ABBOTT ROAD & GRAND RIVER AVENUE

East Lansing, MI 48824

### **Rounds:**

Saturday 10,2,6    Sunday 10,2

### **Entry Fee:**

MCA and USCF memberships required

\$15 by 3/06/09

\$25 by 3/13/09

### **Registration:**

ADVANCE REGISTRATION ONLY

Check-in 8:30-9:30

### **Prizes:**

Top 5

Top 3 in each grade 9u-12

all players with 4 points

Scholarships:

1st \$500 2nd \$250

Denker Invitation:

top HS player as determined by USCF rules

### **Entries/Info:**

Jennifer Skidmore

4151 Chester Dr. Apt. 211

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

734-678-0463

jmscamelot@gmail.com

**MICHIGAN CHESS ASSOCIATION**

**PAUL KANE**

**P.O. BOX 970027**

**YPSILANTI, MI 48197**

NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Flint, MI  
Permit No. 39

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**TIME DATED MATERIAL PLEASE EXPEDITE**