on the cover...

8 The Canadian team in Elista at the 33rd Chess Olympiad. From left to right: GM Alexandre Lesiège, “Ladislav” (Team Sponsor), Bairta Tserenova (Translator), GM Kevin Spraggett, Kirsan Iljumzhinov (FIDE President), IM Lawrence Day, IM Bryon Nickoloff and IM Deen Hergott

inside...

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IBC Informant

OBC CFC
Editors

The first thing our readers will notice about this issue of En Passant magazine is the completely revised design and layout. It had been my intention to present the new format together with my first issue as new editor, but in the end time would not permit the completion of the new template for the October issue.

For the benefit of those among you who may be concerned about the potential financial cost of such a redesign, I would like to assure you that the Chess Federation of Canada incurred essentially no expense whatsoever — I am able to make use of an existing, customized software toolset that I regularly utilize in a variety of other publishing projects.

A brief acknowledgment: En Passant magazine has a namesake in the newsletter of the Nørresundby Chess Club in Aalborg, Denmark. Its editor, Eric Bentzen, kindly allowed me to make use of several chess images which now help dress up the new layout of our magazine.

The bulk of this issue features an extensive, if preliminary article on the 33rd Chess Olympiad, held last month in Elista — which we expect to follow up with annotated games from the players and personal insights from Canadian Olympiad team member, IM Deen Hergott, in the February issue.

Readers who are connected to the Internet and keep up with various news reports about chess events and politics, have no doubt been following with interest recent stories about FIDE’s apparent plans to enforce copyright on the publication of chess games. According to various reports, the following took place during the FIDE General Assembly:

“There was a long report by Tabbane on copyright which was endorsed by the General Assembly. He published the opinions of some French lawyers who, apparently unaware of the precedents established by Fischer’s attempts in the 60s, decided that games, even against computers, were copyrightable…” In essence, FIDE plans to demand payment from any company making money from the publication of chess games, while free-of-charge broadcasts by press and media companies will be exempt. “At first FIDE plans to recover fees and, if necessary, to file lawsuits — but later wants to hand over collection to fee recovery companies in each country. Fees would be split 35% for the recovery company, 35% for players, 10% for FIDE, 10% for the organizer and 10% for the hosting Federation.”

In the opinion of this editor, such an action by FIDE would not serve the interest of the chess community that elected them: The free availability of vast amounts of chess information on the Internet and elsewhere in recent years has helped popularize our game on many levels. The implementation of various “pay-for-use” schemes only serves to sabotage this trend.

However, it is very important to acknowledge the value of various notes or annotations to games. These always have been, and should continue to be, copyrightable by their authors. It is a shame that so many of the players we admire have few means of generating an income.

As a vehicle for generating revenue, limiting access and placing copyright on chess games cannot be the right answer.

Knut Neven

Letters

Stouffville, ON

The town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, pop. 18500, is located 40 km north of Toronto and boasts a country-style charm on the edge of the big city. Sited in the town center is Memorial Park which includes an outdoor swimming pool, ball diamond, lawn-bowling green, and tennis court.

A grand opening was held on September 19th, 1998 of the new Memorial Park picnic pavilion, which was constructed by the Stouffville Lion’s Club in partnership with the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and other local sponsors.

And the Stouffville Giant Chess Set made its debut!

Several weeks earlier, Chess Federation of Canada member Michael Kennedy had approached the Lion’s Club project organizers with the idea of incorporating a 16 foot square giant chess board into the inlaid brick flooring of the proposed 40 x 80 foot pavilion. They agreed to the concept and construction work began soon thereafter.

For the chess pieces Mr. Kennedy designed a set of 32 flat disks (1 foot square, 1/2 inch high) from one sheet of 4 x 8 foot premium laminated plywood. The disks were painted with a base coat of either white or black and stencilled with the appropriate two-dimensional chess piece logo. The disks were stencilled on one side only — players may use the flip side for checkers.

Total cost was only $250 — well below the cost of commercially available giant 3D sets. Funding was generously provided by the Mayor’s Youth Fund.

The disks are stored at the local library (two minutes away by foot) and can be signed out by library members in the same manner as a book or video. The disks are easily stacked and transported via a two-wheeled pull trolley.

According to Mr. Kennedy: “It seems to me that interest in chess has been increasing recently in the Stouffville community, particularly amongst our youth. I expect that the Giant Chess Set will become an attractive focal point in the park and provide the framework for future exciting chess activity here in Stouffville. I am delighted to say that the disks have already been booked a week in advance by interested parties!”

Michael Kennedy
mnk@pathcom.com
Pointe Claire, Quebec

Thought I’d let you know that you slipped a bogus answer in in the GM Factory puzzles page. For Number 3, you give

1.¿xb1 “Black’s only response is 1...¿xc5 which allows 2.¿xb7#.” Black can improve, of course, by playing 1...¿c7 and I feel confident that plenty of readers out there would continue 2.¿xb6 ¿xb6 3.¿a3 ¿c8 4.¿b3 ¿c2 when Black can hang on for a long while and if White charitably loses his f- and g-pawns, may even go on to glorious come from behind victory!

Better than 1.¿b1 (although still not best) is 1.¿d7. After 1...¿c7 2.¿xc7 ¿b8 3.¿c6+ ¿a8 4.¿xb6 it is mate next move, for a decisive mate in five.

The best move which illustrates that the pin is a mighty sword indeed, is 1.¿c6+! ¿xc6 2.¿d7+! ¿c7 3.¿xc7+! (as with the ¿c6, the ¿c7 is inedible to her majesty because of the pin to his majesty) 3...¿b8 4.¿xb6#. Four forcing checks, to each of which Black has only one legal reply, culminating in mate. Surely even the most positionally minded player must crave such a finish!

Of course, when working with young people it is important to emphasize that after such a victory one should be gracious and gentle; clearly, it is unsporting to jump over the table, wrestle your adversary to the ground, and stand on their chest whilst splitting the air with a bloodcurdling victory yell — this sort of behavior could give chess a bad name as well as causing the authorities to lay assault charges, not to mention ruffling the feathers of the defeated player …

I made many such mistakes during the year I edited a schoolchildren’s chess magazine. My suggestion, after flagellating with limp linguini the responsible party for this mistake, would be to always include one bogus answer as a sort of contest, for which you could have a monthly draw and give out, say, a twenty dollar gift certificate to the winner of a draw among the correct answers. Of course, if they find two you might have to double the prize …

Frank Teuton

Arnprior, ON

Chess, like life, is full of triumphs and disappointments. Every chess player learns that soon enough. My biggest triumph was achieving a draw with former World Champion, Boris Spassky, in a simultaneous exhibition in Ottawa. The disappointment associated with it occurred when IM Deen Hergott wrote about my success in his weekly newspaper column, but the paper mistakenly printed the column on a Sunday instead of the usual Saturday, so few people even saw it!

In the last Renfrew Open reported in En Passant October 1998, I had success in defeating, for the first time in my life, a Master. I followed up by defeating another in the next round — all while directing the tournament!

Imagine my disappointment when I read your Across Canada report and found you had attributed my success to the organizer, Peter Naish, who never even played a game in the tournament!

I hope you will take steps to correct the error. I offer my first Master scalp as proof of my victory.

Notes by

Herg Langer

Langer, Herb

Cote, Jacques

Renfrew op, 1998

Queen Pawn D00

1.d4 d5 2.f4 ¿f5 3.¿f3 ¿c6 4.e3 ¿d6 5.¿c2 ¿d7 6.0-0 ¿e7 7.¿d2 ¿g6 8.¿e5

Only now, so that any capture must be made with the bishop and tempo is lost when the knight at f6 moves.

8...h5 9.h3 0-0-0 10.c4 ¿e4 11.c5 ¿xe5 12.fxe5 ¿g5 13.¿f3 f6 14.exf6

A sad decision! In trying to keep the center closed, the wing in front of the king is opened.

14...¿dxe6?

Much better is capturing with the pawn, when the opening of the g-file spells big trouble White.

15.¿a4 ¿g3 16.¿a6

Suddenly, it is Black who appears to be lost!

17...¿h3 18.¿xb7+ ¿b8 19.¿a6 ¿xg2 20.¿c8 ¿c2+ 21.¿h2 ¿h4+ 22.¿xg2 ¿g4+ 23.¿f1 ¿xf3+ 24.¿e1 ¿f2+ 25.¿d1 ¿f1+ 26.¿c2 ¿d6 27.¿b7 ¿f5+ 28.¿b3 ¿f3 29.¿c3 ¿xc3 30.¿xc3

If the pawn captures, there appears to be no way to maintain a rook on b1 to finish off the Black king. Taking with the bishop loses a pawn but builds a fortress.

30...¿xe3 31.¿e1 ¿h3 32.¿a4 ¿c4 33.¿b5 ¿d8!

This vacates the square d8 so the Black king can flee. Now mate is no longer looming quite as large.

34.¿a4 ¿f2 35.¿a6+ ¿b6 36.¿a5 ¿f5 37.¿xb6 ¿xb6 38.¿b7 ¿f7 39.¿a1 ¿e5 40.¿a6 ¿xd4 41.¿xa7+ ¿c7 42.¿xd4 ¿f3+ 43.¿a2 ¿d6 44.¿xb6 ¿h4 45.¿c7+ ¿d7 46.¿c6+ 1-0.

Herb Langer

Notice

Chris Field of Toronto is no longer on a Chess Federation of Canada blacklist. All monies owing to the C.F.C. have been paid with interest.
The Coming Events advertising section is brought to you by the Chess Federation of Canada.

**Note:** This is free for all CFC-Rated events.

Players: When you enter by mail, include your name, address, CFC number, expiry date, rating and date published (if you are entering your first CFC event, you are probably an unrated player), and birthdate if you are a junior – all with your entry fee.

CFC membership is required in these tournaments except where indicated. If you buy a CFC membership with your entry, obtain a receipt from the organizer. Please bring your chess pieces, boards and clocks. Unless stated otherwise all tournaments are Non-Smoking and No Computers.

### Coming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>British Columbia</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bridge Centre Active Swiss Series</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> November 21; December 5, 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Place:</strong> Vancouver Bridge Centre, 2776 East Broadway, Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rds:</strong> 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type:</strong> Active Swiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Times:</strong> 10, 1, 3, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TC:</strong> SD/55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EF:</strong> $20; free Masters, Sr., Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prizes:</strong> $8BEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Org:</strong> Mark Barnes, (604)534–1789, <a href="mailto:mbarnes@direct.ca">mbarnes@direct.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reg:</strong> 08:15–08:45 at site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prizes:</strong> $15, $12 UBC CC members, $8 Jr., free Masters and those joining CFC/BCCF for first time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> November 17, 24; December 1, 8, 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Place:</strong> UBC Student Union Building, Room 211, Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rds:</strong> 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type:</strong> Regular Swiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Times:</strong> 7 / 6:30 / 6:30 / 6:30 / 6:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TC:</strong> 40/90, SD/60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EF:</strong> $15, $12 UBC CC members, $8 Jr., free Masters and those joining CFC/BCCF for first time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prizes:</strong> $8BEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reg:</strong> 08:30–08:45 at site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prizes:</strong> $15, $12 UBC CC members, $8 Jr., free Masters and those joining CFC/BCCF for first time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> November 21–22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Place:</strong> Lakes District Secondary School, Burns Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rds:</strong> 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type:</strong> Active and either Swiss or Round Robin (RR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Times:</strong> Round times, “/” = next day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TC:</strong> Time Controls, SD means Sudden Death – all remaining moves in fixed time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EF:</strong> Entry Fee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sec:</strong> Sections tournament is broken down into</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prizes:</strong> $8BEN = Prizes based upon entries. $8Gxx = Guaranteed prize of xx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reg:</strong> Registration time instructions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Org:</strong> Tournament organizer and contact information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Misc:</strong> Other important information</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dates of the event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Place:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location of the event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rds:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of rounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rating type either Regular or Active and either Swiss or Round Robin (RR)</td>
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<td>Times:</td>
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<td>Round times, “/” = next day</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Sections tournament is broken down into</td>
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**BC Amateur Championship**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 21–22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Place:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kamloops Senior Secondary School, Cafeteria, 821 Munro Street, Kamloops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rds:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Swiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Times:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:20, 2, 7 / 9:20, 2:20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TC:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40/90, SD/60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EF:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25, $20 Sr., $5 Jr. $10 late fee after December 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reg:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08:30–09:00 at site, or by mail to Kamloops High Chess Club, 821 Munro Street, Kamloops, BC, V2C 6E9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bye 1–4</td>
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**Kamloops Grand Prix**

The events below all share the following information unless stated otherwise.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kamloops Senior Secondary School, Cafeteria, 821 Munro Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rds:</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Type:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Swiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Times:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:05, 12, 3:10, 6:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>TC:</td>
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<tr>
<td>30/60, SD/30</td>
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<tr>
<td>EF:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult $15, Sr. $10, Jr. $5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reg:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08:30–08:45 at site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Org:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Hara, 821 Munro Street, Kamloops, BC, V2C 6E9. (604)376–8776 <a href="mailto:geohara@hotmail.com">geohara@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 21–22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Place:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kamloops Senior Secondary School, Cafeteria, 821 Munro Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rds:</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active RR or Swiss, depending on entries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TC:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult and Jr. 30/60, SD/60. Cd. SD/30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Times:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult/Jr. 9, 1:30, 6:30 / 9, 1:30; Cd. 9:15, 10:30, 11:45, 1:45, 3, 4:15 / 10:30, asap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reg:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08:15–08:45 at site</td>
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<tr>
<td>EF:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5,00 + CFC membership or $5.00 + one time tournament fee; Adult $10; Jr. and Cd. $4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prizes:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medals for Adult, Jr., Cd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Org:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doreen Loseth (250)692–3983 H (250)692–7733 LDDS, Mary Warko (250)698–7422</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 19–20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge Club, 2776 East Broadway, Vancouver</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rds:</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Swiss</td>
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<tr>
<td>Times:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30, 4:30 / 10, 3:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>TC:</td>
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<tr>
<td>30/90, SD/60</td>
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**Kamloops Grand Prix**

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<tr>
<th>GP #4:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>See BC Amateur</td>
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<tr>
<td>GP #5:</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>GP #6:</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 20</td>
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<td>GP #7:</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20</td>
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<td>GP #8:</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
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<td>GP #9:</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>GP #10:</td>
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<tr>
<td>See Canadian Amateur</td>
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**Grand Prix Schedule**

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<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP #3:</td>
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**Grand Prix Schedule**

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
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<td>GP #8:</td>
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**Grand Prix Schedule**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>GP #9:</td>
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**Grand Prix Schedule**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>See Canadian Amateur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP #10:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Alberta

ECC John Tournaments
Date: Monday nights
Place: Edmonton Chess Club
Rds: 4
Type: Active Swiss
EF: $2
Reg: 18:30-19:15 at site
Org: John Quiring (403)468-9173

Words Books Active
Date: U2000, 1st Saturday of each month. U1700, 3rd Saturday of each month
Place: Words Books and Cappuccino Bar, 1715 17th Ave. SW, Calgary
Rds: 5
Type: Active Swiss
Times: 10-4:30
TC: SD/30
EF: $7
Reg: 09:30-10:00 at site
Org: Rook St. Peter (403)244-4239, Tedge Davies
jdavies@cwave.com

2nd Annual Rockies Challenge
Date: December 6
Place: Queen's Bakery & Cafe, Hinton-Valley District
Rds: 4
Type: Active Swiss

Ontario

Kitchener KW Fall Open
Date: November 20-22
Place: Cameron Heights Collegiate, 301 Charles Street E., Kitchener
Rds: 5
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 6/30 / 9, 3 / 9, 3
TC: 30/90, SD/60
EF: Open $35, U2000 $30, U1600 $25, $10 less for Jr. & Sr., Masters free, $10 late fee after
Prizes: $8888
Reg: 09:00-09:45 at site
Org: Peter Bundscherer
(403)865-5050
Misc: Bye 1-4. No phone entries. SWOCL Grand Prix event

Crestwood Hotel Classic
Date: December 13-14, 1999
Place: Crestwood Hotel, Hinton
Rds: 4
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 10, asap, asap / 9
TC: 30/90, SD/30
EF: $25; $10 Jr., Sr.
Prizes: $8888
Org: Brian Goude (403)3865-7745, Piotr Rajski (403)3865-3822
Misc: Crestwood Hotel
1-800-661-7288

2nd Annual Hinton Foothills Classic
Date: February 13-14, 1999
Place: Crestwood Hotel, Hinton
Rds: 4
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 10, asap, asap / 9
TC: 30/90, SD/30
EF: $25; $10 Jr., Sr.
Prizes: $8888
Org: Brian Goude (403)3865-7745, Piotr Rajski (403)3865-3822
Misc: Crestwood Hotel
1-800-661-7288

Kitchener Winter Open
Date: November 13
Prizes: $8888
Reg: 17:30-18:15 at site
Org: Brian Clarke, 132 Martinglen Cres, Kitchener, ON, N2E 2A2
Misc: Bye 1-4. No phone entries.

En Passant No 153 — December 1998 5
Kingston Open

Date: February 13–14, 1999
Place: Queen’s University, John Deutsch Centre (NE corner of Union Street and University Avenue, Kingston
Rds: 5
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 9:30, 2:30, 7:30 / 9:30, 2:30
TC: 30/90, SD/60
EF: Open $34; U1950 $30; U1600 $26; Jr., Jr. less $10; IMs free. Late fee $5 after February 7.
Sec: Open, U1950, U1600
Prizes: $$BEN
Reg: 08:30 at site, or to Rob Hutchinson, 109 York Street, Kingston, ON, K7K 1P9
Org: Rob Hutchinson as above, or (613)544-3515
Misc: Bye 1–3, EOCA Grand Prix event. Bring sets and clocks

Kitchener KW Winter Open

Date: February 19–21, 1999
Place: Cameron Heights Collegiate, 301 Charles Street E., Kitchener
Rds: 5
Type: Regular Swiss
Sec: Open, U2000, U1600
Times: 6:30 / 9:30, 3 / 9:30, 3 or asap
TC: 30/90, SD/60
EF: Open $35, U2000 $30, U1600 $25, $10 less for Jr. & Sr., Masters free; $10 late fee after February 12
Prizes: $$BEN
Reg: 17:30–18:15 at site
Org: Tim Kneathkel, Cheques payable to Albert Den-Otter, 11 Hermie Place, Kitchener, ON, N2H 4X9, (519)744-5213
Misc: Bye 1–4. No phone entries, cash only at site

Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia Open

Date: November 13–15
Place: Wandyn Hotel, 50 North Street, Bridgewater
Rds: 5
Type: Regular Swiss
Times: 7 / 9:30, 2:30 / 9, 2:30
TC: 30/90, SD/60
EF: $25; $10 for Jr., Sr., 2200+
Prizes: $$BEN
Reg: 18:30–19:00 at site
MISC: Steve Saunders 624-9361 H, 634-8811 W
Bluenose Chess Club Championship

Date: February 19–22, 1999
Place: Dalhousie University SUB, Halifax NS, Room 224–226
Rds: 5
Type: Regular Swiss
TC: 30/90, SD/60

17th Annual EOCA Grand Prix 1998-1999

First, Second and Third prizes go to the players who accumulate the most points in the Open sections of seven events.

Other prizes are won by those accumulating the most points in all events, in any section.

Rating category is determined by established rating appearing in the 1998 Annual Rating List.

Unrated, provisionally rated, not on 1998 Rating List, etc. are eligible for the Unestablished Rating prize.

Best Overall Total is open to all, and is in addition to any other prize won.

First: $617
Second: $317
Third: $217
1950–2199: $217
1700–1949: $217
U1700: $217
Unestablished: $117
Best Overall Total: $117
Total Prizes: $2036

Grand Prix Schedule

4. Cornwall Open
   R. Lacroix
   November 21–22

5. R.A. Winter Open
   Terry Fleming
   January 16–17

6. Kingston Open
   R. Hutchinson
   February 13–14

7. R.A. Spring Open
   Doug Burgess
   March 20–21

8. Arnprior Open
   Herb Langer
   May 1–2

9. Eastern Ontario Open
   Doug Burgess
   June 12–13
# CFC Governor’s Listing

**Alberta**
- **Grant Brown**, B–202, 20 Berkeley Place, Lethbridge, AB, T1K 4W1
- **Steve Hansen**, 1603 – 2nd Street NW, Calgary, AB, T2M 2W2
- **David Ottosen**, 809–9910 104th Street, Edmonton, AB, T5K 0Z4
- **John Quiring**, 6011 94A Avenue, Edmonton, AB, T6B 0Y7
- **Walter Watson**, #302, 312 – 6 Avenue NE, Calgary, AB, T2E 0L9
- **Ford Wong**, 17536 – 55th Avenue, Edmonton, AB, T6M 1C9

**British Columbia**
- **Francisco Cabanas**, 3196 West 14th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6K 2Y1
- **Lyle Craver**, 4797 Hoskins Road, North Vancouver, BC, V7K 2R3
- **Toni Deline**, Box 93588 Nelson Park RPO, Vancouver, BC, V6E 4L7
- **Nathan Divinsky**, 5689 McMaster Road, Vancouver, BC, V6E 4L7
- **Yves Farges**, 410 Bury Lane, Vancouver, BC, V5T 1K1
- **Joshua Kesht**, 429 West 18th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V5Y 2A9
- **Peter Stockhausen**, 25 – 4800 Trimaran Drive, Richmond, BC, V7E 4Y7
- **Lynn Stringer**, 4984 Georgia Park Terrace, Victoria, BC, V8Y 2B9

**Manitoba**
- **Justin Gushuliak**, Box 109, 116 Forest Hill Road, East St. Paul, MB, R2E 0H6
- **Cecil Rosner**, 169 Forrest Park Drive, Winnipeg, MB, R2V 2R9
- **Manfred Schulz**, 19 Harbour Bay, Winnipeg, MB, R3T 5G6

**New Brunswick**
- **Jacques Blanchette**, 552 Breaux St, Dieppe, NB, E1A 5N8
- **Jacques Brun**, Site 1, B5OT 46, RR 1, Shediac, NB, E0A 3G0

**Nova Scotia**
- **Glenn Charlton**, 3055 Olivet Street Apt. 506, Halifax, NS, B3L 3Z8
- **David Kenney**, 28 Brookfield Avenue, Dartmouth, NS, B2V 1V1

**Ontario**
- **Denis Allan**, 225 Sanitorium Road, Hamilton, ON, L9C 1Z4
- **Stephen Ball**, 2070 Corry Street, Ottawa, ON, K1G 2M5
- **Derrick Bessette**, 51 Lovell Street, North Bay, ON, P1A 3R7
- **Peter Boross-Harmer**, 416 Daviessville Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4S 1H6
- **Les Bunning**, 204 – 110 Bearbrook Road, Gloucester, ON, K1B 5R2
- **Doug Burgess**, 1955 Cardinal Court, Gloucester, ON, K1J 8J7
- **Samuel Carr**, 509 Nassau Cres, Sarnia, ON, N7S 4H8
- **Anthony Cheron**, 18 Highview Avenue, Downsview, ON, M3J 1C4
- **Tony Ficzere**, 58 Woodlawn Avenue, Brantford, ON, N3V 1B1
- **Terry Fleming**, 2 Qualicum Street, Nepean, ON, K2H 7G8
- **Philip G. Haley**, #513 – 215 The Donway West, North York, ON, M3B 3P5
- **Brian Hartman**, 281 Onondaga Townline Road, Caledonia, ON, N3W 2G9
- **Deen Hergott**, 60 – 222 MacLaren Street, Ottawa, ON, K2P 0L6
- **Martin Jaeger**, #1201 – 755 York Mills Road, North York, ON, M3B 1X5
- **Leibit Joselin**, 1112, 1 Massey Square, Toronto, ON, M4C 5L4
- **Alexander N. Knox**, 27 Holford Crescent, Scarborough, ON, M1T 1L9
- **Roger Langen**, 4 Sword Street, Toronto, ON, M5A 3N2
- **Herb Langer**, 30 Mulvihill Street, Apath, ON, K7S 3E4
- **Ron Langill**, 37 Mayfield Avenue, Waterloo, ON, N2J 4K1
- **Mon-Fai Lee**, 1742 Hyde Park Road, London, ON, N6H 5L7
- **Liana MacMillan**, c/o Limac Enterprises, PO Box 149, Flesherton, ON, N0C 1E0

**Quebec**
- **Hugh Brodie**, 737 – 7400 Sherbrooke West, Montreal, PQ, H4B 1R8
- **Gilles Groseau**, 1 – 10 Deauville, Hull, PQ, J8Z 3C7
- **Francois Leveille**, 4897 Mayfair, Montreal, PQ, H4V 2E6
- **Diane Mongeau**, 425 Smith, St-Jean, PQ, J3B 8G6

**Saskatchewan**
- **George Huczek**, 617 – 11th Avenue East, Prince Albert, SK, S6V 2M7
- **Steve Siciliano**, 8 Young Crescent, Saskatoon, SK, S7J 2L4

**Yukon Territories**
- **Bob Bowerman**, 65 Green Crescent, Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 4R8
The opening ceremony for the 33rd Chess Olympiad took place on Saturday, September 26th in the capital of the Russian Republic of Kalmykia, and was opened by FIDE and Kalmykian President Kirsan Iljumzhinov. The play itself got underway three days later at the Chess Palace, the originally intended venue, and ended on Monday, October 12th.

Initial Internet reports from the playing site seriously questioned if the venue would be ready in time. The organizers too must have believed this at one point, because they initially made some alternative arrangements for the first round, but once they committed to playing in the Chess Palace did everything to make it happen. Both Chess City and Chess Palace remain incomplete, but the event was able to go ahead in any case.

Accomodations for the players and officials have varied from the very good to the pretty average. There have been mixed reports about the Sanatorium where the officials are staying — American Carol Jarecki seems to have been reasonably happy, while British Arbitr Harry Lamb returned home immediately, calling the conditions disgusting. Playing conditions gradually improved throughout the week. The top boards were moved from a catwalk to a rather crowded and stuffy room, but conditions improved dramatically when guards were put at the entrance to restrict access. The rest of the players on the lower boards experienced a general problem with noise, especially around the time controls. The heating in the building also proved to be unreliable, which had an impact in some of the rounds when players preferred to finish quickly rather than stay in the cold.

The Olympiad was widely touted as the first Electronic Olympiad by FIDE. Dutch software publisher TASC had been brought in to do the electronic boards for the event, although the chaos surrounding the last-minute preparations of the venue for play did not allow for this to happen in the early stages of the event.

The Olympiad was won by the Russian first team after a tough battle with the Americans. Only with a 3.5–0.5 victory against the Netherlands in the final round did the Russians take gold. The Americans, who had a half point lead going into the final round, could only draw against China.

IM Deen Hergott will be reporting again with annotated games and a Canadian perspective in the February issue of En Passant. To whet your appetites, we present the complete Canadian Olympiad pairings and games:

### Round 1

**Canada 4–0 Uganda**

Spraggett, Kevin – Opio, Steven  
*GM 2560* – 1–0  
*2180*

Lesiège, Alexandre – Bisereko, G  
*GM 2525* – 1–0  
*UNR*

**Scores**

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FIDE = Elo rating, AR = Average Elo rating of opponents, TPR = Performance rating

The first round of the Olympiad generally sees mismatched pairings and the favorites get off to good starts. In the Men’s Olympiad England’s 2.5–1.5 result is not really good enough, nor is the Netherlands’ 2–2 draw against Scotland. In the women’s event lowly rated Latvia is paired with China in the first round losing 2–1.

Canada has little trouble dispatching Uganda with a clean 4–0 opening result.

**Spraggett, Kevin**

**Opio, Steven**

**Elista ol (1), 1998**

French: Rubinstein  
*C10*

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.©c3 dxe4 4.©xe4  
©d7 5.c4 ©c6 6.©c3 ©f6 7.©e3 ©e4  
8.©f3 ©xc3 9.bxc3 ©e4 10.©d3  
©xd3 11.©xd3 ©e7 12.©d1 ©c8  
13.d5 ©b6 14.O-O O-O 15.©f1 ©d8  
16.©e4 c6 17.©f4 ©a6 18.dxe6 ©xe6  
19.©xe6 fxe6 20.©xe6 ©f6 21.©g5  
©xg5 22.©xg5 ©h6 23.©e4 ©e8  
24.©xe8+ ©xe8 25.©e1 ©e5 26.f4  
©a5 27.©d6 ©g6 28.©e8+ ©g7  
29.©e7+ ©f6 30.©xg7 ©c5 31.©e8+  
©f5 32.©f7+ ©e6 33.©g7 ©f5 34.©f2  
©xf4 35.©g3+ ©f5 36.©d6+ ©f6  
37.©e8+ ©f5 38.©e3 ©x2 39.©d6+  
©f6 40.©e8+ ©f5 41.g4+ ©g5 42.h4+  
©xg4 43.©g6+ ©h4 44.©xh6+ ©f5  
45.©xh6 ©e2 46.©xb6 ©xc3+ 47.©d4  
©a4 48.©a6 ©a3 49.©d6 ©f4 50.©e4
27...b3 a5 28.c4 a4 29.b7 e2+ 30.g1 Rd8 31.b1 xc2 32.b1 c1 d1 33.d3 b3 axb3 bxc1 0-1.

**Round 2**

Canada 1–3 Sweden
Lesiege, Alexandre – Andersson, Ulf
GM 2525 0-1 GM 2645

Nickoloff, Bryon – Agrest, Evgeny
IM 2410 ½-½ GM 2545

Hergott, Deen – Brynell, Stellan
IM 2370 ½-½ GM 2465

Day, Lawrence – Hall, Jesper
IM 2395 0-1 GM 2485

China draws with the Ukraine 2–2 to show they would be a competitive team in this Olympiad, and India also holds a fairly strong Russia 2 team. The Netherlands lose 2.5–1.5 to Bangladesh. Argentina and the USA share the lead on 7.5 points at this early stage. Yugoslavia leads the women's Olympiad.

**Lesiege, Alexandre**

**Andersson, Ulf**

*Elista ol (2), 1998*

**Queen's Gambit: Exchange**

D66

The Americans beat Argentina 2.5–1.5 in the top clash of the day, setting up a critical round four pairing with the Russia 1 team. In the women’s event Vietnam’s 3–0 win against Georgia is a major shock result.

Belaviisky, Alexandre
Spraggett, Kevin
Elista ol (3), 1998

1.d4 f5 2.g3 g6 3.ªg2 4.ªf3 g7 5.ªe3 c6 6.ºd2 b5 7.ºd3 O-O
8.ºh6 ºg4 9.e5 dxe5 10.ºxe5 11.ºe2 12.ºg7 13.ºe4 dxe5
dxe5 20.e6 21.ºd2 22.ºf2
dxe5 23.ºxe5 24.ºf6 25.ºd4
dxe5 26.ºxd4 27.ºd5 28.ºb6 29.ºe4
dxe5 30.ºb1 31.ºd5.
1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e3 d6 4.\_xc4 e6
5.\_f3 c5 6.\_e2 a6 7.dxc5 \_xc5 8.O-O \_xc7 9.b3 \_xd7 10.\_b2 \_d6
11.\_c1 \_b8 12.\_bd2 b5 13.\_d3 \_b7
14.a4 15.\_e2 O-O 16.\_acl \_d8
17.\_h3 \_e5 18.\_xe5 \_xe5 19.\_xe5 \_xe5 20.\_e7 \_h8 21.e4 h6 22.\_f3
\_f4 23.g3 \_d6 24.\_b1 \_a8 25.\_e3 \_d7 26.\_a7 f5 27.\_e3 e5 28.\_exf5
\_d5 29.\_g2 \_f6 30.\_c7 \_b7
31.\_e5 \_e8 32.\_c5 \_f8 33.\_d3
\_d7 34.\_e4 \_e5 35.\_xb7 \_xf3 36.\_xf3 \_xe3 37.fxe3 1-0.

**Round 5**

**Canada 4-0 Puerto Rico**

Spraggett, Kevin Ð Sosa, L

Elista ol (4), 1998

**King's Indian: Classical**

E92

1.d4 \_f6 2.c4 g6 3.\_c3 \_g7 4.e4 O-O 5.\_f3 d6 6.\_e5 7.\_e3 h6 O-O
\_g4 9.\_c1 \_c6 10.d5 \_e7 11.\_e1 f5
12.\_a4xg4 fxg4 13.\_e3 b6 14.b4 g5
15.a4 a5 16.\_b5x5 \_b5 17.c5 \_g6
18.\_b5 \_f7 19.\_cx6d6 \_d6 20.\_c1 \_f8
21.\_c5 \_d7 22.\_d3 \_f6 23.\_b2
\_xc6 24.\_dxc6 \_c8 25.c7 \_e6 26.\_b6
d5 27.\_exd5 \_xb6 28.\_d6 \_d4 29.\_xg4
h5 30.\_e8 \_e6 0-1.

**Sosúa, L**

Spraggett, Kevin

**Elista ol (5), 1998**

**Sicilian: Closed**

B40

1.e4 c5 2.\_e3 e6 3.\_f3 a6 4.g3 \_c7
5.\_g2 d6 6.O-O \_g6 7.d3 \_c6 8.h3
\_e7 9.\_xb5 h5 10.f4 \_b7 11.\_e2 \_d8
12.g4 d5 13.e5 \_d7 14.c3 d4 15.\_f3
dxc3 16.\_bxc3 \_b6 17.\_xc2

29.\_e7+ \_xe7 30.\_xe7 \_xg3 31.\_d1
\_xf4 32.\_g1 \_e3+ 0-1.

**Day, Lawrence**

**Santa Torres, Juan**

**Elista ol (5), 1998**

**Sicilian: Grand Prix Attack**

B21

1.e4 c5 2.f4 \_c6 3.\_d3 \_g6 4.\_b5 \_g7
5.\_xc6 \_xc6 6.d3 \_b6 7.\_e3 O-O
8.O-O d5 9.e5 \_xh7 10.\_e1 \_b6
11.\_h3 c4 12.\_d4 \_c7 13.\_e3 \_d7
14.\_d2 a5 15.\_a4 \_h8 16.b3 \_h7
17.\_ec1 \_b8 18.\_e1 \_a7 19.\_d2

14.\_xd6 \_xd6 15.\_d1 \_d5 16.c4 a6
17.cxd5 \_xb5 18.\_dxe6 \_xe6 19.\_xe6
Round 6
Canada 1.5–2.5 England
Spraggett, Kevin – Adams, Michael
GM 2560 ¾–¾ GM 2715
Lesiège, Alexandre – Short, Nigel
GM 2525 ¾–¾ GM 2670
Nickoloff, Bryon – Sadler, Matthew
IM 2410 0–1 GM 2660
Hergott, Deen – Miles, Anthony
IM 2370 ¾–¾ GM 2590

The Americans beat Georgia 2.5–1.5 while Russia 1 manages a 3–1 win to move to within half a point. In the women’s event China moves a point and a half clear of the field.

Adams, Michael
Spraggett, Kevin
Elista ol (6), 1998
Sicilian: Kan
B42
1.e4 c5 2.d3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.cxd4 a6
5.g5 d6 6.O–O f6 7.e3 d5 8.c3 c5 9.h3 O–O
10.e4 c3 e5 11.d5 f5 12.c3 c5
13.e4 e4 14.d3 d6
15.½d2 ½b7 16.½f3 ½c6
20.½ae1 ½d7 21.a3 ½e7

Lesiège, Alexandre
Short, Nigel
Elista ol (6), 1998
Nimzo-Indian: Rubinstein
E43
1.d4 ½f6 2.c4 e6 3.½c3 ½b4 4.e3 b6
5.½b5 ½c7 6.O–O 0–0 7.½xc3 ½xc3
8.bxc3 c5 9.½d2 ½c6 10.e4 cxd4
11.exd4 exd4 12.½e1 f5 13.½d5 ½e8
14.½d1 ½f6 15.½exd6 ½g8
16.½d2 ½d8 17.½d4 ½e4 18.½xe4 ½xh4
19.½xh4 ½g5 20.½e5 ½xf6

Round 7
Canada 1.5–2.5 Croatia
Spraggett, Kevin – Kozul, Zdenko
GM 2560 0–1 GM 2570
Lesiège, Alexandre – Lalic, Bogdan
GM 2525 ¾–¾ GM 2590
Nickoloff, Bryon – Zelcic, Robert
IM 2410 0–1 IM 2585
Hergott, Deen – Rogic, Davor
IM 2370 ¾–¾ IM 2460

Nimzo-Indian: Classical
E32
1.d4 ½f6 2.c4 e6 3.½c3 b6 4.e3 c5
5.½b5 a6 6.O–O d5 7.½d3 ½c6
8.exd5 exd5 9.½xe4 ½c6 10.½c1
11.½xe4 dxe4 12.½d4

Bulgaria’s win against Russia 1 is the surprise of the day. The USA leads by half a point from them as the rest of the field closes up.

Sadler, Matthew
Nickoloff, Bryon
Elista ol (6), 1998
Anti–King’s Indian
A55
1.d4 ½f6 2.c4 e6 3.½c3 ½b4 4.e3 0–0
5.½d3 c5 6.½c2 c6 7.½e3 d5
8.exd5 exd5 9.½xe4 ½c6
10.½xe6 fxe6 11.½d5 ½e7
12.½xc6 ½xc6 13.½xc6 ½c7
14.½d5 ½e7 15.½xc6 ½xc6
16.½xc6 ½b7 17.½b1 ½c7
18.½b3 ½d8 19.½d2 ½e7
20.½a5 ½b7 21.a3 ½e7

Hergott, Deen
Miles, Anthony
Elista ol (6), 1998
Queen Pawn
A43
1.d4 ½f6 2.c4 b5 3.d5 ½c6 4.½g5 ½h5
5.½f6 exf6 6.½e4 ½d6 7.½d4 a6
8.ah6 ½e8 9.½d2 ½f5 10.½b3 ½e7
11.½d2 ½f5 12.½xe4 ½xf5
13.½xf5 ½e4 14.b4 ½g4
15.½f3 ½h5 16.½f6 ½f3
17.½xe4 ½xh2 18.½xf7+ ½xf7
19.½e5 ½e8 20.½f6+ ½e8
21.½e5 ½d7 22.½d3 ½c6
23.½xc5 ½xc5 24.½d1 ½xf6 25.½g2
26.½xd6 ½xd6 27.½xe4 28.½xe4
29.½xe4 30.½xf2 31.½xf2 ½a8
32.½d2 ½a6 33.½d1 ½b7
34.½b3 ½c6 35.½f5 ½d6
36.½b2 ½f6 37.½d1 ½a7

Lalic, Bogdan
Lesiège, Alexandre
Elista ol (7), 1998
Nimzo-Indian: Classical
E32
1.d4 ½f6 2.c4 e6 3.½c3 ½b4 4.e3
5.½b5 a6 6.O–O d5 7.½d3 ½c6
8.exd5 exd5 9.½xe4 ½c6 10.O–O
11.½xe4 dxe4 12.½d4

En Passant No 153 — décembre 1998

Round 8

Canada 1.5—2.5 Bosnia-Herzegovina

Spraggett, Kevin Ð Nikolic, Predrag
GM 2560 Ð GM 2640

Lesiège, Alexandre Ð Sokolov, Ivan
GM 2525 Ð GM 2600

Hergott, Deen Ð Kurajica, Bojan
IM 2370 Ð GM 2570

Day, Lawrence Ð Dizdarevic, Emir
IM 2355 Ð GM 2530

The Americans lead by half a point from Russia 1. The remaining contending teams from Bulgaria, France, England and Russia 2 are a further half point behind as the race for the medals tightens up.

China now looks sure to win the gold in the women’s event, increasing their lead to a near insurmountable 3.5 points.

Board Medals
Men’s Olympiad

Board 1

Al Modiahki (QAT) 7.5/8
Mueller (NAM) 7.5/9
Azmiafarashvili (GEO) 8/10

Board 2

Alikhoje (NGR) 6.5/8
Lputian (ARM) 8/11
Aleksandrov (BLR) 8.5/12
Dervishi (ALB) 8.5/12

Board 3

Vera (CUB) 7/9
Suruza (GEO) 7.5/10
Grivas (GRE) 7.5/10

Board 4

Gadhi (YEM) 8.5
Morosevich (RUS) 8/10
ADERO (ANG) 7/9

Board 5

Muir (SCO) 6/7
Kostenko (KAZ) 7.5/10
DeFirmian (USA) 6/8
Kaminiski (POL) 6/8
Giacco (ARG) 6/8

Board 6

Avrukh (ISR) 8/10
Ponomariov (UKR) 7/9
Hillarp Persson (SWE) 7.5/10

The Americans lead by half a point from Russia 1. The remaining contending teams from Bulgaria, France, England and Russia 2 are a further half point behind as the race for the medals tightens up.

China now looks sure to win the gold in the women’s event, increasing their lead to a near insurmountable 3.5 points.
With less than half of the schedule remaining in the Olympiad, the Americans on 24.5 points once again lead by half a point from Russia 1 and 2. The Ukraine is on 23.5 and Bulgaria, France, England, Hungary, Romania, Armenia and Germany are a further half point behind.

The Chinese women stay 3 points clear from Georgia in the women’s Olympiad to maintain a comfortable lead.

Round 9
Canada 4–0 Ecuador
Spraggett, Kevin – Munoz, Hugo
GM 2560 – GM 2290
Lesiége, Alexandre – Fierro Baquero, Martha
GM 2525 – WIM 2240
Nickoloff, Bryon – Alarcon, Cesar
IM 2410 – IM 2355
Day, Lawrence – Mieles Viteri, Eduardo
IM 2355 – UNR

Fierro Baquero, Martha
Lesiége, Alexandre
Elista ol (9), 1998
Sicilian: Moscow

Nickoloff, Bryon
Alarcon, Cesar
Elista ol (9), 1998
King’s Indian: Gligoric

Mieles Viteri, Eduardo
Day, Lawrence
Elista ol (9), 1998
[Forfeit] 0–0.

Round 10
Canada 1–3 Georgia
Spraggett, Kevin – Azmaiparashvili, Zurab
GM 2560 – GM 2655
Lesiége, Alexandre – Giorgadze, Giorgi
GM 2525 – GM 2610
Nickoloff, Bryon – Sturua, Zurab
IM 2410 – GM 2600
Hergott, Deen – Bagaturov, Giorgi
IM 2370 – FM 2540

Russia 1 takes the lead after a 3–1 beating of the Ukraine. The Americans are held by Russia 2. Russia 2 are in third and England in fourth. In the women’s event China’s lead is cut to two points after they lose to Georgia 2–1.
The Americans come back to beat England 3–1 to take a half point lead again from Russia 1, with Russia 2 another half point behind. The remaining two rounds of the two week event promise to be exceptionally interesting, considering the number of teams still in contention for the medals.

Round 11

Canada 2–2 Iceland
Spraggett, Kevin – Stefansson, Hannes
GM 2560 0–1 GM 2560
Lesiège, Alexandre – Throshallson, Throstur
GM 2525 1–0 GM 2495
Nickoloff, Bryon – Gretarsson, Helgi
IM 2570 4½–2½ IM 2480
Hergott, Deen – Gunnarsson, Jon
IM 2495 4½–2½ IM 2480

The Americans come back to beat England 3–1 to take a half point lead again from Russia 1, with Russia 2 another half point behind. The remaining two rounds of the two week event promise to be exceptionally interesting, considering the number of teams still in contention for the medals.
**Sorokin, Maxim**

Lesiége, Alexandre

*Elista ol (12), 1998*

**English: Symmetrical A35**


**English**

**Day, Lawrence**

Spangenberg, Hugo

*Elista ol (12), 1998*

**Sicilian: Closed B25**

1.e4 c5 2.±c3 ±c6 3.g3 ±g7 4.±g2 ±g8 5.±d3 ±d6 6.±c2 ±c6 7.±f3 ±f6 8.±e2 ±f5 9.±xh7 ±g8 10.±g5 ±c6 11.±xh8 ±f8 12.±f6 ±e8 13.±xh8 ±xh8 14.±e5 ±e5 15.±xh8 ±xh8 16.±f6 ±xf6 17.±e1 ±e8 18.±f3 ±f6 19.±g3 ±g7 20.±h4 ±h7 21.±f4 ±f4 22.±xf4 ±xf4 23.±xf4 ±xf4 24.±xf4 ±xf4 25.±xf4 ±xf4 26.±xf4 ±xf4 27.±xf4 ±xf4 28.±xf4 ±xf4 29.±xf4 ±xf4 30.±xf4 ±xf4 31.±xf4 ±xf4 32.±xf4 ±xf4 33.±xf4 ±xf4 34.±xf4 ±xf4 35.±xf4 ±xf4 36.±xf4 ±xf4 37.±xf4 ±xf4 38.±xf4 ±xf4 39.±xf4 ±xf4 40.±xf4 ±xf4

**English**

**Hoffman, Alejandro**

Herriott, Deen

*Elista ol (12), 1998*

**Pirc**

B07

1.g3 ±g6 2.±g2 ±g7 3.d4 ±d6 4.e4 d6 5.±e2 O-O 6.±c3 ±e5 7.±h3 ±c6 8.±c2 exd4 9.±xd4 ±d7 10.±xh8 ±xh8 11.±a4 ±a6 12.±a5 ±c8 13.±h2

The final round witnesses the Russians destroy the Dutch 3.5–0.5 and take the gold ahead of the USA who had led much of the way. The Americans, not helped by an inferior tie-break, could only draw 2–2 with China. It was an exciting final round when it became clear early on that Russia was doing well on all boards. In a mighty struggle Peter Svidler beat Jan Timman who, after a somewhat superior middlegame, eventually managed to leave his bishop en-prise. The Ukraine takes bronze just above the Israelis on tie-break. The women’s Olympiad was won convincingly by China ahead of Russia 1 and Georgia.

**Spraggett, Kevin**

Urday, Henry

*Elista ol (13), 1998*

**English**

**Orbitals, Carlomagno**

Lesiége, Alexandre

*Elista ol (13), 1998*

**Slav: Exchange**

D10
33rd Chess Olympiad, Elista, Kalmykia

Men’s Final Standings

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Garcia, Javier Day, Lawrence

Elista ol (13), 1998
Chigorin D02


3rd Chess Olympiad, Elista, Kalmykia

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ChessMaster 6000
patched version

The 7th version of the world’s top selling chess software for Windows 95/98 has been released and finally has an editable database. In fact, the company has already released a patch at their web site, dated September 28, 1998. The interface has a new look, replacing the dark brown with a much more pleasing greyish-blue background. There are new tutorials, annotated instructive games, and the coach window has a statistics function showing the opening score percentages. You now can play rated games against all of the program’s personalities, which the program tracks in a separate database. There is a new 440,000 game database which allows you to import games in PGN format, or you choose to convert the PGN games into CMG (ChessMaster) format if there is more than one game in the PGN file. The database screen is divided into three areas. The top area shows you a small board with a move list to the right. Below that is the list of dB game headers. You simply double click on a game and the top part of the screen will reflect the game. You can choose to return to the main screen with the current game and board position. At the bottom of the database screen is an ECO-like screen showing the opening book moves which you can navigate through via on screen control buttons. You can click on the Keys Stats menu which will tell you about the number of subkeys and games, the average ELO for each color in the subkey, game results, ECO code, and opening name.

You can create a new TBG format dB or use the 440,000 game dB that comes with the program. If you want to add or delete games from the 440,000 game base you will have to copy it from the CDrom to your hard drive and take off the read-only property in Explorer. After deleting games you can optimize your dB, which will physically delete the games and at the same time adjust header and opening key indices. You can now search databases on a 5x3 field header matrix with “or” parameters. You can adjust the appearance of game headers in the games list and you can choose to add or delete which game headers you want. Fischer time controls of up to 999 second increments are possible.

There is a new 3D board, which now includes turn lights to tell the user whose turn it is to move.

IM Josh Waitzkin has added more of his deeply annotated games and I cannot say enough about how good these are. They are simply the best tutorials available outside of a real life personal coach. The chess tutor has been completely revamped and improved. It now has fourteen sections explaining different parts of the game. Almost all of the tutorials have PV moving piece board analysis with audio, ghosted pieces and arrows explaining key piece trajectories. Ghosted pieces are key pieces that are temporarily faded so as to point out important concepts in the tutorial. Tutorials are presented in logical beginner to novice order and the final section on John Nunn’s brain teasers will tax even the minds Masters.

Direct access to ChessMaster Live is incorporated and the web site is now up and running. This is based on MPlayer software that allows you to talk directly to your opponent through your computer’s microphone.

The newly updated chess engine The King 2.61 is presently indeed one of the strongest engines versus human opponents, especially at longer time controls. The previous version, ChessMaster 5500, is presently winning the “KK Kup 2”. The strongest suggested engine settings now are:

Opening Book:
mentor.obk

Style:
Attacker/Defender -15
Strength of Play 100
Randomness of Play 0
Book Depth 100
Selective Search 10
Contempt for Draw 0.0
Transposition Table and Deep Thinking should never be off

Positional:
Material/Position 20
Control of Center 90
Mobility 115
King Safety 160
Passed Pawns 105
Pawns Weakness 125

Material:
Queen 10.0
Rook 5.5
Bishop 3.5
Knight 3.3
Pawn 1.1

As with all software here is a list of the faults:
The opening book editor is unchanged and is basically a joke. Among it’s many faults is that you do not get a board position while editing. It is a separate program that comes with ChessMaster 6000 and is not even mentioned in the manual. One can only hope that ChessMaster 7000 will improve on this. There is no way to get the Thinking Window (PVs and score evaluation) to work if you are in player vs player mode.

The program is a bit unstable in that the tutorials sometimes quit halfway through, and exiting by the X-box in the top right hand corner will sometimes cause a crash. There is no way to simply drag the board window to make a larger size, this has to be set in the Environment menu. Occasionally the pieces will not adjust properly to the new board size. The seconds per move limit is still a measly 999 seconds.

The program still lacks a truly intelligent mouse whereby the program makes a decision on which piece will move if you click only on the “to” square. This is implemented only at a rudimentary level. Setting up positions is unnecessarily cumbersome and lacks the basic functionality of many other programs.
The quick entry feature does not seem to work fully. This is the feature that allows the user to click on the “from” square or “to” square for moving the piece. Clicking on the “to” square works but not the “from” square, contrary to the manual. There are no take back or move forward buttons. The user has to either press CTRL-T or go to one of the top menus. There is no info voice in the Database Screen nor in the Brain Teasers tutorial. There is no index in the paper manual. There seems to be a useless column in the database headers that contain a small 4x4 chessboard icon for each game.

You cannot save a game directly to a TBG database within ChessMaster 6000. You have to save your games to PGN files and then import those games into the database. Since ChessMaster 6000’s interpretation of PGN will save variations, but will not let you play through them on the board, saving them is useless. You cannot convert a CMG file to PGN format even though you can convert the other way. However, since only CMG files can contain alternate lines and evaluations, it is not possible to store annotated games in your CM databases. PGN rules allow alternate lines but since CMG files cannot be imported into your ChessMaster 6000 databases, you cannot get your annotated games into them. When you import PGN games into a ChessMaster 6000 (TBG) database, the alternate lines show up only on the small database board but you cannot play through those variations. If you import a PGN game into the dB, you cannot play through the variations except for the main line.

Importing a huge number of PGN games into a database is too slow. Exported PGN games cannot be read by external programs until they have been renamed so that all punctuation is gone except for the PGN extension.

The game move lists do not recognize transpositions nor do they recognize that a duplicate move has been made as an alternative. I must admit that no chess program that allows alternatives in the move list has solved this, but Fritz 5 and Junior 5 supply a tree view that catches all transpositions. However, ChessMaster 6000 does not have an editable tree. There is no Replace Game feature and thus once a game is in a dB you have no way of changing the game header info unless you save the game under a new heading and import this new PGN saved game and then delete the old game.

The PGN dialog box that shows the game headers for imported games is not large enough. It should expand to fit the entire screen. There is no option in the Auto Annotate feature to do only analysis for one side.

Interestingly, some opening commentaries have been deleted from the program, as in the Modern Defense for example. The replay of the Auto Annotate alternate PVs is too fast.

The current user name should always be presented in a drop down pick list for the name of either color’s opponent. Sometimes it is necessary to type one’s own login name in the game details.

If you save a game to an existing PGN file, CM6000 will overwrite the file. You cannot save game details like round number and player Elo. EPD files are not supported even though text files and PGN are.

The coach part of the manual has not been updated to reflect the stats feature mentioned above. There is no drag and drop capability appending databases, and no pick list of previously opened databases.

None of the tutorials allow you to skip some of the material. You have to go through each tutorial in the sequence supplied on page one. Practice openings lines should be much more in-depth, too many are one movers. When inside one of the tutorials, one should always be able to tell which one it is. You are forced to keep pressing continue each time a page is finished in the tutorials, which gets cumbersome because most of the tutorials are laid out such that only one line or move appears on a page!

Smartboard has been dropped as a connection and there are no other PC board drivers available. If the sliding pieces on screen are in slow mode, they are often too slow for the audio analysis in the replay of Auto Annotation. The tutorials should let the user make a choice by moving a piece on the board, rather than clicking buttons. Piece “drag and drop” is a bit too cumbersome. Changing notation only changes it in the Move List Window, while Think Lines always stays in coordinate notation. There is no search by material, theme, negatives, or combination of header and position. Searches can only be done on last names. There is no symbol pick list for annotating a game yourself.

You cannot delete variations in the move list. ChessMaster 6000 will not resign. The non-standard Windows interface does not allow the font size of the menus to be changed. The maximum move number is 513 ply.

Tutorial commentary should be in figurine notation and should be in a larger font. The program will crash in several places in the tutorials if a user executes a move.

Too many times Hint Commentary is just a repeat of the actual move commentary that shows on the next page. Force move often does not work. There is no endgame tablebase support. The King engine cannot checkmate with bishop and knight.

There is an extensive list of mistakes in the tutorials, including the Strategy tutorial, the Seirawan tutorial, and the Brain Teasers tutorial. It seems that the program was not beta tested and the patch fixed very few of the tutorial faults. However, this program despite the above flaws is simply the best value for money to non-tournament chess players.

ChessMaster software has matured considerably and ChessMaster 6000 with its low discount price is tremendous value for money. For this reason, ChessMaster 6000 is awarded a Komputer Korner Gold Medal for its value in features to non-tournament players and for its engine strength.

For tournament or correspondence players the lack of thinking in player-player mode and it’s poor opening book editor are serious handicaps. For those users who simply want to play a tremendously strong program for a very cheap price, ChessMaster 6000 is the best deal on the market. If and when Mindscape fixes the mistakes in the tutorials, they will be awarded three more Gold Medals for the teaching categories.
Attack, Attack, Attack!

My motto in chess is attack! It is good to attack in chess. I don’t want to take the spotlight off defence, but in general you will win more games with an attacking style. Besides, it is more fun! Of course I don’t mean that you should go out there and throw your pieces around the board in reckless abandon, in fact I mean the opposite. Have purpose with your moves, and try to be aggressive. You may not always win (who does?) but you will develop your style towards attack, and you may even become a feared player.

The best way I can demonstrate this is with some of my own games. I am not a chess master. At best I am a good ‘A’ class player. In the first game I play an aggressive opening against a player who was higher rated than me by perhaps 100 points. Remember, a rating is only a number, and you should not let ratings influence your game too much. I usually don’t look at ratings when playing a game. I save that for after the game. Of course you will know the strength of your opponent in many games, but often in weekend swiss tournaments, you will face a new player who you do not know.

I have placed diagrams about every 5 moves or so. I suggest you try to play without the aid of set and pieces. This is good practice as it will sharpen your ability to visualise at the board.

Notes by
Tony Ficzere
Ficzere, Tony
Kobes, James
Burlington Open, 1996
Dutch A84

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.e4
In exchange for the e-pawn, I get to bring my pieces out quickly on open lines. Quick development, and open lines are necessary weapons for the attacking player.

3...fxe4
Black gets the e-pawn, and after castling his rook will be on the open f-file. It can be dangerous to sacrifice a center pawn. White must play aggressively.

4.Qc3 Qf6 5.Qg5 Qb4
Black intends on keeping the pawn by placing a pin on the knight that attacks it.

6.f3 exf3 7.Qxf3 0-0 8.Qd3 c5 9.O-O cxd4

10.Qe4!
When I castled, I broke the pin between my king and my opponent’s bishop. Now my knight is able to move to a more aggressive square. On e4, the knight attacks the Black Q/f6 for a second time. Currently the Black knight is pinned to the queen. Black can survive this minor invasion, but at the cost of weakening his position. I could have recaptured the pawn-d4 but thought it was too passive, and might allow my opponent the chance to steal the initiative with moves like 10.Qc5 followed by 11.Qb6. Being an attacking player, I like to keep the initiative.

10...Qc6 11.Qxf6+ Qxf6 12.Qh6 Qf7

Black seems to have weathered the storm, in fact he is up two pawns (ones I have sacrificed). On the negative side, the Black king is open to attack as the g-file is now open, and the White pieces have greater mobility than the Black ones. You must be careful when you sacrifice material because if your attack fails, you will be at a greater risk of losing since you will be down material. A general rule of thumb when you are up material is to exchange off material so that your advantage can be realised. That way, when all the exchanging is done, you are left with your extra material. If you could imagine the position now with all...
the pieces off, and just the kings and
pawns, Black would probably be
winning as his two extra pawns
would give him a better chance to
create a queen. Remember though
that this is a general rule, and you
can't apply this to every position in a
game of chess. Otherwise, chess
would be a much simpler game and
not nearly as interesting!

13.\(\text{\text{g5!}}\)

A bold move! I must keep up the
attack here. If I start to play passively
now, I will lose. Black can’t take the
knight here because of the following
variations; 13...fxg5 14.\(\text{\text{xf7}}\) \(\text{\text{xf7}}\)
15.\(\text{\text{h5}}\) + \(\text{\text{g8}}\) 16.\(\text{\text{g5}}\) \(\text{\text{e7}}\) (if
16...\(\text{\text{e7}}\), then 17.\(\text{\text{h7}}\) + \(\text{\text{f8}}\)
18.\(\text{\text{h8}}\)+) 17.\(\text{\text{h7}}\) + \(\text{\text{h8}}\) 18.\(\text{\text{g6}}\) +
\(\text{\text{g8}}\) 19.\(\text{\text{h7}}\) + \(\text{\text{f8}}\) 20.\(\text{\text{f7}}\)+.

13...\(\text{\text{f8}}\) 14.\(\text{\text{xf7}}\) \(\text{\text{xf7}}\)

Now I have won the exchange. I
can’t get too excited yet as my
opponent still has the two pawns
that I sacrificed early. From a
material point of view, the game is
about equal. However, from a
positional one, White is in favor as
he has the attack! Watch what
happens now when the queen enters
the game.

15.\(\text{\text{h5}}\) + \(\text{\text{e7}}\)

16.\(\text{\text{xf6}}\)!

Of course Black can’t take the rook
with his king because of 17.\(\text{\text{g5}}\)+
winning the queen.

16...\(\text{\text{h6}}\) 17.\(\text{\text{f7}}\)+!

I don’t have to take the bishop right
away, preferring this check to
continue my attack. You must not act
too quickly when playing. I learned
a long time ago that it is good to sit
on your hands, don’t make the first
move that pops into your head! I
could have taken the bishop here
first, and still had a better game, but
the text move is more aggressive.

17...\(\text{\text{d6}}\)

18.\(\text{\text{c5}}\)+

The idea here was that after the king
moves to \(\text{c7}\), when I recapture the
bishop on \(\text{h6}\) I now have another
threat, namely 20.\(\text{\text{e6}}\) taking
advantage of the pinned pawn on
\(\text{d7}\). Note that if the Black knight was
gone, mate would soon follow with
\(\text{\text{f6}}\) and \(\text{\text{c6}}\).

18...\(\text{\text{c7}}\) 19.\(\text{\text{h6}}\) \(\text{\text{b6}}\)

Black must do something to get this
bishop out and into the fight. It is
almost as if Black is playing two
dieces down as both his rook and
bishop aren’t developed. White has
only to bring the queen rook into
battle.

20.\(\text{\text{e6}}\) \(\text{\text{xc5}}\)

21.\(\text{\text{e4}}\)!

A simple idea. I am up material now,
so why not exchange pieces. I am
also eliminating another defender.

21...\(\text{\text{b7}}\) 22.\(\text{\text{xc6}}\) \(\text{\text{xc6}}\) 23.\(\text{\text{e5}}\)+
\(\text{\text{b6}}\)

I think 23...\(\text{\text{b7}}\) is safer. Now I get to
throw another punch.

24.\(\text{\text{b4}}\)

Attack, Attack, Attack! If Black takes
the pawn with 24...\(\text{\text{xb4}}\), then the
queen captures on \(\text{d4}\) with check,
and the attack continues. I can also
open the \(\text{b}\)-file for my remaining
rook so that it may join in the attack
if necessary.

24...\(\text{\text{h4}}\)

Finally, the Black queen joins in the
fight, but it is too late. Black has run
out of good moves by this time.

25.\(\text{\text{xc5}}\)+ \(\text{\text{b7}}\) 26.\(\text{\text{b5}}\)!

Another piece must drop, or Black
gets mated. Black resigns.

0-1.

This game was instructive from an
attacking point of view, as Black
missed several opportunities to
defend in a psychologically difficult
position. It pays to look ahead in a
game, because you can often set
little traps for your opponent. In the
next game, my opponent thinks he is
winning a pawn only to discover that
he is losing his king! Once again, I
attacked right from the beginning. Of
course this does not automatically
win the game, but my opponent
became unnerved and was not able
to come up with the right defence. A
chess game involves much more
than playing moves. After all, you
are playing another person!

Notes by
Tony Ficzere
Ficzere, Tony
Erickson, John
Brantford Chess Club, 1996
Sicilian: Smith Morra

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3
4.\(\text{\text{c4}}\) cxb2 5.\(\text{\text{xb2}}\)
Let's take a good look at this position. White has sacrificed two pawns. What has he got in return? Both bishops occupy open lines across the center of the board. The c-file is fully open, and the d-file is half open. White's queen has three avenues from which to join in the game. White is only two moves from castling, while Black has not developed a single piece. The question at this point is: "Does White's lead in development justify the sacrifice of two pawns?"

5...e6 6.Qf3 Qf6 7.Qbd2 Qc5 8.0-0 Qc6
Better here is simply 8...d6 and the nasty hole is occupied, at the same time giving some scope to the bishop on c8. White's plan is to find a way to take advantage of the hole on d6.

9.e5

Attack! Pushing the Q/f6 and freeing up e4 for my knight. A drawback is that it temporarily blocks the diagonal for my Black squared bishop.

9...Qd4
9...Qd5 might have been a better try. True, I could then exchange the knight for my bishop and double the Black pawns on the d-file. The d-pawns would then become targets. In return, Black would eliminate one of my attacking pieces. If you are up material, while under attack, a common theme is to "sac back" your extra material to defend. It is also good to get rid of your opponent's attacking pieces. Doing this reduces the attacker's chances. By the same token, the attacker will work to eliminate his or her opponent's defending pieces, in turn making the attacking pieces more ferocious.

10.Qe4 Qb6?
Black seems to think he has an attack going on f2. This is a bad plan because as long as my knight occupies e4, the f2 square will be defended adequately. There is no easy way to dislodge this knight thanks to the pawn on e5. A better plan would have been to play the bishop to e7 where it could help defend vital squares. The text move just gives White a target.

11.Qb1
The natural move. Black must move his queen.

11...Qa5

12.h3!
And this is where my devious plan begins. Where will Black place the knight? Will he take the pawn? What would happen if he doesn’t? I ask a lot of questions!

12...Qgx e5
Better might have been placing the knight on h6 where it could have eventually gone to f5 at the right time. I can see what Black was thinking here. He thought that after all the exchanges on e5 that he would also pick up the pawn on f2 giving him 4 pawns for the piece. Let us see what happens then.

13.Qxe5 Qxe5 14.Qxe5

14...Qxf2+?
And here it is. It appears that Black wins yet another pawn with this move. A closer look at the position and you will see more. The problem is that by taking the f-pawn, Black has given White a half open f-file. After Black recaptures the bishop on e5 with his queen, he is subject to an attack on f7 by the White knight and rook. The Q/e4 radiates tremendous power! Black has a difficult position here. If instead he had castled, there follows 14...O-O 15.Qf6+ Qh8 (if 15...gx f6, then mate follows after the queen check) 16.Qh5 h6 17.Qxd7 f6. Had Black tried to push the Q off e5 with 14...f6, then 15.Qh5+ g6 16.Qxf6+ Qe7 17.Qg5. Black should have tried 14...Qe8 where he would have had 3 pawns for the piece. It would be hard to say what might have happened then. One thing for sure, the game would not have ended so violently.

15.Qxf2 Qxe5 16.Qd6+ Qe7
No better was 16.Qf8 17.Qxf7 Qc5 18.Qh8+ Qg8 19.Qf3 h6 20.Qf7+ Qh8 21.Qf8+ Qxf8 22.Qf8+ Qh7 23.Qd3+ g6 24.Qf7+ Qg8 25.Qxg6.

17.Qxf7+ Qd8

18.Qxd7+!
White wins the queen.

18...Qxd7
Slightly better was 18...Qxd7 when Black could have at least got a rook and minor piece for the queen.

19.Qf7+ Qe7 20.Qxe5 Qad8

14...Qxf2+?
And here it is. It appears that Black wins yet another pawn with this move. A closer look at the position and you will see more. The problem...
No doubt there were many mistakes by my opponents. Could it have been because I played aggressive?
You won’t always end up getting the point. Sometimes you will fall on the rocks and make the biggest mistake an attacker can make. You might overextend yourself, and find that you have nothing left, but a lost game. Overextending is another way of saying you played out your attack.

What is left behind is a mop up operation for your opponent. He or she happily pick up the weak pawns, or attacks the king you left undefended.
Attacking play works. The great Mikhail Tal was one of my favourite players. He used to play some of the most frightening attacks, with sacrifices ruling the day. It wasn’t until after the game that mistakes were found in his play. He didn’t just sac randomly. He would usually pick the most complicated sacrificial variation in his games, making his opponents uncomfortable and nervous. Under such circumstances it is very difficult to find the correct continuation. Like Tal, I say “You can have the post-mortem, and I’ll take the full point!”

Quiz Positions

with Philip Jurgens

1. White wins. Moravec 1949
2. White wins. Grigoriev 1931
3. White wins. M.S. Liburkin 1931
4. White wins. V. and M. Platov 1909
5. Black wins. Vaganian-Planinc
6. White wins. Planinc-Gerenski
7. Black wins. Ljubojevic-Planinc
8. White wins. Planinc-Marangunic

“The game gives us a satisfaction that life denies us. And for the chess player, the success which crowns his work, the great dispeller of sorrows, is named combination.”

Emanuel Lasker

Quiz Solutions are on the next page.
real if Black’s king can escape from the corner) 8...\( \text{g}2 \) (the diagonal a2-g8 is mined, and 8...\( \text{b}7 \) is met by 9.\( \text{f}6 \) \( \text{h}8 \) 10.\( \text{h}8+) 9.\( \text{b}6 \)+++. The first six moves feature some fine cut and thrust play, followed by a brief episode of domination and mate.

4. V. & M. Platov, First Prize Riggaer Tageblatt, 1909

1.\( \text{f}6 \text{d}4 \) 2.\( \text{e}2! \) a1\( \text{g}1 \) 3.\( \text{c}1!! \)\.

(indirectly protects the knight and threatens 4.\( \text{g}5+, 3.\( \text{d}4+ / \text{d}x\text{d}4 \) 4.\( \text{x}d4 \) \( \text{x}d4 \) 5.\( \text{f}4 / \text{f}xe5 \) 6.\( \text{e}5 \) \( \text{e}5 \) 7.\( \text{f}6 / \text{f}xe5 \) 8.\( \text{x}h7 \) \( \text{x}f6 \) only draws) 3...\( \text{a}5 \) (after 3...\( \text{h}6 \) 4.\( \text{e}5 \) mate can only be averted by 4...\( \text{x}c1 \) 5.\( \text{f}4+ / \text{f}xe5 \) or 4...\( \text{d}2 \) 5.\( \text{h}3+ / \text{h}4) 4.\( \text{d}4+! \)\.

\( \text{xd}4 / \text{d}2 \) 5.\( \text{b}3++ \) wins. Classic cooperation between bishop and knight.

**Planinc Combinations**

Turn back the calendar almost thirty years to June 1969. In Ljubljana, the First Vidmar Memorial was being contested by ten Grandmasters and three International Masters including Gligoric, Unzicker, Matanovic, and Gheorghiu. Also playing was an amateur Master named Albin Planinc, a turner by trade who worked in the local bicycle factory. Shinum shunned the fascination of his contemporary Yugoslav Masters with chess information systems such as the Chess Informants. He was a highly original and romantic player who preferred his old books and ideas. Four rounds before the tournament’s end, Planinc had secured the IM title, but his eyes were fixed on higher aspirations. He played every game to win. His last first round victory gave him first prize and caused a sensation in the chess world. An untitled player had outstripped ten grandmasters!

Difficult situations and opponents inspired him to play brilliant chess. Yet he was also capable of losing one game after another to virtually unknown players. His unorthodox approach to chess yielded extremely uneven results.

5. Vaganian – Planinc, Hastings 1974/5

Planinc unveils a standard rook sacrifice to divert the enemy queen while guarding his knight and stopping \( \text{d}3+.1.\( \text{f}5! \) 2.\( \text{a}8 \) \( \text{d}6+ \) 3.\( \text{c}1 \) (after 3.\( \text{c}3 \) Black has 3...\( \text{x}d1 / \text{d}4 \) \( \text{e}5 / \text{e}6+ \) with a winning endgame. Vaganian likely missed Black’s next shot) 3...\( \text{a}1!! \) 4.\( \text{g}7 \) \( \text{b}7 \) (4.b4? \( \text{b}3+ \) 5.\( \text{h}2 / \text{h}2 \) 6.\( \text{x}b3 \) \( \text{a}2 \) – 0.1. Planinc cleverly combines mate threats with the exploitation of Black’s overloaded queen.

7. Ljubojevic – Planinc, Vsar 1971

Black’s rooks and bishops all apply pressure against the enemy king’s fortress. 1.\( \text{x}c7! \) 2.\( \text{e}5+ \) \( \text{e}5 \) 3.\( \text{d}7+ \) 4.\( \text{x}c5 \) \( \text{g}8 \) 5.\( \text{f}7+ \) 6.\( \text{e}5! \) \( \text{g}7! \)\.

\( \text{c}7+! \) 3.\( \text{x}h7 \) \( \text{g}1+ \) 4.\( \text{x}h1 \) \( \text{g}7+! \) (a crucial gain of tempo, the rook is untouchable) 5.\( \text{x}h8+ \) 6.\( \text{e}2 \) \( \text{e}5+ \) 7.\( \text{f}2 \) \( \text{g}8 \) 8.\( \text{h}3+ \) \( \text{x}g3+ \) 9.\( \text{f}1 \)\.

10. Planinc cleverly combines mate threats with the exploitation of Black’s overloaded queen.

8. Planinc – Marangunic, Novi Travnik 1969

White cracks open the g- and h-files with 1.\( \text{x}g6 / \text{g}2 \) 2.\( \text{x}g6 \) \( \text{h}6 \) (2...\( \text{h}7 \) is ghastly because of 3.\( \text{e}5 \) followed by \( \text{x}h5) 3.\( \text{h}5 \) 4.\( \text{g}xh6+ \) \( \text{g}7 \) 5.\( \text{h}7+ \) \( \text{g}8 \) (other kings move lose more quickly; e.g. 5...\( \text{f}6 \) 6.\( \text{h}8+ \) \( \text{g}7+ \) \( \text{x}f4 \) 6.\( \text{x}f7 \) or 5...\( \text{f}6 \) 6.\( \text{e}5+ \) \( \text{f}5 \) 7.\( \text{d}3 \) \( \text{f}6 \) 8.\( \text{x}d6 \) \( \text{f}6 \) 9.\( \text{f}5 \) 10.\( \text{d}3 \) \( \text{h}7 \) 11.\( \text{f}5+ \) \( \text{x}g7 \) 12.\( \text{x}b5 \) \( \text{f}6 \) 13.\( \text{g}4++ \).
Apprentice’s Workshop

with IM Deen Hergott

The Top 10
Part II

Just in time for the holidays, the remaining picks for my “Top Ten” list – unhappy buyers should forward their vitriol to dhergott@magma.ca, as I suspect the Business Office will have their hands full for the next few weeks! And, naturally, if one of my choices causes your rating to jump several hundred points, don’t hesitate to drop me a message of thanks.

Seriously, even though not everyone has the same taste, all of the books on my list are excellent examples of what the market has to offer the discerning buyer. I hope that the reader derives as much pleasure from their chess library as I have, and my personal best wishes for the holidays to all!

All punctuation and comments are mine, unless otherwise credited.

6. The Test of Time, Garry Kasparov, Pergamon Press

Again, a game collection from one of a handful of World Champions. Kasparov’s match books on his various K–K encounters are also sensational, but this collection, his first big publication, holds a special place in my library. Covering the period 1978–1984, from his first Grandmaster encounter to his Candidate’s Match win over Vassily Smyslov, Kasparov writes with candor and passion, and brings to life his early career on the road to the World Championship.

I first saw Kasparov at the World Student Team Championship in Graz, Austria in 1981 — he was only eighteen years old. This was still four years before he reached the summit in his quest for the World Championship, but he was already phenomenally strong, and scored a staggering 9/10 on board one. The Canadians actually faced the USSR in this event, and Robert Morrison, our board one, who was playing quite respectfully throughout, was mercilessly dispatched in his encounter with Kasparov — along with nearly everyone else!

I managed the only half-point for the team in a nervous, short draw with GM Alexander Kochiev — nervous because my experience vs. GMs was rather limited at this early point in my playing career, and I had not fared so well in the tournament, scoring 2.5/8 on board five.

Kasparov’s win over fellow GM, Jaime Sunye Neto of Brazil, was one of the most fantastic games I have ever witnessed, and his notes seem to indicate that he derived great creative satisfaction from it as well. As he quotes in the introduction, “A collection of annotated games usually expresses a player’s creative beliefs.” This game, and its notes, are but a single window of insight into, without doubt, one of the greatest chess minds of the 20th century:

Notes by
Deen Hergott

Sunye Neto, Jaime
Kasparov, Gary
Graz Wch tt student, 1981

Tarrasch Defence D32

1.d4 f5 2.c4 c5 3.d5 cxe4 4.e5
5.dxe6 d6 6.dxc6 c5 7.b5
8.d3 xc5 9.0–0 0–0
10.b3 d4 f5 12.h4 c1
13.d2 e2 14.b4 c4
15.b4 c8 16.h3 f6
17.f5 e6 18.d3 d5
19.fd1 cd8 20.cf1 c6
21.a3

Fast forward to Black’s 34th move, where White must begin to defend against direct threats to his king.

Kasparov himself indicates that with 35.f3 e4 36.dxe4 White can maintain rough equality. But Sunye wants to avoid the slightest weakness of his king’s pawn shelter, allowing Black to step up the pressure. The following punctuation and comments are Kasparov’s:

35.h1?! e5 36.dxe4?
“... a serious mistake, after which Black’s advantage becomes appreciable. It was essential to eliminate the Black cavalry by 36.fx e5 f5 37.dxe4 dxe4 38.f3 when Black has only a minimal advantage.”

36.dxe4 37.ed2 h4! 38.e6
“... in the event of the prepared 38.f3 an unpleasant surprise awaited him in 38...fx e3 39.d7 f x g 40.dg1 f x f 41.f!”

This is the first of many exquisite mating patterns hidden in the intricate variations of Kasparov’s attack.

38..d x d2 39.d x d2 d x f 40.f4
g5 41.f1

“Here I had to seal my move, and the unexpectedness of it served as an overture of the most beautiful combination that I have ever created on the chessboard.”

41.f3+! 42.f1

The dear reader can refer to the final diagram to see what happens after 42.d1.
The acceptance of the sacrifice is forced ... 43...f8+ 44.f1 +g1+!! 47.xg1 h1+,

43...dxdg2! 44.c2! h2 45.c2

Sunye Neto prevents the threat of 46...g2 but overlooks something else. Best was 46...b4! even though Kasparov claims a win in this case as well with 46...f5! 47.d5 f4! 48.b4 d2+ 49.xd2 h1+ 50.f2 f3! when the f-pawn finally has its way.

46...h1+ 47.f2 d2!

"After 48.g3 h2+ 49.e1 f3+ 50.f1 xb2 it is pointless to play on."

0-1.

Spectacular chess, but some of the unplayed lines are equally incredible. If White had chosen 42.f1 instead of the game continuation, Kasparov had something even more stunning prepared: Again Black begins with 42...xe3!! 43.fxe3 dxdg2!! 44.xg2 and now the quiet 44...g3! when White is defenceless despite being a full queen ahead!

42...xe3!! 43.fxe3

A picture is worth a thousand words; I certainly have nothing to add.

7. Modern Chess Strategy, Ludek Pachman, Dover.
“The penetration of the White rooks completely cripples Black’s position.”

24...¿e8 25.¿c7 ¿e7 26.¿a7 ¿xc5 27.¿xc5 ¿b6 28.¿xd7 ¿xd7 29.¿xd7 ¿xd7 30.¿xc6 ¿b6 31.¿xe8+ ¿xe8 32.¿b7 ¿c4 33.¿xb5

“Black is now quite lost; the game, however, dragged on for another twenty moves.”

With these two examples as illustration, Pachman then proceeds to discuss the advance ...b7-b5 in terms of appropriate conditions and requirements. To play ...b5 successfully, the following points should be considered:

1) Black must have the possibility of actively defending the weak pawn on c6.
2) He must be in a position to occupy the open a-file, or at least neutralize White’s pressure there.
3) He must have prospects of a speedy occupation of c4 with his knight, or in exceptional cases, his bishop.”

In the light of these comments, we can see why Black succeeded in the first example and failed in the second.

Some complaints will be directed against the datedness of Pachman’s material, which was published in 1963, and his didactic approach. As with all books, I feel it is necessary to attempt to view the material presented objectively and without bias — if you disagree with some of the material presented, so be it. After all, it is only there to provide you with some basic knowledge as well as some guidelines on how to structure your thoughts on chess. The game has not intrinsically changed since the 1960’s, but for those who firmly believe that current theory must be better, it would not hurt to create a survey of recent games and compare your findings with Pachman’s of 30-odd years ago. Too lazy? Then, don’t complain...


Arguably, this games collection will be one whose inclusion many will question. In my defense, all I can say is that this list is a personal one, and those who have followed my chess development over the years will have noticed a fondness for Reti’s Opening 1.¿f3. Reti himself was the author of some great books, Modern Ideas in Chess and Masters of the Chessboard, which made the first part of this article, so it only follows that I would investigate his games. This book, and a subsequent study of Flank Openings, a superbly researched opening monograph of 1.¿f3 and associated systems by British GM Raymond Keene, led to a lifelong respect and interest in this opening scheme.

Reti’s life was sadly and tragically cut short by scarlet fever at the age of forty, but in his 20-year playing career, he played more games than some of his contemporaries did in their entire lives. Rightfully considered a pioneer of many ideas in the Hypermodern School of chess, Reti not only established 1.¿f3 as a legitimate opening, but used it in many important games, and refined its ideas so well that it became a fearsome weapon in his hands against the very best players of the day.

One of his most artistic wins, and a game which I have never ceased to find beautiful for its simplicity and artistry, is his celebrated victory against Efim Bogoljubow from the New York tournament of 1924:

exf3 13.¿xf3 ¿c7 14.¿xd7 ¿xd7 15.e4

Despite initial development on the flanks, White has an obvious central superiority in the diagram. Black must play for 15...e5 or ...c5 to challenge White, but Reti shows White’s position to be advantageous in any case. Still, it is surprising how quickly Black’s game becomes critical.

15...e5 16.c5 ¿f8 17.¿c2 ¿xd4 18.¿xf5 ¿ad8 19.¿h5 ¿e5 20.¿xd4 ¿xf5 21.¿xf5 ¿xf5 22.¿xf5 ¿xd4 23.¿f1 ¿d8

The first time I saw this combination I was floored by its elegance. It is not difficult to imagine overlooking it under the pressure of tournament play conditions.

24.¿f7+ ¿h8 25.¿e8!! 1-0.


I have always enjoyed the endgame in chess, and fortunately there have been many excellent books published on the subject. Naturally, there has been much attention placed on pure research into the endgame, and some fantastic reference books have appeared over the years, some of these by such greats as Yuri Averbakh and Vassily Smyslov. But these are hardly digestible for the average human being.
Recently, there have been a number of instructional and highly readable books published on the endgame: several titles by English GM Jonathan Speelman, *Exploring the Endgame* by Peter Griffiths, and a recent volume by prolific American author GM Andy Soltis. The authors’ wish, I imagine, was to make a largely ignored part of the game more accessible and enjoyable.

Shereshevsky’s book more closely fits the bill of an instructional, practical reference than a theoretical work. In Shereshevsky’s own words, it is “an attempt to study and systematize certain basic practical principles of the playing of chess endings.” As a well-known trainer, and one of Byelorussia’s strongest players, Shereshevsky has developed a system of endgame study, and Western readers have been given a rare and valuable opportunity to learn from it and improve their technique.

The contents of the book have been broken down into chapters, many of which attempt to illustrate a key endgame concept through complete games and game fragments. Some of these, “do not hurry” or “the principle of two weaknesses”, for example, are so descriptive and so well illustrated, that I regularly try to incorporate them into my thinking during my chess games.

In his chapter on “the two bishops”, Shereshevsky begins by explaining how the presence of two bishops versus two other minor pieces often confers a decisive advantage on the holder of the bishop pair in the endgame. Their long range can prove extremely useful in supporting key pawn advances on the flanks, and using the abovementioned principle of “the two weaknesses”, there is often a decisive breakthrough on one of the wings.

He concludes the chapter by showing the connection between certain opening systems and their associated endgames. In particular, he discusses a line of the King’s Indian Defense which was popular at the end of the 1970’s, namely the Averbakh Variation.

In the following two games, first note the similarity of the endgames, and secondly, how Black took the lessons learned from a loss and used them to produce a later success:

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**Notes by Deen Hergott**

**Polugaevsky, Lev**

**Uhlmann, Wolfgang**

**Amsterdam, 1970**

King’s Indian: Averbakh E75

1.c4 ♙f6 2.♘c3 ♙g6 3.e4 ♙d6 4.d4 ♙g7 5.♘e2 0-0 6.♗g5 ♙c5 7.d5 ♘e6 8.♗d2 ♙xd5 9.♗xd5 ♙g8 10.♗f3 ♙g4 11.0-0 ♙xh3 12.♘h1 ♙xf3 13.♗xf3 ♙a6 14.♗a4 ♙c7 15.♗e1 ♙f8 16.♗d1 ♙xe1 17.♗xe1 ♙e8 18.♗xe8 ♙xe8 19.♗c2 ♙b6 20.b3 ♙bd7 21.♗f4 ♙e7 22.♗c2 ♙f8 23.♗xe7+ ♙xe7

24.a5! “...the envelopment of the opponent’s position begins from the wings. Were Black himself to succeed in playing ...a5, White’s winning chances would be sharply reduced.”

24...♗h5 25.♕d2 ♙e8 26.g3 ♙d4 27.♗g2 ♙g7 28.f4 ♙f5 29.♗d1 ♙h6 30.♗f3 ♙f5 31.♗d3 ♙d8 32.♗c3 ♙e7 33.♗c2 ♙b2 34.♗e3 ♙f6 35.♗c1

Black is deprived of the slightest counterplay, and Polugaevsky skillfully combines the strengthening of his position with action according to the principle ‘do not hurry’.

35...♕d4+ 36.♗f3 ♙b2 37.♗g2 ♙d7 38.♗h4 ♙f6 39.♕e3 ♙f7 40.♗c2 ♙a1 41.♗e2 ♙b2 42.♖e1 ♙a1 43.g4!

“The bishops break free, smashing all obstacles in their path.”

43...♗xg4 44.hxg4 ♙xg4 45.♗xg4 ♙g7 46.♖h4 ♙f8 47.♘f5 ♙e6 48.♕c8 ♙d8 49.♕f5 ♙h5 50.♗d2 ♙d4 51.♗xd4 1-0.

**Notes by Deen Hergott**

**Uhlmann, Wolfgang**

**Andersson, Ulf**

**Skopje, 1972**

King’s Indian: Averbakh E74

1.c4 ♙g6 2.d4 ♙g7 3.e4 ♙f6 5.♘c3 ♙d6 4.e4 ♙e6 5.♗e2 0-0 6.♗g5 ♙c5 7.d5 ♘b6 8.♗f4 ♙a5 9.♗d2 ♙e6 10.♗f3 ♙xd5 11.♗xe5 ♙c5 12.a4 ♙g8 13.♗c2 ♙xf3 14.gxf3 ♙e5 15.♗g2 ♙d8 16.♗f3 ♙g4 17.a5 ♙d6 18.♗e2 ♙e5

Compare this diagram with that in the previous game. The lesson had been learned, and Uhlmann wins very quickly, this time with a strong pawn breakthrough on the queenside.

33...♘b6 34.♗xe6 ♑xe6 35.♗d8

As the author points out, it was essential to ensure a strongpoint on c5 for Black’s knight with 35...♗a6! 36.♗xa3 ♑e4 though White is still better.

36.♗xb4 ♕xb4 37.axb4 ♘f8 38.c5!!

Very nice. The bishops will have their say.

38...♗d7 39.c6! ♙xc6 40.b7! ♙xd5 41.♗a4 ♙b8 42.♖e8 ♕xe8 43.♘xe6 1-0.
What's this, an opening book? Well, yes, but a rather unusual one, as one might gather from the title!

A subtitle for the book on the flyleaf sums up the co-author's intent admirably: “a minimax system — minimum of book knowledge, maximum of understanding; a powerful way of thinking chess — pattern recognition”. Ironically, these very notions embody my own philosophy when it comes to opening study in chess — hey, maybe that's why I like this book so much!

What exactly is ZOOM 001? It is many things, as the authors attempt to explain, but here are a few teasers at an exact definition, taken from the preface:

“ZOOM 001:
1) is a study of twenty modern Grandmasters’ utilization of the Grünfeld Indian Structure in the period 1966–1978...
2) is a masterfile for thinking...
3) is pattern recognition...
4) is a new way of thinking chess...
5) provides the key — a key to the construction of an “opening” repertoire which is all-round, viable, and exciting...
6) deals with all the phases of the game — opening, middlegame, and endgame.”

ZOOM 001 contains 451 games from the period mentioned above, and including games from such luminaries as GMs Bent Larsen, Robert Fischer, Victor Korchnoi, Laszlo Portisch and Vassily Smyslov. It deals largely with the Grünfeld Defence, but shows how a similar pawn structure and middlegame strategy can be seen in the Catalan Opening, the Scandinavian, and Alekhine’s Defence, to name a few.

The games are lightly peppered with Larsen’s notes, mainly anecdotal, and most containing a fair bit of wisdom. Certainly, the way the games are presented, one is not consciously aware that something is being learned — I found I was enjoying myself far too much to believe that I was also acquiring useful knowledge! Here's a sample of what one can expect to find:

Notes by Deen Hergott

Gheorghiu, Florian
Jansa, Vlastimil
Sochi, 1976
Grünfeld D91

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.♗f3 ♘g7 5.♗g5 ♝e4 6.♗h4 c5 7.cxd5 x♘c3 8.bxc3 ♝xd5 9.e3 ♘c6 10.♗e2 cxd4 11.cxd4 e5 12.dxe5 ♝a5+ 13.♗d2 ♝xd2+ 14.♗xd2 ♘xe5 15.♗ab1 0–0 16.♖d4

“Take a good look at this position!! White is better! If you don’t believe that, then try to play it with the Black pieces! What are you going to do about ♘/d4? What are you going to do about your queenside? Jansa defends brilliantly! Then he loses a rook ending which might have been saved. The theoretician will now look for a variation saving half a point — the practical player will look for improvements in the opening! The fact is that chess is a complicated game — if you don’t have the nerves made for this game, then start playing poker — it is quicker and you may even make a fortune.”

I have played poker, and concluded that I just don’t have the right kind of face. I’ll agree that chess is a complicated alternative, but I’ll stick with it — I prefer to know what my opponents are holding!

The addition of any of the titles on IM Deen Hergott’s list of favorite books to your own chess library cannot be a wrong move!

Check with the CFC Business Office about the availability of the following books:

1) The Life and Games of Mikhail Tal, Mikhail Tal, RHM Press
2) Masters of the Chessboard, Richard Reti, G. Bell and Sons Ltd.
3) My 60 Memorable Games, Bobby Fischer, Faber and Faber
4) Zurich International Chess Tournament 1953, David Bronstein, Dover
5) The Art of Chess Analysis, Jan Timman, RHM Press
6) The Test of Time, Garry Kasparov, Pergamon Press
7) Modern Chess Strategy, Ludek Pachman, Dover
8) Reti’s Best Games of Chess, Richard Reti and Harry Golombek, Dover
9) Endgame Strategy, Mikhail Shereshevsky, Pergamon Press
10) ZOOM 001: Zero Hour for Operative Opening Models, Bent Larsen and Steffen Zeuthen, Dansk Skakforlag/ Skakhuset
The occasion was the 33rd Capablanca Memorial Tournament, held at Hotel Panamericano from May 7 to 22. The CFC invited ten Masters who did not have IM titles to indicate their interest in competing in Havana and, in the end, I was the only one who was willing and able to accept the invitation.

Since the Capablanca Memorial Tournament is Cuba’s premier event, success in this event is extremely important for Cuban chess professionals, all of whom aspire to represent their country abroad. Given the dire economic hardships in Cuba, the opportunity for a Cuban Master to travel abroad and to bring home some American dollars is highly prized, and the competition is fierce.

The tournament was divided in four sections. The Category XII Elite Group with a GM norm of 6.5 points out of 11 games, featured GMs Robert Hübner and Klaus Bischoff of Germany, Ivan Morovic of Chile, Tony Miles of England, Simon Agdestein of Norway, 15-year-old Etienne Bacrot of France, the near-GM Yaacov Zilberman of Israel who achieved his third GM norm in tying for first to third with Robert Hübner and Ivan Morovic, as well as Cuban GMs Jesus Nogueiras, Reynaldo vera, Julio Becerra, Borges, and Walter Arensibia.

The Premier Group was a Category VIII tournament with fourteen competitors, including four GMs – Franco Zenon and Juan Bellon from Spain, Henrik Teske from Germany and Roman Hernandez from Cuba, and with one exception, the rest being IMs. I was in the third strongest group, Master Group I, a Category V tournament with an average rating of 2368. The winner on tie-break, Lenier Dominguez, was an untitled 14-year-old Cuban whose 2340 rating was misleadingly low. His ability and talent were evident as he coasted to an IM norm and I have no doubt that he will soon become Cuba’s youngest GM. The leading Cuban female chess Masters were in Master Group II, and they are quite strong.

I drew the number 8 which gave me two consecutive Blacks against two of the eventual co-winners and I proceeded to lose both games – the first one on time and the second one by misplaying the opening terribly. Those who are morbidly curious can find my very brief second game on the internet.

Notes by
Irwin Lipnowski

Havana Capablanca mem (1) 1998
Sicilian: Taimanov B48

1.e4 c5 2.d3 c6 3.d4 cxd4
4.exd4 a6 5.d3 d6 6.d3 d6
7.0-0 c6 8.c3 e7

Correct here is 8...e5 with approximate equality. The text continuation simply loses a tempo and leaves Black struggling to equalize the game.

9.f4

If Black now plays 9...c5 then White replies not with 10.cce2 g4 but instead 10.e2 with a slight advantage for White.
9...d4 10.exd4 d5 11.cxd5
12.h1 d6 13.b3 0-0
14.ae1
White’s moves are all simple and good. I was burning time trying to decide how to meet White’s threat of 15.e5. I considered both 14...e5 and 14...d7. If 14...e5 were met by 15.fxe5 then after 15...dxe5 16.d5 Black can equalize with 16...g4 (but not 16...fxe5? because after 17.exd5 xb2 18.xf7+). However, I rejected 14...e5 because of 15.f5 b5 16.g4 b4 17.g5! or 16...h6 17.h4 leaves Black with a very passive position.

14...d7 15.e5 dxe5 16.fxe5 gxe5 17.hx7+ hx7 18.h5+ g8 19.e4

Now Black is in imminent danger of getting mated. White’s knight may jump to g5 or f6, the rook may swing over to the g- or h-file. But the simple 19...fxe5 may be better because of my defensive resource.

19...fxe5! The only move! Now 20.g5 is no threat since the Black queen covers square h7.

20.f2

If the Black queen leaves the b1-h7 diagonal, 21.g5 wins easily. So White wins the Black queen, and although Black establishes material equality, I am still struggling to hold the position.

20...d3 21.d2 xd2 22.xd2 f6

The pillar of Black’s defense is his secure and centralized knight on e5.

23.e4 b6!
The only move I could find to mobilize Black’s pieces. It allows A7 and keeps the White knight out of c5. Instead 23...d7 runs into 24.e5.

24.e3 a7 25.h3 d7

Not 25...c7 because White wins with 26.h8+ f7 27.d6+ e7 (or 27...g6 28.h5+ 28.xg7+ xdx6 29.xf8+.

26.g1 b7 27.c3 d2

My first threat in the game. I think I have equalized at this point.

28.h7+
The most efficient way to meet my threat on g2 is to defend by threatening my g7.

28...f7 29.g3 g8 30.b3 f8

An unnecessarily passive move. Much better is 30...b5 31.a3 (to prevent b4) 31.d5 (Fletcher Baragar’s suggestion) and after 32.xd5 xdx5 Black should not lose.

31.h3 b5 32.a3 c6 33.e4

White threatens 34.xf6 thus forcing my reply.

33...xe4 34.xe4 d6 35.e3

Black lost on time.

1-0.

My rather lame excuse is that I found the Russian clock somewhat deceptive, believing that I still had a few minutes left. The Cuban official called “time” the instant the flag dropped.

In round three, I finally got on the scoreboard with a win over an IM from the Dominican Republic.

Notes by
Irwin Lipnowski

Lipnowski, Irwin
Hernandez, Gustavo
Havana Capablanca mem (3) 1998

Philidor C41

1.e4 e5 2.f3 d6 3.d4 d7 4.c4 c6 5.dxe5 dxe5 6.g5 h6 7.0-0 c5

If 7...e7? White wins with 8.xe6 fxe6 9.xh6 gxh6 10.h5+ f8 11.xe6 g8 12.xh6+. Yaacov Zilberman told me after the game that this trap was known more than a hundred years ago, although I rediscovered it over the board!

8.h5 e7?
Correct is 8...f6 when Black is close to equal.

9.e6

I enjoyed the expressions on the faces of the players who happened to glance at this position. Of course, 9...f6 loses to 10.xg7+ and 11.xh6.

9...g8

There is no good move for Black. I would have been tempted to resign if I were Black in such a position.

10.c7+ d8

Since Black is a whole rook down, why does he not resign? In fact, since White’s knight at a8 is toast, Black is effectively only an exchange down. Although objectively Black is lost, with a lead in development, a somewhat misplaced White queen, and many pieces on the board, Black still has a practical, albeit very slim, chance to survive.

11.xa8 b5 12.b3 f6 13.h4 h4

14.h3

This forcing move may not be best. Perhaps 14.g5 h6 15.axf6 is simplest. Also 14.c5 may be better.

14...g5 15.g3
15...\textit{\textbf{xf2}}
Of course, 15...\textit{\textbf{xe4}} is refuted by 16.\textit{\textbf{d3+}}.

16.\textit{\textbf{xf2}} \textit{\textbf{xe4}} 17.\textit{\textbf{d3+}} 18.\textit{\textbf{d6}}?
Much better is 17...\textit{\textbf{d7}} against which White must find Zilberman's 18.\textit{\textbf{e4}}! if he wishes to avoid the complications arising from 18...\textit{\textbf{xe4}} 19.\textit{\textbf{d1+}} 19.\textit{\textbf{d2}}. Here 19...\textit{\textbf{xf2}} can be met by 20.\textit{\textbf{d3+}} while 19...\textit{\textbf{xc1}} can be met by 20.\textit{\textbf{d2+}}.

Question: If now 20...\textit{\textbf{d7}} does 21.\textit{\textbf{xd7+}} \textit{\textbf{xd7}} 22.\textit{\textbf{f5+}} win quickly?

This exercise is addressed to you, dear reader, not Fritz 5! Since I am unable to monitor whether your computer is being used, I shall rely upon the honor system.

Incidentally, in this variation, the "dead" knight on a8 performs an important function in controlling c7 and preventing the flight of Black's king, demonstrating the important principle that on occasion, "dead" pieces become truly dead only after they are transported to another world off the board.

\textbf{18.\textit{\textbf{xd6+}}}
Although this move is adequate, 18.\textit{\textbf{e3}} is a stronger, albeit much less obvious move.

\textbf{18...\textit{\textbf{xd6}} 19.\textit{\textbf{xf1}} \textit{\textbf{xf2}} 20.\textit{\textbf{xf2}} \textit{\textbf{b7}} 21.\textit{\textbf{c3}} \textit{\textbf{xa8}} 22.\textit{\textbf{e3}} \textit{\textbf{g6}}}
This is an all-purpose move. It unpins the f-pawn and prepares to advance to f5, while protecting the knight on d6 from White's possible \textit{\textbf{d1}} and \textit{\textbf{c5}}.

23.\textit{\textbf{g4}} \textit{\textbf{c7}} 24.\textit{\textbf{e2}} \textit{\textbf{f5}} 25.\textit{\textbf{gxg5}} \textit{\textbf{xf5}} 26.\textit{\textbf{c4}} \textit{\textbf{d4+}} 27.\textit{\textbf{d3}} \textit{\textbf{h6}} 28.\textit{\textbf{hxh5}} \textit{\textbf{d6}} 29.\textit{\textbf{xd4}} \textit{\textbf{exd4}}
30.\textit{\textbf{e4}} \textit{\textbf{h6}} 31.\textit{\textbf{xd4}} \textit{\textbf{h4}} 32.\textit{\textbf{f5}} \textit{\textbf{xf5}} 33.\textit{\textbf{e4}} \textit{\textbf{d6}} \textit{\textbf{g6}} 34.\textit{\textbf{g8}} \textit{\textbf{b7}} 35.\textit{\textbf{d6}} \textit{\textbf{a6}} 36.\textit{\textbf{f8+}} \textit{\textbf{c7}} 37.\textit{\textbf{d6+}} \textit{\textbf{h5+}}
38.\textit{\textbf{f5}} \textit{\textbf{b7}} 39.\textit{\textbf{f8}}

I could have grabbed the a-pawn and after 39...\textit{\textbf{b6}} retreated my rook to a3. But with one move to the time control, I decided to play very conservatively.

39.\textit{\textbf{f2}} 40.\textit{\textbf{e3}} \textit{\textbf{h5}} 41.\textit{\textbf{f7+}} \textit{\textbf{b6}} 42.\textit{\textbf{c5}} \textit{\textbf{a5}} 43.\textit{\textbf{e5}} \textit{\textbf{c2}} 44.\textit{\textbf{f5}} \textit{\textbf{e1}} 45.\textit{\textbf{d6}} \textit{\textbf{a4}}
Black is dreaming about winning one of my pawns.

46.\textit{\textbf{c4}} \textit{\textbf{c1}}
To prevent 47.\textit{\textbf{c5+}}.

47.\textit{\textbf{f1}}
This destroys any hopes Black might have had.

47...\textit{\textbf{xf1}} 48.\textit{\textbf{c5+}} \textit{\textbf{a5}} 49.\textit{\textbf{xf1}} \textit{\textbf{b4}} 50.\textit{\textbf{c6}} \textit{\textbf{a3}} 51.\textit{\textbf{bxa3}} \textit{\textbf{e3}} 52.\textit{\textbf{c7}} \textit{\textbf{a8}} 53.\textit{\textbf{g3}} \textit{\textbf{h4}} 54.\textit{\textbf{e4}} \textit{\textbf{h3}} 55.\textit{\textbf{xe3}} \textit{\textbf{xa2}} 56.\textit{\textbf{f8}} 1-0.

The next game was to be my best in the tournament. My opponent recently tied for first place in the New York Open Masters Section, where he easily achieved an IM norm. In other words, he is considerably stronger than he would appear to be in this game.

\textbf{16...\textit{\textbf{e4!}}}
This leads to a forced win for Black.

17.\textit{\textbf{fxe4}} \textit{\textbf{g4}} 18.\textit{\textbf{f1}} \textit{\textbf{xe4}}
19.\textit{\textbf{e4}} \textit{\textbf{xf1+}} 20.\textit{\textbf{xf1}} \textit{\textbf{h2+}}
This is more accurate than 20...\textit{\textbf{h2}} since White's king might head for the hills a.k.a. the queen side by 21.g3.

\textbf{21.\textit{\textbf{g1}} \textit{\textbf{g4}}}
Threatening mate in two.

22.\textit{\textbf{f2}}

Notes by
Irwin Lipnowski

Clavijo, Jorge
Lipnowski, Irwin

Havana Capablanca mem (4)
1998

Nimzo Indian: Hübner  E41

1.d4 \textit{\textbf{f6}} 2.c4 \textit{\textbf{e6}} 3.\textit{\textbf{c3}} \textit{\textbf{b4}}
4.\textit{\textbf{f3}} \textit{\textbf{c5}} 5.e3 \textit{\textbf{c6}} 6.\textit{\textbf{d3}} \textit{\textbf{xc3+}}
The Hübner variation which seemed to be a particularly appropriate line to play with GM Robert Hübner seated only a few feet away.

7.\textit{\textbf{xc3}} \textit{\textbf{d6}} 8.0-0 \textit{\textbf{e5}} 9.\textit{\textbf{d2}} 0-0
Winning the pawn on d4 seemed too dangerous. White's bishop pair will point menacingly in the direction of the Black king.

10.\textit{\textbf{d5}} \textit{\textbf{e7}} 11.\textit{\textbf{c2}} \textit{\textbf{g6}} 12.\textit{\textbf{c1}}
Much better is 12.f3 followed possibly by 13.g4 but the chances appear to be balanced.

12.\textit{\textbf{g4}}
Launching a kingside attack which succeeds because of a few inaccuracies by White.

13.\textit{\textbf{f1}} \textit{\textbf{f5}} 14.\textit{\textbf{f3}} \textit{\textbf{h6}} 15.\textit{\textbf{g3}} \textit{\textbf{h4}}
Suddenly Black has massed a sizable force for a possible kingside attack.

16.\textit{\textbf{c2}}
To meet the threat of 16...\textit{\textbf{f4}}.
It’s over. There are no good moves left for White.

22...\texttt{xf2} 23.\texttt{g6}

Forced, since the bishop on e4 would be en prise after 23.\texttt{xf2}.

23...\texttt{g4}

Threatening 24...\texttt{e1} as well as the bishop on g6, forcing White’s reply.

24.\texttt{d3} \texttt{e1+} 25.\texttt{f1} \texttt{g3!}

This prevents 26.g3 and entombs the White king.

26.\texttt{d3} \texttt{d7}

Black’s plan couldn’t be simpler: bring the rook to f8 followed by \texttt{h2#}. If 27.\texttt{h7+} \texttt{h8} Black threatens 28.\texttt{e1#}. If White prevents this with 28.\texttt{d2} then 28...\texttt{f8} threatens 29...\texttt{h2#}.

After emerging from the opening with a lost position in round five against Lenier Dominguez, the 14-year-old co-winner of the tournament, my next win was against Alexis Cabrera, who achieved the IM norm but trailed the co-winners by one-half point. Since my Sicilian Defence had produced no points, I decided to play the Canadian way.

Notes by \textit{Irwin Lipnowski}

\textit{Cabrera, Alexis}
\textit{Lipnowski, Irwin}

\textit{Havana Capablanca mem (6)} 1998

\textit{Pirc} B06

1.e4 \texttt{g6} 2.d4 \texttt{g7} 3.\texttt{c3} \texttt{d6} 4.\texttt{g5}

This move has become quite popular in the past few years, particularly due to the influence of some English GMs.

4...\texttt{c6}

This move seems logical, since d4 is unprotected. Also possible is 4...\texttt{c5} although after 5.dxc5 not 5...\texttt{x}c3+ 6.bxc3 \texttt{a5} 7.\texttt{d4!} as GM Julian Hodgson played against me in the Canadian Open in Winnipeg in 1994. Incidentally, my Cuban opponent had apparently done his homework, as he mentioned my game against Hodgson in our post mortem discussion. Instead 5...\texttt{a5} immediately is playable.

5.\texttt{ge2} \texttt{h6}

Forcing White to commit the bishop to h4 or e3, since 6.\texttt{f4} allows 6...\texttt{xd4} 7.\texttt{xd4} e5.

6.\texttt{h4} \texttt{f6} 7.d5 \texttt{e5} 8.f4 \texttt{c4} 9.\texttt{d3}

9...\texttt{xb2}!

Playing the very move that White thought he had prevented. Although I now believe that it is an unsound sac, it certainly had shock value and succeeded in this game.

10.\texttt{b5+} \texttt{c6} 11.\texttt{b2} \texttt{a4}

12...\texttt{a5} is refuted by 13.\texttt{xf6} and Black has a pawn for a piece.

12...\texttt{a3?}

This only seems strong, since it meets Black’s dual threats of 12...\texttt{a5} and 12...\texttt{x}c3 13.\texttt{xc3} \texttt{xb6} and if 14.\texttt{xb6} \texttt{xc3+} while if 14.0-0-0 then \texttt{e3+} regaining the piece with interest. Black’s speculative sacrifice can be refuted by 12.0-0-0 since 12...\texttt{a5} can be met by 13.\texttt{xf6} and 13.\texttt{b5} can be met by 14.\texttt{xb5}. The ratio of Black attackers to White defenders is too low to promise a successful attack.

12...\texttt{b6!}

With the powerful threat of 13...\texttt{e3}.

13.\texttt{x}c3

White returns the material to create a counter attack.

13...\texttt{a1} 14.\texttt{xd6+} \texttt{cxd6} 15.\texttt{xd6} \texttt{g5} 16.\texttt{dxg5} \texttt{a5+}

The seemingly crushing 16...\texttt{e3} with the threat of 17...\texttt{c3} 18.\texttt{xd1} \texttt{d2#} is refuted by 17.dxc6.

17.c3 \texttt{xc3+} 18.\texttt{f2} \texttt{b4}

Forcing a trade of queens with a technical win for Black. If instead 19...\texttt{e1+} 20.\texttt{f3} \texttt{hx4} 21.\texttt{e5+} gives White some practical chances. The text forces a trade of queens.

19.\texttt{g3??}

Allowing a sudden finish.

Notes by \textit{Irwin Lipnowski}

\textit{Lipnowski, Irwin}
\textit{Teran, Ismael}

\textit{Havana Capablanca mem 1998}

\textit{Benoni: Czech} A56

1.d4 \texttt{f6} 2.\texttt{c4} \texttt{c5} 3.d5 \texttt{a6}

Similar to an idea of Roman Dzindzichashvili’s who had played...\texttt{a6} on the second move.

4.\texttt{a4}

Good alternatives are 4.\texttt{d3} and 4.\texttt{dx}.

4...\texttt{c5}

Transposing into the Czech Benoni with the difference that Black has committed himself to a6 and White has played a4. Is this significant? Possibly. Black foregoes the possibility of...\texttt{a6} followed by...\texttt{d}7 although the king’s knight might land on c7 via e8 while the queen’s knight travels to g8 via d7 and f6.

Black remains alert to the possibility of trading his “bad” bishop at e7 for White’s “good” black-square bishop by means of...\texttt{g5}. White may be reluctant to castle queenside in view of the weakened pawn structure and Black sacrificing a pawn to open lines with...\texttt{b5}.

5.\texttt{c3} \texttt{d6} 6.\texttt{c4} \texttt{e7} 7.\texttt{a5}

This is really committal. Agdestein seemed to like the move, Zilberman didn’t. I am now inclined to agree with Zilberman.

7...0-0 8.\texttt{f3} \texttt{e8} 9.\texttt{h3} \texttt{g6} 10.\texttt{h6} \texttt{g7} 11.\texttt{g4}
The immediate battle is over control of f5.

11...d7 12.d3 f6 13.d2

With the a-pawn on a2 instead of a5, I would certainly have played 13..e2 leaving d2 for my knight. My move is intended to allow my queen to protect the pawn on a5 after my knight heads for b6 via a4, and for a timely exchange of Black’s “good” bishop on c8.

13..h8 14.a4 g8 15.b6 b8 16.c3 f5 17.gxf5 gxf5 18.xc8 xc8 19.xc2 f6

White has all the chances after 19..d4 since White’s king would be safe on e2, the open g-file favors White, and a timely break with b4 is in the offing.

20.exf5

Interesting is 20..g5 h6 21.h4.

20..e4!

Thematic and strong. For the price of a pawn, Black exposes the White king which is trapped in the center.

21..x4 22..x4 f6 23.e2!

The safest square for the White king. Moves like 23..e2 are too slow.

23..d7 24..hl1 c8 25..f5 26..f5 27.d4+ winning a piece.

27..g5

Threatening to sink his knight at e6.

27..d4+ 28..d3 xg5 29..xg5 f3 30..e1

Defending against 35..xd6 because of 35..xe3+ 36..xe3 3c4+ and 37..d6.

35..f4?

In time trouble, I considered only this move which squanders White’s advantage, allowing Black to equalize with his next move. The correct way to play is first to play 35..d2! d3 and only then 36..f4. This finesse would relieve the pressure on c4.

35..b5 36..xb5 a5 37..xd6 g7 38..f5 g6 39.g4 c4+ 40.d2 e4 41.h4 d3 42..c3 c2 43..c7

If instead 43..a3 with a view to guarding b2 while trying to attack the b5 pawn with d4, White might lose. The move played attempts to support the d-pawn.

43..c5 44.d6 d4+?

This is a misguided attempt to win. Simply 44..d7 maintains equality.

45.d4 bxh2 46..d5 d2+ 47.d4 c3 48.d7 c2 49.d8 d4+ 50..xd4 c1

White’s entire army is ideally located. This is one example of harmonious co-operation between White’s queen, bishop, and remaining pawn.

51.g8+ h6 52..f8+ g6 53.g8+ Gaining time on the clock.

53..h6

Not 53..f6 54..d8*.

54..f8+ g6

Not 54..g5 55..f5+ and if 55..h4 56..h5* while if 55..h6 56..f4+ wins the queen.

Now here’s a second challenge. Without the aid of a computer, can you demonstrate a forced win for White from this position?
played is 7...b8 to re-deploy the knight on d7.

8.0-0-0 0-0 9.g4 c8 10.b1 f5 11.gxf5 gxf5 12.h3 Wh8 13.exf5 Whf5 14.xf5 dxf5 15.xe2 dxe6 16.g3 Wh6 17.dg1 Wh7 18.Wg2

Black is at least equal. The bishop on g6 is powerful and the pawn on f3 is weak. I could simply double rooks here, and if White decides to eliminate his weak f-pawn by playing f4, Black’s knight will secure the e5 square and the bishop on g7 will come to life. However, I decided to exert pressure immediately on the weak pawn.


Black has a winning position but, as I learned to my sorrow, White still has a few tricks left.

23.Wg5 Wh6

Black would welcome an exchange of the black-squared bishop for White’s knight on g5.

24.Wh4 Wxc4?!

Perhaps a better alternative is the unusual 24...Wh4 as suggested by Yanofsky, placing the queen on the same open file as the doubled White rooks. My original plan was to play the simple 24...Whxg5 since 25.Wxg5 leaves White without play while 25...Whxg5 26.Wf2 Whxg5 27.Wc2+ 27...Wxh6 28.g7+ Whxg7 29...Whh5 when 29...Whxh5+ leaves Black fighting for a draw.

25.Wh5!

A move with incredible shock-value. White plays precisely the move that I thought I had prevented! Suddenly, I lost my balance and began to unravel, as I realized that White’s queen might be poisoned. 25...Whxg5 26.Wf1 Whxh5+ 27.Wxh5 Whh6 28.Wg7+ Whxg7 29...Whf6 when 29...Whf6+ leaves Black fighting for a draw.

25...Wh8

Wrong again. Better is 25...Wh5.


Probably accelerating Black’s defeat, but both flags were now hanging, and I was still reeling from his knight’s bold incursions on moves 28 and 29, which struck like bolts of lightning, and by the sudden reversal in our fortunes. How could he play with so much composure and so strongly with only seconds left on his clock? In short, I was freaking out!

34.Wc2 Whc5 35.Wg4 Whc3 36.Wg2 Whc8 37. Whf4 Whf7 38.Wg4 b5?

Desperate for counterplay and with my flag hanging, I overlooked White’s reply.

39.Wc6 Whc4 40.Wcxb5 Whc5 41.Wc5 Whxh5 42.Wxc3 Whh2 43.Wb1 Whh5 44.Wc7 Whf6 45.Wc7 Whxh4 46.Wb3 Whd4 47.Wh1 f0-0-0.

The French sensation, GM Etienne Bacrot, scored “only” 5 points in eleven games in the Elite group. Immediately after the tournament, he narrowly defeated Robert Hübner 3.5–2.5 in their six game match. In the following game, he overestimated his position and overlooked a brilliant move that allowed Black to win.

Notes by

Irwin Lipnowski

Bacrot, Etienne
Zilberman, Yaakov

Havana Capablanca mem
1998

Queen’s Gambit: Accepted  D24

1.d4 d5 2.Wf3 Whf6 3.c4 dxc4 4.Wc3 a6 5.e4 b5 6.e5 Whd5 7.a4 e6 8.axb5 Whb6

This is all theory.


Although White has an extra pawn, the position is equal — as Zilberman described it, “dynamically balanced.”

23.Wd3 Whd8 24.Wb4 Whb8 25.Wa3?

Allowing a far from obvious tactical shot.

25... c5!! 26.Wxc5

Of course 26.Wxc5 loses immediately to 26...Whb2+.


If 32...Whc1+ 33.Wc1 Whf3 threatening mate at f2 and h1.

32...Whh7 33.Wf4 Whxf2+ 34.Wg1 Whg2+ 35.Wh1 Whf2 36.We4+ Whg6 0-1.

Simen Agdestein did not have a good tournament. He was seeded third, but lost to Julio Becerra from a winning position, allowed Ivan Morovic to escape with a draw when Agdestein had a clear win, and
decided to reject Yaacov Zilberman’s tacit offer of a draw by repetition only to lose.

For those who may not know, Agdestein was a professional soccer player on the Norwegian national team until a knee injury forced him to retire. He was also the youngest GM at eighteen until the likes of Peter Leko, Judit Polgar and Etienne Bacrot came along. He joked that age eighteen “then” was equivalent to age thirteen today, given the inflation in GM titles. Much as I would like to share the blame with others, before accepting Agdestein’s invitation to accompany him on a tour to del Rios on the free day, I should have consulted the schedule and I would have discovered that only the Elite group had a free day. We embarked on our journey at 7:30 am and returned to the Hotel Panamericano at 7:00 pm. I had inadvertently forfeited the game to one of the tail-enders, Emile Pupo. The organizers were quite concerned about my mysterious disappearance and I apologized to all and sundry for my losing blunder.

A curiosity about Norwegian names that Agdestein related: the name “Odd Strange” would, in Norway, be considered neither odd nor strange. Strange but true.

Incidentally, Hübner remarked that the only known “perfect game” was one in which Black appears at the board at the appointed hour, starts one in which Black appears at the appointed hour, starts one hour elapses. If colors were reversed White fails to appear before one hour elapses. If colors were reversed Black loses.

Now it is absolutely essential for White to kill the Black knight by 28...h4 before it becomes a monster on f5. Unfortunately for Agdestein, he could not bring himself to part with the lovely monster on f5. Unfortunately for Agdestein, he could not bring himself to part with the lovely bishop on d4, but there was no alternative.

28...e3? f5 29.d2 f7 30.a1 e7 31.g4 32.d1 hxg3 33.g2 f6 34.h1 h7 35.e3 d6 36.f3 e3 37.c2 e2 38.e2 d3+ 39.g1 xh1+ 40.xh1 b4+ 41.g1 g2 1-0.

The next game between Agdestein and Zilberman is in the best tradition of the Soviet School of Chess.

Notes by
Irwin Lipnowski
Agdestein, Simen
Zilberman, Yaacov
Havana Capablanca mem 1998
Queen’s Gambit: Accepted D25
1.d4 d5 2..f3 f6 3.e4 dxe4 4.e3 g6
Zilberman does not generally play the Grünfeld Defence because he dislikes playing against the Exchange Variation. By adopting a variation of the Queen’s Gambit Accepted introduced by Smyslov, the game transposes into a variation of the Grünfeld with which he feels comfortable.

5...exf4 g7 6.0-0 0-0 7.h3 f6 8.a3 b6 9.a2 a6 10.d3 c6 11.e4 c7 12.f4 e6 13.e3

14.f4 d6 15.e3 c7 16.d2

On 16...e6 Black would repeat moves with 16...d6 since 16...e6 is met by 17.axc7 axc7 18.xe6 when White is certainly much better. But now White overplays his hand and loses.

16...e6 17.b3?

An ugly move, but consistent with White striving for more than equality.
17...f5!

Seizing the initiative.
18.g5 h8 19.xe6 xe6 20.d5

Despite this direct attack upon the Black knight, it refuses to budge from its post for the next nine moves.

20...cxd5 21.exd5 x8 22.ac1 f4 23.xb6 axb6 24.yb5 xxc1 25.xc1 f3 26.xc4 xg2 27.a4 x7 28.xg2 x5 29.b4 f4+ 30.xf4 xxf4 31.e3 f5 32.b1 g5+ 33.f1 f6 34.c4 g7 35.e2 h4 36.dd3 f4 37.xf3 xh2 38.d4 xh3 39.e6+ f6 40.xf4 xh3 3b3+ 41.xe2 xh3 42.xf4 x3b3+ 41.

The money game occurred in the last round between the two players who were having the tournament of their life. Julio Becerra lead the field by half a point and a victory would clinch clear first. Yaacov Zilberman needed a draw to get his third and final GM norm and a win to tie for first place.

Becerra pressed for a win in order to finish clear first, and later overlooked a draw that would have allowed him to tie for first. Alas, he ultimately lost. For Yaacov Zilberman, the thrill of victory — and for Julio Becerra, the agony of defeat.
Notes by
Irwin Lipnowski

Zilberman, Yaacov
Becerra, Julio

Havana Capablanca mem 1998
King's Indian: Classical E92

1.d4 ¾f6 2.c4 g6 3.¾c3 ¼g7 4.e4
d5 5.½c2 0-0 6.0-0 ½f3 e5 7.d5 a5
8.¾g5 b6 9.¾b4 Æa6 10.¾d2
e8 11.a3 ¾d7 12.b3 ¾b7
13.½b1 h5 14.f3 Æh6 15.¾f2 ¾e7
16.h4 ¾c5 17.½c2 f5 18.b4 axb4
19.axb4 ¾a4 20.½b5 c6 21.¿c7
Æac8 22.¾e6 cxd5 23.¼xf8 Æxf8
24.exd5

24..e4 25.½d4 e3

Becerra has a definitive affinity for
pawns on his opponent’s third rank.

26.¾b3 ¾e8 27.¾a5 ¾f4 28.¾a1
¾g3+ 29.¿d1 Æc5 30.½xe5
½xe5 31.¿xa4 Æxa4 32.¿xa4
½d4+ 33.¿c1 ¾f3+ 34.¿f1 b6
35.¾b3 Æc2 36.g3 Æxc4 37.¿a1
½xb4 38.¿d4 Æd2 39.¿e6 Æxe6
40.¿xe6 Æc2 41.¿e7 Æf7 42.¿a6
½b2 43.¿h2 Æxe7 44.¿g1 ¾d2
45.½g2 ¾c1+ 46.½h2 f4 47.¾d3
½d7 48.½h3 ¾h1+ 49.½h2 ¾g1
50.gxf4 b5 51.¿d5 ¾c7 52.¿d1
½xd1 53.¿xd1 Æb1 54.¿c2 Æb2
55.¿g2 d5 56.¿d3 Æb4 57.¿g3
d4 58.¿xg6 Æd6 59.¿c2 ¾b2

63.¿d1 ¾e5 64.¿f6 ¾xf6 65.¿f4
¾c1 66.¿c2 ¾f1 67.¿d3 ¾h1
68.¿g6+ ¾g7 69.¿d6 ¾xb4+
70.¿g3 ¾h1 71.¿xb4 h4+
72.¿g2 ¾d1 73.¾xd4 ¾d2+
74.¿h3 ¾f2 75.¿g4 1-0.

Had I not lost two games on time –
to La Paz and Luis Valdez – in
equal almost positions, forfeited a
game against Felix Gomez in my
counterproductive and foolish
effort to win, my score would, by
the laws of simple arithmetic,
certainly have been more
respective. Of course, while on
the subject of excuses, I should not fail
to mention that I also suffered from
a cold during most of the
tournament — remember
Blackburne’s comment, “I never
beat a healthy man!”.

For the benefit of those who are
unfamiliar with the story about a
loyal fan of Tartakower who
inquired about his abysmal
performance of 0-5, Tartakower
proceeded to rationalize his first
four losses by recounting four
different ailments that afflicted him
successively; a headache in his first
game, a toothache in the second,
a backache in the third and a bout of
dizziness in the fourth. “As for the
fifth game,” remarked Tartakower,
“What do you expect – that I should
win all my games?”

To render my account of events
more balanced, I should admit that
I was fortunate that Ismael Teran
was unwilling to settle for a draw
and that I managed to salvage a
draw in a hopeless position in the
last round against Jesus Baron of
Spain.

At the closing ceremony attended
by FIDE President Kirsan
Ilyumzhinov, I sat across the table
from German Grandmaster Robert
Hübner who had been presented
with a cheque for US$1,000 and
with two trophies for placing first
on a tie-break. I asked him where
he stores all this hardware and he
explained that he has no trophies,
since his apartment houses more
than 4000 books. What he does is
simply does not decline the
appearance of the trophies. I asked him why he
simply does not decline the
trophies, and he explained that
tournament organizers generally
become offended by his refusal to
accept their coveted trophies. I
suggested that if he really planned to
throw his trophies into the sea, I
would be willing to save him the
trip to the harbor by taking them
to Canada. He said he was extremely
grateful for my kind offer; it was
such a relief for him not to have to
attend to the trophies’ disposal. I
told him that since these were his
trophies and he, not I, had earned
them, I would hold them in trust for
him and would relinquish them to
him whenever he might choose to
exercise his property rights. He
assured me that there was an
absolutely zero chance that he
would want to reclaim them in this
lifetime. Notwithstanding this
assurance, I am holding Hübner’s
trophies in trust for him, just in case
he changes his mind.

Although my performance was
somewhat worse than it could have,
should have, might have been — I
had a truly wonderful time in Cuba,
enjoying the splendid hospitality of
the Cuban people in general, and the
chess organizers in particular.

I think I learned something in chess
terms from the experience, and I feel
privileged and grateful for the
opportunity I had to represent
Canada in such an interesting event
away from home.

If any of you have the resources to
travel abroad, I would strongly
recommend Cuba for such a visit.
You will enjoy the warm hospitality
and a pleasantly warm climate
throughout the year, while
supporting a country that
desperately needs foreign currency
to survive the American embargo.
Words Calgary October U1699 Active

This tournament came right down to the wire. Brian Miller led the way to the critical fourth round with three straight wins. But here he had to face Jonathan Bjornson, second place runner-up of the U2000 at Words Books Championship two weeks earlier. Brian was defeated, giving the lead to Jonathan. A win in round five would clinch the trophy for Jonathan, but this was not to be today as Mike Smith dropped him to the mat in solid knockout fashion. With this upset, a best out of three speed chess playoff loomed between Tom McKay and Brian Miller, that saw Brian come out on top. We must mention that third place was shared between Jonathan Bjornson and Mike Smith. Thanks for all the participants who made this event a pleasure to direct.

TD/Rep: Walter Watson

Calgary Chess Club Fall Class

The Fall Class Tournament consisted of three six-player Round Robins and one eleven-player Swiss.

In Section 1, top-rated Andrew Lapides led with 4/4 going into the last round, but blundered his queen to lowest-rated John Parrott in an already inferior position to give John a stunning victory. The prize winners were John Parrott, Andrew Lapides and John Ferrar.

Section 2 was a four player battle, and when the last pawn was pushed, Max Carcamo and John Rajchel with 3.5/5 points just edged out Steve Hansen and Rod Weis. The key game was Carcamo’s last round marathon win over Weis.

All three last round games in Section 3 were drawn. That gave top seeds Kim Nguyen and Steve Sauve a first place tie with 3.5/5, and put Doug Boyd in third with 3 points.

Jack King was the triumphant winner of the Swiss Section. His 4.5/5 gave him a one point margin over second place Ted Borowski. The remaining prize winners were Kevin Ward, Rob Wills and Carolyn McMaster. My appreciation and many thanks go to Aaron Ryner for playing a couple of rounds so that I didn’t have to give anyone a forced bye.

TD/Rep: Tedge Davies

UBC September Tuesday Night

A clean sweep for former co-BC Champion Mayo Fuentebella. The turning point was Fuentebella’s round four defeat of Sergei Sokourinski, who had never lost a game in Canada, in a closely fought ending. Second prize was shared by John Hallam and Stephen Wright, while the U1800 prize was split between Lyle Craver and Peter Broz, and the U1700 prize divided among Steve Fowler, Peter Devries and new BC Women’s Champion Alice Eseiva.

TD: Lyle Craver

Across Canada

Words Calgary October U2000 Active

We’re back! After a two months break, the Words tournaments have resumed. In the U2000, fifteen-year-old Eric Tam held off a strong challenge from John Redes to finish first with 4.5/5 in a twelve player field. Tam defeated Redes in round three, and then drew with Colin Chrumka before defeating Tom McKay in the last round. Redes defeated top seed Steve Sauve and then Chrumka in the last two rounds to finish half a point back. Sauve, Chrumka, and impressive 15-year-old Mark Driscoll each finished at a respectable three points.

TD/Rep: Walter Watson

TD/Rep: Phil Lefkowitz

Alberta Chess Association Over/Under 1800

Larry Stutzman once again won the Grande Prairie Fall Active with 3.5/4. This first event in the Peace Country Grand Prix was attended by thirteen. James Chiba of the home club and Alex Phimester of Peace River shared the U1700 prize. Chip Boyer of Dawson was Top Junior and Scott Boyer second in the Junior Section.

TD/Rep: Walter Watson

En Passant No 153 — décembre 1998
1.d4 d6 2.dı3 f5 3.g3 ʃf6 4.ġg2 g6 5.c4 ʃg7 6.dı1 0–0 7.h3

White wants to play ʃe3 and so prevents ...ğ4. I believe Roy was planning to bring a rook to d1 and push his pawn to c5 in hopes of exploiting a pin on the d-file. This would also enable him to try to break up the Black center. Instead of the text, both 7.0–0 and 7.ġg5 were good alternatives.

7...c6 8.ʃe3 ʃc7

A possible try instead of the text was 8...ğe4.

9.ʃb3

I’m not fond of this move, although my computer, Fritz, also chose it in this position. I’m just not sure what the queen is doing here after Black’s reply.

I expected 9.ʃc2 followed by moving both rooks to the queenside and b4–b5 with interesting play.

9...ğh8 10.d5?! ʃe5 11.ʃxe6 ʃxe6 12.ʃd4

12.ʃg5 is somewhat better.

12...ğg8

My bishop likes it here. Let’s briefly assess the position — both sides have the same number of pieces developed, but it’s clear that Black’s are more effective. White’s queen is temporarily pinned and the ʃe3 doesn’t have much to do. As well, the White king is still in the center.

Black is threatening ...ğbd7 attacking c4 and thereby gaining time. All of these factors allow Black to press ahead with the following attack.

13.ğa4 ʃbd7 14.b3

The c-pawn had to be defended, but this weakens c3 and the long black diagonal. The White queen looks very lonely.

14...ʃfe8 15.ʃd1

Moving the bishop doesn’t help because of ...şc5 followed by ...ğf4 exposing the weakness of d4. Best was 15.0–0 but White will be under pressure for some time. Roy chooses a different method. He sees that moving the bishop would also let Black play ...şd3+ due to the pin on the e-file. By playing ʃd1 he protects d4 and stops the check. However, he either overlooked or underestimated Black’s reply.

15...şxe3! 16.ʃxe3 ʃh5 17.ğg3 18.şg1 ʃc5 19.şa3 ʃe7 20.şd2

White has better than this, although not by much, in 20.şc1 ʃe8 21.ʃxc6 (21.şxf5 ʃxe3 22.şxe3 ʃxe3) 21...şxc6 22.şxg3 ʃh4 23.şf2 ʃe5 24.şd1 ʃf5 25.şxf4 ʃxd4+ 26.şg2 ʃxg1 27.şxg1 ʃf6.

20...şe8 21.şc2 ʃe5 22.şh4

A futile attempt to defend the third rank laterally. If White tries 22.şb1 then 22...şf4 23.şf3 ʃxe3+ 24.şc1 ʃb5 25.şxb5 ʃxb5 26.şb4 ʃa4 27.şd3 ʃc8.

22...şd7

Black could have played 22...şxc3+ 23.şxc3 ʃxe4+ 24.şxe4 ʃxe4+ 25.şd3 ʃxc3 with a winning position, but I wanted to keep the pieces on as long as possible as the White king is very close to being mated. Besides, White can’t improve his position so there is no need to rush. With his next move Roy forces this same liquidation of material but in a slightly better form for me.

23.şc1

Or 23.şb1 ʃb6 24.şxa7 ʃxc4+ 25.şe1 ʃb2 winning.

23...şxc3 24.şxc3 ʃxe2+ 25.şd2 ʃxc3 26.şd1 ʃxg4 27.şd4 ʃe4+ 28.şxe4 ʃxe4 29.şxg4 ʃxg4 30.şxg4 ʃxg4 31.şg1 ʃg8 32.şa3 ʃe5 33.şc3 ʃd5 34.şd2 ʃc5 35.şe4 ʃxd4 36.şxd5 ʃf3+ 37.şd3 ʃxg1 0–1.

**Notes by**

**Bill Taylor**

Fielding, Gerald
Taylor, William

**Medicine Hat op (2), 1998**

**Queen’s Gambit: Exchange**

D36

1.d4 ʃf6 2.ćc4 ćc6 3.ğf3 ćd5 4.şcxd5 ćxd5 5.şc3 ćc6 6.şg5 ʃe7 7.şc2 ʃe6 8...ğg4 looks reasonable.

8.şc3 ʃbd7 9.şd3 ʃh6 10.şh4 ʃc7?

A significant mistake. White can immediately play 11.şg3 when Black can’t reply 11...şd6 because of 12.şb5! Better is 10...şg5 11.şg3 ʃh5 12.0–0 ʃxg3 13.fxg3.

11.0–0 ʃd6

11...şa6 was necessary first to prevent the ʃb5 intrusion.

12.şc1 0–0–0?

Castling into disaster, and already the game losing move!

13.şb5! ʃb8

13...şxb5 loses to 14.şb3 ʃc5 15.şxf6 ɡxf6 (15...şxf6 16.şxc5) 16.şxc5 a6 17.şa4.

14.şxd6+ ʃxd6 15.şg3 ʃb4 16.şxc6+!! ʃxc6 17.şa6+ ʃb7 18.şxc6+ 1–0.

A brilliant finish and ample punishment for the 12th move.

**Notes by**

**Warrick Walker**

Yearwood, Roy
Walker, Warrick

**Alberta Over/Under 1800, 1998**

**Dutch**

A81
Albert Boxer Classic

Albert Boxer has been a fixture on the local chess scene for decades. When chess club member Francis Trueman came up with the idea of naming an annual tournament in his honor, not a voice was raised in protest.

The result was the annual Albert Boxer Classic, held every Labour Day at the Winnipeg Chess Centre. At this year’s event, Albert surveyed the local chess scene for decades.

Top-ranked pressure led to Baragar’s flag falling. Fletcher Baragar, one of Manitoba’s top Masters, had a comfortable lead before some rocky play along the way. Meanwhile, conceded two draws to veteran Costache and Sean Walker.

Justin’s efforts didn’t go unrewarded. He shared top A-class prize with Dale Gustafson of Minneapolis and Tony Boron of Winnipeg. Danny Avena was top Class B, while Top C went to Xia Yanchong, Bennet Charter and Sean Walker.

Rep: Cecil Rosner

Concordia Fall Active

Eight club players took part in this event. Scott Kuehl outdistanced the competition, losing only to Gord Olheiser in the final round to take first place with 4 points. Albert Rundstedler and Tom McClelland tied for second place with three points each.

TD/Rep: Tim Knechtel

KWCC Summer Double Round Robin

This club summer event attracted a record twenty-five players for a round robin event at the K-W Chess Club. Unfortunately, several players had difficulties finishing their games and so a summer event stretched into the fall. In Group 1, Istvan Kiss and Rasim Bajramovic placed first and second with 5 and 4.5 points. Group 2 featured a tie for first place between John Duralia and Karl Dangberg with 4 points. Ryan Hadley and Dick Riedstra placed first and second in Group 3 with 4.5 and 3.5 points. In Group 4, Derek Barnes edged out Grant Roedding for first place with 4.5 points to Grant’s 4 points.

Mark Fitzgerald beat out Andrei Costache and Matan Prileltensky in Group 5. Group 6 showcased Mike Swart who placed first with 6.5 points over Tim Harvey with 5.5 points. Everyone enjoyed this informal format which allowed players to play without taking byes for their summer vacations.

TD/Rep: Tim Knechtel

Blue Mountain Active

This picturesque site attracted thirty chess enthusiasts to the Blue Mountain ski resort. 4.5/5 was the magic score for Jura Ochkoos to win first place. Tied for second place with 4 points were Warren Dutton and Stefanie Chu. Andre Zybura captured the top U1800 prize with 3.5 points.

In the U1600 Section, Amanda Benggawan ate up the competition with a perfect 5/5 score to take first place. Michael Vasovic and unrated Jeremy Cone tied for second place with 3.5 points. Top U1400 prize went to Dave Pearson with 3. Hope to see you all again in 1999 at the colorful Blue Mountain ski resort near Collingwood.

Org: Liana MacMillan; TD/Rep: Tim Knechtel

Notes by
Andrew Cooper

Toronto Macedonian

Cooper, Andrew
Mitrovic, Bojana

Toronto Macedonian 1998

Queen Pawn D02

1.d4 d5 2.c3 g4

My first opportunity to test this line in tournament play. I have a prepared line here.

3.e5 f6

A very sensible move.

4.c3 f5

Not consistent … I am a tempo down because e3 isn’t in this variation so I have to play h3 first.

5.h3 h6 6.g4 g6

Instead 6…h7 would be much better and avoids the coming mess.

7.g2

I want to guard e4.

7…e6

Very good. The pin of the dark square bishop can’t be allowed.

8.a3 d6 9.gxg6 fxg6 10.d3!

This is a home made line, learnt in battle from dozens of fast late night games...

10…f7

Depressing. I now want to play e4 and actually contemplated playing it…
now, but decided it’s better to tuck the
king in for the night.
11.\(d2\) \(c6\) 12.\(O-O-O\) \(g5\) 13.\(e4\)
Let’s party.
13...\(dxe4\) 14.\(\text{x}e4\) \(f8\)

**Concordia Summer Round Robin**

This eight player club Round Robin featured lots of fighting chess as shown by the low scores. Scott Kuehl wound up in first place with 5.5 points when no one else seemed to want it. Tim Knechtel came in second with 4.5 points. Tying for third place with 4 points were Gord Olheiser, Albert Runstedler and Alex Toolsie.

**Notes by Scott Kuehl**

**Kuehl, Scott**
**Runstedler, A**
**Concordia, 1998**

1.d4 \(c6\) 2.c4 \(e6\) 3.g3 \(d5\) 4.\(g2\) \(dxc4\) 5.\(\text{b}x\) \(c3\) \(\text{e}6\) 6.\(a4\) \(\text{d}b4+\)
7.\(d2\) \(\text{xd}2\) 7...
8.\(\text{xb}x\) \(c6\) 9.\(\text{xc}x\) \(c5\) 10.\(e0-0\) \(a5!\)?
10...\(\text{xc}x\) 11.\(\text{xc}x\) \(a7\) is safer.
11.\(e3\) \(a6\) 12.\(f1\) ?
12.\(a1\) was better.
12...
13.\(b6\) 13.\(d5\)
I should have continued with 13.b3 first, but I like tactics too!
13...
14.\(\text{xe}5\) 14.\(\text{xc}x\) \(d8!\)
14...\(\text{xd}6\) 15.\(\text{xc}x\) \(f6\) 16.\(c4\) is risky for Black.
15.\(\text{xe}5\) \(\text{xb}2\) 16.\(\text{c}4\) \(\text{xf}2\)?
16...\(\text{c}4\) looks better.
17.\(\text{xd}6!\)
Of course 17...\(\text{xd}6\) loses to 17...\(\text{c}4+\) with a royal fork.
17...
18.\(\text{g}x\) \(b5?\)
18...\(\text{d}7\) allows Black to keep the queens on the board. After the dust has settled, White is up an exchange, but has three pawn islands to defend. So White tries to keep Black too busy to find time to attack his weak pawn islands.
19.\(\text{xd}8\) \(b7\) 20.\(\text{g}1\) \(\text{xd}8\)
21.\(\text{xa}5\) \(\text{d}4\) 22.\(\text{c}6\) \(\text{a}8\)
23.\(a7\) \(b4\) 24.\(\text{c}8+\) \(\text{xc}8\)
25.\(\text{xc}8\) \(d5\) 26.\(\text{d}6\) ?

This was probably Black’s losing move. Much better was 26...\(\text{d}3\) keeping his bishop.
27.\(\text{xe}4\) \(\text{xe}4\) 28.\(\text{f}2\) \(h5\)
Black still thinks he can draw and plays accordingly.
29.\(d4\) \(\text{xe}4\) 30.\(\text{xa}3\) \(\text{g}7\) 31.\(\text{a}8\) \(\text{g}6\) 32.\(\text{h}6\) \(\text{f}6\) 33.\(h3\) \(\text{f}5\)
34.\(\text{c}2\) \(\text{g}5?\)
White’s winning plan is to infiltrate via the queenside with his king, giving back the exchange if necessary to eventually zugzwang Black to win the d-pawn.

Black’s best defense involves getting his knight to g5 to hold on to his e-pawns and to try to create a passed pawn on the kingside with 34...e5! 35.\(\text{dxe}4\) \(\text{xe}5\) 36.\(\text{f}7\) \(g5\) 37.\(\text{f}x\) \(f6\) 38.\(d2\) \(f5\) 39.\(\text{c}3\) \(d5\) 40.\(b4\) or 34...g5 35.\(d2\) \(h4\) 36.\(\text{g}xh4\) \(\text{g}xh4\).
35.\(\text{d}2\) \(\text{g}6\) 36.\(\text{d}8\) \(\text{g}5\) 37.\(\text{d}6\) \(\text{f}5\) 38.\(\text{c}3\) \(d5\)?
Better was 38...\(g5\) 39.\(\text{g}4\) \(g4\) 40.\(h4\).
39.\(\text{xd}5\) \(b5\) 40.\(\text{b}4\) \(\text{c}6\)
41.\(\text{c}5\) \(g5\) 42.\(\text{c}6\) \(f5\) 43.\(\text{xd}5\)
1.0.

**TD/Rep: Tim Knechtel**

**KW Fall Active**

The Open Section attracted an excellent turnout of thirty-two players. Jura Ochkoos won clear first with 4.5/5 points. Istvan Kiss took second with 4/5. Bohdan Ryzycki won top U1800 at 3.5.

In the U1600 section Ryan Hadley won clear first with 4.5/5, while Alexandra Benggawan ended up in second with 4/5. Paul Devissier took top Unrated at 2.5/5.

**Rep: Albert Den-Otter**

**R.A. Chess Club O’Keefe**

Fifty players, including ten Masters, did battle in this year’s edition of the R.A. Chess Club’s O’Keefe Tournament, a six round, single section Swiss event. Prosanto Sarkar played very consistently throughout and took clear first place with 5.5 points. The only blemish on Sarkar’s record was a fifth round draw with Maher Saleh, who finished alone in second place with 5. Kevin Pacey, Mackenzie Hardie and Charles Gould followed with 4.5 points.
Another player who turned in a notable performance was young Michael Handelman, rated at only 1861, who drew all three Masters he was paired against.

TD: John Armstrong

Halifax Labour Day Open

Halifax saw another eight round event with this year’s Labour Day Open. A very good total of 41 players took part, including players from all three Maritime provinces. First place was shared by Robert Villeneuve and Antoni Wysocki, both with 6.5/8. Third place was Mike Eldridge with 6.

Suprisingly, many of the games on the top boards were quite short, often with one player making a mistake in a sharp position, as a “take no prisoners” attitude prevailed throughout. Here are a couple of examples by the first place finishers:

Wysocki, Antoni
Gulati, Justin
Halifax op (4) 1998
Modern Defense A42
1.c4 g6 2.d4 ¢g7 3.e4 d6 4.¢c3 ¢c6 5.d5 ¢d4 6.¢c3 ¢c5 7.¢ge2 ¢b6 8.¢xd4 ¢xd4 9.¢a4 w a5+ 10.¢d2 ¢c7 11.c5! ¢xc5

12.Rc1
[An interesting alternative to the commonly played 12.¢b5+ as in, for example, Wassin – Bouchkov, ol blind, 1996 which continued 12.¢d7 13.¢xd7+ ¢xd7 14.¢xc5 ¢b5 15.¢e1 ¢d6 16.b4 0-0 17.a4 w e8 18.f3 b6 19.¢d3 ¢c8 20.¢b4 ¢d8 21.¢xc1 e6 22.d6 ¢d7 23.¢b5 ¢b8 24.¢a3 ¢c8 25.¢e1 0-0 26.¢f5 ¢c5 27.¢xg6 hXg6 28.¢xc5 ¢xc5 29.d7 ¢c7 30.¢b3 10.¢d1]
12...¢b6 13.¢b4 w e5 14.¢b5+ w f8 15.0-0! ¢xb4? 16.¢c2 f5?? 17.¢c6 1-0.

Notes by
Steve Saunders

Villeneuve, Robert
Saunders, Steve
Halifax op (7) 1998
Sicilian: Polugaevsky B96
1.e4 c5 2.¢f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.¢xd4 w f6 5.¢c3 a6 6.¢g5 e6 7.¢d2 w e8 8.¢g6+ w e8 9.¢d3 w e5 10.¢xe5 w c7 11.¢e2 w e5+ 12.¢d2 w f5 13.¢g4 w e5+ 14.¢e3 w d4 15.¢f4 g5 16.¢e3 w f6 17.¢e2 h6 18.¢f3 w f6 19.¢e2 w d8 20.¢g2 w f8 1/2 21.¢xh6+ 1-0.

TD: Kim Tufts; Org: Albert Ede

Prince Edward Island

Charlottetown YCA Active #2

Justin Gulati grabbed another first place finish, as David Paulowich fell a tempo short of winning the king and pawn ending. That draw enabled Justin to finish 1/2 point ahead of Fred McKim. Scott Landry took top Junior and Adam Casey took Most Improved. Many thanks to the Dieppe contingent for coming over. Ten played.

In the twenty-three player Scholastic Division there was another three way tie, this time between Jared Power, Peter St.Martin and Martin DeGuire, who all finished at 4/5.

TD/Rep: Fred McKim; Org: PEI YCA
Scott Landry’s victory over Adam Casey gave him the second Prince Edward Island spot in the upcoming Maritime/Atlantic Junior Championship. He joins Prince Edward Island’s other representative, Aaron Cooper.

TD: Fred McKim

Atlantic Junior
15-year-old Tyler Reddy of Halifax, Nova Scotia became the 1998 Atlantic Junior Champion with a score of 4.5/5. Second place went to fellow Nova Scotian Jason Kenney, who scored 4. This year’s event featured the participation of young Maritime/Atlantic Junior players for the first time in nearly a decade.

TD: Justin Gulati; Org/Rep: Fred McKim

Prince Edward Island
Youth Chess Association Active #4
Another good turnout from Moncton resulted in an eight player event. Charlottetown’s Justin Gulati had little trouble securing first place with a perfect 5/5. Second went to Scott Landry with 4/5, while Benoit DeGuire took the top U1500 at 3/5.

TD: Justin Gulati; Rep: Fred McKim

Charlottetown PEI Open
Alvah Mayo flexed his muscles and put a 200 point rating bulge to good use to take the 1998 Prince Edward Island Open with a score of 4.5/5. Second place went to David Paulowich with 4, while lowest rated Alick Tsui captured the Most Improved prize.

TD: Alvah Mayo; Org/Rep: Fred McKim

Outaouais Open
From October 23–25 the Outaouais Open attracted an impressive field of 111 players from Quebec, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Georgia (former USSR) to compete for the $2,000 prize fund in the very comfortable Maison du Citoyen in Hull. Eight players had CFC ratings above 2300. This most important regular tournament in the Ottawa-Hull area, which is also part of the EOCA Grand Prix and Tour du Quebec, this year drew the support of the city of Hull and was sponsored by Corel Corporation, the Chess’n and Math Association and the Ramada Plaza Hotel.

All prizes for Juniors and Cadets were generously provided by Chess’n and Math. We are quite proud that a total of twenty young players participated in various sections of the event, which is a very high number for a tournament of our size.

IM Deen Hergott of Ottawa, who has just returned from the Olympiad in Elista as a member of the Canadian national team, played with inspiration and finished in clear first place at 4.5 with his last round win over George Sikharulidze of Tbilisi, Georgia. Miladin Djerkovic of Ottawa and Junior Lefong Hua of St-Laurent tied for second place with 4 points. Canadian Junior Champion Danny Goldenberg of Montreal won the Top Junior prize in the Open Section.

In the U2000 Section, Gérard Michaud of Châteauguay and Gilles Angers of Quebec City tied for first place with 4.5. Tied for third place were Khaled Abou-Chakra, Julie Trottier, Charles Gould, Rémi Marineau, and Alex Danilov. Olivier Tessier won Top Junior, while Lefong’s brother Lethyn Hua took Top Cadet.

In the U1500 Section Stéphane Legault was in first with 4.5 points. Following a win for illegal moves and other serious errors, as do annotations.

4) Indicate clearly who annotated the game.
5) Include the full names of both players, the full name of the place and event, the date the game was played, and any other relevant information such as an Active time control etc.
6) Remember, the more information you can provide, the better your report and games will look when they appear in the magazine.
7) If you have photos to submit, please be realistic about whether or not the images will lend themselves to scanning and publication.

Across Canada Submissions

The Across Canada Section of our magazine provides a forum for players and organizers to submit tournament reports and annotated games, and is without a doubt one of the most interesting sections of the magazine for many readers. Unfortunately however, a significant number of reports and games each month contain serious errors and omissions that make their inclusion in the magazine problematic. The following “checklist” can be used as a template to ensure that your event is published the way you intend it to:

1) Legibility is everything!
2) Always include the full titles and names of the tournament organizer and director, and the person submitting the report.
3) Games should be checked for illegal moves and other errors, as do annotations.
4) Indicate clearly who annotated the game.
5) Include the full names of both players, the full name of the place and event, the date the game was played, and any other relevant information such as an Active time control etc.
6) Remember, the more information you can provide, the better your report and games will look when they appear in the magazine.
7) If you have photos to submit, please be realistic about whether or not the images will lend themselves to scanning and publication.

A few additional “tips & tricks” to help with your submissions:

1) Submit your reports via email if possible. This helps reduce data-entry errors.
2) Submit your reports well in advance of magazine deadlines if possible. Haste rarely improves accuracy.
3) Textfiles should be submitted in plain, unformatted ASCII format. Anything else just means that we have to remove your formatting, however well intended it might have been.
Top Rating Lists

These lists include current members that have been rated in a CFC event within the last twelve months

Top Canadians

1. Spraggett, Kevin ON 2645
2. Lesiege, Alexandre PQ 2600
3. Nickoloff, Byron BC 2566
4. Hebert, Jean PQ 2524
5. Livshits, Ron ON 2516
6. Teplitsky, Yan PQ 2515
7. Hergott, Deen ON 2508
8. Linskiy, Oleg PQ 2475
9. Kapetanovic, Armin ON 2469
10. Schulte, Oliver AB 2457
11. Khassanov, Marat PQ 2453
12. Schleifer, Michael PQ 2452
13. Teodorov IV, Eduardo ON 2446
14. O’Donnell, Tom ON 2445
15. Findlay, Ian ON 2431
16. Hartman, Brian ON 2431
17. Mikarovic, Goran PQ 2430
18. Day, Lawrence ON 2428
19. Spraggett, Grant ON 2425
20. Zugic, Igor ON 2424
21. Ochoos, Jura ON 2419
22. Ross, David PQ 2419
23. Vukadinov, Milan ON 2406
24. Yoos, John C. MB 2405
25. Allan, Denis ON 2395
26. Basanta, Gary BC 2394
27. Cummings, David ON 2388
28. Gentes, Kevin MB 2387
29. Berry, Jonathan BC 2383
30. Duong, Thanh Nha PQ 2383
31. Milicevic, Goran ON 2381
32. Leveille, Francois PQ 2379
33. Johnstone, Glenn ON 2378
34. Taylor, Gordon ON 2376
35. Levthouch, George PQ 2375
36. Olszewski, Piotr ON 2368
37. Awate, Avinash ON 2368
38. Williams, Paul D. ON 2361
39. Vranesic, Zvonko ON 2361
40. tipu, Vincent ON 2360
41. Huber, Gregory AB 2357
42. Hua, Lefong PQ 2355
43. Charbonneau, Pascal PQ 2354
44. Goldenberg, Danny PQ 2353
45. Ho, Andrew BC 2352
46. McGrath, Ian ON 2351
47. Mihaljevic, Josip ON 2350
48. Ross, Paul BC 2348
49. Reeve, Jeff PQ 2347
50. Milat, Marcel BC 2347
51. Fullbrook, Nigel AB 2342
52. Djerovic, Miladin ON 2341
53. Ilic, Stanimir ON 2340
54. Lipnowski, Irwin MB 2336
55. Milicevic, Dragoljub BC 2336
56. Filipovich, David ON 2334
57. Fuentebeula, Mayo BC 2332
58. Sasata, Robert SK 2331
59. Saleh, Maher ON 2330
60. McArthur, Mike ON 2328
61. Mousa, Ali Al-Aeddine PQ 2324
62. Gilnert, Stephen ON 2322
63. Gardner, Robert J. AB 2321
64. Mitrovic, Milan ON 2320
65. Zuk, Bob BC 2317
66. Marquez, Danilo ON 2316
67. Adam, Valerian BC 2315
68. Dougherty, Michael ON 2315
69. Kiviaho, Robert ON 2314
70. Crisan, Ioan AB 2309
71. Haessel, Dale AB 2308
72. Ristic, Nenad AB 2307
73. Krupka, David PQ 2305
74. Girard, Robin SK 2305
75. Neven, Knut NB 2305
76. Horton, Joe PQ 2304
77. Moisan-Plante, MO ON 2304
78. Khoudgarian, Natalia ON 2303
79. South, Robert AB 2303
80. Golks, Roman ON 2302
81. Valdiviz, Armando ON 2300
82. Hallam, John BC 2300

Top Juniors

1. Teodorov IV, Eduardo 20 ON 2446
2. Zugic, Igor 17 ON 2420
3. Hua, Lefong 16 PQ 2355
4. Charbonneau, Pascal 15 PQ 2354
5. Goldenberg, Danny 18 PQ 2353
6. Ho, Andrew 15 BC 2352
7. Gilnert, Stephen 14 BC 2352
8. Golks, Roman 16 ON 2302
9. Lou, Meng 19 ON 2292
10. Dviljan, Igor 12 ON 2255
11. Suttles, Duncan BC 2240
12. Yanovsky, Abe MB 2240
13. Nickoloff, Byron ON 2240
14. Hartman, Brian ON 2240
15. Teodorov IV, Eduardo ON 2240
16. Alipayo, Rodrigo ON 2238
17. Linskiy, Oleg ON 2237
18. Milicevic, Goran ON 2237
19. Herdott, Deen ON 2237
20. Cummings, David ON 2236
21. O’Donnell, Tom ON 2236
22. Barbeau, Sylvain PQ 2235
23. MacPhail, John ON 2236

Top Women

1. Khoudgarian, Natalia ON 2304
2. Tavak, Nava ON 2261
3. Belc, Daniela ON 2229
4. Charest, Johanne PQ 2092
5. Leger, Manon PQ 2087
6. Apostolov, Penka PQ 2045
7. Mongeau, Diane PQ 2029
8. Vujosevic, Smilja ON 2017
9. Chu, Stefanie ON 1993
10. Balgitsas, Vesma ON 1979

Top FIDE

1. Spraggett, Kevin ON 2560
2. Lesiege, Alexandre PQ 2525
3. Kapetanovic, Armin ON 2524
4. Teplitsky, Yan PQ 2524
5. Hebert, Jean ON 2524
6. Peits, Roman ON 2523
7. Marantz, Michael ON 2522
8. Suttles, Duncan BC 2520
9. Yanovsky, Abe BC 2520
10. Nickoloff, Byron ON 2520
11. Hartman, Brian ON 2520
12. Teodorov IV, Eduardo ON 2520
13. Aplayo, Rodulfo ON 2519
14. Linskiy, Oleg ON 2518
15. Milicevic, Goran ON 2518
16. Herdott, Deen ON 2517
17. Cummings, David ON 2516
18. O’Donnell, Tom ON 2516
19. Barbeau, Sylvain PQ 2515
20. MacPhail, John ON 2515

Top Cadets

1. Hua, Lefong 16 PQ 2355
2. Charbonneau, Pascal 15 PQ 2354
3. Ho, Andrew 15 BC 2352
4. Glinert, Stephen 14 ON 2322
5. Golks, Roman 16 ON 2302
6. Dviljan, Igor 12 ON 2255
7. Moskvitch, Andrey 16 PQ 2210
8. Hacat, Keokv 15 ON 2118
9. Reddy, Tyler 14 NS 2094
10. Joshi, Armand 15 ON 2090
11. Zabno, Viktor 13 ON 2073
12. Henson, Joshua 15 MB 2071
13. Fleischmann, Michael 16 ON 2041
14. Rolfe, Warrick 14 ON 2036
15. Gottlieb, Jonathan 14 PQ 2030

Top Active

1. Hua, Lefong ON 2528
2. Hartman, Brian ON 2517
3. Day, Lawrence ON 2514
4. Nickoloff, Byron ON 2506
5. Milicevic, Goran ON 2477
6. Teodorov IV, Eduardo ON 2447
7. Koliada, Timour ON 2443
8. Basanta, Gary BC 2403
9. Ochoos, Jura ON 2394
10. Milicevic, Goran ON 2379
11. McTavish, David ON 2367
12. Crisan, Ioan ON 2362
13. Dougherty, Michael ON 2360

Most Active

1. Gerry Litchfield ON 55
2. Steve Demmery ON 46
3. Danny Goldenberg PQ 38
4. Alvah Mayo NS 37
5. Francis Trueman MB 36
6. Ashish Gulati PE 36
7. Charles Gould PQ 36
8. Christian Collins ON 35
9. Marat Khassanov PQ 34
10. Miladin Djerovic ON 32
11. Maurice Smith ON 32
12. Robert J. Gardner AB 31
13. Micah Hughley AB 31
14. Robert D. Brewster BC 30
15. Christopher Field ON 30
16. Jacques Cote ON 29
17. Chris Takov ON 28
18. Stijn DeKerpel ON 28
19. Deen Hergott ON 28
20. Lefong Hua PQ 28
21. Hee Seid BC 27
22. Pascal Charbonneau PQ 27
23. Kenneth Callaghan ON 27
24. Eric Wenaas PQ 27
25. Tony Verma NB 27
### Regular Raters

**Provincial Ratings**

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<p>| 10452 | Armstrong, Brad       | 1829  | 1900  |
| 10458 | Armstrong, John        | 2077  | 2326  |
| 10462 | Bernhard, Gilbert      | 1887  | 1969  |
| 10465 | Bernhard, Steve        | 1952  | 2040  |
| 10532 | Boyce, Phil            | 1588  | 1609  |
| 10540 | Boyko, Bob             | 1676  | 1700  |
| 10541 | Boyko, Bruce           | 1811  | 1872  |
| 10531 | Cashin, Ken            | 1634  | 1665  |
| 10535 | Cashin, Glenn          | 2162  | 2197  |
| 10550 | Cosman, Tom            | 2053  | 2165  |
| 10555 | Davis, Cedric          | 2029  | 2097  |
| 10565 | Deroche, Michael       | 1784  | 1864  |
| 10569 | Driedum, Carsten       | 1864  | 1868  |
| 10574 | Elridge, Michael       | 2033  | 2033  |
| 10576 | Elridge, Peter         | 2033  | 2033  |
| 10580 | Furo, Matthew          | 1827  | 1827  |
| 10584 | Girard, Patrick        | 1857  | 1857  |
| 10589 | Gislson, James         | 1850  | 1851  |
| 10590 | Hayward, James L.W.    | 1790  | 1790  |
| 10591 | Heyman, Alex           | 1705  | 1705  |
| 10592 | Kats, Steve            | 1702  | 1702  |
| 10596 | Kennedy, John          | 1807  | 1807  |
| 10597 | Kenny, Bryan           | 1146  | 1146  |
| 10603 | Kegler, Donald         | 1393  | 1393  |
| 10598 | Kim, Dennis            | 1770  | 1770  |
| 10604 | Kist, Donald           | 1812  | 1812  |
| 10606 | LeBlanc, R.            | 1947  | 1947  |
| 10607 | Lindsey, David         | 1669  | 1669  |
| 10608 | Cook, Ray              | 1669  | 1669  |</p>
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**New Brunswick**

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