

Illinois Chess Bulletin

Volume 27, Issue 5

September October 2004

NM Aleksandr Stannov & CM Pete Karagianis
Tie for First Place in the 2004 Billy Colias Memorial Master
Invitational Tournament



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MIDWEST CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

October 8-10 or 9-10

Hyatt Regency Oakbrook, Oakbrook IL (near Chicago)

\$15,000 PRIZE FUND UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED!

13th annual Midwest Class Championships. 5SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75), Hyatt Regency Oak Brook, 1909 Spring Rd (near I-88 Cermak Rd exit), Oak Brook 60521. Free parking. \$\$G 15,000. In 7 sections.

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Class E (1000-1199): \$700-300-200-100.

Rated players may play up one class. Unrated may enter Class A or below, with prize limit \$600 A, \$400 B, \$300 C, \$200 D, \$100 E.

Entry fee: 3-day \$83, 2-day \$82 mailed by 10/2, all \$81 online at chesstour.com by 10/5, \$85 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 10/5 (entry only, no questions), \$100 at site. No checks at site, credit cards OK. ICA memb. (\$18, jrs \$14) required for IL residents. IL maxi-tour event. Special EF: \$60 less to unrated. \$20 less to rated juniors under 18. Re-entry \$50; not available in Master Section. GMs \$80 from prize. Advance EF \$10 less if paid with \$49 USCF dues.

3-day schedule: Reg. ends Fri 6:30 pm, rds. Fri 7:30, Sat 11-6, Sun 9-3:15.

2-day schedule: Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11-2:30-6, Sun 9-3:15.

Half point byes OK all, rds 3-5 must commit before rd 2.

Hotel rates: \$89-89, 800-233-1234, 630-573-1234, reserve by 9/18 or rate may increase.

Car rentals: Avis, 800-331-1600, AWD #D657633, or [reserve car online](#) through chesstour.com.

Entries: Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills NY 12577. www.chesstour.com. Questions: 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com 10/7.

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ICA Meeting and Location

The meeting will be held on Sunday October 17, 2004 from 1:45 until 5pm, hopefully ending early. A brief officers meeting will be held prior to the general meeting.

The location will be Cuyler Covenant Church where the Lakeview Cuyler Chess Club meets. 3901 N. Marshfield Ave, Chicago IL 60613. Marshfield is located in between Paulina and Ashland. The church is on the corner of Marshfield and Byron, 1 block south of Irving Park Rd. Please try to make it. *Larry Cohen*

The ICA has a new Membership Secretary

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Missing ICB's and membership issues should be directed to Jeff.

About the Illinois Chess Bulletin and the Illinois Chess Association

Illinois Chess Bulletin

Published six times per year

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Next Deadline: October 15th. 2004

Submissions

Send contributions to:

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Electronic submissions are preferred. Preferred formats for articles, stories or advertisements are Microsoft Word.

Game submissions are also preferred in electronic format. Games should be submitted in ChessBase archive format (.cbv) or in pgn. ChessBase 8 will automatically send archive format if you e-mail from ChessBase 8. In earlier versions of ChessBase you may archive a database to create a single file to e-mail. See your help materials.

If you need a simple program to create pgn files. Most chess databases will also produce text files in pgn format, as will many chess playing programs. The main font for the ICB is Arial, and also using the Figurine Aries font and the US Diagram font from ChessBase.

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Back Cover:	\$125
Inside Front:	\$115
Full Page:	\$100
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There is a \$20 design charge for ads that are not camera-ready. Allow 7 days for design. Allow additional time if ad proofing is required. ICA affiliates receive a 1/3 discount and ads that appear in consecutive issues receive a 10% discount. Payment must accompany the ad. The ICA and the ICB reserve the right to refuse any specific advertisement.

Membership Information

The Illinois Chess Bulletin (ICB) is published by the Illinois Chess Association (ICA). ICA membership includes a subscription to the ICB. Memberships marked 1st receive their magazine first class. Memberships marked P also receive a plaque. Affiliates also receive discounted advertising rates, event advertising on Chess Phone and the ICA website, and the right to run Tour events.

Corporate	\$500	1 st Class & Plaque
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Regular	\$18	
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Family	\$6	No magazine
ICCA Coach	\$19	Also a member of ICCA
Cochess	\$19	Also a member of Cochess

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President's Podium



PRESIDENTS PODIUM

I would like to begin by reminding everyone that there is an ICA election coming up. You will see a ballot in the Nov/Dec issue of the ICB. As it turns out I was mistaken about the need to hold up this issue of the ICB. I thought that ballots were suppose to go into this issue, but as it turns out that was not the case. Please feel free to contact me if you have any problems or issues you wish to have addressed. I may still have delayed this issue, but only so those rejoining at the Illinois Open do not miss an issue of the magazine. I am happy to report that we are finally catching up with all of the names and addresses that had been missing.

On the chess front, I hope you all had a good tournament at the Illinois Open (unless you were one of my opponents), and a good time. There is a tournament at the Chess Club of Mensa (a new chess club) on the last Saturday in September. October looks to be filled with tournaments. There is, of course, the Midwest Class being run by Bill Goichberg over the weekend of October 8-10. Also, you can find tournaments this October in Normal, Springfield, Peoria, Grayslake [contact Tim Just], Chicago [Lakeview area, at the Cuyler Covenant Church], and of course, Tom Fineberg will be running something at the Tuley Park field house.

On the national front, Shaunessy and Bauer were elected to the USCF policy board in the special election. The USCF has computerized, so by the time you read this it should be possible to submit a tournament online and have the rating results available by the end of the day on the next non-weekend day after the tournament. This will mean faster turn around times for rating tournaments, and also it will soon be possible to correct all those old errors that are still out there from years ago.

Best "Chess" Regards,
Larry S. Cohen

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Cheap Talk

.Disclaimer: This piece is not meant to put-down beginning players. It is meant to poke fun at those few people out there who kibitz like they know it all but don't really know thing-one about the game, and don't want to learn. Please keep that in mind when reading this little observation of mine.

Cheap Talk

By Matt Nemmers

I've been in the Navy for almost ten years now, and I've found that there's one immutable, universal truth: when someone in the service is overheard explaining their job, there's always a know-it-all in the crowd who has to put his two-cents in.

Now this isn't a bad thing; I enjoy hearing about other's experiences, or "sea-stories," as we call them in the Navy. Most people who've served our country in the military have at least a dozen or so interesting tales to tell, usually involving a woman, a fight, a bar, or a fight over a woman in a bar. All fun stuff the recruiters feed to enthusiastic, blissfully ignorant young men before they send them off to a ship in the Persian Gulf to wash dishes for six months.

However, the "two-cents" I'm referring to are typically dished out by guys who have two fundamental problems that mark them as stupid: 1) a complete lack of basic knowledge about their alleged branch of service; and 2) a ridiculously exaggerated notion of their own abilities. They pick the most dangerous and difficult jobs the military has to offer and start telling stories that they think sound like something they would've done if they were really there. If a Marine initiates the conversation, Mr. X was part of Marine Force Recon; if it's a soldier talking, Mr. X was either a Green Beret or an Army Ranger; and if a sailor shows up, Mr. X was a fighting man of SEAL Team Two. (Coincidentally, I've never met anyone who's admitted to being an Air Force veteran.)

I'm in the Navy, so most guys like to tell me about when they were a SEAL. They'll start off with things that sound feasible at first, but for some reason, these know-it-all types can't help but throw in something they think will impress their listener. Like, "I was the only E-5 my commanding officer let fly the planes," or "No, I didn't have to go all the way through boot-camp; my uncle is a colonel and he got me a waiver." Yeah, right. *A colone!* In the Navy. I'm all for embellishing a good sea-story and all (heck, it's almost *expected*), but at least have enough information to make it reasonable.

Remarks like the ones I mention above are usually my cue to exit stage right. Granted, I enjoy waving the BS flag as much as the next guy, but these

types just aren't worth the effort. I used to think there were a lot of stupid people in the Navy, but apparently those who just want to be in the Navy are even dumber than some of those already serving. In more ways than one, probably.

By now you're probably wondering what all this has to do with chess. Well, since my understanding of chess has grown and the hobby that it once was has blossomed into a full-blown obsession, I've noticed that the same kind of thing happens when the topic of chess is brought to the table. But the people who don't know jack about chess and still profess to be hardcore woodpushers are more entertaining. Partly because they say the same types of things as the military wannabes who claim to be Rambo, but mostly because justice rules supreme on the chessboard; a lot of trash talk and a few lines from Searching for Bobby Fischer isn't going to save a hanging queen.

Let me ask you a question: when you tell people that you're a chessplayer, how many of them tell you that they don't know how to play? Not many, right? Most of the people I've talked to claim to be avid devotees of the Royal Game. After all, ours is the "smart people's" game -- no one wants to be thought of as a poor player, or worse, totally ignorant of the game that's considered the world's foremost test of the intellectual faculties. "I **love** to play chess!" they'll exclaim. For most people this can be accurately translated into, "Yeah, I know how the pieces move. Except for the horse. I always get confused with the horse."

We've all met them: the self-proclaimed chess enthusiast who likes to say they're "pretty good" and talk about how they know the "trick move" that can "beat anyone" in four moves. They're cocky, aloof, and a fall from the lofty perch on their high-horse is usually fatal. They delight in every check, something they never fail to announce boisterously and never without a self-satisfied smirk. To these guys, even the ego-deflating blow of a crushing defeat can be cushioned by the fact that they were able to yell "Check!" at their opponent three or four times in a game.

They probably mean well; after all, they're just trying to save face in the presence of a supposed "intellectual," or they're just totally unaware of the depth of the game. I don't mind imparting some of the little knowledge I've accumulated to an eager mind who's willing to listen. But what's entertaining is when they're too proud to accept the advice of someone who actually knows something about chess because they think they were taught everything they needed to know about the game by their Uncle Elmo in the fourth grade. Here's a scenario:

You stop in to Mickey D's on your way home from your local club to grab a Supersized Number One. Carrying your roll-up board, the guy in line ahead of you asks you how long you've been playing chess. You tell him you've known how to play for a long time but have just recently discovered tournament chess. He grins and tells you he used to play in tournaments all the time, but hasn't played a serious game since he quit college to become a full-time Amway salesman. You nod politely, pay for your food and find a seat. Somehow, you're not surprised to see he's followed you.

He's got all the characteristics of your typical, eccentric chessplayer, as he just sits down across from you and looks around without saying anything. After a few bites of sandwich, you break the ice and ask him what his rating was when he quit playing.

"Oh, I didn't have one," he says.

"Really?" you ask, following up with the logical, "Well, how did you play in tournaments then?"

"I only played in the big invitationals," he replies, stretching his arms the length of the booth.

With a knowing smile, you offer a game in the most sincere voice you can muster. While you set up your pieces and he places his, he tells you an exciting tale about how he was the lunchroom champion at the Taco Bell on Locust Street "back in the day" and that he could've "gone professional" if he hadn't thrown out his back winning the bench press championship in high school, which prevents him from sitting down for long periods of time. As he's promising to take it easy on you, you point down at his side of the board indicating that his king and queen are on the wrong colors. He sheepishly corrects this oversight and the game begins . . .

.....

"Well, at least I checked you a couple times," he says looking at the board, dejected. "I guess you know that trick." He tips his king in somber resignation after his over-simplified transposition of the Scholar's Mate failed to take you out.

"Yeah, I've seen it once or twice," you say, thinking back to the K-3 scholastic tournament you helped direct a few months back. The kindergartener's would've given his 2. Qh5 a double exclamation.

"Let's play another one — I'll play seriously this time," he says, resetting the pieces. This time he remembers 'queen to color.'

With renewed determination he stares intently at the board, his eyes darting back and forth, desperately calculating which opening trap to use. When his eyes stop their frantic shifting, you glance up and see by the look on his face he's decided on which weapon in his extensive arsenal of trickery he'll use to teach his seasoned antagonist a much-deserved lesson. After a brief hesitation, he opens with the devastating 1. Na3.

Anyone care to guess the outcome?

After the game you offer to go over it with him. Since it only lasted a brief 13 moves before you stuck a royal fork in him, you're eager to show your prospective pupil how a memory nourished on chess is supposed to function and what he could've done to prevent the loss of his queen and the game. Of course, he just rattles off some lame excuse about not feeling well and says he has to go, stealing a couple of fries from your tray before he bolts out the door. A typical response from an embarrassed wannabe whose bluff has been called.

It's interesting to think about the different correlations between life and chess and all the symbolic life lessons one can experience from playing the game. Benjamin Franklin was obviously aware of these when he wrote "The Morals of Chess*," but I doubt he knew just how far people would go to make others think their tactical prowess OTB is extraordinary.

Much like the military, chess isn't for everyone. Some people can't handle busted egos and most self-proclaimed chess aficionados don't have the desire to sit down and actually study the game. Knowing how the pieces move is good enough for them, and they're content to impress their uninformed friends and family members with all the variations of the Fool's Mate. And hey, 'to each his own' as far as I'm concerned. But the next time you're pontificating the pros and cons of the Yugoslav Attack in the Sicilian Defense with one of your fellow chess geeks and one of these clowns starts bragging himself up, talking about the "trick move" and how many times he checked Mildred the Avon lady, break out your set and board and ask the sensei for a lesson.

Talk may be cheap, but it sure is entertaining!

* *The Morals of Chess*, by Benjamin Franklin, can be found at:

[www.http://truth.wofford.edu/~kaycd/CHESS-GO/bf-moral.htm](http://truth.wofford.edu/~kaycd/CHESS-GO/bf-moral.htm)

An Englishman playing chess in the USA !

By Jon Burgess

At the end of May 2004 I played in the Chicago Open tournament. It was my first big tournament in the USA so I was eager to perform well. I entered the 2-day option for the open section thinking it would be a bit weaker than the 3 or 4-day options. Once I arrived at Northbrook I looked at who was in my section and thought, wow, 4 GM's and 1 IM. I knew at that stage my first four rounds would not be so easy. In the first round I played GM Yury Shulman (rated 2616) and because I had no expectations of winning I just played, and then I started finding great moves and eventually won the game. I was still in some shock from winning the first round when I played GM Mitkov (2626) in round 2. This time I was not so happy because I lost to a trick in the endgame. Needless to say, one point from playing two GM's is nothing to be ashamed of. Then I got an easier game, I played the lowest rated player a guy called Trower (2074) Even though it was still a tough game, I managed to win. In round 4 I got the honor of playing GM Jaan Ehlevest (2674) although I lost, it was an interesting experience considering he won the tournament. Then the 2 day, 3 day and 4 day options merged for each section. By this time I was tired. I had played 3GM's in one day and then I found that I was playing Pete Bereolos (2340) from TN. Now I had played him before and I knew he was a tough competitor. We had a long hard fought game that eventually petered out into a draw. Thus I had 2.5/5 not a bad score considering. In round 6 I played an IL player A Stamnov (2293) and I found that after some strategic chess moves I had a winning game. In the last round I played a guy who was rated 2384 although he didn't play that well, and I found out that he had a provisional rating like myself. So a final score of 4.5/7 with a tie for joining second in the Under 2300 Prize. Not a bad weekend of chess at all, in addition my rating performance was 2575 so it helped my rating go up about 140 points.

Last month I played at the Continental Open in MA. I had gone on vacation with my wife and thought, hey, why not play some more chess? So once again I entered the 2-day option and found that many GM's had done the same thing. In round 1 I faced GM Yury Shulman again. He wasn't in the mood to lose to me again and after a long hard fought battle I lost an interesting game. Thinking I would get an easier game in round 2 was a joke because I played GM Sergey Kudrin who somehow managed to lose the first round. I played very badly and lost. Round 3 I drew a game with a 1980. I guess I was despondent at having lost to 2 GM's. Round 4 was a nice win against a master

2230 standard so then my spirits were up. Then came the final round and I faced a strong player (2310) who was about 17 years old and obviously improving after a good game I managed to lose and came away with 2.5/6. It's like they say you always have a good tournament then a bad one.

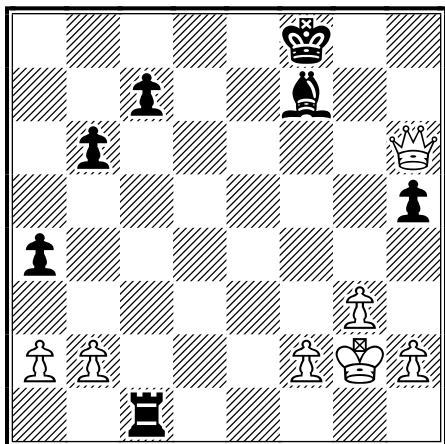
I think chess in the USA is very nice, indeed, especially because you get to play so many good and interesting players.

Jon Burgess

(1) Burgess,J (2215) - Shulman,Y (2616) [C44]

Chicago Open (1), 05.2004

First Round Chicago Open May 2004. Open Section Jon Burgess rated 2215 V Grandmaster Yury Shulman rated 2616. **1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.Ngf3 Nc6 5.g3 e5 6.Bg2 dxe4 7.dxe4 b6 8.Qe2 Bc5 9.Nb3 Bd6 10.0-0 a5 11.Rd1 Ba6 12.c4 a4 13.Nbd2 Nd7 14.Nf1 Nc5 15.Ne3** The problem for black here is that if Nxe4 then Nxe5 ! Plus the white knight is going to come to d5 or f5. **15...0-0 16.Nf5 Ne6 17.Be3** Now bxb6 is threatened followed by Rxd6 ! **17...Qb8 18.Ng5 Nxb5 19.Bxb5 f6** Now the hardest move of the game is hard to see how white can continue an attack here with few attacking pieces in play ! **20.Bh6** If gxh6 then am sure Qg4 check then Kf7 Qg7 check if Ke6 then Bh3 ! or if Ke8 then still Bh3 with threats of Nxd6 followed by mate on d7 ! **20...Rf7 21.Qg4 Bf8 22.Bxb7** Now if Bxb7 then Nh6 check Kf8 then Nxf7 Kxf7 Re7 check Ne7 Rxe7 check Kxe7 and Qxg7 ! **22...h5 23.Qg6** Now Nh6 mate is threatened and black is in all kinds of trouble. **23...Rxb7 24.Nxb7 Bxb7 25.Rd7 Qf8** Now how does white continue the attack considering black has his bishop defended nicely by the Queen ? **26.Bh3** Threats are Be6 check and Qh5 mate or Bf5 and Qh7 mate ! **26...Nd4** Now what f or white ? . the Nd4 covers E6 and f5 squares and holds blacks position together. **27.Rd1** Now the threat is R1xD4 removing the defender then Be6 check and Qh5 mate again ! **27...f5 28.R1xd4 exd4 29.Bxf5 Qf6** The only move that saves Black for now but here comes the kill moves ! **30.Qh7+ Kf8 31.Be6** A diversion move diverting the Queen now the important thing is if Qxe6 then Qxg7 check then Ke8 and Black gets away with it ! **31...Qxe6 32.Rxb7** Threat Qh8 mate winning on the spot so black is in a difficult position for sure now ! **32...Bxc4 33.Qh8+ Qg8 34.Rxb7 Bxb7 35.Qf6+ Bf7** Now white should play Qxd4 but he forgot oops ! **36.e5 Re8 37.e6 Rxe6 38.Qxd4 Re1+ 39.Kg2 Rc1** Now forced win available the Rook on C1 is vulnerable to a check on H6 by the Queen ! **40.Qd8+ Be8 41.Qf6+ Bf7 42.Qh6+** Diagram



Game over, I win the Rook and the point 1-0. 1-0

(2) Burgess, J (2215) - Mitkov (2624) [B07]

Chicago Open (2), 05.2004

Round 2 of the Chicago Open. Jon Burgess V Grandmaster Mitkov 2624. A bad game for me outplayed in the endgame. 1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nge2 Be7 5.f3 c6 6.dxe5 dxe5 7.Qxd8+ Bxd8 8.Be3 Nbd7 9.Ng3 Bb6 10.Nf5 g6 11.Nd6+ Ke7 12.Nc4 Bc7 13.a4 Ne8 14.Be2 Nd6 15.0-0 Nxc4 16.Bxc4 Bb6 17.Rfe1 a5 18.Rad1 Bxe3+ 19.Rxe3 Nc5 20.b3 Bd7 21.Rf1 Rad8 22.f4 exf4 23.Rxf4 f6 24.Rf2 Bc8 25.Ree2 Rd4 26.Kf1 Rhd8 27.Ke1 Nxa4 28.Re3 Nxc3 29.Rxc3 Rxe4+ 0-1

(3) Trower (2076) - Burgess, J (2215) [B10]

Chicago Open (3), 05.2004

Round 3 of the Chicago Open. Trower 2076 V Jon Burgess. At last not playing a Grandmaster and having a nice win. 1.e4 c6 2.c4 d6 3.Nc3 Qc7 4.d4 Nd7 5.Nf3 e5 6.Be2 Ngf6 7.h3 g6 8.Be3 Bg7 9.d5 Nc5 10.Bxc5 dxc5 11.d6 Qa5 12.Nxe5 0-0 13.0-0 Rd8 14.f4 Ne8 15.Nxf7 Bd4+ 16.Kh1 Kxf7 17.e5 Ng7 18.Ne4 Nf5 19.Qd3 h5 20.Ng5+ Kg7 21.g4 hxg4 22.hxg4 Rh8+ 23.Kg2 Ne3+ 24.Kg3 Nxf1+ 25.Rxf1 Qd8 26.b4 Bxe5 27.bxc5 Qxg5 28.d7 Qh4+ 29.Kf3 Qh3+ 30.Ke4 Qxd3+ 31.Bxd3 Bxd7 32.Kxe5 Bxg4 33.Rg1 Rh5+ 0-1

(4) Ehvest, J (2670) - Burgess, J (2215)

[E69] Chicago Open (4), 05.2004

Chicago Open Round 4 Grandmaster Jaan Ehvest 2670 v Jon Burgess. For me a great honour to play a player who has been around for so long and is a lovely guy. True I lost badly, but he won the whole tournament in the end. 1.d4 c6 2.Nf3 d6 3.g3 Qc7 4.c4 Nd7 5.Nc3 e5 6.Bg2 Ngf6 7.e4 g6 8.0-0 Bg7 9.h3 0-0 10.Be3

Re8 11.Re1 Nf8 12.Qd2 Ne6 13.d5 Nc5 14.Bg5 cxd5 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Nxd5 Qd8 17.b4 Nd7 18.Red1 Bg7 19.h4 Nf8 20.Ne3 f5 21.c5 f4 22.Nc4 d5 23.Nd6 Re7 24.Qxd5+ Be6 25.Qd3 h6 26.Kh2 Kh8 27.Bh3 Qd7 28.Qf1 Qc6 29.Rac1 Bxa2 30.b5 Qc7 31.c6 b6 32.h5 Rd8 33.Nc4 Rxd1 34.Qxd1 Bxc4 35.Rxc4 g5 36.Rc2 Bf6 37.Bf5 Rg7 38.Kg2 g4 39.Nh2 f3+ 40.Kg1 1-0

(5) Burgess, J (2215) - Bereolos, P (2341) [C77]

Chicago Open (5), 05.2004

Chicago Open Round 5. Jon Burgess V FideMaster Peter Bereolos 2341. Peter used to be as high as 2440 and I was glad of a draw in a complicated endgame. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.Qe2 Be7 6.c3 b5 7.Bc2 0-0 8.d3 d5 9.h3 Re8 10.0-0 Bb7 11.Re1 Bf8 12.Bg5 dxe4 13.dxe4 h6 14.Bh4 Nb8 15.Nbd2 Nbd7 16.Rad1 c5 17.Nf1 Qc7 18.N3d2 Be7 19.Bg3 g6 20.c4 Nh5 21.cxb5 Nxb3 22.Nxb3 axb5 23.Qxb5 Bc6 24.Qe2 Rxa2 25.Nc4 Ba4 26.Bxa4 Rxa4 27.Qc2 Rb4 28.Nf1 Bg5 29.g3 h5 30.h4 Bh6 31.Nfe3 Bxe3 32.Nxe3 Nf6 33.Nd5 Nxd5 34.Rxd5 c4 35.Rc1 Qb6 36.Rf1 Rb3 37.Kg2 Qf6 38.Qxc4 Qf3+ 39.Kg1 Rxb2 40.Qc6 Reb8 41.Qc7 Ra8 42.Qxe5 Re2 43.Rd7 1/2-1/2

(6) Burgess, J (2215) - Stannov, A (2293) [C42]

Chicago Open (6), 05.2004

Chicago Open Round 6. Jon Burgess V Aleksander Stannov 2293. An interesting game especially the final position. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 An opening by Black known to go for a draw maybe ! 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.c3 Bg4 8.Nbd2 f5 9.0-0 Bd6 10.h3 Bh5 11.Re1 0-0 12.Qb3 A good move attacking the D5 and B7 pawns winning one at least ! 12...Kh8 Now if Qxd5 then Bh2 check winning the Queen so have to take the b pawn 13.Qxb7 Rf6 Again if Qxc6 then Bh2 check winning the Queen 14.Kf1 Be7 15.Qb3 Rg6 16.Bb5 A good move threatening Bxc6 then Ne5 ! 16...Nxd2+ 17.Nxd2 Bh4 18.Bxc6 Rxc6 19.Re5 Winning either the D or F pawn ! 19...Rd6 20.Rxf5 Bg6 21.Re5 Bd3+ 22.Kg1 Bxf2+ A desperate looking move and yet still dangerous for white who has little protection for his king ! 23.Kxf2 Qh4+ 24.Kg1 Rf8 25.Nf3 If Rxf3 then Qb8 mating ! 25...Qg3 26.Rg5 A great move trapping blacks Queen ! 26...Qxg5 27.Nxg5 h6 28.Nf3 Be4 29.Ne5 Kh7 30.Be3 Rb6 31.Qa3 Ra8 32.b3 a5 33.Rf1 a4 34.Rf7 axb3 35.Qxa8 b2 36.Qf8 b1Q+ 37.Kh2 Black has his Queen back but mate is unavoidable ! 1-0 1-0

Jon's 7th game follows the EX Urban tour Standings on Page 26

Aleksander Stamnov

& Pete Karagianis Wins

*The 2004 Billy Colias Memorial
Master Invitational Tournament*

By Paul Smith

The concept for this tournament began as an online discussion on US ChessLive between Pete Karagianis and Len Weber sometime in late 2003. The two discussed their wishes to play in strong round robin events, which of course there is a serious lack of in the Midwest in general.

However, in this case, Pete had located a sponsor who was willing to cover the anticipated expense of holding such an event, and this, combined with Len's past successful experience in organizing and directing such events, resulted in a forward momentum that culminated in the first FIDE rated round robin futurity in Illinois in recent memory. The last one, as far as we can tell, was in 1986, at the Orland Park Chess Club. That one was organized in part by Glenn Panner (then briefly ICA Secretary), and directed by Glenn Panner, assisted by Len Weber.

Once the concept was launched, Len turned to one of the most experienced Tournament Directors in the South Suburbs, Glenn Panner, to provide expertise and contacts for getting the event registered as a FIDE-ratable event. Since Len knew he had a history of finishing very poorly playing in events he had to expend energy to organize, the idea was to turn it over to Glenn completely once Glenn was on board.

Glenn also graciously offered the playing site, Panner Sales Company. His company's home offices in Frankfort, Illinois proved to be an excellent playing site with perfect conditions for a small round robin event.

Some discussion was held on the potential names of the event, but the consensus was that it should have a distinctive Midwest flavor. Several ideas were discussed and some of the participants wanted to use the name to honor a player and friend, rival, and contemporary they had known in chess, but was taken from them at an early age, FM Billy Colias. Billy had died at age 27 in 1993, a wound to Chicago area chess that still has not healed. A number of the players had known him and competed with him. The organizers decided to honor Billy's memory in a

modest way with this event.

So the process moved slowly, painfully forward. Several of the players who initially suggested interest at the beginning had, for one reason or another, been forced to bow out. Quality replacements had to be found at the last minute. This and other unexpected turn of events taxed both Glenn and Len and put the event start date in jeopardy. But the problems were overcome, and the event was again scheduled to begin on 21 May 2004.

One of the solutions to some early difficulties was provided by Robert Loncarevic, an up and coming Chicago area Candidate Master. Robert graciously contributed to the sponsorship of the event in several ways, and his assistance was also appreciated by the primary (and anonymous!) sponsor, who thus far had been handling the financial burden alone.

Excitement was abounding as the pending event approached. Colors and pairing numbers were drawn on 5 May 2004. The first round pairings, for organizational reasons, had to be played off-site, and this actually resulted in the very few complaints about the event. Two of the 4 first round games were arranged at the Border's Book Store. Unfortunately the site is not conducive to tournament chess, which is not the fault of the club's manager, Howard Fried, but only to be expected of such a public place. There was also a request for an off-site director to be present. Len informed Glenn he would be willing to handle this, and dutifully did so. The games were concluded, but all players and directors involved agreed this would be the last time that off-site pairings were arranged in such events.

The event can best be described in the letters sent to the participants before the event, as shown below:

Gentlemen,

Welcome to the tournament!

The field for the tentatively named 2004 Colias Memorial Master Invitation Tournament has been finalized as follows (in alphabetical order):

FM Albert Chow

CM Pete Karagianis

CM Robert Loncaervic

NM Tim McEntee

NM Aleksander Stamnov

NM Dr. Steven Tennant

NM Kenneth Wallach

NM Len Weber

2004 Billy Colias Memorial Invitational

according to FIDE ratings: (avg. 2197)

1. Stannov 2286
2. Chow 2249
3. Tennant 2225
4. Wallach 2191
5. Karagianis 2151
6. Loncarevic 2138
7. McEntee 2137
8. Weber unr.

according to USCF ratings: (avg. 2187)

1. Stannov 2329
2. Chow 2242
3. Weber 2241
4. Tennant 2221
5. Wallach 2203
6. McEntee 2107
7. Karagianis 2102
8. Loncarevic 2053

The draw, randomly conducted by Glenn Panner on 5 May 2004:

The crosstable numbers are as follows:

1. McEntee
2. Tennant
3. Stannov
4. Wallach
5. Chow
6. Loncarevic
7. Weber
8. Karagianis

The pairings and dates are thus as follows:

Round 1: On or before Thursday 21 May 2004, location by player agreement.

McEntee-Karagianis
Tennant-Weber
Stannov-Loncarevic
Wallach-Chow

Round 2. 10 AM Friday 22 May 2004, Frankfort, IL
McEntee-Tennant
Weber-Stannov
Loncarevic-Wallach
Chow-Karagianis

Round 3. 5 PM Friday 22 May 2004
Stannov-McEntee
Karagianis-Tennant
Wallach-Weber
Chow-Loncarevic

Round 4. 10 AM Saturday 23 May 2004
McEntee-Wallach
Tennant-Stannov
Weber-Chow
Karagianis-Loncarevic

Round 5. 5PM Saturday 23 May 2004
Chow-McEntee
Wallach-Tennant
Stannov-Karagianis
Loncarevic-Weber

Round 6. 10 AM Sunday 24 May 2004
McEntee-Loncarevic
Tennant-Chow
Stannov-Wallach
Weber-Karagianis

Round 7. 5PM Sunday 24 May 2004
Weber-McEntee
Loncarevic-Tennant
Chow-Stannov
Karagianis-Wallach

Thank you for your participation and welcome to the tournament!

Glenn Panner, director

2004 Billy Colias Memorial Invitational

Invitation and Statement of Intent

Tentative name: 2004 Billy Colias Memorial Invitational Master Tournament

Director: Glenn Panner

Players invited:

FM Al Chow
CM Robert Loncarevic
CM Pete Karagianis
NM Tim McEntee
NM Aleksander Stannov
NM Dr. Steven Tennant
NM Kenneth Wallach
NM Len Weber

What: a 8 player, 7 round, round robin, to be held from Thursday May 21st 2004, through Sunday May 24th, 2004. 40/2, SD/1. USCF rated. FIDE rated. EF = \$100, with \$50 returned to each player upon completion of schedule, and all games must be submitted to the organizers. Prize fund = \$1100: \$500 1st, \$300 2nd, \$150 3rd, various \$25 best game prizes - Best game, brilliancy prize, best ending, best swindle. Judges to be announced.

Where: 9502 Gulfstream, Frankfort, Illinois. The home office of Panner Sales

How: We have received sponsorship from two anonymous donors, making the additional prize money, the site, and the director available to us. We then have invited strong players, all but one of whom have FIDE ratings, who are known to be professional, many of whom have previous round robin experience with the organizers. A successful conclusion of this event may inspire our sponsor and others to push for a FIDE norm event, so we want to impress!

Why: There are so few opportunities for strong round robin events in the midwest, that this represents a golden opportunity to play chess the way it should be played.

When: May 21st through May 24th, 2004.

We have invited a well balanced and professional field of players. We do not expect withdrawals, especially since it may affect the FIDE rating opportunities of several other players. In the unlikely event of a withdrawal, the \$50 return fee will be forfeited and reimbursed to the sponsor. In the unlikely event of a withdrawal, the organizers reserve the right to replace the player with a wildcard or make other attempts to keep the event FIDE ratable for all those involved. However, those invited have all proven themselves in the past to be professional, reliable individuals, which are the only kind we will ever invite to our events.

The player biographies:

Aleksandr Stannov, 48, Macedonia. National Master, Life Master, pending: FIDE Master. Current USCF rating 2329. Peak USCF rating 2330. FIDE rating 2286.

Albert Chow, 39, United States. National Master, Life Master, Senior Master, FIDE Master. Current USCF rating 2242. Peak USCF rating 2456. FIDE rating 2249. Former Illinois Champion.

Len Weber, 37, United States. National Master, Life Master. Current USCF rating 2241. Peak USCF rating 2311. FIDE rating none.

Dr. Steven Tennant, 56, United States. National Master, Life Master, International Correspondence Chess Master. Current USCF rating 2221. Peak USCF rating 2386. FIDE rating 2225. Former Illinois Champion.

Kenneth Wallach, 39, United States. National Master, Life Master. Current USCF rating 2203. Peak USCF rating 2360. FIDE rating 2191. Former Illinois High School Champion.

Tim McEntee, 38, United States. National Master. Current USCF rating 2107. Peak USCF rating 2255. FIDE rating 2137. Former Indiana Champion.

Pete Karagianis, 20, United States. Candidate Master. Current USCF rating 2102. Peak USCF rating 2102. FIDE rating 2151. Reigning Iowa Champion.

Robert Loncarevic, 33, United States. Candidate Master. Current USCF rating 2053. Peak USCF rating 2053. FIDE rating 2138.

The event was off and running.

Round 1:

Round 1: On or before Thursday 21 May 2004, location by player agreement.

NM McEntee 2107 (#6) - Karagianis 2103 (#7)

NM Tennant 2221 (#4) - NM Weber 2241 (#3)

NM Stannov 2300 (#1) - Loncarevic 2053 (#8)

NM Wallach 2203 (#5) - FM Chow 2242 (#2)

This round 1 game was played at the Border's Book Store alongside the Wallach-Chow game. Robert has been a student of Aleksandr and they have studied together and we can imagine the result of this game had something to do with their mutual knowledge of each others' openings etc.

NM Stannov,A - Loncarevic,R [B09]
Billy Colias Memorial (1), 21.05.2004

1.e4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d6 3.d4 g6 4.f4 Bg7 5.Nf3 c5 6.Bb5+
Bd7 7.e5 Ng4 8.e6 fxe6 9.Ng5 Bxb5 10.Nxe6 Bxd4
11.Nxd8 Bf2+ 12.Kd2 Be3+ 13.Ke1 Bf2+ ½-½

Tennant-Weber was a difficult first round pairing for Len, as these two have a very long and frequent history of games that dates back to when Len was an A-player. Steve has won the great majority, although the last 2 tournament games between them have been drawn. During their battles both players have tried just about every opening from both sides and so preparation was difficult. Len stated later that he attempted to get Steve into a line Steve had erred in twelve years previously - however, Steve was not obliging and this effort instead led to mistakes and a terrible game which Steve won with little effort. An ominous start for Len once again in a round robin he helped organize.

NM Tennant,S - NM Weber,L [D33]
Billy Colias Memorial 2004 (1), 21.05.2004

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.g3
cxd4 7.Nxd4 Bc5 8.Nb3 Bb4 9.Bg2 Nge7 10.0-0 Bxc3
11.bxc3 0-0 12.Ba3 Re8 13.Rc1 Be6 14.Nc5 Qa5
15.Nxe6 fxe6 16.Qb3 Ne5 17.e4 Nc4 18.Bb4 Qa6
19.Bxe7 Rxe7 20.exd5 Nd2 21.Qb4 Rd7 22.Rfd1 Qxa2
23.c4 Nb3 24.dxe6 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 Qc2 26.Re1 Rf8
27.f4 a5 28.e7 Re8 29.Bd5+ Kh8 30.Qb5 1-0

Wallach-Chow was the other game played at Borders. The players had to contend with people chatting, poor lighting, and very, very tiny tables. However, Ken, who previously has had less than impressive results against Albert, played magnificently and forced Albert off the clock at move 23. This was definitely the surprise result of round 1. Wallach showed he came to play, but Albert is a fighter! Don't count him out yet!

NM Wallach,K - FM Chow,A [E81]
Billy Colias Memorial (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nc3 0-0 6.Bg5
Nc6 7.Nge2 a6 8.Qd2 Rb8 9.0-0-0 b5 10.Bh6 e5
11.Bxg7 Kxg7 12.h4 h5 13.Nd5 Bd7 14.c5 Nxd5
15.exd5 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 exd4 17.c6 Bf5 18.g4 hxg4
19.fxg4 Bc8 20.h5 g5 21.Qxd4+ Kh6 22.Bd3 f5
23.Rhf1 f4 1-0 time

This game was a continuation of a theoretical debate between the 2 strongest players in Iowa. The game, played at McEntee's home in Iowa, was double edged and unclear, and ended before someone got hurt. Previously, the two had played the same opening to a

seven move friendly "feel-out" draw in the 2004 state championships, and now carried the discussion a tad further.

NM McEntee,T - Karagianis,P [D17]
Billy Colias Memorial (1), 21.05.2004

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.Ne5
e6 7.f3 Bb4 8.e4 Bxe4 9.fxe4 Nxe4 10.Bd2 Qxd4
11.Nxe4 Qxe4+ 12.Qe2 Bxd2+ 13.Kxd2 Qd5+ 14.Kc2
Na6 15.Nxc4 0-0 16.Qe5 Rab8 17.a5 f6 18.Qxd5 cxd5
19.Ne3 Rfc8+ 20.Kb1 Kf7 21.Ra3 f5 22.Be2 Nb4
23.Rf1 Ke7 24.g4 g6 25.gxf5 gxf5 26.Rf4 Nc6 27.Rh4
Rh8 28.Bb5 Rbc8 29.a6 b6 30.Rh6 Ne5 31.Nc2 Nf7 ½-½

Round 1 Standings:

1-2 NM Wallach, NM Tennant 1-0
3-6 NM Stannov, NM McEntee, CM Karagianis, CM
Loncarevic .5-.5
7-8 FM Chow, NM Weber 0-1

Round 2:

Round 2. 10 AM Friday 22 May 2004, Frankfort, IL.
Pairings and current score>

NM McEntee (.5-.5) - NM Tennant (1-0)
NM Weber (0-1) - NM Stannov (.5-.5)
Loncarevic (.5-.5) - NM Wallach (1-0)
FM Chow (0-1) - Karagianis (.5-.5)

The event now moved to Frankfort, Illinois, where the rest of the games would be played in the excellent pre-determined surroundings. This game involved over-aggressive play from Robert, who was playing very quickly in this, his first master round robin. Ken wrapped it up with a nice theoretical novelty.

Loncarevic,R - NM Wallach,K [C06]
Billy Colias Memorial (2), 21.05.2004

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3
Nc6 7.Ne2 Qb6 8.Nf3 cxd4 9.cxd4 f6 10.exf6 Nxf6
11.0-0 Bd6 12.Re1 0-0 13.Nf4 Ne4 14.Bxe4 Bxf4
15.Bxf4 Rxf4 16.Ng5 dxe4 17.Qh5 h6 18.Rxe4 Qxb2
19.Rf1 Rf5 20.h4 Bd7 21.Qg6 hxg5 22.hxg5 Ne7
23.Qh5 Be8 24.Qh3 Qxa2 25.Rfe1 Qxf2+ 26.Kh1 Rxc5
0-1

In his second round, Pete Karagianis faced a determined Chow and played the Schliemann! The two have fiercely debated this opening in the past, but this time Albert handled it very well to achieve an imposing position! Later, Karagianis admitted to

2004 Billy Colias Memorial Invitational

difficulty deciding on an opening, certain that Al would have something ready for his pet line, and he was correct. Chow gained a distinct advantage with some creative new ideas from the beginning. However, it was complicated, too, and in the ensuing time shortage Albert missed some things, and like a monster in a bad horror movie, young Pete's king would "just NOT die!". At time control it became clear Albert's best chances had passed, and then perhaps shell shocked, Albert walked into a forced and very slick mate. A horrendous start for Albert, leading his fans to wonder if he was up for this event or was the rust going to get the better of him. As for Pete, a sensational win over one of the tournament favorites.

FM Chow,A - Karagianis,P [C70]
Billy Colias Memorial (2), 21.05.2004

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 f5 5.d4 exd4 6.e5 Bc5 7.Bg5 Nge7 8.c3 dxc3 9.Nxc3 0-0 10.Qe2 Kh8 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.Qc4 d6 13.0-0-0 Qe8 14.exd6 Bxd6 15.Rhe1 Rf7 16.Qh4 Ra7 17.Be3 Ra8 18.Bg5 Ra7 19.Re2 Qf8 20.Rde1 Ng6 21.Qd4 c5 22.Qc4 Bd7 23.h4 h5 24.a3 Ra8 25.Bd2 Bc6 26.Ng5 Rd7 27.Re6 Qg8 28.Qe2 Nf4 29.Bxf4 Bxf4+ 30.Kb1 Bxg5 31.Qxh5+ Bh6 32.Rxc6 Qf8 33.Rce6 Rdd8 34.R1e5 Qg8 35.Qxf5 Rf8 36.Qh5 Rxf2 37.Rg6 Qh7 38.Ka2 Rb8 39.Nd1 Rd2 40.Re1 Qg8+ 41.Ka1 Rc2 42.Nc3 Rxb2 43.Rxh6+ gxh6 44.Re7 Qa2+ 45.Nxa2 Rb1# 0-1

These two had never met in tournament, and so the crowd had to wait and watch to see how this game would transpire. With white, Len seemed very comfortable and with the queensides locked up, he switched gears and aggressively headed toward the kingside. Aleksandr maybe loosened up too much in an effort to gain counterplay, and suddenly found himself in trouble. With time control nearing, Len appeared to be in complete control, when "it" happened. Missing a forced win on move 38 (Ne6+) in an effort to make time control, Len then lost his composure and, for the rest of the tournament, never regained it. Aleksandr sensed this loss of composure, and declined the draw, and shortly thereafter was able to secure a whole point. After this game Len seemed to have lost his fire, and the pattern of poor results in events he organized appeared to continue unabated.

NM Weber,L - NM Stannov,A [D10]
Billy Colias Memorial (2), 21.05.2004

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Bg5 e6 6.a3 Be7 7.Bxf6 Bxf6 8.Nf3 Nc6 9.e3 Bd7 10.Bd3 Rc8 11.0-0 0-0 12.Qe2 a6 13.Rfc1 Na5 14.Nd2 b5 15.b4 Nc4

16.Nb3 Bc6 17.Nc5 Qb6 18.f4 g6 19.Nb1 Bg7 20.Nd2 Rfe8 21.Nf3 f6 22.Qf2 e5 23.fxe5 fxe5 24.Ng5 Qa7 25.Qh4 Bf6 26.Rf1 Rf8 27.Qh6 Nxe3 28.Nxh7 Qxh7 29.Qxe3 e4 30.Be2 Qe7 31.Bg4 Bg5 32.Qg3 Rxf1+ 33.Rxf1 Bh4 34.Qh3 Rf8 35.Rxf8+ Kxf8 36.g3 Bf6 37.Qh6+ Bg7 38.Qf4+ Kg8 39.Qe3 Bf6 40.h4 Be8 41.Kg2 Qd6 42.Bc8 Kh7 43.Bh3 Bf7 44.Qf2 Qe7 45.Qe3 Bg7 0-1

In round 2 McEntee-Tennant, Tim opened fire with artillery on Steve's fortress in this game, but Steve showed his legendary defensive prowess and understanding of such positions to even start pushing for winning chances on the opposite wing. Tim missed a key opportunity that allowed equalization. Tim then also showed some defensive capability and the game petered into a draw. A tough fight, but a flame that flared quickly.

NM McEntee,T - NM Tennant,S [E70]
Billy Colias Memorial (2), 21.05.2004

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nge2 0-0 6.Ng3 e5 7.d5 Na6 8.Be2 Ne8 9.h4 f5 10.exf5 gxf5 11.Nh5 Nf6 12.Bg5 Qd7 13.Nxg7 Qxg7 14.Qd2 f4 15.Bxf6 Qxf6 16.Ne4 Qg6 17.Bf3 Bf5 18.h5 Qg7 19.0-0-0 Bxe4 20.Bxe4 Nc5 21.Bc2 a5 22.Rdg1 Qd7 23.h6 Kh8 24.g4 Rg8 25.g5 Qe7 26.Rh5 b6 27.f3 Qf7 28.Rh4 Nd7 29.Rhg4 Nf8 30.Be4 Ng6 31.Qc2 a4 32.a3 Ra5 33.Kb1 Rb8 34.Rc1 Qe8 35.Bd3 Rc5 36.Qe2 Qf7 37.Qd1 b5 38.cxb5 Rxc1+ 39.Qxc1 Qxd5 40.Bxg6 hxg6 41.Qxc7 Qd1+ 42.Ka2 Qb3+ 43.Kb1 Qd1+ 1/2-1/2

Standings after round 2.

- 1 NM Wallach! (2-0)
- 2-4 NM Tennant, NM Stannov, CM Karagianis (1.5-.5)
- 5 NM McEntee (1-1)
- 6 CM Loncarevic (.5-1.5)
- 7-8 FM Chow, NM Weber (0-2!)

Round 3:

Round 3. 5 PM Friday 22 May 2004

NM Stannov (1.5-.5) - NM McEntee (1-1)
Karagianis (1.5-.5) - NM Tennant (1.5-.5)
NM Wallach (2-0) - NM Weber (0-2)
FM Chow (0-2) - Loncarevic (.5-1.5)

This game between the leader and the cellar dweller might have promised explosive play to some viewers... but was not to be. Ken, in the solo lead at 2-0, knew he had a long tournament ahead of him, and he was, after all, commuting almost 2 hours each way to the

tournament site. Further, the tail ender in question held a solid plus record between them in personal score, with the last episodes occurring when... Len was in last place in a round robin! So Ken just decided to call it a night and save his energy for the future rounds. Len was in no position to tempt fate, and did likewise.

NM Wallach,K - NM Weber,L [D00]
Billy Colias Memorial (3), 21.05.2004

1.d4 d5 2.e3 Nf6 3.f4 Bg4 4.Nf3 Ne4 5.Bd3 e6 6.0-0
Be7 7.Nbd2 f5 8.Qe1 0-0 9.Ne5 Bh5 10.Ndf3 Nd7
11.Nxd7 Qxd7 12.Ne5 Qd8 13.Bd2 Kh8 14.Bb4 c5 ½-½

The French Defense did not fare well in this event, and the fact that Tim was still early in the process of adding these lines to his repertoire did not help when he allowed Aleksandr to play Qg4. After this point, the game was what Aleks enjoys, and he showed it in good style.

NM Stannov,A - NM McEntee,T [C05]
Billy Colias Memorial (3), 21.05.2004

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.Bd3 c5 5.e5 Nfd7 6.c3
Be7 7.Qg4 g6 8.Ne2 Nc6 9.0-0 Qb6 10.Nf3 cxd4
11.cxd4 Nf8 12.Bh6 Bd7 13.Ng5 Bxg5 14.Qxg5 Rg8
15.Qf4 Nb4 16.Rad1 Bb5 17.Bxb5+ Qxb5 18.Nc3 Qd7
19.Bg5 h5 20.Bh4 b5 21.a3 Na6 22.Rc1 Nc7 23.Rc2
g5 24.Bxg5 Nh7 25.Bf6 Rg6 26.Rfc1 Kf8 27.Bh4 Ne8
28.h3 Rc8 29.Ne2 Rxc2 30.Rxc2 b4 31.axb4 Ng7
32.Qc1 Nf5 33.Bg3 h4 34.Bf4 Qb5 35.Qd2 Kg7 36.Rc5
Qa4 37.Ra5 Qb3 38.Ra3 Qc4 39.Rxa7 1-0

Robert essayed the Alekhine Defense against Albert, and like all Alekhine games, it soon got ugly. Complications arose, and while Robert again moved perhaps too quickly, Al used his legendary patience to sort through the issues and arrive in a won game. Robert fought on bravely, but to no avail. After a terrible start, Al got on the board.

FM Chow,A - Loncarevic,R [B03]
Billy Colias Memorial (3), 21.05.2004

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.c4 Nb6 5.f4 dxe5 6.fxe5
c5 7.d5 e6 8.Nc3 exd5 9.cxd5 c4 10.Nf3 Bb4 11.Bxc4
Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Nxc4 13.Qa4+ Nd7 14.Qxc4 Nb6
15.Qb5+ Qd7 16.Qxd7+ Bxd7 17.d6 Rc8 18.Bd2 Bb5
19.Kf2 Bd3 20.Rac1 Nc4 21.Bf4 Kd7 22.Rhd1 Bg6
23.Rd4 Rhf8 24.Kg3 f6 25.e6+ Kxe6 26.d7 Rcd8
27.Rxc4 Rxd7 28.Re1+ Kf7 29.Rd4 Rfd8 30.Red1
Rxd4 31.Rxd4 Rxd4 32.Nxd4 Bd3 33.Kf3 h5 34.a3 a6
35.h4 g6 36.Ke3 Bf1 37.g3 Bc4 38.Nc2 Ke6 39.Kd4
Bb3 40.Ne3 b6 41.c4 1-0

This battle was looked forward to by many, promising

exciting play between to fighting players. They were not disappointed. Pete played his prepared e3 line against the KID, and in a tension filled middle game position, Steve found himself shedding pawns. The position became unclear and Tennant lost his way in the complications, calculating one tactic but missing another. Pete handled it efficiently after this, taking a second pawn and then quickly stifling Steve's attempted to build a fortress. Using a nice zugzwang, he forced the ending, and another one of the pre-tournament favorites fell. A second consecutive upset? Or harbinger of things to come? How long can Pete keep up this pace? Who is this Kid, Karagianis!? Chess world, meet Kid K.

Karagianis,P - NM Tennant,S [E61]
Billy Colias Memorial (3), 21.05.2004

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0-0 5.Bg5 d6 6.e3
Nbd7 7.Be2 c6 8.h3 h6 9.Bh4 a6 10.a4 e5 11.0-0 Qe7
12.Qc2 Re8 13.Rac1 Qf8 14.b4 Nh7 15.c5 d5 16.dxe5
Nxe5 17.Bg3 Bf5 18.Qb3 Qe7 19.Nd4 Bd3 20.Nxd5
cxd5 21.Bxd3 Nxd3 22.Qxd3 Nf6 23.c6 bxc6 24.Nxc6
Qd7 25.Rfd1 Rec8 26.b5 axb5 27.axb5 Qb7 28.Be5
Re8 29.Bxf6 Bxf6 30.Qxd5 Bg7 31.Qd7 Qb6 32.Ne7+
Rxe7 33.Qxe7 Qxb5 34.Rd8+ Rxd8 35.Qxd8+ Bf8
36.Rd1 Qb4 37.Qd4 Qe7 38.Qd7 Qxd7 39.Rxd7 Bb4
40.e4 Kf8 41.Kf1 Ba3 42.Ke2 Bb4 43.Kd3 h5 44.Kc4
Be1 45.f3 Bg3 46.Kd5 Ke8 47.Rb7 Kf8 48.e5 Bh4
49.e6 Be7 50.f4 h4 51.Ra7 f6 52.Kc6 1-0

Standings after round 3:

1-3 NM Stannov, NM Wallach, CM Karagianis (2.5-5)
4 NM Tennant (1.5-1.5)
5-6 NM McEntee, FM Chow (1-2)
7-8 NM Weber, CM Loncarevic (.5-2.5)

Round 4

Round 4. 10 AM Saturday 23 May 2004
NM McEntee (1-2) - NM Wallach (2.5-5)
NM Tennant (1.5-1.5) - NM Stannov (2.5-5)
NM Weber (.5-2.5) - FM Chow (1-2)
Karagianis (2.5-5) - Loncarevic (.5-2.5)

This battle of favorites also promised to be a fireworks display and indeed it was. Steve played aggressively in an exchange Ruy Lopez and Aleksander's position appeared shaky. However, Steve did not find a win, missing perhaps Bf4! Instead of the early Nc3, and so losing the initiative. Aleks managed to steal a pawn going into the ending. Steve played his cards well and was able to get into a problematic King and pawn vs.

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King and 2 pawns where Aleks had to find the concept of queening the c pawn rather than the Rook pawn to stay in control. A hard fought game with some fine endgame concepts at the end.

NM Tennant,S - NM Stannov,A [C68]
Billy Colias Memorial (4), 22.05.2004

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5.0-0 Bd6
6.d4 exd4 7.Qxd4 f6 8.Re1 Qe7 9.e5 fxe5 10.Nxe5
Be6 11.Nf3 h6 12.Qe4 Kf7 13.Ne5+ Bxe5 14.Qxe5 Nf6
15.Nc3 Qd6 16.Bf4 Qxe5 17.Bxe5 Bf5 18.Bxf6 gxf6
19.Re2 Rhe8 20.Rae1 Bxc2 21.f3 Rad8 22.Kf2 Rxe2+
23.Rxe2 Bf5 24.g4 Be6 25.Ke3 Bc4 26.Rd2 Rxd2
27.Kxd2 c5 28.Ke3 Ke6 29.f4 b6 30.a3 Bf1 31.h4 Bg2
32.Kf2 Bc6 33.Ke3 Be8 34.Ke4 Bc6+ 35.Ke3 a5
36.Ke2 b5 37.Ke3 b4 38.Ne4 Bxe4 39.Kxe4 f5+
40.gxf5+ Kf6 41.Kd5 bxa3 42.bxa3 Kxf5 43.Kxc5 Kxf4
44.Kb5 Ke3 45.a4 Kd4 46.Kxa5 c5 47.Kb6 c4 48.a5 c3
49.a6 c2 50.a7 c1Q 51.a8Q Qc5+ 52.Kb7 Qd5+
53.Kb8 Qxa8+ 54.Kxa8 Ke4 55.Kb7 Kf4 56.Kc6 Kg4
57.Kd5 Kxh4 58.Ke4 Kg3 0-1

In this game, Ken innovated brilliantly in his use of a Benko style gambit against the Ng3 line, and soon found himself looking very good indeed. Tim's pieces and pawns fell to the side with the misguided a4? push, and he was thrown by Wallach's departure from the expected King's Indian. But alas, Ken failed to take into account "the shot", which Tim found and executed. "The Shot" was good enough for the brilliancy prize and brilliant enough to clear Ken's Seventh AND Eighth rank of pieces, pulling the black king to a5 in the process! Sure enough it was a Rook sac that turned the tables unexpectedly and Tim pulled off a dazzling reversal.

NM McEntee,T - NM Wallach,K [E70]
Billy Colias Memorial (4), 22.05.2004

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nge2 c5 6.d5 b5
7.cxb5 a6 8.Ng3 Nbd7 9.bxa6 Qb6 10.Be2 Bxa6 11.0-0
0-0 12.Rb1 Rfb8 13.Be3 Qb4 14.f4 Ne8 15.Bxa6
Rxa6 16.Nge2 Nc7 17.a4 Nb6 18.f5 Nxa4 19.fxg6
hxg6 20.Qd3 Nxb2 21.Qd2 Rab6 22.Bh6 Qc4 23.Qg5
Bxh6 24.Qxh6 Na4 25.Rbc1 Rb2 26.Rxf7 Kxf7 27.Rf1+
Ke8 28.Rf8+ Kd7 29.Qh3+ Ne6 30.Qxe6+ Kc7
31.Qxe7+ Kb6 32.Rxb8+ Ka5 33.Qa7+ Qa6 34.Qxa6+
Kxa6 35.Ra8+ 1-0

This was thought by some observers as a battle of the "experts", the only two players in the event who had not yet earned a master title. Oddly it was also a battle between first place and last place. It was a hard fight but first place won the game. Pete showed mature middlegame and endgame play, and patience of a

much more experienced player. Robert, stuck in a difficult and pressured middlegame down material, missed the lines that might have saved the game. Instead, the game traded to an ending which Karagianis again pulled out of with some nice technical waiting moves. Robert remains in the basement, and Pete, by far the youngest player in the tournament, stays hot!

Karagianis,P - Loncarevic,R [E61]
Billy Colias Memorial (4), 22.05.2004

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0-0 5.Bg5 c5 6.e3
cxd4 7.Nxd4 Qa5 8.Bxf6 Bxf6 9.Be2 d6 10.0-0 Be6
11.Nxe6 fxe6 12.Bg4 Bxc3 13.Bxe6+ Kg7 14.bxc3 Nc6
15.Qb3 Qe5 16.Qxb7 Qxe6 17.Qxc6 Rac8 18.Qb7 a5
19.Qa7 Rc5 20.Rab1 Rf7 21.Rb5 Rxc4 22.Qxa5 Qf6
23.Rb3 Rc5 24.Qb4 Rf5 25.Rb2 Rc5 26.a4 Rxc3 27.a5
Rc7 28.Qb6 Ra7 29.Qxa7 Qxb2 30.Qd4+ Qxd4
31.exd4 e6 32.a6 Ra7 33.Ra1 Kf6 34.f3 Ke7 35.Kf2
Kd7 36.Ke3 Kc6 37.Kf4 Kd5 38.Ra4 h6 39.g3 Kc6
40.Ke4 Kb5 41.Ra1 Kc6 42.f4 h5 43.Ra2 Kd7 44.d5
Ke7 45.Kd4 exd5 46.Kxd5 Kd7 47.Ra1 Kc7 48.Ke6
Kc6 49.Rd1 1-0

Even though Len stated he felt the event was over for him competitively at this point, he also stated that from here on he would play for the sake of quality chess against some of the region's quality players. Such as Al. The two played into theoretically debated lines of the Be3 KID, and despite the fact that Len is very dangerous these days with the Be3 weapon, Albert played better. Len imaginatively but incorrectly attempted to create a problematic blockade using Al's advanced pawns and this seemed to hold for a while as the two rushed to time control, but after move 40, Al settled in for a long think and came up with the winning plan of exchanging Rooks, avoiding perpetual, and stifling counterplay. A quality win by Albert, who is now clearly back in fighting form. In the final position, there is forced mate on the way.

NM Weber,L - FM Chow,A [E99]
Billy Colias Memorial (4), 22.05.2004

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Nf3
e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.Ne1 Nd7 10.Be3 f5 11.f3 f4
12.Bf2 g5 13.b4 Nf6 14.c5 Ng6 15.cxd6 cxd6 16.Rc1
Rf7 17.Nb5 g4 18.Kh1 g3 19.Bg1 gxh2 20.Bf2 a6
21.Na3 Nh5 22.Nd3 Ng3+ 23.Bxg3 fxg3 24.Nc4 Bh6
25.Rc2 Nf4 26.Nxf4 Bxf4 27.Re1 h5 28.Bf1 h4 29.a3
Rh7 30.a4 Bd7 31.a5 Ba4 32.Qe2 Bxc2 33.Qxc2 Rc8
34.Qb3 Rhc7 35.Rd1 Rxc4 36.Bxc4 Qc7 37.Bd3 Qb8
38.Qa4 Rc7 39.Qb3 Qc8 40.Qb1 Rc3 41.b5 axb5
42.Qxb5 Kf7 43.a6 bxa6 44.Qxa6 Rc1 45.Qa4 Rxd1+
46.Qxd1 Qc5 47.Qf1 Qe3 48.Qb1 Kf6 0-1

Standings after round 4:

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- 1-2 NM Stannov, CM Karagianis (3.5-.5)
3 NM Wallach (2.5-1.5)
4-5 FM Chow, NM McEntee (2-2)
6 NM Tennant (1.5-2.5)
7-8 NM Weber, CM Loncarevic (.5-3.5)

Round 5

Round 5. 5PM Saturday 23 May 2004

FM Chow (2-2) - NM McEntee (2-2)

NM Wallach (2.5-1.5) - NM Tennant (1.5-2.5)

NM Stannov (3.5-.5) - Karagianis (3.5-.5)

Loncarevic (.5-3.5) - NM Weber (.5-3.5)

Once again Tim wheeled out his French Defense, which again had kinks in it. Tim realized the problems of learning a new opening quickly. AI played efficiently against Tim's weakened kingside and then launched a decisive mating attack beginning with the sac on h6. Not Tim's best work, and especially not against a newly energized AI, who handles the situation admirably and shows a nice winning idea.

Chow,A - McEntee,T [C18]

Billy Colias Memorial (5), 22.05.2004

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Nbc6 10.Qh5 h6 11.Nf3 f5 12.exf6 Rxf6 13.Qe8+ Rf8 14.Bh7+ Kxh7 15.Qxf8 Qb5 16.h4 Ng8 17.Bxh6 Nxh6 18.Ng5+ Kg6 19.h5+ Kxg5 20.Qxg7+ 1-0

This battle of tail enders was not played with great intensity. Both players moved quickly and observers later opined it seemed more like they were trying to get it over with. Unfortunately Len played superficially, as one would expect in a blitz game, and soon committed a fairly obvious pawn drop. After this it was not particularly difficult for Robert to lock up the whole point. At this point it was clear the event was officially a catastrophe for Len, though Robert was certainly happy to get on the scoreboard.

Loncarevic,R - NM Weber,L [B03]

Billy Colias Memorial (5), 22.05.2004

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.c4 Nb6 5.exd6 exd6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.Bd3 0-0 8.Nge2 Bg4 9.f3 Bh5 10.0-0 N8d7 11.Be3 Nf6 12.b3 c6 13.a4 a5 14.Nf4 Bg6 15.Bxg6 hxg6 16.d5 c5 17.Nb5 Ne8 18.Ra2 Nc7 19.Nxc7 Qxc7 20.Re2 Rfe8 21.Bd2 Nd7 22.Rfe1 Kf8 23.Bc3 Bf6 24.Rxe8+ Rxe8 25.Rxe8+ Kxe8 26.Qe1+ Kf8 27.Bxa5 b6 28.Bc3 Ne5 29.Ne2 Qe7 30.Ng3 Nd3

31.Qxe7+ Kxe7 32.Bd2 Bh4 33.Kf1 Ne5 34.Ne4 f5 35.Ng5 Nd7 36.g3 Bxg5 37.Bxg5+ Ke8 38.Ke2 Nb8 39.Bd2 Ke7 40.a5 bxa5 41.Bxa5 Nd7 42.Bc3 Kf7 43.f4 Nb8 44.Kd3 Na6 45.Kc2 Nc7 46.b4 cxb4 47.Bxb4 Ke7 48.Kb3 Kd7 49.Ka4 Ne8 50.Bc3 Kc7 51.Kb5 Kb7 52.c5 dxc5 53.Kxc5 Kc7 54.Be5+ Kd7 55.h3 Nf6 56.Bxf6 1-0

Clash of the Titans! The streaking Aleksandr "Stampede" Stannov versus Pete "Kid K" Karagianis. Pete doesn't have a good personal score against Aleks, and even worse with black, but in this event the Greek Gods had ordained Pete "untouchable". Aleks pressed for a win, and Pete fought on, and even missed a win with an endgame exchange sac! After 27. e5? Karagianis could have stabbed with Rxd4!! And white must resign shortly because of the sprinting b-pawn. Karagianis, however, was playing for the draw and blinded by his goal, which he dutifully achieved in a marathon 60-mover! The game was drawn, despite Aleksander's persistent attempts to win.

NM Stannov,A - Karagianis,P [C45]

Billy Colias Memorial (5), 22.05.2004

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Nxc6 Qf6 6.Qd2 dxc6 7.Nc3 Be6 8.Na4 Rd8 9.Bd3 Bd4 10.0-0 a6 11.Qf4 b5 12.Nc3 Ne7 13.Qxf6 Bxf6 14.Bf4 Bxc3 15.bxc3 Rd7 16.a4 0-0 17.axb5 axb5 18.Ra7 Ng6 19.Bxc7 Ne5 20.Bb6 Rxa7 21.Bxa7 Ra8 22.Bd4 Nxd3 23.cxd3 Bb3 24.f4 Bc2 25.Rf3 Rd8 26.Rg3 g6 27.e5 c5 28.Bxc5 Rxd3 29.Rxd3 Bxd3 30.Kf2 Bc4 31.Be7 h5 32.h3 Be6 33.Kg3 Bd5 34.Kf2 Be6 35.Ke3 Bc4 36.Ke4 Be2 37.Ke3 Bc4 38.g4 hxg4 39.hxg4 Be6 40.Kf3 Kh7 41.Kg3 Bd7 42.Kh4 Kg8 43.Kg5 Kg7 44.f5 gxf5 45.gxf5 Bc8 46.Kf4 Bd7 47.Ke4 Bc8 48.Bc5 Kh6 49.Kf4 Kh5 50.Bf8 Bd7 51.Bc5 Bc8 52.Bd4 Bd7 53.e6 fxe6 54.f6 Kg6 55.Ke5 Kf7 56.Kd6 Be8 57.Kc7 Kg6 58.Kd8 Kf7 59.Be5 Bc6 60.Kc7 Bd5 ½-½

This game was error filled and seemed to go back and forth. The history between these players is whoever has black seems to win, which is what happened their last 3 times up. This game continued that trend. As the players fought into a Queen's on endgame, Steve developed a surprising mate threat that decided the issue. This game involved the most humorous post-mortem, however, as Steve demonstrated his method of queening not one but two pawns to win.

NM Wallach,K - NM Tennant,S [E81]

Billy Colias Memorial (5), 22.05.2004

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Nge2 a6 7.Be3 Nbd7 8.Qd2 c5 9.h4 Qa5 10.h5 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nxh5 12.Bh6 Qe5 13.Nf5 gxf5 14.Rxh5 Qg3+ 15.Kd1 Qg6 16.Rh1 Nf6 17.Bd3 fxe4 18.Nxe4 Nxe4 19.Bxe4 f5 20.Bd3 Bxh6 21.Rxh6 Qg7 22.Kc2 Rf6 23.Rh5 Bd7 24.Rah1 h6 25.Rxh6 Rxh6 26.Rxh6 Rf8

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27.g4 Kf7 28.g5 Rh8 29.Qb4 Rxh6 30.gxh6 Qg2+
31.Kb3 Qxf3 32.Qd2 Qh5 33.Qg2 Qxh6 34.Qxb7 Qd2
35.Qd5+ Be6 36.Qf3 Qg5 37.Ka4 Qg4 38.Qf1 Qd4
39.b4 f4 40.Ka5 Bc8 41.Qf3 Ke8 42.Qc6+ Kf7 43.Qf3
Kf6 44.a4 e5 45.Qe2 Qa7 0-1

Standings after Round 5:

- 1-2 NM Stannov, CM Karagianis (4-1)
- 3 FM Chow (3-2)
- 4-5 NM Tennant, NM Wallach (2.5-2.5)
- 6 NM McEntee (2-3)
- 7 CM Loncarevic (1.5-3.5)
- 8 NM Weber (.5-4.5)

Round 6

Round 6. 10 AM Sunday 24 May 2004

NM McEntee (2-3) - Loncarevic (1.5-3.5)

NM Tennant (2.5-2.5) - FM Chow (3-2)

NM Stannov (4-1) - NM Wallach (2.5-2.5)

NM Weber (.5.4.5) - Karagianis (4-1)

The history for these two players is that Steve won 2 encounters when Al was young, but that they have drawn every time since then. In this game, Steve daringly accepted the c5 gambit played against Al's Saemisch. However, Steve believes he played an inferior line, which Al took advantage of strongly and efficiently, and shortly locked up the point in a surprisingly uncompetitive game. This would be Al's first win over Steve, and the Return of Albert Chow continues after a terrible 0-2 start.

NM Tennant,S - FM Chow,A [E81]
Billy Colias Memorial (6), 23.05.2004

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 c5
7.dxc5 dxc5 8.Bxc5 Nc6 9.Rc1 Nd7 10.Ba3 b6 11.Nh3
Nc5 12.Nf2 Qxd1+ 13.Kxd1 Bh6 14.Rb1 Rd8+ 15.Ke1
Nd4 16.Bd3 Nxd3+ 17.Nxd3 Nc2+ 18.Ke2 Nxa3
19.bxa3 Ba6 20.Nd5 Bxc4 21.Nxe7+ Kf8 22.Nd5 Rxd5
23.exd5 Re8+ 24.Kf2 Be3+ 25.Kg3 Bxd3 26.Rbd1 Bc2
27.Rde1 f5 28.f4 Bc5 29.Rxe8+ Kxe8 30.h4 h5 31.a4
Bxa4 32.Re1+ Kf7 33.Kf3 Bc2 34.g3 Be4+ 35.Ke2
Bxd5 36.a4 Bc4+ 37.Kf3 a5 38.Rb1 Bd5+ 39.Ke2 Be4
40.Rb2 Ke6 41.Rd2 Bd5 42.Kd3 Bb3 0-1

The history between these two players is limited and deceptive, a single Quick Rated game played over the USCL server, which Len won. There's two ways to bow out of an already dead competition, the wimpy way, or the manly way! Len chooses the latter by

apparently booking up on Pete's ailing Schliemann Defense and surprising the entire tournament by playing 1. e4! Pete, suddenly aware that a sleeping bear may actually be awake, goes to his standby 4. ... d6, and the game is on. Len gambits a pawn and goes on the attack, and opinions vary as to whether there was or wasn't a forced win for white, though in the complications, any analysis is unclear. This may have been the game that created the most buzz in the event, as while it was going on the other players looked on with interest, some even visibly jolting in shock as each move was rattled off. The two slugged it out, trading sucker punches until just before time control, when Pete uncorked some tactical resources from nowhere which didn't seem like enough until he found ...Be2!!!, after which it's clear the initiative had changed hands. This bomb forced Len off the clock on move 25. A fine game, worthy of a tournament of this caliber. When you're hot, you're hot. When you're not, you're not.

NM Weber,L - Karagianis,P [C72]
Billy Colias Memorial (6), 23.05.2004

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.0-0 Bd7 6.d4
b5 7.Bb3 Nxd4 8.Nxd4 exd4 9.c3 dxc3 10.Qh5 Qe7
11.Nxc3 Nf6 12.Qf3 Qd8 13.Qg3 Nh5 14.Qd3 g6 15.e5
Bg7 16.Ne4 0-0 17.Bg5 Qe8 18.exd6 Bf5 19.Rfe1 cxd6
20.g4 Bxg4 21.Nxd6 Qd7 22.Re7 Nf4 23.Qd2 Nh3+
24.Kf1 Be2+ 25.Qxe2 Qxd6 0-1 time

Tim was still fighting for a shot at 3rd place, and showed it in this long game against Robert. The two engaged in a complicated middlegame, with unclear advantages and plans emerging for both sides. Near the time control, Tim appeared to have the better of it, though Robert missed a timely g4, delaying it a few moves and costing himself, perhaps, the game. The match was well-fought, but Tim emerged from the fiery middlegame up too many pawns for Robert to hold.

NM McEntee,T - Loncarevic,R [E70]
Billy Colias Memorial (6), 23.05.2004

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 0-0 5.Nge2 d6 6.Ng3
c5 7.d5 e6 8.Be2 exd5 9.exd5 Nbd7 10.Bf4 Ne8
11.Qd2 f5 12.h4 Ne5 13.h5 Nf7 14.hxg6 hxg6 15.Qc2
a6 16.Bd3 Qf6 17.Nge2 Ne5 18.a4 Nc7 19.a5 Rb8
20.Bd2 Bd7 21.Nf4 Nxd3+ 22.Qxd3 Rfe8+ 23.Kf1 b5
24.axb6 Rxb6 25.Nd1 Nb5 26.Qg3 Nd4 27.Bc3 Kf7
28.Rh7 Rh8 29.Rxh8 Bxh8 30.Qh3 Bg7 31.Ne3 Rb8
32.g3 Rh8 33.Qg2 Bc8 34.Ne6 g5 35.Re1 g4 36.Nc2
Qh6 37.Ncxd4 cxd4 38.Nxd4 a5 39.b3 a4 40.bxa4 Ba6
41.Nxf5 Qh1+ 42.Qxh1 Rxh1+ 43.Kg2 Rxe1 44.Nxd6+
Ke7 45.Nf5+ Kf7 46.Bxe1 Bf8 47.Ne3 Bc8 48.Kf1 Kf6
49.Bc3+ Kg5 50.Bd4 Ba6 51.Ke2 Bb4 52.Kd3 Be1
53.Nc2 Ba5 54.Na3 Bc8 55.c5 Kf5 56.Nb5 Bb4 1-0

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Ken played enterprisingly in this game against Aleksandr, and soon reached a position which appeared drawish. Aleks played on, trying to create winning chances, very patiently, setting traps, and in the end Ken fell into one, forcing an issue that was better left alone. Aleksandr continues his own hot streak that is part skill, part luck, and definitely the result of a lot of hard work at the board.

NM Stannov,A - NM Wallach,K [C06]
Billy Colias Memorial (6), 23.05.2004

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.Bd3 c5 5.e5 Nfd7 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 Qb6 8.Nf3 cxd4 9.cxd4 f6 10.exf6 Nxf6 11.0-0 Bd6 12.b3 0-0 13.Bf4 Bxf4 14.Nxf4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 e5 16.Nxd5 Qxd4 17.Nxf6+ Rxf6 18.Qc2 h6 19.Rad1 Qb6 20.Qc4+ Be6 21.Qe4 Rc8 22.Qh7+ Kf7 23.Bc4 Bxc4 24.bxc4 Rd8 25.Rxd8 Qxd8 26.Qe4 Qe7 27.Re1 Re6 28.h3 b6 29.Re3 a5 30.Kh1 Qd6 31.Rd3 Qe7 32.Rg3 Kg8 33.Re3 Kf7 34.Kh2 Qd6 35.Rd3 Qe7 36.Rf3+ Rf6 37.Rg3 Rxf2 38.Qg6+ Kf8 39.Qxb6 Rf4 40.c5 a4 41.c6 Rc4 42.Qb8+ Kf7 43.Qh8 Kf6 44.Qh7 Qf7 45.Qd3 e4 46.Qd6+ Kf5 47.Rg6 e3 48.g4+ Ke4 49.Re6+ Kf3 50.Qg3+ Ke2 51.Qxe3+ Kd1 52.Qd3+ 1-0

Standings after Round 6:

- 1-2 NM Stannov, CM Karagianis (5-1)
- 3 FM Chow (4-2)
- 4 NM McEntee (3-3)
- 5-6 NM Tennant, NM Wallach (2.5-3.5)
- 7 CM Loncarevic (1.5-4.5)
- 8 NM Weber (.5-5.5)

Round 7, final round, the Money Round

Round 7. 5PM Sunday 24 May 2004

NM Weber (.5-4.5) -NM McEntee (3-3)

Loncarevic (1.5-4.5) - NM Tennant (2.5-3.5)

FM Chow (4-2) - NM Stannov (5-1)

Karagianis (5-1) - NM Wallach (2.5-3.5)

This game was again played by Robert at blitz chess pace, and he omitted a very crucial move. Not a good thing to do against The Chess Doctor. The game was over with less than 5 minutes off each clock.

Loncarevic,R - NM Tennant,S [B35]
Billy Colias Memorial (7), 23.05.2004

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Be3 Nf6 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 Qa5 8.0-0 0-0 9.Bb3 d6 10.Qe1 Ng4

11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bd2 Ba6 13.Ne2 Qe5 0-1

Tim had prepared ...e5 against Len, and both perhaps could have played more sharply... but when it became clear Tim was out of the money... this game ceased to have much meaning for either player and was quickly drawn.

NM Weber,L - NM McEntee,T [D10]
Billy Colias Memorial (7), 23.05.2004

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.Nf3 e5 6.Bg5 f6 7.Bh4 e4 8.Ne5 Qa5 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.e3 Rb8 11.Qc1 Ba6 12.Bg3 Rb7 13.a3 Bxf1 ½-½

Ken had again showed excellent preparation for this much anticipated battle with Kid K. But the Kid offered the early draw offer, Ken saw no reason to test him further. Point divided, and Pete had secured Plus Four, undefeated, and at least 2nd place. A fantastic tournament for Pete, who performed at a 2400+ clip. This score would have been a magnificent score for any player in the event.

Karagianis,P - NM Wallach,K [A58]
Billy Colias Memorial (7), 23.05.2004

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 g6 6.g3 d6 7.Bg2 Bg7 8.Nf3 Bxa6 9.0-0 Nbd7 10.Nc3 Nb6 11.Re1 0-0 12.e4 Ng4 13.h3 Ne5 14.Nxe5 ½-½

This game was the only truly significant battle expected in the round. Al said he was disappointed to see a Petroff, he was hoping for something a little more chaotic for this encounter. Aleks hung on against a fired up and inspired Albert, who pressed him the full measure until it became clear the game had played out to a draw shortly after the time control. Al, after his 0-2 start, came back fighting hard and playing great to capture solo third prize. Aleksandr, meanwhile, secures equal first and a tremendous undefeated 5.5-1.5 in this very strong field.

Chow,A - Stannov,A [C42]
Billy Colias Memorial (7), 23.05.2004

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.0-0 Bg4 8.c4 Nf6 9.cxd5 Nxd5 10.Nc3 Be7 11.h3 Be6 12.a3 0-0 13.Re1 Re8 14.Qc2 h6 15.Bh7+ Kh8 16.Bf5 Bf6 17.Bxe6 Rxe6 18.Rxe6 fxe6 19.Be3 Nce7 20.Re1 Nxc3 21.bxc3 b5 22.a4 c6 23.axb5 cxb5 24.Bd2 Qd5 25.Qe4 a5 26.Qxe6 Qxe6 27.Rxe6 a4 28.Re1 a3 29.Ra1 a2 30.Kf1 Ra3 31.Ke2 Nd5 32.Kd1 Nb6 33.Kc2 Na4 34.Ne5 Bxe5 35.dxe5 Kg8 36.c4 bxc4 37.Bc1 Rc3+ 38.Kd2 Rd3+ 39.Kc2 Rc3+ 40.Kd2 Rd3+ 41.Ke1 Rc3 42.Kd2 Rd3+ 43.Ke1 Rc3 ½-½

2004 Billy Colias Memorial Invitational

Summary of the players results:

NM Aleksandr Stannov. Plus 4. 5.5-1.5. This field was, as Aleks stated at the outset, a very tough field for him. But he sat down at the board, and worked very hard during the games, showing maturity, experience, and most importantly, fighting spirit. He fought on through worse positions and executed in better positions. It was not a beautiful tournament victory, but it surprised some observers, despite Aleks' #1 seeding going in. Aleks should be obtaining his FM title shortly as a result of strong performances immediately before this event. Aleks survived some bad positions and has several games which contend for some of the game prizes. This is a fine result to add to his list of credits which has become quite large over the years.

CM Pete Karagianis. Plus 4. 5.5-1.5. Pete was the shock and revelation of the tournament. Kid K fought no holds barred chess with names he had only read about a few years earlier. Knocking down master after master, all of whom dwarf his playing experience, it was quickly forgotten that he was an 'expert' player. Pete showed maturity beyond his years and fighting spirit commensurate with an in-form competitor. In bad positions he hung on for dear life and still retained a cool head to pull it out, in good positions, he never faltered. No one, even Pete, predicted this type of finish for him, but it is safe to say perceptions are now changed. We look forward to Pete being one of the masters at the next such event.

FM Albert Chow. Plus 2. 4.5-2.5. Albert started this event very shakily, going down sensationally in back to back games. But then he got it together and showed how dangerous a veteran master player can be. At the outset considered by many to be the pre-tournament favorite, Albert showed his class both on and off the board and fought his way back from an unimaginable hole to take solo third prize. Albert owns a long, long list of tournament successes over the years, and once he got into gear here, he showed why that is.

NM Steven Tennant. .500. 3.5-3.5. This .500 result was a little unexpected, as Steve was thought by many to be one of the favorites going in. Steve is the veteran of the veterans in this field and has demonstrated over the years that he is quite capable of winning against any level of competition. In this event, after a unusually easy first round win, Steve then found less obliging opponents and suffered some early middlegame slips in several games. He was actually risking a negative until his even more uncompetitive last round win. One shouldn't read too much into this

apparent tournament failure, this is not how Steve usually plays.

NM Timothy Mc Entee. .500. 3.5-3.5. Tim seems to have done reasonably with this half and half result, but if you take away the games he played using the (for him, new) French Defense, it paints a very different picture of Tim's result. Although Tim was not considered a favorite, it is known he is quite strong and those looking at this result should consider that it includes several games lost uncompetitively. Once Tim works out the opening kinks, he stands to prove very dangerous, as shown by the games in which he showed up to fight.

NM Kenneth Wallach. Minus One. 3-4. Ken started out sharp with two wins, which surprised even Ken, since he has been out of competitive chess for a number of years. But perhaps wary opponents, and a very long drive to the tournament site, took their toll and Ken did not win another game. Ken did show remarkable and deep opening preparation, and fine examples of play. The results showed that long games were hard on him, which reflects past events where Ken drove long distances daily to participate. No one will be taking Ken lightly any time soon.

CM Robert Loncarevic. Minus 4. 1.5-5.5. Robert has only recently entered the world of strong chess, and he had risen remarkably in the last few years. Very anxious to play in this event for the experience and the games, Robert dove into this field bravely. It seemed to some that his mindset was still conditioned for the weekend swiss, as he ended many games without using the time available, moving quickly and in some cases superficially. A very valuable learning experience for him, and likely to affect his thinking in future tournaments of this strength. He missed some opportunities in several games, and perhaps hardened by this, made sure he was brutally effective when he unexpectedly received a gift in the one game he won. Despite his finish, most observers feel he is only going up.

NM Len Weber. Minus 5. 1-6. This result is what Len feared going in, again trying to play in an event he helped organize. He has not traditionally done well in this dual role, and, combined with long periods of tournament inactivity no doubt contributed to this worst ever tournament result. So the event is bittersweet for Len, who took on the role of organizer at the outset, and succeeded magnificently in his role of the creation of this tournament, but then failed beyond his worst expectations, even against opponents he has done well against, in this event. There is no consolation in this result. But even while failing spectacularly, Len conducted himself as a master, engaging in full tilt battles against the tournament leaders despite his hopeless tournament position. While the result was an unmitigated disaster, the highest finishers of the event

2004 Billy Colias Memorial Invitational

each had to catch their wind after their games with him, no doubt having a different picture in their minds as to Len's capabilities.

The Director: Glenn Panner, 35, is a Candidate Master and a Senior Tournament Director and has a long, long list of directing and organizing credits. He is frequently called upon to direct in national events, and has been on the directing staff of the National Open for 16 years. Glenn was President of the Orland Park Chess Club from 1984 to 1993, and helped organize and direct the futurity events there in 1986, as well as the South Suburban Opens and Oak Lawn Opens events in the 80s and 90s. Glenn is also a former Secretary of the Illinois Chess Association, and has served as coach for several successful high school teams and individual students. Glenn is known for his maturity and Solomonian directing skills. The players at this event regard him as one of the few Illinois directors who would be acceptable to all the players in an event of this strength.

About Billy Colias.

Billy Colias was born on 3 June 1966, and died, unexpectedly on 5 November 1993.

Billy is the subject of a book called "Billy Colias: Midwest Master" authored by M.L. Rantala, NM Eric Schiller, and NM Alan Watson. Copyright 1996 by M.L. Rantala, Eric Schiller, and Alan Watson. Published by Chess Enterprises, Moon Township, PA.

And that's what Billy was. Many of the competitors here knew and played against Billy, who was the benchmark of his age group in the Midwest. Titles he possessed at the time of his death included National Master, Life Master, Senior Master, and FIDE Master.

Billy was professional, and modest. Who can forget his willingness to suddenly sit still before a game without a word and concentrate on the board, which was in the original start position, when a photographer aimed his camera at him? It was not vanity, it was his understanding of his position in the chess world, that in the Midwest he was one of the chess celebrities, and that his duty was to make sure they got a decent photo of him for whatever publication it was going to wind up in. Billy did it for chess.

Billy was also modest, friendly, and helpful in teaching and in post mortems, even with very weak players. It is not surprising he was selected as the manager of the Manhattan Chess Club.

Billy battled health issues early in his life and the residual effect of these combined with seemingly normal activities for a young man resulted in his unexpected and untimely death at the young age of 27.

The final Standings:

NM Aleksandr Stannov 1st-2nd	x	.5	.5	1	1	1	.5	1	5.5-1.5
CM Pete Karagianis 1st-2nd	.5	x	1	1	.5	.5	1	1	5.5-1.5
FM Albert Chow 3rd	.5	0	x	1	1	0	1	1	4.5-2.5
NM Dr. Steve Tennant 4th-5th	0	0	0	x	.5	1	1	1	3.5-3.5
NM Tim McEntee 4th-5th	0	.5	0	.5	x	1	1	.5	3.5-3.5
NM Kenneth Wallach 6th	0	.5	1	0	0	x	1	.5	3-4
CM Robert Loncarevic 7th	.5	0	0	0	0	0	x	1	1.5-5.5
NM Len Weber 8th	0	0	0	0	.5	.5	0	x	1-6

*The Tournament Chess Club
of Mensa*

August, 2004 Newsletter

By Bradley S. Watts

The Tournament Chess Club Of Mensa will hold its first tournament on Saturday, September 25, 2004 at the Sheraton Chicago Northwest in Arlington Heights, IL. The second tournament has been scheduled for October 30, 2004 during Mensa's annual "Halloweem" party, also at the Sheraton.

Chicago Area Mensa is paying for and sponsoring the terrific playing site on Saturday, September 25, 2004 before the regular monthly meeting. Check the WEBSITE for "Chicago Area Mensa" for directions and future meeting dates. Due to CAM's support, 100% of Entry Fees are being returned as prizes.

This is an Official Rated Tournament, results will be reported to the United States Chess Federation for ratings. USCF membership is required. Mensa membership is optional, non-members of Mensa are welcome to participate as guests of The Tournament Chess Club of Mensa. Our first ad in Chess Life reads as follows:

Sept. 25. The Tournament Chess Club of Mensa. 4SS, Game/15. Mensa membership not required to play. (100% of EFs returned as prizes) Reg: 4. Rd.1 at 4:15 TD Vince Hart. Sheraton Chicago Northwest, 3400 W. Euclid, Arlington Heights, IL. EF: \$20. Prizes: Based/30 1st \$150, U2000 \$150, U1600 \$150. U1200 \$150. Adv. Ent./Club Info: Bradley S. Watts. PO BOX 515. Channahon. IL 60410. 815-690-6295 bradleyswatts@aol.com.

At 7:30p.m. The Tournament Chess Club Of Mensa members and guests are welcome, but not required, to attend the monthly meeting. Admission is reasonably priced at \$10 for adult guests. Mensa members get in for \$7, admission for guests under age 18 is \$5, and Mensa members under age 18 get in for just \$3. A buffet and refreshments are served following a usually interesting lecture by an expert in any of a wide range of subjects.

The second tournament is scheduled for October 30, 2004 and the Chess Life ad reads:
Oct. 30. The Tournament Chess Club of Mensa. 4SS, Game/15. Mensa membership not required to play.

(100% of EFs returned as prizes) Reg: 9am. Rd 1 at 9:30. Sheraton Chicago Northwest, 3400 W. Euclid, Arlington Heights, IL. EF: \$20. Prizes: based/30 1st \$150, U2000 \$150, U1600 \$150, U1200 \$150. TD/Adv. Ent./Club Info: Bradley S. Watts, PO Box 515, Channahon, IL 60410. 815-690-6295. bradleyswatts@aol.com.

An electronic newsletter and Chess SIG membership are available for \$5/12 issues/year. Paper copies of the newsletter are available by sending up to 12 SASE to:

Bradley S. Watts	E-mail:
bradleyswatts@aol.com	
P. O. Box 515	Phone: 815-467-2775
Channahon, IL 60410	Cell: 815-690-6295

Disclaimer: The contents of this publication represent the opinions of the writers and not of Mensa, which has no opinions.

**The Tournament Chess Club
of Mensa.**

What - 4SS, Game/15. Mensa membership not required to play. (100% of EFs returned as prizes)

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Team USA Wins Match Against Team India

by Dennis Bourgerie

Bloomington, IL---A friendly match was held at State Farm Corporate headquarters on Saturday, July 10, 2004. When all the Rooks had been traded, when all the brilliancies and blunders had passed away, the final score was Team USA 42.5-Team India 33.5.

The score would have been much closer except for the strong play of **LA FAMILIA LEALI**. Michael and son Matthew Leali of Peoria, IL, both scored 5-0, leading their respective "A" and "B" groups.

The match was organized by Colley Kitson and Amit Parmar. The format was 3 groups of 5 from each team, game in 45 minutes, 5 rounds round-robin.

This was the 3rd match held in the last 4 years. Team USA narrowly won the first 2 matches.

The top scorers for Team India were:

Rama Tripathy	4.0;
Surya Kopula	4.0;
Suresh Kanniah	3.5;
Harshal Phalke	3.0;
Ritesh Chaudhary	3.0 and
Sameer Dandage	3.0.

The top scorers for Team USA were:

Michael Leali	5.0;
Matthew Leali	5.0;
Seth Chiles	4.0;
Colley Kitson	4.0;
Rob Nunez	4.0;
Robert Parker	3.0;
Wayne Zimmerle	3.0.

Here are some pictures from the event:



Michael Leali (left) had White against Harshal Phalke.

Harshal played in the 2004 World Open in Philadelphia, PA and had 6 wins, 1 loss and 2 draws to tie for 3rd place in the Under 1600 section.



Seth Chiles (right) had 4 wins for USA Team to tie for 1st in the "C" Group. The player on the left is unidentified.



Amit Parmar (left) and Wayne Zimmerle (right).



Indian Player and ICB Editor Colley Kitson

USA-INDIA Chess match, Bloomington, IL, July 10, 2004

Group "A"

<i>Players</i>	<i>Opponents</i>					<i>Total</i>
A1 <u>Leali, Michael-USA</u>	Wa2	Wa3	Wa4	Wa7	Wa10	5.0
A2 Kopula, Surya-IND	La1	Wa8	Wa9	Wa6	Wa5	4.0
A3 Kanniah, Suresh-IND	La1	Wa8	Wa9	Da6	Wa5	3.5
A4 Phalke, Harshal-IND	La1	Wa8	Wa9	Wa6	La5	3.0
A5 Parker, Robert-USA	La2	La3	Wa4	Wa7	Wa10	3.0
A6 Bourgerie, Dennis-USA	La2	La4	Wa7	Da2	Wa10	2.5
A7 Subramaniam, Sai-IND	La1	Wa8	Wa9	La6	La5	2.0
A8 Bonwell, Jon-USA	La2	La3	La4	La7	Wa10	1.0
A9 Smith, Jeff-USA	La2	La3	La4	La7	Wa10	1.0
A10 Gulati, Vivek-IND	La1	La5	La6	La8	La9	0.0



Robert Parker &
Suresh Kanniah

Group "B"

B1 <u>Leali, Matthew-USA</u>	Wb7	Wb3	Wb6	Wb8	Wb9	5.0
B2 Nunez, Robb-USA	Wb7	Db3	Wb6	Db8	Wb9	4.0
B3 Dandage, Sameer-IND	Lb1	Wb10	Db4	Db2	Wb5	3.0
B4 Zimmerle, Wayne-USA	Wb7	Db3	Lb6	Wb8	Db9	3.0
B5 Stroyan, Peter-USA	Db7	Lb3	Wb6	Lb8	Wb9	2.5
B6 Kalimuthu, Dhana-IND	Lb1	Wb10	Wb4	Lb2	Lb5	2.0
B7 Parmar, Amit-IND	Lb1	Wb10	Lb4	Lb2	Db5	1.5
B8 Valliyil, Vijay-IND	Lb1	Lb10	Lb4	Db2	Wb5	1.5
B9 Rachakonda, Jagadeesh-IND	Lb1	Wb10	Db4	Lb2	Lb5	1.5
B10 Scott, Garrett-USA *	Lb7	Lb3	Lb6	Wb8	Lb9	1.0

See note 1.



Indian Player &
Rob Nunez

Group "C"

C1 <u>Tripathy, Rama-IND</u>	We5	We2	Lc3	We8	We6	4.0
C2 <u>Chiles, Seth-USA</u>	We10	We4	We9	Lc1	We7	4.0
C3 <u>Kitson, Colley-USA</u>	We10	Lc4	We9	We1	We7	4.0
C4 Chaudhary, Ritesh-IND	Lc5	Lc2	We3	We8	We6	3.0
C5 Goderya, Mudrekh-USA	We10	We4	Lc9	Lc1	We7	3.0
C6 Jones, Nathan-USA	We10	Lc4	We9	Lc1	Lc7	2.0
C7 Bandi, Sreedmar-IND	Lc5	Lc2	Lc3	Dc8	We6	1.5
C8 Sachin-USA	Lc10	Lc4	We9	Lc1	Dc7	1.5
C9 Menon, Ramadas-IND	We5	Lc2	Lc3	Lc8	Lc6	1.0
C10 Thoppay, Suresh-IND	Lc5	Lc2	Lc3	We8	Lc6	1.0



John Bonwell &
Subramaniam, Sai

Chess Day Camp at North Baptist Church

MASTER TOUR POINTS:

BURGESS, JON L	(1)	9.0
GUREVICH, DMITRY	(1)	9.0
PASALIC, MEHMED	(1)	9.0
ARAMIL, WILLIAM J	(1)	8.0
DUNCAN, JASON T	(1)	8.0
KARKLINS, ANDREW	(1)	7.0
CHAN, JULIAN	(1)	6.0
CHOW, ALBERT C	(1)	6.0
ATOOFI, PEDRAM	(1)	5.0
BROCK, WILLIAM	(1)	5.0

EXPERT TOUR POINTS:

CAO, TONY	(1)	14.0
LEALI, MICHAEL E	(1)	14.0
ALLSBROOK, FRED S	(1)	10.0
CAVENEY, GEOFFREY	(1)	10.0
SPARKS, DEREK		10.0
RASMUSSEN, ROBERT	(1)	9.0
DUNCAN, JASON T	(1)	8.0
INUMERABLE, FLORE	(1)	8.0
LAWRENCE, DANYUL	(1)	8.0
LOKHOV, ANTON	(1)	8.0

CLASS A TOUR POINTS:

DONIS, CAMERON L	(1)	20.0
SPARKS, DEREK		17.5
CAO, TONY	(1)	14.0
DONDON, JOSITO C	(1)	14.0
LEALI, MICHAEL E	(1)	14.0
TRIFONOV, OLEG S	(2)	12.0
MC DONALD, JORDAN M	(2)	10.5
LACEY, PATRICK M	(1)	10.0
BUKY, JOHN P	(1)	9.0
GANDHI, RAJEN C	(1)	9.0

CLASS B TOUR POINTS:

PEKOVIC, JUSUF	(1)	20.0
MITCHELL, GARY T	(1)	14.0
HEALY, JAMES D	(2)	12.0
DICKEY, DOUGLAS E	(2)	11.0
MC DONALD, JORDAN M	(2)	10.5
BERRY, NICHOLAS	(1)	10.0
BONWELL, JONATHAN J		10.0
FAMBRO, PAUL	(1)	10.0
GARWOOD, BRIAN	(1)	10.0
IZAK-DAMIECKI, ARTHUR P	(1)	10.0

CLASS C TOUR POINTS:

HAMILTON, MARK P	(1)	20.0
WOOD, CHRISTOPHER	(1)	14.0
ADEKOLA, ADEREMI	(1)	10.0
BUNTON, EDMOND	(1)	10.0

FAMBRO, PAUL	(1)	10.0
GASIECKI, ALAN F	(1)	10.0
GRIFFITH, JEREMY W	(1)	10.0
KOLESNIKOV, YURII A	(1)	10.0
LAUGER, JUDD E	(1)	10.0
RATNIKOV, DMITRY	(1)	10.0

CLASS D TOUR POINTS:

BIALER, GERSHON	(1)	20.0
KACZYNSKI, THOMAS	(1)	20.0
MEEROVICH, ILAN	(1)	20.0
BIALER, JACOB	(1)	14.0
LAUGER, JUDD E	(1)	10.0
MAGNESS, TREVOR S	(1)	10.0
ROCKFORD, MICHAEL	(1)	10.0
SUMMERS, TODD M	(1)	10.0
BARBIAN, MATTHEW R	(1)	9.0
BURBON, JAVIER R	(1)	9.0
CRAWFORD, ARIEL		

CLASS E TOUR POINTS:

GAUDINO, STEVEN J	(1)	28.0
GARIVALTIS, ALEXA	(1)	20.0
KWAN, RANDY G	(1)	20.0
METZ, VERONICA	(1)	20.0
CONNELLY, ALEXANDER	(1)	14.0
WINIECKI, ROBERT	(1)	14.0
GREINER, CHRISTOPHER L	(1)	10.0
HEMPSTEAD, WILLIE E	(1)	10.0
KILLE, BRYCE L	(1)	10.0
LAURILA, DANIEL J	(1)	10.0

CLASS F TOUR POINTS:

GAUDINO, STEVEN J	(1)	28.0
LAURILA, DANIEL J	(1)	10.0
HU, YAODI	(2)	9.0
PANN, CARTER	(1)	9.0
SERINE, STEPHANIE	(1)	8.0
LANGE, RICHARD C	(1)	7.0
STEINBERG, ROSS	(1)	5.0
GALOUSTIAN, ALEX	(1)	4.0

The ICA Tour prizes have changed. A notice is posted on page 54.

Larry S. Cohen
ICA President

MASTER EX-URBAN TOUR POINTS:

Bloomington Normal Chess Camp 2004

EXPERT EX-URBAN TOUR POINTS:

LEALI, MICHAEL E	(1) 14.0
COHEN, LAWRENCE S	(1) 7.5
VAN BUSKIRK, DOUGLAS	(1) 7.5
BOURGERIE, DENNIS A	4.5
BLICKHAN, GARY L	(2) 4.0
MILES, KYLE J	(1) 4.0
SPARKS, DEREK	4.0
VOSS, ANDY S	(1) 4.0
WINKS, MATTHEW	(1) 4.0
SEET, PAUL	(2) 4.0

CLASS A EX-URBAN TOUR POINTS:

LEALI, MICHAEL E	(1) 14.0
SPARKS, DEREK	11.5
BOURGERIE, DENNIS A	7.0
BLICKHAN, GARY L	(2) 6.5
BONWELL, JONATHAN J	5.0
BARNARD, THOMAS A	(2) 4.5
HEALY, JAMES D	(2) 4.0
MILES, KYLE J	(1) 4.0
VOSS, ANDY S	(1) 4.0
WINKS, MATTHEW	(1) 4.0

CLASS B EX-URBAN TOUR POINTS:

BOURGERIE, DENNIS A	7.0
BLICKHAN, GARY L	(2) 6.5
BONWELL, JONATHAN J	5.0
BARNARD, THOMAS A	(2) 4.5
HEALY, JAMES D	(2) 4.0
MILES, KYLE J	(1) 4.0
VOSS, ANDY S	(1) 4.0
WINKS, MATTHEW	(1) 4.0
RUTH, JAMES	(2) 3.5
BENNETT, JERRY	(2) 3.0

CLASS C EX-URBAN TOUR POINTS:

VOSS, ANDY S	(1) 4.0
WINKS, MATTHEW	(1) 3.0
RUTH, JAMES	(2) 3.0
BENNETT, JERRY	(2) 2.5
KNOEDLER, THOMAS B	(2) 2.0
BONONI, DAVID H	(1) 2.0
AYLER, PETER W	(1) 2.0
CHIEN, JASON W	(1) 2.0
CREMEENS, MATTHEW K	(1) 1.5
DOROSHEFF, EVAN JAMES	(1) 1.5

CLASS D EX-URBAN TOUR POINTS:

WINKS, MATTHEW	(1) 4.0
RUTH, JAMES	(2) 3.5
AYLER, PETER W	(1) 2.0
DOROSHEFF, EVAN JAMES	(1) 2.0
BENNETT, RAY D	(1) 2.0
KIBLER, MICHAEL E	(1) 1.5
MALCOME, FREDDIE L	(1) 1.5
TERLIZZI, CALVIN J	(2) 1.5
NASZODI, LASZLO	(1) 1.0
SANDERS, KEITH M	(1) 1.0

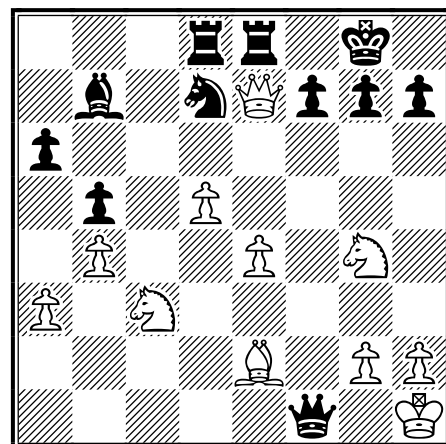
CLASS E EX-URBAN TOUR POINTS:

RUTH, JAMES	(2) 3.5
AYLER, PETER W	(1) 2.0
DOROSHEFF, EVAN JAMES	(1) 2.0
KIBLER, MICHAEL E	(1) 1.5
TERLIZZI, CALVIN J	(2) 1.5
SANDERS, KEITH M	(1) 1.0
SHORES, MICHAEL K	(1) 1.0

(7) Moreno (2215) - Burgess, J (2379) [A40]

Chicago Open (7), 05.2004

Chicago Open Last Round 7. Jon Burgess V Moreno 2379 (This guy had only played 10 games to get this rating). An interesting game again especially the end position. **1.d4 c6 2.c4 d6 3.Nc3 Qc7 4.e4 Nd7 5.f4 e5 6.fxe5 dx5 7.d5 Ngf6 8.Nf3 Bc5 9.Qe2 0-0 10.Be3 cxd5 11.cxd5 Bb4 12.Bd2 a6 13.a3 Ba5 14.Rc1 Qd6 15.b4 Bb6 16.Be3 Bxe3 17.Qxe3 b5 18.Be2 Bb7 19.0-0 Ng4 20.Qg5 Qb6+ 21.Kh1 Nf2+ 22.Rxf2 Qxf2 23.Qe7 Rad8 24.Nxe5 Rfe8 25.Ng4 Qf4 26.Rf1 Qxf1+** Diagram



0-1

Chess Day Camp at Northbridge Baptist Church

By Peter Stroyan



Staff and Kids from B&N Camp 2004

I remember the days of being a kid and going to summer chess camp. The last camp that I attended was Kaidonav Chess camp. This was one of the best camps that I have been to. I remember the camp was held at the University of Kentucky the same week they were holding cheerleading camp. I remember one of my friends asking me if I wanted to go see the cheerleaders practice or go play chess. We both looked at each other and laughed. Of Course! Lets go play blitz! A week of nothing but chess was the best part of summer. This summer I got to re-experience chess camp from a whole new perspective.

This summer I was asked to help teach at a camp. Bill Barton, Pastor of the newly located Northbridge Baptist Church of Normal, hosted and organized the camp. He did a great job.

The camp started at 9 am and ended at 2:30 pm. This camp had about 46 chess students from the Twin Cities and also Kent Cen from Chicago, who is ranked number 10 in the US for nine year olds. Unrated players and High Rated players both attended this camp. I, of course helped instruct the lower rated students. IM Young and Christ Merli were the head instructors.

A typical Day:

We would have a big group gathering and learn about essential chess ideas. We would learn about ideas that will either win or lose you the game. We would then break off to our groups. I helped instruct the 500's. The first session we would talk about openings. We would then have free time. Kids would be playing kickball or bughouse. If they weren't doing either one thing they would usually be eating cookies.

Then we would meet again and work on our tactics and strategies in the middle game. During lunch the instructors would sit together and talk about chess. If you are only a 1600 and trying to talk chess with a 2400 (IM Young) and a 2100 (Merli) can be rather difficult. It was sure enjoyable though. After lunch we would have a tournament game for the kids. Unbelievable! All kids were notating and playing with clocks. After the tournament game we would go over the games. To wind the day down we would go over end games. This was the usual camp day.

I would highly recommend this camp to anyone who wants to be a successful chess player. You definitely get your money's worth.

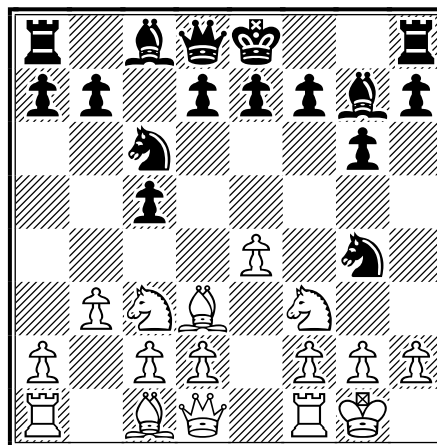
Below is a game from the camp. The person playing black is a 900 and White is an unrated.

(1) Unknown - Brandon [B23]

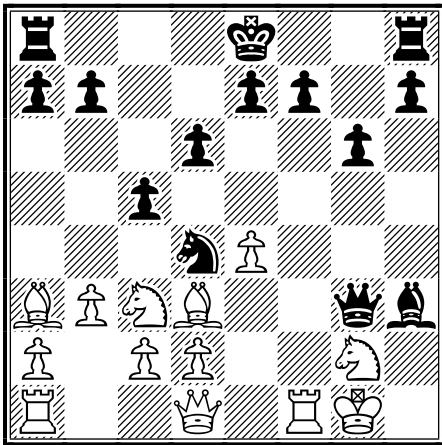
05.08.2004

[Stroyan,Pete]

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 g6 3.Bd3 Nf6 [3...Nc6 4.Nf3 d6 5.b3 Nf6 6.Bb2 Bg7] 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.0-0 [5.e5 Ng4 loses the pawn] 5...Nc6 6.b3 Ng4?



[6...d6 7.Bb2 a6 8.Ne2 b5] 7.h3 Nh2?? 8.Nxh2 Qc7 9.Nf3 Nd4 10.Nh4? [10.Nxd4 Bxd4 11.Bb2 Should try to trade when up material] 10...Be5 11.g3 [11.Nd5 Qd6 12.Bb2 e6 13.Ne3 Bh2+ 14.Kh1] 11...Bxg3 12.fxg3 Qxg3+ 13.Ng2 d6 14.Ba3 [14.Ne2 Nxe2+ 15.Qxe2 Bxh3 16.Rf3 Qg4 17.Bb2] 14...Bxh3



15.Ne2? [15.Rf2 h5 16.Ne2 Nxe2+ 17.Qxe2]
15...Qxg2# 0-1

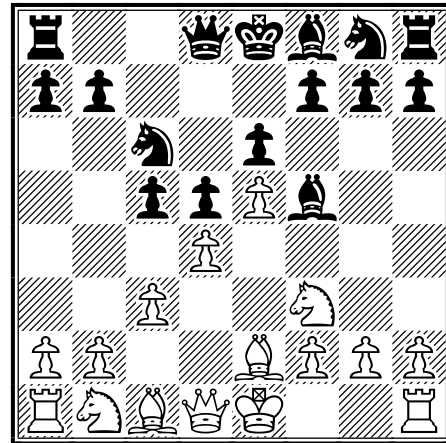
The Crap-Kann
By: Peter Stroyan

I was asked to be a coach for a local elementary school and I accepted. During one of the National Tournaments they had a tournament for players and coaches. The last tournament I participated in was the State High School Tournament, which was 4 years ago at the time. I was a fairly strong High School player so I thought I would hold my own. Anyway, this fun tournament turned into an embarrassing tournament. I am going to show my first round game.

When I stopped playing chess I was playing the Caro-Kann. I had much success with it in High School, especially against high rated players. I was paired against a 2100 the first round. With my lack of thinking and his opening ability, it made for my most embarrassing game.

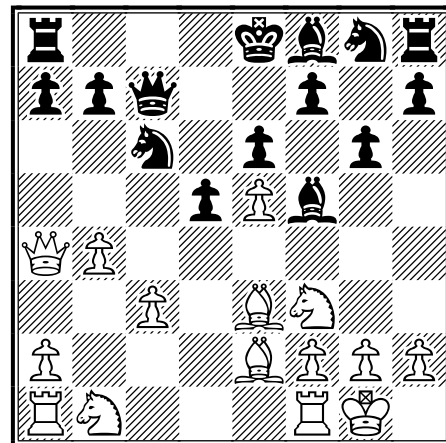
Here is how not to play the Caro-Kann:

(1) Palveda (2126) - Stroyan (1371)
13.12.2003
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 [3.exd5 cxd5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Nf3 g6] 3...Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 c5 6.c3 Nc6



I think this position is equal

7.0-0 Qb6 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.b4 Bf8 10.Be3 Qc7 11.Qa4 g6??



Hmm...probably not the best move. **12.Na3 Nge7 13.Nb5 Qd7 14.Nd6+!**

Here is where I have many options. I can lose my rook, queen, or get checkmated. So, I had to resign.[14.Nd6+ Kd8 15.Nxf7+ Ke8 16.Nxh8; 14.Nd6+ Kd8 15.Bb6+! axb6 16.Qxa8+ Kc7 (16...Nc8 17.Nxb7+ Kc7 18.Bb5) 17.Nb5#] 1-0

This is why I refer to this game as the Crap-Kann. I do still play the Caro-Kann, but had to study the lines a little more.

St. Charles Chess Club

By Dan Pradt



July 8 GM Joel Benjamin gave a Simul. I am indebted to Clive Hutchby for this Report. You can find Clive's excellent columns on chess in the Glen Ellyn News and other North Dupage local papers. Joel faced 28 chess players, winning 26 bouts, drawing Tommaso Dorigo of Fermilab, and taking a rare loss to Marcus Stinson. Marcus gave his Alekhine's Defense an original treatment, danced his Knight's around more than usual (even for an Alekhine), and won when the Grandmaster **made a few mistakes.**

GM Joel Benjamin versus St. Charles Chess Club
by Blair Machaj

Grandmaster Joel Benjamin was originally scheduled to be in Chicago July 8-14 for the Master Challenge. Usually we try to bring in a few GM's and offer them simultaneous events to help cover the cost. This year we brought back the world renowned Benjamin to play a simul versus our club. Joel Benjamin is a 3 time US Champion and is currently rated 2632, which would put him in the top 10 in the US. Joel Benjamin worked on

the Deep Blue project which played Kasparov in the 90's.



The last time we hosted a simul, we had roughly 30 players playing. This time was nearly the same- 27. The difference was last time we had roughly 5 experts, 5 A players, 5 B players and it was very difficult for the GM. This time the average rating was much lower-but don't let that deceive you. The games speak for themselves. The final result was 25 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss, for GM Benjamin. The games were much closer than the final results.



Marcus Stinson, a long time A player was the first win. In his game GM Benjamin made a few mistakes. Mr. Stinson capitalized right away, to receive a well deserved win.



Tommaso Dorigo, who plays in the Chicago Industrial Chess League, managed to draw GM Benjamin. He had a very promising game, and might have been able to win, but settled for a draw. Others had better positions but eventually some inaccurate moves and some extraordinary play by GM Benjamin led to Benjamin securing a few more wins.

Overall the simultaneous event was a great success with everyone having a great time. Here are some of the games that deserve a second look. I have added some analysis. Hopefully everyone can enjoy the games.

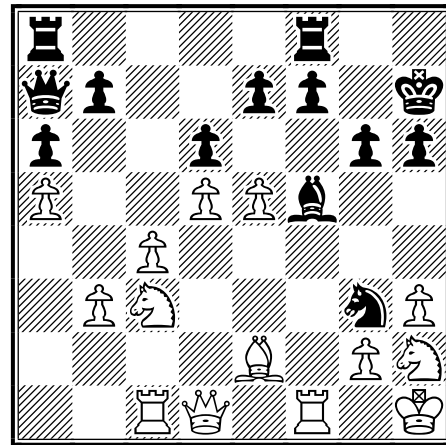


Just a reminder the St Charles Chess Club meets every Thursday from 7 pm until 11 pm. Please email Jeff Wiewel at Jwiewel@ntnusa.com for more details.

(1) Benjamin,J - Stinson,M [B03]

St. Charles simultaneous

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.c4 Nb6 5.exd6 cxd6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Be3 Bg7 8.Rc1 0-0 9.b3 Nc6 10.d5 Ne5 11.Be2 White is playing the Voronezh system-rapid Q-side development to counter the KB fianchetto. Black's usual move here is 11...f5 (Hutchby). **11...Ned7 12.Nf3 Nf6 13.0-0 Nbd7 14.Qd2 Ng4 15.Bg5 h6 16.Bf4 Kh7 17.h3 Nge5 18.Nh2 a6 19.a4 Nc5** Stinson's Knights have been hopping around like naval destroyers laying down a smoke screen-confusing the issue, but without compromising his game **20.Qd1 Bf5 21.Bxe5 Bxe5 22.f4 Qb6 23.a5 Qa7 24.fxe5??** Benjamin's 23. a5 indicates that he saw the discovered check but on his trip around-he forgot about it! **24...Ne4+ 25.Kh1 25.Rf2 26. Qxf2 Kh127. Ng3mate 25...Ng3#** Diagram



0-1



GM Carlsen, M (2567) - Machaj, B (2258)

By NM Blair Machaj

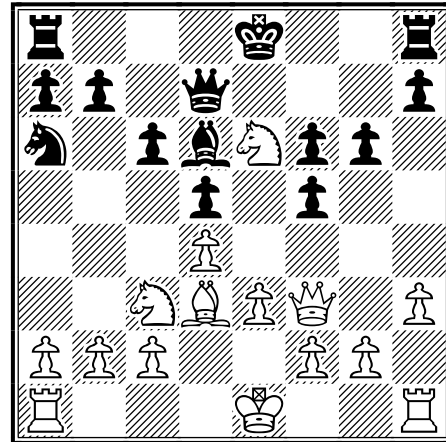


(63) GM Carlsen, M (2567) - Machaj, B (2258)

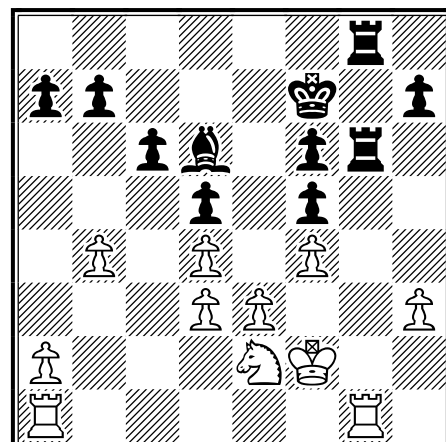
[A80] ICC 45 45 Simul, 17.08.2004

[NM Blair Machaj]

After a long day of teaching at a local chess camp I come home tired and looking to relax. I log onto ICC and what do I see? A Free 20 board simul with GM Magnus Carlsen. Normally I feel it would be wrong to "stack" the field with masters against a GM in a simul, but in this case I could not resist. Magnus Carlsen, for those who do not know, is the 2nd youngest GM ever. He made his final GM norm at Dubai this year at the age of 13 years and 3 months. Now at 13 years and 7 months old he is much older and wiser and it was a wonderful opportunity to play him. So far this year he has made GM Norms at Corus, Aeroflot, and Dubai. In Reykjavik he lost to Kasparov .5-1.5. Having a chance to play him was a chance I could not pass up. **1.d4 A80: Dutch Defence: Unusual White second moves 1...f5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bg5 d5** [3...e6 This is one line I have played before but I like to try out different lines to give my openings a bit of variety. 4.e4 fxe4 5.Nxe4 Be7 6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.Nf3 0-0 8.Bd3 Nc6 9.c3 d5 10.Nxf6+ Qxf6 11.Qe2 Bd7 12.0-0 Rae8±] **4.Bxf6 exf6 5.e3 c6** [5...Be6! This line has been scoring very well for black. I think if I would get this position again I would go into this line rather than the line I chose. 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.Qf3 Qd7 8.Nge2 Nb4 9.Nf4 Nxd3+ 10.Nxd3 0-0-0=] **6.Bd3 Bd6 7.Qf3 g6 8.Nge2 Be6 9.h3 Qd7** [9...Nd7 This is the normal continuation in this line. I have played this position before, looking in my database I have many blitz games and a few otb games using this line. For some reason I balked at this position since I was worried white had too much play. Instead I want to restrict g4 hoping to gain a better position. I managed to go into a book line where black scores terribly. Not the best choice on my part. **10.Nf4. 10...Na6 11.Nxe6!?**

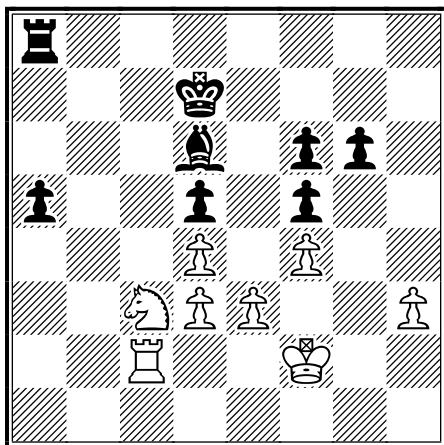


[11.Bxa6! bxa6 12.Na4 Bf7 13.Nd3 0-0 14.Nac5 Qc7 15.c3 Rfe8 16.0-0-0 Re4 17.g4 f4 18.exf4 Bxc5 19.Nxc5 Qxf4+ 20.Qxf4 Rxf4+-] **11...Qxe6 12.g4?!** I was very happy to see this move! I felt I could trade off some pieces and go into an endgame without worsening my position.. [12.Bxa6!? bxa6 13.0-0-0 Rb8 14.g4 ffg4 15.hxg4 0-0 16.Rh6 Rf7 17.Rdh1 Bf8 18.R6h2 Qd6?] **12...Nb4! 13.gxf5 Nxd3+ 14.cxd3 Qxf5 15.Qxf5 gxf5=** I feel like I can say I have reached equality. The only problem I have in this position is the fact I have the doubled weak f pawns. I did not think they posed much of a problem. On one hand it is very hard for white to attack them. I am ready to play f4 and trade off one of the weak pawns if necessary. If he goes f4 then his pawns are frozen and he has weaknesses on e3, f4, d4 and I have a dark squared bishop to attack them. I also am able to control the g file or if he decided to trade off rooks on the g file I will take with my h pawn and be able to attack h3. **16.f4** [16.Rg1 Kf7 17.Ke2 Rhg8 18.Na4 Rg6 19.Nc5 Bxc5 20.dxc5 Rag8 21.Rxg6 hxg6 22.Rh1 Rh8=] **16...Rg8 17.Kf2 Kf7 18.Rhg1 Rg6 19.Ne2 Rag8³ 20.b4?!** Diagram

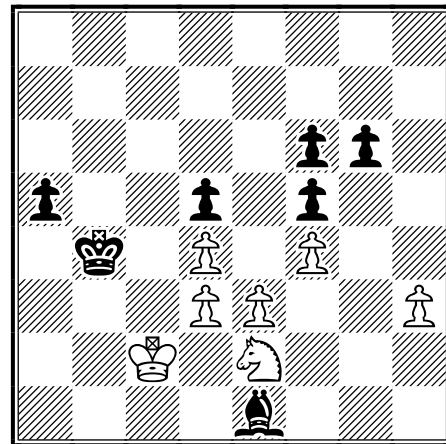


Gm Carlsen vs. Machaj

My first instinct was that this was a mistake. I spent a great deal of time trying to figure out the best way to take advantage of this move. Alas I did not pick the best move for Black. [20.Rg3 Rxb3 21.Nxb3 Ke6 22.Rg1 Rg6 23.h4 Rg4 24.h5 Be7 25.Kf3 Rh4 26.Kg2 Rg4= I think it will be very hard for either side to make progress.] **20...Bxb4** [20...Rxb1! Looking at the following lines I need to take on g1 first so this rook cannot go to b1. I missed his best response. 21.Nxb1 Bxb4 22.Rb1 a5 23.a3 Bxa3 24.Rxb7+ Ke6 25.Ne2 (25.Rxh7 Be7!-+) 25...Ra8] **21.Rxb7?! This move is a big help, now I can take with my h pawn, and get rid of one of my weak pawns. Also it takes away his option to try to go after this pawn. If it was on h7, his rook would most likely be able to get to b7 with check. [21.Rab1 Rxb1 22.Nxb1 a5 23.a3 Bxa3 24.Rxb7+ Ke6 25.Ne2 Ra8; 21.Rgb1! Rg2+ 22.Kf3 a5 23.a3 Be7 24.Rxb7 Rh2 25.Rg1 Rxb1 26.Nxb1 Ra2 27.Rc7 Rxa3 28.Ne2 Rxd3 29.Ng3 Ke6 30.Rxc6+ Kd7 31.Ra6 Bb4+-] 21...hxg6 22.Rb1 a5 23.a3 Bxa3 24.Rxb7+ Ke6 25.Rc7 Kd6 26.Rf7 Ke6 27.Rc7** Decision time- do I take the easy draw or try to push my advantage? I take a long time thinking and decide to give up the c6 pawn because my a5 pawn is very dangerous. **27...Ra8 28.Rxc6+ Bd6 29.Rc2** [29.Nc3! Nc3 worried me a bit more than the move he played. I realized he would have to sac the rook for the pawn. I felt I was better and could win it, but I could not be 100% confident. I would be up the exchange but our pawns are messy. thinking it through, I realized I would be able to overpower White's defenses. 29...a4 30.Nb5 a3 31.Rxd6+ Ke7 32.Rc6 a2 33.Rc7+ Kd8 34.Rc1 a1Q 35.Rxa1 Rxa1 36.Nc3 Ra5 37.Ke2 Kd7 38.h4 Kc6 39.Nd1 Ra2+ 40.Kf3 Rh2 41.Kg3 Rd2 42.Nf2 Kb5 43.Kf3 Kb4 44.Kg3 Kc3 45.Kf3 Rxd3 46.Nxd3 Kxd3 47.Kf2 Kd2 48.Kf3 Ke1!-+] **29...Kd7** [29...a4 Fritz showed me this was an easier way to increase my advantage. Diagram



Nc3 a massive blunder, the only problem is I out blunder him! I saw that I could pin the Knight and then trade off rooks. I felt fairly confident that I would be able to win the position. This is good analysis however just winning the knight might be slightly better! I moved much too quickly here which caused the blunder on my part, just like I tell my students, look, take your time and if you find a good move look for an even better one. I need to listen to my own advice! **30...Rc8! 31.Rc1 Bb4??** [31...Ba3! 32.Rc2 Bb4-+] **32.Na2 Rxc1 33.Nxc1 Kc6 34.Ke2 Kb5 35.Kd1 Ka4** Here I want to bring my King in, and slide my Bishop to e1 and then attack his pawns. I want to overwork his king as much as possible. His knight is in a terrible position and the only thing I need to watch out for is the Knight being forked. **36.Kc2 Be1 37.Ne2 Kb4** Diagram



[37...g5! Fritz again finds a move that makes it easy for black to win. 38.Kd1 Bf2 39.e4 fxe4 40.dxe4 dxe4 41.fxc5 fxc5 42.Nc3+ Kb3 43.Nxe4 Bxd4 44.Nd2+ (44.Nxc5 a4 45.Ne6 Be3 46.Ke2 a3 47.Kxe3 a2 48.Nd4+ Kc3-+) 44...Kc3 45.Ne4+ Kb2 46.Nd6 a4 47.Nc4+ Kc3 48.Na3 Kb3 49.Nc2 Bc3 50.Kc1 a3 51.Nxa3 Kxa3 52.Kc2 Kb4 53.Kd3 Be1 54.Ke4 Bh4 55.Kf5 Kc3 56.Kg4 Kd3 57.Kf5 Ke3 58.Kg4 Kf2 59.Kf5 Kg3] **38.Kd1 Bf2 39.Kd2?** [39.Kc2! I thought this position was easily winning for me. Yet Fritz finds Kc2 and if I play correctly I still win. This however is a very tricky position, and I need to play very precisely. This is something I have not done so well this game. 39...Kb5 (39...Bxe3? 40.Nc3 Bxd4 41.Nxd5+ Kc5 42.Ne7 g5 43.fxc5 fxc5 44.Nxf5 a4 45.Kb1 Bf2 46.Ka2 Kb4 47.d4 Kc4 48.Nd6+ Kxd4 49.Ka3=) 40.Nc3+ Kc6 41.e4 fxe4 42.dxe4 Bxd4 43.Nxd5 f5 44.Kd3 Kc5 45.Nc7 fxe4+ 46.Kxe4 Kc4 47.Ne6 Bc3 48.Nc7 a4 49.Nd5 Bd4-+] **39...Kb3 40.e4 fxe4 41.dxe4 dxe4 42.d5 Bc5 43.h4** [43.f5 F5 was his last real chance but I was not



GM Kasparov Playing GM Carlsen

worried. I took my time and calculated it all out. 43...gxf5 44.h4 a4 45.h5 Bf8 46.d6 Bxd6 47.h6 Bf8 48.h7 Bg7 49.Nd4+ Kb2 50.Nxf5 Bh8 51.Nd6 a3 52.Nc4+ Kb3 53.Nxa3 Kxa3 54.Ke3 f5-+] **43...f5** I enjoyed this game a great deal. It wasn't a perfect game by either of us, but it was wonderful to play such a strong opponent. When he becomes World Champion I will be able to say "Yes I beat him in a simul many years ago!" I now know what it would have felt like to play Kasparov in the late 70's, an awesome experience! **0-1**

Time to renew the ICA?

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Scholastics and the Soul of Chess *Is Scholastic Chess Killing* *Tournament Chess, or Saving It?*

By Tom Braunlich

The debate about the nature of chess used to be whether it is a **sport**, an **art**, or a **science**. Now a powerful new group has a different idea: chess is a **tool**. An educational tool. This influential group surprisingly now makes up the majority of USCF members and a large part of the USCF governance, affecting traditional chess in many ways. The USCF is even now seriously considering an offer by one educational organization to merge with the USCF. The ramifications of these changes for the average adult player are revolutionary, and not necessarily welcome.

The scholastic chess movement has been wonderfully educational for thousands of kids, but it also holds the future of adult tournament chess in its hands and a growing number of players are questioning whether scholastics is doing more harm than good, with concerns in four areas:

- Scholastics and “Competitiveness”
- Scholastics and “Talent”
- Scholastics and “Money”
- Scholastics and “Politics”

Until I began to research this article I, like most other adult players, didn't really understand what “scholastic chess” was. I naively thought it was the same thing as “junior chess,” just better organized than it used to be back when I was a junior in the '70s. Boy was I wrong!

To understand the state of chess in America today you must understand the true nature of scholastic chess.

NOTE: I spent months researching this article on the internet scouring websites and newsgroups, and talking to many prominent scholastic and adult chess organizers and politicians around the country (many of whom are quoted here). The emphasis is upon scholastics from a national perspective, not on the particular issues we have had recently with scholastics in Oklahoma, although I will sometimes refer to those by way of example.

Background

To understand the subject we must first quickly discuss some important history and terminology.

It was not so long ago that “scholastic” chess didn't exist. Prior to the mid-1970s young players were considered “**juniors**” — essentially just precocious young “raw” versions of adult players. **Juniors came to chess on their own initiative. They already had a love for chess and strong interest in the game, and they were looking for ways to express it.** They also typically had **ambitions** in chess (to be a master, or the next Bobby Fischer). Their enthusiasm was so strong that they sought out serious chess competition in their community – which often was difficult to find in those days. Adult players considered it their duty to mentor each junior, welcoming them into clubs and immediately introducing them to formal chess tournaments.

Schools were not involved in this process. Each state had a Junior Championship once a year hosted by the adults. There were some school team tournaments, but only if the juniors themselves organized it (except in large cities where some traditional events were held annually by tournament directors (TDs)). The USCF defined junior as under age 21 and held the U.S. Junior Open and Junior Invitational Championship. All these events were *extremely* competitive. It seems there has always been this regular “inflow” of enthusiastic juniors at a fairly small but constant rate. Juniors are recognizable by their talent, ambitions, competitiveness, and love of chess.

By contrast, the new category of “**scholastic chess**” **players** are *recruited* into chess. These kids have no particular pre-existing knowledge or special interest in chess, although a small number of them might develop it later. They are brought into the game by scholastic organizers *for the stated purpose of exposing the kids to the educational benefits that can be derived from chess.*

The key thing to realize is that scholastic chess is the creation of **educators** .

“For their part, educators couldn't care less about chess per se. They were interested in education, in teaching kids. The game of chess mattered only insofar as it appeared to be a useful tool for those purposes. As they ventured into the world of organized chess, educators found unlikely soul mates: the chess organizers themselves.” (FM Macon Shibus, Editor of quarterly *Virginia Chess*)

The beginning of the scholastic chess educational movement is difficult to pinpoint, but can generally be assigned to the late 1970s. (Prior to this Bill Goichberg organized the National High School Championship, starting in 1969, but this tournament was perhaps really more like a variation on his World Open, a big open limited to juniors under 18, not the education-oriented “scholastic chess” we are about to discuss. It eventually was taken over by USCF and made into the pinnacle of the scholastic program. See its history on the web at:

<http://www.nystar.com/chesscenter/hsstory.htm>

One reason for the emergence of scholastic chess was new scientific research about educational benefits deriving from chess for kids (discussed below). Another was the defection to the U.S. of several prominent Soviet grandmasters, such as GM Lev Alburt, who knew about the benefits of chess for society and began to push for formal “scholastic” efforts within the USCF.

The first breakthrough came in 1979, when Carver Middle School, a black inner-city school, won a national championship (see photo). This event was hyped and got major national publicity, inspiring many attempts to duplicate their success in large cities across the country.

Scholastic chess trickled out of the cities and into educational groups of many kinds during the 1980s. The next phase began in 1986 with the creation of the Chess-in-the-Schools program in New York pioneered by Fan Adams and Bruce Pandolfini (of *Searching for Bobby Fischer* fame).

“The change that came in 1986 represented a different approach in this country — the systematic cultivation of chess as a social good.”

—Dr. Tim Redman, former USCF President,
Chairman of the Chess in Education Committee

Since then scholastic chess has grown steadily until now the national scholastic championships regularly draw 2000 or more participants.

The Many Forms of Scholastic Chess

There are two main types of Scholastic Chess Organizations:

(1) Chess-in-Schools — These groups aim to get chess taught in schools directly. The NY “Chess-in-the-

Schools” program reported over \$7 million in assets in 2002, and has been successful for years, with spin-offs in other major cities. They now teach 38,000 kids a year in NYC, visiting classrooms once a week with sixteen lessons a semester in 160 different schools with 45 instructors and 20 permanent staff members. The New Jersey-based Kasparov Chess Foundation, with \$2 million in assets in 2002, also partners with school districts to offer in-class chess instruction.

“Officials with the Seattle-based America's Foundation for Chess (“AF4C”), which has provided in-class chess instruction at 15 elementary schools in Western Washington, say the foundation aims to branch out to California in 2005 and eventually become the nation's largest supporter of in-class chess education. Its target market is 9.2 million second- and third-graders in regular education programs nationwide.” (*Seattle Times*, 2004)

The AF4C may have a big role in USCF's future, as we will see in the final section.

(2) Chess-After-School — My name for the groups which seek to get chess into education by presenting it as an extracurricular activity for those kids whom can be persuaded to participate. These organizations, which include the scholastic wing of the USCF itself, plus many other smaller entities at a state level such as OSCO (Oklahoma Scholastic Chess Organization), expand their activities by trying to “seed” volunteer-run chess clubs at schools in their area. They focus on elementary school kids. They present the educational benefits of chess to teachers and persuade them to voluntarily organize a chess club at their school. They then provide materials and services to those clubs (including even such things as free chess sets and boards in budget-tight cases).

These organizations provide lesson plans and coaching ideas to the local volunteer teacher, who usually knows little about the game. The teacher recruits kids into the club by enticing them with the beauties of chess and also the “cool factor” that chess has acquired ever since the release of the 1993 movie *Searching for Bobby Fischer*.

(There is a third kind of organization involved in scholastic chess, which you might call Chess Between Schools — This increasingly rare type of scholastic organizer, found only in the larger cities, is a holdover from the “junior chess” days. They organize school chess team leagues. They are typically experienced regular TDs or professional chess coaches. They also are often hired by the main scholastic groups to help them run tournaments, etc. Their motivations are altruistic, but focus on the sporting aspects of serious chess competition, rather than the use of chess for

education. So I consider them a "junior chess" organization, under the terminology we are using here, and don't count them as scholastic groups for the purposes of this article.)

State Scholastics

To complicate matters further, scholastic organizations vary by state, often with rival ones within each state. For example in Oklahoma, the six-month old OSCO managed to get declared the official scholastic organization of OCA in 2003, effectively squeezing out the Heartland Scholastic Chess Association (that had been building scholastic chess here since the early 1990s) as well as Green Country Chess, which hosts a premier annual chess camp and organized the 2001 U.S. Junior Invitational and Junior Open.

Most other states, however, allow rival scholastic organizers and manage to share or even coordinate their efforts. In Texas, for example, the state is divided into 8 regions, and within each region there are different scholastic organizations.

The Benefits of Scholastic Chess

Before discussing criticisms of scholastic chess and the ramifications its growth has for adult chess players, we must also understand its strength and attraction to educators. There is no question that the study of chess is beneficial. Although scientific "proof" is still elusive, chess has been linked in studies to improving pattern recognition, logic, analytical skills, problem solving, visualization, memory, observation, concentration, self-confidence, social skills, test scores, reading and math scores, and even IQ. One could go on and on. There are also some less obvious advantages:

- (1) "Interest in chess education in schools is growing as a way to build community across ethnic and class lines, raise the academic achievement of low-performing students, and offer families a social way to bond outside of school." (*Seattle Times*, 2004)
- (2) Chess provides focus: "It is not enough to 'just say no,' We have to provide our youth with something they can say yes to. Chess does that... Chess offers the dual advantage of promoting intellectual growth, similar to but more durable than the so-called 'Mozart effect,' as well as developing increased self-esteem." (Phil Inness)

- (3) Educators consider that chess even makes a good pacifier: "For parents who still aren't convinced, consider that a child who's playing chess is sitting quietly and concentrating, not needing to be entertained by anything loud, violent, or silly." (*Child Magazine*, 2001)

For more information, see Dr. Robert C. Ferguson's *The Use and Impact of Chess* (available online at: <http://www.amchess.org/research/>), which collects not only research info but also many interesting testimonials, such as:

"Chess has taught my students more than any other subject." (Dr. Fred Loveland, superintendent of the Panama City schools)

"Chess is one of the most powerful educational tools available to strengthen a child's mind." (Dr. Peter Dauvergne in "**The Case for Chess as a Tool to Develop Our Children's Minds**", University of Sydney, 2000.)

With experiences like this, it is understandable why scholastic chess supporters often generate highly enthusiastic dedication to chess in education. Some educators even appear to go a tad overboard with their ambitions for chess. Dr. Tim Redman, for example, recently said in a report to the USCF, "Chess in prisons, chess for talented and gifted students, chess for economically disadvantaged children in inner cities, and the use of chess to combat teenage pregnancies, drug use, and after-school crime, all of these represent promising or proven uses of chess to address the many ills of contemporary society."

I'm surprised he didn't include the cure for cancer in there! But the point is made. Chess is good for you.

Scholastic chess also deserves praise for the hard work of its numerous local organizers, many of whom are volunteers and just want to be helpful to kids. They do a wonderful job and are certainly a positive force. Also, scholastic chess has generated coaching work for many chess masters, helping them struggle through an otherwise lean era for chess.

Scholastic Growth

USCF
MEMBERSHIP,
May 2004
Total Adult
Players 36,632

Total
Scholastic/Youth
Players 50,180

Scholastic players (under age 14) and “youth” scholastic players (under age 19) are now over 50% of the USCF membership and growing. The majority of scholastic members are elementary-school kids with an average rating of 627. A scholastic player’s USCF dues cost his/her parents \$19, (\$13 for the economy rate with no *Chess Life* subscription, although this may be discontinued in 2004), compared to \$49 for adults.

However, scholastic membership has more **turnover** than a Texas tornado.

Statistics are scarce, but USCF Vice President Stephen Shutt has used the figure of 70% turnover per year – 70% of these kids don’t renew their membership. Thus, the dropouts are constantly being replaced by new members and so scholastic organizers always must focus on new recruiting.

Furthermore, other stats I’ve seen indicate that less than 10% of elementary school players maintain their membership consistently into upper grades. The high school ranks are much smaller than elementary, and the large majority of them drop out when they reach college and their USCF dues go up.

So who is it that is left over? I would argue that **the remaining avid chess players who join the ranks of serious players are none other than what we used to call the “junior” players — the regular flow of enthusiastic youngsters chess always has attracted.**

In other words, all this scholastic chess effort is reaching a lot of kids with “the brainy benefits of chess,” (as *Child* magazine called it) but it is only a temporary infatuation with the game for them.

As FM Macon Shibut says, “As for the ‘seeding the future’ argument, it was a reasonable-sounding

hypothesis (when the USCF decided to delve into scholastics) but time has proven it untrue. There is virtually no transfer of scholastic memberships to adult memberships.”

Dan Heisman, author of *A Parent’s Guide to Chess*, believes that among those who dropout of chess for college, “some will eventually come back, perhaps in their thirties when career and family pressures settle down, and we might have a boom in adult membership in 10 or 20 years.” (Perhaps. However there is no evidence of that yet, although the biggest part of the scholastic boom began in 1993 and thus, as Heisman points out, we might not expect to see any adult comeback for another 10 years or more, and even then it might show up in internet chess rather than over-the-board chess, if it shows up at all.)

Criticisms of Scholastic Chess

There has been little published criticism of scholastic chess. What few critics I’ve seen apparently have had the damaging label “anti-children” or “anti-scholastic” quickly attached to them, thus tending to silence debate. At the risk of that, I’d like to point out what seem to be four growing concerns about the scholastic chess system, partly from the viewpoint of scholastics itself (how good a job it is doing), but mainly from the viewpoint of a chess sportsman (how scholastic chess impacts serious adult tournament chess and the future of the USCF). My intention is to be constructive. Perhaps these concerns can be addressed positively. The four points are listed in ascending order of importance.

1) Scholastic Chess Has Difficulty With “Competition”

On the one hand, scholastic chess organizers use the tournament aspects of chess (prizes, ratings, glory, etc.) as a major draw to generate enthusiasm among kids, inspiring them to devote the time to chess necessary to receive those life lessons. But on the other hand, educators find it difficult to deal with “competition” in an educational setting – it tends to cause hurt feelings and get out of control with the kids, not to mention with overbearing parents (as in *Searching for Bobby Fischer* – the cautionary tale that all scholastic organizers and parents have lurking at the back of their minds).

This dissonance between the need to cultivate yet control competition has proven very difficult for educators and organizers. Most programs choose a “feel good” approach:

Scholastics and the Soul of Chess Part 1

“Already the teaching approach to chess that is gaining acceptance de-emphasizes the competitive nature of the game and emphasizes its problem-solving aspect. Teachers will tell you that some children are put off by being forced into a win-lose contest though they can become very engaged with chess intellectually and benefit from it. I know that my godson (age six) likes to play chess but doesn't like the game to proceed to a victory or loss because he isn't comfortable with that aspect of the game.” (Dr. Tim Redman)

The natural competition of playing the game is fun for some kids, but since that leads inevitably to most other kids getting discouraged, especially at tender ages under 10, educators suppress it. This forces them to find other ways to “make chess fun.” “Children have to want to play to derive the benefits,” one educator said.

“The key to making chess fun, say the instructors, is how you teach the game. Dalton's Jovanovic spices his lessons with all kinds of cultural and literary references as well as dramatic battles between chess pieces. At P.S. 194, Church's students take breaks from learning game strategy to design their own chess pieces with crayons and paper. They get up from their seats to perform dances that help them remember moves: In the Rook Dance, for example, kids move up, down, and side to side....” (*Child.com*)

But at times the competition contradiction seems downright schizophrenic, particularly when it comes to tournaments where the “feel good” attitude is extended to USCF events:

“At our nationals, we try to emphasize the importance of participation and making a good effort. Before the awards ceremony, I usually announce that everyone who came to the tournament is a winner and the only losers are the people who stayed home and watched television. We give a medal to every player who completes the tournament without a forfeit. Before the beginning of every round, the director of our Kindergarten section always announces the names of both of the players who played the longest game in the previous round, and everybody claps for them to recognize their effort.”

(*Tom Brownscombe, former USCF Scholastic Coordinator*)

But notice the contradiction—he is talking about the “National Scholastic Championship” here! They want the excitement and prestige of competition and championships (in fact they rely upon it to draw the big numbers – remember thousands of kids are coming from all over the country to this very event), and yet at the same time they deny it.

In what other sport do novices who can't handle losing and barely know what they are doing go to the national championship?

And there is some hypocrisy too. Despite all the talk about non-competition, the schools crow like roosters when their kids actually do win! Shutt tells this story: “A school team won the under-800 section and received newspaper headlines billing them as National Champions. A team from another school in the same city finished first in the Open Section but received no publicity from the city's newspaper, which was reluctant to recognize a second National Champion after providing so much publicity to the first school for being The National Champion.” This is just one of many “crowing” examples.

These big scholastic events have sections not only broken down by age group, but also by rating within age groups, sometimes with sections for players as low as “under 750”. These lower sections have the most participants. The supposed reason for having so many sections is that without it the tournament would be too big to determine a clear winner in a weekend Swiss System of limited rounds (even with them there are so many players that they use accelerated pairings and a single drawn game can remove a player from first place contention).

Officially the USCF has ruled that only the winners in the top section are the entitled “National Champion” player or team. But you can bet that is not how the kids see it — as one organizer remarked, a kid would rather win 3rd place in the lowest section than 10th place in the highest section.

“So what?” you might say. What's the problem with de-emphasizing winning while still allowing the kids some fun?

Well, for starters, learning about competition and how to deal with it can be educational too. Consider for example this testimony from Dr. Daaim Ahmad Shabazz:

“I remember my scholastic days as a player at an all-Black public high school in Chicago. The competition was fierce at ‘CVS’ and you learned that you had to improve, or languish at the bottom of the club's rating list. With 100 players at my school's club, you had to fight through a maze of determined players who were trying to make the top five positions! Grudge matches were carried into the lunchrooms and trash-talking was rampant. ... Between my junior and senior years, I studied six hours a day during the summer and went from 6th position to 1st! Although my parents sometimes worried, this single-minded focus later helped me focus on my Ph.D. research for long, long

hours. I attribute much of my academic success to my earlier chess activities ... it's been an important aspect of my intellectual development."

But the scholastic educators want to focus on grades K-6 (where few kids have matured enough for this kind of healthy sportsmanlike attitude) because they believe this is where the greatest educational benefits from chess can be derived. "Because of the overwhelming research demonstrating the benefits of chess and because of the brain research theorizing the growth of dendrites, chess should be integrated into the school curriculum at the primary level." (Dr. Robert C. Ferguson). Thus, even though the natural competition in chess makes it more suitable for teenage students, the educators choose to focus on ages 5-10 and suppress a key aspect of the nature of the game instead.

Wimpification?

But avid players who believe that chess is a serious sport have a more important concern: **What is the non-competitive approach of scholastic chess doing to those few kids in the scholastic chess world who actually do love chess, have talent, and want to pursue their chess ambitions?** To do so, they **must** cultivate a winning attitude to fuel their excellence. Listen to the grandmasters themselves:

"Chess is above all a fight"
— Emanuel LASKER.

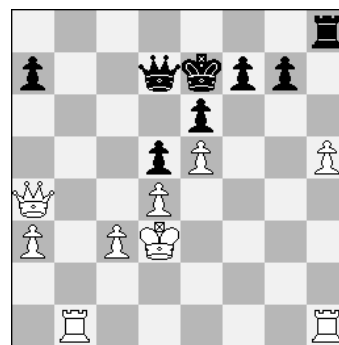
"During a chess competition a chess master should be a combination of a beast of prey and a monk."
— Alexander ALEKHINE

"... this impressed on me that 'wanting to win' was perhaps more important than 'playing good moves'."
— GM Ray KEENE (In *Becoming a Grandmaster*)

"In chess, at least, the brave inherit the earth."
— GM Edmar MEDNIS,
commenting on the games of Mikhail Tal

Are those few kids who wish to excel being done a disservice by much of scholastic chess? Are they being "wimpified?" This concern is not just limited to feel-good platitudes spoken by organizers for general consumption. It also extends into the coaching and advice the kids are actually given.

For example, on the NSCF (National Scholastic Chess Foundation) website, this position was given as their featured game, a last-round encounter, with black to move. Both players are in time trouble (3 minutes left) and white offered a draw.



Black can play 1...Qxa4 but then after the obvious 2. Rb7+, Kd8 3. Rb8+, Kd7 4. Rxh8 there arises a complicated Queen vs. Two Rooks endgame. Black, the "reserve section grand prix champion," decided to take the draw. The commentator analyzes this position at length and concludes it leads to a draw by perpetual check with best play, although this is far from clear. He then praised the decision to accept the draw, telling the kids, "With less than 3 minutes left on his clock, George had to evaluate the draw offer by relying on his instincts and intuition. They told him to accept the draw rather than play a dangerous position that he might not be able to win even given a lot of time. And so he did!"

WRONG! I can guarantee you that Nakamura or Fischer or any top player would never agree to a draw in such a dynamic unbalanced position! Although it is risky to play on, **a kid needs to have a will to win and a confidence that he can outplay his opponent in the nitty-gritty.** That is the fun of chess – playing out positions like this with your heart hammering! Black should not be scared! Play on in this position; especially since White's open king guarantees Black will always have good chances for perpetual check if he gets into trouble. White should not have *offered* the draw either! The coach should have pointed this out and encouraged the kids not to offer or take draws just because they are fearful they might lose. Play for the win!

As Karpov said, "Don't be afraid!"

Scholastics and the Soul of Chess Part 1

But what do the educators and scholastic organizers care? They don't. As chess politician Sam Sloan remarked recently, "Scholastic chess is not about churning out grandmasters. It is about teaching kids the importance of learning and study."

Shibut remarks, "It seems to me that your charge of 'wimpfication' in itself is not really a fair criticism of scholastic chess. The educators are free to use whatever game they want to pursue their education goals. But we should then be clear that the wimpified version of chess that they choose to use is not 'real' chess — chess being, at its core, a very cold-blooded, solitary, goal-driven competitive endeavor."

That's a little harsh about chess, but the point is a good one. Perhaps the USCF should consider drawing such a clear dividing line — call the Nationals a "Scholastic Chess Festival" rather than a "Championship"?

Even so, the fact remains that it is these scholastic educators who control the crucial early developing years of many of our talented players. For those of us who view chess as a serious sport, and who wish to see the talented kids grow up to enrich our ranks, might not we be justified in wondering if "feel good" scholastics is actually detrimental to the future of the sport of chess?

Perhaps scholastic educators should reconsider their view of competition in chess — at the national championship level at least. Perhaps the Nationals should be returned to a real "scary" competitive open event, and to the winner the glory. Those kids who can't handle the pressure can stay with the non-competitive fun-chess at local and practice events, allowing the nationals to reacquire the mystique of awesome skill and competitiveness it once had. *They should consider doing away with the bloated under-800 sections where kids who barely remember how a knight moves pretend that they are playing for a national championship.*

2) Scholastic Chess Neglects Talented Players

"Chess is a sea in which a gnat may drink and an elephant may bathe."
— INDIAN PROVERB

Unfortunately, to put it bluntly, scholastic chess today can only be described as a giant swarm of gnats. And the scholastic chess educators like it that way. They don't know what to do with the few elephants that do wander in.

They have little interest in talented players that reach a certain level above the rest, because their goal is to focus on the mass of children, to hook their interest in chess long enough to teach them those life lessons. Tournaments are only used to set the hook. Chess ratings are used like gold stars — rewards to the kids (with all the accompanying obsession about them by kids and parents). The children are encouraged and coached to improve their game because this results in the educational benefits, not because they care whether or not the kid actually achieves real chess proficiency.

The result is that those kids who do show a real aptitude for the game soon outgrow the scholastic organization, and no longer derive anything from it. Although they are still counted as part of the system, their future progress is pretty much left up to them. If they don't make their way into "junior chess", they tend to lose interest in chess. Let's take some examples from the scholastic experience in Oklahoma to illustrate this point:

In Oklahoma, OSCO has an interesting metaphor on their website of the "Pyramid of Success" in chess for kids, featuring 8 steps from casual play to "high national ranking." OSCO says their efforts cover steps 2-4, ending at small local rated tournaments, only "providing information" about levels above.

OSCO does not make any special effort to aid attendance for its star players at national events. (I'm not talking about financial support, such as for the Denker Prize, I'm talking about just asking if they need help finding a ride.) The most recent National High School Championship was in nearby Dallas, Texas. A few Oklahoma school clubs arranged for a group to attend — but only one of our top eight rated kids played. I talked with several of the others. They wanted to go but could not manage to put together the logistics of it. OSCO didn't offer any help. Compare this to the days of "junior chess," when sympathetic adult players would have somehow tried to help put together a carpool so that the state's promising youngsters wouldn't miss an opportunity.

Similarly, only three of Oklahoma's top eight rated kids played in the 2004 state scholastic championship, three others preferring to play in a small adult tournaments instead, where the competition challenged them. Several of them told me they don't participate in OSCO events anymore because the level

of play is so low they don't think they get much out of it. Thus OSCO's "Grand Prix" schedule of six tournaments, with which star players could theoretically earn a few hundred dollars in stipends, is ignored by them and dominated by lower-rated players who are still within the fold.

I've heard similar tales from other states. On the other hand, some organizers I've talked to, such as Dan Heisman, say it depends on the scholastic organization. Some of them do have programs for top players – putting them in touch with real chess coaches, or organizing invitational chess tournaments, etc. But I think if you examine this closely most of these efforts aimed at the star players are actually being organized by people outside the scholastic chess realm — by chess players, not scholastic educators — as they were in the old days of "junior chess". For example, here in Oklahoma the OCF organizers Jim and Frank Berry sponsored and generously funded an invitational round-robin in 2003 for the top six rated kids, with good cash prizes for every player.

A possible exception is the "Alumni Program" of the Chess-in-the-Schools (CIS) system in New York, which provides weekly chess lessons from two strong masters for high school CIS students "who have demonstrated a serious commitment to the game" but are now outside the program. "The club allows for talented, motivated students to further their chess careers while receiving structured support for their evolving needs." This sounds good but that last phrase reveals the "educational" emphasis even here. The student at this point only stays in the Alumni Program if he/she commits to academic success. They apparently spend most time in the program working in job internship programs or college preparation programs, (SAT prep, college application and financial aid help, academic tutoring, etc.), and the student is required to do social service, which many do by assisting the CIS instructors in schools.

3) Show Me the Scholastic Money!

We've seen that scholastic chess organizations focus on the mass of novice players because their mission is to spread the gospel of the scholastic chess creed and its educational benefits to the greatest number of people – Chess as a Social Good. But a more cynical observer might point out that their focus on the masses might have another motive: **Money**.

There is BIG money in scholastic chess, even on the state level. The USCF and most states allow the

organizers who put together national and state scholastic championships to keep profits. The organizer not only is investing time and effort, but also has considerable risk (if the tournament is canceled due to bad weather, for instance).

Texas has a good scholastic reputation and is a good example. "The profits are typically quite high from our State Scholastic;" George John of the TCA told me, "although, an organization one year reportedly lost money on the event. An experienced organizer, especially one who is very good with negotiating hotel contracts, can do very well; although, there is considerable work and risk (the downsize could be as much as \$100,000) involved in these events, and very few people can pull it off."

"The plum is the state scholastic," he continues. "That event has grown so large (1750 players plus their parents and siblings) that it takes an exceptional organizer or team to pull it off. ... Our Bylaws and written guidelines impose fairness. We have a Scholastic Committee which has done an outstanding job of awarding bids based on merit alone, and have never played favorites."

Oklahoma is one exception to this entrepreneurial attitude. OSCO insists upon all-volunteer service. Which makes one wonder in cases like this where its event profits go. OSCO, like the USCF, as of this writing has not published a financial statement showing how they use profits. But that is very small potatoes compared to the Nationals — where the profits are shared between the USCF and organizers.

Examining the Big-Money Scholastic Events

Just ponder these numbers to get an idea of the huge money amounts in play at the national scholastic events:

The National K-6 Championships in Nashville, 2003, is typical. It had 2,437 players, with an average entry fee of roughly \$35. That's a gross income over \$85,000. Expenses? There are no prizes — only trophies, which as any TD will tell you are cheap. They give away a lot of them — at least 25 in each section, with another 20 plaques for teams; plus various medals and certificates to keep every one of the non-competitive kids happy.

“Trophy Inflation”

Please allow me to express a pet peeve here as a brief aside. When I won 3rd place in the 1977 U.S. Junior Open I got a simple little trophy of which I was very proud because only a few trophies were given out. But I wonder how a kid today feels about winning a big trophy for 23rd place in the under 1000 section of a scholastic national? Is he proud of it? Many chess players would consider it a symbol of mediocrity and chuck it! I'm no educator, but I can't help but wonder if it is really good for them to reward mediocrity so *strongly*.

Even with all these trophies, scholastic organizers I've talked to say they should cost no more than \$10,000.

Add in other expenses you can think of — fees for tournament directors, advertising, flyers and programs, rating fees, insurance, travel expenses for TDs and workers, etc. Remember that the tournament hall is likely to be *at least* free — the hotel will gladly give a free venue to fill all its rooms and restaurants for a weekend, and in fact some hotels bid for the privilege. I have not yet been able to find a proper accounting report for any of these tournaments and thus have no data to say what the profit margin actually is. But as one who has organized large tournaments myself I can guess that, even with generous allowances for all these expenses, it is hard to see how they can amount to even half of the event's entry fee income — leaving a substantial profit.

But that is just for starters. These large events also bring in money for the Blitz (\$15/player) and Bughouse (\$20/team) tournaments they hold, and they sell equipment and mementos to the kids and their parents at top rates. According to Shutt, the USCF Books and Equipment sales averaged a gross sales income of \$50,000 at these events in 2002. The USCF recently chose to franchise-out the book sales to an independent vendor. I've been told that the winning vendor bid was \$20 per player (!) for the rights to handle the sales. That is \$20 times about 2,000 kids = \$40,000. The vendor has to make a profit of well over that just to break even — you know they wouldn't agree to that if it weren't lucrative.

In addition the organizers sell souvenirs of all kinds. A photographer with mychessphotos.com is allowed to take candid photos of the kids during play. They sell photo packages to the parents (ranging in price from \$14.95 to \$95 for the deluxe version). Others have

sold “Participation Trophies”— pet peeve again! — trophies parents can buy for the child who didn't win a trophy. (300 sold at SuperNationals II for \$20 each, cost of \$12). One event successfully sold Commemorative Books for \$39.95 with a black leatherette hard cover, silver embossed with the tournament logo and the kid's name. When you sell stuff like that you know there is money to be made!

T-shirts. Hats. Get the picture? Want more? Two words: “food concessions.”

Now ponder this: that is only ONE of FOUR such events the USCF sponsors ever year! And many individual states are equally strong: Texas had 1750 players at its state scholastic championship. Northern California had 1400. Other powerhouses are New York, Florida, Washington and Arizona.

“It's a cash cow, no question about it,” says Bob Holliman, noted Missouri scholastic organizer.

So how much is the USCF making off of these scholastic events? That's the problem... **Nobody knows**. They don't report it. They don't even seem to know themselves.

Stan Booz, head of the USCF Finance Committee recently (in May 2004) agreed it is fair to say, “The USCF has no idea whether it makes money on the national scholastics nor any idea how much it loses annually on the US Open.”

When I asked him why, he said “The USCF does not do a very good job of segregating the costs. Also, most scholastics are run by volunteers but in the case of the USCF, many paid employees are involved. They are further reimbursed for all travel expenses by the USCF.”

Thus, under the current situation, the USCF mixes scholastic spending and income with other spending/income as if there were no important difference between them, making it impossible for adult members to evaluate the amount of USCF money, time, and resources being allocated to scholastics. Nor can we evaluate how worthwhile it is for “many paid employees” to travel to these events and be involved in this work as opposed to work they might instead do for the general membership, or how good a “deal” the USCF has made with organizers, or for that matter whether money is being siphoned off in scams or kickbacks, as has been alleged by some.

Show us the scholastic money!

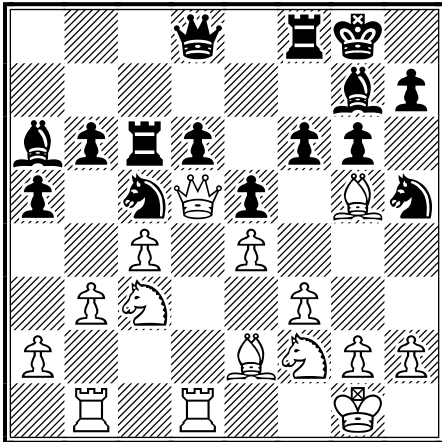
(1) Bourgerie,D (1701) - Terlizzi,C (1146)

[E81]

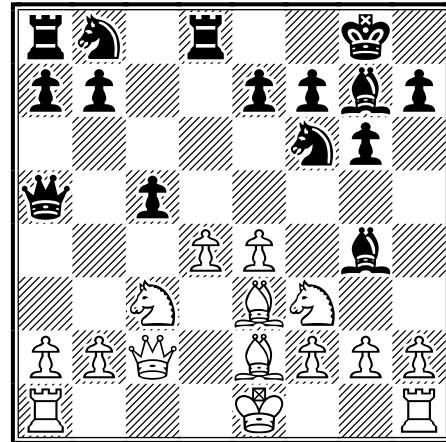
Springfield summer open (4), 12.06.2004

[Al Chow]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 Nbd7 7.Nh3 c5 8.Nf2 [8.d5 is good.] 8...cxd4 9.Bxd4 Nc5 10.Qd2 a5 11.Be2 b6 12.0-0 Ba6 [12...Bb7 was better.] 13.Rab1 Rc8 14.b3 e5?! weakening d5 and d6. 15.Be3 Nh5 16.Rfd1 Rc6 17.Bg5 f6?? 18.Qd5+ Diagram



black resigned. 1-0



12.d5? 12.Rd1 was solid. 12...Nxe4! 13.Qxe4 Bxc3+ 14.Kf1 Bxb2 15.Qxg4 Bxa1 16.h4! Qxa2 17.g3 h5 [17...Qxd5 was good for black.] 18.Qe4 Bf6 19.Bc4 Qa5 20.d6! exd6?? [20...e6! is good for black.] 21.Qxg6+! Bg7 22.Qxf7+Kh8,23. Qxh5+ Diagram

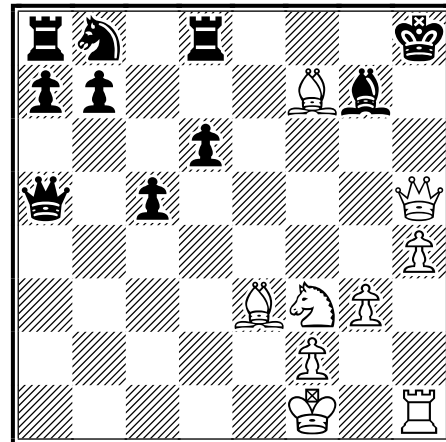
(2) Van Buskirk,D (2175) - Barnard,T (1705)

[C47]

Springfield summer open (1), 12.06.2004

[A.Chow]

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.a3?! d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.Bb5 Nxc3 7.bxc3 Bd6 8.d4 exd4 9.cxd4 Bd7 10.0-0 11.Rb1 Rb8 12.Bg5 f6 13.Be3 Na5 [13...Bxa3!? seems playable.] 14.Bd3! b6 15.c4! Nb7?? [15...c6 was solid.] 16.Qc2! f5 17.c5! bxc5 18.dxc5 black loses a minor piece so he decided to resign. 1-0



black resigned before mate. 1-0

(3) Bourgerie,D (1701) - Ruan,G (1582)

[D97]

Springfield summer open (3), 12.06.2004

[Albert Chow]

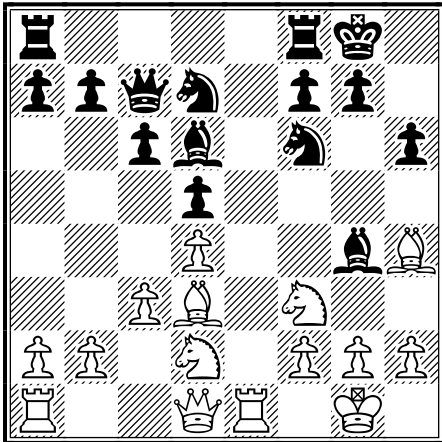
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Qb3 dxc4 6.Qxc4 0-0 7.e4 c6 8.Be2 Bg4 9.Be3 Qa5 10.Qd3 [10.0-0! was good for white.] 10...Rd8 11.Qc2?! c5!

(4) Miles,K (1754) - Blickhan,G (1620) [C01]

Springfield summer open (1), 12.06.2004

[Al Chow]

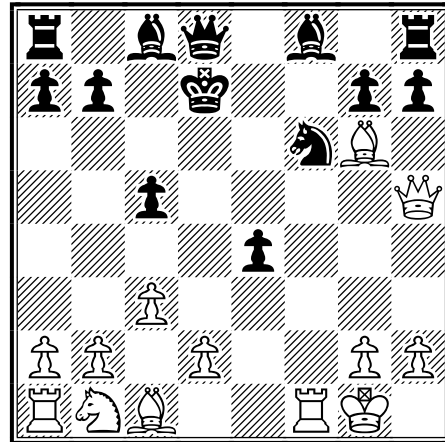
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Nf3 Bd6 5.Bd3 Nf6 6.0-0 0-0 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 Bg4 9.Nbd2 Nbd7 10.c3 c6 11.Re1 Qc7



12.Rc1?? [12.Bg3 was solid.] 12...Bxh2+! 13.Kh1 Bf4
This exchange French is now very good for black.
14.Bxf6 Nxf6 15.Rc2 Rfe8 16.Rxe8+ Rxe8 17.g3
Bxd2! 18.Rxd2 Ne4! 19.Rc2 Ng5! 20.Be2 Rxe2!
21.Nxg5 Rxc2 22.Qxc2 hxg5 white could resign.
23.Kg2 Qe7 24.Qd2 f6 25.f3 Bf5 26.Kf2 g4 27.Qf4
gxf3! 28.Qxf3 Qe4 29.Qe3 Qxe3+ 30.Kxe3 g5 31.b3
Kg7 32.c4 dxc4 33.bxc4 Be6 34.Kd3 f5 35.a4 Kf6
36.a5 f4 37.gxf4 gxf4 38.Ke4 Kg5 39.d5 cxd5+
40.cxd5 Bxd5+ 41.Kxd5 f3 42.Kd6 f2 43.Kc7 f1Q
44.Kxb7 Qf7+ 45.Ka6 Kf5 46.Kb5 Ke5 47.Ka6 Kd5
48.Kb5 Qb7+ Now white did resign. 0-1

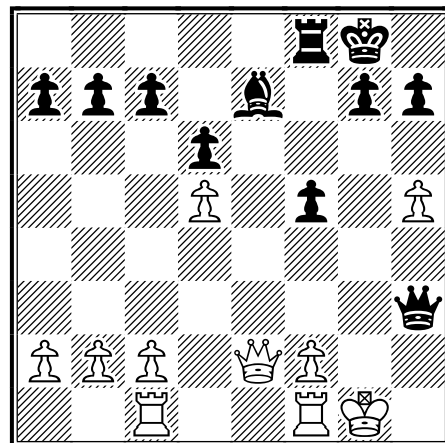
(5) Bennett,J (1456) - Miles,K (1754) [B88]
Springfield summer open (2), 12.06.2004[*Albert Chow*]
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6
6.Bc4 Nc6 7.Bb3 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.f4 Qc7 10.Kh1 a6
11.a3 Bd7 12.Nde2 [12.Be3 was good.] 12...Rac8
13.Ng3 Na5 14.Ba2 Nc4 15.Qf3? Nxa3! 16.Nd5 exd5
17.Qxa3 dxe4 18.Rf2 Bc6?! 19.Nf5! Rfe8 20.Qg3! g6
21.Nh6+ Kg7 22.Nf5+ [22.Nxf7 d5 23.Ne5 gains
counterplay.] 22...Kh8 23.Nh6 d5 24.Be3 Bf8! 25.Qg5
Bxh6! 26.Qxh6 Ng4! 27.Bd4+ f6 28.Qh4 Nxf2+
29.Qxf2 Qe7 30.Qh4 Rf8 31.f5 Kg7 32.Rf1 Rf7
33.Rf4 Rg8 34.g4? [34.c4! was better.] 34...Kf8
35.Qf2 Qd8 36.c4 dxc4 37.Bxc4 e3+! Discovered
check forces white to resign. 0-1

(6) Van Buskirk,D (2175) - Seet,P (2034)
[B22]Springfield summer open (3), 12.06.2004
[*Albert Chow*]
1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.f3? [3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 is best.]
3...dxe4?! [3...e5! and black is better.] 4.fxe4 e5 5.Nf3
f5? Hey guys, isn't it kind of risky to push the bad luck f
pawn in the opening?! 6.Bc4 Nc6 7.0-0 fxe4? 8.Nxe5!
Nxe5 9.Qh5+ Ng6 10.Bf7+ Kd7 11.Bxg6 Nf6



12.Qh4 hxg6? 13.Qxh8 Kc6 14.d4! cxd4 15.cxd4
Qxd4+ 16.Kh1 Ng4 17.Qh4! [17.Qxf8?? Bf5! 18.Qxa8
Nf2+ 19.Kg1 Nh3+ 20.Kh1 Qg1+! 21.Rxg1 Nf2#
Smothered mate.] 17...Bc5 18.Nc3 Bf5 19.h3 Nf2+
20.Kh2 Bd6+ [20...e3!? 21.Qxd4 Bxd4 counterplay.]
21.Bf4 e3 22.Ne2 Qxb2 23.Rac1+ Kd7 24.Bxd6
Qxe2?? 25.Qe7# 1-0

(7) Sparks,D (1802) - Vanbuskirk,D (2175)
[B07]Springfield summer open (4), 12.06.2004
[*ChowMasterAI@Yahoo.com*]
1.e4 d6 2.d4 f5!? 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bd3 Nc6 5.Nf3 fxe4
6.Nxe4 Bg4 Whatever this weird opening variation is,
VanBuskirk keeps playing it, and as long as he gets
results it is up to white to prove him wrong. 7.Nxf6+
exf6 8.h3 Bh5 9.0-0 Be7 10.d5 Ne5 11.g4 [11.Be2
was good, with a slight white advantage.] 11...Nxd3
12.gxh5 Nxc1 13.Nd4!? 0-0 14.Ne6 Qd7 15.Nxf8
Rxf8 16.Rxc1 [16.Re1 is good for white.] 16...Qxh3
17.Qe2 f5



18.f4 [18.Qxe7? Qg4+ 19.Kh2 Qxh5+ is a draw.]
 18...Bf6 19.c3 Qg3+ 20.Qg2 Qh4 21.Qh2 Qg4+
 22.Kh1 Re8 23.Rc2 Bh4! 24.Rg2 Qxh5 Two pawns
 for the exchange is compensation. 25.Rfg1 g6
 26.Rg5!? Bxg5 27.Qxh5 gxh5 28.Rxg5+ Kf7
 29.Rxf5+ Kg6 30.Rg5+ Kf6 31.Rxh5 Re7 32.Kg2 Kg6
 33.Rg5+ Kf6 34.Rh5 a draw was agreed in the equal
 ending. 1/2-1/2

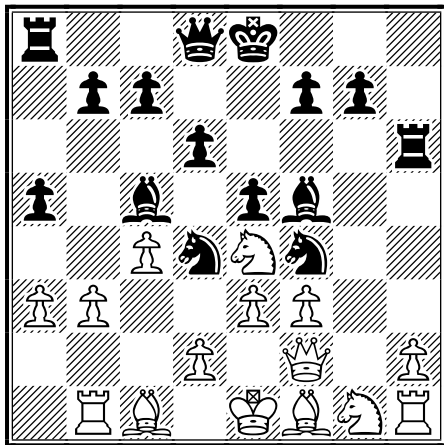
(8) Jarrette,P (1813) - VanBuskirk,D (2175)

[A00]

Springfield summer open (2), 12.06.2004

[A.C.]

1.g4 e5 2.Bg2 Bc5 The Grob or Spike is very risky for
 white, and VanBuskirk shows us in this game why that
 bad reputation is well deserved, as he targets the
 weakened white kingside. 3.c4 h5! 4.e3 hxg4 5.Qxg4
 Nf6! 6.Qg3 d6 7.Nc3 Rh6! 8.f3 Nc6 9.a3 a5 10.b3
 Nh5! 11.Qf2 Nf4! 12.Bf1 Nd4! 13.Rb1 [13.exd4 Bxd4
 14.Qg3 Rg6 traps a queen.] 13...Bf5! 14.Ne4



14...Nxf3+! 15.Qxf3 Qh4+ 16.Ng3 Bxb1 17.exf4 exf4
 18.d4 fxg3! 19.hxg3 Qxh1 20.Bxh6 Qxf3 21.Nxf3
 Bxd4! 22.Nxd4 gxh6 The smoke has cleared, and
 black owns the endgame advantage. 23.Bh3 Kf8
 24.Nb5 Re8+ 25.Kf2 Re7 26.Bg2 Ba2 27.Nd4 c5
 28.Nf5 Re6 29.Bxb7 Bxb3 30.Bd5 Rf6 31.g4 Bc2
 32.Kg3 Bxf5 33.gxf5 Rxf5 34.a4 Rxd5 white resigned.
 0-1

(9) Cavitt,D (1987) - Gurevich,D (2550)

[B23]

Tim Just Spring open (4), 25.04.2004

[Albert Chow]

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.g3 d5 4.exd5 exd5 5.d4 cxd4
 6.Qxd4 Be6 7.Bb5+ Nc6 If white is not going to
 fianchetto in the closed Sicilian, than the move g3
 could be a weakening waste of a tempo. 8.Nf3 a6
 9.Bg5?? [9.Bxc6+ bxc6 10.0-0 was correct.] 9...f6?
 [9...axb5! wins a piece.] 10.Qe3 Qd7 11.Bxc6 bxc6

12.0-0 Kf7 13.Rfe1 Ne7 14.Na4 Nf5 15.Qd3 Re8
 16.Qxa6 Bd6! 17.g4? [17.Nb6 Qc7 18.Bd2 was best.]
 17...Ra8! 18.Nb6 [18.Qxa8 Rxa8 19.gxf5 Bxf5 20.Nb6
 Qb7 21.Nxa8 fxg5 is wild but also winning for black.]
 18...Rxa6 19.Nxd7 Bxd7 down a piece in the
 endgame against a GM, white resigned. 0-1

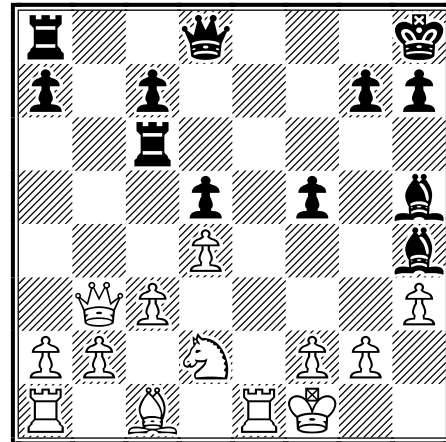
(10) Burgess,J (2215) - Stannov,A (2293)

[C42]

Chicago open (6), 31.05.2004

[ChowMasterAl@Yahoo.com]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5
 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.c3 Bg4 8.Nbd2 f5 9.0-0 Bd6 10.h3 Bh5
 11.Re1 0-0 12.Qb3! Kh8 13.Qxb7 Rf6 14.Kf1 Be7
 15.Qb3 Rg6 16.Bb5! Nxd2+ 17.Nxd2 Bh4 18.Bxc6
 Rxc6



19.Re5! Rd6 20.Rxf5 Bg6 21.Re5 Bd3+ 22.Kg1
 Bxf2+? 23.Kxf2 Qh4+ 24.Kg1 Rf8 25.Nf3 Qg3?
 26.Rg5! Qxg5 27.Nxg5 h6 28.Nf3 Be4 29.Ne5 Kh7
 30.Be3 Rb6 31.Qa3 Ra8 32.b3 a5 33.Rf1 a4 34.Rf7
 axb3 35.Qxa8 b2 36.Qf8 b1Q+ 37.Kh2 black
 resigned. 1-0

(11) Burgess,J (2215) - Shulman,Y (2606)

[C44]

Chicago open (1), 29.05.2004

[Albert Chow]

1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.Ngf3 Nc6 5.g3 e5 6.Bg2
 dxe4 7.dxe4 b6 8.Qe2 Bc5 9.Nb3 Bd6 10.0-0 a5
 11.Rd1 Ba6 12.c4 a4 13.Nbd2 Nd7 14.Nf1 Nc5
 15.Ne3 0-0 16.Nf5 Ne6 17.Be3 Qb8 18.Ng5! Nxg5
 19.Bxg5 f6 20.Bh6! Rf7 21.Qg4! Bf8? [21...g6! was a
 better defence.] 22.Bxg7!! h5? [22...Bxg7 23.Nxg7!
 (23.Nh6+ Kf8 24.Nxf7 Nd4! 25.Qh5 Qe8) 23...Rxg7

Games from ICB Games Editor FM Chow

24.Qe6+ Rf7 25.Qxc6 Qe8 avoids checkmate.] 23.Qg6 [23.Nh6+!? Kh7 24.Qxh5 is another attack.] 23...Rxc7 24.Nxc7 Bxc7 25.Rd7! Qf8 26.Bh3! Nd4 [26...Bxc4!? 27.Bf5! Ne7 28.Qh7+ Kf7 29.Qxh5+ Kg8 also is a strong attack, but may have been no worse a defensive try.] 27.Rd1! f5 28.R1xd4! exd4 29.Bxf5 Qf6 30.Qh7+ Kf8 It almost looks like Shulman will survive, but Burgess finds the scorpion tail sting at the end of his inspired attack. 31.Be6!! Qxe6 32.Rxc7 Bxc4 33.Qh8+ Qg8 34.Rxc8+ Bxc8 35.Qf6+ Bf7 36.e5 Re8 37.e6 Rxe6 38.Qxd4 Re1+ 39.Kg2 Rc1? 40.Qd8+! Be8 41.Qf6+ Bf7 42.Qh6+ black resigned. An impressive win over a solid GM. 1-0

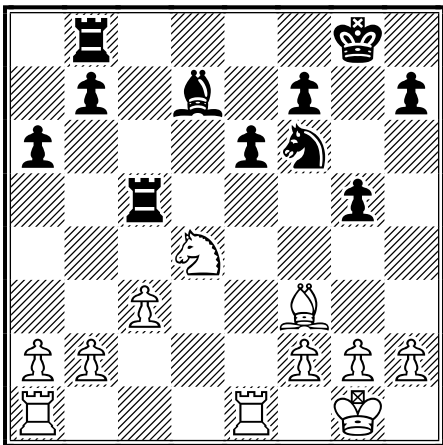
(12) Aramil,W (2253) - Brock,W (2029)

[B22]

Chicago open (3), 30.05.2004

[Albert Chow]

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.dxc5 Qxc5 7.Na3 a6 8.Be3 Qc7 9.Qa4+ Nc6 10.Nb5 Qb8 11.Nbd4 Bd7 12.Qb3 e6 13.Nxc6 Bxc6 14.Nd4 Bd7 15.Be2 Qc7 [15...Bd6! was better. Black need not move his queen again and again.] 16.0-0 Be7 [16...Bd6 was good.] 17.Rfe1 0-0 18.Bf3 Rab8 19.Nf5!? Bc5 [19...exf5? 20.Bb6! Qd6 21.Rad1 is bad for black.; 19...Bd8!? was good.] 20.Qc4! Rfc8 21.Bxc5 Qxc5 [21...exf5 22.Re7! Be6 23.Rxc7 Bxc4 24.Rxc8+ Rxc8 25.Bd4 is an endgame advantage for white.] 22.Qxc5 Rxc5 23.Nd4 g5 A queenside pawn majority lends white a small endgame advantage..



24.h3 b5 25.Rad1 b4 26.Nb3 Rc7 27.cxb4 Rxb4 28.Re5 h6 29.Rc5 Ra7 30.Ra5 Kg7 31.Rd6 Bb5 32.Rd4 Rc4 [32...Rxd4 33.Nxd4 Bd3 seems solid.] 33.a4! Rxd4 34.Nxd4 Bd3 35.b4 Rc7 36.Bc6 Nd7 37.b5 axb5 38.axb5 Ne5? [38...Kf6! was better.] 39.b6! Rxc6 40.Nxc6 Nxc6 41.b7! Be4? [41...Kf6! 42.Rc5 (42.Ra8 Ke7 43.Rc8 Ba6!) 42...Ba6! 43.Rxc6 Bxb7 is a decent defence looking for a draw.] 42.Ra8 Bd5 43.Rc8! black resigns 1-0

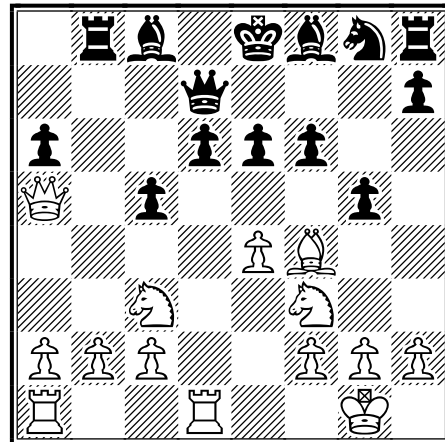
(13) Oladapo,A (2337) - Aramil,W (2253)

[B53]

Chicago open (6), 31.05.2004

[Albert Chow]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Nc6 5.Bb5 Qd7 [5...Bd7 is good.] 6.Qa4 a6 7.Nc3 Rb8 8.Bxc6 bxc6? [8...Qxc6 looks solid.] 9.0-0 e6 10.Rd1 c5 11.Qa5! f6 12.Bf4 g5



13.Bxd6! Bxd6 14.e5! Bc7 15.Qxc5 Bb6 16.Qa3 Qe7 17.Qa4+ Kf8 18.Ne4! g4 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.Ne5 Qe8 21.Qa3+ Kg7 22.Nxf6 Kxf6 23.Qg3 Ke7 24.Nxc4 Qc6 25.Ne5! black resigned. 1-0

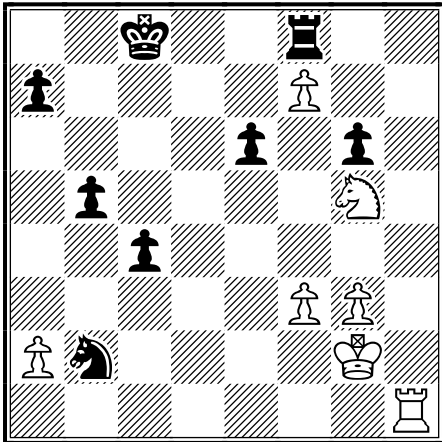
(14) Bereolos,P (2341) - Shabalov,A (2701)

[D44]

Chicago open (4), 30.05.2004

[F.M. Albert Chow]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 e6 5.Bg5 dxc4 6.e4 b5 7.e5 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Nxc4 hxg5 10.Bxc4 Nbd7 11.exf6 Bb7 12.g3 Qc7 13.Bg2 c5 14.0-0 Bxc4 15.Kxc4 Qb7+ 16.f3 0-0-0 17.dxc5 Nxc5 18.Qe2 Nd3 19.Rad1 Bh6 20.h4 Bxc4 21.hxc4 Rh5! 22.Ne4 Qd5 23.Rh1 Rxh1 24.Rxh1 Qd4 25.g6!? [25.b3; 25.Rb1 were alternatives that try not to lose pawns.] 25...fxg6 26.f7 Rf8 27.Ng5 Qxb2 28.Qxb2 Nxb2



29.f4? [29.Rh6 or 29. Rh7 had to be tried, with counterplay.] 29...Kd7 30.Kf3 c3 31.Ke4 Ke7 32.a3 a5 33.Rc1 b4 34.axb4 axb4 35.Ra1 c2 36.Ra7+ Kd6 37.Ra6+ Kd7 38.Ra7+ Kc6 39.Nxe6 c1Q 40.Rc7+ Kd6 41.Rxc1 Kxe6 42.Rb1 Nc4 43.Rxb4 Nd6+ 44.Kf3 Rxf7 A win for black as long as he does not exchange his g pawn. 45.g4 Kd5 46.Ra4 Rc7 47.Ra6 Rc3+ 48.Kg2 Rc6 49.Ra4 Ne4 50.Kh3 Rf6 51.f5 g5! 52.Kg2 Rc6 53.Kf3 Rc3+ 54.Ke2 Ke5 55.Ra5+ Rc5 56.Ra1 Kf4 57.Kd3 Rd5+ 58.Kc4 Rd6 59.Re1 Nf6 white resigned. 0-1

(15) Bereolos,P (2341) - Drake,J (2116) [D44]

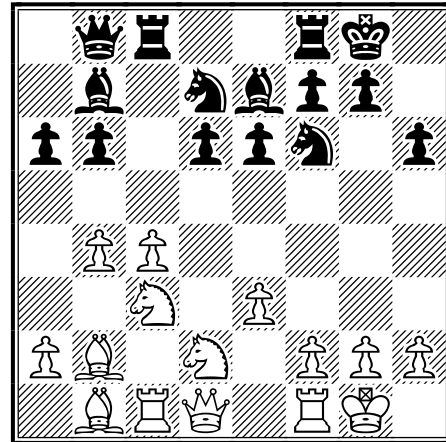
Chicago open (6), 31.05.2004
[Albert Chow]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 e6 5.Bg5 dxc4 6.e4 b5 7.e5 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Nxg5 hxg5 10.Bxg5 Nbd7 11.exf6 Bb7 12.g3 Qc7 13.Bg2 c5 14.0-0 Bxg2 15.Kxg2 Qb7+ 16.f3 0-0-0 17.dxc5 Nxc5 18.Qe2 Nd3 19.Rad1 Bh6 20.h4 Qc6 [20...Bxg5 21.hxg5 Rh5 22.Ne4 Qd5 was Bereolos - A.Shabalov from round 4.] 21.b3 Bxg5 22.hxg5 Rd4 23.Qe3 Rhd8 24.g6 fxg6 25.f7 R4d7 26.Qg5 cxb3 27.Nxb5 Qc2+ 28.Kg1 e5 29.Nxa7+ Kb7 30.Qe3 b2 31.Nb5 Rh8?? [31...Kc6! was better, with counterchances.] 32.Qa7+ Kc6 33.Qa6+ Kc5 34.f8Q+! Rxf8 35.Na3! b1Q 36.Rxb1 Nb4 37.Qb5+ black resigned. 1-0

(16) Cottrell-Finegold,K (1608) - Tsyganov,I (2290) [E38]

Chicago open (3), 30.05.2004[A.C.]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 c5 5.dxc5 Bxc5 6.Nf3 Qb6 7.e3 Be7 8.Bd3 d6 9.0-0 Nbd7 10.Qb1 a6 11.b3 Qc7 12.Bb2 b6 13.Qd1 Bb7 14.Rc1 0-0 15.Ng5 Nc5 16.Bb1 h6 17.Nf3 Rac8 18.Nd2! Qb8 19.b4! Ncd7



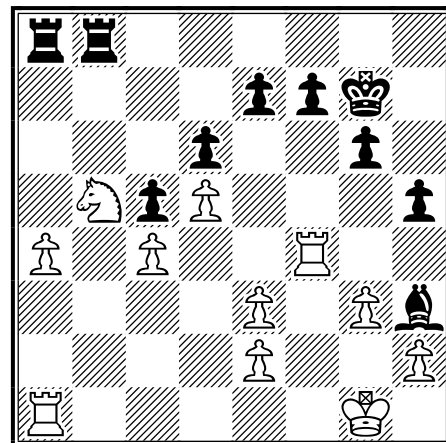
20.Nce4 Nxe4?! [20...d5 is good.; 20...Qa8 is active.] 21.Nxe4 f5 22.Ng3 Ne5?! 23.Bxe5! dxe5 24.Qd7! Rf7 [24...Kf7!?] 25.Qxe6 Rc6 26.Qd5 Rg6 27.Qd2 Qf8 28.a3 h5 29.f3 h4 30.Nxf5 Rxf5 31.Bxf5 Qxf5 32.Qc2 Qg5 33.e4 Qe3+ 34.Kh1 Qxa3 35.c5 bxc5 36.Qc4+ Kh7 37.Qf7 h3 38.gxh3 Bg5 39.Rc2 Qxb4 40.Rg2 Qc4?? 41.Qxc4 black resigned. 1-0

(17) Mikhalevski,V (2561) - Bartholomew (2333) [A58]

Chicago open (2), 30.05.2004

[F.M. Al Chow]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 g6 6.Nc3 Bxa6 7.g3 d6 8.Bg2 Bg7 9.Nh3 Nbd7 10.0-0 0-0 11.Nf4 Nb6 12.Rb1 Nc4 13.a4 Qa5 14.Qc2 Rfb8 15.b3 Nh5 16.Nb5 [16.Nxh5 Qxc3 17.Qxc3 Bxc3 18.Nf4 Na5 favors black.] 16...Nxf4 17.bxc4 Nxg2 18.Bd2 [18.Kxg2 Bc8 and black wins the a4 pawn.] 18...Ne3 19.fxe3 Qd8 20.Bc3 Bxc3 21.Qxc3 Bc8 22.Qc2 Bh3 23.Rf4 h5 24.Ra1 Qf8 25.Qc3 Qg7 26.Qxg7+ Kxg7 black has a better Benko's gambit endgame.



Games from ICB Games Editor FM Chow

27.e4 Ra5 28.Rf3 Bg4 29.Rb3 Kf6 [29...Bxe2 30.Nd4! Rxb3 31.Nxb3 Ra7 32.Nd2 was the idea.] 30.Kf2 Rb6 31.Ke3 Ke5 32.Rb2 Bd7 33.Kd3 f5 34.exf5 Bxf5+ 35.Kc3 Rba6 36.Kb3 Bd7 37.h4 Ra8 38.Rd2 Bxb5 39.cxb5 Rxb5+ 40.axb5 Rxa1 41.Kc3 Ra3+ 42.Kc4 Ra4+ 43.Kc3 Rb4 44.Rd3 Rxb5 45.Re3+ Kxd5 46.Rxe7 Rb4 47.Rf7 Ra4 48.Kd2 Rg4 49.Rf3 Ke5 50.Re3+ Re4 51.Rc3 Rd4+ 52.Kc2 Ra4 53.Kd2 Rd4+ 54.Kc2 Kd5 55.Ra3 Kc6 56.Ra5 Rg4 57.Ra6+ Kc7 58.Ra3 d5 59.Kd2 Kc6 60.Rf3 Kb5 61.Rb3+ Rb4 62.Rf3 Rd4+ 63.Kc2 Re4 64.Kd2 d4 65.Rf6 Rg4 66.Rf3 Kc6 67.e3 and the game ended in a draw. 1/2-1/2

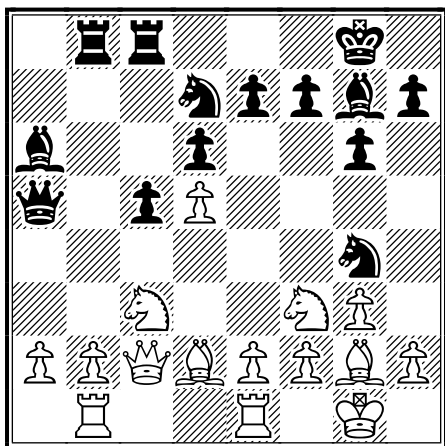
(18) Kaidanov,G (2749) - Friedel,J (2436)

[A58]

Chicago open (6), 31.05.2004

[F.M. Albert Chow]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 g6 6.Nc3 Bxa6 7.Nf3 Bg7 8.g3 0-0 9.Bg2 d6 10.0-0 Nbd7 11.Rb1 Qa5 12.Bd2 Rab8!? 13.Qc2 Rfc8 14.Rfe1 Ng4 Active pieces on open lines grant compensation for an extra pawn in the Benko gambit.



15.Na4 Qc7 16.Bc3 Qa7 17.Bxg7 Kxg7 18.h3 Ngf6 19.Nc3 Rb4 20.Qd2 Bb7 21.e4 Ne5!? 22.Nxe5 dxe5 23.Qe3 Ba6 24.Red1 Qb8 25.b3 c4! 26.Na4 cxb3 27.axb3 Rc2 28.Nc5 Qb6 29.Rbc1 Re2 30.Qc3 Bc4! 31.Bf3 Ra2 32.Qe3 Bxb3 33.Rf1 Bc2 34.Qc3 Bxe4 35.Nxe4 Nxe4 36.Qxe5+ Qf6 37.Qxf6+ Kxf6 38.Bxe4 Rxe4 a draw agreed. 1/2-1/2

(19) Goldin,A (2701) - Finegold,B (2611)

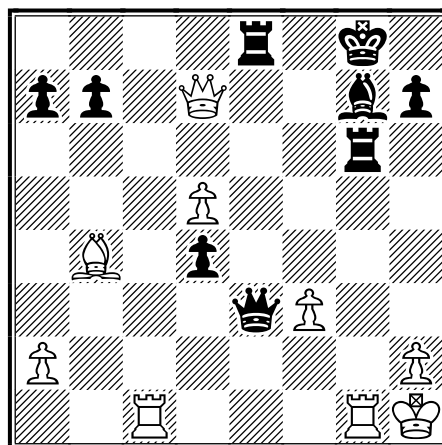
[E70]

Chicago open (4), 29.05.2004

[Albert Chow]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Bd3 0-0 6.Nge2 Nc6 7.0-0 e5 8.d5 Nd4 9.Nxd4 exd4 10.Ne2 Re8 11.f3 c6 12.Bf4 Nh5 13.Bd2 f5 14.Qb3 fxe4

15.Bxe4 Bf5 16.Bxf5! gxf5 17.Qd3 cxd5 18.cxd5 Qb6 19.Nf4! Nxf4 20.Bxf4 Qxb2 21.Qxf5 Re2 22.Rac1!? Rxd6? 26.Rc7 wins white a mating attack.] 26.Bb4 Qe5 27.Qd7 Qe3 28.Qf5 Qe5 29.Qd7 Qe3 Perhaps the repetition of moves weakened Finegold's sense of danger. An equal game is blundered away...we all know that feeling, don't we?!



30.Qh3 d3?? 31.Rge1! d2 32.Bxd2 Qxd2 33.Rxe8+ Bf8 34.Qf1 Kf7 35.Re2 Qxd5 36.Rd1 Qc6 37.Rc1 Bc5 38.Qh3 Kg7 39.Rd1 Qd5 40.Qd7+ Qxd7 41.Rxd7+ Kh6 42.h4 Rb6 43.Re5 black resigned. 1-0

(20) Schneider,D (2512) - Fridman,D (2622)

[B07]

Chicago open (6), 31.05.2004

[Albert C.]

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Be3 c6 5.f3 Nbd7 6.Qd2 b5 7.g4 h6 8.Nge2 Nb6 9.Ng3 Bg7 10.Bd3 e5 11.dxe5 dxe5 12.a4 Nc4 13.Bxc4 Qxd2+ 14.Kxd2 bxc4 15.a5 Bf8 16.a6 Nd7 17.Ra4! Nb6 18.Ra5 Bd6 19.Kc1 Be6 20.Rd1 Bb4 21.Ra1 Be7 22.Ra5 Nd7 23.Nf5!? Bg5 24.Ng7+ Ke7 25.Bxg5+ hxg5 26.Nxe6 Kxe6 27.Na4 Rab8 28.Rc5!? [28.Nc5+ Nxc5 29.Rxc5 Rb6 would have been better for black.] 28...Nxc5 29.Nxc5+ Ke7 30.Rd7+ Kf6 31.Rb7 Ra8 32.Kd2! Rxh2+ 33.Kc3 Rf2 34.Nd7+ Kg7 [34...Ke6 35.Nc5+ Kf6 (35...Kd6? 36.Kb4) 36.Nd7+ invites repetition.] 35.Nxe5 Re8 36.Nxc4 Rxf3+ 37.Kd4 Re6 38.Rxa7 Rf4 39.Kc5 Rxe4 40.b3 Rf2 41.Rb7 Rxc2 42.a7 Ra2 43.Nd6 Rxd4 44.Nxf7 Rg3 45.Nxg5+ Kh6 46.Nf7+ Kh5 47.Ne5 Rxa7!? [47...g5?? 48.Rh7# Black decides he has seen enough tricks with white's knight and passed a pawn, and decides to bail out into a simplified defence.] 48.Rxa7 Rxb3 Peace was agreed in this theoretically drawn ending. 1/2-1/2

All tournaments are USCF-rated, unless otherwise noted (Quick-rated if game/29 or faster) and require USCF membership. ICA Tour events also require ICA membership. Memberships may be purchased at most tournaments. Most tournaments prohibit smoking in the playing rooms.

ICA Tour events are generally listed as such in Chess Life and in the Calendar below. Players are responsible for checking both Chess Life and the Illinois Chess Bulletin to determine which events are Tour events. Call ChessPhone (630-832-5222) a few days before any tournament to verify its Tour status, or check the web at www.illinoischess.org.

Organizers: Please clear your events through the ICA Tournament Calendar. Calendar coordinator is Howard Fried, 440 N. Main St. #E405, Wauconda, ILL. 60084, hfried1@sbcglobal.net. Do not send calendar entries to the ICB editor. If you are running a Tour event, make sure it is listed as such in both Chess Life and the ICB. Deadlines for ICB calendar submissions are as follows:

Event starting date:	Deadline:	
To appear in:		
Jan 15 - Mar 14	Dec 10	Jan-Feb issue
Mar 15 - May 14	Feb 10	Mar-Apr issue
May 15 - Jul 14	Apr 10	May-Jun issue
Jul 15 - Sep 14	Jun 10	Jul-Aug issue
Sep 15 - Nov 14	Aug 10	Sep-Oct issue
Nov 15 - Jan 14	Oct 10	Nov-Dec issue

September 3-5, 2004, Illinois Open. An ICA Tour MAXI-event. ICA membership required. Prize fund: \$8000 b/200. 3 sections: **OPEN:** \$1000G-500G-300G-200G, expert-\$400-250-100, U2000-\$400-250-100. **U1800** \$800-500-300-200, U1600-\$400-250-100. **U1400** \$600-350-250-150, U1200- \$300-200-100. Serbian Brothers Help, Inc. 19697 W. Grand Ave. Lake Villa, IL. 60046 EF: 2 day \$82 if postmarked by Aug. 31. 3 day: \$83 if postmarked by Aug.31. All \$100 on site. Reentry: \$40. ½ pt. Bye any rd. w/reg. (max 2). 5SS, Game/2, 2 day option rds 1+2 G/1. Reg: Friday 6:30-7:30, Sat. 11:30-12:30. Schedule: 3 day: rds. Fri: 8. Sat: 1 & 6. Sun: 1&6. 2 day: rds. Sat:1-3:30-6. Sun. 1&6. The kitchen will be serving food all weekend long. Chris Baumgartner will be selling books all weekend long. Info and entries: Blair Machaj, 3N050 Springvale, West Chicago, IL. 60185. 630-204-6245. Email: elmhurstchess@aol.com. Make check payable to Perpetual Chess

September 18,2004 Springfield IL Chess Club Championship

Sept. 25. The Tournament Chess Club of Mensa. 4SS, Game/15. Mensa membership not required to play. (100% of EFs returned as prizes) Reg: 4. Rd.1 at 4:15 TD Vince Hart. Sheraton Chicago Northwest, 3400 W. Euclid, Arlington Heights, IL. EF: \$20. Prizes: Based/30 1st \$150, U2000 \$150, U1600 \$150. U1200 \$150. Adv. Ent./Club Info: Bradley S. Watts. PO BOX 515. Channahon. IL 60410. 815-690-6295 bradleyswatts@aol.com.

October 9, 2004 Springfield Autumn Open

October 16,2004 Lakeview Cuyler Plus-Score. 4SS, G/60. Lakeview Cuyler Chess Club, 3901 N. Marshfield (1634 west), Chicago 60613. (corner Byron and Marshfield). EF: \$20. Prizes by score: 4-0 \$100, 3.5 \$50, 3-1 \$25, 2.5 \$10, Reg: ends 11:30, rd. 1 at 12. Info: Charles Whipple, 773-508-0605. Ph# day of event: 773-525-2803

October 23, 2004 Normal, IL. Northbridge Baptist Church Oct. Open. An ICA mini-tour and ex-urban tour event. 4SS, G/70. Northbridge Baptist Church, 2413 Ziebarth Rd. Normal, IL. 61761. Located 1900 North and 1700 East in the country. Dir. Exit 165A or B. From the intersection of Main St. and Raab Rd.(in north Normal), proceed east to Linden Ave. (Approx. 1 mile), then north to Ziebarth Rd. (approx. 2 miles) then proceed east again to Northbridge Baptist Church (approx. 2 miles). EF: \$17, \$380 b/30; \$145, U2000 \$85, U1600 \$85, U1200 \$65. Bye 1-4. ICA membership req'd OSA. Reg: 8:30-9:30, Rds: 10-12:30-3-5:30. Ent: Dennis Bourgerie, Box 157, Normal, IL. 61761. 309-454-3842. Cell: 309-531-1723. Dennis9942@wmconnect.com

October 30, 2004 Peoria Fall Tornado, an ICA mini-tour and EX-urban event. 4SS, G/80, Sections: open to all. EF: \$14 by Oct. 28th, \$17 at the site, free to players rated 2200 and over, Lakeview Museum, 1125 W. Lake Ave., Peoria, IL. 61614. Prizes: 75% of EF's distributed as follows: 25% First, 15% second, 10% each to A/B, C/D, under 1200, 5% to biggest upset. Reg: 8-8:45 am., Rds: 9-12-2:45-5:30. Note: A limit of one "1/2 point" bye is available in any rd., but rds. 3 or 4 must be elected by the end of rd. 2. No smoking. Bring sets, boards and clocks. Advance entries: Fred Malcome, 810 W. Progress, Metamora, IL. 61548. 309-367-4833 email: fmalcome@bwsys.net

ICA Calendar

Oct. 30-31. Tim Just's Lake County Open/Reserve XXVI. 5SS, 40/90, SD/30. College of Lake County, Rt. 45 & Washington, Main Building, Grayslake, IL 60030. \$\$(\$4,000 b/70 pd per section). 2 Sections: Open (\$2000), open to all. \$\$500-250-200-180; U2200, 170-160-150; U2000 \$140-130-120; Unr. can win top four only. Reserve (\$2000), open to U1800. \$500-250-200-180; C=\$170-160; D, 150-140; E & Under, 130; Unr=\$120 max. Both, EF: \$45 early, to current/renewing USCF members if rec'd by 10/26, \$5 more 8-8:30AM; \$10 more 8:30-8:45AM; \$5 to play up a section. Reg: 8-8:45am. Rds: 9-1:30-6; 10-2:30. Re-Entry \$35 with ½ pt Bye round 1, ½ pt. Rnds 1-4, unretractable rnd 5 at Registration, Bring sets, boards, clocks none provided, Book dealer on site. Ent: Wayne Clark, PO Box 789, Lake Villa, IL 60046. (847) 546-8511. e-mail: lakecountyopen@yanoo.com, Checks payable to Chess For Life LLC, info www.geocities.com/mrjust/lco.htm. NS, NC, W.

December 11, 2004 Springfield Holiday Open
January 8, 2005 Normal. IL. Northbridge Baptist Church January Open. An ICA mini-tour and ex-urban tour event. 4SS, G/70. Northbridge Baptist Church, 2413 Ziebarth Rd. Normal, IL. 61761. Located 1900 North and 1700 East in the country. Dir. Exit 165A or 165B From the intersection of Main St. and Raab Rd.(in north Normal), proceed east to Linden Ave. (Approx. 1 mile), then north to Ziebarth Rd. (approx. 2 miles) then proceed east again to Northbridge Baptist Church (approx. 2 miles). EF: \$17, \$\$380 b/30; \$145, U2000 \$85, U1600 \$85, U1200 \$65. Bye 1-4. ICA membership req'd OSA. Reg: 8:30-9:30, Rds: 10-12:30-3-5:30. Ent: Dennis Bourgerie, Box 157, Normal, IL. 61761. 309-454-3842. Cell: 309-531-1723. Dennis9942@wmconnect.com

April 7-10, 2005, SuperNationals III Nash,TN.

September 3-5, 2005, Illinois Open. An ICA Tour MAXI-event. ICA membership required.

Maintained by Howard Fried
Last Modified 8/10/2004

PEORIA FALL TORNADO

AN ICA MINI-TOUR & EX-URBAN EVENT

WHEN: Saturday, October 30, 2004

WHERE: Lakeview Museum, 1125 W. Lake Ave., Peoria, IL 61614

ENTRY FEE: \$14 by October 28th, \$17 at the site, free to players rated 2200 or over

WHAT: 4 Round Swiss

TIME CONTROL: Game/80

SECTIONS: Open to all

MEMBERSHIPS REQUIRED: USCF & ICA (other states honored)

PRIZES: 75% of EF's distributed as follows:
25% First, 15% Second.
10% each to A/B, C/D, under 1200
5% to biggest Upset

REGISTRATION: 8:00-8:45 AM

ROUND TIMES: 9, 12, 2:45, 5:30

NOTE: A limit of one "1/2 point" bye is available in any Rd., but Rds. 3 or 4 must be elected by the end of Rd. 2

NO SMOKING. BRING SETS, BOARDS & CLOCKS.

ADVANCE ENTRIES: Fred Malcome, 810 W. Progress, Metamora, IL 61548
(309) 367-4833 e-mail:
flmalcome@bwsys.net

ICA Club Affiliates

Organizations wishing to be listed here should mail an affiliation fee of \$25.00 for one year (check payable to Illinois Chess Association) to the ICA membership secretary, Chris Baumgartner
107 S. Maple Lane, Prospect Points Hts, IL 60070.
Include a short paragraph, similar to those below, listing your club's activities.

Alternativa Group, Peter Pelts, 7135 Greenleaf Av, Niles 60714. 847-965-6469.

American Postal Chess Tournaments sponsors postal events. Jim or Helen Warren, PO Box 305, Western Springs 60558. 630-663-0688, apct@aol.com. Organizers of the U.S. Masters.

The **Center Chess Club** meets 3rd Saturday of each month, 7-10 pm, Crystal Lake Park District, One East Crystal Lake Av (intersection of Walkup), Crystal Lake 60014. Also rated tournaments on most of these same dates, 4 rounds, game/60, register by 8:45 am, round 1 at 9 am. Jeff Buchman, 815-455-5288, buchadolph@aol.com.

Chess Central sponsors rated tournaments in the Grayslake / Zion area. Tim Just, 37165 Willow, Gurnee 60031. 847-244-7954, timjust@Lnd.com.

Chess in Chicago is dedicated to developing and promoting chess in Chicago, and scholastic players are the priority. Lamarr Wilson, email@chessinchiago.org, www.chessinchiago.org.

Chess Utopia sponsors rated tournaments in the Lake County area, Fridays 6 pm. Frank Swindell, 847-816-0869, Swinchess@aol.com, www.ChessUtopia.org.

Chessterton Chess Club meets at Westchester Public Library, 200 W Indiana, Chesterton IN. Joe Alford, Joe.Alford@Kemper.com.

Chicago Industrial Chess League organizes frequent competition among commercial or government teams with awards, ratings, and special events. Pat Sajbel, 847-391-2134.

Chicagoland Community Chess Club (formerly Concordia) meets Tuesdays 6-11 pm, Border's (Cafe Espresso), 7100 Forest Preserve Dr, Norridge. Howard Fried, 773-889-8553, hfried1@sbcglobal.net, or Robert Loncarevic, 773-282-5148, TLSchgo@speedsite.com.

FIDE Master **Albert Chow** gives private lessons by appointment. 3513 N Seminary, Chicago 60657. 773-

248-4846, ChowMasterAl@yahoo.com.

Continental Chess Association runs major tournaments nationwide, including the annual World Open in Philadelphia and the Chicago Open in late May each year. PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills NY 12577. Bill Goichberg. www.chesstour.com.

Crossroads Chess Club meets Tuesdays 6 pm, K Square Mall Food court, I-57 / I-70 exit 160, Effingham. Cameron Feltner, 217-844-2645.

Elmhurst Chess Club meets, and holds frequent USCF events, Sundays 6:30 to 11 pm, Room 18, Hammerschmidt Chapel, Elmhurst College, 190 Prospect, Elmhurst. Roger Birkeland, 630-832-1754, rogerdb9@earthlink.net, ElmhurstChess@aol.com.

Evanston Township High School Chess Club, 1600 Dodge Av, Evanston 60204. Ken Lewandowski, 847-492-7932.

Greater Peoria Chess Federation meets Mondays 7 pm, Lakeview Museum, 1125 W Lake Av, Peoria 61614. Wayne Zimmerle, 514 W Loucks Av #2, Peoria 61604. 309-692-4480 (day), 309-686-0192 (evenings), wzim@bwsys.net.

Hammond Chess Club, Charles Higgins, 116 Crestview St, Crown Point IN 46307. 219-663-8938.

Highland Park High School Chess Team, 433 Vine Av, Highland Park 60035. Tesc Schultz, tschultz@d113.lake.k12.il.us.

House of Chess meets Saturdays 4:30 pm, 1st Baptist Church, 146 S Main St, Glen Carbon 62034. Paul Holland, 618-288-4117, <http://members.aol.com/houseofchess>.

Illini Chess Club meets Thursdays 7-10 pm, College of Education Building, Room 37, 6th & Pennsylvania, Urbana. www.uiuc.edu/ro/uichess. Jeff Davis.

Illinois Chess Coaches Association is open to scholastic chess coaches in Illinois. Mike Zacate, 708-479-9380, mezacate@aol.com.

Illinois Valley Chess Association meets Thursdays 7-10 pm, Illinois Valley YMCA, Adult Lounge, 300 Walnut St, Peru 61354. Bill Schulte, 520 First St, LaSalle 61301. 815-223-1505, bschulte@rivalins.com.

ICA Club Affiliates

Illowa Chess Club meets Tuesdays 6:30-10 pm, St Ambrose University, Davenport IA. Matt Nemmers, qcchess@mchsi.com, www.quadcitychess.com.

Joliet Junior College Chess Club meets Thursdays 6:30 pm, Joliet Junior College, Building J, cafeteria, 1215 Houbolt Rd (I-80 exit 127), Joliet. Maps www.jjc.edu/maps/maincampus.html. Tim Owens, c/o JJC-IET, 214 N Ottawa St, Joliet 60432. 815-280-1513, towens@jjc.edu. Or Steve Decman, 1418 Devonshire Dr, Joliet 60435. 815-744-5272, www.jjc.edu/clubs/chess.

Lakeview Cuyler Chess Club meets Wednesdays 7-10 pm, Cuyler Covenant Church, Fellowship Hall, 3901 N Marshfield Av (corner of Byron St), Chicago 60613. Drew Morissee, 1614 W Byron St, Chicago 60613. 312-494-1300 x12, WindyCityKnight@yahoo.com, <http://LakeviewCuylerChess.tripod.com>.

Mahomet-Seymour High School Chess Club, Dan Pirtle, 302 W State, Mahomet 61853. 217-586-4962, dpirt@ms.k12.il.us.

Mid-America Chess Association sponsors the popular website at www.64.com, and brings national tournaments to the Chicago area. midam@64.com.

Midway Chess Enterprises, PO Box 388765, Chicago 60638, whizline@home.com.

Murphysboro Chess Club, Murphysboro 62966. <http://mysite.verizon.net/res0bz47/>.

New Lenox Chess Club, c/o Vince Berry & Cindy Misiak, 815-463-9975, leave message. VWBerry@aol.com.

Park Forest Chess Club meets Thursdays 7-10 pm, Freedom Hall (next to the library), Lakewood Blvd just west of Orchard, Park Forest. Larry Cohen, 630-834-2477. www.tuxdomain.com/pfcc_club.html.

Rudy Lozano Library Chess Club, 1805 S Loomis, Chicago 60608. Hector Hernandez, 312-746-4329, hernande@chipublib.org.

Smythe Dakota Competitions encourages and offers financial support for Plus-Score Mini-Tours at sites in Chicago and adjoining suburbs. Bill Smythe, chichess@rcn.com.

St Charles Chess Club meets Thursdays 7-11 pm, Baker Community House, 101 S 2nd (Rt 31), St Charles. Jeff Wiewel, 1931 Dunhill Ct, Arlington Heights 60004. 847-818-8913, jwiewel@ntnusa.com.

The South Suburban Chess Club of Greater Chicago meets Fridays 7-11 pm, Oak View Recreation Center, 110th & Kilpatrick, Oak Lawn. Joe Bannon, 773-445-0631.

Springfield Chess Club meets Wednesdays 6-10 pm, American Legion Post 32, 5th & Capitol, Springfield. Thomas Knoedler, 2104 S Fourth St, Springfield 62703. 217-523-7265.

SquareHopper, Joshua Flores, Chess Professional. Available for any chess-related activity at reasonable rates. Specialties are tournament directing/organizing, coaching and teaching. Willing to travel. 630-430-CHES(s)

State Farm Employee Activities Chess Club 1 State Farm Plaza Corp. HQ C-4 Bloomington, IL, 60701 Colley Kitson 309-766-9493.

Tuley Park Chess Club holds frequent Saturday tournaments at Tuley Park Field House, 501 E 90th Pl, Chicago. Tom Fineberg, 7321 S South Shore Dr, Chicago 60649. 773-721-3979, www.home.earthlink.net/~maxine57.

Twin City Chess Club meets Tuesdays 7-10 pm, Lincoln Leisure Center, 1206 S Lee St, Bloomington 61701. Dennis Bourgerie, PO Box 157, Normal 61761. 309-454-3842 Dennis9942@wmconnect.com

West Middle School Chess Club, 1900 N Rocktoon Av, Rockford 61103. Ralph Sullons, 815-966-3220.

Wicker Park Chess Club meets Wednesdays 7 pm to 1 am, Myopic Books, 1468 N Milwaukee Av, Chicago. Pat Jones, 773-772-1369, pjones@artic.edu.

Woodfield Country Chess Club, Carl Troyer, 723 N Main, Eureka 62530. 309-467-6055.

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Notice to all ICA Memembers

The ICA Tour always run at a lose, but with the addition of the ExUrban it was running as a considerable drain on the ICA finances.

Therefore, at the last ICA meeting (in June) it was voted to reduce the tour prizes immediatly. The regular tour was reduced to a total of \$1000 and the ExUrban to \$500, with the executive board to determine the breakdown of pay outs. Here is the new prize list for the ICA Tour:

REGULAR	EXURBAN
250-150-100	120-60
X 95-50	X 90
A 80-40	A 75
B 65-35	B 60
C 50-25	C 45
D 35	D 30
E 25	E 20

Larry S. Cohen
ICA President

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TIM JUST'S
LAKE COUNTY OPEN/RESERVE XXVI
OCTOBER 30-31, 2004

OPEN Section (1800 and above)

\$\$500-250-200-180

UNDER 2200: \$\$170-160-150

UNDER 2000: \$\$140-130-120

Unrated can win top 4 only

Reserve Section (Below 1800)

\$\$500-250-200-180

C: \$\$170-160

D: \$\$150-140

E & Under: \$\$130

Unrated: \$\$120 Max

Entry EF: \$45 by 10/26/04 to current/renewing USCF, \$50 at site by 8:30 AM, \$55 at site after 8:30 AM, \$5 to play up a section, Re-entry \$35 with 1/2pt. Bye round 1

REGISTRATION: 10/30/04, 8-8:45 AM at College of Lake County

EARLY REGISTRATION (BY 10/19):

Wayne Clark

PO Box 789

Lake Villa, IL 60031

(Checks payable to: Chess For Life LLC)

BYES: 1/2 Pt. Rnds. 1-4, unretractable rnd 5 at Registration TIME: 40/90, G/30

ROUNDS: Saturday: 9-1:30-6, Sunday 10-2:30

BRING SETS, BOARDS, CLOCKS-NONE PROVIDED

SITE: College of Lake County, Grayslake Campus, Washington at Route 45

INFO: 847-546-8511, lakecountyopen@yahoo.com, www.geocities.com/mrjust/lco/htm

Book dealer scheduled to be on site

TIM JUST'S
LAKE COUNTY OPEN/RESERVE XXVI
OCTOBER 30-31, 2004

OPEN Section (1800 and above)

\$\$500-250-200-180
UNDER 2200: \$\$170-160-150
UNDER 2000: \$\$140-130-120
Unrated can win top 4 only

Reserve Section (Below 1800)

\$\$500-250-200-180
C: \$\$170-160
D: \$\$150-140
E & Under: \$\$130
Unrated: \$\$120 Max

More information inside back

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