

THE NC GAMBIT



The official publication of the North Carolina Chess Association

Summer 2001

Matt Noble Wins U.S. G/60 Championship

Kevin Hyde

Matt Noble scored 7 wins in 7 games including victories over the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place players to win the U.S. G/60 Championship which was held June 1-3, 2001 in Hendersonville, North Carolina.

116 players entered the seven round single section event. Accelerated pairings narrowed the field to only 18 perfect scores after 2 rounds. After an upset of Miles Ardaman in round 4 by Jim Mottonen who had committed to a round 5 bye, only 3 perfect scores were playing in round 5. In round 5, Carlos Perdomo beat Larry Tapper and Matt Noble beat Karl Ehram who was a half point behind the leaders. The round 6 matchup of Perdomo vs Noble put the last two undefeated players against each other. Noble was able to pull off the upset in a Swiss Variation of the French Defense (see game). In round 7, Noble beat Bruce Goodwin who was in position to win the championship by defeating higher-rated players in rounds 4, 5, and 6 after taking a bye in round 2.

Second place was shared by Perdomo and Gary Newsom, whose only loss was to Perdomo. Klaus Pohl and Neal Harris were both masters who lost to Perdomo and finished with 5 points but were out of the money.

Class pairings of players rated under 1200 in the last 2 rounds gave Victor Suich the opportunity to beat Robert Botelho in the last round and claim the Best Under 1200 Prize with 5 points. The biggest upset prize went to Michael Simon who beat a player 716 points above him! Robert Botelho was close behind with an upset of 684 points.

Players thanked Tournament Director Kevin Hyde and the Quality Inn and Suites for provided a great chess-playing experience. Plans are being made to hold another event next spring.



Photo: TD Kevin Hyde (left) awards the 2001 U.S. G/60 Championship trophy to Matt Noble. (picture by Cindy Hyde)

U.S. G/60 Championship Prize Winners

1st - Matt Noble (2277); 7.0

2nd - Carlos Perdomo (2467), Gary Newsom (1975); 6.0

U2300 1st - Bruce Goodwin (1810), Larry Tapper (2295), Jim Mottonen (2153), Walter Smith (1896), Leonard Dickerson (2098); 5.5

U2000 4th - Zakir Ahmed (1757), Roger Johnson (1984), Mike McHale (1832), Thomas Adams (1838), Jacqueline Guglielmi (1655); 5.0

U1200 1st - Victor Suich (1145); 5.0

U1600 1st - Brian Hastings (1527), David Jenkins (1591), Malcolm Scott (1127), Joshua Dunn (1164); 4.5

U1200 2nd - Robert Botelho (1132), Randy Shirley (839), Israel Buckner (1101); 4.0

Scholastic Trophies - Thomas Adams (1838), Joshua Suich (1604), Malcolm Scott (1127), Joshua Dunn (1164), Daniel Tapia (1748)

Matt Noble's big win, which earned him the brilliancy prize, over IM Carlos Perdomo can be found on page 2.

Other games from the US G/60 can be found on page 8.

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2001 US G/60 Championships

♙: IM Carlos Perdomo (2467)
♚: NM Matt Noble (2277)
Hendersonville, NC, USA

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bd3 c5 5.
dxc5 Bxc5 6.Qe2 Nc6 7.Nf3 d4 8.Nb1 e5
9.a3 a5 10.h3 h6 11.Nbd2 Qe7 12.b3 Bd7
13.Bb2 Rc8 14.Kf1 0-0 15.g3 Nh7 16.
Kg2 Ng5 17.Nxg5 Qxg5 18.c3 dxc3 19.
Bxc3 Qe7 20.Nc4 Nd4 21.Qa2 (see dia-
gram G60-1)



Diagram G60-1

Qf6 22.Bxd4 Bxd4 23.Rad1 a4 24.bxa4
Bxa4 Rdf1 Rfd8 26.Qe2 Ra8 27.Rb1 Bc6
28.Rhf1 Qg6 29.Rb3 Qe6 30.Nd2 Ra7
31.Bc4 (see diagram G60-2)

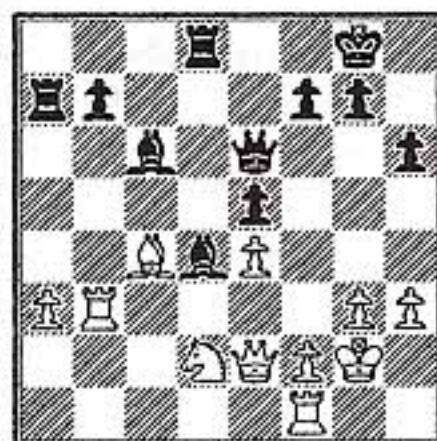


Diagram G60-2

Qe7 32.Nf3 Rxa3 33.Nxd4 Rxd4 34.
Bxf7+ Kxf7 35.Qh5+ Kg8 36.Rxa3 Qxa3
37.Kh2 Rxe4 38.Qf5 Qf8 39.Qe6+ Kh7
40.Kg1 Qf3 0-1

Editor's blunder ??

In the last edition of the Gambit Spencer Singleton was errant named one of the coaches of the year. Instead Matt Noble was coach of the year along with Neal Harris and Nick Bambara. I wish to apologize to Matt for the error.

The North Carolina Chess Association would like to congratulate Gary Newsom of Charlotte for capturing the 2001 U.S. Amateur South regional championship. Gary scored 4½ out of five to win the title in Charleston, WV on Memorial Day weekend!

Notes from the Editor

Jeffrey Mason Jones

Well things are really hopping in the chess scene in North Carolina. As stated above, Gary Newsom of Charlotte claimed the U.S. Amateur South giving North Carolina a sweep of the Amateur South championships. This is another in a series of great events in North Carolina chess which included hosting the U.S. G/60. Many thanks are in order for Kevin Hyde and Neal Harris for organizing this event. I wasn't very pleasantly surprised to see 116 people attend this event especially considering the problems other regions have had hosting similar events.

Congratulations to Matthew Noble of Charlotte as well. Not only is Matt our Invitational Champion, but he's claimed two national titles this year adding the Game/60 title to the U.S. Amateur Team South championship.

Well, finally I'm getting the Gambit out on a regular schedule. Basically the release dates are going to be as follows (Submission deadlines in parentheses):

Winter - January 1st (December 24th)

Spring - April 1st (March 24th)

Summer - July 1st (June 24th)

Fall - October 1st (September 24th)

I would like to thank FM Robin Cunningham who has agreed to submit a regular column to the Gambit. This will certainly enhance our publication.

Gambit mission statement

As the official quarterly publication of the North Carolina Chess Association, the mission of the Carolina Gambit is threefold: to provide up-to-the-date news and information about past, present, and future tournament activities; to provide a forum for the analysis of games and the discussion of issues that are important to the members; and to promote and encourage the growth and development of local club activity throughout the state.

What's in this issue?

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28th Annual Lipkin-Pfefferkorn Open

July 27-29, 2001

Comfort Inn - Burlington, NC

I-85 & NC-49 exit 145.

SECTIONS:

OPEN: \$1,000-600-500-400-300-200 ,
2300-2399 , u2300 \$300-200 ea.

U2200: \$1,000-600-500-400-300-200 ,
u2100 \$200

U2000: \$1,000-600-500-400-300-200 ,
u1900 \$200

U1800: \$1,000-600-500-400-300-200 ,
u1700 \$200

U1600: \$1,000-600-500-400-300-200 ,
u1500 \$200

U1400: \$1,000-600-500-400-300-200 ,
u1300 \$200

Unrated: Trophies to top 5

More information is on page 6

CARPE DIEM

FIDE master - Robin Cunningham

The North Carolina Invitational was a difficult tournament for me. Like many others, I have been unable to study chess much at all due to other obligations (I am planning a big comeback in 2002, though!) I told NCCA President Neal Harris that I would annotate a game - and since I didn't play any super good ones, I might as well show you my only win.

Congratulations to Matt Noble! His steady, solid play earned him a well-deserved victory and the title of NC Invitational champion.

2001 North Carolina Invitational

♔: FM Robin Cunningham

♚: NM Matthew Hoekstra

UNC-Charlotte

Notes by FM Cunningham

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3!? This is a move order trick. I like to play the c3 Sicilian now and then and there is a good defense to it popularized by Kasparov. If goes 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4. This system is a pretty good defense for Black, but more importantly, I was finding that my opponents could bang out 12 moves without thinking. Totally unacceptable! Nothing's for free though, the price of playing 2.Nf3 heading for a c3 Sicilian, is that you have to figure out how to respond to 2...d6. Nc6 3.c3 d5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.d4 Bg4 Matt's chosen defense suggests he is familiar with the Kasparov setup, but maybe he was not aware of the difference between this

position and that one. 6.dxc5 Qxd1+ 7.Kxd1 e5 8.b4 e4 9. h3 Bh5 10.g4 (see diagram CD-1)

Here is the key point of the move order. If Black's c6-knight were on b8 and the other knight were on f6, then Black could play 10... Ng4, 11.hxg4 Bg4 12.Nbd2. In a US Championship a few years ago, Khmelnsky showed showed white is OK against Christiansen, but how inspiring is that?



Diagram CD-1

As it is, black has to retreat or trade bishop for knight. Keep in mind as we go that White is up a pawn now. The question is - Can Black make me pay for it? 0-0-0+?! I don't like this move - it looks like Black gains a tempo, but white no longer has to worry about ...a5 ideas. Also, I wanted an excuse to get my king out of the center anyway. 11.Kc2 Bg6 12.Nh4 Be7 13.Nxg6 hxg6 14.Nd2 f5 15. Bc4 Kb8 16.Be6 Bf6 17.Nc4 Ka8 [17...Nxb4+ 18.cxb4 Bxa1 19.Bf4+ Ka8 20.Rxa1 Rxh3 21.gxf5 Rf3 (21...gxf5 22.Rg1) 22.Be3 gxf5 23.Ne5] 18.a3? Ugh! If Nb4 wasn't a threat before, it isn't now. Much better was 18.Bd2. Rd3 19.Bd2 Rf3 20.Raf1 Bh4 21.b5 Nd6 may be better. Nd8 22.Bxg8 Rxg8 23.Ne5 Rxf2 24.Nxg6 e3 25.Rxf2 Bxf2 26.Be1 fxc4 27.hxg4 Ne6?! Now only white can win. [27...Re8 28.Bxf2 exf2 29.Rf1 Re2+ 30.Kd3 Ra2 31. Ke3 Rxa3 32.Rxf2 Rxc3+ 33.Kd4 Rc1 34. Rf8 Rd1+] 28.Bxf2 exf2 29.Rf1 Nxc5 30.Rxf2 Ne6 31.Re2 Nc5

32.Re7 Kb8 33.c4 Rc8 34.Kc3 Na4+ 35.Kb4 Nc5 36.Kc3 Na4+ 37. Kb4 Nb6 38.Re4 [38.Ne5? Rxc4 +=] Nd7 39.Ne5 Black is in trouble because any knight ending and most rook endings hold great winning chances for me thanks to the extra pawn and more active king. Nf6 40.Rd4 Ne8 41.Rd7 Rc7 42.Rd8+ Rc8 43.Rxc8+ Kxc8 44.c5 Kc7 45.a4 b6 46.a5 bxc5+ 47.Kxc5 Nf6 48.Kd4 Kd6 49. Nc4+ Kc7 50.Ne3 Kd6 51.a6! The only bright spot of my tournament! Black is in zugzwang. Kc7 52.Nd5+ Nxd5 53.Kxd5 Kb6 54. Kc4 g5 55.Kb4 Kc7 56.Kc5 Kc8 57.b6 Kb8 58.b7 Kc7 59.Kd5 Kb8 60.Ke5 Kc7 Black resigns. A pleasant end to a bad tournament for me! 1-0

"Strange but True"

Don Vandivier - Michigan Chess Association

I had the pleasure of working with Van Vandenburg back in 1978. He asked me to take over as "Games Editor", which I did. I also wrote a column for our state magazine called, "Strange But True", which were crazy things that happened to Michigan Chess Players. Here are a few samples of the column:

*** I was at a tournament in Chicago which had allowed spectators to watch the players. There was so much noise that several top players threatened to withdraw if they didn't stop allowing the spectators in. The TD was very worried, so he gave specific orders NOT to allow spectators in the room. The 2nd round started on time, but Naum Zacks from Michigan was late. After about 1/2 hour I saw Naum outside the room arguing with one of the custodians. Apparently Naum's clock was running but the custodian would not let him into the room, saying "NO SPECTATORS ALLOWED!" I AM A CHESSPLAYER!", Naum replied, but they never let him in and his opponent won on time!

*** Fred Lindsay tells about a tournament where an assistant TD was called to a game concerning time forfeit. Both players' flags were hanging and player A was not keeping score but player B was. Player B's flag fell and so player A, assuming he hadn't missed too many moves, claimed a win on time. The TD told player A that he had to have an accurate scoresheet to claim a win, and that his clock must continue to run until he updated it. Player A glanced at his hanging flag, looked at the hopeless scoresheet and asked, "What happens if my scoresheet is wrong and my flag falls?", to which the TD replied, "Then you lose!"

*** I was watching a time scramble at the Michigan Open between Morgan Everett and his opponent. Morgan had mate in about 3 moves, and he had a good two minutes on the clock. However, Morgan had just captured a piece with his last move and used it to hit the clock. But the piece had a faulty bottom and his clock was still running! Several of us kept looking at each other nervously while Morgan waited for his opponent to move so he could deliver the mate and waited. and waited. and then he lost when the flag fell.

The next Gambit is due out October 1st. Deadlines for games, articles, etc. will be Sept. 24th, 2001



North Carolina News

Samsa, Liu, and McCartney tops in Clayton, Wheless qualifies for junior tournament.

Jeff Jones

Forty-three players from all over the state converged on Rainbow Lanes in Clayton for the first Upper Neuse Open on May 19th. The tournament was divided into three sections: Open, under 1600, and junior. The Open and under 1600 sections were four-round game/60s with a first prize of \$100 in each section. The junior section was a six-round game/30 with the winner receiving a bid to the Capitol Area Tournament of Junior Champions in December.

The Open section saw NM Greg Samsa of Hurdle Mills; NM Dan Liu; and Patrick McCartney, both of Charlotte draw each other and win their other two games for a share of first in the eight man section. Samsa won the first place trophy in the section on tie-breaks.

In the under 1600 John Wehrenberg of Washington posted a perfect four point score to claim sole possession of first. Steve Rollins of Camp Lejeune and Matthew Wofford of Chapel Hill shared second with three points.

The junior section saw Colette Wheless of Charlotte emerge from several exciting games with the title by winning her first five games and clinching clear first before her final game. Adam Holmes of Chapel Hill was second with 4½ points. Oddly enough there were only fourteen players in the section fighting for fifteen trophies!

The next Upper Neuse Open will be held August 25th at Rainbow Lanes.

Thong Chess Champion at McDougle Middle

Al Carlson

Seventh grader Fuliang Thong of Chapel Hill is the 2001 McDougle Middle School Chess Club Champion. This was determined in a five week, five round tournament that ended May 22 at the school.

Fifteen participated in the United States Chess Federation rated tournament in which each player had 29 minutes to complete each game. As a result all will receive a USCF Quick Chess rating. Several participants already held ratings given for their efforts in tournaments with longer time controls ranging from 40 minutes to five hours.

Thong was undefeated, but held to a fourth round draw by Alex Hu. He also was undefeated in last year's event, but was stalemated once and had to settle for second place. Drew Zellmer was second this year; his effort only flawed by a third round loss to Thong. Hu, Anuraag Pendyal, Myles Holt and Scott Zeman shared third place. Al Carlson directed the tournament. Jud Raven is the faculty advisor to the club, which meets every Tuesday after school.

The first fall scholastic Mustang chess tournament at the school, 900 Old Fayetteville Road, Carrboro, is slated for October 20. For more information call Mr. Jud Raven at the school (919) 933-1556 Ext. 6183.

Scholastics in the U.S. G/60.

Kvin Hyde

Forty-eight of the 116 players in the U.S. G/60 Championship were scholastic players. In addition to competing against the adults (including 6 masters) for the overall championship, they were competing for trophies for the top 5 scholastic players. Nine of the scholastic players scored at least 4 points in the 7 round tournament. First place scholastic went to Thomas Adams who scored 5 points. Second, third, and fourth place went to Joshua Suich, Joshua Dunn, and Malcolm Scott who scored 4.5 points. Fifth place went to Daniel Tapia who edged out 4 other players with 4 points in the tie break. The four players with 4 points that didn't win a trophy were Vincent Marino, Israel Buckner, Dan Horwitz, and Anson Shreve. Scholastic player Michael Simon won the biggest upset prize with a victory over a player 716 rating points higher than him.

The tournament provided the opportunity for the scholastic players to compete against a variety of opponents. Participating in a national adult tournament was a great experience for most scholastic players and they will now look forward to competing in many more tournaments.

2001 U.S. G/60

♙: John Strohecker (1325)

♙: Daniel Tapia (1748)

Hendersonville, NC

1. e4 e6 2. d3 d5 3. Nd2 c5 4. Ngf3 Nc6 5. a4 Nf6 6. c3 dxe4 7. dxe4 e5 8. h3 Be7 9. g3 O-O 10. Bg2 h6 11. O-O Be6 12. Qc2 Qc7 13. Re1 c4 14. Nf1 Na5 15. N3d2 Bc5 16. Ne3 Rfd8 17. Kh2 Rd7 18. Bf1 Nb3 19. Nxb3 cxb3 20. Qb1 Rad8 21. Bc4 Bxc4 22. Nxc4 Bxf2 0-1

Patzer's Puzzler Contest

The Upper Neuse Chess Union is sponsoring a "Patzer's Puzzler" Contest. People are requested to send in puzzles, whether they are from actual games or (realistic) compositions. Contestants will compete for first prize in the Open division, the under 1800 division (based on August supplement rating), and the junior division. Any submitted puzzle may be used for publication in the *Gambit*. Submissions with analysis should be sent to Jeff Jones, 313-C Roselle Ct., Raleigh, NC 27610, jeffjones@chessunion.com. (919)250-9717. Entries must be received by Sept. 17, 2001, Winners will be announced October 1st at chessunion.com

North Carolina Chess Tournaments: July - Sept. 2001

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| July 18, 2001 Wednesday Afternoon in the Park (QC) | East Flat Rock |
| 4-SS G/29. 8-player sections: Rds.: 12:30-1:30-2:30-3:30 EF:\$5 Prizes: \$20-10 in each section. Info: Kevin Hyde, RR 1 Box 35A, Saluda, NC 28773. (828)749-1625. hyde@a-o.com | |
| July 21, 2001 Pin Action III | Clayton |
| 4-SS G/30 Rainbow Lanes FFC, 850 NC 42 W, Clayton, NC 27520, (919)553-4386. Sections: Open, U1400 EF:\$10 Prizes b/entries. Reg.: 2-3 Rds.:3-4-5-6. Pairings accelerated after 20 players. Info: Jeff Jones, (919)250-9717, jeffjones@chessunion.com. http://members.aol.com/RabidRook/PinAction.html for prize table. | |
| July 27, 2001 Fayetteville 4th Friday Action Quads | Fayetteville |
| 3-RR G/30 Hornes' Deli Café, 124 Hay St., Fayetteville, NC. EF:\$5 Prizes: Cash percentage. Rds.:7-8-9. Info: Paul Hughes (910)424-7489 | |
| July 27-29, 2001 28th Annual LPO | Burlington USCF GPP: 40 |
| 5-SS 5-SS 35/90 SD/60, 2-day option Rd.1 G/70. Comfort Inn - Burlington, 978 Plantation Dr., Burlington, NC (336)227-3681. I-85 and NC 49 exit 145. Prizes: \$20,000 b/290. OPEN: \$1000-600-500-400-300-200, 2300-2399, U2300 \$300-200 each. U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600, U1400 \$1000-600-500-400-300-200, \$200 class prize. UNRATED: Trophies to Top 5. EF: \$83, 2-day \$82 by 7/20 / \$89 at site GM/IM free \$70 deducted from prize. UNR. EF: \$20, 2-day \$18. Reg.: Fri. 5-7, Sat. 8-9:15. Rds.: Fri 8 or Sat. 10, Sat. 2-7:30, Sun. 10-2:30. ENT: American Chess Promotions, 3055 General Lee Rd., Macon, GA 31204 (478)742-5607. | |
| August 24, 2001 Fayetteville 4th Friday Action Quads | Fayetteville |
| 3-RR G/30 Hornes' Deli Café, 124 Hay St., Fayetteville, NC. EF:\$5 Prizes: Cash percentage. Rds.:7-8-9. Info: Paul Hughes (910)424-7489 | |
| Aug. 25, 2001 Upper Neuse Open and Junior Open | Clayton |
| Rainbow Lanes FFC, 850 NC 42 W, Clayton, NC 27520, (919)553-4386. Open and U1600: 4-SS G/60 EF:\$15 (by 5/17)/\$20 at site Prizes: \$450 b/40 in these two sections Junior: 6-SS G/30 EF: \$5 (by 5/17)/\$7 at site 15 trophies up for grabs. Reg.: 9-945 Info: Jeffrey Jones, 313-C Roselle Ct., Raleigh, NC 27610. (919)250-9717. jeffjones@chessunion.com http://members.aol.com/RabidRook/UpperNeuseOpen.html official website. | |
| Aug. 31-Sept 2, 2001 North Carolina Closed State Championships and Elections | Charlotte |
| Independence Hotel, 3024 E. Independence Blvd. (Hwy 74), Charlotte, NC 28205 (704)-358-3755. Prizes: \$5500 GTD by the Charlotte Chess Club!! Six sections: Championship \$600-\$300, U2200-\$300, U2100-\$300. Class A: \$400-200, u1900:\$200, Class B:\$400-200, u1700:\$200, Class C:\$400-200, u1500:\$200, Class D:\$400-200, u1300:\$200, U1200:\$400-200, u1100:\$200. EF:\$50 (8/25)/\$60 at site. 40/90 SD/60. Reg: Fri.5:30-7:15, Sat. 8-9:45. Rds.: Fri. 7:30 or Sat.: 10 then 3-8, Sun. 10-3. No-re-entries, 1/2-point bye in round 1 only. ENT: Charlotte Chess Club, 8013 Regent Park, Ln. Charlotte, NC or call Leland Fuerstman (888)321-9292. | |
| September 8th, 2001 Orchard Lake Saturday and U1000 Scholastic | Hendersonville |
| OPEN: 4-SS Rds. 1-2 G/60, 3-4 G/90. Rds.:9-11-1:30-4:30 EF: \$20 Prizes: \$465 b/36, U1000 Scholastic 6-SS Rds. 1-2 G/30, Rds. 3-6 G/45 EF:\$20 Prizes: \$110 b/24 Info: Kevin Hyde, RR 1 Box 35A, Saluda, NC 28773, (828)749-1625. hyde@a-o.com, Website: http://www.ioa.com/~hyde/orch01.htm | |
| September 28, 2001 Fayetteville 4th Friday Action Quads | Fayetteville |
| 3-RR G/30 Hornes' Deli Café, 124 Hay St., Fayetteville, NC. EF:\$5 Prizes: Cash percentage. Rds.:7-8-9. Info: Paul Hughes (910)424-7489 | |
| Sept. 29, 2001 Pin Action IV | Clayton |
| 4-SS G/30 Rainbow Lanes FFC, 850 NC 42 W, Clayton, NC 27520, (919)553-4386. Sections: Open, U1400 EF:\$10 Prizes b/entries. Reg.: 2-3 Rds.:3-4-5-6. Pairings accelerated after 20 players. Info: Jeff Jones, (919)250-9717, jeffjones@chessunion.com. http://members.aol.com/RabidRook/PinAction.html for prize table. | |

Games

The position of games editor is currently vacant. For now send all of your games to Jeff Jones, jeffjones@chessunion.com, 313-C Roselle Ct., Raleigh, NC 27610

North Carolina Invitational March 24-25, 2001

First a game from our new champion defeating the defending champion.

2001 North Carolina Invitational

♙: NM Matthew Noble
♚: IM Jonathan Schroer
UNC-Charlotte

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 O-O 5. Bg2 d6 6.d4 Nbd7 7.O-O e5 8.e4 c6 9.h3 Qb6 10.d5 Nc5 11.Ne1 Bd7 12.Nd3 Nxd3 13.Qxd3 cxd5 14.cxd5 a5 15.Be3 Qa6 16. Qxa6 bxa6 17.b3 Rab8 18.Rfc1 Nh5 19.Bf1 f5 20.Kg2 Bc8 21.Bd2 Nf6 22.f3 a4 23.Rcb1 axb3 24.Rxb3 Rxb3 25.axb3 Bb7 26.Ra4 Ra8 27.Rb4 Bc8 28.Bd3 Nd7 29.Na4 a5 30. Rb5 fxe4 31.fxe4 Nf6 32.Nb6 Rb8 33.Nxc8 Rxc8 34.Rxa5 Bf8 35.Ra7 Rd8 36.b4 Rd7 37.Rxd7 Nxd7 38.Bb5 Nf6 39.Kf3 Kf7 40. Be3 Ke7 41.Bc6 Kd8 42.b5 Nd7 43.b6 Be7 44.b7 Kc7 45.Bxd7 1-0

IM Schroer lost the title on tie-breaks, but still put out his usual strong performance.

2001 North Carolina Invitational

♙: IM Jonathan Schroer
♚: NM Alexander Kvit
UNC-Charlotte

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Nc6 3.cxd5 Qxd5 4.e3 e5 5. Nc3 Bb4 6.Bd2 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 exd4 8.Ne2 Bg4 9.f3 Qg5 10.Nxd4 Bd7 11.Nxc6 Bxc6 12.Qd4 Nf6 13.O-O-O O-O 14.h4 Qd5 15. Bc4 Qxd4 16.Bxd4 Rfe8 17.e4 b5 18.Bb3 a5 19.a3 Bb7 20.Kb1 Rad8 21.a4 Ba6 22. Be3 Nh5 23.Bg5 Nf6 24.Bf4 c5 25.e5 Nh5 26.Bh2 c4 27.Bc2 g6 28.axb5 Bxb5 29.Rxd8 Rxd8 30.Rd1 Rxd1+ 31.Bxd1 Ng7 32.Be2 Ne6 33.b3 Nc5 34.bxc4 Bc6 35.Bg1 Nb3 36.Kb2 a4 37.Be3 f6 38.exf6 Kf7 39.Bg5 Ke6 40.Kc3 Be8 41.Kb4 Kd6 42.Bd3 Ke5 43.c5 Kd4 44.Bc4 1-0

Unfortunately, I didn't receive any of matthew Hoekstra's wins, However, Matthew did have a solid effort. Here's his draw with the eventual champ.

2001 North Carolina Invitational

♙: NM Matthew Hoekstra
♚: NM Matthew Noble
UNC-Charlotte

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5. Ngf3 cxd4 6.Bc4 Qd6 7.O-O Nf6 8.Nb3 Nc6 9.Nbxd4 Nxd4 10.Nxd4 Bd7 11.Re1 Be7 12.c3 O-O 13.Qf3 Qc7 14.Bb3 Rfe8 15.Bf4 Qb6 16.Be5 Rac8 17.Rad1 Rcd8 18. Qh3 a5 19.Bc2 g6 20.Re3 Bc6 21.Qh4 Qxb2 22.Nxc6 bxc6 23.Bxf6 Bxf6 24.Qxf6 Rxd1+ 25.Bxd1 Qxa2 26.Be2 a4 27.Qd4 a3 28.Qd1 Qb2 29.Bf1 a2 30.Re1 Qxc3 31. Qa1 Qb3 32.Rc1 Qa4 33.Qb2 Ra8 34.Ra1 c5 35.g3 c4 36.Qd4 Rc8 37.h4 h5 38.Kh2 Qb3 39.Qd7 Rb8 40.Qc7 Rb4 41.Qd8+ Kg7 42.Qd4+ e5 43.Qxe5+ Kh7 44.Qd5 Kg7 45.Qe5+ Kh7 46.Qd5 Kg7 1/2-1/2
We saw Robin's only win against Matthew Hoekstra in "Carpe Diem". Here's his draw against the tournament favorite.

2001 North Carolina Invitational

♙: FM Robin Cunningham
♚: IM Jonathan Schroer
UNC-Charlotte

1.e4 e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.d4 c5 6.dxc5 Nc6 7.Bf4 Bxc5 8.Bd3 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.O-O O-O 11.Ne5 Qe8 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Na4 Be7 14.c4 Qf7 15.Qc2 Kh8 16. Rae1 Ba6 17.cxd5 Bxd3 18.Qxd3 exd5 19. Be3 Nd7 20.Qc3 Rac8 21.Nc5 Bf6 22.Qd2 Nxc5 1/2-1/2

John Kirby has been somewhat inactive lately, but managed to wrangle a couple of points.

2001 North Carolina Invitational

♙: NM John Kirby
♚: NM Alexander Kvit
UNC-Charlotte

1.Nf3 Nc6 2.e4 e5 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5. O-O Bg4 6.h3 Bxf3 7.Qxf3 Nf6 8.d3 Qd7 9.Nd2 O-O-O 10.Nc4 Re8 11.Bg5 Qe6 12. Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Qxf6 gxf6 14.f4 Bc5+ 15.Kh1 b5 16.Na5 Rhg8 17.fxe5 Rxe5 18.Nxc6 Reg5 19.d4 Bd6 20.Rf2 Re8 21.Re2 Bg3 22. Nb4 Kb7 23.Nd3 Kc6 24.Rf1 f5 25.e5 a5 26.Re3 Kd5 27.c3 Reg8 28.Ref3 f4 29.Nc1 Rf5 30.Ne2 Rfg5 31.Nxg3 Rxc3 32.Rxc3

Rxc3 33.Rxf4 Rd3 34.Rxf7 Rd2 35.Rxh7 Rxb2 36.Rxc7 a4 37.a3 Rb3 38.Rc5+ Ke4 39.e6 Kf4 40.e7 Kg3 41.Rg5+ Kh4 42.Rg4+ 1-0

Alexander Kvit of Raleigh struggled in his first Invitational, but when the fireworks erupted in the middle game Alex got the better of his opponent here.

2001 North Carolina Invitational

♙: NM Alexander Kvit
♚: FM Robin Cunningham
UNC-Charlotte

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.c4 Nb6 4.c5 Nd5 5.Bc4 c6 6.Nc3 e6 7.d3 Bxc5 8.Qg4 Kf8 9.Ne4 d6 10. Nxc5 Qa5+ 11.Bd2 Qxc5 12.Nf3 dxe5 13.Nxe5 Nf6 14.Qf4 Qe7 15.O-O h6 16.Rfe1 Kg8 17. Rac1 Bd7 18.Re3 Kh7 19.d4 g5 20.Bd3+ Kg7 21.Qg3 Nh5 22.Qg4 Nf4 23.Rf3 h5 24.Qg3 h4 25.Qg4 f5 26.Rxf4 fxc4 27.Rxc4 Kh6 28.Bxc5+ Qxc5 29.Nf7+ Kg7 30.Nxg5 e5 31.Re4 Bf5 32. Re3 exd4 33.Rf3 Bd7 34.Rf4 c5 35.Rxc5 1-0

And now a bonus game from our reigning state champion, Larry Tapper.

2000 North Carolina Open

♙: NM Klaus Pohl
♚: NM Larry Tapper
Asheville, NC
Notes by NM Matthew Hoekstra

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.d4 Nxd5 4.c4 Nb6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Nf3 exd4 7.Qxd4 Qxd4 8.Nxd4 Bd7 9.Bf4 Bb4 10.O-O-O [10.Bxc7 Na4 11.Nc2! Leads to a slight advantage for white.] O-O 11.Nd5 Nxd5 12.cxd5 Bc5 13.Bc4 Re8 14.f3 a6 15.Nb3 Bd6 16.Bxd6 cxd6 17.Bd3 Rc8+ 18.Kb1 [Kd2 is more natural.] Ba4 19.Rc1 Nd7 20.Nd4 g6 21. b3 Nc5 22.Bf5?! Bd7 23.Bc2 a5 24.Rhd1 [Rhe1 or a3 both give a slight advantage to white.] Re8 25.Re1 Kf8 26.a3! Rac8 27.Kb2 Re5! 28. Rxe5 dxe5 29.Ne2 Ke7 30.Nc3 f5 31.Rd1 Kd6 32.b4 axb4 33.axb4 Na6 34.Kb3 Nc7 35.Bd3 Ra8 36.h4 h5 37.Be2 Be8 38.g4?! hxc4 39.fxc4 Bd7?! [e4! 40.h5 gxh5 41.gxf5 (or gxh5) Bf7! Giving Black excellent winning chances.] 40. h5 Rg8 41.h6 Rh8 42.g5 e4 43.Kc4? The ugly-looking 43.b5! Would have restored equality. This move enables the black king to reach its optimal destination.] Ke5! 44.d6? [b5 was once again necessary but would have led to a difficult position after Na8! After d6, white's g5-h6 chain turns into a definite liability. Clearly, keeping the pawn on d5 would have made black's task much more difficult.] Ne6 -+ 45. Rg1 Nd4 46.b5 b6 47.Bd1 Be6+ 48.Kb4
(continued on next page)



Kxd6 [Unnecessary, Rc8! Would have left white with nothing.] 49.Na4 Bd7 50.Nxb6 Bxb5 51.Nc4+ Bxc4 52.Kxc4 Ke5 53.Kc3 f4 54.Bg4 f3 55.Kd2 Kf4 56.Bh5 gxf5 57.g6 e3+ 58.Kd3 Nf5 59.g7 Rd8+ 60.Kc3 Nxf6 0-1

U.S. G/60 championships June 1st-3rd, 2001

There were some wild entertaining games played at the U.S. G/60 championships in Hendersonville. Here's a nice queen sacrifice in round three by former state champion James Mottonen.

U.S. G/60 championships

♙: Tommy Bass (1290)
♚: NM James Mottonen (2160)
Hendersonville, NC
Notes by NM Neal Harris

1.Nf3 f5 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.O-O Nf6 5.d3 O-O 6.Nc3 d5 7.e3 c6 8.Bd2 Qd6 9.Qe2 e5 10.Nh4 Be6 11.f4 e4 12.d4 b5 13.h3 a6 14.Kh2 c5 15.Rg1 Nc6 16.a3 cxd4 17.Nd1 Rac8 18.Nf2 (see diagram G60-3)

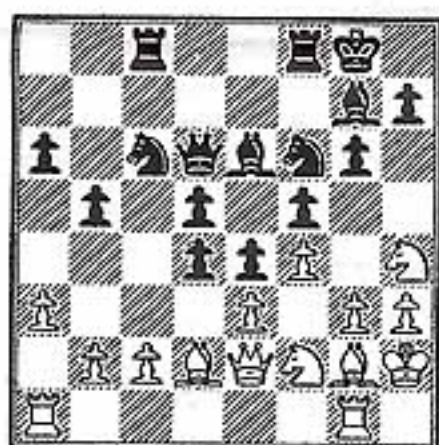


Diagram G60-3

g5!! 19.fxf5 Qxg3+! 20.Kxg3 Nh5+ 21.Qxh5? [21.Kh2 Be5+ 22.Kh1 Ng3+ would still win for black.] Be5# 0-1

Fayetteville's Robert Botelho secures the tournament's second largest upset rather quickly.

U.S. G/60 championships

♙: Robert Botelho (1132)
♚: Roger Sample (1816)
Hendersonville, NC
Notes by Jeffrey Jones

1.e4 Nc6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.Be3 e5 5.Nc3 Bb4 6.dxe5 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 Qxe5

8.Qd2 Nf6 9.Nf3 Qe7 10.h3 O-O 11.Bc4 Ne5 12.Nxe5 Qxe5 13.O-O Bf5 14.Bd4 Ne4? [14... Qd6 was much better than this. The active bishop pair compensates for the poor pawn structure in my opinion. 15.Qe3 Qa5? 15... Qe8 16.Qf4 Bg6 17.Rfe1 Qc6 18.Qe5 Nf6 19.Bb5 Qd6 20.Bd3 Rfe8 21.Qxd6 cxd6 seems to be the best line in this sharp position with roughly equal chances. 15...Qd6 is the only other reasonable move for black but ends up leaving black down a piece for the pawn 16.f3 Ng3 17.Rfe1 b6 18.Be5 Rfe8 19.Bxd6 Rxe3 20.Bxg3 Rxc3 21.Bb3 Bxc2 22.Bxc2 Rxc2 23.Recl 16.f3 Nd6 17.Qg5! Powefull! Ne8 is the only defense, but g4 wins the pinned bishop g6? 18.Qf6 1-0

Charlotte's Patrick McCartney secures the upset draw against our state champion.

U.S. G/60 championships

♙: Patrick McCartney (1895)
♚: NM Larry Tapper (2295)
Hendersonville, NC

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.d4 Nxd5 4.c4 Nb6 5.Nc3 e5 6.d5 Bb4 7.Qb3 a5 8.a3 Bxc3+ 9.Qxc3 O-O 10.Nf3 c6 11.dxc6 Nxc6 12.Be3 Re8 13.Be2 Qc7 14.O-O Bg4 15.h3 Bh5 16.Rfe1 Rad8 17.Rad1 Rxd1 18.Bxd1 Nd7 19.b4 axb4 20.axb4 Ne7 21.Nd2 Nd5 22.Qb3 Nxe3 23.Qxe3 Bg6 24.c5 b6 25.Ba4 bxc5 26.Bxd7 Qxd7 27.bxc5 f6 28.Nc4 Qd5 29.Nd6 Re7 30.Qc3 Rc7 31.Rc1 Bd3 32.Qa5 Rd7 33.Qb6 h5 34.Qb8+ Kh7 35.Qe8 Rc7 36.Qxh5+ Kg8 1/2-1/2

How about the editor? Well, I managed to snatch a half of a point from a local expert.

U.S. G/60 championships

♙: Jeffrey Jones (1745)
♚: Karl Ehram (2075)
Hendersonville, NC
Notes by Jeff Jones

1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 f5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.e3 d5 This apparently is Karl's favorite line. I could've prevented it with 5.a3, but as it was I still had a fairly easy time in this opening 6.cxd5 Nb4 7.d3 Nbx5 8.Nxd5 Nxd5 9.Nf3 Bd6 10.O-O c6 11.e4 Nf6 12.Re1 O-O 13.d4!? I thought that maybe I could support my passed e-pawn a bit better. fxe4 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.dxe5 Qxd1 16.Rxd1 Ng4 17.Bf4 g5!? 17...Re8 Immediatly quashes the threat of my e-pawn and basically force to trade the pawn. However this would easily allow me to double my rooks. This is probably the

safer option for him. 18.Bxg5 Nxf2 19.Rd6 Nh3+ 20.Bxh3 Bxh3 21.e6 Rae8 22.e7 Rf5 23.Rd8 Kf7 24.Rxe8 Kxe8 25.Bf4 Kxe7 26.Re1 Rd5 27.Rxe4+ Kf7 28.Kf2 Rd1 29.Re1 Rxe1 30.Kxe1 1/2-1/2

The Smith-Morra is often a good weapon in tournaments like this.

U.S. G/60 championships

♙: Paul Calloway (1602)
♚: Joseph Crump (1332)
Hendersonville, NC

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 Nc6 5.Nf3 d6 6.Bc4 e6 7.O-O a6 8.Qe2 b5 9.Bb3 Bb7 10.Rd1 Qc7 11.Bf4 e5 12.Nd5 Qa5 13.Be3 Nd4 14.Nxd4 exd4 15.Bxd4 Bxd5 16.Bxd5 Rc8 17.Rdc1 Rxc1+ 18.Rxc1 Ne7 19.Bb3 h5 20.Qf3 f6 21.e5 dxe5 22.Qa8+ Qd8 23.Bf7+ Kd7 24.Be6+ Ke8 25.Qxd8+ Kxd8 26.Bb6+ Ke8 27.Rd1 Nc6 28.Bd7+ 1-0

One week before this tournament Gary Newsom won the U.S. Amateur South. He continued his hot play sharing second with IM Perdomo with six points.

U.S. G/60 championships

♙: Gary Newsom (1975)
♚: Greg Wilder (1534)
Hendersonville, NC

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 f5 3.e4 fxe4 4.Ng5 Nf6 5.Nc3 Be7 6.Ngxe4 O-O 7.Bd3 d5 8.Ng3 Nbd7 9.O-O e5 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Bf5 Bxf5 12.Nxf5 Ng6 13.Bg5 c6 14.Re1 Bb4 15.Qd3 Qd7 16.Re2 Bxc3 17.bxc3 Rae8 18.Rae1 Rxe2 19.Rxe2 Re8 20.Ng3 Rxe2 21.Qxe2 Kf7 22.Be3 a6 23.Bd4 Qe6 24.Kf1 Qxe2+ 25.Kxe2 Nf4+ 26.Kf3 Ne6 27.Be5 Ng5+ 28.Ke3 Ng4+ 29.Kf4 Nxe5 30.Kxe5 Ne6 31.Kd6 d4 32.c4 b5 33.c5 b4 34.Kxc6 a5 35.Kb5 Ke7 36.Ne4 Nf4 37.Kxa5 Nxe2 38.Kxb4 Ne1 39.Kc4 Nxc2 40.a4 Kd7 41.Kd3 Nb4+ 42.Kxd4 Kc6 43.Ng5 h6 44.Nf7 Na6 45.Ne5+ Kc7 46.Kc4 Kb7 47.a5 Nc7 48.c6+ Ka6 49.Kc5 Kxa5 50.Nc4+ Ka6 51.Kd6 Nb5+ 52.Kd7 Na7 53.c7 Kb7 54.Nd6+ Kb6 55.Nc8+ 1-0

Special thanks again to Kevin Hyde and Neal Harris for organizing this event. The next big tournament organized by Mr. Hyde will be the Bethany's Birthday Grand Prix in Greenville-Spartanburg, SC October 5th-6th, 2001. Website: <http://www.ioa.com/~hyde/BethGP01.htm> or call Kevin at (828)749-1625 for details.

More Games!

U.S. G/60 championships

♙: Patrick McCartney (1895)

♚: Steve Rollins (1464)

Hendersonville, NC

Notes by Patrick McCartney

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.g3 d6 4.Bg2 e5 5.d3 Nc6 6.f4 Nf6 7.Nf3 Bg4 8.O-O Qd7 9.f5 h6 10.h3 Bxf3 11.Qxf3 Be7 12.Be3 Nd4 13.Qd1 g6 14.fxg6 fxg6 15.Ne2 O-O-O 16.c3 Nxe2+ 17.Qxe2 Nh5 18.Kh2 Kb8 19.b4 b6 20.a4 Rh7 21.Qb2 Bg5 22.Bf2 Ng7 23.a5 Qb5 24.axb6 axb6 25.Qa2!! Kb7 Black loses at least a piece. A)25...Qc6 26.Qa7+ Rd7 27.h4 with the threat of 28.Bh3+ wins at least a piece B)25...Kc7 26.Qf7+ Rd7 27.Ra7+ Kc8 28.Qg8+ followed by Qxh7. C) 25...Qxd3?? 26.Qa8+ Kc7 27.Ra7# 26. Qd5+ Qc6 27.Ra7+!! Kxa7 28.Qxc6 1-0

U.S. G/60 championships

♙: FM Miles Ardaman (2387)

♚: Patrick McCartney (1895)

Hendersonville, NC

1.g3 f5 2.Bg2 Nf6 3.c4 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e3 O-O 6.Nge2 d6 7.d3 e5 8.O-O c6 9.Bd2 Qe8 10.f4 Na6 11.Qb1 Nc7 12.Qc2 Be6 13.Rae1 Rd8 14.b3 Bc8 15.Bc1 d5 16.Ba3 Rf7 17.fxe5 Qxe5 18.Nf4 g5 19.d4 Qe8 20.Nd3 Ne4 21.Nxe4 dxe4 22.Ne5 Bxe5 23.dxe5 Qxe5 24.Bb2 Qe6 25.Qc3 Kf8 26.Qh8+ Ke7 27.Ba3+ Kd7 28.Rd1+ Nd5 29.cxd5 cxd5 30.Qd4 Ke8 31.Qxa7 b6 32.Qa4+ Bd7 33.Qd4 Bb5 34.Rf2 Bd3 35.Rc1 Kd7 36.Qa4+ b5 37.Qa7+ Ke8 38.Qd4 Kd7 39.Rc5 Ke8 40.Bh3 g4 41.Bf1 Bxf1 42.Kxf1 Ra8 43.Bb4 Rfa7 44.Rxd5 Rxa2 45.Qh8+ Kf7 46.Rdxf5+ 1-0

U.S. G/60 championships

♙: IM Carlos Perdomo (2467)

♚: NM Larry Tapper (2295)

Hendersonville, NC

1.c4 c6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.Nf3 g6 5.Qc2 Bg7 6.O-O O-O 7.d3 Re8 8.e4 dxe4 9.dxe4 Qc7 10.Nc3 e5 11.Rd1 Na6 12.h3 Bd7 13.Be3 Bf8 14.Rd2 Nc5 15.Rad1 a5 16.Bg5 Nh5 17.g4 Nf4 18.Bxf4 exf4 19.e5 h5 20.Ne4 hxg4 21.Rxd7 Nxd7 22.Rxd7 Qxd7 23.Nf6+ Kh8 24.Nxd7 gxf3 25.Bxf3 Bg7 26.Qb3 Re7 27.Qxb7 Rd8 28.Bxc6 Bxe5 29.Nxe5 Rxb7 30.Bxb7 Rb8 31.Nxf7+ Kg7

32.Nd6 Kf6 33.c5 Ke6 34.b3 Rh8 35.Nc4 Kd7 36.Bf3 Kc7 37.Kg2 a4 38.b4 Rb8 39.Nb6 a3 40.b5 Kd8 41.h4 Ke8 42.Nd5 1-0

N.C. Class Championships

♙: GM Julio Becerra

♚: NM Jim Mottonen

Burlington, NC

Notes by Jim Mottonen

4 May, 2001

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.g3 A rare choice, avoiding the main lines of the Sveshnikov that would occur after 6.Nbd5.d5 When you're playing the Sicilian and are confronted by a new move, the first question to ask is always, "Does d5 work?" Here it seemed like a logical reaction. 7.exd5 Nxd5 8.Nxc6 Another sharp line that may dwindle out to a draw is 8.Bg2 Bb4 9.O-O Nc3 10.Nc6 bxc6 11.bxc3 Bxc3 12.Ba3 Ba1 13.Bc6 Bd7 14.Ba8 Qa8 15.Qa1 f6. bxc6 9.Bg2 Ba6 10.Nxd5 Other games have went 10.Ne2 to allow castling. Here White simplifies and tries for a bind. cxd5 11.Qd4 Qb6 12.Be3 Qb4+! I thought I was going downhill before I found this finesse, which moves the queen again, but gains a tempo for development. 12...Qxd4 13.Bxd4 makes it difficult for Black to unwind, but now White has to take an extra move to get the bishop to d4. 13.Qxb4 Bxb4+ 14.c3 Be7 15.O-O-O O-O 16.Bd4 Rfc8 17.b3 Bc5 18.Kb2 Rab8 White still has some chances, but I felt pretty good getting to this position against a GM from an unfamiliar opening variation. 19.Rhe1 Bxd4 20.Rxd4 Bb5 21.f4 a5?! 21...g6! Would make it more difficult for White to pressure e6. Now I have to go into contortions to defend everything. 22.f5 Re8 23.Bh3 Rb6 24.Re3 In our first game, Julio played just such a do-nothing move at one point, and I immediately blundered. Here it happens again! a4? 24...g6 would have clarified matters, since 25.f6 doesn't really do anything. 25.Rb4! a3+ What else? Thrying to throw away a pawn to save the piece. 26.Kxa3 The computer thinks just moving the king back is even better, but this way safely picks up a pawn. Ra6+ 27.Kb2 Bd7 28.Rb7 Setting up a simplifying combination Bc6 29.Rc7 e5 30.Bf1 Rb6 31.Rxc6 31.c4! Is stronger since 31...d4 32.Re1 has the threat of c5, and if the bishop moves, then Rxe5! Rxc6 32.Bb5 Rcc8 33.Bxe8 Rxe8 34.b4 f6 35.b5 I had only a few seconds to make the last move of the time control, so I was expecting 35.c4!?, leaving me with a tough decision or whether to push or take.

But after a long think, Julio lets me off the hook.Kf7?! And I played this instantly, but after I made it, I realized that Kf8 would eliminate a check along the seventh rank in some variations. 36.c4!? Now after the time control he plays it! d4 Taking the pawn didn't look apetizing. White can retake at some point and roll his pawns. 37.Ra3 With the rook penetrating and my king far from the queen-side, I felt my game was hopeless here. e4 38.Kc1 Rc8 39.b6 Rxc4+? But now I miss a real drawing possibility- 39...Ke7!, and the king cn join the fight. A position with the White a & b pawns on the 6th and seventh could result, but there wouldn't be any easy breakthroughs. 40.Kd2 Rb4 41.Rb3 1-0

Smokehouse XV

♙: Justin Daniel (2145)

♚: NM Klaus Pohl (2252)

Charlotte, NC

Notes by Justin Daniel

12 May, 2001

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Nf3 Bd7 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.a4 Qa5 10.Bd2 f6 11.exf6 gxf6 12.c4! Qc7 13.cxd5 Nxd5 14.dxc5 O-O-O 15.O-O Rhg8?! Black should've gotten central play started with 15...e5 with an unclear game. Black's king side attack is too slow. 16.a5 a6? 17.Rb1 Rg7? (Again ...e5 was better.) 18.Qe2 Nb8 19.c6 Qxc6? (19...Bxc6 20.Qe6+ Nd7 21.Nd4 with advantage to white was a better try for black. 20.c4! Ne7 21.Be4 Qd6 22.Bxb7+ Kc7 23.c5! +- Qxd2 24.Nxd2 Bb5 25.Rxb5 axb5 26.Bf3 Nec6 27.Qxb5 Rxd2 28.Qb6+ Kc8 29.Bxc6 Rc7 30.Bf3 Nd7 31.Qxe6 Rxc5 32.a6 Ra5 33.Rc1+ Kd8 34.h3 Raa2 35.Qg8+ Ke7 36.Qxh7+ Kd8 37.Bb7 Nb6 38.Qc7+ 1-0

Charlotte Chess Club

♙: Euphemia Mu

♚: Brandon Brown

Charlotte, NC

Notes by Fritz 5.32

23 May, 2001

1.c4 d6 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 Nf6 5.e3 O-O 6.Nge2 Nc6 7.O-O e5 8.d3 a5 9.Rb1 Bf5 last book move 10.a3 Covers b4 Qd7 11.Bh1 Bh3 Black gets the initiative 12.Re1 Ng4 13.b4 Qf5 Threatening mate...how? 14.f4 exf4 (see diagram BB-1 on the next page.) Do you see the mate threat? 15.exf4 Nd4 The knight is not easily driven from d4. 16.Bxb7? -+ [16.Nd5 Nxe2+ 17.Qxe2 Bd4+ 18.Ne3] Rab8 [16...axb4 17.axb4 c6 18.Bxc6 d5 19.Nxd4 Bxd4+ 20.Be3 Nxe3 (20.Bxc3?! 21.Bxa8 Rxa8 22.Bc5 Bxe1 23.Qxe1 Qxd3 24.Rc1+-) 21.Rxe3 Bxe3+ 22.Kh1 dxc4+-] 17.Be4??+- weakening the



Diagram BB-1

position [17.Bg2 Rfe8 18.Bxh3 Nf3+ 19.Kg2 Nxe1+ 20.Qxe1 Bxc3 21.Qd1 -+] axb4! Surprise! 18.axb4 [18.Bxf5?? White goes after material which would be her undoing Nf3 19.Kh1 Nf2# Rfe8 19.Nb5 (Diagram BB-2)



Diagram BB-2

[19.Be3 Rxe4 20.Nxd4 (20.dxe4?? Nf3+ 21.Kh1 Nxe3+) 20...Rxd4 21.Ne4 Rxc4 22.dxc4 Qxe4 23.Qd5+ Qxe4!! A sacrifice to finish the game. 20.dxe4 Nf3+ 21.Kh1 Nf2# 0-1

Correspondence Corner

Jeff Jones

IECC Class Tournament

♙: J. Mason Jones (USA)

♚: George Agnew (USA)

Notes by Jeff Jones

1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 c6 4.d4 Bb4+ 5.Nc3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qe7 7.Qb3 O-O 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bxf6 Qxf6 10.Nf3 e4? This move drops a pawn regardless. 10...d6 is much better. 11.Nd2 Re8 12.Nxe4 Qg6 13.Qb1! The knight continues to eye the hole on d6. Now I think d5 is a must to keep the queenside out of a total bind. But then he's face with an isolated pawn on the long diagonal. 13.f3?! Was too awkward and retreating the knight relieves some pressure. Na6?! 14.c5 b5 15.Nd6 Qxb1+ 16.Rxb1 Re6 17.Nxb5! Utilizing the pin on the long diagonal of course Rb8 18.Na3 Rxb1+ 19.Nxb1 Nc7 20.Kd2 Ba6 21.Re1 Bc4 22.a4 a5 23.e4 Bb3 24.Kd3 Bxa4 25.Nd2 Bb5+ 26.c4 Ba6 27.Ra1 Re8 28.Rxa5 g5 29.Bh3 Rd8 30.Kc3 Bc8 31.Bf5 Ne8? He needed to get the king into play to have any chance and remaining only two pawns down. 32.Ra8 Kf8 33.Bxd7! Bxd7 34.Rxd8 Ke7 35.Rb8 Nf6 36.f3 1-0

I'm currently looking to see if anyone is interested in a state e-mail championship? If so e-mail me at jeffjones@chessunion.com.

Thanks again to Robin Cunningham, Neal Harris, Jim Mottonen, Justin Daniel, Patrick McCartney, Kevin Hyde, and Al Carlson for providing articles or analysis for this Gambit.

NC's top active players

June 2001 supplement

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| 1.GM Julio Becerra | 2578 |
| 2.IM Jonathan Schroer | 2457 |
| 3.FM David Levin | 2369 |
| 4.WGM Martha Fierro | 2321 |
| 5.Matthew Hoekstra | 2306 |
| 6.Larry Tapper | 2295 |
| 7.FM Leonid Filatov | 2281 |
| 8.Matthew Noble | 2277 |
| 9.FM Robin Cunningham | 2268 |
| 10.Mike Klein | 2261 |
| 11.John Kirby | 2243 |
| 12.Neal Harris | 2220 |
| 13.Frankie Newton | 2215 |
| 14.John Bidwell | 2213 |
| 15.Greg Samsa | 2200 |
| 16.Branislav Vlahovic | 2177 |
| 17.Alexander Kvit | 2168 |
| 18.Kevin Kirby | 2159 |
| 19.James Mottonen | 2153 |
| 20.Stephen DeJoseph | 2147 |
| 21.Justin Daniel | 2145 |
| 22.Jack Berry | 2138 |
| 23.John Lane | 2106 |
| 24.Michael Buaiz | 2100 |
| 25.John Smithwick | 2097 |
| 26.Garrick Wells | 2079 |
| 27.Karl Ehram | 2075 |
| 28.Vann Alan Patrick | 2051 |
| 29.Chris Kremer | 2037 |
| 30.Dan Liu | 2022 |
| 31.Armin Burghardt | 2018 |
| Randy Lovelace | |
| Leland Fuerstman | |
| 34.Ronnie Sands | 1989 |
| 35.Martin Roper | 1986 |
| 36.Robert Spurrier | 1984 |
| 37.Bernie Schmidt | 1982 |
| 38.Gary Newsom | 1975 |
| 39.Alton Lane | 1949 |
| 40.James Johnson | 1945 |
| 41.Ronald Dennis | 1937 |
| 42.Charles Palmer | 1934 |
| David Erb | |

NEWS FROM ELSEWHERE

IM Irina krush make GM norm in the 2001 NYC Mayor's Cup International

Smartchess.com

26 June, 2001

17-year old Irina Krush of Brooklyn, NY wrote a new chapter in US chess history today. Krush became the first American woman to earn an international grandmaster title norm in the Category X

New York City Mayor's Cup International chess tournament in Queens, NY (June 18-26, 2001). Krush tied for first place with Ukrainian GM Igor Novikov.

Krush's final assault on the target score of 6/9 for the GM norm began in round 7 when she defeated 2001 Samford fellow IM Eugene Perelshteyn. There followed draws against the #3 and #2 tournament seeds GM Pavel Blatny and GM Leonid Yudasin, as Krush recorded an impressive 2617 Tournament Performance Rating. During the course of the tournament Krush defeated all four of the other young U.S. players, staking a claim to being one of the USA's premier junior players.

Krush had previously cemented her place in US chess history when in 2000 she became the only American woman to achieve

The title of International Master, and in 1998, when at the age of 14 she became the youngest ever US Women's Chess Champion.

Shortly after the completion of her last round game, Krush's simple response when asked a question about how she felt about her first place finish and earning a GM norm was "Can you believe it!" Krush's participation in the NYC Mayor's Cup tournament was sponsored by SmartChess.com - Krush's corporate sponsor and manager.

Krush's next opportunity to further her ambition of becoming a grandmaster will come in August when she will be the only US invitee to the prestigious Montreal International tournament in Canada.

North Carolina Chess Association Club Directory

Asheville North Asheville Community Center. Wednesdays 6:30pm-10:30pm Contact: Jim Johnson (828)298-9254 Club Phone (828) 258-2453

Asheboro Public Library, corner of Worth and Cox. Tuesdays 6pm-9pm Contact Tom Hales (910)625-0761

Burlington Forest Hills Community Center. 227 Williamson St. Tuesdays 7:00pm-10:00pm Contact: Ron Garrett (336)584-6931

Camp Lejeune (Chess Beast Chess Club) Central Area Rec. Center (910)451-1942

Cary Borders Books at the corner of Walnut and Jones Franklin, just off US 1/64. Saturdays 1PM-5PM.

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Skylight Exchange. 435½ Rosemary St. Wednesdays 6pm-8pm. Open mic night afterwards.

Charlotte (<http://www.charlottechess.com>) Wednesday's 7-11 Wendy's 434 S. Independence Blvd. Contact : Leland Fuerstman (704) 643-3821 30/1 tournament game for members each meeting. **\$100 for 5-0 in a session!**

Cherry Point Road House (252)466-3027

Clayton (Wardogs Chess Club) Rainbow Lanes, 850 NC 42. W Fridays: 3PM-6PM. Classes from K-12 Starts in September. Contact: Jeff Jones (919)250-9717 www.chessunion.com

Elkin (Yadkin Valley Chess Club) Shoney's at I-77 Exit 82 Tuesdays 7:00pm-11:00pm Contact: Scott Baldwin (910)368-2018 Chad Eller (910)667-3475 Steve Greenlee (910)835-6389

Fayetteville Kiwanis/Honeycutt Recreation Center. 353 Devers St. Thursday 5:00pm-9:00pm Contact: Paul Hughes (910)424-7489

Fayetteville Joe Muggs Cafe at Books-a-Million. 1920 Skibo Rd. Fridays 7:00PM-10:00pm Contact: Paul Hughes (910)424-7489

Gastonia (Gaston County Chess Club) YMCA - 615 W. Franklin Blvd. Thursdays 7:00pm-10:00pm Saturdays 9:00pm-Until Contact: Carl Hanna (704)865-1515 Bob Muhl (704) 827-0874 Milton Tager (704)865-0421

Greensboro Folk Recreation Center. 3910 Clifton Rd. Mondays & Wednesdays 7:00pm-10:00pm Contact: Richard Ward (336)852-2854

Hendersonville Henderson County Public Library, (upstairs) 201 N. Washington St. Friday 1:00pm-4:30pm Contact: Charles Palmer (828)891-8968

Hickory (Masters of War Chess Club) Westmont Seniors Center. 1316 Main Avenue Drive NW. Tuesdays 5:15pm-Until Contact: "Bones" (828)874-3660

High Point Oakview Rec. Ctr. 540 James Rd. Tuesdays 7pm-10pm. Contact: Rick Sawyer (910)884-4444

Jacksonville (USO Chess Club) 9 Tallman St. Sundays 1:00pm-Late evening. Speed Chess & Match Play Contact: Jeff Walsh (910) 346-8349 E-mail: cn1404@coastalnet.net

Lenoir Contact: John Thomas (828)

Monroe St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 116 South Church St. Wednesdays 7:00pm-Until Contact: Irvin Engles

New River MCAS Base Command Center (910)937-5015

Raleigh Kiwanis Park Community Center. 2525 Noble Rd. Fridays 7:00pm-11:30pm Contact: Nita Witting E-mail: look-ing@mindspring.com

Southern Pines (Southern Pines Chess Club) Contact: Dan Garrett (910)692-6246 PO Box 144 Southern Pines, NC 28388 E-mail: dg@pinchurst.net

Statesville Mitchell Community College Student Union Building - 2nd floor West Broad St. Thursdays 6:00pm-Until Contact: Jim Brandenburg (704)871-1782

Washington 7th Street Recreation Center 7pm-10pm Mondays. Contact: John Wehrenberg (252)946-4419

Wilmington (Seahawk Chess Club) Thursdays 7PM-11PM. Books a Million, Oleander Dr.

Winston-Salem Thursdays 7:30pm-Until Contact: Lee Zinzow (336)765-0753



Other Clubs and Sources of information

CMSCA (Charlotte-Mecklenberg Scholastic Chess Association) <http://pweb.netcom.com/~gerben/cmsca.html>

Fort Mill, SC Scott gru-Bell (803)548-0952

Greenville, SC Wayne Williams (864)246-6363

HCSCP (Henderson County Scholastic Chess Program) Charles Palmer (828)891-8968

Hillsville, VA T. Scott Brown (540)728-7774 John Martin (540)728-4273

Rock Hill, SC Pete Danker (803)548-0955

SCCA (South Carolina Chess Association) Mike Spohn = President <http://www.scchess.org>

Classifieds

NM Leland Fuerstman offers chess instruction. Call (704)542-7225 or e-mail lelandf@juno.com for details

Damon Smith is looking for A and B class players for rated matches. For info call (336)655-3426.

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♣ North Carolina Chess Association ♣

♣ <http://www.ncchess.org> ♣

☞ Rte. 2, Box 234 ☞

☞ Old Fort, NC 28762 ☞



Nov. 2002
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