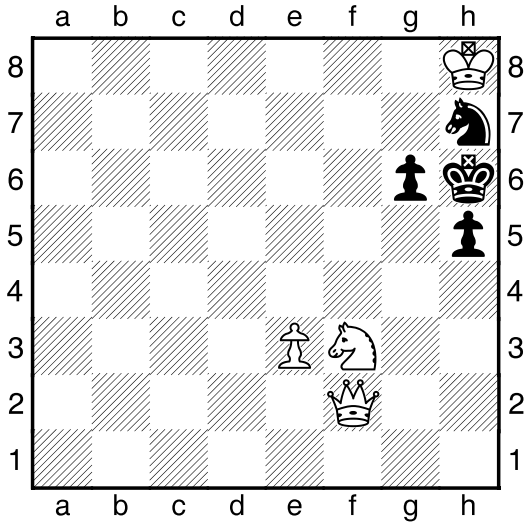


The Gambit

Nebraska State Chess Archives



White to play & mate in two
moves

Original composition by
Robert Woodworth (February, 2010)

June-July 2010

Gambit Editor: Kent Nelson

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**Letter from NSCA President
Gary Marks**

Dear Nebraska chess players and *Gambit* readers,

It was great to see the Cornhusker State Games see a sharp increase in attendance and participants. Jiri Olejnicek who played in the State Cornhusker Games told me some sad news. In January, he will probably return to the Czech Republic for good. I know we will miss this good chess player in Nebraska tournaments and best wishes to him and his family.

Mike Nolan is also retiring as Chess sports director at the State Games after 25 years of service. I want to say thanks to Mike Nolan for a job well done. Mike has also represented Nebraska at the annual delegates (during the U.S. Opens) and he is always fighting for the best interests of Nebraska chess. Mike has been a guiding light for improving the U.S. Chess Federation. One of his many achievements was pushing through a meaningful family membership.

I neglected to schedule a membership meeting at the State Games. It is imperative that we have a membership meeting an hour before the start of the Midwest Open. If anyone has anything to add to the agenda, (prior to the NSCA meeting at the Midwest Open) please contact Ben Ryan to add agenda items.

I want to thank Mike Nolan, Mike Gooch, Ben Ryan, Kent Nelson, Larry Harvey, Jeff Solheim, Bob Woodworth, John Watson and others that are working hard to make the Nebraska State Chess Association one of the best State Chess Associations around.

Sincerely,
Gary T. Marks
NSCA President

From Kent's Corner

This issue of the *Gambit* will be long remembered by me and I hope appreciated by the readers. During the last couple of months, I've been working 7 days a week. I quickly discovered how difficult it is to work on extra projects (like the *Gambit* for example) and not have any time to do it. Believe it or not, what really got me "jump started" on completing this issue, was one of the worst set of circumstances in my life. My mother, Edith L Nelson, passed away. She was 84 years old and in failing health for years. Her passing provided me 4 days off which allowed me to work on this issue while dealing with my grief. I'm dedicating this issue to my mother. I also wish to thank the scores of chess players who offered me support and friendship during this hard time. Thank you again my friends.

Now back to chess. Special thanks to my regular *Gambit* contributors in the persons of **Bob Woodworth** and **Alexander Golubow**. Both Bob and Alex have written wonderful articles that I'm sure you'll enjoy.

Special thanks to **Mike Gooch**, **Joe Knapp**, **Albert Zhou** and NSCA president, **Gary Marks**, for providing games from the 2010 Nebraska State Closed.

As promised from the January-February issue of the *Gambit*, I've added more pictures to augment the articles. The pictures looked good in color but a lot is lost in reproducing these photographs in black and white. In view of this and as of this writing, I will endeavor to make this issue available on-line. Please check the Nebraska State Chess Association web site from time to time for updates on having this issue posted on-line. The web address is www.NSCA.NEchess.com.

With the recently concluded Cornhusker State games, I'm entering the third year of my 3-year commitment to be your *Gambit* editor. Between now and then, if anyone is interested in learning how to design and edit the *Gambit*, please let me know. I'll be delighted to train my replacement. See you in October/November with another issue.

Kent B Nelson

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News and Notes

- Last February, I (Kent Nelson) had the pleasure of joining Keaton Kiewra and Tom O'Connor on a chess trip to Minnesota. Each of us participated in the Minnesota Open. Keaton scored 4-1 (4 wins-1 loss) in the Open section and qualified for the Minnesota State Closed championship. Tom O'Connor scored 3-2 and Kent Nelson scored 3.5-1.5 in the under 2000 section. Special thanks to Kathleen O'Connor for her wonderful hospitality in allowing us to stay in her lovely home. Thanks also to Kathleen's Doberman pinscher named "Carlye" for not eating us.
- If you didn't attend John Watson's chess lectures in Lincoln on March 23rd or John's lecture in Omaha a couple of months later, you missed out. This editor had the pleasure of attending John's lecture in Lincoln and it was absolutely mesmerizing. Let's hope John conducts another lecture soon and please wish John well as he plans to participate in the Senior Open in August. Good luck John!
- Please welcome Hess Baluch to the Nebraska chess community. Hess was the driving force behind the 1967 Nebraska Centennial Chess Tournament and the 1969 U.S. Open in Lincoln. Hess brings years of experience in organizing tournaments and fund raising. Hess is also a true gentleman. Welcome aboard Hess!
- Special thanks to Jeff Solheim for organizing and directing the Great Plains Open in Blair and for his good NSCA work. Jeff is also improving as a player. He crushed your editor in the final round of the CSG in just under 30 moves.
- Special thanks to State Closed director, Mike Gooch, and all the State Closed participants for providing games and letting their pictures to be taken. Say chess everyone!
- We can still use submitted games!
- Players to watch—Cornhusker State Games Open (5-0) winner, Albert Zhou and the 3rd Annual Spring Open co-champion, Joseph Wan. Albert is in high school and Joseph is a 3rd grader. Both players are improving and their chess futures look very bright.
- Cover solution—**1.Ng5 Nf6** (1...Nxc5 2 Qf8#) **2. Nf7#**

GM Patrick Wolff's 6-Board Blindfold Simul.

by Robert Woodworth

On Sunday, May 2, 2010, GM Patrick Wolff (former 2-time U.S. Chess Champion) conducted a 6-game blindfold simul. as part of Warren Buffett's Annual Berkshire Shareholders Weekend in Omaha, Nebraska. It was held at the Regency Court just south of Westroads Mall. Many numerous forms of entertainment were presented including a table-tennis exhibition, a first-class magician, tables for playing Bridge plus a free food buffet and two open bars with any beverages of one's own choice! (Also, we must not forget the 6-game simultaneous blindfold exhibition which drew many, many interested & very curious spectators.)

Since the player registration for the chess simul. was limited to 6 boards on a first come - first served basis, I had made arrangements with the former Nebraska State Chess Champion, Mr. Richard Chess to meet me very early near the entrance to the Regency Court shops. We took some time enjoying the free buffet & the complimentary refreshments before proceeding to locate the sign-up form for the Patrick Wolff 1:00pm blind simul. Being early, we were the first to sign-up.

GM Wolff arrived just before starting time. He gave us his instructions for how the exhibition would be conducted and introduced his move-by-move communicator. Next, he wished everyone a good game, removed his glasses, donned a blindfold and took a seat with his back to the players.

My board was between Rich Chess and also a friend of mine who was an Expert rated player from Louisiana. I knew Rich would give GM Wolff some very good competition and I was not disappointed. It was a real treat to watch these very good chessplayers in action!

At each board, as it was our turn to move, the communicator would call-out our board number and the move to GM Wolff. At this time, a television cameraman would show a close up of the position which was then displayed on a wall-mounted flat-screen monitor for the spectators, whom were seated on bleachers behind the players, to view.

Conducting a blindfold chess simul. can be very taxing both mentally & physically for the exhibitor! At 3 or 4 boards, GM Wolff conducted a position verification in his mind as he called out the location of a few pieces. Also, during the simul. he relieved the tension by warning everyone present “not to try this at home”. The audience plus the players had a very good laugh at this remark!

After about one & one half hours of play the simul. was finished with the score for GM Wolff being 3 wins, 2 draws and one loss. Am sure the reader probably has a very good idea which player was victorious. It was, of course our own Richard Chess, Nebraska Chess Hall-Of Fame member and former State Chess Champion. (The entire gamescore is shown at the end of this article.) Also, your writer was fortunate in securing a draw after GM Wolff traded queens and offered a draw after 19 moves or so.

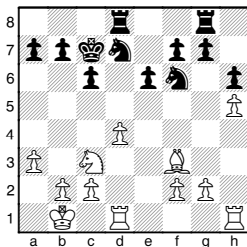
Afterwards, after removing his blindfold, GM Wolff was very kind by stating that he would analyze any of the 6 games, comment on the Anand/Topalov World Chess Championship match in Bulgaria and play a regular simul. versus any interested. Many others were anxious to play him but again our own Richard Chess was his strongest competition! (In a very interesting & complicated R & P ending, Rich thought he would try for the win and lost a sure drawing chance.)

Finally, your writer had a copy of GM Wolff’s book about the 1995 World Chess Championship match between Kasparov & Anand at the top of the World Trade Center in New York City. GM Wolff was one of Anand’s seconds in this match. He gladly autographed my copy and was somewhat surprised at seeing such an old & rare copy. Also, your writer had one of those rare/warm chess moments when I introduced Rich to GM Wolff before he was ready to leave. When I stated Rich’s last name, GM Wolff had a somewhat incredulous look as I explained the chess resume & history of Rich’s chess accomplishments as well as verifying his last name!! A fitting ending to a great afternoon and again many thanks to GM Patrick Wolff for being such a wonderful ambassador for the game of chess. Myself and many others surely hope that he visits Omaha again next year!!

Robert Woodworth, May, 2010

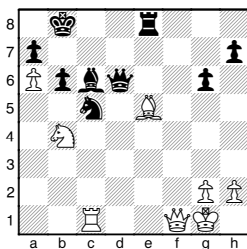
GM Patrick Wolff - Bob Woodworth [B01] Blindfold Simul
Berkshire Hathaway, 02.05.2010

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd6 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.h3 Bxf3
7.Qxf3 c6 8.Be3 e6 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.Bf4 Qb4 11.h4 Bd6 12.h5 h6
13.a3 Bxf4+ 14.Qxf4 Qa5 15.Be2 0-0-0 16.Kb1 Rhf8 17.Qg3 Rg8
18.Bf3 Qc7 19.Qxc7+ Kxc7 ½-½



GM Patrick Wolff - Richard Chess [B27] Blindfold Simul Berk-
shire Hathaway, 02.05.2010

1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.Nf3 e5 4.dxc5 Qa5+ 5.Nc3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qxc3+
7.Bd2 Qxc5 8.Bd3 d6 9.0-0 Nd7 10.Rb1 b6 11.Qe2 Bb7 12.a4 Qc7
13.a5 Ngf6 14.a6 Be6 15.Bh6 Ng4 16.Bg7 Rg8 17.Ba1 Nge5 18.Nd4
Nxd3 19.cxd3 e5 20.Nc2 Nc5 21.Nb4 0-0-0 22.f4 f6 23.Rbc1 Rgf8
24.d4 exd4 25.Bxd4 Rde8 26.e5 fxe5 27.fxe5 Rxf1+ 28.Qxf1 Kb8
29.exd6 Qxd6 30.Be5?? R:e5 0-1



Position after 30 Be5 ??

GM Wolff forgot that the Black rook was on the e-file and not still
on the d-file!!

(Blindfold 6-board simul., May 2nd 2010)

Omaha, Nebraska

Rich Chess is playing in the background (white shirt, black cap, left arm supporting face) with Robert Woodworth to his immediate right. For more pictures of the Patrick Wolff Blindfold simul, please visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/borsheimsjewelry>



The Most Difficult Move to See in Chess (and also the easiest to overlook) (by Robert Woodworth)

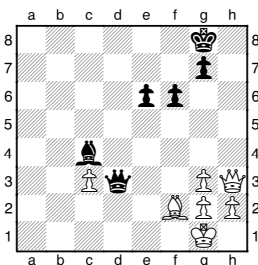
This article is about a chess movement pattern, which to the chessplayer's mind, can at times be the most overlooked and many times unrealized. The late, great chess writer Cecil M. Purdy once wrote that the two most overlooked chess-move patterns are: long retreating moves & the knight movements.

It is generally conceded that the human chessplaying mind analyzes and decides on the desired movement of the chess pieces by using the concept of PATTERN RECOGNITION. We still actually analyze many variations during a game but usually the overall decision for selecting a move is based on prior experience with an intuitive feel for the position and the imbedded patterns in our chess minds.

When the **non-played best move** in a given is compared with the 2nd best (or clearly inferior move) that was **actually played**, the numerically greater number of overlooked patterns (or moves) are that of **RETREATING BISHOP MOVES!**

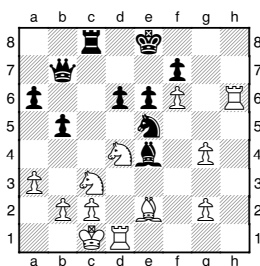
Your writer had always believed that rook moves along a rank were the most easily overlooked but studying one's own games shows otherwise, as I have discovered. Even the best players overlook retreating bishop moves!

The following is an example where a notable master chess-player many years ago actually resigned a game because he believed that he could not avoid checkmate. (Playing White & having to move, he never actually considered the retreating bishop defense by playing Kh1 followed by Bg1 after Black checks with the Queen on the f1 square!!)



One reason that your writer believes that bishop moves are overlooked is from the psychological aspect of always trying to press forward, holding firm and never retreating. Also, our chess minds are geometrically oriented to the files & ranks of the chessboard and not the diagonals. (Even the movement of the knight is taught as one square up & 2 squares over or 2 squares up & 1 square over etc. that is in an L-shape. Actually, the original movement was really intended as a combination of the rook and the bishop i.e. a 1-square rook move combined with a 1-square bishop move away from the original square.)

Black (Michael Brooks)



White (Joe Knapp) to move
Mid-America Open 2010

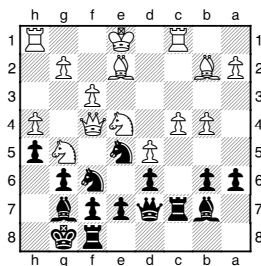
The above diagram is from a recent tournament game between two very strong Midwest players i.e. Michael Brooks who is a rated Master from Kansas City & Joe Knapp who is a rated Expert from Omaha, Nebraska. In the above position it is White's move. (Postmortem analysis showed the best continuation to be B:b5+ followed by Black's a:b & White's Nd:b5 etc.)

Instead of this continuation, White played N:e6?? with the idea of Rh8+ (after Black's f:e6 recapture) to be followed by Rh7+ winning the Black Queen. The oversight was not seeing Black's retreating bishop move/capture of the White Rook if White plays the Rh7+ move. Amazing!!W

My next example of a non-played retreating bishop move occurred in a recent informal game at our local Camelot Chess Club here in Omaha. Your writer's opponent was Mr. Roger Anderson (a former Omaha City Champion) who had the White side in the following game:

**1.Nf3 Nf6 2.b4 g6 3.Bb2 Bg7 4.d4 0-0 5.c4 d6 6.Nc3 Nbd7 7.e4 b6
8.Be2 Bb7 9.d5 c6 10.Qd2 cxd5 11.exd5 Rc8 12.h4 h5 13.Ng5 Ne5
14.Qf4 Qd7 15.f3 a6 16.Rc1 Rc7 17.Nce4....**

The following position was now reached after White's 17.Nce4....

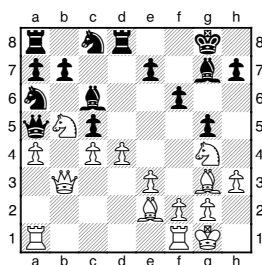


At this point Black should have realized that his white-square bishop was very much out-of-play and that the retreating move 17...Bc8 was probably the best move here. Instead, Black's attention became focused on the tactical idea of winning & being a pawn up on White. It was a pure mirage!! So the game continued with: **17.. Nxe4 18.Qxe4 Nxf3+??** (Gives up a well-posted knight and helps White activate his pieces.) **19.Bxf3** (4 ways to recapture & White finds the best capture.) **Bxb2 20.Rc2 Bf6 21.Bxh5 Kg7** (Black now has a losing position!) **22.Bxg6!! Bxg5 23.hxg5 fxg6** (And now Black is in a mating net!!) **24.Qh4 Kf7 25.Rf2+ Ke8 26.Rxf8+ Kxf8 27.Qh8+ Black resigns**

So this game shows how missing a retreating bishop move at the proper time leads to a losing position. The Black move 17..Bc8 brings the bishop back into the game by supporting the Black Queen who can eventually move to the f5 square (Qf5).

As the game ended, the bishop (as well as the rook on c7) were really spectators of the Black forces. (A very sad life for these two chess pieces in this game!!)

Finally, I will give an example of a retreating bishop move which I actually did realize & play in a 1989 correspondence/postal game. (Maybe having more time as one does in a game by mail, I was able to finally see a good bishop retreating move!) Please see the following diagram with White to move:



Your writer was to move having the White pieces and realized that my dark-square bishop was better on the e1-a5 diagonal. Therefore, **18.f4** followed by 19 Be1 threatened the Black queen which had no moves! (Black played 18..b6 & there followed 19.Be1...Nb4 20 Nc7) & White had a great position and did win the game.

A few final thoughts on retreating bishop moves may lead one to wonder why there aren't more errors & oversights with retreating Queen moves. One answer is the queen has many more move choices plus there are twice as many bishops as queens in play in most positions. Also, when a bishop retreats it is actually repositioning itself to support an attack, create a better defense and in some cases moving from one wing to the other & thereby having better future mobility. Consider those openings where a bishop moves to pin a developed knight but is attacked by a rook pawn (an 'a' or 'h' pawn). It can capture the pinned knight but if it retreats, careful consideration must be given as to which side of the board is the best for the bishop's future activity.

So, in conclusion, be aware of the great potential that can be found in one's games when the correct retreating bishop moves are realized & played at the proper time. Also, remember to keep a keen eye on all those chessboard diagonals! *Robert Woodworth*

The Counter Scotch!

by
Alex Golubow

04.12-14, 2010

As those of you who have read my previous articles in the Gambit might remember, I was playing a "strange" opening for both White and Black, advancing my side pawns early in the game. After proving, first and foremost, to myself that this unusual opening has the right to exist, I somewhat lost interest in it. I started playing it carelessly, mechanically, transposing the order of moves and so on. Consequently, my results and rating took the deep dive. Although, there were other more pressing reasons for this, also...

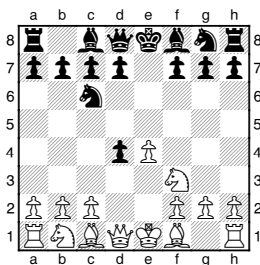
I do not care much about the results, but in order to stimulate my interest in the game I've decided to refresh my old repertoire of regular openings and play the "right" games again for a while, simply for a change. Just when I've felt myself ready to play a regular opening against 1.e4... it dawned on me that someone might choose to play the Scotch Game against me. Now, I do not remember ever playing Scotch for White or even Black before...

So, I began to analyze this innocent looking opening and soon found out that it is quite venomous for Black. Black has to be very careful with every move, like walking through a minefield, barely achieving equality by the middlegame, if and when he finds and executes all the right moves. Now I understood the reasons why Gary Kasparov played this opening a couple of times as White against A. Karpov, winning one game and drawing another...

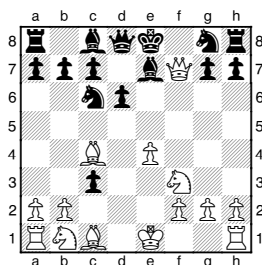
The following game played in the recent tournament between two experienced players (the game is given here with the permission from both players) demonstrates well the dangers awaiting Black, if he doesn't know how to play against this opening:

3rd Annual Spring Open, Omaha NE, April 11, 2010. G120+5s
Timothy Leacock (1683) - Jeffery Solheim (1720)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 ed



4.Bc4 Be7? 5.c3 dc? 6.Qd5! d6?? 7.Qxf7+ Kd7 8.Be6#



On the other hand, the quite feasible continuation 6... Nh6! 7.Bxh6 0-0 8.Bc1 Nb4! 9.Qd1 c2!!!... could have well turned the table on White! Isn't this little hypothetical beauty yet another reason why we are fascinated with chess?!...

But let's get back to our sheep. While I've got involved with this opening, someone opened the discussion on how to play the Scotch Game on the Russian website <http://www.crestbook.com> run by GM Sergey Shipov - Russia's best chess commentator. A couple of years ago he had won a tournament in Norway, winning the decisive game against Magnus Carlsen with Black pieces!... So, the guy really knows what he is talking about, when he comments on chess games. His website is frequently visited by many GM's (Shirov, for example) IM's, FM's, NM's and experts.

In this particular discussion, people shared their experience and suggestions on how to play that opening. I remember one IM who found it so dangerous for Black that after losing a couple of games, he quit playing e5 in response to 1.e4. Somebody even posted the lecture by GM E. Sveshnikov, who is considered an expert in this opening having played about 100 games with it.

I had printed out the lecture and tried to choose the best line for Black for my repertoire, but found all the lines and variations arising after 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 ed... unconvincing to me and not suited to my style. In one variation, GM Sveshnikov gives the equal sign (=) at the 24th move!...

Now, one must be either an idiot or a super genius to remember (memorize) such a long variation, which he might never encounter in his whole life. I want to play the game and not make a science out of it!...

Then I recalled a cursory remark in that discussion by a person, who I suspect is, at least, a Master, who said that he often amuses himself with 3... d5!?? in quick chess games (The exclamatory and question marks are his) and, what's interesting, never got busted in his games so far, always surviving. He calls it the Counter Scotch! Nobody paid any attention to this remark in the discussion...

However, having done some research in most variations after 3... ed, which is recommended by theory and GM Sveshnikov, who even doesn't mention 3... d5 as an alternative to 3... ed in his lecture I was ready at this point of time to grasp the fact that 3... d5!! equalizes immediately! Black retains the equality in all variations after 3... d5!!, according to my limited research and analysis because he already achieved it with this move!...

Well, maybe not quite yet; after all, it's only the third move in the game and White's advantage of the first move has not been dissipated yet, but Black is as close to equality as he can possibly get at that point. Surely, the play might get pretty sharp soon in some variations, as is the case with any open position rich with tactics. However, it's White who opens this can of worms with 3.d4... and Black must have the stomach for it if he wants to survive in this game.

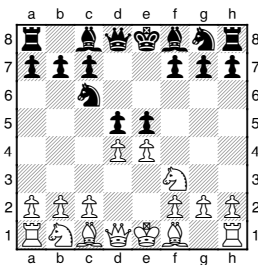
I intentionally do not give you any lines after 3... d5!! You have to do your share of work on your own, if you are going to make this move your weapon of choice. Memorizing someone else's lines and variations won't do the job. What if your opponent makes a move I did not mention?!...

Little had I expected while tinkering with this opening recently, that in the very next tournament I would play a fairly decent game in this same opening with an experienced opponent, who plays it regularly as White.

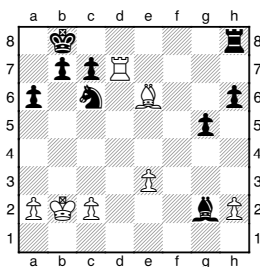
He admitted after the game that I surprised him with the rare move 3... d5!! The game lasted only 25 moves, for which my opponent had spent more than 1.5 hour, while I had spent my usual half an hour, even taking a couple of breaks for smoking, while my opponent was struggling during the game...

3rd Annual Spring Open, Omaha NE, April 11, 2010. G120+5s
Shuman Terrace - Alex Golubow

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 d5!!



4 de de 5.Qxd8 Nxd8 6.Ng5 Bf5(f5!?...)7.Be3 h6 8.Nh3 Nc6 9.Bb5 Nge7 10.Nd2 0-0-0 11.0-0-0 Nxe5 12.Nc4(Bxa7!? N7c6!?) N5c6 13.Rxd8+ Kxd8 14.Nd2 g5 15.Rd1 Kc8 16.Ng1 Bg7 17.Ne2 a6 18.Bc4 Bg6 19.Ng3 f5 20.Be6+ Kb8 21.Nxf5?! Nxf5 22.Nxe4 Nxe3 23.Rd7 Bxb2+ 24.Kxb2 Bxe4 25.fe Bxg2.



White Resigns

Now, if the article would appear lengthy to the editor he may end it at this point. If not, I would like to share with the readers some points from the lecture of GM Sveshnikov and my own as well.

He states that the move 3.d4 answers all three basic principles of any opening:
1) fight for the center; 2) development of pieces; 3) security

Though 3.Bb5! is considered by many to be the strongest move here, since it answers yet another principle, not very clearly formulated in the books, namely: the one who has an initiative (advantage) has to identify the weak point in the position of his opponent (pawn e5 in this case) and attack it immediately, otherwise he would lose the initiative. And it's White who has the initiative here because of the first move he makes in the game.

Therefore, the move 3.d4 doesn't answer this forth principle, since White exchanges the weak pawn of Black, instead of attacking it...

Yet, he still recommends the 3.d4, especially to the young players, for a number of reasons:

- 1) the move 3.d4 is considered as second strongest move in the theory of open openings, to which it belongs;
- 2) the move 3.Bb5 can be met with a dozen of adequate moves, therefore, you must have a lot of knowledge to play the position as White successfully and young players usually lack the necessary knowledge. Whereas the move 3.d4 cuts down drastically the number of possible responses for Black, usually, to three or four strongest continuations;
- 3) the move 3.d4 opens the position and often leads to an open, almost forced type of game, which is to an advantage of a young player, who still has not much experience in the maneuvering game. First, you have to become good in an open, tactical game and only after that you should start playing closed games...

That's the gist of the lecture, since the rest of it is dedicated to the analysis of variations, arising after 3... ed?!

So, what's wrong with this move?! In my opinion, there is yet another principle here involved (not clearly stated elsewhere) which Black neglects to consider before initiating the exchange of pawns. When you do initiate the exchange of a pawn or a piece your pawn or piece disappears from board without a trace, leaving a gaping hole in your position, while your opponent places another pawn or piece in the place of the exchanged one. Thus, he not only gains an extra tempo but more often than not his position improves right away after the exchange...

Let me illustrate this to you with the concrete example from my last game in the same tournament:

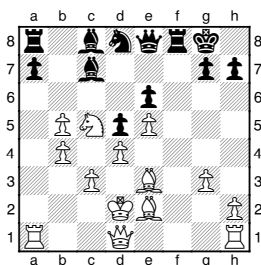


Diagram after move **21.Kd2...** (By the way, the game was started with my favorite move for White - 1.a4! It does confuse a lot of players!...)

Black's position is, practically, lost already. Half of his pieces are locked out of play. He desperately tries to get some counter play. So, he offers an exchange of Knights by playing **21... Nb7**. Of course, I see it that initiating this exchange wouldn't do me any good and, rather, would hurt my position. On the contrary, if Black would go for it will improve my position greatly. So, I let it up to him to decide...

Meanwhile, I see another exchange on the other side of the board which I estimate in my favor no matter who initiates it and play **22.Rf1...** Then follows **22... Nxc5 23.bc Bd7 24.c6 Bc8 25.Rxf8+ Qxf8 26.Qf1...**

Now Black decides (rightly or wrongly - this is another question...) that initiating the exchange of Queens would not be in his favor and tries to lure me into it on the terms favoring him and plays **26... Qf5**; but I do not bite the bait and play **27.Bd3...** instead. There are no good moves left for black Queen now except the exchange but Black continues **27... Qg4? 28.Qf2 Qh3?! 29.Rf1!...** Now Black suddenly discovers that he is in a real trouble but it's too late - **29... Ba6 30.Qf7+!...** and Black resigns seeing the forced checkmate - **30... Kh8 31.Qf8+! Rxf8 32.Rxf8#**

Of course, this example is good only for players of Class C and below, for whom, as a matter of fact, it's given here. Higher rated players know these tricks by intuition. None the less it's always worthwhile to think twice before initiating any exchange - whom would it favor? Unless, of course, you are forced to it and have no other choice...

Likewise it is with the move 3... ed?! in the Scotch Game. By initiating the exchange of pawns Black grants an extra tempo to White, falls further behind in development and has to struggle for the mere equality for a good number of moves without any guarantee of ever achieving it...

Dixi,
Alex

P.S.

I welcome an open discussion of what I've just said. This is the only way to get to the truth of the matter. I'm not an expert in the Scotch Game by any means. But I've done my share of research in it, I have played it in a tournament game and have stated my opinion in this article...

P.P.S. 04.20.10

Now, folks, you would never guess who was the first to take part in the discussion... It was the ex World Chess Vice-Champion GM Alexei Shirov himself, to whom I've had sent the article the very next day I had written it!

He said that he had never considered the move 3... d5 seriously before. But he would try to find a time to study this move and he certainly would let me know the result of his study. His first impression was that the move might turn out to be not a bad move at all. But it needs study...

Well, if GM of such caliber (and he was in the top ten in the world chess rating list for ten or fifteen consecutive years, I believe, and now he is number 10th again...) needs time to study this move before committing himself to a definite answer, then it certainly deserves attention of any other chess player!...

05.30.10

Just recently I've succeeded in locating the guy who mentioned the move 3...d5 first in the discussion. He turned out to be an IM Evgeny Egorov from Kazakhstan. He had sent me a couple of his first games with this move in quick chess that he still remembered but, what's more important, did a database search and had found out that there were a couple of games played with this move by great E. Lasker, F. Marshall and Capablanca!...

I was both slightly disappointed and, at the same time, greatly relieved by this finding. Disappointed because I thought I was bringing a new move to the attention of the readers. Greatly relieved that the move has a seal of approval from such great players!...

The good news is that I've had found this fact too late, otherwise I would have

never written this article, which I hope will be of some use to beginners and to more experienced chess players, as well...

[Event "USA game"]
[Site "USA"]
[Date "1893.??.?"]
[Round "?"]
[White "De Visser, William M"]
[Black "Lasker, Emanuel"]
[Result "0-1"]
[ECO "B01"]
[PlyCount "58"]
[EventDate "1893.??.?"]
[EventType "game"]
[EventRounds "1"]
[EventCountry "USA"]
[Source "ChessBase"]
[SourceDate "2000.11.22"]

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 d5 4. exd5 Qxd5 5. dxe5 Qxd1+ 6. Kxd1 Bg4 7. Bf4 O-O-O+ 8. Nbd2 Bc5 9. Ke1 Nb4 10. Rc1 Nxa2 11. Rd1 Nb4 12. Rc1 f6 13. Ne4 Bb6 14. exf6 Nxf6 15. Nxf6 gxf6 16. Be2 Bf5 17. Bd1 Rhe8+ 18. Kf1 Nxc2 19. g4 Bxg4 20. Kg2 Nb4 21. Rc4 Nd5 22. Bg3 Rg8 23. Bb3 f5 24. Ne5 Bh5 25. Rh4 Be8 26. Kh3f4 27. Bxd5 Rxd5 28. Bxf4 Rxe5 29. Bxe5 Bd7+ 0-1

[Event "New York m"]
[Site "New York"]
[Date "1900.10.?"]
[Round "?"]
[White "Roething, Otto"]
[Black "Marshall, Frank James"]
[Result "0-1"]
[ECO "B01"]
[PlyCount "110"]
[EventDate "1900.10.?"]
[EventType "match"]
[EventRounds "2"]
[EventCountry "USA"]
[Source "ChessBase"]
[SourceDate "2004.11.15"]

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 d5 4. exd5 Qxd5 5. dxe5 Qxd1+ 6. Kxd1 Bg4 7.

Bf4 O-O-O+ 8. Nbd2 Nge7 9. Be2 Ng6 10. Bg3 Bxf3 11. Bxf3 Ncxe5 12. Be2 Be5 13. Ke1 Rhe8 14. Nb3 Bd4 15. Nxd4 Rxd4 16. Rd1 Ra4 17. a3 f5 18. f3 f4 19. Bf2 a6 20. Bd4 Nh4 21. Kf2 Nf5 22. Bc5 Ne3 23. Bxe3 fxe3+ 24. Kg3 Ng6 25. Rhe1 Nf4 26. h3 h5 27. Bd3 h4+ 28. Kh2 Ra5 29. g4 hgx3+ 30. Kxg3 Nh5+ 31. Kh2 Rd5 32. Bg6 Rd2+ 33. Kg1 Nf4 34. Bxe8 Nxh3+ 35. Kh1 Nf2+ 36. Kg1 Rxd1 37. Rxd1 Nxd1 38. Kf1 Nxb2 39. Bf7 Kd7 40. Ke2 Kd6 41. Kxe3 Kc5 42. Kf4 Nc4 43. a4 b5 44. axb5 a5 45. c3 a4 46. Bg6 a3 47. Bb1 Kxb5 48. Ba2 Kc5 49. Kf5 Nd6+ 50. Kg6 Nb5 51. Kxg7 Nxc3 52. f4 Kd4 53. f5 Ne4 54. f6 Nxf6 55. Kxf6 c5 0-1

[Event "Havana casual"]
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 [Date "1901.10.26"]
 [Round "?"]
 [White "Capablanca, Jose Raul"]
 [Black "Echevarria, Carlos"]
 [Result "1-0"]
 [ECO "B01"]
 [PlyCount "97"]
 [EventDate "1901.09.??"]
 [EventType "game"]
 [EventRounds "4"]
 [EventCountry "CUB"]
 [Source "ChessBase"]
 [SourceDate "2002.11.25"]

e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 d5 4. exd5 Qxd5 5. Nc3 Bb4 6. Bd2 Bxc3 7. bxc3 Bg4 8. Be2 e4 9. Ng1 Bxe2 10. Nxe2 Nf6 11. O-O O-O 12. Nf4 Qf5 13. Be3 Qg4 14. Qxg4 Nxg4 15. h3 Nxe3 16. fxe3 f5 17. Ne6 Rf7 18. g4 fxg4 19. Rxf7 Kxf7 20. Nxc7 Rd8 21. hgx4 Na5 22. Rf1+ Kg8 23. Ne6 Re8 24. Nc5 b6 25. Nd7 Nc4 26. Kf2 Re7 27. Ne5 Nxe5 28. dxe5 Rxe5 29. Rd1 Re7 30. Rd4 Kf7 31. Kg3 g5 32. c4 Kf6 33. Rd6+ Re6 34. Rd7 Re7 35. Rd5 h6 36. c5 Re6 37. cxb6 Rxb6 38. a4 Ra6 39. Rd4 Ke5 40. Rb4 Kd5 41. Rd4+ Ke5 42. Kf2 Rc6 43. c4 Rd6 44. c5 Rxd4 45. exd4+ Kd5 46. Ke3 a5 47. Kf2 Kc6 48. Ke2 Kd5 49. Ke3 1-0

Gurkin - Egorov, Pavlodar, 2008

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 d5 4. exd5 (in the later game with the same opponent there was 4. Nc3?! 6 dxe4 5. Nxe4 f5!... and Black got better play and soon won the game.) 4... Qxd5 5. Nc3 Bb4 6. Bd2 Bxc3 7. Bxc3 e4 8. Ne5 Nxe5 9. dxe5 Ne7 10. Be2 Be6 11. O-O O-O-O 12. Qc1 Qc6!...

Evgeny pointed out (without providing any lines) that, in his opinion, moves 4.Bb5!?... and 4.Nxe5!?... are the most unpleasant for Black... Perhaps, they are... It is an unknown territory (new frontier) lying after any new move in chess, which one has to explore. That's why such a great authority in chess as GM Shirov is cautious in appraising the move 3... d5 and needs time to study it.

I can offer to your attention some lines after these moves but I'm not claiming them to be an ultimate truth. You may, probably, find better defense here, having a computer chess program in your possession.

4.Bb5!? ed! That's where the move ed comes handy!... 5.Ne4 Nge7! (5.Nxd4 Nge7! 6.Nc3 Bd7!?...) 6.Qxd4 Bd7 7.Nxd7 Qxd7!(Nxd4?? 8.Nf6#) 8.0-0 0-0-0... And Black is, at least, not worse here, in my opinion.

4.Nxe5!? Nxe5!?(The most obvious and straightforward move...) 5.de de 6.Qxd8 Kxd8 7.Bc4 (7.Nc3...) f5!?(7.Bg5+ f6 8.ef gf! 9.Bf4 Bd6!...) 8.ef Nxf6 9.Bg5 Bd6! 10.0-0 Re8!... And Black has ample resources for defense and counter play...

What I do assert in this article is that White is somewhat bluffing with the move 3.d4!?... in the Scotch Game and often gets away with it when Black responds with 3... ed?! And, that 3... d5!! is the best answer to this “bluff”, after which it's up to White again to prove that he has any advantage in the game whatsoever!

GM. Sveshnikov states in his lecture that for the long time the Scotch Game was considered a game ending in a draw most of the time, until some Russian Masters had found some new lines in it. I would add to that that the draw is achieved for Black easiest of all after the move 3...d5!! And with better chances for counter play!...

Tournament Results

Please send standings to:

Kent B Nelson

4014 "N" St.

Lincoln, NE 68510

Special note—Tournament results were pulled from the USCF web site.

Listing of players are not in tie breaking order.

The 3rd Annual Spring Open was held in Omaha on May 11th 2010. Tied for first place was 3rd grader Joseph Wan and Joe Knapp each with a 4-1 score. This event was organized and directed by Ben Ryan and drew 16 players.

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	J. Knapp	2018	L 2	W 15	W 13	W 3	W 5	4-1
2	Joseph Wan	1504	W 1	W 9	W 4	H 0	H 0	4-1
3	J. Herr	1722	W 7	D 13	W 10	L 1	W 11	3.5
4	T. Leacock	1683	W 11	W 5	L 2	W 9	H 0	3.5
5	B. Li	1511	W 12	L 4	W 6	W 10	L 1	3.0
6	H. Nadel	Unr	L 13	W 7	L 5	W 16	D 10	2.5
7	A. Golubow	1329	L 3	L 6	H 0	W 15	W 16	2.5
8	K. Nelson	1852	W 14	D 10	H 0	U 0	U 0	2.0
9	J. Solheim	1720	W 15	L 2	W 16	L 4	U 0	2.0
10	G. Marks	1600	W 16	D 8	L 3	L 5	D 6	2.0
11	S. Caplan	1318	L 4	L 12	B 0	X 0	L 3	2.0
12	E. Santiesteban	1776	L 5	W 11	H 0	U 0	U 0	1.5
13	C. Forsman	1538	W 6	D 3	L 1	F 0	U 0	1.5
14	J. Leavitt	1516	L 8	L 16	D 15	H 0	H 0	1.5
15	T. Shuman	1377	L 9	L 1	D 14	L 7	B 0	1.5
16	T. Hack	1094	L 10	W 14	L 9	L 6	L 7	1.0

Elementary & Middle School State Team Championships

K-9 Section

May 8th 2010

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	C. Cox	1158	W 16	W 5	W 2	W 3	W 6	5.0
2	E. Yyan	Unr	W 22	W 11	L 1	W 13	W 10	4.0
3	R. Luo	856	W 20	W 8	W 13	L 1	W 4	4.0
4	Ryan Elmore	Unr	W 19	D 6	W 11	W 7	L 3	3.5
5	N. Fredericks	Unr	W 12	L 1	W 19	D 11	W 13	3.5
6	J. Pettinger	Unr	W 18	D 4	W 10	W 14	L 1	3.5
7	S. Lliwellyn	Unr	W 17	L 13	L 15	L 4	W 14	3.0
8	Richard Elmore	Unr	W 15	L 3	W 16	L 10	W 18	3.0
9	R. Whitaker	Unr	L 13	W 18	L 14	W 15	W16	3.0
10	N. Mallipudi	349	W 21	W 20	L 6	W 8	L 2	3.0
11	S. Chokkara	696	W 14	L 2	L 4	D 5	W 19	2.5
12	G. Clapper	Unr	L 5	L 15	D 18	W 22	W 17	2.5
13	S. Sharp	Unr	W 9	W 7	L 3	L 2	L 5	2.0
14	N. Murphy	Unr	L 11	W 21	W 9	L 6	L 7	2.0
15	L. Person	Unr	L 8	W 12	L 7	L 9	W 20	2.0
16	N. Vetter	Unr	L 1	W 22	L 8	W 19	L 9	2.0
17	H. Bailey	Unr	L 7	W 19	W 21	W 20	L 12	2.0
18	T. Person	Unr	L 6	L 9	D 12	W 21	L 8	1.5
19	C. Shimko	Unr	L 4	W 17	L 5	L 16	L 11	1.0
20	B. Fecht	Unr	L 3	L 10	W 22	L 17	L 15	1.0
21	J. Case	Unr	L 10	L 14	L 17	L 18	D 22	0.5
22	C. Peters	Unr	L 2	L 16	L 20	L 12	D 21	0.5

2010 Nebraska Girls Championship

May 1st 2010

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Tot
1	A. Petrosyan	1045	W 4	W 2	W 3	3.0
2	P. Rajan	1036	W 3	L 1	B 0	2.0
3	T. O'Brien	239	L 2	W 4	L 1	1.0
4	H. Heim	Unr	L 1	L 3	U 0	0-0

Elementary & Middle School State Team Championships

K-6 Section

May 8th 2010

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	A. Petrosyan	1080	W 9	W 6	W 4	W 3	W 7	5.0
2	J. Selvaraj	1128	L 7	W 14	W 12	W 6	W 4	4.0
3	J. Severa	323	B 0	W 10	W 11	L 1	W 9	4.0
4	M. Biven	Unr	X 0	W 5	L 1	W 11	L 2	3.0
5	A. Jaddu	629	W 8	L 4	L 6	W 15	W 12	3.0
6	R. Kim	436	B 0	L 1	W 5	L 2	W 11	3.0
7	T. O'Brien	270	W 2	L 11	W 10	W 8	L 1	3.0
8	T. Leone	Unr	L 5	W 15	W 14	L 7	W 13	3.0
9	V. Retineni	237	L 1	B 0	W 13	W 10	L 3	3.0
10	S. Potineni	789	W 12	L 3	L 7	L 9	W 15	2.0
11	W. Dunn	539	W 15	W 7	L 3	L 4	L 6	2.0
12	R. Marcoux	211	L 10	W 13	L 2	W 14	L 5	2.0
13	G. Whitt	Unr	D 14	L 12	L 9	B 0	L 8	1.5
14	J. Morris	Unr	D 13	L 2	L 8	L 12	B 0	1.5
15	L. O'Brien	Unr	L 11	L 8	B 0	L 5	L 10	1.0

2010 Nebraska High School Team Championship

This event was held in Omaha on 3/13/10 and was organized and directed by Mike Gooch. The individual winner was Alex Fischer with a perfect 5-0 score. The winning team was Omaha Cross High. There was 24 players in the event.

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	A. Fischer	1347	W 21	W 9	W 7	W 2	W 3	5-0
2	E. Missak	Unr	W 10	W 8	W 6	L 1	W 9	4.0
3	J. Oliver	979	W 20	W 12	W 4	W 5	L 1	4.0
4	T. Brown	1318	W 17	H 0	L 3	W 7	W 6	3.5
5	J. Hotovy	769	W 11	H 0	W 8	L 3	W 12	3.5
6	I. Thomas	1212	W 16	W 22	L 2	W 10	L 4	3.0
7	T. Gulizia	1047	W 18	W 14	L 1	L 4	W 15	3.0
8	C. Koch	1022	W 13	L 2	L 5	W 16	W 18	3.0
9	J. Dewitt	852	W 15	L 1	W 16	W 18	L 2	3.0
10	D. Allan	811	L 2	W 15	W 17	L 6	W 20	3.0
11	D. Kries	Unr	L 5	L 21	W 20	W 14	W 17	3.0
12	M. Hezel	629	W 23	L 3	W 14	W 13	L 5	3.0
13	J. Reiter	427	L 8	H 0	W 23	L 12	W 24	2.5
14	A. McIntosh	769	W 24	L 7	L 12	L 11	W 23	2.0
15	S. Goldberg	Unr	L 9	L 10	W 24	W 22	L 7	2.0
16	D. Hall	592	L 6	W 19	L 9	L 8	W 22	2.0
17	K. Tanpaitoonditi	677	L 4	W 24	L 10	W 19	L 11	2.0
18	A. Stein	529	L 7	W 23	W 22	L 9	L 8	2.0
19	S. Emmel	Unr	L 22	L 16	B 0	L 17	W 21	2.0
20	J. Costello	322	L 3	B 0	L 11	W 24	L 10	2.0
21	E. D'Souza	677	L 1	W 11	H 0	U 0	L 19	1.5
22	R. Hauke Jr	726	W 19	L 6	L 18	L 15	L 16	1.0
23	P. Manley	Unr	L 12	L 18	L 13	B 0	L 14	1.0
24	A. Malchow	Unr	L 14	L 17	L 15	L 20	L 13	1.0

Rated Beginners Open X111

3/20/10

Omaha

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Tot
1	A. Petrosyan	895	W 12	W 7	W 9	D 8	W 2	W 3	5.5
2	J. Selvaraj	1135	W 10	L 8	W 6	W 5	L 1	W 4	4.0
3	A. Hoover	1062	W 16	W 5	L 8	W 7	W 6	L 1	4.0
4	A. Suresh	910	W 13	L 6	W 16	W 10	W 8	L 2	4.0
5	S. Potineni	730	W 17	L 3	W 13	L 2	W 16	W 8	4.0
6	R. Hauke	636	W 15	W 4	L 2	W 9	L 3	W 14	4.0
7	S. Chokkara	644	W 18	L 1	W 14	L 3	W 11	W 10	4.0
8	A. McIntosh	702	W 19	W 2	W 3	D 1	L 4	L 5	3.5
9	J. Hoover	770	W 11	W 14	L 1	L 6	L 10	W 15	3.0
10	A. Jaddu	615	L 2	W 19	W 12	L 4	W 9	L 7	3.0
11	R. Kim	Unr	L 9	L 16	W 17	W 12	L 7	W 19	3.0
12	N. Mallipudi	276	L 1	W 18	L 10	L 11	B 0	W 16	3.0
13	S. Hoover	348	L 4	W 15	L 5	L 14	W 18	B 0	3.0
14	V. Retineni	103	B 0	L 9	L 7	W 13	W 19	L 6	3.0
15	R. Yapp	Unr	L 6	L 13	D 18	W 19	W 17	L 9	2.5
16	E. Caplan	596	L 3	W 11	L 4	W 17	L 5	L 12	2.0
17	C. Hoover	219	L 5	B 0	L 11	L 16	L 15	W 18	2.0
18	P. Ramasubramanian	Unr	L 7	L 12	D 15	B 0	L 13	L 17	1.5
19	M. Hoover	223	L 8	L 10	B 0	L 15	L 14	L 11	1.0

The Nebraska Individual State Scholastic was held in Omaha on May 29th 2010. The event was organized and directed by **Mike Gooch** with assistance from **Joe Selvaraj**. The tournament had 29 players in 4 sections. The winner in the K-12 section was **Albert Zhou**. **Brandon Li** won the K-9 section with **Jason Selvarj** winning the K-6 section. **Isaac Krings** won the K-3 section. Each of the section winners had perfect scores.

2010 Nebraska State Individual Scholastic K-12 Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Tot
1	A. Zhou	1969	W 2	W 3	B 0	3.0
2	A. Wegener	1557	L 1	B 0	W 3	2.0
3	R. Hayje	766	B 0	L 1	L 2	1.0

2010 Nebraska State Individual Scholastic K-6 Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
1	J. Selvaraj	1096	W 8	W 11	W 6	W 2	4.0
2	J. Wan	1645	W 10	W 4	W 3	L 1	3.0
3	N. Fredericks	920	W 15	W 9	L 2	W 10	3.0-
4	M. Biven	810	W 13	L 2	W 8	W 11	3.0
5	E. Yuan	1021	L 9	W 12	W 13	D 6	2.5
6	S. Potineni	688	W 12	W 7	L 1	D5	2.5
7	C. Cox	1213	W 14	L 6	L 11	W 13	2.0
8	D. Nguyen	Unr	L 1	W 14	L 4	W 12	2.0
9	D. Thrash	Unr	W 5	L 3	L 10	W 14	2.0
10	A. Jaddu	604	L 2	B 0	W 9	L 3	2.0
11	T. Leone	376	B 0	L 1	W 7	L 4	2.0
12	J. Pettinger	910	L 6	L 5	W 15	L 8	1.0
13	P. Taylor	Unr	L 4	W 15	L 5	L 7	1.0
14	I. Deruiter	Unr	L 7	L 8	B 0	L 9	1.0
15	T. Marshall	Unr	L 3	L 13	L 12	B 0	1.0

Nebraska State Individual Scholastic K-3 Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Tot
1	I. Krings	Unr	W 2	W 3	W 4	3.0
2	P. Rajan	296	L 1	W 4	W 3	2.0
3	J. Morris	103	W 4	L 1	L 2	1.0
4	E. Wan	108	L 3	L 2	L 1	0-0

Nebraska State Individual Scholastic K-9 Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Tot
1	B. Li	1544	W 3	W 2	W 4	3.0
2	P. Rajan	1016	W 4	L 1	W 3	2.0
3	Ryan Elmore	921	L 1	W 4	L 2	1.0
4	Richard Elmore	709	L 2	L3	L 1	0-0

The 31st annual Merrick County Open was held in Central City on April 3rd 2010. This unrated event drew 6 players in the Open section and was organized and directed by **Richard Olson** of Clarks, Nebraska. **Tim Tobiason** won the event with a perfect 5-0 score. **Gary Marks** took second place with 4 points losing only to Tobiason. Special thanks to Richard Olson for holding this event for 31 straight years!

No	Name	Rating	Player scores						Tot
1	Tim Tobiason	1611	X	1	1	1	1	1	5
2	Gary Marks	1600	0	X	1	1	1	1	4
3	Richard Olson	1400	0	0	X	1	.5	1	2.5
4	Aaron Cloet	800	0	0	0	X	1	1	2
5	Phil Fischer	1341	0	0	.5		X	1	1.5
6	Weston Svoboda	527	0	0	0	0	0	X	0

The 2010 Great Plains Open

The Great Plains Open was held Saturday, May 1, 2010, on the campus of Dana College in Blair, Nebraska. Twenty players participated in this single-section, Swiss-style, four-round tournament, including one player from Kansas, two from Missouri, three from Iowa, and fourteen from Nebraska. Finishing in a clear first place, winning four out of four games, was 11-year-old Tony R. Cheng of Kansas. (An interesting video news story about Tony can be found on www.fox4kc.com.) The second place trophy was awarded to Randy Giminez, who finished with three points. Three other players also finished with 3 points, including Missourian Frank Whitsell, Iowan John Herr, and Nebraskan Douglas Given, who, by virtue of this finish, earned a place in the 2011 Nebraska Closed. The trophy for 1st place under 1600 was awarded to Joseph Wan, and Cletus Roth won the trophy for 2nd place under 1600. Trophies for 1st and 2nd place under 1200 were awarded to Jason and Joe Selvaraj, respectively. Information from J.Solheim.

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
1	T. Cheng	1871	W 16	W 5	W 4	W3	4.0
2	R. Whitesell	1871	W 18	W 15	W 3	W 9	3.0
3	R. W. Giminez	1800	W 10	W 9	W 2	L 1	3.0
4	Doug Given	1759	W 19	W 7	L 1	W 8	3.0
5	J. Herr	1725	W 11	L 1	W 19	W 13	3.0
6	K. Nelson	1846	D 8	D 13	W 17	D 7	2.5
7	J. Solheim	1694	W 12	L 4	W 10	D 6	2.5
8	Joseph Wan	1657	D 6	W 16	W 13	L 4	2.5
9	T. Leacock	1695	W 14	L 3	W 15	L 2	2.0
10	C. Roth	1479	L 3	W 11	L 7	W 19	2.0
11	A. Golubow	1352	L 5	L 10	W 14	W 17	2.0
12	David Given	1307	L 7	L 17	W 20	W16	2.0
13	G. Marks	1600	W 20	D 6	L 8	L 5	1.5
14	J. Selvaraj	1097	L 9	D 18	L 11	W 20	1.5
15	J. M. Madison	1938	W 17	L 2	L 9	U 0	1.0
16	B. Li	1587	L 1	L 8	W 18	L 12	1.0
17	J. Leavitt	1474	L 15	W 12	L 6	L 11	1.0
18	T. Benetz	1377	L 2	D 14	L 16	H 0	1.0
19	T. Shuman	1355	L 4	W 20	L 5	L 10	1.0
20	J. Selvaraj	1030	L 13	L19	L 12	L 14	0-0

2010 Cornhusker State Games Junior Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
1	J. Lin	952	W 10	D 4	W 7	W 2	3.5
2	B. Grimminger	1077	W 6	W 5	W 3	L 1	3.0
3	A. Hoover	1027	W 8	W 9	L 2	W 4	3.0
4	J. Selvaraj	1161	W 7	D 1	W 9	L 3	2.5
5	R. Elmore	671	B 0	L 2	W 8	D 6	2.5
6	P. Hanigan	726	L 2	B 0	W 11	D 5	2.5
7	R. Luo	948	L 4	W 10	L 1	W 9	2.0
8	M. Wathen	767	L 3	W 11	L 5	W 10	2.0
9	R. Elmore	903	W 11	L 3	L 4	L 7	1.0
10	K. Robinson	Unr	L 1	L 7	B 0	L 8	1.0
11	D. Hanigan	Unr	L 9	L 8	L 6	B 0	1.0

2010 Cornhusker State Games Open Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	A. Zhou	1981	W 5	W 9	W 2	W 4	W 3	5.0
2	J. Olejnicek	1894	W 10	W 13	L 1	W 5	D 4	3.5
3	Doug Given	1776	W 14	D 4	W 11	W 8	L 1	3.5
4	J. Linscott	1888	W 12	D 3	W 9	L 1	D 2	3.0
5	J. Solheim	1698	L 1	W 6	W 7	L 2	W 8	3.0
6	C. Forsman	1560	L 8	L 5	W 10	W 12	W 9	3.0
7	A. Wegener	1554	L 9	W 10	L 5	W 14	W 13	3.0
8	K. Nelson	1832	W 6	W 11	H 0	L 3	L 5	2.5
9	N. Reeves	1825	W 7	L 1	L 4	W 13	L 6	2.0
10	J. Hartmann	1670	L 2	L 7	L 6	B 0	W 14	2.0
11	Joe Wan	1620	W 15	L 8	L 3	H 0	D 12	2.0
12	G. Marks	1600	L 4	W 14	D 13	L 6	D 11	2.0
13	B. Laun 11	1702	X 0	L 2	D 12	L 9	L 7	1.5
14	A. Golubow	1383	L 3	L 12	B 0	L 7	L 10	1.0
15	G. Colvin	1943	L 11	U 0	U 0	U 0	U 0	0-0

2010 Cornhusker State Games Team Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Tot
1	Joe Selvaraj	998	W 6	W 4	W 8	3.0
2	Lanny Boswell	1627	W 5	W 7	D 3	2.5
3	J. Walla	1554	W 7	W 5	D 2	2.5
4	P. Hanigan	719	W 8	L 1	W 6	2.0
5	Jason Selvaraj	1147	L 2	L 3	W 7	1.0
6	Thomas Boswell	812	L 1	W 8	L 4	1.0
7	Will Mitchell	1250	L 3	L 2	L 5	0-0
8	Liam Mitchell	349	L 4	L 6	L 1	0-0

2010 Cornhusker State Games Reserve Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	J. Clarke	1353	W 23	W 3	D 5	W 6	W 4	4.5
2	L. Boswell	1618	D 12	D 20	W 21	W 8	W 7	4.0
3	B. Li	1535	W 13	L 1	W 12	W 5	W 9	4.0
4	S. Martens	1483	W 16	W 21	W 7	W 9	L 1	4.0
5	M. Turner	1467	X 0	W 15	D 1	L 3	W 14	3.5
6	D. Buckley	1356	W17	D 9	W 11	L 1	W 16	3.5
7	J. Boeder	1455	X 0	W 22	L 4	W 13	L 2	3.0
8	David Given	1338	L 9	W 17	W 22	L 2	W 18	3.0
9	D. Meux	1724	W 8	D 6	W 14	L 4	L 3	2.5
10	B. Houser	1479	L 22	W 18	L 16	W 17	D 13	2.5
11	D. Wolk	1422	W 18	D 14	L 6	D 16	D 12	2.5
12	D. Dostal	1315	D 2	D 19	L 3	B 0	D 11	2.5
13	J. Braden	1257	L 3	W 23	W 19	L 7	D 10	2.5
14	D. Krasser	1241	X 0	D 11	L 9	W 15	L 5	2.5
15	A. Wolzen	1058	W 19	L 5	H 0	L 14	W 22	2.5
16	P. Rajan	1047	L 4	B 0	W 10	D 11	L 6	2.5
17	W. Mitchell	Unr	L 6	L 8	B 0	L 10	W 19	2.0
18	M. Block	Unr	L 11	L 10	X 0	W 22	L 8	2.0
19	S. Moore	1515	L 15	D 12	L 13	B 0	L 17	1.5
20	D. Raines	1647	H 0	D 2	U 0	U 0	U 0	1.0
21	D. Frost	1304	X 0	L 4	L 2	U 0	U 0	1.0
22	B. Sobotka	1020	W 10	L 7	L 8	L 18	L 15	1.0
23	B. Griffin	Unr	L 1	L 13	F 0	U 0	U 0	0-0

2010 Cornhusker State Games Scholastic Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	S. Chokkara	776	W 27	W 17	W 7	W 8	W 3	5.0
2	J. Halperin	732	W 25	W 16	D 6	W 14	W 8	4.5
3	J. Hoover	717	W 33	W 26	W 4	W 6	L 1	4.0
4	S. Potineni	781	W 18	W 21	L 3	W 12	W 11	4.0
5	I. Krings	734	L 7	W 22	W 18	W 16	W 13	4.0
6	A. Nelson	825	W 10	W 9	D 2	L 3	W 14	3.5
7	T. Boswell	807	W 5	D 14	L 1	W 22	W 15	3.5
8	R. Ortiz Jr	766	W 13	W 11	W 15	L 1	L 2	3.0
9	J. Converse	662	W 23	L 6	L 14	W 32	W 17	3.0
10	S. Hoover	340	L 6	W 20	W 28	L 11	W 21	3.0
11	G. Dunbar	326	W 31	L 8	W 25	W 10	L 4	3.0
12	D. Schlautman	419	W 32	L 15	W 26	L 4	W 25	3.0
13	W. Twehous	259	L 8	W 27	W 21	W 20	L 5	3.0
14	J. Alexander	571	W 19	D 7	W 9	L 2	L 6	2.5
15	D. Thrash	718	W 30	W 12	L 8	D 17	L 7	2.5
16	C. Schlautman	415	W 28	L 2	W 19	L 5	D 18	2.5
17	S. Erb	412	W 29	L 1	W 24	D 15	L 9	2.5
18	P. Rajan	347	L 4	W 29	L 5	W 28	D 16	2.5
19	L. Matchell	Unr	L 14	W 23	L 16	D 26	W 29	2.5
20	C. Lin	380	D 22	L 10	W 33	L 13	W 27	2.5
21	T. Leone	532	W 24	L 4	L 13	W 23	L 10	2.0
22	J. Ackerman	Unr	D 20	L 5	W 30	L 7	D 26	2.0
23	H. Kuiper	Unr	L 9	L 19	W 31	L 21	W 32	2.0
24	D. Luo	Unr	L 21	W 31	L 17	L25	W 33	2.0
25	M. Hoover	150	L 2	B 0	L 11	W 24	L 12	2.0
26	N. Ugu	101	B 0	L 3	L 12	D 19	D 22	2.0
27	J. Isaac	Unr	L 1	L 13	D 29	W 33	L 20	1.5
28	C. Sasse	Unr	L 16	W 32	L 10	L 18	D 31	1.5
29	J. Lee	Unr	L 17	L 18	D 27	W 30	L 19	1.5
30	E. Wan	109	L 15	D 33	L 22	L 29	B 0	1.5
31	I. Hogue	Unr	L 11	L 24	L 23	B 0	D 28	1.5
32	A. Kerzman	Unr	L 12	L 28	B 0	L 9	L 23	1.0
33	K. Hogue	Unr	L 3	D 30	L 20	L 27	L 24	1.0



Mike Nolan

The Nebraska Chess Community wishes to thank Mike for organizing and directing the Cornhusker State Games for 25 consecutive years! Mike is retiring from the State Games this year.



Mike Gooch (seated left) and Mike Nolan (seated right) take a break to discuss the future of Nebraska chess. Mike Gooch will replace Mike Nolan as chief TD for the games next year.

The 2010 Nebraska State Closed Championship was held in Lincoln on June 18th, 19th and 20th. The playing site was the law offices of Cada, Froscheiser & Cada, Hoffman located on 1024 'K' St. The six players invited to this event were **Keaton Kiewra**, (defending state champion) **Doug Taffinder**, (Midwest Open champion) **Joe Knapp**, (Great Plains champion) **Albert Zhou**, (Cornhusker State Games co-champion) **John Linscott**, (CSG qualifier) and **Gary Marks**, (POY representative). **Mike Gooch** organized and directed the event.

All the games were hard fought but when the smoke cleared, defending state champion, **Keaton Kiewra**, won his 9th consecutive state title with 4.5 points out of 5. Keaton allowed only one draw against John Linscott as white in the first round. During his 9-year championship tenure, Keaton has gone undefeated against the best players in the state. The battle for second place resulted in a three way tie with Doug Taffinder, Joe Knapp and Albert Zhou each scoring 3 out of 5 points. John Linscott and Gary Marks rounded out the field with 1.5 and 0 points respectively. Congratulations to Keaton Kiewra, winner of nine state chess championships in a row!

2010 Nebraska State Closed Championship Final Standings

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	Keaton Kiewra	2361	D 5	W 2	W 4	W 3	W 6	4.5
2	Doug Taffinder	2096	L 4	L 1	W 3	W 6	W 5	3.0
3	Joe Knapp	2006	W 6	W 5	L 2	L 1	W 4	3.0
4	Albert Zhou	1969	W 2	W 6	L 1	W 5	L 3	3.0
5	John Linscott	1896	D 1	K 3	W 6	L 4	L 2	1.5
6	Gary Marks	1600	L 3	L 4	L 5	L 2	L 1	0-0

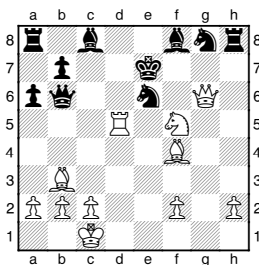
Check out some games from the 2010 State Closed Championship and photos of the players on the proceeding pages!

2010 Nebraska State Closed Championship

White: Joe Knapp

Black: Gary Marks

**1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qe6+ 4.Be2 Qg6 5.Nf3 Qxg2
6.Rg1 Qh3 7.d4 Qd7 8.Bc4 f6 9.Bf4 c6 10.Qe2 Na6 11.0-0-0
Nc7 12.d5 cxd5 13.Nb5 e5 14.Nxe5 fxe5 15.Qxe5+ Ne6
16.Rxd5 Qc6 17.Bb3 a6 18.Nd4 Qb6 19.Qh5+ g6 20.Rxg6
hxg6 21.Qxg6+ Ke7 22.Nf5# 1-0**



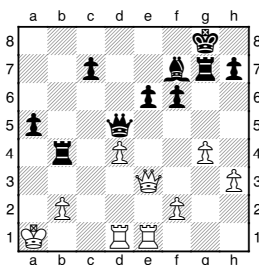
Final Position-Black is checkmated

2010 Nebraska State Closed Championship

White: Gary Marks

Black: Albert Zhou

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.e5 f6 5.Nf3 Nge7 6.exf6 gxf6
7.Bf4 Bg7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.0-0-0 Rf7 10.Bh6 a5 11.Bxg7 Rxg7
12.Kb1 Bd7 13.h3 Be8 14.g4 Nc8 15.a3 Nd6 16.Re1 Bf7
17.Bd3 Rb8 18.Nb5 b6 19.Nxd6 Qxd6 20.c4 dxc4 21.Bxc4
b5 22.Ba2 b4 23.axb4 Nxb4 24.Rd1 Nxa2 25.Kxa2 Qd5+
26.Ka1 Qxf3 27.Qe3 Qd5 28.Rhe1 Rb4 White Resigns**





NSCA President, Gary Marks



**Albert Zhou
2010 Nebraska High School State Champion
and 2010 Cornhusker Open Champion**



Keaton Kiewra
2010 Nebraska Closed Champion
Winner of 9 consecutive state championships



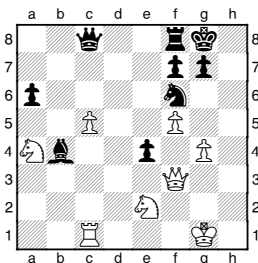
Doug Taffinder
2009 Midwest Open Champion

2010 Nebraska State Closed Championship

White: Doug Taffinder

Black: Keaton Kiewra

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Be2 Be7 7.0-0 a6 8.Be3 Qc7 9.f4 b5 10.a3 Bb7 11.Bd3 Nbd7 12.Qf3 Nc5 13.Rac1 Rc8 14.f5 e5 15.Nde2 h5 16.b4 Ncd7 17.a4 bxa4 18.Nxa4 d5 19.exd5 Nxd5 20.Be4 N7f6 21.c4 Nxe3 22.Bxb7 Nxf1 23.Bxc8 Qxc8 24.Kxf1 Ng4 25.Kg1 Bxb4 26.c5 0-0 27.h3 Nf6 28.g4 hxg4 29.hxg4 e4 White Resigns



Final Position-White Resigns

2010 Nebraska State Closed Championship

White: Gary Marks

Black: Keaton Kiewra

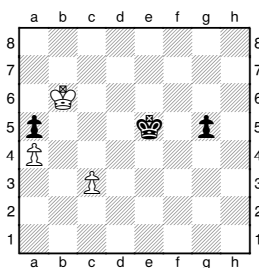
1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bb5 Nd4 6.0-0 e6 7.Bc4 Ne7 8.a3 0-0 9.Rb1 d5 10.exd5 exd5 11.Ba2 Bg4 12.h3 Nxf3+ 13.gxf3 Bxh3 14.Rf2 Bd4 15.Ne2 Bxf2+ 16.Kxf2 Nf5 17.Qg1 Qh4+ 18.Ng3 Rae8 19.Bxd5 Nxg3 20.Qxg3 Re2+ 21.Kxe2 Qxg3 22.d3 Re8+ 23.Be3 Qg2+ 24.Kd1 Rxe3 25.c3 Rxd3+ 26.Ke1 Qd2# 0-1

2010 Nebraska State Closed

White: Gary Marks

Black: Douglas Taffinder

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bb5 Nd4 6.0-0
 Nxb5 7.Nxb5 d5 8.exd5 a6 9.Nc3 Nf6 10.d4 Nxd5
 11.dxc5 Nxc3 12.Qxd8+ Kxd8 13.bxc3 Bxc3 14.Rb1
 Kc7 15.Rb3 Bg7 16.Bd2 a5 17.a4 Be6 18.Rb6 Bd5
 19.c3 Bxf3 20.Rxf3 Rhd8 21.Be1 e6 22.Kf2 Rd5
 23.Rb5 Bf8 24.Ke2 Rxc5 25.Rxc5+ Bxc5 26.Bf2 Bxf2
 27.Rxf2 Rd8 28.Rf3 h5 29.h3 Kc6 30.g4 hxg4 31.hxg4
 Kc5 32.f5 exf5 33.gxf5 Rd5 34.fxg6 fxg6 35.Rf7 b6
 36.Rc7+ Kd6 37.Rg7 g5 38.Ke3 Rf5 39.Kd3 Kd5
 40.Rd7+ Ke5 41.Rb7 Rf3+ 42.Kc4 Rf6 43.Kb5 Rg6
 44.Rxb6 Rxb6+ 45.Kxb6



Position after 45 K:b6

...g4 46.c4 g3 47.c5 g2 48.c6 g1Q+ 49.Kb7 Kd6 50.c7
 Qb1+ 51.Kc8 Qb3 52.Kd8 Qg8# 0-1

Special thanks to Gary Marks, Joe Knapp, Albert Zhou and TD, Mike Gooch, for providing score sheets of games from the State Closed for *Gambit* publication.

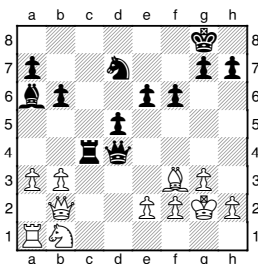
2010 Nebraska State Closed

White: Doug Taffinder

Black: Albert Zhou

Rd 1

**1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 c6 4.Bg2 d5 5.0-0 Bd6 6.b3 Nbd7
7.exd5 cxd5 8.d4 0-0 9.Bb2 b6 10.Nc3 Bb7 11.Nb5 Be7
12.Ba3 Bxa3 13.Nxa3 Ne4 14.Qd3 Qe7 15.Nb1 Rfc8
16.Nfd2 Nxd2 17.Nxd2 Qa3 18.Qb1 Ba6 19.Bf3 Rc3
20.Rc1 Rac8 21.Rxc3 Rxc3 22.Kg2 Qb4 23.Qb2 f6
24.a3 Qxd4 25.Nb1 Rc4**

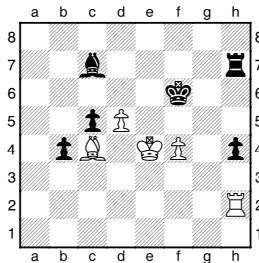


Position after 25..Rc4

**26.Qxd4 Rxd4 27.e3 Rd3 28.Be2 Nc5 29.Bxd3 Bxd3
30.Nd2 e5 31.b4 Ne6 32.Rc1 Ba6 33.a4 Kf7 34.a5 Bb7
35.axb6 axb6 36.Kf1 Ke7 37.Ke1 Kd7 38.Nb3 Nc7
39.f4 Na6 40.fxe5 fxe5 41.Rb1 Nxb4 42.Na1 Nc6
43.Rxb6 Bc8 44.Rb2 Ke7 45.Nc2 Be6 46.Rb7+ Kf6
47.Rb5 Ke7 48.Nb4 Nxb4 49.Rxb4 h5 50.Kf2 Kf6
51.Rb8 Bf7 52.h4 Be6 53.Ra8 Bf5 54.Ra6+ Kf7 55.Ke1
g6 56.Kd2 d4 57.exd4 exd4 58.Rd6 d3 59.Ke3 Ke7
60.Rd4 Ke6 61.Kf4 Kf7 62.Ke5 Ke7 63.Rd6 Kf7
64.Rd8 Ke7 65.Rd5 Kf7 66.Ra5 Bg4 67.Ra7+ Ke8
68.Ra8+ Ke7 69.Ra7+ Ke8 70.Ra2 Ke7 71.Rb2 Kf7
72.Kd6 Kf6 73.Rf2+ Kg7 0-1 Black won on time**

White: Albert Zhou
Black: Keaton Kiewra

29.Bb5 Ra8 30.h3 Ra2+ 31.Re2 Rxe2+ 32.Bxe2 Nxe3+
33.Bxe3 Bxe3 34.Bd3 g6 35.Rb2 Bd4 36.Re2 Rd7 37.Kf3
Kf7 38.g4 fxg4+ 39.hxg4 Rd8 40.Ra2 Re8 41.Be4 h5
42.gxh5 gxh5 43.Rc2 Bb6 44.Rg2 Rh8 45.Bf5 Kf6 46.Ke4 h4
47.Be6 Rh6 48.Rh2 Bg1 49.Rg2 Bb6 50.Rh2 Rh7 51.Kf3 c5
52.bxc5 dxc5 53.Ke4 Bc7 54.Bc8 b5 55.Ba6 b4 56.Bc4 0-1
Black won

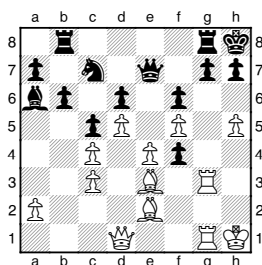


2010 Nebraska State Closed

White: Albert Zhou

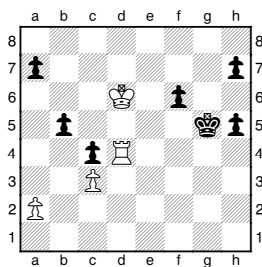
Black: John Linscott

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Bd3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 d6
7.Ne2 Nc6 8.0-0 0-0 9.e4 e5 10.d5 Ne7 11.Qe1 Ng6 12.f3 b6
13.g4 Qd7 14.Bg5 Ne8 15.h4 f6 16.Be3 Qa4 17.h5 Ne7
18.Ng3 Nc7 19.Qe2 Ba6 20.Rab1 Rab8 21.f4 Qd7 22.Kh2
Bc8 23.Nf5 Nxf5 24.gxf5 Ba6 25.Rg1 Kh8 26.Rg2 Rg8
27.Rbg1 Qe7 28.Kh1 Qf7 29.Rg6 Qe7 30.R6g3 Qf7 31.Qd1
Qe7 32.Be2 exf4



Position after 32...e:f

33.Bxf4 Qxe4+ 34.Rf3 Bxc4 35.Bxc4 Qxc4 36.Bxd6 Rbc8
37.Bxc7 Rxc7 38.Qd3 Qxd3 39.Rxd3 Re8 40.h6 gxh6
41.Rdg3 c4 42.Rg4 b5 43.d6 Rd7 44.Rd4 Re5 45.Rf1 Kg7
46.Kg2 Re2+ 47.Rf2 Rxf2+ 48.Kxf2 h5 49.Kf3 Kh6 50.Ke4
Kg5 51.Kd5 Kxf5 52.Kc6 Rxd6+ 53.Kxd6 Kg5 1-0 after a
time scramble

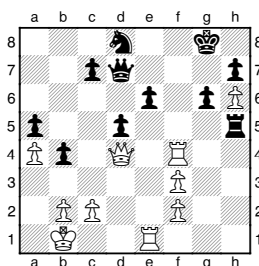


2010 Nebraska State Closed

White: Joseph Knapp

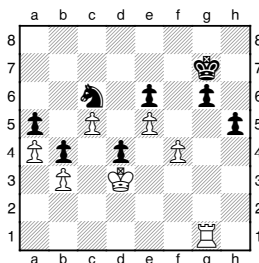
Black: Albert Zhou

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.e5 Ne4 6.Bd3 Bb4
7.Bd2 Nxd2 8.Qxd2 f6 9.a3 Bxc3 10.Qxc3 fxe5 11.dxe5 0-0
12.0-0 Bd7 13.h4 Qe7 14.h5 Rxf3 15.gxf3 Qg5+ 16.Kb1
Qxe5 17.Qd2 Rf8 18.h6 g6 19.Be2 Rf4 20.Rde1 Qd6 21.Bd1
b5 22.Re3 a5 23.Be2 b4 24.Bb5 Rd4 25.Qe2 Kf7 26.Re1 Rh4
27.Qd2 Qc5 28.a4 Qd6 29.Rd3 Nd8 30.Rd4 Rh5 31.Bxd7
Qxd7 32.Rf4+ Kg8 33.Qd4



Position after 33 Qd4

Rxh6 34.Qc5 Qd6 35.Qxd6 cxd6 36.c4 Rh5 37.Rd4 Re5
38.Rxe5 dxe5 39.Rd1 d4 40.f4 Nc6 41.fxe5 h5 42.f4 Kg7
43.Kc2 Kh6 44.Rg1 Kg7 45.Kd3 Kf7 46.b3 Kg7 47.c5 1-0



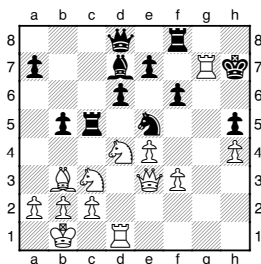
Final Position 1-0

2010 Nebraska State Closed

White: John Linscott

Black: Joe Knapp

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0-0
8.Qd2 Nc6 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.0-0 Rc8 11.Bb3 Ne5 12.h4 h5 13.Bg5 Rc5
14.g4 b5 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.gxh5 gxh5 17.Qh6 Bg7 18.Rhg1 Bg4
19.Qe3 Bd7 20.Kb1 Kh7 21.Rg5 f6 22.Rxg7+



Position after 22 R:g7+

Kxg7 23.Be6 Kh7 24.Nf5 Nf7 25.Bxd7 Rxc3 26.Qxc3 Qxd7 27.Qe3
e6 28.Ng3 Ne5 29.Nxh5 Qf7 30.Nf4 Rg8 31.b3 Rg3 32.Rxd6 Rxf3
33.Qd2 Qb7 34.a3 Qxe4 35.Nxe6 Rxb3+ 36.Ka2 Rxa3+ 37.Kb1
Qh1+ 38.Qd1 Qxd1+ 39.Rxd1 Rh3 40.Rd4 Rh1+ 41.Ka2 Rh2
42.Kb3 a5 43.Nc7 a4+ 44.Kb4 Nc6+ 45.Kc3 Nxd4 46.Kxd4 a3
47.Kc3 a2 0-1



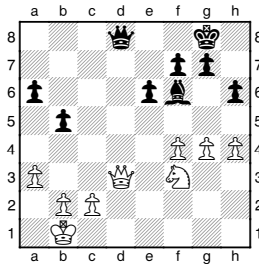
Joe Knapp (left foreground) vs John Linscott (right foreground)
Gary Marks (left background) vs Albert Zhou (right background)

2010 Nebraska State Closed

White: Joe Knapp

Black: Doug Taffinder

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e6 7.f3 b5
8.Qd2 Bb7 9.g4 h6 10.a3 Nbd7 11.Qf2 d5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Ne4 Be7
14.0-0-0 Nxe3 15.Qxe3 Qb6 16.Bd3 Rd8 17.Rhe1 Nc5 18.Kb1 Nxd3
19.Rxd3 0-0 20.f4 Bh4 21.Red1 Bxe4 22.Qxe4 Bf6 23.Nf3 Rxd3
24.Rxd3 Rd8 25.h4 Rxd3 26.Qxd3 Qd8**



Position after 26...Qd8

**27.Ne5? Bxh4 28.Qf3 Qd5 29.Qxd5 exd5 30.Nc6 g6 31.c3 h5
32.gxh5 gxh5 33.Kc2 Bg3 34.Ne7+ Kf8 35.Nxd5 h4 36.Ne3 h3
37.Ng4 h2 38.Nxh2 Bxh2 39.f5 Ke7 40.c4 bxc4 41.Kc3 Be5+ 0-1**



Joe Knapp

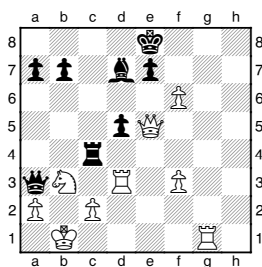
2009 Great Plains Open Champion and POY Champion

2010 Nebraska State Closed

White: Keaton Kiewra

Black: Joe Knapp

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3
0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.h4 Rc8 11.Bb3 h5 12.0-0-0 Ne5
13.Bh6 Bxh6 14.Qxh6 Rxc3 15.bxc3 Qc7 16.g4 Rc8 17.gxh5
Qxc3 18.Kb1 Nc4 19.Bxc4 Rxc4 20.Rd3 Qb4+ 21.Nb3 Rc5
22.hxg6 Rh5 23.gxf7+ Kxf7 24.Qd2 Qb6 25.Qe3 Qb4 26.Qd4
Qa3 27.Qc4+ Ke8 28.Rg1 Rh8 29.e5 d5 30.Qc7 Rxh4 31.exf6
Rc4 32.Qe5 1-0**



Final Position



John Linscott
2009 Cornhusker Games
Qualifier



Mike Gooch
2010 State Closed
Tournament Director

Dedication

To my mother, **Edith L. Nelson**, who taught me how to rise above any difficult circumstances, no matter how tough.



1986 Nelson Family Photo

POY Points as of June 15th 2010

After 2 POY events

By
Ben Ryan
POY Coordinator

No	Name	4/10/20	5/1/2010	6/26/2010	8/7/2010	Points	Events
1	J. Herr	3.5	3			6.5	2
2	J. Wan	4	2.5			6.6	2
3	T. Leacock	3.5	2			5.5	2
4	A. Golubow	2.5	2			4.5	2
5	J. Solheim	2	2.5			4.5	2
6	K. Nelson	2	2.5			4.5	2
7	J. Knapp	4				4	1
8	B. Li	3	1			4	2
9	G. Marks	2	1.5			3.5	2
10	Doug Given		3			3	1
11	H. Nadel	2.5				2.5	1
12	J. Leavitt	1.5	1			2.5	2
13	T. Shuman	1.5	1			2.5	2
14	C. Roth		2			2	1
15	David Given		2			2	1
16	S. Caplan	2				2	1
17	C. Forsman	1.5				1.5	1
18	E. Santiesteban	1.5				1.5	1
19	Jason Selvaraj		1.5			1.5	1
20	Joe Selvaraj		1			1	1
21	T. Hack	1				1	1
22	T. Benetz		1			1	1

Tournament Life

For more information, please visit the NSCA web site at
NSCA.Nechess.com

Interested in scheduling a tournament? Please contact Ben Ryan at
ben.j.ryan@hotmail.com to schedule a date.

Date	Event	Location	Sections
July 31	Nebraska Class Championships	Elkhorn	Rated, Nebraska residents by rating class
July 31st-August 1st	Wild West Chess Your chess vacation in the West!	Saratoga, WY	Rated open, U1800, U1400
August 7th	Creighton University Summer Open Tournament	Omaha	POY rated open
August 9-13th	Chess for Champions Summer Camp	Omaha	Grades 4-8
August 28th	2010 Nebraska Amateur Championship	Elkhorn	Rated, Nebraska residents U2000
November 20th	10th Annual Omaha Central High Tournament	Omaha	Non-rated k-12, adults rated open
December 18th	4th Annual Millard South Tournament	Omaha	Non-rated K-12 rated open

The Gambit c/o Kent Nelson

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68510