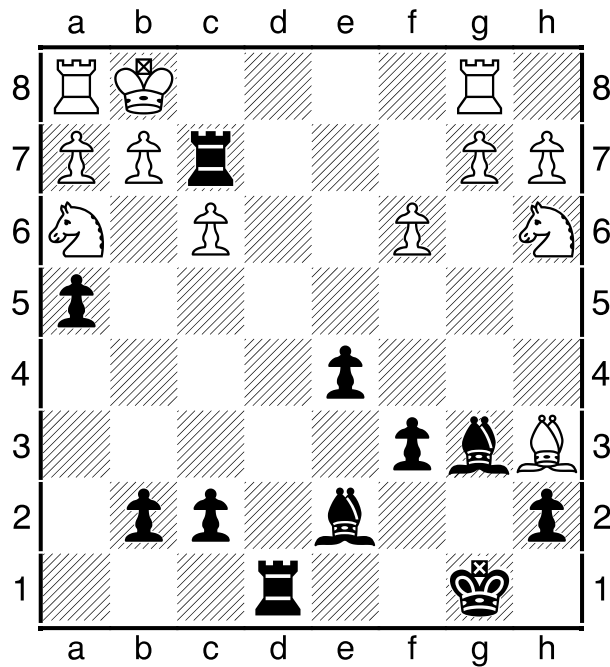


# The Gambit

Nebraska State Chess Archives



**Black to play & mate in 4 moves**

Re-printed with permission from  
“Chessmaster-elect” Mr. Mansur Eshragh

October/November 2012

***Gambit*** Editor: Kent Nelson with help from Ray Kappel, John Hartmann and many others.

***The Gambit*** serves as the official publication of the Nebraska State Chess Association and is published by the Lincoln Chess Foundation.

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**For Chess Club information please visit the NSCA web site.**

## **Letter from NSCA President Mike Gooch**

First, thank you to Kent Nelson for getting this huge issue of the Gambit put together and published.

Second, thank you to Kent Nelson and Bob Woodworth for working through the long and convoluted history of the NSCA Closed system. These volunteers for Nebraska Chess have investigated systems used by other state chess affiliates to determine their state champions. They have wrestled with a wide variety of issues that arise in determining who is a state champion. In this issue of the Gambit, along with all of the games and analysis, Kent and Bob have included a modest proposal about how we might identify our state champion. At this point, the Board of Directors is debating this proposal and considering some observations and suggestions which have already been made by John Hartmann and John Linscott.

While the Nebraska State Chess Association no longer collects membership dues (using a more fair and effective means of paying our bills and ensuring that any Nebraska chess player can speak to any issue of how chess is offered in Nebraska), you, the players and parents, are still the reason for the existence of the NSCA. We sincerely solicit your suggestions, ideas, and criticisms.

Bob and Kent are also looking at the POY system and we expect to have a proposal on how to update and streamline that system too.

Third, Be sure to register for the Great Plains Open coming December 1st and 2nd in Lincoln. Contact John Linscott if you have any questions. The flyer is on all of the local chess websites. Then come play for a state title at the NSCA sponsored State Class event being held December 15th at Millard South High School. Again, the flyer is on the websites.

Finally, a couple of random notes: NSCA is working towards making an email list so anyone who wishes to receive the Gambit automatically can do so, We are strongly considering incorporating NSCA and then seeking non profit status. We hope to publish a calendar of all of the NSCA events for 2013 by the end of this year. NSCA will co-sponsor the Great Plains Open; the Mid West Open; the Cornhusker State Games; a state high school team event, a state K-3, K-6, and K-9 team

event; a state Class championship, an individual scholastic state championship event (with Denker and Barber nominations to be earned) next year. We hope to have the Closed very early in 2013. We are optimistic that we will see a return of the Lincoln and Omaha City Championships. We hope to see the Polar Bear return.

Anyone who wishes to organize a chess tournament is invited (not required) to let us know when you plan to do so. We will try not to double schedule events.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, please contact any member of the NSCA Board.

Mike Gooch  
President

## From Kent's Corner

Welcome to another issue of the *Gambit*, the final issue of 2012. For reasons I can't put my finger on, this issue was hard to produce and quite frankly, it is not one of my better efforts. I miss the services of Ray Kappel for *Gambit* production. However, thanks to my wonderful contributors, we do have interesting material for your enjoyment.

Special thanks to NSCA historical archivist, Bob Woodworth, for his articles and support. In all my years of dealing with Bob, I've always experience tremendous satisfaction thanks to his energy and dedication to Nebraska chess.

John Tomas has written an article about his friend and chess rival, John Watson. The article is a great tribute from one Nebraska Hall of Fame player to another. John Tomas has been regular contributor for the *Gambit* and I personally find his articles a treasure trove of information about the golden age of Nebraska chess. Thank you John!

Joe Knapp took a time out from his busy schedule to submit some games he played in a recent Iowa tournament. As evidence by his outstanding tournament results, Joe is arguably the best active tournament player in Nebraska and certainly one of the nicest individuals you'll ever met.

Speaking of very nice individuals, International Chess Master, Keaton Kiewra has submitted a fully annotated game he played against a Grandmaster. Keaton is a titled IM now (no more "elect") and is currently residing in California. We wish Keaton well at his new digs and I thank him for his *Gambit* submission.

It was very nice to hear from Daa Mahowald and Kevin Fleming. Both these fine individuals including Daa's husband, Matt, were movers and shakers for Nebraska chess from the 1980s and 90s. Details about Kevin and the Mahowalds are in the News & Notes section of this issue. Also please check out my article about Kevin Fleming.

My thanks to John Hartmann for his kind offer to help me prepare for the 2013 State Closed Championship and for his database of games from the 2012 RCR Team Championship. John also provided pictures of the recent RCR event. John and I want to thank my Iowa counterpart, Mark Capron, editor of *En Passant*, for his help with a couple of projects.

Finally, thanks to John Stepp for his *Gambit* submissions. See you in March/April with another issue. *Kent Nelson*

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# News, Notes and Updates

## From Daa & Matt Mahowald

- From 2000 to 2010, we lived in Minnesota which has a phenomenal Scholastic Chess presence. We were both involved in coaching Scholastic Chess Clubs and many of our clubs won regional titles -- one of Matt's even won the state title a couple of times. I was ranked the 3rd highest woman chess player in the state. I've also frequently been on the USCF's "Top 100 Quick Chess Women in the Nation" list. In 2008, I earned Minnesota Chess Coach of the Year. We both won various regional or state awards over the decade.

Matt has also won a couple of regional chess titles since we moved to the Antelope Valley in 2010. (We moved here because Boeing recruited him -- he'd worked for Boeing from 1989 until we moved to Minnesota in 2000 when United Defense lured him away from Boeing.) This part of California was severely hit by the economic collapse -- it has the state's highest rates of poverty, unemployment, Section 8, crime, teen-pregnancy, etc.

Consequently, there isn't much money for chess which people around here consider a luxury item. So, it has been slow going to build chess activities here. I founded the AV Chess House and an offshoot, Say Yes to Chess. That offshoot has an MOU with a large, local non-profit through which I'm applying for grants to bring Scholastic Chess into the schools. The AV Chess House (500 square feet in the front portion of our home) holds monthly tournaments, a weekly chess club, and various other chess activities. In fact, this week and last week I held week-long, 4-hour-a-day Summer Chess Camps and had about a dozen kids each week. <http://chess4.us/>

Our daughter Morgan learned how to play chess when she was two-and-a-half. She played in her first tourney when she was three-and-a-half. (Of course, she didn't win any of her games but she sure had fun!) In high school she won the Girls State Chess Championship two years in a row as well as earning Minnesota 1st Place 12th Grade her Senior Year. Now, at 20, she's a Junior in college and her part-time job is coaching/teaching chess.

## From Mr. John Watson

- We are doing well out here; Maura loves her new job as a Professor of English at the University of San Diego. My two books *A Strategic Opening Repertoire for White* and *Play the French 4th Edition* has received great reviews. I was especially happy to hear of the success of the second RCR Team Tournament - congratulations to Mike Gooch on his amazing work and well-deserved triumph.

- **Report about the 2011 Player of the Year and the 2012 Decker results by NSCA President, Mike Gooch.**

1. Based on the careful work done by Kent and by Bob Woodworth, I propose that we recognize:  
Joseph Knapp, with 15 points as the overall POY Champion.  
Joseph Wan, with 11 points as the POY Runner-Up.  
Ray Kappel and John Hartmann as Class B Co-Champions, with 7 points each.  
Brandon Li, with 7.5 points as the Junior Champion.
  2. Nebraska's representative Caravaggio Caniglia did pretty well, losing only to higher rated opponents and beating both equal of lower rated opponents at the Denker. He tied for 38th.
- Here is the solution to the cover problem. **1...1. R:f3+ 2. Nf2 ...B:f2+ 3. Kf1...Bg3+ 4. g:f3 ...Bh3 mate!**
  - It is my pleasure to inform you that Tony Dutiel has moved back to Omaha. Tony is originally from Nebraska but has lived in Kansas City for many years. Tony is an active tournament player and a very talented TD. When you see Tony, please welcome him back to his home state!
  - Someone made off with copies of the first 3 rounds of the 2012 RCR scoresheets. This hurts John Hartmann and myself, not to mention the *Gambit* reader as these games are not available to publish. This is a loss to Nebraska chess forever. If you are responsible for taking this material, kindly do the right thing and return it. No questions asked.
  - John Stepp and your editor, Kent Nelson, played a four game match. The result? a 2-2 tie. Nelson won the first two games and Stepp demonstrated his skills and determination by winning the last two games. My thanks to John and his brother, Bob for inviting me into their home.
  - There is a strong likelihood that changes to the formats of the Player of the Year and the Nebraska State Closed Championships are forthcoming. The changes are currently in the pipeline and it will soon be considered by the NSCA board. This editor will keep you posted on developments.
  - Joe Selvaraj does a lot for Nebraska chess but he is a quiet guy who works behind the scenes. Joe recently provided me information about the RCR Midwest team event. Joe does computer pairing for most if not all Nebraska tournaments. Next time you see Joe, be sure to thank him for his service to Nebraska chess.
  - Congratulations to John Stepp for winning the Open section (4-0) of the Central High Scholastic on November 17th. Details in the next *Gambit*.



**The New Proposed Nebraska State Closed Criteria**  
Based on discussions with Kent Nelson & Bob Woodworth  
Final draft-November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**1. Introduction and Rational.**

The existing Nebraska State Closed criterion has been in place since the 1980s. Overall, it has been a decent system in determining who qualifies for participation in the Nebraska State Closed Championship. Some difficulty with the present system includes confusion in determining qualifiers and the use of tie breaks needed to seed qualifiers for the Closed. For example, **Mr. Joe Wilson** wins the Midwest and Great Plains Open in the same year. The Midwest Open was held in March, the Great Plains Open was held in November. Both tournaments are qualifying events. Does **Mr. Joe Wilson** qualify for the State Closed Championship based on his winning the first tournament? (The Midwest Open) or does he qualify for the State Closed based on his winning performance from the second tournament, (The Great Plains Open?). Traditionally, based on previous years experience with one player winning two or more State Closed qualifying events, the concept of “first come, first serve” has been used. So, using the above example, **Mr. Joe Wilson** will be qualified for the State Closed based on his result in the first tournament, which, in this case, is the Midwest Open. Now staying with the above example, with **Mr. Joe Wilson** also winning the Great Plains Open (in addition to the Midwest Open) **Mr. Joe Wilson** has previously qualified for the State Closed, so, a determination is needed to figure out who qualifies for the State Closed spot from the Great Plains Open. Traditionally, it has been the second highest finishing player after Joe Wilson. In this example, the second highest finisher is Mr. Joe Wilson son, *Mr. John Wilson*. Simple enough, *Mr. John Wilson*, is the State Closed qualifier. But wait, in addition to *Mr. John Wilson*, Joe Wilson’s other sons have tied with John. Their names are Mr. Jacob Wilson and Mr. Chris Wilson. All the Wilson boys have identical scores of 4-1. Each Wilson boy wants to join their father, Mr. Joe Wilson, in the State Closed Championship. What tie breaks should be used? Sometimes the tie breaking is very difficult, unclear and requires research to figure out under the current system. At times, this is very time consuming and a hardship on the NSCA President. Under the present system, 2 out of the 3 Wilson boys will be very upset for not qualifying for the State Closed Championship which in turn will lead to terrible family discord until the next qualifying State Closed tournament. And guess what!? The same thing could happen again under the current system.

The reason for the new proposed State Closed criteria is to simplify the system and create a very clear path to the Nebraska State Closed Championship. It is based on a point system generated by player results in key tournaments. Details follows.

## **2. Who can qualify for the Nebraska Closed Championship? The answer is Nebraska Residents only.**

Nebraska Resident Definition:

A person working full time in Nebraska, living in a house or apartment in Nebraska, and in possession of an Nebraska driver's license or state identification.

Or

Anyone attending K -12 in Nebraska in the past 6 months.

Or

Anyone who has had an Nebraska residence as their primary residence for the previous 6 months prior to the start of the tournament in which points would be allowed. Members serving in the armed forces and on active duty elsewhere shall be considered as residing within the State.

Or

Any college student who is enrolled full time in an Nebraska school at the time of the qualifying tournament.

## **3. Format.**

- *Open Sections only.* It is okay if Reserve and Open Sections are combined into one Open Section.
- *How many open spots or “seeds” for the Closed?* There will be 5 open spots that players will be vying for. The defending State Closed Champion is already qualified.
- *How are the winners determined?* It is all based on the total individual scores from the qualifying tournaments. The higher the point total, the more likely you’ll win a spot in the Closed Championship but it will require more active tournament participation than under the current system in order to win. For example, you have 5 tournaments and with each tournament being 5 rounds for 25 rounds or a 25 point potential. **Mr. Joe Wilson** scores 22 points out of 25 points. *Mr. John Wilson* scored 20 points out of a possible 25. Mr. Jacob Wilson scored 19 points out of 25 points and Mr. Chris Wilson scored 18 points. Rounding out the qualifiers is Mr. Johnson with 17 points. All the above winners will join the defending champion, Mr. King, in the Closed Championship.

*Tournaments.* The State of Nebraska will endeavor to have at least 5 qualifying State Closed Championship tournaments per calendar year. The recommended tournaments that are about to be listed are not limited to just 5 events per year. Other tournaments can be organized and advertised as State Closed qualifying events if the following condition is met. All State Closed qualifying events (to be scheduled) require at least 2 months notice in advance. The tournament organizer will need to contact the NSCA President or the Nebraska Tournament Coordinator or both, to report the announcement of the tournament.

- *The recommended tournaments* are. 1. The Midwest Open. 2. The Great Plains Open. 3. The Cornhusker State Games. 4. Lincoln City Championship. 5 The Omaha City Championship.
  - *Time Controls.* It is strongly recommended but not required that the time controls for the qualifying events be not faster than Game/75. For the actual State Closed Championship, the recommended time control is 40 moves in 2 hours followed by Game/30 SD. It will be up to the State Closed organizer to determine if the Sudden Death time control has a delay of 5 seconds or more.
  - *Tie Breaks.* The first break is head to head. If that fails to determine a seed for the State Closed, then a 2 game playoff will be scheduled. The playoff tournament format will be determined by the NSCA President.
  - *All Forfeits & Byes* are to be included in the overall Closed-qualifying point totals.
- In the event of a last minute *withdrawal* or *withdrawals* just prior to the State Closed Championship, the next player(s) of the Closed total points -lists qualifies for the open spot(s). The possible Alternates will be given a “heads up” prior to the Closed Championship so that they would be ready to play if there is a withdrawal.

### **The devil is in the details.**

Questions proposed: (A). How do we resolve the problem of a 3-way (or more! tie for the 5th & last seeded spot AFTER the head-to-head tie-break is applied?? A Playoff & how?

*In the event of 2 or more players tied for the final 6<sup>th</sup> spot of the Closed, the NSCA President will organize a round robin playoff. It is recommended the NSCA President sit down with the playoff players and solicit their input in terms of time controls, playing sites etc. However, the final adjudication in terms of the playoff format is the NSCA*

*President's decision alone to make. This includes the time controls, the playing site and the tie-breaks to be used during the playoff round-robin.*

(B). If there is a withdrawal by a player(s) DURING the CLOSED, are all of their remaining games scored as 1-point forfeits??  
*This occurred during the 2012 Closed Championship. A player became ill and he had to withdraw. The TD declared the remaining un-played games from the withdrawn player as forfeit wins for the opponents he was scheduled to play prior to withdrawing. If possible, however, in the spirit of the good sportsmanship, all players seeded into the State Closed should play every round with exceptions for illness or emergencies.*

(C). From the CLOSED TOTAL- Points List, will the highest point total accrued from the year's tournaments automatically determine the annual POY winner??  
*The short answer is yes. And the first tie-break used to determine the Player of the Year is head to head.*

(D). What is the tie-break for 1st & 2nd place in the CLOSED tournament ITSELF??  
*The first tie-break is head to head. The second tie-breaks recommended by the USCF rule book for round robins is the Sonneborn-Berger System.*

How do we record and assign pairing numbers to the "Super Six" State Closed participants?  
*For documentation proposes, the seeding/pairing numbers for the 6 participants in the CLOSED will start with the #1 slot being assigned to last year's defending Closed Champion with # 2 thru #6 being ranked by total points accrued (during the qualifying cycle) with the #6 player having the lowest point total of the five.*

**For the Record, just so you know cheating is a Big No, No.**

If there are proven to be any PRE-ARRANGED game results by any of the competitors to ensure a player(s) seat in the CLOSED, then all concerned participants are banned from play in that year's CLOSED.

*The Weak Areas & Defects in My Play in the Game of Chess*  
by  
Robert Woodworth

As chessplayers, we all have weaknesses in our play when we make our decisions at the chessboard. When one is victorious these defects are not as apparent as when one loses or even draws a game of chess

It takes an honest, open mind with a strong desire to improve, to admit to these shortcomings! Your writer, during the past year or so, finally was able to confront some of these weaknesses. (Amazingly, this was after 6 decades of playing chess!)

My first defect was in my style of play. I finally realized after many years of playing that I was too RE-ACTIVE in my playing style and not very PRO-ACTIVE!

About 18 months ago at our local chess club, I played 2 informal games versus a very strong player with a rating of about 2150+. In the first game I had the White side & played very passively & easily lost in 25 moves. In the 2nd game, I had the Black side and won quite easily in 25 moves!

Afterwards, my opponent gave me a good lesson concerning my play. He stated that I was a good RE-ACTIVE type of player but that I wasn't a strong PRO-ACTIVE player. (In the dictionary, the word REACTIVE is defined as "tending to react in response to some influence or event". The word PROACTIVE is defined as "serving to prepare for, or intervene in, or control an expected occurrence or situation".)

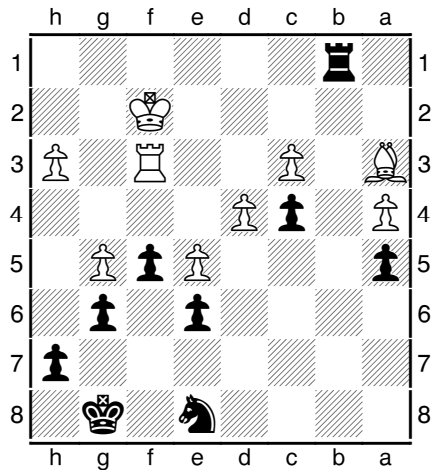
Therefore, in terms of playing chess, a PROACTIVE style of play would be seeking the initiative in a controlling, aggressive way while REACTIVE play would be to constantly responding to an opponent's strategy, tactics & moves.

The next day, as I recalled these 2 completely different games, I suddenly realized that my clever opponent had intentionally played very passively as White in our 2nd game so that I would be forced to play more aggressively i.e. PRO-ACTIVELY!!

This was a very subtle lesson indeed for it also explains my overly

RE-ACTIVE style and why I've always had the best results conducting the Black forces!!!

My second area for improvement was the simple, positional concept of ALWAYS STRIVE TO IMPROVE THE POSITION OF YOUR WORST PLACED PIECE. In all my years of playing chess (now about 60+), I don't ever remember asking myself this question as to how I could improve my worst positioned piece!! For a very good example of this, I've included a position here which illustrates this point.

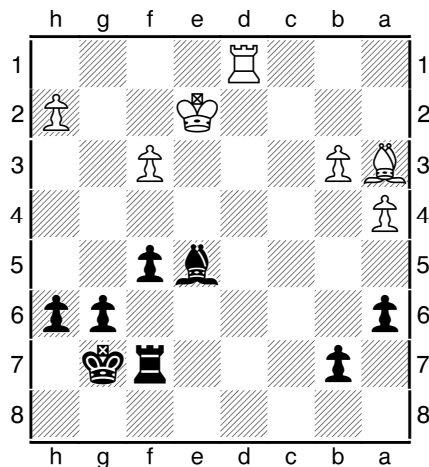


This position is from a Rd. 2 game in the 2009 Cornhusker State Games where your writer had the Black forces. White has just played 43.Kf2 and I responded with 43.Ra1??. I could only see the win of the White pawn on a4 and did not ask myself if I should improve the position of my worst positioned piece i.e. my knight on the e8 square. Therefore, the correct move for Black was 43.Nc7!! Play then continued 44. Bd6 (shutting the knight out of play) 44.Rxa4 45.d5 and White breaks through the center & wins with a central passed pawn. (Note that Black could win the weak a-pawn anytime but re-positioning the knight on c7 would prevent the pawn-break on d5!!)

Another weak area in my play usually occurs in tournament games where final outcomes are so very important. In a rated game, when I sense that my position is much better than my opponents, I will start calculating and then re-calculating the same variation over & over. I'm trying to find the best path which will surely guarantee a good outcome for myself ill-regardless of my opponents possibilities. This is really a total waste of valuable time on my clock because many times I cannot see a sure path to victory. I need to trust my chess

intuition more and play the move based upon an acquired positional & tactical sense that has been developed from years & years of playing thousands of chess games!!

Finally, there is another area of weakness which at times will cause me to grab a draw (or even a loss) from the jaws of victory! This major defect is a strong fear when I overreact to probable counterplay by my opponent and when I sense that I have a 'won' game. Below is a good example from a recent informal game at our chess club here in Omaha.



Your writer had the Black-side and was considering playing 38. Bxh2 winning a 2nd pawn and the endgame. But here my weakness of becoming too frightened of my opponent's counterplay made me play the very passive move 38..Rc7?? What I was fearing was White then playing (after my 38.Bxh2) 39.Bb2+ to be followed by 40.Rd8 and the Black King is in a mating net!? My fear kept me from calculating any further or else I would have seen a safe escape route for my King by playing 40..g5 and the Black King being attacked, escapes to g6 and to h5!

This a good example of being afraid to take any risks when a player realizes that one mistake will deprive a person from winning a won game. Chess is not a game "for the faint of heart" and calculated risks must be taken!

These above listed faults in my chess-playing ability are some of the major defects. On the next page is a list (without examples) of more areas of weakness.

- Too slow at times in developing my pieces and not castling.
- Not studying endgames often & not very deeply.
- Accepting draws in better position after a long, strenuous game.
- Giving my opponent too much credit and assuming that he will see everything.
- When more than one capture is possible in a position, I will sometimes choose the worst reply especially if it involves a recapture.

So, in summation, it is in a player's best interest to recognize & confront their weakest areas of play. Your writer firmly believes that in this way a player can begin to show signs of definite improvement. It is not very easy to confront one's shortcomings but it is always best to be honest with oneself in order to improve one's game of chess!

Robert Woodworth  
October, 2012  
Omaha, Nebraska



## Early Watson: John Watson in Omaha

by  
John Tomas

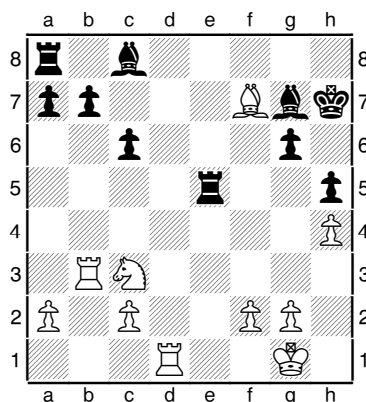
It was a beautiful fall Friday in 1965, made all the more beautiful by the fact that as a senior at Creighton Prep, I had the day off. All I had to do was play first board in a team match at Brownell-Talbot. Earlier that year, Prep had lost to Central in the finals of the City High School Team Championship by the barest of margins, and we figured we had an excellent chance of unseating them that year (as we eventually did). But first on the menu was a 4-0 whitewash of Brownell. I was playing first board against a skinny, bespectacled 14-year-old. I had heard rumors that he was a decent player, but I had heard rumors like that before.

Well, we beat Brownell Talbot that day, but it wasn't a whitewash because of the following game.

Tomas, John - Watson, John Pirc Defense B07

Team Match: Prep-BT Lincoln, 10.1965

**1.e4 d6 2.d4 ♘f6 3.♘c3 g6 4.♙e2** This move should indicate how seriously I was taking this game. The move had come into prominence when a Chinese player (in the days when Chinese players weren't nearly the force that they are today) mated Jan Hein Donner right out of the opening. Well, this kid wasn't going to give me much opposition, so why not try it? Sigh.  
**♙g7 5.h4 h5?! 6.♙g5 c6 7.♙d2 ♙b6 8.♘f3 ♙xb2 9.♖b1 ♙a3 10.0-0 0-0 11.e5 dxe5 12.dxe5 ♘g4 13.♖b3 ♙a5 14.♙xe7 ♖e8 15.♙b4 ♙c7 16.♙d6 ♙d8 17.♙f4 ♘d7 18.♖d1 ♙a5 19.♙c4 ♘gxe5 20.♘xe5 ♘xe5 21.♙xe5 ♙xe5 22.♙xf7+ ♔h7 23.♙xe5 ♖xe5**



Position after 23...Rxe5

**24.♖d6?? ♖e1+ 0-1**

Well, that is not a game I am particularly proud of, but I suspect neither is John.

It would not be the last game I lost to John Watson.

Since that day, 47 years have passed and John has progressed from a competitor and rival (NOT the same thing: Those were MY titles he was after!) to a longtime friend. In Howard Ohman's opinion, Watson was the most talented player ever to play in Nebraska. He certainly was by far the best Nebraska player I ever faced, and breaking even with him in our 13 serious games from 1965 to 1968 is one of my proudest accomplishments. These opinions were generally shared in the Midwest at that time.

I know that Randy Mills, who was a couple of years older and was winning tournament after tournament in the Midwest (and eventually, like John, played in the U.S. Junior Invitational), feared Watson more than any other player. During the US Open in Lincoln in 1969, I happened to see the card index that Dan Harger, future Iowa Champion and Master, had prepared (in Soviet fashion) on his rivals. He had John as #2 in the Midwest, but his comments about (and obvious fear of) the originality of his attacks made it clear that Watson was actually #1 on his list. During that tournament, four of us stayed together in the Lincoln YMCA: John, Richard Douglas, Lance Williams (who was wont, during boring games to draw funny faces on his captured white pieces) and me. One night, when we all had finished early, we listened to Lance recount the plot of *Psycho*, to a fog that was rolling in and the sound of train whistles in the distance. I'm not sure any of us did well the next day.

Perhaps the best way I can discuss what John and his chess were at the time is to discuss my reactions and games with him then, and now.

I quickly understood that John did certain things better than I could ever hope to do them. He calculated much better than I did (and do) and in attacking positions he was devastating. If I wanted to compete with him, I had to find his weaknesses and try to exploit them. Now, everybody has weaknesses, even the greatest of the grandmasters play certain positions better than others. Remember when Kramnik (World Champion, after all) tried to become an 1.e4 player? He was still a very good player, but not nearly as good as he

was when he stuck to closed and semi-closed positions.

Our early games and post-mortems suggested a couple of possible avenues of approach, both technical and psychological. First of all, I reasoned that he had almost no experience of serious chess. I theorized that if he was faced with strong defensive play he might well become frustrated. Indeed, he himself said as much in the post mortem to our game in the 1966 Omaha Championship. He had what he thought was a winning, attack against my Sicilian Kan, that eventually went nowhere. After the game, clearly frustrated, he commented that I just played too well defending the position. But, if I remember the game accurately, he offered a draw in a position where he still had excellent chances. Did he offer the draw because he wasn't used to players offering him stout defense? That is what I believed then, and still believe.

Second, our analyses suggested that John's tactical skills were much more finely honed than his positional knowledge. This is hardly surprising. He had little idea how to play certain positions other than to attack. What I figured to do was to get him in positions that I thought I knew better than he. Had I not been subject to Bobby Fischer's pernicious influence ("1.e4, Best by test!") I might well have started playing 1.c4 and 1.d4. As it was, I went happily into the main (gambit) line of the Winawar French, which I had studied in detail (it drove me out of the French business myself for years), but the resulting positions were much more to John's liking than mine, and I lost two last round games to him with it.

Matters were different with black. I played lines that I didn't think he knew – the Kan and Taimanov and the Accelerated Fianchetto Sicilian. These were systems just then coming into vogue, and I didn't lose one of them.

To be honest, thinking about this almost a half-century later, I am surprised at my own insight, given that John was much the stronger player. I think that my approach was very successful. As evidence, I offer our game later that year from the Des Moines Open: another Kan where he attacked and I defended, and the result was a much clearer draw (as I recall). Incidentally, we shared a room at the YMCA, and we both were evidently affected much more than we thought by our third-round game. I recall John sleeping with his head in the window during continuing thunderstorms and muttering to him-

self (in his sleep?). I, on the other hand, wanted to catch 6:00 mass at the church down the street and so got up, dressed, and trudged over to the church only to discover that it was 3:00 AM.

In 1967, something similar happened at the Midwest Open (won that year by Randy Mills). John was tied at 4 with Jack Spence and Mills going into the final round. Spence was paired with Mills and lasted all of 20 moves while John and I fought it out on second board. That year I was playing an Accelerated Fianchetto line in the Sicilian, and I quickly got an awful game. So, I decided to pitch a pawn in hopes of complications (it was a *sacrifice*, Randy, not a blunder!). I was rewarded with a lot of counterplay, and, by move 40 we were both short of time but John much shorter than I. It was pretty clear that the game was going to be a draw. My queen had penetrated Watson's kingside and flushed his king out. It was at this point that I glanced at his clock and realized that he was not going to make the time control. Today, with digital clocks he might have made it, but not then. At that point, I was going to offer him a draw but didn't and he forfeited almost immediately thereafter. In the postmortem, he said that he realized that it was time for him to force the draw, and he was just going to play a move that would have done so. I must admit that I still feel a bit guilty about not offering the draw. I didn't deserve to win that game, and John didn't deserve to lose it. It was the first of my four consecutive state titles. Had he drawn the game, he would have been the youngest state champion.

### **The Omaha High School Scene**

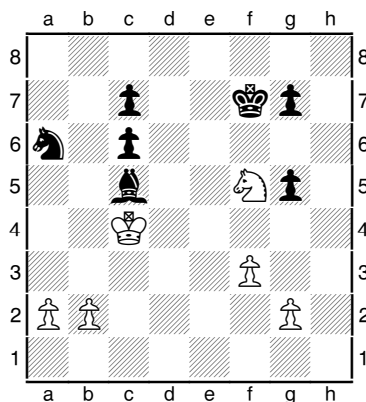
After our first game, I came back strongly, drawing with Watson in the City H.S. Individual (that year in the Fall). Because we both had beaten everybody else, there was no point in trying to break the tie with tie-breaks, and Howard Ohman suggested a playoff match. I won the first game with white (one of the few of our games about which I have no memory) and then won the second with black. I got the hat trick with a quick win in the final round of the Swenson that year.

But that ended the fun: a difficult draw (that I still think John should have won) in the Ludwig Memorial, and the aforementioned draw in Des Moines were bracketed by two losses with white in high school games and losses in the final rounds of the 1966 Midwest Open and Swenson Memorial. (You can find these last two games elsewhere in this issue.)

Tomas, John – **Watson**, John Ruy Lopez, Delayed  
Schliemann A00

Team Match Prep-BT, Omaha, 1966

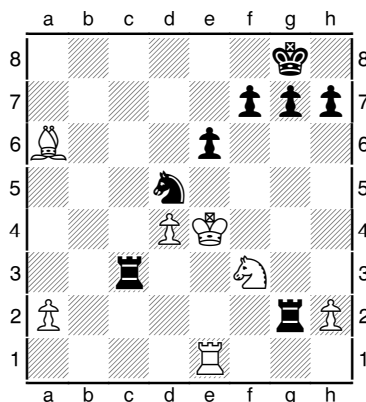
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♙b5 a6 4.♙a4 b5 5.♙b3 f5 6.d4 exd4 7.0-0  
fxe4 8.♘xd4 ♘f6 9.♘xc6 dxc6 10.♙xd8+ ♔xd8 11.♙d1+ ♙d6  
12.c4 ♔e7 13.♘c3 ♙f5 14.♙e1 ♙ae8 15.♙g5 h6 16.♘xe4 ♙xh2+  
17.♔f1 hxc5 18.♘g3+ ♙e6 19.cxb5 ♔f7 20.♙xe6 ♙xe6 21.♙xe6+  
♔xe6 22.♙e1+ ♔f7 23.♘f5 ♙d6 24.bxa6 ♙h1+ 25.♔e2 ♙xe1+  
26.♔xe1 ♙c5 27.♔e2 ♘d7 28.f3 ♘b8 29.♔d3 ♘xa6 30.♔c4 and it  
took a while, but eventually 0-1



Position after 30 Kc4-Black later won.

Tomas, John – **Watson**, John French Defense C13  
Team Match: Prep-BT Omaha, 05.1966

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 dxe4 4.♘xe4 ♘f6 5.♙g5 ♘bd7 6.♙d3 ♙e7  
7.♘f3 ♘xe4 8.♙xe7 ♘xf2 9.♙xd8 ♘xd1 10.♙xc7 ♘xb2 11.♙b5  
a6 12.♙e2 b5 13.♘e5 ♙b7 14.♙b1 ♙c8 15.♙xb2 ♙xc7 16.♘f3 0-0  
17.♔d2 ♘f6 18.c4 bxc4 19.♙xb7 ♙xb7 20.♙xc4 ♙b2+ 21.♔e3 ♙c8  
22.♙xa6 ♘d5+ 23.♔e4 ♙c3 24.♙e1 ♙xg2 0-1



Final Position-0-1

At this point, I no longer thought that I could even draw with Watson, but reality proved otherwise. First, there was that win, on time, in 1967 in Lincoln and, in our final game, a legitimate win in the 1968 Kansas City Open.

John and I had taken the bus to K.C. for the tournament: three rounds (at normal time controls!) on Saturday and two on Sunday. (Today, I am amazed anyone who did this regularly is still alive and sane.) In my memory, it is the flu tournament. After the tournament, both John and I were prostrated for almost a week with a really nasty bug. I suspect that I started catching the bug earlier than he did because I was feeling miserable through the two lousy first rounds.

Both games were adjourned and had to be adjudicated. It was interesting (to my mind at least) that John took a very active part in the analysis trying to get a win in the first game and a draw in the second. Honestly, I thought I should have been given a draw in the first and loss in the second, but such was John's influence on the adjournment committee that he got his way.

Well, that meant that we played in the third round. By now, I was feeling really terrible and offered a quick draw, which John declined. I determined to lose as painlessly as possible, but I started feeling a little better and was shocked to discover that I had much the better game, which I proceeded to win in fine style, sacrificing quite a bit of material and catching John's king in the center.

And that was the last formal game we played.

But it was not the end of our relationship. A year later, when I heard that John was planning to combine the inaugural U.S. High School Championship with visits to Eastern schools, I offered (or John asked me; I really don't know which) to do some training work with him. We analyzed and played three training games in which I adopted lines I thought John was likely to face in the tournament. I have always liked to think that I helped him win that tournament, but really I had almost nothing to do with it. Later that summer, we shared a room at the YMCA for the Lincoln US Open. There were four of us in the room: Richard Douglas, a tall, strong Missourian who had less confidence in his game than any player I have ever met, John, me, and Lance Williams. Lance was a talented artist who, during a boring game, tried to liven things up by sketching faces on his captured white pawns.

One evening, everyone was there at the same time. Lance had lost very quickly and spent the evening at Alfred Hitchcock's masterpiece: *Psycho*. And so, with fog moving in and to the serenade of mournful railroad whistles in the background, Williams told us the story of *Psycho*.

Three years pass. John goes to Harvard and I get a letter from him with a game which he played against a Cambridge master, Bill Robertie. And then, nothing. It is not coincidental that my best period of chess in Nebraska, from 1969 to 1972 coincided with John's absence.

That absence came to an end in May of 1972 just as I was finishing my Masters at Creighton. After teaching one day, I came back to my apartment at 24<sup>th</sup> and Cass just off the Creighton campus in those days and my girlfriend told me that a strange looking, long-haired character had bicycled up and asked about me. I didn't think much of it until one Saturday during the annual Ludwig Memorial when in the middle of the game a wild rumor went through the club room that Watson was back in town. I lost my concentration in a superior position against Bob Timmel, and spent the next six hours trying, successfully, to save a pawn-down bishop endgame.

To make a semi-long story short, we started analyzing, and I talked him into playing in the Jerry Spann Memorial which was to be held in Lincoln in June. I am not certain that John's mother ever quite forgave me for helping to get him back into chess. I remember that the night before the tournament, we had an analysis session that ended around 9 PM, and headed down to the Old Market where we ran across some friends of mine from Creighton who were drinking sangria outside the *French Cafe*. We stayed up quite late (by Nebraska standards) and quaffed quite a bit of sangria.

The next day we drove to Lincoln, and John played his first serious game in over two years. I have always believed that it takes at least a year for a player to recover from a prolonged layoff and reach his or her previous strength. In some cases, as was the case with Chicago Master Morris Giles, a ten-year layoff led to an enormous increase in strength from 2100 to 2500! But in some cases, as with the former Brazilian prodigy, Henrique Mecking, the player never really recovers.

John's only concession to the lost two years seemed to be an even greater tendency to horrendous time trouble. He had an even greater flow of fascinating ideas. Although we didn't play, we did compete, albeit indirectly. We both submitted games for the brilliancy prizes. And once again, I was somewhat embarrassed to have received one of them ahead of his wonderful game against Marshall Rohland.

One story about the tournament, courtesy of Mike Blankenau, then 16 and about to jump almost 600 rating points in three months. After the Saturday rounds, I drove back to Omaha to spend the night. John did not return with me. When I arrived for the Sunday rounds, I tried to find John: nobody had seen him. Then, Blankenau mentioned that someone had seen a couple of legs sticking out from underneath some drapes in the hotel lobby. It turned out to be, he said, Watson.

That summer we ran across each other occasionally. After finishing my degree, I spent the summer traveling around the Midwest: tournaments in Milwaukee, Chicago, Kansas City and Stillwater. I visited my girlfriend in Kansas City and Omaha a number of times.

This was, in my opinion, the golden age of Nebraska Chess. Just look at the names: Watson, Rich Chess, Mike Chess, Mike Blankenau, John Milton. All of them became masters or played at master level, and John was the best of them and generally regarded as such. We lesser mortals spent hours each night trying to figure out how we were going to get a draw with John.

After 1972, we saw each other only one more time: in 1975, he stayed with me in Chicago when I was at the University of Chicago. I was giving weekly lectures at the Chicago Chess Club, and John sat in on one the day before a weekend event in which he played. I believe my topic was knight vs. bad bishop endgames.

We were in the same place at about the same time several more times: in 1975, I attended the US Open in Lincoln as a delegate from Illinois, and he was playing in the tournament. In 1995, I was in Concord where John was playing in the US Open, but I was there on one of the off days, and we again failed to connect. But we had been connecting indirectly for years. When I was working for *Chess Life* as a Contributing Editor in the 1980's, I reviewed my first John Watson book: *Chessman Comics II, Treachery in Transylvania*. (If you have a copy, keep it. It's running at \$80 on Amazon.) I would review many more for the *Illinois Chess Bulletin* primarily but also for other regional magazines and the *APCT News Bulletin*. I won a couple of CJA awards for reviews of Watson's books. My editors, the estimable Helen Warren and M.L. Rantala, commissioned articles from him at my instigation, and at least one of them won him a CJA award of his own.



Nowadays, we communicate regularly by email. Unfortunately, John can no longer play tournament chess. If he could, I would be sorely tempted to move back to Nebraska just to have the opportunity to get a tiebreaking win against him.

But, the way these things have gone, it is much more likely that he would have the final laugh.

# Remembering Gary Marks

Truly One of a Kind

by

Kent Nelson

I knew Gary Marks, thru chess, dating back to middle school. That was nearly 40 years ago. Starting out, Gary was one of the first chess players I'd competed against.

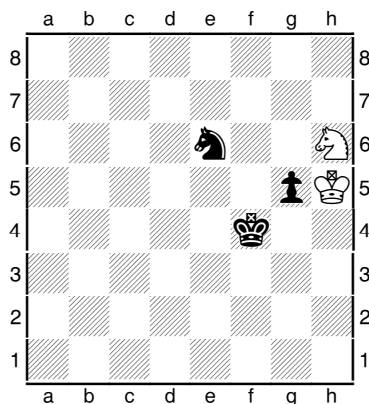
My first tournament game against Gary took place during the summer of 1974. He came over to my house and the first thing I couldn't help but notice was his legs. They were the size of tree trunks, they were huge. I asked Gary if he was a runner and told me he was. I understood Gary was a frequent participant in running contests including running in half and full marathons and he certainly had the body type for that activity. We set up the chess board in the middle of the living room and started playing. It was tough, mistake filled game. It appeared to be heading for a draw.

Summer Quads

White: Kent Nelson (1475) age 16

Black: Gary Marks (1610)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7 5.Nf3 Ngf6 6.Ng3 e6 7.c4 Qa5+ 8.Bd2 Bb4 9.a3 Bxd2+ 10.Qxd2 Qxd2+ 11.Nxd2 Nb6 12.Bd3 0-0 13.Rc1 Rd8 14.Ne2 e5 15.dxe5 Ng4 16.Bc2 Nxe5 17.c5 Na4 18.f4 Nd3+ 19.Bxd3 Rxd3 20.b4?? Rxa3 21.0-0 Bg4 22.Rfe1 Ra2 23.h3 Bxe2 24.Rxe2 Rd8 25.Rce1 Kf8 26.Nf3 Rxe2 27.Rxe2 Nc3 28.Re1 Rd1 29.Rxd1 Nxd1 30.Ne1 Ke7 31.f5 Ne3 32.g4 Kf6 33.Kf2 Nd5 34.Nd3 h5 35.Kf3 b6 36.cxb6 axb6 37.Kg3 hxg4 38.hxg4 g6 39.fxg6 fxg6 40.Kf3 Kg5 41.Kg3 Ne3 42.Ne5 c5 43.bxc5 bxc5 44.Kf3 Nd5 45.Nc4 Nf6 46.Ne5 c4 47.Nxc4 Nxg4 48.Kg3 Kh5 49.Nd2 Ne5 50.Ne4 Nf7 51.Nf6+ Kh6 52.Ng8+ Kg7 53.Ne7 g5 54.Kg4 Kf6 55.Nd5+ Ke5 56.Ne3 Ke6 57.Kh5 Kf6 58.Ng4+ Kf5 59.Ne3+ Kf4 60.Ng4 Nd6 61.Nf6 Nf7 62.Ng4 Nd8 63.Nh6 Ne6



But then I noticed something; Gary kept staring at the chess clock.

Before I was able to get my bearings, Gary claimed a time forfeit, so I lost the game. Afterwards, Gary seemed upset with himself and told me he should have informed me of the time control. “No need” I told Gary, that is all part of the game. It was my responsibility not his, to know the time control.

From that incident however, I learned a lot about the character of Gary Marks. I felt he was a creature of conscience. For years, after the time forfeit episode, Gary would mention his regrets for not telling me the time control.

But when it comes to chess, Gary should not have any regrets. Just look at his record.

With the help of his wife, Kathy and their son Shea, Gary organized and directed his annual Polar Bear chess tournaments for decades. This event was unique. It was usually held in October, the same month as Gary’s birthday. Gary’s birthday present was to all of us in the chess community. His Polar Bear tournaments were packed with trophies and the likelihood of winning a trophy was very good. I’m sure all of us remember, as kids, how exciting it was to win a trophy. Gary gave kids the best chances to win trophies during his events.

I will always associate \$2.00 bills with Gary. As part of the format of the Polar Bear, if you wore shorts during the entire Polar Bear, Gary in turn would provide a partial refund to your entry fee. This usually involved 2 to 3 dollars, but as part of the refund, a very crisp \$2.00 bill would always be used.

Now, speaking of shorts, no article about Gary would be complete without mentioning his wearing shorts all the time. The only time I heard that Gary didn’t wear shorts was to attend weddings, including his own to Kathy.

It is pretty amazing considering the temperature extremes in Nebraska, that Gary wore shorts throughout the year. He was one tough dude.

Speaking of tough, I found out recently Gary was a Marine. I thought he was in the regular army. He also served in Vietnam. I understand he was a tank commander. Thank you Gary, for serving our country.

Gary was recently inducted into the Nebraska Chess Hall of Fame.

Everyone agrees that Gary was very deserving of this honor. Gary's Nebraska chess resume is very impressive.

Here is a list of some of his accomplishments.

- Gary was President of the Nebraska State Chess Association and the Lincoln Chess Foundation.
- Gary was a prominent tournament chess director. I believe he was considered a "senior" director which is considered one of the upper levels of tournament directors.
- Gary was a leader in scholastic chess as a tutor and organizer. On a personal note, I always felt that scholastic chess and dealing with kids was Gary's calling. He did a lot for kids.
- Gary was the 1982 Lincoln City Chess Champion.
- Gary was also a Nebraska delegate to the United States Chess Federation. He represented Nebraska interests well, especially with Scholastic issues.
- Gary was also a very generous benefactor to Nebraska chess. When it came time to pony up, Gary would not hesitate to help.

With the passing of Gary Marks we are reminded how tenuous life is.

When we talked a few months ago, Gary was very open and honest about his condition. He knew his time was near.

I thought Gary was very brave in facing his own mortality.

Gary's brave example should be a reminder to all of us that the clock is ticking. Make the most out of life.

Farewell Gary and thank you for the positive impact you had on me, your family, friends and the Nebraska chess community. You were one of a kind and will be dearly missed.

**Gary Marks**  
1943 to 2012



2011 Photo by Ray Kappel



2010 Closed Championship  
Photo by Kent Nelson

## *The Beauty and Wonder in Chess Composition*

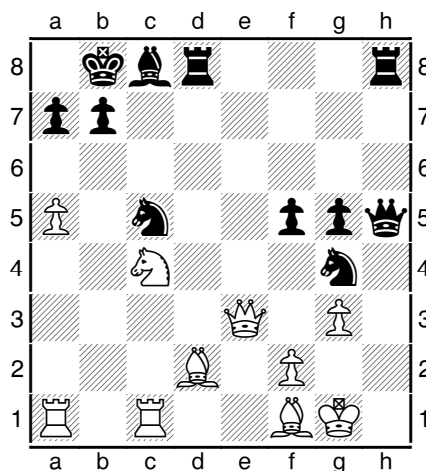
by

**Bob Woodworth**

Endgame compositions (and also chess problems) are usually ignored by a large group of chessplayers. Many find all chess composition as not having any bearing upon the play of the game itself. This is really not a valid reason-for in attempting to solve any chess composition a player will benefit greatly by improving his tactical ability and expanding his pattern recognition abilities.

In this article, I've included 4 compositions which I'm sure the reader will enjoy and benefit greatly from.

The first is some "home cooking" in a creation showing a total sacrificial display by the White forces. (It was found on Kevin Spraggett's website during the month of September, 2012.) Below is the starting diagram and it is for White to play & checkmate Black. (NOTE: This is a position everyone would like to play. White wins by sacrificing nearly all his forces!!)

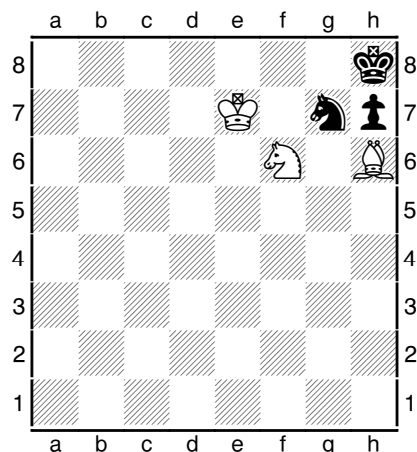


The solution is given at the end of this article.

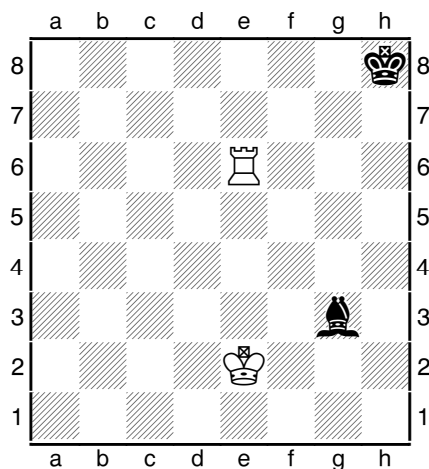
The next example is a miniature (7 or less total chessmen) of an endgame composition which won **first prize** in a composing tourney. (Composing tournaments are where chess problems are submitted to be judged for originality, artistic creativity etc. there is always to be only one correct, initial keymove to solve the

composition. The task is for White to play and win. (As a hint, I will give the keymove as 1.Ne8. Now if 1.Nxe8 then 2.Kf8 and White mates next move by 3.Bg7 mate.) Also, after 1.Ne8 and Black plays instead 1.Kg8 then White wins the endgame by 2.Nxg7 etc.)

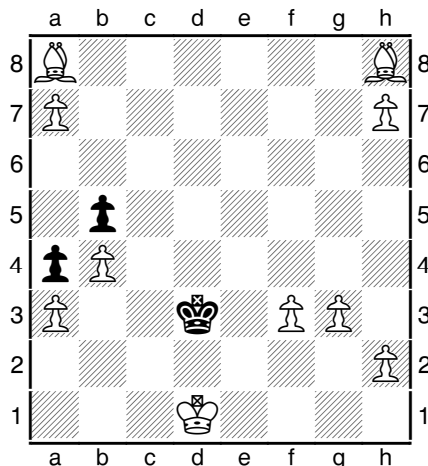
The solution is given at the end of this article. Note that Black's best line of play is 1.Nf5+ etc. (The reader can now determine the correct line to play for White.)



The next chess ending is a basic, composed, simplified example where again it is White to play & win. (The reader should note that there are actually **2 types of chess compositions i.e. CHESS PROBLEMS and also COMPOSED CHESS ENDINGS**. In a chess problem it is for White to actually checkmate in an **exact number** of moves of moves. In a composed ending, White is to play & win the ending although in may end in a checkmate.) Try to find the best White move (the one correct keymove) which will lead to a won game for White. (See the end of this article for the solution.)



The final example of this article is a 4-move chess problem which the members of our local chess club had a lot of fun in trying to solve!! It is a very unique composition which was composed in 1931. Your writer likes to call this “the famous double-barrel bishop problem”!! (White to play & mate in 4 moves.)



**Solver Hint:** Note that Black has only 2 King moves in the diagram. Also, each of the White bishops will move the entire length of the corresponding long diagonal ( & with the corresponding pawn then ‘queening’) depending upon Black’s first move. So, therefore the keymove which leaves both long diagonals clear is: 1. ?? !! (I leave it to the reader to find the mating moves in all the variations using the corresponding promoted queen.)

In conclusion, your writer hopes that the reader has gained a better appreciation for the world of chess composition. It is not merely to be entertained but also to show the fantastic powers of the chessmen in situations that, in all probability, would never be realized in our day-to-day chess games!

Robert Woodworth  
Omaha, Nebraska  
October, 2012



**Solutions:** Diagram #1— 1.Qf4+ 1.gxf4, 2. Bxf4+ 2. Ka8,  
3. Nb6+ axb6 4. axb6+ 4. Na6, 5. Rxc8+ 5. Rxc8, 6. Rxa6+  
6.bxa6 7. Bg2+ 7. Rc6, 8. Bxc6 checkmate!!! (Wow!!)

Diagram #2 —1.Ne8 1.Nf5+, 2 Kf8 2.Nxh6, 3. Nd6!! 3.N-any,  
4. Nf7 checkmate! (Very pretty & efficient!)

Diagram #3—1. Kf3! and the Bishop is trapped!! The White  
Rook will win the Bishop, For example —1.Bc7 2. Re8+ to be  
followed by 3. Re7+ and the Bishop is lost.

Diagram # 4 - The keymove (solution) is 1.f4 & depending  
upon which of the 2 Black King moves is made, one of the  
Bishops moves either to a1 or h1 followed by a pawn promotion  
with the new Queen then mating on the 4th move!! (Very clever  
& beautiful play!!)

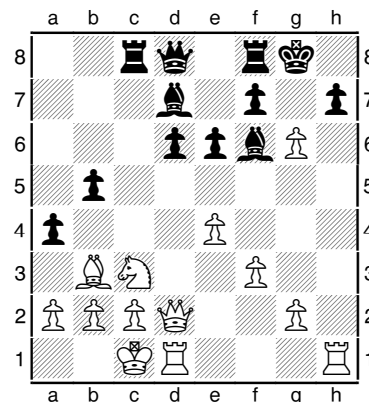
## A Game from Nebraska's Newest International Master

### Keaton Kiewra!

#### (1) Aroshidze - Kiewra [B78]

Sants, 20.08.2012

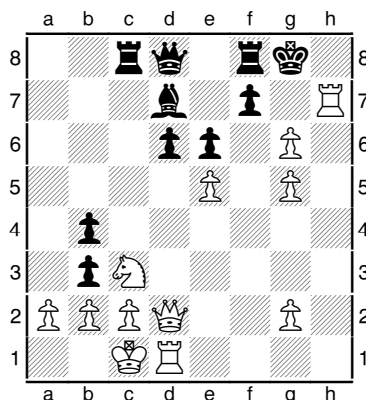
**1.e4** This game was played in round 4 of the Sants Open, my 4th and final tournament in Spain. With a 3–0 start here, and coming off a nearly 2700 fide performance in Badalona I had all the confidence in the world and was ready to try to even my score vs GM Aroshidze who had beaten me in Spain a few years ago. It's a common belief in chess that drawn games are boring, let's see if this one changes your mind :) **1...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 10.0–0–0 Rc8** Although I have been playing this line for a while, I noticed that I didn't have any games in the database in this Dragon line, so I was hoping it would be a surprise for my opponent. **11.Bb3 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b5 13.h4 a5 14.h5** GM Aroshidze repeats the line I faced the day before. It is a sharp line but of no risk to black if he understands the position well **14...a4 15.Bxf6 Bxf6** The text is very playable, but leads to a forced draw. If black wants to play for a win then capturing on f6 with the e-pawn is necessary **16.hxg6 e6!**



Position after 16..e6

A cool and necessary move. This move blunts and traps white's Bishop on b3, and more importantly connects the Queen with the dark square Bishop preventing white from playing Qh6 due to Bg5+ threats. **17.e5!** The only good response. My opponent the day before, IM Escobar, played 17.Rxh7 and soon got a lost position. **17...Bg5?** My move looks good on the surface, but my opponent and I both missed a brilliant continuation he had down the road. [17...Bg7 18.Rxh7 Bxe5 19.Rdh1 fxg6 20.Rh8+ Bxh8 21.Rxh8+ Kxh8 22.Qh6+ with

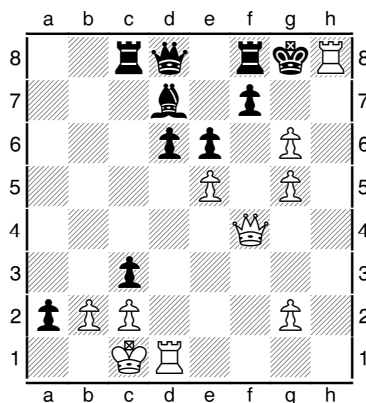
a forced draw] **18.f4 axb3 19.fxg5 b4 20.Rxh7** GM Aroshidze played logically, but missed a beautiful winning continuation. Even computers will not find it immediately.



**Position after 20 R:h7**

[20.g7!! Kxg7 21.g6 h5 22.Rxh5 Rh8 23.Rdh1! bxc3 24.Rh7+ Rxh7 25.Rxh7+ Kg8 (25...Kxg6 26.Qd3+! the only winning move 26...f5 27.exf6+ Kxf6 28.Qf3+ Kg5 29.Qg3+ Kf5 30.Rh5+ Kf6 31.Qg5+ Kf7 32.Rh7+ Kf8 33.Qg7+ with checkmate) 26.Rh8+ Kxh8 27.Qh6+ Kg8 28.Qh7+ Kf8 29.Qxf7#]

**20...bxc3 21.Qf4 bxa2 22.Rh8+ Kg7** I cannot take the Rook because of Qh4+ with mate on h7 **23.Rh7+ Kg8 24.Rh8+**



**Position after 24. Rh8+**

I was fully expecting my opponent to try for a win with [24.gxf7+ Kxh7 25.Qh4+ Kg6 26.Qh6+ where I am forced to run my king out of shelter as 26... Kxf7 gets me mated 26...Kf5 but I am fine after this move, and white can even lose if he is not careful. For example the obvious 27.Rf1+ is actually losing in the following variation 27...Kxe5 28.Qg7+ Kd5 29.Rd1+ Kc6 30.Qxc3+ Kb7 31.Qb3+ Qb6 Feel free to look at alternative checks on move 27 of this variation, but they mostly lead to forced draws by perpetual. My opponent was low on time, and took the guaranteed perpetual as it was. This was a fun and entertaining game where what could have happened was at least as interesting as what actually happened.] ½–½

## **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.

<b>The Omaha Action (G/30) chess tournament was on March 31st 2012. The event was won by Joe Knapp with 3.5 points out of 4. The tournament was organized and directed by John Hartmann.</b>							
<b>No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Rd 1</b>	<b>Rd 2</b>	<b>Rd 3</b>	<b>Rd 4</b>	<b>Tot</b>
1	<b>J. Knapp</b>	2001	<b>W 12</b>	<b>W 5</b>	<b>D 6</b>	<b>W 4</b>	<b>3.5</b>
2	<b>J. Slominski</b>	1944	<b>W 11</b>	<b>W 8</b>	<b>L 4</b>	<b>W 6</b>	<b>3.0</b>
3	<b>J. Stepp</b>	1802	<b>L 10</b>	<b>W 16</b>	<b>W 12</b>	<b>W 9</b>	<b>3.0</b>
4	<b>D. McFarland</b>	1611	<b>W 14</b>	<b>W 10</b>	<b>W 2</b>	<b>L 1</b>	<b>3.0</b>
5	<b>D. Moran</b>	1535	<b>W 15</b>	<b>L 1</b>	<b>W 7</b>	<b>W 10</b>	<b>3.0</b>
6	<b>J. Hartmann</b>	1728	<b>W 13</b>	<b>W 7</b>	<b>D 1</b>	<b>L 2</b>	<b>2.5</b>
7	<b>K. Jerger</b>	1557	<b>W 9</b>	<b>L 6</b>	<b>L 5</b>	<b>W 12</b>	<b>2.0</b>
8	<b>T. Oltman</b>	1396	<b>W 16</b>	<b>L 2</b>	<b>L 10</b>	<b>W 14</b>	<b>2.0</b>
9	<b>J. McFarland</b>	1284	<b>L 7</b>	<b>W 15</b>	<b>W 11</b>	<b>L 3</b>	<b>2.0</b>
10	<b>G. Revesz</b>	1109	<b>W 3</b>	<b>L 4</b>	<b>W 8</b>	<b>L 5</b>	<b>2.0</b>
11	<b>V. Retineni</b>	1228	<b>L 2</b>	<b>W 14</b>	<b>L 9</b>	<b>W 13</b>	<b>2.0</b>
12	<b>T. Samiev</b>	1300	<b>L 1</b>	<b>W 13</b>	<b>L 3</b>	<b>L 7</b>	<b>1.0</b>
13	<b>A. Mc Intosh</b>	958	<b>L 6</b>	<b>L 12</b>	<b>W 16</b>	<b>L 11</b>	<b>1.0</b>
14	<b>L. Fangman</b>	812	<b>L 4</b>	<b>L 11</b>	<b>W 15</b>	<b>L 8</b>	<b>1.0</b>
15	<b>G. Slominski</b>	Unr	<b>L 5</b>	<b>L 9</b>	<b>L 14</b>	<b>W 16</b>	<b>1.0</b>
16	<b>J. Reigenborn</b>	Unr	<b>L 8</b>	<b>L 3</b>	<b>L 13</b>	<b>L 15</b>	<b>0-0</b>

**The 2012 River City Roundup** was held in Omaha on September 29th and 30th. This event was organized and directed by Mike Gooch with support of Iowa senior director, Bill Broich (who directed the Open section) and pairing director, Joe Selvaraj, along with many helpers and volunteers. This year's event drew over 100 players including GM Alex Yermolinsky from South Dakota. Kudo's to Mike Gooch and his wonderful staff for putting together another memorable tournament. Special thanks to John Hartmann for taking pictures of the event. Tournament report by Kent Nelson.

<b>2012 Midwest Regional River City Roundup K-9 Team results</b>				
<b>Place</b>	<b>Name/Team</b>	<b>Avg. Rating</b>	<b>Team Score</b>	<b>Total Individual Score</b>
1	<b>Millard North</b>	1126	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>
2	<b>Queens of CR</b>	950	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>
3	<b>Future Stars</b>	1136	<b>2.5</b>	<b>11.5</b>
4	<b>Kings of CR</b>	870	<b>2.5</b>	<b>10</b>
5	<b>Little Chess Cyclones</b>	884	<b>1.5</b>	<b>8.5</b>
6	<b>Pawns of CR</b>	691	<b>1.5</b>	<b>6</b>
7	<b>K-9 Ad Hoc</b>	643	<b>0</b>	<b>1.5</b>

<b>2012 Midwest Regional River City Roundup K-6 Team results</b>				
<b>Place</b>	<b>Name/Team</b>	<b>Avg. Rating</b>	<b>Team Score</b>	<b>Total Individual Score</b>
1	<b>Rooks of CR-RRE</b>	1072	<b>5</b>	<b>18.5</b>
2	<b>Future Stars</b>	846	<b>4</b>	<b>14.5</b>
3	<b>Knights of CR-RRE</b>	529	<b>1.5</b>	<b>6.5</b>
4	<b>Fairview-RRE</b>	471	<b>1.5</b>	<b>6</b>
5	<b>K-Ad Hoc-RRE</b>	452	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>

<b>2012 Midwest Regional River City Roundup K-3 results</b>				
<b>Place</b>	<b>Name/Team</b>	<b>Avg. Rating</b>	<b>Team Score</b>	<b>Total Individual Score</b>
1	<b>Bishops of CR-RRE</b>	573	2	9.5

<b>2012 Midwest Regional River City Roundup K-12 results</b>				
<b>Place</b>	<b>Name/Team</b>	<b>Avg. Rating</b>	<b>Team Score</b>	<b>Total Individual Score</b>
1	<b>K-12 Ad Hoc</b>	1097	4	13.5
2	<b>Creighton Prep</b>	895	3	12
3	<b>Brownell-Talbot</b>	1138	3	11.5

<b>2012 Midwest Regional River City Roundup Open Section Team results</b>				
<b>Place</b>	<b>Name/Team</b>	<b>Avg. Rating</b>	<b>Team Score</b>	<b>Total Individual Score</b>
1	<b>Linscott Team</b>	1895	4	12.5
2	<b>Attack Team</b>	1985	3.5	11.5
3	<b>Knapp Team</b>	1852	3	10.5
4	<b>Gradsky Team</b>	1791	3	10
5	<b>Nelson Team</b>	1840	2.5	9
6	<b>Thunder Kings</b>	1708	2	8.5
7	<b>Khots Team</b>	1907	1	8
8	<b>South Dakota</b>	1644	1	9.5

2012 Midwest Regional River City Roundup Open Section								
No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	J. Neal	1860	W 13	W 21	W 8	W 31	L 9	4.0
2	N. Reeves	1896	W 26	W 22	W 16	L 10	W 29	4.0
3	M. Hansen	1419	L 12	W 32	W 30	W 11	W 20	4.0
4	J. Linscott	1913	W 17	W 14	D 15	D 24	D 25	3.5
5	D. Khots	1889	W 24	D 15	W 25	L 17	W 28	3.5
6	T. Crouse	1813	W 11	L 30	W 20	D 12	W 27	3.5
7	R. Keating	2207	D 23	W 31	D 13	W 9	L 8	3.0
8	B. Gradsky	2092	W 31	D 23	L 1	D 13	L 7	3.0
9	J. Knapp	2054	D 21	D 13	W 23	L 7	W 1	3.0
10	H. Mujeeb	1647	W 19	L 18	W 26	W 2	F	3.0
11	R. Kappel	1712	L 6	W 27	W 12	L 3	W 30	3.0
12	A. Erickson	1447	W 3	D 20	L 11	D 6	W 32	3.0
13	B. Fabrikant	2005	L 1	D 9	D 7	D 8	W 21	2.5
14	J. Wagner	2007	D 25	L 4	W 28	L 15	W 17	2.5
15	D. Jiles	1987	D 28	D 5	D 4	W 14	L 24	2.5
16	G. Eichhorn	1926	L 18	W 19	L 2	D 22	X	2.5
17	A. Saleem	1825	L 4	W 25	D 24	L 5	L 14	2.5
18	K. Nelson	1833	W 16	W 10	L 22	L 29	D 19	2.5
19	Doug Given	1788	L 10	L 16	W 29	W 26	D 18	2.5
20	J. Stepp	1775	W 32	D 12	L 6	W 27	L 3	2.5
21	J. Slominski	1907	D 9	L 1	D 31	W 23	L 13	2.0

2012 Midwest Regional River City Roundup Open Section								
No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
22	<b>R. Ellsworth</b>	1919	<b>D 29</b>	<b>L 2</b>	<b>W 18</b>	<b>D 16</b>	<b>L 26</b>	<b>2.0</b>
23	<b>J. Wan</b>	1847	<b>D 7</b>	<b>D 8</b>	<b>L 9</b>	<b>L 21</b>	<b>W 31</b>	<b>2.0</b>
24	<b>T. Dutiel</b>	1828	<b>L 5</b>	<b>L 28</b>	<b>D 17</b>	<b>D 4</b>	<b>W 15</b>	<b>2.0</b>
25	<b>J. Hartmann</b>	1742	<b>D 14</b>	<b>L 17</b>	<b>L 5</b>	<b>W 28</b>	<b>D 4</b>	<b>2.0</b>
26	<b>P. Krishnamurthy</b>	1540	<b>L 2</b>	<b>W 29</b>	<b>L 10</b>	<b>L 19</b>	<b>W 22</b>	<b>2.0</b>
27	<b>G. Blazek</b>	1566	<b>W 30</b>	<b>L 11</b>	<b>W 32</b>	<b>L 20</b>	<b>L 6</b>	<b>2.0</b>
28	<b>T. O'Connor</b>	1948	<b>D 15</b>	<b>W 24</b>	<b>L 14</b>	<b>L 25</b>	<b>L 5</b>	<b>2.0</b>
29	<b>C. Dibley</b>	1482	<b>D 22</b>	<b>L 26</b>	<b>L 19</b>	<b>W 18</b>	<b>L 2</b>	<b>1.5</b>
30	<b>A. Petrosyan</b>	Unr	<b>L 27</b>	<b>W 6</b>	<b>L 3</b>	<b>D 32</b>	<b>L 11</b>	<b>1.5</b>
31	<b>B. Khots</b>	2030	<b>L 8</b>	<b>L 7</b>	<b>D 21</b>	<b>L 1</b>	<b>L 23</b>	<b>0.5</b>
32	<b>C. Jain</b>	1119	<b>L 20</b>	<b>L 3</b>	<b>W 27</b>	<b>D 30</b>	<b>L 12</b>	<b>0.5</b>



2012 River City Roundup-Open Section



<b>2012 Midwest Regional River City Roundup K-9 plus K-12 sections</b>								
<b>No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Rd 1</b>	<b>Rd 2</b>	<b>Rd 3</b>	<b>Rd 4</b>	<b>Rd 5</b>	<b>Tot</b>
1	<b>T. Hafner</b>	811	<b>W 29</b>	<b>W 17</b>	<b>W 15</b>	<b>W 40</b>	<b>W 23</b>	<b>5.0</b>
2	<b>A. Suresh</b>	1303	<b>W 34</b>	<b>W 26</b>	<b>W 13</b>	<b>D 22</b>	<b>W 35</b>	<b>4.5</b>
3	<b>A. Choudhry</b>	1486	<b>W 31</b>	<b>W 8</b>	<b>L 4</b>	<b>W 39</b>	<b>W 10</b>	<b>4.0</b>
4	<b>C. Canigia</b>	1393	<b>W 7</b>	<b>L 14</b>	<b>W 3</b>	<b>W 25</b>	<b>W 28</b>	<b>4.0</b>
5	<b>M. Hezel</b>	1163	<b>W 37</b>	<b>W 11</b>	<b>W 27</b>	<b>W 16</b>	<b>W 34</b>	<b>4.0</b>
6	<b>S. Potineni</b>	1124	<b>W 20</b>	<b>L 25</b>	<b>W 34</b>	<b>W 27</b>	<b>W 32</b>	<b>4.0</b>
7	<b>T. Samiev</b>	1318	<b>L 4</b>	<b>W 28</b>	<b>D 10</b>	<b>W 14</b>	<b>W 22</b>	<b>3.5</b>
8	<b>M. Takahashi</b>	1312	<b>W 39</b>	<b>L 3</b>	<b>W 25</b>	<b>D 10</b>	<b>W 36</b>	<b>3.5</b>
9	<b>R. Hodina</b>	1094	<b>D 38</b>	<b>W 13</b>	<b>L 22</b>	<b>W 11</b>	<b>W 18</b>	<b>3.5</b>
10	<b>J. Selvaraj</b>	1272	<b>W 14</b>	<b>W 22</b>	<b>D 7</b>	<b>D 8</b>	<b>L 3</b>	<b>3.0</b>
11	<b>V. Retineni</b>	1191	<b>W 26</b>	<b>W 5</b>	<b>W 12</b>	<b>L 9</b>	<b>L 13</b>	<b>3.0</b>
12	<b>A. Samiev</b>	1156	<b>U</b>	<b>W 35</b>	<b>L 11</b>	<b>W 26</b>	<b>W 25</b>	<b>3.0</b>
13	<b>M. Nair</b>	1176	<b>W 36</b>	<b>L 9</b>	<b>L 2</b>	<b>W 33</b>	<b>W 11</b>	<b>3.0</b>
14	<b>M. Lu</b>	1088	<b>L 10</b>	<b>W 4</b>	<b>W 31</b>	<b>L 7</b>	<b>W 39</b>	<b>3.0</b>
15	<b>T. Knecht</b>	1066	<b>W 42</b>	<b>W 19</b>	<b>L 1</b>	<b>L 17</b>	<b>W 21</b>	<b>3.0</b>
16	<b>J. Mcelderry</b>	1040	<b>L 23</b>	<b>W 20</b>	<b>W 32</b>	<b>L 5</b>	<b>W 37</b>	<b>3.0</b>
17	<b>A. Jaddu</b>	919	<b>W 24</b>	<b>L 1</b>	<b>L 23</b>	<b>W 15</b>	<b>W 19</b>	<b>3.0</b>
18	<b>J. Lin</b>	830	<b>W 32</b>	<b>W 38</b>	<b>L 20</b>	<b>W 37</b>	<b>L 9</b>	<b>3.0</b>
19	<b>D. Steinwand</b>	884	<b>W 21</b>	<b>L 15</b>	<b>W 40</b>	<b>W 42</b>	<b>L 17</b>	<b>3.0</b>
20	<b>S. Vongpanya</b>	637	<b>L 6</b>	<b>L 16</b>	<b>W 18</b>	<b>W 34</b>	<b>W 41</b>	<b>3.0</b>
21	<b>F. Hennessy</b>	671	<b>L 19</b>	<b>W 42</b>	<b>W 24</b>	<b>W 29</b>	<b>L 15</b>	<b>3.0</b>

2012 Midwest Regional River City Roundup K-9 plus K-12 sections								
No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
22	<b>B. Grimminger</b>	1196	<b>W 35</b>	<b>L 10</b>	<b>W 9</b>	<b>D 2</b>	<b>L 7</b>	<b>2.5</b>
23	<b>A. McIntosh</b>	946	<b>W 16</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>W 17</b>	<b>D 24</b>	<b>L 1</b>	<b>2.5</b>
24	<b>M. Zastrow</b>	795	<b>L 17</b>	<b>W 40</b>	<b>L 21</b>	<b>D 23</b>	<b>W 42</b>	<b>2.5</b>
25	<b>D. Hguyen</b>	1220	<b>W 28</b>	<b>W 6</b>	<b>L 8</b>	<b>L 4</b>	<b>L 12</b>	<b>2.0</b>
26	<b>V. Kalil</b>	951	<b>L 11</b>	<b>L 2</b>	<b>W 36</b>	<b>L 12</b>	<b>W 33</b>	<b>2.0</b>
27	<b>S. Thangavel</b>	919	<b>W 41</b>	<b>D 32</b>	<b>L 5</b>	<b>L 6</b>	<b>D 31</b>	<b>2.0</b>
28	<b>D. Kogan</b>	835	<b>L 25</b>	<b>L 7</b>	<b>W 39</b>	<b>W 31</b>	<b>L 4</b>	<b>2.0</b>
29	<b>A. Rinke</b>	416	<b>L 1</b>	<b>L 30</b>	<b>W 42</b>	<b>L 21</b>	<b>W 40</b>	<b>2.0</b>
30	<b>J. Costello</b>	331	<b>W 40</b>	<b>W 29</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>2.0</b>
31	<b>K. Song</b>	1037	<b>L 3</b>	<b>W 41</b>	<b>L 14</b>	<b>L 28</b>	<b>D 27</b>	<b>1.5</b>
32	<b>N. Boland</b>	1050	<b>L 18</b>	<b>D 27</b>	<b>L 16</b>	<b>W 41</b>	<b>L 6</b>	<b>1.5</b>
33	<b>U. Harding</b>	1032	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>W 35</b>	<b>L 13</b>	<b>L 26</b>	<b>1.0</b>
34	<b>C. Chavez</b>	986	<b>L 2</b>	<b>W 37</b>	<b>L 6</b>	<b>L 20</b>	<b>L 5</b>	<b>1.0</b>
35	<b>S. Thomasson</b>	848	<b>L 22</b>	<b>L 12</b>	<b>L 33</b>	<b>W 36</b>	<b>L 2</b>	<b>1.0</b>
36	<b>A. Denison</b>	773	<b>L 13</b>	<b>W 39</b>	<b>L 26</b>	<b>L 35</b>	<b>L 8</b>	<b>1.0</b>
37	<b>I. Johnson</b>	701	<b>L 5</b>	<b>L 34</b>	<b>W 41</b>	<b>L 18</b>	<b>L 16</b>	<b>1.0</b>
38	<b>J. Severa</b>	1096	<b>D 9</b>	<b>L 18</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>0.5</b>
39	<b>J. Alexander</b>	844	<b>L 8</b>	<b>L 36</b>	<b>L 28</b>	<b>L 3</b>	<b>L 14</b>	<b>0-0</b>
40	<b>V. Menon</b>	834	<b>L 30</b>	<b>L 24</b>	<b>L 19</b>	<b>L 1</b>	<b>L 29</b>	<b>0-0</b>
41	<b>A. Filipi</b>	609	<b>L27</b>	<b>L 31</b>	<b>L 37</b>	<b>L 32</b>	<b>L 20</b>	<b>0-0</b>
42	<b>M. Chambers</b>	362	<b>L 15</b>	<b>L 21</b>	<b>L 29</b>	<b>L 19</b>	<b>L 24</b>	<b>0-0</b>

2012 Midwest Regional River City Roundup K-3 to K-6 Sections								
No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	M. Takahashi	1234	W 22	W 5	W 11	W 15	W 19	5.0
2	D. Song	814	W 8	W 7	W 21	W 24	W 16	5.0
3	G. Thangavel	1460	W 9	W 4	D 14	W 17	W 18	4.5
4	A. Choudhry	1154	W 17	L 3	W 9	W 18	W 11	4.0
5	J. Leman	946	W 15	L 1	W 22	W 19	W 12	4.0
6	A. Kozich	832	W 23	W 10	L 12	W 13	W 20	4.0
7	C. Boland	512	W 24	L 2	D 8	W 16	W 21	3.5
8	B. Kalil	393	L 2	W 16	D 7	W 21	W 24	3.5
9	V. Tivanski	793	L 3	W 18	L 4	W 12	W 17	3.0
10	M. Nair	784	L 13	L 6	W 23	W 20	W 14	3.0
11	A. Palaniappan	686	W 19	W 15	L 1	W 23	L 4	3.0
12	A. Lodh	659	W 20	W 13	W 6	L 9	L 5	3.0
13	A. Boerner	263	W 10	W 12	W 20	L 6	W 23	3.0
14	A. Luo	623	L 18	W 17	D 3	W 22	L 10	2.5
15	M. Taken	396	L 5	L 11	W 19	L 1	W 22	2.0
16	H. Robinson	217	W 21	L 8	W 24	L 7	L 2	2.0
17	R. Kim	756	L 4	L 14	W 18	L 3	L 9	1.0
18	K. Shen	500	W 14	L 9	L 17	L 4	L 3	1.0
19	V. Potineni	492	L 11	W 22	L 15	L 5	L 1	1.0
20	S. Selvaraj	436	L 12	W 23	L 13	L 10	L 6	1.0
21	C. Eltoft	226	L 16	W 24	L 2	L 8	L 7	1.0
22	E. Forrest	550	L 1	L 19	L 5	L 14	L 15	0-0
23	P. Lande	520	L 6	L 20	L 10	L 11	L 13	0-0
24	N. Blum	Unr	L 7	L 21	L 16	L 2	L 8	0-0



### **“The Khots Team”**

From left to right

Armen Petrosyan, Dmitriy Knots, Doug Given, Boris Knots.



### **“The Attack of the Clones”**

From left to right

Robert Keating, David Jiles, George Eichhorn and Tim Crouse.



### **“The Knapp Team”**

Jacob Wagner, Alek Erickson, Joe Knapp. Not pictured is Ross Ellsworth.



### **“The Gambit Guys (Nelson) Team”**

Kent Nelson, Joseph W, Tom O’Connor, not pictured is Ray Kappel





**“The South Dakota Team”**

Mark Hansen, Charles Dibley, Jerry Slominski and John Hartmann.



**“The Thunder Kings”**

Chirag Jain, Pranav Prishnamurthy, Arshaq Saleem  
James Neal is in the background.



**1st Place**

**“The Linscott Team”**

John Stepp, John Linscott, Ben Fabrikant and Neil Reeves



**“The Gradsky Team”**

Tony Dutiel, George Blazek and Ben Gradsky. Not pictured is Numan Abdul-Mujeeb.

**The 2012 Iowa Open** was held in Iowa City on August 25th and 26th and attracted nearly 108 players from surrounding states. Nebraska was well represented by **Joe Knapp**, **Doug** and **David Given**, **John Hartmann** and **Joseph Wan**. Nebraska was led by State Champion Joe Knapp who scored 4-1 losing only to Michael Brooks a 2400 player from Missouri. Brooks finished tied with Prashantha Amarasinghe a strong expert from Minnesota for 1st place with 4.5 points out of 5. The event was directed by **Bill Broich**. Bill also served as chief tournament director for the River City Roundup held in late September in Omaha. At my request, Joe Knapp was kind enough to provide all his games from this event which follows the open section crosstable. Special thanks to Joe for doing this. Report by Kent Nelson

2012 58th Iowa City Open-Open Section								
No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	<b>M. Brooks</b>	2423	W 23	W 29	W 6	D 8	W 4	4.5
2	<b>P. Amarasinghe</b>	2199	D 25	W 40	W 16	W 9	W 8	4.5
3	<b>A. Betaneli</b>	2318	W 39	W 18	L 14	W 29	W 11	4.0
4	<b>A. Tang</b>	2221	W 32	W 19	W 13	W 14	L 1	4.0
5	<b>R. Luther</b>	2232	W 33	L 15	X	W 24	W 13	4.0
6	<b>Joe Knapp</b>	2037	W 27	W 24	L 1	W 16	W 14	4.0
7	<b>E. Santarius</b>	2376	D 22	L 16	W 21	W 39	W 19	3.5
8	<b>R. Keating</b>	2203	W 31	W 21	W 15	D 1	L 2	3.5
9	<b>J. Gatica</b>	2048	W 41	D 20	W 38	L 2	W 22	3.5
10	<b>B. Tumurkhuu</b>	UNR	L 38	W 28	W 30	D 15	W 20	3.5

Final standings of the Iowa Open continues on the proceeding pages followed by games by Joe Knapp from the event.



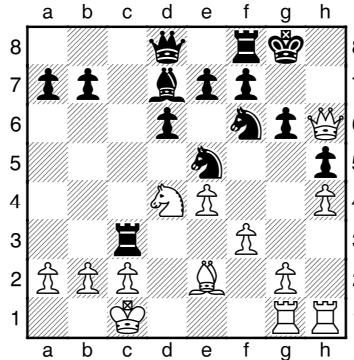
11	<b>J. Hodina</b>	1938	<b>W 48</b>	<b>D 12</b>	<b>W 22</b>	<b>W 20</b>	<b>L 3</b>	<b>3.5</b>
12	<b>B. Gradsky</b>	2089	<b>W 26</b>	<b>D 11</b>	<b>L 20</b>	<b>W 25</b>	<b>D 15</b>	<b>3.0</b>
13	<b>L. Cohen</b>	2011	<b>W 42</b>	<b>W 17</b>	<b>L 4</b>	<b>W 35</b>	<b>L 5</b>	<b>3.0</b>
14	<b>D. Tutush</b>	1961	<b>W 28</b>	<b>W 30</b>	<b>W 3</b>	<b>L 4</b>	<b>L 6</b>	<b>3.0</b>
15	<b>J. Juett</b>	1942	<b>W 46</b>	<b>W 5</b>	<b>L 8</b>	<b>D 10</b>	<b>D 12</b>	<b>3.0</b>
16	<b>T. Killian</b>	1796	<b>W 37</b>	<b>W 7</b>	<b>L 2</b>	<b>L 6</b>	<b>W 29</b>	<b>3.0</b>
17	<b>E. Divanovic</b>	1868	<b>W 51</b>	<b>L 13</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W 44</b>	<b>W 34</b>	<b>3.0</b>
18	<b>D. Brashaw</b>	1973	<b>W 43</b>	<b>L 3</b>	<b>D 31</b>	<b>L 22</b>	<b>W 35</b>	<b>2.5</b>
19	<b>J. Madison</b>	1946	<b>W 44</b>	<b>L 4</b>	<b>D 26</b>	<b>W 49</b>	<b>L 7</b>	<b>2.5</b>
20	<b>T. Gaul</b>	1917	<b>W 36</b>	<b>D 9</b>	<b>W 12</b>	<b>L 11</b>	<b>L 10</b>	<b>2.5</b>
21	<b>K. Fee Jr.</b>	1907	<b>W 35</b>	<b>L 8</b>	<b>L 7</b>	<b>W 31</b>	<b>D 23</b>	<b>2.5</b>
22	<b>J. Neal</b>	1831	<b>D 7</b>	<b>W 25</b>	<b>L 11</b>	<b>W 18</b>	<b>L 9</b>	<b>2.5</b>
23	<b>C. Baumgartner</b>	1842	<b>L 1</b>	<b>W 43</b>	<b>D 37</b>	<b>D 26</b>	<b>D 21</b>	<b>2.5</b>
24	<b>T. Dutiel</b>	1850	<b>W 47</b>	<b>L 6</b>	<b>W 27</b>	<b>L 5</b>	<b>D 26</b>	<b>2.5</b>
25	<b>F. Whitsell</b>	1825	<b>D 2</b>	<b>L 22</b>	<b>W 41</b>	<b>L 12</b>	<b>W 42</b>	<b>2.5</b>
26	<b>A. Zhou</b>	1727	<b>L 12</b>	<b>W 47</b>	<b>D 19</b>	<b>D 23</b>	<b>D 24</b>	<b>2.5</b>
27	<b>A. Simmons</b>	1745	<b>L 6</b>	<b>W 45</b>	<b>L 24</b>	<b>D 36</b>	<b>W 39</b>	<b>2.5</b>
28	<b>F. Zhou</b>	1615	<b>L 14</b>	<b>L 10</b>	<b>W 48</b>	<b>D 33</b>	<b>W 40</b>	<b>2.5</b>
29	<b>W. Ferguson</b>	1981	<b>W 34</b>	<b>L1</b>	<b>W 32</b>	<b>L 3</b>	<b>L 16</b>	<b>2.0</b>
30	<b>Joseph Wan</b>	1868	<b>W 45</b>	<b>L 14</b>	<b>L 10</b>	<b>D 42</b>	<b>D 31</b>	<b>2.0</b>
31	<b>A. Saleem</b>	1828	<b>L 8</b>	<b>W 48</b>	<b>D 18</b>	<b>L 21</b>	<b>D 30</b>	<b>2.0</b>
32	<b>D. Holmes</b>	1786	<b>L 4</b>	<b>W 44</b>	<b>L 29</b>	<b>L 34</b>	<b>W 47</b>	<b>2.0</b>
33	<b>John Hartmann</b>	1770	<b>L 5</b>	<b>L 35</b>	<b>W 46</b>	<b>D 28</b>	<b>D 36</b>	<b>2.0</b>

34	<b>M. Lee</b>	1557	<b>L 29</b>	<b>L 37</b>	<b>W 45</b>	<b>W 32</b>	<b>L 17</b>	<b>2.0</b>
35	<b>P. Krishnamurthy</b>	1466	<b>L 21</b>	<b>W 33</b>	<b>W 42</b>	<b>L 13</b>	<b>L 18</b>	<b>2.0</b>
36	<b>G. Thangavel</b>	1403	<b>L 20</b>	<b>D 41</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>D 27</b>	<b>D 33</b>	<b>2.0</b>
37	<b>K. Tyagi</b>	2073	<b>L 16</b>	<b>W 34</b>	<b>D 23</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>1.5</b>
38	<b>M. Perkhounkov</b>	1737	<b>W 10</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>L 9</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>1.5</b>
39	<b>Doug Given</b>	1803	<b>L 3</b>	<b>D 46</b>	<b>W 40</b>	<b>L 7</b>	<b>L 27</b>	<b>1.5</b>
40	<b>J. Beydler</b>	1740	<b>H</b>	<b>L 2</b>	<b>W 39</b>	<b>W 47</b>	<b>L 28</b>	<b>1.5</b>
41	<b>S. Patterson</b>	1700	<b>L 9</b>	<b>D 36</b>	<b>L 25</b>	<b>D 46</b>	<b>D 44</b>	<b>1.5</b>
42	<b>S. Killian</b>	1685	<b>L 13</b>	<b>W 51</b>	<b>L 35</b>	<b>D 30</b>	<b>L 25</b>	<b>1.5</b>
43	<b>F. Li</b>	1632	<b>L 18</b>	<b>L 23</b>	<b>L 47</b>	<b>D 45</b>	<b>W 46</b>	<b>1.5</b>
44	<b>W. Tong</b>	1559	<b>L 19</b>	<b>L 32</b>	<b>W 51</b>	<b>L 17</b>	<b>D 41</b>	<b>1.5</b>
45	<b>G. Hopkins</b>	1286	<b>L 30</b>	<b>L 27</b>	<b>L 34</b>	<b>D 43</b>	<b>W 50</b>	<b>1.5</b>
46	<b>M. Jetty</b>	1524	<b>L 15</b>	<b>D 39</b>	<b>L 33</b>	<b>D 41</b>	<b>L 43</b>	<b>1.0</b>
47	<b>D. Taylor</b>	1453	<b>L 24</b>	<b>L 26</b>	<b>W 43</b>	<b>L 40</b>	<b>L 32</b>	<b>1.0</b>
48	<b>C. Power</b>	1537	<b>L 11</b>	<b>L 31</b>	<b>L 28</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>0.5</b>
49	<b>P. Tang</b>	1195	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>L 19</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>0-0</b>
50	<b>David Given</b>	1181	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>L 45</b>	<b>0-0</b>
51	<b>M. Smith</b>	701	<b>L 17</b>	<b>L 42</b>	<b>L 44</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>0-0</b>

## (1) Simmons,Andrew (1728) – Knapp,Joe (2037) [B76]

Iowa Open (1), 25.08.2012 [Knapp,Joseph]

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.Be3 Nc6 8.Qd2 0-0 9.h4 h5 10.f3 Bd7 11.0-0-0 Rc8 12.Rdg1 Ne5 13.Bh6 Bxh6 14.Qxh6** I employ the thematic exchange sac, intuitively. Computer engines seem to prefer 14...Qb6 or 14...Qa5 with slight plus for black. **14...Rxc3** Diagram



**15.bxc3 Qa5 16.Kb2 Rc8 17.Qe3 b5** [17...d5 18.exd5 Nxd5 19.Qxe5 Qxc3+ 20.Kb1 Nb4 21.Qe4 e5 is crushing.] **18.Nb3 Qc7** White's defense falters at this point. **19.Qd2?** The move Rd1 would be wise to control d5. The text move allows more pieces into black's attack. **19...d5 20.exd5 Nxd5 21.g4** White's counterplay comes too late. **21...Nxc3 22.gxh5 Nxe2 23.Qxe2 Qc3+ 24.Kb1 Nc4 25.Kc1 Bf5 0-1**

## (2) Brooks,Michael (2427) – Knapp,Joseph (2037) [B70]

Iowa Open (3), 26.08.2012 [Knapp,Joseph]

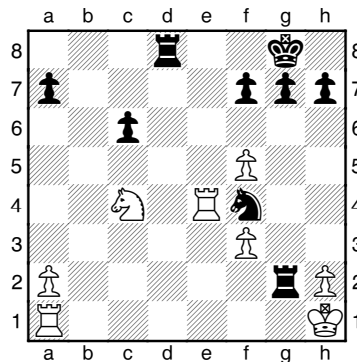
**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bg5 Nc6 9.Nb3 a5 10.a4 Be6 11.Kh1 d5** This leads to forced complications that are bad for black. [11...Rc8 leads to general equality for black, e.g., 12.f4 Nb4 (12...Nd7 13.f5 Bxb3 14.cxb3 Nb4 15.Bc4 Ne5) 13.f5 (13.Nd4 Bc4 14.Ndb5 Qb6 15.Bxc4 Rxc4 16.Qe2 Qc6) 13...Bc4] **12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.exd5 Bxc3 14.dxc6 Bxb2 15.cxb7 Rb8 16.Rb1** [16.Qxd8 Rfxd8 17.Nxa5 is unfortunate for white (17.Rab1 transposes to the game.) 17...Bxa1 18.Rxa1 because 18...Rd2 and black is fine.(18...Rd5 19.Bb5 and white went on to win in Putzbach,G (2260)–Raddatz,M (2115)/Pinneberg 1994/EXT 2001 (37))] **16...Ba3 17.Qxd8 Rfxd8 18.Nxa5+- Bd5 19.Rfd1 Rd6 20.Bf3 1-0**

### (3) Tutush,Dusan (1999) – Knapp,Joseph (2037) [D02]

Iowa open (5), 26.08.2012 [Knapp,Joseph]

This was a more positional battle, where the key move 14...f4 gave advantage to black. Black kept the upper hand through the ensuing tactics.

**1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bg5 c6 4.c3 Bf5 5.Nbd2 Nbd7 6.Qb3 Qb6 7.e3 e6 8.Nh4 Ne4 9.Nxf5 exf5 10.Bf4 Bd6 11.Bxd6 Nxd6 12.f3 Qd8 13.Kf2 0-0 14.c4 f4! 15.exf4 Qf6 16.cxd5 Qxd4+ 17.Qe3 Qxd5 18.Nb3 Nf5 19.Qe4 Nf6 20.Qxd5 Nxd5 21.Bd3 Nfe3 22.f5 Nxc2 23.Na5** [Of course, black regains the piece with a great position after 23.Kxc2 Nf4+] **23...Ngf4 24.Be4 Rfe8 25.Rhe1 Nf6 26.Nxb7 Rab8 27.Nd6 Rxb2+ 28.Kg1 Rd8 29.Nc4 Rg2+ 30.Kh1 Nxe4 31.Rxe4** Diagram

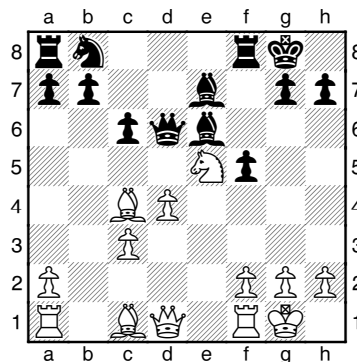


**31...Rxa2! 32.Rae1 g5 33.fxc6 Nxc6 34.h4 Rd5 35.Ne3 Rdd2 36.Ng4 Kg7 37.Ne3 h5 38.Rc1 a5 39.Nf5+ Kf6 40.Ne3 c5 41.Nc4 Rh2+ 42.Kg1 Nxc4 0-1**

### (4) Knapp,Joseph (2037) – Dutiel,Tony (1900) [C42]

Iowa Open (2), 25.08.2012 [Knapp,Joseph]

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.c4 c6 9.Nc3 f5** We will see this weakens black on the a2–g8 diagonal. Nxc3 is preferred. **10.cxd5 Nxc3 11.bxc3 Qxd5?** [11...cxd5 is unpleasant but not immediately losing.] **12.Ne5 Be6? 13.Bc4 Qd6** Diagram

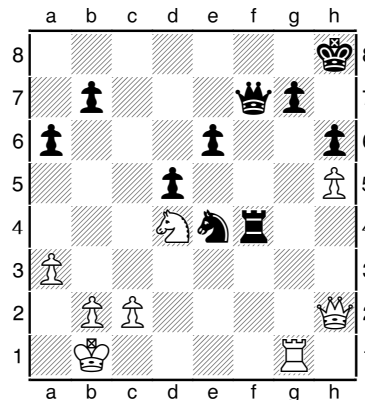


And white wins very quickly with **14.Ba3 Qxa3 15.Bxe6+ Kh8 16.Qh5 Rf6 17.Nf7+ Rxf7 18.Qxf7 Na6 19.Bxf5 g6 20.Rae1 1-0**

## (5) Knapp, Joseph (2037) – Killian, Timothy (1722) [C14]

Iowa Open (4), 26.08.2012 [Knapp, Joseph]

The following is my worst performance of the tournament. Killian is an upcoming player who had just upset Erik Santarius (rated some 2370). He gains a big edge from the opening which has me hoping for a miracle for most of the game. Luckily that miracle comes! **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e5 Nfd7 6.h4 0-0 7.Qg4 Kh8 8.Bxe7 Qxe7 9.Nf3 c5 10.0-0-0 Nc6 11.dxc5 Ndx5 12.Nxe5 Nxe5 13.Qg3 Nc6 14.h5 h6 15.Qh4?** My plan here (g4) is dubious, because black can defend his kingside. I guess I was trying the "cave-man" approach. **15...Qxc5 16.Kb1 Bd7 17.g4 Qe7 18.Qg3 f5 19.gxf5 Rxf5 20.f4 Qf7 21.Rh4 Rf8 22.Bd3 Rf6 [22...Ne7] 23.Bg6 [23.Rg1=] 23...Qe7 24.Rg4 Be8 25.Bxe8 Rxe8 26.Rg1 Rg8 27.Re1 Qf7 28.a3 Ne7 29.Re5 Nf5 30.Qh2 Rc8 31.Nb5? a6 32.Nc3** Moving a piece back to the same square one move later is often the admission of a mistake. **32...Rc4 33.Rg1 Nd6 34.Ne2 Re4 35.Rxe4 Nxe4 36.Nd4** By this time, my lackluster play has landed me in time pressure and a position that's been uncomfortable at best. Yet in chess, as in life I suppose, persistence can pay off. Black's following move allows white equal chances. **36...Rxf4? Diagram**



**37.Nxe6 Rf1+ 38.Rxf1 Qxf1+ 39.Ka2 Qf7 [39...Qc4+ 40.b3 Qc8** The only move, returns the advantage to black.] **40.Qb8+ Kh7??** loses on the spot. [40...Qg8 41.Nf8 Nf6 42.Ng6+ Kh7 43.Nf8+ with a perpetual.] **41.Nf8+ Qxf8 42.Qxf8 g5 43.Qf7+ Kh8 44.Qxd5 Nf6 45.Qd8+ Ng8 46.Qf8 1-0**

## Hartmann's Corner by John Hartmann

### November 2012

This year's Iowa Open featured an intensely strong field. Among the 51 players in the Open Section were 13 players rated over 2000, including 7 masters! A number of Nebraska players made the trip to Iowa City, led by state champ Joe Knapp and young phenom Joseph Wan. Doug and David Given also played, as did your author.

Joe Knapp did fairly well for himself, tying for 2<sup>nd</sup> place with a score of 4.0/5 and a gain of 17 rating points. For the rest of us, however, it was a tournament to forget, and for no one more so than me. After being destroyed (partially by my own hand) in round 1, I was paired with one underrated junior player after another. At 2.0/5, I dropped 28 points and not a small bit of self-esteem! Still, there were some interesting moments to be seen, and I present below all five of my games with my notes.

It should be noted that these notes also appeared in the October 2012 issue of the Iowa Chess News. All Nebraska players should consider joining the Iowa State Chess Association so as to receive this journal, such is its quality.

#### **(1) Luther,Ron (2232) – Hartmann,John (1770) [C54]**

Iowa Open (1), 25.08.2012 [*Hartmann*]

**1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.d3 Bc5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Bb3 0-0 6.Nbd2 d6**

**7.c3 Ne7** Played under the influence of Kaufman's new book.

The idea is that 8.d4 isn't actually all that fearsome. [7...Bg4 (Luther) and 7...a6 transposes to mainlines that I know from my battles with Joseph Wan.]

**8.d4 exd4 9.cxd4 Bb6 10.h3** [10.0-0 Bg4=] **10...Ng6** [10...a5 and 10...Be6 are improvements (Luther). The computer recommends 10...Nc6!] **11.0-0 c6?! [Better is 11...Be6 or 11...Re8 12.Re1 Be6 13.Bxe6 Rxe6 14.e5±]**

**12.Re1 d5 13.e5** [13.exd5 Nxd5 was my intention (⊔13...cxd5=) 14.Ne4! (14.Nf1 Be6 15.Ne3 Qd7= was my main pv) 14...Ngf4 (14...Be6 15.Neg5 Re8) 15.Bxf4 Nxf4 16.Qd2 Bc7±]

**13...Nh5 14.Bc2 Nh4 15.Nf1 Bd7?** Artificial and cramping. As Luther pointed out after the game, playing this way confines my queen to the back-rank so that it can't skate back and forth as needed. The a-rook is 'trapped' as well. Black should consider 15...f6!?!; and 15...Ba5 was suggested by Luther. He was considering sac'ing the exchange with 16.Bxf4 Bxe1 (16...Nxf4! 17.Re3 f6=) 17.Bg5 Bxf2+ (17...f6! 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Bh6 Bb4!∞) 18.Kxf2 Qb6 and White has obvious compensation.

**16.Ng3 Qc8** [16...Ba5 17.Re3 Bb6 18.Bd2±] **17.Ng5 h6?!** I saw the Nh7-f6 ideas but didn't calculate them properly. At this point Luther already thought he was winning, and merely needed to avoid any dumb mistakes. Interestingly, he told me that he teaches his students what he calls the 'ten point rule,' i.e. your attack has a great chance of success if your attackers outnumber the defenders by 10 units. Here it's easy to see that White has all his pieces (save the a-rook) headed towards my King, while my defenders are lagging over on the queenside. If 17...Ne6 18.Be3 Nxc5 19.Bxc5 Be6±.

**18.Bxf4 Nxf4 19.Nh7 Re8** [I spent quite a long time calculating 19...Bxh3 20.gxh3 Qxh3 21.Qf3 g5 22.Nxf8 Bxd4 but this is just bunk. White simply plays 23.Nh7 and he's up material with a safe king. Black should probably just play 19...Qd8 or 19...Rd8.]

**20.Qd2 Ng6 21.Nf6+! gxf6?** [21...Kf8 Relatively better was 22.Nxe8 Qxe8 23.Nf5+/-] **22.Qxh6 Rxe5?** [I thought this saved me, but Black is pretty much lost no matter his response here.] **23.Bxc6 Rxe1+ 24.Rxe1 fxc6 25.Re7 1-0**

**(2) Hartmann, John (1770) – Krishnamurthy, Pranav (1466) [B42]**

Iowa Open (2), 25.08.2012 [Hartmann]

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Qc7 6.0-0 Nf6 7.Be3** [More mainline-ish is 7.Qe2 d6 8.c4]

**7...Be7 8.c4 d6 9.Nc3 Nbd7 10.b3 b6 11.Rc1 Nc5 12.Bb1 Bb7 13.f3 Rc8 14.Qd2 0-0 15.Rfd1 Rfd8 16.Qf2 Qb8 17.Qg3 Kh8 18.Qf2 h6 19.b4 Ncd7** [Black aimed for a Hedgehog position, and has played very well indeed. I'll be honest – I had no idea as to how to break his defenses down. This was the best I could come up with.]

**20.Na4?! d5?** [20...b5 21.cxb5 axb5 with the idea 22.Nxb5? Bc6 23.Rxc6 Rxc6]

**21.exd5 exd5 22.c5 bxc5 23.Nf5! Bf8 24.Nxc5 Nxc5 25.Bxc5**  
[△25.bxc5 Re8 26.Bd4 Re6±]

**25...Bxc5 26.bxc5 Qc7 27.Qc2?** [This move is a sign of very sloppy thinking on my part. The queen has no threats on c2 – there's no mate on h7! If she goes to d4, White threatens 28.Nh6, etc., and White has great chances. 27.Qh4 is more than acceptable as well.]

**27...Bc6 28.Nd6 Rb8 29.Qd3 Bb5 30.Qf5 Qd7 31.Qxd7?!** [My ugly addiction to time trouble begins to manifest itself.]

[Most sane people would play 31.Rxd5! Qxf5 (Δ31...Nxd5? 32.Qh7#) 32.Rxf5 Rd7 33.Nxb5 axb5 (33...Rxb5 34.c6 Rc7 35.Rxb5 axb5 36.Kf2) 34.c6 Rc7 35.Bd3±]

**31...Rxd7 32.Bf5?!** [This just sends him where he wants to go.]

**32...Rc7 33.Rd2?! Bc4 34.Rdc2** [34.Nxc4?! Rxc5 35.Rdc2 dxc4 36.Bd3=]

**34...Rxc5 35.Nxf7+! Kg8 36.Ne5** [36.Nd6 is better.]

**36...Re8 37.Nxc4** [37.f4 the slow move works in the endgame]

**37...dxc4 38.Rxc4??** [Didn't even look. Ugh. Either 38.g4 or 38.Bg6 leave White ever so slightly better.]

**38...Rxf5 39.Rc6 Ra5 40.R1c2 Re1+ 41.Kf2 Ra1 0-1**

**(3) Jetty,Milind (1523) – Hartmann,John (1770) [C78]**

Iowa Open (3), 25.08.2012 [*Hartmann*]

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Bc5 7.d3**  
[Very few people on my level, and on the levels above me, seem to play the main lines here.]

**7...d6 8.c3 0-0** [8...Bg4 is worth a punt.] **9.h3 h6 10.Re1** [and now Black has to make a decision about his bishop.]

**10...Be6** [10...Bb6 11.Nbd2 Ne7 12.Nf1 Ng6 13.Ng3 Re8=; 10...Bb7 11.Nbd2 Bb6 12.Nf1 Na5 13.Bc2 c5=; 10...Re8!? trying to stay flexi-



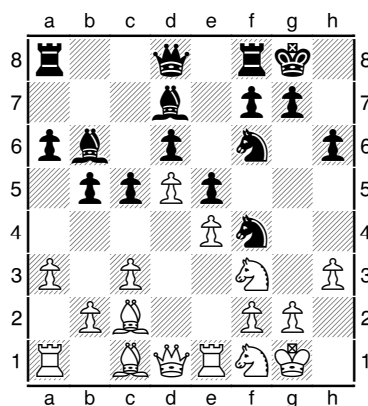
ble!]

**11.Bc2 Ne7** [11...d5 12.Nbd2 (12.d4 exd4 13.e5 Ne4 14.cxd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 Nxf2 16.Kxf2 Qh4+ 17.g3 Bxd4+ 18.Be3 Bxe3+ 19.Rxe3 Qxh3) 12...d4 13.Nb3 Bb6 14.cxd4 Nxd4 15.Nbxd4 exd4 16.Bb3 c5 0-1 Vasilyev,M (2267) –Onischuk,A (2666)/ Rockville 2012/CB31\_2012 (39)]

**12.Nbd2** [If 12.d4 exd4 13.cxd4 Bb6 14.Nc3 Ng6±]

**12...Ng6 13.d4 Bb6 14.a3** [14.dxe5?! dxe5⌘]

**14...c5 15.d5 Bd7 16.Nf1 Nf4?!** [This is actually not very good.]



**17.Ng3** [Better is 17.Bxf4 exf4 18.Qd2 (18.e5 dxe5 19.Nxe5) 18...g5 19.e5 dxe5 20.Rxe5 (20.Nxe5 c4) 20...Re8 21.Rxe8+ Nxe8±]

**17...Bxh3?!** [Objectively not the best, but it made for exciting chess!]

**18.gxh3 Nxh3+ 19.Kh2?** [19.Kg2 Ng4 and both my opponent and I missed 20.Re2! when White can repel the attack. 20...Nf4+ (20...c4 21.Kxh3 Nxf2+ 22.Rxf2 Bxf2+-) 21.Bxf4 exf4 22.Nh5 g6 23.Nxf4 c4 24.Qh1 Qf6 25.Kg3 h5+-]

**19...Ng4+** [19...Nxf2 also seems viable, i.e. 20.Qe2 c4 21.Nf5 N6g4+ 22.Kg3 Kh7∞]

**20.Kg2 Nhxf2** [On 20...Ngxf2 21.Qe2 c4 22.Nh1 Qd7 23.Nxf2 Nxf2 24.Be3 Bxe3 25.Qxe3 Ng4 26.Qg1 g6∞]

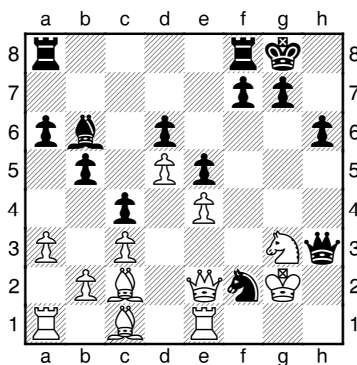
**21.Qe2 c4 22.Nh2?** [The kid cracks.]

[22.Nf5 Kh7 (22...Kh8 23.Rf1 Qf6 24.Nh2 Nxh2 25.Kxh2 g6 26.Ne3 Qh4+ 27.Kg2 Nxe4) 23.Rf1 g6 24.Ne3 Bxe3 25.Bxe3 Nxe3+ 26.Qxe3 Ng4 27.Qe2 Qe7∞]

**22...Nxh2?!** [This looks strong, but it allows White some miracle chances!]

**23.Kxh2?** [23.Nf5!! is like manna from heaven! Black must tread carefully here. After 23...Nhg4 24.Rh1 Kh7 25.Rh4 Black is still firmly ahead, but White hasn't been mated and is making Black work for the point.]

**23...Qh4+ 24.Kg2 Qh3+**



**25.Kf3 25...f5!!** [I don't often give myself double exclaims, but here I deserve it!]

[25...Qg4+ 26.Kg2 Qh3+ 27.Kf3 Qg4+ with the perpetual in hand. I knew that if I couldn't make 25...f5 work I could bail out with the draw.]

**26.Qf1?!** [26.exf5 e4+ (26...Rxf5+ was better, of course, i.e. 27.Bxf5 Rf8 28.Qc2 Nd3-+) 27.Bxe4 Rae8 was my main line, and White is almost in zugzwang. He has no good moves!]

**26...fxe4+ 27.Ke2 Qxg3** [27...Qg4+ 28.Kd2 Qf4+ 29.Ke2 Qf3+ 30.Kd2 e3+ 31.Rxe3 Qxe3#]

**28.Bxh6** [28.Bxe4 Nxe4 29.Kd1 Rxf1 30.Rxf1 Qd3+ 31.Ke1 Rf8! and mate is swiftly approaching.]

**28...Qf3+?!** [This wins, but there were quicker and cleaner paths.]

[28...Nd3 29.Kd2 (29.Bxd3 Qxd3#) 29...Rxf1 30.Rxf1 Qg2+ 31.Kd1

Qxf1+ 32.Kd2]

**29.Kd2 e3+** [Again, this is fine. I saw that the win was clear, but it's slow.]

[29...gxf6 30.Qg1+ Kh7! (30...Qg4 31.Qxg4+ Nxg4 32.Bxe4 Rf2+ was my main consideration) 31.Bxe4+ Nxe4+ and I missed that it was check. Black is just crushing. I was thinking that there was no reason to give the kid chances, so why take the bishop, open my king, etc.]

**30.Bxe3 Bxe3+** [30...Qxd5+ 31.Kc1 Nd3+ 32.Bxd3 Rxf1 33.Bxf1 Bxe3+ 34.Rxe3 Rf8 35.Re1 Rf2]

**31.Rxe3 Ne4+?! [31...Qxd5+! 32.Ke2 Nd3-+]**

**32.Bxe4 Qxf1 33.Rxf1 Rxf1** [and Black still has to work, but it shouldn't be hard work.]

**34.Ke2 Raf8 35.Kd2 R8f2+ 36.Re2 Rxe2+ 37.Kxe2 Rf4 38.Ke3 Kf7?! [38...Rxe4+ 39.Kxe4 is cleaner and should have been played immediately.]**

**39.Bf3 Rxf3+! 40.Kxf3 Kf6 41.Kg4 Kg6 42.Kg3 Kf5 43.Kf3 g5 44.Kg3 e4 45.Kf2 Kf4 46.Ke2 g4 47.Kf2 e3+ 48.Ke2 g3 49.Kf1 Kf3 50.Ke1 g2 51.Kd1 g1Q+ 52.Kc2 0-1**

**(4) Hartmann,John (1770) – Zhou,Franklin (1615) [B12]**

Iowa Open (4), 26.08.2012 [*Hartmann*]

**1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nd2** [Another of these new-fangled high-class waiting moves in the Advance Caro-Kann. The idea is to bring the knight to b3, inhibiting ...c5 for as long as possible.]

**4...e6 5.Nb3 Nd7 6.Nf3 Qc7 7.Be3 c5?! 8.Nxc5?! [8.dxc5 is more accurate, i.e. 8...Nxe5? (8...Bxc5 9.Nxc5 Nxc5 10.Bb5+ Kf8 11.0-0± Grischuk-Goeke, 2006; 8...a6!? 9.c4!?) 9.Nxe5 Qxe5 10.Bb5+ Kd8 11.0-0 Qxb2? 12.Qd2!+-]**

**8...Bxc5 9.dxc5 Nxe5 10.Nxe5 Qxe5 11.Bb5+ Ke7** [White has the bishops in a position that, if not quite open, is openish! Now the perennial problem of finding a plan arises. I decide to take the queens off and paint with technique.]

**12.Qd4?** [12.0-0! is vastly better, and if 12...Qxb2 (⊔12...Nf6 13.Bd4 Qc7 14.Bd3±) 13.Bd3! Qe5 14.Rb1 Kf8 15.Rxb7+-]

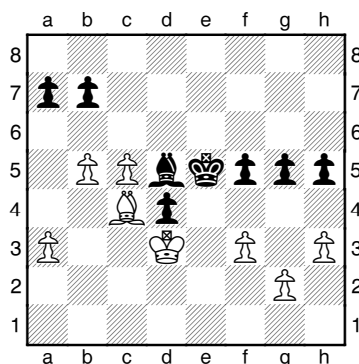
**12...Qxd4 13.Bxd4 f6 14.c3 Nh6 15.0-0 e5 16.Rfe1 Kf7 17.Be3 Rac8 18.h3 Rhd8 19.Rad1 Be6 20.a3?** [An ill-fated plan.] [20.g4! Ng8 21.f4 e4 22.f5 Bd7 23.Bxd7 Rxd7 24.c4 Rcd8 25.Rd4!]

**20...Nf5 21.b4 Nxe3 22.Rxe3 d4?!** [22...b6! 23.c6 a6 24.Bxa6 Rxc6 25.Bb5 Rc7 26.a4 =/±]

**23.cxd4 Rxd4 24.Red3 Rcd8 25.Rxd4 Rxd4 26.Rxd4 exd4** [So White is playing with a slight advantage against a nominally weaker player. That Black is a 1600 rated child isn't lost on me, of course; still, here I'm trying to figure out how to squeeze a win out of the position. One of the hardest things I've had to learn as I improve is that sometimes you just have to play good moves and wait for your opponent to give you chances. That was my hope here.]

**27.Kf1 Bd5 28.f3 Ke6 29.Ke2 h5** [Perhaps slightly committal. Something like 29...a6 seems wiser.] **30.Kd3** [30.h4!]

**30...Ke5 31.Bc4 g5?** [31...Bxc4+ 32.Kxc4 h4 33.b5 d3 34.Kxd3 Kd5 is dead equal.] **32.b5 f5**



How does White make progress? Ambitious players may want to cover the analysis and have a go at the position.

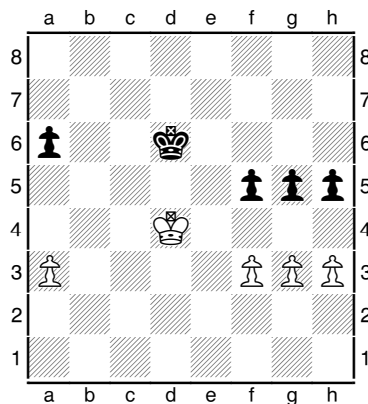
[32...h4 33.a4 Bxc4+ 34.Kxc4 d3 35.Kxd3 Kd5 36.c6 bxc6 37.bxc6 Kxc6 38.Ke4 Kc5 39.Kf5 Kb4 40.Kxf6 a5 41.Kxg5 Kxa4 42.f4+-; 32...Bxc4+ 33.Kxc4 d3 34.Kxd3 Kd5 35.c6 bxc6 36.bxc6 Kxc6 37.Ke4 Kd6 38.Kf5 Ke7 39.g3! Kf7 40.h4 gxh4 41.gxh4+-]

**33.Bxd5?** [After vowing to play more quickly after my round 2 debacle, I spent quite a bit of time here. Black had offered a draw,

I think, somewhere around here, and before accepting I thought I should try to burst my brain and calculate as far as I could. Here my brain and my calculating abilities failed me.]

[33.h4!! is a problem-like win. Play follows 33...Bxc4+ (33...gxh4? 34.f4+ Ke6 (34...Kxf4 35.Bxd5) 35.Kxd4 Bxc4 36.Kxc4 Kd7 37.Kd5+-) 34.Kxc4 gxh4 35.c6 bxc6 36.bxc6 Kd6 37.Kxd4 Kxc6 38.Ke5+-]

**33...Kxd5 34.c6 bxc6 35.bxc6 Kxc6 36.Kxd4 Kd6 37.g3 a6**



Here I offered Black the draw. I calculated the pawn races correctly, seeing that White's chances were minimal at best. Still, I probably should have played it out, as Black has to make accurate moves to obtain the draw.

[37...a6 38.a4 (38.h4 f4 39.hxg5 fxg3 40.Ke3 h4=; 38.f4 gxf4 39.gxf4 h4 40.a4 a5 41.Kc4 Kc6 42.Kd4 Kd6=) 38...a5 39.h4 f4! I think I underestimated this move during the game, but it still devolves to a draw. (39...gxh4?! 40.gxh4 f4 41.Ke4 Kc5 42.Kxf4 Kb4 43.Kg5 Kxa4 44.f4 Kb3 (44...Kb5 45.f5 a4 46.f6 a3 47.f7 a2 48.f8Q a1Q 49.Qe8+ Kc5 50.Qe7+ Kd5 51.Qf7+ Kd6±) 45.f5 a4 46.f6 a3 47.f7 a2 48.f8Q a1Q 49.Qf3+ Kb4 50.Qe4+ (50.Qxh5? Qe5+ 51.Kg4 Qd4+=) 50...Kc5 51.Qe3+± and the ending is objectively drawn, but not easily so.) 40.gxf4 (40.hxg5! fxg3 41.Ke3 h4 42.f4 Ke6 43.g6 Kf6 44.f5 h3 45.Kf3 g2 46.Kf2=) 40...gxf4 (40...gxh4 41.Ke3 Kd5 42.Kf2 Kd4 43.Kg2 Kd5 44.Kh3 Ke6 45.Kxh4 Kf5 46.Kxh5 Kxf4 47.Kg6 Kxf3 48.Kf5 Ke3 49.Ke5 Kd3 50.Kd5 Kc3 51.Kc5 Kd3! 52.Kb5 Kd4 53.Kxa5 Kc5=; 40...g4?? 41.fxg4 hxg4 42.h5+-) 41.Ke4 Kc5 42.Kxf4 Kb4 43.Kg5 Kxa4 44.f4 Kb3 45.f5 a4 46.f6 a3 47.f7 a2 48.f8Q a1Q±] ½-½

**(5) Thangavel,Gokul (1403) – Hartmann,John (1770)  
[C47]**

Iowa Open (5), 26.08.2012 [*Hartmann*]

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.d4 exd4 5.Nxd4 Bb4 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.Bg5!?** [After the game, my opponent told me that this move – which I'd never seen – was shown to him by his teacher, who himself is a student of Cyrus Lakawanda. Lakawanda, you may recall, just wrote a book on the Four Knights.]

[7.Bd3 d5 8.exd5 cxd5 9.0-0 0-0 10.Bg5 c6 11.Qf3 Be7 (11...Bd6 12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Qxf6 gxf6) ]

**7...Qe7 8.Bd3 d5?!** [Both 8...Qe5 and 8...h6! seem to be improvements over the text.]

**9.0-0 0-0 10.exd5** [10.Re1 Qe5 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.exd5 Bxc3 13.bxc3 Qxc3 14.dxc6 Be6±] **10...Bxc3 11.bxc3 cxd5**

[11...Qe5 12.Bxf6 Qxf6 and now **a)** 13.Qd2 cxd5=; **b)** 13.dxc6 Qxc6 (13...Qxc3 14.Qf3 g6 15.Rab1 Re8) 14.Re1 Rb8 15.Qh5 g6 16.Qa5 Be6±; **c)** 13.c4 cxd5 14.cxd5 c6 15.c4 Rd8 16.Re1 cxd5 17.cxd5 g6 18.Be4 Rb8±]

**12.Qf3 c6 13.Bxf6 Qxf6 14.Qxf6 gxf6 15.Rfe1 Be6 16.Rab1 Rab8 17.f3 Kg7** [17...c5 just looks equal.] **18.Rb3** As in the last round, I'm faced with a fairly common problem. I'm facing a lower-rated player, but he has the advantage in a rather dry position. Do I simply sit and wait for him to incrementally improve, or do I try to complicate and confuse him? **18...d4?!** I go for complications.

[18...c5 19.Reb1 Rbe8! 20.Rb7 c4 21.Bf1 a6 22.R7b6 (22.R1b6 Bc8 23.Rc7 Re3) 22...Bc8 is equalish, but definitely unpleasant.]

**19.c4** [A good practical choice.]

[19.Rxb8 Rxb8 20.cxd4 Rb2 21.Ra1 Bxa2 (21...Rxa2 22.Rxa2 Bxa2±) 22.Be4 Bd5! (22...Rb1+?!) 23.Bxd5 cxd5 24.Rxa7 Rxc2 25.Ra5 Rd2 26.Rxd5 f5 27.Rxf5 Rxd4±; 19.cxd4 Bxb3 20.axb3 Rfd8 21.Re4 a5±]

**19...Rxb3 20.axb3!** [20.cxb3 c5=] **20...c5?!** [This makes things a little harder on me than is necessary. Defending the a7 pawn with either ...Rb8-b7 or ...Rc8-c7 is probably wiser.] **21.Ra1 Rc8 22.Rxa7** and the kid, probably already counting his rating points, was kind enough to offer a draw. I really thought he should have played on, but I was happy to take the half point.

[After 22.Rxa7 play might follow 22...f5 23.h4 (23.f4!? is probably an improvement) 23...f4! (23...h5 24.f4 Kf6 25.Be2 Kg6) 24.Kf2 h5 and while it's hard to see how White makes real progress, Black is also definitely worse.]

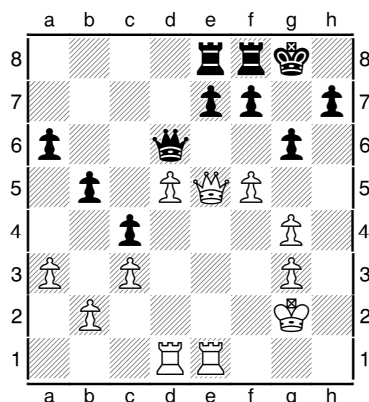
1/2-1/2

## Games Galore

### (3) Wan, Joseph (1847) - Keating, Robert (2207) [B06]

Midwest Team Tournament (1), 29.09.2012

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nf3 d6 4.Nc3 a6 5.Bd3 Nd7 6.0-0 b5 7.a3 Bb7  
8.Be3 c5 9.Qd2 Qc7 10.h3 c4 11.Be2 Ngf6 12.d5 Nc5 13.Bxc5 Qxc5  
14.Rad1 0-0 15.Nd4 Rad8 16.Bf3 Nd7 17.Na2 Qc7 18.Nb4 Ne5  
19.Be2 Qc5 20.c3 Bc8 21.Nbc6 Nxc6 22.Nxc6 Rde8 23.Rfe1 Bd7  
24.Nd4 Rd8 25.Bg4 Bxg4 26.hxg4 Qc8 27.Nc6 Rde8 28.Qg5 Qd7  
29.e5 dxe5 30.Nxe5 Bxe5 31.Qxe5 Qd6 32.f4 Qc5+ 33.Kf1 Qd6 34.g3  
Qd7 35.f5 Qd6 36.Kg2 ½-½ Final Position below. An excellent result  
from Joseph Wan. Keating is the current (I think) and many time Iowa  
State Champion.



### (2) Jiles, David (1987) - O'Connor, Tom (1948) [A00]

Midwest Team Tournament (1), 29.09.2012

1.c3 e5 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.d4 e4 5.Bg5 Be7 6.c4 c6 7.Nc3 h6 8.Bxf6  
Bxf6 9.e3 0-0 10.cxd5 cxd5 11.Qb3 Be6 12.Nge2 Nc6 13.0-0 Na5  
14.Qc2 Rc8 15.b3 Be7 16.Qb2 Bd6 17.Rfc1 a6 18.Nf4 Bxf4 19.exf4  
Nc6 20.Rd1 Qf6 21.Qd2 Rfd8 22.h3 Nxd4 23.Qxd4 Qxd4 24.Rxd4  
Rxc3 25.Bxe4 ½-½

### (16) Linscott, John (1913) - Jiles, David (1987) [C12]

Midwest Team Tournament (3), 29.09.2012

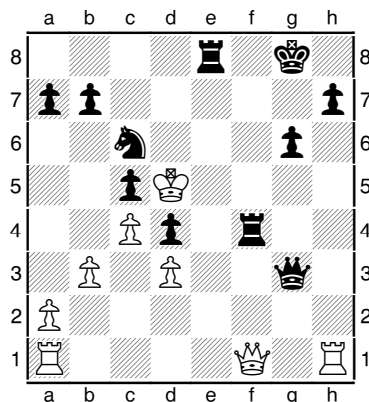
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Nf6 5.Bg5 dxe4 6.a3 Be7 7.Ng3  
Nbd7 8.Ngxe4 Nxe4 9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.Nxe4 Nf6 11.Qf3 Nxe4 12.Qxe4  
c6 13.Be2 0-0 14.0-0 Bd7 15.Rfe1 Rad8 16.Rad1 Bc8 17.c4 Qc7  
18.Bf1 b6 19.g3 c5 20.Bg2 cxd4 21.Rxd4 Rxd4 22.Qxd4 Rd8 23.Qc3  
Bb7 24.Bxb7 Qxb7 25.b4 h6 26.c5 bxc5 ½-½



(5) Jian, Chirag (1119) - Hansen, Mark (1419) [A38]

Midwest Team Tournament (2), 29.09.2012

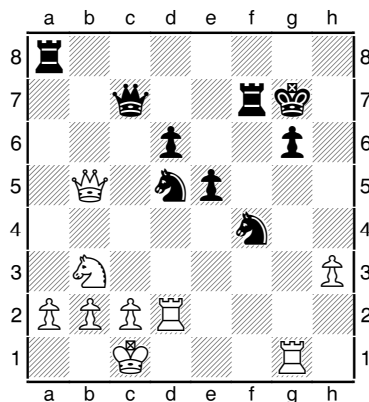
1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 c5 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.e3 d5 7.d3 d4 8.Ne2 e5 9.e4 0-0 10.0-0 Be6 11.b3 Qd7 12.h3 Bxh3 13.Bxh3 Qxh3 14.Ng5 Qd7 15.Nf3 Nh5 16.Nh4 Bf6 17.f4 Bxh4 18.gxh4 Qg4+ 19.Kf2 Qxh4+ 20.Kf3 f5 21.Rh1 fxe4+ 22.Kxe4 Ng3+ 23.Nxg3 Qxg3 24.Qf1 exf4 25.Bxf4 Rae8+ 26.Kd5 Rxf4 and the remaining moves cannot be reconstructed. 0-1



(1) Hartmann, John (1742) - Wagner, Jacob (2007) [B90]

Midwest Team Tournament (1), 29.09.2012

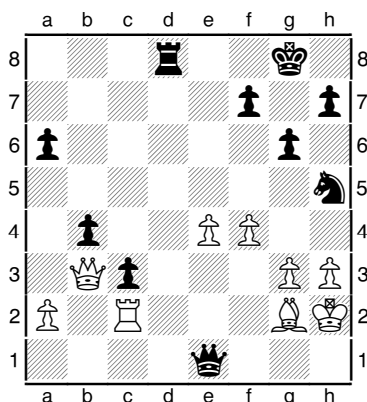
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Qf3 Nbd7 7.h3 Qb6 8.Nb3 g6 9.Be3 Qc7 10.g4 Bg7 11.g5 Nh5 12.Bd4 0-0 13.Bxg7 Kxg7 14.0-0-0 Ne5 15.Qe3 Be6 16.f4 Nc4 17.Qd4+ f6 18.f5 Bg8 19.Rg1 Rac8 20.gxf6+ Rxf6 21.fxg6 hxg6 22.Rd3 e5 23.Qa7 Nb6 24.Na5 Rb8 25.Nd5 Bxd5 26.exd5 Rbf8 27.Be2 Nf4 28.Rd2 R6f7 29.Bxa6 bxa6 30.Qxa6 Ra8 31.Qb5 Nbx5 32.Nb3 plus unrecorded moves resulting in perpetual check. 1/2-1/2



(10) Erickson, Alek (1447) - Kappel, Ray (1712) [E62]

Midwest Team Tournament (3), 29.09.2012

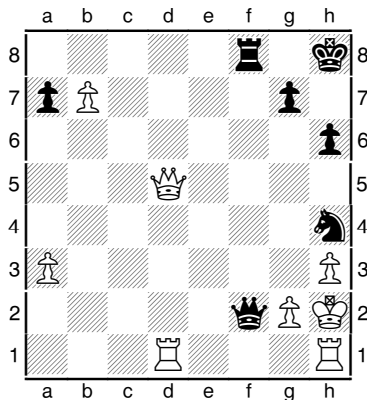
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.g3 0-0 5.Bg2 d6 6.0-0 Bg4 7.Nc3 Nbd7  
8.Bf4 a6 9.Re1 Re8 10.h3 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 Rb8 12.Qd2 e5 13.dxe5 Nxe5  
14.Bg2 Nxc4 15.Qc2 Nh5 16.Bd2 Nxd2 17.Qxd2 c6 18.e4 Nf6  
19.Rad1 Qb6 20.b3 Nh5 21.Na4 Qc7 22.Kh2 b5 23.Nb2 c5 24.Re2  
Bd4 25.Nd3 b4 26.Nb2 Qe7 27.f3 d5 28.Nd3 Bc3 29.Qe3 c4 30.bxc4  
dxc4 31.Nc5 Qc7 32.Rd7 Qb6 33.Qg5 Bf6 34.Qd5 Be7 35.Rxe7 Rxe7  
36.Nd7 Rxd7 37.Qxd7 c3 38.Rc2 Rd8 39.Qa4 Qd6 40.f4 Qd1 41.Qb3  
Qe1 0-1 Final Position below.



(14) Keating, Robert (2207) - Fabrikant, Ben (2005) [C18]

Midwest Team Tournament (3), 29.09.2012

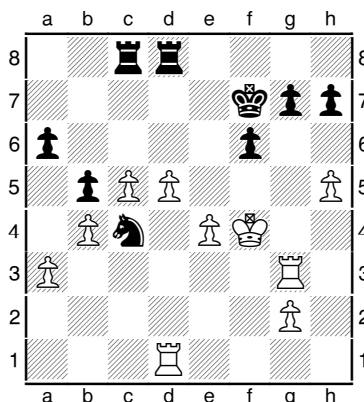
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0  
8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Qh4 h6 11.dxc5 e5 12.Qa4 Nbc6 13.Be3 Nf5  
14.Bxf5 Bxf5 15.Ne2 Na5 16.f3 Nc4 17.Bf2 e4 18.fxe4 Bg4 19.Nd4  
Rxf2 20.Kxf2 Qh4+ 21.Kg1 Rf8 22.Nf5 Bxf5 23.exf5 Qf4 24.h3 Qxf5  
25.c6 Ne3 26.Qh4 Qxc2 27.Qg3 Nf5 28.Qf3 Nh4 29.Qxd5+ Kh8  
30.cxb7 Qxc3 31.Rd1 Qe3+ 32.Kh2 Qf4+ 33.Kg1 Qf2+ 34.Kh2 Qf4+  
35.Kg1 Qf2+ 36.Kh2 1/2-1/2



**(24) Dutiel, Tony (1828) - Linscott, John (1913) [C27]**

Midwest Team Tournament (4), 30.09.2012

**1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bc4 Nxe4 4.Qh5 Nd6 5.Qxe5+ Qe7 6.Qxe7+ Bxe7 7.Bd5 c6 8.Bf3 0-0 9.Nge2 Nc4 10.d4 d5 11.0-0 Bf5 12.Nxd5 cxd5 13.Bxd5 Nd6 14.c4 Nc6 15.Be3 Be4 16.Bxe4 Nxe4 17.Rac1 b6 18.Rfd1 Rfd8 19.a3 Bg5 20.Kf1 Bxe3 21.fxe3 Ne7 22.Nc3 Nxc3 23.Rxc3 Rac8 24.e4 f6 25.b4 Nc6 26.Rcd3 a6 27.Kf2 Kf8 28.Kf3 Ne7 29.Rc3 Ng6 30.Ke3 Ne5 31.c5 b5 32.h4 Nc4+ 33.Kf4 Kf7 34.d5 Ne5 35.h5 Nc4 36.Rg3 Ne5 37.Rh3 Nc4 38.Rg3 ½-½** Final Position below



**(22) Crouse, Tim (1813) - Erickson, Alek (1447) [B18]**

Midwest Team Tournament (4), 30.09.2012

**1.Nc3 c6 2.e4 d5 3.d4 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.Bc4 e6 7.N1e2 Nd7 8.0-0 Bd6 9.Nf4 Ne7 10.Qe2 Qc7 11.Nxg6 Nxg6 12.d5 cxd5 13.Bxd5 0-0 14.Be4 Nf6 15.Bxg6 hxg6 16.c4 Rac8 17.b3 Be5 18.Rb1 Rfd8 19.Be3 Bd4 20.Rfd1 Bxe3 21.Qxe3 Qa5 22.a4 b6 23.Rd4 e5 24.Rd3 Qc5 25.Qxc5 bxc5 26.Rbd1 Rd4 27.Ne2 Rxd3 28.Rxd3 Kf8 29.Nc3 Ke7 30.Kf1 a6 31.f3 Rc6 32.Re3 Nd7 33.f4 f6 34.fxe5 Nxe5 35.Nd5+ ½-½**

**(25) Fabrikant, Ben (2005) - Gradsky, Benjamin (2092) [C45]**

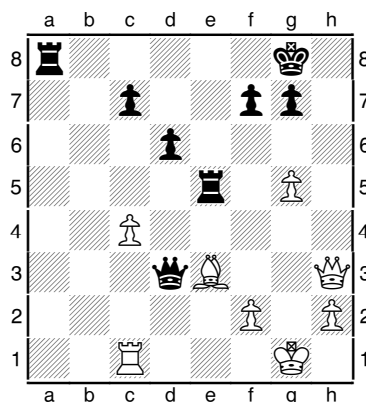
Midwest Team Tournament (4), 30.09.2012

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Qh4 5.Nf3 Qxe4+ 6.Be2 Nf6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Nc3 Qf5 9.Nb5 0-0 10.Bd3 Qh5 11.Nxc7 Rb8 12.Bf4 d6 13.Re1 Bg4 14.Nb5 Ne5 15.Be2 Rfd8 16.Nxa7 Kf8 17.a4 Nxf3+ 18.Bxf3 Bxf3 19.Qxf3 Qxf3 20.gxf3 Nd5 21.Bg3 Bf6 22.Rad1 Ra8 23.Rxd5 Rxa7 24.Bxd6+ Kg8 25.b3 h6 26.c4 Ra6 ½-½**

**(32) Reeves, Neil (1896) - Abdul-Mujeeb, Numan (1647) [A29]**

Midwest Team Tournament (4), 30.09.2012

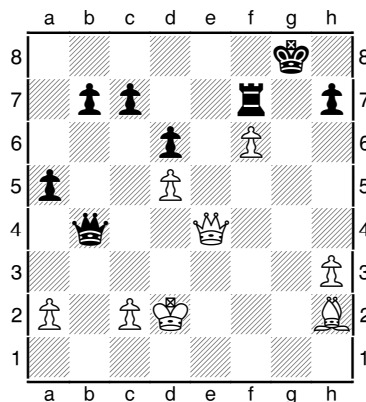
**1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 d6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 Nc6 5.Bg2 Be6 6.d3 Be7 7.0-0 h6  
8.a3 Qd7 9.b4 Rd8 10.b5 Nd4 11.Nxd4 exd4 12.Bxb7 0-0 13.Nd5  
Nxd5 14.Bxd5 Bh3 15.Re1 h5 16.e3 dxe3 17.Bxe3 Bf6 18.Ra2 Bc3  
19.Bxa7 Bxe1 20.Qxe1 Rde8 21.Be3 Qf5 22.Qb1 Re5 23.Bg2 Bxg2  
24.Kxg2 h4 25.Qd1 h3+ 26.Kg1 Qf6 27.Qf3 Rxb5 28.Kf1 Rf5  
29.Qe4 Re5 30.Qh4 Rfe8 31.Re2 Rb8 32.Re1 Qf5 33.Kg1 Ra8 34.g4  
Qxd3 35.Qxh3 Rxa3 36.g5 Ra8 37.Rc1 0-1** Final Position below.



**(31) O'Connor, Tom (1948) - Hartmann, John (1742) [C40]**

Midwest Team Tournament (4), 30.09.2012

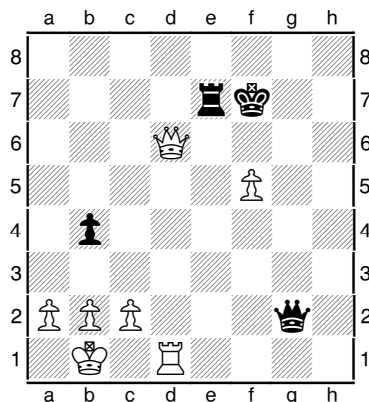
**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Nxe5 Qf6 4.d4 d6 5.Nc4 fxe4 6.Nc3 Qg6 7.d5 Be7  
8.Qd4 Nf6 9.Bf4 0-0 10.0-0-0 Na6 11.Be2 Bd7 12.Ne3 Nc5 13.f3  
Ng4 14.Bg3 Bf6 15.Qd2 Nxe3 16.Qxe3 Rae8 17.f4 Bg4 18.Bxg4  
Qxg4 19.h3 Qg6 20.Nb5 Rf7 21.Rhf1 a6 22.Nd4 Bxd4 23.Rxd4 Qf5  
24.Bh2 Qd7 25.Re1 a5 26.g4 Qb5 27.f5 Rfe7 28.g5 Nd3+ 29.Kd2  
Nxe1 30.Kxe1 Qxb2 31.f6 gxf6 32.gxf6 Rf7 33.Rxe4 Qb1+ 34.Kd2  
Rxe4 35.Qxe4 Qb4+ 0-1**



**(30) Neal, James (1860) - Khots, Boris (2030) [B77]**

Midwest Team Tournament (4), 30.09.2012

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0–0 8.Bc4 Nc6 9.Qd2 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 Be6 11.Bxe6 fxe6 12.0–0–0 a6 13.Kb1 e5 14.Be3 b5 15.h4 b4 16.Nd5 a5 17.Nxf6+ Bxf6 18.h5 Rc8 19.hxg6 hxg6 20.Qd5+ Rf7 21.Rh6 Qc7 22.Rxg6+ Kf8 23.Bh6+ Bg7 24.Qd2 Bxh6 25.Qxh6+ Ke8 26.Rg8+ Kd7 27.Qh3+ e6 28.Rxc8 Qxc8 29.Qh5 Ke7 30.Qg5+ Kd7 31.Qxe5 Qc7 32.Qb5+ Ke7 33.Qg5+ Kd7 34.f4 Qc4 35.Qe5 Qc6 36.f5 exf5 37.exf5 Re7 38.Qxa5 Qxg2 39.Qa7+ Ke8 40.Qb8+ Kf7 41.Qxd6 1–0 Final Position below.**



**(28) Knapp, Joseph (2054) - Keating, Robert (2207) [B06]**

Midwest Team Tournament (4), 30.09.2012

**1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Be3 d6 4.Nc3 a6 5.Qd2 Nd7 6.f4 b5 7.Be2 Bb7 8.Bf3 Qc8 9.Nge2 Nb6 10.b3 Nf6 11.d5 b4 12.Na4 Nxa4 13.bxa4 Nxe4 14.Qd1 Nc3 15.Nxc3 Bxc3+ 16.Bd2 Bxa1 17.Qxa1 0–0 18.Bxb4 c5 19.Bc3 Qf5 20.Bg7 Rfe8 21.Bh6 Qf6 22.Qxf6 exf6+ 23.Kd2 Bc8 24.h4 Rb8 25.Be2 f5 26.Bg5 Kg7 27.h5 f6 28.Bh4 Re4 29.h6+ Kf7 30.Rh3 Rxa4 31.a3 Rxf4 32.Re3 0–1**

**(20) Wan, Joseph (1847) - Knapp, Joseph (2054) [B75]**

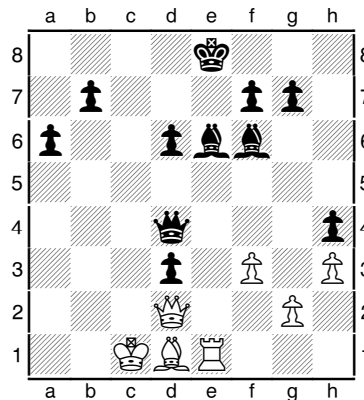
Midwest Team Tournament (3), 29.09.2012

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 a6 8.Qd2 Nbd7 9.Be2 b5 10.a3 Bb7 11.Rd1 Rc8 12.0–0 h5 13.Nb3 Ne5 14.Bd4 Nc4 15.Bxc4 bxc4 16.Nc1 0–0 17.N1e2 Qc7 18.Qg5 Kh7 19.Nd5 Bxd5 20.exd5 Bh6 21.Qh4 Nxd5 22.Qe4 Qc6 23.Ng3 Ne3 24.Bxe3 Qxe4 25.Nxe4 Bxe3+ 26.Kh1 Rc6 27.Rfe1 Bh6 28.Rd5 Rb8 29.Ng5+ Bxg5 30.Rxg5 Rxb2 31.Rc1 Rcb6 32.h3 R6b5 33.Rg3 Rb1 34.Rg1 d5 35.f4 d4 36.Rf3 d3 37.cxd3 c3 38.Rf2 Rxg1+ 39.Kxg1 Rb2 0–1**

**(43) Saleem, Arshaq (1825) - Wagner, Jacob (2007) [B90]**

Midwest Team Tournament (5), 30.09.2012

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f3 e5 7.Nb3 Be6  
8.Be3 h5 9.Qd2 Nbd7 10.0-0-0 Rc8 11.Kb1 Qc7 12.h3 h4 13.Bg5  
Be7 14.Be2 Qb8 15.Rhe1 Rxc3 16.bxc3 Qc7 17.Ka1 Rh5 18.Qe3  
Rxc3 19.Qxc3 Nxe4 20.Qe3 Nxc3 21.Rd3 Nxa2 22.Kxa2 Qxc2+  
23.Ka1 e4 24.Rd2 Bf6+ 25.Nd4 Qa4+ 26.Kb1 Qb4+ 27.Kc2 Qa4+  
28.Kb1 Nc5 29.Bd1 Qb4+ 30.Kc1 Nd3+ 31.Rxd3 exd3 32.Qd2  
Qxd4 0-1** Final Position below.



**(44) Stepp, John (1775) - Hansen, Mark (1419) [C28]**

Midwest Team Tournament (5), 30.09.2012

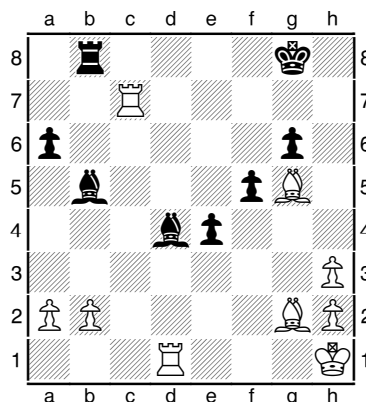
**1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.d3 Bb4 5.Nf3 d5 6.exd5 Bxc3+  
7.bxc3 Nxd5 8.0-0 Nxc3 9.Qe1 Na4 10.Ba3 Bg4 11.Bb5 Bxf3  
12.gxf3 Qg5+ 13.Kh1 Nb6 14.Qe4 0-0-0 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.Qxc6  
Rd4 17.Rg1 Qh5 18.Bc5 Rh4 19.Rg2 Kb8 20.Rb1 f6 21.a4 Qe8  
22.Qxe8+ Rxe8 23.a5 Rc8 24.axb6 cxb6 25.Bd6+ Kb7 26.Rxc7+  
Kc6 27.Bxe5 fxe5 28.Rxa7 Rf4 29.Rxh7 b5 30.Rh5 Re8 31.Re1 Kd5  
32.Re3 b4 33.Kg2 Rg8+ 34.Kf1 Re8 35.Ke2 Kd4 36.Kd2 e4 37.dxe4  
Kc4 38.h4 Rd8+ 39.Ke2 Rd4 40.Rh8 Kb5 41.h5 Rh4 42.h6 Rh1  
43.h7 Rhd1 44.Rb8+ Ka4 45.h8Q?? R4d2# 0-1** This game was a  
tragedy for John who was winning the contest but made a rash move  
costing him the game. However, John's teammate's prevailed in their  
games allowing John's team to win the RCR team championship.

One of the greatest “moments” I’ve experienced in tournament chess,  
was to observe John smiling and clapping wildly when Mike Gooch,  
RCR organizer and director, announced during the awards ceremony,  
the name of the second place team. John realized (at that moment) his  
team, **The Linscott Team**, had finished in 1st place. The image of  
John was priceless. -Kent Nelson-Ed.

**(39) Knapp, Joseph (2054) - Neal, James (1860) [B22]**

Midwest Team Tournament (5), 30.09.2012

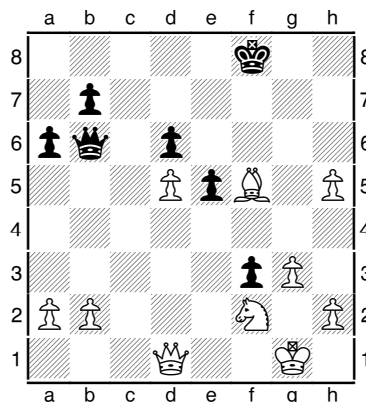
**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c3 Nf6 4.e5 Nd5 5.d4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Qc7 7.f4 a6  
8.Be2 d6 9.c4 Nb6 10.0-0 dxe5 11.fxe5 Bc5 12.Kh1 Qxe5 13.Nf3 Qd6  
14.Qc2 Nc6 15.Nc3 Nd4 16.Nxd4 Bxd4 17.Ne4 Qe7 18.c5 0-0  
19.cxb6 h6 20.Bf4 e5 21.Bxh6 f5 22.Bg5 Qe8 23.Nd6 Qd7 24.Bc4+  
Kh8 25.Qd3 g6 26.Qh3+ Qh7 27.Nf7+ Rxf7 28.Bxf7 Qxh3 29.Bf6+  
Kh7 30.gxh3 Bd7 31.Bd5 Rf8 32.Bg5 Bxb6 33.Bxb7 Rb8 34.Bg2 Bd4  
35.Rab1 Bb5 36.Rfc1 e4 37.Rc7+ Kg8 38.Rd1** and the remaining  
moves cannot be reconstructed. **1-0** Position after 38 Rd1 is below.



**(37) Gradsky, Benjamin (2092) - Keating, Robert (2207) [E99]**

Midwest Team Tournament (5), 30.09.2012

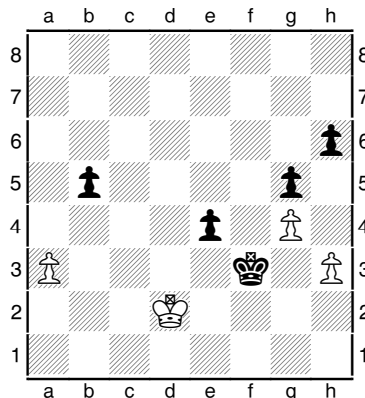
**1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Nf3 e5 7.0-0 Nc6  
8.d5 Ne7 9.Ne1 Nd7 10.Be3 f5 11.f3 f4 12.Bf2 g5 13.Nd3 Ng6 14.c5  
Nf6 15.Rc1 Rf7 16.cxd6 cxd6 17.Nb5 a6 18.Nc3 h5 19.Na4 g4  
20.Nb6 g3 21.Nxa8 gxf2+ 22.Rxf2 Bg4 23.fxg4 Nxe4 24.gxh5 Nxf2  
25.Nxf2 Nh4 26.Bg4 Qg5 27.Nc7 f3 28.Ne6 Qe3 29.g3 Nf5 30.Rc3  
Qb6 31.Rc8+ Bf8 32.Nxf8 Rxf8 33.Rxf8+ Kxf8 34.Bxf5 1-0**



**(35) Dibley, Charles (1482) - Reeves, Neil (1896) [B02]**

Midwest Team Tournament (5), 30.09.2012

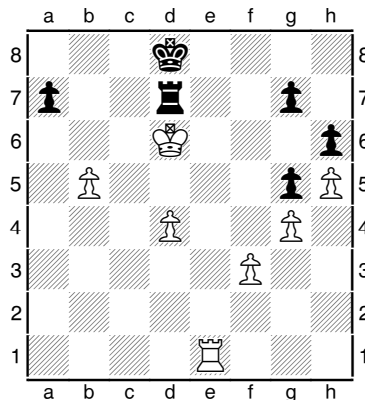
**1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nxd5 4.Nxd5 Qxd5 5.Qf3 Qxf3 6.Nxf3 Nc6  
7.Bb5 Bd7 8.0-0 f6 9.d4 0-0-0 10.c3 a6 11.Ba4 Na5 12.Bxd7+ Rxd7  
13.Bf4 g5 14.Bg3 Nc6 15.Rad1 Bg7 16.Rfe1 h6 17.d5 Rhd8 18.c4 b5  
19.cxb5 axb5 20.Rc1 Ne5 21.Bxe5 fxe5 22.Nxe5 Bxe5 23.Rxe5 Rxd5  
24.Rxd5 Rxd5 25.Re1 Rd2 26.g3 Kd7 27.Rb1 c5 28.a3 c4 29.Kg2 e5  
30.Kf3 Ke6 31.Ke3 Rd3+ 32.Ke4 Rb3 33.h3 c3 34.Kd3 cxb2+ 35.Kc2  
Rf3 36.Rxb2 Rxf2+ 37.Kc3 Rxb2 38.Kxb2 Kd5 39.Kc3 Ke4 40.Kd2  
Kf3 41.g4 e4 0-1** Final Position below. **Charles Dibley** is a tough player.  
I found this out the hard way as Charles beat me in the 4th round.



**(34) Crouse, Tim (1813) - Blazek, George (1566) [D01]**

Midwest Team Tournament (5), 30.09.2012

**1.Nc3 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.d4 Bf5 4.Bg5 e6 5.e3 Be7 6.Ne5 Nbd7 7.g4 Bg6  
8.h4 h6 9.Nxg6 fxg6 10.Bf4 Bb4 11.Qd3 Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Kf7 13.h5 g5  
14.Qg6+ Kf8 15.Bh2 Qe8 16.Qxe8+ Nxe8 17.Rb1 Nb6 18.Bd3 Nd6  
19.Bxd6+ cxd6 20.Rb5 Ke7 21.a4 Rab8 22.Rb4 Rbc8 23.Kd2 Nc4+  
24.Bxc4 Rxc4 25.Rhb1 Rxb4 26.cxb4 b5 27.axb5 Rxb5 28.Ra1 Rb7  
29.b5 e5 30.f3 Kd7 31.Kd3 Ke7 32.c4 dxc4+ 33.Kxc4 exd4 34.exd4  
Rd7 35.Kd5 Rc7 36.Re1+ Kd8 37.Kxd6 Rd7+ 1-0**

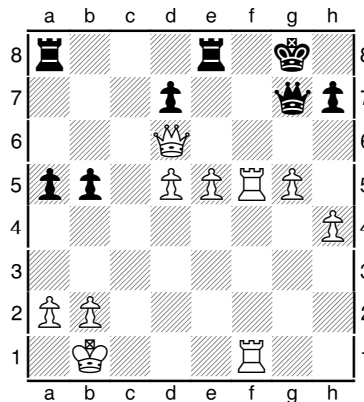




(33) Slominski, Jerry (1907) - Wan, Joseph (1847) [A40]

Midwest Team Tournament (4), 30.09.2012

1.c4 b6 2.Nc3 Bb7 3.e4 e6 4.d4 Bb4 5.Qc2 Ne7 6.Nf3 f5 7.Bd3 0-0 8.Bd2 Qe8 9.0-0-0 Qg6 10.exf5 exf5 11.Rhg1 a5 12.Ne5 Qf6 13.Kb1 Nec6 14.Nd5 Qd8 15.Be3 Nxe5 16.dxe5 Bxd5 17.cxd5 g6 18.Bh6 Re8 19.f4 Bc5 20.Rgf1 Bf8 21.Bg5 Be7 22.g4 Bxg5 23.fxg5 Qe7 24.gxf5 gxf5 25.Rxf5 Qg7 26.Qxc7 Na6 27.Bxa6 Rxa6 28.Qd6 Raa8 29.Re1 b5 30.h4 Rf8 31.Ref1 Rfe8 1-0 Final Position below.



Here is a game submitted by John Stepp. Win, lose or draw, John always gives me copies of his games for publication. Notes are from him.

**John Stepp –C. Jain**

Midwest Team Tournament

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Be3 Qb6 6.Qd2 Be7 7.Nf3 f6 8.Be2 Bd7 9.0-0 0-0-0 10.dxc5 (1) Bxc5 11.Bxc5 Qxc5 12.b4 Qe7 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.a4 a6 15.b5 axb5 16.axb5 Nb8 17.Qb2 Ne4 18.c4 (2) Qc5 19.cxd5 Qxd5 20.Rc1+ Nc5 21.Nbd2 Kc7 22.Rxc5+ Qxc5 23.Rc1 Qxc1+ 24.Qxc1+ Kd6 25.Qa3+ Kc7 26.h3 (4) Rhf8 27.Qc5+ Nc6 28.Nc4 b6 29.Qxb6+ Kc8 30.Nd6# 1-0

1. This treatment was unthinkable 10 years ago for me. Played this after studying 100's of games.
2. Open up the attack!
3. This is result of insight developed after 10 years of preparation.
4. Safety first!

## **The Hunt for Kevin W. Fleming**

by  
Kent B. Nelson

Many of us old timers dating back to the 1980's may recall Kevin Fleming as a man of all seasons. Kevin was a 5 time Nebraska State Chess Champion, a 2 time Lincoln City Champion, an active tournament director and organizer, *Gambit* editor and he served as the President of the Nebraska State Chess Association, plus much more.

I remember Kevin as a Robert Redford lookalike, an endgame specialist and a true ambassador and gentleman of the game.

I also remember Kevin for the number of tournaments he stopped me from winning.

Then, what appeared as happening overnight, Kevin was gone. He moved to Texas in 2002.

He played tournament chess in Texas. He stopped in 2007.

He has not been seen or heard of since. No contact even with his chess friends.

So what happened to Kevin Fleming? With the title of this article that Kevin himself might appreciate, (Kevin being a former submariner and an avid reader including Tom Clancy novels I'm sure), I decided to find out.

First, I started with the USCF membership page. No recorded rated tournament game since 2007. No follow up response from USCF in helping me locate Kevin.

How about Facebook then? There is a ton of Kevin Flemings listed. No luck there. Kevin in my opinion, isn't the type of guy who would be on Facebook. I would love it if I was wrong about this.

Okay, here is a plan. I'll contact Daa and Matt Mahowald. Matt and Daa were friends of Kevin. Working and competing in Nebraska tournaments in the 1980's they did a lot for Nebraska chess. I recently

had the pleasure of contacting Daa which I documented in the News and Notes section. Here is what Daa said about Kevin.

*As per your query about Kevin Fleming:*

*No, Matt and I haven't heard from Kevin in years. He use to come onto the Free Internet Chess Server (FICS) but I haven't seen him on there for quite a while. The last we heard, he was living in Texas. The articles in the **Chess in the Antelope Valley** e-newsletter which carry his by-line are reprints from a series in the Gambit from back in the 90s ... they are timely even today.*

So, not even the Mahowalds know about Kevin's whereabouts.

Before I continue to document my search efforts, I thought I would take a timeout and provide readers some information about my tournament history with Kevin and what a challenge it was to face him over the board.

In short, my record against Kevin was very poor. On average, for every win I had against him, he would have five wins or more against me.

When Kevin had the White pieces it usually resulted in a full point for him. I never won with the Black pieces and I cherish the few draws I had. If I survived his middlegame pressure, I would usually crack with his precise endgame play.

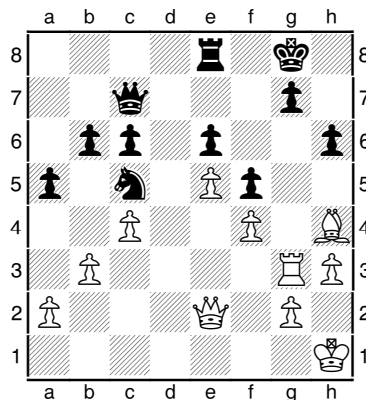
However, with the White pieces, I did experience some success against his Caro-Kann defense. Here is one example.

### **Hank Thompson Memorial 5/23/98**

**White: Kent Nelson**

**Black: Kevin Fleming (2152)**

**1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7 5.Be2 Ngf6 6.Nxf6+ Nxf6  
7.Nf3 Bg4 8.h3 Bh5 9.0-0 e6 10.c3 Qc7 11.Ne5 Bxe2 12.Qxe2 Bd6  
13.Bf4 0-0 14.Bg3 Rad8 15.Rad1 Nd7 16.Rfe1 Bxe5 17.dxe5 Nc5  
18.Bh4 Rd5 19.c4 Rxd1 20.Rxd1 Re8 21.Kh1 h6 22.f4 a5 23.b3 b6  
24.Rd6 Nb7 25.Rd3 Nc5 26.Rg3 f5??** Please see the diagram on the next page.



**27.exf6 Qxf4 28.Rxg7+ Kf8 29.Qh5 Qf1+ 30.Kh2 Qf4+ 31.Bg3 Qxf6 32.Rg6 1-0** Usually Kevin would not open the flood gates with moves like 26...f5??. It was usually me that created weakness as the following game will attest.

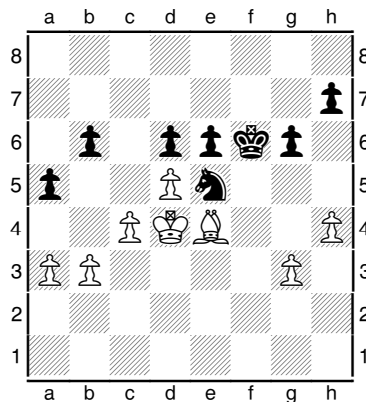
### 1993 State Closed Championship 5/30/93

**White: Kevin Fleming**

**Black: Kent Nelson**

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.Nf3 g6 4.Nc3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bg7 6.e4 d6 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 Nc6 9.Be3 Bd7 10.Rc1 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 Bc6 12.f3 Nh5 13.Bxg7 Nxg7 14.Kh1 Qb6 15.Qd2 Ne6 16.Rfd1 Rfe8 17.Bf1 Rac8 18.b3 Qa5 19.Qf2 Qc5 20.Rc2 a6 21.g3 Qh5 22.Rdc1 Ng5 23.Bg2 f5 24.Nd5 fxe4 25.fxe4 Bxd5 26.exd5 Rf8 27.Qe3 Rf7 28.h4 Nf3 29.Rf2 Ne5 30.Rxf7 Kxf7 31.Rf1+ Kg7 32.Bf3 Qf5 33.Bg2 Qg4 34.Rf4 Qd1+ 35.Kh2 Rf8 36.Qc3 Qd3 37.Qxd3 Nxd3 38.Rxf8 Kxf8 39.Be4 Ne5 40.Kg2 Kg7 41.Kf2 Kf6 42.Ke3 b6 43.Kd4 a5 44.a3 e6??**

The losing move that creates a fatal weakness but it felt like I was in Zugswang at the time. However, just knight moves to either f7, g4 would have been better. White has all the play with queenside expansion starting with b4 and a c5 break are looming. In my opinion, Black is clearly inferior if not lost already.



Position after 44..e6??

**45.Bg2 exd5 46.Kxd5 Ke7 47.Be4 h6 48.Bg2 g5 49.hxg5 hxg5  
50.Be4 Kd7 51.Bf5+ Kc7 52.a4 Nf3 53.Ke6 Nd2 54.Bc2 Nf1 55.g4  
Ne3 56.Bf5 Kc6 57.Kf6 Kc5 58.Kxg5 Kb4 59.Kf6 Nxg4+ 60.Bxg4  
Kxb3 61.Bd7 Kxc4 and White later won.**

Just a few comments and observations about Kevin before I outline the continual “hunt” for him.

I always admired Kevin for keeping a cool head. I never saw him get upset or rattled despite some player confrontations (with him) when he was directing tournaments. One has to respect a person who doesn’t get emotional or worked up when things are going south. I think Kevin understood (better than most) that getting upset doesn’t change the situation and will often result in making it worse.

Kevin worked as a professional desktop publisher when I knew him. One piece of advice he gave me was about borders. He told me the page margins are natural borders. At the time, I was “border crazy” and used them ad nauseam when working on *The Gambit*. In my opinion, his advice resulted in better appearing *Gambits*.

I envied Kevin for his social skills. He is very intelligent, articulate, friendly and a good role model and leader. I remember a situation with a homeless man (who smelled real bad) was attempting to engage Kevin and I in a conversation. I found him very repugnant and wanted to avoid him but Kevin (despite the homeless guy’s stench) carried on a conversation with him to a natural end.

### **Now back to the hunt.**

I was contacted by Tony Duitel via e-mail. Here is what Tony wrote.

*Kent,*

*I read your recent issue of the Gambit online and noticed you were looking for Kevin Fleming. I had seen his name in a crosstable from an annual border match between OK and TX called the Red River shootout. One of my OK friends Tom Braunlich, was the last person to play him 5 years ago. I e-mailed him with an inquiry and this is his reply. He also sent me Kevin’s games fro the 4 Red River matches he played including his last 2 game with Tom. Below are the links for the Dallas players as well. Hope this helps.*

This was Tom's reply.

*I think he was living in the North Dallas area and playing in some local events there, but I don't know any more. I suggest you contact Luis Salinas at the Dallas Chess Club and see if he has any contact information. Also maybe Rob Jones in Dallas would know.*

I did e-mail Mr. Salinas. Here is what I wrote.

*Dear Mr. Salinas,*

*Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Kent Nelson and I live in Lincoln, Nebraska. I'm editor of the Nebraska State newsletter called the Gambit and I'm a class "A" player.*

*The purpose of this e-mail is to ask you if you know the whereabouts of Kevin Fleming? Kevin was a several time Nebraska State Chess champion and he organized and directed many tournaments before moving to Texas over 10 years ago. We have lost touch with him since his move.*

*A lot of folks around here have been wondering about Kevin's status since he doesn't appear to be playing rated chess anymore. According to USCF records, his last rated game was 5 years ago.*

*I realize there is a number of people that come and go at your chess club but if you could shed some light on Kevin's status. I sure would appreciate it.*

*Thank you!*

*Sincerely,  
Kent Nelson*

This was Mr. Salinas reply.

*Kevin never really played much at the Dallas Chess Club. He used to play more at the Wuataga Chess Club which became the North Tarrant Country Chess Club. So you should probably try someone there. In fact he is still listed as an officer on their website.*

So, here is what I wrote to the Wuataga Chess Club . . .

*Dear Mr. Crane,*

*Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Kent Nelson and I live in Lincoln, Nebraska. I'm editor of the Nebraska State newsletter called The Gambit and I'm a class "A" player.*

*The purpose of this e-mail is to ask you if you know the whereabouts of Kevin Fleming? Kevin is a several time Nebraska State Chess champion and he organized and directed many tournaments before moving to Texas over 10 years ago. We have lost touch with him since his move.*

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*I realize there is a number of people that come and go at your chess club but if you could shed some light on Kevin's status, I sure would appreciate it.*

*Sincerely,  
Kent Nelson*

I still waiting for a reply from Mr. Crane but I have a feeling the web site I wrote to and all the information on it is outdated.

So, as of this date, October 1st 2012, there is no word on Kevin Fleming. **Please see page 81 for an update!**

With the next issue of the *Gambit*, I will detail my continued efforts to contact Kevin Fleming. In the interim, here are some games Kevin played in Texas.

**(8) Patton,Tom (2080) - Fleming,Kevin W (2064) [D01]**

OK-TX Match Ardmore, OK (1), 27.04.2003

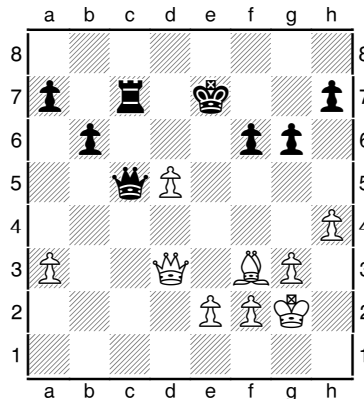
Tom as White says he drew when he was dead loss here. **1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 d5 3.Nc3 Bf5 4.e3 c6 5.Bd3 Ne4 6.Bxe4 Bxe4 7.f3 Bg6 8.Qd2 Qa5 9.Nge2 Nd7 10.Bf4 e6 11.a3 Nf6 12.Be5 Nd7 13.Bg3 Be7 14.0-0**

0-0 15.Nf4 Qd8 16.Nxg6 hxg6 17.Ne2 c5 18.c3 a5 19.a4 Qb6 20.Kh1  
 Bd6 21.Bxd6 Qxd6 22.Qd3 Rfd8 23.Rfd1 Qa6 24.Qb5 Qxb5 25.axb5  
 b6 26.Kg1 Kf8 27.Ra4 c4 28.Re1 Nf6 29.Ng3 Ne8 30.b3 cxb3 31.Rb1  
 Rac8 32.Rxb3 Nd6 33.e4 Rc4 34.Raa3 dxe4 35.fxe4 e5 36.dxe5 Nxe4  
 37.Nxe4 Rxe4 38.c4 Rxe5 39.Re3 Rc5 40.Re4 f5 41.Re6 Rxc4 42.Rxb6  
 Rd2 43.h3 g5 44.Rc6 Rb4 45.Rxa5 Rb1+ 46.Kh2 Rbb2 47.Ra8+ Kf7  
 48.Ra7+ Kg8 49.Rg6 Rxg2+ ½-½

(7) Fleming, Kevin W (2064) - Patton, Tom (2079) [D33]

OK-TX Match Ardmore, OK (2), 27.04.2003

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.g3 c4 7.Bg2 Bb4 8.0-0  
 Nge7 9.Re1 0-0 10.a3 Ba5 11.b4 cxb3 12.Qxb3 Bf5 13.Be3 Rc8  
 14.Rec1 Bb6 15.Qd1 Na5 16.Ne5 f6 17.Nd3 Bxd3 18.Qxd3 Nb3  
 19.Nxd5 Nxc1 20.Nxe7+ Qxe7 21.Rxc1 Rcd8 22.Rc3 Rfe8 23.Qc4+  
 Kh8 24.d5 Bxe3 25.Rxe3 Qd6 26.Rxe8+ Rxe8 27.Qb5 Re7 28.Qa4 b6  
 29.Qa6 Rc7 30.Bf3 Kg8 31.Qa4 Kf8 32.Kg2 g6 33.h4 Ke7 34.Be4 Qc5  
 35.Bf3 Qc4 36.Qd1 Qc5 37.Qd3



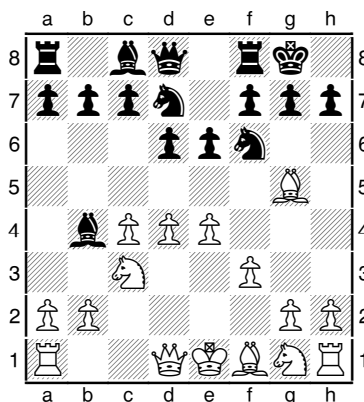
This position generated an interesting incident that I think reflects well on Kevin's sportsmanship. I was in time pressure, and was considering a choice of three moves, K, R or Q. The queen move allowed a fork winning on the spot. I decided on the K move (I think), reached down and touched the rook, dropped it like a hot potato, and moved the queen, then sat there aghast trying to figure out why. Kevin stared for a minute, then asked "did you actually touch the rook?" I replied that in fact I had, but he wouldn't make the claim. Instead he offered a draw and I accepted. Tom Patton ½-½



**(6) Sukharnikov,Leonid (1988) - Fleming,Kevin W (2128) [E20]**

OK-TX Wich Falls, TX (2.2), 25.04.2004 [JH]

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 0-0 5.e4 d6** [RR 5...d5 6.e5 Nfd7 7.cxd5 exd5 8.f4 (RR 8.a3 Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 f6 10.exf6 Qxf6 11.Ne2 Re8 12.Kf2 b6 13.Nf4 c6 14.Qa4 a5 15.Bd2 Re7 16.Qb3 Ba6 17.Bxa6 Rxa6 18.Rhe1 Rxe1 19.Rxe1 Nf8 20.Re8 Nbd7 1-0 Volkov,S-Bocharov,D/Moscow RUS 2002/ The Week in Chess 379 (20)) 8...c5 9.a3 Ba5 10.Nf3 Nc6 11.Be3 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Re8 13.Be2 f6 14.Ndb5 d4 15.Bxd4 fxe5 16.Qb3+ Kh8 17.Nd6 Rf8 18.Bf2 Nd4 19.Nf7+ Rxf7 20.Qxf7 Volkov,S-Filippov,V/Nizhnij Novgorod 1998/EXT 2000/0-1 (30)] **6.Bg5 Nbd7** Diagram below

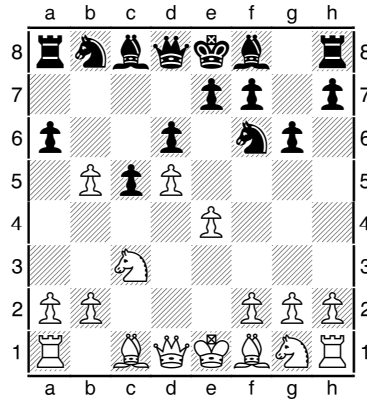


**7.Qd2N** [RR 7.Bd3 e5 8.d5 Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 Nc5 10.Ne2 Qe7 11.0-0 Re8 12.Bc2 Bd7 13.Qd2 h6 14.Bh4 Nfxe4 15.Qxh6 gxh6 16.Bxe7 Nd2 17.Rfd1 Nxf3+ 18.gxf3 Rxe7 19.Kf2 f5 20.Ng3 f4 21.Nh5 Be8 Mende,C-Onufreichuk,D/Churchill 2000/EXT 2001/0-1 (49)] **7...h6 8.Be3 c5 9.a3 Qa5 10.Rc1 Bxc3 11.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 12.Rxc3 e5 13.d5 a5 14.Bd3 Nb6 15.Ne2 Bd7 16.0-0 Nc8 17.Rb1 Rd8 18.b4 axb4 19.axb4 b6 20.Rcb3 Kf8 21.h3 Ne7 22.bxc5 bxc5 23.f4 Ng6 24.f5 Ne7 25.g4 Ne8 26.g5 hxg5 27.Bxg5 f6 28.Be3 Nc7 29.Bxc5!? dxc5 30.d6!? Nc6 31.dxc7 Rdc8 32.Nc3 Rxc7 33.Nd5! Rca7 34.Rb7 Rxb7 35.Rxb7 Rd8 36.Rb5 Nb4!! 37.Nxb4 Bxb5 38.Nd5 Bc6 39.Bc2 Bxd5 40.cxd5 Ke7 41.Kf2 Rb8 42.Ke3 Rh8! 43.Kd3 Rxh3+ 44.Kc4 Kd6**  
White resigned. 0-1

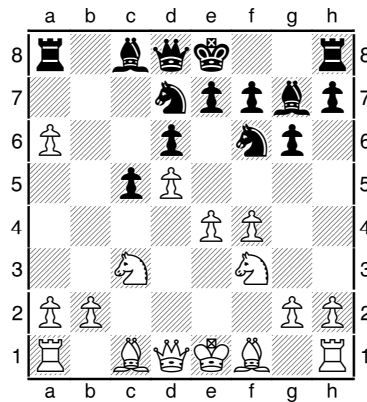
**(5) Fleming,Kevin W (2128) - Sukharnikov,Leonid (1988) [A57]**

OK-TX Wich Falls, TX (1.2), 25.04.2004 [JH]

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.Nc3 d6 6.e4 g6** Please see the diagram on the next page

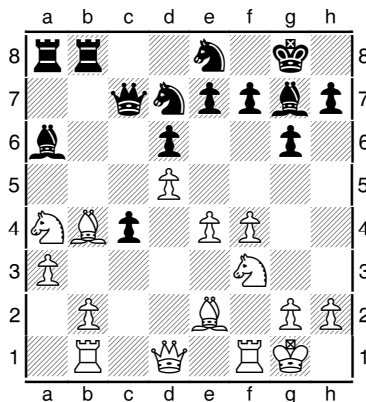


**7.f4** [RR 7.bxa6 Bxa6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Nf3 Bg7 10.0–0 0–0 11.Qe2 Nd7 12.Bf4 Nb6 13.Rfd1 Nc7 14.e5 Qd7 15.Rd2 Rfe8 16.Re1 Na4 17.Ne4 Nb6 18.e6 fxe6 19.Nxc5 dxc5 20.Bxc7 Nxd5 21.Ng5 Bh6 Ivanov,S-Sznapiak,A/Slupsk 1992/TD/1–0 (43); RR 7.Qa4 Qc7 8.Nf3 Bg7 9.Be2 0–0 10.0–0 Nfd7 11.Re1 Qd8 12.Bf4 Nb6 13.Qd1 axb5 14.Bxb5 Ba6 15.Qd2 Bxc3 16.Qxc3 Bxb5 17.Bh6 f6 18.Bxf8 Qxf8 19.Nd2 Qe8 20.b3 Qc8 21.a4 Be8 22.f4 Na6 23.h3 Bf7 24.Nf3 Qb7 25.Qd2 Nd7 26.Rab1 Nb4 27.Re3 Rb8 28.Rbe1 Qa6 29.Rc1 Qb7 30.Rce1 Qa6 31.Rc1 ½–½ Sar,F-Escuras,R/Condom FRA 2002/The Week in Chess 402 (31)] **7...Bg7**  
**8.Nf3 Nbd7 9.bxa6** Diagram

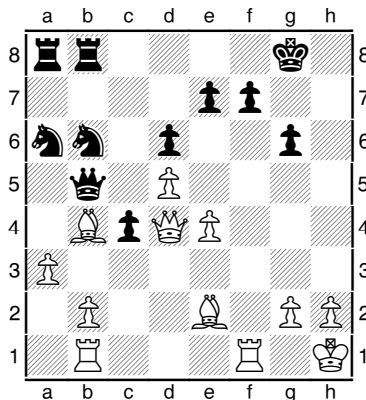


**9...Qa5N** [RR 9...Bxa6 10.e5 Bxf1 11.exf6 Nxf6 12.Rxf1 0–0 13.Kf2 Qb6 14.Kg1 Rfb8 15.Kh1 Qb7 16.Qd3 Qa6 17.Qxa6 Rxa6 18.Re1 Ra7 19.Kg1 Rab7 20.Rb1 Kf8 21.b3 c4 22.Nd2 cxb3 23.Nxb3 Nd7 24.Bd2 Nc5 25.Nxc5 Rxb1 26.Rxb1 Rxb1+ 27.Nxb1 Bd4+ 28.Kf1 Bxc5 29.a4 Ke8 30.Ke2 Kd7 31.Kd3 e6 32.Kc4 Kc7 33.a5 Kb7 34.Kb5 exd5 35.Nc3 d4 36.Ne4 Ba3 37.Bb4 Bxb4 38.Kxb4 d5 39.Nc5+ Kc6 40.Nd3 Kb7 41.Kb5 Ka7 42.a6 h6 43.Nb4 g5 44.Nc6+ Ka8 45.Nxd4 gxf4 46.Kb6 Kb8 47.Nb5 f3 48.a7+ Ka8 1–0 Southam,T-Ward,R/London,Canada 1995/

EXT 2001 (48)] 10.Bd2 0–0 11.Be2 Bxa6 12.0–0 Rfb8 13.Rb1 Ne8 14.a3 c4  
15.Na4 Qc7 16.Bb4 Diagram below.



16...Bb5! 17.Nc3 Qb6+ 18.Kh1 Nc7 19.Nxb5 Qxb5 20.Nd4 Bxd4 21.Qxd4  
Nb6 22.f5! Na6 23.fxc6 hxc6 Diagram



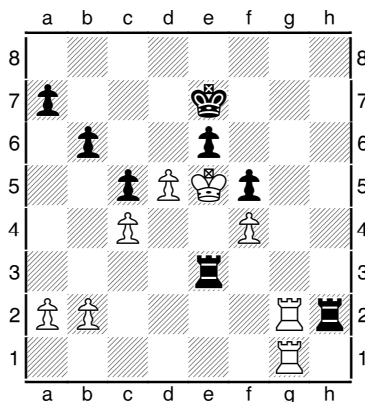
24.Bc3!! f6<sup>TM</sup> 25.Rxf6!! exf6 26.Qxf6!! Ra7 27.Qxg6+!! Kf8 28.Rf1+!!  
Black resigned.[...28.Rf1+ Ke7 29.Qg7+ Kd8 30.Rf8+ Qe8 31.Bf6+ Re7  
32.Rxe8+ Kxe8 (=32...Kc7 33.Rxe7+ Kc8 34.Qf8#) 33.Qxe7#] 1–0

(4) Sukharnikov,Leonid (1925) - Fleming,Kevin W (2100) [B17]

Red River 4 Thackerville, OK (1.3), 22.04.2006

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7 5.Nf3 Ngf6 6.Ng3 Nb6 7.Bd3 Bg4  
8.c3 e6 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Qxf3 Qc7 11.Bf4 Bd6 12.Bxd6 [12.Bg5] 12...Qxd6  
13.0–0 Nbd5 14.Rfe1 0–0 [14...Qf4] 15.Ne4 Qf4 16.Qxf4 Nxf4 17.Nxf6+  
gxf6 18.Bc2 Rad8 19.Re4 Ng6 20.Rae1 f5 21.R4e3 Kg7 22.g3 Rd5 23.f4  
Kf6 24.Kf2 Rd6 25.Kf3 b6 26.g4 Ne7 27.Re5 Ng6 28.R5e3 [28.gxf5 Nh4+  
29.Kf2 Nxf5 30.Bxf5 exf5 31.b4] 28...h5 29.Rg1  
hxc4+ 30.hxc4 Nh4+ 31.Kf2 fxc4 32.Reg3 [32.Rxc4 Nf5 33.Rh3?] 32...Nf5=  
33.Rxc4 Rh8 34.Bxf5 Kxf5 35.Rg7 Kf6 36.R7g5 Rd5 37.Ke3 Rh2 38.R5g2  
Rdh5 39.Ke4 R5h3 40.c4 Ke7 41.d5? [41.f5 Rh4+ 42.Kd3 exf5 43.Rxh2

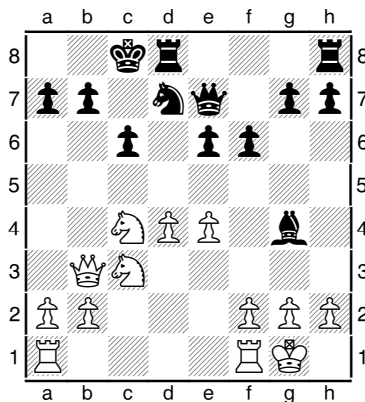
Rxh2 44.Kc3 Re2<sup>3</sup>] 41...f5+--+ 42.Kd4 [42.Ke5 Re3+ 43.Kd4 Rhh3--+]  
 42...c5+ 43.Ke5 Re3# Final Position below 0-1



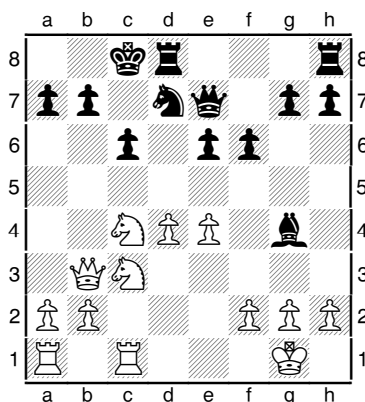
(3) Fleming, Kevin W (2100) - Sukharnikov, Leonid (1925) [D15]

Red River 4 Thackerville, OK (2.3), 22.04.2006 [F Berry]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Bf5 5.Bf4 e6 6.e3 Nh5 7.Bg5 Be7  
 8.Bxe7 Qxe7 9.Ne5 Nf6 10.Qb3 Ne4 11.Be2 f6 12.Nf3 dxc4 13.Bxc4  
 Nd6 14.0-0 Nd7 15.e4 Bg4 16.Nd2 Nxc4 [16...e5 17.d5 b5 18.Bd3  
 Nc5] 17.Nxc4± 0-0-0?!



Black castles into a hornet's nest. 18.Rfc1

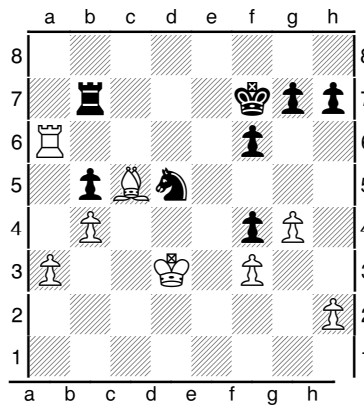


**18...Kb8 19.Na4 Be2?** [<sup>1</sup>19...Ka8] **20.Na5+- Bb5 21.Rxc6 a6** [21...bxc6 22.Nxc6+] **22.Rxa6 1-0**

**(2) Fleming, Kevin W (2100) - Braunlich, Tom (2199) [D31]**

OK-TX RR #5 Davis, OK (1.1), 22.04.2007 [TB]

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.e4 dxe4 5.Nxe4 Bb4+ 6.Nc3 c5 7.dxc5**  
 [7.Be3] **7...Qxd1+ 8.Kxd1 Nf6 9.Nb5 Na6 10.f3?! Ke7** [<sup>1</sup>10...0-0<sup>3</sup>]  
**11.Bf4 Bxc5 12.a3 Rd8+ 13.Kc2 Nh5** [13...e5 14.Bxe5 Bf5+ 15.Kc3  
 doesn't work. ] **14.Be5 Bd7** [14...f6 15.g4 fxe5 16.gxh5 Bd7 is good and  
 what I intended, but then I misevaluated it and played something else.  
 Very confused thinking here and a lot of wasted time.] **15.b4 f6 16.Bc3**  
**Be3 17.Re1 Bh6 18.Nd4 Kf7** [18...e5] **19.c5 e5?!** [19...Nc7 20.Bc4  
 Nf4μ] **20.Bc4+ Kf8 21.Nde2 Ba4+?!** [21...Nc7μ] **22.Bb3 Bb5?!**  
 [22...Bxb3+ 23.Kxb3 b6<sup>3</sup>] **23.g4 Nf4 24.Nxf4 Bxf4 25.Nh3<sup>2</sup> Bd3+**  
**26.Kb2 Nc7 27.Nxf4 exf4 28.Bc2 Bxc2 29.Kxc2<sup>2</sup> Nd5 30.Re4 Ne3+**  
**31.Kb3 Rd3<sup>4</sup> 32.Rd4 Rd8 33.Rxd8+ Rxd8 34.Rc1 b6?** [34...Rd3<sup>2</sup>]  
**35.c6 b5 36.Bd4± a6 37.c7 Rc8 38.Rc6 Nd5 39.Rxa6 Rxc7 40.Bc5+**  
**Kf7** [40...Ke8<sup>2</sup>] **41.Kc2 Rb7 42.Kd3** white soon won on time. **1-0** Final  
 Position below

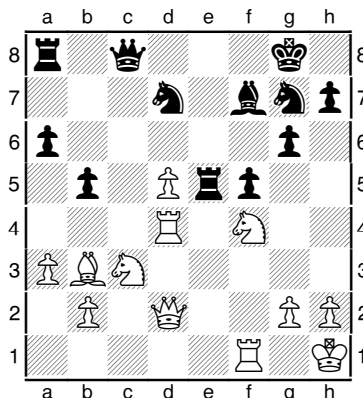


**(1) Braunlich, Tom (2199) - Fleming, Kevin W (2100) [E36]**

OK-TX RR #5 Davis, OK (2.1), 22.04.2007 [TB]

This interesting game features the theme of "overprotection" of your strong point in the Nimzovichean tradition. **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 d5 5.a3 Be7?! 6.Bg5 0-0 7.cxd5 exd5 8.e3 c6 9.Bd3 g6!? 10.Nge2 Nbd7 11.0-0 Re8 12.f3 Nf8 13.Rae1 Ne6 14.Bh4 Nh5 15.Bf2 Nhg7** [Better is 15...Bf6 restraining white from playing e3-e4. But black is deliberately playing to create a solid position that is hard to crack, moving very quickly to get me into time trouble.] **16.e4 dxe4 17.fxe4 Nf8 18.Kh1 f5?!** This is a long-term weakening, but I guess he felt he needed to do

something because otherwise white has a clear plan of attack against f7, starting with Bc4. **19.Bc4+ Be6 20.d5 Bf7 21.Rd1**<sup>2</sup> An interesting position. It's a struggle here to see if white can keep a strong pawn wedge in the center. **21...Qc8 22.Bb3** [The otherwise desirable move 22.Qb3 would have been answered by 22...b5 Instead I make a quiet move that protects both my bishop and queen against various dangerous pins, and now my pawns are threatening to roll.] **22...cxd5 [22...fxe4 23.d6! wins] 23.exd5±** White's d-pawn is now very strong. **23...Bf6 24.Bd4 Nd7 25.Ba4! Bxd4 26.Rxd4 Re5 27.Qd2 a6 28.Nf4 b5 29.Bb3**



Look at that overprotection of my strong point! Nimzovich would be proud! And sure enough it leads to a winning position very soon. **29...Nc5 30.Ba2 Ra7 31.b4 Nd7 32.d6** "The passed pawn has a lust to expand." (Nimzovich) **32...Nf6 33.Ncd5 Qd8** [I was expecting 33...Ne4 when I was looking forward to 34.Rxe4! Rxe4 35.Nf6+ Kh8 36.Nxe4 Bxa2 (36...fxe4 37.Bxf7 Rxf7 38.Nxg6+) 37.Nxg6+ hxg6 38.Nf6 winning] **34.Ne7+** [Winning the exchange but unnecessarily prolonging the game. There was a thematic win with: 34.Nxf6+ Qxf6 35.d7 Qd8 36.Rc1 Ra8 37.Rc8] **34...Raxe7 35.dxe7 Qxe7 36.Nd5 Nxd5 37.Bxd5 Re2 38.Bxf7+ Kxf7 39.Qd1 Qe5 40.Rd7+ Kf6 41.Qd6+ Qxd6 42.Rxd6+ Re6 43.Rfd1 Ne8 44.Rxe6+ Kxe6 45.Rd8 Nd6 46.Ra8 Nc4 47.Rxa6+ Ke5** Since white was in some time pressure (3 minutes left), black played this hopeless ending out all the way. **48.Kg1 Kd4 49.a4 bxa4 50.Rxa4 Nd6 51.Ra7 Kc4 52.Rxh7 Kxb4 53.Rh6 Kc5 54.Rxg6 Ne4 55.h4 Kd5 56.h5 Ke5 57.h6 Nf6 58.Kf2 f4 59.Kf3 Kf5 60.Rg7 Nh5 61.h7 Nxg7 62.h8Q Ne6 63.Qc8 Ke5 64.Kg4 Kf6 65.Qc3+ Kf7 66.Kf5 Ng7+ 67.Kxf4 Kg6 68.Qc6+ Kf7 69.Qd7+ Kf6 70.g4 Ne6+ 71.Kg3 Ng5 72.Qf5+ 1-0**

## **Kevin Fleming update!**

**10/10/12**

I did hear from Mr. Crane. Here is what he wrote.

*Sorry for taking so long to reply. Kevin is a regular at the Tarrant County Chess Club. He is not playing tournaments much anymore but he plays a lot of bug house. I spoke with him and he said it was OK to give you his phone number. I would give his e-mail but he doesn't check it to often.*

I did hear back from **Kevin Fleming**. He is living down south near the OK & Texas border. He doesn't play tournament chess anymore but he does play speed and bughouse. It was good to talk to Kevin after an extensive search.

Special thanks to article contributors, **Daa Mahowald, Tony Duetiel, Tom Braunlich, Luis Salinas, Mr. Crane, Tom Patton** and **Leonid Sukharnikov** for their notes and games.

Very special thanks to **Kevin Fleming** for contacting me and letting me know that he is alive and well. -Kent Nelson-editor.

## **The Last Sentinels**

by  
Kent Nelson

During my stretch of unemployment, I've attempted to keep active and busy. To that end, I've gone for long walks, written an unpublished book and volunteered at the State Historical Society. My work at the Society has been interesting and fruitful. I've learned many skills and I'm very thankful to my mentor, Cindy Drake.

The primary project I've been working on is inventorying and processing old and new chess publications and material. This is a dream task. I've worked in concert with Nebraska Chess Historical Archivist, Robert Woodworth. After years working with Bob on *Gambit* related projects, I could not have a better volunteer situation from which to start.

I was truly amazed about all the chess material stored at the Historical Society. And I will provide a listing of everything I found later in this article. However with that said, I couldn't help but wonder what person or persons were behind all this donated material. I pretty much figured this out. Several individuals I knew and know were behind the donations to the Society (over the years) and each person had two common dominators. First, they were all involved in chess in some form or fashion and second, they were all over 50 years of age.

Why was that I wondered? Of course being involved in chess is a no brainer. But why 50 and older? Is it a generation thing or maturely issue or both?

I started reflecting on my younger days in chess. There was a 3-year period in my late teens and early twenties that I didn't record the names of my opponents or provide any heading information on the top of my scoresheets. I figured at the time, I would remember who I played and when I played and for a time, I did. However, looking back, I have three years worth of scoresheets that have no details in terms of tournaments or players listed and I no idea what to fill in. Today, I find this incomprehensible. However, back then, I didn't think it was a big deal.

Another mind set I had, as a youth, was to play in tournaments and let others handle everything else. Quite frankly I just wanted to play, win



games and improve my rating and that was the only thing I really cared about. I remember helping my friend, Gary Colvin, at his request, to mail a *Gambit* issue. It was a long laborious task. Of course, I don't know this for sure. I worked on it for less than a ½ hour, made up some sorry excuse and split. Gary remembers this quite well, just ask him.

However my thinking about the Royal game started changing in my mid to late thirties. I started feeling a sense of moral obligation to give back to the game and I have. I specifically remember what triggered this. A former girlfriend asked me what chess meant to me. Even today, the question causes my eyes to well up. And I'm sure many of us old timers would experience the same common emotional reaction. Some things you just can't put into words.

So I'm left to ponder, is my generation, the baby boomers, going to be the last Sentinels in terms of protecting and preserving our chess history and heritage? I wish I knew for sure. For a long time I figured someone younger would experience an epiphany, or change their mind set and end up being involved.

Mike Gooch suggested another approach. Just ask someone he told me. So, the help wanted poster is posted. Anyone interested in applying, please see me or Bob Woodworth.

Well, for you folks more down to earth, I have something for you. Here is the existing inventory of the chess material stored at the State Historical Society located in Lincoln, UNL campus on 14<sup>th</sup> and "R" St.

1. *The Chess Psychologist World Champion Tal*. This book is authored by Alex Liepnieks. There are 2 copies of this book. One hardback and one paperback.
2. *Omaha Chess 1918*. This is a small newsletter authored by Jim Jirousek.
3. *Vienna Gambit Tournament 1903*. This paperback book is authored by Jack Spence.
4. *The Chess Career of E.D. Bogoljubow Vol 11*. This book is authored by Jack Spence.
5. *The Chess of Richard Teichmann*. This book is authored by Jack Spence.
6. *50<sup>th</sup> United States Open Championship*. The Society has copy number 227 from 250 limited copies of this book.
7. *The 70<sup>th</sup> Annual U.S. Open Chess Championship*. Tournament was

held on August, 10-22, 1975. Two copies in storage.

8. *The Chess Career of Rudolf Spielmann*. This paperback book is authored by Jack Spence.
9. *The Latvian Gambit Chess World monthly Publication*. These materials inside the black notebook contain monthly newsletters from the 1960's to the early 1970's.
10. *The Gambit*. Nebraska's official state chess newsletter has most copies in a 4 volume set constructed by Jim Jirousek. The volumes are dated, September, 1964, September, 1973, 1985-1992, and finally 1993-1996.
11. *The Nebraska Chess Bulletin*. March 1947, Assembled by Jim Jirousek.
12. *The Nebraska Chess Bulletin*. Vol. 11, 1948
13. *The Nebraska Chess Bulletin*. Vol. 1, 1947
14. *The Nebraska Chess Bulletin and Midwest Chess News*. 1947-1956
15. *Midwest Chess News and Nebraska Chess Bulletin 1957*. This material is not in one volume but rather is individual newsletters for 1957.
16. *Nebraska Chess Bulletin*. Material is in hardback in yearly volumes. Years include 1949, 1950, 1951, and 1952.
17. *The H.E. Ohman Chess Memorial Newsletter*. This is one volume of all the combined newsletters edited by the late Jack Spence. This volume was assembled by Jim Jirousek.
18. *Metro Chess*. 2 volumes edited by Craig Collister and Dennis Wasson. Material covers Omaha chess and the metro area in the mid to late 1980s.
19. *Omaha Chess Archives*. Three volumes, edited by Bruce Draney. Covers Omaha and Nebraska chess in the 1990s.
20. *The 60<sup>th</sup> United States Open Chess Championship*. Tournament held in Omaha. Authored by Jack Spence.
21. *The 61<sup>st</sup> United States Open Chess Championship*. Tournament held in St. Louis in 1960. Authored by Jack Spence.
22. *The 70<sup>th</sup> Annual United States Open Chess Championship 1969*. This is a cute little red covered book authored by Jack Spence.
23. *The 72<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Open Chess Championship*.
24. *The 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual U.S. Open Chess Championship*. Authored by Jack Spence. Tournament held on August 13 – 25, 1972.
25. *Milwaukee Chess Championships New Western Open, North Central Open, Milwaukee Wisconsin 1958*.

26. *San Diego Open*. Authored by Jack Spence. Book has no cover and is in very poor condition.
27. *International Chess Tournament Carlsbad, Bohemia*. Authored by G. R. Stoney. Tournament held on August 21<sup>st</sup> to September 24<sup>th</sup> 1991.
28. *Leningrad 1939*. Authored by Richard McLellan. Tournament report on the USSR championship.
29. *World Champion Smyslov and his 120 Best Games*. Authored by Jack Spence and Alex Liepnieks.
30. *The Gambit*. Many issues are stored, dating back to the 1960s to the present.

I learned something from the Society that I wasn't aware of before. There is a Nebraska web site called **NebraskaAccess**. I suspect all states have this type of website. From this site you can access many databases and information to your heart's content. To log in, all you need to do is type in your driver license's number and you should be set. I was asked to look up the number of publications written by Nebraska Chess Hall of Fame great, Jack Spence. (See insert below about Jack) Using the **WorldCat** database, I found over 70 plus references to Jack's books and periodicals including their storage locations, some as far away as the Netherlands.

It is my sincere hope future Sentinels will be using this web site.

### **Jack Spence**



Jack was born in 1926 in Omaha. He was a nationally known chess author and publisher. He was a premier organizer and promoter of chess in Nebraska and the Midwest. Jack won the Nebraska State Championships in 1952 and 1960. He was referred to as "Mr. Midwest Chess." Jack passed away in 1978.

## Tournament Announcements

### 2012 Great Plains Open

**December 1-2, 2012 at the Quality Inn in Lincoln, NE **Special Room Rate of \$49 Available for Chess Players!** [A Nebraska POY Event & Nebraska Closed Championship Qualifier]**  
**Great Plains Rated Beginners Open**  
**Saturday December 1st Only**

**Great Plains Open:** 5-SS. G90 d5 rds 1-3, 40/90+SD/30 d5 rds 4-5. December 1st & 2nd at the Quality Inn [Lincoln Airport], 3200 NW 12th, Lincoln, NE 68521.

**Prizes:** Based on 30 paid entries to be prorated based on actual entries: 1st \$226, 2nd \$151, 3rd \$113, U1800 \$102, U1600 \$102. Tie-break order: 1) Modified Median, 2) Solkoff, 3) Cumulative. Top NE finisher awarded 2013 NE State Closed invitation.

**Registration:** 8 to 9 am, Saturday

December 1st. USCF November rating list used. No Unrated. **Entry Fee:** \$35 if postmarked by November 18th, \$40 [cash only] at the site. USCF membership required.

**Rounds:** Saturday 9:30 am, 1:30 pm & 5:30 pm, Sunday 9 am & 2 pm. Two byes allowed: must be requested at least one hour before the round. **Equipment:** Bring clocks, sets & boards. **Hotel Rates:** Special rate of \$49 for single or double rooms available by reservation or at the site. Rate is for two adults, each additional adult \$5.

**Reservations:**

402.475.9541. Quality Inn Restaurant open Saturday and Sunday from 7-10 am & 4-10 pm. Numerous dining options available in immediate vicinity.

**Contact Information:**

Tournament is being co-sponsored by the Nebraska State Chess Association and the Lincoln Chess Foundation. Tournament Organizer: John Linscott. Chief Tournament Director: Michael Gooch. Please call or email John Linscott with any questions at 402.314.2338 or [johnlinscott@neb.rr.com](mailto:johnlinscott@neb.rr.com).

**Rated Beginners Open:** 5-SS. G30 open to players U1200 & Unrated. Saturday, December 1st only. **Prizes:** Trophies to 1st, 2nd & 3rd, U900 trophy, U700 trophy, Biggest Upset trophy. **Registration:** 8-9:30 am, Saturday December 1st. **Entry Fee:** \$10 if postmarked by November 18th, \$12 at the site. USCF membership required.

**Rounds:** Round 1 will start at 10 am, with rounds 2-5 starting 15 minutes after the completion of all games in the preceding round.

**Equipment:** Bring clocks, sets & boards.

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Please send Advance Entry to John Linscott, 1625 South 23rd St. #1, Lincoln, NE 68502.

Make check or money order payable to the Lincoln Chess Foundation. Email confirmation of Receipt will be sent.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

USCF ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Rating: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City & State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**All Advance Entries must be postmarked by November 18th, 2012.**

# NEBRASKA STATE CHESS ASSOCIATION CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

**December 15, 2012**

Location: Millard South High School, 14905 "Q" Street, which is located a few blocks west of the water tower at 144th and "Q." Enter through the west doors. Please bring chess sets and clocks, although a limited number will be available.

Players will play only in their class. Sections are "A" (plus)(Ratings 1800 and above); "B" (Ratings 1600 to 1799); "C" (Ratings 1400 to 1599); "D" (Ratings 1200 to 1399); "E" (Ratings 1000-1199); "F" (Ratings 800-999); "G" (Ratings 600-799); "H" (Ratings 400-599); Under 400. Unrated players can play but are not eligible for a Class title.

Provisional ratings may be used. Published ratings will be used to place participants in their class. Open to Nebraska residents only. USCF membership is required and will be available onsite. EF \$10 if received by December 13, onsite \$15. Onsite registration: 8:00 to 8:30 a.m.

Entries after 8:30 a.m. will receive a half point first round bye.

Tie scores will result in co-champions. Medals will be awarded to top 3 places in each section. Medals will be awarded based on a playoff, if necessary. Most sections will be played round robin depending on the number of entries. Sections with more than 4 entries will be 3 round Swiss. Sections "A", "B", "C" and "D" will be Game 75, d5 with the first round at 8:45 a.m. All other sections will be Game 60, d5 with the first round starting at 9:00 a.m. Succeeding rounds will start 15 minutes after completion of all games in prior round. Lunch and other breaks will be announced onsite.

Please send registration to Bobbi Jo Shiu, 2336 South 147th Street, Omaha, NE 68144.

**Checks payable to Nebraska State Chess Association.**

Questions to Conrad at (402) 334-3713 or [dtwoshoes@aol.com](mailto:dtwoshoes@aol.com).

\*\*\*\*\* 2012 NSCA Class \*\*\*\*\* 2012 NSCA Class \*\*\*\*\* 2012 NSCA Class \*\*\*\*\*

2012 NSCA Class \*\*\*\*\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ USCF ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print

Contact Information \_\_\_\_\_

Please send registration and entry fee to Bobbi Jo Shiu, 2336 South 147th Street, Omaha, NE 68144.

**Checks payable to Nebraska State Chess Association**

## **Tournament Life**

### **Summary**

For more information, please visit the NSCA web site at

**[www.Nebraskachess.com](http://www.Nebraskachess.com)**

Interested in scheduling a tournament? Please contact any  
NSCA board member for a start.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Sections</b>
<b>Dec 01, 2012</b>	<b>Great Plains Open</b>	<b>Lincoln</b>	<b>Beginner &amp; Open Section</b>
<b>Dec 02, 2012</b>	<b>Great Plains Open</b>	<b>Lincoln</b>	<b>Open Section</b>
<b>Dec 15, 2012</b>	<b>NSCA Class Championship</b>	<b>Omaha</b>	<b>Scholastic &amp; Open Sections Details TBA</b>
<b>Jan 26, 2013</b>	<b>St. Patrick's Scholastic</b>	<b>Omaha</b>	<b>Grades 2-8 Details TBA</b>
<b>Mar 23, 2013</b>	<b>St. Mary's Scholastic</b>	<b>Bellevue</b>	<b>Grades 2-8 Details TBA</b>

**The Gambit c/o Kent Nelson**

**4014 “N” St. Lincoln, NE**

**68510**