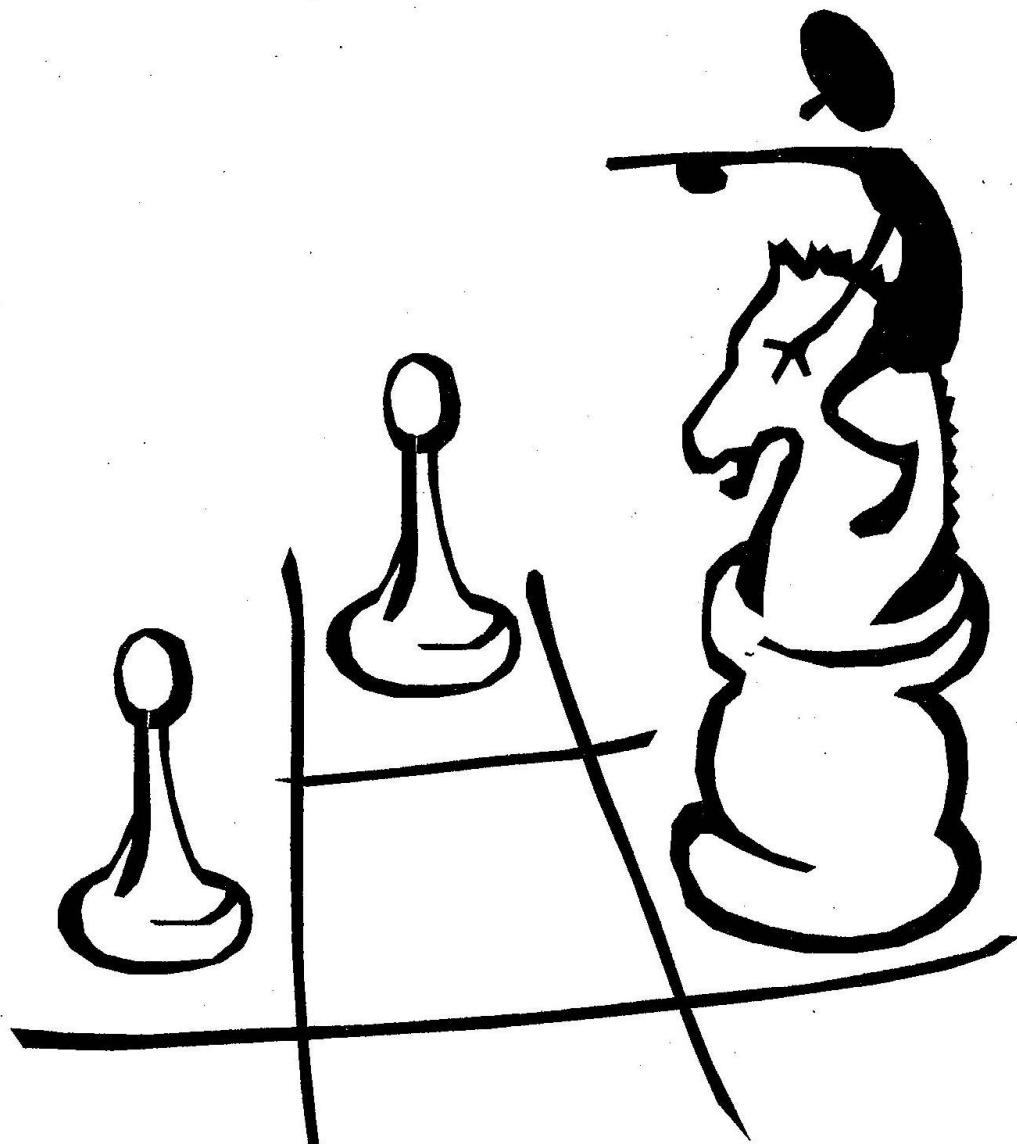


The Gambit

Nebraska State Chess Archives



2008 Gambit

Gambit Editor: Kent Nelson

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**Letter from NSCA President
Gary Marks**

Greetings NSCA members! My name is Gary Marks. It is my pleasure to write to you and provide an overview of my thoughts about Nebraska chess.

As of press time, three of the six players have qualified for the 2009 State Closed. Our defending State Champion, Keaton Kiewa, and two players from the Cornhusker State Games—Albert Zhou and Neil Reeves are in so far. Three more players have yet to be seeded in the Closed. The Great Plains Open and the Midwest Open will determine the 4th and 5th qualifiers, followed by the winner of Nebraska Player of the Year will decide the 6th spot for the Closed.

This year, there have been less tournaments in the Lincoln and the western part of the state. Fortunately, Omaha has been holding a number of tournaments with a general increase in attendance from the Open and Reserve sections with a decrease in attendance in the Junior and Scholastic sections. I would like to thank all the players, organizers and directors for holding and supporting Nebraska chess tournaments.

We need your ideas and input to help chess in Nebraska grow. Please contact me directly or any NSCA officials if you have any ideas.

Speaking of NSCA officials, we have a new Lincoln NSCA Vice President in Larry Harvey. Larry will be a great asset to NSCA as well as Omaha representative, Michael Gooch and Western Nebraska representative, Randall Heckman.

Jiri Olejnicek, from the Czech Republic, has returned to Nebraska. Jiri is a strong player and is currently a student at UNK in Kearney. Welcome back Jiri!

The NSCA is grateful to Ben Ryan and Mike Gooch for organizing and directing a number of tournaments in the Omaha area. Best Wishes and Good Chess!

Sincerely,
Gary Marks

Letter from the Editor or Kent's Corner

After an absence of many years, it's good to return as your *Gambit* editor. I'm back for the next three years.

I look forward to returning the *Gambit* to a quarterly publication and with your help this will be done. This is one of several goals I have. I would like to request that all tournament organizers and directors provide me the final standings of their respective tournaments. Having a brief narrative about the tournament and a listing of the winners would be very much appreciated.

During my past tenure as editor, I enjoyed inputting your games and stories. If you take the time to provide material for the *Gambit* I will publish it. Please keep everything you submit positive, professional and chess related.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my *Gambit* contributors. Special thanks to NSCA Historical Archivist, **Bob Woodworth**, for all his help and support. I'm sure you will enjoy the articles Bob has submitted. **Mr. Collin Bleak** has submitted an outstanding article profiling a number of his tournament games with detailed analysis. I'm sure this instructive article will increase your rating by 100 points.

Special thanks to Collin for taking time out to write his article.

One major feature of this issue is a large number of tournaments I have documented. As of press time, I have nearly all the 2008 POY tournaments recorded. It is my sincere hope this information will help determine the POY leaders and preserve a record of these Nebraska events for all time.

Special thanks to **Ben Ryan, Mike Nolan, Mike Gooch, Tom Lombard, Richard Olson, David Buckey, Jim Walla** and his lovely wife, **Julie Thomson**, and many others for their support for me and their service to Nebraska chess.

The next *Gambit* is due in February 2009. My contact information is on page 2. Let me hear from you and together we will make the *Gambit* a proud and punctual publication again.

Kent B Nelson

A Very Memorable Chess Event

by
Robert Woodworth

In the Spring of 1960, in Buffalo, N.Y., I had my first chance to play in a chess simultaneous exhibition versus former world chess champion—Dr. Max Euwe of Amsterdam, Holland. The cost per player was \$4.00 to play GM Euwe. Since I was in college at the time (& totally broke financially), I borrowed the amount (plus bus fare to and from the Hotel Buffalo) from a good chess friend on campus. The total experience and the excitement was well worth the expense!

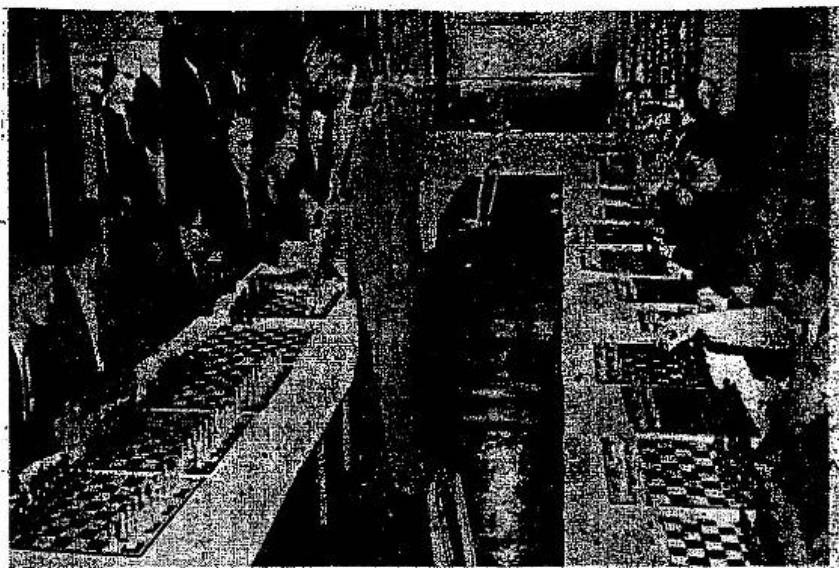
In the photograph on the next page, your writer (then 20 yrs. of age) is in the left-foremost margin intently watching GM Euwe make his first moves. Also, the person to my immediate left inflicted GM Euwe's only loss! (That game ended with pawns racing to queen and GM Euwe missing a winning in-between move by the victor). I played very confidently a Sicilian Dragon variation and was totally crushed by GM Euwe's king-side pawn storm!! (Also, my great excitement in watching the outcome to the game on my left did not help my game either!)

From this experience, I did learn a very important life-long lesson and it wasn't from the simul. game itself but my failure to grasp the great significance of the occasion itself. My greatest error was not saving the autographed SCORESHEET for the many years ahead! That game-score was such a treasure, that due to my neglect and inexperience, I do not even have it for this "GAMBIT" article! (But 45 years later when I played in a 2nd simul. versus former world champion Boris Spassky in Reno, Nevada, you can bet that I cherished and saved that gamescore!)

Today, I find myself as Archivist for the N.S.C.A. with the strong realization of the importance in retaining our historical and eventful game-scores and other chess materials. Recently the N.S.C.A. acquired the chess estate of Mr. Anton Sildmets. Due to his great diligence in saving and preserving his chess game scores & related materials, we have a very valuable record and amazing treasure of Nebraska chess history!

Finally, remember the above very important retention concept in regards to the history of Nebraska chess and chess in general, as you study the eventful photo. Thank you very much!

Bob Woodworth
NSCA Archivist



CHECK AND DOUBLE CHECK—Former world chess champion, Max Euwe of Amsterdam, Holland, makes his move against 14-year-old Daniel Tagliareni during a simultaneous chess match against 28 opponents last night at Hotel Buffalo. Tagliareni, youngest member of the Queen City, Chess Club, sponsors of the match, was beaten after 42 moves, a very creditable showing against the chess master. Euwe lost only one game, to Albert E. Vossler an English teacher at Akron Central High School was held to draws by Richard Freitag and Zigmund Spopinski, all members of the Queen City Club.

(Photo courtesy of the "Buffalo Evening News" Buffalo, NY)

The Inexhaustibility of the Game of Chess

by

Robert Woodworth

An inspiration to write this chess article occurred to me as a result of a conversation I had with a fellow chess enthusiast regarding the inexhaustibility of the game of chess. This article is an attempt to show that despite the great inroads made by chess computers, the many ideas to change the game and rules of play i.e. FischerRandom chess, 960 Chess, increasing the size of the board and adding new chess pieces etc., may be somewhat premature. (Last year the game of CHECKERS was completely solved by a computer program entitled "Chinook." The method was by sheer brute force wherein every totally possible checker position was analyzed! The final result was that with best play the initial starting position was always a draw). If and when our game of chess is ever 'solved' in a similar manner, then obviously changes will be necessary. (As an interesting mathematical fact, it has been calculated that the total number of possible, unique games of chess to be greater than the total number of atoms in the universe!!) So maybe our game can be left alone for sometime into the far distant future.

The following are **5 examples** of the richness & diversity that still makes the game of chess so unique and so special:

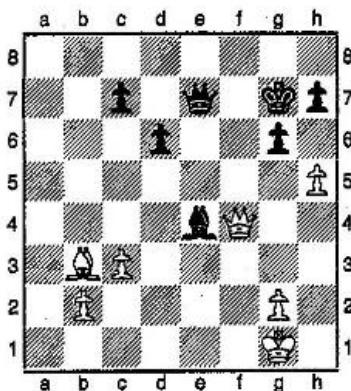
The first is an actual tournament game your writer witnessed at the Western States Open in Reno, Nevada in October, 2001.

White: GM Alex Yermolinsky (2600+)

Black: NM Emory Tate (2300+)

1. d4 c5 2. d5 e6 3. Nc3 e:d5 4. N:d5 Ne7 5. Bg5 h6 6. Bh4 Qa5+ 7. c3 Nf5?? 8. Qa4!! Q:a4 9. Ne7 mate!! This result was so amazing that GM Larry Evans stated afterwards that he never seen a master player actually checkmated in so few moves and under a tournament time-limit of 40 moves in 2 hours!

The second is a position from an actual game where White either wins material or checkmates the Black king by playing a very subtle bishop move which interrupts communication between the Black queen and the Black bishop.



B. Ivanovic vs. P. Popovic

Yugoslavia, 1973

White to move and win

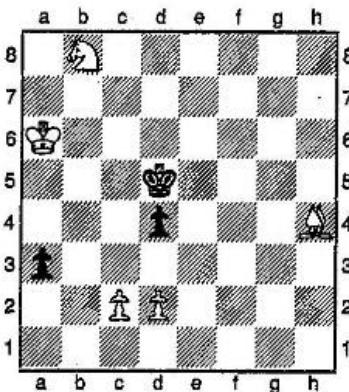
The 1st move is very obvious and the 2nd very devious!!

GM Alex Baburin published this interesting position in his August 2006 issue of *Chess Today*. I found it particularly interesting with its clever second move forcing the win.

(Hint: White's 2nd move is very subtle by blocking the Black queen on a file and diagonals.—Bob W.)

Source: J. Franklin Campbell's chess col. in the Nov.-Dec., 2006 American Postal Chess News Bulletin, the final issue for A.P.C.T. (Bob W.)

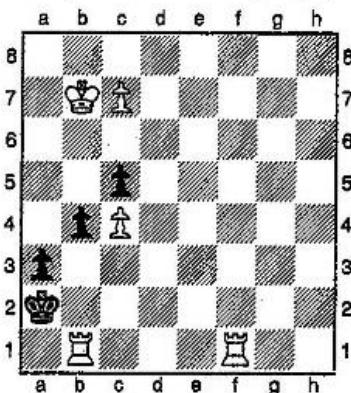
The third is an amazing composed endgame by L.I. Kubbel in 1922. See the diagram below where it appears that White cannot stop the a-pawn from 'queening' and Black winning easily. White has an absolutely fantastic array of resources to win from this position!!



White to play and win

Solution: 1. **Nc6, K:c6** (if 1...a2 then 2 Nb4+ wins the pawn) 2 **Bf6, Kd5** (forced for if 2.Kc5 then 3 Be7+ wins the pawn) 3 **d3!!!, a2** 4. **c4+, Kc5** (if 4.d:c3 e.p., 5. B:c3 wins) 5 **Kb7, a1 (Q)** 6 **Be7** checkmate!!!! Absolutely astounding!

The fourth is a chess problem which often stumps solvers completely, despite the scanty material. White to play and force mate in exactly **4 moves**. (The only correct first move for White is so subtle that 999 chessplayers out of 100 would never consider it!) Give it a try. (by O. von Krobshofer)

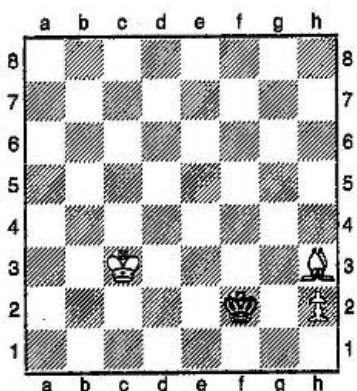


White to play and checkmate in 4 moves

Solution: 1. **c8 (B)!! b3** 2. **Bg4, b2** 3, **Bd1, K:b1** 4 **Bb3** mate!!! Very, very clever!

(Source: "The Guardian Chess Book" by Leonard Barden, 1967, Coronet Books publisher)

The fifth and lastly, is the following position which is about as simple appearing as is possible but as difficult to solve as is possible!! Give it your best attempt and then put it into 'Fritz' and he may find the correct plan for White. (Good luck!)



White to play & win (queen the pawn)

Note: This is the simplest yet the most devious chess ending ever devised!! (The author is not known!)

(Both Grandmasters Boris Spassky & Mikhail Tal gave-up after attempting a solution for nearly an hour!!)

In conclusion, your writer hopes that the above examples show by their sheer depth and creativity that our game is not "played out" but has a very strong future & only limited by what the human mind can conceive.

The following pages have games provided by **Mr. Collin Bleak**. The actual games are recorded in bold print with Fritz analysis in brackets.—Ed

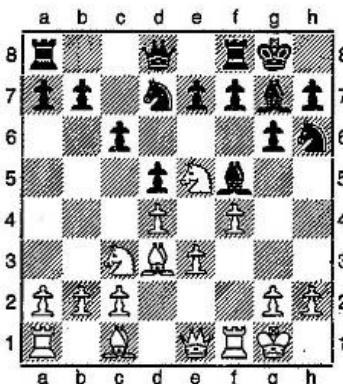
Collin Bleak's Omaha Open Games

1) Stenseng S (1383) - Bleak C (1995) [A03]

Omaha Spring Open Omaha, NE (1), 12.04.2008

[Bleak Collin]

1.f4 d5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 Bg7 4.e3 Nh6 5.Bd3 0-0 6.Nc3?? In this system, White should try for c4 at some point. This N-move gives Black too easy a time in the center. **6...Bf5 7.0-0 c6 8.Ne5 Nd7 9.Qe1??**



9...c5! 10.Nxd7 Qxd7 11.dxc5 Bxd3 12.cxd3 d4 13.Ne4 dxe3

14.Qxe3?? [>=14.Bxe3 Ng4 15.Bf2 Nxf2 16.Nxf2 Bxb2

17.Rb1 Bd4-/+] **14...Bd4-+** White played on to move 44. **0-1**

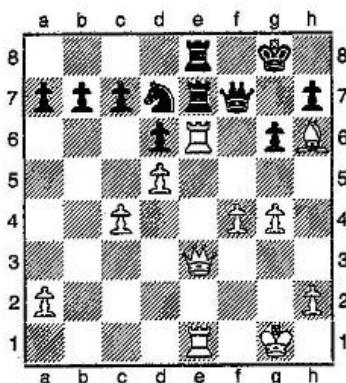
(2) Bleak C (1995) - Reams T (1645) [A84]

Omaha Spring Open Omaha, NE (2), 12.04.2008

[Bleak Collin]

White did not make much from the opening, and so a difficult even game ensued. From moves 8-15, there was no advantage to be found, and the game was difficult for both sides. Black's 15th move damaged the White P-structure, but it also enabled White to have an unassailable control of the dark squares around the Black K, and it made it difficult for Black to deploy his N to effect. These long term considerations led to Black's eventual demise. White dominated the e-file, and the game ended abruptly. **1.d4 f5 2.e4 d6 3.g3 Ne6 4.Bg2 g6 5.Nf3 Bg7 6.Nc3** [**6.d5!?** Ne5 7.Nxe5 Bxe5 8.0-0 Bg7 9.e4 fxe4 10.Bxe4

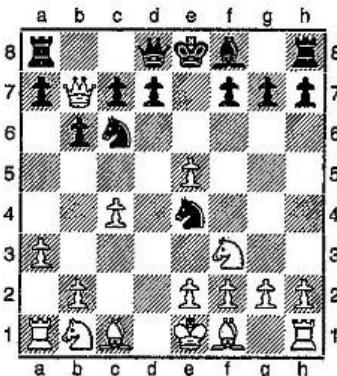
Nf6 11.Bg2=] 6...e5 7.dxe5 Nxe5 8.0-0 Ne7 9.e4 0-0 10.Qe2 Rb8
11.Re1 Be6 12.Nxe5 Bxe5 13.Bh6 Re8 14.Rad1 Here we have a series of inaccurate moves from both sides. 14...Nc6?! Now Black cannot kick a N out of d5. 15.f4?! This ignores the cleaner path. [>=15.Nd5! fxe4 16.Bxe4 Qd7 17.Bg2 Qf7 18.Qf3= Bxb2?! This is too greedy, the White R on d1 will penetrate the seventh rank.
 19.Qxf7+ Bxf7 20.Rxe8+ Rxe8 21.Rb1 Bg7 22.Bxg7 Kxg7
 23.Rxb7 Re1+ 24.Bf1 Nd4 25.Rxa7+/-] 15...Bxc3!? Fritz 6.7 thinks this move is good. If the threat of Nd5 is that strong, then Black must be in real trouble; the doubled c-P's hold back the Black N-c6, and Black needs his primary dark square defender. [15...Bd4+!? 16.Kh1 Bxc3 17.bxc3 fxe4 18.Qxe4 Bf7 19.Qd3+/-]
16.bxc3 fxe4 17.Qxe4 Qf6 18.Qd3+/- Qf7 19.Bd5 Bxd5
20.cxd5 Ne7 21.g4!+/- Ne8 22.Qd4 Nb6 23.c4 [<23.Re6!? This leads to a harder-to-win won-position for White than the game line, where Black gets no activity. 23...Nxd5 24.Rxe8+ Rxe8
 25.Qxd5 Re1+ 26.Kf2 Rxd1 27.Qxd1 Qxa2+ 28.Kg3 Qc4 29.Qe1 Kf7 30.Bg5 Qe6+/-] 23...Re7 24.Re6!+ Black offered a draw here! This caused White to strengthen his resolve to see the victory through. Only two further moves were required. 24...Nd7
25.Rde1 Rbe8 26.Qe3!



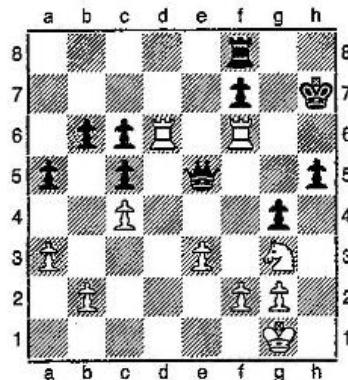
Material loss (without improving position) is unavoidable, so Black resigned. [26.Qe3! Rxe6 27.dxe6 Rxe6 (27...Qf6 28.Bg5 Qg7 29.exd7 Rxe3 30.d8Q+ Qf8 31.Qxf8+ Kxf8 32.Rxe3+/-)
 28.Qxe6 Qxe6 29.Rxe6 Kf7 30.Re3+/-] 1-0

(3) Metcalfe A (1681) - Bleak C (1995) [A51]
Omaha Spring Open Omaha, NE (3), 12.04.2008
[Bleak Collin]

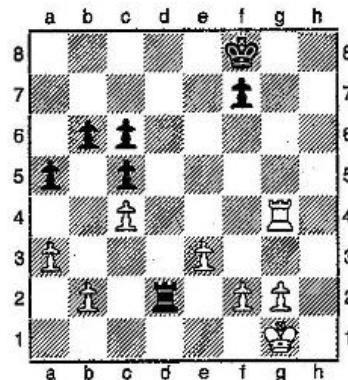
1.d4 Nf6 2.e4 e5 3.dxe5 Ne4 4.Nf3 b6?? This line is no good after 4.Nf3. 5.Qd5 Bb7 6.Qxb7 Nc6 Can White find a way to win here?



7.a3? White misses the saving move. [>=7.Nd4!+-] 7...Nc5=/
8.Qxa8 Qxa8 9.Nc3 Nb3-/+ 10.Rb1 Nxc1?! [>=10...Nca5!
11.e4 Qc6 12.Nd5 Nxc4 13.Bf4 Qg6 14.Nxc7+ Kd8 15.Ng5 h6
16.Nxf7+ Qxf7 17.Nd5 Qg6 18.f3 Qc6+-] **11.Rxc1=/+ a5 12.e3**
Be7 13.Bd3 0-0 14.0-0 Qe8!-/+ 15.Be4 Bd8 16.Bxc6 dxc6
17.Rfd1 g5?! This maintains a slight Black edge, but P-f6 was stronger. [>=17...f6! 18.exf6 Bxf6-/+] **18.Rd4=/+ c5 19.Re4 Qe6**
20.h3 h5 [20...c6!? 21.Rd1 Be7 22.Rg4 h6 23.Re4 Rd8
24.Rxd8+ Bxd8-/+] **21.Rd1 Kg7?!** [>=21...Be7!? 22.Nd5 Rd8!
This variation is very sharp. 23.Nxe7+ Qxe7 24.Rxd8+ Qxd8
25.e6 fxe6 26.Rxe6-/+] **22.h4?!** **g4 23.Ng5 Bxg5 24.hxg5 Qf5**
25.Rf4 Qxg5?! Black had not yet realized how powerful the << Black pawns could become. [>=25...Qc2! It is hard for White to get to the Black K, so Black can afford to go after the White << pawns. 26.Rd7 Qxb2 27.Ne4 Qxe5 28.Rd5 Qa1+ 29.Kh2 Qxa3 30.g6 f5-+] **26.Rd5 c6 27.Ne4 Qe7 28.Ng3 Kh7?!** [
>=28...Kg8!? 29.Rd2 Qxe5 30.Rf5 Qe6 31.Rg5+ Kh7 32.Rxh5+ Kg6 33.Rh4 f5-+] **29.Rd6? Qxe5 30.Rff6?!** The big moment, Black plays a long combination with sacrifices to force a material-down, yet fantastic, endgame.



Black was unconvinced by $Q \times b2$, as the black << P's could fall as well. After 12 minutes thought, Black had checked and confirmed that the following combination. **30...Rd8! 31.Rh6+ Kg7 32.Nxh5+ Qxh5 33.Rxh5 Rxd6 34.Rg5+ Kf8 35.Rxg4 Rd2**

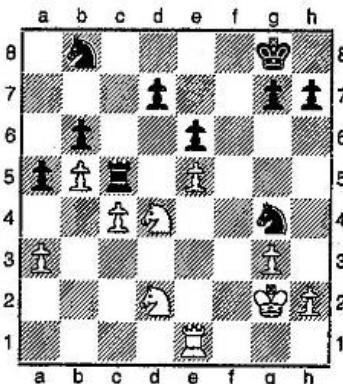


This is the position Black had been analyzing when thinking about his move 30. Black was unable to find a way for White to save this endgame. However, it seems that with best play, White may hold a draw. **36.b4?** This loses instantly, and was played quickly. [$>=36.Rh4! Rxb2 37.Rh6 b5 38.Rxc6 b4 39.Rxc5 bxa3 40.Rxa5 a2 41.Kh2 Rxf2 42.Kg3 Rc2=]$ **36...axb4 37.axb4 cxb4 38.c5 bxc5 39.Rc4 b3+**

0-1

(4) Bleak C (1995) - Wagner J (1867) [E16]
Omaha Spring Open Omaha, NE (4), 12.04.2008
[Bleak Collin]

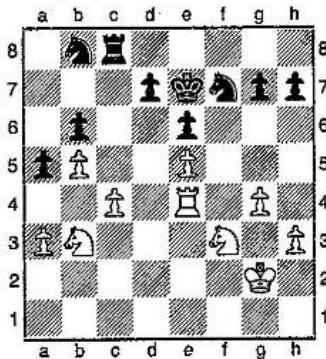
The final game of the tournament, for \$160, and if White wins, he will finally obtain an expert ranking. However, it was not to be. White obtained a superb position, but tenacious defense by Black enabled him to slip out of a bind after White lost the thread of the position. The moves through move 24 all seem reasonable. White slowly and gradually outplayed Black to create a solid bind. On move 25, White missed a winning shot. Then, White started following some shallow attacking ideas. This allowed Black to break out of the bind creating a simple and strong winning position for Black. White then went on to lose on time. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Qe7 7.a3 Bxd2+ 8.Nbxd2 c5 9.0-0 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Bxg2 11.Kxg2 0-0 12.e4 Qc5 13.Nb5 a6 14.b4 Qc6 15.Nd4 Qb7 16.Qf3 Ra7 17.b5! a5 18.e5 Ng4 19.Qxb7 Rxb7 20.Rae1 f6 21.f4 fxe5 22.fxe5 Rxf1 23.Nxf1 Rc7 24.Nd2+/- Rc5 How can White win in the following position?



25.N4f3?!+/- [>=25.Re4!+/- h5 (25...Nxe5? 26.N4b3+;- 25...Nh6 26.N4b3 Rc7 27.c5 bxc5 28.Nxa5+-) 26.h3 Nh6 27.N4b3 Rc7 28.c5 bxc5 29.Nxa5 Ra7 30.Ndc4+] 25...Kf8
 26.h3 Nh6 27.g4?! This move order allows the Black N to fight for the center. Other move orders enable White to put an even stronger bind on Black. [27.Ng5! Kg8 (27...Ke7 28.g4+/- (

28.Nxh7? Nf7 29.g4 Rxe5=) 28.g4+/-] 27...Nf7!+/- 28.Re4 Ke7

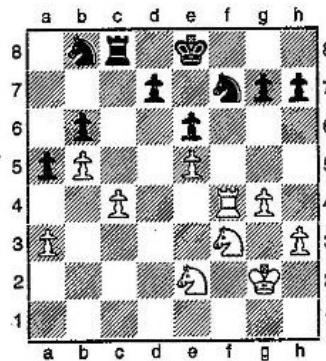
29.Nb3 Rc8 Now White begins to make some shallow moves, based on tactical threats, hoping for a quick knockout. What is the correct path?



30.Nbd4?! [30.c5! This seems to be the only way for White to fight for an advantage. 30...bxc5 31.Nxa5 d5 32.exd6+ Nxd6

33.Re3 Nxb5 34.Rb3 Nd6 35.Rxb8 Rxb8 36.Nc6+ Kd7

37.Nxb8+/- It looks like White is just winning, but alas, the N does not escape so easily! 37...Kc7 38.Na6+ Kb6 39.Nxc5 Kxc5 40.Ng5 Kd5 41.Nxh7+-] 30...Kd8 31.Rf4?! Ke8=/+ White's pieces lack harmony, and Black will be able to open the center to good effect. 32.Ne2 How can Black free his game?



32...d6! (W 25, B 6). **33.exd6?** White plays this move after five minutes thought, but the move is poor. The move was somehow made automatically, even though five minutes were used. [>=33.Re4! Nd7 34.exd6 e5 35.Re3 Rxc4 36.Nd2 Rc2 37.Ne4 Nf6

38.Nxf6+ gxf6 39.Kf3-/+ This is, of course, losing as well, but it was a sterner fight, and Black was in tremendous time pressure.]

33...Nxd6-/+ 34.Ne5 Nd7 35.Rd4 Nxe5 36.Rxd6 Nxc4 37.Rxe6+ Kf7 Here both players stopped recording. White had squandered a huge portion of his time in the last few moves, as he realized his position was totally collapsing. (W 8.5, B 4). White should still possibly be OK due to his time advantage, but in fact he lost on time in a totally lost position, with Black retaining 4 seconds on his clock. **0-1**

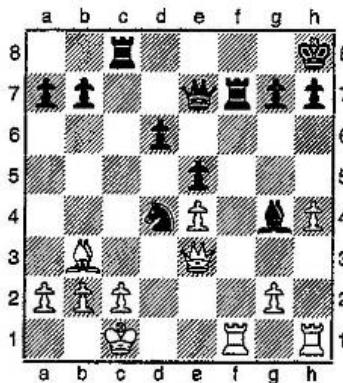
(5) Solheim J (1370) - Bleak C (1989) [B07]

Omaha May 3rd Event Omaha, NE (1), 03.05.2008

[Bleak Collin]

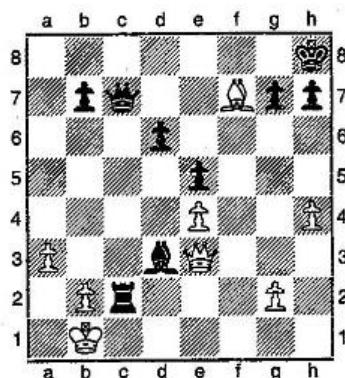
This tournament was quite a roller coaster for me. In each game, at some point, my opponent could make a move to get a strong advantage, and even a winning game in some cases. Nonetheless, luck was with me, and I won all of the games. However, there was a cruel twist; I thought I had made expert (rating 2000) after many years work, but it was not to be. My new rating? 1999! **1.e4 d6**

2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Be3 Ng4 5.Qe2 c6 6.d5 Be7 7.Nf3 Nxe3 8.Qxe3 0-0 9.0-0-0 f5 10.h4 fxe4 11.Ng5 cxd5 12.Nxd5 Nc6 13.Bc4 Kh8 14.f3 Nd4 15.fxe4 Bg4 16.Rdf1 Rc8 17.Bb3 Qe8? [
 $\geq 17 \dots \text{Rxf1+} 18. \text{Rxf1 Bxg5} 19. \text{hxg5 Nxb3+} 20. \text{axb3 Be6} 21. \text{Kb1 b6} 22. \text{Rd1 Rc5} 23. \text{Nc3=+}]$ **18.Nxe7! Qxe7 19.Nf7+ Rxf7** White can win here. What is the correct recapture on f7?



20.Bxf7? [$\geq 20. \text{Rxf7! Nxc2} 21. \text{Qg3 Qe8} 22. \text{Kb1 h5} 23. \text{Rc1 Nd4} 24. \text{Rxc8 Qxc8+-}]$ **20...Nxc2!-+ 21.Qxa7** What is the winning move?

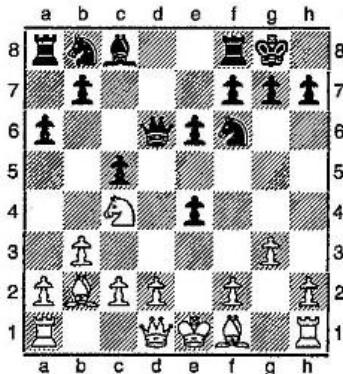
21...Ne3+!? Black saw that this won by force, but he was sure an even faster move had to be on the board. Black underestimated N-e1+, but the line played, while objectively less strong, leads to an easier win. [Black studied the following move for some time. White cannot retreat into his shelter, but the checks run out, the N is lost, and Black has back rank issues. 21...Na3+ 22.Kd2 Qc7 23.Rc1 Qxf7 24.Rxc8+ Bxc8 25.Qxa3 Qf2++/-] **22.Kb1 Nxfl**
23.Rxf1 Be2 The R has no good square; in light of the check on d3, White must be careful of his back rank. Thus B-f7 must fall.
24.Rc1 Bd3+ 25.Rc2 Rxc2 26.Qe3 Qc7 27.a3?! White is completely lost, but this allows mate in three. Can you find the shot that ended the war?



27...Rxb2+! 0-1

(6) Bleak C (1989) - Loudon A (1533) [A06]
Omaha May 3rd Event Omaha, NE (2), 03.05.2008
[Bleak Collin]

1.Nf3 d5 2.b3 c5 3.e4!? White has been cooking up this "Fajarowicz reversed." This was his first tournament game with the line. It appears to be a new move in the position. The game succeeds in demonstrating that White needs to work on his play here. 3...dxe4 4.Ne5 Nf6 5.Bb2 e6 6.Nc3 Bd6 7.Nb5 0-0 8.g3?! [=>8.Nxd6! Qxd6 9.d3 Rd8 10.Ng4 Qf4 11.Nxf6+ gxf6 12.g3 Qg5 13.f4 exf3 14.Qxf3 Nd7 15.Bg2© For example... 15...Ne5 16.Qf4 Qxf4 17.gxf4 Ng6 18.Bxf6 Rd7 19.Be4+/-] **8...a6 9.Nxd6 Qxd6 10.Nc4** What is the correct Black Q move?

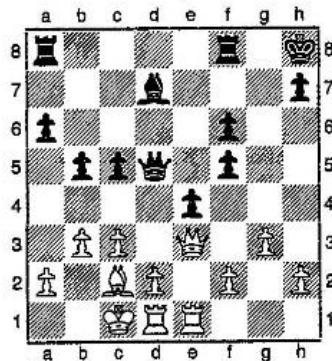


10...Qc7? [$\geq 10...Qd8!/+$ After this, White would struggle for a draw. Here is some sort of example line, where White only survives by inflicting structural damage while Black is going about winning material. 11.a4 Nc6 12.a5 Nd4 13.Bg2 Re8 14.c3 Nc6 15.0-0 e5 16.f4 exf3 17.Bxf3 Be6 18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.Nxe5 Bxb3 20.Qxb3 Rxe5 21.c4 Re2 22.Qf3 Rxd2 23.Rad1 Rxd1 24.Rxd1 Qe7 25.Bxf6 gxf6 26.Rf1 Re8 27.Qxf6 Qxf6 28.Rxf6=]

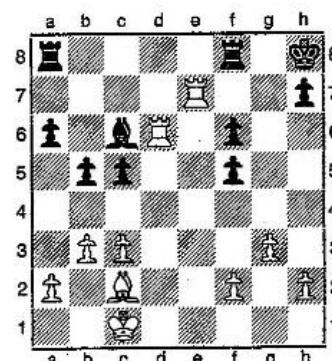
11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.Qg4+ Kh8 13.Qxe4+= Nc6 14.Bd3?! This only accomplishes putting the B on the wrong square. If White wants to provoke P-f5, he could just play Q-h4, which is coming anyway. It may not make P-f5 happen, but it is more flexible for the B, and continues the attack more effectively than the game. [
 $\geq 14.Qh4! Qd8 15.Bg2 Ne5 16.Ne3 f5 17.Qh6 Rg8 18.f4 Rg6 19.Qh5 Qd4 20.c3 Nd3+ 21.Kd1 Qd8 22.Qe2+/-; \geq 14.Bg2!?$
Nb4 15.c3 f5 16.Qb1 Nd5 17.Ne3 Nxe3 18.fxe3 Bd7 19.0-0 Bc6 20.Bxc6 Qxc6 21.d3+=]

14...f5 15.Qh4 f6 16.Qh6 Bd7= This was the move White missed in his calculations when played B-d3. White assumed the Black Q would have to retreat home (not that this is enough to justify the move B-d3, which is bad by any account). **17.c3!** White is now admitting that he has gone astray, and plays a sequence of moves to solidify his position before returning to the attack. **17...Ne5 18.Nxe5 Qxe5+ 19.Qe3 Qd5?!** [
 $\geq 19...Bc6! 20.Rg1 Bf3 21.Be2 Bxe2 22.Qxe2 Rad8 23.f4 Qxe2+ 24.Kxe2=$ Black's development advantage compensates for his P-structure.] **20.0-0-0!+=** [$\geq 20.0-0?!$ Bc6 21.f3 Rad8 22.Bc4 Qxd2 23.Qxd2? Rxd2 24.Bxe6 Re8 25.Rfe1 f4 26.gxf4-/+ This position convinced White he was being foolish to think about this line.]

20...b5 21.Rhe1?! This gives Black enough time to make something on the <<. [>=21.Bc2! a5 22.d4 cxd4 23.Qxd4 a4 24.Qxd5 exd5 25.Rhe1+-] **21...e5?!** Black returns the favor, and plays where White is strong. [>=21...a5! 22.Bc2 a4 23.d4 axb3 24.axb3 c4 25.b4 Ra2 26.Bb1 Ra3 27.Rd2=] **22.Bc2 e4?** White to play and, essentially, to win.



[>=22...Rac8 23.f4 Rce8 White has a minuscule pull.] **23.d3!+- exd3 24.Rxd3 Qf7 25.Qe7?!** [>=25.Qxc5! Rfc8 26.Qd6 Bc6 27.Re7 Qf8 28.g4 Rd8 29.Qe6 Rxd3 30.Bxd3 Be4 31.Bxe4 Qh6+ 32.Kb2 fxe4 33.Qxe4+-] **25...Qxe7?!** [>=25...Ra7 26.Qxc5 Bc8+- White is still winning, but it is not as easy as in the main game line.] **26.Rxe7 Bc6 27.Rd6** Faced with a long, dour defense, Black chose to save his energies for a later game. **1-0**



(7) Leacock T (1819) - Bleak C (1989) [E16]

Omaha May 3'rd Event Omaha, NE (3), 03.05.2008

[Bleak Collin]

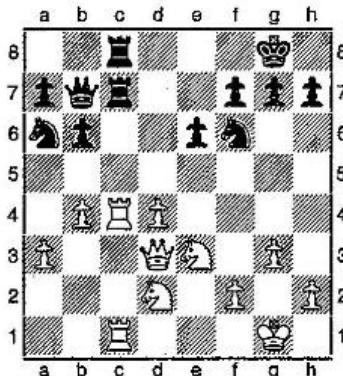
A spoiled positional game. The two contestants fought for a long time, with near equality. Finally, Black's cramped position led him to a sad place. Fortunately for Black, White missed the winning line on move 32 (a Fritz miracle!) and became passive instead. Black then pursued an outwardly nice attack on the White P-b5, which was the wrong P to attack, due to some available sneaky tactics for White. Once again, White missed his chance, and instead overreacted to the Black pressure, sacrificing his R for a N and P. The sacrifice produced inadequate compensation; Black managed to drive the White pieces to bad squares, creating an easy win (particularly in White's time trouble). Of particular interest is the fact that the game may have contained an illegal move (see note to move 45)! **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Qe7 7.0-0 0-0 8.a3 Bxd2 9.Nbxd2 c5 10.e3**

Na6!? This looks a little funky, when Nc6 is also good. Black must follow up correctly to justify the plan. [=10...Nc6!? 11.Rc1 (11.Ne5?! Rab8 12.Bxc6 dxc6 13.Ndf3 cxd4 14.exd4 c5=+)]

11...Rac8 12.dxc5 bxc5 13.b4 d5 14.b5 Nb8 15.Qa4 a6 16.bxa6 Nxa6 17.Reb1 Ra8=] 11.Rc1 Rad8 12.Qc2 d6 13.Ne1 Bxg2

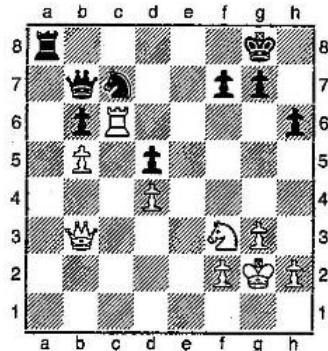
14.Nxg2 cxd4 15.exd4 Re8!? Perhaps the R-d8 was an error earlier, although it did coerce the White Q to move and declare intentions. **16.Qd3 Qb7** [=16...Nc7!?=] 17.Ne3 Rc7 18.Rc2 d5= **19.Rfc1 Rfc8!?** This is possibly an error; it allows White time for a bit more << expansion. [19...dxc4!? 20.Nexc4 Rd8 21.b4 b5 22.Na5 Qb6 23.Nc6 (23.Rxc7 Nxc7 24.Rc6 Qb8 25.Rc5 Re8 26.Nc6 Qb6=) 23...Rd6 24.Qf3 Rdd7=] **20.b4! dxc4**

21.Rxc4!? What positional move will give Black a slight plus?

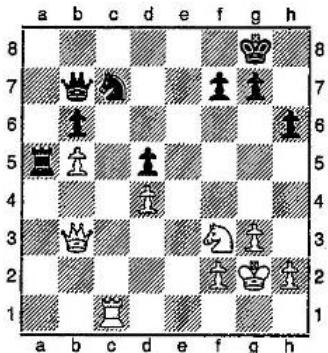


21...Rxc4?! [$\geq 21...b5! =/+$ This was a great chance for equality on the <<. Given the weak White P-d4, Black should have a slight advantage here.] **22.Rxc4 Rd8?!** Tempting at the time.

Unfortunately, Black is not dealing with his main problem, the threat of P-b4-b5. [$\geq 22...Rxc4$ 23.Nexc4 Nc7 24.Ne5 b5 25.h3 a6 26.Kh2 Ncd5= White's active knights compensate for his inferior P-structure. Perhaps Black is slightly better. White has few targets to attack. From the game continuation, it is likely that this was Black's last chance to keep the balance.] **23.Qc3 Nd5** At first blush, Fritz does not like this move, but the alternatives all turn sour after some weird turns. **24.Nxd5 exd5** **25.Rc6 Ne5?!** Black hallucinated that this would be the beginning of the end for White, but the reverse was true. **26.b5! Ne6** White has a great position here, after he activates his N. Black is almost in zugzwang. **27.Nf3! a6** **28.a4 axb5** **29.axb5 h6** **30.Kg2?!** [$\geq 30.Qa3!$ Here, White controls the files, and Black is in for some tough defense. 30...Kh7 (30...Ra8?! 31.Qd6 Rd8 32.Rxb6 Qa7+/-) 31.Qa6 Rb8+/-] **30...Ra8?!** Black must activate his pieces, or doom will silently find him. In fact, there is very little that Black can do, and he only wins by bluffing a counterattack. **31.Qb3 Ne7** Can you find the winning play for White? (Warning, this is a very difficult challenge!)

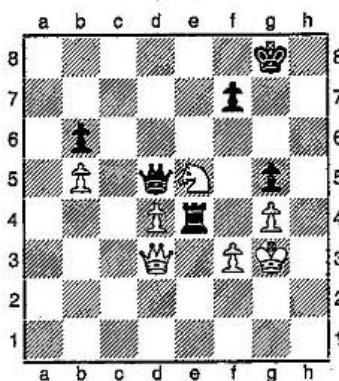


32.Rc1?! This move throws away most of the White advantage. Fritz finds an amazing winning line... [>=32.Nh4! Ra5 33.Nf5 Nx b5 34.Qxd5 Nc3 35.Nxh6+!! Kh7 36.Qf3 Rd5 37.Qd3+ g6 38.Qxc3 Kxh6 39.Rc7 Re5+ 40.Rxb7 Rxc3 41.Rxb6 Rd3 42.Rd6+-] **32...Ra5?** Can you find White's last chance to get an advantage (still hard, but simpler than the last puzzle)?



[>=32...Re8! 33.Rc6 (33.Ne5!? Ne6 34.Qd3 Qe7 35.Nc6 Qg5 36.Qe3=) 33...Re4 34.Qd3 Ne6 35.Qb3 Nc7=] **33.Rxc7?** This is an overreaction to pressure. Black has won many games in just this fashion; an opponent who is winning believes he is in trouble, so he overreacts and throws away his game. [>=33.Ne5! Nx b5 34.Nc6 Ra1! 35.Rxa1 Qxc6+/-] **33...Qxc7 34.Qxd5 Qe7-/+ 35.Qc6 Qe6 36.Ne5** At this point White had 6 minutes to Black's 24. Both sides make errors in the White time pressure, but Black never gives up his advantage completely. **36...Ra4**

37.Nf3?! [>=37.Nd7!? This more active path would force Black to play more precisely, although the final outcome is never truly in doubt. 37...g6 38.Nxb6 Rxd4 39.Nc8 Qxc6+!?
 40.bxc6 Rc4 41.f4 Kf8 42.Na7 Ke7 43.f5 Rc5 44.Nc8+ Kf6
 45.fxg6 Rxc6 46.Na7 Rc2+ 47.Kf3 fxg6+-] 37...Re4 38.Qa8+
Rc8 39.Qa6 Rd8 40.Qa4 Qd5+- Black has succeeded in convincing White to leave the center of the board. It is now a matter of patience; White has no way to generate pressure on Black, and with the pinned N, his position must collapse in time. 41.Qb4 g5 42.g4 h5 43.h3 hxg4 44.hxg4 Rd6 45.Qd2
 Black's gamescore shows Q-e2 here, and not Q-d2. Since the Black response makes little sense with Q-d2 (when it seems likely that Q-e4 or P-f6 would have been played), I believe Q-e2 was actually the move played, in which case the R-e6 response is reasonable. 45...Re6?! 46.Qd3 [>=46.Qxg5+ This looks like a reasonable defense by White in case Q-d2 was played. Black is still in good shape, but the win is no longer trivial (except that White is in horrendous time pressure).
 46...Qxg5 47.Nxg5 Rd6 48.Nf3 Rd5-+] 46...Re4 47.Kg3 Qe6
48.Ne5 Qd5 Black decided to repeat moves while looking for the win, but White blundered. 49.f3?? Can you end this game?



49...Rxe5! 0-1

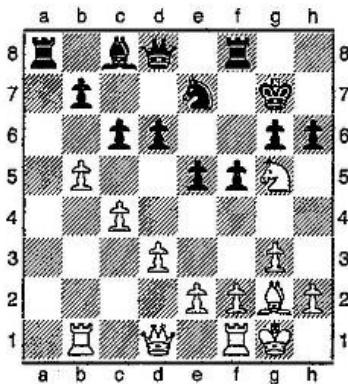
(8) Bleak C (1989) - Fabricant,B (1943) [A26]

Omaha May 3rd Event Omaha, NE (4), 03.05.2008

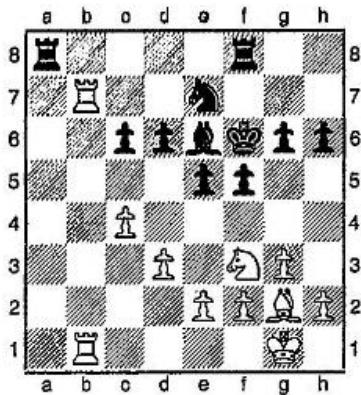
[Bleak Collin]

The final round of the tournament. I was excited to be playing for first, against a new and strong attacking opponent. If I would win, not only would I get a nice financial reward, but after years of struggle, I would finally break the 2000 pt glass ceiling (or so I thought!), and enter the coveted Expert class. On the other hand, I had the strong impression that my chess had been uninspired throughout the day. In fact, I was pretty sure that I was just lucky not to have lost each of my earlier rounds. (This conviction has now been verified by analysis.) I determined to give the game my all, despite the psychological drain I was feeling as a result of my sporadic play throughout the first three rounds. Importantly, I knew I needed to steer the game into positional channels, looking for a possible mismatch in our skills. (I knew my opponent to be a fierce attacker, but in games against other opponents I had also seen him make moves that I felt might be positionally questionable.) In fact, Black did have his chance, on move 24, to force a decent advantage for himself. However, he missed his shot. After Black made some moves that weakened his P-structure, White found some nice winning tactics. 1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.0-0 d6 Black often plays Benoni and KID setups. 6.Nc3 e5 7.d3 Ne6 8.Rb1 a5 9.a3 Nh5 10.b4 axb4 11.axb4 f5 12.Bg5 Ne7 13.Nd5 Nf6 14.Nxf6+ Bxf6 15.Bh6!? White would rather trade on g7, pulling the Black K out a bit more, and not helping to activate the R-f8. If Black moves his R to e8, then it seems his counter-attack is stalling out. 15...Bg7??! [>=15...Re8= While not delightful, this was probably the better option.] 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Ng5 White is having fantasies of sacrifices on b7. 17...c6 This position contains a huge lesson for me about these sorts of positions. White must trade off the

Black heavy pieces on the << for his minor piece pressure to count for anything. **18.b5?!** [18.Ra1! Rxal (18...Bd7?! 19.Rxa8 Qxa8 20.Qa1 f4 (20...h6 21.Nf3 Be6 22.Qb2 b6 23.c5! bxc5 24.bxc5 Rb8 25.Qc1 e4 26.Nd4 Bd5 27.cxd6+-) 21.gxf4! Rxf4 22.Qxa8+-) 19.Qxa1 h6 20.Nf3 f4 21.c5+/-] **18...h6!?**



This last move is often played by White in the Closed Sicilian (Black is playing the White side of a Closed Sicilian, down a tempo). However, Ph2-h3 is usually played as prophylaxis against a B-g4 developing move, and to gain space. It is not clear to me that it is appropriate at this late stage of the game. On one hand, it gains space, and drives back the annoying N. On the other hand, g6 gets a little weak, and later on this comes back to haunt Black. I do not know the answer to this question. **19.bxc6 bxc6 20.Nf3** It is not clear that White has got much out of the opening and early middlegame. It will all hinge on whether he can find some play against the slightly exposed Black K. **20...Qc7 21.Qb3 Be6?!** **22.Qb7?!** This penetration is premature, as Black can counter-attack the P-e2 after swapping Q's. **22...Qxb7 23.Rxb7 Kf6 24.Rfb1?!** How can Black get an edge?

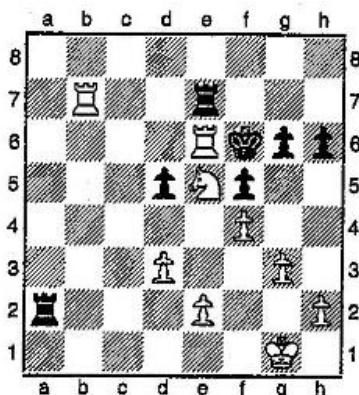


24...d5?! This move makes P-e5 very weak. Is it weak enough to capture?

[>=24...Ra2=/+ This was Black's chance to give White a headache.] **25.Nxe5!+/- Ra2** It is too late for this. **26.cxd5!?** [>=26.Rxe7! Kxe5 (26...Kxe7 27.Nxg6++- This lends some small support to questioning the play Ph7-h6.) 27.cxd5 cxd5 28.Rb6 This is very simlar to the game continuation. Unfortunately, White could not work it all out on move 26, although he saw that the move played maintained material and attack. 28...Ra1+ 29.Bf1 Rf6 30.f4+ Kd4 What is the poetic way to continue for White?

31.Rxe6!? (>=31.Rc6! g5 32.Kf2 Ra2 (32...gxf4 33.gxf4 changes nothing.) 33.Rb7+- Black can postpone mate for three moves.) 31...Rxe6 32.Rxe6 g5 33.Kf2 Ra2] **26...Nxd5** **27.Bxd5 cxd5** **28.R1b6!?** **Re8?** [>=28...Kxe5 29.Re7 Ra1+ 30.Kg2 Rf6 31.f4+ Kd4 32.Rexe6 Rxe6 33.Rxe6+- This was the planned line.] **29.f4+- Re7** The decisive blow is on the board.

30.Rxe6+! It is mate in three. [30.Rxe6+ Kg7 (30...Rxe6 31.Rf7#; 30...Kxe6 31.Rb6#) 31.Rexe7+ Kf8 32.Nxg6+ Kg8 33.Rg7#] **1-0**



Final Position 1-0



Like Father, Like Son
Collin & Tristan Bleak



The Nebraska chess community welcomes the Bleak family and
Nebraska's newest chess expert!



Special thanks to Nebraska's chess historical archivist, **Bob Woodworth**, for his *Gambit* articles and service to the NSCA!

MY 12 FAVORITE CHESS BOOKS OF ALL TIME

by

Robert Woodworth

Your writer has been reading & collecting chess books for the past 55 years or so. It has been my all-consuming hobby within the game itself. Possessing an extensive chess library, I decided to compile a listing of my all-time favorites. The important selection criteria was the quality and richness of the writing, a monumental uniqueness of theme and a great impact and importance for the reader.

I originally decided on a 'favorite dozen' but due to the great publishing deluge of chess books in the past 20 years or so, I've included another dozen. These additional twelve definitely merit an acknowledgment! So without any preferential order here, with a very brief description, are my selections.

- 1 ***Logical Chess: Move by Move***, Irving Chernev, 1957 and a new algebraic edition in 1998 by Batsford. (33 complete games with every move annotated with superb & lucid explanations.)
- 2 ***Chess Master vs. Chess Amateur***, Max Euwe & Walter Meiden, 1963, David McKay Co., Inc. (Very well annotated games showing the great difference between master and amateur play.)
- 3 ***My 60 Memorable Games***, Bobby Fischer, 1969, Simon and Schuster (Great games & annotations by a very great player.)
- 4 ***New Ideas In Chess***, Larry Evans, 1958, Pitman Publishing Co, (A unique primer on the very basic elements of chess itself.)
- 5 ***The Fireside Book of Chess***, 1949, Irving Chernev & Fred Reinfeld, Simon & Schuster, (Possibly contains the richest content and warmest [no pun intended,] writing of any chess book ever written!)

- 6 ***The Chess Struggle In Practice***, 1978, David Bronstein, David McKay Co., Inc. (The Zurich Candidates Tournament of 1953 and the best chess tournament book ever written!)
- 7 ***Rubinstein's Chess Masterpieces***, 1941, Hans Kmoch, David McKay Co. (Very well written and well annotated games by the greatest player never to become world champion.)
- 8 ***My Best Games of Chess 1908—1923***, 1927, A Alekhine, G. Bell & Sons (100 great games richly annotated by one of the most brilliant chessplayers of all time.)
- 9 ***The Ideas Behind the Chess Openings***, 1957, Reuben Fine and new algebraic edition in 1989, David McKay Co. (This book is the best ever written to explain the reasons behind the moves in the chess openings.)
- 10 ***Simple Chess***, 1978, Michael Stean, Faber and Faber, (A very unique book explaining the elements and correct strategies in some well selected game positions. Very, very instructive!)
- 11 ***Paul Morphy—The Pride and Sorrow of Chess***, 1976, David Lawson, David McKay Co, Inc. (The best and most definitive book ever written about the life & times of Paul Morphy!)
- 12 ***Pal Benko—My Life, Games and Compositions***, 2003, Pal & Jeremy Silman, Siles Press (The best, most extensive and interesting chess book about a prominent grandmaster in the past several years!)
- 13 ***Fundamental Chess Endings***, 2001, Karsten Muller & Frank Lamprecht, Gambit Publications, Ltd. (A great endgame book and probably the absolute best ever in the English language.)

Incidentally, since your writer believes in giving a “baker’s dozen.” I’ve included as the 13th book the best endgame book in many years.

The following are my choices for the second dozen which are also of a very high quality and very deserving:

The Personality of Chess, 1963, I. A. Horowitz & P. L.

Rothenberg

Best Lessons of a Chess Coach, 1993, S. Weeramantry & Ed Eusebi

Emanuel Lasker—The Life of a Chess Master, 1959, J. Hannak

The Immortal Games of Capablanca, 1942, Fred Reinfeld

The Golden Dozen, 1976, Irving Chernev

Tal/Botvinnik 1960, 1970, Mikhail Tal

The Inner Game of Chess, 1994, Andrew Soltis

Turning Advantage Into Victory in Chess, 2004, Andrew Soltis

Fischer—His Approach to Chess, 1992, Elie Agur

The Seven Deadly Chess Sins, 2000, Jonathan Rowson

Understanding Chess Move By Move, 2001, John Nunn

The Immortal Game—A History of Chess, 2006, David Shenk

Also, here I'm compelled to give a "baker's dozen" by including a very well written and perfectly illustrated beginners' book:

Learn Chess In a Weekend, 1993, Ken Whyld

(Also, a 2nd choice here can be: *The Complete Idiot's Guide To Chess*, 3rd Edition, 2005, by GM Patrick Wolff)

Well, that is the end of my listing of favorite chess books of all time. If I were to be confined to a desert island forever, these are the twenty-six books I would be very happy with!!

Hopefully, the reader may become acquainted with most of these titles for they are a great additions to a personal chess library.

Tournament Results

Send standings to:

Kent B Nelson

4014 "N" St.

Lincoln, NE 68510

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

Listing of players are not in tie breaking order.

The 6th Annual UNK Chess Classic Kearney, Nebraska 2/2/08 Open Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
1	K Swartz	1612	W 14	W 8	W 5	D 3	3.5
2	K Nelson	1900	W 13	D 12	D 3	W 9	3.0
3	N Klatt	1739	W 7	W 10	D 2	D 1	3.0
4	G Wirka	1433	W 9	L 5	W 12	W 8	3.0
5	W Miller	1541	W 16	W 4	L 1	D 6	2.5
6	Karen Swartz	1452	L 8	W 14	W 10	D 5	2.5
7	A Wegener	1376	L 3	D 11	W 16	W 12	2.5
8	M Light	1470	W 5	L 1	W 11	L 4	2.0
9	T Tezuka	1059	L 4	W 15	W 13	L 2	2.0
10	R Lieb	1023	W 11	L 3	L 6	W 15	2.0
11	M Krondak	1544	L 10	D 7	L 8	W 13	1.5
12	A Golubow	1454	W 15	D 2	L 4	L 7	1.5
13	P Fischer	1341	L 2	W 15	L 9	L 11	1.0
14	T Walsh	1226	L 1	L 6	L 15	W 16	1.0
15	H Roan	Unr	L 12	L 13	W 14	L 10	1.0
16	R Olson	1400	L 5	L 9	L 7	L 14	0-0

2008 Omaha January Swiss
1/12/08

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
1	Bleak, C	1992	W 21	W 8	D 4	W 7	3.5
2	Nelson, K	1901	W 26	D 6	W 5	D 3	3.0
3	Leacock, T	1800	W 15	W 12	D 7	D 2	3.0
4	Balash, D	1801	W 16	W 20	D 1	D 6	3.0
5	Cox, C	1646	W 19	W 24	L 2	W 16	3.0
6	Holmes, D	1583	W 29	D 2	W 9	D 4	3.0
7	Dutiel, T	1801	W 10	W 13	D 3	L 1	2.5
8	Marks, G	1600	W 11	L 1	D 14	W 23	2.5
9	Miller, W	1613	W 23	D 14	L 6	W 20	2.5
10	Kalyanasundaram K	1493	L 7	W 28	D 20	W 18	2.5
11	Light, M	1429	L 8	W 15	W 21	D 13	2.5
12	Golubow, A	1441	W 27	L 3	W 19	D 14	2.5
13	Forsman, C	1341	W 28	L 7	W 17	D 11	2.5
14	Oliver, E	1193	W 18	D 9	D 8	D 12	2.5
15	Hansen, M	1357	L 3	L 11	W 29	W 28	2.0
16	Leavitt, J	1318	L 4	W 29	W 24	L 5	2.0
17	Given, D	1032	L 20	B 0	L 13	W 25	2.0
18	Ryan, B	1485	L 14	W 22	D 22	L 10	1.5
19	Benetz, T	1409	L 5	W 25	L 12	H 0	1.5
20	Wegener, A	1377	W 17	L 4	D 10	L 9	1.5
21	Houser, B	1351	L 1	W 26	L 11	D 24	1.5
22	Solheim, J	1357	Z 0	L 18	L 25	W 27	1.5
23	Herr, J E	1320	L 9	W 27	D 18	L 8	1.5
24	Sangimino, S	1206	W 25	L 5	L 16	D 21	1.5
25	Roth, C	1418	L 24	L 19	W 22	L 17	1.0
26	Walsh, T	1258	L 2	L 21	L 27	W 29	1.0
27	Rasmussen, N	1141	L 12	L 23	W 26	L 22	1.0
28	XU, Peter	955	L 13	L 10	B 0	L 15	1.0
29	Caplan, S	1155	L 6	L 16	L 15	L 26	0-0

1st Annual Spring Open
4/12/08

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
1	J Wagner	1867	W 23	W 19	W 6	W 4	4.0
2	J Knapp	1798	W 33	W 8	W 5	W 11	4.0
3	T Leacock	1803	H 0	W 28	W 26	W 13	3.5
4	C Bleak	1991	W 31	W 29	W 12	L 1	3.0
5	B Fabrikant	1953	W 25	W 18	L 2	W 21	3.0
6	C Cox	1653	W 27	W 32	L 1	W 20	3.0
7	W Miller	1634	L 14	W 39	W 22	W 23	3.0
8	A Wegener	1424	W 41	L 2	W 35	W 24	3.0
9	T Benetz	1400	D 42	W 36	W 14	H 0	3.0
10	G Laird	972	L 21	W 25	W 42	W 19	3.0
11	T Crouse	1812	W 35	W 21	D 13	L 2	2.5
12	A Metcalfe	1681	W 39	W 20	L 4	H 0	2.5
13	K Kalyanasundarm	1465	W 37	W 16	D 11	L 3	2.5
14	J Nelson	1121	W 7	D 24	L 9	W 26	2.5
15	B Holliman	2105	W 22	W 30	U 0	U 0	2.0
16	J Roach	1841	W 34	L 13	L 20	W 37	2.0
17	B Ryan	1512	U 0	W 27	U 0	W 35	2.0
18	D Rostrom	1500	W 40	L 5	L 24	W 36	2.0
19	J Baltaro	1513	W 44	L 1	W 33	L 10	2.0
20	C Roth	1400	W 45	L 12	W 16	L 6	2.0
21	C Forsman	1401	W 10	L 11	W 37	15	2.0
22	J Solheim	1370	L 15	W 44	L 7	W 38	2.0
23	W Broich	1331	L 1	W 40	W 30	L 7	2.0
24	A Golubow	1354	H 0	D 14	W 18	L 8	2.0
25	J Herr	1358	L 5	L 10	W 40	W 34	2.0
26	J Leavitt	1395	D 28	W 42	L 3	L 14	1.5
27	A Kingsley	1245	L 6	L 17	D 41	W 42	1.5
28	D Roach	Unr	D 26	L 3	L 34	W 41	1.5
29	T Reams	1645	W 36	L 4	U 0	U 0	1.0

1st Annual Spring Open 4/12/08
(continued)

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
30	N A Mujeeb	1526	W 38	L 15	L 15	L 23	1.0
31	S Stenseng	1383	L 4	W 38	U 0	U 0	1.0
32	K J Stenseng	1339	W 43	L 6	U 0	U 0	1.0
33	R Wilson	1343	L 2	W 41	L 19	U 0	1.0
34	B Houser	1320	L 16	L 37	W 28	L 25	1.0
35	M Hansen	1295	L 11	W 45	L 8	L 17	1.0
36	J Moncrief	1242	L 29	L 9	W 45	L 18	1.0
37	J Kruse	1107	L 13	W 34	L 21	L 16	1.0
38	N Rasmussen	1119	L 30	L 31	W 39	L 22	1.0
39	T Walsh	1246	L 12	L 7	L 38	D 40	0.5
40	S Caplan	1118	L 18	L 23	L 25	D 39	0.5
41	D Given	1021	L 8	L 33	D 27	L 28	0.5
42	Peter XU	943	D 9	L 26	L 10	L 27	0.5
43	K Nelson	1900	L 32	U 0	U 0	U 0	0-0
44	K Cross	1106	L 19	L 22	U 0	U 0	0-0
45	M Yakus	744	L 20	L 35	L 36	U 0	0-0

2008 Nebraska State Closed Championship
5/23/08 thru 5/25/08

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	Keaton Kiewra	2327	W 6	W 4	W 3	W 5	D 2	4.5
2	Albert Zhou	1897	D 5	W 6	D 4	W 3	D 1	3.5
3	Collin Bleak	1999	W 4	W 5	L 1	L 2	W 6	3.0
4	Mirko Zeljko	1934	L 3	L 1	D 2	W 6	W 5	2.5
5	Neil Reeves	1855	D 2	L 3	W 6	L 1	L 4	1.5
6	David Jenkins	1769	L 1	L 2	L 5	L 4	L 3	0-0

Nebraska Amateur Championship
5/24/08

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
1	B Ryan	1503	W 23	W 13	W 6	W 3	4.0
2	T Leacock	1807	W 7	L 6	W 18	W 5	3.0
3	L Boswell	1615	W 18	W 8	W 12	L 1	3.0
4	J Solheim	1480	W 16	W 9	L 5	W 10	3.0
5	A Wegener	1408	W 15	W 19	W 4	L 2	3.0
6	J Leavitt	1365	W 20	W 2	L 1	W 13	3.0
7	A Golubow	1399	L 2	W 20	W 22	W 12	3.0
8	J Herr	1347	W 21	L 3	W 16	W 11	3.0
9	C Cox	1691	W 14	L 4	L 13	W 19	2.0
10	G Marks	1603	L 19	W 23	W 14	L 4	2.0
11	T Saito	1592	L 13	W 15	W 19	L 8	2.0
12	D Buckley	1464	W 17	W 22	L 3	L 7	2.0
13	T Tezuka	1211	W 11	L 1	W 9	L 6	2.0
14	T Walsh	1180	L 9	W 17	L 10	W 21	2.0
15	D Given	1013	L 5	L 11	W 20	W 23	2.0
16	A C Hoover	671	L 4	BYE	L 8	W 18	2.0
17	M Nagle	830	L 12	L 14	D 23	W 22	1.5
18	J R Gage	1316	L 3	W 21	L 2	L 16	1.0
19	D A Hoover	1185	W 10	L 5	L 11	L 9	1.0
20	J Brejda	867	L 6	L 7	L 15	BYE	1.0
21	T Boswell	592	L 8	L 18	BYE	L 14	1.0
22	M Boswell	448	BYE	L 12	L 7	L 17	1.0
23	J J Brejda	1030	L 1	L 10	D 17	L 15	0.5

2008 Cornhusker State Games
Open Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	A Zhou	1931	W 15	W 10	W 16	W 6	D 3	4.5
2	N Reeves	1848	W 9	L 5	W 19	W 7	W 6	4.0
3	J Linscott	1826	D 12	W 14	W 17	W 5	D 1	4.0
4	D Balash	1822	W 11	L 13	W 15	W 14	W 10	4.0
5	L Harvey	1658	X 0	W 2	H 0	L 3	W 12	3.5
6	B Fabrikant	1945	W 19	W 7	W 13	L 1	L 2	3.0
7	T Leacock	1792	W 20	L 6	W 9	L 2	W 11	3.0
8	G Marks	1600	L 13	L 11	B 0	W 15	W 14	3.0
9	A Wegener	1423	L 2	X 0	L 7	W 21	W 18	3.0
10	R Woodworth	1770	W 21	L 1	D 11	W 18	L 4	2.5
11	W Gage	1374	L 4	W 8	D 10	W 17	L 7	2.5
12	A Golubow	1416	D 3	L 19	W 21	W 16	L 5	2.5
13	M Zeljko	1937	W 8	W 4	L 6	U 0	U 0	2.0
14	W Miller	1602	B 0	L 3	X 0	L 4	L 8	2.0
15	J Solheim	1542	L 1	W 21	L 4	L 8	X 17	2.0
16	K Nelson	1900	W 18	D 17	L 1	L 12	U 0	1.5
17	D Jenkins	1741	W 22	D 16	L 3	L 11	F 15	1.5
18	B Ryan	1575	L 16	X 0	H 0	L 10	L 9	1.5
19	D Ralnes	1650	L 6	W 12	L 2	U 0	U 0	1.0
20	J Nelson	1331	L 7	B 0	F 0	U 0	U 0	1.0
21	KJD Stubben	Unr	L 10	L 15	L 12	L 9	B 0	1.0
22	T Lemburg	Unr	L 17	F 0	U 0	U 0	U 0	0-0

2008 Cornhusker State Games
Reserve Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	K Kennedy	1511	W 7	D 10	W 9	W 12	W 2	4.5
2	C Cox	1646	W 8	W 6	W 3	W 4	L 1	4.0
3	M Turner	1439	W 15	W 17	L 2	D 11	W 10	3.5
4	R Heckman	1414	W 16	W 14	W 12	L 2	D 5	3.5
5	D Given	1052	W 9	L 12	W 17	W 6	D 4	3.5
6	B Houser	1366	W 13	L 2	W 10	L 5	W 11	3.0
7	J Gage	1271	L 1	W 16	D 15	D 9	X 0	3.0
8	D Krasser	1291	L 2	L 13	W 16	W 17	W 14	3.0
9	R Brotze	1431	L 5	W 15	L 1	D 7	W 13	2.5
10	J Boeder	1368	X 0	D 1	L 6	W 13	L 3	2.5
11	T Walsh	1175	L 12	B 0	W 14	D 3	L 6	2.5
12	S Hossain	1482	W 11	W 5	L 4	L 1	F 0	2.0
13	J Braden	Unr	L 6	W 8	W 18	L 10	L 9	2.0
14	W Schmidtke	424	B 0	L 4	L 11	W 18	L 8	2.0
15	A Hossain	1206	L 3	L 9	D 7	W 16	F 0	1.5
16	T Nollen	Unr	L 4	L 7	L 8	L 15	W 18	1.0
17	I Hossain	766	W 19	L 3	L 5	L 8	F 0	1.0
18	R Coulter	915	H 0	H 0	L 13	L 14	L 16	1.0
19	D Buckley	1422	L 17	U 0	U 0	U 0	U 0	0-0

2008 Cornhusker State Games
Scholastic Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	A C Hoover	767	W 17	W 15	W 8	W 13	W 3	5.0
2	R Ortiz	583	W 19	W 10	L 3	W 7	W 8	4.0
3	J Hoover	458	X 0	W 9	W 2	W 6	L 1	4.0
4	O Gong	694	L 10	L 0	W 15	D 14	W 12	3.5
5	J Halperin	510	D 12	L 13	W 9	W 20	W 14	3.5
6	C Cox	986	L 15	W 20	W 11	L 3	W 13	3.0
7	J Selvaraj	756	W 14	L 8	W 10	L 2	W 15	3.0
8	J R Alexander	509	W 16	W 7	L 1	W 11	L 2	3.0
9	J L Smith	634	W 18	L 3	L 5	W 17	B 0	3.0
10	S Dittmar	Unr	W 4	L 2	L 7	W 18	W 20	3.0
11	S Gage	887	D 13	W 12	L 6	L 8	W 16	2.5
12	P Hafner	Unr	D 5	L 11	W 18	W 16	L 4	2.5
13	T Hafner	326	D 11	W 5	B 0	L 1	L 6	2.5
14	M E Purcell	Unr	L 7	W 17	W 20	D 4	L 5	2.5
15	D K Peterson	428	W 6	L 1	L 4	B 0	L 7	2.0
16	M S Hoover	Unr	L 8	D 18	W 17	L 12	L 11	1.5
17	Christian Krogh	Unr	L 1	L 14	L 16	L 9	W 18	1.0
18	Christopher Krogh	Unr	L 9	D 16	L 12	L 10	L 17	.5
19	H Guru	Unr	L 2	F 0	U 0	U 0	U 0	0-0
20	T Anderson	Unr	F 0	L 6	L 14	L 5	L 10	0-0

“Quotable quotes”

“Success is a woman to be won, not courted. You've got to seize her and carry her off, not stand under her window with a mandolin.”

Roald Amundsen
South Pole Explorer

Editor's note—Amundsen was never married.

Congratulations to all the tournament prize winners and continued success!

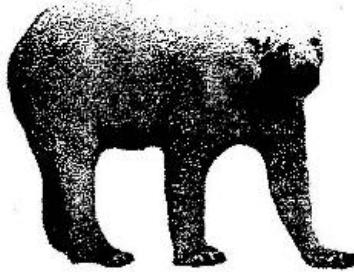
2008 Cornhusker State Games **Junior Section**

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
1	D A Hoover	1210	W 5	W 4	W 2	W 6	4.0
2	A Peterson	952	W 6	W 7	L 1	W 4	3.0
3	B M Grimminger	756	L 4	W 5	W 7	B 0	3.0
4	P Rajan	994	W 3	L 1	W 6	L 2	2.0
5	R Lombard	863	L 1	L 3	B 0	W 7	2.0
6	S Hernandez	650	L 2	B 0	L 4	L 1	1.0
7	A N Hoover	343	B 0	L 2	L 3	L 5	1.0



2008 Cornhusker Games Medal Winners!

Cox, Chad	Silver	Reserve
Cox, Chance	Gold	Scholastic
Dittmar, Sam	Gold	Scholastic - Unrated
Gage, John Bob	Silver	Reserve
Gage, Samuel	Silver	Scholastic (12 & Under)
Given, David	Gold	Reserve Class E & Below
Grimminger, B	Bronze	Junior (18 & Under) - Open
Halperin, Jack	Bronze	Scholastic - Rated 500-799
Hoover, Antonio	Gold	Scholastic - Rated 500-799
Hoover, Dylan	Gold	Junior (18 & Under) - Open
Walsh, Thomas	Silver	Reserve (Rated below 1800 or Unrated)
Zhou, Albert	Gold	Open - Rated 1800 & Above
Braden, James	Gold	Reserve - Unrated
Hafner, Patrick	Bronze	Scholastic- Unrated
Hafner, Thomas	Silver	Scholastic - Rater under 500
Harvey, Larry	Gold	Open - Under 1800 & Unrated
Heckman, R	Bronze	Reserve
Linscott, John	Bronze	Open - Rated 1800 & Above
Marks, Gary	Silver	Open - Under 1800 & Unrated
Nollen, Terrence	Silver	Reserve-Unrated
Schmidtke, W	Bronze	Reserve-Class E & Below
Hoover, Joshua	Gold	Scholastic-Rated under 500
Houser, Bryan	Gold	Reserve-Class D
Kennedy, Kevin	Gold	Reserve-Class B/C
Krasser, Doug	Bronze	Reserve-Class D
Leacock, Tim	Bronze	Open-Under 1800 & Unrated
Ortiz, Rodolfo	Silver	Scholastic-Rated 500-799
Peterson, A	Silver	Junior-(18 & Under)
Peterson, David	Bronze	Scholastic-Rated under 500
Purcell, Michael	Silver	Scholastic (12 & Under)-Unrated
Reeves, Neil	Silver	Open-Rated 1800 & Above



Polar Bear

10/18/08

Open Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
1	J Olejnicek	1853	W 6	W 4	D 2	W 5	3.5
2	M Zeljko	1936	W 7	W 5	D 1	D4	3.0
3	L Harvey	1700	L 8	D 9	W 6	W 7	2.5
4	L Boswell	1632	W 10	L 1	W 9	D 2	2.5
5	Kevin Swartz	1650	W 12	L 2	W 8	L 1	2.0
6	J Solheim	1581	L 1	W 10	L 3	W 8	2.0
7	G Marks	1603	L 2	W 12	1/2 B	L 3	1.5
8	A Golubow	1538	W 3	D 11	L 5	L 6	1.5
9	A Wegener	1542	D 11	D 3	L 4	D 10	1.5
10	J. E. Leavitt	1442	L 4	L 6	W 12	D 9	1.5
11	D Raines	1646	D 9	D 8	U	U	1.0
12	L Mota	1467	L 5	L 7	L 10	U	0-0

2008 Polar Bear
10/18/08
Reserve Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
1	B Williams	1474	W 8	D 5	W 6	W 3	3.5
2	C Roth	1471	W 9	W 10	L 3	W 7	3.0
3	S Martens	1339P4	W 11	W 7	W 2	L 1	3.0
4	W Gage	1494	D 6	D 11	D 5	W 8	2.5
5	D Buckley	1382	W 13	D 1	D 4	1/2 BY	2.5
6	J. R. Gage	1267	D 4	W 9	L 1	W 11	2.5
7	R Olson	1400	W 12	L 3	W 10	L 2	2.0
8	S Caplan	1224	L 1	W 13	W 12	L 4	2.0
9	G Buchanan	1187	L 2	L 6	BYE	W 12	2.0
10	A. R. Wolzen	1079	BYE	L 2	L 7	W 13	2.0
11	P Fischer	1308	L 3	D 4	W 13	L 6	1.5
12	K. J-D Stubben	955P9	L 7	BYE	L 8	L 9	1.0
13	T Brown	Unr	L 5	L 8	L 11	L 10	0-0

2008 Polar Bear-Primary Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	C Stebbing	Unr	W 3	L 2	W 5	W 4	W 7	4-1
2	E Caplan	514	D 7	W 1	W 4	W 6	L 3	3.5
3	D Lim	232	L 1	W 7	D 6	BYE	W 2	3.5
4	A Piccini	UNR	W 5	W 6	L 2	L 1	BYE	3.0
5	M S Hoover	233	L 4	BYE	L 1	W 7	W 6	3.0
6	C Sipple	100	BYE	L 4	D 3	L 2	L 5	1.5
7	P Rajan	100	D 2	L 3	BYE	L 5	L 1	1.5

2008 Polar Bear

10/18/08

Junior Section

No	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	C J Cox	1017	W 14	W 13	W 7	W 2	D 5	4.5
2	B Li	906	W 18	W 5	W 8	L 1	W 7	4.0
3	O Gong	673	L 4	W 15	W 17	W 11	W 9	4.0
4	M Shattil	1058	W 3	D 10	W 6	L 7	W 13	3.5
5	J Selvaraj	864	W 11	L 2	W 18	W 13	D 1	3.5
6	P Rajan	978	W 9	L 8	L 4	W 10	W 15	3.0
7	A C Hoover	819	W 19	W 17	L 1	W 4	L 2	3.0
8	J D Hoover	756	W 16	W 6	L 2	L 9	W 14	3.0
9	A Cloet	567	L 6	W 19	BYE	W 8	L 3	3.0
10	S Gage	813	W 15	D 4	L 13	L 6	BYE	2.5
11	T Boswell	678	L 5	W 16	W 14	L 3	D 12	2.5
12	M Caplan	Unr	L 13	L 14	W 16	W 17	D 11	2.5
13	B M Grimminger	797	W 12	L 1	W 10	L 5	L 4	2.0
14	J Rajagopal	582	L 1	W 12	L 11	BYE	L 8	2.0
15	P Brown	Unr	L 10	L 3	W 19	W 18	L 6	2.0
16	G Brown	Unr	L 8	L 11	L 12	W 19	W 18	2.0
17	S Lee	367	BYE	L 7	L 3	L 12	W 19	2.0
18	M Boswell	421	L 2	BYE	L 5	L 15	L 16	1.0
19	J Brown	Unr	L 7	L 9	L 15	L 16	L 17	0-0

Books by Nebraska chessplayers

STEEPLEJACK

Richard Olson
Clarks, Nebraska 68628
2005



by
Richard Olson

This 39 page book/pamphlet was written by Richard Olson from Clarks, Nebraska. Richard is a prominent tournament director and chessplayer who works as a "Steeplejack." The picture cover speaks for itself. The book contains many impressive pictures of Richard performing his job. The text is interesting as Richard describes the challenges of performing this very unique and difficult job. Very reasonable charge for the book. Under \$10.00. If interested in a copy, the contact information is on page 47.

The Life and Chess Career of Anton Sildmets

A Narrative of a Nebraska Chess Icon and other Chess Stories



by
Kent B. Nelson

This 171 plus page book is in the final stages of proof reading and should be available for purchase by Christmas. This book documents Anton's life and chess career dating back to the 1950s. If you were part of Nebraska chess since the 1950s, it's likely your name is in the book. The book contains some pictures and stories never before published. The author spent a year researching and writing this book. Asking price is \$25.00, which includes shipping and handling.



Source of information is the NSCA web site.

Nebraska chess players in the news!

Way to Go!

Keaton Kiewra ties for 10th, earns GM norm in Greece.

Garrett Wirka takes clear 1st in the Under Age 15 section of the US Junior Open.

Elizabeth Oliver scores best Nebraska result ever at Susan Polgar Invitational.

Albert Zhou cracks top 20, closes in on Expert rating at Denker.

Keaton Kiewra takes 7th title in a row at the 2008 State Closed Championship.

Colin Bleak makes Expert at NSCA Closed.

Tournament Life

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

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

The Midwest Open—Date is December 6th 2008 in Lincoln details soon-please keep checking the NSCA web site for more information.

30th Merrick County Open Chess Tournament

Date: Saturday, January 17th, 2009

Location: Nebraska Christian School Dining Room. The building east of the tall building. One mile west, then north of Central City NE.

Registration: 8 to 8:30 AM. Games begin at 9:10 & 9:20 A

Entry Fees: \$10.30 before January 14th—\$15.00 at site.

Time Controls: Open Class—Game 65

Rds: 4-SS

Trophies: 1st, 1st High School, 1st K-6, 1st U900/UNR

Membership in the United States Chess Federation required and available.

Advance Registration to Richard Olson, 409 E Amity St.

Clarks, NE 68628 Phone number-(308) 548-2634

No smoking. No computers, Wheel chair accessible.

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