

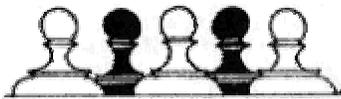


Newsletter

Volume 1, Monday, August 5, 2002

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A Club on the Rise

The MasterMinds Chess Club was founded in 2001 as an outgrowth of a chess class held at Temple University's PASCEP (Pan African Studies Community Education Program).

The main instructors were Mr. Ernest Moore, Kamau McRae, and Mr. Elvin Wilson. Mr. Moore has taught many chess camps across the city. He has conducted chess classes for people of all ages at various community centers throughout Philadelphia for over 30 years. They include the Nicetown Boys & Girls Club and the Mennonite Church Community Center in North Philadelphia. He has also taught many students while sitting on the steps outside his North Philadelphia home. He presently teaches chess at PASCEP, Henry Middle School, Howe Elementary, Waring Middle School, and Wilson Elementary.

For several years, it has been Mr. Moore's dream to establish a chess club that would serve the needs of the local African-American community in Philadelphia. His vision expanded to use chess as a vehicle to serve as a bridge to other communities and cities as well. With the MasterMinds, his dream is coming into fruition.

Through steadfast dedication and perseverance Mr. Moore has steered this club into a direction that is proving to blossom into a club of promise. Mr. Moore has made numerous contacts both in the city and neighboring cities. He is currently exploring forming a chess league with other chess clubs in the Pocono area to compete in club tournaments.

One Monday evening in 2001 at a club session, those in attendance were asked to give suggestions for a good club name that they had a chance to ponder from the week before. One child excitedly made the suggestion, "MasterMinds" to be included among many other names

for consideration. A vote was taken and for the most part, all of the children were in favor of "MasterMinds" and won the vote. Hence, a name was born.

A native of Philadelphia, Elvin Wilson is one of only three active African-American chess masters in Philadelphia. He achieved the title of National Master in May of 1990, at the age of eighteen. Mr. Wilson was the Philadelphia Chess Champion in 2001.

Elvin was introduced to the game through the chess program at Cooke Junior High. He continued his chess career at George Washington High School that had one of the best chess programs in the country at the time.

After high school, he enlisted into the Air Force where he traveled and competed all over the world. Elvin feels that chess has definitely paid dividends in all areas of his life. Now that he's back in Philly he's made a point of giving back some of what chess has given to him. In addition to the MasterMinds, he teaches chess at John R. Reynolds and Frederick Douglass Elementary Schools. He is presently pursuing a degree in Computer Information Science (CIS) at Temple University and is on a sabbatical from chess to achieve his educational pursuits

Mr. Wilson demonstrates and models the best of what chess has to offer. He is a Master player, an outstanding teacher, a compassionate community member, and a humble human being. We at MasterMinds are fortunate and blessed to have him as part of our history.

Because of the relentless work done in the past and because of the dedication of the present membership the MasterMinds Chess Club is on the verge of becoming a glowing beacon in the community. The MMCC is affiliated with the United States Chess Federation. In the very near future the MasterMinds will be hosting monthly tournaments and community events.

Welcome!

We are very grateful and pleased to have you in our company. We are a chess club that has attempted to meet the needs of the community at large. We meet each Monday at Temple University's Anderson Hall, 12th & Berks St. from 6pm until 10pm. We study and analyze for about one hour beginning at 7pm. We also have "ladder" tournaments within the club. We have an application for new members. Please come and sign in.

In a structured format we provide a place to play, study, and analyze the game of chess. Learn to record games through algebraic & descriptive notation. Come and learn opening principles, middlegame strategies & tactics, as well as the endgame phase of play.

We also encourage tournament participation and membership with the United States Chess Federation. We also network with local area clubs and plan to travel to other cities to network, play, and learn. It is also our focus to give back to the national community as well by providing the opportunity to enhance one's intellectual, social, and moral character. We offer you the opportunity to serve.

Upcoming Events

On Saturday, August 3-4 the MasterMinds Chess Club will be taking part in activities scheduled for a community outreach at Vernon Park in Germantown. The event will take place at Germantown & Cheltenham Ave. The intent is for the club to provide meaningful enjoyment to that community by making chess available to those who wish to play.

Recurring Events

Every 2nd Sat. Allentown 2nd Sat. Quads. 3RR, G/40. St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church, 417 N. 7th St., Allentown. Open to all. EF: \$10. \$\$24/quad. Reg: 12-1, Rds: 1:15-2:45-4:15. No adv. ents. Rated events ea. wk. Info: 610-435-7694, <http://geocities.com/allentownchess>. NS,NC.

PA Tournaments

Aug. 18. Allentown Sunday Quads. 3RR, G/45. St Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 417 North 7th St, Allentown. EF: \$20. \$\$50 to ea. quad. Reg: 2:30pm, Rds: 3-4:30-6. Info: Bruce Davis 610-821-4320.

Sept. 7. W/Chester 1st Sat Quads. 3RR, 40/80,SD/30. United Methodist Church, 129 S. High St. (rt. 100), West Chester, Pa. EF: \$20. \$\$ 40 to each quad. Reg: 9am, Rds: 9:30-1-5. Info: Jim White 610-269-7639.

NJ Tournaments

Aug. 31-Sept. 2 WGPP: 30Q New Jersey
56th NJ Open. 6SS, 40/2, SD/1. Clarion Hotel,
Route 70 West, Cherry Hill (Right off of exit 34B
of Route 295). 856-428-2300. HR: \$89 1-4 by 8/23.
\$\$5500 Guaranteed!!! 4 Sections: Open: \$300-250-
200-200-100-100-100. U2200/U2100 \$100 ea.
U2000: \$300-200-200-100-100-100-50-50,
U1900/U1800/Unr.\$100 ea. U1700: \$300-200-200-
100-100-100-100-50, U1500/Unr.\$100 ea. U1400:
\$300-200-200-100-100-50-50, U1200, U1100,
U1000 \$100 ea. EF: 2-day \$48, 3-day \$49 if rec'd
by 8/26, \$60 site. Trophies galore! NJSCF mem.
req'd, if not a current NJSCF memb. send an add'l
\$10 (\$8 Srs., \$6 children U16). 3-day: Reg: 8/31 9-
11am, Rds: 12-7, 11-6, 9-4. 2-day: Reg: 9/1 9-
10:30am, Rds: 1-3 11am & ASAP (G/45) then
merges. Ent: Ck/MO payable to NJSCF, send to
Leo B. Dubler, III, 325 New Albany Rd.,
Moorestown, NJ 08057. Info: 856-396-0961,
LBDIII@aol.com. W,FIDE.

Club News Briefs

We are pleased to announce that the MasterMinds Chess Club was well represented at the World Open in Philadelphia and at the U.S. Open in Cherry Hill, N.J. Those who played in the tournaments were Melanie Brennan, Bradley Crable, J.B. Frazier, Veronica Henderson, Ernest Moore, and Ecu Solomon. Good job to all. Keep up the fight!!!

We are expecting to host our next tournament in the fall. One possible site for the tournament is the Mennonite Church at 17th Diamond St. We are currently in the negotiating stages to bring this about.

Members are encouraged to purchase very attractive identification badges from Bradley Crable for \$5. We thank Mr. Crable for offering his services.

We will soon be registered with the State of Pa., which will allow us to formally secure the club's name.

All are expected and encouraged to record all games played on club night (Mondays 6-10pm), and don't forget to bring your clocks.

We also plan to apply for non-profit status and open a bank account in the club's name.

There are special membership rates for juniors 17 years of age and under, and for "seasoned" seniors 55 years of age and older for \$10 a year. Regular membership fees are \$20 yearly.



On the Web

We encourage our members to take advantage of the worldwide web that features great chess articles, games, instruction, and much, much, more. Some web sites we recommend are:

www.MasterMindsChess.com (Soon to come!!)

www.uschess.org

www.chesscafe.com

www.thechessdrum.net

www.kasparovchess.com

<http://members.home.net/danheisman/chess.htm>



Across the Board

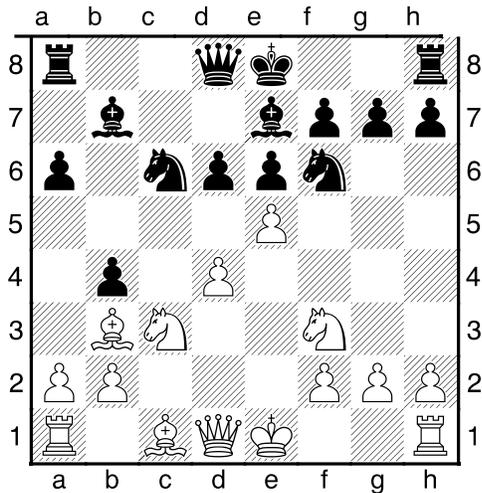
This game between Mr. Ernest Moore and Stephen Slocum was played over the phone in what they call the "Verizon Classic" proved to be an exciting game.

(27) Slocum,S – Moore,E [B50]

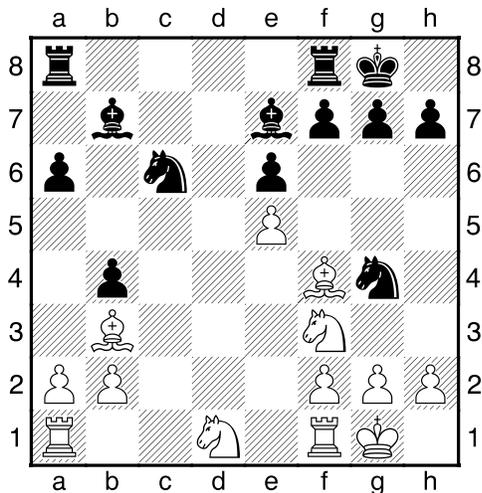
Verizon Classic, 20.06.2001

[Fritz 6 (55s)]

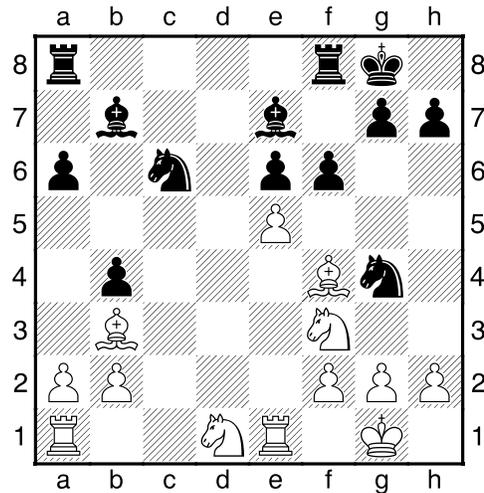
B50: Sicilian: 2...d6, Miscellaneous 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6
3.Bc4 Nc6 4.c3 a6 last book move 5.d4 cxd4 6.cxd4 b5
7.Bd5 Bb7 8.Ng5 e6 9.Bb3 [9.Bxc6+ Bxc6 10.d5 exd5
11.exd5 Bb7=] 9...Be7 10.Nf3 Nf6 11.Nc3 b4 12.e5
Diagram



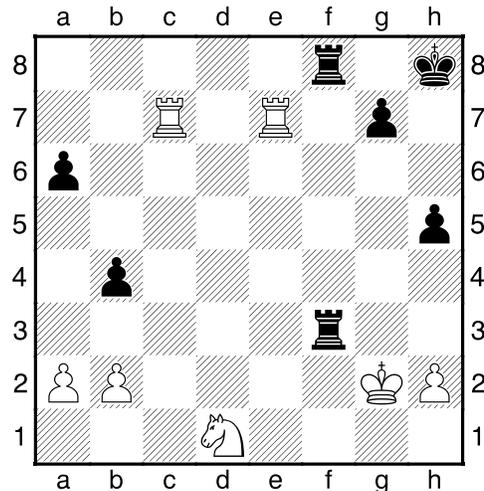
[Δ12.Nb1!?? should not be overlooked] **12...dxe5+**
 [12...bxc3?! 13.exf6 Bxf6 14.bxc3??] **13.dxe5 Qxd1+**
 [Δ13...bxc3!? 14.exf6 Bxf6-] **14.Nxd1?? Ng4**
 [Δ14...Nd7!? 15.Ba4 0-0??] **15.Bf4= 0-0** [15...Rc8 16.h3
 g5 17.Bg3= (≤17.Bxg5 Ngxe5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.Ba4+
 Kd8 20.Bxe7+ Kxe7??)] **16.0-0** Diagram



[Δ16.h3 Nh6 17.Bxh6 gxh6 18.Ne3±] **16...f6??** Black
 loses the upper hand [16...Na5!?? is an interesting
 alternative] **17.Re1** Diagram

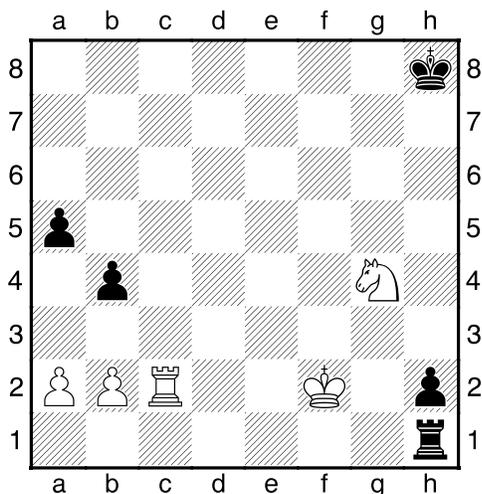


[Δ17.Bxe6+ and White can celebrate victory 17...Kh8
 18.Bxg4+-] **17...fxe5** [Δ17...Ngxe5 18.Bxe5 Nxe5
 19.Nxe5 fxe5 20.Rxe5 Rfd8±] **18.Nxe5** [18.Bxe6+ Kh8
 19.Bg3 Nf6 20.Nxe5 Nxe5 21.Bxe5 Rad8±] **18...Rxf4**
 [18...Nd4 19.Bxe6+ Nxe6 20.Nxg4 Nxf4 21.Rxe7 Bxg2
 22.Nde3??] **19.Nxg4** [Δ19.Nxc6!? deserves consideration
 19...Re8 20.h3±] **19...Kh8** [19...Nd4!? 20.Nde3 Nxb3
 21.axb3 Rd8±] **20.Bxe6= Nd4 21.Bd7 Bc6** [Δ21...Nc2 is
 the best option Black has 22.Rxe7 Nxa1=] **22.Bxc6**
Nxc6 23.Nge3 [23.Rc1 Rxc6 24.Rxc6 Bf8±] **23...Bc5**
 [23...Re4!±] **24.Rc1+- Bxe3 25.Rxe3** [25.Rxc6!? Bd2
 26.Re2+-] **25...Nd4 26.Rc7 Raf8 27.f3 h5 28.Ree7**
Nxf3+? [Δ28...Nf5 29.Red7 Re8±] **29.gxf3+- Rxf3**
30.Kg2 Diagram



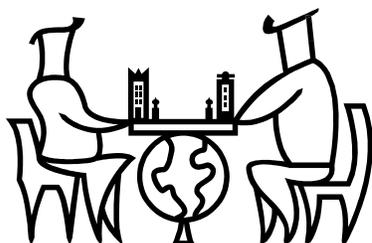
[30.Rxg7!? makes it even easier for White 30...R8f5
 31.Kg2 Rd3+-] **30...h4** Threatening mate... how?
31.Rxg7 h3+ 32.Kh1 Rf1+ 33.Rg1 Rxg1+ 34.Kxg1
Rg8+ 35.Kf1 Rg2 36.Rc8+ [36.Rc4 makes it even easier
 for White 36...Rd2 37.Ke1 Rxh2 38.Rxb4 Rh1+ 39.Kd2
 Kg7+-] **36...Kh7 37.Rc7+** [37.Nf2 seems even better
 37...Rxh2 38.Rb8 a5+-] **37...Kh8 38.Ne3** [Δ38.Rc4!?
 might be the shorter path 38...Rd2 39.Ke1 Rxh2

40.Rxb4 Rh1+ 41.Ke2 a5 42.Rh4+ Kg8+-] 38...Rxh2
 39.Rc2 Rh1+ 40.Kf2 h2 [40...Ra1 41.Kg3 Rxa2 42.Kxh3
 Kg7+-] 41.Ng4 [41.Kg3+- ends the debate] 41...a5??
 Diagram



there were better ways to keep up the pressure
 [41...Rf1+! Black missed this excellent chance 42.Kxf1
 h1Q+ 43.Ke2 Qb1-+] 42.Kg3 a4?? [42...Rg1+ would
 keep Black alive 43.Kxh2 Rxg4=] 43.Nxh2 [43.Rxh2+!?
 keeps an even firmer grip 43...Rxh2 44.Kxh2 Kg7+-]
 43...Rg1+? [43...Ra1 44.Rc4+-] 44.Kh3 [44.Kf4+- and
 White can already relax] 44...Ra1 45.Rc8+ Kh7 46.a3
 [46.Rb8+-] 46...bxa3= 47.bxa3 Rxa3+ 48.Kg4 Ra1
 49.Ra8 a3 [49...Kg6 50.Nf3±] 50.Nf3 [50.Kf5!±]
 50...a2= 51.Nd2 [51.Kg5!?= is noteworthy] 51...Rg1+
 52.Kf3 a1Q 53.Rxa1 Rxa1 54.Ne4 Ra3+ 55.Kf4 Ra4
 56.Kf5 White activates its king 56...Ra5+ 57.Kf4 Kg6
 58.Ng3 Rd5 59.Ne4 Rf5+ 60.Ke3 Re5 61.Kf4 Ra5
 [61...Re6 62.Nc5±] 62.Kg4 [62.Ng3!?= is worth
 consideration] 62...Ra4 Threatening mate: Rxe4 63.Kf4
 Kh5 64.Ke3 Kg4 The black king gets dangerous
 65.Nf2+ Kg3 66.Ne4+ Kg2 67.Nc3 Rh4 68.Ne2 Rh3+
 69.Ke4 Kf2 70.Nf4 Re3+ 71.Kf5 Kf3 72.Ng6 Re4
 73.Ne5+ Ke3 74.Ng4+ Kd4 75.Kg5 ½-½

What a grueling match...and a long
 conversation!! (We encourage you to have your
 games published).



Up the Ladder

The concept of Ladder Tournaments

While all ladder tournaments
 are similar in format, few are
 exactly identical. The primary
 goal of the ladder is regular
 and easy-to-get competition of
 a somewhat serious nature.



In most ladder systems,
 players don't have to come to
 every meeting because the
 ladder is always there. You can tell you're improving
 when you see yourself move up the ladder. The basic
 rule is that lower players challenge higher ones in
 attempting to move up the ladder. The rules are
 designed so that each challenge creates a reasonable
 contest. One possible use of the ladder is to determine
 the team for interclub matches (both local and to other
 cities), but keep in mind all players are welcomed to
 participate in inter-club play as there are differing playing
 levels.

Rules. A player moves up the ladder by defeating
 players whom he or she challenges. **Challenges.** A
 player may challenge a player who is only one or two
 rungs higher on the ladder. If neither of these two players
 is available nor willing to play, then the next higher player
 may be challenged (and so forth). All challenges must be
 made in sequence up the ladder. Player 14 can't
 challenge player 11 unless he or she has challenged
 players 13 and 12, and has either been refused or that
 person was unavailable. **Movement.** If the challenger
 loses or draws, there is no movement. If the challenger
 wins, the challenger assumes the rung of the person he
 or she defeated, while the loser and those immediately
 between the two players are moved down one rung.

Example:	Rung	Player
	11	Manny
	12	Moe
	13	Jack
	14	Julie

Julie challenged Jack and Moe, but neither would play, so
 Julie challenged Manny. Julie defeated Manny, and the
 ladder changed as follows:

Rung	Player
11	Julie
12	Manny
13	Moe
14	Jack

Mission Statement

The MasterMinds Chess Club is designed to provide a meaningful and viable service to the community. In particular it is our intent to promote chess within the inner-city community and to provide a learning environment where the game can be played, taught, studied, and enjoyed. Ultimately, we see chess as a tool for self-development, development of our community and as a bridge to other communities as well.

We, the members of the MasterMinds Chess Club are dedicated to promoting good moral conduct, mutual respect, and stand committed to the development of the total human being through heart felt support and genuine concern. It is also our intent to travel to other cities in an effort to promote a healthy network of area clubs as well as with clubs across the nation.

We intend on preparing for and participating in tournament competition and encourage membership in the United States Chess Federation. We encourage the membership of school age chess players to grow academically, maintain their discipline and focus on educational pursuits with the understanding that academic excellence has priority over actual chess endeavors. Furthermore, by playing the royal game of chess and pursuing its many disciplines, we hope to instill in some and nurture in others an appreciation for the game while at the same time benefit from its growth.

Ethical Code



1. To maintain good moral conduct conducive to the club's standards.

2. To promote mutual respect and concern for others.
3. To refrain from the use of profane language, but to encourage wholesome communication that uplift, support, edify, and instruct others.
4. To always demonstrate good sportsmanship.
5. Never to demean and belittle others but only offer constructive criticism.
6. Always play the game of chess according to the rules, which govern the game.
7. Support those who are participating or preparing for tournament competition.
8. Be an active member by presenting your ideas and participating on committees to accomplish goals and objectives.
9. Continue to develop your passion for the game through continuous practice, play and study.
10. To realize and remember that every member is of vital importance to the collective whole.

Our Members



Officers:

Mr. Ernest Moore, President
 Ecu Solomon, Vice President
 Melanie Brennan, Secretary
 Bradley Crable, Treasure

Members:

David Dashiell
 J. B. Frazier, Greeter
 Robert Geiger
 Veronica Henderson, Greeter
 Rich Henry
 John Howard
 Rodney Johnson
 Thomas McNatt
 Levy Nealy
 Stephen Slocum, Newsletter
 Garnel Wilkins