



# The PENNSWOODPUSHER



February 2007

A Quarterly Publication of the Pennsylvania State Chess Federation

## “Age Cannot Wither”:

### The 1981 Lehigh Valley Invitational - Part I

by Martin Simsak, with Neil Brennen

*(This article was the last I wrote with the late Martin Simsak. Martin approved a rough draft of the article in December 2002, during my last visit. I've filled in some portions, but the article remains substantially as Martin approved it. - NB)*

In 1980 I had been playing chess for fifty-three of my seventy years. In chess, I had seen the World Championship pass from Capablanca to Alekhine, from Alekhine to Euwe and then back to Alekhine, and then through a variety of hands until Karpov was crowned in 1975. Personally, I had met a great many interesting people, held a number of responsible jobs, raised two children and seen them move away to start families of their own. I was retired, had no financial worries or health problems, and was happily married.

But despite all this, I still needed to play chess. I may have been in my seventh decade, but I still had the same eagerness to play that the sixteen year old Martin did back in Homestead, PA. And so I remained an active player in my local chess club in Allentown.

Of course it's not as easy to play good chess at seventy as it was at age

### Memories of Marty

The annual Invitationals were played over a series of weeks during a period when chess activity in Allentown was located at St. Stephen's Church near 14th and Turner Streets. Bob Esch was the TD. Marty, as he was called by those who knew him, was a regular fixture at the club.

In the early to mid 70's, many of us young high school players enjoyed getting a chance to play Marty. We were well aware that he had a reputation as a tough player and if you were able to win against Marty, well you were beating one of the better players in the state. His chess rivalry with Herman Hesse and Bruce Alberston was also something to see as they played many times at the club level when the Allentown Chess Club was at the Swain School in the 1970's, in addition to playing for state titles.

I became inactive in 1983 due to the obligations of raising a family and pursuing a career. When I returned to play once again in the late 1990's, Marty still played - now at the A-B Chess Club. Some of my most pleasant conversations with Marty were about things in our individual lives unrelated to chess. In these conversations, Marty sometimes reflected on how he had lived his life to the fullest and wanted to keep on doing that as long as he could - and would if God was willing. He had been a policeman and he told me that he was dabbling in real estate during his retirement. His favorite thing to say while playing blitz chess for fun was a quote from the radio show "The Shadow". He would say, "Who knows? The Shadow! He knows!". We would chuckle as he seemed to be implying the position was unclear on the board - or sometimes as he was just waiting for you to make a mistake. Playing against Marty was always an enjoyable event for me. He is missed.

-Bruce R. Davis

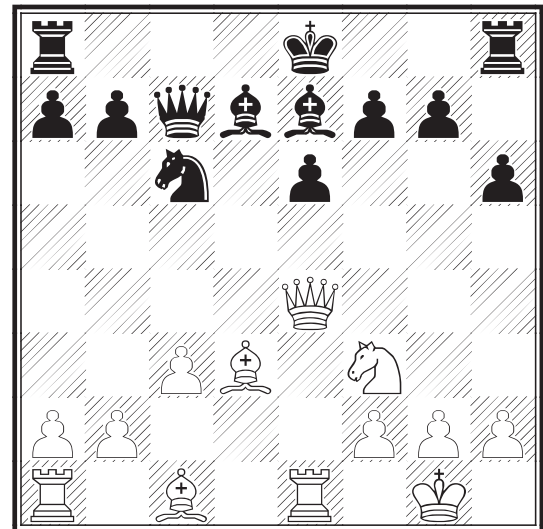
thirty. I found that I was getting tired more easily in long games. And the young players were getting stronger all the time. The Fischer "boom" brought a lot of young people into chess, and these players studied Fischer's methods, preparing openings very well and very deeply. For a person who learned almost everything on chess playing from the Hastings 1895 tournament book, these young players and their modern openings were a handful.

Yet despite this I managed to maintain an Expert's rating, or as it was called at that time, a Candidate Master. And I still had the knack to hold my own with some strong players, including Life Master Bruce Alberston, the strongest player to ever come out of the Valley.

### Bruce Alberston - Martin Simsak

Allentown Chess Club Championship, 5/30/1980

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 e6 4.Bd3 c5 5.c3 Nc6 6.Nbd2 Bd7 7.O-O Bd6 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.e4 dxe4 10.Nxe4 Be7 11.Qe2 Qc7 12.Re1 Nxe4 13.Qxe4 h6



14.Bf4 Bd6 15.Bxd6 Qxd6 16.Rad1 Qc7 17.b4 a6 18.a3 Rc8 19.c4 Ne7 20.Ne5 Bc6 21.Qh4 O-O 22.Re3 Nf5 23.Bxf5 exf5 24.Nxc6 Qxc6 25.c5 Rfe8 26.Qd4 Rxe3 27.fxe3 Re8 28.Kf2 Qe6 29.Rd2 Re7 30.Qd8+ Re8 31.Qd4 Re7 1/2:1/2

However, it was becoming harder and harder to hold my own with strong players. Here I think my opponent, a master from Washington, DC, gave me a little help.

### Gregory C. Acholonu - Martin Simsak

Allentown Spring Open, 4/27/1980

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 Na5 9.Bc2 c5 10.h3 Qc7 11.d4 O-O 12.dxc5 dxc5 13.Nbd2 Rd8 14.Qe2 Bb7 15.Nf1 Nc6 16.a4 b4 17.Ne3 Na5 18.Nc4 Nxc4 19.Qxc4 a5 20.Bb3 Bd6 21.Ng5 Rf8 22.cxb4 axb4 23.Be3 Ba6 24.Qc2 c4 25.Ba2 Rac8 26.Rec1 Qd7 27.Qe2 h6 28.Nf3 Qc6 29.Qd1 Rfd8 30.Bxc4 Bxc4 31.b3 Qxe4 32.Nd2 Be7 33.Nxe4 Rxd1+ 34.Rxd1 Nxe4 35.bxc4 Rxc4 36.Rd7 Bf6

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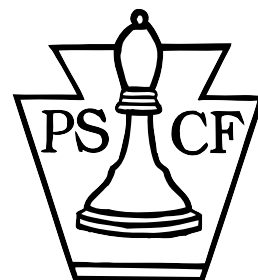
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37.a5 b3 38.Rb7 Nc5 39.Bxc5 Rxc5 40.a6 e4 41.Re1 Kh7  
42.Rxe4 Rc1+ 43.Kh2 Ra1 Game drawn after 20 more moves. 1/2:1/2

In 1980, the year of its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Allentown Chess Club instituted the Lehigh Valley Invitational Championship, a round-robin among the “strongest” players in the Lehigh Valley. I put “strongest” in quotes for a reason. As Bruce Alberston wrote in the *Journal of the Allentown Chess Club*, “The criteria under which the so called strongest were selected (it was not by USCF rating) came under fire as soon as the eight finalists were known. The absence of such perennial stalwarts as Hesse, Simsak, and Kistler raised some eyebrows...”

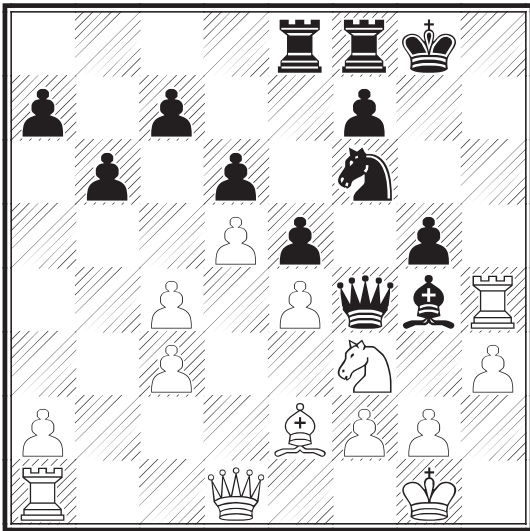
As a result of the public criticism, the Club revised the way they selected the players for the invitational. Both Hermann Hesse and I, the two senior members of the club, received invitations, as did David Kistler, who had also been left out in 1980. So the field in 1981 was both stronger and more representative of the talent at the Club.

In the first two rounds I managed to score a win and a draw. At one point in the drawn game, I had a slight advantage which I failed to capitalize upon.

### Martin Simsak - Carl F. Skinner

Lehigh Valley Invitational, Round 1, Allentown, 1981

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.Bg5 Bb7 5.e3 Be7 6.Nc3 Ne4  
7.Bxe7 Qxe7 8.Be2 Nxc3 9.bxc3 d6 10.O-O Nd7 11.Nd2 e5  
12.e4 O-O 13.Bf3 Qg5 14.Re1 Nf6 15.Re3 Rae8 16.d5 h5  
17.Be2 h4 18.Rh3 Bc8 19.Nf3 Qf4 20.Rxh4 Bg4 21.h3 g5



22.Rxg4 Nxg4 23.hxg4 Qxg4 24.Qd3 Kg7 25.Qe3 f6 26.Nxe5  
Qh4 27.Nf3 Qh7 28.Nxg5 fxg5 29.Qxg5+ Qg6 30.Qxg6+ Kxg6  
31.g3 Rh8 32.Kg2 Kf6 33.Bd3 Rh6 34.Rh1 Rxh1 35.Kxh1  
Rg8 36.Kg2 Rg7 37.a4 a5 38.f4 Rg8 39.Be2 Rh8 40.Bf3 Kg6  
41.g4 c6 42.dxc6 Rc8 43.e5 dxe5 44.fxe5 Re8 45.Be4+ Kg5  
46.Bf5 Re7 47.Bd7 1:0

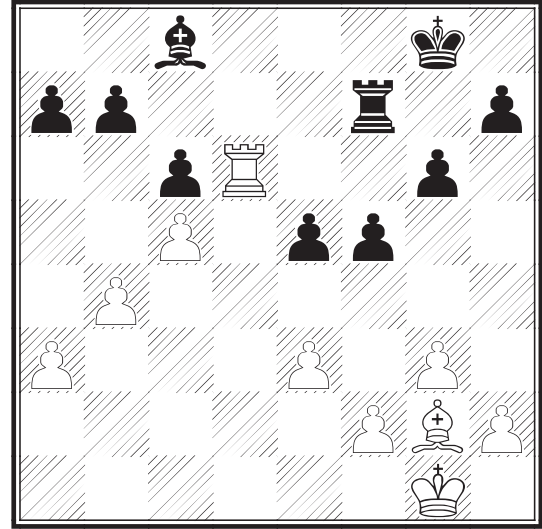
### Martin Simsak – Darryl R. Adler

Lehigh Valley Invitational, Round 2, Allentown, 1981

Annotations by Martin Simsak and Neil Brennen

1.d4 f5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.c4 O-O 6.Nc3 d6 7.O-O  
c6 8.Qc2 Qc7 9.b3 e5 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.Ba3 Re8 12.Rad1  
Bf8 13.Bxf8 Rxf8 14.e3 Na6 15.a3 Nc5 16.b4 Nce4 17.Nxe4

Nxe4 18.Nd2 Nxd2 19.Rxd2 Be6 20.Rfd1 Rad8 21.c5 Rxd2  
22.Qxd2 Rf7 23.Qd6 Qxd6 24.Rxd6 Bc8



25.b5 Kg7 26.bxc6 bxc6 27.Rxc6?

27.Bxc6 would have given me a slight edge.

27...Bb7 28.Rd6?

28.Re6 was better.

28...Bxg2 29.Kxg2 Rc7 30.Rd5 Kf6 31.f4 exf4 32.exf4 Ke6  
33.Re5+ Kd7 34.Kf3 Kc6 35.g4 fxg4+ 36.Kxg4 Rd7 37.Kg5  
a5 38.h4 a4 39.h5 Rd3 40.hxg6 hxg6 41.Kxg6 Rxa3 42.f5?

42.Rg5

42...Rg3+ 43.Kf7 a3 44.f6 a2 45.Re1 Kxc5 46.Kf8 Rb3 47.Ra1  
Rb2 48.f7 Kb4 49.Ke8 Re2+ 50.Kd7 Rd2+ 51.Ke6 Re2+  
52.Kd5 Rd2+ 53.Ke5 Re2+ 1/2:1/2

I considered all my opponents in the tournament strong chess players, but the one I thought of as strongest was Hermann Hesse. I had a very long history with Hermann. Back in 1934 I had drawn in a simultaneous exhibition with him, and we had played hundreds of games since then. Hermann had gone on to win the Pennsylvania Championship five times, and played in the US Championship in 1948. One of his tournament games against me, in the 1936 Pennsylvania State Chess Association championship, even won a brilliancy prize; the judge was Frank James Marshall.

Despite all Hermann's success, I never considered myself anything other than his equal as a chessplayer. And I managed to beat him again and again through the years we played each other. And I did it again, in this beautiful game we played in the Invitational.

### Hermann Hesse - Martin Simsak

Lehigh Valley Invitational, Round 3, Allentown, 1981

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.Nf3 O-O 6.e3 c6 7.Qc2  
Nbd7 8.a3 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Nd5 10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.Bd3 h6 12.Ne2  
e5 13.e4 N5f6 14.Ng3 exd4 15.Nf5 Qc5 16.O-O-O Qxc2+  
17.Bxc2 c5 18.b4 Ng4 19.Rhf1 b6 20.h3 Nge5 21.Ne7+ Kh8  
22.Nh4 Ba6 23.f4

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pace. Alexander Stupunsky, who drew in the first round, lost to Ibragimov, and was out of the running. Pennsylvania did a bit better: Rubenchik had a forfeit victory over Glenn Bady, Kis won, Minear defeated New Jersey's Mikhail Belorusov, Mark Heimann played another FM drawing James Critelli, but his brother lost to Ray Kaufman. I, with two points, was paired with the top player with one-and-a-half, 2005 U.S. Women's Champion Rusudan Goletiani, who beat me pretty easily.

Round five. Nakamura took sole possession of first place by dominating Yudasin. Shabalov drew Izoria. All of the other grandmasters finished the round at least a point behind Nakamura. Most of the aforementioned Pennsylvanians lost in this round, although against very strong opposition. I was lucky on the other hand to draw against Pieter Bierkens, who tried but failed to grind me down in the ending.

The final round's Izoria-Nakamura pairing was a long game which was drawn, giving clear first to Nakamura. Ehvest, Shabalov, and Justin Sarkar all finished with victories, and they split second place with 5/6. Rubenchik, Mark Heimann (who beat me), and Kis all finished strongly to tie for second highest Pennsylvanian with 3½ points. New Jersey's state champion, Thomas Bartell, opened with a draw, and then did a "Swiss Gambit" by finishing with 4/5 against weaker players, except for his loss to Yudasin and his final round victory over Strupunsky. He was New Jersey's top scorer with 4½ points. Winners in the other sections were:

**U2200:** Troy Daly 5½

Top PA: Dan Yeager and Greg Nolan 4

Top NJ: Jayson Lian 4

**U2000:** Christopher Ventura, John Valentine, Maxwell Schwartz, and Andrew Miller 5

Top PA: Michael Johnson, Peter Lang, and Douglas Burgwin 4½

Top NJ: Ventura

**U1800:** Jonathan Phillips 6 (the only perfect score in the tournament)

Top PA: Phillips

Top NJ: Paul Schepel 5

**U1600:** Steven Fox, Emily Chu, Katherine Wu, Zachery Rivkin, and Keith Kerrigan 5

Top PA: Fox and Chu

Top NJ: Richard Ebright 4½

**U1400:** Jacob Kelly 5½

Top PA: Kelly

Top NJ: Sami Haddad 4½

**U1200:** Bryan Fenty 5½

Top PA: Stephen Hlywak and George Matre 5

Top NJ: David Kozuha 5

**U1000:** Gus Tolson and Sal Traina 5

Top PA: Tolson

Top NJ: Traina

**U800:** Kevin Song 5

Top PA: Elliot Bullen 4½

Top NJ: Song

**U600:** Abhik Mukherji, 5½

Top PA: none entered

Top NJ: Mukherji

**Unrated:** Aaron Nicely and Dongwoo Kang 5½

Top PA: Nicely and Kang

Top NJ: Umapathy Bhakthavatsulu 4

## I Win My First (Outright) Main Line Chess Club Championship

by NM Dan Heisman

Back in 1999 the Main Line Chess Club incorporated and moved to Waverly Heights, a wonderful playing site. That year we also decided to divide the Club Championship into two sections and make the championship section nonrated. There were two reasons for this: first, I had retired from rated play in 1991 (since chess was my full-time job) and they wanted me to play and, secondly, because some of our other strong players didn't like to play rated games on a work night, and we meet on Tuesdays.

Three years ago, in 2003, I was co-champion but had lost to former PA High School Champion and Expert Mike Glick, now a professional poker player in Atlantic City, on tiebreak (First place gets the largest silver bowl). Two years ago I had a great tournament and finished in second, despite the presence of three FMs: Peter Fleischer, Matt Bengtson, and champion Rodion Rubenchik. Last year I finished with a terrible even score as Peter won another championship.

This year the FMs had decided not to play: Matt is into Go, Peter got married, and Rodion possibly because of the absence of the other two. But the championship field was still strong with NM Rich Pariseau (now hovering around 2000), and Experts Joe Mucerino, Jon Plaskow, and Vinko Rutar. By round 3 2005 US Amateur East Champion and 2006 PA High School Champion Dan Yeager joined the fray to make it an even stronger event. So try, try, again!

The tournament is a five-round swiss with a time limit of G/70 with a five second time delay. Thanks to President John Bayley, all the prizes are beautiful silver bowls. In the first round I was paired with the player against whom I had played the most slow games. When I joined the Germantown Chess Club in 1966-67, Rich Pariseau was the President! Rich's rating peaked in the low 2300's in the early 1970's.

### Dan Heisman - Richard J. Pariseau

Main Line CC Championship, Round 1, Gladwyne, 10/24/2006

Annotations by Dan Heisman

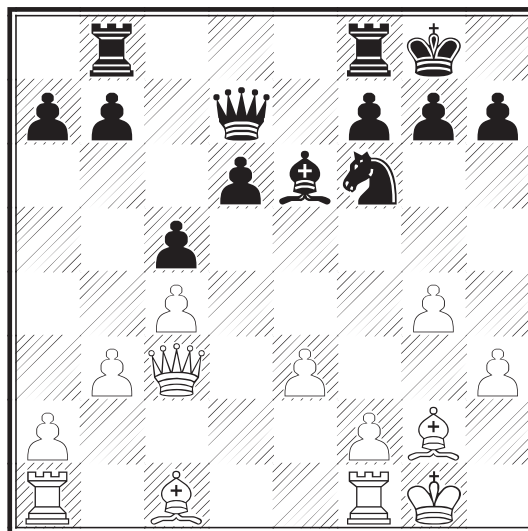
**1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 Nc6 4.Nc3 Be7 5.e3 O-O 6.Nge2 d6 7.O-O Be6 8.Nd5 Rb8 9.d4 Bf5 10.h3 exd4 11.Nxd4**

Better is 11.exd4 Nxd5 12.cxd5.

**11...Nxd4 12.Nxe7+ Qxe7 13.Qxd4 Qd7**

I liked 13...Qe6 slightly better.

**14.g4 Be6 15.b3 c5 16.Qc3**



16...Rfd8 17.e4 Ne8 18.a4 b6 19.Bf4 Qe7

Around here Black must try for play with b5 or get squeezed.

20.Rfd1 f6 21.Rd2 Rd7 22.Rad1 Rbd8 23.Bg3 g5 24.Rd3 h6

25.R1d2 a5 26.Qa1 Qf7 27.Qd1 Qe7 28.f4 Kg7 29.e5

With Rich short on time I try to breakthrough.

29...dxe5 30.fxe5 Rxd3 31.Rxd3 Rxd3 32.Qxd3 Qd7?!

I had 11 minutes left after my 32nd move and Rich had 7.

33.Bd5?

Better is 33.Qxd7+! Bxd7 34.exf6+ Kg6 and White has good winning chances. (If 34...Kxf6 35.Bb8! The move I missed.)

33...fxe5 34.Bxe5+ Kf7?!

Time trouble. After the forced 34...Nf6 White has a nice edge, but no clear win.

35.Qh7+ 1:0

In the second round I played second rated - and eventual second place winner - Vinko Rutar. Vinko was nice enough to agree to play a week early. The club had an off-week for Halloween, but I was to have cataract surgery on the day of the planned second round and so I wanted to play a week early, on the holiday. This was probably my best - and most interesting - game of the tournament.

### Vinko Rutar - Dan Heisman

Main Line CC Championship, Round 2, Gladwyne, 10/31/2006

Annotations by Dan Heisman

1.d4 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.c3?! O-O 5.Qc2 d6 6.Nd2 e5 7.Ngf3 Re8?

Better is 7...exd4! 8.cxd4 Re8. Now White gets a nice variation of the King's Indian Attack.

8.dxe5 dxe5 9.e4 c6 10.O-O Qc7 11.b3 Be6 12.Ng5 Bc8 13.Ba3 h6 14.Ngf3 Be6 15.Rfd1 Na6 16.Nf1 Rad8 17.Ne3 Ng4 18.Nxg4 Bxg4 19.h3 Be6

Black has finally managed to equalize.

20.Kh2 c5!? 21.Nd2 b5 22.Bf1 Qb6

Also possible is the logical 22...c4!?

23.c4 b4

With this concession Black is slightly better.

24.Bb2 Nb8

Immediately heading for d4.

25.f4?!

I play the next few moves perfectly, according to super PC program Rybka.

25...exf4 26.gxf4 Qc7! 27.e5 Bf5 28.Ne4 f6!

Winning a pawn.

29.Rxd8 Rxd8 30.Bg2 fxe5

Now Black is practically winning.

31.Rd1 Nc6?

I thought this was safer than the obvious 31...exf4, but it isn't!

32.Rxd8+ Qxd8

Again, I thought this was safer than 32...Nxd8 and was wrong again! Now I have lost about half of my advantage.

33.Qf2! exf4

I took 5 minutes to play this good move and now only have 1½ left to finish the game.

34.Bxg7 Kxg7 35.Qxc5?

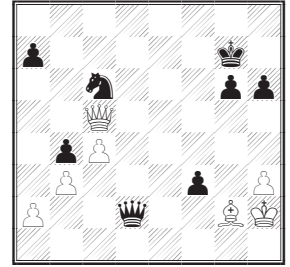
Looks aggressive, but meets with an unexpected refutation. Also bad is 35.Nxc5? Qd4; but after the correct 35.Qxf4 Black still has a lot of work to do with his extra pawn.

35...Bxe4! 36.Bxe4 Qd2+

At this point Vinko looked at the position as if to say to himself "What have I done?"

37.Kh1

The nice line is 37.Bg2 f3! when the miracle Knight on c6 stops all of the White checks! See the analysis diagram to the right.



Now it's all over as I win a piece in all lines.

37...Qe1+ 38.Kh2 Qxe4 39.Qd6 f3 40.Qd7+ Ne7 41.Kg3 f2 42.Qd1 Nf5+ 43.Kxf2 Qf4+ 44.Ke1 Qe3+ 45.Kf1 Qxh3+ 46.Kf2 Qh2+ 47.Ke1 Qg1+ 0:1

After two rounds there were three perfect scores: Jon Plaskow, Joe Mucerino, and I. I was paired with Jon while Joe was paired with tough Dan Yeager, who had joined the fray. After this round I was ahead by an entire point as Dan beat Joe. This game is interesting because there are no tactics! This does not happen to me very often.

### Dan Heisman - Jonathan E. Plaskow

Main Line CC Championship, Round 3, Gladwyne, 11/14/2006

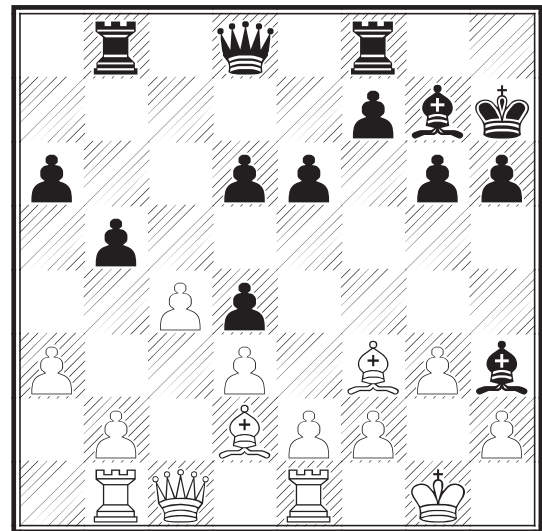
Annotations by Dan Heisman

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.Nc3 O-O 5.d3 d6 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bd2 c5 8.Nf3 Nc6 9.O-O Rb8 10.Qc1 Kh7 11.a3 a6 12.Rb1 Nd4 13.Nxd4

White decides to play an equal line as other lines are worse!

13...cxd4 14.Nd5 Nxd5 15.Bxd5 Bh3 16.Re1 e6 17.Bf3 b5?!

This gives White the opportunity to get a queenside majority, which he uses quite well!



18.cxb5 axb5?

Better is 18...Rc8. Now White will also dominate the c-file.

19.Qc6 d5

If 19...Rb6 then 20.Qc2 is quite sufficient.

20.Rec1 Be5 21.Bb4 Re8 22.Bg2 Bxg2 23.Kxg2 Qc8 24.b3

White has achieved his goal, and now the a-pawn is threatening to roll.

24...Qxc6 25.Rxc6 Rec8 26.Rbc1 Rxc6 27.Rxc6 Rb7

Black tries the "hold on and pray" variation.

28.Bc5 Rb8?

Better is 28...Kg8 to get the King within the promotion square.

**29.Rb6 1:0**

Resignation is not premature. For example, if 29...Bc7 30.Rxb8 Bxb8 31.Bb6! and the a-pawn rolls in winning the Bishop.

I now have a one-point lead and face one of my closest pursuers, PWP's intrepid reporter Joe Mucerino, with Black. Meanwhile Vinko Rutar was beating Dan Yeager on second board and was the only competition left for the first prize - a 12-inch silver bowl!

**Joseph J. Mucerino, Jr. - Dan Heisman**

Main Line CC Championship, Round 4, Gladwyne, 11/21/2006

Annotations by Dan Heisman

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bg5 Bg7 4.Nbd2 O-O 5.e4 d6 6.c3 h6 7.Bh4 c5 8.dxc5 dxc5 9.Bc4 Nc6 10.O-O Nh5!**

Buddy Rybka says I found the best way to complete my development. Now Black is doing fine.

**11.Qc2 Qc7 12.Rfe1 Bg4 13.Re3 g5 14.Bg3 Nxc3 15.hxc3 Rad8 16.Rae1**

Now I thought for a long time about the best way to fight White's plan to push the e-pawn.

**16...e6 17.Nf1?**

This seems a little passive. White should probably just fight for the d-file now with equality.

**17...Rd7 18.N3h2 Bh5 19.g4 Bg6 20.Ng3**

A crucial point. My first thought was to play 20...Be5 and my second thought 20...Ne5, but I was worried about 21.Bb5. So I played my third thought but when I got home Rybka calculated that my second thought was correct!

**20...a6 21.Nh5 Ne5 22.Be2**

To save the bishop pair or not?

**22...Rfd8**

Not!

**23.Nxc3 Kxc7 24.c4?!**

Trying to take advantage of the weakened dark squares around Black's king, but now White has blocked his own bishop with pawns, so it is a double-edged sword.

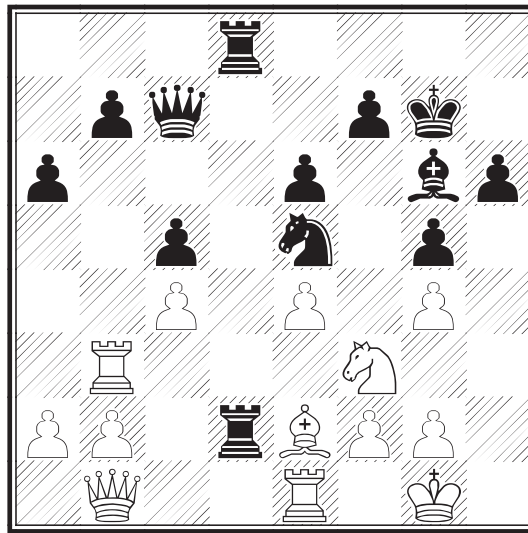
**24...Qa5 25.Rc3 Rd2**

Not 25...Qxa2?? 26.Ra3

**26.Qb1 Qb6**

Rybka liked this move and my next even though they seem to activate White's rook on c3. Black has a nice small advantage.

**27.Rb3 Qc7 28.Nf3?**



**28...Nxc3! 29.g3**

Of course not 29.Nxd2?? Qh2+ 30.Kf1 Qh1#

**29...R2d7 30.Nxc3 hxc3?**

What to do with the desperado knight on g4? My first thought was to play 30...Nxf2 but I rejected that because of 31.Nxe6+. However, Rybka found that this was my winning line! 31...fxe6 32.Kxf2 Rd2 and White's position is in much more disarray than I thought.

**31.Bxc3 Rd4 32.Rc3 Rd2 33.Bf3 Qe5 34.Rc2 R8d3 35.Rxd2 Rxd2 36.b3 Qd4 37.Re3 e5**

Better is 37...Rb2 but now I am in time trouble. Joe had more time (about 8 minutes to 4), but not so much more that he could move slowly.

**38.Kg2??**

Now I immediately saw the refutation, but I hovered my hand for about 20 seconds to make sure I was not falling into a trap! After the better 38.a4 Black is up nicely with an easy game, but there is no clear way to make progress easily.

**38...Qxe3 0:1**

Going into the final round the only way I could not win outright was if Vinko Rutar won and I lost. I thought I might have White against Dan Yeager, but Dan apparently had some homework after the National Chess Congress, so I played another player with 2 points, Arnold Shafritz, while Vinko played Joe Mucerino. Vinko quickly won a piece, so I knew I needed at least a draw to clinch first - but I wanted to win!

**Arnold B. Shafritz - Dan Heisman**

Main Line CC Championship, Round 5, Gladwyne, 11/28/2006

Annotations by Dan Heisman

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 O-O 6.Be3 e5**

The past few times Arnold and I have reached this position I played the modern gambit 6...c5 and won, but this time I decided to return to the "old" lines.

**7.Nge2 c6 8.Qd2**

This flexible move was played by Karpov against Kasparov!

**8...exd4 9.Nxd4 d5**

I think this attempt at refutation is premature. Kasparov played 9...Re8 first, and I now think that is a lot better! Arnold played the next few

## 7<sup>th</sup> Greater Philadelphia Open Chess Championship

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5SS. 30/90; SD/1 (2-Day: G/75 Rds 1-2).

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**Info:** danheisman@comcast.net, 610-649-0750.

moves perfectly.

**10.cxd5 cxd5 11.e5 Nfd7 12.f4 Nb6**

White is clearly a little better with my isolated d-pawn as a target, but his next move, to preserve the bishop pair, is slow and weakens the long diagonal.

**13.b3?!**

Better is just 13.Be2.

**13...Nc6 14.Be2**

Better is 14.Bb5, according to Rybka.

**14...f6!**

Now Black is a little better.

**15.exf6 Qxf6 16.Rd1**

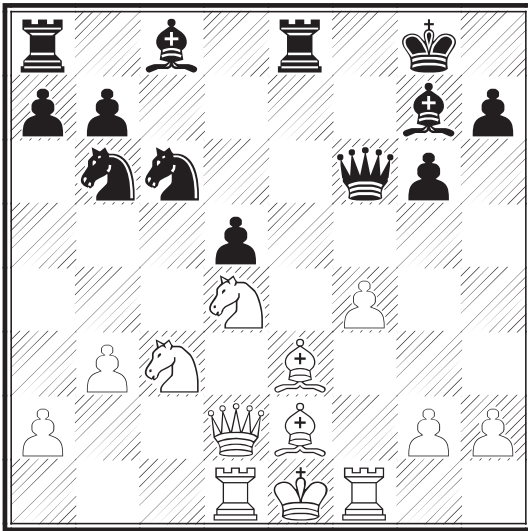
Now I had a tough choice! Do I clinch first place with the easily drawn 16...Nxd4 17.Bxd4 Qxf4 18.Qxf4 Rxf4 19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.Nxd5 Nxd5 21.Rxd5 Be6=, or riskily play for a win?

**16...Re8**

To thine own self be true!

**17.Rf1?**

Better is 17.Bf2, as suggested after the game, when my suggested 17...Bg4 is met by 18.O-O, when the only move for equality is the spectacular 18...Qxd4! So instead I must find 17...Bh6 with a small advantage. After the text I just win material with a removal of the guard sacrifice.



**17...Rxe3 18.Qxe3 Nxd4 19.Qe8+ Qf8 20.Qxf8+ Kxf8 21.Nb5 0:1**

Arnold resigned as he properly pointed out that 21...Nxe2 22.Kxe2 Bg4+ is Black's best continuation.

So I scored my first ever perfect 5-0 in a strong slow event. 38 years ago I started the 1968 Keystone State Open with a strong 5-0 run, but I only played one player rated over 2000, and that was a seven round event. I lost to Dr. Dubeck in the sixth round and finished second with 5½-1½. Of course, the fact that I started that tournament in the bottom half of an open section made the Keystone State one of the best events of my life! But I am very happy that I could score a strong 5-0 at age 56 and in semi-retirement. I did not make one serious mistake in the entire event – that is a rarity for me at any age!

Vinko finished clear second with 4-1. Miles Rich took the Reserve Section prize with 4½-1½. This great game by Miles decided the Reserve Championship in the final round:

**Miles E. Rich - Willard G. Moyer**

Main Line CC Championship, Round 5, Gladwyne, 11/28/2006

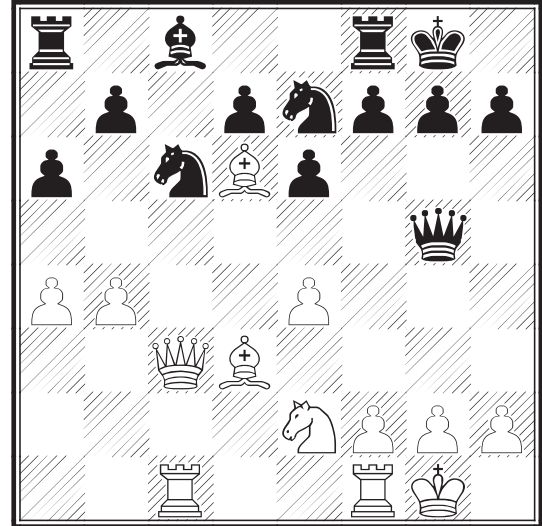
*Annotations by Dan Heisman*

**1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 e6 5.Bf4 Bb4 6.Qd4 Bxc3+ 7.Qxc3 Nf6 8.Bd6 Nc6 9.Bd3 Qa5 10.b4 Qg5 11.Ne2 Ng8?**

Better is 11...a5 12.b5 Nb4 13.O-O b6.

**12.Rc1 a6 13.a4 Nge7 14.O-O O-O?**

According to Rybka, better is 14...b5 15.axb5 axb5 16.f4 Qf6 17.Qc5 Ba6 18.Ra1 Qh4 19.Bxb5.



**15.f4 Qh5 16.b5 axb5 17.axb5 Na5 18.Bxe7+- Re8 19.Bd6 f5 20.exf5 exf5 21.Ng3 Qg6 22.Nxf5 Qf7 23.Rf3!**

Mates in all variations.

**23...Re6 24.Rg3 Rg6 25.Qxc8+ Qe8 26.Ne7+ 1:0**

Hope to see some of you at our club next year - it's a great place to play.

## Junior Gems

by Dan Heisman

**Ben Molin - Wesley J. Loudon**

PA State Scholastic Championships, Round 5, Carlisle, 3/6/2006

*Annotations by Dan Heisman*

(NM Bruce Leverett also took a look at this game and his comments are indicated by -BL)

**1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nc6**

When there is a fixed pawn center and no open or semi-open files, one needs to play a pawn break, a.k.a. "break move" to dissolve the opponent's chain and get open lines for the rooks. In double d-pawn positions the main pawn breaks are by the c-pawns, so as a general principle you don't want to put your pieces in front of your c-pawns in double d-pawn openings. If you want to learn a lot more about break moves, look up my Novice Nook "Break Moves: Opening Lines to Create Mobility" via my website [www.danheisman.com](http://www.danheisman.com). More common is 2...Nf6.

**3.e3**

The natural break move 3.c4 is logical.

**3...Nf6 4.Bd3 Bg4**

Violating one of World Champion Emmanuel Lasker's rules "Don't pin the adverse king's knight to the queen before the opponent has castled"



- see his instructive book *Common Sense in Chess*. This move is not at all terrible, but every little bit counts. In some positions, of course, GMs violate Lasker's rule with impunity! Still, White has done nothing to take advantage of Black's play, so the game remains dead even.

### 5.Nc3 e5

The other natural break.

### 6.dxe5 Nxe5 7.Be2 Nxf3+

Not necessary but perfectly reasonable.

### 8.Bxf3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Bb4 10.Bd2 O-O 11.O-O Re8

Black retains a tiny advantage based mainly on his more advanced central pawn.

### 12.a3 Bc5 13.Rfe1 Ne4 14.Nxe4 dxe4

Now the game is back to almost even.

### 15.Qe2 Qf6 16.Bc3 Qh4

Aggressive, but keeping the Queen centralized was slightly better.

### 17.Qc4 Bd6 18.h3

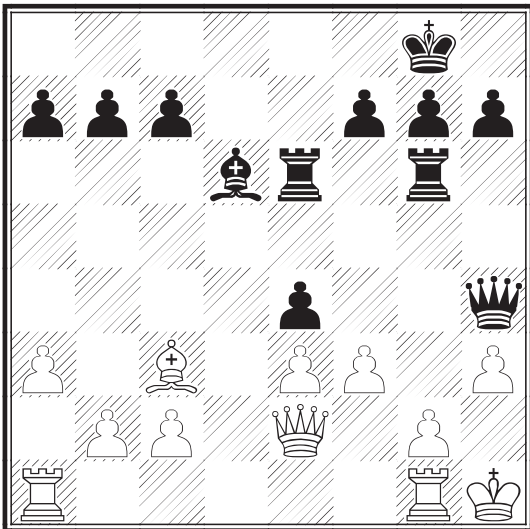
Here White could have taken advantage of an unusual pin by playing 18.f4 as capturing "en passant" loses the Queen to 18...exf3?? 19.Qxh4. A difficult thing for many players to visualize because of the unusual opening of the fourth rank. My tactics notes in this game are augmented with top PC program Rybka, which has a rating of about 3000!

### 18...Re6 19.Qe2?

Up to now both sides have played quite well, but now storm clouds gather. 19.f4 was much better. It soon becomes a position with tactical chances for Black and both sides make understandable mistakes.

### 19...Rg6 20.Kh1 Re8 21.Rg1 Ree6 22.f3?

This loses; 22.Raf1 was better.



### 22...exf3

22...Rg3 with the threat of sacrifice on h3 was even better, e.g. 23.f4 (best) 23...Rh6 with many threats including the renewed possibility of sacrificing a rook on h3.

### 23.Qxf3 Rh6?

23...Rg3 was still the way to get a winning advantage. The idea is a timely sacrifice of the rook - or even the queen - on h3, e.g. 24.Be1 Qxh3+ 25.gxh3 Rxf3 winning; Or 24.Qf5 g6 25.Qf1 Rxe3 with the idea Rxf3+ -BL.

### 24.Raf1 f6 25.Be1 Qg5 26.Bf2 Bc5?

Better was 26...Qe5 with a double threat of 27...Qh2# and 27...Qxb2. Watch for forks.

### 27.Qxb7 Bxe3?

Black gives away all his advantage - and more! Better was preserving the c-pawn and the Bishop for a kingside attack with 27...Bd6, when Black is still better. It's always difficult to admit your previous move was incorrect, but you need to re-evaluate your plans as the game continues.

### 28.Qc8+

Even better was 28.Re1.

### 28...Kf7 29.Qxc7+ Kg6

Black's King is relatively safe here but still White is a little better.

### 30.Bxe3 Rxe3 31.Qh2

31.Rf2; or 31.Re1 retain a slight advantage.

### 31...Qd5

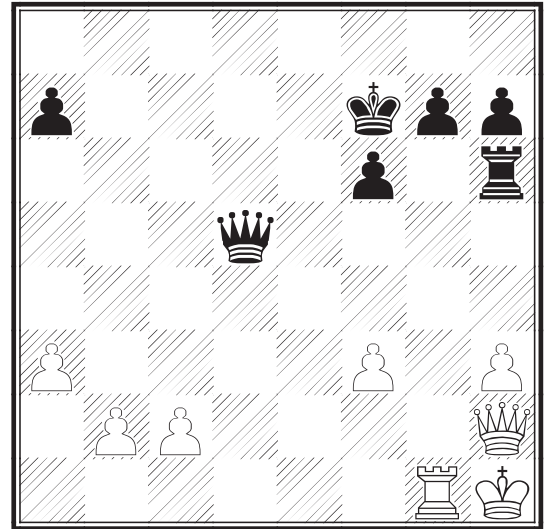
31...Rh4 is almost equal. After the text White again has a slight advantage. White would love to get to an endgame where his extra passed pawn on the queenside is telling.

### 32.Rf3 Rxf3 33.gxf3+

*Check! The worst is over now. A good example of stout-hearted defense -BL.*

### 33...Kf7?!

Believe it or not, Rybka 'feels' that the exposing 33...Kf5 is clearly superior.



### 34.Qg2?

It is hard to give all these question marks to these hard-working players, but this is the kind of position even intermediate players can easily make big mistakes. Now 34.Qc7+ was just about winning. Always look for the forcing moves - checks, captures, and threats - in that order!

### 34...Rg6

34...g5 is a better defense.

### 35.Qf2 Rxf3+ 36.Kxf3 Qg5+ 37.Kh2 Qf4+ 38.Qg3

White's last chance was 38.Kg2 Qg5+ 39.Kh1 Qc1+ 40.Qg1 Qxc2 41.Qxa7+ Ke6 42.Qxg7 Qxb2 43.Qg4+ with some chances. Now the game becomes a draw by perpetual as White either does not see how to avoid it or is just as happy to split the point.

### 38...Qd2+ 39.Qg2 Qf4+ 40.Kg1 Qc1+ 41.Qf1 Qe3+ 42.Kg2 Qg5+ 43.Kf2

Again, White could try 43.Kh1 if he does not want the draw.

### 43...Qc5+ 44.Ke1 Qxc2 1/2:1/2

*(Players in grades 12 and under are encouraged to send us their instructive games to be analyzed by Dan Heisman.)*

**Forget Me Not**

by Alex Dunne

Mark Dvoretzky recommended that from time to time the student should look at an old game that he had played and try to look at it through fresh, modern eyes. I selected a game I have always loved (such a shameless word!) and have resolved to look at it as if I played it yesterday.

**Sanford Greene - Alex Dunne**  
ICCF, Correspondence, 1980

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 O-O**

All right, Fischer used to play this a few years earlier, but he gave up this sequence in favor of the more usual 4...d6. Why? Because with 4...0-0 Black must be prepared for both 5.e5 and the more standard lines. Why take on the extra burden?

**5.f3 c5**

In the day this was played, this was thought to be strong, but the modern way of treating it is to play 6.d5 d6 7.Be3 e6 8.Qd2 exd5 9.exd5! with about a 70% success rate for White.

**6.Nge2 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Nc6 8.Be3 e6**

Black plans to use his lead in development to pressure White's center. This may have been boyish enthusiasm (I was only 39!) but it was positionally risky. Today the dark squares around d6 would discourage me from playing 8...e6 because 9.c5! Qe7 10.Ndb5 Ne8 11.Qd2 is strong.

**9.Nc2**

This is a correct idea - avoiding exchanges and reinforcing d5, but it is still a retreat. Now d6 looks like a black hole.

**9...Re8!**

Positionally and tactically sharp! d6 will be covered by the Bishop if necessary and the Rook uses x-ray vision to look at the King.

**10.Qd2 d5!?**

It doesn't matter if this is sound or not - Black has committed his forces to play this move. But is it sound?

**11.cxd5 exd5 12.Nxd5**

After 12.exd5 Ne7 13.Bc4 Bf5 14.Nd4 Nfxd5! 15.Nxf5 Nxf5 16.Nxd5 Qh4+! catches White's King in the center.

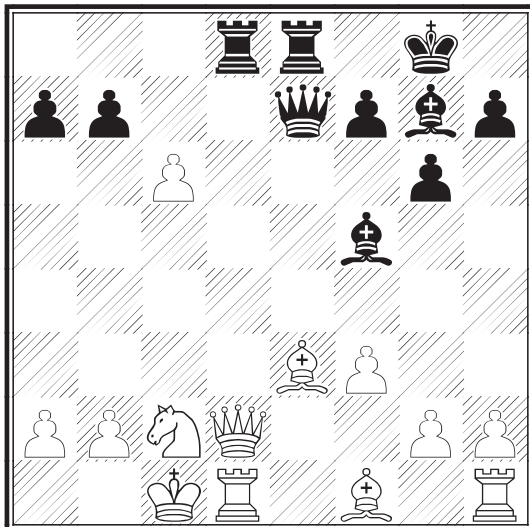
**12...Nxd5 13.exd5**

Weak was 13.Qxd5 Qxd5 14.exd5 Nd4!

**13...Bf5! 14.dxc6 Qe7?!**

Black was better after 14...Qxd2+ 15.Kxd2 Rad8+ but this sets a trap. If now 15.Bb5 Black wins with the wild 15...Bxc2 16.cxb7 Rad8 17.Bxe8 Rxd2 18.Kxde2 Qxb7 19.Rac1 Bf5 20.b3 Qd5+ 21.Ke1 Qe6. Black is tempted to an inferior line.

**15.O-O-O Rad8**



**16.Bd4?**

After 16.Qf2 there is another forcing line - 16...Bxb2+ 17.Kxb2 Rxd1 18.g4 Bd3 19.Bxd3 Rxb1 20.Bc5 Qf6+ 21.Bd4 Qxc6 and I would have arrived at an unbalanced position - two Rooks and a Pawn against three minors. Normally the minors are better, but the exposed position of the White King would tilt the edge to Black - but anything can happen here.

**16...Rxd4!**

Now Black has a forced win with a little trap to avoid at the end.

**17.Qxd4**

If 17.Nxd4 Qc5+ 18.Nc2 Bh6!

**17...Bxd4 18.Rxd4 Qc5 19.Bd3 Re2! 20.Bxf5 gxf5 21.Rd2 Rxd2 22.Kxd2 Qf2+ 0:1**

White resigns without trying one last trap - 23.Kd1 Qxg2 24.c7 Qxh1+? 25.Ne1 and White wins, but that would not have happened - 24...Qxf3+! and ...Qc6 wins. Lessons to be learned? An improved opening, an improved positional sense, and ultra-sharp tactics good for any age!

**Coaches Corner: Practical Rook Endgames**

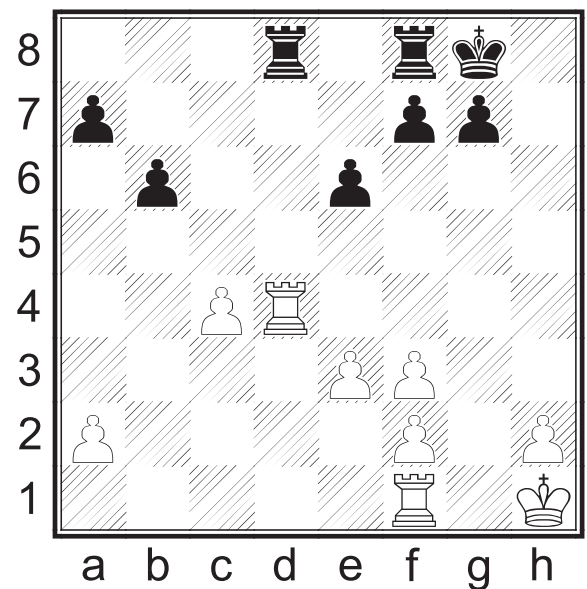
by IM Igor Khmelitsky

The Rook Endgame is the most common type of ending and one of the more complex. There are many nuances - activity of the rook, king position, pawn structure - that can easily distort what seems initially to be a clear picture.

Today, I'd like to show you an example from a game that one of my students played at the HB Global Chess Challenge. It is in the Question & Answer format. Take it seriously and see if you can find the right answers.

**Z. D. - J. G.**

**HB Global Chess Challenge, Round 7, 5/21/2005**



*Black to move*

**How would you evaluate this position? What is the best move? Spend 5 to 15 minutes thinking about your answers.**

White has an extra pawn. Black has the better pawn structure: Just count the "pawn islands", Black has 2 while White has 4. The position is dynamically equal.

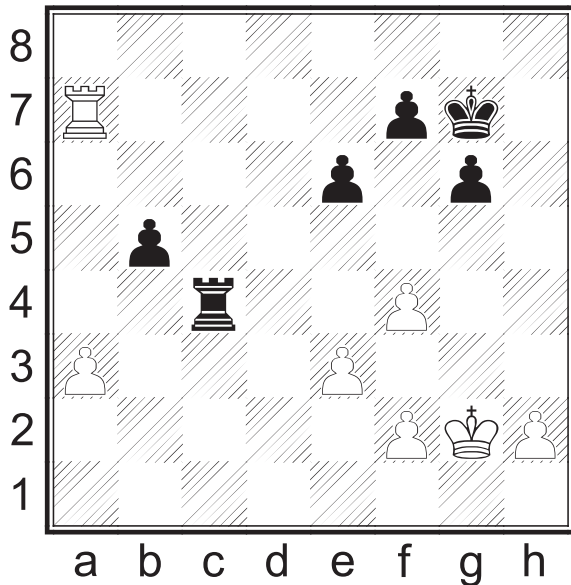
Black's strategy should be to harass White's weaknesses as soon as possible. Otherwise, White could bring his King towards the center to help with the defense. Also, Black should consider getting his King to e7. White's strategy is to consolidate the defense of his weak pawns, centralize his King and trade both sets of rooks. Another important idea for White is to trade some of his weak pawns.

Candidate moves: There are two moves to consider. One seems to lead to draw almost immediately - 24...Rxd4 25.exd4 Rd8 26.Rd1 Rc8 27.Rc1 Rd8 28. Rd1 Draw. White can only get into trouble if he tries 28.c5 as Black can win the pawn on d4 and then come back with the Rook, stopping the c-pawn and then bringing his King over to win it.

The other idea is to try for more than the simple draw by playing 24...Rc8, hoping for the following line: 25.Rc1 Rc7 (defending the 7th rank from a White rook invasion at d7) 26.Kg2 R8c8 with the idea of 27... b5. But after 27.a4, White can defend his pawns and is not at any risk at all. White could also try some other moves earlier - like 25.Rd7, utilizing the strategy of trading his weak pawns (e.g. his pawn at c4 for one of the Black pawns at a7 or b6).

Correct answers: The position is equal, with a draw likely. The best move is 24...Rxd4.

In the game - Black didn't take on d4 and proceeded with the 24...Rc8 plan. Eventually, the game arrived at the following position:



*Black to move*

**How would you evaluate this position? What is the best move? Spend 5 to 15 minutes thinking about your answers.**

Well, White managed to consolidate and clearly is not at risk. Black should play carefully and a draw is still the likely outcome.

White's strategy is not obvious. He can try to win the pawn at b5, but that is not likely to succeed. He could try bringing his King to the queenside, but that could be dangerous. The weak kingside pawns will start falling like ripe apples. Advancing the e and f-pawns also doesn't look promising.

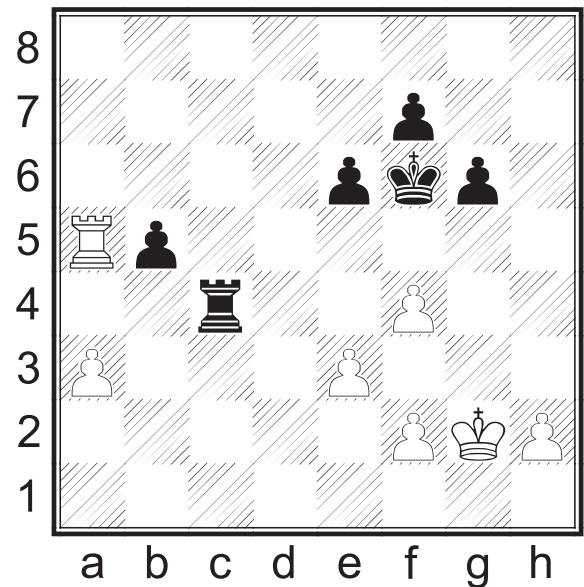
Black's strategy - well, since he is defending, he should be more reactive than active. Since we can't identify White's strategy, it is better to

sit tight and prepare to counter whatever White chooses.

Candidate moves: Aggressive moves are wrong and penalized. For example, 32...Ra4?? 33. Rxa4 bxa 34.e4 and having an extra pawn in the endgame, White should win without any trouble. Or, 32. ...b4?? 33. Ra4 and White manages to win the b-pawn without losing his a-pawn. "Normal" moves like 32...Kf6 (advancing the King to the center) are OK, but not the best, as the Black King can advance no further. Partial credit for that idea. I like to improve the position of the Black Rook. After 32...Rc2 Black ties down the White King to the pawn on f2 and can also shift his Rook to either of a2 or b2 - defending his pawn or counterattacking White's as is appropriate..

Correct answers: White has a small advantage, but a draw is likely. The best move is 32...Rc2.

The game continued 32...Kf6 33.Ra5:



*Black to move*

**How would you evaluate this position? What is the best move? Spend 5 to 15 minutes thinking about your answers.**

Here the evaluation should be secondary to the move as Black has to address the immediate threat of 34.Rxb5. If he loses his b-pawn for nothing, the draw will be very difficult to obtain.

Once again, 33...Ra4 34.Rxa4; and 33...b4 34.Ra4 are bad moves. Also bad is 33...Rc5 because of 34.a4. The only possible move is 33...Rc3, offering to exchange the attacked b-pawn for White's a-pawn. In rook endgames, keeping your rook active via counterattacks is often better than using it for passive defense. In this case, that move is sufficient to maintain excellent drawing chances.

Correct answers: White has a small advantage, but a draw is likely. The best move is 33...Rc3.

Rate yourself: 5 points for a correct evaluation; 5 points for a correct move; 2 points for partial credit; and for bad moves a -1 point penalty.

(For comments, questions, training or to order an autographed copy of *Chess Exam and Training Guide*, which was declared the 2005 Best Chess Book by the Chess Journalists of America, please contact IM Igor Khmelnsky via his website <http://www.iamcoach.com/>)

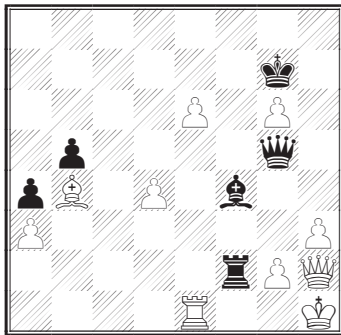
**Play It Forward**

by **Ken Hamilton**

Brain-teasers from the games of Boris Spassky. Why Spassky, and why now? The answer, and solutions, are on page 14.

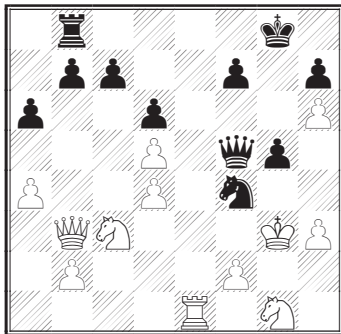
From the diagrams, play through the given moves in your head first, then make your move.

**1. Boris V. Spassky - Victor Kortchnoi**  
XXII USSR Champ, Moscow, 1955



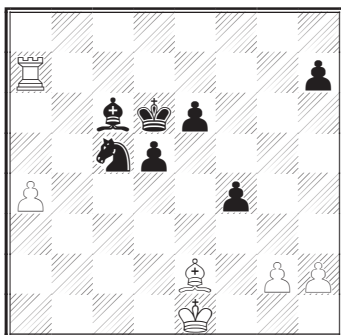
- 39.Qg1      Qh4
- 40.e7      Rf3
- 41. ?

**2. Boris V. Spassky - Evgeny Vasiukov**  
Moscow, 1959



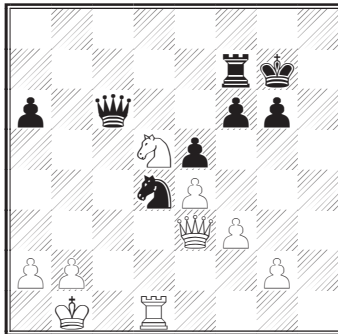
- 26.Qxb7      Rf8
- 27.Qxc7      Qd3+
- 28.Kh2      Qd2
- 29. ?

**3. Boris V. Spassky - Alexey S. Suetin**  
Interzonal, Moscow, 1964



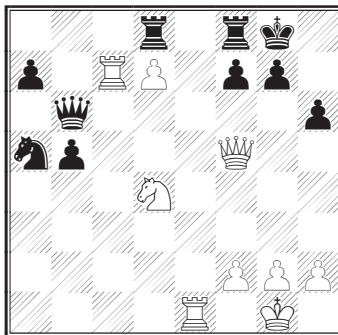
- 37.a5      d4
- 38.Bf3      e5
- 39.Bxc6      Kxc6
- 40.Rxh7      e4
- 41. ?

**4. Boris V. Spassky - Victor Kortchnoi**  
Candidates Final, Kiev, 1968



- 32.Rc1      Qb5
- 33.Nc7      Qe2
- 34.Ne6+      Kh7
- 35. ?

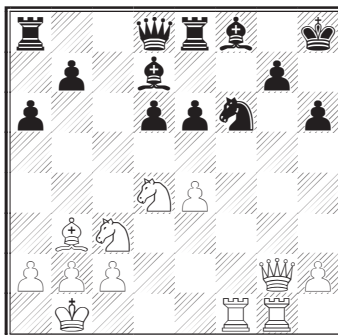
**5. Boris V. Spassky - Tigran V. Petrosian**  
World Champ, Moscow, 1969



- 27.Rc8      Nb7
- 28.Nc6      Nd6
- 29.Nxd8      Nxf5
- 30. ?

Hmmm....that one was quite challenging. Maybe you'll find this one a little easier.

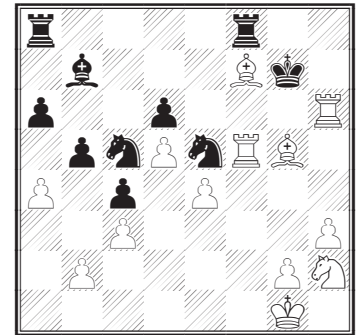
**6. Boris V. Spassky - Tigran V. Petrosian**  
World Champ, Moscow, 1969



- 21.e5      dxe5
- 22.Ne4      Nh5

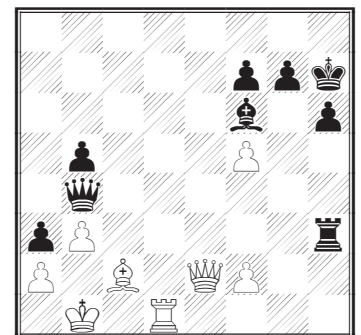
- 23.Qg6      exd4
- 24. ?

**7. Boris V. Spassky - Lajos Portisch**  
Candidates Tnmt, Geneva, 1977



- 36.Bf6+      Kxf7
- 37.Bxe5+      Ke8
- 38.Rxf8+      Kxf8
- 39.Bxd6+      Kg7
- 40. ?

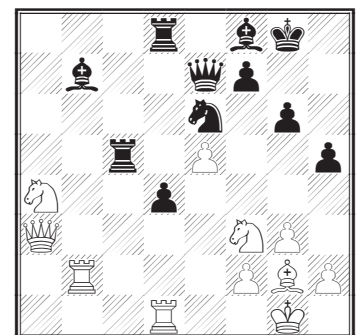
**8. Krunoslav Hulak - Boris V. Spassky**  
Interzonal, Toluca, 1982



- 34.Qe1      Qc5
- 35.Kc1      Rxb3
- 36.axb3      ?

Wow, that was too easy...this last one is not so obvious!

**9. Jan H. Timman - Boris V. Spassky**  
Match, Hilversum, 1983



- 33...      Rc1
- 34.Qd3      Qa3
- 35.Qf1      Rxd1
- 36.Qxd1      ?

**For solutions, see page 14.**

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## Play It Forward Solutions (from page 12)

I gave up producing these puzzles when I ended my stint as editor of *Chess In Indiana* a year ago. I was stimulated to produce this final effort when, on browsing through *Boris Spassky's Selected Games* (Soloviov) I discovered that the former world champion would become 70 years old in January 2007, joining yours truly and Korchnoi (who will be 76 in March, but still a year younger than me). Let me wish Boris a happy birthday and assure him that, as Viktor continues to show us, being a septuagenarian can be fun!

**1. Spassky-Korchnoi: 41. Qh2!** A diabolical way of answering the threat of 41...Rxh3+. If now 41...Qxe1+ 42.Bxe1 Rf1+ 43.Qg1+- Or 41...Bxh2 42.e8Q Rf2 43.Re7+ Kf6 (43...Kh6 44.Rh7 +- ) 44.Rf7+ Kg5 (44...Kxg6 45.Kg8 Kh6 46.Rh7#) 45.Be7+-.

**2. Spassky-Vasiukov: 29. Ne4! Brutal!** Now after 29...Qxe1 30.Qe7 and there is no defense - e.g., 30...Nh5 31.Nf6+ Nxf6 32.Qxf6 with mate on g7.

**3. Spassky-Suetin: 41. a6!** Wins, as 41...Nxa6 42.Rh6+ Kb5 43.Rxa6 Kxa6 44.h4 and queens.

**4. Spassky-Korchnoi: 35.Qh6+!** Of course...followed by 36.Rh1#. Sometimes the obvious stares us in the face, but to see it we often need to know what we are looking for. I believe the mating pattern is a variant of the so-called Anastasia's mate, where the Rook mates on the a or h-file aided by a Knight and one or more pawns that block the King's escape.

**5. Spassky-Petrosian: 30. Nc6!** And it's murder on the back rank.

**6. Spassky-Petrosian: 24. Ng5!** If now 24...hxg5 25. Qxh5+ Kg8 26.Qf7+ Kh7 27.Rf3 g4 28.Rxg4 game over.

**7. Spassky-Portisch: 40. Ng4** At first glance, White has picked up another pawn and merely looks set to roll in the endgame. But look again - Black's Knight on e5 is en-prise and has to go somewhere. If 40...Nd7 41.Re6 Rd8 42.Re7+ Kg6 43.Bc7. Hmm- let's try 41...Bc8 42.Re7+ Kg6 43.a5 Nf6 44.Ne5+ Kh5 45.g4+ Kh6 46.Bc5 and Black has to throw away more material to avoid Be3#. OK, there's 40...Nd3, but then 41.Be7 Kf7 42. Bf6 Bc8 43. Rh7+ Ke8 44.e5 Bf5 45. Re7+ Kf8 46 Nh6 curtains... How about 40...Nxe4? That doesn't work either, because of 41.Be5+ Kf7 42.Rh7+ and bye bye b7 bishop. Try going back to the diagram and playing through these variations in your head, (of course!) it's good practice!

**8. Hulak-Spassky: 36...a2!** And the a-pawn queens. 37.Kd2 would be futile because of ...Bc3+ picking up the White Queen.

**9. Timman-Spassky: 36...Bc6** And something's gotta give - either the Knight or the Rook is lost. By the way, 35.Qxa3 was another way to lose - 35...Rxd1+ 36.Bf1 Rxf1+ 37.Kxf1 Ba6+ 38.Ke1 Bxa3.

(Reprinted from the December 2006 *Chess IN Indiana*. For more information on the Indiana State Chess Association visit their website at <http://www.indianachess.org/>)

## UPCOMING PSCF EVENTS

**March 2 GPP:6 Pennsylvania (QC) 2007 Pennsylvania Quick Chess Championship.** 6SS, G/10, T/D3. Hotel Carlisle & Convention Center, 1700 Harrisburg Pike, Carlisle PA 17013, Exit 52A NB/Exit 52 SB off I-81, Exit 226 off PA Turnpike. 3 sections, EF rec'd by 2/12: **Open:** \$12. **U1500:** \$10. **U1100:** \$8. \$\$ (730G): **Open:** 175-100-50, U1800 \$45, U1600 \$40.

**U1500:** 125-75-50, U1200 \$40, Unrated \$30. **U1100:** Trophies to 1st-5th, Top U800, Top U600, 1st-2nd Unr. **All:** EF: \$20 after 2/12, PSCF \$5 OSA. Reg: 6-6:30pm. Rd 1: 7pm. February 2007 Regular ratings used. Bye: limit 1, ask by rd 2. **HR:** Mention "PA States" for best rate as early as possible; Hotel Carlisle & Convention Center 800-692-7315 \$65 (Stay at the tournament site!). **Ent:** PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 549 13th Ave., New Brighton PA 15066-1208. Checks payable to PSCF. **Info:** paquick@pscfcchess.org W.

### A Heritage Event

**March 2 - 4. 2007 Pennsylvania State Scholastic Championships.** 142 Trophies!! (With 107 Individual and 35 Team Trophies). Hotel Carlisle & Convention Center, 1700 Harrisburg Pike, Carlisle PA 17013, Exit 52A NB/Exit 52 SB off I-81, Exit 226 off PA Turnpike. 8 sections (Sat & Sun 3/3 & 4 unless indicated): EF: **K-3 Open:** (Sat 3/3 only) \$29. **K-6 U800:** (Sat 3/4 only) \$27. **K-9 U1000:** (Sun 3/4 only) \$27.25. **K-6 Open:** \$30.50. **K-8 Open:** \$31.50. **7-12 U1000:** \$28.50. **7-12 U1300:** \$29.50. **K-12 Open:** (Fri, Sat & Sun 3/2-4) \$32.50. **All:** EFs if rec'd by 2/12, \$10 more rec'd 2/13-2/26, \$20 more after 2/26. PSCF membership included. February 2007 ratings used. Bye: limit 1, ask by rd 2. \$\$ for College scholarships (amount to be determined) for top boy and girl in K-12 Open, for Castle Camp (scholarships) & (if possible) 1st team, player in K-6, K-8 & K-12 Opens for Nationals, Denker, Polgar. Reg Fri 3/2 6-10pm, Sat 3/3 9:30-10:15am, at site entries on day of 1st rd get 1/2-bye. Send name, USCF ID & exp, section, grade, school/club, birthday, gender, address, phone, email + EF. \$5 charge for changes/refunds after 2/12. Rds (Sat 3/3 1-day sections): 5-SS. G/40 T/D5; 10-11:45-2-3:45-5:30; (Sun 3/4 K-9 U1000): 5-SS. G/40, T/D5; 9-10:30-12:30-2-3:30; (2-day sections): 5-SS. G/90, T/D5; 10-2-5:30, 9-1. (Fri, Sat & Sun 3/2-4 K-12 Open): 6-SS. G/90, T/D5; 8, 10-2-5:30, 9-1. **Bughouse:** Reg until Sat 3/3 8:30pm. Rds begin Sat 3/3 8:45pm. EF: \$20/team. **HR:** Mention "PA States" for best rate as early as possible; Hotel Carlisle & Convention Center 800-692-7315 \$65 (Stay at the tournament site!). **Ent:** PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 549 13th Ave., New Brighton PA 15066-1208. Checks payable to PSCF. **Info:** <http://www.pscfcchess.org/pascholasticchamp/>, Steve McLaughlin: zugzwang1@erols.com 215-784-5938; Dan Heisman: danheisman@comcast.net 610-649-0750. W.

**March 3 & 4 GPP:6 Pennsylvania 2007 Carlisle Open & Pennsylvania Collegiate Championship.** 5SS, G/90, T/D5. Hotel Carlisle & Convention Center, 1700 Harrisburg Pike, Carlisle PA 17013, Exit 52A NB/Exit 52 SB off I-81, Exit 226 off PA Turnpike. 2 sections: **Open & U1500.** \$\$ (1260G): **Open:** 180-120, U2200 \$110, U2000 \$100, U1800 \$90, U1600 \$80; **U1500:** 150-100, U1400 \$90, U1200 \$85, U1000 \$80, Unr \$75. **All:** College Trophies: 1st-2nd in each section, 1st-2nd team (4 players combined over both sections). EF: \$29 rec'd by 2/12, \$39 after, PSCF \$5 OSA. Reg: 8:45-9:30pm. 10-2-5:30, 9-1. February 2007 ratings used. Bye: limit 1, ask by rd 2. **HR:** Mention "PA States" for best rate as early as possible; Hotel Carlisle & Convention Center 800-692-7315 \$65 (Stay at the tournament site!). **Ent:** PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 549 13th Ave., New Brighton PA 15066-1208. Checks payable to PSCF. **Info:** carlisleopen@pscfcchess.org W.

**March 17. ASAP-PSCF-CCP Tournament.** Great Hall, Wynett Building, Community College of Philadelphia, Philadelphia PA 19130 (2nd building south of the corner of 17th & Spring Garden). 4 Sections: **Open Quads:** 3-RR. G/60. EF: \$20. \$\$50 to 1st in each quad. **Scholastic Open:** 3-SS (or 4-SS depending upon entries). G/60. EF: \$10. Trophies to Top 3 per section. (Depending upon entries, this may be further divided into smaller sections). **Scholastic U800:** 4-SS (or 5-SS depending upon entries). G/30. EF: \$5. Trophies to Top 5 per

section. (Depending upon entries, this may be further divided into smaller sections). **Open Non-rated:** 4-SS (or 5-SS depending upon entries). G/30. EF: \$5. Not USCF-rated. Medallions to winners. (Depending upon entries, this may be further divided into smaller sections). **All:** Reg: 8:30-9:30am. Rds 10am and then as quickly as possible. PSCF required \$5 except for ASAP students. \$5 entry fee discount for ASAP students. **Info:** Dr. Ira Lee Riddle [Iralee@aol.com](mailto:Iralee@aol.com), 215-674-9049.

**April 1 GPP:6 Pennsylvania (QC) 2007 PA State Game/29 Championship.** 5-SS. G/29. Ballroom, Main Floor, William Pitt Union, Univ. of Pittsburgh, 5th Ave. & Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh PA 15213. 2 sections: **Championship:** Open to all. EF: \$25 postmarked by 3/24, \$35 after. \$\$ (690G): 200-100, U2000 \$90, U1800 \$80, U1600 \$70, U1400 \$60, U1200 \$50, U1000 \$40. Trophies to Top 3 under 1400, Top 3 under 1200, and Top 3 under 1000. **Scholastic:** Open to K-12 who are unrated or rated under 900. EF: \$15 postmarked by 3/24, \$25 after. Trophies to Top 7, and Top 3 under 600. **All:** PSCF required \$5 OSA. Trophies to 1st-2nd club and school teams combining 4-7 players from both sections. Reg ends 10:30am. Rds 11am - 12:30pm - 1:45pm - 3pm - 4:15pm. **Info:** [martinak\\_tom\\_m@hotmail.com](mailto:martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com), 412-908-0286. **Ent:** PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 549 13th Ave., New Brighton PA 15066-1208. Checks payable to PSCF. W. *Sponsored & Organized by the PA State Chess Federation & University of Pittsburgh Chess Club.*

**May 5 & 6. 2007 PA State Amateur Championship.** Comfort Inn, 58 SR 93, West Hazleton PA 18202, ½ mile from Exit 145 off I81. 2 sections. **Championship:** Open to U2200. 5-SS. G/90. **EF:** \$20 by 4/30, \$30 after. Trophies to 1st-3rd, U1800, U1600, U1400, U1200/Unrated. 1st & 2nd receive paid advance entry into 2007 PA State Championship, Title to Top PA Resident. Trophy to Top School Team, any number of players may play, top 4 scores count for team. Rds 10am - 1:30pm - 5pm, 9:30am - 1pm. **Scholastic:** Saturday Only, Open to K-12 who are unrated or rated under 1400. 4-SS. G/40. **EF:** \$15 by 4/30, \$25 after. Trophies to 1st-2nd, U1100, U800, Unrated. Trophy to Top School Team, any number of players may play, top 4 scores count for team. Rds 10am - 11:30am - 1pm - 2:30pm. **All:** Reg 8:45-9:15am. PSCF \$5 OSA. **HR:** Comfort Inn 570-455-9300, 1-877-424-6423 Special Chess Room Rate of \$71.96 plus tax (\$79.62 total) if reserved by 4/5. **Info:** [jem023@ptd.net](mailto:jem023@ptd.net), 570-455-9261. **Ent:** GHACC, C/O Michael Jemo, 567 Forest Hills Dr., Hazleton PA 18201-9648. Checks payable to GHACC. W. *Sponsored & Organized by the PA State Chess Federation & Greater Hazleton Area Chess Club.*

Watch for the latest information on PSCF tournaments on our website:

<http://www.pscfchess.org/clearinghouse/>

## Coatesville 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Swiss

March 17, 2007

Coatesville Cultural Society

258 E. Lincoln Hwy, Coatesville PA 19320

Format: 4 round Swiss. Time Control: G/60.

Reg: 9-9:45am. Rds: 10am-12:30pm-2:45pm-5pm.

Entry Fee: \$30, at site only.

Prizes (top/class): \$400 (based on 20 paid entries).

## PSCF GOVERNANCE

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**WHERE TO PLAY CHESS IN PENNSYLVANIA**

ANY CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED

**ALLENTOWN**

- (1) Center City CC; St Luke's Lutheran Church, 417 N 7th St; Sat Noon-6 pm  
 (2) Lehigh Valley Chess Association; Bruce Davis 610-821-4320

**ALTOONA**

Andrew Stergiou 814-941-8718

**BLOOMSBURG**

Kehr Union Bldg; Bob Ross 570-784-8571

**BRIDGEWATER**

The Copper Dog, 234 Bridge St; Tues 7-9 pm, Jim Scibilia 724-728-8044

**BRADFORD**

- (1) Univ of Pitt-Bradford Commons Building; Tues 8-11 pm  
 (2) School Street Elementary; Wed 6:30-8:30 pm  
 (3) 78 Main St Fl 3; Gregory 814-368-4197

**CHAMBERSBURG**

Chessman; 600 Miller St; Thurs 7-10 pm, 717-261-9132, 717-263-2836

**CHESTER**

J Lewis Crozer Library, 620 Engle St; Tues 5:30-7:30 pm, 610-364-1212

**COATESVILLE**

Cultural Soc, 258 E Lincoln Hwy; Thurs 5-10 pm, Bob Jones 610-384-1790

**COUDERSPORT**

High School, 698 Dwight St; Fri 3-4:30 pm, Patrick Keeney 814-274-4428

**DOUGLASSVILLE:**

Amity CC, St Paul's UCC, 1312 Old Swede Rd; Fri 7-10 pm, 610-385-6324

**ERIE**Zurn Science Building, W 7th St between Peach and Sassafra, Room 348;  
 Fri 6:30-10 pm, James Walczak 814-870-7763**GLADWYNE**Main Line CC; Waverly Hts Ret Comm Game Room, 1400 Waverly Rd;  
 Tues 7 pm, Dan Heisman 610-649-0750**HARRISBURG**

Calvary United Methodist Church, 700 Market St (Rear), Lemoyne; Mon 7-10 pm, Brian Sheinfeld 717-761-3151

**HATBORO**Chaturanga CC; Trinity Orthodox Presbyterian Church, County Line Rd W  
 of Blair Mill Rd; Thurs 8 pm, 215-794-8368**HAZLETON**Greater Hazleton CC; Zola's Lamp Post, Rt 940; Tues & Thurs 8-11 pm,  
 Bob Brubaker 570-384-4122**HUNTINGDON VALLEY**Huntingdon Valley Chess Society Juniors; Huntingdon Valley Library, 625  
 Red Lion Rd; Tues 7:30-8:30 pm**JOHNSTOWN**

East Hills Rec Comm, 445 Schoolhouse Rd; Mon 6 pm, 814-255-8614

**LANCASTER**

Rodney Park, Crystal &amp; Rodney St; Wed 6:30-9 pm, 717-892-6612

**LANSDALE**

- (1) North Penn CC; St John's UCC Church, Main and Richardson Sts;  
 Thurs and Fri 7 pm - 1 am, 215-699-8418  
 (2) Lansdale Public Library CC; 301 Vine St; last Sat of the month 10am

**LEBANON**

Library, 125 N 7th St; Wed 6-8 pm, Rene 717-279-7030

**LOWER BURRELL**

Volunteer Fire Co 3, 3255 Leechburg Rd; first Sun 2-4 pm, 724-448-7521

**MONROEVILLE**

Wed 6:30-8:30 pm, Delbert Tyler 412-824-5015

**MURRYSVILLE**

First Presbyterian Church, 3202 N Hills Rd; Wed 7-11 pm, Jay 724-325-2484

**NEW CASTLE**

Lawrence County CC; Moose Lodge, 29 S Mercer St; Thurs 6:30-9 pm

**PECKVILLE**

Valley Community Library, 739 River St (Rt 247); Sat 1-4 pm, 570-487-1125

**PETERS TOWNSHIP**

CRC, Peterswood Park, 700 Meredith Dr; Wed 6-7 pm, Eric 412-221-2394

**PHILADELPHIA**

- (1) FMCC; 2012 Walnut, Lower Level; Mon - Thurs Noon-9 pm, Fri & Sat  
 Noon-Midnight, 215-496-0811  
 (2) Univ of Penn CC; Chats Cafeteria, 3800 Locust; Wed 8 pm  
 (3) Masterminds CC; Fountains @ Logan Square East, 2 Franklin Town  
 Blvd; Wed & Fri 7-10 pm, Steve Slocum 215-455-6285  
 (4) Jardel Recreation Center, 1400 Cottman Ave, Thurs 6:30-9:30 pm, Sat  
 Noon-4 pm  
 (5) Inglis House, 2600 Belmont Ave, 1st & 3rd Mon 6 pm  
 (6) Temple Univ; SAC Dining Area, Mon/Wed 6-7 pm, Tues/Thurs 12-3  
 pm, 267-973-0765

**PITTSBURGH**

- (1) Univ of Pitt CC; William Pitt Union; Tues & Thurs 7-11 pm, 412-908-0286  
 (2) Pittsburgh CC; Wightman School Community Center, 5604 Solway St;  
 Wed 1-9 pm, Sat Noon-10 pm, 412-421-1881  
 (3) Crafton Public Library, 140 Bradford; Sat 9 - Noon, 412-922-4234  
 (4) Hill Branch Library, 419 Dinwiddie St; Mon & Thurs 3-7 pm, Sat 1-5  
 pm, 412-361-6170  
 (5) CMU CC; University Center Commons; Thurs 6-8 pm  
 (6) Mt Lebanon Lib, 16 Castle Shannon; Scholastics:1st/3rd Mon Sept-May,  
 Adults/Older Scholastics: Thurs 7-8:30 pm; 412-531-1912

**POTTSTOWN**

YMCA, 724 N Adams St; Fri 6:30-8:30 pm, Michael Mullin 610-323-7300

**READING**Million Youth Chess Club; Olivets Boys & Girls Clubs; 677 Clinton, Mon  
 5-7; 1161 Pershing, Fri 6:30-8:30 pm; Mike 610-373-3061**RIDLEY PARK**Ridley Park United Methodist Church, 15 E Dupont St; Mon 6:15 - 11 pm,  
 610-586-8205**SHIPPENSBURG**

Health Care Center, 121 Walnut Bottom Rd; Wed 6-9:30 pm, 717-477-0645

**SKIPPACK**

Hidden Staircase Used Books Fl 2, Rts 73 &amp; 113; Thurs 5-8 pm, 610-277-0540

**STATE COLLEGE**

- (1) PSU CC; ASI Bldg, Room 16; Thurs 7 pm  
 (2) Schlow Library, 211 South Allen St; Sat 1:45-4:45 pm, 814-571-9629

**STROUDSBURG**YMCA, Main St; Thurs 7-11 pm, Eric 570-476-8939 or Jim 717-992-5475;  
 & Loder Senior Center, 62 Analomink St, East Stroudsburg; Tues 7-11 pm**SWARTHMORE**

121 Park Ave; Sat 7-9 pm

**VANDERGRIFT**

St Paul's Lutheran Church, 714 Wallace St; Mon 6-9 pm, 724-567-6580

**WARMINSTER**

WREC, 1101 Little Ln; Tues 6:30-8 pm, 215-443-5428

**WASHINGTON**

1st Lutheran Ch, 92 West Walnut St; Thurs 8:30-11:30 pm, 724-743-4350

**WEST CHESTER**

- (1) West Chester CC; United Methodist Ch, High & Barnard Sts; Thurs 7 pm  
 (2) WC Univ CC; Sykes Student Building, Room 112; Thurs 11-2 pm

**WILKES-BARRE**

199 S Main St; Fri 8:30-Midnight, George Trent 570-740-7662

**WYNCOTE**Montgomery Youth CC; Calvary Presbyterian Church, 217 Fernbrook Ave;  
 Wed 7-8:30 pm, Steve McLaughlin 215-784-5938**YORK**

- (1) York Emporium, 343 West Market St; Thurs 6-9 pm, 717-845-9368  
 (2) Youth CC; Grace Brethren Church, Newberry & Parkway; Wed, 2-5:30  
 pm; & Light of Life Arts, 41 Cherry, Seven Valleys; Fri 6-9:30 pm, 717-  
 852-8434

<http://www.pscfchess.org/clubs/>