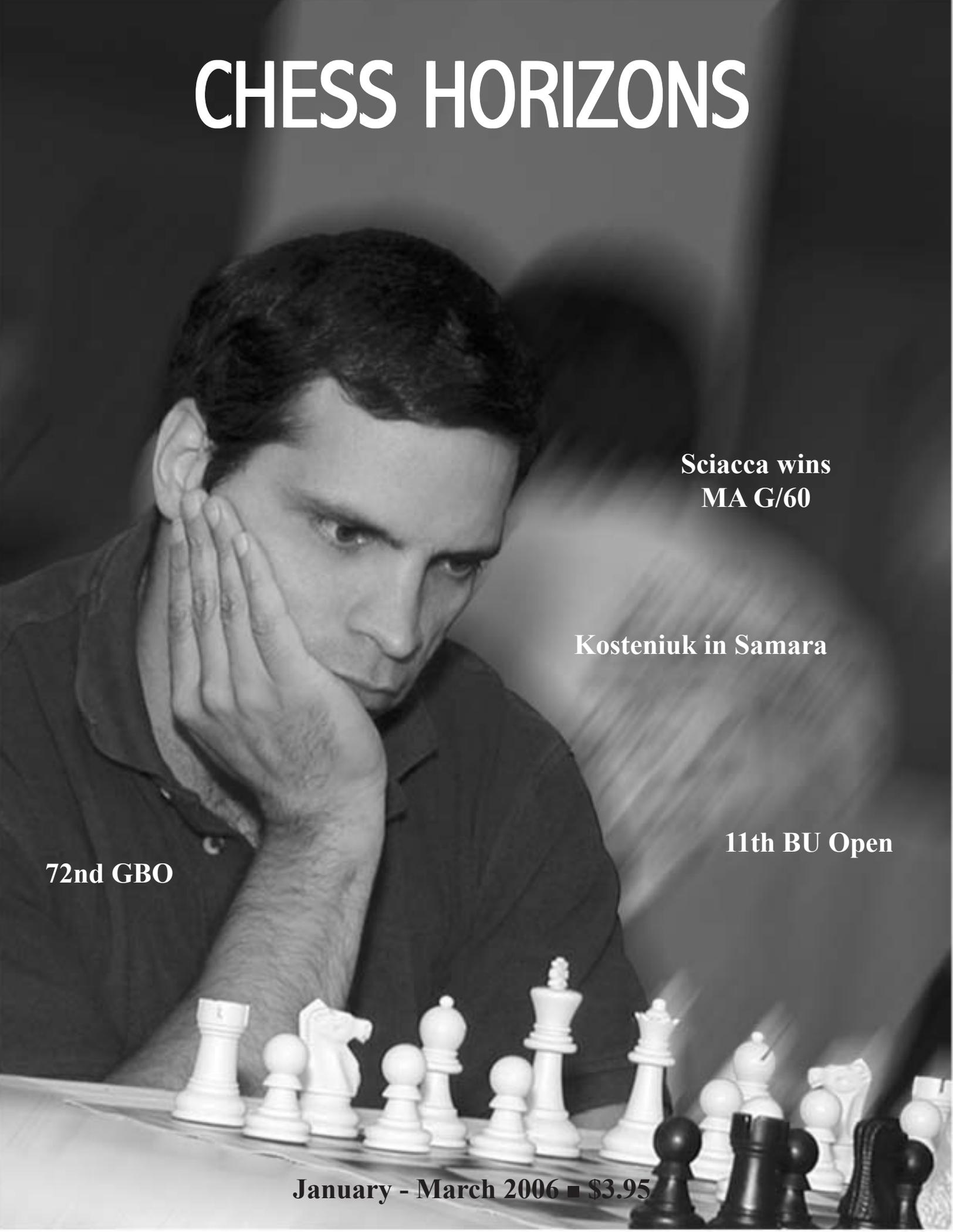


CHESS HORIZONS



**Sciacca wins
MA G/60**

Kosteniuk in Samara

11th BU Open

72nd GBO

January - March 2006 ■ \$3.95

About MACA

The Massachusetts Chess Association is an educational non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote chess in Massachusetts and represent the interest of chess players within the state to the governing body of chess in the United States, **The United States Chess Federation (USCF)**.

As part of its role as a state organization, MACA has programs in place to support the existing chess community as well as promote chess among schools and the general public. Highlights of these programs are:



Providing at least four major tournaments each year:

Massachusetts Open (State Championship)
Massachusetts Game/60 Championship
Greater Boston Open
Harry Nelson Pillsbury Memorial



Running a scholastic program, which consists of a series of tournaments to determine the state's scholastic champions as well as "warm up" tournaments throughout the year. Free boards and sets are provided to schools and clubs through MACA's **Living Memorial Chess Fund (LMCF)**.

Quarterly publication of the award winning ***Chess Horizons***, a journal of regional, national and international chess news and features.

Promotion and development of chess in correctional institutions through our Prison Chess program.

We hope you will chose to join MACA and enjoy the benefits of membership while knowing that you are helping to promote chess throughout Massachusetts.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RATES

(Includes Subscription to Chess Horizons unless otherwise noted.)

Adult: \$12.00; Life: \$175.00; Life (age 65 or older): \$100.00; Junior (under age 18): \$6.00.

Make checks payable to MACA and mail to:

Bob Messenger
4 Hamlett Dr. Apt. 12
Nashua, NH 03062
(603) 891-2484 or treasurer@masschess.org

Dues are non-refundable

Grand Master Igor Ivanov

John Donaldson

Igor Ivanov 1947-2005

Igor passed away on November 17, 2005 in St. George, Utah. The following tribute was written for ChessBase magazine and will appear with photographs of Igor and 160 of his best games. Igor played somewhere in the neighborhood of 7,000 games in his career. Unfortunately he was not a good record keeper and most of them are not available. If you played Igor and the game is not in Mega 2005 I would be very grateful if you could send me a copy at imwjd@aol.com.

Igor Ivanov was born in St. Petersburg (formerly Leningrad) on January 8, 1947. At age 5 his mother taught him to play chess and it was not long before he could beat her. Igor's first book was one on chess and even at a very young age he could remember his games. By age 8 Igor was an accomplished player, attending the chess palace daily where he was singled out as one of the most promising young talents, but this potential was to lay dormant for some time. Igor's mother wished him to be a concert pianist and asked her son to emphasize his musical abilities rather than play chess. It was only when she died when he was 14 and left an orphan that he started to play again. His music talent (piano and cello) earned him special privileges and his own room in the orphanage, but it was chess that he loved more. At 18 he matriculated at the University of Leningrad, but soon gave up the study of mathematics to pursue a career as a chess professional.

Initially Igor had a job as the manager of an army chess club in Leningrad. The work was fine, but it didn't allow him much time to play, so when he was offered a position as a professional player in Tajikistan he quickly accepted. Igor stayed there only a year before moving to Uzbekistan where he played first board for the republic in the annual Spartakiad. It was in such a competition that he first came to the attention of the entire chess world when he beat reigning World Champion Anatoly Karpov in 1979. Soviet players had become familiar with Igor's name years earlier, but particularly in 1978 and 1979. Playing throughout the Soviet



Photo © John B. Henderson

empire Igor not only won several important competitions, but did it in such a dominating fashion that he couldn't help but be noticed: 1st in the Zaitsev Memorial in Vladivostock in 1978, 1st at Yaroslavl 1979 and again first at the Tashli Tailiev Memorial in Ashkhabad at the end of 1979. His score in the latter was 12 from 13 (!), three points ahead of second place finisher Kakageldyev. Regrettably few of the games from these events are preserved. You can find some here and there in *Shakhmaty Bulletin*, *Shakhmaty Riga*, *Shakhmaty v SSR* and lesser known Soviet chess journals, but never complete bulletins for the events, the game scores of which were likely lost long ago.

The victory over Karpov earned Igor his first trip abroad to play in the Capablanca Memorial in Cuba

in 1980. The return trip home to the Soviet Union made a refueling stop in Gander, Newfoundland, where Igor asked for and was granted political asylum by the Canadian government. This move had, as one might expect, profound changes on Igor's life. An increase in personal freedom was balanced by a lack of economic security. As a professional player in the Soviet Union, Igor did quite well, but such an occupation barely existed in North America in 1980, especially in Canada. Igor also had to adapt as a chess player. Playing in Swiss System events over a weekend with two or three games a day is not quite the same thing as a 16 player round robin that lasts three weeks; nor is having to score almost 100 percent to win a prize.

Igor settled in Montreal and quickly picked up French and English. He and the rapidly improving Kevin Spraggett would dominate Canadian chess over much of the next decade. Igor won the Closed Championship of his newly adopted country four times in five tries from 1981 to 1987. In 1985 he tied for first place in both Canadian Open and Canadian Closed Chess Championships at Edmonton, Alberta, while playing his games simultaneously! Igor played for Canada in the 1984 and 1988 Olympiads and represented the nation in the 1982 Interzonal in Toluca, Mexico. This event was to prove to be a heartbreaker for Igor, though he didn't know it at the time. Scoring 7½ from 13 he was fourth on tiebreak, but the GM norm – good for the title in an Interzonal – was 7.8. Certainly the way Igor was playing, he probably thought the title was just around the corner, but it would be 24 years before

he would become a GM. One can't help but wonder how that title might have made his life easier with more invitations and better conditions.

Canada is a very nice country, and one that has produced some good chess players, but it is not a promising place to be a professional. It is no accident that former Candidate Kevin Spraggett lives in Europe, nor that Igor moved to the United States. There is no pot of gold for professional chess players in the USA, but if you are willing to travel there is always someplace holding an event with a first prize of \$300 on up. Chess players from around the world are familiar with the World and National Opens, massive events often with over 1,000 players participating and five figures for first place. Such tournaments are few and far between and the competition is such that no one can be certain to win.

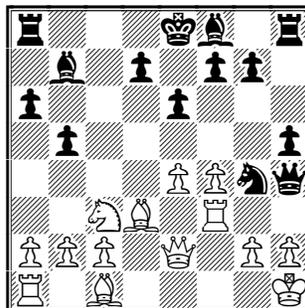
To survive as a professional in North America on a diet of just playing requires one find smaller events where the chances of winning are highly likely. Igor hit this trail in earnest in the 1980s and by 1997 he had won 9 of the US Chess Federation's Grand Prix series. This yearly competition, where points are awarded each event on the basis of the amount of prize money available (\$300 first might equal six points, saw Igor reach close to 500 points in a single year. This does not equal many weekends off! At the end of the year Igor would often have to make long journeys to play in small events to secure his victory in the Grand Prix. One time he traveled back and forth to Atlanta from Los Angeles (roundtrip close to 6,000 miles or 10,000 kilometers) in less than a week by bus!

Igor started to play less frequently in the late 1990s turning his attention to coaching. He had worked in the past as a second for Viktor Korchnoi in the 1981 World Championship, but he was most successful in his job at the Shelby School in Arizona, where he coached them to two national championships. More recently Igor relocated first to Central and then St. George, Utah. He was the Grandmaster-in-Residence (he got the GM title in 2005 for norms that he made in the early 1990s and was unaware of) at the St. George Chess School and lived in the mountains of southern Utah with his wife Elizabeth, a retired teacher. He taught chess, gave piano recitals at the St. George Tabernacle, cared for two very spoiled cats, and was an avid gardener and reader. Igor was well-liked by the many chess players that appreciated his excellent sense of humor, kindness towards animals and love of life. The author of this piece is confident that Igor and his games will be remembered for a long time.

Those who love chess tend to to love it deeply precisely because of its depth. Jonathan Rowson

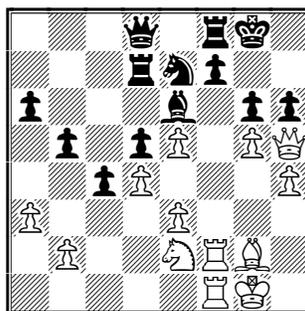
Igor Ivanov (2415) - Anatoly Karpov (2705)
URS Spartakiad Moscow (1), 1979 [B43]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 b5
6.Bd3 Bb7 7.0-0 Ne7 8.Kh1 Nbc6 9.Nxc6 Nxc6
10.Qg4 h5 11.Qe2 Ne5 12.f4 Ng4 13.Rf3 Qh4
14.h3 Bc5 15.Bd2 g6
16.Raf1 Qe7 17.a3 f5
18.Re1 Qf8 19.b4 Bd4
20.a4 Rc8 21.Nd1 Qf6
22.c3 Ba7 23.axb5
axb5 24.exf5 gxf5
25.Bxb5 Bxf3 26.Qxf3
Rc7 27.c4 Bd4
28.Qd5 Kd8 29.Qd6
Nf2+ 30.Nxf2 Bxf2
31.Be3 Bxe3 32.Rxe3
Qe7 33.Qd2 Ke8
34.Qd4 Rg8 35.Qb6 Qg7 36.Qxe6+ Kd8 37.Qd5
Ra7 38.Rd3 Ra1+ 39.Kh2 Ra2 40.Bc6 Ra7 41.Qc5
Rc7 42.Qb6 Kc8 1-0



Igor Ivanov (2515) - Vitaly Zaltsman (2390)
New York Kavkasian, 1983 [D34]

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 e6 3.d4 c5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.g3 Nc6
6.Bg2 Nf6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Nc3 0-0 9.Be3 c4 10.Ne5
Qa5 11.Bg5 Rd8 12.e3 h6 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.f4
Bxe5 15.fxe5 Be6 16.Qh5 Rd7 17.Rad1 Rf8 18.a3
Qd8 19.h4 a6 20.Rd2 b5 21.Rdf2 Qe7 22.g4 Qd8
23.g5 Ne7 24.Ne2 g6



25.Qxh6 Nf5 26.Rxf5
Bxf5 27.Rxf5 gxf5
28.Ng3 f6 29.Nxf5
Rh7 30.Qg6+ Kh8
31.gxf6 Rg8 32.h5
Rxxg6 33.hxxg6 Qd7
34.e4 dxe4 35.Bxe4
Kg8 36.Kg2 a5 37.d5
Qc7 38.d6 Qc5
39.gxxh7+ Kxxh7 40.f7
Qxe5 41.f8Q Qxe4+
42.Kg3 Qd3+ 43.Kf4
Qd2+ 44.Ke4 1-0

D. Baudreau - Igor Ivanov
Quebec City (1), 06.12.2002 [B26]

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 Rb8
6.Be3 d6 7.Qd2 b5 8.Nge2 b4 9.Nd1 e5 10.0-0
h5 11.h3 Nge7 12.c3 Ba6 13.f4 exf4 14.gxf4 f5
15.a3 bxc3 16.bxc3 Na5 17.Qc2 Qb6 18.Nf2 Qb3
19.Rfc1 0-0 20.e5 dxe5 21.Bxc5 Qxc2 22.Rxc2
Nb3 23.Bxe7 Nxa1 24.Rc1 Rfe8 25.Bb4 exf4
26.Nxf4 Bh6 27.Bd5+ Kh7 28.Rxa1 Bxf4 29.Kf1
Be3 30.c4 Bd4 31.Re1 Rxe1+ 32.Kxe1 Bb7
33.Bxb7 Rxb7 34.Nd1 g5 0-1



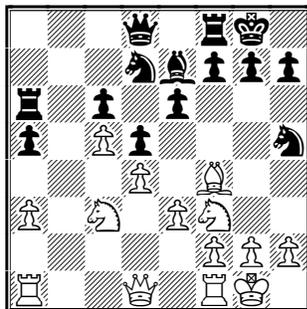
This game comes from the New England Masters Game Archive Project compiled by Hal Terrie, which can be downloaded from the MACA website.

White: Igor Ivanov (2596)

Black: James Bovay (2232)

US Open Boston (7), 08.1988 [D60]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7
5.e3 0-0 6.Nf3 Nbd7 7.Bd3 a6 8.c5 c6
9.b4 b6 10.0-0 a5 11.a3 bxc5 12.bxc5
Ba6 13.Bxa6 Rxa6 14.Bf4 Nh5



15.Rb1 Nxf4 16.exf4 Bf6 17.Qd3 Ra7
18.Na4 Qc7 19.Ne5 Bxe5 20.fxe5 Rb8
21.Rxb8+ Qxb8 22.Rb1 Rb7 23.Nb6
Nf8 24.h4 h6 25.Qa6 Ra7 26.Qc8 Qb7
27.h5 g6 28.Rb3 Kg7 29.Qd8 Nh7
30.Qe8 Nf8 31.Rf3 g5 32.Qd8 Nh7
33.Rb3 Qa6 34.Nd7 Qc4 35.Rf3 g4
36.Nf6 Nxf6 37.Qxf6+ Kh7 38.Rf4
Qc1+ 39.Kh2 1-0

George Mirijanian writes: *Here's a very interesting game that I found - annotated by Igor for the now-defunct Chess Players News - that might be of interest to our readers. Games annotated by Igor are hard to find.*

White: GM Walter Browne

Black: IM Igor Ivanov

[E12] Queen's Indian Defense

Los Angeles Masters Open, 1982

Annotations by Igor Ivanov

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.a3 Bb7

In the World Open 1980 I played 4...c5 against Browne. I wanted to avoid any improvements he may have found in that line.

5.Nc3 d5 6.cxd5 exd5

Most prefer 6...Nxd5. With White I often play against this variation. With Black I always play as in this game.

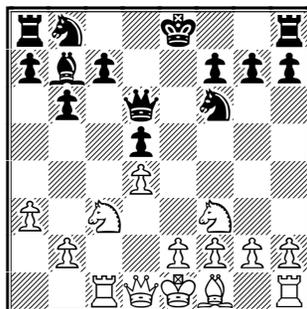
7.Bf4

A tranquil system.

7...Bd6 8.Bxd6

Portisch-Tal, Montreal 1979, continued 8.Bg3 0-0 9.e3 c5 10.Bd3 Re8 11.0-0 Bxg3 12.hxg3 Nd7.

8...Qxd6 9.Rc1



A novelty.

9...Qe7 10.g3 0-0 11.Bg2 e5 12.Qd2?!

Normal here is 12.0-0, e.g. 12...Nbd7 13.Nh4! or 12...Rd8 13.Qc2 Nbd7 14.Rfd1 c4 with an interesting position.

12...Nc6

Made possible by White's 12th. Black has the opportunity for greater activity than would normally follow.

13.dxc5

A mistake. 13.0-0 is absolutely necessary.

13...d4!

Black now stands very well.

14.Nb5

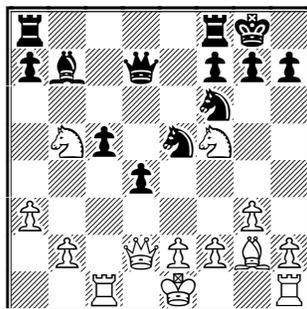
Much better is 14.Na2 or 14.Nb1.

14...bxc5 15.Nh4

Interesting. Bad is 15.a4 a6.

15...Ne5 16.Nf5 Qd7

Now Black sees hanging pieces and is encouraged thereby. The bishop, knight and rook hang after 17.Qg5 Ng6.



17.Rxc5!

I was very surprised by this move, because it leaves me with so few good possibilities. For example: 17...Bxg2 18.Rxe5 Bxh1 19.Qg5 Ne8 20.Rxe8 f6 21.Qg4 and White wins.

17...Qxf5 18.Bxb7 Rab8

Now my opponent thought for a long time and became quite active in his chair. He nevertheless found the best move.

19.Qxd4

Or 19.Bg2 Nd3+ 20.Qxd3 Qxc5 21.Nxd4 Qc1+ 22.Qd1 Qxd1+ 23.Kxd1 Rfd8 24.e3 Rxb2 and technique takes over. After the text I considered: 19...Rfd8 20.Nd6 Qb1+ 21.Kd2 winning; 19...Nfd7 20.Re7 Rxb7 21.Rxb7 Qb1+ 22.Kd2 Qxh1 23.Rxa7 unclear; or 19...Rfe8 20.0-0 Rxb7 21.Nd6 with a family fork. Mindful of these false trails, I played ...

19...Rxb7 20.Nc3

Surprise, a free piece. 20.Re5 was the only chance, but it doesn't save the game. For example: 20...Qb1+ 21.Qd1 Qxb2 (better than 21...Qxd1+ 22.Kxd1 Ng4 23.Rf5 g6! 24.Rf4 Rxb5 25.Rxg4 Rxb2 26.Kc1! [26.Rh4 Ra2 27.Rb1 Rd8 -+]) 26...Rxe2 27.Rd1 => 22.Nd4 Rd8 23.e3 Ng4.

20...Re8 21.0-0 Rd7 22.Qe3

Or 23.Qb4 Qh3 23.f3 Neg4 24.fxg4 Nxc4 25.Rf2 Nxf2 26.Kxf2 Qxh2+.

22...Rde7 23.f4?

Time trouble.

23...Qh3 0-1

Here's a more recent game, which also happens to be his last one listed in the editor's database. Ivanov trades queen's and holds the opposite-bishop ending:

White: Igor Ivanov (2407)

Black: Julio Becerra Rivero (2559)

US Open Phoenix USA (8), 13.08.2005 [D14]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Bf5
5.cxd5 cxd5 6.Bf4 Nc6 7.e3 e6 8.Qb3
Bb4 9.Bb5 0-0 10.Bxc6 Bxc3+ 11.Qxc3
Rc8 12.Ne5 Ng4 13.Nxg4 Bxg4 14.0-0
Rxc6 15.Qa3 Qb6 16.Rfc1 Rfc8
17.Rxc6 Rxc6 18.h3 Bf5 19.b3 h6
20.Rc1 Qa6 21.Qb2 Bg6 22.Rxc6 Qxc6
23.Qa3 a6 24.Qc5 Qxc5 25.dxc5 f6
26.Bd6 Kf7 27.f4 Bb1 28.a3 g5 29.g4
Kg6 30.b4 Bc2 31.Kf2 h5 32.Bc7 Bd1
33.fxg5 Kxg5 34.gxh5 Kxh5 35.Ke1
Ba4 36.Kd2 Kh4 37.Bd8 Kxh3 38.Bxf6
Kg4 39.e4 dxe4 40.Bd4 Kf4 41.Be3+
Ke5 42.Bh6 Kd5 43.Kc3 e5 44.Bc1 Bb5
45.Bg5 Bd3 46.a4 a5 47.Be3 axb4+
48.Kxb4 ½-½

72nd GBO

Jason Rihel

Boston area chessfans! **Jason Rihel** here with a report on the 72nd Greater Boston Open, which took place Oct 1-2 at the U-Mass Boston beautiful new campus center.

First, it must be said that the turnout for this event was horrible. There were only 35 players in four sections – there were a total of 8 players in the Open section, and the other sections had between 4-12 players each. While, I suspect that the beautiful weather, coupled with the Red Sox-Yankees rivalry did much to keep people away, the relatively poor advertising for the event and the already low chess turnout these days could not have helped.

Also, while the harbor view is gorgeous, and the Red-Line a free bus ride away, U-Mass Boston is too isolated for a good tournament. On Saturday, the only food option was a snack bar with some cold sandwiches and salads. On Sunday, there were *no* food options at all! After a tough 4½ hour scrape of a win in Round 3, I had to eat chips and pretzels out of a snack machine in preparation for my game against 2300-rated **Avraam Pismennyy**! I personally will not attend another weekend tournament here, or will at least bring my own meals. If I had only been told about it...

The low turnout led to some interesting outcomes for the Open section. After I defeated **Matt Klegon** in the first round, he withdrew, leaving just 7 players in the Open section battling it out for 5 prizes! The lowest rated member of the group, **Azavier Davis** (rated just below your humble reporter), actually won 3rd prize outright after receiving a *full point bye* in the last round. Going into the last round, **Chris Williams** and Davis had 1½ points, **Jared Becker** had 1 point from an earlier full point bye he received, and I had 2 points. This left **Chris Williams** to play a 2100 player, **Leonid Tkach**, and it left me to play the top-rated Pismennyy.

This report was culled from the Boylston Chess Club Weblog: <http://boylston-chess-club.blogspot.com>

Meanwhile, Davis, at the bottom of the rating and score-list, leapfrogged us in the standings with his bye! Chris and I went down to defeat to co-winners (with 3½ points) **NM Avraam Pismennyy** and **Leonid Tkach**, leaving Davis sole possessor of 3rd place at 2½ points (actually, he received the under 2200 prize, which was worth slightly more). **Jared Becker** (boosted with a full point bye), and I split the 3rd place and under 2100 prize, and **Chris Williams**, who had to play four tough rounds, was left out of the money.

In the other sections, **Stephen Brudno** and **Philip Nutzman** won the Under 2000 section with 3 points, **Thomas Sifter** was the sole winner of the Under 1700 section with a 3½ score, and **Mark Huston** scored 3.0 to win the Under 1400 prize. They also had a one day event, which was won by 1700 rated **Felix Yang** with a perfect 4.0 score. In the side Scholastic Events, **Frederick Law** won the K-6 event with a 4.0 score, and **Nicholas Zhang** scored 4.0 to win the K-3 section. The event was directed by **Robert Messenger** and **Kenneth Ballou**.

So, the lingering question remains – how do we increase interest in the local area chess competitions? Was this a fluke of Red Sox Mania? Can regular Internet reports about local activity boost interest? I'm guessing it can, which is why I am writing this piece. I encourage all the Boston chess players to write up their



Jason Rihel



Christine Lung at the GBO

own chess experiences and maybe chess publicity can generate chess interest.

Past GBO Champions

- 2005:** Avraam Pismennyy,
Leonid Tkach
- 2004:** Avraam Pismennyy
- 2003:** IM Igor Foygel,
FM John Curdo,
Jack Stolerman,
Patrick Sciacca
- 2002:** Charles Riordan
- 2001:** Hal Terrie
- 2000:** IM Igor Foygel
- 1999:** GM Alexander
Ivanov,
IM William Paschall,
Mark LaRocca
- 1998:** GM Sergey Kudrin
- 1997:** FM John Curdo
- 1996:** GM Alexander
Ivanov,
IM Jonathan Yedidia
- 1995:** GM Alexander Ivanov
- 1994:** GM Alexander Ivanov
- 1993:** FM Charles Hertan,
FM Christopher Chase,
FM John Curdo,
Nasser Abbasi
- 1992:** IM Igor Foygel

(Compiled by
George Mirijanian)



Ivanov Annotates

Alexander Ivanov

White: Alexander Ivanov (2638)

Black: Joshua Friedel (2508)

New England Open, Boxborough (3), 04.09.2005 [C78]

1.e4

This game is an example of how the computer is changing the game of chess. White's victory was due to his familiarity with the latest computer analysis of a variation published in Khalifman's *Opening for White according to Anand*.

1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Bc5

This was actually our third game with this variation, which Josh always plays.

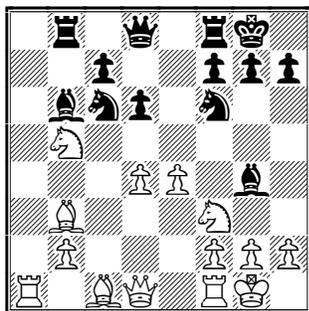
7.a4 Rb8 8.c3 d6 9.d4 Bb6 10.Na3

Earlier I tried 10.h3 (Ivanov-Friedel, Manchester NH, 2002) and 10.a5 (Ivanov-Friedel, Chicopee MA 2003).

10...0-0 11.axb5 axb5 12.Nxb5 exd4

12...Bg4 allows 13.d5!?

13.cxd4 Bg4



This position is very popular. Among the moves that have been tried are 14.Re1, 14.Bc2, 14.Ra3, and I lost a game to Zilberstein in the US Championship in San Diego, 2004 after 14.Ra4 Re8 15.Bc2 Qd7 16.Nc3 Bf3 17.gf3 Qh3 18.Bc3 Re5! 19.Re1? (I was preparing to play the correct 19.Ne2 Rh5 20.Bf4 Qf3 21.Ra3 but unfortunately noticed a strong tactical shot for Black in the line 21...Qg4+ 22.Rg3?! [22.Bg3 and White is OK] 22...Qh4 23.Rg2 Nd4! and without much thought went for a different 19th move which turned out to be a losing blunder 19...Rh5 20.Bf4 Rh4 21.Bg3 Nh5 22.Re2? Ne5! with a winning attack.

14.Ba4 Bxf3

14...d5 15.e5 Ne4 16.Be3 f6 17.Qc2

Nb4 18.Qb3 Ba5 19.Nd2 c6 20.Na7!+/- Kramnik-Topalov, Monaco 2004. This was the game which attracted new attention to 14.Ba4.

15.gxf3 d5 16.e5 Nh5 17.Kh1

17.f4 Qh4 18.Qf3 Nxd4 with counterplay in Becerra Rivera-Friedel, Minneapolis 2005.

17...Qh4N

17...f6 Leko-Topalov, Amber rapid 2005. I'm sure Topalov didn't play 17...Qh4 because he was familiar with Khalifman's analysis from the above-mentioned book.

18.Rg1 f6

18...Qxf2 19.Bg5+/- Qxb2 (19...Nxd4 20.Rg2 Qxf3 21.Nxd4 Qxd1+ 22.Rxd1+- Khalifman) 20.Rb1 Qa2 21.Rg2 Qc4 22.Rc1 Qb4 23.Rxc6 Ra8 24.Nc3 (24.Ra2+- Rxa4 25.Qxa4 Qb1+ 26.Bc1 Qd3 27.Kg2+-) 24...Qxd4 25.Rd2+-.

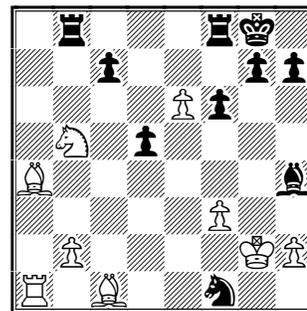
19.Qf1! Nxe5 20.dxe5 Bxf2

20...fxe5 21.Nc3!? (21.Bg5 Qxf2 22.Qxf2 Bxf2 23.Rgc1! (23.Rgf1 Bb6!/+ =) 23...h6 24.Be7 Rxf3 25.Rxc7+/-) 21...Rxf3 22.Bg5 Qxf2 23.Bc6! Qxg1+ 24.Qxg1 Bxg1 25.Bxd5+/-.

21.Rg4 Ng3+ 22.Kg2 Nxf1 23.Rxh4 Bxh4 24.e6!

(+/- Khalifman) This was the last move of my home preparation - my longest home preparation to date. Friedel said after the game that he missed this move in his calculations. Indeed only after this

strong move does it become clear that White is on top - the black rooks don't have open files to operate and the e6-pawn is too strong.



24...f5

24...Nxb2 25.Nxc7 Rfc8 26.Nxd5 Rc5 27.e7 Kf7 28.b4 Rxd5 29.Bb3+- Khalifman 29...Rbb5 30.Ra5!; 24...c5 25.Nc7!?!+/-; 24...c6 25.Nd4 Nd2 26.Bxc6 Bg5 27.e7 Rfc8 28.Bxd5+ Kh8 29.Nc6 Nb3 (29...Rb7 30.Bxd2 Bxd2 31.Na7+-) 30.Nd8 Rxd8 31.exd8Q+ Rxd8 32.Bxb3+-.

25.Kxf1

It's not every day that a move like this is your first real move of the game. 25.Nxc7 Nd2!? 26.Bxd2 Rxb2 27.Rd1 Bg5 looks unclear.

25...c6 26.Na7!

Played à la Kramnik (see the comment to Black 14th move), looks like it's the best here, too. 26.Nd4?! c5 27.Nc6 Rbe8+/-.

26...c5 27.Bc6 d4

27...Rfd8 28.Ra5 Be7 29.Bd7+-.

28.Bd5 Kh8 29.Nc6 Ra8 30.Rxa8 Rxa8 31.Ke2 1-0

Driscoll's Restaurant

(508)339-1800 350 N. Main St., Mansfield MA

Serving Breakfast and Lunch - American Style Breakfast anytime of the day.

Open Daily 5:30AM-3:00PM We also do catering and functions! Open Sat at 6:30PM Live Entertainment
Call for Reservations

Owned and operated by USCF member Walter Driscoll

10% discount to anyone who brings in this ad.