

Chess Horizons



The Magazine of the Massachusetts Chess Association

PERELSHTEYN
& IVANOV
TAKE 70TH
NEW ENGLAND
OPEN

October-December 2010
\$3.95



77th Greater Boston Open

Sunday, October 31st, 2010 Natick, Massachusetts

\$1700 Fully Guaranteed Prize Fund



Where: Kennedy Senior Center, 117 E. Central Street (Route 135), Natick, MA 01760

What: 4-round USCF rated Swiss, Game/60, in 4 sections: Open, U2000, U1700, U1400.

Registration: 8:30 – 9:30 AM

Rounds: 10:00 AM, 1:00 PM, 3:30 PM, 6:00 PM

Entry Fee: \$39 if postmarked by **10/26** or online (PayPal) at www.masschess.org by 10/29, \$45 on site. GM, IM free. **No** credit cards on site (cash or check OK). No phone or e-mail entries.

Special: Unrated may play in any section but may not win 1st prize except in the Open section.

Prizes: Prizes are **100% guaranteed**.

Open: \$300-150 U2150 \$125

U2000: \$250-125 U1850 \$100

U1700: \$200-100 U1550 \$75

U1400: \$150-75 U1200 \$50

- One half-point bye allowed in any round if requested with entry. Limit one bye.
- USCF and MACA or home state membership required. (MACA dues \$12 adult, \$6 under 18; add \$8 [optional] for a subscription to *Chess Horizons*)
- **Emergency** contact day of tournament **only:** 508-561-2160. **No** phone entries.

Questions: GBOInfo2010@masschess.org. www.MassChess.org.

77th Greater Boston Open, October 31, 2010

Name: _____ USCF # _____ Exp: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____ Rating: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Junior MACA - Date of Birth: _____

Need USCF membership? Yes / No Enclosed for USCF is \$ _____

Need MACA membership? Yes / No Enclosed for MACA is \$ _____ Adult: \$12, Junior (under 18) \$6 (add \$8 for *Chess Horizons* [optional])

Entry Fee \$ _____ for the _____ section
(please specify section)

Total Enclosed \$ _____

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Cover photo by Warner Smith.

The next deadline for submissions is December 1, 2010.

All submissions are accepted and appreciated. Submissions are preferred via e-mail and in ChessBase, PGN or MS Word formats.

Chess Horizons

October-December 2010
Volume 42, Number 4

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Letter From The President

by Ken R. Ballou

Do you have what it takes to make a difference? Are you ready to give back to chess?

Your state organization is a volunteer operation. MACA's chess activities — scholastic and adult tournaments, publication of *Chess Horizons*, support for school and library programs through LMCF grants — could not happen without the support of highly dedicated volunteers who step up to meet the challenge and make it all happen.

There are currently eight open seats on the MACA Executive Board. The board is the body that directly influences day-to-day MACA operations and sets policy. We welcome those members who have an interest in giving back to the game by contributing their time and talent to the board. We are always looking for new ideas for how we can achieve our mission of promoting chess more effectively in Massachusetts and make a difference.

So, do you have what it takes?

MACA Update

Two members of the MACA Executive Board resigned over Labor Day weekend: Vice President Maryanne Reilly, who was also the chairperson of MACA's Scholastic Committee, and director Brian Lafferty, who was the chairman of the Fundraising Committee. At its September meeting the board voted to thank Maryanne for her years of service to MACA. These resignations bring the number of board members who have resigned this year to four, since directors Robert and Margaret King resigned at the June meeting.

As MACA President Ken Ballou said in his letter above, there are eight vacancies on the Executive Board. We are also still looking for a *Chess Horizons* Editor and an Advertising Manager; these are paid positions. At its meeting on October 24th the Executive Board will choose three Delegates to represent Massachusetts at the U.S. Chess Federation's Annual Delegates' Meeting in August 2011 in Orlando, Florida. Anyone interested in filling any of those positions should contact a MACA officer.

Congratulations to George Mirijanian for being named the USCF's Volunteer of the Month in the October issue of *Chess Life*. George is a former MACA President who has worked to promote chess in Massachusetts for many years.

Congratulations also to GM Alexander Ivanov for winning the U.S. Senior Open, and to Chuck Cullen, who lives in Scituate, for winning the 2004 Golden Knights U.S. postal championship, which finished this year.

70th New England Open

by Bob Messenger

Massachusetts grandmasters Alexander Ivanov and Eugene Perelshteyn became New England co-champions by tying for first place in the Championship section of the 70th New England Open. They each scored four wins and two draws, including a draw against each other in round four. In the last round Ivanov was held to a draw by the young Connecticut master/expert Alex Fikiet, allowing Perelshteyn to catch up with a win against FM Chris Chase, a former New England champion and MACA president who lives in Somerville, Mass.

This was the second time Perelshteyn has won the New England Open, having finished clear first in 1997. Ivanov has been clear first or tied for first many times, most recently at the 2009 event in Nashua, N.H., where he tied for first with SM Denys Shmelov of Pepperell, Mass.

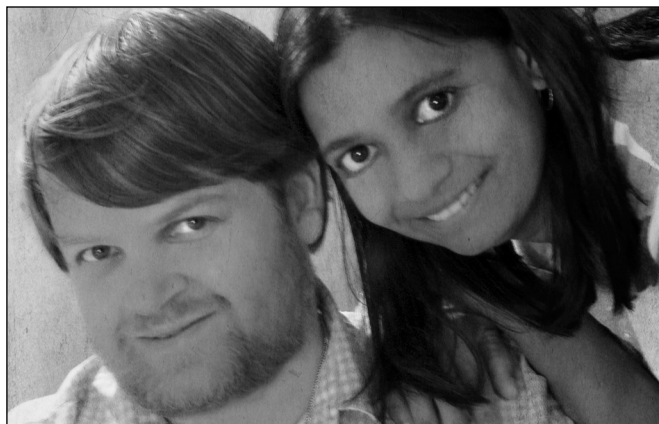
The tournament was held at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, Connecticut, over Labor Day weekend, September 4th to 6th. A total of 106 entrants competed in the various sections, with 49 players in the three day main event. Because of the unexpectedly low turnout it was necessary to combine several of the lower sections.

Connecticut A-player Christopher Potts won the combined U2100/U1900/U1500 section with a score of five out of six, half a point ahead of Morris Lainer of Easthampton, Mass. 14-year-old Tian Rossi of West Newton, Mass. won the top U1900 prize, and Brian Smith, a B-player from Connecticut, won the U1700 prize, both scoring four points.

In the combined U1500/U1300 section Connecticut middle schooler Joseph Han, with an official pre-tournament rating of only 966, finished first with five points and gained over 300 rating points. Ian Lomeli and Richard Takasumi, both of Connecticut, tied for second with four points, Takasumi winning the top U1300 prize.

There were side events on all three days of the tournament. Derek Meredith and Kevin Zimmerman won the Saturday quads, and Salvatore Leone won the Sunday Swiss, all with perfect scores. On Sunday night GM Alexander Ivanov won the New England Blitz Championship with a near-perfect nine out of ten points. On Monday New Hampshire expert Pat Sciacca won an 11-player Swiss with a score of 4.5 out of 5.

From a tournament organizer's point of view, the big story of the tournament was the low turnout. With an \$8,000 guaranteed prize fund the event was a financial disaster for the organizers, Alex Relyea and his wife Nita



Alex Relyea and Nita Patel. Photo: Warner Smith

Patel of Bedford N.H. Many theories have been suggested for why so few players entered this year's New England Open. The most obvious reason was that the tournament was held on the same weekend as the New York State Championship, which was held in Albany and drew 199 players, all in the main tournament. However, since both events have been held on Labor Day weekend for many years, other factors must be involved.

The New England Open has been held in Connecticut three other times within the last 30 years: in 2004, 1995 and 1986. Joe Sparks organized the 2004 event, held at the same site, and the event drew 91 players in the main tournament, 112 overall. In 1995 Ernie Schlich and I held the tournament in Waterbury and got 118 players in the main event, 125 overall. Stephen Dann organized the NEO in Cromwell in 1986 and the event had a record attendance of 262 players, all in the main tournament.

Bill Goichberg, the organizer of the New York championship, suggested three reasons for the low turnout at this year's New England Open: the numerous side events, which may have drawn players who otherwise would have played in the main tournament; the lack of a two day schedule; and the unusual time control (increment instead of time delay). Other organizers have suggested that it no longer makes sense to hold the New England Open on Labor Day weekend, or that it should be held in eastern Massachusetts, away from New York. Alex and Nita should be commended for having tried to rotate this traditional tournament among the New England states, but this year's event was a very expensive loss for them.

The chief tournament director was Alex Relyea, assisted by Nita Patel, Ken Ballou and Bob Messenger.

New England Open Scholastics

by Bob Messenger

A total of 28 players, some playing in multiple sections, entered the scholastic sections of the 70th New England Open over Labor Day weekend. On Saturday Nicholas Liotta, Aashish Welling and Benjamin Piche each scored three out of four points in the K-12 U1400 section. Nicholas won his first three games, and this gave him enough tiebreak points to win the first place trophy, despite losing in the last round to Aashish, who won the trophy for second place. August Donovan was clear first in the K-12 U800 section, also scoring three points out of four.

On Sunday Sabrina Zhang and Jason Li tied for first in the K-6 U1350 section, each winning three games and drawing their game when they played each other in round three. Sabrina won the first place trophy on tiebreaks. There was a three-way tie in the K-6 U700 section between Lauren Smorgonsky, Amaan Ashab and Maxwell Zhao. Lauren won the first place trophy on tiebreaks, and Amaan won second.

Since only six players showed up for the K-3 sections on Monday, U1200 and U600 were combined into a single section and everyone who entered got a trophy. Noam Benson-Tilsen won all his games to win the combined section. Ethan Blake, playing in his first tournament, had the second highest score overall with three points out of four, and was awarded the trophy for first U600.

Out of the 28 players in the scholastic sections, 13 were from Massachusetts, 11 were from Connecticut, and there was one player each from Rhode Island, New Hampshire, New York, and Maryland.

Nita Patel directed the scholastic sections of the New England Open, and her husband Alex Relyea was the chief director for the entire tournament.

"Alekhine is a poet who creates a work of art out of something that would hardly inspire another man to send home a picture post card"

— Max Euwe



Group trophy shot from the NE Open Scholastic. Photo: Warner Smith

CJA Awards

by Bob Messenger

Chess Horizons won the following awards from the Chess Journalists of America:

Winner, Best Chess Photojournalism, for the photograph of George Mirijanian analyzing with Mateos Sahakian which appeared on page 24 of the July-September 2009 issue, taken by Tony Cortizas.

Co-Runners Up, Best Chess Magazine/Newsletter Layout: the October-December 2009 issue, edited by Mark Donlan, and the January-March 2010 issue, edited by Max Sewell.

Runner-up, Best Analysis: the "Vigorito on Chess" column which appeared in the July-September issue, written by David Vigorito.

Congratulations and thanks to Tony, Mark, Max and Dave!

Lenderman and Zaremba Winners at the Continental Open

by David Yasinovsky

The Continental Open is always a special event as it is held in the waning days of summer, when the players are all dreading the return to habitude and dreariness that the impending autumn invariably brings with it. This melancholy gives the tournament a unique feel and molds well to the idyllic setting, a lake embedded into the hill-strewn landscape of historic Sturbridge. The water, lapping at your feet as you celebrate victory or embracing your tired body and helping send away the sorrows of defeat, is deep and enticingly calm. The shores of the lake seem to be a slice of a different world, where the turmoil of our day to day life can be forgotten as we eat in the open patio of the Ox Head or roam around the Jaguar car show which always seems to fall on the same weekend as the tournament.

Much the same can be said about the tournament room itself which, devoid of windows, feels like a capsule in which time stops still. In fact, if it weren't for the ticking of the scarce analog clocks throughout the long rows of white tables, it would be easy to forget that in a few short days we would be making the trek back to our hometowns. For some of us, like myself, who were getting ready to go to college, the tournament was a welcome respite from the grind of packing, and a final moment to be with the friends we would most likely forget as our resumes grew bigger and our wallets smaller. We held to it, believing that if we only focused harder on that next move, or waited longer for the last game to finish, we could somehow freeze ourselves in this snap-



GM Alexander Lenderman. Photo: Warner Smith

shot of familiarity, safety, happiness.

Although the surroundings and people were familiar, the names at the top of the cross tables were not, as GM Alexander Lenderman, making a surprise appearance in the event, took first place accompanied by Andrei Zaremba who, like Lenderman, resides and plays in New York. The duo swept through the field, each scoring 5/6, and although GM's Georgi Kacheishvili, Alexander Ivanov, Sergey Kudrin and Master Charles Riordan gave heated pursuit they came up just short, each scoring 4.5/6. Ben Krause made an incredible run deep into the event, holding Lenderman to a draw and beating GM Mikheil Kekelidze, before Ivanov put a stop to his theatrics with a technical endgame grindout in the 4th round. Ben continued to play well, however, drawing FM William Kelleher, before running out of steam in the last round and losing to promising NY youngster Aleksandr Ostrovskiy.

In the U2100 section, Ben Gershenov steamrolled his opponents as one of the top seeds should before finally accepting a draw in the last round against Maxwell Schwartz who, together with Andres Castaneda, scored 4.5/6, a full point



FM Andrei Zaremba. Photo: Warner Smith

behind Ben. Dean D'Souza equaled Gershenov's score in the U1900 section as he built momentum from a first round forfeit win and swept first place accordingly, as his closest opponent, Scott Gorman, had requested a last-round bye before the tournament and thus couldn't attempt to win the last game and pull level.

The U1700 section saw a four-way tie for first place, as William Gregory and Robert Shore drew their game in the last round allowing Jonathan Spinnell and Bela Kis to catch them with wins in the last round. The quartet scored 5 points each and divided the prize money for first-fourth place. Amazingly, the U1500 section saw the same scenario where a draw between co-leaders Patrick Erickson and Brian Furtado let two others, Michael Gordon and Leonard Gruenberg, catch up by winning their last round games. Yet another tie for first occurred in the U1300 section, but this time it was much more sedentary as Randy Frank and Michael Fishbein (no relationship, I presume, to GM Alexander Fishbein), overcame losses to James Taggart to split the top prize with 5 points each. Taggart was on fire in the first three rounds, but a tame second half of the

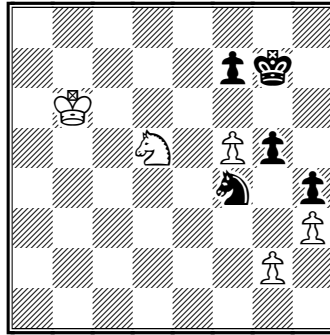
event saw him drop off the leader board and into fourth place behind Adam Piche who had been leading the event but lost to Frank in the last round. Finally, the U1000 section saw a three-way tie for first between Joseph Han, Benjamin Marinelli, and Richard A. Lunetta, who showed no mercy to each other in the early rounds only to find themselves together in a group at the top of the table.

Alex Lenderman is rapidly becoming a world-class chess player, and he showcases his technique beautifully in this win over Canadian GM Pascal Charbonneau:

White: Charbonneau, Pascal
Black: Lenderman, Alex
[B10] Caro-Kann

1.e4 c6 2.c4 d5 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.exd5 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nxd5 6.Nf3 Nxc3 7.bxc3 g6 8.d4 Bg7 9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 Nc6 11.Re1 b6 12.Bg5 Qd6 An unusual move; typically Black plays Re8 or Bb7 13.Be4 e6 14.d5 exd5 15.Bxd5 Qd7 16.Rc1 Re8 17.Rxe8+ Qxe8 18.Qd2 Bb7 19.Re1 Qf8 20.Nd4 Na5 21.Be7 Qc8 22.Nb5 Bxd5 23.Qxd5 Qc6 24.c4 Bf8 25.Bxf8 Kxf8 26.Re4 Qxd5 27.cxd5 Rc8 White's endgame is slightly worse as he will have trouble holding on to his d5 pawn 28.f3 a6 29.Nd4 Rc5 30.d6 Rd5 31.Nc2 Nb7 Black could have snatched the pawn here immediately with Rxd6, but this move forces the a pawns off the board as well, thus providing Black with a passed pawn. 32.Nb4 Rd1+ 33.Kf2 Nxd6 34.Re1 Rd4 35.Nxa6 Ra4 36.Nc7 Rxa2+ 37.Re2 Ra5 38.Rd2 Nc4 39.Rc2 Ne5 40.f4 Ng4+ 41.Kf3 h5 42.h3 Ra3+ 43.Ke4 Nf6+ 44.Kd4 h4! A very strong move which limits White's ability to advance and protect his pawns. 45.f5 Ra4+ 46.Rc4 Rxc4+ 47.Kxc4 g5 gxf5 was also quite playable but

this move, which leaves all of White's pawns weak, is simpler. 48.Kb5 Nh5 49.Nd5 Kg7 50.Kxb6 Nf4

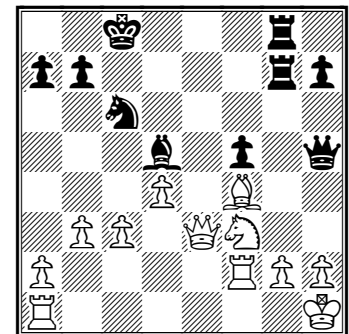


51.Ne3 White has won the pawn back, but this has cost him a lot of time and his king is now too distanced. This is demonstrated best by the continuation should White have chosen to exchange knights: 51.Nxf4 gxf4 52.Kc5 Kf6 53.Kd5 Kxf5 54.Kd4 f3! 55.gxf3 Kf4 and with Black elbowing White's king, the position is easily won. 51...Kf6 52.Kc6 Ke5 53.Kd7 Ke4 54.Ke7 Desperation, but attempting to keep the knight on the board loses all of White's pawns: 54.Ng4 Kxf5 55.Ke7 Nxg2 56.Kxf7 Nf4 57.Nh6+ Ke5 58.Kg7 Nxh3 54...Kxe3 55.Kxf7 Kf2 56.Kf6 Kxg2 57.Kxg5 Kg3 Just in time to save the last pawn and clinch the game. 58.f6 Ne6+ 59.Kf5 Nf8 60.Ke4? A slight miscalculation, but it was too late to salvage a draw anyway. 60...Nh7 And White resigned because Black forces the f-pawn off the board. 0-1

Although my tournament did not go particularly well, it was highlighted by four very interesting games. Unfortunately, I lost three of them, and pulled out a win only through a blunder by my opponent late in the sixth hour of a very drawn position. The following game was the most exciting of the event for me, with both time controls getting down to the final seconds. If only the result had been different...

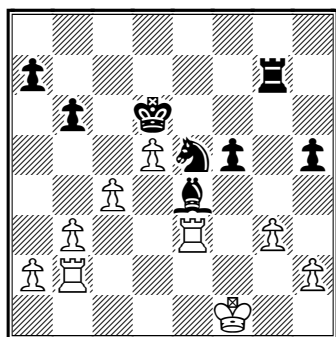
White: Yasinovsky, David (1922)
Black: Bela Kis, Lorand (2180)
[C23] Bishop's Opening

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f4 d5 5.exd5 cxd5 6.Bb5+ Bd7 7.fxe5 Bxb5 Lorand miscalculates, and the following series of exchanges leaves me up a pawn. I don't think he even looked at exf6 here, just Nxb5 after which Ne4 gives Black some play for the pawn. 8.exf6 Bd7 9.Nxd5 Nc6 10.Nf3 gxf6 11.0-0 Be6 12.Nf4 Be5+ 13.Kh1 Qd7 14.Nh5 0-0-0 15.Nxf6 Qe7 16.Ne4 I'm up two pawns now, but time pressure was looming and I began to see premonitions of a dangerous attack on my king. 16...f5 17.Nxc5 Qxc5 18.d4 Qd6 19.Bg5 Rd7 20.b3 Rg8 By this point Lorand and I both had about 15 minutes left, and I began to enter panic mode. 21.Qd2 Bd5 22.Bf4 Qg6 23.c3 Qh5 24.Rf2 Rdg7 25.Qe3



25...b6 Here Black had an opportunity to simplify into a drawn endgame which both Kis and I saw but severely underestimated: 25...Rxc3 26.Rxc3 Qxf3 27.Qxf3 Bxf3 28.Rag1 b5 29.b4 Ne7 30.h3 Nd5 31.Bd2 Rg6 and although Black is down an exchange and a pawn, White has to simplify into a very drawish endgame. 32.Kh2 Bxc3 33.Rxc3 Ra6 34.Be1 f4 35.Kg1 h6 and Black's passed f-pawn compensates for him being down material. 26.c4 Be4 27.Ng5?? Simple blindness. I had decided that

I had enough protectors on the piece. After Rg1, White would have been well on his way to repelling Black's threats and gaining victory. **27...Rxcg5 28.Bxcg5 Qxcg5 29.Qxcg5 Rxcg5 30.Rd1 Nb4 31.Kg1 Nd3 32.Rfd2 Nf4 33.g3 h5 34.Kf1 Nh3 35.Re1 Rg7 36.d5 Ng5 37.Re3 Nf3 38.Rf2 Ne5 39.Rd2 Kd7 40.Rb2 Kd6**



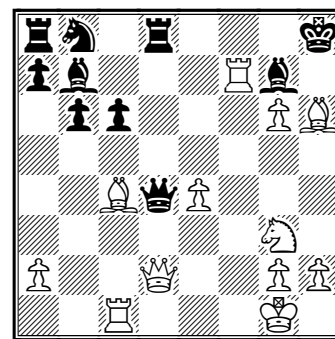
The time control has been reached, but with my scrambling towards the last five moves I have handed the advantage completely over to Black. However, I still have some resources in my position and the game stays very entertaining. **41.a3 Kc5 42.Rd2 a5 43.Rc3 Rh7 44.h4** I figured this to be the lesser of two evils; should I let Black play h4, he gets a passed pawn and a very weak white h-pawn out of the deal. This way, I have a glaring weakness on g3 but at least Black has no simple infiltration plan. **44...Rg7 45.Kf2 Rg4 46.Re3 Nf7 47.Rb2 Nd6 48.Rbe2 a4! 49.bxa4 Nxc4 50.Rb3** My plan here is to trade off all the queenside pawns, even if it means ending up down material. **50...Kxd5 51.Rb5+ Kc6 52.Rb3 Rg8 53.Rc3 Kc5 54.Re1 Ra8 55.Ra1 Rxa4 56.Ke2 b5 57.Rb3 Ra8 58.Kf2 Bd5 59.Rc3 Rg8 60.Re1 f4 61.Re7 Kd4 62.Rb3 fxc3+ 63.Rxc3 Rxc3 64.Kxc3 Nxa3 65.Rh7 b4 66.Rxh5 b3** Not exactly what I hoped for, but I can try to play here and hope that in his time trouble (both Kis and I

had about 30 seconds left plus delay at this point) Lorand will make the slightest error and let me snatch up his pawn on some trick. **67.Rh8 Nb5 68.Rb8 Bc4 69.Rd8+ Kc3 70.Rd1 Kc2 71.Rh1 Nc3 72.h5 Ne2+ 73.Kg4** I spent my final seconds on this move, but of course in reality it makes no difference. **73...b2 74.h6 Bd3 75.Kf3 Kc3 76.Ke3 Nc1 77.h7 Bxh7 78.Rxh7 b1Q 79.Rc7+** In my delirium from fatigue and constant time pressure, I allowed myself for a second to think that I had forced Black's queen off the board. If only it had been a bishop on c1 and not a knight... **79...Kb2 80.Rb7+ Nb3** And that's the end of that. **0-1**

Sometimes analysis leads to the discovery of fascinating variations. When I looked through the following game I saw an undeniably beautiful, if totally unnecessary sacrifice, which would have swept away a brilliancy prize had it been played on the board.

White: Duval, George (1600)
Black: Twombly, John (1500)
[D06] Queen's Gambit Declined

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 h6 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 e5 7.Bc4 Qe7 8.Ne2 g6 9.0-0 Bg7 10.Be3 0-0 11.Qd2 exd4 12.cxd4 [12.Bxh6] 12...Kh7 13.Rac1 c6 14.Ng3 b6 15.f4 Bb7 Black is utterly outplayed here, but this turns out to be the losing move. Much better was f5. **16.f5 Rd8 17.fxg6+ Kh8 18.Rxf7 Qd6 19.Rxc7** This leads to a very simple win, but in analysis I find an aesthetically very pleasing queen sacrifice which would have netted White bragging rights for a brilliancy. **19.Bxh6 Qxd4+ (19...Qxc6 20.Bxc7+ Kg8 21.Rf6+ Kxc7 21...Rd5 22.Rxc6 Nd7 23.Be5+ Kf7 24.Qf4+ Ke7 25.Qg5+ Ke8 26.Re6+ Kf7 27.Re7+ Kf8 28.Qg7#) 22.Nf5+ Kxf6 23.e5+ Kxf5 24.Rf1+ Kg4 25.Be2+ Kh4 26.Qf4+)**



It seems as though White must trade queens, but he has a diabolical trick up his sleeve. **20.Kh1!!** The beauty of dropping a queen with such an innocent and elegant move is extraordinary. (Trading queens also mates: **20.Qxd4 Rxd4 21.Bxc7+ Kg8 22.Nh5 Rd1+ 23.Rf1+ Rd5 24.Rf8#**) **20...Qxd2 21.Bxc7+ Kg8 22.Rcf1 Rd5 23.Nf5 Rxf5 24.Re7+ Qd5 25.Rxf5** And with all his pieces tied down, Black is, once again, mated by force: **25...Nd7 26.Rh5 Qf7 27.Rxf7 Nc5 28.Rh8# 19...Kxc7 20.Nf5+ 1-0**

And so, with the final games ended, the prize checks signed, the hotel bills reviewed, there was nothing left but to move on. We left Sturbridge, some of us heading back to our hometowns, some to the tedium of our careers, and some to new, as-yet undiscovered paths which would lead us perhaps close and perhaps far away from our current lives. But the lake, the white-washed table cloths, and the ticking of chess clocks will stay engraved on our memories and hopefully, one day, each of us will fling open the aging doors of the conference center once again.

*"All I want to do, ever,
is just play Chess"*

— Bobby Fischer

Ivanov Annotates

by GM Alexander Ivanov

White: Ivanov, Alexander (2615)

Black: Bradford, Joseph (2414)

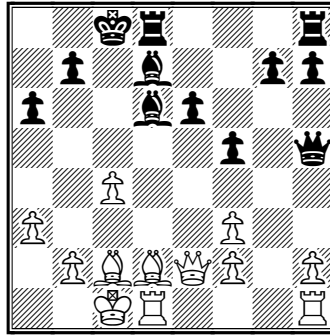
[C03] French, Tarrasch

U.S. Senior Open,

Boca Raton, Florida 2010

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 a6 4.Bd3 [4.Ngf3 c5 (4...Nf6)] **4...c5 5.dxc5 Nf6 6.exd5** This move is less popular than [6.Qe2 or; 6.Ngf3 but we were following the game Ivanov-Shulman, USA Championship 2006] **6...Qxd5 7.Ngf3 Bxc5 8.Qe2 Nbd7 9.a3N** This is a novelty. Against Shulman I played 9.c4, but didn't get much out of the opening. Also known is [9.Ne4 b5 10.0-0 Bb7 11.Nxf6+ gxf6!? = Rublevsky-Volkov 2005] **9...Bd6!?** Black is preparing Ne5. After the natural [9...0-0 White can try 10.0-0 and if 10...b5 then 11.b4 Ba7 12.Bb2+/-] **10.c4?!?** This and White's next move don't go well together. The immediate 11.Ne4 was probably better, hoping to win time by attacking the black Queen with pieces and saving c4 for later. **10...Qh5 11.Ne4** [11.b4 Ne5=] **11...Nxe4 12.Bxe4 Ne5?!?** Black is too eager to trade pieces. [12...Nf6 13.Bc2 Bd7=] **13.Bd2** This stops the possible Qa5+, but allows Black's next strong move which compromises both sides' Pawn structures. White had two ways to get a plus. First the simple [13.Nxe5 Qxe2+ 14.Kxe2 Bxe5+/- I wasn't sure whether White could convert the advantage here. Then the computer move; 13.Bf4 Nd3+ (13...Nxc4 14.Qxc4 Bxf4 15.Bc6+! bxc6 16.Qxc6+ Ke7 17.Qxa8+/-) 14.Qxd3 Bxf4 15.Qd4 f6 (15...0-0 16.Bxh7+ Qxh7 17.Qxf4+/-) 16.0-0 Bc7 17.Rfd1 0-0 18.c5+/-] **13...f5 14.Bc2** [14.Bc3?! Ng6 looks too

messy (14...Nf7!?)] **14...Nxf3+ 15.gxf3 Bd7** [15...0-0 16.0-0-0+/-] **16.0-0-0 0-0-0** [16...0-0? 17.Qd3+/-]



17.Ba5!+/- My opponent said after the game that he overlooked this move. I like it more than [17.Bc3 Qh6+ 18.Kb1 Bc7 unclear] **17...Bc7?!?** Other options are [17...Qh6+ suggested by Bradford as an improvement; still White is better after 18.Kb1 Bc7 19.Bxc7 Kxc7 20.Qe5+ Kc8 21.Rd6 Qf6 22.Qc5+ Kb8 23.Rhd1 Rc8 (23...Bc8 24.Bxf5!+/-) 24.Qe3+/-; 17...Bf4+ probably the best 18.Kb1 Rde8 19.Rd4!? e5 20.Rxd7! Kxd7 21.Qd3+ Ke7 (21...Kc8 22.Qd6!+/-) 22.Qd5 with initiative] **18.Bxc7 Qh6+** [18...Kxc7 19.Qe5+ Kc8 20.Rd6 Qxf3 21.Rhd1+/- and 21...Qxf2 loses to 22.Rxd7 Rxd7 23.Qxe6+/-] **19.f4 Kxc7 20.Qe5+ Kc8 21.Rd6+/- Qf6** Black has nothing better. **22.Rhd1 Qxe5 23.fxe5 g5 24.b4!** [Less convincing is 24.c5?! Kc7 25.Bb3 Rhe8 and it's harder for White to advance his Queenside Pawns] **24...Kc7** [24...Rhe8 25.R1d3 g4 26.Bb3 h5 27.b5+/-] **25.a4 Bc8** [25...h5 26.b5 axb5 (26...g4 27.b6+ Kc8 28.c5+/-) 27.axb5 b6 28.c5+/-] **26.b5 Rxd6** Avoiding the exchange also loses [26...axb5 27.axb5 b6

28.c5!+/-] **27.exd6+ Kd8 28.c5 Bd7 29.Bd3?!?** [29.bxa6 bxa6 30.Kd2 Bc6 31.Rb1 Kd7 32.Rb6+/- was winning easily] **29...axb5 30.axb5 Kc8** [30...e5 This counterplay is insufficient; White's connected passers are too strong. 31.Kd2 e4 (31...Kc8 32.Ra1 Kb8 33.Kc3 g4 34.Bc4 h5 35.Bd5! Rc8 36.Kb4 h4 37.Rc1+/-) 32.Bc4 Kc8 33.Ra1 Kb8 34.Kc3+/-] **31.Re1?!?** Again a little too cautious [31.Kd2 Kb8 32.Rb1 Rc8 33.c6 I saw this idea, but was afraid to lose all three Queenside Pawns for the Bishop. 33...Bxc6 34.bxc6 Rxc6 35.d7 Rd6 36.Rb6!+/- Unlike us humans computers don't miss such tactics. (36.Re1? Kc7+/-)] **31...Kb8 32.Kd2 Rc8 33.Re5 h5 34.Ke3 h4 35.Kd4 g4 36.Bc4** [36.Ke3] **36...Re8 37.Ke3** [37.c6 bxc6 38.bxc6 Bxc6 39.Bxe6+/-] **37...f4+?** Black's last hope in time trouble was [37...Rg8 38.Bxe6! (38.Kf4? g3 39.fgx3 Rg4+/- since Bc4 is hanging; 38.Be2 g3 39.fgx3 hgx3 40.hxg3 Rxg3+ 41.Kf4 Rg1 42.Bh5+/-) 38...Re8 39.Bxd7 (39.c6 bxc6 40.bxc6 Bxe6 41.Kf4!+/- Kc8 42.d7+ Bxd7 43.cxd7+ Kxd7 44.Rxe8 Kxe8 45.Kxf5+/-) 39...Rxe5+ 40.Kd4+/-] **38.Kxf4 Rf8+ 39.Kxg4 Rxf2 40.h3** Now it's over. **40...Rc2 41.Bxe6 Bxb5 42.Kxh4 Rd2 43.Rd5 Rc2 44.d7 1-0**

"No one ever won a game by resigning"

— Saviely Tartakower

The Most Interesting Games of the 79th Mass. Open

On June 27th MACA President Ken Ballou announced the winners of the Most Interesting Game prizes for the 79th Massachusetts Open:

Open: IM Igor Foygel
Under 2000: Danny Angermeier
Under 1800: Eugene Bedard
Under 1600: Matthew Webber

The games were judged by Rhode Island master David Griego.

White: Kelleher, Bill

Black: Foygel, Igor

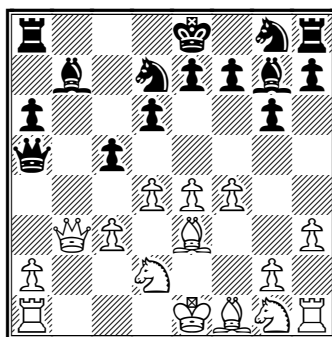
[B06] Robatsch

79th Mass. Open Open

Notes by FM David Griego

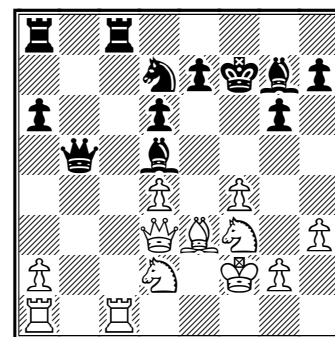
1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 a6 5.h3 b5 6.f4?! This is a somewhat odd mix of systems against the Modern with ...a6. The "pure Austrian" set-up with Nf3 and Bd3 is considered the main line, and a Be3, Qd2 (with perhaps h4) formation is also quite testing. 6...b4 7.Nb1 Bb7 8.Nd2 c5?! Perhaps provoked by White's slow play, Black looks to take the initiative immediately. [Preparing ...c5 with 8...Nd7 seems better.] 9.c3?! Ostensibly the idea is to support the center, but it seems to have the opposite effect. [Better is 9.dxc5! dxc5 with 2 possibilities for White: (if 9...Bxb2 10.Rb1 (10.cxd6?! Bxa1 11.Qxa1 Nf6 isn't quite sound) 10...Bc3 11.Ne2 is nice for White) 10.e5! spiking the g7 Bishop is critical. In general, this is a pawn structure Black should avoid in Pirc/Modern openings, as it is difficult to generate counter-

play against White's center. The fact that White has control over the c4 square seems to be a bonus as well: (10.Bxc5?! accepts the pawn, but is probably not best: 10...Qc7! (10...Bxb2 11.Rb1 Bc3 12.Bxb4 is good for White) 11.Be3 (11.Bxb4 Nc6 12.Bc3 Bxc3 13.bxc3 Qxf4) 11...Bxb2 12.Rb1 Bc3 13.Ne2 Nf6 gives Black the initiative) 10...Nd7 11.Ng3 Nh6 12.Bd3 0-0 13.Qe2 Qc7 14.0-0 gives White a nice edge. (If White is in a particularly belligerent mood, he can try 14.0-0-0!?)] 9...bxc3 10.bxc3 Qa5 11.Qb3 An efficient multi-purpose move, defending c3, and attacking both b7 and f7. 11...Nd7!



A very dynamic answer to White's threat. [11...Bc6 12.Nc4 is awkward for Black.] 12.Bc4 [12.Qxb7? Rb8 13.Qxa6 Qxc3 and things are falling with check: 14.Bb5 Qxa1+ 15.Ke2 cxd4 16.Bxd7+ Kxd7 17.Qa7+ Kc8 18.Bf2 (18.Qa6+ Kd8 19.Qa7 Qb2) 18...Qc1 is winning for Black.] 12...cxd4! Another counterattacking solution to White's threat. Black has calculated that the resulting complications will favor him. [12...Nh6 is also possible.] 13.Bxf7+ Kf8 14.Bxg8 [14.Bxd4 Bxd4 15.cxd4 Bxe4 16.Be6 Bxg2 17.Rh2 Bc6 leaves White with the less safe King position.; If 14.cxd4

Bxe4 15.Be6 Rb8 is even better for Black: 16.Qc4 Ngf6 17.Kf2 Bd5 18.Bxd5 Nxd5-/+; And 14.Qxb7 is a total disaster after 14...dxe3 15.Qxa8+ Kxf7-+] 14...Rxxg8 15.cxd4 Bxe4 Black has emerged from the tactics with a clear edge. He has the 2 Bishops, control of d5, and a safer King. 16.Kf2 Bd5 [16...Rb8!? 17.Qd1 Rb2 looks a little more direct. It's unlikely White will survive the position after 18.Ne2 Bd3 19.Re1 Nf6] 17.Qd3 Kf7 18.Ng3 Rgc8 19.Rhc1 Qb5!



An interesting practical solution, by a player known for making excellent practical decisions. Igor is no doubt confident his technical skills will bring home the point with the Queens off the board. [19...Kg8 or; 19...Nf6 are ways to keep the Queens on the board, although 20.f5 might create some counterplay.] 20.Qxb5 axb5 21.Rxc8 Rxc8 22.Rb1 [22.a4 Ra8 23.a5 Ra6 isn't dangerous for Black, as he can go after the a-pawn with ...Nb8-c6, or even ...Nc5!?-b7.] 22...Rb8 23.Ng5+ Ke8 24.a3 Nf6 25.g4 Kd7 26.Ke2 Bc6 27.Kd3 h6 [27...Ra8!? targets the a-pawn immediately, and Black has a virtually winning position after: 28.Rb3 Bd5 29.Rxb5 (29.Rc3 Ba2! and ...Nd5 is

unstoppable.) 29...Rxa3+ 30.Ke2 h6 31.Ngf3 Ne4] **28.Nge4 Nd5 29.Nc3 Nxc3!** Another excellent decision. Grabbing the two Bishops is attractive on the surface, but Igor most likely judged [29...Nxe3 30.Kxe3 Ra8 31.Rb3 as more difficult to convert.] **30.Kxc3 Ra8 31.Rb3** [31.Ra1 Ra4 32.Nb3 Bd5 and White's pawns will start to drop.] **31...Bd5 32.Rxb5 Rxa3+ 33.Nb3 Kc6 34.Rb4 Rxb3+** The resulting same colored Bishop ending is a clean cut win for Black: **35.Rxb3 Bxb3 36.Kxb3 Kd5 37.f5** [37.Kc3 Ke4] **37...Ke4 38.Bd2 gxf5 39.gxf5 h5 40.Bg5 Bf6 41.Bxf6 exf6 42.Kc4 h4 0-1**

White: LePoer, Geoff

Black: Angermeier, Danny

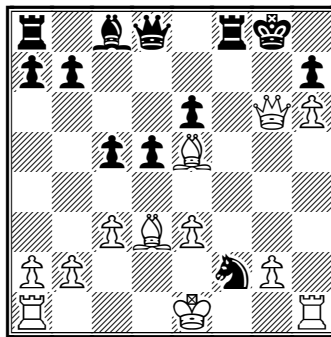
[D03] Torre Attack (Tartakower Variation)

79th Mass. Open U2000

Notes by FM David Griego

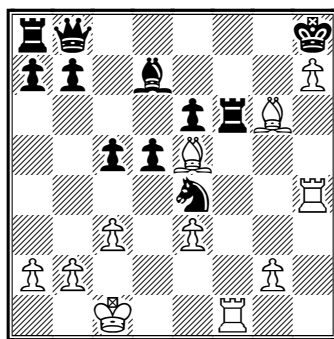
1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bf4 e6 4.e3 Be7 5.Bd3 0-0 6.Nbd2 Nbd7 7.Ne5 c5 8.c3 Nxe5 9.dxe5 Nd7 10.Nf3 f6 11.h4!? This at least seems to threaten something with Bxh7+, although the threat isn't really that concrete. **11...fxe5 12.Nxe5** [12.Bxh7+? Kxh7 13.Ng5+ Kg8 14.Nxe6 (14.Qh5? Nf6+ doesn't work at all.) 14...Qb6 15.Nxf8 Kxf8 (15...exf4 16.Nxd7 Bxd7 (16...Qe6!?) 17.Qxd5+ Be6) 16.Bg3 Qxb2-/+] **12...Nf6 13.h5?!** This looks like a pretty slow plan, although this h-pawn later proves to be quite a troublesome fellow. [13.Qe2 preparing Queenside castling isn't timed that well either: 13...Bd6 14.0-0 Qc7-/+; Since White has already taken the gloves off, he may want to stay in "hostile mode" with: 13.g4!? Bd6 14.g5 Bxe5 15.Bxe5 Ne4 16.f3 (16.Bxe4!? dxe4 17.Qxd8 Rxd8 18.c4 might reduce White's winning chances, but Black will suffer for quite a long

time.) 16...Nd6 17.Qc2 creates decent attacking chances.] **13...Bd6 14.h6 g6 15.Qf3?!** Stepping right into the open f-file looks risky. Perhaps worth a go is [15.Nxg6!? hxg6 16.h7+ Kh8 17.Bh6 Rf7 18.Bxg6 Rc7 19.g4 with a good amount of compensation for the piece.] **15...Bxe5 16.Bxe5 Ne4** Out of a quiet opening, we are getting some wild complications... **17.Qg4?!** This is walking into a fork, but there are some even crazier things on the way. Objectively, White would rather have Black take on f2 with the Rook, for example: [17.Qe2!? Rxf2 (17...Nxf2 18.0-0 Nxd3 19.Qxd3 isn't that much fun for Black.) 18.Qg4 Rf5 19.Qxg6+! (19.Bxe4?! isn't as good: 19...Rxe5 20.0-0-0 (20.Bxg6? doesn't work due to 20...Rg5+)) 20...Bd7-/+ with a healthy extra pawn] 19...hxg6 20.h7+ Kf7 21.h8Q Qxh8 22.Bxh8 Rh5 23.Rxh5 gxh5 24.Bxe4 should lead to a draw] **17...Nxf2 18.Qxg6+!**



OK! This is indeed an inspired, albeit forced, way to continue! **18...hxg6 19.Bxg6?** It's tempting to threaten mate in one, but it's the wrong continuation. [19.h7+ is much better 19...Kf7 20.0-0! Ke7 (20...Ke8 21.Rxf2 Rxf2 22.h8Q+ Rf8 23.Bxg6+ with tremendous compensation for the exchange.) 21.Rxf2 Rxf2 22.Kxf2 Bd7 23.h8Q Qxh8 24.Bxh8 Rxh8 25.Bxg6=/+ somehow ends with material equality, although Black can play for a win with his better structure.] **19...Rf6?** [Black should

consider ending White's fun in a most forceful manner with 19...Qf6! 20.Bxf6 Rxf6+ when Black is just up a piece.] **20.h7+ Kh8 21.Rh4!** White's attacking chances seem to be gaining momentum.... **21...Ne4?** [21...Bd7 22.Rf4 Kg7! Once the Rook is off the h-file, this active defensive move is possible. The idea is to win a tempo by attacking the Bishop. (22...Ng4 23.Rxg4 Qe7 24.0-0-0 and that dark squared Bishop is more than enough compensation for the Queen!) 23.Bc2 Ng4 24.Rxg4+ Kf7 Hard to say what the assessment here is, but getting out of that pin is some sort of moral victory.] **22.0-0-0?** Threatening to take on e4 for free, but White should look at the most forcing moves first: [22.Bxe4! is most direct, and good for White: 22...dxe4 (22...Qf8 23.Ke2 Qg7 24.Rf1 is the end) 23.Rd1! (Even the slow looking 23.g4 is dangerous 23...Qe7 24.g5 Qxh7 25.Bxf6+ Kg8 26.Rxh7 Kxh7 27.Rd1+/- and Black will struggle to hold this.) 23...Bd7 (23...Qe7 24.Rh6+-) 24.Rxd7! White cashes in his chips and forces a winning King and Pawn ending: 24...Qxd7 25.Bxf6+ Qg7 26.Bxg7+ Kxg7 27.h8Q+ Rxh8 28.Rxh8 Kxh8 29.Kf2+-] **22...Bd7??** Just as in the note after Black's 19th, the best thing to do is to break the pin at all costs: [22...Qd6! 23.Rxe4 (23.Bxd6 Nxd6 24.Bc2 Bd7 25.g4 Raf8 26.g5 Rf1 shouldn't be too much trouble for Black) 23...Qxe5 24.Rxe5 Rxg6 25.Rh1 Bd7 and Black can just triple-team the h7 pawn with ...Rg7,Rf8-f7 ending all counterplay.] **23.Rf1??** [23.Bxe4! still wins a similar King and Pawn ending after: 23...dxe4 (23...Kg7 24.Rf1 wins a massive amount of material) 24.Rxd7!? (Although here White can make use of the access to the f-file he didn't have in the 22.Bxe4! variation, and play: 24.Rf1+-) 24...Qxd7 25.Bxf6+ Qg7 26.Bxg7+ Kxg7 27.h8Q+ Rxh8 28.Rxh8 Kxh8 29.Kc2+-] **23...Qb8!**



Finally the right idea! It's most interesting that Black had the opportunity to break this pin twice (on 2 different diagonals!), but the third chance proves to be a charm. The game now ends very quickly: **24.Bxf6+ Nxf6 25.Rxf6 Qe5 26.Rhf4 Kg7** Probably the maximum amount of swings and excitement you could pack into a 26 move game! **0-1**

White: Strickland, Eric
Black: Bedard, Eugene
[B21] Sicilian Defense: Smith-Morra Gambit
79th Mass. Open U1800

1.e4 g6 2.f4 d6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d4 Nd7 5.Nc3 b6 6.Bb5 a6 7.Bc6 Ra7 8.dxc5 dxc5 9.0-0 Qc7 10.Ne5 f6 11.Qd5 Nh6 12.Be3 fxe5 13.fxe5 Bb7 14.Bxh6 Bxh6 15.Qf7+ Kd8 16.Bxd7 Kxd7 17.Rad1+ Kc8 18.Qe6+ Kb8 19.Nd5 Bxd5 20.Rxd5 Rd8 21.Rfd1 Rxd5 22.Rxd5 Rb7 23.g3 Qc8 24.Qxc8+ Kxc8 25.e6 Rc7 26.Kf2 Rc6 27.c4 Rxe6 28.Kf3 Rf6+ 29.Ke2 Kc7 30.b3 g5 31.e5 Re6 32.Kf3 Bg7 33.Ke4 Kc6 34.g4 Rh6 35.Kf5 e6+ 36.Ke4 exd5+ 37.cxd5+ Kd7 38.Kf5 Rxh2 39.a3 Rf2+ 40.Kxg5 Bxe5 41.b4 cxb4 42.axb4 a5 43.b5 a4 44.d6 Kxd6 45.Kh5 a3 46.g5 Bf4 47.Kh6 Bxg5+ 48.Kg7 a2 0-1

White: Hong, Jenshiang
Black: Webber, Matthew
[B24] Sicilian, Closed
79th Mass. Open U1600

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 e6 6.Be3 b6 7.Qd2 Nge7 8.Nge2 Nd4 9.0-0 Bb7 10.Nd1 0-0 11.Nc1 e5 12.c3 Ne6 13.Bh6 f5 14.Bxg7 Nxg7 15.f4 Qc7 16.Ne3 Rad8 17.Ne2 d5 18.Rac1 Qb8 19.Qc2 fxe4 20.dxe4 d4 21.Qb3+ Kh8 22.cxd4 exd4 23.Nd5 Nxd5 24.exd5 Nf5 25.Rf2 Ne3 26.a4 Nxg2 27.Rxg2 Bxd5 28.Qd3 Bxg2 29.Kxg2 Qb7+ 30.Kg1 Qd5 31.b3 Rde8 32.Nc3 Qxb3 33.Qb1 Qxb1 34.Nxb1 Re2 35.h4 Rfe8 36.Kf1 Kg7 37.Na3 d3 38.Rc3 d2 39.Rd3 Re1+ 40.Kg2 d1Q 41.Rxd1 Rxd1 0-1

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John Hillery Remembered

by Jack Peters

IM Jack Peters is a former Massachusetts champion who currently lives in California.

John Hillery, the premier organizer of Southern California tournaments for the last decade, died Sept. 20 at his home in Hollywood, California. He was 58.

Some of you remember John from his time in Massachusetts in the 1970s. Perhaps I can give you more insight into his life. He helped shape Southern California chess for nearly 30 years.

John grew up in Lynn. As a teenager, his great passion was acting. He didn't get interested in chess until he attended Northeastern University in Boston and an illness kept him from performing with the drama club.

That was the "Fischer boom" era of the early 1970s, and John plunged into Boston chess enthusiastically. I met him in the Boylston Chess Club. He was distinctive even then, wearing a suit and tie while most young people dressed colorfully and grew their hair long.

When the editor of *Chess Horizons* asked readers to submit their best games, John, then rated Class D, sent in one of his. Years later, I blamed him for turning me into a chess writer because he shamed me into making my first contribution to *Chess Horizons*.

John progressed steadily, earning a master title in 1979 and taking his first steps toward promoting chess by joining the MACA board. Amid the chaos and rancor of MACA meetings, John's calm manner and adherence to formality stood out.

He visited Los Angeles, apparently on a whim, in 1981 and stayed for the rest of his life. He was a regular participant in FIDE-rated Futurities at The Chess Set, Lina Grumette's legendary Hollywood club, although he played less frequently in open tournaments. His rating peaked above 2300. More recently, he took up correspondence chess and achieved a master's rating.

John began a new chess phase in the early 1980s by serving as an assistant TD at various tournaments. Soon he was on his way to becoming a National Tournament Director and an International Arbiter, nationally esteemed for his encyclopedic knowledge of USCF rules. No other TD was as erudite or as steadfastly impartial. I cannot recall criticism of a single decision by John.

After a successful first stint as *Rank and File* editor, John moved to USCF headquarters in New Windsor, New York, to work as *Chess Life* assistant editor. I assumed that he would eventually earn a promotion to editor; he

certainly had the skills for it. Perhaps John thought differently, because he kept paying rent on his unused Hollywood apartment for the two years he lived in New Windsor.

He was right - the job offer never materialized. In my opinion, this was tragic for all concerned. The USCF went through a series of editors who struggled with the demands of the job, while John grew frustrated waiting for another chance at his dream job.

His stint in New Windsor prompted one positive change - John learned to use a computer, becoming an expert desktop publisher and learning enough HTML to create several websites. He put out *Rank and File*, the Southern California Chess Federation's magazine, almost single-handedly, doing all of the editing and layout and writing most of the articles.

In the last decade, John founded "Western Chess" to run his own tournaments. His attempts to make money as an organizer fared poorly, as tournament attendance slumped and fees for hotel rental rose. Realizing that scholastic events were more likely to turn a profit, he devoted more attention to scholastic tournaments.

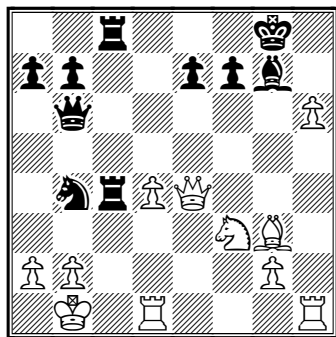
John surprised me again by attending the 2009 USCF meeting in Indianapolis. Few players would want to sit through a day and a half of tedious meetings and boring speeches, but John spent hundreds of dollars to go and "set the idiots straight." He accomplished his task with humor, as you can see at his Western Chess blog. He administered a second dose of rational thinking this summer at the 2010 U.S. Open in Irvine, California.

Southern California tournaments offer amenities not found elsewhere. Give John credit for most of the best innovations. John served as chief director of our state championship, an invitational round robin for many years, and helped with fundraising. Most of our tournaments offer brilliancy or best game prizes, a practice John began in the 1980s. All scoresheets collected are posted online within a few days, thanks to John. And John's tournaments were among the first to post standings online every evening. Tournament directors, like umpires, attract attention mostly by their errors. John was often overlooked because of the excellence of his work. Typically, he cringed when praised, because he felt that he was merely satisfying the standard for the job. John, you were too modest. Well done!

White: Ivars Dahlberg
Black: John Hillery
Star Warriors II Futurity,
Hollywood 1982
Notes by IM Jack Peters

1 c4 c6 2 Nc3 d5 3 d4 Nf6 4 Bg5

An unusual treatment of the Slav Defense. **Ne4 5 Nxe4 dxe4 6 Qd2 Bf5 7 e3 h6 8 Bh4 g5** Accepting a weakened Kingside in return for rapid development. **9 Bg3 Bg7 10 0-0-0** Sharpest. **Na6 11 f3** Also 11 Ne2 c5 12 a3 Qb6 13 d5 should keep an edge. **c5 12 fxe4 Bxe4 13 Bd3 Bxd3 14 Qxd3 Rc8 15 Kb1?! Underestimating** Black's counterattack. Correct is 15 d5 Qb6 16 Qe2. **Qb6 16 h4?** White can maintain equality only by 16 Nf3 Nb4 17 Qe4! (very dangerous is 17 Qb3? Qg6+ 18 Kc1 b5! 19 a3 cxd4! cxd4 18 Be5!. **cx d4 17 ex d4 Nb4 18 Qe4?** Losing. Maybe White can survive 18 c5! Qc6 19 Qf5 e6 20 Qf3 Qa4 21 Qb3. **Rxc4 19 Nf3 0-0!** Castling into the fire, but White gets cooked first. **20 hxg5 Rfc8 21 gxh6** If 21 a3, Black wins the Queen by 21...Na2! 22 Kxa2 Rc2 23 Rb1 R8c3! 24 Ka1 Qb3 (threatening 25...Qxa3+) 25 Qxe7 Bf8.



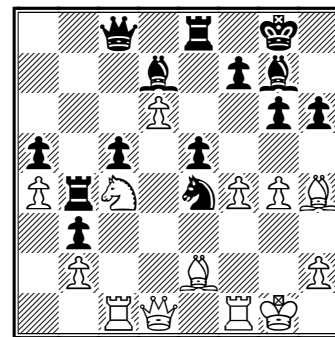
Nxa2! Anticipating 22 Kxa2 Ra4+ 23 Kb1 Qb3, mating. Or, if 22 Qg4, Black stops White's threat by 22...Nc3+ 23 Kc2 Nxd1+ 24 Kxd1 Qb3+ 25 Ke2 Rc2+ 26 Kf1 Qd3+ 27 Kg1 Qe3+ 28 Kh2 Qxh6+. **22 Be1 Rc1+ 23**

Kxa2 Qa6+ 24 Ba5 No better is 24 Kb3 R8c4. **Qxa5+ 25 Kb3 Qb5+ 26 Ka3 R8c3+!, White Resigns.**

White: John Hillery
Black: Michael Wierzbicki,
Golden Knights Championship,
correspondence 1989-1990
Notes by IM Jack Peters

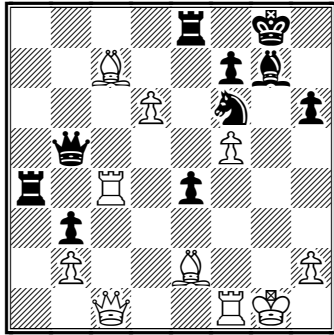
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 c5 4 d5 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 The Modern Benoni. **6 Nc3 g6 7 e4 Bg7 8 Bg5 A** sideline, but with some venom. **h6 9 Bh4 a6** Black has abandoned 9...g5 10 Bg3 Nh5 11 Bb5+ Kf8 because 12 e5! g4 13 0-0! and 12 e5! Nxd3 13 fxd3 dxe5 14 0-0 give White a powerful attack. **10 Nd2** Harmless is 10 a4 g5 11 Bg3 Nh5. **b5 11 Be2 0-0 12 0-0 Nbd7 13 Qc2 Re8** Most natural, but 13...c4 14 b4 cxb3 15 axb3 Bb7 is also adequate. **14 a4 b4 15 Nd1** Heading for c4 via e3. Before White can establish a bind, though, Black has two opportunities for strong counterplay. **b3!?** The other method is 15...g5 16 Bg3 Nxd5 17 Nc4 Nf4, when 18 Nxd6?! Ne5! 19 Nxe8?? loses to 19...b3. **16 Qd3** Black does not fear 16 Qxb3 g5 17 Bg3 Nxe4 18 Nxe4 Rxe4 19 Qc2 Nf6. **Rb8 17 f4** Safer are 17 Nc3 and 17 Ne3. **Rb4 18 Nc4 Nb6 19 Nde3 Nxc4 20 Nxc4 a5!** Nunn's recommendation. The fight intensifies, and Black's chances are no worse. **21 Rac1** As 21 e5? Ba6 favors Black. **Qc7** The computer likes 21...Qd7 22 e5 dxe5 23 fxe5 Nxd5, but 24 Bg3, preparing 25 Nd6, retakes the initiative. A second alternative, 21...Ba6 22 Qf3 Bxc4 23 Bxc4 Qd7!?, invites the exchange sacrifice 24 Bb5? Rxb5 25 axb5 Nxe4, when Black's Bishop will emerge at d4. White must find the answer 24 Be1! Nxe4 25 Bxb4 cxb4

26 Bb5 Qa7+ 27 Kh1 Re7 28 f5 to maintain the dynamic balance. **22 e5 Bf5 23 Qd2 Ne4 24 Qd1 dxe5 25 g4 Bd7 26 d6 Qc8** Not bad, but Black seems to obtain an edge by 26...Qb7 27 f5 gxf5 28 gxf5 Bf6.



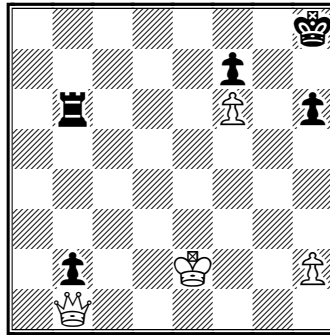
27 f5! Anyway. **gxf5 28 gxf5 Nf6?! The complicated 28...Bxf5 29 Rxf5 Qxf5 30 d7** leads to a draw by 30...Qg6+! 31 Kf1 (not 31 Kh1? Rd8 32 Bxd8? Nf2 mate) Qf5+ 32 Kg2 Qg6+ 33 Kf1, unless White dares to risk 33 Bg4 Ra8 34 d8Q+ Rxd8 35 Qxd8+ Kh7 36 Kh3 h5 37 Bc8. **29 Be1 Rb8** Acquiescing to a small disadvantage. A similar evaluation applies to 29...Rb7 30 Nxa5 Rb8 31 Rc4 Bxf5 32 Nxb3. Black spotted the problem with 29...Bxf5? 30 Bxb4 Bc2?, his original intention. White would win with 31 d7! Nxd7 32 Qd5, refuting 32...Nf6 most elegantly by 33 Rxf6 Bxf6 34 Nd6 Qe6 35 Nxe8! Qxd5 36 Nxf6+. **30 Bxa5 Bxa4** Not 31...Bxf5? 32 Nb6. **31 Bc7 Rb4 32 Nb6 Qb7 33 Nxa4 Rxa4 34 Rc4!?** Black gets plenty of compensation from 34 d7?! Rd4! 35 dxe8Q+ Nxe8. **Qb5!** As 35 d7 Nxd7 36 Rd4 Qxe2 37 Qxe2 Rxd4 should hold the draw. **35 Qc1 e4!?** Making White worry about the safety of his King. For example, 36 Rxe4? Qc6 37 Rxe8+ Nxe8 creates the disturbing threat of 38...Bd4+. **36 Rc2 c4** Easiest is 36...Qb4, when 37 Rc4 Qb5 repeats. Instead, 37 Rxc5?

Qd4+ 38 Kh1 e3 would return the advantage to Black. **37 Rxc4**



Nd5?? Fatal. After 37...e3 38 Rxa4 Qxa4, White could get swindled by 39 Qc5? Nd7! 40 Qb5? Qxb5 41 Bxb5 Bxb2!, but the correct 39 Qc4 Qxc4 40 Bxc4 Re4 41 Be2 Nd7 leads to a well-deserved draw. **38 Rd1!** From this point, Hillery foresaw the artistic finish. **Nf6** Insufficient are 38...Nxc7 39 dxc7 and 38...Ra7 39 Rxe4. Even the trickier 38...Ra2!? fails, to 39 Qd2! Rxb2 40 Qxd5 Qxd5 41 Rxd5 Rxe2 42 d7 Rf8 43 d8Q b2 44 Qxf8+ Kxf8 45 Rd1. **39 d7 Nxd7 40 Rxe4 Qxe2 41 Rxe2 Rxe2 42 Qc6 Rd4** Too many Black pieces are loose after 42...Bd4+ 43 Kf1 Rf2+ 44 Ke1. If 44...Nc5, easiest is 45 Qe8+ Kg7 46 Be5+. **43 Rxd4 Bxd4+ 44 Kf1** Again, Black cannot coordinate his pieces after 44...Rf2+ 45 Ke1. White refutes 45...Nf8 by 46 Bd6 Rxb2 47 Qe8 Bg7 48 f6. **Rxb2** The best chance, as the b-pawn is formidable. **45 Qxd7 Rf2+ 46 Ke1 b2 47 Qe8+** Not 47 Qxd4?? Rc2!, and Black wins. **Kg7** If 47...Kh7 48 Qxf7+ Bg7, White maneuvers the Queen into position by 49 Qg6+ Kg8 50 Qe6+ Kh8 51 Qe8+ Kh7 52 Qe4, then finishes with 52...Rg2 53 f6+ Kg8 54 Qe6+ Kh7 55 Qf5+ Kg8 56 f7+ Kh8 57 Be5. **48 Be5+ Bxe5 49 Qxe5+ Kh7 50 Qe4 Rf4** Black cannot reach a “fortress draw” by 50...Rg2 51 f6+ Kh8 52 Kf1 Rg6

because of 53 Qe8+ Rg8 54 Qb5. **51 Qb1!** The careless 51 Qb7? Rxf5 52 Qxb2 Kg8 probably draws. **Rb4 52 f6+ Kh8 53 Ke2!** Threatening 54 Qg1. Less convincing is 53 Kf2? Rb6 54 Kg3 Kg8. **Rb6**



54 h4!, Black Resigns. White will disrupt Black’s defense by running his King to c5. Because 54...Rxf6? lands in *Zugzwang* by 55 Qxb2 Kg7 56 h5, Black must resort to 54...h5 55 Ke3 Re6+ (another *Zugzwang* appears after 55...Rxf6 56 Qxb2 Kg7 57 Qe5!, as 57...Kg6 58 Qg5+ costs Black the Rook) 56 Kd3 Rd6+ 57 Kc4 Rb6 58 Kc5 Rb8. White conquers resistance by 59 Kd6 Rb4 60 Ke7 Kg8 61 Qg1+ Rg4 62 Qh1! Ra4 (or 62...Rb4 63 Qd5) 63 Qg2+ Rg4 64 Qb7! Rxh4 65 Ke8. A grand conception fittingly ends a magnificent game.

“What is the object of playing a gambit opening?... To acquire a reputation of being a dashing player at the cost of losing a game”

— Siegbert Tarrasch

Ivanov & Shmelov Top 60th New Hampshire Open

by Bob Messenger

GM Alexander Ivanov and SM Denys Shmelov, both of Massachusetts, tied for first in the 60th New Hampshire Open, which was held July 10th-11th in Nashua N.H. IM Joe Fang won the New Hampshire championship as the top N.H. resident, with a score of 2.5 - 1.5. Ivanov and Shmelov each won their first three games and drew their game against each other in the last round, while Fang won the state title with a last round win against Massachusetts master Lawyer Times.

Winners of other sections were: Todd Chase in the U2060, Oliver Chase in the U1860, Leonid Stolov and Jonathan Kuehne in the U1660, Henry Clark in the U1460, Alex Franke in the U1260, and NM Frank Sisto and John Gaspar in the Sunday Swiss.

Hal Terrie, who organized the tournament, Parker Montgomery and the law firm of Upton and Hatfield donated money to increase the prize fund to \$7,320 and make this 60th anniversary tournament a memorable one. There was a total of 124 players. The tournament was directed by Alex Relyea, assisted by Hal Terrie, Nita Patel and Bob Messenger.

John Hillery: The Mr. Spock of California Chess

by Hal Bogner

John Hillery arrived in southern California in the early 1980s, shortly after I did. We quickly got to know each other through work for the Southern California Chess Federation and play in the Sunday master's section at The Chess Set - the chess club that famously met in the home of the godmother of the LA chess scene in those days, Lina Grumette. My recollections of him all date from that decade, when he often took the role of my chief assistant at the many large tournaments we ran, such as the Memorial Day Classic and American Open, in those days.

As a colleague, having his help was as reliable and valuable to me as Mr. Spock's help must have been to Captain Kirk throughout the entire fictional history of the original Star Trek crew. And, of course - like Spock - John acted as though to deny that he had a human mother.

I believe that this endeared him to Lina. Once, in an early round of Lina's Memorial Day Classic, a player in John's section found out that his daughter had been in a car accident; she was OK, but her father wanted to go make sure. With his opponent's consent, I adjourned the game - which he would either resume the next morning, or resign if he decided he could not return to the tournament. John had been at lunch when this occurred, but when I gave him the adjournment envelope and the story, he growled quietly and cited chapter and verse from the rulebook, arguing that temporary adjournments for medical reasons did not extent to family members' conditions. On hearing this story, Lina smiled and told me "That's our John!"

As we were also fortunate enough to have had the assistance of Andrew Smith in those days, too - who played the role of Dr. McCoy on our team - I never found John's 100% commitment to unemotional rationality to be a limitation, and in fact, it was a source of great and reliable strength on many occasions.

John was very private and lived modestly. Ascetic and acerbic, John had a vast vocabulary and a wicked sense of humor- I thought of him as a modern reincarnation of the famous writer and journalist Ambrose Bierce, who I believed he much admired. In fact, John had a theory to explain Bierce's death, which is believed to



John Hillery at a 1970s Boston tournament. File photo.

have occurred in Mexico in 1913 or so: he thought that Bierce must have encountered Pancho Villa - and told him exactly what he thought of him. And now, in whatever Hereafter there may be, I can easily picture John doing the same.

In all of my experiences with him, John embodied great intellect, an unflinchingly selfless sense of fairness, and a willingness to work hard for those whom he undertook to assist or serve. Though I have not run tournaments in 20 years now, and have been away from LA for almost that long, I miss him already. Requiescat in pace, John.

Hal Bogner
Life Master, International Arbiter
former SCCF president

Bent Larsen 1935-2010

by Bob Messenger

Danish grandmaster Bent Larsen died September 9th 2010 in Buenos Aires, Argentina at the age of 75. Larsen won the Danish championship six times and was a candidate for the World Championship four times. During the 1960s and early 1970s he was a rival with Bobby Fischer for the role as the best player in the West, and he played on first board ahead of Fischer in the USSR vs. the Rest of the World match in 1970. He suffered a disastrous 0-6 defeat to Fischer in their Candidates Match in Denver, Colorado in 1971.

Larsen played in a few tournaments in New England during that time period. He won the 1970 U.S. Open, which was held in Boston. He also won the Merrimack Grand Prix, which was also the New England Open, in Salem N.H. in 1969, and tied with GM Pal Benko for first at the Merrimack Grand Prix in 1968.

Larsen won the following game against IM-to-be Norman Weinstein, who won the Massachusetts state championship in 1972 and the U.S. Open in 1973.

White: Weinstein, Norman

Black: Larsen, Bent

[B89] Sicilian Defense: Velimirovic Attack

U.S. Open Boston, Mass., 1970

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qe2 a6 9.0-0-0 Qc7 10.Bb3 b5 11.g4 Na5 12.g5 Nxb3+ 13.axb3 Nd7 14.h4 Bb7 15.f3 b4 16.Na4 Nc5 17.Qf2 Rc8 18.Kb1 Nxa4 19.bxa4 d5 20.exd5 Bxd5 21.Nf5 0-0 22.Nxe7+ Qxe7 23.b3 Rc3 24.Rh3 Rfc8 25.Rd2 Qc7 26.Rh1 Bxb3 27.Rc1 Ba2+ 0-1

Irving Wolfson 1919-2010

by Bob Messenger

Dr. Irving Wolfson, a longtime member of the Worcester Chess Club and later the Greater Worcester Chess Club, died July 8th 2010 at the age of 90. He often played in MACA tournaments, most recently at the 2003 Massachusetts Open. He held many leadership positions in the Worcester medical community, and was a past president of the Worcester Heart Association. He is survived by a sister, three children, six grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Michael Glinski 1959-2010

by George Mirijanian and Bob Messenger

Former Chess Horizons editor Michael Glinski Jr died April 10th 2010 in Nashua N.H. A former resident of Fitchburg who later moved to Hudson, N.H., Glinski was the editor of Chess Horizons for six issues in 1990, when Chess Horizons was a bimonthly publication. While living in Fitchburg he was a member of the Wachusett Chess Club in the 1980s and early 1990s, competing in the club's "A" division championships in 1992 and 1993. He had a Class A quick rating and correspondence rating.

After graduating from Leominster High School in 1977 Glinski served for four years in the U.S. Army as a computer technician. He worked many years for the former NEC Computer Systems in Boxborough as vice president of operations. He was later the president of Vibren Technologies Inc., also in Boxborough.

He was is survived by his long time partner, Carol A. Winter, of Hudson N.H., and by a daughter, Jessica Glinski of Lunenburg, and a brother, John Glinski.

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Ivan Sokolov, *The Ruy Lopez, Revisited*

by Nicholas P. Sterling, Ph.D.

Most general opening books, when presenting the Ruy Lopez, seem to follow the same pattern: they rush through variations that exclude 3. ... a6 first, as if they are in a hurry to get them over with fast. They implicitly dismiss them as of course not really worthy of one's time, in order to get to the "real" Ruy Lopez, the comparatively enormous and respected body of theory starting with 3. ... a6. The consequence of such a narrow view is that there are a whole slew of sidelines that a persistent Black player can seize upon and surprise a White player who hasn't taken time to prepare them.

In his 2009 release, Sokolov offers a full exploration of such sidelines in the Ruy Lopez: the Jaenisch or Schliemann Gambit (3 ... f5), the Cozio (3 ... Nge7), the Smyslov (3 ... g6), the Bird (3 ... Nd4), and the Classical (3 ... Bc5). As he states in his Introduction, the advantage of these offbeat variations is that they may throw White off his prepared book as early as Move 5, forcing him into a long think earlier than he was anticipating. The question then is, are these variations objectively worthy of a Black player's attention? Sokolov evaluates them to determine the current lines that White should use against them, and how Black will make them stand up, if he can.

The presentation of the variations is thorough and painstaking, and the work Sokolov has put into the book makes it an essential resource for Ruy Lopez players. Theory is an ever-changing matrix, and interests and trends evolve. If White understands that he can't always rely on Black's playing a nice predictable Chigorin, Zaitsev, Open, Breyer, or Marshall the way White wants him to, he will be better armed against these odd and fascinating variations.

Of the variations covered, the Jaenisch, covered in Part I – 3. ... f5 4. Nc3 fxe4 (or 4. ... Nf6) 5. Nxe4 d5 (or 5. ... Nf6 or 5. ... Be7) 6. Nxe5 dxe4 7. Nxc6 Qg5 (or 7. ... Qd5?!) – receives the most favorable advocacy from Sokolov. The impression I take away is that the Jaenisch may be the most misunderstood of the ones covered here. While it is generally rejected as too risky, Sokolov argues forcefully that it has hidden resources that make it much better for Black than its reputation suggests. He rejects the line 7. ... Qd5?! because of 8. c4 Qd6 9. Nxa7+!, but he embraces the main line, 7. ... Qg5 8. Qe2 Nf6 9. f4, by revealing an improvement at the 16th move, 16. ... Rf8! The line arrives at equality

on the 20th move and appears to head the game to a draw. There is an alternative 9. Nxa7+!? (instead of the usual 9. f4) that may need to be explored as a possible future main line, but Sokolov appears to think that Black has chances against this one too. All in all, the Jaenisch is a variation that can upset any White Ruy Lopez player's repertoire. Although I have not played it myself (yet – maybe I will now!), I have faced it a few times, and been slaughtered, so I have felt firsthand its vicious bite. Sokolov, therefore, does well to champion it enthusiastically.

All the other Parts display as careful analysis as Part I. Parts II and III cover the Delayed Jaenisch and Cozio Variations, neither of which gets much enthusiasm from Sokolov. Part IV covers the Smyslov (3. ... g6), which Sokolov calls "sound," but with 4. d4 White comes away with "somewhat better chances," in Sokolov's estimate. Part V covers Bird's Defense (3. ... Nd4), which is objectively more favorable for White, but is "complicated" and difficult to figure out accurately over the board. Part VI covers the Classical Defense (3. ... Bc5), with several sub-parts that demonstrate this variation's high complexity.

Sokolov is consistent in presenting this exploration as work in progress. He shows a superb handling of his research and understanding of the thicket of intricate lines, and makes clear that there are many lines, such as the aforementioned 9. Nxa7+!?, that are cutting-edge and need further exploration. These spots will supply sedulous preparers of these variations with key resources that they may try out to find out their merits and demerits further.

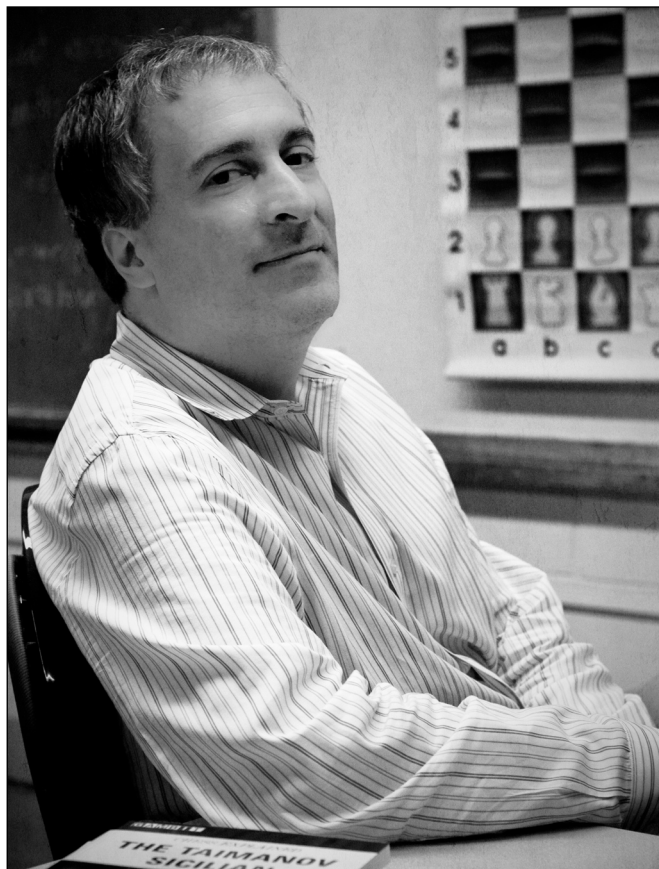
If anything disappoints about this book, it's that Black players against the Ruy Lopez who want to eschew mainstream lines but who dislike the Jaenisch (and its cousin the Siesta, which Sokolov doesn't like much) don't really have any conclusively favorable Black lines to choose from. Perhaps they will need to set themselves up for some hard knocks with Sokolov's suggestions for further exploration to discover that a seemingly favorable line for White actually is really playable for Black.

That point notwithstanding, this book, in this reviewer's opinion, is an outstanding companion to a reader interested in seeing the current trends in the Ruy Lopez and examining them further. It should become part of the chess library of every serious Ruy Lopez player.

“Rizz the Whiz” at Metrowest Chess Club

by George Mirijanian

IM James Rizzitano, one of the most respected players in New England, made an appearance on August 10 at the Metrowest Chess Club in Natick, where he made himself available to sell and autograph his latest book, "Play the Najdorf Sicilian." Rizzitano is the author of four other best-selling Gambit Publications books. His first book, "Understanding Your Chess," appeared in 2004, followed by "How to Beat 1. d4" in 2005. In 2006, his "Chess Explained: The Taimanov Sicilian" was published. And one year later he came out with "Chess Explained: The Queen's Gambit Declined." Rizz the Whiz was a dominant player in New England from the mid-1970s until the late 1980s. He has won five international tournaments, including the 1985 Windy City International, the 1983 Chicago International, and the 1982 Continental Chess Summer International. He was National Open co-champion in 1988, a two-time New England Open champion, a four-time Massachusetts Open champion, and the 1980 U.S. Open Speed Champion. In addition, he was National Junior High School champion in 1976 and National High School champion in 1979. In the mid-1980s, he was a trainer for future grandmaster Ilya Gurevich. Among GMs he has defeated are Lev Alburt, Joel Benjamin, Larry Christiansen, Maxim Dlugy, Dmitry Gurevich, Patrick Wolff, and his protege, Ilya Gurevich.



IM Jim Rizzitano at the MetroWest Chess Club book signing. Photo: Warner Smith

SILENT AUCTION AT THE GREATER BOSTON OPEN

A silent auction will be held on October 31st at the Greater Boston Open in Natick to sell hundreds of chess magazines donated by the estate of Andrus Varnik, and also a Berkshire Folding Chess Table with a \$395 retail value donated by Chess Cafe. A list of items being sold will be posted on masschess.org, and advance bids may be sent to auction2010@masschess.org. E-mail bids must be in whole dollar amounts and must be received by Friday, October 29th. Bidding for each item will start with the highest bid that was sent by e-mail. The silent auction will close at 3:30 p.m.

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Club News

Billerica Chess Club

by Brad Ryan

Even the half points were hard to earn in the Billerica March Friday Night Swiss. A field of 3 Experts and 5 “A” players produced an unprecedented 6-way tie for first between Experts Art Nugent and Pat Sciacca and “A” players Nate Smith, John Vaughan, Fangru Jiang and Michelle Chen, each with 2.5 – 1.5 scores. John Stuebing, Bob Babcock and Daniel Hamil each finished in a 3-way tie for best under 1750, each posting a 2 - 2 result. Daniel Kilgour and Peter Zito tied for best under 1250, with 1.5 – 2.5 scores. Nate Smith directed this 20 player tournament.

The Billerica 6-round April – May Swiss – always considered a warm-up for the 7-round May – June Club Championship – was won by the Club’s 2009 Club Champion, Expert Pat Sciacca. Pat posted a strong 5.5 - .5 score, a full point ahead of Expert Raymond Paulson, who finished 2nd with a 4.5 – 1.5 result. “A” players Tom McCafferty, Jeffrey Caruso and Michelle Chen tied for best under 2000, with solid 3 – 2 performances. John Stuebing and Meyer Billmers - both Club stalwarts for more than 2 decades – tied for best under 1750, with 2.5 – 2.5. Bob Babcock – back to the Club after a somewhat long absence – was best under 1500, also with a 2.5 – 2.5 score. David Gilgour was again best under 1250, with a 1.5 – 4.5 score. Nate Smith directed. 17 players participated in the tournament.

Historically, our Club Championship – ’09 being an exception – has been decided so late in the evening of the 7th and final round that even the draws are very hard to get. This was the case again in 2010. Coming into the 7th and final round (in a field of 2 Experts and 7 strong “A” players), Experts Art Nugent and Pat Sciacca (last year’s Champion) and “A” player Fangru Jiang were tied, each with 4.5 points. Only Sciacca could pull out the win, posting a 5.5 – 1.5 score, and repeating as Club Champion. “A” player Max Chia-Hsin Lu finished 2nd with a strong 5 – 2 performance, only _ point off the pace. Nugent and Fangru Jiang tied for 3rd, each with 4.5 – 2.5 scores. Jiang was also best under 2000. Meyer Billmers, Paul Staten and Bob Babcock tied for best under 1750, with 3 – 4, while Charles Windheim was best under 1500, with 2 – 5. Eric Heinecke was best

under 1250, also with a 2-5 score. 20 players participated in the tournament and Nate Smith directed.

I should note that we meet on Friday nights and we have always welcomed new players!

Boylston Chess Club

by Bob Messenger

Alexander Paphitis won the Weaver Adams Qualifier, which was held June 2nd to 28th, with a perfect 4-0 score. This event was open to players rated under 1800, and the winner earned an invitation to the Rubens/Landey, the club's championship for players rated under 2200. The Rubens/Landey was held between July 12th and August 2nd and finished in a three-way tie between David Glickman, Jeffrey Hall and Sean Ingham, all with 3-1 scores. Jeffrey Hall finished first on tiebreak, winning an invitation to the BCC Championship, which is currently under way.

On August 21st 19 players competed in the 17th Charles Drafts Memorial. The winner was Ukrainian IM Evgeni Piankov, playing in his first tournament in the United States. Piankov won all four of his games, including a win in the last round against FM Chris Chase.

For more information about the club, visit its web site, boylstonchessclub.org.

Sven Brask Chess Club

by Jim Aspinall

This summer continued a string of highly competitive events at the SBCC. Many strong players have passed through the club, but the depth of the fields at the club right now is as strong as it’s been in over 15 years. We now have 3 experts, and 7 players over 1900, and in addition to beating each other up, all of them suffer defeats to the “lower ranked” (only on paper, and of which this author is one) players on a regular basis.

The July event was the annual Summer Swiss. This 5-round event was won by Larry Dean with a score of 4 points. Ken Wheeler and Jeff Hall tied for second with 3.5 points. The field of 20 was directed by Jim Aspinall.

The August tournament was the Dog Days of Chess. Andrew Hoy topped a field of 16 in the 4-round Swiss with a perfect score. George Winsor and Jim Lemieux tied for 2nd with 3 points. Andrew’s performance put his rating over 2000 for the first time and made him the

club's 3rd Expert, joining reigning club co-champion Larry Dean and 2 time former champion Jack Correia. Paul Gavlick's performance was also notable. Ranked 13th on the wallchart, Paul scored 2.5 points with a 2042 performance rating to pick up 88 rating points. Gerry Plante directed.

The Sven Brask Chess Club meets Wednesdays from 7-1130 at the United Methodist Church in Plainville, MA. For more information see our web site at www.svenbraskcc.org.

Wachusett Chess Club

by George Mirijanian

Tony Cesolini, a Class A player from Jaffrey, NH, scored 5.5-0.5 to win the Wachusett CC Championship, held May 5-June 16, 2010 at the McKay Campus School at Fitchburg State College. Finishing as runner-up with a 4-1 tally, including one unplayed game, was 15-time club champion George Mirijanian of Fitchburg, who nicked Cesolini for his only draw. Tying for third place with 2.5 points apiece were two-time club champion Bruce Felton of Fitchburg and Glenn Rochon of Leominster. Martin Laine of Lunenburg and Dave Couture of Westminster tied for 1st-2nd place in the club's "B" Championship, tallying 5.5-1.5. Tying for 3rd-4th place with 5-2 scores were Leonard Arsenault and Kenneth Gurge, both of Leominster. Deadlocked in 5th place with 4-3 results were Michael Manisy of Otter River, Paul Lynch, Seetharaman Ganesan of South Grafton, Brian Biglow of Leominster and Max Sewell of Peterborough, NH. A total of 30 players competed in the championship event, 22 of whom vied for top honors in the "B" division.

The Wachusett CC Quick Chess Championship, held June 23, 2010, ended in victory for club champion Tony Cesolini. In a field of 21 players, the Granite State player tallied a perfect 4-0. Michael Manisy finished second with a score of 3.5-1.5. Tying for third place with 3-1 results were Robert King of Worcester and Thayer Aletheia-Zomlefer of Phoenix, AZ.

Robert King was the winner of the Harlow B. Daly Memorial tournament, held July 7-August 2010. In a field of 25 contenders, the Worcester player scored 4.5-0.5. Leonard Arsenault was second with a 4-1 tally. Tying for 3rd-4th place with 3.5-1.5 scores were Tony Cesolini and Martin Laine. Deadlocked in fifth place with 3-2 performances were George Mirijanian, Bruce Felton, Kenneth Gurge and Paul Lynch.

George Mirijanian and Michael Manisy tallied 4-1 to

tie for 1st-2nd place in the Michael Glinski Jr. Memorial tournament, held August 11-September 8, 2010. Tying for 3rd-4th place with 3.5-1.5 scores were Dave Couture and Seetharaman Ganesan. Sharing fifth place with 3-2 results were John Moran of Worcester, Tony Cesolini, Martin Laine, Mark Marshall of Worcester, and Mark Daley of New Ipswich, NH. A total of 30 players competed. The tournament honored the memory of Michael Glinski Jr. of Hudson, NH, formerly of Fitchburg, who served as *Chess Horizons* editor in 1990. He died April 10, 2010 in Nashua, NH at the age of 51.

Waltham Chess Club

by Nicholas P. Sterling, Ph.D.

The highlight of our summer was the observance of our 100th First Friday G/10 tournament this August. The first ever First Friday was directed by Michael Gosselin back in 1996, making our 100th a long-awaited watershed to reach. Everyone who came brought lots of munchies to nosh on and made the event a great success.

Our attendance numbers this summer have stayed consistently high, between 16 and 20 players, with occasional dips when players were away on vacation. We expect our numbers to return to full strength from September onward.

Some highlights from the last few months:

- Denys Shmelov has continued to march through tournament after tournament in winning style. Perfect 7-point scores at the June and July First Fridays, a perfect 4-point score at the June G/20 – congratulations to Denys!

- The Hot and Steamy G/60 in July featured a remarkable four-way 2-point tie for first among Denys, Todd Chase, Edward Astrachan, and Andrew Liu.

- Frank Sisto, Todd Chase, and Geoffrey Collins tied three ways for first place with 3 points out of 4 each in the Open Section. Vitaliy Ryabinin took sole first place in the Under-1400 Section with a perfect score of 4 points.

- Erik Siggelkoe took sole first place at the August First Friday with a score of 6.5 out of 7 points.

- Brandon Wu took sole first place in the Under 1500 Section at the Aloha G/60 in August with a perfect score of 2 points. Way to go, Brandon!

The Waltham Chess Club meets every Friday evening at 7 PM. For more information see our web site at www.walthamchessclub.org.

"Chess is not like life... it has rules!"

— Mark Pasternak



Harry Nelson Pillsbury Memorial

Sunday, November 28th, 2010, Leominster, Massachusetts

\$1,350 Prize Fund - 75% Guaranteed

(Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced))



Where: Leominster Veterans Memorial Center, 100 West Street, Leominster, MA

What: 4-round USCF rated Swiss, G/60, in 3 sections: Open, Under 1900, and Under 1600.

Registration: 8:30 – 9:30 AM

Rounds: 10:00 AM, 1:00 PM, 3:30 PM, 6:00 PM

Entry Fee: \$39 if mailed **by 11/22** or online at www.MassChess.org by PayPal **by 11/26**. \$45 on site. GM, IM free. **No** credit cards on site (cash or check OK). No phone or e-mail entries.

Special: Unrated may play in any section, but may not win 1st except in the Open section.

Prizes: Prizes are 75% guaranteed based on 45 paid entries

Open: \$300-\$150, top under 2100 \$75

U1900: \$250-\$125, top under 1750 \$75

U1600: \$200-\$100, top under 1300 \$75

- One half-point bye allowed in any round if requested with entry.
- USCF and home state membership required (MACA dues \$12 adult, \$6 under 18; add \$8 [optional] for subscription to *Chess Horizons*). WMCA accepted.
- Other state memberships accepted.
- **Emergency** contact day of tournament **only**: 508-561-2160. **No** phone entries.

Additional Info: PillsburyInfo2010@masschess.org. www.MassChess.org

Harry Nelson Pillsbury Memorial, November 28, 2010

Name: _____ USCF # _____ Exp: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____ Rating: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Junior MACA - Date of Birth: _____

Need USCF membership? Yes / No Enclosed for USCF is \$ _____
 Need MACA membership? Yes / No Enclosed for MACA is \$ _____

Adult: \$12, Junior (under 18) \$6 (add \$8 for *Chess Horizons* [optional])

Entry Fee \$ _____ for the _____ section
 (please specify section)

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Mail checks, payable to MACA, to: Ken Ballou, 27 Fenway Drive, Framingham, MA 01701-4012

Massachusetts Chess Association
c/o Robert D. Messenger
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