

# New Mexico Chess Clubs

## Bear Canyon Chess Club - Albuquerque

Bear Canyon Senior Center, On Pitt St off of LaGrimaD'Oro Just N of Montgomery/Eubank in Albuquerque. Mon. Wed.Fri. 12:30 P.M. Casual, small, friendly group. No organized pairings. Contact Lloyd Gustafson at 821-2083.

## Borders Book Store - Santa Fe

Mondays: 7 til 10pm on Montezuma in the Samburgus Ctr, Santa Fe. Casual chess, lots of blitz, and sometimes slower rated matches. Some of the newest players mingle here with some of the state's best. GM Jesse Kraai presents a lecture every Monday night at 6pm- to 7pm, just before the club starts (free) The lecture is usually geared for young players in the 800-1300 range.

## Cherry Hills Chess Club - Albuquerque

Meets from 1-5pm on the first Saturday of each month. One rated game will be played each meeting. At Cherry Hills Library in NE Albuquerque. Contact: Rod Avery

rlavery@msn.com

## Coronado Chess Club - Albuquerque

Coronado Chess Club - Wednesdays 7pm at Frontier Restaurant on Central Ave. at Cornell, across from UNM in the furthest East Room. Two unrated rounds, G30, weekly, plus informal games and analysis 'til late in the night (Frontier is open 24/7). This is a long-standing club with character. To get paired in for the evening, arrive before 7pm and talk to Richard Sherman (839-4218). \$10 per year or \$1 for one night. Sets/boards available. Bring Chess clocks.

## Foothills Chess Club - Albuquerque

Now the THIRD Sunday of every month from 2-6 p.m Foothills Fellowship Church, located on the Southwest corner of Candelaria and Tramway in NE ABQ. Contact Oren Stevens at 298-2534 orenvstevens@aol.com. USCF rated games. Stop by and give the Foothills club a try!

## Four Corners Chess Club

Still going after 40 years! The club meets in room 1008 at San Juan College on Tuesdays. For times and more info, contact Ken Weisner at 505-598-6442 or email:weisken@hotmail.com

## Los Alamos Chess Club

Thursdays 6:30 - 10:30pm at the Betty Ehart Senior Center (downstairs). Contact Gerard Jungman at 667-0369 (days) or Tom Pigott at 662-6962.

## New Mexico Tech Chess Club - Socorro

Meets Monday nights at 7pm during Spring and Fall semesters on the NM Tech campus in Socorro, in "Old Jones" 2nd floor. Directions: Take I-25 exit 150 onto California Street. Turn right into Bullock Ave. (KFC at the corner). At the third intersection you will see the campus. Keep going straight. The street curves left. At stop sign, turn into the left parking lot.

## UNM Chess Club - Albuquerque

University of New Mexico Chess Club - Monday nights 7pm during spring semester 2007. Stop by for casual chess in the Student Union Building -- Spirit Room. UNM Chess Club is free and drop-ins are welcome. Alumni and non-students are also encouraged to visit. Contact President Anthony Chen at: antchen@unm.edu for more information.

## Westside Chess Club - NW Albuquerque

Casual chess on Thursday nights starting at 7pm. The club meets at Barnes and Noble on 3701- A Ellison Dr. NW, Albuquerque off Rt #528....near Cottonwood Mall, between Sam's Club and Walmart. For more info, contact Holly McRoberts. queenhjm@aol.com

## The Chess Group - Rio Rancho

At the Meadowlark Senior Center, 4330 Meadowlark Lane SE in Rio Rancho. Thursdays at 1pm. Average age 70 to 75 years. Contact is Paul Morton. 867-9664 (home), 514-6807 (cell) Email: p.morton@att.net Gmail: morton.paul@gmail.com

# Desert Knight

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NEW MEXICO CHESS ORGANIZATION

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Photo by Art Byers

For a complete listing of Albuquerque, Santa Fe and New Mexico chess clubs, go to the New Mexico Chess Organization web page at: [www.nmchess.org](http://www.nmchess.org).

## National Chess Day at Old Town Plaza

## From the Editor

I must start by congratulating Ryan McCracken for the many splendid Desert Knight issues that he edited. Ryan was Desert Knight Editor from 1997 to 2000, and 2004 to 2007. Nobody else has ever kept the job for more than two years. Having seen how much work goes into each magazine we can understand why!

In this issue we had a lot of chess to cover. I wrote notes to many games. The magazine, and the players' ratings, would be improved if more readers submitted their games with their notes to them.

Speaking of improving the DK, see the request for feedback in our "Post Mortem" on page 34. Thanks to everybody who contributed to this issue, to John Baxter, who worked on layout and printing, and special thanks to Art Byers who wrote articles, analyzed games AND, with considerable patience, assisted me in getting my notes onto the computer and into print.

*Jim Johnston*  
Desert Knight Editor-in-Chief



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Excellent	!!
Good	!
Interesting	!?
Dubious	?!
Bad	?
Blunder	??
Check	+
Double Check	++
Checkmate	#

White Winning	+~
White advantage	±
White small edge	±
Equal	=
Black Winning	~+
Black advantage	±
Black small edge	±
Unclear position	∞
Better move is	△

**On the cover and left:** James "Scout" Veitch (cover) and Silas Perry (left) contemplate their next moves at the National Chess Day celebration held at the Old Towne Plaza on October 8, 2007.

## Puzzle Solutions

*Compiled By DK Puzzle Master Daniel Pasono*

Puzzle solutions always look for the best move each player could make for each of their moves. Moves that have Black play into White's plans (or vice versa) aren't considered because it's not what you'd see in a real game (unless the other player is forced into it, of course)

### Puzzle 1: A bishop fork

1. Nxe4 Rxe4
2. Nxc6  
if dxc6, Black loses his Queen to Qxd8+, so
2. ... bxc6
3. Bxc6 forking Black's two rooks

### Puzzle 2: The pin

1. Qf8+  
if 1. ... Qxf8 then 2. Rxf8+ Kh7  
3. Bd3 and White wins the rook, so
  1. ... Kh7
  2. Bg8+  
if 2. ... Kg6 then 3. Qf5#, so
  2. ... Kh8
  3. Be6+ Qxf8
  4. Rxf8+ Kh7
  5. Bf5+ and White wins the rook
- The threat of the pinning the Rook to the King forces Black's hand, but he loses the Rook in the end anyway.

### Puzzle 3: The discovered attack

1. Nc6 threatens a discovered attack of Qf8# and directly threatens Nxb8

### Puzzle 4: Go for mate, not material

1. Re7+  
if 1. ... Kf8 then 2. Bg7+ Kg8  
3. Nf6#, so
  1. ... Kd8
  2. Rh7+  
if 2. ... Ke8 then 3. Nc7+ Kf8 4. Ne6+ and the Rook mates on either g7 or e7, so
  2. ... Kc8
  3. Rxh8+ followed by Rxa8
- By going for the mate, White wins the game if Black makes a mistake, or ends up with more material than he'd get with the obvious Bxh8.

### Puzzle 5: Strip away the defense

1. Bxc6 bxc6 (removing the first Rook defender)
2. Rxh7+ Qxh7 (removing the second Rook defender)
3. Qxf6+ followed by Qxd8 and White wins a whole piece

### Puzzle 6: The threat of a draw

1. h8(Q)+ Ke4 (moves the black King into a position to stalemate for White)
2. Qh1+ Qxh1 Black must take the White Queen or lose his own, thus it's a stalemate

### Puzzle 7: Perpetual check

1. Qe8+ Kh7
  2. Ng5+ hxg5 (sacrifice the knight to get the perpetual check)
  3. Qh5+ Kg8
  4. Qe8+ over and over and over again
- Since White can't stop both of Black's mate threats (Qxg2# or Nf1#) a draw good outcome.

### Puzzle 8: The fork

1. Rxb7 Qxb7
  2. Qf7+ Kc8
  3. Nd6+ and White wins the Queen
- Some times it takes a little prep work to get a fork.

- ### Puzzle 9: The pin
1. Nxf6 (threatens 2. Nxd7+) Qxf6
  2. Re7+ K moves anywhere
  3. Qxf6 wins the Queen

Puzzles courtesy Cardoza Publishing: [www.cardozapub.com](http://www.cardozapub.com). All rights reserved.

## Post Mortem: What's Our Next Move?

You have just read (enjoyed?) the first Desert Knight edited by the new DK team. We have done a magazine just like the ones you have been reading over the years. But should we change it? Well, at the annual meeting in 94 someone suggested calling it The Desert Bishop but the magazine is still much the same. (More jokes this time?) We think it is pretty good as it is, but would benefit from a greater variety of players sending in their games with notes, articles etc. We changed nothing this time as we were half way through writing it before we started discussing changes. Some ideas:

- We need more material aimed at lower rated players. Everything now seems to be for the top guys.
- We should move a lot of games to the website and give much more space to articles. In this issue, we omitted several cross tables in favor of more annotated games. (Cross tables can be found at: [www.nmchess.org](http://www.nmchess.org))
- The shape of the magazine could be changed to make it easier to download and to view on the website.
- A lot of the stuff we now print could be on the website. We could generate a database of games there. Then the editors would be giving you something more like a newsletter.
- There must be a bunch of other good ideas out there. Please let us know what you want to read about, and even better, send us your games, anecdotes, articles etc.
- Let us know what you thought of this issue.

We are planning to address the first item on the above list by including something for average players in the next issue. If YOU could annotate one of your games, write about how to improve, give advice to players who are starting to compete in rated tournaments then we would love to publish your stuff. Play well or better yet, write well!

Thanks! Your DK team: Jim Johnston, Art Byers and John Baxter

## Upcoming Tournaments and Events

Keep These Dates Free then check *Chess Life* and [www.nmchess.org](http://www.nmchess.org) for more detailed information nearer the event.

### NMCO Tournaments:

**June 28/29**—The Albuquerque Open  
At the Days Inn, 2120 Menaul. ABQ.  
**September 13/14**—The Santa Fe Open.  
At The Santa Fe Woman's Club. SF.  
**November 1&2**—Two tournaments:  
The New Mexico Open and the New Mexico  
Master/Expert State Championship.  
At the Days Inn, 2120 Menaul. ABQ.

**Additional Events of Interest:** Details to follow by e-mail broadcast and posting on the NMCO Web Site: [www.nmchess.org](http://www.nmchess.org)

**March 29/30**—*The Oppenheimer Open at NM Tech (tentative), Socorro, NM*  
**April 26**—The 14th Annual Pir Malecki Memorial at United World College, Montezuma NM. Off I-25 5 miles from Las Vegas.  
**July**—NMCO Annual Picnic. Date TBA.

### Chess Tournament links of interest:

Scholastic Tournaments: [www.nmsco.org](http://www.nmsco.org)  
Southern Arizona Tmts. [www.sazchess.org](http://www.sazchess.org)

## President's Message

Welcome to New Mexico Chess in 2008!

First, I would like to thank all the volunteers and players for their support, which led to 2007 being one of the most chess-filled years in recent memory.

We saw in 2007, the first New Mexico Closed Championship. We were thrilled to see the U.S.'s newest Grandmaster, Jesse Kraai, and 12-time NM state champion, Stephen Sandager, show for the event. Kraai qualified by winning the NM Open last year, and Sandager was this year's invitee. Although we were thrilled to have these two excellent players play in the event, we are hoping to attract more strong players in a slightly more open format for 2008.

December 8<sup>th</sup> saw quick chess come to the Balloon Fiesta Museum. I was very pleased to see precisely 40 players register since the playing room had space for exactly 40 players. We haven't seen G/10 chess in New Mexico for quite some time, so this was a nice change of pace and a great activity for between the holidays! Look for more to come at the Balloon Fiesta Museum.

Expect to see more fun chess events this year! Check our website frequently ([www.nmchess.org](http://www.nmchess.org)) for upcoming events so you don't miss out!

*Silas Perry*

*NMCO President*

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All games are annotated by Jim Johnston, with and without computer help (Fritz or Rybka), unless otherwise noted. © 2008 NMCO. All rights reserved.

Send games, articles and photos for the DK to  
NMCO P.O. Box 4215, Albuquerque NM 87196 or E-mail to the Editor



# The 2007 Santa Fe Open

Santa Fe Women's Club, August 11, 2007

By Jim Johnston

Back in August, 54 players showed up at the Santa Fe Women's club for a one-day tournament. It seems like ancient history now, but the tournament was not covered in the last DK, so here is what happened. The Open section was won jointly by Peter Calhoun and Ray Fourzan. Peter was back from college in Minnesota while Ray drove up from his home in El Paso. So, between them they covered the north/south length of the country to be here.

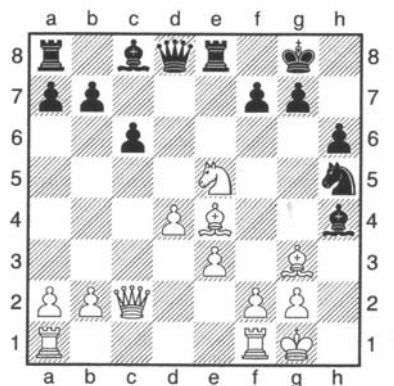
Local stars Munir Hammad, Ryan McCracken and Jim Johnston split the U1900 prize. In the U1800 section, Virgil Vigil won his first three games, beating top seed Dean Brunton in Rd 3, and only needed a draw in Rd 4 to win the section. Samuel Thompson won the U1400 section while the U1000 was shared by Timothy Tran and Leslie McAlister. G/60 time controls means that many score sheets stop suddenly just as the excitement builds. Nevertheless, we found these decisive, instructive games.

**W: Jim Johnston (1798)**  
**B: David Langlois (1891)**  
**2007 Santa Fe Open**  
**[D36]**

*In the Queen's gambit exchange variation B has to exchange a few pieces to relieve his cramped position. Here he has trouble finding good squares for his Kts and this lets your new editor show off his combinatorial dexterity in a neat sacrificial finish.*

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 c6 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Bd3 Be7 8.Qc2 h6 9.Bh4 0-0 10.Nf3 Re8 11.0-0 Nf8 but this Kt can no longer come out to g6 as B has advanced the h pawn...better Ne4 12.h3 N8h7 perhaps he will complete the renowned Knight's tour! 13.Ne5 Ng5 14.Bg3 Nh5 15.h4 Ne4? when the Kt finally gets to a good square it just drops a pawn [△ 15...Nxg3 ]

16.Nxe4 dxe4 17.Bxe4 Bxh4?



What would Tal play here?

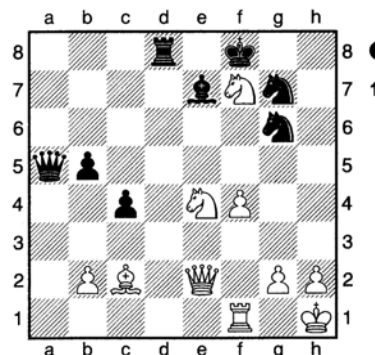
18.Nxf7! They should start calling me Misha

18...Qe7 19.Bh7+ it's hard to complain about a move that forces resignation after just 2 more moves, but all my computer programs play Ne5 here so that B can't give up the Q and try to play on.

19...Kxf7 20.Qg6+ Kf8 21.Bd6 1-0

Desert Knight

January 2008



[△ 29.f5!? This move certainly looks tempting with the black king on the same file as the white rook. A GM of Byrne's strength must have examined it. However, Robert preferred to continue his knight play and regain the sac'd piece. Note that the White Bishop on c2 is eyeing the unprotected black knight on g6! 29...Nf4 30.Rxf4 Nh5+- ]

29...Kxf7 30.Ng5+ Kg8 31.Bxg6+- Byrne regains his piece and remains with a two pawn advantage and a much more secure king.

31...Bf6 [An example of the power in the white position is the following variation: 31...Qc7 32.Qe4 Rd6 33.Bf7+ Kf8 34.Qh7+- ]

32.Nf7 32...Rd2 33.Qe3 Rd5 This rook just arrived on the second rank one move ago. **Why Remove it?** Among the reasons must have been that Rossetto's calculations convinced him he could not safely spend the time both (1) to take the b2 pawn and (2) push the two black pawns toward the first rank. Probably, Black's move 32 was just to save clock time.

34.Qh3 Look at how nicely Byrne uses the fact that black is weak on the white squares.

34...Kf8 35.Qc8+ Driving the black King out into the open.

35...Ke7 [35...Bd8 36.Qb7 Rc5 37.Nxd8 Qc7+- ]

36.Ne5! Qb6. [36...Bxe5 was rejected because 37.fxe5 would have brought the white rook control of a juicy open file.]

37.Nc6+ Kd6 38.Qf8+ Fritz likes 38. Nb4 better. Approaching the 40th move time control, Byrne preferred the simple win of two pieces for the white knight which was more than good enough to put the full point in his pocket.

38...Kxc6 39.Qxf6+ 1-0



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# Remembering GM Robert Byrne

By Art Byers

As far back as I can remember, the *New York Times* chess columnist was Grand Master Robert Byrne. When he retired from producing this treasure, the American chess scene suffered a great loss. Because it has been quite a few years since GM Byrne played high level tournament chess, the current generation is mostly unaware of just how formidable he was over the board.

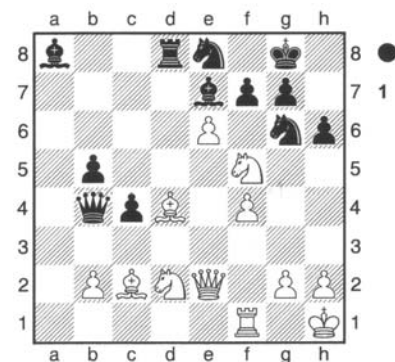
In 1961, GM Robert Byrne and seven strong players took place in a round robin in Santa Fe, Argentina where he simply destroyed his opposition winning 6 1/2 out of 7 possible points. In addition to Byrne, the field included such well known masters, of that decade: Matanovic, Filip, Rossetto, Bielicke, Letelier and two lesser known players, Klein and Casabella.

Let us examine how overwhelming Byrne could be in his prime. Here is his first round win over Hector Rossetto.

**W: Robert E. Byrne**  
**B: Hector Rossetto**  
**Santa Fe, ARG - 1961**

We begin after Byrne, as white, has just moved **24.e6**.

Diagram, Next Page



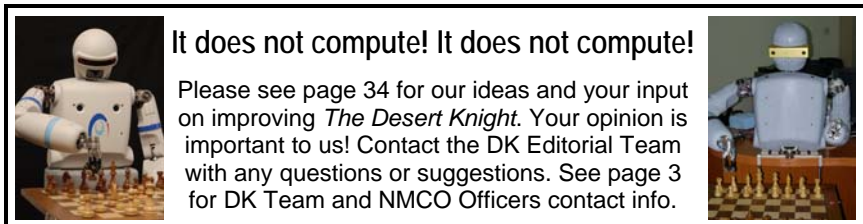
**24...Bd5??** This natural looking move, that centralizes the black Bishop where it is protected by a rook, starts black's downhill slide.

**25.Ne4+-** Before this point both players must have had to calculate the long complications after such moves as 25...c3, 25...Bxe6, and 25...Bxe4. No doubt, each must have chewed up clock time. There is no record of Rossetto's remaining time, but the ease with which Byrne won would make one suspect Hector was the player under the most time pressure.

**25...Qa5 26.exf7+ Bxf7 27.Bxg7!!** Byrne sac's the bishop for two pawns to strip the black king of all pawn protection.

**27...Nxg7 28.Nxh6+ Kf8 29.Nxf7**

Diagram, Next Page



It does not compute! It does not compute!

Please see page 34 for our ideas and your input on improving *The Desert Knight*. Your opinion is important to us! Contact the DK Editorial Team with any questions or suggestions. See page 3 for DK Team and NMCO Officers contact info.

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**W: Jason Stoneking**  
**B: Bill Barfuss**  
**2007 Santa Fe Open**  
**[D00]**

*White opens the position in front of his K and gets hit by a sneaky tactic.*

**1.d4 d5 2.Bg5 Nf6 3.Bxf6 gxf6 4.e3 Bf5 5.Bd3 Bg6 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.c3 Qd6 8.Qc2?** using hindsight we can see that this would be a good time for W to castle

**8...0-0-0 [8...e5 ]**

**9.Nbd2 e5 10.Bxg6 hxg6 11.e4? Bh6 12.dxe5 Bxd2+ 13.Qxd2 Nxe5 14.Qxd5?**



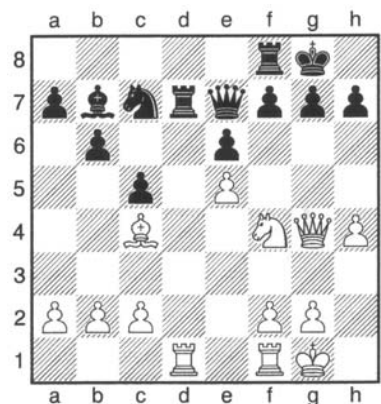
[14.0-0-0 ]

**14...Nd3+! 15.Kf1 Qb6** B wins the house 0-1

**W: Virgil Vigil (1644)**  
**B: Dean Brunton (1715)**  
**2007 Santa Fe Open**  
**[D00]**

*Vigil knocked off top seed Brunton in round 3 then only needed a draw against 2nd seed Jason Stoneking in round 4 to win the U1800 section.*

**1.d4 d5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Bf5 4.Nh4 Bd7 5.Bg5 e6 6.e4 dxe4 7.Nxe4 Be7 8.Nc5** this should be good for B. Better to take on f6  
**8...Bc6 9.Bc4 Nd5 10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.Qg4 0-0 12.Nf3 b6 13.Nd3 Nd7 14.Nfe5 [14.0-0 looks safer] 14...Nxe5 15.dxe5 Bb7 16.0-0 Rad8 17.h4 c5= 18.Rad1 Nc7 19.Nf4! Rd7?**



now W is winning [19...Rxd1= ]

**20.Nh5! f5 21.exf6 Qf7 22.Nxg7 Rxd1 23.Rxd1 Kh8 24.Nxe6 Rg8** Notation stops. B is in big trouble. Maybe he resigned here? If W plays Ng5 or Nd8 he wins a pile of material and should mate real soon 1-0

## Lost Chess Clock

**A player in the December 8 Balloon Museum Quick Chess Challenge lost his Saitek chess clock.**

**If you picked it up by accident, please contact the NMCO secretary at: [secretarynmco@msn.com](mailto:secretarynmco@msn.com)**



# The 2007 New Mexico Open

Days Inn of Albuquerque, September 1-3, 2007

By Jim Johnston

Well, this was the first time I could recall a tournament in NM with three full days of chess. This was great for all chessnuts but the total attendance seemed to be a little less than some of our recent weekend tourneys, 14 fewer than the Memorial/Senior, and the time commitment may have kept some players away.

Tim Bond traveled from Alabama and finished clear first in the qualifier (top) section. Tim lived in ABQ until '94 when he moved away for work. His brother and sister are still here, however, and he tries to come back and visit them the same time as the NM Open. This was the 7<sup>th</sup> time he has been back since '94. Tim came in 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2005, only losing to Jesse. Around 1990 Tim started the fashion in NM of saying "play well" to your opponent at the start of the game. This soon took off as the NM motto.

In second place, Silas Perry continued his recent run of good results and deservedly took the last spot as a qualifier for the NM Closed Tournament. The U1800 rating prize was shared by David Lopez Sr., Joe Fitzpatrick and Alexander Clemmer. Michael Torres won the U1800 section, while Zach Stuart won the U1400. Leslie McAlister followed up her victory at the Santa Fe open by sweeping the U1000 championship. This tournament produced a plethora of fine games and I have included those I thought the best from the winners and a variety of other players. Enjoy!

**W: Jim Johnston**

**B: Robert Haines**

**2007 New Mexico Open**

**[D35]**

[Comments by Robert Haines]

*As readers of the last DK will understand, this was a grudge match*

**1.d4** I really wanted to see e4 here

**1...Nf6** if now Nf3, then I'll play a King's Indian with g6

**2.c4 e6** Nimzo?

**3.Nf3 d5** no Queen's Indian thank you

**4.Nc3 c6** Want to play the Botvinnik system?

**5.cxd5 exd5** oh well, at least it's an exchange variation with the Kt al-

ready on f3. And besides, sometimes people play the White side a little complacently

**6.Bg5 Be7 7.e3** [△ 7.Qc2]

**7...0-0** Bf5 is better, but after Bd3

and the B trade a lot of the position's life goes away

**8.Bd3 Re8 9.0-0 Ne4 10.Bxe7 Qxe7**

**11.Qc2 Nd7 12.a3** so now it is clear

W will play b4, Rb1 a4 and b5. I'll have to insert a6, so that gives me 4 moves to whip up some counterplay on the K-side

**12...Nf8 13.b4 a6 14.Rab1 Ng6**

**15.a4 Bg4 16.Nd2** Ne1 is much better. Now W gets into trouble

**16...Nxd2 17.Qxd2**

*Diagram, Next Page*

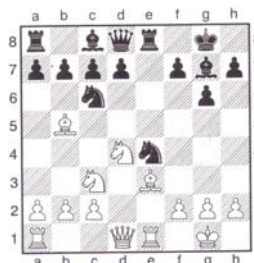
# The Puzzle Page

Compiled By DK Puzzle Master Daniel Pasono

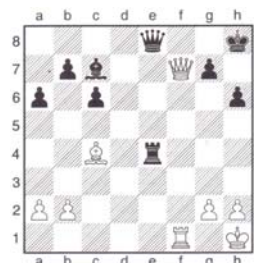
This issue's puzzles are intended to draw attention to the different tactics used in chess play. The tactics illustrated are: the fork, the pin, discovered attacks, the draw, perpetual check, stripping away the defense, and going for mate over material. There are 7 tactics shown in 9 puzzles. That means that 1 or 2 have more than one puzzle. Can you match the puzzle to the tactic?

All puzzles are setup so that it's White's turn to move. See page 35 for the answers. Have fun!

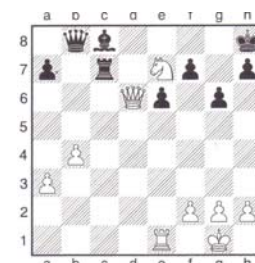
**Puzzle 1**



**Puzzle 2**



**Puzzle 3**



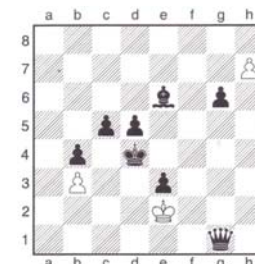
**Puzzle 4**



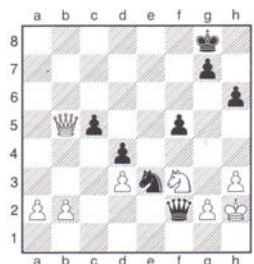
**Puzzle 5**



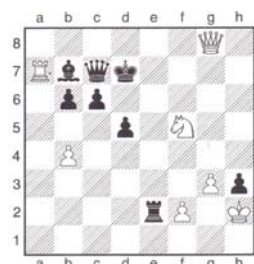
**Puzzle 6**



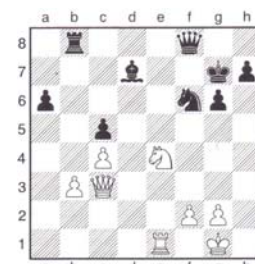
**Puzzle 7**



**Puzzle 8**



**Puzzle 9**



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## 5th Annual DK Quiz Results, Continued—Part B

*Everything you always wanted to know about GM Kraai*

**11** Which class player who still plays in all of our tournaments beat Kraai at the 1985 Santa Fe Open? This question stumped Jesse. But who else was playing in 85 and still plays in all tourneys? Jeff and Silas both got **Bob Hampton**, who told me he had been looking through a box full of ancient score sheets when he was pleasantly surprised to find this result.

**12** Jesse never had a full-time professional coach. Some years ago when this player died, Kraai wrote that he had been the nearest thing. He was describing **Edmar Mednis**, on the old forum. No right answers for this one either

**13** Kraai won his first adult state championship in 89. He only won it on tie-break as he lost one of his games. Who beat him? **IM Igor Ivanov** who won the \$ and the grand prix points but was from out of state

**14** Jesse was co-champion in a couple of national scholastic events. Tell me the event and year of the national scholastic event he won outright. **Denker Tournament of High school champions 89**. Jesse won it again in 90 but 'only' tied

**15** He was in a foreign country when he gained his 1<sup>st</sup> IM norm. Name the country and the event where he did it. **Germany**, in the **Bundesliga** (national team league)

**16** In 2006 when asked who would be the strongest player he had ever played, Jesse said it was this player. In his interview in the Santa Fe Reporter, Jesse said it was **Gata Kamsky**

Jim Johnston

Desert Knight Editor-in-Chief

**17** At Foxwoods 2007 he scored his final GM norm. Who was the highest rated player he played there? **Nakamura**, who was briefly the highest rated US player (2755, while Kamsky, who both entrants suggested, was 2<sup>nd</sup> board at 2752

**18** In slow rated chess games played in New Mexico, who was the last player to draw with Kraai, and who was the last player to beat him? **Jeffrey Martin** drew in the last round at the Pir Malecki Memorial 05. The last loss was to **John Cline**, who was then rated 2297, in the final round of the ABQ Open in June 1996 All got this.

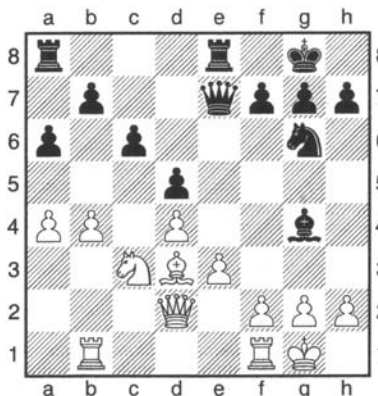
**19** Chess Life readers know that he rides his bike, but which other physical activity does Jesse like to do before a tournament? I had heard that he likes **hiking** in the mountains around Santa Fe. When I showed Jesse the quiz he told me that he also does **swimming**. Foosball? Lifting weights? ... good guesses, but... nope

**20** Complete these quote from the internet:

**a** Internet commentator Mig wrote "maybe now he'll be able to afford.....**a real hat**" this proved strangely prophetic as Kraai immediately gave up his knitted hat for a natty straw Trilby!

**b** Jesse was quoted as saying "I've been trying to get the GM title for 4 years. Now .....**I don't know what the \*\*\*\* to do!**" Jeff and Silas both got both it.

I trust you all enjoyed the quiz. I am hoping that somebody else would like to write one for the coming year as there is already way too much of my ramblings in the magazine, and anyway I have exhausted my supply of questions!



**17...Nh4! 18.f3** W has a really tough choice [18.e4 Bf3 19.exd5 (19.g3 dxe4-/+ ) 19...Bxg2 20.Qf4-/+ ; 18.Rfc1 Bh3 19.Qe2 (19.Bf1 Qg5 20.f4 Nf3+ 21.Kh1 Nxd2 22.fxg5 Nxb1 23.Rxb1 Rxe3-+ ) 19...Bxg2 20.Qh5 f5 21.Bxf5 Bf3 22.Qxh7+ Kf7-+ ; 18.h3 Bxh3-+ ; 18.Kh1 Nf3 19.Qd1 (19.Qc2 Qh4-+ ) 19...Nxb2 20.f3 Nxf1-+ ; 18.Rfe1 Bh3 19.Qd1 Bxg2 20.Qh5 Be4-/+ ]

**18...Qxe3+ 19.Qxe3 Rxe3 20.Rbd1** [20.Rfd1 ]

**20...Bf5 21.Bxf5 Nxf5 22.Nb1 Rae8** if this had been a correspondence game I would have played Rb3. OTB I prefer not to win more material until all of my pieces are activated

**23.Rd2 Rb3 24.b5 axb5 25.axb5 Rxb5 26.Nc3 Rb4 27.Ne2 Ra8** now that the e file is closed

**28.Kf2 Kf8 29.Re1 Raa4 30.Red1 Ra3 31.Rd3 Rxd3 32.Rxd3 Ke7 33.g4 Nd6 34.Ng3 Rb2+ 35.Ne2 Nc4 36.h4 Kd6 37.f4 Nd2 38.Ke3 Nc4+ 39.Kf3 b5 40.h5 b4 41.g5 Rb3** the simplest

**42.Rxb3 Nd2+ 43.Ke3 Nxb3**

**44.Kd3 c5 45.dxc5+ Nxc5+ 46.Kd4 Ne6+ 47.Ke3 g6 48.h6 d4+ 49.Ke4 b3 Zugzwang 0-1**

**W: Joe Fitzpatrick  
B: Alexander Clemmer  
2007 New Mexico Open  
[B00]**

*White's enterprising play is not a total success when Black comes out of it with the 2 Bishops. When B fails to find the best continuation a draw results.*

**1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Bg4 4.Be2 g6 5.0-0 Bg7 6.Be3 e6 7.c4 Nf6 8.Nc3 0-0+/-** White has a slight advantage

**9.Qd2 e5 10.d5 Ne7 11.Rfd1 Bd7+/-** Black has a cramped position

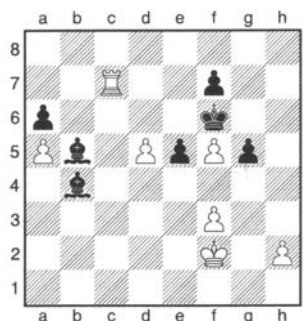
**12.Rac1 Ng4 13.Bg5 h6 14.Bh4 g5=**



**15.Nxg5?! [15.Bg3 maintains equality.]**

**15...Ng6=/+ 16.Ne6 Qxh4-/+ 17.Bxg4 Qxg4 18.f3 Qh4 19.Nxf8 Bxf8-/+** with 2 Bishops for a rook and a pawn Black is happy.

20.Ne2 Qg5 21.Qxg5 hxg5 22.g3  
 Bh6 23.g4 Bg7 24.c5 Bf8 25.c6  
 bxc6 26.dxc6 Be8 27.Rc4 Rb8  
 28.b4-/+ a6-/+ 29.a4 Rb6 [Δ  
 29...Ne7 30.Nc3-/+ ]  
 30.Rdc1 Ne7 31.a5 Rxc6 32.Rxc6  
 Bxc6 [32...Nxc6! ]  
 33.Kf2 Kg7 34.Ng3 Kf6-/+ 35.Nf5  
 Bb5 36.Rxc7 [Δ 36.Nxe7 Bxe7  
 37.Rxc7-/+ ]  
 36...Nc6? Black misses a winning  
 move. [Δ 36...Nxf5 37.gxf5 d5  
 38.exd5 Bxb4-+ Variation Diagram



[The triumph of the 2 Bs]  
 37.Rc8= Be7 38.Rc7 Draw agreed.  
 1/2-1/2

**W: Richard Sherman**  
**B: Tim Bond**  
 2007 New Mexico Open

*Richard Sherman was the only man  
 to stop Bondo from sweeping the top  
 section.*

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Bg4 3.Bg2 Nd7 4.c4  
 c6 5.0-0 Ngf6 6.b3 dxc4 7.bxc4  
 Bxf3 8.exf3 e6 9.Nc3 Be7 10.d4  
 Nb6 11.Qd3 0-0 12.Rd1 Qd7  
 13.a4+/- W has a lot of space  
 13...Rad8 14.a5 Nc8 15.f4 Bc5

16.Be3 a6 17.Bh3 Qc7 18.Qb1 Ba7  
 19.Qb3 Nd6 20.d5? [Better is 20.c5 ]  
 20...Bxc3 21.fxe3 exd5 22.cxd5  
 Rfe8 23.Kf2 Qe7 24.Rd3? since B  
 has 2 centralized Kts the placing of  
 the White K R and Q should ring  
 several alarm bells  
 24...Nde4+! 25.Nxe4 Nxe4+ 26.Kf3  
 Nc5 27.Qc4 Nxd3 28.Qxd3 Rxd5-+  
 29.Qe2 Qe4+ 30.Kf2 Qb4 31.Ra2  
 Red8 32.Kf3 Rd2 33.Qe1 Qd6  
 34.Ra4 Qd5+ 35.Kg4 Qe6+? still  
 winning but B has mate in 3 starting  
 with g6 36.f5 R2d4+ 37.Rxd4  
 Rxd4+ 38.Kf3 Qe4+ 39.Kf2 Rc4  
 40.g4 Rc2+ 41.Kg3 Qe5+ 42.Kf3  
 Qxh2 43.Bf1 Qd2 [43...Qh1+ ]  
 44.Qg3 Qd5+ 0-1

**W: Gerard Jungman**  
**B: Silas Perry**  
 2007 New Mexico Open  
 [E89]

*Gerry J plays in his first tournament  
 since 2004—he just did not enjoy the  
 faster time controls. But our new  
 president is deadly with the King's  
 Indian Here he wins a couple of  
 pawns, W fights back surprisingly  
 effectively with the 2 Bs, but Silas  
 plays an awesome ending.*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6  
 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 e5 7.Nge2 c6 8.d5  
 cxd5 9.cxd5 Na6 10.Qd2 Bd7  
 11.Nc1 Ne8 12.Be2 f5 13.exf5 gxf5  
 14.0-0 Nf6 15.Kh1 Qe8 16.Nb3 Nc7  
 17.a4 these positions always look  
 good for W. He has a lot of space on  
 the Q-side. I am always surprised  
 when B later gets an advantage, but  
 he very often does.

## 5th Annual DK Quiz Results

### Jeff Burch wins again!!!

As we go to press 2 entrants have sent answers. Jeff told me that this was the hardest quiz yet, but he managed 70% right, and wins a free entry to the next big Albuquerque tourney, unless someone beats his score in the remaining weeks. Silas Perry came in second with a 36% score

### Part A

*All of these people played in tournaments or attended chess events in NM this year*

- 1 In 2006 he went to Japan to compete in the Tokyo Open. **Kyle Leeds Tilley**
- 2 He has played in the last 4 US Opens. Nobody got my answer which was **Dean Brown**. Jeff found **Kathy Schneider**, which was also right, as they traveled to the tournaments together.
- 3 He played in the last 7 World Opens **Benjamin Coraretti**
- 4 In 2006 he won his section at the Eastern Class Championships in Massachusetts **Reuben Sarge**
- 5 At Las Vegas:
  - a Who won a big prize there in 2006 **Holly McRoberts** came 2<sup>nd</sup> in her section at the North American Open
  - b In the last few years this player has won 2 large sums in different rating classes. At the National Open, **Jeff Sundell** came first in the Booster(U1700) section 2002 and 2<sup>nd</sup> in U1800 in 2005 I was surprised that nobody found this.
  - c In 2005 he went to Vegas and played in the National Scrabble Championships. **Bill Barfuss** emailed his answer and correction to this one. He played Scrabble but it was actually in Reno. Close enough? Silas got it too.
- 6 At the Olympiad he was captain of the US men's chess team **John Donaldson**, who gave a simul in ABQ this year was US captain in 86, 88, and 90
- 7 He runs a "Chess in the Schools" program in a large city back east. Former NM resident, **Adam Weissbarth** man-

ages instruction in dozens of schools in Philadelphia

8 A few years ago he drew with Nakamura at the World Open. Colorado master **Brian Wall**, who came to coach at Hummingbird Chess Camp drew with Hikaru in the 1<sup>st</sup> round in 2001. Only Jeff found this one. Check out Wall's brand new book "How to Play Chess Like an Animal"

9 He was editor of the Desert Knight in 1986 and 1987 **Robert Haines**

10 Concerning English Descriptive notation:

a He publishes a magazine using same. **Ed Yetman III**, see the ad on front page of the NMCO website

b At last year's NM Open in October, I counted 4 players in the top section who recorded their games in descriptive. **Jack Shaw, Richard Sherman, Tony Schroeder, David Langlois** and **Cesar Guevarra**. My counting is not too clever! Silas got Langlois and Sherman, Jeff got Shaw and Guevarra, but they both missed Schroeder!

c Name a further class A player, who always uses descriptive, who came to the NM Open to watch, but played in the 07 memorial tourney. **Dwight Ditrick** stumped everyone. Silas guessed Tom Heldt, good guess as he also writes in descriptive, but I'm afraid he was not a spectator last October.

*Continued on the next page*



23.Rb6? [△ 23.Rc1 ± ]  
 23...Bb5 24.a4 Bxd3 25.Rc1 Be2  
 26.h3 [△ 26.f4 ]  
 26...Rd1+ 27.Rxd1 Rxd1+ 28.Kh2  
 h6 29.f4 Bd4 30.Bxd4 Rxd4 31.Rb2  
 Bd1 32.a5 Ra4 33.Rb8+ Kh7 34.Rf8  
 f6 35.e5 f5 36.Re8 Bb3 37.Bb7 Bc4  
 38.Be8 Ra2+ 39.Kg1 Rxa5 40.Kf2  
 Ra2+ 41.Ke1 Rh2 42.Bxe6 Bxe6  
 43.Rxe6 Rxh3 44.Kf2 Rh2+ 45.Kf3  
 Ra2 46.Rb6 Ra3+ 47.Kg2 a5 48.e6?  
 now this pawn will be lost.  
 48...Kg6 49.Kf2 Kf6 50.Ra6 a4  
 51.Kg2 Ra1 52.g4 g6 53.g5+ hxg5  
 54.fxg5+ Kxg5 55.e7 Re1 56.Ra7  
 Kf6 57.Kg3 Rxe7 58.Rxa4 with  
 Rook and 2 connected passed pawns  
 against a rook you just have to edge  
 down the board.  
 58...Kg5 59.Kf3 Re6 60.Rc4 Rb6  
 61.Rc3 Kh5 62.Kf4 Rb4+ 63.Kf3 g5  
 64.Rd3 g4+ 65.Kg3 f4+ 66.Kf2  
 Rb2+ 67.Kf1 Kh4 68.Rd7 Kg3  
 69.Rd3+ f3 70.Rd1 Rh2 71.Ke1  
 Rh1+ 72.Kd2 Rxd1+ 73.Kxd1 f2 0-1

W: Joe Schrader

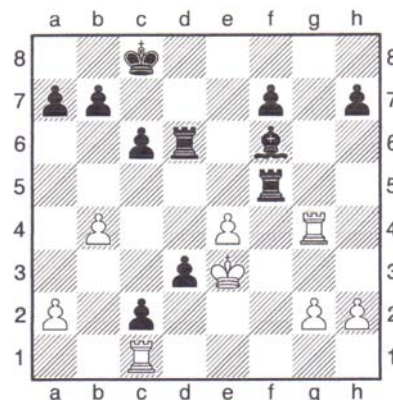
B: Sarah Blog

2007 Class Tournament  
 [D15]

*Sarah Blog builds up a winning position in the middle game. W gets a little less bad but B keeps enough extra material to win.*

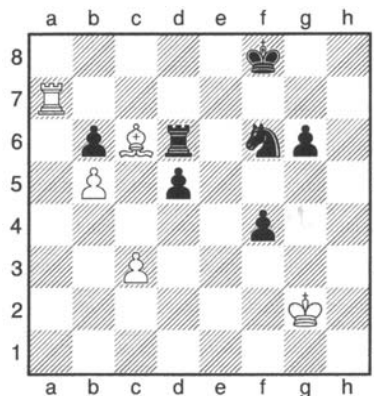
1.d4 c6 2.c4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Bf5  
 5.Bf4 [△ 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.Qb3+/- ]  
 5...e6 6.e3 Bd6 7.Bg5? Qc7 8.Be2  
 Nbd7 9.0-0 0-0-0? 0-0 looks much  
 safer  
 10.c5+- Be7 11.b4 [△ 11.Bf4 ]

11...e5 12.Nh4 Bg6 13.f4 exd4 14.f5?  
 now B looks good [△ 14.exd4 ]  
 14...dxc3 15.Bf4 Ne5 16.Qd4 Ne4?  
 gives up a N [16...Nfd7-+ ]  
 17.Bxe5+/- Qd7 18.Bg4? and W  
 returns the piece [△ 18.Bxg7 ]  
 18...Bxh4+ 19.Rf4 Bh5 20.Bxh5  
 g5? [△ 20...Bg5 ]  
 21.Rff1 [△ 21.fxg6 ]  
 21...Rhf8 22.f6 g4 23.Rf4 Rg8!  
 24.Kf1 Rg5 25.Qd1 Rxh5 26.Qxg4  
 Qxg4 27.Rxg4 Rf5+ 28.Bf4 Bxf6  
 Fritz rates B as 11 pawns ahead !  
 29.Ke2 c2 30.Rc1 d4 31.Bd6 Nxd6  
 32.cxd6 Rxd6 33.e4 d3+ 34.Ke3



34...Bd4+? [△ 34...d2 and B gets a  
 new Q]  
 35.Kxd3 Bb2+ 36.Kxc2 Bxc1  
 37.exf5 Ba3 38.Kb3 Rd3+ 39.Kc4  
 Rd2 40.Kb3 Rd3+ 41.Kc4 Re3  
 42.Rg7 b5+ 43.Kc5 Rc3+ 44.Kd6  
 Bxb4+ 45.Ke5 Rd3 46.Rxf7 c5  
 47.Rxa7 c4 48.f6 c3 49.a3 Bc5  
 50.Ra8+ Kb7 51.Rh8 c2 52.Rxh7+  
 Kc6 53.f7 c1Q 54.Ke4 Qe3+ 55.Kf5  
 Rd2 56.Rh6+ Kd5 57.Rg6 Rf2+  
 58.Kg4 Qf4+ 59.Kh3 Qf5+ 60.Rg4  
 Rf4 61.g3 Qxg4+ 62.Kg2 Rf2+  
 63.Kh1 Qd1# 0-1

17...Qf7 18.Rad1 Rfc8 19.Na5 b6  
 20.Nc4 Bf8 21.Na3 [21.Bh6 ]  
 21...Rab8 22.Nab5 Nxb5 23.axb5  
 f4 24.Bg1 Nh5 25.Ne4 Bf5 26.Bf2  
 Qg6 27.Rc1 Bxe4 28.fxe4 Nf6  
 29.Rc6 Nxe4 30.Qc1 Re8 31.Be1  
 Rb7 32.Qc2 Nf6 33.Qxg6+?  
 [33.Bd3 ]  
 33...hxg6=/+ 34.h4 Kg7 35.Rf3 [△  
 35.Bc4 ]  
 35...Nxd5 36.Bc3 Nf6 37.Bd1-/+ if  
 you count the pawns then you have  
 to think it's all over. But 2Bs can  
 cause some havoc too.  
 37...Be7 38.g3 Rh8 39.gxf4 Rxh4+  
 40.Kg2 Rxf4 41.Rxf4 exf4 42.Bf3  
 Rd7 43.Bg4 Rd8 44.Be6 Kf8  
 45.Rc7 Ne8 46.Rxa7=/+ if only  
 there weren't quite so many pawns to  
 win back...  
 46...d5 47.Bd4 Rd6 48.Bd7 Bf6  
 49.Bc3 [>=49.Bxb6 Rxb6 50.Ra8  
 Ke7 51.Bxe8 g5 ]  
 49...Bxc3-/+ 50.bxc3 Nf6 51.Bc6



now Re6 looks great but B ensures  
 the win with a cunning sacrifice of 1  
 of his extra pawns  
 51...Ne4 52.c4 f3+! the move that  
 none of the spectators had antici-  
 pated

53.Kxf3 Nd2+ 54.Ke3 dxc4! much  
 better than Nc4 which had seemed to  
 be the point of the p sac  
 55.Rc7 Nb3 56.Bb7? Be4 now  
 would save a tempo  
 56...Nc5 57.Be4 Re6 58.Rc8+ Ke7  
 59.Rc7+ Kf6 60.Rc6 Nxe4!  
 61.Rxe6+ Kxe6 62.Kxe4 g5 can't  
 stop both 0-1

W: Tom Heldt

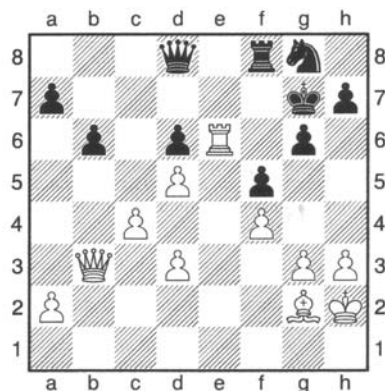
B: Eddy Lu

2007 New Mexico Open  
 [A34]

*This was a splendid fight. W built up a space advantage, won a pawn, and should have converted. B held on and finally reached equality.*

1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.g3 Nc6 4.Bg2  
 Nf6 5.e4 g6 6.Nge2 Ne5 7.0-0 Bg7  
 8.d3 Tom Heldt likes this set-up  
 which is called the Botvinnik Eng-  
 lish. It looks very solid  
 8...0-0 9.Rb1 Bg4 10.f3 Bd7 11.b4  
 Rc8 12.f4 W has a lot of space  
 12...Nc6 13.bxc5 Qc7 14.cxd6 exd6  
 15.Kh1 Ng4 16.Nd5+/- Qb8 17.h3  
 Nh6 18.Bb2 [△ 18.f5]  
 18...f5 19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.Kh2 Be6  
 21.Qb3 Bxd5 22.exd5 Nd8 23.Nd4  
 b6 24.Rfe1 Ng8 grim defense  
 25.Ne6+ [△ 25.Qb2 ]  
 25...Nxe6 26.Rxe6 Rce8 27.Rbe1  
 Rxe6 28.Rxe6 Qd8  
 Diagram, Next Page

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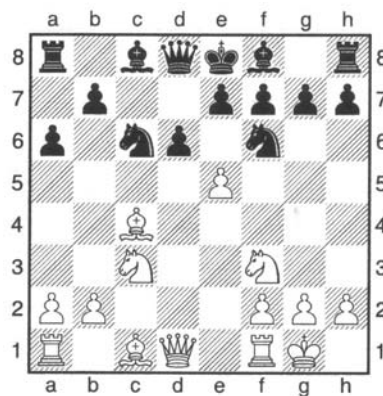


Qa3 should be a swift win  
**29.Qb5? Rf7 30.Qe8 Qxe8 31.Rxe8**  
 B is hanging on, the Kt should become better than W's bishop  
**31...Nf6 32.Re2 Kf8 33.Re6 Ne8 34.Re2 Re7 35.Rc2 Nf6 36.Bf3 Re3 37.Be2 h5 38.Kg2 Kf7 39.Kf2 Re7 40.Bf3 Re7** I always thought rooks belonged on an open file. Both players abandon it to fight for c5  
**41.Ke3 Ke8 42.Kd4 Re7 43.Kc3 Kd8 44.Re2 Rxe2 45.Bxe2 Kc7 46.Bf3 a5 [46...Nd7 ] 47.d4 Kd7 48.Kb3 Kc7 49.Ka4 Kb7 50.c5 Ne4** After a long struggle B reaches equality  
**51.cxb6 Kxb6?** but only briefly [51...Nd2 ]  
**52.g4?** even [52.Bxe4 ]  
**52...hgx4 53.hgx4 Nf2 54.gxf5 gxf5**  
 A draw was agreed here. Most of the onlookers felt that B should play on..the Kt can pick up the p on f4 then worry the d pawns. Rybka is having none of it.  
**55.Kb3** is equal also [55.Be2 Nh3 56.Bd3 Nxf4 57.Bxf5 Ne2 58.Bc2 Nxd4 59.Bd3= ] 1/2-1/2

**W: Holly McRoberts (1798)**  
**B: Jim Johnston (1600)**  
**2007 New Mexico Open [B53]**

*Holly plays the Morra Gambit all the time. She used it to beat Eddy Lu in round 6, but your fearless editor was prepared.*

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.c3 dxc3 5.Nxc3 Nc6 6.Bc4 a6 7.0-0 Nf6 8.e5**



This thematic push brings W a lot of quick wins -especially in my games as black, but here I have everything covered and W gets insufficient compensation for the pawn.  
**8...dxe5 9.Qxd8+ Nxd8 10.Nxe5 Be6 11.Be2 g6 12.Be3 Rc8 13.Rfd1 Bg7 14.f4 Nc6?** [14...Nd7 15.Nd3=+/+ ]  
**15.Nxc6 Rxc6= 16.Bf3+/- Rc7 17.Ne4?** [△ 17.Bb6 Rd7 18.Bxb7= and Black can't take the B as W has Rd8#]  
**17...0-0=+/+ 18.Rac1 Rxc1 19.Nxf6+ Bxf6 20.Rxc1-/+ b5 21.b3 Rc8 22.g4 Rxc1+ 23.Bxc1 Bd4+ 24.Kf1 Bd7 25.Ke2 f5 26.h3 Kf7 27.Be3 Bxe3**

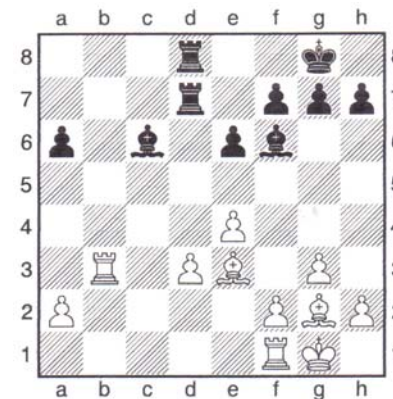
this move while I was "thinking" and wondered if I would find it.  
**29....b5??**  
 Obviously Black can't take the rook because of the N fork of Q,R & K. Black looks to save the b-pawn from capture, not expecting the next move.  
**29.Nf5+!** This second shot was made more on instinct than calculation. I took Jim Johnston's advice and asked myself: "What would Tal do?" Call me Misha!! **29....Kh8** Manuel, after some thought and clock time, found what I considered to be the best defensive move.  
**30.Rd6 Rd7 31.Rxd7 Nxd7 32.Nd6 Qc7** Pinning the N to the W Queen.  
**33.Qd4+** Escaping the pin **Kg8**  
**34.Nxc8** Finally! Winning some material. Now comes the long task of grinding out the win. **34....Qxc8 35.Re7 Qd8 36.Re1 Nf8??**  
**37.Qa7+- Qd7 38.Be2** Starting to improve the position of the W Bishop. **38...Bc8** I considered letting white exchange Queens to be a Black mistake. **39.Qxd7 Bxd7 40.Bf3** Now The W B attacks the isolani. **40....Ne6** Manuel saw that protecting the black d-pawn with his Bishop doesn't work as the white rook goes to the d-file.  
**41.Bxd5 Kf8 42.g3 Nc5 43.Bg2 Be6 44.a3 Nd3 45.Re2 Nc1 46.Rd2 Ke7 47.h4 Nb3 48.Rd1 Nc5 49.Bd5 h5 50.Bxe6 Nxe6 51.Kf1 Nc5 52.Ke2 Nd7 53.Ke3 Ke6 54.Kd4 Kd6 55.b4 Nb6 56.Ke4+ Ke7 57.Rd4** Setting a small trap – into which black promptly falls. **57... Nc4 58.Rxc4!** and the end game is an

easy win **bx c4 59.Kd4 Kd6 60.Kxc4 60...Kc6 61.a4 Kb6 62.Kd4 Kc6 63.c4 f6 64.c5 Kb7 65.Kd5 Kc7 66.b5 Kb7 67.Ke6 1-0**

**W: Likhaya Dayile**  
**B: Niccolo Hilgendorf**  
**2007 Class Tournament [A36]**

*Niccolo Hilgendorf won the class D section. This is the only win of his that I have a scoresheet for and I had to guess what a couple of these moves were. I hope I have it right.*

**1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 b6 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.d3 Nf6 6.Bf4 a6 7.Nd5 Nxd5 8.cxd5 Nd4 9.e4 e6 10.dxe6 [△ 10.Ne2 ] 10...dxe6 11.Ne2 Be7 12.Nxd4 Qxd4 13.Qc2 [△ 13.Qb3 ] 13...Rd8 14.Rd1 Bf6 15.0-0 0-0 16.Bc7 Rd7 17.Bxb6 Qxb2? [△ 17...Rc8 ] 18.Qxb2 Bxb2 19.Bxc5 ± Rc8 20.Be3 Rcd8 21.Rb1 Bf6 22.Rb3 Be6**





6...Bd6=/+ 7.Bd3 0-0 8.Qf3 Re8+  
[Δ 8...Qb6 ]  
9.Ne2 Bc7? [9...Qb6 still better ]  
10.0-0 Nc6 11.Nd2 Qd6 12.Ng3 f5?  
[Δ 12...Be6 ]  
13.Rae1 Bd7 14.Bxf5+/- Bxf5  
15.Qxf5 Ne7 16.Qd3 Ng6 17.Nf3  
Nf4 18.Qb5 Qc6 19.Qxc6 bxc6



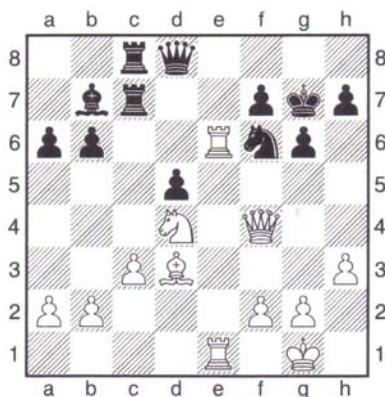
20.Ne5?=/+ [Δ 20.b3 ]  
20...Bxe5 21.Rxe5 Nd3 22.Re3  
Nxb2 23.Rb1 Nc4 24.Rxe8+ Rxe8  
25.h3 g6 26.Rb7 a5 27.Rc7 Re1+  
28.Kh2 Ra1 29.Rxc6 Rxa2  
30.Nh1? a4 31.Rc5 Rc2 32.Rxd5 a3  
33.Rd8+ Kg7 34.Ra8 Rxc3 35.Ra4  
Rc2 36.d5 a2 37.Ng3 Nb6 38.Ra5  
Nxd5 39.Ne4 Nb4 0-1

**W: Arthur Byers (1370)**  
**B: Manuel David Rios (1241)**  
**2007 Class Tournament**  
**[A48]**  
[Comments by Art Byers]

*This was the first NMCO tournament in which I managed not to lose a game, winning two and salvaging draws from two inferior positions. In Round 2, my opponent's strategic*

*error, in allowing me to gain two rook control of the only open file, decided the game in my favor.*

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 d6 3.Bf4 g6 4.Nbd2  
Bg7 5.h3 0-0 6.e3 c6 7.Bd3 Nbd7  
8.0-0 b6 9.c3 Bb7 10.Qe2 Qc8  
11.e4 Re8 12.Nc4 d5 13.exd5 cxd5  
14.Ncd2 Fritz likes 14.Nce5 but I  
wasn't ready to start exchanging  
pieces just yet. 14...e6 15.Qd1  
15...Nh5 16.Bh2 e5 This leads to  
some exchanges – out of which  
black gets an isolated d-pawn and  
white gets a powerful centralized  
knight.  
17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Nxe5 Bxe5  
19.Bxe5 Rxe5 20.Nf3 Re7 21.Nd4  
Nf6 [21...Nf4!?= ]  
22.Re1+/- Qd8 23.Qc2 a6 24.Re2  
Rc7 [Δ 24...Rxe2!? 25.Qxe2 Ne4+/  
= ]  
25.Rae1+/- What could be better?  
Doubled rooks on an open file!  
25...Kf8 26.Qd2+- Kg7 27.Qf4 [Δ  
27.Nf5+ gxf5 28.Qg5+ Kh8+- ]  
27...Rac8 28.Re6!



After the game, Munir Hammad, as a short time spectator, said he saw

28.Kxe3 Ke6 29.Kd4 Kd6-/+ 30.b4  
h6! 31.gxf5=/+ Bxf5 32.Bg4? [Δ  
32.h4=/+ keeps W in the game.]  
32...Bxg4+- 33.hxg4 h5 34.gxh5 f5  
would keep the game going a few  
moves longer.  
34...gxh5 35.Ke4 Ke6 36.a3 [36.f5+  
Kd6 37.a3 h4+- ]  
36...h4 37.Kf3 Kf5 0-1

**W: Tim Bond**  
**B: Silas Perry**  
**2007 New Mexico Open**  
**[E62]**

*Silas Perry was a point clear of the field .B wins a couple of pawns and seems to be on his way to winning the tournament until Bond springs a mate with the 2 rooks.*

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.d4  
0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.c4 c6 7.Nc3 Qa5 8.h3  
e5 9.Be3 Re8 10.Qd2 Qb4 11.Ne4  
Qxd2 12.Nexd2 Nh5 13.dxe5 dxe5  
14.Ne4+/- W pieces look better  
14...Na6 15.Nd6 Re7 16.Rad1 e4  
17.Nd4 c5 18.N4b5 Bxb2 19.Nxe4  
Bxh3 20.Bxh3 Rxe4 B has grabbed  
an extra pawn but the pieces are all  
over the place  
21.Nd6 Re7 22.Kh2 Be5 23.Bg5  
[23.Bg2 ]  
23...f6= 24.Bc1 Bxd6 [24...Nb4 ]  
25.Rxd6 Rxe2 26.a3 Rf8 27.Be6+  
Kh8 28.Bd5 Re7 29.Bb2

*Diagram, Next Column*



*This is how you want your Bs. This is not how you want your Kts*  
29...Kg7 30.Kh3 b6 to get the Kt  
back into the game  
31.f4 Nc7 32.g4? Nxd5 33.Rxd5  
Re3+- 34.Kh4 Re2 [34...Ng3 ]  
35.gxh5 Rxb2 36.Rd7+ Rf7 37.h6+  
Kf8 38.Rd8+ Ke7 39.Rfd1 Ke6=  
[39...Re2=/+ ]  
40.Kg4 Rg2+?? 41.Kf3 Ra2 Resigns  
as W has a forced mate by 42.Re1+  
and Rd5 1-0

**W: Jason Stoneking (1683)**  
**B: J.A. Gomez (1445)**  
**2007 New Mexico Open**  
**[A45]**  
[Notes by Art Byers]

Black pushes pawns on both wings.  
the K loses protection and is soon in  
trouble

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 e6 3.e3 d5 4.Bd3 c5  
5.c3 h6 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Nbd2 Be7 8.0-0

**Do You See The Better Move?**  
**Sound off! Your opinion counts! Send your comments and suggestions to the NMCO Form at: [forum@nmchess.org](mailto:forum@nmchess.org)**



Shakespeare said "What's in a name?". Rybka says "Trompowsky" Jason Stoneking's scoresheet says "London". This looks much like the Colle/Koltanowski with the often hard to develop white dark square Bishop in a better spot outside the pawn chain. **8...c4 9.Bc2 b5 10.e4 0-0 11.e5 Ne8 12.Qe2 a5 13.Rfe1 Ba6 14.Nf1 b4** Nimzovich: attack the chain at its base **15.Qd2 g5?** weakening the King. B should try to get some play on the Q-side **16.Bg3 Nc7 17.h4 Kg7 18.hxg5 Bxg5** [ $\Delta$  18...hxg5!? 19.Ne3 Nb5+/= ] **19.Nxg5+- Qxg5?** now B is lost **20.Bf4 Qh4 21.Re3! Kh8 22.Rh3 Qe7 23.Rxh6+ 23.Bxh6** gives mate in 9 moves! Bh2 and mate is also forced. However, there is more than one way to lock up the win and Jason's move is certainly good enough. **23...Kg7 24.Bg5 1-0**

**W: John Flores**  
**B: N. Abdul Mujeeb**  
**2007 New Mexico Open**  
**[B54]**

*B gets way ahead out of the opening but that just inspires W to fight back and give us a fine game to enjoy.*

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 d6 5.c4** the Maroczy bind... 5 c4 makes it hard for B to achieve his pawn breaks. If B can't play either d5 or b5 his position will remain cramped **5...Nf6 6.Nc3 e6 7.Bg5 a6 8.f4 Be7 9.Be2 Qa5 10.Rb1** [ $\Delta$  10.Qd2 ] **10...Nxe4 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bxe7 Nxc3 13.Qd2+ Qxa2 14.Rc1 Ne4 15.Qc2 Qa5+ 16.Kf1 Nd2+ 17.Kf2**

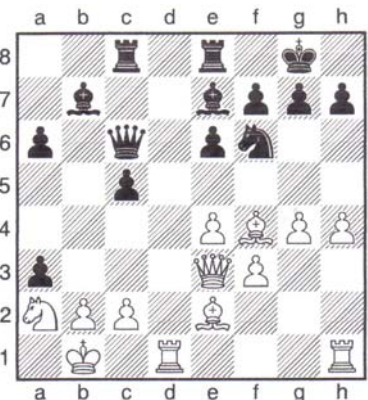
**Qc5+** [ $\Delta$  17...Kxe7 2 pawns ahead even when W gets the Kt] **18.Ke1 Kxe7 19.Qxd2 a5 20.Ra1 Bd7 21.Rf1 Qb4 22.Rf3 Rbh8 23.Ra2 c5** [ $\Delta$  23...Qxd2+ ] **24.Rc3 Bc6 25.Kf1 d5 26.f5 h6** B's advantage is slipping away [ $\Delta$  26...g6 ] **27.Qf4 d4 28.Rg3= Rg8 29.Raa3?** [ $\Delta$  29.Rxg7 Rxg7 30.f6+ ] **29...Qxb2?** now W can shut the Q out of the action [ $\Delta$  29...Qb8 ] **30.Rab3 Qa1+ 31.Kf2 Rac8 32.f6+ Kd7 33.fxg7 Ke7 34.Qe5 Ba8 35.Rb6 Qa4?** now W has a forced win [**35...Qc1 36.Qd6+ Kf6=+/+ ]** **36.Qd6+ Rg6** is even quicker **36...Ke8 37.Rb5! Qc2 38.Rb8 Rxb8 39.Qxb8+ Ke7 40.Qxg8 Qf5+ 41.Kg1 Qb1+ 42.Bf1 1-0**

**W: Michael Torres (1569)**  
**B: Hector Martinez (1700)**  
**2007 New Mexico Open**  
**[D85]**

*Torres shows the fighting spirit that helped him to win the U1800 section Black gets a nice edge out of the opening when W plays an unusual line. W fights back and though B gets a dangerous passed pawn it only reaches the 7th...*

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bf4** I don't know much about the Grunfeld (I even have difficulty spelling it) but this move, though common in different move orders, looks wrong here. (MCO-13 says 7.Bc4 is the book move) Nf3 then if B pins it, W plays Be3

[ $\Delta$  17.Qf4 ]  
**17...Qc6 18.Qe3 b4 19.Na2 bxa3**



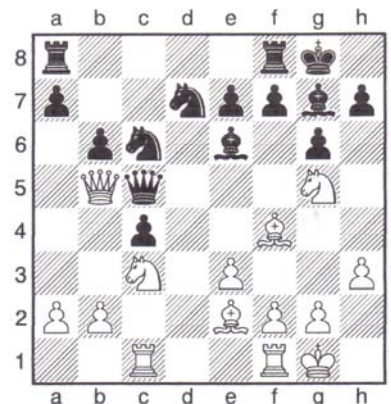
**20.b3?** now B crashes through [**20.Qxa3= ]** **20...a5 21.Nc3 Ba6 22.h5 c4 23.g5 Nd7 24.bxc4 e5 25.Bg3 Bxc4 26.Bxc4 Qxc4 27.Rxd7 Qb4+ 28.Kc1 Rxc3 0-1**

**W: Eddy Lu**  
**B: Hector Martinez**  
**2007 Class Tournament**  
**[D92]**

*W plays a strong line against the Grunfeld. B is OK until the queens come off. Then W gradually increases his advantage.*

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bf4 0-0 6.h3** [ $\Delta$  6.e3 ] **6...c5 7.e3 Nc6 8.dxc5 Qa5 9.Rc1 Be6 10.Qb3 Qxc5 11.Be2? b6?** [B could win a pawn here by **11...dxc4 12.Qxb7 a6 13.0-0 Ra7** ♣ ] **12.0-0 dxc4 13.Qb5 Nd7 14.Ng5**

*Diagram, Next Column*



**14...Qxb5?** [ $\Delta$  14...Bxc3 15.Qxc5 Nxc5 16.Rxc3 b5 17.Nxe6 Nxe6 ♣ ] **15.Nxb5 Rac8 16.Nxe6 ± fxe6 17.Bxc4 Rf6?** [ $\Delta$  17...Nc5 ] **18.Bg5+- Nc5 19.Bxf6 exf6 20.b3 Kf8 21.Rfd1 Ke7 22.Nd4 f5 23.Nxc6+ Rxc6 24.Bb5 Rd6 25.b4 Rxd1+ 26.Rxd1 Ne4 27.Rd7+ Kf6 28.Rxa7 h5 29.Rb7 Nc3 30.Bc4 b5 31.Bxb5 Nxa2 32.Bc4 Nc3 33.Rb6 Bf8 34.Rxe6+ Kg5 35.b5 Ne4 36.b6 Bc5 37.b7 Nd6 38.b8Q Nxc4 39.Qg3+ 1-0**

**W: Leroy Quintana**  
**B: Holly McRoberts**  
**2007 Class Tournament**  
**[A45]**

*In the Trompowsky B gives up the doubled pawn. W should be winning but B finds some strong moves to turn the game around.*

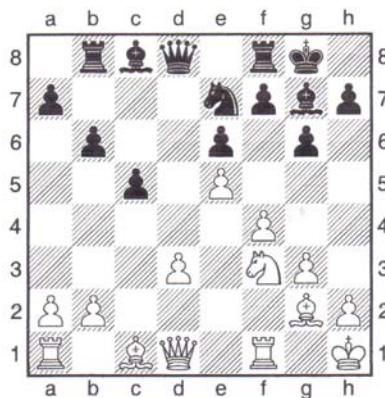
**1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 c5 3.Bxf6 exf6 4.e3 d5 5.c3 cxd4 6.exd4** [ $\Delta$  6.cxd4 ]

48.Nxf6 Kxf6 49.g8Q Nxb8  
50.Nxb8+ Kg5 51.Ne7 c4 52.Kb2  
Kf6? 53.Nd5+ 1-0

**W: David Langlois**  
**B: Wayne Hatcher**  
**2007 Class Tournament**  
**[B24]**

*Wayne Hatcher makes it look easy.  
He just wins a pawn and then trades  
down to a winning ending.*

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2  
Bg7 5.d3 e6 6.f4 Nge7 in this line of  
the closed Sicilian B often advances  
the f pawn to stop W from advancing  
further  
7.Nf3 0-0 8.0-0 Rb8 9.Ne2 d5 10.c3  
d4 11.cxd4 Nxd4 12.Nexd4 Bxd4+  
13.Kh1 [Δ 13.Nxd4 ]  
13...Bg7 14.e5 b6



15.Ng5? [Δ 15.d4= and W can trade  
his backward pawn]  
15...Bb7=+/+ 16.b3 [Δ 16.Ne4 ]  
16...Qd4-/+ 17.Ba3 Rfd8 18.Be4 h6  
19.Nf3 Bxe4 20.dxe4 Qxe4 and B's  
pressure has netted a pawn... he now  
trades down and eventually gets a  
winning endgame



Go Broncos! Jeff Sundell shows his team spirit at the 2007 NM Class Tournament.

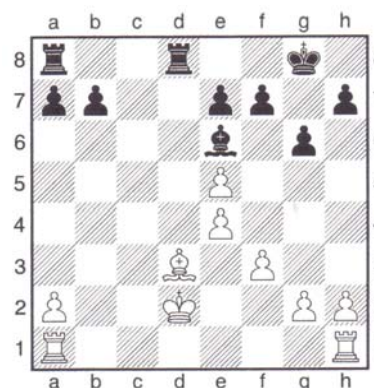
21.Qe1 Qxe1 22.Raxe1 Rd3  
23.Rd1 Rbd8 24.Rxd3 Rxd3  
25.Kg2 Nf5 26.Rf2 Nd4 [Δ  
26...Ne3+ 27.Kh3 Nd5 ]  
27.Bb2 Nxf3 28.Rxf3 Rd2+ 29.Rf2  
Rxf2+ 30.Kxf2 Kf8 31.Ke3 Ke8  
32.g4 Ke7 33.a4 f6 34.h4 f5 35.gxf5  
gxf5 36.Ba3 Bf8 37.b4 cxb4  
38.Bxb4+ Ke8 39.Be1 h5 40.Kd3  
Kd7 41.Kc4 Kc6 42.Bf2 Bc5  
43.Be1 a6 0-1

**W: Joseph Fitzpatrick**  
**B: Douglas Thigpen**  
**2007 Class Tournament**  
**[B95]**

*In the Sicilian Richter Rauser, B  
breaks through the W King's de-  
fenses. Thigpen played attacking  
chess and won all 4 games.*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4  
Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 Be7  
8.0-0-0 Qc7 9.Kb1 Nbd7 10.Nb3 b5  
11.f3=+/+ Bb7 12.Be2 Rc8 13.a3 0-0  
14.g4 Rfe8 does the rook have a  
future on the e file? [Δ 14...d5 ;  
Δ 14...Rfd8 ]  
15.h4 Nc5 16.Nxc5 dxc5 17.Bf4?

7...0-0 8.Nf3 c5 9.Qd2 cxd4  
10.cxd4 Bg4 11.Ne5 Bxe5 12.Bxe5  
Nc6 13.f3 Nxe5=+/+ Hector's good  
play over the last few moves shows  
exactly what I meant about Bf4  
14.dxe5 Qxd2+ 15.Kxd2 Rfd8+  
16.Bd3 Be6



Where to place the rooks ?  
17.Rhc1! Rd7 18.Ke2 Rad8 19.Rc3  
a6 20.a3 b5 21.Rb1 Rd4 22.Rb2  
Kg7 23.Ke3= Bc4 24.Be2 a5 25.h3  
h5 26.Rbc2 Bxe2 27.Kxe2 b4  
28.axb4 Rxb4 still equal but get the  
R behind that a-pawn  
29.Rc7 Ra8? [29...e6 ]  
30.Rxe7 a4 31.Rcc7 Rb2+ 32.Ke3  
a3 loses...the pigs on the 7th sweep  
all before them [32...Rf8 33.e6+- ]  
33.Rxf7+ Kh6 34.Kf4 Rh8 35.Ra7  
a2 36.g3 Rf2 37.h4 Re2 38.e6 Rb2  
39.e7 Rh7? [39...Re8+- ]  
40.Rxh7+ W mates in 3 more moves  
1-0

**W: Jeffrey Sallade**  
**B: Aaron Blog**  
**2007 New Mexico Open**  
**[C01]**  
[Comments by Art Byers]

*Young Aaron Blog plays a fluctuating  
game but he sure knows how to turn it  
around when white makes a few weak  
moves. My prediction is that, with  
more tournament experience, Aaron  
will develop into a high rated chess  
player.*

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 the ex-  
change French is drawish  
4.Bd3 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Nbd2 Nc6  
7.c3 Bd6 8.0-0 0-0 9.Re1 Bf4 10.Nf1  
Qd6 11.Bxf4 Qxf4 12.h3 Instead of  
letting the white K-side pawn struc-  
ture be shattered 12.Be2 or 12.Qd2  
should have been considered.  
12...Bxf3 13.Qxf3 Qxf3 14.gxf3 Rfe8  
15.Nh2? Ne3 is better when the B Kt  
is tied to the defense of the d pawn. If  
Re3 B has Kf8  
15...Nh5=+/+ 16.Ng4 Nf4 17.Bf1=+/+  
f5 18.Ne5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 Ng6? the Kt  
is good. Get those rooks moving  
20.e6 Nf4 21.e7 Ng6 22.c4 Nxe7  
23.cxd5 Nxd5 24.Rxe8+  
[24.Bc4 c6-/+ ]  
24...Rxe8 25.Bc4 c6 White is a pawn  
down and the doubled pawns just ain't  
pretty. Rybka evaluates the position  
as -1.28 in black's favor. "1" being the  
approximate value of a pawn.  
26.a4 Kf8 27.b3 Nf4 28.Kh2 a6  
29.Rd1 b5 30.Bf1 bxa4 31.bxa4= a5  
32.Rd6? [32.Rc1 Re6= ]  
32...c5 33.Rc6= Re5 34.Bc4 h5  
35.Rc8+? W pushes the K into the  
action where he wanted to go anyway  
[Δ 35.h4!/?+- ]  
35...Ke7=+/+ 36.Rc7+ Kf6 37.Rf7+  
Kg6 38.Ra7 Ne6 39.Bxe6 White  
misses the chance to gain some slight  
advantage,  
[Δ 39.Rxa5!? Kg5 40.Bxe6 Rxe6



41.Rxc5+/= Variation Diagram]



39...Rxe6=/+ 40.Rxa5 Re2?= rooks go behind passed pawns [40...Rc6!? 41.Rb5 c4=/+ ]

41.Rxc5+/= Rxf2+ 42.Kg3 Ra2 43.a5 Kh7? [△ 43...Ra3!?!/= ] 44.Rxf5 g6+/- 45.Rb5 Kh6 46.h4 Kg7 47.Kf4+- Kh6 48.Ke4 Ra4++/- 49.Kd5 Rxh4+/- 50.a6?? Uh-oh!! There must have been a banana peel someplace because White sure slips up! 50. Kc6 is better 50...Ra4=/+ 51.Kc6? [51.Rb6 ] 51...Rxa6+-+ so B is winning again 52.Kc7 Nothing helps at this point as the game is lost. 52...Rf6 53.Rb3 h4 [53...h4 54.Rb2 g5-+ ] 0-1

**W: Leslie McAllister**  
**B: Brady Barkmeyer**  
**2007 New Mexico Open**  
**[A40]**

*Leslie McCallister swept the U1000 section. Here is an example of her attacking play.*

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bg5 Be7 4.Bxe7 Qxe7 5.e3 Nf6 6.Bd3 Nbd7 7.c3 a6 8.Nbd2 b5 9.0-0 Bb7 10.Qc2 h6 11.Rfe1 0-0 12.e4 e5 13.Re3 Rfe8 14.Rae1 c6 15.Nh4 Ng4 16.Nf5

Nxe3? B misses the point that W takes w check

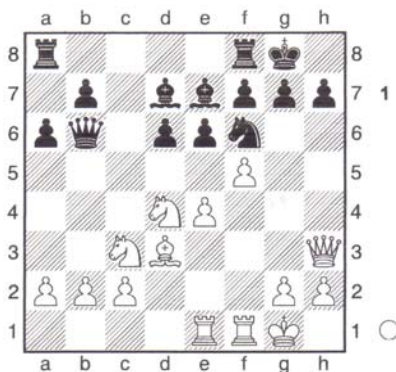
17.Nxe7+ Rxe7 18.Rxe3 Ree8 19.Rg3 g6 20.Qb3 Rf8? 21.Rxg6+ Kh7 22.Rg3 [△ 22.Rxd6 ] 22...c5 23.d5 Bc8 24.Qd1! Nf6 25.Qf3 Bd7? 26.Qxf6 Rg8 27.Qxf7+ Kh8 28.Qxd7 Rg7 29.Qxg7# 1-0

**W: Richard Sherman**  
**B: Joe Fitzpatrick**  
**2007 New Mexico Open**

*Joe Fitzpatrick wins a miniature when White neglects the dark squares*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f4 e6 7.Qf3 Nc6 8.Be3 Be7 9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 long castling would avoid exposing the K on the open diagonal 10...Bd7 11.Rae1 Qc7 12.f5 why give the kt such a good square on e5?

12...Ne5 13.Qh3 Neg4 Diagram



14.Bg5?? [14.fxe6= ] 14...Qb6 15.Bxf6 Nxf6 Diagram the pinned Kt is lost 16. Nce2 e5 or 16. Qe3 Ng4 0-1

## The 2007 Class Tournament

University of New Mexico, October 27-28, 2007

By Jim Johnston

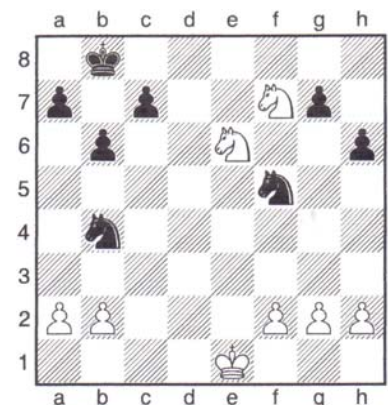
We used to have a class tournament every year, but in 2000 there was a low turnout so the class ceased to exist until this year. Thanks to TD Art Glassman for reviving it. As usual the UNM ballroom kept us locked out on the Sunday morning. Your editor wants to suggest that the next tournament to happen at UNM should schedule the start of play on Sunday morning for 9: 30 or even 10:00 in order to avoid this! The Class A section was shared by Wayne Hatcher and Silas Perry. Douglas Thigpen won the class B, Albert Zuo and Michael Lott shared the Class C section, while Niccolo Hilgendorf came first in class D. Isaac Ewing took the Class E while the U1000 was won by Sarah Blog. I had hoped to publish wins by all the winners, but for this to happen they all need to turn in their score sheets! Anyway here are wins by most of the winners plus a few other interesting games.

**W: Silas Perry**  
**B: Steve Harrington**  
**2007 Class Tournament**  
**[D07]**

*Steve Harrington, the only expert who signed up, was in a class of his own. So he played a couple of games against the odd person. Silas scores an upset. In this game, it's close until we reach an ending with 4 Kts.*

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Nc6 3.Nc3 e5?! [3...Nf6 is more usual. A recent book by Morozevich explains the Chigorin defense. I wonder if Steve's move is recommended in it] {e5 is far from new. The same move order was played in Nimzovich v. Tartakower San Remo 1930 ArtB} 4.cxd5 Nxd4 5.e3 Nf5 6.Nf3 Bd6 7.e4 Nfe7 8.Bb5+ Bd7 9.Bxd7+ Qxd7 10.Nd2 f5 11.exf5? [11.Qh5+ g6 12.Qh4 ±] 11...Nxf5= 12.0-0 Nge7 13.Nc4 Ng6 14.Ne4 Be7 15.Bg5 0-0-0 16.Bxe7 Ngxe7 17.Nxe5 Qxd5 18.Qxd5 Rxd5 19.Nf7 Rg8 20.Rfd1 h6 21.Rxd5 Nxd5 22.Rc1 Kb8 23.Nc5

Re8 24.Kf1 Re7 25.Re1 Rxe1+ 26.Kxe1 looks drawish 26...b6? [△ 26...Kc8 ; △ 26...c6 ] 27.Ne6 Nb4

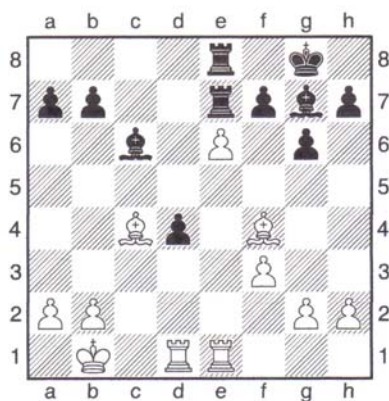


28.g4!+- Nh4 29.Nxg7 Nd3+ 30.Ke2 Nxb2 31.Nxb6 Ng6 32.Nhf5 Na4 33.Kd2 Ne5 34.h3 Kc8 35.Ne6 Kd7 36.Nf4 the W Kts work well together 36...b5 37.Kc2 c5 38.g5 Nc6 39.g6 Ne7 40.g7 Ng8 41.Nd5 W could win faster by advancing the h pawn here 41...Kc6 42.Nfe7? [42.Nde7 ] △ 42...Nh6 43.f4 b4 44.f5+ Kf7 45.f6 Nb6 46.Ne3 Nd7 47.Ng4 Nxf6



## 2007 NM Closed Championship, October 5 - 7, 2007

#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	Jesse Kraai	2575	X6	W2	W4	W5	W3	5.0
2	Stephen Sandager	2229	W4	L1	W5	W3	B---	4.0
3	Silas Perry	1918	W5	W4	B---	L2	L1	3.0
4	Jeffrey A Sundell	1856	L2	L3	L1	B---	W5	2.0
5	Jim A Johnston	1790	L3	B---	L2	L1	L4	1.0
6	Derrick Arellano	1811	F1	U---	U---	U---	U---	0.0



the pawn's lust to expand...

Doesn't Silas know that Jesse likes Nimzovich?

22...fxe6 23.Bd6 Kf7 24.Bxe7 Rxe7  
25.Re2 Kf6? 26.Rxd4 1-0

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A Chess Tournament?  
See pg. 34 for Upcoming Events,  
or go to: [www.nmchess.org](http://www.nmchess.org).



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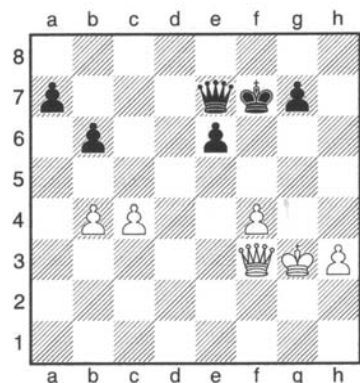
## An interesting end game from the 2007 New Mexico Open

W: Leroy Quintana

B: Dale Gibbs

2007 New Mexico Open

[Comment by Art Byers ]



after White's move 40

Dale Gibbs—giving up 319 points to his adversary—is about to move.

My friend Dale has shown me some interesting end games over the past couple of years and he is about to prove that his study in this area has elevated his endgame play.

Many players would look at 40....Qxb4!? but the answer 41.Qh5+ Kf6 would lead to a perpetual check draw and 41...Ke7 leaves black just a slight advantage that the computer evaluates as not being enough for a win. 41. Qb7+? Is simply answered by 41....Qe7 and white has lost a pawn.

Dale wants to win so he goes about setting problems for his opponent to solve – And it works! White does not find the best move at “crunch time.”



Leroy Quintana (left) and Dale Gibbs at the 2007 New Mexico Open, playing to a very interesting end game for analysis. Photo by Art Byers

40....Qc7 Pins the f4 pawn

41 Qc3 g5 A key move. Even if Rybka does not give it a “!”.

42.Qe5 gxf4+

43.Qxf4+ Qxf4+

44.Kxf4 a5

45.bxa5?? Setting problems has worked for Dale as White goes astray. Rybka points out that 45.c5 a4 should draw because although both sides get a new queen, White does not do it with a check.

45....bxa5+

46.Ke4 a4

47. Kd3 e5

48. c5 e4+!

Even Rybka gives this move an exclamation point.

49. Kc2 (49.Kxe4 a3)

50....a3

50. c6 Ke7

51. h4 a3

52. Kb3 e3

White Resigns 0-1

# The New Mexico Closed Championship

Days Inn of Albuquerque, October 5 - 7, 2007

By Jim Johnston



Closed New Mexico Championship Players. From Left: Steve Sandager, Jeffrey Sundell, Silas Perry, Kim Johnston and 2008 NM Champion GM Jesse Kraai. Photo by Art Byers

The closed championship was a long time in preparation. In the Jan 05 DK Jeff Burch wrote that details were still being worked out but it was hoped "to use the tournament as a media event to promote chess playing in our state." Thanks to all the officers, helpers and donors who made it happen. So in 07 players started qualifying.

The 6 participants were to be:

- GM Jesse Kraai, as reigning State champ
- Benjamin Coraretti, qualified from the ABQ Open
- Derick Arellano, qualified as Denker representative
- Jim Johnston, qualified from the Memorial tourney
- Silas Perry, qualified from the NM Open
- Steve Sandager, as an invited player

Jeff Sundell was lined up as an alternate in case any of these 6 could not play. When Ben Coraretti took sick, Jeff was playing. Then at the start of Round 1 there was no sign of Derick Arellano. We were not able to get an alternate for him as nobody had been named as alternate prior to the start. Sadly this meant that there were just 2 games per round with each player getting a bye.

There was a surreal atmosphere in the playing room as a few spectators came to watch the 2 games in progress on the demo boards. An interesting quiz question would be when was the last all-play-all in our state? It was my 1<sup>st</sup> round

1962"...Botvinnik played h3 here and eventually drew (#39 of "My 60 Memorable Games") but Bobby mentions MY move...(OH! And he says it's no good.) 12.Qxd6? "Qd6 is answered by cd improving B's pawn structure and neutralising W's center" My 60 MGs p242

12...cxd6 13.0-0 Rfc8 14.d5 [Δ 14.h3 ]

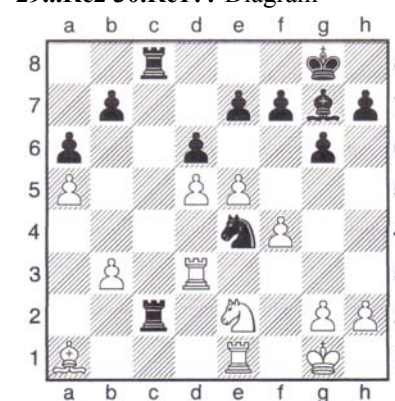
14...Na5 15.Nd4 Bxe2 16.Ndxe2 Nac4 17.Bc1 Nd7 18.f4 a6 19.Rf3 Rc7 20.b3 Ncb6 21.Bb2 Rac8 after lengthy manoeuvres the game is still equal. My pal Fritz wants to play Rfe3 or to g3 here

22.Ba1 Nc5 23.Rdf1 Ncd7 24.a4 Nc5 25.a5 Nbd7 26.Rb1 Nf6 27.e5 Fritz tells me I have an advantage here but W's position is over-extended

27...Nfe4 28.Nxe4 [Δ 28.Rd1 ]

28...Nxe4 29.Rd3 [29.Re3= ]

29...Rc2 30.Re1?? Diagram



[Δ 30.Re3 ]

30...Rxe2 and if W takes the rook then Rc1 will mate him 0-1

**W: GM Jesse Kraai**

**B: Silas Perry**

**2007 New Mexico Closed [E92]**

*GM Kraai finishes the tournament with another brevity.*

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.d4 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.dxe5 I was really surprised to see Jesse play the exchange variation here. Not because Nunn's Chess Opening's calls it "dull and harmless" but because I expect the stronger player to want to keep the pieces on. Here the Queens get traded on move 8

7...dxe5 8.Qxd8 Rxd8 9.Bg5 Re8 10.0-0-0 Nc6 [10...h6 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.Nd5 Bd8 and B's line of pieces does not inspire confidence]

11.Nd5+/- Nxd5 12.cxd5 Nd4 13.Nxd4 exd4 14.Bd3 the p on d4 is defended for now...but it's future is a worry

14...Bd7 15.Rhe1 c5 16.dxc6 Bxc6 17.Kb1 [Δ 17.Kd2 ]

17...Re6 18.f3 Rae8 19.Bc4 Rd6 20.Bf4 Rd7+/- [Δ 20...Be5 B needs to blockade 21.Bxe5 Rxe5= ]

21.e5 Rde7 [Δ 21...Kh8 ]

22.e6

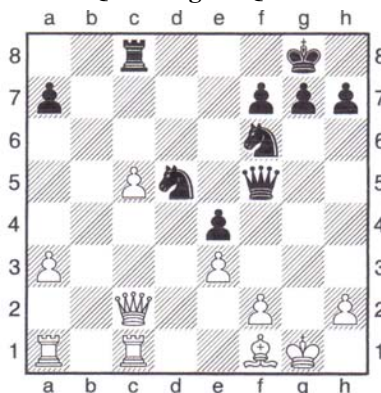
*Diagram, Next Page*

**Do You See The Better Move?**  
**Sound off! Your opinion counts! Send your comments and suggestions to the NMCO Form at: [forum@nmchess.org](mailto:forum@nmchess.org)**



talking about German chess expressions. Someone asked what is a *zwischenzug*? Here comes one! My last few moves were leading up to the Kt moving now, but W has this unexpected in-between move **20.g4! Rxe5** [20...Bg6? 21.Nxg6 hxc6 22.Qa4 g5 23.Rab1 Qe7 24.Bd4+/- ]

**21.Bxe5 Qxe5 22.gxf5 Qxf5 23.Bf1**



B is down an exchange and W's c pawn is a worry. However the open space around the W King and the W pieces being on the Q-side gave me some hopes of an attack

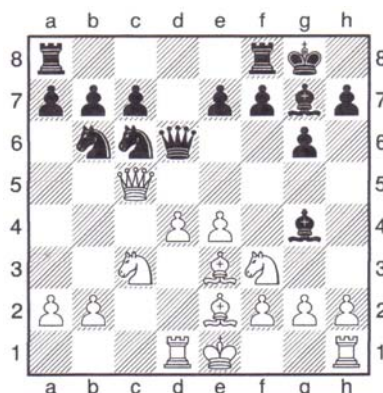
**23...Qg5+ 24.Bg2 Qh4?** but this gets nowhere...perhaps h5 now and recycle the Kt into the attack by Ne7 to f5 **25.Rd1 Qg5 26.Rd4** B has squandered 2 moves while W has improved his R, so now B must be lost **26...h5 27.Rad1+- h4 28.h3 Nxe3?** death wish **29.fxex3 Qxe3+ 30.Qf2 Qxa3? 31.Rd8+ Rxd8 32.Rxd8+ Kh7 33.Qf5+ 1-0**

**W: Jim Johnston**

**B: Steve Sandager**

**2007 New Mexico Closed [D98]**

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Qb3 dxc4 6.Qxc4 0-0 7.e4 Bg4 8.Be3** The Russian system. Steve and I played this line in the 2001 state championships. He won the game and his 12th state title **8...Nfd7 9.Rd1** in 2001 I tried [9.Qb3 c5 10.Rd1 (10.Qxb7? and W wins the rook but at too high a price) 10...Na6 11.Be2 (Δ 11.Bxa6 ) 11...Rb8 and when B advanced his pawns on the Q-side I was suffering.] **9...Nc6 10.Be2 Nb6 11.Qc5 Qd6**



At this point I rashly captured the black Q and soon regretted it. At home I looked through opening books to find improvements and was surprised to find that so far we have been following "*Botvinnik- Fischer*

robin and 1<sup>st</sup> game with a GM and I expect the same applies for Silas and Jeff. There were no upsets. Every game was won by the higher rated player. It was no surprise when GM Kraai won all his games to win his 5<sup>th</sup> successive state title. He gave an exhibition of how to deal with lower-rated players. None of his games went till the time control at move 40. Steve Sandager has not played much slow chess of late but managed to beat everyone else to take 2<sup>nd</sup>. All of the games were available on the NMCO website right after the tournament, so there follows a selection of interesting games with notes.

**W: Silas Perry**

**B: Jeff Sundell**

**2007 New Mexico Closed [D10]**

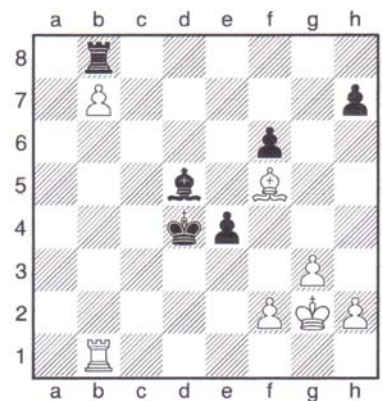
*In a tough battle W wins the a pawn and eventually scores the full point.*

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e3 Bf5 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.Qb3 Qd7 7.Nf3 Nc6 8.Ne5 Qc7 9.Bb5** W plans on winning the a pawn. Snatching the d pawn involves some risk [9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 e6 11.Qc4 Bb4+ ] **9...e6 10.Qa4 Rc8 11.Qxa7 Bd6 12.Nxc6 bxc6** [12...0-0!? scary response to give B all the fun 13.Na5 (13.Qa5 bxc6 14.Qxc7 Rxc7 =15.Be2 ) 13...Ra8 14.Qxb7 Qxa5 ] **13.Qxc7 Rxc7 14.Be2 Ke7** better to castle **15.0-0 Rb8 16.Rd1 c5?** gives W 2 passers

**17.Nb5 Rc6 18.Nxd6 Kxd6 19.dxc5+** [W misses a shot Δ 19.e4! cxd4 (19...Bg4 20.Bxg4 Nxg4 21.Bf4+ winning!) 20.exf5 e5+- ] **19...Rxc5 20.b4 Rc2 21.Rd2 Rbc8 22.Rxc2 Rxc2 23.Bd1 Rc8 24.Bb2 Bd3 25.Bxf6** [Δ 25.a4 ; Δ 25.f4 ] **25...gxf6 26.a4 e5** [26...Rc4 this is a surprising way to get behind the pawns and achieve equality 27.b5 Rb4 28.a5 Rxb5 29.a6 Rb8 30.a7 Ra8 31.Ra3 Be4 ]

**27.Ra3** [Δ 27.b5 ]

**27...e4 28.Ra1 f5 29.g3 f6 30.a5 Ra8 31.Kg2 d4 32.exd4 Kd5 33.Ba4 Bc4 34.b5 Rxa5 35.b6 Ra6 36.Rb1 Ra8 37.Bd7 Kxd4 38.b7 Rb8 39.Bxf5 Bd5** Diagram



**40.Rd1+?** the computer hates this move as now B can get equality [Δ 40.Bc8 e3+ 41.Kf1+- ] **40...Kc5 41.Rxd5+ Kxd5 42.Be8 Kc6?** +/- Now B is lost. There were 2 ways to hold the draw. In many lines B can leave W with only h pawn(s) on the K-side, then at a suitable time sac his rook on b7 when W is left with R pawn and the wrong colored B. I didn't say it was easy, but there is a draw [42...Ke5= 43.g4 (43.Kh3 f5 ) 43...Kf4 44.h3 h6 45.h4 e3 46.fxe3+ Kxe3 47.Kg3; 42...f5= ] **43.g4 Kd5 44.Kg3 Ke5 45.h3 h5** [Δ

More Games From The New Mexico Closed  
Check out the New Mexico Chess Organization Web Site for the complete set of games from the NM Closed: [www.nmchess.org](http://www.nmchess.org)



45...h6 46.h4 e3 ] 46.gxh5 f5 47.h6  
f4+ 48.Kg4 e3 49.fxe3 fxe3 50.h7  
e2 51.h8Q+ 1-0

**W: Steve Sandager**  
**B: GM Jesse Kraai**  
**2007 New Mexico Closed**  
**[E15]**

The top two met in Round 2. It soon became clear that time would be a factor as Jesse followed his preparation and took 5 minutes for his first 12 moves while Steve pondered...

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6  
5.b3 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Be7 7.Bg2 c6  
8.Bc3 d5 9.Ne5 Nfd7 10.Nxd7  
Nxd7 11.Nd2 0-0 12.0-0 f5 I have  
not seen this played here before. It  
works out well in this game. B gets a  
Stonewall Dutch with the B already  
outside the pawn chain  
13.Qc2 Rc8 14.Rad1 Bd6 15.Rfe1  
Qe7 16.Qb2 Nf6 17.e3 Ne4 18.Nxe4  
fxe4 19.Bf1 Bb7 20.b4 h5 21.Rd2  
h4 22.Rc2 Qg5 23.Bg2 b5  
24.cxb5=/+ 1st time that the com-  
puter gives B the advantage [24.c5 ]  
24...cxb5 25.Bd2 [25.Rec1 ]  
25...Rce8 26.Re2 Rf6 27.Be1 Ref8  
28.Qb3 Qh5 29.Red2 Rh6 and W's  
flag fell. He could hang on with  
30.h3 hg 31.fg Qg5 32.Rf2 Rf2  
33.Bf2 Bg3 34.Bg3 Qg3 35.Kh1 and  
W has survived the mating attack but  
is two pawns down and still a few  
moves short of the time control at  
move 40 0-1

**W: Jeff Sundell**  
**B: GM Jesse Kraai**  
**2007 New Mexico Closed**  
**[B23]**

*When I asked Jesse to annotate one of his games for the DK he said, come to my lecture at Border's and take notes. So these notes quote him verbatim! But if you were at the lecture you would have to answer some questions. When you get to a number, stop and work out the answer.*

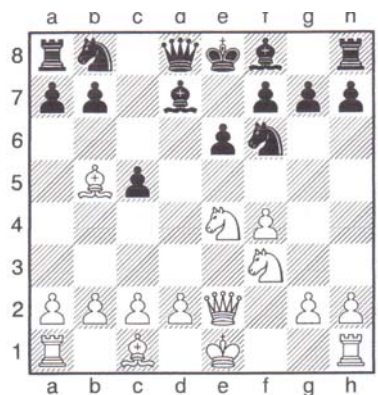
*Jesse's young students answered (1) and (2) with ease. For (3) and (4) they found all the moves but struggled to put them together. A coach would have you write down your analysis before moving on to the GM's moves, or else you might say "Oh yes, I saw all of that." But it's optional here.*

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.f4 d5 4.Nf3 dxe4  
here I like to leave the p on f4 with-  
out his friend...and W has a weak-  
ness  
5.Nxe4 Nf6 (1) Who is ahead in  
development? .....the game comes  
down to tempi.. Yes W is ahead in  
development but it is difficult for  
him. If Nf6 then Qf6 and W has to  
waste time defending f4  
6.Bb5+ W tries to get some tempi  
back, but this just solves B's problem  
of the B on c8  
6...Bd7 7.Qe2

*Diagram, Next Column*

## Zugzwang or Zwischenzug?

Send your new address and contact info to: [secretarynmco@msn.com](mailto:secretarynmco@msn.com)



(2) Why is this move controver-  
sial? ..... Because now W can't  
play d3 to develop. Keep an eye on  
the B on c1 [7.Bxd7+ Qxd7 8.d3  
Nc6 ]  
7...Be7 8.f5?! W decides that after 8  
Bd7 he is just a little worse, so he  
aims to ruin B's K-side. Now in all  
the variations, after exchanges W  
has fe...fe and B has a weak p on e6  
(3) How would you continue?.....  
8...Nxe4 9.fxe6 Bxb5 10.Qxb5+  
Nc6 11.exf7+ Kf8 No need to fear  
the Kt fork...I have so much devel-  
opment that it won't happen!  
[11...Kxf7? 12.Qc4++/= and wins  
the loose Kt]  
12.Qxb7 Qc8 13.Qb3 Nd4 B re-  
moves W's only active piece  
14.Nxd4 cxd4 15.Qd5 [>=15.0-0  
last chance 15...d3 16.Qxd3 Qc5+  
17.Qe3 Qxe3+ 18.dxe3 Rc8 19.c3  
Bd6-/+ ]  
15...Nf6-+ 16.Qxd4 Kxf7 17.Rf1  
[17.0-0?? Bc5 ]  
17...Re8 Qc2 wins a pawn, but why  
grab pawns when so far ahead in  
development?  
18.Kd1 Qe6 19.b3?! Diagram b3  
looks like the saving move. W is

ready to trade Qs with Qc4 AND  
finally get the B in the game by Bb2.  
So now you need to play like a GM,  
deal with both threats and win the  
game (4) What are B's next  
moves? ..... Did you find a win?...  
19...Rac8 20.Bb2 Ba3! 21.Kc1?  
[21.Bxa3 Qe2+ 22.Kc1 Qxf1+  
23.Kb2 Qa6-+ ]  
21...Qe1+ and W gets mated. Both  
of W's imaginative pawn moves de-  
served to do better, BUT he did not  
have the development. The game  
was won on tempi. 0-1

**W: GM Jesse Kraai**  
**B: Jim Johnston**  
**2007 New Mexico Closed**  
**[A11]**

*I don't have any wins from this tour-  
ney to show you so here's my 1st  
ever game with a GM.*

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 c6 3.e3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6  
5.b3 Bd6 6.Bb2 0-0 7.Qc2 Nbd7  
8.Be2 Re8 9.0-0 e5 my chief con-  
cern was to play actively, yet here  
this is too committal. After the game  
Jesse suggested a6 to prepare e5, or  
Qe7 as a solid waiting move  
10.cxd5 Nxd5 [10...cxd5? 11.Nb5  
Bb8 12.Rac1 e4 13.Nfd4+/= ]  
11.Ne4 N7f6 12.Nxd6 Qxd6 13.d4  
e4 14.Ne5 Bf5 15.a3 Rac8 B wants  
to undermine the Kt but the plan is  
flawed [△ 15...Nd7 16.h3 Qe7  
17.Nc4 N7b6 ]  
16.b4 b6? 17.Rfc1+/= c5 [△  
17...Rc7 18.Qa4 Rec8 19.Rc2 Nd7  
20.Rac1 Nxe5 21.dxe5 Qg6 ]  
18.bxc5 bxc5 19.dxc5 Qc7 Between  
rounds on the Saturday we had been