

# California Chess Journal

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## Monty Peckham Wins State High School Championship, Third at Peoples' Tournament



**Largest Event Ever in Northern California:  
CalChess State Scholastic Championship  
Attracts 1,312 Players**



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The *California Chess Journal* gladly accepts submissions pertaining to chess, especially chess in Northern California. Articles should be submitted in electronic form, preferably in text format. Digital photographs are preferred also. We work on a Macintosh, but articles and photographs created in lesser operating environments will be accepted at 126 Fifteenth Ave., San Mateo CA 94402-2414, or frisco@appleisp.net. All submissions subject to editing, but we follow the unwritten rule of chess journalism that editors shouldn't mess with technical annotations by stronger players.

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## CalChess Patron Program

Recent financial problems at the USCF have impacted a variety of programs, including those which formerly provided some funding to state organizations. Traditionally, the USCF returned \$1 of each adult membership and 50 cents of each youth membership to the state organization under its State Affiliate Support Program, but SASP was eliminated in 2001. This resulted in a \$2,000 shortfall to the CalChess budget — its primary expense is production and mailing of the *California Chess Journal*. Members of CalChess or interested parties who wish to support the quality and growth of chess in Northern California are encouraged to participate. Please send contributions to CalChess, POB 7453, Menlo Park CA 94026.

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# 28th CalChess State Scholastic Championships the Largest Event in State History



**T**he 28th annual CalChess State Scholastic Championships drew 1,312 players to the Santa Clara Convention Center April 12-13, making it the largest tournament ever conducted in Northern California. Organizer Richard Peterson awarded more than 400 trophies

in 11 sections. Don Shennum led the staff of directors.

Monty Peckham and Adam Lischinsky tied for first place in the high school division, and will face each other in a playoff to determine which goes on to represent Northern California in the Denker Tournament of High School Champions to be held at the U.S. Open in Los Angeles in August.

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White: Nicolas Yap (2044)  
Black: Kimberly Anonuevo (1503)  
Ruy Lopez Delayed Exchange  
Notes by Nicolas Yap

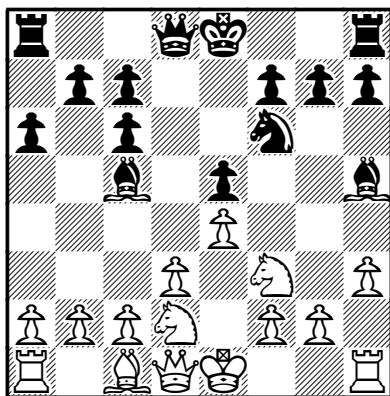
**1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4**

A rare move order designed to coax ...Nf6, and avoid Black's additional attacking prospects after 4. Bc6 dc6 5. 0-0 (if 5. Nc3,

# CalChess Junior High School Champion Nicolas Yap Annotates

then Black plays 5...f6 6. d4 ed4 7. Nd4 c5 8. Nde2 Qd1 9. Nd1 with an equal endgame) Bg4 6. h3 h5! 7. d3 Qf6 8. Nbd2 Bd6 9. Re1 Ne7 10. d4 Ng6 11. hg4 hg4 12. Nh2 Rh2!.

**4...Nf6 5. Bc6 dc6 6. d3 Bg4 7. Nbd2 Bc5 8. h3 Bh5**



## 9. 0-0

9. g4 Bg6 10. Ne5 doesn't work on account of 10...Qd4, with a double threat on the knight on e5 and mate on f2. White aimed to exploit the bishop in another way by 9. Nf1 Qe7 10. Ng3 Bg6 11. 0-0 0-0-0 12. Nh4 Kb8 13. Qf3 Ne8 14. Nhf5 Bf5 15. Nf5 in Mazi-Krivec, Bled 2001 (1-0, 44).

**9...Qe7 10. Nc4 0-0-0 11. Qe2 Bf3?!**

This wastes a little time since Black retreated the bishop after 8. h3, and now exchanges. This also gives up the bishop pair.

**12. Qf3 h6 13. Bd2 Bd6 14. Rab1?!**

This is probably the wrong rook. The f1-rook is well placed on b1 to guide the pushing of the queenside pawns while the a1-rook helps build pressure on the a-file. 14. b4!? is interesting and ambitious: 14...Bb4 15. Bb4 Qb4 16. Ne5 eliminates Black's last

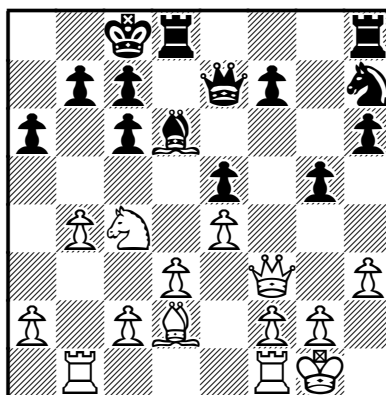


Nicolas Yap and Kimberly Anonuevo placed first and fifth, respectively, in the state junior high school championship. Drake Wang and Tyler Wilken are on Kimberly's right.

Photo by John Tu

center pawn and opens the b-file for the rooks.

**14...Nh7 15. b4 g5**



**16. a4 Qd7?!**

Black is not reacting quickly to the threats on the queenside. She should probably try to counter by pushing the f-, g-, and h-pawns to

gain counterplay. White still has an advantage after 16...h5 17. Nd6 cd6 18. b5 g4 19. hg4 cb5 20. ab5 hg4 21. Qg4.

**17. Qe3**

Threatening the invasion of Black's camp with ...Qa7.

**17...b5?**

This really weakens Black's king position, and loses two pawns. A possible improvement is 17...b6 18. a5 g4 19. Nd6 Qd6 20. ab6 gh3 21. Qh3 Kb8.

**18. Qa7 Qe6 19. Qa6 Kd7 20. ab5 cb5 21. Qb5 Ke7 22. Ne3 Qd7?**

Loses another pawn. 22...Rhe8 23. Qc6+-.

**23. Nf5 Kf8 24. Qd7 Rd7 25. Nh6 Nf6? 26. Bg5 Kg7 27. Nf5 Kg6 28. Be3 Nh5 29. b5 Nf4 30.**

Continued on page 6

# 2003 State Scholastic Championship

## Individual Winners

For complete individual results plus team scores, go to <http://www.calchessscholastics.org/Results03.html>.

<b>K-12 Championship</b>			10-17	A. Setzepfandt	4.5	5-14	Shubhangi Agrawal	5	4-8	Arthur Liou	4.5
1-3	Monty Peckham	5.5		Phil Jouriles			Erika Ho			Demetrios Boropoulos	
	Adam Lischinsky			Daichi Siegrist			Ryan Yu			Benjamin Yang	
	Jesse Cohen			Kyle Hui			Christopher Carter			Johnny Vu	
4-6	Erik Kislik	5		Bennett Blazei			Adarsha Shivakumar			Shrinivas Sivakumar	
	Benjamin Tejes			Kent Quanrud			Arjun Mody		9-25	Atsuya Tange	4
	Akash Deb			Mihir Pendse			Stefan Portale			Justin Tu	
7-18	Robert Chan	4.5		Ahmad Moghadam			Arun Varma			Minkee Sohn	
	Simion Kreimer			<b>K-8 Premier</b>			Erika			Simon Coffin	
	Ben Haun		1	Igor Cherny	5.5		Arakaki-Barbanica			Thomas Zhang	
	Eric Tsai		2-5	Morgan Crowl	5		Steven Roston			Bryan Wong	
	Jason Yun			Austin Enloe			<b>K-6 Unrated</b>			Anirudh Jonnavithula	
	Elisha Garg			Tim Tien		1-2	Jonathan Chang	6		Olivia Williams	
	Matthew Ho			Quan Luong			Andrew Nguyen			Shiven Srivastava	
	Wesley Chen		6-19	Rui Lai	4.5	3-13	Jeffrey Zhang	5		Dillon Bookout	
	Jovi Gacusan			Andy Kim			Sharen Fu			Nicole Warmerdam	
	Michael Lum			Kimiyoshi Oshikoji			Jesse Wu			Alex Grossman	
	Ankit Gupta			Trent Bowers			Rohan Agarwal			Anna Jaffe	
	Anthony Hsiao			Daniel Foudeh			Harrison Schwartz			Kevin Tu	
	<b>K-12 Premier</b>			Calvin Lien			Max Elisman			Karen Zhou	
1	Deepak Lal	6		Bill Jay Gali			Adonis Nagma			Rohan Mathuria	
2-6	Anthony Gothard	5		Nitin Gomatam			Antonio Banuelos			Bryce Ito	
	Hubert Lau			Jade Shi			Justin Kingrey			<b>Kindergarten</b>	
	Chris Lay			Christopher Uy			Avinash Kumar		1	Hemang Jangle	5
	Brandon Daniels			Kimberly Tom			Dan Cao		2-3	Andrew Zhou	4.5
	Sumit Roy			Erika Carillo			<b>K-3 Premier</b>			Jonathan Friedland	
7-9	Yonah Berwaldt	4.5		Daniel Fong		1-2	Puneeth Gadangi	5	4-8	Matthew Chan	4
	James Xiao			Ruida Su			Gabriel Sanchez			Nathan Zhang	
	Chris Powell			<b>K-6 Championship</b>		3-6	Saleem Karamali	4.5		Soren O'Connell	
10-20	George Wang	4	1	Aviv Adler	6		David Yeghikyan			Venkat Subramaniam	
	Greg Sawka		2-5	Corey Chang	5.5		Jonathan Hsia			David Ho	
	Tom DeSautels			Steven Zierk			Jonathan Yesato				
	Jessy Custodio			Devin Abbott		7-17	Jacob Brinskele	4			
	Doug Morrison			Jared Tan			Jose Godinez		1	<b>Blitz 7-12</b>	
	Samuel Wu			Michael Zhong	5		James Ho		2	Nicolas Yap	10
	Brian Dao		6-16	Samuel Shankland			Apoorva Rangan		3-5	Andrew Smith	9.5
	Jeffrey Lau			William Connick			Jackie Connor			Ben Haun	9
	Stephen Tsay			Kenneth Law			Nikita Shenkman			Ben Tejes	
	Ilmar Benyamin			Andrew Yun			Nikhil Narayan			David Chock	
	Dane Shabellund			Mark Kokish			Nathan Sowards		1	<b>Blitz K-6</b>	
	<b>K-8 Championship</b>			Christopher Lin			Rasta Musick		2-3	Corey Chang	9
1-2	Nicolas Yap	5.5		Hayk Manvelyan			Austin Lloyd			Steven Zierk	8
	Tyler Wilken			Greg Bodwin			Stephen Wang			Shaun Tse	
3-9	Daniel Schwarz	5		Shaun Tse			<b>K-3 Unrated</b>		1	<b>Bughouse</b>	
	Drake Wang			Trevor Showalter		1-3	Partha Vora	5	2-3	Robert Chan/Allen Tu	
	Kimberly Anonuevo			<b>K-6 Premier</b>			Daniel Naroditsky			Nicolas Yap/Ben Tejes	
	Ewelina Krubnik		1-2	Grace Lukach	6		Eaton Liu			Derek and Jared Tan	
	Kevin Walters			Varun Cidambi							
	Derek Tan		3	Shreyes Boddu	5.5						
	Kevin Hwa										

# Marshall's Gambit Strikes Again at State Scholastic Championship

Continued from page 4

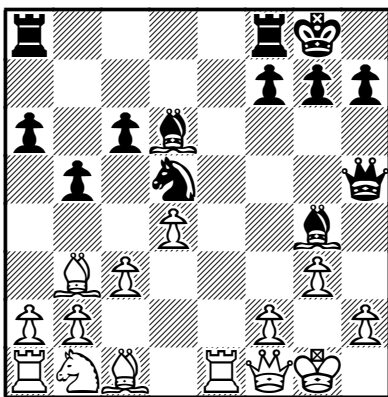
**Bf4 ef4 31. Nd6 Rd6**

Now the endgame is simple since the minor pieces have been traded off.

**32. Ra1 Kg7 33. Ra6 Rb6 34. Rb6 cb6 35. c4 Rd8 36. Rd1 Kf6 37. d4 Ra8 38. Rc1 Ke6 39. c5 f5 40. ef5 Kf5 41. c6 Ke4 42. c7 Rc8 43. h4 Kd4 44. Rc6 Ke4 45. h5 f3 46. g4 Kf4 47. Rc4 Kg5 48. Kh2 Kh4 49. h6 Kg5 50. Kg3 Kh6 51. Kf3 Kg5 52. Kg3 Kf6 53. f4 Ke6 54. Rc6 Kd7 55. f5 Rc7 56. Rc7 Kc7 57. g5 Kd6 58. Kf4 Ke7 59. Ke5 Kf8 60. Kd6 Ke8 61. Kc6 Kd8 62. Kb6 Kd7 63. g6 Ke7 64. Kc7 Kf6 65. b6 Kf5 66. g7 Resigns**

White: Luiz Uribe (1302)  
Black: Kimberly Anonuevo (1503)  
Ruy Lopez Marshall Attack

**1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. 0-0 Be7 6. Re1 0-0 7. c3 b5 8. Bb3 d5 9. ed5 Nd5 10. Ne5 Ne5 11. Re5 c6 12. d4 Bd6 13. Re1 Qh4 14. g3 Qh3 15. Qd3 Bg4 16. Qf1 Qh5**



**17. Bd1**

White returned the pawn in Ortega-Romanenko, New York

1991, with 17. f3 Bf3 18. Nd2 Bg4 19. Ne4 Bc7 20. Nc5 (1-0, 62).

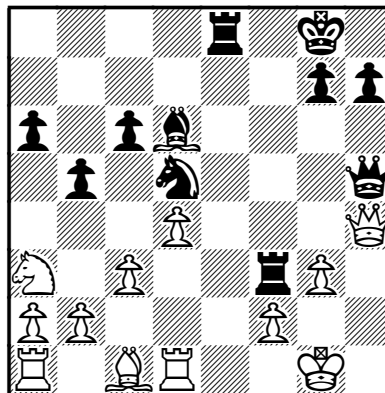
**17...Bd1 18. Rd1 f5**

Black's activity led to an advantageous endgame in Mrvova-Harastova 1993: 18...Rae8 19. Re1 f5 20. Re8 Re8 21. c4 Nb4 22. Na3 Re2 23. c5 Bc7 24. Be3 Rb2 25. h3 Qe2 26. Qe2 Re2 27. Kf1 Ra2 28. Ra2 Na2, but drawn in 34.

**19. Qd3 f4 20. Na3**

20. Rf1 is the best defense, but it's easy to prefer Black after 20...fg3 21. fg3 Rf1 22. Qf1 Rf8 23. Qd3 Re8 24. Nd2 Re1.

**20...fg3 21. hg3 Rf3 22. Qe4 Re8 23. Qh4**



**23...Rg3 24. fg3 Qd1 25. Kg2 Re2 26. Kh3 Qf1 27. Kg4 Nf6 28. Kg5**

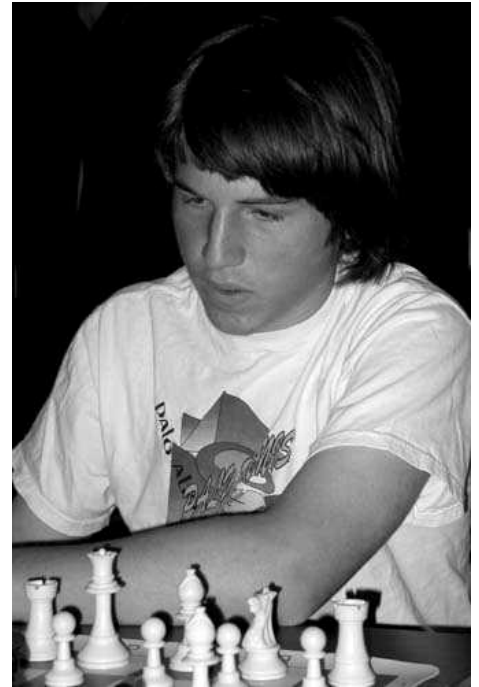
28. Qf6 Qf6 29. Bf4 Qe6 30. Kf3 h5 31. Bd6 Qg4 mate.

**28...h6 29. Kg6 Rh2 30. Resigns**

In view of 30. Bh6 Qd3 31. Kg5 Kf7 32. Qh2 Qg6 33. Kh4 Qh6 mate.

White: Kevin Hwa (1389)  
Black: Vincent Sheu (1223)  
Alapin French  
Notes by Fritz 6

**1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Be3 de4 4.**



Adam Lischinsky tied for first place in the high school division at this year's state scholastic championship. He and his teammates from Palo Alto High School won the team championship ahead of 36 other schools. Photo by John Tu

**Nd2 Nf6 5. f3 ef3 6. Ngf3 Nc6 7. Bb5**

7. c3 Bd6 8. Bd3 Ng4 9. Qe2 Ne3 10. Qe3 Ne7 11. 0-0 b6 12. Ne4 Bb7 13. Nd6 cd6 14. Ng5 Nd5 15. Bb5 Kf8 16. Rf7 Kg8 17. Qe6 Resigns, Johnson-Goodwin USA 1994.

**7...Bd7 8. a3 a6 9. Ba4 Bd6 10. Qe2 Qe7**

10...Ne7 11. Bd7 Qd7 12. 0-0 also gives an advantage to Black.

**11. 0-0 0-0 12. c4 b6**

Black can steal another pawn by 12...Nd4 13. Nd4 Ba4.

**13. b4? Qe8**

Again 13...Nd4.

**14. c5**

Continued on page 22

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Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced, Tournament Level

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Beginners, Intermediate + Advanced

**DOUGHERTY** in Dublin, 5301 Hibernia Drive JULY 21-AUG 1 10:30 to 1 PM

Beginners & Intermediate

**LA ENTRADA** in Menlo Park, 2200 Sharon Road JULY 7-25 9 to Noon

Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced, Tournament Level

**ARGONAUT** in Saratoga, 13200 Shadow Mt. Drive JULY 21-AUG 15 2 to 5PM

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**MONTA VISTA** in Cupertino, 21840 McClellan Road AUG 4-15 10:30 to 1 PM

Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced, Tournament Level

**JUNG SUWON** in Milpitas, 107 Minnis Circle Saturday's only from JUNE 21-AUG 23 1 PM to 2:30 PM

Beginners, Advanced + Tournament Level

**Complete information available at: <http://www.SuccessChess.com/Summer2003.html>**

# De Guzman, Donaldson Share First Prize at 30th Peoples' Tournament

## 30th Peoples' Chess Tournament February 15-17, 2003

### Open

1-2	Ricardo De Guzman	5
	John Donaldson	
3	Monty Peckham	4.5

### Expert

1	Anthony Rozenvasser	4.5
2	Jimmy Plumb	4
3-6	Edward Perepelitsky	3.5
	Walter Wood	
	Martin Marshall	
	Steven Gaffagan	

### A

1-2	Rodell Mapp	5
	Philip Perepelitsky	
3	Kris MacLennan	4.5

### B

1-2	Ramesh Mantri	5
	Stephen Kesti	
3-4	Oren Gazit	4.5
	Teri Lagier	

### Reserve

1	Santiago Canez	5
2-6	Daniel Moglen	4
	Anton Ivanov	
	Matthias Grabiak	
	Shaun Tse	
	Anyon Harrington	

International masters Ricardo De Guzman and John Donaldson tied for first place at the 30th Berkeley Peoples' Chess Tournament held February 15-17 in Berkeley.

Don Shennum directed 157 players.

The Berkeley Young Peoples' Tournament drew 112 players. Varun Behl and Erik Friendlander led the 7th-12th grade section with 4.5 points. Arun Gomatam swept the K-6 division with a 5-0 score.

White: Matthew Ho (2111)  
Black: Monty Peckham (2144)  
Modern Defense  
Notes by Monty Peckham

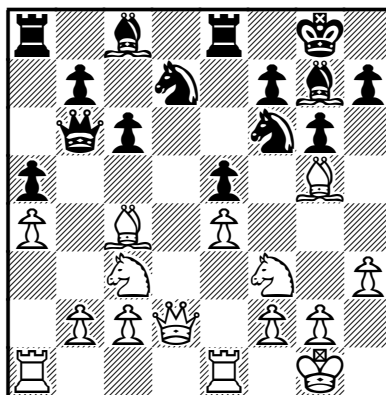


Anthony Rozenvasser won the first expert prize at this year's Berkeley Peoples' Tournament  
Photo by Bud Setzepfandt

### 1. e4

This game was the last round of the Peoples' Tournament and I knew that by winning I would be eligible for prize money. I knew the game would be hard since Matthew's style of play is hard to beat, and he showed this by defeating me a couple months later in another tournament.

**1...g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Nf3 d6 4. Nc3 c6 5. h3 Nf6 6. Bd3 0-0 7. 0-0 Nbd7 8. Bg5 e5 9. Re1 Re8 10. Qd2 Qb6 11. de5 de5 12. a4 a5 13. Bc4**



### 13...Qb4

Black has an equal game.

### 14. Bf1

14. b3 Nb6 15. Bd3 (15. Bf1 h6 16. Be3 Be6 with equal chances for both sides, but 17. Ne5 Nfd7 and Black is better) Nbd7 16. Bc4=

### 14...Nc5 15. Qd6 Bf8 16. Qd2

16. Qf6 Nd7 17. Na2 Qa4 18. b3 Qa3 19. Bc1 Nf6 20. Ba3 Ba3 Black is winning.

### 16...Nh5 17. b3 f6 18. Bc4 Be6 19. Na2 Qb6 20. Be6 Ne6

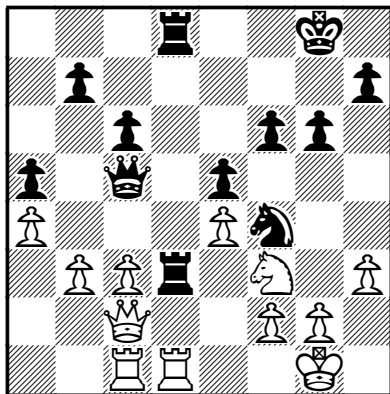
At this point I was happy with my position. I can trade bishops and my pieces are better-placed for the ending.

### 21. Be3 Bc5 22. Bc5 Qc5 23. Nc1 Nhf4 24. c3

This creates a hole at d3 and severely weakens White's pawn structure. Now all I had to do was generate enough pressure.

### 24...Red8 25. Qb2 Nd3 26. Nd3 Rd3 27. Rac1 Rad8 28. Qc2 Nf4 29. Red1





**29...Kg7**

Threatening 30...Rc3.

**30. c4 Qd6**

30...Qb6 31. Rd3 Rd3 32. Rb1 Nh3. White's pieces are tied up.

**31. Rd3 Qd3 32. Ne1 Qc2 33. Rc2 Rd1 34. Kf1 Kf7**

34...Ng2 35. Kg2 Re1 36. Rd2 Re4 is a more difficult endgame: 37. Rd7 Kh6 38. Rb7.

**35. f3 Rb1 36. Rc3 Ke7 37. Re3 Ne6 38. Ke2 Rb3 39. Rb3 Nd4 40. Kd3 Nb3 41. Kc3 Nc5 42. Nd3 Nd3 43. Kd3 Kd6 44. Kc3 Kc5 45. Kb3 Kd4 46. Resigns**

White: Walter Wood (2000)  
Black: Anthony Rozenvasser (2120)  
King's Indian Defense  
Notes by Walter Wood

**1. d4**

This critical round 5 game was my only loss in this tournament. Rozenvasser went on to draw in the final round for clear first in the expert section.

**1...Nf6 2. Nf3 d6 3. c4 g6 4. Nc3 Bg7 5. e4 0-0 6. Be2 e5 7. 0-0 Nc6 8. d5 Ne7 9. b4 Ne8 10. c5 f5 11. Qb3**

11. Ng5, 11. Ba3, and 11. a4 are also played.

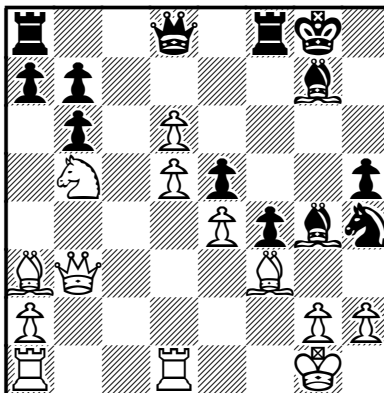
**11...Nf6 12. Nd2 f4**

A novelty. 12...Kh8 has been played.

**13. Ba3 g5 14. Rfd1 g4 15. f3 Ng6 16. Nc4 h5?!**

During the game I thought this was probably a mistake.

**17. b5 Ne8 18. b6 cb6 19. Nd6 Nd6 20. cd6 gf3 21. Bf3 Bg4 22. Nb5 Nh4**



**23. Kh1?**

For some reason I did not even consider 23. Bg4!, but it gives the e6-square to the white knight: 23... hg4 24. Nc7 and White would be winning.

**23...Rf6 24. Nc7 Rb8 25. Ne6**

25. Rac1 was also good.

**25...Qe8 26. Ng7?**

This was a critical moment of the game. I thought Black was threatening ...Be6, when in fact this was an imaginary danger. Rozenvasser pointed out 26. Rac1! immediately after the game, and White would be winning after 26... Be6? 27. de6 Re6 (26...Qe6 28. d7) 28. d7!+-.

**26...Kg7 27. Rac1 Qg6 28. Rg1**

**Rg8 29. Bb2 Qg5 30. Qc3 Ng6 31. Bg4?**

I had about five minutes to make the time control at move 45 and had a brief hallucination about a successful advance of the d6-pawn. 31. Qa3!? is to be considered.

**31...hg4 32. Qc7 Rf7 33. d7 Rd8**

Ending the hallucination.

**34. Qb7 Rdd7**

34...Rh8! 35. Rc8?? Rh2!

**35. Qc6 Rd8 36. Rc2 g3 37. h3 Rh8 38. Qe6 Rh5 39. d6?**

39. Rf1!?

**39...Nf8 40. Qc8**

In the time pressure I almost played 40. Qg4?? but my game collapses anyway.

**40...Qf6 41. Rd1**

41. Qg4!?

**41...Nd7**

Black has a decisive advantage.

**42. Rc7 f3!**

Now there is nothing I can do.

**43. Be5**

Admitting defeat, but played to reach time control.

**43...Re5 44. Rd2 f2 45. Rc1 f1(Q) 46. Resigns**

In summary, I had my chances to win, but tactical lapses led to missed opportunities at moves 23 and 26. After that, the trend of the game and the clock situation turned in Rozenvasser's favor, who went on to a well-deserved win.

## Monterey Chess Center in Trouble; Needs New Stairs

The second-oldest chess club in the Bay Area, the Monterey Chess Center lost its lease in May after city officials enforced an ordinance that required the building's owners to rebuild its rear stairway. Club director Ted Yudacufski said that an engineer estimated that the stairs could be built for \$10,000, but if a benefactor or group does not step in, the club would fold. The club's phone number is (831) 646-8730.

# Vinay Bhat and Uri Andrews Tie for First at San Leandro Swiss

San Leandro Swiss February 23, 2003		
<b>Open</b>		
1-2	Vinay Bhat Uri Andrews	3.5 \$145
<b>Expert</b>		
1	Ben Haun	2.5 \$100
2-4	Robert Chan Thys DeGroot Jacob Lopez	2 \$40
<b>Reserve</b>		
1	Alex Bessonov	4 \$100
2-3	Andrew Ringlein Ramesh Mantri	3.5 \$80
<b>Under 1800</b>		
1	Rodell Mapp	3 \$50
2	Brian McCandless	2.5 \$45
<b>Booster</b>		
1-2	Menlo Avestro Igor Roussinov	3.5 \$100
3-5	Walter Churchill Jossy Chalissery Alberto Calderon	3 \$13
<b>Under 1400</b>		
1-2	Ryan Ko Teresa Haun	2.5 \$35

It was a day for the kids at the San Leandro Swiss held Feb. 23 in San Leandro. International master Vinay Bhat, ranked fourth in the U.S. under the age of 21, tied for first place with expert Uri Andrews, who is 15th among 17-year-olds, and who finished ahead of three other masters in the open section. Ben Haun and Robert Chan, the 22nd- and 29th-ranked 17-year-olds, respectively, earned two of the top expert prizes.

In the Under 1400 division, high schooler Teresa Haun and junior high school student Ryan Ko shared the top prize.

Hans Poschmann directed 64 players in three sections. The event shared the building with the Alameda County High School Championship.

White: Bill Grasberger (UNR)  
Black: Ryan Ko (1387)  
Philidor's Defense  
Annotations by Ryan Ko

**1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 d6 3. Bc4 f5 4. d3 Be7 5. Nc3 c6**

Preparing a thrust to d5 with a massive pawn center.

**6. Bd2**

If 6. Bd3, ...f4 is nothing to worry about because it blocks Black's dark-squared bishop.

**6...Nf6 7. Qe2 fe4 8. de4 Bg4**

Black sees ...Rf8 coming to hit f3.

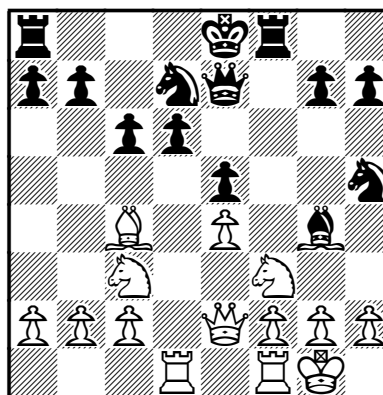
**9. Bg5 Nbd7 10. Rd1**

Is there anything wrong with castling? White's kingside is under pressure, so go the other way with 10. 0-0-0!

**10...Rf8 11. 0-0**

White's king is out of the frying pan and into the fire.

**11...Nh5! 12. Be7 Qe7**



**13. Kh1**

Necessary to prevent 13...Bf3 14. gf3 Nf4 15. Qe3 Qg5 with mate to follow.

**13...Bf3 14. gf3 Nf4 15. Qe3 0-0-0**

Tempting White with the a7-pawn.

**16. Qa7 Rf6 17. Ba6**

White can aim at the spearhead of Black's attack by 17. Qa8 Kc7 18. Qa5 Kb8 19. Ne2.

**17...Nb8**

I love retreating moves that attack! If 17...ba6, 18. Na4 threatens 19. Nb6 while the d7-knight is pinned, and then 19...Re8 19. Qa6 Kc7 20. Qa7 Kc8 21. Qa6 Kd8 22. Qa8 is a perpetual.

**18. Bc4?**

It's all over now. Better to sacrifice on b7.

**18...Rh6 19. Na4 Rh2! 20. Kh2 Qh4 21. Kg1 Qg5 22. Kh2 Qg2 mate**

White: Clarence Lehman (1979)  
Black: Ron Cusi (2357)  
Sicilian Wing Gambit

**1. e4 c5 2. b4 d5**

An unusual move order, providing White with a few extra options.

**3. ed5**

Black probably gained a bit of clock time while White considered lines like 3. bc5 de4 (3...e5!?) 4. Nc3 Nf6 5. f3 e5 6. fe4 Bc5, which looks pretty good for Black.

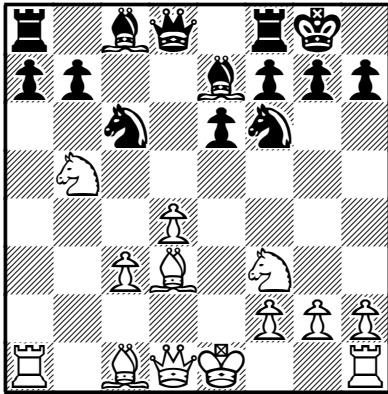
**3...Qd5 4. Nf3**

White steers for a transposition into the most familiar continuation, but he had to ponder 4. Nc3 Qe5 5. Be2 cb4 6. d4, as in Faccia-Botsari, Aosta 1998.

**4...cb4 5. a3 e6**

Most common are 5...e5, keeping the bishop free, and moving the bishop with 5...Bg4.

**6. ab4 Bb4 7. c3 Be7 8. Na3 Nc6 9. Nb5 Qd8 10. d4 Nf6 11. Bd3 0-0**



## 12. h4

Lamothe-Sursock, Novi Sad 1990, was about the same: 12. Bf4 a6 13. Bc7 Qd7 14. Bg3 Nd5 15. h4 f5, but White's king safety suffered from 16. c4 Bb4 17. Kf1 Nc3 18. Qb3 Ne4 19. Bf4, and then Black took the center with 19...e5 20. c5 Kh8 21. Be4 fe4 22. Ne5 Ne5 23. Nd6 Rf4 24. Qb4 Nd3 25. Qb6 Rf2 26. Kg1 Rg2 27. Kg2 Qg4 0-1.

**12...a6 13. Bf4 Nd5 14. Bh7**

White will find that he has rushed in too soon, but Black is still well placed after 14. Bg3.

**14...Kh7 15. Ng5 Kg8 16. Bc7**

One prerequisite for a successful Greco sacrifice on h7 is that the defender must not be able to defend h7 by ...Nf6 (in rarer cases by ...Bf5, and see Black's 19th move). In this instance, 16. Qh5 Nf6, and White is about done.

**16...Qd7 17. Be5**

17. Qc2 would be better, and then Black wouldn't play 17...Nf6, because 18. Be5 gives the bishop some real function, but maybe 17...g6 18. Bg3 e5.

**17...Ne5 18. de5 Qb5 19. Qh5 Qd3**



The intrepid Clarence Lehman.

Photo by Mark Shelton

Black rejected ...Bg5 because hg5 brings two white units—pawn and rook—into the attack. ...Qd3 is surprising and strong—Black might deliver checkmate first.

**20. Rh3 Nf4**

White made a threat, to which Black replied with a bigger threat, ...Ng2 mate, and an equal threat to take on h5.

**21. Rd3 Nh5 22. g3 f6**

22. g3 shut out the knight, so 22...f6 breaks the bind, and ...fe5 would make room for the f8-rook.

**23. Nf3 Rd8 24. Rad1 Rd3 25. Rd3 a5 26. Kd1 b6 27. ef6 Nf6**

**28. Nd4 Bd7 29. c4 a4 30. Kc1 a3 31. Kb1 e5 32. Nc2 Bf5 33. Rd2 Bb4 34. Re2 a2 35. Kb2 Bc2 Resigns**

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# Fighting with the Ghost of Capablanca's Favorite

By Mikhail Semionenkov

If you are fond of Capablanca's art, you probably know that structures with pawn distribution on the wings as 3+3 vs. 4+2, with four pawns on opponent's kingside, were among Capa's favorites.

Thanks to the third world champion, we know the basic point behind that love: pushing the e- and f- pawns is much more committal than the same operation with the b- and c- pawns, for the former uncovers the king's position. That's why opponents of the great Cuban often collapsed without any counterplay.

One can find a fine example of that strategy, with instructive notes, in Frisco Del Rosario's article "Using Favorite Games as a Guide to Playing the Middle and End Phases" (*California Chess Journal*, November/December 2002). We may also remind that Capablanca effectively exploited the same strategy with Black: see, for example, Marshall - Capablanca, match game 23, 1909. In the forementioned article it was shown how one can reproduce classical ideas in his own game.

Offered here is an example of a different kind: Capablanca's favorite was behind the scene. There the awareness of the idea led to a restricting strategy to eliminate the opponent's possibility of exploiting the idea.

2002 CalChess Labor Day State Championship  
 White: Bela Evans (2312)  
 Black: Mikhail Semionenkov (2007)  
 Reti Opening  
 Notes by Mikhail Semionenkov,  
 with post-mortem remarks from

Evans

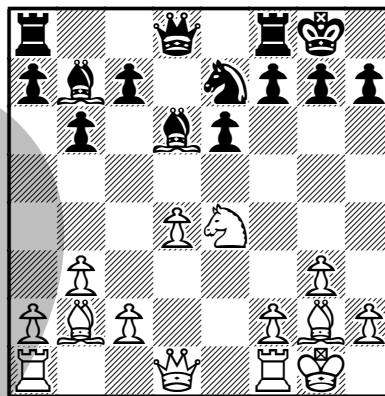
Frankly, I didn't consider myself as a favorite in this game, but I always tell my daughters before tough games: "No matter how strong your opponent, your chances are always above zero. Trying hard, you may, or you may not, realize your chances, but it's the only way toward a positive result. Considering yourself prey from the very beginning, you just waste your valuable opportunity to learn from the game with a more experienced partner".

Keeping that in mind, I faced one of the strongest Bay Area players: FM Bela Evans. That day it was my turn to follow my own advice.

**1. Nf3 d5 2. g3 b6 3. Bg2 Bb7 4. O-O Nd7 5. d4 e6 6. b3 Bd6 7. Bb2 Ne7?**

A positional mistake, said Evans.

**8. Nbd2 O-O 9. e4 de4 10. Ng5 Nf6 11. Nde4 Ne4 12. Ne4**



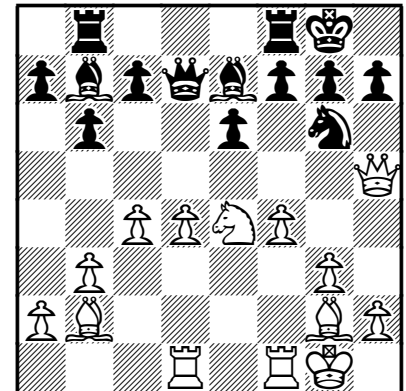
The "X-ray" from Bg2 is extremely unpleasant. Black has to pay the price for 7...Ne7. To avoid trading Bb7 for the knight, he plays...

**12... Rb8 13. c4 Ng6 14. f4 Qd7 15. Qh5 Be7**

Avoiding the weakening of the light squares with 15...h6.

**16. Rad1**

White could open the f-file with 16. f5, but the threat is more dangerous than its execution.



Here is the first critical point in the game. Defending a difficult position we are often active when we should stay patient, and passive when we should act. Many games are lost not because of particular moves but poor principal choices, sometimes even without realizing that. The question is always: What kind of position are we defending right now?

**16... f5?!?**

A very obligating move. I didn't know then, and neither do I now whether that move-or that approach, to be precise-was correct. The last thing I am going to do is base my judgment on the result of the game: it could follow another path and the result could be different.

So, the minuses of 16...f5 are heavy and obvious: two permanent weaknesses on e5 and e6. What are the pluses? There are a number of them, though they are not as evident as the minuses. First, the knight is pushed out of

e4. Second, and probably most important, the terrifying "X-ray" of Bg2 is eliminated, freeing a significant part of Black's forces: Bb7, Rb8, and Qd7. Third, with the exchange of the bishops, White's king is less protected. Fourth, the pawn on f4 is blocked. Finally, Black's king is allowed to participate in the battle via f7.

After all, what inspired me to test the move? In modern chess it's quite a common idea to allow a

weak square in your positions for pluses of different kinds but probably deep in my mind it was Bernstein-Capablanca, Moscow 1914, where the future world champion "sacrificed" d4 for other advantages.

**17. Nf2**

A result of tough choice: the knight belongs on f3 where it protects d4 and attacks e5 and g5, but after (17. Nd2 Bg2 18. Kg2

Bf6 19. Nf3), the queen is out of the game. The position of the queen is rather awkward also, and even dangerous (BE), after 17. Ng5 Bg5 18. Qg5. The retreat chosen leads the knight out of the game, so it looks like I overlooked one important plus of 16...f5-it disrupts the harmony of White's queen and knight. I consider it as a bonus for determination to test

structure).

On the other hand. with ...c6, where can I place my queen? It should protect e6, and that leaves only c8 and d6, but the prospective battery ...Rd8+...Rd7 looks ugly with ...Qd6. Aha, the queen belongs on c6, protecting e6, e8 (in case of pressure on the e-file), and d5. Plus, it's putting some pressure on White's kingside. Not so bad.

**19... Rbd8  
20. Rfe1  
Rfe8 21.  
Kg1 Qc6**

---

**No matter how strong your opponent, your chances are always above zero.**

---

the move.

**17... Bg2 18. Kg2 Bf6 19. Qe2**

I needed to define further development, especially of the queenside. The c-pawn doesn't look in place but where should it be? On c5? I positively dislike that idea, eliminating the only weakness in White's position-d4-and enabling White to use Capablanca's "help" too much (approaching a 3+3 vs. 4+2 pawn

Philidor wouldn't be pleased, but "If you think the move is good, do it!" (Capablanca). 21...Qc6 looked ugly, Evans said after the game, "but actually the queen did a great job there." That explains why White didn't try to prevent that move with Qf3.

**22. Rd3 Kf7 23. Red1 Rd7 24. Qc2 Ne7 25. R1d2 Red8 26. Qd1 g6**

Continued on page 14



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# Evans–Semionenko, 2002

## CalChess State Championship

Continued from page 13

Against Qh5.

### 27. Qe2?

During moves 12-16 I worked hard to resolve positional issues and prepare a draft of the position now on the board. I spent most of my time there, and now I had just few tens of seconds for the last four moves before time control. My partner definitely did not expect any activity of mine, but a bomb was already in my hand. Remember the old good saying: "Use the time of your opponent to design your plans"?

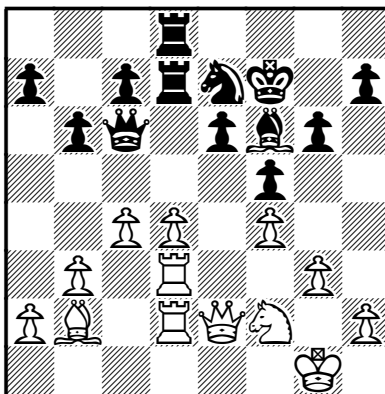
Though I was in serious time trouble, I had enough time to think about ideas, for Evans took a solid approach, not rushing just because of my time shortage.

First, I realized that, most probably, I would "run out of moves" before time control. Second, more scary, I needed to be prepared for sudden change of pawn structure. I felt that Bela was not going to change the pawn structure before time control, but he could realize that that was his best practical chance: I could simply collapse on time.

So, I examined the pawn structure carefully, and found a second weakness in White's position. Because of the careless Qe2, an opportunity to attack another weakness was granted:

## On the Cover

John Tu pictured Monty Peckham at the state scholastic championships in April, where Peckham won the high school section. Two months earlier, he finished third behind international masters De Guzman and Donaldson at the Peoples' Tournament in Berkeley.



### 27... b5!

"Excellent move!" (BE) I received another bonus for playing the "ugly" Qc6, and not "hearing" the French maestro Philidor: the attack of c4 is terribly effective now. White lost the battle for d5.

### 28. d5?

Rather emotional. Sometimes a psychological effect of sudden change of decorations is more destructive than an objective tactical or positional effect. Presumably, that is the case here: 28. c5, though very unpleasant to play, looks more reliable, leaving a lot of game ahead.

**28... ed5 29. cb5 Qb5 30. Bf6 Kf6 31. Qe5 Kf7 32. Re3 Qb6 33. Nd3??**

Collapse. The Re3 was already "under control", and now the rook is pinned. Once you know your target, it's much easier to find the combination:

### 33... Nc8!

That elegant retreat finishes the game: there is no defense against ...Re7. For the second time in the game, disharmony—mainly between the queen and the knight—appeared on the board, and this time with fatal effect.

**34. Nc5 Qc5 35. Resigns**

Ironically, the white knight, once shining on e4, turned out to be the main troublemaker, dying without glory and benefits to its own army, while poor and modest Black's Ne7, never reaching even the fourth rank, turned out to be the main hero, threatening to occupy d5 and retreating decisively to the last rank.

Alekhine once complained that his partners restricted his art by their narrow horizons. Though on a much lower level, I feel sometimes the same. That time strong player and noble sportsman, Bela Evans, really helped me create one of my bests. And finally here is the time for advice of my own, which I learned from the game:

1. With the advantage, check counterplay of your partner carefully.

2. Playing against mobile pawns, check whether they really intend to move. One without such intention is probably your target.

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# Timothy Ma Wins Alameda County High School Championship, Arkajit Dey Wins Junior HS Title

## Alameda County High School and Junior High School Championships February 23, 2003

### High School

1-2	Timothy Ma	4.5
	Varun Behl	
3-4	Sam Petty	4
	Ravi Verma	
5	Lawrence Wang	3.5

### Teams

1-2	Berkeley HS	13
	American HS	
3	Emery HS	11.5

### Junior High

1-2	Arkajit Dey	4
	Clayton Chan	
3-4	Kyle Hui	3.5
	Andrew Yun	

### Teams

1	Cesar Chavez Middle	9.5
2	Castro Valley Middle	5



Arkajit Dey won the Alameda County junior high school chess championship in February ahead of 12 other players, then ran into 130 other contestants at the state junior high championship in April and earned 44th place. Photo by John Tu

Timothy Ma of Mission San Jose High School in Fremont won the Alameda County High School Championship held Feb. 23 in San Leandro. Arkajit Dey won the junior high section. 38 players participated.

Berkeley High School and American High School of Fremont tied for first place in the team competition, and according to tournament director Dr. Alan Kirshner, the teams remained tied through six different tiebreaking procedures.

White: Timothy Ma (1494)  
Black: William Bautista (UNR)  
Evans Gambit  
Notes by Timothy Ma

**1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Bc5 4. b4 Bd4**

Since White intends to play 5. c3 with a gain of time anyway, Black should accept the gambit by 4...Bb4.

**5. c3 Bb6 6. 0-0 Nf6 7. d4 ed4 8.**

**e5 Ne4 9. cd4 0-0**

Better is 9...d5 10. ed6 Nd6 11. Bd5 Ne7.

**10. Bd5**

Preventing ...d5.

**10...Nf2**

The only capturing move the trapped knight can make.

**11. Rf2 d6 12. Bc6 bc6 13. Bg5 f6**

Better is 13...Qd7.

**14. ef6 gf6 15. Bh6 Re8 16. Nbd2 d5 17. Qc2 Bg4**

17...Bd7.

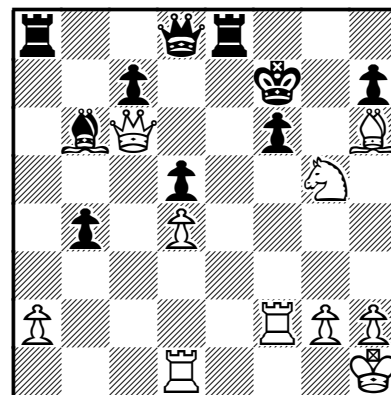
**18. Qc6 Bf3**

Should have played 18...Re6 to drive the queen back.

**19. Nf3 Kf7 20. Rd1 a5 21. Kh1**

Unnecessary and puts the king in some back rank danger.

**21...ab4 22. Ng5**



**22...Kg6 23. Rdf1**

Better is 23. Qc2 Kh5 24. g4 Kh4 (24...Kg4 25. Qf5 Kh5 26. Nf7 Kh4 27. Rf4 mate) 25. Rg2 Bd4 26. Nf3 Kh3 27. Rg3 mate.

**23...Kh5 24. Nh7**

An improvement is 24. Nf7, threatening 25. Rf5 then 26. R1f4 mate.

**24...Kh6 25. Rf6 Kh7 26. Rf7 Kg8 27. Qg6 Resigns**

# Unrated Players Make Up Nearly Half of Gomes Scholastic Quads

The Gomes Scholastic Quads held March 8 in Fremont attracted 240 players to 59 quadrangular (and a few larger) sections. About half the players were unrated, said chief director Dr. Alan Kirshner.

White: Tiffany Zhong (720)  
Black: Aditya Srinivasan (735)  
Center Game

**1. e4 e5 2. d4 Nc6**

White will gain some spatial advantage now by 3. de5 or 3. d5. After the more aggressive 2...ed4, White would still achieve some extra space—most likely the e4-pawn against a d6-pawn—but then White has to spend some time recovering the pawn.

**3. de5 f6**

More spirited than 3...Ne5 4. f4.

**4. ef6 Nf6 5. e5**

Throwing the material advantage away. Any minor developing move to guard the pawn—5. Nc3, 5. Bd3, 5. Bg5—is an improvement.

**5...Ne5 6. Qe2 Bb4**

More than returning the favor. 7. c3 wins a piece for White. 6...Qe7 preserves Black's edge.

**7. Nc3 0-0**

Now Black has a fine lead in development, and can expect it to grow since White's king bishop is blocked. Black is lucky White can't play 8. Qc4 here.

**8. Qe5 Re8 9. Nge2 Re5 10. f4 Re6**

10...Re8 doesn't interfere with any other black pieces.

**11. f5 Re5 12. Bf4 Re4 13. 0-0-0**

Black ought to play 13...Bc3 since the pin is broken and Black is ahead in development, and



Dr. Alan Kirshner (back to camera) addresses the troops in the Gomes Elementary School gymnasium. The gym is right next door to the science lab on the Gomes grounds, and the science lab is where the Gomes chess club meets on Thursday afternoons—a difficult room in which to keep one's concentration when a crowd is screaming at a basketball game. Next page: Robert Chan coaching the game outside the gym. Photos by Mark Shelton

White cannot even answer 14. Nc3 because the bishop is loose on f4.

**13...Rc4 14. Nd4 d6**

It seems Black overlooked the discovered attack. Just like that, White is back in the game materially and she has the development lead.

**15. Bc4 d5**

It just gets worse for Black with the d-file open. 15...Kh8.

**16. Ne6 Be6 17. fe6 d4**

It wasn't Black's day for seeing discoveries. 17...c6.

**18. e7 Nd5**

Sometimes the mistakes just come in bunches, but this one is hard to fathom. About to lose his queen, Black puts his knight on a pin.

**19. ed8(Q) Rd8 20. Bc7**

20. Nd5 should leave Black without a chance.

**20...Rc8 21. Bd5**

Now 21. Nd5 is even better, making a direct threat to b4, and another discovery looms.

**21...Kh8 22. Rhe1**

White's turn to self-pin, but it was too much fun to develop the last piece with the trap 22...Rc7 23. Re8 in mind.

**22...h6 23. Bf4 dc3 24. bc3 Bc3 25. Re7 Bb4 26. Bb7 Ba3 27. Kb1 Rf8 28. Red7**

28. Re4.

**28...Rf4 29. Rd8 Kh7 30. g3? Rb4 31. Ka1 Rb7 32. g4 Be7 33. Re8? Bf6 34. c3 Bc3 mate**



### Gomes Scholastic Quads

March 8, 2003

1	Varun Behl	3
2	Kevin Walters	3
3	Rahul Subramanian	2
	Kenneth Law	
	Lucien Kahn	
4	Gabe Gordon	3
5	Larry Zhong	3
6	Alvin Cheng	3
7	Nikit Patel	3
8	Kelley Jhong	3
9	Kevin Leong	2
	Jason Jin	
	Shreyas Misra	
10	Samson Wong	3
13	Michael Dittmer	3
14	Vivek Choksi	3
15	Ankur Shingal	3
16	Anuj Verma	2
17	Alison Wu	3
18	Albert Wu	3
19	Aditya Aiyer	3
20	Michael Vu	3

21	Michael Xu	3
22	Robinson Kuo	2
	Alexander He	
23	Rahul Desirazu	3
24	Alvin Lee	2
	Varun Cidambi	
25	Aditya Srinivasan	3
26	Wells Lin	2.5
27	Jonathan Hsia	3
28	Yash Verma	2.5
29	Shreyas Boddu	2
	Christopher Carter	
30	Gaurav Gaitonde	3
31	Daniel Mao	2
	Ami Kumar	
32	Sanjay Srinivas	2.5
33	Jackie Connor	2
	Jonathan Tu	
34	Joraaver Chahal	3
35	Amit Patel	3
36	Nathan Sowards	3
37	Faustine Chia	2.5
38	Don Kim	3
39	Ulric Chia	2

40	Nolan Lozinski	3
41	Jonathan Liu	2
42	Andy Fang	3
43	Ritesh Ravi	2
	Isabel Lopez	
	Victor Sukhovitsky	
44	Rohan Agrawal	3
45	Abhi Nandam	2
46	Shreya Sharma	2.5
47	Jay Shah	3
48	Puneeth Gadangi	3
49	William Huang	3
50	Vishak Menon	3
51	Ravi Tadinada	3
52	Gordon Su	3
53	Matthew Doerner	3
54	Rohan Mathuria	3
55	Nathan Wong	3
56	Nachiket Dakwale	2
	Elijah Barsky-Ex	
	Kyle Sandhu	
57	Joshua Chan	2.5
58	Hemang Jangle	3
59	Shrinivas Sivakumar	3

White: Kevin Walters (1364)  
Black: Robert Connick (1352)  
Danish Gambit

**1. e4 e5 2. d4 ed4 3. c3 dc3 4. Bc4 cb2 5. Bb2 d5 6. Bd5 Nf6 7. Nc3 Be7**

If 7...Nd5, 8. Nd5 contains the surprising threat 9. Nf6.

**8. Qb3 Nd5 9. Nd5 0-0 10. Qg3 Bg5 11. h4 Bh6 12. Bf6 Qd7**

Better is 12...Qd6 in light of the possible fork on f6.

**13. Bg7 Qg4**

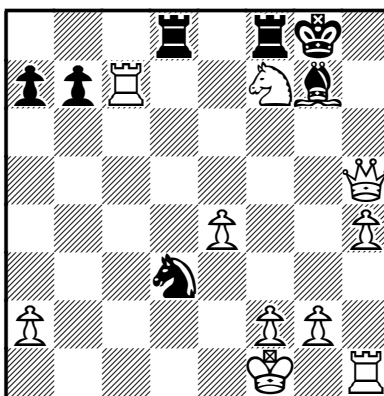
Or 13...Bg7 14. Nf6.

**14. Nf6 Kg7 15. Ng4 Bg4 16. Qg4 Kh8 17. Nf3 Bg7 18. Rc1 Nc6 19. Ng5 Ne5 20. Qh5 h6 21. Rc7 Nd3 22. Kf1 Rad8 23. Nf7**

## Bronstein Anecdote

After winning a tournament in Groningen in the mid-40s, Grandmaster David Bronstein wanted to shelter his winnings from taxes, but instead of buying, say, Swiss watches, Bronstein took *automobile tires* on the plane back to Russia.

## Kg8 24. Nh6 Kh8 25. Nf7 Kg8



**26. Qh8 Bh8 27. Nh6 mate**

White: Kartik Chillakanti (1162)  
Black: Larry Zhong (1185)  
Englund Gambit

**1. d4 e5 2. de5 Nc6 3. Nf3 f6 4. ef6 Nf6 5. Nc3 d5 6. e3 Bd6 7. Bb5 0-0 8. Nd5 Nd5 9. Qd5 Kh8 10. Qd2 Be6 11. b3 Qf6 12. Rb1 Bb4 13. Bb2 Bd2 14. Nd2 Qf2 15. Kd1 Rad8 16. Bc3 Bg4 17. Kc1 Qe3 18. Kb2 Rd2 19. Bd2 Qd2 20. Rbf1 Rf1 21. Rf1 g6 22. Bd3 Qg2 23. Rc1 Bf5 24. Bf5 gf5 25. Kc3 f4 26. Kd3 f3 27. Ke4 f2 28. Kd3 f1(Q) 29. Resigns**



# Sinking the Good Ship Sicilian

By Frisco Del Rosario

Capablanca once said that he didn't trust the Sicilian Defense because it left the black position full of holes. Grandmaster Bronstein added that he was surprised that "Black's Sicilian ship with such holes was able to stay afloat for long."

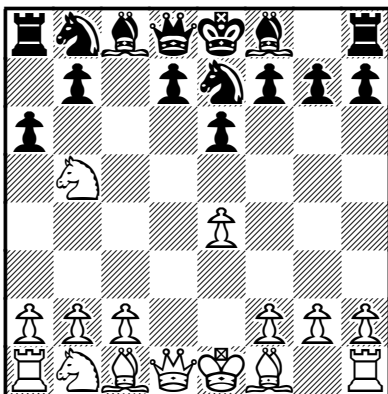
As a youngster, I was entranced by the buzzwords used to describe the Sicilian: "counterattacking," "double-edged," and so on. Never mind that I didn't know how to make good moves—opening manuals said I was an uncompromising player for adopting 1. e4 c5!, and that was enough for me. (I also believed that drinking certain brands of beer made me irresistible to supermodels).

I especially liked the Paulsen/Kan/Taimanov pawn formations:

**1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. d4 cd4 4. Nd4 a6 5. Bd3 g6**

Black has a pawn structure right out of a 2nd-grade chess classroom. The opening textbooks sometimes suggested ...Ne7 (which doesn't block the g7-bishop) followed by ...Nbc6 and placing another pawn on a white square with ...d5. One day I got my move order mixed up:

**1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. d4 cd4 4. Nd4 Ne7 5. Nb5 a6**



It still took several years for me to get around to the idea that successfully *ending* a game was a better plan than ideally *starting* one.

Mexico 1933

White: J.R. Capablanca  
Black: Cor. Soto-Larrea  
Sicilian Defense

**1. e4 c5 2. Ne2**

Grandmaster Keres liked this move. White can head into a normal open Sicilian by 3. d4 and 4. Nd4, or make a closed formation with g3 and Bg2 while leaving the f-pawn free to advance.

**2...Nc6 3. c4 Nf6 4. Nbc3 e6 5. d4**

White is willing to trade his center pawn for a wing pawn because the swap reduces Black's spatial control to three ranks instead of four, and his queen's influence on the d-file reaches all the way to the backward d7-pawn and the hole on d6.

**5...cd4 6. Nd4 Bb4**

The "pin variations" are double-edged. Sometimes Black makes enough counterplay against e4 (which he already threatens to capture) or c3, but sometimes Black misses the bishop's defense of d6 or g7.

**7. f3 a6**

Useful in almost every Sicilian position, ...a6 prevents a white minor piece from reaching b5, and often aids Black in playing ...b5 to gain more queenside space.

**8. Be3 Qc7 9. Rc1 b6 10. a3 Bd6**

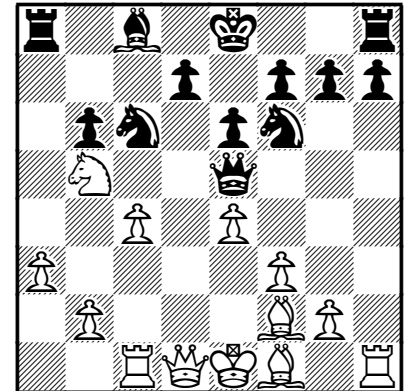
After this mistake, Black falls apart on the black squares. 10...Be7 followed by ...d6 would give Black a typical "hedgehog" formation, when both sides must be wary about approaching the no man's land along White's fifth

rank.

**11. Ndb5 ab5 12. Nb5 Bg3**

Preserving the material balance but increasing White's mobility.

**13. hg3 Qg3 14. Bf2 Qe5**



**15. Qd6**

With the artistic idea of 16. Nc7, 17. Bb6, 18. Ne6 double check, and 19. Ng7 mate.

**15...Qb2 16. Rd1 Bb7 17. Bb6 Rc8 18. Bc5**

18. Nc7 wins a rook for knight (18...Kd8 19. Ne6 Ke8 20. Ng7 mate), but 18. Bc5 contains two stronger threats: 19. e5 to drive off the guard of d7, and the surprising 19. Rh7. For example, 18...Kd8 (ready to answer 19. e5 with 19...Qe5 20. Qe5 Ne5 because 21. Nd6 doesn't put the black king on the fork) 19. Rh7 Rg8 (19...Rh7 20. Qf8 Ne8 21. Bb6 Rc7 22. Bc7 Kc8 23. Qe8 Nd8 24. Qd8 mate), and then the white rook walks the seventh rank like Steinitz-Von Bardleben: 20. Rg7 Rh8 21. Rf7 and d7 falls.

**18...Qe5 19. Qe5 Ne5 20. Nd6 Kd8 21. Nc8**

Also 21. Nb7 Kc7 22. Bd6 Kb7 23. Be5.

**21...Kc8 22. Bd4 Ng6 23. Bf6 gf6 24. Rh6 Resigns**

San Mateo 1993  
 White: Gary Lambert (1900)  
 Black: Bill Orton (2200)  
 Smith-Morra Gambit

**1. e4 c5 2. d4 cd4 3. c3**

White might find an easier development in the Morra Gambit than in the Wing Gambit, but he has surrendered a center pawn.

**3...dc3 4. Nc3 Nc6 5. Nf3 e6 6. Bc4 Qc7 7. 0-0 Nf6 8. Qe2 Ng4**

Aiming for counterplay against f7, possibly, or to exchange an attacking unit after ...Nge5.

**9. Rd1 Bc5 10. Nb5 Qb8 11. h3**

A loss of time, since Black is going to move his knight next, anyway. Black keeps a lead on 11. Be3 Ne3 12. fe3 0-0 13. Rac1.

**11...Nf2 12. Be3 Be3 13. Nd6 Ke7**

A more costly mistake, exposing the king. Black is way ahead in material after 13...Kf8 14. Qe3 Nd1 15. Rd1, but the hole on d6 is huge, and Black is far behind in development.

**14. Qe3 Nd1 15. Rd1 b5**

Making some air for the bishop with the hope of 16. Bb5 Qb6 to trade the queens.

**16. Qg5**

White can press on the other diagonal, too: 16. Qc5 bc4 17. Nc8 Ke8 (or 17...Kd8 18. Qc6 Qc8 19. Rd7) 18. Nd6 Kf8 19. Nc4 Kg8 20. Rd7, and White keeps lots of activity as compensation for the material minus.

**16...Kf8 17. Qh5 Nd8**

The developing 17...Qb6 must be a useful interpolation.

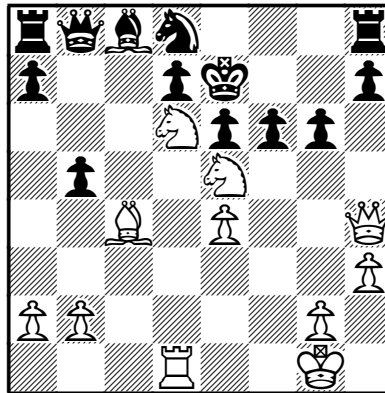
**18. Ne5 g6**

Black needs to take a few punches of his own: 18...bc4 19. Nef7 Qb6 20. Kh1 g6 21. Qh6 Kg8 22. Nh8 Qb2 traps the knight on h8, but it is still a mess after 23. Qg5, counterattacking.

**19. Qh6 Ke7 20. Qh4**

White will take the lead after 20...Kf8 21. Qf6 Rg8 22. Nef7.

**20...f6**



**21. Ng6**

21. Qh7!! Nf7 (21...Rh7 22. Ng6 mate) 22. Nc6 dc6 23. Qf7 Kd8 24. Nb7 mate.

**21...hg6 22. Qh8 Qd6 23. Rd6 Kd6 24. Bb5 Nc6 25. Qf6 Ne5 26. Qf8**

Still filling up the black squares.

**26...Kc7 27. Qc5 Nc6 28. Bc6 dc6 29. Qe5 Kb7 30. Qg7**

Black resigned with White's kingside passed pawns in view.

[calchess.org](http://calchess.org)

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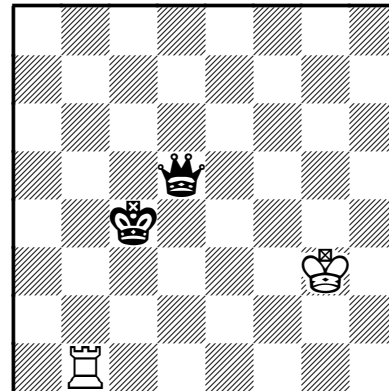
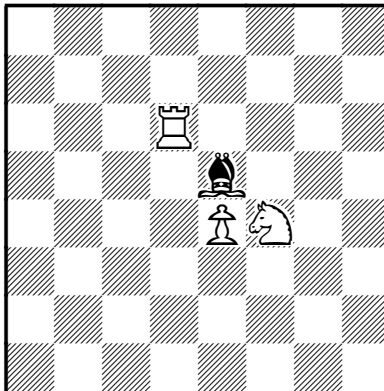
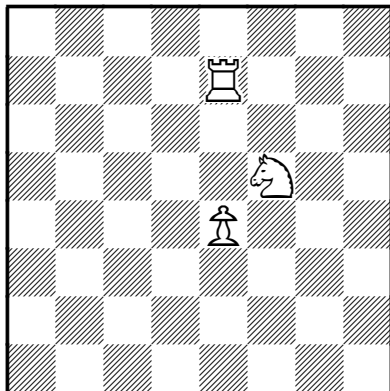
# Defend Yourself!

By Jim Eade

If a piece is undefended and subject to capture, it is said to be *hanging*. Don't leave your pieces hanging.

see that the mutual defense treaty has been broken. These pieces are uncoordinated, and therefore more vulnerable.

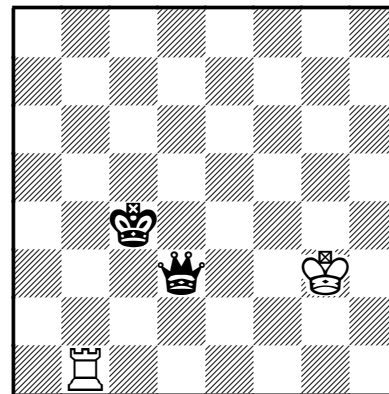
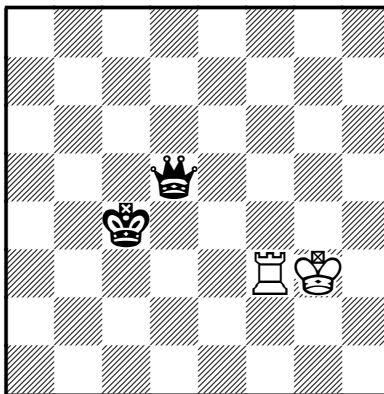
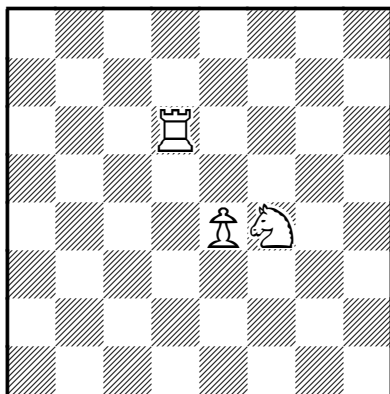
ever, the defender can make life difficult by using the king to defend the rook as long as possible.



The position in the diagram is a good example of how pieces can work together. The pawn defends the knight, which defends the rook, which defends the pawn.

Simply by dropping an enemy bishop down on e5, we can see that one of the pieces must be lost. Undefended pieces are asking for trouble.

On the other hand, if the king and rook are separated, the stronger side's job becomes a lot easier. Can you see the winning move for Black?



However, if we change the position just a little bit, we can

Queen versus rook endings are always won with best play. How-

Black wins by checking the king and attacking the rook at the same time. Undefended pieces are always at risk of getting picked off like that. Keep your guard up, and your pieces defended!



FIDE Master Jim Eade is the author of the best-selling *Chess for Dummies*. He was the editor of the *California Chess Journal* and the *Golden Gate Chess News*.

# The University of Connecticut Womens' Basketball Team's Guide to Winning Chess

Chess is like basketball," Bobby Fischer once said. "You move around until you find an opening."

In Diana Taurasi's first interview after her University of Connecticut Huskies won this year's NCAA womens' basketball championship, she credited the UConn coaches for giving the right instructions, and then the tournament's most valuable player shared her team's directions for winning at basketball and chess:

Taurasi said, "Rebound, play defense, and take care of the basketball."

## Rebound.

You cannot score unless you have possession of the basketball. The side that controls the basketball is like the player with the initiative at the chessboard — that team of players or pieces is able to make *threats* by shooting at the basket or checking the king.

When a shot goes up and misses the hoop, the side who gathers the loose ball (a "rebound") takes the initiative, the ability to threaten the basket. Statistics show that the team that grabs the greater number of rebounds during a basketball game was the likely winner. The chessplayer who makes the greater number of threats — especially *double threats*, because the enemy cannot make two moves in a row to meet both menaces — is also the probable victor.

A rebound was made, so when the other team has the ball, play defense. When your side has the ball, take care of the basketball.

## Play defense.

Basketball coaches tell their players that it is much easier to play defense against one's opponent *before she gets the ball*. After

she gets the ball, then she has a much wider range of moves — she can pass, shoot, or drive toward the basket.

At the chessboard, it is easier to defend against the opponent if he doesn't have the ball (the initiative). If you are always hitting him with bigger threats than those with which he is hitting you, you will make more baskets. Sure, one of the most difficult things to do in chess is to sustain the initiative when one has it, but that's what makes chess and basketball fun.

U.S. champion Fine said, "the best defense is a counterattack".

Another thing that basketball coaches tell their players about defense: "See the ball." They want their defensive players to always know where the ball is on the court, for how could they recognize a threat if they could not see the ball? At the chessboard, see the ball. Where is the threat?

## Take care of the basketball.

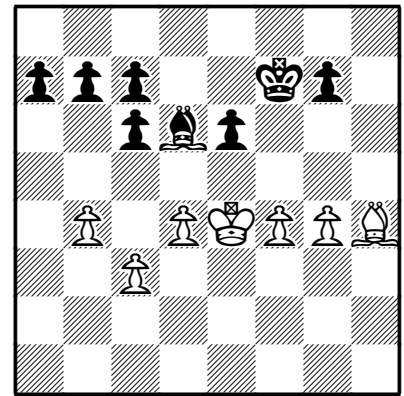
In other words, don't throw the ball away. No turnovers. No hanging pieces.

When a basketball player drives into the teeth of the defense and finds five enemy players surrounding him, his side had not developed enough pieces for the attack. Some basketball coaches insist that all five players touch the ball at least once on each possession before anyone may shoot it. On the chessboard, it is only the better-developed side that can successfully attack.

It is easier for a player to catch a basketball if his defender is not draped all over him, so offensive teams do all they can to increase each player's *mobility*. If an offensive player runs around two "screens" to separate himself from his defender, then he is better able to catch the ball, and

then he is able to threaten! Chessmen are the same — you must get every player out from behind its blocking pawns. Always unpin. A chess position is almost never harmed by unpinning, and the newly-mobile piece may then do other work on the court.

Now, the 1985 Boston Celtics (wearing road green uniforms while the home team wears white) run their fastbreak:



**1...b6 2. Be1 a5**

Larry Bird goes left wing.

**3. ba5 ba5 4. c4 Bb4 5. Bb4 ab4**

Bird comes off a screen by Robert Parish.

**6. Kd3 g5!**

Bird swings it to Dennis Johnson on the right wing, who draws the attention of the interior defender.

**7. fg5 Kg6 8. Kc2**

8. c5 Kg5 9. Kc4 Kg4 10. Kb4 Kf4 11. Kc4 Ke4 12. Kc3 Ke3 13. Kc4 Kd2 +-

**8...Kg5 9. Kb3 c5!**

DJ kicks it back to Bird, who steps behind the three-point line and further spreads the defense.

**10. dc5 Kg4 11. Kb4 e5**

Kevin McHale, trailing the play, calls for the lob from Bird and throws down a dunk. The Celtics win again.

# CalChess State Scholastics the Biggest Ever

Continued from page 6

Gaining space and starting an attack.

**14...Be7 15. Bc2 h6 16. Nc4 Nd5 17. Qd3 Nf6??**

Letting White take the lead. Better was 17...f5.

**18. Nfe5 g6**

White is also winning on 18...Ne5 19. de5 Ba4 20. ef6 Bc2 21. Qc2 Bf6 22. Rf6 b5 23. Rh6.

**19. Bh6 Ne5 20. Ne5 Bb5 21. Qh3**

White preserves his advantage with 21. Nc4!?

**21...Bf1 22. Bf8 Kf8??**

The only rescue is 22...Bf8, then 23. Rf1 Bg5 is equal.

**23. Qh8**

White has a huge edge again.

**23...Ng8 24. Rf1 f5 25. g4**

White wins a queen by 25. Qh7 Rd8 26. Ng6 Qg6 27. Qg6, but Black now goes back to equal.

**25...Bf6 26. Qh3 Be5 27. de5 Qd7 28. Qf3 Qd4 29. Kh1 Qe5?? 30. Qa8 Kf7 31. gf5 gf5 32. Rg1**

**Nh6 33. Qf3 Ng4 34. Rg4 Qe1 35. Rg1 Qh4 36. Bf5!**

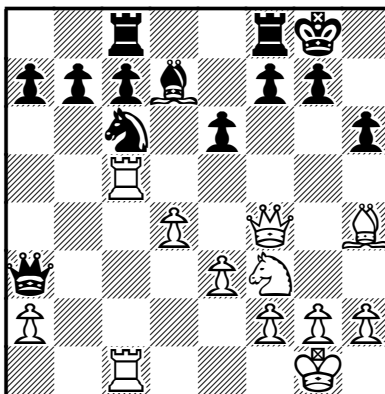
Demolishing the pawn shield.

**36...ef5 37. Qf5 Ke8 38. Qe6 Qe7 39. Rg8 mate**

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Not so fast! Position no. 9 (Tejes-MacFarland) on page 5 of the March/April *California Chess Journal* is not so simple.



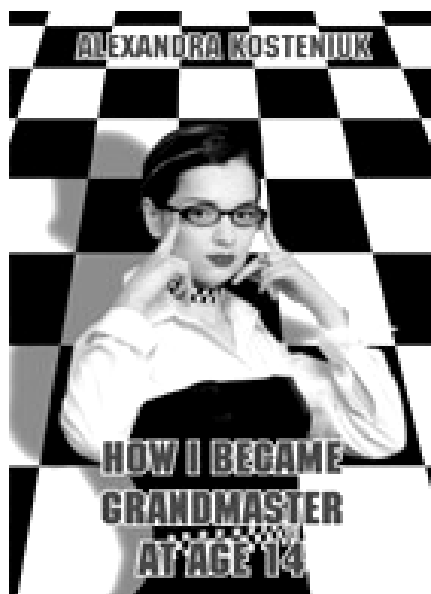
1. Bf6! is suggested in the answer on page 23, but I think this should be marked as Bf6! since Black can safely play ...gf6.

The point is that the rook on c1 becomes loose after the rook at c5 tries to move and that would lead to White getting mated.

Perhaps the best for White (after Black grabs the free bishop at f6) might be the try 2. Qf6 but then Black can play 2...b6 putting the question to the rook. If the rook moves on the file, it is no longer available for the attack and if it moves along the rank, Black has ...Qc1 leading to mate. It is possible that White could still make some kind of successful attack using the queen and the knight but it is not entirely clear.

Even better for Black (after 1. Bf6?!) would be the immediate ...b6 before weakening the king position. Now it hard to see how White can gain any advantage.  
Eugene Levin

## Buy This Book—How I Became a Grandmaster at Age 14



Alexandra Kosteniuk, who reached the finals of the 2002 FIDE women's world championship knockout tournament, was the youngest player ever to earn the title of woman grandmaster. Her book *How I Became a Grandmaster at Age 14* features:

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- 24 pages of color photographs
- 78 mate-in-one problems and 27 grandmaster tactics to sharpen one's combinative eye
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If you order from Alexandra's web site, [kosteniuk.com](http://kosteniuk.com), the book is \$22, but we liked it enough to buy two dozen copies, and we have a couple of 'em left for \$18 (\$15 plus \$3 shipping).

Frisco Del Rosario, 126 Fifteenth Ave., San Mateo CA 94402-2414

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Send changes and new information to [frisco@appleisp.net](mailto:frisco@appleisp.net).

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Fridays 8-11 p.m., Sun. afternoons

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1333 Park Street  
Alameda  
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Tuesdays 6:30-11 p.m.  
Arcata Community Center  
321 Community Park Way  
James Bauman  
(707) 822-7619

## Benicia

Larry Whitlow  
(707) 642-4725

## Berkeley

Fridays 7 p.m.  
Epworth United Methodist Church  
1953 Hopkins  
Alan Glasscoe  
(510) 652-5324

## Burlingame

Thursdays 7 p.m.  
Burlingame Lions Club  
990 Burlingame Ave.  
Tom Dorsch  
(650) 322-0955  
[www.burlingamechessclub.com](http://www.burlingamechessclub.com)

## Campbell

Thursdays 7-11:30 p.m.  
Campbell Community Center  
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Fred Leffingwell  
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4701 Gibbons

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Wednesday nights  
Fair Fix Cafe

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Borders Books and Music  
Hans Poschmann  
[hspwood2@home.net](mailto:hspwood2@home.net)  
(510) 656-8505

## Fresno

Carl's Jr.  
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26th at MacDonald

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Ross CA 94957

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Stonestown Senior YMCA Annex  
3150 20th Ave.  
Joan Arbil  
(415) 332-9548

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2175 Lincoln Ave.  
Jerry Marshall  
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## Santa Clara

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p.m.

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(408) 241-1447

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Peter Menetti  
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(707) 537-0162

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[maigner@stanford.edu](mailto:maigner@stanford.edu)

## Stockton

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St. Andrews Lutheran Church  
4910 Claremont Ave  
Jacob Green  
(209) 942-2812  
[jacobgreen@msn.com](mailto:jacobgreen@msn.com)  
<http://www.geocities.com/jacobgreen87/STKNCHESS.html>

## Stockton Delta Knights

Sundays 1-4 p.m.  
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3535 N. El Dorado  
Jacob Green  
1-209-942-2812

## Visalia

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Mooney at Caldwell  
Allan Fifield  
(559) 734-2784  
[hometown.aol.com/visaliachess/myhomepage/profile.html](http://hometown.aol.com/visaliachess/myhomepage/profile.html)

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## Yuba City

Mondays and Weds. 7-11 p.m.  
Carl's Jr.  
Bridge St. and Highway 99  
Tom Giertych  
(916) 671-1715

# Tournament Calendar

Events marked with an star ☆ offer discounted entry fees for CalChess members, and/or the organizers are making a contribution to CalChess from the entry fees. The *California Chess Journal* encourages participation in those events.

For the most up-to-date schedule, go to <http://www.calchess.org/scholasticschedule.html> and <http://www.calchess.org/tournamentschedule.html>.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>CalChess</b>
May 24	<b>KnowChess Scholastic</b>	Portola Valley	
Riley Hughes, 4019 Rector Common, Fremont 94538 (510) 623-1889 knowchess@aol.com			
May 24-26	<b>2nd Koltanowski Memorial</b>	Sacramento	☆
John McCumiskey, 6700 50th St., Sacramento 95823-1306 (916) 428-5532, jmclmc@lanset.com			
May 31	<b>Mechanics' Institute Childrens' Quads</b>	San Francisco	
Anthony Corrales, 57 Post St., Mechanics Institute Room 408, San Francisco 94101 (415) 421-2258 chessroom@milibrary.org			
June 6-8	<b>30th Arthur Stamer Memorial</b>	San Francisco	
John Donaldson, 57 Post St., Mechanics Institute Room 408, San Francisco 94101 (415) 421-2258 imjwd@aol.com			
June 7	<b>2003 Stockton Summer Scholastic</b>	Stockton	☆
John McCumiskey, 6700 50th St., Sacramento 95823-1306 (916) 428-5532, jmclmc@lanset.com			
June 21	<b>St. Alban's Scholastic</b>	Sacramento	☆
John McCumiskey, 6700 50th St., Sacramento 95823-1306 (916) 428-5532, jmclmc@lanset.com			
June 21	<b>KnowChess Scholastic</b>	Palo Alto	
Riley Hughes, 4019 Rector Common, Fremont 94538 (510) 623-1889 knowchess@aol.com			
June 21	<b>Mechanics' Institute Childrens' Quads</b>	San Francisco	
Anthony Corrales, 57 Post St., Mechanics Institute Room 408, San Francisco 94101 (415) 421-2258 chessroom@milibrary.org			
June 28	<b>3rd William Addison Memorial G/45</b>	San Francisco	
John Donaldson, 57 Post St., Mechanics Institute Room 408, San Francisco 94101 (415) 421-2258 imjwd@aol.com			
July 4-6	<b>Sacramento Chess Championship</b>	Sacramento	☆
John McCumiskey, 6700 50th St., Sacramento 95823-1306 (916) 428-5532, jmclmc@lanset.com			
July 19	<b>3rd Charles Bagby Memorial G/45</b>	San Francisco	
John Donaldson, 57 Post St., Mechanics Institute Room 408, San Francisco 94101 (415) 421-2258 imjwd@aol.com			
July 19	<b>Hayward Library Scholastic Quads</b>	Hayward	☆
Dr. Alan Kirshner, 66 Indian Hill Place, Fremont 94539 (510) 657-1586, info@successchess.com			
July 26	<b>2nd Success-Weibel Summer Quads</b>	Fremont	☆
Dr. Alan Kirshner, 66 Indian Hill Place, Fremont 94539 (510) 657-1586, info@successchess.com			
August 3-15	<b>U.S. Open</b>	Los Angeles	

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