

Scottish Correspondence Chess Association

Magazine No.99

Autumn 2007

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- George annotates more games
- **ICCF Rating Update**
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- Part 6 of Geoff Lloyd's instructive text
- **Norwegian Wood**
- GM Raymond Boger annotates a game for us

4 Printed Issues
Price £5 per annum





Welcome to the autumn edition of 2007, with the news that global warming turned up briefly before moving on to somewhere more deserving. Alan Brown has decided not to wait for it re-appear, and is now wintering in Spain. We welcome Dr Kevin Paine to the post of Membership Secretary, and he'll be processing this year's renewals.

We didn't get enough responses to our idea of a 30th anniversary dinner, so that won't be going ahead (maybe just as well, as the prospect of massed CC players dribbling down their bibs is a frightening one). However, we hope to make progress on the playing events at the upcoming ICCF Congress in Spain and we'll keep you posted on those.

George Pyrich continues his annotations of Webserver Open games, where he is acting as TD. The preliminary sections are all drawing to exciting conclusions about now.

Raymond Baxter supplies the autumn update on ratings following the latest ICCF list. Our longer-term plan is to have all our ratings on the ICCF system, and we'll explain how we'll do this in a future issue.

Stuart Mackenzie has provided us with full Accounts, and happily, a small surplus. Thanks are due to Alan Hind for undertaking the audit. We haven't had an application for the Treasurer post yet, so I've run the advertisement again.


Bernard's Games Column made it to the magazine, but only after he recovered from a computer crash, and used a neighbour's PC to send emails. If you want excitement, head for Hawick!

This edition features the sixth instalment of Geoff Lloyd's serialised book, and we continue chapter 3 which deals with pieces working in partnership. Geoff has also sent yet more anecdotes – clearly no-one else is having fun out there!

I finally got round to editing a nice game from Norwegian GM Raymond Boger after having translated it partly from the original Norwegian, then German (it turned up in a recent issue of *Fernschach*). I hope it makes sense...

Finally, there won't be any ICCF email thematics in 2008 – evidence that email is being squeezed by postal and webserver modes of play.

INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE CHESS FEDERATION

ICCF  AMICI

Issue 09 Sep/Oct 2007

Michael Blake has taken over editorship of the ICCF Amici magazine, and is producing it in pdf format. Editions are planned on a bi-monthly frequency. You can download free copies of the magazine and its games from:

<http://www.iccf.com/amici>

SCCA Webserver Open



<http://www.iccf-webchess.com/>

To view tables and games in the SCCA Webserver Open you don't need to register on the ICCF server - go to the website (above), click Tables and Results, then National Federation Events then Scotland Events.

Recent 100 Club Winners

2007	1st	2nd
September	Mrs D M Livie	G W G Livie
August	Mrs D M Livie	G D Pyrich
July	G D Pyrich	G D Pyrich

SCCA Officials				
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Webserver Open Update

By George Pyrich

Play continues to progress quickly in our SCCA Webserver Open Tournament with keen competition for the 3 Final qualifying places in each group.

8 games remain unfinished in Section A where Stuart Graham currently heads the table with an excellent 7/8 score and is assured of a Final place. However, a lot can happen in the other unfinished games and presently Iain Mackintosh and Alan Borwell look favourites to take the remaining 2 qualifying places. John McBride has finished with 5½/9 and can only hope that other results go his way.

Only 1 game remains unfinished in Section B where Alan Bell and Geoff Lloyd have clinched spots in the Final. Presently Alan Brown occupies 3rd place having finished with 6½/9 but he can possibly be surpassed by Hugh Calder if he can win his last game against Stuart Graham.

Section C is also very interesting and presently only 2 games remain undecided. Tom Matheis has finished with 8/9 and is assured of qualifying. Pre-tournament favourite David Kilgour has recently put in a strong finishing spurt and can possibly equal this score if he can win his 1 remaining game. David Edney and Jonathan McLatchie remain in contention for the final qualifying place.

Play is scheduled to continue in all 3 Sections until 25 January 2008 and games can be viewed live (with 5 move delay) at the ICCF server site www.iccf-webchess.com



Our first game sees some typically direct play from Alan Borwell as he quickly overwhelms Dave Dempster.

Borwell,A (2207) – Dempster,D (1936)
Scottish CCA Webserver Open – Section A ICCF,,2007
[Notes by George Pyrich]

1.e4	c5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.d4	cxd4
4.Nxd4	Nf6
5.Nc3	d6
6.Bg5	e6
7.Qd2	Be7
8.0-0-0	0-0
9.f3	Nxd4
10.Qxd4	a6
11.h4	b5
12.Kb1	Qc7
13.h5	

[13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.Qd2 is also playable]

13...	h6
14.Bxf6	gxf6

[maybe 14...Bxf6 15.Qxd6 Ra7 is playable for Black]

15.Rh3
[15.Qd2 was tried in Mercadal Benjam v. Millstone, Rochade Team Tournament, 2004 15...Kg7 16.Bd3 b4 17.Nc2 a5 18.Rh3 Qc5 19.c3 and eventually drawn]

15...	Kh7
-------	-----

[15...e5? is disastrous after 16.Rg3+ Kh7 17.Nd5!; but 15...Qc5 looks better here 16.Rg3+ Kh7 17.Qd3 Bb7 18.e5+?! f5 19.exd6 Rfd8 is ok for Black]



16.e5!
And wins! The rest is gruesome for Black.

16...	dx5
-------	-----

[16...d5 17.exf6 Bd6 18.Bd3+]

17.Qe4+	f5
18.Qxa8	Bb7
19.Qa7	Bc5
20.Rd7!	Qxd7
21.Qxc5	Qd2
22.a3	Qe1+
23.Ka2	Qxf1
24.Qxf8	Bd5+
25.b3	Qc1
26.Qxf7+	Kh8
27.Qe8+	Kh7
28.Qd7+	Kh8
29.Qc8+	

Now that White can capture on d5 next move Dave threw in the towel.

1-0



Next one of our regular contributors shows why the Sveshnikov is so popular for Black.

Scott,A – Lloyd,G (2258)
Scottish CCA Webserver Open – Section B ICCF 2007
[Notes by George Pyrich]

1.e4	c5
2.Nf3	Nc6

3.d4 cxd4
 4.Nxd4 Nf6
 5.Nc3 e5
 6.Ndb5 d6
 7.Bg5 a6
 8.Na3 b5
 9.Nd5 Be7
 10.Bxf6 Bxf6
 11.Be2

[11.c3 followed by 12.Nc2 is more usual here]

11... 0-0
 12.c3 Bg5
 13.0-0 Ne7
 14.Nc2 Nxd5



15.exd5?!

A dubious decision as Black's d6 pawn is no longer vulnerable and also Black now has a 4-3 pawn majority on the kingside [15.Qxd5 Be6 16.Qd3 is about equal]

15... Bd7
 16.Nb4 Qb6
 17.Bd3 g6
 18.Qe2 f5
 19.Kh1 Rab8

[19...e4 immediately looks stronger]

20.a4 e4
 21.Bc2 a5
 22.Nc6 Bxc6
 23.dxc6 Qxc6
 24.f3 d5
 25.g4?! bxa4
 26.Rxa4? Rxb2
 27.c4 Qxa4

Ouch!

0-1



Finally, Tom Matheis swashes and Clement Sreeves buckles as they used to do in days of yore.

Sreeves,C – Matheis,T (2292)
 Scottish CCA Webserver Open – Section C ICCF 2007
 [Notes by George Pyrich]

1.e4 e5
 2.f4 exf4
 3.Bc4 Qh4+
 4.Kf1 Nf6
 5.Nf3 Qh6

[5...Qh5 is more usual here when one historic example is the consultation game between Bristol Chess Club and Cardiff Chess Club played 1860-1 which continued 6.d4 d5 7.exd5 Bd6 8.Qe1+ Kd8 9.Ne5 Re8 10.Be2 Bg4 11.Bxf4 Nbd7 12.Nxg4 Nxg4 13.Bxd6 cxd6 14.Qa5+ b6 15.Bxg4 Qxg4 16.Qd2 Re4 17.c3 Kc7 18.Na3 Rac8 19.h3 Qf5+ 20.Kg1 Re2 21.Qe1 Qf2+ 22.Kh2 Qxg2#] 6.Nc3 c6 improving on [6...Be7 played in the game Maliutin–Levitsky, St Petersburg 1905 which continued 7.d4 0-0 8.c5 Nh5 9.Rg1 g5 10.g4 fxg3 11.Nd5! when White scored a crushing win in 22 moves]

7.d4 Be7
 8.e5 Ng4



9.Qe2 0-0
 10.Kg1 d5!

Now Black takes over completely. White is effectively a rook down!

11.Bd3 f6
 12.h3?!

Hastens the end but what to do?

12... Ne3
 13.Bxe3 fxe3
 14.Re1 fxe5
 15.Nxe5 Bh4

A Bishop check at f2 will soon put White out of his misery.

0-1



[Editor: One or two results have been posted since George submitted this article, and the following page lists the most up to date positions as at 8 October in the three sections:]

Scottish CCA Webserver Open - Section A					TD Pyrich, George D.										Score	SB	R	Place	
Rated					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
1	SCO	211664	Graham, Stuart	1800 ^P	■	½	1	½	1	1	1	1	1	1 ^D	._C	8	25.5	0	1
2	SCO	620345	Mackintosh, Iain	2450	½	■	1	½	½	1	½	1	1	1 ^D	._C	7	22.5	0	2
3	SCO	620640	McBride, John	1800 ^P	0	0	■	½	½	½	1	1	1	1 ^D	._C	5.5	13	0	3
4	SCO	620098	IM Borwell, Alan P.	2207	½	½	½	■	.	½	.	.	1	1 ^D	._C	4	14	3	4
5	SCO	620623	Paine, Dr. Kevin	1800 ^P	0	½	½	.	■	½	½	.	½	1 ^D	._C	3.5	10.75	2	5
6	SCO	620639	Jamieson, Ian M.	1800 ^P	0	0	½	½	½	■	½	½	.	1 ^D	._C	3.5	9.25	1	6
7	ENG	620577	Price, Derek	2082	0	½	0	.	½	½	■	½	½	1 ^D	._C	3.5	9	1	7
8	SCO	620424	Anderson, James	1627	0	0	0	.	.	½	½	■	.	1 ^D	._C	2	3.5	3	8
9	AUS	30129	Dempster, Dave	1936	0	0	0	0	½	.	½	.	■	1 ^D	._C	2	3.5	2	9
10	SCO	620638	Blyth, Sam Turner	1800 ^P	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	■	._C	0	0	0	10
11	SCO	211319	Neil, Charles	1800 ^P	._C	._C	._C	._C	._C	._C	._C	._C	._C	._C	■	0	0	0	10

Scottish CCA Webserver Open - Section B					TD Pyrich, George D.										Score	SB	R	Place	
Rated					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
1	SCO	620643	Bell, Alan D.	1800 ^P	■	½	½	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1 ^D	8	29.25	0	1
2	SCO	629031	Lloyd, Geoffrey	2258	½	■	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	1	1 ^D	7	23.75	0	2
3	SCO	620498	Brown, Dr. Alan C.	2370	½	½	■	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	1 ^D	6.5	22	0	3
4	SCO	620614	Calder, Hugh	2037	0	½	½	■	.	1	1	1	1	1	1 ^D	6	17.25	1	4
5	SCO	211664	Graham, Stuart	1800 ^P	0	½	½	.	■	1	1	1	1	1	1 ^D	6	17.25	1	4
6	SCO	620641	Scott, Alex	1800 ^P	0	0	½	0	0	■	½	1	1	1	1 ^D	4	8.5	0	6
7	SCO	620445	Rough, R. E.	1800 ^P	0	0	0	0	0	½	■	0	1	1	1 ^D	2.5	4	0	7
8	SCO	620418	Hilton, Stephen H.	1544	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	■	0	1	1 ^D	2	2.5	0	8
9	SCO	211319	Neil, Charles	1800 ^P	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	■	1	1 ^D	2	2	0	9
10	SCO	620642	Blyth, Stuart	1800 ^P	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	0 ^D	■		0	0	0	10

Scottish CCA Webserver Open - Section C					TD Pyrich, George D.										Score	SB	R	Place	
Rated					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
1	SCO	620588	Matheis, Thomas	2292	■	½	½	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	28.25	0	1
2	SCO	620192	GM Kilgour, David A.	2490	½	■	.	½	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	22.25	1	2
3	SCO	629036	Edney, David	2157	½	.	■	½	½	1	1	1	1	1	1	6.5	20	1	3
4	SCO	620646	McLatchie, Jonathan	1800 ^P	0	½	½	■	1 ^D	1	½	1	1	1	1	6.5	20.25	0	4
5	SCO	620644	Sreeves, Clement	1800 ^P	0	0	½	0 ^D	■	1	0	1	1	1	1	4.5	10.75	0	5
6	SCO	620637	Brooksbank, Kenneth	1800 ^P	0	0	0	0	0	■	1	1	1	.		3	6.5	1	6
7	SCO	620393	MacGregor, Colin A.	1941	0	0	0	½	1	0	■	0	½	1	1	3	9.5	0	7
8	SCO	620625	Doherty, Terry	1800 ^P	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	■	0	1	1	2	4	0	8
9	SCO	620645	MacArainn, Gordon	1800 ^P	0	0	0	0	0	0	½	1	■	0	1	1.5	3.5	0	9
10	SCO	211319	Neil, Charles	1800 ^P	0	0	0	0	0	.	0	0	1	■		1	1.5	1	10

x^D = result by default

x^P = provisional

Latest results from 9/26/2007 are displayed in red.





2007 Grading Update

By Raymond Baxter

A new ICCF grading list has been published. The new grades are based on results up to 30 June 2007, and will apply to internationally graded games starting between 1 October 2007 and 31 March 2008. The following grades have changed. If your name does not appear on this list, then either you do not have an international grade, or it is the same as that previously shown. International grades have been gained for the first time by Terry Doherty, Stuart Graham, Judith MacCaellish-Young, Charles Neil and Alex Scott. A provisional grade is marked by an asterisk.

No.	Name	Results	Grade	No.	Name	Results	Grade
317	Almarza-Mato, C	258	2133	429	McAleenan, C O	33	1748
518	Anderson, G M	116	2279	441	MacCaellish-Young, Ms J	15	1517 *
121	Anderson, J	102	1613	584	Macgregor, C A	124	1783
313	Armstrong, J M	23	1661 *	532	Mackintosh, I	361	2278
511	Beecham, C R	275	2490	216	Macmillen, A N	259	1413
509	Borwell, A P	585	2244	566	Marshall, I H	281	1961
215	Brown, Dr A C	161	2335	434	Matheis, T	74	2375
423	Calder, H	32	2069	591	May, M A	70	2269
173	Cook, W M	54	1982	333	Montgomery, R S	98	2243
364	Coope, D W	328	1734	440	Neil, C	24	1672 *
527	Craig, T J	309	2376	225	Norris, Rev A C	204	1939
166	Cumming, D R	242	1880	432	Price, D	32	2030
422	Dawson, Prof A G	20	2265 *	048	Pyrich, G D	681	2233
430	Doherty, T	15	1702 *	136	Reeman, I F	115	2282
371	Edney, D	88	2141	437	Roberts, A	110	1836
124	Goodwin, B J	68	2175	522	Savage, D J	64	2014
445	Graham, S	56	2217	449	Scott, A	16	1884 *
548	Kilgour, D A	250	2479	439	Smith, M J	17	1820 *
260	Knox, A	42	1774	350	Sowden, E C	448	2259
419	Lees, J A	65	2047	546	Stewart, Dr K W C	106	2134
256	Lennox, C J	141	2309	365	Thompson, B	337	2352
264	Lloyd, G	170	2166	592	Young, S M	44	1900
337	Loughran, R J	38	1808				

Top 30 Active & Full ICCF Grades

No.	Grade	Name	No.	Grade	Name
1	2538	Finnie, DS (SIM)	16	2335	Brown, Dr A C (SM)
2	2490	Beecham, C R (IM)	17	2332	Baxter, R W M (SM)
3	2479	Kilgour, D A (GM)	18	2325	Stewart, D J (SM)
4	2467	Neil, D (SM)	19	2309	Lennox, C J (SM)
5	2452	McNab, Dr C A (SIM)	20	2282	Reeman, I F
6	2426	Giulian, P M (SIM)	21	2279	Anderson, G M
7	2415	Swan, I	22	2278	Mackintosh, I (SM)
8	2401	Sprott, G R (IM)	23	2275	Watson, Joe (IM)
9	2396	Franks, K	24	2269	May, M A
10	2376	Craig, T J (SIM)	25	2244	Borwell, A P (IM)
11	2376	Aird, I (SM)	26	2243	Montgomery, R S
12	2375	Matheis, T	27	2238	Sneddon, I
13	2363	Gillam, S R (SM)	28	2233	Pyrich, G D (IM)
14	2352	Thompson, B	29	2232	Jenkins, D M
15	2342	Livie, G W G (IM)	30	2217	Graham, S



SCCA Accounts 2006-07

By Stuart Mackenzie

2005-06			Profit & Loss	2006-07		
Income	Expenses	Net		Income	Expenses	Net
			General			
295.00			Annual Members (51@£5)	255.00		
0.00			Life Members (0@£80)	0.00		
0.00			Patron Members (0@£100)	0.00		
142.00			Donations	185.00		
540.00			Chess Scotland Grant	540.00		
253.31			Bank Interest	238.99		
0.00			Cheque Stopped		5.00	
	220.15		Committee Expenses		84.03	
	30.00		Chess Scotland Affiliation Fee		30.00	
	254.98		ICCF Affiliation Fee		157.78	
	70.00	<u>655.18</u>	Auditor's Fee		70.00	<u>872.18</u>
			Domestic Competitions			
133.00			Individual Entry Fees	149.00		
0.00			Team League Fees	36.00		
0.00			Adjudication Fees	0.00		
	39.20		Prizes & Trophies		210.00	
	0.00	<u>93.80</u>	Controllers' Expenses		5.97	<u>-30.97</u>
			International Competitions			
26.00			International Match Fees	38.00		
	250.00		D M Livie Memorial 1 st Prize		0.00	
	0.00		D M Livie Memorial Other Prizes		250.00	
	0.00	<u>-224.00</u>	Controllers' Expenses		0.00	<u>-212.00</u>
			ICCF Competitions			
140.00			Individual Entry Fees	130.00		
	0.00		Bank Transfer Fees		28.38	
	95.06	<u>44.94</u>	Individual & Team Fees		0.00	<u>101.62</u>
			Magazine			
177.00			New Magazine Email (51@£3)	153.00		
185.00			New Magazine Printed (30@£5)	150.00		
	273.00	<u>89.00</u>	Printing & Postage		275.80	<u>27.20</u>
			Website			
93.41	93.41		ISP Connection Fees (Donation)	62.92	62.92	
0.00	0.00	<u>0.00</u>	Domain Registration (Donation)	6.79	6.79	<u>0.00</u>
			100 Club			
962.00			Units Bought	1240.00		
	540.00		Prizes		540.00	
	35.00	<u>387.00</u>	Lottery Licence		0.00	<u>700.00</u>
			ICCF Books			
0.00			Sale of Books	0.00		
	0.00	<u>0.00</u>	Purchase of Books		0.00	<u>0.00</u>

(continued)

2005-06			Profit & Loss	2006-07		
Income	Expenses	Net		Income	Expenses	Net
	0.00		Other		36.00	
	20.00		Scottish Chess Advert		15.00	
	120.00		Hire of Hall for AGM		0.00	
	1300.00	-1440.00	Tsunami Appeal Donation		800.00	-851.00
			ICCF Delegate Travel			
<u>2946.72</u>	<u>3340.80</u>	<u>-394.08</u>	Surplus/Deficit	<u>3184.70</u>	<u>2577.67</u>	<u>607.03</u>

Balance Sheet 2006-07

Bank Summary	Opening	Payins	Withdrawn	Written Off	Transfers	Closing	2005-06
BoS Current	2476.62	3020.87	2694.22	0.00	0.00	2803.27	
Standard Life	5212.91	209.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	5422.03	
	7689.53	3229.99	2694.22	0.00	0.00	<u>8225.30</u>	<u>7689.53</u>
Net Opening/Closing	<u>535.77</u>						

Liabilities	Creditor	Debtor		
Auditor's Fees	70.00			
100 Club 2 nd Prize	15.00			
100 Club Income for 2007-08	132.00			
D M Livie Memorial Prizes	250.00			
Accrued Prizes 06-07	210.00			
Uncashed Cheque	157.78			
Subtotals/Net	<u>834.78</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-834.78</u>	<u>-906.04</u>

Net Assets at March 31, 2007 **7390.52** **6783.49**

Capital Account

Balances b/f	5783.49	6177.57
Surplus/Deficit	607.03	-394.08
Subtotal	<u>6390.52</u>	<u>5783.49</u>
Less Allocation to Development Account	0.00	0.00
Balances c/f	<u>6390.52</u>	<u>5783.49</u>

Development Account

Balance b/f	1000.00	1000.00
Allocation from Capital Account	0.00	0.00
	<u>1000.00</u>	<u>1000.00</u>

Account Totals **7390.52** **6783.49**

Auditor's Report

I have examined the foregoing accounts and have obtained such explanations as I considered necessary. In my opinion these accounts have been properly prepared from the accounting records of the Association and are in agreement therewith.

Alan Hind, September 2007



Power Play 5 : Pawns By Daniel King



You might be a brilliant tactician or a fearsome attacker, but you won't always be able to apply these skills when you play. If a game takes on a quieter nature, it is crucial that you develop an understanding of pawn structures, pawn play and pawn weaknesses. In this fifth Power Play DVD, Daniel King discusses strong and weak pawn structures, isolated pawns and pawn islands, how to create pawn weaknesses, how to cramp a pawn structure, the power of centre pawns...and much more. Remember, weak pawns can decide the game. At the end of the DVD you can test your understanding of pawn play and pawn structures by examining a series of specially selected test positions. The Power Play series is suitable for anyone looking to improve their chess, but also provides ready-made lessons and exercises for a trainer. Francois André Danican Philidor: „THE PAWNS ARE THE SOUL OF CHESS.“ Video running time: more than 6 hours!

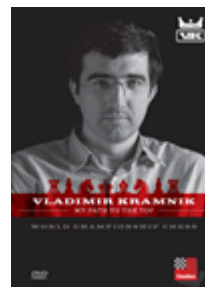
The Accelerated Dragon By Nigel Davies



The Accelerated Dragon is much more than just a dynamic yet solid means of countering 1.e4. By knowing how to counter the Maroczy Bind Black can counter both the English and Reti Openings and even develop the basis of a defence against 1.d4.

Whilst having been used extensively by superstars such as Bent Larsen and Tigran Petrosian, Davies argues that the Accelerated Dragon is an even more effective proposition for club players. As he explains on this DVD, many White players are under the mistaken impression that the positions are like a regular Sicilian Dragon. And if this is the case they can find himself being demolished right out of the opening. Video running time: 4 hours.

My Path to the Top By Vladimir Kramnik



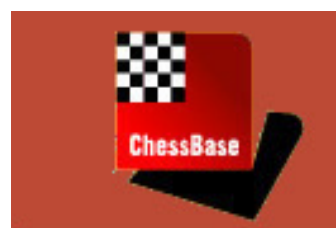
Born in 1975 in Tuapse on the shores of the Black Sea, Vladimir Kramnik studied at the Botvinnik-Kasparov chess school. At 16 he was included in the Russian Olympiad team and scored a sensational 8.5/9, the best result at the Olympiad.

After that followed a string of great tournament results, culminating in a world championship challenge. In 2000 Kramnik played the chess legend Garry Kasparov and beat him to take the title, which he successfully defended in 2004 against Peter Leko and 2006 against FIDE champion Veselin Topalov, whom he defeated to take the unified world championship title.

On this DVD Vladimir Kramnik retraces his career from talented schoolboy to World Champion in 2006. With humour and charm he describes his first successes, what it meant to be part of the Russian Gold Medal team at the Olympiad, and how he undertook the Herculean task of beating his former mentor and teacher Garry Kasparov.

Kramnik dissects his wins against Leko and Topalov, giving us a vivid impression of the super-dramatic final games of the 2006 match. His commentary is full of useful advice and provides a fascinating insight into the thought processes that govern top level play.

The DVD contains more than six hours of video with narrative and game analysis. There are also five additional segments from an exclusive video interview on the intrigues that surrounded the 2006 world championship, and on the state of the chess world in general.





Games Column

by Bernard Milligan

Things have started off badly as I prepared to start work on the items for the Autumn magazine. My computer died a few days ago which meant I have had to look around for a laptop I could borrow and install the Chessbase software on it and re enter the games for this article. All hassle I could do without. I may have to contact entrants in the Challenge tournament to get the results of their games completed so far this year. Still I will get there eventually.

The next edition of the magazine will be our 100th edition so it would be nice to see members making an extra effort to send in some annotated games for the games column for this milestone edition.

Anyway onto this edition which has some interesting games which I am sure you will enjoy. The first game has a nice Rook and pawn endgame which you should find quite instructive.

SCCA Server Open, 2007

White: J McLatchie

Black: T Matheis

Petroff Defence [C42]

[Annotator Tom Matheis]

The following game was played in new SCCA Server Open. As always in such Open tournaments, I was paired with players of various strengths in Group 3. I was particularly interested in GM Kilgour's performance and it came as big surprise to see that he was finding it more difficult than I thought. I was also interested in the performance of the new players. Would any of them come close to qualifying? As far as my games were concerned, only Jonathan McLatchie of all the newcomers really gave me a good run for my money.

1.e4 e5
2.Nf3 Nf6

My favourite defence with Black. The Petroff is a solid opening and it speaks for itself that I haven't lost a single correspondence game with this opening. However, on the downside, it can be extremely difficult to gain an advantage if White plays solid moves as this game clearly shows.

3.Nxe5

The other main alternative is 3.d4

3... d6
4.Nf3

4.Nxf7 is hardly ever seen at correspondence level, but is very dangerous for Black in OTB chess!

4... Nxe4
5.d4

An alternative worth considering is 5.Nc3 as played by Charles Neil against me in the same tournament. White is prepared to accept a damaged pawn structure after 5...Nxc3 in favour of open lines and active play.

5... d5
6.Bd3 Nc6

Or 6...Bd6. Both moves are of equal quality and played regularly at the highest level.

7.0-0 Be7
8.Re1



Far more popular nowadays is 8.c4 as played by David Edney in our game which continued 8...Nb4 9. Be2 O-O 10. Nc3 Bf5 11. a3 Nxc3 12. bxc3 Nc6 13. Re1 Re8 14. Be3 Bf6 =. 'c4' may be a popular move, but Black obtains a very solid position in most variations.

8... Bg4
9.c4

Or 9.c3 which has a slightly higher success rate.

9... Nf6
10.cxd5

Or 10.Nc3 which was frequently played

by Kasparov in the 80's and also by Anand, Shirov and Judith Polgar in the late 90's.

10...Bxf3

Pre-2000 the preferred move was Nxd5, but nobody seemed to come up with a promising, solid line for Black. Nxd5 was played numerous times by Artur Jussupov who contributed greatly to the Petroff theory over the years, but even he only managed one win notable win with this move against the German Lutz in 1996.

11.Qxf3 Qxd5

12.Qxd5



Two alternatives :

a) 12. Qh3 Nxd4 13. Nc3 Qd7 14. Qxd7+ Kxd7 15. Be3 Ne6 16. Rad1 Bd6 17. Bf5 Ke7 18. Nb5 Rhd8 19. Nxd6 cxd6 20. h3 b6 21. g4 h6 22. Bd4 Rac8 23. Bc3 g6 24. Bc2 h5 25. f3 1/2-1/2 Kasparov-Karpov, 1984 WC,

b) 12. Qg3 Qxd4 13. Nc3 O-O 14. Nb5 Qg4 15. Qxg4 Nxg4 16. Bf5 Nf6 17. Nxc7 Rad8 18. Be3 Bb4 19. Re1 g6 20. Bh3 a6 = Kamsky-Khalifman, 1999. In recent years these 2 alternatives have all but disappeared from the highest level and in fact, in the last 5 years, only 12. Qg3 featured once in a game by A.Kosteniuk in which she lost rather quickly: 12. Qg3 Qxd4 13. Nc3 O-O 14. Nb5 Qg4 15. Bf4 Qxg3 16. Bxg3 Rad8 17. Rad1 Bb4 18. Rf1 a6 19. Nxc7 Ba5 20. Bb1 Nd4 21. Bd3 Rd7 22. Be5 Rfd8 23. Rc1 Nc6 24. Bf5 Re7 25. Bxf6 gxf6 0-1 Kosteniuk-Lahno, 1994.

12... Nxd5
13.Nc3

13.Be4 has ed but I couldn't find any GM game where this move led to a White win!

13... 0-0-0

Some players experimented with 13...Ndb4 (most notably Timman) mainly in the 80's, but without much success. 0-0-0 is almost always played nowadays.

14.Bf5+!?

An interesting move which has only been put to the test at correspondence level so far. Forcing the Black King to b8 has no immediate impact on the position, so I tend to still favour the normal 14.Be4 instead.

14... Kb8
15.Be4 Bb4
16.Bxd5 Rxd5
17.Be3?



The first of several crucial points in the game. Be3 is certainly playable so why the question mark you may ask? The position is still nicely balanced and the only weak spot in either camp is the isolated White pawn on d4. Ergo it should be obvious that I would try to put the pawn under as much pressure as possible given half a chance. Up to now Jonathan was playing extremely fast and Be3 was again sent after hardly any reflection time at all so I'm not sure if he was aware of the problems the weak isolated pawn could cause him. Safe and better alternatives would've been 17.Nxd5 Bxe1 18.Nxc7 (18.Bf4 Ba5 -+) Bxf2 19.Kxf2 Kxc7 20.Bf4+ Kd7= or 17.a3 Bxc3 18.bxc3 Rhd8=.

17... Rd7
18.a3

This comes a move too late. Now that my rook has moved out of the Knight's firing line, I can keep my Bishop, place it on b6 and attack the d4 pawn. All of a sudden White is on the backfoot.

18... Ba5

19.b4 Bb6
20.d5 Ne7
21.Bxb6 cxb6

One of the golden rules of chess says that pawns should move towards the centre. I thought long and hard about axb6, but couldn't see any long-term benefits. After cxb6 it's easier for the King to become active and I had also analysed several lines with an active Black rook on the c-file.

22.Rad1 Rhd8
23.Re5 Rc8
24.d6!



Jonathan decides to be proactive rather than reactive and sacrifices the pawn for active counterplay. A good decision in my opinion as it should secure the draw with correct play.

24... Rxc3
25.Rxe7 Rxd6

26.Rde1

Of course not Rxd6 because of Rc1 with mate.

26... Rc7

In order to make the extra pawn count, Black needs to exchange at least one pair of rooks, therefore Rc7 and not Rf6.

27.Re8+ Rc8
28.R8e7 Rf8

The only move worth playing. The position is equal.

29.h3 h5
30.Kh2 g6
31.R1e3 a5!

My last two moves look innocuous, but at this point I wanted to have one last crack at winning the game. I was prepared to give back my extra pawn by sacrificing the one on f7. But I had to protect my g and h pawns first and I'm now happy with the current formation.

32.bxa5??

The second crucial point of the game! Jonathan again replied after hardly any thinking time at all and played the worst possible move in this position. Black mustn't allow an extra Black pawn on the queen side. Instead he could've easily played 32. Kg3 or b5 with excellent drawing chances. Kg3 is by far the more solid of the two options and there are numerous playable lines that should secure the half point. After 32.b5, White has to be a bit more careful, for example 32...Rd5 33.a4 Rd4 34.Ra3 h4 35.g3 Ka7 36.Kg2 hxg3 37.fxg3 f5 38.Rg7 f4 39.Kf3 fxg3 40. Kxg3 Rff4 41.Rxg6 Rxa4 42.Rxa4 Rxa4 43.h4 =

32... bxa5
33.Rb3 b6
34.Rc3 Rc8

Black has to prevent 35.Rcc7.

35.Rxc8+ Kxc8
36.Rxf7

Now I've achieved my goals. I've exchanged one pair of rooks, my pawns on the kingside are protected and I also have the extra pawn on the queen side. White has to play very precise moves from now on in order to avoid defeat.

36... b5
37.Ra7



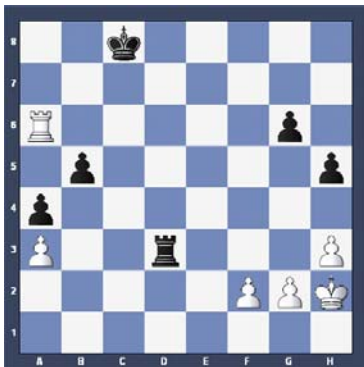
Another critical point. At first glance this may appear to be a logical move, but Ra7 loses valuable time whilst achieving very little. Within a couple of moves now, White will be more or less forced to move his rook back to the King side. Interestingly enough, even engines such as Shredder and Fritz favour Ra7. However, Rf3! would have been a lot stronger: 37.Rf3 Kb7 38. g4 hxg4 39.hxg4 Kc6 40.Re3 Kd5 41.f4 Rb6 42.f5 gxf5 43.gxf5 Rf6 (43...b4 44. axb4 axb4 45.Rb3 Kc4 46.Rb1 Rb5 47.Rf1 b3 48.Kg3 b2 49.Rb1 =) 44.Rb3 Kc4 45. Rf3 b4 46.axb4 axb4 47.Kg3 b3 48.Rxb3! =

These variations also underline the fact that you shouldn't trust engines too much in complex endings where certain variations end more than 10 moves later. Rf3 wasn't even Shredder 10's (an endgame expert!) second choice! But we'll come to even more pertinent and wonderful examples for this later on!

37... a4
38.Ra5 Rd5
39.Ra6

Or else Black plays Kb7 with a clear advantage.

39... Rd3



Let the mayhem begin! Now the ending really springs into life and we'll have a classic pawn race on our hands with many twists and turns to come. Who said that all rook endings are drawn?

40.Rb6 Rb3

Black is hoping for 40...Rxa3 41.Rxb5 followed by Ra5 which should secure an easy draw. White leaves his Rook behind the a-pawn, advances his own pawns on the kingside and the King will remain on either h2 or g2. Chess is about tempting your opponent into making mistakes. Therefore 40.Rb6 was a lot stronger than the immediate Rxc6 under the circumstances!

41.Rxc6

Other moves are weaker.:

a) 41.f4 h4! 42.Rxc6 Rxa3 43.f5 Ra2 44.f6 Rf2 45.Rg5 a3 46.Rxb5 a2 47.Ra5 Kd7 48.f7 Ke7 49.Ra7+ Kf8 50.Kg1 Rb2 51.Kh2 Rd2 → White wins the f-pawn.

b) 41.h4 Kc7 42.Kg6 Rxa3 43.Rg5 b4 44.Rxh5 b3 45.Rb5 Ra2 46.Rb4 Kc6 47.f4 Kc5 48.Rb8 Rf2 49.Kg3 Rf1 50.h5 Kc4 →

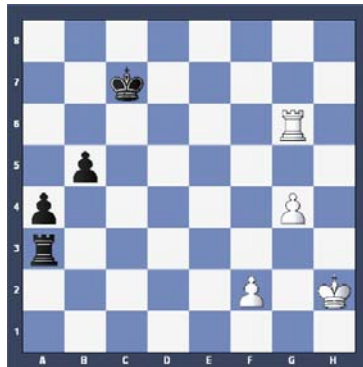
c) 41.g4 hxg4 42. hxg4 Kc7 43.Rxc6 Rxa3 44.Rg7+ Kb6 45.Rg8 Rf3 46.Kg2

Rf7 47.Ra8 Kc5 → The winning plan is similar to the one in the actual game and doesn't need further explanation at this point. Black even has an extra tempo. The analysis is by no means comprehensive and not all moves are forced of course. Nonetheless I tried to outline the obvious moves for both parties and the winning strategy.

41... Rxa3
42.g4

White mustn't lose any time and advance his pawns as quickly as possible

42... hxg4
43.hxg4 Kc7



Other moves don't achieve much:

a) 43...Rd3 44.Rb6 Rd5 45.Ra6 Kb7 46.Ra5 Kb6 47.Ra8 Rd3 48.f4 Kb7 49.Ra5 Kc6 50.Ra8 =,

b) 43...b4 44.Rb6 b3 45.g5 Ra2 46.g6 Rxf2+ 47.Kh3 Rf1 48.Rb4 Rh1+ 49.Kg2 Rh6 50.Rxa4 Rxc6+ 51.Kf3 Rb6 52.Ra1 b2 53.Rb1 =.

44.Rg7+ Kb6
45.Rg8 Rf3!

Black not only makes room for the a-pawn, but also assists in slowing down the advance of the f and g-pawns.

46.Kg2 Rf4

Tempting White into 47.Kg3? But Jonathan doesn't fall into the trap of 47.Kg3? Rf7 48.g5 b4 49.Rb8+ Kc5 (49.g6 Rb7 50.g7 b3 →) 50. f4 b3 51.g6 Rf6 →.

47.Rb8+
 47.g5 a3 48.g6 Rg4+ 49.Kf3 Rg1 50.g7 Ka7 51.Rh1 Rxc7 →

47... Kc5

The only winning move as you will see

shortly. I spent several hours analysing this position and was almost convinced that White would always rescue a draw in all variations in some miraculous fashion. The variations are well worth looking at. 47...Kc6? 48. Kg3 Rf7 49. f4!

a) 49. g5 Ra7 50. g6 a3 51. Kh2 a2 (Kc5 52. Rc8+ Kb6 53. Rc1 b4 54. Ra1 Rg7 55. f4 Rxc6 56. Kh3 Rg7 →) 52. g7 a1=Q 53. Rc8+ Kd6 54. Rd8+ Kc5 55. Rc8+ Kb4 – + b) 49. Ra8 Kb7 50. Ra5 Kb6 51. Ra8 Ra7 52. Rb8+ Ka5 53. Re8 a3 54. Re1 a2 55. g5 b4 56. g6 b3 → 49... Ra7 (49... a3 50. Ra8 b4 51. f5 Kb5 52. Kh4 Kc4 53. Kh5 Rb7 54. f6 b3 55. Ra4+ Kd5 56. Rxa3 b2 57. f7 b1=Q 58. f8=Q Qh1+ 59. Kg5=) 50. f5 a3 51. f6 a2 (51... Kd6 52. f7 Rxf7 53. Rxb5 Ra7 54. Rb1 a2 55. Ra1 Ra8 =) 52. f7 a1=Q 53. Rc8+ Kb7 (53... Kd5 54. f8=Q Qe5+ 55. Kf3 Qe4+ 56. Kg3=) 54. f8=Q Qe1+ 55. Kf3 Qh1+ 56. Kg3 Ra1 57. Rb8+ Ka7 58. Qc5+ Kxb8 59. Qd6+ Ka8 60.Qd8+ Ka7 61. Qd7+ Ka6 62. Qd6+ Ka5 63. Qd8+ Ka4 64. Qd4+ b4 65. Qd7+ Ka5 66.Qc7+ = Unbelievable, but true. White has perpetual check!! I said earlier that you shouldn't always trust engines. Should you take the time to play through these variations with engines, you will notice that they never stop to heavily favour Black. Even in perpetual check position, the evaluation doesn't change. There is a very valuable lesson to be learned here for engine-assisted analysis. When the evaluation doesn't really change over several moves as in the above case, then your alarm bells should start ringing as there may well be something wrong with the evaluation.

48.Kg3 Rf7
49.Ra8 Kb4
50.f4 Ka3!!



The decisive move that isn't obvious at all. Not the a-pawn, but the b-pawn is the secret to Black's success! I had initially focused all my analysis on 50...Kb3, a move that is also recommended by all engines I tested (none of them found Ka3 even after several hours), but again all

variations only lead to a drawn position: 50...Kb3 51.g5 b4 52.Kg4 Ka3 53.g6 Rg7 (...Rb7 54.f5 b3 55.f6 b2 56.f7 b1-Q 57. f8-Q = compare this position to the actual one in the game. In this variation White has a draw because Black's rook is pinned and can't participate in the attack!) 54.f5 b3 55.Rb8 b2 56.Kg5 Rg8 57.Rxb2=

51.g5 **b4**
52.Rb8

This move loses crucial time, but White has no other choice really but to place the rook behind the b-pawn. 52.g6 loses after Rf6.

52... **b3**
53.Kg4 **Ra7!!**



The winning move! Black switches his focus to the a-pawn again. Now White has no way of stopping the a-pawn. 53. ..b2 leads to a draw after 54.f5! Rf8 55.Rb7 Rc8 56. f6 Rc7 57.Rb8 Rc4+ 58.Kf3 Rb4 59.Rxb4 Kxb4 60.f7 b1-Q 61.f8-Q+ =

54.g6 **Kb2**
55.f5 **a3**
56.f6 **a2**
57.f7

57.g7 a1-Q 58.f8-Q (not much different is 58.Rxb3+ Kc2 59.g8-Q Ra4+ 60.Kf5 Qf1+ Ra4+ with checkmate in just over 10 moves) 59.Kg5 Qg1+ 60.Kf5 Qf1 and White can resign as the White King has nowhere to hide.

57... **Ra4+**
58.Kf3

Kg5 could've prolonged the inevitable outcome a bit, but Black can still easily win, for example 58...a1-Q 59.f8-Q Qc1+ 60.Kf6 Qc3+ 61.Kf7 Rf4+ 62.Kg8 Rxf8+ 63.Rxf8 Ka2 64.g7 b2 65.Ra8+ Kb3 66.Rb8+ Kc2 67.Rxb2+ Kxb2 etc.

58... **a1Q**

At this point Jonathan resigned after a brave battle. After 59. f8-Q Qh1+ 60.Kf2

Qh4+ White can't avoid the checkmate in the long run. This win completed my games and I'm glad that every game came to a natural conclusion. I was very disappointed to see that in the different groups games were lost by withdrawals, exceeding of the time limit etc. In our group Gordon MacArainn didn't cover himself in glory, losing a couple of games on time when there was still everything to play for. I suppose you simply can't avoid such annoying side effects in Open tournaments with several new players, however, I'm sure that everybody will play to their full potential in the Finals! And if I may make one final remark: please introduce yourself when you play correspondence chess! I find it quite rude if players don't acknowledge their opponents once and quite simply, there's no excuse for it. 0-1



Iain Mackintosh has annotated both of his games against Peter Doye. Both are highly interesting but lack of space means I will have to leave the second game for a later issue. Believe me you have something to look forward to.

SCCA League 2007

White: P Doye (2310)
Black: I Mackintosh (2450)
[A37]

SCCA League 2007, 2007
[Annotator Iain Mackintosh]

This is the first of my two League games against Peter Doye, an engaging and sporting opponent who is based in the City of London.

1.Nf3 **c5**
2.g3 **g6**

I'm not a frequent fianchetto player, but I thought I'd give it a try here.

3.Bg2 **Bg7**
4.0-0 **Nc6**
5.c4 **e6**
6.Nc3 **Nge7**
7.d3 **0-0**
8.Bf4 **d5**
9.cxd5 **Nxd5**

9...exd5 10.Qd2 d4 11.Nb5 a6 12.Nd6 Nd5 13.Nxc8 Nxf4 14.Qxf4 Rxc8 15.Rac1 Qe7 worked out ok for Black in Nadvikov-Malyuga, Silent, 2004, 0-1.

10.Bg5



This narrowed things down to a couple of games on my database, both won by White.

10... **Qd7**
11.Qd2 **b6N**
12.Bh6 **Bb7**
13.Bxg7 **Kxg7**
14.d4 **Nxc3**
15.bxc3 **Rfd8**
16.Rfd1 **Qe7**
17.e4?!

Slightly loose, allowing Black to try a simple combination based on a pin.

17... **cxd4**
18.cxd4 **Nxd4**
19.Nxd4 **e5**
20.Qb2

20.Qe3 exd4 21.Rxd4 Qe5 22.Rad1 Rxd4 23.Rxd4 Rc8 is maybe a little better, but still with a slight edge for Black.

20... **exd4**
21.Rxd4



We had been playing by email, and hereabouts Microsoft decided to enter the fray by blocking my attempts to send moves to Peter's Hotmail account. I discovered that Bill Gates had decided to wage war on what he thought were spam relay stations. My ISP, based in Cromarty, was small and close enough to oilfields to offer a strategic target. Needless to say, they were quite innocent, but it took a few weeks and lots of fallback email addresses before normal service was resumed!

21... Qe5
 22.Rd2 Qxb2
 23.Rxb2 Rac8

Now the smoke has cleared, Black is intent on making something of his q-side majority.

24.f4 Rc5
 25.Re1 Bc8
 26.Kf2 Ra5
 27.e5 Be6

Now Black starts to exert strong pressure on the weak a-pawn.

28.Ra1 Rd4
 29.Bc6 Ra3
 30.Be8 a6!

Aiming to block the bishop's return and also tempting the White rook from its defence of the second rank.

31.Rxb6 Rd2+
 32.Kg1 Bd5
 33.Bc6 Rg2+
 34.Kf1 Bxc6
 35.Rxc6 Rxh2
 36.Kg1 Re2
 37.Kh1 h5
 38.Rf6 a5
 39.Ra6 Rxc3



Deciding that the k-side opportunities outweigh the loss of the Black a-pawn,

40.Rxa5 Rf3
 41.Ra4 h4
 42.Rd4 Rff2
 43.Rd3

The only move to avoid mate.

43... Rh2+
 44.Kg1 Reg2+
 45.Kf1 Rg4
 46.Re1 Rh1+

46...Rxf4+ 47.Kg1 Rxa2 48.e6 Rg4+ 49.Kh1 fxe6 50.Rd7+ Kh6 also wins comfortably for Black.

47.Ke2 Rxe1+

48.Kxe1 Rxf4
 49.Re3 f5

49...g5 50.e6 fxe6 51.Rxe6 h3 is probably more accurate, but it all comes to much the same conclusion.

50.exf6+ Kxf6
 51.Rh3 Kf5
 52.Ke2 Kg4
 53.Rh1 h3
 54.Rg1+ Kh4
 55.Ra1 h2
 56.a4

Making a late bid for glory...

56... Kh3
 57.a5 Kg2
 58.Ke3 Rf5
 0-1



SCCA Premiers 2007 Section A, 2007

White: deBeer Andre,d
 Black: Cumming,D R
 [C02]
 [Annotator D R Cumming]

1.e4 e6
 2.d4 d5
 3.e5 c5
 4.c3 Nc6
 5.Nf3 Qb6!?
 6.Bd3

"An aggressive move which reached the peak of its popularity around the middle of the last century. However that may be, Black has to play with extreme accuracy if he wants to neutralize his opponent's initiative successfully." - Lev Psakhis.

6.. .cxd4
 7.cxd4 Bd7
 8.0-0!?

"In the good old days, even great players (such as Nimzowitsch) were capable of playing 8/Be2 without bothering about the loss of tempo. This of course is adequate to maintain the balance, but White's dreams of an advantage will remain just that - dreams!" - Lev Psakhis.

8... Nxd4
 9.Nxd4 Qxd4
 10.Nc3 a6
 11.Qe2 Ne7
 12.Kh1 Nc6
 13.f4 Bc5!?

"In recent years Black has been playing 13/...Bc5!? with success." - Lev Psakhis.

14.Rd1

14.a3 Na5 15.Qf3 (15.Qc2 Nb3 16.Qxb3 Qxd3 17.Rf3 Qc4 18.Qxb7 Rd8 19.Bd2 0-0 20.b3 Qd4 21.Rd1 Bxa3 22.Qxa6 Ra8 23.Qe2 Rfb8 24.Be1 Qc5 25.Rg3 Bb4 26.f5 d4 27.Qg4 Qxe5 28.Qxd4 Qxd4 29.Rxd4 Ral Gonzalez Somoza, O - Nicolas, V / Madrid 2005 / EXT 2006/0-1.) 15...Ba7 16.f5 (16.Ne2 Qb6 17.Qg3 g6 18.f5 gxf5 19.Bg5 Bb5 20.Bxb5+ Qxb5 21.Nf4 Nc6 22.Bf6 Rf8 23.Rac1 Kd7 24.b4 Rac8 25.Rfe1 Bd4 26.Qh4 Rc7 27.g4 Bxe5 28.Rc5 29.bxc5 Bxf4 30.gxf5 e5 Hebels,A-Boucher,W/ICCF Email 2005/ UltraCorr/1-0.) 16...Nc4 17.Ne2 Qb6 18.Qg3 exf5 19.b3 Ne3 20.Qxg7 0-0-0 21.Bxe3 Qxe3 22.Rf3 Qd2 23.Qxf7 Rhe8 24.Bxf5 Bxf5 25.Qxf5+ Kb8 26.Nf4 Bd4 27.Raf1 Rxe5 28.Qxh7 Bb6 Rodriguez,A-Ramirez Alvarez,A/Mallorca 2004/CBM 104/1-0.

14... Qf2
 15.Qh5



15.Qg4 g6 (15...Nb4 16.Qxg7 0-0-0 17.Rf1 Qd4 18.Bxh7 Qc4 19.Rf3 Nxa2 20.Rxa2 d4 21.b3 Qb4 22.Ba3 Qa5 23.Bxc5 Qxc5 24.Ne2 Bc6 25.Rh3 d3 26.Rxd3 Rxd3 27.Bxd3 Rd8 28.Rc2 Qd5 29.Rc3 1-0 Roach,W-Brown,G/ 1998/ UltraCorr.; 15...0-0-0 16.Rf1 h5 17.Qxg7 Rhg8 18.Qxg8 Rxc8 19.Rxf2 Bxf2 20.Bd2 Ne7 21.Rc1 Kb8 22.Nd1 Bb6 23.g3 Bc6 24.Kg2 h4 25.b4 d4+ 26.Kf2 hxg3+ 27.hxg3 Nf5 28.Bxf5 exf5 29.Nb2 Rh8 Moline,X-Vetterlein,D/UECC Email 1999/ UltraCorr/1-0.) 16.Rf1 Qd4 17.Qh3 Nb4 18.Bb1 Bb6 19.a3 Nc6 20.Ne2 Qc4 21.Bd3 Qb3 22.Bd2 Nd4 23.Nc1 Qa4 24.Bb4 Rc8 25.Qh6 Bc5 26.Qg7 Rf8 27.Bc3 Bb5 28.Qxh7 1/2-1/2 Hackeyy,D-Thomas,N/England 1998/EXT 2000.; 15.Qxf2 Bxf2 16.Rf1 Ba7 17.Bd2 g5 18.Rae1 g4 19.f5 h6 20.fxe6 Bxe6 21.Bf5 Bd4 22.Bxe6 fxe6 23.Rf6 Ke7 24.Bf4 Raf8 25.Rxh6 Rxh6 26.Bxh6 Rf5 0-1 Bjelland,B-Mathews,M/IECC 1998/ UltraCorr.

15... Nb4!

16.Bb1?

Shredder 10: 16.Be2 Be7 17.Bd2 0-0
18.Rac1 f5 19.a3 Nc6 20.Rf1 Qh4
21.Qxh4 Bxh4 -1.37/16.

16... Nc2+
17.Bxc2 Qxc2
18.Rd2 Qg6!
19.Qh3 h5
20.Rd3 d4!
21.Nd1 Bb5
22.Rd2 Qe4!



Shredder 10: 22...Qe4 23.Qh4 Bb4
24.Qf2 -5.44/16.

0-1



Anecdotes



More from "At home with the Lloyds".

One day ,out shopping with the wife, I spotted tins of syrup sponge pudding. "Oh" I said, " my mum used to make those. I haven't had one in years." The wife duly bought one. Later at home we were sat watching the Wooden tops [I like political shows] and we heard a huge explosion. We both ran to the kitchen. The tin had exploded and the place was covered in sponge pudding. The wife had omitted to pierce the can, What a mess and what a plonker!

I must be married to the only woman that melted the washing machine. On returning home from work one day, she rattled off a list of appliances that were no longer working. I answered "Good game, good game" with a Bruce Forsyth impression. She only left out the Cuddly Toy.

SCCA Treasurer

Stuart Mackenzie has intimated he will demit office at the next AGM. We will thus require a new Treasurer, and applications are invited for the post.

The job has two main periods of activity – at year-end when we bank the income from membership returns, and in April-May, when the accounts require to be drawn up and audited. At other times, there are a small number of transactions to process.

Our bank accounts are in good order – HBoS takes care of our current account, and SLBS manages our investment account online.

The current membership database provides a thorough set of income allocation reports, and the 100 Club is separately managed.

You do not have to be a qualified accountant to do the job, but it would help if you have experience of this type of activity, and you understand how to handle accounting exceptions.

There is an opportunity to work with Stuart for an extended period to achieve an orderly handover.

Please get in touch with Iain Mackintosh, President, at president@scottishcca.co.uk in the first instance.



How to See Ahead in Chess Part 6

By Geoff Lloyd

The Author

Geoff Lloyd has an ICCF rating of 2235; two SCCA Master norms, 30 years of playing competitive chess, and seventeen years combined teaching and coaching experience.

Chapter 1, serialised in 3 parts, covered the basic tactical elements – mating patterns, multiple attacks, decoys, pinning, deflection, forks, skewers, overload and discovered check.

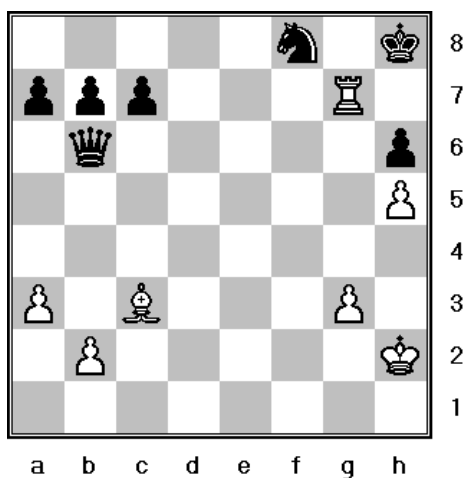
Chapter 2, the heavy pieces in combination, covered just 1 part, and was featured in issue 97.

This issue covers part 2 of Chapter 3.

Chapter 3 – Pieces Working in Partnership

16. The Bishop and the Rook

This is a basic position illustrating the Bishop and Rook working together and has resulted in many winning combinations.



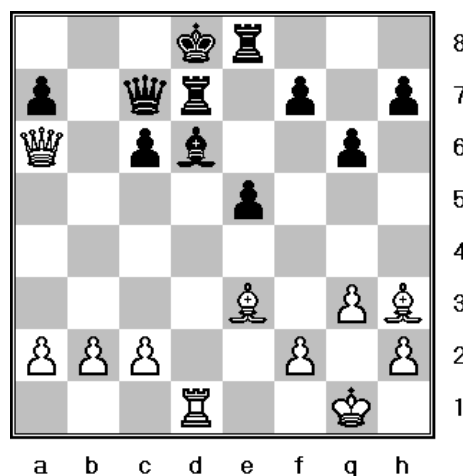
White to play uses discovered check to win:

- | | |
|----------------|------------|
| 1.Rxc7+ | Kg8 |
| 2.Rg7+ | Kh8 |
| 3.Rxb7+ | Kg8 |
| 4.Rg7+ | Kh8 |
| 5.Rxa7+ | Kg8 |
| 6.Rg7+ | Kh8 |
| 7.Rb7+ | Kg8 |
| 8.Rxb6 | |

And Black has lost almost all his material.

Keeping the idea in mind lets see how the desired position is created from the game between, Balla v Sterk. It is White to play:

Exercise 30



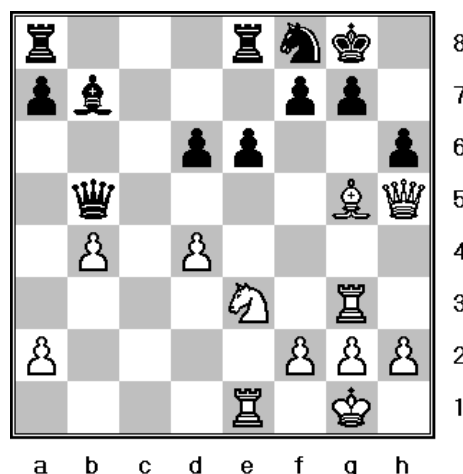
- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1.Bxa7 | Qxa7 |
|---------------|-------------|

If 1... Ke7 2.Bxd7 Ra8 3.Qc4 Rxa7 White is winning after 4.Bxc6

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 2.Rxd6 | Qxa6 |
| 3.Rxd7+ | Kc8 |
| 4.Rxa7+ | f5 |
| 5.Rxa6 | |

And White wins.

The next position is well documented, taken from the game Torre v Lasker, Moscow, 1925. It is White to play:



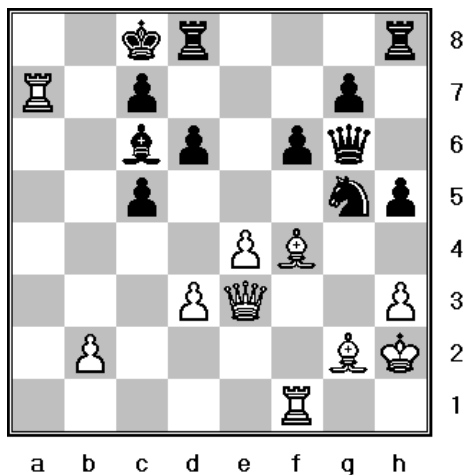
- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1.Bf6 | Qxh5 |
|--------------|-------------|

The capture of the Queen is forced, or Rxc7+ followed by mate.

- | | |
|----------------|------------|
| 2.Rxc7+ | Kh8 |
| 3.Rxf7+ | Kg8 |
| 4.Rg7+ | Kh8 |
| 5.Rxb7+ | Kg8 |
| 6.Rg7+ | Kh8 |
| 7.Rg5+ | Kh7 |
| 8.Rxh5 | |

And Black is lost. Please note that this combination was conducted against a former world champion.

Taken from the game between, Paulsen v Rosenathal, Vienna, 1873. It is White to play:



Solution

1.Qxc5 Qe8

If 1... dxc5 2.Rxc7+ Kb8 3.Rxg7+ Kc8 4.Rxg6 and White wins.

2.Qa5 Bb7

3.Rc1

And Black is lost.

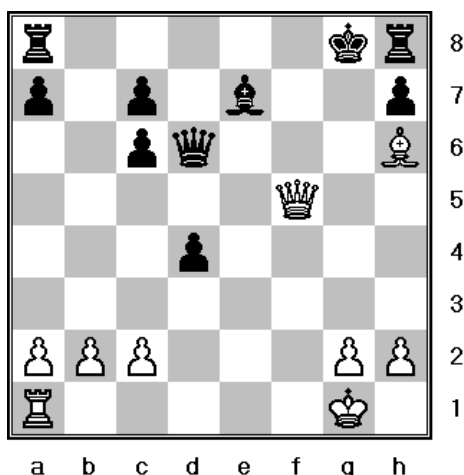
3... Kd7

If 3... c6 4.e5 d5 5.exf6 g6 6.Qc7# [5... gxf6 6.Qc7#] or 5... Rd6 6.Bxd6

4 Rxc7+ Ke6

5.Qf5#

The simple mating pattern arrived at in the next example has given rise to thousands of winning combinations over the years, at all levels of the game. Taken from the game Miskolez v Ferenczy 1898, it is White to play:



1.Rf1 Qg6

If 1... Qxh6 2.Qf7#

2.Qf3 Rd8

If 2... d3 3.cxd3 Bd6 4.d4 Rb8 and White is winning.

3.Qb3+ Rd5

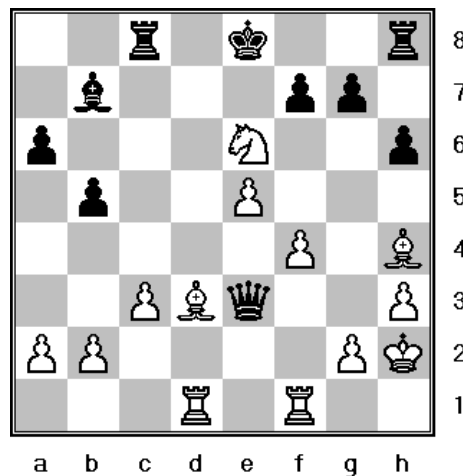
4.Qb8+ Rd8

5.Qxd8+ Bxd8

6.Rf8#

The position we find here contains an easy combination, however I would like you to attempt to visualise the final position before playing through the moves. This is the best

way ahead, for once you can see the won position, the calculation to achieve it becomes much easier. Imagine a rook on d8 supported by the bishop on h4 and the rest is easy. Practice this method of assessing positions. It is White to play:



1.Bxb5+

2.Nc7+

3.Rd8#

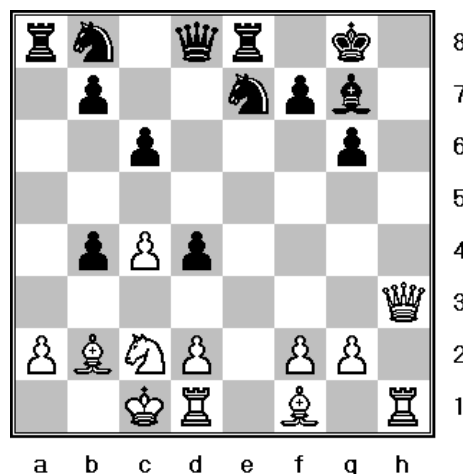
axb5

Rxc7

Did you see the deflection?

The fundamental idea of visualising the final position calculating, and employing the elements of combinations in order bring it to a conclusion, is the mental discipline you should now begin to concentrate on.

This is taken from a game played between, Euwe v Loman, Rotterdam, 1923. Again it is white to play:



1.Nxd4

3.Nxf5

3.Rxh8#

Bxd4

Bxb2

gxf5

If 1... Kf6 2.Qh7 Nf5 3.Nxf5 Bxb2+ 4.Kxb2 gxf5 5.Q h8+ Ke7 6.Qe5+ once again mate is avoided at the cost of material.

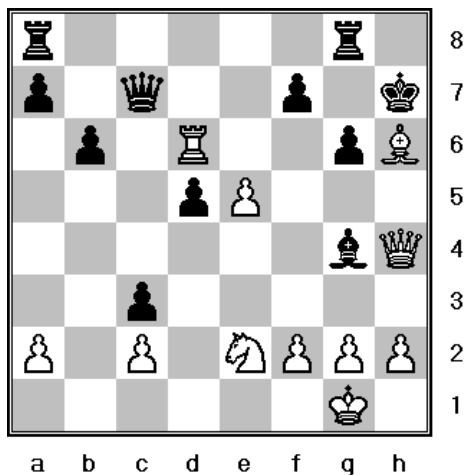
2.Qh8+

3.Rxh8#

Bxh8

The following two examples are a little more difficult by way of visualising the final position. However once the positions have been thoroughly analysed, and hopefully retained in your long-term memory, they will serve you well as you progress through the book.

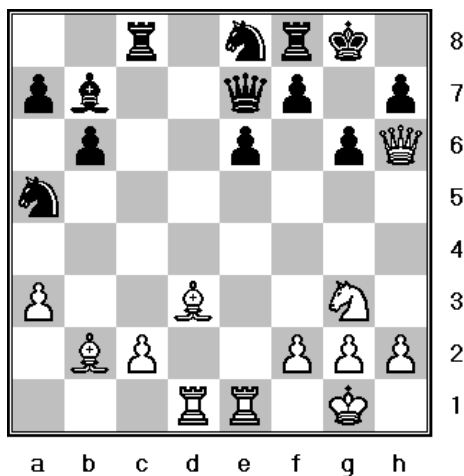
Let's begin with this example, taken from a game between, Duras v Olland, Carlsbad, 1907. White to play began with:



1.Bf8+ Bh5

Calculating Black's reply by interposing the bishop is easy, but many players would not calculate sacrificing their queen on the next move, simply because the sacrifice frightens them. Always try to include any sacrifices in your calculations until you can either prove them sound or otherwise.

The following position is taken from the game between Speilman v Honlinger, Vienna, 1929. It is White to play:



1.Nf5 Qc5

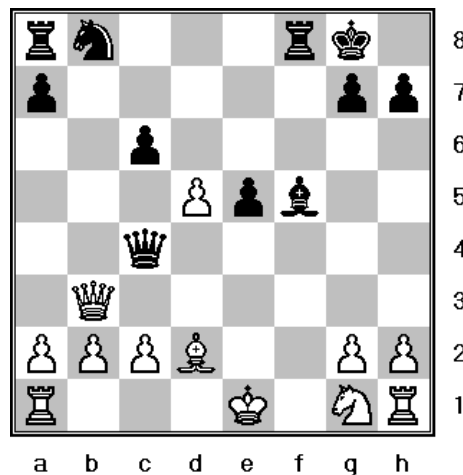
If 1... exf5 2.Bxf5 gxf5 3.Rxe7 and White wins; and if 1... gxf5 2.Bxf5 f6 3.Bxe6+ Rf7 4.Bxc8 and White wins

2 Re5

The bishop and rook are working well together.

**2... Bd5
3.Ne7+ Qxe7
4.Qxh7+ Kxh7
5.Rh5+ Kg8
6.Rh8#**

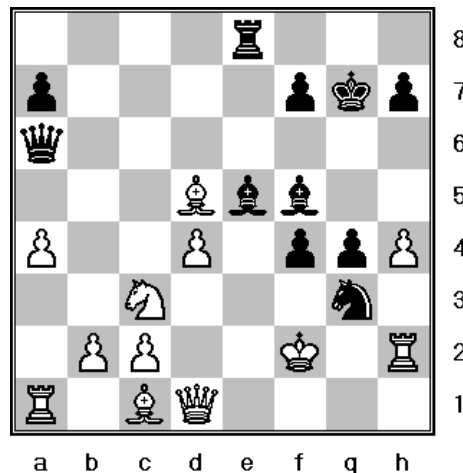
In this next example, Horwitz finds a double check to assist his bishop and rook. It's taken from the game Schulten v Horwitz, London, 1846, with Black to play:



**1... Qf1+
2.Kxf1 Bd3+
3.Ke1 Rf1#**

The pattern once in the memory is a wonderful aid.

In the game, Rosanes v Anderssen, Breslau, 1863, Black uses another of our basic elements [the pin] in order to make the bishop and rook partnership work. Black to play:

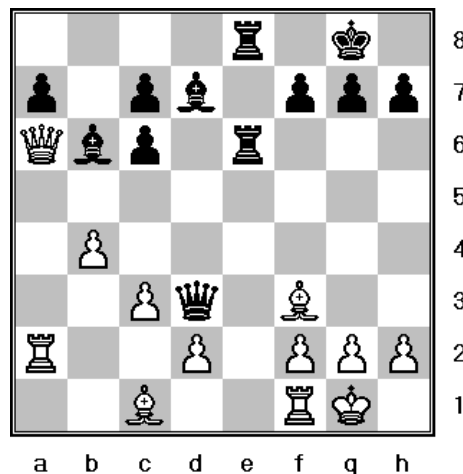


**1... Qf1+
2.Qxf1 Bxd4+
3.Be3 Rxe3
4.Kg1**

If 4.Qc4 Re2#, and if 4.Re1 Re2#

4... Re1#

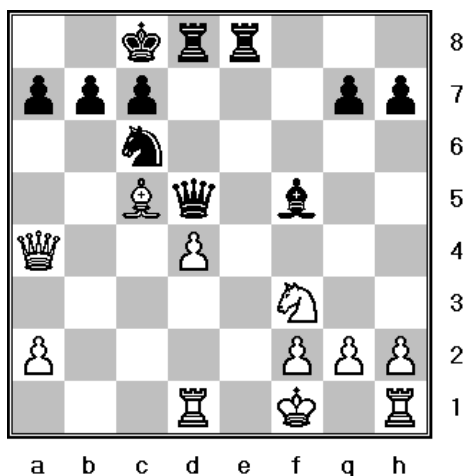
The next position is from the game, Paulsen v Morphy, New York, 1857. It is Black to play:



1... Qxf3
 2.gxf3 Rg6+
 3.Kh1 Bh3
 4.Rd1 Bg2+
 5.Kg1 Bxf3+
 6.Kf1 Rg2
 7.Qd3 Rxf2+
 8.Kg1 Rg2+
 9.Kf1 Rg1#

And again the pattern emerges.

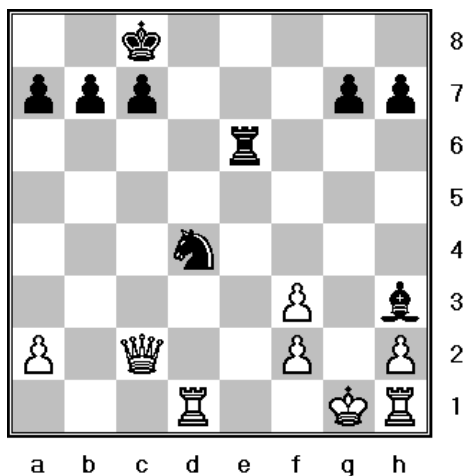
The next position is a wonderful example, containing variations based on ideas you are familiar with. I suggest a careful study in order that all the play is absorbed thoroughly. From the game Macdonnell v Boden, London 1865, and it is Black to play.



1... Qxf3
 2.gxf3 Bh3+
 3.Kg1 Re6
 4.Qc2 Rxd4
 5.Bxd4 Nxd4

Threatening to mate from g6.

Black threatens Rxd1+ decoying the queen from its defence of g6 if it recaptures the rook. So white replied:



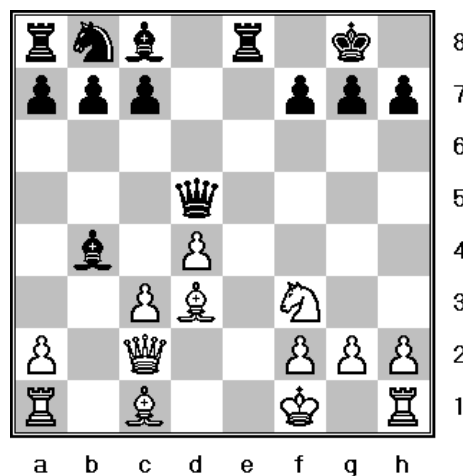
What a wonderful combination! Black threatens to mate with the bishop and rook partnership from two different squares [g6 and e1], and also to mate with the knight on f3.

6.Rxd4 Re1#

White could have tried any of the following lines and they all fail:

a. 6.Qxc7+ Kxc7 7.Rc1+ Nc, 8.Rxc6+ bxc6 9.a4 Re1#
 b. 6.Qxh7 Nxf3#
 c. 6.Qd3 Rg6+ 7.Qxg6 Nxf3#

Here you will find a most rewarding example of how a blending of several elements that is afforded to different pieces, culminating with the bishop and rook mating pattern. It is Black to play:



Beginning with Black's eighth move of the actual game:

8... Qxf3
 9.cxb4 Nc6

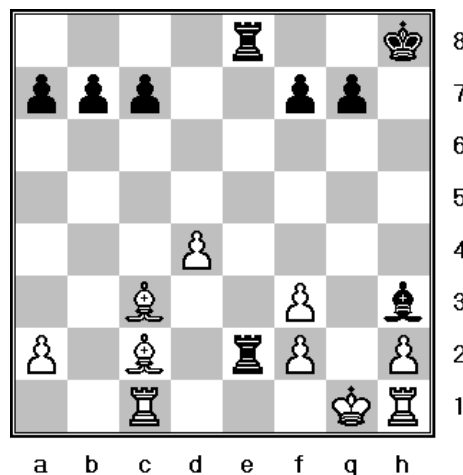
Knowing his queen is immune from capture, Black makes a developing move.

10.Bb2 Nxb4
 11.Bxh7+ Kh8
 12.gxf3 Bh3+
 13.Kg1 Nxc2
 14.Bxc2 Re2
 15.Rc1 Rae8

Black doubles his rooks - a pattern we will be looking at later in the book.

16.Bc3

Giving this position:



16... R8e3

If instead 16... Rxc2 17.Rxc2 Black mates from g6, and if 17.Re1 Rxe1+ 18.Bxe1 Rc1 and mates next move.

17.Bb4

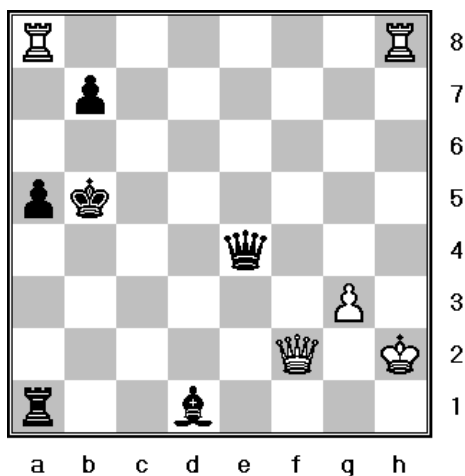
If 17.Be4 Rxc3 18.Rxc3 Re1# or if 17.fxe3 Rg2+ 18.Kf1 Rxc2+ when Black captures both rooks.

17... Rxf3
 18.Bd1 Rf6

And now the bishop and rook mating pattern you are familiar with can't be prevented. We now conclude our survey on this partnership with a few more exercises.

Exercise 31

It is Black to play and win:

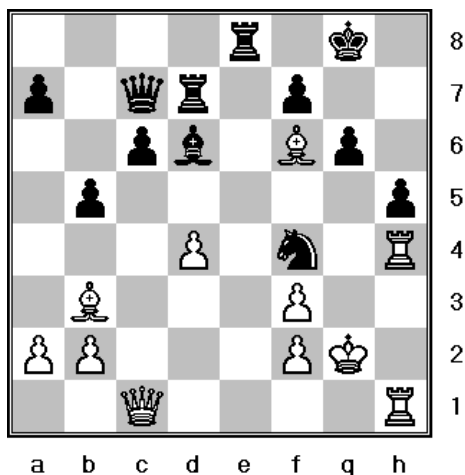


Solution

1...	Qh1+
2.Kxh1	Bf3+
3.Kh2	Rh1#

Exercise 32

White to play and win:



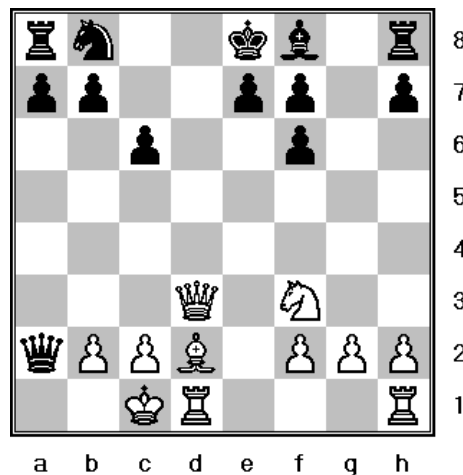
Solution

1.Qxf4	Bxf4
2.Rxh5	gxh5
3.Rxh5	
3...	Bh6
4.Rxh6	Qg3+
5.Kxg3	Rxd4
6.Rh8#	

Again the desired pattern is created.

Exercise 33

White to play:

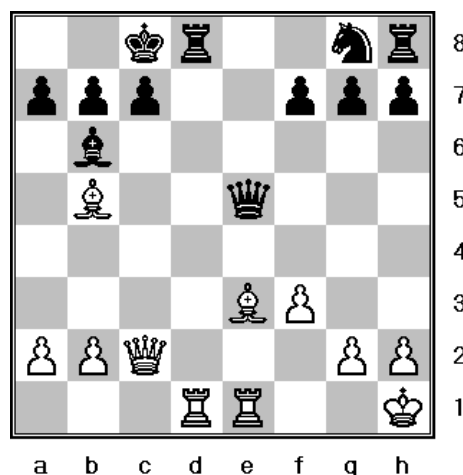


Solution

1.Qd8+	Kxd8
2.Ba5+	Kc8
3.Rd8#	

Exercise 34

This is taken from the game Anderssen v Hillel, Breslau, 1859. It is White to play:



Solution

1.Bg5	Qxg5
If 1... Rxd1	2.Qxf5+
2.Qxd1	3.Rxd8+
3.Qxe1	4.Re8#
Nf6	
then Black prevents	
mate at the cost of material,	
the key to many mating attacks.	



In the next instalment, we continue Chapter 3 – looking next at how the knight works with the rook.



Norwegian Wood (Pushing)

By Raymond Boger

[Editor's note: here's a nice game from Norwegian GM Raymond Boger. He sent it to me last Christmas, but I put it to one side as the notes were in his native tongue. I picked it up again recently and decided to see if the online translation facilities of the internet could help. I hope Raymond recognises the moves, if not the annotations! His opponent is Arild Haugen, another Norseman who, like Raymond, is well known to a number of SCCA players.]



Boger, Raymond (2633) – Haugen, Arild (2547)

NPSF 60 GM email-tournament, 20.12.2004

[Notes by Raymond Boger]

[E15: Queen's Indian: 4 g3 sidelines, 4 g3 Ba6 and 4 g3 Bb7 early deviations.]

1.d4

Here I opened with d4 for the first time in my CC career. I don't remember why I played d4 – maybe it was to surprise Arild! It was already a little special that two club mates met each other in a strong CC tournament.

1...	Nf6
2.c4	e6
3.Nf3	b6
4.g3	Ba6
5.Nbd2	Bb4
6.Qc2	Bb7
7.Bg2	Be4
8.Qb3	Bxd2+
9.Bxd2	0-0
10.0-0	d6
11.Rfd1	Nbd7
12.Rac1	h6



[12...Re8 13.Qe3 a5 14.Bc3 Qe7 15.Bh3 h6 16.Re1 Bb7 17.Bg2 Bc4 18.Bh3 Bh7 19.Nd2 c6 20.Bg2 d5 21.Qf4 b5

22.b3 g5 23.Qf3 a4 24.c5 axb3 25.axb3 Ra2 26.Ra1 Rea8 27.h3; 12...Qe7 13.Qa3 a5 14.Bh3 h6 15.Ne5 Bb7 16.f3 Nb8 17.Nd3 Nc6 18.Be3 Rfe8 19.Bf2 e5 20.d5 Nd4 21.Rd2 b5 22.Ne1 bxc4 23.e3 Nb5 24.Qa4 Na7 25.e4 c5 26.dxc6 Nxc6 27.Rxc4 Weber,K (2342)–Dorer,M (2267)/ICCF 2004/MegaCorr4/1/2-1/2 (44)]

13.Qe3

The opening phase is over with Black a little passive. White needs to find active moves to deny Black any peace. [13.Bh3 Re8 14.Be3 a5 (14...Qe7 15.Nd2 Bb7 16.c5 Bd5 17.Qa4 dxc5 18.dxc5 c6 19.a3 e5 20.b4 b5 21.Qa6 Be6 22.Bg2 Nb8 23.Qa5 Bd5 24.f3 a6 25.Bf2 e4 26.fxe4 Nxe4 27.Bxe4 Bxe4 28.Nxe4 Qxe4 29.Rc3 Bartsch,G (2328)–Pommerel,W (2362)/ICCF Email 2002/MegaCorr4/1-0 (55)) 15.Nd2 Bb7 16.Nf1 a4 17.Qc2 Qe7 18.f3 c5 19.Bf2 Rec8 20.Qd2 d5 21.dxc5 bxc5 22.cxd5 Bxd5 23.Ra1 Ne5 24.Qc3 Nfd7 25.Ne3 Bb7 26.Bg2 Rab8 27.Rd2 f6; 13.Qa3 a5 14.Bh3 Re8 15.Nh4 c5 16.f3 Bb7 17.Bc3 g5 18.Ng2 Qe7 19.Ne3 a4 20.Rc2 h5 21.Rcd2 Ra6 22.Rd3 Qf8 23.Be1 Rd8 24.Qc3 g4 25.Bg2 gxf3 26.exf3 Rc8 27.Qd2 d5 Dosi,A–Simonenko,S (2444)/ICCF Email 2002/MegaCorr4/1-0 (37)]

13...

a5



Somewhat surprising – I thought he needed to develop with Re8 and Qe7.

14.g4N

A typical active move and a novelty! Later I found this move in a test game between two computer programs. [14.Bc3 Re8 15.Bh3 Bh7 16.Bg2 c6 17.Nd2 Rc8 18.Nf1 d5 19.b3 Ne4 20.Nd2 Nd6 21.Qf4 Nf6 22.Bb2 Nf5 23.e4 g5 24.Qf3 dxe4 25.Nxe4 Nxc4 26.Qxe4 Nxc3 27.Qe5 Nh5 28.d5 f6Olsen,H–Agdestein,S/VISA Nordic GP Final 1999 (3)/0–1]

14...

Re8

15.g5

We press on – no time for quiet moves here!

15...

hxg5

16.Qxg5

e5

[16...a4 17.Qg3 e5= was another possibility.]

17.dxe5

Nxe5

18.Bc3

Ng6

19.e3 Nd7
20.Qg3 a4

A slight inaccuracy – I think Nf6 immediately is correct.

21.h4 Nf6
22.Qg5 Nd7

Friskily back and forward!

23.Qxd8

[23.h5 Nge5= is ok for Black.]

23... Raxd8
24.h5 Ngf8

[24...Bxf3!? was maybe better?]

25.Nd4 Nc5

[25...Bxg2 26.Kxg2 Ne6± I believe Arild ought to have played this variation, even though White stands a little better.]

26.f3 Bd3

This came as a surprise – I thought he had to play Bh7 when he has control over the b1-h7 diagonal from h7.

27.Nc6 Ra8

Another little (pleasant) surprise! I was sure that Rd7 was the only move. The Ra8 is vulnerable along the h1-a8 diagonal, where the White bishop threatens the exchange.

28.Bd4

[28.Nb4 Bxc4 29.Kf2 b5 was also a possibility ... but with an unclear position. White's best bet is on the g-file with 30.Rg1.]

28... Bh7

Only now Bh7 – which he should have played on move 26.

29.Nb4 a3±

Consistent – but not so good...

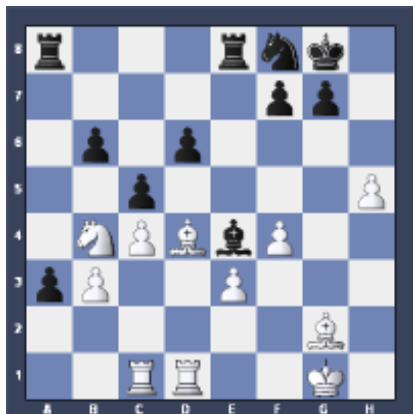
30.b3 Nxb3

31.axb3 c5

32.f4

This move opens the h1-a8 diagonal and the White bishop comes into its own right.

32... Be4



33.Nd5

This move is further evidence that the Black rook had better chances on d7 back at move 27 ... now White threatens Nc7.

33... cxd4
34.Nc7 Bxg2
35.Kxg2 dxe3
36.Nxa8 e2
37.Re1 Rxa8
38.Rxe2



Looking over Preikestolen (Pulpit Rock), near Stavanger, Raymond's home. The cliff towers 600m above the fjord.

The smoke has cleared and White stands better ... I began to hope for a victory here!

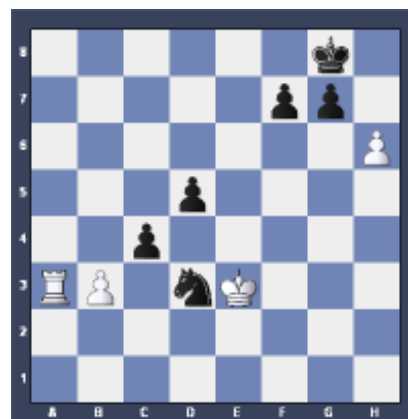
38... Ne6
39.Ra2 Nxf4+
40.Kf3 Nd3

This has to be an error ... the knight must go to e6. Now, can I find the right moves to prove this was mistake? – follow me!

41.Rca1 Ra5
42.h6 b5?±

After this move it is difficult for Arild. I believe that Rh5 or gxh6 must be better tries.

43.Rxa3 Rxa3
44.Rxa3 bxc4
45.Ke3 d5



46.Kd2!!

The winning move! This is a consequence of Arild's 40... Nd3. I believe this variation is not possible with the knight on e6. After a good and long (almost forced) variation Black is doomed.

46... gxh6
47.Ra5 Nb4
48.Rb5 Nc6
49.b4 Kg7
50.Kc3 Ne7

Best ... but it isn't enough to stop White.

51.Rb8

A little early to concede, but Arild prefers not to use his energy on a long, onerous and certain loss.

1-0





International Update

By George Pyrich

Friendly International v Spain

We have now agreed a further friendly match against our Iberian friends, this time using the webserver. Play is officially scheduled to start on October 15, though it should be possible to play first moves before then. Our team is:

Board		Board	
1	I Swan	11	D Price
2	I Mackintosh	12	A Armstrong
3	A P Borwell	13	A D Scott
4	R S Montgomery	14	Dr K Paine
5	G D Pyrich	15	C A Macgregor
6	S Graham	16	D W Coope
7	G Lloyd	17	T Doherty
8	D Edney	18	J M Armstrong
9	Dr K W C Stewart	19	J Anderson
10	H Calder	20	A N Macmillen

Current Friendly Internationals

Start	Boards	Opponents	Mode	For	Against	Void	Result
Oct 2007	20	Spain	Server				
Jun 2007	14	Spain	Post				
Apr 2007	20	Slovenia	Server	4	18		
Apr 2007	20	Poland	Server	2½	12½		
Nov 2006	28	Germany	Server/Post	14	25		
Mar 2006	28	Sweden	Server/Post	16½	36½		L
Sep 2005	27	Denmark	Server/Post	16½	34½		L
Jul 2005	21	Australia	Server/Post	24	17		W
Mar 2005	24	Netherlands	Post/Email	16	24	2	
Feb 2005	20	BCCS	Post/Email	18½	5½	16	W

No results yet in our concurrent matches with Spain. A flurry of recent activity sees our other European opponents starting to pull away in their matches. Full board scores can be viewed on the SCCA website under International/Friendly Matches.










ICCF Champions League 2007-09

Play has now started in all Champions League sections. The tournament consists of one top flight section (A); section B with 4 groups; section C with 8 groups; section D with 6 groups; and 4 'fast track' groups for new teams with aspirations. X-tables for our teams can be found at:

Lewis Chessmen	Section C6	http://www.iccf-webchess.com/EventCrossTable.aspx?id=12251
Scottish Claymores	Section D6	http://www.iccf-webchess.com/EventCrossTable.aspx?id=12267
Caledonian Kings	Section D2	http://www.iccf-webchess.com/EventCrossTable.aspx?id=12263
Caledonian Knights	Section D3	http://www.iccf-webchess.com/EventCrossTable.aspx?id=12264











Full links for all teams and boards can be found on the SCCA website under ICCF/Champions League.

ICCF 16th Olympiad

Postal Section 3		Australia	Belgium	Bulgaria	Croatia	Germany	Latvia	Slovakia	Sweden	USA	Points	Percentage
												
1	Beecham, C R	½	1		½	½	½	½	0	½	4	50.0
2	Mackintosh, I		1	1	0	½	½		1	½	4½	64.3
3	Brown, Dr A C	½	1	½	1	0	0		0	0	3	37.5
4	Borwell, A P	½	1	1	0	½	½	½		½	4½	56.3
Team Total		1½	4	2½	1½	1½	1½	1	1	1½	16	51.6











The team continues to perform well in a tough section, holding on to second position currently. Favourites Germany have 21½ points in first position, and we are followed by Sweden and Latvia with 15½ each. Iain Mackintosh has secured an IM norm.

ICCF 17th Olympiad

Webserver Section 2		Canada	Croatia	Finland	Germany	Guatemala	Hungary	Mexico	Peru	Romania	Turkey	Points	Percentage
													
1	Mackintosh, I	½	½	0	0	0	0	½	0	0	½	2	20.0
2	Borwell, A P	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	½	0		½	5.5
3	Craig, T J	½	½	0		0	0	1	½	½	0	3	33.3
4	Lloyd, G	½	0	0	0	0	½	1	0	0	0	2	20.0
5	Anderson, G M	½	½	1	½	1	1	1	½		½	6½	72.2
6	Matheis, T	1	1	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	½	6½	65.0
Team Total		3	2½	1½	1	1½	2	4½	2	1	1½	20½	36.0

Tough going on the top boards in this event, but excellent performances from Gordon Anderson and Tom Matheis on boards 5 and 6. The team is standing in tenth position at this stage. Favourites Germany have 37½ points in first position, followed by Romania (34), then Hungary and Croatia (31½ each).

ICCF 7th European Team Championship

Webserver Semi-Final 1		Bulgaria	Israel	Malta	Netherlands	Norway	Poland	Slovenia	Spain	Turkey	Ukraine	Points	Percentage
													
1	Mackintosh, I	0	0	½	0	0	½	0	½	½	0	2	20.0
2	Brown, Dr A C	½	½	½	0	1	0	½	½	½	0	4	40.0
3	Pyrich, G D	0	½	1	½	0	0	½	0	1		3½	38.9
4	Lloyd, G	½	0	1	0	½	0	½	½	0	½	3½	35.0
5	Matheis, T	1	½	1	½	1	½	½	½	½	½	6½	65.0
6	Montgomery, R S	½	½	½	0	½	1	0	½	0	0	3½	35.0
7	Roberts, A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
8	Cook, W M	0	½	1	0	½	0	½	0	0		2½	27.8
Team Total		2½	2½	5½	1	3½	2	2½	2½	2½	1	25½	32.7

Tough going all round in this event, but another superb performance from Tom Matheis on board 5 – the only player to score >50%. The team remains in tenth position at this stage, with Malta denying us the wooden spoon. Netherlands (53½) lead Slovenia (51) in the top spots.



General Information

Members of the Scottish CCA are eligible to play in ICCF postal, email and webserver tournaments, which cover European and World, Open (O - under 1900), Higher (H - 1900-2100) and Master (M - over 2100) classes. Entries to H or M class events for the first time require evidence of grading strength, or promotion from a lower class. O and H classes have 7 players/section, with M class having 11. It is usually possible to interchange between playing modes when promotion from a class has been obtained.

New World Cup tournaments start every 2-3 years, with 11-player sections of all grading strengths, and promotion to 1/2 finals and final. Winners proceed to the Semi-Finals, and winners of these qualify for a World Cup Final. The entry fee covers all stages, and multiple entries are allowed, though Semi-Finals are restricted to 2 places per individual.

Master and GM Norm tournaments with 13-player sections are available for strong players. Master entry level is fixed ICCF rating of 2300+, (2000 ladies); non-fixed ICCF 2350+ (2050 ladies); or FIDE 2350+ (2050 ladies); while medal winners (outright winners ladies) in national championships are also eligible. GM entry levels are 150 rating points higher. A player can enter only one section per playing mode per year. Section winners who do not achieve norms receive entry to a World Championship Semi-Final.

International numeric notation is the standard for postal events, while PGN is normal for email and webserver play. Playing rules and time limits are provided for each event, and the usual postal limit is 30 days per 10 moves, with 60 days for 10 moves in email and webserver. Players may take up to 30 days leave per calendar year.

Use air mail stickers to all destinations to speed postal play, and be aware that some patience is required, as games may take up to 3 years against opponents in countries with poor mail services. Silent withdrawal is bad etiquette! International CC postcards are recommended, and can be obtained from Chess Suppliers (Scotland). Email and webserver have speeded up many events, and made it cheaper to play. Generally, you play less email/webserver games simultaneously than postal because of the faster play.

A prerequisite for entry via the SCCA is that the player remains a full member of the SCCA for the duration of the tournament. We wish you great enjoyment from your overseas games, and from making new chess friendships!

Current tournament fees are shown on the ICCF Index page of the SCCA website, and all Scottish players competing in ICCF events have bookmarks from the SCCA site to the relevant ICCF cross-table for easy checking of results. The SCCA international secretary can advise on all aspects of play, how to enter, current entry fees, etc.

Thematic Tournaments

Postal Events 2007-08

Theme 6/07: Ruy Lopez, Siesta Defence, C74

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.c3 f5

Entries by 1 November; play starts 1 December

Theme 1/08: Two Knights, Max Lange Attack, C55

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d4 exd4 5.0-0 Bc5 6.e5

Entries by 1 January; play starts 15 January

Email Events 2007 (None in 2008)

Theme 6/07: Sicilian Paulsen System, B41-3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6

Entries by 15 October; play starts 1 November

Webserver Events 2007-08

Theme 5/07: Nimzo-Indian, E20-59

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4

Entries by 1 November; play starts 15 November

Theme 6/07: English, Lalic Variation, A37

1.c4 g6 2.g3 Bg7 3.Bg2 c5 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.Nf3 e6 6.a3 Nge7 7.b4 d5

Entries by 1 December; play starts 15 December

Theme 1/08: Budapest Gambit, Schara Variation, A52

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ng4 4.e4 Nxe5 5.f4 Ng6 6.Be3 Bb4+ 7.Kf2 Qf6 8.Ne2 Qxb2

Entries by 15 January; play starts 1 February

News

- ❑ A record 260 teams have entered the Champions League 2007-09, and play is now under way.
- ❑ This year's ICCF Congress will be held in Benalmádena, Spain, from October 20-26. Scotland will be represented by George Pyrich and Alan Borwell.
- ❑ ICCF has launched its own wiki (cf Wikipedia) which allows CC players to post information relevant to the correspondence community – go to www.iccf.com/wiki
- ❑ Michael Blake has produced the new copy of Amici magazine in pdf format – you can download it from www.iccf.com/amici

Further details of all ICCF activities and events; entries to events, and orders for ICCF publications may be obtained via George Pyrich at: international@scottishcca.co.uk

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