



MONTANA

CHESS NEWS

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From the New Editor

After two years as editor of this newsletter, Michael Martinez is stepping down. Our thanks to him for getting the chess news out to us in spite of the demands of work, family, and a move to a new city.

Michael always advocated cooperative work on the Newsletter, and I want to encourage it too. Please do submit articles, annotated games, tournament reports, chess jokes and anecdotes, photos, or anything else that you think MCA readers might enjoy seeing.

Having just gotten some new publishing software, I feel ready to take on the job as editor. My only request in doing so is that newsletter readers show me more forgiveness for my errors here than they do for those I commit over the chess board.

—Thad Suits

P.S. I was taught that it's bad form to refer to oneself in the third person singular, as I do in much of this publication. Suits hopes that readers will forgive him for this also.

Stubberud Wins in Billings

Kip Stubberud of Helena and John Carr from Wyoming each scored four points out of five to lead the field at the 1998 Montana State Open, held at the Billings YMCA the weekend of May 30th. Stubberud took home the trophy for first place, based on tiebreak points.

Thirty players turned out for the tournament, including six newcomers to the Montana chess scene. It was an encouraging size, especially after last year's low turnout in Butte, and it made for some exciting match-ups.

Great Falls participants Jim Skovron and Doug Hansen took home first place in the A and B classes, respectively. They tied with Zygmund Mayer, current state champion Thad Suits, and the winner of the Senior division, Michael Long, each with 3.5 points. Zygmund's tiebreak points gave him the third place trophy. Other trophy winners were Kevin Smith in class C, and Robert Swokowski in class D.

The win gives Kip a berth in the closed championship. When asked about his chances in that ten-player event, Kip said after a moment's calculation, "About ten percent."

Special thanks to David Duke and all the players who provide housing to out-of-towners for tournaments. It takes a tolerant nature to play host to a horde of chess players, and your hospitality makes the trip more feasible for many of us.

Look for games from the tournament and the final standings inside this issue.

New Officers, New Rules: A Report on the Annual Business Meeting

The sixty-third annual business meeting of the Montana Chess Association took place in Billings on May 31st, prior to the second day's rounds of the Montana State Open. MCA members in attendance and the proxies they carried voted in a new slate of officers to the board, and approved several changes to the bylaws.

At the start of the meeting Doug Hansen of Great Falls was defeated in his bid to avoid re-election as MCA president. Joining him now on the board will be Executive Vice President Mike Jensen, Secretary/Treasurer Thad Suits, Eastern Vice President Patrick MacDonald, and Western Vice President Daniel McCourt. All were elected unopposed.

After the elections, there was a financial report by outgoing Secretary/Treasurer Sherwood Moore. In his report, Sherwood explained that the cost of producing and mailing the Newsletter, combined with the lower income from last year's Montana Open, meant that MCA finances were soon to be in need of a boost.

The financial report led to a debate over the first proposed change in the bylaws: Raising the annual membership fees. All members present appeared to believe a raise was in order, and after some discussion they approved a proposal to raise the regular annual fee to nine dollars and the junior fee to five dollars.

A proposal to change the Montana Closed Championship from five rounds to

four was defeated. Sherwood Moore expressed concern that pairing such a small tournament gets extremely awkward in the later rounds, but a majority of members voted to preserve the status quo.

Members approved a new rotation system for determining the site of the Montana Open. The five main chess cities in the state — Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls, Helena, and Missoula — will take turns hosting the Open, starting next year with Bozeman and cycling through alphabetically. In the event a city is unable to sponsor the tournament, it will skip to the next city in line.

Finally, although not strictly a bylaw topic, voters agreed to make the MCA Newsletter officially a quarterly publication. This should save some money, but the main advantage of the change is it will keep the volunteers who contribute to it fresh, and better able to produce a high quality product.

One final note from the meeting: Sherwood Moore chose not to stand for reelection as Secretary/Treasurer. The duties of Secretary/Treasurer will now be, as they have in past years, assumed by the editor of the MCA Newsletter. Although this editor questions the wisdom of trusting a musician with money, he will do his best to keep the books in order. Thanks to Sherwood for all his hard work during his tenure as Secretary.

Info Needed for MCA Directory

A listing of MCA members will appear in an upcoming issue of the Newsletter, but I need your help. We have names and addresses on file, of course, but I would also like to include phone numbers, E-mail addresses and even Internet player handles.

If you want to be included in the listing, **please take a moment to send me the above information.** If you are in a club, you could collect the details on all your members at your next meeting and send them all in to me on one sheet.

I hope to make this list a thorough one, but anyone not wanting to be on it at all can just let me know anytime before the next issue is released.

This listing will make it more convenient for those of us who have chess business with fellow members, or who just want to grab a quick game with someone if we happen to be traveling through town.

NEW MCA MEMBERSHIP FEES:

\$9 / YEAR REGULAR
\$5 / YEAR JUNIOR

Did you find (or miss) a subtly sharp move in one of your games? If so, send it to the editor and ask

What's the Cruncher?

Black has just played ...Bd4, attacking the rook and securing a forward post for the bishop. Where is White's crunching response? The answer is on the back page.



White to move and crunch..

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All submissions are welcome, including photos. Articles by E-mail or on a PC-formatted diskette are especially appreciated. Please use either ASCII text or Microsoft Works, Publisher or Lotus format.

MCA Board Members (1998-1999)

Doug Hansen - President
Michael Jensen - Vice President
Thad Suits - Secretary/Treasurer
Patrick McDonald - Eastern V.P.
Daniel McCourt - Western V.P.

Suits Wins Grand Prix Point Derby

Thad Suits edged out Romie Carpenter by a point to take this year's Grand Prix title. The combination of clear first in the Chinook Open and a good showing in the Montana Open put him over the top for the 1997-1998 tournament season.

The initial formula that sets points for grand prix tournaments is not hard to understand. It is given by

$$(N/5) \times (11-P) \times C$$

where N is the number of rounds in the event, P is the place in order of finish among Montana residents (or the average place in case of ties), and C is the average rating of all players in the event divided by 1500. Negative numbers are disregarded.

The resulting value is then subjected to iterative de-Gaussing by the formula $\int \mathcal{N}(\hat{h}+1) (\partial \mathcal{N} / \partial t)$, where \mathcal{N} is the mean blunder function, and \hat{h} is the number of games the player really should have lost. This value is then multiplied by pi if the tournament was held during a full moon.

Here are the final grand prix standings as determined above.

Thad Suits	23.56
Romie Carpenter	22.30
James Skovron	21.94
Kip Stubberud	21.83
Ron Erickson	11.37
Jim Mundy	10.93
Mike Jensen	10.62
Haluk Beyenal	9.20
Zygmund Mayer	7.32
Michael Long	7.32
Doug Hansen	7.32
Daniel McCourt	7.20
David Duke	2.62
Kevin Smith	2.62
Les Brennan	2.62



Kip Stubberud between rounds at the Montana Open

Ten Qualifiers for State Closed Set

The tournament cycle ended with the Montana Open, so the stage is now set for the State Closed. These ten qualifiers will meet in Helena on Sept. 12 and 13 to compete for the championship:

Current Champion

Thad Suits

Grand Prix Qualifiers

Romie Carpenter, James Skovron, Kip Stubberud, Ron Erickson

State Open Qualifiers

Zygmund Mayer, Michael Long, Douglas Hansen, J. Michael Jensen, David Duke

If any of these players cannot attend, first alternate for Grand Prix qualification is Jim Mundy.

First in a series:

MCA Player Profiles: Jim Skovron

Most Montana chess players know Jim Skovron as a dangerous and aggressive opponent, but he does have an easygoing side to him. In this MCA player profile the Newsletter takes a look at the man behind the blistering attack.

Jim, 42, was born and raised in Great Falls. His best friend taught him to play chess when he was thirteen, and his first tournament was an event for unrated players in the early 70's at Butte Plaza. He won. After high school Jim joined the army and moved to Germany where he spent twelve years working as a nuclear weapons technician. While overseas he met and married his wife, Uschi.

Jim also became active in the German chess leagues, travelling to

(Continued on page 7)

Recent Games

Stubberud,K - Suits,T
Queen Pawn Opening [D79]
1998 MT Open

In round five Kip only needed a draw for first place. He plays for symmetry against Suits and secures the half point

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.g3 c6 5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0 d5

6... d6 would have prevented the symmetrical setup that follows.

7.cxd5 cxd5 8.Nc3 Nc6 9.Ne5 Be6

An attempt to throw the position out of balance. It leads to a backward pawn that white eventually targets.

10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Na4 Qc8 12.Bg5 Bh3 13.e3 Re8 14.Bxf6 Bxf6 15.Rc1 Bxg2 16.Kxg2 e5

This center thrust takes the initiative and wins a pawn.

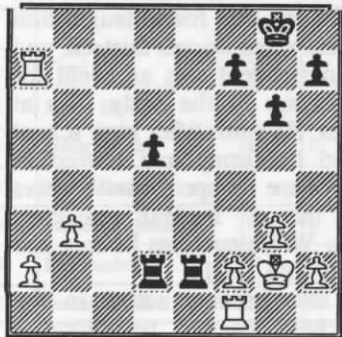
17.Nc5 Rb8 18.b3 exd4 19.exd4 Rb4 20.Qc2 Bxd4 21.Na4



24... c5

This gives the pawn back without a fight. After the game Zygmund Mayer suggested 21... RxN with good compensation for the exchange. 21... Re6, just guarding the pawn, was also possible.

22.Nxc5 Bxc5 23.Qxc5 Qxc5 24.Rxc5 Re2 25.Ra5 Rd4 26.Rxa7 Rdd2 1/2-1/2.



In post-game analysis, Black's connected rooks barely compensated for white's connected pawns.

Suits,T - Skovron,J
Alekhine's Defense [B02]
1998 MT Open

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.c4 Nb6 4.c5 Nd5 5.Bc4 e6 6.d4 b6 7.cxb6 axb6 8.Nc3

8.Nf3 is more usual here.

8...Bb4 9.Bd2 Bxc3 10.bxc3 Bb7

Jim didn't like the doubling of his pawns in the event of an exchange, but this allows white to disrupt black's kingside.

11.Qg4 Kf8! 12.Ne2 h5 13.Qh3 g5 14.Qg3 Rg8 15.h4 g4 16.Bg5 Ne7 17.Nf4

17.Bf6 first would have prevented the sharp, Skovron-style sacrifice that ensues.



17...Rxf6! 18.hxg5 Nf5 19.Qh2 h4 20.Nh5 Qxg5 21.Nf6 Ke7 22.Bd3 h3

22...g3 would have been stronger, but white now misses the correct response.

23.Rg1

23.Ne4 was better.

23...Bxg2 24.Rxg2 hxg2 25.Qxg2 Nc6 26.Be2 g3 27.fxg3 1/2-1/2



Black agreed to a draw in spite of having

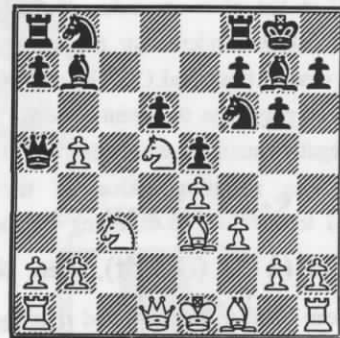
a great attack. After either 27... Ne3 or 27... Qe3, followed by ...Ra3, white is sure to lose another pawn at least.

Carr,J - Jensen,J
Scheveningen [E88]
1998 MT Open

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 e5 7.d5 c6 8.Nge2 b5

This looks too committing. 8... Qc7 or 8... Nd7 seem more solid.

9.cxb5 cxd5 10.Nxd5 Bb7 11.Nec3 Qa5?



This drops a pawn, and it's all downhill from here.

12.Nxf6+ Bxf6 13.Qxd6 Bg7 14.Be2 Rd8 15.b4 Rxd6 16.bxa5 Nd7 17.Kf2 a6 18.Rhd1 Rxd1 19.Rxd1 Nf8 20.b6 Rc8 21.Nd5 Rc2 22.Rd2 Rxd2 23.Bxd2 Ne6 24.Nb4 Nc5 25.Be3 Bf8 26.Kf1 Nxe4 27.Bxa6 Bxb4 28.Bxb7 Nd6 29.a6 Nxb7 30.a7 1-0

Skovron,J - Hansen,D
[A40]
1998 MT Open

1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.c4 c5 4.Nf3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Qb6 6.Nb3 d6 7.Nc3 Bxc3+

Black could become weak on the dark squares with this trade, but doubling the pawns does make for nice targets.

8.bxc3 Nf6 9.Be3 Qc7 10.f3 0-0 11.Be2 b6 12.0-0 Ba6 13.Nd2 Nc6 14.f4 Rac8 15.Qe1 Na5 16.c5

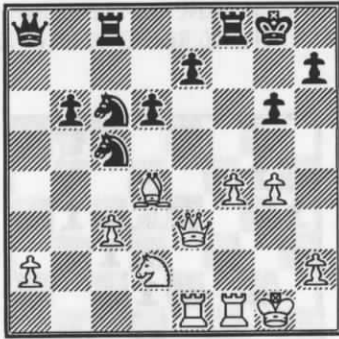
White avoids losing a pawn by this charge.

16...Bxe2 17.cxb6 axb6 18.Qxe2 Qb7 19.Bd4 Nd7 20.Qg4 f5

20... e5, with pressure on c3, was better.

21.exf5 Rxf5 22.Rae1 Nc6 23.Qf3 Qa8

24.g4 Rff8 25.Qe3 Nc5



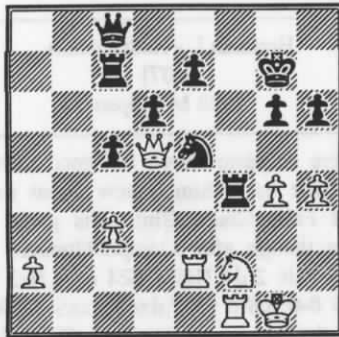
26.Bxc5

26.f5! The pawn wants to press ahead and bust up the kingside.

26...bxc5 27.Qe6+ Kg7 28.Ne4 Rc7 29.Qd5 h6 30.h4 Qc8 31.Nf2

31.f5 is still better.

31...Rxf4 32.Re2 Ne5?



32... Ra7 was best. Now white finds the way to a draw.

33.Rxe5! Rxc4+

If 33... dxR then 34.Qxd5+ Rf6 35. g5 and white gets the material back with interest.

34.Nxg4 Qxg4+ 35.Kf2 Qf4+ 36.Kg2 Qg4+ 37.Kf2 Qf4+ 38.Kg2 1/2-1/2

Brownlee,K - Mayer,E
Typical Mayer Stuff [C00]
1998 MT Open

1.e4 e6 2.d3 a6 3.Nf3 b5 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Nf6 6.0-0 c5 7.e5 Nd5 8.Re1 Qc7 9.Nbd2 Nc6 10.Nf1 g6 11.Ne3 Nxe3 12.Rxe3 Bg7 13.Qe1 Nb4 14.Re2 h6 15.d4 cxd4? 16.Qxb4 Rc8 17.Qxd4 d6 18.Qxd6 1-0

Smith,K - Carr,J
French Defense [C19]
1998 MT Open

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Nf3 Bd7 8.Bd3 Ba4 9.c4?!

ECO gives 9.O-O instead.

9...Nbc6 10.cxd5 Qxd5 11.c4?!

This initiates a double-edged attack. When it's all over, white is lost.



11...Bxd1 12.cxd5 Bxf3 13.dxc6 Bxc6 14.dxc5 Rd8 15.Ke2 Ng6 16.Bxg6

Giving up the bishop pair, and the better of the two bishops at that. 16.f4 might have put up a better fight.

16...hxg6 17.Be3 Bxg2 18.Rhg1 Rxc2

19.Bf4 Rh4 20.Be3 Bc6 21.f3 Rh2+

22.Bf2 Rd5 23.f4 Rxc5 0-1

Douglas,N - Willet,N
King's Indian Attack [A04]
1998 MT Open

Newcomer Nathanael makes some decent moves against Nick's King's Indian Attack, but violates opening principles to his undoing.

1.Nf3 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Bc5 4.0-0 Nc6 5.d3 Nf6 6.Nbd2 Nb4

Opening principle #1: Avoid moving the same piece twice until you are developed.

7.c3 Na6

Opening principle #2: A knight on the rim will never win.

8.Re1 0-0 9.e4 dxe4 10.dxe4 c6 11.e5 Ng4 12.Re2 b6 13.Ne4 Bxf2+ 14.Nxf2 Nh6



15.Qc2 c5 16.Ng5 Bd7??

(Oops!) Opening principle #3: Don't get checkmated.

17.Qxh7# 1-0

Valdon,P - Farr,C
Queen Pawn Opening [D00]
1998 MT Open

1.Nf3 d5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.d4 Nc6 4.Bg5 Ne4 5.e3 f6 6.Bf4 g5 7.Nxe4 gxf4 8.Nc5 fxe3 9.fxe3 e6 10.c4 b6 11.cxd5 bxc5 12.dxc6 Qd6 13.Be2 Qxc6 14.Rc1 Bd7 15.dxc5 Bxc5 16.Nd4 Bb4+ 17.Kf1 Qe4 18.Bh5+ Kd8

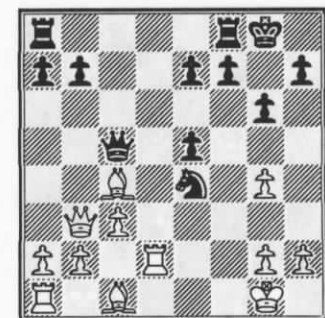


19.Bf3 Qxe3 20.Bxa8 Qf4+ 21.Nf3 Rg8 22.Bc6 Qd6 23.Bxd7 Kxd7 24.Qa4+ Ke7 25.Rd1 Qb6 26.Qd7+ Kf8 27.Qd8+ Kg7 28.Rd7+ Kh6 29.Qxg8 Qb5+ 30.Kf2 Qc5+ 31.Kg3 Qf5 32.Rf1 e5 33.Nh4 Qg5+ 34.Qxg5+ fxg5 35.Kg4 gxh4 36.Rf6# 1-0

Schaubel, F - Hansen, D
Queen Pawn Opening
1998 MT Open

Freddie gives up a little too quickly in this one.

1.d4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.e4 c5 4.Bc4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 d6 6.0-0 Nc6 7.c3 Nf6 8.Re1 0-0 9.Nf3 Bg4 10.Nbd2 Ne5 11.Qb3 Bh6 12.Nxe5 dxe5 13.f3 Bxd2 14.Rd1 Nxe4 15.fxg4 Qc7 16.Rxd2 Qc5+ 0-1



Freddie resigned here, but after 17.Kf1 NxR 18.BxN there is still a lot of play left.

Hoene,H - Smith,K
Sicilian [B34]
1998 MT Open

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6
5.c3 d5 6.Bb5 Qd6 7.Qe2 e5 8.exd5 Qxd5
9.0-0 Nge7 10.Nxc6 Nxc6 11.Rd1 Qe6
12.Bc4 Qg4 13.f3 Bc5+ 14.Be3? Bxe3+
15.Qxe3 Qxc4 16.Na3 Qa6 17.Kh1 0-0
18.Rd5 Qb6 19.Qd2 Rd8 20.c4 Be6
21.Rxd8+ Rxd8 22.Qc3 Qb4 23.Qc2 Rd2
24.Qe4 Qxb2 0-1

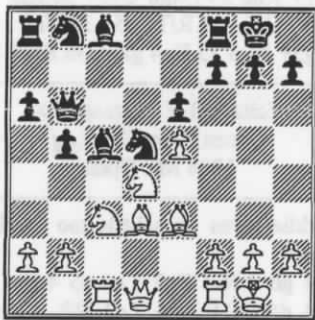
Stubberud,K - Jensen,J
Queens Gambit Accepted [D31]
1998 MT Open

Middle game tactics (and an attractive final checkmate) give Kip the only perfect score after round three.

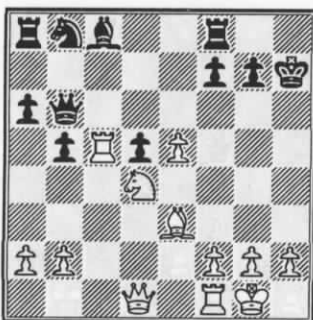
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 dxc4 4.e4 Nf6
5.Bxc4 a6

ECO suggests instead 5... c5. Black's counter in the center is too slow.

6.Nf3 b5 7.Bd3 c5 8.0-0 cxd4 9.Nxd4
Bc5 10.Be3 Qb6 11.Rc1 0-0 12.e5 Nd5?
12.Nfd7 is better.



13.Bxh7+! Kxh7 14.Nxd5 exd5
15.Rxc5



15... Qg6
Taking the rook, while still hard on black, seems to offer more chances. E.g. 15...Qxc5 16.Ne6 Qc4 17.Nxf8+ Kg8 18.Qh5 Qe4 19.Rc1 Bg4 20.Qg5 d4

16.f4 Qe4 17.Qh5+ Kg8 18.Rf3 Qh7
19.Qxh7+ Kxh7 20.Rxd5 Bb7 21.Rh3+
Kg8 22.Rd6 Be4 23.f5 Ra7 24.e6 Re7
25.Bg5 f6 26.Bf4 Rc8 27.Kf2 Ree8 28.Re3
Bb7 29.Rb6 Bd5 30.Bxb8 Rxb8 31.Rxa6
Rb7 32.Rc3 Rd8 33.g4 Bxa2? 34.Rxa2
Rxd4 35.Ra8+ Kh7 36.Rh3# 1-0



John Carr

Carr,J - Mayer,Z
Grob [A40]
1998 MT Open

1.d4 b5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bf4 Nf6 4.e3 a6
5.Bd3 c5 6.c4 exd4

6... bc4 7.Bxc4 d5 looks good.

7.Nxd4 Bb4+ 8.Nd2 bxc4 9.Bxc4 Bb7
10.0-0 Nc6 11.Nxc6 Bxc6 12.Be2 0-0
13.a3 Be7 14.Bf3 d5 15.Be5 Bd6 16.Bc3
Qc7 17.g3 Rab8 18.Qc2 Bb5 19.Rfc1 Rfc8
20.Qd1 Qe7 21.Be2 Nd7 22.Bxb5 axb5

22... Rxb5 is also possible, and maybe a little better.

23.Qf1 b4 24.Bd4 bxa3 25.Rxc8+ Rxc8
26.bxa3

Now 26... e5, followed by ... Rc2 would really cramp white.

26...Rc2 27.Qd3 Rc7 28.a4 Nc5
29.Bxc5 Rxc5 30.a5 Be5 31.Ra2 Qa7
32.Nb3 Rc3 33.Qb5 g5 34.a6 Bc7?

After 34...Qb8 white's game is freer, but black could probably hold on.

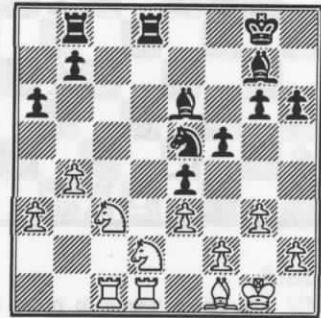
35.Nc5 Bb6 ½-½

John agreed to a draw, but shouldn't have. E.g. 36.Qe8+ Kg7 37. Nd7 h6 38.Rb2 and Zygmund's position is thoroughly penetrated.

Martin,R - Duke,D
[E62]
1998 MT Open

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0
5.d4 d6 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Nc3 e5 8.dxe5 dxe5

9.Bg5 h6 10.Qxd8 Rxd8 11.Bxf6 Bxf6
12.Nd5 Bg7 13.Nxc7 Rb8 14.Nb5 Be6
15.Rfd1 Bxc4 16.Nc3 a6 17.Nd2 Be6 18.a3
Nd4 19.e3 Nc6 20.Rac1 f5 21.b4 e4 22.Bf1
Ne5

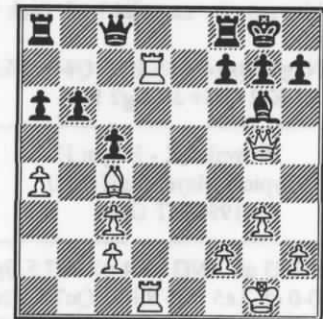


23.Na4? Rxd2 24.Nc5 Rxd1 25.Rxd1
Kf7 26.Be2 Bf6 27.Nxe6 Kxe6 28.Rc1 Rd8
29.Kf1 Rd7 30.Rc8 Nd3 31.Rg8 Kf7
32.Rc8 Bb2 33.Bd1 Bxa3 34.Bb3+ Kg7
35.Rg8+ Kh7 0-1

Brennan,L - Rodriguez,A
[B07]
1998 MT Open

Here Augusto shows the good instincts that have made him a new threat in the Great Falls Chess Club. His game collapses, though, after a simple blunder.

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Bc4 e6 4.Nc3 Be7
5.Nf3 0-0 6.0-0 c5 7.dxc5 dxc5 8.Bf4 a6
9.Bxb8 (How come, Les?) 9...Rxb8 10.a4
b6 11.Qe2 Ra8 12.Rfd1 Qc7 13.Rd2 Nd7
14.Rad1 Bf6 15.Qe3 Ne5 16.Nxe5 Bxe5
17.g3 Bb7 18.Rd7 Qc8 19.Qg5 Bxc3
20.bxc3 Bxe4 21.Bxe6 Bg6 22.Bc4



22...h6?

After 22... Qc6 black has the edge.

23.Qxg6 (¡Muchas gracias!) 23...Qe8
24.Qg4 Qe5 25.Qf3 Rae8 26.Rxf7 Rxf7
27.Bxf7+ Kh8 28.Bxe8 Qxe8 29.Qf5 a5
30.Qd7 1-0

Douglas, N - Cahill, J
King's Indian Attack [A04]
Great Falls Club Quick Championship

1.Nf3 e6 2.e4 Ne7 3.Nc3 g6 4.d4 Bg7
5.e5 0-0 6.Bd2 d5 7.Qc1 Nbc6 8.Bh6 Bd7
9.Be2 Nf5 10.Bxg7 Nxd7 11.Qh6 Ne7?
12.Ng5 Ngf5 13.Qxh7# 1-0

Keep those scoresheets

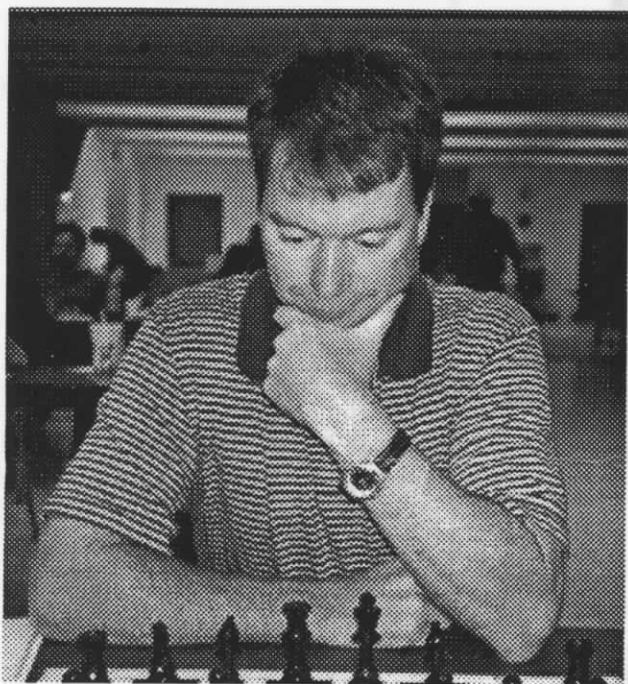
inspired.

Schaubel - Suits
Caro-Kann
Great Falls Club Quick Championship

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.f4 e6 5.Nd2
c5 6.c4 cxd4 7.Ngf3 Nc6 8.Qa4 Bc5 9.b4
Bxb4 10.Nxd4 Nge7 11.Nxf5 Nxf5 12.a3
Qh4+ 13.Ke2 Nfd4+ 14.Ke3 Qe1+ 15.Kd3
dxc4+ 16.Nxc4 Qc3+ 17.Ke4 f5+ 18.exf6
gxf6 19.f5 exf5+ 20.Kf4 Rg8 21.Bd3 Qxd3
22.Ne3 Bd6#

Skovron, J - Douglas, N
[B07]
Great Falls Club Quick Championship

1.e4 d6 2.f4 Nd7 3.Nf3 e5 4.Bc4 Ngf6
5.Nc3 g6 6.Ng5 Bg7 7.Nxf7 Qe7 8.Nxh8
Bxh8 9.d3 exf4 10.Bxf4 Ne5 11.Bb3 Bg4
12.Qd2 Nh5 13.Bg5 Bf6 14.Bxf6 Qxf6
15.Qf2 Qg7 16.h3 Be6 17.g4? Nf6?
18.Bxe6 (If you absolutely insist!) 1-0



Jim Skovron

his Chess Life magazine. He especially likes the opening forum and Benko's end game lab.

While Jim admits that more booklearning would probably improve his play, his approach has certainly not failed him so far. He is a solid A player and in 1996 he shared the state championship with Zygmond Mayer.

When not tormenting his opponents at chess, Jim enjoys golf, fishing, and hunting. He even manages to combine chess with these outdoor hobbies. As Jim puts it, "It's great to play chess with a friend while you sit in a boat with your line in the water, hoping nothing bites."

Here is one of Jim's victories from his years in Germany.

Skovron (1359) - Marinkovic (1650, est.)
[D06]

Reisensberg, Germany, May, 1984

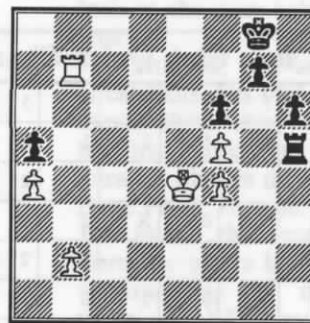
1.d4 d5 2.c4 h6 3.Nc3 c6 4.Bf4 Nf6 5.e3 e6 6.Bd3 Bd6 7.Nge2
Qe7 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Nxd5 exd5 10.Qc2 Nd7 11.0-0-0 Nf6 12.Ng3
a5 13.Rde1 0-0 14.Nf5 Bxf5 15.Bxf5 Bxf4 16.exf4 Qd6 17.g3 Qb4
18.Qd3 Qc4+ 19.Kb1 Qxd3+ 20.Bxd3 Rfe8 21.f3 Nd7 22.h4 Nf8
23.f5 f6 24.g4 Rad8 25.Kc2 Kf7 26.h5 Nd7 27.Kc3 Re7 28.Rxe7+
Kxe7 29.Re1+ Kf7 30.a3 c5 31.Bb5 cxd4+ 32.Kxd4 Ne5 33.Be2 b6
34.Bd1 Nc6+ 35.Kd3 Ne5+ 36.Kd4 Rd6 37.f4 Nc6+ 38.Kd3 Ne7
39.Ba4 Rd8 40.Re6 Rb8 41.Kd4 Rc8 42.Bb3 Rc1 43.Rxb6 Rg1
44.Bxd5+ Nxd5 45.Kxd5 Rxd4 46.Ke4 Rg2 47.Rb3 Rh2 48.Rb7+
Kg8 49.a4 Rxb5

Skovron: (Continued from page 3)

different cities once a month on Sundays as part of an eight-player team. He still keeps in touch with some of his chess buddies there by playing postal games, including a current pair of games pitting the Great Falls Chess Club against Kötzt-Ichenhausen.

In 1992 he returned to the United States with Uschi and their first two children, Stephanie and Daniel. Just this Spring they had their third child, Nicholas, but this is not the only big change in his life recently. In 1997, having left the army, Jim got a math degree from the University of Great Falls, and he now teaches math in Cascade.

Jim has always been one to learn by doing. His chess library consists only of a couple of reference volumes and a book by Lasker which he won in a tournament. "It's about the only chess book I've read cover to cover", he says. What little studying Jim does these days consists mostly of going over



50.b4 axb4 51.a5 g5? (51... Rh1) 52.a6 Rh4 53.a7 Rxf4+
54.Ke3 1-0

Tournament Tables

1998 Montana Open (5/30,31/98)								
#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total
1	KIP H STUBBERUD	1967	W14	W6	W8	D3	D4	4.0
2	JOHN B CARR	1826	W27	D3	H---	W14	W8	4.0
3	ZYGMOND MAYER	2034	W21	D2	W9	D1	D6	3.5
4	THAD SUITS	2029	D22	W17	W12	D5	D1	3.5
5	JAMES J SKOVRON	1933	W18	W11	D10	D4	D7	3.5
6	MICHAEL J LONG	1803	W30	L1	W18	W17	D3	3.5
7	DOUGLAS J HANSEN	1627	L25	W13	W26	W20	D5	3.5
8	J MICHAEL JENSEN	1894	W19	W15	L1	W10	L2	3.0
9	LESLIE BRENNAN	1829	W20	W25	L3	D16	D12	3.0
10	DAVID DUKE	1828	W23	W16	D5	L8	D13	3.0
11	HOWARD F JR. HOENE	1805	W24	L5	L14	W26	W16	3.0
12	KEITH BROWNEE	1746	D13	W22	L4	W21	D9	3.0
13	TIMOTHY SCHOESSLER	1622	D12	L7	W22	W19	D10	3.0
14	KEVIN SMITH	1515	L1	W27	W11	L2	W23	3.0
15	PATRICK MCDONALD	1632	W26	L8	L20	W25	D18	2.5
16	ROBERT A MARTIN	1599	W28	L10	W25	D9	L11	2.5
17	DAVID GRIFFIN	1567	W29	L4	W23	L6	D20	2.5
18	MELVIN P DRAKE	1286	L5	W24	L6	W28	D15	2.5
19	HAL S AMUNDSEN	1258	L8	D30	W27	L13	W26	2.5
20	ROBERT SWOKOWSKI	1256	L9	W29	W15	L7	D17	2.5
21	BRIAN W BAILEY	1525	L3	H---	W30	L12	D22	2.0
22	ERIEL MAYER	1522	D4	L12	L13	W30	D21	2.0
23	NICK DOULAS	1249	L10	W28	L17	W29	L14	2.0
24	CARLA FARR	unr.	L11	L18	L28	W27	W29	2.0
25	AUGUSTO RODRIGUEZ	unr.	W7	L9	L16	L15	W28	2.0
26	FREDERICK J SCHAUBEL	1201	L15	B---	L7	L11	L19	1.0
27	MARSHALL ANDERSON	unr.	L2	L14	L19	L24	W30	1.0
28	PETE VALDON	unr.	L16	L23	W24	L18	L25	1.0
29	NATHANAEL WILLETT	unr.	L17	L20	B---	L23	L24	1.0
30	ALLEN SCHOESSLER	unr.	L6	D19	L21	L22	L27	0.5

Tiebreak points not included.

Great Falls Chess Club Quick Championship									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Tot
1	Thad Suits	X	1	2	1	2	2	2	10
2	James Skovron	1	X	2	1	2	2	2	10
3	Doug Hansen	0	0	X	2	0	2	2	6
4	Nick Doulas	1	1	0	X	2	2	2	8
5	Freddie J. Schaubel	0	0	2	0	X	0	2	4
6	Bill Furdell	0	0	0	0	1	X	2	3
7	James Cahill	0	0	0	0	0	0	X	0

Coming Soon!

The MCA Newsletter on the World Wide Web.

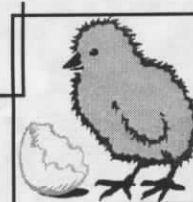
Look for it at www.wtp.net/software-dynamics/mca

This site, in the testing phase as this issue goes to press, will be maintained by Eastern Vice President Patrick McDonald. Please direct your E-mail comments to him at patrick@wtp.net.

To sac...



...or not to sac?



The Polgar Corner

The following position is taken from the encyclopaedia Chess by László Polgár. How quickly can you find this mate in two? The answer is on the back page.



White to move and mate in two.

Upcoming Events

July 11 & 12, 1998..... UCCC Midsummer Open

Format: 5 Round Swiss, **Time Controls:** Rd1 G/60, Rd2 G/90, Rds 3-5 G/120. **Site:** Room 362 Social Science Bldg, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812 **EF:** \$15 in advance, \$20 at site. State membership required \$9, Other States OK. **Prizes** (as gift certificates): 1st = \$75, 2nd = \$50, U1900 = \$30, U1700 = \$20, U1500 = \$10. **Reg:** 8.30-9 **Rnds:** 9:30, 12:30, 5, 8:30, 1. **Advance Entry:** William H. McBroom, 2321 Raymond Ave. Missoula MT 59802 (406) 728-4654. **No phone entries.** NS, NC, W. (Full refund if you leave a message at 406-243-2843 by 7:00am July 11.)

September 12 & 13, 1998..... Montana Closed Championship

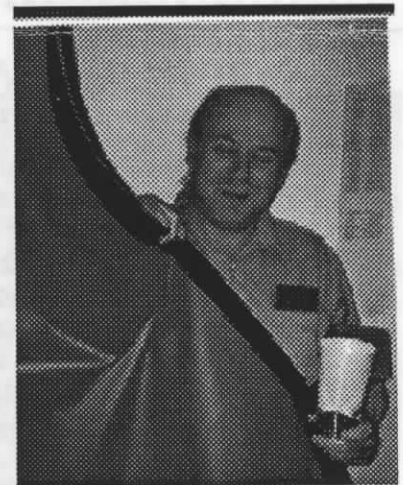
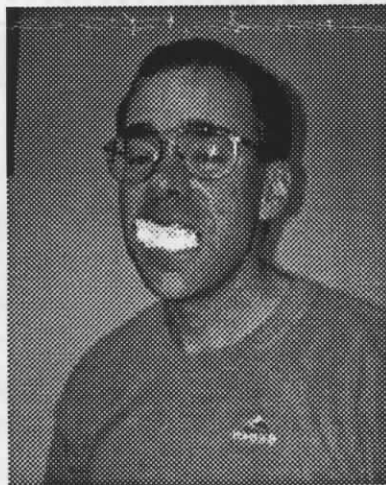
Format: 5 Round Swiss, **Time Controls:** 30/90 SD 60, **Site:** Helena Chamber of Commerce, 225 Cruse Avenue, Helena, MT 59601. **EF:** Invitational, no fee. Trophy and title to winner. **Reg:** 8-8:30. **Rnds:** 9, 2, 7, 9, 2 **Contact:** Doug Hansen /P.O. Box 2041/Great Falls, MT 59403. NS, NC, W.

September 12 & 13, 1998..... John Barto Memorial

(Held in conjunction with the Closed Championship)

Format: 5 Round Swiss, **Time Controls:** 30/90 SD 30, **Site:** Helena Chamber of Commerce, 225 Cruse Avenue, Helena, MT 59601. **EF:** \$15 by 9/9, \$20 on site. State membership required \$9, Other States OK. **Trophies:** 1st, 2nd, 3rd, U1800 U1600, U1400 **Reg:** 8 -8:30 **Rnds:** 9, 2, 7, 9, 2 **Advance Entry:** Doug Hansen/P.O. Box 2041/Great Falls, MT 59403. **No phone entries.** NS, NC, W.

The Photo Gallery: Some shots from the 1998 Montana Open

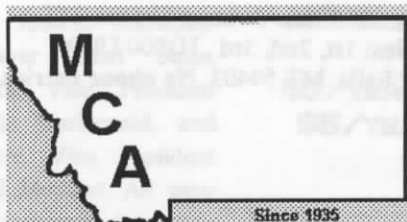


Clockwise from upper left:
 Outgoing Secretary/Treasurer Sherwood Moore. Mike Jensen, eating a biscuit (or is it his game score?). Zygmund ("Pay-no-attention-to-that-man-behind-the-curtain") Mayer. Newcomers Nathanael Willett and Carla Farr.



Thad Suits
2015 4th Ave N.
Great Falls, MT 59401

U.S. CHESS FEDERATION
186 ROUTE 9W
NEW WINDSOR NY 12553



Tournament Rule Tip

For a player to get a win on time in any **non sudden-death** time control, that player must have a "reasonably complete scoresheet" and mating material (USCF rulebook, section 13C). The rulebook goes on to define reasonably complete as meaning no more than three missing or incomplete move pairs.

For this reason it is to your advantage to call your own flag down if you know that your opponent's scoresheet is not up to this standard (13C2). Calling your own flag down starts the time forfeit procedure and prevents your opponent from filling in the rest of the missing moves. If your opponent's scoresheet is not reasonably complete, the game goes on — no matter how many moves you had to go to make time control!

Answer to "What's the Cruncher?"

From Katzl - Moore, UCCC 2nd Fall Open. Rudy crunched Sherwood with 1. Ng5+! The game continued 1...hxN 2. Re7+ QxR 3. QxQ+ Kh6 4. Bc1 a3 And it's mate in three. 5.Bxg5+ Kh5 6. Qh7+ KxB 7.Qh4++.

Answer to "The Polgar Corner" - 1.g4+