

NH Chess Journal

Brand New Amateur Champion!

Spring 2015

NH Amateur Chess Championship

Nashua - November 15, 2014

The 39th NH Amateur Championship drew a near-record 81 players to the Nashua Holiday Inn on November 15, 2014. In the top section, Stijn Brand of Concord, NH finished 4-0 to take clear first and win the NH Amateur Champion title. In the Intermediate section (under 1750), there was a three-way tie for first at 3.5-0.5 between Mike Commisso of Brookline, NH, David Hoyt of Haverhill, MA and Pascal Bakker of Enfield, NH. Finally, in the Novice section (under 1300) Rafael Perez of Manchester, NH won clear first with a 4-0 score. Two other players finished undefeated at 3.5-0.5, Alan Siller of Concord, NH and Arjun Rajan of Exeter, NH. Hal Terrie directed for the NHCA.

Brand,Stijn (1902) - Chevalier,Tim (1947) [A48]

39th NH Amateur Nashua, NH (4), 15.11.2014

[Annotated by NM Hal Terrie]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.e3 d5 5.Nbd2 0-0 6.Be2

If White plays the more active 6.Bd3 (hoping to achieve the move e4), Black can play 6...c5 7.c3 b6 8.0-0 Bb7 9.Qe2 and now 9...Ne4! (just in time!) frustrates his intentions. 10.Rfe1 Nd7 when Black has no problems.

6...c5 7.c3 cxd4

This is not really a bad move but I don't like it, as it opens the e-file for White, adding to his potential control of the e5 square. I think it is better for Black to maintain the tension. (I would prefer something like this: 7...b6 8.Ne5 Bb7 9.0-0 and now 9...Nfd7! 10.Ndf3 Nc6)

8.exd4 Nc6 9.Ne5



Stijn Brand vs Tim Chevalier

Or 9.0–0 Bf5 10.a4 a6 11.h3 Ne4 12.Re1 Rc8 when Black had complete equality in Shimanov,A (2549) Nepomniachtchi,I (2730) Warsaw 2011.

9...Nd7 10.Nxd7 Qxd7

10...Bxd7 is quite playable. If White tries to "take advantage" of this move by 11.Qb3 Black gets very active play: 11...e5 12.dxe5 Bxe5 13.Bxe5 Nxe5 and now: The safest move is 14.0–0 but after 14...Bc6 Black is doing fine.

a) The ambitious 14.Qxd5 is met by 14...Re8 15.0–0 Bg4 16.Qxd8 Rxd8! (The best recapture as now Bb5 does not attack a rook.) 17.Nb3 (Black also regains the pawn with a fine game after 17.Bxg4 Rxd2) 17...Bxe2 18.Rfe1 Nf3+ 19.gxf3 Bxf3

b) Not 14.Qxb7? Bg4 15.f3 (15.Bxg4 Nxg4 16.0–0 runs into 16...Qd6 17.g3 Rfb8 when the White queen is trapped.) 15...Bf5 16.0–0 Rb8 17.Qxa7 Rxb2 18.Rad1 Re8 when Black has tremendous piece activity for the pawn.

11.0–0 a6

A more active way to play is 11...f6 planning to follow with ...e5. Black wants to avoid getting stuck with a static pawn structure with all his pawns on light squares. Now after 12.Nb3 e5 13.dxe5 fxe5 14.Bg3 Qf7 15.Bf3 e4 16.Be2 Bf5 17.Qd2 Rad8 Black was doing fine in the game Pedersen,J (2331)-Rasmussen,A (2253) Nyborg 2001.

12.Nf3 b5 13.Re1 Bb7 14.Qd2 e6

Black could still play for ...f6 and ...e5 here. For example 14...f6 15.Rad1 e5 16.dxe5 fxe5 17.Bg3 Rad8

15.Bf1 Qe7 16.Ne5 Nxe5 17.Bxe5 Bxe5 18.Rxe5 Bc6 19.Rae1 a5 20.R1e3 b4 21.Rh3

Black is still OK but he needs to be very careful.

21...Ra7 22.Bd3 f5?

This is a tactical error which loses a pawn but it would also be a serious strategic mistake in any case, giving White permanent control of the e5 square. Instead, after 22...bxc3 23.bxc3 and now 23...f6! (That move again!) 24.Re1 e5 Black strikes back in the center and regains some dark-square control.

23.Rhe3 bxc3 24.Qxc3 Bd7 25.Rxd5

White doesn't play it in the most accurate way after this but he makes steady progress and soon brings home the point.

25...Rc8 26.Rc5 Rb8 27.Ree5 Rab7 28.b3 a4 29.Bc4 axb3 30.Bxb3 Qd6 31.h3 Rb6 32.d5 Re8 33.dxe6 1–0

Portsmouth Open

Portsmouth - January 17-18, 2015



GM Alexander Ivanov

The Portsmouth Open was held January 17-18, 2015 at the Holiday Inn Portsmouth. 39 players came to battle for top honors in the Open section and U1750 sections.

GM Alexander Ivanov and IM David Vigorito tied for first place overall with 3.5/4. The U1750 section was won by Anson O'Young and Derek Zhao with 3/4.

Cohen, Lawrence - Venkatraman, V [A15]

Portsmouth Open 40/90, SD/30 +30 (1), 18.01.2015

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 e6 3.Bg2 Be7 4.e3 c5 5.Ne2 Nc6 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nbc3 d6 8.d4 cxd4 9.exd4 d5 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Bg5 Be6 12.Qd2 Rc8 13.Rfe1 a6 14.Rad1 b5 15.Nf4 Ne4 16.Nxe4 Bxg5 17.Nxg5 Qxg5 18.Nxe6 Qxd2 19.Rxd2 fxe6 20.Rxe6 Rfd8 21.f4 Kf7 22.f5 g6 23.g4 h5 24.Rxg6 hxg4 25.Rxg4 Kf6 26.Rg3 Kxf5 27.Bh3+ Ke4 28.Bxc8 Rxc8 29.Rc2 Kxd4 30.Rg6 Ne7 31.Rxc8 Nxc8 32.Rxa6 Ne7 33.h4 Nf5 34.h5 Ke3 35.Rf6 Ng3 36.h6 d4 37.h7 d3 38.h8Q d2 39.Qh6+ Kd3 40.Rd6+ Kc2 41.Rxd2+ Kb1 42.b3 b4 43.Qg6+ 1-0

Garside, Finn - Malev, Jon [B34]

Portsmouth Open 40/90, SD/30 +30, U1750 (1), 18.01.2015

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Bg7 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Be3 a6 7.Be2 e6 8.0-0 Nge7 9.Bf3 0-0 10.Qd2 Ne5 11.Rad1 Nc4 12.Qc1 Nxe3 13.Qxe3 Qc7 14.Rfe1 b5 15.e5 Rb8 16.a3 Bb7 17.b4 Bxf3 18.Nxf3 Nf5 19.Qd2 Rfd8 20.Qd3 d5 21.Nb1 Rbc8 22.Re2 h5 23.a4 Qc4 24.Qxc4 Rxc4 25.axb5 axb5 26.c3 Ra8 27.Nd4 Nxd4 28.Rxd4 Ra1 29.Rd1 Bh6 30.g3 Kf8 31.f4 Ke7 32.Rde1 Rc6 33.Kg2 Kd7 34.Kf3 Bf8 35.g4 h4 36.g5 Rc4 37.Re3 Be7 38.Kg4 Ra2 39.R1e2 Rxe2 40.Rxe2 Kc6 41.Re3 d4 42.Rd3 dxc3 43.Rxc3 Bxb4 44.Rh3 Be1 45.Na3 Rc3 46.Rxc3+ Bxc3 47.Kxh4 Kc5 48.Kg4 b4 49.Nb1 Kd4 50.h4 Ke4 51.h5 gxh5+ 52.Kxh5 Kxf4 53.Kh4 Be1+ 54.Kh5 Kxe5 55.Kg4 Ke4 56.Kh5 Kf5 57.Kh6 e5 58.Kh5 e4 59.Kh6 e3 60.Kh5 e2 61.Kh6 Bc3 62.Kh7 e1Q 63.Nxc3 bxc3 64.Kg7 Qe5+ 65.Kf8 Kg6 66.Kg8 Qg7# 0-1

Elmore,John - Cohen,Lawrence [D55]

Portsmouth Open 40/90, SD/30 +30 (2), 18.01.2015

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 Nf6 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Bg5 0-0 6.e3 a6 7.Ne5 h6 8.Bh4 Nbd7 9.f4 c6 10.c5 Nxe5 11.fxe5 Nd7 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Bd3 f5 14.0-0 b5 15.b4 a5 16.bxa5 Rxa5 17.Qb3 Bb7 18.a4 Rfa8 19.Rab1 Nxc5 20.dxc5 Qxc5 21.Rf3 Bc8 22.axb5 Ra3 23.Qb4 Qxb4 24.Rxb4 Rxc3 25.Bf1 cxb5 26.Rxb5 Raa3 27.Rb8 Kh7 28.g4 fxg4 29.Rf8 Ba6 30.Rb6 Bxf1 31.Rxf1 Rxe3 32.Rxe6 d4 33.Rd6 Rxe5 34.Rxd4 Rg5 35.Rd2 h5 36.Rb2 Rga5 37.Rbb1 Ra2 38.Rf7 Ra1 39.Rxa1 Rxa1+ 40.Kg2 Ra3 41.Rb7 Kh6 42.Rb2 Rf3 43.Rc2 g6 44.Rb2 Kg5 45.Rb5+ Rf5 46.Rb2 Rd5 47.Rc2 h4 48.Rb2 h3+ 49.Kg3 Rd3+ 50.Kf2 Rd1 0-1

Malev,Jon - Zhao,Derek [A58]

Portsmouth Open 40/90, SD/30 +30, U1750 (2), 18.01.2015

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.d5 d6 4.c4 b5 5.cxb5 a6 6.bxa6 Bxa6 7.g3 g6 8.Bg2 Bg7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nc3 Qb6 11.Re1 Nbd7 12.e4 c4 13.h3 Nc5 14.Bf1 Rfb8 15.Qc2 Qb4 16.Rb1 Nfd7 17.a3 Qb7 18.Be3 Nb3 19.Nd2 Nxd2 20.Qxd2 Ne5 21.Kg2 Qb3 22.f4 Nd7 23.Be2 Bc8 24.Bf3 Bb7 25.Qd1 Qxd1 26.Rexd1 Bc8 27.Bd4 Bf8 28.e5 Rb3 29.Ne4 Rab8 30.Nd2 R3b5 31.Nxc4 dxe5 32.fxe5 Bb7 33.Bc3 Rc8 34.Ne3 Bg7 35.Bg4 e6 36.Kf2 Nxe5 37.Bxe5 Bxe5 38.dxe6 f5 39.Be2 Rxb2 40.Rxb2 Bxb2 41.Rb1 Bxa3 42.Rxb7 Re8 43.Bc4 Be7 44.Kf3 Kf8 45.Nd5 Ba3 46.Rf7+ Kg8 47.Nf6+ Kh8 48.Nxe8 [48.Rxh7#] 48...Bb2 49.Rf8# 1-0

Jarrard,Warren - Connors,Kehan [C46]

Portsmouth Open 40/90, SD/30 +30, U1750 (2), 18.01.2015

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Bc4 Nh6 5.d3 Bg7 6.Be3 0-0 7.Qd2 Ng4 8.Bg5 Nf6 9.Nd5 d6 10.h3 Be6 11.g4 Bxd5 12.Bxd5 Qd7 13.Bb3 Nxc4 14.hxc4 Qxc4 15.Qe3 Nd4 16.Nxd4 exd4 17.Qd2 Rfe8 18.Rf1 Qg2 19.0-0-0 c6 20.Qf4 Rf8 21.Rg1 Qh3 22.Rh1 Qd7 23.Bh6 c5 24.Bxc7 Kxc7 25.Qh6+ Kf6 26.Qf4+ Kg7 27.Rh6 Qe7 28.Rh4 g5 29.Qg3 Kh8 30.Rh6 Qe5 31.Qxe5+ dxe5 32.Rdh1 Kg7 33.Rxh7+ Kf6 34.R1h6+ Ke7 35.Re6+ Kd7 36.Rxe5 Kc6 37.Rxc5 f6 38.Rf5 Rad8 39.Bd5+ Kd6 40.Rxb7 Rh8 41.Rxf6+ Ke5 42.Re6+ Kf4 43.Rf7+ Kg4 44.Rg6+ Kh4 45.Rf4+ Kh3 46.Rf3+ Kh2 47.Rfg3 Rdf8 48.Rg2+ Kh3 49.Be6+ Kh4 50.Rh2# 1-0

Kolojeski,Paul - Malev,Jon [A45]

Portsmouth Open 40/90, SD/30 +30, U1750 (3), 18.01.2015

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 e6 3.e4 h6 4.Bxf6 Qxf6 5.c3 Qd8 6.Bd3 b6 7.Nd2 Bb7 8.Nh3 Be7 9.Qe2 d6 10.0-0-0 Nd7 11.f4 0-0 12.Rhg1 c5 13.Nf3 a6 14.g4 d5 15.e5 cxd4 16.Nxd4 Nc5 17.f5 Bg5+ 18.Kb1 Qe8 19.Nxc5 hxc5 20.f6 Ne4 21.Bxe4 dxe4 22.Qe3 Bd5 23.Qxc5 Bxa2+ 24.Kxa2 Qa4+ 25.Kb1 1-0

Cohen,L - Yip,C [E72]

Portsmouth Open 40/90, SD/30 +30 (3), 18.01.2015

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.Nc3 0-0 5.e3 e5 6.Nge2 d6 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d4 Nd7 9.d5 Ne7 10.e4 f5 11.f3 Nf6 12.Be3 h6
13.Qd2 Kh7 14.Rad1 a6 15.b4 Nh5 16.a4 f4 17.gxf4 Nxf4 18.Nxf4 exf4 19.Bd4 Bxd4+ 20.Qxd4 g5 21.e5 Nf5 22.Qe4
dxe5 23.Bh3 Kg8 24.Bxf5 Rxf5 25.c5 g4 26.d6 c6 27.d7 Bxd7 28.fxg4 Rg5 29.Rd6 Qe7 30.Rxf4 Qe8 31.Qc4+ Kg7
32.Ne4 exf4 33.Qd4+ Re5 34.Rxd7+ Kg6 35.h4 Rxe4 36.Qg7# 1-0

Malev,Jon - O'Young,Anson [D06]

Portsmouth Open 40/90, SD/30 +30, U1750 (4), 18.01.2015

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 Bf5 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 Bb4 6.Qa4+ Nc6 7.e3 0-0 8.Be2 h6 9.Bh4 a6 10.Qd1 Be7 11.0-0 dxc4
12.Bxc4 Ne4 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.Rc1 Qb4 15.Bb3 Rac8 16.a3 Nxc3 17.Rxc3 Qe7 18.h3 Rfd8 19.Qe2 e5 20.dxe5 Nxe5
21.Nxe5 Qxe5 22.Rd1 Rxd1+ 23.Qxd1 Qf6 24.Qe2 Qg6 25.Kh1 c6 26.Bc2 Bxc2 27.Rxc2 Rd8 28.Rd2 ½-½

Connors,Kehon - Talcott,Stanford [C57]

Portsmouth Open 40/90, SD/30 +30, U1750 (4), 18.01.2015

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.Nxf7 Kxf7 7.Qf3+ Ke6 8.Nc3 Nce7 9.b3 c6 10.Ba3 b5 11.Bxe7
Bxe7 12.Bxd5+ cxd5 13.Nxb5 Rf8 14.Qc3 Bd6 15.Qh3+ Kf7 16.Qxh7 Qf6 17.Qh5+ Kg8 18.0-0 Bc5 19.Nc7 Rb8
20.Nxd5 Qd6 21.c4 Bb7 22.Rae1 Bd4 23.Re4 Bxd5 24.cxd5 Qf6 25.Qh3 Qa6 26.Rh4 Qd6 27.Rh8+ Kf7 28.Qf5+ Ke8
29.Rxf8+ Qxf8 30.Qxf8+ Kxf8 31.Rc1 Rd8 32.Rc7 Rxd5 33.Rb7 Bb6 34.a4 Rxd2 35.g3 Rb2 36.Kg2 e4 37.a5 Rxf2+
38.Kh3 Bxa5 39.Rxa7 Bd2 40.Ra2 e3 0-1

Shepherdson,Stephen - Jarrard,Warren [C55]

Portsmouth Open 40/90, SD/30 +30, U1750 (4), 18.01.2015

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Be7 4.0-0 Nf6 5.Re1 a6 6.c3 b5 7.Bb3 Bb7 8.d4 Na5 9.Bc2 exd4 10.cxd4 0-0 11.Nbd2 d5
12.e5 Ne8 13.b4 Bxb4 14.a3 Bc3 15.Ra2 Nc6 16.Bb3 Nxd4 17.Nxd4 Bxd4 18.Nf3 Bb6 19.Ng5 c5 20.Qh5 h6 21.Bc2
Nc7 22.e6 fxe6 23.Qg6 hxg5 24.Bxg5 Qd7 25.Qh7+ 1-0

Kelleher,William - Cohen,L [B21]

Portsmouth Open 40/90, SD/30 +30 (4), 18.01.2015

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 d3 4.Bxd3 Nc6 5.Nf3 g6 6.0-0 Bg7 7.Na3 Nf6 8.Bg5 0-0 9.Re1 d6 10.h3 Nd7 11.Bc2 a6 12.Qd2
b5 13.Bh6 Bb7 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Rad1 Qc7 16.Bb3 h6 17.Nc2 Rad8 18.Ne3 Nf6 19.Nd5 Qb8 20.Qf4 Nh5 21.Qg4 e6
22.Nf4 Nxf4 23.Qxf4 e5 24.Qe3 Ne7 25.g4 f5 26.gxf5 gxf5 27.Kh2 fxe4 28.Rg1+ Kh7 29.Ng5+ Kh8 30.Nf7+ Rxf7
31.Qxh6+ Rh7 32.Qf6+ Rg7 33.Qxg7# 1-0

2nd Queen City Tornado

Manchester - February 28, 2015

UPSET

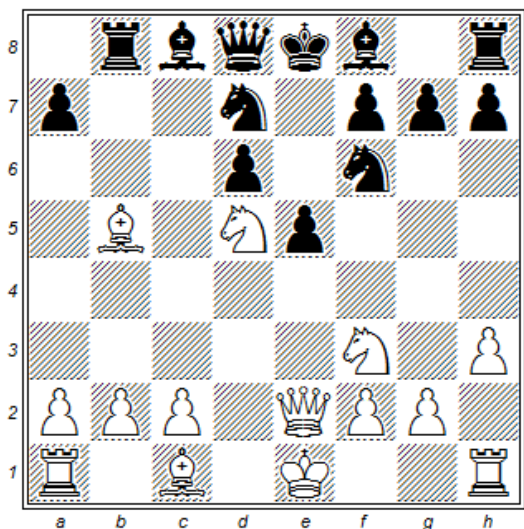
Dame,Erin (1960) -

IM Vigorito,David (2522) [C41]

Queen City Tornado (Open) G/60

Manchester, NH (1), 28.02.2015

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 c6 4.h3 Nbd7 5.Nf3
e5 6.Be2 b5 7.d5 cxd5 8.Nxd5 Nxe4 9.Bxb5
Rb8 10.Qe2 Nef6



11.Nxe5! dxe5 12.Qxe5+ Be7 13.Nxf6+ gxf6
14.Qxb8 0-0 15.Qg3+ Kh8 16.Bh6 Rg8
17.Qd3 Qa5+ 18.Bd2 Qc7 19.0-0-0 Nc5
20.Qf3 Bb7 21.Qe3 Rc8 22.Bc3 a6 23.Bd3
Bd6 24.Bxf6+ Kg8 25.Qg5+ 1-0

Messenger,Bob (1813) - Elmore,John (2090) [D14]

Queen City Tornado (Open) G/60

Manchester, NH (1), 28.02.2015

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Bf4 Nc6 6.e3 Bf5
7.Nf3 e6 8.Ne5 Nd7 9.g4 Bg6 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.Bd3 a6
12.Rc1 Qb6 13.Qd2 Bb4 14.a3 Be7 15.b4 Qd8 16.Na4 Bh4
17.Nc5 Nxc5 18.bxc5 Qf6 19.Rb1 Nd8 20.Rg1 Qe7 21.g5 Rc8
22.Bd6 Qd7 23.Be5 Rh5 24.Bxg7 Rxc5 25.Rxc5 Bxc5
26.Qb4 Rb8 27.Bxa6 Nc6 28.Bb5 Nxb4 29.Bxd7+ Kxd7
30.axb4 [30.Be5? Nd3+] 30...f6 31.f4 Bh4+ 32.Ke2 Ke7
33.Kf3 [33.Ra1 Kf7 34.Bh6 Rh8 35.Ra7 Rxc6 36.c6+-]
33...Kf7 34.Kg4 g5 35.fxc5 [35.Bh6 Kg6 36.fxc5 fxc5 37.Rf1
Kxc6 38.Rf6+ Kg7 39.Rxc6 Kf7 40.Rb6=] 35...Bxc5 36.Bxf6
Kxf6 37.Kf3 Ke7 38.e4 Rf8+ 39.Kg4 Be3 40.exd5 exd5
41.Rd1 Rf4+ 42.Kg3 Rxd4 43.Re1 Re4 The remaining moves
were lost to time pressure. 0-1

Bilodeau,Ethan - Tarndell,Scott [B06]

Queen City Tornado (U1300) G/60

Manchester, NH (2), 28.02.2015

1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.e5 d6 4.exd6 cxd6 5.d5 e6 6.Nc3 Nf6 7.f4
0-0 8.Nf3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Qb4 10.b3 Ng4 11.Nb5 Qc5 12.Nbd4
Bxd4 13.Nxd4 exd5 14.c3 Nc6 15.b4 Qb6 16.a4 Nxd4 17.a5
Re8+ 18.Be2 Nc2+ 19.Qxc2 Qf2+ 20.Kd1 Rxe2 21.Re1 Ne3+
22.Bxe3 Qxe1# 0-1

Messenger,Bob (1813) - Welling,Aashish (2161) [E70]

Queen City Tornado (Open) G/60, Manchester, NH (2), 28.02.2015

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nc3 Nbd7 4.e4 e5 5.d5 a5 6.Nge2 g6 7.Ng3 Bg7 8.Be2 0-0 9.h4 h5 10.Bg5 Re8 11.Bxh5 gxh5
12.Nxh5 Nf8 13.Qf3 N8h7 14.Nb5 Nxg5 15.hxg5 Nxh5 16.Qxh5 Bd7 17.Nc3 a4 18.a3 Rb8 19.0-0-0 b5 20.cxb5 Bxb5
21.Nxb5 Rxb5 22.g6 f6 23.Rd3 Qb8 24.Rdh3 Rxb2 25.Qh8+ Bxh8 26.Rxh8+ Kg7 27.R1h7+ Kxg6 28.Rh6+ Kf7
29.R6h7+ 1/2-1/2

Harju,John (1222) - Siller,Alan (1163) [C01]

Queen City Tornado (U1300) G/60, Manchester, NH (2), 28.02.2015

[Annotated by NM Hal Terrie]

1.e4 e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.d4 c5 5.c4 Nf6 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.Bc4 Nc6 8.dxc5 Nf6 9.Qxd8+ Nxd8 10.0-0 Bxc5 11.Bb5+ Bd7 12.Re1+ Ne6 13.Bc4 0-0-0 14.Ne5 Be8 15.Nc3 Bd6 16.Nf3 Bd7 17.Ng5 Nxc5 18.Bxc5 Rde8 19.Bxf7 Rxe1+ 20.Rxe1 Ng4 21.g3 Rf8 22.Ne4 Bb4 23.Rc1+ Kb8 24.Bf4+ Ka8 25.Bb3 Bc6 26.Rc4 Be7 27.h3 Nf6 28.Nxf6 Bxf6 29.Bc1 Bd5 30.Rf4 Bxb3 31.axb3 a6 32.Bd2 Rd8 33.Bc3 Bxc3 34.bxc3 Rd3 After many adventures White has reached a rook ending with an extra pawn. White should now think about playing a little more calmly. **35.Rf7?** [Surely 35.Rc4 is better, after which White can gradually prepare the advance of the kingside pawns.] **35...Rxc3 36.Rxc3 Rxb3 37.Rxh7** Yes, it's true White is still a pawn ahead but doing it this way is very tricky, with both sides having passed pawns rushing down the board. **37...Rb1+ 38.Kg2 b5?** How easy it is to go wrong here. It is better to advance the a-pawn, so that the Black king is not confined to the back rank. **39.g4** It's still not easy to see (for a human) but the computer now confirms that White is winning. **39...b4 40.g5 b3 41.g6 b2 42.g7??** A tragic error. [Instead 42.Rh8+ wins because now after 42...Ka7 43.g7 Rg1+ 44.Kxg1 b1Q+ 45.Kh2 the White pawn can't be stopped from queening. 45...Qf5 46.g8Q Qxf2+ 47.Qg2 Qf4+ 48.Kh1+-] **42...Rg1+ 43.Kxg1 b1Q+ 44.Kh2 Qxh7 45.h4 Qxg7 46.Kh3 a5 47.h5 a4 48.Kh4 a3 0-1**

McGaffigan,Joseph (1407) - Jones,Peter [E76]

Queen City Tornado (U1800), Manchester, NH (3), 28.02.2015

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f4 e5 6.dxe5 dxe5 7.Qxd8+ Kxd8 8.fxe5 Ng4 9.Bg5+ Ke8 10.0-0-0 Nc6 11.Bh4 Ne3 12.Re1 Nxf1 13.Rxf1 Be6 14.Nd5 Rc8 15.Nf6+ Kf8 16.b3 Nxe5 17.Nf3 Ng4 18.Nxc4 Bxc4 19.Kb1 h6 20.Bg3 Kg8 21.Rd1 Kh7 22.h3 Be6 23.e5 Rcd8 24.Rhe1 Rhe8 25.Bf2 a5 26.g4 a4 27.Bg3 axb3 28.axb3 b5 29.Nd2 Rd3 30.Bf2 Rb8 31.Kc2 Rxh3 32.cxb5 Bxc4 33.Rh1 Bf5+ 34.Kc1 Rc3+ 35.Kb2 Rc2+ 36.Ka3 Ra8+ 0-1

Kochman,David (1895) - Messenger,Robert (1813) [B03]

Queen City Tornado (Open) G/60, Manchester, NH (3), 28.02.2015

[Annotated by NM Hal Terrie]

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 Nb6 4.c4 d6 5.f4 dxe5 6.fxe5 Nc6 7.Be3 Bf5 8.Nf3 e6 9.a3 [The most common move is 9.Nc3 which transposes to the main line.] **9...Bg4 10.Nbd2 Qd7 11.Be2 0-0-0 12.0-0 Be7 13.b4** White's queenside play is very fast here. Black is already in trouble. **13...f6** [Maybe 13...a6 is a better try. Now if 14.b5 axb5 15.cxb5 is still rather scary but Black gets the d5 square as an outpost.] **14.b5** Now Black's knights get driven back. **14...Nb8 15.a4 Bb4 16.a5 Na8 17.c5 Bxd2 18.Nxd2 Bxe2 19.Qxe2 fxe5 20.dxe5 Rhf8 21.Rfd1 Qd3 22.Qxd3 Rxd3 23.Bg5 Nd7 24.Nf3 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 c6 26.b6 axb6 27.axb6 Naxb6** [The computer thinks the best try is 27...Nxc5 but let's face it, in a sudden death time control with time pressure probably already present, it would be very difficult for a human player to decide to allow 28.Be7 The computer gives 28...Nd7 29.Bxf8 Nxf8 30.Rb1 Nd7 31.Ng5 Naxb6 32.Nxe6 Nc4 33.Nxc7 Ndx5 when White is likely winning but there may be some tricks for Black.] **28.cxb6 Nxb6 29.Rd6 Nc4 30.Rxe6 h6 31.Bh4 1-0**

Ames,Jeffrey (2013) - O'Young,Coby (1875) [C47]

Queen City Tornado (Open) G/60, Manchester, NH (3), 28.02.2015

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.d4 exd4 5.Nd5 Be7 6.Bf4 d6 7.Nxd4 Nxd4 8.Qxd4 0-0 9.0-0-0 Be6 10.c4 Bxd5
11.cxd5 Nh5 12.Bd2 Bg5 13.g3 Bxd2+ 14.Rxd2 Nf6 15.f4 Nd7 16.h4 Qf6 17.Qf2 Rfc8 18.Bh3 Rd8 19.g4 Qe7
20.Re1 Re8 21.g5 Nc5 22.Bg2 Nd7 23.h5 f5 24.Bh3 fxe4 25.Be6+ Kh8 26.Rxe4 Nc5 27.Re3 c6 28.b4 Na6 29.a3 cxd5
30.Rdd3 d4 31.Rxd4 Nc7 32.Rde4 Nxe6 33.Rxe6 Qc7+ 34.Qc2 Qd7 35.Qe4 Rxe6 36.Qxe6 Qxe6 37.Rxe6 Rd8
38.Re7 Kg8 39.Rxb7 Rf8 40.Rxa7 Rxf4 41.Ra5 Kf7 42.Ra7+ Kf8 43.b5 Rc4+ 44.Kd2 Rc8 45.b6 1-0

Johnson,Aaron - Cassar,Tom (1475) [B19]

Queen City Tornado (U1800) G/60, Manchester, NH (3), 28.02.2015

[Annotated by NM Hal Terrie]

**1.d4 c6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.Nf3 e6 8.Bd3 Bxd3 9.Qxd3 Qa5+ 10.Bd2 Qa6 11.Qxa6
Nxa6 12.0-0-0 Nf6 13.Ne5 Bd6 14.f4 c5 15.dxc5 Bxe5?** This just leads to trouble. [The simple 15...Nxc5= is clearly
best.] **16.fxe5 Ng4 17.Ne4 0-0 18.Bc3 Ne3 19.Rd7 Rfb8** This position should be overwhelming for White but somehow
he goes wrong and lets Black back into the game. **20.Rh3** [Maybe 20.Bd4 is better, planning to follow with Nd6.]
20...Nxg2 21.Rf3 Rf8 22.Rxb7 Nxh4 23.Rd3 Rfc8 24.Rdd7 [Better 24.b4 to keep Black tied up. If 24...Rab8 25.Rxb8
Rxb8 26.a3] **24...Nxc5 25.Nxc5 Rxc5 26.Rxf7 Nf5 27.Rxa7 Rxa7 28.Rxa7** Somehow, Black is still very much in the
game. It's not so easy for White to mobilize his queenside pawns. **28...h5 29.Kd2 g5 30.b4 Rd5+ 31.Ke2 Nd4+?** But
this is wrong. White's bishop is actually hindering him from making progress. [31...h4! would really cause trouble for
White. It's not clear how that h-pawn can be stopped.] **32.Bxd4 Rxd4 33.b5 Re4+?** [The best try is 33...Rb4 34.a4 h4
when White is better but has some tough calculations ahead of him.] **34.Kd3 Rxe5?** [34...Rb4 was essential but after
35.c4 White is winning anyway.] **35.b6** Now this pawn will cost Black a rook. **35...Rb5 36.b7 Rd5+ 37.Ke4 Rb5
38.Ra8+ Kg7 39.b8Q** and White went on to win. **1-0**

Scholastic Individual Championships

Exeter - March 28, 2015

The 2015 New Hampshire Scholastic Individual Championships were held on Saturday, March 28, 2015 at Phillips Exeter Academy. 68 players attended.

The primary section (grades K-3) only drew three players, so the primary section was merged with the elementary section (grades 4-6). This did not phase 3rd-grade student Meghana Kancharla, however, who managed 3.5/4.0 and won the primary section despite having to compete with older competition. This marks the second year in a row that Meghana has won the primary section, doing so with a combined record of 7.5/8.0.

Meghana's 3.5/4.0 in the merged section was only bested by 5th-grader Abhinav Govindaraju, whose final round win in a very competitive game with 6th grader and former elementary section winner Finn Garside completed his perfect afternoon, making him the only player of the section's 23 competitors to manage a perfect score.

15 players competed in the junior high section, with 8th-grader Robert Sawdey, the section's highest-rated player, proving the bigger they are, the more rarely they fall. Robert scored a perfect 4.0/4.0, including a nice technical endgame conversion against 7th-grader Ananth Rangan in the final round to win the event.

The largest and most competitive section proved to be the 31-player high school section. The host school, Phillips Exeter, came ready to compete, and when the final round was set, two Phillips Exeter students, 11th-grader Mandy Lu and 12th-grader Ellen Xiang, competed for the section's honors. In a nerve-wracking contest, Ellen achieved a winning position but lost the thread in time pressure, allowing Mandy to escape her predicament and win the game. This was Mandy's second consecutive perfect score at the New Hampshire Scholastic Individuals, also winning the event in 2014.



*Final Round: Ellen Xiang vs Mandu Lu on Board 1
Coby O'Young vs Aashish Welling on Board 2*

For winning the junior high section, Robert Sawdey has the right to represent New Hampshire at the Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions. Similarly, Mandy Lu may, for a second time, defend New Hampshire's honor at the Denker Tournament of High School Champions.

Additionally, 10th-grader Evan Xiang, whose 3.5/4.0 made her the top finishing female player aside from Mandy Lu, earned the right to represent New Hampshire at the National Girls Invitational Tournament (NGIT). The Denker, Barber and NGIT tournaments will all be run alongside the US Open this summer in Arizona.

The NHCA would like to extend its congratulations to these players and its thanks to all the players, parents and coaches who made the event a success. Additionally, the NHCA would like to thank Phillips Exeter Academy, including both its staff and the representatives of its chess club, for hosting the event. In particular, the NHCA would like to recognize the efforts of Ellen Xiang, without whom the staging of the event at Phillips Exeter would not have been possible.

Unfortunately, scoresheets from the top board encounters are not available. However, the following game from the Elementary School section featured a nice attack concluding with a pretty mate in the middle of the board.

(1) Jiang,Dylan (393) - Xiao,Vincent (649) [C40]

NH Scholastic Individual Championships, Elementary (4), 28.03.2015

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Bc5 3.Nxe5 Qh4 4.d4 Nf6

This loses a piece. Better are 4...Qxe4+ 5.Be3; 4...d6; or 4...Bb4+ 5.c3 Bd6

5.Nc3

The bishop can be captured since 5.dxc5 Qxe4+ 6.Qe2 protects the knight.

5...Ng4

This was Black's last chance to keep his material with a move like 5...Bb4.

6.Nxg4 Bb6 7.Bc4 c5 8.d5 h5 9.Ne5 Na6 10.Nxf7 Rf8 11.d6

11.Bg5 wins the queen.

11...Rxf7 12.Bxf7+ Kxf7 13.Qf3+ Ke8 14.Qf5 g6 15.Qe5+

15.Qxg6+ Kf8 (15...Kd8 16.Qg8#) 16.Bh6#

15...Kf8 16.Bh6+ Kf7 17.Nd5

17.Qd5+ Kf6 18.e5+ Kf5 19.Qd3+ Kxe5 20.Bg7+ Kf4 21.Qf3+ Kg5 22.Qf6+ Kg4 23.h3+ Qxh3 24.gxh3#

17...c4 18.Qg7+ Ke6 19.Qxg6+ Ke5 20.Bf4+

20.Bg7+ Qf6 21.Qxf6+ (21.Bxf6+ Kxd6 22.Bd4#) 21...Kxe4 22.Nc3#

20...Kd4 21.c3+ Kd3

21...Kc5 22.Qf5 Qg4 (22...Bd8 23.Nc7+ Kb6 24.Qb5#) 23.Qe5 Qe6 24.Be3+ Kb5 (24...Kc6 25.Ne7+ Qxe7 26.Qd5#) 25.a4+ Ka5 26.Nxb6+ Nc5 (26...Qxe5 27.Nxc4#) 27.Qxc5+ Ka6 28.Qb5#

22.e5# 1-0

Scholastic Team Championships

Pelham - April 11, 2015

The NH Scholastic Team Championships were held in Pelham on April 11, 2015. 14 teams and 58 players competed.

Six teams entered a tightly-contested elementary section. Of these, the Pelham team "Pelham Puffy Penguins" won the day with a score of 3.5/4.0. The Penguins included Joshua Larson, Nicolas Robichaux, Tristan Archer and Andrew Strout. Pelham Coach Jay Palmieri was very pleased, indicating it was the school's first victory at the team since he had taken over as coach. Also recognized for the fantastic individual performances were Finn Garside, Matthew Demarest, William Kandle and Andrew Strout, the top finishers on boards 1-4 respectively.

With only 2 teams entering the high school section, it was decided to merge the high school and junior high sections into a single group while still allowing separate prizes for the appropriate grade levels. The junior high section was won by the "Check Mates," a team consisting of Meghana Kancharla, Jayalakshmi Seyyadri, Shreyas Pedda and Saisidharth Seyyadri. This victory was impressive, as the Check Mates were lower rated than many of their junior high competitors.

The high school section was won by Pelham High School, who showed its class by not only defeating the only other high school team (Londonderry), but also by winning the eight-team section outright. Pelham High was represented by David Renaud, Liam Earley, William Campbell, Kevin Whelan and Matthew Robichaux, all of whom combined to produce an excellent performance for Coach Dan Kilgour's squad.

In the combined junior high/high school section, individual honors were also extended to David Renaud, Liam Earley, Jayalakshmi Seyyadri, Akhil Kammila, Anthony Snyder and Saisidharth Seyyadri, the top finishers on their respective boards.

The NHCA extends its appreciation to all those who competed and to the host school, Pelham, for its continuing support of scholastic chess in New Hampshire.

Upcoming Events

65th NEW HAMPSHIRE OPEN

Heritage Event!

A State Championship Event!

July 11-12, 2015

Radisson Hotel Nashua, 11 Tara Blvd (near Exit 1 of Everett Turnpike, US Route 3), Nashua, NH 03062;
802-888-9970.

Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 20 (Enhanced)

4SS, 40/100, SD/60 d5. \$\$G 3,565. 4 sections.

Open, \$\$G 400-230-170, U2215 215, U2065 200. NH Champion title to top-scoring NH resident.

Under 1965, \$\$G 300-200-150 (no Unr may win more than 180), U1765 200.

Under 1665, \$\$G 300-200-150 (no Unr may win more than 120), U1465 200.

Under 1365, \$\$G 200-150-100 (no Unr may win more than 90), U1165 120-80.

All, EF \$59 in advance or \$65 at door, except \$49/\$55 for Under 1365 section, free to GM/IM in Open. NHCA memb. req. for rated NH residents: \$8 adult, \$6 age 18/under. Reg Sat 8:30-9:30 a.m., Rds 10-4, 9:30-3:30. Half-point bye okay for any one round (but not for Rd 4 in Open). NHCA membership meeting 9 a.m. Sun. HR: \$99 (plus 9% tax) if reserved directly with hotel; reserve by 6/26, mention NHCA. Ent: NHCA, c/o Robert Messenger, 4 Hamlett Dr Apt 12, Nashua, NH 03062. To enter online using credit card, start by visiting www.nhchess.org. Info: bob.messenger@myfairpoint.net or 603-891-2484 (home).

[Click here to download PDF](#)

Special extra prizes! In each section, one player will receive an EF rebate for the 75th New England Open, to be held Sept. 5-7, 2015. Winners will be selected by random drawing during the NH Open.

Officers and Committees of the NHCA

Officers

President: John Elmore

13 Thornhill Condos, Stratham, NH 03885

Telephone: (603) 918-0386

Email: johnpelmore@yahoo.com

Vice President: Kerry McDermott

12 Monroe Street, Dover, NH 03820

Telephone: (603) 749-1660

Email: tannersmasternh@verizon.net

Treasurer: Robert Messenger

4 Hamlet Drive, Apt. 12, Nashua, NH 03062

Telephone: (603) 891-2484

Email: bob.messenger@myfairpoint.net

Secretary: Hal Terrie

377 Huse Road, #23, Manchester, NH 03103

Telephone: (603) 668-8368

Email: halterrie@comcast.net

USCF Delegate: Alex Relyea

USCF Alternate Delegate: Hal Terrie

Board of Directors

Vince Bradley

Tom Cassar

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Chuck Grau

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Art Learnard

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Alex Relyea

Nate Smith

Gene Tappen

Committees

Clubs: Nate Smith

Constitution & By-Laws: John Elmore, Chuck Grau

Publication: Editor: Erin Dame nhchessjournal@gmail.com

Publicity: Art Learnard

Scholastics: Kerry McDermott, Doug Decker, Vince Bradley

Tournament: Bob Messenger, Hal Terrie, Alex Relyea

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