



The Right Move

2009
APR.



English Chess Federation—Junior Chess Magazine

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4 Nations Chess League Junior Championship Results

I'm proud to bring you the results of the **second** and deciding weekend of the Junior 4 Nations Chess League, which was hosted by De Vere Venues Latimer Place. Set in 30 acres of grounds in Chiltern's countryside, I considered it an extremely good sign that this great venue overlooks the Chess Valley!!



The tournament was open to all competitors under the age of 18. Teams of 4 players including school and club sides and groups of chess friends, battled it out over



Above: Ros with her coaching group and Andrew lecturing to the more experienced players.

First Weekend and Many More Photos Inside!

SIGN UP FOR THE JUNIOR 4NCL !

the course of the weekend and strength again varied from those attending their first tournament, to seasoned international players.

Professional chess coaching was provided throughout the day to all entrants and included structured lectures and coaches constantly on hand to analyse games and give advice. Thank you to Rosalind Kieran, Jack Rudd and Andrew Martin.



Our evening exchange tournament proved so popular at the last weekend, that we decided to run it again. There were some interesting junior/parent and coach/coach partnerships, but the Anna/Edward team proved to be unbeatable.



It's always great to see new faces on the junior chess scene and the 4NCL were extremely happy to welcome the ChessPoint team from Northamptonshire.

There were also a lot of younger faces making their first appearance at a chess tournament outside school.



Well done to Francis (left) representing Fulham Prep School and the King's House boys (below) who look splendid in their special tournament outfits provided by Fine Designs.



Photos and story continues on page 6



EDITOR'S FOREWORD AND BASIC ADVICE

by **Andrew Martin**
International Master

Welcome to the April *Right Move*. I am absolutely delighted to see the report from Claire on the Junior 4NCL. She and her team are doing a fabulous job with that and I would like to encourage all junior clubs or strong school teams to enter. Playing conditions are excellent, coaching is laid on and in my view the Junior 4 NCL can only go from strength to strength. It is a fantastic addition to junior chess in this country so sign up for next season now!

We have results from the World Trials which Peter Purland has kindly sent me; please look them over.

We have also started a letters page which is a forum for you, players, parents, teachers, and organisers to have your say. I am a believer in free speech so if you have any comments, positive or negative, about English Junior Chess send them to me for discussion and publication. If we all start talking, we will learn from each other.

Finally, thank you to Tyson Mordue for sending in a splendid game against Victor Jones. As the young guy went down

Continued on page 4

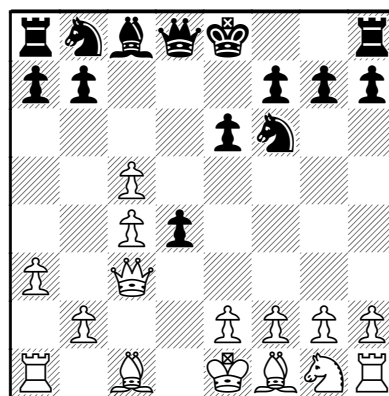


**Podolchenko, Evgeniy (2475) -
Maierov, Nikita (2524)**

[E36]

BLR-ch Minsk, Jan. 2009

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2
d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.Qxc3 c5 7.dxc5
d4!?**

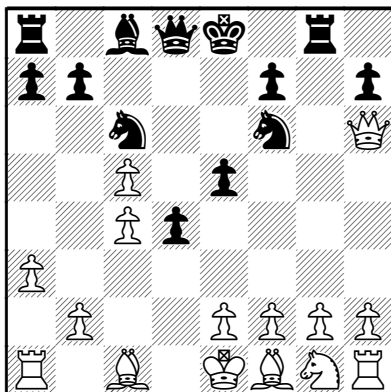


In this month's game we feature an interesting gambit which has been pioneered by GM Oleg Romanishin. 4. Qc2 is very popular at all levels these days, so Black needs a serious reply. I'm not sure whether this gambit is a permanent answer, but it is certainly very danger-

ous. The idea of 4.Qc2 is pretty simple. White wants to play a2–a3 and recapture on c3 with the Queen, gaining the two Bishops without any hassle.

8. ♖c2

8. ♖g3 is another possibility, after which Black should continue with 8... ♘c6 9. ♖xg7 ♖g8 10. ♖h6 e5



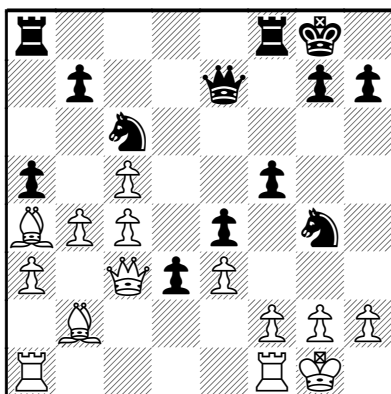
which is, of course, very sharp.

8...e5 9.e3 ♘c6 10. ♘f3 0-0

Rapid development is the key feature of Black's opening idea. If White is able to play Be2/Bd3 and then castle he will surely have the better game, so it is up to Black to deny him.

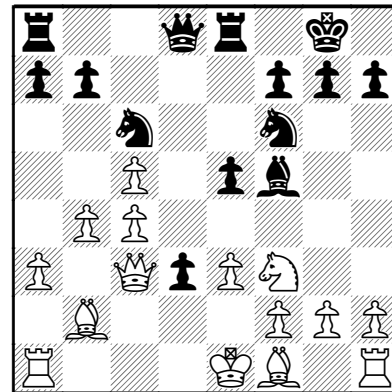
11.b4

11. ♘e2 ♘g4 12. 0-0 ♘xf3 13. ♘xf3 d3 14. ♖c3 e4 15. ♘d1 a5 16. ♘a4 ♖e7 17. b4 ♘g4 18. ♘b2 f5



judge. White has two Bishops but it is not easy to break the shackles of the strong black pawn-chain. Meanwhile 11. ♘d3 ♖e7 does not look impressive for White.

11... ♖e8 12. ♘b2 d3! 13. ♖c3 ♘f5N



A new improvement. Previously played was: 13...e4 14. ♘d2 a5 15. h3 axb4 16. axb4 ♖xa1+ 17. ♘xa1 h5 18. g3 ♘f5 19. ♘g2 ♖d7 20. g4 ♘xg4 21. hxg4 ♖xg4 22. 0-0 (22. ♘f1! ♘e5 23. ♖h2 ♖f5 24. ♖d4 ♘fg4 25. ♖g2) 22... ♖e5 23. ♖xe5 ♘xe5 24. ♘xe5 h4 25. ♖h2 ♖e2 26. ♘c3 ♘g4+ 27. ♖g1 f5 28. b5∞ **Matveeva, S (2411)–Turova, I (2381)/Kallithea 2008.**

Andrew Martin... continued from page 3

this time, how about some games where the old guys go down next time? It's up to you to send them in! Have a good month.

Meanwhile we would like your news, games, and photos. Send to Andrew Martin by the 15th of any month:

a.martin2007@yahoo.co.uk

Andrew

leads to a position which is difficult to

14.b5

Podolchenko can find nothing other than to push his Q-side pawns. He is completely boxed in by the pawn on d3.

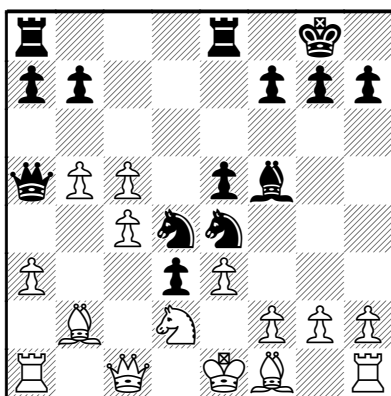
14...♘e4 15.♙c1

15.♙xd3 ♚a5+

15...♙a5+

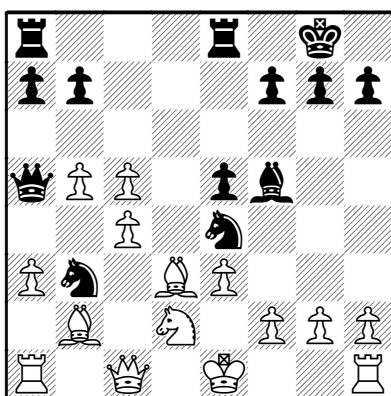
Ouch!

16.♘d2 ♘d4!!



Attractive moves like this are possible when you have the better position and an advantage in development. Refrain from this type of move alone at home if you do not.

17.♙xd3 ♘b3



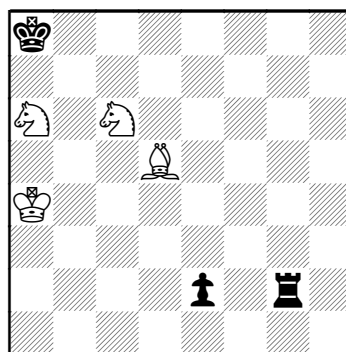
What a crushing pin!

18.♙c2 ♘bxd2 19.0-0-0 ♘xc5
20.♙xd2 ♘xd3+ 21.♙xd3 ♙c7 0-1

Maybe you or I wouldn't resign this position, but White has had enough of

the pounding. I got the feeling that White was less than impressed with his game for quite some time. If you don't like your position, how can you hope to play it well?

PRIZE PUZZLE APRIL 2009



C.S. Kipping
White to Play and Mate in 3

World Trial Winners

U 18 Boys	James Adair
U16 Boys	Yang Fan Zhou
U14 Boys	Felix Ynojosa
U12 Boys	James Bowler
U10 Boys	Ravi Haria
U18 Girls	Katie Hale
U16 Girls	Astghik Stepanyan
U14 Girls	Radha Jain
U12 Girls	Natasha Bogoda
U10 Girls	Anna Wang

The final tournament positions were:

Under 18

Position	Team	Match Points/12	Game Points
1 st	Wellington College	12	21.5
2 nd =	AMCA Vipers	8	16.0
	Perfect Pawns		13.5
	Woodbridge School		13.0
5 th	Cardiff 2	7	15.0
6 th	Cardiff 1	6	9.5
7 th	North London Knights	5	10.0
8 th	Richmond Bishops	4	12.0
9 th	Chess Heros	3	7.5
10 th	Richmond Knights	2	8.0
11 th =	All Stars	0	1.0
	ChessPoint		1.0

Congratulations to the Wellington College team who were triumphant in the Under 18s and also won the best under 18 school title. Well done to the Perfect Pawns who won the Under 14 title, for the best performance by an under 14 team in the under 18 section.



Although fierce rivals over the board, Lateefah and Maria are the best of friends.

Under 11

Position	Team	Match Points/12	Game Points
1 st	Killer Kings	12	23.0
2 nd =	Richmond A	7	14.5
	Richmond B		13.5
	Basingstoke JCC		12.5
5 th	King's College & Fulham	4	10.0
6 th =	Bute House Prep Sch	2	4.0
	Notting Hill & Ealing		4.0
	Batting Bishops	1	2.5

Well done to all of the Under 11 teams, especially the champions the Killer Kings, who as a Haberdashers' team, also won the best under 11 school team trophies.



The Killer Kings' Lee brothers, playing with their dad in between rounds.

SIGN UP FOR THE JUNIOR ANGL !

Under 9

Position	Team	Match Points/12	Game Points
1 st	Chess Nuts	11	21.0
2 nd	Basingstoke JCC	9	17.0
3 rd	Bute House Prep Sch	6	12.0
4 th =	King's College & Fulham	4	11.5
	Checkmatters		7.5
6 th	Charterhouse & Notting Hill	2	4.0



The Chess Nuts produced some fantastic chess and stormed to victory in the under 9s.

It was also a chance for new players to demonstrate their skill:



Best game prizes were awarded to:
 Alex Wills for his game against Akash Jain
 and James Holland for his game against
 Felix Ynojosa.

We ran a rapidplay tournament for the younger players in between the rounds of

the main tournament, which was won by Harry.



It was an amazing weekend and I would like to thank Latimer Place, and our supporters De Vere Venues, Ian Reynolds and Terence Chapman for making this event possible.

Congratulations again to all the competitors and parents and thanks to our arbiter Neville Belinfante, who worked extremely hard to ensure the event was a success.

A new Junior 4 Nations Chess League season will start November 2009.

Please contact me if you would like to enter a team
or have any questions about the Junior 4NCL.

Claire Summerscale, 4NCL Chairman: chessuk@btinternet.com

(More on page 15)

LETTERS AND NOTES...

Hello Andy.

I hope this finds you well and in positive mood for your forthcoming marathon simultaneous. Even non-chessplayers at work have spotted it in the news and have mentioned it to me! Good Luck!

I particularly enjoyed your notes to the Littlewood Botvinnik game in the recent issue of *The Right Move*. That game is one of my perennial favourites.

I played the game below against Victor Jones of Kent at the 4NCL in December.

The notes have appeared on the Braille Chess Association user-group and some of the comments are geared towards that. You may wish to consider it for inclusion in *The Right Move*. I think it's reasonably instructive. It features a strategical plan which is fully executed, and there are some fine tactical points based on Black's lack of development, his exposed King and the exclusion of the enemy Queen from the defence. Victor has seen these notes and he said that he enjoyed playing through them. He particularly enjoyed the possible combination referred to in the notes to White's 27th move. I hope you do too!

Keep up the good work.
Best wishes.
Tyson Mordue, Bristol

4NCL at HINCKLEY
July 2008 Round 4

TYSON MORDUE—VICTOR JONES

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6

The Najdorf Variation of the Sicilian Defence, a line with which I have some small experience. Against it I have never played anything other than the main line 6 Bg5.

6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6

The famous 'Poisoned Pawn' line. Black forsakes his development to grab a pawn with his Queen. The main line is 7... Be7 while 7... Qc7, 7... Nbd7 and 7... b5 (the Polugayevsky variation) are all viable alternatives.

After the text White can play 8 Nb3 but it really is much better to play a gambit.
8.Qd2 Qxb2 9.Nb3

I learned to play chess in 1972, the year of the famed Spassky-Fischer match. Spassky played 9.Nb3 in the 7th and 11th games. In the 7th he was lucky to escape with a draw after some untypical sloppy technique by Fischer in an endgame where the American had an extra pawn. However, Spassky's powerful approach in the 11th game brought him a crushing victory in 31 moves, although Fischer could have resigned on move 24 with his Queen trapped and a Rook and Knight *en prise* as well. This game put 9.Nb3 well and truly on the theoretical map. I was so impressed by that game that I've never played the previously popular 9.Rb1.

Many years later I was doing some preparation in anticipation of a Poisoned Pawn and reading through John Nunn's book on the Sicilian Najdorf when I got a pleasant surprise—one of my own games had been quoted!

One of the characteristics of the 9 Nb3 line is that there are tactical chances to trap the Black Queen. Right now White threatens 10 a3 and 11 Ra2 hence ...

9... Qa3 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Be2 h5

This move prevents Be2-h5 and was Fischer's choice in the 1972 match. Black can instead choose to play ...Bg7, ...0-0, ...Kh8, and ...Rg8 while White goes Bh5 and f4-f5 to pressure the light squares. This line featured in the game Mordue—Shapland, Hereford 2008, a game that I annotated for the group earlier this year.

12.O-O Nd7

Spassky-Fischer 11th match-game 1972 continued 12... Nc6 13.Kh1 Bd7 14.Nb1 Qb4 15.Qe3 d5? 16.exd5 Ne7 17.c4

Nf5 18.Qd3 h4 19.Bg4 Nd6 20.N1d2 f5 21.a3 Qb6 22.c5 Qb5 23.Qc3 fxc4 24.a4 h3 25.axb5 hxg2+ 26.Kxg2 Rh3 27.Qf6 Nf5 28.c6 Bc8 29.dxe6 fxe6 30.Rfe1 Be7 31.Rxe6 1-0.

The text was new to me and only features in four games in my database. I played the usual continuation of tucking the King into the corner before committing my pieces.

13.Kh1 Be7

Short -Kasparov, PCA 1994 continued 13...h4 14.h3 Be7 15.Rad1 b6 16.Qe3 Bb7 17.f5 Rc8 18.fxe6 fxe6 19.Bg4 Qb2 20.Rd3 f5 21.Rb1 Qxb1+ 22.Nxb1 fxc4 23.hxc4 h3 24.Rc3 hxg2+ 25.Kxg2 Rg8 26.Rxc8+ Bxc8 27.Kf1 Rxc4 28.N1d2 e5 29.Qc3 Bb7 30.Qc7 ½-½. This is probably the best way to play for White.

14.Bf3

Clearing the e-file and pointing the Bishop at Black's Q-side. My opponent now emulated Kasparov's pawn advance and I decided that I didn't want the thorn in my side of ...h4-h3. The weakness on g3 doesn't seem important. A black Knight is hardly likely to arrive there in the near future. Alternatives are 14.Nb1 and 14.Qd4 but both sides are keeping their cards close to their chests here and avoiding really committal moves.

14... h4 15.h3 Nc5 16.Rad1

This move is a partial bluff. Ideally I'd like the Rook on the c-file but I have to wait for Black to exchange Knights on b3. Whether he wants to is a moot point but I thought that by playing Rad1 it might put Black off playing the natural ...Bd7. It did!

Victor now settled in for a long think

while I settled in a comfortable chair at the other end of the room. My opponent was clearly suffering from a cold and I didn't want to catch anything ... other than his King or his Queen that is.

16...Rb8

Victor discovers that 16...Bd7 17.e5! is not appealing. With Black's King in the centre any line-opening sequence is to White's advantage. If 17... dxe5?? 18.Nxc5 wins a piece. Better is 17... Nxb3 18.cxb3 d5 19.exf6 Bb4 (not 19... Bxf6 20.Bxd5! and Black could be in trouble.). He decides to get his Rook off of the h1-a8 diagonal and venture ...b7-b5 but now castling Q-side is no longer possible. Meanwhile White continues to build up in the centre.

17.Rfe1 b5 18.e5

For better or worse White forces Black to define the central structure. Both of us thought that 18...fxe5; 19 fxe5 d5 was asking for a sacrifice on d5, Victor suggesting 20 Nd4 first. Hence his choice to open the d-file in the belief that with his two Bishops controlling d6, d7 and d8 he should be safe.

18... dxe5 19.fxe5 Nxb3

Exchanging Knights before White gets the chance to play Nb3-d4 and into the weak square on c6. Around here White deliberately avoids Bc6+ because it would just present Black with a tempo to centralise his Queen with ...Qc5.

20.cxb3 f5

Black has the two Bishops but opening lines with 20... fxe5 is just playing into White's hands because of his superior development. With the text he hopes to shuffle his King to g7 and some sort of

shelter.

At this point I determined that the Black Bishop on e7 was the glue holding Black's position together. There is only one White piece that realistically hope to eliminate it so my remaining steed sets off on a journey. The target square is c6.

21.Ne2 Kf8

This move threatens the skewer 22... Bb4 now that Qd8 is no longer mate. A crucial alternative is 21... Qc5 bringing the Queen back into play. *Fritz* suggests the line 22.Nd4 Bb7 23.Bxb7 Rxb7 24.Rc1 Qd5 25.Rc8+ Bd8 26.Rd1 0-0 27.Nxe6 fxe6 28.Rxd8 and White regains his pawn. The resulting ending is probably drawn though.

22.Nd4 Bb7

This time 22... Bb4 is answered by 23.Qg5 Bxe1 24.Nxf5! and Black is crushed on the dark squares that his Bishop has just abandoned. If 24... Qe7; 25.Rd8+ mates. An obvious improvement is 23... Be7 but after 24.Qe3 White has gained a useful tempo—here 24...Bc5 25.Nxf5! makes the point quite forcefully.

The regrouping of the Queen doesn't fare so well here. If 22...Qc5 23.Nc6 Rb6 24.b4! Qc4 (the only square!) 25.Nxe7 Kxe7 26.Qg5+ mates again.

If instead 22... Qc5 23.Nc6 Rb7 then 24.Nxe7 wins material because 24... Rxe7 loses to 25.Rc1 and the loose Bishop on c8 falls.

These lines demonstrate that Black has problems with the co-ordination of his pieces due to his lack of development and his misplaced Queen (a characteristic of the Poisoned Pawn line). White is

also dominating the open lines so Black must be careful.

With the text Black prepares to take the Knight if it lands on c6. Naturally White is happy to exchange Bishops as his f3-Bishop is probably his least effective piece.

23.Bxb7 Rxb7 24.Nc6 Kg7

Once again 24... Qc5 to regroup the Queen is an important alternative. After 25.Rc1 Black has two choices, the endgame with 25... Qd5 and the middle game with 25... Qb6. After 25... Qd5 26.Qxd5 exd5 27.Nd4 (avoiding pins on the c-file) followed by 28.Rc6 White is doing very well and can expect to regain his pawn minus soon. This is probably Black's best line.

Instead 24... Qc5 25.Rc1 Qb6 26.Nxe7! now works well as Black can't recapture with the Queen. Taking with the King is a disaster after 27.Qg5+ so instead 26... Rxe7 27.Rc8+ Re8 28.R1c1 Qb7 29.Rd8! leaves Black short of moves. *Fritz* has the nice line 29... f4 30.Qxf4 Rxd8 31.Qf6 neatly emphasising the lack of co-ordination between Black's pieces. White regains his Rook with a strong initiative. Even worse is 28... Rxd8 29.Qxd8+ Kg7 30.Qf6+ Kh7 31.Rd1! (threat 32.Rd4 and 33.Rxh4+ mating) 31... Qa7 (the only square that defends f7 and controls d4). 32.Rd3 and there is no defence to 33.Qxh4+ and 34.Rg3+.

Note how Black's h8-Rook does nothing in any of these lines. Also the semi-open g-file is a big problem for Black. If his f5-pawn was back on g6 Black would have a reasonable position. The immediate transfer of the King to g7 instead of

bringing the offside Queen back into play meets with an intriguing riposte. Take a good look at this position.

25.Re3!?

This surprising move enhances White's options tremendously. Victor took twenty minutes over his reply. This note shows why. He had a lot to think about.

The main strategical point is that White threatens 26.b3-b4 after which the Black Queen is forced to an even worse square on a4. The immediate 25.b4 is answered by 25... Qg3 and now Black's Queen assists in the defence of the K-side. This is why I am refraining from Nxe7 while the Queen can recapture. White has good prospects on the K-side as long as the black Queen isn't helping out, see the variations in the last note.

Also the Rook can go to d3 or c3 or possibly b3 (after b3-b4 Qa3-a4) to wall in the black Queen. It can even go to g3 in certain lines because the pin 25... Bg5? is refuted by 26.Rg3! hxg3 27.Qxg5+ Kh7 28.Rd4 and the only move preventing 29.Rh4 mate is 28... f4. However, as long as White avoids 29.Rxf4?? Qc1 mate by the accurate 29.Qxf4 after which 29... Qf8 30.g5 Qh6 31.Rh4 wins. Note once again the collapse occurs after the elimination of the black Bishop, and how the Black Rooks have no constructive role in the defence here.

It is now too late to bring the Queen back. After 25... Qc5 26.Rc3! Qb6 27.Nxe7 Rxe7 28.Qg5+ Kf8 29.Rc8+ Re8 30.Rd7! clearly emphasises the disparity between attack and defence. Even agreeing to enter a disagreeable endgame with 26... Qd5 is no good as White declines

with 27.Qc1! Qe4 28.Nxe7 and you can guess the rest.

25... Kg6?

Victor tries to force ...Bg5 but after the following incarceration of the black Queen the White pieces rush to attack her exposed partner. *Fritz* suggests activating the Rooks with either 25... Rc7 or 25... Rc8 and even hints that 26.g4! might be the answer to the latter. This is certainly a powerful indication of White's attacking potential and something we'll come back to.

26.b4 Qa4 27.g4!

The striking blow indicated in the last note. Open lines are imperative when attacking. White is almost certain of opening the g-file here. However, the position is far from simple. You may wish to make a separate note of the current position before starting on this long annotation.

First of all the question of whether White can actually trap the Queen here has been raised. Here's a line suggested by *Fritz*: 27.Rb3 Bg5 28.Qb2 Rc7 29.Rd6 R8c8 30.Ra3 Rxc6! and now both 31.Rxc6 Qd1+ and 31.Rxa4 Rxc1+ 32.Kh2 Bf4+ 33.g3 R8c2+ win for Black. This seems convincing enough.

Secondly *Fritz* claims that 27.Nxe7+ Rxe7 28.g4 is a better move order and it could be right. Certainly after 27.g4 f4 I'd have played 28.Nxe7+, and after 28... Rxe7 almost any sensible move of the e3-Rook (say d3 or b3) followed by 30.Qxf4 is very strong. The exclusion of the black Queen from the defence is the key factor.

Finally there is the intriguing question of what I would have done after Victor's

sensible post-mortem suggestion of 27... Bg5 28.exf5+ Kh7! It's worth writing these notes for just for this point alone. I had originally only looked at 28... exf5 29.Rg1 and the black Bishop must fall soon.

I've already said the position is far from simple. There are lots of possible moves on both sides. *Fritz* claims 29.Rg1 Bxe3 30.Qxe3 Rg8 31.Rxg8 Kxg8 32.Qg5+ wins. This is based on a combination of getting the white Queen on a square where it rules out ...Qd1+ and playing f5-f6. This is a very long calculation and a typical example of a computer program doing some number-crunching.

My instinctive reaction was 29.Qd3 Bxe3 (I never entertained 29... Qxd1+ 30.Qxd1 Bxe3 and indeed after 31.fxe6 — threatening 32.Qd3+ picking up the Bishop — Black has no co-ordinated defence against Queen, Knight and two advanced pawns.) 30.f6+ Kg8. At this point I was certain the attack should crash through but try as I might I couldn't produce a convincing line. The best I could find was 31.Ne7+ Rxe7 32.fxe7 Kg7 33.Qd8 forcing promotion, but now 33... Qxb4 and *Fritz* claims Black is even better. After 34.Qxh8+ Kxh8 35.e8=Q+ Kg7 and Black threatens 36... Qe4+ amongst other things. Time for another good look: 27... Bg5 28.exf5+ Kh7! 29.Qd3 Bxe3 30.f6+ Kg8.

Look again. It's worth it!

31.Qe2 is a very good try. Victor and I succeeded in convincing ourselves (and I later convinced GM Matthew Turner amongst others!) that 31... Rh6 was a good defence, and it is after 32.Qg4+

Rg6 33.Rd8+ Kh7 34.Qh5+ Bh6. In fact *Fritz* proves it does win after 31.Qe2 Rh6 32.Rg1+! Bxg1 33.Qg4! Rg6 34.Qh5+ Rh6 35.Qxf7+ Kh8 36 Qg7#. Credit to you if you found this line in full.

However, the really beautiful line is the wonderful yet logical retreat 31.Qb1!! I'm certain I would have found this over the board if we had reached this position. Now Black is faced with the threat of 32.Rd8# because the Queen still controls h7. The black Rooks are almost irrelevant here. Note how the Knight on c6 prevents ...Rb8 as a defence in every line. The desperate 31... Qxd1+ 32.Qxd1 leaves Black facing 33.Ne7+ and 33.Qg4+ and there is no defence to both. The only apparent defence is 31... Bb6.

White's constant problem here is getting an effective check on the g-file but now he can finally force it, and a bit more to boot! 32.Rd8+!! Bxd8 33.Qg1+ Kf8 34.Qg7+ Ke8 35.Qxh8+ Kd7 36.Qxd8+! Kxc6 37 Qd6#! WOW! What a Christmas cracker that would have been!

Back to the game after 27.g4! Black decided to capture directly. Taking *en passant* leads to annihilation after 28.Rxg3+ Kh7 29.Nxe7 Rxe7 30.R1g1.

27... fxg4? 28.Rg1!

Now Black doesn't even have the desperate ...Qxd1+. White's major pieces converge on the hapless black King and there is now no parry. Both the thematic 28.Nxe7+ and 28.Re4 also win.

28... g3

If 28... Bg5 29.Rxg4 Rh5 30.Rf3 (threat 31.Rf6+) 30... f5 31.exf6 Kh6 32.Qd8 storms through. *Fritz* adds 32... Qc2 33.Ne7 Qc1+ 34.Rg1 just in case you need

convincing. After the text I finally get to sacrifice a Rook on g3, and this went nicely with my sac on b3 the previous day.

29.Rexg3+ hxg3 30.Rxg3+ Kh5

After 30 ... Kh7 White 'ladders' his way in with 31.Qd3+ Kh6 32.Qe3+ Kh6 33.Qe4+ Kh6 34.Qf4+ Kh5 and now ei-

ther 35.Qxf7+ or 35.Qg4+ mate soon. After the text White finally plays the thematic capture of the Bishop and Black has no way of ultimately stopping the mate on g5 except by giving up his stranded Queen.

31.Nxe7 1-0



4 Nations Chess League Junior Championship Results

If the juniors, parents and venue all work in harmony together, organising junior chess tournaments is one of life's true pleasures. The first weekend of the 4 Nations Chess League Junior Championships proved to be one such occasion.



The Championships were hosted by De Vere Venues at Wokefield Park. An excellent venue for the event, reasonably priced accommodation, free wireless internet throughout, spa and golf course for the parents and ample extremely well laid-out tournament space. "Why can't all chess tournaments be held in such a great venue?" was a comment that I heard on a number

of occasions over the weekend.

We hope to return to Wokefield for next season's Junior 4NCL Championships.

The tournament was open to all competitors under the age of 18. Teams of 4 players including school and club sides and groups of chess friends, battled it out over the course of the weekend. 96 children aged 7-17 attended and the strength and experience of competitors varied from those attending their first tournament to seasoned international players.





The second weekend of the Junior 4NCL will take place at Latimer Place, Buckinghamshire on 28th February – 1st March 2009. Teams that were not able to attend the first weekend are extremely welcome to enter a team into the Latimer weekend. Please contact me for further information: chessuk@btinternet.com

Competitors played two tournament games on Saturday and one on Sunday. The time control for all games was 90 minutes for 30 moves and then a 15 minute quick-play finish. There were some extremely exciting games that went right down to the wire.

Professional chess coaching was provided throughout the day to all entrants and included structured lectures and coaches constantly on hand to analyse games and give advice. Thank you to Rosalind Kieran, Thomas Rendle and Nick Pert.

Some teams were able to bring their own coaches, including the valuable services of Peter Sowray of Richmond Junior Chess Club and Adam Hunt of Woodbridge School, who are pictured here, along with a



coaching lecture from Nick and Ros.



We closed Saturday's action with an exciting evening Exchange tournament, which included some junior/parent teams.



For those without my mis-spent youth, you play exchange sitting next to your partner. When they capture a piece, you may add it to your board. It's fast, furious and massive amounts of fun.

In addition to the 1st and 2nd prizes, slightly more unusual bonus prizes were awarded, including a Best Jumper prize!

After 3 Rounds, the tournament positions were as below: Under 18

Position	Team	Match Pts/6	Game Pts		
1 st	Wellington College	6	10.5	Felix Ynojosa Akash Jain	Alex Galliano Lateefah Messam-Sparks
2 nd =	AMCA Vipers	4	7.0	Matthew Ward Louis Payne	John Dickin Tarun Malhotra
	North London Knights	4	7.0	Tibor Jones Joseph Levene	Aidan McGiff Morris Stranger
4 th	Cardiff 1	4	6.0	Yinglun Teng Adrian Delport	Danny Gottschalk Varun Varma
5 th	Perfect Pawns	4	5.0	Peter Williams Maria Wang	Eugene Daley Anna Wang
6 th	Chess Heroes	3	7.5	Henrik Stepanyan Marcus Harvey	Astghik Stepanyan Kyle Reed
7 th	Cardiff 2	3	7.0	Alex Freeland Alex Wills	Alex Bullen Matthew Bold
8 th	Woodbridge School	3	6.5	E Venmore Rowland Anna Egorova	Patrick Stevens Sam Gaffney
9 th	Richmond Bishops	2	5.5	Theodore Dias T Rajaratnam	Harvey Khandohla Neil Deo
10 th	Richmond Knights	0	3.0	Jasper Tambini Michael Pettit	Alex Boitier Charlie Nettleton
11 th	Richmond All Stars	0	1.0	Edward Ko M Wood-Robinson	Robin Bjalon Young Deok Park

Under 11

Position	Team	Match Pts/6	Game Pts		
1 st	Killer Kings	6	12	Ravi Haria Lawrence Lee	George Lawrence Vincent Lee
2 nd =	Richmond A	4	8.0	Jaek Simms Paul Calderon	Alexandre Blanc James Adshead
	Richmond B	4	8.0	Jonathan Pein Paul Waddingham	Lorenz Lehmann Leila Sackur
4 th	Basingstoke JCC	4	5.0	Alex Cross James Butler	Edward Howard-Jones
5 th	Notting Hill & Ealing	2	6.0	Emma Claxton Ella Sowerbutts	Elena Colato Rachel East
6 th =	Bute House Prep Sch	2	4.0	Clover Godsall Victoria Paines	Aia Nishio Alexa Woodhouse
7 th	King's College School	2	4.0	Jack Hagger A Kozhevnikov	Alex Burrell Kristian Prosser



The Killer Kings,
after their successful weekend.

Under 9

Position	Team	Match Pts/6	Game Pts		
1 st	Chess Nuts	6	11.0	William Claridge Sebastian Larsson	James Colebourn Oliver Larsson
2 nd	Basingstoke JCC	4	6.0	Liam Vandamme Harry Grieve	Tom Payne Jacob Fay
3 rd	King's College & Fulham	3	7.0	Hugo Williams George Dickin	Francis Thompson Stefano Richardson
4 th	Bute House Prep Sch	3	6.0	Skye McCullagh Asha Sandhu	Susannah Boyle Amrita Sandhu
5 th	Charterhouse Square	2	4.0	J Pothalingam Matthew Smith	Freddie Whitehead Sabrina Ossman



A couple of the new teams that we are delighted to welcome to competitive chess. Well done to the girls from Bute House Preparatory School and Notting Hill & Ealing High School.



Congratulations to those who scored 100% in their tournament games over the weekend:

William Claridge
 James Colebourn
 Alex Galliano
 Ravi Haria
 Marcus Harvey
 Sebastian Larsson
 George Lawrence

Lawrence Lee
 Vincent Lee
 Tarun Malhotra
 Aidan McGiff
 Lateefah Messam-Sparks
 Kristian Prosser
 Paul Waddington

Pictured just after their final round on Sunday, some of the under 9s and 11s



And below, Lateefah from Wellington and Jack from King's College.



You can find some of the tournament games here: http://www.4ncl.co.uk/0809_junior.pgn

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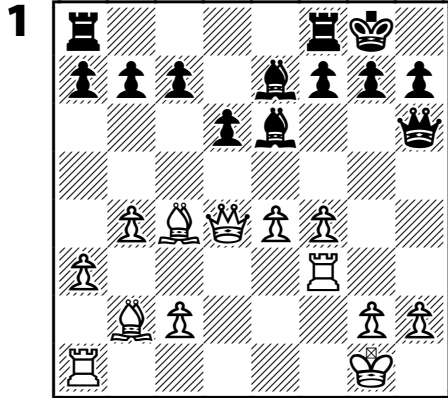
Please contact me if you would like to enter a team into the 2nd Junior 4NCL weekend or have any questions about the Junior 4NCL.



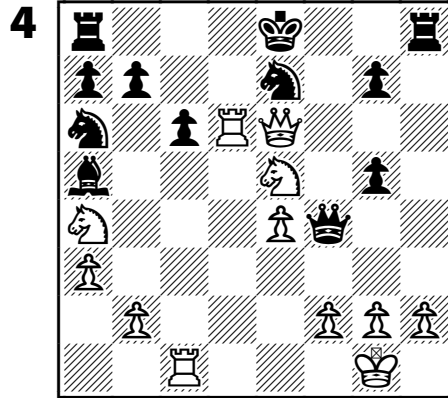
Claire Summerscale, 4NCL Chairman: chessuk@btinternet.com

The POPULAR CHESS QUIZ PAGE

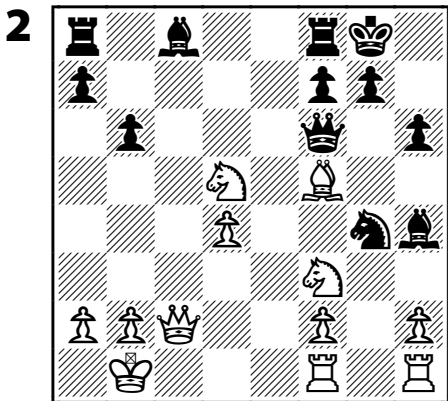
Find the best win!



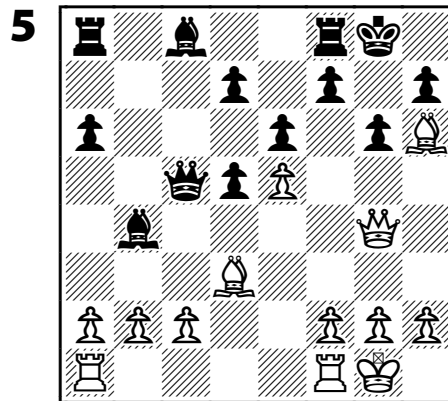
White to move and win.



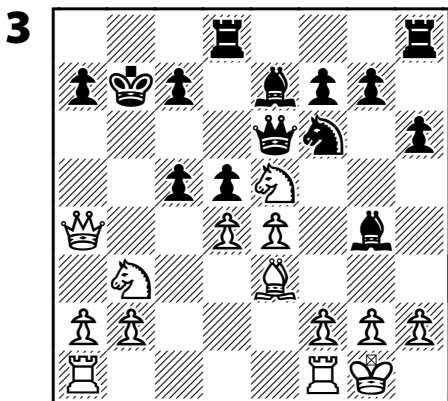
White to move and win.



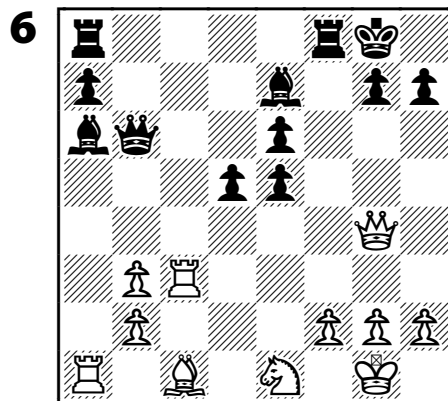
Black to move and win.



White to move and win.

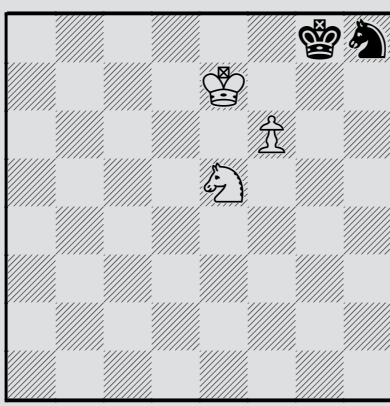


White to move and win.



White to move and win.

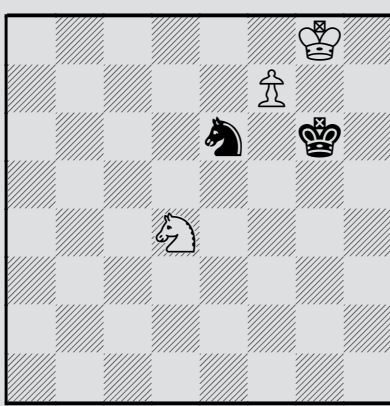
MARCH'S PRIZE PUZZLE ANSWER



WHITE TO PLAY AND WIN.
Show your technique

It is a little bit fiddly!

1. ♖e8 ♔h7 2. ♕f8 ♔h6 3. ♖g8
 ♔g5 4. ♖g7 ♕f5 5. ♘d7 ♘g6
 6. f7 ♕g5 7. ♘e5 ♘f4 8. ♖g8
 8. f8 ♖ ♘e6+=
 8... ♘e6 9. ♘f3+ ♖g6
 10. ♘d4+-



Play through this example again until you understand it fully. Acquiring endgame technique of this kind will improve your game more than you could ever imagine.

Best Quiz Answers for page 10

1. 1. Rg3
2. 1... Qxf5
3. 1. Na5+
4. 1. g3
5. 1. a3
6. 1... Qxf2+

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