



The Check Is in the Mail

September 2008

DAN FLEETWOOD, OUR NEW GM



Dan Fleetwood began playing correspondence chess in 1975 when he was a senior in high school in Seymour, Indiana. During high school, Dan was an all-conference baseball pitcher, once striking out 17 batters for a perfect no-hitter. He received his BS, MS and PhD degrees in physics from Purdue in 1980, 1981, and 1984. In 1999 he became Professor of Electrical Engineering at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. In 2003 he became Chair of the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department. Dan is also the author of over 300 publications on radiation effects and low-frequency noise in microelectronics. He is recognized as one of the 250 most highly cited authors in Engineering by the Institute for Scientific Information. Dan currently lives in Brentwood, Tennessee, with his wife Betsy and their three children Aaron, Zachary, and Nathan.

Dan played in six Absolute tournaments, 1981, 1983, and 1984, and 1988, and 1997, finishing third in 1981, and finished 5th in the 1978 Golden Knights. In 1993 he won the Absolute Championship with a 9-3 score. Since then, Dan's main chess focus has been international play. He received his ICCM title in 1997 and his SIM title in 2000. Dan finished equal seventh in the 18th World Correspondence Chess championship and earned his GM title with strong performances playing Board 3 in the 14th Olympiad and Board 1 in the 15th.

Dan believes his background as a researcher in science and engineering is ideal for correspondence chess where one has time to explore positions in far greater detail than in OTB play.

GAME OF THE MONTH

Grandmaster Fleetwood offers us insight into the GM world with this annotated game from the 15th Olympiad against Latvia.

KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE (E97)

White: Dan Fleetwood (2565)

Black: SM Vilnis Strautins (2517)

15th Olympiad 2006

Notes by Dan Fleetwood

1.d4

I had not opened with the d-pawn in a serious correspondence game in about 20 years, but working with the Megacorr database, I thought I saw an opportunity.

1...Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.b4 a5 10.Ba3 b6

And here it is - the text is well known among correspondence players from Van

Oosterom - Timmerman, which was Van Oosterom's "revenge" game after losing a pivotal King's Indian with White against Timmerman in the 15th World Correspondence Championship. More popular is 10 ... axb4.

11.bxa5 Nh5 12.Re1 f5 13.Bb4 bxa5 14.Ba3 Nf4

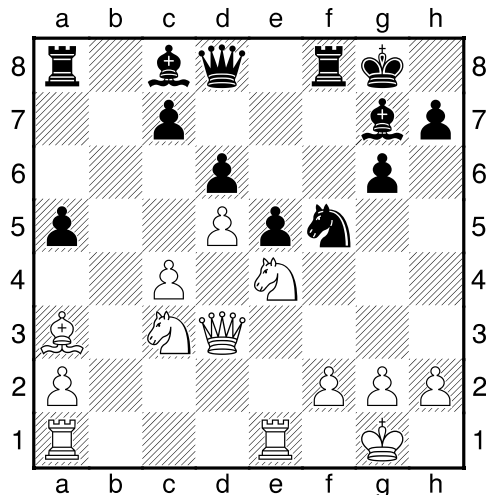
[14...Nf6 15.Bd3 Kramnik - Smirin, 1999]

15.Bf1 fxe4 16.Nd2 Nd3

[16...Nf5 17.Ndxe4 Nd4 18.Nb5 Qh4 19.f3 Nh3+ 20.Kh1 Qxe4 21.Rxe4 Nf2+ 22.Kg1 Nxd1 23.Rxd1 Nc2 24.Bb2 Rf7 25.Re2 Nb4 26.Bc3 Bf5 27.a3 Na6 28.Bxa5± Van Oosterom - Timmerman, NBC Millenium Email 1999]

17.Bxd3 exd3 18.Nde4 Nf5 19.Qxd3

The two games I have seen in this position have both been won by Black, but my analysis before the game convinced me White stood better here.



19...Ba6

[19...Bh6 20.Nb5! (20.Bc1 Bxc1 21.Raxc1 a4 Delchev-Smirin, 2001) 20...a4 21.Rab1]

20.Nb5

[20.Rab1 Qd7 21.Nb5 h6 22.Bc1 Nh4 23.Qg3 g5 24.a4 Rf7 25.Rb3 (25.Bd2!?) 25...Ng6 26.Qc3 Bc8 27.f3 Nf4 28.Qc2 Qe7 29.Ba3 g4 And White missed Nexd6 with unclear play and went on to lose in Likavsky-Krnan, 2006, a game that was not available when my game with Strautins was played.]

20...Qd7 21.Rab1 Nd4

[21...h6!?)

22.f3 Rab8 23.Nxd4

[23.Nxc7 Rxb1 24.Qxb1 Qxc7 25.Bxd6 Qxc4 26.Bxf8 Bxf8 27.Qb6 Qb4 28.Rb1 Qxb6 29.Rxb6 Bd3÷]

23...exd4 24.Qc2!

A waiting move. There is a little trap here, which is simply to lull Black to sleep so he doesn't sense the danger and play ... h6.

24...Rfc8?!

[24...h6!? is necessary prophylaxis. The text is inexplicably favored by the Fritz chess engine for reasons I cannot fathom. But all it does is waste a move in a position where Black's position is more precarious than it seems.]

25.Rxb8 Rxb8 26.h3 a4

[26...h6]

27. Bc1!

Planning to swing around and hit the d pawn. Now if 27 ... h6 28. Bxh6!

27...Kh8 28.Bg5 Qe8

[28...Rf8 29.Bh4±]

29.Bh4 d3 30.Qxd3 Qe5 31.Bf2 Qb2 32.Ng5±

Black's failure to play ... h6 has cost him twice - first the cleric and now the steed have landed on g5 with great effect. Black has no effective defense to the coming storm.

32...Bf6

[32...Qxa2 33.Bd4+-]

33.Qe4 Qd2 34.h4 Rf8 35.Ne6 Re8 36.h5 gxh5 37.Qf5 Qc3 38.f4!+- Bc8

[38...Bxc4 39.Re3 Qa1+ 40.Kh2 Rg8
41.Ng5 Bxg5 42.fxg5 Qg7 43.Be1!+-]

39.Qxh5 Re7 40.Kh2 Bxe6 41.Rxe6 Kg7 42.Bh4 Bxh4 43.Qh6+!

Black resigns. If 43 ... Kf7 44. Qxh4 Rxe6 45. Qxh7+ Ke8 46. dxe6 Qf6 47. f5 is curtains. **1-0**

TOP TEN CC PLAYERS

1. John Burton 2482
2. Edward Duliba 2475
3. Steven Van Enk 2466
4. Chuck Cullum 2459
5. Donald Cotton 2454
- Gino Figlio 2454
7. Chris O'Connell 2442
- John Menke 2442
9. Ciaran O'Hare 2437
10. Lawrence Coplin 2436

AUGUST RESULTS

WALTER MUIR

Richard Crago	08W27	5-1
Souvik Roychoudhury	08W16	6-0
Patrick Holmes	08W26	6-0
James Van Vranken	08W05	4-2
Joseph Daudish	08W05	4-2
Lawrence Loh	08W21	6-0

TROPHY QUAD

Bobby Riggs	06Q09	5-1
John Koehler, Jr.	06Q10	4 ½-1 ½

SWIFT QUADS

Phil Tobias	08SQ01	6-0
Robert Moore	07SQ18	4½-1½

JOHN COLLINS

David Greene	06C39	5 ½-1½
Joseph Slawinski	06C08	6-0
Jerry Moore	06C42	4 ½-1 ½
Richard Hayes	07C17	5-1
Antonio Romero	07C17	5-1

CLASSIFIED ADS

LEARN CHESS BY MAIL ! Lessons given by mail, telephone, ICC – many different ways. I specialize in players rated 800-2100 who would like to improve their game. Contact me for information. Alex Dunne, 324 West Lockhart St., Sayre, PA 18840 or chesskinetics@stny.rr.com

CC PLAYER EXTRAORDINAIRE

Since the USCF began keeping track of CC results online in 2001, William Jemty has racked up an impressive 1000 rated games. Jemty, a resident of Lantana, FL, accomplished this feat despite chemotherapy and a return of his cancer that forced him to withdraw from CC in July of 2008. William accomplished his thousand games with the unknowing help of two opponents. I reluctantly had to send out news of William's withdrawal from CC play for health reasons while his number was at 998. Two honest correspondents emailed me back explaining that one had drawn his game with Bill while the other had actually resigned earlier. Those two results put Bill's total at exactly 1000 before the withdrawals began.

GAME #1000!

Budapest Gambit (A51)

White: William Jemty (2137)

Black: Stephen Brosnan (1908)

2006 Golden Knights semifinals

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ne4 4.a3 Nc6 5.Nf3 d6 6.Qc2 d5 7.e3 Bg4 8.cxd5 Qxd5 9.Bc4 Qa5+ 10.b4 Bxb4+ 11.axb4 Qxa1 12.Qxe4 Bxf3 13.gxf3 Qxe5 14.b5 Qxe4 15.fxe4 Ne5 16.Be2 0-0-0 17.Rg1 Rhg8 18.Bb2 Nd3+ 19.Bxd3 Rxd3 20.Rxg7 Rxg7 21.Bxg7 Rb3 22.Nc3 b6 23.h4 h5 24.f4 a5 25.bxa6 Ra3 26.Kd2 Rxa6 27.e5 Ra5 28.Ne2 Ra2+ 29.Kd3 Ra3+ 30.Ke4 c5 31.Ng3 Ra4+ 32.Kd5 c4 33.Ne4 b5 34.Nd6+ Kd7 35.Nxf7 Ra3 36.e6+ Ke7 37.f5 Rd3+ 38.Bd4 1-0

DAVID GREENE TAKES FIRST

David Greene scored 5 ½-½ to take first place in John Collins 06C39

Greene	2386	█	1=	11	11	5 ½
Drake	2001	0=	█	11	1=	4
MacNeal	2156	00	00	█	1=	1½
Hiber	2127	00	0=	0=	█	1

The following endgame is of interest. Greene errs on Move 58, allowing Drake's King to get on the left of his f2 Pawn, after which the Queen can no longer win.

SLAV DEFENSE (D19)

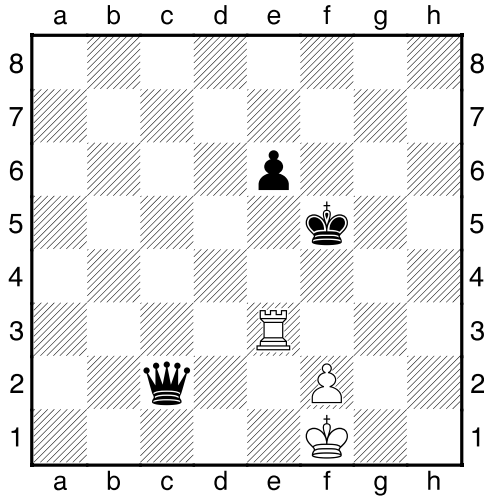
White: David Greene (2386)

Black: Bradford Drake (2001)

2006 John Collins Tournament

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Qe2 0-0 10.e4 Bg4 11.e5 Nd5 12.Ne4 a5 13.h3 Bh5 14.Ng3 Bg6 15.h4 h6 16.h5 Bh7 17.Rd1 Be7 18.Ne4 N7b6 19.Bd3 Nb4 20.Bb1 N6d5 21.g4 Kh8 22.g5 hxg5 23.Nexg5 Bxb1 24.Rxb1 Qe8 25.Qe4 Bxg5 26.Nxg5 f5 27.exf6 Nxf6 28.Qg6 Qxg6 29.hxg6 Nfd5 30.Nf7+ Kg8 31.Bg5 Rxf7 32.gxf7+ Kxf7 33.Kg2 Kg6 34.Be3 Rf8 35.Rg1 Rf5 36.Kh2+ Kf6 37.Rg4 Nd3 38.Rbg1 Rh5+ 39.Kg2 Nxb2 40.Rb1 Nc4 41.Bc1 b5 42.axb5 cxb5 43.Rb3 a4 44.Rbg3 b4 45.Rxg7 Ne7 46.Bf4 a3 47.Be5+ Nxe5 48.dxe5+ Rxe5 49.Rh7 Rg5 50.Rxg5 Kxg5 51.Rxe7 a2 52.Ra7 b3 53.Ra3 b2 54.Rxa2 b1Q 55.Ra3 Qe4+ 56.Kg1 Qc2 57.Re3 Kf5 58.Kf1

\$20. Time controls are typically 50 days for 10 moves.



58....Qb1+? 59.Ke2 e5 60.Rf3+ Ke4
 61.Re3+ Kd4 62.Rg3 Qb5+ 63.Ke1 Qc6
 64.Ke2 Qe4+ 65.Re3 Qc2+ 66.Ke1 e4
 67.Rg3 Ke5 68.Re3 Kf4 69.Rh3 Qb2
 70.Rg3 Ke5 71.Rg5+ Kf4 72.Rg3 Qb5
 73.Rh3 Qc4 74.Rg3 Qc2 75.Rh3 Kg4
 76.Rg3+ Kh4 77.Re3 ½–½

The International Correspondence Chess Federation is considering holding a World Championship for young women, and is asking anyone who is possibly interested to contact ICCF/US so they can determine if there will be enough participants to schedule the event.

The event will be played on the ICCF webserver (www.iccf-webchess.com). Moves are made on a chessboard via drag and drop, an easy way to play, with the server sending the move to the opponent, and keeping track of moves, time used, and even sending reminders.

Any young woman who will have her 20th birthday after March 1, 2009 will be eligible to play, and is requested to send a note expressing your interest to schakels@comcast.net. Any questions will certainly be welcome. Details will be determined later, but there are no ICCF dues, and the entry fee for the recent Junior World Championship was 20 CHF, about

Quote: I would like to stress that correspondence chess is very valuable because it develops analytical abilities and independent thinking – Mikhail Botvinnik

OBITUARY

Lloyd Hale, born October 24, 1929, died June 8, 2008, was from Yonkers, NY. Lloyd enjoyed competing in the trophy quads. Here he met up with Patrick Stephens in a short struggle.

SICILIAN DEFENSE (B21)

White: Lloyd Hale (1353)

Black: Patrick Stephens

2006 Trophy Quad

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.Bc4 Nc6 4.Bf4 e5
 5.Bd2 Nf6 6.Bg5 Qa5+ 7.Nd2 d5 8.Bxf6
 dxc4 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bh4 Bb4 11.Ne2 Be6
 12.f4 0–0 13.f5 Bf7 14.c3 dxc3 15.Nxc3
 Bxc3 16.Qb1 Bxd2+ 17.Kf2 Qc5+
 18.Kf1 c3 19.bxc3 Bc4+ 20.Qd3 Bxd3
 mate 0–1

The final position in this John Burton game is just about as pretty a picture as you will ever find in a chess game.

SICILIAN DEFENSE (B42)

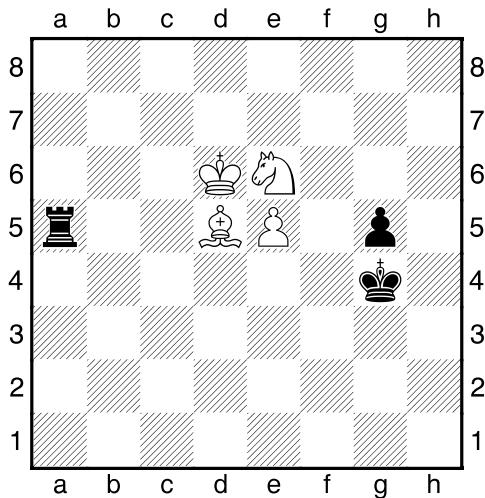
White: John Burton (2414)

Black: Robert Rizzo (2419)

1998 Golden Knights Final

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6
 5.Bd3 Nf6 6.0–0 Qc7 7.Qe2 d6 8.c4 g6
 9.Nc3 Bg7 10.Be3 0–0 11.Rac1 Nbd7
 12.Rfd1 b6 13.f3 Bb7 14.Qd2 Rfd8
 15.b4 Rac8 16.Be2 Bf8 17.a3 Qb8
 18.Nb3 Ba8 19.Bg5 Be7 20.Qe1 d5
 21.cxd5 Ng4 22.fxg4 Bxg5 23.Bxa6 Rc7

24.dxe6 Bxc1 25.exf7+ Kg7 26.Rxc1
 Ne5 27.f8Q+ Rxf8 28.Nd4 Kg8 29.Qg3
 Re7 30.Be2 Qc8 31.Ndb5 Qe6 32.Rd1
 Nf7 33.Nc7 Qe5 34.Qxe5 Nxe5 35.Nxa8
 Rxa8 36.a4 Rc7 37.Nd5 Rc2 38.Bb5
 Rb8 39.g5 Kg7 40.h3 Rb2 41.Rc1 Rf8
 42.Bf1 Rf7 43.Re1 Rf8 44.Ra1 Nf7
 45.h4 Ne5 46.a5 bxa5 47.bxa5 Rff2
 48.a6 Ra2 49.Rb1 Rfb2 50.Rc1 Rc2
 51.Rxc2 Rxc2 52.Bb5 Ra2 53.Nc3 Ra5
 54.Kf2 Kf7 55.Ke3 Ke7 56.Nd5+ Kd6
 57.Be2 Nd7 58.Nf6 Nc5 59.Nxh7 Ra3+
 60.Kf4 Ne6+ 61.Kg4 Nd4 62.Bf1 Nc2
 63.Be2 Nd4 64.Bc4 Nc2 65.Bb5 Ne3+
 66.Kg3 Nf5+ 67.Kh2 Nxh4 68.Bc4 Ra4
 69.Bd5 Rxa6 70.Kg3 Ra1 71.Nf6 Nxg2
 72.Kxg2 Ke5 73.Kf3 Rf1+ 74.Ke2 Rg1
 75.Nh7 Kf4 76.Kd3 Rh1 77.Nf8 Kxg5
 78.Kd4 Rf1 79.Nd7 Kf4 80.Ne5 g5
 81.Nd3+ Kg4 82.Kc5 Rf8 83.Kd6 Rf6+
 84.Kd7 Ra6 85.Nc5 Ra5 86.Kd6 Kf4
 87.Ne6+ Kg4 88.e5 1-0



Black's tragedy in this game is that at the end playing 56. g3 forever burying his Bishop is not much better than 56. gxf3 gxf3 57. Bh2 Rxf2 allowing a deadly passed f-Pawn.

CENTER COUNTER (B01)
White: Claude Corbett (2190)
Black: Barry Walker (2039)
2007 Golden Knights

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.d4
 Nf6 5.Nf3 c6 6.Bc4 Bf5 7.Bd2 e6 8.Nd5
 Qd8 9.Nxf6+ Qxf6 10.Qe2 Bd6 11.Bd3
 Nd7 12.0-0 0-0 13.Rfe1 Bxd3 14.Qxd3
 Qg6 15.Qb3 b6 16.Rad1 Rfd8 17.h3 c5
 18.Be3 Rac8 19.d5 Nf8 20.c4 h6 21.Qd3
 exd5 22.cxd5 Qxd3 23.Rxd3 Nd7
 24.Red1 Nf6 25.b3 b5 26.R3d2 c4
 27.bxc4 bxc4 28.Bxa7 c3 29.Rc2 Bb4
 30.d6 Rxd6 31.Rxd6 Bxd6 32.Bd4 Nd5
 33.a4 Rc4 34.Kf1 Ba3 35.a5 Bc5 36.Be5
 f6 37.Bg3 Ra4 38.a6 Ra1+ 39.Ke2 Rxa6
 40.Ne1 Kf7 41.Nd3 Bd4 42.Kd1 Ra3
 43.Rc1 f5 44.Bd6 Ra8 45.Bg3 g5
 46.Ne5+ Ke6 47.Nd3 f4 48.Bh2 h5
 49.Bg1 Kf5 50.Kc2 Ra2+ 51.Kb3 Rd2
 52.Kc4 Bf6 53.Ne1 g4 54.hxg4+ hxg4
 55.Nc2 f3 0-1

One of those fabulous Frenches where Black launches a powerful attack from a solid position.

FRENCH DEFENSE (C11)
White: Mark Keese (1965)
Black: Marc Plum (1958)
2007 Walter Muir

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4
 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.dxc5
 Bxc5 10.Bxc5 Nxc5 11.Nd4 Bb7 12.Nxc6
 Bxc6 13.Ne2 Ne4 14.Qd4 Rc8 15.0-0-0
 Qa5 16.Kb1 b4 17.g4 Bb5 18.Ng3 Nc3+
 19.bxc3 bxc3 20.Ka1 Rc4 21.Bxc4 Bxc4
 22.Qxc4 dxc4 23.Rd4 0-0 24.Rb1 Qa4
 25.Ne4 Qxc2 26.Rxc4 Qd3 27.Nd6 Qd2
 28.a4 c2 0-1