



Chess Club Observer

Newsletter of the Springfield Chess Club

May-June 2001

Vol. 4, No. 3

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Gosser Wins April 21 Tournament

The money was up for grabs after several spates of withdrawals from the April tournament, which started with 37 players plus a houseman. First place was won by Michael Gosser of St. Louis. Sharing second place along with a class C/D prize were Adam Chambers and Ramamoorthy Shankar, both of Normal.

We got a surprise bonus at this tournament: the use of a third room, which we used as a skittles room. This drew most of the chess players away from the lobby (which probably pleased the management.)

Complete results from the tournament can be found on page 5.

The End of an Era

June 16 will be the last time the Springfield Chess Club has a tournament at the Hampton Inn, where we have held most of our tournaments since 1994. As detailed in the last issue of the *Observer*, our unpredictable attendance spikes and the associated noise and trash has become too much for the hotel to handle.

After June, we should have a site reserved in time to set up the October tournament. (See next page for information about August.) At press time, the most likely place is the Signature Inn, which is across Stevenson Drive from the Hampton.

The scheduling for this tournament remains the same as for the others: registration from 7:30 to 8:30, with rounds at 9, 12, 3, and 6. Time control is G/80. Entry fees: \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door (\$13 for SCC members), \$10 for juniors.

Rematch In the Works

Finding an affordable site for a tournament is difficult. Finding an affordable site for a match, where no money is taken in, is nearly impossible! Despite diligent searching, we have not been able to find a site for the return match against Jacksonville.

Current plans are to hold the match at Tom's house in early June. If the plans move forward, all area members will receive a notice, including the announcement of a special meeting to plan the match.

August Tournament Scrapped!

The USCF tournament which had been scheduled for August 25 has been canceled for lack of a site. Negotiations continue with other potential tournament sites, but the deadline to set up a tournament in August passed without any site being reserved.

In its place, we might hold a non-rated, SCC-members-only Springfield Chess Club Championship. All plans are extremely tentative - it all depends on finding a site for such a tournament - but we would probably play five rounds of G/60 chess, with trophies as awards. If this plan goes forward, there will be a detailed description in the July-August issue of the *Observer*.

Current plans are to start off the new site with the October tournament. Effective in October, the \$10 entry fee for juniors will be eliminated! They will henceforth pay \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door, or \$13 if they are members of the SCC. This should increase tournament revenue, which we will need since we are unlikely to find a place to rent as cheaply as the Hampton Inn. It may also hold down the number of small children at the tournaments, reducing revenue but making the tournaments less of a zoo than they have been in the past. This in turn will be a lot better from the point of view of the hotel management.

Club Ladder Begins May 30

After kicking around ideas for a few weeks, the club voted to begin a non-rated club ladder system. The standings of the ladder will be published in each newsletter (beginning July-August) the way it stands at press time (the 15th day of each odd month.) The vote to start the ladder was 4-2 (1 abstention.)

The purpose is that any SCC member can participate, and will be able to find easy-to-get semi-serious competition at any meeting, in addition to the pickup games which we currently play. Most players take ladder games more seriously than the "scratch" blitz games. Many friendly (we hope) rivalries may develop!

In related voting, the proposal to use Bronstein (time-delay) clocks was *defeated* 4-2. The motion to allow time controls to be decided by the players *died* for lack of a second. Then the proposal to adopt a standard time control *passed* 6-0. It was also decided 6-0 that this time control should be G/60. The proposal to allow the time control to be modified if both players agree on a different control *passed* 5-1.

Passed 5-1 was the proposal to start the ladder by April rating, with unrated players at the bottom. Players who join the ladder after it has begun will start out at the bottom and must work their way up.

Also *passed* was the motion to forbid "challenge-backs", that is, a player (challenger or defender) who has just lost may not immediately challenge his opponent again. The vote was 5-0 (1 abst.) Finally, the club voted 4-0 (2 abst.) to toss for colors for each game.

Ladder Rules

This is a NON-RATED ladder. USCF membership is not required. SCC membership is required. The ladder is FREE.

A player may challenge another player either 1 or 2 rungs above him on the ladder. If neither of these people are willing or able to play, he may challenge the next one up (if available); or if not, the next one, and so on. Note the rule about "challenge-backs" above.

If a challenge is refused by someone otherwise present and available to play, the challenger is considered to have won by forfeit.

Exception! Club officers may defer accepting a challenge if club business is on hand or expected to be on hand, but they must play after the business has been conducted.

Results. If the game ends in a draw or loss for the challenger, no movement takes place. If the challenger wins, he takes his opponent's place on the ladder. The defeated opponent, and players who were between the challenger and opponent (if any), are moved down one rung.

Time control will be G/60, without time delay, unless both players agree otherwise. Games must be played at chess club meetings, unless both players agree to play elsewhere. *But:* If a challenge is made after 8 p.m., the game could possibly last until after the meeting is over. Time control should be shortened accordingly.

To enter the ladder, let Tom or David know and they will put you on the list. Call in, write in, or show up at the meetings to inform us. If you enter before May 30, you start in a position based on rating; if you enter thereafter, you start at the bottom.

Players are reminded that there is likely to be NOISE at club meetings. Not everyone at the meetings will be playing in a ladder game. Not everyone at the meetings will even be participating in the ladder. Some of them will be playing blitz or just b.s.-ing. Players must put up with these distractions. However, players have the right to play in relative peace. NOBODY must be unnecessarily loud when a game is in progress, nor distract the players, and especially NO KIBBITZING of a ladder game!

Scorekeeping is optional. But if you do keep score, consider submitting the game for publication in the *Observer*.

Whatever else you do, be sure to report your results!

GOOD LUCK AND GOOD CHESS!

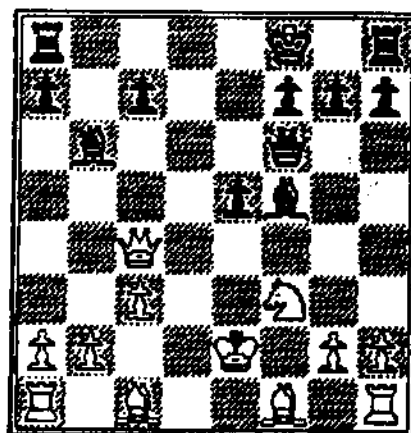
On The Table

As mentioned on page 2, the club is considering holding a club championship to take the place of the scrapped August tournament, using last February's Jacksonville club championship as a model (one day, non-rated, lunch and dinner breaks, five rounds, game in one hour, bring in a TD from out of town, trophies as prizes, etc.) Club members, what are your thoughts on such a tournament?

Dave Braunfeld has suggested having semi-official games, besides the ladder, on some of our Wednesday night meetings, such as USCF Action tournaments (G/30), USCF Quick tournaments (G/10 through G/29), which could be one-night tournaments, or tournaments lasting several weeks, as were played here several years ago. Club members, again I ask: What are your thoughts on such a setup?

An Air-Conditioned King

White: David Long (1801)
 Black: Bob Jacobs (2152)
 St. Louis, Mo. (3) May 5, 2001
 Opening: [341] Ponziani Opening



After Black's 15th move

1. P-K4 P-K4 2. N-KB3 N-QB3 3. P-B3 N-B3
 4. P-Q4 NxKP 5. P-Q5 B-B4!? (Normal is ...N-N1 after which White will get the pawn back with the slimmest of edges.) 6. PxN BxPch Time for some wild chess! If 6...NxKB? then 7. Q-Q5. If then 7...Q-K2 8. PxP and White is doing very well. 7. K-K2 NPxP Retreating the bishop still runs into 8. Q-Q5, threatening the knight, the king's pawn, and the pawn fork PxNP. The text threatens ...B-R3ch which could get very nasty.
 8. Q-R4! The only move. Protects against the check, threatens the knight (and indirectly the bishop). ...P-Q4? Black cannot do this. The best he has is ...P-KB4 9. N-Q2 Q-Q 10. NxN PxN 11. QxKP B-N3 where White stands better but there's much work to be done, especially on king safety. 9. QxBPch K-B1 10. N-Q2 (QxR?? B-R3ch) ...B-Q2 11. QxQP N-B3 12. Q-N3 B-B4 13. Q-B4 B-N3 14. N-K4 Trying to trade off pieces. But my king could still stand to be somewhere other than K2, and what about my light-squared bishop? Will it ever see the light of day? ...B-KB4 15. NxN QxN See diagram. Time for me to develop something!
 16. B-K3?? NOT THAT WAY! A one-move wonder blunder. I threw away a rook, seeing his two forks half a second after my hand left the bishop. ...BxB 17. KxB Q-QN3ch 18. K-Q2?? no dammit! Now he can add more fuel to the fire with ...R-Q1ch 19. K-K2 QxPch etc. because if 19. K-B1 then ...Q-K6ch and mate next move! ...QxPch He doesn't see the rook variation. Nevertheless I've hung a rook and momentum has shifted away from me. 19. K-K3 QxR 20. Q-N4ch K-N1 21. B-B4 QxR I can try to hold, and die a slow, painful death, or toss off the other rook to try to make a perp happen. At least I'll go down with all guns firing!
 22. BxPch KxB 23. NxPch K-B3 24. Q-KR4ch KxN 25. Q-K7ch K-Q4 26. Q-B7ch K-Q3 There it is - no more checks. 27. White resigns.

Membership Up Again!

The SCC continues to add members, having reached 38 at press time. All new members, welcome!

Not only have we added to our membership, but the "core" of the SCC has increased in size. We have more regulars than we did before the project, and some of the periphery have become and continue to become core members. This project is a success, let's keep it up!

Obituary

Bill Moushey, formerly the chief organizer and tournament director of St. Louis area tournaments, died May 1, 2001. The funeral was May 4.

Results - April 21, 2001

Name	rtng	rd 1	rd 2	rd 3	rd 4	TOT	
1 Gosser, Michael.....	1715	W 21	W 23	W 19	W 6	4.0	<u>1st place:</u>
2 Chambers, Adam.....	1656	W 15	D 9	W 10	W 14	3.5	Michael Gosser
3 Shankar, Ramamoorthy.....	1400	W 31	D 16	W 9	W 7	3.5	
4 Barnard, Tom.....	1756	W 28	L 8	W 26	W 17	3.0	2 tied for
5 Bonwell, Jonathan.....	1636	W 37	L 6	W 21	W 18	3.0	<u>2nd place, 1st C&D:</u>
6 Kanniah, Suresh.....	1566	W 36	W 5	W 13	L 1	3.0	Adam Chambers
7 Bourgerie, Dennis.....	1700	D 10	W 17	W 12	L 3	2.5	Ramamoorthy Shankar
8 Blickhan, Gary.....	1605	W 11	W 4	D 14	U---	2.5	
9 Miles, Kyle.....	1601	W 35	D 2	L 3	W 19	2.5	<u>2 tied for 1st A&B:</u>
10 Kopula, Suryapra Kash.....	1558	D 7	W 27	L 2	W 25	2.5	Tom Barnard
11 Moses, Greg.....	1424	L 8	W 24	W 31	D 13	2.5	Jonathan Bonwell
12 Mounce, Andy.....	1135	W 33	D 28	L 7	W 26	2.5	
13 Ryner, Randy.....	unr.	W 29	W 37	L 6	D 11	2.5	<u>1st E & under:</u>
14 Sparks, Derek.....	unr.	W 30	W 18	D 8	L 2	2.5	Andy Mounce
15 Bononi, David.....	1502	L 2	D 26	D 28	W 31	2.0	
16 Suarez, Ron.....	1465	H---	D 3	W 22	U---	2.0	<u>2 tied for 1st Unr:</u>
17 Dueker, John.....	1408	W 22	L 7	W 33	L 4	2.0	Randy Ryner
18 Hoffsuemmer, Jonathan.....	1347	W 32	L 14	W 34	L 5	2.0	Derek Sparks
19 Kitson, Colley Eric.....	1266	W 25	W 34	L 1	L 9	2.0	
20 Boyd, Joe.....	1204	L 23	L 22	W 30	W 33	2.0	
21 Coulter, Larry.....	1108	L 1	W 32	L 5	W 34	2.0	
22 Willis, Daniel.....	1028	L 17	W 20	L 16	W 28	2.0	
23 Knoedler, Tom.....	1586	W 20	L 1	H---	H---	1.5	
24 Barnes, James.....	1228	L 26	L 11	W 38	H---	1.5	
25 Milligan, Jeremy.....	799	L 19	W 30	D 27	L 10	1.5	
26 Shankar, Krishna.....	775	W 24	D 15	L 4	L 12	1.5	
27 Zimmerle, R. Wayne.....	1587	H---	L 10	D 25	U---	1.0	
28 Sculley, David.....	1575	L 4	D 12	D 15	L 22	1.0	
29 Fritsch, Paul.....	1135	L 13	L 31	L 32	W 38	1.0	
30 Eilering, David.....	1101	L 14	L 25	L 20	W 32	1.0	
31 Mc Neil, Steve.....	1008	L 3	W 29	L 11	L 15	1.0	
32 Achelpohl, Jon.....	1002	L 18	L 21	W 29	L 30	1.0	
33 Derrick, John.....	unr.	L 12	W 38	L 17	L 20	1.0	
34 Braunfeld, David.....	unr.	W 38	L 19	L 18	L 21	1.0	
35 Kujoth, Richard.....	1900	L 9	U---	U---	U---	0.0	
36 Warren, Anastacia.....	1727	L 6	U---	U---	U---	0.0	
37 Webb, James.....	1450	L 5	L 13	U---	U---	0.0	
38 Karpes, Richard.....	1094	L 34	L 33	L 24	L 29	0.0	

Corrections

On page 4 of the March-April issue, two game moves were wrong.
 White's 32nd move in the Knoedler-Johnson game should be R-K2, not R-K1.
 White's 47th move in the Long-Johnson game should be P-B6ch, not R-B6ch.

Games

Here are the three games from the Springfield-Jacksonville match that the Springfield side won.

White: Stephen Seaton
Black: Gerald Bumgardner
Jacksonville, Ill. March 17, 2001
Opening: [192] QGD Semi-Slav Defense

1. P-Q4 P-Q4
2. P-QB4 P-QB3
3. P-K3 N-KB3
4. N-QB3 P-K3
5. N-KB3 B-Q3
6. PxP BPxP
7. B-N5ch B-Q2
8. 0-0 N-B3
9. P-KR3 P-QR3
10. BxN BxB
11. R-K1 0-0
12. P-KR4 R-B1
13. Q-Q3 N-K5
14. N-K5 BxN
15. PxN NxN
16. QxN Q-R5
17. Q-Q4 QxQ
18. PxQ P-QN4
19. PxP BxP
20. B-Q2 R-B5
21. B-B3 KR-B1
22. R-K3 R/5-B3
23. R-R5 R-B5
24. K-R1 R/1-B3
25. K-N1 P-B3
26. P-B4 P-B4
27. P-KR4 P-N3
28. K-B2 B-R5
29. R-N3 K-B2
30. R-K3 K-K1
31. R-K1 K-Q2
32. R-QR1 B-N4
33. R-QB1 K-B2
34. K-K3 K-N3
35. K-Q2 RxB
36. RxBch KxR
37. PxR R-N3
38. K-Q3 K-B3
39. P-B4 R-N6ch
40. R-B3 PxPch
41. KxP RxRch
42. KxR K-Q4
43. K-N4 KxQP

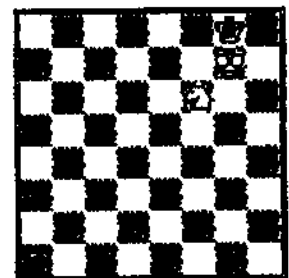
44. K-R5 K-K5
45. P-N3 K-B6
46. KxP KxNP
47. Resigns

White: David Long
Black: Richard Kujoth
Jacksonville, Ill. March 17, 2001
Opening: [361] King's Bishop's Gambit

1. P-K4 P-K4
2. P-KB4 PxP
3. B-B4 Q-R5ch
4. K-B1 N-QB3
5. N-KB3 Q-R4
6. P-Q4 P-KN4
7. P-KR4 B-N2
8. P-B3 P-Q3
9. Q-N3 P-N5
10. N-N5 N-R3
11. N-QR3 P-R3
12. QBxP 0-0
13. R-K1 K-R1
14. P-N3 N-R4
15. Q-R4 NxB
16. QxN P-KB3
17. N-K6 BxN
18. QxB Q-B2
19. QxQ RxQ
20. R-R2 R-K1
21. N-B2 R/2-K2
22. R/2-K2 N-B2
23. N-N4 P-B3
24. N-Q3 P-KR4
25. B-Q2 K-R2
26. N-B4 N-N4??
27. PxN PxP
28. N-Q3 K-N3
29. K-N2 R-KB1
30. R-KB1 R/1-K1
31. R/1-K1 R-KB1
32. P-K5 P-Q4
33. R-KB1 R/1-K1
34. R/2-KB2 P-R5
35. R-B5 B-R3
36. R-B6ch K-N2
37. R/1-B5 Resigns

White: Dave Eilering
Black: Steve Mc Neil
Jacksonville, Ill. March 17, 2001
Opening: [260] Sicilian Defense

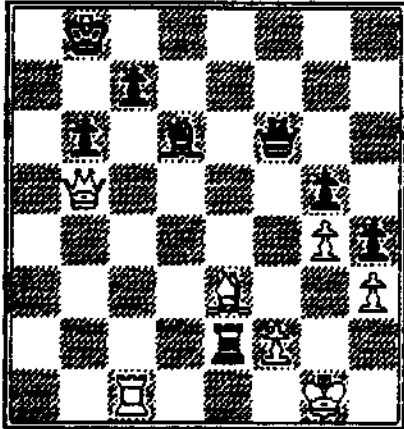
1. P-K4 P-QB4
2. P-QB4 N-QB3
3. N-KB3 P-KN3
4. N-B3 B-N2
5. B-K2 P-K3
6. N-QN5 P-Q4
7. BPxP PxP
8. PxP N-N5
9. P-Q4 P-QR3
10. N-B3 N-KB3
11. B-KN5 PxP
12. QxP?? N-B7ch
13. K-Q2 NxQ
14. NxN Q-N3
15. B-K3 0-0
16. N-K6? QxPch
17. K-Q3 PxN
18. PxP BxP
19. KR-QN1 Q-R6
20. RxP QR-Q1ch
21. K-B2 B-B4ch
22. B-Q3 BxBch
23. K-Q2 N-K5ch
24. K-K1 QxNch
25. B-Q2 QxRch
26. B-B1 QxB mate



The FB Position
(Ask Jonathan)

Take On Gerald's Computer III

by Gerald Bumgardner



My computer is playing itself.
Try to figure out the next few
moves in this position.

It is Black's move.

Out Of Town

Springfield was represented by David Long and Randy Ryner at the St. Louis Open, May 5-6. David scored 3.5 points out of 5, and Randy scored 3 points. One of David's games from the tournament, a very wild one, is on page 4.

In other news...

- > Sidewalk Chess Matches! David Long has been playing chess on the picket lines along the side of 11th Street during the strike against Kwik Wall, using an overturned cardboard box as a table. Dave Braunfeld has drifted over some Wednesday afternoons to play there, too.
- > Chess In the News! Our first match against Jacksonville, last March, got a belated mention in the Jacksonville newspaper early in May.

Meetings

The SCC meets Wednesday nights, 6 to 10 p.m., at the American Legion Post 32, between 5th and 6th Streets, half a block south of Capitol Ave., downtown.

On the second Friday of each month, we meet from 6 to 10 p.m. at Barnes and Noble, near the corner of Route 4 and Wabash Ave.

Area Tournament Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Reg Ends</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone</u>
May 19	Normal, Ill	8:45	Dennis Bourgerie	(309) 454-3842
May 20	Mt. Vernon, Ill	9:15	Mark Oestreich	(618) 532-5733
May 20	Quincy, Ill	11:50	Gary Blickhan	(217) 223-8762
June 16	Springfield, Ill	8:45	Tom Knoedler	(217) 523-7265