



Chess Club Observer

Newsletter of the Springfield Chess Club

March-April 2004

Vol. 7, No. 2

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Tourney Turnout Continues To Decline

A near-record low of nine chess players, plus one houseman, played in the February 21 tournament. James Healy, of Springfield, and Greg Moses, of Jacksonville, each scored 3.5 points out of 4 to tie for first. First in class A-B was William Meyer, of Decatur. He scored 2.5 points. Matt Dremeens, of Springfield, scored 2 points to take first place in class C-D, and Evan Dorosneff, also of Springfield, scored 2.5 points and won first class E and below. No unrateds participated.

The turnout news is not all bad; attendance at club meetings has rebounded lately, and enough SCC members heeded the call to participate to make Springfieldians a majority at the tournament, for the first time in many years. However, at the next meeting, the SCC Board of Directors may vote to cancel some tournaments to stop the club from going broke!

Complete results are on page 6.

Quick Chess Tournament March 20

The SCC will hold a quick-rated tournament on Saturday, March 20, at Lincoln Library's West Branch, 1251 W. Washington St.

Since the club's last few quick tournaments of G/10 drew abysmal turnout, we are trying a different formula this time. There will be four games at G/29, the longest quick-rated time control. Registration ends at 10:45, rounds at 11, 1, 2, and 3, with a lunch break from 12 to 1.

Next Regular Tournament April 17

Our next regular tournament will be held Saturday, April 17, at the Signature Inn. All tournament details are the same as usual: registration ends at 8:45, the first round begins at 9, entry fee \$15 in advance or \$18 at the door, \$2 more for non-SCC members.

SPECIAL MEETING MARCH 24 - See insert

Inside: "In Memory of the Life of David B. Mote", Pages 4-5

Special Meeting March 24

The Springfield Chess Club will hold a special called meeting on Wednesday, March 24, 2004, at Shakey's Pizza & Buffet, Town & Country Shopping Center, Springfield. Dinner costs \$8.75 per person. (There will be no meeting at the Legion Hall that night.) See insert for details.

Please return your surveys by March 20
If they arrive too late, they may not be processed in time.

Thanks

...to the several SCC members who have made donations to the club these last few months, helping the club through its current financial crisis. Making contributions to the club treasury were Tom Knoedler, Gerald Bumgardner, James Barnes, and James Ruth.

Coming & Going

Larry Washington and Mark Maisenbacher, both of Springfield, recently joined the Springfield Chess Club. Welcome to the club! Membership total is now 32.

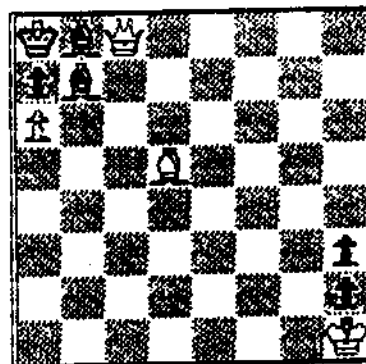
Daunte Carter took a job in Chicago, and moved there in February. He was a regular participant in the Wednesday night mini-tournaments, and got his first regular tournament experience in Springfield tournaments (including the Illinois Class Championships). We will miss him!

Absurdity, Part 15

White to play and selfmate.

Selfmate means White plays first, and tries to FORCE Black to give checkmate, which Black tries to avoid doing. (A problem where both sides cooperate to give checkmate is called a helpmate.)

You have as many moves as you need to complete the task. For a rather obvious hint, see the bottom of page 5. Solution on page 6!



Cumulative Blitz Standings

1	Evan Dorosheff	8.5	(12)	70.8	7	John Taylor	1.5	(7)	21.4
2	Daunte Carter	7.5	(12)	62.5	8	Kyle Churchill	1.5	(7)	21.4
3	Tom Knoedler	7.0	(7)	100.0	9	Larry Grammer	1.0	(5)	20.0
4	James Ruth	7.0	(12)	58.3	10	David Braunfeld	0.5	(5)	10.0
5	David Long	5.0	(7)	71.4	11	Cole Taylor	0.5	(7)	7.1
6	Matt Cremeens	3.0	(5)	60.0					

Minor Event News

All minor events will begin at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise specified.

Date	Event	Entry Fee
March 10	Blitz, Part 3	\$2
March 17	3-Round Swiss Thematic	\$3
April 14	Blitz, Part 4	\$2
April 21	3-Round Swiss	\$3
May 12	Blitz, Part 5	\$2

January 14 Blitz

Pl#	Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Month	Year
1	James Ruth	x	L	W	W	W	L	L	L	3.0	3.0
2	Evan Dorosheff	W	x	W	D	W	W	L	L	4.5	4.5
3	Kyle Churchill	L	L	x	W	D	L	L	L	1.5	1.5
4	John Taylor	L	D	L	x	W	L	L	L	1.5	1.5
5	Cole Taylor	L	L	D	L	x	L	L	L	0.5	0.5
6	Daunte Carter	W	L	W	W	W	x	L	W	5.0	5.0
7	Tom Knoedler	W	W	W	W	W	W	x	W	7.0	7.0
8	David Long	W	W	W	W	W	L	L	x	5.0	5.0

February 11 Blitz

Pl#	Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	Month	Year
1	Evan Dorosheff	x	L	W	W	W	W	4.0	8.5
2	James Ruth	W	x	L	W	W	W	4.0	7.0
3	Daunte Carter	L	W	x	L	W	D	2.5	7.5
4	Matt Cremeens	L	L	W	x	W	W	3.0	5.0
5	Larry Grammer	L	L	L	L	x	W	1.0	1.0
6	David Braunfeld	L	L	D	L	L	x	0.5	0.5

January 21 - Gerald's 3-Round Swiss Thematic No. 1

Rank	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Total	
1	Matt Cremeens	1570	W--3	W--6	W--5	3.0	Victories
2	Tom Knoedler	1526	L--5	W--7	W--4	2.0	by Color:
3	Cole Taylor	676	L--1	W--8	W--6	2.0	White - 8
4	Daunte Carter	1200 ⁺	W--7	D--5	L--2	1.5	Black - 3
5	Evan Dorosheff	648	W--2	D--4	L--1	1.5	Draws - 1
6	James Ruth	1051	W--8	L--1	L--3	1.0	
7	John Taylor	274	L--4	L--2	W--8	1.0	
8	Kyle Churchill	unr.	L--6	L--3	L--7	0.0	

February 18 - 3-Round Swiss

Rank	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Total
1	David Long	1969	W--6	W--2	W--3	3.0
2	Tom Knoedler	1517	W--5	L--1	W--4	2.0
3	Daunte Carter	1382	D--4	W--6	L--1	1.5
4	Larry Grammer	unr.	D--3	W--5	L--2	1.5
5	Evan Dorosheff	935	L--2	L--4	W--6	1.0
6	James Ruth	1107	L--1	L--3	L--5	0.0

← Blitz standings on page 2

In Memory of the Life of David B. Mote

by Andrew J. Mc Gowan

Longtime Illinois Master David B. Mote died on October 11, 2003, from complications following a quintuple by-pass surgery that he underwent on October 2, 2003. He was 44 years old. He is survived by his wife, Martha Mote, his step-children, Karen and Robert Lane, his parents, Richard and Barbara Mote, and his brothers, John and Richard. As I write this, two months after his death, I still miss him more than I can say.

David and I grew up playing in chess tournaments together and, later, we worked together as criminal defense attorneys. We met in seventh grade, when we both attended Bloomington Junior High. We played chess all that year during the lunch half-hour. He always maintained that he lost every game that year but one. Even though I do not doubt his word, for the life of me I have never been able to remember that game. The fact is, whether he won one game or none, he persisted. According to Garrett Scott, a longtime tournament director in Illinois, David lost every game in his first two tournaments and only achieved a draw in his third. Even though these were adult tournaments and David was twelve years old, these results would have discouraged many. What can I say, David did not discourage easily and he liked to play chess. David became a master when he was in college, I believe. He has been rated over 2300. He drew Grand Master Sergey Kudrin in the 1998 Chicago Open.

Even as David became a better chess player, he had to overcome a tendency to lose important center pawns in the opening. He often observed that it was not a good thing to lose the king pawn in a king pawn opening. He would then proceed to demonstrate this proposition to me from his latest game. Often, he won these games. David was a really great defensive player when he had to be. He would consistently stave off defeat move after move until his opponent either ran out of time, or blew the attack. To be fair to David, he felt bad about winning these games. You could tell by the way he laughed about the game while he replayed it, readily admitting the various points during the game at which he was completely busted.

Back when we were in high school, there was a really strong master, David Sprengle, who lived in Champaign, Illinois. We did not get to see Sprengle in action as much as we would have liked. We heard that Sprengle was the founder of the Central Illinois School of Chess. The proponents of this School played the Ponziani as White, and the Nimzovitch Sicilian and the Leinograd Dutch as Black. Of course, this was in the days of the storied Soviet School of Chess. As far as we could tell, the Central Illinois School of Chess was just one of the attempts to combat the Soviet School. We both joined the School, albeit briefly. Needless to say, we did not topple the Soviet chess dominance, and David Sprengle's devotion to the Nimzovitch Sicilian ultimately won him the dubious honor of having one of his losses published in John Nunn's popular *Beating the Sicilian* series.

It was, in fact, while I was drubbing Mr. Sprengle on the White side of a Nimzovitch Sicilian in a speed game that Mr. Sprengle introduced David and me to the "immortal factor." As I said, I was thrashing Mr. Sprengle when he told me that he would win. I asked him how he could win given the position. Mr. Sprengle replied: "Because of the immortal factor." I innocently inquired: "What immortal factor?" He replied: "I am a master." Then he won.

David always appreciated stronger players taking the time to discuss the game afterwards, like Sprengle did, analyzing what went wrong and better alternatives. All through his chess career, he observed this tradition. One of the messages that I received during David's final days was from one of David's longtime opponents, Doug Van Buskirk. Doug's said that David was "A very stubborn and confident player, never giving up on a line unless proven otherwise in GREAT detail; but also never copping an insulting attitude, and always respectful of others ideas. It took me a LOT of games before I finally got one off of him, and I really had to raise my game in order to do so. I even took up the Sicilian Defense as Black just to beat that one guy! There's a good chance I never would have reached master without that guy to challenge me." Doug concluded that David was one of the good guys. I could not agree more.

Chess was always a big part of David's life. David and I even went to Chicago at the end of high school for approximately a semester to see if we could improve enough to make something of ourselves in chess. Jules Stein ran the Chicago Chess Center at the time. He dubbed us the "M&M" chess club. We spent a

fair amount of time at the Chess Center, but we did not improve enough. We had fun, though, and then went off to college.

David finally ended up with a degree in mathematics from Illinois State University in 1980. He began working for General Electric in Fort Wayne, Indiana, as a computer programmer. While in Fort Wayne, David continued to play chess. He began to "teach" a youngster by the name of Nick Adams by playing speed chess with him often. David must have seen a bit of himself in Nick. No matter how often Nick lost, he always wanted to play more. At one point, David began referring to young Mr. Adams as his "bye". Mr. Adams is now a master, having reached 2300, and stopped being David's bye a long time ago. Mr. Adams recently became an attorney who practices in a town near Fort Wayne.

A few years after he began at G. E., David became a computer programmer for Country Companies, an insurance company. Then, after about eight years of working as a computer programmer, David abruptly decided to go to law school. He graduated *summa cum laude* from Southern Illinois University School of Law in 1990. While in law school, David was on the Board of Editors of the Law Journal of Southern Illinois University and was awarded the Order of the Coif. After graduation, he landed the very prestigious job of clerking for Judge Richard Mills, a United States District Court Judge.

After his two years with Judge Mills were up, David was briefly in private practice in Springfield when he accepted a position, in 1995, with the then newly appointed Federal Public Defender, Richard H. Parsons. I have been privileged to have also been with Mr. Parsons since October 1996.

As good a chess player as David was, he was a better lawyer. He started with a great legal mind. Under Mr. Parson's guidance, he blossomed as a criminal defense attorney who was particularly good at appeals, both writing and arguing them. As you might imagine, not every lawyer wants to do criminal defense. To those of us who do enjoy representing the citizen accused, it is a calling. Criminal defense attorneys are, indeed, "Liberty's Last Champions". In federal court, we are litigating the effects of the Patriot Act right now. Unfortunately, as far as government interference with citizen's rights under the Constitution go, the Patriot Act is just the tip of the iceberg, especially since September 11, 2001. In many cases, federal prosecutions are where the Constitutionality of the government's actions are tested. David litigated the Constitutionality of government actions in district court, the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, and even the United States Supreme Court in *O'Sullivan v. Boerckel*.

David did not just fight each battle case by case, he also had an uncanny ability to put many of those battles in the context of the "big picture". Our boss, publishes a nationally acclaimed bi-monthly criminal-defense-related newsletter called the *Back Bench*. David wrote an article for each newsletter. When David passed away, Mr. Parsons published an issue with nothing but David's articles as a tribute. The "David B. Mote Memorial Issue" includes not only a very personal and heartfelt tribute from Mr. Parsons, it also included tributes from several lawyers and judges and articles in the *Springfield State Journal Register*.

David's articles were written for everybody. His last article, written on the last day that he worked, was a song. He wrote a parody entitled "Guantanamo", that may be sung to the Beach Boys' "Kokomo". David said that "Kokomo" reminded him of Guantanamo. Anyone reading this tribute would be able to read any of David's articles and learn from them. You will also be reminded of David's wit and his dry sense of humor. You can obtain a copy of this issue of the *Back Bench* or read it online at <http://www.ca7.uscourts.gov/> - look under "CJA Information" and then "Federal Defender Newsletter" and you will see all the editions of the *Back Bench*, including the "David B. Mote Memorial Edition."

David's death is a blow to the members of the chess community and members of the legal profession. Had David survived the operation, who knows what else he might have accomplished? I will miss him because of our great friendship, his wonderful sense of humor, and his indomitable spirit. He really was one of the good guys.

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ABSURDITY HINT: No matter how many maneuvers with his queen and bishop White makes, he cannot force Black to play ...BxB mate. Try something else.

Complete Results, February 21, 2004

Rank	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Total
1	James Healy	1731	W--8	W--5	D--2	W--6	3.5
2	Greg Moses	1645	W--9	W--3	D--1	W--5	3.5
3	William Meyer	1625	W--4	L--2	D--6	W--9	2.5
4	Evan Dorosheff	935	L--3	D--9	W-10	W--8	2.5
5	Matt Creemeens	1565	W-10	L--1	W--8	L--2	2.0
6	Tom Knoedler	1517	HALF	W--7	D--3	L--1	2.0
7	James Ruth	1107	HALF	L--6	D--9	W-10	2.0
8	Jerry Bennett	1506	L--1	W-10	L--5	L--4	1.0
9	Collyn Fike	1112	L--2	D--4	D--7	L--3	1.0
10	Cody Fike	690	L--5	L--8	L--4	L--7	0.0

Absurdity Solution

White begins 1. Q-R8 B-B3 2. Q-R1! B-N2 3. B-B6. The dark squared bishop must move (3...BxB is mate.) White digs the king out of the corner with 4. BxBch K-N1.

White then uses his queen and bishop to win the remaining black bishop and the black pawn (it doesn't matter what order), then promotes his QRP to a queen. Always vigilant to avoid giving checkmate or stalemate, White uses the two queens to drive Black's king across the board. *Move numbers after this point are made up, because the number of intervening moves will vary.* With one queen on Q4 and the other on QB2, White forces Black to play 21...K-KB6 (note White's bishop must be moved earlier, it must not control this square.)

With pieces in proper position, White then forces Black to administer checkmate with 22. Q/2-KB2ch K-N6 23. Q-KN2ch PxQ, checkmate.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER is not being printed this time around to save copying costs. Look for it in the next newsletter!

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. *Every week until further notice, we will be meeting in room 207, upstairs (not the room we have usually used.)*

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

Date	City	Reg Ends	Contact	Phone
March 13	Salem, Ill.	9:15	Paul Holland	(618) 288-4117
March 20	Springfield, Ill.	9:50	David Long	(217) 522-0489
March 20	Florissant, Mo.	9:30	Al Howlett	(314) 387-5127
March 28	Belleville, Ill.	9:00	Roger Schmidt	(618) 233-2939
April 3-4	Rock Island, Ill.	9:00	Matt Nemmers	(309) 786-4838
April 17	Springfield, Ill.	8:45	Tom Knoedler	(217) 523-7265