



THE CHESS EXCHANGE



★ *The Newsletter of NYC Scholastic Tournament Chess* ★

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Blindfold Chess & Simuls:

How the Greatest Chess Players Play Multiple Players and Win

When you play chess you need huge amounts of brain power, concentration and focus. Even the best scholastic tournament players though, barely think compared with top grandmasters or those chess players that are the best in the world. At the highest level of chess are players that can do simultaneous exhibitions "Simuls" or play large numbers of players all at the same time.

Imagine a room that looks like a tournament with 100 chess sets and different players seated and ready to play with the black pieces.

--(Continued on page 5)--



Jose Capablanca playing a "Simul" in 1921



Churchill not giving up

Resignation: Why Student Chess Players Should Never Lose Hope

Some of the most famous people in the world who have done great things in life were able to do them by NOT giving up. Things that we do that we are proud of like making an amazing picture, reading a great book, learning a new dance or karate move, writing a terrific story, can usually only be done if we take time and energy, have patience and don't throw up our hands and walk away. One of the greatest leaders of England, Winston Churchill who your grandparents might remember, was famous for saying:

"Never, Never, Never, Give Up".



Churchill shows his "V for victory"

When we play chess the same idea is important. According to the rules of chess, one way to end a chess game is if one side resigns or gives up. A lot of kids know this rule even though it was mostly created to save time for advanced players. Kids playing in school classes, programs, and especially in a tournament should never use this rule and resign.

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If you act like Churchill and never give up, there is always the chance you could come back and win. Sometimes, you know you can't win but because you can tie the game in chess, or get a draw, players should always keep playing in case you might get stalemated.

--(Continued on page 6)--

The Computer's Greatest Quest: *Man vs. Machine-Will Computers Always Win Soon?*

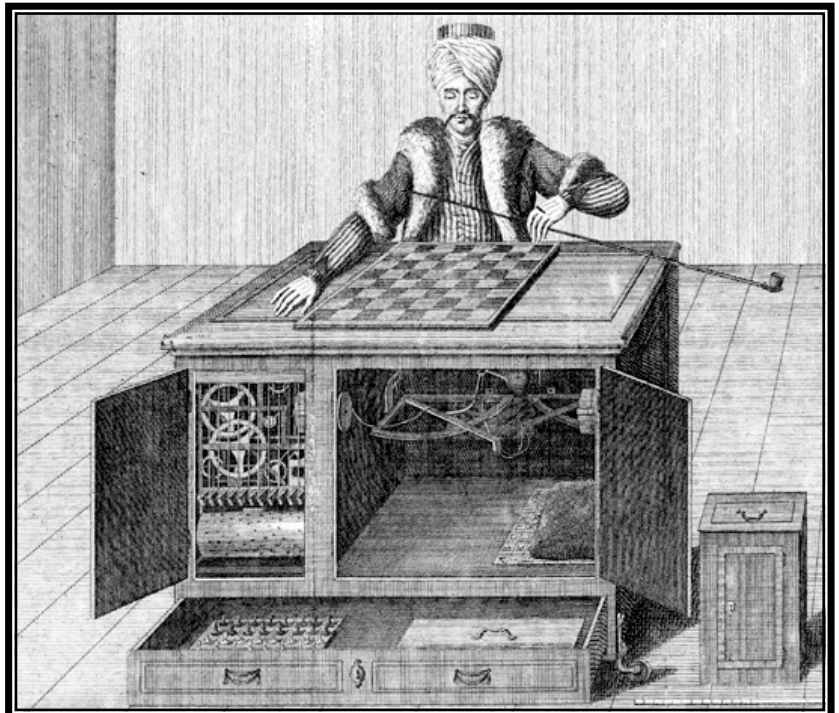
When you can't find someone in your family or a friend who can play chess with you, it is fun sometimes to play the computer. Many of the computer chess games kids play on their home computer, game system or cell phone are very advanced and have higher levels on them that can beat student players. But did you know that some of the chess games on your Nintendo Wii, SONY PSP, Nintendo DS, or even iPhone can also beat an advanced master level player? Computer chess has changed in the last ten years so that advanced players play computers all the time as a way to improve and some of the simplest least expensive computer chess games can challenge even world champion level players.

The first chess computers were called automatons and were fakes. One of the most famous self playing machines from about 200 years ago was called "The Turk" and was a large chess table with an attached large doll that would make moves against a player. The Turk played with great success. As it turned out, it was a trick because inside the table was a short man who was actually making the moves.

Well today's computers work differently and really use the computer's brain to make moves. About 40 years ago a computer expert named David Levy who was also a Grandmaster made a bet that in ten years he could still beat any chess computer. Well in 1978 he won his bet and beat the best computer called Chess 4.7. But 11 years later in 1989 a computer called Deep Thought beat him.

Over the next ten years chess computers got better and better as universities and companies made improvements. IBM, one of the largest computer companies spent millions of dollars to build Deep Blue a chess computer that could play and they hoped would beat even the world champion.

In 1996 IBM challenged Gary Kasparov the world champion to a match against Deep Blue. Kasparov won the match 4-2 but the computer beat him in the first game.



"The TURK with its "complicated mechanism"

One year later, Kasparov agreed to a rematch with Deep Blue and lost 3.5-2.5! Ten years later, just three years ago in 2006, the world champion Vladimir Kramnik's also lost to the computer Deep Fritz with a score of 4-2.

THE CHESS EXCHANGE

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Today, some of the best computers with great names like Shredder, Rybka, and Fritz, are used by world champion level players to help them learn and improve their game. They can also be bought by you and are available to anybody, some for less than \$100.

Computers are usually better than humans at blitz or chess played very quickly in as little as 5 minutes/game. This is because they can analyze very quickly. Playing very unusual strong moves is actually not the best way to beat a chess computer. Playing closed positions can usually help you to get a small advantage in position which is a better way to go.

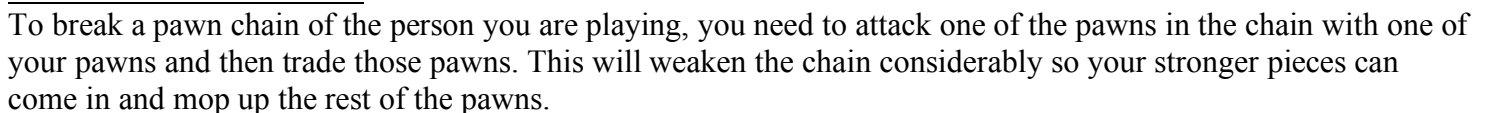
--(Continued on page 3)--

But chess computers can still beat the best players even if the game has not yet been completely solved. It seems possibly only a question of time until chess is solved too. If David Levy made a different bet now that in ten years (2020) the game of chess will not be completely solved or that a computer cannot win every time by 2020, I think he would lose his bet. 🐞

Think of a fist when you think about how to use pawns during a chess game. Fingers are individually not that strong and can't lift much alone. But together, they can become incredibly strong as a fist or as a hand on a karate master able to split ten boards in half or carry the heaviest grocery bags.

Pawns are like that too and one pawn can be weak but when it acts together with others it can become very strong and trap even a queen or give checkmate. One of the strongest ways to use pawns is to move them so they line up with each other diagonally with each one protecting the next. This is called a pawn chain.

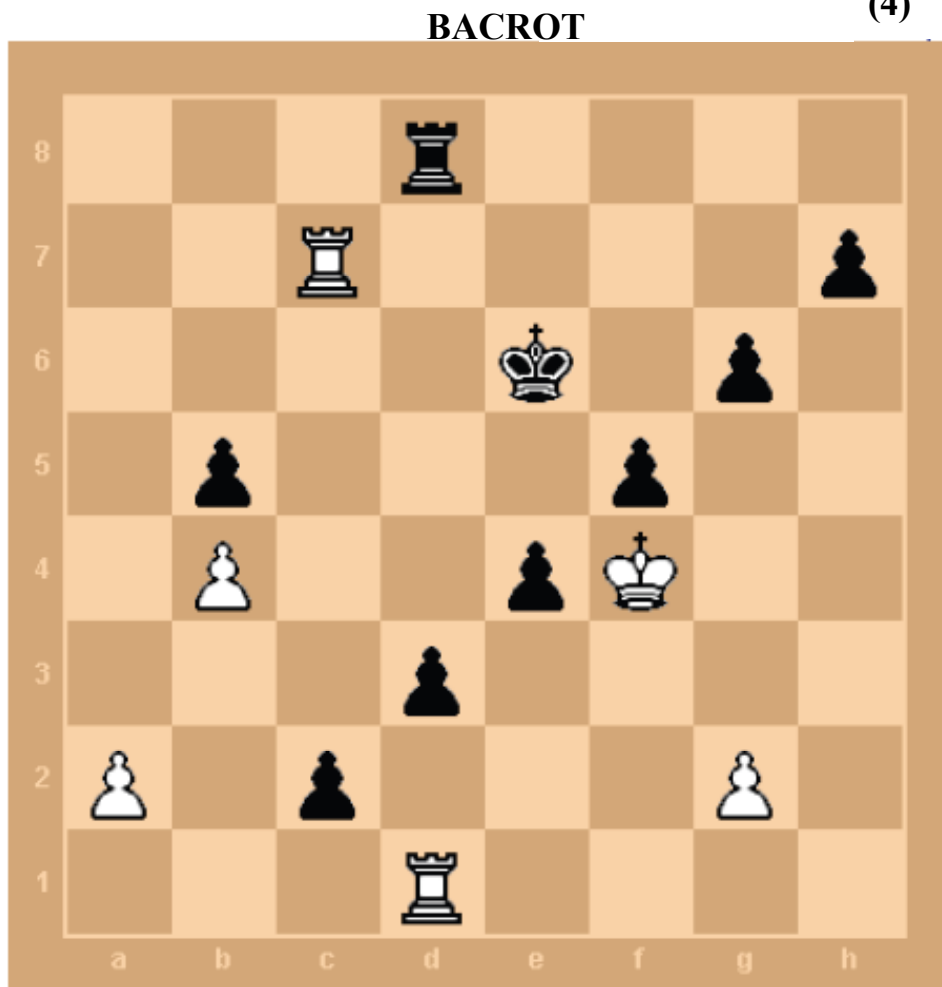
At the start or opening of a game or for three pawns all in starting position (Rank 2 for White, Rank 7 for Black) a simple pawn chain can be set up in 2 moves by having one pawn as the base and moving the pawn to the left or right of it one square forward. Next move a simple pawn chain is created by moving a pawn on the same side as the last one two squares forward. This links all three pawns together diagonally.



Another thing to consider is what pieces you have that can get past the chain and if they are in a good place on the board. Knights can go right over a pawn chain, bishops and queens can sometimes go through it and rooks usually have the toughest time getting past it as they must go around. --(Continued on page 4)--

Sometimes a real game can have an extra long pawn chain. Below is a game between Judit Polgar and Etienne Bacrot from 11 years ago. Polgar is the strongest female chessplayer ever, and Bacrot was one of the youngest ever Grandmasters (GMs). It is White's (Polgar) move. Judit can take the most advanced pawn in the chain on c2. It appears as though this is a good move because Black's d pawn is pinned and if Black then chooses to capture her rook on c2, then White can capture Black's rook on d8. Can you figure out why this is losing for White?

This game is also a good example of how points matter less than position. Here though Black has fewer points her strong chain allows her to win. So, try to use pawn chains when you can. When you think of pawns, remember what Patrick Henry one of the famous men who helped create our country's first government said "United we stand, Divided we fall." 🇺🇸



POLGAR

CopyCat Chess: *What to Do in a Tournament When A Player Starts Copying Your Moves*

In every tournament at least during a few games, especially in the K-1 section, a few players raise their hands and ask for a tournament director to come right over. They are always playing White and say "Hey it's not fair. He is a copycat and is just copying all my moves." Sometimes they get angry and upset when they hear the Director's response that it is not illegal and the game must continue. Yes, in chess copying is allowed but it is not good for Black or whoever is doing the copying because the copycat always loses.



Patrick Henry Giving a Fiery Speech ~1775

You should be happy if your opponent is copying your moves because it means that he can never beat you! It also is a sign that your opponent is probably afraid of playing you and thinks you are a stronger player. It can be stopped pretty quickly with bad consequences for the copier. How do you stop copying? Well there is a very simple way. --(Continued on page 5)--

Do not worry if someone is copying your moves and that is keeping the game even or in a potential draw.

Everything may seem even until that one move where your opponent will not be able to copy . . . and that's when you win. For example, check out the following copycat game:






























1 e4 e5; 2 Nf3 Nf6; 3 Nxe5 Nxe4

4 Qe2 Qe7; 5 Qxe4

And as you can see if black continues to copy with 5 . . . Qxe5 he will lose the queen.

As soon as you check your opponent's king then they must stop copying you because they cannot in the next move check you back the same way. They must rather get out of check so a check in almost every case will stop the copying.

So if you start a game as white and another player who is usually at a lower level, begins to copy your moves, do not worry. Be flattered he is copying you and just remember it is actually good for you! ♘

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
8									8
7									7
6									6
5									5
4									4
3									3
2									2
1									1
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	

BLINDFOLD CHESS. . . . (-- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 --)

Where are the players who will move the white pieces? Out strolls a single person. Yes, that's right, he or she will be playing all of you at the same time or "simultaneously".

How do they do it? Well, for them it's almost like playing Blitz chess where you have to move right away. They have to go from board to board and move almost immediately. Since Grandmasters play a lot of Blitz they are used to it.

An even more difficult skill is playing blindfold chess, or on several boards at once (a Simul) with a blindfold on. This must be done all from memory and using chess notation. The blindfolded player can't see so all moves are given to him using chess notation and he must keep track of all prior moves, current moves, all while keeping each game separate -all in his brain. Truly an amazing feat.

Many famous chess players became even bigger celebrities when they did simuls and even Blindfold Chess. Capablanca, the star Cuban world champion from 1921-1927, became famous for giving Simuls at a young age. He went on a special tour of the United States in 1909 visiting 27 cities when he was 21 and played a total of 602 games and won 96.4% or 580 of them.

George Koltanowski who died 12 years ago at the age of 96, was an expert in simuls and blindfold chess. He still holds the record of playing 56 games blindfolded in 1960. Not only was he allowed only 10 sec/move, but he had no losses and was able to win 50 and draw 6 of the games. So remember, the next time you beat someone in a creative game and say to yourself, "I am soooooo good at chess. I am amazing." Don't forget there are always higher levels to learn and practice.. . like blindfold chess. Hey, at least in your game you played only one person and could see the board. ♘

RESIGNATION . . . NEVER GIVE UP (-- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 --)

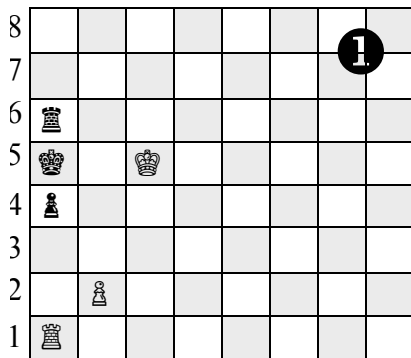
(6)

In fact, about 30% of K-1 beginner players will stalemate their opponents when trying to give checkmate at the end of the game.

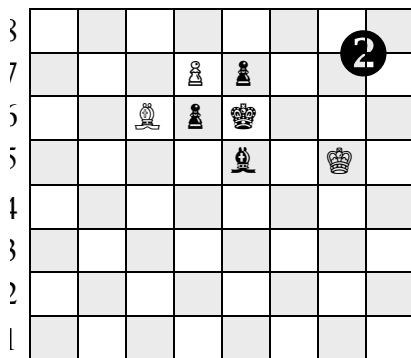
Sometimes, players who are losing but never give up thought they were going to lose, but get a draw because of the fifty move rule. This happens in the endgame if after 50 moves by the weaker side, there have been no captures and no pawn moves. It usually takes place when all pawns are captured or stuck and it is tough or impossible to have a checkmate. For example, if all that remains is White having a king, knight, and bishop and Black having only a King, it is possible for White to force a checkmate but is very difficult to do. If White is trying to checkmate Black in this situation, but can't do it, after 50 moves it is a draw or tie game.

Now if Black had resigned or given up, as soon as he was left with only a king, he would never have gotten a draw (worth 0.5 points in a tournament), and instead would get zero points and lose the game. Because checkmate with a Knight and a Bishop is so difficult to force, it would be a big mistake for Black to resign here.

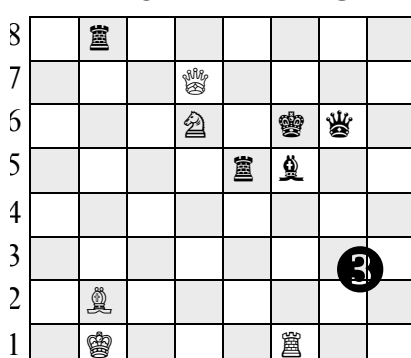
Besides, players come back all the time from losing positions, or being way behind in material. All it takes is one blunder by your opponent and you are back in the game. This happens all the time even in tournaments, so remember nobody ever won a game by resigning. Stick it out in chess and life and good things will happen! ♞



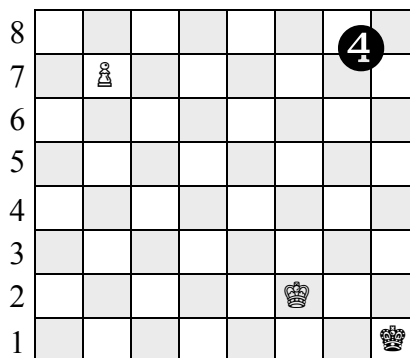
A B C D E F G H



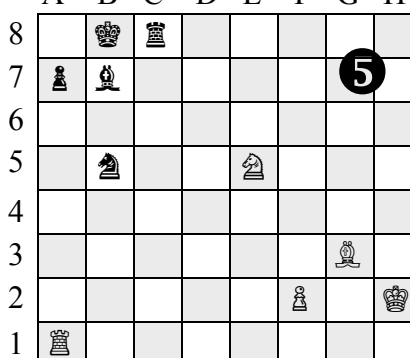
A B C D E F G H



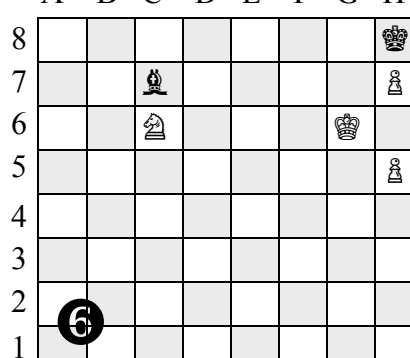
A B C D E F G H



A B C D E F G H



A B C D E F G H



A B C D E F G H

P U Z Z L E R solutions

(THE CHESS EXCHANGE, November 2009)

MATE IN ONES

- ❶ 1.b4 mate
- ❷ 1.d8=N mate
- ❸ 1.Ne4 mate

MATE IN TWOS

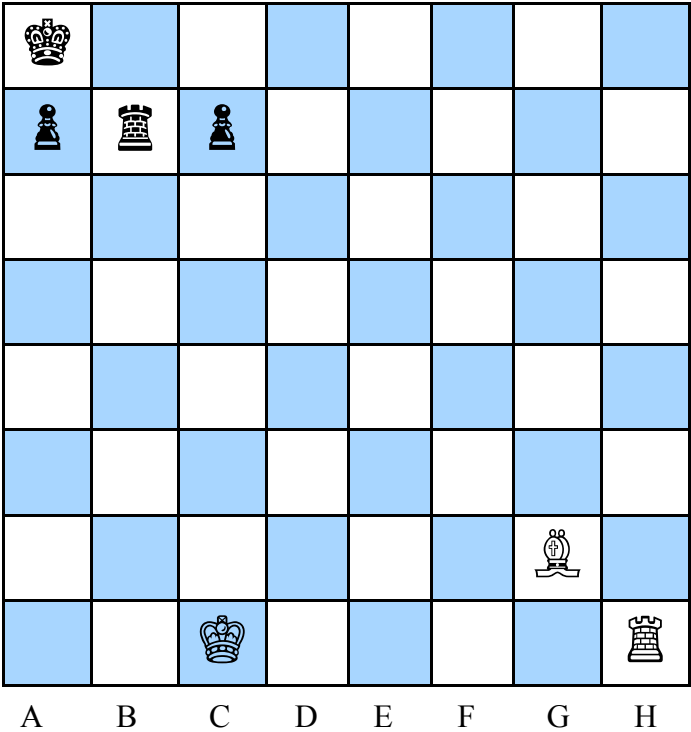
- ❹ 1.b8=R Kh2
2.Rh8#
- ❺ 1.Nd7+ Ka8
2.Nb6#

MATE IN THREE

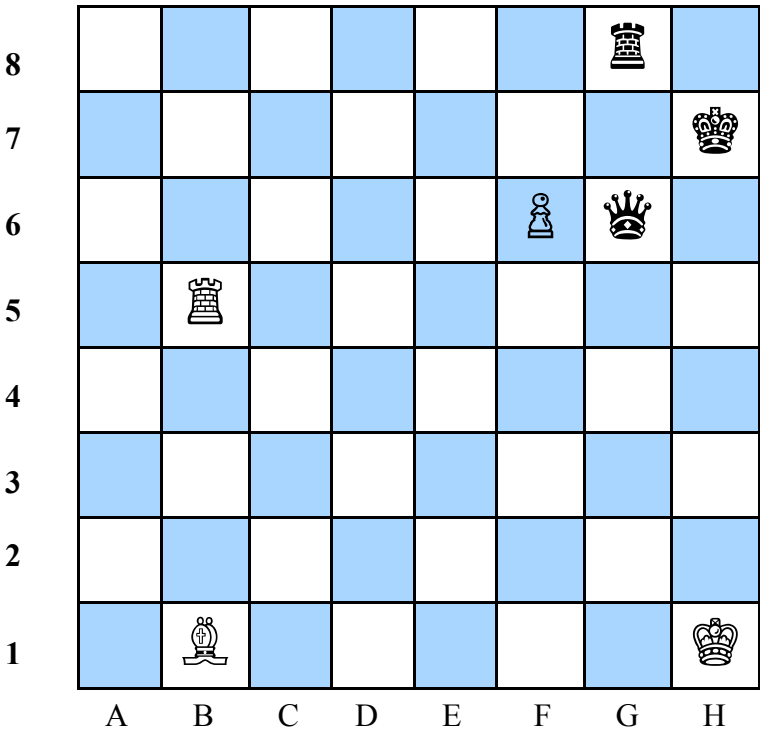
- ❻ 1.h6 bishop moves
(loses control of
BOTH d8 & e5)
2.Nd8 or e5 Any
3. Nf7#

THE CHESS EXCHANGE PUZZLERS (Solutions in the next issue!)

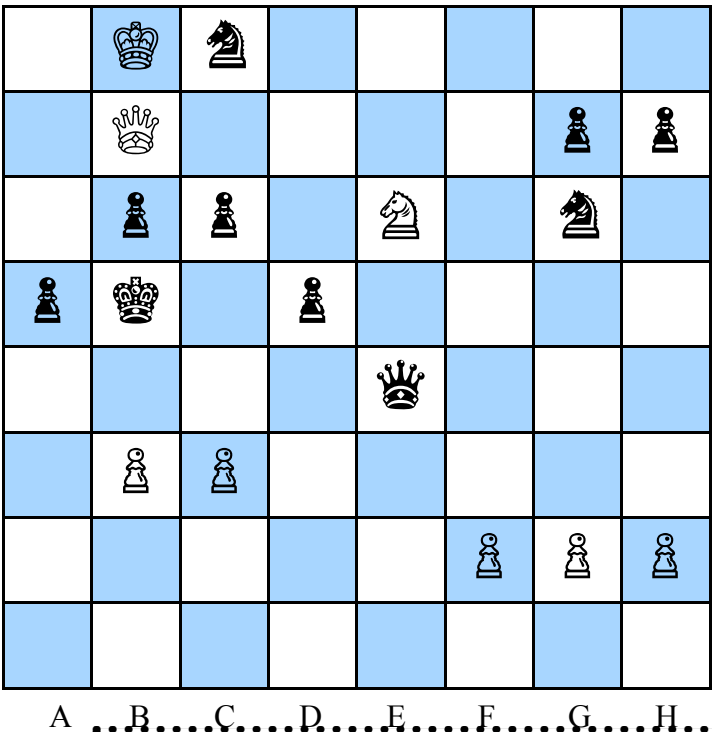
White to Move: Mate in One



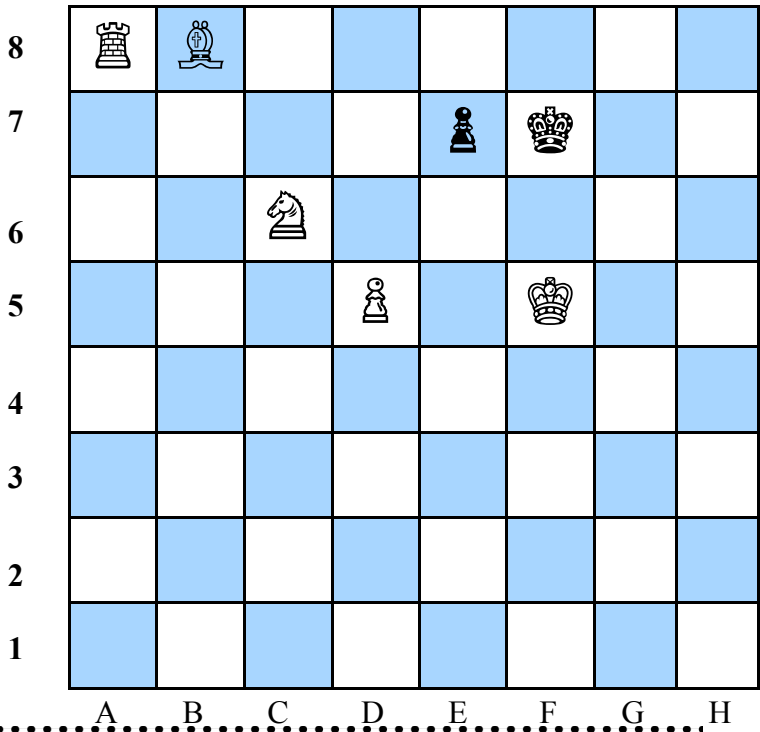
White to Move: Mate in One



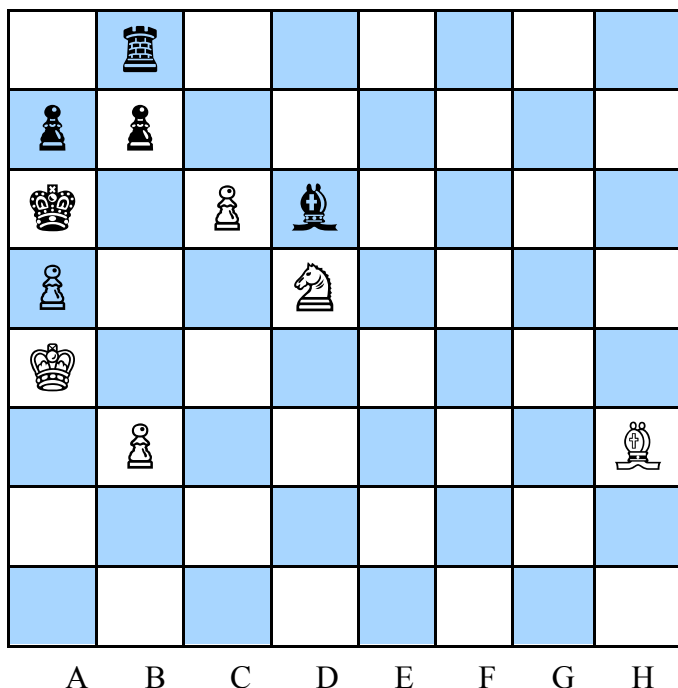
White to Move: Mate in Two



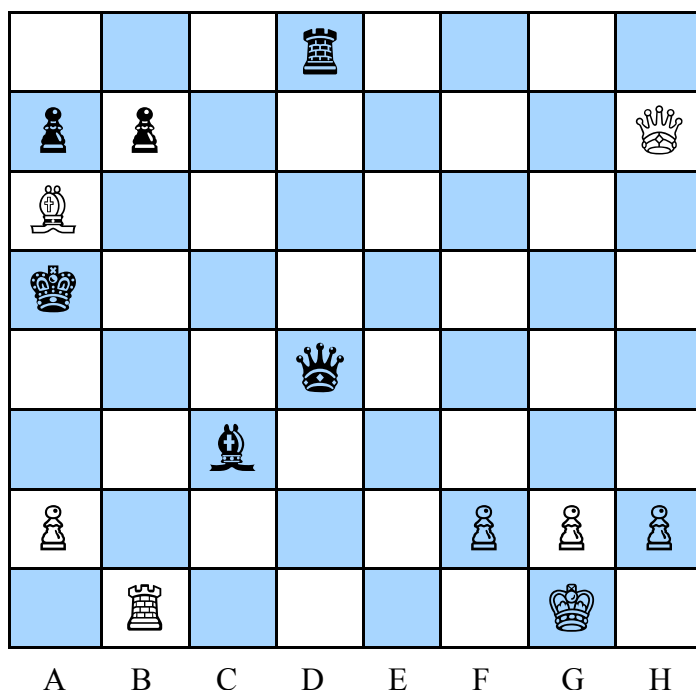
White to Move: Mate in Two



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8
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A B C D E F G H

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TOURNAMENT RESULTS (9)

Columbia Grammar November 20, 2009-116 Players

Fischer Section	
1 <u>LILIA MEILAN POTEAT</u>	3.0
Carlsen Section	
1 <u>ROBERT FRANTS</u>	2.0
2 <u>MAX EBERSTADT-BEATTIE</u>	2.0
Premier Section	
1 <u>JOSHUA VERBITSKY</u>	3.0
Classic Section	
1 <u>JEREMY SPIERA</u>	3.5
Reserve Section	
1 <u>THOMAS BENSON</u>	4.0
3 rd Grade	
1 <u>JESSE GOODMAN</u>	3.5
2 nd Grade	
1 <u>ADAM CROMAN</u>	4.0
1 st Grade	
1 <u>WILLIAM JAMES KNOFF</u>	4.0
2 <u>HUDSON BEAUDOIN</u>	3.5
3 <u>ADAM PERLSTEIN</u>	3.5
Kindergarten	
1 <u>BRETT GOODMAN</u>	4.0

Columbia Grammar December 18th, 2007 97 Players

Korchnoi Section	
1 <u>ROBERT FRANTS</u>	2.5
Carlsen Section	
1 <u>MATTHEW HERTZ</u>	3.0
Premiere Section	
1 <u>PETER MASON</u>	3.0
Classic Section	
1 <u>MICHAEL MORIN</u>	4.0
Reserve Section	
1 <u>JAYRENE SHAW</u>	4.0
3 rd Grade	
1 <u>SAMSON WIENER</u>	3.0
2 <u>JEREMY KOGAN</u>	3.0
3 <u>JASON LEVINE</u>	3.0
2 nd Grade	
1 <u>EITAN GENDER</u>	4.0
1 st Grade	
1 <u>PHILIP HOOVER</u>	4.0
Kindergarten	
1 <u>BEN KANTOR</u>	3.0
2 <u>THEO KOGAN</u>	3.0

Columbia Grammar- January 8th, 2010 12 Players

Carlsen Section	
1 <u>MAX EBERSTADT-BEATTIE</u>	2.0
Premier Section	
1 <u>THOMAS KNOFF</u>	2.5
2 <u>MICHAEL MORIN</u>	2.5
Classic Section	
1 <u>DAVID MOON</u>	3.5
Reserve Section	
1 <u>YUVRAJ CHOPRA</u>	3.0
2 <u>OWEN HIGGS</u>	3.0
3 <u>GABRIEL KLASS</u>	3.0
4 <u>NOAH LINDSELL</u>	3.0
3 rd Grade	
1 <u>JASON SAMUEL LEVINE</u>	4.0
2 nd Grade	
1 <u>ALEXANDER EGOL</u>	4.0
1 st Grade	
1 <u>GAVRIEL GENDER</u>	4.0
2 <u>NICHOLAS RUDIN</u>	4.0
Kindergarten	
1 <u>SADIE EDELMAN</u>	4.0

Lower Lab School November 8th, 2009 56 players

Championship	
1 <u>KASSA KORLEY</u>	3.0
Classic	
1 <u>FLORIZELLE SONGCO</u>	4.0
Reserve	
1 <u>ARTHUR ELGHOUAYEL</u>	4.0
2 <u>ROMY VASSILEV</u>	3.5
Primary	
1 <u>KAELYN HA</u>	4.0
K-1	
1 <u>KYLE MILLER</u>	4.0

Hunter-November, 15, 2009 101 Players

Future Masters	
1 <u>JULIE E FLAMMANG</u>	3.0
2 <u>MATTHEW ZAFRA</u>	2.5
3 <u>LEV WOLFE GORDON</u>	2.5
Championship	
1 <u>DANIEL ZLOTCHESKY</u>	4.0
2 <u>MARCUS MING MIYASAKA</u>	3.5
Reserve	
1 <u>ALEXIA JING WEI GILJOLI</u>	4.0
Primary	
1 <u>HUNTER ARIANA KORN</u>	4.0
2 <u>EITAN GENDER</u>	3.5
Booster	
1 <u>SAMUEL BENJAMIN BROCHIN</u>	3.5

Hunter-January 10, 2010 119 Players

Future Masters	
1 <u>LIAM GLASS</u>	3.0
2 <u>JONATHAN BACCAY</u>	2.5
3 <u>DANIEL HAYON</u>	2.5
Championship	
1 <u>TYLER KIM</u>	3.5
2 <u>NICHOLAS ALEX VUCELIC</u>	3.5
3 <u>LEON LAI</u>	3.5
Reserve	
1 <u>JONATHAN ZHANG</u>	3.5
2 <u>ELENA MORGAN</u>	3.5
Primary	
1 <u>HUDSON BEAUDOIN</u>	4.0
2 <u>THOMAS JOHNSON</u>	3.5
3 <u>ATTICUS YOUNG-CHANG LEE</u>	3.5
4 <u>NKOMO B SMITH</u>	3.5
Booster	
1 <u>BENJAMIN MANKOWITZ</u>	4.0

Hunter-December 6, 2009 125 Players

Future Masters	
1 <u>LIAM GLASS</u>	2.5
2 <u>BENJAMIN J ALTMAN-DESOLE</u>	2.5
3 <u>BRANDON HUANG</u>	2.5
4 <u>MAX AEON CHUNG</u>	2.5
Championship	
1 <u>KAI KRONBERG</u>	4.0
Reserve	
1 <u>DYLAN PARKER NAGEL</u>	4.0
Primary	
1 <u>ETHAN KWOK</u>	4.0
2 <u>JONATHAN ZHANG</u>	4.0
3 <u>ADAM KERN</u>	3.5
Booster	
1 <u>VIKRANT BHATNAGAR</u>	4.0

PS6 November 22, 2009 Thanksgiving Tournament 88 players

K-2 Rated	
1 <u>EITAN GENDER</u>	3.5
2 <u>HUDSON BEAUDOIN</u>	3.5
3-8 Rated	
1 <u>UTTKARSHNI TRIPATHII</u>	4.0
Open 1	
1 <u>NICHOLAS VUCELIC</u>	4.0
Open 2	
1 <u>SOPHIA ZHANG</u>	3.5
Open 3	
1 <u>BEN J ALTMAN-DESOLE</u>	3.0
Open 4	
1 <u>BRANDON NYDICK</u>	2.5
2 <u>SOPHIA R FLANAGAN</u>	2.5

PS116-December 20th, 2009 86 players

K-1	
1 <u>AUGGIE BHAVSAR</u>	4.0
Primary	
1 <u>HUDSON BEAUDOIN</u>	4.0
Reserve	
1 <u>GABRIEL JOSEPH</u>	4.0
Classic	
1 <u>ANDREW CONKEY</u>	4.0
Open	
1 <u>MARCUS MING MIYASAKA</u>	3.5
2 <u>MATTHEW ZAFRA</u>	3.0
3 <u>ISAAC VEYTSMAN</u>	3.0
Championship	
1 <u>RAVEN M STURT</u>	2.5

PS158 Chess Championship XI November 16, 2009 138 Players

Championship	
1 <u>JONATHAN HABERMAN</u>	4.0
Reserve	
1 <u>DIANTE DAVIS</u>	4.0
2 <u>VANESSA CARRASQUILLO</u>	4.0
Primary	
1 <u>ANNA BELOBORODOV</u>	3.5
2 <u>JAMARI LEE</u>	3.5
3 <u>RODDA REIMER JOHN</u>	3.5
Novice	
1 <u>PRESTON SCHOENBERG</u>	4.0
2 <u>IVRI FAITELSON</u>	4.0
Beginner	
1 <u>CHAI KATZ</u>	4.0
2 <u>THEO SHIMINOVICH</u>	4.0

Browning-December 12, 2009 45 Players

Swiss A	
1 <u>BENJAMIN GROSS</u>	4.0
Swiss B	
1 <u>YUVRAJ CHOPRA</u>	4.0
2 <u>JIRAYUT CHANSAKUL</u>	3.5

Browning-January 9, 2010 33 Players

Swiss A	
1 <u>CHRISTOPHER HAACK</u>	3.5
Swiss B	
1 <u>BEN DAVIS</u>	4.0

TRI-STATE CHESS INTRODUCES GRAND PRIX PRIZES:

Huge Certificate Prizes (\$1,350 TOTAL) for Top Tournament Winners

To promote tournament chess in the New York City area, Tri-State Chess will introduce new "Grand Prix" prizes where top 5 finishers in ALL sections of Tri-State Chess tournament receive special "Grand Prix" points. At the end of the season players can turn their Grand Prix points into prizes as if they were cash at Tri-State's concession stands at tournaments or at the Chess Exchange store at 288 3rd Avenue (Between Carroll and President Street) in Park Slope Brooklyn (718) 645-5896.

For every section of each tournament the top five finishers will get the following "Grand Prix" points:

Section Rank (Finish)	Grand Prix Points Awarded/Tournament
1st Place	10
2nd Place	6
3rd Place	4
4th Place	2
5th Place	1

If players are tied in rank they will evenly split the total points for the tied finish.

For example, three players tied for first would split the total points for 1st-3rd place (20) and each would get 6.7 points.

Top 25 Grand Prix point leaders will be listed in each newsletter. Grand Prix Point Standings can always be found online at our website. At the end of the season, the top five players with the most Grand Prix points will be presented with:


GIANT \$\$-CASH-\$\$ certificates to be used at Tri-State stores in the amounts of:

1st \$500 BONUS Certificate
2nd \$350 BONUS Certificate
3rd \$250 BONUS Certificate
4th \$150 BONUS Certificate
5th \$100 BONUS Certificate

PLUS

A special personalized Grand Prix engraved plaque
Plaques and a book prize of the players choice also will be awarded for
6th - 10th place finishers

These awards will be presented at the first 2010-11 tournament

So if you are finishing in the top 5 of your section keep track of those Grand Prix points. They add up quickly and might become serious cash to get you some great chess stuff at the end of the season!! 

Grand Prix Results

As of 1/20/2010

PLACE	NAME(S)	GRAND PRIX POINTS
1st	Haberman, Jonathan	10.00
2nd-7th	Shiminovich, Theo	8.00
	Katz, Chai	8.00
	Schoenberg, Preston	8.00
	Faitelson, Ivri	8.00
	Davis, Diante	8.00
	Carrasquillo, Vanessa	8.00
8th-10th	Beloborodova, Anna	6.67
	John, Rodda	6.67
	Lee, Jamari	6.67
11th-13th	Wang, Ned	4.00
	Abrons, Matthew	4.00
	Bhatnagar, Vikrant	4.00
14th-18th	Krieger, Harrison	1.40
	Henderson, Declan	1.40
	Benenati, Santo	1.40
	Eichmann, Kayla	1.40
	Chen, Quentin	1.40
19th-30th	Cohen, Ezra	1.17
	Agus, Elan Justin	1.17
	Agarwal, Rohan	1.17
	Finkelstein, Jesse	1.17
	Dahi, Daria	1.17
	Kohn, Max	1.17
	Maldonado, Johenny	1.17
	Morales, Kevin	1.17
	Paniagua, Miguel	1.17
	Miller, Alexander	1.17
	Haimowitz, Nathan	1.17
	Williams, Reyd	1.17

TRI-STATE Chess

OUR UPCOMING Tournaments

RODEPH SHOLOM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP III

SUNDAY MARCH 7, 2010

7 West 83rd Street (Central Park
West) New York, NY

PS 9 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP I

SUNDAY APRIL 11, 2010

100 West 84th Street
(between Columbus & Amsterdam)
New York, NY

PS 158 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP XII

SUNDAY MAY 16, 2010

1458 York Ave (E. 77th-78th)
New York, NY

SAR ACADEMY CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP IX

SUNDAY JUNE 6, 2010

655 West 254th Street Riverdale, NY

REGISTRATION & CONTACT INFORMATION:

www.TriStateChess.com

MKurtzman@TriStateChess.com

(718) 645-5896

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