



MetroWest Chess Club

Largest Chess Club in New England

Serving the MetroWest Boston chess community since 1983

December 2005 Newsletter

Highlights

Stanley Crowe Memorial Results

Congratulations to the winners:

Open IM Igor Foygel
 U1750 James Lung
 U1450 David Harrington

MCC Holiday Swiss: 4 Rounds, 4 Sections

This tournament is your last chance to qualify for the 2006 MCC Club and Class Championships.

Tues. in December at 7:30 pm. Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27
 4 sections: Open, U1850, U1600, U1300

*Deck the boards in chessmen Staunton,
 Fa-la-la la-la la-la-la
 Sacrifices, gambits wanton.
 Fa-la-la la-la la-la-la*

Guest Lecturers at Weekly Group Lesson

Our thanks to **Jim Rizzitano** and **Igor Foygel**, who will speak this month. Jim will talk about his new book "How to Beat 1.d4." Igor's topic will be "How to choose and study openings."

*Don we now our variations,
 Fa-la-la la-la la-la-la
 French, Sicilian, all the nations.
 Fa-la-la la-la la-la-la*

Stranger than Fiction, Part 2.

The game before the astonishing ending that might have been, and why it wasn't, by Mark LaRocca, appears in **Kibbitzes**.

*The joys of chess do so amaze us,
 Fa-la-la la-la la-la-la
 Even losing cannot faze us.
 Fa-la-la la-la la-la-la*

Most Recent Member Contributions on the MCC Website

George Duval Parts 3, 4 of chess journey [link](#)
 Mark Kaprielian FAQ - Learning the Game with Limited Time Or Selecting just a few books to improve your play [link](#)

How to Contribute

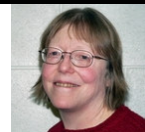
Website Member Contributions:
 email to Games AT MetroWestChess.org.

Kibbitzes (members and non-members):
 Email to News_Staff AT MetroWestChess.org.

From the Editor

Skittles Email Group Is an email chess forum for club members. To sign up, email to info AT MetroWestChess.org and request to join.

Kate Gasser
 Newsletter Editor



Kate Gasser



Fred Harvey

Newsletter Staff

Stranger than Fiction, Openings by Mark LaRocca

What does last month's "Stranger than Fiction" ending have to do with openings? Not much, yet I was struck by the drawing position in the following game by two of the great players of all time.

Kasparov, G – Tal, M 1983 Anti-Meran, Botvinnik variation

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5
4.Nc3 c6 5.Bg5 dxc4 (diagram)**

Black has played the Semi Slav defense and White has countered with the Anti-Meran move 5.Bg5... In his book "The Chess Advantage in Black and White," IM Larry Kaufman recommends that Black counter this with 5... h6, the Moscow variation, avoiding the complexities of 5... dxc, the Botvinnik variation. However, Tal is no tactical slouch and bravely picks up the gauntlet. We'll now see the wisdom of Kaufman's recommendation

6. e4 b5

Black has won a pawn, but he will not only give it back, but gambit one himself -- all book in the well-analyzed Botvinnik attack.

7. e5 h6 8. Bh4 g5 9. Nxc5 hxg5 10. Bxg5 Nbd7 (diagram)

Wow, Black is up a piece that he cannot hold. After White regains his piece; it is he who will be up a pawn.

11. g3 Bb7 12.Bg2 Qb6 13.exf6 c5 (diagram)

The pieces are even and Black begins advancing on the Queen side.

14.d5 O-O-O 15.O-O b4 16.Na4 Qb5 17.a3 Nb8 18.axb4 cxb4 19.Be3 Bxd5 20.Bxd5 Rxd5 21. Qe2 Nc6 22. Rfc1 Ne5 23. b3 c3 24. Nxc3 (diagram)

Black has regained his pawn and if he can endure the attack and simplify, his Queen-side pawns will prove tough to handle in the ending. White sacrifices a piece for an attack. But what choice was there? Those advanced pawns were just too cramping. Fritz now rates the position as better for Black =+ (-0.44).

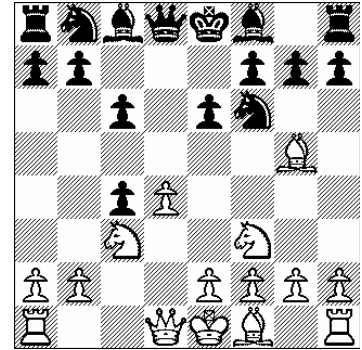
24... bxc3 25. Rxc3+ Kb8 26. Qc2 Bd6 27. Bxa7+ Kb7 28. b4 Nc6 29. Be3 Be5 30. Rxc6...(diagram).

After this exchange sacrifice, White is down a whole Rook

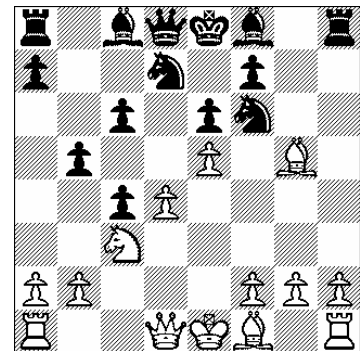
30... Bxa1 31.Rc7+ Kb8 32.Ba7+ Ka8 33.Be3 Kb8

Black offers to draw by repetition.

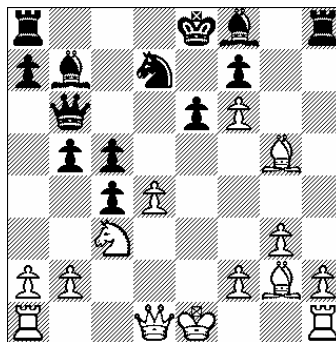
*After 5. ...dxc4
Botvinnik variation*



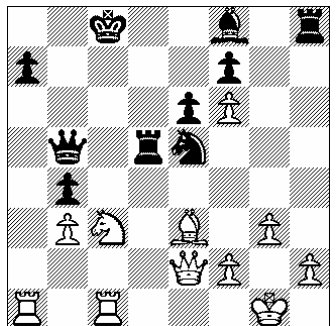
After 10... Nbd7



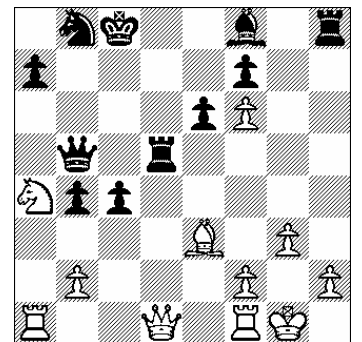
After 13... c5



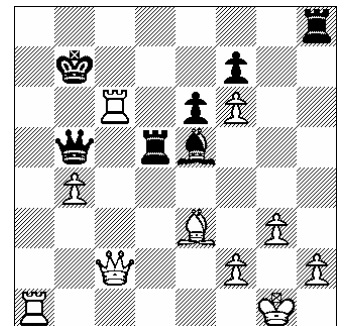
After 24.Nxc3...



After 20... Rxd5



After 30.Rxc6...



34.Ba7+ Ka8 35.Bc5... (White refuses the draw)
 35... Kb8 36.Rxf7 Be5 37.Ba7+ Ka8
 38.Be3 Rd7 39.Qa2+ Kb8 40.Ba7+ Kc8 41.Qxe6...

White has now captured all Black's pawns... and for only a Rook!! The game now ends with a quick perpetual.

41... Qd5 42.Qa6+ Qb7 43.Qc4+ Qc7 1/2-1/2

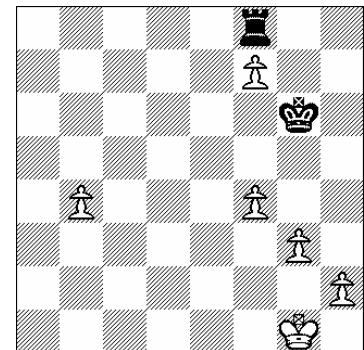
Fantasy Variation begins...

In analyzing the game with Fritz, I came across the following fantasy variation starting after 42.Qa6+... Fritz now rates the position as better for Black by about half a pawn, =+ (-0.53), after 42... Kd8
 Well, call me crazy, but I began following the fantasy variation.

43.Bb6+ Ke8 44.Rxd7 Kxd7 45.Qa7+ Ke6 46.Qe7+ Kf5 47.f7 Bg7
 48.Qc5... (trading Queens when down a Rook?)
 48... Qxc5 49.Bxc5 Kg6
 50.f4 Bf8 51.Bxf8 Rxf8 (diagram)

White has King and five pawns against King and Rook; of course, only three pawns can survive. Please humor me as I follow this fantasy even further.

**After fantasy variation
 51... Rxf8**



52.Kg2 Rxf7 53.h4 Rb1 54.g4 Rxb4 (diagram)

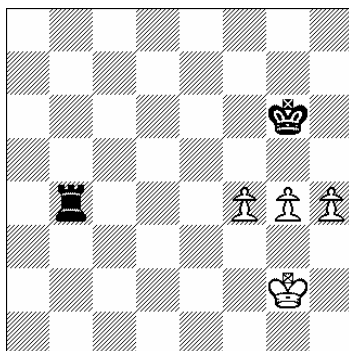
With our new endgame knowledge (see last month's article), we know the drawn position White should try to achieve. Can Black prevent it? I found that he can't. White plays

55. h5+ Kf6 56.Kf3 Rb6+ 57.Kf2 Ke6 58.h6 Rh3 59.g5 Kg2 60.Rb6 Kf7 61.Rb1... (diagram)

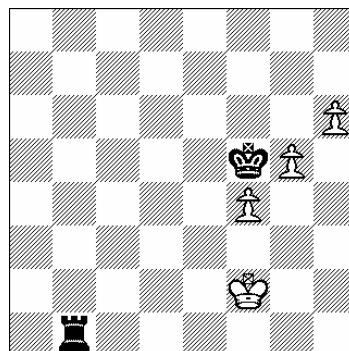
Obviously, Kasparov saw this when he played 42.Qa6+... and Tal also figured why waste the time when he played 42... Qb7. (instead of 42... Kd8) And so, they both accepted the inevitable draw and settled for perpetual check. These Super GMs are so smart. ☺

By the way, what should White play here after 61... Rb1 to draw? (See last month's article.)

**After fantasy variation
 54... Rxb4**



**After fantasy variation
 61... Rb1**



**Contributions to Kibitzes
 Letters to Editor**

Email to News_Staff AT MetroWestChess.org.
 Email to News_Staff AT MetroWestChess.org.

Deadline for next newsletter: Dec. 26

COMMUNITY :: Club and Partner Calendar

<p>Tuesday, December 6 7:30 pm</p>	<p>Round 1 – MCC Holiday Swiss Weekly group lesson at 6:30– John Chamberlain on basic tactics.</p>
<p>Thursdays in December 7:30 pm</p>	<p>GWCC December's Noteworthy Open-- 5SS December 1,8,15,22,29 For information, click here</p>
<p>Sunday, December 4</p>	<p>NorthEast Chess ONE-DAY G/5, G/55, G/90 Radisson Hotel, Marlboro More info.</p>
<p>Tuesday, December 13 7:30 pm</p>	<p>Round 2 – MCC Holiday Swiss Weekly group lesson at 6:30– Jim Rizzitano on how to beat 1. d4 (see below) BooksFromEurope Proprietor Emanuel Rasin</p>
<p>Tuesday, December 20 7:30 pm</p>	<p>Round 3 – MCC Holiday Swiss Weekly group lesson at 6:30 – Igor Foygel on how to choose and study an opening.</p>
<p>Tuesday, December 27 7:30 pm</p>	<p>Round 4 – MCC Holiday Swiss Weekly group lesson at 6:30– John Chamberlain on basic tactics..</p>

[How to Beat 1 d4](#)

Rizzitano, author of [Understanding Your Chess](#), presents a full repertoire for Black against 1 d4, based on the Queen's Gambit Accepted (QGA). The QGA is an extremely popular opening amongst players of all levels, as it gives Black free development and counterpunching potential, especially if White takes up the challenge and tries to set up a broad pawn centre. The QGA's soundness is shown by the number of top-class grandmasters who have used it in critical games - it was a key factor in Short's victory over Karpov, and has even been used by Garry Kasparov at world-championship level. Rizzitano has chosen to recommend dependable main lines of the QGA, and throughout emphasizes how Black can create winning chances and White's typical ways to go wrong. The repertoire is completed by a set of weapons against White's alternatives to offering the Queen's Gambit, ranging from the stolid Colle to the weird Hodgson Attack and the reckless Blackmar-Diemer.

James Rizzitano is a strong international master who dominated chess in the New England region during a 14-year period from 1976 to 1989 - he won 157 out of 336 events in which he competed. His career highlights include victories over Alburt, Benjamin, Benko, Christiansen, Dlugy, I.Gurevich and Wolff, and exciting draws with de Firmian, Larsen, Speelman, and the legendary former world champion Tal. Rizzitano has recently made a return to competitive chess.

Here is a link to a review of "How to Beat 1 d4" by international master John Donaldson:http://www.jeremysilman.com/book_reviews_jd/jd_how_to_beat_1d4.html

COMMUNITY :: Club and Partner Activities and Info

CLUB

Board of Directors

To learn more about our governance, visit http://www.metrowestchess.org/Community/Club/Governance/Top_Governance.htm

Contact Mark (Kappy) Kaprielian, President
[MKaprielian AT MetroWestChess.org](mailto:MKaprielian@MetroWestChess.org)



PARTNER

NorthEast Chess

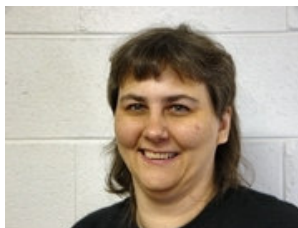
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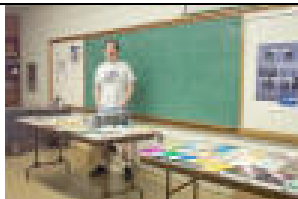
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- Proprietor Emanuel Rasin
- www.BooksFromEurope.com



COMPETE :: MCC Holiday Swiss

NEXT TOURNAMENT!

When	Tuesdays at 7:30 pm December 6, 13, 20, 27		Prizes
Format	4-SS, 40/90, SD/30	Open	\$150-100-50
Sections	Open, U1850, U1600, U1300	U1850	\$90-60-30
Prize Fund	\$ 670 Guaranteed	U1600	\$60-40-20
Entry Fees	Masters Free MCC Members \$15 Others \$20	U1300	\$40-20-10
			Championship Points
		Open	64-32-16
		U1850	24-12
		U1600	8
			50% bonus for perfect score

COMPETE :: Monthly and Championship Tournaments

Section results below – Print them and show your friends 😊



Jim Krycka
Monthly Tournaments Director



**NOVEMBER 2005
TOURNAMENT
RESULTS**

OPEN SECTION

1st Place 5.0 / 5 points



IM Igor Foygel

2nd Place Tie 4.0 / 5 points



FM John Curdo



Derek Slater

Upsets over 200 points



Ames Abbot



Neil Cousin



**NOVEMBER 2005
TOURNAMENT
RESULTS**

U1750 SECTION

1st Place 4.5 / 5 points



James Lung

2nd Place Tie 4.0 / 5 points



Severine Wamala



Mark Kaprielian

No picture on file

William Stein



Stephen Schnair

Upsets over 200 points



Tim Bromley (2)



Stephen Schnair



Ken Ballou



James Lung



Timothy Lung



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Largest Chess Club in New England

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NOVEMBER 2005 TOURNAMENT RESULTS

U1450 SECTION

1st Place 5.0 / 5 points



David Harrington

2nd Place 4.0 / 5 points



Stasik Popov

3rd Place Tie 3.5 / 5 points

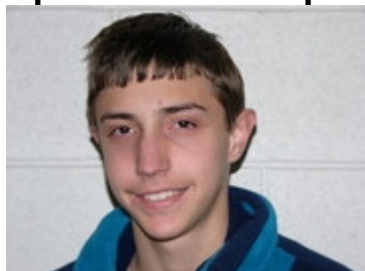


James Rafferty



Fred Harvey

Upsets over 200 points



Travis Nilsson (3)



Franklin Li

COMPETE:: Club and Class Championship Qualification As of End of November 2005

Only one tournament remains in the qualification cycle for the 2006 Club and Class Championships. Last month's tournament did not change the standings for the top 6 spots for either the Club or Class Championship although new players have taken over 10th place in each of the races. The 2006 MCC Championships will be held in May 2006 as separate 5-RR events. The December tournament is your last opportunity to qualify. The current standings (in tie break order) are as follows:

Club Championship Qualifying Points

1.	IM Igor Foygel	595
2.	FM John Curdo	353
3.	John Chamberlain	142
4.	David Harris	126
5.	Ilya Krasik	100
6.	Jacob Wamala	74
7.	Neil Cousin	60
8.	Severine Wamala	57
9.	Nick Konovalchuk	50
10.	Mark La Rocca	45

Class Championship Qualifying Points

1.	Neil Cousin	60
2.	Severine Wamala	57
3.	Nick Konovalchuk	50
4.	Calvin Hori	42
5.	Matthew Phelps	42
6.	William Michael	40
7.	Larry Eldridge	36
8.	Tarmo Saar	35
9.	Robert Harvey	34
10.	James Lung	30

IM James Rizzitano (66) and NM Charles Riordan (48) are disqualified because they will have played in less than 4 tournaments during the year.