



2007 Australian Junior Chess Championship Canberra Bulletin, Friday 26 January



Thank you...

to each and every sponsor who supported us and made it all possible!

to the Hotel Heritage for looking after us so well!

to all our players for participating with such great skill and exemplary sportsmanship ...

to Rebekah Gupte for being there even when she really needed to be elsewhere, entering games and bullying me!

to Tor Lattimore for his great work on the website, looking after the DGT Boards, entering games and many, many long hours!

to Mirabelle Guo for always seeing the job that needed doing and doing it!

to Jenni Oliver and Shun Ikeda for taking the results every day and more other bits & pieces than I can possibly remember!

to Shaun Press for a truck, some DGT expertise and a willingness to help out without needing to be asked

to Matthew Dunstone for printing the Bulletins every day!

to Jim Flood for organising the equipment.

to Wendy, Wan, Christine, Lu Yi, Mona & others who sold the t-shirts, chocolates and drink bottles each day!

to our arbiters - Charles, Roland, Simon, Scott & Shaun - long hours & low wages for these fine gentlemen who always performed their role above and beyond the call of duty ...

to all our special guests - MLA Bill Stefaniak, Senator Gary Humphries and Member for Fraser, Bob McMullan - for their support of chess!

to Jennie Nicholson - pizza collector and helper extraordinaire!

to John Spooner for managing the entry of games into the database with record efficiency!

to Agus Setiabudi, Charles Bishop and David Gruen for the muscles, their time and support.

to those attending the event who also said "thank you" and brightened the day of our volunteers!

to the problem-solving community for creating & contributing to a fantastic new event for the Championship!

to Michael Smith - for doing everything!

to Jenny Wilkinson for taking your entries, looking after the finances and running countless errands!

to all those organising & managing teams here.

and to anyone I forgot - it was unintentional and we are so grateful to have had your support! Libby

Congratulations Emma Guo! Still eligible to compete in the Under 12 section of the event Emma - with one round to play - holds an unassailable lead in the Girls' Under 18 and is the **2007 Australian Girls' Champion!**



Photo: Cathy Rogers

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The finish line is in sight...

Yes, we are very close to the end now – lots of tired children, but it's OK, you only have one game to go! Much excitement occurred in Round 10, especially in the Under 12 Girls and on the live DGT Board 1 in the Under 18 Open – but more on that later... This particular arbiter was impressed with the player on Board 25 in the Under 12 Open, Alex Gruen, who correctly claimed a draw by repetition of position – his opponent Dominic Canale made us prove it, but Alex was right and got his draw! Those readings from the Book of FIDE seemed to be having some positive effects after all; Roland will be pleased... We are all pleased also for Emma Guo, who has wrapped up the Under 18 Girls title with a round to spare after the results went her way in Round 10. Well done Emma, but there is still some doubt about the other titles; we may still have some last round excitement to look forward to...

The top four boards in the Under 12 Girls are all to be praised for their intensely competitive struggles in Round 10; taking ages, they all played themselves into zwozder... In a high standard game against Megan Setiabudi, Leteisha Simmonds kept the result in doubt for many moves; but eventually Megan won pawns and their ending to virtually wrap up the Under 12 Girls title. On 8.5/10, she is still a point clear of Abbie Kanagarajah; Abbie also had to fight, but won material in the end to reach 7.5/10. Mirakla Mithran gradually outplayed Caroline Shan, winning pawns and a piece; this upset win got her to outright fourth on 6.5/10. But she was still behind Clarise Koh, who won a thriller against Alannah Byrne: both kings were exposed early, but queens came off, passed pawns flew on both sides of the

board, Clarise missed mate in two but finally won Alannah's newly born queen to force an exciting victory.

As stated above, Emma Guo is the new Under 18 Girls Champion, after defeating Savannah McGuirk convincingly by winning a piece and finishing with a nice double checkmate. She was helped by Sally Yu, who was unable to make any progress against Sophie Eustace; a drawn bishop ending was the result. This enabled Molly McGarity to catch Sally in second place on 7.5/10 by beating Kayleigh Smith, who allowed several decisive tactics. But it was Jessica Kinder who may well have been in junters after her loss to Deborah Ng, who ended up forcing a won rook ending a pawn ahead. Poor Jess was thus joined in equal fourth place on 7/10 by Alana Chibnall, who continued her excellent tournament (performing well above her rating) by winning piece and game against Tamzin Oliver for another upset win.

An early piece blunder left a pixilated Oscar Wang with little or no chance in the crucial top board game from the Under 12 Open; Gene Nakauchi eventually won another piece to gain the outright lead on 8.5/10. Yi Yuan remains just half a point behind him after also winning piece and game convincingly against Ryan Sam. But neither of them are safe yet, as James Li beat Taiyang Zhang to join Oscar on 7.5/10; James won a pawn early, then a piece to a back rank mate trick. Alex Stahnke is Gene's last opponent after his Round 10 victory over Vincent Horton; Alex sacrificed a piece for an attack on the enemy king which proved to be decisive. Alex was one of five players on 7/10 going into the last round; the others were Laurence

Matheson, Joshua Lau, Angus Gruen and Satthya Chitturi.

There seemed to be clear favourites on all the top four boards in the Under 18 Open, but one can never be sure of these things; and William Xu certainly had other ideas as he made the top board game against Michael Wei a super-exciting one! After being even for much of the game, Michael took a huge risk with a daedalian rook sacrifice for three connected passed pawns; and this proved to be a prudent move after he handled the resulting position better than William, who missed

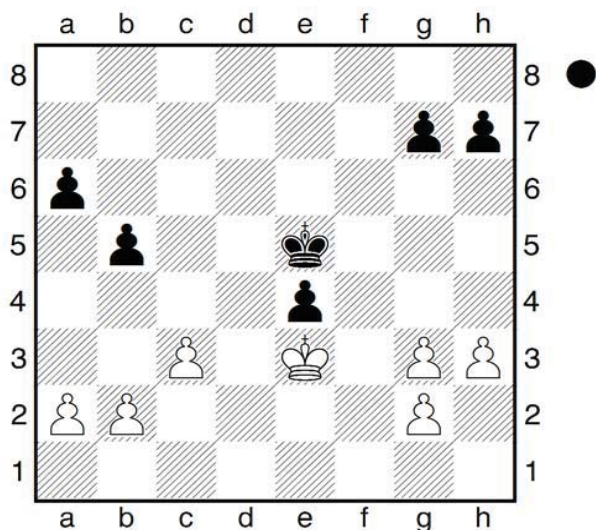


By Charles Zworestine

chances and ended up losing the last game to finish. So Michael carried a full point lead on 9/10 into the last round, from Junta Ikeda, Chris Wallis and Zhigen Lin who all won. Junta made an early extra pawn count against Miles Haselgrove; Chris slowly positionally outplayed Fedja Zulfic; and Zhigen was perhaps a bit lucky to win an ending an exchange for two pawns ahead that was not played optimally by Michael Gearing. Ben Lazarus got a passed pawn through to beat Thomas Donaldson; while school mates James Morris and Eugene Schon ended up drawing their grudge match on Board 6.

**[(2) Li,James - Wang,Oscar B30
Australian Juniors - U12 Open Brisbane (9.2), 24.01.2007**

In this game we look at a pawn ending where Black won in spite of his position being lost or at least difficult due to White failing to spot the correct plan (though admittedly the position should still only have been drawn). **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.Bb5 Nge7 5.0-0 a6 6.Bxc6 Nxc6 7.d4 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qc7 9.Be3 Bd6 10.h3 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 0-0 12.Qg4 Be5 13.Bxe5 Qxe5 14.Rad1 Qc7 15.Rfe1 b5 16.e5 Bb7 17.Qd4 Rad8 18.Rd2 f6 19.exf6 Rxf6 20.Ne4 Bxe4 21.Rxe4 d5 22.Rg4 e5 23.Qd3 Rdd6 24.Qb3 Qf7 25.Rg5 Qe6 26.Qg3 Rg6 27.Rxe5 Rvg3 28.Rxe6 Rxe6 29.fxg3 Rd6 30.Kf2 Kf7 31.Ke3 Ke6 32.Kd4 Rc6 33.c3 Rc4+ 34.Kd3 Ke5 35.Re2+ Re4 36.Rxe4+ dxe4+ 37.Ke3**



Is White's extra pawn worth anything? The 3v2 on the K-side cannot generate a passed pawn. White can make a way forward for his King by generating and sacrificing a passed c-pawn, but he needs to do that in a position where he can take the Black pawns.

37...g5 37...Kd5 38.Kf4 (38.b3 a5 39.c4+ bxc4 40.bxc4+ Kxc4 41.Kxe4 a4 clearly isn't working yet.) allows the surprising **38...b4** and if **39.cxb4** (39.Ke3 bxc3 40.bxc3 Kc4 wins for Black; 39.c4+ Kd4 40.c5 e3 41.Kf3 Kd3 42.c6 e2 43.c7 e1Q 44.c8Q may just hold though Black gets first use of the Queen.) **39...Kd4** and the e- pawn is unstoppable.

However in response to...Kd5 White can play **g4** and aim to get a position something like the game.

...g5 though is an error. We saw above that **b3, c4+** doesn't work because the Black King finishes closer to the White a-pawn than it's opposite number to the Black pawns. I believe Black should try to avoid touching his King-side pawns as they are in the best possible position already. White would then have to find a way to force their advance by pushing his own, for instance.; **37...Kd5 38.g4 Ke5 39.g5 Kd5 40.b3 a5 41.h4 a4 42.h5 g6 43.h6 axb3 44.axb3 Ke5 45.c4 bxc4**

46.bxc4 Kf5 47.c5 Ke5 48.c6 Kd6 49.Kxe4 Kxc6 50.Ke5 Kd7 51.Kf6 Lines like this suggest that the position is won for White, or very difficult for Black.

37...a5 38.g4 g5 39.b3 Kd5 40.c4+ bxc4 41.bxc4+ Kxc4 42.Kxe4 Kb4 43.Kf5 Ka3 44.Kxg5 is like some lines we will see later.

38.g4 Now however White is closer to the Black pawns and can play **38.b3 Kd5 39.c4+ bxc4 40.bxc4+ Kxc4 41.Kxe4 a5 42.Kf5 Kb4** (42...h6 43.Kg6 Kb4 44.Kxh6 Ka3 45.Kxg5 Kxa2 46.h4 a4 47.h5 a3 48.h6 Kb1 49.h7 a2 50.h8Q is worse.) **43.Kxg5 Ka3 44.Kh6 Kxa2 45.Kxh7 a4 46.g4 a3 47.g5 Kb2 48.g6 a2 49.g7 a1Q 50.g8Q** and while there will be many checks to survive White should win.

38...h6 With the enhancement of White's position (or deterioration of Black's) it is no longer feasible to play. **38...Kd5 39.b3 h6 40.c4+ bxc4 41.bxc4+ Kxc4 42.Kxe4 Kb4 43.Kf5** is just the note in parentheses above, with a5 and h6 in the opposite order.

39.b3 Kd5 40.a3 This is a serious error. White could still transpose to the earlier variations with **40.c4+** and, even worse, those variations will never work again because Black's King is now closer to the a-pawn.

40...a5 Black understands that he was in trouble in the earlier lines due to his a-pawn being too far back.

41.g3 Now the advance doesn't work because Black's King is closer to the White a-pawn and Black's pawn is further advanced, so White would lose the pawn race. Amusingly it still draws, if White abandons attempting to win. **41.c4+ bxc4 42.bxc4+ Kxc4 43.Kxe4 Kb3** (43...a4 44.g3 Kb3 45.Kd4 Kxa3 46.Kc3 comes to the same thing.) **44.Kd4 Kxa3 45.Kc3 Ka2 46.Kc2 Ka3 47.Kc3 a4 48.g3 Ka2 49.Kc2 Ka1 50.Kc1**

41...a4 42.bxa4 bxa4 43.h4 43.c4+ draws by the mechanism shown above.

43...Kc4 44.hxg5 or 44.Kxe4 Kxc3 45.Kf5 Kb3 46.Kg6 Kxa3 47.Kxh6 gxh4 48.gxh4 Kb4 49.g5 a3 50.g6 a2 51.g7 a1Q 52.g8Q which may give slight better winning chances because the White Queen is better placed than in the game.

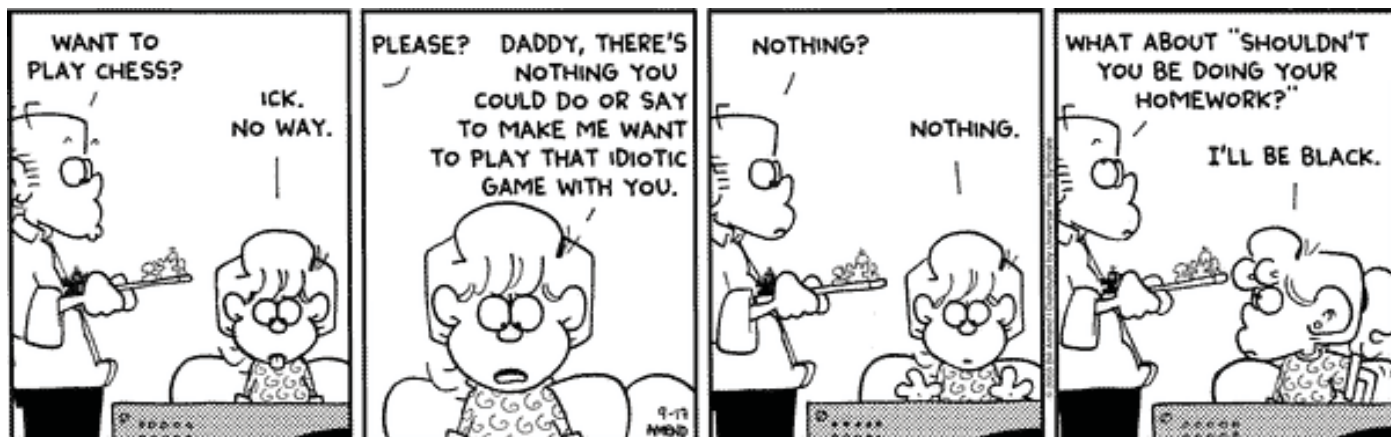
44...hxg5 45.Kxe4 Kb3 Pointless but harmless, both sides lose a move.

46.c4 Kxc4 47.Kf5 Kb3 48.Kxg5 Kxa3 49.Kf5 Kb4 50.g5 a3 51.g6 a2 52.g7 a1Q 53.g8Q Qf1+ 54.Ke6 It looks like a perpetual check from here due to the poor placement of the White Queen, e.g. **54.Kg5 Qc1+ 55.Kh5 Qh1+ 56.Kg6 Qb1+ 57.Kf6 Qa1+ 58.Ke7 Qa7+** etc. But there is only one losing move in the position.

54...Qc4+ 55.Kf5 Qxg8 and of course Black won. **0-1**

Annotated by Ian Rout

Fox trot by Bill Amend



Australian Juniors 2007 - WON!



This organisation is assisted by the ACT Government through the Australian Capital Tourism Events Assistance Program



2006-07 Home Game Schedule

Sun 24 September 06	Kings v Brisbane Bullets	5:00pm
Fri 29 September 06	Kings v South Dragons	8:00pm Canberra
Sat 21 October 06	Kings v West Sydney Razorbacks	7:40pm
Fri 3 November 06	Kings v Townsville Crocodiles	7:40pm
Sat 18 November 06	Kings v South Dragons	7:40pm
Thurs 23 November 06	Kings v Perth Wildcats	8:00pm Canberra
Sun 3 December 06	Kings v Cairns Taipans	5:00pm
Fri 8 December 06	Kings v Adelaide 36ers	7:40pm
Fri 15 December 06	Kings v Melbourne Tigers	8:00pm Canberra
Wed 27 December 06	Kings v Cairns Taipans	7:40pm
Mon 1 January 07	Kings v New Zealand Breakers	5:00pm
Sat 6 January 07	Kings v Wollongong Hawks	7:40pm
Sat 20 January 07	Kings v Adelaide 36ers	7:40pm
Sun 23 January 07	Kings v Melbourne Tigers	8:00pm
Sat 3 February 07	Kings v Wollongong Hawks	7:40pm Canberra
Sun 11 February 07	Kings v Singapore	8:00pm



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Photographer: Charles Zworestine
 (yes - it's his fault!)