

# THE CHESS REPORTS

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2010



C.J.S. Purdy

## 2010: THE YEAR OF C.J.S. PURDY

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*Where are the Tactics?*

*Have you read the chess museum blog site?*

*Two books you may not know much about.*

*Andrew Martin at Hastings*

*Brilliant Bronstein chess*



# EDITOR'S THOUGHTS

## RECHARGE

The time away from *The Chess Reports* was good for me and I hope for you.

The main reason is not just that I released a notice to that effect (Issue #91, page 1326), but I had other things needing caught up and a chance to get away from the routine.

During that time you can see there have been some changes to this format and style.

I have also put up a BLOG again after letting it lapse a year ago (or more in terms of frequency). If you would like to check in, it's at: <http://thechessmuseum.blogspot.com>

Leave comments if you wish. If you have trouble using it, contact me. A couple people have, but, others haven't. I don't control it, I think it is a Google tool. Also am putting together material for the next Chess EXTRAS.

I will be working on Andrew Tocher's book this month so if you have a book project for me, I won't be able to start on it until February.

There is a mini-campaign to offer coffee mugs or cups (hot drinks anyway) along with my request for those to renew their Gold Card. See the last couple pages. Already about 30% have re-upped. But one thing I want to make clear: the Gold Card isn't just about saving money on books or DVDs that others also sell, it is about saving money on

things I do that no one else does. (See the ad.)

A good business maintains a relationship with its customers—I attempt to do that. When I get emails from customers like those who read *The Chess Reports*, I almost always read them first!

I am hoping that soon I can discuss the topic of a trainer versus books because this morning I got an email from a non-subscriber, who has it all mixed up. While he says contradictory things in his email, I think i know what he means. The problem? The guy is dense as concrete. He mentions the same things to me over and over as if I didn't hear him and reject him the first time. He's just trying to justify his own bad decision. I wonder if his trainer is bald?!

Plan are afoot (?) for a Fall Chess Clinic. Details as I know them.

Don't forget to write—keep those cards and letters coming in.

~Bob

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**Price for the 2010 GC (gold card) is \$50.00. You can save on almost everything.**

**Already several customers have bought the 2010 Gold Card which is good for the rest of 2010. This is better than a Barnes & Noble card which only saves you 10%. The G&L Gold Card will save you 25% on books, on average, and 15% on DVDs! Plus, I send out Special Sales only to those who have the Gold Card. Only from G&L and Thinkers'.**

## THE QUOTE OF THE ISSUE

### The quotes of TCR 97 come from "Secrets of Attacking Chess" by Mihail Marin:

It is not always possible for White to maintain his initial advantage in development after the opening. More often than not in games between experienced players, both sides complete their development around the same moment... Can this kind of play result in anything concrete? From a logical point of view it shouldn't.

White needs an additional element if he is to get ahead of his opponent in carrying out his plans. One of the most reliable methods is to open a new front after creating tension in the initial thater of action... (Now see Beliavsky-Bareev 1987.)

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## G&L CHESS SETS UP BLOG at Blogspot.com

Below is a sample of the Wednesday blog, Jan. 6, 2010. Pictures, past blogs (the last week), and comments may be found at: <http://thechessmuseum.blogspot.com>

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2010

### GETTING SET UP AND RUNNING

One person told me they couldn't comment on my Blog. Anyone else having trouble with this? (contact me at bob@thinkerspressinc.com) Do you have to be a member of Blogspot to comment? Seems I saw that somewhere. Or maybe be a member of my BLOG? I know in the past there's has been an occasional problem with "whackos" leaving really insane comments. (Look at the Washington Post comments sometimes. It is proof there are zombies among us. George R. take note.)

Two reviews of new books made the pages of *The Chess Reports* today for the Friday edition. Henry Miskaryan's *Armenian Chess in the XXI Century* and IM Igor Khmel'nitsky's *You vs. Bobby Fischer* in his Chess Exam series.

Tony Boron gave me a tip on a control to "time" when I want to release the Blog. Thanks Tony, I found it (probably the only triangle flippy I hadn't looked at!).

It was nice to hear from Jerry Nash who was a USCF scholastic consultant. Jerry is top drawer plus he knows all the workings of dealing with FIDE. He's looking for more consulting work and if you know of something, get in touch with me and I'll pass it on. He's spent a lot of time in the Education field so schools looking for help on that should get with Jerry.

Is *Chess Life* PC (politically correct)? You bet. They fired the columnist online who wrote about "chess problems" because someone raised the issue of some "racial" remark. It was actually a pretty good pun but you have these people who sit around with nothing to do except b&m about stuff. I wonder if I was the editor of content how I would have handled it? Hmmm. I suspect I would have written a letter to the correspondent and told him to "get a life." Then the higher up PC-wimps would have fired me. So I would have to have in my contract, "can't fire me for not being PC unless the firer admits they are a PC-wimp. This month a letter was published about female exploitation using Lev Alburt as the pinup boy (which he has been on a number of his own book covers!). The problem is, *Chess Life* is still perceived as a family chess magazine, whatever that means. Some dude was worried about younger kids seeing that issue, which, they don't get anyway unless perhaps their bigger brothers gets the regular one!

"The Chess Museum?" I had a survey out some months ago and included "The Chess Museum." Basically it would be about novel ideas, comments, and current and future possibilities such as a chess animatronic. I thought I would use it first as the holding place for the new chess blog. I had written from 1997 to Jan. 2009... then it went silent. Like Poltergeist, I am back. Lots of readers it looks like.

# LETTERS

Hi  
Bob,

I was reading your article on *Rybka 3*. I have had the Deep version for over a year now, but not from *Chessbase*, I am a *Chess Assistant* devotee. I did not have any problems when I went to Windows 7. The products and integration by *Chess Assistant* seems to be much superior to what *Chessbase* is pushing out.

I am currently running it on a dual quad core with 8GB of memory and 3TB of disk space and *Deep Rybka* really screams. If I blink, it is up to 18 plies deep when I open my eyes (okay it depends on the position, but for endgames it gets to 18 to 20 plies in about 5 seconds) middle game position it's about 12 plies in 5 seconds or less.

*Chess Assistant* and *Aquarium* (which I don't use much) is preconfigured to use multiple cores if they are available. A peek at the task manager shows all CPU busy during the evals and the task list shows 8 threads (to match the virtual CPU count) running *Rybka*. Actual GUI performance is quite good and most of the time you don't even notice that *Rybka* is running. This not the same response when I only

had a dual core machine, the GUI would sometime freeze due to lack of CPU cycles. It seems that it is easier to get in a word edgewise when you have 8 CPU available.

My preferred mode for analysis in *Chess Assistant* is Multi-move with 2 panels. It sets up two panels, the top panel is the traditional "find the best move" and it lists what was the best move at lesser plies search. The second panel is the multi-move panel which lists the eval for other (non-optimal moves). You can pick how many to show. I usually use 4; so in total it shows its best move in panel 1 and the 2nd through 5th choice in panel 2.

There are other choices available. You can show moves not in the opening tree (looking for novelties) and another that might help beginners. You can show what would happen if you passed and let your opponent move, that is show what he/she is threatening.

Overall I am quite satisfied with *Deep Rybka* (on CA) as well as the *Chess Assistant* product itself on the Windows 7 platform. As far as Windows 7 itself, I am much happier than I was with Vista, even though Windows 7 simply uses the Vista kernel with a much better GUI. Way fewer stupid questions appear. They don't try as hard to hide the in-

ternals as was with Vista by offering access to the traditional control panel (similar to XP), however it still has poor file transfer performance due to its virus avoidance code which is in common with Vista.

BTW, on move 10, it picked Qd2 (at 14 ply, but its eval was +0.11) in 1:54 in multi-mode, so it seems the evals are not deterministic (since it differs from yours at the same number of plies). I tried to get a non-multi panel run but I have *Rybka* set to save its hash table so it shot up to 15 ply in 8 seconds when I tried a single panel run; I even closed the program and restarted it with the same 8 second response.

All the best,

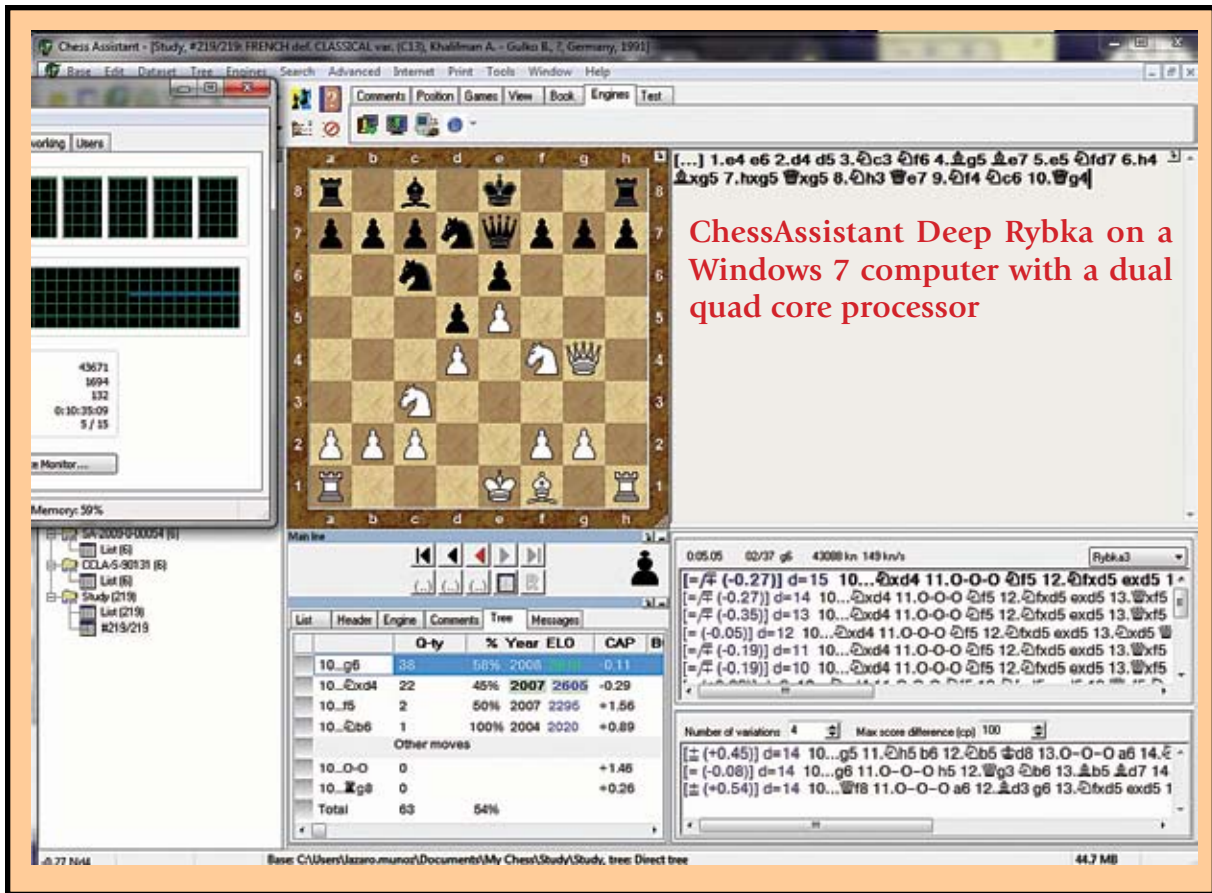
Laz

PS: My machine is actually a customized laptop but is not necessarily custom built, just standard options available on the HP dv7t line.

Vista was a real CPU and memory hog so I wanted a machine that would not be performing like a jackass riding up the side of the Grand Canyon.

I dropped a little extra to get the 8GB (standard was 4GB) and hard disk space is real cheap these days. I still have my old Vista machine, I retired it to Windows Media Center ops to record over the air TV.

Interesting thing is that boot is real fast especially with a ReadyBoost drive, unlike the old Vista with the same Ready-



ChessAssistant Deep Rybka on a Windows 7 computer with a dual quad core processor

Boost, and yes I do have quite a bit of crap in the startup, but it flies by (having 8 cpus gets through it fast). I am using a SD card rated at 6 (if you do a lot of photography, you know what that means, very high transfer/write rate).

I forgot to attach a screenshot last time. (See above.)

#### FELLOWSHIP

Wishing you, Bob, a serene Christmas and a very successful and prosperous New Year. Thank you for the great opportunities you've provided me to improve at chess and to re-experience some good fellowship among many other players.

Greg D. (WI)

#### Tech Talk:

When you were younger and didn't know anything about chess notation of the style of the ECO-type books, it all looked like "Greek." It was that way when I tackled descriptive notation in a book on Morphy. I looked at the diagrams, experimented with some moves, and got it. It was an elative feeling.

It's the same thing with all the technical word Laz uses. If you have a computer and you start emersing yourself in specs and jargon by reading online or in trade pubs, you eventually pick up enough info to be dangerous! (Just kidding Laz.)

Seriously, tinkering with software, your manuals (if you own the stuff) will equip you better to outfit yourself. Originally I am sure ChessBase did this for Kasparov because the comments he made showed me he knew nothing about programming or computers.



## Finding Tactics in a Chess Haystack, Over and Over.

Over the years I have maintained that Club Players miss many tactics in their games, and I am no exception. Maybe I miss fewer but just missing one can make all the difference in going home with a point or not.

The strange thing I have noticed is that it is not uncommon for the lower-rated player (say 1400-1600) to be completely oblivious to common tactics and instead concentrates on things that mean nothing.

### Why Do We Study GMs?

For me it is because they have a high-grade of "perfection." Therefore I can concentrate on the moves without looking at "crazy play." That's the kind of play where a series of moves seem to have no explanation—and sometimes when the player of those moves is questioned the moves are still not understandable.

When I saw this game annotated by Andy Rea for this issue I spent some extra time analyzing its ramifications. It was also a French Defense and like most Semi-open game,

the tactics, in general, are everywhere.

But, the tactics are generally in the notes. Because the opponents are of a higher grade, simpler tactics are less likely to be in the actual moves.

However, it's a good idea to look at "regular" games too because those are the types of games we will face, not grandmaster games.

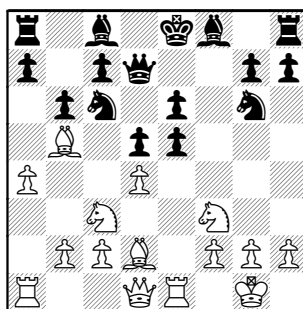
In the following game I have fleshed out the tactics which can show in such a high-level game, in the notes/

### E Geller - T Petrosian

[C16]

Moscow, 1963

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.Nf3 Qd7 6.Bd2 Bf8 7.a4 Nc6 8.Be2 Nge7 9.0-0 f6 10.Re1 fxe5 11.Bb5 Ng6**



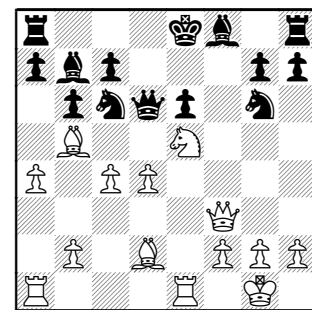
**12.Nxe5**

If you have the black pieces, you can't be sure that White will play the "best" move, i.e., Nxe5. What's interesting is that if White takes the d-pawn, there are a whole lot of "forced" moves—you might prefer that road.

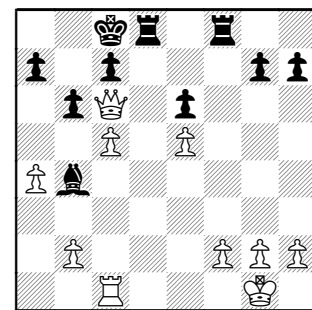
Instead, it could happen that White plays **12.Nxd5 Qxd5 13.Nxe5**.

"The pin Watson, the pin!"

**13...Bb7 14.c4**. Keeping up the forcing pressure. **14...Qd6 (14...Qd8 15.Nxc6) 15.Qf3**.



White seems to be everywhere as far as f7 and c6 are concerned. **15...Ngxe5 16.dxe5 Qd7 (16...Qxd2? 17.Bxc6+ [17.Rad1. This is also okay. 17...Qxe1+ 18.Rxe1 0-0-0 19.Bxc6 Bxc6 20.Qxc6 Bb4 21.Rc1 Rhf8 22.c5!**



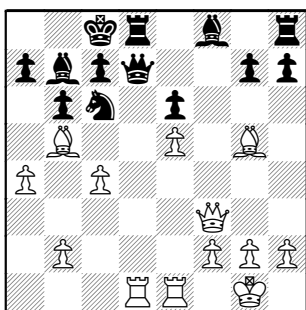
White is threatening cxb6 followed by mate on c7. Black

has a R+B for Q+P, not a favorable situation for Black.

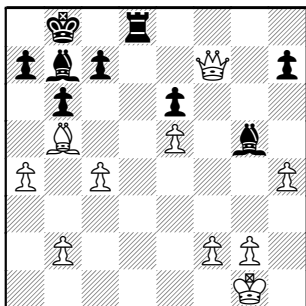
White has the initiative. Some will give up a lot just to keep that initiative—Kasparov was like that. However, it's important to know where this initiative will probably lead because if it slows down, you might discover you have nothing but pain.

22...bxc5 (22...Bxc5 23.b4. A useful tactic. 23...Rd2 24.bxc5 Rfd8 25.Qxe6+ Grab while you can; make your K safe; then, win! Simple isn't it? 25...Kb8 26.h4+--)]

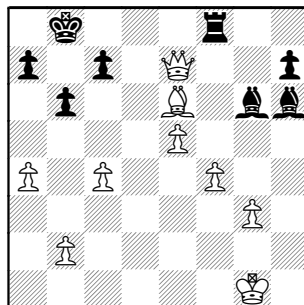
Continuing: 17...Bxc6 18.Qxc6+ Kf7 19.Rad1 Qxe1+ 20.Rxe1+-) 17.Rad1 0-0-0 18.Bg5



A not infrequent tactic. 18... Qxd1 19.Rxd1 Be7 20.Rxd8+ Nxd8 21.Qd1 Bxg5 22.Qd7+ Kb8 23.Qxg7 Nf7 24.Qxf7 Rd8 25.h4.



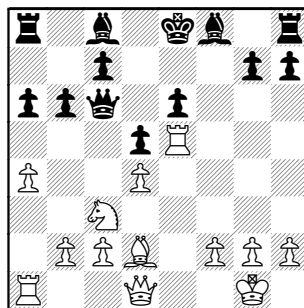
25...Bxh4 26.Bd7 Be4 27.g3 Bg5 28.f4 Bh6 29.Bxe6 Bg6 30.Qe7 Rf8.



Fretting about f5. But, White's reply freezes out the black R completely. 31.Qd7 Be4 32.Bd5! Bxd5 33.cxd5+-

When you "read" a book such as Kotov's *Think Like a Grandmaster* it's hard to "imagine" all the ancillary crap you have to look at to pick candidate moves and then a main move. Personally, I never thought much of his book as a practical piece of instruction. But, people wanted it and I sold it to them.

12...Ngxe5 13.Rxe5 a6 14.Bxc6 Qxc6



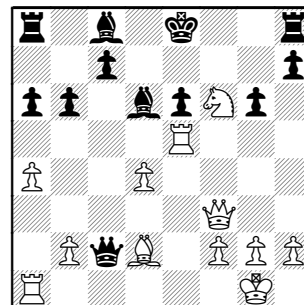
**15.Nxd5**

Another interesting tactic. The squares d4, e4, e5, and d5 often contain these little jewels. If you miss these "little gems" you usually end up hav-

ing to play harder for the rest of the game.

**15...Bd7**

15...Bd6 16.Qh5+ g6 17.Qf3 Qxc2 (17...Bxe5? 18.Nf6+) 18.Nf6+



The check must be dealt with. It buys time.

18...Kd8 19.Bg5 h6 20.Rc1 Qxb2 21.Nd5+! Ke8 22.Qf6+-

16.Bg5 Bd6 17.Qh5+ Kf8 18.Qf3+ Kg8 19.Rxe6 Rf8 20.Ne7+ Bxe7 21.Qxc6 Bxc6 22.Rxe7 Rf7 23.Rae1 Bxa4 24.b3 Bc6 25.R1e6 Bd5 26.Re8+ Rf8 27.R6e7 h6 28.Rxf8+ Kxf8 29.Rxc7 Kg8 30.Bf4 g5 31.Be5 Rh7 32.Rc8+ Kf7 33.c4 Bb7 34.Rd8 Ke6 35.Rd6+ Kf5 36.f3 g4 37.Rf6+ Kg5 38.f4+ Kh5 39.Rxb6 Be4 40.Kf2 Rb7 41.Rxb7 Bxb7 42.d5 1-0

Sometimes it may seem "hard" to find some of these moves during the game, but sometimes it is not. You've got a clock, use it at the critical moments. Now and then you might find a tactic which shortens the game considerably and thus no longer have concerns about the clock.

"Look around,"—Purdy.

Reviews and Commentary : Jan 8

# Self-Styled Publishers

When I published my first chess books, I knew it would be a challenge to get attention from buyers, big chess organizations, and such.

I remember the \$3.95 price tag on my book *The Nimzovich Defense*. When I wanted to raise the price a nickel, Ed Edmondson, the Exec. Director of the USCF, thought I was making a big mistake.

Fast forward 14 years later at the US Open in Boston in 1988 and I had a book for sale authored by Nikolay Minev on the French Defense, to be sold at \$22.95. Al Lawrence, then the Exec. Dir. of the USCF almost went into apoplexy. I got him settled down when I said, "What's it to you? Your job is to sell the book not critique its price." To get the sale to go through I promised him I would take the books back if they didn't sell. Over time I sold the USCF over 500 copies of that book. I did that over and over to the USCF with other books. They then quit reviewing my books!

Anyone who publishes a book, especially a chess book, will face some similar challenges. It helps if you are an IM or GM but I've seen GMs fail at this too.

I recall IM Igor Khmel-nitsky starting out with his

first book. Eventually it got published and did quite well. He did several books since then, also on chess, and has two web sites.

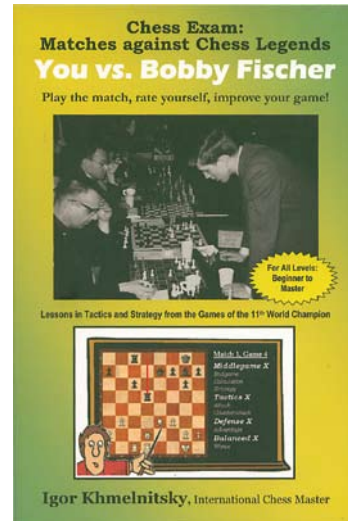
His latest book (obviously he has the bug for publishing) is called *Chess Exam: Matches against Chess Legends, You vs. Bobby Fischer*. The back of the book has it accurately when it poses the question: "Would you like to play a 'virtual match' against the 11th Chess World Champion Robert Fischer?"

If you would like to test your mettle against the best, then Igor has a diagnostic tool he has used in his other books. His web site has to help in this regard by the assistance he must get for his various quizzes.

The book is advertised as for all levels" beginner to master—that includes us.

What I like about the book is desire to make things interesting, not just with tables of percentages, positions and regular fare, but also the inclusion of "Summaries, 'Let's Take a Break' (some historical info about Fischer which is of an intriguing and informative nature), and Quick Observations.

Some "text" books make you find the answers by fig-



uring out what that might be. Others offer "answers" and Igor's book follows in this mold. But that can also be tricky too. Just as one answer looks "highly unlikely," you might want to rethink it.

He recommends spending no more than 20 minutes per game as you take on the "persona" of a Fischer challenger (from a real game). That will be advantageous for those who squawk about having limited time (like me).

It's quirky with me but I like his "idea lightbulb" at the bottom of many pages. E.g., "When studying your openings, focus on typical tactical ideas." Being an actuary, Igor "loves" tables and percentages. These, along with sage IM advice, make this book so readable that I would have no hesitancy in taking it along on vacation with me.

Don't worry, my supplies should be here shortly. The list price is \$21.95. That means G&L: \$18.75, GC: \$16.50.



When I get a new product in the mail to review, a few emotions run through me. Am I instantly attracted to the item? Sometimes. If so, why so, and if not, why not?

As I force myself to get serious about what I am holding, that is, go through it more carefully, I can note little novelties or, on occasion, aggravations. But in general the main question is: does it do what it is supposed to do? I have seen reviews that seem to avoid this question entirely.

The next book up is a mixed bag from Henry Miskaryan.

Henry contacted me a few years back about a project of about 400 positions. This book, **Armenian Chess in the XXI Century**, has 310 but I suspect it is the same book.

He was interested in TPI publishing it. I rarely do that these days because it isn't easy to "guess" what the next "winner" will be. Henry wanted me to pay for it. Henry had a job, publishing is MY job. So what Henry did was to work as a go-between between me and the "true" author. That's how I understood it anyway. There was a helper however, Gaguik Hakobyan.

In Armenian, and here in the USA too, Armenian names usually end in "ian" or "yan." In this book he favors "yan."

He includes Kasparov (Kasparov's mother is Armenian) no doubt to add "credibility" though it needs none, and Kasparov has said many

times that he "Speaks Russian, his culture is Russian, and his education is Russian."

After attempts to have me publish this book, it finally went to Armenia to be published. The photographs, in general, could have been a lot better (were they taken from books or newspapers?). The book could have stood some proofreading ("Fisher") and the diagram font (small though 6 to a page) is pretty rough like it was taken from an old printer.

The interesting thing is that the diagrams are small enough to be able to be seen in one visual grasp—a plus.

The type, for the page size, is too small and the solutions are rather jammed together. This method of presenting the book is done in 115 pages for \$15.

It's a workable book, and good for reference or history, but I have not checked out the diagrams or solutions, it's too overwhelming.

The thrust of the book is to make you aware of Armenian chess culture. It reminds me of small towns in the US which had a basketball team that won the state championship; that's what they are proud of, even if it happened twenty years ago.

But right now Armenia is sitting high with such notable players as Aronian, Petrosian (deceased), Vaganian (who has beaten Kasparov three times!), and Vladimir Hako-

byan (??).

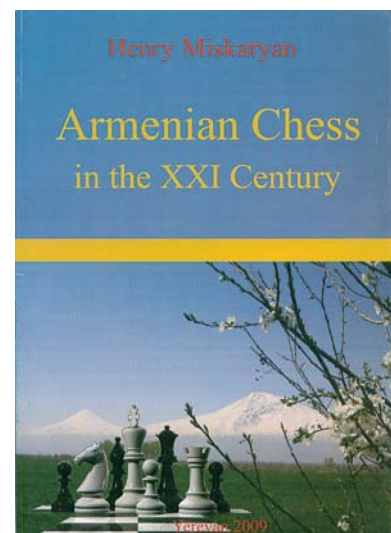
I've spent some time with Henry's work and overall I think he has done a credible job for a first time! I particularly liked the chess history and knowing that Armenia, despite being a country of only 3+ million people, it won the gold medal twice in recent chess olympiads competition.

As I get older I find factoids such as: "Because of its geographic location, Armenia has been in the middle of the merchant's routes from West (Spain, ancient Greece, Roman Empire, Byzantine Empire), South West (Egypt) to East (India, China)" more than a little interesting.

This book discusses Armenian chess from 2000-2008. A nice monograph.

Henry Miskaryan lives in Burbank, CA.

Though this book won't be a staple G&L item, if you want to purchase a copy, just let me know.





# FROM MY VANTAGE!

by  
**Andy Rea**

Colorado Tour Champion  
1998-2004

Before we proceed, I need to extend my apologies to you the reader and to Editor Bob for the mishaps I allowed in #95. That was very nice of Bob to apologize for missing it, but as it was from my column, it is my fault. My name is on the column, the analyses are mine, it is my responsibility to present good material not in need of drastic editing. Thank you Andy Ansel for pointing out the need to be better!!

Now let's look at some more games, with the theme of respecting your opponents plans but not losing sight of your goals. What position do I want to reach, is it really favorable, or at least less bad than alternatives, and how do I get there? Having vision, calculation and judgment work for you can lead to excellent results! We start with a win by Efim Geller against the great Tigran Petrosian!

**Efim Geller – Tigran Petrosian  
Moscow 1963**

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4  
4.e5 b6**

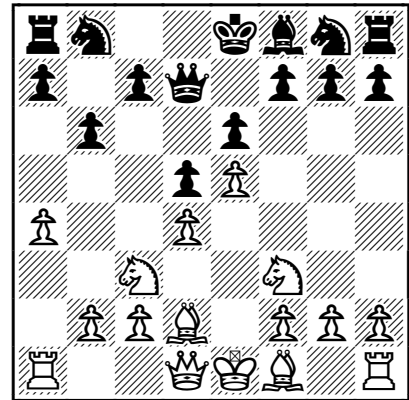
Not a typical French, but not unknown. Black will try to exchange light-square Bishops and gain as much Q-side play as possible while not getting mugged too badly K-side. White is aware of this and chooses a non-standard plan

to give his opponent some concerns about the Q-side after all!

**5.Nf3 Qd7**

With the idea of ...Bc8-a6 to trade off Black's maladrofit QB for White's attacking beast.

**6.Bd2 Bf8 7.a4**



6...Bf8 strikes at least as unusual, but again not unheard of, and Geller is aware of the strength of his opponent! Nevertheless this does not deter him from assessing the position on its merits rather than just conceding that if his illustrious opponent played it, there must be no problem for Black. This would be the other side of not considering our opponents' plans and getting ambushed. Namely, just because your opponent is strong does not mean your judgment and analyses are wrong and theirs are correct. It is fully possible to get it right against a strong opponent, just as it is possible to have it all wrong against someone weaker than you. Play the board first!

As noted, 7.a4 is geared to

## LEGEND CODES

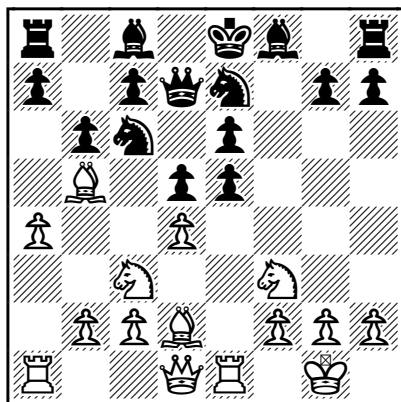
- RR = Editor's note.
- # = Mate.
- ± = Slight advantage to White.
- ∓ = Slight advantage to Black
- N = Novelty.
- = The only move.
- ↑ = Initiative.
- = With attack.
- ↔ = With Counterplay.
- ≤ = Less good is.
- ∞ = Unclear.
- △ = Better is.
- ⊙ = Zugzwang.
- " = Tempo.
- + = White is winning.
- = Black is winning.
- ± = White has the advantage.
- ∓ = Black has the advantage.

not letting Black finish his Q-side development, to include ...0-0-0, without contemplating a potential white Q-side pawn storm. Petrosian decides he can shift to central confrontation, an interesting idea!

**7...Nc6 8.Be2 Nge7 9.0-0 f6**

Black is undeveloped and uncastled, but hitting e5 is very much normal in the French Defense. Has White overlooked this, or is he stellar enough to prove Black wrong!?

**10.Re1 fe 11.Bb5!**



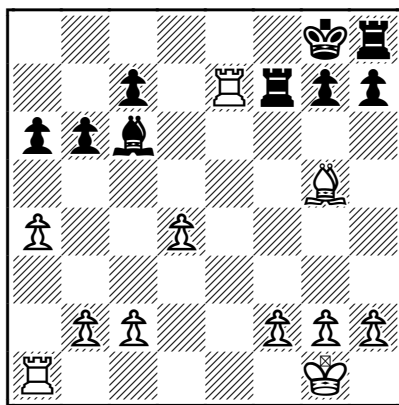
Just as Goldfinger is not interested in merely beating Bond, he wants to kill him, Geller is not interested in gaining a small advantage, even against Petrosian! Petrosian has chosen to slug it out without much development or King safety; is he capable of defending his laggardly position? As we will see, it is astounding how far he gets in nearly escaping defeat! Petrosian is surely not interested in 11...ed 12.Nxd4; 11...e4 12.Ne5 Qd6 leaves

Geller such pleasant choices as 13.Bf4 or 13.Bxc6+, also unattractive.

**11...Ng6 12.Nxe5 Ngxe5  
13.Rxe5 a6 14.Bxc6 Qxc6  
15.Nxd5**

Geller has won the opening, not merely regaining the pawn sacrificed but generating unabated pressure. If Black can activate his Bishop Pair it will be a real contest, but the ideal 15...Bd6 runs into 16.Qh5+. Thus Black is unable to gain significant activity, which of course is not good for his cause.

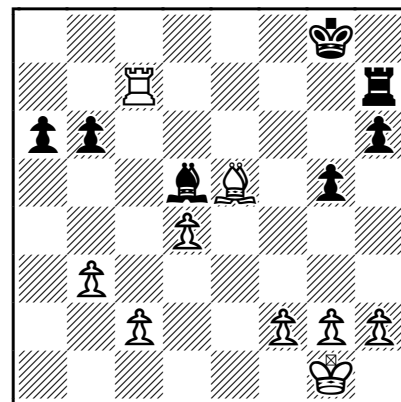
**15...Bd7 16.Bg5 Bd6  
17.Qh5+ Kf8 18.Qf3+ Kg8  
19.Rxe6 Rf8 20.Ne7+ Bxe7  
21.Qxc6 Bxc6 22.Rxe7 Rf7**



For the steep deficit of two pawns, Petrosian has avoided checkmate while having an opposite-color Bishop ending on the menu. However, just as not all R+P endings are drawn, the same holds for opposite-color Bishops. Geller is not going to let himself get talked out of the strongest continuation; his opponent is great but his position is not!

As long as B/c6 does not inflict too much damage, White is not in danger of letting the win slip away.

**23.Rae1 Bxa4 24.b3 Bc6  
25.R1e6 Bd5 26.Re8+ Rf8  
27.R6e7 h6 28.Rxf8+ Kxf8  
29.Rxc7 Kg8 30.Bf4 g5  
31.Be5 Rh7**



White has a choice of winning plans, especially considering the strength of advancing the c-pawn. You do not have to be a GM to understand that as long as you find one surefire winner, all will end well!

**32.Rc8+ Kf7 33.c4 Bb7  
34.Rd8 Ke6 35.Rd6+ Kf5  
36.f3 g4 37.Rf6+ Kg5 38.f4+  
Kh5 39.Rxb6 Be4 40.Kf2  
Rb7 41.Rxb7 Bxb7 42.d5  
1-0**

With King support, the white pawn majority is decisive.

Of course it is difficult to play as well as Grandmasters, and I do not pretend that the next game is an example as good as GM play. However, I try and sometimes the result is as good as a GM gets, scor-

ing a win.

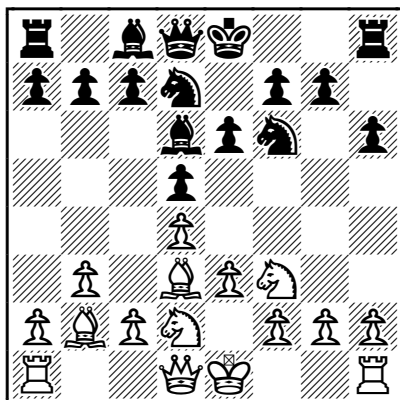
**Jun 1999 S. Colorado Open Rd6. Andy Rea (2097) – Leroy Hill (2096)**

This is from a 2 day weekend tournament. If you think 5 rounds are difficult, try 6! Of course these conditions are the same for all the players, with the same opportunity to request a 1/2 point bye to mitigate fatigue. In any event, I am at 4-1, playing on Board2. Yes, there were Masters at this tournament: I drew with Brian Wall and Renard Anderson already, along with a win against Michael Mulyar. The latter game is proof that very good players occasionally blunder; Mulyar dropped a piece in a winning position, something he does probably once a decade. Let's move to the final round!

**1.Nf3 h6!?**

A small surprise, trumped by my opponent's bigger shocker. Fine, is there a way to render ...h6 as a loss of time and/or weakening?

**2.b3 Nf6 3.Bb2 e6 4.e3 d5 5.d4 Nbd7 6.Nbd2 Bd6 7.Bd3**



I have reached a Zukertort Colle while my opponent has reached an Old Indian-ish position where ...h6 does not seem well advised. I cannot complain about the opening, but that will be all for nought if I don't hold my own in the pending central struggle, the battle of e5 being particularly pertinent here.

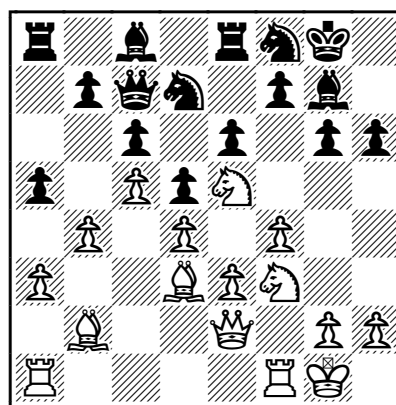
**7...0-0 8.Qe2 c6 9.0-0 Qc7 10.c4 Re8**

While fighting for e5, I have managed to also contest light squares, and Black falters somewhat as 10...b6 maintains B/d6 and thus pressure on e5 and h2. Black apparently thinks that White's Q-side pawn chain can be broken, a matter that proves to be anything but simple!

**11.c5 Bf8 12.b4 a5 13.a3 g6 14.Ne5**

White quietly gains ground as Black finds trading on e5 could weaken h7 while bringing White's d-pawn closer to the K-side attack. 14...Nxe5 15.de would not be pretty for Black, but allowing White to dominate e5 instead of mere control proves to be uglier yet.

**14...Bg7 15.f4 Nh7 16.Ndf3 Nhf8**



Black is hard pressed to clip e5 or advance on the K-side, so what happens if his Q-side play via ...b7-b6 is neutralized? He would then fade into spectator mode as White builds his position unconcerned about serious counterplay. Which is to say, White will gain a large advantage, Black will be completely on the defensive trying to salvage half a loaf.

**17.b5**

This does not render ...b7-b6 unplayable or impossible, but it will surely be unpleasant as c6 will be backward on a semi-open file or White can start flooding the Q-side with pieces.

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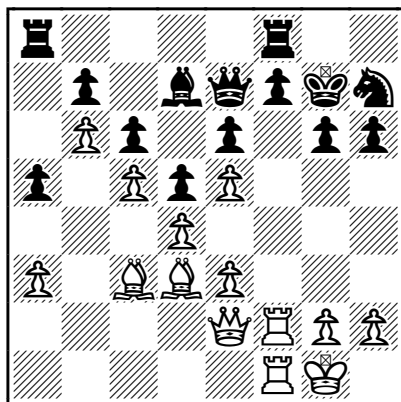
**17...Nxe5 18.Nxe5 Bxe5?  
19.b6**

Warts and all, Black needed to play 18...cb. White would have a better position, but the advantage would be less than what happens in the game. The difference is the ferocity of White's K-side attack, which is built for free as Black is bereft of significant counterplay.

**19...Qe7 20.fe Nh7 21.Rf2  
Rf8 22.Raf1 Bd7 23.Bc3**

Ready to reach the K-side, with an annoying shot on a5 to boot.

**23...Kg7**



Black tries to slip in ..f7-f6 or ...f7-f5. I can almost allow that and try to annex the Q-side via a5. On further review, the K-side attack is more powerful, and having the Q-side potential as a consolation prize is not a bad deal if Black manages to defend. But first, let's see if he can handle the heat!

**24.Rf6**

Not a cheapshot! Due to subsequent pressure on f7 and g6, Black is likely forced

in time to capture on f6, with dire consequences for his King's safety. As it turns out, h6 is also quite weak, not helped by Ra8 going nowhere, B/d7 stuck in defense.

**24...Be8 25.Qg4 Qd8**

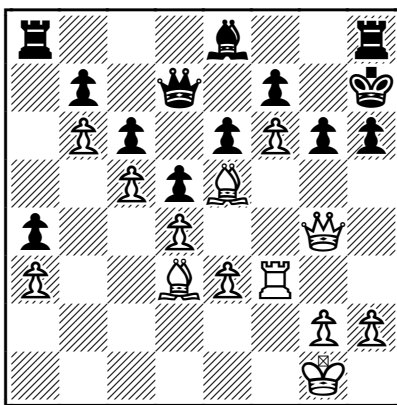
**26.Be1 Nxf6**

Before Be1-h4 becomes too hot to handle. But there are other avenues of attack for this uncontested piece.

**27.ef+ Kh7 28.Bg3**

Here Black is down to his last straw. If there is any chance to survive, it is by activating his Bishop. A lack of confidence in the outcome of 28...e5 is understandable, but there is no other way for Black to generate some activity, to try for some counterplay. A slim chance is better than none!

**28...Qd7 29.Be5 Rh8 30.Rf3  
a4**



White's Exchange deficit is notional given the power of his pieces and the impotence of Black's army. The cliché of not bringing a knife to a gunfight is fully applicable here. Black has zero offense while

White ponders whether g6 or h6 is the weakest link.

Incidentally, 30...a4 is less preferable to 30...Kg8, as the latter is necessary anyway and thus should be played pronto. This also compels me to find the most accurate continuation, for which White is well placed. E.g., on 30...Kg8 31.Rh3 Qd8 32.Qf4 g5 33.Qg4 Bd7, Black tries to defend h6 via ...Qf8 but it's too late as 34.Rxh6 proves decisive. All the same, making your opponent stay accurate is good chess and scores better than hope chess. As played, Black tries to free R/a8 while not running away from h6, but this plan proves to be futile.

**31.Rh3 Kg8**

Else the shot on h6 leads to checkmate.

**32.Qf4 h5 33.g4 [Ed.: Be2!]  
Kf8 34.Bd6+ Kg8 35.Be5?**

Bah humbug, Rxh5 is there for the taking! Fortunately this inaccuracy is not punishable.

**35...Kf8 36.Qg5 Qd8**

**37.Rxh5 Rxh5 38.gh Bd7**

**39.Qh6+ 1-0**

I did my part, but it was not enough for first place, Renard won his other 5 games!

Finally, one last game, this a win by David Bronstein, arguably the best player to not win the World Championship! For those who support Keres, Korchnoi, Rubinstein, or Ivanchuk, you also may well be right! In any event, play over this game, and realize what a great game chess is,

and what a great player Bronstein was!

**Moscow 1961 USSR Ch, Rd12  
David Bronstein – Vladimir  
Simagin**

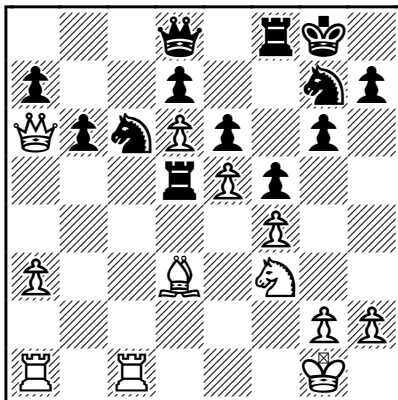
**1.c4 Nf6 2.d4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4  
4.a3 Bxc3+ 5.bc c5 6.f3**

The Saemisch Variation is considered, by some, myself included, to not be dangerous for Black. However, any line is treacherous when played by Bronstein!

**6...Nc6 7.e4 0-0**

Giving White a free hand in the center is not a good idea, even with the gain of the c4 pawn. White gladly sacrifices that while gaining domination over the rest of the board!

**8.e5 Ne8 9.f4 cd 10.cd  
b6 11.Nf3 Ba6 12.Bd3 f5  
13.d5!! Na5 14.d6 Rc8  
15.0-0 g6 16.c5 Bxd3  
17.Qxd3 Rxc5 18.Be3 Rd5  
19.Qa6! Nc6 20.Rfc1 Ng7**



White has little regard for material given the lack of scope of Black's pieces.

**21.Rxc6! Ra5 22.Qxa5 ba  
23.Rc7 h6 24.Rb1 Ne8  
25.Rxa7**

Bronstein sees that he has plenty of time to maximize the coordination and power of his pieces. Simagin is able to get Ng7 into the game, but it proves insufficient to save the day, it's too little too late.

**25...g5 26.Bb6 Qb8  
27.Rxd7 Qc8 28.Re7 Qc2  
29.Rf1**

Finally, White has to defend, but not for too long.

**29...Qc6 30.Bf2 Ng7 31.fg  
hg 32.Nxg5 Qd5 33.Nf3  
f4 34.Rc7 Nf5 35.Rb1 Ne3  
36.h3 Qd3 37.Rbc1**

White is ready to get rid of Ne3 and then overwhelm Black with Rook power.

**37...Nd5 38.R7c6 Ne3  
39.R6c3 Qb5 40.Bxe3 fe  
41.Rxe3 Qb6 42.Rcc3 Kg7  
43.Kh2 Kh6 44.Re4 Qb2 1-0**

Andy

**What Does Andrew Martin Know?**

He just finished playing in Hastings. After losing in the first round to a WIM, he got his bearings and scored 6 points in the next 8 games! Andrew hadn't played chess under tournament conditions in a long time... someone said 8 years. He's the top coach for the ECF (English Chess Federation) which grinds out wonderkind like sausage. He knows chess, and, Bob Long.

Where I felt he did very well was in making the decision to play instead of traveling somewhere to make another buck, as many of us do (I am guilty of that) and he has done for years (witness our chess clinics). A few days ago I mentioned that someone has already inquired about a Chess Clinic for this Fall and the client told me he wanted at least 8 hours of "tutoring" before the event. That will add up to a lot of coin. Andrew said, "Go for it" (meaning the Chess Clinic).

Andy still has confidence in me that I can instruct people who want to get better and at a lower rate than he charges (after all, you are paying for IM time).

Dr. Julian Wan made the observation to me a little while back that he took a clinic in tennis with an internationally known pro and also one with the local tennis pro (where he learned so much more). That's common.

In the first place we just want to be in awe and entertained by the BIG pro. With the local pro we want to get better and can come back if we have to.

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