

WEST-SIDE CHESS

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WEST-SIDE CHESS

A West Michigan Chess Newsletter

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Michael Brooks

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A NOTE TO OUR READERS

by Editor Michael Brooks

The purpose of this publication is to promote chess in West Michigan. The West Michigan Chess scene is filled with talent, scholastic programs, experienced coaches and a growing amount of local events. We have a lot of players from the area that enjoy this great game.

This publication has two primary objectives that we believe will encourage and promote chess in the area. First, we want to offer chess content that is local and relevant to the players from the area. Our goal is to create a resource that is educational and engaging. Second, we want to offer the opportunity for local players to be able to use their abilities and love for the game to help players of all ages improve and grow through writing for this publication.



Spencer St. Chess Club Update

by Michael Brooks

This is our quarterly update for the Spencer St. Chess Club. There has been a lot happening at the chess club. If you are in the Grand Rapids or greater Grand Rapids area and are looking for a place to play you should check out our chess club. We offer a variety of USCF-rated events to keep you in tournament shape as well as other fun events for any player.

Rapid Events

At the club we have begun running some monthly (when schedule allows) rapid events. These are 3-round USCF-rated G/15 events. It is a great way to play some rated chess with only your “quick” rating on the line. Time scrambles happen almost every round!

The first rapid event was played in February. We had eight players and Isaac Zylstra won the event. Don Brooks had a nice event and came in 2nd. The cross table for that event is here: <http://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?201802204122> The second rapid event was held in March. We again had eight players, with young Hunter Reed winning it with 2.5/3. The cross table for that event is here: <http://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?201803201762>

2018 Winter Swiss

Our most popular event is that we run is our month-long swiss tournaments. These are usually played at the G/60 and allow for more serious chess to be played. We played one in January with 12 players playing. This is a great way for our local tournament players to stay in playing but also get a chance to gain some rating points. Here is the cross table for that event: <http://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?201802067382-12751188>

Spring Classic Tune-Up

Our 2018 Grand Rapids Spring Classic (page 4) was going to be played at G/45, so to help the club members get used to it we held a 3-round (3-week) tune-up event. Here is the cross table for that event.: <http://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?201805010852-12751188>

2018 Blitz Championship

We hosted our 1st annual Blitz Championship event! It was hosted May 15th. We played seven rounds of G/5 with no delay. Nine players competed for a fun event. Dr. Tony Palmer won the event with a perfect 7/7! In close second was Isaac Zylstra who had scored 6/7. His only loss coming at the hands of Tony earlier in the tournament. Here is the cross table: <http://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?201805154912-12871543>



Hollan Chess Academy

2018 Holland Junior Open

March 17, 2018

by Dr. Tony Palmer

70 juniors competed in the eighth annual Holland Junior Open, held at Hope College on Saturday, March 17, 2018. Thanks to Joshua Posthuma and Derrick Baker for being Tournament Directors; they did a great job with pairings and results. Eugene Brumley ran the Varsity 6-12 Section, then Mark Servinsky ran the Elementary 3-5 Section, and Tony Palmer managed the Primary K-2 Section. Bill Ignasiak helped out in the Rated Sections.

Thank you to Jenn Bakhuyzen who brought 15 players from Jenison Christian, thank you to Bill Hoogstrate who brought 12 players from Ada, and thank you to Maija Hahn who brought 4 players from Jenison ACT. Thanks to Mr. Swamy for handling the box lunches. Everyone was very well behaved and had a great time; many players were looking forward to playing in their next chess tournament.

Congratulations to Andrew Yeh in Varsity 6-12 who won a free term in our Holland Chess Academy (\$25 value) for his perfect score (5/5)! We meet on Saturday mornings from October through March at Hope College.

For the K-2 and 3-5 Unrated Sections, several juniors need more practice learning basic mates (KQ vs K and KR vs K), to close out a win. Many games were drawn by stale-mate (no King moves) even though one side was way up in material. Taking notation during play (writing down their moves) was strongly encouraged as a key step for juniors to improve at chess, along with more practice.

OPEN SECTION

- 1-2) Raymond Abbaduska - 1st Place trophy, \$90
- 1-2) Charlie Reese - 2nd Place trophy, \$90
- 3) Hunter Reed - 3rd Place trophy, \$50
- 4-5) Kevin Shi - 4th Place medal
- 4-5) Michael Heindlmeyer - 5th Place medal

RESERVE SECTION

- 1) Vishal Swamy - 1st Place trophy, \$100
- 2) Prannav Kadhirsvelan - 2nd Place trophy, \$75
- 3) Owen Appel - 3rd Place trophy, \$50
- 4) Carson Hahn - 4th Place medal
- 5-6) Drew Martin - 5th Place medal
- 5-6) Daniel Hernandez

VARSITY 6-12

- 1) Andrew Yeh - 1st Place trophy, free term in the Holland Chess Academy
- 2) Josh Meisenheimer - 2nd Place trophy
- 3-8) John Pawell - 3rd Place trophy
- 3-8) Alex Alvarez - 4th Place medal
- 3-8) Ford Erickson - 5th Place medal
- 3-8) Noah Chrispell
- 3-8) Tyler Bakhuyzen
- 3-8) Jake Chapman

ELEMENTARY 3-5

- 1) Sophie Reese - 1st Place trophy
- 2-5) Kirit Bhaumik - 2nd Place trophy
- 2-5) Logan Hedlund - 3rd Place trophy
- 2-5) Evan Morgan - 4th Place medal
- 2-5) Joseph Brumley - 5th Place medal

PRIMARY K-2

- 1-2) Ryan Morgan - 1st Place trophy
- 1-2) Daniel Brumley - 2nd Place trophy
- 3) Oliver Reese - 3rdPlace trophy
- 4-5) Miles Perkins - 4th Place medal
- 4-5) Varun Swamy - 5th Place medal



2018 Grand Rapids Spring Classic

by Michael Brooks

We hosted our first weekend tournament in a while here in Grand Rapids and it was a great success! We plan to host this event yearly and will continue to build on the success we have seen from this first tournament.

We had only planned to have one section, but we had several younger players and new players signing up. For this reason, we created a U1000 section for that group. Meaning, we had 17 in our Open section and 10 in our U1000 section. A total of 27 players for the whole event!

The event was played where the Spencer St. Chess Club meets, in the New City Church building on the NE side of Grand Rapids.

The Grand Rapids Spring Classic attracted players from Kalamazoo, Muskegon, Ludington, St. Joseph, and Holland! It truly was a West Michigan Chess event. This is exactly why we are so excited to offer more events for West Michigan players. There are so many great chess players and enthusiasts in the area.

The Open section featured a wide range of players and skills. It was led by local 2300 Joshua Posthuma and featured other strong players from the area. Our Michigan Women's Champion Clara McGrew was also playing.

The Open section was far from just a top-heavy event. It was deep and featured players at all levels and some great fighting chess was played.

Our U1000 section had newcomers playing in their first USCF-rated tournament as well as young juniors from West Michigan. The Holland Chess Academy was well-represented in the event. Both sections were played with the time control of game in 45 minutes and a 5-second delay. This meant that time scrambles were quite common in both sections.

In the Open section we had a few nice displays from Joshua Posthuma in using nice technique to win endgames with only seconds on the clock—living on the delay! Other time scrambles throughout the event made for tense battles and a lot of fun for the spectators. Quite often there would be a few games that were down to the last couple of minutes and players would crowd around to see what would happen.



Our top two boards featuring some great battles. In back, we have Joshua Posthuma (left) playing against Isaac Zylstra (right, an old rivalry!) In front, we have two Kalamazoo players, Nick Schwerin (left) against Michigan Women's Champion Clara McGrew (right).

In the Open section there were three prizes. 1st place overall would take home \$60, second place overall would take \$45 and the best U1500 scorer would take home \$30.

In the Open section Joshua Posthuma won 1st place over with 3.5/4. He drew Dr. Tony Palmer in round three but won every other game. 2nd place had 5 players tied with 2.5/4 including our top U1500 players. In that tie for second place was Dr. Tony Palmer, Clara McGrew, Isaac Zylstra, Josh Meisenheimer, and David Dannels. Josh and David both split the top U1500 prize with the other three players splitting the 2nd place cash prize. The cross table for the event can be found here: <http://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?201805051612.0>

The event had great sportsmanship, was full of energy, and displayed a lot of fighting chess! What more can you ask for? We are hoping to host one more event this Summer and continue to host tournaments for local West Michigan players. Thank you to all of our participants for supporting West Michigan Chess and for making the 2018 Grand Rapids Spring Classic such a great time. I want to thank Ian McFarland for helping as tournament assistant!







Chess: Principles vs. Practice II

The Isolated Queen Pawn—An Introduction to Double-Edged Positions

by Henry Rankin



In exploring the tension between theory and practice, there seems to be no bigger, durable, and vicious skirmish than isolated queen pawn theory and practice. Our starting point will be to revisit the middle game principle number five from the first episode, “The Prank on the Flank”, attack backward, isolated, and doubled pawns. Now if we are to attack backward, isolated, and doubled pawns, does that mean we should avoid isolated queen pawns? As the old Gershwin tune says, “It ain’t necessarily so”. With the IQP, what do we attack? What do we defend? The middle game principle makes this sound easy.

From a practical stand point, a chess player puts in peril his tournament performance by failing to examine IQP play. In my personal database of 8.5 million games, there are some 2.6 million games with an IQP, or 30.6 percent. Looking at games where both players are rated 2500 or higher, 27.9 percent had an isolated IQP.

From the Caro-Kann defense we can get to an IQP game:

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 cxd5 4. c4 Nf6 5. Nc3 e6 6. Nf3 Be7 7. cxd5 Nxd5

From the French Tarrasch: we can get

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 c5 4. exd5 exd5

From the Sicilian Alapin we can get there this way:

1. e4 c5 2. c3 d5 3. exd5 Qxd5 4. d4 cxd4 5. cxd4

From the Semi Tarrasch Defense, Queen’ Gambit Declined an IQP is thematic:

1.d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. c4 c5 4. e3 d5 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. a3 cxd4 7. exd4 Be7 8. Bd3 dxc4 9. Bxc4



The following openings also have lines that create IQPs: Queen's Gambit Declined, Queen's Gambit Accepted Nimzo-Indian, Alekhine's Defense, Scandinavian Defense, The English Opening Smyslov Three Knights, and of course the Exchange French and the Slav defense. With so many ways to reach an IQP position, it is important to learn what strategies need be employed.

The main advantage an IQP confers is that it provides spatial advantage. The IQP controls the "e5" and "c5" squares (respectively "e4" and "c4"), and these squares can be perfect outposts for the knights. Another essential advantage is the possession of the semi-opened e file, which is often used as a springboard for the development of an attack against the enemy's king. Aside from that, the benefits of the isolated pawn are seen in the middle game in view of space advantage, open lines, and aggressive strong-points in the center. Taking into consideration the above-mentioned advantages, **the side playing with an isolated pawn should seek for attack on the kingside and avoid pieces exchanges.**

The shortcomings of the IQP are inability to defend it with another pawn and the fact that the square in front of it (and sometimes the squares around it) is weak and can be used as a strong-point for the opponent's pieces. Typically, defending resources are more plentiful than attacking resources. When the opponent manages to rebound from our attack on the kingside, our spatial advantage loses its value and the isolated pawn becomes a weakness. **One must remember that every exchange of the pieces brings us closer to the endgame, where the IQP is extremely vulnerable. Endgames favor those without the IQP.**

Starting at the very beginning, here is a game from the Hastings tournament of 1895, won by the American Master Harry Nelson Pillsbury. The tournament also featured players Steinitz, Chigorin, Lasker, Gunsberg, Janowski, Schlechter, Tarrasch, and most of the best players at the time. Steinitz had defended his world championship successfully years earlier against Chigorin and Gunsberg. Lasker was World Champion at the time as Steintiz lost to him in 1894. Tarrasch, Janowski, and Schlechter would all later play for the world championship against Lasker and lose. Although play would most likely continue differently these days after black's sixth move, this remains a very instructive game.

White: Tarrasch, Siegbert

Black: Janowski, David

Hastings 1895.08.28 Round 18.

ECO D53

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Be7 5. Nf3 O-O 6. Rc1 dxc4 7. e3 c5 8. Bxc4 cxd4



9. exd4 Nc6

Here is a typical IQP arising out of an early treatment of the Queen's Gambit Declined. Tarrasch controls d5, and stakes a claim to c5 and e5, a potential knight outpost. Note that White also saved a tempo by taking the pawn on c4 with one move. White's bishops are in front of his pawns, Black's bishops are behind them. Black's light square bishop is restrained by his pawn on e6

10. O-O Qa5



This move was to prepare Rd8 for black by vacating d8.

11. Bf4!?

This is not a precise move when one contemplates alternatives 11. Bd3, 11. Be3, or 11. a3 might be better as this move tries to pressure c7, which proves to be a waste of time.

Rd8 12. Nb5? Ne8 13. Be3 a6!

Black makes his point and with his tempo, forces regrouping by White.

14. Nc3 Nf6 15. Qe2 b5 16. Bb3 Bb7 17. Rfd1 Nb4 18. Ne5 Rac8 19. a3



This move is still played nowadays in this and similar positions much earlier, as doing it earlier makes it more difficult to base Black's knight on d5.

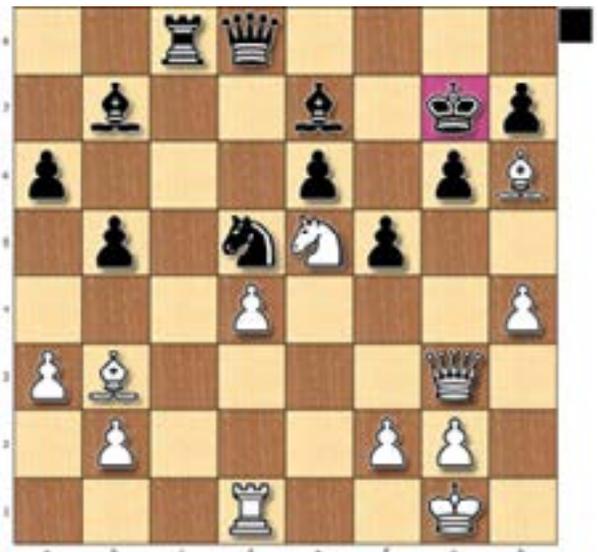
19...Nbd5 20. Nxd5 Nxd5 21. Rxc8 Rxc8 22. Qh5!

Past play has removed the defenders around the king making an attack possible.

g6 23. Qf3 f5 24. Qg3!!

White takes aim at Black's g pawn with decisive results.

Kg7 25. h4 Qd8 26. Bh6+!! Kg8



Not 26... Kxh6?? Then 27. Ng7, forking the King and Queen. Even worse would be 26... Kf6?? 27. Qg5 mate.

27. Nxb6 Bf6 28. Ne5+ 1-0.

This game from long ago has some things that are done differently now, such as replacing 11. Bf4 with Be3 and replacing 12. Nb5 with 12. a3. Tarrasch, the original adherent in the belief of the minor exchange (any exchange that results in exchanging a knight for a bishop), was right about the superior mobility of good bishops versus a position where either one or both of the opponent's bishops are blocked by pawns. While black's light squared bishop can stand well on b7, however, to do so may involve the investment of several moves so as to maintain proper defense while achieving that goal.

This game is an interesting first step in IQP theory and practice development.

Henry is a long-time chess player, resident of Grand Rapids, MI, and faithful member of the Spencer St. Chess Club.

Clara's Corner

Game Analysis by Clara McGrew

"Sharp Positions Demand Sharp Play!"

The following game was submitted by Hunter Reed. This was played in the 2018 Great Lakes Open, in Battle Creek, MI. Hunter played in the U1800 section. He placed well and gained over 100 rating points! One of our regular contributors, Michigan Women's Champion Clara McGrew will be annotating this game.

White: Reed, Hunter (1470)

Black: Levine, Gary (1574)

ECO B19

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3

This is one of the main lines of the Caro-Kann.

3...dxe4 4. Nxe4 Bf5

4... Nf6

Another important move here. After, 5. Nxf6+ gxf6!? is sometimes played, with the idea of ... Rg8, trying to get some pressure on the open g-file. The play can get very sharp.

5. Ng3 Bg6 6. h4 h6 7. Nf3 e6

8. h5 Bh7 9. Bd3 Bxd3 10. Qxd3 Nf6 11. Bd2 Bd6 12. Ne2?!

This move seems a little bit passive to me. 12. Ne4 is more common, and I think it's more natural.

The following game continued

12...Nxe4 13. Qxe4 Nd7 14. O-O-O Nf6 15. Qe2 Qc7 16. Kb1 O-O-O 17. c4 White gains space on the Queenside.

17...Rhe8 18. Bc3 Kb8 19. Ne5 Ka8 20. f4
With the Knight on e5, White has an overwhelming advantage. Black is very cramped.

20...Qe7 21. Rh3 A nice Rook lift, getting the h1 Rook into the action. 21...Nd7 22. Rhd3 f6 23. Ng6 Qf7 24. Qg4 f5 25. Qf3

And White went on to win. 1-0 (44)
Guliyev,N (2560)-Mchedlishvili,M (2631)
Ajaccio, 2007

12... O-O 13. O-O-O Qe7?!

Black doesn't prevent Ne5. Black should have tried to prevent Ne5 here with 13... Nbd7!

After 14. Kb1 a5 The situation is unclear. For example, 15. Rdg1 trying to prepare g4 can be met with Ng4! Targeting the f2 pawn.

It's quite an awkward position for White, and if anything, Black might be better after 16. Be1 Re8 Preparing e5.

14. Ne5! A good move, for White signals his intention to start an attack.

14...Rd8 15. Qg3

A natural move, but Ne4 is somewhat annoying. I think 15. Qf3 might have been better. White wants to prepare the move g4, and White also avoids ...Ne4 as in the game.

15... Ne4 16. Qe3 Nxd2 17. Rxd2 Nd7 18. Nc4?!

I don't think this move is best, because it removes the Knight from the e5 square, which is a very important square for White's Knight in this position. It also allows White's Knight to be attacked with the move ...b5. Perhaps 18. f4 was better here, keeping the Knight on e5.

18... Bc7

I think that Black should have played 18... b5 {here, starting his own attack. For example, after 19. Nxd6 Qxd6 20. g4?? Would be a terrible mistake because of Qd5! Attacking both a2 and h1.

19. f4 Nf6

In these kinds of positions, it is important to act with urgency. Black doesn't seem to understand this in this position, and allows White to develop a quick attack. 19... b5 is again a move that Black should have considered.

20. Qf3 Nd5

Black is very focused on centralizing his Knight on d5, without starting an attack of his own. For this reason, White is able to start an attack.

21. g4 Qf6 22. Ne5! Back to e5! 22..Ba5

Attacking the Rook on d2 does not help Black in this position, as White is easily able to defend it.

23. c3 Rac8 24. Nd3 Stopping any ideas with ...c5. **Bb6 25. Ng3 c5** A break that Black wants to get in, but it is too late.

26. Ne4 Qe7 27. dxc5 And there goes the pawn. **27...Bc7 28. g5 hxg5 29. fxg5 Qe8 30. h6 g6 31. Nf6+ 1-0**

All in all, I think Black played this game rather slowly, and he did not take White's attack as seriously as he should have. If he had played ...b5 on moves 18 or 19, the game might have gone a different route. However, White was able to seize his chances with f4, g4, and Ne5. At that point, he was able to start a serious Kingside attack which was very difficult for Black to defend against.

Clara McGrew is a resident of Kalamazoo, MI. She is currently taking college courses. Clara is the reigning Michigan Women's Champion.

Featured Game from the 2018 Spring Classic

Game Annotation by *Joshua Posthuma*

“Old Friends, Old Battlefield”

The following game and notes were supplied by Nation Master and long-time West Michigan resident Joshua Posthuma.

This was my first round game against a long time friend, Isaac Zylstra. Our first ever match-up was in 2010: I was rated 941. There’s no doubt that the experience I gained from my countless tournament losses to Isaac over the years, as well as the knowledge I gained through reviewing those games with him, have helped me develop into the strong player I am today.

This game was a good example of attacking weaknesses, utilizing open files, and active vs. passive pieces.

2018 Grand Rapids Spring Classic
White: Posthuma, Joshua (2350)
Black: Zylstra, Isaac (1900)

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. g3

I chose to play the Catalan Opening against black’s Slav Defense. White aims to open up the center and create a strong bishop fianchetto.

4... Bf5 5. Bg2 Bxb1!?

This move took me by surprise. It’s rarely good to trade for a lesser developed piece. With this sequence, black snatches a pawn, but in return gives white the bishop pair and a lead in development.

6. Rxb1 Qa5+ 7. Bd2 Qxa2 8. cxd5

I felt this was necessary to avoid losing another pawn, but Stockfish finds a fascinating queen trap line...

8. Ra1 Qxc4 9. Ra5! e6 10. O-O Bb4 11. b3 Bxd2 12. bxc4 Bxa5 Black is technically ahead 1 point in material, but with black still so far behind in development, this imbalance favors white.

8... Qxd5 9. O-O e6 10. Qa4

Developing the queen to an active square where the d4 pawn is defended. Now I can threaten the Ne5 discovery. Up to this point we’re still following a master game from 2012, Alm-Renman, which ended in a draw.

10... Be7

10... Nbd7 11. Ne5 Nb6 12. Qc2 Qxd4 13. Nxc6 Qc4 would have been an annoying line for me. Black is up a pawn, so they can pester me for a queen trade. I should try to keep pieces on the board.

11. Ne5 Qd8 12. Ba5

A really artificial looking move, but I’m trying to kick the black queen to an awkward square. Better would have been the minority attack with 12. b4 Qxd4 I decided against this line because Qxd4 looked strong; I missed white’s nice response 13. Nxc6! bxc6 14. Bxc6+ Kf8 15. Be3 Nxc6 16. Bxd4 Nxd4

12...Qd6

12...Qc8 This was the better move. 13. Bb4 Qc7 14. Bxe7 Qxe7 15. b4 Starting a minority attack on the queenside. If I can get in b5, my bishop comes to life.

13. Nc4 Qd7

13...Qxd4 would have been consistent with black's greedy play, although it is quite dangerous after 14. Rfd1.

14. Ne5 Qd6

Repeating the position once to give myself more time to think; in retrospect this was a mistake, because it allowed black the chance to fix his mistake and play 14...Qc8

15. Qb3!

I'm really happy with this move, provoking black to significantly weaken his pawn structure with b6.

15...b6 16. Rbc1

There's no need to save the bishop yet. I can just immediately pounce on the c6 pawn.

16...0-0 17. Nxc6

I decided to cash out right away, but Stockfish prefers keeping pressure with 17. Be1 Nd5 18. Bd2 and black will have a very hard time getting developed.

17...Nxc6 18. Rxc6 Qd7 19. Bb4 Bxb4

19...Nd5 20. Bxe7 Qxc6 21. Bxf8 Rxf8 in this line, black at least controls the open c-file.

20. Qxb4 Nd5 21. Qc4

Now I've won my pawn back, and have a pleasant advantage. My pieces are very well placed.

21...Rac8 22. Rc1 Ne7

22...Rxc6 23. Qxc6 Qxc6 24. Rxc6 Black's back rank issues make this position very difficult to defend. 24...Rd8 25. Bxd5 exd5 26. Rc7 and black will lose either a7 or d5. With my active rook vs. his passive rook, that should be enough for the win.

23. Rc7 Qd8 24. Bb7!

With this move black can no longer contest my control of the c-file.

24...Rxc7 25. Qxc7 a5 26. e3

We're at a bit of a standoff here, so I take the time to secure my pawn structure.

26...h6 Fixing back rank issues.

27. Be4 Qc8 28. Rc2 Qd8 29. Qb7

Preparing to infiltrate with my rook.

29...Qd6 30. Rc7 Re8 31. Bc6

This tactic crack's through black's defenses and will net me a pawn.

31...Nxc6 32. Rxc6 Rb8 33. Qxf7!

This desperado sacrifice is the only move to cash in.

33. Kxf7 34. Rxd6 Ke7 35. Rc6 Kd7 36. Rc1 b5

36...Rc8?? Trading into a K=Pawn endgame down a pawn is surely losing. 37. Rxc8 Kxc8 38. Kf1 Kd7 39. Ke2 Kc6 40. Kd3

37. Kf1

King activity is a priority in the endgame, so I come towards the center the first chance I get.

37...Kd6 38. Ke2 a4 39. Kd3 b4 40. ra1 a3?

Black is thinking they have to ditch the pawn, but 40...Ra8 would still hold. 41. Kc4?! Rc8+! 42. Kxb4 Rc2 Black's rook becomes very active, and my king becomes quite misplaced on the queenside.

41. bxa3 bxa3 42. Rxa3 Rb2

This is an important moment in the game. If black is allowed to simply win a pawn back, the game becomes quite hard to win.

43. Ra7

43. Ke4? Kxf2 44. h4 Ke7 is likely drawn.

43...Rxf2 44. h4 g6 45. Rg7 Rf6

Black tries to hold on to his pawns, but his rook won't last long on such a passive square.

46. g4 e5

46...h5 holds the pawn, but only for a moment. 47. gxh5 gxh5 48. Rg5 Rh6 49. Ke4 Rh7 50. Ra5 Rh8 51. Ra6+ Ke7 52. Ke5 Rh6 53. d5

47. Ra7!

This move ends the game. Black knows he can't afford a rook trade, but the alternative is letting me win a 2nd pawn.

47...Rf1 48. Ra6+ Ke7 49. Rxd6 exd4 50. Rxh6 dxe3 51. Kxe3

And white goes on to convert this theoretical win. 1-0

To see the game on lichess click here:

<https://lichess.org/study/v6Shd8Qn>



West-Side Chess Calendar Looking Ahead

West Michigan Chess Events -

August 4th - 2018 West Michigan Open

Join us for a great event hosted by West Michigan Chess! This will be our regional championship event! A nice prize fund, three sections, and 4 rounds of G/60!

Our new TD Ian McFarland will be running the event and will take place in a nice lodge made available by our very own John Drexel! The road, Division Ave, that the lodge is on is off of West River Drive in Comstock Park.

Here are the details:

Format: G/55 with a 5-second delay

Entry Fee: \$15 (\$20 On-Site Registration)

Pre-Register by emailing mcfarlai@mail.gvsu.edu

TD: Ian McFarland, this is a USCF rated event.

Schedule:

Registration & Check-In: 9:00 - 9:15

Round 1: 9:30

Round 2: 12:00

Round 3: 2:30

Round 4: 5:00

Awards: 6:45-7:00

Sections:

Open, U1500, U1000

Prizes: OPEN: 1st:\$75 2nd:\$50 U1500 1st :\$45 U1000 1st: \$30

Ties will split money. Titles will be handed out based upon tiebreak formulas.

