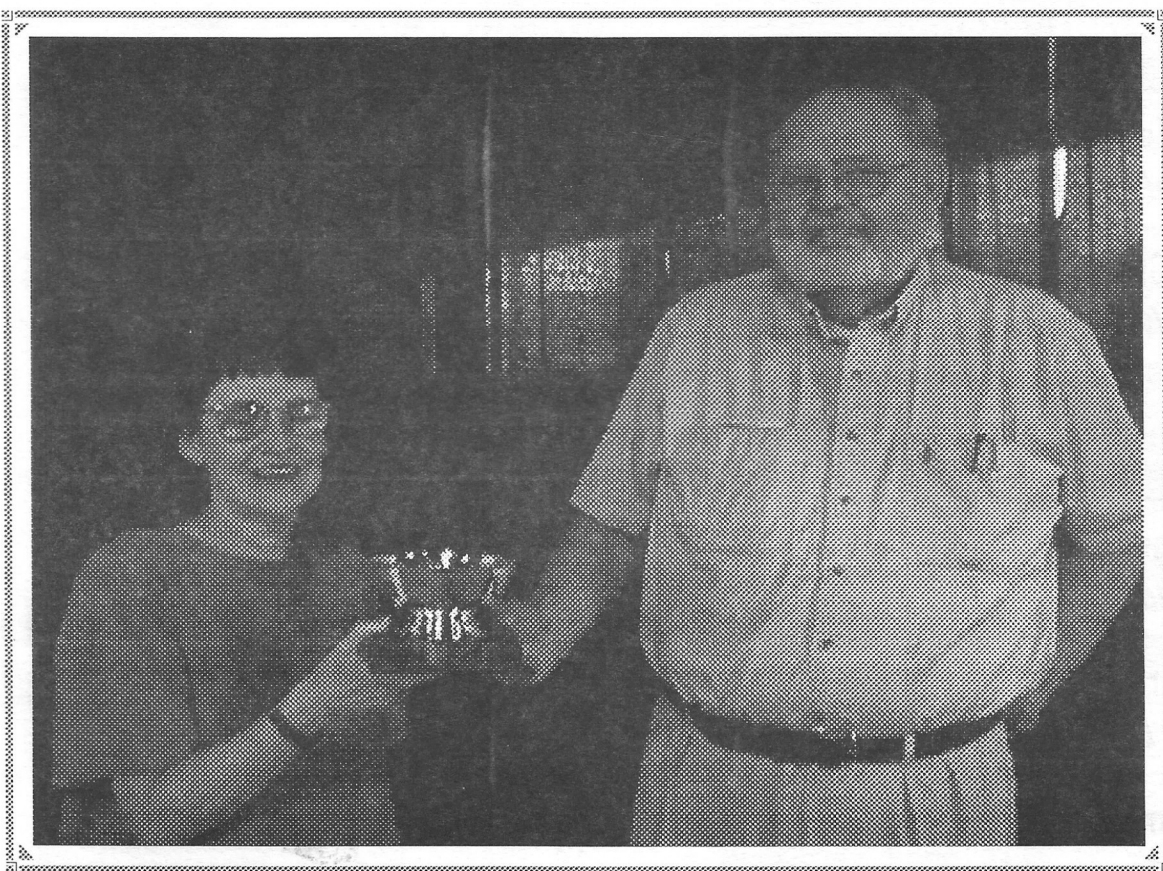


Alabama Chess Federation

# Alabama Chess Antics

November 1999 – January 2000

\$3.00



*Newly elected ACF President Richard Ellis awards Barbara Reeder a silver bowl engraved "Chess Mom of the 90's" at the annual ACF business meeting.*

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### President's Letter

I look on this as another opportunity to be more closely involved in a rewarding and challenging experience in which for the past 40 years of my life I have participated. I appreciate the confidence you have shown in electing me to again serve as President of ACF. To quote an old advertising slogan, "You've come a long way baby" This is true of the ACF. We have the chance to improve on our progress. Certainly, we want to continue the fine record-keeping process that is going on at this time, and we have developed a very strong scholastic program. Further, we have seen remarkable quality and outstanding improvement in the Chess Antics under the control of Rhodes, and he has done a wonderful job; nevertheless, he will be the first to admit that without the participation of the chess community, it would not have been possible. Keep those gains, articles and letters coming!!! Certainly, this is the responsibility of the entire body of chess in Alabama.

Enough of the past. Let's now speak to the future.

(1) A solid effort should be made in, first, the development of new affiliates and the renewal of past affiliates (Talladega, Sylacauga, Anniston, Dothan, Troy, Scottsboro, Gadsden, Decatur, and possibly others who do not come to mind at this time).

(2) I feel the need for establishment of blue ribbon committees in the areas of scholastic, by-laws, and possibly of budget, and club development. Let's all get involved and let me know where your interests lie so we can fill these committees with those interested in a particular area. If at all possible, I would like to see at least 4 persons, if not more, involved in each of those areas.

(3) We need to direct more interest and attention to the Chess Foundation of Alabama. We have possibly broken through into the business community. I believe that as the business community becomes informed of the needs and activities of the chess community, both scholastic and adult, positive results will be produced.

This letter is loaded with goals and opportunities for the coming year. In order to ensure smooth business meetings in the future, there will be a straightforward agenda for each meeting, hopefully to make the meetings as productive but as short as possible.

In closing, I hope all of you had a happy Thanksgiving, and I wish you the very best of the Holiday Season. To quote Ceasar Lawrence, "LET'S PLAY CHESS!!!!"

Sincerely,

Richard Ellis

P.S. Please try to attend the ACF Business Meeting at the Queen of Hearts, 7:30 AM Sunday, Feb. 13. See Aug - Nov Antics, p. 9.



# Southern Congress Open Games by A.J. Goldsby I

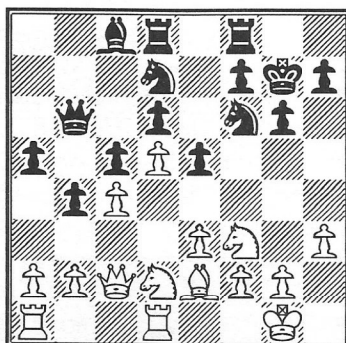
My first opponent was Senior and FIDE Master Stephen Muhammad. I'm sure he felt he had to win at all costs – the "higher rated player complex". Many times I have been the higher rated player, and the thinking that I had to win at all costs has distorted my judgement. You try risky things. You back away from exchanges. And by the time that you realize, "Hey, I need to think about saving the draw here", it's often too late.

## 30th Southern Congress Open – Atlanta, 4/17/99 SD/75 – Round 1

Stephen Muhammad(2430)  
vs. A.J. Goldsby I (2200)

- |          |        |
|----------|--------|
| 1. d4    | Nf6    |
| 2. Nf3   | g6     |
| 3. Bf4   | Bg7    |
| 4. Nc3   | d6     |
| 5. Qd2   | O-O    |
| 6. h3    | a6     |
| 7. Bh6   | b5!?   |
| 8. Bxg7  | Kxg7   |
| 9. e3    | Bb7    |
| 10. Be2  | b4 (!) |
| 11. Nb1  | a5     |
| 12. O-O  | c5 (!) |
| 13. Rd1  | Nbd7   |
| 14. c4   | Qb6    |
| 15. d5   | Rad8   |
| 16. Qc2  | Bc8    |
| 17. Nbd2 | e5!    |

(diagram next column)



Position after 17. ... e5

18. dxe6 ?! ...

This seems wrong. White breaks up his center, loses space, and gives black a central (3 to 2 pawn) advantage. The f-file is also half-opened for black.

- |             |      |
|-------------|------|
| 18. ...     | fxe6 |
| 19. Ng5 !?  | Ne5  |
| 20. Nde4    | Nxe4 |
| 21. Qxe4 !? | ...  |

White seems to be playing coffee-house chess, not caring for any positional factors.

21. ... h6!

A good move, seeking to wrest the initiative at the cost of disrupting my pawn structure.

- |          |      |
|----------|------|
| 22. f4   | hxc5 |
| 23. fxe5 | d5   |
| 24. Qg4  | Rf5  |

Black has the initiative.

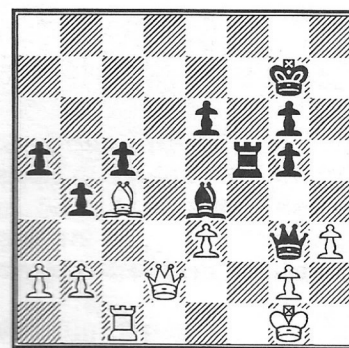
- |         |      |
|---------|------|
| 25. Bd3 | Rxe5 |
| 26. Rf1 | Qd6! |

I avoid 26. ... Rxe3? 27. Qxg5 Rxd3 28. Rf6 and black will probably be mated.

- |            |       |
|------------|-------|
| 27. Rf2    | dxcc4 |
| 28. Bxc4   | Qe7   |
| 29. Qg3    | Rf5   |
| 30. Rc2    | Qd6   |
| 31. Qe1    | Qe5!  |
| 32. Rac1   | Bb7   |
| 33. Bb5    | Be4!  |
| 34. Rd2 ?! | ...   |

The only move was 34. Re2. If 34. Rxc5?, black could play 34. ... Qxc5 winning two rooks for the queen, or the superior 34. Qxb2 threatening mate on g2 among other things. 34. Rd2 ?! allows black's queen access to g3.

- |          |      |
|----------|------|
| 34. ...  | Rxd2 |
| 35. Qxd2 | Qg3  |
| 36. Bc4? | ...  |



Position after 36. Bc4?

White had to play 36. Rd1, after which black still has a large advantage according to Fritz 5.32. Can you find the winning move after 36. Bc4? Hint: It involves the themes of decoy/ remove the guard.

(continued next page)



**36. ... Bxg2!**

If 37. Qxg2, Qxe3+ with two variations: A) 38. Kh2 Rf2 39. Rc2 Rxd2+ and black wins either rook or bishop with a queen check on his next move; B) 38. Kh1 Qxc1+ 39. Kh2 Qxc4.

**37. resigns****0 – 1**

In round 2 I was somewhat fortunate. My game was not hopelessly lost after white's 34th move, but it was not an enviable position. My opponent was rather short of time to really exploit his advantage. (Rounds 1 and 2 were played at the Time Control of SD/75 for those, like me, who were on the two-day schedule.) I felt the opening went OK, especially since I had never played against it as black. (I knew it from the white side, so it was not that scary.) My FIDE performance rating for the first two rounds was something like 2640 ... not too bad, I guess.

**30th Southern Congress  
Open – Atlanta, 4/17/99  
SD/75 – Round 2**

**David Levin (2430)  
vs. A.J. Goldsby I (2200)**

- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| <b>1. d4</b>  | <b>Nf6</b> |
| <b>2. Nf3</b> | <b>g6</b>  |
| <b>3. Nc3</b> | <b>...</b> |

Now black can play 3. ... d5 to stop 4. e4. But this cedes White the e5 square as an outpost for his pieces.

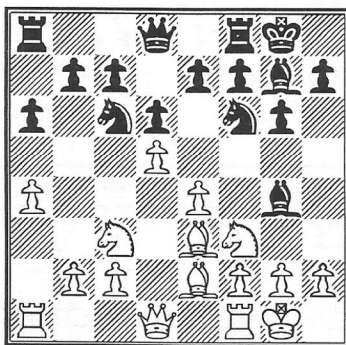
- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| <b>3. ...</b> | <b>Bg7</b> |
| <b>4. e4</b>  | <b>d6</b>  |

Now black has been "tricked" into a transposition into the Pirc .. a line I had never played before in my life ... and against a master, too!

- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| <b>5. Be2</b> | <b>O-O</b> |
| <b>6. O-O</b> | <b>a6</b>  |
| <b>7. a4</b>  | <b>...</b> |

Stopping any Q-side expansion, as in the previous game.

- |                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| <b>7. ...</b>  | <b>Bg4</b> |
| <b>8. Be3</b>  | <b>Nc6</b> |
| <b>9. d5!?</b> | <b>...</b> |

*Position after 9. d5 !?*

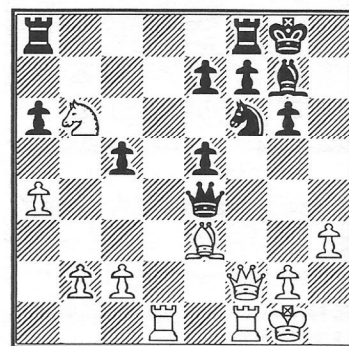
- |                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| <b>9. ...</b>   | <b>Bxf3</b> |
| <b>10. Bxf3</b> | <b>Na5</b>  |

The only way not to retreat and lose a tempo. Also black is aiming for a blockaded position that he hopes will not be favorable to the bishops.

- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| <b>11. Be2</b>   | <b>c5</b>     |
| <b>12. f4</b>    | <b>Nd7</b>    |
| <b>13. e5 !?</b> | <b>dxe5</b>   |
| <b>14. f5</b>    | <b>Qc7</b>    |
| <b>15. Qe1!</b>  | <b>Nf6</b>    |
| <b>16. fxg6</b>  | <b>hxd6</b>   |
| <b>17. Qf2</b>   | <b>b6</b>     |
| <b>18. Bg5</b>   | <b>Nh7</b>    |
| <b>19. d6 ?!</b> | <b>Qxd6!</b>  |
| <b>20. Rad1</b>  | <b>Qe6</b>    |
| <b>21. Be3</b>   | <b>Nc4 ?!</b> |

Simply 21. ... Rad8 appears best.

- |                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| <b>22. Bxc4</b> | <b>Qxc4</b> |
| <b>23. Nd5</b>  | <b>Nf6</b>  |
| <b>24. Nxb6</b> | <b>Qe4</b>  |
| <b>25. h3!</b>  | <b>...</b>  |

*Position after 23. h3!*

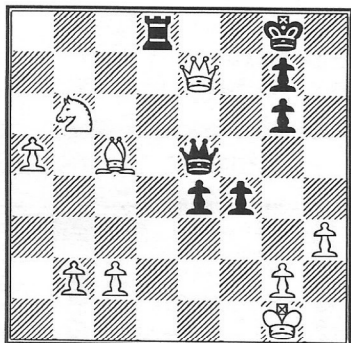
Black was counting on 25. Nxa8? Ng4 with a winning position. Now the game degenerates into chaos.

- |                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| <b>25. ...</b>  | <b>Rab8</b> |
| <b>26. Bxc5</b> | <b>Qb7</b>  |
| <b>27. a5</b>   | <b>Rbd8</b> |
| <b>28. Qh4</b>  | <b>Rfe8</b> |
| <b>29. Qb4</b>  | <b>Rxd1</b> |
| <b>30. Rxd1</b> | <b>Ne4</b>  |
| <b>31. Be3</b>  | <b>f5</b>   |
| <b>32. Qc4+</b> | <b>Kh7</b>  |
| <b>33. Rd7</b>  | <b>Qb8</b>  |
| <b>34. Qxa6</b> | <b>f4</b>   |

Here the Time Control made itself felt. My opponent had only about 7 minutes left. He proceeded to analyse for nearly 4 minutes, then looked at the clock and quickly made a move.

- |                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| <b>35. Qd3?</b> | <b>Nf6</b>  |
| <b>36. Bc5</b>  | <b>e4!</b>  |
| <b>37. Qb5</b>  | <b>Nxd7</b> |
| <b>38. Qxd7</b> | <b>Rd8</b>  |
| <b>39. Qg4</b>  | <b>Qe5</b>  |

40. Qh4+ Kg8  
41. Qxe7 ...



Position after 41. Qxe7

41. ... Rd1+  
42. Kh2 f3+  
43. Qxe5 Bxe5+  
44. g3 Rd2+  
45. Kg1 Rxc2  
46. a6!? Rxc5  
47. a7 Bd4+!  
48. Kh2 Rc2+  
49. Kh1 Rc1+  
50. Kh2 Bg1+  
51. Kh1 Bxb6+  
52. Kh2 Bg1+  
53. Kh1 Bxa7+  
54. resigns

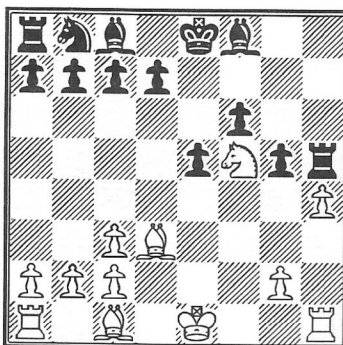
0 – 1

By round 3 I suspect all parties were getting a little punch-drunk. I trot out the Bishop's Opening and then transpose to the Boden-Kieseritsky Gambit, probably one of the hoariest lines around. I really don't get enough for my pawn, but I do get a passed pawn. Both sides play slowly and consume a lot of time but black plays somewhat blasé, not seeming to notice that his extra pawn does not mean all that much, given the ending he finds himself in. White manages to grind out his third win.

### 30th Southern Congress Open – Atlanta, 4/17/99 40/100, SD/60 – Round 3

A.J. Goldsby I (2200)  
Adam Cavaney (2175)

1. e4 e5  
2. Bc4 Nf6  
3. Nf3 Nxe4  
4. Nc3 Nxc3  
5. dxc3 f6  
6. Nh4 g6  
7. f4 Qe7  
8. f5 Qg7  
9. fxg6 hxg6  
10. Qg4 g5  
11. Nf5 Qg6  
12. h4 Qh5  
13. Qxh5+ Rxh5  
14. Bd3?! ...



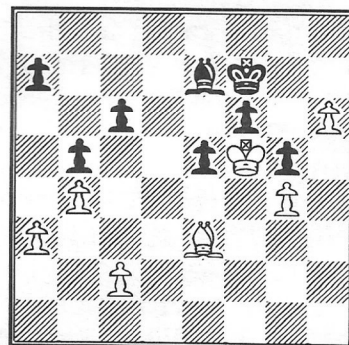
Position after 14. Bd3 ?!

Over-anticipation. Black was threatening ... d5 winning a piece. White now threatens 15. Ng7+ and 16. Bg6+ winning the exchange. Better was 14. g4 Rh8 15. Be3! and 16. h5 with a vastly superior version of the game.

14. ... Rh8  
15. c4 Nc6  
16. Be3 d6  
17. h5 Be6  
18. b3 O-O-O?

Black spends several tempi trying to get his king back to the king-side in the endgame. It seems it would make sense just to play 18. ... Rd8 and save all that time.

19. Be4 d5  
20. cxd5 Bb4+  
21. Ke2 Bxd5  
22. Bxd5 Rxd5  
23. a3 Bc3  
24. Rad1 Rxd1  
25. Kxd1 Bd4  
26. Bc1! Bc5  
27. b4 Nd4  
28. Nxd4 Bxd4  
29. Ke2 Kd7  
30. g4 Ke6  
31. Kf3 c6  
32. Ke4 b5  
33. Rh3! Rd8  
34. Rd3 Bb6  
35. Rxd8 Bxd8  
36. h6 Kf7  
37. Kf5 Be7  
38. Be3 ...



Position after 38. Be3

38. ... h6  
39. Bb6 ...

Black is in zugzwang.

39. ... Bf8  
40. Bd8 Bxh6  
41. Bxf6 c4  
42. Bd4 e3

43. Bxe3 Bg7  
 44. Bxg5 Bb2  
 45. Be3! Bxa3  
 46. c3 Bb2  
 47. Bd4 Bc1  
 48. g5 Bd2  
 49. g6+ Kg8  
 50. Ke6 Bg5  
 51. Kd6 Kf8  
 52. Kxc6 Bd8  
 53. Kd7! ...

If 53. ... Bg5 or ... Bh4, then 54. Kc7! followed by Kb6 winning.

53. ... **resigns**

**1 – 0**

In round 4 I play the lowest-rated player of the tournament, who gives me my toughest game! I decide to avoid book and play a line adapted from the Ruy Lopez. I also try to avoid "known theory" in the hope that a Life-Master will have better instincts than a lower-rated player. It was difficult to play in this style, and I have to work harder at the board than I normally do. Patience plays a key role. This was positional chess, totally and completely. My opponent surprises me toward the end and sacrifices a piece to achieve a nearly impregnable fortress. I come up with a many-faceted plan to break down my opponent's apparently rock-solid position. In the second time control and running short of time, my opponent finally makes a mistake that allows me to penetrate with my king. After avoiding one last trap, the win is mine. But what a difficult game! Many strong players did not believe that I could win.

### 30th Southern Congress Open – Atlanta, 4/17/99 40/100, SD/60 – Round 4

**A.J. Goldsby I (2200)  
 vs. Charlie Durham (1975)**

1. e4 c5  
 2. Nf3 d6  
 3. c3 Nf6  
 4. Be2 Nc6  
 5. d3 ...

White plays very slowly, very similar to the way play develops in the Closed Ruy Lopez. I choose this method to avoid any favorite prepared lines.

5. ... g6  
 6. O-O Bd7

Not the best square for the bishop. Also the timing of this move is off.

7. h3 Bg7  
 8. Be3 O-O  
 9. Nbd2 Qc7 ?!

The queen is misplaced here as the course of play demonstrates. Black is justifying white's approach to the opening.

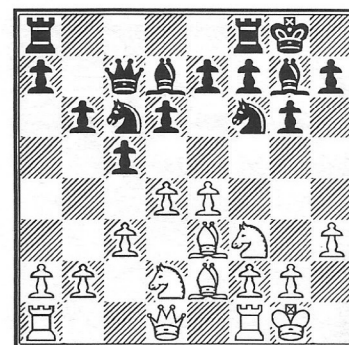
10. Rc1! b6

This weakening of the light squares (especially c6) will eventually play a role in black's losing the game.

11. d4 ...

*(diagram next column)*

11. ... e5  
 12. Re1 Rad8  
 13. a3! Qb8  
 14. b4 cxd4  
 15. cxd4 d5 !?



*Position after 11. d4*

It is slightly risky to open the game up here. But black would be definitely worse if he allowed d5. His pieces are not coordinated enough to fight for the Q-side, the open c-file and the outpost square c6.

16. dxe5 Nxe5

16. ... Nxe4 17. e6!

17. Nxe5 Qxe5  
 18. Nf3! Qb8

18. Qxe4? 19. Bd3 Qe7 20. Bxb6 +/-.

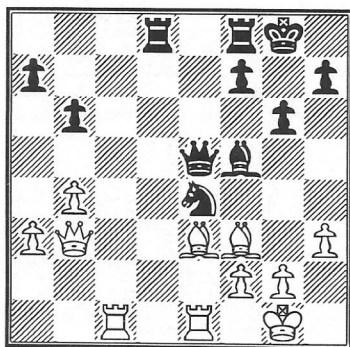
19. e5 Ne4!

A very gutsy move by my opponent.

20. Qxd5 Bf5  
 21. Qb3! Bxe5  
 22. Nxe5 Qxe5  
 23. Bf3 ...

White has the better game. Better pawn structure, more space, the open c-file, two bishops, etc. And black has to be concerned over the slightly precarious position of his N on e4. Plus black has a set of weakened dark-squares around his king that he must keep a close eye on.





Position after 23. Bf3

23. ... Rfe8  
24. Bg5 Rd4!  
25. Be3 Rdd8  
26. Qa4! ...

Probing black on both sides of the board.

26. ... Qb8  
27. b5 Nc5 ?!  
28. Bxc5 Rxe1+  
29. Rxe1 bxc5  
30. Bc6! ...

So that 30. ... Bd7? 31. Bxd7 Rxd7 32. b6! wins. This bishop will now rule the board from its present post and dominate its counterpart.

30. ... Be6  
31. Qc2 Qd6  
32. a4! Qd2 ?!

Black, in severe time trouble, does not realise that the endgame is nearly hopeless.

33. Qxd2 Rxd2  
34. a5 ...

The pawns become a real threat. The threat is 35. Rb1 and a pawn will promote.

34. ... Rb2

35. Ra1! ...

Now the threat is the sneaky 36. b6! axb6? 37. a6! sliding a button in to score a TD.

35. ... c4  
36. b6! a6  
37. Rc1! ...

Freezing the dangerous c-pawn. 37. ... Ra2? 38. Rb1 winning.

37. ... Kg7!?  
38. Bb7 Rb3  
39. Bxa6 c3  
40. b7 Bd5

At least black makes time control and will not lose on time.

41. Rxc3! Rb1+  
42. Kh2 Bxb7  
43. Bd3! ...

Rook and pawn endings are notoriously drawish.

43. ... Rb2  
44. a6 Bxa6 !?

Black sacs a piece to set up a nearly fool-proof fortress. The possibility now exists of reaching the endgame of K+R+B vs. K+R and a hundred more moves to play!

45. Bxa6 Rxf2  
46. Rc7 ...

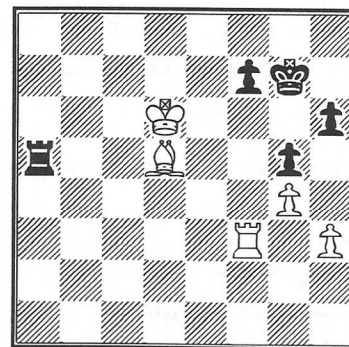
White begins a multi-phase plan to win.

46. ... h6  
47. Bc4 g5  
48. Bd5 Rf5  
49. Bf3 Rf6  
50. Kg3 Rf4  
51. Kf2 Kg6

52. Ke3 Rf6  
53. g4 Kg7  
54. Be4 Rf4  
55. Rc5 ...

Threatening to play Rf5 and trap black's rook.

55. ... Rf6  
56. Rf5 Ra6  
57. Rf3 Ra7  
58. Bd5 Re7+  
59. Kd4 Ra7  
60. Kc5 Ra5+  
61. Kd6 ...



Position after 61. Kd6

61. ... Ra6+?

Black should play simply 61. ... Ra7 to keep the WK cut off. It is then up to white to demonstrate a plan to improve his position. (Rf3-b3-b7). But it is not 100% clear that black is lost.

62. Ke7 Ra7+  
63. Ke8 f6

Notice black may not check on a8.

64. Re3 h5  
65. Re7+ Rxe7+  
66. Kxe7 hxg4  
67. hxg4 Kg6  
68. Be4+ Kg7  
69. Bf5 Kh6

A trap. 70. Kxf6?? stalemate!

|          |         |
|----------|---------|
| 70. Be6  | Kg7     |
| 71. Bf7  | Kh7     |
| 72. Kxf6 | Kh6     |
| 73. Bd5  | Kh7     |
| 74. Kxg5 | resigns |

1 – 0

In round five I played what could have been my most difficult game, at least from the aspect of having to endure an inferior position. (For a long time. Actually, it seemed like an eternity.) My opponent played the Smith-Morra Gambit. I was familiar with the basic ideas. About two years ago, I bought a couple of books on this opening, but not having had the chance to study them in depth, I did not feel confident enough to play the main lines. I declined the gambit and my opponent set up the Maroczy Bind.

I do not have a lot of experience playing these positions, but it helped that I had been studying these lines with Dr. John Perciballi. (We study the Accelerated Fianchetto lines of the Dragon when we study together.)

I felt that I had come very close to losing, and that my opponent had enjoyed a huge advantage throughout most of the game. This was confirmed by the fact that when we input the moves into Fritz on Mike's laptop, Fritz showed White enjoyed a sizable advantage. (The green graph bars looked like, "Two huge, green waves crushing Black to pieces." This is what I told Mike.) After 20. Qe3, I thought seriously about offering my opponent a draw. The main reason I did not was that I thought my opponent might embarrass me by rejecting my offer!

### 30th Southern Congress Open – Atlanta, 4/17/99 40/100, SD/60 – Round 5

Stephen Whiteman (2040)  
vs. A.J. Goldsby I (2200)

|          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 1. e4    | c5    |
| 2. d4    | cx d4 |
| 3. c3 !? | d3 !? |

Black declines the Smith-Morra gambit.

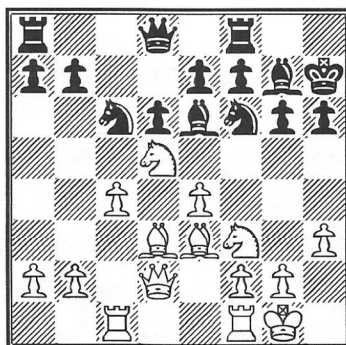
4. c4! ...

White sets up the Maroczy Bind.

|         |     |
|---------|-----|
| 4. ...  | Nf6 |
| 5. Bxd3 | ... |

Not 5. e5? Qa5+ winning a pawn.

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| 5. ...      | g6  |
| 6. Nf3      | Nc6 |
| 7. O-O      | d6  |
| 8. h3       | Bg7 |
| 9. Nc3      | O-O |
| 10. Be3     | h6  |
| 11. Rc1 +/- | Be6 |
| 12. Qd2     | Kh7 |
| 13. Nd5     | ... |



Position after 13. Nd5

White has a huge advantage in space and threatens 14. Nxf6+ winning a pawn or destroying black's pawn structure.

|         |     |
|---------|-----|
| 13. ... | Nd7 |
| 14. Bb1 | Rc8 |
| 15. Nd4 | b6  |

Now if 16. Nxe6 fxe6 17. Nf4 Rf6 and black has evicted the knight from d5 and gained some space and a half-open f-file.

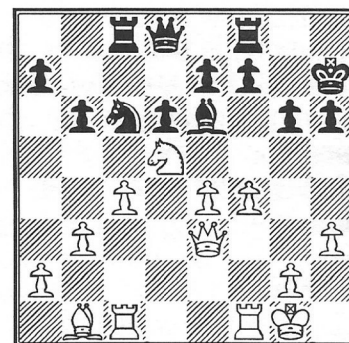
16. b3 ...

Black is suffocating from a lack of space. So he exchanges two sets of minors to get a little breathing room.

|          |      |
|----------|------|
| 16. ...  | Nxd4 |
| 17. Bxd4 | Bxd4 |
| 18. Qxd4 | Ne5  |
| 19. f4   | Nc6! |

Forget the tempo gained by hitting the queen. I wanted the knight on its best LONG-TERM square.

20. Qe3 ....



Position after 20. Qe3

Here Fritz stated that white's advantage is 8/10 of a pawn.

|          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 20. ...  | Qd7   |
| 21. Rfd1 | Kg7!! |

Black is planning to unravel his pieces with a deep plan that is new, at least to black. (You could give my next four moves an ex-

clam in parenthesis. But they are all part of the plan.)

**22. Nc3 f6**

This move is important because it stops e5 and allows my next move.

**23. Nd5 Bg8**

**24. a3 e5**

**25. b4 Nd4**

Black grabs his outpost.

**26. Ba2 Bxd5**

Then he eliminates white's knight.

**27. exd5 ...**

White had no choice. 27. exd5? Rxc1 28. Rxc1 Rc8; black will swap rooks on the c-file and leave white with the bad bishop vs. good knight endgame.

**27. ... Qf5!**

This move is justified by the sequence 28. Bb1 Qxf4 29. Qxf4 and now not taking on f4 and dropping the black knight, but 29. Ne2+ and black wins a pawn.

**28. Kh1 ...**

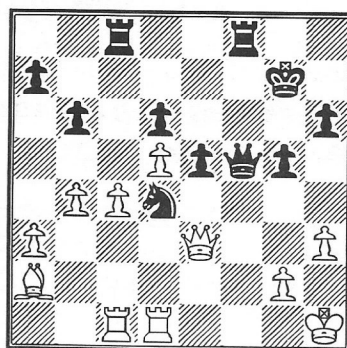
White avoids the tactic in the note for the last move.

**28. ... g5!**

Expanding in space on the K-side and opening the f-file.

**29. fxe5 fxe5**

(diagram next column)



Position after 29. ... fxe5

What a turn-around from the last diagram! Black's knight dominates the center of the board. White's bishop is partially bad, and is on the edge. Black controls the f-file. Fritz now states that black has the advantage.

**30. Bb1 Qf4**

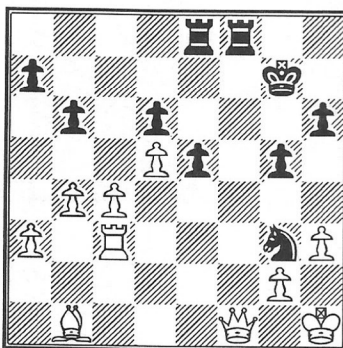
**31. Qd3 Nf5**

**32. Rc3 Rce8!**

Black threatens to just walk his e-pawn in and win the game. 33. Rdc1 e4 34. Qd1 e3, etc.

**33. Rf1? Qxf1+!**

The most precise.



Position after 34. ... Ng3+

**34. Qxf1 Ng3+**

After 35. Rxg3 Rxf1+ 36. Kh2 Rxb1, black is up a whole rook

**35. resigns**

**0 – 1**

This ends my tournament report on the 30th Annual Southern Chess Congress Open. I had a really good time and I think I played some good chess. It's been a long time since I went 5-0 in a really strong tournament. I may have had fortune smile on me, but that's the way it goes sometimes. "The player that plays the best chess always finishes second to someone who was lucky". (Bobby Fischer to Mikhail Tal after Bled, 1961.) I am thankful to the Lord for allowing me to play chess and to have given me at least a little talent for the game. I also want to thank Mike Thorton of Pensacola. Without him this trip would not have been possible. He also helped me get a computer so that state magazine editors do not have to try to read my hand-written notes. I also am able to study chess on the computer (welcome to the 21st century!) Thanks also to the nice folks in Atlanta who were very kind and hospitable during our trip. Thanks for the tournament!!



# Tim Bond Gives GM Goldin a Scare by Bill Melvin

**10th Tallahassee Open**  
**Tallahassee FL, 4/11/99**  
**30/90; SD/60**

**White: Tim Bond**  
**Black: Alexander Goldin**

**1. Nf3 Nf6**

Tim loves this type of opening. It can transpose into just about anything. Tim has his work cut out for himself facing a strong well-known GrandMaster (GM).

**2. g3 g6**  
**3. Bg2 Bg7**  
**4. d4 O-O**  
**5. O-O d6**  
**6. c4 Nbd7**

We now have a King's Indian Defense. Usually sharp and unclear according to theory.

**7. Nc3 e5**  
**8. e4 ed**  
**9. Nd4 Re8**  
**10. Qc2? ...**

More usual is 10. h3. According to Nunn's Chess Openings, white can expect to eventually get a slight advantage.

**10. ... a6?**

I feel kind of silly giving a "?" to a GM, but he did just miss 10. ... Ne4!. While complicated, black seems to have a real advantage after snatching the e-pawn. The game might continue 11. Ne4 Bd4 12. Bh6 and white has some pressure for the pawn. Nonetheless, this must be black's best continuation.

**11. h3? Rb8?**

Neither player seems to have noticed 11. ... Ne4! with a healthy black edge.

**12. Be3! ...**

This prevents the Ne4 shot. White has a pleasant position now.

**12. ... c5?!**

I'm not a GM, but this move seems to terminally weaken the d6 pawn. Try to find something nice to say about black's position. Black will have to play well to hold this together.

**13. Nde2 b5**  
**14. Rad1 Qc7**  
**15. cb ab**  
**16. Nf4 ...**

This may be white's best. 16. Qd3 attacking both the b5 and d6 pawns was also tempting.

**16. ... b4**  
**17. Ncd5 Nxd5**  
**18. Nxd5 Qa5**  
**19. b3 Bb7**

White has kept the advantage. With all the minor pieces present, it is hard to keep everything under control.

**20. Bf4 Ne5**  
**21. Ne3 ...**

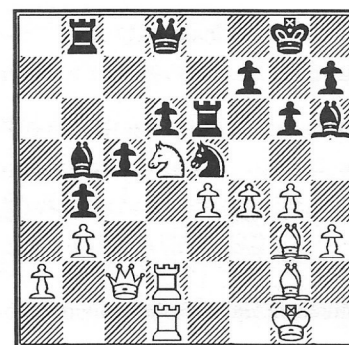
I have a natural distrust for retreating moves like this one. Which square could possibly be better for the knight than d5?

**21. ... Ba6**  
**22. Rfe1 Re6**  
**23. Rd2 Qc7**

**24. Red1 Bb5**  
**25. g4 ...**

This is another suspect move. Simply 25. Nd5 seems more natural.

**25. ... Qe7**  
**26. Bg3 Bh6**  
**27. Nd5 Qd8**  
**28. f4 ...**



*Position after 28. f4*

Missing the wonderful move 28. g5!?. Play might continue 28. ... Qg5 29. Nc7 Qe7 [29. ... Rf6 30. Nb5 Rb5 31. Rd6 Rd6 32. Rd6 with white's dream position] 30. Ne6 Bd2 31. Qd2 Qe6 32. Qd6 Qd6 33. Rd6 Re8 with a great position for the two bishops.

**28. ... Nc6**  
**29. Bf2 Bg7**  
**30. e5 Kh8**  
**31. g5 ...**

White appears to have his best position of the game after simply 31. ed. The c5 pawn falls right away and white would remain a pawn ahead.

**31. ... de**  
**32. Bxc5 Nd4**

**ACF Tournament Calendar – mostly from <http://www.cis.uab.edu/info/faculty/sloan/ACF>**

| <b>Event</b>                                                     | <b>Date and place</b>                                                                    | <b>Contact person</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Montgomery CC Y2K G/29 Blast (HOD Event)<br>(see bottom of page) | January 8 (reg. 9:30 – 10:00)<br>Comfort Suites Hotel, 5924 Monticello Dr.               | Caesar Lawrence       |
| Millbrook Scholastic                                             | January 15 (late entries 8:30-9:15 at site)<br>Chapman Acad., 4711 Chapman Rd, Millbrook | Caesar Lawrence       |
| Magic City Classic (see pp. 18-19)                               | January 22 – 24 (late reg. 8:30 – 9:30)<br>Birmingham Sheraton Hotel                     | Rick_Aeria            |
| Hoover Scholastic                                                | February 5 (late reg. 8:30-9:30)<br>South Shades Crest Elementary School, Hoover         | Vasha Rosenblum       |
| First Sunday Quads                                               | February 6 (reg. 1:00 – 1:30)<br>UAB Hill Student Center, Birmingham                     | Ken Sloan             |
| 28th Annual Queen of Hearts (see p. 17)                          | February (11),12-13 (late reg. 8:00-9:00 AM Sat)<br>A.U.M. University Center             | Rhodes Peele          |
| Birmingham Blunders III<br>(see facing page)                     | February 26 (reg. 7:30 – 9:00)<br>Howard Johnsons, 275 Oxmoor Road, Bir.                 | Kirk Petty            |
| Alabama State Scholastic Individual                              | March 11 (late reg. 8:00-8:45)<br>Advent Episcopal Day School, Birmingham                | Dale Robbins          |
| Birmingham Blunders IV<br>(see facing page)                      | March 25 (reg. 7:30 – 9:00)<br>Howard Johnsons, 275 Oxmoor Road, Bir.                    | Kirk Petty            |
| Alabama State Scholastic Team                                    | April 8 (no on-site registration)<br>Simmons Middle School, Hoover                       | Tom Young,            |
| Birmingham Blunders V<br>(see facing page)                       | April 22 (reg. 7:30 – 9:00)<br>Howard Johnsons, 275 Oxmoor Road, Bir.                    | Kirk Petty            |

**Montgomery Chess Club Y2K G/29 Blast**

**Saturday, January 8, 2000 at Comfort Suites Hotel, Montgomery  
5924 Monticello Drive, Montgomery (near I-85 exit 6)**

**7 round Swiss, USCF Quick Rated, on-site registration 9:30-10:00, EF \$25  
Rounds: 10:15, 11:30, 12:45, 2:00, 3:15, 4:30, 5:45**

**Prizes based on 20 players:**

**1st, \$80; 2nd, \$60; A, \$50; B, \$50; C, \$50, U1400, \$50**

**Enter early (entry must be received by January 5) and save \$5.**

**\$20 check to Caesar Lawrence**

**Bring sets and clocks. No smoking or computers; wheelchair accessible.**

## Birmingham Blunders (monthly tournament series)

at Howard Johnsons, 275 Oxmoor Road, Birmingham AL (Homewood)

February 26, 2000. 3 round Swiss in 8 person sections, G/1. Prizes (based on 8 players in section): \$60 first, \$30 second. Rounds: 9:30, 12:30, 3:00.

March 25, 2000. 4 round one-section Swiss, G/1. Prizes (based on 20 players): 1st, \$80; 2nd, \$40; 1st 1700-1999, \$40; 1st 1500-1699, \$40; 1st 1499 and below, \$40. Must have 3 in rating group for prize to be awarded. Rounds: 9:30, 12:30, 3:00, 5:00

April 22, 2000. 4 round Swisses, two sections: Pro: Open to 1600 and above; Amateur, Open to 1599 and below. Prizes in Open section (based on 12 players): 1st, \$90; 2nd, \$50; 1st B, \$40. Prizes in Amateur section (based on 15 players): 1st, \$90; 2nd, \$50; 1st D/E, \$40; 1st unrated, \$30. Rounds: 9:30, 12:30, 3:00, 5:00

All events: Entry fee for registration by mail is \$20.00 to Kirk Petty.

On-site registration from 7:30 to 9:00; entry fee \$22.00 for Feb and March events, \$25.00 for April.

33. Nxb4 Qa5

White has still managed to keep a slight pull.

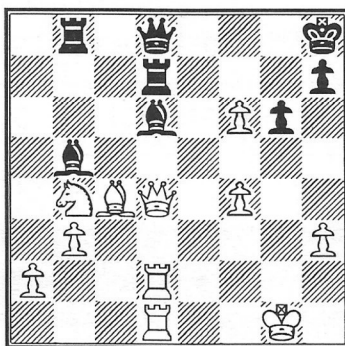
34. Bxd4 ed  
35. Qc5 Qd8  
36. Bd5 Re7

Tim has done an excellent job of outplaying the Grandmaster thus far in the game. 37. Rc1 is needed here to hold the c-file.

37. Bc4? Rc7

For the first time in the game, black has the advantage.

38. Qd5 Rd7  
39. Qc5 Bf8  
40. Qe5+ f6  
41. gf Bd6  
42. Qxd4 ...



Position after 42. Qxd4

The queen sacrifice 42. Bb5 was worth considering. Black probably still keeps the advantage after 42. ... Be5 43. Nc6 Qf6 44. Nb8 Bf4 45. Nd7 Be3 with a winning attack.

42. ... Bxb4  
43. Bxb5? ...

I'm told that Tim wrote the strong 43. Qe5 down on his scoresheet. The threat of f7 (mate) is hard to meet. Play might continue 43. ... Qb6 44. Rd4 Bf8 45. Bb5 Rd4 46. Rd4 Qb5 with an unclear position.

43. ... Rxd4  
44. Rxd4 Bc5  
45. resigns

0 – 1

A heroic effort by a strong Alabama chess player. Tim held his own with the GM for almost the entire game.



## 1999 Alabama State Chess Championship Open Section Birmingham, September 4 6

| #  | Player                | pre rtg | post rtg | 1        | 2        | 3        | 4   | 5   | 6   | Score |
|----|-----------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 1  | Stephen Muhammad (GA) | 2418    | 2416     | D8       | W10      | W6       | D5  | W3  | W4  | 5.0   |
| 2  | Matthew Puckett       | 2195    | 2185     | L10      | W12      | W11      | D3  | W6  | D5  | 4.0   |
| 3  | Andy Reeder           | 2130    | 2153     | W12      | W7       | D5       | D2  | L1  | W9  | 4.0   |
| 4  | Richard Frye (FL)     | 2091    | 2118     | half bye | W15      | D7       | W10 | W5  | L1  | 4.0   |
| 5  | Bill Melvin           | 2270    | 2258     | W13      | W14      | D3       | D1  | L4  | D2  | 3.5   |
| 6  | Alan Kobernat (CA)    | 2115    | 2120     | D15      | W8       | L1       | W7  | L2  | W13 | 3.5   |
| 7  | A.J. Goldsby (FL)     | 2200    | 2200     | W9       | L3       | D4       | L6  | W15 | D8  | 3.0   |
| 8  | Ulric Aeria           | 2008    | 2016     | D1       | L6       | half bye | W15 | D10 | D7  | 3.0   |
| 9  | Raymond Quillian (GA) | 1879    | 1877     | L7       | W13      | L10      | W12 | W11 | L3  | 3.0   |
| 10 | John Morcos           | 1831    | 1866     | W2       | L1       | W9       | L4  | D8  | D11 | 3.0   |
| 11 | Richard Pugh          | 1561    | 1590     | L14      | full bye | L2       | W13 | L9  | D10 | 2.5   |
| 12 | Mark Stribling        | 1660    | 1661     | L3       | L2       | full bye | L9  | L13 | W15 | 2.0   |
| 13 | Rhodes Peele          | 1845    | 1800     | L5       | L9       | D15      | L11 | W12 | L6  | 1.5   |
| 14 | Ben Sides             | 2053    | 2048     | W11      | L5       | —        | —   | —   | —   | 1.0   |
| 15 | Kenneth Sloan         | 1760    | 1742     | D6       | L4       | D13      | L8  | L7  | L12 | 1.0   |

## 1999 Alabama State Chess Championship Premier Section Birmingham, September 4 6

| # | Player           | pre rtg | post rtg | 1   | 2   | 3        | 4   | 5   | 6   | Score |
|---|------------------|---------|----------|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 1 | Mark Liatti      | 1954    | 1980     | W20 | W19 | D8       | D6  | W12 | D2  | 4.5   |
| 2 | Robert Pruitt    | 1941    | 1984     | W13 | W18 | half bye | W8  | D6  | D1  | 4.5   |
| 3 | Tim Bond         | 1918    | 1932     | W23 | L7  | W15      | W19 | W13 | D6  | 4.5   |
| 4 | Jere Roland      | 1900    | 1921     | D10 | W17 | L12      | W7  | W11 | W8  | 4.5   |
| 5 | Kirk Petty       | 1949    | 1926     | L9  | L10 | W20      | W22 | W19 | W13 | 4.0   |
| 6 | Nuwan Suriyagoda | 1947    | 1962     | W21 | D12 | W7       | D1  | D2  | D3  | 4.0   |

|    |                       |      |      |          |          |          |     |          |          |     |
|----|-----------------------|------|------|----------|----------|----------|-----|----------|----------|-----|
| 7  | Scott Varagona        | 1730 | 1806 | W14      | W3       | L6       | L4  | W18      | W12      | 4.0 |
| 8  | Willie Calhoun        | 1977 | 1968 | W15      | W9       | D1       | L2  | W14      | L4       | 3.5 |
| 9  | Michael Thornton (FL) | 1735 | 1765 | W5       | L8       | L18      | W21 | D15      | forf win | 3.5 |
| 10 | Giles D'Souza         | 1686 | 1737 | D4       | W5       | L14      | L11 | W22      | W15      | 3.5 |
| 11 | Ray Downs             | 1958 | 1903 | L19      | L15      | W17      | W10 | L4       | W20      | 3.0 |
| 12 | Caesar Lawrence       | 1867 | 1861 | W22      | D6       | W4       | D14 | L1       | L7       | 3.0 |
| 13 | Uwe Frischmuth (MS)   | 1859 | 1847 | L2       | W23      | W16      | W18 | L3       | L5       | 3.0 |
| 14 | Charles Smith         | 1944 | 1914 | L7       | W20      | W10      | D12 | L8       | —        | 2.5 |
| 15 | Roger McIntyre        | 1760 | 1751 | L8       | W11      | L3       | W16 | D9       | L10      | 2.5 |
| 16 | Brian Brown           | 1406 | 1416 | L18      | full bye | L13      | L15 | D17      | W22      | 2.5 |
| 17 | Kevin Crisler         | 1359 | 1382 | full bye | L4       | L11      | L20 | D16      | W19      | 2.5 |
| 18 | Bijan Khalegi         | 1877 | 1837 | W16      | L2       | W9       | L13 | L7       | —        | 2.0 |
| 19 | Ross Smith            | 1735 | 1730 | W11      | L1       | W21      | L3  | L5       | L17      | 2.0 |
| 20 | Chris Lasky           | 1689 | 1670 | L1       | L14      | L5       | W17 | full bye | L11      | 2.0 |
| 21 | Michael Lawson        | 1866 | 1814 | L6       | W22      | L19      | L9  | —        | —        | 2.0 |
| 22 | Gerald Wheeler        | 1519 | 1500 | L12      | L21      | full bye | L5  | L10      | L16      | 1.0 |
| 23 | Roy Stanton           | 1655 | 1641 | L3       | L13      | —        | —   | —        | —        | 0.0 |

1999 Alabama State Chess Championship – Challenger Section    Birmingham, September 4 – 6

| # | Player           | pre rtg | post rtg | 1        | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | Score |
|---|------------------|---------|----------|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 1 | Josh Wakefield   | 1513    | 1585     | W26      | W7  | D3  | W5  | W13 | W4  | 5.5   |
| 2 | Orrin Hudson     | 1658    | 1672     | L17      | W31 | W19 | W12 | W14 | W7  | 5.0   |
| 3 | Robert Bashinsky | 1530    | 1554     | W22      | W6  | D1  | W14 | L4  | W10 | 4.5   |
| 4 | John Bennett     | 1491    | 1516     | half bye | W25 | W9  | W24 | W3  | L1  | 4.5   |
| 5 | Ryan Willis      | 1449    | 1446     | W27      | W28 | D20 | L1  | W24 | D6  | 4.0   |
| 6 | Robert Rieves    | 1269    | 1321     | W8       | L3  | D18 | W25 | W9  | D5  | 4.0   |

|    |                      |        |         |          |     |          |          |          |          |     |
|----|----------------------|--------|---------|----------|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----|
| 7  | Alford Brown         | —      | 1617/6  | W10      | L1  | W22      | W30      | W20      | L2       | 4.0 |
| 8  | Bobby Chapuis (MS)   | 1566   | 1530    | L6       | L12 | W26      | D17      | W23      | W13      | 3.5 |
| 9  | Edward Lamboy (GA)   | 1446   | 1426    | D25      | W18 | L4       | W23      | L6       | W14      | 3.5 |
| 10 | Donny Davis          | 1416/3 | 1491/9  | L7       | W32 | W11      | D20      | W15      | L3       | 3.5 |
| 11 | Keith Artman         | 1298   | 1341    | W29      | L13 | L10      | W27      | D12      | W21      | 3.5 |
| 12 | Donald Wade          | 1247/5 | 1425/11 | L14      | W8  | W21      | L2       | D11      | W20      | 3.5 |
| 13 | Valerie Hodgson      | 1577   | 1547    | W32      | W11 | L14      | W15      | L1       | L8       | 3.0 |
| 14 | Mark Heavlin (NC)    | 1525   | 1515    | W12      | W17 | W13      | L3       | L2       | L9       | 3.0 |
| 15 | Mohammad Abdel-Ghany | 1447   | 1415    | L24      | W26 | W17      | L13      | L10      | W27      | 3.0 |
| 16 | Richard Ellis        | 1411   | 1400    | L19      | L23 | L27      | W31      | forf win | W24      | 3.0 |
| 17 | Jim Griffin          | 1248   | 1296    | W2       | L14 | L15      | D8       | W29      | D18      | 3.0 |
| 18 | Greg Benke           | 1152   | 1193    | half bye | L9  | D6       | D21      | W30      | D17      | 3.0 |
| 19 | Robert Adams         | —      | 1535/5  | W16      | D30 | L2       | D29      | W22      | —        | 3.0 |
| 20 | Jafar Daskar         | 1538   | 1491    | W31      | D24 | D5       | D10      | L7       | L12      | 2.5 |
| 21 | Ryan Crane           | 1461   | 1386    | L28      | W27 | L12      | D18      | W25      | L11      | 2.5 |
| 22 | Fred Wood            | 1268   | 1286    | L3       | W29 | L7       | W28      | L19      | half bye | 2.5 |
| 23 | Brennan Young        | 1223   | 1254    | L30      | W16 | half bye | L9       | L8       | W29      | 2.5 |
| 24 | Robert Ljubas        | 1147/8 | 1253/14 | W15      | D20 | W30      | L4       | L5       | L16      | 2.5 |
| 25 | Miles Melvin         | 993    | 1046    | D9       | L4  | W28      | L6       | L21      | W30      | 2.5 |
| 26 | Riley Lane (GA)      | 1202   | 1174    | L1       | L15 | L8       | full bye | L27      | W31      | 2.0 |
| 27 | Stephen Webb         | 976    | 1019    | L5       | L21 | W16      | L11      | W26      | L15      | 2.0 |
| 28 | Theodis King         | —      | 1093/4  | W21      | L5  | L25      | L22      | forf win | —        | 2.0 |
| 29 | Lamar Causey         | 1502   | 1404    | L11      | L22 | W31      | D19      | L17      | L23      | 1.5 |
| 30 | Donald Yessick       | 1436   | 1400    | W23      | D19 | L24      | L7       | L18      | L25      | 1.5 |
| 31 | John Moore           | 1096   | 1073    | L20      | L2  | L29      | L16      | full bye | L26      | 1.0 |
| 32 | James Brown          | 1360   | 1342    | L13      | L10 | —        | —        | —        | —        | 0.0 |



# 28TH ANNUAL QUEEN OF HEARTS FEBRUARY (11), 12-13, 2000 AUBURN UNIVERSITY AT MONTGOMERY

PRIZES (BASED ON 45 ENTRIES)

| OPEN SECTION (OPEN TO ALL)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | RESERVE SECTION (UNDER 1600)                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1ST, \$300<br>2ND, \$125<br>TOP EXPERT, \$100<br>2ND EXPERT, \$50<br>TOP A, \$100<br>2ND A, \$50<br>TOP U1800, \$100<br>2ND U1800 \$50                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1ST, \$150<br>2ND, \$75<br>TOP D, \$75<br>TOP E, \$75<br>TOP U1000, \$50<br>TOP UNRATED \$50 |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPECIAL EVENT FRIDAY EVENING, FEB. 11</b></p> <p>AT 8:00, FORMER U.S. COCHAMPION DR. STUART RACHELS WILL GIVE A PUBLIC SIMULTANEOUS CHESS EXHIBITION. PLAYING IN THIS EVENT IS FREE TO THOSE WHO HAVE PREREGISTERED BY FEB. 5. OTHERS MAY PLAY FOR AN ENTRY FEE OF \$10.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                              |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TOURNAMENT RULES</b></p> <p>ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE USCF MEMBERS, AND ALL RESIDENTS OF ALABAMA MUST BE ACF MEMBERS. BOTH SECTIONS ARE FIVE-ROUND SWISS STYLE TOURNAMENTS. TIME CONTROL IS 35/90 FOLLOWED BY SD/30. PLAYERS MAY PREREGISTER BY FEB. 5 BY MAILING THEIR \$40 ENTRY TO TD RICH BELLEZZA</p> <p>MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO MONTGOMERY CHESS CLUB AND GIVE DESIRED SECTION AND USCF ID # ON MEMO LINE OF CHECK. ON-SITE REGISTRATION: SAT. 8:00 – 9:00 AM (ALSO \$40). ROUND TIMES: SATURDAY, 9:30, 2:30, 7:30; SUNDAY, 9:30, 2:30. ACF BUSINESS MEETING: 7:30 – 9:00 AM SUNDAY. A "HEART OF DIXIE TOUR" EVENT.</p> |                                                                                              |

## The Birmingham Chess Club Presents ...

# 1st Magic City Classic

January 22-23, 2000 A.D. at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel  
**\$2,900 Prize Fund\* – 20 Grand Prix Points**

\* Unconditionally guaranteed! Increased from the USCF Tournament Life announcement.

*A "Heart of Dixie" Event!*

**OPEN SECTION:** 1st, trophy + \$500; 2nd, \$300; 3rd, \$200, Top U2200, \$150.  
Entry fee: \$55 (if received by 1/14/2000), \$65 after 1/14/2000.  
GM's and IM's get free entry! No prize deductions!

**PREMIER SECTION:** (Under 2000) 1st, trophy + \$300; 2nd, \$200; 3rd, \$100, Top U1800, \$150. Entry fee: \$50 (if received by 1/14/2000), \$60 after 1/14/2000.

**CHALLENGER'S SECTION:** (Under 1600) 1st, trophy + \$300; 2nd, \$200, 3rd, \$100, Top U1400, \$150, Top U1200, \$150, Top Unrated, \$100. Six Scholastics trophies! Entry fee: \$45 (if received by 1/14/2000), \$55 after 1/14/2000. **Special Scholastics Entry Fee (eligible for Trophy Prizes only) : \$25** (if received by 1/14/2000), **\$35** (after 1/14/2000).

**FORMAT:** For all three sections, a five round Swiss system tournament, USCF membership required, USCF rated. Time control: **30 moves in one hour; then sudden death in one hour.** One half-point bye permitted if TD is notified before pairing the round. Wheelchair access, no smoking, no computers.

**SCHEDULE:** **Saturday, January 22.** Late registration: 8:30 – 9:30 AM. Round 1: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Round 2: 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM. Round 3: 8:00 PM – 12:00 midnight.  
**Sunday, January 23.** Round 4: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Round 5: 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM. Awards Ceremony: 6:15 PM.

**Tournament Director: Rich Bellezza**

## Special Side Events on Friday

### 6/5 Alabama State Championship

6:30 PM, Friday, January 21

5 round Swiss, \$10 entry

Prizes based on 35 entries:

1st, \$100; 2nd, \$60; 3rd, \$40;

Top U1800, \$30; Top U 1600, \$30;

Top U1400, \$30; Top U1200, \$30.

### Simultaneous Exhibition

Life Master Kyle Therrell

8:00 PM, Friday, January 21

Only \$15 a board

5-time (count 'em) Alabama State Champion. Play the Legend! Come join us for a veritable Chess Festival of fun and excitement!

**LOCATION:** Sheraton Birmingham Hotel at 2101 Richard Arrington Jr. Boulevard, Birmingham AL 35203, PHONE: (205) 324-5000. **Special chess tournament room rate:** \$59 a night. Reservations by phone at 800-325-3535 or 205-307-3000.

The hotel is located in historic downtown Birmingham, walking distance to the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame and Art Museum. The Civil Rights Museum, McWane Science Center and Theatre is only 1 1/2 miles away. For fast paced nightlife try the Five Points South area with its restaurants, night clubs and bars. Free shuttle service to and from nearby Birmingham International Airport.

**Collectible coin GIVE-AWAY!** Mikhail TAL (world champion '60-'61) "The Magician from Riga" To celebrate the memory of the incomparable 'Misha' a special commemorative coin (2.75") wil the likeness of Tal finished in antique silver will be given to the first 100 paid entries received! A \$15 value!. Definitely a collector's item for chess lovers.

## 1<sup>st</sup> MAGIC CITY CHESS CLASSIC ENTRY FORM

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name of Participant (First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | USCF Membership Identification Number                                                                                                 | USCF Expiration Date                                                   |
| Street Address                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | City, State                                                                                                                           | Postal Zip Code                                                        |
| Please Circle Section that you will be playing in<br>OPEN   PREMIERE   CHALLENGER                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | If Entering as a scholastic Player, list School and Grade                                                                             | USCF Rating                                                            |
| Entry Fee (Please indicate appropriate) On or before 1/14/2000<br>OPEN \$55   Premiere \$50   Challenger \$45   Scholastic \$25<br>Entry fee after 1/14/2000<br>OPEN \$65   Premiere \$60   Challenger \$55   Scholastic \$35<br>Quick Chess State Championship \$10<br>TOTAL EF \$ _____ ACF Member (Y/N) _____<br>BYE Request Rd # _____ 5 <sup>th</sup> Rd Byes irrevocable | <b>Mikhail Tal Commemorative Coin</b><br>I would like to purchase _____ coin(s) @\$15 each<br>Total _____ (Plus include 8% sales tax) | <b>MAIL ENTRIES TO:</b><br><br>Birmingham Chess Club<br>C/o Rick Aeria |



The Alabama Chess Federation (ACF) is the United States Chess Federation (USCF) affiliate for the state of Alabama. Membership is open to any interested individual or organization by paying the annual membership dues. Please support Alabama chess by joining or renewing your annual membership in ACF.

## ACF Membership Application

☐ Regular, \$10

☐ Scholastic, \$5

☐ Affiliate, \$15

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

USCF ID# (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE and/or E-ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this coupon or a photocopy along with payment to  
Jack Mallory / ACF Secretary/Treasurer / \_\_\_\_\_

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c/o Jeff Lake

Publisher, Alabama Chess Antics

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- Richard Ellis's first President's Letter
  - A.J. Goldsby annotates all of his games from the Southern Congress Open
  - Tim Bond gives grandmaster Goldin a scare (game notes by Bill Melvin)
  - Display ads for "Magic City Classic", "28th Queen of Hearts", "Birmingham Blunders", and "Montgomery Y2K G/29 Blast"
  - Crosstables for 1999 State Championship and Vulcan Open
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