

Healey (6) suffered the only upset by going down to Andy Miitel (13) after a lengthy tussle. Leading scores - Booth, Anderson, Bas Van Riel (3), Davies, Kevin Perrin (5), Patrick Cook (7), A Miitel 2.

With some brilliant positional moves, Davies scored the big surprise in round three by defeating Booth, which was the first time since 1987 that he had actually lost a game in this event.

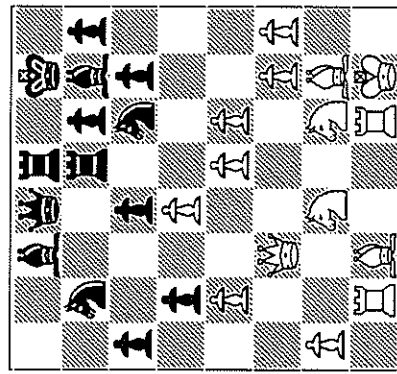
### Vic Country Championship 1993

□ S Booth

■ A Davies

*King's Indian Defence, Panno variation.*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.g3 O-O  
5.Bg2 d6 6.Nf3 c5 7.O-O Nc6 8.d5 Na5  
9.Nd2 a6 10.e4 e6 11.h3 exd5 12.cxd5!  
b5 13.f4 Re8 14.Qf3 Ra7 15.Nd1 Rae7  
16.Nf2 c4 17.Rb1 Nb7 18.b4? c3! 19.Qxc3



Nxe4 20.Qxg7+ Kxg7 21.Ndx4 f6  
22.Bb2 Rf7 23.g4 Kf8 24.Bd4 h6 25.Ng3  
f5 26.gxf5 Bxf5 27.Nxf5 gxf5 28.Nd3 Qh4

pawn.  
46 Bxd4 Kc8 47 Rxa5 Rg4 48 Rh5 Rxf4  
Black could well resign here. The rest of the game is not without interest, however.

49 Rxh6 Kb7 50 Kg3 Rf1 51 Re6 Bd5 52 Re2 Rf3+ 53 Kg4 Rf8 54 Re5 Rg8+ 55 Rg5 Be6+ 56 Kf4 Rf8+ 57 Ke5 Bc4 58 h5 Re8+ 59 Kd6 Re6+ 60 Kc5 Be2 61 Rg7+  
White has again been able to imprison the black king.

61 ... Kb8 62 Rg6  
White's rook still indirectly controls the seventh rank from here!

62 ... Re8 63 h6 Re8+ 64 Kd6 Bd3 65 Rg7 resigns.

(Notes by John Ollie.)

## Victorian Country Championship

♁ Alistair Anderson

The 14th Victorian Country Championship was held in Maryborough late last year and attracted 28 players.

Stewart Booth (seeded 1) has won the event 8 times altogether since 1980 - 5 times outright in 1981, 82, 88, 89 and 90, and he shared the title 3 times in 1987, 91 and 92. He was again the favourite.

Round one saw a unique occurrence with the 14 higher seeds all recording victories over the bottom half, although Liam Ryan (16) played well and was unlucky not to draw against Anderson (2) after four hours play, the longest game of the event.

In round two, Alex Davies (4) showed impressive form as White against Peter Miittel's (11) Sicilian Dragon with a pressurised attack that penetrated Black's defences, while fellow Bendigonian Leigh

29.Bf2 Qh5 30.Rb3 Re2 31.Nc1 Rd2  
32.Be3 Rc2 33.Bd4 Qg6 34.Bf2 Rg7 35.  
Rg3 Qxg3 36.Bxg3 Rxg3 37.Rf2 Rxc1+  
38.Kh2 Ra3 0-1

Van Riel was held to a draw by another Ballaritan in Cook, and Ryan played a fine game to defeat Healey and now shared the lead in the Reserve section with Bill Tucker (18) who recorded a win over Nigel Barrow (10).

Round four saw the Scotch Opening between Anderson and Davies and an interesting game developed until the latter, in desperate trouble on the clock, lost on time with four moves remaining in a double-edged position. A continual shuffle of Knights and Bishops by Booth and Van Riel resulted in a draw, allowing Cook to move into second place by winning the exchange and beating Perrin, with knights and pawns each the Gibbs brothers could have agreed a draw but (no brotherly love here!) the game went to the wire with Alistair emerging victorious. Ryan continued to take out the higher seeds, this time accounting for Peter Miitel, Dekker triumphed by overcoming Garrow, and junior Chris Barlow (22) drew with Ken Czuczman (17). Leading scores Anderson 4; Cook 3.5; Van Riel, Davies, G Males, A Gibbs, Ryan, Dekker 3.

In round five, a short 14 move draw gave Anderson the title with 4.5, and secured Cook on 4, also unbeaten, who had an excellent tournament, a share of second place. Van Riel finally ground down Gibbs after tenacious resistance to finish equal second, and Davies and G Males (whose only loss was to the winner) defeated Ryan

and Dekker respectively to complete the runner-up quartet. Ryan and Dekker took equal first in the Reserve section with 3. Jeff Males (23) who would have won an award for most pics consumed on a weekend, was coming off a draw and finished on a (and with a) roll with a win over Andy Copeland (25). Stewart, Barlow and Simon Millon (28) all scored 1.5 to share the Junior prize.

Final scores (5 rounds) A Anderson 4.5 points; B Van Riel, A Davies, P Cook, G Males 4; S Booth 3.5; G Gibbs, N Barrow, A Gibbs, L Ryan, W Dekker 3; L Healey, P Miitel, N Garrow, K Czuczman 2.5; K Perrin, A Miitel, D Schepisi, J Baynham, K Hughes 2; S Stewart, C Barlow, J Males, S Milton 1.5; M O'Brien, A Copeland 1; Trevor Wollard, Troy Wollard 0 (withdrew after round 2).

## Dandenong Chess Club

Dandenong commenced activities for 1994 with the now traditional 7-round Summer Swiss tournament. A record field of 48 players are contesting this event. Results will appear in the next issue.

Forthcoming events at Dandenong are :

March 30 : Annual General Meeting

April 6 : Easter Cup commences.

5 Round swiss - 60 minutes per player time limit plus two 10 minute games against same opponent.

May 18 : Dandenong Autumn Open commences.