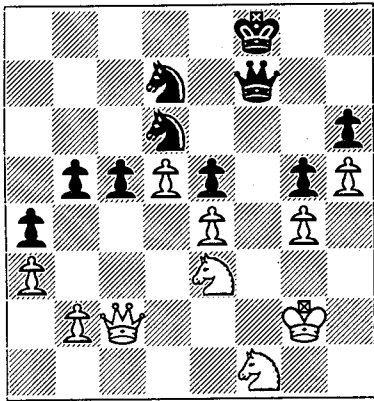


g5 32.f4 h6 33.fxg5 fxg5 34.Qc3 Nd6
35.Ne3 Rhf8 36.Rdf1 Rxf1 37.Rxf1 Rf8
38.Rxf8 Kxf8 39.Qc2 b5 40.g4 Qf7
41.Ndf1



41 ... Qf4 42.Nf5 Qxg4+ 43.N5g3 Nf6
44.Qxc5 Nfxe4 45.Qb6 Qf4 46.Kg1 Qf6
47.Kg2 Nxc3 48.Nxc3 e4 49.Qb8+ Kf7
50.Qc7+ Qe7 51.Qc6 e3 52.Kf3 Qf6+
53.Kg2 Qxb2+ 54.Kh3 Qe5 55.Qc2 Qf6
56.Qd3 e2 57.Qxe2 Nf5 58.Qxb5 g4+
59.Kg2 Nh4+ 60.Kg1 Qd4+ 61.Kh1 Qd1+
62.Qf1+ Qxf1+ 63.Nxf1 Nf5 64.Kh2 Kf6
65.Ng3 Nd6 66.Nf1 Nc4 67.Kg3 Kg5
68.Nh2 Ne3 69.Kf2 Nxd5 70.Nf1 Kxh5
71.Ng3+ Kh4 72.Ne4 Kh3 73.Kg1 g3 0-1

Victorian Country Championship

by Alistair Anderson

The Victorian Country Championship was held in Maryborough on September 17, 18 and contested by 29 players.

ROUND 1

The only surprise saw Peter Miitel (seeded 13) held to a draw by Robert Bailey (27). The top two seeds were the last games to finish with Ken Czuczman (16) giving Stewart Booth (1) a very tough fight before the latter came through after a superior ending, and David Cariss (17) clung on tenaciously until a nicely timed central pawn push by Alex Davies (2).

ROUND 2

In a close battle, Geoff Davis (14) from Geelong recorded a good win after trapping Cameron Gibb's (6) King in the centre, and Liam Ryan (10) exploited weakened dark squares to grab a rook against Anderson, but overlooked a discovered bishop check and lost his queen. Patrick Cook (5) used skilful moves in a rook and pawn ending to defeat Paul Wendrich (11).

ROUND 3

With a girl's debutante ball celebration being held next door, concentration was impossible, especially when booming renditions of "Thank Heavens for Little Girls" rang out. A slightly raised voice from a lower board was met by "Quiet Please" from the quick-witted Alistair Gibbs (9). Booth placed a rook on the seventh rank early against Van Riel and came through after a struggle. A bizarre ending saw Miitel offer a draw, not realising he had a forced win in two moves. Davis, seeing he was lost eagerly accepted.

ROUND 4

Booth won Bishop and Knight for Rook against Davies, then captured the exchange to be a whole bishop up. Davies could have retrieved the piece and got the advantage with 36....Qf8+ (see game), but missed it, allowing Booth to consolidate and go to 4/4. Anderson overcame Davis in a long Queen and pawn endgame to co-lead.

ROUND 5

A keen contest led to a level opposite minor piece ending and a draw was agreed leaving Booth and Anderson joint winners on 4.5, giving Booth his name on the trophy for a ninth time, and allowing Anderson to retain the title from last year. In equal third place on 4 were Davies, who won a couple of pawns against C Gibbs, Van Riel, who triumphed after Healey went for broke and overreached, and Cook, who strangled Buchalka's position by dominating the entire board. Davis performed admirably to finish outright sixth on 3.5.

The reserves section was won by Garrow, Czuczman and Simon Milton (25) on 2.5, with the latter also taking the first junior prize ahead of Chris Barlow (18).

Thanks to tournament organizer and D.O.P. Kevin Perrin, who besides his usually efficient directing, pulled off the incredible feat, with an uneven number, of nobody actually receiving the bye! (however, some of the scoreboard entries....??!).

FINAL SCORES:

29 Players 5 Rounds
Maryborough 17/18 September 94

Score	Player	Aug94	Tour	Rtg
		Ratg	Perf	Chge
4.5	S Booth	2140	2004	2
4.5	A Anderson	1797	1938	14
4.0	A Davies	1811	1911	9

4.0	B Vanriel	1735	1872	9
4.0	P Cook	1624	1764	11
3.5	G Davis	1476	1686	0
3.0	C Gibbs	1620	1466	-9
3.0	K Perrin	1594	1556	-3
3.0	L Healey	1555	1659	2
3.0	A Gibbs	1540	1605	5
3.0	L Ryan	1506	1433	-3
3.0	P Wendrich	1486	1296	-9
3.0	M Buchalka	1480	1526	3
2.5	N Garrow	1471	1231	-13
2.5	K Czuczman	1443	1444	-6
2.5	S Milton	1018p	0	0
2.0	P Miitel	1477	1427	-4
2.0	D Cariss	1431	0	-13
2.0	C Barlow	1294	0	-5
2.0	J Donehue	0	0	0
2.0	C Franklin	0	0	0
2.0	R Clayton	0	0	0
2.0	A Richardson	0	0	0
1.5	R Bailey	0	1020	0
1.5	D Biggs	0	1030	0
1.0	D Nigsch	0	1365	0
1.0	L Scrutton	0	0	0
1.0	M Harrington	0	0	0
0.0	D Chandler	0	0	0

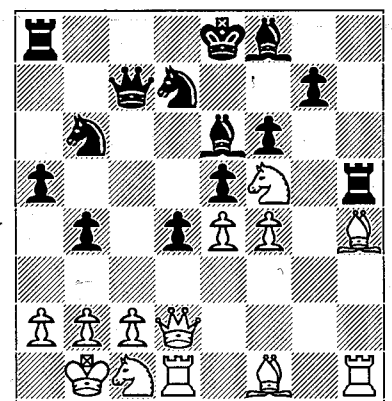
Victorian Country Championship 1994.

A Davies 1798

S Booth 2140

Sicilian Defence

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Qc7 8.Qd2 b6
9.f3 Be6 10.O-O-O Nbd7 11.g4 h6 12.g5
hxg5 13.Bxg5 b5 14.h4 Nb6 15.Kb1 b4
16.Ne2 a5 17.Ng3 Nfd7 18.Nf5 d5 19.Nc1
d4 20.h5 f6 21.Bh4 Rxh5 22.f4



22... g5 23.fxg5 fxg5 24.Be2 Rxh4
25.Nxh4 gxh4 26.Bh5+ Kd8 27.Rxh4 Kc8
28.Bg4 Bxg4 29.Rxg4 Nc4 30.Qe2 Ne3
31.Rdg1 Nxc4 32.Rxg4 Nc5 33.Rg6 Qd7
34.Qh5 Bd6 35.Qh6 Bc7 36.Rg7 Qd6
37.Rg6 Qe7 38.Rg3 Qd6 39.Rg6 Qd8
40.Nb3 Nxb3 41.Qh3+ Kb7 42.Qxb3 Ra6
43.Rg8 Qd7 44.Qd3 Rb6 45.Rg1 Rh6
46.Qf1 d3 0-1