



NEWS

NATIONAL OPEN JUNE 21-24, 2018

GM Cristian Chirila Wins National Open Championship

GM Cristian Chirila went into the final round a half-point ahead of 3 players, his opponent, GM Dariusz Swiercz, and on board 2 were GM Nikola Mitkov and GM Illia Nyzhnyk.

The Mitkov-Nyzhnyk game finished in a draw meaning the same result would be good enough to give Chirila the clear win, whereas a win for Swiercz would leave him at the top.

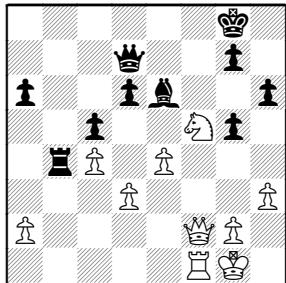
The board one match-up ended up being the last game to finish, a tense struggle that got down to what looked like an easily winning rook and pawn ending for Swiercz. However, in mutual time trouble, the Polish GM failed to convert and by the time everything had come off the board, Chirila got the half-point he needed to take the title.

Swiercz,Dariusz (2753)
Chirila,Ioan (2637)

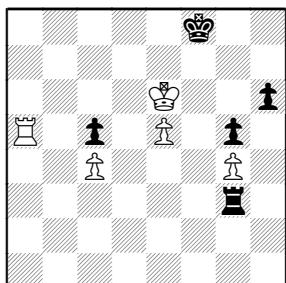
National Open (7) 2018

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3
Nc6 4.Bb5 Bd6 5.d3 a6
6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.h3 Nd7
8.Be3 0-0 9.0-0 c5 10.Nd2
Re8 11.Nc4 Nf8 12.Nxd6
cxd6 13.f4 exf4 14.Bxf4
Ng6 15.Bg3 Be6 16.Qf3
Qd7 17.Rae1 Rad8 18.b3 f6
19.Re3 Ne7 20.Rfe1 Nc6
21.Qf2 Nd4 22.Nd5 Nc6
23.Nf4 Bf7 24.Qd2 Ne5
25.Rf1 Ng6 26.c4 Ne5
27.Ne2 b5 28.Nc3 bxc4

29.bxc4 Rb8 30.Bxe5 Rxe5
31.Rg3 Qe7 32.Nd1 Rb4
33.Qf4 Rg5 34.Rxg5 fxg5
35.Qf2 Be6 36.Ne3 h6
37.Nf5 Qd73
7...Qd8=



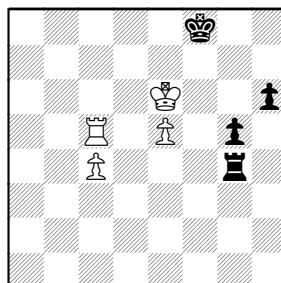
38.Nxh6+! gxh6 39.Qf8+
Kh7 40.Rf6 Qg7 41.Qxg7+
Kxg7 42.Rxe6 Ra4 43.Kf2
Rxa2+ 44.Kf3 a5 45.Rxd6
a4 46.e5 Rd2 47.g4 a3
48.Rd7+ Kf8 49.Ke4 a2
50.Ra7 Ke8 51.Kd5 Rxd3+
52.Ke6 Kf8 53.Rxa2 Rxh3
54.Ra5 Rg3



55.Kf5
55.Ra8+ Kg7 56.Kd6 Rd3+
57.Kxc5 Kf7 58.Ra6 Ke7
59.Rxh6+-
55...Rf3+ 56.Ke6 Rf4
57.Rxc5 Rxg4



GM Cristian Chirila receives the Edmondson Cup from organizers Alan and Janelle Losoff



58.Rc7
58.Rc8+ Kg7 59.c5 Rg1
60.Rd8 Rc1 61.Rd5 g4
62.Kd6 g3 63.Rd3+-
58...Rf4 59.c5 g4 60.Rh7 g3
61.Rxh6 Rg4 62.Rh1 g2
63.Rg1 Ke8 64.c6 Kd8
65.Kd6 Rd4+ 66.Kc5 Rg4
67.Kd6 Rd4+ 68.Ke6 Rd2
69.Ra1 Kc7 70.Ra7+ Kxc6
71.Rg7 Kc5 72.Rg4 Rf2
73.Kd7 Rf7+ 74.Ke8 Ra7
75.Rxg2 Kd5 76.Re2 Ke6
77.Kd8 Ra5 78.Kc7 Rxe5
79.Rxe5+ Kxe5 ½-½

Mitkov,Nikola (2537)
Nyzhnyk,Illia (2706)
National Open (7) 2018
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6
4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6
7.Be3 Be7 8.a3 0-0 9.dxc5
Nxc5 10.Be2 b6 11.0-0 Ba6
12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.b4 Nc7
14.Qd3 f5 15.Ne2 Qd7
16.Rfd1 Rfd8 17.c3 b5
18.h3 a5 19.Bb6 Ra6
20.Bxc7 Qxc7 21.Nfd4
Nxd4 22.Nxd4 Qc4 23.Qxc4
bxc4 24.b5 Rb6 25.a4 Kf7
26.Kf2 Bc5 27.Kf3 Rb7
28.Ra2 g6 29.Nc6 Ra8
30.g4 Bb6 31.Rg2 Rg8
32.Rdd2 Rc7 33.Nd4 Rcc8
34.Nc6 Rcf8 35.Rg3 Ke8
36.g5 Rh8 37.Rdg2 Kf7
38.h4 Rfg8 39.h5 gxh5
40.Rh3 h6 41.Rxh5 hxg5
42.Rg5 Rc8 ½-½

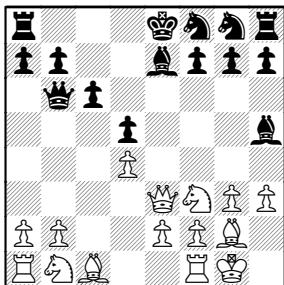


National Open Round 6 Action

Round 6 was the round where GM Cristian Chirila opened up his half-point lead on the rest of the field. In those terms it was just as critical as hanging on in the final round 7 game.

Here is some brief action from Sunday morning's round 6.

Chirila,Ioan (2637)
Moradiabadi,Elshan (2624)
 National Open (6) 2018
 1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 c6 3.Bg2 Bg4
 4.h3 Bh5 5.0-0 Nd7 6.d4 e6
 7.c4 Be7 8.cxd5 exd5
 9.Qb3 Qb6 10.Qe3 Nf8



11.Ne5

Both 11.Nh4 and 11. Nbd2 have been played here before.

11...Ne6 12.Rd1 Nh6 13.g4

Bg5

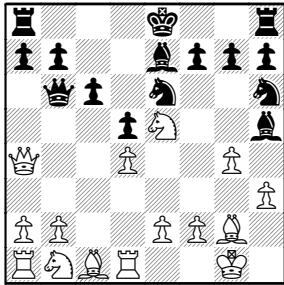
13...Bg6

14.Qa3 Be7

14...Bxc1 15.Rxc1 Bg6

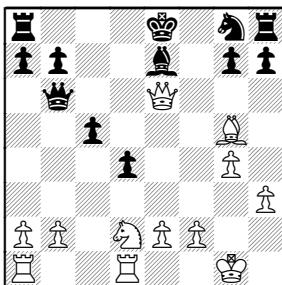
16.e3±

15.Qa4

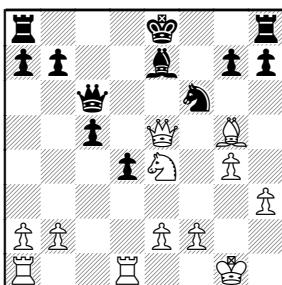


15...f6

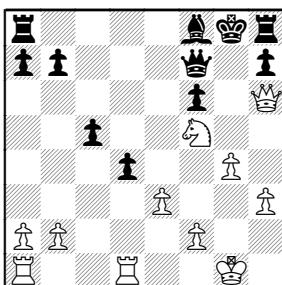
15...Bg6 16.Bxd5
16.Bxd5 fxe5 17.Bxe6 Bf7
18.Qc4 Bxe6 19.Qxe6 exd4
20.Bg5 Ng8 21.Nd2 c5



22.Qe5! Nf6 23.Ne4
 23.Rac1 h6 (23...Rc8
 24.Ne4) 24.Bxf6 Qxf6
 25.Rxc5+-
23...Qc6
 23...0-0 24.Qxe7 Rae8
 25.Bxf6!? (25.Qxc5 Nxe4
 26.Qxb6 axb6 27.Bh4 g5
 28.Bg3 Nxg3 29.fxg3 Rxe2
 30.Rxd4 Rff2=) 25...Rxe7
 26.Bxe7 Re8 27.Bxc5 Qc6
 28.f3



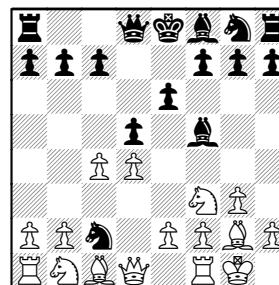
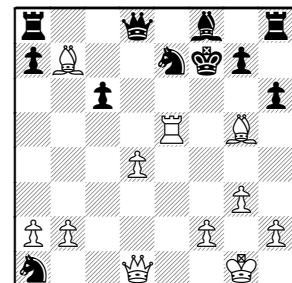
24.Bxf6 gxf6 25.Qh5+ Kf8
26.Ng3 Qe8 27.Qh6+ Kg8
28.Nf5 Qf7 29.e3 Bf8



30.exd4! Qg6
 30...Bxh6 31.Nxh6+ Kg7
 32.Nxf7 Kxf7 33.dxc5+-
31.Qf4 h5 32.dxc5 hxg4
33.hxg4 1-0

Petrosian,Tigran (2710)
Gorovets,Andrey (2579)
 National Open (6) 2018
 1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nc6 3.d4 Bf5
 4.c4 e6 5.Bg2 Nb4 6.0-0
 Nc2

Kd8 22.Qd5+=
15.Re5 c6 16.Bg5 h6



7.cxd5
 7.Nh4 Nxa1 8.Nxf5 exf5
 9.cxd5 Bd6 10.Nc3 Ne7
 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bxe7 Qxe7
 13.e3 0-0 14.Qd3 Nb3
 15.axb3 g6 16.Rc1 h5 17.h4
 Rfd8 18.Na4 Rab8 19.Bf3
 Kg7 20.Kg2 Rh8 21.Nc5
 Rhd8 22.Rc4 Qf6 ½-½ (55)
 Petrosian,T (2606)-
 Martirosyan,H (2567) Yerevan 2018

7...Nxa1 8.e4 Bxe4 9.dxe6
fxe6 10.Re1

10.Nc3 My computer likes to keep this knight on the board.

10...Bxb1

What an interesting position with the black pieces on a1 and b1 after just 10 moves.

11.Ng5 Bf5 12.Bxb7 Ne7
 12...Be7! 13.Rxe6 Rb8
 14.Qf3 Rxb7 15.Qxf5 Nh6±
13.Nxe6 Bxe6 14.Rxe6 Kf7
 14...Rb8! 15.Qa4+ Kf7
 16.Qc4 Rxb7 17.Rxe7+ Kxe7 18.Bg5+ Kd7 19.Bxd8 Kxd8 20.Qd5+ Kc8 21.Qe6+

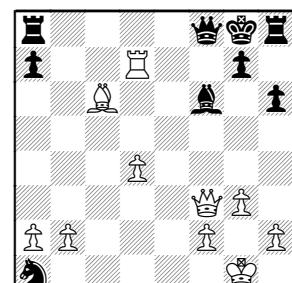
17.Qf3+ Kg8 18.Bxe7 Bxe7
19.Bxc6

Winning but 19.Bxa8 was even better.

19...Bf6 20.Rd5

20.Bxa8! Bxe5? 21.Bd5+ Kh7 22.Be4+ Kg8 23.dxe5 Qf8 24.Qg4 and the White queen and bishop will eventually weave a long-winded mating net utilizing the light squares.

20...Qf8 21.Rd7



21...Rh7

Giving the king the corner to run into.

22.Bxa8 g5 23.Bd5+ Kh8
24.Rxh7+ Kxh7 25.Qd1
Qd6 26.Be4+ Kg7 27.Qxa1
Qxd4 28.Qe1 Qxb2 29.Qa5
Qb6 30.Qf5 Bd4 31.Qh7+
Kf8 32.Bg6 Bg7 33.Be4
 33.Bh5 is maybe a better shot at still trying to get something from the game.
33...Bd4 34.Bd5 Bxf2+
35.Kg2 Qf6 ½-½



Freddie Best Game Prize Award Winners

After receiving tens of games throughout the weekend, GM Melikset Khachiyan had the difficult task of selecting the Freddie winner, and also a 2nd, 3rd and 4th place finisher.

In the end Alex Kolay's win over GM Pavel Blatny in the Open Section took the top spot, which included the coveted Freddie trophy and \$200.

In 2nd place was Rochelle Wu with her win against IM David Vigorito, also in the Open Section. Rochelle won \$100 for her efforts.

In 3rd was Joseph Levine from the Under 2100 section (game in Issue #2) and 4th was Arman Badarawan from the Under 2300 section. Both Joseph and Arman received \$50.

Here are the games with comments by GM Melik.

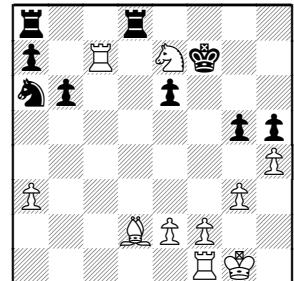
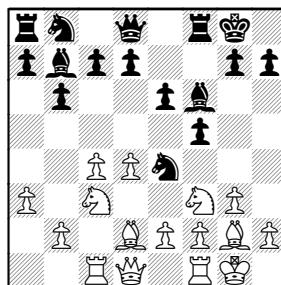
**Kolay,Alex (2218)
Blatny,Pavel (2476)**

National Open 2018

1.d4 b6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3

3.a3 Bb7 4.Nc3 f5 5.d5 Nf6
6.g3 Bd6 7.Bg2 0-0 8.Nh3
Similar idea what happened in the game but better version. Knight will support the center from f4.

**3...Bb7 4.a3 f5 5.Nc3 Be7
6.g3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Ne4 8.Bd2
Bf6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Rc1**



26.Rc2!

Move which perhaps has been missed by Black but their position was bad anyway.

**26...gxh4 27.Nc6 Rg8
28.Rc4 hxg3 29.fxg3+ Ke8
30.Kh2 Rc8 31.Rff4 b5
32.Rc3 Rg7 33.Nd4 Rxc3
34.Bxc3 e5 35.Re4 Re7
36.Nxb5 Nc5 37.Rxe5 Ne4
38.Rxe4 1-0**

Very strong execution from the beginning to the end.

10...g5?

Way too aggressive. Black should be trying to complete development by playing 10...d6

**11.Ne5! d6 12.Nxe4 fxe4
13.Ng4 Bxd4 14.Qc2**

After spending almost all available time White found amazing plan to punish Black for being behind in development.

14...h5 15.Bxe4 d5

15...c6 Was better try not to open the game 16.Be3 Bg7
17.Bh7+ Kh8 18.Qg6 Qe8
19.Qxe8 Rxe8 20.Bg6 Rf8
21.Bxh5 Bxb2 22.Rb1 Bxa3
23.Rb3 Bc5 24.Bxc5 dxc5
25.Rd1 Bc8 26.Bg6 Kg7
27.Be4 a5 28.Rxb6 a4
29.Ra1 Nd7 30.Rb2 Ra6
31.Rba2 Nf6 32.Nxf6 Kxf6
33.Rxa4 Rxa4 34.Rxa4 Bd7
35.Ra6 Rc8 36.Kg2 Ke5

**16.Bh7+ Kh8 17.Ne3 Bxb2
18.Qxb2+ Kxh7 19.Qc2+
Kh6 20.cxd5 Bxd5 21.Qxc7
Qxc7 22.Rxc7 Na6 23.Nxd5
Rfd8 24.h4 Kg6 25.Ne7+
Kf7**

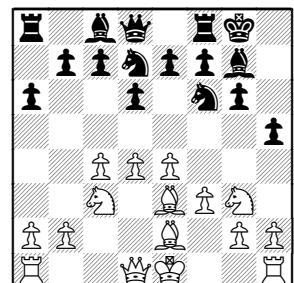
**Wu,Rochelle (2206)
Vigorito,David (2434)**

National Open 2018

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7
4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 Nbd7**

Side line 6...c5 or Nc6 are tough choices but I can see Black's strategy. They wanted to stay away from the main roads, trying to play rather more chess than battling in chess theory.

7.Nge2 a6 8.Ng3 h5 9.Be2



9...e5

Technically novelty. I found



Alex Kolay receives the Freddie from organizer Janelle Losoff and GM Melik Khachiyan



Freddie Games Continued

some interesting idea of e6 Nxg7 25.Ne3 Nxe3 26.Rxe3 here, to basically prepare c5 Nxf5 27.Rf3 Qg7 28.Bxf5 and transpose the game to more or less Benoni type of positions.

10.d5 h4 11.Nf1 Nh5 12.g3 f5 13.Qd2 Ndf6

13...f4 I thought this move is obligation for Black. Apparently that's what Rochelle thought as well. 14.Bf2 Bf6

15.g4 Ng7 16.Qc2 b6 17.Nd2 a5 18.0-0-0 Nc5 19.Nb3 Nb7 20.Rhg1 Bg5 21.Nd2 Nc5 22.b3 Bd7 23.Kb2 c6 24.h3 Ne8
14.Bg5 h3 15.0-0-0 Qe8 16.exf5 gxf5 17.Bd3?!
 17.Ne3 was a bit more accurate move order, with similar idea of applying pressure on f5 and avoiding move e4.

17...Bd7?

17...e4 must be played. 17...e4 18.Re1 Qg6 19.fxe4 fxe4 20.Nxe4 Bf5 21.Nxf6+ Nxf6 22.Bxf5 Qxf5 23.Bf4 Qh7 24.Ne3 b5 25.Rhf1 bxc4 26.Nxc4 Rab8 27.Qc2 Qxc2+ 28.Kxc2 Nxd5 29.Bd2 Nb4+ 30.Bxb4 Rxb4 31.b3 Rb5 32.Rxf8+ Kxf8 33.g4 Rc5 34.Kd3 Rd5+ 35.Ke3 Rd4 36.Rf1+ Ke7 37.Rf4 Bh6 38.Kxd4 Bxf4

18.Qc2?!

Still underestimating e4 break.

18...b5?!

Black is choosing different plan but after e4 their chances were more preferable.

19.Bd2?

19.Nd2 to keep my eyes on e4 square.

19...c6?

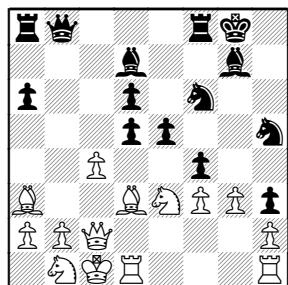
Black keeps missing idea of e4 move to open the bishop and then to open the whole queenside. 19...e4 20.fxe4 b4 21.exf5 bxc3 22.Bxc3 Ng4 23.Re1 Qf7 24.Bxg7

20.Ne3 b4 21.Nb1 cxd5 22.Bxb4 Qb8?!

Bh6 move was another powerful idea in this position, which Rochelle mentioned in the game analysis. 22...Bh6 23.f4 exf4 24.Nxf5 Bxf5 25.Bxf5 fxg3+ 26.Nd2 g2 27.Rhg1 Qe3 28.Kb1 Ng7 29.Bxd6 Rfe8 30.Bc5 Qxc5 31.Bxh3 dxc4 32.Qxc4+ Qxc4 33.Nxc4 Rad8 34.Rxd8 Rxd8 35.Bxg2 Rd4 36.Ne5 Kh7 37.Rf1 Ne4 38.Rf8 Rd1+ 39.Kc2 Rd4 40.Bxe4+ Rxe4

23.Ba3 f4?

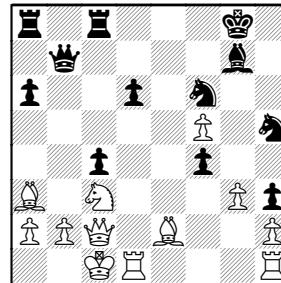
23...Bh6 was the last chance for Black to keep the game complicated. Bishop has to get back to the game. 24.f4 exf4 25.Nxf5 Bxf5 26.Bxf5 fxg3+ 27.Nd2 g2 28.Rhg1 Nf4 29.Bxh3 Ra7 30.Rxg2+ Nxc2 31.Qg6+ Kh8 32.Qxh6+ Rh7 33.Qg5 Rg7 34.Qh6+ Rh7



24.Nf5!

Simple and strong.

24...e4 25.fxe4 Bxf5 26.exf5 Rc8 27.Nc3 dxc4 28.Be2 Qb7



29.Bxh5!

After this trade Black can't really stop White's attack.
29...Nhx5 30.g4 Nf6 31.Rhg1 Re8 32.g5 Ne4 33.f6 Bf8 34.Nxe4 Rxe4 35.g6 d5 36.f7+ Kg7 37.Qc3+ 1-0

Baradawan,Arman (2114)

Baquero,Luis (2277)

National Open U2300 2018

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Qb3 dxc4 6.Qxc4 0-0 7.Bf4 Nc6 8.e3 Bg4 9.Be2 Nh5 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4 Qd7 12.Rd1!

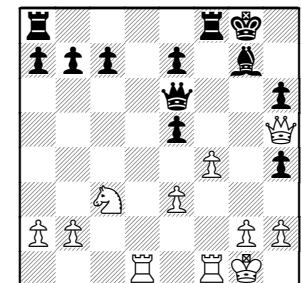
Stopping all possible counterplay with e5 and preparing very nasty stuff.

12...g5

Very naturally try to trade dark color bishop, but...

sitional advantage!

17...f6 18.0-0 fxe5



19.f5!

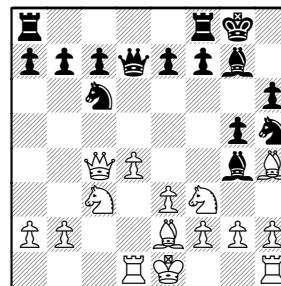
Taking control over light squares!

19...Qc4 20.Rd7 Rf7 21.Nd5 Raf8 22.Nxe7+ Kh7 23.Rfd1 Qc5 24.Ng6 Qxe3+ 25.Kh1 Rxf5 26.Nxf8+ Rxf8 27.Qxh4 Qe2 28.h3 Rf1+ 29.Rxf1 Qxf1+ 30.Kh2 1-0

Very nice game!



Rochelle Wu, receives her 2nd place award from GM Melik Khachian



13.Ne5!

Amazing!!

13...Nxe5 14.dxe5 Bxe2

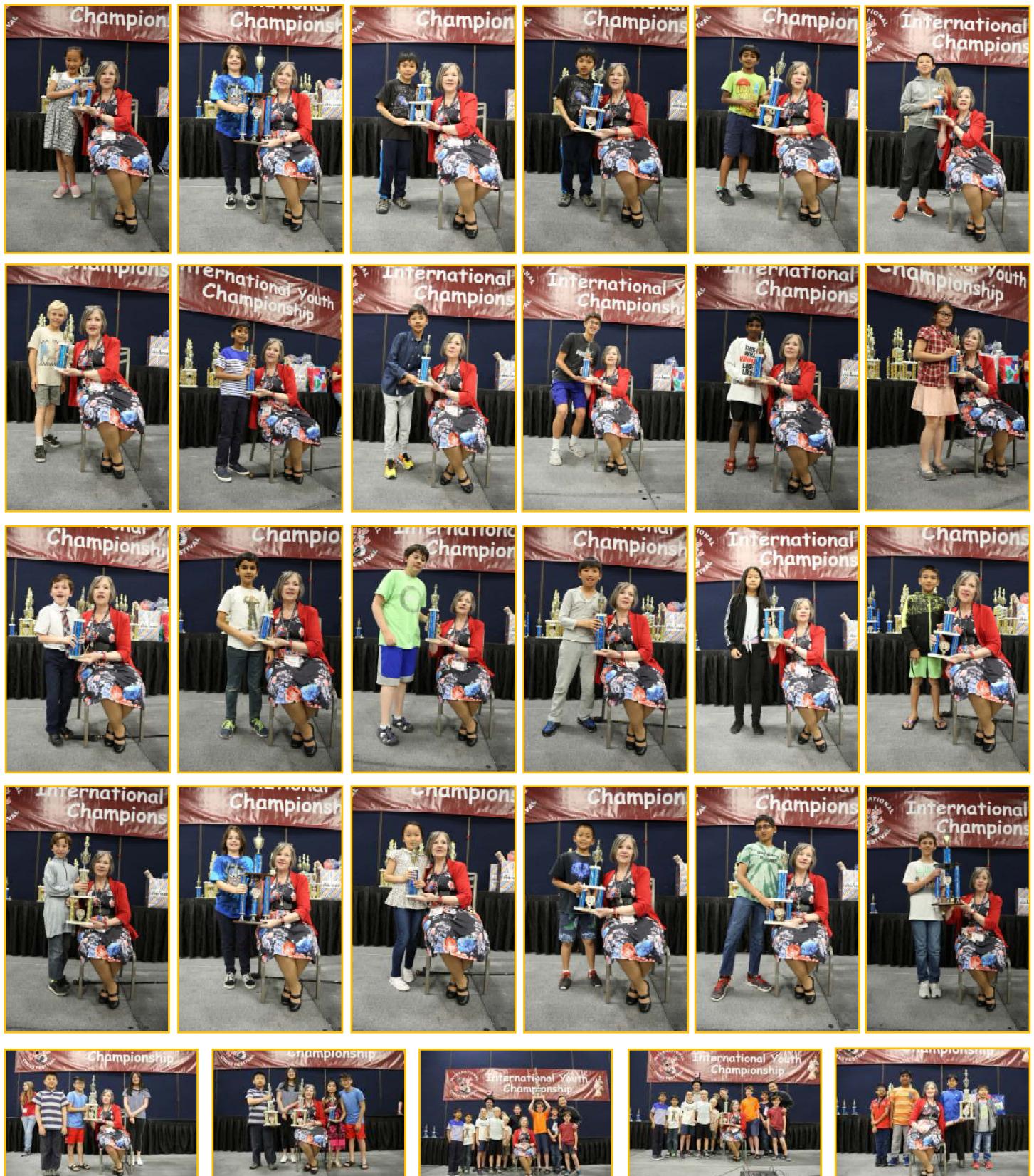
15.Qxe2 Qe6 16.Qxh5 gxh4

17.f4

After short tactical battle, White had obtained nice po-



International Youth Championship Award Winners





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JUNE 11-16, 2019

3-way Tie for Under 2300 Top Prize

Vilma Balint, Carla Heredia and Lorand Bela Kis tied for 1st in the Under 2300 Section at the National Open, each player winning \$3500.

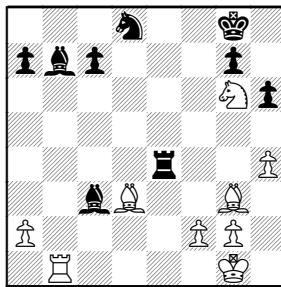
Balint went into the final round on a perfect 6/6 but a last round defeat to Heredia brought him back into the tie and allowed Kis to catch up too.

Here is that important final round game.

Heredia,Carla (2268)
Balint,Vilmos (2299)
 National Open U2300 (7)
 2018

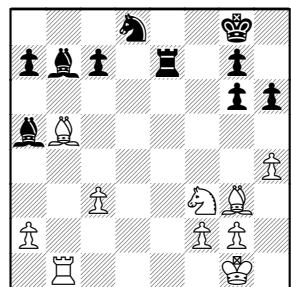
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4

Bc5 4.b4 Bxb4 5.c3 Ba5 25.Ne5 Bxc3 26.Nxg6 Re4
 6.d4 b5 7.Bxb5 Nxd4 27.Bd3
 8.Nxd4 exd4 9.Qxd4 Qf6
 10.0-0 Bb6 11.Qd3 Ne7
 12.Nd2 0-0 13.Nf3 Nc6
 14.Bg5 Qg6 15.Rfe1 Re8
 16.Bf4 h6 17.Rad1 Bb7
 18.Qxd7 Rad8 19.Qf5 Rxd1
 20.Rxd1 Rxe4 21.Qxg6 fxg6 22.Bg3 Re7 23.h4 Ba5
 24.Rb1 Nd8



WGM Carla Heredia

27...Bf6? 28.Bxe4 Bxe4
 29.Rb8 Bxg6 30.Bxc7 Kf7
 31.Bxd8 Bd4 32.Ba5 Kf6
 33.Rc8 Bf5 34.Rc7 Be6
 35.a3 Ke5 36.Rxg7 1-0



Special Senior Player Award

This framed photo was given to us by Bill Ruden to award to the highest finishing senior player participating in the National Open, except not in the Open Section.

Over the next few days we'll work out who the winner is and contact them. We'll then arrange to send you the picture.

