
Tri-Bridges Tribune

◆ April 2026

TRI BRIDGES CHESS CLUB

Address: 666 Exton Commons Exton, PA

Email: Tribridgesmail@gmail.com

Website: Tribbridgeschessclub.com

Facebook: Tri-Bridges Chess Club

Instagram: tribridgeschessclub



In this newsletter you can expect:

Item	Page
National High School Championship	2
Chris's Annotated Game	5
Vienna Opening	6
NEW Chess Master in History	7
Player Spotlight	8
Short Book Recommendation	8
Puzzles	8,9
Upcoming Events	9

Introduction

Located in Exton, Pennsylvania, our club meets every Tuesday for friendly games, socializing, and skill-building. In addition to casual play, we host tournaments that give members the chance to compete, learn, and grow as players. We also offer instructional classes to help members expand their chess knowledge and deepen their understanding of the game.

My name is Azim Julkipli, and I am the editor of these monthly newsletters. Having been a proud member of the Tri Bridges Chess Club for many years, I've made lasting friendships and had the opportunity to volunteer within our wonderful community.

This newsletter is designed to keep our members connected and informed. Each issue will feature updates on local events, tournaments, and club news, along with puzzles, book recommendations, and annotated games. Our goal is to celebrate the achievements of our players and foster a welcoming environment that inspires both beginners and experienced players to continue their chess journey with enthusiasm.

National High School Championship

By Joshua Anderson



Nationals... The name brings with it an excitement and intensity that any CCA event or even States can not match. This year, and for quite a few over the next few years, the National High School Championships will be in Chicago (2029 it will be in Columbus).

This year the club only sent 6 kids, a low number for us, but a fun and strong group. We had the added benefit of being able to see our "St. Louis group"—Mohit and Ashrith Maringanti. We also had Gideon Richard, Kevin Kennedy, Cherry Perumalla and Yashvi Natarajan playing.

As is their custom, Gideon and Kevin came early and played in the blitz, Gideon picking up third in the K12 Under 1800, scoring 9.5 points (+8=3-1). He played well and also benefited from some pairing luck, which is always necessary to achieve such a high finish in a national event.



Gideon won 3rd place in the blitz

In the main event, the club had solid results in tough fields. While Nationals can be about taking advantage of your rating to do really well in certain sections, sometimes it is a question of expense, opportunity to go, friends/family who live in that city. As such, sometimes people who would be a really great fit cannot go, and players go with a love of the game/why not feel to go rather than aiming to do well.

Mohit, a senior this year, led the way with 4.5; his only losses were to Tanitoluwa Adewumi, yes, the famous Tani, and a player who finished in the top 22, Luc Hoffman out of New York. Kevin, playing in the same section, played up, an unusual move for a high schooler (high schoolers would love top finishes in any section for college applications, essays, etc.), but he is only a seventh grader. He finished with 3.

Gideon and Cherry, both 9th graders, got there in very different ways, but both ended up with 4 points. Gideon had 4 draws to go along with his 2 wins and a loss. Cherry had 4 wins and 3 losses.

In the Under 1600, Ashrith finished with 4 points and Yashvi finished with 3 points. Both played fairly well against tough competition.

While no one got to walk on the stage this time, the National Elementary Championships are just around the corner (beginning of May), and we look forward to good results and even more wonderful experiences! Below are some games from

Round 3

Anika Shambhavi Shambhavi Kaul vs. Ashrith Maringanti

1. d4 Nf6 (1... d5 2. c4 c6) (1... e6) 2. Nf3 e6 3. e3 b6 4. c4 Bb7 5. Nc3 d5 6. Bd2 (6... cxd5) 6... Nc6 7. Rc1 Be7 8. cxd5 exd5 9. Bb5 O-O 10. O-O Ne4 11. Nxe4 dxe4 12. Bxc6 Bxc6 13. Rxc6 exf3 14. Qxf3 Qd7 15. Rfc1 Rac8 16. Qe2 Bd6 (16... Bc5 17. Rd6) 17. Qc4 Bc5 18. d5 Kh8 19. b4 Bd6 20. a4 f5 21. a5 Rf6 22. axb6 axb6 23. h3 Rg6
1-0

Hunter Ku vs. Mohit Maringanti

1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Qxd5 3. Nf3 Bg4 4. Be2 Nc6 5. d4 O-O-O 6. c4 Qh5 (6... Qa5+ 7. Bd2 Qb6 8. c5 Qxb2 9. Bc3) 7. O-O Nf6 8. h3 Nxd4 9. Nxd4 (9. hxg4 Nxd4 10. Nh4) 9... Bxe2 10. Qxe2 Rxd4 11. Qe3 e5 (11... Rd1 12. Nc3 Rxf1+ 13. Kxf1) 12. b3 Bc5 13. Ba3 (13. Bb2 Rxc4 14. Qxe5 Qxe5 15. Bxe5) 13... Bxa3 14. Nxa3 b6 15. Nb5 Re4 16. Qg3 a6 17. Nc3 (17. Nxc7 Kxc7 18. Qxg7 Rg8 19. Qxf6 Qxh3 20. Qxf7+) 17... Rf4 18. Rfe1 Rd8 19. Qe3 Qf5 20. g4 Nxd4 21. hxg4 Rxd4+ (21... Qxg4+ 22. Qg3 (22. Kf1 Rd6 23. Qxe5 Qh3+ 24. Kg1 Rg6+ 25. Qg5 Rxd4) 22... Rd3 (22... Qh5 23. Kf1 Rg4 24. Rxe5 f5 25. Qf3)) 22. Kf1 Rd3 (22... Rdd4 23. Qxe5 Qd3+ 24. Re2) 23. Nd5 Rxe3 24. Ne7+ Kd7 25. Nxf5 Rxe1+ 26. Rxe1 f6 27. Rd1+ Ke6 28. Ne3 Rd4 29. Rxd4 exd4 30. Nd5 Kd6 31. Ke2 b5 32. Kd3 bxc4+ 33. bxc4 c6 34. Nb4 a5 35. Nc2 c5 36. Ke4 h5 37. Ne1 g5 38. Kf5 h4 39. Kg4 f5+ 40. Kxf5 h3 41. Nf3 d3 42. Kg4 h2
0-1

Round 4 - Ashrith Maringanti vs. Sean Stuart

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Bc5 4. d3 Nf6 5. Nc3 h6 6. Be3 Bxe3 7. fxe3 O-O 8. O-O d6 9. Nd5 Nxd5 10. Bxd5 Bd7 11. Qd2 Re8 12. Rae1 Qe7 13. d4 Rad8 14. c3 b5 15. Qd3 a6 16. Nd2 Rf8 17. c4 Nb4 18. Qc3 Nxd5 19. exd5 bxc4 20. Nxc4 Bb5 21. Rf2 Rfe8 22. Ref1 exd4 23. Qxd4 Bxc4 24. Qxc4 Qxe3 25. Qxc7 Rf8 26. Kh1 Rde8 27. h3 Qe5 28. Qb7 Re7 29. Qxa6 Qxd5 30. b4 Ra8 31. Qb6 Rb7 32. Qe3 Rxb4 33. Rxf7 Rxa2 34. Qe8+ Kh7 35. Rxd7+ Kxd7 36. Qe7+ (36. Qf8+ Kh7 37. Rf7+) 36... Kg6 37. Rf6+ Kh5 38. Qe8+ Kh4 (38... Kg5 39. Qg6+ Kh4 40. Qxh6+ Qh5 41. g3+ Kxg3 42. Rg6+ Kh4) 39. Rxd7+ Kg5 40. Rh5+ Kf4 41. Rxd5 Rb1+ 42. Kh2 Rxd2+ 43. Kxg2 Rb2+ 44. Kf1 Rf2+ 45. Ke1
1-0

Lillian Eshkol vs. Cherry Perumalla

1. d4 f5 2. c4 Nf6 3. Nc3 e6 4. Nf3 d6 5. Qc2 Be7 6. e4 fxe4 7. Nxe4 O-O 8. Bd3 h6 9. O-O a5 10. Bd2 Nc6 11. a3 a4 12. Ng3 Qe8 13. Bg6 Qd8 14. Rae1 d5 15. Qd3 Na5 16. Bxa5 Rxa5 17. c5 b6 18. Qc3 Ba6 19. Ne2 Ne4 20. Bxe4 dxe4 21. Ne5 Rb5 22. Qh3 Qc8 23. Ng6 Re8 24. Nef4 Bg5 25. Nh5 (25. Rxe4 Rb3 26. Qg4 Bxf1 27. Rxe6) 25... Rb3 (25... Rxb2 26. Qg4 (26. f4) 26... Bxf1 27. h4 Be2 (27... Bd3) 28. Rxe2 Rxe2 29. Qxe2 Bf6) 26. Qg4 Bxf1 27. h4 e3 (27... Bd3 28. hxg5 hxg5 29. Qxg5 Qd8) 28. hxg5 exf2+ 29. Kxf2 Rf8+ 30. Kg1 (30. Nf6+) 30... Re8 31. gxh6 Rxb2 32. Rxf1 (32. h7+ Kf7 33. Ne5+ Ke7 34. Qxg7+ Kd8 35. Nc6#) 1-0

Round 5

Raymond Chen vs. Ashrith Maringanti

1. b4 e5 2. Bb2 Bxb4 3. Bxe5 f6 4. Bb2 d5 5. e3 Nc6 6. Nf3 Nge7 7. Ba3 Bxa3 8. Nxa3 O-O 9. c4 Bg4 10. Be2 Ne5 11. Qb3 Bxf3 12. gxf3 Rb8 13. cxd5 Qxd5 14. Qxd5+ Nxd5 15. f4 Nf7 (15... Ng6 16. Bc4 c6 17. e4 Rbe8 18. f3) 16. Bc4 Rbd8 17. O-O-O c6 18. Rdg1 Nb4 19. d4 b5 20. Be2 Nxa2+ 21. Kb2 Nb4 22. Ra1 a5 23. Kb3 Nd6 24. Nb1 Ra8 25. Rc1 Rfc8 26. Bf3 Nf5 27. Bg4 g6 28. Bxf5 gxf5 29. Rc5 Nd5 30. Nc3 Ne7 31. d5 a4+ 32. Kb4 cxd5 33. Ne2 Nc6+ 34. Ka3 (34. Kxb5 Rab8+ 35. Ka6 Nb4+ 36. Ka7 Ra8+ 37. Kb7 Rcb8+ 38. Kc7 Na6+) 34... b4+ 35. Kb2 a3+ 36. Ka2 d4 37. Rd1 dxe3 38. fxe3 Rd8 39. Nd4 Na5 40. Rb1 b3+ 41. Nxb3 Nxb3 42. Kxb3 a2 43. Ra1 Rd2 (43... Kf7 44. Rc2 Rdb8+ 45. Kc3 Rc8+ 46. Kd2 Rxc2+ 47. Kxc2 Kg6 48. Kd3 Kh5) 44. h4 Rb8+ 45. Ka4 Rb1 46. Rc1 Rdb2 47. Ka3 Rb3+ 48. Ka4 Rxc1 49. Rxa2 Rb8 50. Ra3 Rc7 51. Rd3 Ra7# 0-1



(L to R) Ashrith, Joshua, Cherry, and Mohit enjoying a great Italian meal as we recover from a rough 5th round.

Round 7

Cherry Perumalla vs. Sebastian L. Vela

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 Nf6 4. e5 Nfd7 5. Ne2 c5 6. c3 Nc6 7. Nf3 Qb6 8. a3 f6 9. Nf4 Ne7 10. exf6 Nxf6 11. Ng5 h6 12. dxc5 Qc6 13. a4 Qxc5 (13... a6 14. Bb5 axb5 15. axb5 Qxb5 16. Ngxe6 Bxe6 17. Nxe6 (17. Rxa8+ Bc8 18. Nd3) 17... Rc8) 14. Ngxe6 Bxe6 15. Nxe6 Qd6 16. Bb5+ Nc6 17. Qe2 Kf7 18. Bxc6 bxc6 19. Nd4 Re8 20. Be3 g6 21. O-O (21. Nxc6) 21... Be7 22. h3 Bd8 23. Qa6 Bb6 24. a5 Bxd4 25. Bxd4 Re7 26. Rfe1 Rhe8 27. Rxe7+ Rxe7 28. Bxa7 Re2 29. Qxe2 1-0

Chris's Annotated Game from States

Chris Romeril was able to give an annotated game of his from States. He played Black in this game, and he demonstrates why pushing pawns in front of his king is a bad idea.

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Bc4 O-O 5. O-O Bxc3 6. bxc3?! d6 7. Re1 Bg4 8. h3 Bh5 9. g4!?

This move is very dubious, moving pawns in front of your king is almost always a big risk. The computer says its equal but from a human perspective it is very difficult to play because white can't play in the center really and white's bishop on c1 is very bad and 6 out of 8 pawns are on dark squares, also the position is very closed and black has two knights which benefits him.

9... Bg6 10. d3 Nbd7

If I was white I would probably try to play this like a bad King's Indian Defense with a move like Nh4 and go all in with f4 maybe but it's hard to play because black has so much queen side space and weak squares around the king

11. a4 (11. Nh4 !? c6 12. Nxg6 hxg6 13. f4) **11... c6** prepares d5

12. Be3 Qc7

eyes c3 and prepares to open the c file with d5 for

example if Kh1, then 13...d5 14. exd5 cxd5 15. Bb3 Qxc3

13. Qc1 d5 14. exd5 cxd5 15. Bb5?

Bb3 is better because the bishop will now get traded for the knight on f6 which helps black pick apart the exposed pawns on h3 g4 with f5, Bb3 is better keeping an eye on d5 and potentially f7, with Bb3, white can keep the bishop pair. 15. Bb3 h6

15... a6 16. Bxd7 Nxd7 17. Bd2?



This move doesn't make sense, white needs to get the rest of his pieces in the game and create counter play on the open file with a move like Qb2 to connect the rooks and eye b7.

17. Qb2 f5 18. Rab1

17... f5!

A good move, opening up the rook and punishing white for their set up

18. g5 Bh5 19. Kg2 e4 20. Nd4

After 20. dxe4 Black has a nice idea which I didn't consider (as the position is very comfortable for black from a positional standpoint) with 20... fxe4 21. Nd4 Rxf2+!! 22. Kxf2 Qh2+ 23. Kf1 Rf8+ and black is easily winning.

20... Rae8 21. Ne2 Bxe2 22. Rxe2 f4 23. f3 e3

23... exf3+ is also winning, I preferred e3 because white is suffocating and to break out white has to use time which I can use to maneuver my pieces toward the white king 24. Kxf3

24. Be1 Qe5 25. h4 h6 26. gxh6 Rf6!

Going directly for the g-file

27. h7+ Kxh7 28. Qb2 b6?!

28... Rg6+ 29. Kh2 is more forcing, black can easily chuck the pawn and win but I didn't want to allow any counter play

29. Bf2 g5 (29... exf2?? 30. Rxe5 Rxe5) **30. h5 g4** blowing up the king side

31. Rh1 Rg8 32. Qb4 gxf3+ 33. Kxf3 Qg5 34. Qe7+ Rg7 35. Qxg7+ Qxg7 36. Bh4 Ne5#

This game shows you why people do not recommend pushing your pawns in front of your king. It forces you to play very accurately and you have to be ready to defend yourself. White made a few absent minded bishop moves after pushing the king pawns which sealed his fate and made the game hard to continue

0-1

The Vienna Opening

By Akhil Kapalavayi

The Vienna Opening is a chess opening that begins with the moves 1. e4 e5 2. Nc3. It is a flexible opening that gives White many ways to play, making it a good choice for players who like both attacking and strategic ideas.

One of the main goals in the Vienna Opening is to control the center of the board. By playing Nc3, White supports the pawn on e4 and prepares to bring more pieces into the game. Good development is very important in chess, and this opening helps White develop quickly while keeping strong control of key squares.

The Vienna Opening can lead to different types of games. If White wants to play aggressively, they can push the pawn to f4, which is called the Vienna Gambit. This move helps White attack early and open lines for their pieces, especially the queen and bishop. If White prefers a calmer game, they can continue developing pieces safely and build a strong position before attacking.

Another advantage of the Vienna Opening is that it is not as common as some other openings. Because of this, opponents may not be as prepared, which can give White an edge. It also helps players practice important chess skills like planning, controlling space, and coordinating pieces.

In conclusion, the Vienna Opening is a strong and flexible way to start a chess game. It allows players to choose between aggressive and careful play, while also helping them improve key chess skills.

Below is a game played showing the Vienna in action:

Igor Melnik (2027) vs. Andrey Ivanov (2239)

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bc4 c6 4.d4 Qa5 5.dxe5 Nxe4 6.Bxf7+ Kxf7 7.Qf3+ Nf6 8.exf6



White clearly has the advantage here, as both his knight and his queen are active, and white can quickly develop his Bishop, his Knight, and he can castle. However, Black has moved his king of e7, giving up his right to castle and leaving it in a dangerous spot. Other than his king, his queen is the only piece off the starting square, on the edge of the board. Also, Black's pawns obstruct his queenside pieces from reaching good squares.

9.gxf6 9.Bd2 Qe5+ 10.Nge2 d5 11.0-0-0 Qf5 12.Nf4 Bd6 13.h3 Bxf4 14.Bxf4 Be6 15.g4 Qg6 16.Rhe1 Nd7 17.Rxe6 Kxe6 18.Nxd5 1-0

Chess Master in History

By Azim Julkipli

This April issue, we're adding a new section to the newsletter: Chess Master in History. Each month, the Tribridges Tribune will discuss the life of the chess master, including how they got into chess, some of their achievements, and an example game.

For our first Chess Master in History article, we will be starring one of the most famous people in the Romantic era of chess: Paul Morphy.

Paul Morphy, born in 1837 in New Orleans, learned how to play chess as a young child and quickly was seen as a local chess prodigy. Soon after, Major General Winfield Scott, who was on his way to a war and was a rather skilled player, stopped at New Orleans and asked for a challenger. Paul Morphy was chosen to play him, and he won both games, supposedly winning the second game in ten moves.



Paul Morphy played many games against the best players in New Orleans, winning a lot more than he lost, including famous people like Eugène Rousseau and Johann Löwenthal, still only twelve years old. At this point, Morphy was claiming lots of fame, and was often regarded as the best player in the U.S. Morphy was also very famous for the style of chess he played, for he often rapidly developed his pieces before starting a relentless attack, with the occasional elegant sacrifice.

However, from 1850 onwards, Morphy played little chess, as he was focused on his education to become a lawyer. After he finished his studies, he was still too young to get a job as a lawyer yet, so he had a lot of spare time. He was invited to go to the First American Chess Congress, and, after a little convincing, agreed. The tournament was a knockout tournament for 16 players, and, just as predicted by Louis Paulsen, a strong German master who received second, Morphy took home the first prize. Later, he challenged other players in Europe and proved his dominance there as well.

He gained yet again more fame, but he seemed to not have much interest in it, focusing more on becoming a lawyer, and less and less on chess. However, his status as a lawyer was not nearly as impressive as his status as a chess player. He spent the last years of his life interacting more with relatives and close friends. Paul Morphy died in 1884, at the age of 47 years old, but his fame, glory, and achievements live on.

As a final note, here is a famous game played by Paul Morphy against the Duke of Brunswick, known commonly as the Opera Game:

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 Bg4 4. dxe5 Bxf3 5. Qxf3 dxe5 6. Bc4 Nf6 7. Qb3 Qe7 8. Nc3 c6 9. Bg5 9... b5 10. Nxb5

Paul Morphy's first sacrifice, getting rid of the pawn and giving a passageway to the king.

cxb5 11. Bxb5+ Nbd7 12. O-O-O Rd8 13. Rxd7

Paul Morphy's second sacrifice, getting rid of the knight and pinning the rook.

Rxd7 14. Rd1 Qe6 15. Bxd7+ Nxd7 16. Qb8+

Paul's 3rd and final sacrifice, allowing for the memorable rook mate.

Nxb8 17. Rd8# 1-0



Player Spotlight



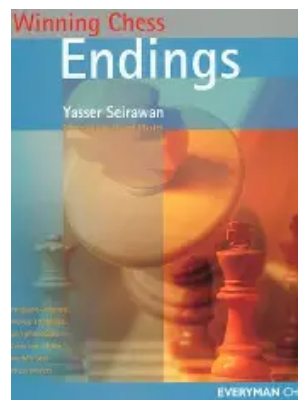
Hello, I'm Ridhan, a student in the 2nd grade, and I was thrilled to achieve victory at the K-3 State Chess Championship with a flawless score of 5 out of 5!

I enjoy playing at Tri-Bridges Chess Club because it allows me to compete against strong opponents. The chess club has many books available that help enhance my chess skills.

To get ready for the tournament, I focused on my opening strategies and practiced tactical puzzles to improve my game. Competing in the state preparation tournament at Tri-Bridges was very beneficial. I learned a lot from the experienced chess players there before my state tournament.

Winning feels amazing, and I can't wait to represent my state at the National Championship!

Short Book Recommendation



Yasser Seirawan's book "Winning Chess Endings" is the third book in the "Winning Chess" Series, and it discusses the concepts of how to play a variety of endgames, from simple king and pawn endgames to endgames with rooks against minor pieces and ending with the rare Queen vs. Rook endgame.

The book starts off each chapter by introducing the endgame, and throughout the chapter, the principles for both sides are revealed through example games, and sometimes he quizzes the reader on what the best moves would be, with the solution at the end of each chapter.

I like how Yasser Seirawan breaks up the concepts of each endgame with examples, as it really helps me understand how I should generally play the endgame. However, because of this, the book is more of an overview than a full-on endgame manual. I would recommend this book for people who want to get a good starting grip on endgames, as this book has the guiding principles needed to play these endgames.

- By Azim Julkipli

Can you solve these puzzles?



White to play and win material

Solution on Page 9



White to play and win material

UPCOMING EVENTS!

One of the best ways to improve at chess isn't just by studying countless books—it's by playing real games! Our upcoming club events offer great opportunities to put your skills into practice, challenge new opponents, and learn from every match. Remember, practice may not make you perfect, but it definitely makes you better! Here's what's coming up at the Tri Bridges Chess Club.

1st Selfmate: 1. Qh1+ Bh7 2. Ba2 Bxf6#

2nd Selfmate: 1. Bd6 cxb4 2. Qd2 Nxd2#

[ECE #124 – Friday Night Tournament](#)

Date and time: Friday, April 17 @ 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Sections: Open, U1200, U700, U300

Time Control: G25 d5

[Pennsylvania Senior Open – Irwin Qualifier!! \\$750 prizes b/25 entries](#)

Date and time: April 18 @ 8:00 am - April 19 @ 5:00 pm

Time Control: G90 d5

Only for people 50 years or older

[ATA Tournament \(ECE# 125\)](#), on Saturday, April 25 @ 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

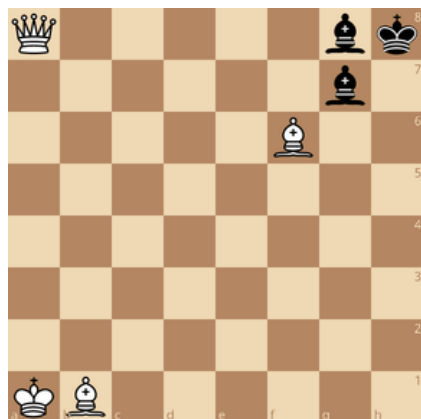
Sections: Unrated (K-6, K-12) and rated (U600, U1200)

Time Control: G25 d5

[ECE #126 – \\$250 Sunday Game Hour](#) on April 26 @ 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sections: U700, U1200, Open

Time Control: Open & U1200 are G60 d5; U700 is G25 d5



Selfmate in 2

Can you solve these
Selfmate puzzles?

A selfmate puzzle uses a unique concept where White tries to get Black to mate white, while Black tries his best not to mate White.

Solutions on page 8

145. Thomas R. Dawson
Fata Morgana 1922



Selfmate in 2