



Serbs Successfully

In the tradition of the great transatlantic radio matches, the University of Texas at Dallas chess team responded to a challenge from the University of Belgrade. The Serbians won this ICC match, but the UTD team will seek revenge.

By Olin Chism

Transatlantic chess matches are nothing new—it was the legendary 1945 radio match between the United States and the Soviet Union that introduced the Soviet chess juggernaut to the world. But the players were constrained by the technology of the time. For instance, each player could determine the amount of time his opponent had taken only by

asking someone.

The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) and the University of Belgrade played a much-upgraded version of this long-distance mental bout when they met over the Internet on October 20. The Serbians scored an 8½ to 7½ victory and would have widened that margin if UTD grandmaster Vignesh Chandran Panchanathan

hadn't been the beneficiary of an astonishing turnaround on Board 1.

Physically, the two teams were 5,803 miles and seven time zones apart. But cybernetically they were as close as their laptops and their link to the Internet Chess Club (ICC), which carried the match. Unlike Sammy Reshevsky, who had to ask how much time Vasily Smyslov had used



Challenge UTD

in 1945 and discovered to his dismay that Smyslov had a huge time advantage in a prepared line which the modern players knew to the second OK, potentially not the second if you count lag, but that turned out not to be a problem).

There also was a teleconference link between the two universities. The visuals were not very good, but the sound was acceptable on the Dallas end, especially for those who spoke Serbian (as several, in fact, did). The link was only for the pre-game ceremonies; it wasn't helpful for game observation.

Each team had someone on the other end representing its interests. At UTD, Belgrade's "rep," Francisco Guadalupe, laid out a few special rules for the match. They included no headphones or elec-

tronic devices of any kind (except the laptops, of course). In sly reference, perhaps, to the Kramnik-Topalov match, he added that it was OK to go to the bathroom. One rule even allowed a takeback in case of a mouse slip, which had to be confirmed by a tournament director. But the players had steady fingers; no takeback was requested.

Despite the great, real-world distance between the foes, there was some sign of typical pre-game nervousness (jiggling legs and the like). But at 1 p.m. (8 p.m. in Belgrade) the mice started clicking and everyone settled down. One contingent of spectators headed over to the auditorium of the nearby university library, where FIDE master John Jacobs and GM Anatakol Babakul were analyzing.

PHOTO: IVAN MARKOVIC

Attention soon focused on two games. On Board 1, Parshatshian, on the Black side of a Scotch, faced Serbian GM Bojan Vuckovic. On Board 7, Belgrade's Balind Nadj Hedjesi as White took on IM Amon Simutov's Sicilian. Parshatshian's game began to deteriorate, he dropped an exchange, and soon was irretrievably lost (or so it seemed). Jacobs and Babakul abandoned him and moved on to watch Hedjesi's aggression on Board 7. An input oversight at ICC gave Hedjesi a default rating of 1400. That put him more than 1,000 points beneath his opponent. But the error of that soon became apparent. His pugnacious style became evident by the sixth move, when he telegraphed his plans

The University of Belgrade provided a dramatic, high-tech venue for their players.

Chess Scholarships

Never has it been easier to pay for your college education by playing chess. At the Decker Tournament of High School Champions, the University of Texas at Dallas awarded a four-year, full-tuition and-fee scholarship to the top 11th grade and below finisher. This is valued at \$40,000 for an out-of-state student. At the same event, the U.S. Chess Trust awarded \$2,200 in scholarships. At the 2006 U.S. Cadet, the University of Maryland at Baltimore County awarded a four-year scholarship valued at over \$60,000 for an out-of-state student. See www.uschess.org/scholarship for additional scholarship opportunities. So, build your future and play chess at the same time! See [uschess.org/scholarship.php](http://uschess.org/scholarship) for regular updates to the list.

CONNECTICUT

The University of Connecticut School of Engineering will sponsor a \$14,000 Scholarship Tournament in October 2007. The top 3 finishers will receive \$2,000, \$1,000 & \$500 for 4 years in renewable annual scholarships. Students must be able to satisfy the entrance requirements of the SOE and maintain at least a 3.4 GPA in order to renew each year. For more information, please contact Tom Hartmayer at hartm13@uconn.edu or 860-989-5354.

FLORIDA

Florida Atlantic University annually offers a \$500 scholarship for winners of Florida Scholastic Chess Tournaments. A one-time \$500 award is available to the winner of CME chess tournament for the 2007 year (for expiration in one year). For more information regarding the Julius Hefgartian Endowment, please contact Ms. Dianne Reeves dreeves@fau.edu at Florida Atlantic University.

Technically, the match went well. Dunnington Oxley of the ICC said, "I have run several high-profile events on ICC including Dos Hermanos (300+ players) and the Champion of Champions event (the on-line qualifier for the U.S. Championship) ... There is always some kind of glitch—except for this time! It was super-smooth and everyone involved was very professional." Actually, there were a few computer and connection problems, but they were quickly resolved.

The widespread familiarity with Internet play may account for the smoothness of the event. But some players noted a peculiar phenomenon: Internet play is generally blitz or bullet, so when they sit down: at a laptop they have an urge to speed. Keaton Kiewra, UTD's Board 10, is a frequent blitz player. He says he found it "a little bit harder to slow down" in the match with Belgrade. His opponent, Vaso Blenis, may have had the same problem. "I thought he was a pretty good player, but I thought he played too fast. He didn't use too much of his time at all." UTD's Board 9, Igor Schneider, noticed the same phenomenon. "You have a tendency to play

ILLINOIS
Stoner College awards a maximum of \$2,000 per person per year. Contact Dr. David Stone, chess coach, at david@stoner.edu or 312-235-3538.

MARYLAND

The University of Maryland at Baltimore offers three types of four-year chess scholarships:

1. Chess-Player Scholar (up to full-tuition, room, and board)
 2. Special Merit for Chess (up to \$10,000 per year)
 3. Tournament-Based Awards (up to full-tuition)
- To apply, simply submit an undergraduate application to UMBC and indicate your interest in chess. More details can be obtained from their website: www.umbc.edu/chess.

NEW YORK

The Bruce Bowyer Foundation offers an annual \$1,000.00 yearly scholarship. Additional information can be found on their website: www.bowyer.org

NORTH CAROLINA

The North Carolina Chess Association and the Carolina Chess Foundation award a \$1,500 scholarship to the winner of the K-12 Section at the N.C. State Scholastic Championships. For information, contact: Percy Whelless, President, N.C. Chess Association, whelless@carolina.rr.com

The Carolina Chess Foundation awards a \$500 scholarship to the top Henderson County player in the Championship Section of the Henderson County Scholastic Championships. For information, contact: Charles Palmer, cpalmer@mchc.net

TEXAS

University of Texas at Dallas (UTD): Full details at <http://utches.club.utdallas.edu/scholarships.html> We welcome candidates who are excellent students.

a little faster [on the Internet]", he says. Both Kiewra and Schneider won their games.

Schneider noted one deficiency on the Dallas end: the scarcity of demonstration boards in the main room. "Some friends came and watched and couldn't see my games." The only sure way for spectators to see the games of their choice was to bring their own laptops. Virtually the entire campus of UTD is Wi-Fi.

The complete results can be found at www.chessclub.com/activities/UTD-Belgrade06/. An additional report can be found at uschess.org on Chess Life Online.

As the names indicate, the UTD chess team is highly diverse. Two players are from Serbia and two are from India, with one each from Costa Rica, Croatia, Moldova, Poland and Zambia. American states represented are Minnesota, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island—and, of course, Texas.

The team includes two grandmasters, six international masters, one FIDE master, three national masters, one woman FIDE master and three high experts. They excel at more than chess. All are required

strong chess competitors, and congenial people who like to play or a team and contribute to the activities of the UTD Chess Club. UTD offers scholarships to qualified chess-player scholars.

While all scholarships are academic scholarships, students may achieve them through two efficient means. The first is the Academic Excellence Scholarship Program administered by Undergraduate Education. This program has varying levels of scholarships, such as Honors, Distinction and Recognition. Students must have high SAT scores, GPAs, class ranking, etc. It might be noted that in the fall of 2006 the "average" SAT score of the incoming UTD freshman was 1245. To read more about the details of the AES program, please go to: www.utsal-las.edu/utp/ugradbear-scholarship/index.asp or.

- Texas A&M University at Kingsville offers a Hourly Scholarship for four years valued at \$7,500.
- University of Texas at Brownsville President's Chess Scholarships – UTB is offering a limited number of full and partial 4-year chess scholarships to highly-qualified students. These scholarships cover tuition and fees, and may also include housing, meals and books, depending on the qualifications of the student. Please contact Russell Harwood, UTB Chess Program Director, at (361) 882-5761, or by email at russell.harwood@utb.edu.
- Southwest Texas State University offers a San Marcos Optimum International Scholarship valued at \$1,000.
- Del Mar College President's Chess Scholarship offers a two-year scholarship to include tuition, books, and fees with a value of over \$4,000 for a student within the local five-county area.

to do well academically. The grade point average for the UTD team in 2005-2006 was 3.59. That compares with a GPA of 2.90 for all UTD undergraduates in the fall of 2005. In contrast to virtually all Texas institutions of higher learning, UTD has no football team. But its chess team is highly prized. University administrator Susan Rogers declares proudly: "If we joined [an athletic] conference, we would raise its GPA."

The UTD chess program was established in 1996 by former USCIF president Tim Redman. It's now directed by James Stallings. Redman remains on the faculty as a professor of literary studies.

There were personal ties between the two teams in UTD's two Serbian players, Marko Zivnic and Drasko Boskovic, and coach Rade Milovanovic, a native of Serbia. Milovanovic has a degree in law from the University of Belgrade and Boskovic is a former student there. In fact, Boskovic says that he is personally acquainted with most of the members of the Belgrade team, including his opponent, Vladimir Pochnic, whom he defeated in 37 moves.

The match generated a lot of interest in Belgrade, with media coverage and the presence of university and even national dignitaries at the opening ceremony. Noteworthy in the audience were three stars of the Reshevsky and Fischer eras: grandmasters Svetozar Gligoric, Borislav Ivkov and Aleksandar Matanovic. They provided a 56-year link to another transoceanic encounter, the 1950 radio match between the United States and Yugoslavia, in which all three played. For the record, Gligoric and Reshevsky drew both their games in the two-round event, Arthur Bisguier beat Ivkov 1½-½ and Matanovic beat Albert Pinkus 2-0.

Both UTD and the University of Belgrade consider the match a success. Apparently it will become an annual affair. Round 2 is scheduled for November 9, 2007. A trophy, the "Transatlantic Cup," will be passed around.

Here is a win from the Belgrade side, from the winner's perspective:

Queen's Pawn Game [A41]

FM Mites Pavlovic (2440)

IM Jacek Szopa (2465)

UTD-Belgrade on ICC

Notes by Pavlovic

1. d4 d6 2. Nf3 Bg4 3. e4 Nd7 4. Nc3 Bxf3

4. ... e5 or even 4. ... Nf5 would be less committal than the text move.

5. exf3

I am more comfortable with this capture, as it speeds up my development. However, 5. gxf3 provides a firm grip on the center, so it has its own merits.

5. ... g5 6. h4!?

This idea has rarely been employed in tournament practice. 6. Be3 is more common.

6. ... h5?!

Not the best by all means. 6. ... Ngf6 is preferred, as in 5. Savechenko-G. Seul, Bad Woertshoffen 1999. The game continued 7. f4 c6 8. d5 Bg7 9. Be2 Re8 10. 0-0 0-0 11. Re1 Re8 with mutual chances.

7. Bg5!

The bishop feels more comfortable here than after 7. Be3 Bg7 8. Qd2 (8. Rc1 Nb6 was seen in D. Komarov-J. Hodgson, France 1999. White boldly rushed in with 9. g5!? but failed to capitalize on it after 9. ... hxg4?! 9. ... c5 seems more logical—Black should seek to create some counterplay at any cost.) 10. f4g4 f5 11. Be2 f4g4 12. Bxg4 Nxg4 13. Qxg4 Nf8 14. Qe4? e6 15. Kd2 draw. A strange game—after the obvious 14. h5 the game could follow 14. ... Qd7 15. Qf3 0-0-0 16. h6 Bf6

17. c5 a6 18. b4 and White has the upper hand.]

8. ... Nh6 with counterplay, R. Pogorelec-F. Izeta Txabarti, Linares (open) 1996. The game continued 9. Bd3 c5 10. exd5 Nxe5 11. Be2 Nf5 12. Bxf5 g4f5 13. Bd4 Bxd4 14. Qxd4 Rg8 15. 0-0-0 with a completely unbalanced position. 13. 0-0 was more logical, keeping the opening advantage intact.

7. ... Bg7 8. Qd2!

Protecting the knight on c3.

8. ... c5

Black opens up the long diagonal, but the cost is too dear: White's full control of the d5 square can no longer be denied.

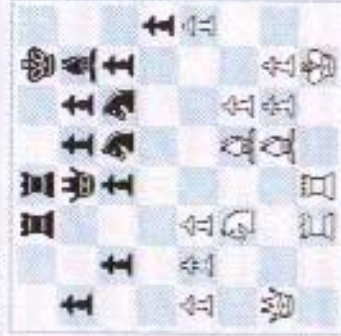
9. dxc5 Nxc5 10. Be2 Rc8 11. 0-0 Nf6

My king is safe, and Black has nothing at all to compensate for my bishop pair. White is now clearly better; my position demanded active play to keep my opponent's counterchances to a minimum.

12. b4 Ne6 13. Be3 0-0 14. Racl b6 15. Rfd1 Qd7 16. a4 Rfd8

Both sides have developed all of their pieces, but Black's position is hopelessly cramped. However, White can hardly improve the position of his pieces which means that some concrete measures are now required.

17. Qa2!



After 17. Qa2

After this move it becomes perfectly clear that Black is strategically doomed. He is unable to prevent a queenside breakthrough following the advance of my e-pawn, which will create a weakness on b6.

17. ... Qb7 18. a5 Nc7

Hoping for e6-d5.

19. f4!

Bringing in the last inactive piece. After Bf3, White will completely dominate the board. This is the "last-chance saloon" for Black, and he fights for his life.

19. ... e5

So far, Black was playing a waiting

game, but the pressure has become almost unbearable and he has to try something before he gets completely smothered. 19. ... Ng4 puts up more resistance, but Black is still in dire straits after 20. Bf3 Qb8 21. axb6 axb6 22. Qe2! and if 22. ... b5 is a desperate measure! 23. Bxg4 f4g4 24. Nxb5 Nxb5 25. cxb5 and White is practically winning.

20. fxe5 dxe5 21. Nb5

Even more effective was 21. Qa4, and certainly more precise. Black can hardly play anything useful, as he is unable to prevent the devastating effect of 22. Nb5.

21. ... Rxd1 + 22. Rxd1 Nxb5 23. cxb5 Qe4

23. ... Ng4 would be met by 24. Bxg4 hxg4 25. axb6 axb6 26. Qa6 and the b6 pawn is a goner.

24. axb6 axb6 25. Qa6

The b6 pawn is now dead meat.

25. ... Re6 26. Oxb6 Oxb6

Black is completely lost and all that he can hope for is some tactical oversight. I have decided to keep things simple and eliminate all potentially tricky pieces.

27. Rd8

Also good was 27. Qc6. Nothing can stop the pawn.

27. ... Rxd8 28. Qxd8 + Kh7 29. Qd2

Also winning is 29. b6, but who needs queens on the board when the clock is ticking?

29. ... Qxd2 30. Bxd2

Now it is all a matter of simple endgame technique. All that I have to do is push the pawn and improve my king position. The following moves are self-explanatory.

30. ... Bf8 31. Bc4 Kg8 32. b6 Bd6 33. b7 Nd7 34. Bb5 Nf8

Now that his knight is cut off, Black can only hope for a miracle.

35. Kf1 Kf8 36. Ke2 Ke7 37. Kd3 f6 38. Kc4 Bc7 39. Kd5

My king has completed his triumphant march, and it's now curtains for Black.

39. ... Bd6 40. Be3 f5??

Losing a piece, but it was hopeless.

41. Bg5+, Black resigned. ■



for a kingside attack with an unusually early Rg1. He kept Simutowe reeling all the way to move 24, where the IM lost on time in a hopeless position. Jacobs idly called up Board 1, and discovered to his amazement that Panchanathan

What happened?

Panchanathan believes that part of the answer is psychological. He changed plans during the opening and later Vuckovic apparently shifted his mental focus. The results were not good in either case.

Internet play is generally blitz or bullet, so when they sit down at a laptop they have an urge to speed.

Panchanathan prepared for the game knowing that Vuckovic is a Scotch player. "I prepared one variation which doesn't give winning chances but makes things clear with a lot of pieces exchanged," he says. "White has an advantage but it's more toward a draw."

"But then I began thinking 'For the sake of the team, I cannot get into a situation where I'm playing only for a draw.' So I thought, 'OK, let's play something else.' After three or four moves it became clear that he definitely knew all the variations. I began taking a lot of time, and he got a huge time advantage."

"At some point I decided, 'It's gone. I'll just play it out to see how he's going to execute it.' I had about 60 seconds in a completely lost position and he had 15 or 18 minutes."

Then Vuckovic began to allow Panchanathan some slight improvements in his position, though it remained lost. A key position arose on Move 47. Vuckovic was a piece up with Panchanathan holding some compensation in two connected passed pawns supported by his king. Vuckovic could have had a draw at this point, but understandably wanted more. He began moving quickly and soon committed a couple of blunders, allowing Panchanathan to close off a critical diagonal and queen a pawn.

Here is the game:

Scotch Game [C-45]

GM Boyan Vuckovic (2544)
GM Magesh Panchanathan (2445),
OTD-Belgrade on ICC
Notes by Panchanathan.

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 exd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nxc6 bxc6 6. e5 Qe7 7. Qe2 Nd5 8. c4 Ba6 9. b3 g6 10. f4 Ob4+ 11. Bd2 Ob6 12. Oit3 Nb4

An impulsive move to avoid the other line I had prepared: 12. ... Qd4 13. Nc3 Nxc3 14. Bxc3 [14. Qxc3 c5] 14. ... Bb4 15. Rc1 Bxc3+ 16. Rxc3 Qc5 17. Qc3. I had looked at this position before the game, but I was not able to make up my mind about Black's chances in this endgame.

13. Kd1 Bb7 14. Nc3 c5 15. Qe3

Black gets to take on d5 after 15. Nd5 Nxc5 16. cxd5 Bg7, and then breaks White's strong center with an eventual ...

d7-d6.

15. ... 0-0-0?

After this move I was able to feel the pressure building up and I could not find any resource for Black.

16. a3 Na6 17. Nd5 Qe6 18. Kc2 d6 19. Bc3 Bg7 20. Bd3 Rhe8 21. Rael Qd7 22. Qg3

It's pretty obvious that White dominates here! All of his pieces are well placed, while Black's knight is pretty much out of the game.

22. ... c6 23. Nf6 Bxf6 24. exf6 Nc7

Hoping to get the knight back into play, but White's kingside pawn storm looks unstoppable!

25. f5 d5 26. Ba5! Qd6?

By now I was already low on time and with the amount of pressure I was under, something like this was bound to happen! This move gives away the Exchange.

27. Rxe8 Nxe8 28. Bxd8 Qxd8 29. fxg6 hxg6 30. Rf1 Nd6 31. Qe5

I was very close to resigning the game here. Some weird instinct made me continue, and luckily, it payed off!

31. ... Qd7 32. Re1 Kc7 33. Qe7 Bc8 34. g4 a5 35. a4 Qxe7 36. Rxe7+ Kb6 37. h3

Not that any move matters here, but I expected him to play g4-g5 followed by h2-h4-h5.

37. ... g5 38. Re5 Be6

With 30 seconds remaining on the clock against a world-class grandmaster, I still cannot believe the position I am seeing before me.

38. Rxe6?

My opponent's first obvious mistake. He can keep his material advantage with 39.

Rg5 and continue advancing his kingside pawns, so this move was unnecessary. Of course, White will be a piece up in the ending, but Black's pawn center gives me some chances.

39. ... fxe6 40. Bg6 Kc7 41. f7 Nxf7 42. Bxf7 Kd6

Advancing any of the pawns would have made things much easier for White.

43. Be8 e5 44. Kd3 e4+ 45. Ke3 Ke5 46. Bxc6 d4+ 47. Kd2



After 47. Kd2

Though things are not easy any more, White is still winning—but Black's powerful central pawns demand accurate play. There are two different plans here for a White breakthrough: b3-b4 and h3-h4. My opponent went for the correct plan, except he did not execute it properly.

47. ... Kf4 48. Bd5 Ke5 49. Bb7 Kf4 50. Ke2 Ke5 51. Bd5

51. Be8 Kf4 52. Bd7 d3+ [52. ... Ke5? 53. h4 gxh4 54. g5 leaves Black in zugzwang since all pawn moves weaken his position] 53. Ke1 Ke3 54. Bf5 Kf3 55. Kd1 Ke3 56. h4 gxh4 57. g5 Kf3 58. g6 e3 59. Bxd3 h3 60. g7 h2 61. g8=Q h1=Q+ 62. Kc2 Qh2+ 63. Kb1 Qh1+ 64. Kb2 Qh2+ 65. Ka3 Qd2. White should be able to win if he can trade queens, since the move b3-b4 would win the king and pawn endgame for him. However, he needs to be extremely careful not to allow perpetual check.

51. ... Kf4 52. Kd2 Ke5 53. Bf7 Kf4 54. Bd5 Ke5 55. Bb7 Kf4



After 55. ... Kf4

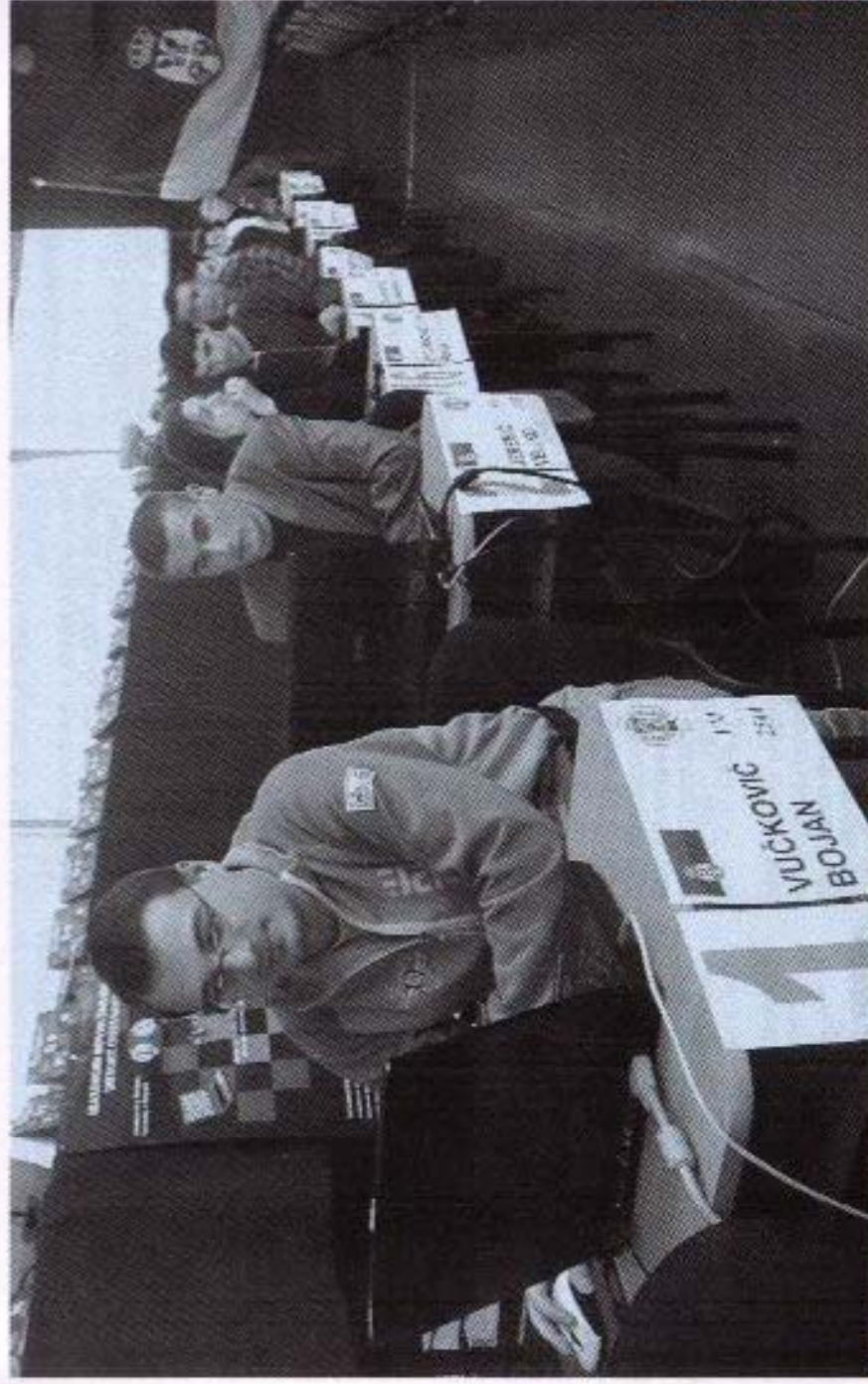


PHOTO: IVAN MARKOVIC

The ferrians were led by senior mathematics major GNF Rojan Vučković.

50. Bc6

56. Bd5 Ke5 57. Bc6 Kf4 58. b4 This is the same plan as in the game, except the white bishop is on c6 now. This way the bishop gets a chance to stop the pawns along the a4-d1 diagonal. 58... a3b4.

a) 58... cxb4 59. c5 b3 {59... e3+ 60. Ke2 b3 61. Bb5 b2 62. Bd3 Ke5 63. Kd1 Kd5 64. Ke2 Kxc5 65. Kxb2 Kb4 66. Bb5 White's extra piece should win the game for him} 60. Bb5 d3 {60... e3+ 61. Ke1 Ke4 62. Kd2 d3 63. Kc3 61. Bxd3 exd3 62. Kxd3 Ke5 63. Kc3 Kd5 64. Kxb3 Kxc5 65. Kc3 Kd5 66. Kd3 Kc5 67. Ke4 Kc4 68. b4!};

b) 58... e3+ 59. Ke1 59. Ke2 axb4 {59... cxb4 60. c5} 60. a5 b3 61. Bc4 d3+ 62. Kxd3 Kf3 63. a6 e2 64. a7 e1=Q 65. a8=Q+ White may face some minor difficulties here due to his king position, but his extra bishop should guarantee him a win} 59. a5 b3 {59... e3- 60. Ke1 d3 61. Bc4 Kf3 62. Bd1+ e2 63. Bxc2+ dxc2 64. a6; 59... d3? 60. Bxc4} 60. Ba4 b2

a) 60... e3+ 61. Ke1 d3 {61... b2 62. Be2 62. Bxb3 e2 63. Kf2; b) 60... Kf3 61. Bxb3 Kf2 62. Bd1; 61. Be2 d3 62. Bb1 e3+ 63. Ke1 d2+ 64. Ke2 Kf3 65. Bd3! 65. a6?? d1=Q+ 66. Kxd1 Kf2! 65... d1=Q- 66. Kxd1 Kf2 67. Kc2.

56... Ke5 57. Bd5 Kf4 58. b4?

The main problem here remains that

the white bishop is not able to get to the other side of the board to stop my b-pawn. If he had tried the same pawn sacrifice with his bishop on c6 things would be different, as the bishop can reenter the game through a4.

58... e3+??

I sensed a win for me and pushed a little too much here. This is a simple logical blunder. I solved my opponent's main problem by letting his bishop get back into the game! Now he can play Be6 followed by Bf5 to stop the d- and b-pawns while his a-pawn will be unroppable! 58... axb4 59. Bxe4! This is the move I wanted to avoid. 59... Kxe4 60. a5 b3 61. a6 b2 62. Kc2 d3+ 63. Kxb2 Ke3 64. a7 d2 65. a8=Q d1=Q and Black has very good drawing chances.

58. Ke2??

My opponent was kind enough to return the favor! 59. Ke1 axb4 {59... cxb4 60. c5 Ke5 61. Be4} 60. Be6.

58... axb4 60. Bxf6 d3+!

This is the reason why 59. Ke2 was a blunder! It gave me one crucial tempo.

61. Ke1

After 61. Kxd3 Kf3, Black's pawn will march without any further problems.

61... e2 62. Kf2 b3 63. Bf5 e1=Q+! 64. Kxe1 Ke3

Cutting the white bishop from stopping the b-pawn.

65. a5 b2 66. Bxd3 Kxd3 67. a6 b1=Q+ 68. Kf2 Ke4, White resigned.

In post-game analysis, Panehamathan decided that the position was a win for Vučkovic right down to the final blunders. His explanation for the outcome: "Sometimes problems come to chess players when they change their mode of play. They begin to think about how to stop their opponent's plan rather than continuing with their own."

He sums up the game: "I should just say I was lucky."

The other games tended to move quickly. The time limit was game in 40 minutes, with five seconds per move increment. Toward the end, some of the games became blitz chess. There was considerable fighting spirit, with 11 of the 16 games ending decisively. None of the draws was perfunctory; the shortest was 33 moves, the longest 84.

Jacobs called it "awashbuckling chess. They took chances and played aggressively. It was a fun match, with nothing at stake except pride. For a short time limit, I felt that the quality of their play was good."