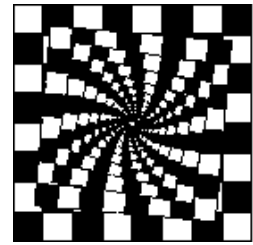


Chess Newsletter

Chess Ideas Australia

October, 2008



Interschool Finals!!!!!!!



The chess year culminated in the finals of the Victorian Primary Interschool Chess Championship. What a day! With over 130 students playing in the open championship it was at times chaotic, but always exciting.

The standard of play was breathtaking and the final result was decided after a nervous and nail biting last round.

Congratulations to **Greythorn Primary** who stole the finals away from **Mt View** in the last round and avenged their defeat in 2007. **Brighton Grammar** played steadily all day to come third.

In the Girls' Championship played two days later, **Mt View** won the day from **PLC** second with **Camberwell Girls Grammar** third. It was just as exciting as the Open Championship. PLC played without two of their top players, with their return the stage is set for an exciting battle in 2009.

Want to join our 'Kids Knight Class' on Wednesday 5.30 p.m.— 6.30 p.m. which is held in our office in Ripponlea? Taught by Ross Neumann, term 4 starts on 29th October and runs for 7 weeks until the 10th of December. (Casual participants welcome). To find out more phone us on 9532 - 8370 or email admin@chessideas.com.au



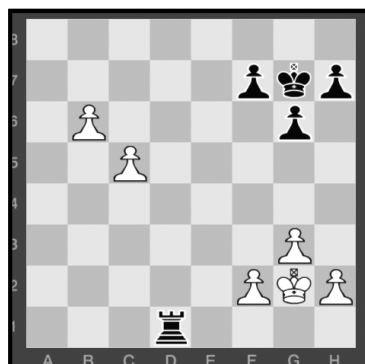
Two Pawns Battling a Rook



In the Puzzle below there are 2 possible outcomes.

(1). If it is White to move. (2). If it is Black to move.

What are the two answers?



Solutions Page 4.

Chess Ideas
established in 1994

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The Weird and Wonderful World of Chess Trivia.

Did you Know??



Even though Chess is thought to have been played in India, Persia and the Muslim empire from around 600 A.D, the first documented reference to chess in Europe was in a will made in 1010 when the Count of Urgel bequeathed his beloved rock-crystal chessmen to the Convent of St. Giles at Nimes.



Chess was listed as one of the seven 'Knightly Accomplishments' in the *Disciplina Clericalis* published around 1110.



Initially the queen was limited to a **one square diagonal move in any direction**. It was around the 15th century that the queen move that we know became widely accepted.



Try your hand at a puzzle that's over 1000 years old

It's hard to know where and when chess first originated, but it is thought to have started somewhere in India around 600 A.D. Between 600 A.D. and 1000 A.D. chess was confined largely to India, Persia and the Muslim Empire, it didn't spread to Europe and the rest of the world until the 11th century.

One interesting aspect of chess at this time was that many people who were good players and strategists were devoted not to playing the game, but to devising tricky positions, studies and problems for others to solve. These puzzles were extremely popular, just as crossword puzzles are today, and amazingly a tremendous number have been preserved and still survive.

The problem below involves rooks, knights, pawns and kings. It is interesting to note that the way these pieces move has not changed over the years (except for minor changes to the way a pawn may move in the beginning), whereas the way the queen and bishop move changed dramatically after the game was introduced to Europe.

This problem was originally labelled "Red plays and wins", (Red being the same as white). Today we would label this problem "White to play and mate in 5 moves".

Note that every one of the moves is forced and to give you another clue it involves sacrifices which cause black to block its own king's escape!

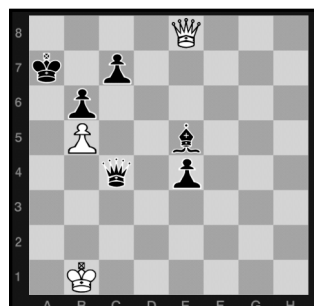
It's beautiful! Try it.



**White to play and mate in 5 moves.
Solution on page 4.**

Puzzle -Time

Sometimes you know you can't win the game, but if you're clever you might be able to draw and hence save the game. In the puzzle below white finds a way to draw the match. Can you find it?



White to Move.

(Solution on page 4.)

**Play chess against the computer. Go to
www.chessideas.com.au/play_chess.
It's safe and fun.**



(by Darryl Johansen - International Grandmaster)

Young chess players are always taught the *Three Golden Rules*:

- (1) Control the centre
- (2) Develop pieces towards the centre
- (3) Castle the King

The following game played in the last round of a Victorian State Championship showed that when our best state players disregard the Three Golden Rules their chances of winning disappear!

(White)	(Black)
1. e4	c6
2. d4	d5
3. Nc3	b5
4. ed5	b4
5. Ne4	Qd5
6. Bd3	f5
7. Ng3	Qg2
8. Nf3	Qh3 (Forced, Why?)



9. Bf4	e6
10. Qe2	Ne7 (The first and only minor piece developed by Black!)
11. 0-0-0	h6?
12. Kb1	g5?? (allowing a simple fork)
13. Bb8!	Rb8
14. Qe5!	Resigns as black loses a rook.

Note: How many pawn moves did black make?
 How many queen moves did black make?
 Which of the three golden rules did black break?

Have you tried www.chessideas.com.au/Links to well loved chess sites. Find out about Canterbury Junior Chess Club

Answers:

Two pawns battling a Rook (page 1)

White to move: *1. pc6! No matter where the Rook moves one of the pawns will queen.*

(Remember the general rule 'two connected pawns on the 6th rank beat a rook'.)

Black to move: *1. Rb1(!) and then 2. Rb5 will win the pawns safely.*

1000 year old puzzle (page 2)

1. Rh7 Kg8
2. Nf6+ Kf8
3. Pe7+ Ne7
4. Rf7+ Nf7
5. Ne6#

Puzzle Time (page 2)

If you look closely you will see that White's king and pawn cannot move, so all he has to do is lose his queen and it's stalemate. That's easy!

Both 1. Qa8+ or Qb8+ force stalemate.

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Also available are chess sets, chess boards, 'starter chess kits', 'intern packs' which include a board, set and clock. Check out our website for other chess items. School specials available.