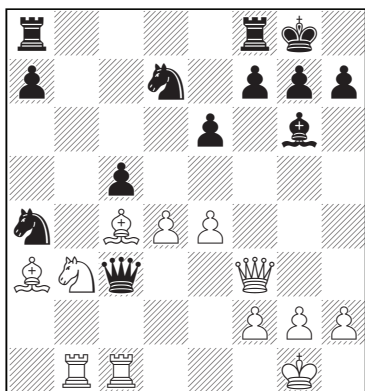


point, so why not defend it? However, I should have kept my eye on White's theoretical e2-e4 break, since this is one of the more important features of the position. The move I should have played here was 15...Nc6! which prevents 16.e4 on account of 16...Nxd4. If White instead plays 16.d5, I have 16...Ne5; my knight on a4 can hop from c3 to d5 or e4; I think black has a very good game after 15...Nc6. With the text move, my position quickly falls apart.

16.e4 Bg6 17.Rab1 Qa5 18.Nb3 Qc3

This was the position I was counting on, however I had overlooked white's very strong response of...

19.Rfc1!

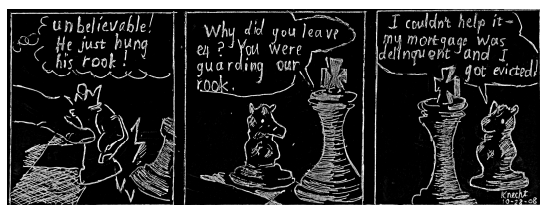


Forcing a trade of queens, after which I'm just busted. White's bishops and rooks will make short work of my disorganized pieces.

19...Qxf3 20.gxf3 Rfd8 21.Bb5 Ndb6 22.dxc5 1-0

*Joe and I left the tournament to no fanfare—
no trumpets blasting,
no champagne spilling, no maidens screaming.*

I happened to win my last round game, and so finished the tournament with 2.0/3.0, good enough for a tie for second place—a hefty prize of \$8.50, which I immediately invested in greasy fast food and gas station coffee. Though Joe and I left the tournament to no fanfare—no trumpets blasting, no champagne spilling, no maidens screaming—the event left a favorable impression on me. Perhaps, good fortune permitting, Joseph and I may someday return, where we may once again restore justice, order, and peace to the simple town and humble townfolk of Delaware, Ohio. ♦
~Phillip Seitzer



Would you like to be a Famous Chess Tournament Reporter like FCTR Phil Seitzer?

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Mate the Beatles!

with Bob Basalla

Paired With You

(To the tune of "Love Me Do")

Paired, paired with you,
A Swiss dream come true,
A gift in my view,
So pleased,
Paired with you,
No scare from you.

Paired, paired with you,
Director's purview,
I lobbied hard, too!
Appeased,
Paired with you,
Board shared with you.

Someone to club,
One with no clue,
Some rummy schlub,
Some bum like you!

Paired, paired with you,
Masters I eschew,
I'm allergic to.
No sneeze,
Paired with you,
So spared with you.

(Instrumental)

Unpaired with you,
A late switcheroo,
This change can't be true!
Now he's
Paired with you.
How dare they do!
That lucky dude!
Oh, paired with you...

I Can Work It Out

(We Can Work It Out")

Why not move things my way?
Do I have to keep on
Squawking 'bout our ev'ry pawn
While we've moved things your way,
At the risk of blowing
This sharp path we've gotten on?

I can work it out!
I can work this out!

We're in consultation,
Meaning it is wrong
To think that just your moves are
right.
Think of my frustration.
We can wiggle out
Of this and save our wayward knight.

You can't work it out!
You can't work this out!

Game 60 is short,
So there's no time
For rehashing details again.
I had always sought
Your input mind,
But I insist this once, my friend.

If you cede to my play
All the lines will tell
That I am right and you are wrong.
Can't agree to your play
Or our dance of men
Won't seem too smart or very strong.

I have worked it out!
I have worked this out!

Yikes! We can't abort!
Too late I find
We're busted, and fighting the end.
Chess is always fraught
With tempting lines,
So I must beg of you my friend.

I now see that my way
Leads to lines that smell,
So you were right and I was wrong.
I'll accede to your way
On the chance our game
Won't fall apart before too long.
You can work it out!
I can't work this out!

Magical Random Knights Tour
("Magical Mystery Tour")

Come up, step right up
For the Magical Random Knights
Tour!
Starts out this way:

B1, a3, c2, a1, b3,
C1, a2, c3, d1, e3,
F1 (This is my demonstration)
H2, f3, g1, h3,
F2, (One hop on ev'ry station)
H1, g3, e2, f4,

My Magical Random Knights Tour
Is going to blow you away,
Awe you as I show the way!

G2, h4, f5, d4, e6,
G5, e4, d2, c4, a5,
C6 (No known pattern will I heed)
A7, c8 and b6,
A8 (Yet, I'll dazzle with my speed)
C7, a6 and b8,

My Magical Random Knights Tour
Should go down on tablets of clay,
Honored on boards of parquet!

[Instrumental interlude + "Random
Knights Tour"]

Wow! D7, f8 and g6,
H8, f7, e5, and d3,
B2 (You're making indications)
A4, c5, b7 too,
D6 (I'll have a revelation)
E8, f6, d5, b4,

My Magical Random Knights Tour
Has somehow gone badly astray.
Nowhere from here can I play.
My Tragical Random Knights Tour
Got hobbled, at least for today.
I'll fix it, somehow, some way,
Maybe some day.

[Befuddled sounding instrumental
fade] ♦ ~Bob Basalla

*Bob Basalla is the author of Chess in the
Movies. Buy it on Amazon.com today!*