

转@田野(NJ Eddy 8) 昨日发文，记录 chess dad 成熟。

2nd year at the National Chess Congress.

去年这个比赛中发生的事情还是历历在目，终生难忘 - although Eddy didn't win any prize, but he got what money can't buy, something so valuable that can benefit him for his entire life. Beyond chess itself, that tournament established Eddy's positive attitude toward any setbacks in life.

Eddy's rating was 1381 this time last year, playing with a single opening repertoire. In round 5, he encountered a very strong high school kid with rating 100 higher who played the Najdorf against Eddy. 对一个不太懂开局的小孩下 Najdorf 明摆着就是要合法的欺负你！果不其然 Eddy 在 opening 还没结束就 down a piece. 然后他很沮丧的跑出来跟我说他要 resign. 我和 Eddy 说还记得爸爸给你讲过的楚汉相争的故事吗，刘邦被项羽 beat up 无数次，最后刘邦垓下一战 wiped out 项羽 forever, please go back to the chessboard and think for 10 minutes, if you can't solve the problem, then let's resign. 然后奇迹发生了。我坚信这个奇迹对 Eddy 一生都有着深远的影响。Eddy 用了整整 25 分钟，想出了一个逆天的计划，the plan had 17 moves, involving a rook exchange sac and a knight sac. If his opponent accepted both sac, it's a forced mate. After we got chess engine installed a few months later, I found out both of Eddy's sacrifices were marked as huge blunders by computer, ironically, in both cases computer suggests DO NOT accept the sacrifice, then Eddy will be totally lost. However, luckily Eddy didn't play with a computer, his opponent, as a common human beings, was greedy on material and took both Eddy's sacrifices, 10 moves later, he got mated. Later that week, our coach IM Ippolito looked at Eddy's position before his sacrifice plan, said, I'd resign here myself, you are one of the most creative problem solvers I've seen.

It's a massive gambling because his opponent can turn down any one of the 2 sac, then the plan won't work. The first sac clear way for the bishop, the 2nd sac clear way for the queen, then his opponent had to give up his queen to stop the 1st mate threat, but the 2nd mate is not stoppable.

Since then, Eddy fell in love with sacrificing materials for attack. 他牺牲个把小卒是家常便饭，牺牲 piece 眉头都不眨一下。他下的有些棋心脏不好是没法承受的。

这种经历对他的人生应该很有帮助吧？不为一时的挫折而沮丧，相反的要积极想办法解决问题。

Since then, 他的棋风是 not care much about material, that's also very invaluable attitude toward chess and life.

一年过去，我们第二年参加这个比赛，Eddy 已经是 1800 多的小棋手. Eddy's official rating is still under 1800, so we could play in the U1800 and I'm sure he could win some prize there. However, we decided to play up in the U2000 section. Eddy 又是屡屡在 losing position 中找到绝处逢生的反攻机会，即使在 dead draw 的 position 也要冒险拼个赢出来。看到孩子这样的拼搏精神，真的非常感动。这一年的时光里，大部分的周末都在打比赛。象棋让这样一个多动的孩子能坐在棋盘前四五个小时专心的博弈，不管对手比自己大多少，也不管对手是有 title 的 master, 他是一如既往的进攻求胜，在挫折面前不妥协，就凭这些作父母的所有付出都是值得的了。

昨天 Eddy 苦战两局，都是四五个小时，到半夜 11 点孩子才得休息。

睡前孩子们问我为什么别的小朋友感恩节四天周末都在玩，我的鼻子有点酸酸的。所以今天上午休战一局，忙里偷闲，带他们到 Franklin Institute 科学博物馆玩玩。以前专门来费城玩的时候他们远远没有这么 enjoy, 3D IMAX 电影就不用说了，连成吉思汗展览都看的津津有味。可能是因为知道今天的 tour 来之不易，特别珍惜这里每一刻的时光。我想这几个小时给他们带来的快乐不亚于从前带他们去迪斯尼的快乐吧。幸福就是这么奇妙的东西，在没有期待的时候得到的就更幸福。宝贝孩子也是上帝赐给我们的珍贵礼物，带给我们无法期待的最美好的时光。