



MECHANICS'  
INSTITUTE  
Since 1854

# Chess Room Newsletter

Issue #1050 | June 8th, 2024 | Gens Una Sumus!



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## Recent Tournaments at the Mechanics' Institute

FA, SrTD Scott Mason

On Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> the Mechanics' Institute held the **2024 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Steve Brandwein/Ray Schutt/Jay Whitehead Memorial Blitz**. All three men were long time members of the Mechanics' Institute. Steve Brandwein was a regular player in the weekly events and had a rating around 2300 back in the 1960s. He particularly loved blitz chess and per other masters, he played well above his rating in blitz. Ray Schutt was an IM strength player from Hayward and he too loved and excelled at Blitz chess. Jay Whitehead (along with brother Paul Whitehead) grew up attending the Mechanics' Institute in the post Fischer boom eventually obtaining the International Master title and later playing in two US Chess Championships.

We were very fortunate to have two incredibly strong Grandmasters play in the event. GM Daniel Naroditsky was visiting family in the area and participated as did GM Christopher Woojin Yoo. The event had 51 players participate and was unrated. It was played at the time control of G/4m +2s. There were 6 rounds with two games each per player so 12 games total.

**GM Daniel Naroditsky** (2768) and **GM Christopher Woojin Yoo** (2660) tied for first place with 11/12 points splitting the games against each other. Tied for third were **CM Pranav Senthilkumar** (2085) and **Jeremy Cawthon** (1996) with 9/12 points.

Taking the best u1800 prize was **Gary Scheppler** (1612) scoring 8.5/12 points. Tied for the U1300 prize were **Noah Math** (1294) and Fadi Arodaki (1203) with 6/12 points.

Complete results for the 2024 Steve Brandwein/Ray Schutt/Jay Whitehead Memorial Blitz can be found [here](#).

The 2024 Steve Brandwein/Ray Schutt/Jay Whitehead Memorial Blitz was directed by Local TD **Arthur Liou**.

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, the Mechanics' Institute hosted our monthly duo of **Scholastic Swiss** in the morning and **Quads** in the afternoon.

The May monthly Scholastic Swiss had 22 players competing in two sections.

In the 600+ section had a clear winner with **Kepler McTiernan** (1088) taking 1<sup>st</sup> place with a perfect score of 4/4 points. In clear 2<sup>nd</sup> place was **Dylan Wan** (867) with 3/4 points. Tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> were **Adam Tennant** (876) and **James Zukin** (624) with Adam

taking the 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophy on tiebreaks. Winning 5<sup>th</sup> place on tiebreaks was **Anastasia Paramonova** (721).

The u600 section was won with a perfect score by **Si Hao Huang** (464) going 4-0. Tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places with 3 points each were **Timothy Poon** (unr.) and **Jaden Cole** (360) with Timothy getting the 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophy on tiebreaks. Two players tied for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> place with **Liam Creasey** (unr.) getting the 4<sup>th</sup> place trophy and **Oscar Von Brockdorff** (unr.) getting 5<sup>th</sup> both with 2.5 points.

Complete results for the May Scholastic Swiss can be found [here](#).

The May Quads saw a total of 51 players competed in 13 sections. The top Quad was won by **Laurie Qiu** (2134) with 2.5/3 points.

Complete results for the May Quads can be found [here](#).

Both the May Quads and the May Scholastic Swiss were directed by Local TD **Arthur Liou**.



GM Daniel Naroditsky (front right) battles IM Ladia Jirasek (front left) on Board 1 while GM Christopher Yoo (rear left) plays Dipro Chakraborty (rear right) on Board 2 in Round 4 of the 2024 Brandwein/Schutt/Whitehead Blitz.

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, the Mechanics' Institute hosted the **1<sup>st</sup> Mike Goodall Memorial tournament**. The event was a full house with 82 players competing in four sections.

Mike Goodall was a former Chess Club Director for the Mechanics' Institute. He was an Expert chess player and an experienced organizer and Tournament Director running tournaments for more than 35 years including directing the U.S. Championship three times.

The 2000+ section was won by **Daniel Cremisi** (2400) with an undefeated 3.5 points from 4 games. Sharing 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place were four players with 3 points each. They were **Sricharan Pullela** (2167), **Sivavishnu Srinivasan** (2028), **Zee Chin** (1915), and **Hayes Marvin** (1810).

**Jeremy Cawthon** (1982) took clear first in the 1600-1999 section scoring a perfect 4 points. There was a 2-way split for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, with **Shiv Sohal** (1680) and **Vihan Grover** (1590) scoring 3.5 points each.

In the under 1200-1599 section three player ended in a 3-way tie for 1st place with 3.5 points each. They were **Toby Tran** (1347), **Youting Long** (1240), and **Tingshun Liu** (1222).

The top prize in the under 1200 section went to **Juliana Gallin** (941) who scored a perfect 4.0 points. In clear 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 3.5 points was **Lacey Deilworth** (unr.) There were four players tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. They were **Umar Rasyid** (unr.), **David Siegel** (914), **Teresa Long** (528), and **William Gass** (unr.) who all scored 3 points.

Complete results for the 1<sup>st</sup> Mike Goodall Memorial can be found [here](#).

The 1<sup>st</sup> Mike Goodall Memorial was directed by Local TD **Arthur Liou**.

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## **Annotated Games from the TNM**

IM Elliott Winslow

A selection of annotated games from round one of the 2024 SUMmer TNM annotated by IM Elliott Winslow and the players. All the games from the current TNM can be found here, and games from previous TNMs are in the [Tournament Ar](#)



**Winslow, Elliott** **E12**  
**2178**  

**Viadiu-Illaraza, Hector** **1896**  
 2024 Summer TNM: 2000+ (2.2) 14.05.24  
*[Winslow, Elliott]*

We both fumbled here and there, but the last "serious" fumble cost Hector the game. (I even then played the ending inaccurately but managed to bring it home.) **1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 b6 4.Nc3** An interesting move order.

#### 4...Bb7

[If 4...Bb4 then 5.Bg5 is a precarious line, and White has avoided a number of problematic lines in the Leningrad (1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bg5). But of course not all: the main line is the bewildering Tal-Hecht, Varna ol 1962. 1-0 49, with a fantastic queen sacrifice on move 19. (Even 5.e3 has transposition factors; here also Black is committed to ...b6. )]

**5.a3** And on this side, White has avoided 4.a3 (the Petrosian System) c5!? and 4...Ba6!?. **5...d5**

[But there is still 5...Ne4!?

#### 6.cxd5 Nxd5

[ 6...exd5

**A) 7.g3** is certainly the most popular;

**B) 7.Qc2!?** scores pretty well! c5!? 8.e4! gets volatile! dxe4 ( 8...cxd4 9.Bb5+ Nbd7 10.e5 dxc3 11.exf6 Qc7 12.Qe2+ Kd8 13.fxg7 Bxg7 14.0-0 1-0 (38) Kramnik,V (2777)-Polgar,J (2722) Cap d'Agde KO rapid 2003 (1.1) ) 9.Bb5+ Bc6 ( 9...Nfd7!?

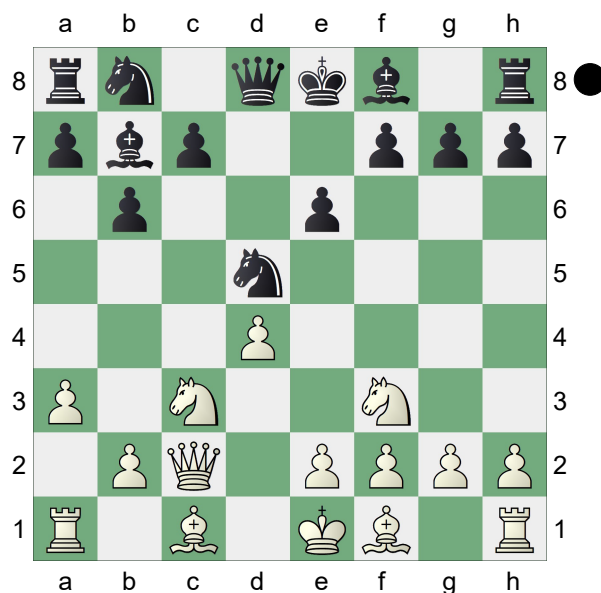
**C)** I have over the years preferred **7.Bf4** (and database results somewhat back me up) ]

#### 7.Qc2

[ 7.Bd2 ]

[ 7.e3 g6!? I think this was what Sam

Shankland played against me in the first round of the Rapid tournament (or was it Blitz?) at the Mechanics' in May of 2019. ]



This move "took over" from Petrosian's original 7.Bd2 and the "classical" 7.e3. I've long forgotten the reasons. But at least this time I played it anyway! (Last time I had this position I just played 7.e3 and was in trouble out of the opening.)

#### 7...Nd7

[ 7...Nxc3!? is the move in Roiz's Grandmaster Repertoire book on playing the Queen's Indian for Black, and played by many "at the top" and "against the top". White must decide now, c-file or center? 8.bxc3 ( 8.Qxc3!? h6! says Roiz ) 8...Be7 a bit sedate compared to two moves that score better: ( 8...c5!?!; and 8...Bd6!?! ) 9.e4 0-0 10.Bd3 c5 11.0-0 Qc7 12.Qe2 Rd8 13.Rd1 h6 14.Bb2 Nd7 (This looks a bit like our game, but not :-)) 15.d5 (-- which Hector was better situated against) exd5 16.exd5 Bf6 17.c4 Re8 18.Qc2 Bxb2 19.Qxb2 Qf4 20.a4 Rab8 21.h3 Ba6 22.Qd2 with a middling plus, which (what else

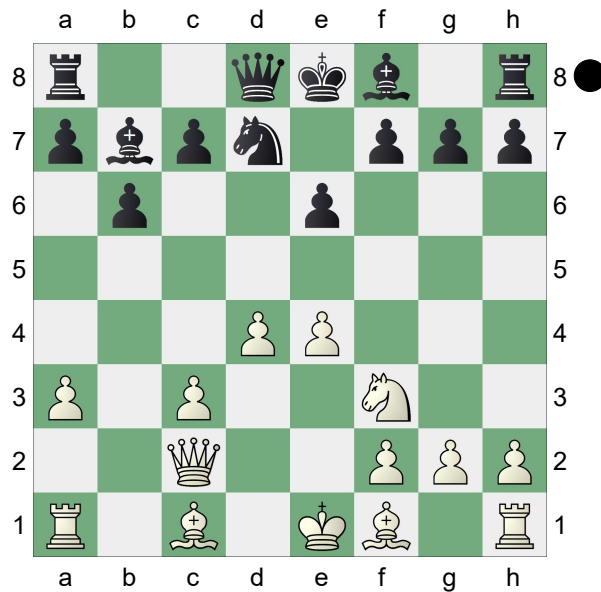
is new!) Carlsen converted:  
1-0 (63) Carlsen,M (2839)-Nakamura,  
H (2780) Chess.com Speed Chess  
Chess.com INT blitz 2023 (4.6) ]

## 8.e4

[ 8.Nxd5! I'd completely forgotten my chess history. exd5 ( 8...Bxd5  
Here's a game between two of the finest of the era: 9.e4 Bb7 10.Bb5 c6 11.Bxc6 Rc8 12.d5 Qc7 13.Nd4 Bxc6 14.Nxc6 Nb8 15.Be3 Nxc6 16.Rc1 Bc5 17.dxc6 Qxc6 18.0-0 0-0 19.b4 Bxe3 20.Qxc6 Bxc1 21.Qa4 Rc7 22.Rd1± 1-0 (37)  
Gelfand,B (2685)-Karpov,A (2715) Alekhine Memorial Moscow 1992 )  
9.Bg5 f6 (More controlled is 9...Qc8 10.g3 Bd6 11.Bh3 0-0 12.Nh4 Re8 13.Nf5 Bf8 14.0-0 c5 15.Rac1 Qc6 16.Rfd1 c4 17.Bg2 b5 18.h4 Nf6 19.Bf3 a5 20.Bxf6 Qxf6 21.Ne3 Qd6 22.Kh2 Ra7≠ Former local boy Hans Niemann had outplayed Aram Hakobyan but the tide turned;  
1-0 (96) Hakobyan,A (2588)-Niemann, H (2465) Chesterfield SPICE Cup op 2020 (9) ) 10.Bf4 c5 11.g3 g6 12.h4 Qe7 13.Bg2 Bg7 14.h5 f5 15.Qd2 Bf6 16.Rc1 Rc8 17.Rc3 Rc6 18.Re3 Re6 19.Rxe6 Qxe6 20.Ng5 Qe7 21.dxc5 Nxc5 22.hxg6 d4 23.g7 Bxg7 24.Bxb7 Qxb7 25.f3 Qd5 26.Rxh7 Rxh7 27.Nxh7 Qb3 28.Bd6 Ne6 29.Ng5 Bh6 30.Bf4 Bxg5 31.Bxg5 Nxg5 32.Qxg5 Qxb2 33.Qxf5 Qc1+ 34.Kf2 Qe3+ 35.Kf1 Qc1+ 36.Kg2 Qxa3 37.Qh5+ Kd7 38.Qg4+ Kc6 39.Qxd4 b5 40.g4 b4 41.g5 Kasparov's first ever win against Karpov, in their epic first match, and the tide, no more like the tsunami, turned. A huge moment in chess.  
1-0 Kasparov,G (2710)-Karpov,A (2700) World-ch30-KK1 Karpov-Kasparov +5-3=40 Moscow 1984

(32) ]

## 8...Nxc3 9.bxc3



## Be7

[ 9...c5! is reputed as completely equal. Black gets the counterplay on the c-file going right away. ]

## 10.Bd3

[ 10.Bf4 ]

## 10...0-0

[ 10...c5! ]

## 11.0-0 c5 12.Qe2

[ 12.Bf4!? ]

## 12...Rc8

[ Relevant: 12...Qc7! 13.a4 Nb8 14.Re1 Nc6 15.d5 Na5 16.c4 Nb3 17.Rb1 Nxc1 18.Rbxc1 Rad8 19.Rcd1 Rfe8 20.Bc2 Qf4 21.Qd3 g6 22.g3 Qc7 23.Qc3 Bf8 24.Bb3 e5 25.Bc2 Bc8 26.a5 Bd6 27.axb6 axb6 28.Ra1 Bg4 29.Ra6 Ra8 30.Rea1 Rxa6 31.Rxa6 Qb7 32.Ra1 f6 33.Ba4 Ra8 34.Bc6 Rxa1+ 35.Qxa1 Qb8 36.Kg2 Qc8 37.Ng1 Qd8 38.Qa7 Qc7 39.Qa8+ Qb8 40.Qa4 Qd8 41.Qa7 Qc7 42.Qa8+ So we see: Naka still believes.  
½-½ (43) Andreikin,D (2729)- Nakamura,H (2778) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Nov Early Chess.com INT blitz 2023 (7) ]

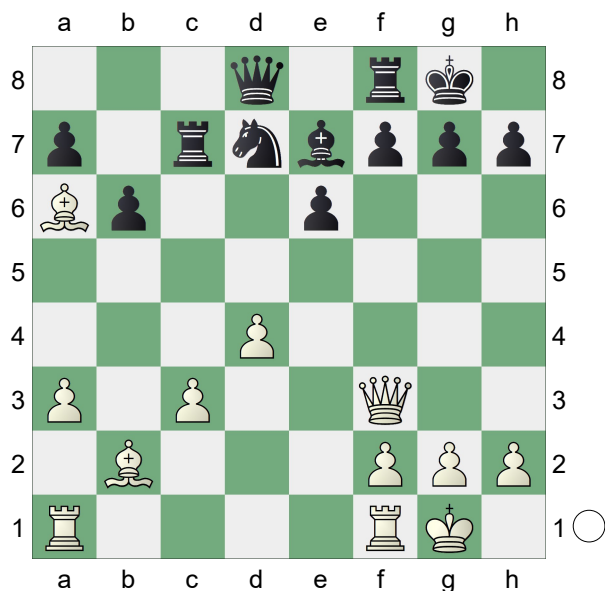
**13.Bb2** Suspect -- so many better places for this piece. I was probably misremembering some old games from forty years ago. **13...c4?!**

[ 13...Qc7 (keeping me off f4 with my bishop) and ...Rfd8 next: "0.00" ]

**14.Bxc4**

[ 14.Bc2 isn't so bad either ]

**14...Bxe4 15.Ba6! Bxf3 16.Qxf3 Rc7±**



**17.Bd3?!N**

[ 17.a4± seems to be best, from my own and others' analysis. ]

[ 17.Rfe1 ]

[A noteworthy predecessor is 17.Rad1 Bd6 18.Bd3 (almost our game) b5 19.Rfe1 a6 20.a4 bxa4 21.c4 Qb8 22.Ba1 Rd8 23.Re4 Nf6 24.Rh4 Be7 25.Rh3? ( 25.d5! Rcd7 26.Qh3!± ) 25...h6= 26.Rb1? Rxc4-+ 27.Rxb8 ( 27.Qd1 Rb4 28.Rxb4 Qxb4 ) 27...Rc1+ 28.Bf1 Rxb8 29.Bc3 Rbb1 30.Qd3 a3 31.Qxa6 a2 32.g4 Rxf1+ 33.Qxf1 Ne4 34.Ba1 Nd2 0-1 Radjabov,T (2599)-Anand,V (2757) FIDE GP+ Dubai rapid 2002 (4.4) ]

**17...Bf6?!**

[ 17...Nf6= ]

**18.Rad1**

[ 18.a4± There are engine analyses

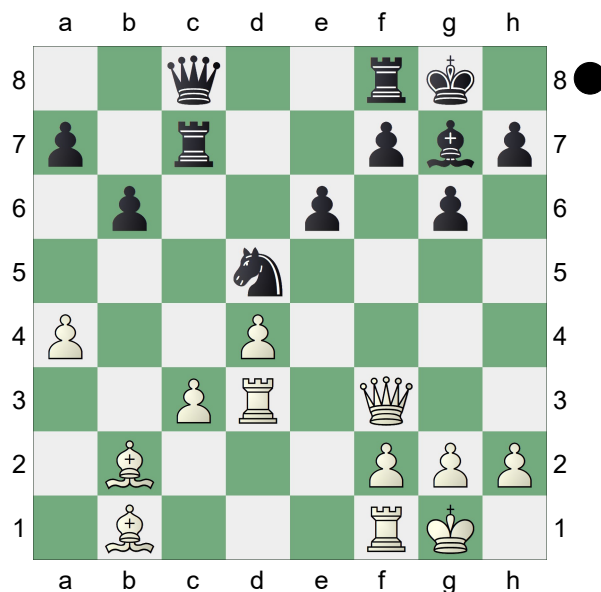
from 2019 even! ]

**18...g6 19.a4 Qa8 20.Be4 Qc8= 21.Rd3**

[ 21.Rfe1 ]

[ 21.Bd3 "Draw?" ]

**21...Bg7 Threatening ...f5! 22.Re3? Nf6± 23.Bb1 Nd5 24.Rd3**



**Rc4?!**

[ 24...Qa6!± ]

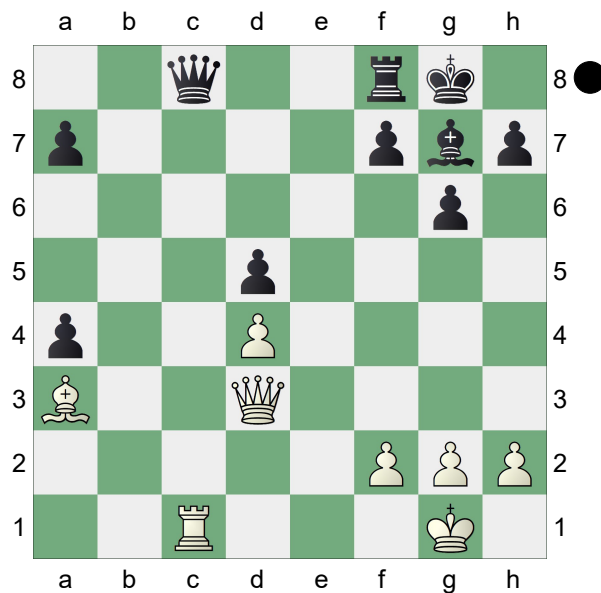
**25.a5 bxa5**

[ Δ25...Rd8 ]

**26.Ba2 a4! 27.Ba3**

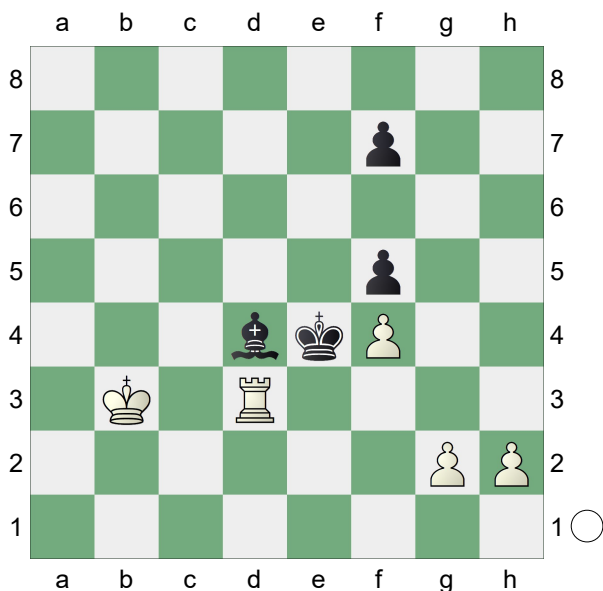
[ 27.Bxc4 Qxc4 28.Ba1= ]

**27...Rxc3!= 28.Bxd5 Rxd3 29.Qxd3 exd5 30.Rc1**



**Qf5??** I saw that this was shaky but didn't realize just how much so. Any normal queen move leaves it pretty much dead equality. **31.Qxf5 gxf5 32.Bxf8+- Bxf8**

[ 32...Kxf8 33.Rc8+ Ke7 34.Rc7+ Ke6 35.Rxa7 Bxd4 36.Rxa4+- ]  
**33.Kf1**  
 [ 33.Rc8! a5 34.Ra8 Kg7 35.Rxa5 a3 36.Rxd5 Bb4 37.Rd8 Kf6 38.Ra8 Ke6 39.Ra4 Bd6 40.Kf1 Kd5 41.Ke2 ]  
**33...a5 34.Ke2 a3 35.Kd3 Bb4 36.Kc2 Kf8 37.Kb3+- Ke7 38.Rc7+ Ke6 39.Rc6+ Kd7 40.Rh6**  
 [ 40.Rf6 ]  
**40...a4+ 41.Ka2 Bc3 42.Rxh7**  
 [ 42.Kxa3! Bxd4 43.f4 ]  
**42...Ke6 43.Kxa3 Bxd4 44.f3 Bf6 45.Kxa4 d4 46.Kb3 d3 47.f4**  
 [ 47.Rh6! ΔRxf6+ etc. ]  
**47...Bd4 48.Rh3 Kd5 49.Rxd3 Ke4**



**50.Rxd4+ Kxd4 51.h4 Ke3**  
 [ 51...Kd5 ]  
**52.g3**  
 [ 52.h5 Kxf4 53.h6 ]  
**52...Kf3 53.Kc2 Kxg3 54.h5 Kxf4 55.h6 Ke3 56.Kd1 f4 57.Ke1 f3 58.h7 f5 59.h8Q**  
**1-0**

**C02**  
**2099**  
**2204**  
 2024 Summer TNM: 2000+ (2.4) 14.05.24  
*[Winslow,Elliott]*

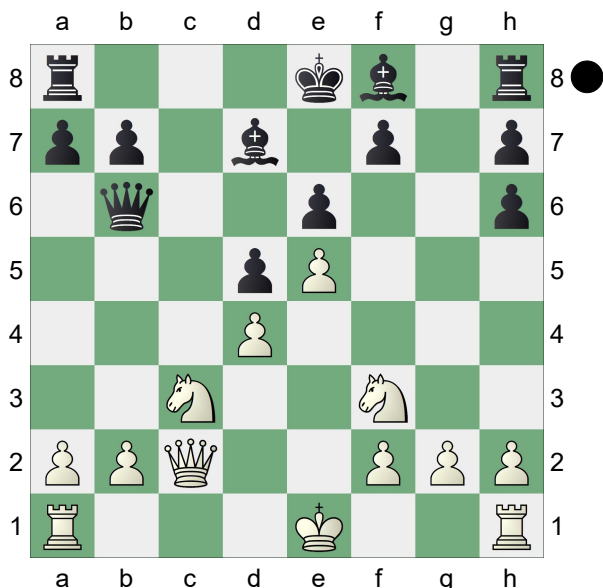
Bambou in form. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3** This Advance French seems to be showing up a lot this TNM: I "blame" Azerbaijani GM Gadir Guseinov, from whom quite a few TNM players are taking lessons (online of course -- he's in Baku). He has a lot of opening novelties and systems which he readily shares with his students. But what happens when two students play each other? **5...Qb6 6.Be2 cxd4 7.cxd4 Nh6 8.Bd3 Bd7 9.Bc2 Nb4**

[ Relevant: 9...Nf5 10.Bxf5 exf5 11.Nc3 Be6 12.0-0 h6 13.h4 Be7 14.Ne2 Rc8 15.Rb1 a6 16.Be3 Na5 17.b3 Nc6 18.g3 Qa5 19.a4 Qb6 20.Kg2 Nb4 21.Rc1 Rxc1 22.Qxc1 Kd7 23.Qb1 Rc8 24.Bd2 Qc7 25.Bxb4 Bxb4 26.Rc1 Qd8 27.Nf4 Ba3 28.Rxc8 Qxc8 29.h5 Qc3 30.Ne2 Qb2 31.Qxb2 Bxb2 32.Ne1 Ba3 33.Nd3 Be7 34.Nef4 a5 35.Kf3 Ke8 36.Nxe6 fxe6 37.g4 fxg4+ 38.Kxg4 Kf7 39.f4 ½-½ (50) Zhao,J (2619)-Zhang,Z (2640) Asian-chT Prel Hangzhou 2022 (1) ]

**10.Bxh6 Nxc2+ 11.Qxc2 gxh6 12.Nc3**  
 (Diagram)

**Bb5N**  
 [Predecessor: 12...Bg7 13.0-0 0-0 14.Qd2 f6 15.Rfe1 f5 16.Ne2 Rfc8 17.Nf4 Be8 18.Rec1 Bf8 19.Rc2 Bf7 20.Rac1 Rc6 21.Rxc6 bxc6 22.Qc3 Rc8 23.Nd3 Bh5 24.Nd2 Qd8 25.Nf4 Bf7 26.Nb3 Kh8 27.Nc5 Qe7 28.Qb3 Kg8 29.Qg3+ Kh8 30.Rc3 Rb8 31.Rb3 Rb6 32.a4 Qe8





33.a5 Rxb3 34.Qxb3 Bxc5 35.dxc5  
Qd8 36.Qb4 Qc8 37.Ne2 Kg7  
38.Nd4 Be8 39.Qc3 Kf7 40.h3 Qb8  
41.f4 Qb7 42.b4 1-0 (56) Alvarez  
Pedraza,A (2513)-Alarcon Casellas,R  
(2484) Bogota Humana op 2012 (3) ]  
13.Qb3 Bc4 14.Qxb6 axb6 15.Kd2  
h5 16.h4 Rg8 17.g3 Rc8 18.Ng5 Bh6  
19.Rac1 Rc6 20.b3 Ba6 21.Na4  
Bxg5+ 22.hxg5 Rxc1 23.Kxc1 Rxc5  
24.Nxb6 Kd8 25.Na4 Ke7 26.Kd2  
Bb5 27.Nc3 Be8 28.Ne2 f6 29.exf6+  
Kxf6 30.Nf4 Bf7 31.Nd3 Rg4 32.Rh4  
Rhx4 33.gxh4 Kf5 34.Ke3 Be8  
35.Ne5 Bb5 36.a4 Ba6 37.f3 Bf1  
38.Nd7 b5 39.a5 b4 40.Nc5 e5  
41.dxe5 Kxe5 42.Nd3+ Kd6 43.Nxb4  
Kc5 44.Nd3+ Kb5 45.b4 Bg2 46.f4  
Kc4 47.f5 d4+ 48.Kd2 Be4 49.f6  
1-0

□ Walder,Michael

■ Marvin,Hayes Alexander

2024 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (2.11)

[Tactical Analysis 4.6]

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd8

4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.h3 Bxf3

B01

1978

1829

## 7.Qxf3

[ 7.gxf3 e6= ]

7...c6 8.g4 Each of the bishop moves is recommended by repertoire authors Negi (8.Be3) and Shaw (8.Bf4) in their respective Everyman Chess series, but this could well be the most testing.

[ Relevant: 8.Bf4 e6 9.0-0-0 Bd6

10.Be5 Qc7 11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.Qxf6

Rg8 13.Ne4 Be7 14.Qe5 Qb6

15.Nf6+ Bxf6 16.Qxf6 Nd7 17.Qh4

Qa5 18.a3 h5 19.Be2 Rxc2

20.Rhg1 Qd5 21.Bxh5 Kf8 22.Qf4

Rxc1 23.Qxf7# 1-0 Carlsen,M (2835)-

Le,T (2557) Bullet Chess Winners

Chess.com INT blitz 2023 (2.3) ]

8...e6 1.44/26

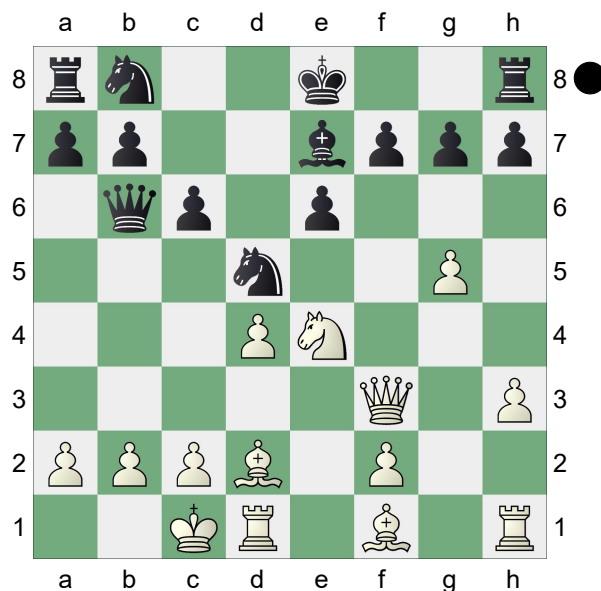
[ 8...Qxd4± 0.69/32 9.Be3 Qd8 ]

9.g5± Nd5 10.Ne4! Be7 11.Bd2! Qb6

3.06/26

[ 11...b5± 1.59/29 ]

12.0-0-0!+-



a5N

[ Predecessor: 12...Qxd4 13.c4 Nc7

14.Bc3 Qb6 15.Bxg7 Rg8 16.Nf6+

Bxf6 17.Bxf6 Nd7 18.Qd3 Nxf6

19.gxf6 Nd5 20.cxd5 cxd5 21.Qb5+

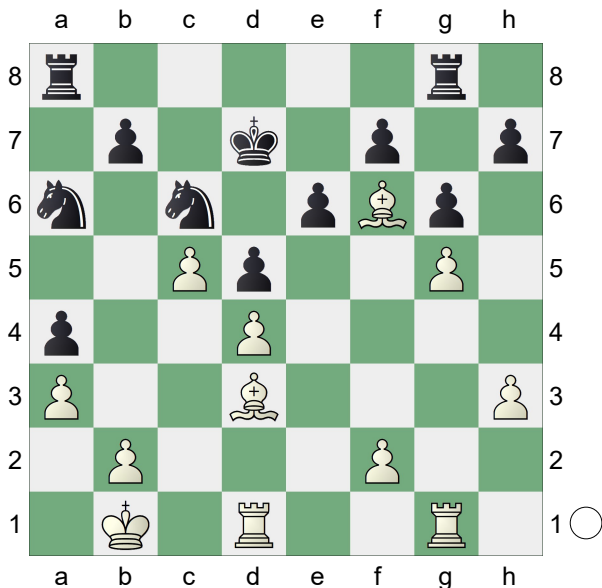
Qxb5 22.Bxb5+ Kd8 23.Rhg1 Kc7

24.Rg7 Rxc7 25.fxc7 Rg8 26.Rg1

Kd8 27.Kd2 Ke7 28.Be2 Kf6 29.Rc1

Kxg7 30.Rc7 Rb8 31.Bh5 a6  
32.Rxf7+ Kh6 33.Bg4 Kg6 34.Re7  
h5 35.Rxe6+ 1-0 Baloglu,D (1642)-  
Ozyavuz,B (1343) TUR-ch (Women)  
Ankara 2020 (2) ]

**13.c4 Nb4 14.a3 N4a6 15.c5 Qd8**  
**16.Bf4 Qd5** Black is weak on the dark  
squares **17.Kb1 a4 18.Nd6+** 2.29/29  
[  $\Delta$ 18.Bd3 4.10/29 ]  
**18...Bxd6 19.Qxd5 cxd5 20.Bxd6**  
[ 20.Bb5+?! Nc6 21.Bxd6 ( 21.cxd6  
Nab8 $\pm$  ) 21...Kd7 $\pm$  ]  
**20...Kd8** 3.01/28  
[  $\Delta$ 20...Nc6 2.14/30 21.h4 Nab8 ]  
**21.Be5 Rg8 22.Bd3 g6** 2.25/32  
[ 22...Nc6 1.84/32 was necessary. ]  
**23.Rhg1** 1.09/34  
[ 23.Bg3+- 2.25/32 is more deadly. ]  
**23...Nc6 $\pm$  24.Bf6+** 0.48/35  
[ 24.Bh2 $\pm$  1.03/35 ]  
**24...Kd7?** 2.38/32  
[ 24...Kc7 $\pm$  0.48/35 ]



**25.Rg4!+-**  
[ 25.Bb5 Nc7 26.Be2 Ne8= ]  
**25...Nc7 26.Rh4 Raf8 27.Rxh7 Ne8**  
**28.Bb5?** 0.04/37  
[ White has to play 28.Be5+- 2.79/34 ]  
**28...Nxf6= 29.gxf6 Rh8 30.Rxh8**  
**Rxh8** Endgame. KRB-KRN **31.Rd3**

**Rh4?** 2.33/34

[ 31...Ra8!= 0.06/31 and Black has  
nothing to worry. ]

**32.Bxa4+- Rf4 33.f3 Rxf6 34.b4 Rf4**  
**35.Kc2?** 0.68/34

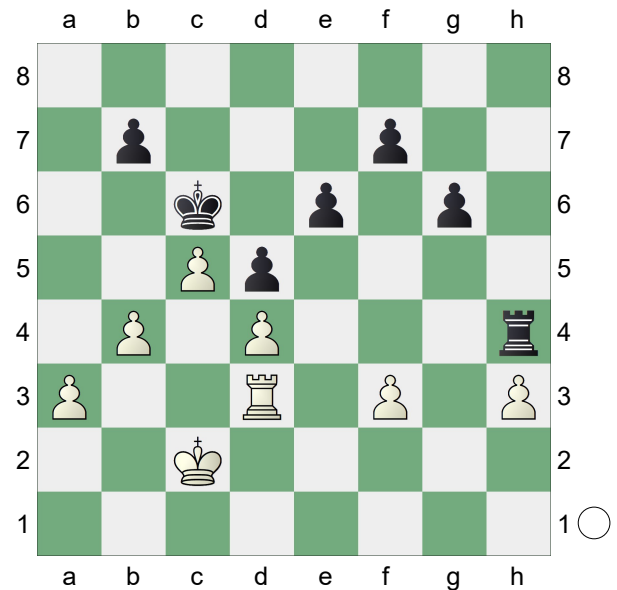
[ Better is 35.Kb2+- 2.23/34 ]

**35...Rh4** 1.22/30

[ Black should play 35...Kc8! $\pm$  0.68/34 ]

**36.Bxc6+ $\pm$  Kxc6?** 3.46/26

[ 36...bxc6 $\pm$  1.37/29 37.a4 Rxh3 ]



**KR-KR 37.a4!+- e5** 4.55/29

[ 37...Rxh3 38.b5+ Kc7 39.a5= ]

[ 37...Kc7 3.14/32 was worth a try.  
38.b5 Rxh3 ]

**38.b5+**

[ Stronger than 38.dxe5 Rxb4

( 38...Rxh3 39.f4 $\pm$  ) 39.Ra3 Kxc5 $\bar{f}$  ]

**38...Kc7 39.Kc3**

[ Not 39.dxe5 Rxa4 40.Rxd5 Ra5 $\pm$  ]

**39...e4 40.fxe4 dxe4 41.Re3 f5 42.a5**  
**f4 43.Rxe4 Rxh3+ 44.Kc4 f3 45.Rf4**  
**g5 46.Rf7+** White mates. **46...Kc8**

**47.a6 bxa6 48.bxa6 Kb8 49.Kb5 g4**  
**50.Kb6 Rh8 51.c6 Rg8 52.Rb7+ Ka8**

**53.Ra7+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.  
28/Black=0.57.

**1-0**

□ Ahrens, Richard William

■ D'Mello, Sanjay

2024 Summer TNM: 1200-1599 (2.26)

[D'Mello, Sanjay]

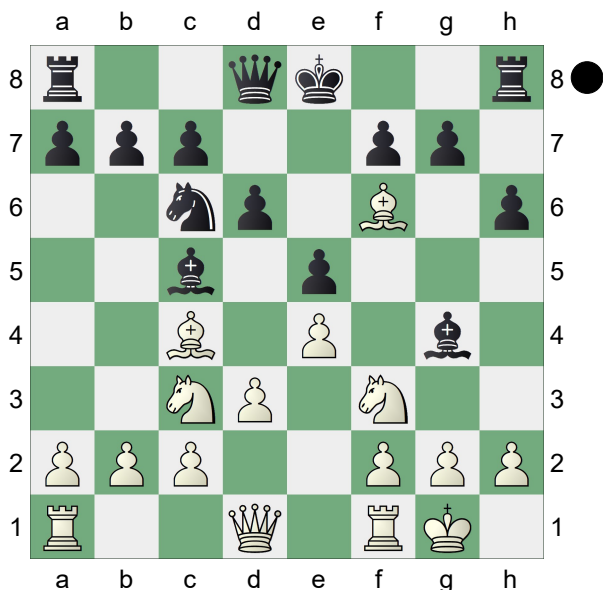
C50

1094

1422

EW: Sanjay might have been inspired to weaken his kingside on move eight by looking at Svehsnikov Sicilian games, but here it just meant trouble. Richard was winning in short order. But the lure of winning the f6-pawn was too much -- and White lost a piece and the game.

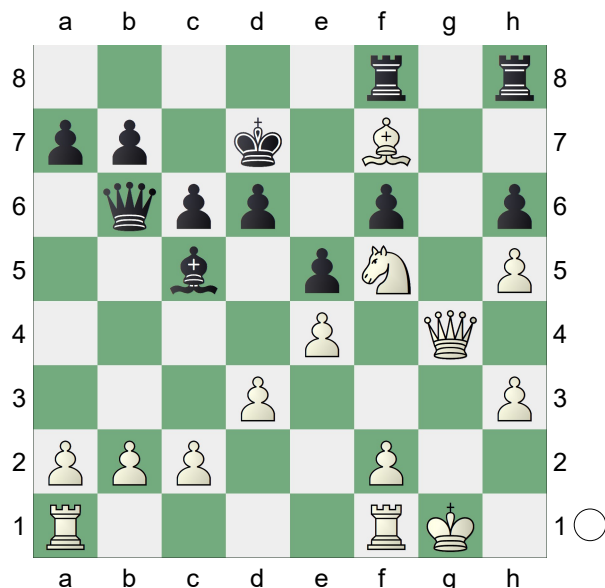
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Bc5 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.0-0 d6 6.d3 Bg4 7.Bg5? h6 8.Bxf6



gxf6? 9.h3 Bh5?! 10.g4? Qd7??  
11.Nd5! Qd8 12.gxh5+- Nb4 13.Nh4  
Nxd5 14.Bxd5 c6 15.Bb3 Qb6 16.Qg4  
Ke7 17.Nf5+ Kd7 18.Bxf7 Raf8

(Diagram)

19.Nxd6+? Kxd6 20.Qe6+ Kc7  
21.Qxf6?? Rh7!-+ 22.Qxe5+ Bd6!  
23.Qe6 Rhxf7 24.e5 Bb4 25.c3 Be7  
26.b4 Qb5 27.d4? Rg7+! 28.Kh2 Qe2  
29.Qxe7+?! Rxe7 30.Rg1 Rxf2+  
31.Kg3 Rg7+  
0-1



□ Smith, Olivia

■ Winslow, Elliott

2024 Summer TNM: 2000+ (3.1) 21.05.24

[Winslow, Elliott]

B23

2013

2178

Olivia Smith from Wales is in clear first: we saw her nice win against Sebby Suarez in Round 1, and she's had two forfeit wins(!) in 2 and 4, and a half-point bye in Round 5. Which leaves this messy game against ... me. The short version: White played one of those "off-beat" but highly playable lines against the Sicilian, Black had no idea what he was doing (I think I \*used\* to know) and she had a close to won game after a dozen or so moves. But some traded missteps, and a liquidation into an endgame was in fact not so easy ("All rook endings..."), until I completely lost my way. From then on it was slaughter.

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Nc6 5.Qd2 g6

[Relevant: 5...Nf6 6.b3 e6 7.Bb2 d5 8.exd5 exd5 9.0-0-0 Be6 10.a3 Bc5 11.Nf3 0-0 12.Bd3 Rc8 13.Kb1 Qe7 14.Ka2 d4 15.Ne2 Rfd8 16.Rhe1

Nb4+ 17.axb4 Bxb4 18.Qf4 Bxe1  
 19.Nxe1 Nd5 20.Qd2 Bg4 21.f3  
 Bh5 22.Nxd4 Bg6 23.Bxg6 hxc6  
 24.Nd3 a5 25.Kb1 a4 26.bxa4 Nb6  
 27.Re1 Qd7 28.Qb4 Nd5 29.Qb3  
 Qc7 30.Re5 Nf6 31.a5 Ra8 32.Rb5  
 Qxh2 33.Rxb7 Qg1+ 34.Nc1 Rf8  
 35.Ne6 1-0 (37) Vachier Lagrave,M  
(2741)-Kramnik,V (2753) Chessable  
Masters Div 2 Win Chess.com INT  
rapid 2023 (3.1) ]

### 6.b3 Bh6 7.f4 e5?

[ 7...Nf6 8.Bb2 0-0 9.0-0-0 e5 10.g3  
 Re8 11.Bg2± ( 11.Qxd6? exf4  
 12.Qxd8 Nxd8 13.Kb1 Bg4± )]  
 [ 7...f5! I misremembered which pawn  
 to push. 8.Bb2 ( 8.Bd3?! fxe4  
 9.Bxe4 Nf6 10.Bxc6+ bxc6 11.Bb2  
 0-0 0-1 (94) Lagarde,M (2600)-  
Donchenko,A (2595) FRA-chT Top 12  
Brest 2019 (2.1) ) 8...Nf6 9.0-0-0 fxe4  
10.Kb1 Qa5 11.Bc4 Rf8 0-1 (83)  
Andreikin,D (2719)-Firouzja,A (2607)  
Wch Blitz St Petersburg 2018 (5) ]  
 [ 7...a5!? I don't get. ]

### 8.Nb5! Bxf4

[ 8...Bf8 ]

9.Qxd6 Qxd6 1:13 10.Nxd6+ 6 Kf8  
 1:22 11.Ba3 3:00 Nge7 4:06 12.Nf3  
 5:16 Kg7 2:18 13.Bc4 6:34

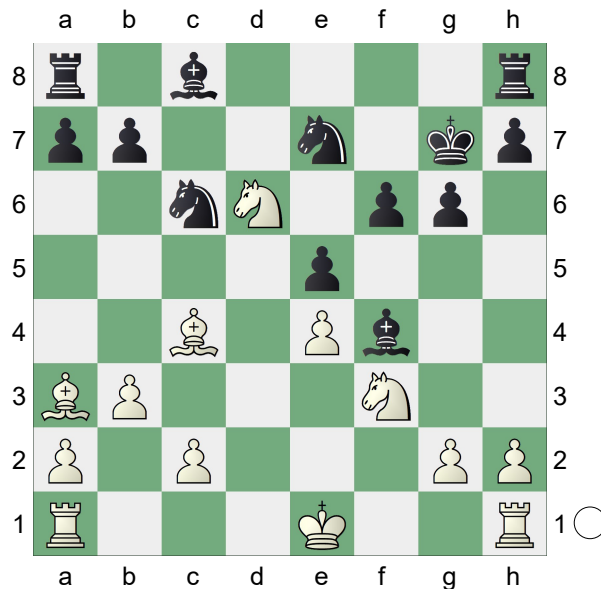
[ 13.g3 ]

13...f6 10:13

(Diagram)

### 14.0-0?!N 4:19

[ More pertinent: 14.Rd1 Rd8  
 15.0-0?! Same here. (Here's a totally  
 mismatched massacre: 15.Ke2 a6  
 16.g3 Bh6 17.c3 f5 18.exf5 Nxf5  
 19.Nxc8 Raxc8 20.Be6 e4 21.Bxc8  
 exf3+ 22.Kxf3 Rxc8 23.Rd7+ Kf6  
 24.Rxb7 Ne5+ 25.Ke4 Rc6 26.Rf1  
 Re6 27.Be7+ Rxe7 28.Rxe7 Kxe7  
 29.Kxe5 Bg7+ 30.Ke4 Bxc3 31.Rc1



Bb4 32.Rc7+ Ke6 33.Rxh7 a5  
 34.g4 Nd6+ 35.Kd4 Nb5+ 36.Kd3  
 g5 37.Rh5 Be7 38.h4 Nc7 39.hxc6  
 Nd5 40.Kc4 Ne3+ 41.Kb5 Bd8  
 42.g6 Kf6 43.Re5 Nxg4 44.Re8 Be7  
 45.g7 1-0 Li,C (2672)-Liu,B (1966)  
CHN-chT Nanjing 2023 (9.1) ) 15...Rb8  
 16.Nxc8 Be3+ 17.Kh1 Rbxc8  
 18.Bd6 Bd4 19.Nxd4 exd4 20.Bg3  
 Na5 21.Bd3 Nac6 22.Bc4 Na5  
 23.Bh4 g5 24.e5 Ng6 25.exf6+ Kf8  
 26.Be6 Rc6 27.Be1 Rxe6 28.Bxa5  
 b6 29.Bc3 Kf7 30.Bxd4 Re2 31.c3  
 Rxa2 32.Rde1 Rd7 33.Re3 Nf4  
 34.Rfe1 Nxg2 35.Re7+ Rxe7  
 36.Rxe7+ Kf8 37.Rg7 Nh4 38.Rxg5  
 Nf3 39.Rh5 Nxd4 40.cxd4 Kf7  
 41.Rh6 Rd2 42.Rxh7+ Kxf6 43.Rxa7  
 Rxd4 ½-½ (55) Kadric,D (2572)-  
Papadiamandis,E (2396) Sitges  
Sunway op 8th 2021 (6) ]

[ 14.Nxc8 Raxc8 15.Rd1 Rcd8  
 16.Kf2 a6 17.Be6 Rxd1 18.Rxd1  
 Rd8 19.Rxd8 Nxd8 20.Bc4 Ndc6  
 21.g3 Bh6 22.Bc5 f5 23.Bd3 Kf6  
 24.a4 Bc1 25.Ng1 Bb2 26.Ne2 Nd4  
 27.Ke3 Nxe2 28.Kxe2 Bd4  
 29.Bxe7+ Kxe7 30.exf5 Kf6 31.fxc6  
 hxc6 32.Kf3 a5 33.Ke4 b6 34.Bc4  
 g5 35.h3 Bf2 36.Kf3 Be1 37.Bd3

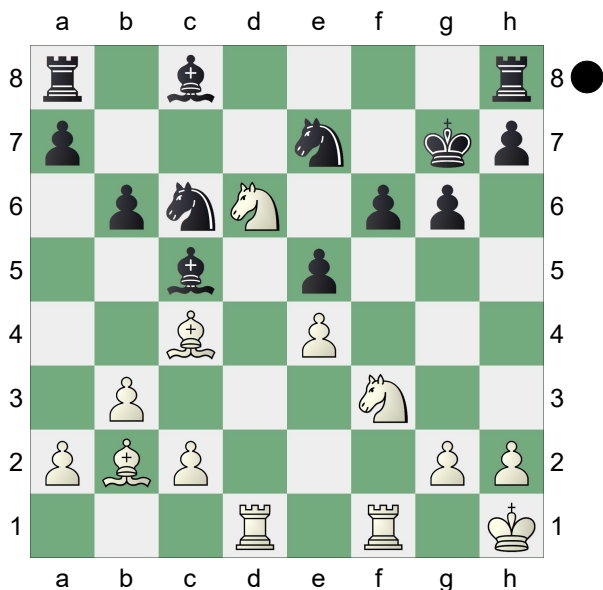


Ke6 38.Be4 Kf6 39.Kg4 Bf2 40.h4  
 gxh4 41.gxh4 Be1 42.h5 Bd2  
 43.Bg6 Ke6 44.Kf3 Kf6 45.Ke4 Bb4  
 46.Kd5 Bc5 47.c3 Bg1 48.Bd3 Bc5  
 49.h6 Bf2 50.h7 Kg7 51.Kxe5 Bg1  
 52.Kd5 Bc5 53.Kc6 Bf2 54.Kb5 Kh8  
 55.Be4 Bg1 56.b4 axb4 57.cxb4  
 Bf2 58.Kc4 Bg1 59.Kd5 Bf2 60.Bd3  
 Be1 61.Kc4 Bf2 62.Kb5 Bg1 63.Kc6  
 Bf2 64.Be4 Bg1 65.Kb5 Bf2 66.Bg6  
 Bg1 67.Ka6 Bf2 68.Kb5 Bg1 69.a5  
 bxa5 70.bxa5 Ba7 71.Kc6 Bg1  
 72.Kb7 Be3 73.a6 Bg1 74.Kc6 Bf2  
 75.Kb7 Bg1 76.Be4 Bf2 77.a7 Bxa7  
 78.Kxa7 Kg7 79.h8Q+ Kxh8

½-½ Balakrishnan,P (2517)-Do Valle  
 Cardoso,L (2242) Junior Speed Qual  
 2 Chess.com INT blitz 2022 (1.1) ]

**14...Be3+** 6:32 **15.Kh1** 12 **b6** 1:45

**16.Rad1** 15:46 **Bc5** 2:23 **17.Bb2?! 8:18**  
 [ 17.Bxc5 bxc5 18.c3 ( 18.Rd2;  
 18.Rf2 )]



**17...Bg4?** 12:22

[ 17...Rd8 18.Nxc8 Raxc8± 19.g4 h6  
 20.h4 Rxd1 21.Rxd1 Rd8 22.Rxd8  
 Nxd8 23.Kg2 ]

**18.Nb7** 9:00 **Rac8?! 2:40**

[ 18...Bb4 19.h3 Bc8 20.a3!? Bxb7  
 21.axb4 Rhd8 22.b5 Rxd1 23.Rxd1

Rd8 24.Rf1± ]

**19.Nxc5+-** 1:24 **bx c5** 3:16 **20.h3** 3:04  
**Bxf3** 45 **21.gxf3** 43 **Rhd8?! 5:57**

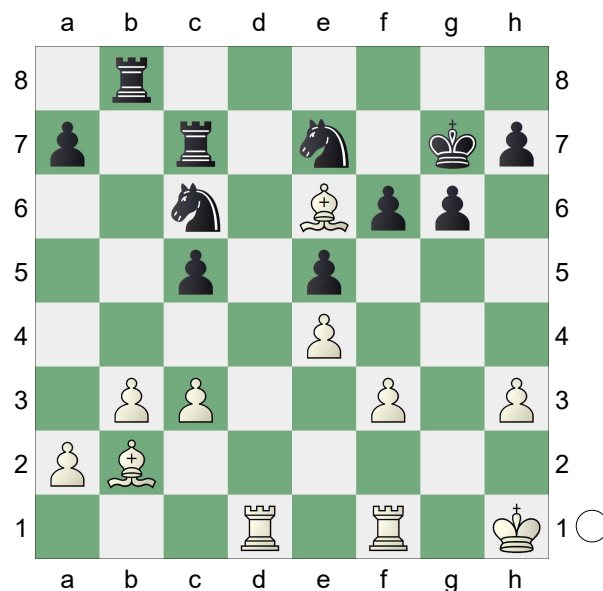
[ 21...Rc7± ]

**22.Be6** 3:22

[ 22.Ba3+- ]

**22...Rc7** 3:15 **23.c3** 1:33 **Rb8** 11:08

[ Δ23...g5± ]



**24.f4?** 2:34

[ 24.Bc1 ]

[ 24.Rd3 ]

[ 24.h4 ]

[ 24.Rf2 ]

[ 24.Rd2 ]

[ 24.Bc4 ]

**24...exf4=** 2:45 **25.Rxf4** 5 **Ne5** 1:23

**26.c4** 1:29 **N7c6** 1:25 **27.Bd5** 1:26

(Diagram)

**Rd8??** 2:41 Wrong way!

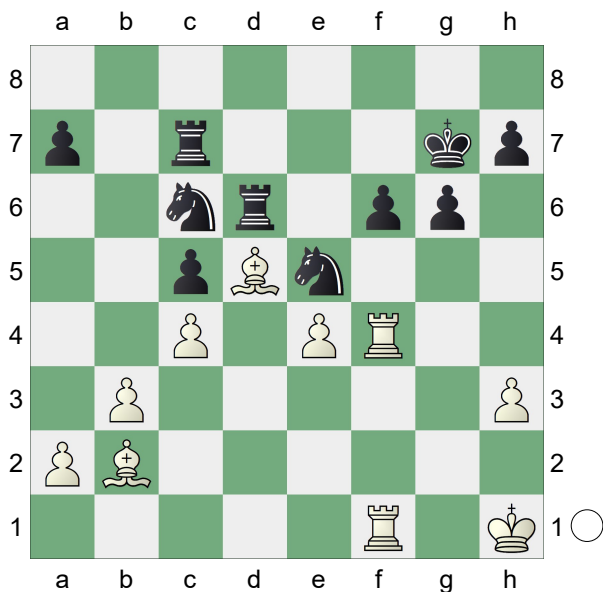
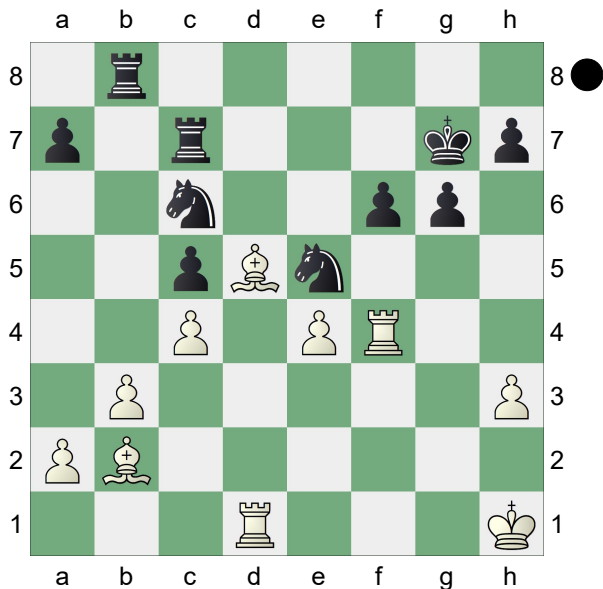
[ 27...Rb6= ]

**28.Rdf1** 1:04 **Rd6** 3:24

(Diagram)

**29.Bxc6??** 5:49 "Cashing in" too soon,  
 and the wrong way.

[ 29.b4! was the only move, but



winning -- and a nice shot all round.  
 Nxb4 30.Rxf6 Rxf6 31.Bxe5 Nxd5  
 32.exd5 Rcf7 33.d6 ]  
**29...Rcxc6** 1:15 **30.Rxf6** 4:46 **Rxf6** 39  
**31.Bxe5** 7 **g5??** 11 Quite a horrendous  
 oversight -- I never even noticed her  
 next move. I spent a few "ducats"  
 (ChessBase's inhouse "money") to enlist  
 some "Cloud" engine:

[ 31...h6 32.Rf2 ( 32.Rd1 Kf7  
 33.Bxf6 Kxf6=; 32.Bxf6+ Rxf6  
 33.Rd1 Rf2=; 32.Kg2 Kf7 33.Bxf6  
 Rxf6= 0.00/49 ) 32...Kf7 33.Bxf6  
 Rxf6= 0.00/65 ]  
 [ 31...h5 32.Kg2 ( 32.Rd1 ) 32...Kf7

Stockfish 16.1: 33.Bxf6 ( 33.Bxf6  
 Rxf6= 0.12/55 ) 33...Rxf6= 0.12/55  
 34.Rd1 Ra6 35.Rd2 g5 36.Kf3 Rf6+  
 37.Ke3 Rf4 38.Rd5 Kg6 39.e5 Rh4  
 40.e6 Kf6 41.Kd2 g4 42.Re5 Ke7  
 43.hxg4 Rh2+ 44.Kc3 hxg4 45.Rxc5  
 Rxa2 46.Rg5 Kxe6 47.Rxg4 Kd6  
 48.b4 Kc7 49.b5 Rh2 50.Kb4 Rh7  
 51.Ka5 Kb7 52.Rg5 Kb8 53.Rg6  
 Kb7 54.Kb4 Kc7 55.Rc6+ Kb7  
 56.Rf6 Kb8 57.c5 Kc7 58.Rf8 Rh4+  
 59.Kc3 Rh7 60.Rf4 Kb7 61.Rg4  
 Kc8 62.Rg5 Kc7 63.Kd4 Kb7  
 64.Kc4 Kc7 65.Rg4 Kb8 66.Kb4  
 Kc7 67.Re4 Kb7 68.c6+ Kc7 0.09/54 ]  
 [ 31...Kf7 32.Rxf6+ ( 32.Bxf6 Rxf6=  
 0.00/65 33.Rd1 Rf2= 0.00/72 )  
 32...Rxf6 33.Bxf6 Kxf6= 0.00/82 ]  
 [ 31...Rce6 32.Bxf6+ ( 32.Ba1 Kf7  
 33.Bxf6 Rxf6= 0.00/65 ) 32...Rxf6  
 33.Rg1 ( 33.Rd1 Rf2= ) 33...Ra6=  
 0.00/59 ]

**32.Rf5** 52 Now I'm dead. Too many  
 pawns go too fast. **32...Kg6** 2:20

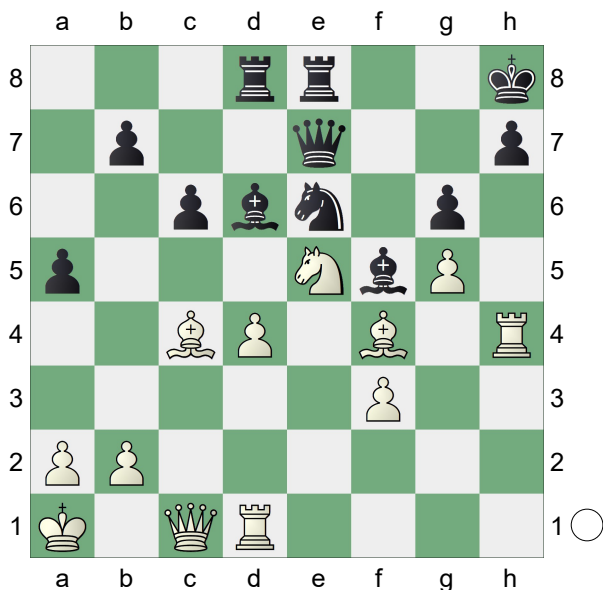
**33.Bxf6** 12 **Rxf6** 5 **34.Rxc5** 6 **Rf2** 1:13  
**35.Ra5** 19 **Kh5** 1:57 **36.Rxa7** 53 **h6** 41  
**37.Kg1** 39 **Rc2** 1:05 **38.e5** 43 **Re2** 34  
**39.Ra6** 3:13 **Kh4** 5:03 **40.Kf1** 49  
**1-0**

**B15**  
 □ **Parsons,Stephen** 1842  
 ■ **Bambou,Christophe** 2099  
 2024 Summer TNM: 2000+ (3.3) 21.05.24  
 [TA 4.6/Winslow,Elliott]

Parsons comes alive! The opening  
 wasn't much to speak of -- against the  
 current Caro Kann rave of 4...Nf6 5.Nxf6  
 exf6, White didn't get anything at all. But  
 with opposite sides castling thing can  
 blow up at any moment: and they did!  
 Bambou was definitely \*not\* in form this  
 game. **1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4**

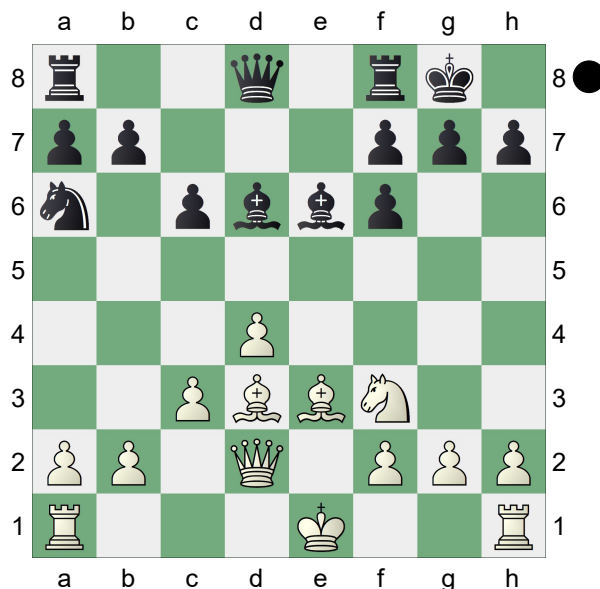
**4.Nxe4 Nf6 5.Nxf6+ exf6 6.Nf3 Bd6 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 Be6**

[Relevant: 8...Bg4 9.Be2 Nd7 10.0-0-0 Re8 11.Kb1 Nb6 12.h3? ( 12.c4!= ) 12...Bh5? ( 12...Be6!± ) 13.g4 ( 13.c4!± ) 13...Bg6= 14.Ka1 ( 14.Nh4= ) 14...a5? ( 14...Be4± ...Nd5 would now be deadly. 15.Rhg1 Nd5 ) 15.c4!± Threatens to win with c5. Bb4 16.Qc1 Be4 17.Rhg1! Na4 ( 17...Rc8± was necessary. ) 18.g5 f5 19.Ne5 ( 19.Nd2+- ) 19...Qe7 ( 19...c5± ) 20.f3? ( 20.Bf4+- ) 20...f4? ( 20...Nxb2!= 21.Qxb2 Ba3 ) 21.Bxf4+- Bf5 22.h4 ( ⊔22.c5 ) 22...Rad8 ( ⊔22...Bd6 23.Bd3 Bxd3 ) 23.h5 g6 24.hxg6 fxc6 25.Rh1 Bd6 26.c5 Nxc5 27.Bc4+ ( 27.dxc5+- Bxe5 28.Bc4+ Kf8 29.Bxe5 Rxd1 30.Qxd1 Qxe5 31.Rxh7 ) 27...Ne6± 28.Rh4 (White should play 28.Bg3± ) 28...Kh8? ( 28...Qc7= and Black stays safe. )



29.Rdh1!+- Nxf4 ( 29...h5 might work better. 30.Rxh5+ gxh5 31.Rxh5+ Kg7 ) 30.Qxf4+- Rxh7+ would kill now. Bxe5 31.Qxe5+ 1-0 Bologan,V (2574)-Oparin,G (2652) Titled Tuesday intern op 16th June Chess.com INT blitz 2020 (8) ]

**9.Bd3 Na6** The position is equal. **10.c3**



Inhibits Nb4. **10...Nc7N**

[Predecessor: 10...Qe7 11.0-0 f5 ( 11...Bd5= ) 12.Bf4 ( 12.Rfe1± ) 12...f6 ( 12...Nc7!± ) 13.Rfe1 Bxf4 14.Qxf4 Qd7 15.h4 Nc7 16.a3 ( 16.c4± ) 16...Nd5 17.Qd2 b5 ( ⊔17...Rfe8 ) 18.Re2 ( 18.b3± ) 18...Nb6 ( 18...Qd6± ) 19.Rae1 ( ⊔19.h5 ) 19...Rae8± 20.Qc2 Kf7 ( 20...g6± ) 21.Nd2 ( 21.b3± ) 21...g6± 22.Nb3 Bxb3 23.Qxb3+ Nd5 (Black should try 23...Kg7± ) 24.c4 Rxe2 25.Rxe2 bxc4 26.Bxc4 Rd8 ( 26...Kg7± ) 27.Qa4 ( ⊔27.Qb4 ) 27...h6 ( ⊔27...Kg7 ) 28.Kf1 ( ⊔28.b4 ) 28...g5

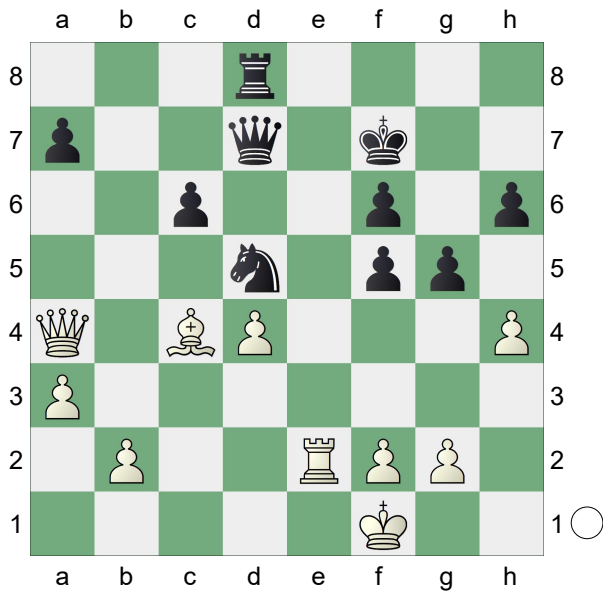
(Diagram)

29.hxg5 ( 29.h5!± ) 29...fxg5? 1/2-1/2 Aman,C (1867)-Jayarathne,M (1765) Ambalangoda Dhamso op 1st 2011 (6) ( 29...hxg5= 30.Bxd5+ cxd5 31.Qxd7+ Rxd7 ) ]

**11.Qc2**

[ 11.c4! is superior. ]

**11...g6= 1:27 12.h4 1:05 Nd5 8 13.h5 2:28 Nxe3 6:32 14.fxe3 15 Bg3+ 22 15.Kd2 38** Black must now prevent



hxg6. **15...f5** 2:34 **16.Raf1** 4:21 **Qa5?** 8:16

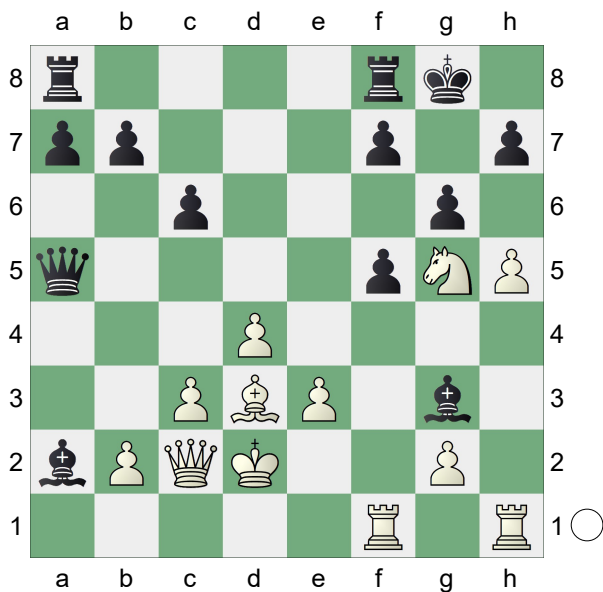
[ 16...Bxa2? too greedy. 17.b3+- ]

[ 16...Qe7? ]

**17.Ng5±** 2:44 Strongly threatening hxg6.

**17...Bxa2?** 1:40

[ 17...Qxa2± 18.hxg6 hxg6 ]



Black cannot hold the game after this.

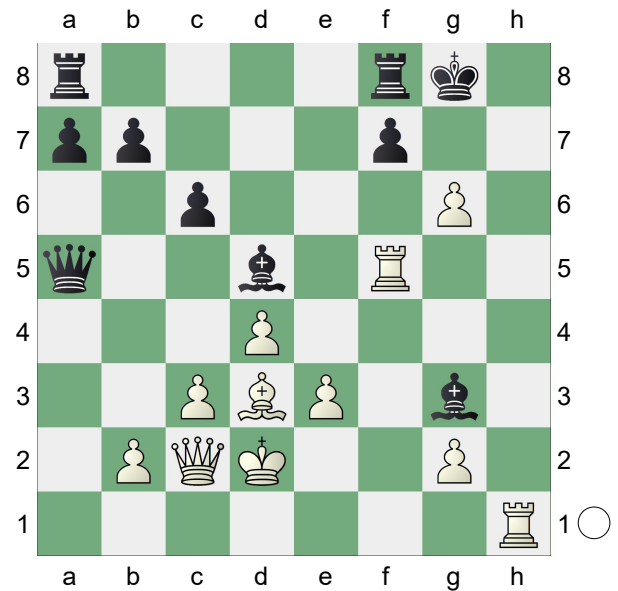
**18.Nxh7!+-** 3:55 Remove Defender

**18...Kxh7** 6:59

[ 18...Be6 19.hxg6 ]

**19.hxg6+** 29 **Kg8** 41 **20.Rxf5** 2:17 **Bd5** 36

(Diagram)



**21.g7** 16:18 (Intending Qd1 and mate.)

White had his choice of many winning continuations here, but this is both crispest and most aesthetic. **21...Rfe8** 4:03

[ 21...Kxg7 22.Rh7+! ]

**22.Rg5** 5:08

[ 22.Qd1! is best on the computer scale, but as played White sets up a nice finish. ]

**22...f5** 10:25 **23.Bxf5!** 7:34

White threatens Be6+ and mate.

**23...Be1+** 23:36 **24.Rxe1** 2:08

Threatening mate with Rf1. **24...Be4** 32  
Desperately trying to stop White from crowbarring Black's king out from in front of the pawn...

(Diagram)

**25.Bh7+!** 1:20 Anyway! White mates.

**25...Bxh7** 12

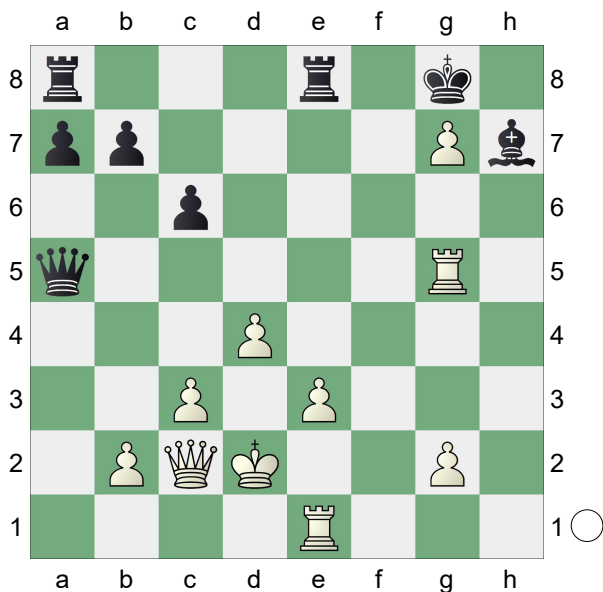
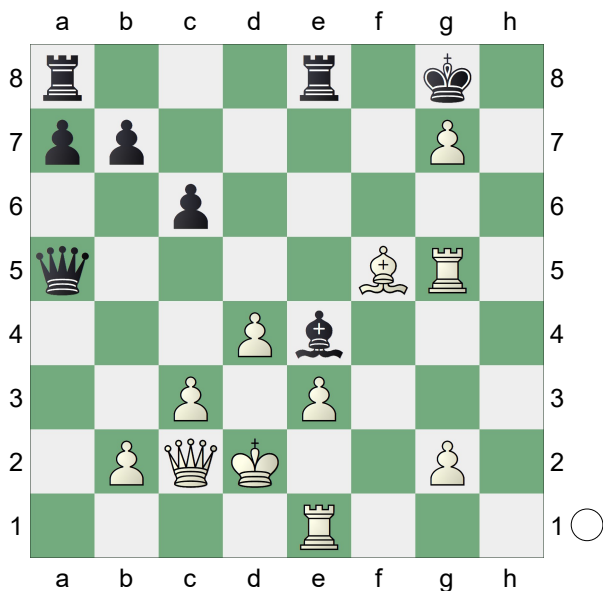
[ 25...Kf7 26.Rf1+ ]

(Diagram)

**26.Qb3+?! 3:30** A hiccup --

[ 26.Qxh7+! and mate in two more moves. ]





**26...Qd5** 2:11 **27.Rxd5** 6 **cx d5** 7  
**28.Qxd5+** 9 **Kxg7** 3 **29.Qd7+** 7:03  
 You don't see mate? I don't see mate.  
 The computer sees mate. **29...Kg8** 22  
**30.Rh1!** 2:04 **Bg6** 17 **31.Rh6!** 6:25 **Be4**  
 50

[ 31...Bf7 32.Qg4+ Kf8 33.Qg5 #6 ]  
**32.Qg4+** 2:36 **Kf7** 10 **33.Qf4+** 49 **Kg8**  
 14 **34.Qg5+** 12 **Kf8** 19 **35.Qf6+** 11  
 Beautiful play by Parsons!

Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very  
 precise) /Black=0.76

**1-0**

□ **Ni,Tao**

■ **Tam,Hoa Long**

2024 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (3.23)

[*Tam,Hoa Long*]

**B15**

**1450**

**1603**

Another interesting game in this  
 resuscitated variation of the Caro Kann.  
 This time it's Black taking it. **1.e4 c6**  
**2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6**  
**5.Nxf6+ exf6 6.Bc4 Bd6 7.Qe2+**  
**Be7!?** Slow, but White's queen and  
 bishop are misplaced so worth the  
 tempo to ask him where he's going to  
 put those pieces for real **8.Nf3 0-0**  
**9.0-0 Bg4?**

[ 9...Bd6 10.Re1 a5= ]

**10.Be3** Fails to punish my previous  
 move

[ 10.Qe4! Bh5 11.Nh4± Black is  
 losing at least a pawn, and Bd3 at the  
 end is going to be very uncomfortable  
 to deal with. ]

**10...Nd7 11.h3** A plan I see a lot online,  
 trying to get the knight to f5. **11...Bh5**

**12.g4 Bg6 13.Nh4 Re8**

[ 13...Be4 14.Bd3 ( 14.f3 Bg6±  
 White's king is very exposed after f3. )  
 14...Bxd3 ( 14...Bg6= Transposes  
 into the game a tempo down for  
 Black ) 15.Qxd3 Bd6 16.Nf5 Qc7±  
 White's knight is happy on f5. If I ever  
 play Δg6 and trade off dark-square  
 bishops then Black's remaining bishop  
 is going to cause problems for me. ]

**14.Bd3 Nf8 15.Bxg6?!** White said after  
 the game that he was going for a knight  
 outpost on f5, but taking with the knight  
 first trades my good bishop for inactive  
 knight.

[ 15.Nxg6 Nxg6 No need to take with  
 the pawn, as nothing can come to f5.  
 16.Rad1 Bd6= ]

**15...hxg6**

[ 15...Nxg6 16.Nxg6 hxg6=

Black has traded a good defensive knight for White's dead knight on the side of the board, but still has a slightly better bishop. ]

**16.Nf3 c5?**± This weakens my queenside and frees up White's bad bishop. I was suffering from target fixation trying to exploit the e-file.

[ 16...Bd6 17.c4 Ne6= ]

**17.Rad1** I have ideas of Qa5 in some lines, so it might have been slightly more accurate to move the f-rook instead.

[ 17.dxc5 Bxc5 18.Rad1 Qb6= ]

**17...cxd4 18.Rxd4?!** The most aggressive move, but this winds up leaving the rook too exposed.

[ 18.Nxd4 Qc7 19.c3 Bc5 20.Qf3± Equal material, but White's 3-on-2 on the queenside is much more dangerous than my 4-on-3 on the kingside. ]

[ 18.Bxd4 Qa5 19.Ra1 ( 19.a3 Bxa3 ) ]

**18...Qc7 19.Rfd1?!** White shouldn't allow ...Bc5 to come with a skewer.

[ 19.Rc4 Qa5 20.a3 Rad8= ]

**19...Rac8 20.c3 Bc5 21.Rc4??-+**

[ 21.R4d3?! Ne6 22.Qd2 ( 22.Bxc5 Nxc5 ) 22...Bxe3 23.Rxe3 ( 23.fxe3 Qg3+ 24.Qg2 Qxg2+ 25.Kxg2 Nc5 26.R3d2 Rxe3; 23.Qxe3 Nf4 ) 23...Rcd8 24.Qc2 Nf4 25.Rxe8+ Rxe8 ]

[ 21.R4d2 Bxe3 22.fxe3 Qg3+ 23.Qg2 Qxg2+ 24.Kxg2 Rxe3 ]

[ 21.Rd5 Bxe3 22.fxe3 Qg3+ 23.Qg2 Qxg2+ 24.Kxg2 Rxe3 ]

**21...b5**

[ 21...Rxe3 Both of us saw this move before ...b5. 22.fxe3 ( 22.Rxc5 Qxc5-+ ) 22...Bxe3+ 23.Qxe3 Qxc4 I saw this far and thought I was up a pawn, but this isn't the end. 24.Qxa7 Qe2 25.Rf1 Qxb2 ]

**22.Rxc5**

[ 22.Rf4 Qxf4-+ ]

**22...Qxc5 23.Rd8??** One last shot by my opponent, hoping that I'll blitz out Rxd8 by accident, but even that endgame is okay for Black. **23...Rcxd8**

[ 23...Rxd8 24.Bxc5 Rxc5 ]

Two rooks should be better than the queen, but White's extra c-pawn is still dangerous. ]

**0-1**

**B12**

□ **Wardle, Braxton**

**165**

■ **Halle, Zachary**

**751**

2024 Summer TNM: u1200 (3.39) 21.5.24

[Winslow, Elliott]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 dxe4 4.fxe4 e5  
5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Bc4 Qc7 7.0-0 Bd6 8.h3  
Bh5 9.d5 Nf6 10.Nc3 0-0 11.b3  
Nbd7 12.Bb2 Nc5 13.Qe2 Qb6  
14.Kh1 Ncxe4?? 15.Nxe4 cxd5  
16.Bxd5?! Nxd5 17.Nxd6??

[ 17.Qd2+- ]

17...Qxd6= 18.Qxe5 Qxe5 19.Nxe5  
Ne3 20.Rf2 Rac8 21.c4 f6 22.Re1  
fxe5 23.Rxf8+ Rxf8 24.Rxe3 Rf2  
25.Rxe5 Rxb2 26.Rxh5 Rxa2 27.b4  
Ra4 28.Rb5 b6 29.g4 Ra2 30.c5  
bxc5 31.bxc5 Kf7 32.Rb7+ Kf6 33.c6  
a5 34.c7 Rc2 35.Ra7 h6 36.h4 g5

(Diagram)

37.h5?? Ke5-+ 38.Rxa5+ Kf4 39.Ra2  
Rxc7 40.Rg2 Kf3 41.Kh2

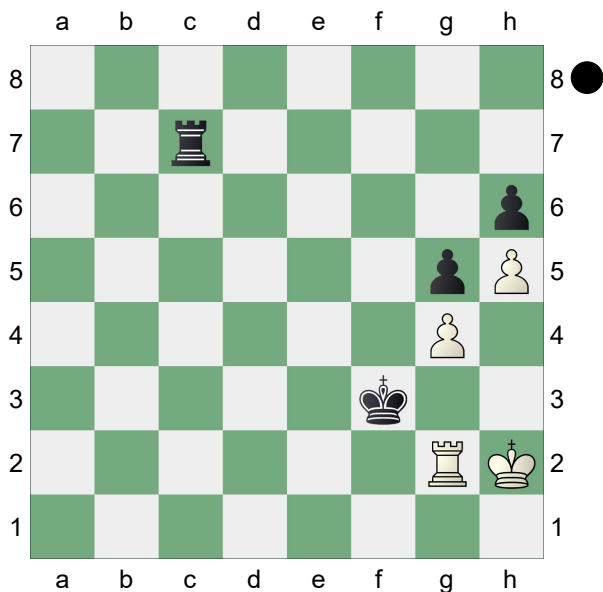
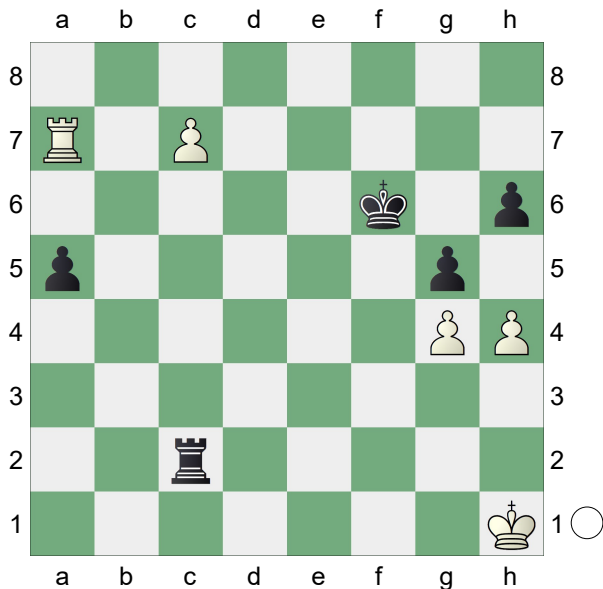
(Diagram)

**Rc4??**

[ 41...Kf4 ]

[ 41...Rc1 ]

[ 41...Rd7 ]



[ 41...Re7 ]

[ 41...Rc4?? 42.Kh3= ]

1/2-1/2

□ Winslow,Elliott

■ Parsons,Stephen

2024 Summer TNM: 2000+ (4.2) 28.05.24

[Winslow,Elliott]

And now Parsons is sent packing. By me.

Hey, some of my games are worth

seeing even. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4

cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5

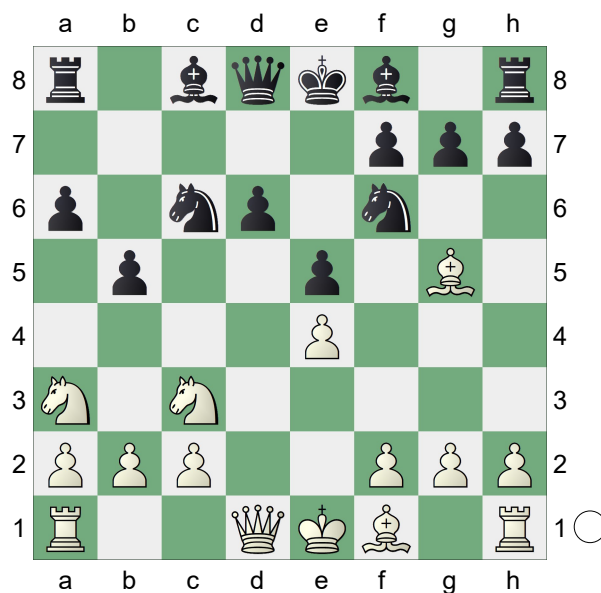
B33

2178

1842

I saw he plays the Sveshnikov (or Chelyabinsk, if you want to call it that), but I haven't kept up with things there, and intended some queenpawn game (well, a Queen's Gambit) -- but something happened and I reached out and picked up my e-pawn anyway. It turned out all right. 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 [ 7.Nd5 is still topical! But as I just said, I'm not up on it all. All those Carlsen World Championship games... I don't remember... ]

7...a6 8.Na3 b5



9.Nd5

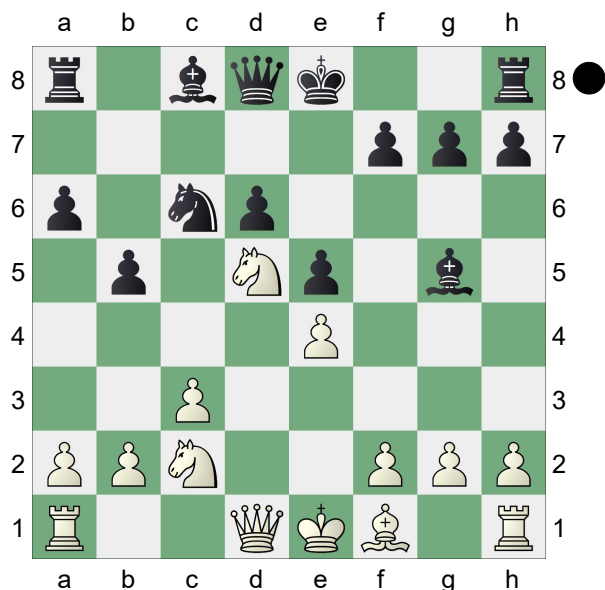
[ 9.Bxf6 gxf6 ( 9...Qxf6 10.Nd5 Qd8 11.c4! is danger I think ) 10.Nd5 f5 was what everyone (including me) played way back when -- with much madness. I was fond of 11.c3 fxe4? 12.Bxb5! when Black has fallen into a trap. Except when I played this against former Bay Area resident Zaki Harari in the Bagby in 1986, he just played Bd7 and I went the wrong way: ( 12...axb5 13.Nxb5 Be6 14.Nbc7+ Kd7 15.Nxa8 Bxd5 16.Qxd5 Qxa8 17.Qxf7+ is a clear plus for White, but maybe still a game ) 13.Bc4?! ( 13.Ba4 is 90% in the Mega database! ) 13...Bg7

I'm still better -- but went on to lose. ]  
 [ 9.Bxf6 gxf6 10.Nd5 Bg7  
 ( 10...Ne7?? ) ]

**9...Be7 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.c3**

So, guided by Karpov then and Shaw now, I've settled on the "positional" line.  
 But it's still plenty sharp. **11...Bg5**

**12.Nc2**



**Be6?!**

[ I think I played 12...Nb8 forty years ago...very rare though. ]

[ 12...Ne7 is hundreds of games, too. ]

[ 12...Rb8 is \*thousands\* of games, including some heavy hitters.

For example: 13.Be2 0-0 14.0-0 Be6

15.Qd3 g6 16.Rfd1 Kg7 17.Ncb4

Nxb4 18.Nxb4 Rb6 19.Nd5 Rb7

20.Bf3 a5 21.Qe2 Qc8 22.Rd3 b4

23.cxb4 axb4 24.h3 Qc5 25.b3 Rc8

26.Bg4 Qc2 27.Qf1 f5 28.exf5 gxf5

29.Be2 Kh8 30.Rdd1 Qc5 31.Bc4

Rg7 32.Nxb4 Bxc4 33.Qxc4 Qxc4

34.bxc4 Rxc4 35.a3 Ra7 36.Rab1

Rxa3 37.Rxd6 Be7 38.Rb6 Rxb4

39.R6xb4 Bxb4 40.Rxb4 Ra1+

41.Kh2 Kg7 42.Rb7+

½-½ Dominguez Perez,L (2749)-

Shankland,S (2674) American Cup

Elim Saint Louis rapid 2024 (1.1) ]

[ And 12...0-0 has more like twenty

\*thousand\* games. And, gets very delicate in some lines! Which I hadn't looked at in over a year. ]

But fortunately for me, it appears that Parsons knew less about this line than I remembered. Frankly it's not a great idea to head into such sharp stuff if you don't know even the basic move order. 12...

Be6 just doesn't cut it. **13.a4!**

The most popular by a lot.

[ 13.Ncb4 has scored even better, but the strength of the players suggests not to take it too seriously. ]

[ On the other side of the board, 13.h4!? is possible as well. ]

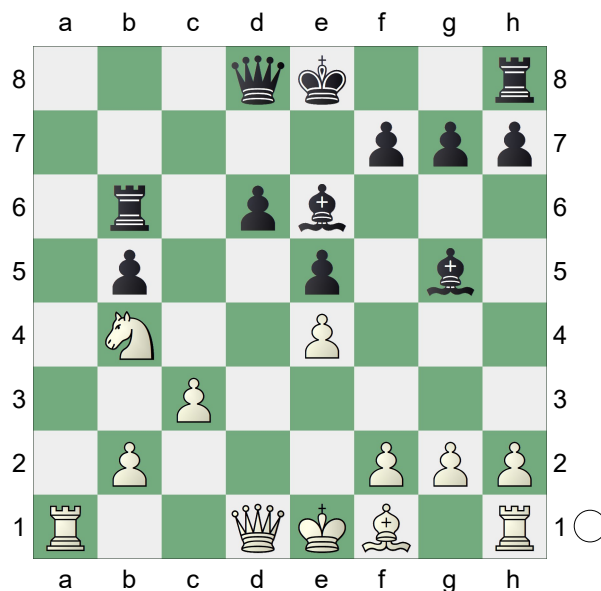
**13...Rb8**

[ 13...bxa4 is the other standard, maybe the way to go here. It's possible Stephen crossed his lines. ]

**14.axb5 axb5 15.Ncb4?!**

[ 15.h4± ]

**15...Nxb4 16.Nxb4 Rb6**



**17.Nd5!?N**

[ Some class players had the previous last word: 17.Ra6 0-0 18.Ra7 d5

19.exd5 Rd6 20.c4 bxc4 21.Bxc4

Qb6 22.Qa4 Bd7 23.Rxd7 Rxd7

24.Nc6 Qxb2 25.0-0 ½-½ (45)

Oviedo Acosta,P (1763)-Toro

Pradenas,M (1971) Asuncion zt 2.5



(Women) 2023 (6) ]

[ 17.Bd3! best, says Stockfish 16.1 ]

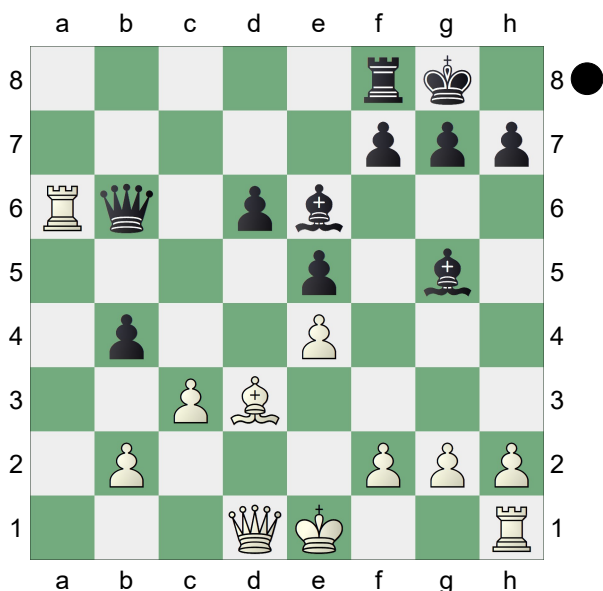
**17...0-0??** Wait, what?? I can't quite explain it. Maybe I shouldn't be including this game after all...

[ 17...Rb8 18.Be2 0-0 19.0-0± is some edge for White: the bishops aren't quite happening, ...f5 might want some preparation. ]

**18.Nxb6 Qxb6 19.Bd3?!**

[ 19.Qd3! b4 20.Qb5! Qxb5 21.Bxb5 bxc3 22.bxc3 Rc8 23.h4!+- is best technique. ]

**19...b4 20.Ra6**



**Qb7**

[ 20...Qc5! 21.Qc2 Rc8 22.0-0 bxc3 23.bxc3± h6 ( 23...Qxc3?? 24.Qxc3 Rxc3 25.Ra8+ Rc8 26.Rxc8+ Bxc8 27.Rb1 ) ]

**21.0-0 bxc3 22.bxc3 Rc8 23.Rxd6 Rxc3?!**

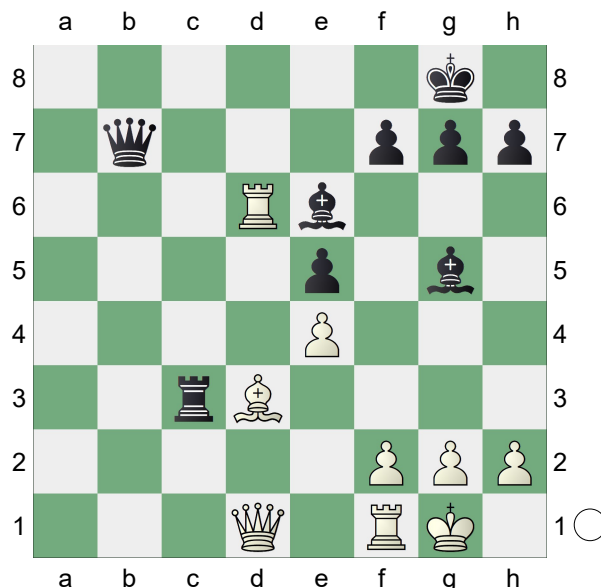
(Diagram)

**24.Bc4!** A little flash, and it happens to be the best move. **24...Qc7 25.Bxe6 fxe6 26.Rd7**

[ 26.Rxe6 is fine ]

**26...Qc4? 27.Qh5**

**1-0**



**C18**  
**Suarez,Sebastian** **2209**  
**Bambou,Christophe** **2099**

2024 Summer TNM: 2000+ (4.4) 28.05.24  
[ChessBase II]

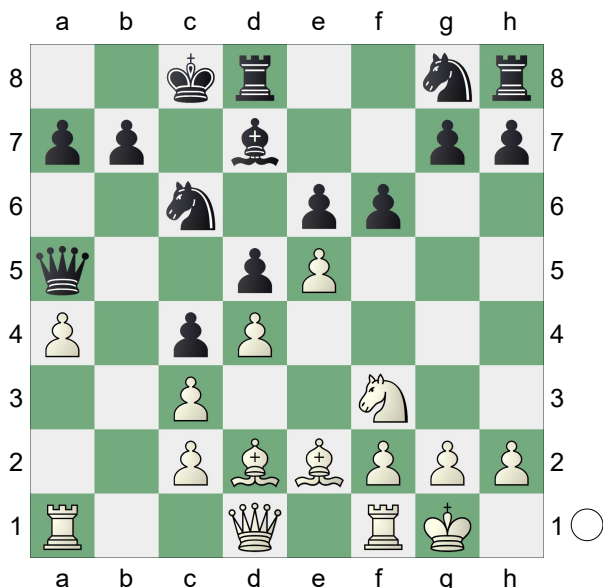
Meanwhile, while Archit Dasika was wearing Brad Diller down in a rook vs. knight ending, eventually catching Brad misplacing his knight, Suarez was grinding this French vs. Bambou, who will have taken three half-point byes as well and might just want to forget this TNM happened. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Qa5 8.Bd2 8.Qd2 is vanishing. 8...c4 9.a4 Bd7 10.Be2**

[Relevant: 10.g3 0-0-0 11.h4 f5 12.Ng5 Rf8 13.h5 Nh6 14.Rh4 Nf7 15.Nxf7 ½-½ Gashimov,V (2758)-Ponomarev,R (2739) FIDE World Cup Khanty-Mansiysk 2009 (5.2) ]

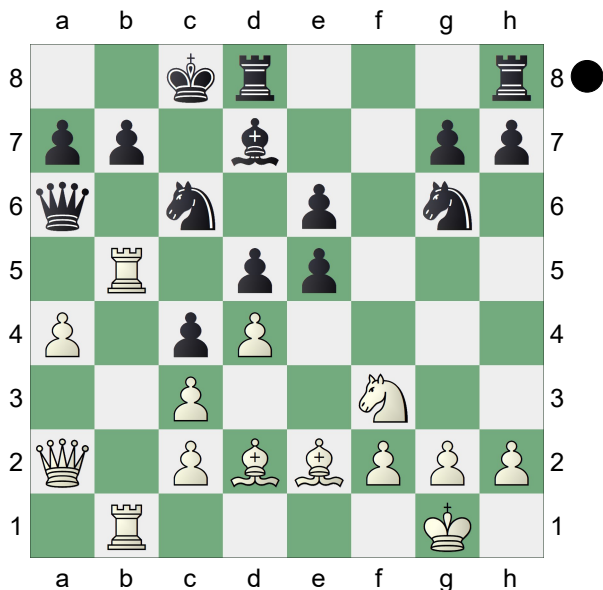
**10...0-0-0 11.0-0 f6**

(Diagram)

**12.Re1N**



[The last occasion for this position was seventy-five years ago(!): 12.Qb1 Nge7 13.Qa2 Ng6 14.Rfb1 fxe5 15.Rb5 Qa6 16.Rab1



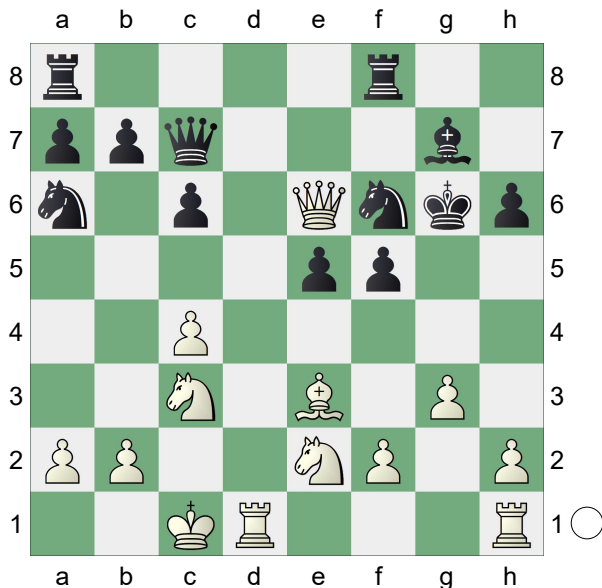
Nxd4 17.Nxd4 exd4 18.Rxb7 Bc6 19.Rb8+ Kd7 20.Rxd8+ Rxd8 21.h4 d3 22.Bd1 Crazy play! 1-0 (40) Chaude de Silans,C-Pinson,H FRA-ch25 Besancon 1949 (4) ]

12...f5 13.Ng5 Rf8 14.h4 Nge7 15.h5 h6 16.Nh3 g5 17.hxg6 Nxg6 18.Bh5 Nce7 19.g3 Rfg8 20.Kf1 a6 21.Qf3 Bxa4 22.Bc1 b5 23.Ba3 Qb6 24.Ra2 Kd7 25.Rb1 Qc6 26.Bd6 Nc8 27.Bb4 Nce7 28.Qe3 Rh7 29.Bc5 f4 30.Nxf4

Nf5 31.Qd2 Nge7 32.Ke2 Qc8 33.g4 Nh4 34.Bxe7 Rxe7 35.Rh1 Qd8 36.Rxh4 Reg7 37.Rh2 Qe8 38.Rh3 Qe7 39.Rf3 Qh4 40.Ra1 Rxc4 41.Bxc4 Qxc4 42.Rh1 Rf8 43.Rxh6 Bxc2 44.Qxc2 Rxf4 45.Qh7+ Kc8 46.Qh8+ Kb7 47.Rh7+ Kb6 48.Qd8+ 1-0

□ Cooper, Lee A86 1665  
 ■ Crompton, Robert 1607  
 2024 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (4.20)  
 [Winslow, Elliott]

One that almost got away -- but no! 1.d4 f5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 d6 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.Bg5 0-0 7.e3 c6 8.Nge2 Nh5 9.e4 h6 10.Be3 e5 11.Qd2 Kh7 12.exf5 Bxf5 13.dxe5 dxe5 14.0-0-0 Qc7 15.Qd6 Na6 16.Be4 Nf6 17.Bxf5 gxf5 18.Qe6 Kg6

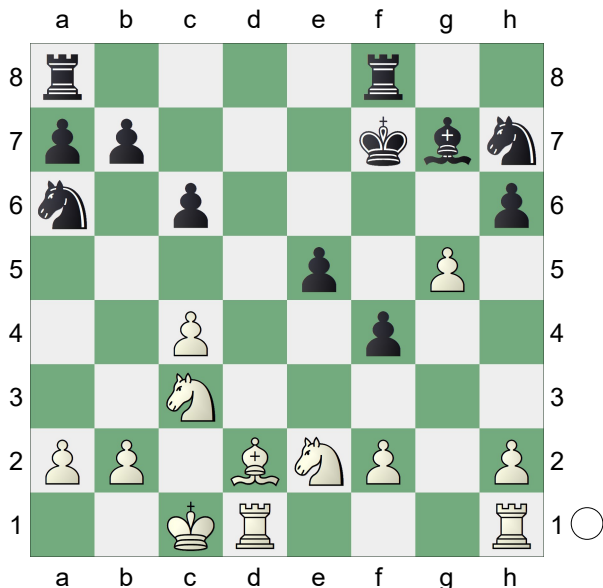


19.g4!?± [ 19.h4!+- Qc8 20.Qxe5 ]  
 19...f4□ 20.Qf5+ Kf7 21.Bd2= [ 21.Ne4!? Kg8□ ( 21...fxe3 22.Nxf6 Bxf6 23.Rd7+ ) 22.Bc5 Nxc5 23.Nxc5 Qe7 24.Ne6 Rf7 25.Nxg7 Rxc7 26.f3= /± ]

**21...Kg8! 22.g5 Nh7?!**

[ 22...hxc5 23.Qxc5 Nc5 24.Nxf4  
Nh7 25.Qh5 Nf6= ]

**23.Qe6+ Qf7 24.Qxf7+ Kxf7**



**25.gxh6**

[ 25.g6+! Kxg6 26.Rhg1+ Kf7  
27.Bxf4± ]

**25...Bxh6 26.Ne4 Ke6?!**

[ 26...Rad8 27.h4 Nf6 28.N2c3  
Rg8= ]

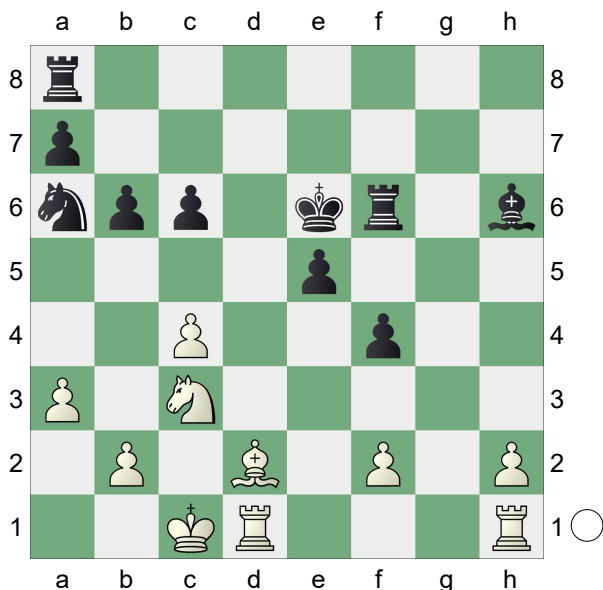
**27.a3?!**

[ 27.h4± ]

**27...Nf6**

[ 27...Ng5! ]

**28.N2c3 b6 29.Nxf6 Rxf6**



**30.b4**

[ 30.Ne4! Rg6 ( 30...Nc5? 31.Nxf6  
Nd3+ 32.Kc2 Nxf2 33.Rde1+- )  
31.Bc3 Nc5± ]

**30...Rg8?!**

[ 30...Rd8 ]

[ 30...Rg6 ]

**31.Ne4 Rfg6?! 32.f3?!**

[ 32.h4! ]

**32...Bf8 33.Bc3**

[ 33.Rhe1! ]

**33...Nc7?**

[ 33...Nb8!= ]

**34.h4± Be7 35.Rde1 Rh6 36.Nf2**

**Rh5?**

[ 36...Bf6 37.Ng4 Rxh4 38.Rxh4  
Bxh4 39.Rxe5+ ]

**37.Ng4?**

[ 37.Nd3+- ]

**37...Bf6?**

[ 37...Bd6!± ]

**38.Re2!+- Rxh4 39.Rxh4 Bxh4**

**40.Bxe5?!**

[ 40.Nxe5+- ]

**40...Kd7± 41.Rh2 Be7**

[ 41...Bd8! 42.Kc2 a5 43.bxa5 bxa5  
44.Bxf4 Ne6± ]

**42.Rh7 Re8? 43.Nf6+ Ke6 44.Nxe8**

**Nxe8 45.Bxf4 Nf6 46.Rh1 Kf5 47.Be3**

**a5 48.c5 axb4 49.axb4**

[ 49.cxb6 ]

**49...b5 50.Bd2 Nd5 51.Rh5+ Ke6**

**52.Rh6+ Kd7 53.Rh7 Ke6 54.Kc2 Bf6**

**55.Rh6 Ke7 56.f4 Ke6 (...)**

**1-0**

**A46**

□ **Dasika,Archit**

**2224**

■ **Winslow,Elliott**

**2178**

2024 Summer TNM: 2000+ (5.1) 04.06.24

[Winslow,Elliott]

With Olivia Smith taking a half-point bye,  
putting her in clear first no matter what,

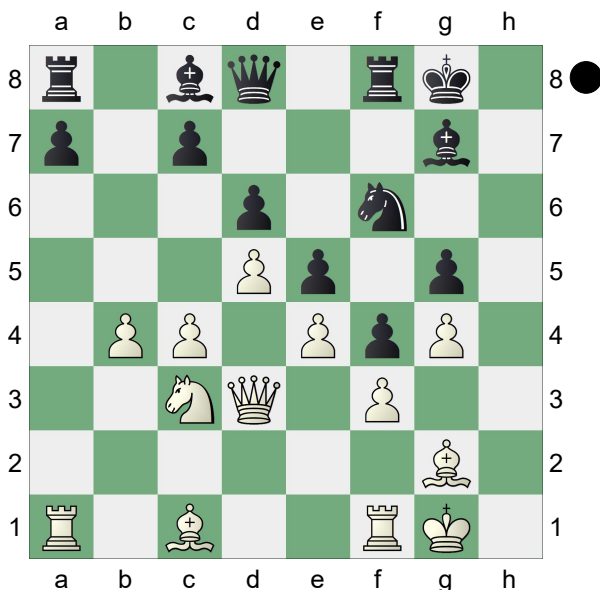
Dasika and I both had to consider our tournament strategy. The difference is I'd already played (and lost) to her, while since his (Round 2) pairing with her was unplayed (he didn't show, for reasons unknown), that matchup could happen again. **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3** The other thing, from my point of view, is that Archit is very solid as White! And I didn't expect him to play a London! So I was unprepared on move two. **2...e6**

[Or maybe he just expected 2...g6 when he could return to 3.c4 and the Classical Be2/Nf3 against the King's Indian, which he has played a few times. ]

[Carlsen played the double fianchetto in a classical game a couple months ago (and before): 2...b6 3.g3 Bb7 4.Bg2 g6 5.c4 Bg7 6.0-0 0-0 7.d5!? Na6!? 8.Nc3 Nc5 9.Nd4 e5 10.Nb3 d6 11.Nxc5 bxc5 12.a3 Nd7 13.e4 f5 with "chances for both sides"

0-1 (68) Fridman,D (2590)-Carlsen,M (2830) Karlsruhe Grenke 2024 (2)

Some more moves, as it got fun shortly: 14.b4 Ba6 15.Qd3 Bc8 16.Na4 Nf6 17.f3 cxb4 18.axb4 f4 19.Nc3 g5 20.g4 h5 21.h3 hxg4 22.hxg4



Nxg4! (Stockfish likes it) 23.fxg4 Bxg4 24.Bh3 Qd7 25.Bxg4?! ( 25.Rf3!= ) 25...Qxg4+ 26.Kf2 Qh4+ 27.Ke2 g4 and the pawns marched:  
0-1 (68) Fridman,D (2590)-Carlsen,M (2830) Karlsruhe Grenke 2024 (2) ]

**3.Bf4 c5**

[ 3...d5 ]

[ 3...b6 ]

**4.c3**

[ 4.e3 ]

**4...Qb6** It's always appealed to me: the bishop no longer defends b2, so annoy White by threatening it. I should give it up. :-)

**5.Qc2**

[ 5.Qb3 is three times as common in the database. The queen-on-queen situation is frequent in the London -- neither side quite wants to trade, and open the a-file for the opponent. The doubled pawns might be a factor, but usually less so. ]

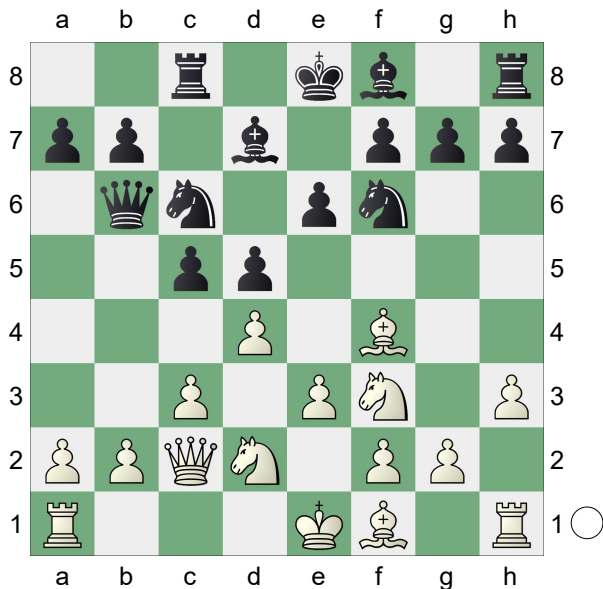
**5...Nc6**

[The big fan of 6.c3 is Bullet superstar Tuan Le: 5...cxd4 6.cxd4 Nc6 7.e3 Nd5 8.Bg3 Ndb4 9.Qd2 Be7 10.a3 Nd5 11.e4 Nf6 12.Nc3 Na5 13.Rd1 d5 14.e5 Ne4 15.Qc2 Bd7 16.Bd3 Rc8 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Qxe4 Qxb2 19.Ne2 Bb5 20.Nd2 Bc6 21.Qg4 0-0 22.Bf4 Rfd8 23.0-0 Ba4 24.Bh6 Bf8 25.Ng3 Bxd1 26.Rxd1 Rxd4 27.Nge4 Rc1 28.Be3 Rd8 29.h4 Rxd1+ 30.Qxd1 Qc2 31.Qxc2 1-0 Le,T (2557)-Erigaisi,A (2710) Bullet Chess Winners Chess.com INT blitz 2023 (1.9) ]

**6.e3 d5 7.h3 Bd7** I'm in a hurry to make something of the c-file. **8.Nbd2 Rc8**

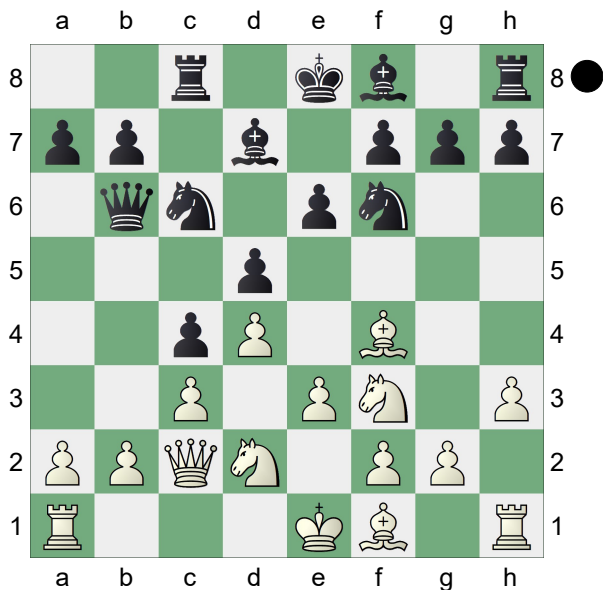
(Diagram)

**9.Qb3!? c4?!** Trying to rock the boat.  
[ 9...h6 ]



[ 9...Be7 ]

**10.Qc2!** I wondered if he could be enticed off his usual quiet positional play with a sacrifice on c4? (It's bad, but I wasn't so sure at the time)

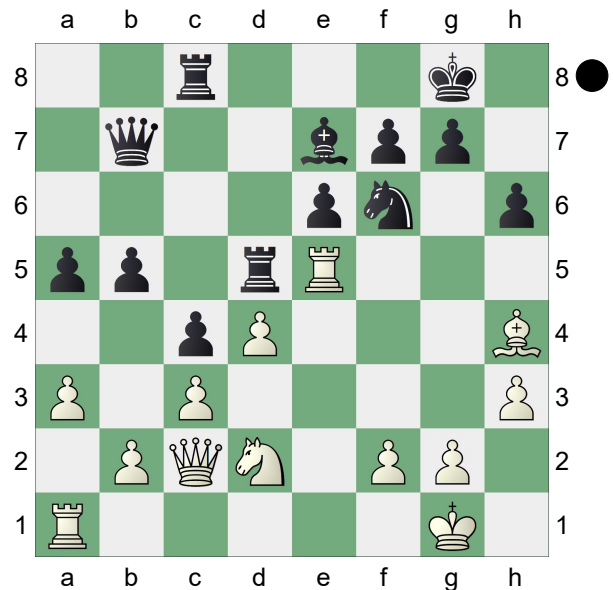


**10...Qa5?!N**

[New move, previously a B-player played better than me: 10...Be7 11.Be2 0-0 12.0-0 Nh5?! 13.Ng5! Bxg5?! 14.Bxg5 Nf6 15.Bxf6 gxf6 16.e4± 1-0 (35) Sztokbant,B (2175)-Ribeiro,F (1798) Florianopolis op 6th 2020 (4) ]

**11.Be2 b5 12.0-0 Be7 13.a3 0-0 14.e4 h6 15.Rfe1 Qb6 16.Ne5 Nxe5**

**17.Bxe5 Bc6 18.Bf3 Rfd8 19.Bg3 a5 20.Bh4 Qb7 21.exd5 Bxd5 22.Bxd5 Rxd5 23.Re5**



**Rcd8**

[ 23...Rxe5!? 24.dxe5 Nd5 25.Bxe7 Qxe7 26.a4 b4 27.Ne4 Nf4 28.Nd6 Qg5 29.Qe4 Rb8= ]

**24.a4?! Bd6?! This really isn't a good idea!**

[ 24...Rxe5 25.dxe5

**A) 25...Rxd2!?** 26.Qxd2 Ne4 27.Qf4 g5 28.Qf3! bxa4! ( 28...gxh4 29.Re1 Nc5 30.Qxb7 Nxb7 31.axb5+- ) 29.Re1! Qxb2! 30.Rxe4 a3 31.Rxc4 a2 32.Kh2 a1Q 33.Rc8+ Kg7 34.Qa8=;

**B) 25...Nd5!** 26.Bg3 ( 26.Bxe7 Nxe7! when the e-pawn is weak, and d3 beckons. 27.Ne4 Ng6 28.Nd6 Qd5 29.Rd1 Qxe5 30.Nxb5 Rxd1+ 31.Qxd1 Nf4± is computer in action. ) 26...Rb8 ( 26...h5 ) 27.Kh2 Qc6± != ]

**25.Bxf6± gxf6 26.Rxd5 Qxd5**

[ 26...exd5? 27.axb5 Qxb5 28.Nf1+- ]

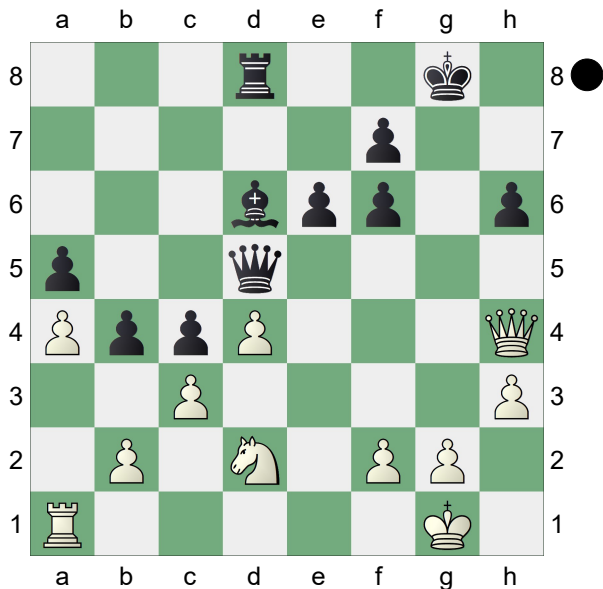
**27.Qe4 b4?!**

[ 27...bxa4± 28.Rxa4 Qb5 ]

**28.Qh4!**

(Diagram)





I overlooked this move in time pressure (his). **28...Bf8?!**

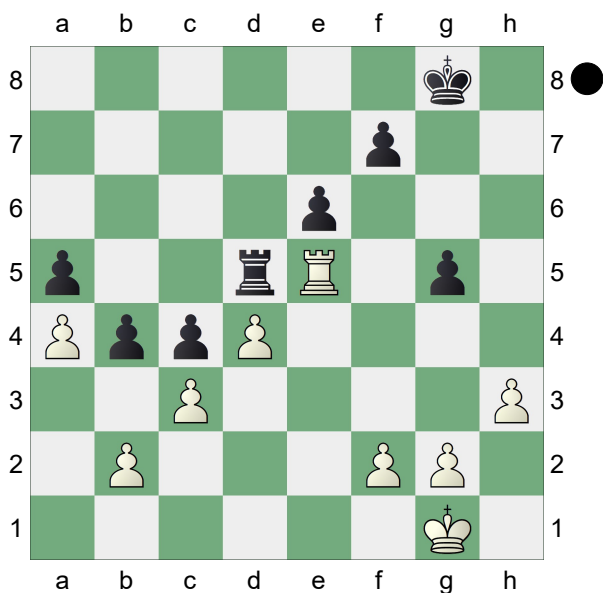
[ 28...e5!? 29.Qxf6! Bc7 30.Qe7 Rd7 31.Ne4!± ( 31.Qe8+± ) ]

**29.Ne4!+- Bg7?!**

[ 29...Kh8!? 30.Nxf6 Qg5 31.Qxg5 hxc4 32.Ne4 Rd5 33.Nd2 e5 34.Nxc4 exd4 35.cxd4 Rxd4 36.b3+- ( 36.Nxa5+- ) ]

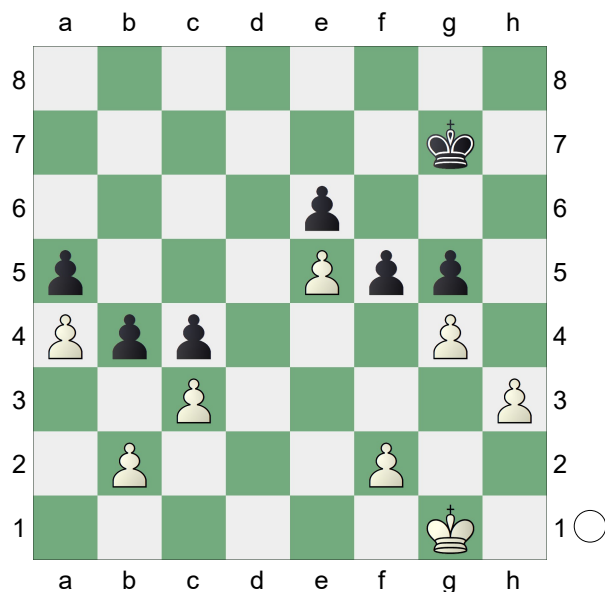
**30.Nxf6+ Bxf6 31.Qxf6 Qg5**

**32.Qxg5+ hxc4 33.Re1! Rd5 34.Re5**



I so often exhort students: "Don't trade into a pawn ending (especially trade rooks) unless you're sure it's the result you want." Here though it shouldn't

really matter. At least this has the slight psychological effect of changing the nature of the game. And he is approaching zero time (there's always the glorious five-second delay -- just don't blink). **34...Rxe5 35.dxe5 Kg7 36.g4 f5**



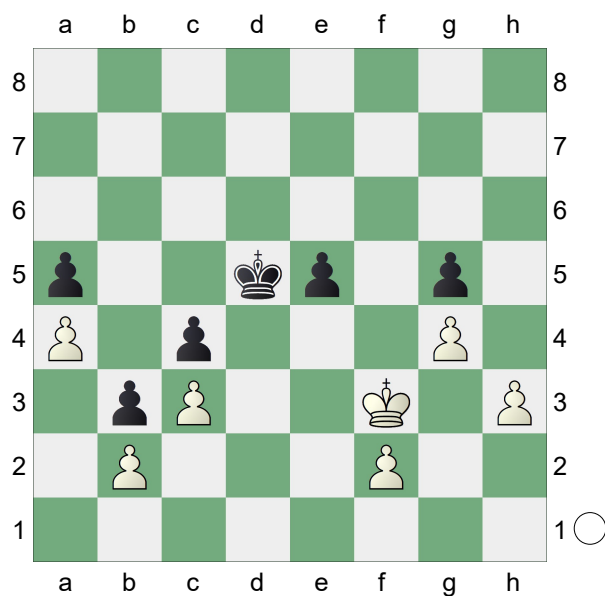
**37.exf6+?!**  Still winning, but leaving things as is was fine. **37...Kxf6 38.Kg2 Ke5 39.Kf3**

[ 39.h4+- no better no worse totally winning ]

**39...Kd5 40.Ke3**

[ 40.h4! gxh4 41.g5 etc. ]

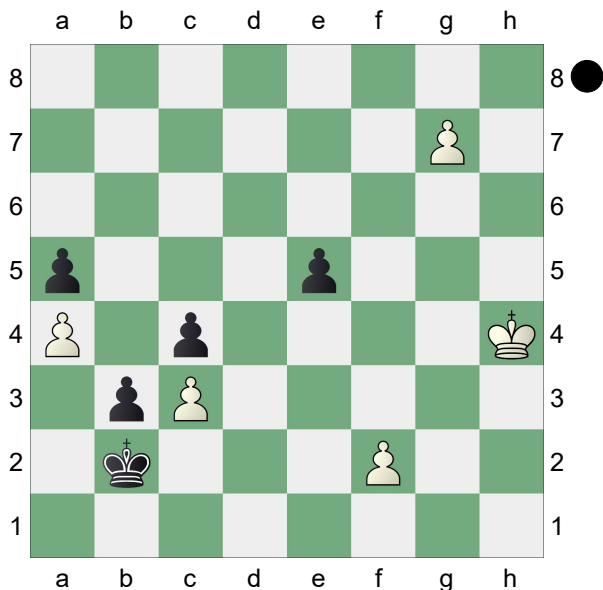
**40...e5 41.Kf3! b3**



**42.Kg3??** As he pointed out after the game, giving me that vital tempo (... gxf4+ check) cost him.

[ "simply" 42.h4 gxf4 43.g5!+- ]

**42...Ke4!=** This is actually drawn!? **43.h4 gxf4+ 44.Kxf4 Kd3** And the race is on! **45.g5 Kc2 46.g6 Kxb2 47.g7**



Suddenly I'm confronted with a selection of king moves! And of course I mess up: **47...Kxc3??**

[ 47...Kc2?? allows Qxc4 and then a queen trade on b1, followed by c3-c8Q. ]

[ Same with 47...Kc1?? ]

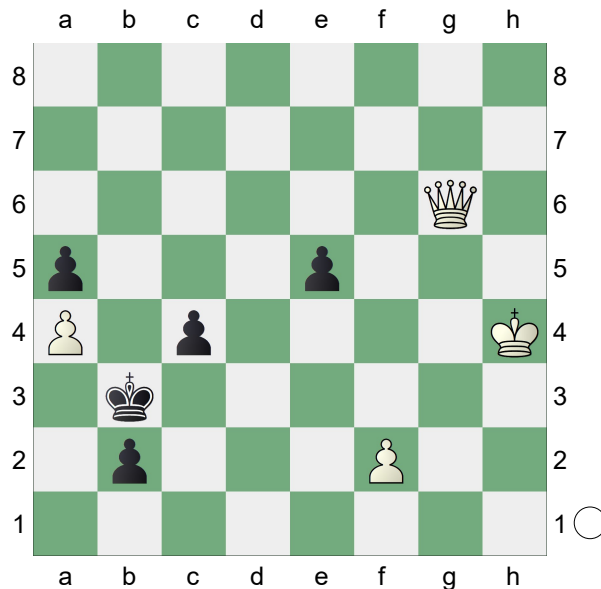
[ 47...Ka1!? 48.g8Q b2 49.Qxc4 b1Q peters out to a draw as well. Although it's a stupid place for my king. ]

[ 47...Ka3! The first move I looked at -- and rejected! But 48.g8Q b2 49.Qxc4 b1Q= is drawn, or at least it's zeroes everywhere after a few seconds of Stockfish 16.1 running. 50.Qc5+ Kxa4 51.Qxe5 Qh1+ 52.Kg3 Qg1+ 53.Kf3 and still it's 0.00 down the line. ]

**48.g8Q b2 49.Qg6 Kb3**

(Diagram)

I liked the idea of taking on a4 and my



three pawns confounding his queen! But the reality... **50.Qb6+??** The last error. In fact, "eleventh best" with ten moves that still won. Archit knew that with a small delay like we've had in the TNM for a while, it's vital not to get down to no time; he managed quite a few moves with his clock still showing "00:00:05" (in fact, all the way to the end).

[ 50.Kg4 (fastest: #43) (and pretty much anything else) c3 when White mops up all the pawns for the queen, and then queens the f-pawn. ]

**50...Ka2= 51.Qb5 b1Q 52.Qxc4+ Qb3 53.Qb5** In fact, White has to be careful not to land up on the worse side of things. This was the best.

[ I was concerned with him gaining a tempo before trading queens with 53.Qe2+ Qb2 54.Qxb2+?? ]

but in fact it's \*Black\* who's winning! I queen with check: Kxb2 55.Kg4 Kb3 56.Kf5 Kxa4 57.Kxe5 Kb3 58.f4 a4 59.f5 a3 60.f6 a2 61.f7 a1Q+ 62.Ke6 \*and\* have the "only move" 62...Qa3 with mate in ten no more. ]

**53...Qf3 54.Qxa5 Qxf2+ 55.Kg4 Qf4+ 56.Kh3 e4 57.Qd5+ Ka3 58.a5 e3 59.a6 Qf1+ 60.Kg3 Qf2+ 61.Kg4 e2 62.Qd3+ Kb4 63.Qd2+ Kb5 64.a7**

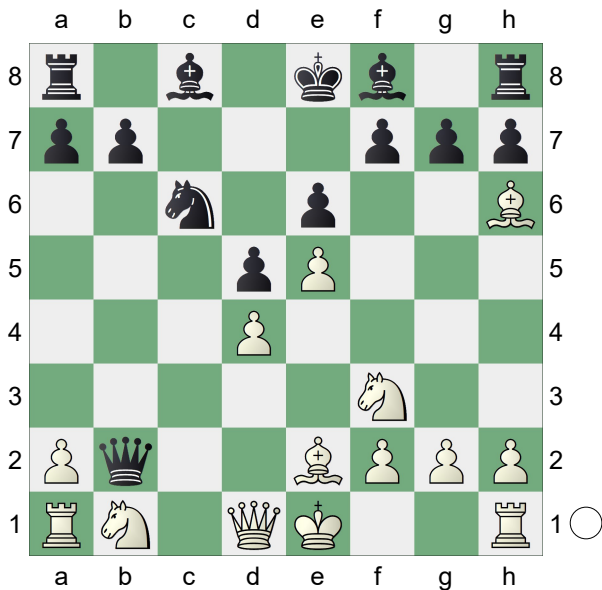
**Qg2+ 65.Kh5 Qh3+ Exciting!**  
 1/2-1/2

□ **Shrauger,Alex Hayden**

■ **Diller,Bradley R**

2024 Summer TNM: 2000+ (5.4) 04.06.24  
 [TA 6.4]

Another epic match between two of Gadir Guseinov's current students -- and it shows in the opening. Alas for Brad, it was another game marred by a time-trouble blowup. He (and others) should be happy when (I think it's going to happen) the time control in the next Tuesday Night Marathon becomes Game in 90 minutes, 30 second increment. I thnk! Don't quote me! **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Qb6 6.Be2 cxd4 7.cxd4 Nh6 8.Bxh6** Strongly threatening Bc1. **8...Qxb2**



**9.Nbd2! gxh6 10.0-0 Bd7** The position is equal.

[ 10...Nxd4 11.Rb1 ( 11.Qa4+ Nc6 11...Nxe2+ ( 11...Qxa2? 12.Nxd4 a6 13.Ra1+- ) 12.Qxe2 12.Nxd4 a6 13.Ra1+- ) 12.Qxe2 12.Nxd4 a6 13.Ra1+- ]

**11.Rb1 Qxa2 12.Rxb7**

[ 12.Ra1!? Qb2 13.Rb1= ]

**12...Rb8 13.Rxb8+ Nxb8 14.Nb3**

**Rg8? 2.14/27**

[ 14...Ba4= 0.05/35 15.Qc1 ( 15.Nfd2 Bb4= ) 15...Nc6 ( 15...Qxe2? 16.Qc8+ Ke7 17.Qxb8+- ) ]

**15.Qd3!+-** White has strong compensation. **15...Nc6 16.Ra1 Qb2**

**17.Nfd2 0.53/30**

[ 17.Rb1+- 2.00/30 Qa2 18.Nbd2 ]

**17...Bb4±** Hoping for ...Bxd2. **18.Rb1 Qa2 1.04/32**

[ 18...Qc3± 0.54/34 ]

**19.Qxh7± Rf8 20.Qd3 0.00/42**

[ 20.Qxh6± 0.97/32 Black must now prevent Bd3. a5 21.Bb5 ( 21.Ra1 Qb2= ) ]

**20...a5 21.Nf3 Ke7 0.81/33**

[ 21...Na7= 0.01/30 remains equal. 22.Nc1 Qa4 ]

**22.Nc1!↑** White is in control. **22...Qa3**

**23.Qh7** Inhibits Qxd3. **23...Qa4 2.19/31**

[ 23...Na7± 0.81/30 was worth a try. ]

**24.h4**

[ 24.Qxh6 Qc2 25.Bd3 Qd1+ 26.Bf1 Qc2= ( 26...Nxd4? perishes. 27.Qh4+ Ke8 28.Nxd4+-; 26...Ke8 27.Qe3± ) ]

**24...Bc3? 4.03/25**

[ 24...Ba3 1.94/30 ]

**25.Qxh6+- Bxd4 26.Qf6+**

[ Weaker is 26.Nxd4 Qxd4 27.Qg5+ f6 28.exf6+ ( 28.Qg7+ Rf7= ) 28...Qxf6= ]

**26...Ke8 27.Nb3? 0.54/30**

[ White has to play 27.Nd3!+- 2.97/27 ]

**27...Qa2 1.61/32**

[ Black should try 27...Ba7!± 0.54/30 ]

**28.Nbd2** aiming for Nxd4. **28...Bc3**

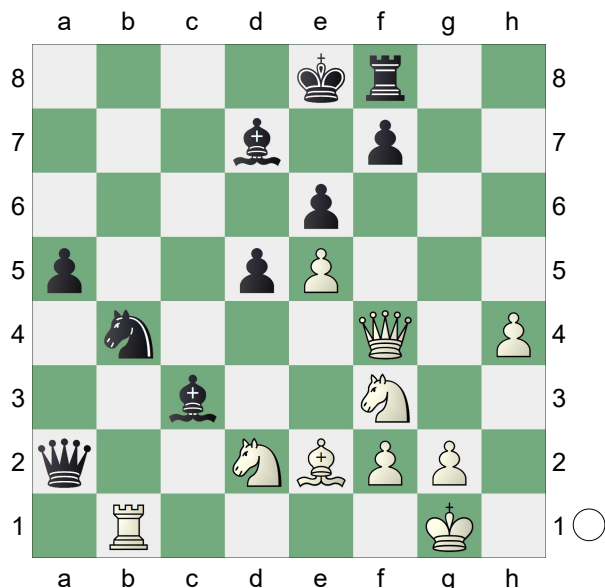
**29.Qf4 0.55/28**

[ Better is 29.Qg5± 1.39/30 ]

**29...Nb4? 2.39/25**

[ Black should play 29...Qc2!± 0.55/28 ]

(Diagram)



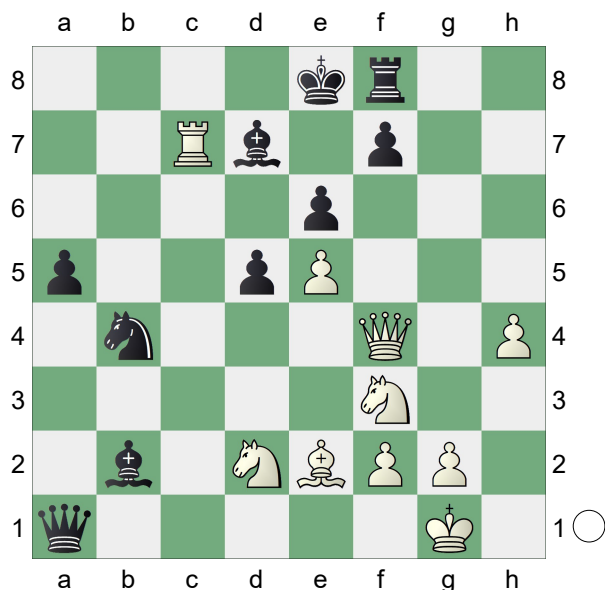
**30.Rc1?** 0.08/29

[ 30.Bd1!+- 2.39/25 ]

**30...Bb2?** 2.98/26

[ 30...Qb2!= 0.08/29 and Black stays safe. 31.Rb1 Qc2 ]

**31.Rc7 Qa1+**



**32.Kh2?** 0.11/33

[ 32.Bf1!+- 2.79/25 Nc6 33.Qe3 ]

**32...Nc6=** Inhibits Ra7. **33.Nb3**

Chess con chili.

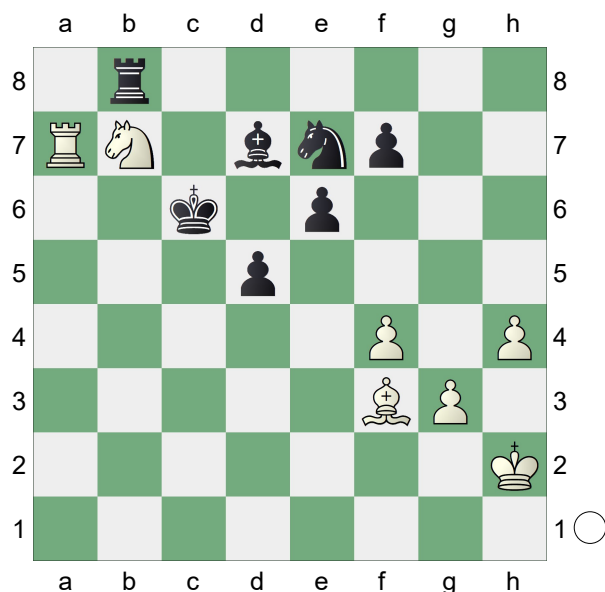
[ 33.Rb7 seems wilder. Bxe5 34.Nxe5 Qxe5 35.Qxe5 Nxe5 36.Nb3 ]

**33...Bxe5 34.Nxe5 Qxe5 35.Qxe5**

**Nxe5 36.Nxa5** 0.00/44

[ 36.Nc5± 0.36/28 Kd8 37.Ra7 ]

**36...Ke7 37.f4 Kd6 38.Ra7 Ng6 39.g3 Rb8 ...Rb2 would now be deadly. 40.Bf3 Ne7 41.Nb7+ Kc6**



**42.Nc5** Discovered Attack **42...Rd8**

0.45/27

[ 42...Rb2+= 0.00/60 43.Kh3 Kxc5

44.Rxd7 Nf5 ]

[ 42...Kxc5 43.Rxd7 ]

**43.Nd3 f6 44.h5 Nf5?!**

[ 44...Kd6 45.Ra6+ Nc6 46.Nb4 Kc5

47.Nxc6 Bxc6 48.g4 e5 White is ahead -- maybe enough to win. ]

**45.Bd1 Ne3 46.Bf3 Nf5**

No more moves (no DGT boards this week!) -- I (EW) think White played the correct 47.g4± but the deciding factor was Black hanging a rook to a d-file skewer.

**1-0**

**A05**

□ **Kumar, Jay Dave**

**1985**

■ **Gray, William**

**1950**

2024 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (5.8)

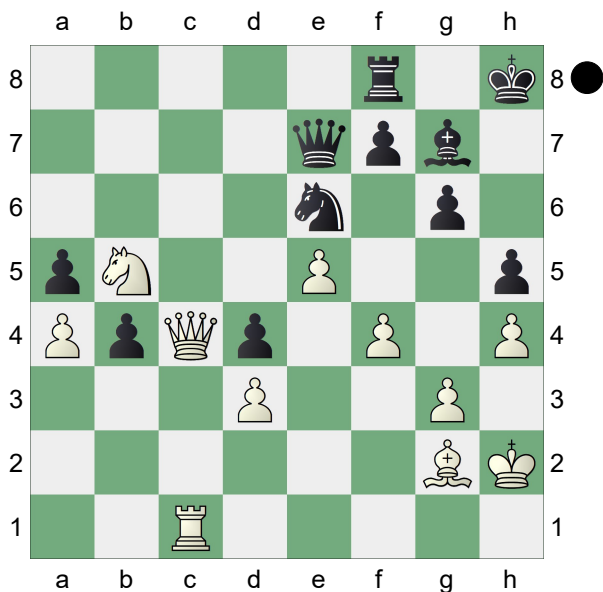
[Winslow, Elliott]

This win puts Jay Kumar in clear first with a perfect 5-0, a full point ahead of Michael Walder and Hayes Marvin.

Walder has played them both so the next round board one pairing is clear. Meanwhile... **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d3** Avoiding main line theory -- except that these days, there's theory on the avoiding-theory lines... **3...Nc6 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.0-0 Nf6**

[At least as good is 6...e5 Δ ...Nge7 ]  
**7.Re1 0-0 8.a4 Bg4 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Qxf3 Nd7 11.Qd1 a6 12.c3 e5 13.Na3 b5 14.Bd2 Qb6 15.Kh2 Na5 16.b4 Nc6 17.Be3 Qb7 18.bxc5 dxc5 19.Rb1 b4 20.Nc4 Qc7 21.Bd2 Rad8 22.cxb4 cxb4 23.Ne3 a5 24.Rc1 Qd6 25.Nd5 Nd4 26.Be3 Rc8 27.Bxd4 exd4 28.f4 Kh8 29.e5 Qa6?! 30.Nc7! Qb6 31.Rc6 Qa7?**

[ 31...Qb7 ]  
**32.Qc2 Nb8 33.Rc4 Na6 34.Nb5 Rxc4 35.Qxc4 Qc5 36.Qb3! Qe7 37.Rc1 Nc5 38.Qc2**  
 [ 38.Qd5! ]  
**38...Ne6± 39.Qc4?! [ 39.Qf2!± b3 40.Bd5 ]**  
**39...h5!= 40.h4? [ 40.Bd5 ]**



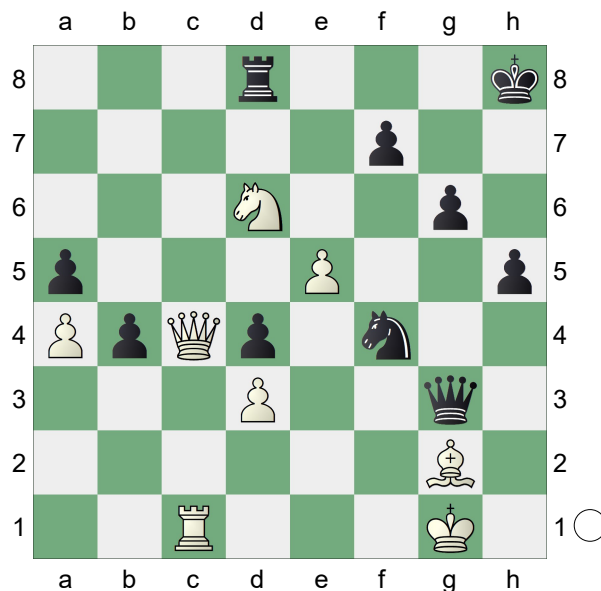
**40...Rd8??**

[ 40...Nxf4!± 41.gxf4 Qxh4+ 42.Kg1 Qxf4 43.Nxd4 Qxe5± ]

**41.Nd6+- Bh6 42.Bd5??**

[ 42.f5! Bxc1 43.Qxc1 Kh7 44.fxe6+- ]

**42...Bxf4!= 43.gxf4 Qxh4+ 44.Kg1 Qg3+ 45.Bg2 Nxf4**



**46.Qc2??** Black is now winning! Except - his time ran out!

[ 46.Rc2!= ]  
 [ 46.Nxf7+ Kg7 47.Qc6□= ]  
 [ 46.Qc2 Nh3+ 47.Kh1 ( 47.Kf1 Qf4+ 48.Ke1 Qe3+ ) 47...Nf2+ 48.Kg1 Ng4+- ]

**1-0**

□ **Jian,Sheng**

■ **Walder,Michael**

2024 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (5.9)  
 [TA 6.4]

**B23**

**1625**

**1978**

Here at least are the games that set up the final stretch (well, two stretches). Mike's usual "Tactical Analysis" run on the computer, silly comments and all.

Early AI I guess. **1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Nc6 5.Qd3 Nf6 6.Bf4 Bc5 7.0-0-0** next e5 is good for White. **7...0-0 8.f3 -0.81/32**

[ 8.e5± 0.38/32 keeps the upper hand.



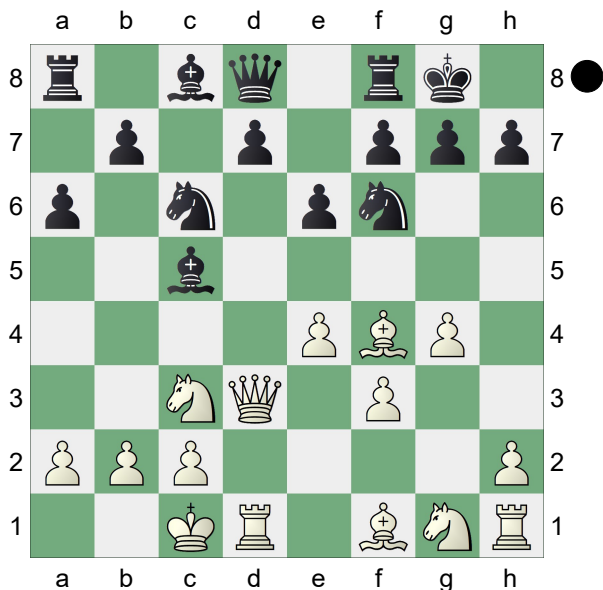
Ng4 9.Ne4 Nxf2 ( 9...Bxf2 10.Qh3± )  
10.Nxf2 Bxf2 11.Kb1 ]

**8...a6** -0.20/33

[ 8...d5!± -0.81/32 ]

**9.g4** -1.41/27

[ 9.Bd6= -0.20/33 Bxd6 10.Qxd6 ]



**9...h6N** 0.41/32

[ 9...d5!± -1.41/27 White must now  
prevent ...d4. 10.exd5 exd5 ]

[Predecessor: 9...b5 10.h4 Qa5

11.Kb1 Bb7 12.h5 d5 13.e5 Nd7

14.g5 Nb4 15.Qe2 d4 16.a3 dxc3

17.Rxd7 cxb2 18.c3 Nd5 19.Bd2

Qxa3 20.Kc2 Qb3+ 21.Kb1 Qa3

22.Kc2 Qa2 0-1 Wu,D (2295)-

Toktomushev,T (2268) Titled Tuesday

intern op 06th Feb Early Chess.com

INT blitz 2024 (3) ]

**10.e5** -0.17/33

[ 10.Qd2± 0.41/32 ]

**10...Ne8** 0.68/29

[Black should try 10...Qc7= -0.17/33 ]

**11.Ne4** -0.21/32

[ 11.Nh3!± 0.68/29 ]

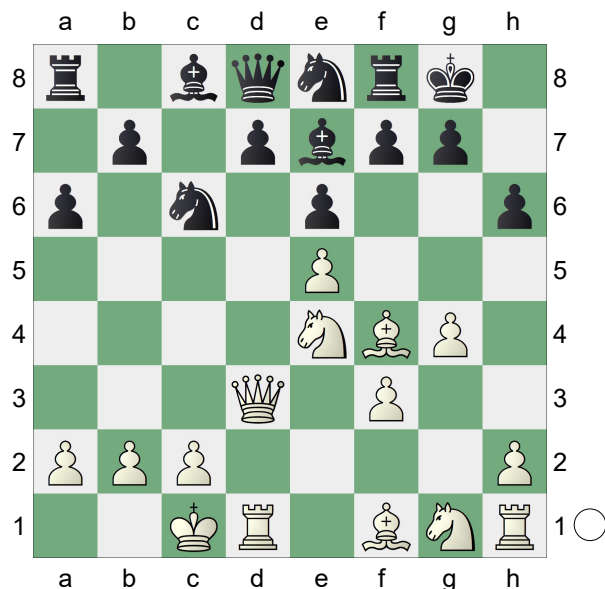
**11...Be7** 0.18/32

[ 11...Bd4 -0.21/32 12.g5 h5

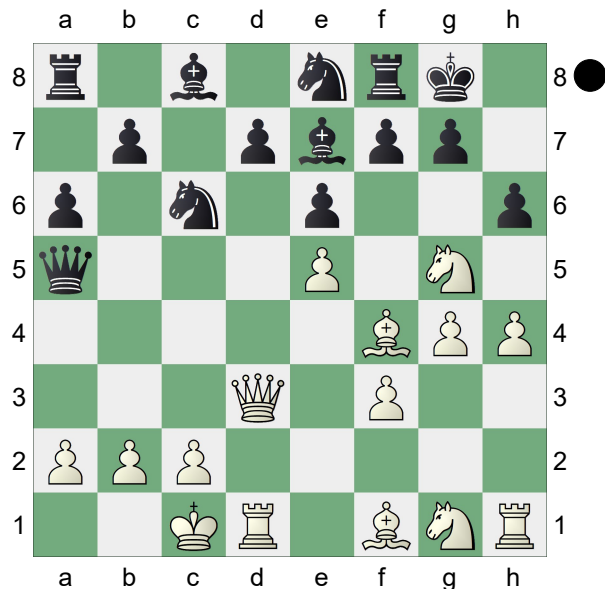
( 12...Nxe5? 13.Qxd4 Nc6 14.Qf2+-;

12...Bxe5 13.Bxe5 Nxe5 14.Qc3±;

12...Qb6 13.c3± )]



**12.h4** -0.39/28 **Qa5!±** **13.Ng5** -1.38/34



**f5!±** ...Qxa2! would now be deadly.

[ 13...hxg5 14.hxg5 f5 ( 14...Qxa2  
15.Qh7#; 14...g6? 15.Qe2+- ) 15.exf6  
( 15.gxf6 Nxf6 16.exf6 Bxf6+- )  
15...Nxf6 16.gxf6 Bxf6 17.Bd6+- ]

**14.exf6 Nxf6**

[ 14...hxg5? 15.fxe7 ( 15.hxg5 Nxf6  
16.gxf6 Bxf6± ) 15...Nxe7 16.Bxg5+- ]

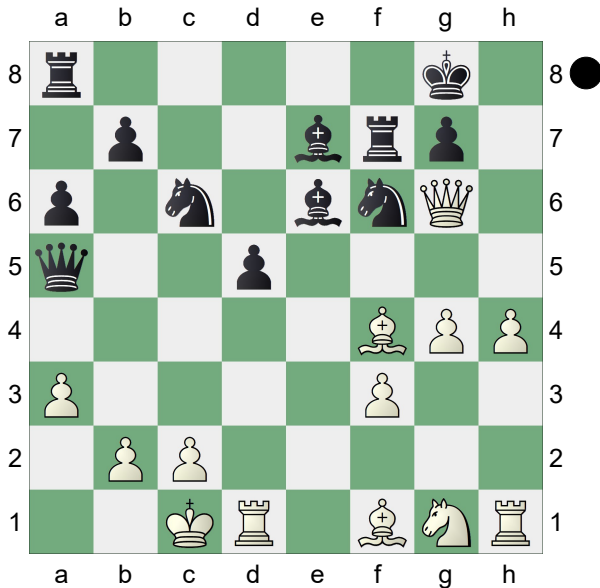
**15.a3** -1.72/27 **d5** -0.38/33

[ 15...hxg5 16.hxg5 Nd5 ( 16...Ne5  
17.Bxe5 Qxe5 18.gxf6± ) 17.Bd2± ]

[ 15...b5+- -1.72/27 aiming for ...b4!  
16.Bd2 b4 ]

**16.Qg6?** -3.25/30 This move loses the game for White. **16...Bd7+**  
 [ 16...hgx5 17.hgx5 Bxa3 ( 17...Qa4? 18.Bg3+- ) 18.gxf6 Bxb2+ 19.Kxb2= ]

**17.Nxe6** -4.20/33  
 [ 17.Ne2 -2.78/29 was worth a try. Bxa3 Demolition ( 17...hgx5 18.hgx5 Be8 19.Qd3= ) 18.bxa3 Qxa3+ ( 18...hgx5 19.Bd6= ) 19.Kd2 ]  
**17...Bxe6 18.Bxh6 Rf7 19.Bf4**



**Bxa3! 20.Nh3**  
 [ 20.Ne2 d4 ]  
**20...Bb4 21.Kb1** Dodges Qa1+ **21...d4**  
**22.b3 Bc3** Weighted Error Value:  
 White=1.15/Black=0.51  
**0-1**

□ **Marvin,Hayes Alexander** **D02 1829**  
 ■ **Wong,Wilson** **1908**  
 2024 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (5.11)  
*[Wong,Wilson]*

EW: And here are Wilson Wong's always interesting thoughts to his loss to Hayes Marvin. The opening looks more than a little like what happened on Board 1, although here the particular line is well-known and trod. **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3**

**d5 3.Bf4 c5 4.e3 Nc6 5.c3 Qb6 6.Qb3 c4 7.Qc2 Bf5 8.Qc1 Nh5 9.Bg3 Nxc3 10.hxg3** My opponent spent no time at all on the opening. **10...h6** I was deciding between this, 10...g6, and 10...e6. I ultimately settled for this because it plays against f3-knight and h1-rook, while preserving my bishop. I didn't like 10...e6 since I thought my pawn structure would be worse and I didn't like 10...g6 because I thought my opponent benefited more from getting d4-square than me getting d3-square.

[ 10...g6 I like this because White hasn't castled so this plays against White pressuring h7-pawn with rook and queen. I'm skeptical of how good ...Bg7, ...e5 is when White gets d4-square but I'm not able to effectively utilize d3-square. ]

[ 10...e6 11.Nh4 I didn't like this because my light-squared bishop can't retreat without destroying my pawn structure but White getting in Nbd2 and e4 also wrecks my center since it would undermine my support of c4-pawn. Stockfish likes 11...Bg4, 11...Be4, or even just 11...Bxb1. I like just 11...Bxb1 then ...g6 which doesn't seem great. ]

**11.Be2** White continues development while not committing to castling.

[(EW:) 11.Nbd2 e6 12.Be2 Be7 13.Bd1 is the usual move order for this maneuver, favored by hardcore London superstar Gata Kamsky -- and let's "balance out the score" with a rare loss by him, admittedly to Magnus: Qc7 14.Bc2 0-0 15.e4 dxe4 16.Nxe4 Rad8 17.Qf4 Qxf4 18.gxf4 b5 19.a3 f6 20.0-0 Rd5 21.Rfe1 g5 22.fxcg5 hxg5 23.Re2 g4 24.Nfd2 e5 25.dxe5 Nxe5 26.b3 Rfd8 27.Nf1 Bg6 28.bxc4 bxc4 29.Ne3 Rb5 30.a4 Rb2 31.Ng3

Bxc2 32.Rxc2 Rxc2 33.Nxc2 Rd3  
 34.Ne3 Bc5 35.Nef5 Bb6 36.a5 Bc7  
 37.Ne4 a6 38.Kf1 Kf8 39.Nc5 Rxc3  
 40.Ne6+ Kg8 41.Nxc7 Rb3 42.Nxa6  
 c3 43.Nc5 Rb5 44.Ne4 c2 45.Re1  
 Rb1 46.Nxf6+ Kh8 47.Ne3 Rxe1+  
 48.Kxe1 c1Q+ 49.Ke2 Qb2+ 50.Kd1  
 Qxf2 51.Nfd5 Nd3 52.a6 Qa2  
 53.Nc3 Qxa6 54.Nxg4 Qc4 55.Kd2  
 Qxg4 56.Kxd3 Qxg2 57.Ne4 Kg7  
 58.Nd6 Qd5+ 0-1 Kamsky,G (2714)-  
Carlsen,M (2714) Wch Blitz 2nd  
Moscow 2007 (23) ]

**11...e6** A natural move. I think if White tries to break with e4 then I just retreat my f5-bishop and let my opponent trade or push, keeping d5-c4 chain intact. Those two pawns would do a good job of controlling squares my opponent wants to utilize. **12.Bd1** White intends to trade light-squared bishops but spends a lot of time to do so.

[ 12.Nbd2 ]

**12...Bd6** Staying flexible on which side to castle. **13.Bc2 Bxc2**

[EW: Last reference: 13...0-0

14.Nbd2 Bxc2 15.Qxc2 f5 ( 15...Qd8  
 16.g4 f5 17.gxf5 exf5 18.0-0 Rc8  
 19.b3 cxb3 20.Qb2 b6 21.axb3 Rc7  
 22.Rfc1 a5 23.Qa2 Ne7 24.c4 Qd7  
 25.Qb2 Qe6 26.cxd5 Nxd5 27.Rxc7  
 Bxc7 28.Rc1 Rc8 29.Nc4 Bb8  
 30.Nce5 ½-½ Cottegnie,F (2396)-  
Cuellar Oshiro,D W-ch37 prel05 email  
ICCF email 2013 ) 16.b3 cxb3  
 17.axb3 Rac8 18.Qd3 a6 19.0-0  
 Nb8 20.c4 Bb4 21.Ne5 Qd8 22.c5  
 Nd7 23.Ndf3 Nf6 0-1 (79) Arnold,K-  
Bilan,D (2303) Titled Tuesday intern  
op 15th Aug Late Chess.com INT blitz  
2023 (10) ]

**14.Qxc2** I don't know how to play this structure. I had trouble with finding a good plan. I thought White had b3 and e4 to destroy my center, while also

having Ng5 threat looming over my head. I was worried about White freeing their position with e4 but I think its totally fine for me to just ignore it since I think ...exd5 gives me a foothold in the center.

**14...0-0-0** I think this move doomed the game for me. I didn't like having to play this because b3 has no good answer, but ...O-O didn't work and I was too worried about e4. I thought I would just guard a7-square, but as the game will later show, that doesn't work. I spent a lot of time trying to come up with a move but I think I should've looked for other candidate moves more seriously because this move gives me a really bad position and White's plan is both strong and obvious.

[ 14...0-0 I didn't like this move in view of Ng5. 15.Ng5 f5 I thought this blundered a pawn. ( 15...Rfe8??

Trying to escape with my king doesn't work. 16.Rxh6 gxh6 17.Qh7+ Kf8 18.Qxf7# ) 16.Nxe6 Nb4! 17.cxb4 Bxb4+ Winning back the piece and I think Black is doing fine. ]

[ 14...f5 I didn't like this because White could undermine my center with b3, c4, d5, when f5-pawn loses its defender and my center evaporates. ]

[ 14...Qd8 If I had a re-do, I like this best. This guards g5-square, guards a8-rook and I can safely ...O-O then expand on queenside with b5, a5, b4. ]

[ 14...Qc7 It's a real shame I looked at this move and dismissed it because of b3 and a4, but didn't think consider ... Qd8 which solves all my problems. ]

**15.Nbd2 f5** I really didn't like my position. I decided to go for this controlling e4-square and waiting for White to decide where they wanted to castle. **16.b3** White gets a semi-open a-file eyeing my king. It's really wild but I

think running to kingside could be an option because its way too dangerous on queenside. **16...cxb3 17.axb3**

I would like to run to kingside, but I can't because of c4 threatening to fork on pieces and the weakening of d5- and f5-pawns. **17...Kb8** Because of the tactics White is threatening, I think I'm trapped on the queenside. **18.0-0 Ka8?!**

This is a waste of time. I wanted to protect a7-pawn with ...Bb8 but this wastes so much time and traps my king, with no hope of ever leaving. I can't effectively protect a7-pawn because White can triple on a-file, push c5, and threaten Nb6.

[ 18...g5 I could've gone this route had I figured out a good solution to c4, c5 threat. I think ...f4 is a real threat to open White's shelter. I was so focused and failing to find a solution to c4, c5, that I failed to realize my king wasn't as unsafe as I thought it was and White's king wasn't as safe either. The pawn on the kingside I made in the game were very wrong since it didn't open lines. 19.c4 Bb4 20.cxd5 Rxd5 This is a great outcome for Black. ]

**19.Ra4 Bb8** I continued my terrible plan. I was so worried about c4 in the game and was facing a lot of time pressure that I didn't even consider my attacking ideas such as ...g5, ...f4. At this point my opponent used 13 minutes to my 44 minutes.

[ 19...g5 20.b4 ]

**20.Rfa1 g5** Better late than never, but the idea I went for was total nonsense, and I see that now that I'm not pressured by the clock. **21.b4**

[ 21.c4 f4 This move seems so obvious looking over the game, but I didn't even consider this idea since I'm not familiar with the pawn structure. 22.c5 Qb5? 23.Nc4 Black is

doomed. ]

**21...g4** The only plan I had was to displace White's f3-knight and try to defend my king. It is incredibly slow to get to White's king, meanwhile White is already knocking on my King's door.

[ 21...f4 The ...f4 idea here is a lot worse. 22.gxf4 gxf4 23.exf4 Black opens g-file, but White is perfectly safe and Black has no pawn breaks on the kingside. ]

**22.Nh4 Ne7**

[ 22...Qb5 A temporary blockade, but it buys Black time to maneuver pieces. 23.c4 This is less effective now that Black's queen is on b5-square since b4-pawn is blockaded and Nxc4 doesn't hit Black's queen. ( 23.Nb1 Ne7 24.Na3 Qe8 I don't know how to go about defending this position. White has c4, c5, b5, Nb6, and triples on a-file ideas, while Black's counterplay is too slow. If I play ...b6 then defend the 7th-rank with my rooks, b6-pawn is pinned and I'll get tangled up trying to hold it, and probably get squeezed and overloaded. ) 23...dxc4 24.Nxc4 Rc8 And Black at least have some life for their pieces. ]

**23.Qa2 Rhg8** Trying to prevent h5-knight from returning into the game.

[ 23...Nc8 The best defense. 24.c4 Rh7 Intending to defend laterally and hold everything together. 25.c5 Qc7 26.b5 This is so lost. ]

**24.c4 Nc8 25.c5 Qc7**

[ 25...Qb5 26.Nb1 Qe8 27.Nc3 Rd7 28.b5 b6 29.Ra6 Rb7 30.Nxf5 Rf8 31.Nh4 ]

**26.b5 b6** Unfortunately, I have too many weaknesses and no time. **27.Nb3 Rg7 28.Ra6** I can't hold the position together. a7-pawn is pinned so any piece on b6-square will drop off. e6-pawn is weak,

and White can bring their a1-rook to c-file. **28...Rdd7 29.Rc1 Qd8 30.cxb6 f4** It took me way too long to see this idea. **31.Nc5 fxg3 32.Nxd7 Rxd7 33.bxa7** Black is completely lost. **33...Rxa7 34.fxg3 Qg5 35.Rxc8 Qxe3+ 36.Qf2 Qd3 37.Rxa7+ Kxa7 38.Qa2+ Kb7 39.Qa6#** 1-0 White wins.

**Horowitz, Phineas F** **B28**  
 **Boyer, John** **1340**  
 2024 Summer TNM: 1200-1599 (2.23) **1533**  
*[Winslow, Elliott]*

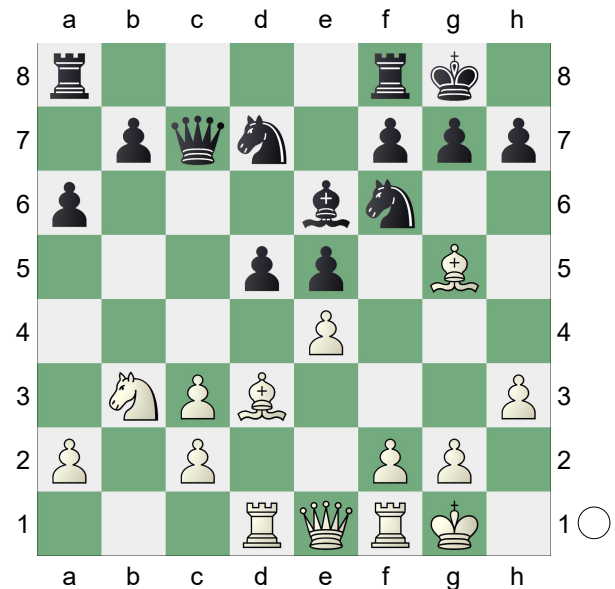
Let me include this interesting game from back again at Round 2, because... these two players are now tied for 1st-2nd after five rounds in the 1200-1699 section, having both won the rest of their games! **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 a6 3.d4** This is a famous "semi-trap", in that Black gets a sort of improved ...e5 Sicilian with the quick ...Bb4, and the possibility of getting in ...d7-d5 in one jump. This is why most repertoire books for White have them \*not\* playing 3.d4 (at least not right away!), maybe 3.c4, 3.c3, even 3.b4!? **3...cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Nb3 Bb4 7.Bd3 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 0-0 9.Bg5 d6 10.0-0 Be6 11.Qe1 Nbd7 12.Rd1 Qc7 13.h3 d5**

(Diagram)

**14.f4?! dxe4 15.Bxe4 Nxe4 16.Qxe4 f5**

[ 16...f6! ]

**17.Qb4 h6 18.Be7 Rfc8 19.Bd6 a5 20.Bxc7 axb4 21.Bxe5 Nxe5 22.fxe5 Rxa2 23.Nd4 Kf7 24.cxb4 Rc4 25.b5 Raa4 26.Nxf5 Bxf5 27.Rxf5+ Ke6 28.g4 Rxg4+ 29.hxg4 Rxg4+ 30.Kf2**



**Kxf5 31.Rd7 b6 32.Rd6 Rg6 33.Rc6 Re6 34.c4 Kxe5 35.Rc7 g5 36.Kf3 Kd6 37.Rb7 Kc5 38.Rc7+ Kb4 39.Rc6 g4+ 40.Kxg4 Re4+ 41.Kh5 Rxc4 42.Rxb6 Rc5+ 43.Kxh6 Rxb5 44.Rxb5+ Kxb5**  
 1/2-1/2



## **I Play Chess. Chess Doesn't Play Me**

Zorba Hughes

Now that school is out, and summers here, I am reflecting back on my first year as a chess instructor. Let me start by saying I am by no means a Grandmaster, Fide Master, International Master, National Master, Master, or Expert level chess player. Nor am I a wood pushing patzer with delusions of grandeur about my abilities on the 64 squares. That's why I was surprised when Paul and Alex suggested the idea to me. What do I have that made them even consider me? 🤔

Passion!!! Passion that's what.

I walk around with a chess board like a gunslinger ready for whoever, whatever, whenever at all times. But, passing on knowledge to young minds is not something to take lightly. Whenever I told people this is what I do, they looked at me as if I was Stevie Wonder flying an airplane. One day while at Marshall Elementary (one of the schools I taught at), one of the kids looked me up and down and asked what I did. When I told him I teach chess, I might as well have said I was a unicorn in the Kentucky derby, or a little person in the dunk contest, an Uber driver in Nascar. Ms. Judy (the Teacher-Librarian at Marshall Elementary) later informed me they don't see many black, male teachers. That never dawned on me. Now I am a role model as well. Some of the students are going on to middle school. It's hard not to feel a little sad that they're leaving but I hope I left a good impression on them as they did on me. Thank you Mechanics' Institute for the opportunity to bless others with this game.

Editor's Note: No problem Zorba - after one year of teaching I'd say your passion for chess is contagious!

## ***Rook Endgames from Morphy to Carlsen***

IM John Donaldson

Ask a strong player how to improve at chess and you're likely to get different answers, but two suggestions that come up often are to study tactics and endgames. Most aspiring students are likely to do the former but not the latter. Much like the suggestion to eat more vegetables, the advice to study endgames is sadly ignored.

This is unfortunate as improving one's skill in the latter phase of the game will pay big benefits not only in better results in endgames, but also improved positional understanding. This is particularly true of rook and pawn endgames. They tend to occur quite frequently in part because rooks tend to be the last pieces to come into the game and hence are often the last to be traded off.

To play rook endings well requires two skills: a mastery of a dozen or so fundamental endgames (the Lucena and Philidor positions for starters) and general knowledge of how to play more complicated positions with additional pawns on the board. The latter typically do not lend themselves to specific analysis but rely on a combination of calculation and familiarity with typical themes. *Rook Endgames from Morphy to Carlsen* (Gambit 2024, 303 pages, \$29.95) by the Ukrainian trainer Valentin Bogdanov aims to help players improve their skills in these more complex endgames.

As the title of this book implies, Bogdanov has arranged this book into 29 chapters with 17 devoted to examples from world Champion ranging from Wilhelm Steinitz to Ding Liren and the remainder to other great players. Among the latter is Viktor Korchnoi. One might think this legendary figure, a world class Grandmaster for over half a century, would have mastered the secrets to playing rook and pawn endgames perfectly, especially as he even wrote a book on the subject (*Practical Rook Endings*, Olms 1999). They would be wrong! Although Korchnoi was known for his prowess in rook endings, they can be so tricky that even the greatest players are humbled.

Witness the following example.

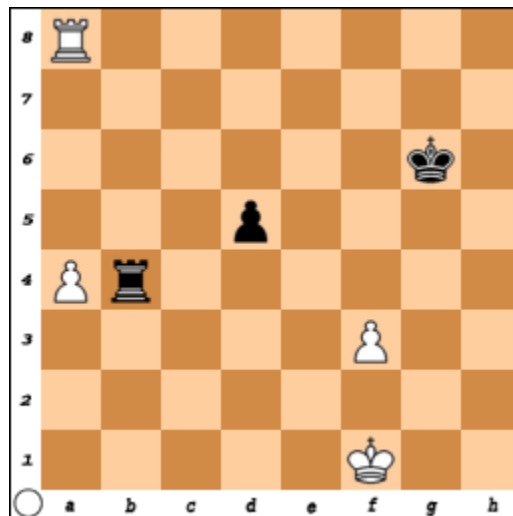
All notes and variations by Bogdanov except where noted.

French C07

**Michael Adams- Viktor Kortchnoi**

Biel Interzonal 1993

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.Ngf3 c4 5.g3 Nf6 6.e5 Nfd7 7.a4 Nc6 8.Bg2 Be7 9.0-0 Nb6  
 10.Re1 a5 11.b3 cxb3 12.c3 0-0 13.Qxb3 Bd7 14.Ba3 Rb8 15.Rab1 Nc8 16.Bxe7  
 N8xe7 17.Rb2 Na7 18.Qa3 Bc6 19.Reb1 Qc7 20.Bf1 Rfd8 21.Nb3 b6 22.Nbd2 h6 23.h4  
 Ng6 24.Bd3 Nf8 25.Nf1 Be8 26.Ne3 Qc6 27.Ra2 Rdc8 28.Rb3 Qc7 29.Qb2 Rd8 30.Ng4  
 Nc8 31.Qd2 Ne7 32.Nxh6+ gxh6 33.Qxh6 Nf5 34.Qg5+ Kh8 35.g4 f6 36.exf6 Nh7  
 37.Qd2 Bh5 38.gxh5 Rg8+ 39.Kf1 Rbf8 40.Ne5 Rxf6 41.Ng6+ Rgxc6 42.hxc6 Qh2  
 43.Bxf5 Rxf5 44.c4 Qh1+ 45.Ke2 Qxh4 46.Rg3 Ng5 47.Qe3 Qh5+ 48.Kf1 Kg7 49.cxd5  
 Nf3 50.Rxf3 Rxf3 51.Qe5+ Qxe5 52.dxe5 exd5 53.Rb2 Rf5 54.Rxb6 Rxe5 55.Rb5 Kxc6  
 56.Rxa5 Re4 57.f3 Rb4 58.Ra8

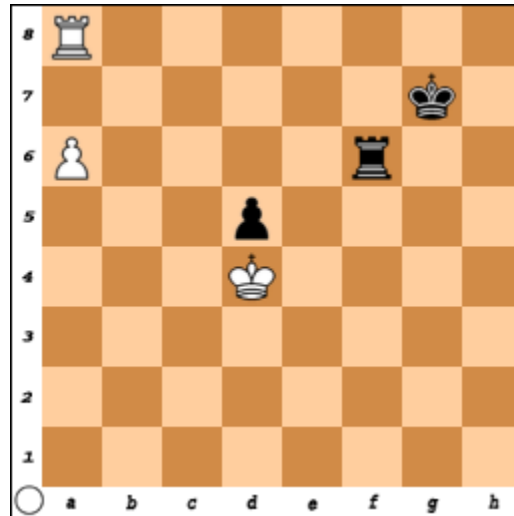


White's threat is simple: push the a-pawn to a7 and advance the f-pawn. Can Black do anything to counter this plan?

**58...Kf5?**

This loses. Black should be thinking in terms of the Vancura defense; his king is already in the right place for side checks, and all that remains is to exchange the d-pawn for the f-pawn:

58...Rb3 59.Kf2 Rb2+! 60.Ke3 (60.Kg3 d4 61.Kf4 d3 62.Ke3 d2! 63.Ke2 Rb3) 60...Rb3+!  
61.Kd4 Rxf3! 62.a5 Kg7! 63.a6 Rf6!



Bogdanov doesn't continue here as he already covered this material earlier in the book. Play might continue 64.Kc5 d4 65.Kxd4 Kh7 66.Kc5 Kg7 67.Kb5 (67.a7 Ra6) 67...Rf5+ 68.Kb6 Rf6+ 69.Kb7 Rf7+ 70.Kc8 Rf8+ 71.Kb7 Rf7+ drawing. This is an example of the classic drawing motif discovered by Josef Vancura, published in 1924, three years after his death at the age of only 23. This ending is one of the dozen or so rook and pawn endings all chess players should learn by heart – JD.

### 59.a5! Rb7

59...Ra4 60.a6 Kg6 61.a7 Kg7 62.Ke2 Kh7 63.f4 Kg7 64.f5 Ra3 65.f6+ Kf7 66.Rh8 is a typical winning method - JD.

**60.Ke2 Kf4 61.a6 Rf7 62.Rb8 Re7+ 63.Kf2 Ke5 64.Rb4 1–0**

Resignation is in order as White will bring his rook behind the passed pawn with Ra4 and then advance his king in the center, using his f-pawn as a decoy if needed. These are themes that are well covered earlier in this book – J.D.

To prove just how hard rook and pawn endgames are, Bogdanov then gives Nijboer-Korchnoi, Dutch Team Championship 1994/5, where the latter once again stumbles in a rook ending where the Vancura drawing setup could have saved him.

*Rook Endgames from Morphy to Carlsen*, which features 384 positions with detailed instruction followed by 68 exercises to test the reader's knowledge, is a first-rate work. A close study of it will provide substantial benefit, primarily to players rated over 2000.

#### **Interview Double Header with IM John Donaldson and GM Christopher Woojin Yoo**

**Grandmaster Christopher Woojin Yoo was interviewed by Mechanics' Institute on the evening of February 27, 2024, where he received the Falconer Award presented by International Master John Donaldson. The following is being reprinted from the Mechanics' Institute Quarterly.**

**Mechanics' Institute:** How did you start playing chess?

**Grandmaster Yoo's father, Young-Kyu Yoo:** When Christopher was five, I attempted to teach him to play. Christopher couldn't remember the name of the pieces and how they moved, so I gave up. My wife suggested putting him into an after-school program. In two to three months, he became the first-grade champion in California. We realized then that he had a special skill.

**Mechanics' Institute:** Who inspires you?

**Grandmaster Yoo:** I am inspired by Garry Kasparov and Magnus Carlsen. I like checking their games. It's inspiring.



**Mechanics' Institute:** What is the best advice you've given?

**Grandmaster Yoo:** Even after you lose, you have to get back into a good mindset to fight the next game. Get the loss behind you and stay mentally strong.

**Mechanics' Institute:** What is the best advice you've received?

**Grandmaster Yoo:** Do spend your time on critical moments. Woojin's father laughed during the interview saying, "I taught him that."

**Mechanics' Institute:** What impact did Mechanic Institute's chess room have on your career?

**Grandmaster Yoo:** I started coming regularly on weekends to play rated tournaments when I was six or seven years old.

**Mechanics' Institute:** Where do you plan to go to college?

**Grandmaster Yoo:** I am planning to attend college in St. Louis to be close to the St. Louis Chess Club.

**Mechanics' Institute:** What's next for you?

**Grandmaster Yoo:** I plan to play in a lot of tournaments over the next few years and am not a 100% sure yet, but I am thinking of pursuing chess professionally as a player or a coach. His father also mentioned to Woojin, "What about becoming a stockbroker?"

**Mechanics' Institute:** What else should we know about you and your career? Where you are now in your chess game?

**Grandmaster Yoo:** I've come this far from when I started. I'm still learning a lot. It's still tricky and there's a lot to learn.

**International Master John Donaldson also spent time before GM Woo's award ceremony for an interview with Mechanics' Institute.**

**Mechanics' Institute:** What makes a player like GM Yoo special?

**International Master Donaldson:** GM Yoo is a young strong player who has had a passion for the game for a long time. He's one of the top twenty rated players in the world under the age of twenty-one. Not many at his age and his playing strength encompass being a top chess player and also both a solver and composer of chess puzzles.

Mechanics Institute has a long tradition of chess composers who have come through our doors such as AJ (Adolph J.) Fink, who was active during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and gained an international reputation as a composer of hundreds of published chess problems, an expert in endgame studies, and an adjudicator of adjourned games. Neil Falconer [for whom the Falconer Award is named] was a big chess problem solver and would've loved to try to solve GM Yoo's problems.

**Mechanics' Institute:** Who else has won the Neil Falconer Award which Mechanics' Institute bestows to the highest rated junior player under 18 years of age in Northern California?

**International Master Donaldson:** Since the Falconer Award was established in the 1990s, in addition to GM Yoo, recipients include Grandmaster Sam Shankland who won the award three times and became U.S. champion; Grandmaster Daniel Naroditsky who won the award several times and became a very strong GM representing the U.S. in the World Team Chess Championship; Grandmaster Vinay Bhat who won medals in several World Youth Championships; and Gregory Young twice winner of the U.S. Junior Closed Championship.

**Mechanics' Institute:** As 15-time captain of the U.S. Chess Olympiad team, what do you see for the future of chess?

**International Master Donaldson:** The U.S. Chess Federation just set a record for membership growth. They now have 117,000 members. I'd say about 60% are under 18 so there are a lot of junior youth playing and more females. In part, they were encouraged by watching *The Queen's Gambit*.

During the pandemic, chess really lent itself well to online play. People were already playing there and the pandemic just increased the trend. The pandemic led to many top-level tournaments being played over the internet for the first time.

**Mechanics' Institute:** Do you agree that chess is the great equalizer?

**International Master Donaldson:** It doesn't matter how big you are, how tall, nor does it matter how old you are or how young. Gender has no role. None of this is relevant, you just sit down and play. It's kind of an unusual activity where you can have a ten-year-old play an eighty-year-old and they meet on equal terms. They would have very little to talk about away from chess, but they can discuss the game they played quite avidly afterwards.

Chess is very international. Outside of soccer and football, there's no other international sporting body that has as many member nations. Chess is also something you do not have to give up when you get older like tackle football. Another thing that makes it a great equalizer is that you have players across the economic gamut from the most well-to-do to the most modest playing together.

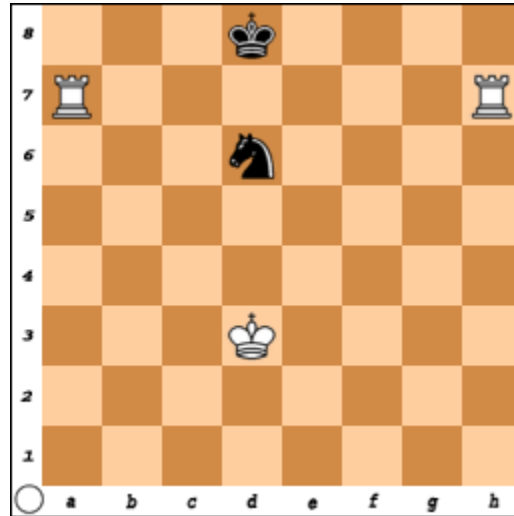
## Tony's Teasers

Tony Lama

This month's teaser comes from Irving Chernev and picked by the teaser master himself, Tony! White to play and win.

Mate in 2!

*Bonus Socius Manuscript* (circa 1266!)



## A New Puzzle in the Library

Every week or so Mechanics' Institute's Head of Technical Services, **Steven Dunlap**, puts up a chess puzzle in the library for our members to solve.





## Seeking Scholastic Chess Coaches

Are you interested in joining the team at Mechanics' Institute? The Institute is currently seeking Scholastic Chess Instructors for the upcoming school year. Qualified candidates should have a foundational knowledge of chess and should be familiar with or willing to learn chess instructional techniques. Candidates should also have a basic foundation in classroom management and conflict resolution strategies, particularly working with children. This is an in-person position and candidates must be able to commute to schools in San Francisco. If you're interested follow the link below or reach out to our Chess Program Manager, Alex Robins, at [arobins@milibrary.org](mailto:arobins@milibrary.org).

[Employment Opportunities | Mechanics' Institute \(milibrary.org\)](#)

## Solutions

For Tony's Teaser: **Bonus Socius Manuscript, 1266**. 1.Rhg7! From there no matter what Black plays either Ra8 or Rg8 is unavoidable.

For the Puzzle in the Library:

For this one you don't get a solution, only a hint: ***underpromotion***.



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## Contact Us

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Our phone number is 415-393-0110.

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