

□ **Parsons, Stephen**

■ **Bhatia, Aadit**

2025 Winter TNM: 2000+ (1.1) 04.11.25

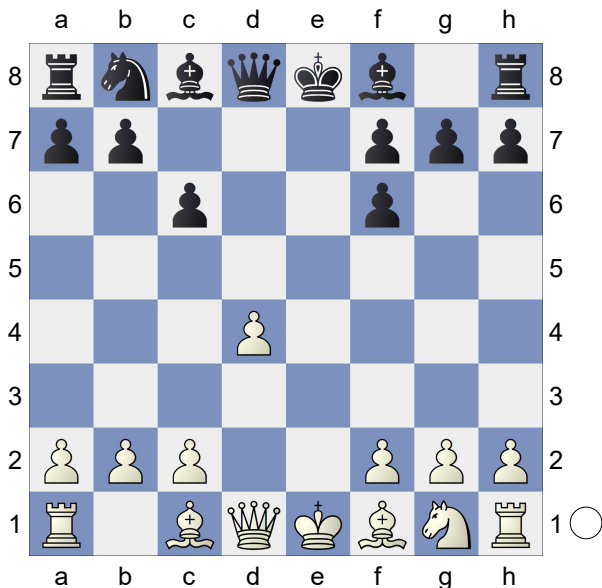
[Winslow, Elliott]

B15

1966

2246

Aadit Bhatia is new to the Tuesday Night Marathons, but has played around the Bay Area for a few years. His first USCF tournament was a Philadelphia International in 2018, with a lot of pretty strong tournaments all around the US, but he played quite a lot in India before that, first appearing on the FIDE lists in 2013 when he was 11 years old! A few years off (university probably) and now, especially now that he's in the US, his rating is climbing again. Here he leaves Stephen Parsons, who has had some excellent results lately, rather in the dust in the still popular ...exf6 line in the Caro Kann. **1.e4 2 c6 5:23 2.d4 9 d5 4 3.Nc3 5 dxe4 38 4.Nxe4 9 Nf6 3** Still going strong! **5.Nxf6+ 10 exf6 6**



6.Nf3 15

[6.c3 Bd6 7.Bd3 has become the de facto Main Line, putting some pressure on Black right away. 0-0 8.Qc2 probably should be played first, to invoke a pawn push in front of

Black's king. But note that the big thing is Re8+ 9.Ne2 h5!! (well...) -- here there are over 4200 games in the ChessBase online database! And as popular as this line is at every level, probably thousands more in games like this one at the TNM.]

6...Bd6 11 7.Bd3 10 0-0 6 8.Be3 32 Re8 1:10 9.c3 1:06 Nd7 7:10 10.Qc2 6 Nf8 47 Stockfish 17.1 makes it equal. So why does Black win a healthy majority of the games? **11.h3 1:32**

[11.0-0-0?]

[11.0-0=]

11...Be6 2:44 12.0-0-0 2:12 b5N 7:10

[12...Qa5 13.b3 Qc7 14.g4 Bd5

15.Nh4 Bxh1-+ 16.Rxh1 g6 17.Kb2

Bf4 18.Ng2 Bxe3 19.Nxe3 Re6

20.h4 Rae8 21.h5 Qf4 22.hxg6

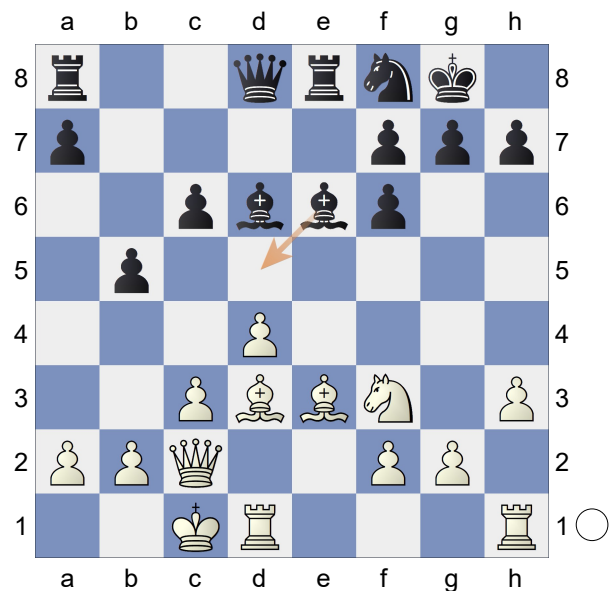
fxg6?! 23.Bc4 Kg7 24.Bxe6

1-0 (24) Gevorgyan, M (2219)-

Balabayeva, K (2116) Chess.com INT

2021 Black must have lost on time (it's a blitz game), it's still a plus for her.

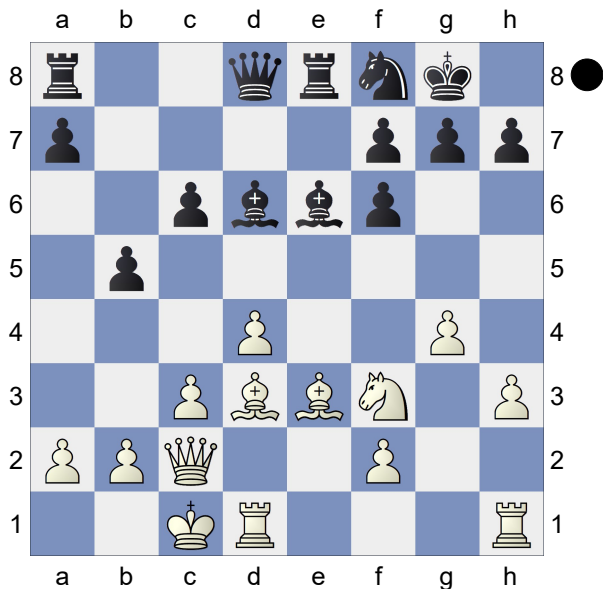
But no longer "winning."]



13.g4? 1:24

[13.Be4? Qc7 14.d5 cxd5 15.Bxd5]

(Diagram)



White felt the need "on principle" to start a kingside pawn storm, but (1) Black is pretty solid on the kingside (2) that "extra" pawn on f6 as much helps the defense as provides a "hook" for file opening (3) there's a tactical problem: **13...Bd5!-+ 2:39** It's not so much material as it is control -- White just never gets anything going while Black does. It helps that the center is Black's.

[13...Bxa2 14.b3±]

14.Nh4 1:35 Stockfish makes an exchange sacrifice with this

[(or 14.Nd2) as the best try.]

[14.Be2 Be4 15.Qb3 Ng6-+]

14...Bxh1 59 15.Rxh1 38 Qc7 2:51

16.g5 1:04 fxc5 24 17.Nf5 40

(White couldn't even take back!) **17...Bf4**

30 18.Rg1 29 g6 1:34 19.Nh6+ 4:37

Kg7 57 20.Ng4 23 f6 1:53 21.h4 24 h5

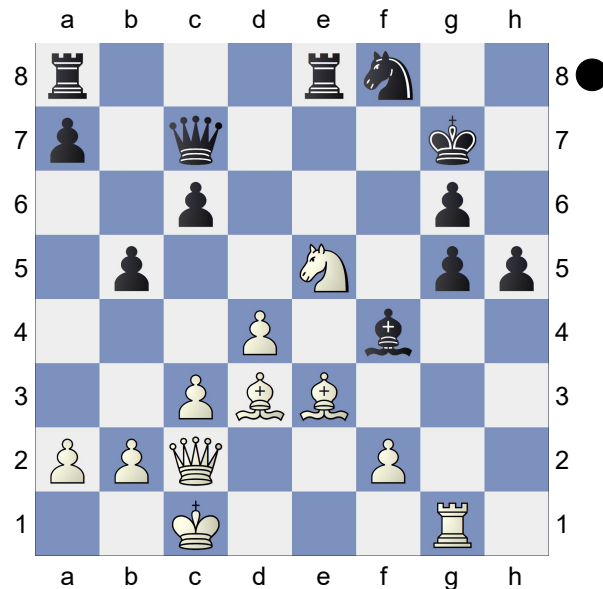
13:55 And there goes a piece to make it a whole rook. **22.hxg5 6:15 fxc5! 1:55** is even better than taking it!

[22...hxg4 23.gxf6+ Kxf6 24.Rxg4 Bxe3+ 25.fxe3-+]

[22...Bxg5 23.Bxg5 fxc5 24.Ne5 Rxe5 25.dxe5 Qxe5 26.a4-+]

23.Ne5 1:19

(Diagram)



Hoping for Bxf4. **23...Bxe3+! 23 24.fxe3**

13 Rxe5! 10 25.dxe5 11 Qxe5 4

Classic returning of most of the material to simplify. **26.Qf2 8:58 Nd7 1:55**

27.Re1 50 Rf8 3:41 28.Qg2 17 Rf6 18

29.Qd2 3:08 Rd6 1:32 30.Qe2 2:58 g4

56 31.Bc2 29 Nf6 2:13 32.Qf2 5:18

Nh7 2:08 33.e4 24 c5 5:28 34.Bb3

1:25 Ng5 17 35.Bd5 25 Nf3 4:08

36.Rd1 2:37 Rf6 46 The players both

had plenty of time (00:55:56 vs.

00:31:40 going in), so this was a

calculation, not a "fortunate error" -- the

g-pawn runs through and costs White

the exchange. **37.Qxc5 1:18 g3 19**

38.Qxa7+ 47 Kh6 7 39.Kb1 3:40 g2

4:23 40.a4 7:51 bxa4 29 41.c4 6

(Diagram)

Nd4! 5:34 Okay, more than the

exchange! **42.Qa5 4:25**

[42.Qxa4 changes nothing but the irrelevant pawn count]

42...Rf1 43 43.Qd2+ 37 Qg5 19

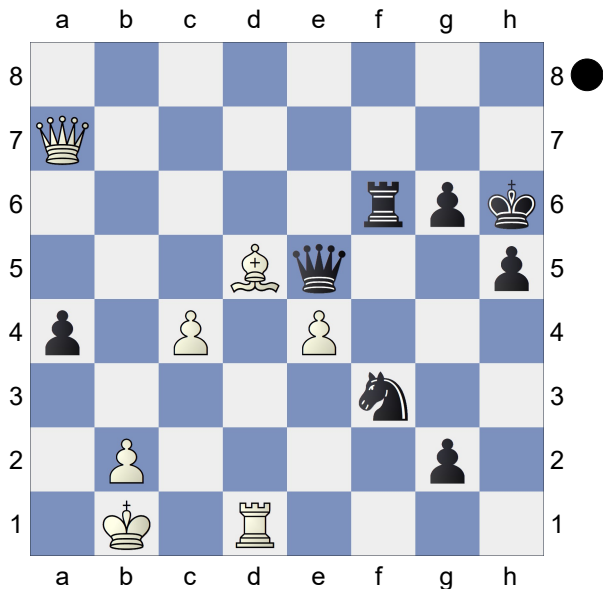
44.Qxd4 1:32 Rxd1+ 3

[44...g1Q?? 45.Qh8#!]

45.Qxd1 7 g1Q 4 46.Qxg1 10 Qxg1+ 4

47.Kc2 16 Qd4 4 "Artfully played by

Bhatia" says the Tactical Analysis



feature, and I can only agree. Well done! Weighted Error Value: White=0.43/Black=0.08
0-1

□ Balyan, Aryan

■ Clemens, Kristian

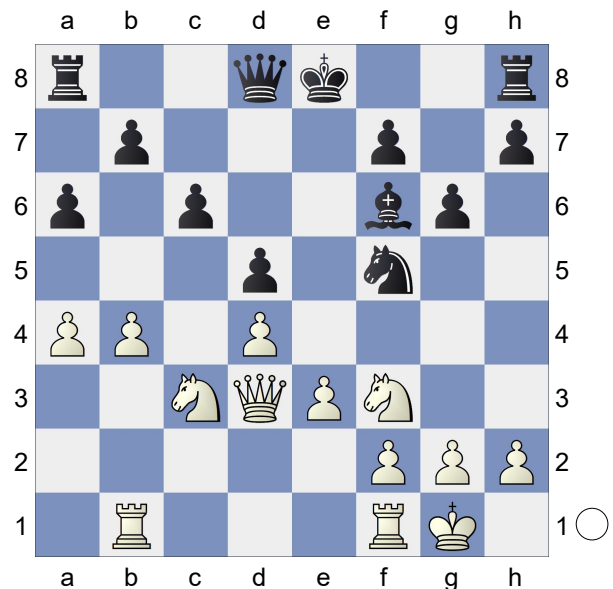
2025 Winter TNM: 2000+ (1.2) 04.11.25
[Winslow, Elliott]

D36
2232
1941

Another player I at least don't remember ever seeing at the Mechanics' is Aryan Balyan. His first chess seems to be in Ohio, where he steadily if slowly (no meteoric rise that is!) progressed. It looks like he was in Missouri for school (chess scholarship!?) and then: here he is. He's played in a flurry of MI tournaments this last month or so, and seems to be settling in with a Tuesday Night Marathon, so we'll be getting to know him. 1.d4 2 d5 34 2.c4 5 e6 8 3.Nc3 4 Be7 29 4.Nf3 27 Nf6 20 5.cxd5 11 exd5 9 6.Bg5 10 Nbd7 44 7.e3 2:31 c6 37 8.Qc2 1:00 Nf8 1:02 9.Bd3 22 g6 54 10.0-0 1:26 Ne6 1:05 11.Bh4 3:03 Ng7 1:03 12.b4 10:41 a6 6:11 13.Rab1 1:58 Bf5 1:40

Perhaps he'll have to sharpen up his openings though! Here he's run into Kristian Clemens' excellent Queen's Gambit Decline, Exchange Variation preparation. (Have I extracted all the points I'm going to from Kristian in this? Time for 1.e4!? Not the Petroff! Oh no....)

14.a4 7:07 Bxd3 59 15.Qxd3 2 Nf5 3:07 16.Bxf6 10:32 Bxf6 26

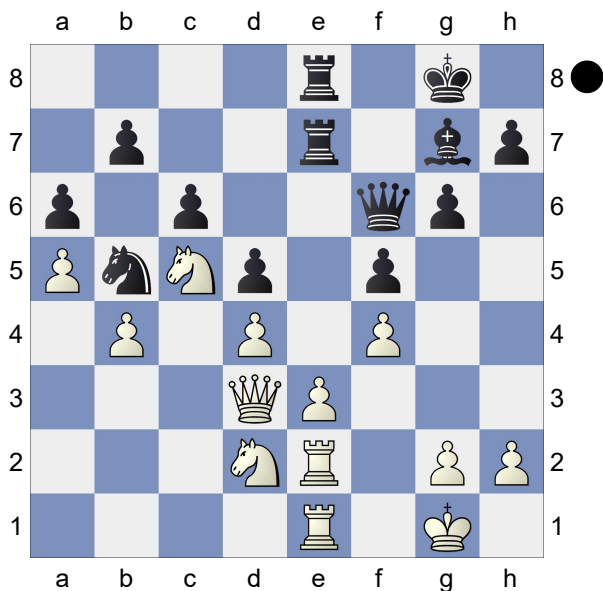


17.a5?! 10:51 This gives up on any Minority Attack plan, locking up the queenside. Handshake? No, more moves, twenty more...

[17.b5!? axb5 18.axb5 0-0 19.Rfc1 Nd6 20.bxc6 bxc6 is standard Minority Attack protocol, but with the light-square bishop traded off it's hard to do much to Black.]

17...0-0 5:55 18.Na4 1:04 Nd6 3:23 19.Nc5 1:48 Re8 2:00 20.Nd2 41 Bg7 8:30 21.Rbd1 4:52 f5 3:04 22.f3 3:14 Qe7 3:37 23.Rfe1 3:26 Qf6 3:11 24.Ndb3 2:51

[24.f4!? g5!? 25.Nf3! g4 26.Ne5±] 24...Qf7 6:37 25.Rb1 4:34 Rad8 4:15 26.Re2 3:11 Re7 1:11 27.Rf1 1:59 Rde8 4:33 28.Nd2 5:20 Nb5 5:54 29.Ncb3 1:45 Qf6 3:55 30.Rfe1 8:22 Qd6 4:08 31.Nc5 3:23 Qf6 11:04 32.f4 3:25



g5 5:56 /= Impressive! Kristian knows it's the moment to hit the "Detonate!" button, before White gets in Nf3-e5.

33.fxg5?! 2:04

[33.Nf3!? gxf4 34.exf4 Nxd4 (34...Re4!?) 35.Rxe7 Rxe7 36.Rxe7 Qxe7 37.Kf1 Nxf3 38.Qxf3

I'd think the extra pawn might matter, but Stockfish says no.]

33...Qxg5 27 34.Nf3 9 Qf6 2:55 35.Ne5 57 Qg5 1:35 36.Nf3?! 2:07

[36.Rf2= (0.00) Bxe5 37.dxe5 Rxe5 38.Rf3 Qe7 39.Rxf5 Rxe3 40.Qxe3 Qxe3+ 41.Rxe3 Rxe3 42.Nxb7= I'll trust Stockfish that this is just liquification on a drawing scale.]

36...Qf6 1:23

[36...Qg4! keeps a working initiative, ready to bring that knight into c4.]

37.Ne5 2:07 Qg5 3:18 Well-held, Mr. Clemens! And, welcome to the TNM wars, Mr. Balyan! Try to hang on to your rating points!

1/2-1/2

E76
Horowitz, Phineas F 1931
Winslow, Elliott 2207
 2025 Winter TNM: 2000+ (1.3) 04.11.25
[Winslow, Elliott]

Phineas and I have played in the last three TNM's now. I'm 3-0, but the two games I've been Black have been quite a mess! (Winslow-Horowitz was a Dragodorf, which didn't get its fire going.)

1.d4 2 Nf6 1:09 2.c4 13 g6 8 3.Nc3 12 Bg7 10 4.e4 20 d6 6 5.f4 1:58 0-0 1:07 6.Nf3 1:12 e5!? 3:01 Who'd have thought! Almost 400 games.

[6...c5 Ah, the good old days, which I've been on both sides of since 1968(!).]

[6...Na6 often transposes into an identical or similar line, but allows some annoying independent possibilities for White.]

7.fxe5 7:31

[7.dxe5 dxe5 8.Qxd8 Rxd8 9.Nxe5 Na6 10.Be2]

7...dxe5 10 8.d5 1:08 White tries to achieve a controlled advantage, especially since the pawn grabs (both here and on the previous move) have their problems. In fact, most of the games transposed from 6...Na6 -- but Guseinov has always been 6...e5.

[8.Nxe5 c5]

8...c6?! 1:42

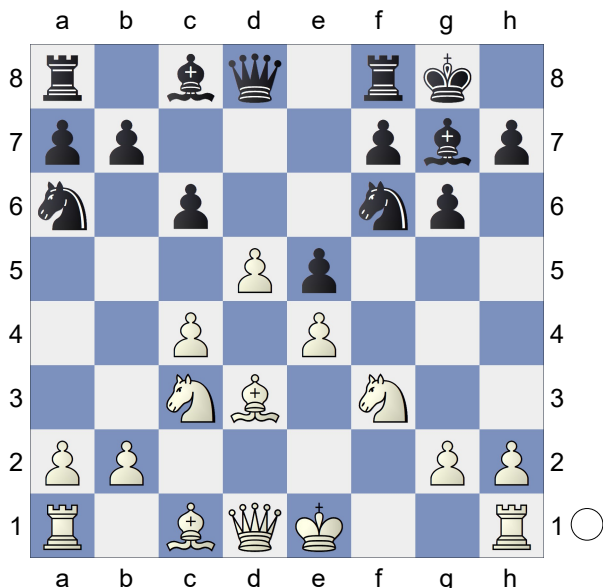
[8...Na6! Guseinov has a huge plus score with this! 9.Bd3 (9.Be2 (via 6...Na6) was against a much higher rated player than Gadir: G. Kasparov... Nc5 Black has a great score from here 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.b4 Na6 13.a3 c5 14.Rb1 Bd7 15.b5 Nc7 16.d6 Ne6 17.Nd5 Qd8 18.Qd2 Nd4 19.0-0 Be6 20.Nxd4 Bxd5 21.Nc6 bxc6 22.cxd5 cxb5 23.Rxb5 Qxd6 24.Qa5 f5

25.Rxc5 fxe4 26.Rc6 Rxf1+ 27.Bxf1
Qf8 28.d6 ½-½ (28) Lautier,J (2655)-
Kasparov,G (2805) Amsterdam 1995)]

9.Bd3 12:22

[9.Be2!? Na6 (9...b5!?)]

9...Na6 3:24



two games, 203 transpositions(!)

10.h3?!N 4:21

[10.0-0±]

10...Nh5?! 14:15 Pushing my luck. I saw
the various queenside plays, which led
to repetitions. Ugh.

[10...Nc5 11.Be3 Nxd3+ 12.Qxd3
b5 13.d6 bxc4 14.Qd2 *This* is
best? No repetition in sight.]

11.g4? 9:07

[11.0-0!]

11...Nf4! 14 (Says SF 17.1, though I
was merely hoping the dark square
might compensate (they do of course).

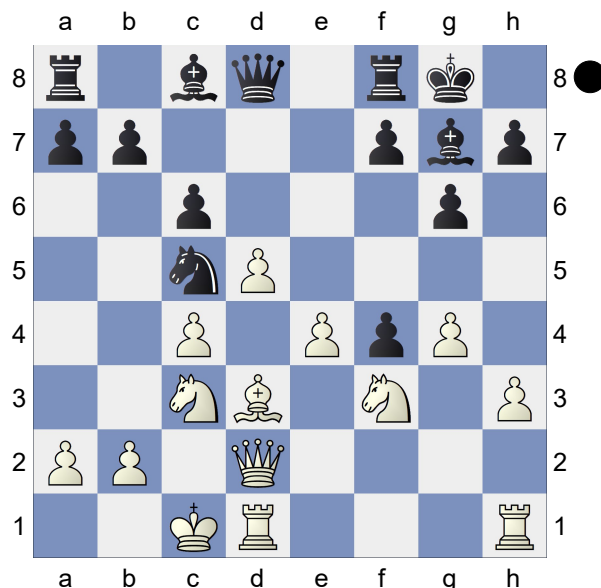
12.Bxf4 54 exf4 7 13.Qd2 7:05 Nc5
3:11 14.0-0-0 3:25

(Diagram)

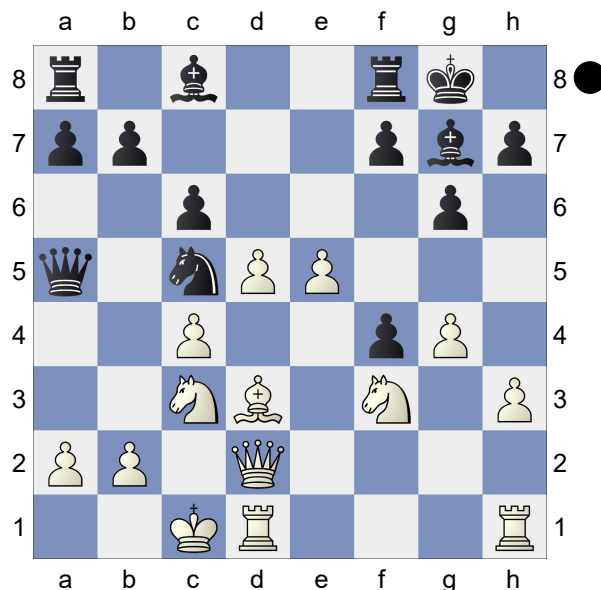
Qa5 6:43 Probably best.

[14...cxd5 15.cxd5 b5=]

[14...b5!? 15.dxc6 Qa5 16.cxb5
Rd8 is outside of my "crazy comfort
zone"...]



15.e5 5:46



b5! 4:15 It works now... 16.Kb1? 23:59

[16.cxb5 cxd5 17.Kb1 Nxd3
18.Qxd3 a6 19.Nd4 axb5 20.Nc6
Qa6 16]

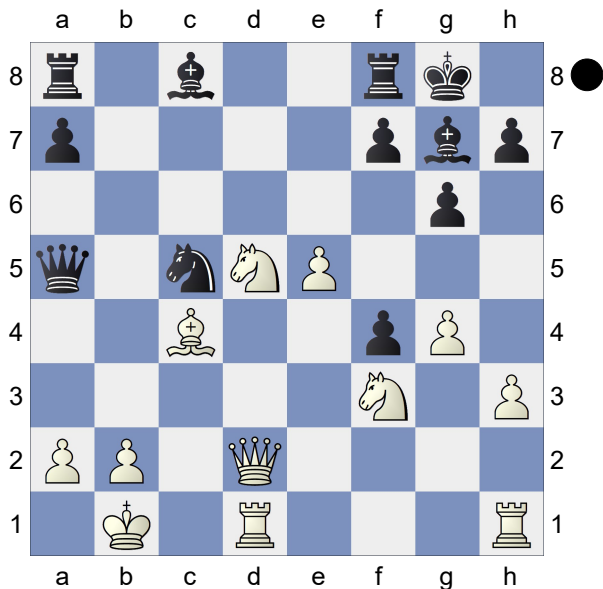
[16.dxc6! Be6 (16...b4 17.Ne4
Nxd3+ 18.Qxd3 Qxa2= (-0.10/24))]

16...bxc4? 8:47 Lets White off easy.

[16...Nxd3! 17.Qxd3 bxc4 18.Qxc4
Rb8 19.dxc6 (best acc. to SF) Ba6
20.Qd4 Rb4 21.Qf2! 17]

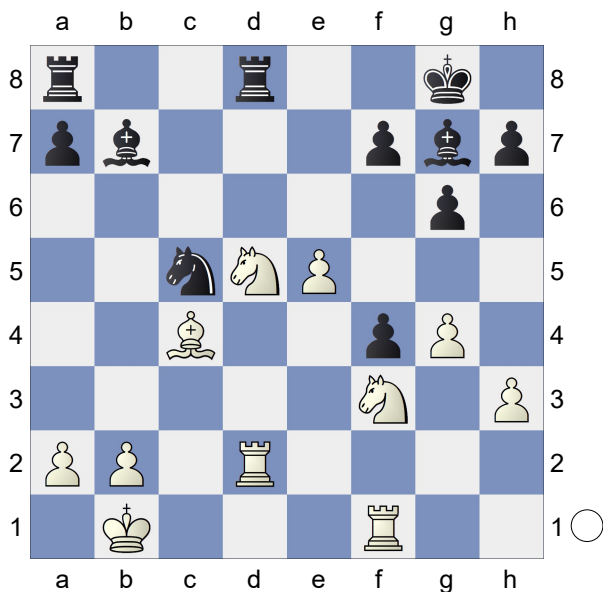
17.Bxc4 16 cxd5 1:18 18.Nxd5 2:04

(Diagram)



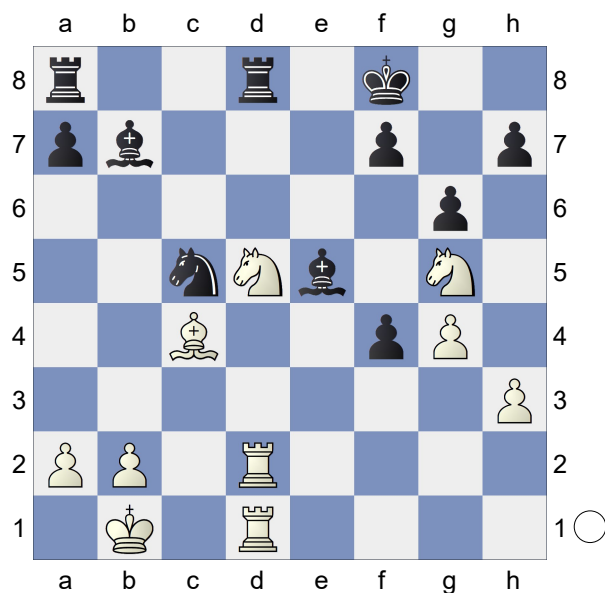
Qxd2 2:25 Best, but was this really what I wanted to do? I tell the kids: "Don't trade queens when you're the one with the attack!" I should have thought about that a few moves ago. **19.Rxd2 18 Bb7= 1:12 20.Rf1 8:29** He used almost half of his remaining 17m39s on this move... **20...Rfd8 3:31** I had almost 44 minutes at this point

[20...Rab8]
[20...Kh8]



21.Rfd1?! 4:36 and another four and a half minutes and it's getting critical in that regard!

[21.Nxf4=]
[21.Ng5=]
21...Kf8!?! 2:31 22.Ng5?? 48
Losing the thread completely.
[22.e6! fxe6 23.Nxf4 Black now trade one rook or let White trade them all, either way the plus is taken. But I have the two bishops! I can just "make moves" as Fischer said. Rxd2 (23...Bf6 24.Rxd8+ Rxd8 25.Rxd8+ Bxd8 26.Nd4 Be4+ 27.Ka1 Bh4 28.Ndxe6+ Nxe6 29.Bxe6= (best)) 24.Nxd2 Ke7]
22...Bxe5+- 2:06



23.Nxf7?! 1:12 Kxf7 48 24.Nc7+ 2:00
[24.Nxf4+!? Ke7 (24...Ke8)]
24...Ke7 24 25.Nxa8 41 Rxd2 1:11
26.Rxd2 2 Bxa8 10 The two pieces and f-pawn will win easily. **27.b4 1:13 Ne4 1:15 28.Rc2 1:49 f3 2:54 29.Kc1 30 Ng3 7:50 30.Kd1 53 Bd4 46 31.Rd2 38 Bb6 1:55 32.Rd3 30 Kf6 1:18 33.a4 28**
[33.Rd7!? -- nah]
33...Ke5 1:13 34.a5 37 Bd4 8 35.b5 14 Be4 2:17
[35...Nf1!]
36.Rb3 21 Kf4 28 37.b6 21 axb6 18 38.axb6 10 Bb7 50 39.Rb4 1:30 f2 1:48 40.Bb5 28 Ke5 1:04
[40...Bf3+ 41.Kc1 Ne2+ 42.Bxe2

Bxe2 43.Rxd4+ Ke3]
41.Rb3 32 f1Q+ 2:21
 [41...Kf4!]
42.Bxf1 3 Nxf1 9 43.Ke2 52 Ne3 10
44.Ke1⊕ 1:02 White's time
0-1

□ **Lavi,Eilon**
 ■ **Sevall,Daniel**
 2025 Winter TNM: 2000+ (1.4) 04.11.25
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 5 c5 6 2.Nf3 6 Nc6 6 3.d4 9
cx d4 8 4.Nxd4 4 e6 5 5.Nc3 1:31 Qc7
6 6.Be2 1:38 a6 11 7.0-0 1:09 Nf6 17
8.a3 2:14 h5 32 9.g3 3:53 h4 27
10.Nxc6 1:09 hxg3 40 11.hxg3 1:46
bxc6 9 12.Bf4 1:32 e5 8 13.Be3 2:41
d6 57 14.Bf3 37 Be7 32 15.Qe2 28 a5
16 16.Rfd1 43 Ba6 21 17.Qd2 21 Qc8
45 18.Bg2 14:16 Qg4 15 19.Bg5 5:17
Rh5 2:48 20.Bxf6 2:00 gxf6 13 21.Qe3
2:37 Rh7 18 22.Qb6 2:31 Qd7 46
23.Na4 2:42 Bd8 46 24.Qe3 18 Qe6 43
25.b3 2:04 Bc7 16 26.c4 39 Kf8 3:37
27.Rd3 36 Kg7 41 28.Rad1 21 c5 1:40
29.Nc3± 1:55 Rah8 34 30.Nd5 56 Bd8
20

[30...Bb8!?]
31.Qf3+- 1:16 Bc8 58 32.Ne3 35 Bc7
41 33.Nf5+ 24 Kg6? 1:01 34.Qg4# 10
1-0

□ **Kulkarni,Neil**
 ■ **Atkeson,Christopher Timothy**
 2025 Winter TNM: 2000+ (1.5) 04.11.25

1.e4 2 e5 15 2.Nf3 9 Nc6 10 3.Bc4 7
Bc5 9 4.0-0 22 d6 11 5.c3 48 Bb6 8
6.d4 55 Qe7 44 7.a4 27 a6 1:04 8.Re1
44 Nf6 28 9.b4 1:35 0-0 1:33 10.a5

3:19 Ba7 24 11.h3 1:43 Re8 2:37
12.d5 1:33 Nb8 16 13.Bg5 1:38 h6 52
14.Bh4 34 Nbd7 22 15.Nbd2 52 Nf8 38
16.Nf1 3:12 Ng6 35 17.Ng3 2:12 Nxb4
1:03 18.Nxb4 9 g6 2:08 19.Ra2 10:17
Kh7 7:38 20.Nf3 5:15 Bd7 2:09 21.Bb3
2:29 Rg8 1:02 22.Ba4 51 Bc8 3:40
23.Nh2 2:30 Rg7 5:53 24.Kh1 1:16 Bd7
3:32 25.Bxd7 1:09 Qxd7 18 26.Qf3
2:23 Qe7 2:29 27.c4 1:01 Rag8 1:27
28.Rc2 2:11 Nd7 4:47 29.Rec1 3:03
Rf8 3:31 30.Ng4 2:51 Qg5 3:38 31.Ne3
3:38 Bd4 5:01 32.c5 1:48 dxc5 3:29
33.bxc5 1:23 c6 1:33 34.Ne2 2:01 f5
1:12 35.exf5 6:48 gxf5 2:06 36.dxc6
1:57 e4 5:28 37.Qg3 3:42 Bxe3 1:48
38.Qxg5 28 Bxg5 24 39.Rd1 13 bxc6
47 40.Rd6 39 Ne5 2:19 41.Nd4 2:25
Rg6 1:02 42.Rb2 1:29 Rf7 1:51 43.Rb6
32 Rxd6 1:50 44.cxd6 11 e3 1:26
45.fxe3 50 Bxe3 2:08 46.Nxc6 12 Nc4
1:00 47.Rxa6 3:27 Rb7 1:26 48.Ne7
2:14 Nxd6 54 49.Nd5 2:14 Bd4 1:02
50.g4 1:08 Rb1+ 5:37 51.Kg2 33 Rb2+
36 52.Kf3 1:34 Rf2+ 1:27 53.Kg3 27
Ne4+ 58 54.Kh4 9 Rg2 1:59 55.Kh5 59
Ng3+ 1:07 56.Kh4 11 Bf2 1:55 57.Nf6+
54 Kg7 23 58.Nh5+ 1:01 Nxb5+ 13
59.Kxb5 7 fxd4 18 60.Rg6+ 38 Kf7 41
61.Rxd4 54
½-½

□ **Chen,Quincy**
 ■ **Melville,Cailen Jeremiah**
 2025 Winter TNM: 2000+ (1.6) 04.11.25

1.e4 6 e6 1:12 2.d4 5 d5 6 3.Nd2 10
c5 10 4.c3 5 cxd4 41 5.cxd4 8 dxe4 6
6.Nxe4 6 Nf6 12 7.Bd3 2:30 Bd7 2:12
8.Nf3 1:07 Nxe4 3:11 9.Bxe4 7 Bc6 17
10.Qd3 3:33 Bb4+ 1:39 11.Bd2 31
Bxd2+ 12 12.Nxd2 10 Bxe4 46 13.Nxe4
5:13 Nc6 52 14.Rd1 3:53 Qd5 15.0-0

5:39 Rd8 14:18 16.Nc3 4:38 Qxd4 1:38
 17.Qb5 1:17 Qb4 8:06 18.Rxd8+ 56
 Kxd8 6 19.Qg5+ 38 Ke8 5:20 20.Qxg7
 3:27 Qd4 2:00 21.Qxd4 7:54 Nxd4 3
 22.Rd1 30 Nc6 1:20 23.f4 8:10 Ke7
 3:35 24.Kf2 1:05 Rd8 1:13 25.Rxd8
 4:43 Kxd8 3:14 26.g4 2:22 Kd7 3:03
 27.Ne4 3:05 Ke7 48 28.g5 43 Nb4 1:46
 29.Nf6 1:37 Kf8 37 30.Nxh7+ 30 Kg7
 10 31.Nf6 7 Nxa2 51 32.h4 3:30 a5
 1:09 33.h5 38 a4 36 34.Ne8+ 22 Kg8
 53 35.Nd6 2:23 Nc3 1:58 36.Ke3 11:27
 b5 4:29 37.Kd2 7:50 Nd5 1:56 38.f5 35
 exf5 6:43 39.Nxb5 5:19 Nf4 33 40.Nc3
 1:05 Nxh5 38 41.Ke3 1:18 Kg7 1:14
 42.Nxa4 26 Kg6 19 43.b4 58 Kxg5 11
 44.b5 34 Nf6 33 45.b6 26 Nd7 2:27
 46.b7 24 Kg4 1:26 47.Nc5 31 f4+ 1:07
 48.Kf2 11 Nb8 9 49.Nd3 2:14 f6 42
 50.Nc5 23 Kf5 38 51.Kf3 19 Ke5 47
 52.Nd3+ 11 Kd6 18 53.Nxf4 17
 1/2-1/2

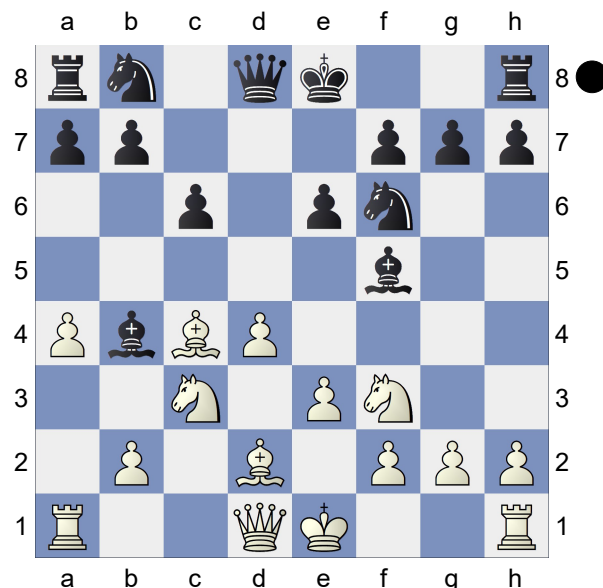
□ **Smith,Roger Christopher** **D18**
 ■ **Seshadri,Sudarshan** **1891**
2010
 2025 Winter TNM: 2000+ (1.7) 04.11.25
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3
dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4
8.Bd2
 [8.0-0 Fifty times more common (!)]

(Diagram)

It's hard to have much ambition against
 the Slav with with 6.e3, but this certainly
 isn't the way. **8...0-0 9.0-0**

[The strongest player to try this (and
 two others) played 9.Ne4! Bxd2+
 (9...Nxe4!? 10.Bxb4 c5!=; 9...Be7
 10.Nxf6+ Bxf6 11.Bb4 Be7 12.Bxe7



Qxe7 13.0-0= (+0.20/d27)) 10.Nexd2
 a5 (10...c5; 10...Qe7; 10...h6) 11.0-0
 1/2-1/2 (45) Ikonnikov,V (2493)-
 Ponomariov,R (2642) Vlissingen
 2022]

9...Nbd7
 [9...c5]
 [9...a5]
 [9...Qe7]

10.Re1
 [10.Ne4! is the only attempt to get
 any advantage.]

10...Bg4
 [10...c5]
 [10...a5]
 [10...Rc8]

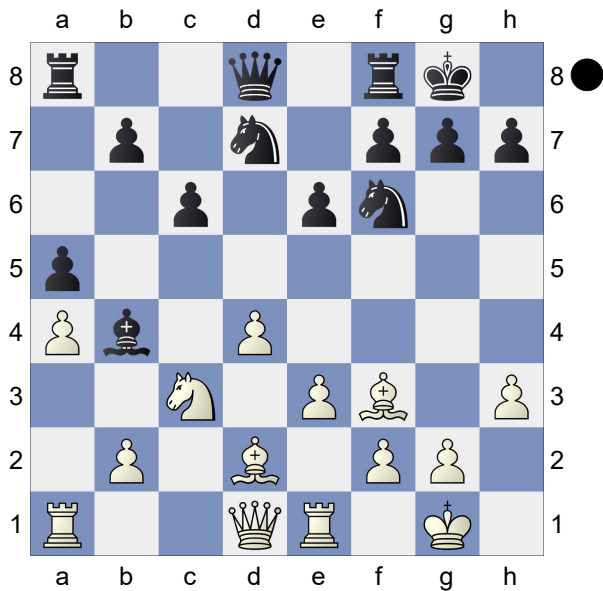
11.Be2
 [11.h3 Bh5 12.e4]

11...a5 12.h3 Bxf3
 [12...Bh5]

13.Bxf3

(Diagram)

Two bishops and temporarily an extra
 center pawn, vs. Black's pawns
 complementing (complimenting? "Nice
 hat!") the bishop. Very common in the
 Slav! **13...e5 14.Na2 Bxd2 15.Qxd2**
e4 There were other moves, didn't have



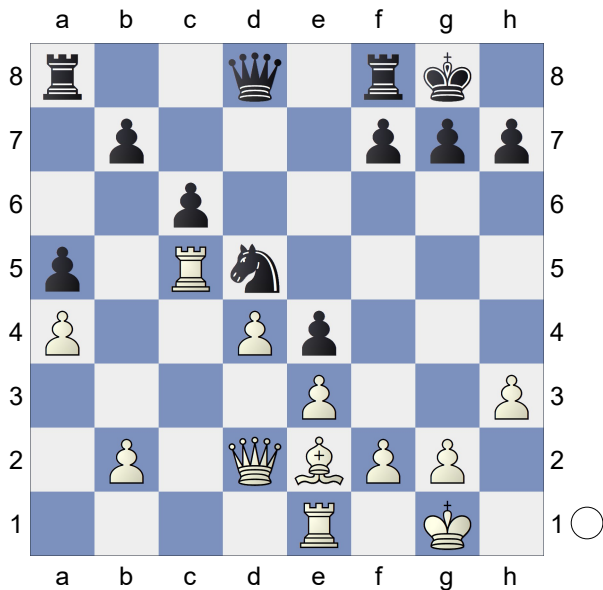
to commit. **16.Be2**

[16.Bd1!? comes around nicely to c2 (or b3).]

16...Nd5

[16...Nb6=]

17.Rac1 Qg5 There's really nothing over there. **18.Nc3± N7f6 19.Nxd5 Nxd5 20.Rc5 Qd8**



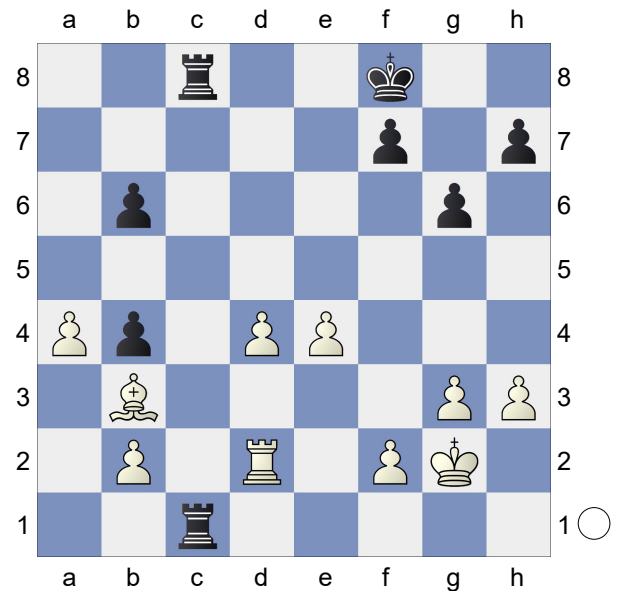
21.Bc4! b6!? 22.Rxc6! Nb4 23.Bb5 Nxc6 24.Bxc6 Rc8

[⚡24...Rb8]

25.Bxe4± /± Two pawns for the Exchange and nothing much else happening for a while. White can't feel bad about this. **25...Qe8?! 26.Bc2?!**

[26.Bf5!?]

26...Qc6 27.Bb3 Rfd8 28.Qe2 Rc7 29.Rd1 Rdc8 30.Qd3 Qd7 31.Qd2 Qd6 32.g3 g6 33.e4 Qb4 34.Qxb4 axb4 35.Kg2 Rc1 36.Rd2 Kf8



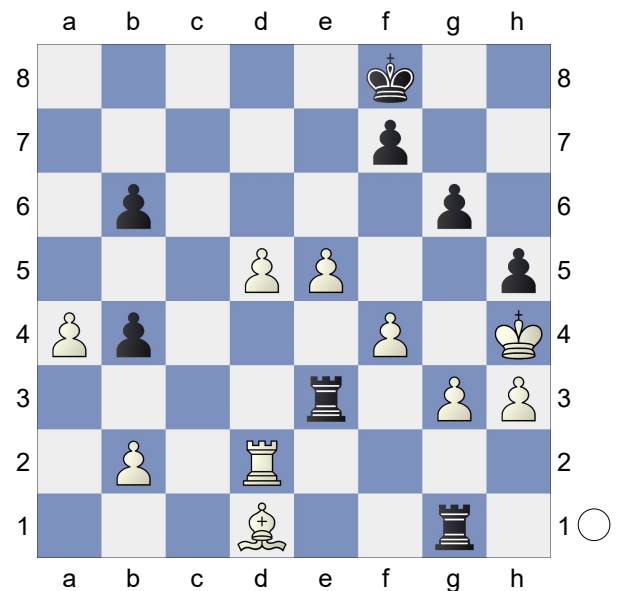
37.e5?

[37.d5+-]

37...Re1= 38.f4 Rcc1 39.d5 Rg1+ 40.Kf3 Rcf1+ 41.Kg4

[41.Ke4]

41...h5+ 42.Kh4 Rf3 43.Bd1 Re3



44.d6?

[44.g4 Rgg3 45.Rh2 Rg1 46.Rd2=]

44...Ke8??

[44...Rgxg3!-+ 45.Rh2 b3

(45...Rg1) 46.Be2 Rg1-+]

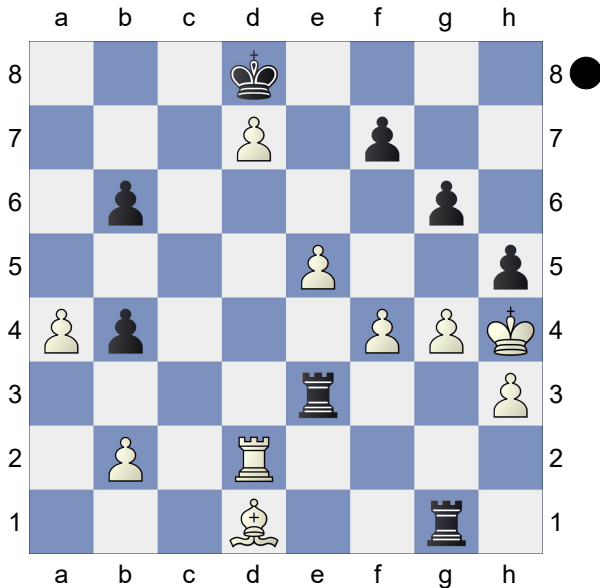
45.d7+?

[45.g4+-]

[45.a5!+- bxa5 46.Ba4+ Kd8
47.Rd5]

45...Kd8± 46.g4

[46.a5± bxa5 47.Ba4 Rgxc3
48.Rc2 Ke7 49.Rc8 Ke6 50.d8N+!?
Ke7□]



46...Rgg3?

[46...Re4□ 47.Kg5 Rf1□=]

47.Kg5+- Rd3?!

[47...b3 48.Kf6 Rxh3 49.Kxf7 Re4
50.Rd6 Rxf4+ (50...hxc4 51.e6)
51.Ke6! Rxa4 52.Rxb6 Ra8
53.Bxb3]

[47...Re4!? 48.Bc2 Rc4 49.b3
(49.Bxc6!? fxc6 50.e6 Re4
51.Rd6)]

48.Rxd3 Rxd3 49.Be2?

[49.gxh5□+-]

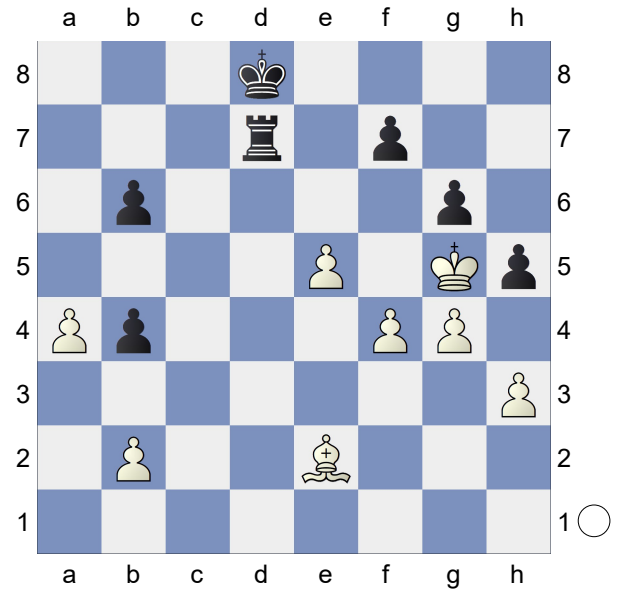
49...Rxd7?

[49...Rxh3□=]

(Diagram)

50.b3??

[50.gxh5□+- gxh5 51.Kf6]



**50...hxc4-+ 51.hxc4 Ke7 52.Bc4 Rc7
53.Bd5 Rc5 54.Bb7 Ke6 55.Bf3 Rc1
56.Be2 Rc2 57.Bd1 Rf2⊙ 58.Kh4
Rxf4 59.Kg5 Kxe5 60.Be2 Rd4
0-1**

B94
2000
1851
2025 Winter TNM: 2000+ (1.8) 04.11.25

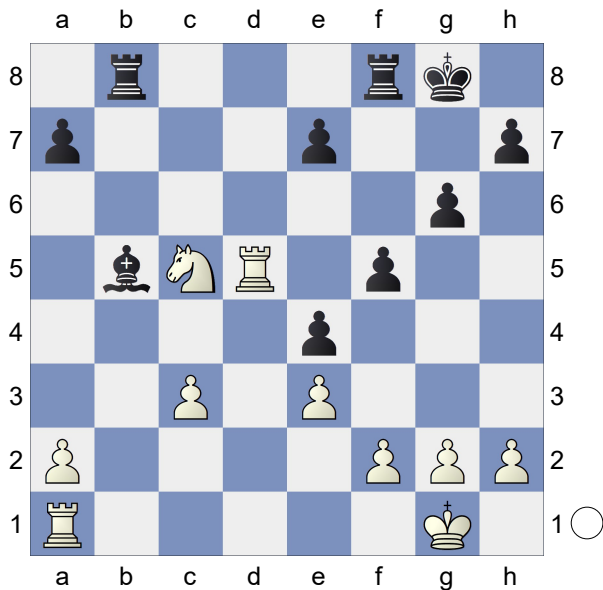
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 Nbd7 7.f4 h6
8.Bh4 Qa5 9.Qe2 g5 10.Nb3 Qb4
11.a3 Qb6 12.fxg5 hxc4 13.Bxc4 Bg7
14.0-0-0 Ne5 15.Nd4 Bg4 16.Nf3 Rc8
17.Be3 Qa5 18.Nd5 Nc4 19.Bd4 Rh5
20.Bc3 Bh6+ 21.Kb1 Nxa3+ 22.bxa3
Rxc3 23.Nxc3 Qxc3 24.Rd4 Bxf3
25.Qxf3 Qxd4 26.Bd3 Ra5 27.Rd1
Qb6+ 28.Ka2 Qc5 29.Be2 Qxc2+
0-1

□ **Rajaram,Raghu** 1839
 ■ **Chan,Kyle** 1997
 2025 Winter TNM: 2000+ (1.9) 04.11.25

1-0

□ **Lewis,Edward** A35 1979
 ■ **Sarmasi,Aron** 1829
 2025 Winter TNM: 2000+ (1.10) 04.11.25
[Winslow,Elliott]

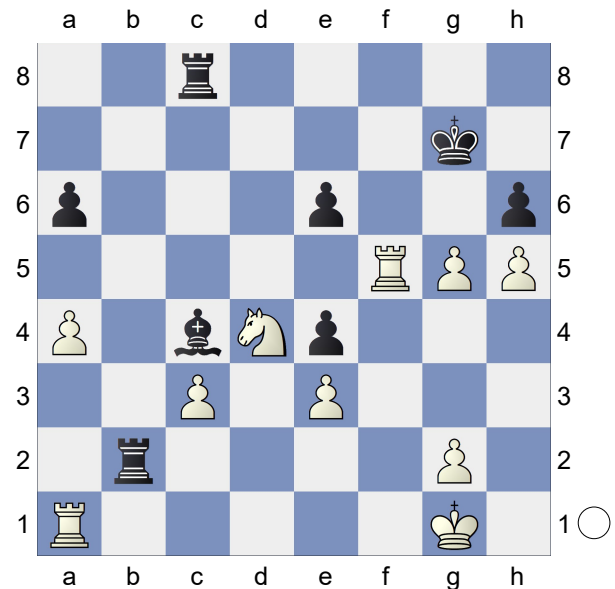
Both players missed wins in an otherwise fine game! 1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e3 g6 5.d4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Bg7 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 d5 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.cxd5 cxd5 11.Bf3 Bb7 12.Na4 Ne4 13.Qb3 Rb8 14.Bxe4 dxe4 15.Rd1 Qa5 16.Bd2 Qg5 17.Bc3 Ba6 18.Qd5 Qxd5 19.Rxd5 Bxc3 20.bxc3 Bb5 21.Nc5 f5



22.h4 Kf7 23.Nb3 a6 24.Nd4 Bc4
 25.Rc5 Rfc8 26.Ra5 Kf6 27.f4 Rb2
 28.a4 h6 29.h5 g5??

[29...e6-+]

30.Rxf5+ Kg7 31.fxg5± e6?!
 [31...hxg5]



32.gxh6+?

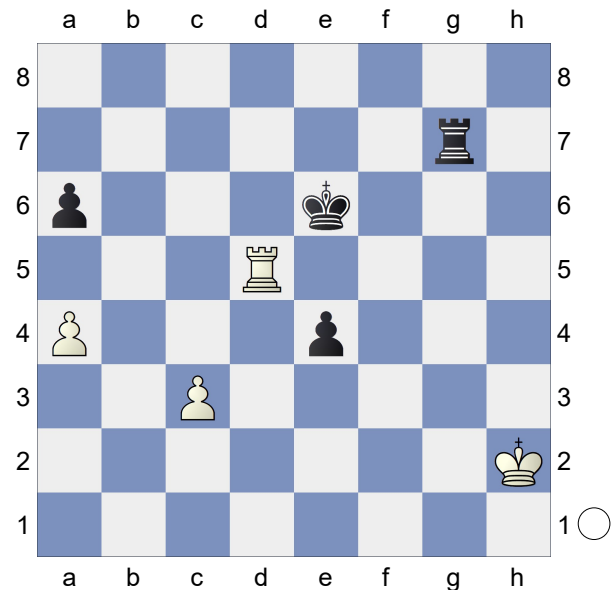
[32.Rf6 hxg5 33.Rg6+ Kh8

34.Nxe6+-]

[32.Rf2 Rxf2 33.Kxf2 Rf8+

34.Kg1+-]

32...Kxh6± 33.Nxe6= Bxe6 34.Rf6+ Kxh5 35.Rxe6 Rg8 36.Re5+ Kh6 37.Re6+ Kh5 38.Re5+ Kh6 39.Kh2 Rbxg2+ 40.Kh1 R2g3 41.Ra2 Rxe3 42.Rh2+ Kg6 43.Rg2+ Kf6 44.Rc5 Reg3 45.Rxg3 Rxxg3 46.Kh2 Rg7 47.Rd5 Ke6

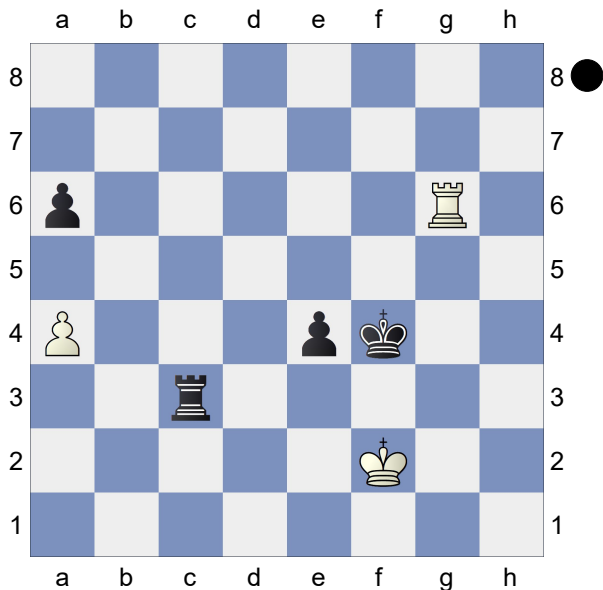


48.Rd1?

[48.c4=]

[48.Rh5=]

48...Ke5+ 49.Rg1 Rc7 50.Kg2 Rxc3!
 [50...Rg7+? 51.Kf1□= (51.Kf2? e3+-+)]
51.Kf2 Kf4! 52.Rg6



e3+?
 [52...Rc2+ 53.Ke1 a5 54.Ra6 Ke3
 55.Kd1 Rd2+ 56.Kc1 (56.Ke1 Ra2+-) 56...Rd5+-]
53.Ke2 Rc2+ 54.Ke1=
 [54.Kd3?? Rd2+ 55.Kc3 Rd1
 56.Rf6+ Ke5 57.Rf7 a5+-]
54...a5 55.Rf6+ Ke5 56.Ra6 Kd4
57.Rxa5 Rc1+ 58.Ke2 Rc2+
 1/2-1/2

□ **Mays-Smith, Isaac S**
 ■ **Marvin, Hayes Alexander**
 2025 Winter TNM: 1600-1999 (1.11)
[Winslow, Elliott]

A minor upset in that Hayes Marvin didn't win against a significantly lower rated Isaac Mays-Smith. But I imagine Hayes was more upset when he saw (sees?) how he let this one get away, after a spectacular knight jump into White's position. If it wasn't winning, then it was close to it... **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4**

e6 3.g3 Bb4+ The BogolIndian against the Catalan. I beat Brad Diller in this a year and a half ago in a TNM. I'm sure he's patched it up since then, but we haven't had a chance to test it out.

4.Bd2 Qe7 The long-standing main line.
 [Brad played 4...c5!? 5.Bxb4 cxb4 6.Bg2 0-0 7.e4 when I have e2 for my knight (for better or worse).]
 [Three other pretty popular moves are 4...Be7]
 [4...a5]
 [and 4...Bxd2+ . Take your choice.]

5.Bg2 0-0

[5...Nc6!?]

6.Nf3 Bxd2+ 7.Nfxd2!? Rare but not at all bad.

[Relevant: 7.Qxd2 Ne4 8.Qc2 d5 9.0-0 c6 10.Nbd2 f5 11.Ne5 Nd7 12.Ndf3 Nd6 13.e3 Nf7 14.Nxf7 Rxf7 15.b4 Qxb4 16.Rfc1 Qxc4 17.Qxc4 dxc4 18.Rxc4 Re7 19.Rb1 e5 20.h4 e4 21.Nd2 Nb6 22.Rc5 Be6 23.Ra5 Nd5 24.Ra3 b5 25.Ra6 Rc7 26.a3 Rb8 27.Rc1 Rb6 28.Ra5 Kf7 29.Bh3 Ke7 30.Bf1 g6 31.Be2 a6 32.a4 Kd6 33.Bf1 Nb4 34.Rc3 Ra7 35.Rc5 Rab7 36.Rc3 Bd5 0-1, Dardha,D (2604)-Caruana,F (2758) Titled Tuesday (blitz) 27 Sep 2022]

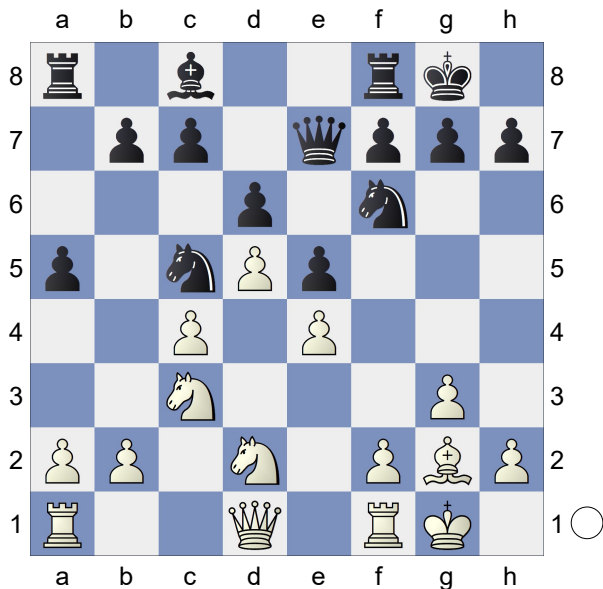
E11 7...d6 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.e4 e5 10.d5 a5
1615 11.Nc3 Nc5

1922

(Diagram)

12.Nb3N

[Predecessor: 12.b3= Bg4 (12...h5!?) 13.f3 Bd7 14.Qe2 Ne8 (14...g6) 15.Rae1 (15.f4!?± !=) 15...Nf6 (15...f5 16.exf5 Bxf5 17.Nce4 Nxe4 18.Nxe4 Nf6=) 16.f4± Rfe8 17.f5 Reb8 18.g4 Ne8 19.Nf3 (19.Rf3! Δ20.Rg3±) 19...Na6 20.g5 f6 21.h4 (21.g6! h6 22.Rb1)

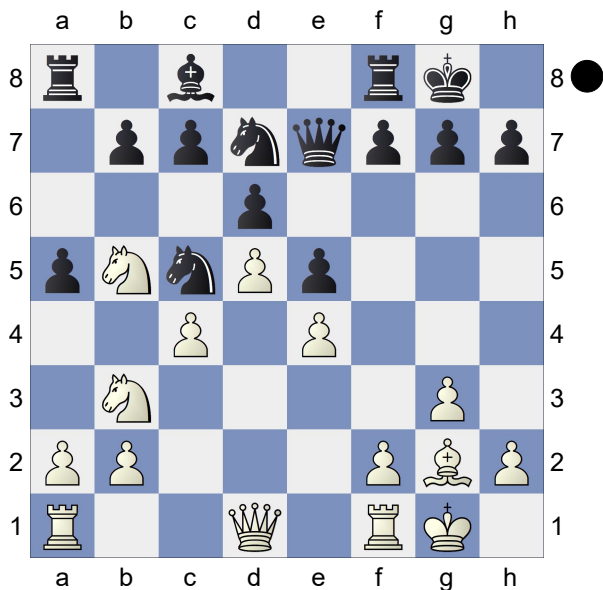


21...a4± 0-1 (39) Zeppos,P (2004)-
Vasiliadis,A (1943) Achaia 2012]

12...Nfd7

[12...b6 13.Qd2 h5]

13.Nb5



Nxb3?!

[13...Qd8 14.Nxc5 Nxc5 15.f4=]

14.Qxb3?!

[14.axb3!±]

14...Nc5=

[14...f5=]

15.Qe3 b6 16.Rfb1? f5≠ 17.exf5

(Or else ...f4) **17...Bxf5 18.Re1 Qf7**

19.Rad1 Bg4

[19...Rac8!]

20.Rd2

[20.f3!]

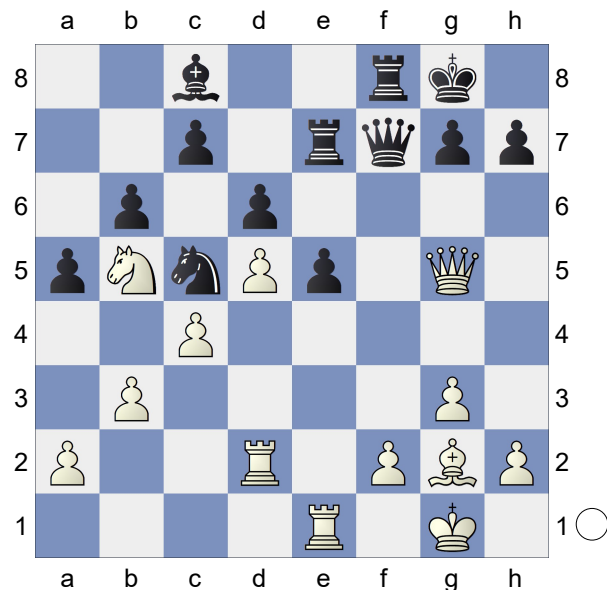
20...Rae8

[20...Rac8]

21.b3 Re7

[21...e4!/?]

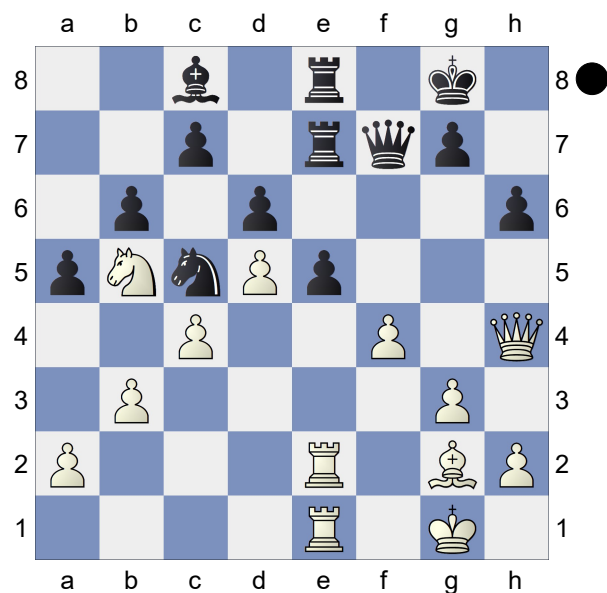
22.Qg5 Bc8



23.f4?! h6 24.Qh4 Rfe8 25.Rde2?

[25.fxe5 Rxe5 26.Rxe5 Rxe5

27.Rf2=]

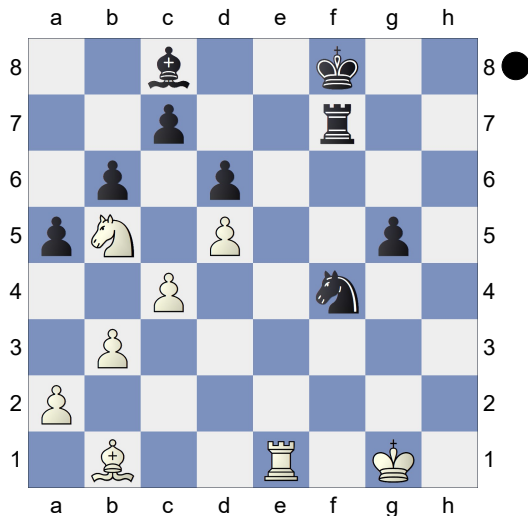


25...Nd3!! Black launches a delicate but
successful assault! Or rather, it should
have been.

[25...e4? 26.Nd4!±]

26.fxe5?

[26.Rd1?! exf4 27.Rxe7 Rxe7
28.Rxd3 (28.Rf1) 28...Re1+ 29.Kf2
(29.Bf1 fxf3) 29...fxg3+ 30.Kxe1
(30.Kxg3 Re2! 31.Bf3 Qg6+ 32.Kf4
Qxd3) 30...Qf2+ 31.Kd1 Qg1+
32.Kc2 Qxg2+ 33.Rd2 Bf5+ 34.Kc1
Qg1+ 35.Rd1 (35.Kb2 Qb1+ 36.Ka3
Qc1+ 37.Rb2 g2) 35...Qe3+ 36.Kb2
(36.Rd2 g2) 36...Qe2+ (36...g2??
37.Qd4) 37.Ka3 Qxd1 38.Qxg3
Qc1+ 39.Ka4 Qb2 40.a3 (40.Nc3
Bd7+) 40...Bd7 41.h4 Kf7]
[26.Rf1! exf4 27.Rxe7 Qxe7!
28.Qxe7 Rxe7 29.gxf4 (29.Rd1 fxf3
30.Rxd3 Re1+ 31.Bf1 gxh2+
32.Kxh2 Rxf1 33.Nxc7 Bd7+ -
("just" - -1.66/25)) 29...Rf7 30.h4
Nxf4 31.Re1 Kf8 32.Be4 g5
33.hxg5 hxg5 34.Bb1



and it looks like an Engine Bishop Stall (c), i.e. Stockfish 17.1 thinks Black is winning (-2.11/d34) but can't quite make it happen (so far).]

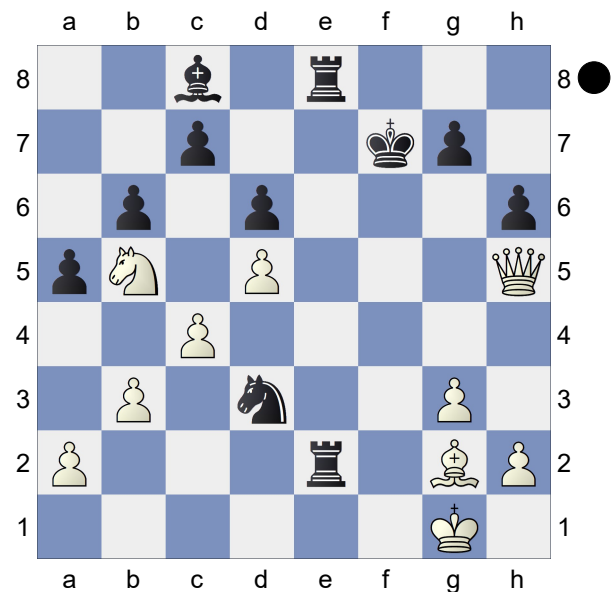
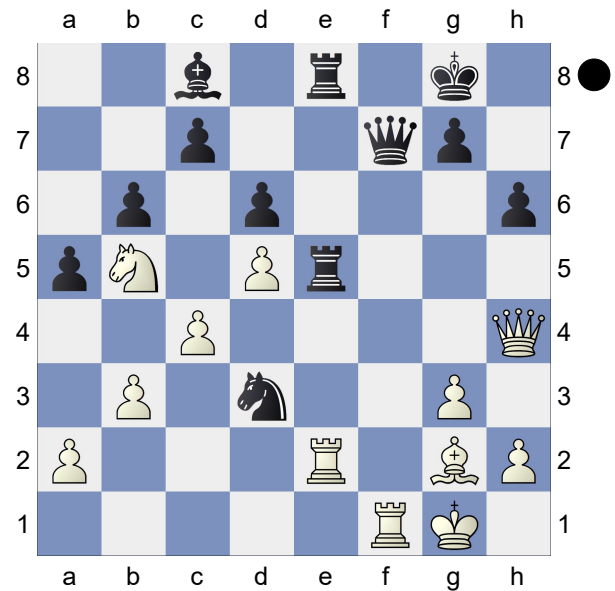
26...Rxe5

[26...Nxe1! 27.e6 Bxe6
is even better.]

27.Rf1

(Diagram)

Rxe2! 28.Rxf7 Kxf7 29.Qh5+



Kf8??

[29...Kg8! 30.Bf1 R2e5!
(30...Re1+)]

30.Qf3+ Kg8 31.Qxd3= R8e3 32.Qd4
[32.Qg6=]

32...Re1+ 33.Kf2 R1e2+ 34.Kg1 Re1+
35.Kf2 They both got away with a draw,
sort of.

1/2-1/2

Dutter,Frederic **B52**
1900

Schaezlein,Charlie **1610**
 2025 Winter TNM: 1600-1999 (1.12)
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7
4.Bxd7+ Nxd7 5.c4 Ngf6 6.Nc3 g6
7.0-0 Bg7 8.d3 0-0 9.Ng5 h6 10.Nh3
Ne8

[10...a6=]
 [10...Ne5 11.f4 Nc6=]

11.f4 e6 12.Qf3 Qa5

[12...a6]

13.Bd2

[13.Kh1!]

13...a6

[13...b5!? 14.cxb5 a6 15.bxa6
 Rb8±]

14.Rac1 Rb8 15.f5 Ne5 16.Qg3 Qd8

17.fxe6 fxe6 18.Rxf8+ Kxf8 19.Nf4

Qg5 20.Nxe6+

1-0

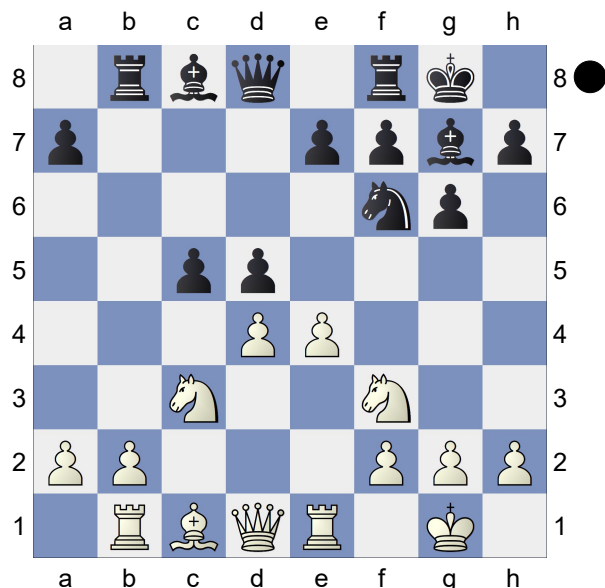
Casares,Nick **B31**
1600

Cafiero,Michael **1806**
 2025 Winter TNM: 1600-1999 (1.13)
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.Bxc6
bxc6 5.0-0 Nf6 6.Re1 Bg7 7.c4 0-0
8.Nc3 Rb8 9.Rb1 d5 10.cxd5 cxd5
11.d4

(Diagram)

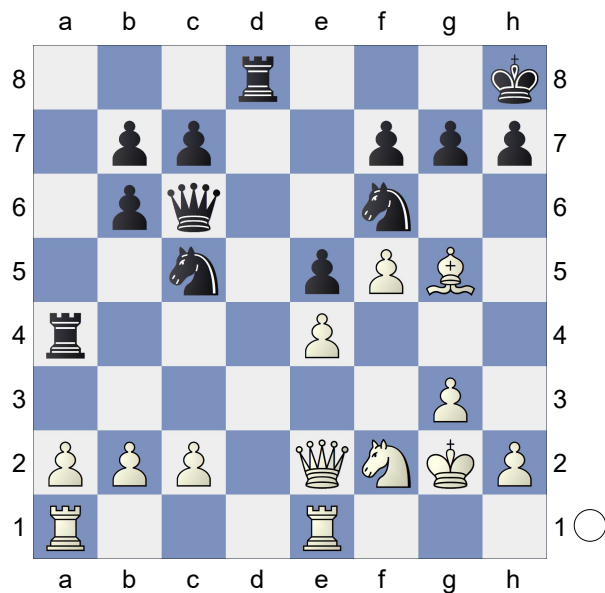
dx e4 12.Nxe4 Nxe4 13.Qc2 cxd4
14.Bf4 Nd6 15.Rbd1 Bf5 16.Qc1 Rc8
17.Qd2 Rc2 18.Qb4 a5 19.Qb3 d3
20.Rd2 Rxd2 21.Nxd2 Qd7
0-1



Crompton,Robert **C26**
1796

Uzakbaev,Nursultan **1590**
 2025 Winter TNM: 1600-1999 (1.14)
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Bc5 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2
0-0 5.Nge2 d6 6.Na4 Bb6 7.0-0 Be6
8.d3 Qd7 9.Nxb6 axb6 10.f4 Bh3
11.f5 Bxg2 12.Kxg2 Qc6 13.Nc3 Nbd7
14.Qe2 d5 15.Bg5 dxe4 16.dxe4 Rfd8
17.Nd5 Kh8 18.Nb4 Qc5 19.Nd3 Qc6
20.Rfe1 Ra4 21.Nf2 Nc5



22.Bxf6 Qxf6 23.c3 Qg5 24.b4 Nd7
 25.Red1 Raa8 26.Rd3 Nf6 27.Rad1
 Rxd3 28.Nxd3 Ng4 29.h4 Ne3+
 30.Kh3 Qh6 31.Nxe5 Kg8 32.Rd3 Qf6
 33.Nd7 Qc6 34.Qxe3 Rxa2 35.Ne5
 Qf6 36.Qd4 Ra8 37.Ng4 Qe7 38.f6
 gxf6 39.Nxf6+ Kf8 40.Nxh7+ Kg8
 41.Nf6+ Kf8 42.Ng4 Kg8 43.Qe5 Qxe5
 44.Nxe5 Re8 45.Ng4 Rxe4 46.Nf6+
1-0

A22
1538
1769
☐ **Chan,John**
☒ **Powers,Christopher**
 2025 Winter TNM: 1600-1999 (1.15)

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.a3 d5 4.cxd5
 Nxd5 5.e3 a5 6.Nf3 Nxc3 7.bxc3 Bd6
 8.Be2 0-0 9.e4 f5 10.d3 a4 11.0-0
 Nc6 12.Bg5 Qe8 13.Nd2 h6 14.Bh4
 g5 15.Bh5 Qe7 16.Bg3 f4 17.Qe2
 fxg3 18.fxg3 Rxf1+ 19.Nxf1 Be6
 20.Ne3 Bxa3 21.Bg4 Bc5 22.Bxe6+
 Qxe6 23.Kh1 Bxe3 24.Qxe3 a3 25.h3
 Qb3 26.Rf1 Rf8 27.Rg1 Qxc3 28.Qe2
 Nd4 29.Qh5 Kg7 30.h4 Qd2 31.Qg4
 a2 32.Qd7+ Rf7 33.Qd5 Nc6 34.h5
 Qb2 35.Qe6 Ne7 36.d4 a1Q
 37.Qxe5+ Kh7 38.Rxa1 Qxa1+ 39.Kh2
 Qd1
0-1

C54
1721
1537
☐ **Tam,Hoa Long**
☒ **Stults,Sawyer**
 2025 Winter TNM: 1600-1999 (1.16)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3
 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.e5 Ne4 7.Bd5 Nxf2
 8.Bxf7+ Kxf7 9.Qb3+ Ke8 10.Bg5 Be7
 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.Kxf2 Rf8 13.Nbd2
 dxc3 14.bxc3 Nxe5 15.Rhe1 Kd8
 16.Qd5 Qc5+ 17.Qxc5 Nd3+ 18.Ke3

Nxc5 19.Kd4 d6 20.Re2 Bg4 21.Rae1
 Nd7 22.Re7 c5+ 23.Kc4 Ne5+
 24.Nxe5 Kxe7 25.Nxg4+ Kd7 26.Kd3
 h5 27.Ne3 Rae8 28.Nf3 Kc6 29.c4 b5
 30.cxb5+ Kxb5 31.Rb1+ Kc6 32.Rb2
 Rb8 33.Rb3 a5 34.Nc4 Rxb3+
 35.axb3 Ra8 36.h4 d5 37.Nfe5+ Kb5
 38.Nd6+ Kb4 39.Kc2 Ra6 40.Nd3+
 Ka3 41.Nb5+ Ka2 42.Nc1+ Ka1 43.b4
 axb4 44.Nb3+ Ka2 45.Nc1+ Ka1
 46.Nb3+ Ka2
 $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

C45
1524
1712
☐ **Liu,Eric**
☒ **Morello,Nicholas**
 2025 Winter TNM: 1600-1999 (1.17)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4
 Nf6 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.e5 Qe7 7.Qe2
 Nd5 8.h4 h6 9.h5 f6 10.c4 Nb6
 11.exf6 Qxe2+ 12.Bxe2 gxf6 13.Nd2
 f5 14.Rh3 d6 15.Re3+ Kf7 16.Nf3
 Bg7 17.Rb1 Be6 18.b3 Bf6 19.Bb2 f4
 20.Bxf6 fxe3 21.Bxh8 exf2+ 22.Kxf2
 Rxh8 23.Nd4 Bd7 24.Bf3 c5 25.Ne2
 Kf6 26.Nf4 Re8 27.Rd1 Be6 28.Nxe6
 Rxe6 29.Bg4 Re7 30.Rd3 Nd7
 31.Rf3+ Kg7 32.Bf5 Ne5 33.Re3 Kf6
 34.g4 Kg5 35.Kg3 a5 36.Re2 Rf7
 37.Re4 Rf6 38.Re3 Rf8 39.Re4 Rf6
 $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

B13
1709
1518
☐ **Ploquin,Phil**
☒ **Dees,Calvin**
 2025 Winter TNM: 1600-1999 (1.18)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Bd3
 Nc6 5.c3 Nf6 6.Ne2 Bg4 7.Bf4 e6
 8.h3 Bh5 9.Qd2 Bd6 10.Ng3 Bg6
 11.Bxd6 Qxd6 12.Na3 a6 13.Nc2 0-0
 14.0-0 Rfc8 15.Ne1 b5 16.Bxg6 hxg6

17.Nf3 b4 18.Rac1 bxc3 19.Rxc3 Nd7
 20.Rfc1 Ne7 21.Rxc8+ Rxc8 22.Rxc8+
 Nxc8 23.Qg5 Qc7 24.Ne2 Ncb6
 25.Qe7 Qc8 26.h4 Qf8 27.Qg5 Nc4
 28.b3 Nd6 29.Nc3 Qc8 30.Na4 Ne4
 31.Qe7 Qc1+ 32.Kh2 Qf4+ 33.Kg1
 Qc1+ 34.Kh2 Ndf6 35.Ne5 Qf4+
 36.Kg1 Qxf2+ 37.Kh2 Qxh4+ 38.Kg1
 Qf2+ 39.Kh2 Ng5 40.Nc5 Qh4+
 41.Kg1 Ng4 42.Qe8+ Kh7 43.Nxg4
 Qxg4 44.Nd7 Qxd4+ 45.Kh2 Qf4+
 46.Kg1 Ne4 47.Nf8+ Kh6 48.Nd7
 Qf2+ 49.Kh2 Kg5 50.Qe7+ Kh5
 51.Qf8 Nf6 52.Qh8+ Kg5 53.Nxf6 Kxf6
 54.Qd8+ Kf5 55.Qd7 Kg4 56.Qe7
 Qh4+

0-1

□ Karwat,Joseph

■ Babayan,Gagik

2025 Winter TNM: 1600-1999 (1.19)

[Winslow,Elliott]

C68

1487

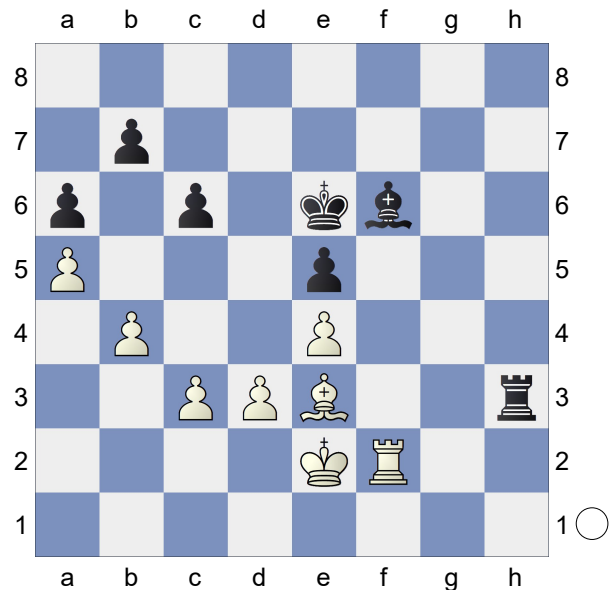
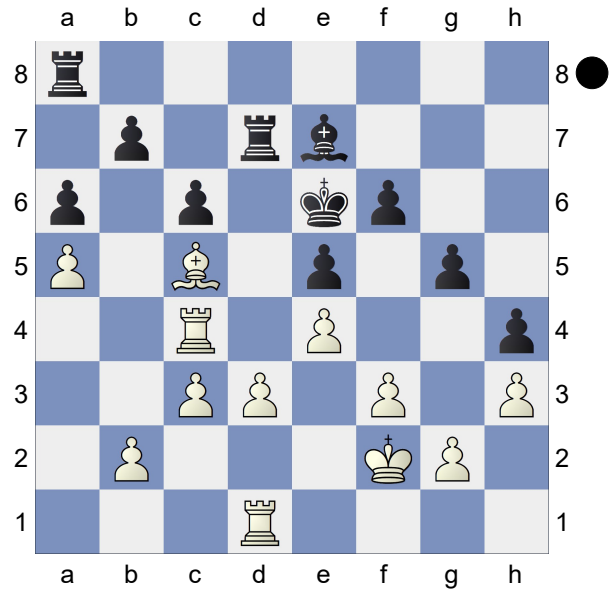
1684

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6
 dxc6 5.0-0 Bg4 6.h3 h5 7.d3 Bxf3
 8.Qxf3 Qf6 9.Nd2 Qxf3 10.Nxf3 f6
 11.Be3 c5 12.a4 g5 13.Nh2 Bd6
 14.f3 Ne7 15.Rfd1 Ng6 16.Nf1 h4
 17.Nd2 Rg8 18.Nc4 Be7 19.Bd2 Nf4
 20.Kf2 Kf7 21.Ne3 c6 22.Nf5 Ke6
 23.Be3 Bf8 24.a5 Ng6 25.Ra4 Ne7
 26.Nxe7 Bxe7 27.Rc4 Rgd8 28.c3
 Rd7 29.Bxc5

(Diagram)

Bd8 30.Ra4 Bc7 31.Rd2 f5 32.Ke3
 Rad8 33.b4 fxe4 34.fxe4 Rf7
 35.Raa2 Rdd7 36.Rf2 Rf4 37.Ke2
 Bd8 38.Ra1 Rg7 39.Raf1 Rxf2+
 40.Rxf2 g4 41.hxg4 Rxg4 42.Kf1 Bf6
 43.Be3 h3 44.gxh3 Rg3 45.Ke2 Rxh3

(Diagram)

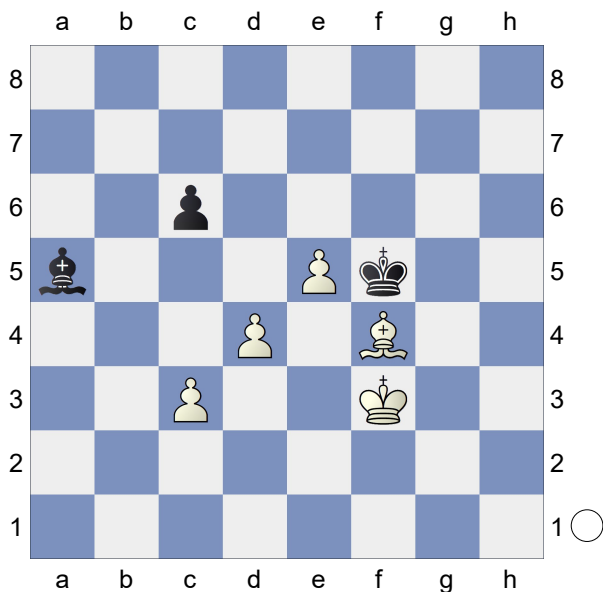
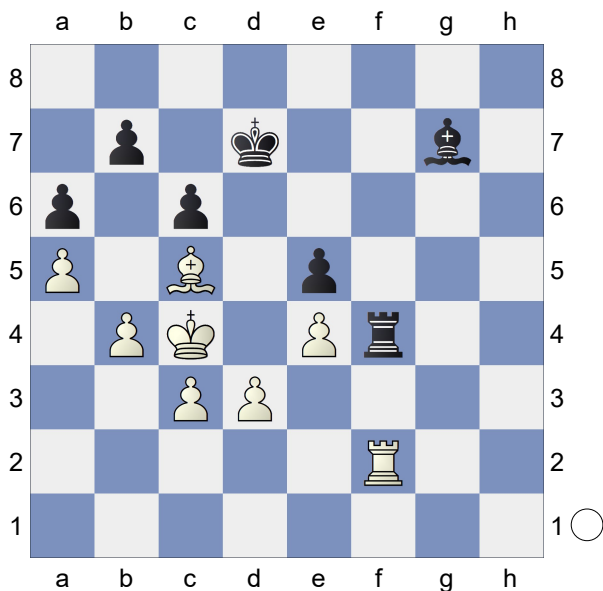


46.Rg2 Kf7 47.Bg5 Bg7 48.Kd2 Rf3
 49.Be3 Rh3 50.Rf2+ Ke6 51.Ke2 Rh1
 52.Rg2 Kf7 53.Kd2 Rh3 54.Re2 Rh4
 55.Kc2 Rg4 56.Kb3 Ke6 57.Kc4 Bf8
 58.Bc5 Bg7 59.Rh2 Kd7 60.Rf2 Rf4

(Diagram)

61.Rxf4 exf4 62.Bf2 Be5 63.d4 Bc7
 64.Kd3 Ke6 65.Ke2 Kf6 66.Kf3 Kg5
 67.Bg1 b6 68.axb6 Bxb6 69.Bh2 Bc7
 70.e5 a5 71.Bxf4+ Kf5 72.bxa5 Bxa5

(Diagram)



73.Bd2??

[73.c4 Bc3 74.Ke3+- (#26)]

73...c5= 74.Ke3 Bb6??

[74...Bc7=]

75.Kd3 Ke6 76.Ke4 cxd4 77.cxd4

Bc7 78.d5+ Kd7 79.e6+

[79.Bb4]

79...Ke7 80.Bg5+ Ke8 81.Bf4 Ba5

82.d6 Bb4 83.d7+ Kd8 84.Kd5 Ke7

85.Bg5+

1-0

□ Boyer, John

■ Wickliffe, Zachary

2025 Winter TNM: 1600-1999 (1.20)

[Winslow, Elliott]

B31

1671

1480

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.c3

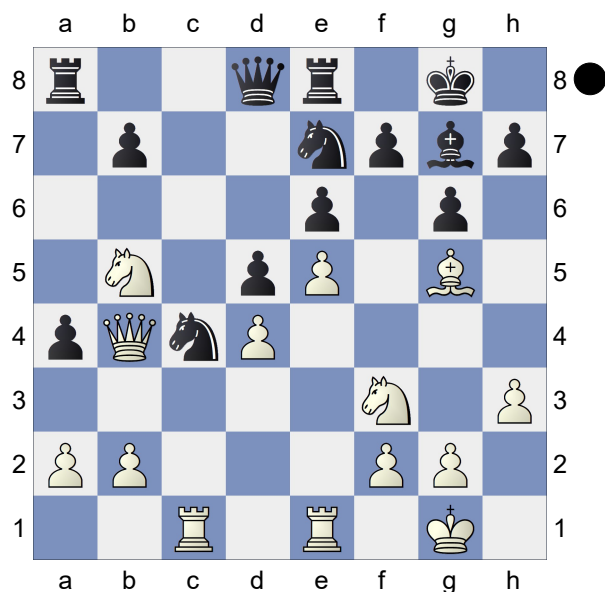
Bg7 5.0-0 Nf6 6.Re1 0-0 7.h3 d5

8.e5 Nd7 9.d4 cxd4 10.cxd4 Nb6

11.Nc3 Bd7 12.Bf4 a5 13.Qd2 Re8

14.Rac1 a4 15.Ng5 e6 16.Nf3 Ne7

17.Bg5 Bxb5 18.Nxb5 Nc4 19.Qb4



Nc6

[19...h6±]

20.Qxc4± dxc4 21.Bxd8 Rxd8

22.Rxc4 Bf8 23.Rd1

[23.a3!]

23...Ra5 24.Nc3 Bb4

[24...a3!?]

25.Nxa4?

[25.Rb1]

[25.Ne4]

25...Rxa4 26.a3 Ra5 27.axb4 Rb5

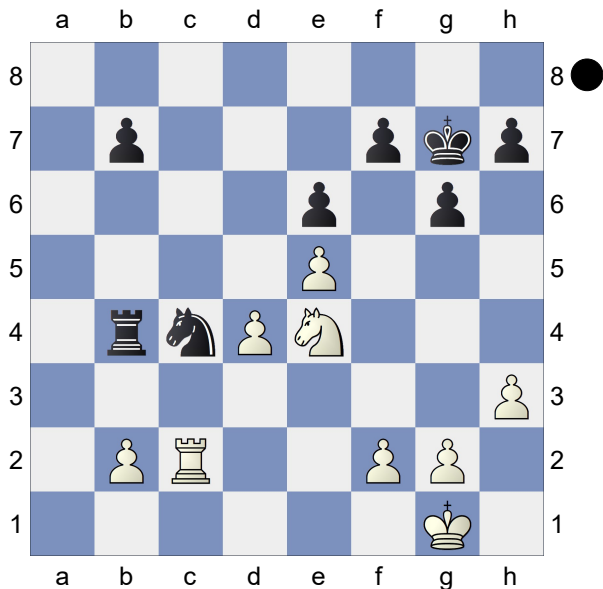
28.Rdc1 Nxb4 29.Rc5 Rb6 30.Rc8

Rxc8 31.Rxc8+ Kg7 32.Ng5 Nd5

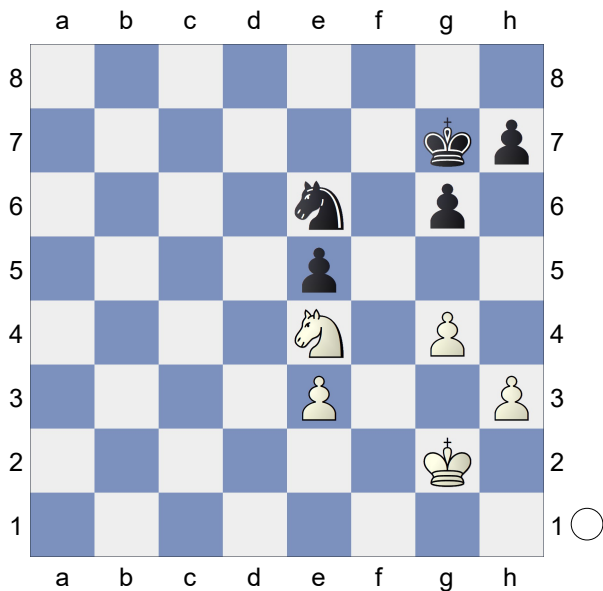
33.Rc2 Rb4 34.Rd2 Nb6 35.Ne4 Nc4

36.Rc2

(Diagram)



**Nxe5 37.Nc5 Nc6 38.Nxb7 Nxd4
39.Rc7 Rxb2 40.Nd6 Rb1+ 41.Kh2
Rb2 42.Rxf7+ Kg8 43.Rf4 Nf5
44.Ne4 Kg7 45.g4 e5 46.Rf3 Nd4
47.Re3 Re2 48.Kg2 Rxe3 49.fxe3
Ne6**



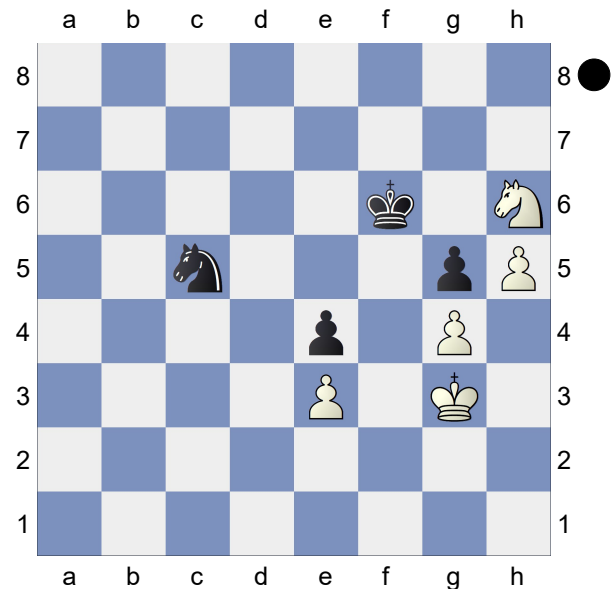
**Knight endgame! Notoriously tricky.
"Kingo Bingo" as Yakob Yukhtman so
eloquently put it 50 or so years ago.**

**50.h4 h6 51.Kf3 g5 52.h5 Kf7
53.Nd6+ Kf6!**

[53...Kg7 54.Ke4+-]

**54.Nf5 Nc5= 55.Nxh6 e4+
[55...Ke6]**

56.Kg3



**Nd3? Should lose. "An exercise for the
reader" why the following moves draw:**

[56...Ke6=]

[56...Ne6=]

[56...Nd7=]

[56...Na4=]

[56...Nb7=]

57.Nf5!+- Nc5 58.Kf2

[58.Nd6!]

58...Nd3+ 59.Kg2?

[59.Kg3]

59...Ne5!= 60.Nd6 Nxg4 61.Nxe4+

and here the Tablebase kicks in to

assure us: draw. 61...Kf5 62.Ng3+ Kf6

63.Kf3 Ne5+ 64.Ke4 Ng4 65.Kd4 Ne5

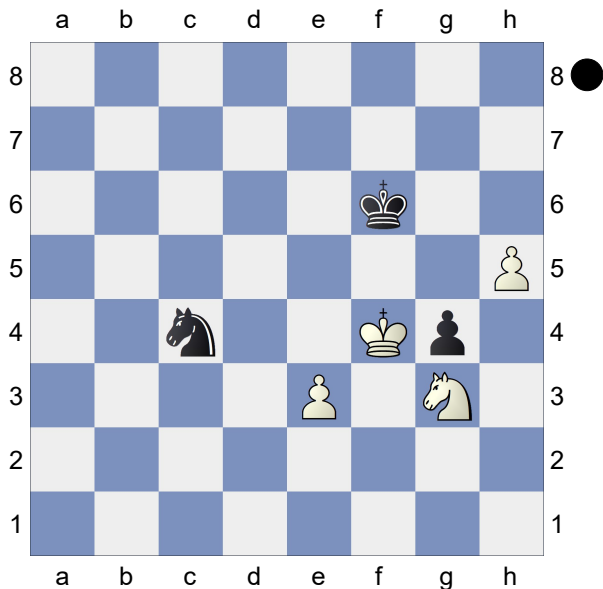
66.Kd5 g4 67.Ke4 Nc4 68.Kf4

(Diagram)

**Ne5? and as White was playing (69.e4?,
when 69.Ne4+! was the only move to
win), it was noticed that Black had
already lost on time.**

[68...Kg7! was the only move to
draw]

1-0



□ Reed, Paul Henry

■ Siegel, David

2025 Winter TNM: 1600-1999 (1.21)

[Siegel, David]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c5 3.dxc5 d4 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.e3 e5 6.exd4 exd4 7.a3 (7. a3 was an interesting move by White and I underestimated its importance, it was actually the second best move according to the lichess engine. The threat is to take over the queen side of the board with a 3:2 pawn majority. Which is almost what happened in the game. The best response for Black is 7... a5 to blunt the b4 push. The evaluation after 7... Bxc5 is not too much worse, but things go wrong pretty quickly after playing normal-seeming developing moves.) 7...Bxc5 8.Bd3 Bg4 9.0-0 Nge7 10.h3 Bh5 11.Bf4 Bg6 (The computer says to just castle here, but 11... O-O 12. Bxh7 Kxh7 13. Ng5+ looked bad to me (alternatively 12... Kh8 seems to drop a pawn).) 12.Re1 0-0 13.b4 Bd6 14.Bxd6 Qxd6 15.Bxg6 Nxg6 16.Nbd2 (I thought for a while

about where to put my rooks here. My initial plan was to support my d-pawn with one rook and try to break down the queen-side pawns with the other, but that never ended up happening.)

16...Rfd8

[Stockfish 17.1 via EW: 16...Rae8!±]

17.Ne4 Qc7?

[17...Qe6±]

18.c5+- b6 19.b5 Nce5 20.c6 Rd5 (I looked into 20... a6 but miscalculated. A nice line might have been 21. a4 axb5 22. axb5 Rxa1 23. Qxa1 Nxf3.) 21.Nxe5 Nxe5 22.Qb3 Rad8 23.Rad1 h6 24.a4 d3 25.f4 Ng6 26.g3 (Low on time and feeling kind of hopeless (the c6 pawn felt like such a crusher!), I lost my nerve and decided to go for a questionable kingside attack. I should have continued pushing... At any rate, my opponent defended beautifully and converted a very nice game!) 26...Rd4 27.Re3 Nxf4? [27...d2±] 28.gxf4 Qxf4 29.Rdxd3 R8d5 30.Rxd4 Rxd4 31.Nf2 Rd2 32.Re8+ Kh7 33.Qe3 Qb4?! 34.Qe4+ [34.c7!] 34...Qxe4 35.Rxe4 Rc2 36.Re7 a6 37.Rxf7 axb5 38.axb5 Rc5 39.c7 Kg6 40.Rd7 Rc1+ 41.Kg2 Kf6 42.Ne4+ Ke5 43.Re7+ Kd5 44.Kf3 g5 45.Rd7+ Ke6 46.Rd6+ Ke5 47.Rc6 Rf1+ 48.Ke2 Rf8 49.c8Q Rxc8 50.Rxc8 Kxe4 51.Rc6 h5 52.Rxb6 g4 53.hxg4 hxg4 54.Kf2 Kf4 55.Rf6+ Kg5 56.Rf8 Kh4 57.Kg2 g3 58.Rh8+ 1-0

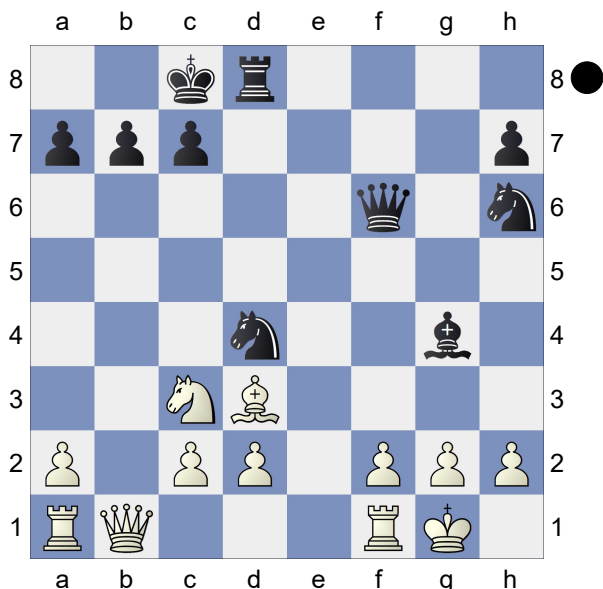
D06
1455
1631

A80
 1141
Hossain, Shaikat
 1504
Hack, Richard
 2025 Winter TNM: u1600 (1.22) 04.11.25
[Winslow, Elliott]

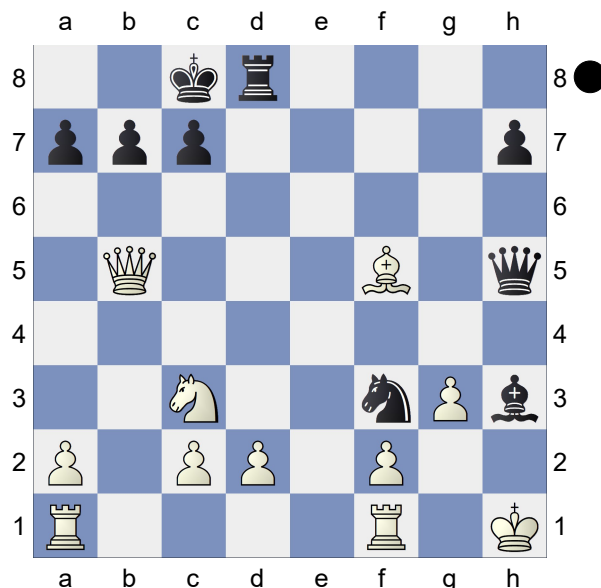
1.d4 f5 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bf4 Nf6
 5.c3 d6 6.Nbd2 Nd5 7.e3 Nxf4 8.exf4
 e6 9.Qc2 Nc6 10.Bg2 Bd7 11.b4 0-0
 12.0-0-0 a5 13.b5 Ne7 14.c4 c6
 15.h4 cxb5 16.h5 bxc4 17.hxg6 Nxg6
 18.Nh4 d5 19.Nxg6 hxg6 20.Nf3 Qe8
 Rdg8 Ba4 21.Qb1 Qe7 22.Ng5 c3
0-1

A00
 1500
Starr, Albert Martin
 1135
Tobias, Mason
 2025 Winter TNM: u1600 (1.23) 04.11.25
[Winslow, Elliott]

1.b4 e5 2.Bb2 d5 3.Bxe5 Nc6 4.Bb2
 Bxb4 5.Bxg7 Bf5 6.Bxh8 f6 7.e3 d4
 8.exd4 Nxd4 9.Bd3 Qe7+ 10.Ne2 Bg4
 11.Nbc3 0-0-0 12.0-0 Nh6 13.Bxf6
 Qxf6 14.Qb1 Bxc3 15.Nxc3



Nf3+ 16.Kh1 Qh4 17.h3 Bxh3 18.g3
 Qh5 19.Qb5 Nf5 20.Bxf5+
 (Diagram)



At this point we have Black playing 20...
 Bg4+ 21.Kg2 Qh2 MATE. Except that
 BLACK is in check! Albert's scoresheet
 even has a checkmark after 20.Bf5 (his
 usual indicator for check)! My guess is
 that both sides made another move,
 which I'll now put in: 20...Kb8 21.g4
 Bxg4+ (On Albert's score there is some
 sort of pencil mark between the 'B' and
 the 'g'; Mason always puts the 'x' in but
 on this occasion there is none... 22.Kg2
 Qh2#
0-1

C02
 1130
Myers, Steven Lee
 1407
Mehta, Soham
 2025 Winter TNM: u1600 (1.24) 04.11.25

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.Nf3 Nc6
 5.Bb5 Qa5+ 6.Nc3 a6 7.Bxc6+ bxc6
 8.Bd2 Qc7 9.Bf4 cxd4 10.Nxd4 c5
 11.Nb3 Ne7 12.Qe2 Bd7 13.0-0 Ng6
 14.Bg3 Be7 15.a4 0-0 16.Nd2 Qb7
 17.b3 Bc6 18.f3 Qb4 19.Na2 Qb6
 20.Kh1 Bh4 21.Bxh4 Nxh4 22.g3 Nf5
 23.c3 a5 24.Qf2 f6 25.Rfe1 Rab8
 26.Rab1 Ba8 27.Nc1 fxe5 28.Rxe5
 Qd6 29.Qe2 Rf6 30.c4 Rh6 31.Kg2

d4 32.Nd3 Ne3+ 33.Kg1 Rc8 34.Ne4
Bxe4 35.Rxe4 Rf8 36.f4 Rf5 37.Rb2
g5 38.Qf3 gxf4 39.Rxf4 Rhf6 40.Rf2
Rxf4 41.Nxf4 e5 42.Qa8+ Rf8 43.Qe4
exf4 44.gxf4 Qg6+ 45.Qxg6+ hxc6
46.h4 Kg7 47.Rf3 Rb8 48.f5 Nxf5
49.h5 Re8 50.Rf2 Re3 51.Rg2 Rg3
52.h6+ Kxh6 53.Kf2 Rxb3 54.Rh2+
Kg7 55.Rg2 Rb2+ 56.Kf1 Ne3+
0-1

B22
1392
□ Braithwaite, Andrew
■ Rosston, Andrew Burkett **1118**
2025 Winter TNM: u1600 (1.25) 04.11.25
[Winslow, Elliott]

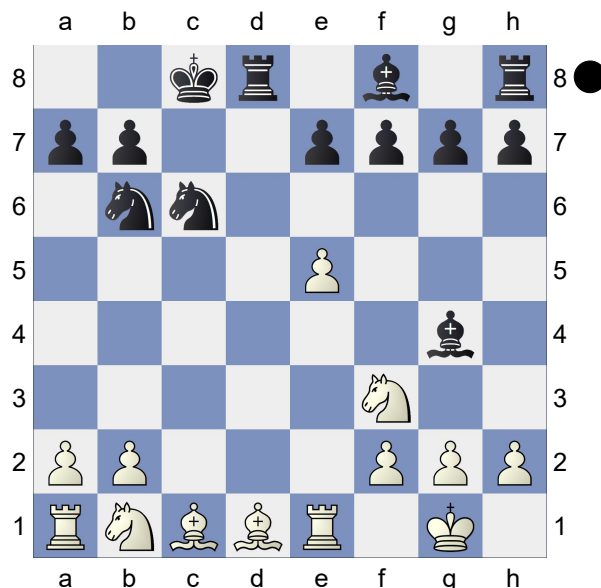
1.e4 c5 2.c3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.d4
cx d4 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.cxd4 d6 7.Bc4
Nb6 8.Bb3 dxe5 9.dxe5 Qxd1+
10.Bxd1 Bg4 11.0-0

[Relevant: 11.Nc3 0-0-0 12.0-0 e6
13.Bf4 Be7 14.h3 Bh5 15.Rc1 Kb8
16.Nb5 Nb4 17.Bg5 Bxg5 18.Nxg5
Bg6 19.Bf3 h6 20.Ne4 Nd3 21.Rc2
Nxe5 22.Rfc1 Nd3 23.Rf1 Nb4
24.Rc7 N4d5 25.Rcc1 a6 26.Nbc3
Nxc3 27.Rxc3 Nd5 28.Rb3 Bxe4
29.Bxe4 Rd7 30.Rd1 Rhd8 31.g3
Ka7 32.Kh2 Nf6 33.Rxd7 Rxd7
34.Bf3 Rc7 35.Kg2 Nd7 36.a3 Ne5
37.h4 b5 38.Rb4 Kb6 39.a4 Ka5
40.Rf4 bxa4 Harika, D (2517)-Lazavik,
D (2504) Chess.com INT 2022 0-1]
11...0-0-0 12.Re1

(Diagram)

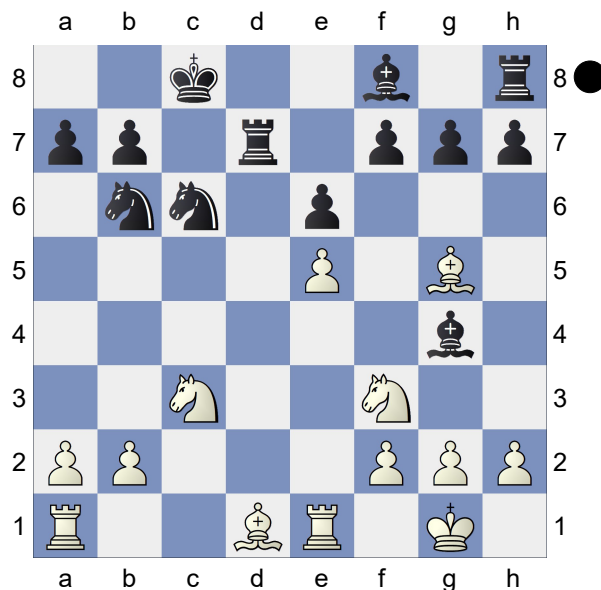
e6N

[Predecessor: 12...Nc4 13.Bf4 Nxb2
14.Bc2 Bxf3 15.gxf3 Nd3 16.Bxd3
Rxd3 17.Kg2 e6 18.Rc1 Kb8
19.Nd2 Be7 20.Rab1 Ka8 21.Nc4
Rhd8 22.Be3 R3d7 23.f4 g6 24.h3



Nb4 25.Rc3 Nd5 26.Rcb3 Rc8
27.Nb2 Rc2 28.Kf3 Nxe3 29.fxe3
Rdd2 30.Nd1 b6 31.a4 Bc5 32.a5
Ra2 33.axb6 Bxb6 34.Nb2 Rc2
35.Kg4 h6 36.Kf3 Rh2 37.Kg3 Rc2
38.Kf3 Kb8 39.Rb4 Rc3 40.Nc4 Kc7
41.Nxb6 axb6 42.Rxb6 Nesterovs
kaya, A-Muzychuk, M Kramatorsk 2002
½-½]

13.Bg5 Rd7 14.Nc3

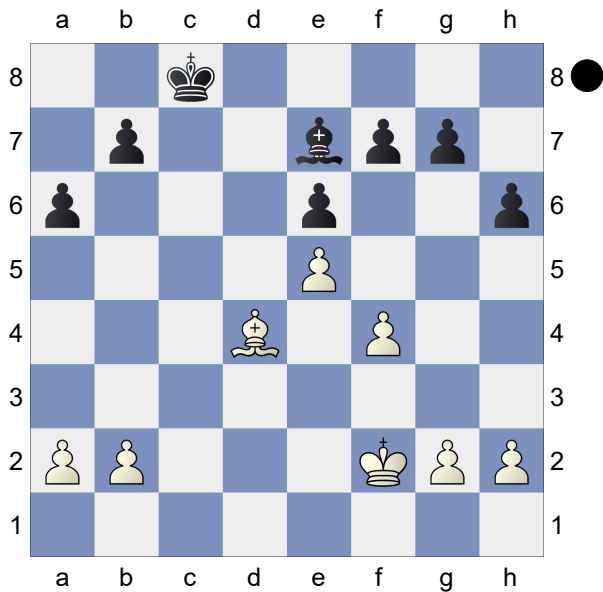


Nc4?

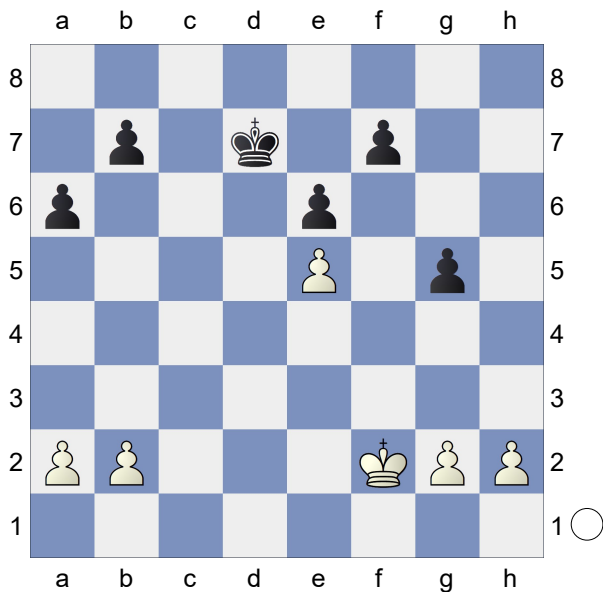
[14...h6]

15.Re4 Bxf3 16.Rxc4 Bxd1 17.Rxd1
Rxd1+ 18.Nxd1 h6 19.Be3 Kd7 20.f4
Be7 21.Nc3 Rd8 22.Nb5 a6 23.Nd4

**Nxd4 24.Rxd4+ Kc8 25.Kf2 Rxd4
26.Bxd4=**



**g5?? 27.fxg5 Bxg5?! 28.Be3 Kd7
29.Bxg5 hxg5**



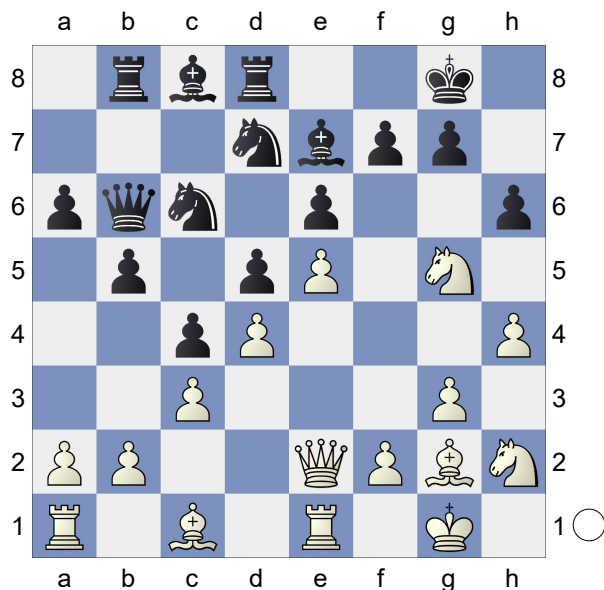
30.g3

[30.Kf3]

**30...Kc6 31.Kf3 Kd5 32.Kg4 Kxe5
33.Kxg5 Kd6 34.h4 Ke7 35.h5 Kf8
36.Kf6 Kg8 37.g4 a5 38.g5 a4 39.g6
fxg6 40.Kxg6 a3 41.bxa3 e5 42.Kf5
Kg7 43.Kxe5 Kh6 44.Kd5 Kxh5
45.Kc5 b5 46.Kxb5 Kg6 47.a4 Kf6
48.a5
1-0**

C00
1116
Vazquez,Dominic A
2025 Winter TNM: u1600 (1.26) 04.11.25
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.g3 c5
5.Bg2 Nc6 6.Ng3 Qc7 7.0-0 Be7
8.Re1 0-0 9.Nf1 Rd8 10.e5 Nd7
11.Qe2 a6 12.h4 b5 13.N1h2 c4
14.d4 Qb6 15.c3 Rb8 16.Ng5 h6



17.Nxf7 Kxf7 18.Qf3+ Kg8 19.Qg4
Ncxe5 20.dxe5 Rf8 21.Be3 Bc5
22.Bd4 Bb7 23.Bh3 Rbe8 24.Rad1
Nb8 25.Qg6 Bc8 26.Ng4 Nd7
27.Nxh6+ Kh8 28.Nf7+ Kg8 29.Nd6
Nxe5 30.Nxc8 Nf3+ 31.Kh1 Qc6
32.Qxg7#
1-0

D02
1380
Kojevnikov,Alexander
2025 Winter TNM: u1600 (1.27) 04.11.25
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 e6 3.Nf3 Bd6 4.Bxd6
Qxd6 5.e3 Nf6 6.Nbd2 0-0 7.c3
Nbd7 8.Be2 e5 9.dxe5 Nxe5 10.Nxe5

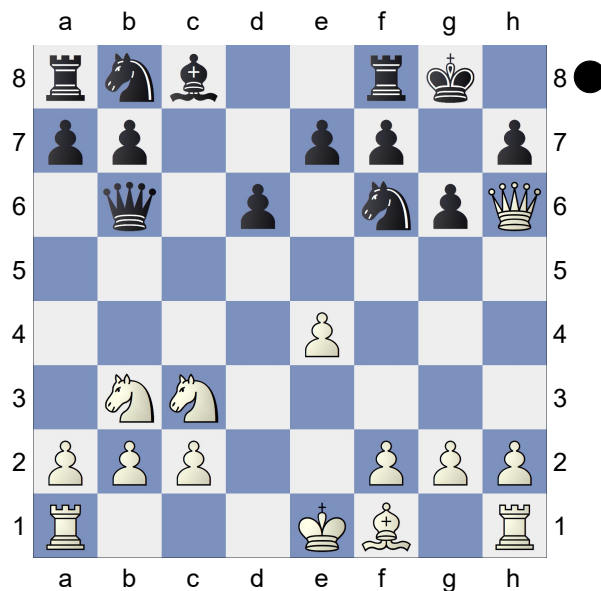
Qxe5 11.Nf3 Qd6 12.Bd3 Re8
13.Bc2 c5 14.Qd2 b5 15.b3 Bg4
16.Qd1 d4 17.cxd4 cxd4 18.Qxd4
Qc6 19.Rc1 Qb7
 [19...Bxf3!? 20.Bxh7+ Nxh7 21.Rxc6
 Bxc6 22.0-0=]
20.Qf4 Rad8 21.0-0 Bxf3 22.Qxf3
Qxf3 23.gxf3 b4 24.e4 Nh5 25.Rfd1
Nf4 26.Kf1 g5 27.Rxd8 Rxd8 28.e5
Kg7 29.Rd1 Rc8 30.Be4 Rc5 31.Ke1
Rxe5 32.Kd2 Ra5 33.Ra1 Nh3
34.Ke2 Re5 35.Kf1 Rc5 36.Kg2 Nf4+
37.Kg3 h5 38.h4 Ne2+ 39.Kh3 f6
40.Rd1 Ra5 41.hxg5 fxg5 42.Rd7+
Kf6 43.Rd2 Nc3 44.Rd6+ Ke5 45.Rh6
Nxe4 46.fxe4 Kxe4 47.Rxh5 Kf4
48.Rh7 Rxa2 49.Kg2 Ra5 50.Rb7
Rc5 51.Rxb4+ Kf5 52.Ra4 a5 53.f3
Rb5 54.Kg3 Rxb3 55.Rxa5+ Kf6
56.Kg4 Rb4+ ½-½
 ½-½

□ **Blum,Paul** **B72**
 ■ **Turner,Robert** **1034**
 2025 Winter TNM: u1600 (1.28) 04.11.25
[Winslow,Elliott] **1341**

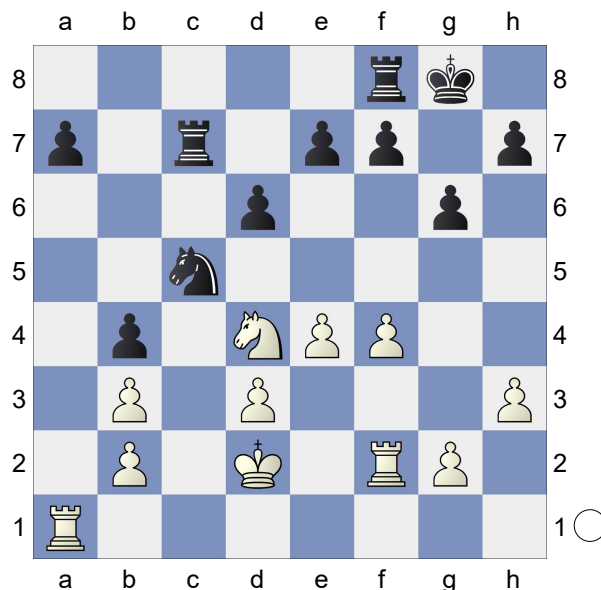
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Bg5 Bg7 7.Qd2 0-0
8.Bh6 Bxh6 9.Qxh6 Qb6 10.Nb3

(Diagram)

Ng4
 [10...Qxf2+!-+]
11.Qh4 Nc6 12.0-0-0??
 [12.Nd5±]
12...Be6
 [12...Qxf2-+]
13.Rd2 Rac8 14.h3 Nf6 15.f4 Qe3
16.Bd3 Bxb3 17.axb3 Nb4 18.Qf2
Qxf2 19.Rxf2 Nxd3+ 20.cxd3 b5
21.Kd2 b4 22.Ne2 Nd7 23.Ra1 Rc7



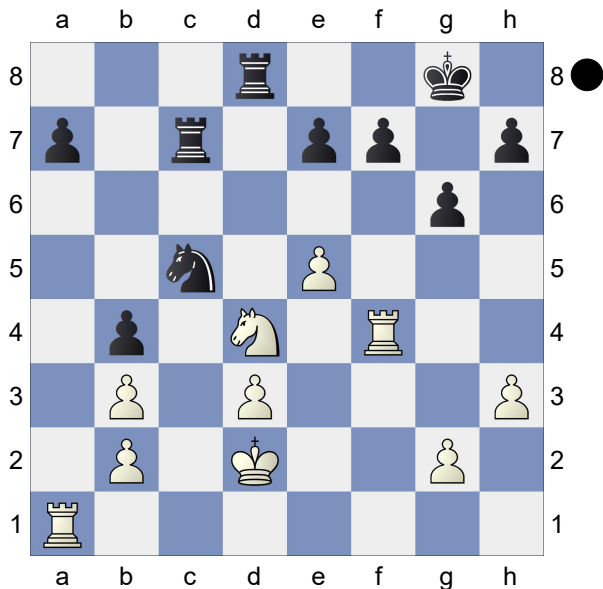
24.Nd4 Nc5=



25.e5?? dxe5 26.fxe5 Rd8 27.Rf4

(Diagram)

Rxd4! 28.Rxd4 Nxb3+ 29.Ke3 Nxa1
30.Rxb4? Nc2+
0-1



B11

□ Menchtchikov, Alexander Borisovich

■ Pirone, John

992

2025 Winter TNM: u1600 (1.29) 04.11.25

1.e4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Nc3 Bg4 4.d4 e6
5.Be2 c5 6.exd5 exd5 7.dxc5 Nf6
8.Bg5 Be7 9.0-0 Nc6 10.Re1 0-0
11.Rb1 Re8 12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.Nxd5
Be6 14.Nxf6+ Qxf6 15.b3 Rad8
16.Qc1 Qc3 17.Ng5 Qxc5 18.Bd3 h6
19.Nxe6 fxe6 20.Bc4 Qf5 21.Bd3 Qf6
22.Qe3 Nd4 23.c3 Nc6 24.Rbd1 a6
25.Qe4 g6 26.Qxg6+ Qxg6 27.Bxg6
Re7 28.Rxd8+
1-0

B56

947

1247

□ Saucedo, Tristan

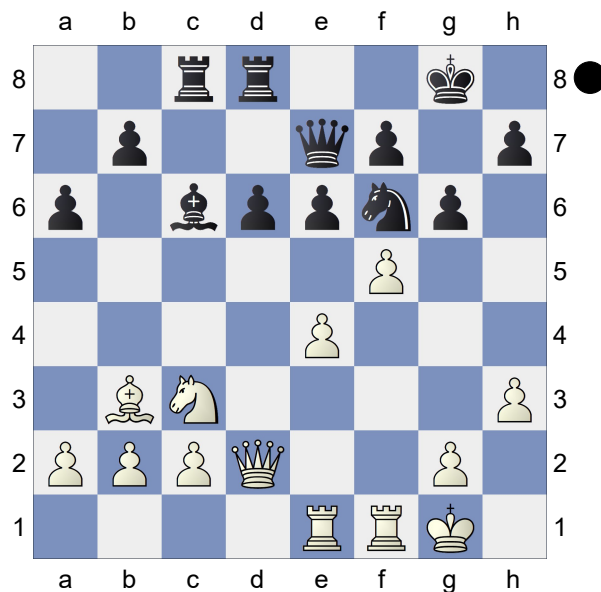
■ Galvez, Carlos

2025 Winter TNM: u1600 (1.30) 04.11.25

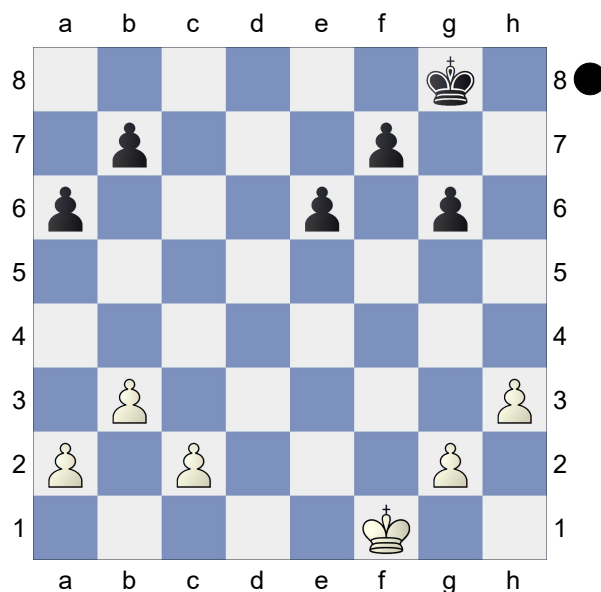
[Winslow, Elliott]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
d6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Bb5 Bd7 7.0-0 Rc8
8.Be3 a6 9.Bd3 g6 10.Nxc6 Bxc6
11.Qd2 Ng4 12.Bc4 e6 13.Bg5 Be7

14.Bxe7 Qxe7 15.f3 Ne5 16.Bb3 0-0
17.f4 Ng4 18.h3 Nf6 19.Rae1 Rfd8
20.f5

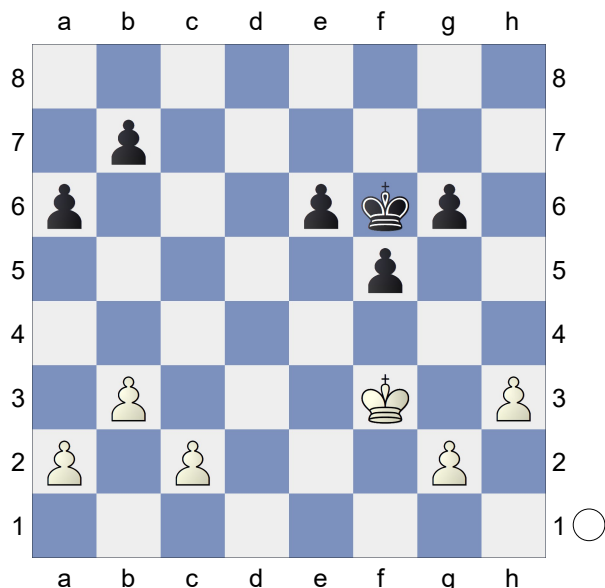


d5 21.fxg6 hxg6 22.exd5 Nxd5
23.Nxd5 Bxd5 24.Bxd5 Qc5+ 25.Qf2
Rxd5 26.Qxc5 Rxc5 27.Rf2 Rc7
28.Ref1 Rcd7 29.b3 Rd2 30.Rxd2
Rxd2 31.Rf2 Rd1+ 32.Rf1 Rxf1+
33.Kxf1



Everybody is drawn to king and pawn endings lately! This one starts out a bit in Black's favor but quickly reduces to 0.00s. 33...f5 34.Ke2 Kf7 35.Kf3 Kf6

(Diagram)



36.g4? White might have planned for two passed pawns, h-pawn and something on the queenside, but this give Black what he wants: connected passed pawns with White's h-pawn backward. **36...Ke5?** Missing the opportunity!

[36...g5! (I'm not at all sure I'd have found this!) and ...Ke5 next.]

37.c3? Another chance! White thought ...Kd4 had to be stopped.

[37.h4!=]

37...g5!-+ Black sees the light and seizes the dark (squares) and is won.

38.a4 Kd5?!

[38...Kd6! does a better job of defense, and avoids queen endings even.]

39.h4?!

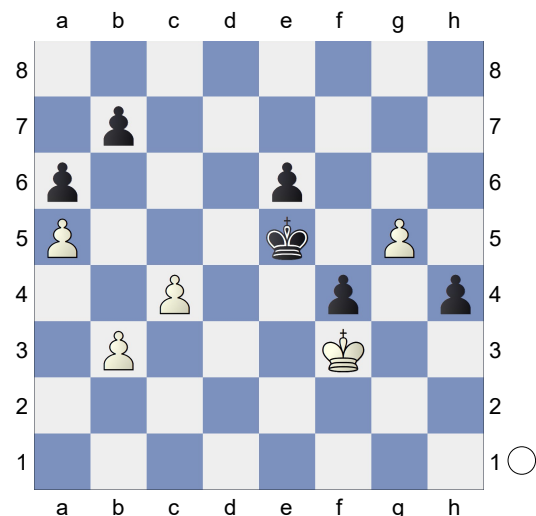
[39.a5! f4 40.c4+ Kd4!

Black doesn't catch the g-pawn and doesn't even queen first! But... 41.h4 gxh4 42.g5

A) 42...Ke5?

(Diagram)

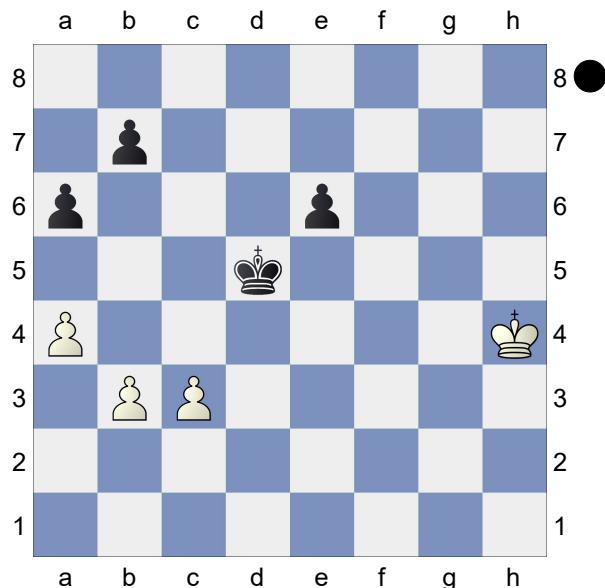
A1) 43.g6? Kf6 44.Kxf4 Kxg6 45.b4 Kf6 46.c5 h3 47.Kg3 Ke5 (or 47...Ke7);



A2) 43.b4!! h3 44.b5 Kd4 45.g6 e5 46.g7 e4+ 47.Kxf4 h2 48.g8Q h1Q=;

B) 42...e5! 43.g6 e4+ 44.Kxf4 e3 45.g7 e2 46.g8Q e1Q might be a queen ending, but it is won for Black.]

39...fxg4+ 40.Kxg4 gxh4 41.Kxh4



At this point Black can win as he pleases -- just not 41...Kd6? which draws, as a sort of counter to that note to Black's 38th. **41...Ke4 42.Kg4 Kd3 43.b4 e5 44.c4 e4** Again, the fastest win -- and I'd swear that on one of the scoresheets the player drew what looks like a bicycle (!!)

45.c5 e3 46.b5 axb5 47.axb5 e2 48.c6 bxc6 49.bxc6 e1Q 50.c7 Qe6+

51.Kg5 Qe7+
0-1

□ Le,Thu Anh

■ Weaver,Kyle

2025 Winter TNM: u1600 (1.31) 04.11.25
[Le,Thu Anh/(Winslow,Elliott)]

D30

1247

0

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 c5
(EW) Offering to turn a Catalan into a
Tarrasch Queen's Gambit. 5.cxd5 exd5
6.dxc5?! (EW) Typically this waits until
the Black f8-bishop moves, thus gaining
a tempo. At least that's the drill.

[6.Nf3!

A) 6...cxd4 7.Nxd4 (7.0-0!?)
7...Bb4+ (7...Bc5!? A sort of
Dubov Variation (White's knight
already on c3), although Keres and
others certainly have done this (...
cxd4 and ...Bc5) in similar positions.
Here is a recent, pretty high-level
game, between two of the best
Azeri players: 8.0-0 0-0 9.b3 Re8
10.Nc3 Nc6 11.Be3 Bb6 12.Qd2
Bg4 13.h3 Bh5 14.Rac1 Rc8
15.Nxc6 Bxe3 16.Qxe3 Rxe3
17.Nxd8 Rexc3 18.Rxc3 Rxc3
19.g4 Bg6 20.Rd1 h5 21.Nxb7
hxc4 22.hxc4 Nxc4 23.Bxd5 Rc2
24.Bf3 Ne5 25.a4 Nxf3+ 26.exf3
Rc3 27.Na5 Rxf3 28.Rd8+ Kh7
29.Rd7 a6 30.Rd6 Bc2 31.Rxa6
Bxb3 32.Nxb3 ½-½ Mamedyarov,S
(2732)-Mamedov,R (2656)
Azerbaijan ch, Baku, 15 Feb 2025)
8.Bd2 (8.Nd2);

B) 6...Nc6;

C) 6...Be7;

D) 6...c4?! 7.0-0± and White can
hit that c-pawn head-on with 8.b3.]

6...Bxc5 7.Nf3 0-0 8.0-0 Nc6 9.Qc2

[(EW) I'm quite interested to see a

number of early games (including
1923!) with 9.Bg5 -- especially Ulf
Andersson breaking down Lajos
Portisch's IQP defence: h6 10.Bxf6
Qxf6 11.Nc3 Rd8 12.Ne1 Be6
13.Nd3 Bd4 14.Rc1 Rac8 15.Nf4
Bxc3 16.Rxc3 d4 17.Rc5 Qe7
18.Nxe6 Qxe6 19.b3 1-0 (61)
Andersson,U (2610)-Portisch,L (2650)
Tilburg 1981]

9...Bb6 10.a3

[10.Nc3 Nb4 11.Qb3 Nc6 12.Rd1]

10...h6 (EW) Not really necessary either.

[10...Re8]

[10...Ne4]

11.e3? Be6 12.Nc3 Rc8 13.Qd3

Qd7?

[13...d4!-+ 14.exd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4
Bc4 (EW) Stockfish 17.1 doesn't think
there's enough for the Exchange.
Sometimes White's bishop on g2 is
compensation; not here.]

14.Na4 Bf5

[14...Bg4]

15.Qd1

[15.Qb5]

[15.Nxb6]

15...Qc7

[15...Ne4!?]

16.Nxb6 Qxb6 17.b4 Rfd8 18.Bb2

Ne4 19.Nd4?!

[19.Qe2]

[19.Re1]

[19.Nh4 Bh7 20.Qg4 Plan is to bring
the knight to f5.]

[19.Rc1]

19...Bg6

[19...Nxd4! 20.Qxd4 Qxd4 21.Bxd4
Nd2]

20.Nxc6

[20.Bh3 Rc7 21.Rc1]

20...Rxc6 21.Bd4 Qc7 22.Bxe4

[22.Rc1 Rxc1 (22...Rc4) 23.Qxc1
Qxc1 24.Rxc1]

22...Bxe4= (EW) ? Better to improve the

status of that pawn:

[22...dxe4! when White must be alert to danger on the light squares around the king. (-0.45/d40)]

23.Qg4 Bg6 24.Qf4 The symptom of: "I'm getting low on time and I don't know what to do. Therefore I will knowingly make a not-so-good move. But should be holdable.

[24.b5 Rc4 25.a4 Re8 26.a5 Re4 27.Qf3]

24...Qxf4 25.exf4 I did not like this move and saw that gives Black a passed pawn. While it is an isolated pawn and opposite-colored bishop, which, should be fine theoretically (famous last words), White is now the defending side.

[25.gxf4?? Bd3+- wins the exchange because of the mate threat.]

25...b6 26.Rac1 Rdc8 27.Rxc6 Rxc6 28.f3 Bd3 29.Re1

[29.Rd1 Be2 30.Re1 Bxf3 I saw this and didn't want to lose the pawn. Should have let it go and go for counterplay on the 7th rank 31.Re8+ Kh7 32.Re7]

29...Rc4 30.Bf2

[30.Kf2 Rc2+ 31.Ke3 Bc4 32.h4 Ra2 33.f5 Rxa3+ 34.Kf4 f6 35.Re3]

30...Rc7 31.Kg2 Rc2 32.Re8+ Kh7 33.Rd8 Bc4 34.Rd7 a6 35.Rd6 b5 36.Kg1??

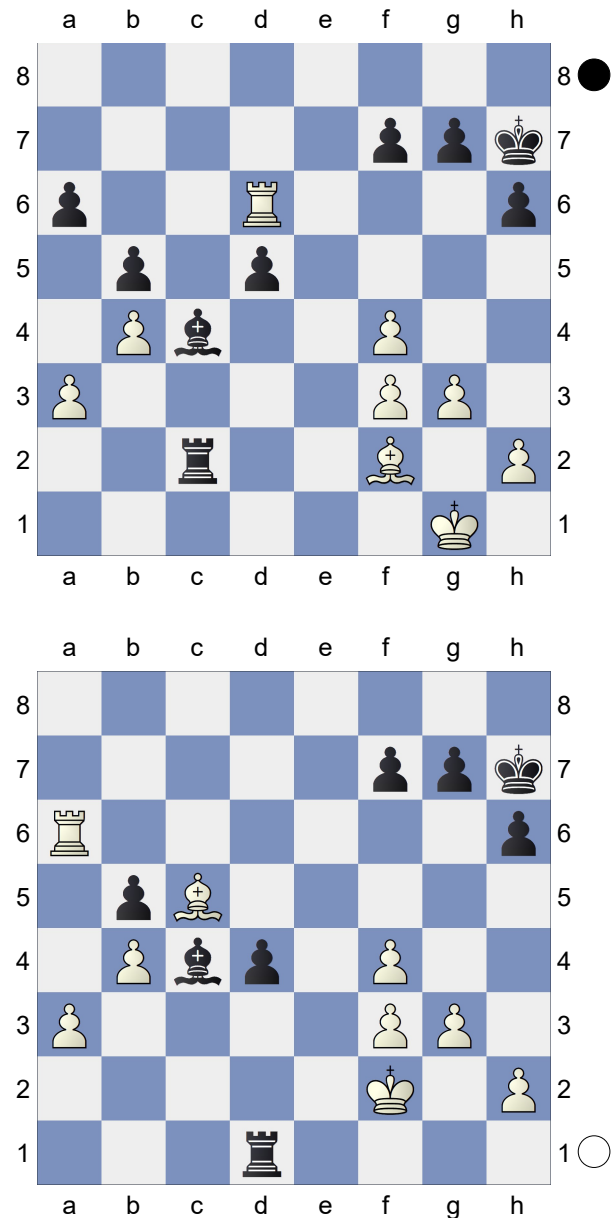
(Diagram)

Black missed a win here. **36...Rd2?**

[36...Rc1+ 37.Kg2 Bf1+ 38.Kg1 Bh3+]

[(EW) 36...Rc1+ 37.Kg2 Bf1+ 38.Kh1! is of course better, but still lost: Bh3+ 39.Bg1 Rd1 40.g4 (40.Rxa6 d4) 40...f6 41.Rd8 Kg6 42.Rd7 Rd3 43.Bc5 Rxa3]

37.Bc5 Now it's back to a draw. **37...Rd3 38.Rxa6 Rd1+ 39.Kf2 d4**



40.Rd6?

[40.g4! Rf1+ 41.Kg2=]

40...d3?

[40...Rd2+- 41.Ke1 (41.Kg1 d3!) 41...Re2+ 42.Kd1 d3 Threat: 43... Bb3+ 44.Kc1 Rc2+ 45.Kb1 d2 and 46...Rc1+]

41.Be3

[41.g4]

41...Rh1 42.Kg2

[42.g4! The only move to not lose the game. Rxh2+ 43.Kg3 Re2 44.Bd4= (44.Bc1= also hangs on)]

42...Re1! 43.Bf2 Re2

0-1

□ Chodakowski, Sebastian

■ Cao, Danny Du Uy

2025 Winter TNM: u1600 (1.32) 04.11.25

[Cao, Danny Du Uy]

C10 [28...Nxc3]

29.Kd1 Nxc3+ 30.Ke1 Rb1#
0-1

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4

Bd7 5.Bg5

[5.Nf3]

5...Be7 6.Qd2

[6.Bxe7 Qxe7 (6...Nxe7)]

6...Bc6

[6...Bxg5 7.Nxg5]

7.Bd3

[7.Bxe7 Qxe7]

7...Bxg5

[7...Bxe4 8.Bxe7 Qxe7 9.Bxe4 c6]

[7...Qxd4 8.Bxe7 Nxe7 9.Nf3 (9.f3;
9.Nc3 Bxg2) 9...Bxe4 (9...Qxb2)]

8.Nxg5 Bxg2 9.Nxf7

[9.Nxh7 g6 (9...Bxh1) 10.Ng5]

9...Kxf7 10.Qf4+ Nf6

[10...Qf6 11.Qxc7+]

[10...Ke7 11.Qg5+]

[10...Ke8]

11.0-0-0 Bxh1 12.Nf3

[12.Ne2 Bd5 (12...Bc6)]

12...Bxf3 13.Qxf3 Qd5 14.Qf4 Qd6

15.Qf3 Nc6

[15...Qxd4 16.Bg6+ Kxg6 17.Rxd4]

16.c3 Qd5 17.Qf4 Rac8 18.Re1 h6

[18...Qxa2]

19.Be4 Qg5

[19...Qxa2 20.Bxc6 Qa1+ 21.Kd2
Qxb2+]

20.Qxg5

[20.Qe3 Nxe4]

[20.Qd2]

20...hxg5 21.Bxc6 bxc6 22.Re5

[22.Rh1 Ne4]

22...Rxh2 23.f3 Rch8

[23...Rb8 24.b3 Rxa2]

24.Rxg5 Rf2 25.Rg1 Rhh2 26.a3

Rxb2 27.Re1 Nd5 28.Re4 Rhc2+

[28...Rbc2+]