

Heiserman, Jimmy **B14**
2280

Winslow, Elliott **2200**
 2026 New Year TNM: 2000+ (3.1) 20.1.26
[Winslow, Elliott]

1.d4 2 Nf6 1:07 2.c4 7 g6 7 3.Nc3 7 Bg7 29 4.Nf3 9
[I expected 4.e4 d6 5.h3 0-0 6.Be3]

4...0-0 17 5.Bg5 8 Perhaps he noticed how badly I play against this! I hate it when my opponents don't give me targets to attack when I play openings known for their counterattacks (King's Indian Defense!). **5...c5 1:55** I decided that whatever I do, it won't be ...h6 and ...g5, which has cost me countless points! **6.e3 2:26**

[6.d5 gives me something to attack! Maybe even a Benko Gambit (delayed of course)!]

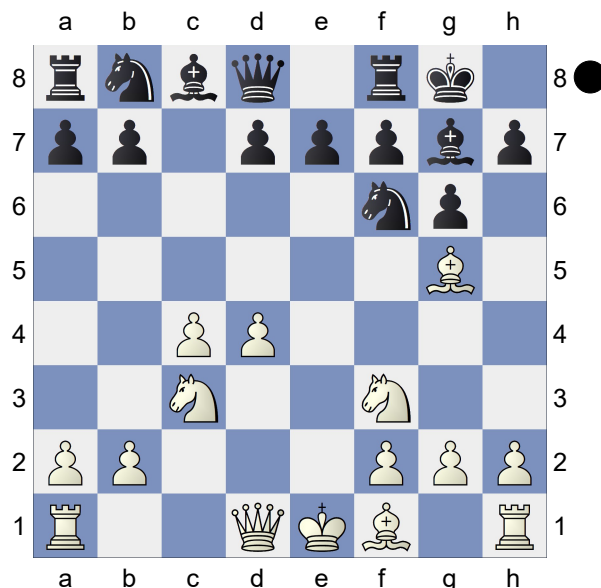
6...cxd4 4:33 Stockfish 17.1 is already making Black better than equal, if only by a sliver (which will go away, so I better move to the next note...) **7.exd4 1:29** The piece captures might be more in line with the mood of 5.Bg5 Now Black can sacrifice a pawn -- disruption ensues! If in fact Heiserman is unfamiliar with this system, it could be unwelcome.

(Diagram)

7...d5! 1:42 8.Bxf6 42 (Gotta try...)
8...Bxf6 10

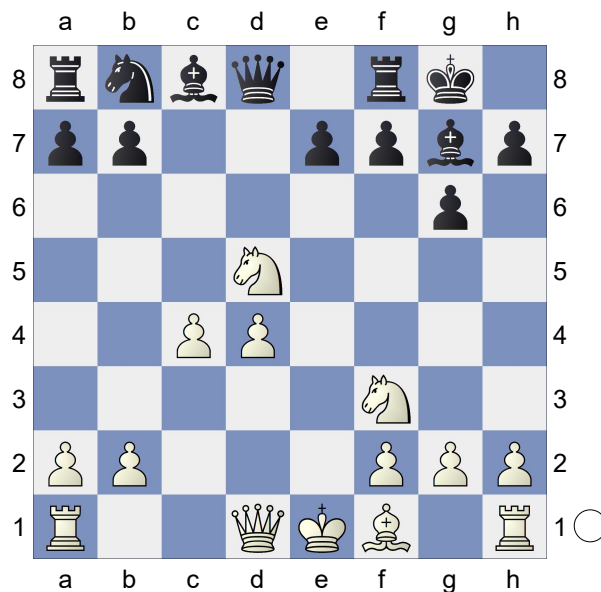
*[Shows what *I* know -- analysis and comps like 8...exf6! -- open e-file to the king! -- but having stuck my neck out with a gambit I'm already panicking on how I'll get my pawn back and keeping my pawns healthy. We can look at this line *next* time...]*

9.Nxd5 13
[Curiously 9.cxd5 is more stable.



Have I really stumbled into a transposition to the Black side of the Panov Botvinnik Attack of the Caro Kann, which I've played so much for *White* the last 50 years, and have always found (1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3) 5...g6!? very uncomfortable (for White), even though I know it's supposed to be the least reputable of the main lines for Black? Turning the Tables!]

9...Bg7 21



Save that bishop! **10.Ne3?! 11:06**
 Grab and Hold, but ultimately problematic. This compels me to take

drastic steps.

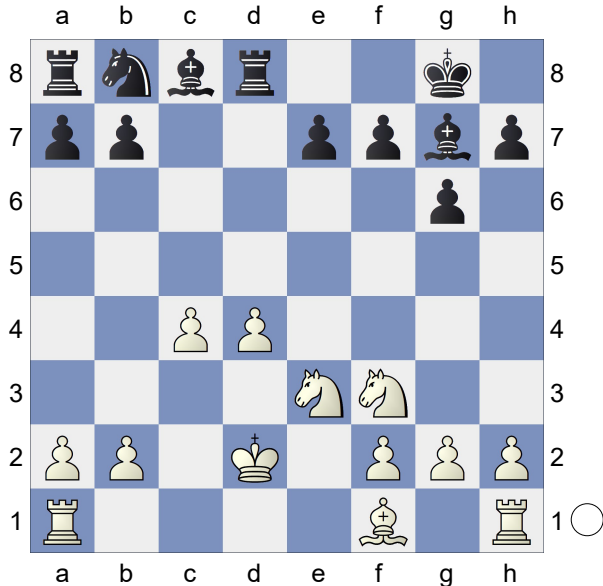
[10.Nc3!= Bg4 (10...Qb6 11.Qd2!?)
 11.Be2 Nc6 12.d5 Bxf3 13.Bxf3
 (anytime White plays 13.gxf3 it's
 instant compensation for Black -- see
 game Na5 14.Be2 Rc8
 (14...Bxc3+!? Same for the
 queenside)]

10...Qa5+ 3:46

[Stockfish Speaks: (well...) 10...Nc6!
 11.Be2 (11.d5 Bxb2 12.dxc6 Qa5+
 13.Nd2 Rd8 14.Rc1! Bxc1 15.Qxc1
 bxc6? interesting...)]

11.Qd2 10 Qxd2+ 53 12.Kxd2 9

According to Stocky, Black's plus is
 minimal. Still... **12...Rd8 1:01**



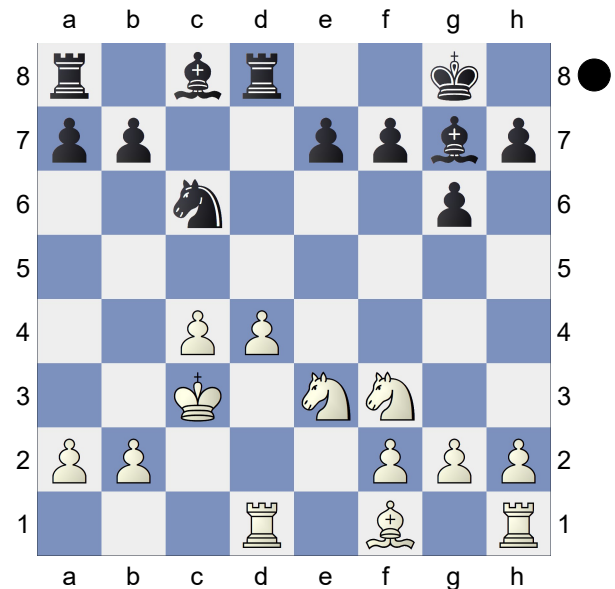
13.Kc3N 5:22

[Predecessor: 13.Kc2 Bxd4 14.Nxd4
 Rxd4 15.Nd5 Nc6 16.Kc3 e5 17.f4
 Be6 18.fxe5 Rd8 19.Be2 Bxd5
 20.cxd5 R8xd5 21.a3 Rc5+ 22.Kb3
 Rd2 23.Bf3 Nxe5 24.Kb4 Nd3+
 0-1 (24) Roels,F (1949)-Sarrau,J
 (2305) Charleroi 2013]

13...Nc6 2:34 14.Rd1 51

(Diagram)

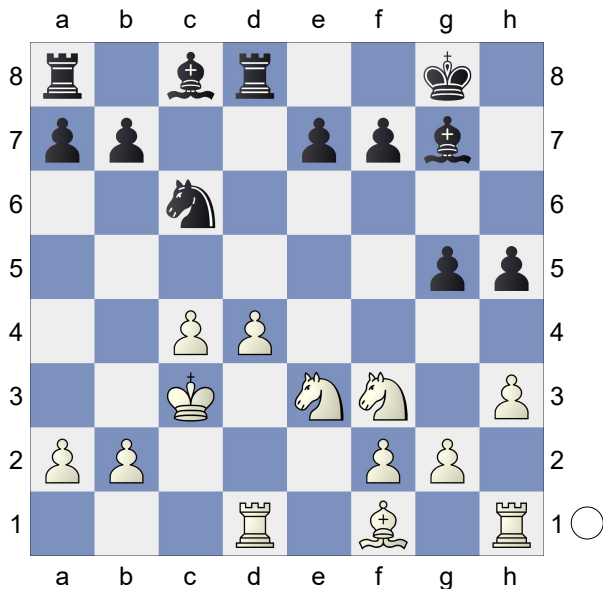
g5!? 5:06 The engine thinks this just
 hands an edge to White. Oh well, I'm



used to that.

[14...e5 was the "Let's Make a Draw"
 line -- 15.dxe5 (15.d5?! e4+ 16.Kc2
 exf3 17.dxc6 Rxd1 18.Nxd1 Bf5+
 19.Kc1 bxc6 20.gxf3? This reminds
 me of one of the early Grandmaster
 Repertoire books, The Sicilian
 Defense by Ljubomir Ftacnik. Ftacnik
 found, I think, dozens of novelties
 for mostly Black (it was after a
 repertoire book), with the template
 "here I found <bang>-<bang>-<bang>
 when Black's two bishops are at
 least adequate (or "more than
 enough") compensation for White's
 extra pawn." For someone (me) who
 took years to learn to play gambits,
 this was eye-opening.) 15...Rxd1
 16.Nxd1 Bg4 17.Be2 Nxe5
 18.Kc2!?= Just now I stepped away
 from the computer (I had a lot to do),
 and when I came back it was on depth
 73(!) -- 0.00s.]
 [14...b6 is a donkey/2 try, with or
 without 14...h5; 15.h3. But zeroing
 after 14./15.Be2 (or anything else) ...
 Bb7.]

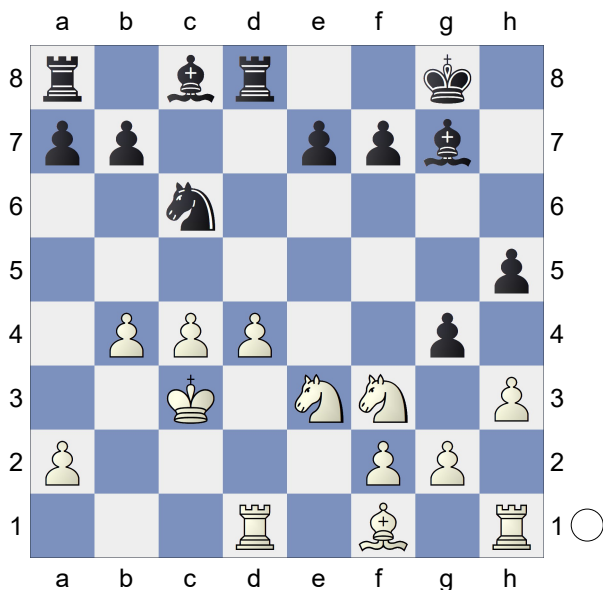
15.h3± 4:37 (says SF, but it's already
 dropped into '=' territory before I could
 even type this.) **15...h5 8:30**



16.b4 8:32 This surprised me. I thought "wrong knight-pawn."

[Δ 16.g4 e5 17.d5 e4+ 18.Kc2 exf3 19.dxc6 Rxd1 Now that White's g-pawn has moved, there's no threat of ...fxg2, so White can take on b7 (...Bxb7 then is no threat) with some little something.]

16...g4 2:44



17.b5? 40

[17.hxg4! Tossing this in gives White a resource I didn't notice at the time (although I suspected he got more out of the missing h-pawns, what with his now-working rook on h1): hxg4 18.b5!

Now it's not only good, it's the only good. gxf3 19.bxc6 bxc6 20.Rh5! (stops ...c5!) (20.gxf3 c5 $\bar{7}$) 20...e5!

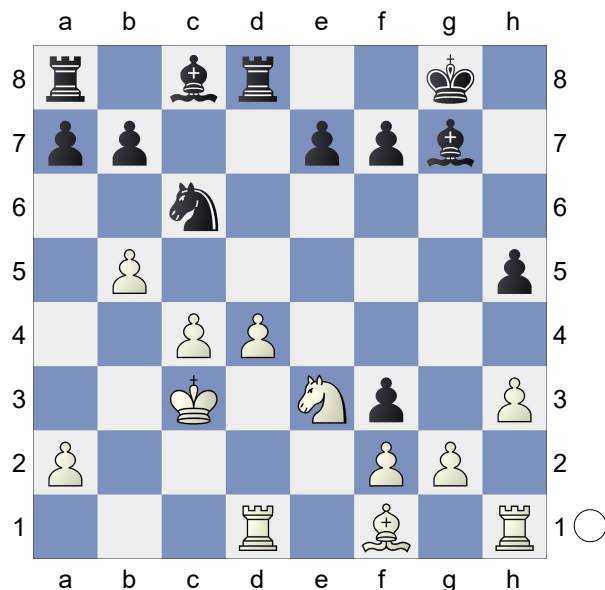
A) 21.dxe5? Rxd1 22.Nxd1 Bg4 Δ 23.Rg5 (23.Rh1 Bxe5+ 24.Kc2 Bf5+ 25.Kc1 Rd8-+);

B) 21.Nf5! Bxf5 22.Rxf5 Rab8 (22...exd4+ 23.Kd3=);

C) 21.Kc2! exd4 22.Nf5=

The problem with all this line (and 21.Nf5) is the opposite colored bishops. Endgame lore says "With OCBs, rooks on the board favor the side pressing for a win." But I'm not really sure that's me!]

17...gxf3 57



18.bxc6 6 bxc6!-+ 1:22 19.gxf3 15:44 c5 2:53 Now it's not about passed pawns, it's about his exposed king.

[19...Rb8!?]

20.Kc2 1:10

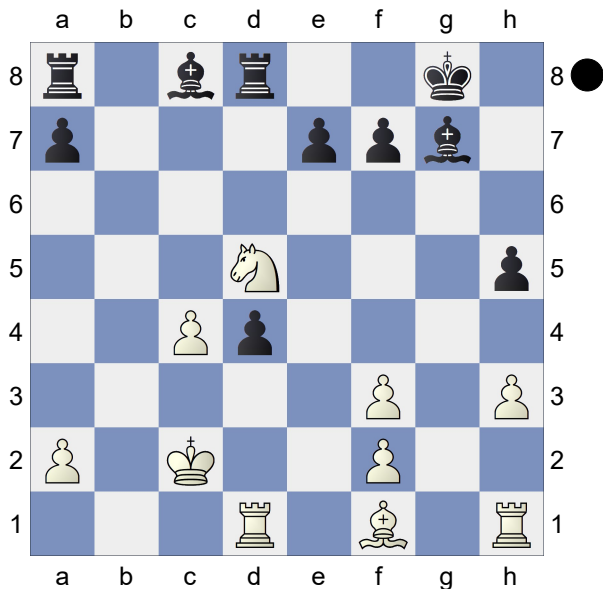
[20.Kd2 is a bit better, when it's more feel than calculation.]

20...cxd4 4:34

[20...Bd7 is a move-order thing, if I'd seen the idea in the first place.]

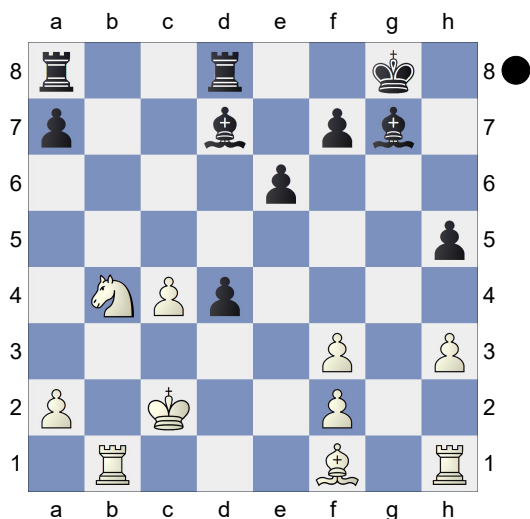
21.Nd5 33

(Diagram)



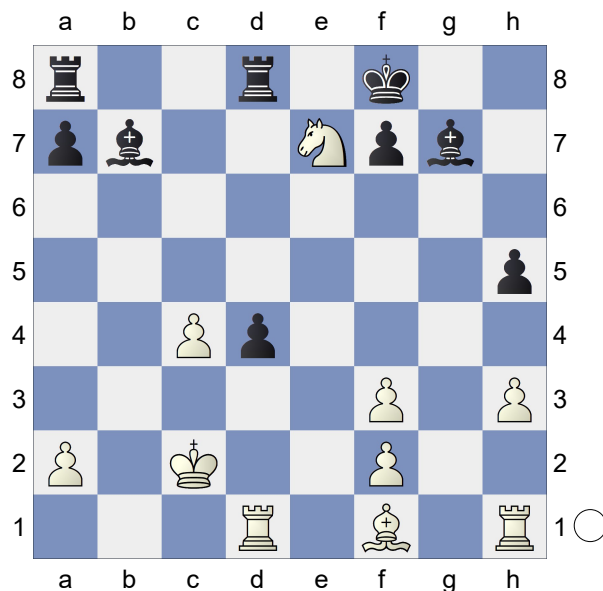
Bb7? 2:51 This is all wrong. Keeping the e-pawn was vital, as I realized as soon as I let go of the bishop.

[21...e6?! is still a clear plus, as 22.Ne7+ Kf8 23.Nxc8 Raxc8 24.Bd3 is one of those OCB with rooks I mentioned before: White has a difficult defense but pretty good chances to hold.]
 [21...Kf8!? 22.Rb1!? Bd7! should be good enough to win,]
 [and most accurate is 21...Bd7! right away (threatening the Exchange, so no time for 22.Nxe7+) 22.Rb1 e6 23.Nb4



d3+! Black trades pawns so that the dark-square bishop comes into its

own. 24.Nxd3 Ba4+ 25.Kd2 Rac8 26.Rg1 Kf8 27.Rb4 Be8 and ...a5 will pick off c4, with a won game (still no king safety!)]
22.Nxe7+ 1:52 Kf8 13



23.Nd5?+ 18 Back in the oven.

[It looks like best is: 23.Rg1! Bxf3 (23...Bf6 24.Ng8!) 24.Re1 d3+ 25.Bxd3 Rab8 26.Nf5! Rb2+! 27.Kc1 Bc3 28.Nh6! Bxe1 29.Kxb2 Rxd3 30.Rxe1 Bg2 31.Re5 White has found a number of nice moves; nobody's going to win this.]

23...Rac8+ 2:50 24.Kb1 3:49

[24.Kd2 Bxd5 25.cxd5 Rc3 and Black is "in there" -- I think this line might have hurt me when it came to the game continuation...]

24...Rb8 9:58 25.Kc2 1:55

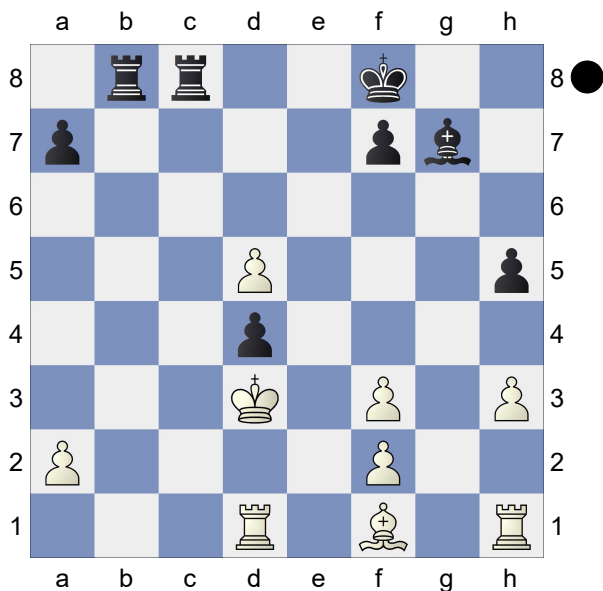
[25.Ka1? d3+]

25...Bxd5 1:31 26.cxd5 5 Rdc8+ 7 27.Kd3 50

(Diagram)

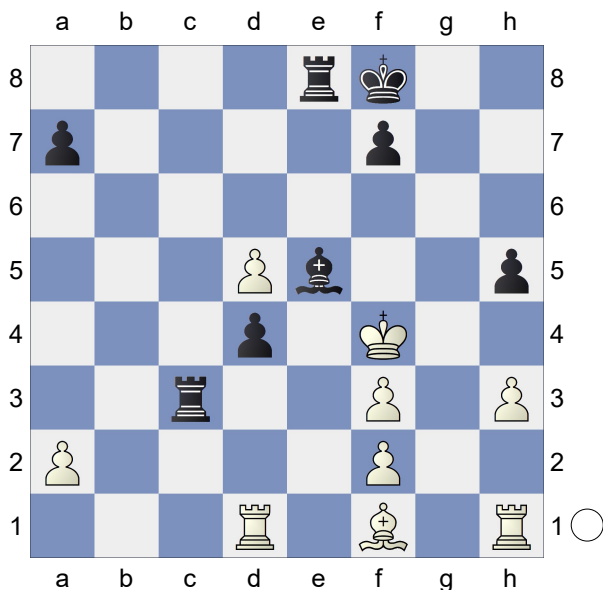
Rc3+? 44 Maybe I'm once again not winning (although clearly better).

[There are other better moves than what I played, but 27...f5!-+ is textbook: don't check-force their



king to get away; instead seal the exit first. I can't recommend enough the game Wei Yi vs. Lazaro Bruzon Batista, Danzhou 2015. I go over it every few months; it has renewed value with Wei Yi making it into the Candidates.]

28.Ke4! 23 **Re8+** 5:59 **29.Kf4** 11
(Threatening 30.Kg3) **29...Be5+** 1:59



30.Kg5? 16 For me a pleasant surprise. I was pretty sure it was going to end in "Shakh matt."

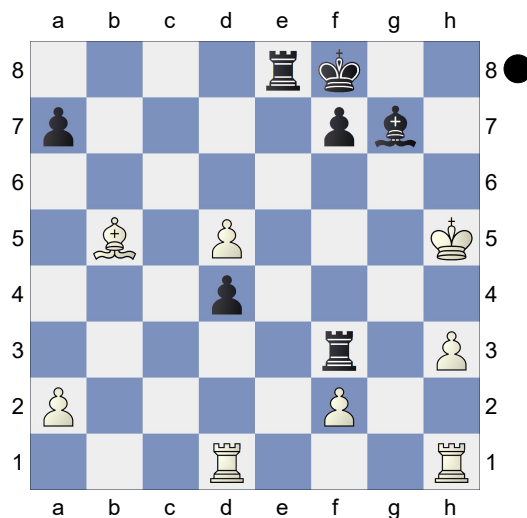
[30.Kf5? Rxf3+ 31.Ke4 Rf4+ 32.Kd3 Rxf2-+ is fairly mundane.]
[The thing was, and I couldn't solve it,

his king is quite safe on e4: 30.Ke4!
There is no effective discovery, and winning the f-pawn costs the d-pawn (and lets his king live). Incredible.]

30...Rxf3! 1:38 (See note to Black's 27th.) **31.Bb5** 6:39

[Stockfish gives 31.Bd3 as "less hopeless" (my assess) when Kg7 is working on the corral.]

31...Bf6+ 2:48 **32.Kxh5?!** 4:36
[32.Kh6 Bg7+ 33.Kxh5



Re4! (I might not have found this?)
34.Rdg1 (else 34...Bf6 and mate) Bf6
35.h4 Rff4! with an obscenely high numerical evaluation by Stockfish to not find mate.]

32...Rf4 28 White resigned.

[Again with the door-closing. Mate in one is threatened, as is 32...Rf4
33.h4 Re5+ 34.Kh6 Bg7+ 35.Kh7 Rh5#]

0-1

A39

□ **Diller,Bradley R**

2123

■ **Parsons,Stephen**

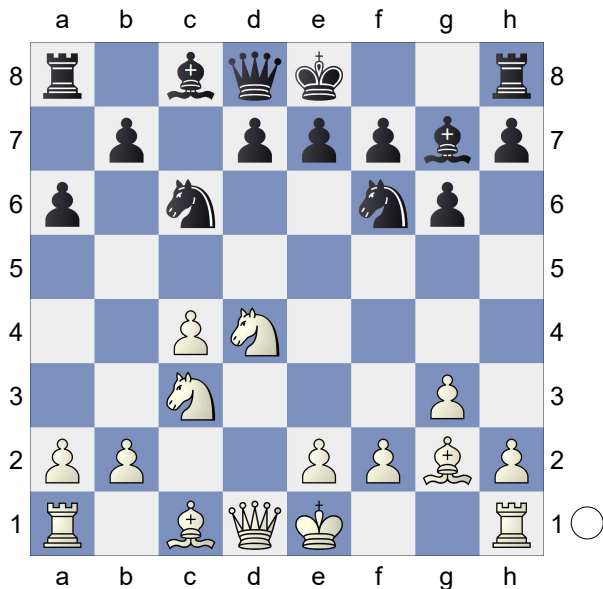
1989

2026 New Year TNM: 2000+ (3.2) 20.1.26

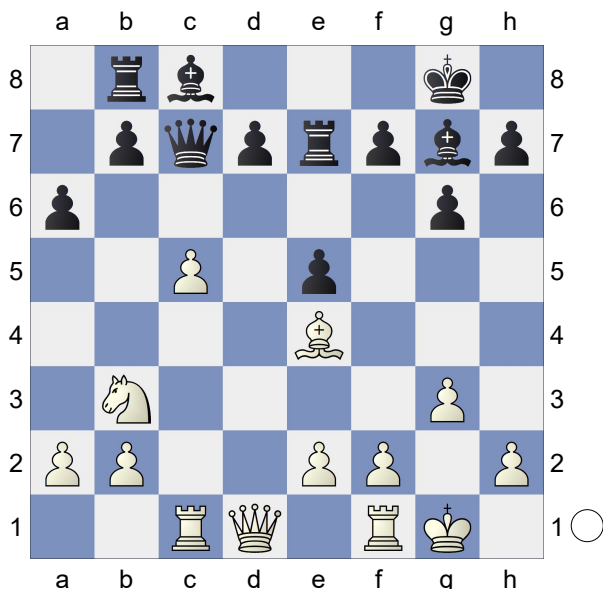
[Diller,Bradley R]

1.c4 Nf6 25 **2.g3** 10 **c5** 18 **3.Bg2** 13
g6 21 **4.Nc3** 14 **Bg7** 12 **5.Nf3** 9 **Nc6**

13 6.d4 25 cxd4 5 7.Nxd4 2 a6? 17



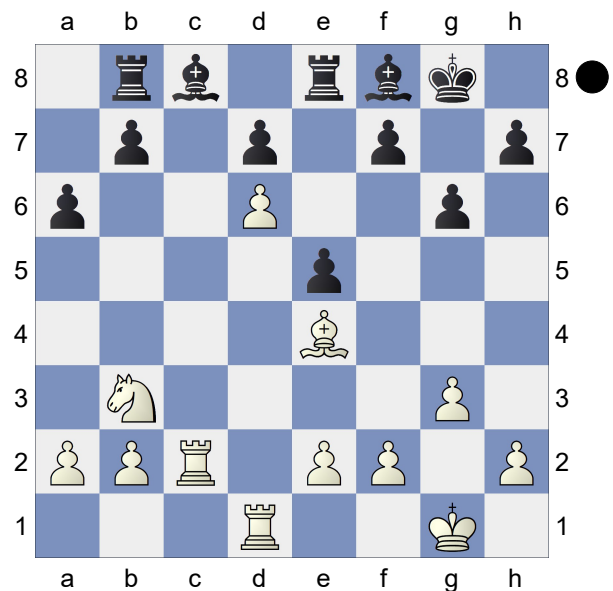
8.c5! 45 This was an improvement that I discussed in my notes in my last game that I played with Stephen, in the Silman TNM 2025. (which *is* in the archive - EW) 8...0-0 3:07 9.0-0 16 Qa5? 3:32 10.Nb3 2:23 Qc7 34 11.Bf4 1:12 e5 17 12.Bg5 19 Ne7 4:03 13.Rc1 6:02 Rb8 2:03 14.Ne4? 23:02 My position is overwhelming. Simply 14 f4 or 14 e4 wins easily. However, I was fixated on the faulty positional combination starting with 14 Ne4. 14...Nxe4? 6:55 15.Bxe7 28 Re8 18 16.Bxe4 23 Rxe7 17



17.Qd6? 20

[Δ17.Na5 Re6 18.b4+-]

17...Qxd6 12 18.cxd6 1 This is the position that I envisioned after 14 Be4. I thought the pawn on d6, splitting his position in two, control of the c-file and ineffective Bc8 was overwhelming, but I completely failed to consider Stephen's obvious counterplay on my weak d-pawn with Bf8. My advantage is miniscule at best. I was completely shattered by the realization that I misplayed a winning position. 18...Re6 4:00 19.Rc2 5:07 Bf8 4:18 20.Rfc1 56 Re8 40 21.Rd1 7:59



Re6?! 4:55 22.Rdc1? 4:49

[Here I missed a difficult line to see that secures a slight advantage.

Δ22.Bd5 Rxd6 23.Na5 Rf6

(23...b5? 24.e4+-) 24.Nc4 Bc5

25.Nxe5 d6 (25...Bxf2+? 26.Kg2

Ba7 27.Ng4 Rb6 28.Rf1) 26.Nd3±]

22...Re8 9 23.Rd1 5:01 Re6 8

I sheepishly offered a draw here which Stephen accepted.

1/2-1/2

□ Mercado,Adam

■ Chen,Quincy

2026 New Year TNM: 2000+ (3.3) 20.1.26

[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 4 e5 7 2.Nf3 6 Nc6 5 3.d4 13
exd4 8 4.Bc4 12 Bb4+ 52 A distant
third in appearance to 4...Bc5 and 4...
Nf6, but Stockfish rates it excellent.

[4...Nf6 5.e5 (5.0-0 Nxe4)]

[4...Bc5

A) 5.0-0 d6 (5...Nf6 6.e5!? d5!
7.exf6 dxc4 8.fxg7 Rg8);

B) 5.c3]

5.c3 13 (White is compelled to "go
gambit") 5...dxc3 7 6.0-0 10 Nf6 52

7.a3 5:29

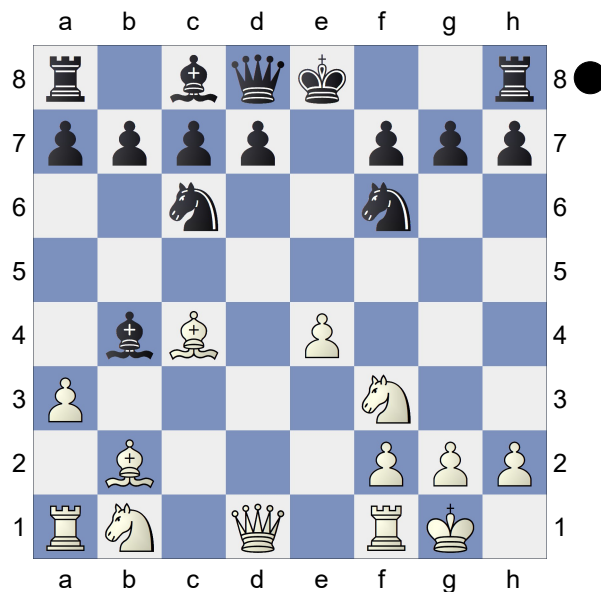
[Relevant: 7.e5 d5 8.exf6 dxc4
9.fxg7 Rg8 10.Qxd8+ (10.Qe2+
Be6 11.bxc3 Bc5 12.Ng5 Qd3
13.Re1 Qxe2 14.Rxe2 0-0-0 15.Nd2
Bd5 16.Nge4 Be7 17.Ng3 Rxc7
18.Ndf1 Bf6 19.Bd2 Rgg8 20.Ne3
Be6 21.Rb1 Rd3 22.Be1 Bxc3
23.Bxc3 Rxc3 24.Ne4 Ra3 25.Nc5
Nd4 26.Reb2 b5 27.Nxe6 fxe6
28.Rc1 a6 29.Kh1 Rd3 30.h3 c3
31.Rb4 c5 32.Rbb1 b4 33.Nc4 Kc7
34.Re1 a5 35.Nxa5 Ra8 36.Nc4
Rxa2 37.Re5 Kc6 38.Ree1 Kb5
39.Nd6+ Ka4 40.Ne4 Kb5 41.Nd6+
Kc6 42.Nc4 Kb7 43.Nd6+ Ka7
44.Ne4 Kb6 45.Nd6 c2 46.Rbc1 b3
47.Nc4+ Kb5 48.Nd6+ Kc6 49.Nc4
Rc3 50.Ne5+ Kb5 0-1 (50) Mamedov,
R (2703)-Matlakov,M (2700) St
Petersburg 2018) 10...Nxd8 11.Nxc3
Bxc3 12.bxc3 f6 13.Bh6 Kf7 14.Nd4
Kg6 15.Bf4 Rxc7 16.Rfe1 a6
17.Re8 Bd7 18.Rf8 Rf7 19.Rg8+
Rg7 20.Rf8 Rf7 21.Rg8+ ½-½ (21)
Mastrovasilis,D (2587)-Vidit,S (2719)
Baku 2023]

7...cxb2?! 4:06 Risky development

C44 deficit!

1969 [7...Be7!?]

2099 8.Bxb2 7

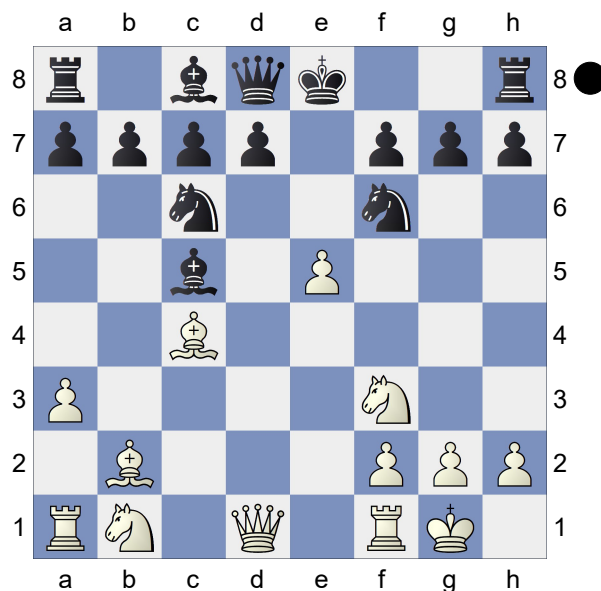


Bc5? 52

[8...Ba5±]

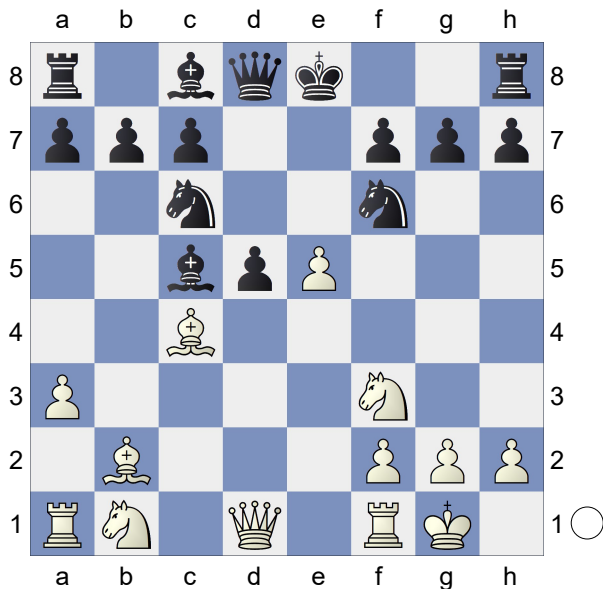
[8...Be7±]

9.e5!+- 4:46



d5N 12

[Predecessor: 9...Ng4 10.Qd5 Qe7
11.h3 Bxf2+ 12.Rxf2 Nxf2 13.Kxf2
b6 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Rd1 0-0-0
16.Ne4 Nb8 17.Qd3 d5 18.exd6
Qxd6 1-0 (18) Trevis,R (1114)-
Selmeczi,J (1714) LSS email 2015]



This is (should be!) even worse than any knight move (well not 9...Ne4).

10.Bb3??= 7:03

[10.exf6! dxc4 11.Qe2+ Be6
12.Rd1! (12.fxg7 Rg8 13.Rd1
Qe7±) 12...Bd6 13.fxg7 Rg8
14.Nbd2 Qe7 15.Ne4 0-0-0
16.Bf6+-]

10...Ng4= 25:54 (!)

[10...Nh5= 11.Nc3! Be6 12.Bxd5
0-0=]

11.Nc3 24:43 Ne7 9:51

[11...0-0]
[11...Be6]

12.Nxd5 9:27 Nxd5 2:36 13.Bxd5= 1:48

White has the proverbial "more than enough" for the pawn, although it's hardly substantial **13...c6! 2:38 14.Qc2? 18:52**

[14.Ba2]
[14.Bb3]
[14.Bc4]

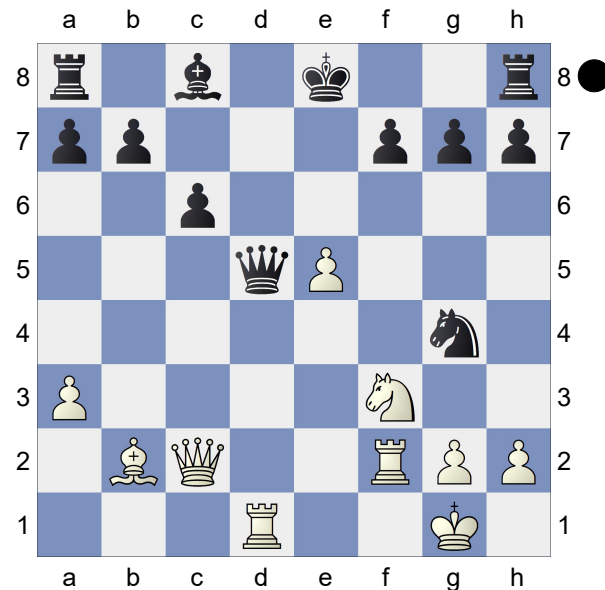
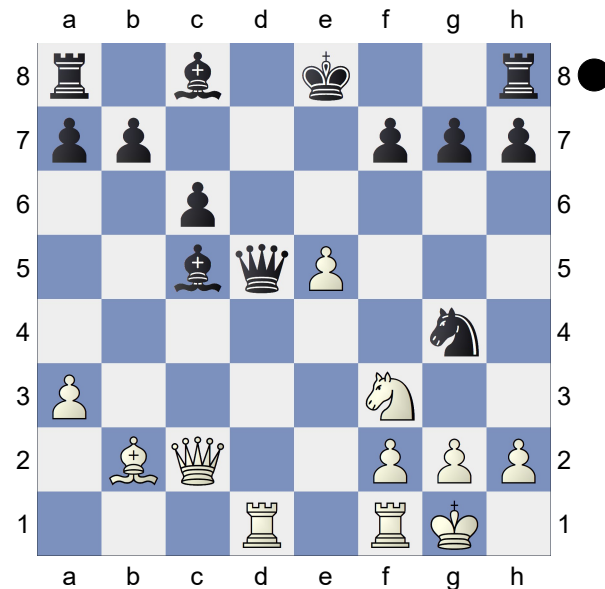
14...Qxd5 5:27 15.Rad1!? 29

(Diagram)

Bxf2+ 4:14

[15...Bf5! 16.Rxd5 Bxf2+ 17.Qxf2!
Nxf2 18.Rd4 Nd3±]

16.Rxf2 6:22



Bf5!? 57

[16...Ne3! 17.Rxd5 Nxc2 18.Rd3
Bf5 19.Rc3 Rd8 20.Rfxc2 Bxc2
21.Rxc2 Rd3 22.Kf2 0-0±]

17.Qc1! 51 Qa5 5:48 18.Rff1 3:03

(Diagram)

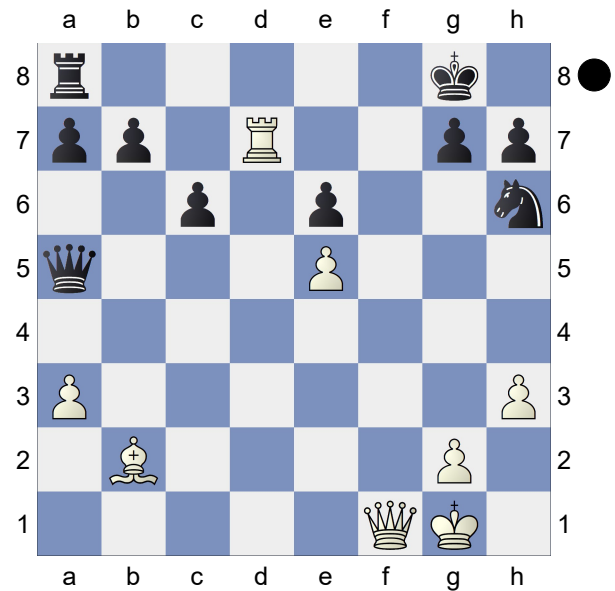
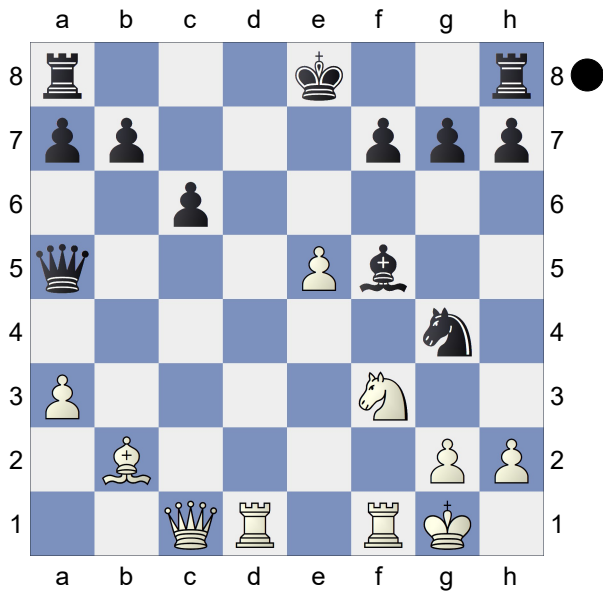
0-0! 5:18 19.h3 28 Nh6□ 1:44 20.Nd4 4:41

[20.g4!=]

20...Be6 6:07

[20...Qb6!±]

(Diagram)



Rf8? 1:39

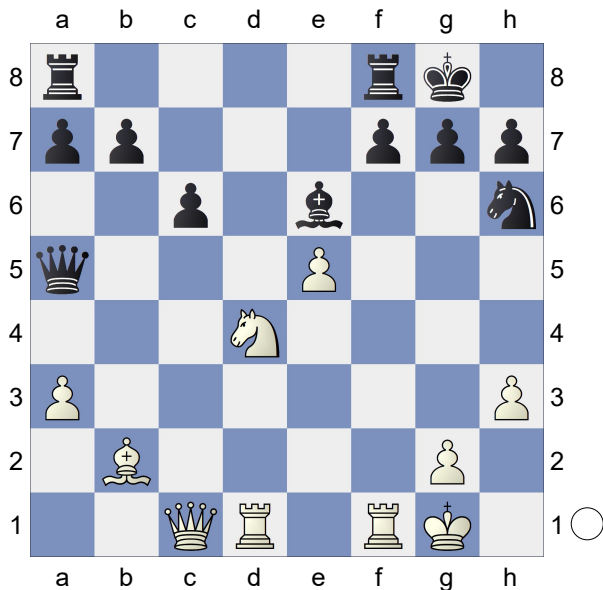
[23...Nf5-+]

[23...Qb6+ 24.Bd4 c5 25.Bf2

Nf5-+]

[23...Rd8 24.Bc3 Qb6+ 25.Bd4 c5

26.Rxd8+ Qxd8 27.Bxc5 a6-+]



21.Nxe6? 12

[21.Rf6!= c5 (else 22.Rxh6)

(21...gxf6?? 22.Qxh6+-) 22.Rxe6!

A) 22...fxe6 23.Nxe6 Rf7

(23...Qb5 24.Nxf8 Rxf8 25.Re1=)

24.Ng5 Rf5 (24...Re7? 25.Qc2!+-

g6 26.Qc4+ Kf8 27.Qh4) 25.g4

(25.Rd7 c4□ 26.Qxc4+ Kh8

27.Nf3 Rxf3!=) 25...Rxc5□

26.Qxc5 Qc7=;

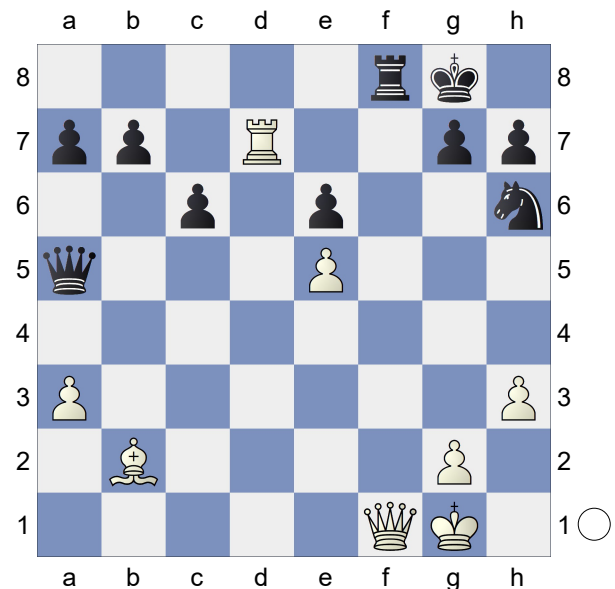
B) 22...cxd4]

21...fxe6 8 22.Rd7 6:21

[22.Rxf8+]

22...Rxf1+ 30 23.Qxf1 9

(Diagram)



24.Qd1? 1:36

[24.Qc4!± Qb6+ 25.Bd4 Qb1+

26.Kh2 Qf5 27.Rxb7 Qf4+

A) 28.g3? Qd2+ 29.Kh1 Qe1+

30.Kh2 c5!;

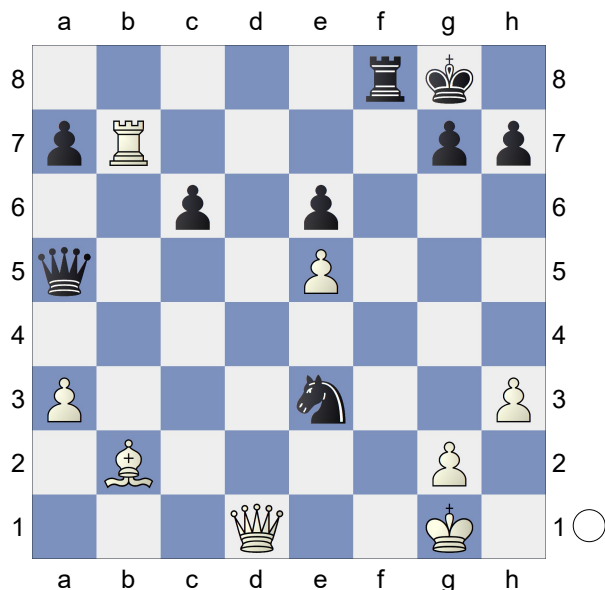
B) 28.Kh1? Nf5 29.Qxe6+ Kh8

30.Qd7 Ng3+ (30...Qxd4??

31.Qxf5!=) 31.Kg1 (31.Kh2 Nf1+

32.Kh1 Qh2#) 31...Qxd4+!
C) 28.Kg1= Nf5 29.Qxe6+ Kh8
 30.Bxa7= (30.Bf2=)]

24...Nf5-+ 8:05 25.Rxb7 2:51 Ne3 5:14

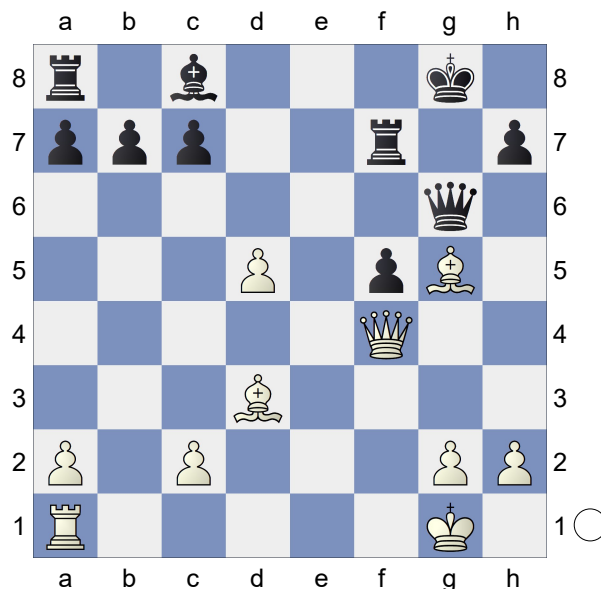


26.Qb3? 59

[26.Qe2 Qc5 27.Qd2 Nf5+ 28.Kh2 h6-+]

26...Qe1+ 20 27.Kh2 20 Nf1+ 7 28.Kg1
 56 Nd2+ 13 29.Kh2 5 Nxb3 9 30.Rxb3
 6 Rf1 24
 0-1

11 Rf7 2:03



20.Bc4?? 2:04 Rg7-+ 10:55 21.d6+ 59
 Be6?? 1

[21...Kh8]

22.dxc7= 1:21 h6 11:23 23.Re1 2:40
 hxg5?? 2:29

[23...Bxc4 24.Qxc4+ Kh7 25.c8R
 Qxg5 26.g3 Rxc8 27.Qxc8=]

24.Rxe6 51 gxf4 59 25.Rxg6+ 2 Kh7
 27 26.Rxg7+ 4:28
 1-0

□ Cawthon,Jeremy David

■ Lewis,Edward

2026 New Year TNM: 2000+ (3.4) 20.1.26
 [Winslow,Elliott]

B09

2098

1946

□ Walder,Michael

■ Sevall,Daniel

2026 New Year TNM: 2000+ (3.7) 20.1.26
 [TA]

B32

1980

1898

1.e4 30 d6 37 2.d4 53 Nf6 7 3.Nc3 8
 g6 6 4.f4 15 Bg7 2 5.Nf3 7 0-0 23
 6.Bd3 34 Nc6 45

[6...Na6!?]

7.0-0 3:01 e5 1:33 8.fxe5 27 dxe5 7
 9.d5 12 Ne7 2:23 10.Nxe5 3:46 Nxe4
 3:18 11.Nxg6 11:01 Nxc3 17:09
 12.Nxe7+ 51 Qxe7 10 13.bxc3 7 Bxc3
 15 14.Qh5 1:50 f5 29 15.Bh6 2:12 Qf7
 5:33 16.Qg5+ 6:07 Qg6 6 17.Qf4 1:01
 Rf6 1:27 18.Bg5 1:12 Bxa1 5 19.Rxa1

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
 e5 5.Nb5 d6 6.N1c3 a6 7.Na3 Be6
 8.Nc4 Be7

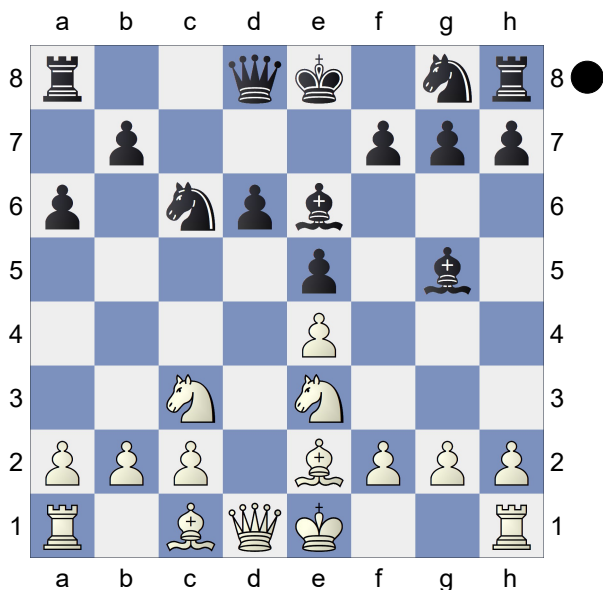
[8...Rb8 9.Ne3 Nf6 10.Bd3 g6
 11.0-0 Bg7 12.Re1 0-0 13.Ncd5
 Bxd5 14.exd5 Ne7 15.c4 Nd7
 16.Rb1 f5 17.b4 b6 18.Rb3 Qc7
 19.a3 Kh8 20.Bb2 Ng8 21.Nf1 Ngf6
 22.Be2 Rbe8 23.h4 e4 24.h5 Ne5
 25.hxg6 hxg6 26.Rh3+ Kg8 27.Nd2
 g5 28.Bxe5 Rxe5 29.Nb3 g4

30.Rh1 e3 31.Bd3 exf2+ 32.Kxf2
Ne4+ 33.Kg1 Ng3 34.Rxe5 Bxe5
35.Rh6 Qg7 36.Qd2 Rf6 37.Rxf6
Qxf6 38.Qe3 1-0 Esipenko,A (2682)-
Nakamura,H (2807) Titled Tuesday
intern op 02nd Sep Chess.com INT
blitz 2025 (9)]

9.Ne3 0.16/38

[9.Nd5± 0.52/29]

9...Bg5 10.Be2



h6N The position is equal.

[10...Nf6 11.0-0 Rc8 12.Ned5 Bxc1
13.Rxc1 Nd4 14.Nxf6+ Qxf6 15.Bg4
0-0 16.Bxe6 fxe6 17.Ne2 Rc6 18.c3
Nb5 19.a4 Nc7 20.Qb3 b6 21.Rcd1
b5 22.axb5 axb5 23.Rd3 Rd8
24.Rfd1 Qf7 25.Ng3 Rb6 26.R1d2
Na6 27.Qd1 Qe7 28.b4 Nc7 29.Ra2
Ne8 30.Qa1 Rc8 31.Nf1 Qb7 32.f3
Rbc6 33.Ne3 Qb6 34.Kh1 Nf6
35.Ra8 Ne8 36.Rxc8 Rxc8 37.h3
Qc6 38.Qa7 Nc7 39.Qa2 Ra8
40.Qd2 ½-½ Nosedo,F (1966)-Santos
Filho,T (2080) Rio de Janeiro CXG
2nd 2016 (4.3)]

11.0-0 Nf6 12.Ned5 Bxc1 0.07/40

[12...Bxd5 -0.29/31 13.Bxg5
(13.exd5 Bxc1 14.Rxc1 Ne7±)
13...hxg5 14.exd5 Nd4]

13.Rxc1 -0.33/36

[13.Nxf6+!= 0.07/40 is superior. Qxf6
14.Rxc1]

13...Nd4 0.11/32

[13...Bxd5± -0.33/36 14.exd5 Nd4]

**14.Bd3 0-0 15.Nxf6+ Qxf6 16.Ne2
Nc6**

[16...Bxa2? 17.Nxd4 exd4 18.b3+-]

17.Ng3 Rad8

[17...Bxa2?! 18.b3±]

**18.c4 Nd4 19.Ne2 Nc6 20.a3 Qg5
21.Rc3 Bh3 22.Ng3 Bg4 23.Be2 Be6
24.Qc1**

[24.Nh5 feels hotter. g6 25.f4 exf4
26.Nxf4 Qe5 27.Rg3]

24...Qxc1 25.Rfxc1 f5 0.40/33

[Black should try 25...g6= -0.11/34]

26.exf5± Bxf5 27.Bf3 aiming for Bd5+.

27...Nd4 1.02/30

[27...Be6= 0.23/32]

28.Bxb7± Black is on the road to losing.

28...Rb8 1.67/29

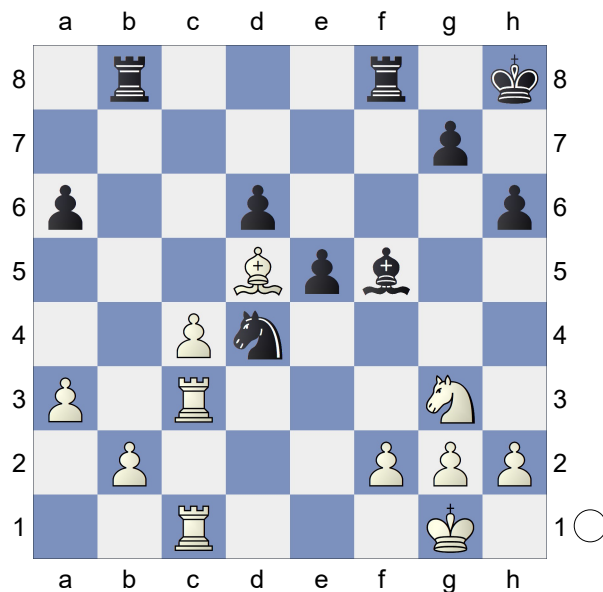
[28...a5± 0.99/33]

29.Bd5+-

[Resist 29.Bxa6?! Rxb2 30.c5 Bc8±]

29...Kh8 2.36/29

[29...Be6± 1.54/33]

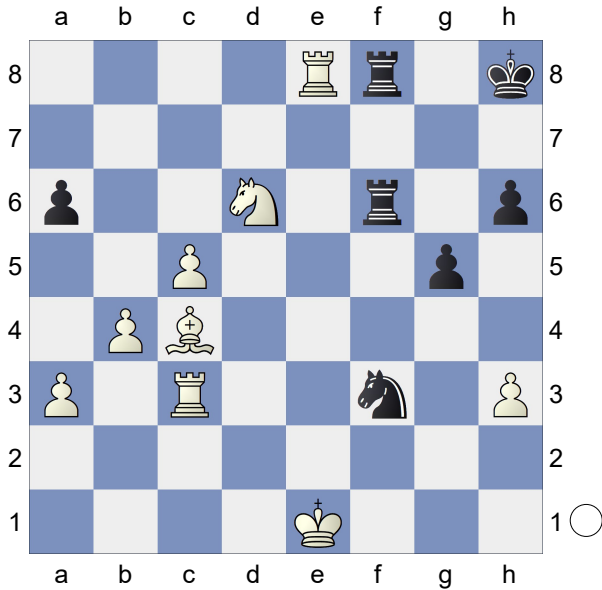


30.b4! Rf6 31.Kf1 Bg4 3.96/33

[31...Bg6 2.78/33 is a better defense.
32.c5 dxc5]

32.h3 Bd7 4.83/29

[32...Be6 3.43/31 33.Bxe6 Rxe6]
 33.Ne4 Deflection 33...Rf4 34.Nxd6
 Rbf8 35.f3 g5 36.Re1 R4f6 37.c5
 Bb5+ 38.Bc4 Bd7 39.Rxe5 Bxh3
 40.gxh3 Nxf3 41.Re8 Nd4+ 42.Ke1
 Nf3+



43.Rxf3! Rxf3

[43...Rxe8+ 44.Kf2]

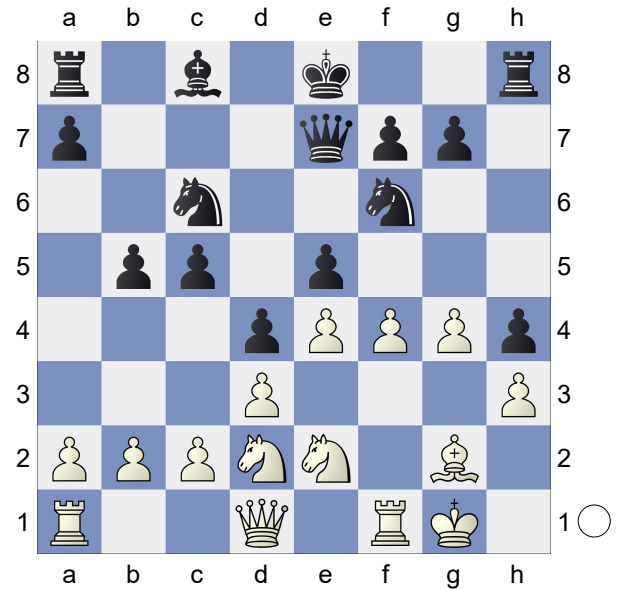
44.Rxf8+ Rxf8 45.c6 Weighted Error
 Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.
 49
 1-0

□ Rajaram,Raghu 1821
 ■ Horowitz,Phineas F 1951
 2026 New Year TNM: 2000+ (3.8) 20.1.26
 [Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 d4
 5.Nb1 Nc6 6.d3 Nf6 7.Ne2 e5 8.h3
 h5 9.Bg5 Be7 10.0-0 b5 11.f4 Nh7
 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Nd2 h4 14.g4 Nf6

(Diagram)

15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.b4 Nfxg4 17.hxg4
 Nxg4 18.Nf4 h3 19.Bf3 Ne3 20.Qe2

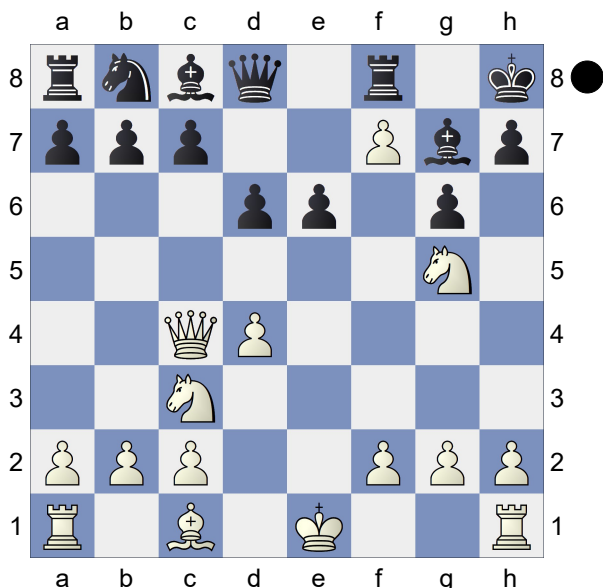


Qg5+ 21.Kh1 Nxf1 22.Rxf1 Qxf4
 23.Bh5 Qxf1+ 24.Nxf1 cxb4 25.Qf2
 Be6 26.Bf3 Rc8 27.Bd1 Rd8 28.Ng3
 Rh6 29.Nf5 Rg6 30.Nxd4 Rg2 31.Qe3
 Bc8 32.Nf5 Rg6 33.Qxh3 Bxf5
 34.Qxf5 Ke7 35.Qc5+ Rgd6 36.e5
 Rh8+ 37.Kg1 b3 38.axb3
 1-0

□ Hasteer,Divija 1839
 ■ Admassu,Yonathan 1838
 2026 New Year TNM: 2000+ (3.10)
 [Winslow,Elliott]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.Bc4
 Bg7 5.Qe2 0-0
 [5...Nc6 6.e5 Nxd4 7.exf6 Nxe2
 8.fxg7 Rg8 9.Ngxe2 Rxg7 (9...e6;
 9...c6; 9...Bd7) 10.Bh6 Rg8 11.0-0-0
 c6=]
 6.e5 Nfd7 7.e6 Nb6
 [7...fxe6 8.Bxe6+ Kh8 9.Nf3 Nb6
 10.d5±]
 8.exf7+ Kh8 9.Nf3± Nxc4 10.Qxc4
 e6? 11.Ng5+-

(Diagram)



Qe7?!

[11...d5 12.Qd3 e5 13.dxe5+-]

12.0-0?

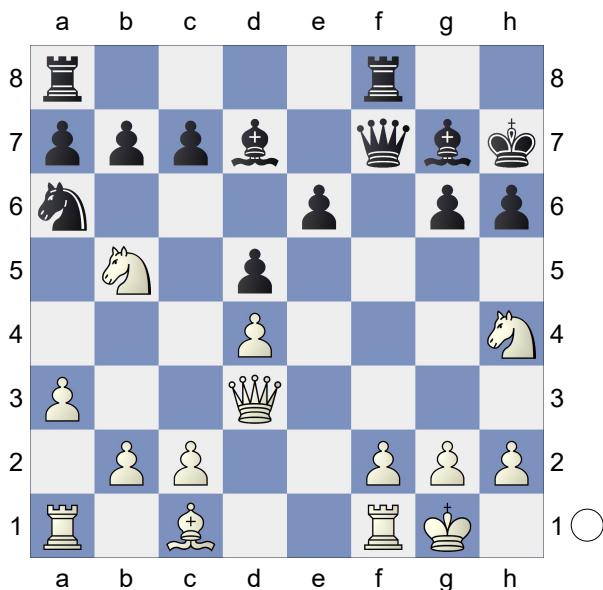
[12.h4 Rxf7 13.h5!]

12...h6!± 13.Nf3?

[13.Qd3!]

13...d5 14.Qd3 Qxf7 15.Nh4 Kh7

16.Nb5 Na6 17.a3 Bd7



18.Nc3??

[18.Nf3!=]

18...c5!-+ 19.Ne2 cxd4 20.Nxd4 Qf6

[20...e5! 21.Ne2 e4 22.Qg3 g5]

21.Qg3!? (46m remaining)

[21.Nhf3 e5]

21...e5 (46m)

[21...Nc5!? 22.Nhf3 e5 23.Nb3
(23.Bg5!? hxg5 24.Nxg5+ Kg8
25.Qh4 Rf7! 26.Ndf3 Ne6)]

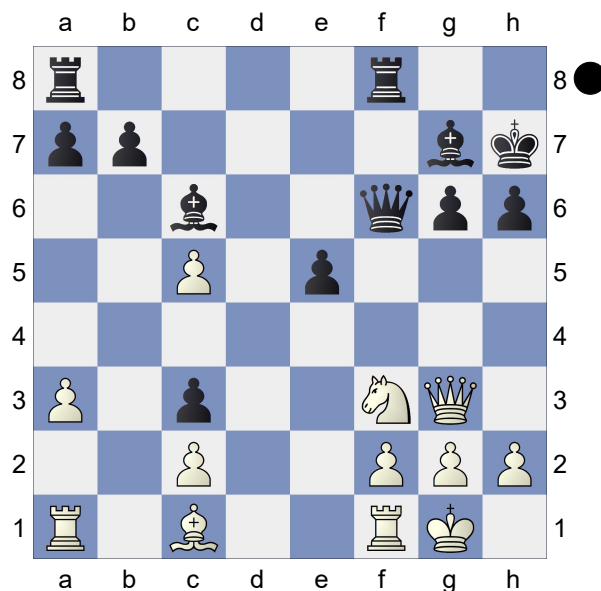
22.Ne2

[22.Ndf3 Rae8]

22...Nc5 23.Nc3 Bc6 24.Nf3 (19m)

24...d4 (35m) 25.b4!? dxc3 26.bxc5

[26.Ng5+ hxg5 27.Bxg5 Qf5]



26...Bxf3?? (turns a won game into next to nothing (≈ -0.30/31))

[26...e4! keeps a big advantage
(Stockfish just crossed +5/27 on my
comp): White can sac on g5, or
27.Nh4 (or 27.Ne1 Bb5) 27...g5]

27.gxf3?

[27.Qxf3! Qxf3 28.gxf3 Rxf3 29.Rb1
Rf7 30.Rb3

**A) 30...e4 31.Be3 Rc8 32.Rfb1
Rcc7 33.Rb4 Bf8 (33...Rfe7
34.Kg2=) 34.R1b3 Bxc5 35.Bxc5
Rxc5 36.Rxb7 Rcc7 37.Rxc7
Rxc7 38.Rb4;**

B) 30...Rc8]

27...Rfc8??

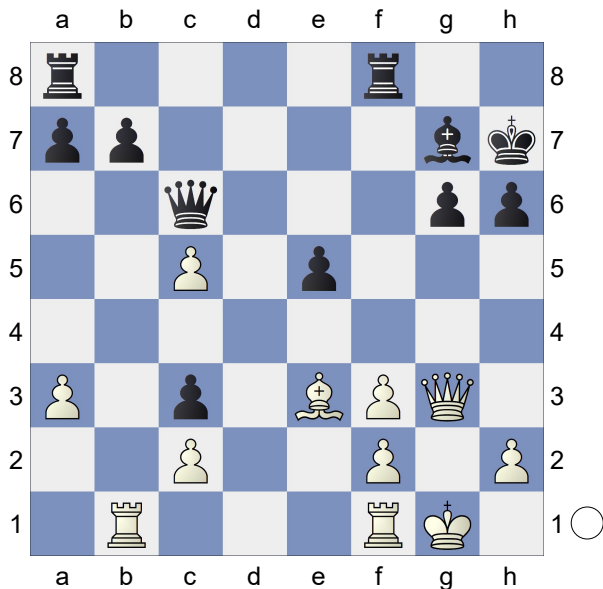
[27...Qc6!-+]

28.Rb1

[28.Be3]

28...Qc6 29.Be3 Rf8

(Diagram)



30.f4?

[30.Rfd1!± Rf6 31.Qxe5! Qxf3!
(31...Rxf3? 32.Qe7+-) 32.Qg3 Qc6
33.Qg4±]

30...Rf5?=-

[30...exf4± 31.Bxf4 Rf7 32.Bd6 Re8
33.Qd3 Re4 34.Rb4 Re6]

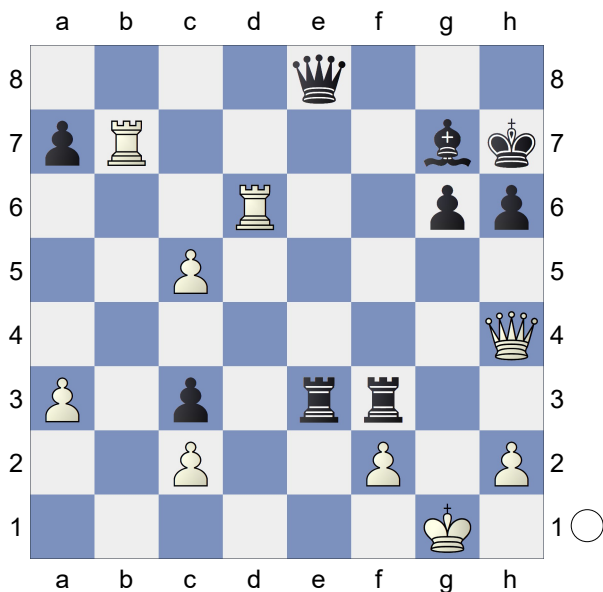
**31.fxe5 Rf3 32.Qh4 Re8! 33.Rfd1
Rxe5**

[33...Rxe3!? 34.fxe3 Rxe5 35.Rd6
Qxc5 36.Rd3 b5]

34.Rd6 Qe8

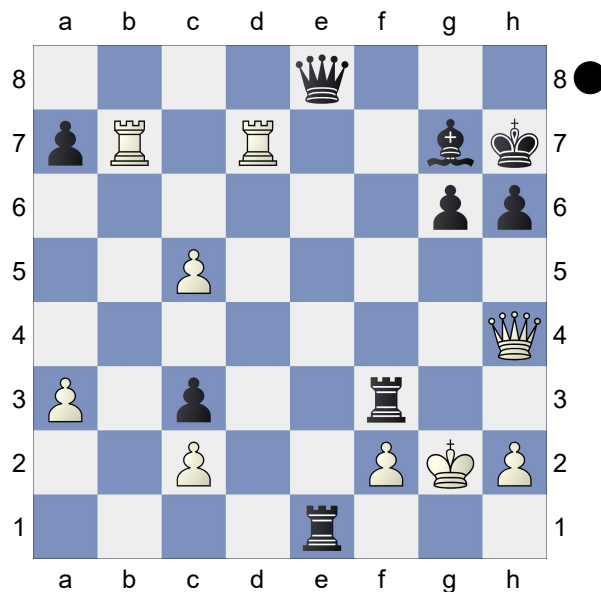
[34...Qc8]

35.Rxb7 Rxe3



36.Rdd7??

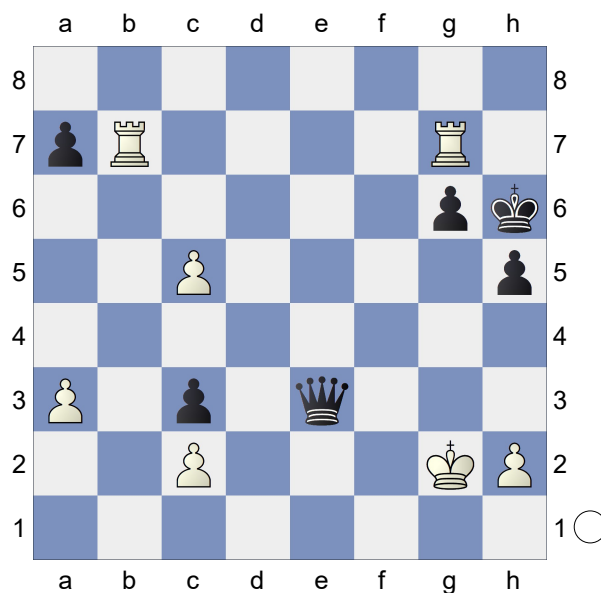
[36.Rxg7+! Kxg7 37.Qd4+ Re5
38.Rd5 Rff5 39.f4! Rxf4 40.Rxe5=]
36...Re1+ 37.Kg2



Rxf2+!-+ 38.Qxf2 (other moves are a
quick mate) **38...Qe4+! 39.Kh3**

[39.Qf3 Re2+ 40.Kg3 Qe5+ 41.Qf4
Re3+ 42.Kg2 Qxf4 43.Rxg7+ Kh8
44.Rh7+ Kg8 45.Rhg7+ Kf8]
[39.Kg3 Re3+]

**39...Re3+ 40.Qxe3 Qxe3+ 41.Kg2 h5
42.Rxg7+ Kh6**



43.h4 (There was no better) **DRAW?**
Black is winning.

[43.h4 Qe4+ (or 43...Qe2+) 44.Kg3
Qg4+ 45.Kf2 Qxh4+ 46.Ke3 Qe1+

47.Kd3 Qd2+ 48.Kc4 Qxc2-+]
1/2-1/2

□ **Melville,Cailen Jeremiah**

■ **Steger,Eric**

2026 New Year TNM: 2000+ (3.11)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
5.Nc3 0-0 6.Nge2 e5 7.Bg5 c6 8.Qd2
Qb6 9.d5 c5 10.g4 Qb4 11.Ng3 Re8
12.Nb5 Na6 13.Nxd6 Rd8 14.Nb5 Bd7
15.Nc3 Nc7 16.a3 Qb3 17.Nge2 h6
18.Be3 Qb6 19.b4 Na6 20.b5 Nb8
21.Na4 Qc7 22.Bxc5 b6 23.Be7 Re8
24.Nec3 a6 25.d6 Qb7 26.h4 axb5
27.Bxf6 bxa4 28.Nd5 Na6 29.Rb1 b5
30.cxb5 Be6 31.Bxg7 Kxg7 32.Rd1
Bxd5 33.bxa6 Qb3 34.exd5 Qxf3
35.Rh3 Qe4+ 36.Be2 Qg2 37.Qd3 e4
38.Qg3 Qxg3+ 39.Rxg3 Kf6 40.Bb5
Red8 41.d7 Ke7 42.Rc3 f5 43.Rc8
1-0

□ **Dutter,Frederic**

■ **Wickliffe,Zachary**

2026 New Year TNM: 1600-1999 (3.5)

1.e4 52 c5 5 2.Nf3 7 Nc6 9 3.Bb5 6 g6
8 4.Bxc6 14 dxc6 7 5.d3 3 Bg7 23
6.h3 13 Nf6 18 7.Nc3 40 0-0 23 8.Be3
17 b6 20 9.Qd2 1:27 a5 5:44 10.Bh6
15 a4 1:44 11.Bxg7 12 Kxg7 5 12.0-0
44 Qc7 4:53 13.Nh2 3:53 e5 10:19
14.Ne2 12:33 c4 4:43 15.f4 3:32 cxd3
6:50 16.cxd3 1:22 exf4 6:49 17.Qc3
4:20 Ra5 1:52 18.Rxf4 9:16 Re5 1:15
19.Nf3 16:17 Re6 9:08 20.Rf1 3:53 h6
5:10 21.Nfd4 3:36 Rd6 2:38 22.Nb5 53
1-0

E81

1950

1909

□ **Powers,Christopher**

■ **Dash,Satyakam**

2026 New Year TNM: 1600-1999 (3.12)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4
Bc5 5.Be3 Qf6 6.c3 Nge7 7.Bc4 0-0
8.0-0 Ne5 9.Be2 d5 10.Nd2 N5c6
11.Nxc6 Qxc6 12.Bxc5 Qxc5 13.e5
Ng6 14.Nb3 Qb6 15.Qxd5 Be6
16.Qe4 Bxb3 17.axb3 Nxe5 18.Qxe5
Rfe8 19.Qb5 Qxb5 20.Bxb5 c6 21.Bc4
b5 22.Bd3 Kf8 23.Rfe1 Rad8
24.Rxe8+ Kxe8 25.Be4 Rd6 26.Kf1 g6
27.Rxa7 f5 28.Bf3 b4 29.Rxh7 g5
30.h3
1-0

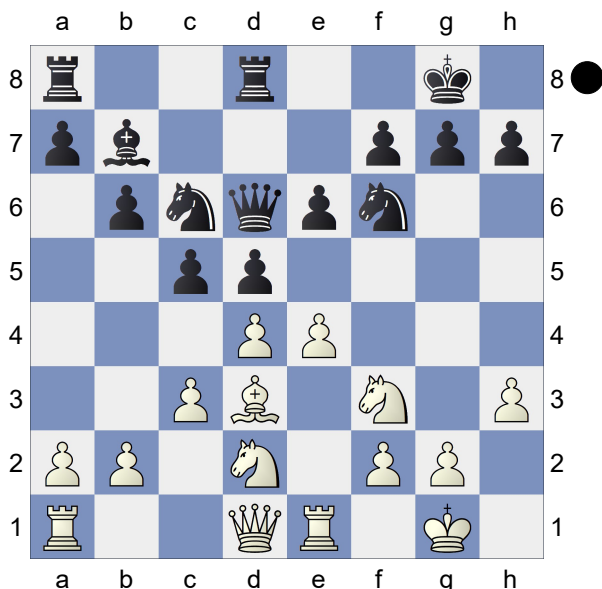
□ **Morello,Nicholas**

■ **Chernobilskiy,Mikhail**

2026 New Year TNM: 1600-1999 (3.13)

[Winslow,Elliott]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 d5 3.e3 e6 4.Nd2 c5
5.c3 Nc6 6.Ngf3 Bd6 7.Bxd6 Qxd6
8.Bd3 0-0 9.0-0 Rd8 10.h3 b6 11.Re1
Bb7 12.e4



dxe4 13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.Bxe4 g6

B31

1900

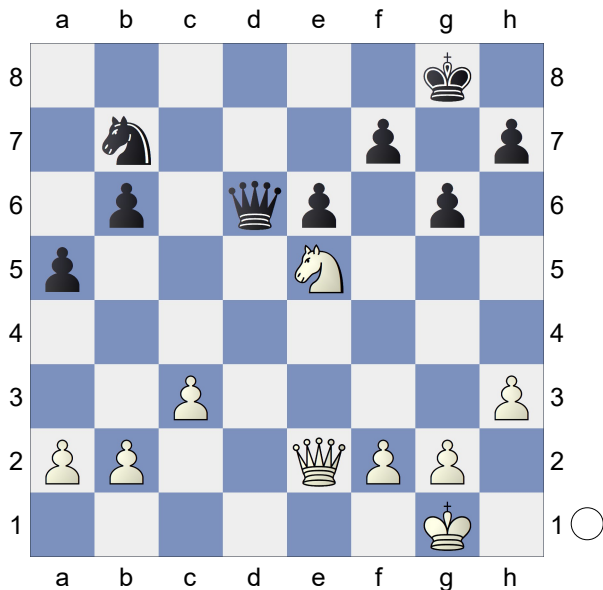
1560

D02

1727

1801

15.dxc5 Qxc5 16.Qe2 a5 17.Rad1
Rxd1 18.Rxd1 Rd8 19.Rxd8+ Nxd8
20.Bxb7 Nxb7 21.Ne5 Qd6



22.Nxf7 Qf4 23.Ne5 Nc5 24.Nc4 b5
25.Nxa5 Ne4 26.Nb3 e5 27.Qe3 Qf5
28.Qf3 Qxf3 29.gxf3 Nd6 30.Nd2 Kf7
31.b3 h6 32.Kg2 Ke6 33.Ne4 Nb7
34.Kg3 Nd8 35.f4 Nc6 36.Kf3 Ne7
37.a4 bxa4 38.bxa4 Kf5 39.fxe5 Kxe5
40.a5 Nc6 41.a6 h5 42.h4 Kf5
43.Nd6+ Ke6 44.Nb5
1-0

□ Sarmasi,Aron

■ Mays-Smith,Isaac S

2026 New Year TNM: 1600-1999 (3.14)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 0-0
5.Bg2 c6 6.Nc3 d5 7.cxd5 cxd5 8.0-0
Nc6 9.Qb3 a6 10.Bg5 Ne4 11.Be3
Na5 12.Qxd5 Nxc3 13.Qxd8 Nxe2+
14.Kh1 Rxd8 15.Rfe1 Nxd4 16.Bxd4
Bxd4 17.Rad1 Nc6 18.Nxd4 Rxd4
19.Bxc6 Rxd1 20.Rxd1 bxc6 21.Rd8+
Kg7
0-1

D79

1773

1618

□ Dees,Calvin

■ Siegel,David

2026 New Year TNM: 1600-1999 (3.15)

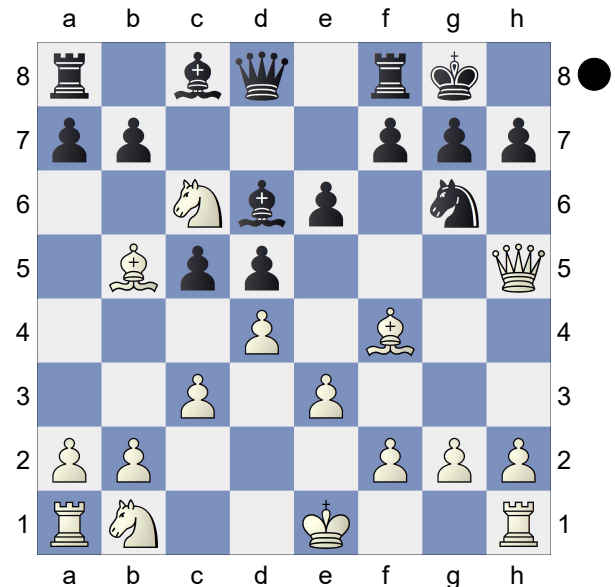
[Siegel,David]

D02

1730

1587

1.Nf3 c5 2.c3 d5 3.d4 Nc6 4.Bf4 e6
5.e3 Bd6 6.Ne5 Nge7 7.Bb5 0-0
8.Qh5 Ng6 9.Nxc6



bx c6

[The computer thinks 9...Nxf4
is best. But it's still hard for me to see
why Black is so much better after say
10.exf4 bxc6 11.dxc5 Bxc5 12.Bd3
g6 13.Qe2]

10.Bxd6 Qxd6 11.Bd3 c4 12.Bxg6

(I spent a while deciding how to
recapture; I decided to play aggressively.
) **12...fxg6 13.Qd1**

[EW (Stockfish): 13.Qe5 Qxe5
14.dxe5 Rb8]

**13...e5 14.Nd2 e4 15.0-0 Rf5 16.f4
h5 17.Rf2 Rf6** (This was an immediate
regret. My thought at the time was to
threaten connecting the rooks with ...
Bg4 (or gaining a tempo and maybe a
hook with 18. h3),

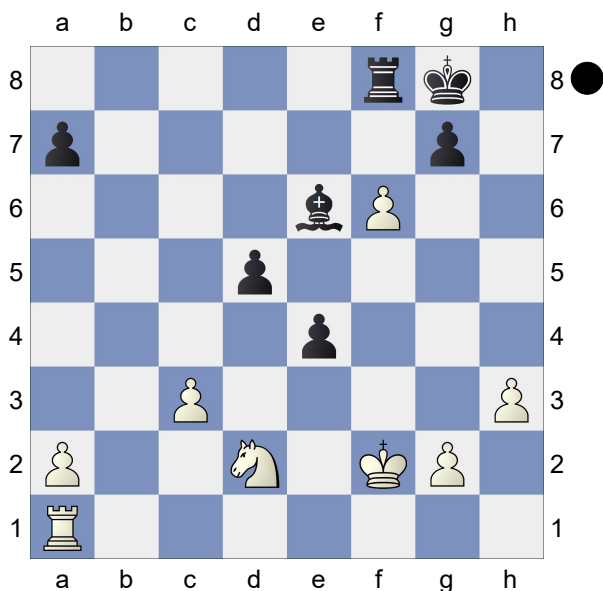
[but I regretted not playing 17...g5
immediately.]

18.h3 Be6 19.b3 Raf8 20.bxc4 g5

21.cxd5 cxd5 22.Qxh5 gxf4 23.Qe5 Qxe5

[A few moves earlier I had thought 23...Qd7 would allow me to trap the White queen, but after 24.Rxf4 (24.exf4??) 24...Rxf4 25.exf4 Rf5 I'm no longer covering the b8 square: 26.Qb8+]

24.dxe5 fxe3 25.exf6 exf2+ 26.Kxf2=



(I thought about how to recapture but decided it would be better to have fewer pawn islands and to defend the e-pawn a second time. The rook check doesn't really get me anything. The downside is that my light squared pawns make my bishop kind of bad.) (EW: And White gets a passed h-pawn for no work)

26...gxf6

[26...Rxf6+]

27.Ke3 f5 28.g3 Rc8 29.Kd4 Kf7

30.Rb1 Rc7 31.Rb4 Kf6 32.h4 Rg7

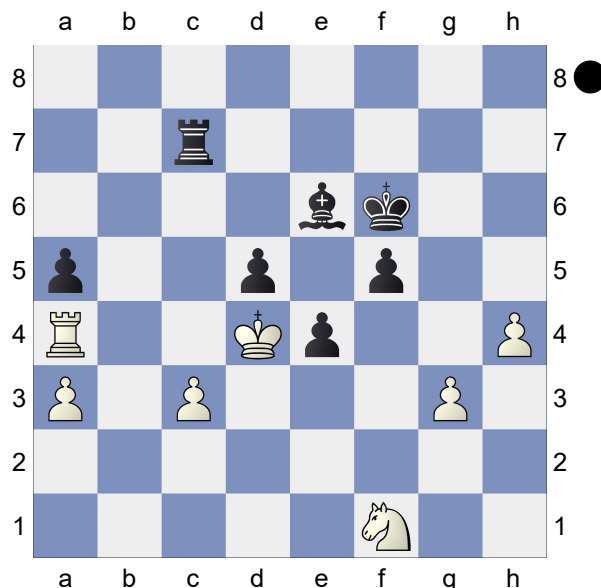
(I was very low on time at this point and would have been fine with a draw.)

33.Nf1 Rc7 34.Ne3 Rg7 35.Nf1 Rc7

36.a3 a5 37.Ra4

(Diagram)

Bd7 I had considered 37... Ra7, but I thought I had found a more



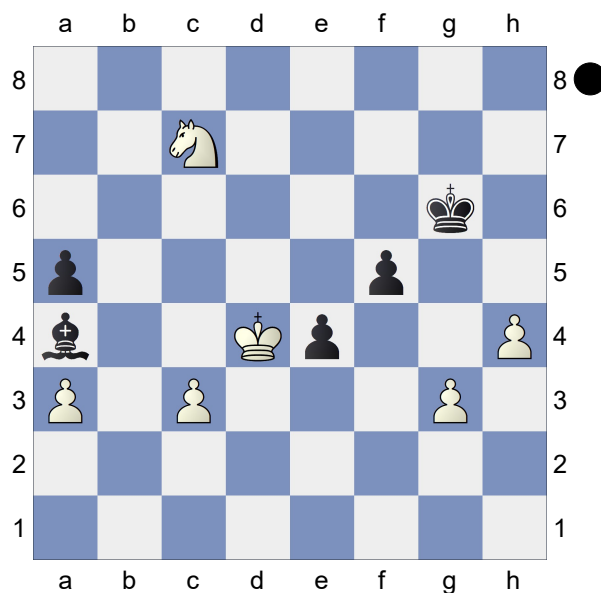
straightforward path to victory.

Unfortunately, I had missed something, and my opponent managed to find the devastating only-move!

[EW: Stockfish makes this to be winning after 37...Ra7! 38.Ne3 Ra8 39.h5 Ra6 40.h6 Ra7 -- but I don't know, working with Zugzwang and the advanced passed e-pawn?]

38.Ne3!+- Bxa4 39.Nxd5+ Kg6

40.Nxc7



Kh5 41.Nd5 Kg4 42.Ke5

[EW (Stockfish): 42.Ne3+!

A) 42...Kxg3

A1) 43.Nxf5+ Kg4+- 44.Nd6

(44.Ne3+);

A2) 43.h5! Be8 (43...f4 44.h6;
43...Bb3 44.c4) 44.Nxf5+ Kg4
45.h6 Bg6 46.Ne7 Bh7
47.c4+-;

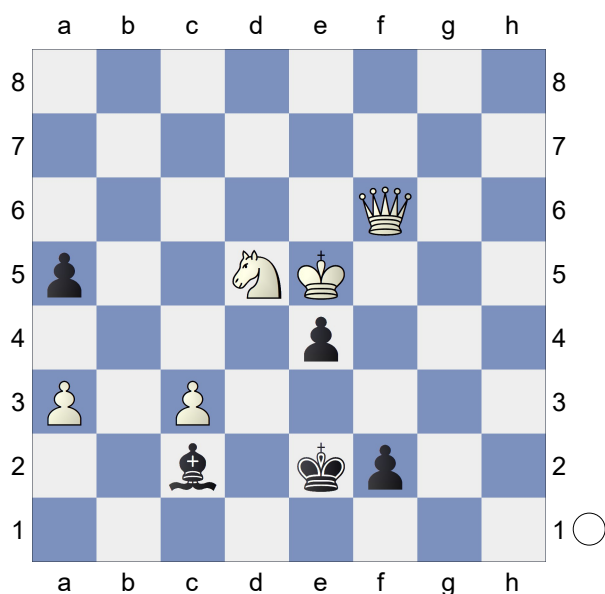
B) 42...Kh5]

**42...Kxg3 43.h5! Bc2 44.h6 f4 45.h7
f3 46.h8Q f2 47.Qg7+**

[47.Qf8]

[47.Qf6]

47...Kf3 48.Qf6+ Ke2



49.Qa6+??

[EW: 49.Nf4+

A) 49...Ke1 50.Qh4 e3 51.Kd4 e2
52.Ng2+ Kd1 (52...Kf1 53.Qh1#)
53.Qxf2;

B) 49...Kd2]

[49.Kd4 f1Q 50.Qxf1+ Kxf1

51.Ne3+ & 52.Nxc3]

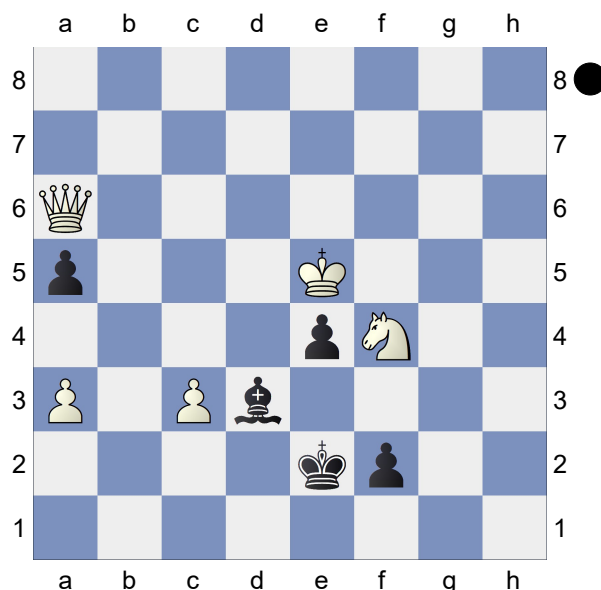
[49.c4 Bd3 50.Qf4 f1Q 51.Nc3+
Ke1 52.Qc1+ Kf2 53.Nxe4+ Bxe4
54.Qxf1+ Kxf1 55.Kxe4]

49...Bd3= 50.Nf4+

(Diagram)

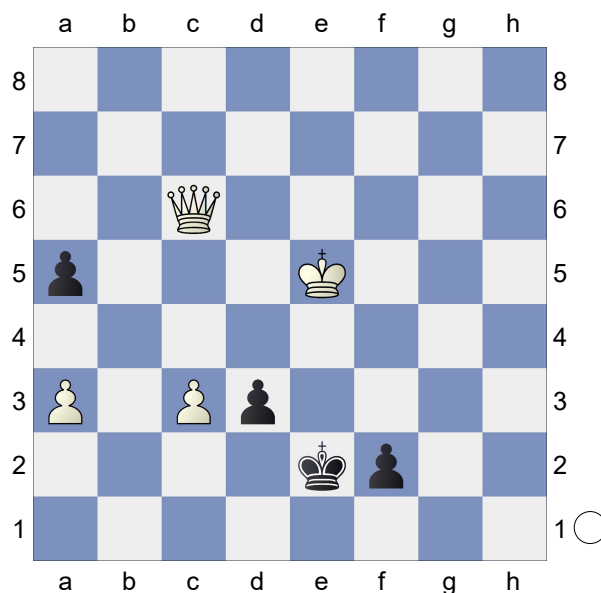
Ke3??

[I was in severe time trouble and
missed that 50...Kd2 leads to a draw
— there are no checks and you can't



prevent promotion.]

**51.Qb6+ Kf3 52.Nxd3! exd3 53.Qc6+
Ke2**



My opponent was now in severe time
trouble as well and made this a little bit
harder on himself than he could have —
I tried to keep a poker face but I knew I
was probably cooked. **54.Qe4+ Kd2
55.Qf4+**

[55.Qf3!]

55...Ke2 56.Kd4 d2 57.Qe4+

[57.Qe3+]

**57...Kd1 58.Qd3 Ke1 59.Ke3 f1N+
60.Qxf1+! Kxf1 61.Kxd2 Kf2 62.c4
Kf3 63.Kd3 Kf4 64.Kd4 Kf5 65.Kd5**

Kf6 66.Kd6 Kf7 67.Kd7 Kf6 68.c5
Ke5 69.c6 Kd5 70.c7 Kc4 71.c8Q+
Kb3 72.Qc5 Ka4 73.Kc6 Kb3 74.Kb5
a4 75.Qb4+ Ka2 76.Kc4 Ka1 77.Kc3
Ka2 78.Qb2#
1-0

□ Pickering, Carl Anthony **B21**
1783
■ Tam, Hoa Long **1713**
2026 New Year TNM: 1600-1999 (3.16)

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3
e6 5.Bc4 Nc6 6.Nf3 Nf6 7.Qe2 Bb4
8.0-0 0-0 9.Bg5 Re8 10.e5 d5 11.Bd3
h6 12.Bh4 g5 13.Nxg5 Nxe5 14.Qxe5
Bd6 15.Qe2 hxg5 16.Bxg5 Be7 17.f4
a6 18.Rf3 b5 19.Rg3 Bf8 20.Bh6+
1-0

□ Rachuri, Sujan K **A21**
1754
■ Le, Thu Anh **1236**
2026 New Year TNM: 1600-1999 (3.17)
[Le, Thu Anh]

1.c4 e5 2.g3 d6 3.Bg2 f5 I rarely get
to play against c4, so I was pretty
excited. 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.e3 Be7 6.Nge2
0-0 7.0-0 c6 8.d4 Na6 9.Rb1 Qe8
10.b4 Nc7 11.b5 Bd7 Still in book up
until this point. 12.a4 Rb8 My biggest
regret in this game is starting with a
fighting opening, but did not at least go
for the attack. Somehow I overthink e4
or Qh5, e.g \" well White plays f3 ...exf
Bxf3 and f4 becomes an outpost for
White's knight\" or \"there isn't yet a
concrete attack, let's keep the Q-side
stable\"

[12...e4 13.f3 (13.Nf4 g5) 13...exf3
14.Bxf3 d5 (14...a6)]
[12...Qh5 13.bxc6 bxc6 14.Rb7

Rfc8 15.Ba3 e4]
13.Ba3 cxb5
[13...e4]
14.axb5 Be6
[14...e4]
15.Qa4 f4?? Bad positional blunder.
Black is much worse from here on as
White gets the f4 outpost up a pawn
with activity. Black's LSB never actually
had scope.

[15...Qf7 16.Qxa7 (16.d5 Bd7)
16...Bxc4]
[15...e4]
16.exf4 exf4 17.Nxf4 Qd7
[17...Bf7 18.Qxa7 Bxc4 (18...Ra8
19.Qxb7 Rxa3 20.Qxc7 Rxc3
21.Rfe1 Bd8 22.Qxd6)]
[17...Bg4]
18.Rfe1 Bf5 19.Rbd1 Bd8 20.Qb3
Kh8 21.c5 dxc5 22.dxc5 Qf7 23.Qxf7
Rxf7 24.Bxb7 Rxb7 25.Rxd8+ Ng8
26.c6 Rxb5 27.Nxb5 Nxb5 28.Ree8
1-0

□ Chan, John **A11**
1505
■ Babayan, Gagik **1650**
2026 New Year TNM: 1600-1999 (3.19)
[Winslow, Elliott]

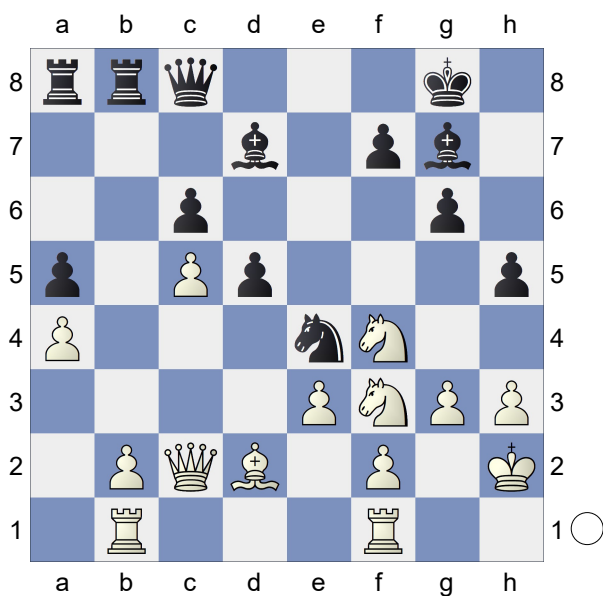
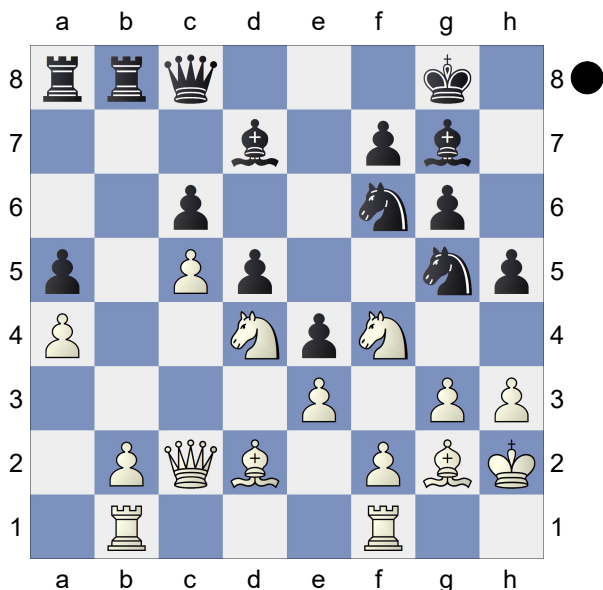
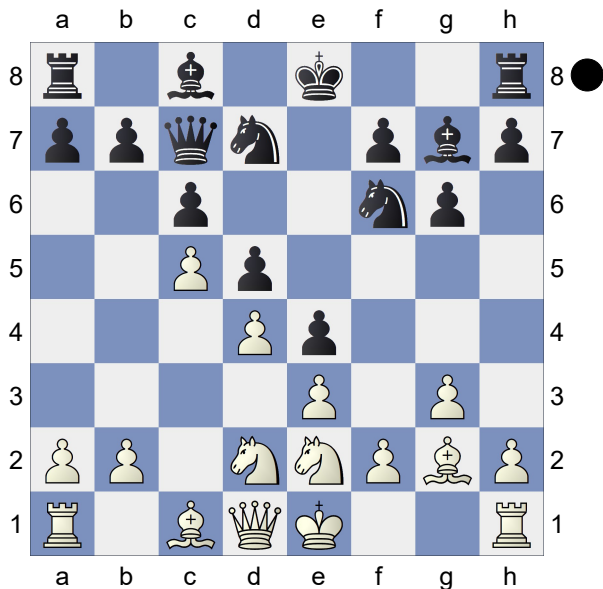
1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.Nf3 c6 4.e3 d5
5.c5 Nbd7 6.d4 Qc7 7.g3 e5 8.Bg2
e4 9.Nd2 Bg7 10.Ne2

(Diagram)

Nf8 11.h3 h5 12.Nb3 a5 13.a4 Ne6
14.Qc2 0-0 15.Bd2 b6 16.0-0 bxc5
17.dxc5 Bd7 18.Rab1 Rfb8 19.Nbd4
Ng5 20.Nf4 Qc8 21.Kh2

(Diagram)

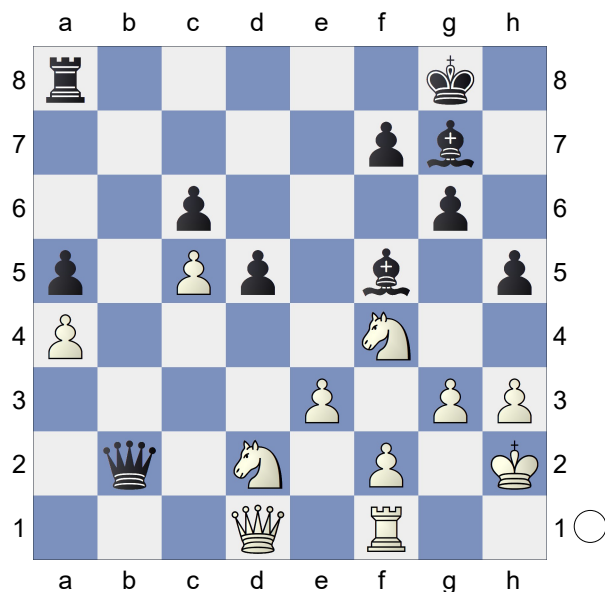
Nf3+ 22.Bxf3 exf3 23.Nxf3 Ne4



24.Ng1?+-

[24.Bc3! Bxc3! 25.bxc3 Bf5 26.Rxb8
Rxb8 27.g4!? hxg4 28.hxg4 Bxg4
29.Nd4 Qd8! 30.f3 Qh4+ 31.Kg1
Ng3!±]

24...Nxd2 25.Qxd2 Rb3 26.Nf3 Bf5
27.Qd1 Qb8 28.Nd2 Rxb2 29.Rxb2
Qxb2



30.Kg1 Bc2 31.Qe2 Bxa4 32.Rb1
Qc2 33.Rb7 Bc3 34.Nf3 Qxe2
35.Nxe2 Bf6 36.Kg2 Bd1 37.Ned4
Bxf3+ 38.Kxf3 Bxd4 39.exd4 a4
40.Rb2 g5 41.Kg2 a3 42.Ra2 Kg7
43.Kf3 Kf6 44.Ke3 Ra4 45.Kd3 Kf5
46.f3 g4

[46...h4! 47.gxh4 gxh4 48.Ke3
Ra8⊖]

47.fxg4+ hxg4 48.h4 Kg6 49.Kc3 f5
50.Kd3 f4 51.gxf4 Kh5 52.f5

(Diagram)

Kxh4 53.f6

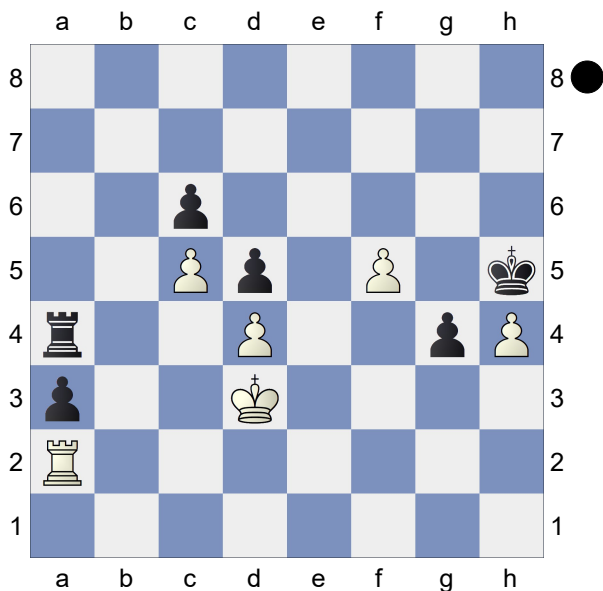
(Diagram)

Kh3??

[53...g3 54.f7 Ra8 55.Ke2 Rf8
56.Rxa3 Rxf7-+]

[53...Ra8 54.f7 Rf8]

[53...Ra7 54.Ke3 Kh3]

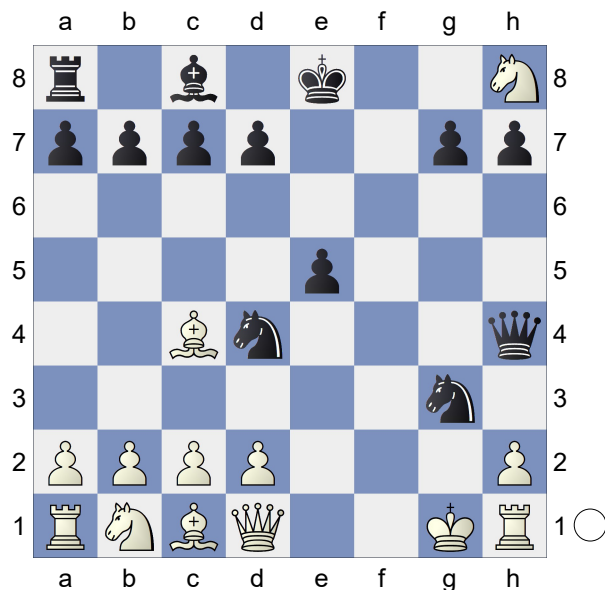


54.f7!= Ra8 55.Ke2! g3 56.Rxa3 Rf8 (...and in this *drawn* position, Whiter either resigned or lost on time.)
0-1

C57
 1437
 1600
 2026 New Year TNM: 1600-1999 (3.20)
 [Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 Bc5 5.Nxf7 Bxf2+ 6.Kxf2
 [6.Kf1! Qe7 7.Nxh8 d5 8.exd5 Nd4

9.d6!?±]
6...Nxe4+ 7.Kg1
 [7.Ke3 Qh4 8.g3 Nxc3!? 9.hxc3 Qd4+ 10.Kf3 0-0 11.Rh4 e4+ 12.Kg2 Qxc4 (12...d5!? 13.Rf4! dxc4 14.Qh5±) 13.Nh6+! gxh6 14.d3 Qd4 15.Bxh6 Rf2+ 16.Kh1=]
7...Qh4 8.g3
 [8.h3!?=]
8...Nxg3! 9.Nxh8!
 [9.hxc3 Qxc3+=]
9...Nd4!



10.c3??
 [10.hxc3 Qxc3+ 11.Kf1 Qf4+ 12.Kg2 Qg5+ 13.Kf2=]
10...Qe4??
 [10...d5!-+]
11.hxc3+- Nf3+ 12.Kf1 d5 13.Qe2 Qf5 14.Kg2 Be6 15.Qxf3
 1-0

B12
 1740
 1539
 2026 New Year TNM: 1600-1999 (3.21)
 [Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.Nf3 cxd4
 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.c4 a5

8.cxd5 cxd5 9.Bb5+ Bd7 10.Qxd5 Rb8
 11.Qxd7+- Qxd7 12.Bxd7+ Kxd7
 13.b3 e6 14.0-0 Bc5 15.Rd1+ Ke8
 16.Na3 Ne7 17.Nc4 Nc6 18.Bb2 a4
 19.Nd6+ Bxd6 20.Rxd6 Na5 21.Ra6
1-0

□ Patel,Milan

■ Finacom,Richard V

2026 New Year TNM: 1600-1999 (3.23)

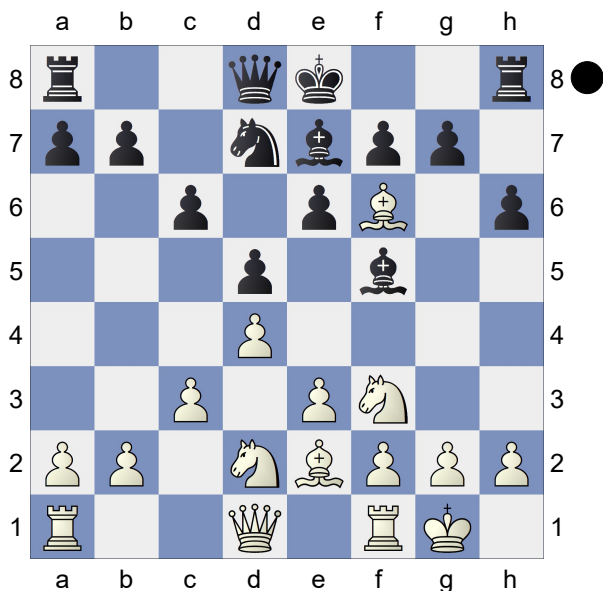
[Winslow,Elliott]

D03

1417

1868

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 d5 3.Nd2 Bf5 4.e3
 e6 5.Ngf3 Be7 6.Be2 Nbd7 7.c3 c6
 8.0-0 h6 9.Bxf6



gxf6±

[9...Nxf6±]

10.c4 e5? 11.dxe5?!

[11.cxd5 cxd5 12.Nh4 Be6 13.Bg4
 h5 14.Bxe6 fxe6 15.Ng6 Rh6
 16.Nxe7 Kxe7 17.Rc1 Qb6±]

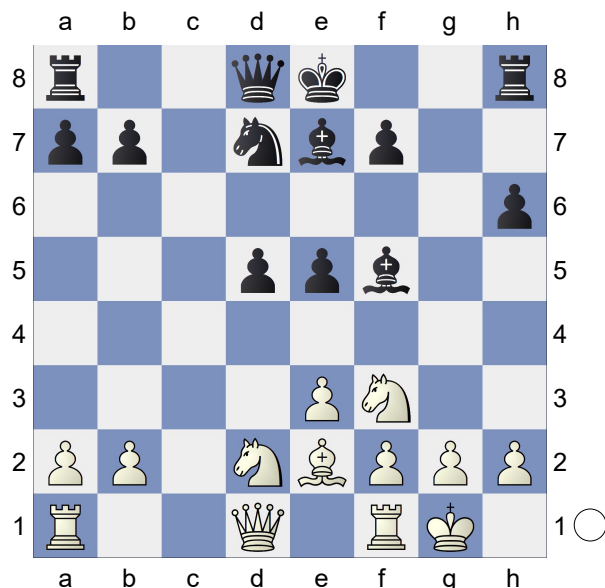
11...fxe5 12.cxd5 cxd5

(Diagram)

13.Nb3?

[13.Nb1!±]

13...Be6= 14.Bb5 Bd6 15.Nfd2 a6



16.Bxd7+ Qxd7 17.Re1

[17.Rc1!]

17...Rg8?!

[17...0-0-0!±]

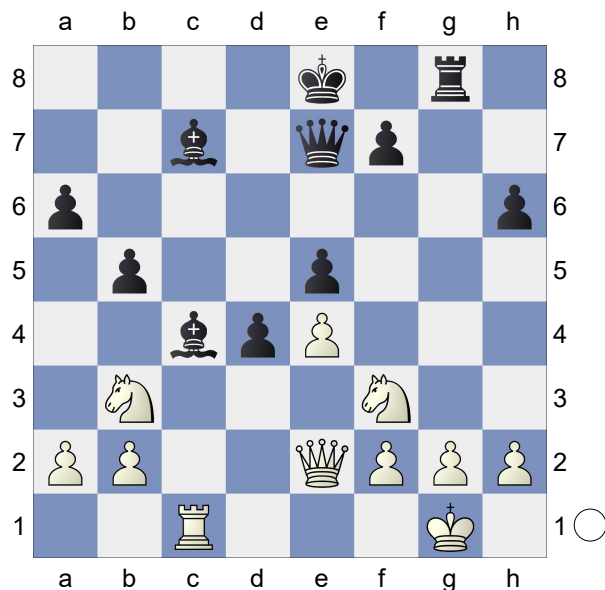
18.e4 d4

[18...0-0-0!]

19.Rc1 Rc8 20.Rxc8+ Qxc8 21.Qe2

Qd7 22.Rc1 Qe7 23.Nc4 Bc7

24.Ncd2 b5 25.Nf3 Bc4



26.Rxc4?

[26.Qe1=]

26...bxc4 27.Qxc4 Rg6± 28.Nc1 Qd7

29.Nh4 Rc6 30.Qf1 Rc2-+ 31.Nb3

Qb5 32.Qxb5+ axb5 33.g3 Rxb2

34.Nf3 Rxa2 35.Nfd2 Ba5 36.Nxa5

Rxa5 37.Kf1 Ra3 38.Ke2 Ke7 39.g4
Kf6 40.h4 Rh3 41.h5 Rc3 42.Nf1 b4
43.Kd2 b3 44.Ng3 b2
0-1

□ Agdamag, Samuel

■ Stults, Sawyer

2026 New Year TNM: 1600-1999 (3.24)

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 e6 3.b3 c5 4.e3 Nc6
5.d4 Nf6 6.Bb2 Be7 7.Nbd2 0-0
8.Rc1 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 b6
11.Be2 Bb7 12.0-0 Rc8 13.Bf3 Ba6
14.Be2 Bb7 15.Bf3 Ba6 16.Re1 dxc4
17.Nxc4 Bb4 18.Rf1 Qe7 19.Be2 Rfd8
20.Bd3 Nd7 21.Qh5 h6 22.Rfd1 Nf6
23.Qe2 Bb7 24.h3 Nd5 25.Qg4 Nf6
26.Qh4 Nd5 27.Qe4 f5 28.Qe5 Rxc4
29.Bxc4 Bd6 30.Qxg7+ Qxg7 31.Bxg7
Kxg7 32.Rd2 Kf6 33.Rcd1 Bb4
34.Rd3 Bc5 35.Kh1 a6 36.R3d2 Bb4
37.Rd3 b5 38.Bxd5 Rxd5 39.Rd4
Rxd4 40.Rxd4 Be1 41.Kg1 Bd5 42.f3
Bc3 43.Rd3 Bb4 44.Rd4 Bc5 45.Rd3
a5 46.Kf1 b4 47.Ke2 Bc6 48.Kd2 Bb5
49.Rd8 Bf1 50.Rg8 Kf7 51.Rc8 Bd6
52.Ra8 Bxg2 53.Ke2 Bxh3 54.Rxa5
h5 55.Ra6 Be7 56.Rc6 h4 57.Rc1
Bg2 58.Kf2 h3 59.Rc7 Kf6 60.Ra7
Bc5 61.Rc7 Bxe3+ 62.Kg3 Bf4+
63.Kxf4 h2 64.Rc1 h1Q 65.Rxh1 Bxh1
66.Ke3 Ke5 67.f4+ Kd5 68.Kd3 Be4+
69.Kd2 Bb1
0-1

□ Massop, Daniel

■ Solomon, Ethan

2026 New Year TNM: u1600 (3.6) 20.1.26

1.e4 7:00 c5 2.Nf3 6 Nc6 22 3.d4 8
cxd4 44 4.Nxd4 10 e5 35 5.Nb5 1:37

A13

1496

1535

B32

1172

0

d6 30 6.N1c3 37 a6 47 7.Na3 11 b5
1:02 8.Nd5 13 Be7 1:39 9.Be3 1:05
Rb8 1:03 10.Qd2 2:18 Nf6 2:33
11.Nxe7 1:46 Qxe7 6:13 12.f3 1:47 Be6
2:57 13.c4 1:11 b4 1:57 14.Nc2 11 b3
7:43 15.axb3 1:17 Rxb3 1:11 16.Rxa6
32 Qb7 1:21 17.Ra2 3:25 Rxb2 9:12
18.Rxb2 22 Qxb2 4 19.Qxd6 1:19 Qb1+
2:19 20.Kd2 2:11 Na5 2:11 21.Bb6 5:51
Nb3+ 3:21 22.Kc3 39 Nd7 1:34 23.Na3
9:55 Qa2 7:05 24.Nb5 1:19 Qd2+ 49
25.Qxd2 56 Nxd2 11 26.Nd6+ 5:33 Ke7
1:28 27.Kxd2 2:07 Nxb6 5:32 28.Nf5+
36 Bxf5 3:22 29.exf5 12 Rd8+ 1:11
30.Kc2 17 Rd4 2:38 31.c5 37 Nd5 2:01
32.Bb5 3:04 Rb4 1:55 33.Rb1 1:15
Rxb1 27 34.Kxb1 2 Nc3+ 9
0-1

□ Fisher, Brett

■ Karpe, Ummon

2026 New Year TNM: u1600 (3.25)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 Nf6 4.e5 Nd5
5.Bxc4 Bf5 6.Nc3 Nb4 7.Bb3 Nd3+
8.Ke2 Qxd4 9.Be3 Nf4+ 10.Bxf4 Qxf4
11.Qd5 e6 12.Qxb7 Qxe5+ 13.Kf1
Bd3+ 14.Nge2 Bc5 15.Qxa8 0-0
16.Qf3 Rd8 17.Rd1 Qd4 18.Bc2
Bxe2+ 19.Qxe2
1-0

□ Kwong, Dylan

■ Rosston, Andrew Burkett

2026 New Year TNM: u1600 (3.26)

1.c4 c5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Nc3 e6 4.Bg2
Be7 5.e4 Nc6 6.Nge2 d6 7.0-0 0-0
8.Rb1 Qd7 9.d3 a6 10.a3 Rb8 11.b4
cxb4 12.axb4 b5 13.cxb5 axb5 14.d4
d5 15.e5 Ne8 16.f4 Qa7 17.f5 Nxe5

D20

1401

1335

A36

1332

1136

18.Bf4 Bd6 19.Kh1 Nc6 20.f6 Bxf4
21.fxg7 Nxg7 22.Rxf4 Qe7 23.Rh4
Bd7 24.Qd2 Nf5 25.Rh5 f6 26.g4 Ng7
27.Rh3 Kf7 28.Re1 Qxb4 29.g5 f5
30.Qf4 Rh8 31.Rc1 Rbg8 32.Nxd5
Qb2 33.Nf6 Rd8 34.Nxd7 Rxd7
35.Bxc6 Ra7 36.Rh6

1-0

□ Pagan Griso, Simone

■ Tobias, Mason

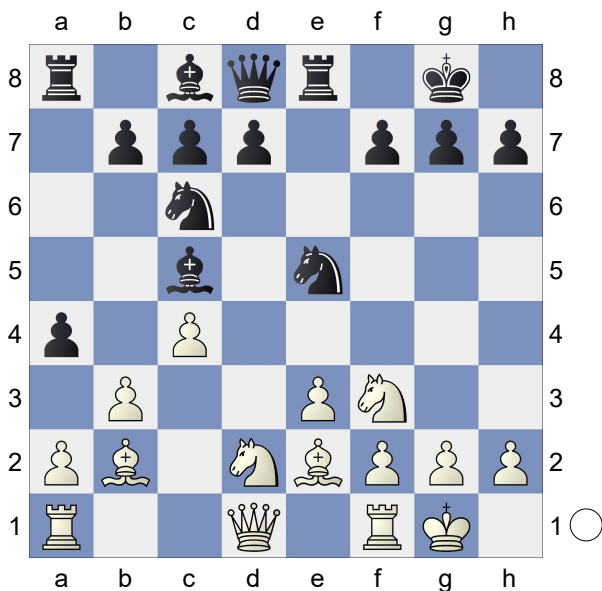
2026 New Year TNM: u1600 (3.27)

[Winslow, Elliott]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ng4 4.Nf3
Bc5 5.e3 Nc6 6.Be2 Ngxe5 7.Nbd2
0-0 8.0-0 a5

[Relevant: 8...Re8 9.Nxe5 Nxe5
10.Nf3 Qf6 11.Nxe5 Qxe5 12.Rb1
a5 13.Bd2 Ra6 14.Bc3 Qe7 15.Bd3
Qh4 16.Qf3 Rh6 ½-½ (16) Jussupow,
A (2655)-Piket, J (2640) Amsterdam
1994]

9.b3 a4 10.Bb2 Re8



11.Qc2N

[Predecessor: 11.Nxe5 Nxe5 12.Nf3
Nc6 13.Qd5 d6 14.Qh5 h6 15.Bd3
Ra5 16.Qh4 Qxh4 17.Nxh4 a3

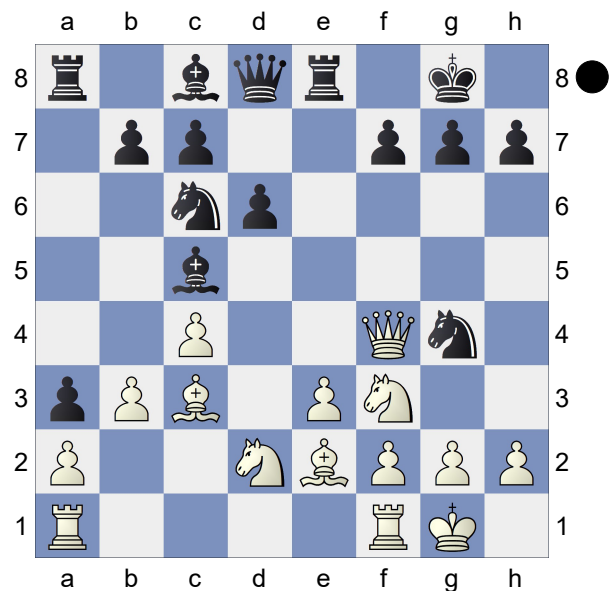
18.Bc3 Bb4 19.Rac1 Bxc3 20.Rxc3
Nb4 21.Bb1 d5 22.Rd1 Rc5
23.Rdc1 Rd8 24.Rd1 Rd6 25.h3
Be6 26.Kh2 b5 27.Rd4 g5 28.Nf3
Nc6 29.Rd1 dxc4 30.Rxd6 cxd6
31.bxc4 b4 32.Rc2 Rxc4 33.Rxc4
Bxc4 34.Nd2 d5 35.Nb3 Bxb3
36.axb3 Na7 0-1 (36) Mikolic, J-
Gareyev, T (2618) Las Vegas 2016]

11...a3 12.Bc3 Ng4?!

[12...d6]

13.Qf5?! d6 14.Qf4?

[14.Qh5]



14...Nxe3

[14...Rxe3!-+]

15.Ng5?!

[15.Bd3 f5 16.Rfe1 Ng4□♣]

15...f6-+ 16.Bh5 Rf8? =

[16...Nxf1 17.Nxf1 Rf8-+]

[16...Re5 17.Nf7 Qe7-+]

17.Nf7

[17.Bf7+ Kh8! 18.Nxh7 Rxf7
19.Ng5! fxg5 20.Qxf7 Ne5 21.Bxe5
dxe5 22.Qh5+ Kg8 23.fxe3=]

17...Nxg2!?

[17...Qe7 18.Rae1 Ne5 19.fxe3 Nd3
20.Bxf6!? Rxf7! 21.Bxf7+ Qxf7=]

18.Qf3?! Nh4 19.Qf4 Rxf7♣

[19...Qd7!-+]

20.Bxf7+ Kxf7 21.Qxh4 Bf5

[21...Qd7]

22.Rae1?! Qd7?

[22...Ne5 23.b4 Ba7+]

23.Qh5+?

[23.Ne4 Bh3 24.Bxf6= (24.Nxf6=)]

23...Kf8?!±

[23...Kg8-+]

24.Nf3?+- Bh3?! 25.Nh4 Ne7?

[25...Bxf1]

[25...Kg8]

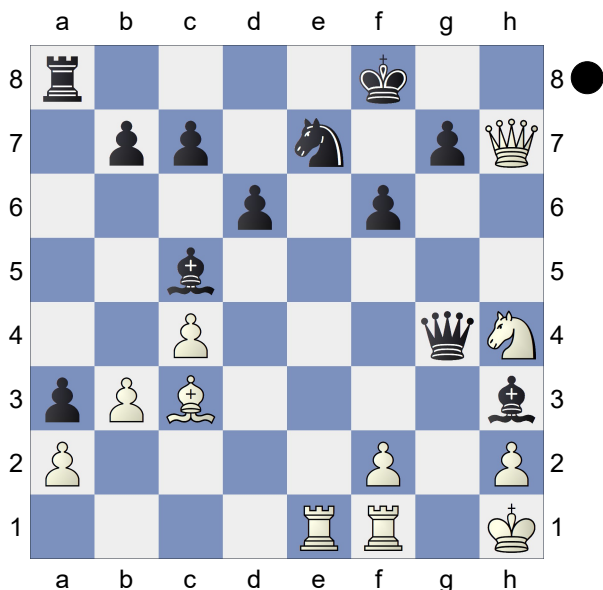
[25...Qg4+]

26.Qxh7?

[26.Rxe7!?=]

[26.Bxf6! Ng8±]

26...Qg4+± 27.Kh1



Kf7??

[27...Bxf1 28.Rxf1 d5+]

28.Rg1+- Rg8 29.Rxg4 Bxg4 30.Qe4 1-0

□ Ben Cherif,Rachid

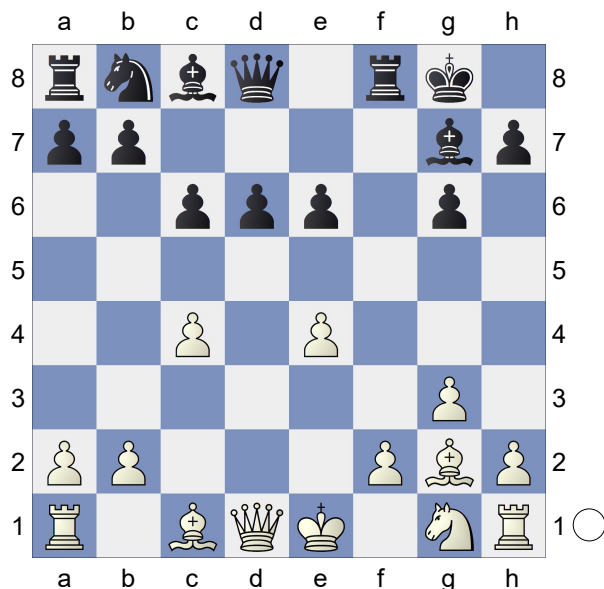
■ Hack,Richard

2026 New Year TNM: u1600 (3.28)

[Winslow,Elliott]

1.c4 f5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 fxe4 6.Nxe4 e6 7.Nc5 c6

8.d3 d6 9.Ne4 Nxe4 10.dxe4 0-0



11.Nf3 Qa5+ 12.Bd2 Qc5 13.Qc2

Qb6 14.Bc3 e5 15.h3 Be6?! [15...c5!=]

16.b3

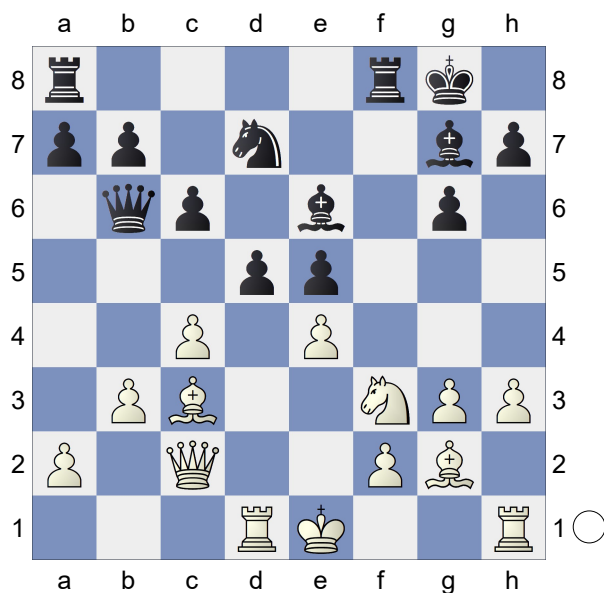
[16.Rd1!± complicated though]

16...Nd7?

[16...Na6! 17.Rd1 Rad8±]

17.Rd1± d5?

[17...Qc7 18.Ng5 Bf7 19.0-0]



18.cxd5?=[18.Ng5!+-]

18...cxd5 19.exd5 Bf5 Black has full compensation. White still has to get his

A10

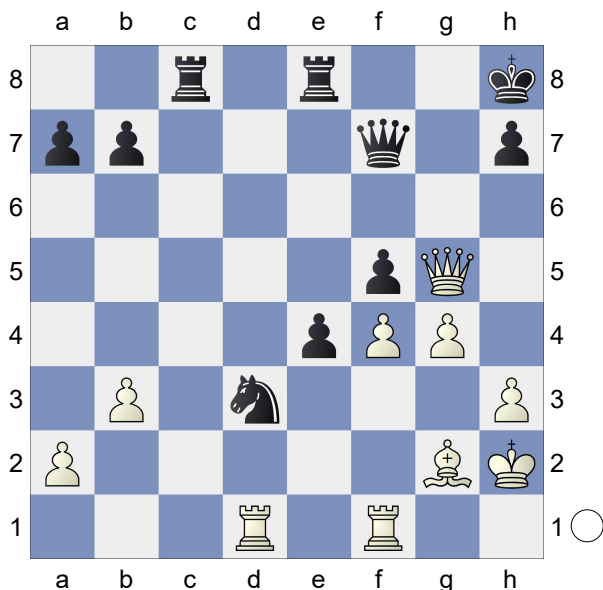
king out of the center. 20.Qe2 Rfe8
21.Nh4 Rac8 22.Nxf5 gxf5 23.Ba1 e4
24.0-0 Bxa1 25.Rxa1 Ne5 26.Qh5
Qf6 27.f4 Nd3 28.Rad1 Qd4+
(Perhaps going after the d-pawn
immediately is less "urgent" than
improving the rooks)

[28...Kh8!? 29.Qg5 Qf7!?]

29.Kh2 Qxd5 30.g4

[30.Qg5+ Kf8 (30...Kh8 31.Qf6+=)
31.Rd2!?= White might still undermine
Black's pawns (now that any
counterattack has been diffused), but
the position is balanced.]

30...Qf7 31.Qg5+ Kh8



32.Qxf5??

[32.Rd2! Prophylaxis! Avoiding
danger (which wasn't so easy to see!)
on the 2nd (7th) rank! Black can push
White back with for example Rc5
33.Qh4 Rg8 now why 34.a3
is best by Stockfish I don't fathom...]

**32...Qxf5 33.gxf5 Rc2 34.a4 Rg8
35.Rg1 Nxf4 36.f6 Rgxg2+ 37.Rxg2
Rxg2+ 38.Kh1 Rg8**

[38...e3!]

**39.Rd7 Rf8 40.Re7 Rxf6 41.Rxe4
Nxb3 42.Re7 Rb6 43.Re8+ Kg7
44.Re3 Nf4 45.Kh2 Nd5 46.Rd3 Nf6
47.Kg3 h5 48.Kh4 Rb4+ 49.Kg5**

**Rg4+ 50.Kf5 Rb4 51.Rg3+ Rg4
52.Re3 Nd5 53.Rd3 Ne7+ 54.Ke5
Nc6+ 55.Kf5 Ne7+ 56.Ke5 h4 57.Rd7
Rg5+ 58.Kf4 Rf5+ 59.Kg4 Kf6
60.Kxh4 Rf4+ 61.Kh5 Rb4 62.Rd3
Ke6 63.Kg5 Nd5 64.Rf3 Kd6 65.Rd3
Kc5 66.Rf3 b6 67.Kf5 Rf4+ 68.Rxf4
Nxf4 69.Kxf4 Kb4
0-1**

☐ **Weaver, Kyle**

■ **Starr, Albert Martin**

2026 New Year TNM: u1600 (3.29)

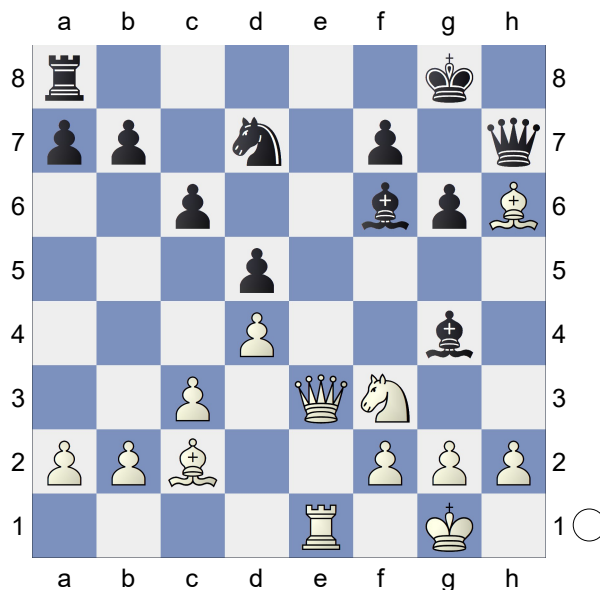
[Winslow, Elliott]

C42

1180

1500

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3
Nxe4 5.Bc4 d5 6.Bb3 h6 7.d3 Nc5
8.0-0 Be7 9.d4 Ne4 10.Re1 0-0
11.Nbd2 Nxd2 12.Bxd2 Be6 13.Bf4 c6
14.Qd2 Bf6 15.c3 Nd7 16.Bc2 Re8
17.Re3 Bg4 18.Rxe8+ Qxe8 19.Re1
Qf8 20.Qd3 g6 21.Qe3 Qg7 22.Bxh6
Qh7



**23.Qe8+ Rxe8 24.Rxe8+ Nf8 25.Rxf8#
1-0**

B22

 **Swan, Mason James**

 **Little, John**

2026 New Year TNM: u1600 (3.30)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 Nf6 4.e5 Nd5
 5.d4 cxd4 6.cxd4 d6 7.Bb5 Qa5+
 8.Nc3 Nxc3 9.Bxc6+ bxc6 10.bxc3
 Qxc3+ 11.Bd2 Qc4 12.a3 Bg4 13.Rc1
 Qa6 14.Qb3 e6 15.Qc4 Qxc4 16.Rxc4
 Rc8 17.0-0 dxe5 18.Nxe5 Be2 19.Ra1
 Bxc4 20.Nxc4 Be7 21.Bf4 0-0 22.a4
 Rfd8 23.Be3 Bf6 24.Rd1 c5 25.Kf1
 cxd4 26.Bc1 Rxc4 27.a5 d3 28.Be3
 d2 29.Ke2 Rc1 30.Bxd2 Rxd1 31.Kxd1
 Bc3
0-1

 **Martin, Bryan D**

 **Blum, Paul**

2026 New Year TNM: u1600 (3.31)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.Bc4 c6
 5.0-0 Bg4 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.h3
 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Nbd7 10.Rfe1 Qc7 11.c3
 a6 12.a4 e5 13.d5 cxd5 14.exd5 Nb6
 15.Bxb6 Qxb6 16.b4 Rfc8 17.Rac1
 Rc7 18.a5 Qa7 19.Ne4 Nxe4 20.Qxe4
 f5 21.Qh4 Rac8 22.Ba2 Rxc3 23.Rxc3
 Rxc3 24.Qe7 Bf8 25.Qe6+ Kg7
 26.Qd7+ Kh8 27.Qe8 Kg7 28.Qd7+
 Kf6 29.Qd8+ Be7 30.Qh8+ Kg5
 31.Qxh7 b5 32.h4+ Kf6
 1/2-1/2

B06

1233

983

C27

1491

0

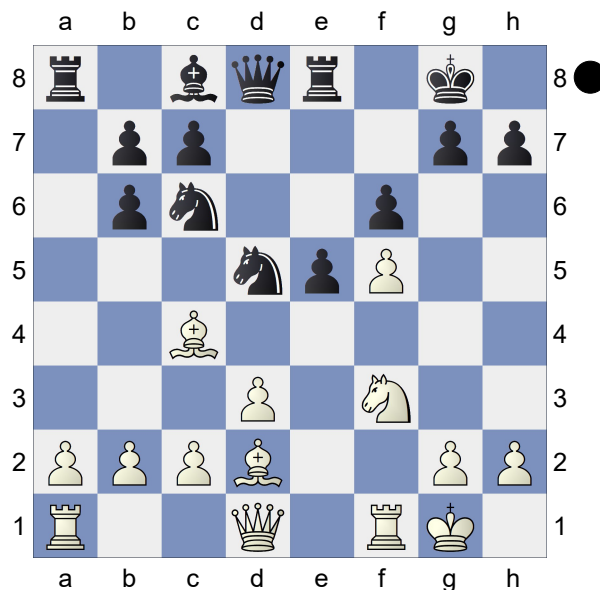
 **Rothman, Ivan**

 **Golas, Jacob**

2026 New Year TNM: u1600 (3.32)

[Winslow, Elliott]

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.d3 Bc5 4.Nc3
 d6 5.f4 0-0 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Na4 Bb6
 8.Nxb6 axb6 9.0-0 Re8 10.f5 d5
 11.exd5 Nxd5 12.Bg5 f6 13.Bd2



Kh8?

[13...Bxf5? 14.Ng5! Nce7! 15.Qf3
c6 16.Ne4 Kh8]

14.Nh4!± Na5?

[14...b5!? 15.Bxb5 Qd6 16.Kh1 Bd7
17.Bc4 Na5 18.Bxa5 Rxa5 19.Qh5
h6±]

15.Bxa5?

[15.Bxd5? Qxd5 16.Qh5 Bd7
17.Rf3±]

[15.Qh5! Nxc4 16.dxc4 Ne7
17.Rad1 Bd7 18.g4!+-]

15...Ne3?

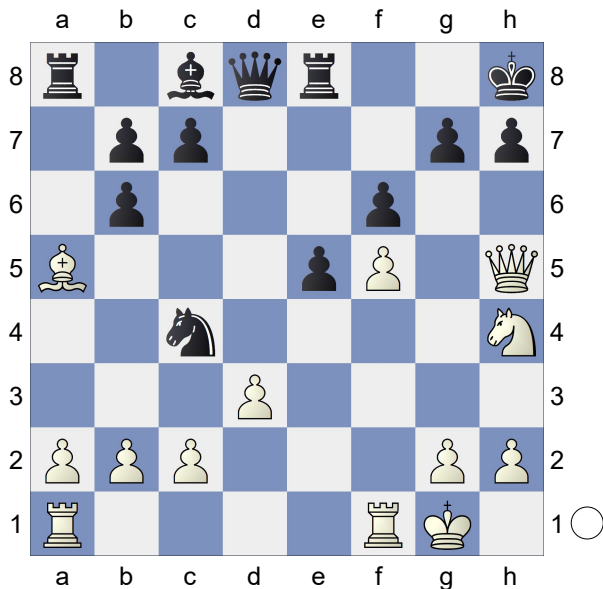
[15...bxa5! 16.Qh5 c6± /±]

16.Qh5 Nxc4

(Diagram)

17.Bc3?

[17.dxc4 bxa5 18.Rad1 Bd7



19.Rf3+-]

17...Ne3?±

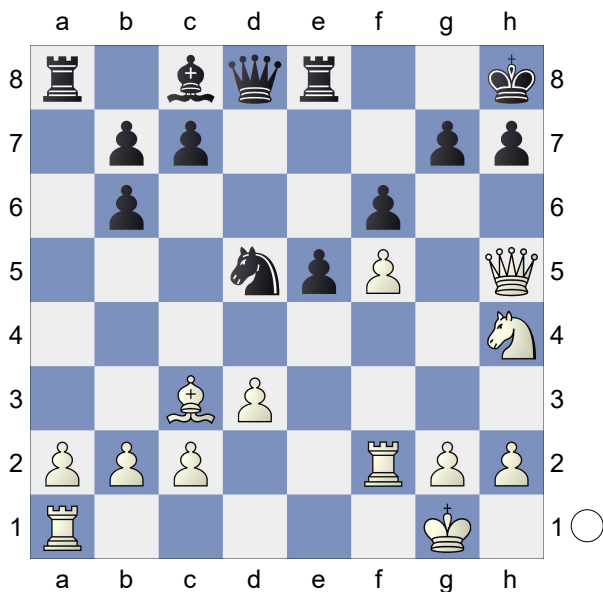
[17...Nd6= 18.Rf3 Kg8 19.Rh3 Qd7]

18.Rf2?!

[18.Rf3! Nxf5! (18...Nd5? 19.Qf7+-)
19.Nxf5 (19.Rxf5 Ra4! 20.Raf1!
Bxf5 21.Rxf5 Qd7 22.Rf3 Rxa2±)
19...g6 20.Qh4 Bxf5 21.g4 Bd7
22.Rxf6 Kg8 23.Raf1 Bc6!±]

18...Nd5?

[18...Kg8]

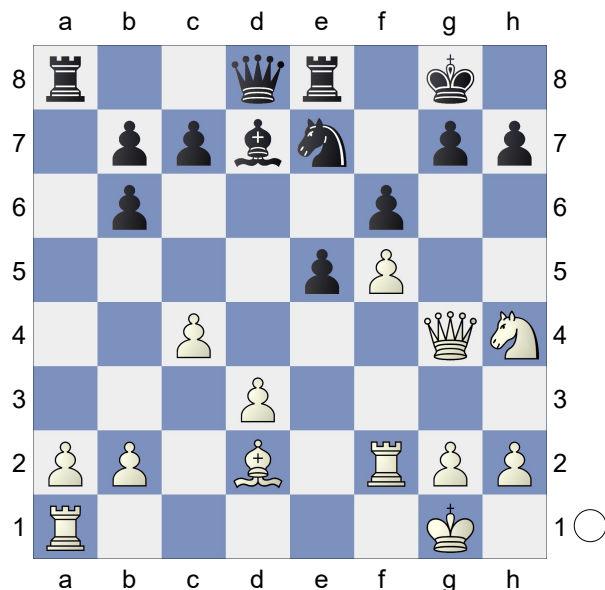


19.Bd2 Kg8 20.Qg4

[20.c4 Nf4?]

20...Bd7?! 21.c4 Ne7

[21...Nf4!? 22.Bxf4 exf4 23.Qxf4
Ra5=]



22.Bh6! g5??

[22...Ng6! 23.Qg3! Bxf5 24.Nxf5
gxh6 25.Nxh6+ Kg7□±]

23.Qg3+- but not by as much as...

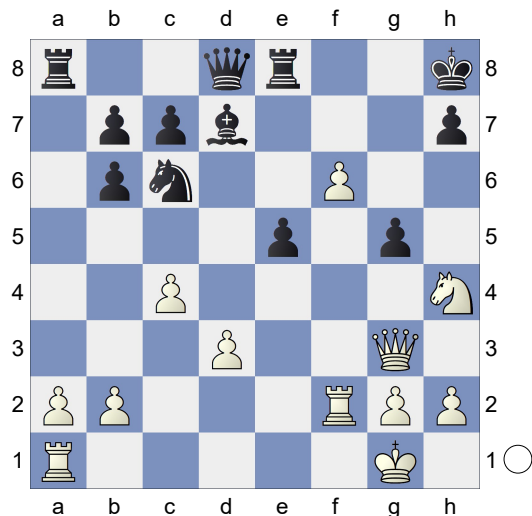
[23.Bxg5! fxg5 24.Qxg5+ Ng6
25.f6!!+- (25.Qxd8!? Raxd8 26.fxg6
b5+-) 25...Kf7 26.Qh5 Ke6 27.d4+-]

23...Nc6?!

[23...Kh8]

24.Nf3?±

[24.Bxg5! fxg5 25.f6 Kh8 (25...h6
26.f7+)



26.Ng6+!!+-]

24...Kh8?

[24...Bxf5 25.Nxg5 Qxd3 26.Rxf5 Qxg3 (26...Qxf5?? 27.Nxh7+ Kf7 28.Qg7+ Ke6 29.Rf1+-) 27.hxg3 fxg5 28.Raf1! Kh8 29.Bxg5 h6 30.Bxh6±]

25.Qg4 Rg8 26.a3 Rg6 27.Qh5 Bxf5 28.Nxe5 Nxe5 29.Rxf5 Qd4+ 30.Kh1 Ng4 Winning the bishop on h6. So Black makes it irrelevant -- by allowing something much more final: 31.Rd5?! Nf2+ 32.Kg1 Nh3+ 33.Kh1 Qg1+ 0-1

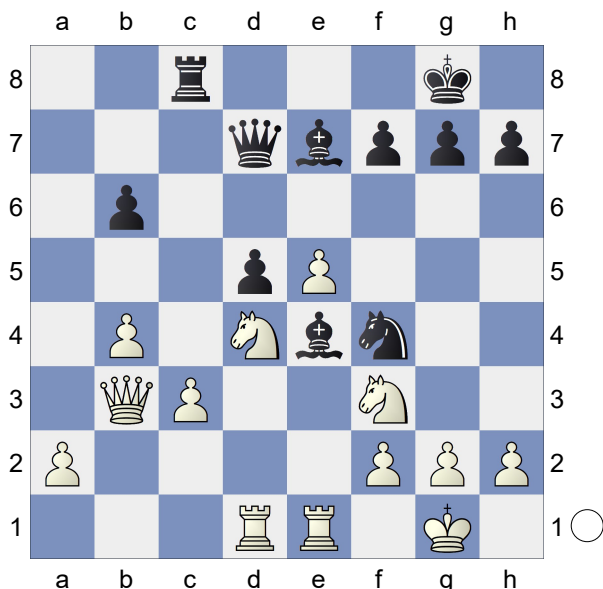
□ Menchtchikov,Alexander

■ Hau,Imelda Meili

2026 New Year TNM: u1600 (3.33)

[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nc6 4.Bb5 a6 5.Bxc6+ bxc6 6.dxe5 Bg4 7.Bf4 Rb8 8.Nbd2 d5 9.b3 Bb4 10.exd5 cxd5 11.0-0 Ne7 12.Qe2 0-0 13.Qxa6 Rb6 14.Qd3 Ng6 15.Be3 Re8 16.Bxb6 cxb6 17.c3 Bc5 18.b4 Nf4 19.Qc2 Be7 20.Nd4 Bh5 21.Rfe1 Bg6 22.Qb3 Qd7 23.N2f3 Rc8 24.Rad1 Be4



25.e6 fxe6 26.g3 Nh3+ 27.Kf1 Rf8

28.Rxe4 dxe4 29.Nxe6 Qb5+ 30.Ke1 Rxf3 31.Nd4+ Qc4 32.Qxc4+ Rf7 33.Nf5 Ng5 34.Nxe7+ Kh8 35.Rd8+ Rf8 36.Rxf8# 1-0

□ Kojevnikov,Alexander B13

■ Mackley,Merlin Ethan 1090 1144

2026 New Year TNM: u1600 (3.35)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Bf5 6.Qb3 Nc6 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Qxd5 Nxd4 9.Qxd8+ Rxd8 10.Bb5+ Nxb5 11.Nxb5 Bc2 12.Be3 e5 13.Nf3 Bb4+ 14.Nc3 e4 15.Nd4 Bd3 16.f3 g6 17.Kf2 f5 18.Rac1 f4 19.Bxf4 Bc5 20.fxe4 Bxd4+ 21.Kg3 0-0 22.Rhe1 g5 23.Be3 h5 24.Bxd4 Rxd4 25.Re3 Rf4 26.Rce1 h4+ 27.Kh3 Bc4 28.g3 Bf1+ 29.Rxf1 Rxf1 30.gxh4 gxh4 31.Kxh4 Rf2 32.h3 Rxb2 33.Kg5 b5 34.e5 b4 35.Nb5 Rd7 36.Kf6 Kf8 37.e6 Re7 38.Rd3 Rf2+ 39.Ke5 Re2+ 40.Kd5 R7xe6 41.Rf3+ Ke7 42.Nxa7 Rc2 43.Rf4 Rd6+ 44.Ke4 Rc4+ 45.Ke3 Re6+ 46.Kf3 Rxf4+ 47.Kxf4 Ra6 48.Nb5 Rxa2 49.Ke5 Ra5 0-1

□ Braithwaite,Andrew C41

■ Canessa,Kate 1423 573

2026 New Year TNM: Extra Game (3.36)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 d6 4.dxe5 dxe5 5.Qxd8+ Kxd8 6.Bb5 Bd7 7.Bxc6 Bxc6 8.Nxe5 Be8 9.Nc3 Bb4 10.Bd2 Nf6 11.0-0-0 Ke7 12.Nd5+ Nxd5 13.exd5 Bxd2+ 14.Rxd2 Rd8 15.Re1 Kd6 16.c4 f6 17.Nd3 Kd7 18.Nc5+ Kc8 19.Rde2 c6 20.Re7 cxd5 21.cxd5 Rxd5 22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.Rxe8+ Rd8

24.Rxd8+ Kxd8 25.Nxb7+ Ke7 26.Kd2 f5 27.Kd3 f4 28.Na5 Ke6 29.Kd4 g5 30.Nc6 a6 31.b4 Kd6 32.Ne5 h5 33.Nf7+ Kc6 34.a4 g4 35.Ne5+ Kb6 36.Ke4 g3 37.hxg3 fxg3 38.fxg3 a5 39.b5 Kc5 40.Nc6 Kb6 41.Kf4 Kc5 42.Kg5 Kc4 43.b6 Kc5 44.b7 Kxc6 45.b8Q Kd7 46.Qb6 Ke7 47.Kf5 Kd7 48.Ke5 h4 49.Qd6+ Ke8 50.Qc7 hxg3 51.Kf6 Kf8 52.Qf7#
1-0

□ Mehta,Soham

■ Ni,Tao

2026 New Year TNM: Extra Game (3.37)

[Ni,Tao]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 c5 8.Bd3?! Feels like my opponent is not familiar with how to deal with Grunfeld.

[8.Be3 is the natural defense, although Bd3 is a sneaky move to setup a trick to discover and win a piece if Black is too careless.]

8...cxd4 9.cxd4 Nc6 10.Bb2?

Trying to defend d4 pawn with Bb2 seems like a mistake. The bishop is vulnerable for attack and also it blocks rook to come to b1 with some counterattack.

[A better defense would be 10.Be3 Bg4 11.e5 Qa5+ 12.Qd2 Qxd2+ 13.Kxd2 Rd8 14.Rab1 Rd7 15.Rhc1 0-0 Black feels slightly better but White can hold the position well.]

10...Bg4

[Black is also better after: 10...0-0 11.Be2 Qa5+ 12.Qd2 Qxd2+ 13.Kxd2 Bg4 14.Rab1 Bxf3 15.Bxf3 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bxd4 17.Rxb7 Rac8]

11.e5?! Qa5+ 12.Kf1

[12.Qd2 Qxd2+ 13.Kxd2 0-0 14.Be4 Rfd8 15.Bxc6 bxc6]

12...0-0 13.h3?! Bxf3 14.Qxf3 Rad8 15.Be2 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Rxd4 17.Qxb7 e6 this might be a small inaccuracy, but Black is completely winning by this point. The point is to prevent any potential counterplay by White toward f7 after

[17...Bxe5 18.Qxe7 Rc8]

18.Qb3 Rb4 19.Qc2 Bxe5 20.Rb1 Rfb8 21.Rxb4 Qxb4 22.Bd3 Qb2

[Also winning if 22...Qd4 23.Qd1 Rb2 24.Be2 Qe4]

23.Qc5 Qa1+

[23...Bd4 24.Qc2 Qa1+ 25.Ke2 Qxh1]

24.Ke2 Rb2+ 25.Kf3 Qxh1 26.Qxe5 Qd1+ 27.Kg3 Qxd3+ [%EOG] 28.Kh2 Rxf2 29.Qb8+ Kg7 30.Qe5+ Rf6
0-1

D85

1525

1527