

Chess Room Newsletter



Our 20th Annual San Francisco Scholastic Championship!
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Contents

[Recent Tournaments at Mechanics' Institute by Alex Robins](#)

[20th Annual San Francisco Scholastic Championship Recap By Alex Robins](#)

[Three New Books from Russel Enterprises reviewed by International Master John Donaldson](#)

[Fieldnotes from the Washington State Scholastic Championship by Christian Brickhouse](#)

[Encoding by Renate Otterbach](#)

[Annotated Games from the TNM by IM Elliott Winslow](#)

[Tony's Teaser](#)

[Solutions - Contact Us](#)

Recent Tournaments at the Mechanics' Institute

By Alex Robins

Our first tournament of the month was our **April Monthly Scholastic Swiss** which served as a prelude to our **20th Annual San Francisco Scholastic Championship** (which has full coverage [in its own article](#)). **Wesley Lau** (925) claimed first place in the 700+ section with a 3.5-point finish, winning on tiebreaks. **Kerem Eker** (924) followed in second, while three players tied at 2.5 points placed **Sasha Anjali Chugh** (1180) in third and **Ezra Mart** (913) in fourth after tiebreaks. **Shane Davis** (980) completed the top five with 2 points.

In the under-700 section, **Iksha Nair** (523) dominated the field with a perfect score to take first place. Four players finished on 3 points: **Riyansh Koilada** (512) secured second, while **Josh Bi Jun Kyauk** (620), **CJ Nguyen** (unr.), and **Ben Nguyen** (unr.) placed third through fifth respectively after tiebreaks.

Full results can be found [here](#).

This tournament was directed by Senior TD Arthur Liou.

Our next tournament of the month was the **22nd Donnelly Memorial Tournament**. **NM Sebastian Suarez** (2314) dominated the 2000+ section with a perfect score to take first place. **WIM Laurie Qiu** (2226) followed closely with 3.5 points for second. A three-way tie at 3 points placed **Luke Widjaja** (2252), **Kanwar Sethi** (2107), and **Daniel Videna** (2044) in third through fifth after tiebreaks.

In the 1600–1999 section we again had a perfect score with **Isaac Dan Zhao** (1947) having a strong performance. **Youting Long** (1746) and **Wes Pereira** (1708) both scored 3.5 points splitting second and third place prizes.

The under-1600 section saw **Peter Vu** (1422) take first with 3.5 points. A large group tied at second place with 3 points including: **Aneesh Banerjee** (1477), **Teresa Long** (1204), **Zane Chu** (1178), **Kyle Weaver** (1152), and **Ryan Bernstein** (unr.).

Full results can be found [here](#).

This tournament was directed by Senior TD Arthur Liou.

Our next tournament in a slew of fast chess tournaments was the **Spring Splash**. **NM Daniel Cremisi** (2345) dominated the 1800+ section with a commanding 6.5 points to take first place. **NM Aadit Bhatia** (2279) followed in second with 5.5 points, while **IM Elliott Winslow** (2237) and **NM Dmytro Dzhanhiov** (2201) shared third place at 5 points.

In the under-1800 section, **Robert E. Berry** (1691) led the field with 5.5 points to claim first. A large group finished just behind on 5 points—**David Siegel** (1653), **Aaron Cheng** (1473), **Darsh Thekkoot** (1471), **Dylan Skurow** (1095), and **Shane Davis** (980).

Full results can be found [here](#).

This tournament was directed by IA/NTD Judit Sztaray.

We had so much fun at our **20th Annual San Francisco Scholastic Championship** that we decided to hold a third scholastic tournament in August, our **2nd Monthly April Scholastic Swiss**. **Travis Jude Lim** (1444) secured first place with a 3.5-point performance, edging out **Shane Davis** (980), who also finished on 3.5 points and took second after tiebreaks. **Sergei Pimenov** (800) earned third place with 3 points, while **Preston Lung** (679), also on 3, claimed fourth. **Wen Larson** (827) completed the standings in fifth with 2 points.

Full results can be found [here](#).

This tournament was directed by Senior TD Arthur Liou.

Later that same afternoon was our **20th Annual Brandwein/Schutt/Whitehead Memorial Blitz**, **GM Christopher Woojin Yoo** (2667) and **IM John Donaldson** (2365) shared first place with 6 points each, finishing well ahead of the field. John even scored a win against the GM and had a strong performance! **NM Daniel Cremisi** (2345), **NM Dmytro Dzhanhiov** (2201), **Stephen Hough** (2044), and **Hebert D. Garcia** (1812) all scored 5 points and split third place. **Henry Gordon Klassen** (1778) posted a strong 4.5-point result to earn the best u1800 prize. In the u1300 category, **William Clere** (1240) and **Dylan Asher Skurow** (1095) each finished with 3 points, sharing the distinction for best performance in that rating group.

Full results can be found [here](#).

These tournaments were directed by Senior TD Arthur Liou.

Our **April Adults Only Tournament** gave our older players a respite from losing to kids (myself included!). **Arjun Sankar** (2027) topped the 1600+ section with a 3 point finish to claim first place. **Lucas Lesniewski** (1953) followed in second with 2.5 points. Four players tied for third at 2 points including **NM Dmytro Dzhanhirov** (2201), **Kevin Kane** (1999), **Brian Chen** (1843), and **Ryan Pan** (1593).

In the under-1600 section, **Perry Cate** (1256) and **Rajdeep Pinge** (unr.) shared first place with matching 3 point scores. A large group finished on 2 points **John Chan** (1500), **Albert Martin Starr** (1500), **Gerard Lawrence Donahue** (1249), **Swaminathan Sankar** (1232), **Justin Yee** (1210), and **Imelda Meili Hau** (105) splitting third place.

Full results can be found [here](#).

This tournament was directed by FA/ANTD Scott Mason.

20th Annual San Francisco Scholastic Championship Recap

By Alex Robins

This year the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club held our **20th Annual San Francisco Scholastic Championship** and it was a huge success. In the last 20 years we've come a long way from first having the tournament at Mechanics', to then holding it at the County Fair Building in Golden Gate Park, to now holding it at its new home at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. I'd like to thank our partners at the Yerba Buena Gardens Conservancy and the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts for their support and helping make this event possible in such a beautiful space and to the Bright Knights for helping us to put on the event for so many years! Check out the photos below and our recap of the results! The [complete photos can be found here](#) but any use should include "(c) Greg Habiby" (link to grehabibyphoto.com or ghphotopro.com). No 3rd party commercial or editorial use is permitted without receiving permission from Greg.



The room was vibrant!



Stiff competition!



IM Ladia Jirasek and NM Sebby Suarez both volunteered



Our Tournament Directors Richard Koepcke, Judit Sztaray, and Arthur Liou
- hard at work!



NM Daniel Cremisi gave a simul throughout the day



Floor Chief Scott Mason, Arthur Liou, and me

Tournament Results

In the 1000+ section we had a three way tie of players with perfect scores. **Alessandro Huerta** (1258) claimed first on tiebreaks after defeating all four opponents, including a final-round win over **Milan Patel** (1414). **Hayes Alexander Marvin** (1908) and **Mikhail Grigorev** (1838) also scored perfect slates to take second and third. Rounding out the top ten were **Johnathan Thomas** (1358), **Alexander Kuritsyn** (1647), **Keshav V. Raman** (1366), **Yuvan Nandhakumar** (1463), **Milan Patel** (1414), **Derek Diaz Ko** (1086), and **Bradley Harger** (1303).

In the 500-999 section, four players swept the field with a perfect score and after tie breaks they were in order: **Preston Lung** (679), **Tharsikan Ravikumar** (940), **Uzi Solomon** (393), and **Ezra Mart** (913)! They were followed by a tightly packed group at 3 points which were again decided by tiebreaks. In order they were: **Ishan Pandey** (869), **Arnav Agarwal** (835), **Kerem Eker** (924), **Vincent Zhai Lorenzo** (534), **Ved Dharmatti** (512), and **Jalen Hui Wong** (631).

In the u500 section, **Aria Ponde** (331) and **Andrew Nielsen** (438) both posted perfect scores to lead the section with first and second place. **Alex Yuen** (unr.) and **Litzully Cazarez** (427) followed closely with 3.5 in third and fourth. The remaining top-ten finishers at 3 were in order after tiebreaks: **Shourya Ranadev Edla** (485), **Runbir Singh** (283), **Christopher Hongyu Chou** (271), **Travis Wong** (317), **Jaylen Chen** (347), and **Rishav Ravi** (363).

In the Grades 6-12 section, **Emanuel Cabrera** was the only player to post a perfect score for first place. Third place through fifth went to the undefeated players at 3.5 points including **Sanvi Arora** (464), **Ethan Leung**, and **John Liu**. The next six places went in order to **Jiajin Guan**, **Cong Hai Ngyuen**, **Callan Lee**, **Ethan Wu**, **Darren Ko**, and **Jack Abrams**.

In the Grades 3-5 section, two players finished with perfect scores and after tiebreaks **Evan Li** got first place and **Austin Chen** took home second place. Close behind at an undefeated 3.5 were **Lalith Batlanki** in third, **Rohan Jain** in fourth (1070), and **Andrew Lo** in fifth. The remaining top-ten scorers at 3

took home sixth through tenth in order and they were: **Anagha Gautham, Carter Nguyen, Byron Li, Edward Lim, and Bennett Nguyen.**

In the Grades K-2 section, Three players shared a perfect 4 points and after tiebreaks they went in order to: **Raam Prasannakumar, Adhvith Gautham, and Malcolm Lowenstein.** A big congratulations to all three! **Desmond Clarke** followed with 3.5. The next six players at 3 points each took home fifth through tenth place - they were: **Rihaan Choudhury , Ramazan Uzakbaev, Cooper Moon, Emery Liu, Arjun Singh (524), and Kiaan Kadambi** completed the top ten.

In the school competition, **Sanger Chess Team** led all schools with 14.5, powered by three 4-point performances from **Alessandro Huerta (1258), Andrew Nielsen (438), and Emanuel Cabrera (unrated).** **Mission San Jose Elementary** followed closely with 14, ahead of **Holy Name (13.0), Aptos Middle School (12.0), Hamilton (11.5), Hopkins Middle School (11.5), Francisco Middle School (11.5), Chinese Immersion at De Avila (11.0), Alvarado Elementary (10.5), and West Portal Elementary (10.5).**

In the club competition the **Mustang** dominated with 30, ahead of **Sanger Chess Team (22) and Emerald Hills Chess (17).** **Berkeley Chess School (12) and SMC (9)** rounded out the top five. The remaining top-ten clubs were **Liu Chess Club (8), Kings & Queens (3.5), Bernal Heights Chess Club (3), and the Hamilton Chess Team (2.5).**

Finally, I'd like to say a huge thank you to all of our staff and volunteers that helped make this event possible. I'm proud of the event that we put together and it would not have been possible without each of them listed below!

Christian Brickhouse, NTD Dr. Judit Sztaray; ANTD Scott Mason; Senior TD Arthur Liou; NTD Richard Koepcke; Local TD Vincent Ng; Local TD Zhipeng Li; and Local TD Rakshita Dhanasekar, NM Daniel Cremisi, IM Ladia Jirasek, NM Sebby Suarez, Sophie Adams, Paul Blum, Ricky Cheung, Danica Dito, Ace Elliott-Hernandez, Richard Finacom, Kenneth Fung, Hong Guan, Phin Horowitz, Kiran Kaur, Neil Kulkarni, Merlin Mackley, Duane Miller, Jaime Ng, Keane Ng, Vincent Ng, Jaysen Shi, David Siegel, Andy Talajowski, Aaron Tam, Mason Tobias, Nathan Tran, Dawson Wu, Joey Yee

Three New Books by Russell Enterprises Reviewed by International Master John Donaldson

Smashing the Spanish! Stunning the Scotch! by Marek Soszynski (paperback, 160 pages, \$19.95)

Beating the French Winawer: The h4 Ram by Vassilios Kotronias, Mikhail Ivanov and Andrei Obodchuk (paperback, 288 pages, \$29.95)

Paul Morphy by Geza Maroczy (paperback, 352 pages, \$29.95)

Smashing the Spanish! Stunning the Scotch! by Marek Soszynski has an admirable goal, albeit a difficult one. To find lines that avoid the reams of theory associated with the Ruy Lopez and Scotch yet offer Black a playable position.

Soszynski is not the first to attempt this task. Ivan Sokolov, in his classic work *The Ruy Lopez Revisited* (New In Chess 2009), spent considerable time sifting through the boneyard of lesser-known answers to the Ruy Lopez and even tested several of them over the board. One of his motivations for doing so was provided by the French Grandmaster Joel Lautier who defends his use of the Siesta Variation of the Ruy Lopez (1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.c3 f5) in Sokolov's book as follows:

Yes, White is objectively better, but the position is sharp, this line is not often played, and most of my opponents will have to make do with a maximum of a few hours of preparation before the game, versus my 100 hours of work at home. Under such circumstances, in a sharp and relatively unexplored position, I should be the favorite and the tables should turn.

We saw just such an approach used successfully by Praggnanandhaa who employed the Schliemann Gambit Deferred (4...f5) to defeat Vidit Gujrathi in the 2024 Candidates. This begs the question in the year 2026 is Bird's answer to the Ruy (3...Nd4) playable? Soszynski believes so.

Smashing the Spanish! Stunning the Scotch! is almost entirely devoted to an examination of 3...Nd4 against the Ruy Lopez, focusing on lines where Black develops his bishop to ...c5, ...e7 or ...g6.

While few books have been devoted to Englishman Henry Bird's pet 3...Nxd4, two recent repertoire books for the White side of the Ruy Lopez cover it. Since they were written by no less than Fabiano Caruana and Dariusz Swiercz, the latter with a peak FIDE rating of 2670, it makes sense to check out their recommendations.

Caruana is dubious about the soundness of the Bird and zeroes in on the following variation.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nd4 4.Nxd4 exd4 5.0-0 c6 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.d3 d6 8.Nd2 Be7 9.Nf3 Bg4 10.h3 Bh5 (10...Bxf3 is just better for White) 11.g4 Nxg4 12.hxg4 Bxg4 13.Kg2 Qd7 13.Rh1 0-0-0



Soszynski evaluates this position as unclear, but Fabiano Caruana on page 134 of *Caruana's Ruy Lopez* begs to differ. He writes:

It looks a little awkward, but after 13.Kg2 Qd7 14.Rh1 we will eventually free ourselves and I don't see enough compensation for Black. I don't even think there is close to enough.

My laptop, Lichess online and MegaData Base 2026 all assess the position as only a tiny bit better for White. Fabiano undoubtedly is working with a much better engine, and he has a 2800 rated chess brain (!), so it would be interesting to know if his assessment is based on his intuition or if he has a concrete line in mind. In any case it may be irrelevant as Swiercz has a simpler and very convincing line for White.

He proposes that after 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nd4 4.Nxd4 exd4 5.0-0 c6 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.d3 d6 8.Nd2 Be7 White play 9.h3



With the idea that after 0-0 10.Nf3 c5 11.Re1 White has a clear advantage. The other major way to play the Bird, is with 5...Bc5, intending ...Ne7, but

Swiercz 6.Bc4! (threatening Qh5 among other things) 6...d6 7.d3 Ne7 8.Nd2 with the idea of Qh5 and f2-f4-f5 looks hard to meet.

Black's best try might be 5...Ne7, retaining the option to develop the bishop on g7 or the f8-a3 diagonal, which Soszynski barely touches on and which Caruana and Swiercz don't mention. The Belarussian Grandmaster Vladislav Kovalev has had good results with it, albeit at blitz.

The Bird may not hold up in games between elite Grandmasters at a classical time control, but it otherwise appears playable.

The remainder of Soszynski's book centers on even more of a sideline, 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 Nxd4. Named after the Italian theoretician, Giambattista Lolli (1698 –1769), this line has always been frowned on but Soszynski makes a good case that after the traditional refutation 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 Nxd4 4.Nxd4 exd4 5.Qxd4 Qf6 6.e5 Black is not so badly off after 6...Qb6!. White's best approach might well be 6.Qc4. Feygin-Schebler, Germany 2007, appears to be the only high level test.

Smashing the Spanish! Stunning the Scotch! offers interesting food for thought for those who like unconventional play.

Beating the French Winawer: The h4 Ram by Vassilios Kotronias, Mikhail Ivanov and Andrei Obodchuk offers White a complete repertoire against the Winawer French (1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4) based on the advance h4. While this book primarily focuses on 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4!, championed by the French star Maxime Vacher-Lagrave, it also covers the Armenian variation (1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Ba5) and lines where Black does not play ...c5 (1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 for example).

Principled players who like to study theory who are looking for a testing weapon against the French will find *Beating the French Winawer: The h4 Ram* right up their alley.

Paul Morphy by Geza Maroczy, is a famous work on the great American

champion. First published in German in 1909 this book contains over 400 of Paul Morphy's games by Maroczy, a world class player noted for his teaching skills (Menchik, Kashdan, H. Steiner and Bain were among his pupils).

This book on Morphy first appeared in English thanks to the efforts of the late Dale Brandreth who published it as a handsome red hardcover in a limited edition. This book is essentially the same work with a new introduction by the noted Morphy expert Charles Hertan.

Fieldnotes from the Washington State Scholastic Championship
By Christian Brickhouse

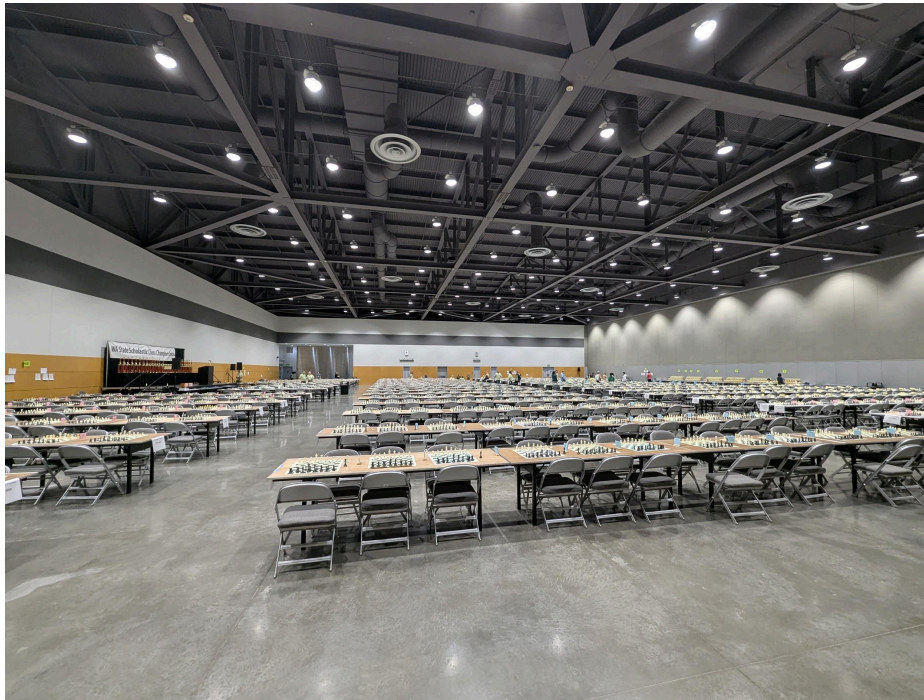


The view of Mt. Ranier from outside the playing hall

Thanks to Jacob Mayer and Judit Sztaray, I went to Tacoma for the Washington State Scholastic Chess Championship (WSSCC) as one of the

Tournament Directors. Just two weeks after our own San Francisco Scholastic Championship, the WSSC was a great opportunity to see how a large scholastic tournament is organized, and meet the community of families, players, teachers, directors, and organizers who make a tournament for 1500 students possible.

The event takes place in the Greater Tacoma Convention Center with a breathtaking view of the snow-capped Mt. Rainier in the distance. The scale is impressive. Most of the 1500 students fit into the main tournament hall on the 5th floor of the convention center with kindergarten sections and some middle school sections taking place in satellite locations.



The main playing hall a few minutes before doors open

Each grade had two sections—USCF rated and non-USCF-rated—which are branded as championship and premier. While they differ in USCF rating, the championship and premier sections are both rated under the North West Scholastic Rating System, a joint effort by chess organizations in Washington, Oregon, to provide free tournament ratings to scholastic

players and some adults. Unlike the USCF, the NWSRS is free to players with no membership dues—students just play.



Example of the board numbers

The board numbers and the board numbering were both worth noting. The numbers were printed on cards with the paper color matching to the grade for those students at the table. The cards were held up by wooden stands. The stands were simple but effective: some strips of scrap plywood with a groove in the center to hold up the card. A few cuts on a table saw and you could have hundreds of these in an afternoon. The board numbers were printed on both sides, so as a tournament director, I could look down the row from either end and know what board was where.

The board numbering was set up so that the board number alone told directors most of the information we needed to know to help players find their spot. Each board number was 4 digits. The first digit was the grade, so 4th grade (my section) all had 4000 board numbers. The second digit tells you if the board is in the championship or premier section. A board in the championship section would have 4 while a board in the premier section would have a 0 (or 1 if there were more than 100 boards in the premier

section). The final digits are for the board number itself. So the best 4th grade premier section board would be 4001, and the best 4th grade championship board would be 4401, and numbering would continue from there. When a player asked me where board 7432 was, I knew it was in the 7th grade championship section, 32nd board, without needing to consult a map or ask more questions. A clever set-up!



The WSSCC medal hanging in the Mechanics' Institute Chess Office

Everyone who didn't get a trophy got a medal (I got two!), and trophies were awarded to players based on points scored. In our scholastic championship, we use a tiebreak system to award trophies, but no tie breaks are used in the WSSCC. All the players who scored 5/5 get the 5pt trophy. All players who score 4.5/5 get the 4.5pt trophy. And so on. After finishing their last game, players picked up their trophies from either the stage or the score table. At the end there was a ceremony for team trophies on the main stage.



The main stage with trophies lined up for the players.

During the tournament, I got to meet so many wonderful people who support chess for literally thousands of players across Washington, and the danger in mentioning anyone is that I can't mention everyone. Still, there are a few people I do want to mention for the impact they made. Jacob Mayer is the main organizer of the WSSCC and went beyond the role to shuttle me around Puget Sound while I saw the sights of Pike Place, the International District, and T-Mobile Park. Norm and Donna May (and family) were very welcoming and fun to talk to the first night as I was getting to know the community. Chris Bird was generous in sharing his knowledge and experience as one of the premier tournament directors in the US, and I appreciated his help in a number of challenging situations. Allen Messenger, perhaps one of the most gregarious people I ever met, who I enjoyed a long conversation with about life, Lake Erie, and the importance of scholastic chess. My section chief, Nick Liotta, and fellow assistant Daniel Wilke were great teammates throughout the entire event as we directed the 4th graders (and then some). James Stripes was a fountain of knowledge about the chess scene in Spokane (a frequent haunt of our

own John Donaldson). Trey Slaten, my roommate for the weekend, was great to hang out with during and after the tournament, and I will be asking for recommendations on our library's growing manga collection. I wish I had the space to thank everyone who was so kind to me this weekend, and I'm hoping we can support each other in the future!



Trey and I after surviving all 5 rounds.

Encoding

By Renate Otterbach

What is encoding, and why is it important for teachers to understand encoding theory?

Often, we think we have explored all the critical candidate moves only to discover that our opponent made an excellent move we didn't even see. How does this happen?

As opponents discuss their games in the skittles room, we frequently hear comments like "I didn't see this move coming"; "Where did this knight come from?" All chess players have blind spots, things they do not see. As William Lombardy once stated to me: "nobody sees everything."

Chess is too complex a game to see everything. Even computers have blind spots; these vary based on the program. Otherwise, no computer would ever beat another computer. All games would be a draw, or the side with the first move would always win because of the extra tempo. However, the blind spots of computers often are so minuscule that, for most humans, they are undetectable.

High-rated players have learned to navigate around their blind spots, thereby minimizing the impact that blind spots have on their game. These players have learned to build on their strengths, often choosing openings designed to steer the game away from their blind spots toward their strengths.

Selective encoding—the key to our chess strengths and weaknesses

Just like we cannot see everything on a chessboard, we cannot encode everything; it would overload our brains. It would be like thousands of cars driving randomly on a vast, paved lot without markings or signs. Chaos would result. Consequently, our bodies have the equivalent of road signs; many are biologically based and function automatically unless a certain threshold is reached.

For example, you are unconscious of your breathing until you get a certain level of exertion. At that point, a threshold is reached, and we become aware of our breathing. We must consciously pay attention to our breathing if we want to change our breathing pattern. Many exercise programs are designed to teach us more effective breathing patterns to improve our performance.

In chess, as in exercise, what aspects we attend to will be encoded, while the rest will be ignored or forgotten. Thus, what we choose to attend or not attend determines our strengths and weaknesses. The attributes of a

position we attend to are encoded, while the parts we do not attend to are ignored. Over time, we correct and build on our prior encoded knowledge base, deepening our understanding of the game. Chess teachers can expedite this process by helping students identify problem areas, discussing tactical patterns, and strategic decision-making.

Causes of variation in chess strengths and weaknesses

Most people assume that everyone encodes information the same way they do. Consequently, they tend to focus more on those areas they find difficult; this, however, creates a problem because their students may have different encoding preferences. Generally, people are able to adapt to small misalignment of encoding differences, but if the differences go beyond a certain threshold, they have difficulties accurately encoding the information.

If, however, there is a large gap between how the materials are presented and the students' encoding preferences, faulty or partial encoding may result. This may be especially true for neurodiverse students who use different methods of encoding, storing, or retrieving information. Thus, what a person chooses to encode or not encode determines their sensitivity or insensitivity to certain stimuli.

To summarize, we store information in our brains differently based on our cognitive strengths and weaknesses, our preferences, or our cultural/societal values. These differences in encoding determine what we attend to (and not attend to), in a given position on the board. In short, these differences determine how we define the problem and the solution path we choose to follow.

Once we define a solution path, we become blind to alternatives. Our minds shut out other information and focus our mental energy on the chosen problem-solving approach. Over time, problem-solving patterns develop and we tend to follow these patterns unless they are blocked. For example, an unexpected knight fork can drastically alter our perception. We now have become aware of something to which we were previously blind. Because chess forces us to face our encoding errors, it is an excellent tool to teach effective encoding skills that are transferrable across domains.

Important Implications for Teaching

The better the matchup between the encoding system used by the instructor and the encoding system used by the learner so more likely learning occurs. This challenge can be addressed by using different teaching strategies and adapting the curriculum to the various needs of the students. Chess, as a discipline, may be especially attractive to neurodiverse students, as it allows access to information through different cognitive encoding patterns. Furthermore, it has a natural feedback system that enables the learner to reevaluate the encoded information and revise it based on new data.

Major Take-Away

When we learn something new, it requires a lot of mental energy to encode the information accurately. If, in addition, we must also exert energy to translate one way of encoding (that of the teacher) to another (one natural to us), our cognitive processing system quickly overloads and consequently freezes; this is similar to a computer that freezes. Everything stops, and information is lost or mislearned.

Thus, to help students learn most effectively, it is beneficial to understand the different ways people encode information, the benefits, and liabilities of each method, and how our way of encoding both determines what we recall easily and our blind spots. In chess, we often speak of different types of players; for example, those who focus on tactical advantages and those who are more focused on strategic opportunities; Tal vs. Petrosian. The key to understanding these differences is how they encode the information while studying chess.

In the book *Chess Openings for Black Explained: A Complete Repertoire*, the authors separate famous chess players into two groups with different encoding preferences. Those with a healthy disrespect for material and those with a healthy respect for the material. Naturally, to be successful in chess, these players had to learn to encode information both ways and to know, based on the position on the board, which encoded chunks to recall. Encoding materials in multiple ways and purposefully connecting these chunks maximizes learning. This will be discussed in more detail in subsequent blogs.

Annotated Games from the TNM and Recent Tournaments

By IM Elliott Winslow

A selection of annotated games from the Spring TNM annotated by IM Elliott Winslow. All the games from the current TNM can be found here, and games from previous TNMs are in the [Tournament Archive](#). So scroll down to the next page to check out the games!

□ Winslow, Elliott

■ Heiserman, Jimmy

2026 Spring TNM: 2000+ (6.1) 07.04.26
[Winslow, Elliott]

E15

2237

2254

Two rounds to go -- but note that Heiserman and Tsodikova, tied for first with 4-1, both had taken unretractable half-point byes in the last round! Half a point behind them were Diller, Seitzer, Kulkarni and Winslow (me). Seitzer and I both lost, while Kulkarni took a bye as well (and didn't play the last round at all). Diller did win, setting up a chance to join the leaders for 1st-3rd. My failure to even get a half-point was fatal... **1.d4** 4:45 **Nf6** 50 **2.c4** 1:13 **e6** 9 Heiserman decided it was a good time to play something different. I was rather expecting a Gruenfeld.

[2...g6 3.Nc3 d5]

3.Nf3 4:31 **b6** 10 **4.g3** 5:35

[More me would be 4.Nc3 Bb4 (But I've had some trouble with 4...Bb7 5.a3 although I've somewhat patched *that* hole.) 5.Bg5 (5.e3 could be that ...b6 Nimzo I knew half a century ago) 5...h6 6.Bh4 Bb7 7.e3 g5 8.Bg3 Ne4 9.Qc2 is still going on, for example: d6 10.Bd3 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 f5

A) I played 12.d5 in a TNM in 2014, but I now know Black is no worse after Na6! (or 12...Nd7!) 13.Nd4 Nac5! 14.Nxe6 Nxe6 15.dxe6 Nc5;

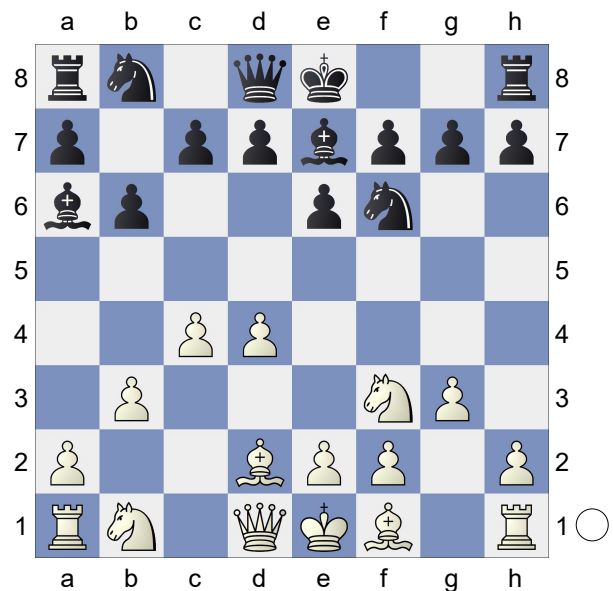
B) Stockfish 18 0.00s with 12.0-0;

C) and 12.Qb3;

D) 12.c5!? Nd7 13.cxd6 cxd6 14.0-0 Qe7 15.Bxe4 Bxe4 16.Qe2 Bb7 17.Nd2 h5 18.Nc4 f4 19.exf4 h4 20.fxg5 hxg3 21.fxg3 Rc8 22.g6 Ba6 23.g7 Rg8 24.Qh5+ Kd8 25.Rf7 Bxc4 26.Rxe7 Kxe7

27.Qg6 Nf6 28.d5 Nxd5 29.h4 Nf6 30.h5 Nxf5 31.Qxh5 Rxc3 32.Rd1 Bd5 33.Qh4+ Kd7 34.Qa4+ Kd8 35.Rf1 Rxc3 36.Rf8+ Kc7 37.Qxa7+ Bb7 38.Qb8+ Kc6 39.Qe8+ Kc5 40.Qxe6 Rcxg3 41.Rf5+ Kc6 42.Rf2 Kc7 43.Rf7+ ½-½ Caruana, F (2795)-Praggnanandhaa, R (2741) Candidates, Pegeia 2026]

4...Ba6 14 **5.b3** 2:51 (I don't know what possessed me to go into this, when I haven't kept up with it in ages) **5...Bb4+** 13 **6.Bd2** 6 **Be7** 6



7.Bg2 1:41

[7.Nc3 d5 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Bg2 (9.Bh3!?) 9...0-0 10.0-0 is the same position]

7...0-0 29

[7...d5]

[7...c6!?)]

8.0-0 2:16 **d5** 23 **9.cxd5** 3:55 **exd5** 29

10.Nc3 8:02

[10.Ne5!?) Bb7]

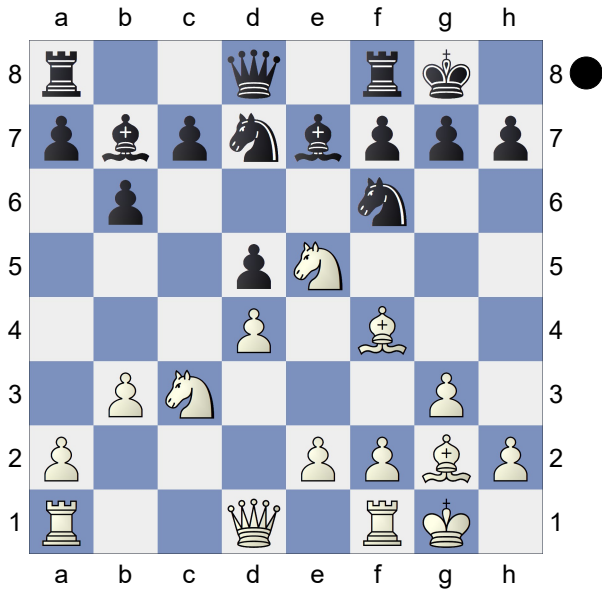
10...Nbd7 9:57 **11.Ne5** 3:09 **Bb7** 18

12.Bf4?! 9:34

[12.a4]

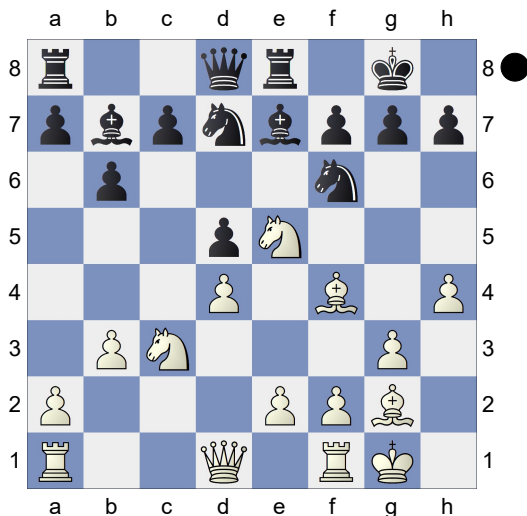
[12.Rc1 Re8 13.Rc2]

(Diagram)



12...Re8! 5:56 The main line "12...Re8 scores better than 12...c6." (AI) **13.Rc1 9:50**

[13.Nxd7 Qxd7 14.a3 c5 15.Be5 Ng4 16.Bh3 f5 17.Bxg4 fxg4 18.f4 cxd4 19.Bxd4 Bd6 20.e3 Rf8 21.b4 Rae8 22.Qa4 Bc6 23.Qb3 Qe6 24.Rad1 h5 25.a4 Rf5 26.b5 Bb7 27.a5 h4 28.axb6 axb6 29.Rfe1 hxg3 30.hxg3 Rh5 31.Kg2 Bc5 32.Qb1 Rc8 33.Rh1 Rxh1 34.Rxh1 Bxd4 35.Qh7+ Kf7 36.f5 Qxe3 37.Qg6+ Kg8 38.Qh7+ Kf8 39.Qh8+ Ke7 0-1 (39) Navara,D (2635)-Sevian, S (2688) Chess.com INT 2026]
[13.h4!?

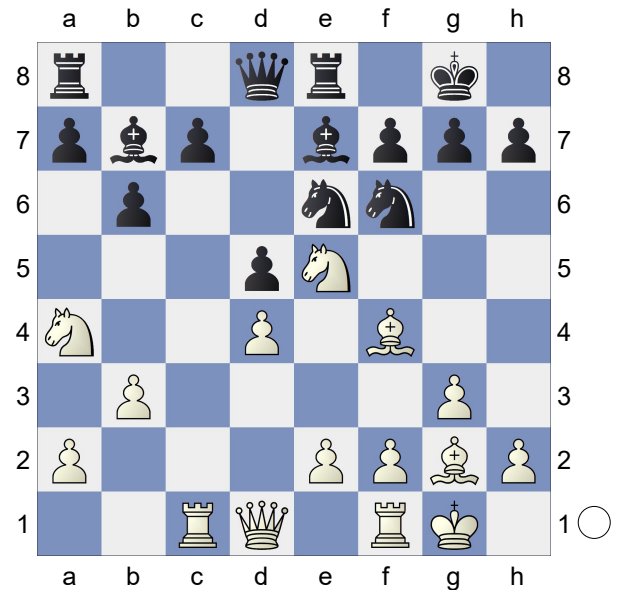


is the computer's idea.]

13...Nf8! 15:56 I wasn't really thinking about anything, and this move was a slight surprise. It turns out to be quite a big thing. **14.Na4 10:15**

[14.Nd3]
[14.Bg5]

14...Ne6 4:04



15.Nd3?N 4:11 Some days you just can't focus...

[15.Bh3 Bd6 16.e3 h6 17.Nc6 Bxc6 18.Rxc6 Nxf4 19.exf4 Re7 20.Qd3 Qe8 21.Rc2 Ne4 22.Nc3 Nxc3 ½-½ (22) Ikonnikov,V (2459)-Richter, N (2409) Germany 2023]
[15.Nc6 Qd7 16.Ne5 Qc8 17.Rc2 Nxf4 18.gxf4 Bd6 19.Nc3 Qf5=]

15...Ba3!-+ 5:37 16.Rc3 13:02 Ne4 27:36 17.Bxe4?! 4:35

[17.Rc2 Nxd4 18.Rxc7 Ba6 19.e3 Ne6 20.Rc2 Rc8-+]

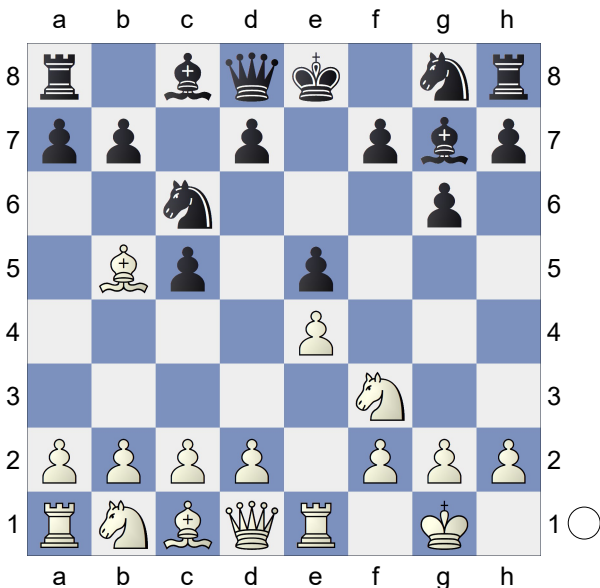
17...dxe4 6 18.Nc1 5:44 Nxf4 3:40 19.gxf4 18 Qh4 3:06 20.Qd2 48 Bb4 35 I could resign and hide... 21.Qe3 52 Bxc3 23 22.Nxc3 1 Re6 26 23.Kh1 45 Rh6 14 24.Qg3 6 e3+ 8 25.d5 17 Qh5 9:38 26.fxe3 40 c6 56 27.e4 34 cxd5 18 28.e3 1:30 Rc8 2:07 29.N1e2 8 dxe4 30 30.f5 46 Qh3 54 31.Rd1 2:08 Qxf5 56 32.Nf4 1:15 Qe5 2:46 33.Nce2 43 g5 1:16 34.Rg1 1:29 f6 57 35.Qg4

42 Kh8 10 36.Qd7 10 Qc7 17 37.Qe6
 2:18 gxf4 25 38.Rc1 3 Qd8 30
 39.Rxc8 22 Bxc8 7 40.Qf7 1:26 Rg6
 35
 0-1

□ Tsodikova,Natalya **B31**
2245
 ■ Seshadri,Sudarshan **2000**
 2026 Spring TNM: 2000+ (6.2) 07.04.26
[Winslow,Elliott]

Tsodikova also finished her schedule with a win, and 5½-1½ ended up holding up for 1st-2nd with Heiserman. Sudarshi had a less satisfying finish, losing his last two games; both saw some chances but some slippage deep in the game.

1.e4 1 c5 2:33 2.Nf3 12 Nc6 19 3.Bb5
 13 You *really* have to go out of your way to get Natalya to play an Open Sicilian (3.d4)! 3...g6 1:07 4.0-0 16 Bg7
 9 5.Re1 20 e5 1:29

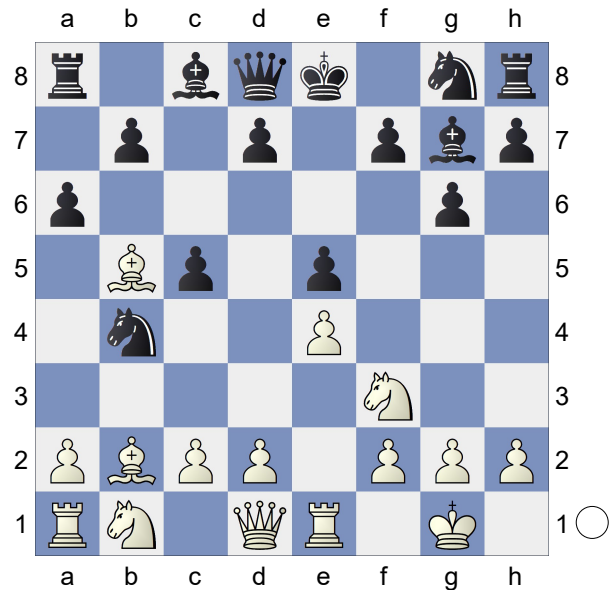


6.b4!? 5:18 Nxb4 1:29 7.Bb2 41
 It's surprising this line didn't really catch on, neither over the decades since the following game, nor after it appeared in Caruana vs. Carlsen in 2018. Sitting next to the game, I had no idea of its

particular pedigree, nor how far into Car-Car they went.

[7.c3 Nc6 8.d4 exd4 9.e5 Nge7
 10.cxd4 Nxd4 11.Nxd4 cxd4 12.Ba3
 ½-½ (34) Lein,A-Taimanov,M Baku
 1961]

7...a6 42



8.a3 24

[8.Bc4 d6 9.c3 Nc6 10.d4 Nge7
 11.dxc5 dxc5 12.Qxd8+ Nxd8
 13.Ba3 b6 14.Nbd2 Bb7 15.Rab1
 b5 16.Bxc5 bxc4 17.Nxc4 Nc8
 18.Nfxe5 Bc6 19.f4 Bb5 20.Na3
 Ne6 21.Be3 Nd6 22.Red1 Bxe5
 23.fxe5 Nxe4 24.c4 Ba4 25.Rd5 0-0
 0-1 (25) Rasulov,V (2538)-Firouzja,A
 (2763) Chess.com INT 2023]

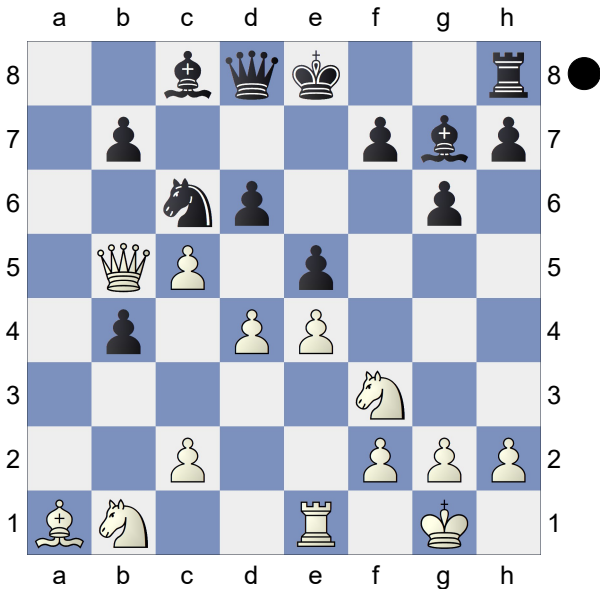
8...axb5 10 9.axb4 8 Rxa1 5 10.Bxa1
 7 d6 11 11.bxc5 2:11 Ne7 13 12.Qe2
 4:55 b4 7:13 13.Qb5+ 4:11

[13.Qc4 Qa5 14.cxd6 Be6 15.Qc7
 Qxc7 16.dxc7 Nc6 17.c3 Kd7
 18.cxb4 Ra8 19.Bc3 Kxc7 20.d3
 Kb6 21.Bd2 Rd8 22.Be3+ Kb5
 23.Nc3+ Kxb4 24.Nd5+ Bxd5
 25.exd5 Rxd5 26.Rb1+ Kc3 27.Rxb7
 Nd8 28.Rc7+ Kxd3 29.Kf1 h5 30.h3
 Ke4 31.Ng5+ Kf5 32.Nxf7 Nxf7
 33.Rxf7+ Bf6 34.g4+ ½-½ Caruana,F
 (2832)-Carlsen,M (2835) Wch (5)

London 2018]

[Funny that Stockfish 18 prefers neither queen move but 13.c3 (but not by anything significant).]

13...Nc6 10 14.d4 2:01



Either c-pawn move, either d-pawn move -- they're all pretty balanced (acc. to SF). The tension can be dizzying! 14...0-0?!N 5:02 Affording White a bit.

[14...dxc5= is the only move played previously, 3-0 so far. 15.d5 (15.Nxe5? Bxe5 16.dxe5 Qa5 17.Qxa5 Nxa5 18.e6 Rg8= but 1-0 (41) Daggupati,B (2443)-Kanyamarala,T (2343) Titled Tuesday (blitz), 8 Feb 2022) 15...Qa5! 16.Qxa5 Nxa5 17.Bxe5 was two of those games, 0.00 after Bxe5 18.Nxe5

A) 18...f6 19.Nd3 b6 20.Nd2 (20.c3!?) 20...Ba6?? (20...Ke7=; 20...Kd7=) 21.Nxc5+- 1-0 (38) Gonzalez Castillo,J (2182)-Martel Bruniaux,M (2180) Alcorcon 2024. The pressure gets to you.;

B) 18...b6=]

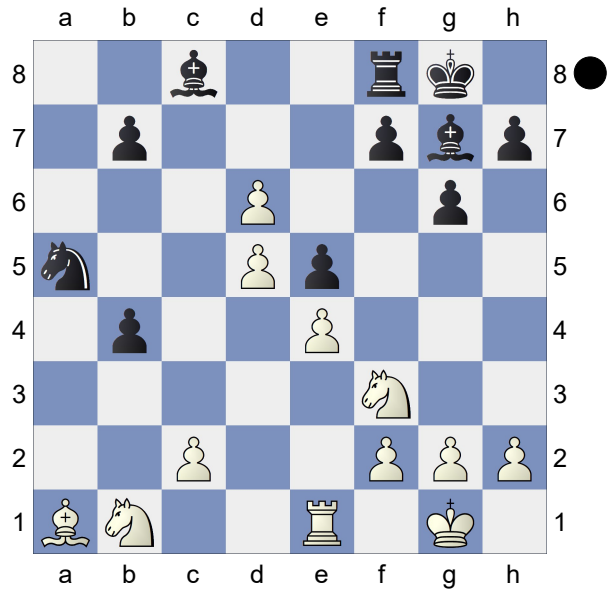
[14...exd4 15.Bxd4 0-0]

15.d5 1:57

[15.cxd6! Qxd6 16.d5 Nb8±]

15...Qa5 27 16.Qxa5 36 Nxa5 6

17.cxd6± 1:02



f6 56 18.Nbd2 59 Rd8? 32

[Stockfish weaves quite a crazy path after 18...Bd7 19.c3! b6! (0.31/29) 20.cxb4 Nb7 21.Nc4 Bb5! (21...b5 22.Na5 Nxd6 23.Nb3!) 22.Nfd2 (22.Na3!? Nxd6 23.Nxb5 Nxb5 24.g4!?) 22...Bh6! 23.g3 Rc8! 24.f4 Bxc4□ 25.d7□ Rc7□ 26.Nxc4□ Rxc4 27.fxe5□ fxe5□ 28.Bxe5□ Bg5 29.Ra1 (29.h4!? Bd8 30.Bf4 Rd4!±) 29...Rxe4 30.Bc7= (all 00.0s) Rc4 31.d6 Kf7 32.Ra8]

19.Rb1± 2:12

[19.c3!]

(Diagram)

Now the game starts to sway in Natalya's favor. 19...Bf8?! 3:11

[19...Bd7 20.Rxb4 b5±]

20.Rxb4+- 1:07

(Diagram)

Bxd6 10

[Δ20...Rxd6]

21.Rb1 7:34

[Δ21.Rb5]

A37

□ Diller,Bradley R

2122

■ Zavgorodniy,Andrew

2042

2026 Spring TNM: 2000+ (7.1) 14.04.26

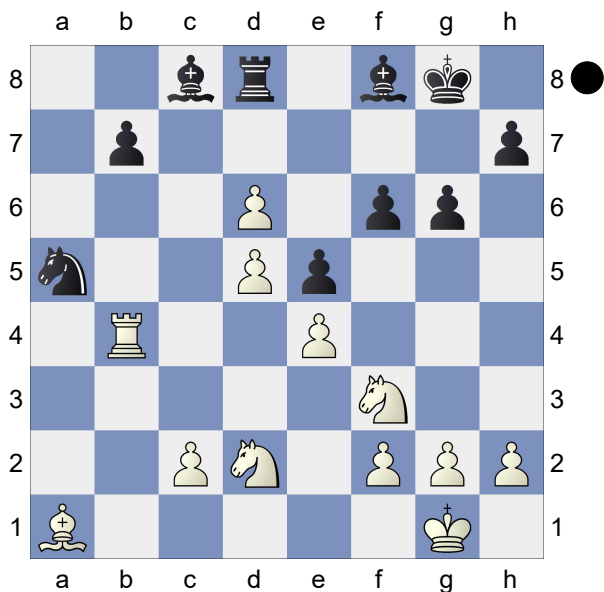
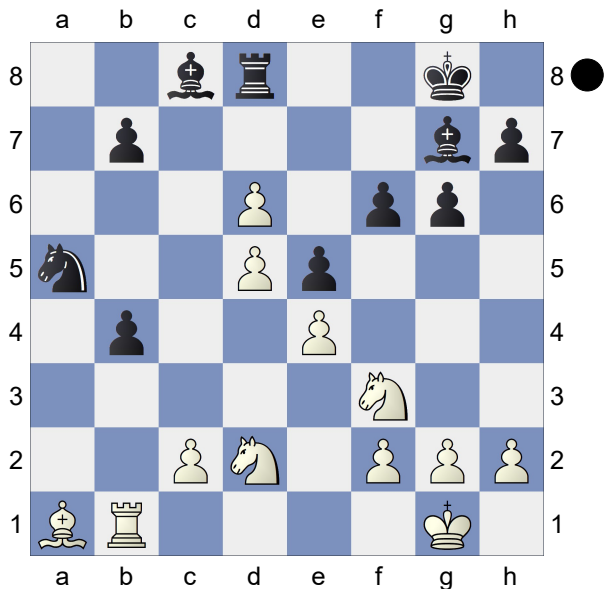
[Winslow,Elliott]

Zavgorodniy slammed Diller's dream of a tie for 1st-3rd, and even leap-frogged into 3rd-4th place at Brad's expense.

1.c4 39:45 g6 16:53 2.g3 8 Bg7 16

3.Bg2 7 c5 14 4.Nc3 32 Nc6 49 5.Nf3

10 e6 20



21...Bc5 4:28

[Δ21...Bc7]

22.Bc3 12:07 b6 8 23.Bb4 1:07 Bxb4

5:43 24.Rxb4 3 Rd6 41 25.Nc4 3:45

Nxc4 19 26.Rxc4 2 Ba6 2:43 27.Rc7

2:14 f5 1:03 28.Rc6 5:45 Rxc6 8:46

29.dxc6 2 fxe4 5:32 30.Nxe5 10 Kf8

2:48 31.Nd7+ 3:50 Ke7 13 32.Nxb6

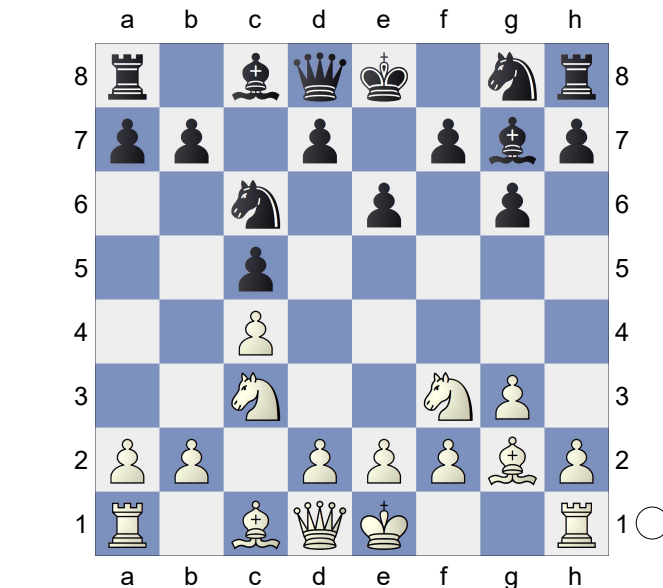
2:09 Kd6 1:24 33.Na4 1:13 Bc8 10:56

34.Nc3 10:14 Kxc6 1:43 35.Nxe4 40

Bf5 24 36.f3 35 Kd5 1:01 37.Kf2 58

h5 43 38.Ke3 23 g5 1:45 39.c4+ 1:25

1-0



6.d4 1:16

[Another day, another h-pawn attack:

6.h4!? h6 7.d4 cxd4 8.Nb5]

6...cxd4 18 7.Nb5□ 10 d5 15 8.Nfxd4

4:23

[8.cxd5 is far and away the move

played: exd5 9.0-0 (9.Nbxd4;

9.Nfxd4) 9...Nf6 probably better than

(9...Nge7 10.Bf4 0-0 11.Qd2 Nf5

12.g4 Nfe7 13.h3 a6 14.Nd6 h6

15.Nxc8 Rxc8 16.Bxh6 f5 17.Bxg7+-

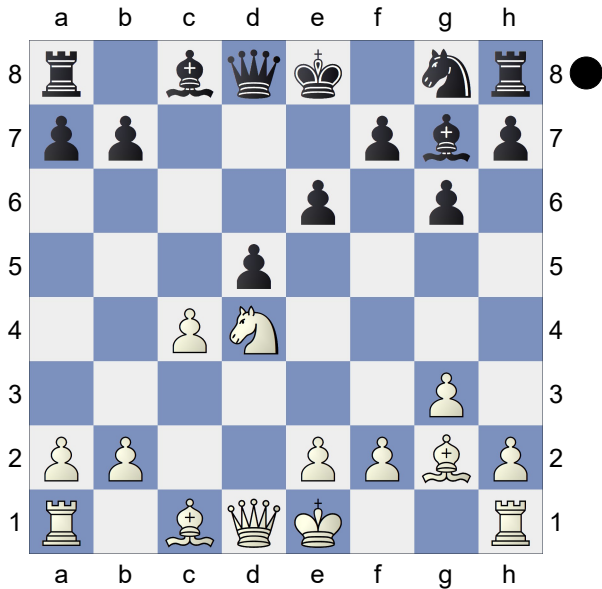
but 0-1 (62) Grischuk,A (2754)-

Carlsen,M (2857) 1m 1spm, chess.

com 2016) 10.Bf4 0-0]

8...Nxd4 5:38 9.Nxd4 21

(Diagram)

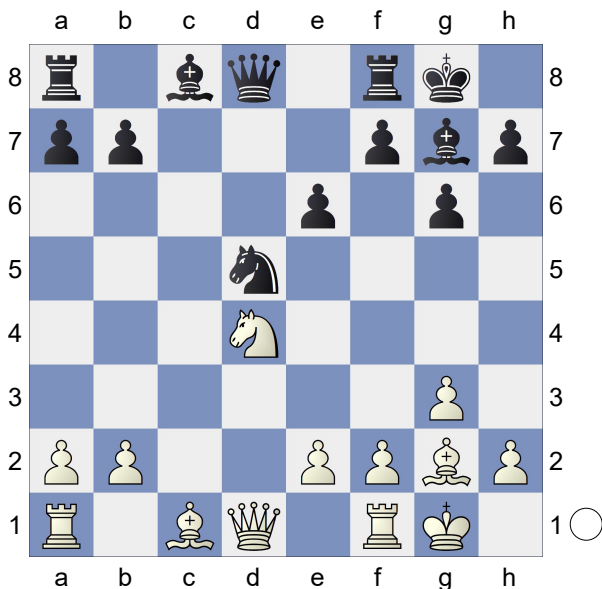


Ne7= 48

[9...dxc4!? 10.Qa4+ Bd7 11.Qxc4 Rc8 12.Qd3 Qb6 13.Be3 Qb4+ 14.Qd2 Qxd2+ 15.Kxd2 Rd8= (-0.25/21)]

10.0-0 4:18 0-0 2:22 11.cxd5 6:59

Nxd5 1:19



12.Nb3 8:51

[12.e4 Nb4 13.Be3 Bd7 14.Qb3 Nc6 15.Rad1 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Qc7 17.e5 Bc6 18.Rc1 Rfd8 19.Qe3 Qa5 20.Bxc6 bxc6 21.a3 Rd5 22.Rc5 Qd8 23.Rxd5 Qxd5 24.Bc3 c5 25.Qe2 Rd8 26.Re1 h5 27.h4 Bh6 28.Qa6 Qd7 29.Qc4 Qd5

30.Qa4 Rd7 31.Qa6 c4 32.a4 Bf8 33.Qb5 Bc5 34.Re2 Rb7 35.Qe8+ Kg7 36.Qc8 Qf3 37.Rd2 Qxg3+ 38.Kf1 Qh3+ 39.Ke2 Qg4+ 40.Kf1 Qh3+ 41.Ke2 Qg4+ Esipenko,A (2682)-Sarana,A (2654) Chess.com INT 2020 1/2-1/2]

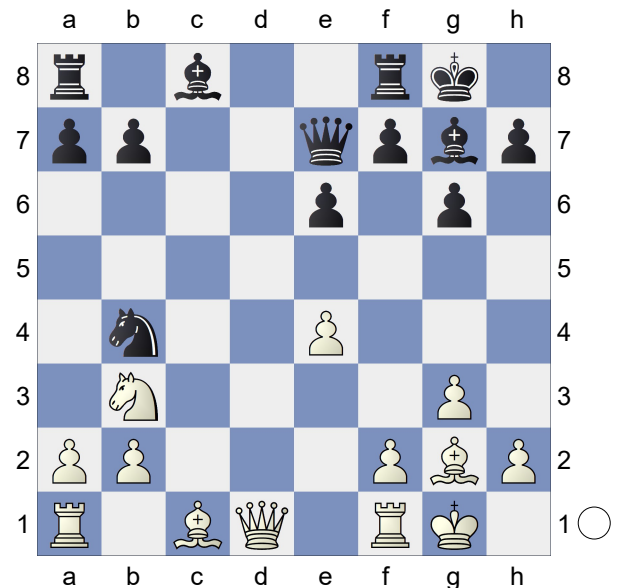
12...Qe7 8:20

[12...b6 7]

13.e4 18:38

[13.h4!]

13...Nb4= 2:26



14.Be3?! IN 42

[14.a3 Rd8 1/2-1/2 (14) Moreno Gracia, D (2318)-Glavina, P (2391) Zaragoza 2017]

[14.h4]

[14.e5! Bxe5 15.Qe2 Qc7!= (15...Bc7!=)]

14...b6 3:38 15.e5 7:15 Bb7 3:57

[15...Ba6!]

16.f4 4:53

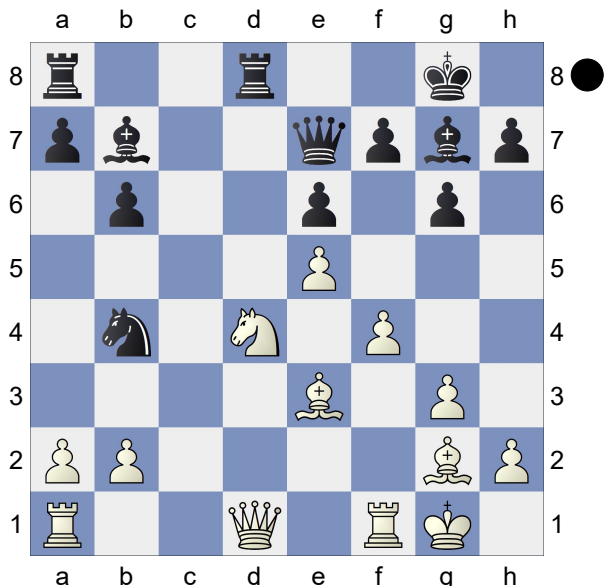
[16.Bxb7 Qxb7 17.a3 Nd5 18.Bd4 7]

16...Rfd8 7:27 17.Nd4 1:15

(Diagram)

Rac8?! 6:05

[17...Bxg2 7]

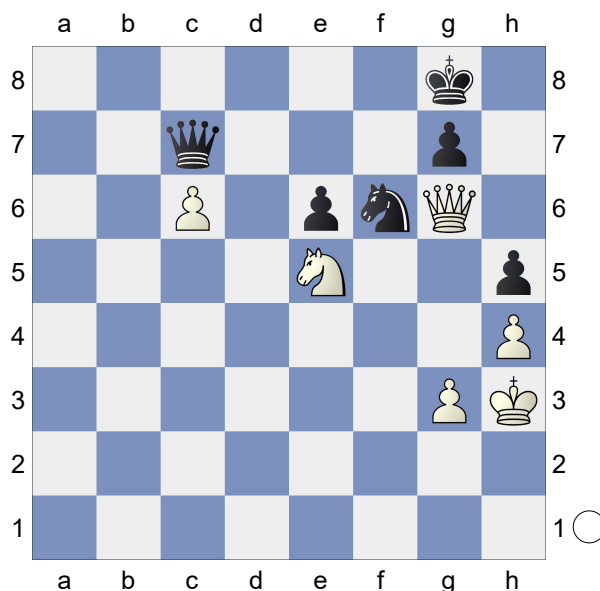


1:34 29.h4 52 Qd7 56 30.Be3 1:03
 Nxc3 31 31.Rxc3 4:07 Ra1+ 32.Kh2
 29 Nd5 57 33.Rb3 1:05 f5 8:09
 34.exf6 1:18 Bd6+ 2:05 35.g3 17 Nxf6
 1:37 36.Qg6 42 h5 30 37.Rd3 57
 Bxg3+ 10:28 38.fxg3 54 Ng4+ 3
 39.Kg2 19:11 Nxe3+ 1 40.Kf3 1:54
 Nd5 32 41.Ne5 1:11 Qe7 58 42.Kg2
 6:08 Nf6 3:26 43.Rc3 2:10 Qb7+ 4:01
 44.Rc6 7 Rc1 59 45.Kh3 3:11 Rxc6 21
 46.bxc6 18 Qc7? 48
 [46...Qb5!=]
 [46...Qa6!=]

[Δ17...Bf8⚡]
 18.a3?? 2:50
 [18.Bxb7 Qxb7 19.Qf3 Qxf3
 20.Rxf3 g5 (20...Rc4⚡) 21.a3 Nd5
 22.Bf2 Ne7⚡]
 18...Bxg2 1:30 19.Kxg2 2 Nc2! 27
 20.Qf3 3:21 Nxd4 56
 0-1

□ Cawthon,Jeremy David B22 2105
 ■ Lewis,Edward 1927
 2026 Spring TNM: 2000+ (7.2) 14.04.26
 [Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 3 c5 2:47 2.c3 6 Nf6 6 3.e5 4
 Nd5 9 4.d4 5 cxd4 12 5.Nf3 6 d6 38
 6.cxd4 5 e6 1:32 7.a3 6 Bd7 10 8.Bd3
 6 Bc6 6 9.Qe2 1:49 Nd7 19 10.b4 1:46
 a6 3:42 11.0-0 37 Rc8 2 12.Bd2 30
 Be7 2 13.a4 41 b5 4:18 14.axb5 28
 axb5 4:41 15.Bxb5 54 Bxb5 2:40
 16.Qxb5 2 0-0 16 17.Ra7 3:32 Rc7
 2:50 18.Rxc7 5:04 Qxc7 42 19.Rc1 7
 Qa7 43 20.Qa5 1:34 Qb7 8 21.Nc3
 10:12 N7b6 23:57 22.Qb5 2:20 Nc7 5
 23.Qd3 31 dxe5 17 24.dxe5 43 Rd8 34
 25.Qe4 19 Ncd5 33 26.b5 1:05 h6 8
 27.Nd4 1:35 Bf8 1:27 28.Nc6 48 Ra8

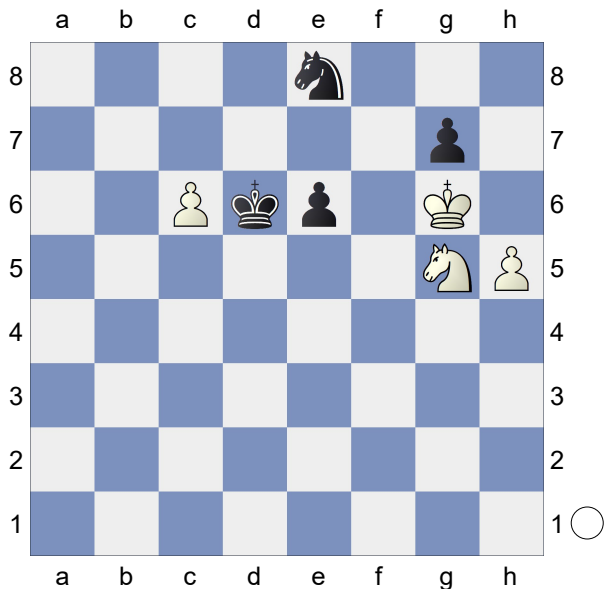


47.Qf7+? 53
 [47.Nd7!+-]
 47...Qxf7 42 48.Nxf7 1 Nd5 1:04
 49.Ng5 47 Nc7 1:09 50.g4 18 hxg4+ 2
 51.Kxg4 1 Kf8!= 2 52.Kh5 14 Ke7 11
 [52...e5!/?]
 53.Kg6 4 Ne8 2:25 54.h5 11 Kd6 1:56

(Diagram)

55.c7! 14 Nxc7 2:46 56.Kxg7 6 Ke7 3
 57.h6 26 Ne8+ 58.Kg6 8 Nf6 46
 59.Ne4 24 Ng4 1:14 60.h7 9 Ne5+ 10
 61.Kg7 10 Nf7 1:55 62.Ng5 2:00 Nh8
 16 63.Nf3 18 Nf7 33 64.Ne5 4 Nh8

0-1 (33) Deac,B (2700)-Naroditsky,D (2622) Chess.com INT 2023]
9.d5± 20:21 a5 5:26

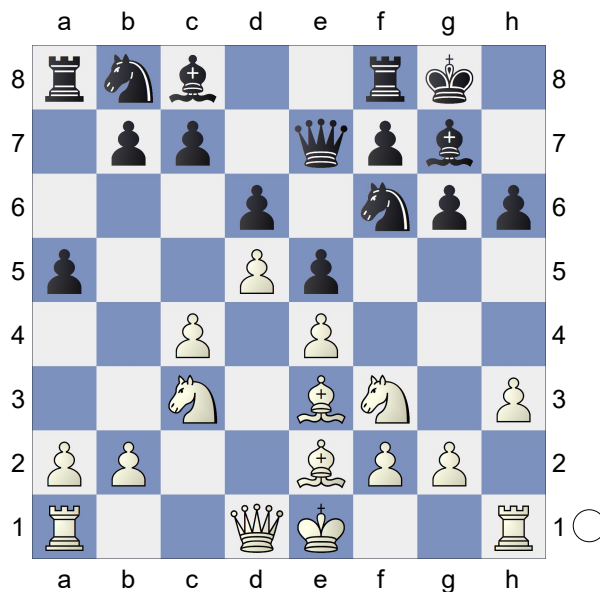


2:20 65.Ng6+ 2
1-0

E92
2000
2237
 2026 Spring TNM: 2000+ (7.3) 14.04.26
 [Winslow,Elliott/(TA)]

1.d4 Nf6 1:12 2.c4 7 g6 13 3.Nc3 7
Bg7 13 4.e4 8 d6 5 5.Nf3 13 0-0 8
6.Be2 4 e5 17 7.Be3 10 h6 54 8.h3
5:25
 [8.dxe5 Ng4=]
 [8.d5!? Ng4 9.Bd2 f5± 10.0-0 Nd7
 11.exf5 gxf5 12.g3 e4 13.Nh4 Nge5
 14.Ng2]

8...Qe7 2:35
 [Black should play 8...exd4± 9.Nxd4
 Re8 , for example 10.Qc2 Nc6
 (10...Qe7!=) 11.0-0-0 Bd7 12.g4
 Nb4 13.Qb1 c5 14.Ndb5 Bxb5
 15.cxb5 d5 16.exd5 Rxe3 17.fxe3
 Qe7 18.e4 Qe5 19.a3 Rc8 20.Rd2
 h5 21.Kd1 Bh6 22.Rf1 Qg5 23.Qc1
 hxg4 24.hxg4 Nxc4 25.Bxc4 Qxc4+
 26.Ne2 Nd3 27.Qc4 Ne5 28.Qc2
 Bxd2 29.Kxd2 Qg2 30.Rd1 Qg5+
 31.Ke1 Kg7 32.Qc3 Rh8 33.Ng3 f6



10.Qd2N 2:19

[Predecessor: 10.g4 Kh7 11.g5 Nh5
 12.Qd2 Nf4 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.Qxf4 f5
 15.gxf6 Bxf6 16.Qe3 Nd7 17.0-0
 Ne5 18.Nxe5 Bxe5 19.Rfd1 Bf4
 20.Qd3 Qg5+ 21.Kh1 Qh4 22.Bf1
 Bg4 23.Bg2 Bxd1 24.Nxd1 Be5
 25.Rc1 Qf4 26.Rc2 Qh2#
 0-1 (26) Eng,H (2325)-Degenhardt,H
 (2310) Germany 1989]

10...Kh7 21

[10...Nxe4 11.Nxe4 f5±]

11.0-0 2:58

[11.g4±]

11...Na6± 38 12.Ne1 1:50

[12.Bd3±]

12...Nc5= 2:58 13.Bf3 4:47 Ne8 1:22

14.Nd3 1:46

[14.Bd1±]

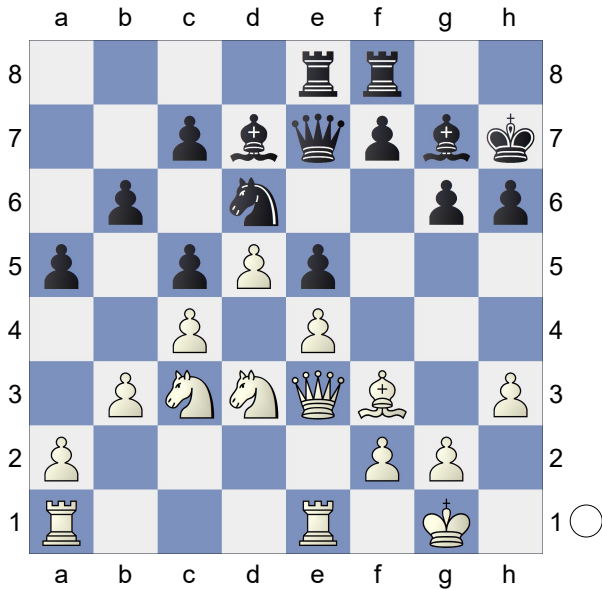
14...Bd7 4:39 15.Bxc5?! 7:04

[15.Rae1=]

15...dxc5± 35 16.Qe3 2:19 b6 17

17.Rfe1 4:15 Nd6 21 18.b3 29 Rae8±
36

(Diagram)



19.Nxc5?! 7:30 Unsound perhaps, but it certainly puts Black under pressure. But also White! And he was the one burning the clock time. **19...bxc5-+ 2:13**

[01:15:00] **20.Qxc5 10 [38:24] 20...f5?! 2:50**

[20...Ra8! 21.Qxc7 Rfc8 22.Qb6 Rcb8 23.Qe3 Nb7!-+ blockading on c5]

21.Qxc7 5:34 Rc8 19 22.Qb6 4:33

[22.Qxa5± Nf7 23.Be2]

22...Rb8 2:02

[22...Nf7!?!-+ 23.Qxa5 Ng5 Stockfish is already finding nice returns of the piece, e.g. 24.Re3 Nxb3+ 25.gxh3 f4 26.Rd3 Bxb3-+]

23.Qxa5± 2:50

(Diagram)

fxe4?± 2:10 Black should have been keeping the board divided in two.

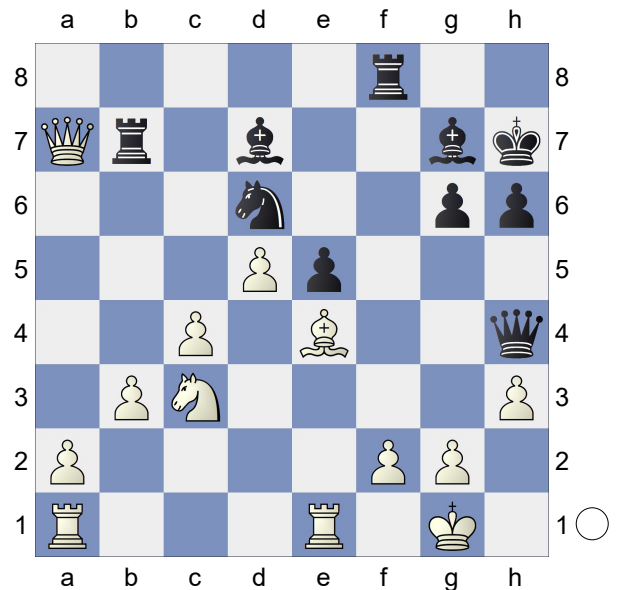
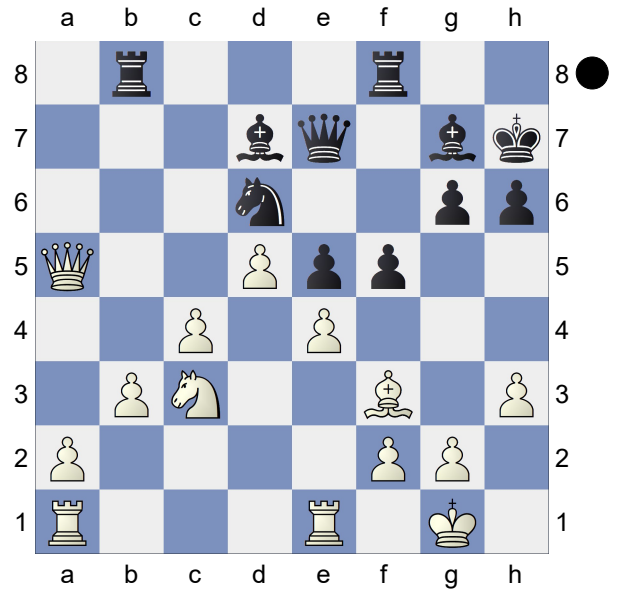
[23...Nf7±]

24.Bxe4± 1:17 Qh4 7:26 25.Qa7 3:31

Rb7?!= 1:58

[25...Bf5!± deserves consideration. 26.f3 (26.Bxf5 gxf5 27.c5 Ra8±) 26...Bxb3]

(Diagram)



26.Qe3! 1:43 Nf5?! 20

[26...h5! 27.Rad1 Bh6=]

27.Qd3 16 Be8 4:48

[27...Rc8±]

28.c5 2:58 Nd4 1:00

(Diagram)

29.f3± 1:05

[29.Qg3+- Bf6 30.d6 Qxg3 31.fxg3]

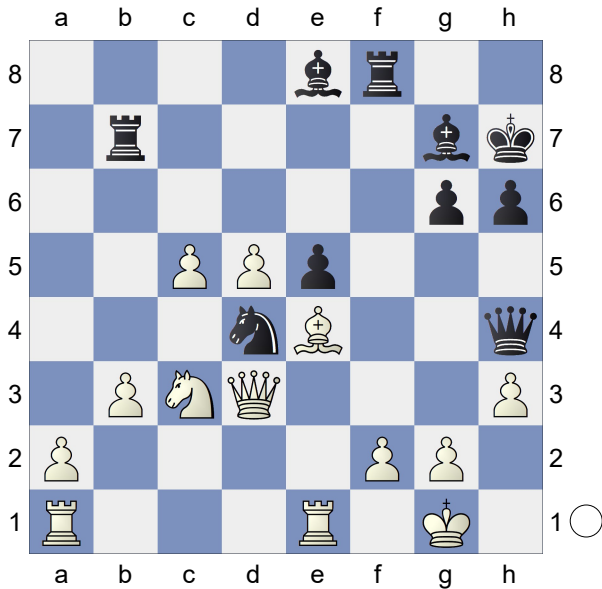
29...Rbf7? 1:13

[29...h5±]

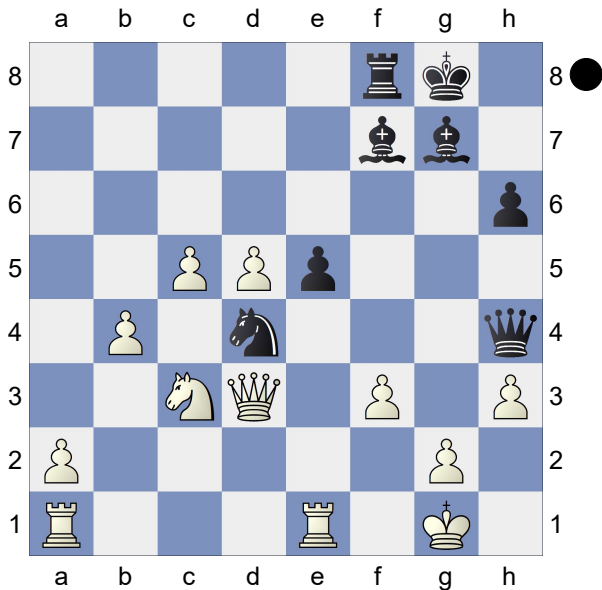
30.Bxg6+- 1:32 Kg8 31

[♠30...Kh8]

31.Bxf7+□ 14 Bxf7 28 32.b4? 3:42



[White should play 32.Re4+-
(well, many others were also +-) Qe7
33.b4]



He was defending well, but now we both go a bit bonkers, he because of a shortage of clock time, I because ... well, his shortage of clock time. 32...Bxd5? 2:49 Flash but should crash.

[Simple chess: 32...Bh5!=]

33.Ne4!± 9:35 [down to 6:05]

[33.Nxd5 Nxf3+ 34.gxf3 Qg3+
35.Kh1 Qxh3+ 36.Kg1 Qg3+=]

33...Rf4? 6:39

[33...Kh8 keeps fighting. 34.Rf1!+-

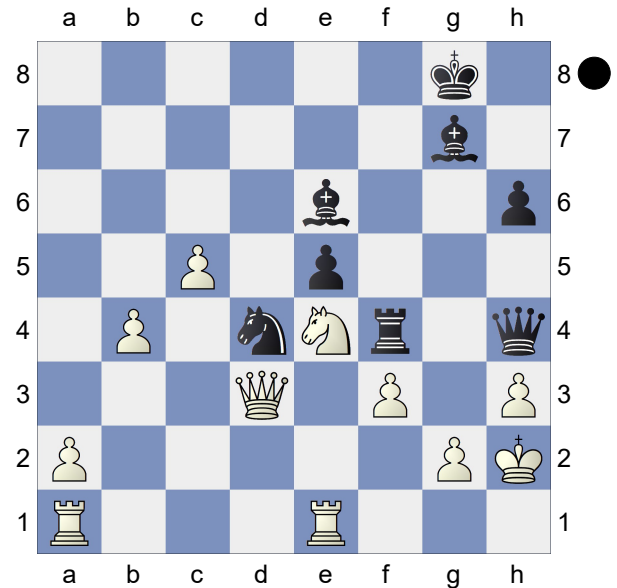
(2.13/d21) (34.b5 Bf6!±
(1.05/d20))]

34.Kh1? 1:16 A bad conception.

[34.a4+- among many others]

34...Be6!± 5:12 □ This pair of bishops is nice. Now it all drifts towards 0.00s, except after 35.Kh2? 1:19

[35.Kg1= and White is okay. Bxh3
36.Rad1]



35...Nxf3+!± 50 Deflection 36.gxf3 1:34
Best try 36...Qxh3+ 1:55 37.Kg1 5

Rxf3 17 38.Qe2? 49

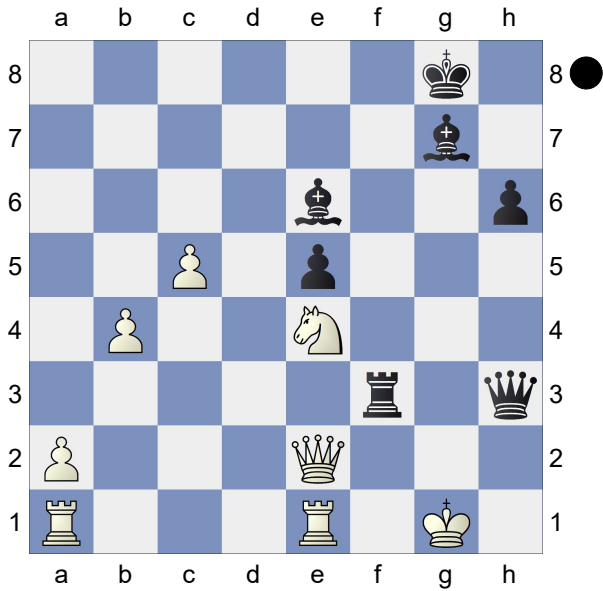
[38.Qd2 Rf4! 39.Re2 Rg4+ 40.Rg2
Rxe4 41.Re1 when it's unlikely I'd find
41...Rc4!-+]

(Diagram)

38...Rf4! 1:03 39.Qh2?! 2:16 Rg4+ 12

"What a fight! Ingenious play by Winslow!" (How do I shut this ChessBase AI *off*??) Weighted Error Value: White=1.05/Black=0.42

0-1



b6 9:41 14.0-0 2:14 Ba6 13 15.Bd3 40
 Bxd3 1:06 16.Qxd3 2 Ne5 8:39 17.Qb3
 8:22 Nc6 3:32 18.Qa4 7:16 Rc8 4:34
 19.Rac1 1:54 Na5 5:51 20.Rxc8 1:09
 Qxc8 1 21.Rc1 31 Qa6= 1:00 22.Rc2?
 11:57

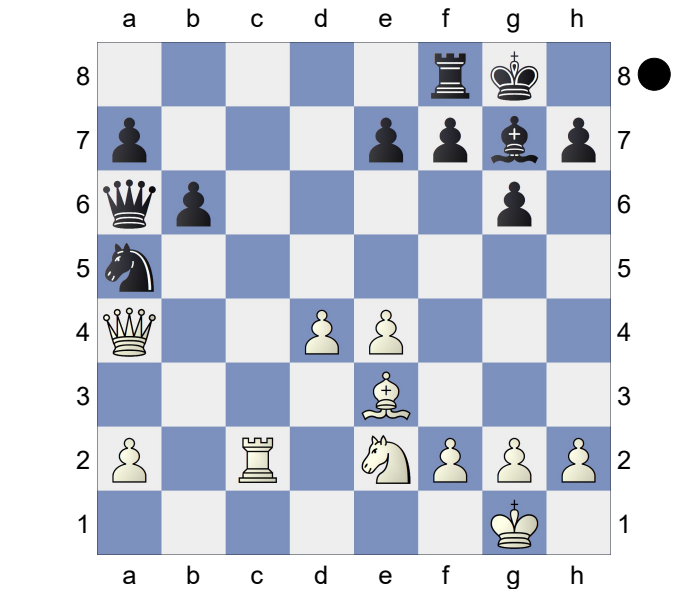
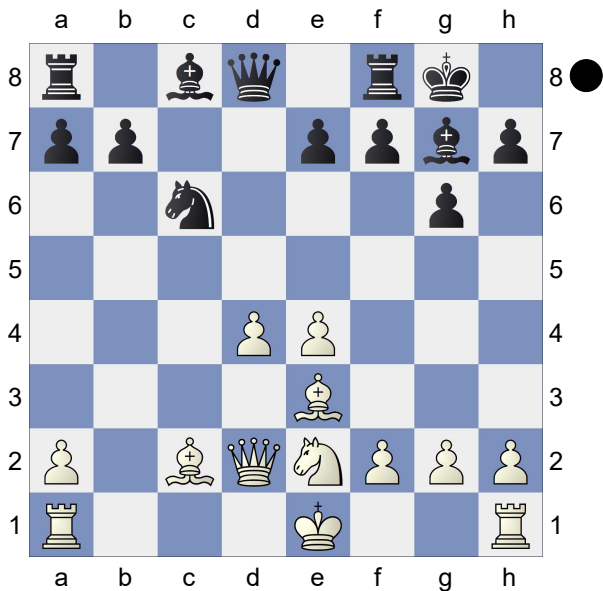
[22.Nc3]
 [22.Ng3]

□ Finacom, Richard V
 ■ Dutter, Frederic

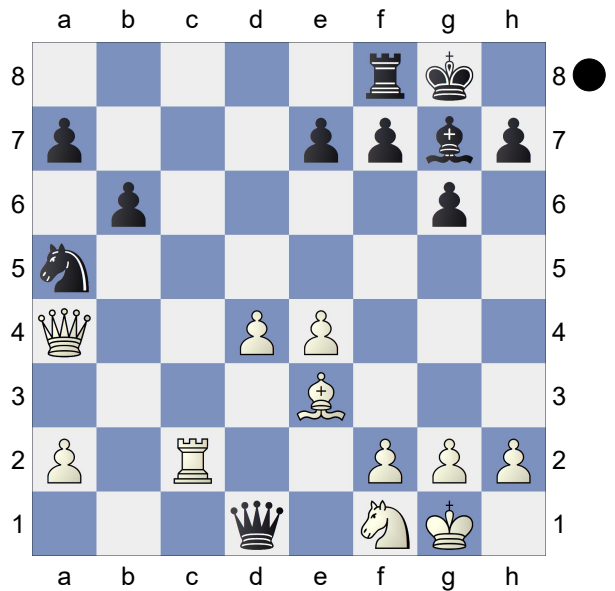
D86
 1822
 1900

2026 Spring TNM: 1600-1999 (6.5) 7.4.26
 [Winslow, Elliott]

1.d4 5 Nf6 3 2.c4 12 g6 6 3.Nc3 15
 d5 3 4.cxd5 1:33 Nxd5 1:02 5.e4 46
 Nxc3 5 6.bxc3 8 Bg7 4 7.Bc4 4:46 c5
 13 8.Ne2 19 cxd4 20 9.cxd4 40 Nc6
 14 10.Be3 1:45 0-0 9 11.Qd2 5:30 Na5
 7:53 12.Bd3 1:51 Nc6 2:39 13.Bc2
 5:27

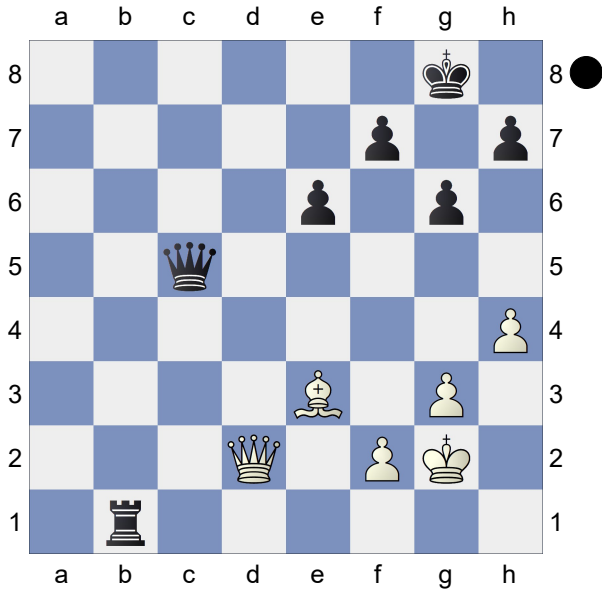


22...Qd3!+ 7:39 23.Ng3 5:03 Qd1+
 4:29 24.Nf1 9

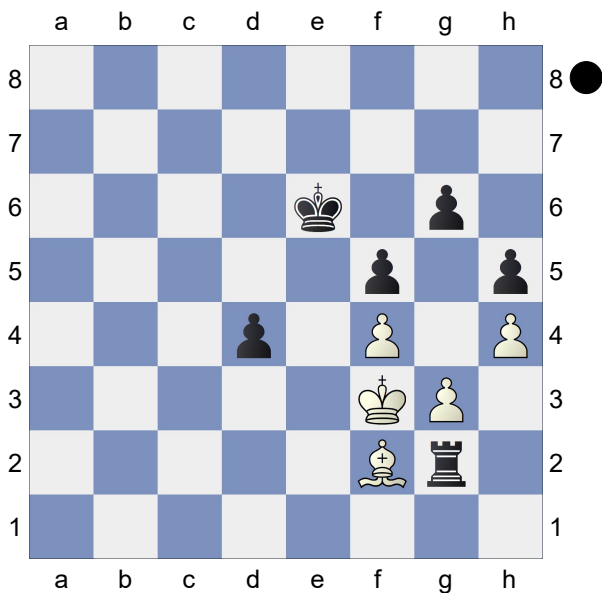


b5 2:02 25.Qxa5 3:28 Qxc2 14
 26.Qxa7 30 Qxe4 28 27.Qd7 48 Qe6
 1:44 28.Qxb5 52 Qxa2 13 29.g3 2:43
 Rd8 23 30.Qb6 1:57 Qd5 35 31.Qc7

3:22 Qd7 20 32.Qc5 2:17 Qd6 3:58
 33.Qa7 5:29 e6 2:26 34.Bg5 7:23 Bxd4
 1:14 35.Qa5 1:20 Rc8 4:21 36.Qd2
 2:06 Qc5 3:57 37.h4 1:14 Rb8 1:05
 38.Ne3 2:12 Bxe3 1:49 39.Bxe3 15
 Rb1+ 52 40.Kg2 2:16



Qd5+ 1:59 41.Qxd5 1 exd5 42.Kf3 24
 Rb4 1:53 43.Ke2 10 f5 33 44.Kd3 25
 Kf7 14 45.Bd4 1:33 Ke6 27 46.Be3
 1:52 Ke5 2:37 47.f4+ 1:59 Ke6 10
 48.Bd4 33 h5 6:54 49.Bc3 1:18 Rb1
 1:09 50.Ke2 1:15 Rg1 54 51.Be1 17
 d4 46
 [51...Rxe1+!]
 52.Bf2 1:33 Rg2 5 53.Kf3 1:09



Rxf2+! 5
 [53...d3-+]
 54.Kxf2 7 Kd5 5 55.Kf3 1:15 Kc4 29
 56.Ke2 31 d3+ 17 57.Kd2 15 Kd4 4
 58.Kd1 34 Ke3 2 59.Ke1 29 Kf3 38
 0-1

Finacom, Richard V E73
 Ramirez, Nazaret 1822
 2026 Spring TNM: 1600-1999 (7.5) 1800
[Winslow, Elliott]

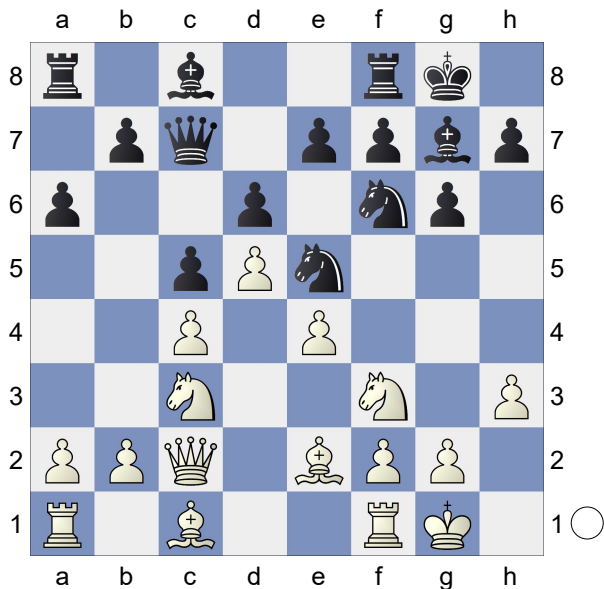
This positional win (space!) propelled Richard Finacom to clear first in the 1600-1999 section when noone else rose to the occasion as well. 1.d4 33:02 Nf6 6:01 2.c4 18 c5 31 3.d5 56 g6 33 4.Nc3 13 Bg7 43 5.e4 52 d6 3:42 6.Be2 38 a6 1:04

[6...0-0 7.Nf3 e6 8.0-0 exd5 9.cxd5 a6 10.a4 Bg4 11.Bf4 Re8 12.Nd2 Bxe2 13.Qxe2 Nh5 14.Be3 Nd7 15.Rad1 Bd4 16.Nc4 Ne5 17.Na3 Bxe3 18.Qxe3 Qh4 19.f3 f5 20.Qf2 Qf6 21.f4 Ng4 22.Qf3 Qh4 23.h3 Ngf6 24.exf5 Ng3 25.fxg6 Nxf1 26.gxh7+ Kxh7 27.Rxf1 Rg8 28.Kh2 Ng4+ 29.Kg1 Nf6 30.Kh2 Ng4+ 31.Kh1 Nf6 ½-½ (31) Le,Q (2729)-Jobava,B (2577) Goa 2025]

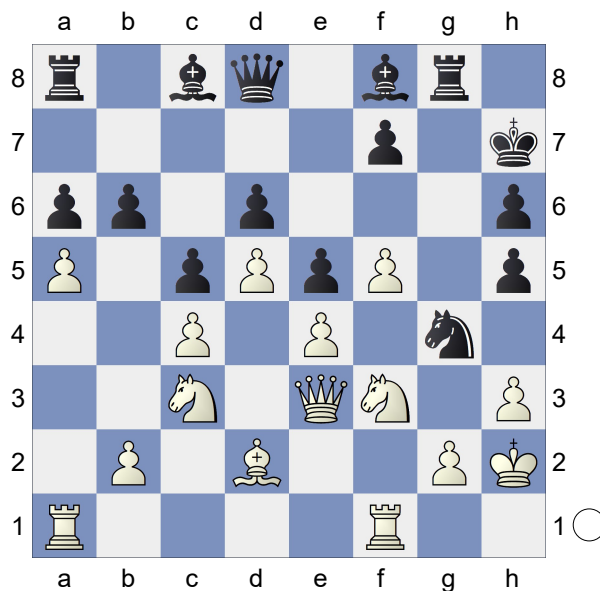
7.Nf3 31 Qc7 1:34 8.0-0 59 0-0 2:35
 9.Qc2 4:50 Nbd7 1:17 10.h3 4:26 Ne5 4:07

(Diagram)

11.Ne1N 2:42
 [11.Bf4 Nh5 12.Bh2 f5 13.Nxe5 dxe5 14.Bxh5 gxh5 15.Qe2 fxe4 16.Qxh5 Bf5 17.Qe2 Rf6 18.Nxe4 Rg6 19.Bg3 Rf8 20.Kh2 Bh6 21.Rad1 Bf4 22.Rd3 Kh8 23.Rf3 Rfg8 24.Rg1 Bg4 25.Qd3 Bxf3

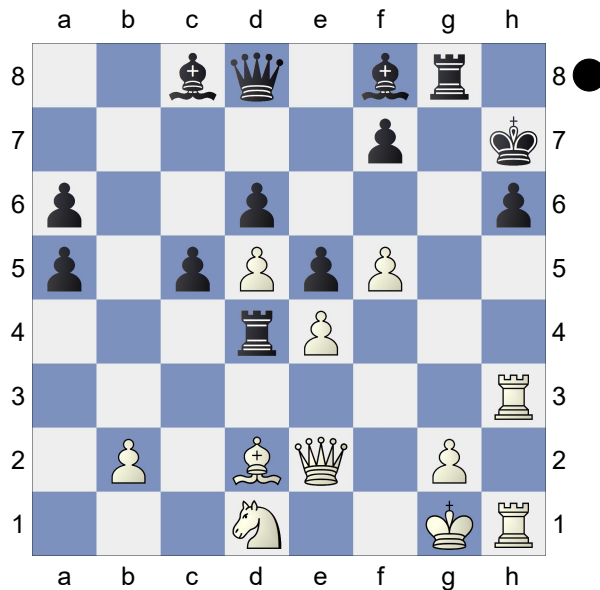


22...Ng4+!? 1:52



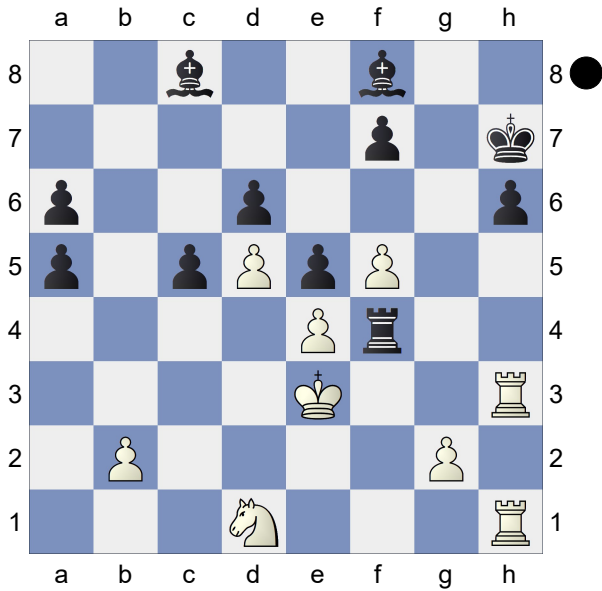
23.hxg4 10 hxg4 5 24.Rh1 3:57
 [24.axb6]
 24...gxf3 2:01 25.Qxf3 22
 [25.g3!]
 25...bxa5 3:08 26.Kg1 27 Rb8 2:42
 27.Nd1 9 Rb4 5:57 28.Ra3 8:59 Rxc4
 2:12 29.Qe2 4:57 Rd4 4:29 30.Rah3
 1:03

26.gxf3 Qc8 27.Qf1 b6 28.Nc3 Qd7
 29.Ne2 Qf5 30.Bxf4 Rxc1 31.Nxc1
 Qxf4+ 32.Kh1 Qd2 33.h4 Qf4
 34.Qh3 Qc1 35.Qh2 Qxb2 36.h5
 Qd4 37.Nh3 Qd1+ 38.Ng1 Rxc1+
 39.Qxc1 Qxc1+ 40.Kxc1 Kg7
 Savinova, Y (1820)-Ludwig, T (1670)
 Arco 2010 0-1]
 [11.Nxe5! dxe5 12.a4 a5 13.f4+-]
 [11.Nh2!? b5!? 12.cxb5 axb5
 13.Nxb5 Qa5 14.f4! Ned7 15.Bc4
 Nb6 16.Bd2 Qa6 17.Nxd6±]
11...Nh5?! 7:25
 [11...e6!? is all but mandatory 12.f4
 Ned7 13.a4 exd5 14.exd5!±]
12.f4 7:39 Nd7 2:09
 [12...Nxc4 13.Bxc4 b5 14.Be2 Ng3
 15.Rf2+-]
13.Bxh5 2:05 gxh5 13 14.Nf3+- 1:27
 [14.a4!]
14...e5? 2:50 15.f5 1:14
 [15.Ne2]
15...h6 2:53 16.Bd2 4:56 Nf6 21 17.a4
34 Qd8 2:47 18.Qc1 3:08 Kh7 37
19.a5 1:00 Rg8 5:14
 [19...b5]
 [19...Rb8]
20.Kh2 2:05 Bf8 7:43 21.Qe1 4:39 b6
5:15 22.Qe3 6:01
 [22.axb6]



Rxd2 5:02 31.Qxd2 10 Qg5 15
 32.Qxc5 18 Rxc5 11 33.Kf2 20 Rg4
 2:28 34.Kf3 10 Rf4+ 4 35.Ke3 42

(Diagram)



Bxf5?! 6:11 36.exf5 10 Rxf5 13 37.Nf2 1:44 Rg5 1:01 38.g4 1:10 Kg6 1:14 39.Rh5 3:37 f6 2:03 40.Kf3 44 f5 2:25 41.gxf5+ 1:50 Rxf5+ 1:25 42.Rxf5 10 Kxf5 6 43.Rh5+ 59 Kg6 1:11 44.Kg4 8 a4 37 45.Ne4 10 c4 58 46.Rh3 1:58 Be7 1:32 47.Ra3 28 h5+ 1:05 48.Kf3 8 h4 1:14 49.Rxa4 10 Bg5 52 50.Rxa6 15
 [50.Nxg5]
50...h3 1:21 51.Rxd6+ 18 Kf5 11 52.Ng3# 17 1-0

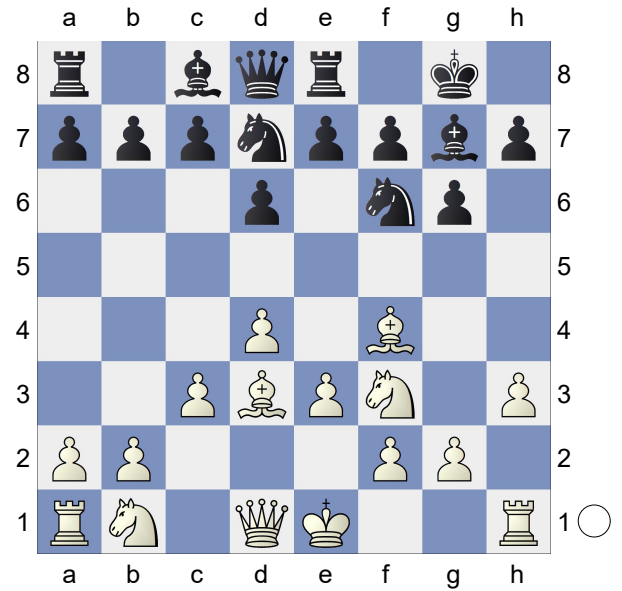
A48
 1775
Wickliffe, Zachary
 1711
 2026 Spring TNM: 1600-1999 (7.12)
 [Winslow, Elliott]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.h3 0-0 5.e3 d6 6.Bd3?! Nbd7 7.c3 Re8

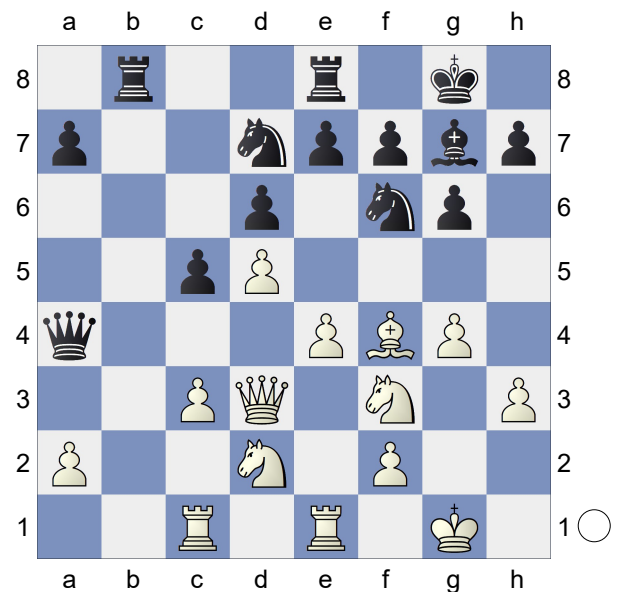
(Diagram)

8.Bc2

[8.Nbd2?! e5 9.Bg5 (9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Bg5 Nc5 11.Bc2 e4 12.Nd4 Nd3+ 13.Bxd3 exd3) 9...h6 10.Bxf6



Nxf6] 8...c5 [8...b6!? 9.0-0 Bb7 10.Bh2 e5] 9.Nbd2 b5 10.Qe2 Qb6 11.0-0 Bb7 [11...e5!?] [11...a5] 12.Rfe1?! Rac8 [12...e5!] 13.Rac1 Ba6? [13...e5!] 14.e4!= b4 15.Bd3 bxc3 16.bxc3 Bxd3 17.Qxd3 Qc6 18.d5 Qa4 19.g4 Rb8



20.e5 Qxf4 21.exf6 Nxf6 22.c4 e6 23.g5 Nd7 24.Re4 Qf5 25.Rce1 Be5

26.Nf1 exd5 27.cxd5 Nb6 28.Ng3
 Qd7 29.Nxe5 dxe5 30.Rxe5 Rxe5
 31.Rxe5 Rd8 32.Ne4 Kg7 33.Qc3
 Na4 34.Qa1 Kf8 35.Nf6 Qxh3 36.Qe1
 Nb6 37.Re8+ Kg7 38.Rxd8
 1-0

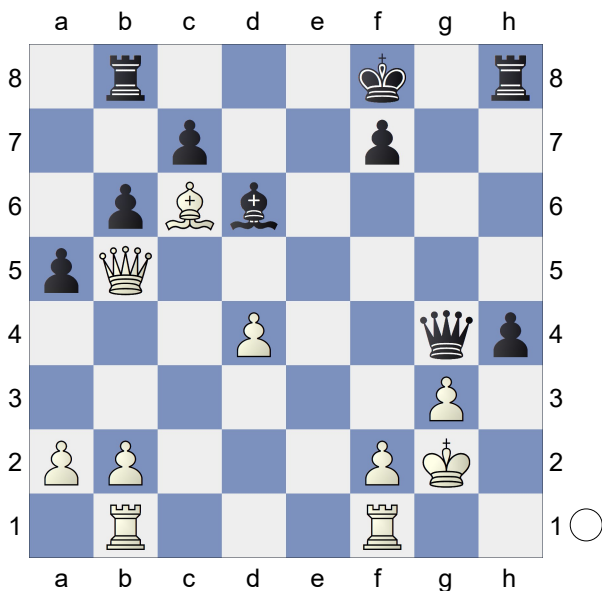
□ Persidsky,Andre

■ Patel,Milan

2026 Spring TNM: 1600-1999 (6.18)

[Winslow,Elliott]

This game didn't make it into the Round
 6 file, but it's well worth seeing!
 Impressive endgame conception by
 Persidsky! 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6
 4.e3 Be7 5.Nf3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 b6
 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Nxd5 exd5 9.0-0 Nf6
 10.Ne5 Bd6 11.Bb5+ Bd7 12.Nxd7
 Nxd7 13.Bc6 Rb8 14.Bxd5 Nf6
 15.Bc6+ Kf8 16.e4 Nxe4 17.g3 Nf6
 18.Bg5 h6 19.Bxf6 Qxf6 20.Qa4 a5
 21.Rab1 h5 22.h4 g5 23.hxg5 Qxg5
 24.Kg2 h4 25.Qb5 Qg4



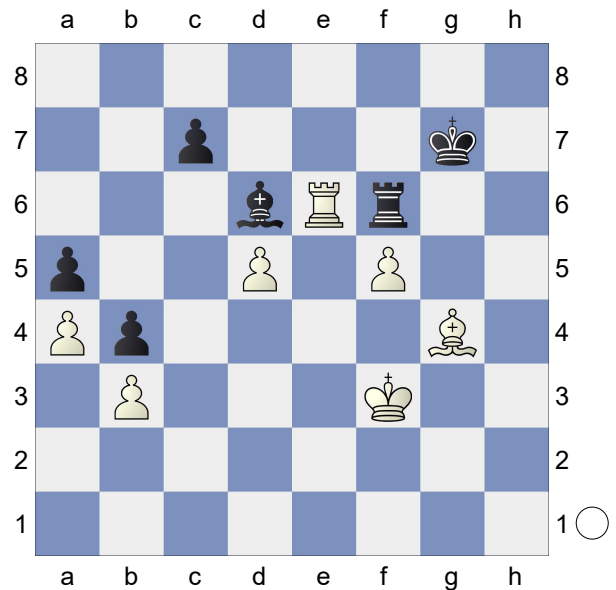
26.Rh1 Kg7 27.Qd3 f5 28.Qf3 h3+
 29.Kg1 Qxf3 30.Bxf3 Rbd8 31.Re1
 Kf6 32.d5 Kf7 33.Re6 Rde8 34.Rxe8
 Kxe8 35.Kh2 Kf7 36.Re1 Rh6 37.Bd1

D37

1716

1414

Bc5 38.f3 b5 39.a4 b4 40.Bb3 Bd6
 41.Re6 Rh8 42.Re2 Rg8 43.f4 Rh8
 44.Bc2 Rh5 45.Bd3 Bc5 46.Bb5 Kg7
 47.Bd3 Bd4 48.b3 Bc5 49.Re6 Bd6
 50.Bf1 Kf7 51.Re1 Bc5 52.Bxh3 Bd6
 53.Kg2 Kf6 54.Re6+ Kf7 55.Re2 Kf6
 56.Rf2 Rh8 57.Re2 Rh5 58.g4 fxg4
 59.Bxg4 Rh8 60.Kf3 Rf8 61.Re6+ Kg7
 62.f5 Rf6 63.Re1 White catches on in a
 few moves... 63...Rf8 64.Rg1 Kf6
 65.Re1 Kg7 66.Re6 Rf6



67.Rxf6 Kxf6 68.Ke4 Bc5 69.Bh5 Bb6
 70.Bg6 Bc5 71.Be8 Bb6 72.Bd7 Bc5
 73.Be6 Bb6 74.Kd3 Bc5 75.Kc4 Bb6
 76.Kb5 Ke7 77.Kc6 Ke8 78.d6 Kd8
 79.d7 Bd4 80.Kb5 c5 81.Kxa5 Kc7
 82.Kb5
 1-0

E81

□ Casares,Nick

1637

■ Agdamag,Samuel

1528

2026 Spring TNM: 1600-1999 (7.23)

[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.f3 g6 4.Bg5 Bg7
 5.Qd2 c6

[5...c5!? 6.c3!? would *definitely* be
 in obscure territory (but the position

has happened before!).]

6.c4 0-0

[6...a6!? 7.Nc3 b5 would be the variation named after Robert Byrne.]

7.Nc3 (Catching up to a lot of games -- those two moves for White are usually played a lot earlier!) 7...Nbd7

[Here's a modern game. I happened to play Zhou in Lincoln, Nebraska at a 50-year anniversary of a U.S. Open last May-June, when he was the previous U.S. Open winner. Former Olympiad team member (for China). Somehow I drew. 7...e5 8.d5 cxd5 9.cxd5 Na6 10.Nge2 Bd7 11.Nc1 Qe8 12.Nd3 h5 13.Be2 Nh7 14.Bh6 Bxh6 15.Qxh6 Qe7 16.0-0 Rac8 17.Qe3 Nc5 18.Rfc1 a6 19.Nxc5 Rxc5 20.Nd1 Rfc8 21.Rxc5 Rxc5 22.Rc1 Rxc1 23.Qxc1 Qd8 24.Kf1 Nf6 25.h4 Ne8 26.g3 Qa5 27.a3 Nc7 28.Qc3 Qxc3 29.Nxc3 f5 30.exf5 Bxf5 31.Kf2 Kf7 32.g4 hxg4 33.fxg4 Bd7 34.Kg3 Ne8 35.Bf3 Nf6 36.g5 Nh5+ 37.Bxh5 gxh5 38.g6+ Kxg6 39.Ne4 Ba4 40.Nxd6 Bb3 41.Nxb7 Bxd5 42.Nd6 Kf6 43.b4 Bc6 44.Kf2 Ke6 45.Nc8 Bb7 46.Nb6 Kf5 47.Ke3 Kg4 48.Nd7 Kxh4 49.Nxe5 Kg3 50.Ng6 Bc6 51.Ne7 Bd7 52.Ng6 Be8 53.Nf4 h4 54.Ne2+ Kg2 55.Nf4+ Kg3 56.Ne2+ ½-½ (56) Ding,L (2637)-Zhou,J (2660) Tianjin 2011]

8.Bh6?! A bit blunt (and usually coming from e3).

[8.Nh3?! costs White a fair amount of the advantage, but more than a few very strong players have played it. Korchnoi himself explained its flaws in his notes to his game given here: "In a Benoni setup with c5-d5 the correct reply on ♖bd7 is usually ♖h3-f2. Here the structure is more flexible, so it is not clear, whether this ♖ is well-

posted here or not." a6 9.d5 cxd5 10.cxd5 Nb6 11.Nf2 e6 12.dxe6 Bxe6 13.Rd1 Qe8 14.Be3 Na4 15.Nxa4 Qxa4 16.b3 Qa3 17.Be2 Rfc8 18.0-0 Nd7 19.f4 Bc3 20.Qxd6 Bb4 21.Qd4 Bc3 22.Qd3 Qxa2 23.Bg4 Bxg4 24.Nxg4 Nf6 25.Nh6+ Kg7 26.e5 Ng8 27.Nxf7 Bb4 28.f5 Rc3 29.f6+ Kf8 30.Qd7 1-0, Kortschnoj,V (2625)-Kozul,Z (2585) Sarajevo 1998 CBM 066 [Kortschnoj,Viktor Lvovich]]

[8.Nge2!?]

[8.0-0-0!?]

8...Bxh6

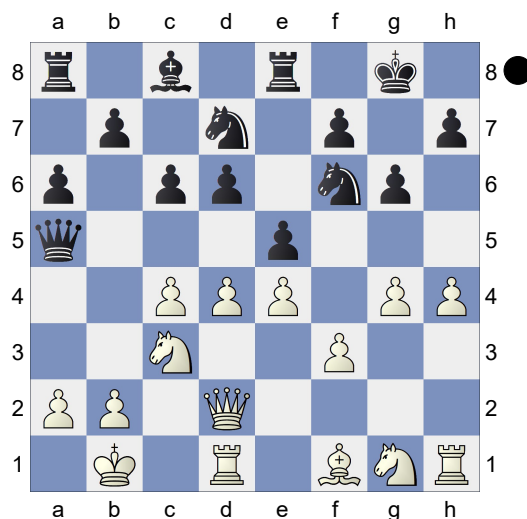
[or 8...e5 immediately]

9.Qxh6 Qb6? Two pawns attacked, but easily defended; and now the queen blocks the b-pawn.

[9...e5! 10.0-0-0 a6 (10...exd4 11.Rxd4 Qe7)]

10.Qd2±

[10.0-0-0!± when Stockfish give the best as: Qa5 but White could press the attack 11.Qd2?!± != (11.Kb1±; 11.h4!±) 11...e5 12.Kb1 Re8?! (12...Rb8!) 13.g4 (13.Nge2!) 13...a6 (13...Rb8!) 14.h4



exd4 15.Qxd4 Re6? 16.g5?! (16.Nh3+-; 16.Nge2+-; 16.h5+- g5 17.h6!) 16...Nh5 17.Bh3 Nf8? (17...Re8±) 18.Bxe6+- Bxe6

19.Nge2 1-0 (79) Koelbl,H-Kodalle,A
Bayern 2000]

10...a5

[10...e5 11.d5 Nc5 12.Rb1 a5
13.Nge2 Ne8 14.g4 Qd8 15.h4 Bd7
16.Ng3 Qf6 17.Be2 Rb8 18.Kd1
Nc7 19.Kc2 b5 20.dxc6 Bxc6 21.g5
Qe7 22.cxb5 1-0 (60) Blank,S (1808)-
Krueger,T (2016) Heusenstamm
2014]

11.Na4?! This surrenders two moves
and any advantage.

[11.Nge2]

[11.0-0-0]

11...Qb4 12.Nc3 a4=

[12...Nb6! 13.a3 Qb3 14.Rc1 Be6
15.d5 Bd7 ♣ black has a little
something going on the queenside.]

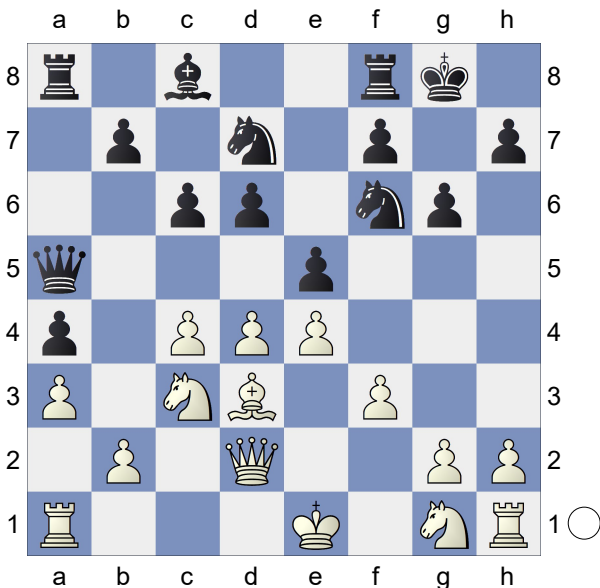
13.a3 Qa5?!

[13...Qb3=]

14.Bd3?!

[14.0-0-0±]

14...e5



15.d5?

[15.Nge2=]

15...Nc5 16.Bc2 Qa6

[16...Qb6! ♣]

17.Qe2

[17.Nge2!]

17...Qb6 ♣ 18.Bd1? Nh5-+ 19.g3 Kg7

**20.Qd2 h6 21.f4 exf4 22.Bxh5
gxh5?!**

[22...Nb3!-+]

23.gxf4 Nb3?!

[23...Rg8!-+]

24.Qg2+ Kh7 25.Rd1 Rg8

[25...Bg4! ♣]

**26.Qf1 Bg4 27.Rd3 Nc1! 28.Rd2
Qe3+ 29.Nge2 Nd3+ 30.Rxd3 Qxd3**

31.e5 dxe5 32.fxe5 Bf3 33.Qh3?

Bxe2 34.Qd7 Bg4 35.Qxf7+ Rg7

36.Qf2 Bf3 37.Rg1 Rag8 38.Rxg7+

Rxg7 39.Qb6 cxd5 40.cxd5 Bg2

41.Qf2 Bf3 42.Qc5 Rg2 43.Qe7+ Rg7

44.Qc5 Qc2 45.Qe3 Qg2 46.e6 Qxh2

47.Qd3+ Kg8 48.Kf1 Rg1#

0-1

B01

□ Rosston,Andrew Burkett

1121

■ Harriman,Connor

1396

2026 Spring TNM: U1600 (7.6) 14.04.26

[Winslow,Elliott]

Two 1100 players grabbed the moment
to finish 1st-2nd in the Under 1600
section, beating players two- and three-
hundred Elo points ahead of them. Here
is Andrew Rosston grabbing victory from
the jaws of defeat (or is that the other
way around?) against Connor Harriman
in a rough-and-tumble opposite sides
castling, when Black, with a clear
advantage, neglected his queen. **1.e4
27:44 d5 10 2.exd5 10 Nf6 13 3.Bc4 6
Nxd5 1:09 4.Nf3 1:08 Bg4 1:44 5.h3
19 Bh5 16 6.d4 1:14**

[6.0-0 e6 7.d4 Be7 8.Re1 0-0

9.Be2 Nc6 10.c3 Re8 11.Nbd2 Nf4

12.Bf1 e5 13.dxe5 Nd3 14.Bxd3

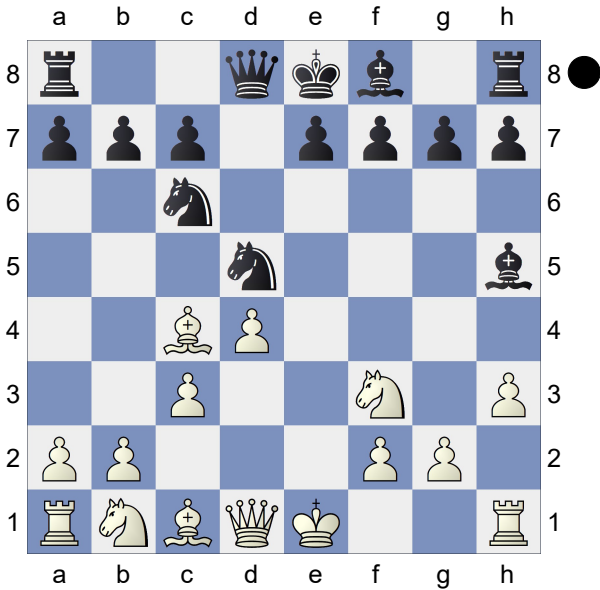
Qxd3 15.Qe2 Qxe2 16.Rxe2 Bf8

17.g4 Bg6 18.Nb3 f6 19.Bf4 Bf7

20.Rae1 Bd5 21.Nbd4 Nxe5

22.Nxe5 fxe5 23.Bxe5 c6 24.b3 a5

25.Bc7 Rxe2 26.Rxe2 a4 27.Kh2 a3
 28.c4 Bf7 29.Nf5 Bg6 30.Ne7+
 Bxe7 31.Rxe7 Bb1 32.Re2 Kf7
 33.Bd6 b6 34.Re7+ Kf6 35.Re2 c5
 Chan,K (2271)-Quesada Perez,Y
 (2584) Chess.com INT 2024 1-0 (66)]
6...Nc6 1:29 7.c3± 2:11



Qd6N 3:29

[7...e6 8.0-0 Qd6 9.Nbd2 Nb6
 10.Bb5 Be7 11.Ne4 Qd5 12.Bd3 e5
 13.Ned2 exd4 14.Be4 Qe6 15.Nxd4
 Nxd4 16.Qxh5 g6 17.Qd1 Nc6
 18.Re1 Qf6 19.Nf3 Rd8 20.Qe2 0-0
 21.Bxc6 Qxc6 22.Qxe7 Rfe8 23.Qh4
 Rxe1+ 24.Nxe1 Rd1 25.Qe7 Nc8
 26.Qe2 Rd6 27.Bh6 g5 28.Bxg5
 1-0 (28) Jawerbaum,N (1666)-Garcia,
 E Villa Martelli 2026]

[7...a5]

8.a4?! 4:18

[8.0-0±]

[8.Be2±]

8...0-0-0 3:21 9.0-0 2:15

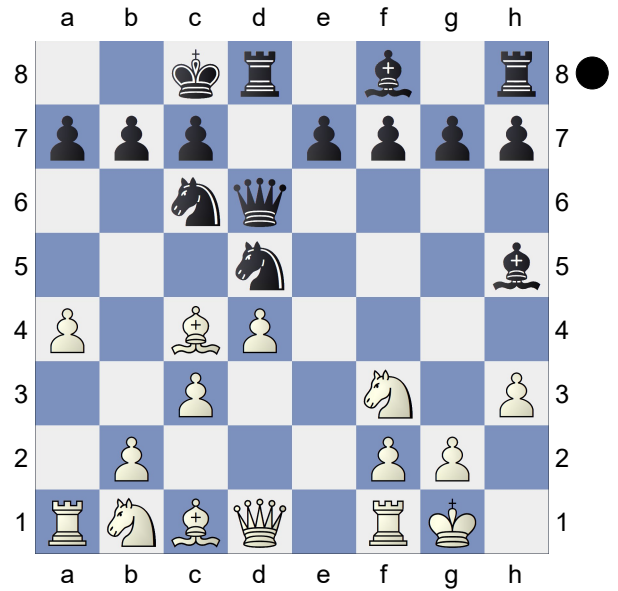
(Diagram)

Nf4? 2:30

[9...e5!±]

10.Bxf4? 48

[10.a5!+- a6 11.Re1]

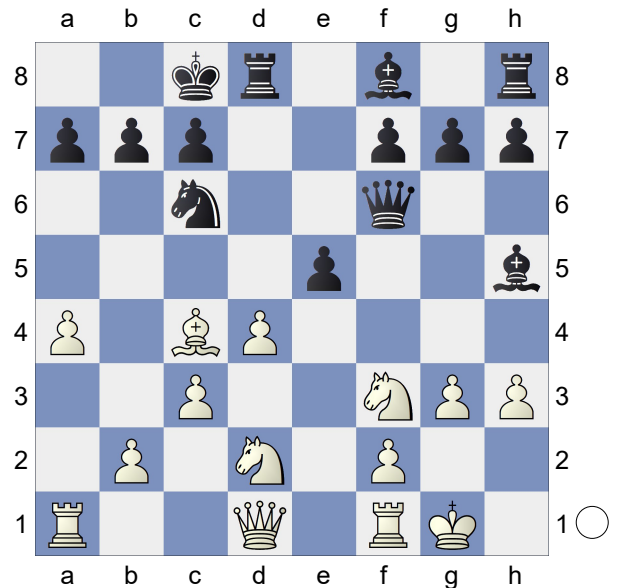


10...Qxf4 7 11.Nbd2 2:13 e5= 1:04

12.g3?! 8:29

[12.a5 a6 13.Re1 exd4 14.Qa4!=
 Qd6!]

12...Qf6 4:38



13.g4? 2:42

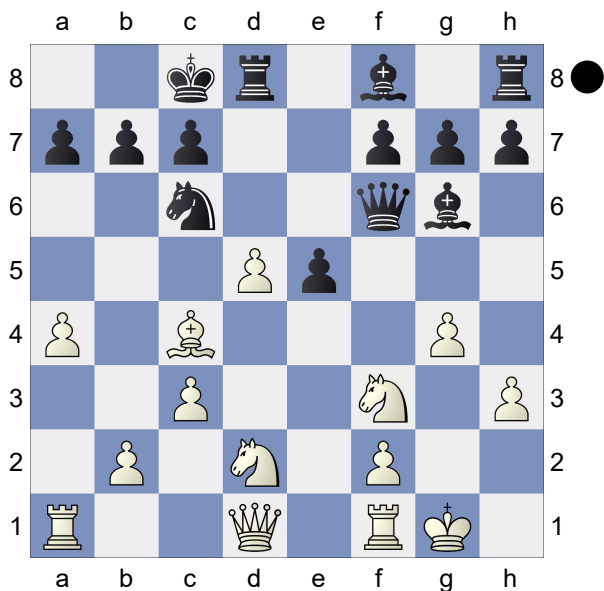
[13.d5 Na5 14.Be2 Rxd5 15.b4
 Nc6 16.Re1=]

13...Bg6+ 3:12 14.d5?! 28

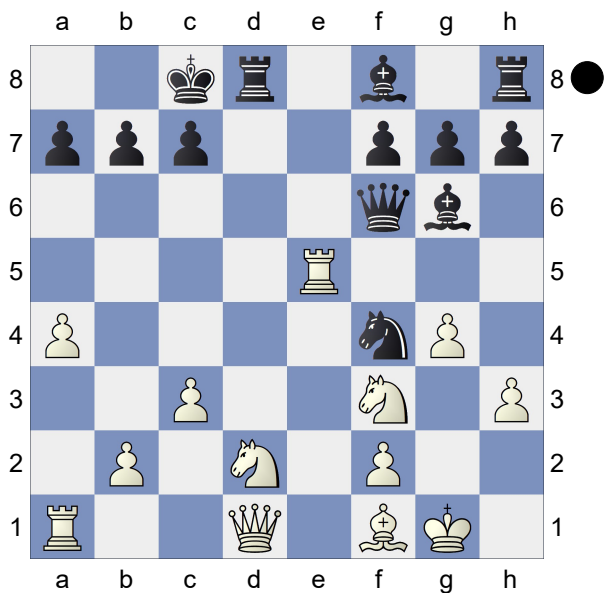
(Diagram)

Ne7± 3:52

[14...e4! 15.dxc6 exf3 16.Qb3 Qxc6
 17.Rfd1 Bc5 18.Nf1 Qf6-+]



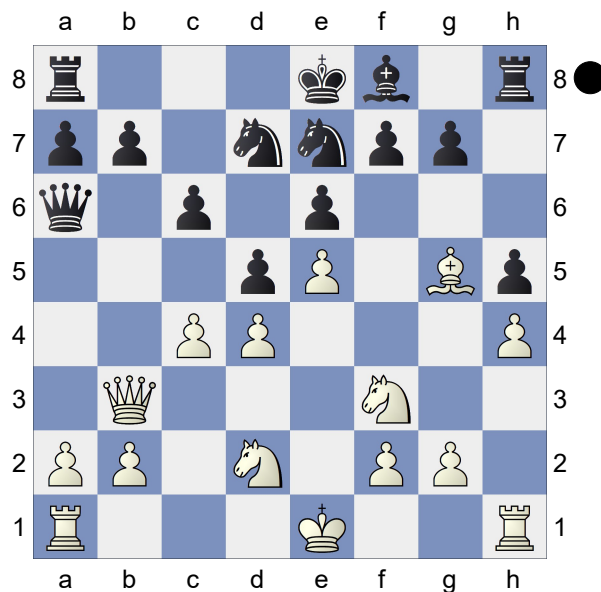
15.Re1 4:20 Nxd5 5:12 16.Rxe5 7:00
Nf4 2:59 17.Bf1 22



Bd6?? 2:39
[17...h6]
18.g5± 35 Nxh3+? 1:22
[18...Qxe5 19.Nxe5 Bxe5 20.Qg4+
f5±]
19.Bxh3+ 1:16 (check) 19...Qe6 39
20.Bxe6+ 1:03 fxe6 8 21.Rxe6 11 Bf5
1:06 22.Re1 5:14 Bf4 1:15 23.Qe2 1:06
Rhe8 1:10 24.Qxe8 33 Rxe8 8
25.Rxe8+ 6 Kd7 12 26.Rae1 20 h6
1:38 27.Rf8 2:56 g6 34 28.gxh6 30
Bxh6 7 29.Rf7+ 46
1-0

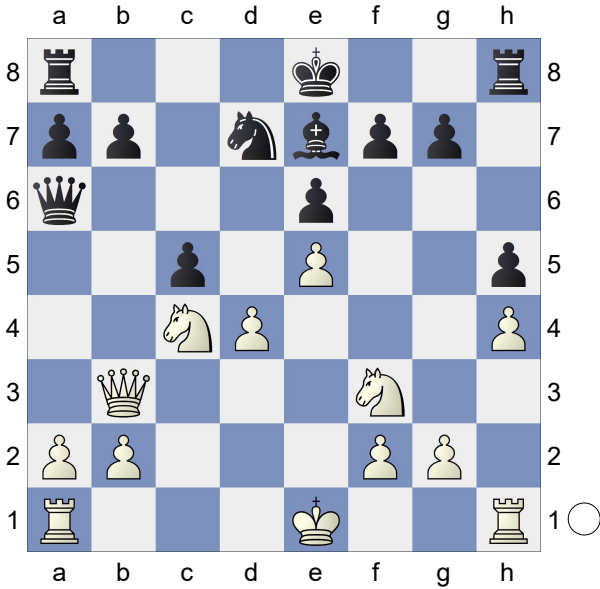
B12
 □ Raman, Keshav V **1167**
 ■ Gore, Neel **1362**
 2026 Spring TNM: U1600 (7.24) 14.04.26
 [Winslow, Elliott]

A complicated Advanced Variation Caro
Kann veered more than once, first
towards White, then Black, then a track-
jump by Black to give White an
overwhelming attack. Congratulations to
young (12) Keshav Raman, for a nice 1st-
2nd place showing. 1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5
3.e5 Bf5 4.h4 h5 5.Bg5 Qb6 6.Bd3
Bxd3 7.Qxd3 Qa6 8.Qb3 e6 9.Nf3
Nd7 10.Nbd2 Ne7 11.c4

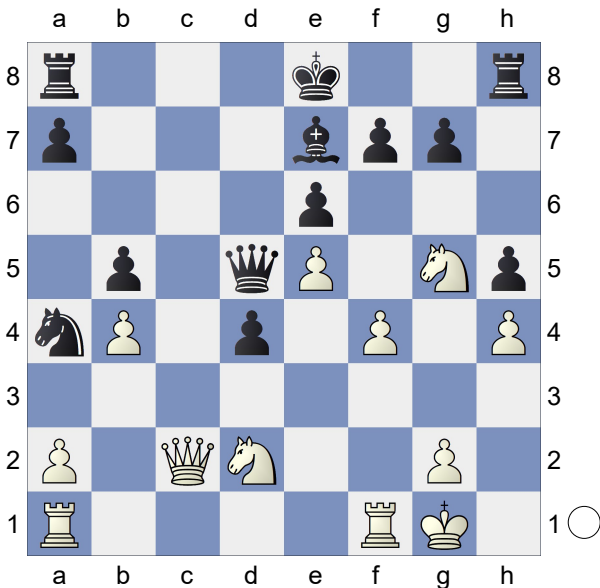


c5? 12.Bxe7?
[12.0-0±]
[12.Rc1±]
12...dxc4
[12...Bxe7!? 13.cxd5 exd5 14.Qxd5
cxd4= 15.Ng5 Nxe5 16.Qxe5 f6=]
13.Nxc4 Bxe7

(Diagram)
14.Ng5?
[14.0-0 cxd4 15.Rad1 Nc5 16.Qb4
0-0 17.Nd6 Bxd6 18.exd6 Qxd6
19.Rxd4 Qb6 20.Qxb6 axb6



21.a3=]
 14...cxd4+ 15.f4?! Nc5 16.Qc2 b5
 17.Nd2 Qb7 18.0-0 Qd5 19.b4 Na4+
 [19...d3!-+]



20.f5 Bxg5 21.hxg5

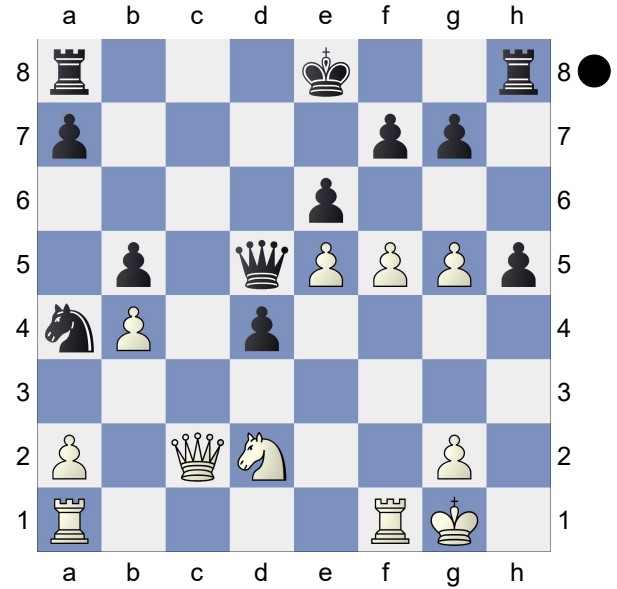
(Diagram)

Kd7??

[21...d3-+]

[21...0-0-+]

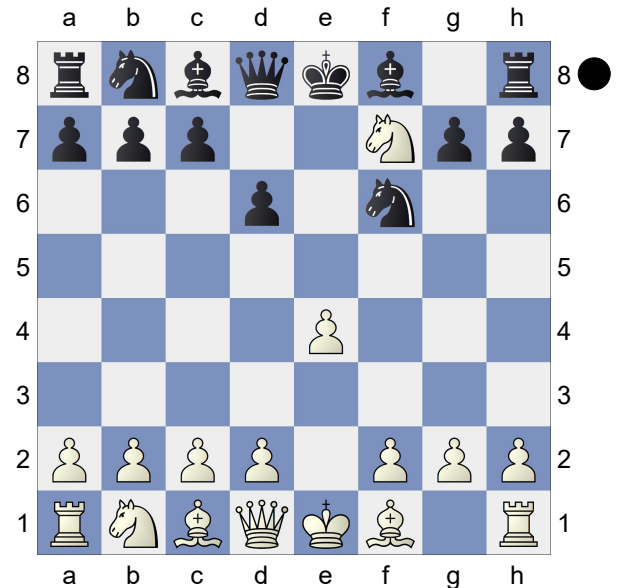
22.fxe6+ Qxe6 23.Qe4 Rhd8 24.Qb7+
 Ke8 25.Ne4 Nb6 26.Nd6+ Rxd6
 27.exd6 Kf8 28.Rae1 Qxa2 29.Re7



Qd5 30.Rexf7+ Kg8 31.Rxg7+
 1-0

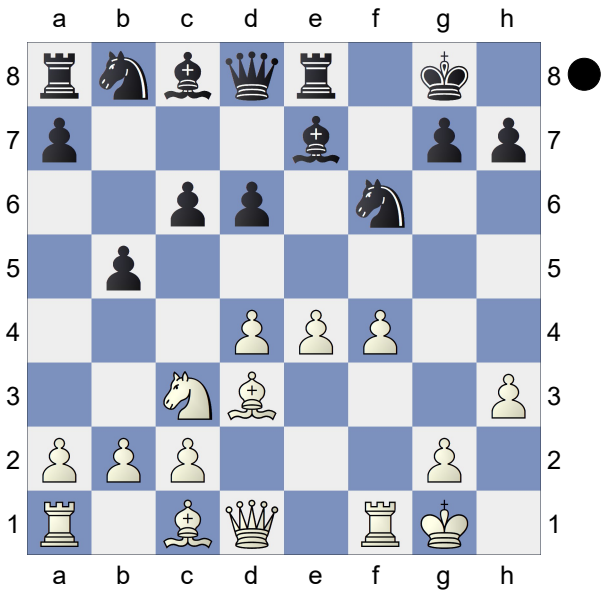
C42
 1276
 1500
 2026 Spring TNM: U1600 (6.31) 07.04.26
 [Winslow, Elliott]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6
 4.Nxf7?!



Kxf7 5.d4 c6
 [5...c5! 6.dxc5 d5≠]
 6.Nc3 Be7

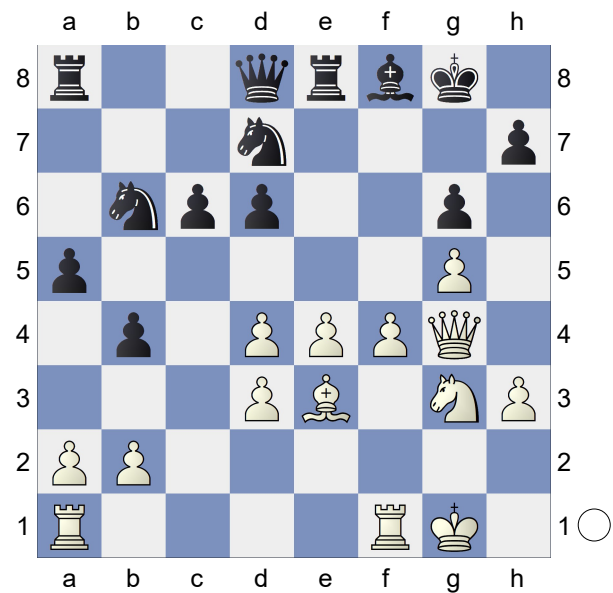
[6...Na6!?]
7.Bd3 Re8 8.0-0 b5? 9.h3?
 [9.e5!±]
9...Kg8
 [9...g6!]
10.f4?
 [10.e5! dxe5 11.dxe5 Nfd7 12.Qh5
 Nf8 13.Rd1 Nbd7 14.a4±]



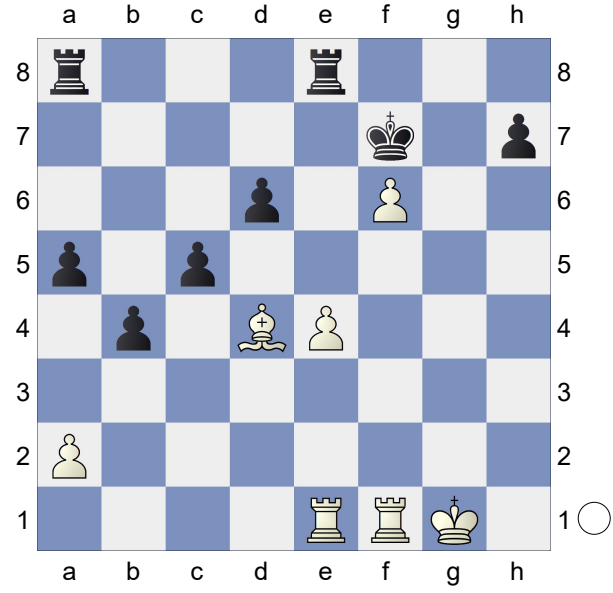
10...b4! 11.Ne2 Ba6! ♣ 12.Be3 Bxd3?!
 [12...c5!]
13.cxd3! Nbd7 14.g4 Nb6=
 [14...c5! ♣]
15.Ng3 a5± 16.g5 Nfd7
 [16...Nfd5!±]
17.Qh5 g6? 18.Qg4 Bf8

(Diagram)

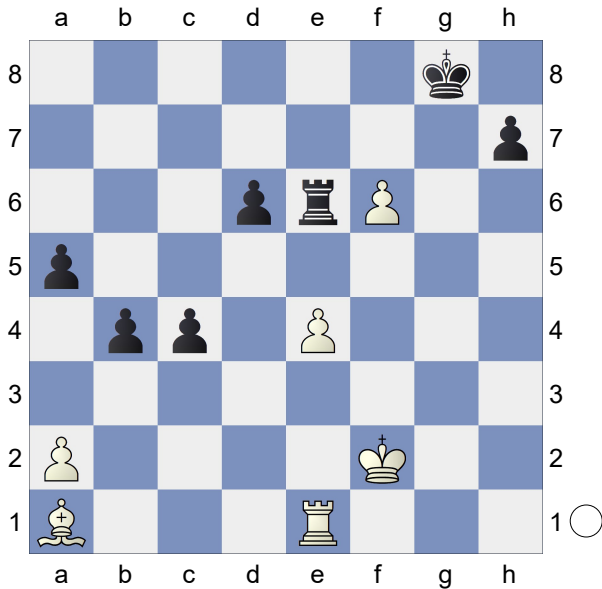
19.f5± Kh8? 20.f6?±
 [20.fxc6+- hxc6?! 21.Rf7 Bg7
 22.Qh4+ Kg8 23.Rxc7+ Kxc7
 24.Qh6+ Kg8 25.Qxc6+ Kh8
 26.Qh6+ Kg8 27.g6 Nf6 28.Bg5
 Ra7 29.Rf1]
20...Na4?+-
 [20...c5]
 [20...Nd5]
21.h4! Nxb2 22.h5 Nxd3 23.hxc6
N3e5 24.dxe5 Nxe5 25.g7+ Bxc7



26.fxc7+ Kxc7 27.Nh5+ Kh8 28.Qh3
Qd7 29.Qxd7 Nxd7 30.Bd4+ Kg8
 [30...Ne5 31.Rac1]
31.Rae1 c5 32.Nf6+ Nxf6 33.gxf6?!
 [33.Bxf6]
33...Kf7



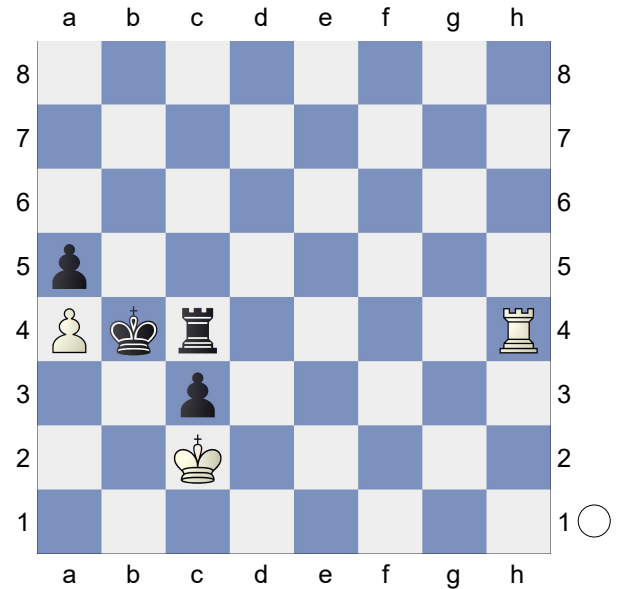
34.Ba1!+- Re6 35.Kf2 Rg8 36.Rg1?
 [36.Rh1]
 [36.Kf3]
 [36.Ke3]
36...c4??
 [36...Rxc1 37.Rxc1 (37.Rxc1=)
 37...c4 38.Rg7+ Ke8=]
37.Rxc8 Kxc8
 (Diagram)



38.Rg1+??

[38.Bd4+- Kf7 39.Kf3]

**38...Kf8= 39.Ke3 c3 40.Rf1 Kf7
41.Rh1 Rxf6 42.Rxh7+ Ke6 43.Rh1
d5 44.exd5+ Kxd5 45.Rh5+ Kc4
46.Rh4+ Kb5**



47.Bxc3 (Everything is 0.00, but the engine gives this "!" anyway) **47...bxc3
48.Kd3 Rc6 49.Kc2 Rc4 50.a4+
(still 0.00) 50...Kb4**

(Diagram)

**51.Rxc4+??
0-1**

E71
 Yoo, Christopher Woojin **2497**
 Smith, Olivia **1961**
 2nd Spy's Mate Rapid (1) 29.04.2026
[Winslow, Elliott]

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
5.h3 0-0 6.Be3** This line continues to be a headache for King's Indian players, especially if you want to play the "normal" ...e5 line. **6...e5** For what it's worth, all three knight (at b8) moves have scored better. **7.d5 Ne8?!**

[7...Na6 is the main move, and I can't explain why.]

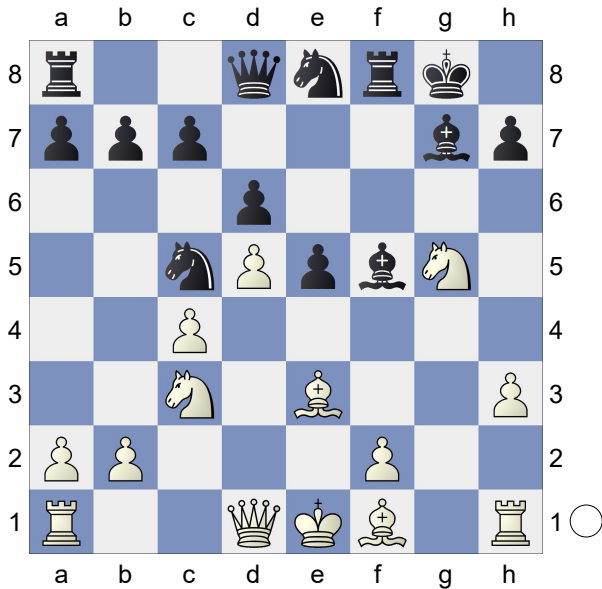
[Shouldn't this be "it," in comparison with 7...a5 which is the main move with 5./6.Nf3 instead of Be3?]

**8.g4 f5 9.gxf5 gxf5 10.exf5 Bxf5
11.Nf3**

[11.Nge2 has been all but always played (pick up a tempo on the bishop on the way to e4?) but Christopher's move has its logic as well. e6!?]

11...Nd7 12.Ng5 Nc5

(Diagram)



13.Rg1!N

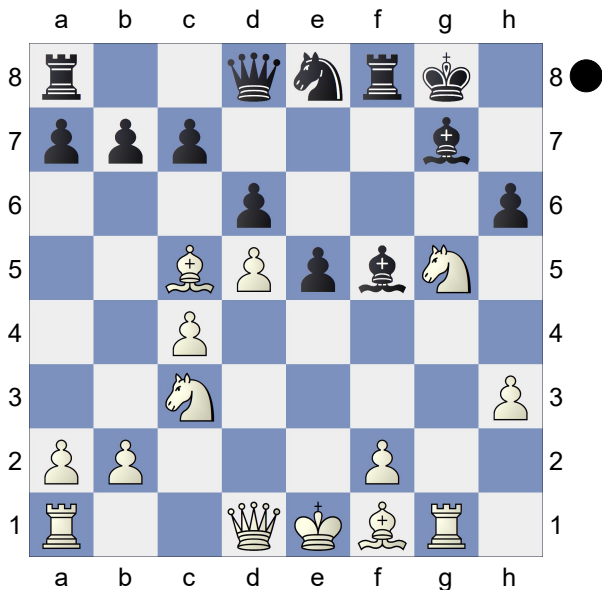
[13.b4!? e4! 14.Rc1! Nd3+ 15.Bxd3 exd3 16.Ne6!± Bxe6 17.dxe6 Qe7 18.Qxd3 Qxe6 19.Qd5?! Qxd5 20.Nxd5 c6= 1-0 (61) Lima,D (2440)-Gonzalez Rodriguez,J (2420) Matanzas 1992]

13...h6?!

[13...Kh8 14.b4 e4 15.Nb5!]

14.Bxc5?

[14.b4!±]



14...hxg5??

[14...dxc5 15.Nge4 (15.Ne6 Bxe6 16.dxe6 Qf6 17.Qc2 Qxe6 18.0-0-0

Kh8=) 15...Nd6 16.Bd3 Nxe4 17.Bxe4 Qh4 18.Qe2 Bxe4 19.Nxe4 Rf4 20.Rg4 Qxh3 21.Rxf4 exf4 22.Nxc5 Qh1+ 23.Qf1=]

15.Be3+- g4?!

[15...Nf6 16.Bd3 e4 17.Bc2]

16.hxg4 Bg6 17.Bd3 e4

[17...Bxd3 18.Qxd3 Qh4 19.g5!]

18.Nxe4 Bxb2 19.Rb1 Be5 20.Ng5

[20.g5!]

20...Bc3+?! 21.Kf1

[21.Ke2]

21...Qf6 22.Ne6 Bxd3+ 23.Qxd3 Rf7

24.Rh1 Rg7 25.Nxg7 Nxg7 26.Rh6

Qe5 27.Qh7+ Kf7 28.Re6

1-0

D46

□ Cremisi,Daniel

2148

■ Horowitz,Phineas F

1850

2nd Spy's Mate Rapid (1)

29.04.2026

[Winslow,Elliott]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e3 e6

5.b3 Nbd7 6.Bb2 Bd6 7.Nf3 0-0

8.Bd3 Re8 9.0-0 Nf8?

[9...e5=]

[Relevant: 9...e5 10.dxe5 Nxe5

11.Nxe5 Bxe5 12.h3 dxc4 13.Bxc4

Bf5 14.Qxd8 Raxd8 15.Rad1 b5

16.Be2 b4 17.Na4 Bxb2 18.Nxb2

Nd5 19.Bd3 Bxd3 20.Rxd3 Nc3

21.a4 bxa3 22.Rxc3 axb2 23.Rc2

Rd3 24.Rxb2 Rb8 25.Ra1 Rb7

26.Rc2 Rdx3 27.Rxc6 Rb1+

28.Rxb1 Rxb1+ 29.Kh2 Rb8 30.Ra6

Ra8 31.Kg3 Kf8 32.Kf4 Ke7 33.Ke5

Kd7 34.h4 Kc7 35.Kd5 Rd8+

36.Ke5 Kb7 37.Ra2 Rd7 38.g4 Kc6

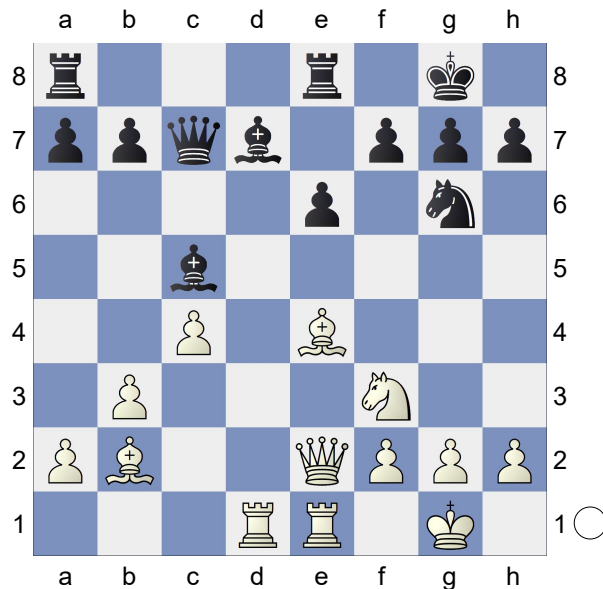
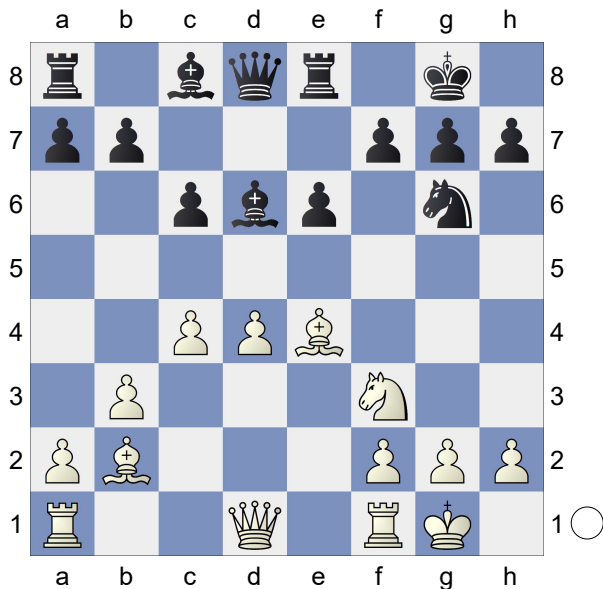
39.Rc2+ Alekseev,E (2575)-Artemiev,

V (2701) Sochi 2022 0-1]

10.e4 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.Bxe4

Ng6

(Diagram)



13.Qe2N

[Predecessor: 13.Qc2 f5 14.Bd3 Nf4 15.Rad1 Qf6 16.Rfe1 Qg6 17.Bf1 Bd7 18.Kh1 Rad8 19.Qc1 Qh5 20.Ba3 Bc7 21.Bb4 h6 22.Bd2 g5 23.Ne5 Bxe5 24.dxe5 Bc8 25.Bxf4 Rxd1 26.Rxd1 gxf4 27.f3 Qh4 28.Kg1 Rd8 29.Rxd8+ Qxd8 30.Qxf4 Qb6+ 31.Kh1 Qf2 32.Qg3+ Qxg3 33.hxg3 c5 34.Kg1 Kf7 35.Kf2 Kg6 36.Ke3 Kg5 37.Be2 Bd7 38.f4+ Kg6 39.g4 f4g4 40.Bxg4 b6 41.Bf3 Kf5 42.g4+ Kg6 Soares,J (2056)-Arruda Filho,I (1718) Cuiaba 2021 1-0]

13...Qc7 14.Rfe1 c5 15.dxc5 Bxc5 16.Rad1

[16.Ng5!]

16...Bd7?

[16...f6±]

(Diagram)

17.Ng5?

[17.Bxg6 hxg6 18.Qe5+-]

17...h6?? 18.Nxf7!+- Rf8 19.Bxg6

Rxf7 20.Bxf7+ Kxf7 21.Qe5 Qxe5

22.Rxd7+ Ke8 23.Rxe5 Bxf2+

24.Kxf2 Kxd7 25.Rb5 Kc6 26.Bxg7

Rd8 27.Bxh6 a6 28.Re5 Kd6 29.Re3 b5 30.Rd3+ Ke7 31.Bg5+ Ke8 1-0

D15

□ Winslow,Elliott

2135

■ Sevall,Daniel

1702

2nd Spy's Mate Rapid (1)

29.04.2026

[Winslow,Elliott]

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.Nc3

dxc4 5.e4 b5 6.Be2 This gambit has some kick to it, according to a recent Kiril Georgiev article.

[6.e5 Nd5 7.a4 e6 8.axb5 Nxc3

9.bxc3 cxb5 10.Ng5 is the ancient

gambit line. Here's a game: Bb7

11.Qh5 g6 12.Qg4 Be7 13.Be2 Nd7

14.Bf3 Qc8 15.h4 h6 16.Ne4 a5

17.0-0 Nb6 "1/2?" 18.h5 g5

½-½ Winslow,E (2400)-Donaldson,J

(2474) San Jose 1984]

6...Bg4?!

[6...e6 7.0-0 Now the two moves in

that article were Be7 (and 7...Bb7;

but Stockfish likes 7...a5!?)]

7.h3 Bh5??

[7...Bxf3 8.Bxf3 e5! 9.0-0! Qxd4

10.Qxd4 exd4 11.Nxb5! cxb5

12.e5□ but Black isn't doing so badly.]

8.e5+- Nd5 9.e6! A familiar motif from 6. e5, as well as the Queen's "Real" Gambit lines. 9...fxe6 10.Ng5 Bf7 11.a4 Nxc3 12.bxc3+- White is winning, as long as he doesn't panic himself by counting pawns. 12...g6 13.axb5 Bg7 14.Bxc4 Okay, you can count now. 14...cxb5 15.Bxb5+ Kf8 16.Qf3 Bf6 17.Qxa8 Kg7 18.Nxf7 Kxf7 19.Rxa7 Qb6 20.Qb7 Qd6 21.0-0 Kg7 22.Ba3 Qd8 23.Bxe7 Bxe7 24.Qxe7+ Qxe7 25.Rxe7+ Kf6 26.Rb7 1-0

□ Suarez,Sebastian

B90

1951

■ Winslow,Elliott

2135

2nd Spy's Mate Rapid (2)

29.04.2026

[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f3 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.Be3 Be7 9.Qd2 h5 10.Nd5

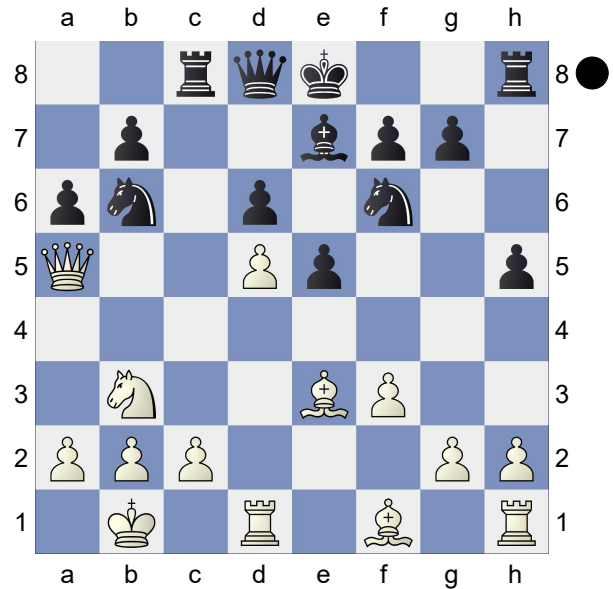
[10.0-0-0 Nbd7 11.Kb1 Qc7 12.a3 Rc8 13.Nc1 0-0 14.N1a2 b5 15.Nb4 Qb7 16.Ncd5 Nxd5 17.exd5 Bf5 18.Rg1 Nb8 19.g4 hxg4 20.fxg4 Bg6 21.Bd3 Bxd3 22.Qxd3 a5 23.Na2 b4 24.a4 Qa6 25.Qxa6 Nxa6 26.Nc1 Bd8 27.Nb3 Nb8 28.Nd2 Nd7 29.Ne4 Be7 30.g5 f5 31.gxf6 Nxf6 32.Ng5 Ne8 33.Ne6 Rf3 34.Bb6 Ra8 35.Rd3 Rxd3 36.cxd3 Ra6 37.Be3 Ra8 38.Ka2 Kf7 39.Kb3 Rb8 Van Foreest,J (2703)-Giri,A (2760) Wijk aan Zee 2026 1-0 (64)]

10...Bxd5 11.exd5 Nbd7 12.0-0-0

[There is also 12.Be2]

12...Rc8 13.Kb1 Nb6 14.Qa5

(Diagram)



One might say "?!" 14...Nfd7?±
Now I'm squarely worse.

[I *knew* about 14...Qc7 once upon a time, but my memory didn't dredge it up on this occasion.]

15.f4?±

[15.Qb4± Qc7 16.c3 Bd8 17.Be2 Nf6 18.Qa5 0-0 19.g3 Re8 20.h3 Nbd7 21.Qxc7 Bxc7 22.c4 Bb6 23.Bxb6 Nxb6 24.Na5 Rc7 25.b4 e4 26.f4 e3 27.Rc1 Ne4 28.Rhg1 g6 29.Kb2 Rec8 30.Rc2 Nxd5 31.a3 Ne7 32.g4 hxg4 33.hxg4 d5 34.Rd1 b6 35.Nb3 dxc4 36.Nd4 b5 37.Nf3 Nf2 38.Rd4 Nxc4 39.Rd6 Rc6 40.Rd7 Nf5 41.Ng5 Ngh6 42.Bf3 R6c7 43.Rd1 Kg7 44.a4 Ng8 Dominguez Perez,L (2726)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2714) Beijing 2014 0-1]

15...Nc4?!

[15...exf4 16.Bxf4 0-0=]

16.Bxc4 Rxc4 17.Qd2± Qc7?!±

18.fxe5 Nxe5 19.Nd4 g6?! 20.b3+- Rc3 21.Ne2 Rxe3 22.Qxe3 0-0 23.Rhf1 Kg7 24.Nd4 Rc8 25.Rd2 Bf6 26.h3 Qc3 27.Qxc3 Rxc3 28.Ne2 Re3 29.c4 b5 30.cxb5 axb5 31.Nd4 b4 32.Nc2 Rc3 33.Nxb4 Bg5 34.Rc2 Rg3 35.Nc6 Nd3 36.Rf3 Rxf3 37.gxf3

Nf4 38.a4 Nxd5 39.a5 Nc7 40.Nb4
 Nb5 41.a6 Be3 42.Rc8 g5 43.Nc6 f5
 44.a7 Nxa7 45.Nxa7 g4 46.fxg4 fxg4
 47.hxg4 hxg4 48.Nb5 g3 49.Rc4 Kf6
 50.Rg4 Bf2 51.Nxd6 Ke5 52.Rg6 Bc5
 53.Nc4+ Kf4 54.Kc2 Bf2 55.Kd3 Kf3
 56.Nd2+ Kg2 57.Ne4 Kf1 58.Nxf2
 gxf2 59.b4 Ke1 60.Re6+ Kd1 61.Rf6
 1-0

□ Cremisi, Daniel **A07 2148**
 ■ Yoo, Christopher Woojin **2497**
 2nd Spy's Mate Rapid (4) 29.04.2026
[Winslow, Elliott]

The big matchup saw a close game, until Cremisi cracked while defending. Again sitting adjacent, I was impressed with Christopher's finding interesting maneuvers to put Daniel to the test. Perhaps for the computer(s) it was nothing special, even objectively a bit for White, until it was, but in practice Cremisi lasted a fairly long time. In fact, he kept his head, hardly lost his way, except when Yoo fumbled! Then Black's blunder was met with a one-two blunder, and suddenly it was over. Credit to Daniel for more than holding his own.
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.b3 These "quiet" lines against the King's Indian can be quite annoying: how does Black get anything going if White avoids any targets? Let's see if Yoo can.

[6.c4 would be the main continuation, reached (via 1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4) on the adjacent table: Nbd7 7.Nc3 e5 8.e4 exd4 9.Nxd4 Re8 10.h3 Nc5 11.Re1 h6 12.Nb3 Ne6 13.Be3 Ng5 14.Bxg5 hxg5 15.c5 g4 16.hxg4 Bxg4 17.Qc2 Rb8 18.cxd6 cxd6 19.Qd2 Qb6 20.Qe3 Qxe3 21.Rxe3

Red8 22.Rd3 a6 23.f3 Be6 24.Rad1
 Ne8 25.Nd4 Bc4 26.R3d2 Rbc8
 27.Bf1 Be6 28.f4 Kf8 29.Nxe6+
 fxe6 30.e5 Ke7 31.Bg2 ½-½ (31)
 Donaldson, J (2374)-Winslow, E (2135)
 San Francisco 2026]

6...Nbd7
 [6...c5 and]
 [6...e5 are both fine; Black's problem is how to create complications without bending over too far backwards.]

7.Bb2 Re8 8.Nbd2 e5 9.dxe5 dxe5
 [9...Ng4!/?]

10.e4 b6 Symmetrical enough for you? I'm reminded of R.Byrne vs. Fischer, U.S. Championship 1963-64. Making something out of nothing. Theoretically (i. e. acc. to Stockfish), White has next to nothing. But White scores rather well here. This time? **11.Nc4** Premature?

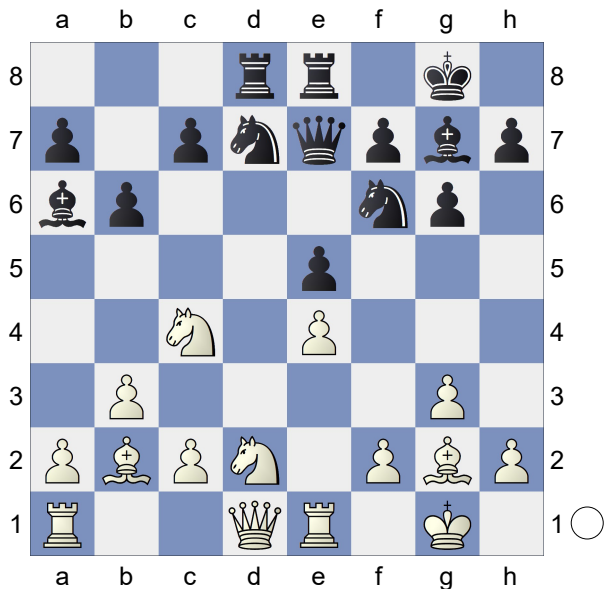
[11.Qe2 a5 12.Nc4 Ba6 13.a4 Qe7=]

11...Ba6
 [Relevant: 11...Bb7 (Stockfish gives this 0.00, after a moment at -0.01!)
 12.Nfd2 Nc5 13.Re1 Nfd7 14.a4 a5
 15.Nf1 Ne6 16.Nfe3 Ndc5 17.Bxe5
 Bxe4 18.Nd5 Bxe5 19.Nxe5 Ng5
 20.Ng4 Re6 21.h4 Bxg2 22.Kxg2
 Nge4 23.Qd4 Qf8 24.Ngf6+ Nxf6
 25.Nxf6+ Kh8 26.Ne8+ Kg8 27.Nxc7
 Rxe1 28.Rxe1 Rd8 29.Qf6 Nd7
 30.Qf3 Qd6 31.Nb5 Qf6 32.Rd1
 Qxf3+ 33.Kxf3 Ne5+ 34.Ke2 Re8
 35.f3 Kf8 36.Kf2 Rc8 37.c3 Ke7
 38.Re1 Kf6 39.Re4 Nd3+ 40.Ke3
 Nc5 41.Rf4+ Mareco, S (2644)-Krysa,
 L (2545) Buenos Aires 2017 1-0 (75)]

12.Nfd2
 [12.Nfd2 does much better, admittedly over six games]

12...Qe7 13.Re1 Rad8

(Diagram)



14.Qe2N Now Black has a bit of something.

[Predecessor: 14.Qf3= h6 15.Qc3 Qe6 16.a4 Bf8 17.Ne3 Bc5 18.b4 Bd4 19.Qa3 Bb7 20.Rad1 c5?! (20...a5=) 21.b5± Bxe3? 22.Qxe3+- Nf8 23.Bf1 Kh7 24.Bc4 1-0 (37) Vojtek,V (2259)-Molnar,E (2274) Slovakia 2023]

14...Nc5?!= 15.Rad1 Qe6 16.Qf3 Bxc4?!

[16...Bb7= 17.Qe2 Ba6]

17.Nxc4 Rxd1 18.Qxd1 Ncd7 19.Ne3± c6?!

[19...Nc5]

[19...a6]

[19...h5]

20.Qe2

[20.Qd2!]

20...b5 21.Rd1 Nc5 22.f3 Bf8 23.Qf1 Nb7 24.Bh3 Qe7 25.Qe1 h5 26.Qc3 Qc7 27.Kh1 Qb6 28.Qe1 Bc5 29.Nf1 Bd4?!

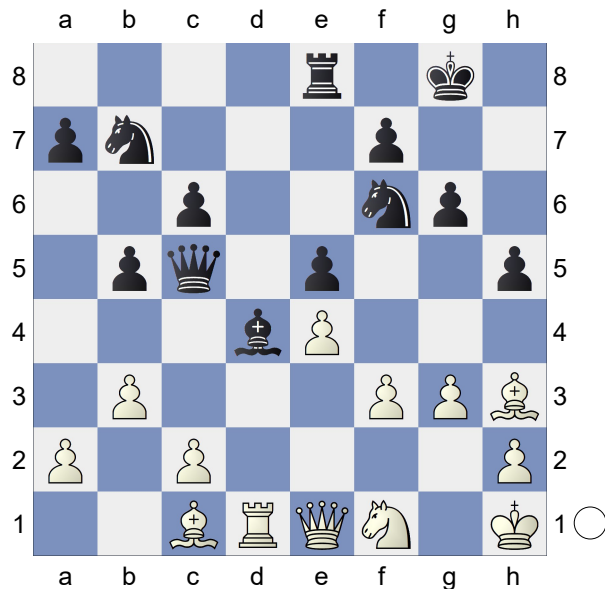
[29...a5=]

30.Bc1?!

[30.Bxd4 exd4 31.c3±]

30...Qc5=

(Diagram)



31.Qe2 Qc3 32.Bg5 Kg7 33.Rd3 Qa1 34.Bxf6+=

[34.c4 b4 35.Rd1=]

34...Kxf6 35.Bd7 Rh8

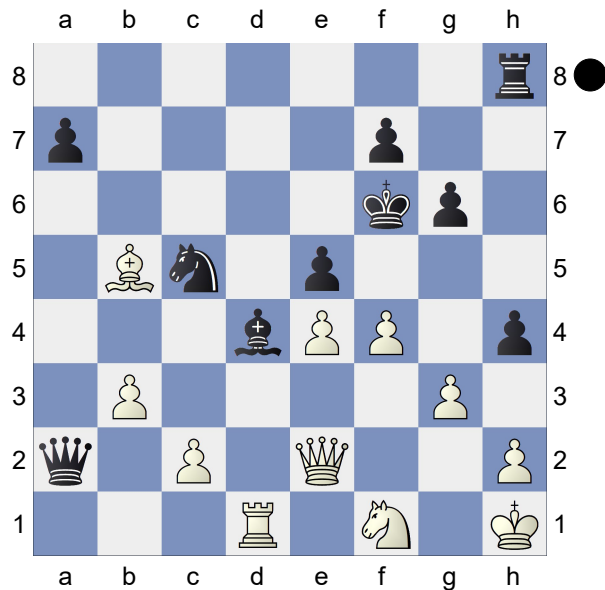
[35...Rb8 36.Bxc6 Nc5=]

[35...Re7 36.Bxc6 b4=]

36.Bxc6 Nc5 37.Rd1 Qxa2 38.Bxb5 h4?! [04:54]

[38...Kg7 39.Bc4 Qb2=]

39.f4!± [03:53]



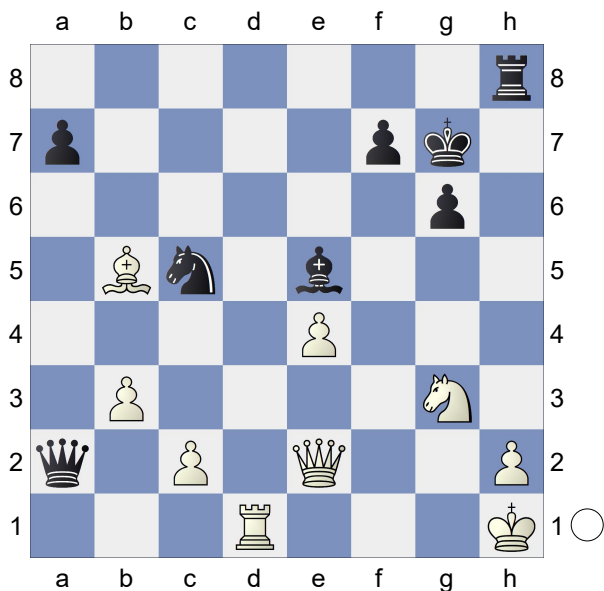
39...hxg3?? [04:39] In fact it's Yoo who loses his footing first! **40.fxe5+? [03:39]**

[40.Bc4+-]

40...Bxe5 [04:33] 41.Nxg3 [03:34]

[41.Bc4±]

41...Kg7! [4:09]



42.Qf2?? [03:24]

[42.Nf1=]

42...Nxe4+ [03:50] **43.Nf5+** [01:46]

[43.Nxe4 Rxh2+ 44.Qxh2 Bxh2
45.Bd3 Qa5!]

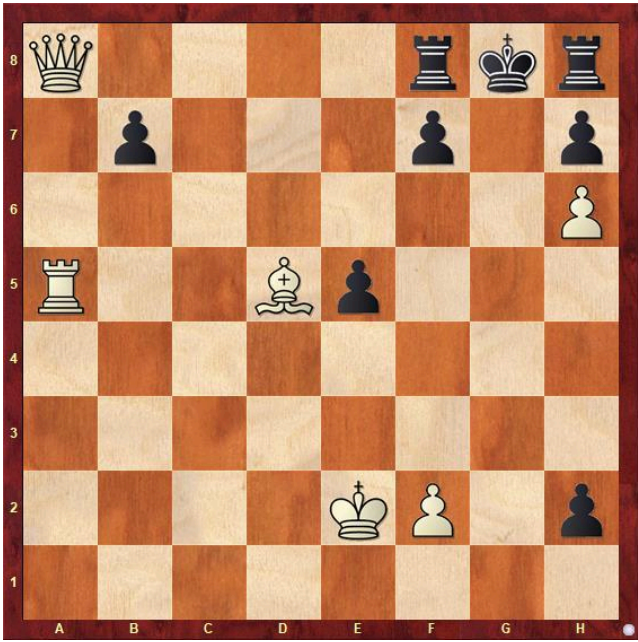
43...gxf5

[43...Kf6 wins as well]

44.Rg1+ Kf8

0-1

Tony's Teasers
White to Play and Mate in 2.



Solution

1. Bb1! And now black is in Zugzwang threatening either 2. Bd5#, 2.Rg5#, 2.Qg2# depending on which pawn black moves.

Contact Us

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