

Chess Room Newsletter



Our GM in Residence Sam Shankland teaches us how to crush sidelines!
Issue #1062 | August 9th, 2025 | Gens Una Sumus!

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Recent Tournaments at the Mechanics' Institute

By Alex Robins

We started July a little late due to the Summer holiday but things got roaring here with a sold-out 24th Wilkerson Memorial Tournament. Each section was won with a perfect score with **FM Baasansuren Erdene** (2342) taking the top section, **Daniel Sevall** (1804) the middle section, and **David Vayntrub** (1244) the ul600 section. Second and third place in the top section were split between **Kritin Rohan Gopalakrishnan** (2161) and **Theodore Biaysis** (2159) with three and a half points each and their only draw coming from each other. Third place was split between **Zee Chin** (2023), **WCM Serena Yuan** (1988), and **Om Suthar** (1846). In the middle section **Toby Tran** (1723) took second place with 3.5 points and a three way split for third place between **Sanushya Subramaniam** (1589), **Avyukth Ganapathy Viswanath** (1530), and **Serena Liu** (1694). In the ul600 section, we had second and third place split three ways between **Ethan Lam** (1033), **Angelina Ramesh Lee** (1408), and **Trent Park** (1106).

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

This tournament was directed by IA Judit Sztaray and FA Scott Mason.

Our **July Monthly Scholastic Swiss** was, as usual, a lot of fun and we had a great turnout - we hope to see you all back this month! In the over 600 section, first through fifth went to: **Adrian Wang** (1207), **Blouin Morin** (936), **Abel Steinberg** (913), **Liana Jasmine Farvine Manikandan** (759), and **Nathan Sansoni** (634). In the under section, **Julian Coll Liang** (489) took first with 4 out of 4 points and was followed by **Ilan Ram Kumar** (440), **Alon Doitel** (224), **Jordan Thach** (512), and **Daniel Navi** (511). A big thank you to all of our scholastic players and their families for their continued support!

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

This tournament was directed by IA Judit Sztaray and Senior TD Arthur Liou.

On July 21st our **GM in Residence Sam Shankland** lectured and played in a blitz held in his honor - Mechanics' regulars got the chance to play a world

class player and to learn from his lecture - **Staying Principled Against Playable Sidelines**. Stay tuned for more events with Sam. Huge congratulations in this tournament to **IM Varun Krishnan (2412)** who won the tournament outright - with his only draw being against **GM Sam Shankland** himself. **GM Sam Shankland (2735)** remained undefeated but took second place with 6 points. **NM Daniel Cremisi (2356)** got the second draw from Sam and tied for third place with **Aadit Bhatia (2243)** and **Varun Agrawal (2001)**. Nobody cracked the top 3 under 2000 but I do want to shoutout Breakwell Loyolka and Thu Le who took the u1800 and 1300 prizes respectively. Overall a pretty strong tournament for a Thursday night!

Full results can be found [here](#). The games from the top 6 boards can be found [here](#).

This tournament was directed by IA Abel Talamantez and FA Scott Mason.

July ended with our **18th Smith Memorial Tournament** on the 28th. Congratulations and welcome back to **IM Kyron Griffith (2485)** who won the top section outright with 3.5 points. **Vishnu Nanugonda (2245)** was right at his heels with 3 points and second place. Behind the two of them was a 10(!) way tie for third - and you can find all ten of those players at the link below. Congratulations in the middle and bottom sections to **Daniel Rob Perlov (1720)** and **Kaihan Liu (1282)** who won their section with perfect scores - well done!

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

This tournament was directed by IA Judit Sztaray and Senior TD Arthur Liou.

Annotated Games from the TNM

By IM Elliott Winslow

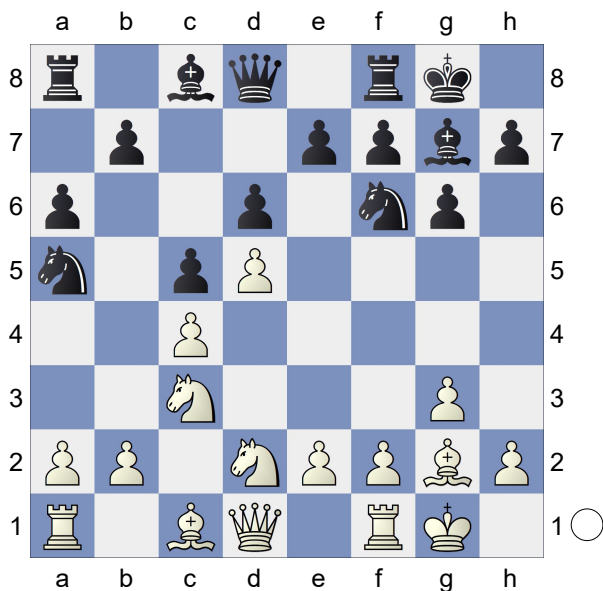
A selection of annotated games from the Silman TNM annotated by IM Elliott Winslow along with the Brilliancy Prize winners awarded by GM Vinay Bhat and IM John Donaldson. All the games from the current TNM can be found here, and games from previous TNMs are in the [Tournament Archive](#).

□ **Lewis, Edward** **E66**
■ **Shrauger, Alex Hayden** **1922**
2200
 2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (1.4) 08.07.25
[TA/Winslow, Elliott]

Here we are, after Round 5, with two rounds to go. And in the top section, we have one leader: Alex Shrauger, with 4.5. Let's go run through his games so far. He's been leaning on the King's Indian with pretty good success, although a bit dodgy theoretically (but that's the King's Indian for you). First Round: Black vs. Ed Lewis. **1.Nf3 22 Nf6 3 2.c4 41 g6 3 3.Nc3 27 Bg7 3 4.g3 35 0-0 4 5.Bg2 6 d6 10 6.d4 8 Nc6 5** Panno's line against the Fianchetto. **7.d5 3:59**

[7.0-0 is the usual order, although maybe Ed's move avoids some of the "other" lines, see Winslow-Shrauger in a couple rounds!]

7...Na5 5 8.Nd2 43 c5 7 So we don't have to wonder about White playing b4, Black playing ...Nxd5 and the rook on a1 hanging, confusion! **9.0-0 28 a6 1:30**



and it's the Panno Proper (with ...a6). Hard to say who tricked whom in the move order game. **10.a3?! 13:14**

[Better to stick with the thousands of

games after 10.Qc2]
[or the maybe even better anticipation move, 10.Rb1!? There's a Magnus-Naka bullet game from nine years ago even.]

10...Ng4 3:34

[10...Nd7!?]

11.Qc2 59 Ne5 1:15 12.b3 16:10

Rb8?! 2:09

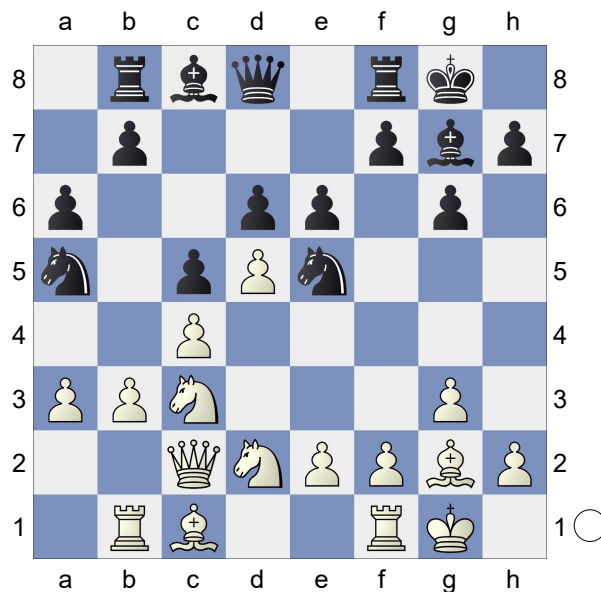
[12...b5! 13.cxb5 axb5 14.b4 Nb7=]

13.Rb1?! 0.00/32 5:28

[13.a4± 0.47/25]

13...e6 1.04/28 7:56

[13...b5= 0.00/32 remains equal.]



14.h3 0.50/29 18

[14.Nde4± 1.04/28]

14...exd5 29 15.Nxd5 1:26

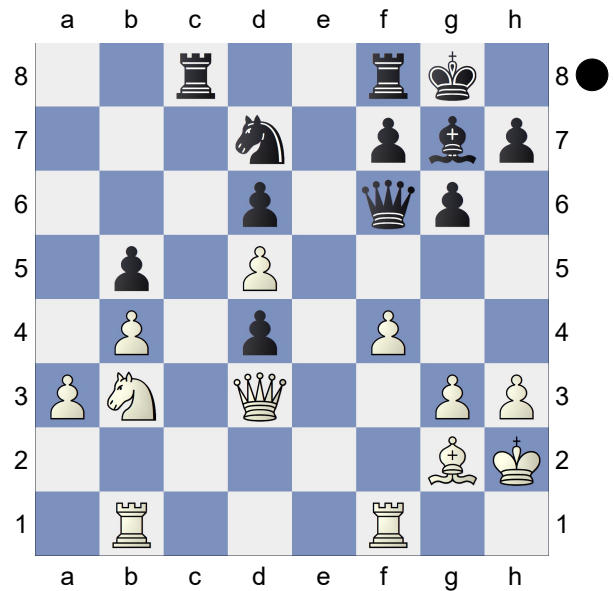
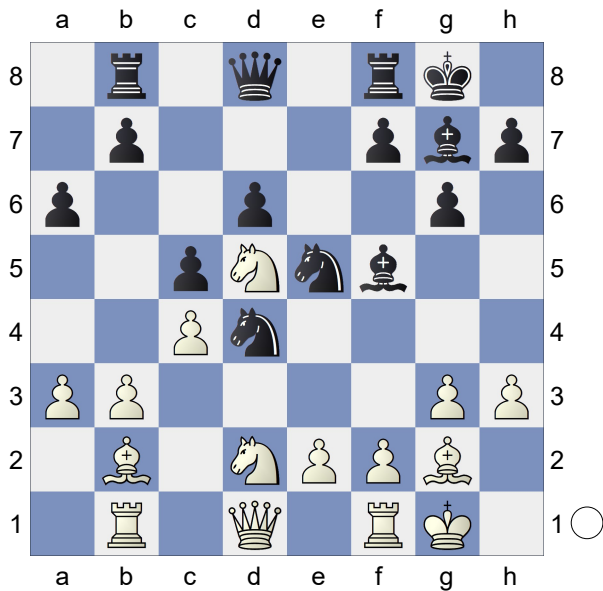
Strong Square White (d5) 15...Nac6N
10:11 White is better.

[15...Bf5 16.e4 Be6 17.Bb2 b5
18.f4 Nec6 19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.Nf3
Bxd5 21.exd5 Ne7 1-0 (42) Robinson,
M (1865)-De Sousa, W (2182) Belem
2016]

16.Bb2 21 Nd4 35 17.Qd1 1

Threatens to win with e3. 17...Bf5 4:15

(Diagram)

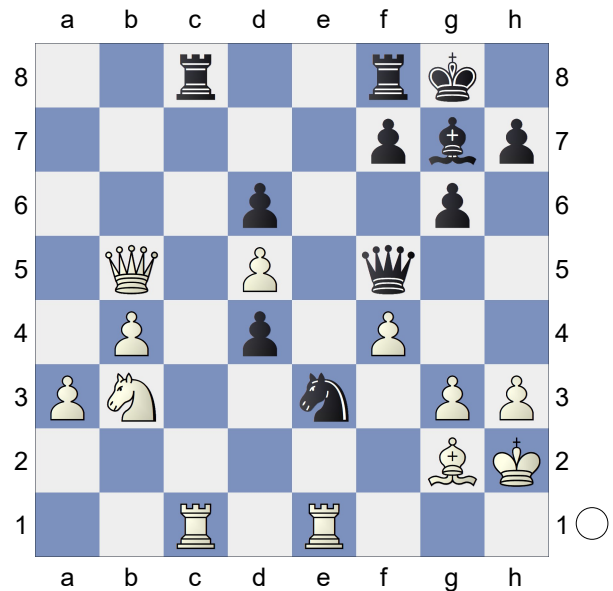


18.e4 0.29/31 6:04
 [18.Rc1!± 0.87/24]
18...Be6= 1:14 19.Bxd4 -0.18/30 11:57
 [Δ19.f4 0.25/32 Nd7 20.Kh2]
19...cxd4 10 20.f4 -0.54/27 6
 [20.Nf4= -0.18/31]
20...Nd7 8:52 21.b4 7:19 b5 3:36
22.cxb5 -1.13/28 5:06
 [22.Rc1 ̄ -0.70/31]
22...axb5 ̄ 23.Nb3 -1.66/25 16
 [23.a4 ̄ -1.18/26]
23...Rc8 8:08 24.Kh2 2:18
 [24.Nxd4? Bxd5 25.Nxb5 (25.exd5?
 Qb6-+) 25...Bc4 26.Nxd6 Bxf1
 27.Bxf1 Rc3-+]
24...Bxd5 3:32 25.exd5 2 Qf6 22
26.Qd3 -1.97/23 3:44
 [26.Qe2 ̄ -1.38/24 Nb6 27.Qxb5]

(Diagram)

26...Nb6!-+ 19 27.Qxb5 -2.52/25 8
 [27.Rbd1 -1.96/24 is a better
 defense.]
27...Nc4 8 28.Rbc1 3:45 Ne3 2:18
 [Resist 28...Nxa3 29.Qa6 Nc2
 30.Rf2 ̄]
29.Rfe1 -3.60/21 1:07
 [Δ29.Rf2 -2.39/22 Rc3 30.Rxc3

dxc3 31.Qd3]
29...Qf5 2:09



Strongly threatening ...Nxg2. **30.Na5?**
-5.51/20 7:41
 [30.Qe2 -3.21/26 Rxc1 31.Rxc1]
30...Rxc1 4:50 31.Rxc1 14 Nxg2 2
32.Kxg2 2:27 Qe4+ 8 33.Kh2 15 d3 8
 (-> ...Bd4) **34.Rg1 1:18 d2 3:18**
35.Nb3 6:12 Qe3 3:40 36.Nxd2 17
Qxd2+ 22 37.Rg2 Qe3 12 38.a4 6 Bd4
32 39.Qd7 6 Qe1 1:02 40.Qxd6 49
Rc8 24 Black mates. 41.h4 27 Rc1 53
42.Kh3 2:42 Qh1+ 1:27 43.Rh2 47
Qf1+ 5 44.Kg4 52 h5+ 6 45.Kg5 42
Kg7 1 46.Qe7 38 Qe1 51 Weighted

Error Value: White=0.55/Black=0.11

0-1

□ Shrauger,Alex Hayden

C02

2200

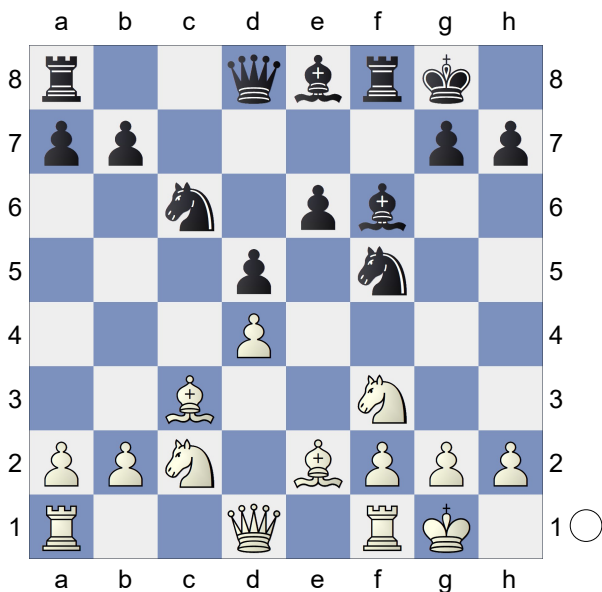
■ Walder,Michael

2020

2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (2.2) 15.07.25

[Tactical Analysis 7.0]

The Advance Variation of the French has really heated up theoretically recently. I remember a comment in the introduction of Sveshnikov's two-volume series on it, something like "I know White has no advantage, but I like the positions." Here Walder walked into some sort of preparation (or did Shrauger?) and it went off the rails. White's execution wasn't so flawless or anything, but it worked out. 1.e4 1 e6 30 2.d4 3 d5 14 3.e5 2 c5 13 4.c3 3 Nc6 7 5.Nf3 2 Bd7 25 6.Be2 4 Nge7 20 7.Na3 18 cxd4 8 8.cxd4 3 Nf5 8 9.Nc2 19 Be7 8 is recently more successful than 9...Qb6. 10.0-0 2:01 0-0 8 11.Bd2 5:35 f6 9 12.exf6 17 The position is equal. 12...Bxf6 10 13.Bc3 6 Be8 5



14.Bd3N -0.25/30 8:12

[Δ14.h3 0.25/31]

[Predecessor: 14.Re1 Rc8 15.h3 Bg6 16.Bd3 Qd6 17.Qd2 Nh4 18.Nxh4 Bxh4 19.Rf1 Rf6 20.Bxg6 Rxg6 0-1 Moussard,J (2600)-Caruana, F (2798) Julius Baer GenCup D3 W Chess.com INT rapid 2024 (5.3)]

14...Bg6 0.27/26 8:16

[Δ14...Bh5 -0.25/30]

15.Re1 -0.13/31 5:45

[Δ15.Nb4 0.27/26]

15...Qd6 0.36/28 8:05

[15...Bh5= -0.13/31 deserves consideration.]

16.Ne3 6:41 Nh4 19:03 17.Nxh4 3:45

[17.Bxg6 simplifies Nxg6 18.g3 Rf7 19.Ng4]

17...Bxh4 17 18.g3 11 Bxd3! 41

19.Qxd3 4 Bd8 27 20.Re2 9:30 Bb6

1:04 21.Ng2 2:32 g5 1.71/22 11:12

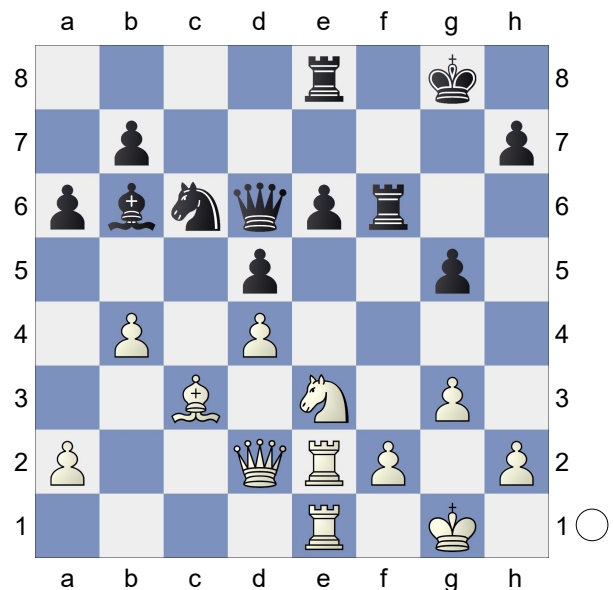
[21...Qd7± 0.36/32]

22.Qd2+- 5:33 Rf5 7:19 23.Rae1 9:12

Re8 2:36 24.Ne3 2:36

[Not 24.g4 Bc7 25.f4 Rf7±]

24...Rf6 4:20 25.b4 3:55 a6 5:59



26.a4! 1:07 Strongly threatening b5.

26...h5 3.31/19 48

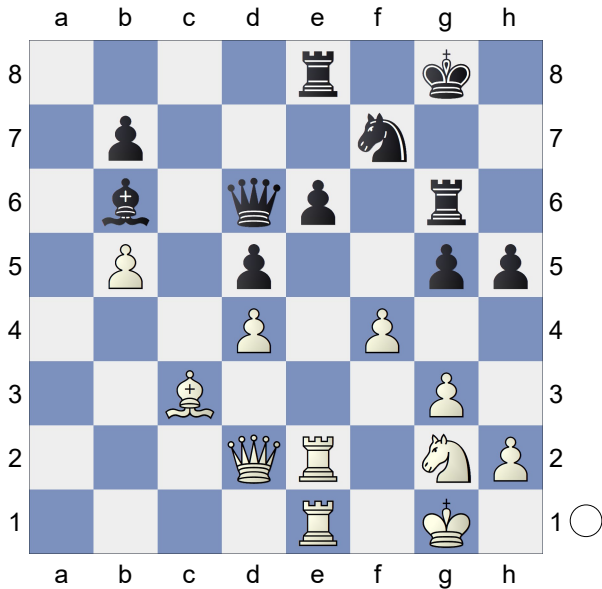
[Δ26...Qd8 1.81/29 27.Ng4

Discovered Attack Rg6]

27.Ng2 8:53 Rg6 6:04 28.b5 3:00 axb5

5 29.axb5 3 Nd8 16 30.f4 3:05 Nf7

4:50

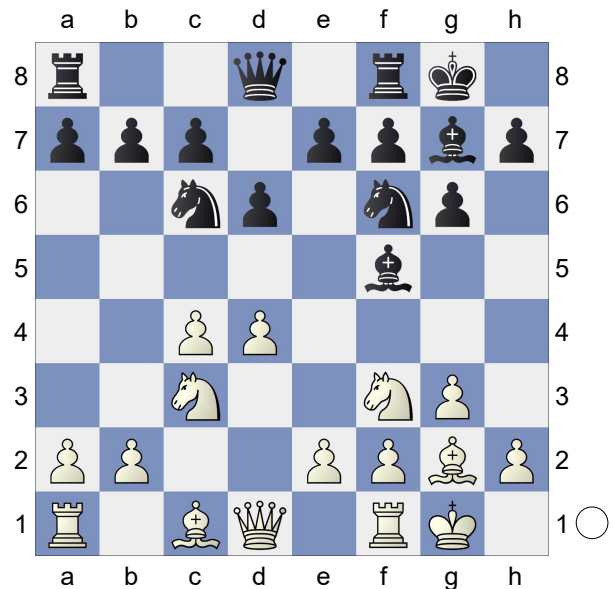


31.Qd3 0.91/25 1:39
 [31.Kh1!+- 1.66/23]
31...Kg7? 2.75/21 1:20
 [31...Rf6± 0.91/25]
32.fxg5 1:19 **Rxg5?** 4.25/18 14:56
 [32...Nxc5 2.60/22 33.Nf4 e5]
33.Kh1 11 **Nd8** 5.92/24 3:33
 [Δ33...Qa3 4.19/21 34.Rf2 (34.Rxe6
 Rxe6 35.Rxe6 Ba5±; 34.Nf4 e5+-)
 34...Qe7]
34.Nf4 1:29 White is clearly winning.
34...h4 8 **35.Re5** 40 **Rg4** 1:09 **36.Nh5+**
 2:44 Weighted Error Value: White=0.15/
 Black=0.58
1-0

E60
 □ Winslow,Elliott 2200
 ■ Shrauger,Alex Hayden 2200
 2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (3.1) 22.07.25
 [Winslow,Elliott]

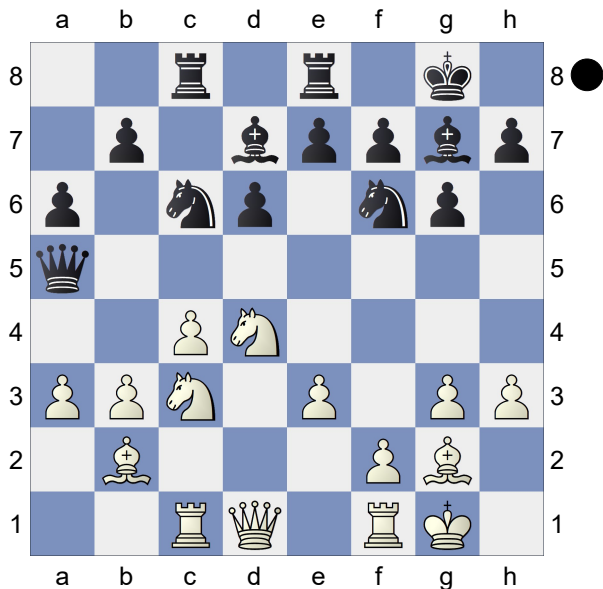
Short mutual respect game. I wish I'd prepared, or at the very least played through the many games we've played, I've had White in 7 of 10, with a big score. In fact, I was 5-0 in King's Indians (!). This is the first Fianchetto -- I think

I played this as Black in some game in the 60s, and lost ignominiously. It's not in my database. **1.d4** 3:00 **Nf6** 1:12 **2.c4** 12 **g6** 2 **3.g3** 31 All those other games were 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 with various Makagonov's and Be2/Be3 systems, complicated attacks for both sides. Why I changed my tune I don't know. Changing times I guess. As Black I play the KID, and the Fianchetto has me uncomfortable of late. **3...Bg7** 4 **4.Bg2** 7 **0-0** 3 **5.Nc3** 5 **d6** 2 **6.Nf3** 7 **Nc6** 2 **7.0-0** 13 **Bf5** 2



This line. It's not quite the Chameleon Line, 6...c6 7.0-0 Bf5, when White really has to wonder where Black's center pawns are going to end up. Caruana enjoys that. **8.d5** 3:15 **Na5** 20 **9.Nd4** 2:04
 [9.Nd2]
9...Bd7 2:59 **10.b3** 10:54 **c5** 1:19
11.dxc6 57 This time I was thinking to keep my head and not overplay.
 [11.Nc2]
11...Nxc6 2:07 **12.Bb2** 7:15 **Qa5** 1:21
13.e3 3:14 **Rac8** 48 **14.h3** 4:23 **a6** 4:27
15.a3 7:37 **Rfe8** 9:41 **16.Rc1** 3:04

(Diagram)



18...Bxc6= 1:23 The position is equal.
(-12/26 and heading towards 0.00 on
sf17.1) 19.Qe2 43 Qd7 4:45
Now it dribbles out. 20.Rfd1 4:27 Bxg2
21 21.Kxg2 4 Qc6+ 5:43 Weighted
Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /
Black=0.09 (flawless)
1/2-1/2

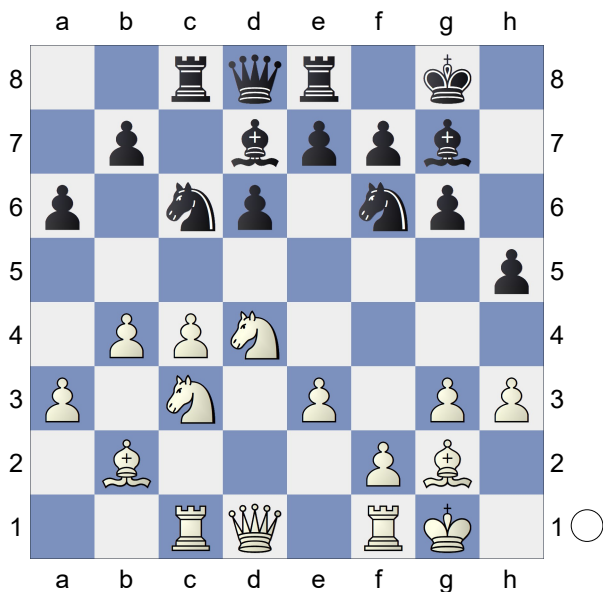
□ Shrauger,Alex Hayden C56 2200
■ Lee,Andy C 2313
2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (4.1) 29.07.25
[Winslow,Elliott]

h5N 14:10 Stockfish makes it #6, but not
by much.

[16...Qb6 17.Na4 Qc7 18.Nc3 Qb6
19.Nce2 Na5 20.Qd3 e5 21.b4 Nc6
22.Nb3 Rcd8 23.Nc3 Bf5 24.Qd2
Ne7 1/2-1/2 (118) Keymer,V (2591)-
Petriashvili,N (2432) Europe Echecs
INT 2021]

17.b4!? 6:44 Best, although I have to
watch my c-pawn doesn't get in trouble.

17...Qd8 1:39
[17...Qc7!?



18.Nxc6?! 4:03

[18.Nf3± stays around +0.50]

An all-important upset of Andy Lee! A
wobbly game (what else is new) but it
turned out okay. Quite a battle of late
middlegame tactics!

**1.e4 e5 7 2.Nf3 2 Nc6 8 3.d4 2 exd4
8 4.Bc4 2 Nf6 12**

[In the mid-60s I was learning the Max
Lange, with crazy stuff like 4...Bc5
5.0-0 Nf6 6.e5 d5 7.exf6 dxc4
8.fxg7 Rg8 9.Re1+ Be6 10.Ng5
(sf 17.1: ?) Qd5 (The trap I still
remember goes 10...Qf6?? 11.Nxe6
fxe6 12.Qh5+) 11.Nc3 Qf5 12.g4
Qg6 13.Nce4 Oh, woops -- "-+ in the
Kibitzer window. I'll give it a look
some time this century.]

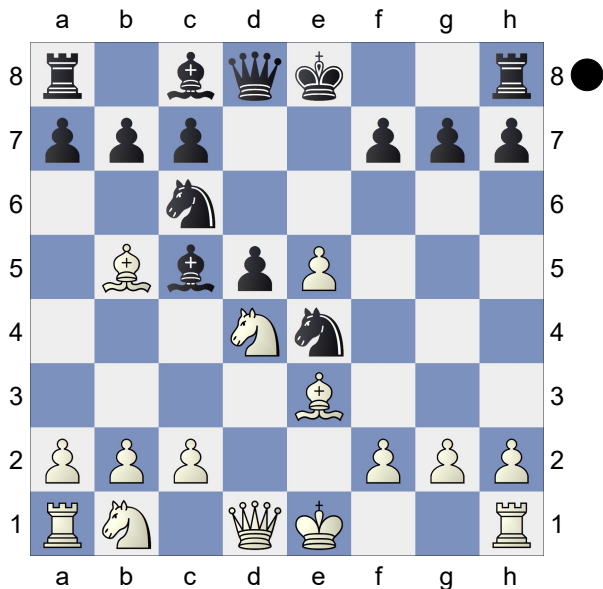
**5.e5 2 d5 13 6.Bb5 5 Ne4 9 7.Nxd4 3
Bc5 12 8.Be3 4**

(Diagram)

0-0 1:07

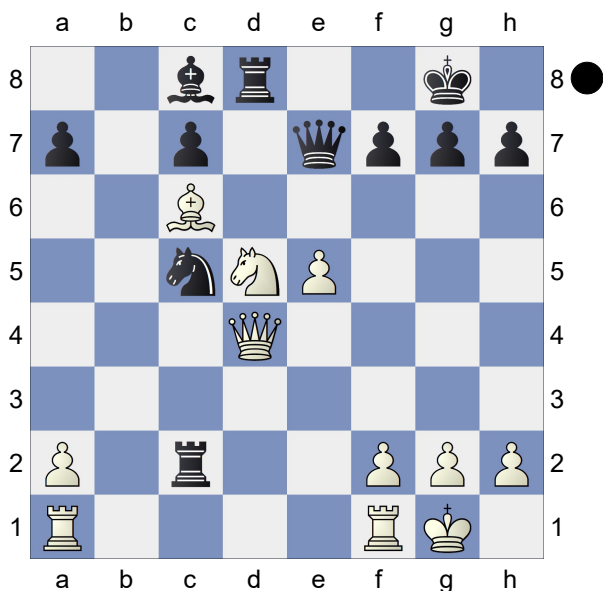
[All I recall is those pawn structures
after 8...Bd7 9.Bxc6 bxc6
with some nominal advantage. Let's
just say I haven't kept up with the
Scotch all these years!]

**9.Nxc6 11 bxc6 12 10.Bxc5 3 Nxc5 11
11.Bxc6 3 Rb8 24 I was sitting next to**



this game, and thinking "is it safe?"
12.Qxd5 7 Qe7 1:16 13.0-0 15 Rxb2 4:36 Stockfish has this as the narrow, stable path to equality. **14.Qd4 11:37 Rxc2 11:54**

[14...Rb6! even a bit of plus.]
15.Nc3 5:13 Rd8 10:53 16.Nd5 1:59



Qg5? 5:07

[16...Qf8!±]
17.h4? 17:47 White has a king side majority

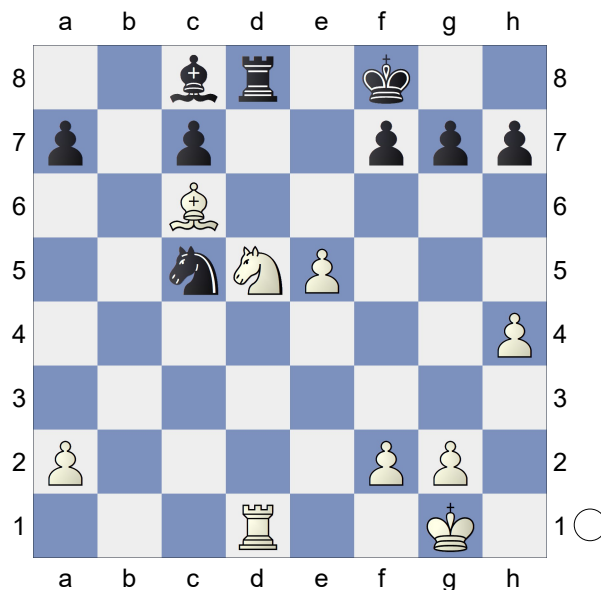
[17.Rad1!+- Simple and unanswerable. Rf8 (17...Bh3 18.Ne7+ Discovered Attack, Decoy Qxe7 19.Qxd8+ Qf8 20.Qxf8+

Remove Defender Kxf8 21.Rd8+ Ke7 22.Re8#) 18.Nxc7]

17...Qd2!N 2:12 Black puts up resistance (with the only move).

[17...Ne6 18.Qe4 Qd2 19.Rad1 Qe2 20.Ne7+ Kf8 21.Rxd8+ Nxd8 22.Qxe2 Rxe2 23.Bf3 Rxf2 24.Kxf2 Kxe7 1-0 (41) Schmitz,T (2268)- Commercon,S (2253) Lamsheim 2017]

18.Qxd2 27 Rxd2 6 19.Rad1 7:17 Rxd1 18 20.Rxd1 2 Kf8 34



Black should be okay... **21.Rb1 2:35**

Be6 11:07 22.Rb5 5:58 Nd3 9:13

Leaving White a little something to play for.

[22...Bxd5 23.Rxc5□ and it's fun to watch everything eventually to 0.00 on a fast computer, after either Bxa2= (or 23...Bxc6 24.Rxc6 h5=)]

23.Nxc7 5:07 Bxa2 45 24.Ra5 6:39

Bc4 1:21 25.Be4 5:54 Nf4?! 9:00

26.Rxa7 5:21 Starting to go astray

26...Rd4?!± 1:41 27.Bf5?! 3:41

[27.Bxh7?? Ne2+ 28.Kh2 Rxh4#]

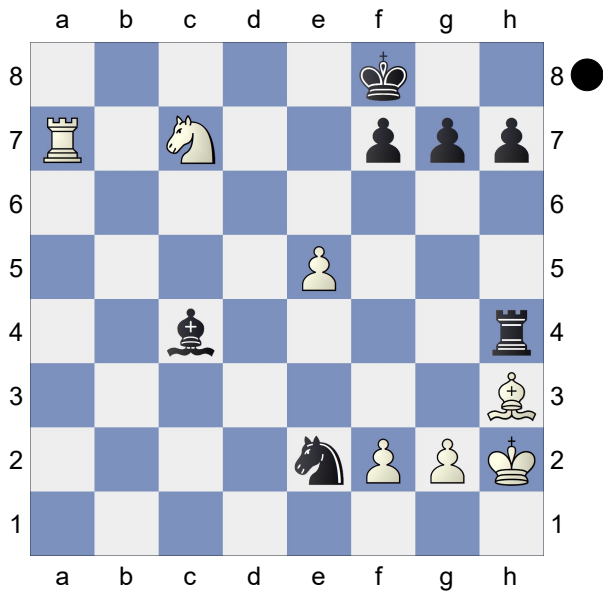
[27.f3!?!±]

27...Ne2+?! 2:31

[27...g6!?!]

28.Kh2 4 Rxh4+ 9 29.Bh3 2

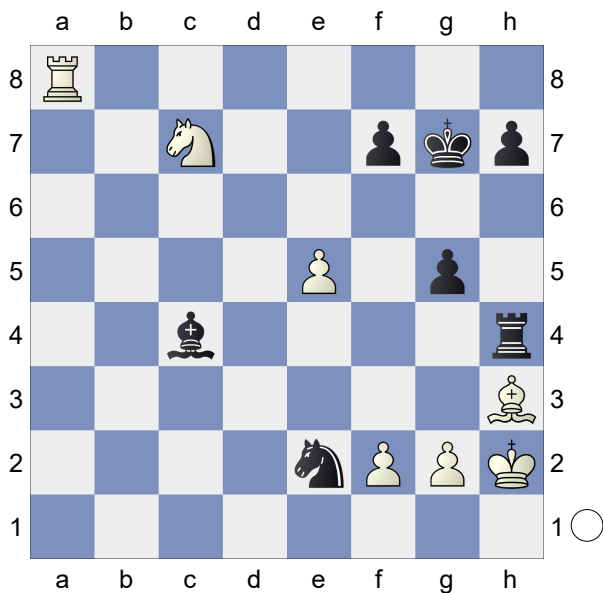
(Diagram)



They're still fighting! **29...g5?? 3:57**

[29...Be6= and Black is okay.]

30.Ra8+- 2:35 Kg7 9



...g4 is the strong threat -- but White gets there first. **31.g3!+- 1:19 Rd4 15:35**

32.Ne8+ 6:28 Kg6 27

(Diagram)

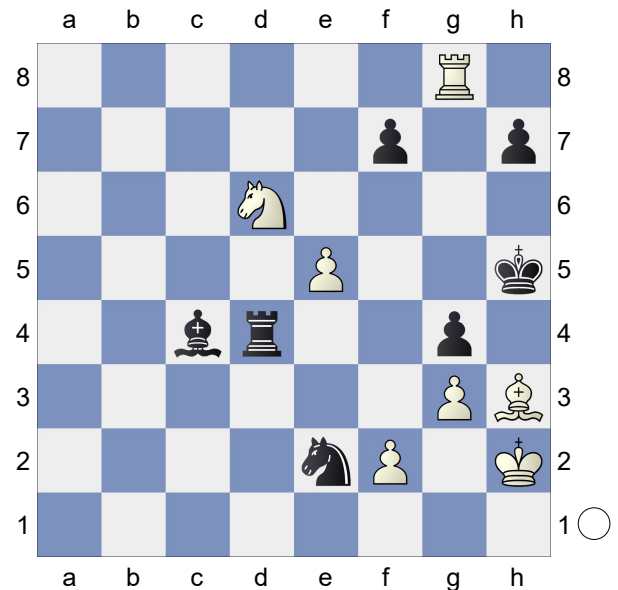
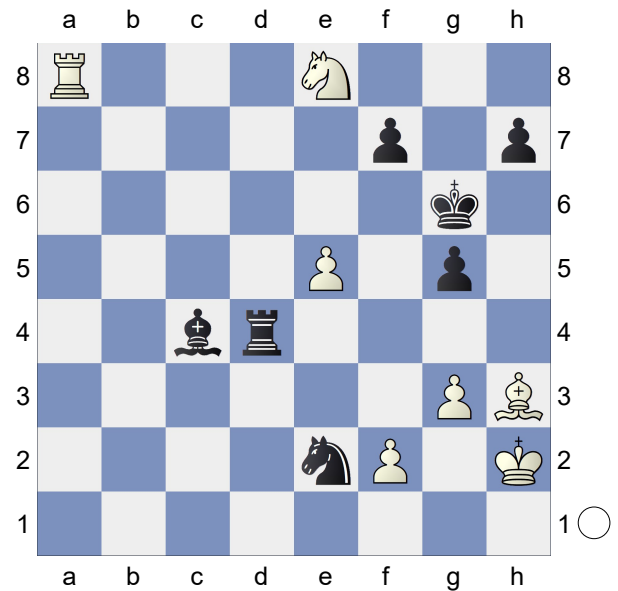
33.Nd6! 3:08 Strongly threatening Rg8+.

33...g4 3:51

[33...h5 34.Bf5+ Kg7 35.Nxc4 Rxc4 36.Bd3 **Scorpion tag!**]

34.Rg8+ 1:20 Kh5 8

(Diagram)



35.f4! 5:49 Be6 6:34

[35...Nxg3 36.Rg5+]

(Diagram)

36.Bxg4+! 24 Double Attack.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.78

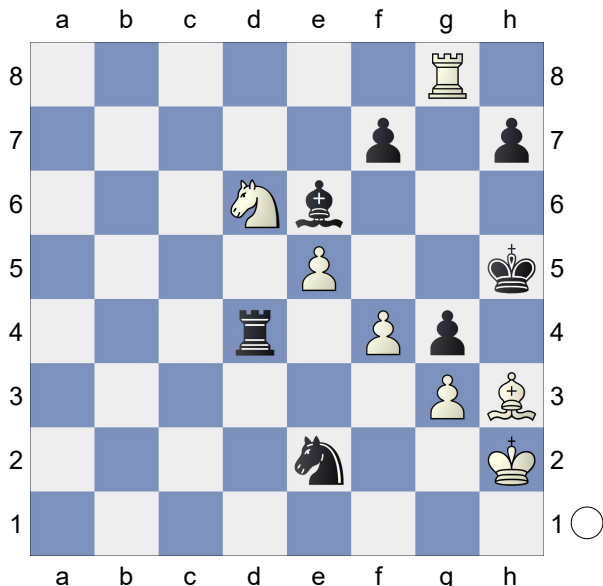
Loses game: ---

Black=1

Missed win: White=1

Mistake: White=1

Black=2

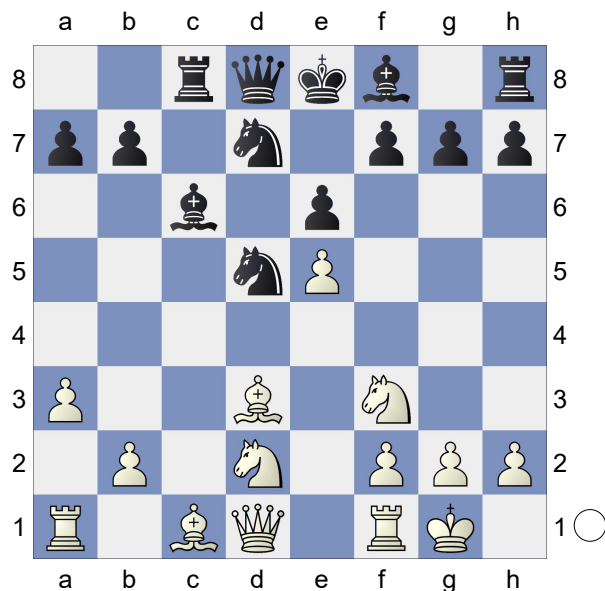


Inaccurate: White=1
 Black=2
 OK: White=7
 Black=8
 Best: White=5
 Black=2
 Strong: White=2
 Black=1
1-0

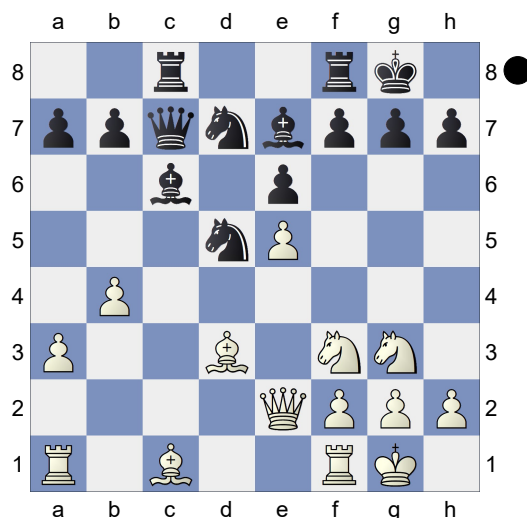
□ **Cawthon,Jeremy David** **2014**
 ■ **Shrauger,Alex Hayden** **2200**
 2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (5.1) 05.08.25
[Winslow,Elliott]

The two leaders, both fresh off upsets, meet. And Alex comes out on top. This is from Round 5, but I'm leaving it in here (more Round 5 games next Newsletter!) **1.e4 2 c5 11 2.c3 3 Nf6 2 3.e5 5 Nd5 4.d4 9 cxd4 3 5.Nf3 5 d6 2 6.cxd4 7** Jeremy is hooked on the Alapin against the Sicilian. Did Shrauger simply see Cawthon-Winslow from Round 4 (he **was** sitting there next to us) and see something in my method? Looks like it. **6...e6 3 7.a3 7 Bd7 2 8.Bd3 6 Bc6 3 9.0-0 6 Nd7 5 10.Nbd2**

34 dxe5 6 B22: Sicilian: 2 c3. 11.dxe5 19 Rc8 3
[I had played 11...Nf4 , perhaps pushing too soon.]



12.b4?!N -0.54/27 16:59 And right away Jeremy gets in trouble!
[12.Re1= 0.03/27]
[12.Ne4 Be7 (12...Qc7 13.b4 Nxe5 14.Bb2 Nxd3 15.Qxd3 f6=) 13.Qe2 Qc7 14.Ng3 (14.b4!?) 14...0-0 15.b4??



Nc3 16.Qc2 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Nxe5 18.Bxh7+ Kh8 19.Be4 f5 20.f4 Nxe4 21.Qxc7 Nf3+ 0-1 Schippan,B (2282)-Mainka,R (2454) Dresden 2003.
Another Alapin dies an early death.]

12...Nc3 16:45 Black is slightly better.

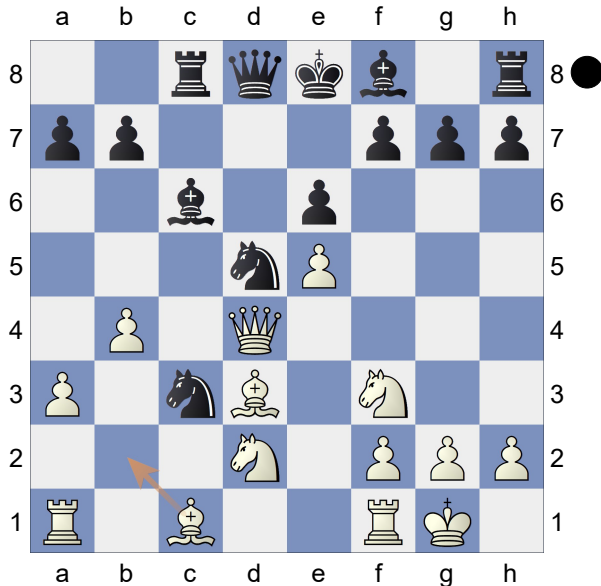
13.Qe1? -1.29/24 1:11

[13.Qc2 0.55/30 Ba4! 14.Nb3 Nb6
15.Nfd4! (15.Bb2?? Bxb3)]

[13.Qc2 Ba4! 14.Nb3 Nb6 15.Nfd4
g6]

13...Nb6! 6:26 Black is more active.

14.Qe3 4:35 Nbd5 2:24 15.Qd4 1:09



Nf4! 4:08 Deflection. Black is on the roll. 16.Qxc3 10:09

[16.Qxf4 Qxd3 is a slight improvement, but it's still Black on top.]

16...Nxd3 1:41 It's not clear whether this is better than

[16...Qxd3 17.Qxd3 Nxd3 18.Nd4 19.Nc4? -3.37/21 1:15 Well that justifies leaving the queens on board!

17.Nc4? -3.37/21 1:15 Well that justifies leaving the queens on board!

[17.Qb3 -1.35/27]

17...Bb5+ 10:22 with a won game.

Shrauger now plays Stockfish's #1 moves for a while! (*NOT* an accusation! I'm impressed!)

18.Nfd2 57

Be7 4:14 19.a4 1:13 Bxb4 1:42 20.Qb3

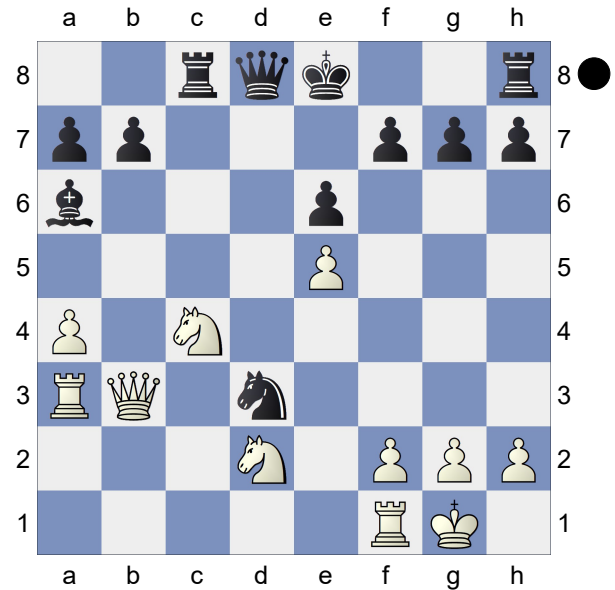
25 Ba6! 4:07 White just can't unbind.

21.Ba3 1:40

[21.Nd6+ Bxd6 22.exd6 Qxd6
23.Ba3 Qd4 Yes Black can't castle,
but with two extra pawns and that
monster knight on d3, it'll be okay

after ...f6 and ...Kf7.]

21...Bxa3 42 22.Rxa3 2



Nxe5! 2:00 Deflection 23.Rd1 3:35

[23.Nxe5 Qxd2 24.Rd1 Qe2+
(24...Rc1? 25.Ra1+)]

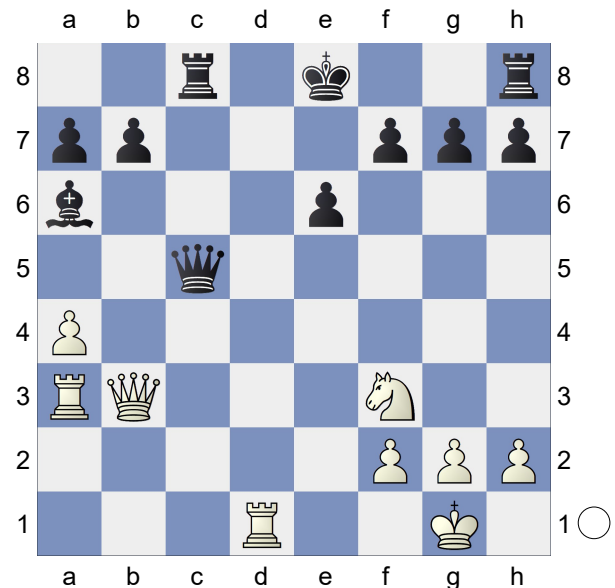
23...Qc7 4:35

[23...Qd4 24.Nxe5 Qxe5]

[23...Qd5 24.Nxe5 Qxe5]

24.Nxe5 5:49 Qxe5 15 25.Nf3 36

Qc5+ 1:01



26.Re1 1:38 0-0 23 27.h4 22 Rfd8 1:57

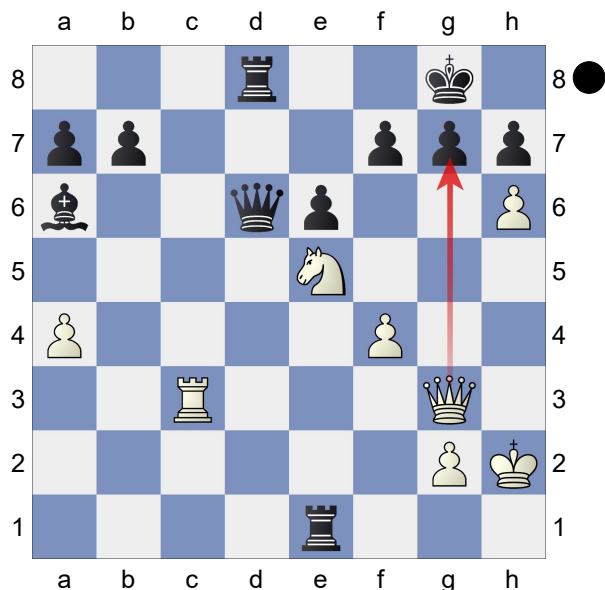
28.Ne5 1:15 Rd5 3:32 29.Qg3 3 Qd6

50 30.Rc3 3:24 Rd8 2:24

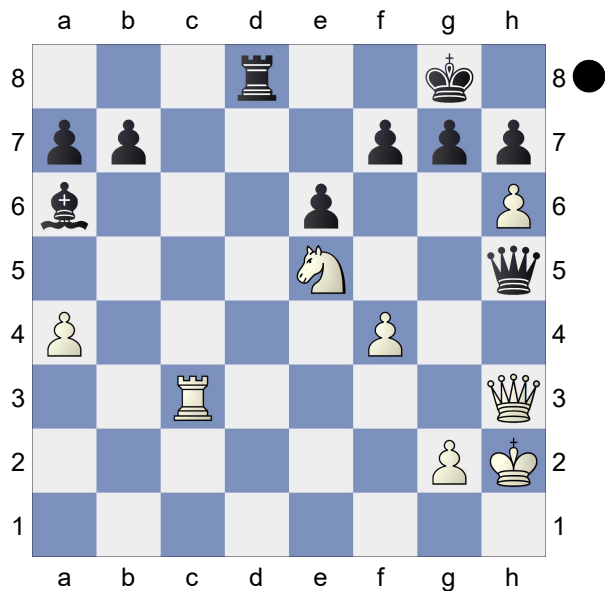
[30...Rxc3! 31.Qxc3 Rc5]

31.f4 26 Rd4 4:46

[31...f6! 32.Ng4 Kh8]
32.h5 57 Rd1 2:26
 [32...Rxa4? 33.h6 g6 34.Qg5+-]
33.h6 3:41 Rxe1+ 8 34.Kh2 19



Rh1+!! 27 35.Kxh1 1 Qd1+ 8 36.Kh2 6
Qh5+ 2 37.Qh3 11

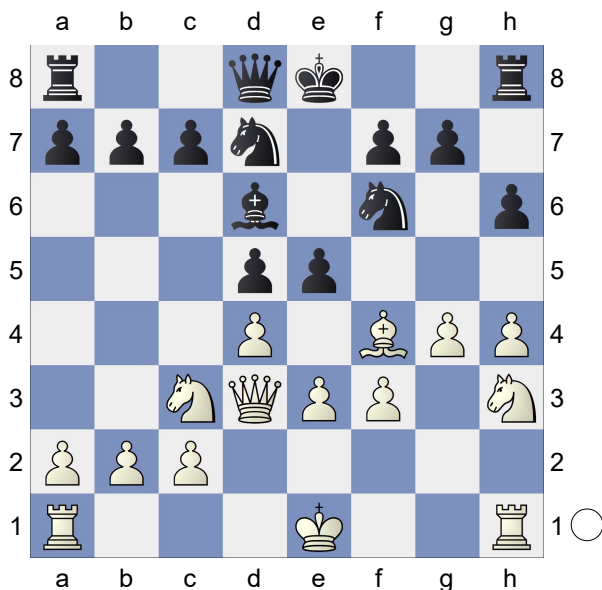


Qxh3+! 43
 [37...Qxh6 38.Qxh6 gxf6 39.Rc7#]
38.Kxh3 45 Endgame KRB-KRN. Black
is two pawns up. 38...f6! 1:49
 [38...gxf6 39.Rc7#]
39.Rg3 -5.19/18 2:53
 [39.Nf3 -3.50/28]
39...g6! 2:08
 [39...fxe5 wins too, of course]

40.Ng4 2 Kf7 18 41.Nf2 35 Rd2 2:11
42.Ne4 4 Rd4 33 43.Re3 6 b6 1:14
44.g3 2 Bd3 3:44 45.Nf2 11 Bc2 1:43
46.Rc3 36 Bxa4 5 47.Rc8 2 Be8 8
48.Ng4 33 Rd7 2:41 49.Rb8 34 Rc7 28
50.Kg2 17 b5 22 Black is clearly
winning. 51.Kf1 3:21 a5 8 52.Nf2 4 a4
45 53.Ne4 1 Ke7 4 54.g4 21 Rc4 35
 Weighted Error Value: White=0.31/
 Black=0.08
0-1

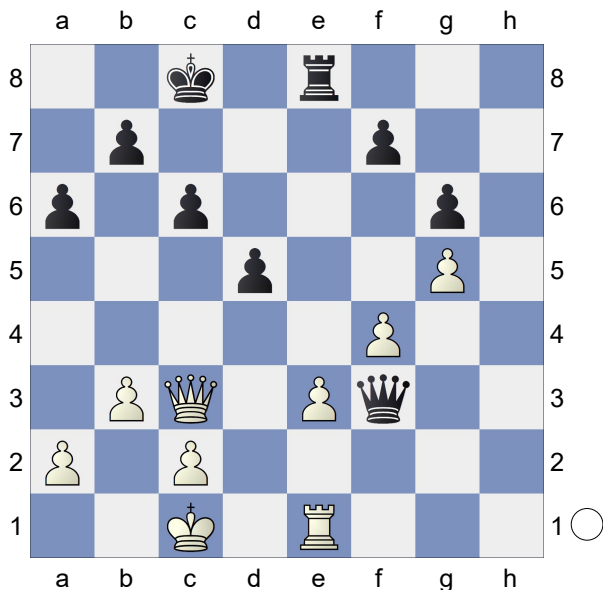
□ **Peterson, Jared E** **D00**
1800
 ■ **Cawthon, Jeremy David** **2014**
 2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (1.12) 8.7.25
 [Winslow, Elliott]

Jeremy got a "lucky" start when Jared Peterson kamikadze'd his king in a queen and rook game. **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bf4 Bf5 4.f3 e6 5.g4 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.e3 Bd6 8.Nh3 Nbd7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 e5**



11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Bxe5 Bxe5 13.0-0-0 c6 14.f4 Bxc3 15.Qxc3 Qe7 16.Nf2 0-0-0 17.g5 hxg5 18.hxg5 Rxh1 19.Rxh1 Ne4 20.Nxe4 Qxe4 21.Rd1 Re8 22.Rd3!= Qh1+ 23.Rd1

[23.Kd2=]
23...Qf3 24.Re1
 [24.Rd3=]
24...g6
 [24...Qf2 25.Qd2]
25.b3 a6



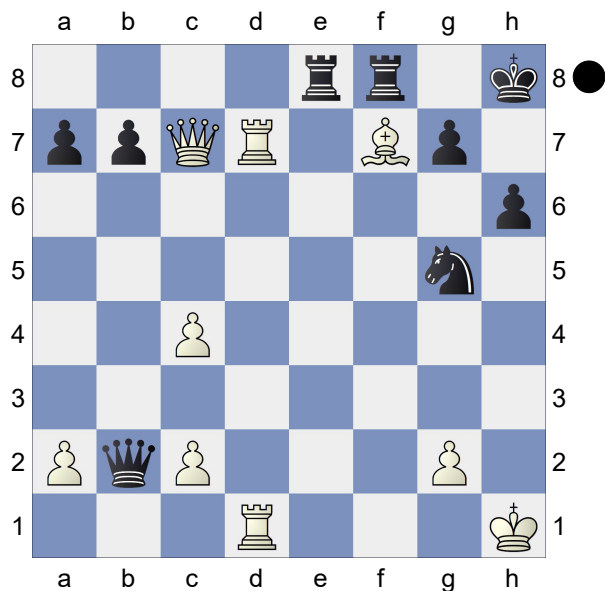
26.Kd2??
 [26.a4=]
26...d4+ 27.Qd3 dxe3+ 28.Rxe3 Qxf4
29.Ke2 Qxe3+ 30.Qxe3 Rxe3+
31.Kxe3 Kd7 32.Kf4 Ke6 33.Ke4 f6
34.gxf6 Kxf6 35.c4 Kg5 36.Ke5 Kh4
0-1

□ **Cawthon,Jeremy David** **2014**
 ■ **Bambou,Christophe** **2130**
 2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (2.3) 15.07.25
 [Winslow,Elliott]

Without a close look I'd say at a glance Jeremy was rather lucky in this game! It was a crazy ride, but most of the swerves should have been in Bambou's favor. **1.e4 2 e5 12 2.Nf3 3 Nf6 5 3.Nc3 5 Bb4 7 4.Bc4 35 Bxc3 7 5.dxc3 2 d6 11 6.0-0 13 C42: Petroff Defence: 3 Nxe5 and unusual White 3rd moves. 6...h6 7 7.h3 -0.36/28 39**

[7.a4= 0.00/32]
7...0-0 7 8.Qe2 2:12 Be6N 16
 [8...Nbd7 9.Be3 b6 10.Nd2 Bb7 11.f3 Nh5 12.Kh2 Kh8 13.g3 Nhf6 14.g4 d5 15.exd5 Nxd5 16.Bxd5 Bxd5 0-1 (48) Madhusoodanan,K (1958)-Sharma,D (2365) Cochin 2011]
9.Rd1 3:27 Nc6 1:21 10.Nh4 4:15 Nh7 12:38 11.Nf5 1:52 Qf6 5:13 12.Ne3 8:53 Ne7 2:44 13.Ng4 5:38 Qg6 7:14 14.f4? -2.10/31 2:33
 [14.a4± -0.42/32]
14...Bxg4+ 6:45 15.hxg4 17 exf4 5:18 16.Bxf4 5 Nc6 3:28 17.e5 10:39 Nxe5 4:49 18.Bxe5 27 dxe5 1:04 19.Qxe5 21 Qxg4 -0.27/30 7:27
 [19...Qxc2 20.Qxc7 Qxb2 21.Rdb1= (21.Rab1 Qc2±)]
 [19...Rae8!± -1.43/32 20.Qf4 Nf6 (20...Qxc2 21.Qxc7 Nf6 22.g5=)]
20.Rd4= 24 Qg6 9:02 21.Rf1 -0.64/32 2:00
 [21.Qxc7= -0.28/35 was preferable. Qxc2 22.Rf1]
21...Qb6± 8:13
 [21...Qxc2 22.Rxf7 (22.Qxc7 Kh8±) 22...Rxf7 23.Bxf7+ Kh8 24.Qxc7=]
22.Kh1 -2.04/26 3:13
 [22.a4± -0.73/31]
22...Ng5? -0.12/31 5:03
 [22...Qxb2 23.Bxf7+ Kh8 (23...Rxf7? 24.Rxf7 Qc1+ 25.Kh2+-) 24.Rg4± (24.Qxc7 Qxc2 25.Rdf4 Ng5±)]
 [22...Nf6!-+ -2.04/26 ...Rae8! would now be deadly. 23.Qg3 Rad8]
23.Rd7= 42 Rae8 13:06 24.Bxf7+ 2:49 Double Attack 24...Kh8 44 25.Qxc7 2:12 Qb5 4:52 26.c4 2:06 Qxb2 29 27.Rfd1? -3.23/30 1:49
 [27.Kh2= 0.00/41]

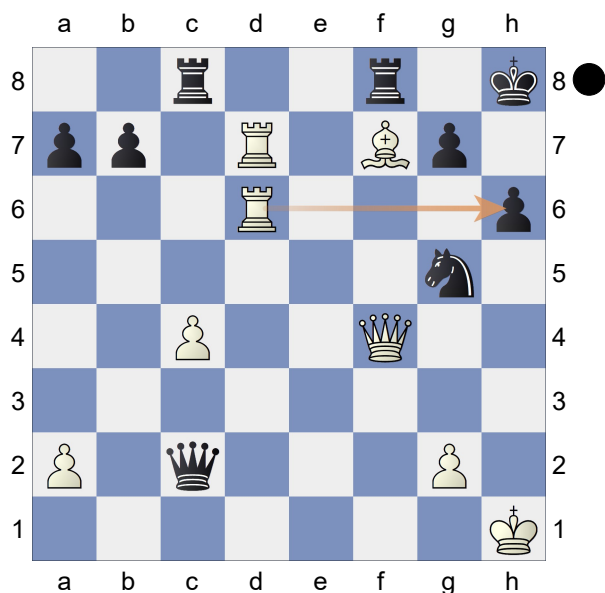
(Diagram)



27...Rc8!-+ 2:10 28.Qf4 5:34 Qxc2 57

[28...Qxa2 29.Qf5-+]

29.R1d6 30



And now Rxh6+! would win. 29...Nxf7 -0.04/33 21

[29...Qxa2 30.Rxh6+ gxh6 31.Qf6+ (31.Rxb7? Qa1+ 32.Kh2 Qg7-+) 31...Kh7 32.Bg6+ Kg8 33.Qg7#]

[**Black should play 29...Qc3!-+ -2.38/34 30.Rd1 Qb4]**

30.Rxf7= 15 The position is equal.

30...Rxf7 4

[30...Rxc4 31.Rxh6+ (31.Rxf8+ Kh7) 31...gxh6 32.Rxf8+ Kh7 33.Qf7#]

31.Qxf7-+ 9 Endgame KQR-KQR. Black is a pawn up. 31...Qc1+ 54

[31...Rxc4? 32.Rd8+ Kh7 33.Qg8+ Kg6 34.Rd6+ Kf5 35.Qf7+ (35.Qxg7 Qc1+) 35...Ke4 36.Re6+ (36.Qxg7 Qc1+ 37.Kh2 Qf4+ 38.Qg3 Qxg3+ 39.Kxg3 Ra4-; 36.Qxb7+ Kf4+-) 36...Kd4 37.Qxg7+ Kc5 38.Qe7+ (38.Rxh6 b6=) 38...Kb5 39.Qxb7+ (39.Rxh6 Qc1+) 39...Kc5 40.Qxa7+ (40.Rxh6 Qc1+ 41.Kh2 Qxh6+ 42.Kg1 Qe3+ 43.Kh2 Rh4#) 40...Kb4 41.Rb6+ (41.Rxh6 Qc1+ 42.Kh2 Qxh6+ 43.Kg1 Rc1+ 44.Kf2 Qf4+ 45.Ke2 Rc2+ **Skewer** 46.Ke1 Qc1#) 41...Kc3 42.Rb3+- (42.Rxh6 Qc1+ 43.Kh2 Qxh6+ 44.Kg1 Qc1+ 45.Kf2 Qd2+ 46.Kf3 Qf4+ 47.Ke2 Re4+)]

32.Kh2 26 Qg5 23

[32...Qxc4? 33.Rd8+ (33.Qxb7? Qh4+ 34.Kg1 Rc1+) 33...Rxd8 34.Qxc4+-]

33.Re6 2:11 Prevents Qe5+. Active counter play! 33...Qh4+ 27

[33...Rxc4? 34.Re8+ (34.Qxb7? Qh4+ 35.Kg1 Rc1+) 34...Kh7 35.Qg8+ (35.Qxc4? Qh5+ 36.Kg1 Qxe8-) 35...Kg6 36.Qxc4+-]

34.Kg1 Qd4+ 13

[34...Qxc4? 35.Re8+ Rxe8 36.Qxc4+-]

35.Kh2 32 Qh4+ 4

[35...Qxc4? 36.Re8+ Rxe8 37.Qxc4+-] [35...Rxc4 36.Qe8+ Kh7 37.Qg6+ Kh8 38.Re8#]

36.Kg1 4 Qd4+ 34

[36...Qxc4? 37.Re8+ Rxe8 38.Qxc4+-]

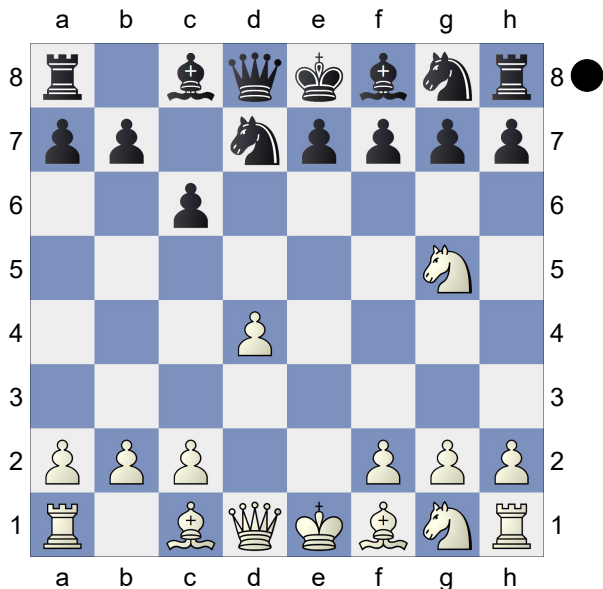
37.Kh2 1 Qh4+ 48

[37...Qxc4? **perishes**. 38.Re8+ Rxe8 39.Qxc4+-] [**Worse** is 37...Rxc4 38.Qe8+ Kh7 39.Qg6+ Kh8 40.Re8#]

38.Kg1 18 Weighted Error Value:
 White=0.38/Black=0.22 (precise)
 1/2-1/2

□ Mercado,Adam **B17**
 1942
 ■ Cawthon,Jeremy David **2014**
 2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (3.2) 22.07.25
 [Winslow,Elliott]

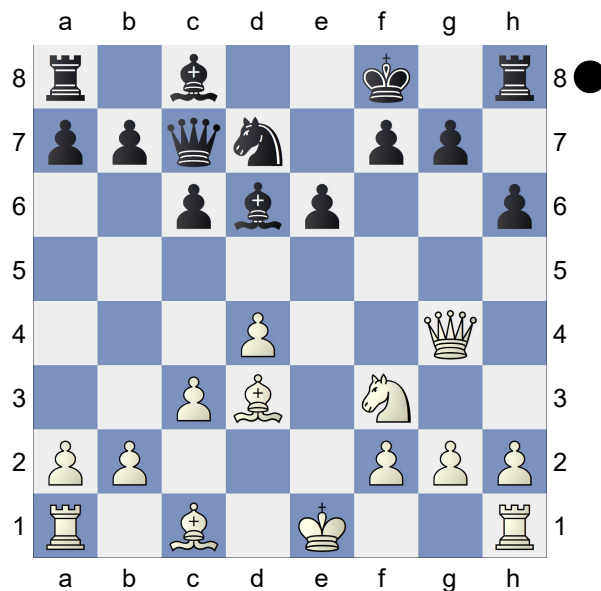
In Karpov's line of the Caro Kann, both players knew the ideas (11...Kf8! for example), but once again Jeremy lost his way -- and came up roses. **1.e4 6 c6 2.d4 22 d5 2 3.Nc3 10 dxe4 3 4.Nxe4 12 Nd7 5 5.Ng5 49**



Yes, this is the theoretical line. Whenever I recite the beginner's proverb "Don't move the same piece twice in the opening" I think of this variation... **5...Ngf6 2 6.Bd3 19 e6 3 7.N1f3 25 Bd6 3 8.Qe2 21 h6 4 9.Ne4 16 Nxe4 3 10.Qxe4 23 Qc7 11.Qg4 53 Kf8 3 12.c3 4:41**

[There are hundreds of games with 12.0-0± -- and just one with Mercado's move.]

(Diagram)



12...e5N 4:26 Considered best on an old version of Stockfish, but nowadays it fades to the other break.

[The one game that's been here:
 12...c5?! 13.0-0?! (13.dxc5! Nxc5
 14.Bc2 e5 15.Qh4 Be7 16.Bg5!±)
 13...b6= 14.Re1 Bb7 (14...g5!)
 15.h4 Rd8 16.h5 cxd4 17.cxd4! Nf6
 18.Qh3 Qc6 (18...Bb4!) 19.Be3
 Qd5 20.Ne5 Bxe5 21.dxe5 Qxd3
 22.exf6 gxf6 23.Rac1 Qd7 24.f3
 Ke7? (24...e5) 25.Qh4!± 1-0 (36)
 Lane,G (2409)-Conquest,S (2555)
 Scarborough 1999]
 [12...b6! 13.0-0 c5 "0.00" transposes
 to Lane-Conquest.]

13.0-0 6:25 g5!? 22:36 (points for boldness!) **14.Bf5 27:12** White has the usual "= but something" (0.23/27)

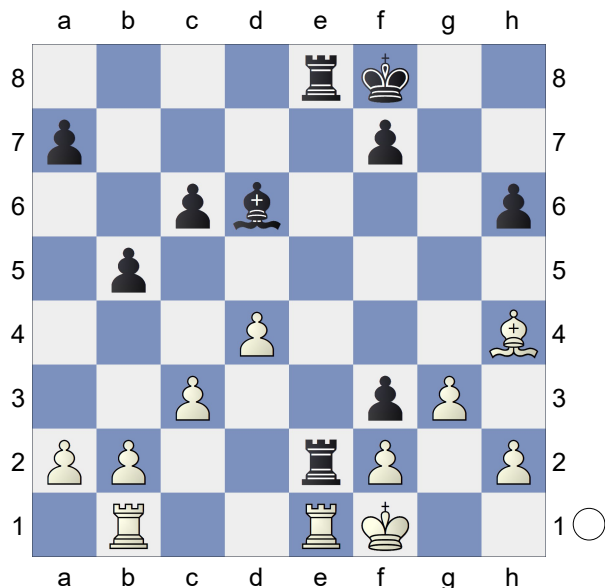
14...Nf6 10:22 15.Qh3 12 e4!± 4:50
 Black is fighting back

[15...g4?? 16.Qh4]
16.Bxc8 14:11 exf3! 1:21 17.Bxg5!?
5:36 Qxc8 21:23

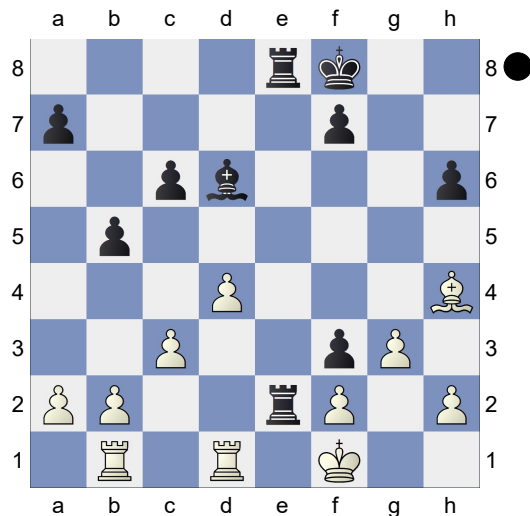
[17...Bxh2+ is interesting. 18.Kh1
 fxg2+ 19.Kxg2± Rxc8 20.Bxf6
 Rg8+]

18.Qxc8+ 4:34
 [18.Bxf6 Qxh3 19.gxh3 Rg8+
 20.Kh1 Rg2-+]

18...Rxc8 2 19.Bxf6 21 Rg8 2 20.g3
 1:16 Rg6 45 21.Bh4 1:04 Re8 42
 22.Rfe1 10:24 Rge6 18
 [22...Re2 23.Rxe2 fxe2 24.Re1±]
 23.Kf1 50 Rxe6 would now be deadly.
 23...Re2! 8 24.Rab1 2:51 b5?
 [24...Rc2=]



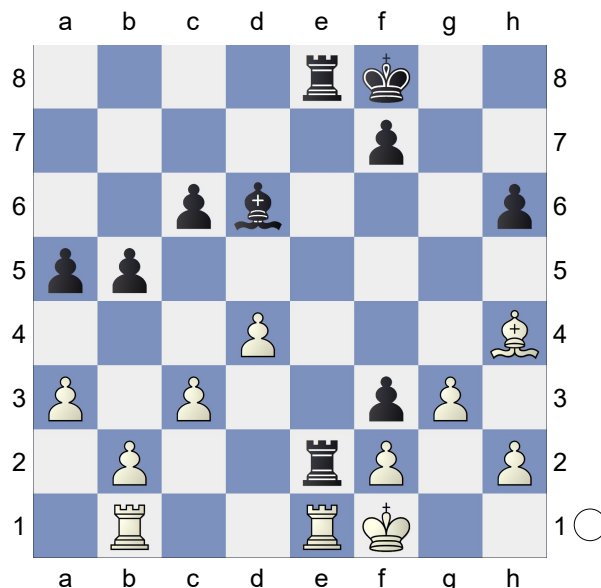
25.a3?= 1:05
 [25.Red1!+-



25...a5? 16

[25...c5= and Black has nothing to worry.]

(Diagram)



26.Bf6? 53

[26.Red1!+-]

26...a4 18

[26...R8e6 27.Bd8 a4]

27.g4? 2:51 White is now going downhill.

[27.Red1= and White has nothing to worry.]

27...Bxh2+- 1:30 28.Rxe2 2:27 Rxe2
 2:00 Endgame KRB-KRB

[Weaker is 28...fxe2+ 29.Ke1 29]

29.Re1 8:09 Rxb2 39 30.Re3 6

[30.d5 cxd5 31.c4]

30...Rb1+ 37 31.Re1 8 Rxe1+ 22

32.Kxe1 6 KB-KB. Black is a pawn up.

32...Bf4 6 33.Kd1 35 Kg8 49 34.Kc2
 16

(Diagram)

Bg3! 1:05 Promotion 35.Kd3 20 Bxf2 7

36.Ke4 4 Be1 8 37.Kxf3 11 Bxc3 8

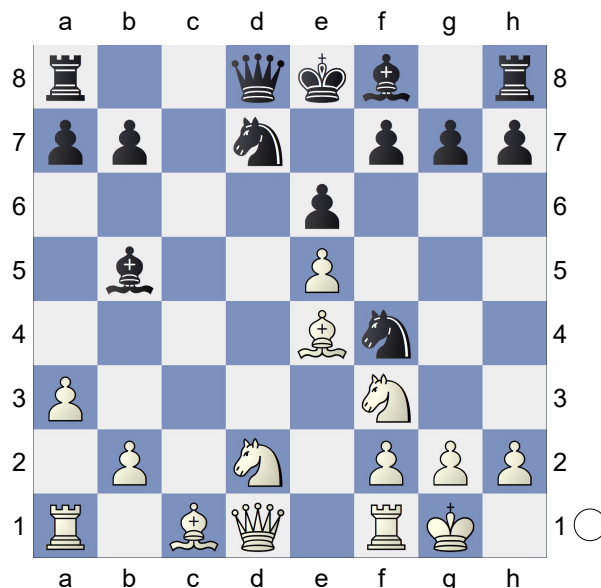
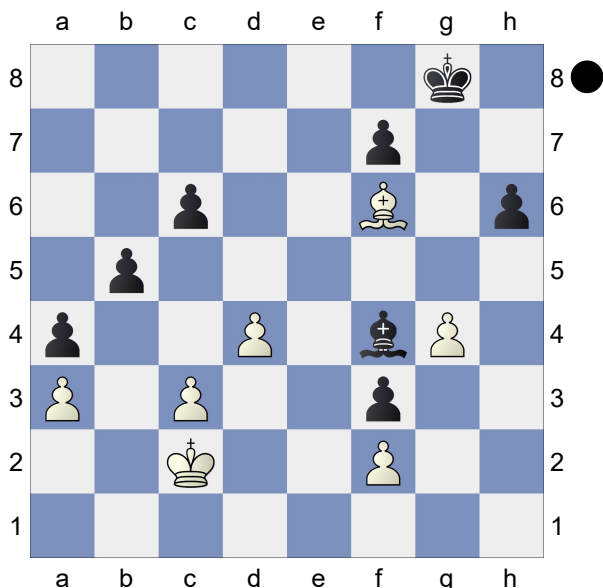
38.Ke4 2:45 Kf8 2:05 39.Be5 48 Ke7
 20 and ...Bb2 should not be overlooked

40.Bf4 2:13 Bb2 22 41.Bxh6 1:01

Bxa3 3 (-> ...b4) 42.d5 1:07 cxd5+ 25

43.Kxd5 7 Bb2 5 Weighted Error Value:
 White=1.21/Black=0.23 (precise)

0-1



□ Cawthon,Jeremy David

B22

2014

■ Winslow,Elliott

2200

2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (4.2) 29.07.25

[Winslow,Elliott]

This should have been a fine attacking game by Jeremy! But it was marred by a strange exchange sac that should have led to a draw -- except I immediately flounder into a loss. At least Shrauger avenged my variation in the next round!

1.e4 1 c5 8 2.c3 2 Nf6 1:29 3.e5 3 Nd5 8 4.d4 3 cxd4 6 5.Nf3 2 d6 28 6.cxd4 2 e6 24 7.a3 6 Bd7 1:02 8.Bd3 3 Bc6 36 9.0-0 49 Nd7 32 10.Nbd2 4:40 dxe5 6:59 B22: Sicilian: 2 c3.

11.dxe5 1:00 It's just another Alapin -- White might even have some insignificant plus on paper, but if Black stays alert it can be dangerous for White.

11...Nf4 1:51

[Shrauger played 11...Rc8 a round later, and won.]

12.Be4 3:28 Threatening Bxc6. 12...Bb5 1:03

(Diagram)

The position is equal. **13.Nd4N 16:51**

Repels Ne2+

[13.Bxb7 Rb8 14.Be4 Ne2+ 15.Kh1

Nxc1 16.Rxc1 Bxf1 17.Nxf1 Be7

18.Bc6 0-0 19.Qxd7 Qxd7 20.Bxd7

½-½ (28) Gardner,A (2216)-Rozanski, R (2120) ICCF email 2022]

13...Bxf1= 3:07 14.Nxf1 36 Nc5! 2:52

White must now prevent ...Qxd4!.

15.Bf3! 8:32 A sharp opening 15...Nd5 9:15

[Black should try 15...Nfd3= 16.Be3 Nxe5]

16.b4 3:16

[16.Ne3!±]

16...Nd7? 1:55

[16...Na6!= and Black is equal, even some plus as it goes on. -0.24/28]

17.Bxd5+- 54 exd5 9 18.e6! 5

I just didn't work this all out before my last knight move. **18...Nb6 1:35 19.Qe2 5:23**

[19.Qg4!+- White wants to mate with exf7+. Qf6 20.Bg5]

19...fxe6 19:37

[19...Be7± 20.Nf5 0-0 21.Qg4±]

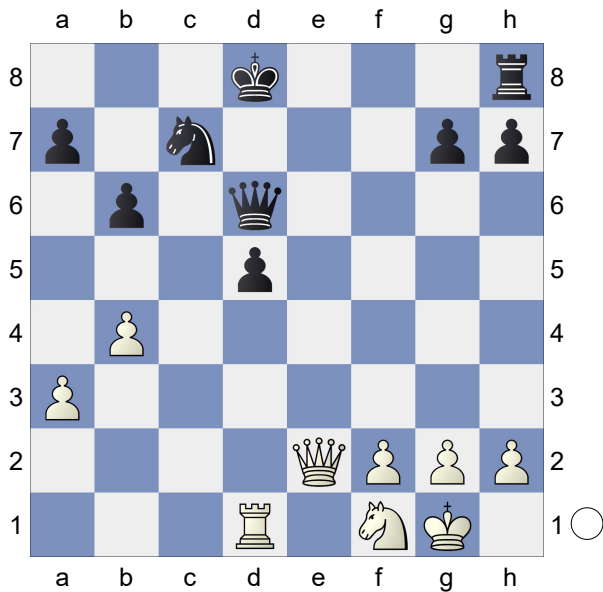
20.Nxe6 10 Qd7 25 21.Nc7+ 5:48

Excellent horsemanship. **21...Kd8 3:41**

22.Nxa8 55 Nxa8 7 23.Be3+- 1:19

I'm just lost -- and this isn't even close

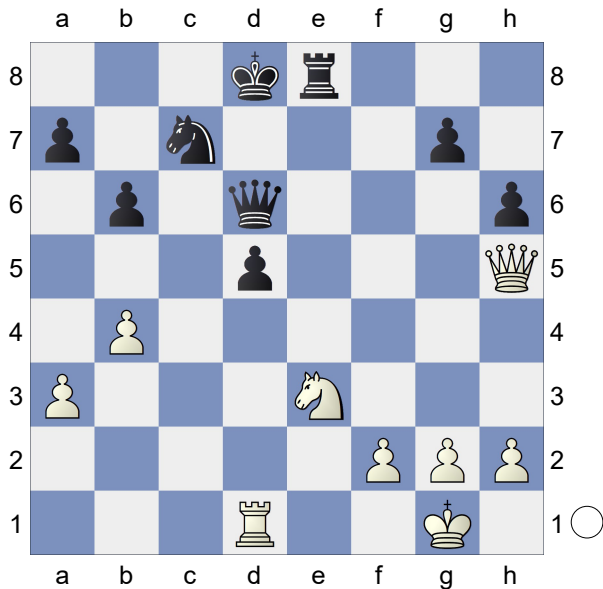
to White's best move. **23...b6 1:59**
24.Rd1 1:13 Nc7 22 25.Bf4 3:17 Bd6
2:57 26.Bxd6 7 Qxd6 3



27.Ne3! 20 Re8 1:00

[27...g6]

28.Qh5 8 h6?! 27



29.h3? 1:46

[29.Nxd5+- Nxd5 30.f4!+-
 stopping mate, stopping ...Re5, the
 knight isn't running away. (30.Qxd5??
 Re1+ Deflection 31.Rxe1 Qxd5+-)]

29...Re5 5:25 30.Qf3 53 threatening
Nc4 but I'm not over the edge yet.

30...Qd7 2:18 31.Rd4 36 Kc8 1:02

32.Kh2 2:19 Kb7 2:08 33.Rf4 1:46

[33.h4]

33...Ka6? 6:19 Where *am* I going?

[33...Kb8± was necessary.]

34.Rf7 59

[White should play 34.g3+-]

34...Qd6? 1:33

[34...Re7± 35.Rxe7 Qxe7]

35.g3 30 g5 2:44

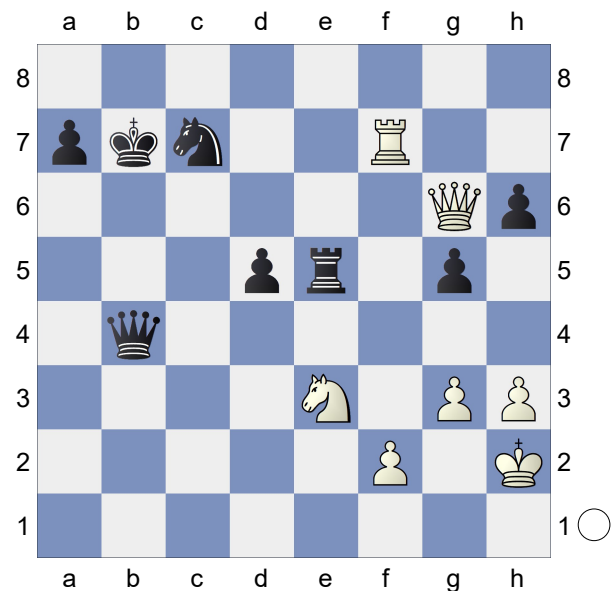
[Δ35...g6 36.Rg7 Re8]

36.a4 2:04 b5 3:33 37.axb5+ 1:25

Kxb5 1:18 38.Qe2+ 1:53 Kb6 1:48

39.Qd3 53 Dodges Qg6 39...Qxb4 1:29

40.Qg6+ 4:13 Kb7 2:03



41.Rxc7+? 2:10 Should have been
tossing away the win

[Won are 41.Qf6]

[and 41.Qxh6]

[as well as 41.Nf5 (in a somewhat
 distant third).]

41...Kxc7 18 Endgame KQR-KQN

42.Qg7+ 3

[42.Qxh6 Qe7 43.Ng4 Re1±]

42...Kd6?? 1:02

[42...Re7= 43.Nxd5+ Pin, Double

Attack (43.Qxh6 Qd2±) 43...Kd7

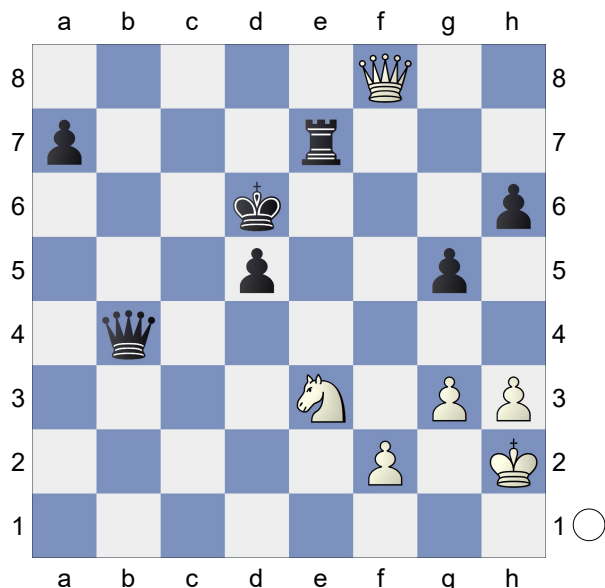
44.Nxe7 (44.Qxe7+? is the wrong

capture. Qxe7 45.Nxe7 Kxe7+-)

44...Qxe7 45.Qxh6 a5 Black will

hold.]

43.Qf8+! 7 Re7 5



44.Qxe7+! 12 Decoy. White mates.
 44...Kxe7 2 45.Nxd5+ 2 Kd6 10
 46.Nxb4 5 KN-K3P 46...a5 54 47.Na2 2
 Kc5 17 48.f4 17 gxf4 9 49.gxf4 2
 KN-KPP 49...a4 54 50.f5 16 Kd5 1:52
 51.Kg3 25 Ke5 4 52.Kg4 5 Kf6 7
 53.Kf4 5 a3 22 54.h4 2 Weighted Error
 Value: White=0.47/Black=0.71
 1-0

□ Mercado,Adam

■ Achuthan,Aryan

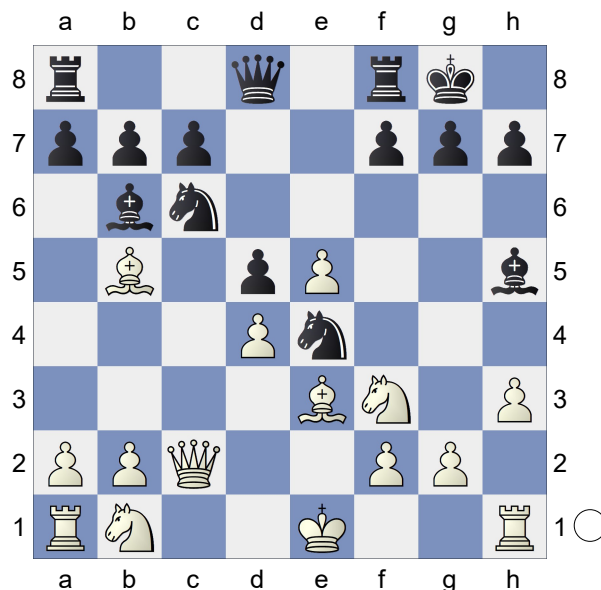
2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (1.2) 08.07.25
 [Winslow,Elliott]

In clear second, but with a last-round
 bye already marked up, is Aryan
 Achuthan. I had never heard of him
 before, but perhaps we should be
 paying attention. Here are a couple of
 his games. But first, his less than stellar
 start: Adam Mercado, who has been
 steadily improving, wins a mostly
 smooth Scotch Game in Round 1.

1.e4 5 e5 10 2.Nf3 7 Nc6 4 3.d4 8
 exd4 16 4.Bc4 10 Bc5 8 5.c3 7

[5.0-0 Nf6 6.e5 d5 is the Max Lange,
 which I've mentioned earlier.]

5...Nf6 7 6.e5 6 d5 4 7.Bb5 10 Ne4 8
 8.cxd4 11 Bb6 5 9.Be3 16 Bg4 3:03
 10.h3 11 Bh5 5 11.Qc2 1:33
 White has an edge. 11...0-0 3:06



12.Nc3 1:02 Bg6 2:33 The threat is
 stronger than it execution (taking on c3
 and taking on c3). 13.Qb3 1:23 Ne7
 10:07 14.0-0 22 f5?! 1.19/25 16:02

[14...c6= 0.28/29 15.Bd3 Nxc3
 16.Qxc3 Qd7]

15.exf6?! 0.12/30 4:17

[15.Ng5± 1.19/25]

15...Rxf6?! 1.13/29 12:22

[15...Nxf6= 0.12/30 16.Na4 Bf7]

16.Ne5± 8:41 White now steadily
 converts the win. 16...c6N 8:38

[16...Nxc3 17.bxc3 c6 18.Be2 Be4
 19.f3 Bg6 20.a4 Nf5 21.Bf2 Re6
 22.Bd3 Qg5 23.Bxf5 Bxf5 24.h4!
 Qd8 25.g4 (25.a5!) 25...Bg6 26.Kg2
 (26.h5!) 26...h5± 1-0 (65) Santos,M
 (2331)-Ohara,M (1856) Araraquara
 2024]

17.Nxg6 2:26 Rxxg6 6 18.Bd3 5:21

[18.Nxe4 cxb5 19.Kh1 Rc8±]

18...Nxc3 40 19.bxc3 6

[Don't take 19.Qxc3?! Rf6±]

19...Rf6 1:32 20.Bg5 1:37 Rf7 1:09

21.Qc2 9:04 White has more active
 pieces. 21...g6 8:24 22.Rae1 1:33 Qd7

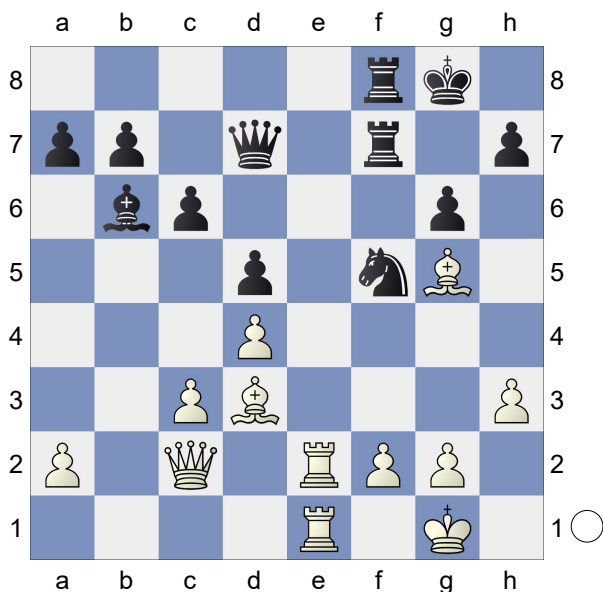
4:28 Wards off Re6 23.Re2 2:12 Nf5

2.22/25 14:50

[23...Kh8± 1.51/26 24.Rfe1 Ng8]

24.Rfe1+- 17:02 Threatens to win with g4. 24...Raf8? 4.76/28 1:02

[24...Bc7 1.97/27 25.Qb3 b6]



25.Bxf5! 3:52 White is clearly winning.

25...Qxf5 3:16 26.Qxf5 7 Rxf5 3

27.Bh6 20 Rc8 36 28.g4 4:56

Wards off Rh5

[Not 28.Re7 Rh5 29.Bd2 Rf5±]

28...Rf6 1:35 29.g5 2:20 Rff8 8:19

30.Bxf8 5:09 Rxf8 5 Endgame KRR-

KRB 31.Re8 11 Ba5 37 32.Rxf8+ 7

Kxf8 2 KR-KB 33.Re3 12 Kf7 1:39

34.Kf1 9 Bd8 31 35.h4 13 Be7 35

36.Ke2 1:33 b5 11 37.Kf3 1:15 a5 43

38.Kg4 17 Ba3 52 39.f4 47 Bc1 11

40.Re2 14 Ba3 1:32 41.f5 22 Bf8 29

42.Re6 43 c5 17 43.dxc5 17 Bxc5 15

44.Re5 16 Weighted Error Value:

White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.41

1-0

□ Achuthan,Aryan

D18

■ Rajaram,Raghu

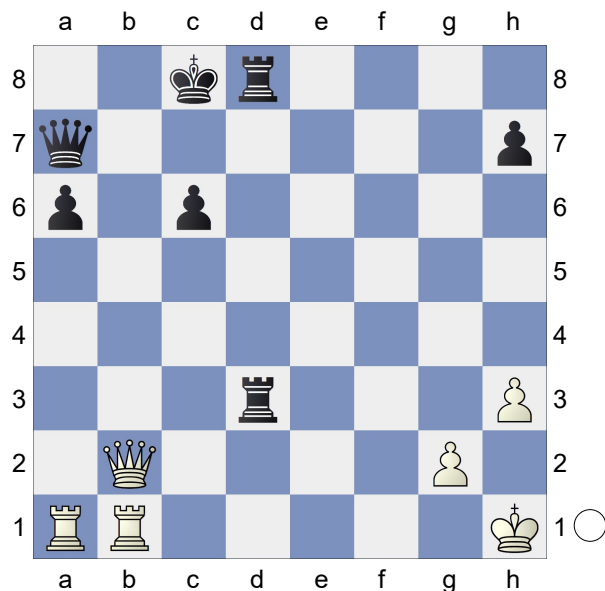
2264

1916

2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (2.14) 15.7.25

[Winslow,Elliott]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3
dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4
8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Qe2 Bg6 10.Bd3 Qc7
11.e4 e5 12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.Nxe5 Qxe5
14.h3 0-0-0 15.Bc2 Rhe8 16.Be3
Bxc3 17.bxc3 Bxe4 18.Bxa7 Qa5
19.Be3 Qxc3 20.Bxe4 Rxe4 21.a5
Qd3 22.Qf3 Nd5 23.a6 bxa6 24.Qxf7
Nxe3 25.Rfb1 Rd7 26.Qf8+ Rd8
27.Qxg7 Qd7 28.Qb2 Qa7 29.fxe3
Rxe3 30.Kh1 Red3



31.Qf6 Qc7 32.Qf1 a5 33.Qf5+ Qd7

34.Qh5 Rd5 35.Qe2 Qa7 36.Rc1 Kc7

37.Rab1 a4 38.Qe4 R8d7 39.Qf4+

R5d6 40.Rc4 a3 41.Ra4 Qc5 42.Kh2

h5 43.Rc1 Qb6 44.Rxa3 Qd4 45.Qf1

Rf6 46.Qe1 Qb2 47.Ra7+ Kd8 48.Rb1

1-0

C47

□ Bambou, Christophe

2130

■ Achuthan, Aryan

2264

2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (3.4) 22.07.25

[TA]

Christophe plays well -- to a point. One

misstep and he's ruined. 1.e4 14 e5 11

2.Nf3 5 Nc6 8 3.Nc3 6 Nf6 19 4.a3 28

Bd6 1:40 5.Bc4 4:47 0-0 35 6.d3 25

C47: Scotch Four Knights and Four

Knights with 4 g3. 6...h6 20

[Black should play 6...Bc5±]

7.g4+- 3:26 Bc5N 10:09

[Δ7...Nd4]

[7...Nh7 8.h4 Kh8 9.g5 h5 10.Be3

g6 11.d4 exd4 12.Nxd4 Ne5 13.Be2

Be7 1-0 (24) Vokhidov, S (2552)-

Haznedaroglu, K (2421) Chess.com

INT 2022]

8.g5 2:26 White has a decisive

advantage. 8...Ng4 3:02 9.Rf1 10 d6

17:31 10.h3 6:47 Nxf2 9:06 11.Rxf2 47

Bxf2+ 7 12.Kxf2 3 hxd5 14:45

[12...Kh7 13.Nd5 f5 14.gxf6 Nd4

15.Nxd4 c6]

13.Bxg5 2:25 Qd7 8 14.Nd5 2:53

Qxh3 13:49 15.Qh1 4:05

[15.Nxc7 b5 16.Bd5 (16.Nxa8 bxc4

17.Qh1 f6±; 16.Bxb5 Nd4+-; 16.Nxb5

Na5+-) 16...Bg4 17.Nxa8 (17.Bxc6

Rac8+-; 17.Qh1 Qxh1 18.Rxh1

Bxf3+- Remove Defender) 17...Nd4]

15...g6 8:34 16.Qxh3 1:16 Bxh3 2

17.Rh1 25 f6 1:30 18.Nxc7+ 5:32

A dynamic duo of knights. 18...Kg7 11

19.Rxh3 58 fxd3 7 20.Nxa8 1:15 g4

1:20 21.Rg3 11 b5 4:46 22.Bd5 1:50

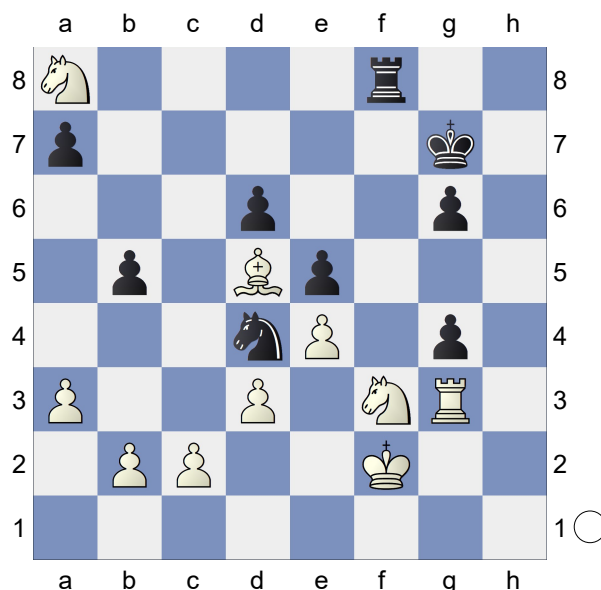
Nd4 11

(Diagram)

23.Nc7! 25 Kh6 3:39

[23...gxf3 24.Ne6+]

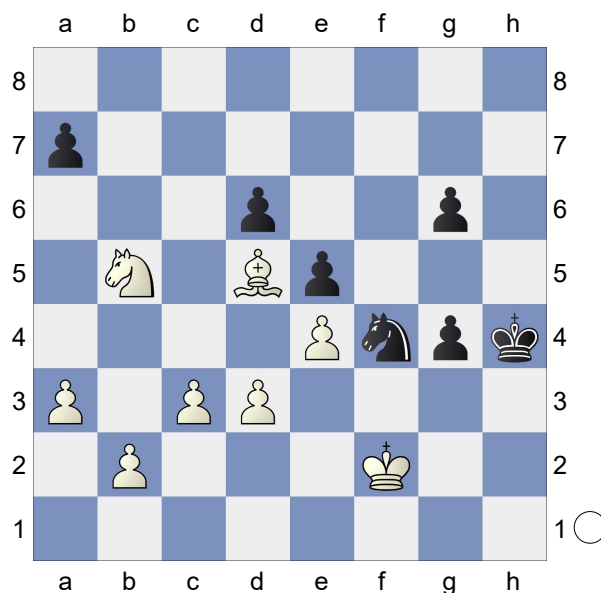
24.Ne6 25 Rxf3+ 33 25.Rxf3 11 Nxf3 4



26.Kg3 53 Kh5 1:15 27.Nc7 27 Nd4 11

28.c3 1:53 Ne2+ 4 29.Kf2 42 Nf4 3

30.Nxb5 1:57 Kh4 14



31.Nxd6?? 20:17

[31.Nxa7? g3+ 32.Kg1 Kh3+-]

[31.Bb3!+- (the only move)]

31...g3+ 2:20 32.Kg1 23:22

(Diagram)

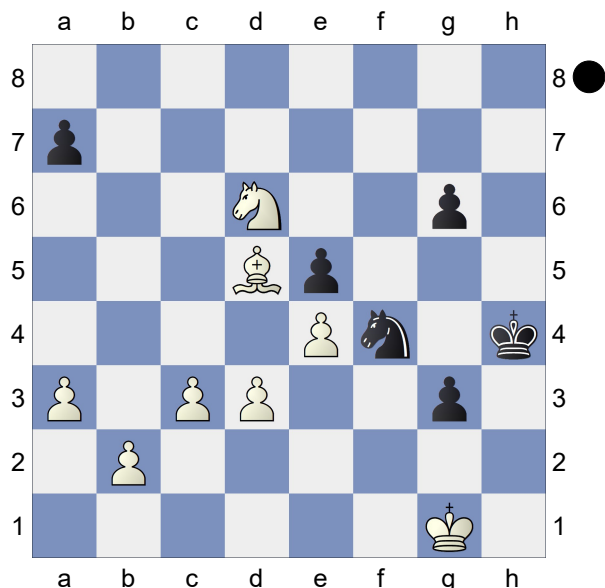
Kh3! 18 33.Nc4 1:12 Hoping for Ne3.

33...g2 1:45 (-> ...Kg3)

[33...Nxd3? 34.Be6+ Kh4 35.b4+-]

34.Nd2 5:07 Ne2+ 6 35.Kf2 4 g1Q+ 9

36.Kxe2 6 g5 1:58 37.c4 2:46 g4 42



38.Be6 2:03 Kg3 7 39.b4 1:01 Kf4 4
40.c5 2:30 g3 10 41.c6 2 Qc1 4
42.Bh3 4:02 Qxc6 6 43.Nc4 37 Qa4
1:01 44.Kd2-+ 20 Qb3 8 Weighted
Error Value: White=0.35/Black=0.78
0-1

□ Achuthan,Aryan D32 2264
■ Heiserman,Jimmy 2303
2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (5.2) 05.08.25
[Winslow,Elliott]

Here's the other reason to show some games by Aryan. Jimmy Heiserman and Andy Lee were the two top rated players, but they each suffered a lost along with a draw --and Heiserman took a first-round bye as well. In this game Achuthan crashed through on the kingside in classic fashion. 1.d4 d5 4:33 2.c4 8 e6 5 3.Nc3 7 a6= 5 Janowski's move is fashionable again -- it's only been 126 years since he essayed it against pretty much every luminary. He beat Steinitz with it! But maybe he should have left Schlechter and Pillsbury alone... 4.cxd5 23 Far and away the main response.

4...exd5 5 5.Bf4 7 But here it's not at all clear what's best.

[5.Nf3!? waiting?]

[5.Qb3!? Instant pressure!? Bd6 (5...c5!? is also up there, fighting fire with fire.) 6.Qxd5 Nf6 7.Qb3 c5

8.Be3 I'll leave this whole game in for contrast: here is this very old variation being played by the latest prodigy, from Turkey,Yagiz Kaan Erdogmus.

GM and 14: cxd4 9.Bxd4 Nc6 10.Bb6 Qe7 11.e3 0-0 12.Nf3 Be6 13.Bc4 Bxc4 14.Qxc4 Ne5 15.Qb3 Nxf3+ 16.gxf3 Rac8 17.Bd4 Rfd8 18.0-0-0 b5 19.Kb1 Be5 20.Ne2 Nd7 21.Rhg1 g6 22.f4 Bf6 23.Nc3 Nc5 24.Qc2 Bxd4 25.Rxd4 Qb7 26.Qd2 Ne6 27.Rxd8+ Rxd8 28.Qc2 Qf3 29.Ne4 Qh3 30.Nf6+ Kg7 31.Ng4 Qf3 32.Qc3+ Kg8 33.Nf6+ Kg7 34.Ng4+ Kg8 35.Nh6+ Kf8 36.Rc1 Rd1 37.Qh8+ Ke7 38.Ng8+ Kf8 39.Nf6+ Ke7 40.a3 Rxc1+ 41.Kxc1 Qxf2 42.Nd5+ ½-½ (42) Erdogmus,Y (2592)-Pichot,A (2628) Budapest 2024]

5...Nf6 9 6.e3± 12 c5 1:44

[6...Bd6]

7.Nf3 2:37

[7.Nge2!?]

7...Nc6 42 8.Be2 1:34 Be6 7:24 9.0-0

54 Be7 37 10.Rc1 12:30 White is slightly better. 10...c4 16:43 11.Ne5 47 Dodge b5 11...0-0 47 12.Nxc6 3:20 bxc6 5 13.Qa4N 3

[13.Na4 Qa5 14.Bg5 Rfb8 15.Bxf6 gxf6 16.Bf3 Rb4 17.b3 Rab8 18.Qe1 Kh8 19.Bd1 Rxa4 20.bxa4 Qxe1 21.Rxe1 0-1 (40) Decsey,K-Lengyel,B (2320) Budapest 1995]

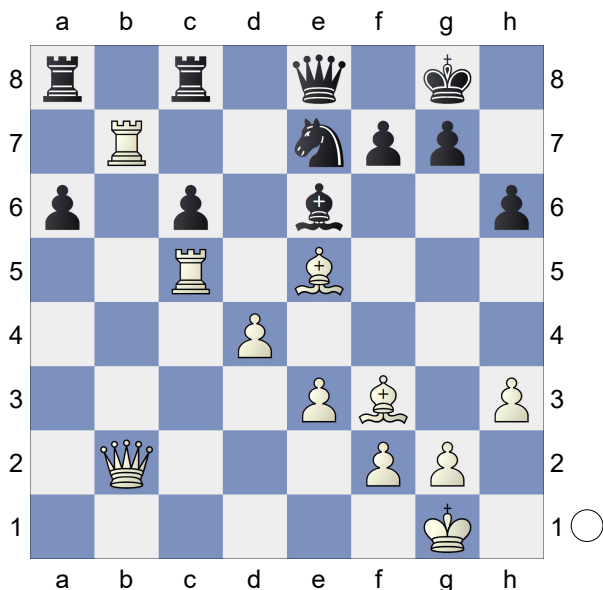
13...Bd7 7:04 14.Qc2 1:03 Qa5 14:53

15.b3 5:30 Ba3 1.10/28 5:57

[15...cxb3 0.71/30 16.axb3 (16.Qxb3 Rfc8±) 16...Qb4]

16.Rb1 37 Bb4 3:36 17.Rfc1 5:42

Bxc3 2:25 18.Qxc3 5 Qxa2 21 19.Rb2 5 Qa3 51 20.bxc4 5 Qe7 2.30/24 7:20
 [20...Qxc3± 1.28/30 21.Rxc3 dxc4]
21.Qa5+- 8:20 Black is weak on the dark squares **21...dxc4 8:41 22.Rxc4 2:24**
 [But not 22.Bxc4 Rfd8 23.Be5 (23.Bxa6 Nd5±) 23...Ng4]
22...Rfc8 1:26 23.Bf3 2:50 Nd5 2:42 24.Be5 1:32 Be6 52 25.Rc5 33 Qd7 1:09 26.h3 1:04 Dodges Bg4 **26...h6 23 27.Qa3 2:41 Ne7 50 28.Rb6 2:10 Qa7? 4.73/22 2:36**
 [28...f6 2.95/26]
29.Qb2 49 Qd7 26 30.Rb7 1:32 Qe8 14



31.Bxg7! 54 Decoy 31...Rcb8 3:53
 [31...Rab8 32.Bxh6]
32.Bxh6 1:54 This pair of bishops is nice. **32...Rxb7 19 33.Qxb7 5 a5 27 34.Qc7 48** White threatens Rg5+ and mate. **34...a4 1:02 35.Bxc6 7.85/25 1:13**
 [Δ35.Rg5+ #8/23 Ng6 36.Rxg6+ (36.Bxc6 Qb8+-; 36.Qxc6 Qxc6 37.Bxc6 Ra7±) 36...Kh7 37.Qe5 (37.Bxc6 Qb8+-; 37.Be4 Bf5 38.Bxf5 Ra5 39.Bd3 Kh8 40.Qd6 Rf5 41.Bxf5 Qe7 42.Qb8+ Qf8 43.Qxf8+ Kh7 44.Rxc6#) 37...f6 38.Rg7+ (38.Qxf6 Qxg6; 38.Rxf6 Bf7 Decoy)

38...Kh8 39.Qxf6 Qf8 40.Rf7+
 Discovered Attack (Check) (40.Qxe6 Qxg7 41.Bxg7+ Kxg7 42.Qe7+ Kg8 43.Be4 Rb8 44.Bg6 Rb1+ 45.Bxb1 c5 46.Qh7+ Kf8 47.Bg6 cxd4 48.Qf7#) 40...Kg8 Pin 41.Rxf8+ Rxf8 42.Qg7#]

35...Qd8 1:20 36.Bxa8 6.84/18 17
 Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.73
 Mistake: ---
 Black=3
 Inaccurate: ---
 Black=4
 OK: White=15
 Black=8
 Best: White=1

[Δ36.Rg5+ #27/27 Kh7 37.Qe5 Nf5 38.Rxf5 Qh8 39.Rf6 Rg8 40.Bxa4 (40.Be4+ Rg6 41.Bxg6+ fxg6 42.Qg5 Qe8 43.Rf8 Bg8 44.Qh4 g5 45.Bxg5+ Discovered Attack (Check) Qh5 46.Qxh5+ Kg7 47.Qh6#) 40...Rg6 41.Bc2 Pin]

1-0

□ Jones, Clarence
 ■ Horgan, Michael

B06
1758
1609

2025 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (2.20)
 [Winslow, Elliott]

1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.h4 This has a name now but I can't remember. Shirazi went through a period where he would always answer ...g6 with h2-h4. I don't know how it went for him, but it went well for Clarence here. **3...d5 4.e5 c5 5.c3 Nc6 6.h5 gxh5N 0.83/29**

[6...Nh6= 0.03/26 keeps the balance.]
 [Predecessor: 6...Nh6 7.Bb5 Qb6 8.a4 Bd7 9.Nf3 cxd4 10.cxd4 Bg4

11.Nc3 Rd8 12.a5 Qc7 0-1 (38)
 Morozevich,A (2683)-Bologan,V
 (2640) Sochi 2016]

7.Qxh5±

[7.dxc5?! Bxe5 8.Rxh5 Nf6̄]

7...cxd4 8.Nf3 White is better. 8...Be6

9.Nxd4

[But not 9.cxd4 Qb6±]

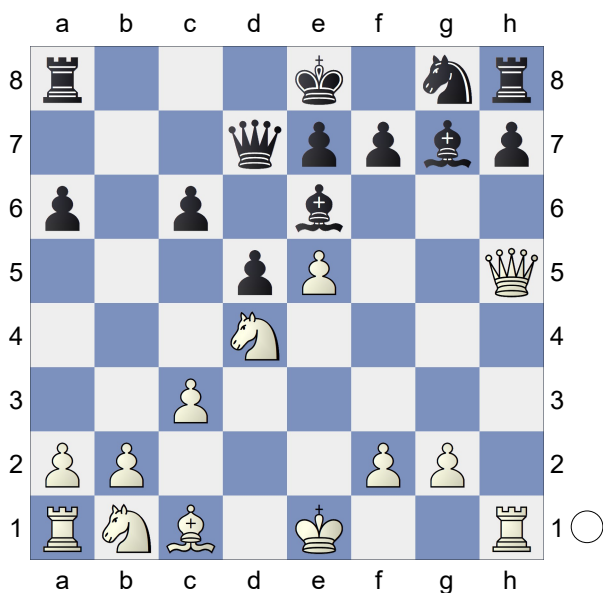
9...Qd7 1.67/21

[9...Qc8± 1.10/26 was worth a try.]

10.Bb5+- a6 2.49/20

[10...Bg4 1.64/26 11.Qg5 Kf8]

11.Bxc6 bxc6



12.f4? 0.17/29

[12.b4!+- 2.22/21]

12...c5 0.97/26

[12...Bg4= 0.17/29 13.Qg5 Kf8]

13.Nb3 -0.03/29 White is more active.

[13.Nxe6± 0.97/26 Qxe6 14.0-0]

13...Rc8= next ...Nh6 is good for Black.

14.Be3

(Diagram)

d4 0.27/27 15.cxd4 Bxb3

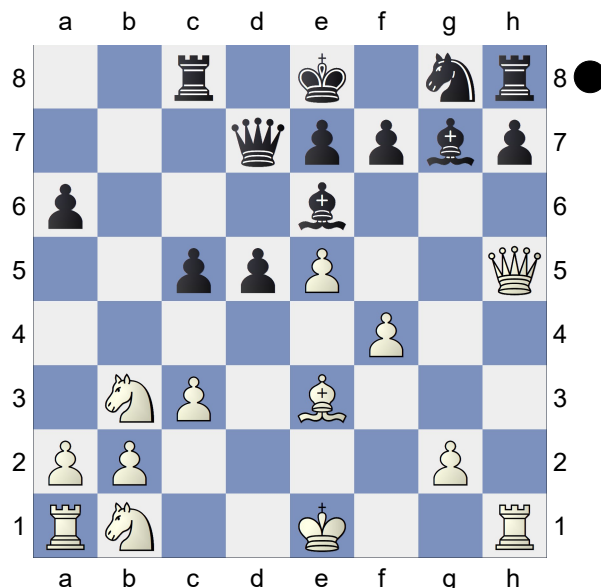
Remove Defender 16.axb3

A sharp opening 16...cxd4 17.Bd2

Qb7? 1.97/21

[17...Nh6!± 0.39/25]

18.0-0+- Rc6 19.Na3 And now Qf3



would win. 19...Qxb3 4.11/28

This move loses the game for Black.

[19...Rg6± 1.59/26 20.Rf2 Qxb3]

20.Rac1 Rxc1 21.Rxc1 Qe6 #23/38

Wards off Qg4

[21...Nh6+- 3.92/22 22.f5 (22.Rc8+ Kd7=) 22...Nxf5]

22.Qf3 11.88/23

[22.f5 #23/38 Qb6 23.e6 d3+ 24.Kh1 Nh6 25.Rc8+ (25.Bxh6 0-0+-) 25...Qd8 26.Rxd8+ (26.exf7+ Nxf7 27.Rxd8+ Kxd8+-) 26...Kxd8 27.Ba5+ (27.Bxh6 Bxh6 28.Qxh6 fxe6+-; 27.exf7 Rf8+-) 27...Kc8 28.Qh2 (28.exf7 Kb8+-)]

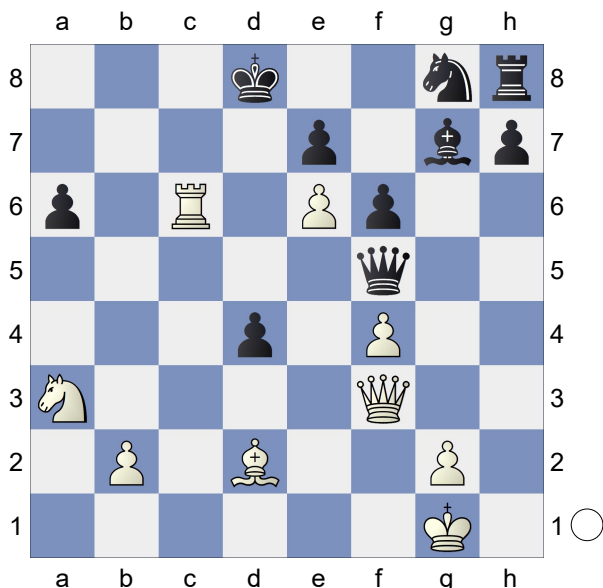
22...f6 23.Rc6 White mates. 23...Qf5

24.e6 Kd8

(Diagram)

25.Qe4! Weighted Error Value: White=0.39/Black=0.93

1-0



□ Tomar,Kshitij

■ Chen,Quincy

2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (1.10) 8.7.25
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4
Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0
[7...d6 8.c3 0-0]

8.c3

[8.a4]

8...d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxe5 Nxe5
11.Rxe5 c6 12.Bxd5

[12.d4]

[12.d3]

12...cxd5 13.d4 Bd6 14.Re3 Qh4

15.h3 f5 16.Qf3 Bb7 17.Re6!?

[17.Nd2 g5 18.Qe2 g4 (18...f4

19.Nf3 Qh5 20.Nxg5 Qg6 21.Re6

Qxg5 22.Rxd6 Rae8 23.Re6 Kf7

24.Re5 Rxe5 25.dxe5 Ke6 26.Bd2

Qxe5 27.Qd3 Qg7 28.Re1+ Kd7

29.f3 Rf6 30.Qd4 Qf7 31.a4 bxa4

32.Qxa4+ Kc7 33.Qb4 Kd8 34.Bxf4

1-0 (34) Huebner,R (2605)-Nunn,J

(2620) Skelleftea 1989 CBM 014

[Bulletin]) 19.Re6 Rad8 20.Nf1 gxf3

21.Rh6 Qe4 (21...Qg4 22.Qe6+ Rf7

23.Rxh3 Bc8 24.Qh6±) 22.Qxe4
dxe4 23.g3 f4 24.Bxf4 Bxf4 25.gxf4
Rxf4 26.Rxh3= 0.29/26]

17...Rad8 18.Bd2?!

[18.Nd2!± Bc8 19.Re1 Bb8

20.Nf1±]

18...f4

[18...Bc8 19.Rxd6! Rxd6 20.Bf4

Re6 21.Nd2! g5 22.Be5 g4 23.Qf4

Qh6 24.Qxh6 Rxh6 25.hxg4 fxg4

26.Nf1 -0.17/25]

19.a4

[19.Re1]

[19.c4!?]

19...Bc8 20.Re1??

[20.Qxd5□ Bxe6□ 21.Qxe6+ Kh8

22.axb5 axb5 23.Qe4 Qh5 24.f3□=]

C89

20...Bb8! 21.axb5

[21.c4 g5]

2034

21...axb5??= 0.00

[21...g5!-+]

22.Na3?

[22.Ra8□ Bf5 23.Rxb8 Rxb8

24.Qxd5+ Kh8 25.Na3 Bg6!

26.Re5= (26.Qf3 Bh5 27.Qd5 f3??

28.Bg5 Bf7 29.Bxh4 Bxd5 30.Re5

Bc4±)]

22...g5-+ 23.Qe2 f3 24.Qe7 h6!

25.Re6 Bxe6 26.Qxe6+ Kg7 27.Nxb5

fxg2 28.Be3 Rde8 29.Qd7+ Kh8

30.Qg4 Qxg4 31.hxg4 Re4 32.Ra6

Kh7 33.Kxg2 Rxg4+ 34.Kh1 Rf3

0-1

A85

□ Chan,John

1600

■ Jones,Clarence

1758

2025 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (1.17)

[Winslow,Elliott]

Here are a few games by Clarence

Jones, who is dominating the

1600-1999 section. He's been showing

up at chess gatherings in Berkeley lately,

where he's shown himself to be quite strong.

When the Dutch breaks out of the positional mess, it can go anywhere.

1.c4 f5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 e6 4.d4 d5 5.e3 c6 6.a3 a5 7.Be2 Be7 8.c5N

White is slightly better.

[Predecessor: 8.0-0 0-0 9.b3 Qe8 10.Bb2 Ne4 11.Nxe4 fxe4 12.Ne5 Bd6 13.f4 Qe7 14.Bg4 0-1 (48) Knittel,M (1529)-Hofmann,W (1721) Bad Homburg 2019]

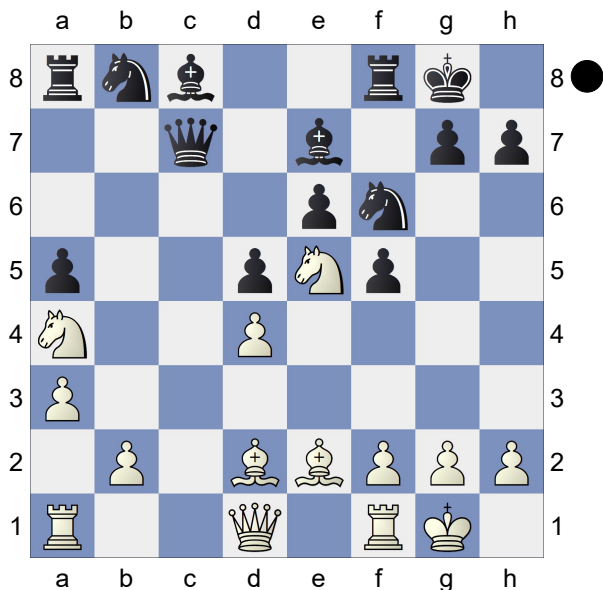
8...b6 9.cxb6 Qxb6 10.0-0 0-0 11.Ne5 c5 0.38/35

[11...Bd6= -0.06/33]

12.Na4 Qc7 13.Bd2 And now Nxc5 would win. **13...cxd4 1.54/25**

[13...Ne4= 0.19/33 remains equal.]

14.exd4±



Qa7 1.89/26 Strong Square White (e5)

[14...Qb7± 1.51/28]

15.Be3 1.13/27

[White should try 15.Bf4+- 1.89/26]

15...Ba6 16.Rc1 Rd8 2.12/24

[16...Nfd7± 1.36/26]

17.Bxa6 Qxa6 18.Rc7 1.17/27

[18.Re1+- 2.02/26]

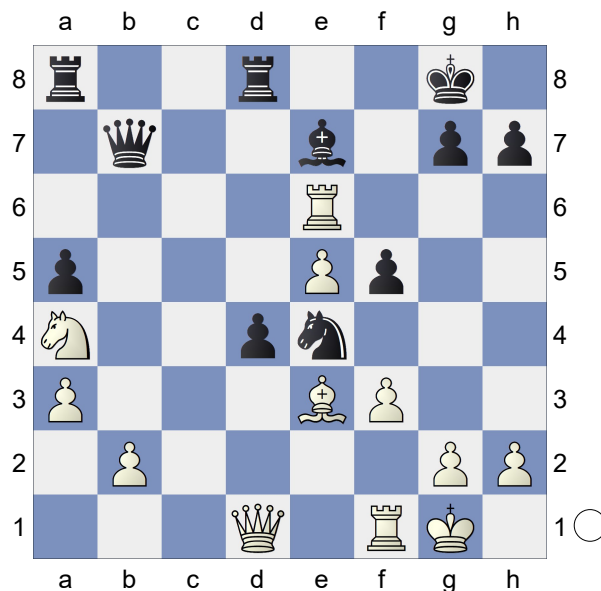
18...Nbd7 2.39/24

[18...Ra7± 1.17/27 19.Qc1 (19.Nc5 Bxc5 20.Rxc5 Nfd7±) 19...Rf8]

19.Rc6+- Qb7 20.Rxe6 Nxe5 21.dxe5 Ne4 22.f3 0.80/27

[22.Bd4+- 1.99/25 and White stays clearly on top.]

22...d4±

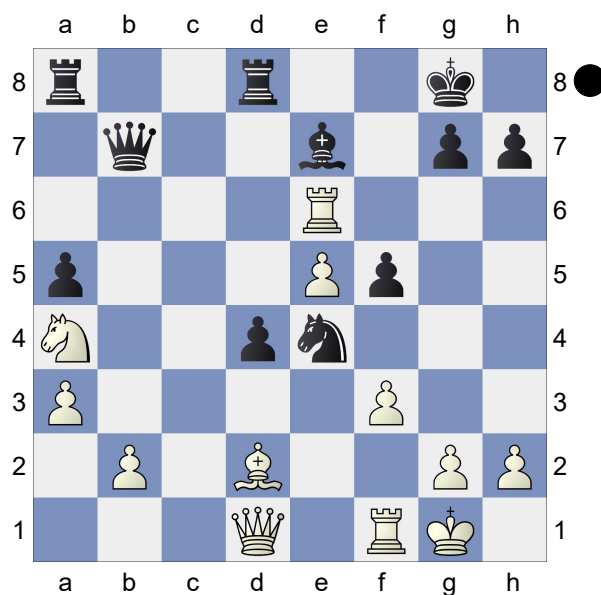


23.Bd2 -3.66/20

[23.Bxd4?! Ng5 24.Rxe7 (24.Rb6 Qd5) 24...Qxe7 25.Qb3+ Qf7 26.Qxf7+ Kxf7=]

[23.Rb6± 0.73/33 stays on course.

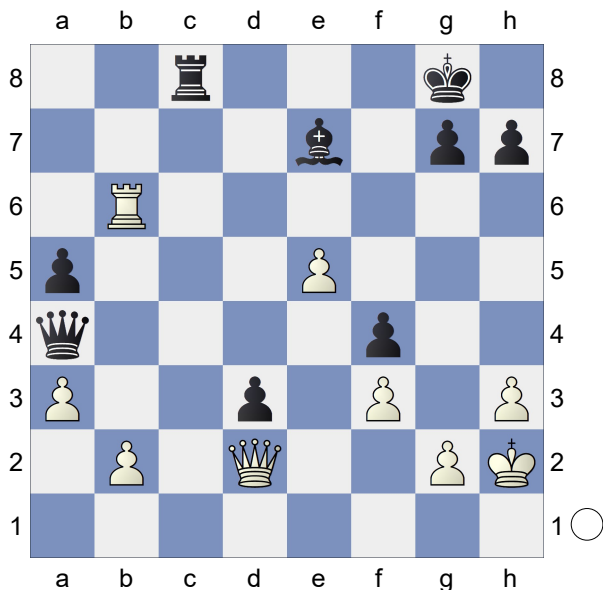
Qc8 24.Qb3+ (24.Bxd4 Qc4) 24...Kh8 25.Bf4]



23...Nxd2!+-

[Inferior is 23...Qd7 24.Rxe7 Qxe7

25.fxe4 fxe4 26.Bf4±]
24.Qxd2 Qd7 25.Rb6 -4.92/19
 [25.Rxe7 -3.30/24 was necessary.
 Qxe7 26.Re1]
25...Qxa4 26.Rc1 Rac8 27.h3 d3
28.Rxc8 Rxc8 29.Kh2 f4



(-> ...Bh4) **30.b3 Qd4 Black mates.**
31.Rb7 Bh4 32.e6 Bg3+ 33.Kh1
Qa1+ What a bad dream for White!
 But an entertaining game by Jones.
 Weighted Error Value: White=0.96/
 Black=0.42
0-1

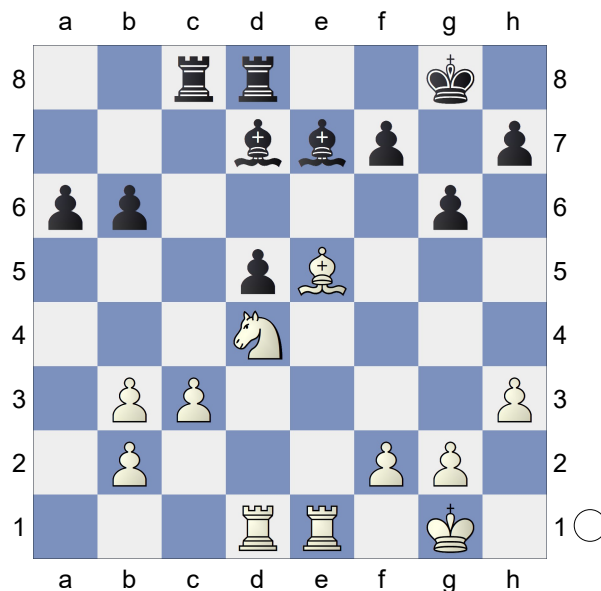
□ **Santiago,Hugo**

■ **Wang,Chase**

2025 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (2.5)
 [Winslow,Elliott]

A flurry of queenless middlegame
 tactics seemed to confound the players
 for a bit, but eventually White found his
 focus and took it down. **1.e4 c5 2.c3**
d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 g6 5.Qb3N
 [5.Nf3 Bg7 6.Na3 cxd4 7.Nb5 Na6
 8.Be3 Nf6 9.Qxd4 0-0 10.Be2 b6
 11.0-0 Bb7 12.Qh4 Qc6 13.Nbd4
 Qc8 14.Bh6 Nc5 15.Rfe1 a6

16.Ne5 ½-½ (25) Sadhwani,R (2641)-
Nakamura,H (2780) Douglas 2023]
5...Qxb3 6.axb3 B22: Sicilian: 2 c3.
6...cxd4 7.Nf3 Nc6 8.Na3
 [8.Nxd4 Nxd4 9.cxd4]
8...Bg4?
 [8...dxc3-+ And now ...Bg7 would win.
 9.Nb5 Bg7 10.bxc3 a6 11.Nc7+
 Kd8 12.Nxa8 Bxc3+ 13.Bd2 Bxa1]
9.Nb5!= Rc8 Against Nc7+ 10.Nbxd4
 [10.cxd4 a6 11.d5 Nb4]
10...Nxd4 11.Nxd4 a6 Wards off Bb5+
12.h3 Bd7 13.Bc4 Nf6 14.0-0 Bg7
15.Re1 e6 16.Bf4 0-0 Black is weak on
the dark squares 17.Rad1 Rfd8 18.Bd6
Bf8 19.Be5 Be7 20.Be2 Nd5 21.Bf3
b6! 22.Bxd5 exd5



B22

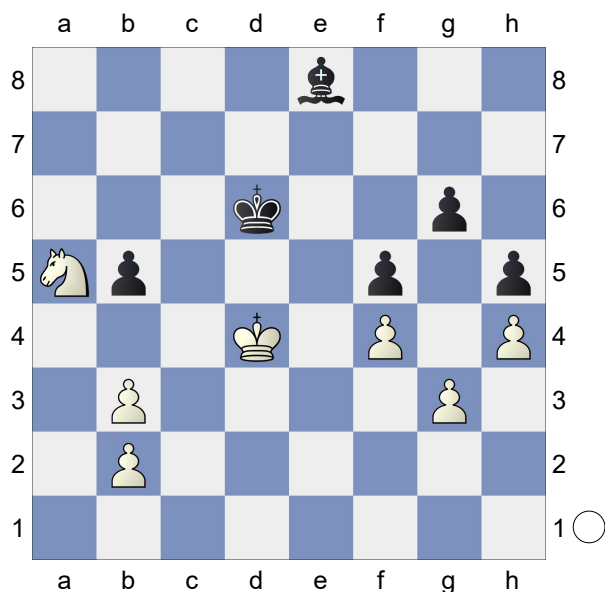
1980

1720

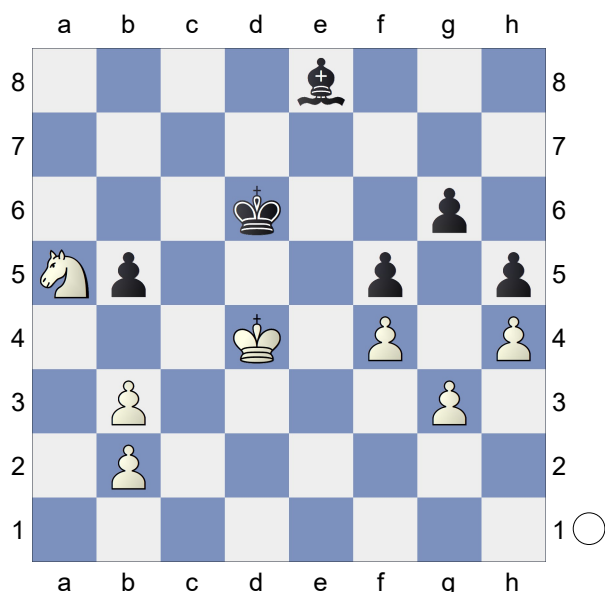
23.Bc7! Discovered Attack 23...Rxc7
24.Rxe7 Kf8 25.Rde1 White is much
more active.

[25.Re5!±]
25...Re8 26.Rxe8+ Bxe8± Endgame
KRB-KRN 27.Re5 Bc6
 [27...Rd7±]
28.f4?
 [28.Nxc6!+- Rxc6 29.Rxd5]
28...Bb7= 29.Kf2 Re7 30.Rxe7 Kxe7
KB-KN 31.Ke3 Kd6 32.Nf3 f6 33.Kd4
a5 34.Ne1 Bc8 35.Nc2 Be6 36.Ne3
f5

[36...h5=]
37.h4 h5?
 [Black should try 37...Bf7±]
38.Nf1 Bf7 39.Nd2 Be8 40.Nf3 Bf7
41.Ne5 Be8 42.g3?
 [42.c4+- and White stays clearly on top.]
42...Ke6?
 [42...Bb5±]
43.c4+- dxc4 44.Nxc4 b5 45.Nxa5 Kd6



46.Nb7+! Kc6 47.Na5+ Kd6



48.b4?
 [48.Nb7+!+- Kc7 49.Nc5]
48...Bf7!± 49.Nb7+ Kc7 50.Nc5

Ke5 would now be deadly. **50...Kd6**
51.Nd3 Be8? White stays focused until the end.
 [51...Bc4±]
52.Ne5 White mates. 52...Ke6 53.Kc5 Ke7 54.Nf3 Bd7 55.Nd4 Kd8 56.Nxb5 Kc8 57.Nd6+ Kc7 58.b5 Kb8 59.b6 Ka8 60.Nc4 Be6 61.Ne5 Bc8 62.Kc6 Bb7+ 63.Kc7 Ba6 64.Nd7 Bb7 65.Nc5 Bf3 66.b7+ Bxb7 67.Nxb7 KN-K3P 67...Ka7 68.Nc5 Ka8 69.Ne6 Ka7 70.Nf8 Ka6 71.Nxg6 KN-KPP 71...Ka5 72.Ne7 Kb4 73.Nxf5 KN-KP 73...Kb3 74.Ng7 Kxb2 75.f5 Kb3 76.f6 Ka4 77.f7 Ka5 78.f8Q Ka4 79.Qf5 Kb4 80.Kc6 Ka4 81.Kb6 Kb4 82.Qe4+ Ka3 83.Kb5 Ka2 84.Qe3 Ka1 85.Qe2 Kb1 86.Kb4 Ka1 87.Kb3 Kb1 88.Qe1#

Weighted Error Value: White=0.39/
 Black=0.43

Loses game: ---
 Black=3
 Missed win: White=3
 Black=1
 Mistake: White=2
 Black=2
 Inaccurate: White=1
 Black=2
 OK: White=17
 Black=16
 Best: White=2
 Black=3
 Strong: White=1
 Black=1
1-0

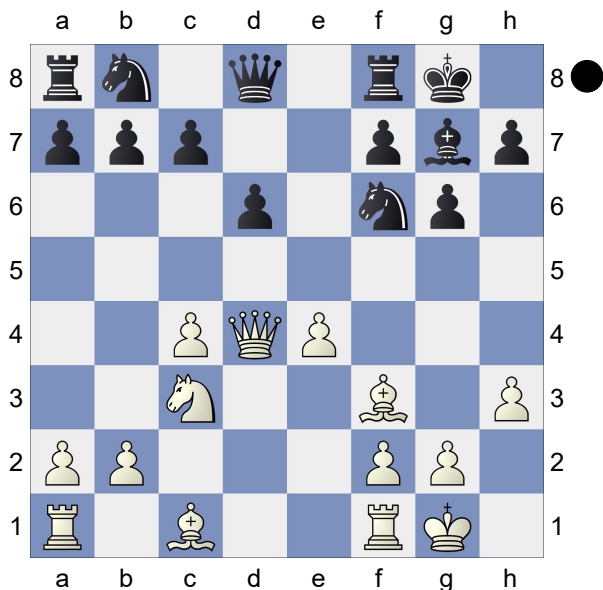
E94
 Admassu,Yonathan 1781
 Santiago,Hugo Osmar 1980
 2025 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (3.5)

1.d4 25 Nf6 7 2.c4 6 g6 7 3.Nc3 4 Bg7 6 4.e4 8 d6 7 5.Nf3 17 0-0 8

6.Be2 4 e5 16 7.0-0 18 Bg4 42 8.h3
-0.15/30 2:35 E94: King's Indian:
 Classical: 6 Be2 e5 7 0-0: Various Black
 7th moves.

[8.d5± 0.47/27]

8...Bxf3= 28 9.Bxf3 13 exd4 11
10.Qxd4 12:07



e5 would now be deadly. The position is
 equal. **10...Nc6 25 11.Qd1 45 Nd7 3:04**
12.Be3 1:33 Bxc3N 5:17

[12...Re8 13.Rb1 a5 14.Qd2 Nc5
 15.Bg5 Bf6 16.Bxf6 Qxf6 17.Nd5
 Qd8 18.Rfe1 Ne5 0-1 (52) Charrier,F
 (1702)-Kolodziejczyk,B (2192) Vichy
 2025]

13.bxc3 41 Qf6 2:15 14.Qc1 20:28
Nce5 18:40 15.Be2 13 Qe6 7 16.Bh6
-0.56/28 13:16

[White should play 16.Re1= 0.06/28]

16...Rfe8 2:08 17.f4 59 Nxc4 2:46
 Black is more active. Black keeps a firm
 grip on the game. **18.f5 -1.55/23 10:18**

[18.Bf3 0.69/24]

18...Qxe4 6 19.fxg6 -2.34/23 12
 [19.Rf2 1.50/24 keeps fighting.]

19...hxg6+ 1:04

[19...Qxe2 20.gxf7+ (20.Rxf7 Nf8=)
 20...Kh8 21.fxe8N (21.fxe8B Rxe8
 22.Re1 Qxe1+ 23.Qxe1 Rxe1+
 24.Rxe1 Nce5+-; 21.fxe8Q+ Qxe8

22.Rf5 Qe6+-; 21.fxe8R+ Qxe8
 22.Qc2 Qe6+-) 21...Qxe8 22.Qg5+-]

20.Rxf7? -4.13/19 9:49

[20.Bf3 -2.26/23 Qe5 21.Rb1]

20...Kxf7 12:54 21.Qf1+ 1:08 Kg8 41

22.Bxc4+ 59 d5 1:00 23.Bd3 3:03 Qe6
2:37 24.Qf4 5:42 Ne5 9:50 25.Bc2 2:20
Nf7 3:00 26.Rf1 7:14 Nxh6 1:15

27.Qxh6 21 Qe3+ 5 28.Qxe3 10 Rxe3

1 29.Bxg6 13 Endgame KRR-KRB

29...Rf8 1:06 Prevents Bf7+.

[29...Rxc3 30.Bf7+ Kg7 31.Bxd5+-]

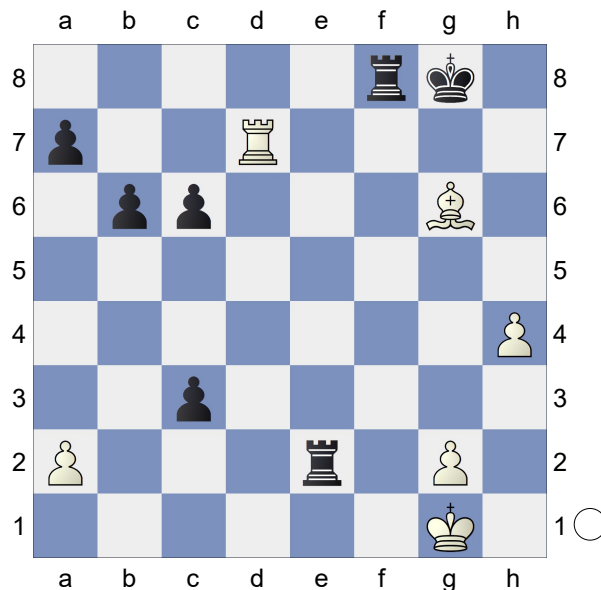
30.Rb1 2:46 b6 2:20

[30...Rxc3 31.Re1+-]

31.Rd1 1:26 c6 1:28

[Don't take 31...Rxc3 32.Rxd5 Rf6
 33.Rd8+ Kg7 34.Bh5+-]

32.c4 1:35 dxc4 2:31 33.Rd7 24 c3
1:00 34.h4 26 Re2 2:11



aiming for ...Rff2. **35.h5 2:34 c2 26**

[35...Rxa2 36.h6=]

36.h6 1:49 c1Q+ 9 Black mates.

[Stronger than 36...c1R+ 37.Kh2=]

37.Kh2 10 Qxh6+ 7 38.Kg3 9 Qxg6+ 6

39.Kh2 9 Qxg2# 2

Weighted Error Value: White=0.71/

Black=0.07 (flawless)

Mistake: White=4

Inaccurate: White=1

Black=2
OK:
Black=17
Best:
Black=3
0-1

White=5
White=1

□ Dutter,Frederic
■ Jones,Clarence

B01
1900
1758

2025 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (3.18)
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.d4 Nxd5 4.Nf3
Bf5 5.a3 e6 6.c4 B01: Scandinavian
Defence. 6...Nf6 7.Nc3 c6 8.Be2

White is better. 8...h6! 9.Ne5N 0.15/30

[9.h3± 0.52/27]

[Predecessor: 9.h3 Na6 10.Bf4 Nc7

11.0-0 Bd6 12.Be3 0-0 13.Re1

Nce8 14.Qd2 Ne4 15.Nxe4 Bxe4

½-½ (21) Nielsen,N (2074)-

Westenborg,A (1808) Aalborg 2023]

9...Bd6 0.57/25

[9...Be7= 0.15/30]

10.f4 0-0 0.70/25

[10...Nbd7 0.34/29 might be
stronger.]

11.Bf3± Nbd7 12.0-0 0.22/27

[12.Be3± 0.73/30]

12...Rb8 0.93/27

[12...Bc7!= 0.22/27]

13.b4 a5 14.Nxd7? -0.82/27

[14.c5± 0.69/28 stays ahead. axb4
15.axb4]

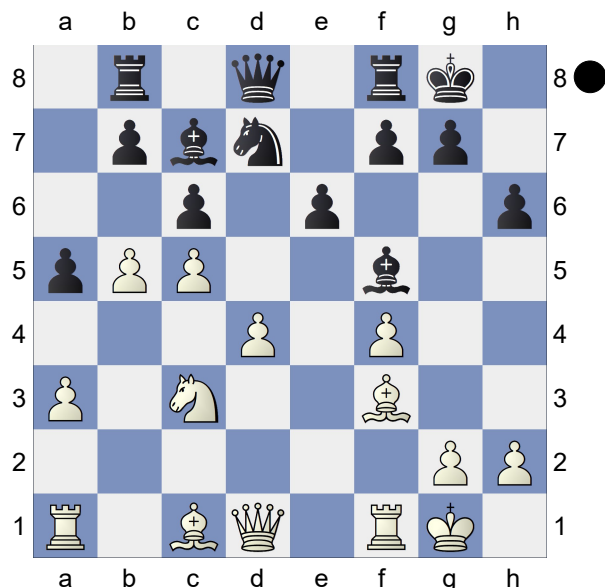
14...Nxd7 -0.04/31

[14...Qxd7± -0.82/27 15.b5 c5]

15.c5= Bc7 16.b5

(Diagram)

cxb5 17.Nxb5 Threatens to win with g4.
17...Nf6 18.Be3 Nd5 19.Bxd5 -0.26/31
[19.Qd2± 0.40/29]



19...exd5 20.Nxc7 -0.71/26

[20.Qb3= -0.22/31]

20...Qxc7± 21.Qh5 Qd7 22.Bd2 Ra8

23.Rfe1 Bg6 -0.74/32

[23...Rfe8 -1.13/30 24.a4

(24.Rxe8+ Rxe8 25.Qf3 Re6±)

24...Re4 25.Rxe4 Bxe4 (25...dxe4

26.Be3=)]

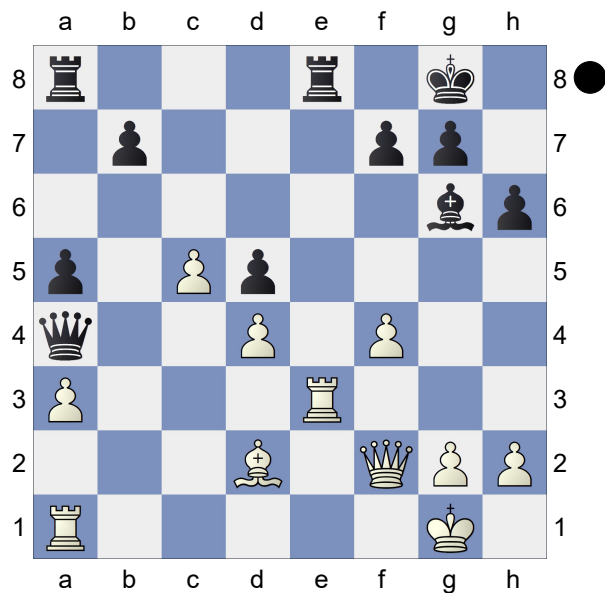
24.Qh4 Be4 25.Re3 Rfe8 26.Rg3 Bg6
-0.50/32

[Black should play 26...Qa4± -1.22/24
27.Bc3 Re6]

27.Re3? -2.11/23

[27.Qh3± -0.50/32 Qxh3 28.Rxh3]

27...Qa4 28.Qf2



Be4 -0.86/26

[28...Qxd4? 29.Rxe8+ Rxe8
30.Qxd4+-]
[28...Rxe3! -1.36/24 29.Qxe3 Kh7]

29.Rc3 White is weak on the light squares **29...Ra6 30.Rg3 -1.54/28**

[30.f5 -0.96/28]

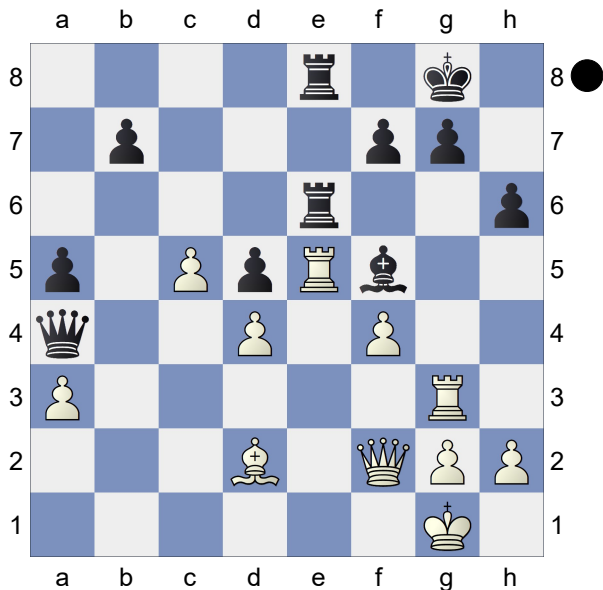
30...Rae6 31.Re1

[31.f5 Bxf5 32.Be3 Bg6+-]

31...Bf5 -0.35/31

[31...b5? -1.25/29 and ...b4 would now be decisive 32.Ree3 (32.f5 Bxf5 33.h3 Bg6?) 32...Bf5 (32...Qxd4 33.Bc3±)]

32.Re5!?



f6 33.Rxe6

[33.Rxf5? perishes. Qd1+ (33...Re2? 34.Re5+-) 34.Qf1 Re1 (34...Qxd2? 35.Rd3+-) 35.Bxe1 Rxe1+-]

33...Rxe6 34.Re3! Be4↑ Black is more active. **35.Rg3 b5 36.cxb6? -4.07/23**

[36.f5= -0.18/35 and White has nothing to worry. Re7 37.h3]

36...Rxb6+- 37.h4? -6.24/21

[37.Be1 -3.73/23 Rb1 38.Qd2]

37...Rb2

Weighted Error Value: White=0.53/ Black=0.29 (precise)

Loses game: White=2

Mistake: White=7

Black=8

Inaccurate: White=5

Black=3

OK: White=7

Black=10

Best: White=2

Strong: White=2

0-1

E12

□ Achuthan,Aryan

2264

■ Gnana Hari Sekar,Easwar

1887

2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (4.4) 29.07.25

[Winslow,Elliott]

Black was doing very well, and on his way to a big upset! But some lackluster moves, and Achuthan really goes into overdrive! A splendid attack ensues.

1.d4 3:38 Nf6 4:56 2.c4 45 e6 15

3.Nc3 34 b6 11 4.Nf3 1:28 Bb7 26

5.a3 11 d5 1:58 6.Bg5 1:40 Be7 1:13

7.e3 2:22 0-0 44 8.b4 2:45

E12: Queen's Indian: Unusual White 4th moves, 4 a3, 4 Nc3 Bb7 5 a3 and 4 Nc3 Bb7 .

[8.Rc1=]

8...c5 13:37 9.dxc5N 14:39

[9.Bxf6= keeps the balance. Bxf6 10.cxd5]

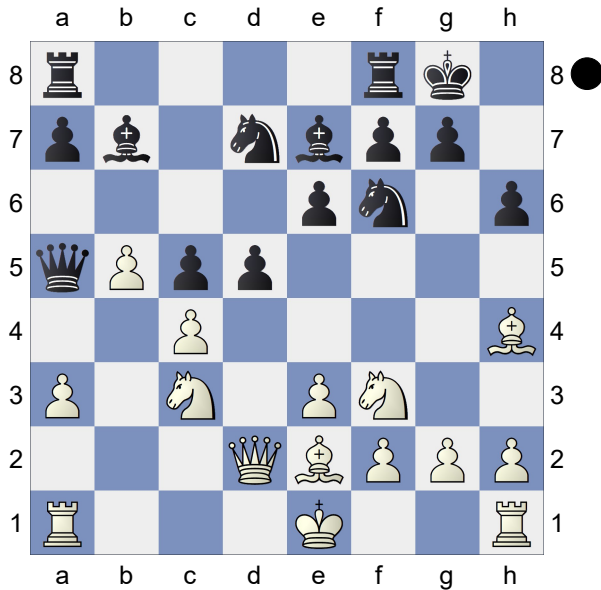
[9.Qb3 dxc4 10.Bxc4 Ne4 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.Nxe4 Bxe4 13.bxc5 bxc5 14.d5 exd5 15.Bxd5 Bxd5 16.Qxd5 1-0 (51) Asanakunov,Z (2046)- Tynybekov,B (1730) Bishkek 2019]

9...bxc5? 25 10.b5 9 Black is clearly better. **10...Nbd7 7:40 ...h6** would now be deadly. **11.Be2 2:45**

[11.cxd5? Nxd5 (11...exd5

12.Be2?) 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Qc2]

11...h6+ 21 12.Bh4 19 Qa5 6:35
13.Qd2 1:00

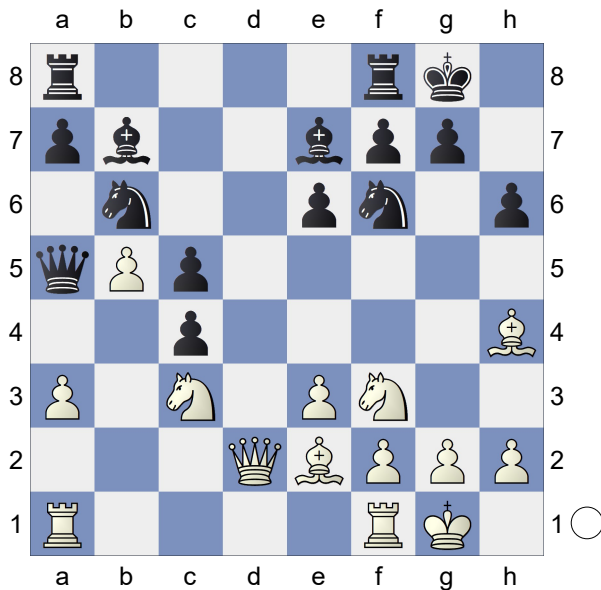


dx c4 1:39 Black has a strong passed pawn

[13...g5! 14.Bg3 a6]

14.0-0! 1:31 Nb6? 59

[14...a6 stays ahead. 15.a4 axb5
16.Nxb5 Bc6]



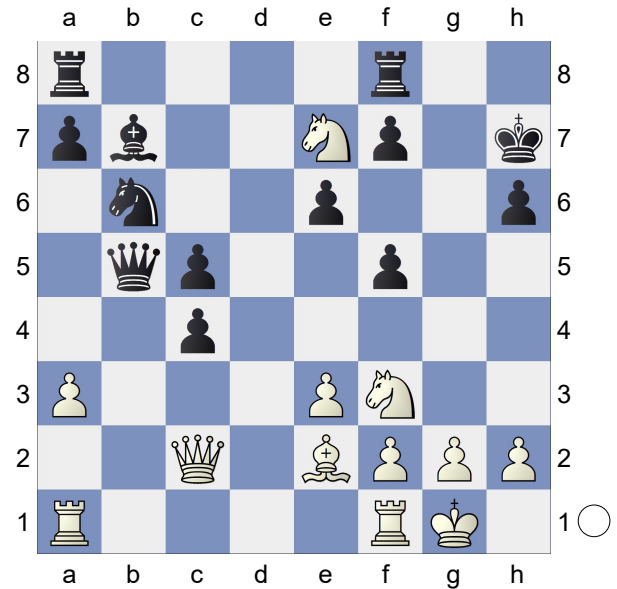
This move loses the game for Black.

15.Nd5!+- 2:24 Discovered Attack

15...Qxb5 5:49 16.Nxe7+ 3:14 Kh7 5:16

**17.Bxf6 15:09 gxf6 6 18.Qc2+ 36 f5
12:18**

(Diagram)



19.Nxf5! 50 exf5 5 20.Qxf5+ 5 Kg7

1:53 21.Qe5+ 4:00 f6 4:48 22.Qg3+

1:57 Kh7 2:21 23.Qf4 5:37

And now Nh4 would win. **23...Qc6 2:27**

24.Qf5+ 40

[Weaker is 24.Bxc4 Nxc4 25.Qxc4
Qxf3 26.gxf3 Rg8+]

24...Kg7 26

[24...Kh8 25.Nh4 Rf7]

25.Nh4 1:31 White is clearly winning.

25...Qe4 2:52 26.Qh5 45 Qh7 6:09

27.Qg4+ 1:45

[27.Qxc5 Kh8 28.Bg4 (28.Bxc4
Rfc8) 28...Be4]

27...Kf7 5 28.Bxc4+ 1:11 Nxc4 3:44

29.Qxc4+ 6 Kg7 9 30.Qg4+ 7 Kf7 12

31.Nf5 1:42 Rad8 1:01 32.Rfd1 1:20

**Bd5 2:52 33.Qh5+ 2:03 Ke6 19 34.Ng3
2:45**

[Less strong is 34.Nxh6 Rh8
35.Qh3+ Ke7+-]

34...f5 1:11 35.Ne2 5 Kf6 2:42 36.Nf4

5:44 Weighted Error Value: White=0.15
(very precise) /Black=0.52

1-0

D45

□ Krishnan,Sreyshthaa

1796

■ Rajaram,Raghu

1916

2025 Summer TNM: 2000+ (4.14) 29.7.25

[Winslow,Elliott]

Some excellent moves in this game! but it's marred -- enhanced? -- by some slips, and a strange end. 1.c4 c6 2.Nf3 Nf6

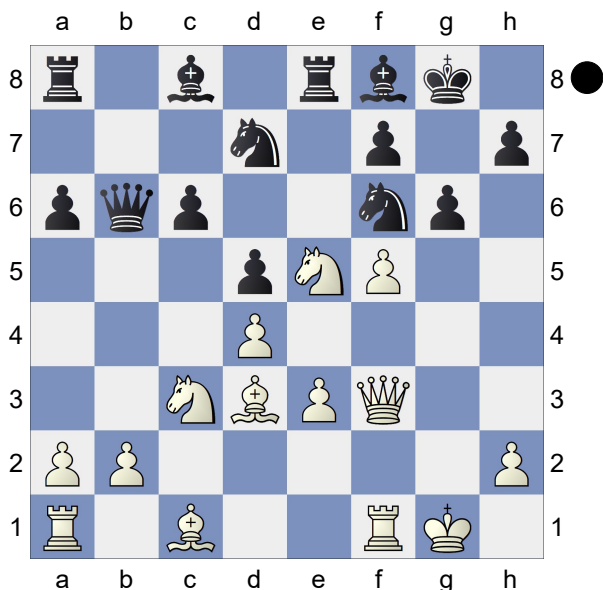
3.Nc3 d5 4.e3 e6 5.d4 Bd6 6.Bd3

0-0 7.0-0 Re8 8.Ne5 Nbd7 9.f4 a6

10.c5 Bf8 11.Qf3 b6 12.g4 g6

13.cxb6 Qxb6 14.f5 exf5 15.gxf5

[15.Nxd7 Bxd7 16.gxf5 g5?]



15...Rxe5!-+ 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Qe2

Nxd3 18.fxg6!?

[18.Qxd3 Bxf5 19.Rxf5 gxf5 20.Qxf5 Bg7-+]

18...Nxc1

[18...hxg6!?-+]

19.gxf7+ Kg7!

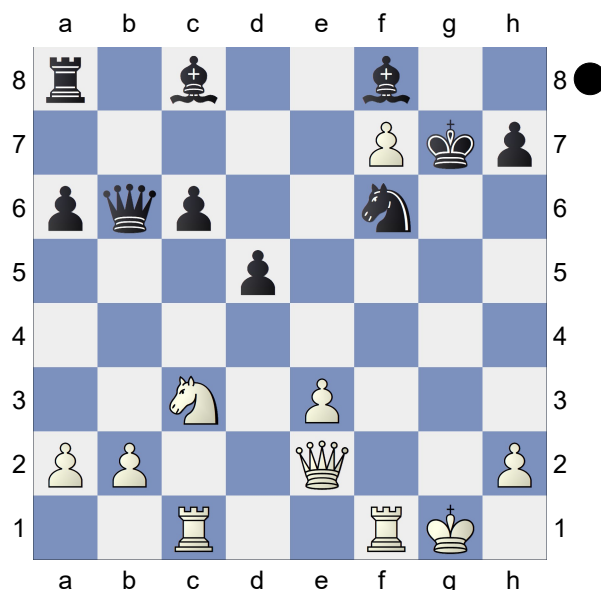
[19...Kxf7! is fine, too!]

[as is 19...Kh8!]

20.Raxc1

[20.Qf3 Ng4]

[20.Qg2+ Bg4! (20...Kxf7)]



20...Bc5??

[20...Bg4-+ 21.Qg2 (21.Qf2 Be7!)

21...Qxe3+]

[20...Be6-+ 21.Qf3 (21.Na4 Qc7)

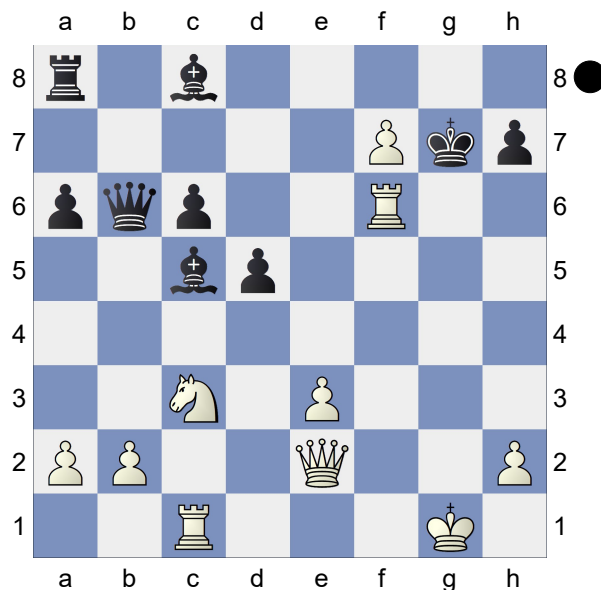
21...Be7-+]

21.Rxf6!+-

[21.Rxf6 Kxf6 22.Rf1+ Bf5 23.Qf3+-

Rf8 24.Qxf5+ Ke7 25.Kh1! Bxe3

(or else 16.e4) 26.Ne4! is nicest.]



White offered a draw, then wished he hadn't -- but draws are unretractable!

1/2-1/2

(Diagram)

Online Chess

By Christian Brickhouse

This year the chess club is looking to bring back our online chess programming, and we'd like your help! During the pandemic closures, Mechanics' moved online with tournaments, games, discussion forums, and announcements. With the return of in-person play, our online groups went dormant as everyone got excited to play face-to-face again. But online chess is still incredibly popular, and we want to rebuild these online groups so you have more ways to play with Mechanics' even when you can't make it in person.

How to Join our Clubs on Chess.com or ChessKid

If you already have a Chess.com account, go to the [Mechanics' Institute Chess Club page on Chess.com](#) and click the big green "Join" button. If you don't have a [Chess.com](#) account, you will have to [create an account](#) first. If you need help, you can go to the Mechanics' Library tech support hours, Fridays 5pm to 6pm, or see a Chess Room staff member.

For youth players, we use ChessKid. If your child already has a ChessKid account, go to the [Mechanics' Institute Group on ChessKid](#) and click the orange "Join" button. If your child doesn't have a ChessKid account, you can [create an account for them](#). If you need help, talk to a Chess Room staff member.

Plans for online chess club

In addition to email we'll be posting some **announcements** to our Chess.com club. Right now our plans are to announce the monthly newsletter and any major updates as they happen. But as we all get used to using the new club, we might have more regular features. For now, you can go to the Chess.com club and see our newsletter announcement: our first post since 2022!

We also plan to run online **tournaments** especially for scholastic players. Our first one will be August 24, so look out for an email with more information. We'll hold these online tournaments every other Sunday, and we plan to alternate between non-rated and USCF rated.

Last, these groups have **forums** where you can post puzzles or discuss ongoing tournaments. If you've been working on a puzzle, saw an interesting piece of chess news, or want to analyze games together online: the forum could be a perfect place to find other players to chat with.

We're looking forward to doing more stuff online! For a lot of our newer members, online chess is how they got back into playing. Out at our chess in the community events and with our students, online chess is how lots of players keep in practice when not playing tournaments. Nothing can replace over the board chess, but it's good to have more places to play with other members of the club!

A Visit from ChessBase India

By Alex Robins

Last month we were honored to be visited by my favorite chess commentary channel - ChessBase India. In case you missed it, please check out [the video](#) which does a fantastic job highlighting our history and showing off the room and the library. A huge thank you to IM Sagar Shah and WIM Amruta Mokul for taking the time to visit and produce a video about us. Watch it here. While you're at it, check out [an interview](#) they did with Mechanics' Board of Director Member GM Vinay Bhat about his book *How I Became a Chess Grandmaster*. Below are some stills but what are you waiting for - watch the video!



IM Sagar Shah and GM Sam Shankland talk about his responsibilities and history here at the club.



White to play and win



That's just a great shot of Sagar

Cheating? A Matter of Perspective

By Renate Otterbach



Inspired by a 150-move game between William Lombardy and Shredder.

Tony's Teasers

White to play and win.



Solutions

For Tony's Teaser:

1.Nf7 Rxf7 2.Kxf7 Kh4 3.Nxg2+ Kh3 4.Ra2 Kh2 5.Kg6 e3 6.Kh5 e2 7.Rxe2
Kg1 8.Kxg4 Kh2 9.Kh4 Kg1 10.Kxg3 Kf1 11.Re1#

For the Puzzle in the Library:

1... Qxc3+! 2. Bxc3, Bxe3+ 3.Bd2, Rb1#

Contact Us

Mechanics' Institute Chess Club is on the 4th floor at 57 Post Street, San Francisco, CA.

Our phone number is 415-393-0110.

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