



MECHANICS'  
INSTITUTE  
Since 1854

# CHESS ROOM NEWSLETTER

Issue #1016 | May 14, 2022

Gens Una Sumus!

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## Conway TNM Round Two Report

Five players are perfect after round 2 in the top section: IM **Elliott Winslow**, NM **Siddarth Arun**, plus Experts **Christophe Bambou**, **Nicholas Weng** and **Edward Lewis**. Entering the tournament in round 3, with ½ point byes in rounds 1 and 2, will be **Conrado Diaz**, a strong master and winner of the Powell Memorial (see below) who hails originally from the Philippines.

The under 1800 section has an even larger group at 2-0, with eight players sharing 1<sup>st</sup>. Special kudos again to **Nick Casares**, who is finally on a mini hot-streak after some tough results lately. And a shout-out to unrated **Nicolas Horde**, also perfect.

The Conway TNM has two TD's, with Dr. **Judit Sztaray** and former MI Chess Club Director **Abel Talamantez** alternating every other Tuesday.

**Raymond (Ray) Conway** was the Mechanics' Institute Chess Room Director from 1971 to 1980.

His tenure coincided with the 'Fischer Boom', and the Tuesday Night Marathon was started by Conway to make the most of the soaring interest in chess at that time.

Former Chess Room Director IM **John Donaldson** rounds out the little we know about his predecessor in a previous MI Newsletter, here:

<https://www.milibrary.org/chess-newsletters/734>

For complete TNM info, standings and results:

<https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/ray-conway-memorial-tuesday-night-marathon>

**Lesniewski, Lucas**  

**Arun, Siddharth**  
 MI Conway TNM: 1800+ (2.2) 10.05.2022  
*[de Firmian]*

**A70**  
**1914**  
**2209**

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.d5 e6 4.c4 exd5**  
**5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Bf4 Bg7**

[Fischer also played this move, but  
 7...a6 is considered safer ]

**8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qb3 Qc7 10.e4**

[ 10.Nd2 ]

**10...0-0 11.Bd3** This square is usually  
 not as good in the Benoni for the white  
 bishop as the simple e2 square. Black  
 now gets equal chances. **11...Na6**

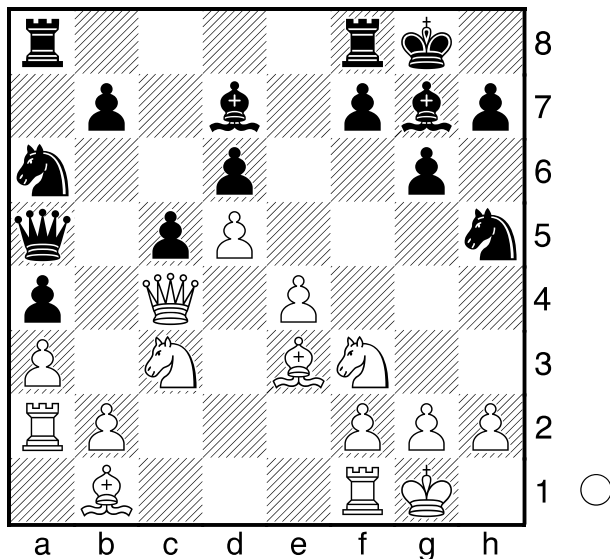
**12.0-0 Nh5 13.Be3 Nb4 14.Bb1**

[ 14.Bc4! ]

**14...a5! 15.a3 a4**

[ 15...c4 16.Qd1 Na6 ]

**16.Qc4 Na6 17.Ra2?!** This is a funny  
 square for the white rook. You have to  
 worry how it will get back in the game.  
 The idea seems to be that 17...b5 18.  
 Nxb5 is good for White, but Black can do  
 better. **17...Qa5**

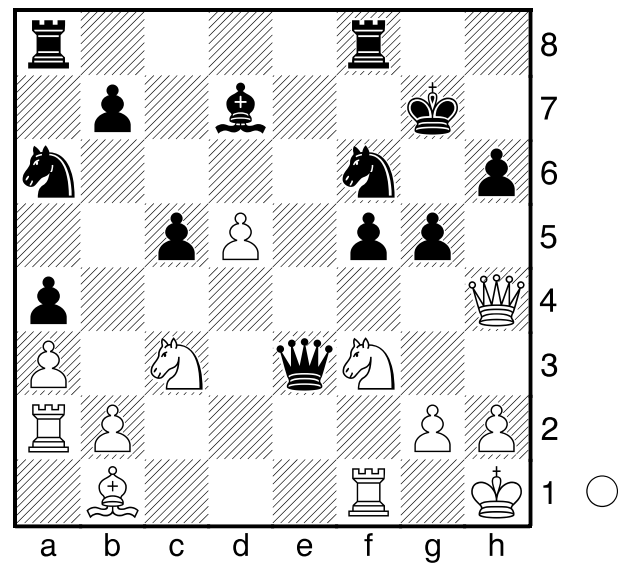


...b5 is coming. Lucas should probably  
 just retreat his queen, but decides to  
 sacrifice a pawn to try to attack. **18.e5?!**  
**dxe5 19.Qh4 Qd8 20.Bg5 f6 21.Be3**

**f5 22.Bg5 Qe8!** Nice defense by  
 Siddharth who now has a clear extra  
 pawn and strong kingside pawns. White  
 would have many more chances if the  
 sidelined rook on a2 were in the center  
 instead. **23.Be7 Bf6**

[ 23...e4! 24.Bxf8 Bf6 would be even  
 better. Black dominates the kingside  
 squares. ]

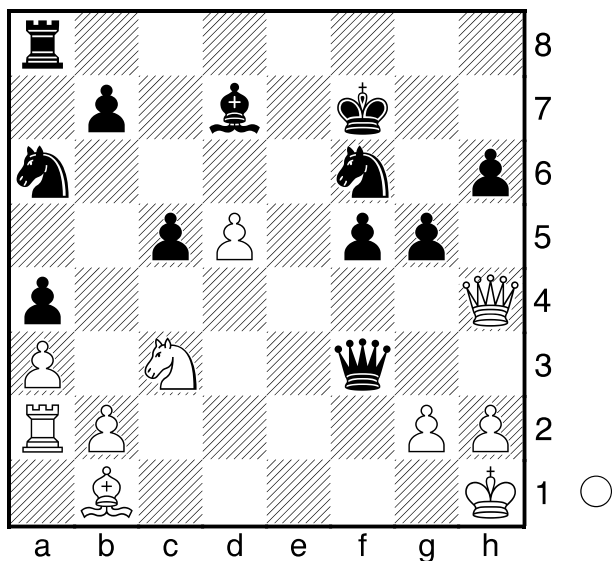
**24.Bxf6 Nxf6 25.Ng5 Kg7 26.f4 h6**  
**27.fxe5 Qxe5 28.Nf3 Qe3+ 29.Kh1 g5**



White is getting pushed back. After 30.  
 Qc4 Black has an extra pawn and  
 better position. Under pressure White  
 blunders. **30.Re1? Qxf3!** zwischenzug  
**31.Re7+ Rf7 32.Rxf7+ Kxf7**

(Diagram)

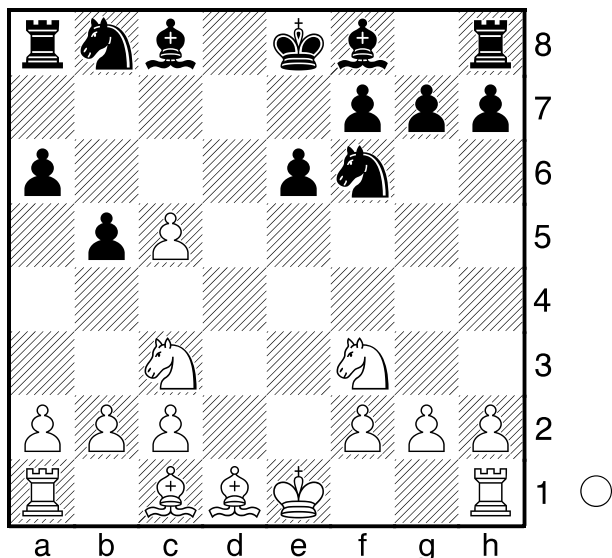
The checks are over. Black is a piece  
 and pawn ahead and White has a bank  
 rank issue. **33.Qc4 Qf4** White resigned  
**0-1**



**Weng, Nicholas**  
 **Carron, Joel**  
 MI Conway TNM: 1800+ (2.4) 10.05.2022  
*[de Firmian]*

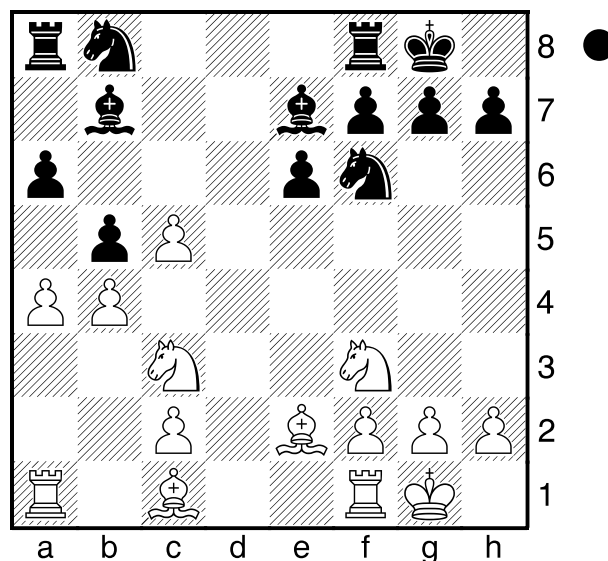
**B01**  
**2021**  
**1686**

**1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd8**  
**4.d4 Nf6 5.Bc4 a6 6.Nf3 b5 7.Be2**  
**c5?!** This attack on the d-pawn is too  
 hasty. 7...e6 first is better. **8.dxc5**  
**Qxd1+ 9.Bxd1 e6**



**10.b4!** Sometimes one is afraid to play

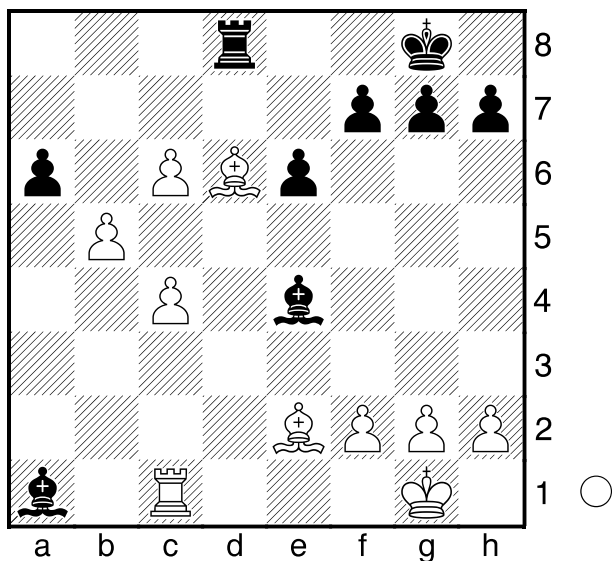
this move since ... a5 can undermine  
 the whole queenside. Here 10...a5 11.  
 Nxb5 is too strong, so White has time to  
 consolidate the protected passed pawn  
 on c5. **10...Bb7 11.0-0 Be7 12.Be2**  
**0-0 13.a4!**



Now the black queenside pawns are the  
 ones under attack. **13...Nc6 14.Rb1**  
**bxa4 15.Nxa4 Nd5 16.Bd2 Rfd8**  
**17.c4 Nf6 18.Nb6 Ra7 19.Rfc1 Nd4?!**  
 [Its a tough position to play, but this  
 makes it easier for White. Perhaps  
 19...Ne4 20.Be3 Bf6 would offer  
 some chances.]  
**20.Nxd4 Rxd4 21.Be3 Rd8 22.b5 Be4**  
**23.Ra1 Nd7 24.Nxd7 Raxd7 25.c6**  
**Rd6 26.Bc5 Bf6 27.Bxd6 Bxa1**

(Diagram)

**28.c7!**  
**1-0**



**Casares Jr, Nick** **B12**  

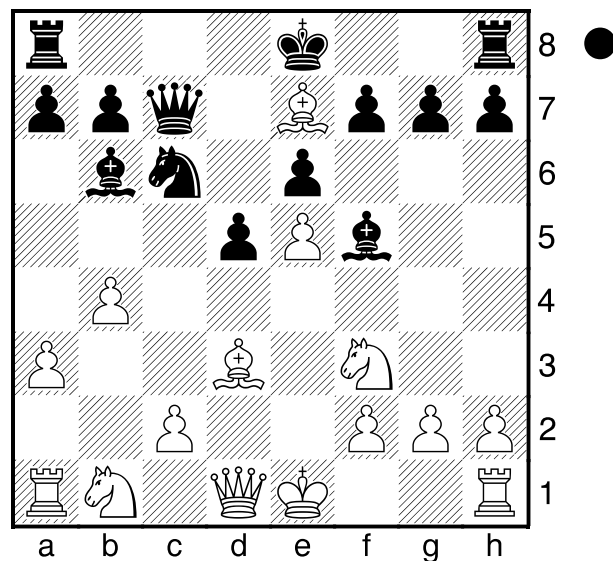
**Pagan Griso, Simone** **1600**  
 MI Conway TNM: u1800 (2.12) **1365**  
 10.05.22  
*[de Firmian]*

**1.e4 c6** Club players are beginning to learn the benefits of the Caro-Kann. It avoids a lot of the gambit openings one needs to learn after 1. e4 e5. The King's Gambit alone is a cause for concern. **2.d4 d5 3.e5** Nick plays the aggressive Advance Variation, just as Tal used to do against Botvinnik. **3...Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 c5 6.dxc5** Very direct, but Black gets easy development. 6. 0-0 or 6. Be3 is more complicated. **6...Bxc5 7.a3 Ne7 8.b4 Bb6 9.Bg5?!**

After advancing on the queenside with 8. b4 one could use the dark-squared bishop on that side. Here on the kingside it will probably just get traded for a black knight. **9...Qc7 10.Bd3 Nbc6 11.Bxe7**

(Diagram)

**Nxe7** A good solid move - Simone has



played the opening very well. Instead black could grasp a material with  
 [ 11...Nxe5 12.Bxf5 Nxf3+ 13.Qxf3 Qe5+ 14.Kd2 Qxa1 though that is quite complicated. ]

**12.0-0 0-0 13.Nbd2 Rac8** Once again, fine play from Simone. The rook on the c-file makes problems for the c2 pawn. **14.Bxf5?!** It would be better for White to keep the light-squared bishops on the board so that the c2 pawn isn't so weak. **14...Nxf5 15.Ra2 Nd4 16.Nxd4 Bxd4** The white e-pawn is a goner. Thus far a positional masterpiece from Simone. **17.Nf3 Bxe5 18.Nxe5 Qxe5 19.Re1 Qf5 20.Re3 Rc7 21.c3 Rfc8** Black should be winning with the extra pawn and the backward white pawn on c3. **22.Rc2**

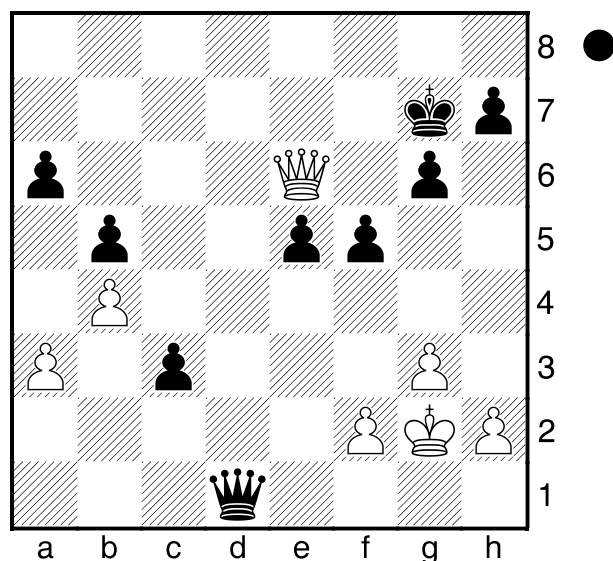
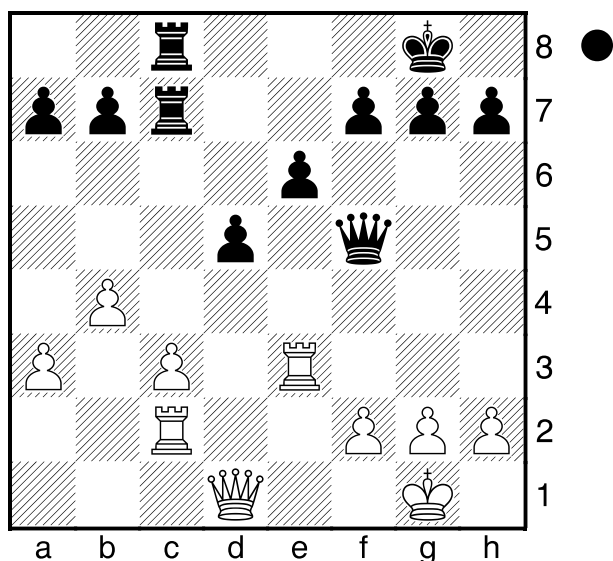
(Diagram)

**Rc4**

[ 22...d4 is good but 23.Rd3 makes concerns about back rank mates ]

**23.Rc1 Qf6 24.Qa4 a6 25.Qd7**

In a bad position Nick plays actively - his best chance. The c3 pawn is doomed so White desperately needs some counter



chances. **25...R4c7 26.Qa4 g6 27.Qb3 d4! 28.Rd3 Rxc3 29.Rdxc3 Rxc3 30.Rxc3 dxc3 31.Qc2 Qd4 32.Kf1** Good defense in a bad position. Two pawns ahead is certainly winning for Black. A queen ending though can always be tricky as there are chances for perpetual check. **32...b5 33.g3 e5 34.Ke2! f5** This is fine yet just a little weakening of the black king's defenses. **35.Qb3+ Kg7**

[ 35...Qc4+? 36.Qxc4+ bxc4 37.a4! Kf7 38.b5 axb5 39.a5! and surprisingly White wins the king and pawn ending ]

**36.Qe6 Qd2+** This is the start of the trouble. The black queen is well placed in the middle of the board. 36...c2 would win directly. **37.Kf1 Qd1+**

[ 37...Qd3+ 38.Kg1 Qb1+ 39.Kg2 Qe4+ 40.Kg1 c2 ( 40...Kh6 ) ] **38.Kg2**

(Diagram)

**c2?**

[ 38...Kh6!-+ 39.Qe7 Qd5+ 40.f3 e4 41.Qh4+ Kg7 42.Qe7+ Qf7 43.Qe5+ Qf6 still wins ] **39.Qe7+ Kh6 40.Qf8+ Kh5 41.Qe7!=**

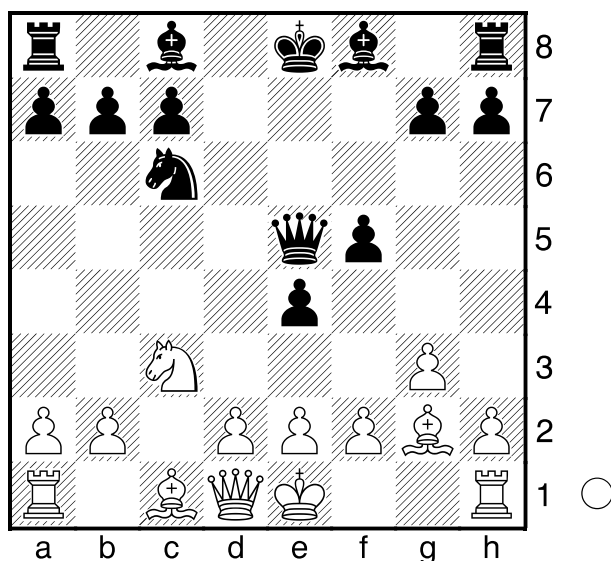
Wiley Nick has escaped with the active queen play. Simone was probably shocked at the turnaround and misses the harsh point to this move. **41...c1Q?** oh no! **42.Qh4#** A tragedy for Simon after playing a wonderful positional game. Resourceful play by Nick to seize his chances.

**1-0**

**A20**  
**Olson,David 1400**  
**Ahrens,Richard 1064**  
 MI Conway TNM: u1800 (2.27) 10.05.22  
*[de Firmian]*

We get another great battle from these two players, who had a fierce encounter a few weeks ago in the last TNM. **1.c4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.g3!?** A curious move, allowing 3...e4. It does get an unusual position, out of the book. **3...e4 4.Nh4 Nf6 5.Nf5?!**

[ 5.Nc3 ]  
**5...d6**  
 [ 5...d5! ]  
**6.Ne3 d5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Nxd5 Qxd5 9.Nc3 Qe5 10.Bg2 f5**  
 (Diagram)



### 11.b3

[It should be better to be a bit more direct in the central play and contest the black pawns with 11.d3]

**11...Bd7 12.Bb2 0-0-0** Richard goes for direct, aggressive development. We will be getting an opposite side castling position, which usually means attacks on both sides. **13.Na4 Qd6 14.e3?!**

The d3 square is weak after this. 14. Rc1 or castling would be safer. **14...Rg8** [ 14...Nb4! ]

**15.0-0 g6 16.Rc1 Bg7 17.Bxg7 Rxd7 18.Qc2 h5 19.Rfd1 Rh7**

[ 19...Ne5 20.Nc5 Bc6 ]

**20.Nb2**

[ 20.Nc5 ]

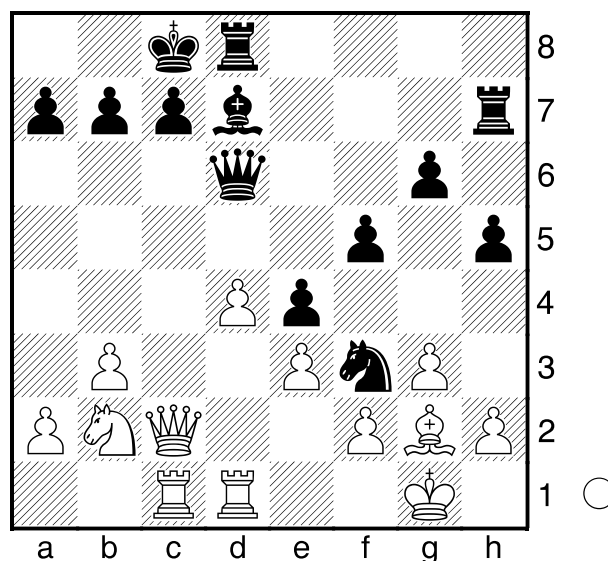
**20...Ne5 21.d4 Nf3+**

(Diagram)

**22.Kh1?!** This keeps the white king boxed in on h1. It looks a bit scary to give up the white bishop, but

[ 22.Bxf3! exf3 23.Nc4 Qa6 24.Ne5 gives White as least equal chances ]

**22...h4** The black attack is certainly dangerous. White needs to play actively and accurately. At least White's pieces are all developed to good squares.



### 23.Nc4 Qc6 24.d5 Qc5 25.b4

There is a temptation to do something active when the position is so tense. This move doesn't help though. White should get rid of the knight with 25. Bxf3! and his king will be safer.

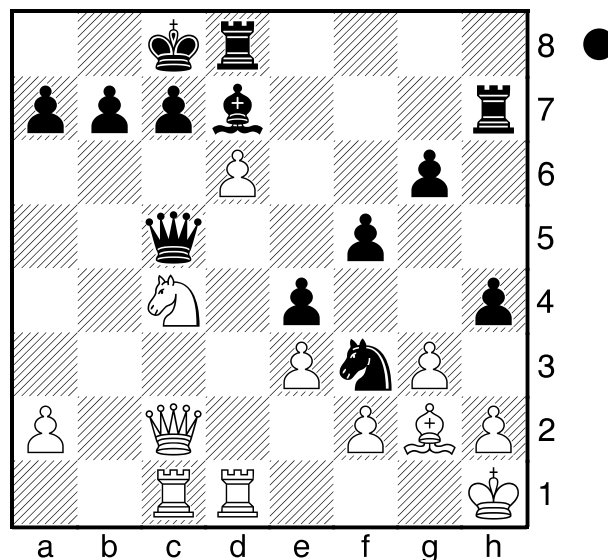
**25...Qxb4 26.Ne5?!**

[ 26.Bxf3 ]

**26...Qd6**

[ 26...Ba4! is even stronger ]



**27.Nc4 Qc5 28.d6**



**hxg3** The black attack crashes through. White has a lot of force lined up on the c and d files but it is too slow. Black's

kinght, pawn and both rooks are poised to take out the white monarch. **29.fxg3**  
 [Only a little better is 29.h3 Rdh8 30.dxc7 Rxh3+ 31.Bxh3 f4! 32.Nd6+ Qxd6 33.Rxd6 g2+ 34.Kxg2 Bxh3+ 35.Kh1 Bf1#]

**29...Rxh2#** An exciting battle! I look forward to the next encounter.  
**0-1**

 **Winslow,Elliott** **D36**  
 **Clemens,Kristian** **2235**  
**1934**  
 MI Conway TNM: 1800+ (2.1) 10.05.2022  
*[Winslow,Elliott C]*

Christian and I have now played six times. The games have all been in Tuesday Night Marathons, and I've always had White! Were we grandmasters we might be seeing a conceptual progression, but that has hardly been the case. Still, here and there there are new ideas... **1.d4 d5**  
**2.c4 e6**

[2...c6 Kristian switches between Classical and Slav, including against me. 3.Nc3 (3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 The one time we didn't play a ...e6 Queen's Gambit proper! Bg4 5.Qb3 Qb6 6.c5 Qxb3 7.axb3 Nbd7 8.b4 Bxf3 9.gxf3 e5 10.b5 If Black can't stop this Not-A-Minority Attack, then White is doing well: 1-0 (47) Winslow, E (2234) -Clemens,K (2004) Yudacufski TNM, San Francisco 3.3. 2020. ) Here is the one time Kristian won. 3...Nf6 4.Nf3 e6 5.Bg5 Be7 and back to an Orthodox Queen's Gambit 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Qc2 0-0 8.h3 Re8 9.0-0-0 b6 Suspect, and gets in a lot of trouble, but... 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Bd3 Bb7 12.Kb1 Rc8 13.g4 c5 14.Bxf6 Nxf6 15.Bf5 Ra8 16.g5 Ne4 17.Nxe4 dxe4 18.dxc5 Qb8 19.c6

Bxc6 20.Qxc6 exf3 21.Qxf3 Qe5 22.Rd5 Qc7 23.Rc1 Qh2 24.Rh1 Qc7 25.Bxh7+ Nice combination, except: Kxh7 26.Qxf7 Qc6 27.g6+ Qxg6+ 11.05 Crosscheck! And White goes down. 0-1 (59) Winslow,E (2248)-Clemens,K (1956) Fall TNM, San Francisco ]

**3.Nc3 Be7** A famous finesse, which I've played myself quite a few times during my own QGD days. Black waits for White's Ng1-f3 before allowing Bc1-g5. The Exchange Variation lines where White has Ng1-e2 are a problem for Black. Kasparov (and I!) won a few nice games with that plan, playing for f3 and e4.

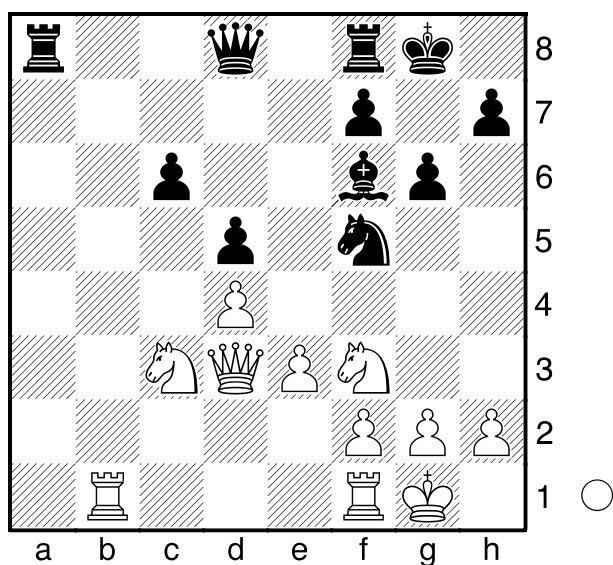
[Our first game was slow to start, and Kristian missed ...Ne4! on a few moves! (But not in our current game!) Jeremy Silman wrote up this game on Chess.com: <https://www.chess.com/article/view/a-rare-and-brutal-rook-configuration> 3...Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e3 Nbd7 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Qc2 c6 8.Bd3 h6 9.Bf4 0-0 10.h3 Re8 11.0-0-0 Nf8 12.Nf3 Be6 13.Kb1 Rc8 14.g4 c5 15.dxc5 Bxc5 16.Be5 N8d7 17.Bd4 a6 18.Rhg1 b5 19.a3 Bd6 20.g5 hxg5 21.Rxg5 Nc5 22.Rdg1 Bf8 23.Bxf6 Qxf6 24.Bh7+ Kh8 25.Rh5 Qxf3 26.Rg4 Qh1+ 27.Nd1 f5 28.Bg6+ Kg8 29.Rgh4 1-0 (29) Winslow,E (2324) -Clemens,K (1959) San Francisco 2016 [Winslow,Elliott C]

**4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bg5**

[One time the Exchange Variation didn't happen: 5.Bf4 c6 6.e3 Nbd7 7.h3 0-0 8.Qc2 dxc4 9.Bxc4 b5 10.Bd3 Bb7 11.0-0 a6 12.Ng5 h6 13.Nge4 Nxe4 14.Nxe4 Nf6 15.Nc5 1.11 Ugh -- and 1-0 (36) Winslow,E (2251)-Clemens,K (1934) MI 2nd Shipman mem TNM, San Francisco ]

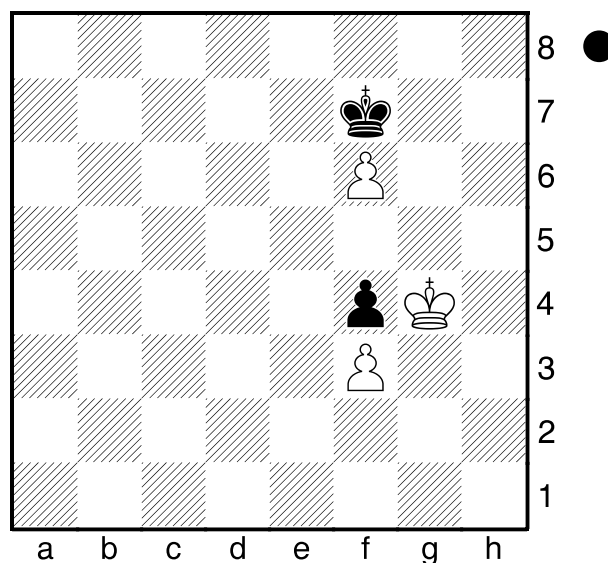
**5...Nbd7 6.e3**

[This game reminded us both that Black might profitably not castle for a while either: 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Qc2 c6 8.e3 Nf8 9.Bd3 g6 10.0-0 Ne6 11.Bh4 0-0 12.Rab1 a5 13.a3 Ng7! and off with the light-squared bishops! A lot of moves went by, but a horrible mistake many moves later... 14.b4 axb4 15.axb4 Bf5 16.b5 Bxd3 17.Qxd3 Nf5 18.Bxf6 Bxf6 19.bxc6 bxc6



You can now ignore the next 45 or so moves as we struggled, both of us getting trouble at various points, until the near end: 20.Rfc1 Nd6 21.Nd2 Qd7 22.Rb2 Rfb8 23.Rxb8+ Rxb8 24.Na4 Qb7 25.Nc5 Qa7 26.g3 Be7 27.Ncb3 Rb6 28.Ra1 Qc7 29.Ra8+ Kg7 30.Nc5 Nb5 31.Ndb3 Bxc5 32.Nxc5 Qd6 33.Kg2 h5 34.Qc2 Rb8 35.Ra6 Nc7 36.Ra7 Rb6 37.Qa2 Nb5 38.Rd7 Qf6 39.Qa8 Nd6 40.Qa2 Nc4 41.Qe2 Rb2 42.Qf3 Qxf3+ 43.Kxf3 Nd2+ 44.Kg2 Nc4 45.e4 dxe4 46.Nxe4 Ne3+ 47.Kf3 Nf5 48.Ng5 Nh6 49.h3 Kf6 50.Ne4+ Kg7 51.g4 hxg4+ 52.hxg4 Rc2 53.Rc7 Rc4 54.Rd7 Kf8 55.Kf4 f5 56.g5 Ng4 57.Nf6 Nxf6 58.gxf6 c5 59.Ke5 Rxd4 60.Rxd4 cxd4

61.Kxd4 Kf7 62.Ke5 f4 63.f3 g5 64.Kf5 g4 65.Kxg4



Endgame lesson: Opposition! Kxf6?? Very short on time, but still: ( 65...Kg6!= drawn ) 66.Kxf4 Ke6 67.Kg5 Kf7 68.Kf5 Kg7 69.Ke6 Kf8 70.Kf6 Kg8 71.f4 Kf8 72.f5 Kg8 73.Ke7 1-0 (73) Winslow,E (2278)-Clemens,K (1997) Mechanics' Jul-Aug TNM, San Francisco 7.13.2021 ]

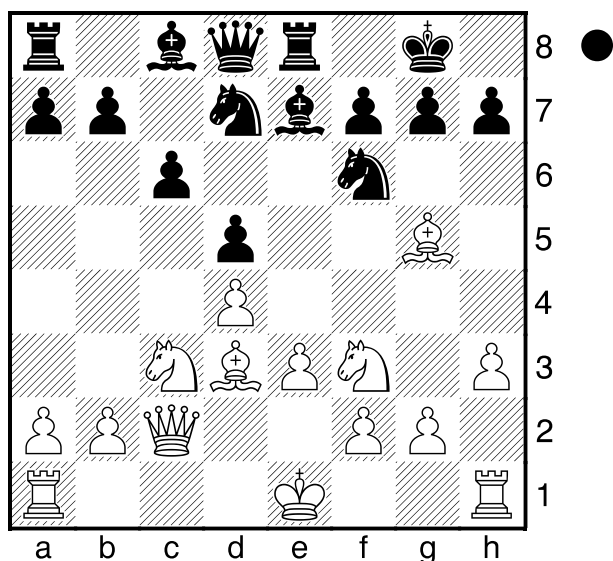
**6...0-0 7.cxd5 exd5 8.Bd3 c6 9.Qc2 Re8 10.h3?!**

[ 10.0-0! was actually my intention, thinking of (but not studying before the game?) Yermolinsky's "The Road to Chess Improvement" where there is a whole chapter on the resulting position, with quite a few of Yermo's games! In fact, the only convincing response (per the book) is Yermolinsky-Yusupov, but the latest Stockfish has White better. ]

[ 10.0-0-0 on the other hand is the sort of opposite sides castling prelude to big pawnstorms I've favored in general. ]

(Diagram)





The problem I had was, too many scholastic classes. The Kids' Koach Klassic Kaveat: "Castle As Early As You Can!" is a simplification; Winslow's Rule for Castling is: "Castle as \*late\* as you can -- but not too late!" The point is to keep your opponent guessing as to where your king will be, so he/ she can't direct their attack in that direction. There are two problems, no three: (1) You might overlook some useful check, when it is too late (2) Your "other move" might in fact be a mistake in its own right. 10. h3 here does something very hard to anticipate: it takes the square away from the knight on c3 (!!). **10...Ne4!**

Making up for no ...Ne4 in the first game we played six years ago! At the time (2022 that is) I just thought "Doesn't this lose a pawn?" Oh, and this is (3) If Black can successfully play in the center, it might not matter which side the king goes on. Again, see Silman's suggestions for Clemens in that Chess.com article.

[ 10...g6!? 11.Bh6!? ]

**11.Bxe4?!** 0.00 (!) I wanted to resist, but I'm a sucker for free pawns.

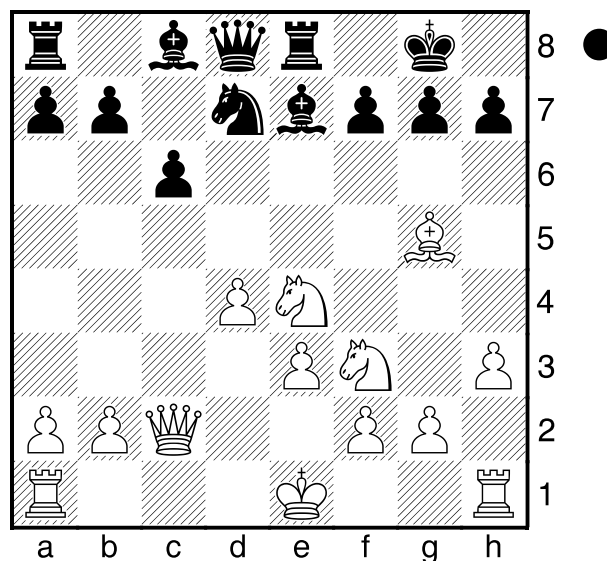
[ 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 ]

[ The Grandmaster Play is 11.Bf4!?±

, although he didn't seem too ambitious: Ndf6 12.0-0 Bd6 13.Ne5 Nxc3 14.bxc3 c5 15.a4 c4 16.Be2 Qc7 17.Rae1 Nd7 18.Nxf7 Kxf7 19.Qxh7 Nf6 20.Bh5+ Nxh5 21.Qxh5+ Kf8 22.Qh8+ Kf7 23.Qh5+ Kf8 24.Qh8+ Kf7 25.Qh5+ 1/2-1/2, L'Ami,E (2621) -Martinovic,S (2554) Germany 2022 ]

**11...dxe4 12.Nxe4?!**

[ 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Nd2 leads to no advantage for either player (but still a game of course). ]



**12...f5??**

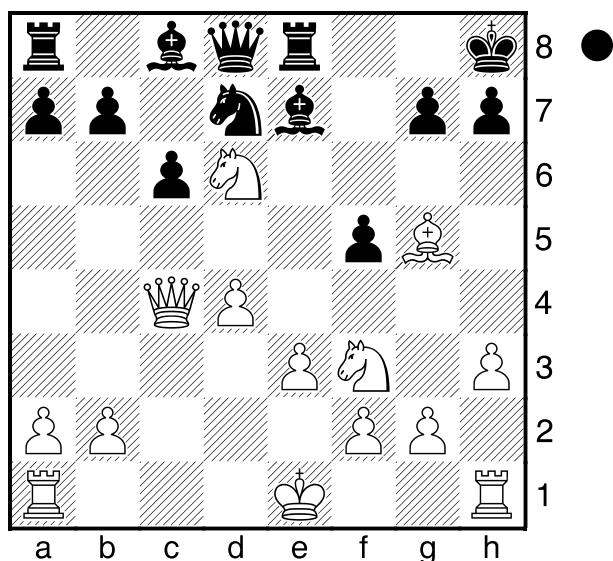
[ 12...Bxg5 13.Nexg5 Nf8!± 14.h4! Knight needs somewhere to go! h6 15.Nh3 Qf6!± Something is wrong with White's position! 16.Nhg1= Bf5± ]

**13.Qc4+!N** Keeping open b2-b4 as an answer to the check.

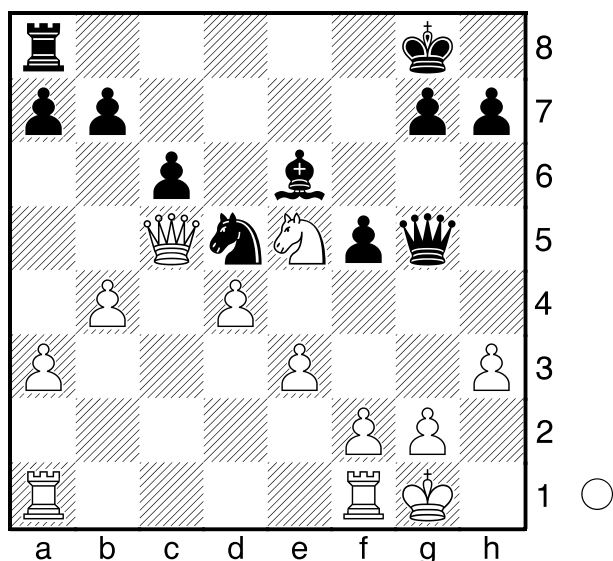
[ 13.Bxe7 is also good if less so: Qxe7 14.Nc3 Nf6 15.0-0 Ne4 16.Ne5 Nxc3 17.Qxc3 g5 18.Rfe1 g4 19.hxg4 fxg4 20.e4 Be6 21.Nd3 Qg5 22.Nc5 Bc8 23.e5 h5 24.Ne4 1-0 (24) Zarkovic,M (1944) -Mojzes,A (1895) Vrbas 2015 ]

**13...Kh8 14.Nd6!+-**

(Diagram)



**Rf8 15.Nf7+ Rxf7 16.Qxf7 Bxg5**  
**17.Nxg5 Nf6** Of course the whole point  
 is that the knight is immune to capture.  
**18.Qc4** Again keeping b2-b4 available.  
 [ But 18.0-0 is just as if not at least as  
 good. ]  
**18...Qa5+ 19.b4 Qc7 20.Nf7+**  
 [ Same here: 20.0-0 ]  
**20...Kg8 21.Ne5+ Nd5 22.0-0 Qe7**  
**23.a3**  
 [ 23.b5! escaped my attention. More  
 Minority Attacks? ]  
**23...Be6 24.Qc5 Qg5**



Now White just needs to get his assets

(up an Exchange and a pawn) going.  
**25.f4?! I** wanted to shut down any aggression based on ...f4, but now I have less chance of a center mobilization. And Black's bishop could well join the knight on a central light square. But in fact, White's material advantage is so great that almost anything works, as long as Black doesn't deliver checkmate.

[ 25.b5! ]

**25...Qh6**

[Stockfish likes 25...Qd8 but then offers 26.e4!? fxe4 27.f5 Bf7 28.b5!? ]

**26.Rae1 a6** This seemed inconsequential, but it does shut down b4-b5 (for now) **27.Nf3?!**  
Some floundering.

[Again: 27.e4! fxe4 28.f5! Bf7  
29.Rxe4 ]

**27...Rf8 28.Qd6** As I tell the kids: "Trade down to accentuate your material preponderance!" (I use smaller words though.) **28...Qf6 29.Ng5 Bc8 30.Qxf6 Nxf6 31.Nf3 Be6 32.Ne5** Cumbersome and maybe not worth the time. **32...Rd8 33.Rf2 Ne4 34.Rb2 Rd5 35.Rc1 Rd8 36.Kh2 Kf8 37.g4 Ke7 38.a4 Nd6**

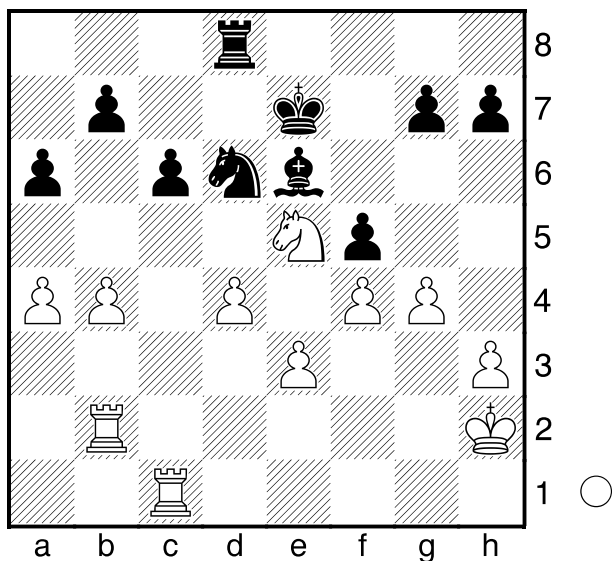
In fact, opening lines for the rooks is not at all easy.

(Diagram)

### 39.Kg3

[ 39.b5! Yes it is! axb5 40.axb5 cxb5  
(I missed 40...Nxb5 41.Rxc6!!  
Probably overlooked because I'd  
looked at it earlier. bxc6 42.Nxc6+  
Kd7 43.Nxd8 ) 41.Rc7+ Kf8  
and White is winning fairly easily  
various ways. ]

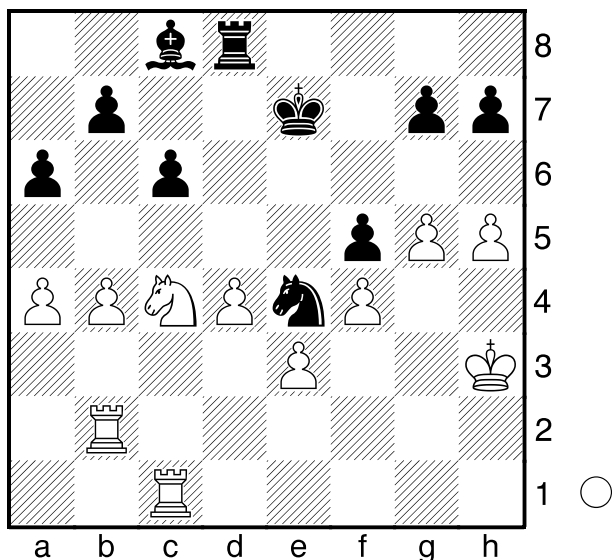
**39...Kf6 40.g5+ Ke7 41.h4** So White resorts to the age-old strategy of waiting for the opponent to mess up...  
**41...Ne4+ 42.Kh3 Nd6 43.h5 Bc8?!**



into d5 made a lot more sense, not that it saves the game. **44.Nc4?!**

[ 44.d5! cxd5 45.Rbc2 ]

**44...Ne4?!**



Allowing a nice little combination. **45.b5! c5**

[ 45...axb5 46.axb5 Nxg5+! doesn't work, but it almost looks like something... ]

**46.dxc5 Nxc5 47.Nb6! Nd3 48.Nxc8+**

[ 48.Rc7+ is "better" says the computer, but now we're bit-picking. ]

**48...Ke8 49.Rbc2 Nxc1 50.Rxc1 axb5 51.axb5 Rd3 52.Kg2 Rxe3 53.Nd6+**

**Kd7 54.Nxf5 Rb3 55.Rc5 g6 56.hxg6 hxg6 57.Nh4 Kd6 58.Re5**

Another wobbly win by Winslow (wait, that's me). And Kristian deserves better than this. At least he deserves White in our next encounter!

**1-0**

**B72**

□ **Sankar,Arjun**

**1787**

■ **Walder,Michael**

**2075**

MI Conway TNM: 1800+ (2.6) 10.05.2022  
[Winslow,Elliott C]

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4**

**Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Be2** This is no longer seen much: there are more aggressive and pressing alternatives:

[ 6.Bg5 (the Rauzer) ]

[ 6.Bc4 (the Sozin) ]

[ 6.f3 intending the English Attack with Bc1-e3 and a later g2-g4. ]

[ 6.Be3?! immediately runs into Ng4 ]

**6...g6** As recommended by various authors, including Sam Shankland in his Chessable course. But now you have to know something about the Dragon! At least you should be avoiding the Yugoslav Attack now!

**7.Be3 Bg7 8.h3**

[ 8.0-0 ]

[ 8.Qd2 ]

**8...0-0 9.Qd2** White doesn't seem to know which way he is going. **9...Bd7**

[ 9...d5 has a big plus score for Black!

But there is the danger, if you can call it that, of too much liquidation. Mike said that, if his opponent were 500 rating points higher, he'd play that. ]

**10.Bf3** A "novelty" for a good reason.

Now Black can chase bishops. **10...Ne5**

**11.Be2 Rc8 12.0-0**

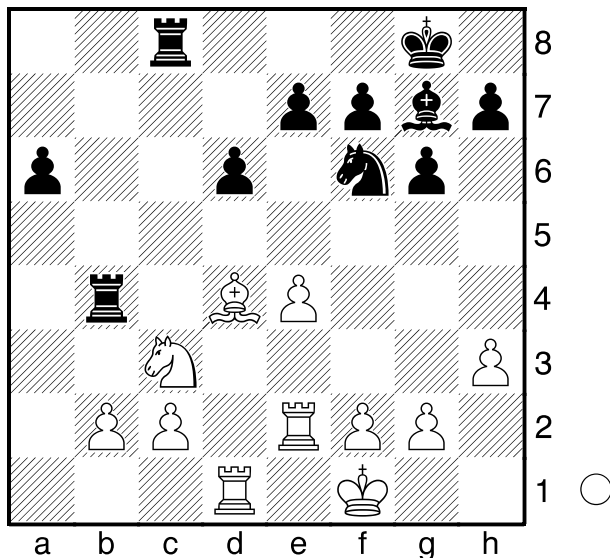
[ 12.b3?? Qa5! 13.Nd5 Qxd2+

leads to wholesale exchanges as well, but this time with a won game:

14.Bxd2 Nc6! (or 14...Nxd5 15.exd5

Rc5+ ) 15.Nxc6 Nxd5! 16.exd5  
when either recapture wins. ]  
**12...Nc4 13.Bxc4 Rxc4=** Objectively  
quite equal, but the "latent advantage"  
of the Two Bishops makes its presence  
felt so easily. **14.Rfd1 Qa5 15.Qe2**  
**Rfc8** Exchange sacrifices are in the air.  
**16.Nb3 Qa6 17.Nd2** White is sinking  
into passivity and the worse game.  
**17...R4c6**

[ 17...Rb4! not worrying about doubled  
pawns, is a clear plus. ]  
**18.Re1 Qxe2 19.Rxe2 a6**  
[ 19...b5! No need to wait! ]  
**20.Rd1 b5 21.a3 Be6 22.Bd4 Bc4**  
**23.Nxc4 Rxc4 24.Kf1 b4**  
[ 24...Kf8 is a useful precaution. ]  
**25.axb4 Rxb4**



**26.b3??** It was time to grab hold of  
things and make a draw:  
[ 26.Bxf6! Bxf6! ( 26...exf6?? 27.Nd5!  
Rb7 28.Ra1 f5 29.exf5 Bxb2  
30.Rxa6+- ) 27.Nd5 Rxb2 28.Nxf6+  
exf6 29.Rxd6 and there won't be  
much left. That doesn't mean the  
higher rated player won't win the  
ending! ]  
**26...Rxd4** winning.  
[ 26...e5! REALLY winning. ]  
**27.Rxd4 Rxc3 28.Ra4 Rc6 29.c4?!**

Completely caving in on the dark  
squares. **29...Nd7 30.Rea2 Nc5**  
**31.R4a3 Bc3 32.Rc2 Bb4 33.Raa2**  
**Nxe4**

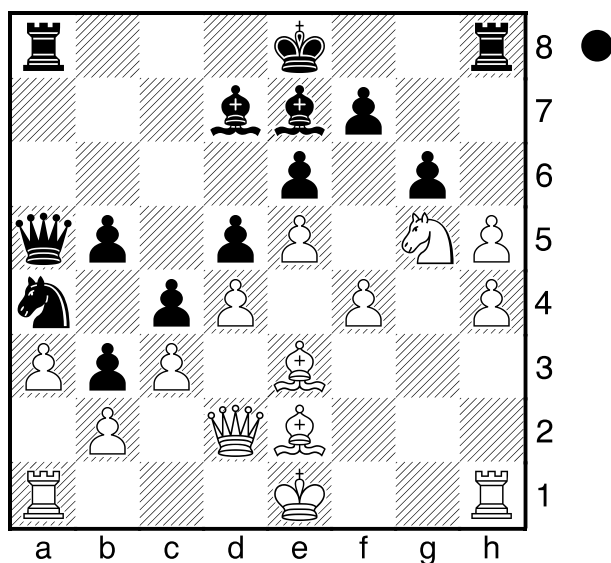
[ The computer likes 33...a5!  
for its higher numerical value; humans  
like it for its aesthetic finality of dark-  
square control. ]  
**34.Ra4 a5 35.Re2 f5 36.f3 Nc5**  
**37.Raa2 e5 38.Re3 f4 39.Ree2 Nxb3**  
**40.g3 Nc1** Not at all a flawless game;  
Mike gave Arjun chances to hold. But it  
didn't seem likely they were going to  
happen.  
**0-1**

□ Bambou, Christophe **2101**  
■ Talamantez, Abel **1800**

MI Conway TNM: Extra Games (2.30)  
[Winslow, Elliott C]

**1.e4 Nf6**  
[ 1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5  
Nfd7 5.Nce2 Compare to position  
after Black's sixth move! ]  
**2.Nc3 d5 3.e5 Ne4 4.Nce2 e6 5.d3**  
**Nc5 6.d4 Ncd7** Usually it's Black's  
move here! **7.f4 c5 8.c3 Nc6 9.Nf3**  
**Be7 10.Ng3 g6 11.a3** Regardless  
whose move it is, this is a typical  
blocked center French situation, where  
both sides probe for advances on the  
wings. **11...c4** Radically dealing with b2-  
b4 (which could still happen). **12.Be3 b5**  
**13.Be2 Na5 14.Nf1 Nb3 15.Ra2 a5**  
**16.N1d2 a4 17.Nxb3 axb3 18.Ra1**  
**Nb6 19.h4** Now to try the other side...  
**19...h5 20.Ng5 Na4 21.Qd2 Bd7**  
**22.g4!?** Neither side has much prospect,  
but what there is is tied around this move.  
White could prepare it -- or just play it  
now. **22...Qa5?!**  
[ Standard reply: 22...hxg4 23.Bxg4  
and now f6!? ]  
**23.gxh5?!**

[ 23.Kf2!? connects rooks,  
importantly ]



### 23...Bxg5??

[ 23...gxh5? ]

[ 23...Nxc3! ]

[ 23...Nxb2!± 24.Qxb2 Bxa3

activates Black's main feature - the

advanced pawns. Yes, the Two

Bishops also still matter.... 25.Qb1!

Qxc3+ 26.Kf2 gxh5 27.Rg1! Qc2!

White may hold this, but Black gets to  
have all the fun. ]

**24.fxg5! gxh5 25.0-0!** White's king:

totally safe. f7: in big trouble. **25...0-0-0?!**

**26.Rxf7 Rdg8 27.Raf1 Qd8 28.Bf3**

**Be8 29.Rf6 Qd7 30.Bg2**

A nice snaking around to h3. **30...Bg6**

**31.Bh3 Bf5? 32.R1xf5**

**1-0**

## **GM Nick de Firmian**

### **Americans Winning!**

After not playing any classical chess games for two years, Hikaru Nakamura is back in the saddle and winning tournaments again. His successful life of streaming will continue, but he is focused again on being a top chess player and has climbed back to tenth in the world ratings. He just took first place in the Coinbase Grand Prix this last weekend.

Admittedly this is an online, rapid play tournament that took only two days. Yet it shows fine form to beat out the other top players of the world. This is especially important as we head into next month's Candidate's Tournament in Madrid. The field for that is Nakamura and Caruana from the United States, Firouzja from France, Nepomniachtchi from Russia, Radjabov from Azerbaijan, Ding Liren from China, Richard Rapport from Hungary and Jan-Krzysztof Duda from Poland. The action begins June 16 and I predict an American will win!

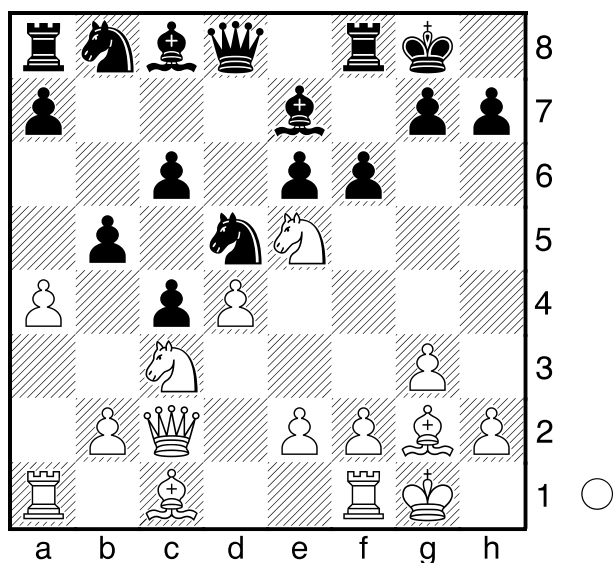
The other American on fire is young Hans Niemann who just won another grandmaster tournament. On the heels of his victory at the Capablanca Memorial in Cuba Hans has won the Sigeman Tournament in Malmo, Sweden. His rating should be up to 2674, bringing him close to the elite 2700 club. At only eighteen years old he has a bright future in front of him. He is living and breathing chess and wants to do nothing else. He announced after his victory in Malmo "If you are organizing any strong tournaments, please invite me. I want to play non-stop!" Many of our MI club players remember playing against Hans five or six years ago when he was becoming a chess master and battling for first with the likes of Elliott Winslow. Perhaps young Hans will come through San Francisco again on his non-stop world travels.

Below we show a game each from our victorious American stars.

**Fedoseev, Vladimir** **E05**  
 **Nakamura, Hikaru** **2701**  
**2760**  
 Chess.com Rapid Chess Championship 2022 (3)

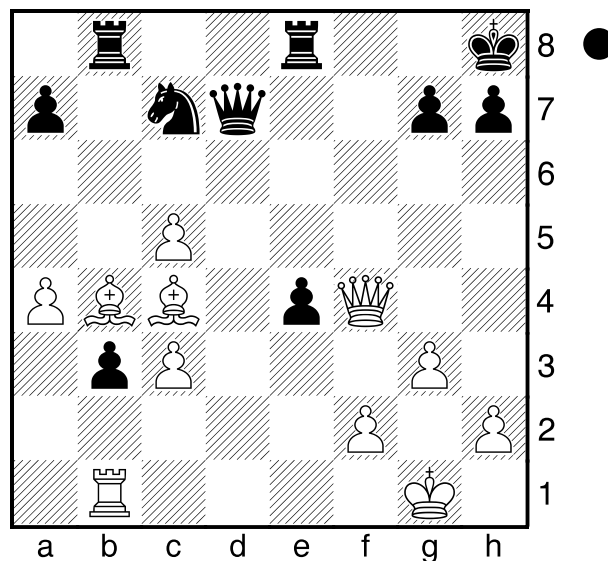
Blitz 10min+2sec This game was from the finals to decide the winner of the Chess.com Rapid Championship. **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0 dxc4**

An Open Catalan, which allows a lot of freedom for both sides. **7.Qc2 b5 8.Ne5 Nd5 9.a4 c6 10.Nc3?! [ 10.axb5 ] 10...f6!**



The best move, kicking the advanced knight. Black has an extra pawn even if his pawn structure is a bit strange. **11.Nf3 b4 12.Ne4 Ba6 13.Nc5 Bxc5 14.dxc5 Nd7 15.e4 b3! 16.Qd2!?**  
 [ 16.Qd1 Nb4 17.Qd6 is also better for Black but this keeps the exchange ]  
**16...c3 17.bxc3 Bxf1 18.Bxf1 Nc7 19.Qd6 Qc8 20.Nd4** White has activity for the material so Hikaru must be careful to neutralize that. **20...Ne5 21.Nxc6**  
 [ 21.f4 Rd8 22.fxe5 Rxd6 23.exd6 is an interesting queen sacrifice,

though still better for Black ]  
**21...Nxc6 22.Qxc6 e5?!**  
 [ 22...Rb8! clear edge to Black ]  
**23.Bc4+ Kh8 24.Rb1** Now White's two bishops and activity make the game about even. **24...Rb8 25.Ba3 f5 26.Qd6 fxe4 27.Qxe5 Re8 28.Qf4 Qd7 29.Bb4**

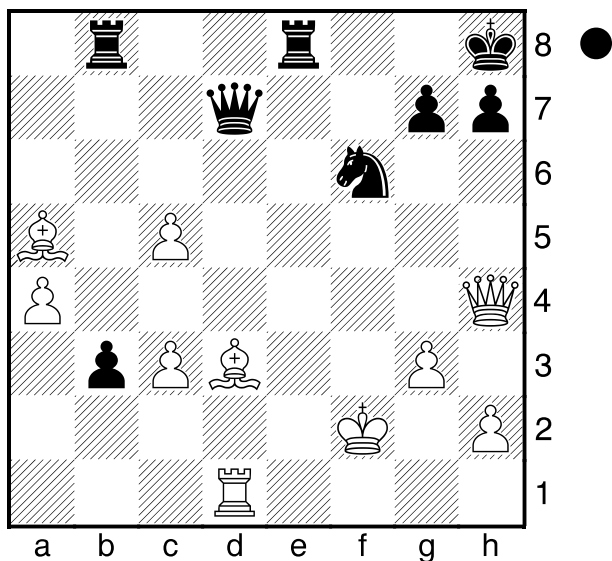


**a5!** giving this pawn for a tempo, which keeps White from consolidating **30.Bxa5 Nd5 31.Qh4?** Fedoseev thinks to attack, but this is the wrong square for the queen.

[ 31.Qd2 Qxa4 32.Qxd5 Qxa5 33.Rxb3 is about even ]  
**31...e3 32.Bd3 exf2+ 33.Kxf2 Nf6 34.Rd1?**

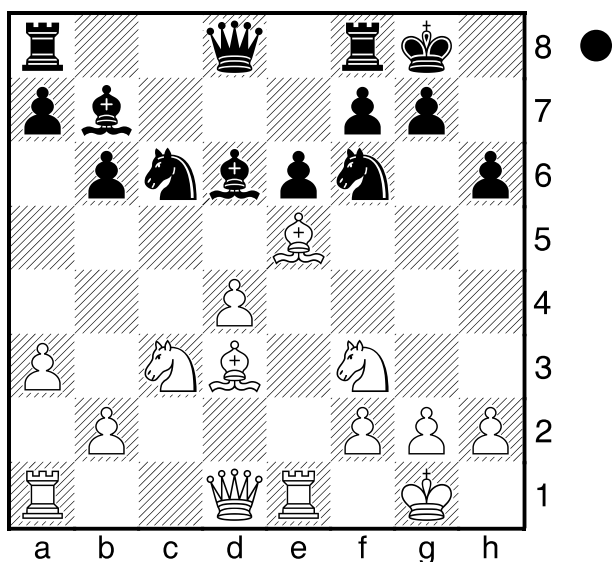
(Diagram)

**b2!** The winning move! Hikaru calculates accurately and presses home his advantage. **35.Bxh7 Qxd1** No fear!  
**36.Bg6+ Kg8 37.Qc4+ Qd5 0-1**



Salem,A.R. Saleh E54 2690  
 Niemann,Hans Moke 2656  
 TePe Sigeman & Co Chess Tournament 2022 (4)

0min/90 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4  
 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd3 d5 6.Nf3 dxc4  
 7.Bxc4 c5 8.0-0 cxd4 9.exd4 b6  
 A classic Nimzo-Indian. Karpov used to  
 play this way 50 years ago. 10.Re1  
 Bb7 11.Bd3 h6 12.Bf4 Nc6 13.a3  
 Bd6 14.Be5!/?

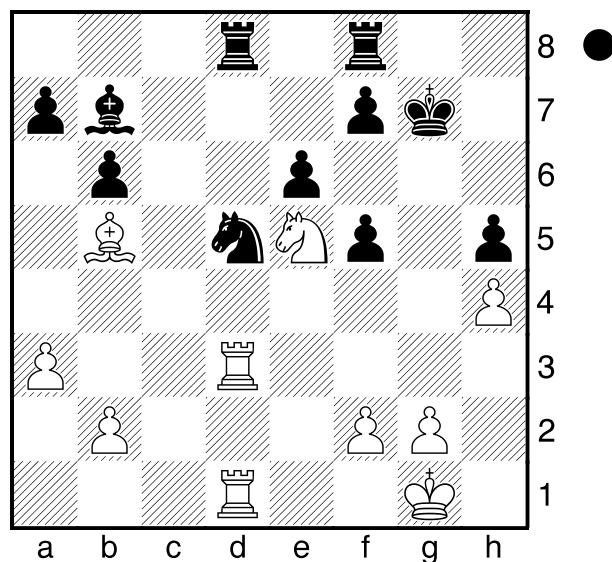


Salem seeks to attack and is willing to  
 let his bishop get traded to gain an  
 attacking pawn on e5. 14...Be7 15.Qe2  
 Nxe5 16.dxe5 Nd5 17.Qe4 g6  
 Chances are even. White has some  
 attacking chances while Black is pretty  
 solid and has the two bishops. 18.Nb5!/?  
 Bc5 19.Rad1

[ 19.b4? Nxb4 20.Qxb7 Nxd3 ]  
 19...h5 20.Rd2 Qe7 What to do for  
 White. The black kingside looks a little  
 loose but there is no easy way in.  
 Salem decides a bit hastily to sacrifice a  
 pawn. 21.Nd6?! Bxd6 22.exd6 Qxd6  
 23.Ne5 Qe7 24.Bc4 Qg5 25.Rd3  
 Rad8 26.h4

[ 26.Rg3 looks threatening but Qf5  
 defends very well ]  
 26...Qf5 27.Qxf5 gxf5 28.Red1?!  
 Now Black becomes clearly better in the  
 endgame with the extra pawn.

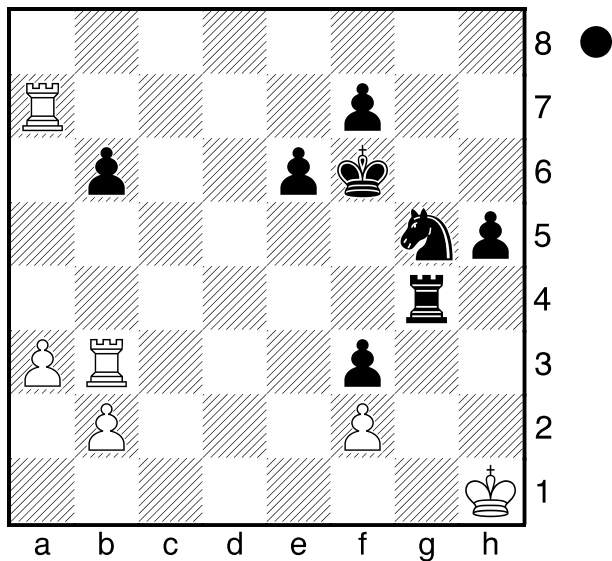
[ 28.Bxd5 Bxd5 29.Rc1 is a better  
 defense ]  
 28...Kg7 29.Bb5



**Kf6!** Hans sacrifices the exchange to get  
 his pieces on very active squares.  
 30.Nd7+ Rxd7 31.Bxd7 Nf4  
 White can't keep both the exchange and  
 the g2 pawn. If 32. Rg3 Ne2+ forks.  
 32.Rd6 Bxg2 material is even - two



pawns for the exchange. Black is much better though with the broken white kingside. **33.Bc6 Rg8 34.Bxg2 Rxg2+ 35.Kf1 Rh2 36.Kg1 Rxh4 37.Rd7 Rg4+ 38.Kh1 Nh3** The black rook and knight plus the pawns make an attack even late here in the endgame. **39.R1d2 Ng5 40.R2d3 f4 41.Rxa7 f3 42.Rb3**



**e5! 43.Rxb6+ Kg7** Salem resigned as there is no decent defense. On 44. Rb3 e4 45. Rc7 Nh3 46. Rc2 Rg2 wins more material.  
**0-1**

## 20th Charles Powell Memorial

A nice turnout of 67 players competing in two sections showed up for the Powell Memorial on Saturday, May 7. The top section was won by Master **Conrado Diaz** with 3.5 from 4 games, with 5 Experts trailing by ½ a point: **Alan Finkelstein, Theodore Coyne, Advay Bansal** (Diaz's only drawn game), and **Rohan Rajaram**.

The under 1800 Section also had a clear winner, with **Zee Chin** tallying a perfect 4-0. Taking clear 2<sup>nd</sup> place was **Jeffrey Dallatezza** with 3.5 points. There was a massive 8-way tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Full results can be found here: <https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/20th-charles-powell-memorial-championship-g45-person>

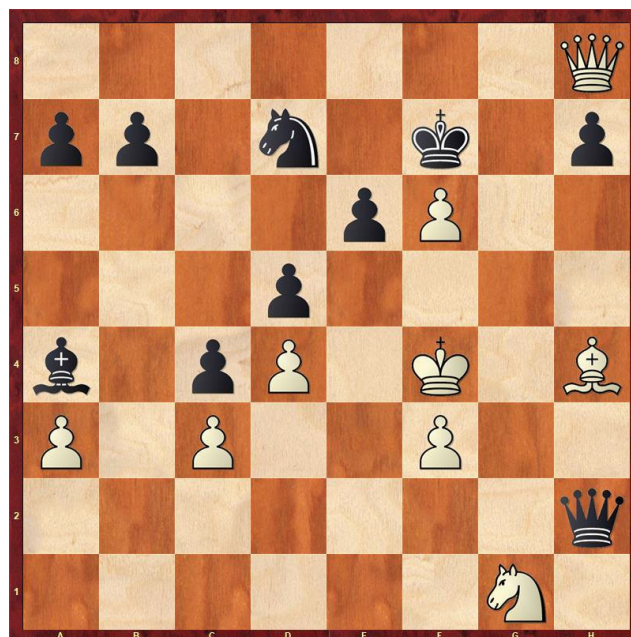
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Charles Powell was 7-time Virginia State Champion and a former Armed Forces Champion. He moved to San Francisco in the late 1970s and died tragically young at the age of 46.

Powell is also noted for having defeated Bobby Fischer in a simultaneous exhibition:

**Fischer – Powell**, Simul. Richmond, VA 1964.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2  
Qa4 8.Rb1 c4 9.Qg4 Qxc2 10.Qxg7 Qxb1+ 11.Ke2 Bd7 12.f3 Ba4  
13.Qxh8 Qd1+ 14.Ke3 Qxf1 15.Qxg8+ Ke7 16.Kf4 Nd7 17.Qxa8 Qxg2  
18.Be1 Qxh1 19.Bh4+ f6 20.exf6+ Kf7 21.Qh8 Qxh2+.



And **Fischer resigned** 0-1.

**IM John Donaldson**  
**Two New Books by New in Chess (April 2022)**

The Dutch publishing firm New in Chess (<https://www.newinchess.com/>), which is coming up on its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, has recently released two new instructional works which should find a wide audience. The first, ***100 Endgame Patterns You Must Know: Recognize Key Moves & Motifs and Avoid Typical Errors*** (464 pages, \$29.95) by Spanish Grandmaster Jesus De La Villa, is a follow up to his well-received works *100 Endgames You Must Know* and *The 100 Endgames You Must Know Workbook*.

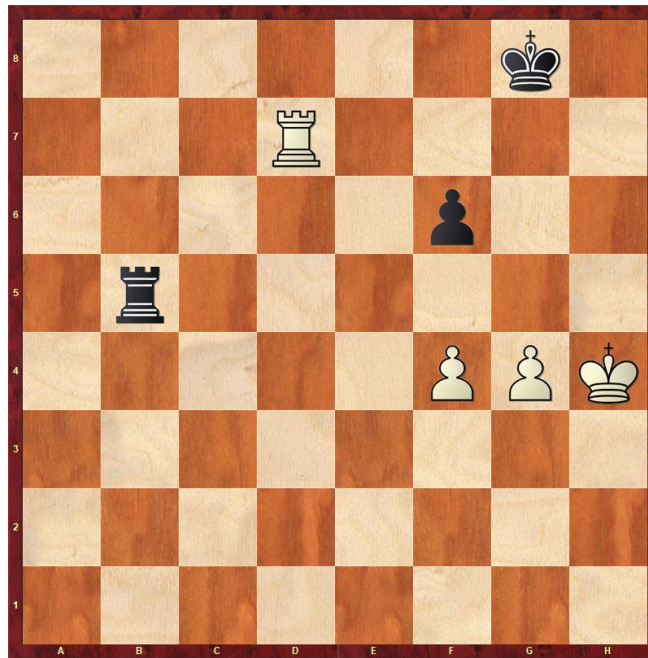
The present work differs from its predecessors in that instead of trying to cover fundamental endgame theory the author wants to teach basic concepts. Here is how he explains his aims in the introduction. "The aim of this book is to present, with good examples and, therefore, in a clear fashion, those situations which I consider to be useful patterns in positions with few pieces, the study of which should allow us to eliminate mistakes which we can consider systematic. This book is not exactly a continuation of my earlier book *100 Endgames You Must Know*. It would be more accurate to say that they complement each other, since *100 Endgames You Must Know* concentrates on theoretical endgames, while this book deals precisely with the stage of the game that precedes the appearance of the theoretical endgames. Beginning with one book or the other, or alternating between them, may be a matter of experience or taste, but it is probably more systematic to start with the study of theoretical endgames." What does De La Villa mean by a pattern? Here is a simple but important one that occurs in rook and pawn endings that the author calls the *umbrella*.

**Alexander Zaitsev -**

**Robert Hübner**

Büsum, 1969.

White has a two to one majority on the same wing which is almost harmless. White can only win if Black 'forgets' the mechanism of the *umbrella*.



**57...Rb1??**

With 57...Rc5, waiting on the fifth rank, Black draws easily, for example 58.f5 Rc1 and now if 59.Kh5 Rg1! and there is no way to make progress. (Reviewer: This variation might continue 60.Kg6 Rxc4+ 61.Kxf6 Ra4, and Black draws with his king on the short side and his rook on the long side despite his king being cut off. This necessary knowledge points to why it is a good idea for the student to first read De La Villa's *100 Endgames You Must Know* or other works concentrating on fundamental endgames by Dvoretsky and others before tackling the present book) **58.Kh5 Rg1 59.g5!** This is the typical pawn sacrifice which sets up the *umbrella*. **59...fxg5 60.f5 Kf8 61.f6 1-0.**

*100 Endgame Patterns You Must Know: Recognize Key Moves & Motifs* is an excellent book with well-chosen examples and clear explanations that will meet the needs of a wide audience of players from those in Class A (1800-2000) who have mastered some fundamental endgames, to FIDE titled players who are looking to review their skills. This book is also an excellent resource for those who teach the game.

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***The Silicon Road to Chess Improvement: Chess Engine Training Methods, Opening Strategies & Middlegame Techniques*** (560 pages, \$29.95) by English Grandmaster Matthew Sadler is also a follow-up of sorts, in this case to the author's

2019 classic *Game Changer*, which he co-authored with Natasha Regan. Chess players of all levels have long been familiar with the impact chess engines have had on top level chess, particularly in the area of opening preparation. What is not as widely known is that these silicon oracles also have much to offer amateur players. Sadler aims to correct this state of affairs with his new book which offers Chess Engine 101 and Training with Engines chapters early on to help those who are new to the field. He outlines his overall goals in the introduction: "This book is aimed primarily at a broad audience of chess players who

wish to improve their knowledge and practical play and does so by:

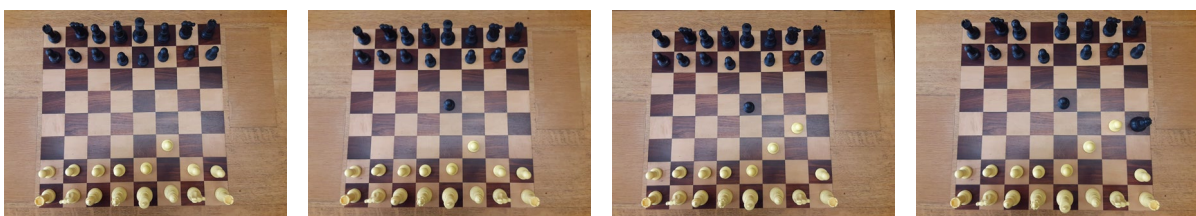
1. adding new plans and ideas to their existing opening and middle-game 'toolboxes' – many of the games in this book are model games for handling typical middlegame positions arising from openings such as the King's Indian, Benoni, French, (Semi)-Slav, and Sicilian openings;
2. helping them to use their engines more effectively and to better understand the moves they suggest;
3. providing insight into chess at the highest level in a comprehensible manner."

Sadler, was the right person to write *The Silicon Road to Chess Improvement*. He is not only a world class Grandmaster who has written a number of fine books that are enhanced by his ability to break down and clearly explain complicated material, but he also works in the IT field. This combination of skills makes him an invaluable guide to what can be a bewildering subject, particularly for adult players who did not grow up tech savvy.

Players from 1800 on up will find this book fascinating.

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Once upon a time...



...the end.

## **FM Paul Whitehead**

### **Chess is everywhere**

GM Yuri Averbakh dies at 100:

<https://www.ft.com/content/14cce122-4b53-42ac-bea6-f45e4f1a165d>

GM John Fedorowicz appears on the May USCF podcast, One Move at a Time:

<https://new.uschess.org/news/one-move-time-may-2022-gm-john-fedorowicz>

Knight or Bishop?

<https://dotesports.com/chess/news/is-a-bishop-better-than-a-knight-in-chess>

Panera Bread is the place to play chess in Manchester, New Hampshire:

[https://www.unionleader.com/voices/city\\_matters/city-matters-mastering-chess-in-the-corner-of-a-busy-restaurant/article\\_e775efae-3b18-5098-9aaf-74d74d244469.html](https://www.unionleader.com/voices/city_matters/city-matters-mastering-chess-in-the-corner-of-a-busy-restaurant/article_e775efae-3b18-5098-9aaf-74d74d244469.html)

Chess player posts on LinkedIn, breaks all records, then gets his account deleted:

<https://frenchdailynews.com/culture/4715-a-young-chess-player-upsets-linkedins-algorithms>

“All chess players are artists.” Chess and Marcel Duchamp:

<https://www.thearticle.com/fields-of-force-marcel-duchamp-and-chess>

FIDE does NOT equate wrestling and chess:

<https://www.republicworld.com/sports-news/other-sports/fide-lands-savage-reply-to-gaethje-playing-checkers-while-charles-was-playing-chess-post-articleshow.html>

8 year-old kids demolished by a 6 year-old kid:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/chess/six-year-old-ashwath-kaushik-clinches-under-8-world-cadets-chess-gold/articleshow/91374202.cms>

12 year-old Ukrainian refugee wins a tournament in Ireland:

<https://www.donegallive.ie/news/local-news/804109/congratulations-12-year-old-ukrainian-refugee-in-donegal-wins-chess-tournament.html>

National Championships are underway in Guyana:

[https://newsroom.gy/2022/05/09/\\_trashed/](https://newsroom.gy/2022/05/09/_trashed/)

In Nigeria, two cryptocurrency CEO's play a \$2000 chess match for charity:

<https://guardian.ng/features/crypto-exchange-ceo-obiex-places-a-2000-usd-bet-on-a-charity-chess-game/>

Garry Kasparov is interviewed by GM Cristian Chirila:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ragAKwOKk4>

A Math teacher in Scotland uses chess in her class:

<https://www.tes.com/magazine/teaching-learning/primary/how-i-use-chess-board-maths-interventions>

Glamorous chess streamer Alexandra Botez is worth a cool million:

<https://techiegamers.com/alexandra-botez-net-worth/>

Disgraced GM Sergey Karjakin is reduced to making prank phone-calls:

<https://en.chessbase.com/post/karjakin-s-prank-call>

Another large chess set is spotted growing in Ohio:

<https://thecourier.com/news/385743/chess-anyone/>

Legendary GM Nona Gaprindashvili has just turned 81:

<https://agenda.ge/en/news/2022/1553>

Want to play 'Baby Chess'? Find the rules here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r8n3wzssxFs>

Chess is happening in Wyoming:

<https://www.wyomingpublicmedia.org/open-spaces/2022-05-06/a-sheridan-chess-tournament-brings-new-and-old-chess-players-together>

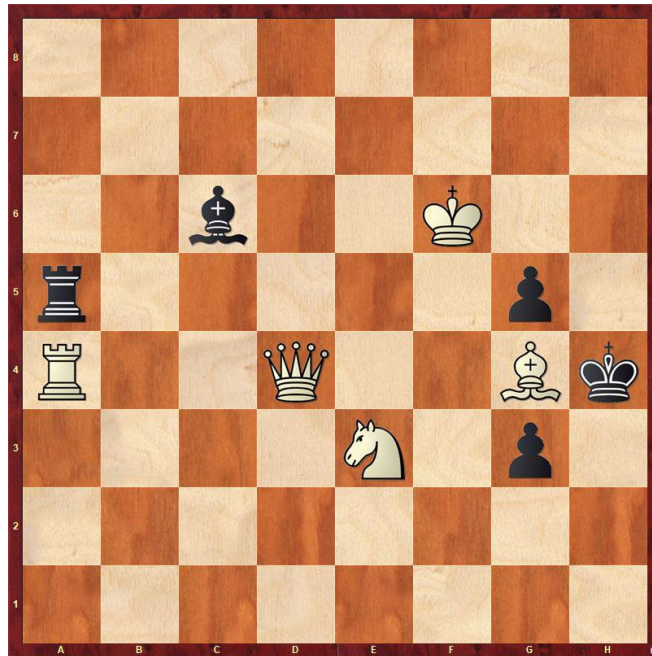
Finally, WIM Alexey Root covers the American Cup, and sneaks in a reference to the Mechanics' Institute's Chess Café:

<https://www.sparkchess.com/2022-american-cup-double-elimination-chess.html>

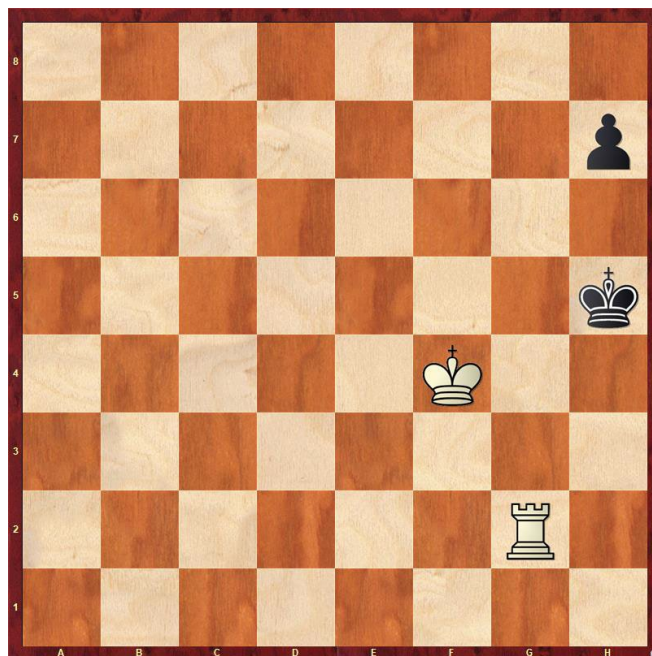
**Chess is everywhere.**



## Tony's Teasers



1. F. Feygen 1971. White mates in two moves.



2. William Shinkman 1898. White mates in three moves



## **Richard Hack**

### **Stories from the Chess Cafe**

"If to see with the bodily eyes is pleasant, the penetrating vision of the eyes of the mind is marvelous. And again, as the general is the preserver of the army, so reason coupled with education is the guide of life." (Rhetorica ad Alexandrum, I., a work once falsely attributed to Aristotle.)

On May 9 we continued our discussion of the many games to which chessplayers have dedicated themselves. Paul showed us copies of both Asa Hoffmann's *The Last Gamesman* and Oliver Roeder's *Seven Games*, a much different book that mentions 15 places for chess in New York, including the Village Chess Shop on Thompson Avenue. Charles James noted that Hoffmann's book has 7 chapters on 7 games, including chess, backgammon, horse racing, checkers, and apparently poker, among others. Paul noted that the only chess game in that book is his 18-move win over Bobby Fischer in an Evans Gambit.

Sal Matera recalled places on West Third Street, calling the West Village a haven for chess. Among others he mentioned the Chess Forum and the Chess Shop, Lisa Lane's *The Queen's Pawn*, and the most famous one, Rossolimo's Chess Studio. In those days you could play for an hourly fee.

I later found <http://anusha.com/fleas.htm>, which has some material on the Flea House (once situated near a flea circus in Midtown), a name given to the Chess and Checker Club of New York, also famously featured in Stanley Kubrick's 1956 film *The Killing*, about some desperate people who pull off a big racetrack heist. The site has dozens of links, some featuring Sam Sloan, one of the regulars who hung with Bobby Fischer. Sal Matera referred to their name "The Brat Pack," which included Bernard Zuckerman, William Lombardy, Jackie Beers, James Gore, and a few others. John Donaldson briefly profiles Beers and Gore on pp. 111-112 of *Bobby Fischer and His World* (Siles Press, 2020), with a quote from Frank Brady as well (e.g., Gore's condescending attitude toward players he defeated).

Elliott Winslow said he once wrote a critique of a performance by Hoffmann, that the latter replied to with "a brisk letter to the editor," but when they met there were no hard feelings. Hoffmann even helped the young newcomer with advice like the following: "Go to the House of Games, walk straight back, and go past the ping-pong table. You can sleep in my easy chair."

Michael Walder showed us his recent game against Stafford in the Tuesday Night Marathon- "The first tournament game I ever played against the Albin Counter Gambit." Then he showed us one of the puzzles that Gadir Guseinov collects and distributes, an endgame with Queens and four pawns versus five. As usual, it was a big head-scratcher.

Sal noted that Yuri Averbakh's recent death at age 100 made him the oldest grandmaster to die. He had played at the famous Zurich 1953 candidates tournament and was once champion of the USSR. A person who was modest, smart, and nice. He wrote three endgame books, Paul added, that were the standard before online chess, including the short treatise Chess Endings–Essential Knowledge.

Then we looked at the game Averbakh-Panno, an early game of the Averbakh system of the King's Indian from the 1954 match between the USSR and Argentina.

Paul mentioned a great leap in technique in the 1950s. He called White's developing move Ke2 "really a great move. The center is completely closed, and White builds up on the h-file."

Sal: "With the center closed he plays g4 (then h4, h5)."

Paul: "This is the move that stopped . . . e5." At one point he sarcastically called Panno's series of retreats "development."

Sal mentioned that he had just interviewed the chess player Craig Chellstorp, who also became active in backgammon, blackjack, and progressive slots. Watched him wait until the betting built up, then place a bet on to of someone else's. A grinder.

Alexey Root: "So you're up to 72 [on your list of winners]."

Sal: "I got a long way to go."

Mike Walder later wrote me: "I was surprised to learn Craig played blackjack. He was a Chicago legend in chess, bridge, and backgammon."

I had asked Mike about his musical interests because he mentioned at the Café that he had a guitar and a bass. He said, "My favorite musical genres from top on down are jazz, classical, jazz and/or classical fused with rock, progressive rock, music from many different cultures, blues, rhythm and blues, and everything else."

"My dad was an independent recording engineer who recorded and mixed a lot of music for various artists. Because of that I could buy any record for a dollar. If my memory serves me right, at least one of them released their records on the Chess label. I worked as a technician and an engineer assistant in a couple of recording studios. Willie Dixon was a Chicago mainstay and my father recorded several hours of him jamming and writing songs on the fly in the studio. I also produced, recorded, and mixed three songs for a Chicago-based jazz/rock fusion band. My father also played chess casually. Had a natural talent. He surprised me when I was 16 by playing 13 moves deep into an acceptable line for White against the Najdorf Sicilian. I am not sure how he did that."

(Information on the Chess Café is here: <https://www.milibrary.org/chess/chess-cafe>)

## Upcoming Events

### **Ray Conway Memorial Tuesday Night Marathon - Ongoing**

Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2022 - Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> 2022. 6:30PM.

USCF + FIDE Rated. 7 Round SS G/120;d5

Information: <https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/ray-conway-memorial-tuesday-night-marathon>

Registration: <https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/RayConwayMemorialTuesdayNightMarathon>

### **Mechanics' Institute May Championship Quads**

Saturday May 14, 2022, 3PM. USCF Rated. 3RR G/30;d5

Information: <https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/mechanics-championship-quads>

Registration: <https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/MechanicsChampionshipQuadsMay2022>

### **Mechanics' Institute Monthly Scholastic Swiss – In Person**

Saturday May 14, 2022, 10AM. USCF Rated. 4 Games of G30;d5

Information: <https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/mechanics-institutemonthly-scholastic-swiss-person>

Registration: <https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/MechanicsInstituteKidsSwissMay2022>

### **May USCF Online-Rated Scholastic Tournaments via ChessKid.com**

Sunday May 22, 3PM. 6 games of G/15+2

Monday May 30, 3PM. 6 games of G/10+2

For Information and links to register: <https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/uscf-online-rated-scholastic-tournaments-2022-chesskidcom>

### **57<sup>th</sup> Arthur Stamer Memorial G/45**

Saturday June 4, 2022, 10AM. USCF Rated. 4 Games of G/45;d5

Two sections: 1800+ and under 1800.

Information: <https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/57th-stamer-memorial-championship-g45-person>

Registration: <https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/57thStamerMemorialChampionshipG45>

## Solutions to Tony's Teasers

Problem #1: 1.Qd5! Interference. If 1...Rxd5 2.Ng2#. Or 1...Bxd5 (1...g2) 2.Nf5#.

Problem #2: 1.Rg1! After which it all falls into place. 1...h6 2.Rg2 Kh4 3.Rh2#. Or 1...Kh6 2.Kf5 Kh5 3.Rg1#.

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## Submit your piece or feedback

We would welcome any feedback, articles or "Letter to the Editor" piece. Submit yours today through this Google Form:

<https://forms.gle/eLfUyg2yFZ3vxgcMA>

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## Newsletter



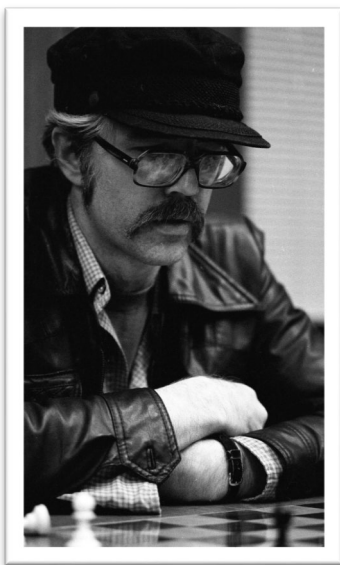
### In This Issue

- TNM Report & Annotated Games
- GM de Firmian and FM Whitehead on Politics and Chess
- Dr. Sztaray on the rating of FIDE events

You can now access our newsletter directly from the chess home page!

<https://www.milibrary.org/chess>

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Charles Powell at the Mechanic's Institute Chess Club c.1980.  
Photograph courtesy <http://www.chessdryad.com/>