



MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE
Since 1854

CHESS ROOM NEWSLETTER

Issue #1019 | June 4th, 2022

Conway TNM Round 5 report

Gens Una Sumus!

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chessroom@milibrary.org

415-393-0110



IM **Elliott Winslow** maintains a ½ point in the top section at 4-1 despite taking a ½ point bye, as the matchups between **Siddharth Arun** vs **Nicholas Weng** and **Christophe Bambou** vs **Edward Lewis** both ended in draws. Joining those four at 3.5 points are **Frederick Dutter** and **Adam Stafford**, who also took 5th round byes. The upset of the round surely goes to **Rohan Das** (1944) who defeated the mighty **Conrado Diaz** (2344).

Anton Maliev continues to boss the under 1800 section. His victory over **Dominic Croce** puts him at a perfect 5-0. But right behind, also undefeated at 4.5, is **Steve Sobel** who downed **Yorgos Tsolias**. Rounding out the leaders with impressive 4-1 scores are veterans **John Chan** and **Albert Starr**.

Raymond (Ray) Conway was the Mechanics' Institute Chess Room Director from 1971 to 1980. His tenure coincided with the 'Fischer Boom.' 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>

Arun,Siddharth
 Weng,Nicholas
 MI Conway TNM: 1800+ (5.1) 31.05.2022
[de Firmian]

B22
2209
2021

This was the first board game of the round. **1.e4 c5 2.c3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.d4 cxd4 5.cxd4 d6 6.Nf3 e6 7.Nc3 Nxc3**

[7...dxe5 may be the best way to play this as Black]

8.bxc3 Qc7!?

[now 8...dxe5 9.Nxe5 is good for White since the knight exchange strengthened the white center]

9.Bd2 b6!?

[9...Bd7]

10.Bd3

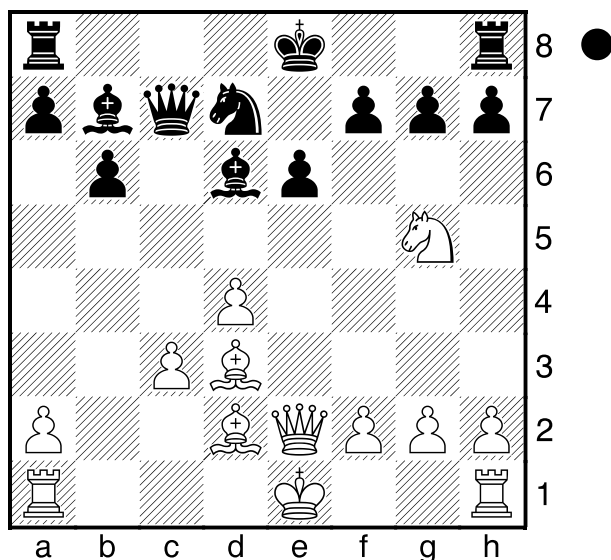
[10.Bb5+!?± Bd7 11.Bd3]

[10.Ng5!?±]

10...Bb7 11.Qe2 Nd7 12.exd6

[12.0-0= dxe5 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.Bf4 Bd6 is equal]

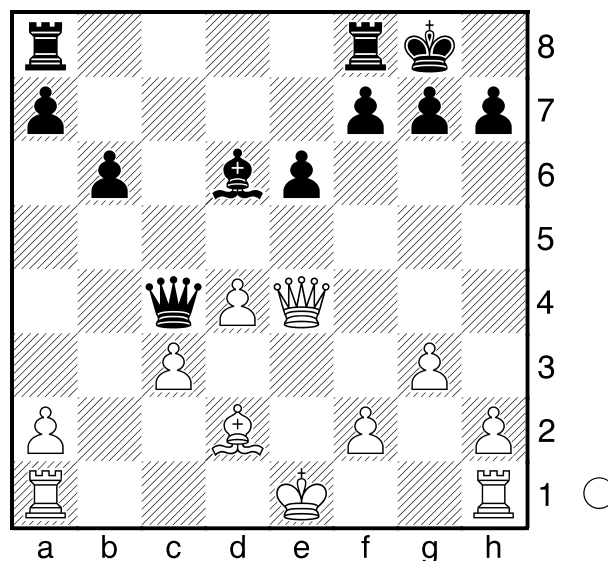
12...Bxd6 13.Ng5!?



Siddharth wants to spice things up instead of a normal position after 13. **0-0 13...Nf6**

[13...Bxg2 14.Rg1 Bc6 15.Nxe6 fxe6 16.Qxe6+ looks scary (e.g. 16...

Kf8? 17. Rg7!) but Black may well be better after 16... Be7]
14.Ne4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 Bxe4 16.Qxe4 0-0 17.g3 Qc4



It's hard to argue with Nicholas if he wanted as safe secure edge in the endgame as he will get it now. **18.Qe2 Rac8 19.Qxc4 Rxc4 20.f4 Ra4 21.Ke2 Rc8**

[I like 21...b5 22.Rhb1 a6 to set the black pawns on white squares and keep the white pawn fixed on c3 as a target]

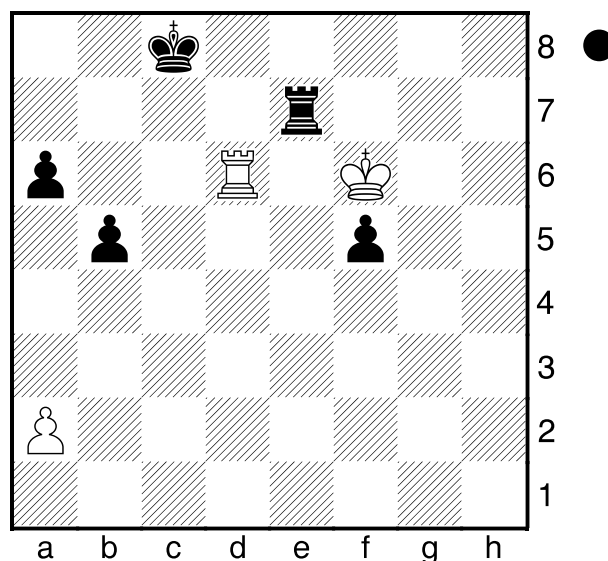
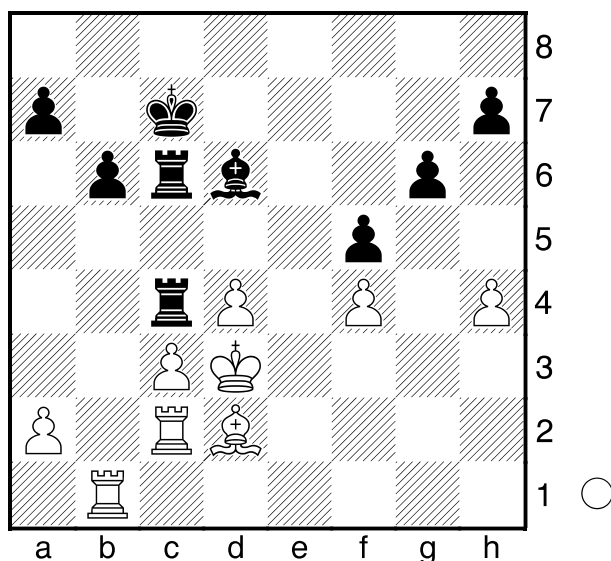
22.Rhb1 Kf8 23.Kd3 Ke7 24.Rb5 g6 25.Rb2 Rc6 26.Rab1 Kd7 27.Rc2 Rac4 28.g4! looking for counterplay, as there is little White can do on the queenside **28...f5 29.gxf5 exf5 30.h4** using this pawn to break up the kingside chain **30...Kc7?!**

(Diagram)

31.h5

[White could also get a slight edge winning the exchange with 31.d5!? R6c5 32.Be3 Re4 33.Bxc5 Bxc5 34.Re2 (or 34.h5)]

31...Kb7 32.hxg6 hxg6 33.Rg1 Bb8 34.Be3



[34.Rh1!?± !=]
 [34.d5 Rc8 35.Rxg6 Bxf4]
34...b5! now 35...b4 is a possibility.
 Chances are even as both sides have targets to work on. **35.Rgc1 a6 36.Rg2 Bc7 37.Bd2 Ba5 38.Re2 Ra4 39.Rc2 Ra3 40.Re7+ Kc8 41.d5** This long awaited advance makes the game tactically sharp. **41...Rd6 42.Kd4 Ra4+ 43.c4 Bxd2**
 [43...Bb6+ 44.Ke5 Bc7 repeats]
44.Rxd2 Rxc4+ 45.Ke5 Rd8 46.d6
 Black is a pawn ahead while White has an active king, advanced d-pawn and active rooks. The black rooks are also active which keeps the balance.
46...Re4+ 47.Kf6 Rxf4= 48.Kxg6
 [48.Rc2+! Kb8 49.Rc6]
48...Rd7 49.Kf7
 [49.Kf6]
49...Rh4 50.Ke6 Rh6+ 51.Ke5?
 [51.Kxf5 Rxd6 52.Rxd6 Rxd6 53.Ra7 (53.Rh7) 53...Kb8 54.Ke5! (54.Rh7) 54...Kxa7 55.Kxd6= is a drawn pawn ending, though White must be careful]
51...Rhxd6 52.Rxd6 Rxe7+ 53.Kf6

(Diagram)

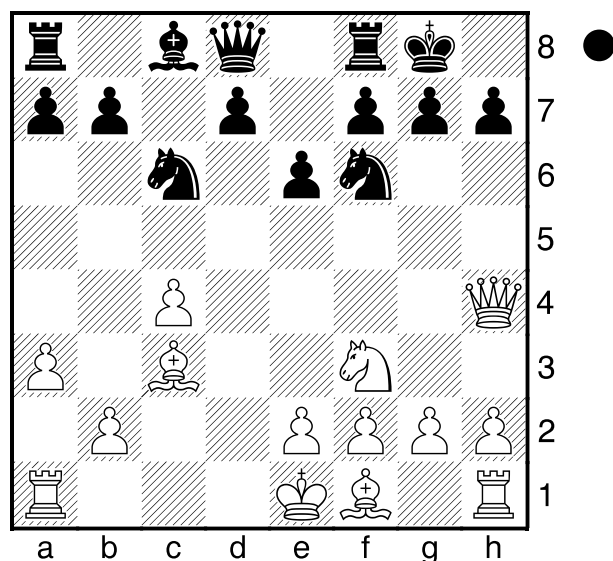
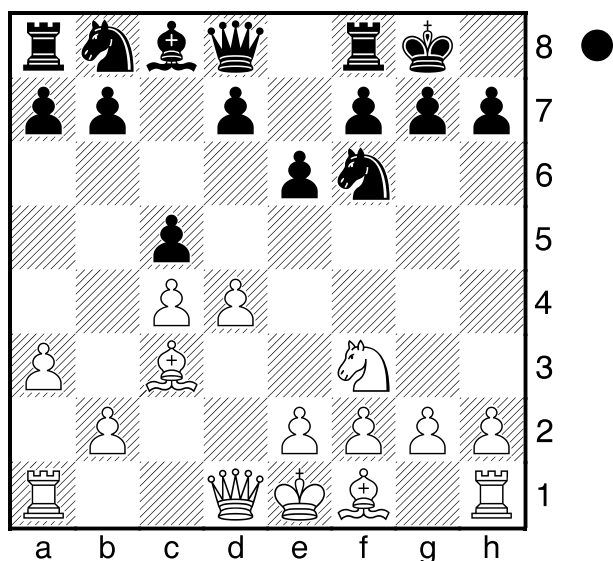
Re8? Black had three moves that won; this isn't one of them.

[53...Re2 54.Rxa6 Kb7 55.Ra3 f4]
 [53...Re3 54.Rxa6 Kb7 55.Rd6 (55.Ra5 Kb6 56.Ra8 f4) 55...f4 56.Rd4 Ra3]
 [53...Rh7 54.Kxf5 (54.Kg6 Rh2) 54...Kb7]
54.Rxa6= f4 55.Kf5 Kb7
 [55...f3 56.Kg4 f2 57.Rf6 Re2 58.a3 Ra2 59.Kg3 Kc7 60.Kg2! holds the draw]
56.Rf6 f3 57.Kg4 Re2 58.Kxf3 Rxa2 59.Ke3 Rc2 60.Kd3 Rc8 61.Rh6 Ka7 62.Rg6 Draw agreed. A great battle to the end.
 1/2-1/2

E11
 □ **Bambou,Christophe** **2101**
 ■ **Lewis,Edward** **1998**
 MI Conway TNM: 1800+ (5.2) 31.05.2022
 [Lewis,Ed / Winslow,Elliott]

1.d4 Edouard,Romain **1...Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bd2** EW: (No longer a beginner's move!) **4...0-0 5.Nf3 c5 6.a3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3**

(Diagram)



EL: Ed knows that Ne4 is the best move but chooses to exchange in the center first and was surprised by Qxd4. **7...cxd4**

[7...Ne4 8.Rc1!? b6 9.g3 Bb7 10.Bg2 Nxc3 11.Rxc3 cxd4 12.Qxd4 Nc6 13.Qd2 Qe7 14.0-0 Rfd8 15.e4 Rac8 16.Rd1 d6 17.b3 Ne5 18.Nd4 a6 19.Re3 Qc7 20.h3 h6 21.Qb2 Qc5 22.a4 Kf8 23.Kh2 a5 24.Qe2 Nc6 25.Red3 Nxd4 26.Rxd4 Rc7 27.Qd2 Rcd7 28.Rd3 Ke7 29.f4 Bc6 30.Rf1 g5 31.fxg5 hxg5 32.Rd5 Bxd5 33.Qxg5+ Kf8 34.cxd5 Re7 35.e5 Rc8 36.Rf4 dxe5 37.Rc4 Artemiev,V (2716)-Aronian,L (2773) Chess.com INT 2020 CBM 196 [Edouard,Romain] 1-0]

8.Qxd4 Nc6 9.Qh4

(Diagram)

Here, black tries to release pressure on the f6 square by offering an exchange of queens on d8 but this simply loses a pawn or gives up a rook for a bishop.

9...Ne8N

[Predecessor: 9...b6 10.e3 Bb7 11.Bd3 h6 12.Qg3 Kh8 13.0-0 d6 14.Rfd1 e5 15.Nh4 Ne7 16.Rac1 Qc7 17.f4 Nc6 18.Nf5 Rg8 19.fxe5

Nxe5 20.Bb1 Rad8 21.Nxd6 Rxd6 22.Rxd6 Qxd6 23.Bxe5 Qd2 24.Rf1 Re8+- 25.Bxf6 gxf6 26.Rxf6 Qc1+ 27.Rf1 Qxb2 28.Qf2 Qg7 29.g3 Kg8 30.Qf4 Bc8 31.Be4 Be6 32.Bd5 a5 33.e4 Qg6 34.Kg2 Bxd5 35.exd5 Re4 36.Qf5 Re2+ 37.Kh3 Kg7 38.Qxg6+ Kxg6 39.Rd1 0-1, Ansh,S (2455)-Khamrakulov,D (2514) Chess.com Blitz 5.5.2020.]

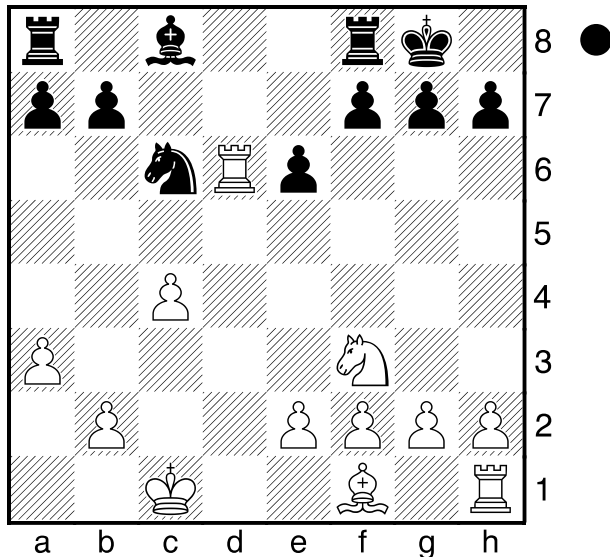
[9...Re8 10.Rd1 e5 11.g4±]
[9...d5! is best but who wants to play it -- Black lands in a thankless bad bishop ending with splintered pawns. 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Qxf6 gxf6 12.cxd5 exd5 But -- it's actually happened, twenty years ago! 13.Rd1 (13.e3 d4±) 13...Be6 14.e3 Rac8 (14...Rfc8!? Black does have a development lead, and there are some light square weaknesses for White...) 15.Be2 Ne5 16.Nd4 Nc4 17.Bxc4 dxc4 18.Kd2 Rc5 19.Kc3 a5 20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.Rd7 b5 22.Rhd1! e5? (22...Rb8 23.Rd8+ Rxd8 24.Rxd8+ Kf7 25.Ra8 a4±) 23.Ra7+- b4+ 24.axb4 axb4+ 25.Kxb4 Rfc8 26.Kc3 (26.Rad7!) 26...Rb5 27.Rdd7 Rb3+ 28.Kc2 Rcb8 29.Rg7+?! (29.Ra2!+-)

29...Kh8 30.Rxh7+ Kg8 31.Rhg7+ Kh8 32.Rh7+ Kg8 33.Rag7+ Kf8 34.Rf7+ Kg8 35.Rhg7+ ½-½ (35) Schipper,B-Albarran,G (2275) Torre Blanca Copa de Campeones, Buenos Aires 2002]

10.Qxd8 Nxd8 11.Bb4 EL: White would like to collect his pawn now. **11...d6**

12.0-0-0 Nc6 13.Bxd6 Nxd6

14.Rxd6+-



White is safe and happy with a pawn to the good. **14...e5 15.e3 Be6 16.Be2 Rac8** Black is trying to generate play down the c- file and white is trying to consolidate his position a pawn up. **17.b3 b5**

(Diagram)

18.Ng5?!

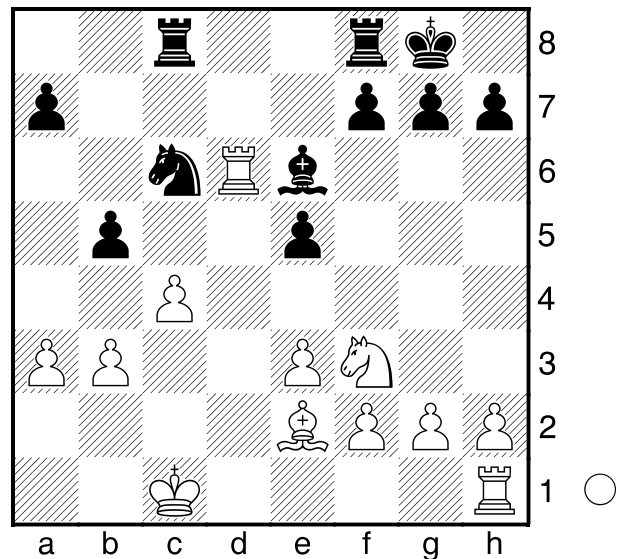
[18.Kb2! bxc4 19.Rc1!]

18...Na5!

[18...bxc4 19.b4!]

19.Nxe6

[19.Kc2! It turns out not so straightforward -- White has to do some twisting to claim a goodsized advantage. Bf5+ 20.e4 Bg6 21.Kc3! h6 22.Nf3 Bxe4 23.Nxe5± (and it's still complicated).]

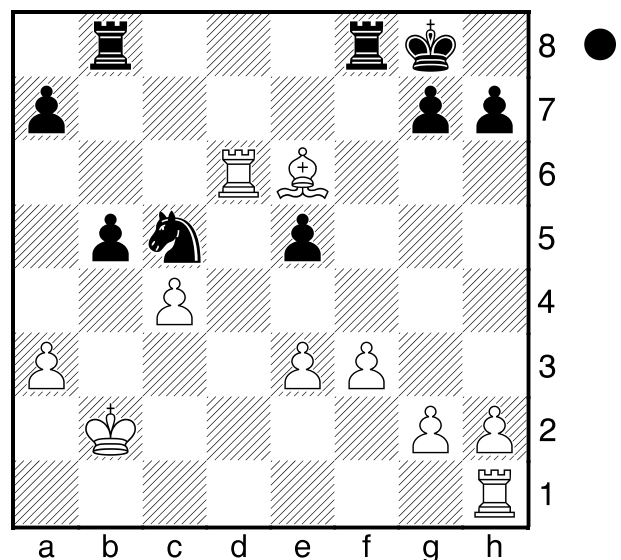


19...fxe6 20.Bg4?! Nxb3+ 21.Kb2 Nc5

This has all gone South for White -- and now his king is getting "involved" (not a good thing) **22.f3 Rb8**

[22...bxc4 right away: 23.Bxe6+ Nxe6 24.Rxe6 Rfd8 gets a slightly better rook placement and would definitely be no worse.]

23.Bxe6+



Kh8?! Asking for various troubles (N vs. B in a rook ending, back rank mate, loss of a tempo), but is promptly rewarded anyway:

[23...Nxe6 24.Rxe6 bxc4+ 25.Kc2

Rb3 26.Rxe5 Rxa3 27.Rb1= 0.00
as in]

24.cxb5? This loses a piece; White on the other hand does have compensation in the amount and placement of his pawns. The knight is more clumsy than tricky in this ending.

[24.Bd5! bxc4+ 25.Kc2 Rb3
26.Bxc4 Rxa3 27.Rhd1±]

24...Rf6= 25.Rd5?

[25.Rhd1 Nxe6 26.Kc3 Kg8
27.Kb4]

25...Nxe6 26.Rxe5 h6

[26...a6!? 27.a4 axb5 28.Rxb5
Rxb5+ 29.axb5 Rf5±]

27.Rd1 a6 28.a4 axb5 29.Rxb5

Rxb5+ 30.axb5 Rf5 31.Rd6 Rxb5+

32.Kc3 The binary beast accesses this as -0.9 but how does black continue?

32...Nc7

[32...Nf8 head to h4!?]

33.e4 Kg8 34.f4 Ne8 35.Rd8 Kf7

36.e5 Ke7 37.Ra8 Rb7

[37...Nc7!?]

38.g4 Nc7 39.Ra5 Ne6 40.f5 Ng5

41.h4 Ne4+ 42.Kd4 Nf2 43.f6+ gxf6

44.exf6+ Kf7 45.g5 hxg5 46.hxg5

White offered a draw here and black accepted.

1/2-1/2

□ **Riese,Kayven** **B96**
1900

■ **Hao,Max** **1900**

MI Conway TNM: 1800+ (5.5) 31.05.2022
[Winslow,Elliott]

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

Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 h6

[7...Qb6 8.Qd2 Qxb2 9.Rb1 Qa3
12,500 games 10.Rb3 56 games!]

8.Bh4 Qb6 The Poisoned Pawn

Variation of the Najdorf, with ...h6 and

Bh4 tossed in. Good luck! **9.Qd2 Qxb2**

10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Rb3 In the over-one-

thousand games in the database this position as occurred (without ...h6 many more of course), this has occurred in eight games. **11...Qa5 12.Be2?!**

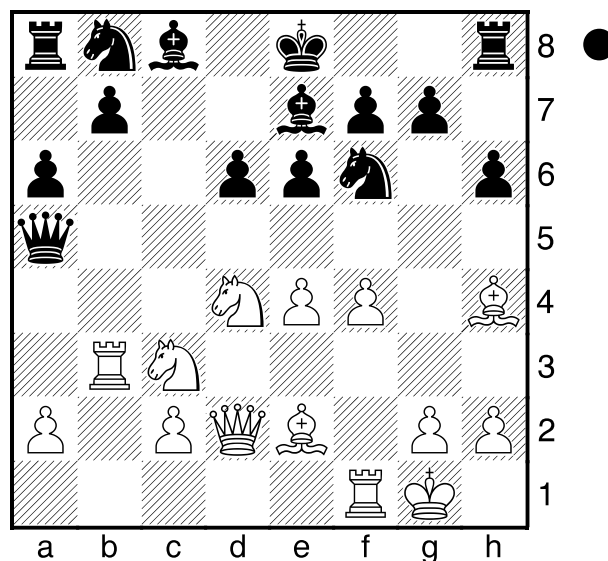
[Computers go for 12.Bxf6 gxf6

although of course Black has an extra move over a lot of other lines where ... h6 is played later. And indeed, it's already not happy for White.]

12...Be7

[12...Nbd7 could well be better, but why not set a trap for Riese? Who knew he was so unversed in the PP?]

13.0-0



But in fact nothing is much better...

13...Nxe4 Not as good as they thought!

[13...Nbd7!? leaves White wondering why he is a pawn down for nothing.]

14.Qe1??

[14.Qe3 Bxh4 (14...Nxc3 15.Rxc3 Nc6 16.Nxc6 bxc6 17.Bxe7 Kxe7

18.f5± at least has Black's king in the center.) 15.Nxe4 0-0! 16.Nxd6 Bf6

Black gave back one pawn but is coming out and still up the other.

17.Ne4 Bxd4 18.Qxd4 Nc6 19.Qb6 Qa4!±]

14...Bxh4 15.Qxh4 Nxc3

0-1

□ Parsons, Stephen

■ Goode, Scott

MI Conway TNM: 1800+ (5.7) 31.05.2022

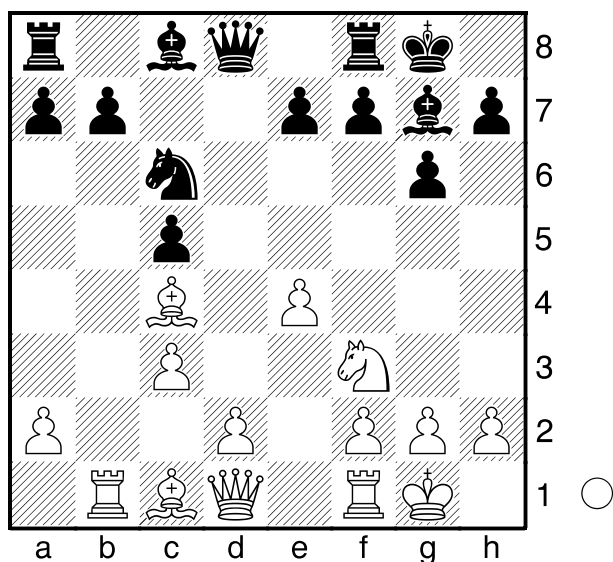
[Winslow, Elliott]

A16

1725

1688

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.cxd5 Nxd5 4.e4
Nxc3 5.bxc3 g6 6.Rb1 Bg7 7.Nf3 0-0
8.Bc4 c5 9.0-0 Nc6



10.a3?

[10.Bd5!? Na5 11.d4 keeps the struggle balanced.]

10...Na5 11.Ba2 e6?

[11...c4! follows through, with a significant plus.]

12.d4 cxd4?! no hurry for this 13.cxd4
b6 14.Qd3 h6?!

(Diagram)

15.d5?

[15.Bf4!]

[15.h4]

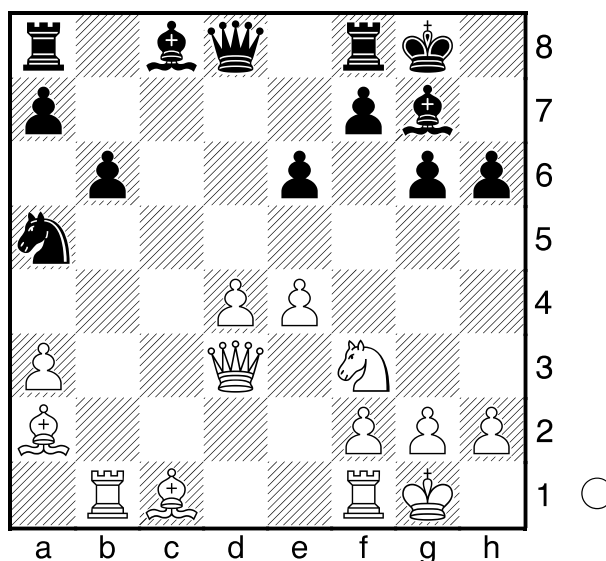
15...exd5 16.exd5??

[16.Bxd5 Be6= Or maybe 17.h4 is some pull.]

16...Bf5+ 17.Qb5 Bxb1 18.Bxb1 a6?!

Weakening b6.

[18...Rc8 getting the rooks and queen going is the obvious course.]



19.Qd3 Nb7?!

[19...Rc8! 20.Qxa6 Qxd5 21.Qxb6 Rb8 22.Be4 Qxe4 23.Qxa5 Qd3 or some such -- Black's rooks will soon dominate.]

20.Be3?!

[20.Bf4]

20...Qd6

[20...Nc5]

21.Rd1 Rfc8 22.h4 Rc3 23.Qd2
Rxa3?

[23...Qxa3! 24.Bxh6 Rxf3! 25.Bxg7 Kxg7 26.gxf3 Qxf3 27.d6 Qg4+ 28.Kf1 Rd8 29.Qc3+ (29.d7 Qh3+ and ...Qxh4; that pawn shall not pass!) 29...Kh7 30.Rd4 Rc8! Only move but winning.]

24.Bxh6 Black's advantage has dwindled to "slight" in face of the weakened king position. 24...Bc3?!

[24...Qf6 25.h5 Rxf3!?]

25.Qg5

[25.Qc1! Qb4 26.h5±]

25...Bf6?!

[SF 15 likes ... 25...Rb3!? (What is that?)]

26.Qg4 Nc5??

[26...Bg7 27.Bxg7 Kxg7 28.Nd4 White is throwing everything at Black's king, but... Qe5! (28...Qf6 29.h5+-)

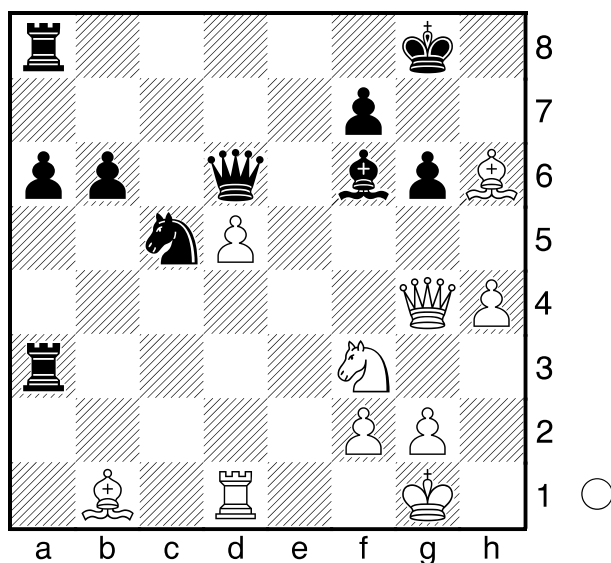
A) 29.Bxg6 fxc6 30.Qd7+ Kh6
31.Qxb7 Rf8 32.Qxb6 Ra2 33.Nf3
Qc3! Black has walked a narrow
path of only moves, and even now
it's unclear if it's holding up.

34.Qd4!? Qxd4 35.Rxd4 Ra5
36.d6 Rd8±;

B) The same "murky" evaluation
applies to 29.Nf5+ Kh8! (29...Kf8?
30.Qb4+ Nc5 31.Qxa3; 29...Kh7?
30.Qg5! looking for f4! (or h5))

30.Nh6 Kg7 31.Nxf7 Kxf7
32.Qxg6+ Kf8 33.Qc6 Qg7!±;

C) 29.Ne6+!]



27.Bxg6! fxc6?! Acquiescing but quite
lost regardless. **28.Qxg6+** Kh8

29.Bg7+

[29.Ng5! Qe7 30.d6 Stockfish 15
(out for a month?) says mate in 10 --
we must believe.]

29...Bxg7 30.Qxd6 Rb3 31.Ng5 Rb4
32.h5 Rg4 33.Qg6 Rxc5 34.Qxc5 a5
35.h6 Bc3 36.d6 a4 37.d7 Nxd7
38.Rxd7 Rg8 39.Qf5 Except for the
Exchange loss (intentional?), a nice
game. Defense is hard!

1-0

B01

□ **Powers, Christopher**

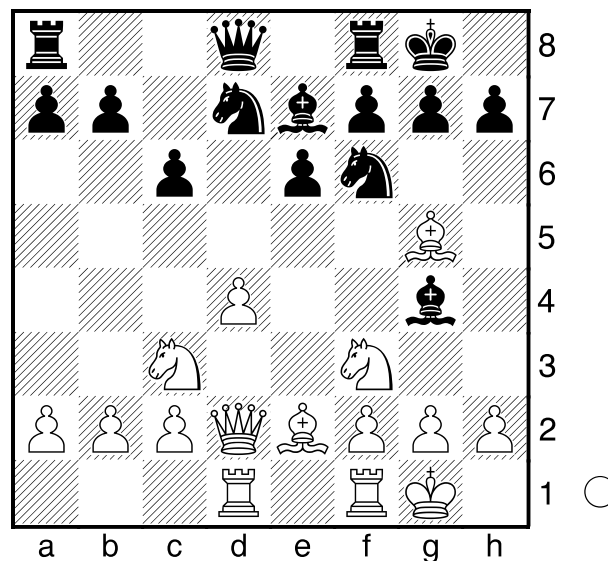
1747

■ **Carron, Joel**

1686

MI Conway TNM: 1800+ (5.8) 31.05.2022
[de Firmian]

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd8
4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Be2 e6 7.0-0
c6 8.Bg5 Be7 9.Qd2 Nbd7 10.Rad1
0-0



This is a classic, well played Center
Counter Defense. White is a bit more
active but Black has a very solid
position that is hard to crack. Both sides
have gotten what they've looked for from
the opening. **11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Nd5**
13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.Ne4 N5f6 15.c3
Nxe4 16.Bxe4 Nf6 17.Bc2 c5

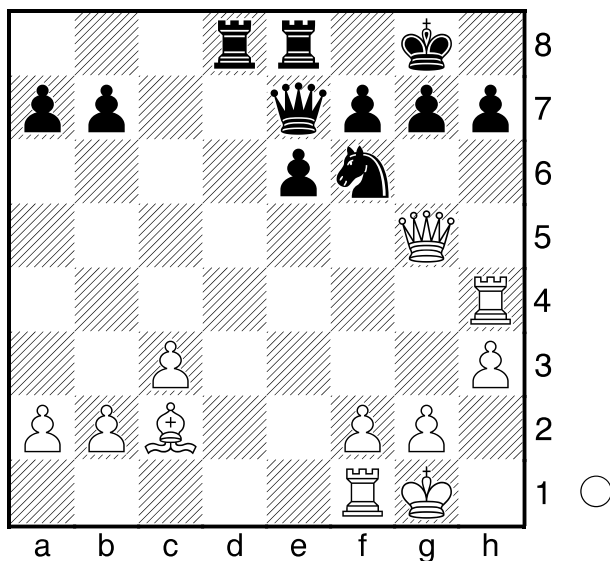
The awaited break. White has just a
small edge. **18.Qg5 cxd4 19.Rxd4**
Rad8 20.Rh4 going after the king.

Central play would have been
[20.Qe3 Rxd4 21.Qxd4 b6 22.Rd1]
20...Rfe8?

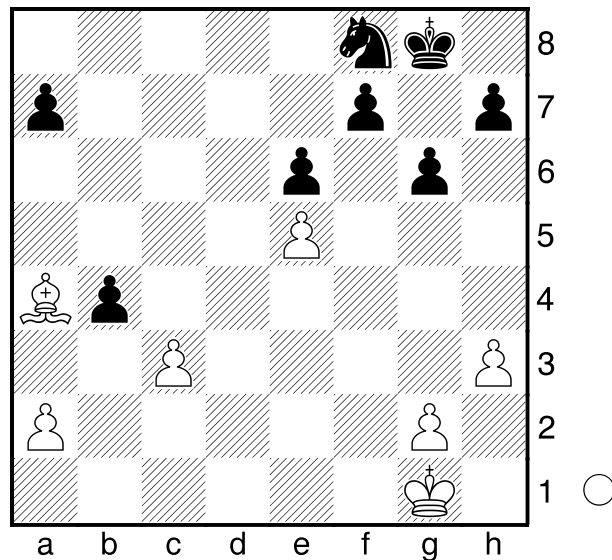
(Diagram)

21.Re1?

[missing 21.Bxh7+! Nxh7 22.Qh5
winning the knight back with an extra



32.Qxc5 bxc5 33.b4! cxb4



pawn f5 (22...Nf6 23.Qh8#)
23.Qxh7+ Kf7 24.Qh5+ g6 25.Qh6
Rh8 26.Qxh8 Rxh8 27.Rxh8±
is a clear edge to White]

21...g6!= This should have been played
on move 20. The game is equal now.

22.f4?! With no easy way into the black
position Christopher charges ahead, but
this move weakens White more than
Black.

[22.Ba4]

22...Rd5

[also 22...Rd2! 23.Bb3 (23.Ba4
Red8) 23...Rxb2-+]

23.Re5 Rxe5?! letting the white rook on
h4 back in the game

[23...Rc8!±]

24.fxe5 Nd7

[24...Qc5+ 25.Kh1 Nd7±]

25.Qh6

[25.Qxe7 Rxe7=]

25...Nf8 26.Rc4 Rd8 27.Qe3 b6

28.Bb3 Rd7 29.Qe4 Rc7 30.Ba4

[30.Qd4]

30...Rxc4 31.Qxc4 Qc5+? The wrong
choice of endings.

[31...Qg5! keeping the queens on
allows Black to attack the e5 and b2
pawns. Joel would then have a clear
edge.]

34.c4!! A brilliant move that should win
the game. The passed c-pawn should
win the knight with the black king and
knight so restricted. 34...g5 35.c5 Ng6
36.c6 Ne7 37.c7 a5 38.Kf2 Kg7
39.Kg3?!

[39.Bd7]

39...Kg6 40.Bc2+ f5 41.exf6+?!

It just got a lot harder. One suspects a
time scramble!

[41.Kf3!]

41...Kxf6 42.Be4?!

[42.Bxh7± is still a solid plus, with
another passed pawn via g3 and h4
possible.]

42...a4 43.Bxh7

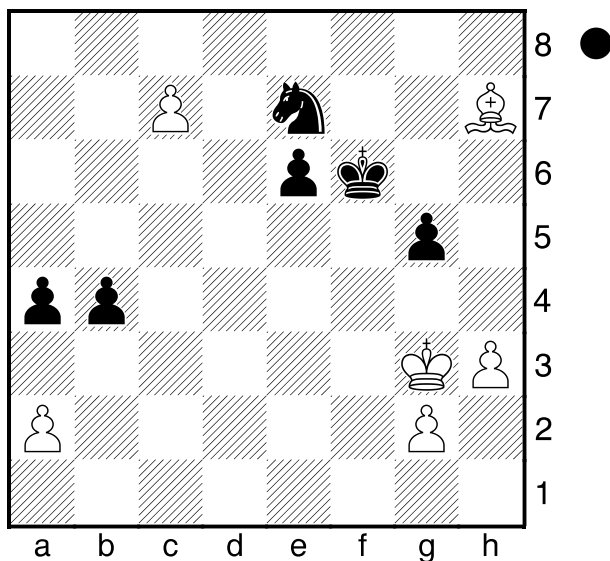
(Diagram)

Now this needs to be taken 43...a3?

[43...b3! is a draw; the passed pawn
created neatly counters White's
monster on c7. 44.axb3 a3 45.Bb1
e5 46.Kg4 e4 is a draw]

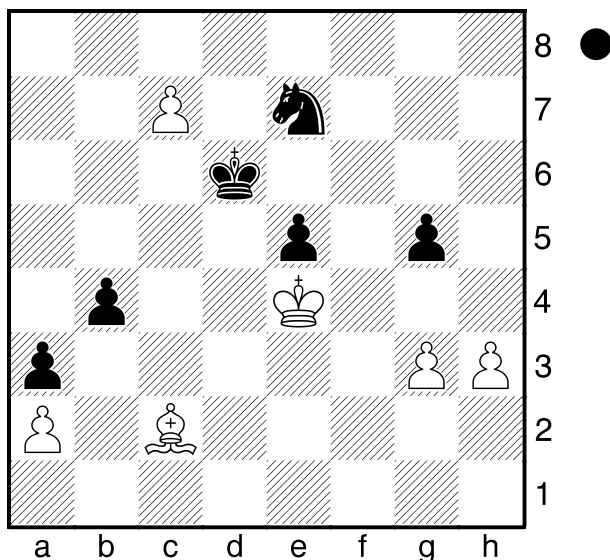
44.Bc2 e5 45.Kf3?

[45.Kg4! e4 46.Bxe4 b3 47.Bb1! b2
48.g3 The h-pawn will be enough to
distract Black's king, when White will
send his king after Black's pawns --



and the *other* rook pawn will decide.
(Black's knight is helpless of course.
)]

45...Ke6 46.Ke4 Kd6 47.g3



Ke6?

[47...Kxc7! Freedom for the knight!
48.Kxe5 Nc6+ Black plans ...Na5 (or
...Nd4) and ...b3! when White can't
win.]

**48.h4! Kf6 49.hxg5+ Kxg5 50.Kxe5
Nc8** now an exchange of time pressure
slips **51.Bf5?**

[51.Ke6]

51...Nb6?

[51...b3!=]

52.Be6! the end 52...Kg6 53.Kd6

A great battle and a fascinating ending.

1-0

C50

□ **Mott,Julien**

1144

■ **Brickhouse,Christian**

1039

MI Conway TNM: u1800 (5.24) 31.05.22

[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3

[Is it worth noting that Bg5 happened
even earlier in the just-played So-
Carlsen Armaggedon game in
Norway? It's a different story of
course, but still... Oh, and So won in
50 moves. 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5
5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 d6 7.c3 a6 8.a4
Ba7 9.Nbd2 Qe7 10.0-0 g5 11.Bg3
Nh7 12.b4 Nf8 13.b5 Na5 14.Bd5
c6 15.Ba2 You might think Black has
attacking chances on the kingside,
but they just never really
materialized.]

3...Bc5 4.Bc4 Nf6 Four Knights? Italian
Game? Giuoco Pianissimo? **5.d3 0-0**
6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 Be7 8.0-0 d6 9.h3
Nd4 10.Nxd4 exd4 11.Ne2 c5 12.f4
d5 13.exd5 Nxd5 14.Bxe7 Nxe7
15.Qd2 Nf5 16.Bb3

(Diagram)

a5! 17.a3 Ra6! 18.c3 Rg6 19.Rf3

Qh4 20.Qe1 Re8 21.cxd4?! cxd4?!

[21...Nxd4!]

22.g4 Re3?

[22...Qe7]

[22...Qd8]

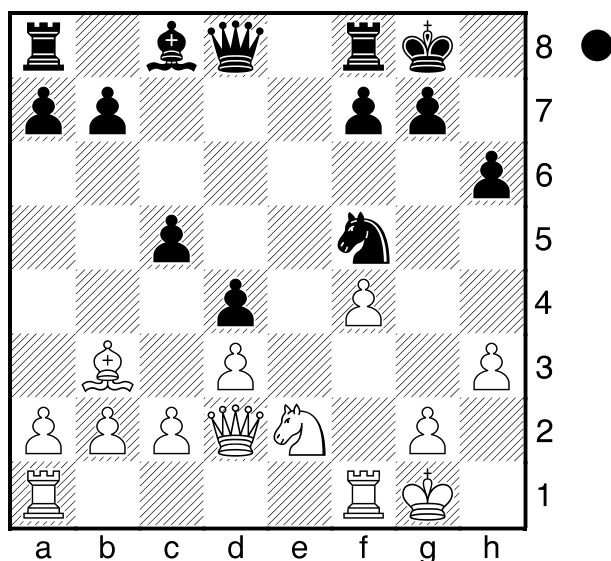
[22...h5]

23.Qxh4= Nxh4 24.Rxe3 dxe3 25.Rc1

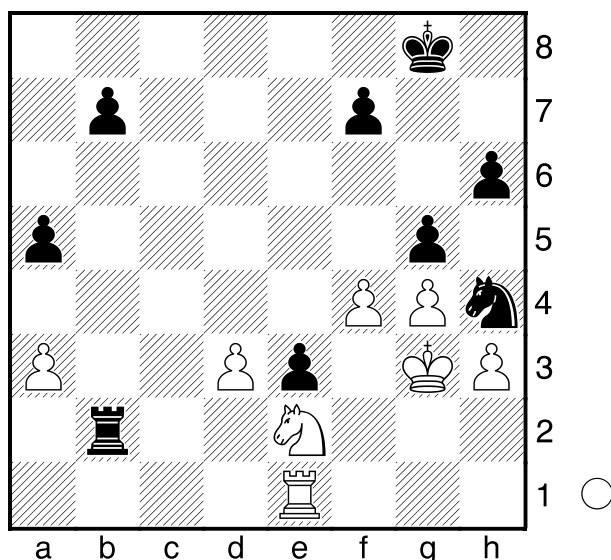
Be6 26.Bxe6 Rxe6 27.Kh2 Rb6

28.Kg3?!

[28.Rc8+ Kh7 29.b4 axb4 30.axb4



Rxb4 31.Re8]
28...Rxb2 29.Re1??
 [29.Nd4 g5 30.fxg5 hxg5 31.Rc2
 appears to hold pretty easily.]
29...g5!-+



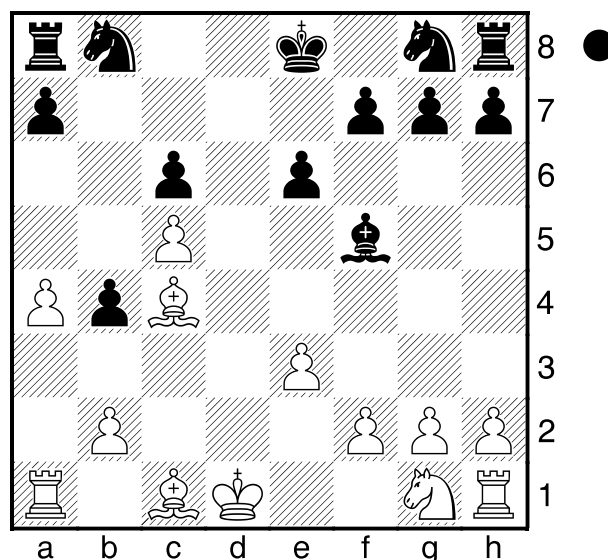
30.f5 b5 31.Nf4 any other square the knight moves to allows Rg2 mate
31...gxf4+ 32.Kxh4 f6 33.Rc1 e2 34.Kh5 Rc2 35.Rxc2 e1Q 36.Kg6 Qe8+ 37.Kxf6 f3 0-1

<input type="checkbox"/>	Ahrens,Richard	D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Casares Jr,Nick	1064
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1600
MI Conway TNM: u1800 (5.17)		31.05.22
[de Firmian]		

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nc3 c6 4.e3 b5
Nick plays aggressively to hold onto the pawn. The game is already a hard battle after only 4 moves. **5.a4! b4 6.Ne4 Bf5 7.Nc5?!**

[Either 7.Ng3
[or 7.f3 should give White an edge in
the opening]

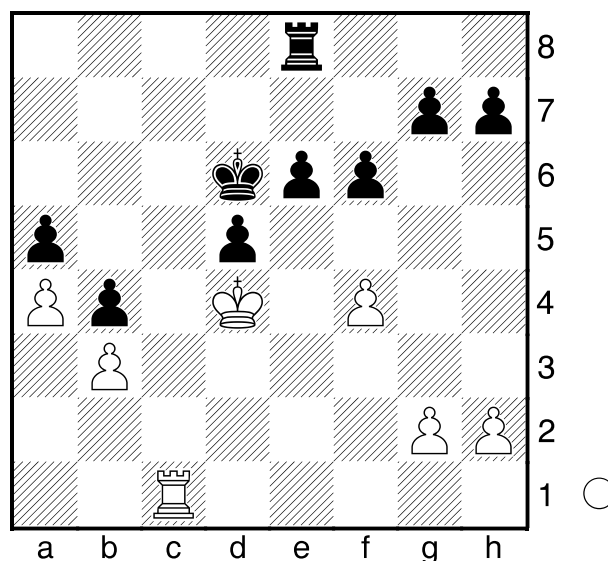
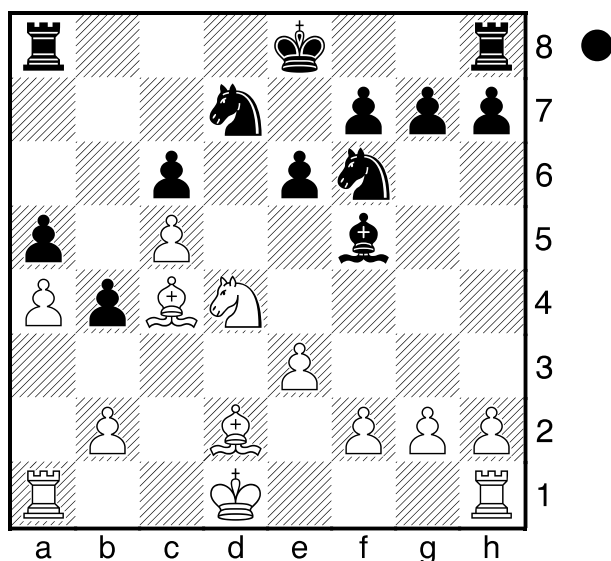
7...e6 8.Bxc4 Bxc5 9.dxc5 Qxd1+
10.Kxd1



So from a sharp opening we get an endgame. Things are pretty even but Black is for choice since White can't castle. **10...Nf6 11.Bd2 a5 12.Nf3?! [12.f3! Nbd7 13.e4 Bg6 14.Be3] 12...Nbd7 13.Nd4**

(Diagram)

Ne5! This active counter gives Black the initiative. **14.Nxf5**
[14.Be2 Ne4]
14...Nxc4 15.Nd6+
[15.Nxg7+? Kf8 traps the knight]



15...Nxd6 16.cxd6 Rd8

[16...0-0-0 also attacks the d-pawn and gets the black king working]

17.e4?! Richard sees he will lose the d6 pawn and panics a bit. More defensive chances were to be had with

[17.f3 Rxd6 18.e4 Nd7 19.Ke2 and Black will have a lot of work to do to try to convert the pawn]

17...Nxe4 18.Be3 Nxd6 19.Ke2 Nc4 20.b3

[perhaps 20.Rhc1 Nxb2 21.Rxc6 could cause a little trouble]

20...Nxe3 21.Kxe3 Rd5! 22.Rhd1 Ke7

23.Rxd5 cxd5 24.Rc1 Kd6 stopping any potential counterplay. Now Black is a solid two pawns to the good and can convert easily. **25.f4 Re8 26.Kd4 f6**

(Diagram)

The black pawns will march up the center now. There is nothing White can do. **27.Rc5 e5+ 28.fxe5+ fxe5+ 0-1**



GM Nick de Firmian

Norway Chess

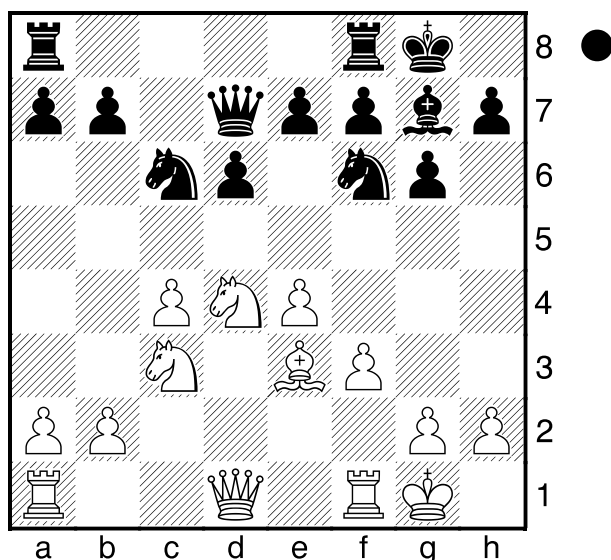
Two huge events of the chess world are coming soon. The Candidates Tournament will start later this month in Madrid, and the Chess Olympiad will start later in July in Chennai (Madras) India. Meanwhile there are still many smaller events being played around the world, and there is one major event happening right now. That is the 10th edition of Norway Chess – a ten-player, round-robin tournament played live in Norway’s beautiful western coastal city Stavanger. There are many of the world’s very top stars competing, including world champion Carlsen who is trying to defend his home turf. The time control is traditional classical chess, which gives us long, carefully thought-out games. There is a new modern twist in this tournament that the scoring has changed to give a more fighting character. A win gets three points instead of the usual one. A drawn game requires the participants to play again in a short “Armageddon” game where White has 10 minutes, Black only 7 minutes, but Black wins if the game is a draw. The winner of the Armageddon game gets one and a half points for the round and the loser just one point. Therefore there is always a “winner” of the round by some margin.

One always expects Magnus to be the frontrunner, but the early lead goes to 52-year-old Vishy Anand. The older master is showing great form the last month since his comeback. Also playing well is America’s Wesley So, who won a fine game against Radjabov to start the tournament and defeated Carlsen in the Armageddon game the following round. We show below the fine classical game Anand played to start the tournament, and that wild So-Carlsen tie-break game.

B52

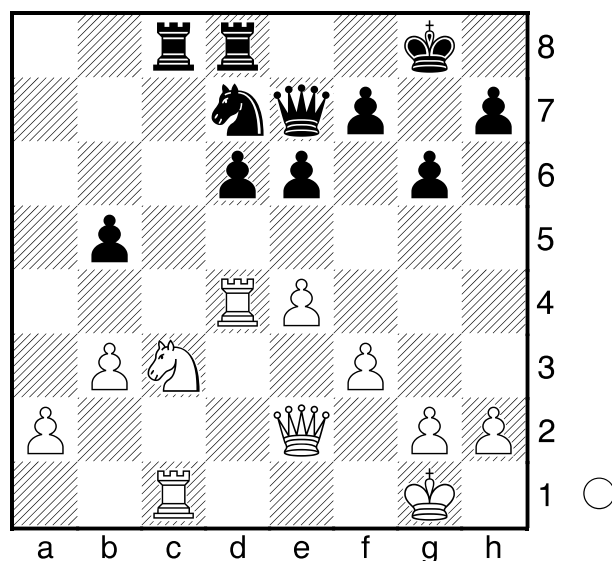
 **Anand,Viswanathan** 2751
 **Vachier-Lagrave,Maxime** 2750
 Norway Chess 2022 (1) 31.05.2022
[de Firmian]

Slow 90min+30sec **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6**
3.Bb5+ Anand has kept up with the
 times opening wise. He eschews 3. d4
 which would allow MVL's favorite
 Najdorf Variation. Instead we get a safe,
 rather even game with no opening
 danger to either side. **3...Bd7 4.Bxd7+**
Qxd7 5.c4 Nf6 6.Nc3 Nc6 7.d4 cxd4
8.Nxd4 g6 9.f3 Bg7 10.Be3 0-0
11.0-0

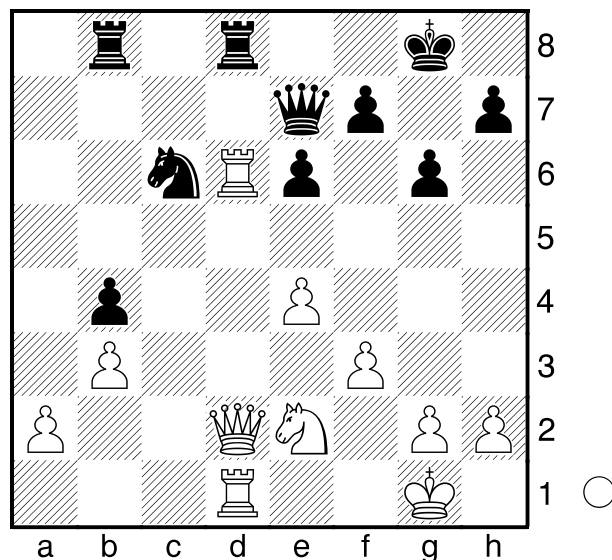


White has a bit of an advantage in space
 but Black is not cramped due to the
 exchange of the light-squared bishops.
11...a6 12.Nb3 e6 13.Qe2 Qe7
14.Rfd1 Rfd8 15.Rac1 Rac8 16.Nd4
Nd7

[It might be a good time to try the
 central break 16...d5!?]
17.b3 b5? MVL is an active player and
 decides to break now on the queenside.
 He looks to have the immediate tactics
 worked out, but there is a flaw. **18.cxb5**
Nxd4 19.Bxd4 Bxd4+ 20.Rxd4 axb5
 (Diagram)



So the b5 pawn cannot be taken
 because of the pin on the c-file. Black
 looks active, but... **21.Qd2!** Now White
 wins a pawn while giving no
 compensation. **21...Rb8 22.Rxd6 b4**
23.Ne2 Ne5 24.Rd1 Nc6



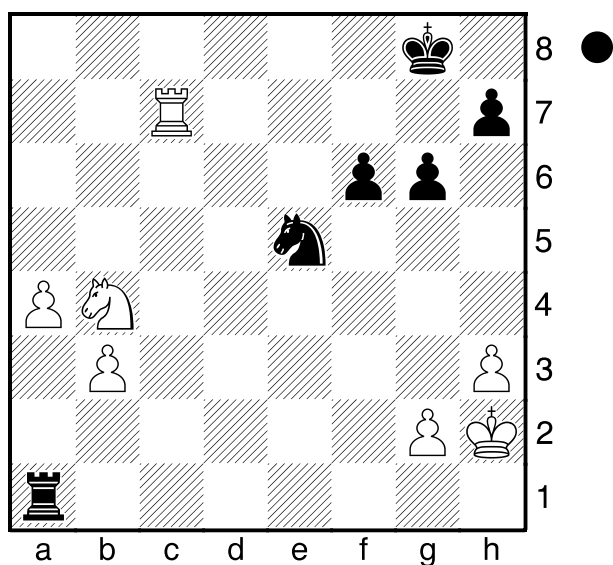
25.e5! Holding the key central squares.
 It seems the white e-pawn is loose, but it
 is not in danger. **25...Qa7+ 26.Kh1 Qf2**
27.Rc1! Another forceful move, forcing
 Black to transform the e-pawn to a
 strong passed d-pawn. **27...Rxd6**
28.exd6 Ne5 29.h3 Rb5 30.f4! Nd7
 [30...Rd5 31.Qb2 and the black

knight on e5 can't move because of the back rank mate]

31.Qd4 Qxd4 forced 32.Nxd4 Rd5 33.Nc6 Rxd6 34.Nxb4 The two white passed pawns on the queenside decide the ending. **34...e5**

[34...Rd4 35.Nc6 Rxf4 36.a4 Rf2 37.a5 Ra2 38.b4 and the pawns march through]

35.fxe5 Nxe5 36.Rc5 Rd1+ 37.Kh2 f6 38.a4 Rb1 39.Rc3 Ra1 40.Rc7!



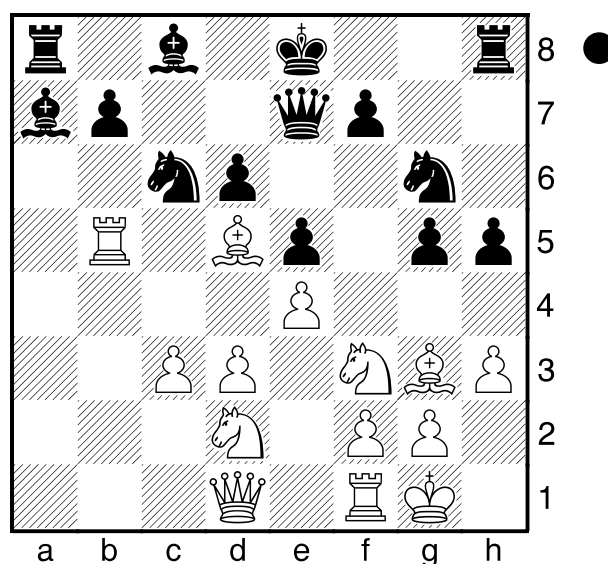
MVL resigned. The powerful white rook on the seventh with the knight coming to d5 mops up the black kingside. This was a powerful game by Anand. He played as if he were still world champion, 1-0

So, Wesley **C54**
 Carlsen, Magnus **2766**
 Norway Chess 2022 (4) **2864**
 01.06.2022
[de Firmian]

Blitz 10min This format with Armageddon games may become popular in tournaments so there won't be any real draws anymore. The quick games themselves though have to be

understood in terms besides chess.

Clock management is critical. So started with 10 minutes and Carlsen only 7, which is perhaps too big an advantage for the White player. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 d6 7.c3 a6 8.a4 Ba7 9.Nbd2 Qe7 10.0-0 g5** Aggressive but good. The opening chances are equal. **11.Bg3 Nh7!?** This looks a bit odd. **12.b4 Nf8 13.b5 Na5 14.Bd5 c6 15.Ba2 Ng6 16.Rb1 axb5 17.axb5 cxb5 18.Rxb5 Nc6 19.Bd5 h5 20.h3**



An entertaining Italian Game! White has opened the queenside and Black presses on the kingside. **20...g4 21.hxg4 hxg4 22.Nh2 Nf4 23.d4 Nh5 24.Nb3?!**

[24.Nc4 would keep the chances even]

24...Nd8?!

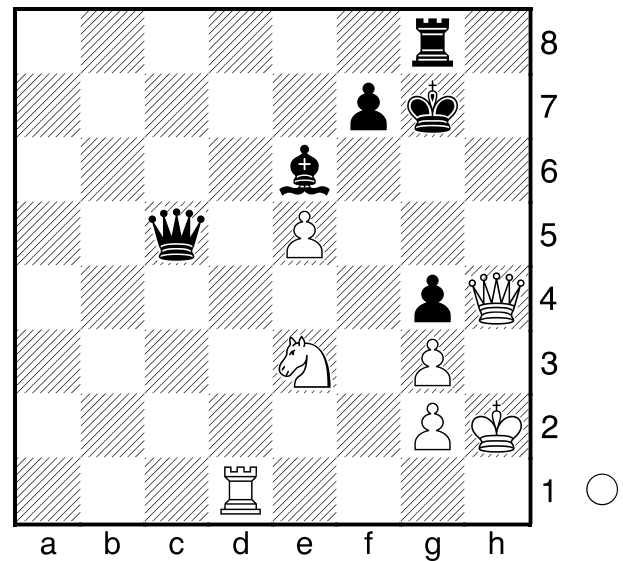
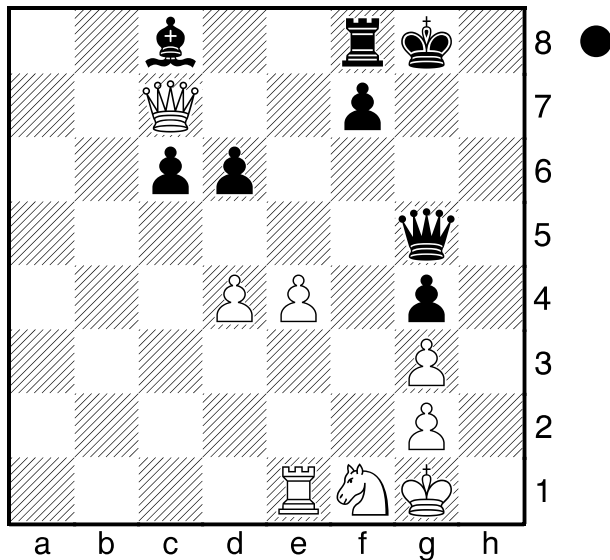
[24...Nxg3 25.fxg3 Qg5 26.Re1 Qg7! would put Black in a strong position with dark square control]

25.Ra5 Nxg3 26.fxg3 Qg5 27.Re1 Nc6 28.Bxc6+ bxc6 29.Qa1 Rb8

[29...Qe7? 30.Qa4 0-0 31.Ra1 wins]

30.Rxa7 Rxb3 31.Qa2 Rb7 32.Rxb7 Bxb7 33.Qa7 Bc8 34.Qc7 0-0!

Better late than never. **35.Nf1 exd4**
36.cxd4



The game is still even. Carlsen could play now 36..c5, but his move is also good. The problem is the clocks. At this point So had 1 min 57 seconds while Carlsen had just 29 seconds! **36...Qf6**
37.Rd1 c5?!

[37...d5 38.e5 Qg6]

38.dxc5 dxc5 39.Qxc5 Be6

Now it's a nagging edge for White plus the clock advantage **40.Ne3 Rc8**

41.Qd6 Qg5 42.Qf4 Qc5?

[42...f6 would still hold the draw. Now the black queen gets cut off]

43.e5! Ra8 44.Qg5+ Kh7 45.Kh2 Rg8?!

[45...Qf8 is the last hope]

46.Qh4+ Kg7

(Diagram)

47.Nf5+! Bxf5 48.Qf6+ Kh7 49.Qxf5+ Kg7 50.Qf6+ Black resigns as losing the f-pawn is disaster - 50...Kh7 51 Qxf7+ Rg7 52 Qh5+ Kg8 53 Rd8+ 1-0

IM John Donaldson

Jeremy Silman – Chess Author and Modern Benoni Killer, Part Two.

Going through Silman's games from the early 1980s one can observe the traits that made him such a formidable opponent – strong positional play supported by accurate calculation backed by a strong tactical eye. This combination of skills enabled him to more than hold his own against the best California players of the time with only Grandmasters Walter Browne and Larry Christiansen his betters.

This was particularly true when Silman faced the Modern Benoni, an opening he consistently demolished with a lifetime score of 21 wins, 3 draws and 1 loss with victories over Grandmaster Nick de Firmian, International Masters Vince McCambridge, Elliott Winslow, Jay Bonin and Stephen Muhammed, FIDE Master Craig Mar and the always dangerous Dennis Fritzinger.

Long before the advent of powerful chess engines Silman was an excellent theoretician who came up with a number of theoretical novelties by burning the midnight oil. One of them, that he never received proper credit for, was 9.Qe2 in the Modern Benoni.

The following last round miniature, against a 2300 opponent, was the first time it was played. Notes are by Silman.

A61

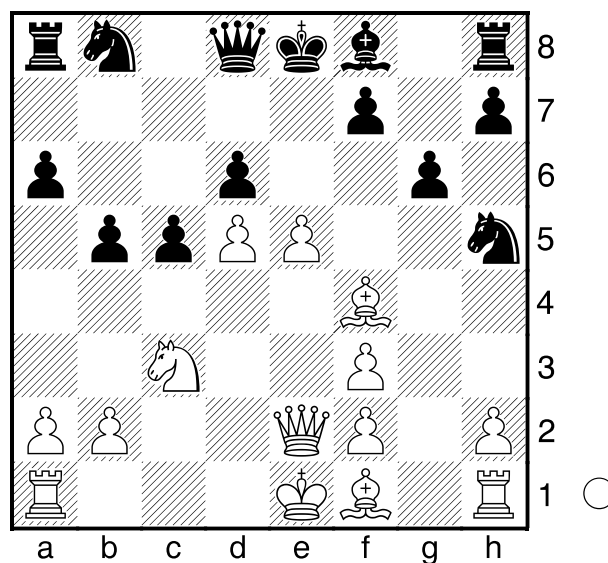
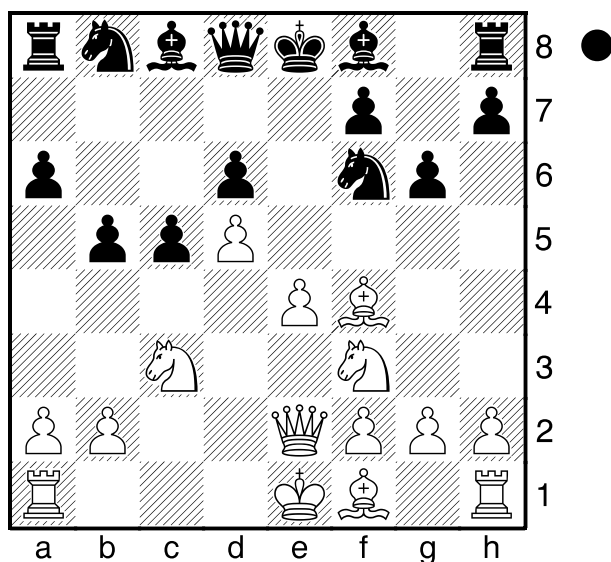
 Silman, Jeremy
 Sanchez, Gabriel

San Jose

1981

[Silman, Jeremy]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 exd5
 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Bf4 a6 8.e4
 b5 9.Qe2



My opponent, a strong master, had never seen this before. After a long think, he reacts with an immediate mistake.

9...Bg4?? Believe it or not, the game is now over! **10.e5!** Winning on the spot.

10...Bxf3

[10...Nh5 11.exd6+ Kd7 12.Ne5+ Kc8 13.Qxg4+]

11.gxf3 Nh5

(Diagram)

12.exd6+ Kd7 13.Bh3+ f5 14.Qe6#
1-0



Jeremy Silman facing Vassily Smyslov at Lone Pine 1976 with Frank Thornally looking on. This game, and the story behind it, are in Jeremy's new book.

Silman shared first place with Charles Powell and John Grefe in the 1982 Bagby Memorial, an invitational round robin, with the winners sharing the title of Northern California Champion. A point behind their scores of 5.5 from 7 was the editor of this newsletter – Paul Whitehead.

International Master Vince McCambridge, who reached 2480 FIDE, is one of the strongest American players to never became a Grandmaster. He undoubtedly would have received the title if he had kept playing and not turned to a career in finance.

Notes by Silman.

□ Silman,Jeremy
 ■ McCambridge,Vince
 Bagby Memorial 1982
[Silman,Jeremy]

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

[6...a6 7.a4 g6 8.Nd2 Nbd7 9.e4
 Bg7 10.Be2 0-0 11.0-0 Re8 12.h3
 Qc7 13.Ra3± 1/2-1/2 (24) Silman,J-
 Greffe,J San Francisco 1982]

7.Bf4 a6

[7...Bg7 8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qb3 Qc7
 10.e4 0-0 11.Be2 Nh5 12.Be3 a6
 13.Nd2± 1-0 (39) Silman,J-De
 Firmian,N San Jose 1982]

8.e4 b5

[8...Nh5 Winslow,Elliott: 'N' 9.Bg5
 Be7 (9...Qc7 10.Be2 h6 11.Be3
 Bg4 12.Qa4+ Bd7 13.Qc2 Bg4
 14.Qa4+ Bd7 15.Qc2 Bg4 16.0-0
 Nd7 17.a4 Bg7 18.h3 Bxf3 19.Bxf3
 Nh6 20.Be2 0-0 21.b3± 1-0 (68)
 Silman,J (2520)-Winslow,E (2364)
 San Jose 1981 [Winslow,Elliott]; 9...f6
 10.Be3 b5 11.Nd2 Ng7 12.Bd3 Be7
 13.0-0 0-0 14.f4 Nd7 15.f5±
 1-0 (47) Silman,J-Fritzinger,D San
 Francisco 1983)]

(Diagram)

9.Qe2 Nh5

[9...Be7 is more solid.]

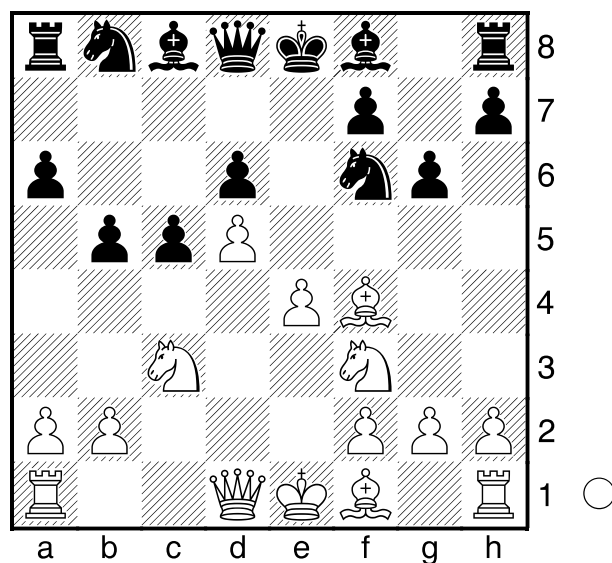
10.Bg5 f6?!

[10...Be7 11.Bh6 favors White but
 was preferable to what happens.]

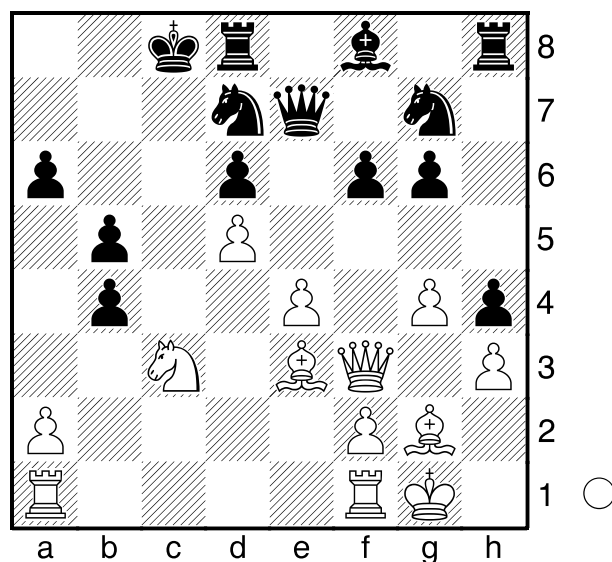
11.Be3 Bg4?

[This bishop will soon be missed.
 Again 11...Be7 was preferable.]

**12.h3 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 Nd7 14.g4 Ng7
 15.Qg3 Qe7 16.Bg2 0-0-0** It's not very
 often that Black castles long in the
 Modern Benoni. There is a reason why



as we shall soon see! **17.0-0 h5 18.b4
 h4 19.Qf3 cxb4**



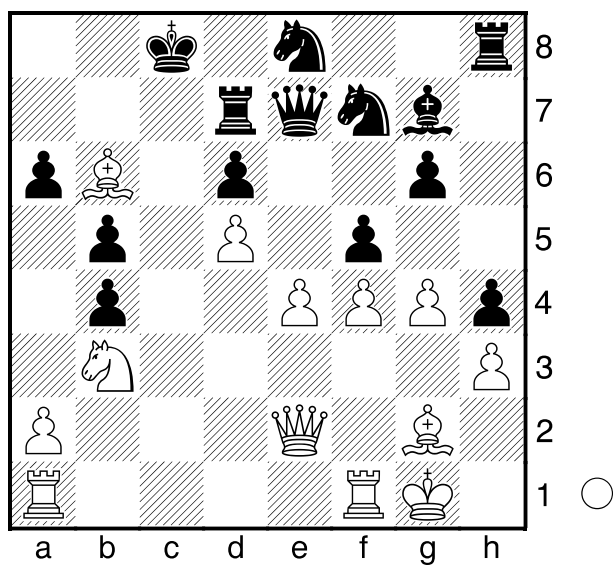
20.Nb1

[Black's king is so vulnerable that the
 more direct 20.a4! bxc3 and 21.axb5
 axb5 22.Qe2]

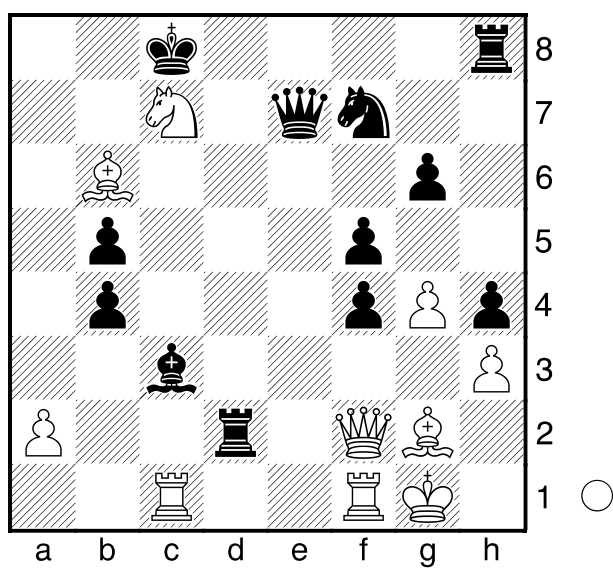
[20.Nxb5 axb5 21.a4 also work.
 Silman prefers to keep the knight to
 have another piece to attack with.]

**20...Ne5 21.Qe2 Ne8 22.Bb6 Rd7
 23.Nd2 f5 24.f4 Nf7 25.Nb3 Bg7**

(Diagram)



**26.e5! dxe5 27.Rac1+ Nc7 28.Nc5
exf4 29.Qf2 Rxd5**
[29...Bc3 30.Nxd7 Qxd7 31.a3
wins.]
30.Nxa6 Bc3 31.Nxc7 Rd2



**32.Qxd2 Bxd2 33.Nd5+ Bxc1
34.Nxe7+
1-0**



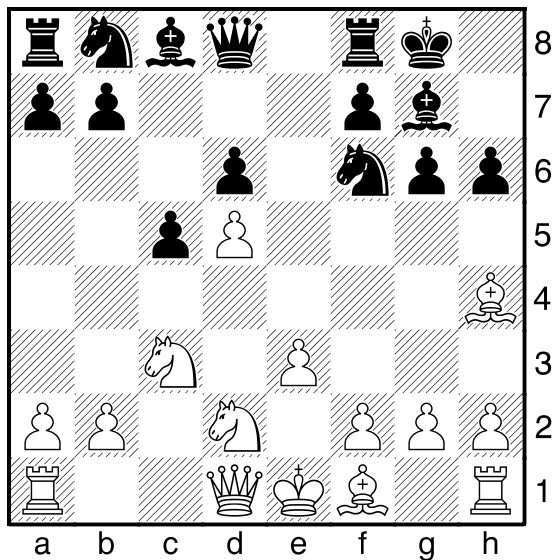
Photo by Gwen Feldman

By 1983 Silman was moving on to other systems against the Modern Benoni. He used the setup with Bg5 and e3, seen in the following game, with success for many years before finally adopting the line 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.Bb5+. This switch was made possible late in his career when he decided to face the Nimzo-Indian instead of playing 3.Nf3. FIDE Master Craig Mar of Oakland reached a peak rating of 2420 FIDE in the late 1980s.

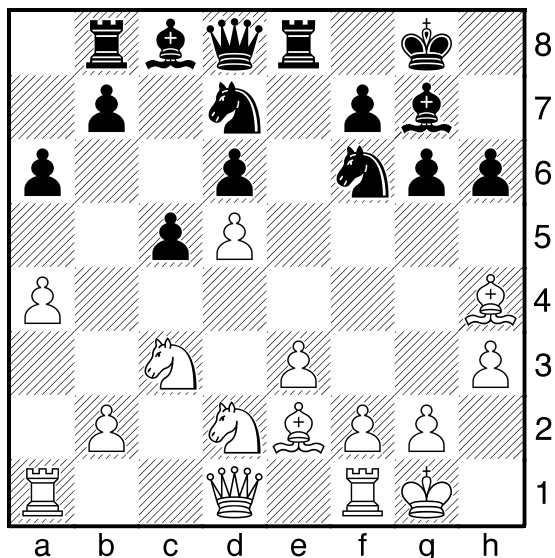
Notes by Silman.

□ Silman, Jeremy
 ■ Mar, Craig
 San Jose
 [Silman, Jeremy]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5
 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Bg5 Bg7 8.e3
 h6 9.Bh4 0-0 10.Nd2



Heading for the c4-square and also
 preventing 10...g5 11.Bg3 Nh5.
 10...Nbd7 11.Be2 a6 12.a4 Re8
 13.0-0 Rb8 14.h3



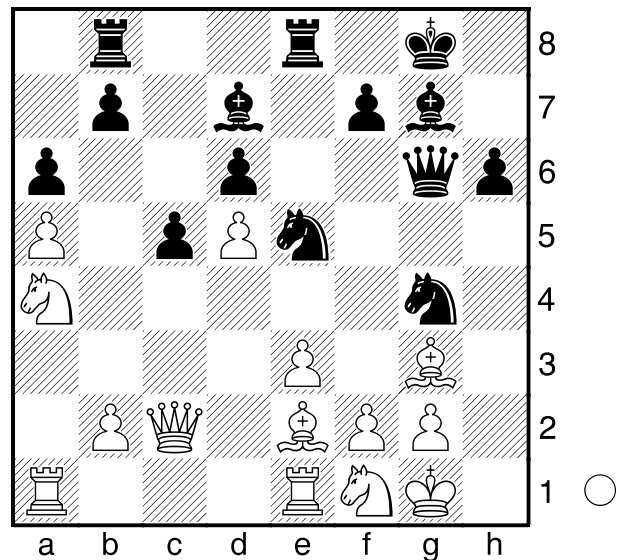
It's surprisingly difficult for Black to

A61

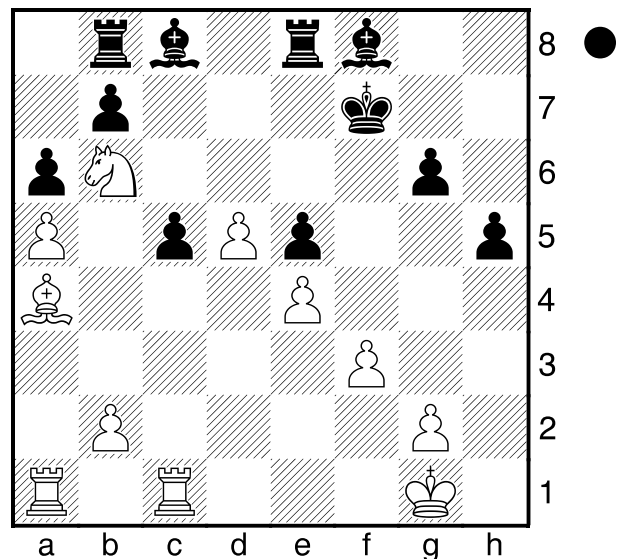
1983

create active play from this position.

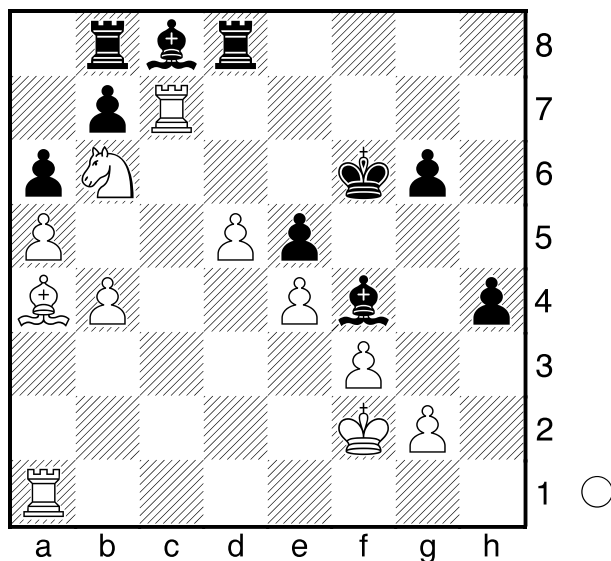
14...g5 15.Bg3 Ne5 16.Qc2 Qe7
 17.Rfe1 Bd7 18.a5 g4 19.hxg4 Nfxg4
 20.Na4 Qg5 21.Nf1 Qg6?



Black's position was uncomfortable, but
 now he finds himself snuffed out with no
 chance to fight back. 22.Qxg6 fxc6
 23.Nb6 Bf5 24.f3 Nf6 25.e4 Bc8
 26.Bxe5 dxe5 Black loses material after
 26...Rxe5 27.Nc4. 27.Ne3 Nd7 28.Nec4
 Nxb6 29.Nxb6 Bf8 30.Rec1 Kf7
 31.Bd1! Making sure every piece
 reaches its optimal square. 31...h5
 32.Ba4



A comic position. Black's pieces on c8 and b8 are entombed and helpless.
 32...Rd8 33.Kf2 As usual, I always try to deny my opponent counterplay. This move prevents ...Bf8-h6-e3+. 33...h4
 34.b4! Breaking through and ending Black's resistance. Now 34...cxb4 35. Rc7+ followed by 36.Rac1 is more than the enemy position can handle. 34...Bh6
 35.Rxc5 Bf4 36.Rc7+ Kf6



37.Bd7! A pleasing finish.
 1-0

FM Paul Whitehead

Chess is everywhere

The chess metaverse arrives:

<https://beincrypto.com/chess-metaverse-a-hyper-realistic-boardgame-in-a-virtual-world/>

Chess-playing brothers in New Jersey are experts in raising \$\$ for charities:

<https://www.tapinto.net/towns/newton/sections/sussex-county-news/articles/sparta-brothers-chess-for-charity-raises-funds-to-honor-erin-beebe-2>

The state of chess in Pakistan:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1692462/chess-players-continue-to-suffer-as-cfp-power-play-goes-on>

First Saturday chess resumes in Doylestown, PA:

<https://patch.com/pennsylvania/doylestown/first-saturday-chess-resumes-june-4-doylestown>

400 elementary school students compete in Gainesville, FLA:

<https://mycbs4.com/sports/content/glen-springs-holds-2022-chess-challenge>

“God has a new chess partner.” Cali drug lord known as “the chess player” dies in prison:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/obituaries/leader-of-now-defunct-colombian-drug-cartel-dies-in-us-jail/2022/06/01/7cfa248e-e1bf-11ec-ae64-6b23e5155b62_story.html

Chess returns to the Boys and Girls Club in Las Cruces, NM:

<https://www.lascrucesbulletin.com/stories/great-move-chess-returns-to-boys-and-girls-club-with-fifth-graders-first-grader-take-top-tourney,11862?>

We always love the Fool’s Mate:

<https://dotesports.com/chess/news/what-is-the-fools-mate-in-chess>

Canadian man retires, travels the World playing chess:

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/article-retirement-allows-former-civil-servant-to-travel-the-world-and-play/>

An academic discussion of online cheating in chess and college during the Pandemic:

<https://www.fenews.co.uk/podcast/pandemic-cheating-in-college-compared-with-cheating-in-online-chess-in-episode-004-of-the-score/>

Bobby Fischer's net worth:

<https://www.celebritynetworth.com/richest-celebrities/authors/bobby-fischer-net-worth/>

The Medicine Hat Chess Club in Alberta hosts the largest chess set in the world:

<https://mhchess.com/giant-chess-set>

The Royal Jewelry Museum in Alexandria, Egypt, displays a priceless chess set:

<https://see.news/royal-jewelry-museum-displays-king-farouks-golden-chess/>

'Eco-friendly and plant-based' 3-D chess sets, depicting Glasgow and Edinburgh:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/in-your-area/lanarkshire/lanarkshire-designers-launch-landmark-chess-27051648>

The coming Chess Olympiad in Chennai worries some local residents:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/chaotic-traffic-piles-of-garbage-worry-residents-of-mamallapuram/article65477009.ece>

Play chess at the library in Sault Ste. Marie – but in Michigan or Canada?

<https://www.sootoday.com/more-local/its-your-move-when-chess-day-comes-to-library-5427564>

Chess thrives in Nigeria:

<https://www.sports247.ng/childrens-day-celebrated-in-grand-style-with-life-chess-club-sequence-23/>

Finally, we are thrilled to announce that MI regular Sebastian Suarez has qualified for the ChessKid Candidates, held concurrently with the Candidates Tournament in Madrid.

More information as it becomes available, and we here at the MI wish him the best of luck. What a fantastic opportunity for 'Sebby'!

<https://new.uschess.org/intercontinental-chesskid-candidates>

Tony's Teasers



1. Krishnamurthy/Narayanan, 1970. White mates in two moves.



2. G. J. Bouma, 1968. White mates in three moves.

Richard Hack

Tales from the Chess Café.

On Memorial Day I was thinking about the next day's game in Round 5 of the Conway TNM. While preparing, enjoying the holiday with friends, remembering how our families back home used to gather at a certain park for picnics and ball games on May 30, I had some new thoughts and feelings about The Royal Game. How hard or impossible it is to play without mistakes; how thin the line often is between victory and defeat; how hard it is to control fear or joy while you're calculating, and how important it is to follow your feelings, informed by experience and a certain amount of success, when you are trying to choose a good move, what the position seems to demand, while being both consistent and flexible. And how not to fall into a bad position early or late in the game, usually through carelessness, playing by rote, forgetting what you just told yourself not to do, or not paying good attention to what your opponent is attempting. And a few other things.

We had no Chess Café on Monday 5/30, so I looked back through my notes. In March 2021 we heard that the Mechanics' might reopen in May. On April 26, 2021. Nick de Firmian mentioned the new official challenger, Nepomniatchi. Sal Matera noted that he plays very fast.

Juliana Gallin of Bernal Chess and a charter member of the Café had just played her first Sicilian, a Smith-Morra Gambit, which has a series of traps.

Nick: "This position [after 3. . . dxc3 and 4. Nxc3] is about equal."

Paul: "She has a good version."

Ako Heidari showed his game as Black against londonkid. "Our team was called Morphy's Mojos." They played G/45 with a 10-second increment.

There was a Bogo-Indian with a misplaced White knight.

Nick or Paul: "E4, not e3, is normal and ambitious, aiming to support d5, good for White."

A bit later, Elliott: "In the Bogo, Black has complete freedom in moving the kingside pawns. For example, . . . g6 to prevent h4 or its advance."

Nick: "Even after . . . Rc7, you had good chances. I think you're just tainted by the result."

Ain't it the truth.

Alexey: "Someone should write a book on the U.S. Open."

Sal: "Frank Brady is writing about the Marshall Chess Club, which is about to open up."

Various people tell Paul to write a book on the Mechanics' Institute. Today I know he has another large project involving his website full of his father's photography from various parts of the world.

On Feb. 1, 2021 we saw a pic of 14-year-old Alexey Rudolph (now Root) in the MI Newsletter. She reminisced about two former Washington state champions (a title also won by John Donaldson), James McCormick ("Dirty Jim," later "Uncle Jim," rival of Viktors Pupols) and John Braley, who "never wore shoes and was the antithesis of McCormick."

She said the Dallas Chess Club was open every evening, "almost 24 hours," but had to close recently. There was also a Last Exit coffeehouse on Brooklyn Avenue in Seattle.

Mike Walder mentioned Café Picaro here on 16th St. near Valencia. Others mentioned the Blue Unicorn and the Meat Market, and Café La Scala in Berkeley.

Nick talked about the recent Tata Steel tournament in Wijk aan Zee, half an hour from Amsterdam, and how it's been about 15 years since a great young generation came up. Now certain teenagers are breaking through, like Alireza Firouzja from Iran (who became the youngest 2800 player), the Russian Andrey Esipenko, and one from Holland, the first since Jan Timman 50 years ago.

On March 8, 2021 Alexey, Sal, and Paul talked about books on the Junior Championship and the Women's Championship. When Urban Lehner asked a question about books, Paul recommended the Life and Games of Mikhail Tal. A week before he had said that his favorite chess book was Through the Looking Glass. Sal mentioned the three books by Paul Keres on his games: "The annotations are incredible." He also showed the

ending from his game with Joel Benjamin, before the latter was a master, and how he figured the king and pawn ending would be easier to win than the rook and pawn ending.

Mike Walder once referred to Gelfand as “my favorite,” and here mentioned the latter’s books, *Positional Decision Making in Chess* and *Dynamic Decision Making in Chess*, as well as two of his other titles.

Nick mentioned the Games of Karpov. And said that Kasparov would not have become the player he was without those World Championship matches against Karpov.

We looked at Sal Matera’s 1973 win with a Ruy Lopez against George Kane, who had won the Marshall C.C. and Manhattan C.C. championships the previous year, when he also was the second reserve board for the U.S. team in the 20th Chess Olympiad in Skopje. His debut in the U.S. Championship was in 1973.

After White’s 19th move, Sal called it “a very unbalanced position.” Paul said, “A position in flux, double-edged for both. A three-result position.”

At the end of the fifth volume of *My Great Predecessors* (2006), Garry Kasparov provides quotes on Karpov from five Soviet World Champions, plus Max Euwe. Smyslov said, “In Karpov’s play I have always been staggered by his amazing ability to soberly and absolutely accurately evaluate the position . . . To evaluate quickly, without spending much time on analysis. This comes from his fantastic chess intuition, from his innate talent.”

Spassky: “[I]n the ideological sense he is similar to Botvinnik. [He] used the support of the Party to achieve his personal aims. And later he began to justify these as being the aims of the state . . . But one has to give him his due: as a chess player he is indeed great.”

Tal: “Karpov is fantastically purposeful. He is like a tank . . . His iron persistence is torture for the faint-hearted. . . Both in life and at the chessboard, he is extremely purposeful . . . [H]is strong aspects are precisely what I am lacking. Karpov has a simply classic way of converting an advantage—I have never learned how to do this. At critical moments he is able to control his impulses—I cannot restrain my emotions . . . Anatoly has always staggered me by his ability to defend, as they say, to the last, where many others would already have lost heart.”

Puzzles in the Library

Every week or so the Mechanics' Institute's Head of Technical Services, Steven Dunlap, puts up a chess puzzle in the library for our members to solve.



Steven sometimes plays in the Tuesday Night Marathon.



The puzzle this week is from *100 Endgames You Must Know* by Jesus de la Villa.

Upcoming Events

Ray Conway Memorial Tuesday Night Marathon - Ongoing

Tuesday, May 3rd 2022 - Tuesday, June 14th 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>

June USCF Online-Rated Scholastic Tournaments via ChessKid.com

Sunday June 5, 3PM. 4 games of G/20+10

Saturday June 18, 3PM. 6 games of G/15+2

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

57th Arthur Stamer Memorial G/40

Saturday June 4, 2022, 10AM. USCF Rated. 4 Games of G/40;d5

Two sections: 1800+ and under 1800.

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

Registration: [https://mechanics-](https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/57thStamerMemorialChampionship)

[institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/57thStamerMemorialChampionship](https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/57thStamerMemorialChampionship)

Mechanics' Institute June Championship Quads

Saturday June 11, 2022, 3PM. USCF Rated. 4 games of G/30;d5

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

Registration: [https://mechanics-](https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/MechanicsChampionshipQuadsJun2022)

[institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/MechanicsChampionshipQuadsJun2022](https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/MechanicsChampionshipQuadsJun2022)

Mechanics' Institute Monthly Scholastic Swiss – In Person

Saturday June 11, 2022, 10AM. USCF Rated. 4 games of G/30;d5

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

Registration: [https://mechanics-](https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/MechanicsInstituteKidsSwissJun2022)

[institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/MechanicsInstituteKidsSwissJun2022](https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/MechanicsInstituteKidsSwissJun2022)

21st William Addison Memorial (FIDE Rated) G/90+30

Saturday and Sunday, June 25th & 26th. 5 games of G/90+30

Information: <https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/21st-addison-memorial-championship-fide-rated>

Registration: <https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/21stAddisonMemorialChampionship>

Solutions to Tony's Teasers

Problem #1: 1.Nd6! Intending 2.Qb5#. If 1...Rh5 2.Qg4#. Or 1...d2 2.Nc2#.

Problem #2: 1.Re8! Intending 2.Qe3+. If 1...Rb3 2.Qa6+! Bxa6 3.Ra8#. Or 1...Bb7 2.Qe7! and 3.Qxb7# next.

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>

You can now access our newsletter directly from the chess home page!
<https://www.milibrary.org/chess>



The Mechanics' Institute Chess Book collection.