



MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE
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CHESS ROOM NEWSLETTER

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Gens Una Sumus!

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Peter Grey TNM Round Two Report

IM **Elliott Winslow** defeated Expert **Edward Lewis** (yet again!) while Expert **Abhishek Handigol** took down **Kristian Clemens**, and now these two have the only perfect scores in the top section. In perhaps the rounds biggest surprise, IM **Kyron Griffith** was held rather easily to a draw by Expert **Theodore James Coyne**. Seven players are a perfect 2-0 in the u1800 section: **Steve Sobel, Paul Henry Reed, Timothy Bayaraa, Dominic Zirbel, Drew H. Clark, Hoa Long Tam, and Mike Spolarich**.

76 players are participating at this point, and the event is co-directed by International Arbiter **Judit Sztaray** and FIDE Arbiter **Abel Talamantez**.



Peter Grey (1935-2016) was an Expert player and a mainstay of the Mechanics' Chess Club from the 1960's

onward. He played in almost every TNM from 1971 until his passing.

For complete TNM info, standings and results:

<https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/2nd-peter-grey-memorial-tuesday-night-marathon>

Griffith, Kyron **C67**
2436

Coyne, Theodore James **2090**
 MI Peter Gray TNM: 1800+ (2.1) 19.07.22
[Winslow, Elliott]

Griffith nipped a point off Coyne to tie for 1st-4th in the Addison a month ago; I don't know how that went, but in this game Coyne really holds the line. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1** Talk about a played-out line! I remember an article in Chess Life was it, by Shamkovich, on this. But it all just felt like a shallow pitfall, which Black would always (almost!) avoid, resulting in one boring ending. Hmm, just the stuff that's popular at the highest level lately: put the opponent to sleep...

[5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 is now generally thought to be at least as dangerous for White as for Black. Sure, every now and then someone wins a nice game for White (Kasparov after the WC loss to Kramnik, Grischuk, Nepo-Karjakin, Caruana ... Caruana a lot!), but Black has his share as well.]

5...Nd6 6.Nxe5

[I confess: searching for that Grischuk game that left an impression (but apparently not a deep enough one!), I wondered "had he also switched to 5. Re1?" -- so I sorted by White player and mouse-grabbed the scroll bar. But not too far above Gris_ is Grif_, and there was a game by Kyron! Well, sort of a game: 6.a4 Be7 7.Nc3 0-0 8.d4 a6 9.Bf1 e4 10.Nxe4 1/2-1/2, Griffith, K (2346)-Vivekananthan, A (2326) Charlotte 15.1.2021. Food for thought? It must mean "something"...]

6...Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 "Black trades the knights" (Caruana)

[7...Nf5 is The Other Line (7...0-0 just

puts off the choice), "Black keeps the knights on the board." This from "Caruana's Ruy Lopez -- A White Repertoire for Club Players" (New In Chess, mid-2021). There are some disappointments in the book for me, and that he avoids the two modern main lines for 5.Re1 was one of the biggest. So many wins he has for White in 5.d4!]

8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 Caruana looks at a lot of alternative for Black here, but this is his main line (and what he plays as Black). **10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4**

Quite sensible and popular, looking to ruin Black's pawns if the knight doesn't react. And, it offers a pawn for that.

[11.Nc3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Bxd4 is a lot more takable! It looks like compensation but eventually no more.]

[After all that you must want to know what Caruana's Ruy goes with. I'll just give his main line (there are a LOT of variations and comments!): 11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 (12...Nf5 13.Bf4 c6 14.a4!?!; Curious that he doesn't mention the queen trade offers, 12...Qe7; and 12...Qe8) 13.d5 c6 14.Be3 cxd5 15.Qd2 Nc7 16.Na3 d6 17.Nc2 and on quite a bit more. My complaints notwithstanding, a very instructive, insightful book.]

11...Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 Well, nobody takes it anyway **13.Bd3** Quite rare compared to others.

[The big moves have been 13.Nc3 (57 games in Mega)]

[and 13.c3 (also 57 games! except it's a big transposition as well).]

13...d5 If you follow top-level chess you know that Carlsen is declining to defend his World Championship title. Nakamura on his streaming site (it's also on YouTube) had some sympathy for Magnus, talking about the agonizing

preparation, weeks trying to find some novelty in some Petroff that leads to a somewhat more comfortable position that might turn into something but probably won't. He was thinking about this line as well perhaps. **14.Be5**

Stockfish 15 gives White some flicker of plus, but not enough to call it anything but even. **14...Be7N** A bit surprising, but Black is playing on principle, trade off your worse and his better bishop. But the engine has this edging towards an edge (for White). But only on one move,

[The only two games here fit that profile Naka was talking about:

14...g6 15.Bxf6 Nxf6 16.Nd2 Qe8 17.Qc1 Bg4 18.Qe1 Qxe1+ 19.Rxe1 Re8 20.Kf1 Kf8 ½-½ (52), Carlsen,M (2837)-Wang Hao (2709) Wch Rapid (13), Riadh 28.12.2017.]

[The other: 14...g6 15.Bxf6 Nxf6 16.Qe5 Be6 17.Nd2 Ne8 18.c3 Qd6 19.Re1 Qxe5 20.Rxe5 Nd6 21.f3 15.10 ½-½, Adams,M (2692)-Santos Ruiz,M (2583) Bundesliga]

15.Nd2

[15.c4± /=]

15...Be6 16.h3 Qd7 17.Nf3 Nd6 18.a4 Bf5 And there it is. **19.Bxf5 Nxf5 20.b3 Nh4 21.Nxh4 Bxh4 22.Qa5 c6 23.Re1 Re8 24.Re3 a6 25.c4 Bd8 26.Qb4 f6 27.Bf4 Rxe3 28.Bxe3 Be7 29.c5 Kf7 30.Bf4 Bd8 31.Bd6 Be7 32.Bb8 Bd8 33.Kf1 Qc8 34.Bf4 Qd7 35.h4 Be7 36.g3 g6 37.Kg2 h5 38.Qd2 Qf5 39.Bc7 g5 40.hxg5 fxg5 41.Be5 Bf6 42.Bxf6 Kxf6 43.f3 Qe6 44.b4 Kg6 45.Qd3+ Kf6 46.Qd2 Qf5 47.Qe3 Qc2+ 48.Kh3 g4+ 49.fxg4 hxg4+ 50.Kxg4 Qf5+ 51.Kh4 Qh7+ 52.Kg4 Qf5+**

½-½

□ **Lewis,Ed**

■ **Winslow,Elliott C**

E92

2032

2244

MI Peter Grey mem TNM (2.3) 19.07.2022
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Nf3 e5 7.d5

The Petrosian System. I've played both sides for over fifty years. **7...a5 8.h3** Or -- is this the Makogonov System? Ed might be confusing the two systems but plenty of GMs are fond of this, especially Postny and Topalov. In any case his state is contagious; I now get confused as well.

[Far more usual is **8.Bg5**]

8...Nh5

[**8...Na6** is the normal move, and I can't explain why I didn't just play it.]

[**8...Qe8** was seen in some Kramnik-Ivanchuk game ages ago, but **9.g4** does well against it.]

[**8...Nfd7**? has done rather well!]

9.g3!

[**9.Nd2** does pretty well as well -- there's even a Spassky win from 1983.]

9...f5

[**9...Na6 10.Nh2 Nf6 (10...Nc5**!/? goes way back to Lilienthal,A-Dubinin, P Leningrad 1947 -- ½-½ (62).)

11.Ng4 Nd7 is pretty esoteric! But Black has won some games:

Krasenkow-Bacrot, Gupta-Kulaots.]

10.exf5 gxf5 11.Ng5 Nf6 White is 5-0 in the Mega database here. The hybrid **Nf3/Be2/h3** line has to be taken more seriously than this! **12.Be3**

[**12.g4 Qe7 13.Qc2 (13.Rg1; 13.gxf5)**]

12...Na6 13.Qd2 Qe8

[**13...Qe7**]

14.0-0-0 b6

[**14...Nc5**]

[**14...a4**]

15.Rhe1

[15.Rhg1]

[15.f4]

15...Bd7?

[15...a4 16.Bd3]

16.f4 a4 17.fxe5 dxe5 18.d6 c5

19.Nf3 Nb4 20.Bg5?? a3 21.b3 e4

[21...Ne4 22.Nxe4 fxe4 23.Nh4 e3
24.Qxe3 e4]

22.Nh4 Nh5?!

[22...Qe5 23.Kb1 e3 24.Qxe3 Ne4]

23.Be7 Bxc3 24.Qg5+ Ng7 25.Rf1

Nxa2+ 26.Kc2 Bd4

[26...Bb2]

[26...Be5]

27.Bg4 Nb4+ 28.Kd2 fxg4 29.Rxf8+

Qxf8 30.Bxf8 Rxf8 31.Re1

[31.Nf5 Bxf5 (31...Rxf5 32.Qd8+
Be8) 32.Rf1]

**31...a2 32.Nf5 Bxf5 33.Rf1 e3+
0-1**

□ **Clemens,Kristian**

E11

1927

■ **Handigol,Abhishek**

2124

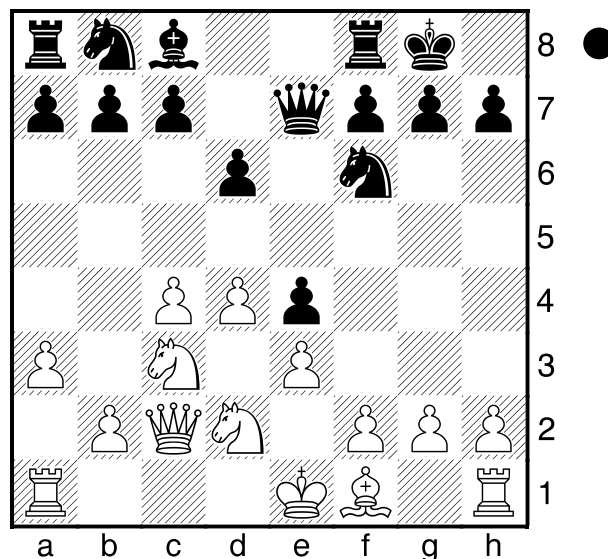
MI Peter Gray TNM: 1800+ (2.4) 19.07.22
[Winslow,Elliott]

Handigol made the most of the space
advantage attributable to the advanced
e-pawn and wore Clemens down (but not
without incident). **1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6
3.d4 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Qe7 5.a3 Bxd2+
6.Qxd2 0-0 7.Nc3 d6 8.e3 e5 9.Qc2**

[The heaviest hitter: 9.h3 Nc6 10.Nd5
Qd8 11.Be2 e4 12.Nxf6+ Qxf6
13.Nh2 Re8 14.Nf1 Ne7 15.Ng3
Ng6 16.Nh5 Qg5 17.g3 c6 18.Qb4
1-0 (38), Duda,J (2756)-Arenas
Vanegas,D (2455) Chess.com Online
Rapid Olym (Poland-Colombia) Div
Top-D 10.9.2021.]

9...e4 10.Nd2

(Diagram)



Re8N

[The predecessor was a couple club
players (!): 10...Bf5 11.Be2 c6
12.0-0 Nbd7 13.b4 d5 14.c5 Ng4
15.b5 Qg5 16.Bxg4 Bxg4 17.Kh1 f5
18.Qb3 Kh8 19.bxc6 bxc6 20.Rae1
Nf6 1/2-1/2 (20) Pusch,T (1873)-
Sadzio,J (1640) Duisburg
Rheinhausen 2009]

**11.Be2 c5 12.dxc5 dxc5 13.0-0 Bf5
14.Rab1 Nc6 15.Nd5 Qe5 16.Nxf6+
Qxf6 17.b4 cxb4 18.axb4 Qg5
19.Rfd1 Re6 20.Nf1 h5 21.Ng3 Bg6
22.Rd5 Ne5 23.Bf1 Qh4 24.h3 Rae8
25.Rbd1 Rf6 26.Rd8 Rfe6 27.Rxe8+
Rxe8 28.Rd4 Nc6 29.Rd7 Nxb4
30.Qa4 Nc6 31.Rxb7 Re6 32.Ne2
Kh7 33.Rc7 Ne5 34.Nf4 Rd6**

(Diagram)

35.Qa5?

[35.Rc5 Nd3+]

[White needs a little slight of hand:

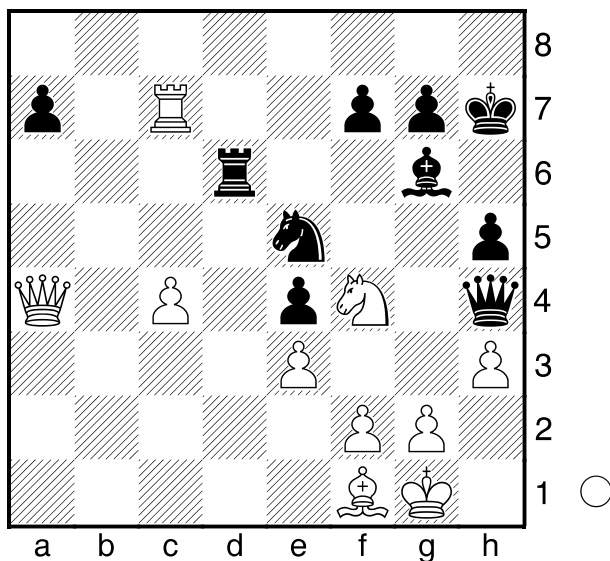
35.Rc8! Rd8 (35...Bf5 36.Rc5;

35...Rd2 36.Be2!) 36.Rxd8 Qxd8

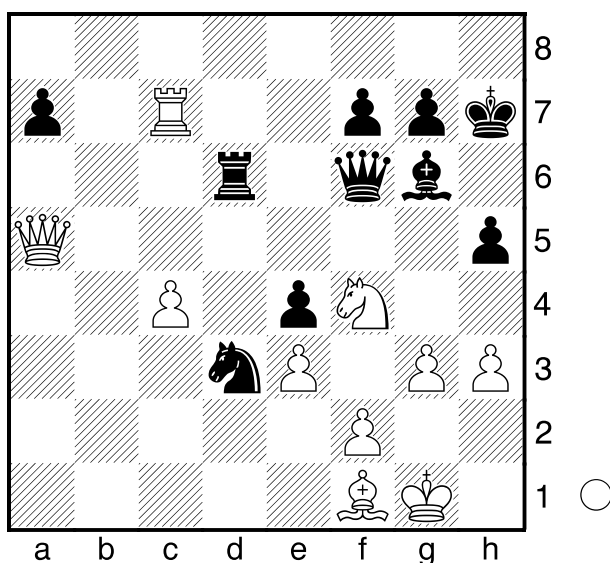
37.Qxa7 Qd2 38.Qd4 Nd3 39.Nxd3
exd3 40.e4+-]

35...Nd3

[35...Qg5+]



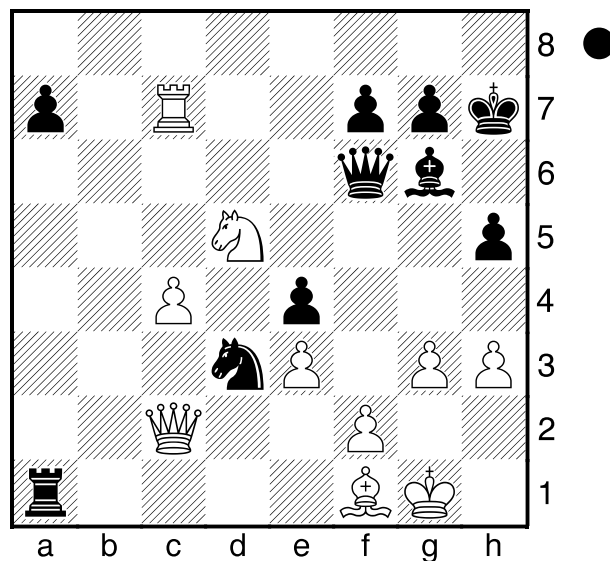
36.g3 Qf6



37.Qa2?? Should have taken the pawn!
[37.Qxa7]
[37.Rxa7! Rb6 38.Qa1 keeps Black
out better, and if anything it's +=]
37...Ra6 38.Qc2 Ra1 39.Nd5

(Diagram)

Rxf1+ 40.Kxf1 Qa1+ 41.Ke2 Qe1#
0-1



C17
Macnee,Felix 1723
Zirbel,Dominic 1413
MI Peter Grey TNM: u1800 (2.15) 19.7.22
[Winslow,Elliott]

Zirbel really comes around in this
superlative (300+ upset!) win, playing in
French Defense counterpunch style.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5
5.Be3?!

[5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3]

5...Ne7 6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 Qc7
8.Bd3 cxd4 9.cxd4 Qc3+?!

This doesn't gain that much time, as
White eventually castles "by hand."

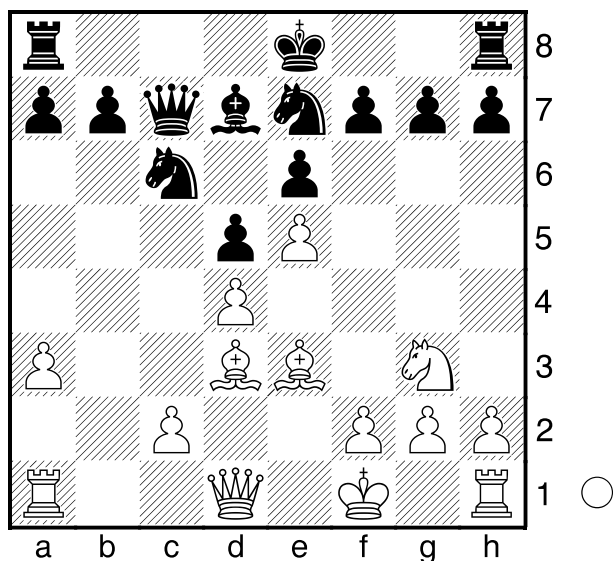
[Black's best plan for the moment is to
deal with White's best piece: 9...b6
intending ...Ba6 10.Bb5+ Bd7 11.Bd3
a6 (11...Bc8!? would "offer a draw"
via repetition.) 12.a4 (12.h4 Bb5!?
That bishop is that important that
Black should be willing to acquire
doubled pawns to exchange it.)
12...Nbc6 13.c3 Na5 14.Ne2 b5
15.axb5 Bxb5 16.Bc2 The battle for
the light squares continues! White has
some light plus.]

10.Kf1 Bd7?!

[It is still there: 10...b6]

11.Ne2 Qc7 12.Ng3 White is intending Nh5 **12...Nbc6**

[12...g6 might be necessary, but it sure looks suicidal!]



13.f4? Part of White's plan to put his kingside in order, but this throws away a winning advantage! f4-f5 will take some preparation, and meanwhile the dark-squared bishop is limited.

[13.Nh5+- was the order of the day: piece play is often the way to go in these Winawer French positions.

Black just can't put his own kingside in order. White's advantage is pretty much decisive.]

13...Na5

[13...g6 still might be useful.]

14.Kf2 Pursuing the castling by hand bit, but missing the boat.

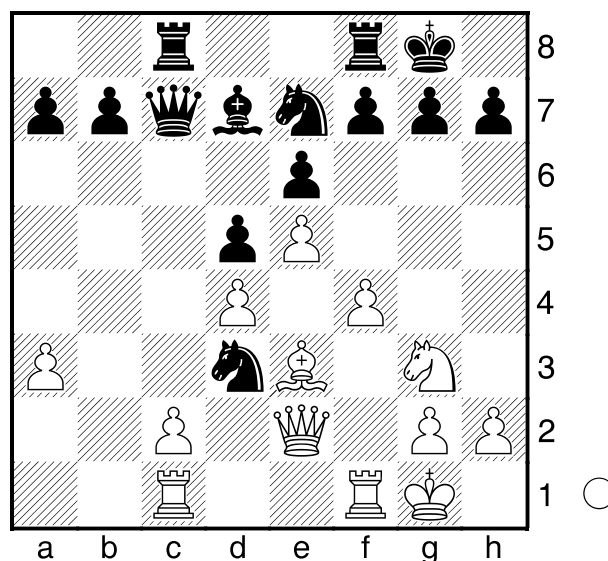
[Still: 14.Nh5! Nc4 15.Qe2

keeps an edge, looking for g2-g4 and an eventual f4-f5.]

14...Nc4 15.Rf1 Rc8 16.Qe2 Nb2

17.Rac1 0-0 It's tipping towards Black now. **18.Kg1 Nxd3**

(Diagram)



19.cxd3!? Dreadful pawns, but keeping Black out of c4 is a good thing. **19...Qa5**

20.Qg4?+- White chooses the worst time to suddenly get excited about the kingside; Black defends deftly while picking off the queenside. **20...Qxa3**

21.Nh5 Nf5 22.Nf6+?! Losing time and the game. **22...Kh8 23.Rxc8 Rxc8**

24.Nh5 Qxd3 25.Bf2 Rc2?!

[25...Bb5!]

26.Qg5 Rc8! A good quality, ready to admit a mistake and retract it (if only it were always possible!). **27.Qg4**

[27.g4 h6]

27...Rg8 Certainly still winning, and Steinitz would approve

[but 27...Bb5 28.Re1 Qd2

is a finisher (Note 29.Qd1 Qxd1

30.Rxd1 Be2).]

28.Rd1 Qc3 29.Qe2 a6 30.g4 Bb5

31.Qa2 Qf3 Some bumps, but once Black's defence was in order he never lost the ball. Well done!

0-1

□ Tam, Hoa Long

■ Chan, John

C06

1306

1533

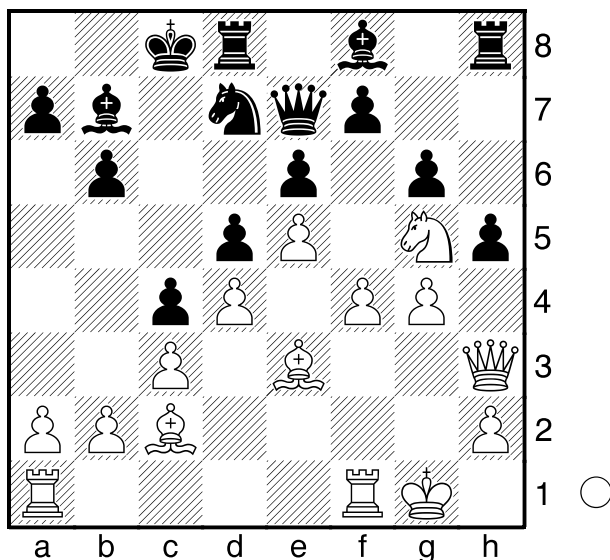
MI Peter Grey TNM: u1800 (2.17) 19.07.22
[Winslow, Elliott]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5
Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 c4?! 7.Bc2 Nc6
8.f4 g6 9.Ngf3 Be7 10.Nf1 b6 11.Ne3
h5 Black is holding back g2-g4 and f4-f5,
but must be hyper alert to tactical
enforcement -- as happens on move 17!
12.0-0 Bb7 13.Qe1 Bf8 14.Ng5 Ne7
15.Qh4 Nf5 16.Qh3 Qe7 17.g4?!

[17.b3 b5 18.Nxf5 gxf5 19.Bxf5!
exf5 20.Qxf5 Rh6 White was already
threatening 21. Ba3!, not that Black
had any other move) 21.Bd2 Ra6
(Computer try) 22.Qh3 prepares to
grab h5 as well, not to mention f4-f5.
Black is in big trouble.]

17...Nxe3 18.Bxe3 0-0-0?!

[18...Bh6 19.gxh5 Bxg5 20.fxg5
Rxh5 21.Qg3 0-0-0 22.h4
White can triple, when defence is
problematic.]



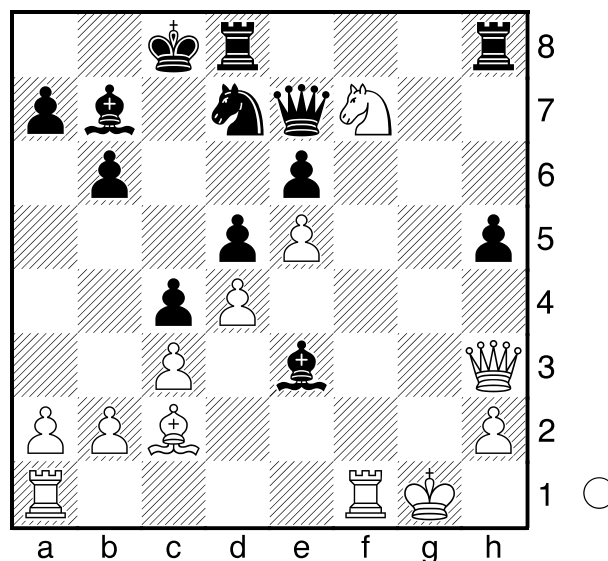
19.f5!+- Every Anti-French player's
dream move. 19...gxh5 20.gxh5 Bh6
21.fxe6 fxe6

[21...Bxg5 22.exd7+ Kb8 23.Bxg5
Qxg5+ 24.Kh1]

22.Nf7

[22.Rf7! Qe8 23.Bg6!+- ties Black in
knots.]

22...Bxe3+



23.Kh1!+-

[23.Qxe3 Rhg8+ 24.Kh1 Rdf8
25.Nd6+± is certainly a nice knight--
but the text is better.]

23...Bd2?

[23...Bh6 24.Nd6+! Taking a rook
leads to no advantage at all. Kc7
25.Rf7 Qg5 26.Ba4 Qg6 (26...Bc6
27.Bxc6 Kxc6 28.Qxe6 steps into
some nastiness.) 27.Rg1 Bg5
28.Qg2! Rhg8 29.Bc2 Qh6 30.Bh7!]

24.Nxd8? Now White has, basically,
nothing.

[24.Nd6+ Kc7 25.Rf7 Qg5 26.Rg1
Qh6 27.Rg6 Qe3 28.Rf3 Qe2
29.Rg2 Qe1+ 30.Rg1 Qe2 31.Bd1
-- got it!]

24...Kxd8 25.Rf2 Bg5?!

[25...Bh6 was safer, close to equal.]

26.Raf1 h4?

[26...Nxe5! 27.Qg3! (27.dxe5?? d4+
What a takeover! 28.Rf3 d3+-)
27...Qg7 28.Re2 Bf6 (28...Nc6
29.Rg2; 28...Ng4 29.Qb8+ Bc8

30.Rxe6+- Black's king becomes the center of attention.) 29.dxe5 Qxg3 30.hxg3 Be7 31.Kh2± White has work to do, but it's working for him.]

27.Rf7+- Qe8 28.Ba4

[28.Rg7! is the "finish him off" move. Rg8 29.Bg6 Qxg6 30.Rxg6 Rxg6 31.Qg4 Nxe5 32.Qh5 Bf6 33.Rxf6 Rxf6 34.Qxe5 (34.dxe5 is just about as good even.)]

28...Bc8 29.Qg4! Rg8 30.Qh5!

It's almost Zugzwang! Black is having trouble moving without losing something.

30...Be3 31.Qxh4+

[31.Bxd7 Bxd7 32.Qh7 Rg4 (else 33.Rxd7+ and the rook on g8 is loose if recapture) 33.Rf8]

31...Kc7 32.Qh5 Qd8 33.Qf3?

[33.Bxd7 Bxd7 34.Qh7

A) 34...Rg5 35.Qh3 Qg8 (35...Bd2 36.Qxe6) 36.Qxe3;

B) 34...Re8 35.Rxd7+ Qxd7 36.Rf7;

C) 34...Rg4 35.h3]

33...Bg5?

[33...Qg5! (with a threat of his own!) 34.Qg3 Qxg3 35.hxg3 a6! Black is holding!]

34.Rh7! Kb8 35.Bxd7! Bxd7 36.Qf7

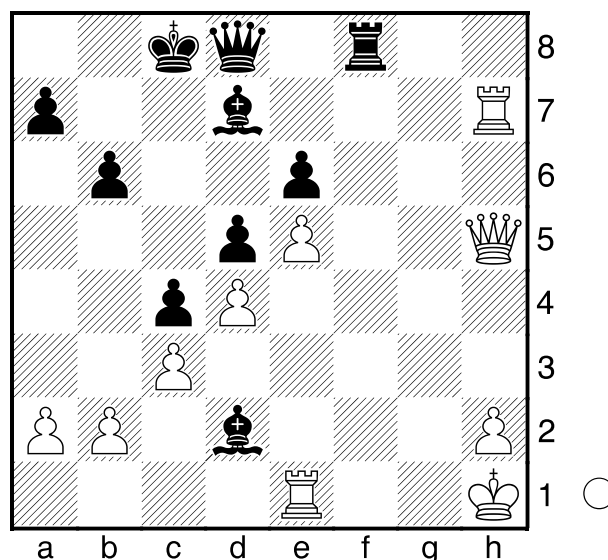
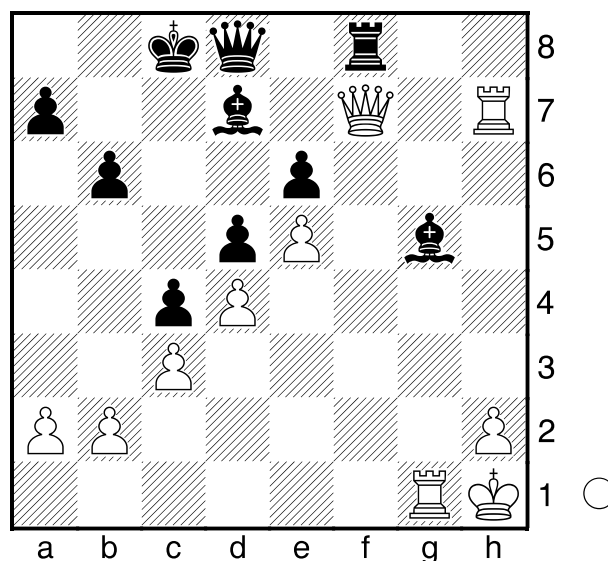
Kc8 37.Rg1! White has found a lot of key tactical shots and maneuvering inroads this game so far, but it's only half over. **37...Rf8**

(Diagram)

38.Qh5??

[It was time to cash in for a won rook ending: 38.Qxd7+ Qxd7 39.Rxd7 Kxd7 40.Rxg5 Rf1+ 41.Rg1 Rf2 42.h4! There are a lot of lines, but they all end up a win. Rf4 (42...Rxb2 43.h5 Rf2 44.Rg7+ Kc6 45.Rg6) 43.Rg7+ Kd8 44.Rh7]

38...Be3 And now -- it's equal -- "0.00" on the computer! **39.Re1 Bd2**



40.Re2??

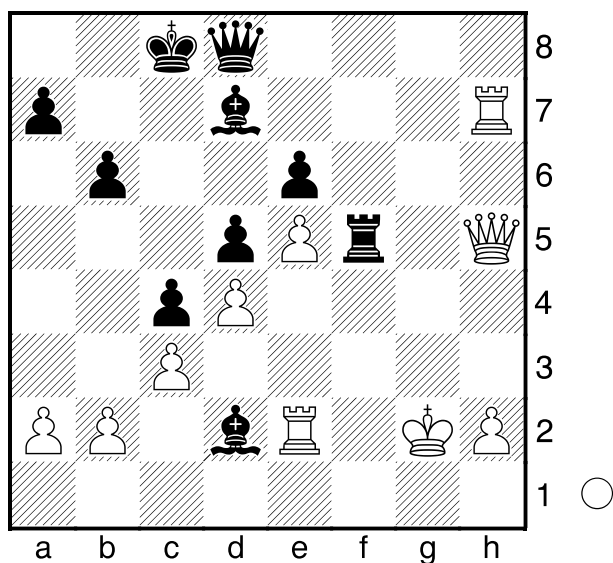
[40.Rg1 sets up a semi-forced repetition.]

40...Bc1?

[After all he's been through, it would be too much to ask John to find 40...Rf1+ 41.Kg2 Rf5!!

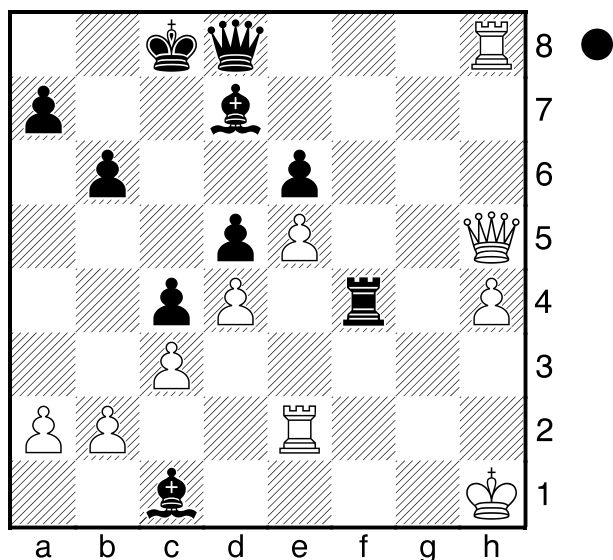
(Diagram)

This is worth a diagram -- and a full point. White has nowhere to go. 42.Qh3 Qg8+ 43.Kh1 Rg5 44.Rg2 Rxg2 45.Qxg2 Qxh7 46.Qxd2



Black still has an extra piece?]
41.h4? Still, Black has an advantage.
 But this makes it more like a win again:
 [41.Re1 Bxb2 42.Rg1 Bxc3
 43.Rgg7 is resilient, including after the
 best reply Rf5!]

41...Rf4
 [Again: 41...Rf5!-+]
42.Rh8



Be8??
 [42...Rf8 43.Rxf8 Qxf8 44.Kg2
 Qg8+ when both bishops might have
 some say finally.]
43.Rxe8 Rxh4+ 44.Qxh4 Qxe8

45.Rh2

[45.Rg2]

45...Kb7 46.b4?!

[46.Qh7+ Ka6 47.Rf2 Kb5 48.b3]
 [46.b3 is the key move, now or in a
 bit.]

46...Qa4?!

[46...Ka6 47.Qh7 Qf8 48.Kg2
 hangs onto a won evaluation,
 although it's going to be tough with
 that exposed king.]

47.Qh7+ Kc6 48.Qc2 keeping it human

48...Qa3 49.Rg2

[49.Qg6! gets there (where "there" is
 mate) first.]

49...Be3 50.Rg7?

[50.Qb2! Qa4 51.Qe2!]

50...Qa6??

[50...a5! when White just barely wins
 with 51.Rg3! Bxd4!? 52.Qg6! Qc1+
 53.Kh2! (53.Kg2??? Qg1+ 54.Kh3
 Qf1+! is a perpetual (really!))
 53...Bxe5 54.Qxe6+ Bd6 55.Qc8+
 Bc7 (55...Kb5 56.Qd7+ Ka6
 57.b5#!) 56.b5+ Kxb5 57.Qxc7
 How the computer comes up with "a
 win, slightly" I don't want to know...]

51.Re7

[51.Qh7!]

51...Qc8

[51...Bxd4 52.cxd4 Qa3
 hopes against hope.]

52.Rxa7

[52.Qa4+ b5 53.Qxa7!]

52...Qh8+ 53.Qh7

[53.Rh7! Qxh7+ (53...Qa8 54.a4)]

53...Qxh7+ 54.Rxh7 Bd2 55.Rh3 Kb5

56.Kg2 Ka4 57.Kf2 Ka3 58.Ke2 Bc1

59.Kd1 Bb2 60.Kc2 Kxa2 61.Rh6

[61.Rh7]

[61.Rh8]

61...b5 62.Rxe6 Ba3 63.Ra6

Epic, instructive, and entertaining! Well
 done sir. And John, so close to turning
 it around!

1-0

□ **Ayala,Nicholas**

■ **Clark,Drew H**

C52

1522

1318

MI Peter Grey TNM: u1800 (2.18) 19.7.22
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.b4

The quixotic Evans Gambit! Often used as a surprise (or somewhat of a surprise!) weapon, it has considerable confusion value. If nothing else, it could avoid the drab Giuoco Pianos we're subjected to these days! **4...Bxb4 5.c3 Ba5 6.d4 exd4**

[6...Bb6 was successful by Anand and has a pretty big plus score, but as the one annotated game in Mega says: "Black cannot give back the pawn without any resistance." (P. Lukacs)]

7.0-0

[Nigel Short, who has played the Evans more than a few times over the years, switches between this and 7.Qb3]

7...Nge7 How unromantic! This is quite popular with technicians: get in ...d5 without any "complications."

[7...Nf6 seems to be "asking for it" but it's possible 8.e5 isn't the best move, mainly because of d5! If we go way back, we find a precursor to something else. Notice the Black player: 9.exf6 dxc4 10.fxg7 Rg8 11.Bg5 Qd5 12.Nbd2 1-0 (33) Anderssen,Adolph - Lange,Max, Berlin 1852. Ol' Max didn't like the man-handling he got from the best active player of the age, and turned it around and used it in the Scotch Gambit...]

[Decades ago I was tasked by a student to try to refute the Evans Gambit, via the Compromised Defence: 7...dxc3 8.Qb3 Qf6 9.e5 Qg6 I wish I could remember what we

came up with (and run it through Stockfish!); our conclusion was "maybe."]

8.cxd4 MVL played this against So a few years ago, with success.

[8.Ng5 d5! (maybe!)

A) 9.Nxf7!? (so much for no complications!) has been Zhigalko's pet line. Kxf7 10.exd5 Ne5!

White has scored well, but maybe the position isn't so good after all.

11.Bb3 Black does all right if he doesn't move his king. dxc3!N

12.d6+ Ke8 13.dxe7 (13.Ba4+ N7c6) 13...Qxd1 14.Rxd1 Nc6;

B) 9.exd5 Ne5 10.Bb3 0-0

11.Nxh7 (11.Nxf7 was RJF in a 1964 simul game; he won, but.. .)

11...Kxh7 12.Qh5+ Kg8 13.Qxe5

Short drew Adams but Black is better here.]

8...d5

[Full disclosure: (1) It was a blitz game.

(2) So played 8...d6? 9.Ng5 d5

(I don't think so!) 10.exd5 Nxd5

11.Nxf7!+- NOT a Fried Liver! Of the 17 times this was played in Mega, this

is the last. So lasted quite a while, but in the end... 1-0.]

9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Qb3

[10.Ba3 Be6 11.Nbd2!? Bb4

12.Bxb4 Ncxb4 and Black should even get castled (with a good game).]

10...Nce7?!

[10...Be6 is a lot better -- White is gambling if he takes the poisoned

pawn: 11.Qxb7 (11.Ba3 Rb8!?

Black could well consolidate next with ...Bb4 (!).) 11...Ndb4 12.Bb5

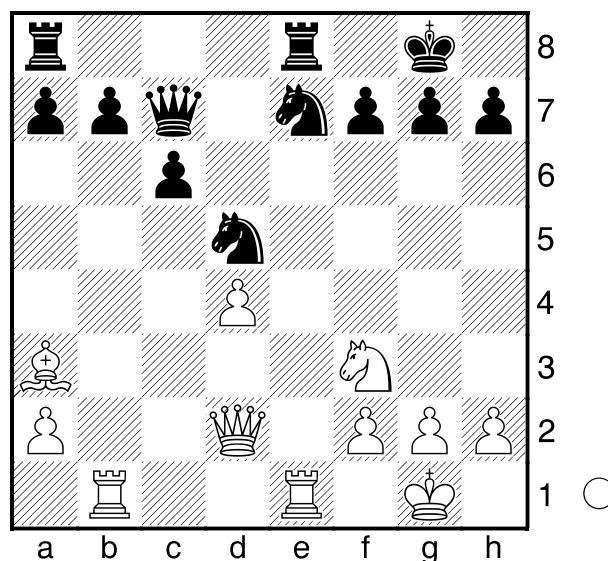
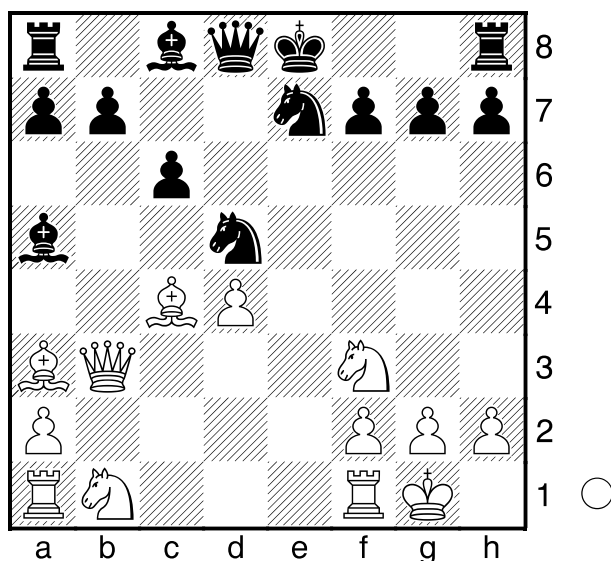
(12.d5!? Rb8 13.Qxb8□ Qxb8

14.dxe6 fxe6 12...0-0! 13.Bxc6

Rb8 13 Black gets a lot of "kicks" for his pawn (it was extra to begin with).]

11.Ba3 c6

(Diagram)



12.Nbd2

[12.Bxe7 has been a lot more popular, when after Kxe7 13.Rc1!N White has some edge. (13.Nbd2; 13.Bxd5)]

12...Qb6

[12...0-0! 13.Ne4 (best?) Qb6! takes advantage of the knight hanging after 14.Bxd5 cxd5 15.Bxe7 Re8]

13.Qc2?

[13.Bxe7 is some advantage;]
[13.Qd1!± doesn't give Black a free move as in the game!]

13...Bf5= it's even now 14.Bd3?±

and now it's Black for choice. 14...Bxd3

15.Qxd3 Bxd2! 16.Qxd2? and just like that: Black is bordering on winning.

[16.Nxd2!? 0-0 17.Ne4 Rfd8± is a better square for the knight, but Black still has that clear advantage in a pawn up and another weak one on d4.]

16...0-0 17.Rab1 Qc7 18.Rfe1 Rfe8

(Diagram)

For the rest of the game one can see, running an engine, that neither player was showing the finest technique; but Black was pretty dogged about taking it

down. 19.Qg5 h6 20.Qh4?! Ng6

21.Qg4 a5 An interesting way to go, [but there was simply 21...Qa5

22.Bd6 Nf6 23.Qh3 Rxe1+ 24.Rxe1 Qxa2]

22.Rec1 Re2 23.Ne5 Rxa2 Well okay, he got it from the other direction.

24.Nxg6 Rxa3 25.Ne5 Rc3

[25...a4!]

26.Re1 a4 27.Qe2 a3 28.Qa2 b5

29.Rb3 Rxb3 30.Qxb3 Qa5 31.Ra1

Qc3 32.Qa2 Qb2

[32...b4!]

33.Nd3 Qxa2 34.Rxa2 b4 35.Nc5 Nc3

36.Ra1 Ne2+ 37.Kf1 Nxd4 38.Nd3 b3

39.Nb4 Nc2 40.Nxc2 bxc2

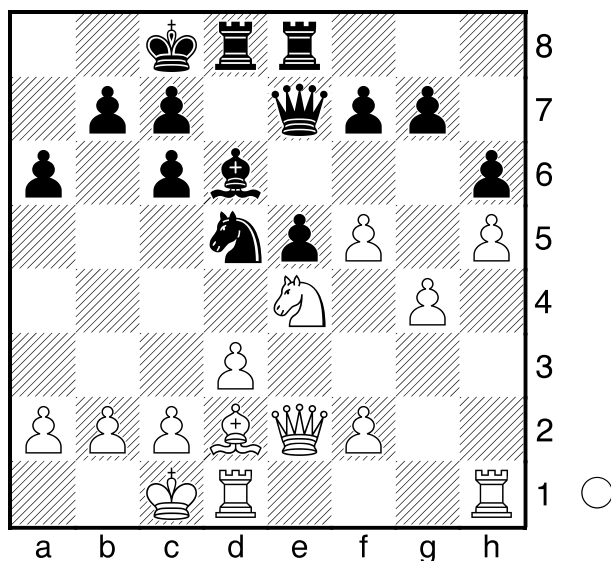
[40...a2! and ...b2 is cute...]

41.Ke1 Rd8 Drew lands a moderate upset and excellent play in a dangerous opening! Maybe someone to go back to the Giuoco Pianissimo after all!

0-1

Ahrens, Richard William 1036
 Ren, Jocelyn 1454
 MI Peter Grey TNM: u1800 (2.20) 19.07.22
[Winslow, Elliott]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5.Nc3 Bd6 6.d3 Bg4 7.h3 Bh5 8.g4 Bg6 9.h4 h6 10.h5 Bh7 11.Bd2 Nf6 12.Nh4 Qd7 13.Nf5 Bxf5 14.exf5 0-0-0 15.Qe2 Rhe8 16.0-0-0 Qe7 17.Ne4 Nd5



18.Nxd6+?!

[White had the breaks and should have taken them: 18.g5! hxg5 19.Bxg5 f6 20.Bd2 with a very unhappy g-pawn.]

18...Qxd6! 19.Qe4

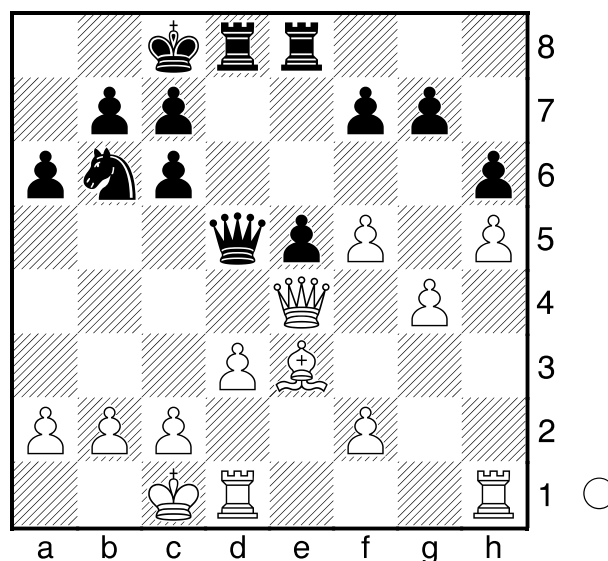
[19.g5 hxg5 20.Bxg5 f6 21.Bd2 Qd7 22.Qg4 b6= White misses that great knight now.]

19...Nb6 Here and for the next few moves Black might toss in ...f6. **20.Be3 Qd5**

(Diagram)

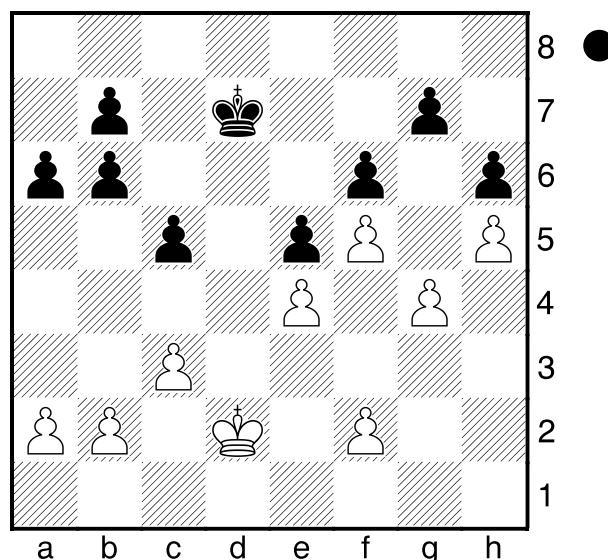
21.Bxb6

[21.f6! gxg6 22.Qxd5 cxd5 23.Bxh6 creates a dangerous outside passed



pawn, for a solid plus.]

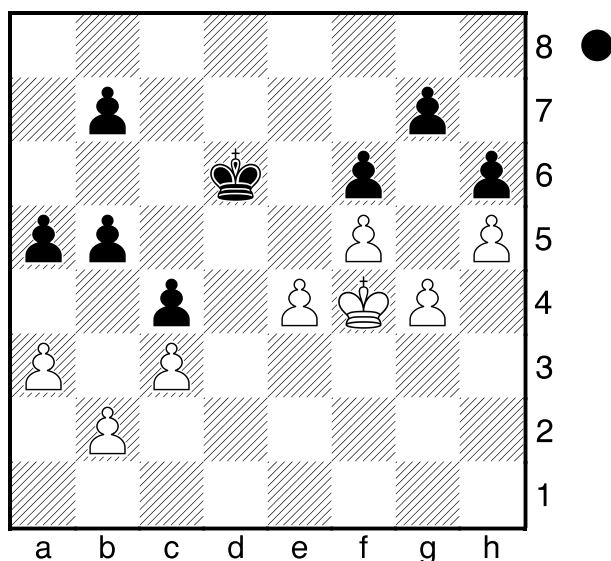
21...cxb6 22.Qxd5 Rxd5 23.Rhe1 Rd4 24.Re4 f6 25.Rde1 Red8 26.Kd2 c5 27.Rxd4 Rxd4 28.Re4 Kd7 29.c3 Rxe4 30.dxe4



And it's into a "0.00" pawn endgame, which does **not** tell the story at all. Both sides must play extremely accurately! **30...c4 31.Ke3 Kd6 32.f4 b5 33.a3 a5 34.Kf3 exf4=**

[34...Ke7=]
35.Kxf4

(Diagram)



b6

[35...Ke7=]
[35...Kd7=]
[35...a4=]

36.Ke3?!

[36.e5+ fxe5+ 37.Ke4

A) 37...a4? 38.g5 hxg5 39.f6 Ke6
40.fxg7 Kf7 41.Kf5! (41.h6? g4
42.Ke3 Kg8=) 41...e4 42.Kxg5! e3
43.Kh6 e2 (43...Kg8 44.Kg6 e2
45.h6 e1Q 46.h7#) 44.Kh7 e1Q
45.g8Q+-;

B) 37...Ke7! 38.Kxe5 a4 39.Ke4
Kf7 40.Kf3 Ke7 41.Kf4 Kf6=
42.g5+?? (42.Ke4 Ke7 43.Ke5
Kf7) 42...hxg5+ 43.Kg4 b4+-]

36...Kc5??

[36...Ke5 37.Kf3 b4=]

(Diagram)

37.Kf4?

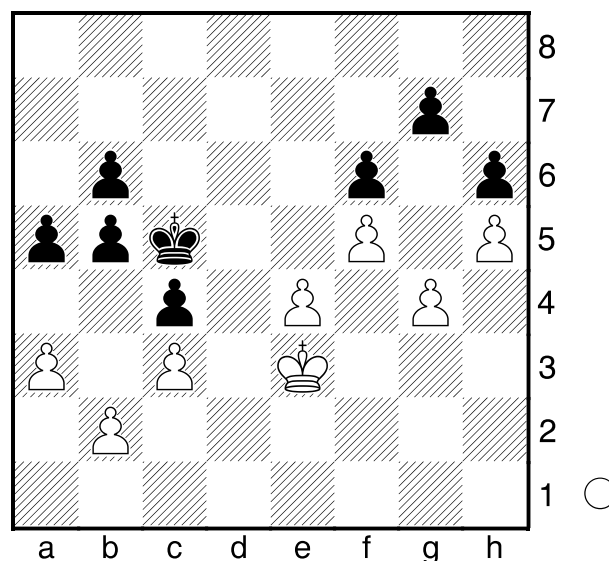
[37.e5! fxe5 38.g5! hxg5 39.f6!+-
Three pawns, one queen.]

37...b4?

[37...Kd6 38.e5+ fxe5+ 39.Ke4 Ke7
40.Kxe5 a4±]

38.e5

[38.axb4+ axb4 39.e5+-]



38...bxa3 39.bxa3 Kd5 40.e6 Kd6

41.Ke4 b5 42.Kd4 Kc6 (Richard realized later that he was winning the final position.)

1/2-1/2

D46

□ **Brickhouse,Christian**

1058

■ **Aslan,Muhammed**

0

MI Peter Grey TNM: u1800 (2.26) 19.7.22
[Winslow,Elliott]

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.e3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6
5.Bd3 Bb4 6.Qc2 Nbd7 7.Nf3 Qe7
8.0-0 0-0 9.a3 Ba5 10.b4 Bc7 11.c5
e5**

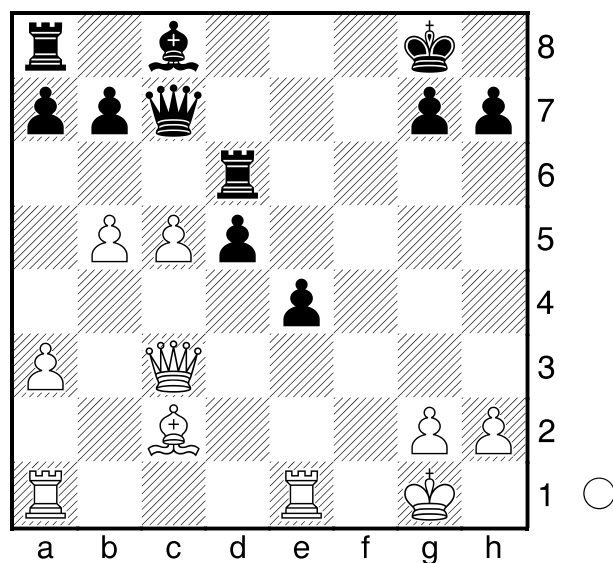
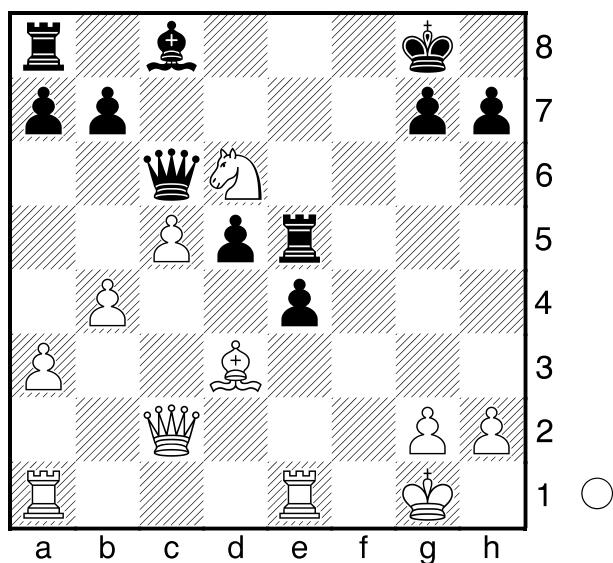
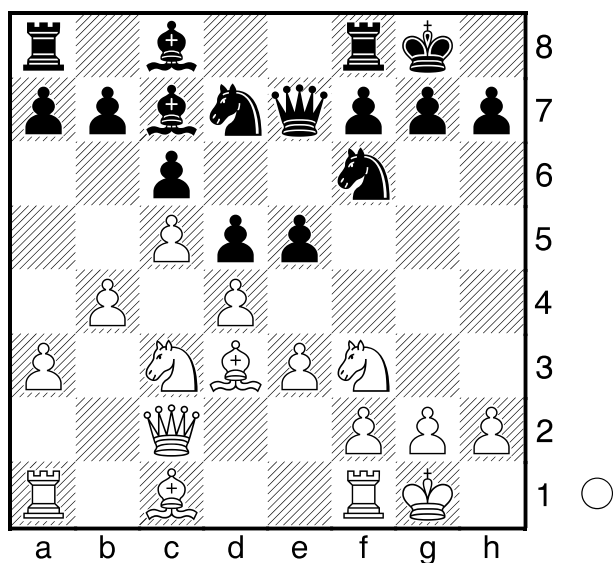
(Diagram)

**12.e4 exd4 13.Nxd4 Be5 14.Nf5 Qe6
15.exd5 cxd5 16.Bb2 Re8 17.Nb5
Qc6 18.Nfd4 Bxd4 19.Bxd4 Ne5
20.Nd6 Re7 21.Rfe1 Ne4 22.Bxe5
Rxe5 23.f3 f5 24.fxe4 fxe4+-**

(Diagram)

25.Qc3 Re6 26.Bc2?

[26.Bb5 Qc7 27.Qd4]



Be6 37.Kg1 Rf5 38.g4 Rg5 39.h3 h5
40.Kf2 hxg4 41.hxg4 Kf7 42.Ke3 Kf6
 [42...Ke7]
43.Rf1+ Ke5 44.Re1 Rxc4 45.Kf2 g5
46.Rh1 Kd4 47.Rh7 e3+ 48.Kf3 Rf4+
49.Ke2 Rf2+ 50.Ke1 g4 51.Rh4 Rb2
52.Bxd5 Kxd5
 [52...Bxd5 is an even faster mate]
53.Rh5+ Kd4 54.Rg5 Kd3 55.Rd5+
Bxd5 56.a5 Rb1#
0-1

26...Rxd6 But White is still winning!
27.b5 Qc7

(Diagram)

28.Qe5??

[28.Bxe4! is the only move, but it puts
 Black away. b6 (28...Rd8 29.Bd3)
 29.cxd6! (29.Rad1) 29...Qxc3
 30.Bxd5+ Be6 31.Bxe6+ Kh8 32.d7
 Rd8 33.Rac1+-]

28...Qxc5+ 29.Kh1 Re6++ 30.Qb2 Bd7
31.a4 Rc8 32.Rac1 Qd6 33.Bb3 Qe5
34.Rxc8+ Bxc8 35.Qxe5 Rxe5 36.Rd1

Dennis Waterman (1948-2022)

by IM John Donaldson

Dennis Waterman, one of the Bay Area's best players during the 1970s, died on July 11 in Myrtle Creek, Oregon, at the age of 74. He is survived by his wife Geewon, and daughter Amara.

Born in San Francisco in 1948 but raised in Myrtle Point, Oregon, (population 2,514), Dennis played his first rated tournament in 1965. He soon became one of the strongest players in Oregon, but it was only when he moved to Northern California in the early 1970s that he realized his potential. There he played in a number of strong events with other up and coming players like James Tarjan, Julio Kaplan and John Grefe. The later became not only his training partner but a lifelong friend.



Dennis Waterman at the Oregon Open in 1983.

One of the most important events in Waterman's development was the annual tournament held each year in Lone Pine, California, near Death Valley. The event initially started out as a master and expert competition but got steadily stronger over the next decade as the rating requirements became progressively higher. Dennis played in the first six Lone Pine master tournaments, one of only two players to do this (Walter Browne was the other), and participation in this increasingly tough competition led to steady improvement. By 1975 his USCF rating was rapidly approaching 2400 (Dennis' peak was 2420). That spring he played in a very strong round robin held at Lina Grummette's Chess Set, run out of her home in Hollywood.

Dennis was one of the lowest rated players in the event won by James Tarjan, but performed quite respectably, scoring 4 out of 9 to earn an initial FIDE rating of 2290. Here is one of his wins which he annotated for the May 1975 issue of *Northwest Chess*, May (p. 25). Jeff Kent was a Senior Master from Los Angeles with a FIDE rating of close to 2400.

Alekhine's Defense B04

Dennis Waterman – Jeff Kent

Los Angeles (Western Futurity Qualifier) 1975

Annotations by Dennis Waterman

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 dxe5 5.Nxe5 g6 6.Qf3 Be6 7.Bd2.

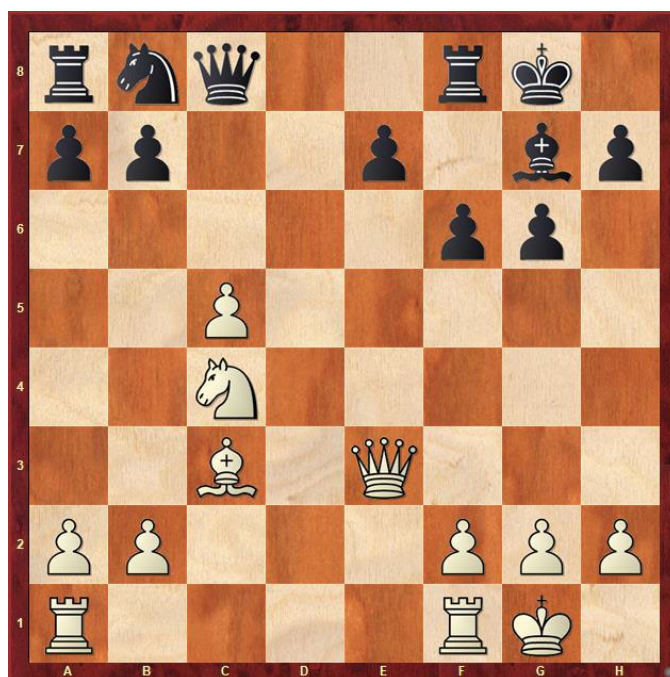


Theoretical novelty - my problem in this tournament was that I was analyzing so well that I forgot about basic principles! **7...c6 8.c4 Nb6 9.Bc3 f6** Better is 9...Bg7 as

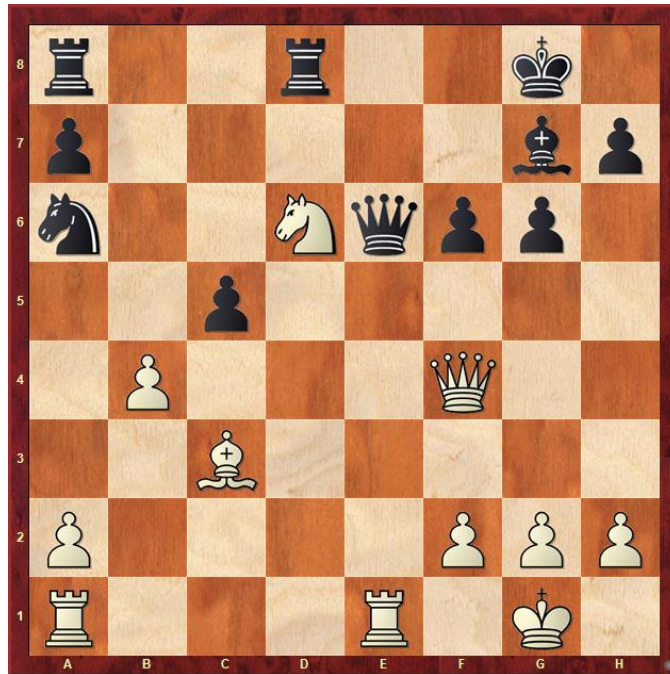
10.d5? fails to 10...cxd5 11.Nxf7 Bxc3+ 12.Qxc3 Kxf7! **10.Qe3! Qc8** 10...fxe5? 11.Qxe5 forks h8 or e6 or 10...Bg8 11.b3! **11.d5!**



11...cxd5 12.c5 When I played 7.Bd2 I had intended 12.Nf3 here when 12...Nxc4 13.Bxc4 dxc4 14.Ng5! gives White the advantage, but on review I noticed 12...dxc4! 13.Ng5 Bh6! and the knight on b6 defends the queen, allowing 14.Qxe6 Bxg5.
12...Nc4 Or 12...N6d7 13.Nxg6 hxg6 14.Qxe6 Qxc5 15.Bd3 with a strong attack.
13.Nxc4 dxc4 14.Nd2 Bg7 Or 14...Na6 15.Bxc4 Bxc4 16.Bxf6!
15.Bxc4 Bxc4 16.Nxc4 0-0 17.0-0.



17...Na6 18.b4 b6 19.Qxe7 Re8 20.Qd6 Rd8! 21.Qf4 bxc5 22.Nd6 Qe6 23.Rfe1!!



23...Qxd6 Or 23...g5 24.Rxe6 gxf4 25.Nb7; or 23...Qd5 24.Rad1 Qxa2 when the easiest win is 25.Re7. **24.Re8+ Bf8 25.Qxd6 Rxd6 26.Rxa8 cxb4 27.Be1 Rd7 28.Rc1 Kg7.**

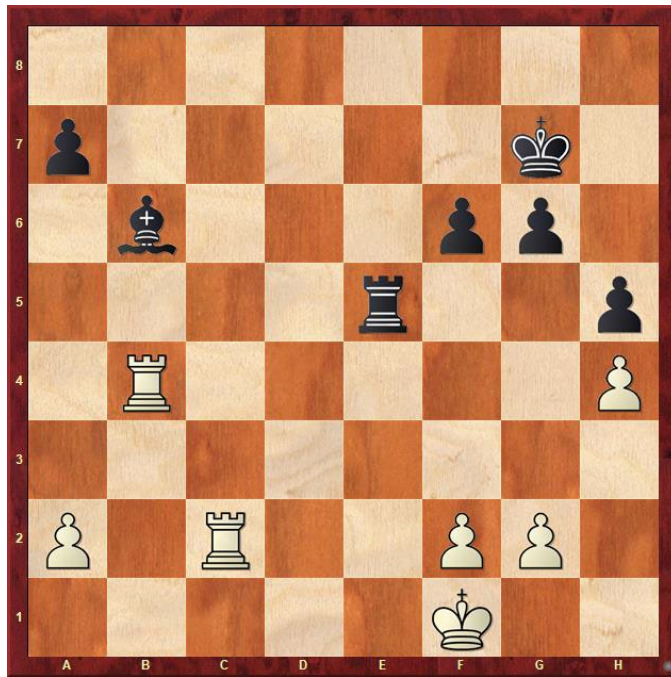


29.Kf1 Not my first impulse which was 29.Rc6? b3! 30.axb3 Rd1 31.Rxa7+ Kh6 32.Kf1 Bb4 33.Re6 Nc5 with strong counterplay. (34.Re3 still wins - Stockfish in 2020.)

29...Bc5 30.Rc8 Bb6 31.R8c4 Rd5 32.R1c2

Not 32.Bxb4 Nxb4 33.Rxb4 Rd2 with strong counterplay.

32...Rd1 33.Ke2 Rd5 34.Bxb4 Re5+ 35.Kf1 Nxb4 36.Rxb4 h5 37.h4.



37...g5 38.hxg5 fxg5 39.g3 Kg6 40.a4 g4 41.Rc6+ 1-0

International Master Jeremy Silman, a friend of Dennis for close to fifty years, provides background information on Waterman's win over Grandmaster Walter Browne in the following game.

Browne had come to the Sunnyvale tournament full of confidence. He felt that his sub-par eyesight was hindering his performances and he had just bought glasses. Claiming that he was finally able to see, he drew me in an early round and, after winning a couple games, faced Dennis Waterman who, in those days, was a formidable opponent. I was friends with both these gentlemen and, as luck would have it, my game was next to theirs (I was sitting beside Walter). Waterman, playing Black, had noticed my draw against Browne and decided to try the same opening.

Maroczy Bind B39

Walter Browne - Dennis Waterman

Sunnyvale 1974

Notes by John Donaldson

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6

Dennis also experimented with 4...Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 which avoids the Maroczy Bind, but allows White the possibility of 6.Nxc6. Normally Black answers this with 6...bxc6, but this

line does not enjoy the best of reputations. D.W. favored 6...dxc6 heading for a queenless middlegame, which was tried by Botvinnik against Smyslov in their one of their World Championship matches. More recently Ivanchuk and Zvaginsev have experimented with it.

6.Nde2 Bg7 7.g3 0-0 8.Bg2 a6 9.a4 Qa5 10.0-0 d6 11.h3 Bd7 12.Be3 Nb4 13.Qd2 Rac8 14.Nf4 b6 15.f3 Bc6 16.Nce2 Bxa4 17.c3 Nc2 18.b3 Nxa1 19.Rxa1 b5 20.bxa4 Rc4 21.Nd3 Rxa4 22.Rxa4 Qxa4 23.e5 Grefe-Waterman, Portland 1982, saw White offer a draw which was accepted, but 23...dxe5 24.Nxe5 b4! with the idea 25.cxb4? Qa1+ was quite strong.

5.c4 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nc3 Ng4 8.Qxg4 Nxd4 9.Qd1 Ne6 10.Rc1.

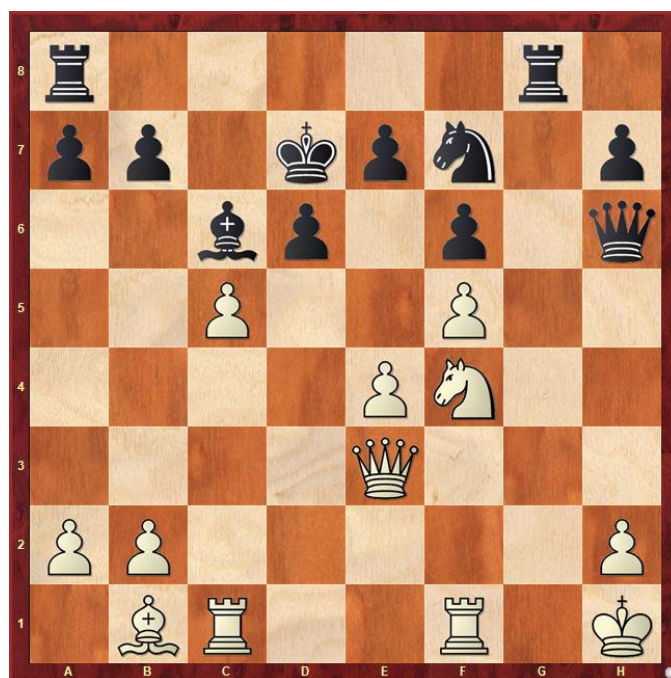


10...d6 10...Qa5 11.Be2 (11.Bd3 b6 12.f4 Bb7 13.0-0 Bc6 14.Rf2 Nc5 15.Bb1 Na4 16.Nd5 Nxb2 17.Qb3 Bxd5 18.cxd5 Na4 led to sharp play with chances for both sides in Tarjan-Waterman, Los Angeles (Western Futurity Qualifier) 1975.) 11...d6 (11...Bxc3+ 12.Rxc3 Qxa2 13.Qc1 Qa5 14.c5 offers White excellent compensation for the pawn.) 12.0-0 Bd7 13.Nd5! Bxb2 14.Rb1 Bg7 15.Rxb7 Bc6 16.Rxe7+ Kf8 17.c5! and White went on to win a brilliancy in Shamkovich-Waterman, Lone Pine 1975.

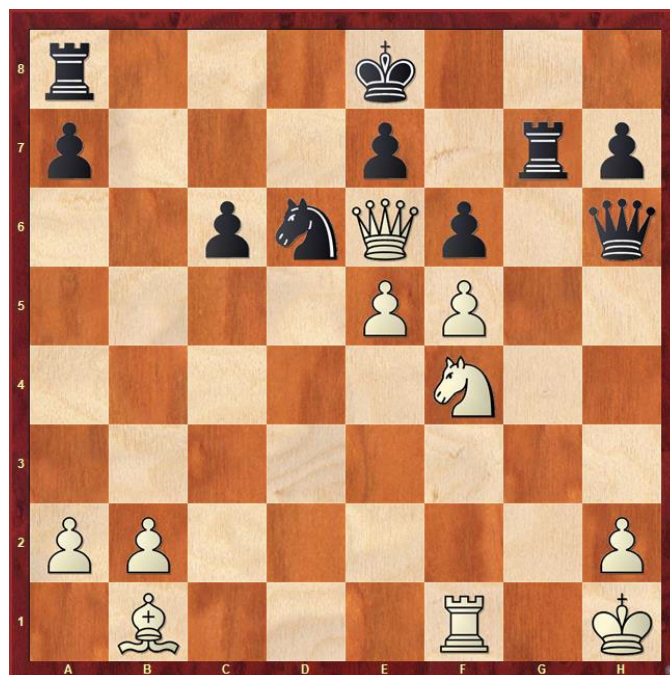
11.Bd3 Bd7 12.0-0 Bc6 13.Qd2 Qa5 14.Bb1 Qh5.



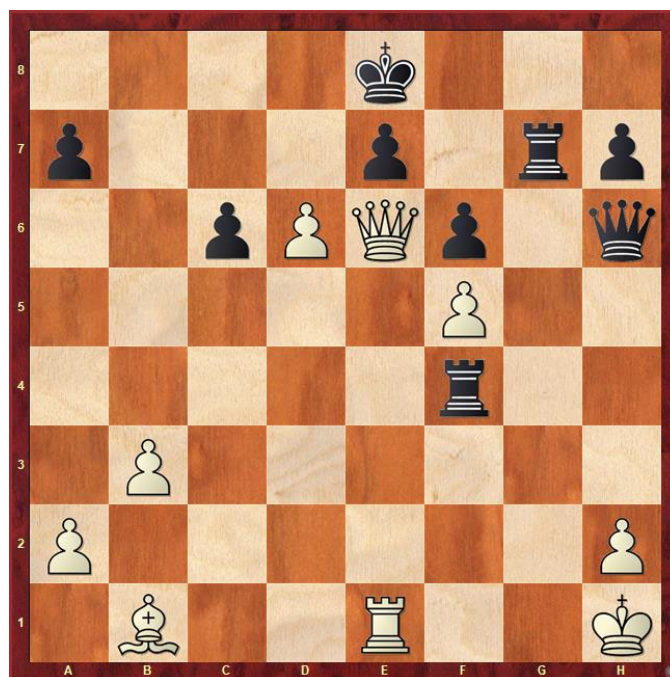
14...g5 is the standard treatment in such positions, the text is too optimistic. **15.Nd5** 15.f4 is not bad either. **15...g5 16.f3 16.b4! 16...Be5 17.g3 Rg8 18.Qf2 Bf4 18...Nf4** was another option, although in truth after either move White is still doing quite well. **19.Kh1 Bxe3 20.Qxe3 f6 21.f4** 21.b4 is better, slowly improving White's position. After the text Black gets much needed counterplay. **21...gxf4 22.gxf4 Kd7 23.f5 Ng5 24.c5 24...Nf7 24...Qh3** offering the trade of queens, was safer. **25.Nf4 Qh6**



26.Qb3 26.b4!, intending a4 and b5, was also strong leaving the queen to help defend the kingside.
26...Rg7 27.cxd6? 27.Bd3 intending Bb5, was very strong. After this one, seemingly insignificant error, Black's pieces start to spring to life. **27...Nxd6 28.Qe6+ Ke8 29.Rxc6 bxc6 30.e5.**



This looks crushing. but Black has a resource. Can you find it? **30...Rb8! 31.b3**
 31.exd6 Rxb2 and White has nothing better than 32.Qc8+ (32.h3 Qxf4 33.Rxf4 Rxb1+
 34.Kh2 Rb2+ 35.Kh1 Rb1+ is another perpetual.) 32...Kf7 33.Qe6+ with a draw by
 perpetual check. **31...Rb4!** Another "only" move. **32.exd6 Rxf4 33.Re1??**



33.Qc8+ Kf7 34.Qe6+ was necessary splitting the point, but instead White played
 33.Re1. International Master Silman explains what happened next:

At this point Browne's face showed complete confidence and he was waiting for Black to resign when the 6'4" Waterman leapt on his chair, screamed "Woo hoo! Woo hoo!" as he lifted the queen way up into the sky, and then descended with it as the "woo hoo" continued to fill the room.

At that moment Browne realized that it wasn't Waterman that was getting mated, but himself. A strangled "No!" burst out of his mouth, and he physically reached up to prevent Black's queen from landing on h2. Alas, the downward momentum was too much to stop and Waterman smashed the queen onto h2, knocking the pawn off the table.

Browne, in shock, yelled "My eyes! My eyes!" Then he stormed out of the room. Browne's new glasses were found in a garbage can a short time later.

33...Qxh2+! 0-1

The following game appeared in *200 Modern Brilliances* (1984) by Kevin Wicker. It was originally published in the *California Chess Reporter* and played in one of the first Marathons.

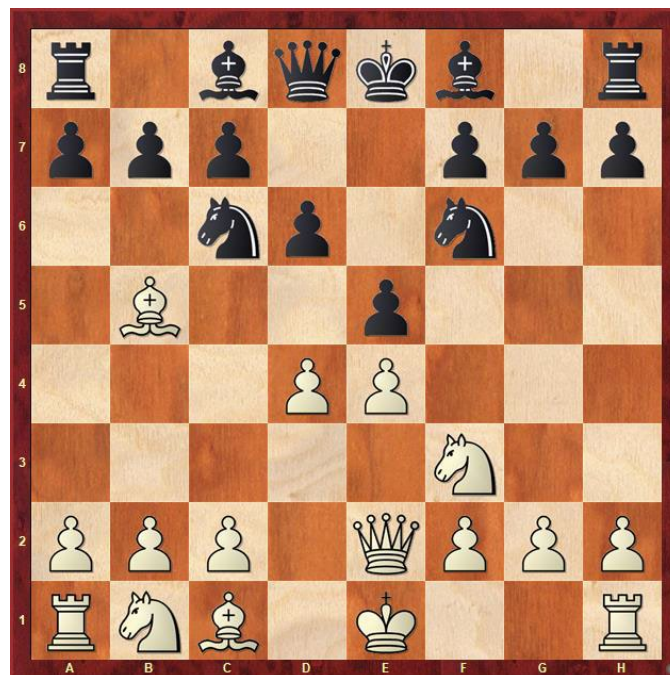
Ruy Lopez C65

Dennis Waterman - Romeo Samo

Mechanics Institute Marathon, 1974

Notes by John Donaldson

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.Qe2 d6 5.d4.



5...Bd7 5...exd4 6.e5 Nd5? 7.Nxd4 Nde7 8.Bf4 d5 was Waterman-Martz, Los Angeles (Western Futurity Qualifier) 1975. Now 9.Nc3 a6 10.e6 Bxe6 (10...axb5? 11.Ndxb5 Bxe6 12.Bxc7 winning) 11.Nxe6 fxe6 12.Qxe6 favors White. **6.Bxc6 Bxc6 7.Nc3 Qe7 8.0-0 0-0-0?** 8...g6 was safer. **9.d5 Bd7 10.a4 g6 11.Be3** 11.Qe3 Kb8 (11...a6 12.Qa7) 12.Nb5 b6 13.c4 with a5 to follow was a strong alternative. **11...Kb8 12.Qc4 Ng4?** 12...a6 was needed. **13.Nb5** 13.Bxa7+ Kxa7 14.Nb5+ Ka6 15.Nxc7+ Ka7 16.Nb5+ Ka6 17.Nxd6+ Ka7 18.Nb5+ Ka6 19.d6 Qf6 20.Qc5 b6 21.Qc7 is the computer solution.

13...Bxb5? This hastens the end. White is still winning, albeit more slowly after, 13...Nxe3 14.Qxc7+ Ka8 15.fxe3 Bxb5 16.Qxe7 Bxe7 17.axb5. **14.Bxa7+ Kxa7 15.axb5+ Kb8 16.Ra3 Kc8** Black tries to escape to d7, but White's next move puts an end to such dreams.



17.Qc6!! 1-0

Queen's Gambit Declined D33

Zvonko Vranesic – Dennis Waterman

Lone Pine 1975

Notes by John Donaldson

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 Waterman was a practical player, not an opening theoretician, but he did have his own pet lines. He specialized in playing certain pawn structures, particularly the isolated queen pawn where he liked the side with the isolani. One way he regularly reached this structure was by answering 1.d4 with the Tarrasch Defense. Here we see him use some of his home brewed analysis.

4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.g3 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Qb6 This ancient line was played over 100 years ago, when the g3 variation against the Tarrasch was first being tried by Rubinstein and Schlechter, but quickly dismissed. Waterman goes his own way.

8.Nb3 Be6 9.Be3 9.Nxd5 Bxd5 10.Qxd5 Nf6 11.Qc4 Bb4+ 12.Bd2 0-0 13.Bc3 a5 14.Bg2 a4 15.Nd2 Rfd8 16.Rd1 Bxc3 17.Qxc3 Rac8 18.0-0 Nd4 and Black had equalized in Murray-Vranesic, Montreal 1981. The Canadian IM got the idea for the line from his game with Waterman. **9...d4 10.Nxd4 10...0-0-0!** 10...Rd8? was Waterman's first try

in this position, but it did not work out well - 11.Nxe6! Rxd1+ 12.Rxd1 Qa5 13.Rd5 and White went on to win a brilliancy in D. Berry-Waterman, Lone Pine 1975. Four rounds later Dennis was ready with an improvement.



11.Rc1 Now 11.Nxe6 does not work – 11...Rxd1+ 12.Rxd1 Qxb2 13.Nxf8 Qxc3+ 14.Bd2 Qc5 and Black was already winning in Marshall-Gregory, Berlin 1912. Today one can find this game in a few mouse clicks, but in 1975 one had to have a huge library. Dennis rediscovered 10...0-0-0! on his own.

11...Bc5 12.Ncb5 a6 13.Qa4 axb5 14.Nxb5 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.Bg2 Bd5 17.Bxd5 Nxd5 18.Nd4 Qb4+ 19.Qxb4 Ndx4 20.a3 Nd5 21.0-0



21...Kc7? 21...f6 or; 21...Rd7 return only one pawn and offer excellent winning

chances. Now White is able to save himself. **22.Rxf7+ Rd7 23.Ne6+ Kd6 24.Rxd7+ Kxd7 25.Nxg7 Nxe3 26.Rc3 Ng4 27.Rb3 Kc8 28.h3 Nge5 29.Ne6 Re8 30.Nf4 Rd8 31.Rc3 Rd2 32.b4 Kd7 33.Kf2 Ra2 34.g4 ½–½**

In addition to playing the game Dennis also wrote about chess. He and John Grefe co-authored two books, *Lone Pine* 1972 and *The Best of Lone Pine* (RHM Press 1981). Dennis was also involved in the English version of Fridstein's book on the Pirc Defense which Hanon Russell translated and published while living in Portland in the early 1970s.

Waterman stopped playing chess in the early 1980s. He then went on to enjoy great success as a professional backgammon and poker player. Factor in his strong scrabble play and strong interest in Go and Waterman was definitely a great all-around games player.

Welcome Alex Robins!



Please join us in welcoming Alex Robins as the new Chess Program Manager at the Mechanics' Institute Chess Room. Previously, Alex worked as a Doctoral Candidate and Associate Instructor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of California, Davis. Alex is excited to bring his experience in education to the scholastic programs here at Mechanics' Institute. If you ever want to talk about social theory, or ways he could help to improve the club, please feel free to drop by for a chat or send him an email.

FM Paul Whitehead

Chess is everywhere.

What did you do on International Chess Day?

<https://www.fide.com/news/1869>

GM Nikolai Krogius, the author of *Psychology in Chess*, has died:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/07/17/obituaries/nikolai-krogius-dead.html>

Can a 65-year-old become a Grandmaster?

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/article-the-ultimate-prize-65-year-old-chess-player-takes-aim-at-becoming-a/>

Stereotyping and performance in chess:

<https://phys.org/news/2022-07-impact-stereotyping-chess.html>

There are three new U.S. National Champions:

<https://www.chess.com/news/view/2022-us-national-championships-yoo-yu-shabalov-win>

They are beefing up security in Chennai for the upcoming Chess Olympiad:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/police-chalk-out-security-plans-for-chess-olympiad/article65658237.ece>

A wonderful story about a family chess set:

<https://www.newyorker.com/culture/dept-of-heirlooms/making-peace-with-a-precious-chess-set>

The Chess Olympics has a mascot:

https://www.espn.com/chess/story/_/id/34236229/meet-thambi-mascot-chess-olympiad-2022

The story of a woman who tries to recreate the famous Eve Babitz/Marcel Duchamp chess photograph:

<https://www.dailycal.org/2022/07/18/chess-to-a-naked-eye/>

The World's most expensive chess sets:

<https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/leisure/entertainment/2022/07/20/game-of-kings-worlds-most-expensive-chess-sets/>

Chess in an “Indie first-person shooter survival horror game” called Fobia – St. Dinfna Hotal:

<https://screenrant.com/fobia-st-dinfna-hotel-chess-puzzle-solution/>

A review of 18 chess games you can download onto your phone:

<https://www.technewstoday.com/best-chess-games/>

An unrated player is tearing it up at the Canadian Open:

<https://www.thespec.com/news/hamilton-region/2022/07/16/canadian-open-chess-championship-hamilton-ryan-campbell.html>

The New York Times guide to chess sets:

<https://www.nytimes.com/wirecutter/reviews/how-to-pick-the-best-chess-set/>

Chess is getting big in Shelburne Falls, MA:

<https://www.recorder.com/Full-Moon-Chess-Tournaments-launch-in-Shelburne-Falls-amid-rise-in-game-s-popularity-47233705>

The 32nd NATO Chess Championships was recently held in Tartu, Estonia:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/425201/1st-cavalry-division-trooper-competes-nato-chess-championship>

Playing chess may prevent dementia:

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/article-can-playing-chess-help-prevent-dementia/>

The Black History Museum in Richmond, VA is hosting a free 2-week chess class for teenagers:

<https://richmondfreepress.com/news/2022/jul/14/black-history-museum-host-chess-classes/>

Magnus Carlsen is eliminated in the World Series of Poker – maybe he should stick to chess:

<https://worldchess.com/news/all/magnus-carlsen-celebrity-vibes-along-with-poker-and-nba-stars/>

“Chessguesser” – a combo of Wordle and Chess:

<https://boingboing.net/2022/07/20/chessguesser-wordle-but-with-chess-moves.html>

Finally, not with a bang, but with a whimper - Carlsen gives up the title:

<https://www.npr.org/2022/07/20/1112479750/magnus-carlsen-world-chess-championship-fide>

21st Charles Bagby Memorial



33 chess-hungry participants showed up for the 21st Bagby Memorial held on Saturday, July 16th.

The top section was dominated by IM **Kyron Griffith**, newly returned to the Bay Area.

His perfect 4-0 score put him a full point ahead of 2nd place finisher NM **Siddharth Arun**, while **Kevin Babb** (1671) took 3rd place.

The u 1800 section saw another outstanding performance, with **Henry Lien** also scoring a perfect 4-0. **Sean Moran** was 2nd with 3.5, while four players tied for 3rd with 3 points.

The tournament was directed by FIDE Arbiter **Abel Talamantez**.

Full results here: <https://www.milibrary.org/chess/tournament-game-archive?y=2022&t=76&e=313936>

Charles Bagby (1903-1975) was a chess master and a Mechanics' Trustee. In 1929 he defeated World Champion Alexander Alekhine in a simultaneous exhibition at the Mechanics':

A. Alekhine – C.Bagby, San Francisco (Simul) 1929.

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Nf3 e6 5. Bg5 Nbd7 6. e3 Be7 7. Qc2 O-O 8. O-O-O Re8 9. cxd5 exd5 10. Bd3 Nf8 11. Ne5 Ng4 12. Bf4 Bd6 13. Nxg4 Bxg4 14. f3 Bxf4 15. exf4 Bd7 16. f5 Qf6 17. g4 Re3 18. Be2 Qg5 19. Kb1 Rae8 20. Rd3 h5 21. h3 Nh7 22. Rxe3 Qxe3 23. Qd3 Qxd3+ 24. Bxd3 Re3 25. Be2 Ng5 26. Rf1 Nxh3 27. Kc2 Nf4 28. Kd2 Re8 29. Bd3 f6 30. Rh1 Kf7 31. Ne2 Nxe2 32. Bxe2 Rh8 33. Bf1 h4 34. Bh3 Ke7 35. Ke3 Kd6 36. Kf4 c5 37. dxc5+ Kxc5 38. Rc1+ Kd6 39. g5 Rc8 40. Rc3 Rxc3 41. bxc3 Kc5 42. Bf1 Bb5 43. Bg2 Bd3 44. Kg4 Kc4 45. Kxh4 Kxc3 46. Kg4 Kd4 47. f4 b5 0-1

Tony's Teasers



A. Hesselgren, 1932. White mates in 2 moves.



Richard Hack

Tales from the Chess Café

At the Chess Café on July 18, Paul noted that the U.S. Senior, U.S. Junior Girls, and U.S. Junior Championship had just finished in St. Louis. "It seems like everything is there now."

There was a little talk about St. Louis magnate Rex Sinquefield's largesse as a chess donor and promoter. Also a question about extreme views.

"He donated money to the Kansas City Board of Education."

"Chess is being courted by right-wingers."

"Kazakstan?"

It's all a big question, still unresolved. And over many years, it's come and gone.

Paul noted that Fischer might have been the first grandmaster to include losses in his personal collection (My 60 Memorable Games). Then one other player was mentioned.

Among a dozen attendees were two guys named Alex and a woman named Alexey, a regular once living in California, now long-settled in Texas. She asked Alex Robins, a new employee of M.I., about his experience. He's a Ph.D. candidate in Anthropology at UC Davis, who's coming back to chess and serving here as Chess Program Manager, responsible now for the school outreach program, among other things. Said he's glad to find something intellectual that's not just a professorship or something similar.

This meeting occurred three days before the breaking news that Magnus Carlsen will not defend his world championship title next year.

Paul: "Steven Dunlap put up a mate in 3 on the demo board hanging from the second level of the library stacks. It was a real headache."

Alexey: "It's still up there."

In the U.S. Junior Girls, Jennifer Yu, Thalia Cervantes Landeiro, and Sophie Morris-Suzuki tied for first with 7 out of 9. Morris-Suzuki was leading after winning her first six games, then lost 2 out of 3, giving her 7 wins and 2 losses compared to the other first-place finishers' 6 wins, 1 loss, and 2 draws. Playoffs in 10-minute, then 3-minute games decided the final order at the top of the 10-player field.

In the overall Junior Championship, Christopher Yoo won with 7 out of 9. Andrew Hong, once a Bay Area player, was a clear second with 6. The field of 10 included 9 young men and 1 young woman.

And of course Alex Shabalov won the Senior Championship playoff between 5 first-place finishers who had 5½ out of 9. Last year's champion Gregory Kaidanov, was 6th with 5. Nick de Firmian's draw against Vladimir Akopian in the last round enabled Larry

Christiansen and others to qualify for the playoff. We covered this game, but first came several others.

Alexey: "After the playoff, Shabalov gets \$20,000, the others \$9,000 each."

In Round 2 of the Queen City of the Prairie Open and Ft. Worth Championship, Tim Steiner (at his rating floor of 1900) played white against Alexey Root (at her floor of 2000).

Alexey: "My opponents' overall rating was around 1910. I got a +6 advantage in this game, but still managed to draw."

Elliott: "Congratulations."

She drew every game in this 5-round tournament.

Paul: "A four-pawn King's Indian Defense. Oh no, he doesn't protect his e4 pawn on the 10th move."

Elliott: "Unconscious, gratuitous--these are adjectives that express it."

Alexey: "He has a little compensation." Re 14 . . . gxf5: "I was so greedy. I was taking every pawn possible and was three pawns ahead."

Elliott: "24 . . . Nxd5 was too greedy. Bd7 was correct; white plays 25. Re8+."

Alexey: "Do you think I could have won this?"

Elliott: "You're not Nigel Short... Actually Tim Taylor played the Four Pawns Attack against Mike Walder, then me, in the NorCal Championship at the Berkeley Chess Center."

Sam Shankland is giving a simul there on July 24 from 1:00-4:30. They hope for 50 participants at \$50 a board.

In Round 1 of the Peter Grey Memorial TNM, Mike Walder had a draw with Stephen Parsons. (Peter Grey had an expert rating and played in the first Tuesday Night Marathon in 1973 and played in almost every other one until his death in 2007. John Donaldson notes in his book on Bobby Fischer that Peter, who provided him with a rare Fischer score sheet, used to assist George Koltanowski with his long-running chess column in the S.F. Chronicle.)

Michael: "I was feeling aggressive and was going to open with the king pawn, but I didn't feel sharp tactically, so I played c4, which led to a Queen's Gambit Declined, my first in about 30 years." We watched a few moves, getting to a position where he said, "Trade, trade, trade--then I can outplay you from a slightly worse endgame. 12. . . Be7 would have allowed cxd5, then Nxd5, then Bc7 traps the black queen. I remembered this from 30 years ago."

Elliott: "40 years ago I did do it against Gene Lee."

Michael: "15. . . f6 is a novelty. I now should have played 16. Nf3, but didn't want him to play . . . e5, which actually results in hanging the d5 pawn."

Alexey: "Knight from d6 to f7, the old story."

Michael: "So I should play Nf3 and squeeze? As it was, my advantage went from point-9 to point-5."

Paul: "Black seems to have gotten away with something here."

Michael: "Do I want my bishop pointing toward the kingside or the queenside? His queen may be vulnerable... On Friday I talked to Gadir (Guseinov), who said take it easy."

Paul: "Gadir the seer."

We then watched Michael's game against Sean Kelly, another draw.

Someone mentioned the Chess Waffle Club (apparently on Chess.com), invented by Austin Mei.

Sal Matera came Zooming in, "representing New York City," said Paul.

Sal: "Somebody's gotta do it."

Everybody's big city, I like to say. Today my humor tells me, Everyone originally came from New York City.

Sal noted that Joel Benjamin so far is the only player to win the trifecta of U.S. Jr. Ch., U.S. Ch., and U.S. Senior. Alexey noted that the Senior has only been played for four years.

Paul: "I'm rooting for Larry (Christiansen) to win it this year." He then put up a vintage photo of the bearded attacker. "I was a kid watching him win the 1973 U.S. Junior in San Francisco at the Palace Hotel across Market Street from the Mechanics'."

Sal: "Yasser (Seirawan) is also a candidate for the trifecta."

Paul: "But he doesn't play."

Sal: "He told me he loves the fact that he has a second career as a commentator."

"So do I," joked Paul.

On Nick's last-round game, Michael noted, "10. . . Re8 would have been better than g6, which loses time. Black wants to wrest some initiative, but weakens the dark squares around his king."

Paul: "The American grandmasters love their two bishops."

"After 30. . . Nxd4, it looks like white is in trouble."

Sal: "30. . . Nb5 was possible; but I'm sure Nick was seeing more than we are."

By move 43, Nick was looking for a tactical solution.

Alexey: "But his pawns are getting weak."

They drew on the 46th move.

We then watched the last-round game in the Senior between Akopian and de Firmian. It was noted that Akopian is just 50, the youngest player in the tournament, and that he had immigrated recently from Armenia.

"Nick had the worst result of his career." (Four draws and five losses.)

"But he hasn't played in 6 years."

Trish noted that she went to the Scottish Games and Festival in Monterey recently; and that the kaber (or caber) toss comes from the old wars between the Scots and the invading English. The Scots would put a log across a frozen stream to use as a bridge, then remove it so the invaders couldn't use it. I found an informative entry on the kaber at <https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/13830/#:~:text=>

Sal has been improving the Marshall Chess Club's newsletter, the Marshall Spectator. "We had a discussion with Asa Hoffmann (author of a recent book, *The Last Gamesman*). Alex King has also been working on it, also Michael Rohde."

I went to their website and found some interesting games that were also linked to Lichess. Here is a quote from his "Discussion with Asa Hoffmann":

"Then, only a moment after saying he didn't have an original philosophy of chess, he gave me a rather intellectual take on the game:

" 'You know, there exists in chess an equilibrium, static or dynamic, which can only be altered by one side taking a reasonable risk. That's the philosophical part. The technical part, the secret of winning chess, lies in understanding the placement of the minor pieces in relation to the pawn structure. Picture the starting position with the minor pieces removed from the board. It would be an easy draw, right? But with the minor pieces on the board, it's not so simple. I think about how to weaken a square to get a knight there somehow. That's what my teacher Roman Dzindzi used to do—whereas Fischer would just mate you.' "

We'll conclude our Chess Café discussion of Frank Marshall and other matters next week.

(For more information about the Chess Café go here:

<https://www.milibrary.org/chess/chess-cafe>)

A puzzle 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.



This position is from *Chess Tactics for Improvers* (2020) by Carsten Hansen. White wins with a "decoy sacrifice" – can you find it?

Upcoming Events -

Tournaments:

2nd Peter Grey Memorial Tuesday Night Marathon - Ongoing

Tuesday, July 12, 2022 - Tuesday, August 23 2022. 6:30PM. USCF + FIDE Rated. 7 Round SS G/120;d5

Information: <https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/2nd-peter-grey-memorial-tuesday-night-marathon>

Registration: <https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/2ndPeterGreyMemorialTuesdayNightMarathon>

July & August USCF Online-Rated Scholastic Tournaments via ChessKid.com

Sunday July 17, 3PM. 6 games of G/15+2

Saturday July 30, 3PM. 8 games of G/5+2

Sunday August 7, 3PM. 4 games of G/20+10

Saturday August 20, 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>

21st Walter Pafnutieff Memorial G/40;d5

Sunday July 31st. 4 games of G/40;d5.

Information: <https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/21th-pafnutieff-memorial-championship>

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

Summer Chess Camps:

July 25-29. Online via Zoom w/Coach Kiernan. Registration: <https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Classes/VirtualSummerCampwithCoachKiernan72529>

August 1-5. In-Person w/Coach Danny. Registration: <https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Classes/InPersonSummerCampwithCoachDanny815>

August 1-5. Online via Zoom w/Coach Colin. Registration: <https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Classes/VirtualSummerCampwithCoachColinWeek2815>

Here is our **chess calendar** in full: <https://www.milibrary.org/chess/calendar>

Solutions to Tony's Teasers

The amazing 1.Qe2!! puts black in zugzwang, e.g. 1...fxe2 2.f3#. Or 1...Bxe2 2.Nxc5#.

Contact us

The Mechanics' Institute Chess Club is on the 4th floor at 57 Post Street, San Francisco 94104. Our phone # is (415) 393-0110.

We welcome any feedback, articles or "Letter to the Editor" piece. Submit yours today at chessroom@milibrary.org

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