Peter Grey TNM Round Three Report

IM Elliott Winslow won a wild game over expert Abhishek Handigol to move into clear 1st place in the top section with a perfect 3-0. Winslow, as the qualifier from the Northern California Senior Championship held in Berkeley last month, is going down to Rancho Mirage next week for the U.S. Senior Tournament of Champions, and will have to take a ½-point bye in round four. Good luck, Elliott!

The race for the top spot in the under 1800 section has narrowed down considerably, and only Timothy Bayaraa and Paul Henry Reed remain with perfect 3-0 scores.

The TNM has a long tradition of allowing folks to pick up a game here and there, and some visitors from Sacramento joined in the round. If you happen to be in San Francisco on a Tuesday evening, you are welcome to come and play a USCF and FIDE rated game!

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.

The TNM is co-directed by International Arbiter Judit Sztaray and FIDE Arbiter Abel Talamantez.

For complete TNM info, standings and results: https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/2nd-peter-grey-memorial-tuesday-night-marathon
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Bc5 What is this, the Neo-Arkhangelsk?? Whatever the name, it's a jungle of move orders and transpositions. In fact Black can play without ...b5 first, and even without ...Nf6. Of course White can also vary, play "Giuoco Pianissimo" style with d3 and Nc3 or c3. Or the sharp stuff... 7.c3
[ 7.a4!? Rb8 8.c3 d6 9.d4 might be the right move-order. ]
7...d6 8.a4?!  
[ 8.d4 Bb6 9.Be3! (9.h3) 9...0-0 10.Nbd2 is what Caruana has White play in his recent book on the Ruy Lopez. ]
8...Rb8  
[ 8...Bg4! This position used to be the rage, but now... 9.h3 ChessBase has a function in its "Reference" window, "Last played." Here it shows "Kasparov, Caruana, Vachier-Lagrave, Leko" (9.d3 shows "Anand, Adams, Movsesian, Nijboer." Nijboer?) ]
[ 8...Bb7 is more in the style of the N-A, with a similarly illustrious cast of adherents. ]
9.d4 Bb6

(Diagram)

10.a5! First played by Dolmatov back in 2000. His opponent fell into the second point: 10...Ba7
[First point: 10...Bxa5?? 11.Bd5 ]
A) 16.Qd5 c4 17.Qh5+ Kf8 18.h3 Qe8 19.Qd5
A1) 19...Qe7! 20.hxg4 cxb3 21.Re1 (21.Nbd2);
A2) 19...Bc7 20.hxg4 cxb3 21.Bxf6 1-0 (48) Kulaots,K (2574) -Sulskis,S (2506) Palanga 2018;
B) 16.h3! h5 17.Nbd2 (17.Bd5!) 17...Rb7 (17...c4!±) 18.Bd5 Rg7 19.e5! 1-0 (60) Dolmatov,S (2608)-Sivokho,S (2469) St Petersburg 2000 ]
11.Be3 I hesitate to give myself a "?!" (which isn't like me, really), when you see the list of superstars who played this before other moves came along.
[ 11.h3 Bb7!? 12.Be3!? (12.Re1) 12...Nxe4?]
17. Rxf2 Bxf2

24. Ng6+ hxg6 25. Nd2 Ke7
26. Nf3 cxd5 27. Qg4 Rh8+
28. Nh2 Qf4 29. Qxf4 exf4
30. Rf1 g5 31. Rf3 g4
0-1 (31) Vachier Lagrave, M (2760)-Aronian, L (2781) Paris 2021
20...Qe7 21. Bc6+ Kf8
22. Nf3 d5 23. Qxe5 Qxe5
26. a6 Kd6 27. Nxf7+ Kc6
28. Ne5+ Kd6 29. Nf7+ Ke6
1/2-1/2 (31) Grischuk, A (2776) - Giri, A (2776) Zagreb 2021;

A2) 18. Qxf2!? Bxc6 (18...Bc8
19. Nxe5 0-0 20. Nd3 Qg5
23. Ne4 Qg6 24. Ng3 Rg5
25. Nd5 Kh8 26. Ne7 Qh6+
27. Kg1 Be6 28. Nf5 Qf6
29. Bc2 Rb8 30. Qa7 Qd8 31. b4 g6 32. Qd4+ f6 33. Nh6
1/2-1/2 (33) Adhiban, B (2587)-Ashwin, J (2461) Bhopal 2013 )
19. Nxe5 Bxg2+ 20. Kgl Qf6
21. Nxf7 Qxf2+ 22. Kxf2 Rf8
23. Kxg2 Rxf7 24. Bxf7+ Kxf7
25. Nd2 Re8 26. Rf1+ Kg6
27. Kf2 h5 28. Kg1+ Kf6 29. Kf3
g6 30. Ne4+ Kg7 31. Nf2 Rf8+
32. Kg2 Re8 33. Nd3 g5 34. Nb4
Re2+ 35. Kh1 Rxb2 36. Ra1 c5
37. Nxa6 b4 38. Nxb4 cxb4
39. a6 bxc3 40. a7 c2 41. a8Q
Rb1+ 42. Kg2 c1Q 43. Ra7+ Kf6
44. Qf8+ Ke5 45. Re7+ Kd5
46. Qf3+ Kc5 47. Rc7+ Kb4
48. Qb7+ Ka5 49. Qa7+ Kb5
50. Qb8+ 1-0 (50) Duda, J (2738)-Vidit, S (2726) Krasnaya Polyana
2021 CBM 203 [Giri, Anish];

B) 13. Re1!? might be the new move. 13... Ne7 (13... exd4
19. Rc1 Qd7 20. Qh5 g6 21. Qh4 f5 22. Bf4 Nd5 23. Be5 Kg8
24. Nxe4 fxe4 25. Rxe4 h5
26. Bd6+ Kf7 27. Rxc7 Qxc7
Bxe3 15. Rxe3 0-0 16. Bc2 Nc5
17. Ng5 g6 18. Qg4 h5 19. Qg3
Nd5 20. e6 Nxe3 21. Qxf7+ Kh8
22. Qxe3 Qf6 23. Nd2 Kg7 24. b4
Nd7 25. Ne6+ Kxf7 26. Bb3 Kg8
27. Nc5+ 1-0 (27) Firouzja, A (2759)-Dubov, D (2710) Lichess.org INT
2021 ]

[11. Re1 here also, shoring up e4 a bit.

A) 11... Bg4 12. Be3 0-0 13. d5!? (13. dxe5 Bxf3 14. Qxf3 Nxe5
15. Qe2 Bxe3 16. Qxe3 c5 0-1 (36) Darini, P (2475) - Firouzja, A
(2618) Bushehr 2019 ) 13... Bxe3
14. Rxe3 Ne7 15. h3 Bh5 16. Nbd2
Nd7 17. Bc2 Bg6 18. Re1 h6
19. Nh4 Bh7 20. g3 g5 21. Ng2 f5!
4.01 Black was doing well until he wasn't (Blitz!): 1-0 (42) Guseinov, G
(2660)-Fressinet, L (2633) chess24 Banter Blitz Cup;

B) 11... 0-0 12. Be3 Bg4
is just a TP.]

11... Ng4?
[ 11... Bg4! ]

12. Bg5 f6?\n[ 12... Qd7 13. h3 Nf6 (13... h6
14. hxg4 hgx5 15. Nxg5 0-0 16. Qf3
Qe7 17. Nh3 exd4 18. Nf4 Qg5
Ne5 22. cxd4 Bxd4 23. Nc3 Qxg4
1/2-1/2 (52), Burrows, M (2107) - Ahluwalia, A (1869) Crawley 2016 )
Qe7 (16... Rg8! 17. Nf5 d5! 18. Bxd5
17.Qh5 (17.Nd2!±) 17...Qf8 18.Kh1 Qg7= 1/2-1/2 (50) Seemann,J (2017) -
[The computer says 12...Nf6
is best. Thanks a lot, computer. ]
13.Bc1! h5 14.h3 Nh6?
[ 14...Qd7± and ... g5, White really
can never take. But of course there's
not much for Black to do either. ]
15.Nh4! Nf7

24.Qxg3? Surely Black's king is at least
as exposed to attack as White's (and
so: keeps the queens on the board).
[ 24.Nd2 ]
[ 24.fxg3 ]
[ 24.Qf3 ]
24...Qxg3 25.fxg3 Bc4 26.Rf4! Rbe8
27.Nf3
[ 27.Kh2! d3 (27...dxc3 28.Nxc3
27...Bd5

28.Nbd2??= All game I was thinking,
when can I give up the exchange to rid
myself of the a7-g1 pressure and solidify
my material advantage. And I'd been looking at some anti-gambit opening lines recently where White would give all the material back for a positionally won game; somehow I thought this was one of those. It wasn't at all. Now it's even.

28...dxc3+ 29.Kh2 cxd2
  [ 29...Be3! 30.bxc3 Bxf4 31.gxf4= 0.00 on quite a few Black moves here. ]

30.Bxd2 Be3?!
  [ 30...Bxf3 31.Rxf3 Bd4 32.Bc3 Bxc3 33.Rxc3 Re2 ]

31.Bxe3 Rxe3 32.Rd1

Bxc6?
  [ 32...Bxf3 33.Rxf3 Re2 ]

33.Rc1?
  [ 33.Nd4! Bd5 34.Rdf1± and f6 can't be defended! ]

33...Bxf3 34.Rxc7+ Kg6 35.Rxf3 Rxf3 "1/2?" 36.gxf3 Rd8 37.h4 Rd2+

38.Kh3
  [ 38.Kg1 ]

38...Rxb2 39.Rc6 Ra2 40.Rxa6 b4 41.g4 hxg4+ 42.fxg4 Ra3+ 43.Kg2 Kg7 44.Rb6 Rxa5 45.Rxb4 Ra3

(Diagram)

This is an elementary draw, except that he had under five minutes. 46.Rf4 Rb3 47.Rf3 Rb4 48.Kg3 Rc4 49.h5
In his time trouble I remembered it was important to "look potent" (even if there's nothing there)... 49...Ra4 50.Rf5 Ra3+ 51.Kh4 Ra4 52.Rb5 Rc4 53.Rb7+ Kh6 54.Kg3 Ra4
  [ 54...Rc3+ ]
  [ 54...f5! is also a total draw: 55.Rb6+ (55.gxf5) 55...Kh7 56.g5 Rg4+ ]

55.Rf7

Kg5??
  [ 55...Ra3+= ]
A13

Kiewra, Keaton 2465
Coyne, Theodore James 2090
MI Peter Gray TNM: 1800+ (3.2) 26.07.22

[Winslow, Elliott]

1. Nf3 d5 2. e3 Nf6 3. c4 e6 4. b3 Be7
5. Bb2 0-0 6. Be2 c5 7. cxd5 Nxd5
8. 0-0 Nc6 9. a3 b6 10. d3 Bf6 11. Qc2
Bxb2 12. Qxb2 Qf6 13. Qxf6 Nxf6

9. Rg7+ Kh6
10. Rg6+

1-0

14. Nbd2 Rd8 15. Rfc1 Bb7 16. Rab1
Rac8 17. b4 cxb4 18. axb4 Nd5 19. b5
22. Nd4 Rc7 23. Ra1 e5 24. Nc2 Rd2
25. Bf1 Be4 26. Nb4 Rb2 27. Ra4 Rd7
28. f3 Bb1

(Diagram)

29. c5 bxc5 30. b6 a5 31. Rxc5 g6
32. Rxa5 Bc2 33. Nxc2 Rxc2 34. Ra2
Rc6 35. Rb2 Rb7 36. Ra7 Rxb6
Rc1

[39... Rb4]
40. Bxf7+ Kh8 41. Re7 e4 42. fxe4

Ng4+ 43. Kf3 Nhx2+ 44. Kg3 Nf1+
45. Kf4 Re1 46. Kg5 Nxe3 47. Be6
1-0
1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 g6 3.g4 Nc6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 e6 -0.07/26
   [ 5...d6\(±\) -0.76/27 ]
   [ 7.Ng3\(±\) -0.44/26 ]

7...Nd4 0.00/23
   [Black should try 7...d5\(±\) -1.39/25
White must now prevent ...d4. 8.exd5 ( 8.Bxc5 \(d4\)\(±\) ) 8...exd5 9.Bxc5 Bxc4 ]

8.Ng3N The position is equal.
8...d5 9.0-0 b6 10.f4! f5 1.70/24
   [ 10...dxe4\(±\) 0.35/29 11.Ncxe4 ( 11.Ngxe4 Rb8\(±\) ) 11...Ndc6 ]
11.gxf5+- exf5 2.11/22
   [ 11...0-0\(±\) 1.47/25 ]
12.Nxd5
   [Not 12.exd5 Rb8= ]
12...fxe4? 4.15/26
   [ 12...Nxd5 1.97/28 was worth a try. 13.exd5 Nb5 ]
13.Nxe7 Qxe7 14.dxe4 Ba6
Strongly threatening ...Rd8. 15.c3
   [Stronger than 15.e5 Rd8 16.Re1 ]
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 dxc4 5.Bg2 Nc6 6.Nc3 Bb4 7.a3 Ba5 8.Qa4 Nd5

9.Qxc4?!
[ 9.0-0?! ]
9...Nxc3! 10.bxc3?!
10...Qd5! 11.Qd3?
11...Nxd4!+ 12.Bb2 Nxf3+ 13.Bxf3 Qxd3 14.exd3 Bd7 15.0-0 0-0?!
[ 15...0-0-0 ]
16.Rfd1?!
[ 16.a4 ]

A good example of the importance of calculation, even with the queens off.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 d6 5.e3

[5.e4 0-0 6.Be2

A) 6...Nbd7 does commit the knight to d7 right away (old-school), while the attempt to take immediate advantage is not too bad nor good: 7.e5?! (7.0-0; 7.Be3) 7...dxe5 8.dxe5 Ng4 9.e6! fxe6 White has some compensation, but hardly any advantage.;

B) 6...e5 is standard: 7.dxe5 (7.0-0; 7.d5; 7.Be3) 7...dxe5 8.Qxd8 Rxd8 9.Nxe5 is well-known to be fine for Black:

5...0-0 6.Be2 e5?! Stockfish 15 holds this in fairly high regard (a close 2nd place), but it's maybe too cavalier. And what am I doing using an engine in the King's Indian, anyway!? It never believes in Black.

6...Nbd7 7.0-0 e5]

7.dxe5 dxe5 8.Nxe5


8...Qxd1+ 9.Bxd1 [9.Nxd1?]

9...Bf5
10.Bf3?!  
[ 10.f3±  
[ 10.Bd2± ]
10...c6

11.c5?  
11...Re8?  
[ 11...Na6± picks up the pawn right away, with a solid jump in getting to good squares. ]
12.Nc4! Bf8?  
[ 12...Na6 13.Nd6 Re7 14.Nxf5 when the messing up of Black's pawns brings about a blunt "0.00" from SF15. ]
13.b4?!  
[ 13.Nd6! borders on won. ]
13...Nbd7  
[ 13...a5!? 14.Nxa5 Na6 15.Nxb7 Nxb4 16.0-0± ]
14.Bb2?!  
14...Rad8?

15.Rd1  
[ 15.0-0-0!+- ]
[ 15.Ne2!+- ]
15...Bg4? 16.Bxg4 Nxg4 17.0-0  
[ 17.Ke2!? f5 18.Nd6+- ]
17...b6 18.Nd6! Bxd6 19.Rxd6 Nde5 20.Rfd1  
[ 20.Ne4!? ]
20...Rxd6 21.cxd6 Nc4

22.Bc1?! Definitely putting the win in danger.  
22...Nf6  
[ 22...Rd8 looks like a better try: 23.b5 c5 24.e4  
B) 24...f6!? 25.h3 Nge5 26.f4 Nf7 27.d7! Kf8 28.a4 Ke7 29.Nd5+ Ke6 30.f5+! gxf5 31.exf5+ Kxf5 32.Rf1!+- is a problem. ]
23.e4
23...Rd8?
[ 23...Nd7!\+
24.Bg5!

White is winning "easily" 24...Kg7 25.f4
[ 25.Rd4! crushes resistance. Ne5
( 25...b5 26.Rxc4! ) 26.f4 h6 27.Bh4
g5 28.fxe5 gxf4 29.exf6+ ]
25...h6 26.Bxf6+
[ 26.Bh4! g5 27.fxg5 hxg5 28.Bxg5
Kg6 29.h4+- ]
26...Kxf6 27.e5+ Ke6 28.b5
[ 28.Ne2! ]
28...c5

29.Ne4?? Overlooking a simple double
attack.
[ 29.Nd5! still wins: g5 30.g3 gxf4
31.gxf4 Nb2 32.Rd2 Nc4 33.Rd3
Nb2 34.Nc7+ Kf5 ( 34...Kd7
35.Ra3 ) 35.Rf3 Nc4 36.Kf2
White is ready for Rc3 and a
"changing of the guard." ]
29...Ne3? But so does Black!
[ 29...Kf5! 30.Nf6 Kxf4 31.Re1
A) 31...Nxe5? 32.Nd5+ Kf5
33.Ne7+ Ke6 34.Nc6!+-
( 34.Rxe5+ Kxd6!\+ )
B) 31...Kf5!\++ ]
30.Rd3
g5 33.g3 gxh4 34.gxf4 Nxa2 35.Ra1
Nc3 36.Rxa7 Ne2+ 37.Kf2 Nxf4
38.Re7+ Kf5 39.d7! c4! 40.Ne8!\±
Computer meltdown! ]
30...Nd5 31.g3

f6?
[ 31...g5! 32.Nc3 Nxc3 33.Rxc3 gxf4
34.gxf4 f6 35.Re3 fxe5 36.fxe5
Rf8= ]
32.exf6?
[ 32.Rxd5! Kxd5 33.Nxf6+ Ke6
34.h4! stopping Rxd6? 35.exd6 Kxf6
36.h5!!
A) 36...g5 37.fxg5+ ( 37.f5 );

...
B) 36...gxh5 37.f5+-

32...Nxf6 33.Nxf6 Kxf6 34.Kf2 Ke6
35.g4 Rxd6

36.f5+?
[ 36.Ra3= ]
[ 36.Rh3= ]
[ 36.Rxd6+= ]

36...gxf5 37.gxf5+ Ke5 38.Ra3 Rd7
39.Kg3 Kxf6 40.Kh4 Ke4 41.Kh5 Rc7
42.Kxh6 c4 43.Ra4 Kd3 44.Ra3+ c3

Nick had his chances! But finally it was one error too many, and Bill was there to win in the end.
0-1

The opening play was pretty interesting, and now it gets sharp and a bit crazy.

15...Nd7?
[ 15...d5! SF15 says "=" -- the c4 square and c5-pawn counterbalance the two bishops. ]

16.Nc4! d5
[ The best try is 16...Ne5 17.Nxe5 dxe5 18.Bxe5 which is still a clear plus with many advantages. ]

17.Na5?
[ 17.exd5!+- The pawns might not be pretty, but that one sure is passed. And 18.N2e3 on the next move will be hard to bust up control of c4. ]

17...Rab8?
[ 17...Ba6! 18.Rxd5! ( 18.exd5 Bg5+ 19.Ne3 Be2 20.Rdg1 f6= ) 18...Nb6 19.Rd2 Rac8= and ...c4 creates good play against White's soon to be exposed king. ]

18.Nxb7
[ 18.exd5! ]
18...Rxb7 19.Rxd5 Rc7 20.Ne3 Nb6
[ 20...c4! ]
21.Rd3
[ 21.Rd2! ]
21...c4 22.Nxc4 Nxc4 23.bxc4 Rxc4+

(Diagram)
24.Kd2?!  
[ 24.Kb1= ]

24...Bg5+ 25.Ke2??  
[ 25.Kd1! Rb8! 26.h4! Rxb2 27.hxg5 g6 28.Rh2 (ugh) Rxa2 29.Rd2 Ra5 30.Rg2 Ra1+ 31.Ke2 a5! White should hold, but he has his work cut out for him. ]

25...Rc2+ 26.Kf1 Rxb2 27.Kg2 Rxa2 28.Rhd1 h6 29.Kg3 Rb2 30.Rd7 Ra8 31.f4

Black really didn't have to get his bishop in trouble! 31...Rb3+??  
[ 31...Bxf4+ 32.Kxf4 Rxf2+ 33.Kg3

Rf6+ Two pawns, you win one back and the other still looks good... ]

32.f3= Bxf4+ 33.Kxf4 a5 34.Rd8+ Rxd8 35.Rxd8+ Kh7 36.Ra8 Ra3

It so happens that Black can draw this. That doesn't mean he will... 37.h4 f6

38.Re8 Rb3  
[ 38...Ra1 39.Ra8 a4 ]

39.e5 fxe5+ 40.Rxe5 a4

41.Re2?? White heads for just where he shouldn't want to be -- in front of the oncoming supported pawn!  
[ 41.Ra5= ]

41...Rb4+ 42.Kg3
[42.Ke3 a3 works here too
(but gives Black the added bonus of
42...Rxh4)]

42...a3 43.Ra2 Ra4 44.h5 Kg8 45.f4
Kf7 46.Kg4 Kf6 47.Re2 a2 48.Re5
a1Q 49.Rf5+ Ke6
0-1

McCaulley, Alonzo 2008
Reed, Paul Henry 1467
MI Peter Gray TNM: Extra Games (3.37)
[Winslow, Elliott]

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 c6 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 e6
5.e3 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nc3 b6 8.Rb1
a5 9.d3 Nbd7 10.a3 Ba6 11.b3 Qc7
dxc4 15.bxc4 b5 16.Ne2 bxc4
22.Nxe5 Bxa3? 23.Qxc7 Rxc7
Rd3 27.Nxa5

43.Rxd6!? Objectively still a draw, but a
seriously unbalanced position comes
about! With the pawns on one side, the
knight can scare even a rook. 43...Kxd6
44.Nxf5+ Ke6 45.Nxg7+ Kf6 46.Nh5+
Kg6 47.g4 e4+?! 48.Kg2 Ra2 49.Ng3
Ra4 50.Nf5 Kf6 51.Nd4 Ke5 52.f3?!
Ra3?! 53.f4+ Kf6 54.g5+ Kg6 55.Kf2
Ra2+ 56.Kg3

With all the pawns on one side, the
bishop pair loses one of its strengths --
the ability to aim at both sides of the
board simultaneously. Assuming of
course White gets that knight on a5 back
Ra1?
[56...Ra3 57.f5+ Kh5 58.Kf4 Kxh4= ]

57.f5+ Kh5?
[57...Kf7 58.h5+- ]

58.Kf4??

58...Kxh4= 59.g6
[59.Ne6 Kh5 60.Kxe4 Kg4 ]

59...hxg6 60.fxg6 Rg1 61.Nf5+ Kh5 62.g7 Rg4+ 63.Ke5

(Diagram)

The last critical position, and it's a fascinating one! Perhaps they both thought it was just a win for White, and they can certainly be forgiven for that. But there is still a line that can't be crossed... 63...Rg5?
[63...Rg6!! 64.Kxe4 Kg5
A) 65.Nd4 Kf6! (65...Rxg7?? 66.Ne6+ Kf6 67.Nxg7 Kxg7 is a basic position we should all know: +-.) 66.Nf5 is still a solid block; just don't fall for Rg4+ 67.Kf3 Kxf5?? (one of those safe rook moves, g6, g5, g1) 68.e4+! Rxe4 69.g8Q and away we go with queen vs. rook: mate in 30 says the tablebase.;
B) 65.Ke5 and now the king moves draw. No progress. The e-pawn doesn't even help... ]

64.Kxe4? White, too, was quite happy to take the pawn -- which DRAWS!
[64.Kf6+- wins -- keeping the eye on the prize! Rg6+ 65.Kf7! Ra6 66.g8Q Rf6+ 67.Ke7! (or e8 or g7; just not 67.Kxf6?? -- stalemate. )]

64...Rg6! 65.Ke5
Kg5?
[ 65...Kg4! 66.e4 Kg5 Zugzwang! It's *White's* move now, and he doesn't have one. The king moves away, and ...Kf6. 67.Kd5 Kf6 68.Kd6 Kf7+ (or 68...Rg5 or the other sane rook moves. )]

66.e4 And *this* is the same Zugzwang, only it's Black to move -- and he loses.

66...Kg4
[ 66...Kh5 is the better try, but 67.Kf4 Now the king is out of the way of the e-pawn, and it marches victoriously. ]

67.Nh6+
[ Or 67.g8Q first ]

0-1
Chess is everywhere

A chess-playing robot puts a whole new spin on the “touch-move” rule:

Lame duck World Champion Magnus Carlsen is still going for the 2900 rating:

The Tri-State Chess Club meets Monday evenings at the Hy-Vee Food Court in Keokuk, Iowa:

A Sanskrit teacher, the Solar Chess Club, and an unofficial tournament in Chennai, India:

San Francisco 49er Arik Armstead finds chess “definitely addictive”:

Here’s another recipe for Chess Pie:
https://www.harlanenterprise.net/2022/07/25/classic-chess-pie/

Chess puzzle leads to a prestigious mathematics prize:

The Farsley Chess Club meets up in Leeds, UK:

Chess principles applied to basketball:
https://www.lineups.com/articles/controlling-the-center-how-chess-principles-provide-insight-into-optimal-basketball-rebuilding/

Finally, our own IM John Donaldson, former MI Chess Director and captain of the U.S. Olympic team, continues to make headlines:
https://www.newindianexpress.com/sport/other/2022/jul/24/interview-this-is-the-strongest-usa-team-i-have-captained-chess-master-john-donaldson-2479906.html

- Compiled by FM Paul Whitehead -
Robert Moore (1939-1922)

(We omitted part of this remembrance from IM John Donaldson, originally published in Newsletter #1022. Here it is in full, with a newspaper clipping from Alaska c.1960.)

State Champion Begins Course
On ‘The Chess Mind’ Tuesday

By MARTIN RIDENER
Times Sports Editor
Alaska’s match game champion chess player has consented to help other Anchorage chess fans by teaching them some of the finer points which has allowed him to become champion.

Robert Moore, 21-year-old champion, will begin classes at the YMCA starting next Tuesday. It will be a six-week course, which Moore says will deal mostly with the "chess mind."

"It's main object will be to make a graduate a better chess player," Moore explained.

MOORE SAID that both beginners and advanced players might profit from the course, which is sponsored by the YMCA So-Ed program. Cost is $7 for non-members and $3 to YMCA members and students.

In addition to lectures and "book" features of the course, Moore also plans actual chess play as a direct means of teaching the finer points of the game.

Moore discounted a recent article in a national magazine which emphasized the unethical approach which is sometimes used in championship chess.

"PSYCHOLOGY PLAYS a great part in chess — it even helped me win the title from Shane O’Neill — but there was nothing so crude as diverting his attention by kicking him or looking at his eyes," he explained.

Moore noted that chess seems to adapt itself to cold-climates found in Iceland, Originally from San Francisco, Moore has lived in Estonia, Latvia and Sweden cisco, Moore has lived in Alaska periodically since 1952.

Now HE INSTRUCTS — Robert Moore, Anchorage chess champion, has been giving opponents lessons for years, but now he's planning to begin actual regular instruction at the YMCA on Tuesdays. Moore, whose flowing red beard makes him look older than his 21 years, believes psychology plays a big part in tournament chess.

By trade he is an insulator, so he seldom gets a chance to play chess after working hours.

BUT DURING the non-construction months, Moore manages to play pretty regularly in the winter time.

So far he is unbeaten in the current Anchorage Chess Club 19-game round robin tournament, but he still faces some tough competition in Bill Gompert, a certified expert, and Jerry Toomepuu, who is current leader with eight victories in eight tries compared to seven out of seven for Moore.

Moore also discounted the theory that a good way to beat an expert is to use an unorthodox style. "That just isn't so," he said.

ON THINKING ahead, Moore said that sometimes — in very tense situations — players might think ahead 15 moves. But that in the beginning of a game it was impossible to think more than a few moves ahead because the competition is not committed to any certain type of offense or defense.

Moore said there was one type of mind which hasn't shown much ability to hold chess logic. That type is common, too. It's the female mind. Moore noted that there has never been any top women chess players.

"This theory is subject to the test at any time," he said. "In fact my wife Judy is taking lessons and she may just become a top-notch play-"
Robert Moore, a long-time Mechanics’ member, who first joined the Institute back in the late 1950s, recently died. He was, until his passing, one of a handful of players still living who had played in the 1961 U.S. Open held at the Sheraton Palace Hotel (Tom Maser of Berkeley, James McCormick of Seattle, Martin Harrow of Chicago and Tibor Weinberger of Santa Monica are some of the others).

Bob Moore was born in San Francisco in 1939 and learned to play chess there but it was in Alaska he enjoyed his first success winning the state championship in 1960 and 1961. He returned to San Francisco the latter year to play in the U.S. Open and one of his games from that event, a win against Master Sven Almgren, can be found at https://www.milibrary.org/chess-newsletters/748.

Mr. Moore attended the University of Oklahoma at Norman where he received a degree in library science. He worked for many years as a librarian at Cornell University and was an expert on its collection of Willard Fiske, the great chess figure of the 19th century who will be inducted into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame this fall.

By the 1980s Robert Moore had returned to Alaska and over the next fifteen or so years would revolutionize the local scene. During this time, he wrote a weekly chess column and organized the yearly Fur Rondy chess tournament that attracted players the likes of Grandmaster Dmitry Gurevich, International Masters Georgy Orlov, Jeremy Silman and Josh Manion as well as former Women’s World Championship participant Irina Levitina. This, and other work, earned him the USCF Meritorious Service award this year.

Robert Moore was an excellent chess historian, particularly skilled at doing original research. One of his subjects was William Dickey, Washington State Champion from 1915-1925, but better known for naming Mt. McKinley. Mr. Moore produced a short monograph on Dickey which can be found at https://www.nwchess.com/articles/history/Dickey_Alaska_Chess_Champion.pdf

Moore was one of the participants when the Mechanics’ hosted a meeting of the Ken Whyld Chess Association back in 2009 and is included in the report at https://www.kwabc.org/en/newsitem/highest-level-with-modest-participation.html
Tony’s Teasers

1. J.A. Schiffman 1930.
White mates in two moves.

2. F.C. Collins 1880.
White mates in three moves.
FM Paul Whitehead

What’s in a name?

After seeing the puzzle that MI librarian Steven Dunlop had put up (see below) I was curious about a couple of things. The position was a famous one and I knew the game it had arisen from, but I couldn’t remember the year it was played or the exact way it had ended. I decided to look it up on https://www.chessgames.com/ and was quite surprised to find a completely different game, played many years later by equally well known Grandmasters with the same surnames!

Chess (and much else in this world) can lead us down strange paths and serendipitous discoveries, and I have always taken delight in those odd coincidences and unusual adventures that the Royal Game has to offer. We do not have to be historians or experts in this field: the world of chess is vast, complex – the connections one makes are simply unending. This is one such connection. I hope you find it as amusing as I have.

E. Z. Adams – Carlos Torre, New Orleans 1920. Philidor Defense (C41)

Notes by FM Paul Whitehead.


Paul Morphy also favored this straightforward recapture.

11.Bg5 c6 12.c4 cxd5 13.cxd5 Re8 14.Rfe1 a5?! 15.Re2 Rc8?

This natural move lands black in hot water. It was time to kick the bishop with 15...h6
16.Bh4 Qd7 17.Rae1 Bd8! and black is OK.

18.Qg4!!
The first deflection sacrifice by the white queen. I advise the reader to play over the following sequence of moves carefully, noting black’s back-rank weakness throughout.

18...Qb5 19.Qc4! Qd7 20.Qc7!!

20...Qb5 21.a4! Qxa4 22.Re4! Qb5 23.Qxb7! 1-0.

A masterpiece of a game, even though it’s creation is suspect – but that’s another story!

The following game is a masterpiece in it’s own right, but cut from a different cloth. It was played 82 years later, but the names of the players look oddly familiar...

12.Nbd2 Rd8 13.b3 Bd7?!
Black is going to find it difficult to get the Na5 into the game. 13...cxd4 first looks better.
14.d5 c4 15.b4 Nb7 16.a4 a5.
Trying to free up room for his pieces.
20. Bxc5! An excellent trade, before black mixes it up with ...Nd3.

31.Nh2!
Swinging the knight around to e3 dooms the black c-pawn.
Finally! White picks up the pawn. Now the game enters another phase.
37...Qb5 38.Rb4 Qa6 39. Ra4 Qb5 40. Rb4 Qa6 41. Ra4 Qb5 42. c4 Qc5 43. Ra6 Bb6 44.Qb2 Ba7.
45.Qd2!
The thin line between a win and a loss! The tempting 45.Qb7? actually loses to 45...Qe4!! with a vicious counterattack.

Rb1 46.Rc6 Qd4.

47.Nf5+!
A bolt from the blue that cook's black's hash.

47...gxf5 48.Qg5+ Kh7 49.Qxh5+ Kg7 50.Qg5+ Kh7 51.Qxf5+ Kg7 52.Rxd6 Rb8 53.h5 1-0.

Two brilliant games, and I can’t decide which one I like better: Adams vs. Torre, or Adams vs. Torre?

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The Marshall Chess Club

We subscribe to the Marshall Spectator, the newsletter of the Marshall Chess Club in New York City, and we think you should too. Visit their website at https://www.marshallchessclub.org/

Marshall Vice President IM Sal Matera is a frequent visitor to our online Chess Café, and has pointed us to a recent lecture and Q&A with legendary New Yorker FM Asa Hoffman, author of The Last Gamesman held on July 19th at the club. The link to the replay is here: https://www.marshallchessclub.org/replay

(The editor of this newsletter bashfully admits to never having visited the Marshall. It’s now at the top of his bucket-list.)
At the café on July 25, Paul talked about his new interest in finding certain unusual pairs of games. For example, he presented the game Weaver Adams vs. Carlos Torre 1921 (which Elliott reminded us is often considered a composed game, not one actually played) and said that when he originally searched for it he got a more recent game played by Michael Adams and Eugenio Torres.

I gave a short reading from Gelfand about when to use the computer and when to focus on finding your own understanding of the positions during a game. He writes that using the machine when you should be trying to understand something on your own is just “a shortcut to nowhere.”

Paul: “It’s a tool to use at the very end of your analysis. Humans often copy it without knowing why.” For example, try to see why moving h4, h5, and h6 in a particular opening is good.

Michael: “When I’m with Gadir looking at something super-sharp, we’ll turn on AC Zero, and it comes up with fascinating results that we try to figure out.”

I noted that people often say that “a human mind couldn’t find” a particular move that the analysis engine shows, but this idea seems anti-scientific.

Elliott: “I’d rather play good moves and know why.”

Paul: “Chess is really big. The questions that interest us are part of it. Some people want to go out to a park and play; others lock themselves in a room and try to work out a whole line. Both these ways of playing are necessary.”

Michael: “The computer won’t give up. Things tree out with all the possibilities. It keeps looking at stuff that’s outside our realm of thinking.”

Paul: “It won’t stop where we often do, like just before we find the solution to a puzzle. It’s supremely logical as well.”

Back to the Adams-Torre games, we hear: “12…Rd8 is a classical move in the Ruy Lopez, but it makes it hard for black’s N on a5 to get back into the game because it takes away one of the knight’s destination squares.” We see the gradual weakening of black’s c5 and e4 pawns. “Look at the slow movement of pieces like the two rooks on the a-file as a kind of development.”

52.Rxd6. “He has to find this move. White now has 4 pawns for the bishop.”
“Two brilliant games!” Paul asks others to send in unique pairs of games like this that have some interesting connection.

People talked about Carlos Torres. “Remember his famous defeat of Lasker with Bf6 and the windmill that followed.”

“Lasker lost some brilliant games back in the day.”

Michael had an interesting new Zoom background, a pattern from space: “The photos from the Webb telescope are incredible.”

We watched the game Elliott Winslow vs. Michael Pustilnik, 1-0. “It showed up in a sharp book by John Nunn. I’d almost forgotten it.”

11...Nf6, like in the Marshall Attack. 15...Nxf2.

“John Grefe found that somewhere.”

17.g3!! “The bonecrusher by the former U.S. Champion from the U.S. Jr. Chp., probably back in 1974. Published in a 1989 Batsford monograph by Nunn.”

Then the game Persidsky-Walder, a classic KID, Petrosian Variation:

“I do well when the queen goes to c2. It’s better on c1.”

“...Nh5 is the most modern move, with the intention of...f5. But ...Ne8 scores the most.”

“21.Bh2 loses a piece.”

Paul: “Your play is so dynamic... Players who stay at the same level for so long often need a dynamic, free-for-all approach to the game. Chess was revolutionized when defense began to be looked at as counterattack. Passive defense is not even viable now—it’s just a last resort when you can’t find a better way or there just isn’t anything else.”

Michael: “You need the tactical ability of a Petrosian or an Ulf Andersson to play that way.”

Paul: “Choose active and unclear, rather than passive defense. It’s an attitude. ‘Being lost’ is actually a relative term—it only occurs when you’ve resigned. The Art of Defense by Polgauaevsky and Damsky is a great book, one of my top 20.”

An adage came up: the best answer to a wing or kingside attack is a counterattack in the center.
Elliott: “It’s right about as often as it’s wrong.”

Paul: “I need to show my class a certain game where Petrosian, being attacked, brings his king out. And players often don’t realize that a sac of the exchange can get them out of trouble brewing in a lot of positions. There are sacs and counterattacks right in the opening.”

Elliott brought up the game Sherwood-Walder, a Keres Attack, 6. g4 against the Scheveningen.

Paul: “In the notes there is 5...e6. When was this last played by a GM?”

Elliott: “Probably yesterday.”

Michael: “If... e5, there’s Bb5+ and white gets the light squares. Develop on these; g4 has an effect on the center, even as a feint.”

Finally we covered a game by Jorden van Foreest, who won a super-GM tournament, a recent rapid, even though he was the lowest-rated player. “As time controls get quicker, more young players come to the fore, sometimes out of nowhere.” This one was game in 15 with a 10-second increment, in Croatia, part of the Grand Chess Tour that began before Covid. We watch a line of the Berlin Defense in which Michael Walder has devised a novelty that Gadir Guseinov might use in an upcoming tournament.

We thank the regulars and the newcomers, all of whom contribute to the discussion and the brainstorming.

Goodbye, July... hello, August.

Back to the woodshed, with Miles Davis on the box.

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**J. Van Foreest – Firouzja, Croatia 2022. Ruy Lopez (C67)**


(For more information about the Chess Café go here: [https://www.milibrary.org/chess/chess-cafe](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 the game Adams-Torre, New Orleans 1920. It’s in *The Power of Pawns* (2016) by Jorg Hicki, and also discussed elsewhere in this newsletter. White wins with a beautiful "deflection sacrifice" – can you find it?

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- 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](https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/2nd-peter-grey-memorial-tuesday-night-marathon)
Registration: [https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/2ndPeterGreyMemorialTuesdayNightMarathon](https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/2ndPeterGreyMemorialTuesdayNightMarathon)

**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](https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/21th-pafnutieff-memorial-championship)
16th B. Smith Memorial G/40;d5
Saturday August 20, 2022. 4 games of G/40;d5.
Information: https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/16th-smith-memorial-championship
Registration: https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/16thSmithMemorialChampionship

August Monthly Championship Quads
Saturday, August 13, 2022, 3PM. 3 games of G/40;d5.
Information: https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/mechanics-championship-quads
Registration: https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Tournaments/MechanicsChampionshipQuadsAug2022

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

Summer Chess Camps:
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

Free Women’s Online Class with FIDE Trainer Sophie Adams
Every Sunday from 10AM – 12PM.
Information: https://www.milibrary.org/chess/free-womens-online-chess-class
Registration: https://mechanics-institute.jumbula.com/2022Classes/FREEWomensOnlineChessClassSundays1012
Solutions to Tony’s Teasers

Problem #1: 1.Rd5! Interference. Threat: 2.Bc4#. If 1...Bd6 (1...Be5 2.Rb5#) 2.Rd3#.

Problem #2: 1.Qg7! Sets up the near-unstoppable threat of 2.Qa7+ and 3.Qb6#, e.g. 1...d4 2.Qa7+ Kb4/b5 3.Qb6#. If 1...Kd4 2.Ra5! slams the door on the kings escape, one cute line going 2...Nd3 3.Rxd5#. Finally, if 1...Nd7 2.Qxc3+ Kb5 3.Qa5#.

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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