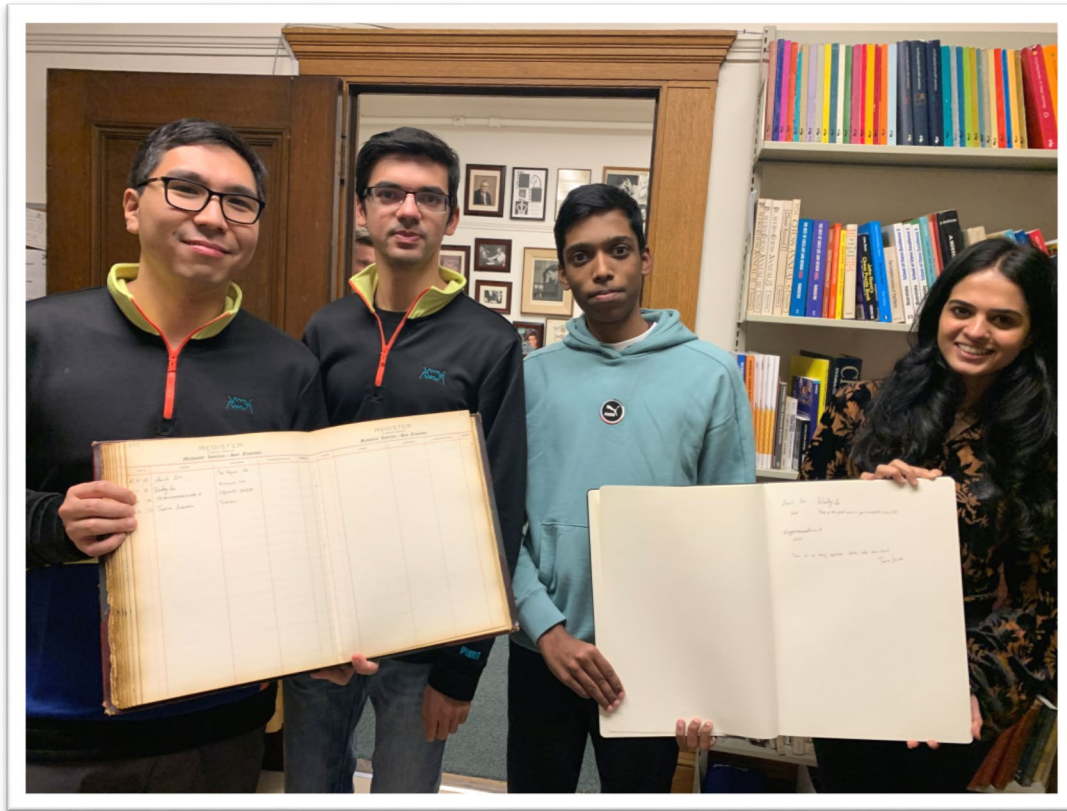


Chess Room Newsletter

Issue #1032 | December 10, 2022 | Gens Una Sumus!



Contents

[Recent Tournaments at the Mechanics' Institute](#) – [December Chess Social](#)
[IM Elliott Winslow: Annotated Games from the TNM](#)
[IM John Donaldson: New Books by Thinkers Publishing](#)
[Sarah Beth Cohen: When Women First Organized Chess](#)
[Ian Wesson: Confessions of a Chess Coach](#) – [The Chess Scuttlebutt](#)
[Recent Games from Around the World](#) - [Richard Hack: Tales from the Chess Café](#)
[Meltwater Finals in San Francisco](#) – [Henry Lien: ChessPals](#)
[Seeking Scholastic Coaches](#) – [A Puzzle in the Library](#) – [Tony's Teasers](#)
[Upcoming Events](#) – [Solutions](#) – [Contact Us](#)



Recent Tournaments at Mechanics' Institute

The Felix German Memorial TNM kicked off on November 8, with 84 players competing in three sections. This Mechanics' Institute flagship event was started in 1972 by Chess Room Director Ray Conway, with attendance at the club booming during the Fischer-Spassky match in Reykjavik.

This tournament wraps up on December 20.



Felix German (pictured above), a Mechanic's Institute stalwart of tournaments and match play, passed away unexpectedly in 2020.

The Felix German Memorial TNM info, standings and results can be found [here](#). The tournament is co-directed by International Arbiter **Judit Sztaray** and FIDE Arbiter **Abel Talamantez**.

The 21st Guthrie McClain Memorial was held on Saturday, December 3 with 78 participants competing in three sections. 15 year-old Expert **Niko Pompe** had an outstanding result, winning the 2000+ section with a perfect 4-0 score and defeating both IM **Elliott Winslow** and IM **Kyron Griffith** along the way. Clear 2nd with 3 points was NM **Jiangwei Yu**, and four players tied for 3rd with Kyron at 2.5 points: **Sricharan Pallela**, **Pranav Satish**, **Vedant Talwalkar**, and **Max Hao**.

The 1600-1999 section also saw a clear winner at 4-0, with **Quincy Chen** rolling up the field. Second and third places were shared by **Yuvraj Sawhney**, **Yali Dancig-Perlman**, **David Li**, **Kian Jamali**,

and **Glenn Kaplan**, all with 3 points.

The under 1600 section was won by **Simon Moisselin**, who also scored a perfect 4-0. He was closely followed by **Ansh Shrivastava** and **Melissa Xu** at 3.5 points each.

The tournament was directed by FIDE Arbiter **Abel Talamantez**. The 21st McClain Memorial info, standings and results can be found [here](#).

December Chess Social

We had a great turnout for the Chess Social on December 2nd. We screened *Chess Fever* (1925) and of course ate some Chessmen cookies and snacks.

Join us Friday, January 6th for the next event!



IM Elliott Winslow: Annotated Games from the TNM

A selection of games from rounds three through five of the Felix German Memorial TNM.

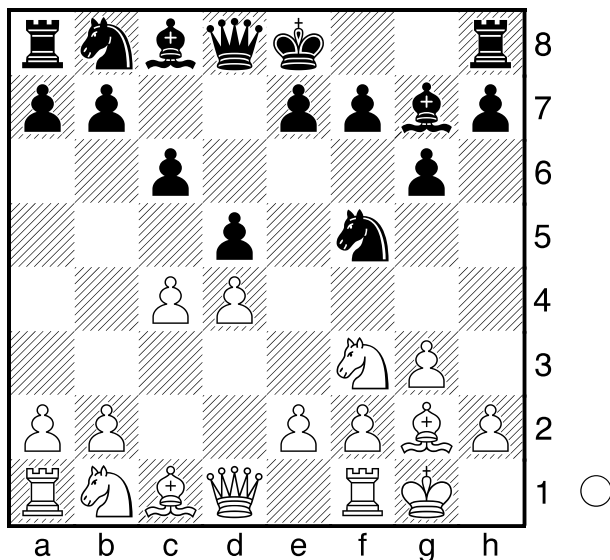
Seitzer, Phillip
Chen, Richard

D02
2129
2253

MI Felix German TNM: 2000+ (3.1)
[Winslow, Elliott]

With this excellent win, Richard Chen assumes a tie for the lead with Luke Widjaja. I don't know much about Chen at all; his USCF ratings page shows he's played a mere handful of tournaments, but they're the World Open and some international events. In any case, this game shows he's no flash in the pan; creative opening, tactical alertness, crisp finish. We must pay attention to the current leader! **1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.d4 Nh6** Something different to upset the symmetry! **5.c4 c6** [5...dxc4= 6.Na3 Nf5 is another standard path in these Gruenfeld-like positions (even with the knight on its new path).]

6.0-0 Nf5



7.c5?!N

[Predecessor: 7.Nc3?! dxc4 8.e3 0-0 9.Qe2 b5 (9...Nd6!) 10.a4 b4 11.Ne4 Ba6? 12.Nc5 Qa5 13.Nxa6 Qxa6 1-0 (43) Triapishko,A (2510)-Khademalsharieh,S (2494) Chess.

com INT 2021]

[7.cxd5!? cxd5 8.Bf4 Nc6 9.e3 h6 10.h4 started out looking better than it does now, but White still has a little something. (10.g4!? also might keep the rhythm going.)]

7...h5 8.h4 White is slightly better. **8...b6 9.cxb6 axb6 10.Nc3 Bb7 11.Bf4 0-0 12.Ne5**

[12.Re1±]

12...e6

[12...Nd7]

13.e3

[13.Re1!?]

13...Nd7 14.Nxd7 Qxd7 15.Qb3?

[15.Na4!= and White is okay. Qd8 16.Re1]

15...c5± 16.Qxb6? This actually and unexpectedly costs White the game!

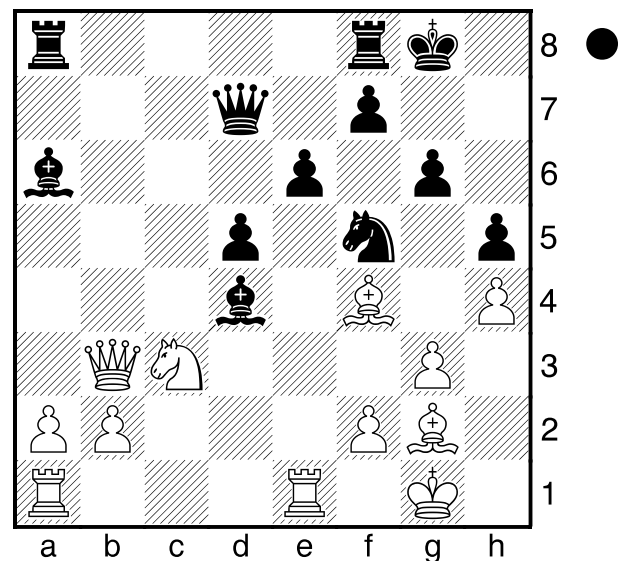
[16.dxc5 bxc5 17.Rfd1±]

16...cxd4 17.exd4 Bxd4 18.Qb3

[18.Qc7 gets the queens off, but

Black picks off the g3-pawn (!) with Qxc7 19.Bxc7 Rac8 20.Bf4 e5-+]

18...Ba6 19.Rfe1 White should just let Black have the Exchange.

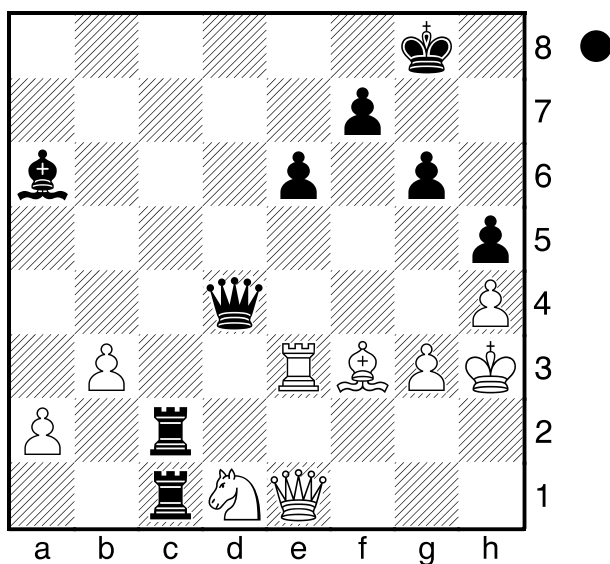


19...Bxf2+! A very nice combination!

20.Kxf2 Qa7+ 21.Be3 Nxe3 22.Rxe3

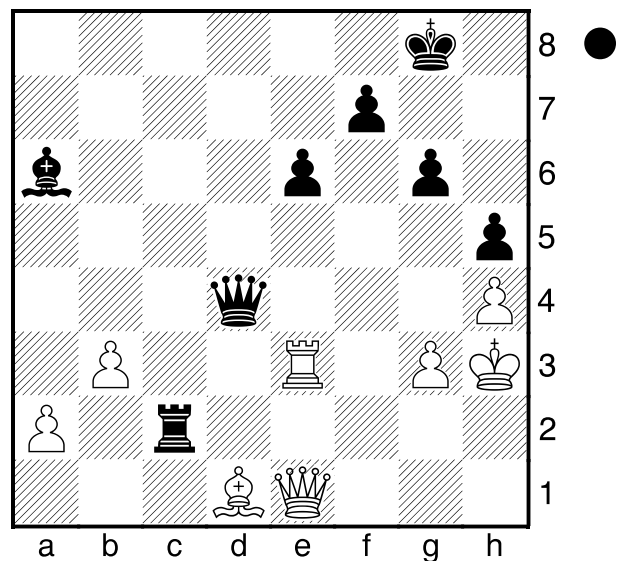
Rab8 Black can even take the time to get the rook into the game. **23.Qa3 d4!**

The further check on the a7-g1 diagonal means that Black will be up a pawn; coupled with White's exposed king it's an easy win. **24.Rae1** This making it the Exchange down doesn't put out the fire at all. **24...dxe3+ 25.Rxe3 Qb6 26.b3 Rfd8 27.Qc1** Against **Rd2+ 27...Rbc8** Too many annoying pins! **28.Be4** Inhibits **Rd3. 28...Qd4 29.Kg2 Rc5** The threat of **...Rdc8** collapses this house of cards. **30.Qe1 Rdc8 31.Nd1 Rc1** Black is already thinking about mate **32.Bf3 R8c2+ 33.Kh3**



Now a flash of knives and it's over:
33...Rxd1! 34.Bxd1

(Diagram)



Qxe3! 35.Qxe3 Bf1# Very nice indeed!
0-1

C25
Busch,Jonah
Widjaja,Luke
1940
2055
MI Felix German TNM: 2000+ (3.4)
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 The not-so-quiet Vienna Game. **2...Nc6 3.f4 exf4 4.Nf3 Nge7** [Computers and super-GMs prefer **4...g5 5.Bc4 g4 6.0-0 gxf3 7.Bxf7+** It's the Double Muzio! (with two knight moves thrown in) **Kxf7 8.Qxf3 Qh4 9.d4 Nxd4 10.Qd3 Ne6 11.Bxf4 Nxf4 12.Nd5 Bd6 13.Nxf4 Bxf4 14.g3 Qg5 15.Rxf4+ Ke7 16.Qd4 Nf6 17.Rf5 Qxf5 18.exf5 d5** 0-1 Vachier Lagrave,M (2784)- Nakamura,H (2736) Chess.com Speed blitz 2020 (4.54)]

5.d4 d5 6.Bxf4 [Keeping apace is **6.exd5 Nxd5 7.Nxd5 Qxd5 8.Bxf4** with a normal sort of game.]

6...dxe4 7.Nxe4 Nd5 8.Bg3 Qe7 9.Qe2?
[9.Bd3

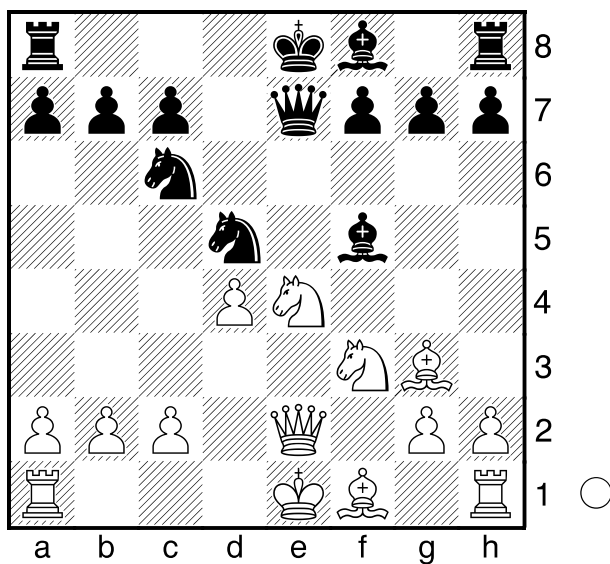
A) 9...f5 10.Bh4 Qb4+ (10...Qe6 11.0-0! fxe4 12.Bxe4± Now that's more King's Gambit-like!) 11.Nc3!

A1) 11...Nxc3 12.bxc3 Qxc3+ 13.Kf2! Bd6! (13...Nxd4?? 14.Qe1+ Qxe1+ 15.Rhxe1+ Ne6 16.Bxf5) 14.Re1+ Kf8 15.Kf1! Nxd4? 16.Nxd4 Qxd4 17.Re8+! Kf7 (17...Kxe8 18.Bb5+) 18.Rxh8;

A2) 11...Ne3!;

B) 9...Bg4 10.0-0! Ne3 11.Qe1 Nxf1 12.Bxc7! Be6! (12...Qxc7?? 13.Nf6+ Kd8 14.Qe8#) 13.Bf4 Qd7= After all the tactics Black stays afloat.]

9...Bf5±

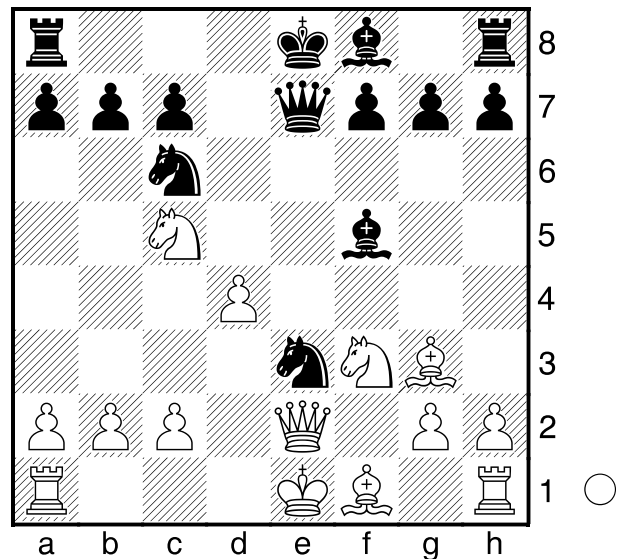


10.Nc5N

[10.Nc3 Ne3 11.Kf2 Nxc2 (11...Ng4+! 12.Kg1 0-0-0+) 12.Rc1 N2xd4± 0-1 Cuaycong,V-Lemke,B DESC T0351 email 2015]

10...Ne3

(Diagram)



11.Kf2 Nxc2

[Here it's less clear which is better 11...Ng4+]

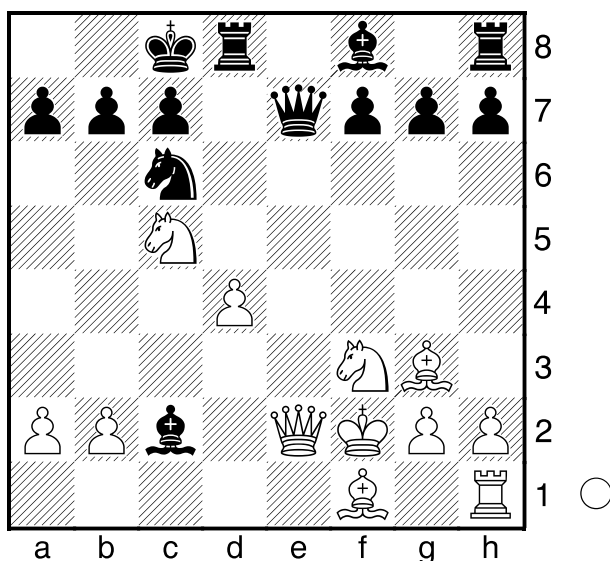
12.Rc1 0-0-0?

[12...Qxe2+ 13.Bxe2 N6xd4 is totally winning for Black. 14.Nxb7 Nxe2 15.Kxe2 Rb8]

13.Rxc2 White's back in it. **13...Bxc2??**

[Stockfish gives the outlandish 13...Qxe2+ 14.Rxe2 Nxd4 15.Re5 f6 16.Nxb7 Kxb7 17.Nxd4 fxe5 18.Nxf5 g6 19.Bxe5 Bc5+ 20.Kg3 Rhe8 -- wait for it -- 21.Bf6 Rd5 22.Nh4 Re4 23.Nf3 Bd6+ 24.Kf2 Bc5+ 25.Kg3 Bd6+ 26.Kf2 draw by repetition.]

(Diagram)

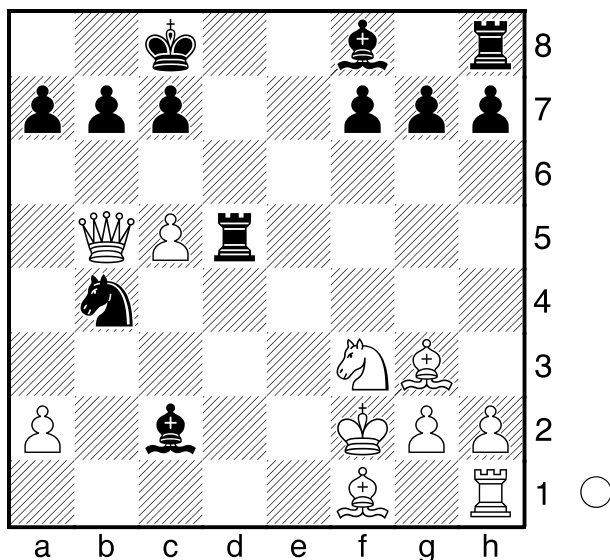


14.Qxc2??

[14.Qb5!! (damned computers!)

A) 14...Na5 15.b4! b6 (15...Re8 16.Bf4) 16.Bc4!;

B) 14...Qxc5!? 15.dxc5 Rd5 16.b4 Nxb4!?



17.Qe8+ Rd8 18.Qe3 Rd5
19.Bd6!! cxd6 20.Qe8+ Kc7
21.Qxf7+ Kc6 22.a3+-
Pretty wowish.]

14...Nxd4 Black takes over now.

15.Nxd4 Qxc5 16.Qf5+ Kb8 17.Be2

Rxd4 18.Qxc5 Bxc5 19.Kf3 Re8

This brings Widjaja even with Chen at 2.

5, except that he took a bye in the next round.

0-1

B50

□ **Briancon-Marjollet, Victor**

1627

■ **Srinivasan, Sivavishnu**

1366

MI Felix German TNM: 1600-1999 (3.10)

[Winslow, Elliott]

This win put Briancon-Marjollet into the sole lead of the 1600-1999 section. **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bc4** These anti-theoretical lines often do fine when the opponent doesn't take them seriously.

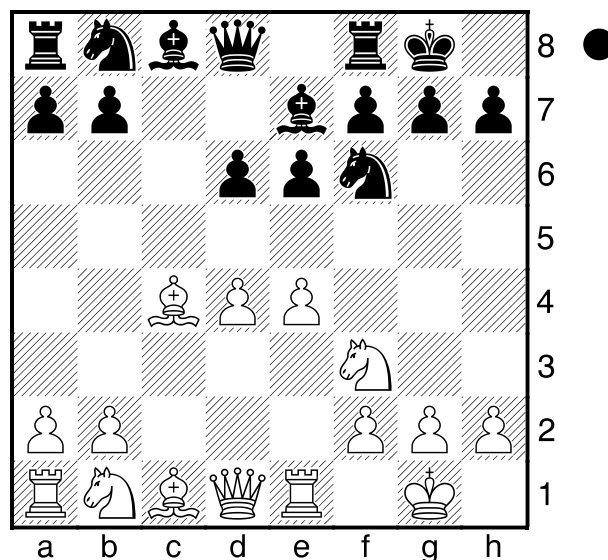
3...e6 4.0-0 Nf6 5.Re1 Be7 6.c3 0-0

7.d4 Now Black must counter in the center before the pawns advance further.

7...cxd4

[7...Nxe4! catches White's bishop and rook in a pawn fork, thus eliminating the dangerous light-squared bishop.]

8.cxd4



d5

[8...Nxe4!]

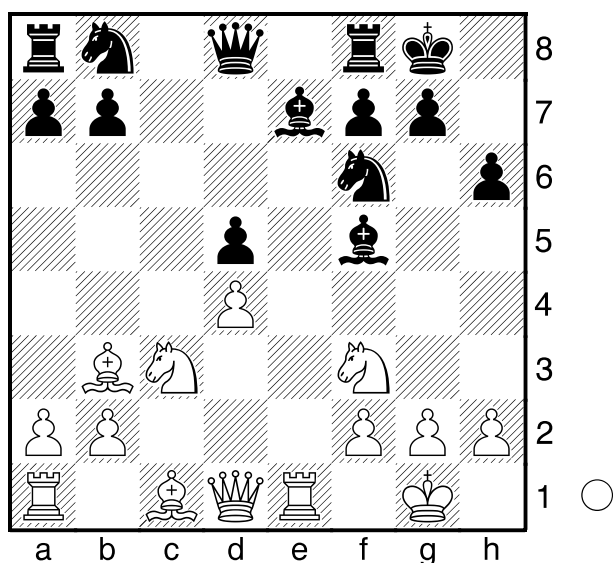
9.exd5 exd5

[9...Nxd5 could be considered for some asymmetry.]

10.Bb3 Total pawn symmetry, but White is better developed. **10...Bf5**

[10...Nc6]

11.Nc3 h6



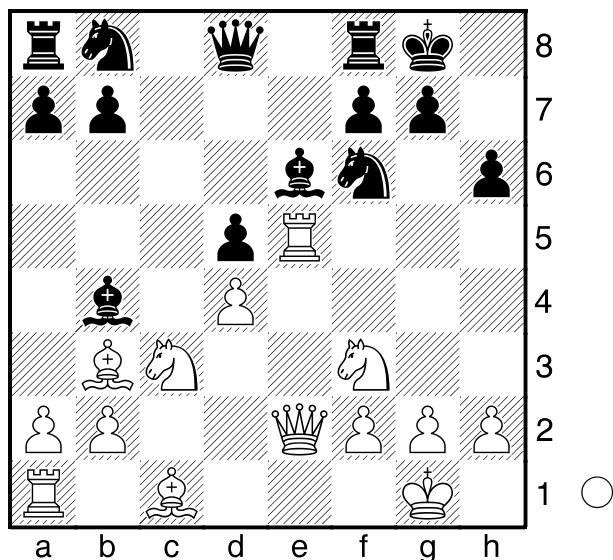
12.Re5!? Certainly unexpected! **12...Be6**

[12...Be4! could turn out better.

13.Nxe4 dxe4 and the rook loses
White some time after ...Nc6.]

13.Qe2 Bb4?

[Black could stop for 13...Qd7]



14.Rxe6!± Just like that -- and White is better. **14...Bxc3?**

[14...fxe6 15.Qxe6+ Kh8 16.Nxd5

(16.Ne5 Qe8! but White is still better here, too (just not by as much))

16...Nxd5 17.Bxd5 Nc6± White has a pleasant choice here, probably best is simply 18.Be3]

15.Rxf6 Qxf6 16.bxc3+- Two bishops for a rook and no pawns: no contest.

16...Rd8 17.Ba3 Sensible, but the bishop might want to be eyeing h6

(maybe after Qd3/Bc2) **17...Nc6 18.Qb5**

Qe6 19.Re1 Qd7 20.Qd3 Re8 21.Ne5

Nxe5 22.dxe5 Rad8 23.g3

[23.Bc5! and 24.Bd4]

23...Qe6 24.Re3 Kh8 25.Bd6 f6

26.Bxd5 Qd7 27.f4 fxe5 28.fxe5 Rc8

29.Qg6 Qb5 30.Be4 Kg8 31.Qh7+

Kf7 32.Rf3+ Ke6 33.Qf5# That had to be fun to play!

1-0

A06

Lin,Aung Tun

1641

Macnee,Felix

1651

MI Felix German TNM: Extra Rated (3.15)

[Winslow,Elliott]

1.Nf3 d5 2.e3 c5 3.b3 Bf5 4.Ne5 a6

5.f4 e6 6.Bb2 Nc6 7.Nf3 Nf6 8.Be2

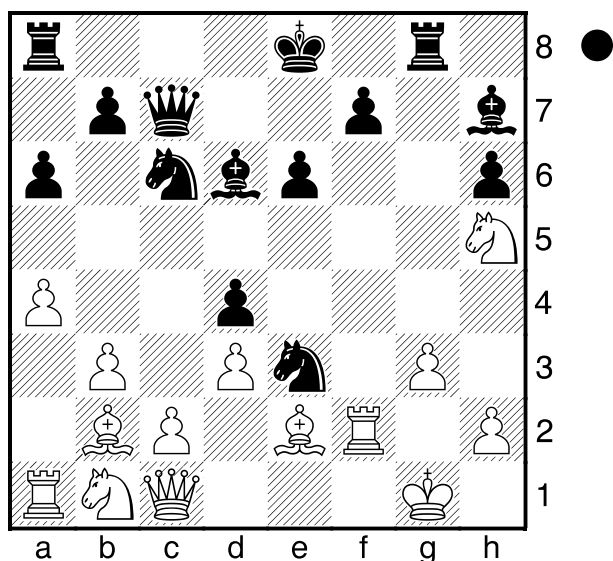
Bd6 9.0-0 Qc7 10.a4 h6 11.Nh4 Bh7

12.d3 d4 13.exd4 cxd4 14.g3 Nd5

15.Qc1 Ne3 16.Rf2 g5 17.Ng2 gxf4

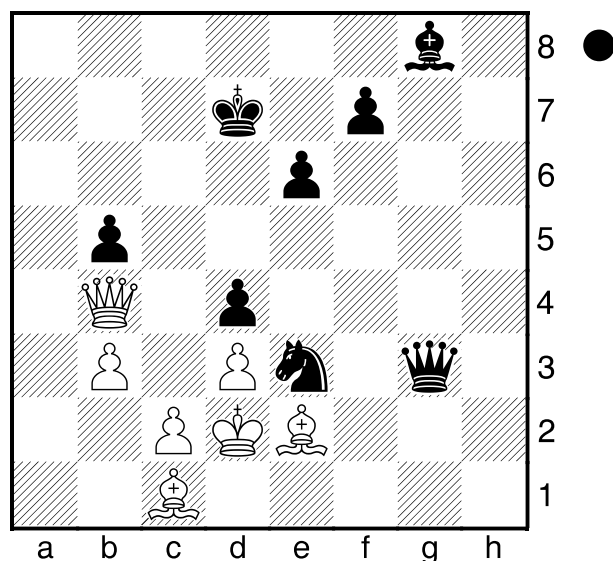
18.Nxf4 Rg8 19.Nh5

(Diagram)



Bxg3+- 20.Nf6+ Kd8 21.Nxg8 Bxf2+
22.Kxf2 Qxh2+ 23.Ke1 Qg3+ 24.Kd2
Bxg8
 [24...Qxg8!]
25.Qh1 Qg5 26.Bc1 Kc7?!
 [26...Ng4+!]
27.Na3 Nb4?
 [27...Qa5+ 28.b4 Qxb4+ 29.c3
Qxc3#]
28.Ke1 Qg3+ 29.Kd2 Rc8 30.Qxh6
Kb8 31.Nc4 b5 32.axb5 axb5
33.Ra8+ Kxa8 34.Nb6+ Kb7
 [34...Kb8 35.Nxc8 Nbxc2]
35.Nxc8 Kxc8?
 [35...Nbxc2!]
36.Qf8+ Kd7 37.Qxb4

(Diagram)



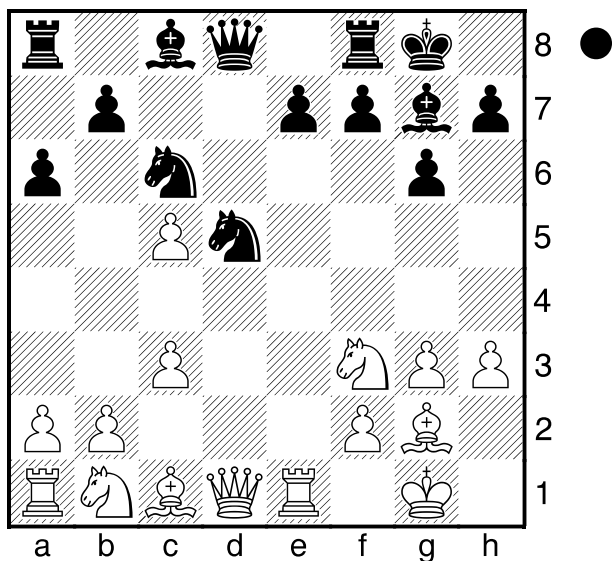
Qe5??
 [37...Qe1+ 38.Kxe1 Nxc2+]
38.Ba3= Nf5 39.Qa5 Qf4+ 40.Ke1
Qb8 41.Qb4 f6 42.Qc5 Bf7 43.Bb4
e5?? 44.Bg4
 [44.Bf3!+-]
44...Be6 45.Bxf5 Bxf5 46.Qe7+ Kc8
47.Ba5 e4?!
 [47...Bh3]
 [47...Bg4]
 [47...e4 48.Qe8+ Kb7 49.Qxb5+
Ka7 50.Qxf5]

1-0

A04
 2253
 1870
 Chen,Richard
 Sun,Kevin
 MI Felix German TNM: 2000+ (4.1)
 [Winslow,Elliott]

Here on Board 1 Kevin Sun went down
 in a confusing game to now-tournament
 leader Richard Chen. **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6**
3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.0-0 Nf6 6.Re1
0-0 7.c3 d6 8.h3 a6 9.d4 d5 10.exd5
Nxd5 11.dxc5+-

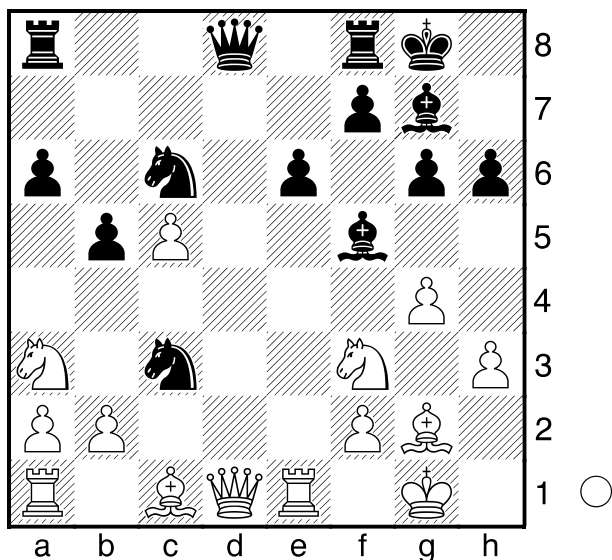
(Diagram)



Woops! You have to keep track of those pawns! **11...Bf5 12.Na3 b5 13.Ng5 e6?! 14.g4** Same for bishops. **14...h6 15.Nf3** This is fine.

[15.gxf5! hxg5 16.fxe6 is even finer.]

15...Nxc3



This can be ignored. **16.Qxd8 Raxd8 17.gxf5+- Na4 18.fxe6 fxe6 19.Nc2 Nxc5 20.Rb1 Rd6 21.b3 Bc3 22.Bxh6 Bxe1 23.Bxf8 Bxf2+ 24.Kxf2 Kxf8 25.Ke3 Rd3+ 26.Ke2 Rc3 27.Ncd4 Nb4 28.Rb2 Nd5 29.Bf1 Nf4+ 30.Kf2 Ne4+ 31.Kg1 b4 32.Bxa6 Nxh3+**

33.Kh2 Nf4 34.Rc2 Re3 35.Bb7 Nc3 36.Kg3 e5 37.Rd2 Ke7 38.Nc2 Re2 39.Nxb4 Re3 40.Kf2 Re2+ 41.Rxe2 Nfxe2 42.a4 Nc1 43.Nd5+ Kd6 44.Nxc3 Nxb3 45.Ke3 Kc7 46.Be4 Nc5 47.Nxe5 Kb6 48.Bxg6 Ka5 49.Be8 Kb4 50.Nd3+ 1-0

□ **Sobel,Stephen**
 ■ **Winslow,Elliott C**

MI Felix German TNM: 2000+ (4.3)
[Winslow,Elliott]

B90
1933
2241

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 a6 6.Be3

[6.h3 e5 7.Nb3 (7.Nde2 h5) 7...Be6 8.Be3]

6...e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.h3

[8.f3]

8...Nc6 9.Qf3 This is the Big Posture these days against various Sicilian lines. Indian GM Sethuraman has a book on this from White's point of view even. Sobel often seems very current!

[9.Qd2]

[9.Nd5!?]

[9.Qe2!?]

9...Be7

[Black might get on right away with the queenside play. 9...Rc8 10.0-0-0 Na5 but it's a jungle of lines:

A) 11.g4 Rxc3 12.bxc3 Qc7 13.Kb1 (13.g5; 13.Kb2) 13...h5 14.g5 (14.gxh5);

B) 11.Bg5 Be7 12.Bxf6 (12.Kb1 b5) 12...Bxf6 13.Nd5 (13.Kb1) 13...Nc6 (13...Bg5+; 13...b5)]

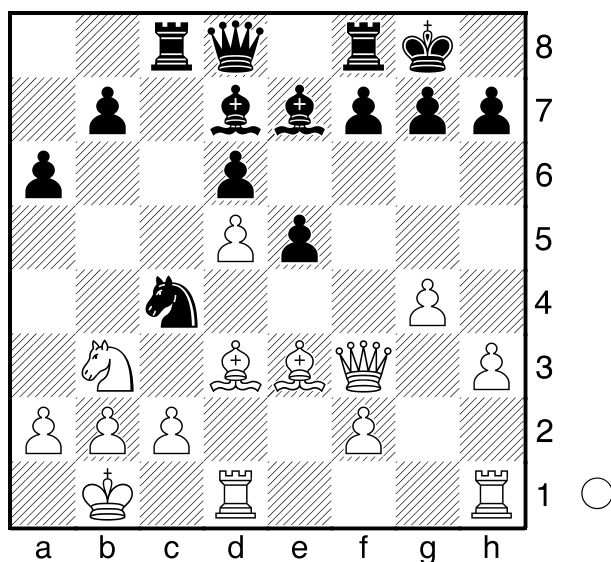
[9...d5]

10.0-0-0 0-0 And here also, one has to stop one's hand and forget about castling for a while.

[10...Rc8]

11.g4 Rc8

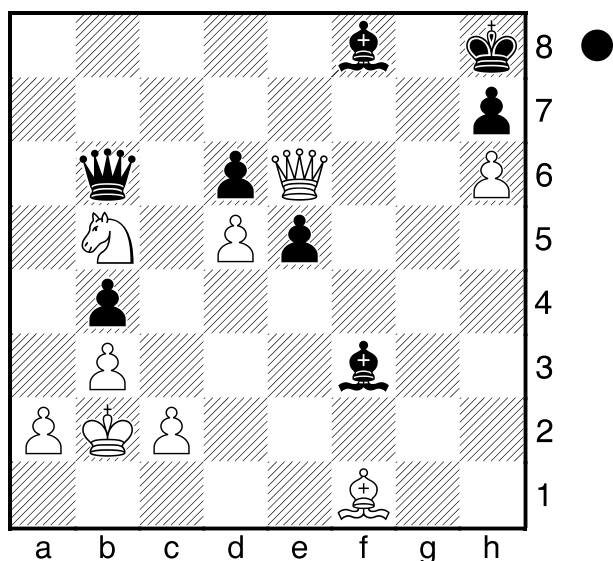
[11...Nd7]
12.Kb1
 [12.g5 Nd7 13.h4 Na5 14.Bh3]
12...Na5
 [12...Nb4 13.g5!± (13.a3? Nxc2!
 14.Kxc2 Qe8)]
 [12...Nd7]
13.Nd5 This seems at odds with g2-g4.
 [13.g5 Nd7 14.h4 Rxc3 might not be
 so dangerous for a change!]
13...Nxd5 14.exd5 Bd7 Now nobody
 wants to exchange the knights:
 [14...Nxb3]
15.Bd3
 [15.Nxa5 Qxa5 16.Bd3]
15...Nc4
 [15...Nxb3 16.cxb3 Bh4]



16.Bc1?!
 [16.h4!]
16...b5?
 [16...Bg5! And who is going to play
 the computer's greatly preferred
 17.Be3]
17.g5? a5?
 [I used to like pawns... 17...Bxg5
 is (acc. to Stockfish) just very good
 for Black.]
18.h4 a4 19.Nd2 a3 20.b3 Nb2?
 [20...Nxd2+ 21.Bxd2 (21.Rxd2)

21...f5 22.gxf6 Rxf6 23.Qh5 g6±
 24.Qe2 Qf8 25.Rdf1 Rf4!?]
**21.Bxb2± axb2 22.Qe4 g6 23.Qb4!±
 f5**
 [23...Rc5!? 24.h5! Bxg5 25.hxg6
 fxg6 (25...hxg6 26.Rdg1) 26.Ne4±]
24.gxf6?!
 [24.h5+-]
**24...Rxf6± 25.h5 Rf4 26.Ne4 g5!
 27.h6?**
 [27.f3! h6 28.Bxb5 Qb6! 29.a4
 Rxf3± 30.Kxb2]
27...g4! 28.Rdg1?
 [28.Rhe1=]
 [28.Rde1=]
28...Qb6??
 [28...Kh8!± 29.f3 gxf3 30.Nxd6?
 Qf8!-+]
29.Rg3 Kh8 30.f3
 [30.Rh5!? Re8!? incomprehensible.]
30...Rcf8? Here I *really* lost the thread.
 [30...Qb7! 31.fxg4 (31.c4 Bf5-+)
 31...Qxd5±]
31.fxg4 Rxg4??
 [Last chance for 31...Qb7! 32.c4
 Qa8±]
**32.Rxg4 Bxg4 33.Kxb2 Rf4 34.Rf1
 Rxf1 35.Bxf1 Bf3 36.Nc3 Bf8 37.Qh4
 b4 38.Qf6+ Kg8 39.Qe6+ Kh8
 40.Nb5?**
 [40.Qf6+ Kg8 41.Qxf3+- bxc3+
 42.Qxc3 Bxh6 43.a4 Stockfish says
 this is won...]

(Diagram)

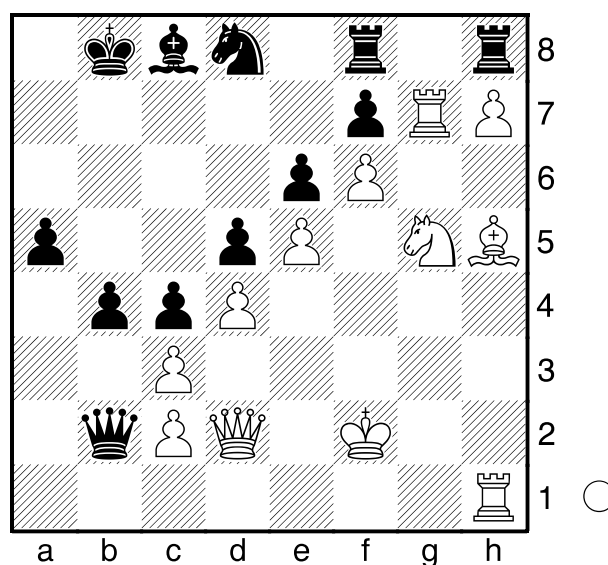


40...Qe3 41.Qf6+ Kg8 42.Qe6+?! Kh8
43.Qf6+ Kg8 44.Bh3? Stephen finally
 succumbed to the lure of a repetition,
 not seeing that he did have a win:
 [44.Bd3! e4 45.Qe6+ Kh8 46.Nxd6
 Qd4+ 47.Kb1 Qg1+ 48.Bf1!!+-]
44...Bxd5 45.Be6+
 1/2-1/2

Srinivasan, Sivavishnu **C11**
 Chan, John **1366**
 MI Felix German TNM: 1600-1999 (4.11)
[Winslow, Elliott] **1560**

Another wild game for Srinivasan, but
 this one ended up in his favor. But not
 before some head-spinning
 complications! **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3**
Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 g6 6.Nf3 c5
7.Be3 Nc6 8.Be2 c4 9.g4 Be7 10.h4
b6 11.f5 Nf8 12.f6 Bb4 13.Bh6 Qc7
14.Qd2 Bb7 15.Qf4 0-0-0 16.Kf1
Bxc3 17.bxc3 b5 18.a3 Qa5 19.Qd2
a6 20.Ng5 Qc7 21.Qe3 Re8 22.Bg7
Rg8 23.Bxf8 Rgxf8 24.Nxh7 Rh8
25.Ng5 Nd8 26.Kf2 Ref8 27.Nf3 Nc6
28.h5 gxh5 29.gxh5 Qd8 30.Rag1
Qa5 31.Rg7 Qxa3 32.Ng5 Nd8

33.Bg4 Kb8 34.h6 Qb2 35.Qd2 Bc8
36.h7 a5 37.Bh5 b4

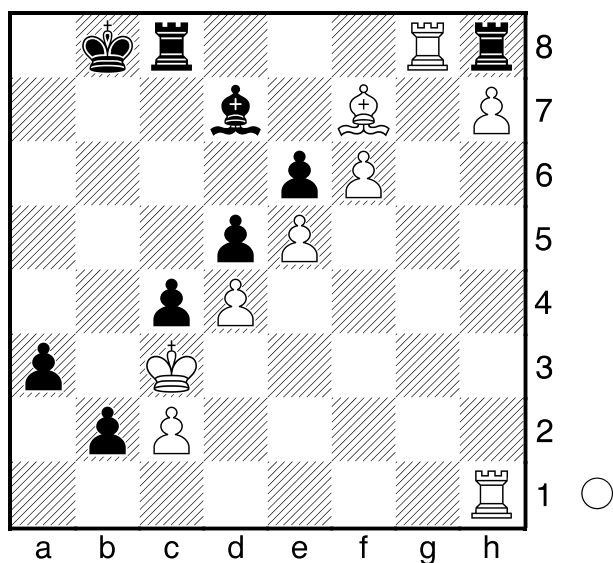


Both players have pushed their plusses
 to the max! But the route to success is
 about to get bumpy: **38.Nxf7 Nxf7**
39.Bxf7 bxc3 40.Qc1 Qb4 41.Qb1
Qb2 42.Ke2 a4 43.Qxb2+? cxb2
44.Kd2 a3 45.Kc3± Yes the pawns are
 stopped. But how will White ever heal on
 the queenside? **45...Bd7 46.Rg8??**

[46.Bg6?? Kc7-+]
 [46.Bg8!? Rd8]
 [46.Rb1! Rd8 47.Rxb2+! axb2
 48.Kxb2± How's that for healing!? The
 Gordian Knot solution. And that
 evaluation! How does White proceed?
 (besides Bg8 of course)]
46...Rc8? =

[46...Rxb7!-+ (The only winning move,
 for that matter the only move to get
 any advantage at all) 47.Rxf8+ Kc7
A) 48.Rxb7 b1Q 49.Kd2
 (else 49...Qe1#) c3+ (49...a2);
B) 48.Rb1 Rh3+ and 49...a2]

(Diagram)



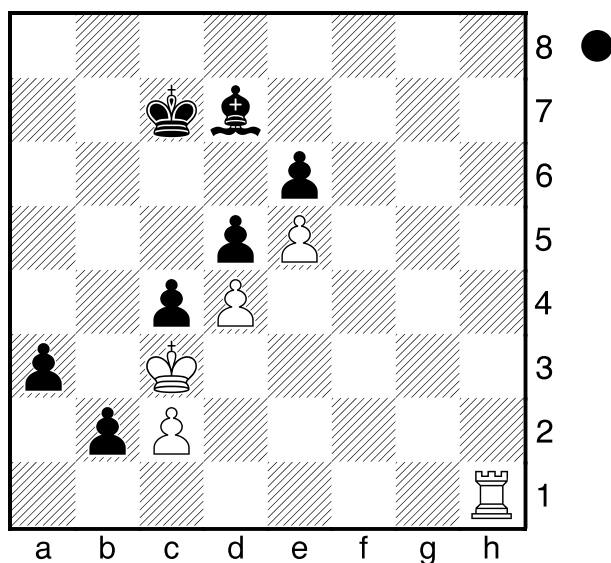
47.Be8?? White makes a crazy bid to win -- which succeeds!

[47.Rg7=]

[47.Rxc8+ Kxc8 48.Bg8 Kd8 49.f7 Ke7= Just in time. Now neither side can do anything!]

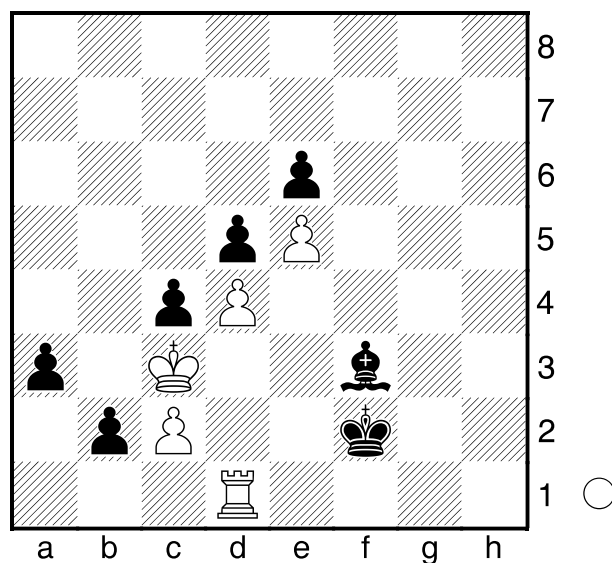
47...Bxe8??

[47...Rxe8 48.f7 Rc8 49.Rxc8+ Kxc8 50.f8Q+ Rxf8 51.h8Q Rxh8 52.Rxh8+ Kc7 53.Rh1



I wasn't sure how Black would win, but fooling around with Stockfish brought it up. Black forces White's rook to go to b1, where it is lost for the

a- and b-pawns with ...a3-a2. How? He brings his king to f2 and his bishop to f3!! White's rook has no place to go on the first rank except b1. White's king of course can never participate. Maybe there's some other win, say by playing ...Bxc2 (!!) and ...Kxd4, with four passed pawns (well, five when e5 falls as well). But the first method has that <ping> of perfection. Here's how it comes about: Kd8 54.Rg1 Be8 55.Rh1 Ke7 56.Rh7+ Bf7 57.Rh1 Bg6 58.Rf1 Bf5 59.Rg1 Kf7 60.Rf1 Kg6 61.Rg1+ Kh5 62.Re1 Kg4 63.Rf1 Be4 64.Re1 Kf3 65.Rf1+ Ke2 66.Rg1 Kf2 67.Rd1 Bf3



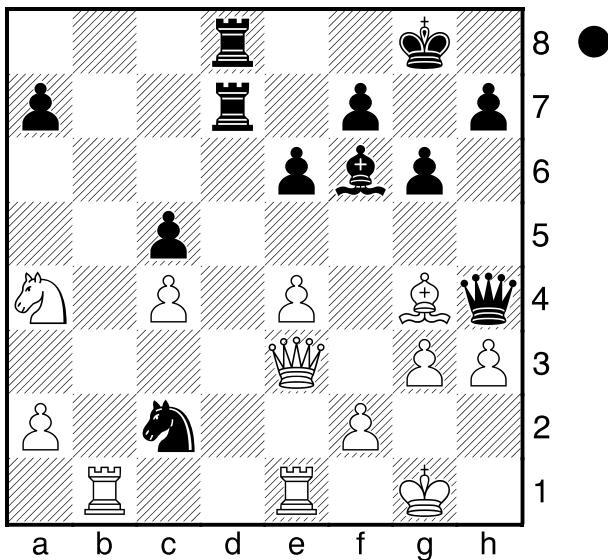
There it is! King and bishop dominate rook. 68.Rb1 a2 etc.]

That was so interesting I almost forgot to include how the game went! **48.Rxh8 Ka7 49.f7 a2 50.Kxb2 c3+ 51.Kxa2 1-0**

E91

□ **Pham,Nguyen Hoang Duy**
 ■ **Vandenhoven,Clarke Raymond**
 MI Felix German TNM: Under 1600 (4)
[Winslow,Elliott]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
 5.Bg5 0-0 6.Be2 c5 7.dxc5 dxc5
 [7...Qa5 is how it usually goes]
 8.Nf3 Nc6 9.0-0 Bg4 10.h3 Bxf3
 11.Bxf3 e6 12.Re1 Qd4?!
 [12...h6!⚡]
 13.Rc1 Rfd8 14.Na4?? Qe5-+ 15.Bxf6
 [15.Bd2 Bh6]
 15...Bxf6 16.Qb3 b6
 [16...Nd4]
 17.Rcd1 Nd4 18.Qc3 Rd7 19.b4
 Rad8 20.bxc5 bxc5 21.Rb1
 [21.Nxc5 Ne2+]
 21...Qf4 22.Qe3 Qh4 23.Bg4 Nc2
 24.g3



Qxg4 25.hxg4 Nxe3 26.Rxe3 Rd1+
 27.Rxd1 Rxd1+ 28.Kg2 Bd4
 Classic domination of bishop vs. knight.
 29.Re2 Rb1! And the knight is a goner.
 30.Rc2 Rb4 31.Nc3 Rxc4

Endgame RB-RN 32.Rb2 Rxc3
 After this fine game Vandenhoven was in
 the clear lead with 4-0! But for whatever
 reason he forfeited the next round,

putting Nicholas Ayala a half point ahead
 of the rest with two rounds to go.
 0-1

B05

1413

1800

□ **Horde,Nicolas**
 ■ **Talamantez,Abel**
 MI Felix German TNM: Extra Rated (4)
[Horde,Nicolas]

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3
 Bg4 5.Bc4

[5.Be2 This pin is actually pretty
 annoying (and indeed, this is
 overwhelmingly the move played -
 EW)]

5...e6 6.0-0 Nc6 7.exd6

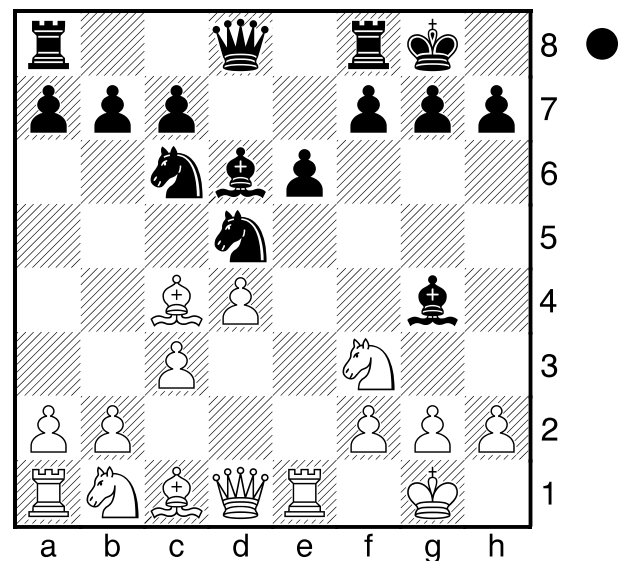
[7.Bb5 The other move but I wasn't
 fan of moving the bishop twice in the
 opening]

7...Bxd6 8.c3

[8.Bxd5 exd5 9.Re1+ Ne7

White gives up the bishop pair for no
 clear compensation]

8...0-0 9.Re1



Keeping the destination of the b1 knight
 and c1 bishop secret and anticipating a
 future retreat for them on f1 9...Qd7?!
 Stockfish does not like this move for

some reason but it makes sense to me i. e. finishing development and connecting the rooks

[EW: The main suggestion is 9...Nce7 to get on with ...c5.]

10.Bd3 Sneaky move, threatening the bishop on g4 **10...f5** I thought I was better after inducing f5 so the plan is to continue development and start targeting the backward e6 pawn

[10...Rae8 11.Bxh7+ Kxh7 12.Ng5+ Kg8 13.Qxg4]

11.h3 Bh5 12.Nbd2

[12.g4?? fxg4 13.hxg4

A) 13...e5! Direct refutation to the g4 idea 14.gxh5 (14.Ng5 Bxg4) 14...Qg4+;

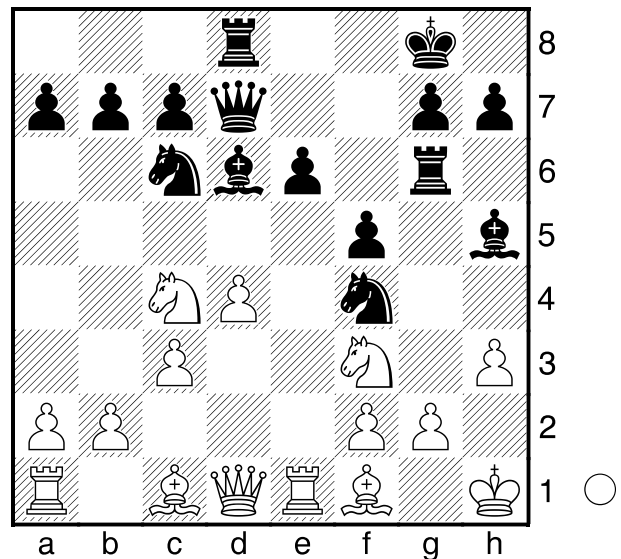
B) 13...Bxg4 14.Bxh7+ Kxh7 15.Ng5+ Kg8 16.Qxg4 I estimated this position as way too dangerous for White, my king is completely naked]

12...Nf4 13.Bf1 Black starts accumulating pieces on the king side so it seems logical to justify the e1 rook by moving the bishop back to its original square **13...Rf6 14.Nc4!** Start taking off some pressure **14...Rg6 15.Kh1**

[15.a3 Illustrating Black's threat: Nxh3+ 16.Kh1 Nxf2+]

15...Rd8

(Diagram)



16.Nxd6 Qxd6 17.Bxf4! Giving back the bishop pair by exchanging my last undeveloped piece for a piece that has moved multiple times **17...Qxf4**

My idea is that Black's attack has been severely reduced so the plan is to start exchanging pieces and target the e6 pawn in the endgame. If the queens are off the board White is winning **18.Bc4?**

[18.Qd2! Qd6 (18...Qxd2 19.Nxd2 The ideal endgame)]

[EW: maybe even better is 18.Be2 and then 19.Qb3. But it's less thematic (as per Nicolas's comments above).]

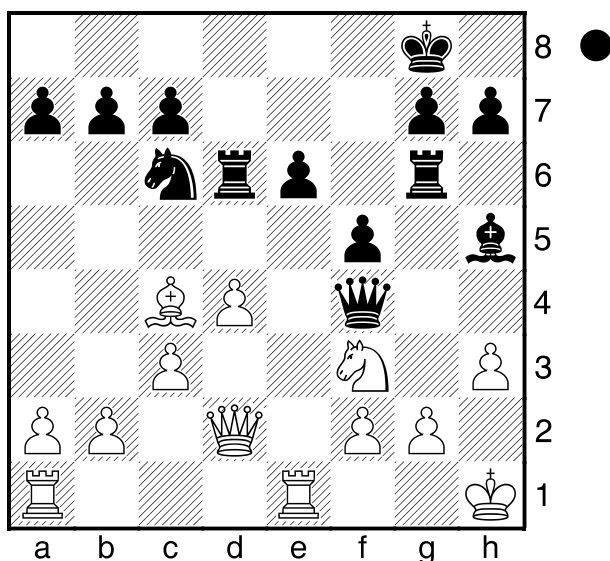
18...Rd6

[18...Bxf3! 19.Qxf3 Qxf3 20.gxf3 We both have weaknesses so the position is equal]

19.Qd2?

[19.Be2 And now I threaten Qd2 and forces the exchange of queen (and my kingside pawn structure will remain intact)]

(Diagram)



Decisive blunder, I thought this forced the exchange of queens **19...Qxf3!!-+** I Completely overlooked Black can take in that order, this basically ends the game.

[19...Qxd2 20.Nxd2 is a clear advantage for White.]

[19...Bxf3 20.Qxf4 Rxcg2 21.Qxf3 Winning for White. It's ironic that I saw the windmill but did not see the other move order]

20.gxf3 Bxf3+ 21.Kh2 Rg2+ Windmill 22.Kh1 Rxf2+ 23.Kg1 Rxd2 24.Bxe6+ Kf8 25.Bxf5 Rf6 26.Bxh7 Rg2+

Second windmill so I resigned. I think I played a very good game until the final tactic. If I had managed to exchange queens I would have had a winning endgame but kudos to Abel to not let his opportunity pass

[EW: Specifically, 26...Rg2+ 27.Kh1 (27.Kf1 Be4+ and mate) 27...Rxb2+ Why not be greedy :-) 28.Kg1 Rg2+ 29.Kh1 Rxa2+ And again! a7 is protected, so "giving" White the a-file is okay. (Sometimes it isn't!) 30.Kg1 Rg2+ 31.Kh1 Rh6 32.Bf5 Rg5+ and ...Rxf5.]

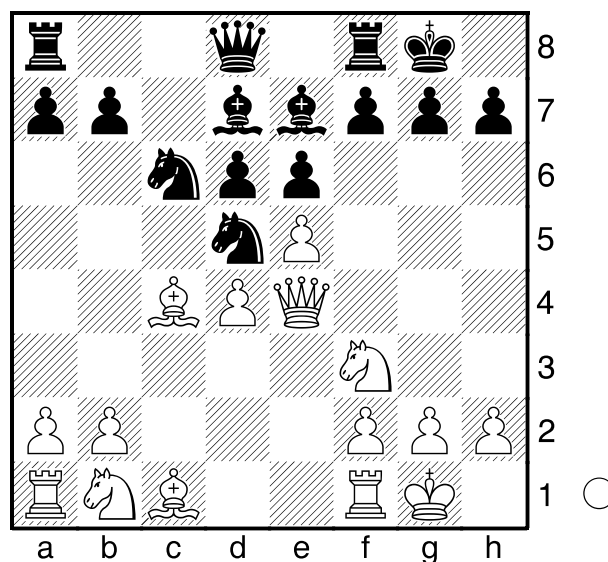
0-1

Snyder, Larry
Chen, Richard

B22
2073
2253

MI Felix German TNM: 2000+ (5.1)
[Winslow, Elliott]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c3 Nf6 4.e5 Nd5 5.d4 cxd4 6.cxd4 d6 7.Bc4 Nc6 8.0-0 Be7 9.Qe2 0-0 10.Qe4 Bd7



This is considered the Main Line of the Alapin, or c3 Sicilian, by various authors including Kotronias in his Grandmaster Repertoire Series book. Beating the Anti-Sicilians (2015). **11.Bxd5?** As per the Greek GM, this is pretty bad, his comment being "the only question being the extent of Black's plus."

[He gives the following 4 moves, in increasing complexity if not strength:

11.--]

[11.exd6]

[11.Qg4]

[11.Re1]

[11.Bd3 f5 12.exf6 Nxf6 13.Qe2 Qb6! with another couple columns of analysis. (13...Qa5!?)]

11...exd5 12.Qxd5 Nb4 13.Qe4 d5

[A better try for an advantage is 13...Bc6! 14.Qe2 Bxf3 15.gxf3 Qb6 Kotronias's "Black has an obvious

advantage" is probably fair enough, whether it is enough to win is unclear. Stockfish makes it around -0.4.]

14.Qe2 Bf5 15.Ne1 Qb6

[15...Nxa2! right away doesn't let the pawn get away, and is balanced.]

16.Be3

[16.a3 Nc6 17.Be3 keeps the pawn but not any significant advantage. Stockfish generates Rad8 18.Nc3 Nxe5 19.dxe5 d4 20.Bxd4 Rxd4 21.Nf3 Rd3 and White doesn't have enough of an edge to turn = into \pm (+= if you don't get the Chessbase font).]

16...Nxa2! 17.Rxa2 Bxb1 18.Ra1 Bf5

19.Nd3 Qb5 20.Nf4 Qxe2 21.Nxe2

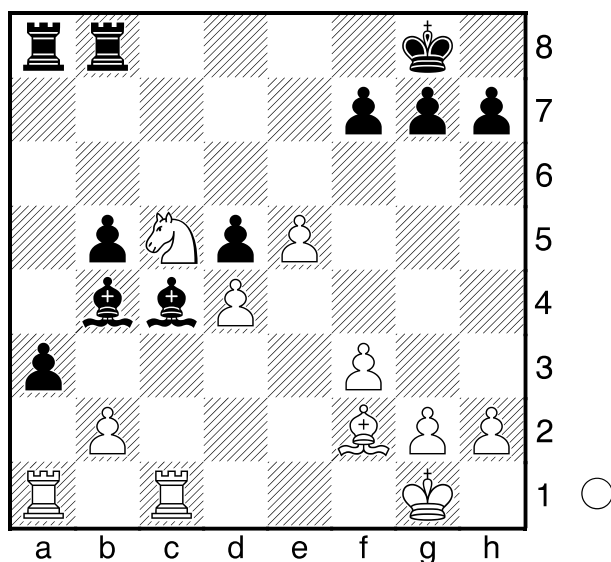
Bd3 22.Rfe1 Bb4 23.Nc3 Bc4

[23...Bxc3 24.bxc3 a5 will be hard to win, yet the computer gives it a few hundredths more.]

24.Rec1 b6 25.f3 Rfc8 26.Kf2 a5

27.Na4 Rcb8 28.Kg1 b5 29.Nc5 a4

30.Bf2 a3



31.b3?

[31.bxa3 Bxa3 32.Rcb1 b4 is a clear plus but a better defence.]

31...Bxc5?!

[31...a2!! 32.bxc4 bxc4! Stockfish says -5.31 (d27). It's at times like this that I wonder if there's a big bug

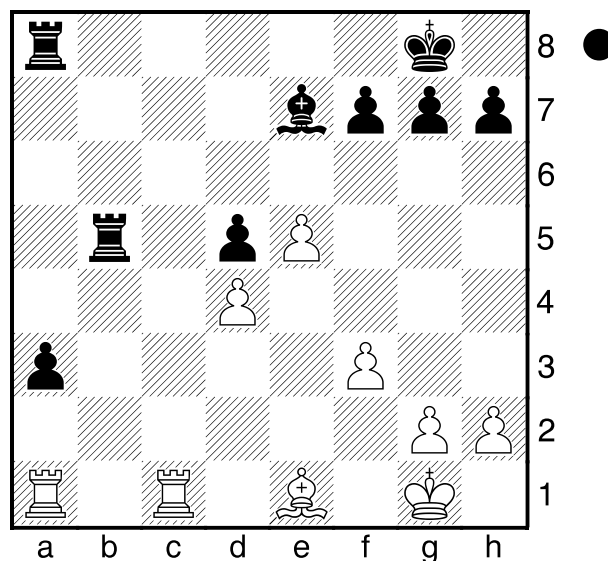
in the latest update or something.] **32.bxc4??** White forgets about bishops of opposite color?

[32.dxc5 b4! (32...Bxb3 33.Rc3 Bc2!? 34.Rcxa3 Rxa3 35.Rxa3 b4 36.Ra6 b3 37.Bd4 because of the bank rank mate threat White gets the bishop to b2, with a draw!) 33.Rcb1! Bb5 Fairly precarious, but not lost.]

32...Be7 33.cxb5

[33.cxd5?? b4]

33...Rxb5 34.Be1



Bg5?? Everything else (not quite literally but close!) was winning for Black.

35.Rxa3! Suddenly White has a clear advantage! Maybe not enough to win here either, but what a reversal!

35...Rab8 36.Rc2 h5 37.Kf2 Rb1 38.Bd2

[38.Ra5+-]

38...Bh4+

[38...R1b2]

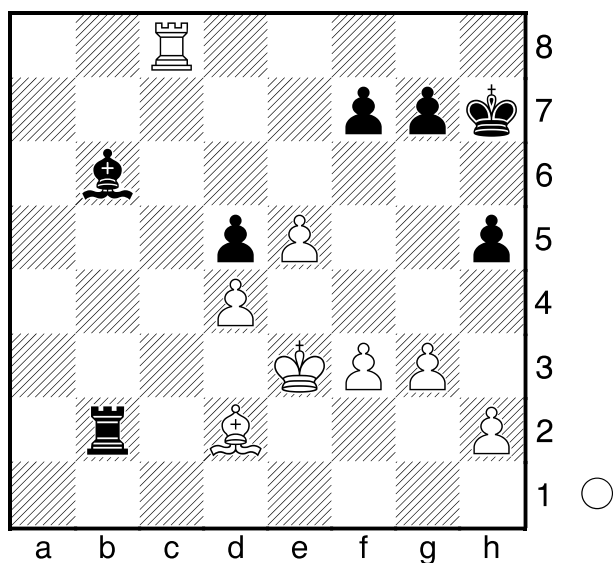
39.g3 Bd8 40.Rac3 Bb6 41.Rc8+ Rxc8 42.Rxc8+ Kh7 43.Ke3?!

[43.Bc3! is a solid win-size plus]

43...Rb2

[43...Rb3+ 44.Bc3 Ba5 45.Kd3 Ra3 is not going to be a win]

(Diagram)



44.Be1?

[44.Bc3 Rxh2 45.Rf8 Kg6 46.Rb8!
Ba7 47.Rb7 Ra2 48.Rd7 wins]

44...Rxh2 it's "rows of 0.00s" time

45.Rc6 Rb2 46.Rd6 Rb3+ 47.Ke2

Bxd4 48.Rxd5 Bb6 49.Bd2 Rb1

50.e6 fxe6 51.Rxh5+ Kg6 52.g4 Bd4

53.Kd3 Bf6 54.Rc5 Rb3+ 55.Ke4 Ra3

56.Rc4 Ra2 57.Be1??

0-1

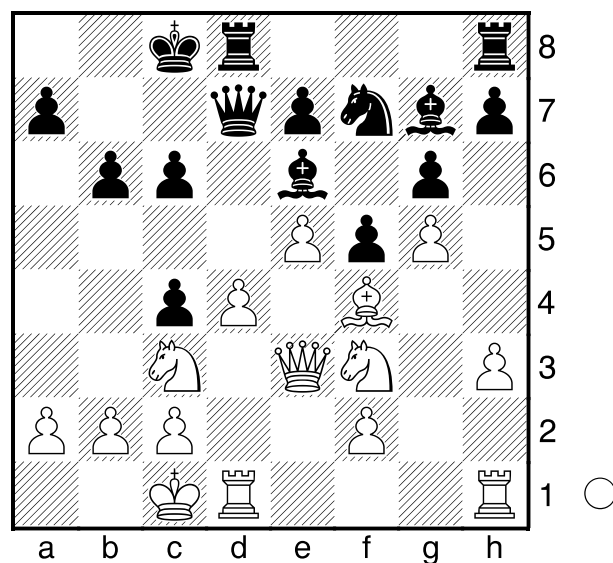
Widjaja, Luke
Seitzer, Phillip

MI Felix German TNM: 2000+ (5.2)
[Winslow, Elliott]

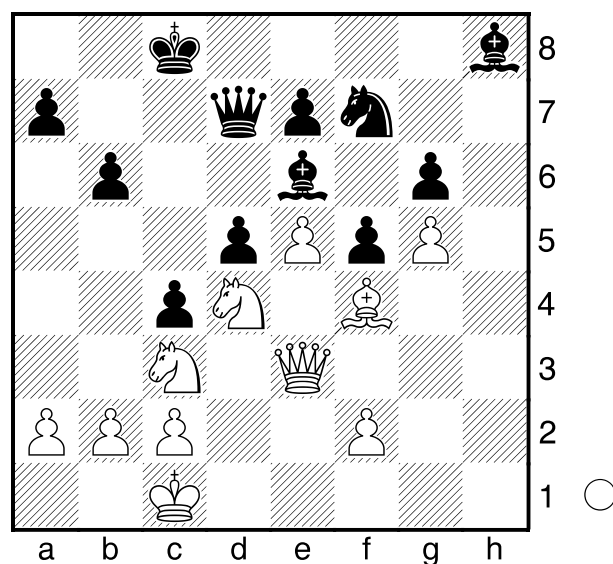
B30
2055
2129

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.Nc3
g6 5.e5 Ng4 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.h3 Nh6
8.g4 Bg7 9.d3 b6 10.Bf4 f5 11.g5 Nf7
12.Qe2 Be6 13.Qe3 Qd7 14.0-0-0
0-0-0 15.d4 c4

(Diagram)

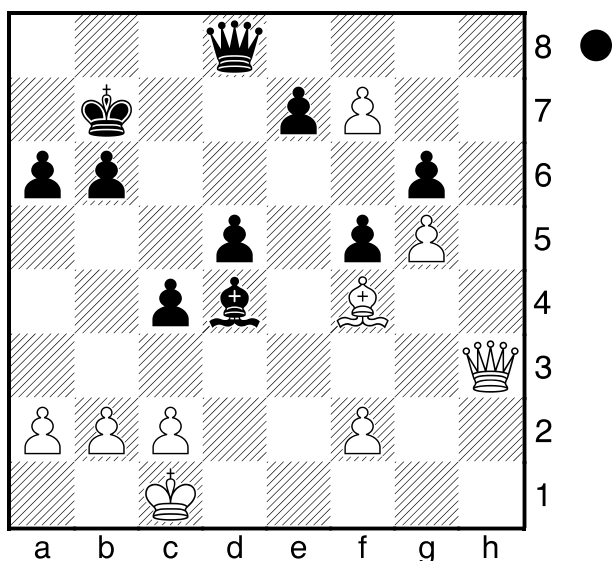


16.d5 cxd5 17.Nd4 h6 18.h4 hxcg5
19.hxcg5 Rxh1 20.Rxh1 Rh8 21.Rxh8+
Bxh8



22.Ncb5 Kb7 23.Qa3 a6 24.Nxe6
Qxe6 25.Nd4 Qd7 26.e6 Qd8 27.exf7
Bxd4 28.Qh3!

(Diagram)



Qf8 29.Qh7 Qg7 30.Qg8 Bxb2+
31.Kb1 Qc3 32.Qb8+ Kc6 33.Qe8+
1-0

B11
 □ Griffith,Kyron Waykuan 2444
 ■ Suarez,Sebastian 1871
 MI Felix German TNM: 2000+ (5) 6.12.22
 [Winslow,Elliott]

1.e4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4
Nf6 5.Qe2 Nxe4 6.Qxe4 Qd5 7.Qh4
Qe6+ 8.Be2 Qg6 9.Qg3 Nd7 10.0-0
Qxg3 11.hxg3 g6 12.a4 Bg7 13.a5
0-0 14.d4 e5 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.a6 b6
17.Nxe5 Bxe5 18.Bf3 Bf5 19.c3 Rac8
20.Re1 f6 21.Bf4 Rfe8 22.Bxe5 fxe5
23.Re3 Kf7 24.g4 Bc2 25.Rc1 Ba4
26.c4 c5 27.Bd5+ Kg7 28.Rce1 Bc6
29.Rxe5 Rxe5 30.Rxe5 Bxd5 31.Rxd5
Rc7 32.f3 Kf6 33.g5+ Ke6 34.f4 Rf7
35.g3 Rf5 36.Rxf5 Kxf5 37.Kf2 Ke4
38.Ke2
[38.Ke2 Kd4 39.b3 Kc3 40.g4]
1-0

B19
 □ Winslow,Elliott 2241
 ■ Lesniewski,Lucas 2007
 MI Felix German TNM: 2000+ (5) 6.12.22
 [Winslow,Elliott C]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4
Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.Nf3 Nd7
8.h5 Bh7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 e6
11.Bd2 Ngf6 12.0-0-0 Be7 13.Kb1 0-0
14.Ne4 I've played this successfully
before (putting aside my standard
Panov-Botvinnik Attack), but on this day
I just didn't seem to have it all together.
Instead of getting some attack going on
the kingside I just traded queens. The
theory is that the experienced player will
prevail in the ending; in practice, this
time at least, Lucas all but outplayed me
in the ending. We both missed a thing or
two, but he saw clearly that the
simplifications, "all the way" to king and
pawn, weren't bad for him at all.

14...Nxe4
[14...c5!? 15.g4 1-0 Winslow,E
(2311)-Davila,C (2131) Mechanics'
Fall TNM; G/2 d5 2017 (6.3)]
15.Qxe4 Nf6 16.Qe2 Qd5 17.Ka1?
Madness.

[17.Ne5! (stockfish15) leaves too
pawns hanging, but not really (Black's
h-pawn will go in return, when White's
h-pawn starts to matter). And
meanwhile, White gets ready for g2-g4
(maybe also f2-f3 if needed). Still,
can Black really be worse?]
[17.Be3 has been the "book" move;
Ng4 18.Bc1 Rfd8 19.Ne5 Nf6?
(19...Nxe5 20.dxe5 Qb5!?)
used to be thought better than it looks
at first, but the current brand of
computer (well, Stockfish) no longer
has us humans really believing in it.
21.Qxb5 cxb5 22.Be3 and the pawns
might still be trouble. I like the
following computer line: Kf8 23.Rxd8+

Bxd8 24.c3 Rc8 25.a3± putting all those pawns on the color of the bishop was unexpected!) 20.f3?! (20.Rhe1!; 20.f4! Really !?) 20...b5?! (20...Qb5) 21.g4± f3-f4 will happen after all; 1-0 (40) Winslow,E (2315)-O'Connor,D (2157) Berkeley 2016 [Winslow,E]]

17...Qe4 18.Qxe4 Nxe4 19.Be3 Rfd8 20.Ne5 c5 21.c3 cxd4 22.Rxd4=Rxd4 23.Bxd4 Bf6
 [23...f5!? Computers again! Enamored with 24.Ng6 Bf6 25.Be3 Bg5 26.Bd4 repeating!]

24.Re1 Nd6 25.Nf3?
 [25.Bc5 Bxe5 26.Rxe5 b6! 27.Bxd6 Rd8 really takes advantage of that 17. Ka1? 28.Kb1 Rxd6 29.Kc2 g6 30.c4±]

25...Bxd4 26.Nxd4 Rd8 27.Kb1 Ne8= 28.f3 Nf6 29.g4 Rd5 30.Kc2 Kf8 31.a4 Nd7±
 [31...a5]

32.b3
 [32.b4]

32...a6
 [32...a5]

33.b4 Ke7? 34.f4?
 [34.Nf5+]

A) 34...Kf8?
A1) 35.c4! Re5 36.Rd1+- Re2+ (36...exf5 37.Rxd7 fxc4 38.fxc4 Re4 39.Kd3+-) 37.Kc3 Ke8 38.Nd6+ Kd8 39.Nxb7+ Kc7 40.a5!+-;

A2) 35.Ne3?!;

B) 34...Kf6 35.c4 Re5 36.Rd1 Re2+ 37.Kc3 Nb6 38.a5±]

34...Nf6= "1/2?" 35.Nf5+ Kf8 36.Ne3 Rd7 37.Rd1?
 [37.a5±]

37...Rxd1 38.Kxd1 Nd5
 [I was more concerned with 38...g6 39.hxc6 fxc6 40.Ke2 -0.14 h5 41.gxh5 gxh5 but 42.c4=]

39.Nxd5 exd5 40.Ke2
 [40.a5 Black's ...g6 will be adequate

distracted. (= 0.00)]

40...b5 and it locks up. **41.axb5 axb5 42.Ke3 Ke7 43.Kd4 Kd6 44.Ke3 f6 45.Kf3 Ke6** "1/2?" Well done, Mr. Lesniewski.
 1½-1½

B01
1711
1641

☐ **Li,David Z**
☒ **Lin,Aung Tun**
 M Felix German TNM: 1600-1999 (5.11)
 [David Z Li]

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bf5 6.Bd2 Qb6 7.Bc4 e6 8.Rb1? Losing the initiative. I was worried about Qxb2 followed by Qxc2, but after Qe2 it's just not good for black.
 [8.Qe2 Bb4 9.d5 0-0 10.dxe6 Bxe6 11.Bxe6 Qxe6 12.Qxe6 fxe6 13.0-0-0±]

8...c6 9.0-0 Bd6 10.Re1 0-0 11.Bg5 Nbd7 12.h3 h6 13.Be3 Qc7 14.Bd3 Bh7 15.Bxh7+ Nxh7 16.Ne4 Be7 17.Qd2 Rad8 18.Bf4 Qb6 19.Nd6
 19. b4 was better to open up the rook and increase control over c5.
 [19.b4]

19...Bf6 I was most worried about 19...c5 after which Black seems to solve his cramping issues.
 [19...c5 20.Nc4 Qa6=]

20.Ne5 Either b4 or c4 were probably better here since there's no rush
 [20.c4]

20...g5 21.Bg3 c5 22.Nexf7?
 Far too hasty. Instead, after
 [22.Ng4 Bg7 23.dxc5 Nxc5 24.b4 Na6 25.c4 the knight is monster]

22...Rxf7 23.Nxf7
 [23.Rxe6!]

23...Kxf7 Despite the lack of space, the two knights are better than a rook without open files, and Black manages to defend this position **24.d5 e5 25.c4**

Qb4 26.Qd3 Nhf8 27.a3 Qa4 28.Re4 Ng6 29.Rbe1 I was concerned about the black queen infiltrating on c2 after I swing my queen over to f3 or f5. This prepares R1e2 which defends all my pawns. **29...Re8 30.Qf3 Qa6 31.h4 Kg7 32.Qf5 Qd6 33.hxg5**

[33.h5 Ne7 34.Qg4 Kf7 35.b4]
33...hxg5 34.b4 b6 35.f4? This doesn't really work due to Rf8 followed by Bh4, but the position is complex and we both had around 20 minutes left at this point.

35...gxf4 36.Bxf4 Re7? 37.Bd2 Rf7 38.Rf1?

[38.Rg4!]

38...Qf8?

[38...Nf4!]

39.Rg4 Bg5 40.Qxf7+ Qxf7 41.Rxf7+ Kxf7 42.Bxg5 Ndf8 43.Kf2 Nh7

44.Ke3 Nxg5 45.Rxg5 Kf6 46.Rxg6+ Kxg6 47.b5

1-0

<input type="checkbox"/>	Srinivasan,Sivavishnu	B33
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Parsons,Stephen	1366
		1749

M Felix German TNM: 1600-1999 (5)

[Parsons,Stephen]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Nd5 Be7 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.Nxf6+? Qxf6 12.Qd5 Bb7 13.Rd1 Rd8 14.c4

[14.Nxb5?! axb5 (14...0-0 15.Nxd6? Nd4!) 15.Bxb5 Rc8 16.Qxd6 Qxd6 17.Rxd6 Ke7!]

14...Ba8?! 15.cxb5

[15.Bd3?? Nd4!]

15...Nd4! 16.Qc4 0-0 17.f3?? Qh4+ 18.g3 Nxf3+ 19.Kf2 Qf6! 20.Ke3 Nd4 21.Rxd4! exd4+ 22.Qxd4 Qg5+ 23.Kf2 axb5?

[23...f5! 24.Bc4+ d5 25.exd5 f4 26.d6+ Kh8]

24.Bxb5 Kh8 25.Bd3?

[25.Re1 f5 26.Kg1 f4!]

25...f5! 26.Kg2 Qd2+ 27.Kh3 fxe4 28.Qb6 exd3 29.Rf1 Qg2+ 30.Kh4 Qxf1

[30...g5+! 31.Kxg5 Rg8+]

31.Nc4 g5+ 32.Kxg5 Rg8+ 33.Kh4 Qf6+ 34.Kh3 Qh6#

0-1

IM John Donaldson

New books by Thinkers Publishing

Pandemic Shark: A Journey Through the World of Chess Improvement (229 pages, \$30) by Danny Gormally

The Essence of Chess History: Pawn Structures (493 pages, \$43) by Boroljub Zlatanovic

The Passed Pawn Power of the Passer (237 pages, \$32) by Efstratios Grivas

Danny Gormally's latest effort, *Pandemic Shark: A Journey Through the World of Chess Improvement*, brings back memories of his earlier work, *A Year Inside the Chess World* (Chess Evolution 2016). Both books feature a mixture of instructive annotations, improvement advice, and personal revelations that make the English Grandmaster a unique voice in the chess world.

Some of the ground Gormally covers will be all too-familiar to those who played chess during the pandemic from online play to streaming to the hugely underrated juniors that are the sharks in the title. He examines these topics and others from the perspective of an older Grandmaster (age 46) no longer at his peak (2573). Still playing at a high level (2466), Gormally wants to regain his old form and tries a number of things to raise his rating. His discussion of the challenges facing older players trying to regain their old strength will ring true to veteran players.

Pandemic Shark: A Journey Through the World of Chess Improvement is an instructive and entertaining read for adults in the 1800 to 2200 range, but this is not the book for younger readers due to the author's frank discussion of various non-chess topics including gambling, drinking, and depression.

The Essence of Chess History: Pawn Structures by Boroljub Zlatanovic is a follow up to his earlier work, *The Essence of Chess Strategy – Volume 1 – Strategic Elements* (Thinkers Publishing 2022). This massive (493 pages) work is a systematic guide to the subject with chapters on passed, doubled, backward, and hanging pawns as well as pawn chains. There is a lengthy section on isolated pawns. The 226 examples, which are well-annotated, range from classics to recent games. Players in the 1800 to 2200 range will find this work provides a useful grounding on an important subject.

Those expecting *The Passed Pawn: Power of the Passer*, by the Greek Grandmaster Efstratios Grivas, to be filled exclusively with middle game examples will be surprised. Chapters 8-10 and 12-15 are either exclusively or largely devoted to the power of passed pawns in the endgame. In one case in Chapter 13, which is devoted to the Reti Maneuver (remember his famous pawn endgame study), Grivas ventures off subject in instructive fashion. One of the examples he gives suggests where Richard Reti may have gotten his inspiration for his famous pawn endgame study and speaks to Lasker's tremendous skill in the endgame.

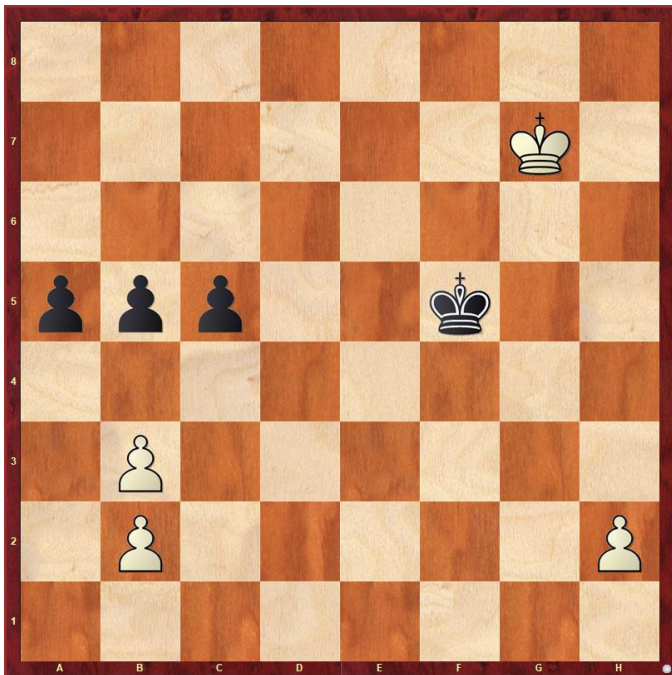
Ruy Lopez C83

Emanuel Lasker – Siegbert Tarrasch

St. Petersburg 1914

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Nxe4 6.d4 b5 7.Bb3 d5 8.dxe5 Be6 9.c3 Be7 10.Nbd2 0-0 11.Re1 Nc5 12.Bc2 d4 13.cxd4 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Qxd4 15.Nb3 Nxb3 16.axb3 Qxd1 17.Rxd1 c5

18.Bd2 Rfd8 19.Ba5 Rxd1+ 20.Rxd1 f6 21.Bc3 fxe5 22.Bxe5 Rd8 23.Rxd8+ Bxd8 24.f4 Kf7 25.Kf2 Bf6 26.Bd6 Bd4+ 27.Kf3 Bd5+ 28.Kg4 Ke6 29.Bf8 Kf7 30.Bd6 Bxg2 31.Bxh7 Ke6 32.Bf8 Kd5 33.Kg5 Bf6+ 34.Kg6 Be4+ 35.f5 Ke5 36.Bxg7 Bxf5+ 37.Kf7 Bxg7 38.Bxf5 Kxf5 39.Kxg7 a5.



In this game between the World Champion Emanuel Lasker and Siegbert Tarrasch, Black exchanged down into this pawn ending because he thought that it was a simple win. White used an unusual maneuver to save himself.

40.h4! Kg4 41.Kg6! The only move. 41.Kf6? loses to 41...c4 42.Ke5 c3 43.bxc3 a4.

41...Kxh4. The text move is forced and the white king gains a tempo to return on a different diagonal which is not obstructed by his pawns.

42.Kf5 Kg3. 42...c4 43.bxc4 bxc4 44.Ke4 c3 45.bxc3 Kg5 Black also has a draw in this line but not 45...a4 46.Kd3 Kg5 47.Kc4 winning for White!

43.Ke4 Kf2 44.Kd5 Ke3 45.Kxc5 Kd3 46.Kxb5 Kc2 47.Kxa5 Kxb3 ½–½

Sarah Beth Cohen

When Women First Organized Chess

Today's women, even while they haven't gained equal sovereignty over chess as men, have attained a previously unimaginable stature in chess as players, teachers, journalists, and streamers with exclusive female events attracting sponsors, news coverage, and prize funds that would have made the ladies from even recent history dizzy.

It wasn't until the end of the 19th Century that women, who, with a few exceptions, were mainly relegated to solving chess problems, playing at home or by mail, began to emulate the opposite gender and form chess groups or clubs complete with tournaments and matches, sometimes even against their male-dominated counterparts. This was a global situation at a time when most women were also denied the right to vote.

Let's look at some of those exceptions.

The *Illustrated London News* alluded to a ladies' chess club, called The Penelope Club being formed in 1847, but with no further mention. It's reasonable to assume it never got off the ground. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert of Boston (this is the famous Ellen Gilbert of the lengthy announced mates) formed a chess club around 1860 called the Queen's Chess Club that was either for women only or open to both sexes (it's unclear but the name suggests women only). In the August of 1860 edition of *Chess Monthly*, Willard Fiske noted that 60 people attended the Queen's Chess Club's 4th of July celebration.

The first verifiable chess club for women in England, the Ladies' College Chess Club, was founded in April, 1878 and seemed to have nothing to do with a college. Brighton had a ladies' chess club that lasted 3 years from 1881-1884, and the German chess village of Ströbeck formed a women's chess club in 1886. The UK had ladies' sections for chess in many of the county events. Eliza Thorold is mentioned having won the ladies' section of the Redcar meeting as early as 1866. In the 1883 Brighton vs. Sussex County match, Brighton fielded 3 women who won 4 out of 6 of their games. Madame Ludovici, an English lady living in Germany was noted as having "won a prize in the Wiesbaden Tournament as early as 1880" without clarifying whether it was overall or in a women's section.

But these were either isolated or short-lived cases.

The first chess organization for women that survived any length of time was the Women's Chess Club of New York, founded on Jan. 6, 1894 by the industrious socialite, Miss Eliza Campbell Foot, and endured for about 50 years (until shortly after WWII). It started with 32 dues-paying members and maintained a healthy membership roll throughout its existence. It also was involved in organizing the 1st and 2nd American Women's Chess Congresses (1908 and 1921).

On January 14th of the following year, 25 ladies met in London and formed the Ladies Chess Club of London. This club participated in many city-wide leagues and seems to have lasted at least 20 years. Rhoda A. Bowles, one of its founders, also came up with and helped organize the First Women's International Tournament in 1897.

Edinburgh Scotland formed a Ladies' Chess Club in 1904 that lasted 63 years. Originally called the Ladies' Victorian Chess Club, after a few years it changed its name to the Edinburgh Ladies' Chess Club. Several of its members played in the British women's championships.

Anna Katerina Beskow of Stockholm, Sweden, founded the Kvinnliga Schackklubb of Stockholm (Women's Chess Club of Stockholm) in March, 1912.



*The Women's Chess Club of Stockholm in 1912. Photographer unknown.
Photo courtesy Stockholm City Museum.*

Britain had the first continual series of national chess championships for women starting in 1904. The US wouldn't have a national championship for women until 1937, a decade after FIDE conducted the first Women's World Chess Championship.

Women in the Soviet Union were part of the government controlled chess system from its start in the early 1920's, playing in tournaments or working with chess in the educational programs. The first Soviet Women's chess Championship took place in 1927. In a sense they were always organized.

Organized women's chess during its nascent years couldn't begin to compare to women's chess of today, but, by the same token, today's environment wouldn't have been possible without these pioneering efforts.

Ian Wessen

Confessions of a Chess Coach

The Wednesday chess class at Buena Vista Horace Mann is a squirrely assortment of sixth, seventh, and eighth graders united by their interest in chess. I am a middling online chess player and an inexperienced classroom wrangler. But the students in this class and I have a common philosophy, “chess should be fun.”

To give you a picture of a typical class, I start standing at the front of the room with a display board dangling from the wall. The plastic sleeves hold 32 flat plastic chessmen in their beginning position. After taking roll, I have about ninety seconds to capture their interest before their eyes start wandering. My bespoke lesson plan is only seven minutes of content but in order to get through the plan, and through the student's attention span, I'll need to move briskly.

In the world of competitive chess, by age 13 these kids would be fighting for international norms and grandmaster titles. In my class, we still call the knight a horse. Fortunately, the goal in my class is not to prepare for competition. There are many good books and much better chess teachers for that end.

Instead, I am trying to connect the students with something more fundamental, something for which there are fewer books. I'm trying to communicate my love for the game.

I know the value of passion because I nearly lost that spark in my own chess career.

Growing up, I learned how the pieces moved from my dad. By middle school, I had picked up some openings and tactics from a desktop copy of Chessmaster. But once I made it to high school, I found a space to play.

Mr. Mulfinger was the math teacher and coach of the chess team. He kept boards and clocks in his classroom for lunch time games. All during lunch, his room brimmed with trash talk and laughter punctuated by the chatter of moving pieces and slapping clocks. I played blitz games with friends during lunch hour for years. This raucous setting is where I spent most of my lunch hours and it's where I learned to love chess.

Playing well in Mr. Mulfinger's lunchroom encouraged me to compete in a classical tournament at my local chess club. My style of play had grown up around splashy exchanges and tactical use of the clock. I preferred openings categorized as “fun” over those that were “sound.” Why endure a labyrinthine Queen's Gambit instead of an explosive King's Gambit?

But classical play was a different beast. Where blitz games might offer many paths to redeem a losing position, an early mistake in a classical game would permanently hobble my chances. A losing position could drag on for hours. Instead of addressing my weaknesses, I avoided this slow, calculated style of play. My USCF record reflects my preparation, a perfect 0 wins and 8 losses.

When I graduated from high school, I lost my community of blitz players and consequently lost my connection to the game. From then on, I lived without chess. Like a stationary bike that becomes more for hanging clothes than exercising, chess became an abandoned hobby. Surely *next* year is the year I dust it off and get back on.

The recent pandemic was a boon for internet chess. The tide of new and returning chess players included me as I finally had the chance to tend to the old flame. With time at my disposal, I began playing blitz on lichess.org and began to fall back in love with the game.

My preference for over-the-board play led me to several Bay Area Facebook chess groups where I came across a job posting for the Mechanics' Institute scholastic program. The Institute needed teachers and I needed a chance to play regularly. More importantly, I saw a chance to share that passion for the game that I felt in Mr. Mulfinger's lunch room.

I have been teaching the Buena Vista Horace Mann for about three months now. I don't record head to head record or average centipawn loss, but I do hope that students in my class are able to demonstrate some kind of improvement over the course of the class.

Many of the students in the class know how to play but have never explored the tactical landscape of advanced beginner chess. This is the bullseye for my lesson plan, an introduction to the most essential tools on the chessboard and ample space to play.

Recently, I introduced the pattern of pins. What they are, how to use them, and where they tend to appear. Many bishops developed to b5 and g5 that week!

But as a follow up, I had something *fun* prepared.

Up in front of the class with my prepared presentation mat, I began to play. It's an e4 opening with a Philidor defense. Before the class has a chance to look away, I project my voice across the room, "Paul Morphy was the greatest chess player ever relative to his peers!"

Provocative, sure. But I need their attention. I include several lurid details of Morphy's meteoric life to ensure they're hooked.

The game is "The Night at the Opera" (1857) against Count Isouard. We call out each pin as it's laid and watch Morphy brutally exploit each piece trapped to its square. I make gruesome sound effects on each piece capture and feign shock when Morphy's queen is sacrificed. I challenge the students to find Morphy's mate before it's played.

When the presentation is done, I turn them loose to play. Chairs shuffle on the floor and the energy picks up. It sounds just like Mr. Mulfinger's lunchroom. There's commotion and laughter in the air. While watching one game, I hear a student at another table cry out "No! He can't! It's pinned." There's a chorus of "Ooh"s from onlooking players.

Just like that, chess is fun again.

The Chess Scuttlebutt

Links to some of the news that make up our world:

The Marshall Chess Club hosts an Anti-Cheating – Fair Play [panel](#) with Dr. Kenneth Regan.

"Show me the evidence." IM John Donaldson [defends](#) GM Hans Niemann.

China takes Gold at the World Team Championships, WIM Alexey Root [covered the event](#) for FIDE.

GM John Nunn [wins](#) the World 65+ Senior Championship.

Soccer stars Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi [play](#) chess for luxury brand Louis Vuitton.

A Toronto chess club [hires](#) WGM Anna Burtasova to attract more female members.

Cincinnati Reds first baseman Joey Votto "[flattened by a 9-year old](#)" at chess tournament.

Interested in betting on chess? [Here](#) is an amazingly detailed breakdown of the odds on the players at the upcoming Tata Steel Chess tournament.

Visiting Raccoon Valley in Iowa? The Perry Public Library is [offering](#) chess instruction.

More [fallout](#) from the Carlsen/Niemann brouhaha, as security measures in Germany left Indian GM SL Narayanan feeling "humiliated."

13-year old Alexander Collins [wins](#) the Vermont Open.

Ready to purchase a [bluetooth chessboard](#)?

Legendary GM Judit Polgar will be [inducted](#) into the World Chess Hall of Fame.

Chess.com and Magnus Carlsen [respond](#) to Hans' lawsuit.

A hilarious video shows [how to cheat](#) at chess, ala that suggestion by Elon Musk.

A museum in Turkey houses [727 chess sets](#) from 110 countries.

Cops and kids [square off](#) in Chicago over the chess board.

Dallas Mavericks star Luka Doncic prefers [chess to Twitter](#).

An interesting [look](#) at chess in popular culture.

A podcast [discusses](#) Stefan Zweig's classic 1943 novel *Chess Story*.

An [appreciation](#) of English IM Michael Basman, who passed away in October.

[Blitz chess](#) and sport in war-torn Ukraine.

Face masks might [hinder](#) decision making skills in chess, in this study from the University of Queensland.

Recent Games

A collection of games played around the world in the past month that have caught our attention.

A02

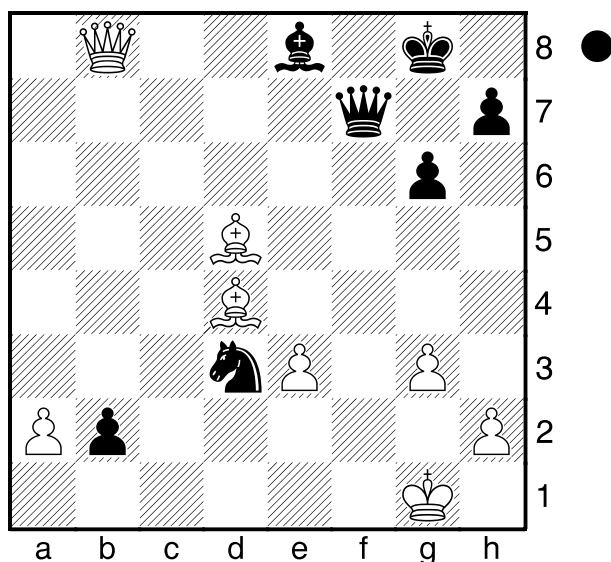
□ Michael John Basman

■ Mikhail Tal

Hastings 1973/74 (11)

08.01.1974

A cute little game, in which the recently deceased English IM tries to give the former World Champion a taste of his own medicine. 1.f4 d6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 Nf6 5.c4 0-0 6.Nc3 c6 7.0-0 d5 8.cxd5 cxd5 9.e3 Nc6 10.Ne2 Qd6 11.Qa4 Bd7 12.Qa3 Nb4 13.Ned4 a5 14.d3 Ng4 15.Bd2 e5 16.fxe5 Nxe5 17.Nxe5 Bxe5 18.Qb3 Nc6 19.Nb5 a4 20.Qxd5 Qe7 21.Nc3 Nb4 22.Qxb7 Rab8 23.Qa7 Nxd3 24.Nd5 Qe6 25.Bc3 Bb5 26.Nc7 Bxc7 27.Qxc7 a3 28.Rxf7 Rxf7 29.Qxb8+ Be8 30.Bd4 axb2 31.Rd1 Nf2 32.Rf1 Nd3 33.Rxf7 Qxf7 34.Bd5!



b1Q+ 35.Qxb1 Qxd5 36.Qxd3 Qxa2 37.Qe4 Bb5 38.g4 Qc4 39.Qa8+ Kf7 40.Qf3+ Ke8 41.Qa8+ Kd7 1/2-1/2

B43

□ Miaoyi Lu

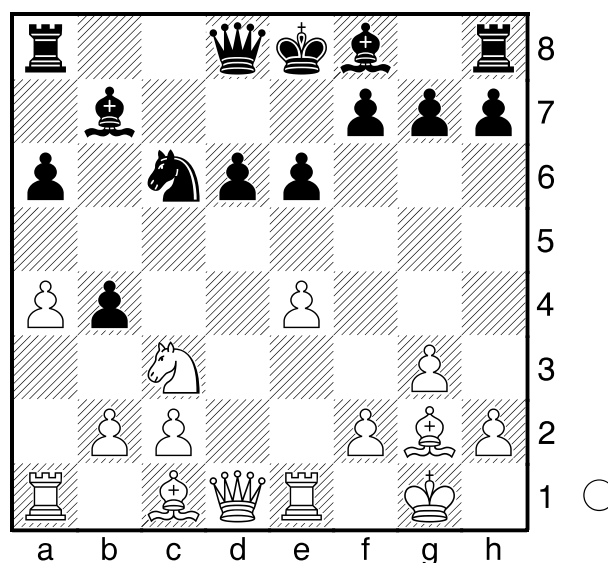
■ Subramaniyam H Bharath

Magnus Academy Challenge (14.3)

2273

2495

Another spectacular victory by the 12 year-old Chinese prodigy. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Nc3 a6 4.g3 b5 5.Bg2 Bb7 6.d4 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Nc6 8.0-0 Nge7 9.Re1 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 Nc6 11.Qd1 d6 12.a4 b4



13.Nd5! exd5 14.exd5+ Ne7 15.Bg5 h6 16.Qh5 Qc7 17.Bh3 Kd8 18.a5 f6 19.Be3 g6 20.Qh4 Qb8 21.Bb6+ Ke8 22.Qxf6 Rg8 23.Rxe7+ Bxe7 24.Re1 1-0

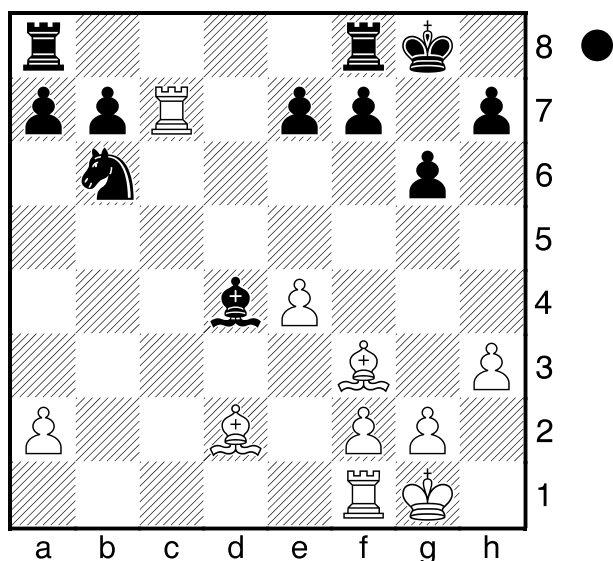
D85

□ Magnus Carlsen

■ Anish Giri

Meltwater Champions Chess Tour Finals (4.2)

The white rook on the 7th rank proves to be too much for black to bear. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Be3 c5 8.Rc1 0-0 9.Nf3 Bg4 10.Be2 Qa5 11.Qd2 Nd7 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Bxf3 Nb6 14.0-0 cxd4 15.cxd4 Qxd2 16.Bxd2 Bxd4 17.Rc7

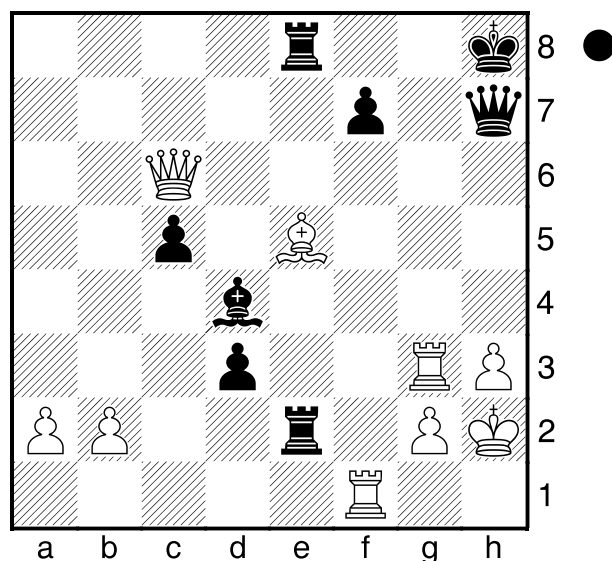


Rfc8 18.Rxe7 Rc2 19.Bf4 Rxa2 20.e5
Kf8 21.Rxb7 Re8 22.Bd1 Rb2 23.Bc1
Rb1 24.Bc2 Rb5 25.Bh6+ Kg8 26.Ba4
Nxa4 27.Rxb5 Nc3 28.Rb7 a5 29.Re1
a4 30.Be3 Bxe3 31.Rxe3 Nd5 32.Rf3
1-0

□ **Erigaisi Arjun**
■ **Shakhriyar Mamedyarov**
Meltwater Champions Chess Tour Finals (4.4)

Black's loose kingside was the deciding factor, and 33.Be5+!! was a classic interference sacrifice to end the game.
1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nf3 d6 4.Bc4 Nf6
5.Qe2 Nc6 6.h3 e5 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.0-0
0-0 9.Rd1 Qe7 10.Nc3 h6 11.Nd5
Nxd5 12.Bxd5 Nd4 13.Nxd4 exd4
14.Bf4 Re8 15.e5 c6 16.Bb3 c5
17.Qd2 g5 18.Bg3 Be6 19.Bxe6 Qxe6
20.f4 gxf4 21.Bxf4 Qg6 22.Rf1 Bxe5
23.Bxh6 Re6 24.Bf4 Rae8 25.Rf3 Bg7
26.Rg3 Qh7 27.Rf1 Re2 28.Qa5 Rxc2
29.Qxa7 Kh8 30.Qxb7 d3 31.Kh2 Bd4
32.Qc6 Rce2 33.Be5+!!

(Diagram)

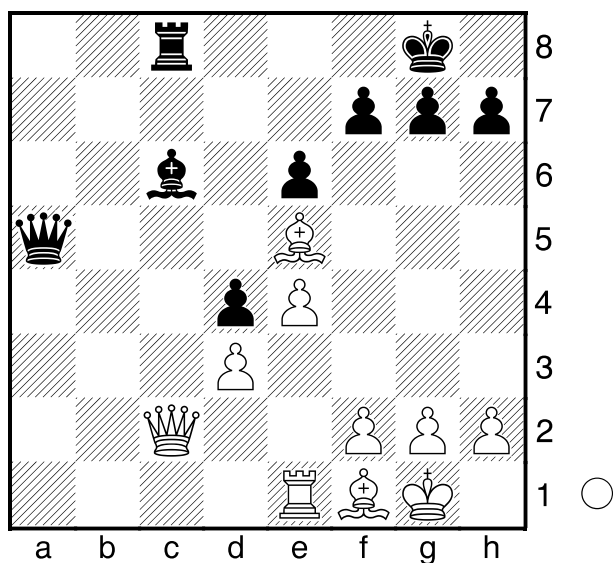


1-0

□ **Nunn,John D M** **B30**
■ **Birnboim,Nathan** **2580**
FIDE WSCC 65 2022 (7.1) **2361** 22.11.2022

B06 White's desperado exchange sacrifice on move 25 sets up a lovely one-two punch at the end. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e6 4.0-0 Nge7 5.c3 a6 6.Ba4 b5 7.Bc2 Bb7 8.Re1 d5 9.a4 d4 10.cxd4 cxd4 11.axb5 axb5 12.Rxa8 Bxa8 13.Bd3 Qb6 14.Na3 Ng6 15.Bxb5 Bxa3 16.Qa4 0-0 17.bxa3 Nge5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.Bf1 Rb8 20.d3 Bc6 21.Qc2 Qa5 22.Bd2 Qxa3 23.Bf4 Rc8 24.Bxe5 Qa5

(Diagram)



25.Bxg7! Qxe1 26.Bh6 Bd7 27.Qb2 e5
28.Qb6 Be6 29.Qb5!
1-0

C89

□ **Lu,Shanglei**

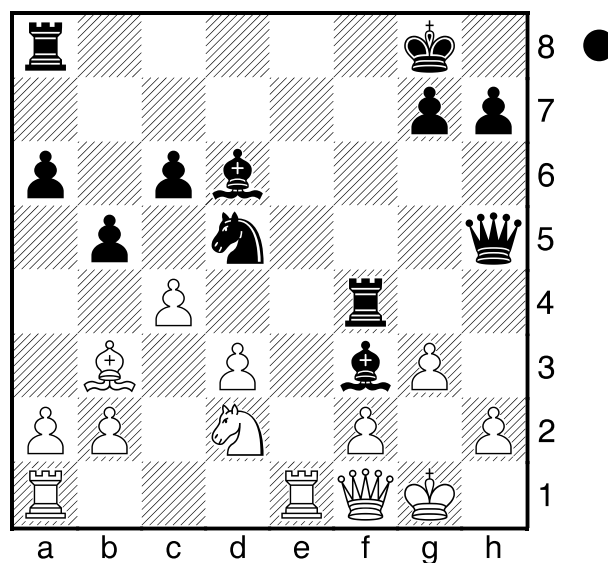
■ **Wojtaszek,Radoslaw**

FIDE WTC-KO 202 (1.1)

23.11.2022

A theoretical duel in the Marshall Attack goes bad for black on the 21st move, where 21...bxc4 was preferred. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.c3 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.Rxe5 c6 12.d3 Bd6 13.Re1 Qh4 14.g3 Qh3 15.Qf3 Bg4 16.Qg2 Qh5 17.Be3 Bf3 18.Qf1 f5 19.Nd2 f4 20.Bxf4 Rxf4 21.c4

(Diagram)



Rf6? 22.Nxf3 Nf4 23.c5+ Kh8 24.Bd1
Nh3+ 25.Kg2 Bxc5 26.d4 Bxd4
27.Nxd4 Qd5+ 28.Nf3 Ng5 29.Re5
1-0

C56

□ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi**

2724

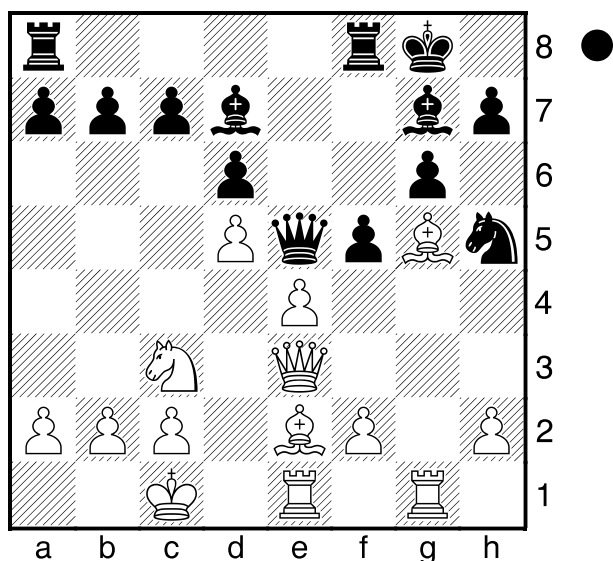
■ **Nihal Sarin**

2670

4th Tata Steel India Rapid Open 2022 (3.1)

Black's energetic play throughout made the difference here, but the tide turned on move 17, where white might have stopped 17...f4! by playing that move himself. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 d6 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Bg4 6.d5 Nd4 7.Be3 Nxf3+ 8.gxf3 Bd7 9.Rg1 g6 10.f4 exf4 11.Bxf4 Bg7 12.Qf3 Qe7 13.0-0-0 0-0 14.Rde1 Nh5 15.Bg5 Qe5 16.Qe3 f5 17.Be2?

(Diagram)

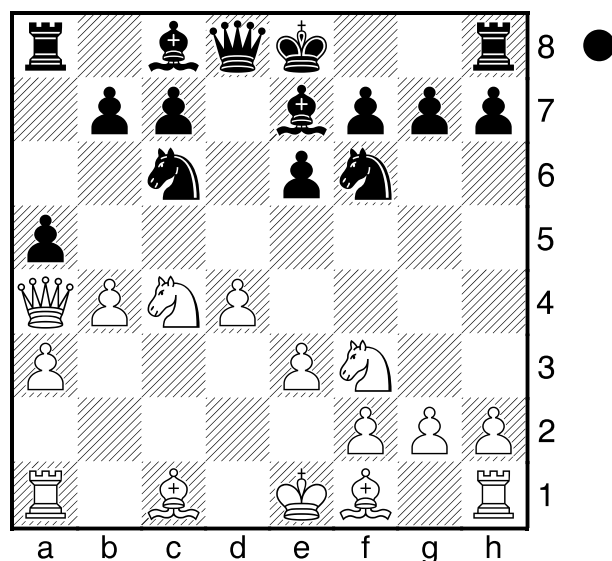


f4 18.Qd3 f3! 19.Bd1 Nf4 20.Bxf4 Qxf4+ 21.Kb1 Qxh2 22.Rgf1 Bh3 23.Rh1 Qxf2 24.e5 Bf5 25.Qc4 Bxe5 26.Rxe5 dxe5 27.d6+ Kh8 28.Qxc7 h5 29.d7 Qd4 30.Bxf3 Rad8 31.Qxb7 Rxd7 32.Qb5 Bxc2+ 33.Kxc2 Rxf3 34.Qc6 Rf2+ 35.Kb1 Qd3+ 36.Ka1 Rf1+ 37.Rxf1 Qxf1+ 38.Nb1 Qf5
0-1

E11
 2760
So, Wesley
Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar
 2741
 4th Tata Steel India Rapid Open 2022 (3.5)

A wild fight. Black chased white's queen around, more fireworks ensued, and a huge lead in development eventually netted him the exchange for the win.
 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 Bb4+ 4.Nbd2 d5 5.Qa4+ Nc6 6.a3 Be7 7.e3 a5 8.b4 dxc4 9.Nxc4?!

(Diagram)

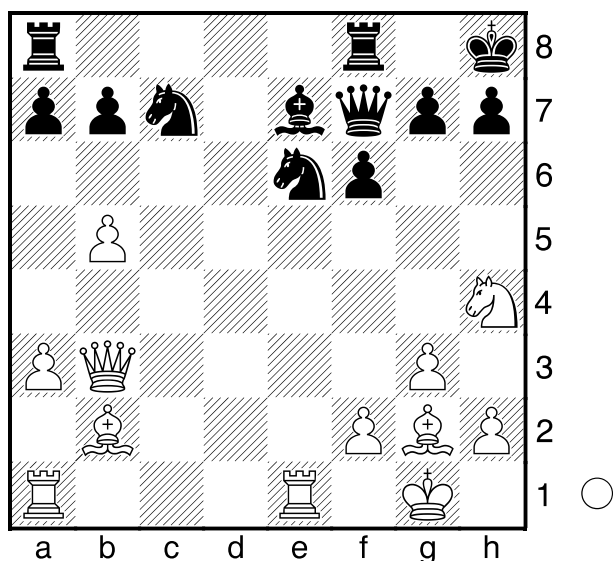


b5! 10.Qxb5 Bd7 11.Qg5 axb4 12.Qxg7 Rg8 13.Qh6 bxa3 14.Be2 Rxc2 15.Nfe5 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Rg8 17.Bf3 Qb8 18.e4 Qb3 19.Qe3 Bb4+ 20.Bd2 Qb2 21.Nxd7 Nxd7 22.Bxb4 Qxa1+ 23.Ke2 Qb2+ 24.Qd2 c5 25.e5 Rb8 26.Bc3 Qxd2+ 27.Kxd2 cxd4 28.Bxd4 Rb3 29.Rc1 Ke7 30.Bd1 Rb5 31.Rc7 Rd5 32.Ke3 Rb8 33.Bc2 Kd8 34.Ra7 Nxe5 35.Be4 Ra5
0-1

A34
 2725
Gukesh D
Abdusattorov, Nodirbek
 2713
 4th Tata Steel India Rapid Open 2022 (6)

A nice little combination on the 23rd move gives white revenge over his loss to the same opponent at the Olympiad.
 1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 c5 3.Bg2 Nc6 4.c4 d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.0-0 e5 7.Nc3 Nc7 8.a3 f6 9.e3 Be7 10.d4 cxd4 11.exd4 exd4 12.Ne2 Ne6 13.b4 0-0 14.Bb2 d3 15.Nc1 Nc7 16.Nxd3 Bf5 17.Qb3+ Kh8 18.Nf4 Qe8 19.b5 Nd8 20.Nh4 Be6 21.Nxe6 Ndx6 22.Rfe1 Qf7

(Diagram)

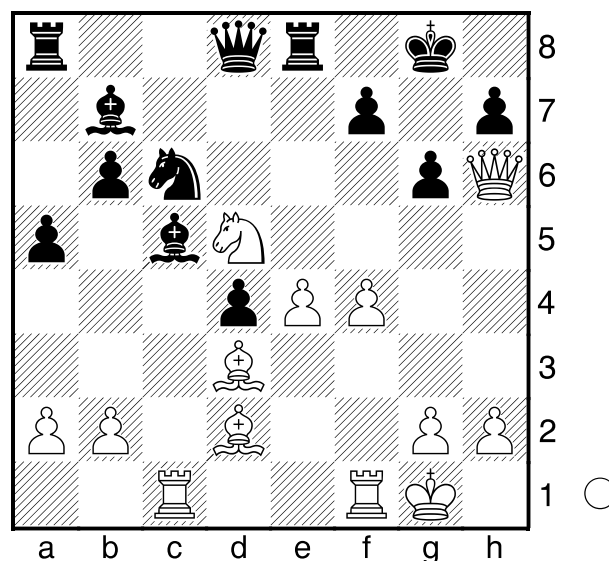


23.Rxe6! Qxe6 24.Qxe6 Nxe6 25.Re1 Bc5 26.Rxe6 Rae8 27.Rxe8 Rxe8 28.Kf1 Rd8 29.Ke2 Re8+ 30.Kd3 b6 31.Be4 Bxf2 32.Nf3 Kg8 33.g4 Kf7 34.a4 g6 35.Bd5+ Ke7 36.Nd4 Kd6 37.Be4 Ke5 38.Ne2+ Ke6 39.Nf4+ Kf7 40.Bd5+ Ke7 41.Ba3+ Bc5 42.Bxc5+ bxc5 43.Bc6 Rf8 44.a5 Kd6 45.Kc4 f5 46.g5 Ke5 47.Nd3+ Kd6 48.Nxc5 f4 49.Ne4+ Ke5 50.b6 axb6 51.a6 Rf7 52.Bb7 b5+ 53.Kb4 f3 54.a7 Rf8 55.a8Q Rxa8 56.Bxa8
1-0

E52
 ♖ **Ushenina,Anna** **2454**
 ♜ **Dzagnidze,Nana** **2517**
 4th Tata Steel India Rapid Women 2022 (11.1)

A nice attacking miniature from a Pillsbury style formation. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd2 d5 6.Nf3 b6 7.cxd5 exd5 8.Bd3 Bb7 9.0-0 a6 10.Ne5 Bd6 11.f4 c5 12.Rc1 Nc6 13.Ng4 Nxc4 14.Qxc4 cxd4 15.Nxd5 Bc5 16.Qh3 g6 17.e4 a5 18.Qh6 Re8

(Diagram)

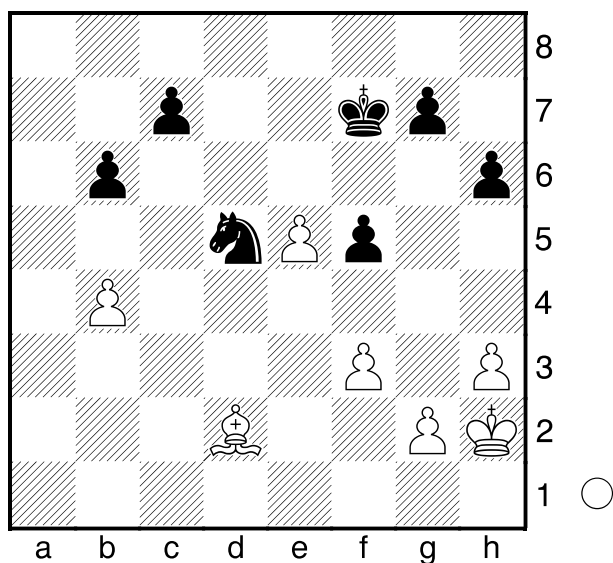


19.Rxc5! bxc5 20.f5 Re5 21.Bg5
1-0

C50
 ♖ **Kosteniuk,Alexandra** **2521**
 ♜ **Goryachkina,Aleksandra** **2584**
 FIDE Womens Candidates Pool-B 2022-23 (1.3)

A text-book good knight vs bad bishop ending. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.d3 Nf6 5.Nc3 h6 6.h3 d6 7.Na4 Bb6 8.a3 Be6 9.Bxe6 fxe6 10.0-0 0-0 11.b4 Qe8 12.c3 Kh8 13.Ra2 Qf7 14.Re1 Rad8 15.Nxb6 axb6 16.a4 Ne7 17.a5 Ra8 18.Qb3 bxa5 19.Rxa5 Ng6 20.d4 Nd7 21.Be3 b6 22.Ra2 Rxa2 23.Qxa2 exd4 24.cxd4 Nf6 25.Qc2 Nh5 26.Rc1 Nh4 27.Ne1 d5 28.Kh2 dxe4 29.Qxe4 Nd5 30.Nd3 Qf5 31.Qxf5 exf5 32.Rc6 Rf6 33.Rxf6 Nxf6 34.Bd2 Kg8 35.f3 Kf7 36.Ne5+ Nxe5 37.dxe5 Nd5

(Diagram)

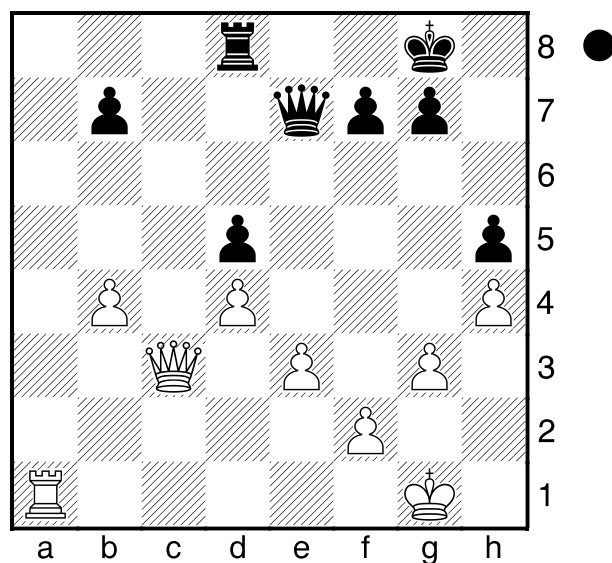


38.f4 Ke6 39.Kg3 Ne7 40.Kf3 Kd5
41.g4 g6 42.Be1 Nc6 43.gxf5 gxf5
44.Ke3 Kc4 45.Ke2 Nd4+ 46.Ke3 Ne6
47.Bd2 Kb3 48.Ke2 Kc2 49.Ke1 c5
50.b5 Kd3 51.Ba5 Kc4 52.Bxb6 Kxb5
53.Ba7 Nxf4 54.Kd2 Kc4 55.Bb8 Kd5
56.h4 h5 57.Ba7 Kd4 58.Bb8 Ne6
59.Kc2 Ke3 60.Kc3 f4 61.Kc4 f3
62.Kd5 Nf4+
0-1

□ **Hans Moke Niemann** **A20 2699**
 ■ **Nikoloz Kacharava** **2532**
 El Llobregat Open Chess (3.2) 02.12.22

Black loses a pawn in the opening, and a later desperate attempt at white's king backfires in predictable fashion. 1.c4 e5 2.g3 c6 3.Nf3 e4 4.Nd4 d5 5.cxd5 Qxd5 6.Nc2 Nf6 7.Nc3 Qe5 8.Bg2 Bc5 9.b4 Be7 10.Bb2 a5 11.Qb1 axb4 12.Nxe4 Qe6 13.Nxf6+ Bxf6 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Qxb4 Na6 16.Qb1 0-0 17.0-0 Rd8 18.d4 Nc7 19.e3 Qe7 20.Nb4 Be6 21.Qb2 Nd5 22.a3 Nxb4 23.axb4 Rxa1 24.Rxa1 Bd5 25.Bxd5 cxd5 26.Qc3 h5 27.h4

(Diagram)

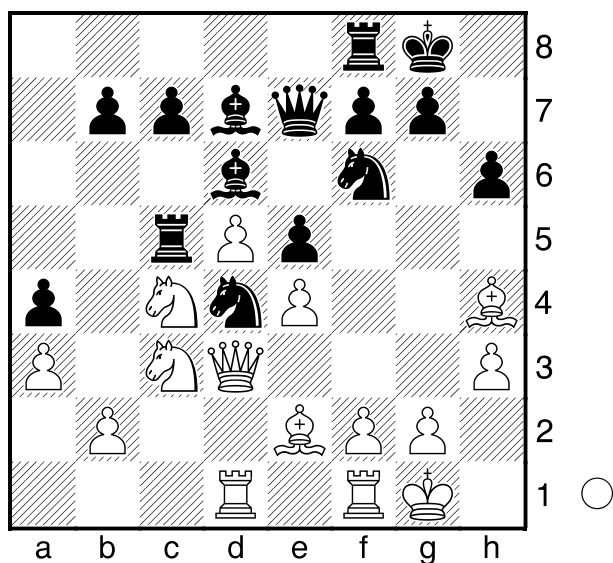


g5 28.hxg5 h4 29.gxh4 Qd7 30.f3 Qh3 31.Qc7 Rc8 32.Qf4 f5 33.h5 Kh7 34.Qd6 f4 35.Qxf4 Rc2 36.Qf7+
1-0

□ **Tan,Zhongyi** **D23 2514**
 ■ **Lagno,Kateryna** **2563**
 FIDE Womens Candidates Pool-B 2022-23 (1.5)

White's powerful central play punishes black's misguided rook adventures on the queenside. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.Qa4+ Nc6 6.a3 Bd7 7.Qxc4 Bd6 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 0-0 10.e4 e5 11.d5 Na5 12.Qd3 Nb3 13.Rd1 a5 14.Be2 Qe7 15.0-0 a4 16.h3 Ra5 17.Nd2 Nd4 18.Nc4 Rc5

(Diagram)

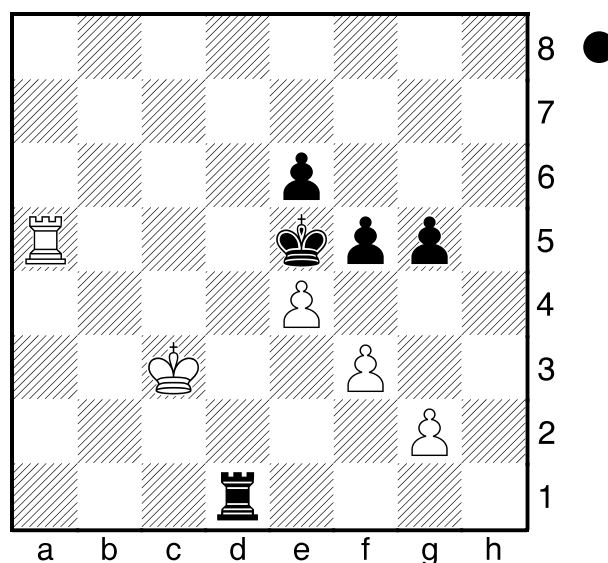


19.f4! Nxe2+ 20.Qxe2 exf4 21.Bxf6
gxf6 22.Nxd6 Qxd6 23.Qh5 Qe5
24.Qh4 Qg5 25.Qxf4 Kg7 26.Qf2 Rc4
27.Rd3 Qe5 28.Kh1 f5 29.exf5 Qf6
30.d6 Bc6 31.dxc7 Kh7 32.Rfd1 Rg8
33.Rg3 Rc8 34.Qe2 Rh4 35.Nd5 Bxd5
36.Rxd5 Rxc7 37.Qe8 h5 38.Rd8
Rc1+ 39.Kh2
1-0

D12
 Hans Moke Niemann **2699**
 Jingyao Tin **2562**
 III Elllobregat Open Chess (7.1) 06.12.22

An instructive rook ending. White's error on the 39th move only encourages the enemy king to move forward, and black finishes with a nice sacrificial breakthrough. 1.c4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 Bf5 5.Nc3 e6 6.Nh4 Be4 7.f3 Bg6 8.Qb3 Qc7 9.Bd2 Be7 10.cxd5 Nxd5 11.Nxg6 hxg6 12.0-0-0 Nxc3 13.Bxc3 a5 14.a3 b5 15.Bd2 a4 16.Qc3 Qb6 17.Kb1 0-0 18.h4 Na6 19.Qc2 b4 20.Bxa6 Rxa6 21.axb4 Bxb4 22.h5 Bxd2 23.Rxd2 a3 24.b3 a2+ 25.Ka1 Ra3 26.Rd3 gxh5 27.Rxh5 Rb8 28.Rc5 Rxb3 29.Rxb3

Qxb3 30.Qxb3 Rxb3 31.e4 Rd3
32.Rxc6 Rxd4 33.Rc2 g5 34.Kxa2 Kg7
35.Kb3 Kf6 36.Kc3 Ke5 37.Ra2 Rd1
38.Ra7 f5 39.Ra5+?



Kf4 40.exf5 exf5 41.Ra4+ Ke3 42.Ra5
g4 43.Rxf5 g3 44.f4 Kf2 45.Rg5 Kxg2
46.f5 Rd5 47.Kc4 Ra5 48.Kd3 Kf3
49.Kd4 g2 50.Kc4 Ra4+
0-1

Richard Hack

Tales from the Chess Café

Maybe a game is like a double attempt to make order out of chaos. But we start with the order of the original position and rearrange it artfully, we hope, to produce an advantage in the battle to control the board and gain the full point. In the practical struggle, one or both sides push order back down into chaos as they position themselves and dissolve other structures. In competing for a winning position, an early or late mistake can be fatal. A soon-to-be winner can draw or lose from irresolution, wrong sequencing, miscalculation, lack of courage, or just overreach. Then there is the beauty of understanding that lights one up when thorough investigation produces the path to follow to get the win and relieve the pressure at last.

Are the creation myths linked to chess and other forms of competition that go by a clear rulebook and code of conduct? Something “Laskerian” was quoted from Tal at the café, “Take your opponent into the forest where $2+2 = 5$, and there’s only room for one player to get out.” Which might fuel a desire to have a chess analyst who is also psychologically aware of quicker remedies than talk therapy for troubled players who lose focus at certain times and suffer from streaky play of the bad kind. Assisted by other beacons in the darkness like words from that person in your life, or another player, director, organizer.

[This link](#) gives us the first of six dispatches from Jerusalem 2022 written by WIM Alexey Root, Ph.D., on the recent World Team Championship. She also did 43 video interviews one to two minutes long with people like Gadir Guseinov, Maxime Vachier-Lagrave, and Hans Neimann.

A small correction and apology to John Donaldson when I called him “coach” instead of “captain” of the U.S. team in Jerusalem. I actually knew better from a couple of years ago, but tried to impose another meaning on the real one. John was quoted after the tournament, “The U.S. lost because they failed to convert winning positions.” Always a straight shooter and encouraging about the story that might have been.

Another type of player is the overwhelming immortal who has reached heights untouched by many. In John Donaldson’s *Bobby Fischer and His World*, Peter Biyiasas speaks about how it felt to lose 17 straight blitz games when Bobby visited. He couldn’t see how he did it, but the result of every game was the same, and he finally had to stop. “It just wasn’t interesting.”

Another is the average-level player of whom there are many. They work to understand some of the learning of the masters. They love the game and provide a major part of the audience, more so than those who achieve expertise and mastery.

The pleasure one takes from inquiring into a game and feeling it deeply at times, lets it teach greater appreciation of life and the ways of creating and understanding one more of a million examples of good play. “There’s a story in every game,” FM Paul Whitehead likes to say, encouraging players to read it for themselves, develop their own ideas about the game, and write the story in one form or another whenever they play.

For more information about the Chess Café – and to join the conversation – look [here](#).

More on Meltwater, Magnus Group, and the Mechanics' Institute

The Meltwater Champions Chess Tour wrapped up here in San Francisco on November 20, with World Champion Magnus Carlsen the decisive winner. [Here](#) are the full results.

The Mechanics' Institute is proud of its association with the Finals – we attended the opening ceremony at SHACK15 in the Ferry Building where the event was held, [hosted](#) GMs Anish Giri, Ramesh Pragganandhaa, and Wesley So at the club, and provided chess sets and boards used for skittles and other promotional events. Our staff and club members were interviewed and feted by the organizers throughout. We enjoyed the company of television presenters IM Tania Sachdev and Sverre Krogh Sundbo, and that of Play Magnus organizers Annemarta Strand Mugaas, Konrad Becker, and Will Stewart.

Highlights of the local chess community's engagement can be found on chess24's [YouTube channel](#), hosted by Ms. Sachdev. Here are our favorite moments:

- Juliana Gallin talking about [organizing](#) the [Bernal Chess Club](#) here in San Francisco.
- IM John Donaldson on the [changes](#) that have taken place in the chess world.
- TNM regular Drew Clark on being a [local chess fan](#).
- Local organizer Allyson Wong [hangs out](#) with GM Christopher Yoo, and talks up [femchess](#).
- Mechanics' Institute Chess Coordinator FM Paul Whitehead takes a [trip down](#) Memory Lane.
- Hip-Hop Chess Federation founder Adisa Banjoko [riffs](#) on music, martial arts and chess.
- IM Elliott Winslow [marvels](#) at the changes in the chess world.
- TNM regular and upcoming junior Sebastian "Sebby" Suarez talks about [meeting his chess heroes](#).

This was an incredible opportunity for chess fans to meet their idols, and we are already looking forward to next year's final – again scheduled for San Francisco!

Henry Lien

ChessPals

If you are reading this newsletter, it is because you love chess as much as I do. You know that chess is a dynamic strategic game that uses your brain and how much fun it is to compete, win or lose. My name is Henry Lien, and I am currently a junior in high school in Marin County. I love chess so much that I started a nonprofit, ChessPals, to teach chess for free to elementary school students after school in Marin County in 2018. I saw how quickly the kids learned the basics of the game and how much they enjoy playing every week. I realized that a lot of schools and families do not have the resources to pay for an after-school chess program so many children are not being exposed to this wonderful game. According to Edsource.org, for every child entered into an afterschool program, three are either unable to enter a program or even have the opportunity to do so. We work every day to change this reality.

In Marin County, we currently have 4 teachers who are teaching in 5 schools and have taught over 400 kids this year. Currently, ChessPals has chapters in three regions in California and we are continuing to expand nationally. We are seeking high school chess players who want to expand the program into the Peninsula, South Bay, and East Bay and teach chess in their communities. Our teachers receive community service hours and leadership experience, but equally as important, they develop true mentoring and bonded relationships with our youth. We truly strive to foster and develop a sense of community through our love for chess.

As Abel Talamantez, the Chess Program Director at Hamilton K-8 School in Novato, CA said, "The importance of chess programs in schools and the roles of chess clubs in providing a space for people to develop their skills and socialize with others, cannot be stressed enough. Chess teaches critical thinking, but it also teaches fundamental social skills such as sportsmanship, and learning from mistakes."

At ChessPals, we help students gain confidence in their chess abilities, and take youth to local tournaments to compete and learn with their fellow peers. Recently, Talamantez ran one of these local tournaments, and we coached 7 kids from our summer camp to compete there. All of them placed high in their standings, with 2 of them even placing in the Top 15. It was very moving for all of us as it gave students a sense of confidence and accomplishment that their work over the summer was worthwhile. One of my students, Robert, was crying at the end of the tournament and I couldn't figure out why. I then asked his mom and she said that he was not crying because he could not win all of his games, but because he got to play with his friends and other students in his first tournament.

According to Talamantez, "I think chess clubs that promote the joy and fun of chess while providing opportunities for competition is the best way to create lifelong learners and players that stay engaged with the game. Whether it be a scholastic chess club, or a larger more organized club, it really is all about the people. If a club can establish and promote a strong sense of community and belonging among the players, it makes for a very special and unique thing."

For any student interested in bringing ChessPals to their community, we have developed a full curriculum, guided by the principles of Courage, Curiosity, and Learning using chesskids.com as a foundation. We will train new leaders how to do outreach, attract students, and oversee the program. And, we provide all the funding as well for chess boards and membership to chesskids.com. To learn more about our non-profit organization, visit Chesspals.org. Feel free to reach out to me at henry@chesspals.org if you are interested in learning more.

Seeking Scholastic Chess Coaches

Are you interested in joining the team at Mechanics' Institute? The Institute is currently seeking Scholastic Chess Instructors for the upcoming school year. Qualified candidates should have a foundational knowledge of chess and should be familiar with or willing to learn chess instructional techniques. Candidates should also have a basic foundation in classroom management and conflict resolution strategies, particularly working with children. This is an in-person position and candidates must be able to commute to schools in San Francisco. If you're interested follow the link below or reach out to our Chess Program Manager, Alex Robins, at arobins@milibrary.org.

[Employment Opportunities | Mechanics' Institute \(milibrary.org\)](#)

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.

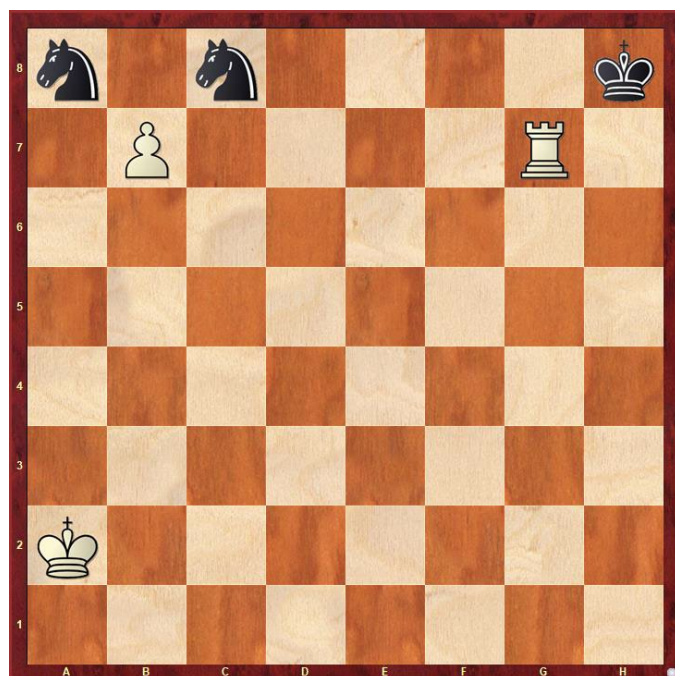


White to move and win. From *606 Puzzles for Chess Nuts* (2008), by Wilson and Albertson. Steven provides a hint from GM Jesus de la Villa: the knight is "Slow but dangerous." The answer is given below, under Solutions.

Tony's Teasers



1. A.V. Lebedev, 1930.
White mates in 2 moves.



2. H. Froberg, 1947.
White mates in 3 moves.

Upcoming Events

Tournaments

Felix German Memorial Tuesday Night Marathon – Ongoing

Tuesdays, November 11-December 20, 2022. 6:30pm. USCF + FIDE Rated. 7 Round SS G/120;d5
Information and [link](#) to register.

Monthly Scholastic Swiss – In Person

Saturday, December 10, 2022, 10am. USCF Rated. 4 games of G/30;d5.
Information and [link](#) to register.

Monthly Championship Quads

Saturday, December 10, 2022, 3pm. 3 games of G/40;d5.
Information and [link](#) to register.

4th Annual Donaldson Championship G/90+30 (FIDE rated)

Saturday-Sunday, December 17-18, 10am. 4 games of G/90+30
Information and [link](#) to register.

All tournament participants must wear masks until further notice

Classes

Free Women's Online Class with FIDE Trainer Sophie Adams - Ongoing

Every Sunday from 10am-12pm. Information and [link](#) to register.

Introduction to Chess: Free Class for Mechanics' Institute Members with FM Paul Whitehead

7 classes, in person. Wednesdays, November 16-December 28, 2022, 5-6pm.
Information and [link](#) to register.

Other Offerings

Chess Café, Mondays 4-5:30pm, ongoing.

Information and [link](#) to register.

Chess Social, First Fridays 5-6pm, See attached flyer.

Solutions

Library Puzzle: 1.Qc4+!! Kxc4 (Taking with the rook is illegal, and if 1...Kd6 2.Qc5+ wins the black queen) 2.Ne3#!

Tony's Teaser Problem #1: 1.Qb4! Threatens 2.Qb2# and sets up the Interference Theme, e.g. 1...Rb3 2.Nc2#, or 1...Bb3 2.Qc3#.

Tony's Teaser Problem #2: 1.Rg1! The only square which allows the emerging queen her full range, e.g. 1...Ne7 2.b8=Q+! Kh7 3.Qh2#. Or 1...Nd6 2.bxa8=Q+! Kh7 3.Qh1#. Or 1...Kh7 2.bxc8=Q! anywhere 3.Qh3#.



MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE

Since 1854

Join the Chess Room for Chess Socials!

Free and encouraged for MI Members

5-6pm

First Fridays of the month:

December 2nd

January 6th

February 3rd

March 3rd

April 7th

May 5th

Unwind from the week with fellow chess players. We'll have rousing game replays on the big screen, snacks, and lively conversation. Wine available for purchase in the Meeting Room provided before the CinemaLit program. Stick around for CinemaLit at 6pm!

Questions?

Contact chessroom@milibrary.org



Contact Us

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

Our phone number is (415) 393-0110.

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

chessroom@milibrary.org

With over 3,000 books and periodicals, The Mechanics' Institute boasts one of the largest chess book collections in the U.S.



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

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