

Chess Room Newsletter

Issue #1038 | June 10, 2023 | Gens Una Sumus!



Mechanics' Institute Trustee **Neil Falconer** presented the Falconer Award to then 15-year old **Vinay Bhat** back in 2002, alongside fellow trustees (left to right) FM **James Eade**, IM **Vincent McCambridge** and FM **Mark Pinto**. Join us at 6pm on June 20, when now-GM Bhat will give a talk on his new book *How I Became a Chess Grandmaster*, followed by his participation in the Summer Celebration Blitz! More information about the Falconer Award can be found in our last Newsletter, [here](#).

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Recent Tournaments at Mechanics' Institute

On May 13, the Mechanics' Institute hosted our monthly double-header of **Scholastic Swiss** in the morning, **Quads** in the afternoon.

The Quads had a great turnout of 64 players competing in 16 sections, and FM **Erdine Baasansuren** (2269) handily won the top quad with a perfect 3-0 score.

Complete results for the May Quads can be found [here](#).

The May Scholastic Swiss saw 27 players competing in two sections.

Maclain Wells (969) won the 600+ section with a perfect 4-0 score, a point and a half ahead of **Jillian Stevens** (892) and **Dylan Wan** (711) who shared 2nd and 3rd places. Fourth and 5th place on tie-breaks were **Anthony Biggica** (933) and **Nate Bomze** (1113) with 2 points each.

Beckett Beard (121) also scored a perfect 4-0 to take 1st place in the u600 section, while 2nd through 5th places were taken by **Jasper Ding** (376), **Valentino McKenna** (557), **Lina Economou** (427), and **Ryan Morello** (unr.), all scoring 3 points.

Complete results for the May Scholastic Swiss can be found [here](#).

Both the May Quads and Scholastic Swiss were directed by Local TD **Arthur Liou**, assisted by Local TD **Michael Hsu**.

On June 3, the Mechanics' Institute once again hosted our monthly double-header of **Scholastic Swiss** in the morning, **Quads** in the afternoon.

Again the Quads had a great turnout, with 69 players competing in 17 sections. **Aryan Achuthan** (2136) won the top quad with 2.5 points.

Complete results for the June Quads can be found [here](#).

The June Scholastic Swiss had 29 players competing in two sections.

Dominic Matar (1066) took first in the 500+ section with a perfect 4-0 score. Tied for 2nd and 3rd were **Kepler McTiernan** (907) and **Beckett Beard** (590) with 3 points apiece. **Oliver White** (655) took clear 4th with 2.5 points, and **Eli Albuherk** took 5th place with 2 points.

In the u500 section **Akshay Seetharam** (unr.) scored a perfect 4-0 to take the top prize. Tied for 2nd through 5th places were **Sanvi Pawar** (471), **Joselyn Marroquin** (451), **Jonah Dakka-Tong** (unr.), and **Miles Krepelka** (unr.).

Complete results for the June Scholastic Swiss can be found [here](#).

Both the June Quads and Scholastic Swiss were directed by Local TD **Arthur Liou**, assisted by Local TD **Michael Hsu**.

The **2023 Summer Tuesday Night Marathon** kicked off on May 2 with 100 players(!) competing in four sections. This seven-round event finishes up on June 13.

Information, standings, and results can be found [here](#).

The 2023 Summer Tuesday Night Marathon is being co-directed by Senior Tournament Director **Scott Mason** and International Arbiter **Judit Sztaray**.



IM Elliott Winslow

A selection of annotated games from rounds three through six of the Summer TNM annotated by IM Elliott Winslow and the players. All the games from the current TNM can be found [here](#), and games from previous TNM's are in the Tournament [Archive](#).

□ Winslow,Elliott

B14

2193

■ Dasika,Archit

2174

2023 Summer TNM: 2000+ (3.1) 16.05.23

[Winslow,Elliott]

Already in Round 3 a possible key game for the final standings. And it appears I wasn't taking it too seriously. Foggy opening play (and as it turns out, I wasn't prepared at all in this line), bad calculation here and there -- Dasika tried to let me save it but I wasn't up for that... **1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Nf3** A dumb at-the-moment inspiration. In the Tarrasch Queen's Gambit Dubov has led the rush with the line ...cxd4 and ...Bc5. So here I am with an extra tempo. Except that just means it will be that much easier for White to equalize (!). Also, not having the knight on c6 could end up helping Black (new options for it). Anyway, about time I learn this stupid 5...g6 line well enough that I won't be bothered by it ever again.

[6.Qb3 Bg7 7.cxd5 0-0 8.Be2 is the "book line" -- White supposedly winds his way to some advantage (sometimes a positional plus after returning the pawn with d5-d6), but in practice Black has so many ways to "have fun." (8.Nge2 is also a theoretical move, maybe fianchettoing next))]

[6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.Bc4

(More frequently played is 7.Qb3 for instance Nb6 8.d5 Bg7 9.Be3 0-0 10.Rd1) 7...Nb6 8.Bb3 Bg7 9.Nf3 (White has other possibilities which (according to current theory) lead to an equal play: 9.Nge2 0-0 10.0-0 Bf5; 9.Be3 Nc6 10.d5 Ne5 11.Nge2) 9...0-0 This ends up as a line from the Gruenfeld(!) -- or is it a Symmetrical English!?! (I know, not

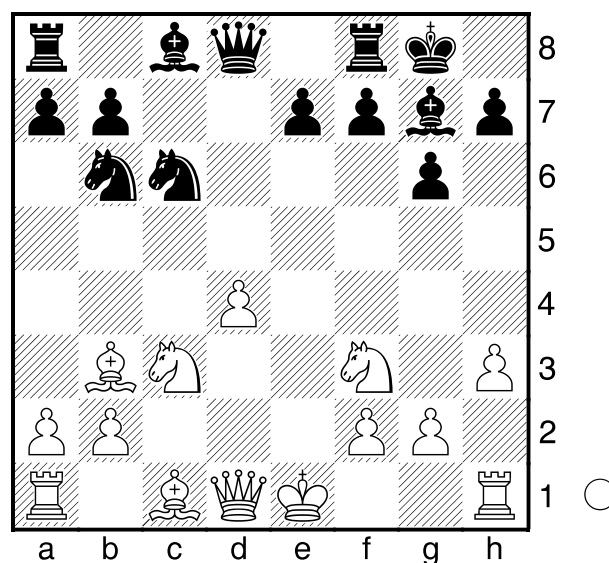
so symmetrical now...)]

6...Bg7 7.cxd5 0-0

[7...Nxd5 8.Bc4 Nxc3 (8...Nb6) 9.Qb3 0-0 could be fine.]

8.h3 (my "free move" on the path to equalizing) **8...Nxd5 9.Bc4 Nb6**

10.Bb3 Nc6



11.Be3 Dull.

[11.d5! is an interesting pawn sacrifice, especially as it has a big transposition factor. And the superstars took a liking to it a few years ago: Na5 12.0-0 Often (maybe more often) this is 12.h3!

A) 12...Bxc3 13.bxc3 Nxb3

14.axb3 Qxd5 takes the pawn, but there must be compensation when White still has the dark squared bishop -- right? 15.Bd2 (15.Qe2 Qe6 16.Qb2 f6 17.c4 Qf7 18.Be3 ½-½ Grischuk,A (2754)-Dominguez Perez,L (2725) London FIDE GP 1st 2012 (2)) 15...Bf5 16.Re1 (16.c4 Qd3 17.Re1 White: 4-0) 16...Be4 17.Ng5 Bxg2 18.c4 Qc6 19.Qg4 h6 20.Ne6 h5 21.Qg3 h4 22.Qg5 Bxh3 23.Nxf8 Rxf8 24.Rxe7 Rd8 25.Re3 Rxd2 26.Rxh3 Rd4 27.Rxh4 Rxh4 28.Qxh4 a6 29.Qd8+ Kg7 30.Rd1

Qe6 31.Qd4+ Kg8 32.Rd3 Na8
33.Re3 Qc8 34.Re7 1-0 Hammer,J
(2651)-Navara,D (2742) Novy Bor
m1 2016 (2);

B) 12...Bf5;

C) 12...Nxb3 13.axb3! (13.Qxb3
Bf5= 0-1 Grinshpun,E-Postny,E/
Israel 2003/EXT 2004 (29)) 13...e6
(13...Bf5!? 14.Re1 Qd6 15.Ra5!
Rfd8 16.g4 Bd7 17.Ne4 Qb8
18.Bg5 f6 19.Bh4 Bc6 20.Nc3
Qc7 21.Qe2 Nxd5 22.Rxd5 Bxd5
23.Nxd5 Qd7 24.Nxe7+ Kh8
25.Qc4 Qd3 26.Kg2 Qxc4
27.bxc4 a5 28.Nd5 b5 29.Bxf6
Bxf6 30.Nxf6 Kg7 31.g5 bxc4
32.Re7+ Kf8 33.Rxh7 c3 34.Ne5
1-0 Matlakov,M (2718)-Wagner,D
(2559) Titled Tuesday intern op
2nd Jan Chess.com INT blitz 2018
(2); 13...Bxc3) 14.d6 Bd7 15.Bf4
Bc6 16.Ne5 Bxe5 17.Bxe5 f6
18.Bg3 Qd7 19.Qd3 Rad8
20.Rad1 Qf7 21.b4 a6 22.Qd4
Na4 23.Nxa4 Bxa4 24.Rd2 e5
25.Qb6 g5 26.Rc1 Bc6 27.f3 Qe6
28.Rxc6 bxc6 29.Qxc6 Rb8
30.Bf2 Rxb4 31.Qxa6 Rd8
32.Qa5 Rbb8 33.Bc5 Qc4 34.d7
Ra8 35.Qc3 Qf7 36.Qd3 Rab8
37.Qa6 Rxd7 38.Rxd7 Qxd7
39.Qxf6 Re8 40.Qxg5+ Qg7
41.Qe3 e4 42.b4 Qg6 43.f4 Rd8
44.Qe2 Rd3 45.Qa2+ Kg7
46.Qa7+ Kg8 47.Qa8+ Kf7 48.g4
1-0 Mamedyarov,S (2759)-Carlsen,
M (2864) Zagreb SuperUnited
Rapid 2022 (5) Well that's worth
noting!]

11...Bf5?!

[11...Na5 Here Black should get right
on it. 12.Bc2 (12.d5!?) 12...Nac4

A) 13.0-0?N Nxb2 14.Qe2
(14.Qc1 N2c4) 14...Qc7
15.Rac1?! (15.Bb3 Qxc3
16.Rac1 Qb4 17.Qxb2 Be6~~7~~)

15...Qxc3 16.Bxg6 (16.Bb3 Qb4
17.Qxb2 Be6~~7~~) 16...Qa3 17.Bb1
Nd5-+ 0-1 Sulskis,S (2570)-Sakaev,
K (2665) FIDE-Wch k.o. Tripoli
2004 (2.1);

B) 13.Qe2 Nxe3 14.fxe3 e5
15.dxe5 Qe7 16.0-0 Bxe5
17.Nxe5 Qxe5 18.Bb3 Be6=
½-½ Dzhumayev,M-Stojanovski,D/
Yerevan 2001/CBM 86 (18);

C) 13.Bc1 Bd7!? (13...Be6=
was played earlier by a couple of
Bay Area imports (Bill has since
moved back to Arkansas): 14.0-0
Rc8 15.Re1 h6 16.a4 Qd7 17.a5
Nd5 18.a6 b6 19.Ba4 Qc7
20.Nb5 Qb8 21.Bc2 Nd6
0-1 Orton,W (2230)-Donaldson,J
(2415) US Open-99 Kailua Kona
1998 (6)) 14.b3 Nd6 15.Bb2 Bc6
16.0-0 Nd5 17.Nxd5 Bxd5 18.Re1
Rc8 19.Rc1 Bh6 20.Nd2 Qa5
0-1 Veal,J-Donaldson,J (2437)
North American op 21st Stillwater
2002 (10)]

12.0-0

[12.a3!?]

[12.d5!?]

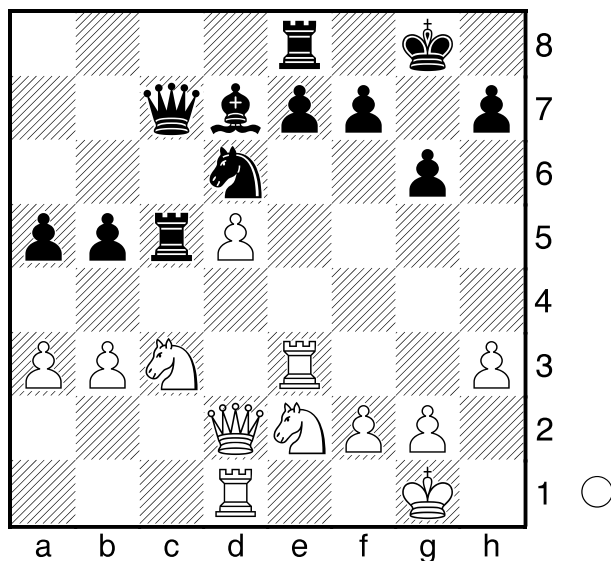
12...Na5 13.d5 (novel here but
transposes) **13...Nac4N**

[13...Bxc3 14.bxc3 Nxb3 15.axb3
Qxd5 16.Nd4 A different take on the
gambit play. I would prefer the 2700
players' approaches. Bd7 17.c4 Qe5
18.Qd2 Qc7 19.Ra5 Rfe8 20.Rfa1
Nc8 21.Nf3 b6 22.Ra6 Bc6 23.Nd4
Bb7 24.R6a2 a6 ½-½ Brull Mayol,C
(2165)-Massanet Massanet,S (2276)
Mallorca-chT Preferente Palma de
Mallorca 2020 (6.2)]

14.Bxc4 Nxc4 15.Bd4 Bxd4 16.Nxd4
[16.Qxd4!?]

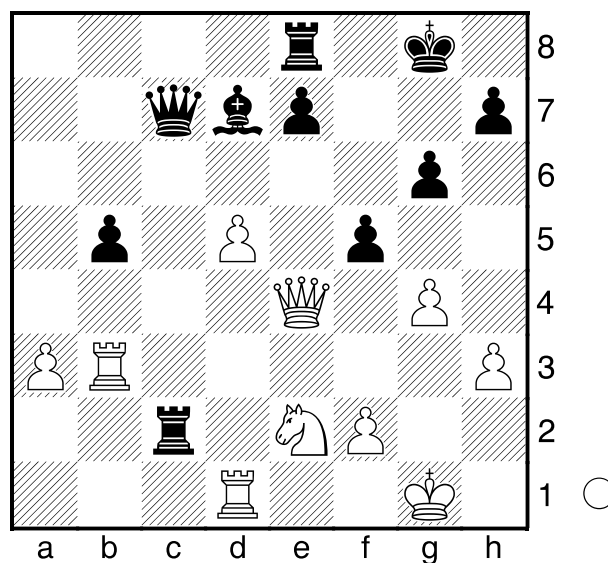
16...Bd7 17.b3 Nd6 18.Qd2 Rc8
19.Rfe1 Re8 20.Re3 Still dreaming of
checkmate **20...Rc5 21.Rd1**
[21.a3]

[21.Rae1]
 [21.Nf3 Qc7 22.Ne4!? Rc2
 23.Nxd6!? Rxd2 24.Nxe8 Bxe8
 25.Nxd2±]
21...Qc7
 [21...Qa5]
22.Nde2 b5 23.a3 (played so that on ...
 b4 and ...Rc2 I wouldn't be hanging the
 a-pawn, but forgot about the other push)
23...a5



24.g4?
 [24.Ng3±]
24...a4!? **25.Ne4**
 [25.Qa2!]
25...Rc2
 [25...Nxe4! 26.Rxe4 axb3 27.Qb2
 Rc4 28.Re3±]
26.Qd3 Nxe4 27.Qxe4
 [27.Rxe4]
27...axb3 28.Rxb3 f5

(Diagram)



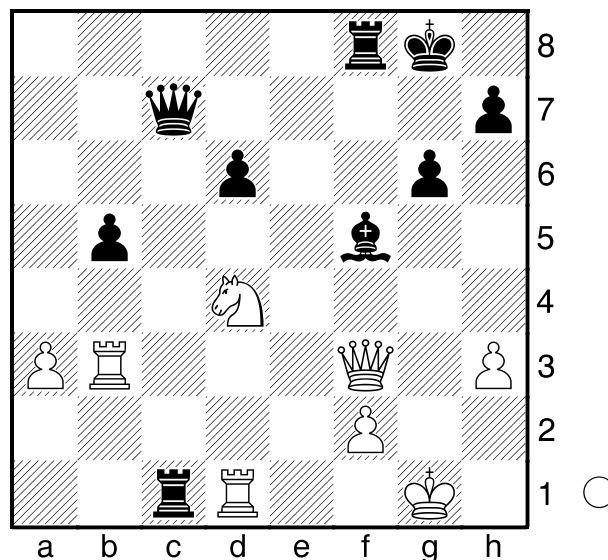
29.gxf5! Bxf5 30.Qf3?! Immediately
 regretted.

[30.Qe3 Bxh3!? (nothing is better or
 worse: it's all "0.00" on the compie.
 31.d6! Qc6! 32.Qxh3 Rxe2 33.d7
 Rd8 34.Rc3 Qf6 35.Rc8 (35.Rf3
 Qe5 36.Rc3) 35...Qxf2+ 36.Kh1
 Re1+ 37.Rxe1 Qxe1+=]

30...Rf8 31.d6?!

[31.Re3!= works out]

31...exd6 32.Nd4 Rc1±



33.Nxb5??

[33.Qd5+ Rf7 (33...Kg7 34.Ne2
 Rxd1+ 35.Qxd1= /±) 34.Nxf5! Rxd1+

35.Qxd1 Rxf5 36.Qd2 Black's extra pawn is impossible to cash in, what with the exposed king(s).]

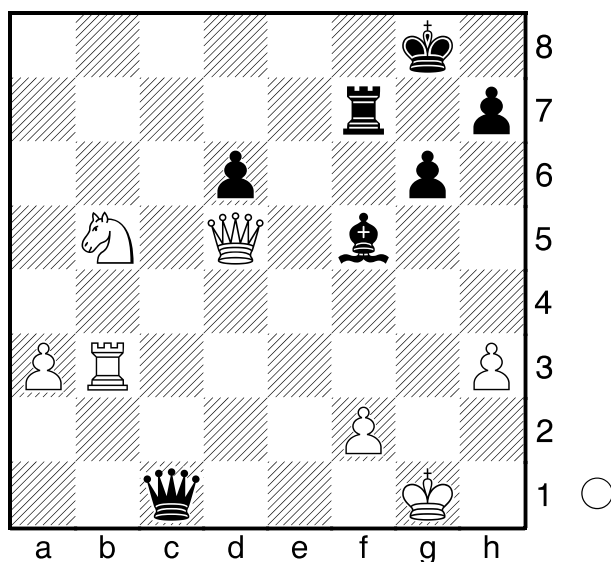
33...Qc2??=

[33...Qc5!-+]

34.Qd5+! Rf7

[34...Kg7 35.Rxc1 Qxc1+ 36.Kg2 Qg5+ 37.Kh1]

35.Rxc1 Qxc1+



36.Kh2??

[36.Kg2!

A) 36...Qf4 37.Nxd6 stops ...Be4+ while hitting f7. Black can draw: Be6 (Well, 37...Qg5+ 38.Kf1 Qc1+= is the perp right away) 38.Qxe6 Qxf2+ 39.Kh1 Qf1+= at least it's scarier...;

B) 36...Qg5+ 37.Kh1!= Looks crazy, but with 38.Nxd6 coming there will be no Black cashing in on the long diagonal. (37.Kf1?? Bxh3+ oops) 37...Be4+ 38.Qxe4 Rxf2 39.Rb1 White could start checking too Qg3! 40.Qc4+! (only move!) Kf8 41.Qc8+ Kf7=]

36...Qf4+ 37.Kg1 Be4 38.Qd4 Qc1+ 39.Kh2 Qh1+ 40.Kg3 Qg2+ 41.Kh4 Rf4#

0-1

D02

□ **Nathan,Nitish Sg**

2151

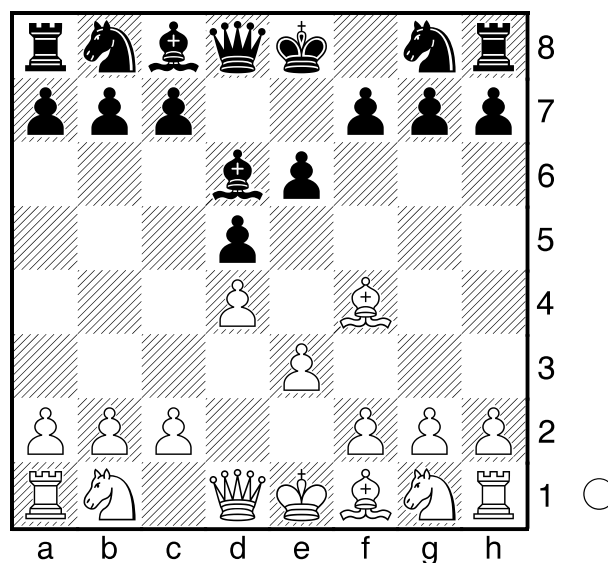
■ **Karthi,Jashith**

2020

2023 Summer TNM: 2000+ (3.3) 16.05.23

[Winslow,Elliott]

Nitish Nathan shows a clean tactic alertness in this modern opening. **1.d4 d5 2.Bf4** The London clearly isn't going away. In fact, it's a pretty good recommendation for someone who doesn't want to have to spend a lot of time learning their opening. Or is it too late? Is there already too much theory on the London? **2...e6 3.e3 Bd6**



Black quickly "puts the question" to the bishop; not quite the same as the Ruy Lopez, where 3...a6 must be answered, but still White has to decide. **4.Bg3** Depending on exactly when you look up, Stockfish might prefer any of this or:

[4.Bxd6]

[4.Qg4!?]

[4.Qf3!?]

[4.Nc3!? (Jobava!)]

4...Nf6 5.Nd2 0-0 6.Ngf3 b6!?

Definitely breaking the symmetry. **7.Bd3 Bb7 8.Ne5 Nbd7 9.c3 Ne4 10.f4**

Stockfish dislikes it, even gives a bit of a plus to Black. And amusingly 10...f6 is

in and out as one of the best replies!

10...c5

[10...Qc8!?]

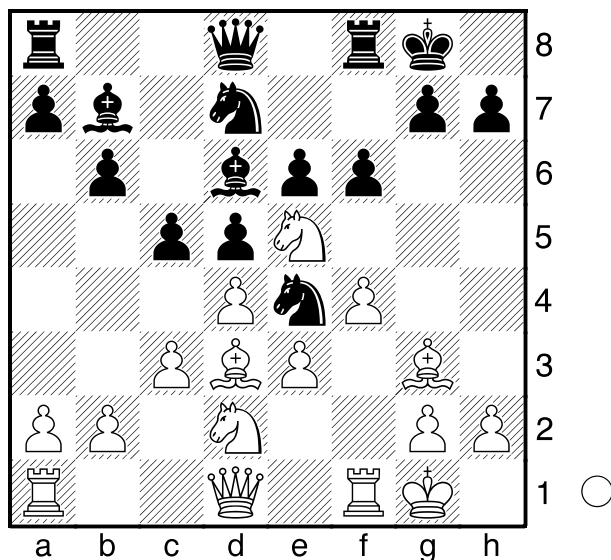
[10...Rc8!?]

11.0-0

[11.Nxe4 dxe4 12.Bb5=]

11...f6?

[11...Nxc3 12.hxc3 Nf6= /≠]



12.Nxe4! dxe4 13.Bc4!+- The London must be taken seriously! Black is lost already! **13...Bd5!** The best try, but it doesn't quite succeed.

[13...fxe5 14.Bxe6+ (14.dxe5+- is equivalent) 14...Kh8 (14...Rf7 15.fxe5) 15.dxe5+-]

14.Bxd5 exd5 15.dxc5! Bxe5

[Again the computer offers 15...Nxe5! 16.Qxd5+ Nf7 17.cxd6 Qxd6 18.Qxe4 Rfe8 but White is still going to win.]

16.Qxd5+ Kh8

[16...Rf7 17.c6]

17.c6! Bxc3 This doesn't really help nor hurt. **18.cxd7 Bxb2 19.Rab1 Ba3**

20.f5 Instead of a pawn or two up, White has one pawn so close to queening -- it'll cost Black a lot more in the not-so-long run. (Oh okay, e4 is going) **20...Qe7 21.Bc7 Bc5 22.Rfd1**

[22.Rbd1]

22...Bxe3+ 23.Kh1 Rfd8 24.Bxd8

[White also had 24.Qxa8]

[and 24.Qe6]

24...Rxd8 25.Qe6! Bc5 26.Rbc1 Qxe6

27.fxe6 Be7 28.Rc8 Kg8 29.Rxd8+

Bxd8 30.e7 Bxe7 31.d8Q+ Bxd8

32.Rxd8+ Kf7 33.Kg1 Ke7 34.Rb8

1-0

A01

□ Khodaverdian,Alex

1476

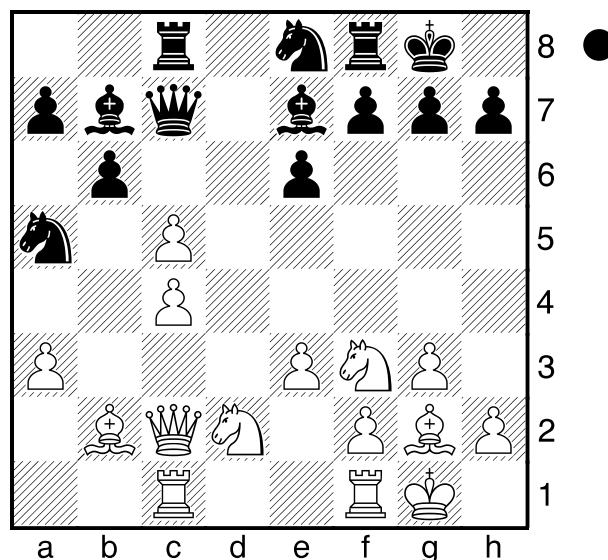
■ Wong,Wilson

1753

2023 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (3.16)

[Wong,Wilson/(Winslow,Elliott)]

Wilson sent in notes to this up and down game, but I really like his defensive play after a point. **1.b3 Nf6 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.Nf3 b6 4.c4 Bb7 5.d4 d5 6.a3 dxc4 7.bxc4 e6 8.g3? Be7 9.Bg2 0-0 10.0-0 Na5 11.Nbd2 c5 12.e3 Rc8 13.Rc1 Qc7 14.Qc2 Ne8 15.dxc5**



Bxc5? A big mistake on my part. I didn't think my position was in any danger, not even calculating potential threats my opponent could make, which led to me recapturing with the wrong piece.

[15...Qxc5!≠]

16.Ng5!± g6! 17.Qc3 e5! 18.Ndf3?

[18.Bxb7 Nxb7 19.f4!±]

18...Qe7?!

[18...h6!? 19.Nxe5! hxc5 20.Nxc6 f6
21.Bxb7 Qxb7 22.Nxf8 Kxf8 23.Rfd1
Qh7!±]

[18...Be7! 19.Bh3 (19.h4 Bf6!)
19...h6!±]

19.Nxe5!= f6

[19...Bxc2

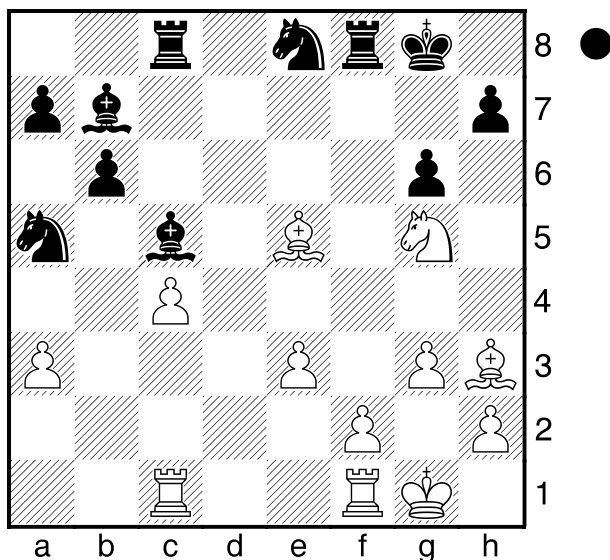
A) 20.Nd3 f6 21.Kxc2 Nd6
22.Nf4! fxc5! playing with fire --
successfully! There is a perpetual
after 23.Nd5 (or 23.Qh8+ Kf7
24.Qxh7+ Ke8 25.Qxe7+ Kxe7
26.Nxc6+ Ke6 27.Nxf8+ Rxf8
Stockfish 15.1 makes it "0.00" and
who are we to argue?) 23...Qd7!
24.Qh8+ Kf7 25.Qf6+ Ke8
26.Qe5+ Kd8 27.Qxc5+ Ke8;
B) 20.Nxc6 Qf6! 21.Qxf6 Nxf6
22.Nxf8! Bxf1 23.Kxf1 Bxf8 (or
23...Be7= 0.00) 24.Bxf6 Bxa3=]

20.Bh3?!

[20.Bxb7 Qxb7 21.Nd3=]

20...Qxe5 21.Qxe5 fxe5 22.Bxe5?

[22.Be6+ Kg7 23.Bxe5+ Nf6±]



22...Rf5!!-+ 23.Bxf5 gxf5 24.Rc3 Be7
25.Ne6 Rxc4

[25...Nxc4 26.Bf4 (26.Rfc1 Bxa3
27.R1c2 b5 28.Nd4 I didn't go for
this because it looked messy and risky
but engine prefers it. a6 -3.68)]

26.Rfc1 Ra4 27.Rc8? Bxc8 28.Rxc8
Kf7 29.Nc7?! Nxc7 30.Rxc7 Nc4
31.Bf4 Ke6 32.Kg2 Nd6 33.Kf3 Rxa3
34.g4 fxg4+ 35.Kxc4 b5 36.f3 b4
37.e4 b3 38.Bxd6

[38.e5 I was worried about this move
and didn't know how to follow up. Ra4
(38...b2 39.exd6 b1Q This is what I
was prepared to play in the game
which would have given away a lot of
my advantage and while I was better,
I didn't know if it was enough.) 39.Rc1
b2 40.Rb1 Nc4 -11.09]

38...Kxd6 39.Rb7 Kc6 40.Rxe7 b2
41.Re6+ Kd7
0-1

□ **Le,Thu**

■ **Cao,Danny Du Uy**

2023 Summer TNM: 1200-1599 (3.31)

[Le,Thu/Cao,Danny/Winslow,Elliott]

D30

1235

1014

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.g3 dxc4 4.Bg2 c5
5.Qa4+ Bd7 6.Qxc4 Qb6 7.Nf3 Nc6
8.e3?!

[8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.0-0± White has a
classic Catalan slight edge (ew)]

8...Nf6 9.0-0 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Nxd4

[10...Na5 11.Qc2 Rc8 12.Qd1

I was bracing myself for this
sequence where White's Queen is
chased back to d1. SF says it's
completely equal, but it's harder to
play for White.]

11.Qxd4 Qxd4 12.exd4 Nd5 13.Nc3
Bc6 14.Nxd5 Bxd5 15.Bxd5 exd5
16.Re1+ Kd7!

[16...Be7?! 17.Bd2! Rc8 18.Bb4
Rc7 19.Rac1! Rxc1 20.Rxc1±]

17.Bf4? Only helps Black's King

[17.Re5! This was the first move that came to mind, but I rejected the idea because Black has Kd6 and f6 Kd6?? (ew & sf: 17...Re8! 18.Rxd5+ Kc6 19.Re5 Rxe5 20.dxe5 Bc5 21.Bd2 Rd8 22.Bc3 Rd3! 23.Re1 Kd5 24.e6!? fxe6 25.Re5+ Kd6 26.Rh5! Rf3! 27.Bxg7 Bxf2+ 28.Kg2 Rf7 29.Bc3 Bb6 30.g4±) But White has this 18.Bf4!]

17...Bd6!? 18.Bxd6 Kxd6 Black has the better positioned king, but White should hold easily. **19.Kf1**

[19.Re3!? Rhe8 20.Rc1 Rac8 21.Rxc8 Rxc8 22.Ra3=]
[19.Rac1]

19...Rac8 20.Re2 Intent to shield off White's King from Black's Rook, so he can walk to the center.

[20.Rac1 Rxc1 (20...Rhe8! is something for Black but not enough to upset the balance.) 21.Rxc1 Re8 White's King is cut off from the center 22.Rc3=]

20...Rhe8 21.Rae1

[21.Rd1 Rxe2 22.Kxe2 Rc2+ 23.Rd2! Rxd2+ 24.Kxd2]

21...Rxe2 22.Rxe2 Rc1+ 23.Re1

I did not want to lose the d-pawn, plus gaining a tempo that allows the White King in the center. SF thinks it's an inaccuracy and prefers that White sac the d-pawn for an active Rook in Black's 7th & 8th rank, but the eval is the same either way.

[23.Kg2 Rd1 24.Re8 Rxd4 25.Rd8+ Ke6 26.Re8+ Kf6 27.Rb8 b6 28.Rb7]

23...Rxe1+!-+

[23...Rc2 24.Re2 (Cao)]
[23...Rc4 24.Rd1? Rc2 25.Rb1 g5!-+ (best of all!) (Danny gave 25...Rc4 26.Rd1; but 25...Rd2 wins a pawn) 26.Ke1 g4!]
[23...Rc4 24.Re8! (active rook!) picks on Black's pawns from behind -- and

should be enough counterplay to draw. (EW)]

24.Kxe1 Kc6!-+ 25.Kd2 Kb5! 26.Kc3 a5?

[(EW:) 26...Ka4! (only move) wins. If there were no pawns on the board but the d-pawns, the move (occupying one of the green circled squares) would win the White d-pawn but only draw (on ...Kxd4 White has Kd2! with the opposition and a draw); but with all those other pawns, and even an extra waiting move in a sense since White already has played g2-g3, it's a win.]

27.a3??

[27.Kb3! draws. In fact, now if White wants there is a2-a4⊕, with the permanent blockade (if ...b5 later, then b2-b3 maintains it). Black has missed his chance. a4+ 28.Kc3 a3 29.b3!]

[27.g4 draws]

[as does 27.h4 but not so easily.]

27...b6??

[27...Ka4!-+ only move again! 28.Kc2 and here I (EW) have yet to understand it: *most* pawn moves win -- but not 28...h6?? h6?? 29.g4! (only move) holds. !?!?!?]

28.b3 Easiest. It so happens, again quixotically, that the only losing moves are the king moving away (d3, d2, c2) and a4 and b4. Every other pawn move and 28.Kb3 draw.

[28.Kd3??]

28...a4 29.f3?

[29.bxa4+? Would have been bad Kxa4]

[29.b4! is the obvious draw -- just keep your king on d3 and c3, preventing ...Kc4.]

[And yet again: the other three pawn moves to the fourth rank 29.f4]

[29.g4]

[29.h4 all are drawn. Sometimes it's

about having extra moves, other times it's about getting there first!]

29...g5??

[29...axb3! (only move) 30.Kxb3 g5 31.a4+ Ka5! The winning plan is: (1) fix the kingside pawns (i.e. get them bumping into each other) with White's king on b3 (2) play ...b5, when the exchange happens and it's the direct opposition, so White has to let Black's king onto a key square on the 4th rank. (3) the d-pawn falls, and it's an easy win.]

30.f4?? Thu: The eval bar starts going nuts from here.

[30.b4=]

30...g4??

[30...axb3 31.Kxb3 g4+- (31...gxf4+-)]
[30...gxf4 31.gxf4 (31.b4) 31...axb3! 32.Kxb3]

31.f5?? Thu: The thinking was to cut off Black's f-pawn from 1) connecting with the g-pawn 2) allow White King to come around and take Black's d-pawn. EW: That's the dream.

[The reality is: 31.b4! locks the game forever!]

31...h6??

[31...axb3]

32.f6??

[32.b4]

32...h5?! This happens to still be winning for a change.

[32...axb3 is still easiest.]

33.b4! Finally! But too late! **33...Kc6!**

34.Kd3

[34.Kd2 Kd6 35.Ke3 Ke6! 36.Kf4! Kxf6 37.b5 Ke6! (only move) 38.Kg5 f5! 39.Kg6!? (39.Kxh5 Kf6)]

34...Kd6! 35.Kc3? This move was essentially taking a bet. I calculated a pawn race where we'll both Queen at the same time vs. defending. And if I lose, well then I'll learn.

[35.b5 Ke6]

35...Ke6 36.b5 Kxf6 37.Kb4 Kf5

38.Kxa4 Ke4! 39.Kb3? Indecision

kicked in. White should have followed through with the original plan to race the pawns, instead of switching to defend against Black's d-pawn.

[39.Kb4 Kxd4 40.a4!]

39...Kxd4 40.a4

[40.Kb4 Ke3 41.a4 d4 42.a5 bxa5+ 43.Kxa5 d3 44.b6 d2 45.b7 d1Q 46.b8Q]

40...Kc5! 41.Kc3 d4+ 42.Kd3 f6

43.Ke4 Kc4 44.a5 f5+? White has a chance to get back into the game \$1

[44...f5+? 45.Ke5! bxa5 46.b6 d3! 47.b7! d2 48.b8Q d1Q]

[44...d3 Black wins on the spot with a M1 here. 45.axb6 d2 46.b7 d1Q 47.b8Q? Qf3#]

45.Kxf5 And...White missed it. Black has Kc5 after taking White's Kingside pawns, and White is a tempo away.

[45.Ke5 Kxb5 46.axb6]

45...Kxb5! 46.axb6 Kxb6 47.Ke4 Kc5!

48.Kd3 Kd5 49.Kd2 Kc4 50.Kc2 Kd5

51.Kd3 Ke5 52.Kd2 Ke4 53.Ke2 d3+

54.Kd2 Kf3

[EW: Of course there was also

54...Kd4 55.Kd1 Ke3 56.Ke1 d2+ 57.Kd1 Kd3 58.h4 gxh3 59.g4 h2 60.gxh5 h1Q#]

55.Kxd3 Kg2 56.Ke3 Kxh2 57.Kf4

Kg2 58.Kg5 Kxg3 59.Kxh5 Kf3

60.Kh4 g3 61.Kh3 Kf2 62.Kg4 g2

63.Kf5 g1Q 64.Ke6 Qg5 65.Kd6 Qf5

66.Kc6 Qe5 67.Kb6 Qd5 68.Ka6 Qb3

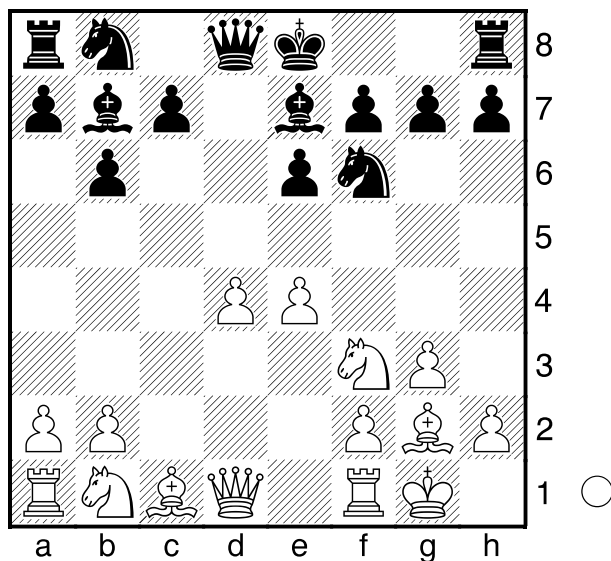
69.Ka7 Ke3 70.Ka6 Kd4 71.Ka7 Kc5

72.Ka8 Kc6 73.Ka7 Qb7#

0-1

Dasika,Archit **E17**
 Wong,Russell **2174**
2200
 2023 Summer TNM: 2000+ (4.1) 23.05.23
[Winslow,Elliott]

Going into this game Dasika was in clear first with 3, while Wong and four others had 2. It didn't start out looking like it, but Russell came through with a tough win. Alas for him, he has lost the next two games while Archit has won both, alone now at the top again. **1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 b6?! 5.Bg2 Bb7 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.0-0 Be7 8.e4± Nf6**



9.Nc3?

[9.Re1! when e4 can't be safely taken.]

9...0-0?

[9...Nxe4!± 10.Qa4+ Bc6 11.Qc2 Nf6]

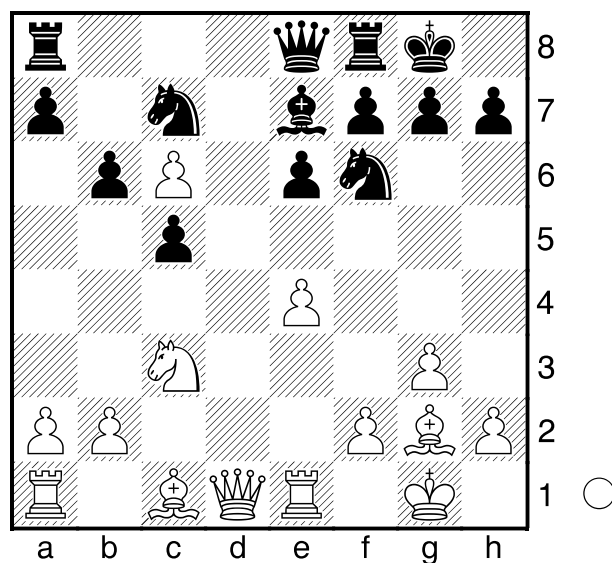
10.Re1 Back on track **10...Na6?!**

11.Ne5 c5 12.d5 Nc7 13.Nc6

[13.Qb3!]

13...Bxc6 14.dxc6 Qe8

(Diagram)



15.Bf4?

[15.Bg5!± Qxc6?? 16.e5]

15...Qxc6= 16.Bxc7 Qxc7 17.e5 Rad8

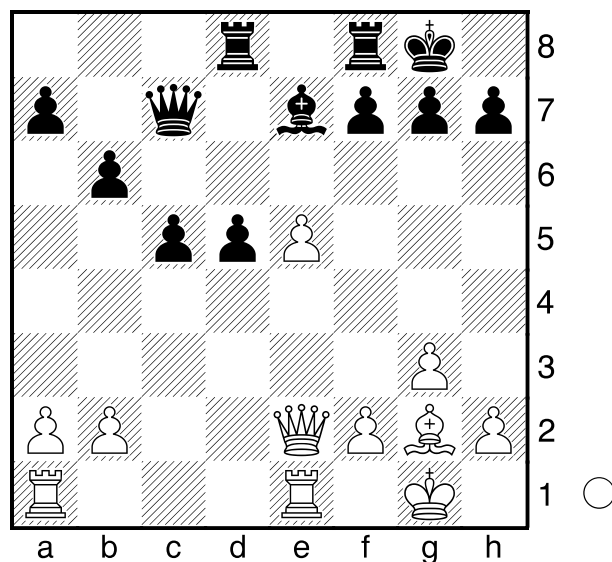
18.Qe2?!

[18.Qa4=]

18...Nd5

[18...Nd7!±]

19.Nxd5 exd5



20.e6?

[20.Rad1 d4 21.b3=]

20...f5?! Now it's *another* runaway pawn to deal with.

[20...c4!±]

21.Qd1

[21.b3̄]

21...d4 22.Qh5? g6 23.Qd1 f4

Still good enough, but not one of the pawns that matter.

[23...c4!]

[23...d3!]

24.a4

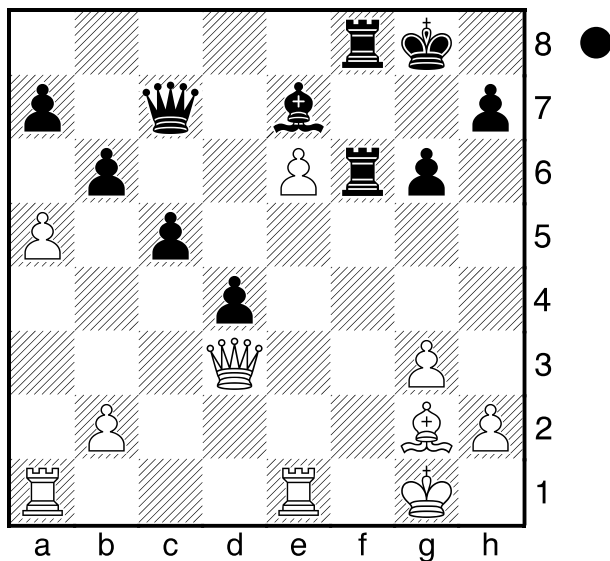
[24.Re4]

24...Rf6?!

[24...d3!]

[24...c4!]

25.Qd3 Rdf8 26.a5 fxc3 27.fxc3

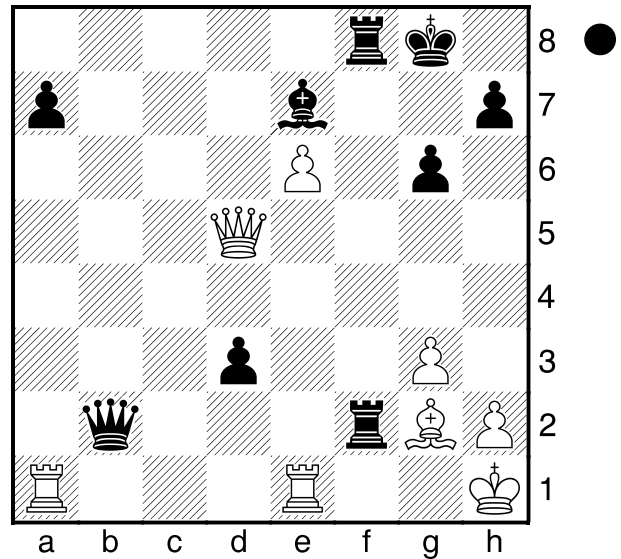


c4! 28.Qe4 d3 29.axb6 Qxb6+

[29...axb6!]

30.Kh1 Qxb2 31.Qxc4 Rf2 32.Qd5

(Diagram)



Rxg2! 33.Qxg2 Rf2 34.Qh3 Qb7+ 0-1

A88
 2020
 Karthi,Jashith
 Anderson,Michael Gene
 1936
 2023 Summer TNM: 2000+ (4.5) 23.05.23
 [Winslow,Elliott]

Jashith is making a mark in the standings, tied for 3rd-5th after six rounds. Here he leans on Mike Anderson's Leningrad Dutch until it cracks. **1.d4 f5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.c4 Bg7 5.Nc3 0-0 6.Nf3 d6 7.0-0 c6 8.Rb1** Third most popular; highest % at this juncture.

[8.b3 is another whole strategy, which has many adherents across the spectrum.]

[8.d5 e5 9.dxe6 Bxe6 10.b3 (10.Qd3) 10...Na6 (10...Re8; 10...Ne4)]

8...Kh8!? Not the main move, but it's fun.

[8...h6! 9.b4 g5 10.Qb3 Qe8 11.b5 Qf7 12.Bb2 f4 13.Rbc1 Nh5 14.Ne4 Kh8 15.Nfd2 Bg4 16.Nf3 Bf5 17.Nfd2 Bg4 18.Nf3 Bf5 19.Ned2

Nd7 20.a4 Rac8 21.e4 Bg4 22.Qa3 c5 23.e5 dxe5 24.dxc5 Bxf3 25.Qxf3 Nxc5 26.Ba3 Ne6 27.Nb3 b6 28.a5 bxa5 29.Nxa5 Nd4 30.Qe4 f3 31.Bh3 Nf6 32.Qb7 g4 33.Kh1 Qh5 34.Bg2 fxe2+ 35.Qxe2 Rf7 36.Rb1 Nf3 37.Rbd1 Ne4 38.Bb4 Rcf8 39.Nc6 Nxe2 40.Qxe2 Nxe3+ 0-1 Salem,A (2511)-Cori Tello,D (2414) Wch U18 Caldas Novas 2011 (8)]

9.b4 Be6 The most played, including by some notables,

[but the only slightly less-played 9...Nbd7!? has scored better as well. 10.b5!? (10.d5!? Nb6 11.dxc6 bxc6 12.Nd4 Bd7 13.Nxc6 Bxc6 14.Bxc6 Rc8 15.b5 Nxc4 16.Qa4 Na5 17.Bd2 Nxc6 18.bxc6 Qc7 19.Rb7 Qxc6 20.Qxc6 Rxc6 21.Rxe7 Ng8 22.Re3 Rb8 23.Rd1 Rb2 24.Nd5 ½-½ Tomashevsky,E (2745)-Dobrov,V (2490) Vladimir Petrov Memorial op Jurmala 2015 (8)) 10...Nb6 11.bxc6 (11.Nd2 Qc7 12.a4 Be6 13.Qb3 d5 14.c5! Nbd7 15.Nf3 Nh5 16.Bg5 Rfe8 17.Na2 1-0 Abdalla,L (2322)-Martins,C (2241) Sao Paulo Polytechnic 2012 (1)) 11...bxc6 12.Nd2 Qe8 13.Ba3 Be6 14.c5 Nbd5 15.Nxd5 Nxd5 16.Qc2 dxc5 17.Bxc5 f4 18.Rb7 g5 19.Nf3 g4 20.Nh4 Bf6 21.Nf5 Qh5 22.Nxe7 f3 23.exf3 gxf3 24.Re1 Nf4 25.Bf1 Bh3 26.Qc4 Bxf1 27.Qxf1 Ne2+ 28.Kh1 Rf7 29.Reb1 Re8 30.Rb8 Rfe7 31.Bxe7 Bxe7 32.Rxe8+ Qxe8 33.Qh3 Nxd4 34.Qh6 c5 35.Qe3 Kg7 36.Qe5+ Kf7 37.Qh5+ Kf8 38.Qxh7 Qd8 39.Rb8 1-0 Nielsen,P (2662)-Galyas,M (2423) Bundesliga 1213 Germany 2012 (13.6)]

10.d5 Bg8 Mike's signature maneuver. [10...cxd5 has a big-name endorsement: 11.Nxd5?! (11.cxd5 Bg8 12.Nd4; 11.Ng5!?!; 11.Nd4!?!)

11...Nc6 12.Bb2 Rc8 13.a3 Bg8 14.Nxf6 Bxf6 15.Bxf6+ Rxf6 16.c5 e5 17.Nd2 e4 18.Nb3 dxc5 19.Nxc5 b6 20.Nb3 Rd6 21.Qe1 Qf6 22.f3 Bxb3 23.Rxb3 Nd4 24.Rb1 e3 25.f4 Nc2 26.Qc1 Rc3 27.Rb2 Rd2 28.Bf3 Nd4 29.Qa1 Nxf3+ 30.Rxf3 Rcc2 0-1 Jakovenko,D (2747)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2714) Yaroslav the Wise rapid 5th Yaroslavl 2014 (6)]

11.Nd4 Qc8 12.dxc6N

[12.Bg5 h6 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Qd2 Kh7 15.Rfc1 e5 16.dxe6 Bxd4 17.Qxd4 Qxe6 18.b5 1-0 Khairullin,I (2634)-Ivanov,A (2460) RUS-chT 18th Olginka 2011 (1)] [12.Bb2! cxd5 13.Nxd5! Qd7 14.Qd2 Na6 15.Nb5 Bxd5 16.Bxd5 e6 17.Bg2 d5 18.a4 Rad8 19.c5 b6 20.Rfc1 bxc5 21.bxc5 1-0 Ashwin,J (2500)-Shabalov,A (2529) PRO League Stage Chess.com INT rapid 2019 (4)]

12...Nxc6 13.Nxc6 bxc6 14.b5!± Ng4?!

[14...cxb5!? 15.Bxa8 Qxa8 16.cxb5 Qc8] [14...Bxc4 15.Bxc6 Rb8 16.Qa4 Qe6 17.Qxa7 Ng4 18.h3!±]

15.Bb2 Ne5?!

[15...Rb8]

16.bxc6 Nxc4?!

[16...Rb8 17.Qa4 f4 18.Nb5! Nxc6 19.Nxd6]

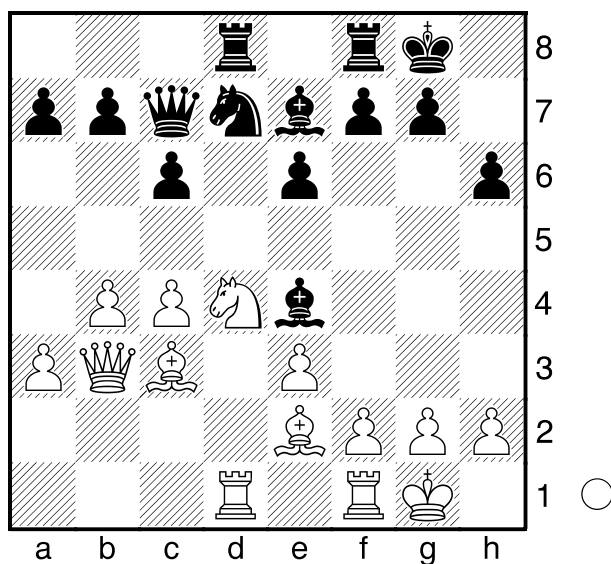
17.Ba1+- Qa6 18.c7 Rae8 19.Bb7 Qa5 20.c8Q Rxc8 21.Bxc8

[21.Rb5!]

21...Rxc8 22.Qa4 Qxa4 23.Nxa4 Nd2 24.Bxg7+ Kxg7 25.Rfc1 Bxa2 26.Rxc8 Nxb1 27.Rc7 Kf6 28.Rxa7 Bc4 29.Nb6 Bxe2 30.Nd5+ Kg5 31.Rxe7 Bf3 32.h4+ Kg4 33.Nf6+ Kh3 34.Nxh7 Bh5 35.Ng5+ Kg4 36.Kg2 f4 37.Rf7 1-0

Macnee, Felix **A00**
1658
 Parsons, Stephen **1782**
 2023 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (4.10)
[Parsons, Stephen]

(EW:) Parsons lands a shot in the opening and it's pretty much over. **1.b4?! d5 2.Bb2 Nf6 3.e3 Bf5 4.c4 e6 5.a3 Be7 6.Nf3 h6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.Qb3 c6 9.d3 Nbd7 10.Be2 dxc4 11.dxc4 Qc7 12.0-0 Rad8 13.Rad1 Ne4 14.Nd4 Nxc3 15.Bxc3 Be4**



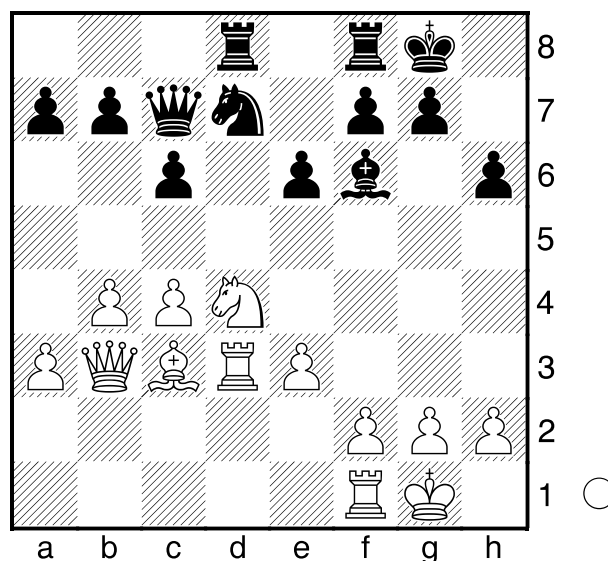
16.Bd3?

[16.c5±]

16...Bxd3 17.Rxd3 Bf6??

[17...e5! 18.Nf5 Nc5 19.bxc5 Rxd3
 20.Qc2! (20.Nxe7+ Qxe7-+)
 20...Rfd8! 21.Nd6 Bxd6 22.Qxd3
 Bxc5-+]

(Diagram)



18.Nf3?? An unfortunate blunder in a more or less equal position.

[18.Rfd1=]

18...Nc5! 19.bxc5 Other moves are no better.

[19.Bxf6 Rxd3 20.Qb2 gxf6
21.bxc5]

[19.Rxd8 Nxb3 20.Rxf8+ Kxf8
21.Bxf6 gxf6 22.Rb1 Qd8 23.h3
Nd2]

19...Rxd3 20.Rc1 Bxc3 21.Rxc3 Rxc3
22.Qxc3 Black now has a winning endgame. **22...Rd8 23.g3 Qd7 24.Nd4 e5 25.Nf3 f6 26.Nh4?! Qd2!**

Forcing a Queen trade, and the game is effectively over. **27.Qb4**

[27.Qb3 Qd1+ 28.Qxd1 Rxd1+]
 [27.Qa1 Qd1+]

27...Qxb4 28.axb4 Rd1+ 29.Kg2 Rb1
 Black will collect the b pawn and queen his a pawn, with the knight out of the game on the Kingside.

0-1

Tam, Hoa Long **C58**
1450
 Horde, Nicolas T **1465**
 2023 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (4.22)
[Horde, Nicolas T]

And here are Nick's Notes, learning from his loss as it goes... **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Na5 6.Bb5+ c6 7.dxc6 bxc6 8.Bd3 Nd5 9.Nf3 Bd6 10.0-0 Nf4!**

[10...0-0 11.Re1 f5 SF first line, I don't really like this position and prefer what I played better]

11.Re1 Nxd3 12.cxd3 0-0 13.Nxe5 Black is down 2 pawns (!) but the evaluation is 0.0. The reason is that White has a hard time activating their pieces **13...c5!** With the idea of preventing d4 **14.Nc3**

[14.d4! cxd4 15.d3 White is solving some development problems]

14...Bb7 15.Re3 So far I have played the perfect game and Black is the first to make a mistake **15...Re8?!**

Not the strongest continuation

[15...f5! My intuition was telling me to consider this move but I could not find the right idea. The key point is to prevent the c3 knight to reach e4 and continue to impede White's development 16.Nc4 f4 17.Re1 Bxg2!]

[15...Bxe5 16.Rxe5 Nc6 17.Re3 Nb4 18.b3 f5 19.Ba3 And Black still has the lead with an easier development]

[15...Nc6 16.Nxc6 Bxc6 17.b3 f5 (17...Qg5)]

16.Nf3 Qf6??

[16...Nc6 Rerouting the last misplaced pieces. Black is still down 2 pawn but has some crazy activity for compensation]

17.Ne4! And White has solved all their development problems as I will lose one

bishop **17...Bxe4 18.dxe4 Nc4**

[18...Nc6]

19.Re2 Nxb2

[19...Ne5 20.Nxe5 Bxe5 21.Qc2 Rab8 22.d3 SF gives a small advantage for White but tbh I don't see any active plans for Black and I am still down 2 pawns]

20.Bxb2 Qxb2 21.d4 Qb4 22.e5 Qb5 Pinning the e5 pawn **23.a4 Qa6 24.Rc2 Be7?!**

[24...Bf8 I am just losing a tempo with Be7]

25.d5 f6? Now White is going to create 2 connected passed pawns **26.d6 Bf8 27.Qd5+ Kh8 28.d7 Red8 29.e6 Rab8 30.Rc4 Qb6 31.g3 Qb2 32.Rac1 Rb6 33.Rxc5 Bxc5 34.Rxc5 Qe2 35.Rc8??** Massive blunder for White **35...Rb1+**

36.Ne1 Qxe1+?? The losing move. I spent a long time before capturing with the queen. I calculated until Kg4 and thought I could continue checking somehow as I am up a full rook.

However there's no mate

[36...Rxe1+! 37.Kg2 Qf1+ 38.Kf3 Qe2+!! And this is what I missed. I only considered Qh1 to continue to check White's king instead of having the lucidity to look for perpetual]

37.Kg2 Qf1+ 38.Kf3 Qh1+ 39.Kg4 Rb4+ 40.f4

[40.Kh3 Qf1+ 41.Qg2]

40...f5+ 41.Qxf5 Qd1+ 42.Kh4 Rb8 43.Rxb8 Rxb8 44.e7 g5+ 45.Kxg5 Rg8+ 46.Kh4 Qd6 47.Qe5+

A game that I lose in the deep middlegame instead of the opening for once... I had a chance to salvage half a point but that's it, no regrets.

1-0

□ **Tam,Hoa Long**
■ **Horde,Nicolas T**

C58
1450
1465

2023 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (4.22)
[Tam,Hoa Long]

(EW) Here's a well annotated (and not badly played, either!) game by two of our more prolific contributors. They both sent the game in! My usual motif is to merge the notes, but here I'll let them stand each on its own. This one is notes by the winner. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5** 2:00 **Na5** 1:58 **6.Bb5+ c6 7.dxc6 bxc6 8.Bd3 Nd5 9.Nf3 Bd6 10.0-0** 1:59 **Nf4** 1:55. **11.Re1** Still theory, but now I'm out of book **11...Nxd3 12.cxd3 0-0**

13.Nxe5!? Free pawn, but a fourth move in the opening for my g1 knight

[13.Nc3 c5 14.b3 Nc6 15.Ne4 Bg4±
Aronian - Nakamura, 1-0, Chess.com
Rapid Wk4 KO, 2022]

13...c5 black needs to prevent d3-d4.

14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Re3?! 1:44. Idea was to add an extra guard to f3, but this is entirely unnecessary since my knight can head to c4 to force a trade.

[15.b3 Re8 16.Nc4±
seems dangerous for all my pieces to abandon my king while Black has two very active bishops, but black's DSB has no good retreating squares]

[15.Nf3 Nc6 16.a3 Re8± Howell -
Nikolic, 1/2-1/2, Leiden LCT op-A 5th,
2011]

15...Re8 1:47 **16.Nf3** I spent a long while looking at Nc4, but with my king so exposed, there are too many sacrifices to calculate. Retreating to f3 is a safer use of time

[16.Nc4 Bc7 (16...Bf8? 17.Rxe8
Qxe8 18.Nxa5+-; 16...Nxc4 17.dxc4±
Rxe3 18.dxe3 Qh4 19.g3 Qh3
20.Qf1±) 17.Nxa5 Bxa5±
black's DSB is misplaced]

16...Qf6? allows me to trade off one of black's bishops. Without the bishop pair, black will run out of threats on the kingside **17.Ne4 Bxe4**

[17...Qh6!? gives up the bishop pair, but keeps my d pawns doubled

18.Nxd6 Qxd6 19.b3 Nc6

(19...Rxe3 does not win a pawn

because after **20.dxe3 Bxf3 21.Qxf3 Qxd3+-** the rook in the corner is hanging) **20.Bb2±**]

18.dxe4

[18.Rxe4!? Nc6 19.Qe2± black can't easily contest the e file or stop b3]

18...Nc4! 19.Re2

[19.Qb3 Nxe3 20.Qxe3± I'd be okay with this exchange sac if it weren't for my sad bishop]

19...Nxb2 20.Bxb2 1:27 **Qxb2** 1:33

21.d4 Qb4 22.e5 Qb5 23.a4?!

kicking the queen onto a worse diagonal

[23.Rb1 Same idea, prevents black counter-play on the b-file, which caused me a lot of pain later. I was worried about dropping my a2 pawn, but if black's a-pawn ever gets rolling, then my attack will have already failed miserably. **Qa6 24.Rc2 Bf8 25.d5 Rad8** (25...f6 26.d6 fxe5 27.d7 **Red8** 28.Qd5+ **Kh8** 29.Nxe5+-) 26.d6 Rd7 27.Qd5+-]

23...Qa6 24.Rc2 Be7?! this will wind up losing a tempo

[24...Bf8 25.d5 **Red8** (25...f6 26.d6 fxe5 27.d7 **Red8** 28.Qd5+ **Kh8** 29.Nxe5+- Nf7+ is unstoppable; 25...h6 26.d6 **Rec8** 27.**Rac1** c4 28.d7 **Rd8** 29.Rxc4+-; 25...g6 26.d6 **Bg7** 27.d7 **Red8** 28.Rxc5+-) 26.d6 **Rac8** 27.**Rac1** c4 28.Qd5 **Qxa4** 29.Rxc4 **Rxc4** 30.Qxc4 **Qxc4** 31.Rxc4 f6 32.Rc7 fxe5 33.d7 **Bd6** 34.Rxa7±]

25.d5 1:10 **f6** 1:19

[25...Red8 26.d6 Bf8 27.Rxc5]

26.d6 Bf8 27.Qd5+ I hallucinated something about ...Re6 being a

blockading idea, but this is necessary anyway to push e5-e6. **27...Kh8 28.d7 Red8 29.e6 Rab8 30.Rc4** 1:01. Again wasting time to keep an eye on a4, which I should not care about.

[30.Nd2 Rb4 31.Ne4 Rxa4 32.Rxa4 Qxa4 33.Rc1 a5 34.Nxc5 Qa3 35.Qc4+-]

30...Qb6 1:14 **31.g3 Qb2 32.Rac1 Rb6 33.Rxc5?! for some reason I thought ...** Rd6 was strong. Still, giving up the exchange is fine to keep Black's bishop from parking itself on e7.

[33.Re1 Rd6 34.e7 Bxe7 35.Rxe7 Rxd5 (35...R6xd7 36.Qxd7+-) 36.Re8+-]

33...Bxc5 34.Rxc5 Qe2 35.Rc8?! 49 [35.Kg2 Rb1 (35...h6 36.Rc8+-) 36.Nd4 Qf1+ 37.Kf3 Qh1+ 38.Kg4+-]

35...Rb1+ 1:02. I looked at all the back-rank checks but completely missed this idea. Pure luck that I'm not getting mated. **36.Ne1**

[36.Kg2 Qf1#]

36...Qxe1+ 37.Kg2 Qf1+ 38.Kf3 Qh1+ 39.Kg4

[39.Ke3 Re1+ 40.Kf4 g5+ 41.Kg4 Re4+ 42.Kh5 (42.Kh3 Qf1#; 42.Qxe4 Qxe4+ 43.Kh3 Qxe6+ 44.Kg2 Qxd7+-) 42...Qxh2#] [39.Kf4 g5+ 40.Kg4 Rb4+ 41.f4 (41.Kh3 Qf1+ 42.Qg2 g4+-; 41.Kh5 Qxh2#; 41.Kf5 Qxd5+-) 41...Qxd5 42.Rxd8+ Kg7+-]

39...Rb4+

[39...Qxd5 40.Rxd8#]

40.f4 42 f5+? 45

[40...Rxf4+! still wins for White, but makes things complicated

A) 41.gxf4!? looks like it makes it easier for Black to find a perpetual Qg1+ 42.Kh3 Qe3+ 43.Kg2 Qe2+ 44.Kg3 Qe1+ 45.Kf3 Qh1+ 46.Ke3 Qg1+ (46...Qxd5 47.Rxd8#) 47.Kd3 Qd1+ 48.Kc4+-

white's king escapes;

B) 41.Kh3! Stockfish, of course, has no problem walking into what looks like a mating net, but Black will run out of checks Qf1+ 42.Qg2 g5 43.Rxd8+ Kg7 44.Rg8+-; **C) 41.Kxf4??** blunders a draw! Decent odds that I would have taken this way as White, as it looks like I'm keeping my pawns together and potentially running to the queenside

C1) 41...Qf1+ 42.Kg4 Qe2+ 43.Kh3 Qf1+ 44.Qg2 Qf5+ 45.g4 Qd3+ (45...Qxe6 46.Rxd8+-) 46.Kh4 (46.Qg3 Qf1+ 47.Kh4 g5+ 48.Kh5+-) 46...g5+ 47.Kh5 Qg6#;

C2) 41...g5+

C2a) 42.Kg4 Qxd5 43.Rxd8+ Kg7 44.e7 (44.Re8 Qe4+ 45.Kh5 Qf3+ 46.g4 Qh3#) 44...Qe6+-;

C2b) 42.Ke3 Qxd5 43.Rxd8+ Kg7 44.Re8= perpetual check]

41.Qxf5 Qd1+ 42.Kh4 Rb8 43.Rxb8

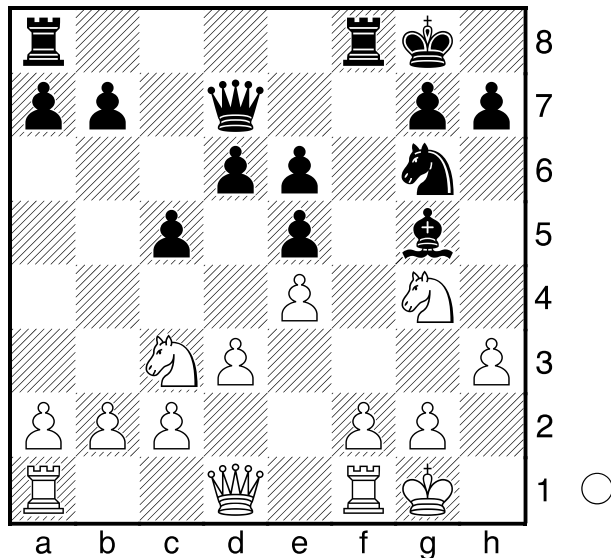
[43.Rxd8+ more direct Rxd8 44.e7 g5+ 45.Qxg5 Qxd7 46.exd8R+-]

43...Rxb8 44.e7 g5+ 45.Kxg5 35 Rg8+ 31 46.Kh4 Qd6 47.Qe5+ 1-0

☐ **Wong,Russell** **B30**
☒ **Nathan,Nitish Sg** **2200**
 2023 Summer TNM: 2000+ (5.1) 30.05.23
[Winslow,Elliott]

Some reordering of the players at the top; Nitish is keeping up with Dasika. **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 e5** Some might frown at this voluntary gutting of the light squares, but it is a known attempt to drum up some play in this otherwise

pretty quiet opening. 4.Bc4 Be7 5.d3
d6 6.h3 Nf6 7.O-O O-O 8.Bg5 Be6
9.Bxf6 Bxf6 10.Bd5 Ne7 11.Bb3 Qd7
12.Nh2 Ng6 13.Ng4 Bg5 14.Bxe6
fxe6!?



This typical recapture provides Black
some plusses in various Giuoco Piano
positions. Notably, the half-open f-file
and (of course!) the disappearance of
the weaknesses on d5 and f5. **15.g3**

[15.a4 is a higher priority...]

15...Bd8

[As is 15...b5]

16.h4

[16.a4]

16...Ne7

[16...b5!/?]

17.Kg2 Bc7 18.a4 Rf7 19.f3?!

This loosening of the kingside is a bad
sign of things to come.

[19.Nb1 Raf8 20.Nd2 (20.c3
keeps things well in control,
completely balanced.)]

19...Raf8 20.Qe2 Kh8 21.Nb1 Ng6

22.Nd2 a6 23.h5?!

[23.Nc4]

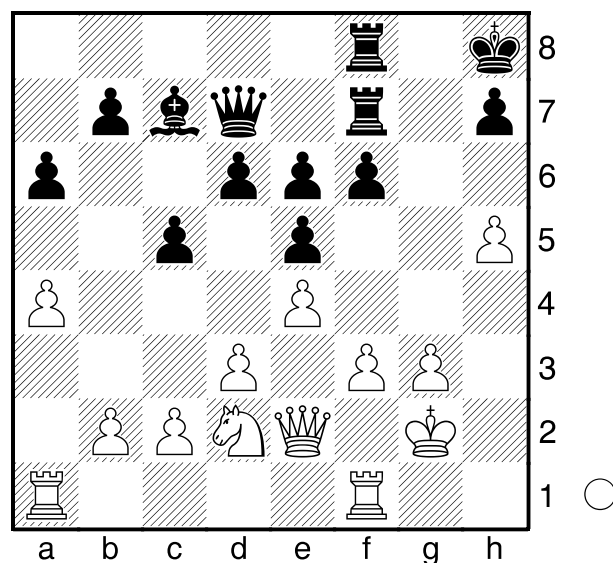
23...Nf6

[23...h6!/?]

24.Nxf6?

[24.h6! Nxg4 25.fxg4 gxh6 26.Rxf7

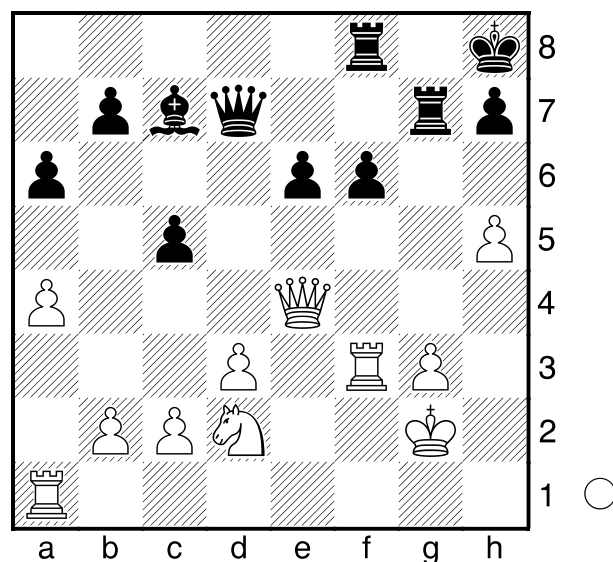
Rxf7 27.Rf1?]
24...gxf6



25.f4 exf4 26.Rxf4 d5! 27.Rf3 dxe4?

[27...Rg7! 28.exd5 exd5-+]

28.Qxe4 Rg7



29.Nf1?

[29.Re1! Rfg8 30.Ree3 f5 31.Qxe6
Qxa4 32.Nf1 f4 33.Re2 Qd4!/?]

29...Rg5?

[29...Be5!-+]

30.Re1?

[30.Qxb7 Qd6 31.Re1 f5 32.Rxe6!
Qxe6 33.Qxc7/?]

30...Re5-+ And just like that, White gets

insufficient material for the queen.

31.Qxe5 Bxe5 32.Rxe5 fxe5 33.Rxf8+ Kg7 34.Rf2 Qxa4 Black's e-pawns are ungainly to the end, but they still contribute to the pawn-storm to come.

35.Ne3 Qd4 36.Rf3 Qxb2 37.g4 Qd4

[37...c4!]

[37...e4!]

[37...a5]

38.g5 e4! Never a problem. **39.dxe4**

Qxe4 40.Kg3 a5 41.Ng4 Qe1+

42.Kg2 Qd2+ 43.Kh3 Qxg5 44.h6+

Kg6 45.Rf8 Kh5 46.Nf6+ Kxh6

47.Ng4+ Kg7

0-1

□ Winslow,Elliott

■ Lewis,Ed

2023 Summer TNM: 2000+ (5.3) 30.05.23

[Winslow,Elliott]

I'm tossing this game in because I didn't even get to play the next round and want better representation than my Round 3 debacle. :-)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7

3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 Nf6 5.Qd2 c6 6.Bh6

Bxh6 7.Qxh6 Marin in his Pirc Defence

Grandmaster Repertoire series book

(Yes I play it too) points out that Black

loses a tempo (Bf8-g7xh6). But his

reasoning isn't so convincing.

Regardless, the logic was enough for

me at the moment. **7...Qa5 8.0-0-0**

[8.Bd3 Qb6!?]

8...Nbd7 9.Nf3 Qh5 Ed chases me out

of Dodge. Where's my extra tempo

now?

[Relevant: 9...b5!? 10.e5! in all 17

games b4 11.exf6 bxc3 12.Qg7 Rf8

13.fxe7 1-0 Can,I (2380)-Sanal,V

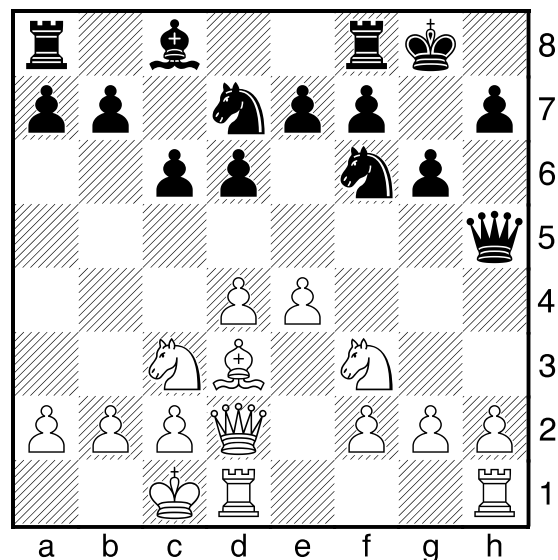
(2571) Podgorica 2021 (9) (4-0 in the

database)]

10.Qd2 0-0 I'd think pressing on the

queenside would be a better use of the

move **11.Bd3**



a6?!N This felt like a wasted move altogether.

[The "Predecessor" was not much better, but not the fault of the first move: 11...b5 12.Ne2 Qg4 13.h3 Qe6 14.d5 Nxd5 1-0 Santo Roman, M-Stigar,P World U20-ch19 Dortmund 1980 (1)]

12.h3 Qa5 13.Qh6 Qh5 14.Qe3

Hah! improved my queen! e4-e5 is now in the air... **14...Qa5**

[14...e5 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.g4 Nxd3+ 17.Qxd3+- Qc5 18.Qxd6]

[14...Kg7 15.e5]

15.e5! I didn't appreciate just how won this position was during the game.

15...Nd5 16.Nxd5 Qxd5 17.c4

[17.Qh6! f6 18.h4 Qf7 19.e6!]

17...Qa5 18.Qh6 dxe5 And again, during the game I thought this was suicide, but Stockfish doesn't make anything much better.

[18...Rd8 19.e6]

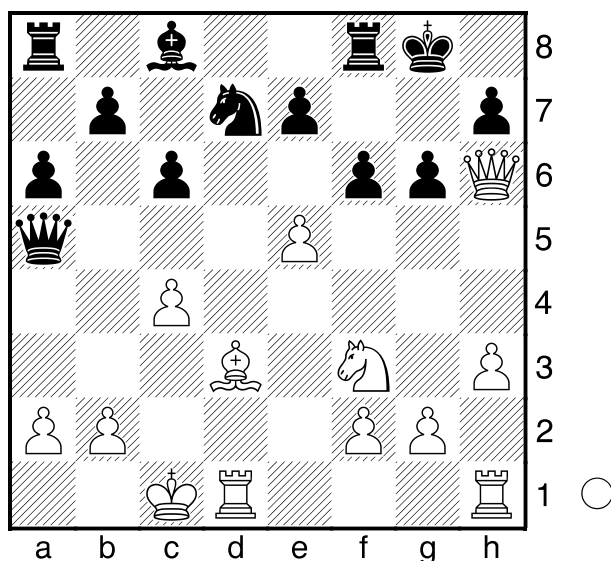
[18...f6 19.Bxg6]

19.dxe5 f6?!

[19...Re8 20.e6]

[19...Rd8 20.e6]

(Diagram)



20.Bxg6! hxd6

[20...Rf7 takes a few more moves but it's going to be mate]

21.Qxg6+ Kh8 22.Rd4
1-0

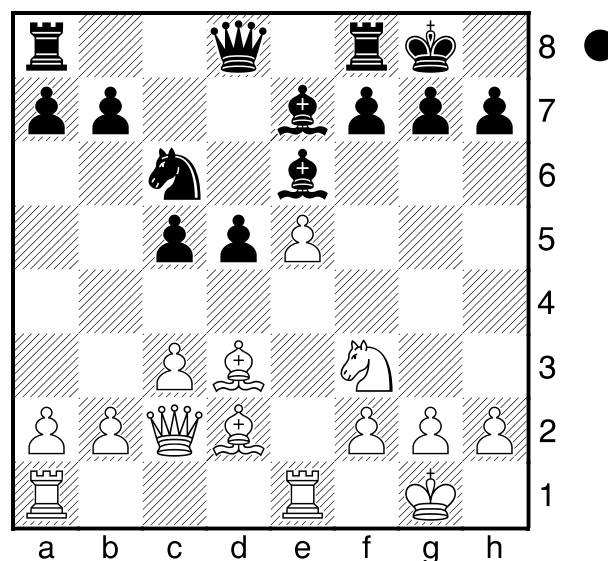
□ **Walder,Michael**

■ **Clemens,Kristian**

2023 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (5.7)
[Stockfish 15.1 "TA"]

Mike let Kristian get away this time. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.d4 Nxe4 4.dxe5 d5 5.Nbd2 Nxd2 6.Bxd2 Be7 7.Bd3 c5 8.c3** White is slightly better. **8...Nc6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Re1 Be6 11.Qc2**

(Diagram)



g6?!N 0.65/35

[Predecessor: 11...h6 12.Rad1 Qd7 13.Bf4 Rfd8 14.Bg3 f5 15.exf6 Bxf6 16.Nh4 Bxh4 17.Bxh4 Re8 1/2-1/2 (31) Guseinov,G (2668)-Markus, R (2616) Chennai 2022]

12.Bh6 Re8 13.Qd2 0.19/32

[13.Rad1!± 0.69/27]

13...Qd7? 1.18/32

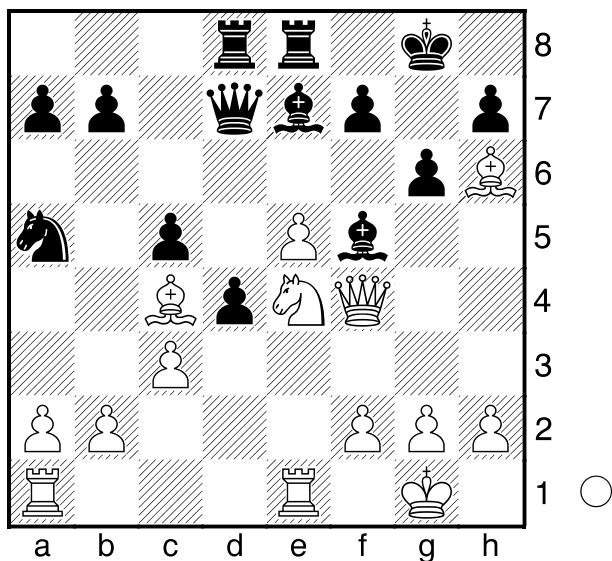
[13...d4= 0.19/32 remains equal.]

14.Qf4!± Rad8 15.Ng5 Problems are looming on the kingside... **15...d4?**
3.68/31

[15...Bf8± 1.45/36 is a better defense. 16.Bxf8 (16.Nxe6 fxe6 17.Bg5 Be7=) 16...Rxf8]

16.Ne4+- Bf5 17.Bc4 Na5

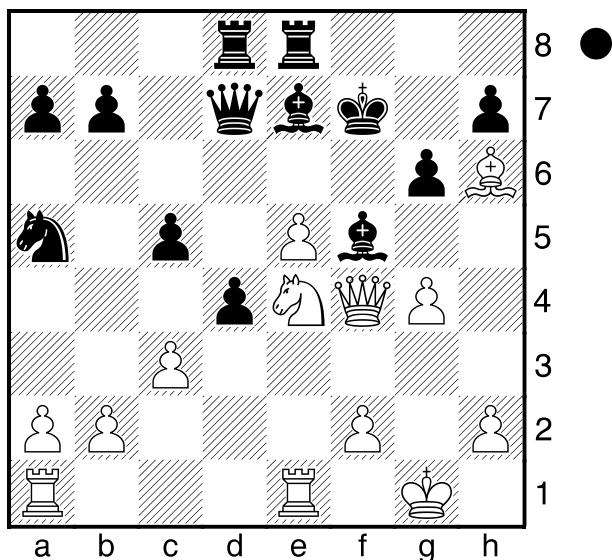
(Diagram)



18.Bxf7+?? -0.13/33

[18.e6! fxe6 (18...Bxe6) 19.Qe5 Bh4 20.Bb5 Nc6 21.Bxc6 bxc6 22.g3+-]

18...Kxf7= 19.g4!



Kg8! 20.gxf5 Qxf5 21.Qxf5 gxf5 22.Ng3 Nc4 0.33/33

[22...Kf7= -0.18/44]

23.cxd4± Threatens to win with b3.

23...Rxd4? 3.03/30

[23...Kf7! 0.29/36]

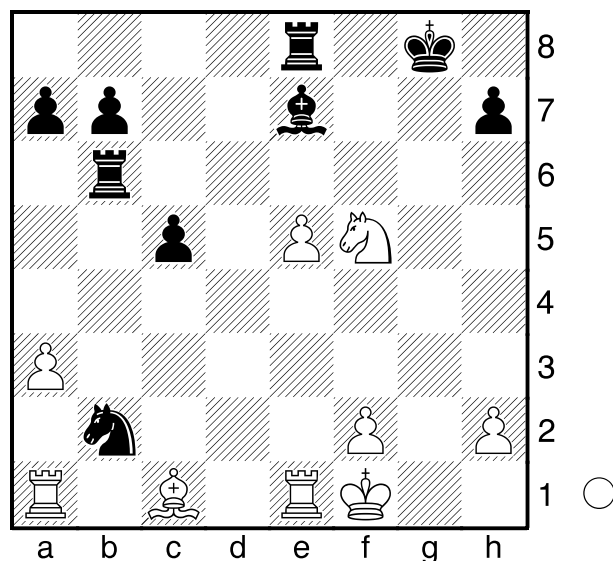
24.Nxf5+- Rg4+ 25.Kf1 Nxb2?!

26.Bc1 Rb4 27.a3 1.36/32

[27.Re3!+- 3.06/29 and White stays

clearly on top. Nc4 28.Rg3+ Kf7 29.e6+ Kxe6 30.Ng7+ Kf7 31.Nxe8 Kxe8 32.Bf4]

27...Rb6±



28.Rb1 0.00/56

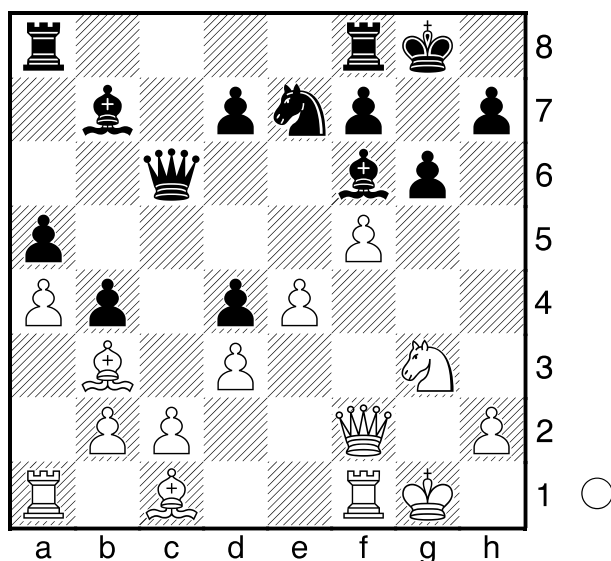
[Better is 28.Re3!± 1.45/33]

28...Nd3= The position is equal. 29.Rxb6 axb6 30.Rd1 Nxe5 31.Bb2 Nc4 1/2-1/2

B23
 Tirouvingadame, Arivoli 1649
 Sanguinetti, George A 1900
 2023 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (5.9)
 [Tirouvingadame, Arivoli/(Winslow, Elliott)]

"Oli" sent in some good analysis of his game here. Yet another case of the Grand Prix Attack crashing through! 1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 g6 3.f4 Bg7 4.Nf3 e6 5.Bc4 Ne7 6.0-0 0-0 7.a3 Nbc6 8.d3 a6 9.Qe1 Nd4 10.Nxd4 cxd4 11.Ne2 b5 12.Bb3 Bb7 13.g4 Qb6 14.Ng3 Qc6 15.Qf2 a5 16.a4 b4 17.f5 exf5 18.gxf5 Bf6

(Diagram)



19.Bh6

[19.fxg6 Bg7 20.gxf7+ is even better.]

19...Kh8 20.Bxf8 Rxf8 Often this sort of sacrifice works out for Black, with the only dark squared bishop ruling those squares... **21.Qf4 d6 22.Kf2**

[22.fxg6! fxg6 23.Qxf6+! Rxf6 24.Rxf6 is the solution: it lets the White rooks in, while all three of Black's pieces are stymied.]

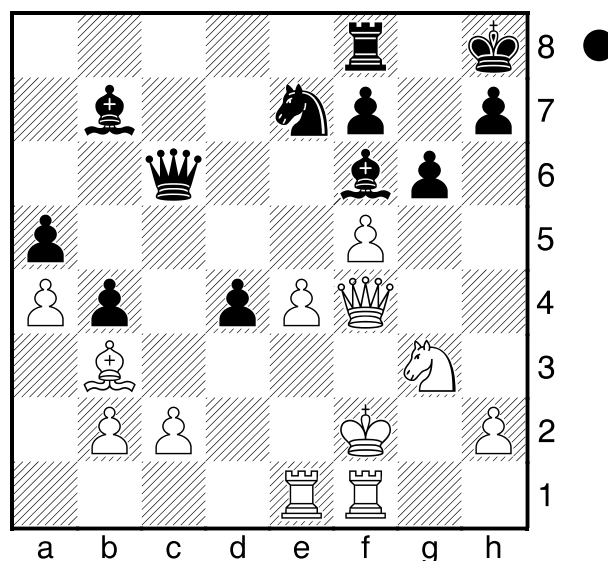
22...d5 23.Rae1

[23.e5!+-]

23...dxe4 24.dxe4?!

[24.Rxe4 Bc8 25.fxg6 Nxg6 26.Qf3 is still pretty good for White.]

(Diagram)



24...d3?!

[24...gxf5! 25.Nxf5 Nxf5 26.Qxf5 Bh4+ 27.Ke2 Qh6! leaves White with very little in the way of advantage. The problem is that king in the center. For example

A) 28.Bc4!?!± plays on, but Black can either take back the Exchange on e1, or try Bc8!? (or even 28...d3+!/? (better timed than in the game));

B) 28.Qe5+ f6 29.Qxd4 Ba6+ when the only move that doesn't lose is 30.Kd1! (30.Bc4 Bxc4+ 31.Qxc4 Rd8) 30...Bxf1 31.Rxf1 Bg5! with a perpetual after 32.e5 Qh5+ 33.Ke1 Bh4+ 34.Kd2 Bg5+]

25.cxd3± Bxb2 26.Rc1?

[26.Kg2! or others]

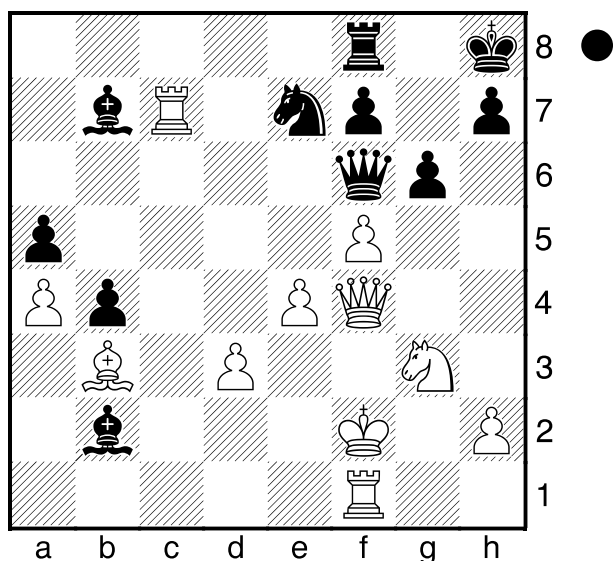
26...Qf6

[26...Bxc1 27.Rxc1 Qf6 28.e5 Qb6+= might look a bit scary, but Black has defences.]

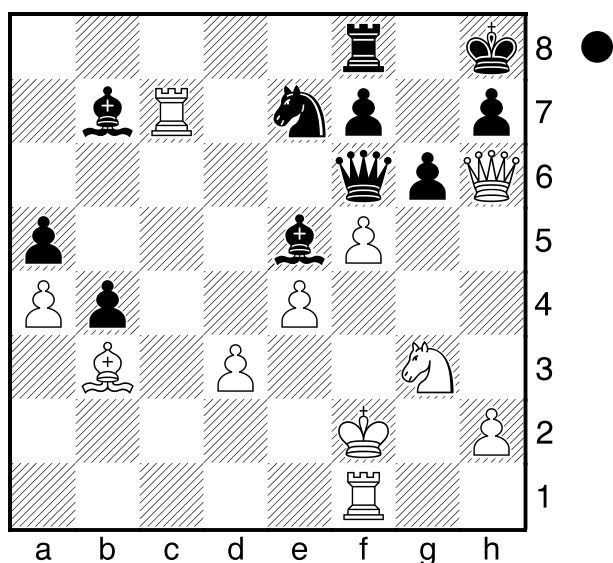
27.Rc7

[27.Qh6 Rd8!]

(Diagram)



27...Be5 28.Qh6



Qb6+??

[28...Rb8! holds on.]

29.Ke2+- Bg7 30.Qf4 Ng8 31.Rd7

[Instead, 31.Rxf7! Rxf7 32.Bxf7 b3?!

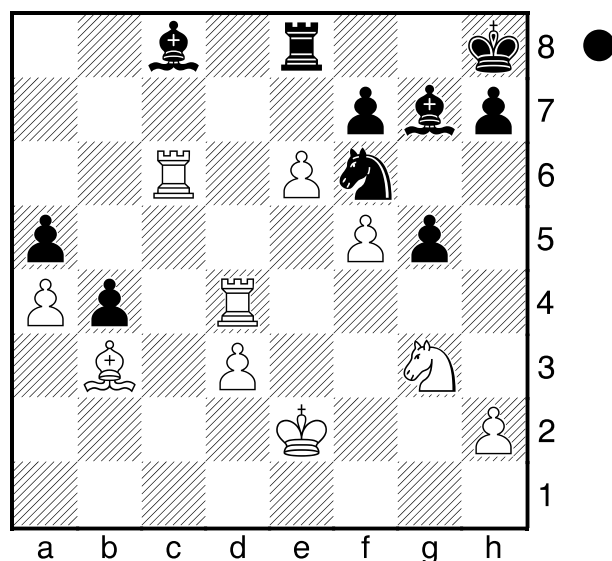
33.Qb8! is actually mate in seven or so moves, no matter what!]

31...Bh6 32.Qe5+ Nf6 33.Qd4 Qxd4

34.Rxd4 g5 35.Rc1 Bg7 We were both in time trouble somewhere around here.

36.e5 Re8 37.e6 Bc8 38.Rc6

(Diagram)



h5 39.Kf1 fxe6 40.Bxe6 Bxe6
41.Rxe6 Rf8 42.Rdd6 h4 43.Ne4 Nh5
44.f6 Bh6 45.Ra6 Nf4 46.Red6 g4
47.Rxa5 g3 48.hxg3 hxg3 49.Nxg3
Rb8 50.Ne4 b3 51.Nc3 b2 52.Nb1
Rc8 53.Rb5 Bf8 54.Rdb6 Rc1+
55.Kf2 Nxd3+ 56.Ke3 Rd1 57.Nc3
Bh6+ 58.Kf3 Rd2 59.Rb7 Ne1+
60.Ke4 Nd3 61.Rh5
1-0

□ Horde,Nicolas T

■ Chitta,Adithya

B13

1465

1596

2023 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (5.20)

[Horde,Nicolas/(Winslow,Elliott)]

Excellent attacking game by Nicolas -- it's too bad Adithya didn't test out his play, as some precision was required. 1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 I have been playing the Advance in the previous TNM so I decided to change for no particular reason 3...cxd5 4.Bd3 Nc6 5.c3 Nf6 6.h3 Making the LSB harder to develop for Black 6...e6 I thought it was a weird move. If Black wants to play e6 before committing the LSB somewhere then I would expect Ne7 and play for the f6-e5

push like in Queen's Gambit with f3-e4. .
7.Nf3 Bd6 8.0-0 0-0 9.Re1 h6 10.Ne5 Qc7 11.Bf4 Nd7 12.Qe2

[12.Qh5! I thought about playing Qh5 directly, it would have made more sense as I want to attack on the kingside and the queen will end up on h5 at some point. + it still covers the e5 knight]

12...Ncxe5? I thought he would take with the d7 knight. My guess is that he thought I would exchange the DSB and he missed my reply

[EW: 12...Bxe5! 13.Bxe5 (13.dxe5 f6! picks off a pawn. There is compensation, but no advantage (for either side as it happens).) 13...Ndxe5 14.dxe5 f6 develops counterplay: 15.exf6 Rxf6 16.Nd2 (16.c4!?) 16...e5!? (16...Bd7 17.Nf3 Rf8 18.Qe3±) 17.f3 (17.c4!? is a move late: e4! 18.Bb1 Nd4 19.Qh5 Rf5 White's development is still hampered.) 17...Bf5 18.Bxf5 Rxf5 keeps it interesting, dynamic balance.]

13.dxe5! Black is already lost (EW: worse but still able to play on...) because the e5 cuts all defenders from the kingside for Black. They can't play Nf6 anymore and all of White pieces are converging towards the king. + there's now ideas on sacking the DSB on h6.

[13.Bxe5? I think this is what he calculated Nxe5 14.dxe5 Bc5 15.Qh5]

13...Be7 14.Nd2 b6 Trying to develop the LSB but it's too late, White is about to overwhelm Black's kingside **15.Qg4!** Threatening the h6 pawn. **15...Kh8 16.Qh5!** Renewing the threat to sack on h6. After that move, White had 1h35 left and Black 1h40. Black thought for 40 minutes (??) which gave me a lot of time to calculate all possible continuations. (EW: Here Aditya's pen stopped writing

(one faint move) and she didn't replace it.) **16...f5 17.Bxh6** Black resigned here (??), I think it was premature as White still needs to be precise in the attack.

[17.exf6! Nxf6 18.Qxh6+ gxh6 19.Bxc7 I thought for a long time about entering this endgame as it is obviously winning for White (up a pawn, better coordination and development) but I was looking to keep the game sharp and was not a big fan of trading queens with such a strong attack. (EW: Nothing would be wrong with a simple won ending!)]

[But back to 17.Bxh6 Not the strongest (EW: Actually my Stockfish 15.1 makes it solidly better) but the attack is still decisive. gxh6 The remaining moves are what I calculated when I sacked the bishop. 18.Qxh6+ Kg8 19.Re3! The critical idea (19.Qxe6+?? Rf7 SF gives it "equal" but I still prefer White as Black's king is exposed and the attack still continues. However it throws away all the advantage for White.)

19...Nxe5 20.Rg3+ Kf7 21.Qh5+ Kf6 This is the best continuation. White is still winning but I would argue that it's not that trivial to finish the job so I think Black just mentally collapsed after the bishop sack on h6. Black still has development problems and the king is extremely exposed which is more than enough compensation for the bishop. SF is giving +4 for White (!). EW: 22.Be2! prepares a queen check followed by Bh5+; Nf7 23.Qg6+ Ke5 24.Nc4+! dxc4 (24...Qxc4 25.Bxc4 doesn't get enough) 25.Rd1! is the classic quiet move cutting off the escape. Black is lost. Best chance is Qc5 26.Re3+ Qxe3 but already Stockfish is finding some forced mate in 15 (!)... By the way, moves like Rd1 are "toolbox," but

also spectacular. For one of the greatest examples of cutting off the escape, see Wei Yi vs. Lazaro Bruzon Batista, Danzhou 2015. Many have called this one of the best games of all time, and I can only concur. It's one of those games that, if you look on the Internet, you find scores of videos and articles. Pick one!]

1-0

□ **Morris, Daniel**

■ **Dale, Cameron**

2023 Summer TNM: u1200 (5.36) 30.5.23
[Morris, Daniel]

Daniel Morris contributed notes to his up-and-down game with Cameron Dale. They're both within range of the prize money going into the last round... **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.d3 Bc5 6.Bxc6 bxc6?** Recapturing with the wrong pawn.

[6...dxc6=]

7.Nxe5 0-0 8.h3 Too slow. Just castle.
[8.0-0]

8...h6 9.Nc3 Re8 10.Ng4 Looking to chop the defender on f6, but my first candidate Nf3 was better.

[10.Nf3 d5 11.e5]

10...d5 11.Nxf6+ Qxf6 12.f3??

Horrible. I looked at Qf3, which is correct, and even just castling here is good.

Never play f3. **12...Qh4+ 13.Kd2 Qf2+?**

[13...Qg5+ 14.Ke1 Qxg2 15.Rf1 Bxh3 Brutal.]

14.Qe2 dxe4?? This lets White off the hook entirely, and I was glad to see it.

[14...Qg3 15.Kd1 f5 There's no immediate win for Black, but it's a thoroughly unpleasant position for White.]

15.Qxf2 e3+

[15...Bxf2 16.Nxe4 Bh4]

16.Qxe3 Bxe3+ 17.Kd1 Bf2 18.Ne2 Bf5 19.Bf4 Re7 20.Bg3? Now 20...

Rxe2 is a winning sacrifice, but that sort of idea is tough for us to find at this rating level. **20...Rae8?**

[20...Rxe2 21.Kxe2 Bxg3]

21.Bxf2 Rxe2 22.Re1!+- Dale had not seen this reply. Here I knew White must be completely winning. **22...Rxf2??**

23.Rxe8+ Kh7 24.g4?

[24.Re2 Rf1+ 25.Re1 Rf2 26.Rg1]

24...Be6 25.Ke1 Rh2 26.Rd1 Rxh3

27.Kf2 Rh2+ 28.Ke3 Rxc2 29.Rd2

Rxd2? 30.Kxd2 Bxa2 31.Ra8 Bd5

32.Ke3 g6 33.Rxa6 h5 34.gxh5 gxh5

35.Kf4 Kg6 36.Ra7 f5 37.Ra1

I had calculated the next four moves.

My rook is going to collect Black's f-pawn and then return to the back rank in time to get the running h-pawn. **37...h4**

38.Rg1+ Kh5 39.Rg5+ Kh6 40.Rxf5

h3 41.Re5 c5 One last trick for Black.

The bishop is taboo, or else the h-pawn promotes. **42.Kg3** Now there is no move for Black. He can resign here, although Dale played on to the bitter end. **42...c4**

43.Rxd5 cxd3 44.Rxd3 h2 45.Kxh2

Kg5 46.Kg3 Kf5 47.Rc3 Ke5 48.Rxc7

Kd4 49.b4 Ke3 50.b5 Kd3 51.b6 Kd4

52.b7 Ke5 53.b8Q Kd4 54.Qd8+ Ke5

55.Re7+ Kf6 56.Qf8+ Kg6 57.Rg7+

Kh6 58.Qh8#

1-0

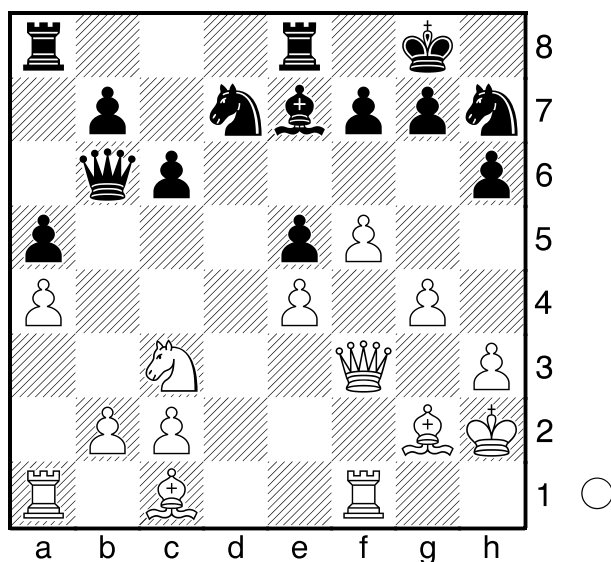
□ **Widjaja, Luke** **B11**
2143

■ **Dasika, Archit** **2174**

2023 Summer TNM: 2000+ (6.1) 06.06.23
[Winslow, Elliott]

Luke overshot against Archit in a highly complicated game on Board 1. So it's Dasika with 5, Winslow 4.5 going into the last round (and they've played

already). **1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3**
 An easy to predict variation; Luke is a strong believer in "knights before bishops (and pawns)" against the Caro-Kann. **3...Bg4 4.h3 Bxf3 5.Qxf3 e6 6.g3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Bc5 8.0-0 0-0 9.d3 Nbd7 10.Qe2 a5 11.a4 h6 12.Kh2 Qb6 13.f4 dxe4 14.dxe4 e5 15.f5 Rfe8 16.g4 Nh7 17.Qf3 Be7**



Black is already slightly better according to El Compo, but does have to be careful of some snap pawn storm. But White's next provokes drinking the poison... **18.Be3?**

[18.Nd1!f]

18...Qxb2!f 19.Bxh6! gxh6

[19...Nc5!f]

20.Rfb1 Qxc2 21.Ra2 Ng5?!

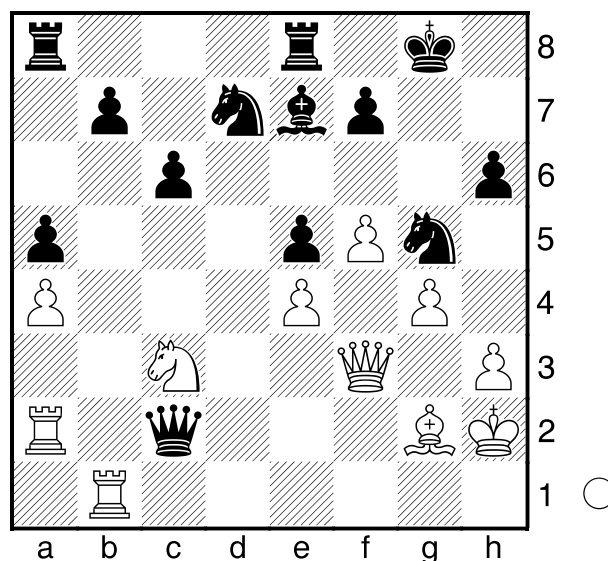
Stepping in the path of the h-pawn later.

[21...Qxa2!? 22.Nxa2 Nc5±]

[21...Qxb1!? 22.Nxb1f Red8

(22...Bg5)]

(Diagram)



22.Rxc2??

[22.Qg3? Nxe4]

[22.Qe3! Bc5! (22...Qxb1 23.Nxb1 Nh7=) 23.Qg3!

A) 23...Nxe4 24.Rxc2 Nxg3

25.Rxb7! Be3! 26.Rxd7

(26.Bxc6!?) 26...Bf4 27.Kg1=;

B) 23...Bf2! 24.Rxc2 Bxg3+

25.Kxg3 Rab8 26.h4 Nh7

27.Bf3=]

22...Nxf3+-+ 23.Bxf3 Rab8 24.Nd1

Nc5 25.Nb2 b5

[25...Nb3!]

26.Ra1 b4 27.Rd1 Red8 28.Rxd8+

Rxd8 29.Nc4 b3 30.Rb2 Rd3 31.Be2

Rc3 32.Rd2 Bg5 33.Rb2 Nxa4

34.Rb1 Rc2 35.Rxb3 Rxe2+ 36.Kg3

Rxe4 37.Nxa5 c5 38.Nc6 c4 39.Rb4

Nc5 40.Rb5 Nd3 41.Rb8+ Kg7

42.Rc8 Re3+ 43.Kh2 c3

0-1

Indukuri,Suhas Varma **C54**

Qiu,Laurie **1832**
 2023 Summer TNM: 2000+ (6.6) 06.06.23
[Winslow,Elliott]

I was surprised to see Laurie Qiu in the top section but she has acquitted herself and then some! Check out this well-played win against another youngster, whose time will surely be coming soon as well. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3**

Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3

[4.d3]

4...Nf6 5.d4

[5.d3]

5...exd4 6.e5 This has taken over the front-runner post for playing for a White advantage in the 21st Century.

[6.cxd4 Bb4+ 7.Bd2 (7.Nc3 (The famous Moeller Attack) Nxe4 8.0-0 Bxc3 9.d5 Bf6 10.Re1 Ne7 11.Rxe4 d6 was the main line for a century, finally analyzed as okay for Black -- now it's just "=/±" (=+) on the computer.) 7...Bxd2+ (7...Nxe4!? 8.Bxb4 Nxb4 9.Bxf7+ Kxf7 10.Qb3+ Kf8! 11.Qxb4+ Qe7 12.Qxe7+ Kxe7 13.0-0=) 8.Nbxd2 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 is Black's most stable play, with fairly comfortable play. (What is that knight doing on d2?)]

6...d5! Necessary! Else White's opening works well. **7.Bb5 Ne4 8.cxd4 Bb4+** [8...Bb6! makes sense, keeping up pressure on White's one weakness. Dozens, hundreds, even thousands of games at the highest levels have happened just in the last couple years, with superstars (including Carlsen) playing both sides(!), still with no clear conclusion. 9.Nc3 0-0 10.Be3 Bg4 11.h3 Bh5 12.Qc2 (12.Be2!?)]

A) 12...Bg6;

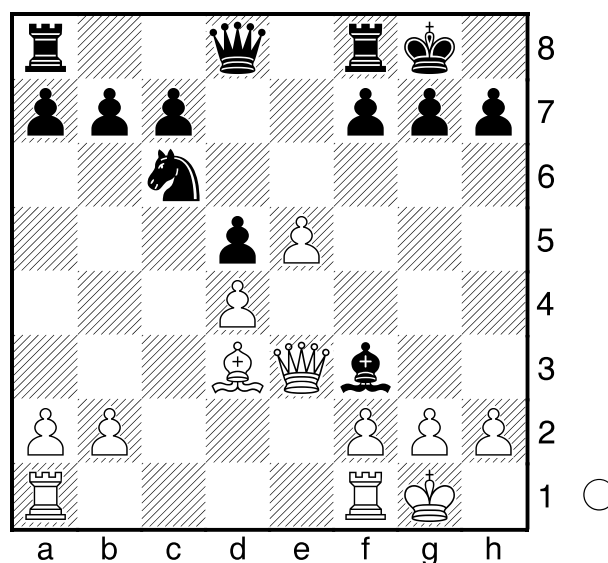
B) 12...Nxc3 Here's a sample from the nosebleed ratings: 13.bxc3 f6

14.exf6 Qxf6 15.Be2 Na5 16.0-0 Bxf3 17.Bxf3 c6 18.Rae1 Nc4 19.Bc1 Qg6 20.Qd1 Rae8 21.Rxe8 Qxe8 22.Be2 Qe6 23.Bxc4 dxc4 24.Re1 Qf7 25.Qe2 Ba5 26.Qe3 h6 27.Ba3 Rd8 ½-½ Nepomniachtchi,I (2792)-Carlsen,M (2855) Norway Chess 9th Stavanger 2021 (10); **C) 12...Ba5** 13.0-0 Bxf3 14.gxf3 Nxd4?! (14...Ng5 has scored evenly (50%) over 20 games but with a lot of wins and losses) 15.Bxd4 Qg5+ 16.Kh1 Bxc3 17.bxc3 Qf5 18.Rfc1! Qxh3+ 19.Kg1 Ng5 20.Be2! Nxf3+ 21.Bxf3 Qxf3 hasn't worked out so well for White (a few draws, more losses) 22.Qd1!? (22.Rd1!?); **D) 12...--** And here hundreds of games haven't really chosen which of the three continuations is best:]

9.Bd2 Bxd2+

[9...Nxd2!?]

10.Nbxd2 0-0 11.0-0 11.0-0 is better than 11.Bxc6. **11...Bd7 12.Bd3 Bf5 13.Qe2 Nxd2 14.Qxd2 Be4 15.Qe3 Bxf3**



16.gxf3?!N

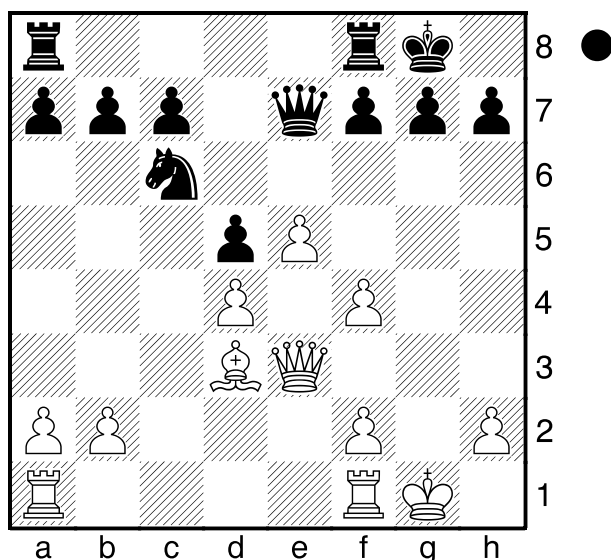
[16.Qxf3! Qh4 (16...Nxd4! 17.Bxh7+

Kxh7 18.Qd3+ Kg8 19.Qxd4 c6
 (intending ...Qb6) gives Black some
 advantage on paper (a passed pawn)
 but White should be okay.) 17.Qxd5
 Rfd8 18.Qe4 Qxe4 19.Bxe4 Rxd4
 20.Bxc6 bxc6 21.Rac1 Rd2 22.Rxc6
 Rxb2 23.Rxc7 Rxa2 24.Rd1 Re2
 25.Rxa7 Rb8 26.Rb7 Ra8 27.Ra7
 Rb8 28.Rb7 Ra8 29.Ra7
 ½-½ Warmerdam,M (2484)-Plenca,J
 (2462) Split op 9th 2019 (6)]

16...Qe7!

[16...Qh4 17.f4 f6 puts the most
 pressure on White's delicate pawns, at
 first glance. But White can put up a
 strong fight: 18.e6! f5! 19.Rfc1! Rf6
 20.Bb5!]

17.f4



f5! Necessary but leading to a clear
 advantage. **18.a3**

[I think Stockfish has lost it -- it gives
 as best 18.b4 Nd8! (18...Nxb4
 19.Rfc1!) 19.b5 Ne6 20.Rac1 Qh4
 Ah okay, now all makes sense -- sort
 of.]

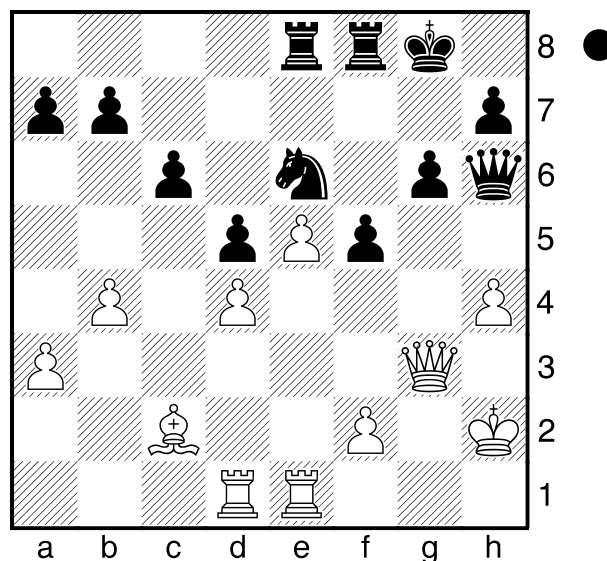
18...Nd8! In any case, Qie heads for that
 optimal placement. **19.Qh3 g6 20.Qg3**
Ne6 21.Rfd1 c6

[21...Nxd4?! 22.Bc4!]

22.Bc2 Qg7! 23.h4?

[23.Qh4 h6! 24.Qg3 g5 25.fxg5
 hxg5 Black trades off White's worst
 pawn but gets a dangerous front of
 pawns in return.]

23...Qh6 24.Kh2 Nxf4 25.Re1 Ne6
26.Rad1 Rae8 27.b4



f4! 28.Qg4 f3 29.Kh3 Rf4 30.Qg3 g5
 It's already mate in eight. **31.Qxf4**
Nxf4+ 32.Kh2 Qxh4+ 33.Kg1 Qg4+
34.Kf1 Qg2#
0-1

C18
 □ **Ivanenko,Anthony Vladimir** **2127**
 ■ **Peterson,Jared E** **1922**
 2023 Summer TNM: 2000+ (6.7) 06.06.23
 [Ivanenko,Tony]

1.e4 e6 The French Defense -- named
 after Paris beat London in a
 correspondence match in 1834,
 successfully adopting this opening with
 Black. The structures that tend to arise
 tend to be unique to that defense (apart
 from some 2...e6 Sicilians), especially
 that of the Winawer. Truth be told, this
 was my first time playing against a
 French Defense in an OTB classical
 match. **2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4**

The Winawer variation. Although very interesting (and suffering a bit from engine analysis these days), I was not expecting it to come out onto the board today, forcing me into improvisation. **4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qc7**

This is the old Winawer, popularized in the Smyslov-Botvinnik match in 1957. Nowadays it often transposes back to the main line Winawer, but there are a few standalone ideas associated with pushing the f-pawn to meet 7.Qg4. **7.Qg4 f5?!** Unfortunately, I'm forced to give this move an inaccuracy simply because it was destroyed by neural networks. Even in the early 2000's it was considered dubious, but nowadays it's been refuted, and the modern refutation isn't even particularly challenging these days. That is, if White remembers the idea.

[7...f6 was the other standalone choice and was already dismantled by Smyslov the first time it saw life. However, it is a bit more solid than 7...f5. 8.Nf3 (Nowadays 8.Bb5+! is the trendy line, taking advantage of the queen being forced to protect the g7-pawn, followed by Kf8 9.Qg3!N c4 The light-squared bishop will be saved by tactics. 10.a4 a6 11.Ba3+ Kf7 12.Bd6 Qd8 13.exf6 gxf6 14.Bc7 is a nice intermezzo to knock the queen to e7 for a further tempo. Qe7 15.Bxb8 axb5 16.Bd6 Qd8 17.Bc7± followed by 18.a5 with a nice game for White.) 8...Nc6 9.Qg3 Qf7 10.dxc5 Nge7 11.Bd3 fxe5 12.Nxe5 Nxe5 13.Qxe5 0-0 14.0-0 Nc6 15.Qg3 e5 16.Be3 Bf5 17.Rab1 Bxd3 18.cxd3 Rae8 19.f4 Qc7 20.fxe5 Rxf1+ 21.Rxf1 Qxe5 22.Qxe5 Nxe5 23.Rd1 Kf7 24.h3 Nc6 25.Bf4 Re7 26.Bd6 Rd7 27.Rf1+ Ke6 28.Re1+ Kf7 29.Kf2 b6 30.Rb1 Ke6 31.Rb5 d4 32.c4 bxc5 33.Bh2 Rf7+ 34.Ke2

Re7 35.Rxc5 Kd7+ 36.Kd2 Re6 37.Rg5 g6 38.Rd5+ Kc8 39.Bg1 Rf6 40.Bxd4 Nxd4 41.Rxd4 Rf2+ 42.Kc3 1-0 Smyslov,V-Botvinnik,M World-ch20 Smyslov-Botvinnik +6-3=13 Moscow 1957 (20)]

8.Qg3 cxd4

[8...Ne7 was Botvinnik's choice, which was much riskier than the text move in game. 9.Bd2 (9.Qxg7!? refutes the idea entirely. Rg8 10.Qxh7 cxd4 11.Ne2 Nbc6 12.h4 The h-pawn is too strong for White here. Nxe5 13.cxd4 Nf7 14.Qh5 Regrouping the queen back to support the march of the h-pawn. Bd7 15.Qf3 Qxc2 16.h5± White's trumps are just too good here.) 9...0-0 10.Bd3 b6 11.Nh3 Ba6 12.Nf4 Qd7 13.h4 Bxd3 14.cxd3 Nbc6 15.Be3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Rac8 17.h5 Na5 18.h6 g6 19.0-0 Kh8 20.Rab1 Ng8 21.Bd2 Nc6 22.Ne2 Nd8 23.Rfc1 Nf7 24.Qh4 Rxc1+ 25.Rxc1 Rc8 26.f3 Rxc1+ 27.Bxc1 Qe7 28.Qxe7 Nxe7 29.Nf4 Nd8 30.g4 fxg4 31.fxg4 Nec6 32.Ne2 Kg8 33.Kf2 Kf8 34.Ke1 Nf7 35.g5 Ke7 36.Kd1 Kd7 37.Kc2 b5 38.Kb3 a6 39.a4 Kc7 40.axb5 axb5 41.Bd2 Kb6 42.Ka3 Kb7 43.Kb2 Ka6 44.Ka3 Nfd8 45.Be1 Ne7 46.Nc1 ½-½ Smyslov,V-Botvinnik,M World-ch20 Smyslov-Botvinnik +6-3=13 Moscow 1957 (14)]

[8...Nc6 seems to be the modern try these days. 9.Nf3 cxd4 (9...h6 10.h4 Kf8 11.h5 Nge7 12.Bd2 Bd7 13.Bd3 Be8 14.Qf4 b6 15.g4 c4 16.Be2 Kg8 17.Nh4 fxg4 18.Bxg4 Bf7 19.Rg1 Rf8 20.Qg3 Rh7 21.f4 Qd7 22.Ke2 Nf5 23.Nxf5 exf5 24.Bf3 Nd8 25.a4 Ne6 26.Bc1 Rc8 27.Kd2 Kh8 28.Ba3 Qxa4 29.Bd6 Qd7 30.Bxd5 Bxh5 31.Rxa7 Qxa7 32.Bxe6 Re8 33.Bxf5 g6 34.Bxg6 Bxg6 35.Qxg6 Qf7 36.Qxf7 Rxf7

37.Ke3 Rg8 38.Rh1 Rg3+ 39.Ke4 Kg7 40.e6 Ra7 41.Be5+ Kh7 42.d5 Rg2 43.d6 Re2+ 44.Kf5 Ra5 45.e7 1-0 Sarana,A (2649)-Fedoseev,V (2687) Titled Arena 2nd Jan Lichess.org INT blitz 2021) 10.cxd4 Nge7 11.Rb1 0-0 12.Bh6 Qa5+ 13.Bd2 Qa4 14.c3 Qc2 15.Rc1 Qe4+ 16.Be2 f4 17.Qh4 h6 18.Kf1 Bd7 19.Ne1 Qf5 20.Bd3 Ng6 21.Bxf5 Nxh4 22.Bd3 Na5 23.Rb1 Rac8 24.g3 Nf5 25.Ke2 b6 26.Rb4 Be8 27.Rg1 Bg6 28.g4 Nh4 29.Bxg6 Nxb6 30.Nf3 Nc4 31.a4 Ne7 32.Bc1 g6 33.h4 Rf7 34.Ne1 Nc6 35.Rb1 Kg7 36.Rh1 Rh8 37.Rh3 h5 38.f3 g5 39.hxg5 hxg4 40.Rxh8 Kxh8 41.fxg4 Ne7 42.Kf3 Ng6 43.Ng2 Rh7 44.Nxf4 Nxf4 45.Bxf4 Kg7 46.Kg3 Kg6 47.Rf1 Rf7 48.Rf2 Na3 49.a5 bxa5 50.Rb2 Nc4 51.Rb8 Re7 52.Bc1 a4 53.Rb4 a3 54.Ra4 a5 55.Bxa3 Rb7 56.Bc5 Rb3 57.Ra2 Rxc3+ 58.Kf4 Rh3 59.Be7 Rh1 60.Rf2 Rh7 61.Bd8 Rf7+ 62.Bf6 a4 63.Ra2 a3 64.Kf3 Rb7 65.Kf4 Rh7 66.Kg3 Rh1 67.Be7 Rg1+ 68.Kh4 Rh1+ 69.Kg3 Rh7 70.Bc5 Rb7 71.Kh4 Rb2 72.Rxa3 Nxa3 73.Bxa3 Rh2+ 74.Kg3 Rd2 75.Bc5 Kxg5 76.Be7+ Kg6 77.Bc5 Re2 78.Kf3 Re1 79.Kg3 Rf1 80.Kg2 Rf7 81.Kg3 Kg5 82.Bb6 Rb7 83.Bd8+ Kg6 84.Kf4 Rb3 85.Be7 Rb7 86.Bc5 Rf7+ 87.Kg3 Kg5 88.Bb6 Rb7 89.Bd8+ Kg6 90.Kf4 Rb4 91.Ke3 Kf7 92.Bc7 Ra4 93.Bb6 Kg6 94.Kf3 Ra1 95.Kf4 Re1 96.Bc5 Re2 97.Kf3 Re4 98.Kg3 Kf7 99.Kh4 Re3 100.Kg5 Kg7 101.Kf4 Rh3 102.Kg5 Kf7 103.Bd6 Rh8 104.Bc5 Rg8+ 105.Kh5 Ke8 106.Bd6 Kf7 107.Bc5 Rg6 108.Bd6 Kg7 109.Bf8+ Kh7 110.Bc5 Rg7 111.Bf8 Rf7 112.Bc5 Kg7 113.Kg5 Rf3 114.Kh5 Kf7 115.Kg5 Rh3 116.Bd6 Rh7

117.Bc5 ½-½ Karjakin,S (2776)-Ivanchuk,V (2779) Amber-rapid 20th Monte Carlo 2011 (9)]

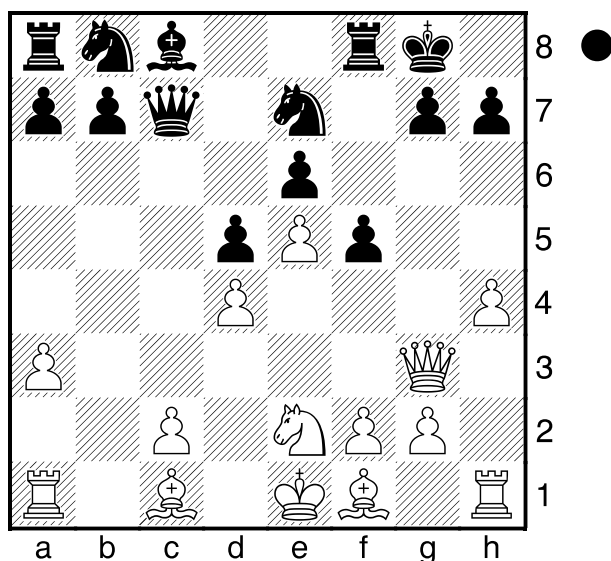
9.cxd4 Ne7 10.Ne2 or 10.c3, transposing. This scores much better than the traditional 10.Bd2 and is engine-approved to boot. The idea is simple: the knight goes to f4 and the h-pawn gets pushed.

[10.Bd2 0-0 11.Bd3 b6 12.Ne2 Ba6 13.Nf4 (13.Bb4 Bxd3 14.cxd3 Nbc6 15.Bd6 Qd7 16.0-0 Rfc8 17.h4 Ng6 18.h5 Nh8 19.h6 g6 20.Nf4 Nxd4 21.Ra2 Qb7 22.a4 Rc6 23.Qe3 Nc2 24.Rxc2 Rxc2 25.Nxe6 Nf7 26.Nd4 Ra2 27.Nxf5 Nxd6 28.exd6 gxf5 29.Qg5+ Kf8 30.Re1 Qf7 31.Re7 1-0 Diez del Corral,J (2360)-Portisch, L (2630) Olympiad-23 Buenos Aires 1978 (4)) 13...Qd7 14.Bxa6 Nxa6 15.Qd3 Nb8 16.h4 Nbc6 17.Rh3 Rac8 18.Rg3 Kh8 19.h5 Rf7 20.h6 g6 21.Rc1 Rff8 22.Ne2 Nb8 23.Kf1 Rc4 24.Kg1 Nbc6 25.Bg5 Ng8 26.Re1 Qf7 27.c3 Na5 28.Nf4 Rc6 29.Bf6+ Nxf6 30.exf6 Nc4 31.Qb1 Qxf6 32.a4 g5 33.Nd3 f4 34.Rh3 g4 35.Rh1 Rc7 36.Qd1 Qg6 37.Rh4 f3 38.g3 Rcf7 39.Nf4 Rxf4 40.gxf4 Rxf4 41.Qb1 Rf5 42.Qd3 g3 43.Qf1 gxf2+ 44.Kxf2 Rg5 45.Qh3 Rg2+ 46.Kxf3 Nd2+ 47.Ke3 Rg3+ 0-1 Reshevsky,S-Botvinnik,M World-ch17 Tournament The Hague/Moscow 1948 (19)]

10...0-0 11.h4?

[11.c3! would've been proper, and now after something like b6 12.Nf4 Qd7 13.a4 Preventing the queen from landing on a4. Ba6 14.Bb5! Bxb5 15.axb5+- Black is left with no counterplay as White propels the h-pawn up the board.]

(Diagram)



Hello? Your c2-pawn is hanging. And yes, I will confirm people's suspicions: this was the fastest played move in the entire middlegame. I suppose if you have to blunder, then blunder with confidence to confuse your opponent.

11...Qxc2=

[Somehow, a Serbian IM was hypnotized to play 11...b6? instead, after which both sides continued to ignore the c2-pawn for quite a while. 12.h5 Rf7 13.Bg5 Ba6 14.Nf4 Qxc2 15.Bxa6 Nxa6 16.0-0 Qc6 17.h6 Ng6 18.Nxg6 hxg6 19.Bf6 gxf6 20.Qxg6+ Kf8 21.h7 Ke7 22.exf6+ Rxf6 23.Qg7+ Rf7 24.h8Q Rxh8 25.Qxh8 Nc7 26.Rac1 Qb7 27.Rfe1 Ne8 28.Rxe6+ Kxe6 29.Re1+ Kd6 30.Qe5+ 1-0 Misailovic, N (2315)-Jovanovic, D (2195) Serbia-ch Kragujevac 2000 (3)]

12.Bg5?! Attempting to create counterplay, but this is just too forceful. White should swallow his pride instead and buckle up for defense.

[Predecessor: 12.h5 Nbc6 13.Bf4 Bd7 14.Rh3 Rf7 15.Qh4 Qb2 16.Rd1 Na5 17.Bc1 Qb6 18.Nc3 Rc8 19.Bg5 Nec6 20.h6 g6 21.Na4 Qc7 22.Rc1 Nc4 23.Bxc4 dxc4

24.Nc3 Na5 25.Kf1 Nb3 26.Rd1 Qa5 27.d5 Qxa3 28.dxe6 Bxe6 29.Kg1 Qc5 30.Bf6 b5 31.Rd6 Re8 32.Rg3 b4 33.Na4 Qc7 34.Bd8 Qb7 35.Rxe6 Rxe6 36.Qxc4 Rxe5 37.Qxb3 Qd5 38.Qd3 Rd7 39.Qxd5+ Rdx5 40.Bf6 Re1+ 41.Kh2 Kf7 42.Bg5 Ke6 43.Rb3 Re4 44.f3 Red4 45.Nb2 f4 46.Bh4 Rh5 47.Kh3 g5 48.Kg4 Rxh4+ 49.Kxg5 Rh2 50.g4 f3 51.f4 Rd5+ 52.Kg4 g2 53.Re3+ Kf6 0-1 Schuetze, N (2287)-Sonntag, H (2038) Leipzig VfB op 14th 2007 (2)]

12...Nbc6?!

[12...f4! 13.Qf3 Nbc6 14.Rh3 Nf5 15.Rd1+ was a much stronger attempt, tangling White's pieces together.]

13.h5?! A cute move, with intentions of h5-h6 and Qh4 afterwards, but completely overlooking Black's response.

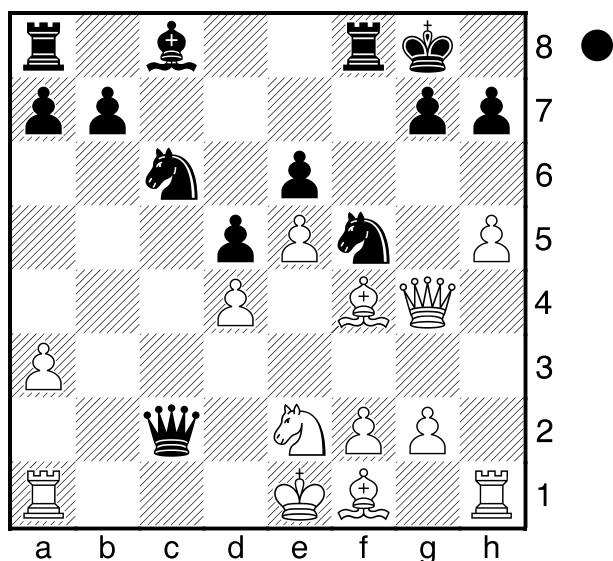
[Instead 13.Rc1 Qa4 14.h5 f4 15.Qd3 would've held parity as Nf5 is now met with 16.h6! g6 17.Nxf4= when it would be mistaken to take with the f5-knight due to Nfxd4? 18.Nxg6!+-]

13...f4 14.Bxf4

[14.Qf3 was a bit more precise, but is not pleasant to play at all. Nf5 15.Rc1 Qa4 16.h6 Nfxd4 17.Qd3 Qa5+ 18.Kd1 Qa4+ 19.Ke1 g6+ and now White doesn't have Nxg6 threats anymore.]

14...Nf5 15.Qg4

(Diagram)



Keeping the pin intact as well as discovery attacks on d4. **15...Nfxd4?!** Gives White too much counterplay instead.

[15...Ncxd4?! does not work either, as after 16.Rc1 Qa4 (16...Qe4! is more accurate. 17.f3 Qd3 18.Nxd4 Qxd4 19.Bd2 Qxe5+ 20.Kf2 a5 21.Bd3 with two pawns up, but White does get the mobile bishop pair so is likely to hold a draw.) 17.Nxd4 Nxd4 18.Rh4! The beauty move, neutralizing Black's initiative by swapping off the queens and using White's more active rooks to compensate for the lost material. Nf5 19.Bd2 Qxg4?! 19...Qxa3 is better. 20.Rxg4± And White's even slightly winning in this position as he'll be able to infiltrate the seventh rank and wreck havoc with his bishop pair and rooks.]

[Instead, I was looking at 15...Qb2! over the board and it turns out to be a very strong move: 16.Rd1 Qxa3 17.Rh3 Qa4 18.h6 g6+ and White is left with virtually no counterplay against two passers.]

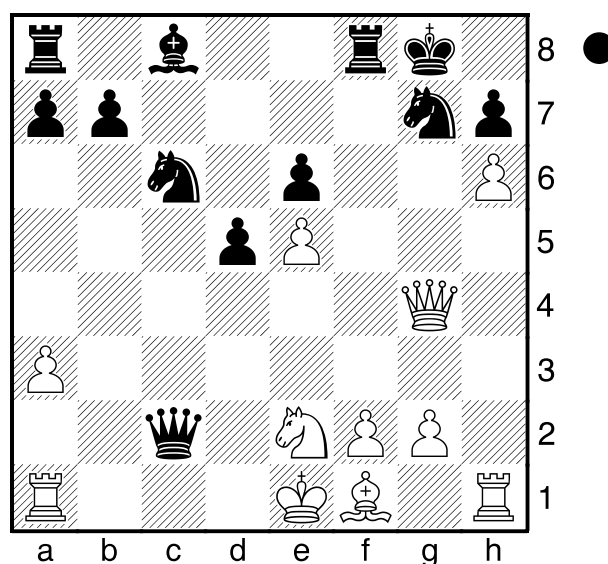
16.Bh6?+ This, however, was not the right move.

[16.Rc1! and I was afraid of Qf5 but after 17.Qxf5 Nxf5 18.Rh3 Bd7 19.Rb3 The endgame is relatively... reasonable for White to hold -- as the old adage says, "All rook endgames are drawn."]

16...Nf5?!

[16...Rf7! Instead, just shuts down White's plans, and it turns out that after 17.Rc1 Nxe5 18.Qxd4 Black has the very rewarding Nd3+-+ which instantly wins.]

17.Bxg7 Nxg7 18.h6



and while it does look like White regains the piece with a pawn down endgame, the truth is a little different on the board.

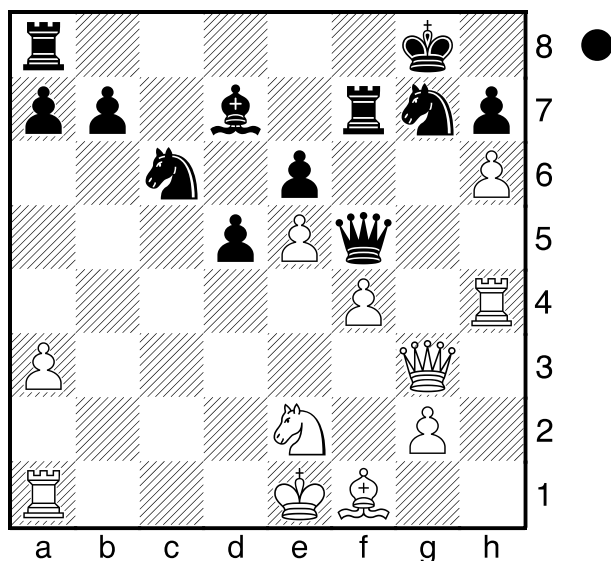
18...Rf7 19.f4 White absolutely cannot let Black capture the center if he wants to retain any hope in this. **19...Qf5?+** doesn't win a piece, as Black initially thought.

[19...d4! was much more precise, aiming for quick center play before White has the time to react. 20.Rc1 Qe4 21.Rh5 Qg6 22.Qxg6 hxc6 23.Rg5 Nf5 24.Rxg6+ Kh7+ and White's pieces are just awfully coordinated in this endgame.]

20.Qg3 Bd7 21.Rh4?

[21.Rd1! Protecting the center is

much more accurate, after which Rc8 22.hxg7 Ne7 23.Qd3 Rxc7 24.g3 Rc4 25.Bh3 still has the potential to be held by White, although actually executing that is a different matter.]



A cute idea -- the intention is to buy a tempo by threatening Rg4, winning the knight, while protecting the f4-pawn to free up the knight. Shame it runs into a brilliant tactic both players missed.

21...Kh8??

[21...Nxe5! and White can't take because the bishop is no longer protected. 22.fxe5 Qxf1+-+]

[Even 21...Ne7 refutes the idea, as after 22.hxg7 Ng6! 23.Rh3 Bb5+- White has a whole host of issues, starting from the weak f4-pawn.]

[21...Qg6 doesn't really work, however, as after 22.Qxc6 hxc6 23.hxg7 Rxc7 24.Rh6 Ne7 25.Rb1 b6 26.Nd4 Black is barely better.]

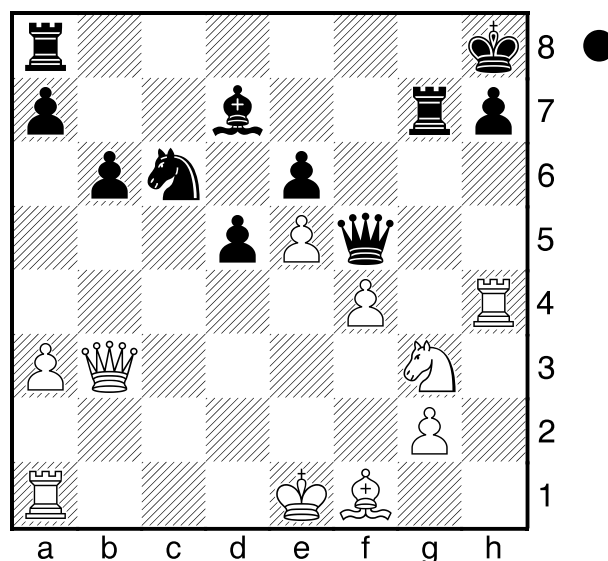
22.hxg7+ Rxc7 23.Qb3 b6?!?

Too weakening. Black's queenside light squares are now shot.

[23...Be8! was much better, after which 24.g4! Qf8 (24...Rxc7? 25.Bh3!±) 25.Rd1 Bg6 26.Bg2+ Black's still holding onto the

advantage, although he will actually have to work to realize it.]

24.Ng3



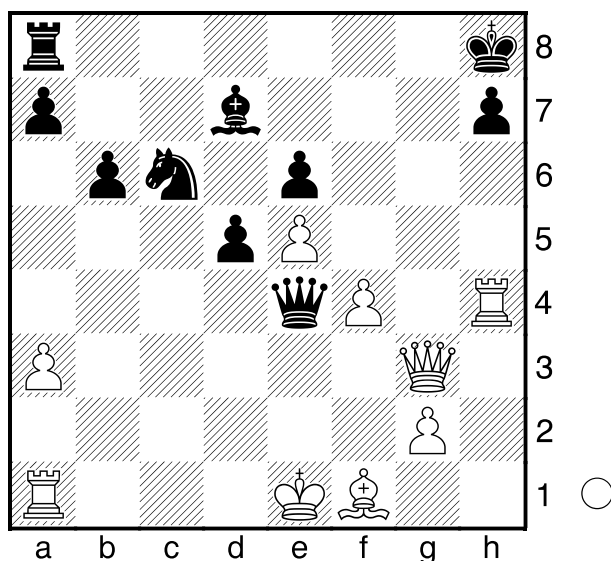
Now the knight is heading to f6.

24...Rxc7?+- A completely unsound and unnecessary sacrifice. White has more than enough defensive mechanisms to hold the exchange, which means that he's now even better.

[24...Qg6 was the only move, keeping the queen looking at the e4-square, after which 25.Kf2! This is more precise than the immediate (25.Nh5 which runs into Nd4 26.Qd3 Nc2+ 27.Kf2 Nxa1 28.Nxc7 Qxc7 29.Qh3 and Black's holding onto the endgame advantage.) 25...Rf8 26.Nh5 Qg5! (26...Rgf7? just leads to 27.Kg1 Qe4 28.Qd3 Ne7 29.Nf6± and Black is forced to sacrifice the exchange to get rid of the strong f6-knight.) 27.Qh3 Qxe5 28.Nxc7 Rxf4+ 29.Rxf4 Qxf4+ 30.Qf3 Qd4+ 31.Kg3 Qxc7+ 32.Kh2 Ne5 33.Qf4= and this is drawn.]

25.Qxc7 Qe4+

(Diagram)



26.Be2?? This is just wrong. I was too scared of the resulting rook forks, but completely forgot about

[26.Kd2! Qd4+ 27.Bd3+- and now the threat of mate prevents any rook captures (actually, this position is a mate in 11).]

26...Nd4 27.Ra2 Qb1+?

[27...Nc2+? 28.Rxc2 Qxc2 29.Bd3+- is winning for White, with mate in 9.]

[27...Bb5! was the proper move to retain the advantage, after which White can only hope for a draw after 28.Qg5 Bxe2 29.Qf6+ Kg8 30.Qg5+ Qg6 31.Rxe2 Qxg5 32.fxg5 Nxe2 33.Kxe2+]

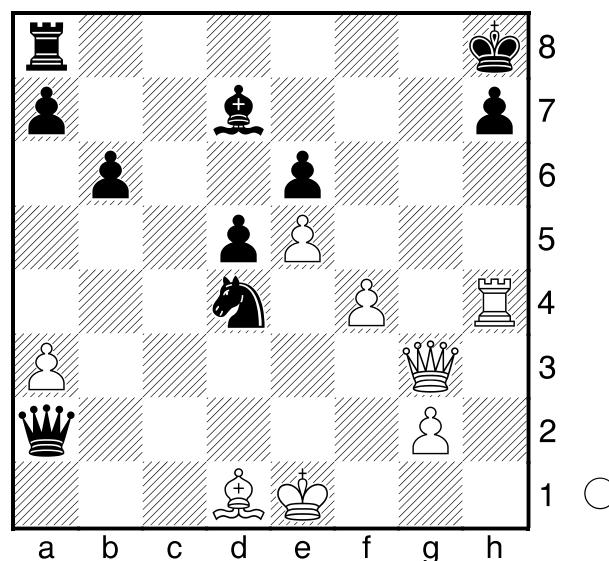
28.Bd1?

[28.Kf2! retains a draw due to the perpetual threat. Qxa2 29.Rxh7+! Kxh7 30.Qh4+= Black can't escape the perpetual check here.]

28...Qxa2??

[28...Ba4! was what holds the advantage. 29.Qg5 Qxd1+ 30.Kf2 Nf5! 31.Qf6+ Ng7+- with no perpetual to bail out White.]

(Diagram)



Instantly loses the game out right.

29.Qg6!! Instantly snapped onto the board. Black can't stop mate. **29...Nc2+ 30.Bxc2 Qa1+ 31.Kf2!** The only way to avoid perpetual (31.Ke2 is the same idea, just takes longer).

[31.Bb1?? would instantly run into Qc3+ 32.Kd1 Ba4+ 33.Ke2 Qb2+ 34.Kf3 Qc3+ 35.Bd3 Bd1+ 36.Kf2 Qd2+= and White has no escape.]

31...Qd4+ 32.Kf3 Qc3+ 33.Bd3?

(Beauty=15.7) Black has run out of checks. I annotated a mistake because, just like Fischer, I strive for quicker mates. :)

[33.Kg4! is mate in 2.]

1-0



Benaïd, Henry

D52



Parsons, Stephen

1851

1782

2023 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (6.9)

[Winslow, Elliott]

Benaïd was running away with the 1600-1999 section until he blundered in a long-won position: Parsons didn't blink and they're now tied 1st-2nd going into the final round! **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6**

3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 c6 5.Bg5 Nbd7 6.e3 Bd6!? There is a modern trend to dodge the breaking of the pin in similar positions.

[The usual Cambridge Springs move is 6...Qa5 7.Qc2 Bb4 (7...Bd6 8.Bd3)]

[And of course Black could return to the Orthodox Queen's Gambit Declined with 6...Be7 -- there was a time when that early ...c6 (typically Black has already castled here with the c-pawn unmoved) was thought to give White some options with 0-0-0 and quick kingside attack, while Black's ...c6 means ...c5 costs a tempo, but it's now known to not be so bad. (As an "Opposite Sider" I speak from bruised experience.)]

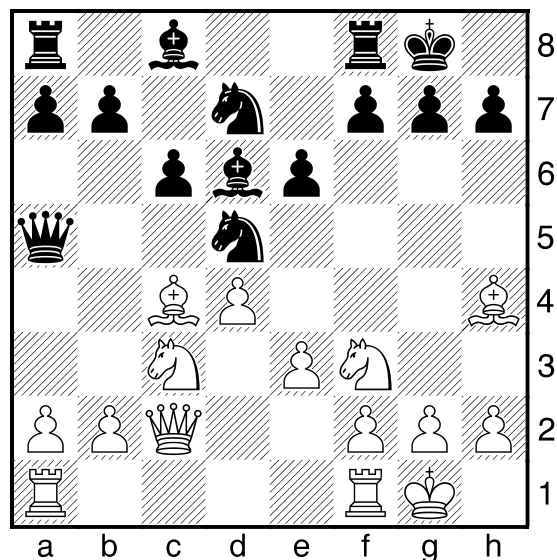
[Even 6...Bb4!/? has racked up over a thousand games, although it could just transpose back to the CS after

A) 7.cxd5!/? exd5 8.Qc2 (8.Bd3);

B) 7.Rc1 Qa5]

7.Qc2 0-0 8.Bd3 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Qa5 10.0-0 Nd5 11.Bh4

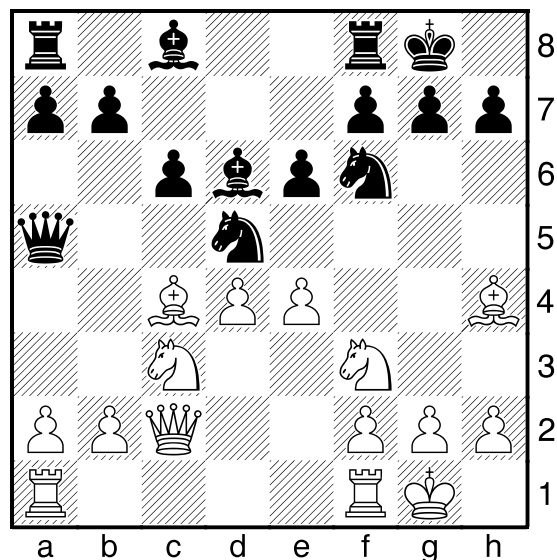
[Why not right away? 11.e4 Nxc3 12.bxc3± e5 13.Rfe1?! Kh8?! 14.Rad1 f6 15.Bh4 Qc7 16.h3 b5 17.Bb3 Bb7 18.c4 bxc4 19.Bxc4 c5 20.d5 Nb6 21.Nd2 h6 22.f3 Rfc8 23.Bf2 a5 24.Rc1 Ba6 25.Bxa6 Rxa6 26.Nc4 Nxc4 27.Qxc4 Rb6 28.Re2 Rb4 29.Qc3 a4 30.Rec2 Rb5 31.Qa3 Qa7 32.Rc4 Ra5 33.Be1 Ra6 34.Kh1 Kh7 35.R1c3 Rb8 36.Bf2 Ra5 37.Bxc5 Rxc5 38.Rxc5 Rc8 39.Rxc8 Bxa3 40.Rxa3 Qd4 41.Rac3 f5 42.R8c4 Qd1+ 43.Kh2 fxe4 44.fxe4 Qd2 45.a3 Qf4+ 46.Kg1 Qd2 47.Rc1 Qe3+ 48.Kh1 Qxa3 49.R1c3 Qa1+ 50.Kh2 a3 51.Rg3 a2 52.Rc7 h5 53.Rcxg7+ Kh8 54.R7g5 Qd1 ½-½ Scarcella,F-Belfiore,S Villa Ballester op 48th 1998 (2)]



11...N7f6?!

[11...Nxc3 12.bxc3 c5±]

12.e4



Nxc3 13.Bxf6?!

[13.bxc3+-]

13...Nxe4! 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Qxe4 Qh5

[Stockfish recommends 15...Qf5 -- and doesn't trade! Funky pawns there...]

16.Rfe1± Qg6 17.Qh4 Rg8?! 18.Ne5 Bxe5 19.dxe5+- Kh8 20.Bf1

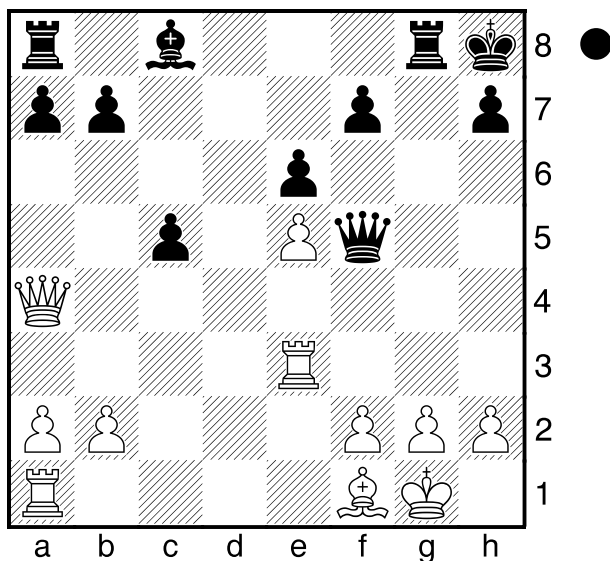
[20.g3]

20...c5?! 21.Re3

[21.Qe7! b6 22.Re3 Qg5 23.Qc7 Qd8 24.Qxf7+-]

21...Qg5!? 22.Qe4 Qf5 And again 23.Qa4

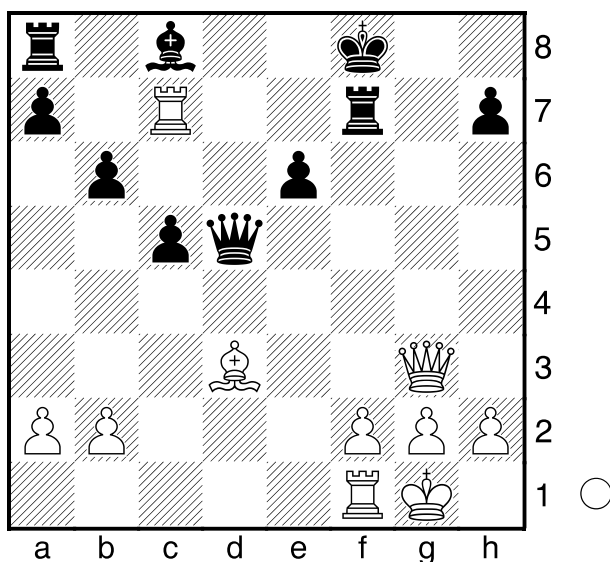
[23.Qh4 Qg5 24.Qxg5 Rxxg5 25.Rd1±]



23...Rd8?

[23...b6]

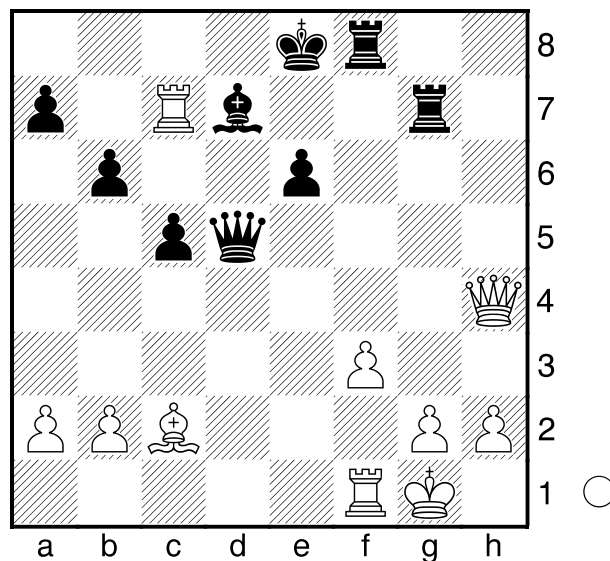
24.Rf3 Qxe5 25.Rxf7+- Qh5 26.Qf4 Kg8 27.Rc7 Rf8 28.Qd6 b6 29.Bc4 Qf5 30.Rf1 Rf7 31.Bd3 Qd5 32.Qg3+! Kf8



33.Bxh7

[33.Rxf7+ Kxf7 34.Qf4+ Ke7 35.Be4]

33...Bd7 34.Bc2 Rg7 35.Qf4+ Ke7 36.f3 Rf8 37.Qh4+ Ke8



38.Rd1?? Black grabbed the moment:

38...Rxxg2+ 39.Kxxg2 Qxf3+ 0-1

C30
 □ Maheshwari,Anubhav **1332**
 ■ Gay,John Brodie **1576**
 2023 Summer TNM: 1200-1599 (6.28)
 [Winslow,Elliott]

I know better than to choose best games before getting to the "bottom" -- this game, while a "could have been," is something to marvel at! Kudos to them both for such a battle. **1.e4 e5 2.f4** King's Gambit! **2...d6** Not the main move at all.

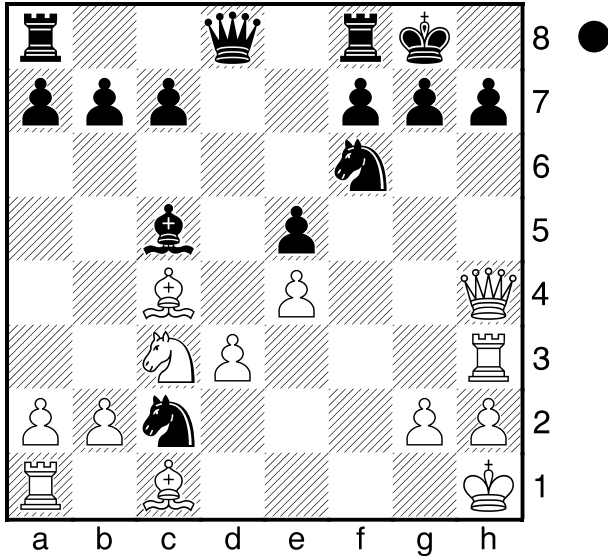
[2...exf4 accepts, with many possibilities.]

[2...Bc5 is the somewhat quieter Declined variation, immediately and logically pointing out the weakness created by White's second move.]

[2...d5!? the Falkbeer Counter

Gambit,]

3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7
6.Nc3 0-0 7.fxe5 dxe5 8.d3 Bc5+
9.Kh1 Bg4 10.Qe1 Bxf3 11.Rxf3 Nd4
12.Rh3 Nxc2 13.Qh4



h5?? Too passive (and weakening) --
White is free to continue the attack.

[There was only one good defence:
Black must throw it into hyper-gear
with 13...Qd4! when there are
fantastic complications: 14.Ne2

A) 14...Qd7 is "just" equal:

A1) 15.Bg5 Qg4 16.Rc1!
(16.Bxf6 Qxh4 17.Bxh4 Nxa1)
16...Ne3!! 17.Rg3!! Qxh4
18.Bxh4 Nfg4! Crazy knights!;

A2) 15.Rg3! Ne8! 16.Rh3
Nf6=;

B) 14...Qf2! 15.Qxf2 Bxf2 16.Rb1
Ng4! 17.Rf3 Ne1! 18.Rf5 g6
(18...b5!?) 19.Rg5 b5!

B1) 20.Bb3 Nf6 21.Rxe5
Nxd3+;

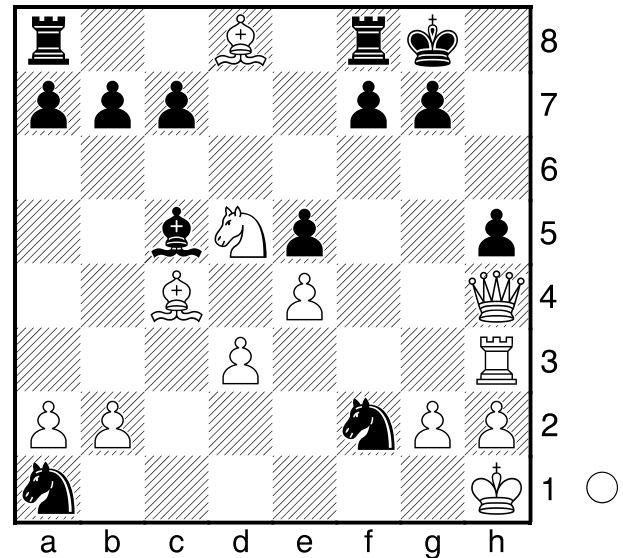
B2) 20.Bd5 c6 21.Bxc6 h5
22.Bxa8 Rxa8 White won the
Exchange, but his rook is in
trouble 23.d4! Nd3! 24.h3 Nf6
(24...f6);

B3) 20.Bxb5 h5! (no Rxc6+!)
and in this still crazy position,

Black is doing better (assuming
he doesn't lose some errant
minor piece!).]

14.Bg5! Nxa1 15.Nd5! Ng4 16.Bxd8!
Nf2+?!

[16...Raxd8 17.Rf3]

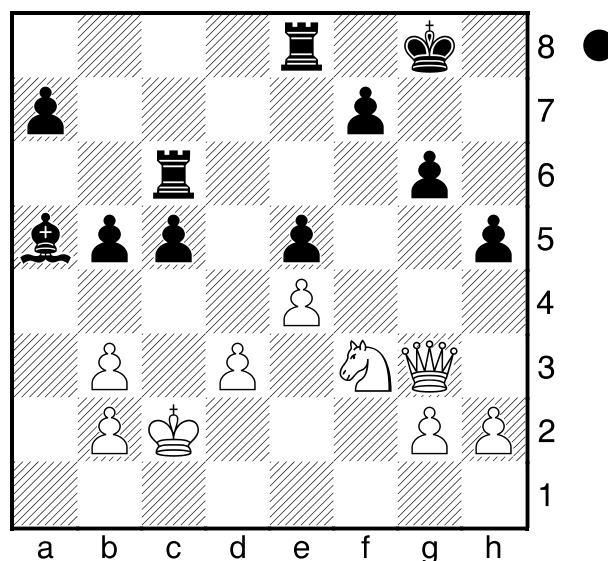


17.Kg1?

[17.Qxf2!! "overloads" Black's bishop:
Bxf2 (anything else is mate soon
enough, what with all of White's forces
aiming at Black's king) 18.Ne7+ Kh7
19.Rxh5#! is the famously named
Anastasia Mate.]

17...Nxb3+ 18.Kf1 Raxd8 19.Qxb3 c6

(Diagram)



c4!-+ The "decisive breakthrough" as the books say. The rooks rule. **32.Nxe5 Bc7**

[32...cxd3+! 33.Kxd3 Rd8+ 34.Ke3
(34.Ke2 Rc2+) 34...Bb6+ 35.Ke2
(35.Kf4 Bc7; 35.Kf3 Rf6+ 36.Ke2
Rf2+) 35...Rc2+ 36.Kf3 Rdd2]

33.d4 cxb3+ 34.Kxb3 Bxe5 35.dxe5 Rce6 36.Qe3 a5-+ Gay coordinates well, White's e-pawns are lost without compensation. **37.Kc3 Rxe5 38.Qb6 b4+ 39.Kb3 Rxe4 40.Qxa5 Re3+ 41.Kxb4?!**

[41.Ka4]

41...R8e4+ 42.Kb5 Re5+ 43.Ka6
Rxa5+ 44.Kxa5 Re2

[44...Rb3]

45.b4 Rxc2
0-1

20...b5!-+ Now Black trades off the wayward knight, consolidates his pawns, and (finally) gets those rooks into action.
21.Bb3 Nxb3 22.axb3 g6 23.Qg3 Rfe8 24.Ke2 Bd4 25.Kd2 Rd6 26.Kc2 Rf6 27.Ne2 Bb6 28.Kc3 c5 29.Ng1 Rc6 30.Nf3 Ba5+ 31.Kc2

(Diagram)

The Chess Club, Past and Present

Every world champion from **Emanuel Lasker** to **Anatoly Karpov** has visited the Mechanics' Institute with the exception of **Mikhail Botvinnik**. We are in the process of hunting down photographs of the World Champions at the club - perhaps our readers can help?



Jose Raoul Capablanca with four-time California State Champion **A.J. Fink** in 1916.



Alexander Alekhine, simultaneous exhibition 1929.



Vassily Smyslov, simultaneous exhibition 1976.



Tigran Petrosian, simultaneous Exhibition 1978.



Mikhail Tal playing blitz with two-time U.S. Champion GM **Patrick Wolff**, 1991.



Anatoly Karpov (right) signed the Mechanics' Institute Register in 1999. Also shown are FIDE Master **Mark Pinto** and **Ewelina Krubnik**, who would one day teach the Beginners Class for Women at the Mechanics' Institute.



Boris Spassky, simultaneous exhibition 2006.

Recent activities at the club include an ongoing free Beginners Class for Mechanics' Institute Members...



...and an Endgame Lab taught by Chess Coordinator, FM **Paul Whitehead**.



The Chess Scuttlebutt

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

Magnus Carlsen trots out the Polish defense [against](#) an actual Pole - and loses.

WGM Jennifer Shahade [hosts](#) *Jeopardy! Masters*.

The USCF issues a statement permanently [banning](#) GM Alejandro Ramirez as a member.

The San Francisco Giants are [crazy](#) about chess.

A neuroscientist [asks](#): Is consciousness more like chess, or more like the weather?

Arnold Schwarzenegger thinks his son-in-law is an '[extraordinary](#)' chess player.

Middle-schoolers [take on](#) the fire department in Lynden, Washington. But who won?

GZA of Wu-Tang Clan [hosts](#) a blitz tournament in Australia.

Magnus Carlsen wants us to buy his [sneakers](#).

A chess-inspired [art exhibit](#) (and blitz tournament) in Plymouth, England.

The Cannes Film Festival [screens](#) a five-minute short, *Building Minds with Chess*.

Hikaru Nakamura has a good [laugh](#) at Elon Musk's claim to have never lost a chess game.

Chess Club Records just [signed](#) Trout to their label.

The Bernal Chess Club gets a [shout-out](#) in the SF Weekly.

The [Cairns Cup](#) has kicked off in St Louis, and International Arbiter Judit Sztaray is helping officiate

[Avery Ingram](#) is Britain's first AI employee - and she plays chess.

Check out San Francisco-based chess player and musician Lisa Willis' [podcast](#) for soulful tunes. Lisa recently received a music grant from the African American Arts and Culture Complex.

Children in Washington State play in the [Detective Cookie Classic](#), a tournament named after Detective Denise "Cookie" Bouldin of the Seattle Police Department.

Oakland has a [new chess club](#) that meets on Wednesdays.

Sergey Karjakin [doubles-down](#) on his allegiance to Russia.

[Make a Chess Move](#) is a Denver non-profit keeping kids out of trouble.

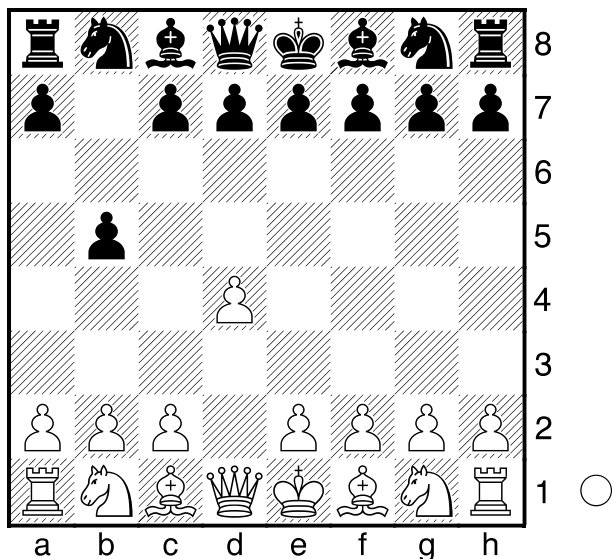
A must-read look at [harassment](#) in the chess community.

Recent Games

A selection of games from around the world that have caught our attention.

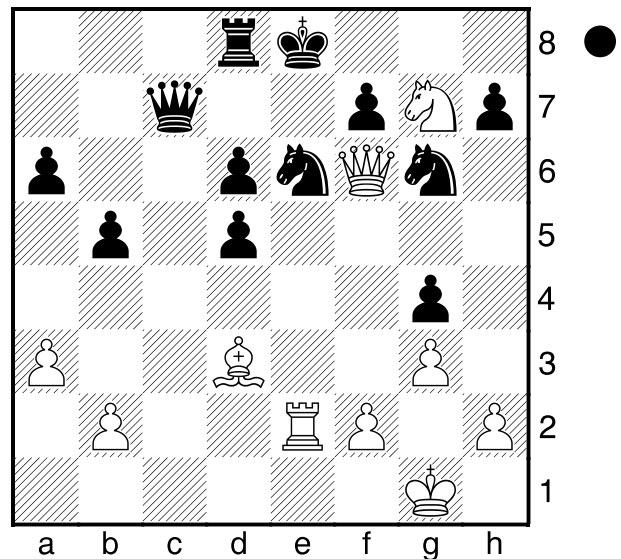
Wojtaszek, Radoslaw **A40**
2670
 Carlsen, Magnus **2853**
 Superbet Rapid Poland 2023 (1.2)

Carlsen's Polish Defense is destroyed by the top Polish player. 1.d4 b5!?



2.e4 Bb7 3.Bd3 Nf6 4.Nd2 c5 5.c3
 cxd4 6.cxd4 e6 7.Ngf3 Nc6 8.0-0 a6
 9.Re1 Be7 10.d5 exd5 11.e5 Nh5
 12.Nb3 g6 13.Bh6 Rg8 14.Be3 Ng7
 15.Nc5 Qc7 16.Rc1 Ne6 17.Nxb7
 Qxb7 18.Bf1 Bb4 19.Re2 Ne7
 20.Rec2 Nf5 21.Bg5 Be7 22.Bf6 Nfg7
 23.Qd3 Bxf6 24.exf6 Nh5 25.Qc3 Rd8
 26.a3 Qb8 27.g3 g5 28.Re1 g4
 29.Nd4 Rg5 30.Bd3 Re5 31.Nf5
 Rxe1+ 32.Qxe1 Nxf6 33.Qb4 d6
 34.Qc3 Nd7 35.Qh8+ Ndf8 36.Qf6
 Ng6 37.Re2 Qc7 38.Ng7+

(Diagram)

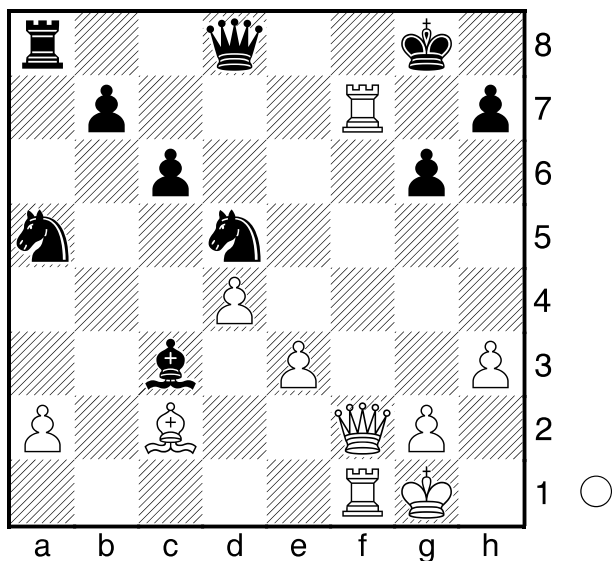


1-0

Erigaisi Arjun **C54**
2701
 Yakubboev, Nodirbek **2630**
 6th Sharjah Masters 2023 (9.3) 25.05.23

With three pieces off-side on the
 queenside, black's tactic on the 21st
 move can only backfire. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3
 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 0-0
 6.0-0 d5 7.exd5 Nxd5 8.Re1 Bg4 9.h3
 Bh5 10.b4 Be7 11.b5 Na5 12.Rxe5
 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 Nb6 14.Bb3 Bf6 15.Rf5
 a6 16.bxa6 Rxa6 17.Bc2 Re8 18.Be3
 c6 19.Nd2 Bxc3 20.Rb1 g6 21.Rxf7
 Rxe3 22.fxe3 Bxd2 23.Rf1 Ra8 24.Qf2
 Bc3 25.d4 Nd5

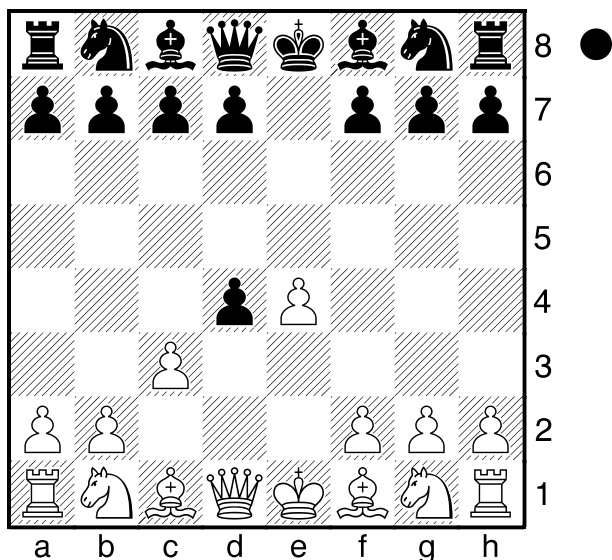
(Diagram)



26.Bxg6! Nxe3 27.Rg7+
1-0

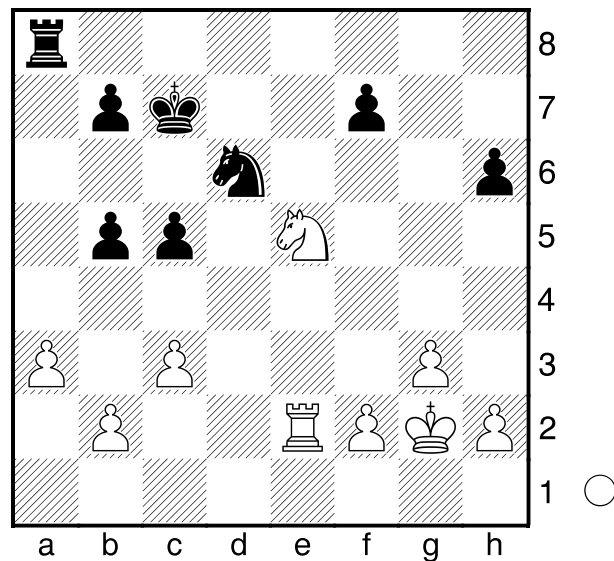
Carlsen, Magnus **C21**
 Aronian, Levon **2853**
 Superbet Blitz Poland 2023 (8) **2745**
 24.05.23

Carlsen adds the Danish Gambit to his repertoire. 1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.c3!?



d5 4.exd5 Nf6 5.Nf3 Nxd5 6.Qxd4
Nc6 7.Bb5 Qe7+ 8.Ne5 Bd7 9.Bxc6
Bxc6 10.0-0 Qe6 11.Nxc6 Qxc6

12.Re1+ Be7 13.Qxg7 0-0-0 14.Qg4+
Kb8 15.Qf3 Bc5 16.Nd2 Qf6 17.Qxf6
Nxf6 18.Nb3 Bb6 19.Be3 Rhe8
20.Bxb6 axb6 21.Nd4 Ne4 22.g3 Nd6
23.Kg2 c5 24.Nf3 Kc7 25.Rxe8 Rxe8
26.Re1 Ra8 27.a3 h6 28.Re7+ Kd8
29.Re2 b5 30.Ne5 Kc7

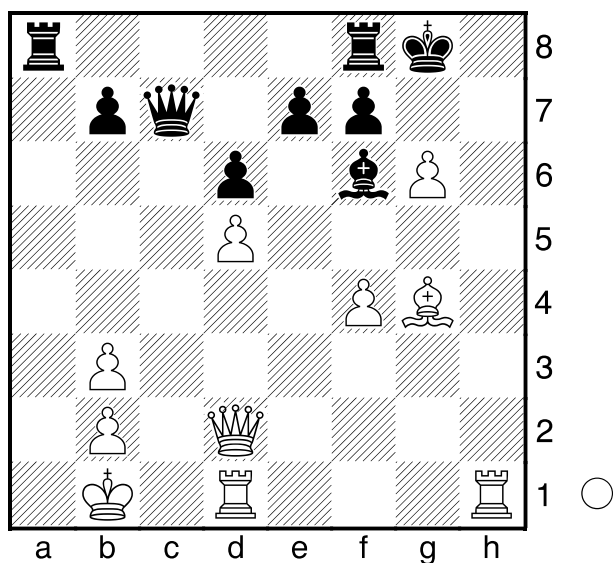


31.Nxf7!
1-0

Carlsen, Magnus **B76**
 Shevchenko, Kirill **2853**
 Superbet Blitz Poland 2023 (5) **2684**
 24.05.23

Carlsen lops off yet another head of the Dragon. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 g6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nb3 d6 8.f3 0-0 9.Qd2 Be6 10.0-0-0 Ne5 11.Kb1 Rc8 12.h4 h5 13.Be2 a6 14.Bd4 Qc7 15.g4 hxg4 16.f4 Nc6 17.Bxf6 Bxf6 18.Nd5 Bxd5 19.exd5 Nd4 20.Bxg4 Nxb3 21.axb3 a5 22.h5 a4 23.hxg6 axb3 24.cxb3 Ra8

(Diagram)



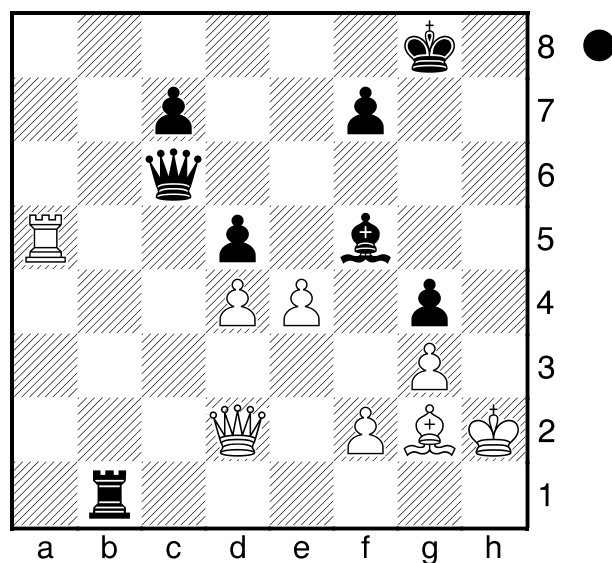
25.Qh2
1-0

Dzagnidze,Nana **D38**
 Kosteniuk,Alexandra **2513**
 FIDE Womens Grand Prix-IV 2022-23 (6.6)

The black queen makes a quick switch to the kingside, and it's suddenly all over.

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bf4 Ne4 7.Rc1 Nc6 8.g3 Bf5 9.Qa4 Qe7 10.Ne5 0-0 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bg2 Nxc3 13.bxc3 Ba3 14.Rd1 Bd6 15.Bxd6 Qxd6 16.0-0 Rfb8 17.Rd2 Rb6 18.Rc1 a5 19.h4 h6 20.e3 g5 21.hxg5 hxg5 22.Qd1 Qa3 23.c4 Rab8 24.Kh2 g4 25.Qf1 Rb1 26.Rdd1 Rxc1 27.Rxc1 Rb2 28.cxd5 cxd5 29.Qe1 Qxa2 30.Ra1 Qc4 31.Rxa5 Rb1 32.Qd2 Qc6 33.e4

(Diagram)

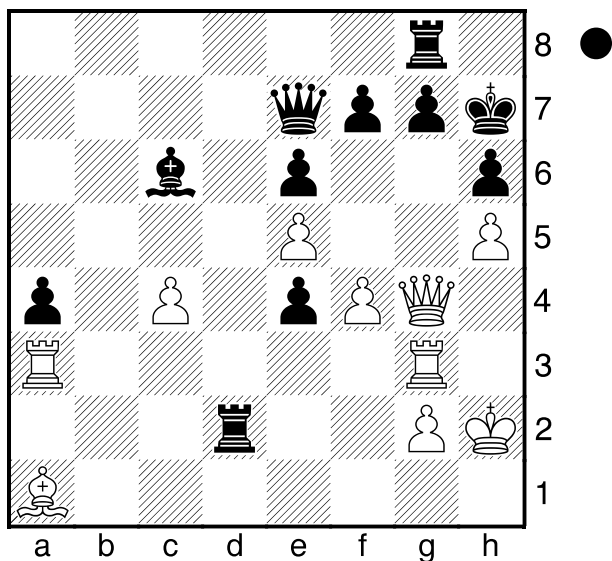


Qg6! 34.Ra8+ Kg7
0-1

Kiolbasa,Oliwia **B48**
 Dzagnidze,Nana **2422**
 FIDE Womens Grand Prix-IV 2022-23 (7.2)

A cute interference sacrifice.out of nowhere. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.a3 b5 8.Nxc6 Qxc6 9.h4 Bb7 10.h5 Qc7 11.Bd3 h6 12.Qe2 Nf6 13.f4 b4 14.axb4 Bxb4 15.Ra4 Bxc3+ 16.bxc3 Qxc3+ 17.Kf2 0-0 18.Rb1 Qc7 19.Bd2 d5 20.e5 Ne4+ 21.Bxe4 dxe4 22.Be3 a5 23.Kg1 Bc6 24.Ra3 Bd5 25.Bb6 Qe7 26.Rba1 Rfc8 27.Bf2 Qc7 28.Rg3 Kh7 29.Qg4 Rg8 30.Qe2 a4 31.Raa3 Qe7 32.c4 Bc6 33.Qg4 Rab8 34.Kh2 Rb2 35.Bd4 Rd2 36.Ba1

(Diagram)

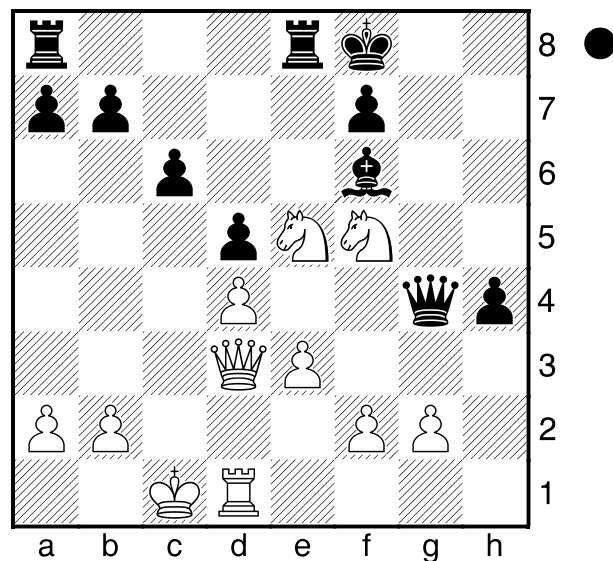


Rxg2+! 37.Rxg2 Qxa3 38.Bb2 Qd3
39.f5 Bd7 40.f6 e3 41.Qf3 Qxc4
42.Qxe3 Bc6
0-1

□ **Rapport, Richard** **D31 2745**
 ■ **Deac, Bogdan-Daniel** **2700**
 Superbet Blitz Poland 2023 (13) 25.05.23

Black drops everything, all at once. 1.d4
d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Be7 4.cxd5 exd5
5.Bf4 c6 6.Qc2 Nd7 7.e3 Nf8 8.Bd3
g6 9.Nf3 Ne6 10.Be5 Nf6 11.h4 Ng7
12.0-0-0 0-0 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.h5 Nxh5
15.Rxh5 gxh5 16.Bxh7+ Kg7 17.Bf5
Bxf5 18.Qxf5 Qc8 19.Qd3 Qg4 20.Ne2
Rfe8 21.Ng3 h4 22.Nf5+ Kf8 23.Ne5

(Diagram)

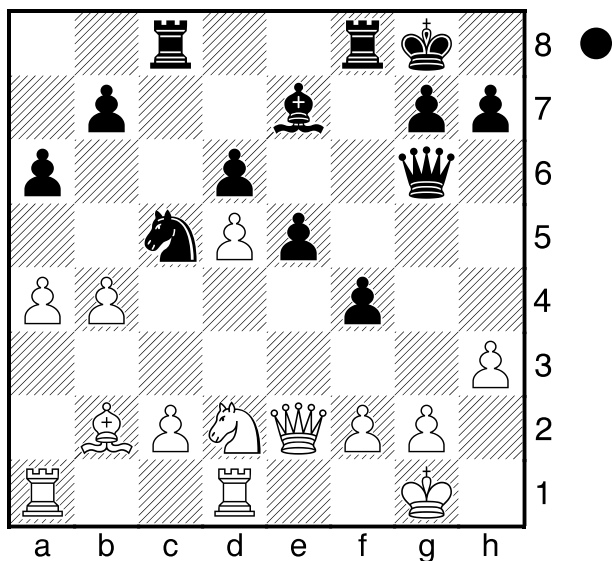


Qg5? 24.f4
1-0

□ **So, Wesley** **B51 2760**
 ■ **Giri, Anish** **2768**
 Superbet Blitz Poland 2023 (4) 24.05.23

An nice piece sacrifice for two pawns
leads to an overwhelming attack. 1.e4
c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.d4 cxd4
5.Qxd4 a6 6.Be2 Ngf6 7.0-0 e5 8.Qe3
Nc5 9.Nc3 Be7 10.a4 0-0 11.Nd2 Ng4
12.Bxg4 Bxg4 13.h3 Be6 14.b3 Rc8
15.Bb2 f5 16.Rfd1 f4 17.Qe2 Qe8
18.Nd5 Bxd5 19.exd5 Qg6 20.b4

(Diagram)

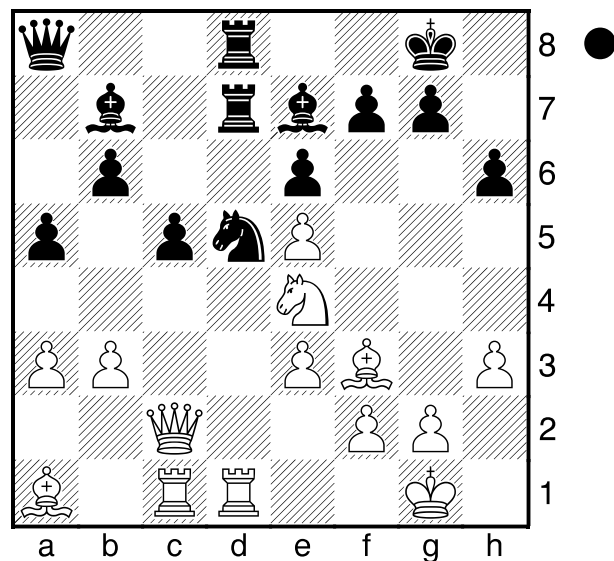


Nxa4! 21.Rxa4 Rxc2 22.Bc1 f3 23.Qf1 Bh4 24.g3 Bxg3 25.fxg3 e4 26.Ra3 Qxg3+ 27.Kh1 Rfc8 28.Qg1 Rxc1 29.Ra1 Qxh3+ 30.Qh2 Qxh2+ 31.Kxh2 Rxa1 32.Rxa1 Rc2
0-1

Van Foreest, Jorden **D27**
 Abdusattorov, Nodirbek **2689**
2731
 ChessKid Cup Div-I 2023 (3.3) 24.05.23

A flurry of tactics leaves white two pawns down and nothing to play for. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 e6 5.Bxc4 a6 6.0-0 c5 7.b3 b6 8.Bb2 Bb7 9.Be2 Nbd7 10.Nbd2 Be7 11.Ne5 Nxe5 12.dxe5 Nd5 13.Bf3 Qc7 14.a3 0-0 15.Qc2 Rfd8 16.Rac1 Rd7 17.Rfd1 Rad8 18.Ne4 Qc8 19.Qb1 Qa8 20.h3 h6 21.Ba1 a5 22.Qc2

(Diagram)

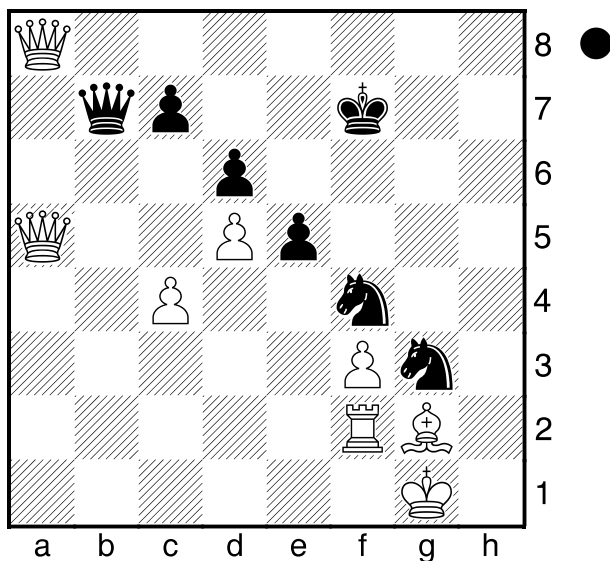


Nxe3! 23.Rxd7 Nxc2 24.Rxb7 Qxb7 25.Nf6+ Bxf6 26.Bxb7 Nxa1 27.Rxa1 Bxe5 28.Re1 Bc3 29.Re2 Rd1+ 30.Kh2 Rb1
0-1

Niemann, Hans Moke **E92**
 Kadric, Denis **2708**
2601
 6th Sharjah Masters 2023 (9.6) 25.05.23

Black throws the kitchen sink at white, to no avail. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.h3 e5 6.d5 a5 7.Be3 Na6 8.Be2 0-0 9.Nf3 Nh5 10.Nd2 Nf4 11.Bf1 f5 12.g3 g5 13.exf5 Bxf5 14.Nde4 Qe8 15.f3 Nh5 16.g4 Bxe4 17.Nxe4 Nf4 18.Nxg5 Bh6 19.Ne6 Nxe6 20.Bxh6 Nd4 21.Bxf8 Qxf8 22.Bg2 Nb4 23.0-0 Qf4 24.Rf2 Rf8 25.Qd2 Qg3 26.a3 Na6 27.Raf1 Rf4 28.Qxa5 Nc5 29.Qd2 h5 30.b4 Nd7 31.Re1 Nf6 32.Re3 Nh7 33.Re4 Ng5 34.Rxf4 Nxh3+ 35.Kf1 Nxf4 36.gxh5 Nf5 37.h6 Qh4 38.Kg1 Ng3 39.a4 Qxh6 40.a5 Qg7 41.b5 Kf7 42.a6 bxa6 43.bxa6 Qh8 44.a7 Qa8 45.Qa5 Qb7 46.a8Q

(Diagram)



Qb1+ 47.Bf1 Nfe2+ 48.Rxe2
1-0

□ **F Caruana**

■ **M Carlsen**

11th Norway Chess (1)

C11

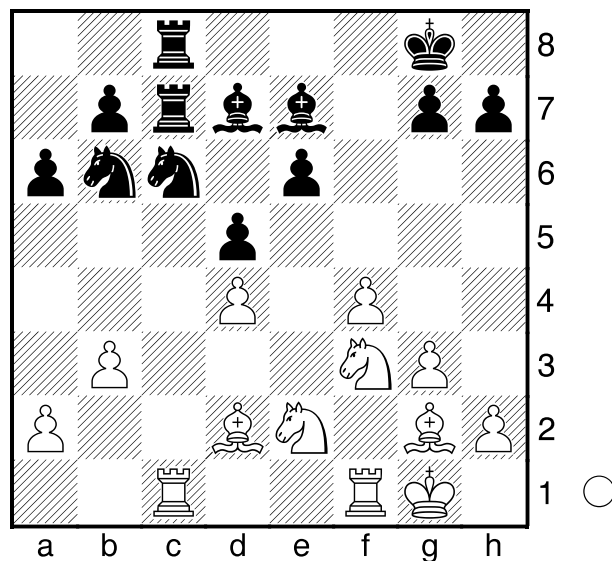
2764

2853

30.05.2023

Carlsen errs by doubling rooks on the c-file, and 22.f5! exposes the flaw. 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6 9.Qc1 Be7 10.c3 0-0 11.g3 f6 12.Bg2 cxd4 13.cxd4 Qa5+ 14.Nc3 Nb6 15.exf6 Bxf6 16.b3 Bd7 17.0-0 Rac8 18.Qd2 Be7 19.Ne2 Qxd2 20.Bxd2 Rc7 21.Rac1 Rfc8

(Diagram)



22.f5! Ba3 23.Rce1 Bb4 24.Bxb4 Nxb4 25.fxe6 Bxe6 26.Nf4 Bf5 27.Ne5 g6 28.g4 Be4 29.Bxe4 dxe4 30.a3 N4d5 31.Rxe4 Rc3 32.Nd7 Rxb3 33.Nxd5 Nxd5 34.Re5 Nc3 35.Nf6+
1-0

□ **Alireza Firouzja**

■ **D Gukesh**

11th Norway Chess (1)

C54

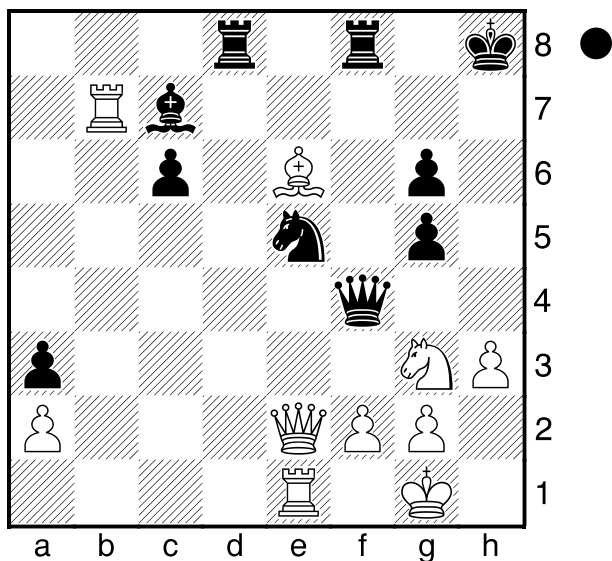
2785

2732

30.05.2023

Black wins the exchange with 30... Nd3! and 31...Nc1! and it's all over. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.d3 Nf6 5.0-0 d6 6.c3 h6 7.Nbd2 a5 8.Re1 0-0 9.Nf1 a4 10.Bb5 a3 11.b4 Bb6 12.Bc4 Ne7 13.Ng3 Ng6 14.h3 c6 15.Bb3 d5 16.exd5 Nxd5 17.Bd2 Be6 18.Nh5 Bc7 19.d4 exd4 20.Nxd4 Qd6 21.Ng3 Rad8 22.Nxe6 fxe6 23.Qg4 Ne5 24.Qe2 Nxb4 25.Bg5 hxg5 26.cxb4 g6 27.Rad1 Qxb4 28.Bxe6+ Kh8 29.Rb1 Qf4 30.Rxb7

(Diagram)



Nd3! 31.Rd1 Nc1 32.Rxc1 Qxc1+
33.Kh2 Rd2 34.Qe4 Rxf2 35.Rxc7
Rxc2+ 36.Qxc2 Rxc2+ 37.Kxc2 Qd2+
0-1

□ **Nakamura,Hikaru**

■ **Carlsen,Magnus**

11th Norway Chess 2023 (3.2) 01.06.23

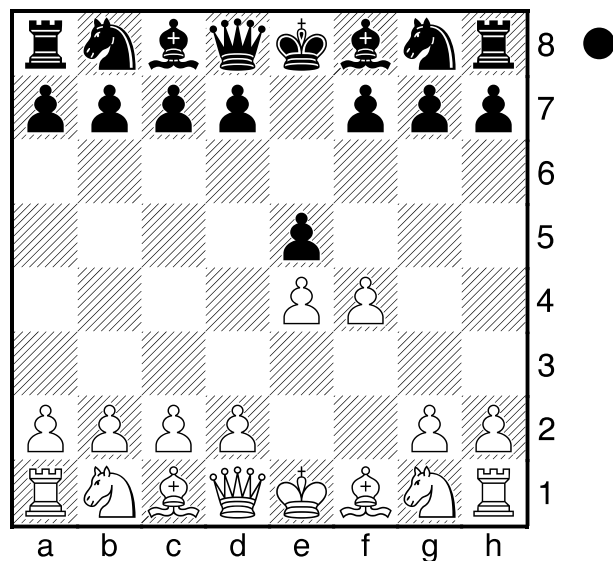
Nakamura's Kings Gambit falls flat
against Carlsen's forceful play, and 8.d3
was not in the spirit of the opening. 1.e4
e5 2.f4

(Diagram)

C39

2775

2853



exf4 3.Nf3 g5 4.h4 g4 5.Ne5 d6
6.Nxg4 Nf6 7.Nxf6+ Qxf6 8.d3 Nc6
9.Qf3 Bh6 10.Qf2 Rg8 11.Nc3 Be6
12.Bd2 0-0-0 13.0-0-0 Qd4 14.Qe1
Qe5 15.Ne2 f5 16.g3 fxe4 17.gxf4
Qf5 18.Ng3 Qf7 19.f5 Bxd2+ 20.Rxd2
Bd7 21.Kb1 Ne5 22.Qe3 exd3 23.cxd3
Bc6 24.Ne4 Kb8 25.Bh3 Rde8 26.Rc1
Bd5 27.Re2 Bxa2+ 28.Ka1 Bd5
29.Ng5 Qd7 30.Qd4 Qb5 31.Kb1 Nc6
32.Rxe8+ Rxe8 33.Qc3 Bb3 34.Ne4
Qa4 35.Rf1 Nd4 36.Bg4 Bc2+ 37.Kc1
Qa1+ 38.Kd2 Qxf1 39.Qxd4 Bxd3
40.Nf6 Re2+
0-1

A08

□ **Theodorou,Nikolas**

2591

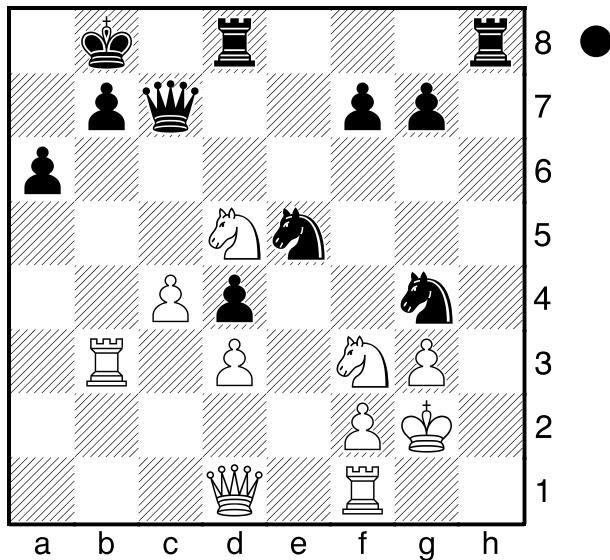
■ **Erigaisi Arjun**

2701

23rd Dubai Open-A 2023 (6.4) 01.06.23

Black's exchange sacrifice on the 24th
move initiates a deadly attack. 1.Nf3 Nf6
2.b3 c5 3.Bb2 Nc6 4.g3 d5 5.Bg2
Qc7 6.0-0 e5 7.d3 h6 8.Nc3 Be6 9.e3
a6 10.Nd2 0-0-0 11.Na4 h5 12.c4 d4
13.exd4 exd4 14.b4 cxb4 15.a3 h4
16.axb4 Bxb4 17.Ba3 hxg3 18.hxg3
Bxa3 19.Rxa3 Bh3 20.Nf3 Bxg2

21.Kxg2 Ng4 22.Rb3 Nce5 23.Nb6+ Kb8 24.Nd5

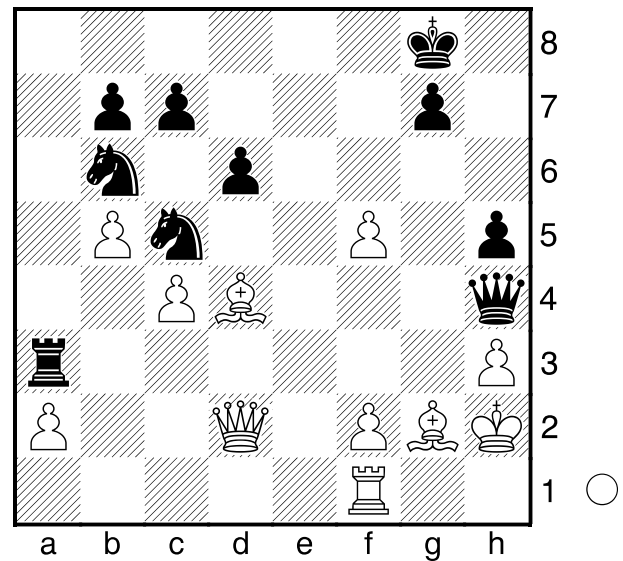


Rxd5! 25.cxd5 Qd7 26.Qe2 Nxf3
27.Qxf3 Ne5 28.Rg1 Qh3#
0-1

□ Indjic,Aleksandar A21 2618
■ Miladinovic,Igor 2507
23rd Dubai Open-A 2023 (2.11) 28.05.23

Black's offside pieces are the recipe for disaster. 1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Bb4 3.Qb3 Bxc3 4.Qxc3 Qe7 5.b4 Nf6 6.Nf3 d6 7.d3 a5 8.b5 Nbd7 9.g3 Nc5 10.Bg2 0-0 11.e4 Bg4 12.Nh4 Nfd7 13.h3 Be6 14.0-0 Nb6 15.Be3 Qd7 16.Kh2 f5 17.exf5 Bxf5 18.Nxf5 Qxf5 19.Rad1 h5 20.d4 exd4 21.Rxd4 Qe5 22.Qd2 Rae8 23.Qxa5 Ra8 24.Qd2 Ra3 25.Rh4 Rf5 26.Bd4 Qe6 27.g4 Qe7 28.gxf5 Qxh4

(Diagram)

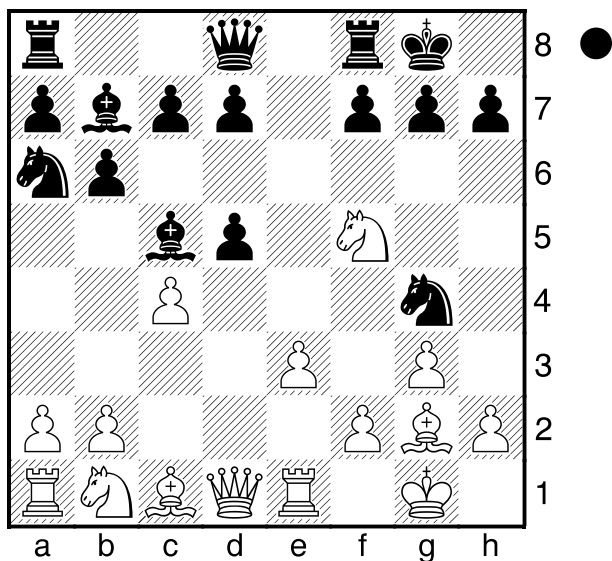


29.Bxg7! Nd3 30.Bb2 Rxa2 31.Rg1 Qf4+ 32.Qxf4 Nxf4 33.Bd5+ Kf8 34.Rg8+
1-0

□ Bai,Adelard E17 2409
■ Chigaev,Maksim 2628
23rd Dubai Open-A 2023 (1.12) 27.05.23

White is overwhelmed right out of the opening. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Re1 Na6 8.d5 exd5 9.Nh4 Ng4 10.Nf5 Bc5 11.e3

(Diagram)

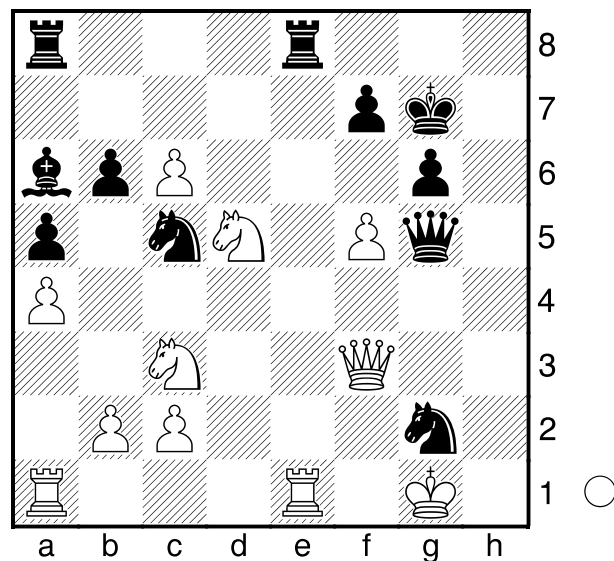


Nxf2! 12.Kxf2 Qf6 13.Qf3 Nb4 14.Bd2 Nd3+ 15.Kg1 d4 16.e4 Nxe1 17.Bxe1 Bxe4 18.Qxe4 Rae8 19.Nd2 d3+ 20.Kh1 Rxe4 21.Bxe4 Re8 22.g4 Qxb2 23.Rb1 Qxb1
0-1

□ Yu, Yangyi **B07 2729**
 ■ Chernobay, Artem **2484**
 23rd Dubai Open-A 2023 (1.1) 27.05.23

White survives the complications with a nice intermezzo on the 27th move. 1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.d4 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.a4 a5 7.Nc3 Nbd7 8.e4 e5 9.Re1 Re8 10.h3 c6 11.Be3 exd4 12.Bxd4 Qc7 13.Nd2 b6 14.Nc4 Re6 15.f4 Ba6 16.Ne3 Nc5 17.g4 h6 18.h4 Ree8 19.g5 Nh5 20.Bxg7 Kxg7 21.f5 hxg5 22.hxg5 d5 23.exd5 Qg3 24.Qf3 Qxg5 25.dxc6 Nf4 26.Ned5 Nxg2

(Diagram)

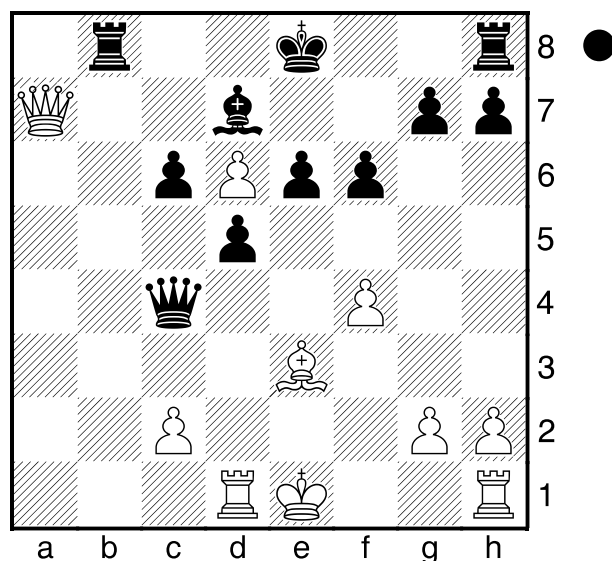
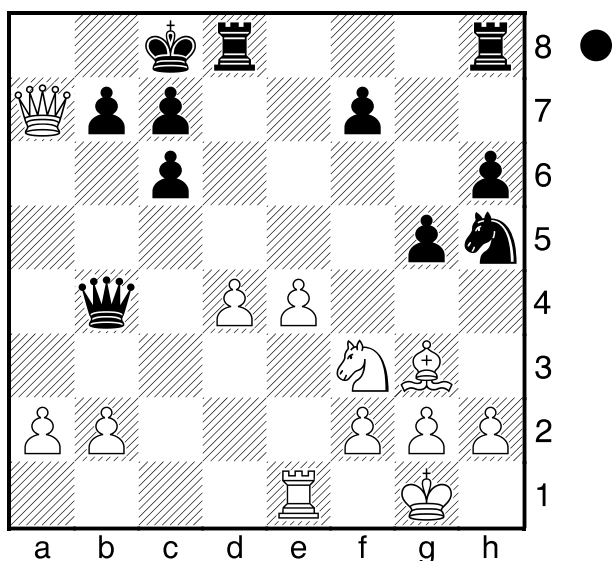


27.f6+! Kf8 28.Qxg2 Qh4 29.Qf2 Qg4+ 30.Kh2 Qh5+ 31.Kg2 Bc4 32.Nxb6 Ne6 33.Re4 Qg5+ 34.Kh2
1-0

□ Magnus Carlsen **C65 2853**
 ■ Wesley So **2760**
 11th Norway Chess (2.1) 31.05.2023

So succumbs in time pressure. 18...g4! 19.a3 Qb6 would have forced the exchange of queens. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0 Bd6 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 Qe7 9.d4 Bg4 10.Nbd2 0-0-0 11.Re1 g5 12.Bg3 Nh5 13.c3 exd4 14.cxd4 Bb4 15.Qa4 Bxf3 16.Nxf3 Bxe1 17.Qxa7 Qb4 18.Rxe1

(Diagram)



Nxg3 19.hxg3 Qb6 20.Qa8+ Kd7
21.Qa4 f6 22.d5 Kc8 23.e5 Kb8
24.exf6 cxd5 25.f7 Qf6 26.Ne5 Rhf8
27.Re3 Rxf7 28.Ra3 c6 29.Qa7+ Kc7
30.Rb3 Rb8 31.Rf3 Qxe5 32.Rxf7+
Kd8 33.Rf8+
1-0

Rb2! 23.Qa8+ Kf7 24.Qxh8 Qxc2
25.Bd2 Qe4+ 26.Kf1 Qd3+ 27.Ke1 c5
28.h4 Bb5 29.Kf2 Rxd2+ 30.Rxd2
Qxd2+ 31.Kg3 Qe3+ 32.Kh2 Qxf4+
33.Kg1 Qd4+ 34.Kh2 Qxh4+ 35.Kg1
Qd4+ 36.Kh2 Qe5+ 37.Kg1 Qxd6
38.Rxh7 Qf8
0-1

C11
 ♖ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2785**
 ♜ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2764**
 11th Norway Chess 2023 (4.1) 03.06.23

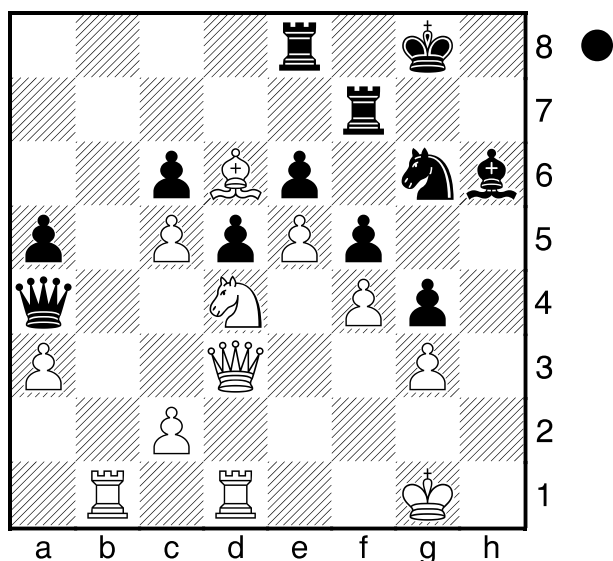
B40
 ♖ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2853**
 ♜ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2785**
 11th Norway Chess 2023 (7.1) 06.06.23

A master class in counter-attack by the
US Champion. 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3
Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6
7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2
10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Ncb5 Qxa2 12.Rd1
Rb8 13.Nc7+ Kd8 14.Ncb5 Nc5
15.Bd3 Nxd3+ 16.Qxd3 Bd7 17.Nd6
Bxd6 18.exd6 Qc4 19.Qd2 f6
20.Nxc6+ bxc6 21.Qa5+ Ke8 22.Qxa7

(Diagram)

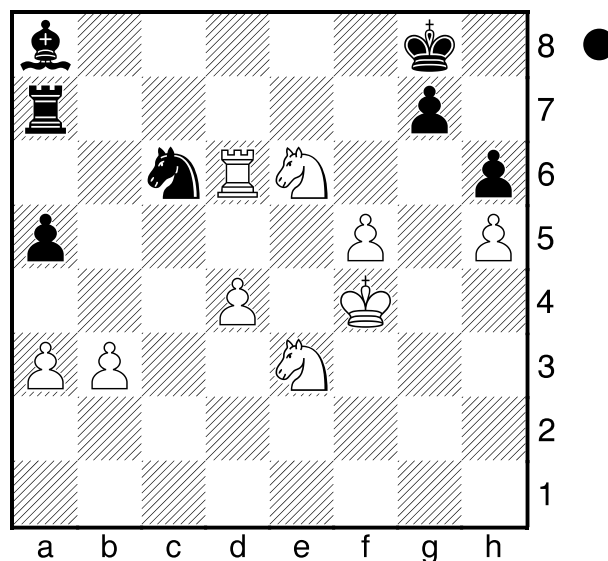
Black escapes a crushing bind with
some sharp tactics. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6
3.Bd3 Nc6 4.0-0 g5 5.Bb5 Bg7
6.Bxc6 bxc6 7.d3 g4 8.Nfd2 h5 9.Nb3
d6 10.f4 Ne7 11.Bd2 Bxb2 12.Ba5
Qd7 13.N1d2 Bg7 14.Qe1 Ba6 15.Rd1
f5 16.e5 Ng6 17.Nc4 Bxc4 18.dxc4 d5
19.Nxc5 Qc8 20.Nb3 0-0 21.Bb4 Re8
22.Bd6 Qa6 23.Qc3 Rad8 24.c5 Bh6
25.g3 Rd7 26.Nd4 Rf7 27.Rb1 h4
28.Qd3 Qa4 29.a3 a5 30.Rfd1 hxg3
31.hxg3

(Diagram)



Bxf4!? 32.gxf4 Nxf4 33.Qb3 Qxb3
 34.Rxb3 a4 35.Rb4 Rh7 36.Rf1 Nh3+
 37.Kg2 Ng5 38.Nxc6 Ne4 39.Rxe4
 dxe4 40.Nd4 Rh3 41.c6 Kf7 42.c7
 Reh8 43.Nc6 Rh2+ 44.Kg3 Rxc2
 45.Nd8+ Kg6 46.Nxe6 Rh3+ 47.Kf4
 Rf3+ 48.Rxf3 exf3 49.Kg3 Rg2+
 50.Kh4 Rh2+ 51.Kg3 Rg2+ 52.Kh4
 1/2-1/2

35.Rd6 Bb7 36.Nc3 Re8 37.h4 f4
 38.Rd4 Rf8 39.Ne5 Re8 40.Nc4 f3
 41.gxf3 Bxf3 42.Kh2 Nc2 43.Rd3 Ba8
 44.Kg3 Kh7 45.Ne3 Nb4 46.Rd6 Nc6
 47.Ncd5 Rf8 48.Nc7 Bb7 49.Ne6 Rf7
 50.f4 Ba8 51.h5 Ra7 52.a3 Kg8 53.f5
 Re7 54.Kf4 Ra7 55.d4



1-0

C58
 2775
 2764
 11th Norway Chess 2023 (9.1) 09.06.23

Nakamura wins Norway 2023 with a fine positional take-down of his main U.S. rival. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Na5 6.Bb5+ c6 7.dxc6 bxc6 8.Bd3 Nd5 9.Nf3 Bd6 10.0-0 Nf4 11.Nc3 Nxd3 12.cxd3 0-0 13.b3 Re8 14.Re1 c5 15.Ba3 Nc6 16.Ne4 Bf8 17.Rc1 f5 18.Nxc5 Qd5 19.Qc2 Rd8 20.Qc4 Qxc4 21.Rxc4 Rd5 22.Rec1 Bd6 23.Bb2 Ne7 24.R4c2 Rb8 25.d4 exd4 26.Nxd4 a5 27.Nf3 h6 28.Na4 Ba6 29.Nc3 Rc5 30.Ba3 Rc6 31.Bxd6 Rxd6 32.Na4 Nd5 33.Rc6 Rxc6 34.Rxc6 Nb4

IM John Donaldson

New Books from New in Chess

Zlotnik's Treasure Trove by Boris Zlotnik (248 pages) \$27.95

The Chess Pub Quiz Puzzle Book by Dimitri Reinderman (144 pages) \$17.95

Chessboard Combat by Joel Benjamin (224 pages) \$27.95

Endgame Virtuoso Magnus Carlsen Volume 2 (255 pages) \$24.95

Four new books by the Dutch company New in Chess (www.newinchess.com) demonstrate this publisher's versatility with offerings covering several different aspects of the game.

Zlotnik's Treasure Trove by the noted trainer Boris Zlotnik, who worked with the young Fabiano Caruana, offers a potpourri of material aimed at helping players in the 1600-2200 range. This includes the chapter "Studying the Opening," where the author discusses how amateur players should treat the beginning phase and examines what opening books are appropriate for their level of play.

Among the works discussed is *Accelerated Opening Preparation. A Repertoire* by Evgeny Vorobiov. Zlotnik characterizes this short (50 page) Russian language book as being aimed at lower-rated players with tactical play emphasized. This can be seen in the following Anti-Maroczy Bind variation, a favorite of Vorobiov and fellow Russian grandmaster Boris Savchenko, which was new to your reviewer. As a life-long Accelerated Dragon player, who has suffered more than once against the Maroczy, I was hoping it might be the magic cure for Black.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.c4 Bg7 6.Be3 d6 7.Nc3 Qb6.



This tricky line does fine against 8.Nd5, 8.Nb3 and 8.Ncb5 but there is one move that causes Black serious problems, so much so that Zlotnik rightfully calls the variation a “risky and not completely sound line.”

8.Ndb5 Bxc3+

Zlotnik suggests as an improvement 8...Qa5 but after 9.Bd2! Qd8 10.Nd5 Black is struggling.

9.Nxc3 Qxb2 10.Nb5! Kf8 11.Be2.

White has excellent compensation for the pawn. This line seems best suited for faster time controls where its surprise value compensates for the calculated risk in playing it.

Zlotnik's Treasure Trove is an enjoyable read for club players looking for inspiration on how to improve.

Dutch Grandmaster Dimitri Reinderman's *The Chess Pub Quiz Puzzle Book* won't improve your playing ability but it will increase your chess culture. This is not your standard chess trivia work as it is much more than a series of multiple-choice tests on the history of the royal game. There are a number of photos and celebrities to be found in this book that are only tangentially related to the game – pure chess knowledge will not be enough to be successful on these quizzes.

How accurate is this book? In the quiz section for players who represented three federations, the name of Erich Eliskases – who represented Austria, Germany, and Argentina in Olympiads – is missing. This was, however, the only omission this reviewer spotted.

The Chess Pub Quiz Puzzle Book is good fun.

Seemingly everyone knows the importance of tactics in chess and the number of chess players who solve puzzles regularly, whether online or in books, must number in the millions. There is nothing wrong with solving puzzle after puzzle as legions of rapidly improving junior players can attest, but it is not all that is required for mastering this essential skill. Practice is one thing, but no one will tell you there is a combination in the position when you are playing a tournament. It's also the case that things are not often so clear cut when you are facing a flesh and blood opponent.

Three-time US Champion Joel Benjamin addresses these concerns in his new book *Chessboard Combat* which takes a realistic look at chess tactics using complete games with deep annotations combining explanatory prose and essential variations. This book also includes training exercises with detailed solutions.

Chessboard Combat, aimed primarily at those in the 1800-2300 range, nicely complements existing tactical training and one hopes that many amateurs will study it.

Besides tactics, the one other area pretty much every chess coach recommends studying is the endgame. This often-neglected part of the game has never enjoyed the popularity of opening study,

but there can be no doubt that proficiency in the endgame is essential if one hopes to become a strong player.

Mastering the endgame is a two-part skill. The first part is pretty straight forward – one needs to understand inside and out certain basic theoretical positions starting with king and pawn endings and basic checkmates. The number of positions to master is not huge – for players at the club level they number no more than two dozen – but they must be known. Trying to discover Philidor's method of saving a pawn down rook ending over the board is not the way to go!

The second part of endgame mastery is knowing how to play typical positions with pieces and pawns on the board. These types of endings cannot be reduced to a theoretical result but instead involve combining concrete analysis and general principles.

While there are many books devoted to theoretical positions, including a number of good ones published in the last decade, those dealing with the second part of endgame mastery are harder to find. Fortunately, the recent publication of a two-volume series by the noted Hungarian trainer and writer Tibor Karolyi has addressed this gap in the chess literature.

Karolyi approaches his topic through the games of Magnus Carlsen. One can argue whether or not he is the greatest player of all time, but there is no doubt that Carlsen's ability to squeeze out endgame wins, even from the drawish of positions, is nothing short of amazing. In *Endgame Virtuoso Magnus Carlsen Volume 2: The World Champion Shows His Superior Skills* Karolyi examines 84 of Carlsen's endgames from 2018 to 2022 with annotations that find the right balance between prose and essential variations. This book is rounded out by a lengthy interview with Carlsen's long-time chief second Peter Heine Nielsen that offers important insights into how one of the greatest players of all time thinks and works on chess. This is a book every chess player rated over 2000 can benefit from.



Former Chess Room Director IM **John Donaldson** confers with **Boris Spassky** at the club, 2006.

Richard Hack

Tales from the Chess Cafe

PLAYING HARDBALL

Balancing against imbalance, deep thoughts
Adapt and strike from a solid stance,
Looking down from the sky of the board
To real possibilities of combining pieces
In arrangements built and blocked by players
Almost evenly aware of what's happening
In the flowing fight before their eyes.

While the clocks wind down
A salient passer makes a move,
And a ghost-catcher maneuvers to stymie
This bauer's last-chance ramble toward paydirt.
Surviving troops rally on a narrow path
To win or draw now
When the position says and you hear
The best there is is that.

Arta Kenning, Practical Musings of a Chess Mystic

The merry month of May began with much play and a café on the first. It continued right into the weeks before the sultry solstice.

First game, Walder-Riese, a French Def., Steinitz main line (C11). Mike comments on . . . Nc5: "If somebody plays something I have seen before, I first assume that it's wrong." Bxc4! And Nc6+ "is an octopus." Choice of 3 moves: Rc1 best, also Qg4; I played Qh5 (all 3 very strong attacking moves).

Elliott with his usual good humor presented the old Reti problem where White draws by moving the king off the 8th rank along a diagonal between two passed pawns, White's own and Black's, and moves toward one or the other depending on how Black's king responds. Then a Troitzky composition showing K+2 N's vs. K+P and how far back Black's pawn had to be for White to mate. Another game featured 6. d3 as an Anti-Marshall move preventing Black's gambit.

We were reminded of the story of the 1983 Candidates Quarterfinal between Robert Hübner (rated 2625, age 34) and Vassily Smyslov (2595, age 62), which ended in a 7-7 tie after Smyslov won the 4th and Hübner the 9th of 14 games. The following comes from ChessGames.com: "According to Ove Kinnmark, FIDE's rules now required drawing of lots. He does not mention the possibility of rapid games. In any case, it seems that Hübner went home, and on 20 April, Smyslov and the others set off to Casino Velden to settle the issue. The casino was usually closed during winter. . . . If the ball plunged into the black numbers, Hübner would win. If it landed on red, Smyslov was the winner. At 8pm, the turntable was put in motion, and the ball plunged into... zero! They tried again. Red 3! A report in *The Times* (apparently by Harry Golombek) concluded: Trois, impair, rouge. And Hübner went out. It was unfair, and in his column in *The New York Times*, Robert Eugene Byrne (who was a candidate in 1974) suggested a "speeded-up series of tie-break games to be used after the first

tie-break fails to produce a winner." Smyslov advanced to the 1983 Candidates Semifinals to play Ribli.

The monthly Chess Social at Mechanics' Institute was announced for May 5. Aaron Adams said he's looking for sparring partners.

Alex Robins: "The in-person play at the club is building back up. The other day 15 to 20 people were playing." Mike Walder mentioned the mid-70s with men wearing suits, smoking in the club, and William Addison's term as director. He said there were two guys named Whitehead playing blitz and insulting each other in a brotherly way. And that Frank Thornally, who became a master in those days, has a number of stories, too, from those particular days.

On Tuesday, May 2 around 5:30pm, an hour before the 6:30pm weekly tournament round at Mechanics' Institute, we had a presentation by homegrown Vinay Bhat (author of the new book, *How I Became a Chess Grandmaster*) and watched him show the Ding Liren win in game 12 of the World Championship Match that enabled him to tie Ian Nepomniachtchi with two classical games to go, which were drawn, and on the following day win the fourth rapid game to take the match and the title. "This game has some objective issues, but its excitement value is great. . . . Black's Kh8 is a world-class move. Hess liked it; Stockfish, too. . . . White has managed to get 2 bad bishops in the same game. . . . With ...Rg6, Nepo's eyes went wide. He's a very expressive player anyway. . . . The pawns keep marching (a5 and f3). White missed a chance to equalize." His excellent style as a lecturer is smooth, practiced, and efficiently responsive to every question.

At our online Chess Café on May 8, Paul noted, "Ding is a worthy champion who would give Carlsen a good challenge." Sal: "He took some serious chances to win that game." Paul: "Best World Championship match in years, I guess. . . . Karjakin has started playing again. He beat Artemiev, an active young player." We watched their game. One attendee said he heard that Karjakin's net worth went up from \$5m to \$23m after he supported Putin's war.

Sal told us that *American Chess Magazine* "had 6 pages on me" and gave us a link in the Chat. There are a number of good looks at him in the photos with historical and biographical text, and several of his games annotated by him. There's a nice street-level shot of the Marshall Chess Club, where he has taken a leading role. One of his games here is a Sicilian against Gyula Sax of Hungary in the 1974 World Student Olympics. Here's one of his notes to the game: "20....g5!! A stunning counterattacking pawn advance in front of the Black king [forking White's Qf4 and Bh4] . . . Without this resource, Black would be busted." The next move wash5. He won a B+R vs. B+R ending on the 40th move. The U.S. team was competing for medals and beat Hungary's team by half a point in that match.

This led to my notes from Paul Whitehead's class on *The Art of Defence* by Polugaevsky and Damsky (1988; 2012): "Active defense—this is modern chess. . . . Be courageous and take risks. Chess rewards people who take chances. You give your opponent a chance to go wrong." Sal Matera was at that class and added: "Induce some kind of doubt. Most people relax with an advantage, they assume they'll win." Paul on exchange sacrifices: "These are defensive resources to gain the initiative. Later the other player may make an exchange sacrifice to restore the equilibrium. . . . The value of the material is always fluid and changing, and you have to get used to that."

We watched the latest installment in the long-running Winslow-Walder competition. "We're approaching 50 tournament games." Sophia asked if we knew where the word "rook" came from, and I think she said it was not more Persian than Italian. There are [two long paragraphs in the Piececlopedia](#) showing an international etymology. Here are just a few: "When the Italians got the game from the Arabs, the name of rukh was Italianized to rocco, which sounded like rocca, the Italian

word for fortress. At that time, mobile towers were popular instruments of war. . . [The Rook] was called torre in Spanish, tour in French, toren in Dutch, and turm in German . . . and many English-speakers frequently call the piece a castle.”

For May 15, George Siffri sent in a YouTube link to “The Cow Opening” (in a game by Anna Cramling), a simple, seemingly safe way to open from the bottom up and the middle out. I mentioned that it didn’t look like a cow, and that I’ve played “a lot of bull openings,” which drew one laugh. Someone mentioned “Muumuu” and “Cheese.com.” George lives in Grass Valley, an hour from Sacramento. He mentioned two places for chess, including Game Nut. Mike Walder mentioned The Chess Dojo, and said Magnus is playing complicated games live on TikTok. Sophia mentioned that Chess.com acquired Magnus Plays, and that “The Association of Chess Professionals has dissolved after at least 10 years of existence. It never helped mid-level players. There ought to be a union. [A lot more of them! R.H.] . . . Irina Krush was at the nationals. Svidler is a pushy GM; it was hard for her to get a word in.” A week later she said, “As an arbiter, I don’t like constructed mates.”

Giri’s win over Ding on the Grand Chess Tour. Paul: “There’s some good money in chess, at the top.” Mike: “Gadir says it’s hard for him, at his level.” Paul: “I’m tired of reading crosstables with the same players.” “There’s a Professional Players’ Committee at USCF, but it doesn’t do much.”

On May 22, Alexey mentioned that Jeffrey Xiong lives in Coppell, a suburb of Dallas. He’s 43rd in the world and gave a simul at Mechanics’ Institute a few years ago. We watched some of her play in a tournament where she finished a point behind Jeffrey, the winner. There was also my back-and-forth win in Round 3 of the Tuesday Night Marathon. Some of this play can be expressed in a quote from Mikhail Tal: “This would be a very good move . . . if it were not a mistake.” One of his comments on Game 35 in his *Life and Games*. We spoke of the progress of Ruiyang Yan, who once played regularly at Mechanics’ Institute and finished 4th in the 2022 U.S. Women’s Championship behind Irina Krush, Jennifer Yu, and Thalia Cervantes Landeiro. Mike mentioned that he beat her before she was a master. “Stylistically, we match up well: she’s a strategically strong player in openings I’m aggressive in.”

Juliana mentioned that Dan Sevall would be presenting two games by Keres at Bernal Heights Branch Library, 500 Cortland Ave., at 6pm on May 24. Bernal Chess has a monthly lecture, followed by play, and a weekly gathering of players in the two back rooms of Progressive Grounds café at 400 Cortland from 3-6pm on Saturdays.

(For more information about the Chess Cafe, and to join in our weekly conversation, go [here](#).)



A New 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.

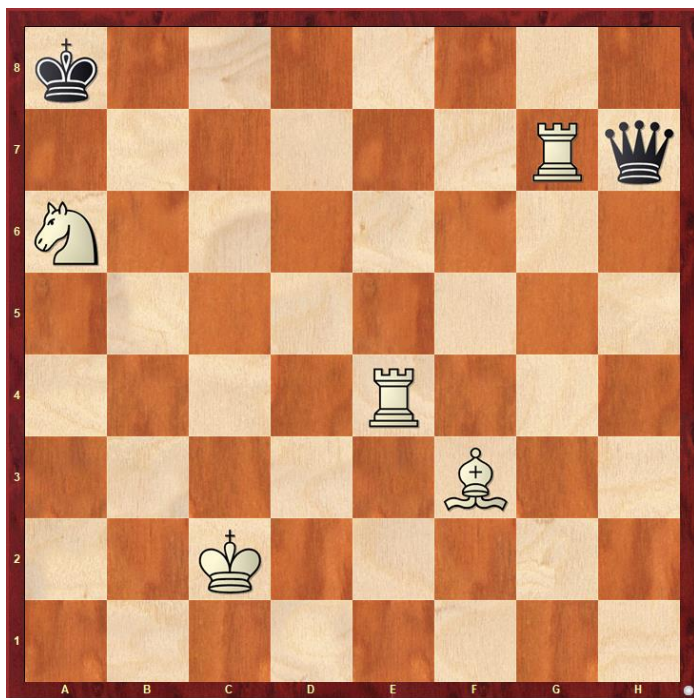


This position is from Seirawan - Wiedenkeller 1979, and given in *Catastrophe in the Opening* (2005), by James Plaskett. White found 1.Rxh7! If 1...Kxh7 then 2.Ng5+! fxg5 3.Qh5+! with mate to follow. Black tried 1...f5 but ultimately lost after 2.Rh1.

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 \(milibrary.org\)](#)

Tony's Teasers



1. M. Niemeijer, 1971.
White mates in 2 moves.



2. H. Froberg, 1938.
White mates in 3 moves.

Tournaments, Classes, and Events

The Mechanics' Institute offers a wide range of chess tournaments, classes, and special events. Our offerings include a monthly Chess Social, free classes for women and Mechanics' Institute members, an online Chess Café, chess camps for adults and children, and much more.



You can find a list of ongoing and upcoming tournaments [here](#).



Offerings for adults and advanced players can be found [here](#).



Information about scholastic events, camps, and programming can be found [here](#).



Play chess in the oldest club in the United States!

Solutions

Tony's Teasers

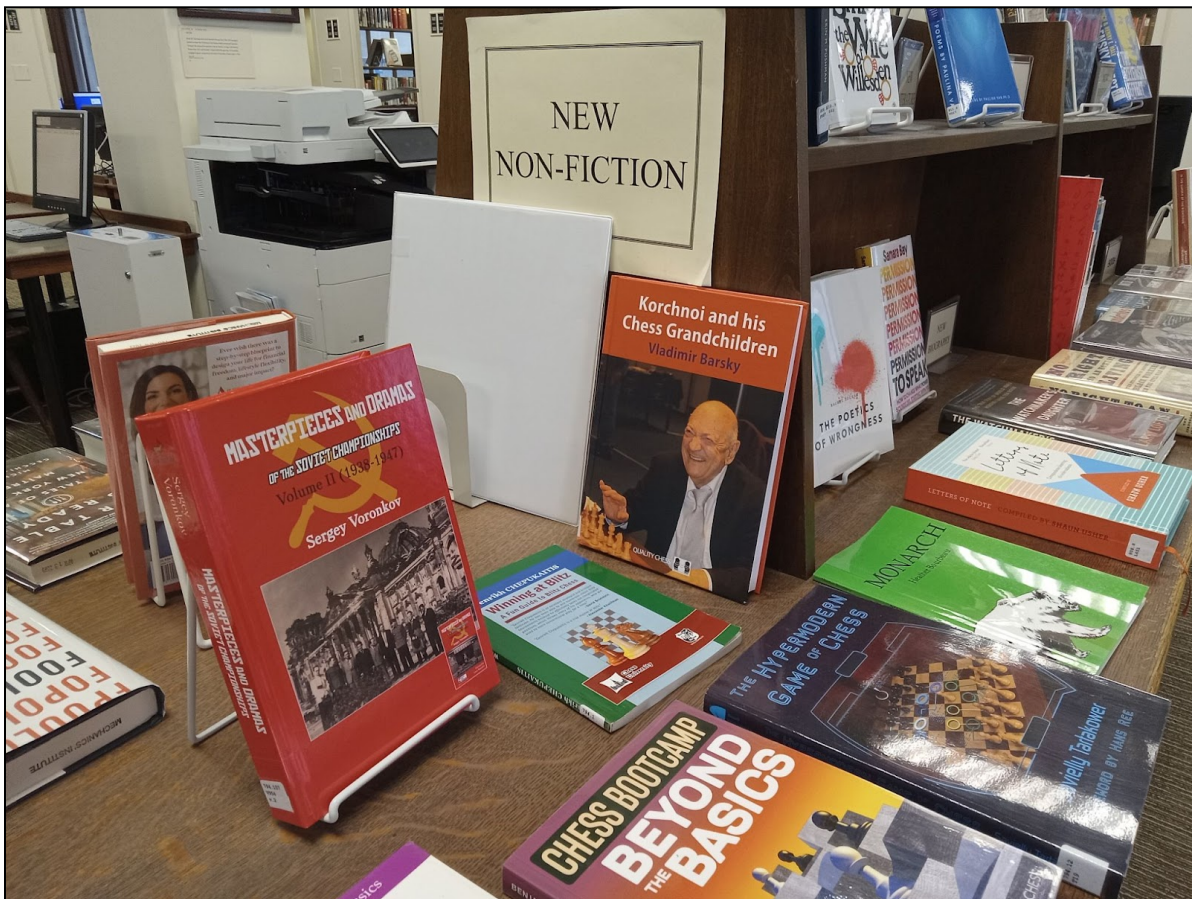
1. **M. Niemeijer**, 1971. **1.Kb3!** Threatening 2.Re8#. Black is helpless. If **1...Qxg7** **2.Re7#**.
 2. **H.Froberg**, 1938. **1.Bd3!** Threatens 2.Qa3#. If **1...Rxb2+** **2.Bc2!** **Ka2** **3.Qa5#**. If **1...Rf5+** **2.Bxf5** **Ka2** **3.Qa3#**. **1...Ra5** **2.Qc1+** **Ka2** **3.Bc4#** is amusing, as is **1...Rb3** **2.Qc1+** **Ka2** **3.Qb1#**.
-

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 more than 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>



WIM Ruth Haring (1955-2018) represented the United States five times in the Chess Olympics and was a frequent contestant in the US Womens Championship during the 1970's and 80's. Her many contributions to chess include a service of four years as president of the USCF.

WIM Ruth Haring Memorial Tuesday Night Marathon

Type: 7-round Swiss System tournament in 4 sections.

6:30pm

Time Control: G/120;d5

Tuesdays,

On-site registration before the first round: 5:30pm - 6:15pm

July 11 to August 22.

Rounds: every Tuesday at 6:30pm - 7/11, 7/18, 7/25, 8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22.

Pre-round lecture at 5:30pm by FM Paul Whitehead.

Prizes & Sections: \$2400 - based on 80 paid entries. 4 Sections:

2000+: 1st \$400, 2nd \$300, 3rd \$200, best u2200 \$150

1600-1999: 1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100, best u1800 \$80

1200-1599: 1st \$200, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$60, best u1400 \$60

Under 1200: 1st \$150, 2nd \$80, 3rd \$60, best u1000 \$60

More information: milibrary.org/chess

Questions? Email chessroom@milibrary.org



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7SS G/120;d5
Prize Fund:
\$2400 (based on
80 paid entries)

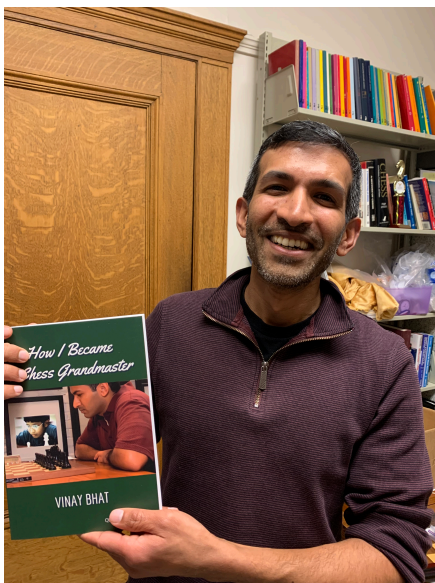
Entry fee: \$65
for members,
\$95 for non-
members

***Masks are**
optional in the
chess club*

(415) 393-0110 | 57 Post Street, San Francisco CA 94104

2023 Summer Celebration Blitz!

USCF & FIDE rated 3+2



Come early and attend an author talk and book signing with GM Vinay Bhat from 6:00pm to 7:00pm.

Vinay will discuss his new book
How I Became a Chess Grandmaster

- and then he's going to play!

- Tuesday -
June 20, 2023
7:00pm - 9:00pm

5-round double game
3+2 Blitz Tournament
Prize Fund: \$540
(b/60 paid entries)

Entry Fee:
\$20 for members
\$30 for non-members

***Masks are optional in
the chess room***

Blitz is back at the Mechanics' Institute!
We are hosting a 5-round double game Open Swiss System - players will play TWO games in one round against the same opponent with alternating colors. Maximum score for the tournament is 10 points. Time Control: 3+2 (3 minutes + 2 second increment).

Rounds start at 7:00pm, and
the estimated end of the event is 9:00pm.
Prize Fund: \$540 - based on 60 paid entries.

1st Place: \$200

2nd Place: \$125

3rd Place: \$90

Best under 1800: \$75 - Best under 1300: \$50

Register at milibrary.org/chess

Questions? Email to chessroom@milibrary.org



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Scholastic Chess Camps



Mechanics' Institute camps are an opportunity for beginner chess players to join and start a lifelong appreciation of the royal game of chess and play with other kids in the historic Mechanics' Institute Chess Room!

Intermediate students will learn tactics, how to defend common opening traps, and review famous games.

Join us and start a lifelong journey through one of the world's greatest games.

Find Out More and Register at:

milibrary.org/chess/scholastic-chess

For More Information Contact:

415-393-0110

chessroom@milibrary.org

Summer Camps

June 12-16 (All Ages)

June 26-30 (All Ages)

July 10-14 (Grades K-5)

July 17-21 (Grades 6-12)

July 24-28 (All Ages)

July 31-Aug 4 (All Ages)

Aug 7-11 (All Ages)

All camps run from
9:30am-3:30pm

Cost: \$500

(Pro-rated Half-Days
Are Available)



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Join the Chess Room for Chess Socials!

Free and encouraged for MI Members

5-6pm

First Fridays of the month:

June 2

July 7

August 4

September 1

October 6

November 3

December 1

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

