

# Chess Room Newsletter

Issue #1039 | July 8, 2023 | Gens Una Sumus!



NBA superstar **Stephen Curry** dropped by the Chess Room during Summer Camp on June 12!  
More pictures below.

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## Recent Tournaments at Mechanics' Institute

The **2023 Summer Tuesday Night Marathon** ran from May 2 to June 13 with 103 players(!) competing in four sections over seven rounds.

The 2000+ section was won by **Archit Dasika** (2174) with six points. In clear 2nd was IM **Elliott Winslow** (2193) with 5.5 points, and clear 3rd was taken by **Luke Widjaja** (2143) with 4.5 points. There was a four-way tie for Best Under 2200 between **Jasith Karthi** (2020), **Nitish Nathan** (2151), **Christophe Bambou** (2072), and **Sebastian Suarez** (2049), all who scored 4 points.

**Henry Benaïd** (1851) took clear 1st in the 1600-1999 section with 6 points, closely followed by **Stephen Parsons** (1782) with 5.5. Tied for 3rd were **Michael Walder** (1988) and **Kristian Clemens** (1865) with 5 points apiece. **Wilson Wong** (1753) won the Best Under 1800 prize with 5 points.

The 1200-1599 section was won by **Nicholas Morello** (1347) who scored 5.5 points, and there was a four-way tie for 2nd, 3rd, and Best Under 1400 between **Sam Calvert** (1361), **Yorgos Tsolias** (1536), **Romeo Barreyro** (1521), and **Daniel Sisti** (1210), all who scored 5 points.

There was a clear winner in the Under 1200 section as well, with Sheng Jian (unr.) taking the top spot with 6 points. Tied for 2nd, 3rd, and Best Under 1000 were Daniel Morris (976), Keyan Raahemifar (942), and Cameron Dale (unr.), all who posted up 5 points.

The final standings and results for the 2023 Summer TNM can be found [here](#).

The 2023 Summer Tuesday Night Marathon was co-directed by Senior Tournament Directors, National Arbiter **Scott Mason** and International Arbiter **Judit Sztaray**.

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On June 10th and 11th, Mechanics' Institute hosted the FIDE-rated **22nd William Addison Memorial**, named after the International Master who was the Chess Room Director from 1965 to 1969. The four-round swiss-system had a full-house of 80 players competing in three sections.

The 2000+ section was won jointly by **Aadit Bhatia** (2251) and **Vedant Talwalkar** (1974), each scoring an unbeaten 3.5 points. Clear 3rd was taken by **Neil Bhaduri** (2083) with 3 points. He was also undefeated, drawing both Bhatia and Talwalkar. Tied for Best Under 2200 and Best Under 2000, all scoring 2.5 points, were: **Alex Shrauger** (1989), **Laurie Qiu** (1878), **Daniel Lin** (2049), and **Jayden Wu** (2010).

**Rohan Dash** (1620) scored a perfect 4-0 to take the top prize in the 1600-1999 section. A full point behind him were five players who split 2nd, 3rd, Best Under 1800, and Best Under 1600: **Greg Zhou** (1775), **Nursultan Uzakbaev** (1525), **Eugene Kim** (1755), **Calvin Rummens** (1648), and **Abhijith**

**Aravind** (1438).

The Under 1600 section saw a three-way split for 1st, 2nd, and Best Under 1400, between **Vihan Grover** (1190), **Hayes Marvin** (1368), and **Brian Wei**, each scoring 3.5 points. There was also a three-way split for 3rd place, with **Albert Starr** (1500), **Shreyank Krishnan** (1307), and **Junki Joe** (unr.) all scoring 3 points. Tying for Best Under 1200 with 2.5 points apiece were April Ni (1133), and Sanushya Subramaniam (875).

The final standings and results for the 22nd William Addison Memorial can be found [here](#).

The 22nd William Addison Memorial was directed by National Arbiter **Scott Mason**.

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On June 20th, Mechanics' Institute hosted our first **Summer Celebration Blitz Tournament** after the GM **Vinay Bhat** author talk (see below), and what an event it was! Eighty-two players competed in one big open section, headed by GMs **Christopher Yoo** and **Vinay Bhat**. Also playing were seven International Masters, four FIDE Masters, three National Masters, and WGM **Rochelle Wu**.

When the dust settled, IM **Kyron Griffith** (2437) took clear 1st place with an impressive 9-1 score, his only loss coming to **Arthur Ismakov** (2140). Four players tied for 2nd and 3rd, a half point back: GM **Christopher Yoo** (2698), IM **Josiah Stearman** (2460), FM **Derek Wu** (2326), and FM **Pranav Sathish** (2253). **Benchly Buccat** (1489) scored 7 points and took the top prize for Best Under 1800, while the Best Under 1300 prize went to **Rajiv Chockalingam** (1205) who scored 5.5 points.





Above, round one of the Summer Celebration Blitz is underway, with GM **Christopher Yoo** (far right) playing **Ben Curtis**, and GM Vinay Bhat (near left) taking on **Rohan Kapre**.

The final standings and results of the Summer Celebration Blitz can be found [here](#).

The Summer Celebration Blitz was directed by National Arbiter **Scott Mason**.

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The **22nd Charles Bagby Memorial** was held on June 24th, with 77 participants competing in four sections.

**Abhishek Handigol** (2070) won the 2000+ section outright with 3.5 points from four games. In clear 2nd with 3 points was **Ivan Zhou** (1873), and splitting 3rd place were **Dipro Chakraborty** (2294) and **Hanchi Yao** with 2.5 points apiece.

The 1600-1999 section saw a 3-way split for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. **Zee Chin** (1797), **Jacob Goldman** (1791), and **Achintya Rai** all scored an undefeated 3.5 points.

In the 1200-1599 section, **Elliott Regan** (1384) and **Zachary Ravel** (1367) tied for 1st and 2nd places with 3.5 points apiece. Tying for 3rd with 3 points each were **Hayes Marvin** (1368), **Romeo Nehme** (1269), and **Sriadity Pendyala** (1210).

**Ahmet Gunduz** (unr.) won the Under 1200 section with a perfect 4-0 score. In clear 2nd with 3.5 points was **Martin Long** (unr.), and tying for 3rd place with 3 points apiece were **Arav Munjal** (769), **Anastasia Paramonova** (unr.), **Aakash Jain** (unr.), and **Amar Masalmeh** (unr.).

The final standings and results of the 22nd Charles Bagby Memorial can be found [here](#).

The 22nd Charles Bagby Memorial was directed by Local TD **Arthur Liou**.

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### IM Elliott Winslow

A selection of annotated Games from round seven 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 TNMs are in the Tournament [Archive](#).



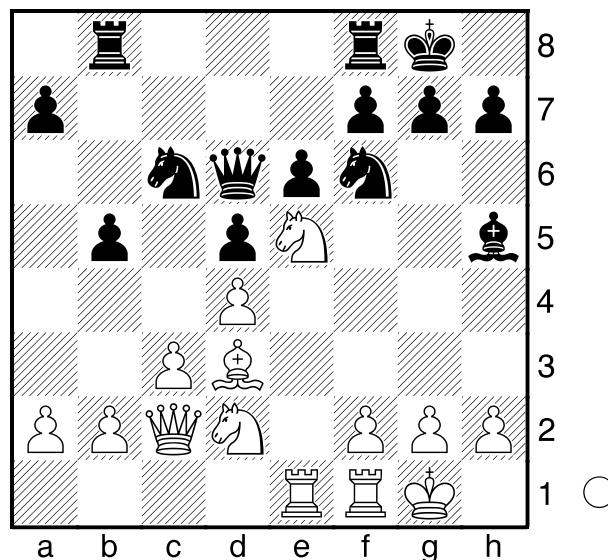
**Bambou, Christophe** **B13**  

**Dasika, Archit** **2072**  
 2023 Summer TNM: 2000+ (7.1) 13.06.23 **2174**  
*[Winslow, Elliott]*

It's the last round, and once again Archit Dasika is in the driver's seat. With a half point ahead of Winslow, whom he'd already played and beaten, so paired against one of the Bambou. Christophe has a wide "game range," you don't know how tough it's going to be on any given day. On this occasion it was a close game only to see Bambou worn down in a curious pawn structure battle, somehow shifting from a Carlsbad Queen's Gambit Exchange Reversed from the Caro Kann, into a French-like formation. Which favored Black; the unbalancing trade of two rooks for queen and pawn maybe wasn't the most accurate, but the practical value with Bambou quite short on clock time proved sufficient. Archit likes moderate confusion but not all-out madness. So, for example, the London. And a position where his opponent has weak pawns is his cup of tea. **1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Bd3** The Caro-Kann Exchange Variation. It would be its own beast if, with colors reversed, it weren't just a queen's gambit exchange variation. The time-worn pawn breaks and attacking thoughts are still there. But it isn't always just minority attack and play on the half-open files.. **4...Nf6 5.c3 Nc6 6.Bf4 Bg4 7.Qb3 Qd7 8.Nd2 e6 9.Ngf3 Bd6 10.Bxd6 Qxd6** In the QGX, these bishops are the last minor pieces White (here Black) wants to exchange. **11.0-0 0-0 12.Rae1 Rab8** Directly playing for the Minority Attack b7-b5-b4. [One big-name game saw some seemingly arbitrary moves by Black, but they tripped up someone who has

been at the #2 spot on occasion for a while (#1? forget it): **12...Bxf3 13.Nxf3 Qc7 14.Re3 Rab8 15.Qd1 g6 16.Ng5 Qf4!? 17.Rg3 e5!?** Both players play like movie kung fu, i.e. a lot of twisting and turning. **18.Nh3 Qh4 19.f4 ( 19.dxe5!? Nxe5 20.Re1 ) 19...exd4 20.Ng5 dxc3 21.Rh3 Qg4 22.Qc2 ( 22.Nxh7!? Qxd1 23.Nxf6+ Kg7 24.Rxd1 Kxf6 25.bxc3** is a rough terrain, but smooth "0.00" everywhere. ) **22...Rbe8 23.Qxc3 Nh5 24.Nxh7 Kxh7 25.Rff3 Kg8 26.Qd2 Re7 27.Qf2 Rfe8 28.Rh4 Re1+ 29.Bf1 Qf5 30.g4 Qb1 31.Kg2 Rxf1 32.Qxf1 Qxf1+ 33.Kxf1 Nxf4** 0-1 Aronian, L (2782)-Artemiev, V (2699) Meltwater Tour Final chess24.com INT rapid 2021 (2.2) ]

**13.Ne5 b5 14.Qc2 Bh5!**



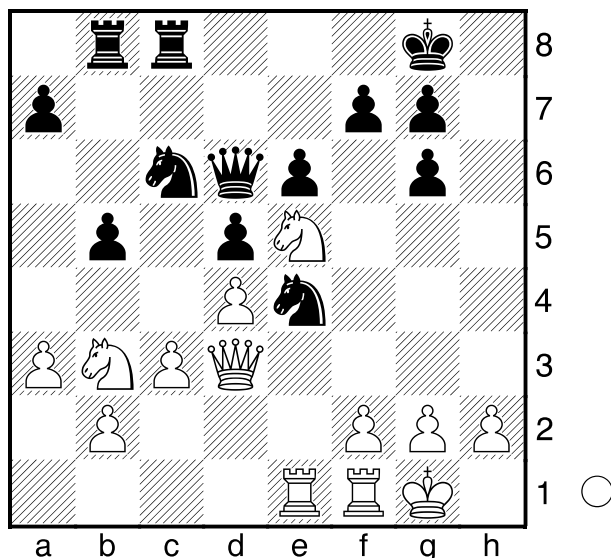
To neutralize White's bishop. **15.a3!?** N [Previous blunt play was **15.b4 Rfc8 16.Qb1 a5 17.a3 Ne7 18.Re3 a4!?** Something horrible has happened to White's pawns. **19.Rh3 Bg6 20.Bxg6 Nxg6 21.f4 Re8 22.Qe1 Nd7 23.Qe2 Ndf8 24.Qh5 Rbc8 25.Nxg6 fxg6** Black's pawns as well **26.Qe2 Qb6 27.Rff3 Nd7 28.Re3 Nf6 29.g4?!** New weaknesses for White,

and after an odd pawn exchange it turns out to be Black storming through: Qd6 30.Qf3 Rf8 31.Qg3 Rc7 32.Nf3 Ne4 33.Qh4 h6 34.Ne5 Rxf4 35.Nxg6 Rf6 36.Ne5 Ng5 37.Rhg3 Qf8 38.Kh1 Rc8 39.Rg1 Rf2 40.Qg3 Ne4 41.Qh3 Qf4 42.Ng6 Qf6 43.Ne5 Rf4 44.Rxe4 dxe4 0-1 Zuriel,M (2126)-Tokman,A (2330) ARG-ch sf 98th Buenos Aires 2023 (5) ]

**15...Rfc8 16.Nb3 Bg6 17.Bxg6 hxg6 18.Qd3**

[ White can't grab c5 right away: 18.Nc5? Nxe5 19.Rxe5?? Rxc5 ]

**18...Ne4**



**19.f4?!** Now the only way to remove the knight on e4 is to exchange it.

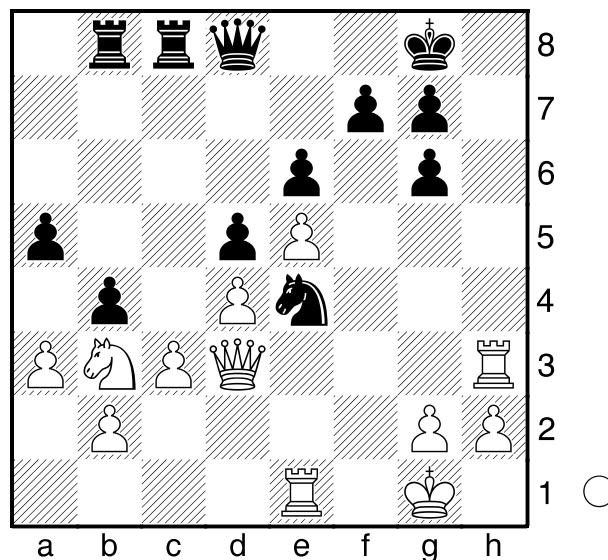
[ 19.f3? Nxe5! 20.dxe5 Qb6+ followed by ...Nc5 is some plus for Black. ---a5 and ...b4 are still available, while there's no kingside attack at all. ]

[ 19.Nxc6! Qxc6 20.Qd1! freeing d3 for White's knight, when the advantage is his. The combination of a knight on e5 and doubled rooks on the e-file creates real pressure which would boil over with f2-f3, while ...f7-f6 is hard to engineer then. Stockfish

finds an entertaining way for Black to create play, or at least reduce the danger: Kh7!? /!! intending ...Rh8! and ...Kg8! (...Rh5 and ...Rbh8 before ...Kg8 is a bit too much!) ]

**19...Qd8 20.Rf3 a5 21.Rh3 Nxe5**

**22.fxe5** An optical illusion -- how did the White f-pawn and Black c-pawn exchange? **22...b4**



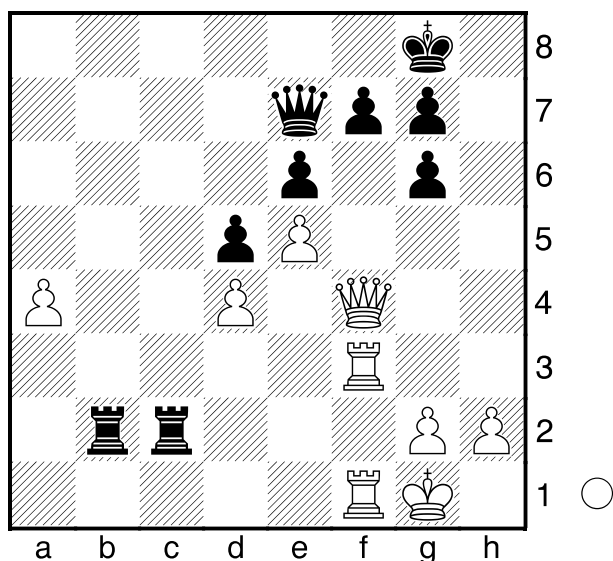
**23.cxb4 axb4 24.a4** A standard counter to the minority attack, but the passed pawn doesn't ever quite make a difference (or does it? See move 38!).

**24...Rc7 25.Nd2 Nxd2 26.Qxd2 Rbc8 27.Qxb4?!** The extra open lines end up favoring Black,

[ 27.Rf1 Qe7 28.Qf4 Rc2 29.b3 R8c3 30.Rhf3 Rb2= /± holds the line. ]

**27...Rc4 28.Qd2 Rc2 29.Qf4 Rxb2 30.Rf3 Qe7 31.Ref1 Rcc2**

(Diagram)



### 32.Qg4?

[ 32.Rg3 Re2 ( 32...Ra2 33.h4! ) ]

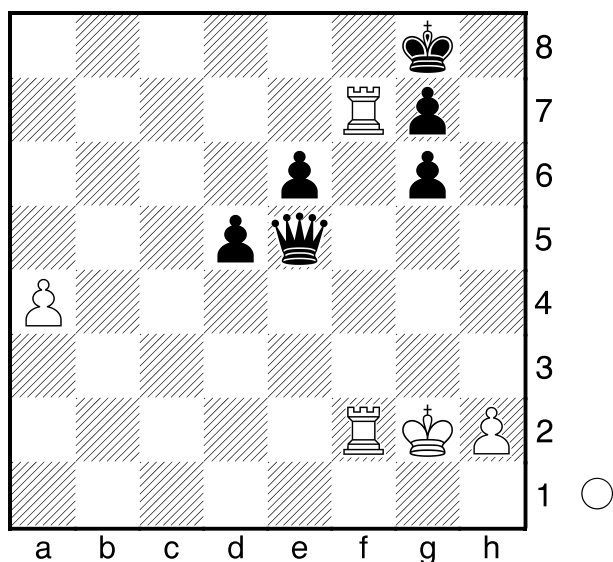
**32...Rxc2+** leads to a solid advantage, where the queen runs circles around the rooks. And the king exposure doesn't help White's chances either.

[ 32...Qb4!-+ is even stronger (threatening 33...Qxd4+!). 33.Rg3 Rd2 Black picks off the d-pawn, keeping the a-pawn well contained. ]

**33.Qxc2 Rxc2+ 34.Kxc2 Qb4 35.Rxf7 Qxd4 36.R1f4 Qb2+**

[ 36...Qd2+! ]

**37.Rf2 Qxe5**



**38.Rf8+?! This nudges it over the edge.**

[ 38.a5!?+ at least makes it harder. ]

**38...Kh7 39.R2f3 g5 40.Rh3+ Kg6**

**41.Rg3 Qe4+ 42.Rff3 Qxa4 43.h3 e5**

**44.Rg4 e4 45.Rfg3 Qc2+ 46.Kh1**

**Qd1+**

[ 46...e3! ]

**47.Kh2 Qd4 48.Rxc5+ Kf7 49.Rf5+**

**Ke6 50.Rfg5 Qf2+ 51.Kh1 e3**

**52.Rg6+ Ke5 53.R3g4 e2 54.R6g5+**

**Kd6 55.Rg6+ Kc5** White lost on time.

And that's that. Dasika stays a half a point ahead of Winslow for clear first.

**0-1**

**A48**

□ **Nathan,Nitish Sg**

**2151**

■ **Winslow,Elliott**

**2173**

2023 Summer TNM: 2000+ (7.2) 13.06.23

[Winslow,Elliott]

This game was rather epic. So up and down! So close for Nitish! I do see that just this last week he has finally, after crossing into the 2100s in a big way last November, he is now a Master.

Congratulations! (I'm waving going down...) There is a sense of this being a battle of wills, first one player takes the initiative and advantage, then the other player digs in and recovers and then some, etc. Well, Chess is a Game of Mistakes is my Brandwein-like mantra. (Steve just didn't make very many, he showed me to just wait for the opponent to mess up.) **1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 g6 3.e3** What? No Jobava?

[ 3.Nc3 is still raging. Of course Black can just allow the Pirc:

**A) 3...d5** hinders e2-e4 and is most common (and has a plus score in the online database) **4.Nb5 Na6 5.e3**

**A1) 5...Bg7 6.Nf3 ( 6.h3 )**

**A1a) 6...c6 7.Nc3 ( 7.Na3!?)**



7...Nb8;

**A1b) 6...0-0 7.h4!? c6**

8.Nc3;

**A2) 5...c6!? 6.Na3!?**

(Love those knights!) is only 4 games but White has done well (well, 6...Qb6 0-1, a 1600 vs. a 2000)(and double-well, the other three games were 3-0, but 2400s vs. mere masters);

**B) 3...Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Qd2**

and when White plays Bh6 it could have come from e3, f4, or g5 (!). ]

**3...Bg7 4.Nf3** The "Classical" London

**4...0-0 5.h3 c5**

[ 5...d6 6.Be2 ( 6.Nbd2 ) 6...Nbd7  
( 6...c5; 6...b6; 6...Nfd7!? ) ]

**6.c3**

[ 6.Nbd2!? d6 ( 6...Nc6!?; 6...cxd4 )  
7.Be2 Nc6 8.c3 cxd4 ½-½ Milov,V  
(2590)-Sutovsky,E (2480) ISR-ch Tel  
Aviv 1994 (4) ]

**6...d6**

[ 6...b6!? ]

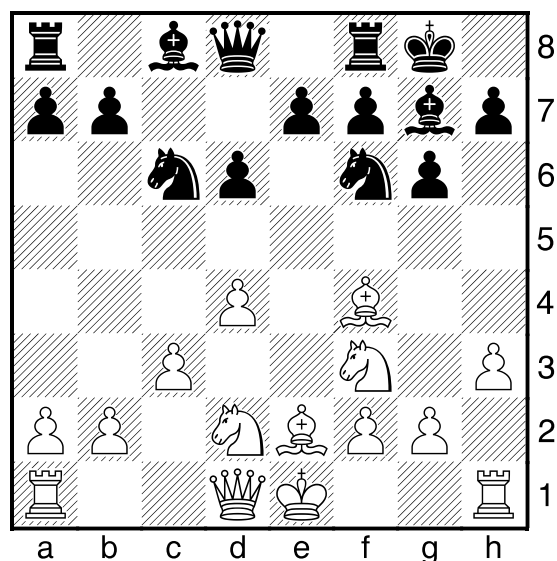
[ 6...cxd4 7.exd4 d6 0-1 Clark  
Foulquier,S-Georghiou,P (2251)  
Sutton op 1999 (2) ]

**7.Nbd2**

[ 7.dxc5!? dxc5 ( 7...e5 8.Bh2 e4  
9.Nfd2 dxc5 10.Na3 Nc6 11.Ndc4  
b6 12.Nb5 Nd5 13.Be2 Be6 14.0-0  
Qg5 15.Kh1 a6 16.Nbd6 f5 17.a4  
Rad8 18.Qc2 Rd7 19.Rad1 Re7  
20.Rd2 f4 21.Qxe4 Bg4 22.Qxd5+  
Qxd5 23.Rxd5 Bxe2 24.Re1 f3  
25.Nd2 Ne5 26.Bxe5 Rxe5 27.Rxe5  
Bxe5 28.gxf3 Bd3 29.N6c4 Bc7  
30.b3 Rd8 31.Ne4 Bc2 32.Ncd2  
Be5 33.Rc1 Bd3 34.Kg2 Kg7  
35.Nc4 Bc7 36.Nb2 Bxe4 37.fxe4  
Rd2 38.Nc4 Rd3 39.Kf3

1-0 Markowski,T (2572)-Cheparinov,I  
(2690) Warsaw Najdorf Memorial op-  
A 12th 2014 (6). Oh well, that didn't  
work out, too bad. :-)) 8.Nbd2 Nc6 ]

**7...cxd4 8.exd4 Nc6 9.Be2**



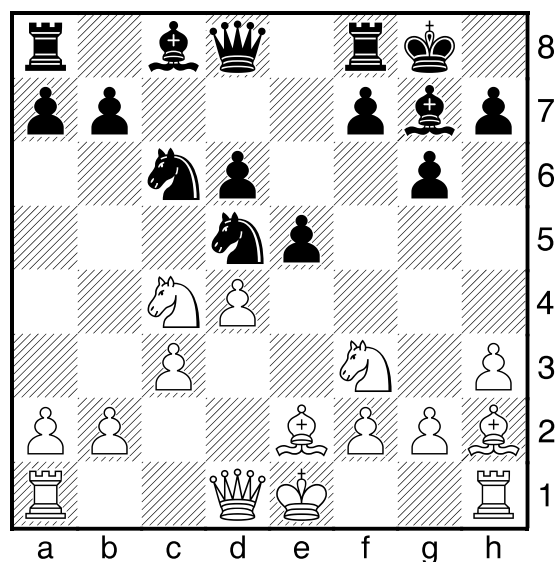
**Nd5**

[ 9...e5! is the Big Line. I won't get into it here (I've obviously forgotten it anyway), but it goes 10.dxe5 dxe5! 11.Nxe5 Nd5 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Bg3 Re8 ( 13...Bxc3 ) 14.0-0 Bxc3= 15.Qc1! Rxe2 16.bxc3 See Avrukh for details. ]

[ 9...Re8 10.Nc4 Nd5 11.Bh2  
0-1 Borsuk,A (2100)-Agdelen,H (2206)  
Larnaca OFIS op 2nd 2021 (8) ]

**10.Bh2 e5 11.Nc4?!**

[ 11.0-0 ]



**11...b5!N** I was so sure after the game that this was wrong, but Stockfish 15.1 backs me up.

[ 11...Re8?! isn't so bad, and I'll leave the endless game references out this time, but White can keep heads up.

½-½ (44) Djordjevic, D (1965)-Jandric, D (2011) SRB Kadetski festival U18 6th Vrnjacka Banja 2012 (6) ]

**12.dxe5!** Confession: overlooked.

**12...dxe5** **13.Ncxe5** Even here, the pawn sacrifice gives Black more than adequate play. **13...Nxe5** **14.Bxe5**

[ 14.Nxe5 Re8 15.Nxf7!? Kxf7

16.0-0 is a lot of pawns for a knight, almost -- but: a6! 17.a4 Nxc3!

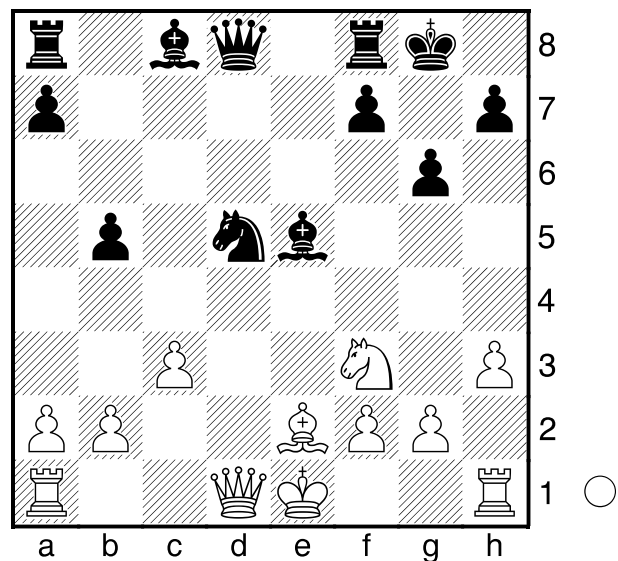
18.bxc3 ( 18.Bc4+ bxc4 19.Qf3+ Bf5 ) 18...Qxd1! 19.Bxd1 Bxc3

20.Bf3 (else ...b4 right away) Ra7

21.Rad1 b4 That b-pawn is a feature, giving Black some good reason to play on. ]

**14...Bxe5** "1/2?" A somewhat arbitrary draw offer by me. As it appears now, he might have been better off taking (objectively not so good acc. to the comp), but the difference between a tie with Luke for 3rd-4th and clear 2nd with a win (swapping places with me) was good odds to play on. Of course, we didn't know what would happen on Board 1 yet.

(Diagram)



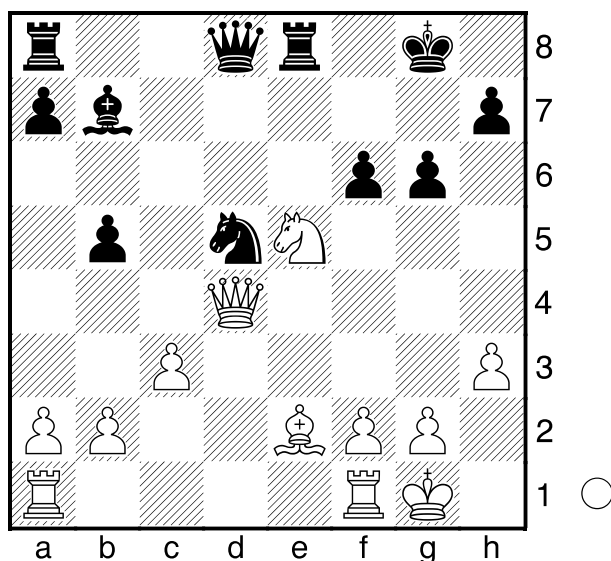
**15.Nxe5 Re8! 16.Qd4!** (the only move to keep a balance) **16...Bb7! 17.0-0** We both play well (acc. to SF). Here it isn't even close: everything else loses.

[ 17.Bxb5 Qg5! (I didn't realize just how good during the game, but it's obvious, isn't it?) 18.Bxe8 Rxe8 19.Rd1 Rxe5+ 20.Kf1 Ne3+-+ is a nightmare. ]

**17...f6=**

[ Black could eke out a very slightly favorable ending with 17...Qg5! 18.Nf3! Nf4! 19.Nxg5 Nxe2+ 20.Kh1 Nxd4 21.cxd4 Re2 ( (-0.45) at d28) 22.b4 Rd8 23.a4 h6 24.Nf3 a6 25.axb5 axb5 26.Rad1 Rb2 ]

(Diagram)



(0.00) **18.Nxg6!!** The only move, everything else -+, (-1.95) or worse. I was completely surprised. After a long thought I chose the line that avoids the perpetual; it's also fairly balanced, but on a knife-edge. **18...hxg6**

[ 18...Rxe2 19.Qg4

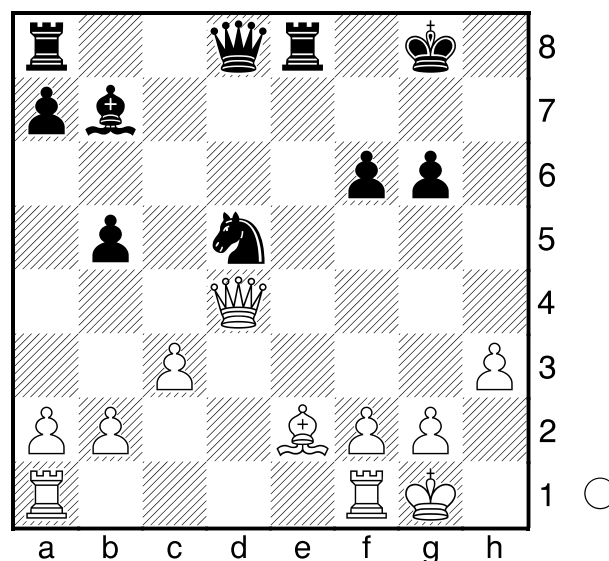
**A) 19...hxg6!?**

**A1) 20.Qxe2** Nf4 21.Qg4 g5 ( 21...Qd5 22.Rfd1 Qxg2+ 23.Qxg2 Bxg2 24.Rd4 Ne2+ 25.Kxg2 Nxd4 26.cxd4 Rc8= ) 22.Rad1 Qc8 23.Qxc8+ Rxc8 24.f3=;

**A2) 20.Qxg6+** Kf8 21.Qh6+ Kg8 ( 21...Ke7 22.Qg7+ Kd6 23.Qxb7 Rb8 24.Qxa7 Qc7 25.Qd4 Qc4 26.Rad1= );

**B) 19...Re8 ]**

(Diagram)



**19.Bxb5?!** Grabbing another pawn, threatening the rook, hard to resist!

[But SF prefers 19.Bf3! Re7

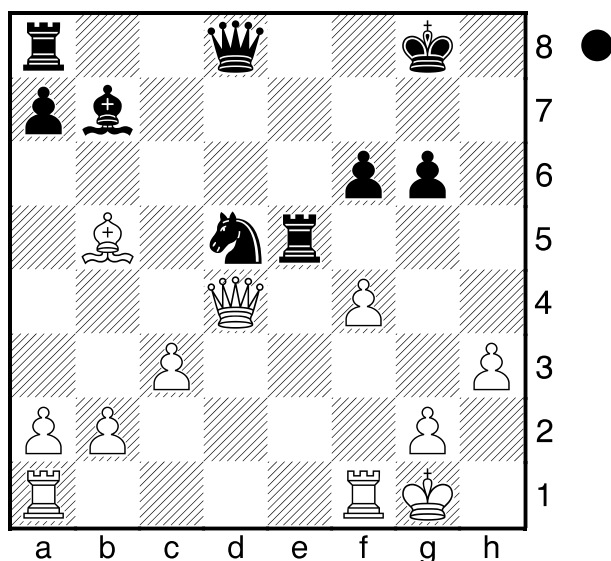
( 19...Qd7 20.a4 a6= (White has b2-b3 and c3-c4) to disrupt ) 20.Rfd1 Kg7 21.a4! Qg8! Oh, \*that\* was obvious a few moves ago... 22.Qc5! Qf8!? ( 22...Rc8 23.Qd6 Rd8 24.Qc5= ) 23.Bxd5! Re1+! 24.Rxe1 Qxc5 25.Bxb7 Rb8 it's even, especially after 26.b4! Qxc3 27.Rac1! Qxb4 28.Rc7+ ]

**19...Rf8?!** Another big chance I fumbled.

[I was trying to believe in 19...Re5! but after 20.f4 ( 20.Rae1!? Qe7 21.Qg4 Kg7 22.Rxe5 fxe5± White could still hold out hope to hold )

(Diagram)





I missed that I had 20...Nxf4!  
21.Bc4+! Nd5!7 The missing f-pawn  
means my two outposts are safe (!). ]

### 20.Rad1 Qc7

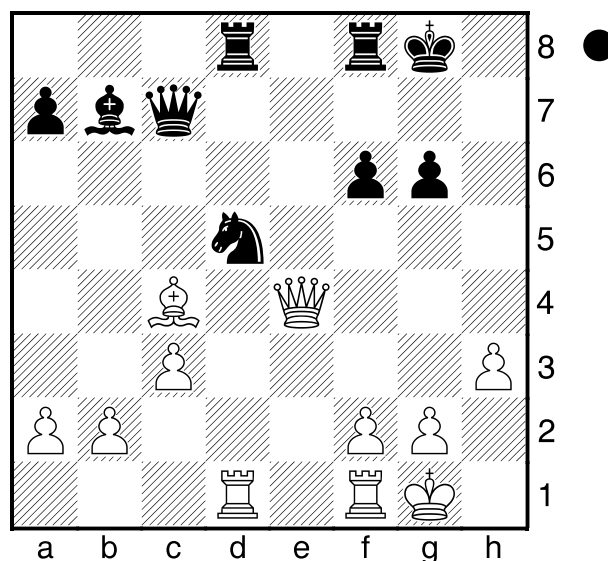
[ 20...Kg7 might be a better try,  
maybe not. But as usual I didn't see  
what he was up to. ]

### 21.Bc4

[ 21.Rfe1!? Rad8 22.Qxa7  
(four pawns starts to get annoying!)  
Nf4 23.Rxd8 Rxd8 24.Ba6 Rd7!±  
25.Qxb7 Qxb7 26.Bxb7 Rxb7 27.b3±  
And Stockfish can count just as well  
as we can. White has the better  
chances to win, although nothing  
scheduled. ]

### 21...Rad8 22.Qe4!

(Diagram)



**Qf7?** Another case of overlooking  
Nitish's next move.

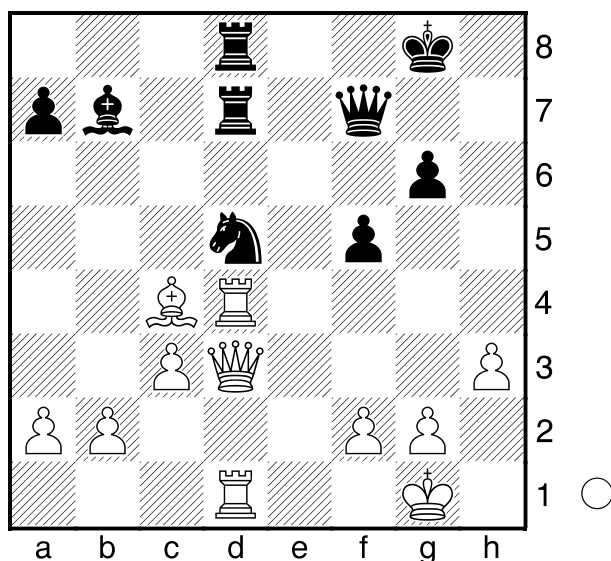
[ 22...f5! 23.Qd4 ( 23.Qh4 f4!  
has a couple perpetual check  
variations. ) 23...g5!!= Not that I  
understand: White could take on a7  
or just get that last rook into play  
(slightly better), when the evaluations  
have a lot of zeroes in them. ]

**23.Rd4!±** He's just going to double and  
there's not a lot I can do about it. If it  
had \*really\* been Summer (What \*is\*  
with calling this the Summer TNM  
anyway? It's a week off) I would have  
been sweating on the board. **23...f5?+**  
My bad habit of "lashing out" when it's  
getting rough.

[ 23...Kg7 24.Rfd1□ Rfe8 25.Qc2  
( 25.Qd3 Re5 26.f4 Rf5± ) 25...Qc7!  
26.Qd2! Re5!± when White has  
various ways of proceeding. 27.a4!?  
( 27.b4!? ) ]

**24.Qd3+-** Best by a lot. **24...Rd7**  
**25.Rd1! Rfd8**

(Diagram)



**26.Qd2??** Nitish came so far and now -- what? Lured by dreams of mate on the h-file?

[ 26.Bb5+- is clearly indicated and best, and I hadn't come up with an answer. Stockfish just gives up the rook for bishop. ]

**26...Bc6!?** With great relief I shut \*that\* down!

[ But more sophisticated was 26...Qf6! 27.Qh6!? ( 27.Bb5? Bc6+ give what edge there is to Black. I \*am\* up a piece, sorta... ) 27...Rh7! 28.Qe3 Rhd7± 29.b4 There is still the march of the pawns, but Black appears to have time to come up with a defence. ]

**27.Qg5?!**

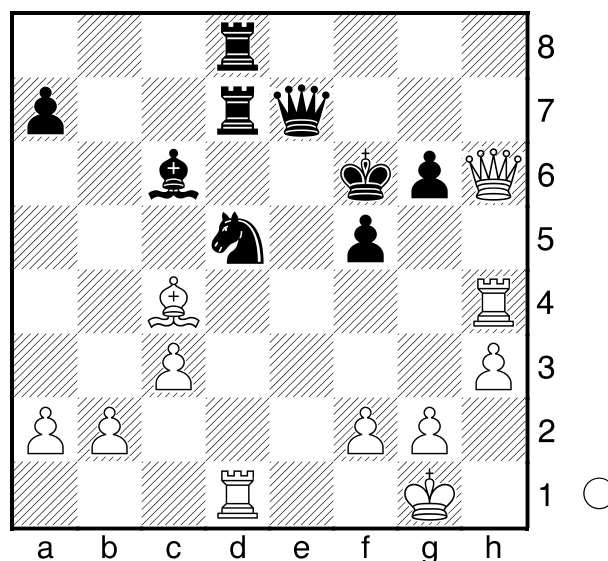
[ 27.b4! Kg7 28.b5 Ba8± 29.Qb2 Qf6 30.R1d3 f4!± Black has ...Qf5 and ...Nb6 to depressurize. ]

**27...Kg7=** (0.00)

[ 27...Kf8= (0.00) ]

**28.Rh4 Qe7! 29.Qh6+ Kf6**

(Diagram)



**30.Rhd4?!**

[ 30.Rh5 Kf7 31.Rh4 Kf6= ]

[ 30.f4 Qg7 31.Qg5+ Kf7=

is risky (but ultimately a hold as well). ]

**30...Qg7!± 31.Qd2?!**

[ 31.Qc1 g5± ]

**31...Nb6!**

[ 31...g5! is apparently just as good, but hard to imagine playing. ]

**32.Qe2?!** I was the one with less time, but he's starting to wither.

[ 32.Qf4 Nxc4 33.Rxd7 Rxd7 34.Rxd7 Qxd7 35.Qxc4 Qd1+ 36.Kh2 Qd5± ]

**32...Qe7!±** I didn't think of it at the time, but it looks like when with a piece against pawns, you want to queens off, and the rooks on. Is that true?? It was here. **33.Qxe7+ Kxe7 34.Re1+**

[ 34.Rxd7+ Rxd7 35.Rxd7+ Bxd7 36.Bb3 Be6 is going to be hard, but for him more than for me. ]

**34...Kf8! 35.Rxd7 Rxd7 36.Bb3 Bd5±**

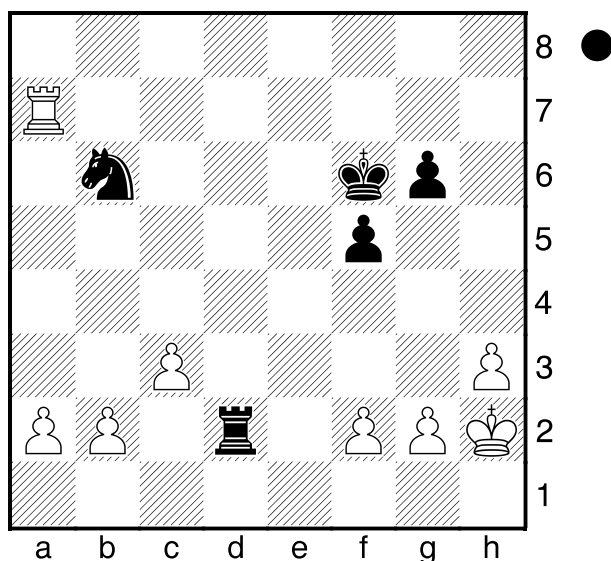
[ 36...Rd2! 37.Re6 Be8± ]

**37.Bxd5 Rxd5 38.Re6 Kf7 39.Rc6**

**Rd1+ 40.Kh2 Rd2 41.Rc7+ Kf6**

**42.Rxa7**

(Diagram)



**Rxb2??** Here was the unlocked door or open window or whatever metaphor works.

[ 42...Rxf2 43.Kg3!

**A) 43...Rxb2** 44.Rb7 g5

**A1) 45.h4** g4 46.Rb8 Nc4 47.Rxb2 ( 47.Rb4 Rxb4 48.cxb4 Na3-+ ) 47...Nxb2 48.Kf4 Nd3+ 49.Ke3 Nc5-+ Somehow this is a big win.;

**A2) 45.a3!** Kg6! 46.Rb8!± and there's work to do, a lot of it.;

**B) 43...Rc2!** ]

**43.a4??**

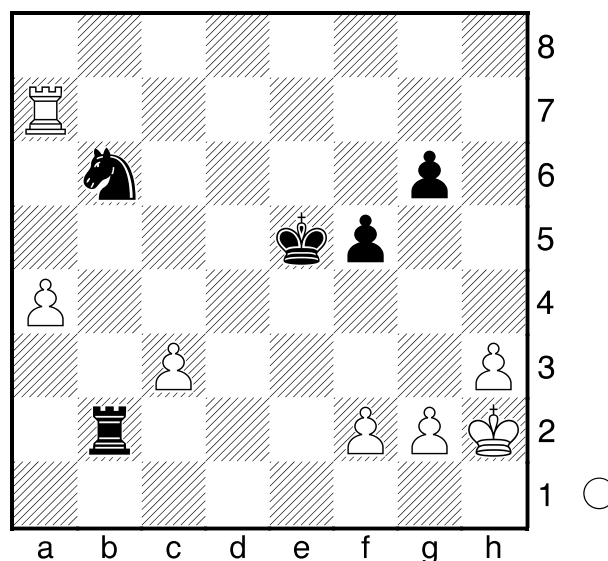
[ 43.Rb7!= ]

**43...Ke5±**

[ 43...Nd5! 44.c4 Nf4 45.Ra6+ Kg5 46.Kg3 Nh5+ 47.Kf3 Rb3+ 48.Ke2 Nf4+ 49.Kd2 Rb2+ 50.Kc3 Rxf2 51.a5 Nxg2 52.Ra8 f4-+

A precarious endgame! But Black appears to have it won. ]

(Diagram)



**44.a5?!**

[ 44.Ra5+ Kf4 45.Rb5 Nxa4 46.Rb4+!± ]

**44...Nd5! 45.a6?!**

[ 45.Kg1 Nxc3± ]

**45...Rxf2! 46.Kg3 Ra2 47.Ra8**

[ 47.c4 ]

**47...Nc7-+** I would have breathed a sigh of relief had I not been too close to playing just on the delay. I had what, about a minute. So why was I keeping score??

[ 47...Nxc3 ]

**48.Ra7 Nxa6 49.Rg7 Kf6 50.Rb7 Nc5**

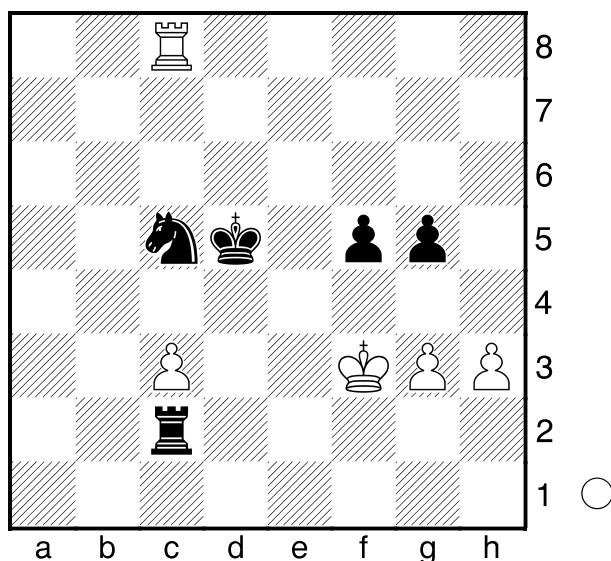
**51.Rb6+ Ne6 52.Rc6 g5 53.Kf3 Ke5**

**54.Rc4 Rc2 55.g3 Kd5 56.Rc8 Nc5-+**

[ Δ56...Rh2 but I was starting to work up my confidence by now. ]

(Diagram)





.... 0-1 That was the last move I recorded (I pocketed my pen and put the scoresheet on the other side of the table, to force myself to prioritize winning the game!). Nitish might have more moves (but at some point his time dwindled to under five minutes and he stopped).

**0-1**

**B33**  
**2049**  
**Ivanenko,Anthony Vladimir 2127**  
 2023 Summer TNM: 2000+ (7.4) 13.06.23  
*[Ivanenko, Tony]*

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5** Back into the Sveshnikov we go! **6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5** Sebastian elects to go for the main variation with 7. Bg5. This line has been explored and debated in many games (over 55 000, to be precise!) and the consensus has become as follows: a once-interesting opening has dried up into a boring draw. Still, there have some advances made to liven up the main line Sveshnikov, so it still seems some play.

[ 7.Nd5 is another line that has been

(unfortunately for me, as I have to now study it carefully) popularized by the 2018 World Championship Match between Magnus Carlsen and Fabiano Caruana. It was also featured in one of my games this tournament where I exhibited a rather poor defense against an unsound sacrifice. Nxd5 8.exd5 Nb8 9.c4 Nd7 10.Bd3 Be7 11.0-0 a6 12.Nc3 0-0 13.Qc2 g6 14.Bh6 Re8 15.Rae1 f5 16.Bxf5 gxf5 17.Qxf5 Nf8 18.Qh5 Ng6 19.f4 exf4 20.Bxf4 Rf8 21.Bh6 Rxf1+ 22.Rxf1 Qb6+ 23.Kh1 Qxb2 24.Qf3 Kh8 25.Qf7 Qxc3 26.Qe8+ Bf8 27.Rxf8+ Nxf8 28.Qxf8# 1-0 Qiu,L (1886)-Ivanenko,A (2127) Summer TNM 2023 (4) ]

**7...a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Nd5** The more positional approach of the main line Sveshnikov, often appropriately dubbed the "Positional line". White decides to immediately grab the central outpost and use the "fingers" of the knight to prod the position. It is questionable how useful this knight is, though, as often Black generates excellent wing play. Black's goal in the future will be to undermine the center with an ...f7-f5 break.

[ 9.Bxf6 is the other, sharp line that was once considered the main line, but all the offensive resources have already been tried and tested, and found to not be overly challenging to Black's set-up, so it's mostly featured in blitz and rapid games these days. ]

**9...Be7 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.c4!?**

A more ambitious continuation. This used to be very popular back in my heyday circa 2013 when I was a young lad. Truth be told, I'm not quite certain as to the popularity of this variation, I always felt it allowed Black to equalize a little too easily -- most of the time, Black

actually wants to play ...b5-b4 in the main line, and here White is gifting us that freely! Not to mention that the light-squared bishop would have really preferred to have access to that c4-square as well. **11...b4** As previously stated, this is the strongest continuation and is sufficient for an equal game. The only downside is that it's somewhat boring as the center becomes fixed. A dynamic Sveshnikov player would really prefer to go for a more dynamic continuation by sacrificing the pawn on b5, but unfortunately all these kinds of lines are very suspicious from a theoretical point of view. **12.Nc2 0-0**

### 13.Qd3

[ 13.Ncxb4 is not scary at all for Black. After Nxb4 14.Nxb4 Qb6= Black will end up recouping the pawn one way or the other. ]

**13...a5 14.g3 g6** This is actually a relatively new continuation that has been getting tested at top level, and has even been played by Fabiano Caruana at the 2019 US Championship against Samuel Sevian. The point is that Black prefers the bishop on g7 rather than g5, where it will be more useful x-raying the long diagonal and won't present itself as a target for White's kingside pawns. However, there are alternatives.

[ 14...Bg5 ]

[ 14...Be6 ]

**15.Bg2 Bg7 16.0-0 Be6** This has been all standard Sveshnikov warfare up until now. **17.Rad1**

[ 17.a3 was played in the game I previously mentioned. bxa3 18.Qxa3 Qb8 19.Rfd1 Ra7 20.b3 Rb7 21.Rab1 Nd4 22.Nxd4 exd4 23.Bf1 h5 24.Bd3 h4 25.Qxa5 Rxb3 26.Qd2 Bxd5 27.exd5 Bf6 28.Qc2 Rxb1 29.Rxb1 Qa7 30.Qd2 Kg7 31.Qf4 Qa3 32.Qe4 Rh8 33.Rb7

Qc1+ 34.Bf1 hxc3 35.hxc3 Rh5 36.Rb1 Qc3 37.Rd1 Be5 38.Bd3 Qb2 39.Qe2 Qb8 40.Rb1 Qc8 41.Qf3 Bf6 42.Re1 Re5 43.Rxe5 Bxe5 ½-½ Sevian,S (2642)-Caruana, F (2828) USA-ch 63rd Saint Louis 2019 (1) ]

**17...Qb8!?** I would like to bring close attention to this ...Qb8 move since it's quite thematic in these variations. The queen is better suited to be on the b-file, where it may be defending and supporting the b-pawn in the future and freeing the d8-square for its rook instead to double up on protection of the d6-pawn. **18.Nde3N** This is quite a new way to play, I must admit! Sebastian pulls back the knight to prevent it from being captured by the e6-bishop and thus indicates his intention to push the f2-pawn in the near future. I had to go for a long think regarding this.

[Predecessor: 18.h4 h5 19.Kh2 Qa7 20.b3 Rad8 21.Qe2 Rfe8 22.Rd3 Qc5 23.Nc7 Re7 24.Nb5 Na7 25.Nxa7 Rxa7 26.Rfd1 Bh6 27.Bh3 a4 28.Bxe6 fxe6 29.Ne1 axb3 30.axb3 Ra3 31.Kg2 Kf7 32.Rf3+ Ke7 33.Nd3 Qa5 34.c5 Qc7 35.cxd6+ Qxd6 36.Nb2 Qa6 37.Nc4 Ra2 38.Qe1 Rxd1 39.Qxd1 Ra1 40.Qd3 Re1 41.Rf7+ 1-0 Mastrovasilis,D (2597)-Tazbir,M (2511) Rubinstein Memorial 58th Polanica Zdroj 2022 (5) ]

[Predecessor: 18.Kh1 Ra7 19.b3 Kh8 20.f4 f5 21.exf5 gxf5 22.Nde3 e4 23.Qxd6 Qc8 24.Qd2 Rd7 25.Qe2 Rfd8 26.Rxd7 Rxd7 27.Rd1 Qd8 28.Rxd7 Qxd7 29.Bh3 Ne7 30.Qd1 Qd3 31.Bf1 Qxd1 32.Nxd1 Kg8 33.Nde3 Kf7 34.Bh3 Bb2 35.Kg2 Kf6 36.Kf2 Nc6 37.g4 fxg4 38.Nxg4+ Ke7 39.Nce3 Bd4 40.Kg3 a4 41.f5 Bf7 42.Kf4 a3 43.Kxe4 Bc3 44.Nd5+ Kd6 45.Nge3 Kc5

46.f6 Na5 47.Nxc3 bxc3 48.Kd3  
 Nxb3 49.Kxc3 Nc1 50.Bf5 Nxa2+  
 51.Kb3 Nc1+ 52.Kxa3 h6 53.Kb2  
 Ne2 54.Bg4 Nf4 55.Kc3 Ng6  
 56.Bh5 Kd6 57.Bxg6 Bxg6 58.Kd4  
 Ke6 59.Ng4 Kf5 60.Nxh6+ Kxf6  
 61.Ng4+ Kf5 62.Ne3+ Kf4 63.c5  
 Be8 64.Nc4 Kg4 65.Nd6 Bc6 66.Nf7  
 Kh3 67.Ne5 Bb7 68.Kc4 Kxh2  
 69.Kb5 Kg3 70.Kb6 Bd5 71.Kc7 Kf4  
 72.Kd6 Ke4 73.Nd7 Kd4 74.Nb6  
 Bh1 75.Nc8 Bg2 76.Ne7 Be4  
 77.Nc6+ Kc4 78.Ne5+ Kd4 79.Ng4  
 Bf3 80.Nf6 Bg2 81.Ng8 Bf3 82.Nh6  
 Kc4 83.Nf5 Be4 84.Ne3+ Kd4  
 85.Nf1 Bg2 86.Nd2 Bd5 87.Nb1 Bf3  
 88.Na3 Be4 89.Nb5+ Kc4 90.Nc7  
 Kd4 91.Ne6+ Kc4 92.Kc7 Kd5 93.c6  
 Kxe6 94.Kb6 Kd6 95.c7 Kd7  
 96.c8Q+ Kxc8 ½-½ Diaz Camallonga,  
 C (2467)-Salem,A (2682) Titled  
 Tuesday intern op 7th July Chess.com  
 INT blitz 2020 (7) ]

**18...Rd8** First, get some protection  
 going on the d6-pawn.

[ 18...a4 would have also worked, the  
 idea being that after 19.Qxd6  
 Better is 19.b3, transposing. Qxd6  
 20.Rxd6 Rfc8 White's c4-pawn isn't  
 going to last long anyway and Black  
 obtains a lot of pressure on the  
 kingside. ]

[ 18...b3!? was an interesting idea I  
 had to induce weaknesses in White's  
 pawn structure and open the b-file for  
 Black's majors, and it's also fine,  
 though precise care is needed.

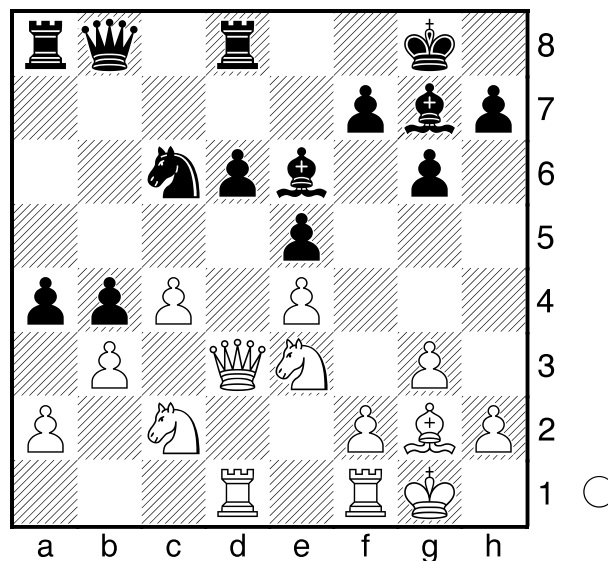
19.axb3

**A)** and not 19...Rd8?! which is  
 what I was thinking, as after 20.Ra1  
 ( 20.f4?! exf4 21.gxf4 Bxb2= )  
 20...Ra7 21.Ra3± White solidifies  
 and retains a small plus.;

**B)** 19...Nd4! 20.Nxd4 exd4  
 21.Nc2 a4!= Black equalizes. ]

**19.b3 a4**

[ My other idea was 19...Qb6!?  
 and it's not bad either, although  
 please do not intend what I did with  
 20.f4 f5? when ( 20...exf4 is better,  
 transposing to main text ideas. )  
 21.Kh1 fxe4 22.Bxe4 exf4 23.gxf4  
 Ra7 24.f5+- just activates White's  
 pieces and they're ready to launch a  
 kingside assault. ]



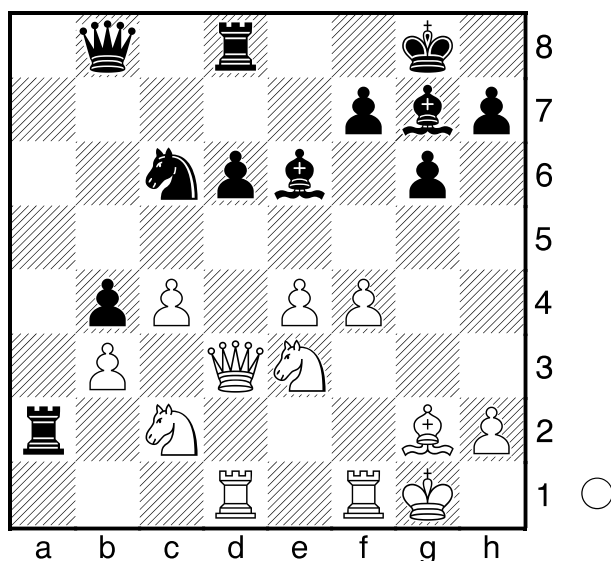
Countering White's kingside intentions  
 by counter-playing on queenside. I'm  
 happy to see in the post-game analysis  
 that my positional ideas are quite well  
 received by the engine — it was missed  
 tactical opportunities that did me in as  
 we'll see later on. **20.f4 axb3 21.axb3  
 exf4 22.gxf4 Ra2!±**

[ 22...Qb6 23.f5 Ne5 24.Qd2 Bc8=  
 Black is fine, but doesn't have any  
 pressure so is just holding at this  
 point. ]

[ I also considered 22...Bc3 23.f5  
 Ne5 24.Qe2 Bc8= and this is also  
 fine. ]

(Diagram)





A complete monster move, and happy to say I found this idea over the past few moves. Black has other playable moves, but the issue with those is that while Black holds equality, he doesn't obtain any initiative or pressure to bother White with, and as we all know — defending is much more difficult than attacking. Now, White is realizing that all of his pieces are actually quite loose, he has trouble moving one piece without giving Black some kind of compensation in return. **23.f5** White goes for it.

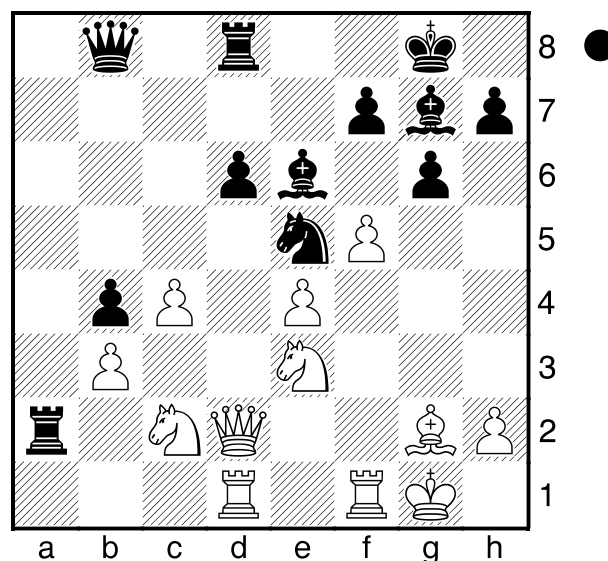
**23...Ne5** Another good move, pushing back White's queen onto the second rank, when the e3-knight becomes vulnerable to tactics due to the resulting pin of the c2-knight.

[ 23...Bc8 was also fine. I was somewhat worried about the potential 24.Qd5?! Qc7 25.fxc6 hxc6 But all White has are spooky phantoms and nothing more. ]

#### 24.Qd2?

[ 24.Qe2 was the right placement, protecting the c4-pawn, after which the simple Bc8 and White's play fizzles. ]

(Diagram)



A mistake. The problem is that the c2-knight is rather vulnerable now...

**24...Bh6?** And of course, I played back a mistake with confidence, taking only about a minute to ponder on this. Of course, every single time I only take a minute on the move — it turns out that was the critical position.

[ 24...Bxc4!! I only noticed this brilliant continuation on my opponent's turn and almost groaned out loud. Black sacrifices the bishop to remove the pawn from the b3-square. 25.bxc4 Qa7! An important intermezzo, removing the queen from the b-file.

( 25...b3? 26.Rb1!= Pinning the pawn to the queen. ) 26.Kh1 b3-+

Black is going to be up a pawn and what a dangerous pawn it is! ]

**25.Qd4?** White throws it right back to Black.

[ 25.fxe6! was actually completely fine for White and the best move. I naively thought that Bxe3+ 26.Qxe3 Rxc2 27.exf7+ Nxf7 was fine for Black, but didn't realize that after 28.e5 Nxe5 29.Bd5+ Kh8 30.Qg5± White is threatening 31.Qf6, with a dangerous attack. ]

**25...Bc8** Black is forced to retreat his

bishop, but actually he's still completely fine in this position. However, getting close to time trouble, I misevaluated the following sequence.

[ 25...Bxc4? doesn't work this time, because after 26.Nxc4 Rxc2 27.Nxe5 dxe5+- The rook is hanging. ]

[ 25...Bg7? is also met by 26.fxe6! ( 26.f6? Bh6+ is perfectly good for Black. ) 26...Nf3+ 27.Rxf3 Bxd4 28.exf7+ Kh8 29.Nxd4+- And White's three minors plus passed pawn more than compensate for the queen. ]

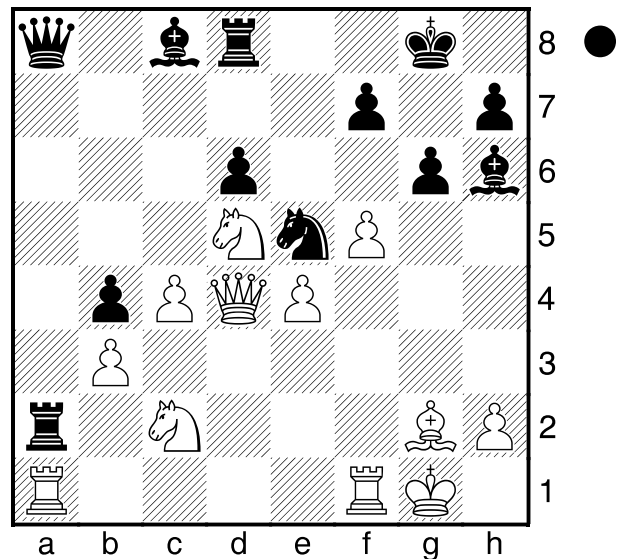
**26.Ra1 Qa8?** Bah! A terrible looking move, but I wasn't sure where my compensation was after giving up the a-file. But as it turns out, the compensation was in the advantage in activity of Black's minor pieces after the queens are swapped off the board!

[ 26...Rxa1! Giving up the a-file was completely right, since Black's powerful minor pieces more than compensate for it after 27.Rxa1 Bb7 (or 27...Bg7 28.Qa7 Bb7= which is what I had in mind. ) 28.Qb6 Ba8 29.Qxb8 Rxb8+ Black is actually quite solid here, and White has the issue of attempting to disentangle his knights (never use a knight to guard another knight is an old adage!) ]

**27.Nd5?!**

[ 27.Qb6 was more precise, instantly striking at the d8-rook. Bg5 28.f6± Black is having major issues with piece coordination here. ]

(Diagram)



**27...Nc6??** The final blunder made in time pressure. The knight was perfectly placed on e5 but here it's just loose.

**28.Qb6!** I don't know how I saw this only after I played 27...Nc6.

[ For some reason, I was counting on 28.Qd1?? after which Bg7 29.Rxa2 Qxa2= just equalizes. ]

**28...Kg7** The problem was that White was threatening 29.Qxc6 followed by 30.Ne7, forking the queen and winning a piece.

[ 28...Kh8 just converts to the main text. ]

[ 28...Bd7 is met with 29.Rxa2 Qxa2 30.Ne7+- ]

[ 28...Bb7 29.Rxa2 Qxa2 30.Qxb7+- is no better. ]

**29.Rxa2 Qxa2 30.Ncxb4 Qxb3**

Baiting for traps.

[ 30...Qa7!? was an interesting resource I missed. It doesn't work here, of course, but the idea is that after 31.f6+ Kf8 32.Qxa7 ( 32.Nxc6?! runs into Qxb6+ 33.Nxb6 Be3+ 34.Kh1 Bxb6 35.Nxd8 Bxd8+- and while this is winning for White, it's not the first time somebody fails to convert a rook vs bishop endgame, although with the extra (connected

and passed) pawn, the task is more trivial. ) 32...Nxa7 Black would just be a pawn down and retain some hope if not for 33.Ra1+- winning the piece. ]

### 31.Qxc6

[I was hoping for 31.Nxc6? which falls to Qxb6+ 32.Nxb6 Be3+ 33.Kh1 Bxb6 34.Nxd8 Bxd8+- and despite the engine evaluation, I wouldn't be confident in just about anybody being able to convert it -- it requires some skill and precision. ]

### 31...gxf5 32.exf5 Kh8 33.Qc7 Rg8

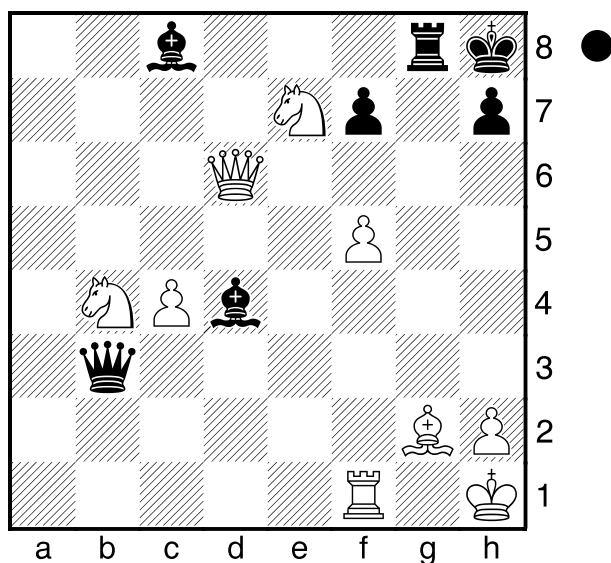
At this point, Black is hoping for mating tricks on the open g-file or perhaps a perpetual. 34.Qxd6 Be3+

[Unfortunately 34...Qh3 doesn't work for a variety of reasons, for example: 35.Qf6+ Bg7 36.Bxh3 Bxf6++- This should be easy to convert for White. ]

### 35.Kh1

[ 35.Nxe3 Qxe3+ 36.Kh1 Qe2 37.Rg1+- is also a fine way to dash Black's hopes. ]

### 35...Bd4 36.Ne7



**Rxg2 37.Qxd4+ Rg7 38.Qd8+**  
(Beauty=10.0) With mate in 1 left, Black resigns this game.  
**1-0**



**Smith,Robert H III**



**Benaïd, Henry**

**A43**

**1854**

**1851**

2023 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (7.8)

[Winslow, Elliott]

This is the section-winning game by Henry Benaïd. After five rounds he was in clear first by a whole point, with a perfect 5-0 score! But a loss to the only player with 4, Stephen Parsons, Thus into the last round tied, but playing others. At that point there were three players a half point back, but one (Kristian Clemens) had already taken a half point bye, and another, Michael Walder, had already played (and lost to) Benaïd -- so the pairings were clear. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 c5** Of course the usual move by a huge margin is 2...d5. I confess that every time someone plays the Morra Gambit against my Sicilian, 1.e4 c5 2.d4, I think about this move! I can't quite bring myself to play it. But Benaïd's success might yet inspire me! **3.d5** The principaled reply, taking the Benoni space.

[ 3.c3 ]

[ 3.Nf3 ]

### 3...exd5 4.exd5 d6 5.Nf3 Nf6 6.Bg5?!

In a moment this bishop will be a liability, open to a common tactical mini.

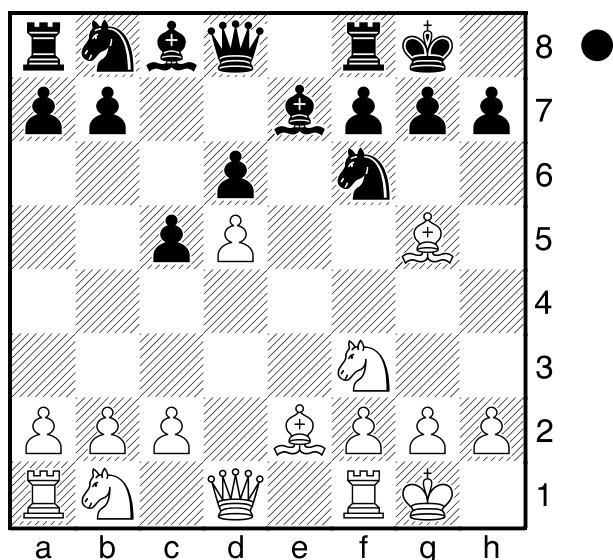
[ Relevant: 6.Bd3 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.c4 Bg4 9.Nbd2 Bh5 ½-½ Kovalenko,I (2653)-Miezis,N (2499) Baltic zt Tallinn 2015 (1) ]

[ Here is an interesting game, because of the date, and who played it: 6.Bb5+ Bd7 7.a4 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Re1 a6 10.Bf1 Re8 11.Nc3 Bf8 12.Rxe8 Nxe8 13.Nd2 Bf5 14.Nc4 Nd7 15.Bf4 Qc7 16.h3 Bg6 17.a5 Nef6 18.Na4 Re8 19.f3 Nh5 20.Bh2 f5 21.Nc3 Bf7 22.Qd2 g6 23.g4 Nhf6 24.gxf5 gxf5 25.Bd3 Nxd5 26.Qg5+ Kh8 27.Nxd5 Bxd5 28.Qxf5 Bg8

29.Be4 Re6 30.Kh1 Rf6 31.Qh5 Rh6 32.Qxh6 Bxh6 33.Nxd6 Qd8 34.Nf5 Bg5 35.Rd1 Bf6 36.Nh6 Qe8 37.Nxg8 Kxg8 38.Bxb7 Qe2 39.Rg1+ Kf8 40.Bd6+ Be7 41.Bf4 Nf6 42.Bh6+ Ke8 43.Bc6+ Kd8 44.Bf4 Qe6 0-1 Sokolov,I (2645)-Andersson,U (2630) Sigeman & Co 03rd Malmo 1995 (4) ]  
[ 6.h3!± is my, and I'm always proud to say Stockfish's, move. Clear plus. ]

### 6...Be7 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0

[Here I thought 8.h3!? again, but now Stockfish thinks there are at least half a dozen better moves. I just can't win in the Guess the Computer Move game. ]



**8...Bg4N** This certainly seems appropriate to me, according to the proverb "With less space, exchange a pair of minor pieces, even bishop for knight." And again! Stockfish doesn't agree. In any case, the overall reason I don't play this ...e6 and ...c5 line (either move order) is that this isn't the sort of play I hope for in the Benoni. (And apparently I just don't "get it.")

[A peaceful result came from 8...Na6 9.Nc3 Nc7 10.a4 Re8 11.Re1 h6

12.Bf4 Bf5 13.h3 Bf8 14.Qd2 Ne4 15.Nxe4 Bxe4 16.c4 Na6 17.Nh2 Nb4 18.Rac1 Bg6 19.Nf1 Re4 20.Be3 Re7 21.Ng3 Na2 22.Ra1 Nb4 23.Rac1 Na2 ½-½ Issing,P (2273)-David,A (2304) Oberliga Nord W 1011 Germany 2010 (7.2) ]

**9.c4?!** Stockfish all but gives this a "?" -- is it a waste of time? Something else? [ 9.h3! Bh5 10.Nc3 ]

### 9...a6!?

[ 9...Nxd5! which leads to "0.00" on the computer via: Stockfish 15.1: 10.Qxd5 Bxg5 11.Qxb7 Nd7 12.Nxg5 Bxe2 13.Qe4 Qxg5 14.Qxe2 Rae8 15.Qc2 Ne5 16.f4 Nf3+ 17.Rxf3 Re1+ 18.Rf1 Rxf1+ 19.Kxf1 Qxf4+ 20.Kg1 Qe3+ 21.Kf1 Qf4+ 0.00/28 Wow! But I'll bet Henry is glad he didn't even see this (if in fact he didn't -- if he did he should be in the top section next TNM :-)) ]

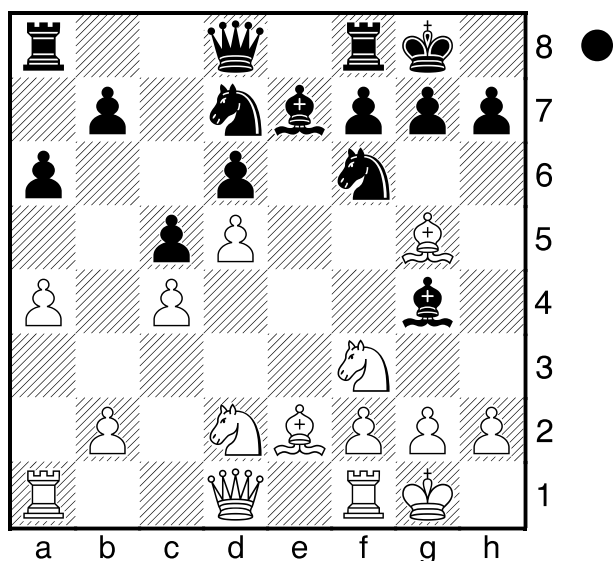
### 10.a4 Nbd7

[ 10...Nxd5! now even leads to an advantage: 11.Qxd5 Bxg5 12.Qxb7 Nd7 13.Nxg5 Bxe2 14.Qe4 Qxg5 15.Qxe2 Rab8 and there's no b2-b3. Deep! 16.Nc3! Rfe8 17.Qd1 Rxb2 18.Qxd6 Ne5= /+= ]

### 11.Nbd2?

[Stockfish liked 11.Bc1!? for a while, ] [before silicon sanity prevailed and it preferred 11.Nc3 ]

(Diagram)



Now it's getting serious. **11...Re8?!±**  
 [ 11...Nxd5! 12.Bxe7 Nxe7 13.Ne4 Ng6!± Of course the d-pawn is doomed, but Black will have the better minor pieces in the resulting symmetrical pawn structure. ( 13...Nc6 14.Qxd6! Re8 15.Qf4 Nf6± ) ]

**12.h3! Bxf3 13.Nxf3 Ne4?! No backup.**

[ 13...Ne5± ]

**14.Bxe7?** Throws away all the advantage.

[ 14.Bf4 leaves Black still a bit cramped (Proverbs Never Work! is a proverb that sometimes works). Bf6?! 15.Qc2 is getting uncomfortable. ]

**14...Rxe7=** Stockfish still gives White some nominal advantage, but it's all mostly zeros. In other words, Black shouldn't have any worries. In fact White is the one who has the slight concern of the worst minor piece (bad bishop!).

**15.Re1**

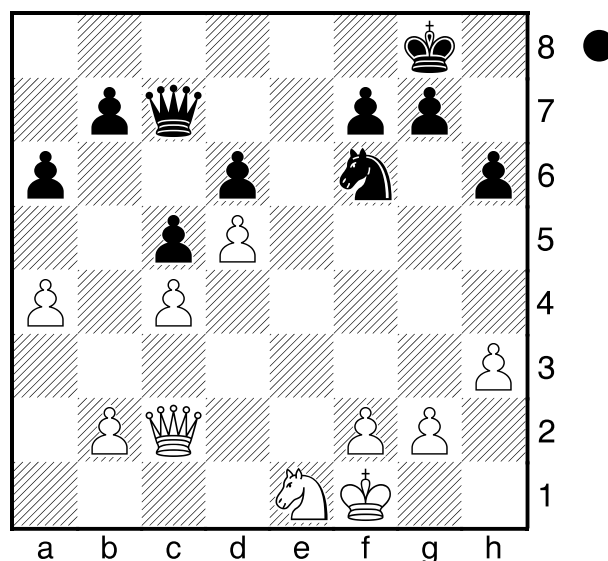
[ 15.Bd3 "0.14" ]

**15...Qc7**

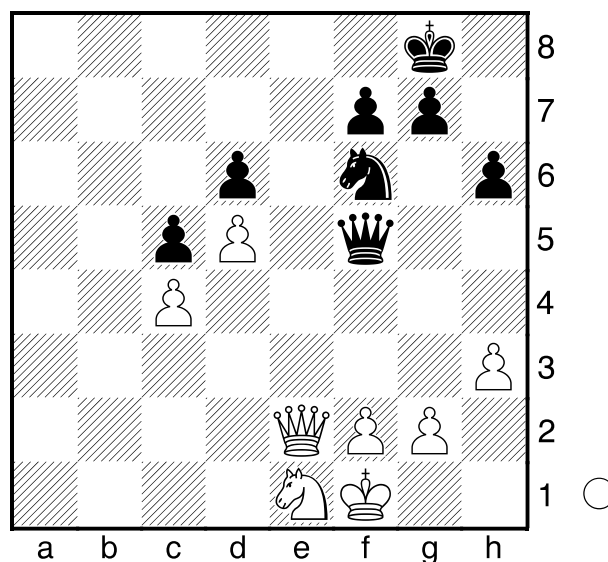
[ 15...Qa5! also gets out of the way of the a-rook but with more bang for the buck. ]

**16.Bd3 Rae8= 17.Bxe4** There's a solution. But now there is no value to

the space advantage at all. **17...Rxe4 18.Rxe4 Rxe4 19.Qc2 Nf6 20.Kf1 h6 21.Re1 Rxe1+ 22.Nxe1**



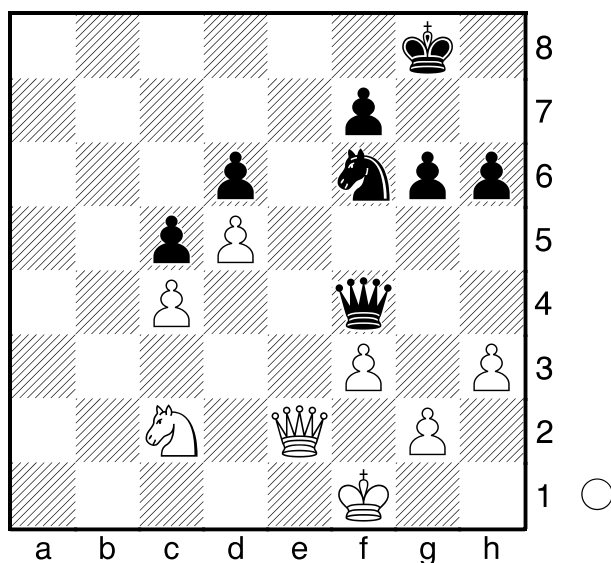
**Qd7 23.b3 b5** Black is starting to develop the upper hand (but not yet)  
**24.axb5 axb5 25.Qe2 bxc4 26.bxc4 Qf5**



**27.f3?** Oh, any queen move was better than this! **27...Qf4** It doesn't take much to lose a game: those loosened dark squares will be quite a problem. **28.Nc2 g6**

[ 28...h5!± and next without fail ...h4, nails it down. 29.g4? hxg4 30.hxg4

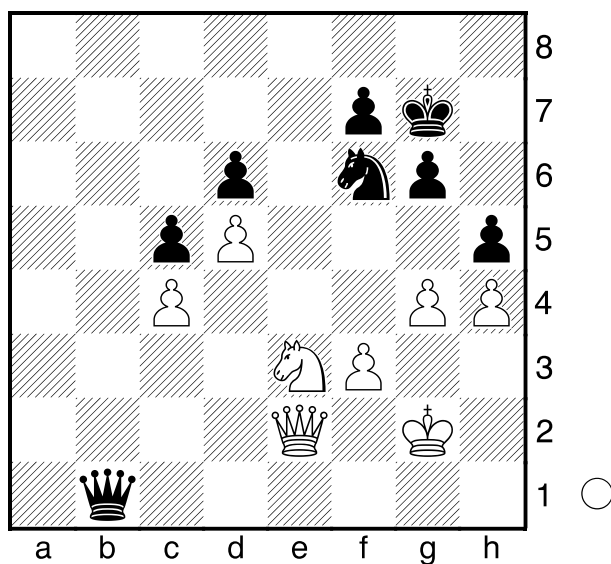
Nxg4 ]



**29.g4? -** Not that this was to be feared!  
It gets even looser. **29...Kg7 30.Kg2**  
**Qc1?**

[ 30...Nd7! is the way to go: 31.Ne3  
Ne5 is almost Zugzwang! 32.h4 Kf8  
33.Kf2 h5! 34.Kg2 ( 34.gxh5 Qxh4+  
35.Kg2 Qg5+! 36.Kf2 Qxh5 )  
34...hxg4 35.fxg4 Qe4+ 36.Kf2 Nd3+  
37.Kg1 Nf4 just gets worse and worse  
(...Qf3) ]

**31.Ne3!** And White is close to equality!  
**31...Qb1 32.h4 h5**



**33.g5?**

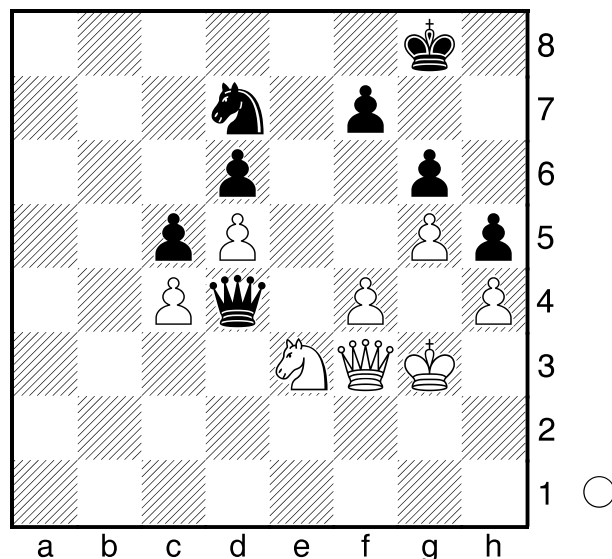
[ 33.Nd1= ]

[ 33.Nf1= ]

**33...Nd7! 34.f4?**

[ 34.Qc2 Qe1 35.Qf2 Qc1 36.f4 Kg8  
(!) is something for Black, but hardly a  
win (yet). ]

**34...Qe4+ 35.Qf3 Qd4 36.Kg3 Kg8**



**37.f5?** The house comes down after this.

**37...Ne5! 38.Qf4 Qd3**

[ 38...Qd2! 39.Qf2 ( 39.fxg6 Nxg6 )  
39...Qd3 ]

**39.Kf2?!**

[ 39.Kg2! Qd2+ 40.Qf2 Qd4 41.fxg6  
Qe4+ 42.Kh3 fxg6 is still a win ]

**39...Qd2+ 40.Kg3 Nd3!** Very nicely  
done. **41.Qf3 Qe1+ 42.Kh3 Qg1**

[ 42...Ne5 ]

**43.Ng2 Qd4?** Or not! It's still not easy,  
requires precise calculation.

[ 43...Nf2+ 44.Kg3 Ng4 45.Kf4  
Ne5+ ]

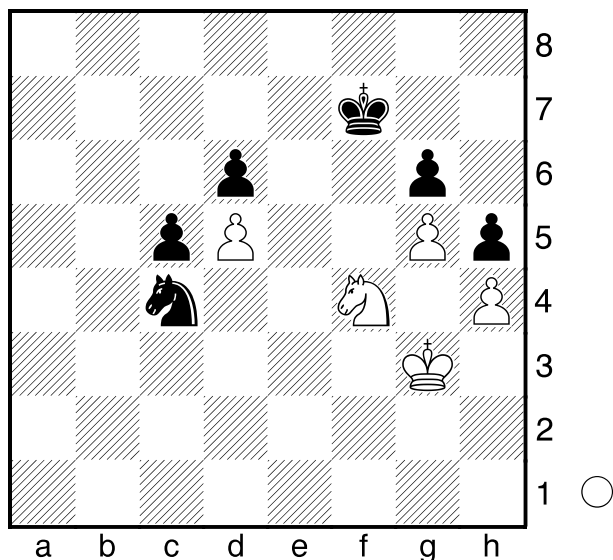
**44.Ne3?**

[ 44.fxg6! fxg6 45.Kg3 Qxc4!

**A) 46.Qf6** Qg4+ 47.Kh2 Ne5  
avoids the checks in an interesting  
way: 48.Qd8+ Kf7! 49.Qc7+ Ke8  
( 49...Qd7 ) 50.Qb8+ Ke7+  
and block on d7.;

**B) 46.Qe2!** Ne5! 47.Qxc4 Nxc4

48.Nf4 Kf7



and -- is this a win? ]

44...Ne5 45.Qe2 Qf4

[ 45...Qe4! ]

46.f6 Nf3 47.Kg2 Nxh4+ 48.Kh3 Nf3

A fitting win for the section champion!

0-1

□ Parsons,Stephen

■ Walder,Michael

2023 Summer TNM: 1600-1999 (7.9)

[TA Stockfish 15.1/Winslow,Elliott]

E73

1782

1988

Meanwhile Parsons tried to blow Walder off the board, but was lucky not for it to happen the other way around! 1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 Bg7 5.Be2 0-0 6.h4!? The "Checkmate! Now!" line. Well, not really -- as often as not the pawn goes to h6 to restrict Black's bishop as in the game.

[ 6.Nf3 is the Main Main Line, often leading to the Mar Del Plata Variation which really caught on in the early fifties and is still going strong. e5 7.0-0 ( 7.d5; 7.Be3 ) 7...Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 ]

[ 6.Bg5 is the Averbakh Variation ]

[ 6.Be3!? is the currently trending "Two Bishops" Variation (what else to call it?), which is indeed causing KID players grief. ]

6...c5 "Wing attack is met by counter in the center" 7.d5 e6

[ Jones recommends a Benko Gambit style with 7...b5 ]

8.h5 exd5 9.h6

[ 9.exd5 Re8 10.h6 1-0 Grischuk,A (2759)-Gelfand,B (2686) Amsterdam Levitov blitz 2019 (3) ]

[ 9.cxd5 ]

9...Bh8 10.cxd5?! -0.13/32

[ 10.exd5!?± 0.49/28 Re8 11.Bg5!?

Qb6 12.b3 Qa5!? ( 12...Ne4

13.Nxe4 Rxe4 14.Rc1 Nd7 15.Kf1

Re8 16.Rh4 Ne5 17.g3 a6 18.Kg2

Qa5 19.a4 Bf5 20.Nh3 Bxh3+

21.Rxh3 Nd7 22.Bd3 Qb6 23.Rb1

Re5 24.Bf4 Re7 25.a5 Qc7 26.Qd2

Rae8 27.Rhh1 Nf6 28.Rhe1 Nh5

29.Bg5 Re5 30.b4 cxb4

1-0 Grischuk,A (2759)-Gelfand,B

(2686) Amsterdam Levitov blitz 2019

(3) ) 13.Bd2 Qd8 14.Kf1!? Ne4

15.Nxe4 Rxe4 16.Rc1 Rh4 17.Rxh4

Qxh4 18.g3 Qd8 19.Kg2

½-½ Grischuk,A (2766)-Vachier

Lagrave,M (2775) Paris GCT rapid

2019 (6) ]

10...Re8 0.26/32

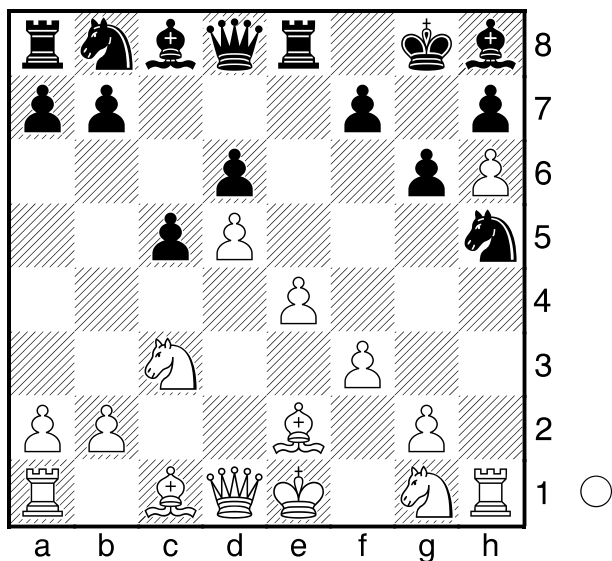
[ ♖10...b5! -0.13/32 ]

11.f3 -1.03/32

[ 11.Qc2= 0.26/32 ]

11...Nh5!±

(Diagram)



## 12.g4N

[Predecessor: 12.Bd2 Be5 13.g4 Nf4  
14.Nh3 Qh4+ 15.Kf1 Nxh3 16.Be1  
Bg3 17.Kg2 Bxe1 18.Rxh3  
0-1 (26) Lee,R-Taboas Rodriguez,D  
(2309) Dos Hermanas 2004 ]

**12...Ng3 13.Rh3 Nxe2 14.Ngxe2 Nd7  
15.Bf4 Ne5 16.Qc2 -1.43/27**

[White should try 16.Bxe5 -1.09/33  
Bxe5 17.Qd2 ]

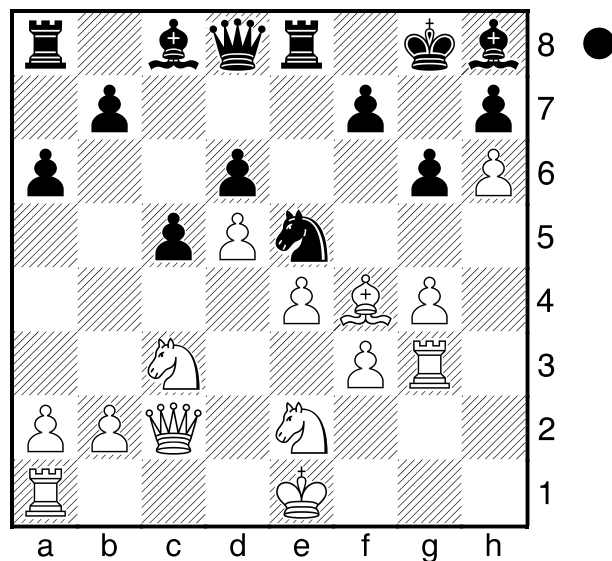
**16...a6 -1.06/34**

[ 16...b5 -1.43/27 17.Nxb5 Rb8 ]

**17.Rg3 -1.72/28**

[ 17.Kf2 ♣ -1.06/34 was called for. ]

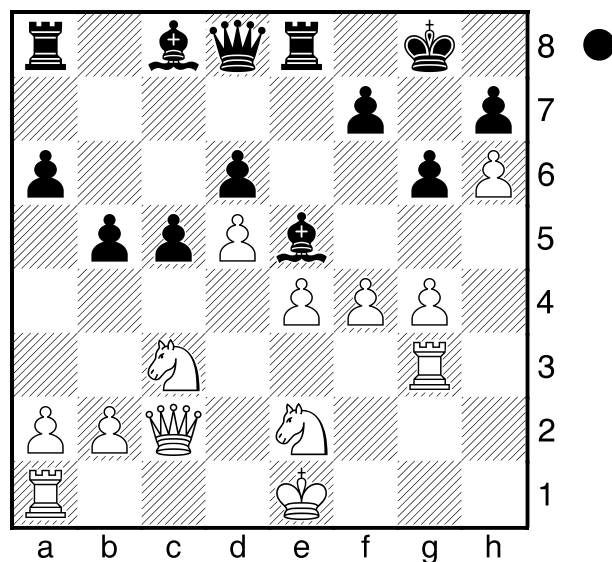
(Diagram)



**17...b5!+ 18.Bxe5 -2.19/34**

[ 18.Nd1 -1.61/34 ]

**18...Bxe5 19.f4**



**Bh8** Strongly threatening ...Qh4. **20.Kf2**

**Ra7** White must now prevent ...b4.

[ 20...Qh4 21.Kg2 Qxh6 22.Rh1 ♣ ]

**21.Re1 Rae7** Threatens to win with ...  
b4.

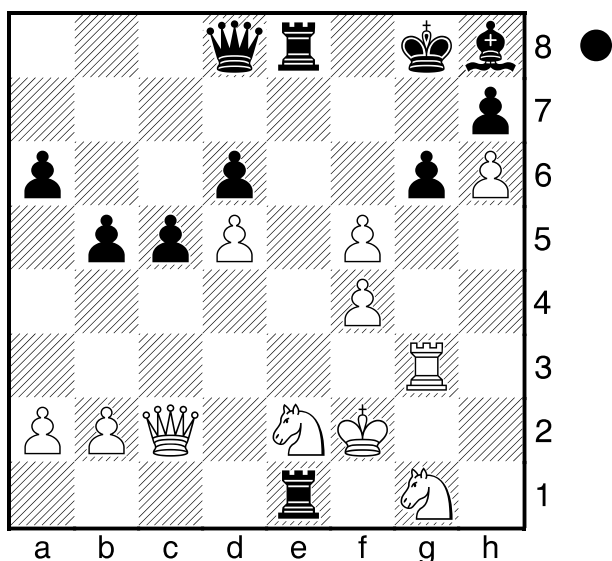
[ 21...Qh4 22.Kg2 Qxh6 23.a3 ♣ ]

**22.Ng1 f5 23.gxf5 Bxf5** And now ...b4  
would win. **24.exf5? -5.31/27 Rxe1**

**25.Nce2**

(Diagram)





**Rxg1??** 0.14/34

[ 25...Qh4+- -5.01/31 26.Kxe1 Qxg3+ 27.Kf1 Qh4 ]

**26.Nxg1?** -1.81/36

[ 26.Kxg1= 0.14/34 and White is okay. Qh4 27.fxg6 Rxe2 28.gxh7+ Kf7 29.Qg6+ Ke7 30.Qg5+ ( 30.Qg7+ Bxg7 31.Kf1 Rxb2 32.Re3+ Kd7 33.Re2 Qxf4+ 34.Kg2 Rxe2+ 35.Kh3 Rh2# ) 30...Qxg5 31.fxg5 Bd4+ 32.Kh1 ]

**26...Qh4?** 0.00/54

[ 26...Bd4+- -1.81/36 27.Kg2 Bxg1 28.Kxg1 Qa5 ]

**27.Nf3= Qxf4 28.fxg6** Really sharp!

**28...Be5 29.gxh7+ Kh8 30.Rg8+ Rxc8**

**31.hxg8Q+ Kxc8** Endgame KQB-KQN

**32.Qg6+ Kh8 33.h7 Qf8** Inhibits Qg8+.

**34.b3=** 0.00/54

[ Of course not 34.Qg8+ Qxc8 35.hxg8N Kxc8# ]

**34...Bg7** 0.00/56 **35.Ke3**

1/2-1/2

**Chockalingam, Rajiv Arun** C01  
 **Morello, Nicholas** 1205  
1347

2023 Summer TNM: 1200-1599 (7.20)

[Winslow, Elliott]

It's worth a peek to see how Nicholas Morello managed to sneak by all those 5-2 scores to win the 1200-1599 section!

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 e5** The Albin Counter

Gambit!? **3.e3** A passive approach.

[ 3.dxe5 d4 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.a3 ]

**3...exd4 4.exd4** But not too passive!

This is now an Exchange French

Defense with 4.c4. **4...Nc6 5.Nf3 Bb4+**

[ With these sidelines there's always some game by strong players to spice up the history: 5...Nf6 6.Nc3 Be7

7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Bc4 Be6 9.Bb5 0-0

10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.Ne5 Nxc3 12.bxc3

c5 13.Nc6 Qd7 14.Nxe7+ Qxe7

15.0-0 cxd4 16.cxd4 Bd5

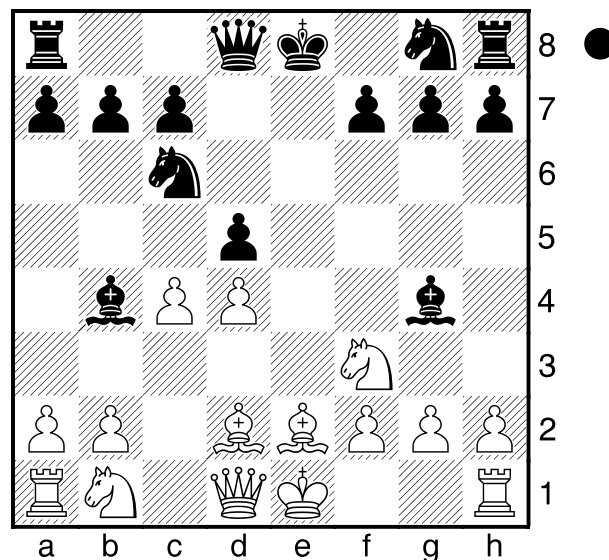
1/2-1/2 Parligras, M (2591)-Vokhidov, S

(2512) Titled Tuesday intern op 25th

Aug Chess.com INT blitz 2020 (8)

Somehow they made it interesting enough to play 53 moves... ]

**6.Bd2 Bg4 7.Be2**



**dxn4N**

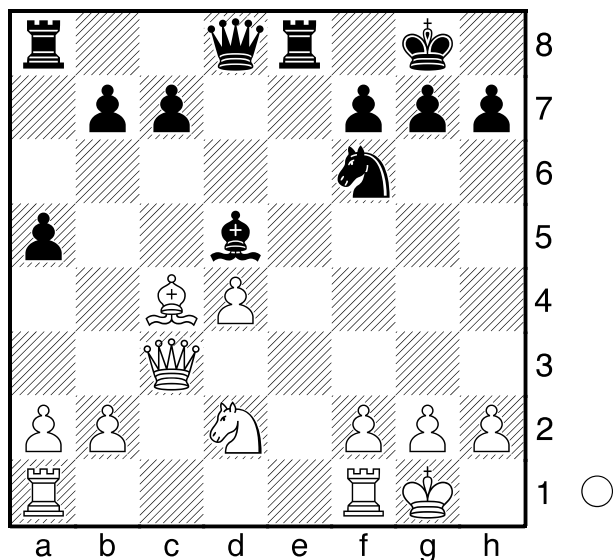
[ But when it gets down to the last

precedent, it's a couple A players...  
 7...Bxf3 8.Bxf3 Qe7+ 9.Kf1 Bxd2  
 10.Qxd2 Qb4 11.Qxb4 Nxb4 12.Nc3  
 0-0-0 13.Nxd5 Nxd5 14.Bxd5 Nf6  
 15.Bf3 Rxd4 16.b3 Rhd8 17.g3 Nd7  
 18.Kg2 Ne5 19.Rhe1 f6 20.Re2 a5  
 21.Be4 g6 22.h4 c6 23.h5 gxh5  
 24.Bxh7 Kc7 25.Bf5 Rd2 26.Rae1  
 Kb6 27.Kf1 Kc5 28.Rxd2 Rxd2  
 ½-½ Charvein,G (1883)-Boghossian,P  
 (1988) Bouches du Rhone-ch 1415  
 Vitrolles 2014 (8) ]

**8.Bxb4 Nxb4 9.0-0**

[ 9.Qa4+! Nc6 10.Nc3 is some tiny  
 advantage. ]

**9...Nf6 10.Bxc4 0-0** At this point Black  
 has some edge already. **11.Qb3 Bxf3**  
**12.Qxb4! a5 13.Qc3 Bd5 14.Nd2 Re8**



**15.f3?** This might look like it stunts  
 Black's bishop, but it was probably  
 trading off any -- so it's then just (1)  
 weakening a7-g1 (2) taking away a nice  
 knight square.

[ Something simple: 15.Rfe1= ]

**15...c6**

[ 15...Qd7! Get right on play on the d-  
 file against that poor pawn. ]

**16.a4 Bxc4 17.Qxc4?!**

[ 17.Nxc4!⚡ ]

**17...Qd5?!**

[ 17...Nd5! Might as well annoying  
 White with a knight fork threat. ]

**18.Qxd5 Nxd5 19.Ne4**

[ 19.Nc4!= /=+ pressures a5 ]

**19...Ne3**

[ 19...Rad8 ]

**20.Rf2 Rad8 21.Nc5?** Better some  
 rook guard the pawn **21...b6 22.Nb3**  
 Oh great -- passive and unprotected.

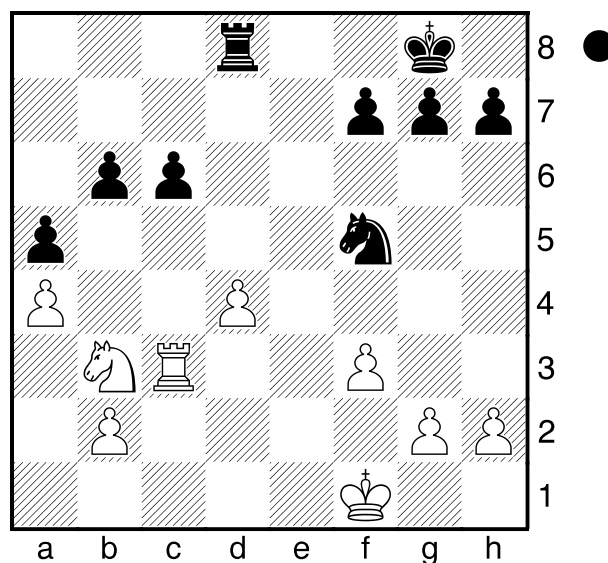
**22...Nf5 Logical! 23.Rc1 Re6**

[ 23...Re3! 24.Rc3 Re1+ 25.Rf1  
 Re6 ]

**24.Rc3 Re1+?!**

[ 24...Nxd4! ]

**25.Rf1 Rxf1+?! 26.Kxf1⚡**



**Rd6 27.g4**

[ 27.d5! c5 28.Nd2! Rxd5 29.Nc4= ]

**27...Ne7 28.Re3 Kf8 29.Re4 h6**

**30.Ke2 f5 31.gxf5 Nxf5 32.Kd3 Kf7**

**33.Kc3?!**

[ 33.Nd2= ]

**33...Rd5 34.Nd2 Nd6 35.Rf4+?! Ke7**

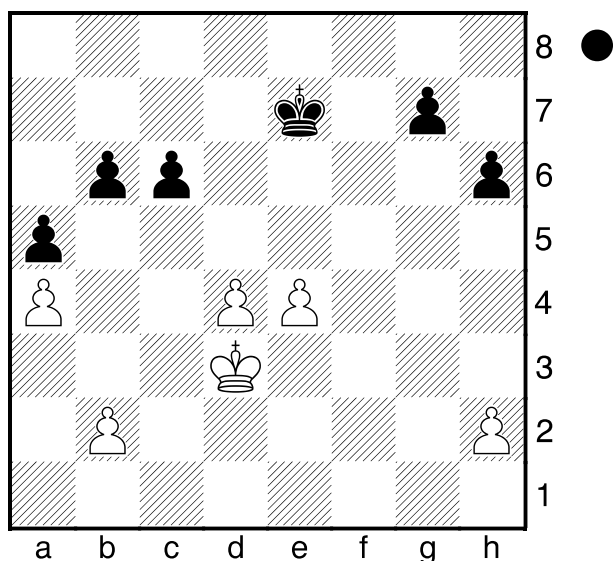
**36.Ne4 Rf5?!**

[ 36...g5⚡ ]

**37.Rxf5!= Nxf5 38.Kc4 Nd6+ 39.Kd3**

**Nxe4 40.fxe4**

(Diagram)



**g5??**

[ 40...Kd6= ]

[ 40...Ke6= ]

**41.h3??**

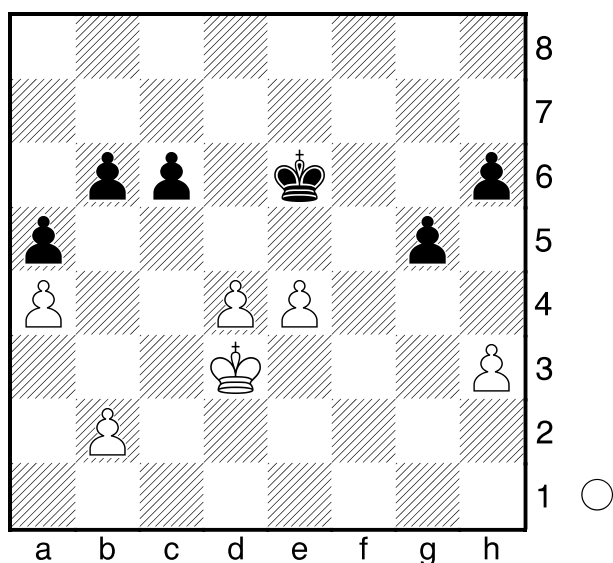
[ 41.d5! takes advantage of Black's far-back-ish "outside majority": cxd5

42.exd5 Kd7 43.Ke4 Kd6 44.Kd4 h5

45.Ke4 g4 46.Kf4! Just in time! Kxd5

47.Kg5 The g- and h-pawns go; who's got the outside passed pawn NOW? ]

Meanwhile, that h-pawn move reminds me of Tianamen Square. **41...Ke6=**



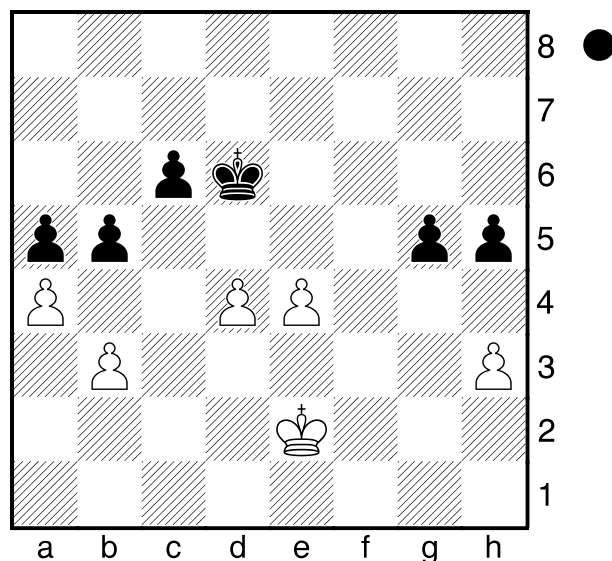
**42.b3??-+** These little pawn moves, eating up the last tempo, can be fatal!

[ 42.Kd2! is the only move! Black can now only draw. ]

**42...h5** It takes my poor little computer a while to appreciate how bad this is.

**43.Ke3** No more tricks? If only... **43...b5**

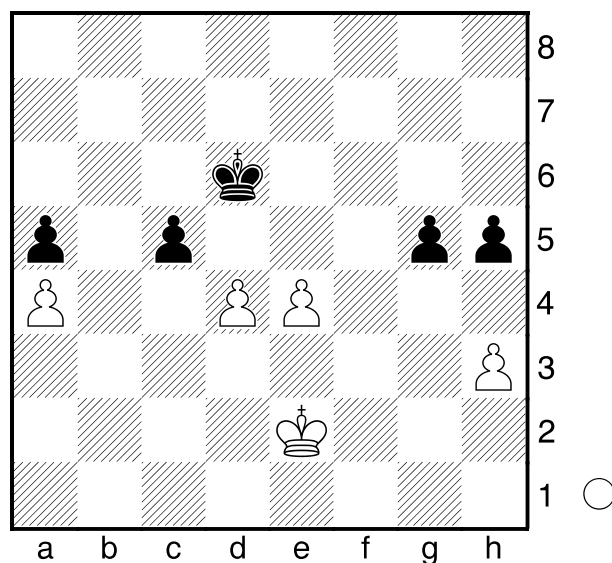
**44.Kf3 Kd6 45.Ke2**



**bxa4??**

[ 45...b4 is the best, although almost any king moves wins as well. ]

**46.bxa4= c5**



**47.e5+??**

[ 47.dxc5+= ]

[ 47.Kd3= ]

**47...Kd5 48.e6 Kxe6 49.dxc5 Kd5**

**50.c6 Kxc6 51.Ke3 Kc5 52.Ke4 Kb4  
53.Kf5 g4 54.h4 g3 55.Kg5 g2  
56.Kxh5 g1Q 57.Kh6 Qh2 58.h5  
Kxa4 59.Kg6 Kb5 60.h6 a4 61.Kg7  
a3 62.Kg6 a2 63.Kh7 a1Q 64.Kg8  
Qc7 65.h7 Qa8#** Not a perfect game at  
all (hey, this is for the under-1600  
section!) -- but instructive, entertaining,  
and crucial for the rest of those poor  
2nd-place guys!  
**0-1**

## The Chess Club, Past and Present

NBA legend **Stephen Curry** signed a chess board on his visit to Mechanics' Institute...





... and attended a lecture by Chess Program Manager **Alex Robins**.



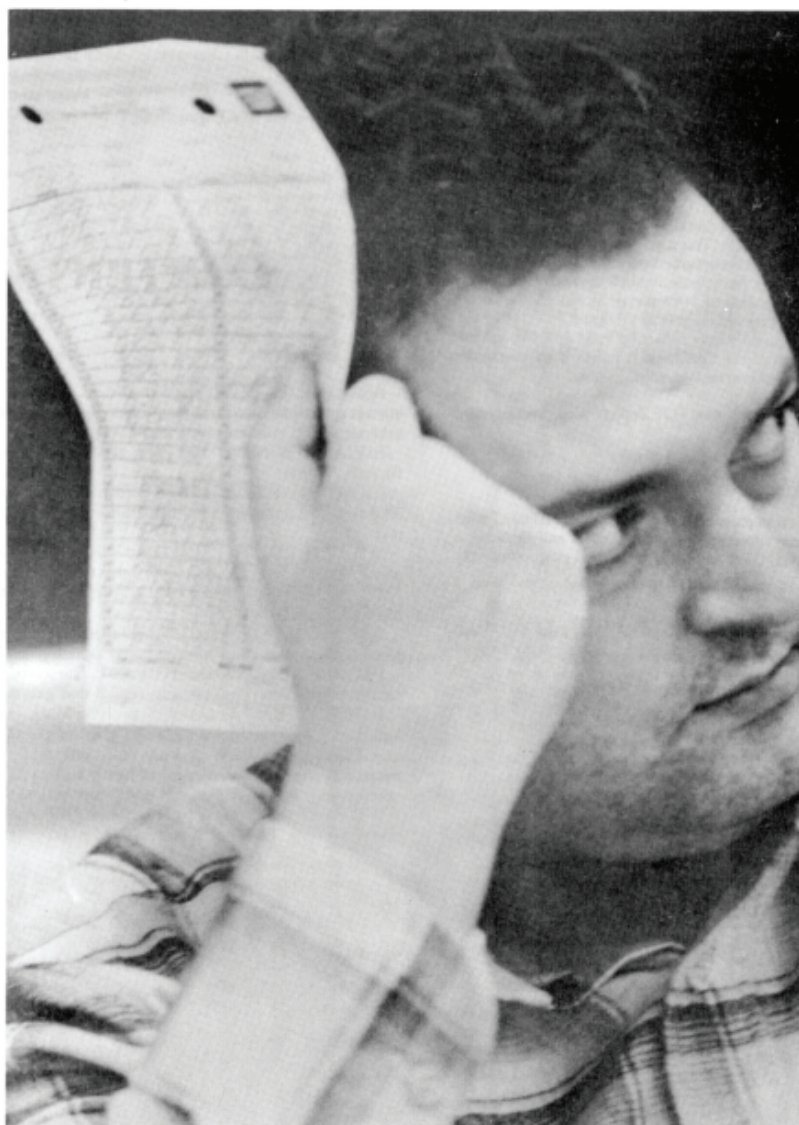


# CHESS VOICE

Vol. 5 No. 5

February-March 1983

Price \$1.50



GM **Peter Biyiasis** won the Northern California State Championship in 1983, held at Mechanics' Institute. *Chess Voice* ran from 1970 to 1985, and featured many local tournament reports and articles from Northern California. Every back issue can be found in PDF format at

<http://www.chessdryad.com/>



Mechanics' Institute chess coach **Quinn Ni** (right) found a place to play on a recent visit to the Presidential Palace in Vilnius, Lithuania.

#### POPOV WINS MECHANICS' INSTITUTE RATING TOURNAMENT

Boris Popov, a veteran of the old Russian Chess Club of San Francisco who hasn't played for a long time, returned to the chess wars a couple of years ago and now has won his first tournament on the come-back trail. The event was a Tuesday night rating tournament held during the winter at the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club. The tournament was directed by the Chess Room Director, Raymund Conway.

#### MECHANICS' INSTITUTE TUESDAY TOURNAMENT, 1973

	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Score
1. B. Popov	1973	W27	W18	W3	W7	D5	W23	D2	W9	7 - 1
2. C. Wilson	1851	W34	W28	D5	D11	D4	W18	D1	W3	6 - 2
3. T. Sailor	1729	W*	W20	L1	W10	W22	W11	W7	L2	6 - 2
4. M. Chen	UR	D8	D35	W25	W16	D2	W6	D5	W7	6 - 2
5. P. Grey	2043	W19	W24	D2	W6	D1	L7	D4	W12	5½-2½
6. Dr. B. Gross	1856	W33	W30	W22	L5	D18	L4	W24	W11	5½-2½
7. L. Stevens	1878	W26	W9	W16	L1	W12	W5	L3	L4	5 - 3
8. R. Freeman	1751	D4	L22	D1	W27	L11	W31	W21	W*	5 - 3
9. D. Bennett	1565	W13	L7	W34	L22	W28	W14	W10	L1	5 - 3
10. J. O'Callagher	1552	L23	W31	W30	L3	W16	W17	L9	W14	5 - 3
4½ Points:		11. M. Wilkerson,	12. N. Nielsen,	13. P. Whitehead.						
4 Points:		14. R. Pina,	15. R. Feliciano,	15. V. Bedjanian,	17. R. Caradien,	18. P. Vayssie,	19. R. Saban,	20. R. Harrington,	21. H. Makin,	22. M. G. Smith.
3½ Points:		23. C. Pardini,	24. E. Lien,	25. J. Brennan,	26. D. Powell.					
3 Points:		27. U. Bar-Ivan,	28. J. Daily,	29. M. Suarez.						
2½ Points:		30. P. Bautista,	31. C. Salaz,	32. C. Schaffer.						
2 Points:		33. Eve O'Callagher,	34. Anita Gross.							
1 Point:		35. L. Pierce.	0 Point:	36. D. Evans.						

The crosstable from the very first Tuesday Night Marathon at Mechanics' Institute, held in the Winter of 1972. From the *California Chess Reporter*, March/April 1973.



## GM Vinay Bhat: Lecture and Author Talk, June 20, 2023

We were honored to have GM **Vinay Bhat** give a lecture and sign copies of his new book *How I Became a Grandmaster* before the Summer Celebration Blitz Tournament. Vinay grew up at the club, cutting his teeth against our top players – his book mentions Mechanics' Institute throughout. There is an interview with Vinay from ChessBase India [here](#), and another interview with Vinay on the Perpetual Chess podcast can be listened to [here](#). A review of Vinay's book by IM **Yian Liou** is below.



GM **Vinay Bhat** is introduced by **Alyssa Stone**, Mechanics' Institute Senior Director of Programs and Community Engagement.



## IM Yian Liou

### ***How I Became a Chess Grandmaster* by GM Vinay Bhat**

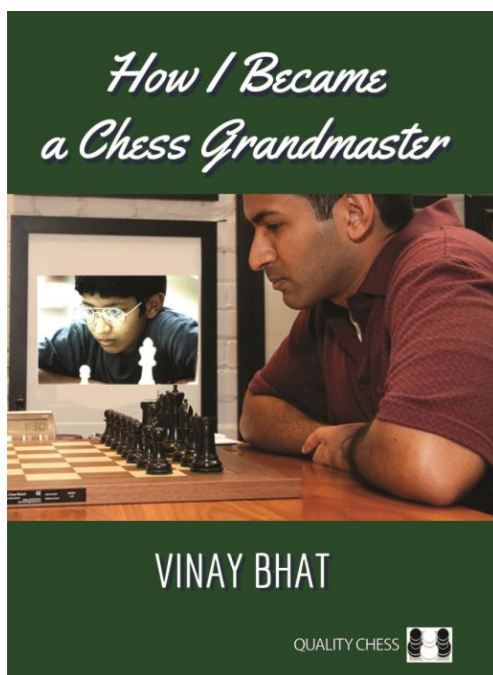
Vinay Bhat's autobiographical games collection *How I Became a Chess Grandmaster* (2023, 344 pages, Quality Chess U.K., paperback, \$30) details his path and approach for rising through the levels up to GM. When first reading the book, the storytelling and game annotations reminded me of Yasser Seirawan's *Chess Duels: My Games with the World Champions* which I enjoyed greatly.

One topic covered that I don't see covered much elsewhere in chess literature is how players' chess can be influenced by other time commitments. For those who aren't playing chess full-time, the time constraint imposed by other commitments such as school or work poses the question of what to study to make the most of it.

The games and anecdotes provided in the book are entertaining and provide a good look behind the scenes of the ups and downs experienced during Vinay's chess career. For a sample of the games and annotations, one can check out Vinay's [interview](#) with Chessbase India or [download](#) the book's excerpt.

At the end of each chapter there is a learnings and progress section where Vinay provides a retrospective to summarize the games played during that specific period. Although engines and computer theory have advanced greatly in recent years, players can find these sections in the book useful if they have encountered a roadblock or are looking for ways to progress to the next level.

In my opinion, *How I Became a Chess Grandmaster* is an engaging and informative account of a player's up and down journey from beginner to grandmaster that also covers the chess changes that occurred from balancing work commitments to becoming a full-time chess professional. At the end, Vinay talks about what made him move on from the professional chess scene and how that transition has gone so far.



## **Vitaley Michael Radaikin (1933-2023)**

*We are saddened to hear of the passing of Vitaley Michael Radaikin, already a long-time member of Mechanics' Institute when I joined in 1972. The following is a remembrance and tribute to this colorful and engaging man, penned by his son Bruce. - FM Paul Whitehead.*

San Francisco Chess Master Dies at 89.

Vitaley Radaikin, whose parents founded the beloved Cinderella Bakery in San Francisco in 1953, has passed away. Vitaley was a United States Chess Master who loved and excelled at chess from a very young age. He won the California Chess Championship at 14. The second place finisher was International Master George Koltanowski, the famous blindfold player who later became the San Francisco Chronicle chess columnist.

Vitaley had many chess victories, but perhaps was best known for his chess antics. In one tournament in the 1970s, Vitaley was in a frantic time scramble trying to win first place. He illegally moved his knight like a bishop and forked two major pieces, spurring an instant resignation. My father told me years later that it was an accidental move, but, realizing what had happened, he hurriedly decided to collect the first place trophy and prize money, and exited quickly. Before his opponent and the chess organizers realized what had happened, Vitaley was hours away from the venue. Because his opponent had resigned, the result stood. This became the famous "Radaikin Knight Move," and for years Radaikin's opponents were often more concerned with being cheated, and less concerned about their chess game. My father embraced the notoriety and used it as a tactic to help win games.

Vitaley had a full life. Born on an American Military Base in Shanghai in 1933, his Russian mother had married an American Marine based in China. With the invasion of the Imperial Japanese Army in August of 1937, Vitaley's mother Alexandra fled with her 4-year-old son Vitaley to San Francisco. It is unclear what happened to Vitaley's biological father, William Skelton.

His stepfather, Michael Radaikin, introduced him to the game of chess which became a life-long pursuit. He cherished his friends in the chess world, including International Master Walter Shipman, Grandmaster Peter Biyiasas, and speed chess phenom US Master Steve Brandwein. He was an avid player (lifetime master), and attended Mechanics' Institute Chess Club in San Francisco for decades.

Vitaley was a Veteran of the Korean War (The Forgotten War). He attributes his survival of the war to the fact that he spoke fluent Russian. Attached to a special parachute unit, each unit had a Russian translator, and he believed that this enabled him to dodge the fate of many of his friends who did not return from the conflict.

Vitaley was a great husband, father, and friend. He was always trying to help make the people in his life around him better.

Vitaley was my father and my hero. I was lucky enough to be able to take a leave of absence from work to be with him at his home in San Francisco, where he passed away on June 13, 2023.



He really was one of a kind. He never followed the herd. He marched to the beat of his own drum, for which I respected him tremendously. He was driving his own car until the age of 89 and every time I called him on the phone, he was usually just coming down from the roof of his house working on repairs. "Dad! You're too old to be on the roof!"

My father was also a philosopher and often quoted the likes of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Emerson is quoted as writing something that was very much how my father lived his life:

"To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment."

Rest in peace, my friend. I will miss you!

**MAKE THE RIGHT MOVE!**

**ELECT A  
CHESS CHAMPION  
TO SOLVE THE  
PROBLEMS OF THE CITY**

College Graduate — Successful Businessman —  
Licensed Contractor — San Francisco Chess  
Champion & Winner of many United States Fed.  
Tournaments!  
A man with foresight and a proven record of suc-  
cess. A man you can trust to do a professional job  
whether it be private business or political business.

**THE PROBLEM SOLVER!**

**Vitaly Radaikin**  
**SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 6**

Vitaly Radaikin ran for San Francisco District 6 Supervisor in the 1970's.

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Vitaly scored an impressive draw against one of California's strongest players back in the day:

**Vitaly Radaikin - James Tarjan**

California Open, Fresno 1971.

1.b4 Nf6 2.Bb2 e6 3.b5 c5 4.e3 d5 5.Nf3 Nbd7 6.c4 Bd6 7.Nc3 O-O 8.Bd3 b6 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Ne2  
Ne4 11.O-O Re8 12.Ng3 Ndf6 13.Bb1 Bg4 14.Qc2 Qd7 15.Ne1 Bxg3 16.fxg3 d4 17.d3 Ng5 18.exd4  
cxd4 19.Qc6 Rad8 20.Qxd7 Rxd7 21.Bc2 Ne6 22.Nf3 Bxf3 23.gxf3 Nd5 24.Bb3 Ne3 25.Bxe6 Rxe6  
26.Rfc1 h5 27.Rc8+ Kh7 28.Rac1 h4 29.R8c7 Red6 30.R1c6 hxg3 31.hxg3. 1/2-1/2

# The Chess Scuttlebutt

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

An injured [dolphin](#) named Chess has made a full recovery.

An AI-powered chess set actually [moves](#) the pieces using a “smart board.”

An [ode](#) to fathers and chess for Father’s Day.

FM Orest Popovych has [passed](#) away.

Marvel’s [Nick Fury](#) plays chess - with the board set up incorrectly.

[Zimbabwe](#) hosts a chess tournament with inmates, correctional officers, and professionals.

An investor mistakenly buys a [replica](#) of the chess board used in the Fischer vs Spassky match for a whopping \$195,000 - and sues for his money back.

12-year old Master Tani Adewumi [crushes](#) Boston Celtics star Grant Williams - blindfolded.

IM Anna Zatonskih [wins](#) the 3rd Cairns Cup and gets her 1st GM Norm at the age of 44. She broke the record of oldest American to achieve that distinction - formerly held by former Mechanics’ Institute Chess Room Director IM John Donaldson.

Veteran GM James Tarjan [wins](#) the Larry Evans Memorial in Reno, edging out the phenomenal Rose Atwell at the finish line.

A website features the world’s [smallest](#) possible chess programs.

At the age of 13, FM Alice Lee is now the [youngest](#) U.S. woman to earn the International Master title.

Chiefs linebacker Drue Tranquill is officially the NFL’s [best](#) chess player.

Chess sets [designed](#) for accessibility and inclusiveness.

Central Park in New York City [restores](#) its “iconic” Chess and Checker House.

Yasser Seirawan is [appointed](#) spokesperson for the St Louis Chess Club.

It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia hilariously [references](#) the Carlsen/Niemann affair.

Maria Emelianova and the [art](#) of chess photography.

Stanford student IM Carissa Yip is [profiled](#) in the San Francisco Chronicle.

Mechanics’ Institute (and Chess Club) is [profiled](#) in the *San Francisco Standard*.

Hans Niemann’s lawsuit is [dismissed](#) in Missouri, but his lawyers plan to appeal in another state.

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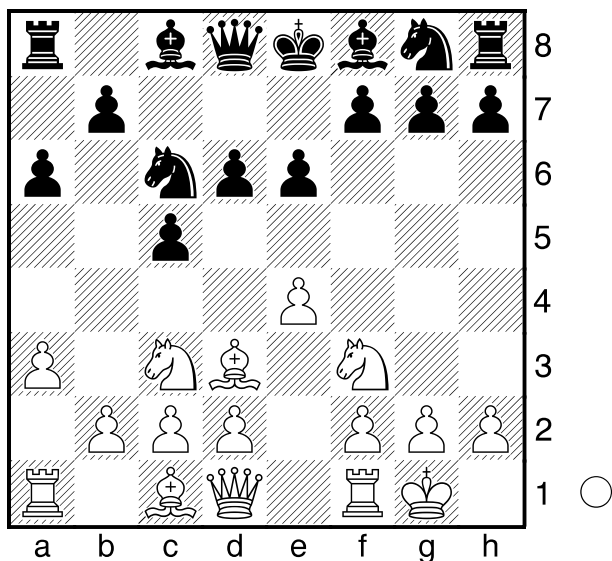
## Recent Games

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

□ GGuseinov  
 ■ PSvidler  
 Live Chess Chess.com

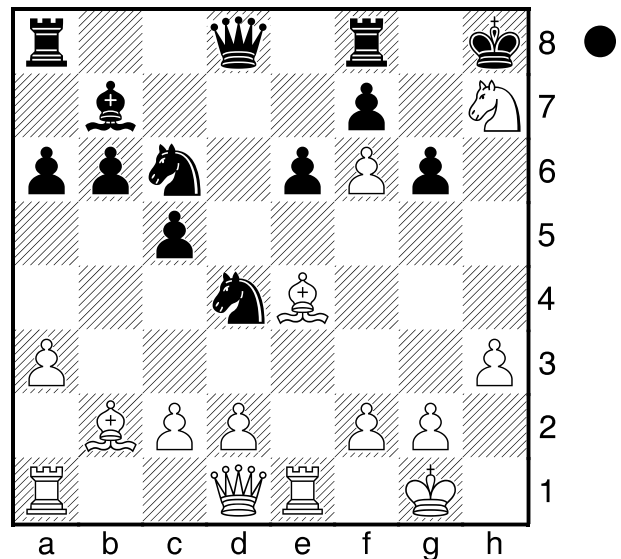
**B30**  
**2556**  
**2654**  
 12.06.2023

A trappy opening leads to a quick finish.  
 1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nd4 4.Nf3  
 e6 5.0-0 a6 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.a3 d6



8.b4!? g6?  
 [ 8...Nf6 ]  
 [ 8...Nge7 ]  
 9.bxc5 dxc5 10.e5± Bg7 11.Re1 Nh6  
 12.h3 0-0 13.Bb2 Nf5 14.Ne4 b6  
 15.Nf6+ Kh8 16.Be4 Bb7 17.Ng5  
 Bxf6 18.exf6 Nfd4 19.Nxh7!

(Diagram)

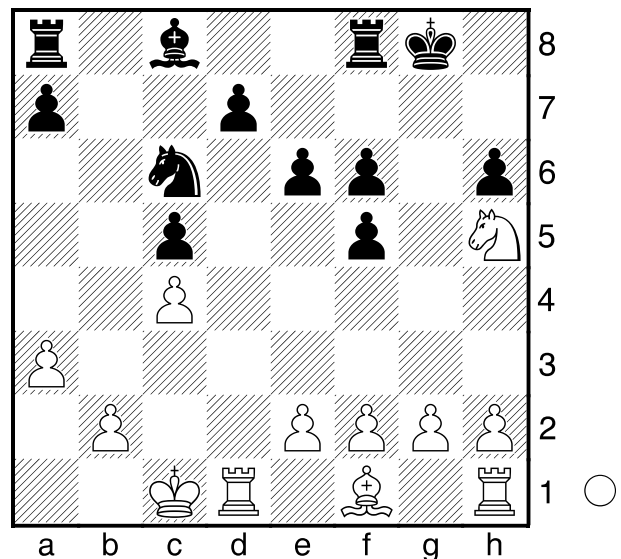


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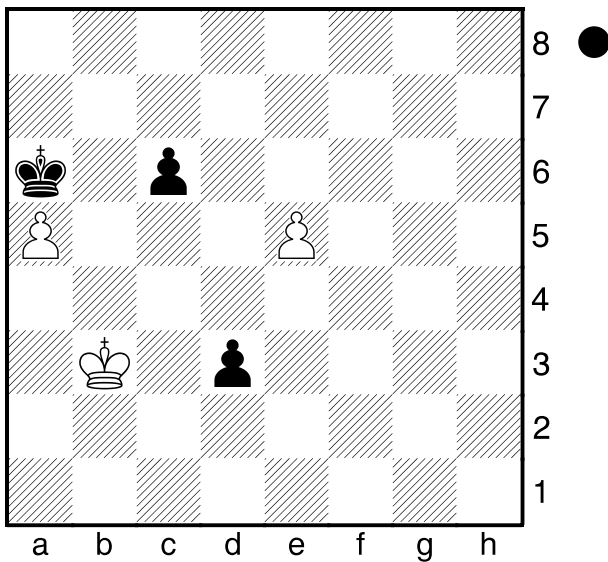
□ Zatonskih,Anna  
 ■ Abdumalik,Zhansaya  
 Cairns Cup 2023 (8.1)

**E32**  
**2327**  
**2497**  
 11.06.2023

The winner of the Cairns Cup puts on the  
 long-term pressure. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6  
 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0-0 5.a3 Bxc3+  
 6.Qxc3 b6 7.Bg5 c5 8.dxc5 bxc5  
 9.Nh3 h6 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Qxf6 gxf6  
 12.Nf4 Nc6 13.Nh5 f5 14.0-0-0 f6



15.g4! fxc4 16.Bg2± Kf7 17.h3 Rg8  
 18.Nf4 g3 19.fxc3 Rxc3 20.Bxc6 dxc6  
 21.Rd6 e5 22.Nh5 Rxh3 23.Rxf6+ Ke7  
 24.Rxh3 Bxh3 25.Rxh6 Be6 26.Rh7+  
 Kd6 27.Ng3 Bxc4 28.Ne4+ Kd5  
 29.Nc3+ Kd6 30.Ne4+ Kd5 31.Rh4  
 Ba6 32.Nc3+ Kd6 33.Rh6+ Kd7  
 34.Kd2 Bc4 35.Ne4 Kc7 36.Nxc5 Bg8  
 37.Kc3 a5 38.Rg6 Bd5 39.Rg7+ Kb6  
 40.b4 axb4+ 41.Kxb4 Ra7 42.Rxa7  
 Kxa7 43.e3 Ba2 44.Nd7 e4 45.Nc5  
 Bb1 46.a4 Kb6 47.a5+ Ka7 48.Kb3  
 Bd3 49.Nxd3 exd3 50.e4 Ka6 51.e5

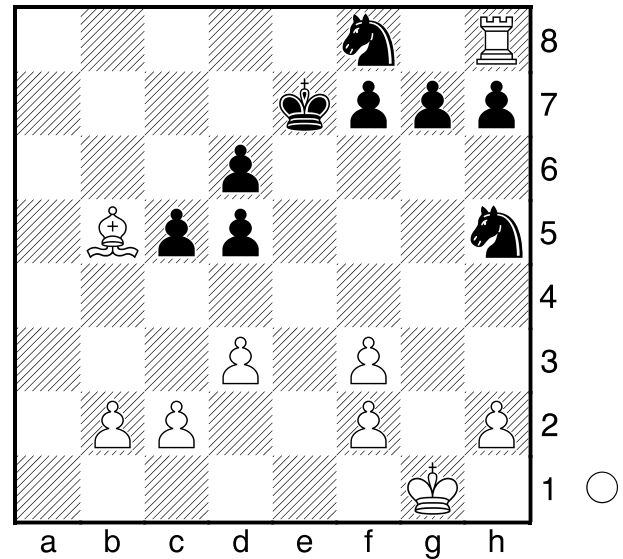


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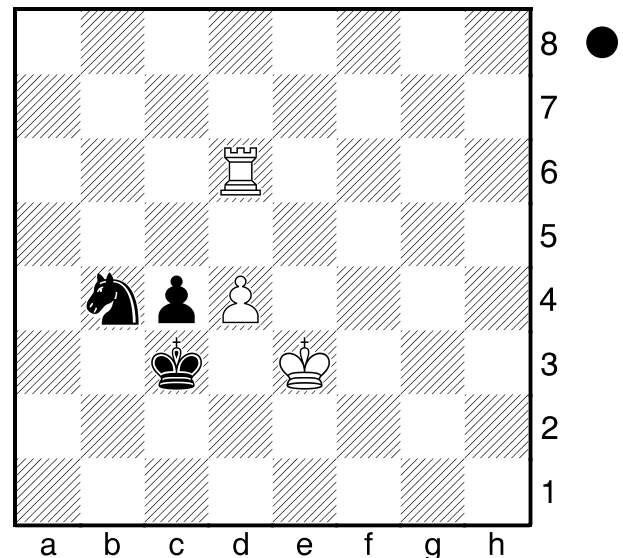
□ **Niemann,Hans Moke** **B51**  
 ■ **Stearman,Josiah** **2695**  
 1000GM Las Vegas Summer Swiss 2023 (3) **2421**

An intricate game between two talents well known to the Mechanics' Institute.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.0-0 a6 5.Bd3 Ngf6 6.Re1 b5 7.a4 Bb7 8.axb5 axb5 9.Rxa8 Qxa8 10.Bxb5 Bxe4 11.Nc3 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 Qxf3 13.gxf3 e6 14.d3 Be7 15.Bg5 Nh5 16.Bxe7 Kxe7 17.Nd5+ Kd8 18.Ra1 exd5 19.Ra8+ Ke7 20.Rxh8 Nf8



21.c3 Nf4 22.d4 f6 23.Bc6 c4 24.h4 g6 25.h5 gxh5 26.Rg8 Kf7 27.Rg2 N8e6 28.Rg3 f5 29.Kh1 h6 30.Rg1 Ng5 31.Ra1 Nxf3 32.Ra7+ Ke6 33.Rh7 h4 34.Bd7+ Kf6 35.Rxh6+ Kg5 36.Rh8 Nd3 37.Rf8 Kf4 38.Kg2 h3+ 39.Kxh3 Nxf2+ 40.Kg2 Ke3 41.Bxf5 Ne1+ 42.Kf1 Ned3 43.Bxd3 Nxd3 44.Rb8 Kd2 45.Rb5 Kc2 46.Rxd5 Kxb2 47.Rxd6 Kxc3 48.Ke2 Nb4 49.Ke3



Nc2+?

[ 49...Kb2= ]  
 [ 49...Kb3= ]

[ 49...Kc2= ]

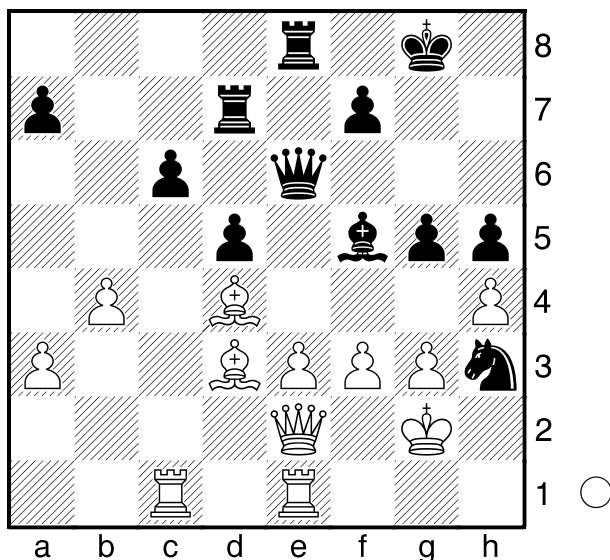
50.Ke4+- Kd2 51.Rh6 Nb4 52.Rh2+  
Kd1 53.Rb2 Nd3 54.Ra2 Nc1 55.Ra3  
Kc2 56.d5 Nb3 57.Ra2+ Kc3 58.d6  
Kb4 59.Kd5 Nc5 60.Rb2+  
1-0

Wei,Yi **D32**  
2722  
Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi **2712**  
Tech Mahindra GCL 2023 (1.3) 22.06.23

White blows black away with a few  
powerful shots. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3  
c5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nf6 6.e3 Nc6  
7.Be2 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.0-0 0-0  
10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.b3 Re8 12.Bb2 Bd6  
13.Rc1 Bc7 14.Ba3 Bf5 15.Na4 Qd7  
16.Nc5 Qd6 17.g3 Bh3 18.Re1 Ba5  
19.b4 Bb6 20.Bb2 Rab8 21.Bd4 Qe7  
22.Bd3 h6 23.Qf3 Ne4 24.a3 Bxc5  
25.Bxc5 Qe6 26.Qe2 Rb7 27.Bd4  
Ng5 28.f3 Bf5?

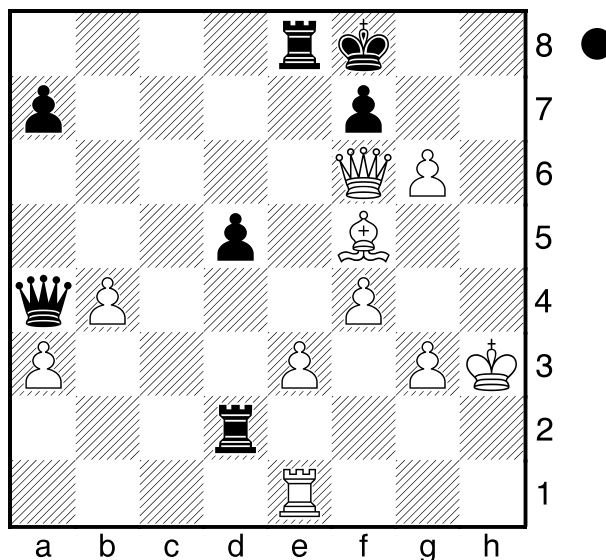
[ 28...h5 ]

29.Ba6! Rd7 30.h4! Nh3+ 31.Kg2 h5  
32.Bd3 g5



33.Rxc6!+- Qxc6 34.Bxf5 Rc7  
35.Kxh3 Qa4 36.hxg5 Rc4 37.f4  
Rxd4 38.Qxh5 Rd2 39.Qh7+ Kf8

40.Qh6+ Ke7 41.Qf6+ Kf8 42.g6



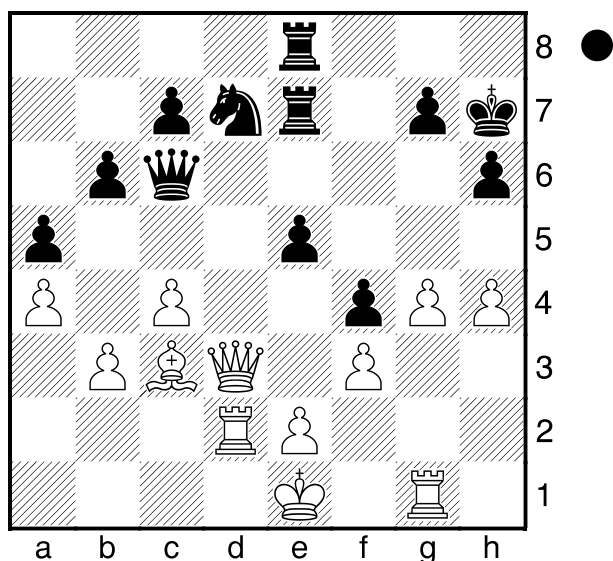
1-0

Gukesh D **E17**  
2736  
Rapport,Richard **2752**  
Tech Mahindra GCL 2023 (5.2) 23.06.23

White's 8th move proves ironic, as his  
king is unable to find shelter. 1.d4 Nf6  
2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Be7  
6.0-0 0-0 7.Re1 a5 8.h4!? h6 9.Nc3  
Bb4 10.Qc2 Bxc3 11.Qxc3 d6 12.b3  
Nbd7 13.Bb2 Qb8 14.a4 Ne4 15.Qc2  
f5 16.Nd2 Nxd2 17.Qxd2 Bxg2  
18.Kxg2 Qb7+ 19.f3 Rae8 20.Bc3 Rf7  
21.Kf2 e5 22.dxe5 dxe5 23.Rad1 Qc6  
24.Qe3 Nf6 25.Rg1 Rfe7 26.Rd2 Kh7  
27.Ke1 Nd7 28.g4 f4 29.Qd3+

(Diagram)



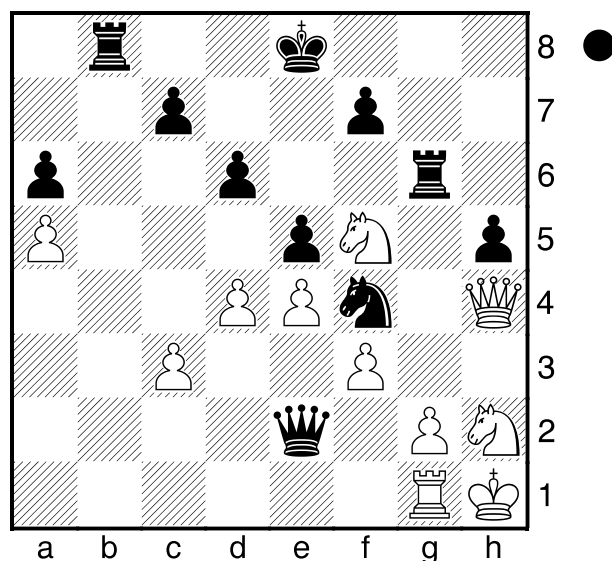


e4-+ 30.Qc2 Kg8 31.Kd1 exf3 32.exf3  
Qxf3+ 33.Kc1 Nc5 34.g5 Re3 35.Bxg7  
Nxb3+ 36.Kb2 Nxd2 37.gxh6 Rb3+  
38.Ka2 Ra3+ 39.Kb2 Qb3+ 40.Qxb3  
Rxb3+ 41.Kc2 Rg3  
**0-1**

**C54**  
 Erigaisi Arjun **2702**  
 Radjabov, Teimour **2747**  
 Tech Mahindra GCL 2023 (3.3) 23.06.23

Black conducts a sharp attack with a pretty finish. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 a6 6.0-0 d6 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 Qe7 9.Nbd2 Ba7 10.a4 g5 11.Bg3 Rg8 12.b4 h5 13.h4 Bg4 14.Qe1 gxh4 15.Bxh4 Qd7 16.Kh1 Rg6 17.Nh2 Bh3 18.Rg1 Be6 19.a5 Ng4 20.b5 Ne7 21.Bxe6 Rxe6 22.bxa6 bxa6 23.Rf1 Ng6 24.f3 Ne3 25.Bf2 Nxf1 26.Ndx1 Bxf2 27.Qxf2 Nf4 28.d4 Rb8 29.Ne3 Qb5 30.Nf5 Rg6 31.Rg1 Qe2 32.Qh4

(Diagram)

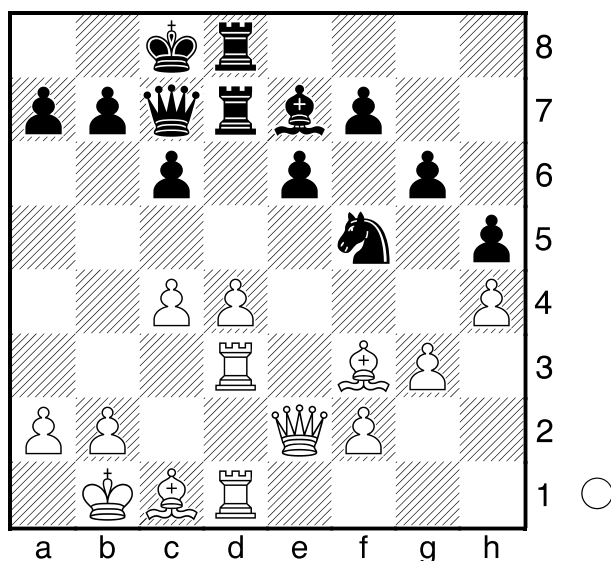


Qxg2+!  
**0-1**

**B10**  
 Abdusattorov, Nodirbek **2732**  
 Gukesh D **2736**  
 Tech Mahindra GCL 2023 (16.2) 26.06.23

The two bishops prove decisive in this entertaining game. 1.e4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.d3 Bg4 4.h3 Bxf3 5.Qxf3 e6 6.g3 Nd7 7.Bg2 h5 8.h4 Ngf6 9.Qe2 Bd6 10.Nd2 Qc7 11.d4 dxe4 12.Nxe4 Nxe4 13.Bxe4 Nf6 14.Bf3 0-0-0 15.Bg5 Be7 16.0-0-0 g6 17.Kb1 Ng8 18.Bc1 Nh6 19.Rd3 Nf5 20.Rhd1 Rd7 21.c4 Rhd8

(Diagram)

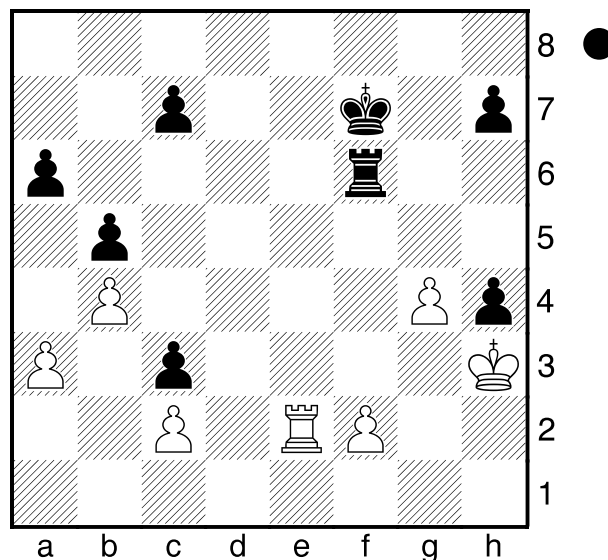


22.d5! exd5 23.cxd5 c5 24.Bg2 c4  
 25.Rc3 b5 26.Qf3 Nd6 27.Bf4 Qb6  
 28.Re3 Rc7 29.Be5 b4 30.Bd4 Qb5  
 31.Qe2 c3 32.Rc1 Qxe2 33.Rxe2 Nb5  
 34.Be5 Bd6 35.Bf6 Rf8 36.a4 cxb2  
 37.Rxc7+ Nxc7 38.Rc2 Re8 39.Rc6  
 Re1+ 40.Kxb2 Re2+ 41.Kb3 Rxf2  
 42.Bh3+ Kb7 43.Rxd6 Rf3+ 44.Kc4  
 Rxc3 45.Bd7 b3 46.Bc6+ Kb6  
 47.Bd4+ Ka5 48.Rd7 Na6 49.Rb7  
 1-0

**C67**  
 □ Vachier-Lagrave,Maxime 2747  
 ■ Carlsen,Magnus 2853  
 Tech Mahindra GCL 2023 (14.1) 25.06.23

One small slip and it's all over. 1.e4 e5  
 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4  
 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5  
 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Be6 10.Ne2  
 Bd5 11.Rd1 Ke8 12.Nfd4 Nxd4  
 13.Nxd4 a6 14.Bf4 Rc8 15.Rd2 c5  
 16.Ne2 Be6 17.Rad1 Be7 18.Nc3 g5  
 19.Be3 Rg8 20.Nd5 Bxd5 21.Rxd5 c4  
 22.g4 Rg6 23.Kg2 Rd8 24.Rxd8+  
 Bxd8 25.h4 gxh4 26.Kh3 Re6 27.Bd4  
 Bg5 28.Bc3 b5 29.a3 f6 30.exf6  
 Bxf6 31.Bxf6 Rxf6 32.Rd2 c3

33.Re2+ Kf7 34.b4



**Rd6?**

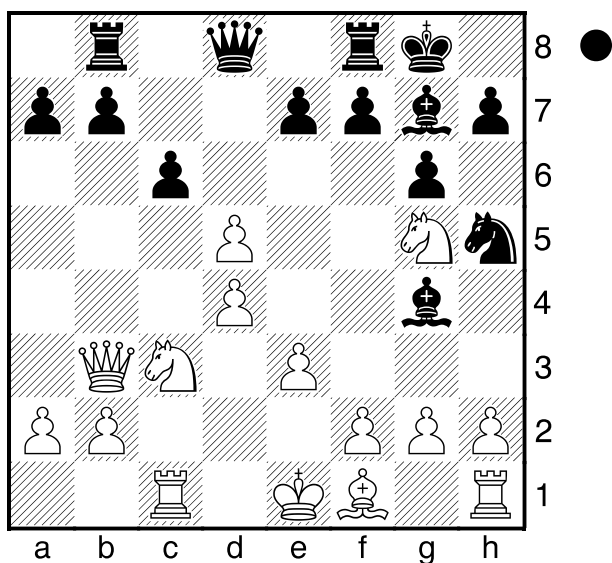
[ 34...c5!= ]

35.Re3 Rd2 36.Rxc3+- Rxf2 37.Kxh4  
 Kf6 38.Rxc7 Re2 39.Rc6+ Ke5  
 40.Kg5 Kd5 41.Rxa6 Rxc2 42.Rb6  
 1-0

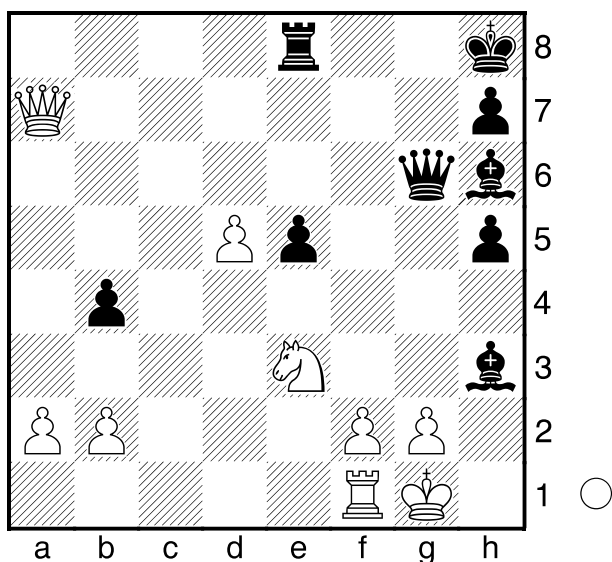
**D93**  
 □ Abdusattorov,Nodirbek 2732  
 ■ Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar 2740  
 Tech Mahindra GCL 2023 (13.2) 25.06.23

White is in big trouble after only 11  
 moves. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5  
 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 0-0 6.Rc1 c6 7.Nf3  
 Be6 8.Ng5 Bg4 9.Qb3 Nh5 10.Bxb8  
 Rxb8 11.cxd5?  
 [ 11.h3 ]

(Diagram)



11...e5! 12.h3 Bd7 13.Nxf7!? Rxf7  
14.d6 b5 15.d5 c5 16.Be2 Qh4  
17.Nd1 c4 18.Rxc4 Qf6 19.0-0 Qxd6  
20.Rc2 b4 21.Bxh5 gxh5 22.e4 Kh8  
23.Ne3 Qg6 24.Rc7 Qxe4 25.Rxa7  
Bh6 26.Qc4 Qg6 27.Qc7 Re8 28.Qc2  
Bf5 29.Qa4 Rxa7 30.Qxa7 Bxh3



0-1

Robson,Ray

Wang,Hao

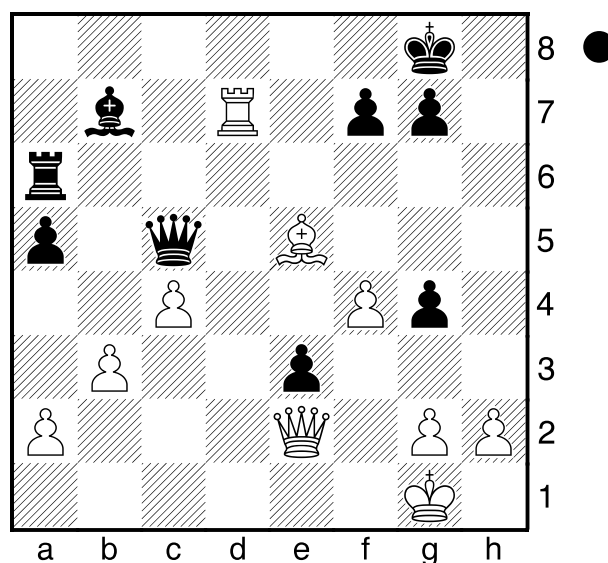
Prague Festival Masters 2023 (5.4)

B45

2689

2722

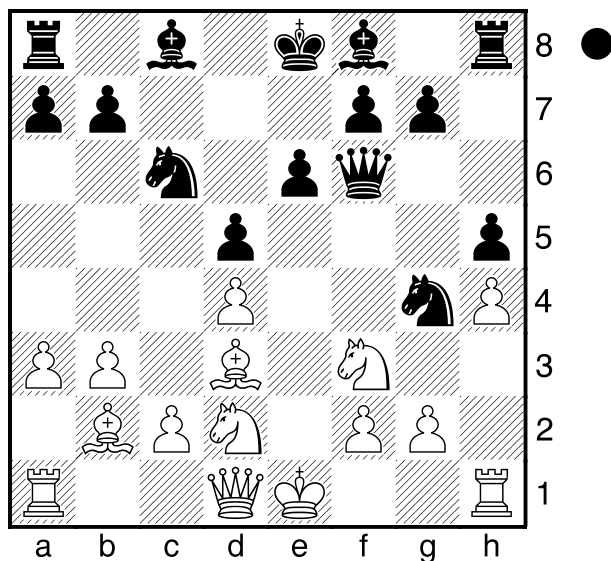
A sharp game, with white accurate to the end. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Ne4 Bb7 9.Nd6+ Bxd6 10.exd6 c5 11.c4 Nf6 12.f3 0-0 13.Bd3 e5 14.0-0 h6 15.Be3 Rc8 16.Bf5 Rc6 17.Qc1 Re8 18.Rd1 e4 19.f4 h5 20.Qc3 Qb6 21.Qd2 a5 22.b3 Ra8 23.Rab1 Ra6 24.Qf2 Rxd6 25.Bxc5 Rxd1+ 26.Rxd1 Qc7 27.Bd4 Ng4 28.Bxg4 hxg4 29.Be5 Qc6 30.Rd6 e3 31.Qe2 Qc5 32.Rxd7



Bf3 33.Rd8+ Kh7 34.Qd3+ Rg6  
35.Bd4 e2 36.Bxc5 e1Q+ 37.Qf1 Qe4  
38.Bf2 Qe7 39.Qd3 Be4 40.Qd4 Bf5  
41.Rd5 Re6 42.Qd1 Kg6  
[ 42...Kg6 43.Rxf5! Kxf5 44.Qd5+- ]  
1-0

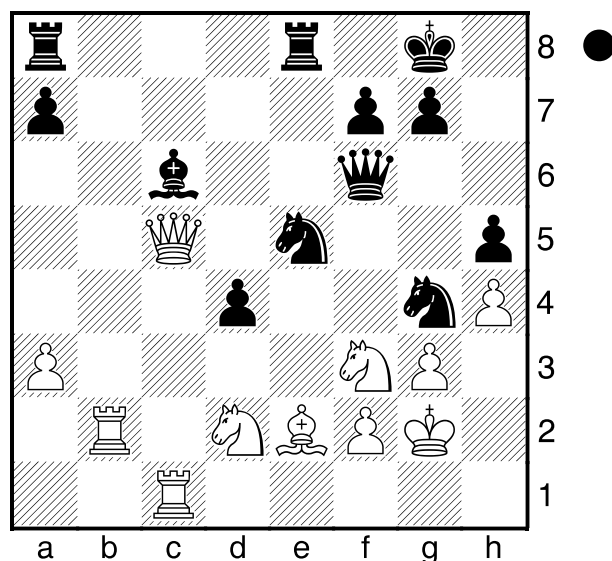
**Eljanov,Pavel** **D05**  
**2694**  
 **Kramnik,Vladimir** **2753**  
 NoCastling Masters 2023 (1.1) 26.06.2023

No castling! The ex-World Champion destroys white with a nice attack. 1.d4 d5 2.e3 Nf6 3.Nf3 e6 4.b3 c5 5.Bb2 Nc6 6.Nbd2 h5 7.h4 cxd4 8.exd4 Ng4 9.a3 Qf6 10.Bd3



Bc5 11.dxc5 Qxb2 12.c4 Ke7 13.Qc1 Qf6 14.Kf1 Rd8 15.Ra2 Kf8 16.cxd5 exd5 17.g3 Nce5 18.Be2 Bd7 19.b4 Bc6 20.Kg2 d4 21.b5 Bd5 22.Rb2 Re8 23.c6 bxc6 24.Qc5+ Kg8 25.bxc6 Bxc6 26.Rc1

(Diagram)

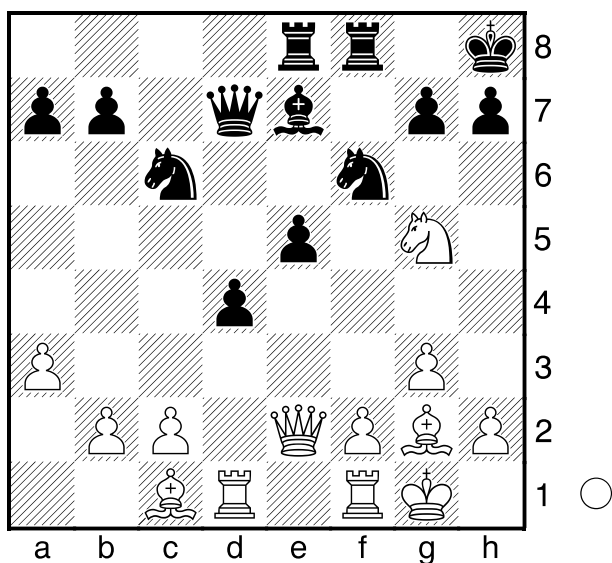


d3  
 0-1

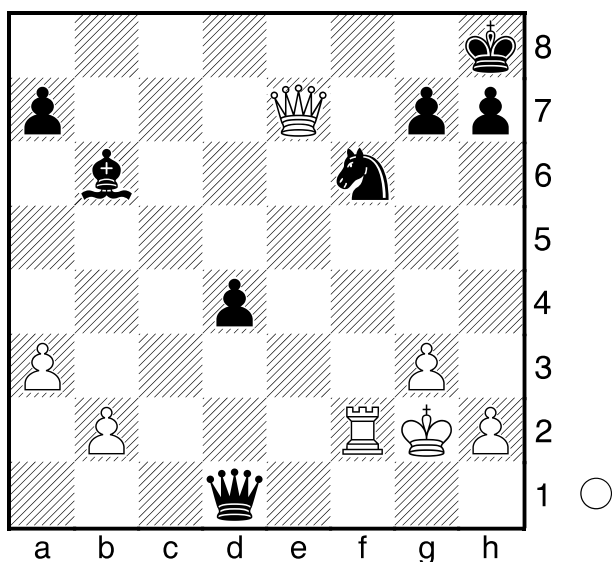
**Wang,Hao** **B45**  
**2722**  
 **Gelfand,Boris** **2668**  
 Prague Festival Masters 2023 (6.2)

Black gets whipped on the light-squares. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.a3 d5 7.Bb5 Bd7 8.exd5 exd5 9.0-0 Be7 10.Be2 0-0 11.Be3 Re8 12.Bf3 Be6 13.Nxe6 fxe6 14.g3 Qd7 15.Bg2 Rad8 16.Qe2 e5 17.Rad1 d4 18.Bc1 Kh8 19.Ne4 Rf8 20.Ng5 Rde8

(Diagram)



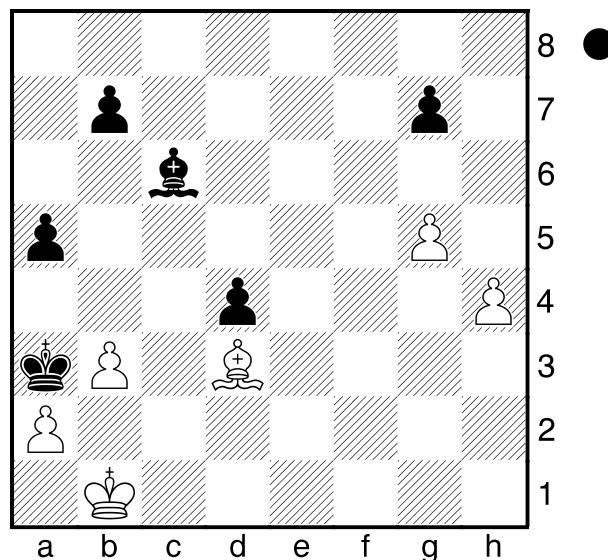
21.Bh3 Qd6 22.Be6+- Bd8 23.Nf7+  
Rxf7 24.Bxf7 Re7 25.Bb3 e4 26.Kg2  
Ne5 27.Bf4 Bb6 28.f3 Qc6 29.Bxe5  
Rxe5 30.fxe4 Rxe4 31.Qf3 Qe8  
32.Bc4 Re3 33.Qxb7 Re7 34.Bb5  
Qxb5 35.Qxe7 Qc6+ 36.Rf3 Qxc2+  
37.Rf2 Qxd1



38.Rxf6 Qc2+ 39.Kh3 h6 40.Rf8+ Kh7  
41.Qe8  
1-0

D36  
Irina Krush 2436  
Zhongyi Tan 2523  
Global Chess League (1.4) 22.06.2023

Black errs after a long and arduous defense. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 c6 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 Be7 8.Bd3 0-0 9.Qc2 Re8 10.Nge2 Nbd7 11.0-0 Ne4 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Rae1 Ndf6 14.f3 Nxc3 15.Nxc3 Be6 16.Qf2 Rad8 17.Kh1 c5 18.dxc5 Qxc5 19.Ne2 Nd7 20.Nd4 Ne5 21.Bb1 Bd7 22.Rc1 Qb6 23.b3 Nc6 24.Rcd1 Re5 25.Nxc6 Bxc6 26.e4 Qxf2 27.Rxf2 Rde8 28.f4 R5e7 29.e5 f6 30.Bg6 Rf8 31.exf6 Rxf6 32.Bd3 Rfe6 33.Kg1 Kf7 34.h4 Re1+ 35.Rf1 Rxd1 36.Rxd1 Ke6 37.Re1+ Kd6 38.Rxe7 Kxe7 39.g4 Kd6 40.Kf2 Kc5 41.Ke3 d4+ 42.Kd2 Kb4 43.Kc2 Ka3 44.Kb1 a5 45.g5 hxg5 46.fxg5



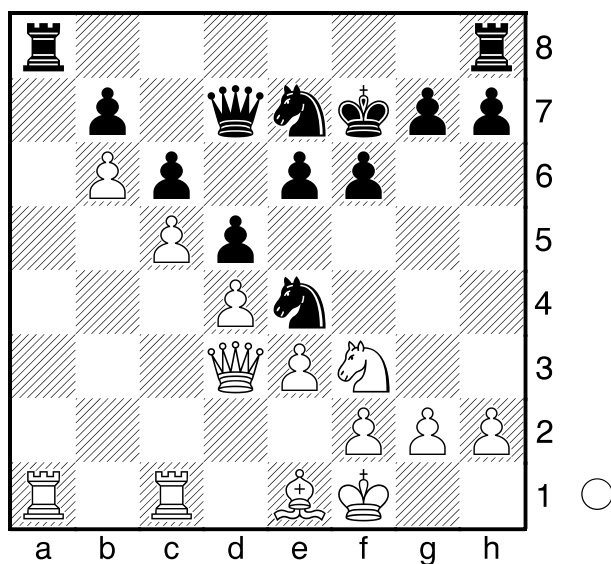
Bf3?

[ 46...Be8!= ]  
47.Bg6!+- Be2 48.h5 d3 49.Kc1 Bxh5  
50.Bxh5 Kxa2 51.Bf7 Ka3 52.Kd2 b5  
53.Kxd3 Kb4 54.Ke4 Kc5  
1-0

**Kramnik,Vladimir**  
 **Caruana,Fabiano**  
 NoCastling Masters 2023 (3.1) 28.06.2023

**D12**  
**2753**  
**2773**

No castling! The wily Kramnik out-foxes the US Champ in the end. 1.c4 Nf6 2.d4 c6 3.Nf3 d5 4.e3 Bf5 5.Bd3 Bxd3 6.Qxd3 e6 7.Nc3 Nbd7 8.Ke2 Bb4 9.Bd2 Bxc3 10.Bxc3 Ne4 11.Rhc1 f6 12.b4 Nb6 13.Be1 a6 14.a4 Kf7 15.c5 Nc8 16.Kf1 Qc7 17.b5 axb5 18.axb5 Ne7 19.b6 Qd7



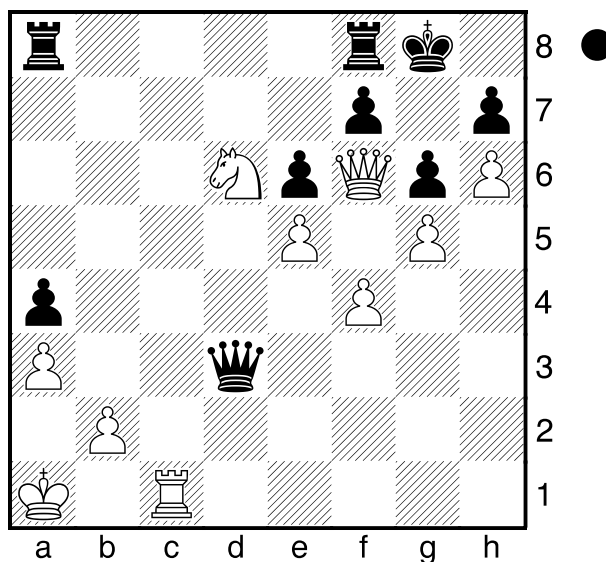
20.Ra7 Rxa7 21.bxa7 Ra8 22.Ra1 Nc8 23.Ng1 Kg8 24.h4 Qc7 25.Ne2 f5 26.f3 Nf6 27.Nf4 Qe7 28.h5 Rxa7 29.Rxa7 Nxa7 30.Qa3 Nb5 31.Qa8+ Qe8 32.Qxb7 h6 33.Ng6 Kh7 34.Qe7 Qxe7 35.Nxe7 Nxh5 36.Nxc6 f4 37.g4 fxg3 38.Nd8 e5 39.dxe5 d4 40.exd4 Nxd4 41.c6 Nb5 42.Ne6 Na7 43.c7 Nc8 44.Nd4 g5 45.Nf5 Kg6 46.Nd6 Ne7 47.Kg1 Ng7 48.Bxg3 h5 49.Kg2 h4 50.Bh2 Kh5 51.Kh3 Ne6 52.c8Q Nxc8 53.Nxc8 Nd4 54.Nd6 Ne6 55.Ne4 Nd4 56.Nf6+ Kg6 57.Kg4 Nf5 58.Nd5 Nh6+ 59.Kh3 Kf5 60.Ne3+ Ke6 61.Nc2 Kd5 62.Nb4+ Ke6 63.Nc6 Nf5 64.Kg4 Ne3+ 65.Kxg5 Nf1

66.Nd4+ Kd5  
**1-0**

**Hou,Yifan**  
 **Krush,Irina**  
 Tech Mahindra GCL 2023 (20.4) 28.06.23

**B67**  
**2628**  
**2436**

A deceptively simple looking win with classic themes. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 a6 8.0-0-0 Bd7 9.Kb1 Be7 10.Nxc6 Bxc6 11.f3 0-0 12.h4 b5 13.Ne2 d5 14.Nd4 Bb7 15.e5 Nd7 16.f4 Nc5 17.g4 Ne4 18.Qe3 Qc7 19.Bxe7 Qxe7 20.g5 b4 21.h5 a5 22.Bd3 a4 23.Bxe4 dxe4 24.h6 g6 25.Nb5 b3 26.Rh2 Ba6 27.Nd6 bxc2+ 28.Rxc2 Bd3 29.Rxd3 exd3 30.Qxd3 Qa7 31.a3 Rfb8 32.Qc4 Qg1+ 33.Ka2 Qb6 34.Qc7 Qb3+ 35.Kb1 Rf8 36.Qe7 Qd3 37.Qf6 Qd1+ 38.Rc1 Qd3+ 39.Ka1



**1-0**

□ Rapport, Richard

■ Gukesh D

Tech Mahindra GCL 2023 (20.2) 28.06.23

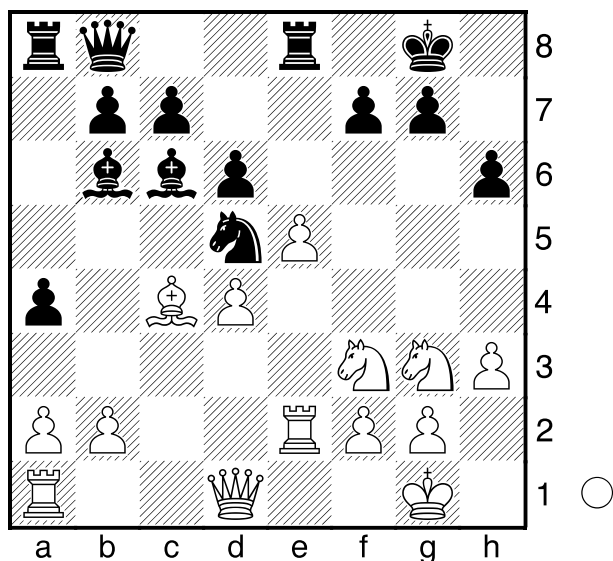
C54

2752

2736

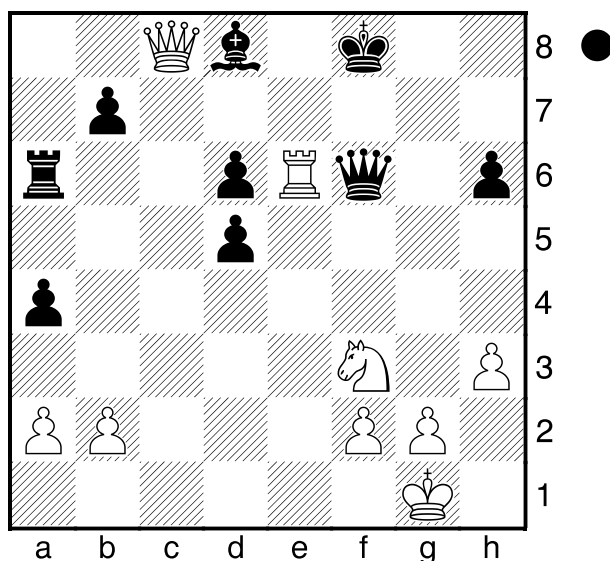
White attacks with nerve and ingenuity.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3  
Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.O-O a5 7.Re1 h6  
8.Nbd2 O-O 9.h3 a4 10.Nf1 Bd7 11.d4  
Bb6 12.Ng3 Re8 13.Re2 Qb8 14.Be3  
exd4 15.Bxd4 Nxd4 16.cxd4 Bc6  
17.e5 Nd5



18.Re4! Qd8 19.Rg4 Kh8 20.Nf5 Bd7  
21.Nxg7 Rg8 22.Qd2 Rxc7 23.Rxc7  
Kxc7 24.Bxd5 c6 25.Bxf7 Qe7 26.e6  
Bxe6 27.Bxe6 Qxe6 28.Qb4 Ra6  
29.Re1 Qf6 30.d5 cxd5 31.Qg4+ Kf8  
32.Qc8+ Bd8 33.Re6

(Diagram)



1-0

□ Anand, Viswanathan

■ Carlsen, Magnus

Tech Mahindra GCL 2023 (20.1) 28.06.23

C18

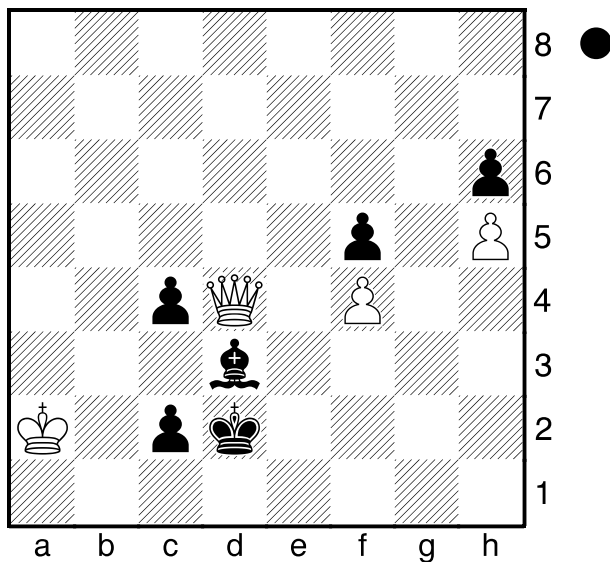
2754

2853

A fantastic fight from beginning to end.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5  
5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6  
8.h4 h6 9.h5 g5 10.f4 Qa5 11.Bd2 f5  
12.Qg3 g4 13.dxc5 Nge7 14.Bd3  
Qxc5 15.Ne2 Na5 16.Qf2 Qxf2+  
17.Kxf2 Bd7 18.a4 Kf7 19.Rhb1 b6  
20.Bc1 Nec6 21.Ba3 Nd8 22.Bb4  
Ndb7 23.Nd4 Rhb8 24.Nb3 Nc4  
25.Bxc4 dxc4 26.Nd4 Rc8 27.a5 b5  
28.Rd1 Be8 29.Ne2 a6 30.Rd4 Rd8  
31.Rad1 Rxd4 32.Rxd4 Bc6 33.Rd2  
g3+ 34.Kg1 Rg8 35.Nd4 Rd8 36.Bd6  
Be4 37.Bb4 Rd5 38.Kf1 Nd8 39.Ke1  
Nc6 40.Ne2 Rxd2 41.Kxd2 Bxg2  
42.Nxg3 Bf3 43.Ke3 Bd1 44.Kd2 Bg4  
45.Ke3 Ke8 46.Kd2 Ne7 47.Bxe7  
Kxe7 48.Kc1 Kd7 49.Kb2 Kc6 50.Ka2  
Kd5 51.Ka3 Kc5 52.Kb2 Bd1 53.Kc1  
Bf3 54.Kb2 b4 55.cxb4+ Kd4 56.c3+  
Kd3 57.b5 axb5 58.a6 Kd2 59.a7 Bd5  
60.Nxf5 exf5 61.e6 b4 62.e7 bxc3+

63.Ka2 c2 64.a8Q Bxa8 65.e8Q Be4  
66.Qd8+ Bd3 67.Qd4



c1N+! 68.Ka3 c3 69.Qb6 Ne2 70.Qxh6  
c2 71.Qb6 Nc1 72.Qc6 Ne2  
0-1

□ Yu, Yangyi

■ Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar

Tech Mahindra GCL 2023 (21.2) 29.06.23

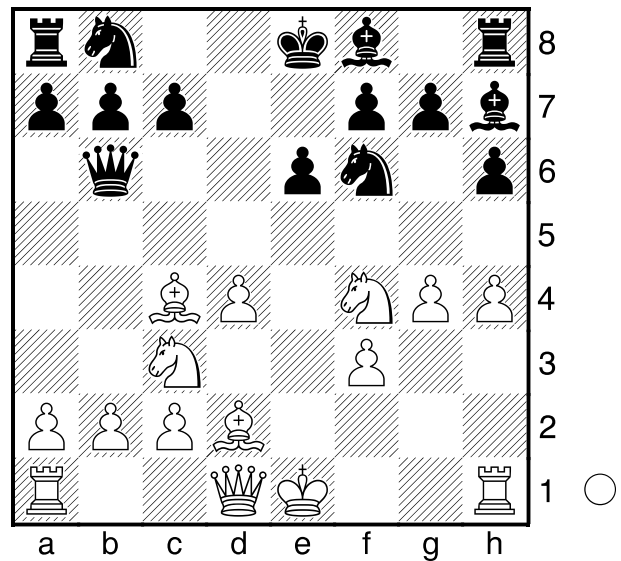
B01

2734

2740

Another trappy opening from the Azeri  
wizard. 1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3  
Qa5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Bc4 Bg4 6.Nge2 e6  
7.f3 Bf5 8.g4 Bg6 9.h4 h6 10.Nf4  
Bh7 11.Bd2 Qb6

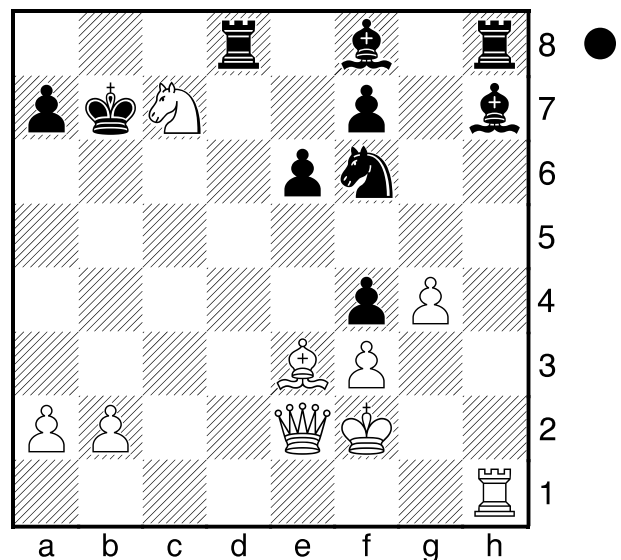
(Diagram)



12.Qe2

[ 12.d5! ]

12...Nc6 13.Bb5 0-0-0 14.Na4 Qxd4  
15.Bxc6 Bxc2 16.Bxb7+ Kb8 17.Nc3  
Kxb7 18.Be3 Qe5 19.Rc1 Bh7 20.Kf2  
g5 21.hxg5 hxg5 22.Nb5 gxf4  
23.Rxc7+ Qxc7 24.Nxc7

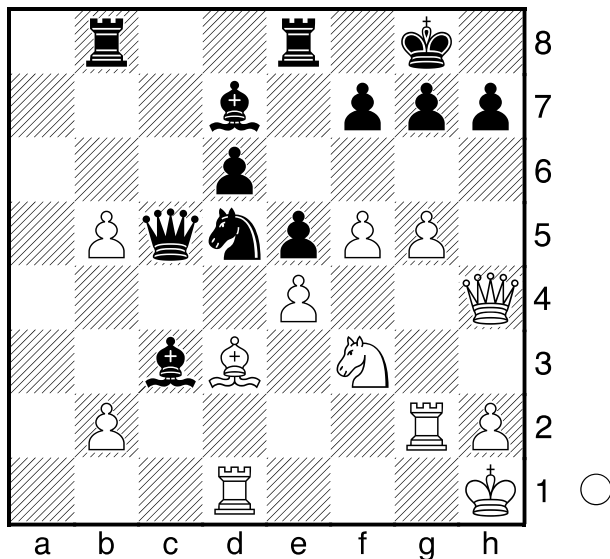


Bd3!-+ 25.Rxh8 Bxe2 26.Kxe2 fxe3  
0-1



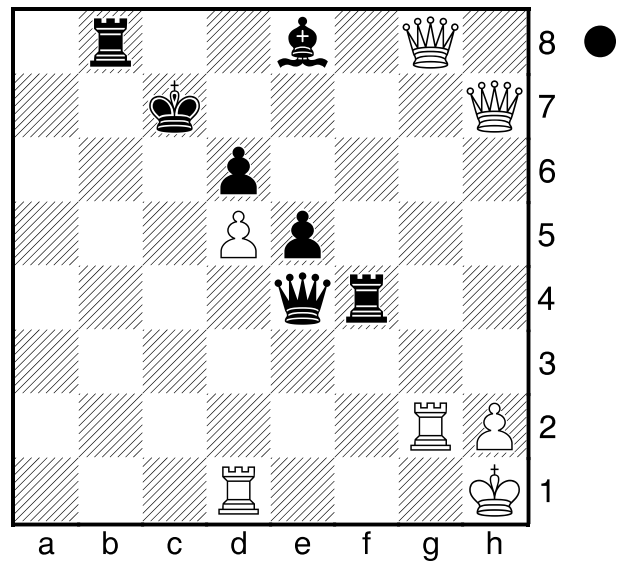
**Wei,Yi** **E18**  
**2722**  
 **Radjabov,Teimour** **2747**  
 Tech Mahindra GCL 2023 (26.3) 30.06.23

A wild game, with black ultimately unable to stand the pressure. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nc3 Ne4 8.Bd2 Nxd2 9.Qxd2 d6 10.e4 Nd7 11.Rad1 c5 12.d5 e5 13.Ne1 a6 14.a4 Bc8 15.f4 Bf6 16.Nf3 Rb8 17.Rf2 b5 18.axb5 Qa5 19.Bf1 Re8 20.f5 Bd8 21.g4 Nf6 22.Rg2 Bd7 23.Qe1 axb5 24.cxb5 c4 25.Bxc4 Qb4 26.Bd3 Ba5 27.Qh4 Qc5+ 28.Kh1 Bxc3 29.g5 Nxd5



30.exd5 e4 31.Bxe4 Qe3 32.bxc3 Rxe4 33.Qg3 Qxc3 34.Nd4 Qc5 35.g6 hxg6 36.Ne6 Qxb5 37.fxg6 fxe6 38.Qh3 Rf4 39.Rc2 e5 40.Qh7+ Kf8 41.Qh8+ Ke7 42.Qxg7+ Kd8 43.Qh8+ Be8 44.g7 Qa4 45.g8Q Qe4+ 46.Rg2 Kc7 47.Qhh7+

(Diagram)

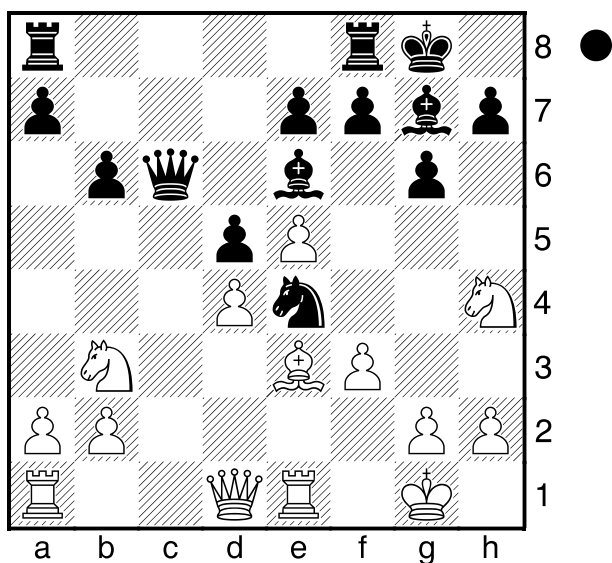


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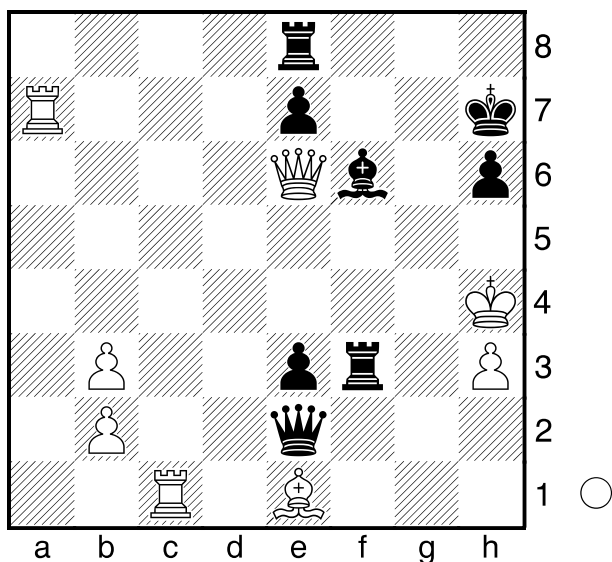
**Gukesh D** **B31**  
**2744**  
 **Carlsen,Magnus** **2835**  
 SuperUnited Croatia Rapid 2023 (1.1)

Carlsen stays on top of one of his main rivals in this entertaining game. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.0-0 Bg7 5.c3 Nf6 6.Re1 0-0 7.d4 d5 8.e5 Ne4 9.Be3 cxd4 10.cxd4 Qb6 11.Bxc6 Qxc6 12.Nbd2 Bf5 13.Nb3 b6 14.Nh4 Be6 15.f3

(Diagram)



g5! 16.fxe4 gxh4 17.Bg5 f6 18.Rc1  
Qb7 19.Bxh4 dxe4 20.Rc3 f5 21.Bg5  
f4 22.Qc2 h6 23.Bh4 e3 24.Qg6 Qd7  
25.Rec1 Bxb3 26.axb3 Qxd4 27.Rc7  
Rae8 28.Be1 Qxe5 29.Rxa7 Qf5  
30.Qxb6 f3 31.gxf3 Qxf3 32.Qe6+ Kh7  
33.h3 Qf1+ 34.Kh2 Qe2+ 35.Kg3 Rf3+  
36.Kh4 Bf6+

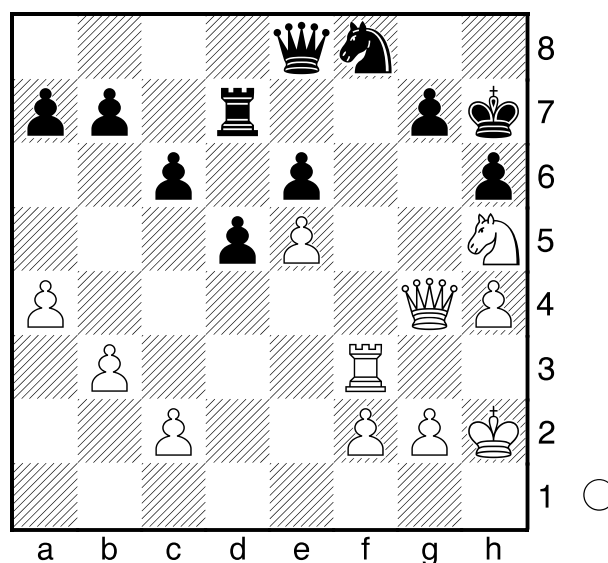


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Saric,Ivan  
 Rapport,Richard  
 SuperUnited Croatia Rapid 2023 (9.4)

**C41**  
**2657**  
**2752**

A pretty finish. 1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3  
e5 4.Nf3 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7 6.a4 0-0  
7.0-0 c6 8.Re1 h6 9.Ba2 Re8 10.h3  
exd4 11.Nxd4 Bf8 12.Bf4 Nc5 13.Qf3  
Ne6 14.Bxe6 Bxe6 15.Rad1 Qb6  
16.b3 Rad8 17.Re3 d5 18.e5 Nh7  
19.Qg3 Kh8 20.Red3 Bc5 21.Nxe6  
fxe6 22.Ne2 Rf8 23.Be3 Bxe3  
24.Rxe3 Qb4 25.Kh2 Rf7 26.Rd4 Qe7  
27.Nf4 Nf8 28.Rf3 Rf5 29.Nd3 Qf7  
30.Rdf4 Rxf4 31.Nxf4 Qe8 32.Qg4  
Rd7 33.h4 Kg8 34.Nh5 Kh7



35.Qxg7+! Rxg7 36.Nf6+  
1-0

## IM John Donaldson

### New Books by Thinkers Publishing

*The Life and Games of Carlos Torre* by Gabriel Velasco and Taylor Kingston (2023, 588 pages, paperback, \$46)

*The Practical Endgame Bible: Guidelines for the Fundamentals of the Endgame* by Boroljub Zlatanovic (2023, 496 pages, paperback, \$43)

*The Nimzo and Bogo-Indian Revisited* by Lukasz Jarmula (2023, 219 pages, paperback, \$36)

*Supreme Chess Understanding: Statics and Dynamics* by Wojciech Moranda (2023, 250 pages, hardback, \$46)

When one thinks of New Orleans and chess, Paul Morphy comes immediately to mind. However, he is not the only great player from the Big Easy as Carlos Torre made it his home from ages 12 to 19. Mexico rightly considers Torre, born in 1904 in Merida, its first Grandmaster but it was in New Orleans that he developed into a strong player.

Torre made a huge leap forward when he moved to New York in 1924, his successes leading to a tour of Europe in 1925. There he turned in excellent performances at Baden-Baden, Marienbad, and Moscow, gaining in strength and experience event by event. He followed up this successful tour with several solid performances the following year.

Sadly, like Morphy, Torre's career was short-lived and he was never able to fully realize his potential, but he did leave a legacy. Today he is remembered as the first great Mexican player and for the opening sequence 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bg5 which bears his name. He used the Torre Attack to defeat Emanuel Lasker in a famous game remembered for its famous "windmill" combination.

Torre is also remembered as the first to play the Black Knights Tango (formerly the Mexican Defense) which begins 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 Nc6 and for authoring a small but thoughtful pamphlet (*Development of Chess Ability*). Any chess player would be proud of these accomplishments – Torre did it all before his 23rd birthday.

Carlos Torre stopped playing in tournaments in 1927 and it would be roughly three quarters of a century before a fitting tribute would be produced by Gabriel Velasco. Now a greatly enlarged second edition has been published thanks to the help of Taylor Kingston. This massive work features all of Torre's games with deep notes and a significant amount of biographical material, much of it never seen before. Even the text of the hard-to-find *Development of Chess Ability* is included making this the definitive book on Torre and an outstanding tribute to a player who deserves to be remembered.

Every chess player knows the endgame is important, but few study it carefully. In the past one could make the excuse that the few books devoted to the final phase of the game were primarily dry reference works. Today, this is no longer the case.

The past two decades have witnessed the appearance of a number of user-friendly books on the ending primarily dealing with the mastery of fundamental, need-to-know theoretical positions. These works develop part of the necessary skill set required of a good endgame player, but neglect the equally important ability to play general endgames with more pawns and pieces on the board. This is the subject addressed in Boroljub Zlatanovic's *The Practical Endgame Bible: Guidelines for the Fundamentals of the Endgame*.

The Serbian International Master uses 188 model games to explore different endgame themes and to teach basic endgame principles. These model games, both older classics and newer examples, are carefully annotated with plenty of explanatory prose and only essential variations provided.

This book will be especially useful for players rated 1800 to 2300.

Those looking for a solid and dependable repertoire against 1.d4 will find it in *The Nimzo and Bogó-Indian Revisited* by the Polish Grandmaster Lukasz Jarmula. This book, aimed at players in the 1800-2200 range, has been written for its target audience and is intentionally not as exhaustive as other works on the same openings (for example Dariusz Swiercz's book on the Nimzo-Indian by the same publisher), but it definitely covers the essentials including an examination of White alternatives to 2.c4 like 2.Nf3 e6 3.e3, 3.Bg5 and 3.g3 as well as the London plus the Trompowsky and Jobava and Attacks. Black is offered two ways to play the Bogó-Indian after 4.Bd2, the solid 4...Bxd2+, and the more ambitious 4...c5.

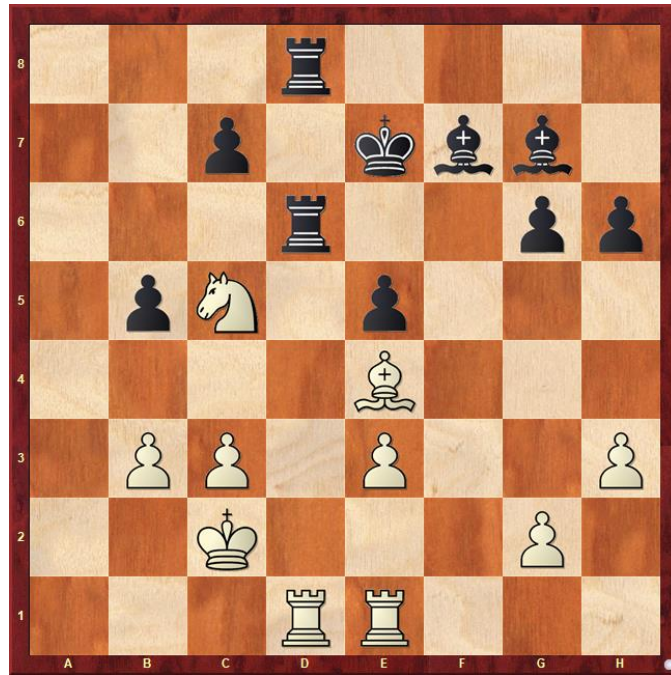
*Supreme Chess Understanding: Statics and Dynamics* by the Polish 2600 player Wojciech Moranda is a book for ambitious students of the game. Many of the examples and exercises he gives will be challenging, in many cases extremely challenging, for all but the strongest of Grandmasters. In fact, it is very likely that most readers of this book, which deserves a wide audience, will struggle with it. That's all right because they will definitely learn something by putting forth the effort and by Moranda's solutions and careful explanations. The following is a case in point which deals with the subject of the price of avoiding getting one's hands dirty. The following excerpt comes from pages 131-135 of the book and has been slightly abridged.

Modern Defense B06

**Kjartansson - Plat**

European Championship (Terme Catez) 2021

**1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.Nc3 e6 4.Nf3 Ne7 5.Bf4 a6 6.Qd2 h6 7.Bd3 d6 8.h3 Nbc6 9.Ne2 e5 10.Be3 f5 11.dxe5 dxe5 12.0-0-0 Qd6 13.Qc3 Qb4 14.Qxb4 Nxb4 15.Bc4 b5 16.Bb3 fxe4 17.Nd2 Bb7 18.Nc3 Nbd5 19.Nxd5 Nxd5 20.Rhe1 Nxe3 21.fxe3 Ke7 22.c3 Rad8 23.Bc2 Bd5 24.Bxe4 Bf7 25.Nb3 Rd6 26.Nc5 a5 27.b3 a4 28.Kc2 axb3+ 29.axb3 Rhd8.**



### 30. Ra1!

The only way to play for a win for White! In a moment Black is going to be outnumbered on the queenside, and therefore not in a position to cover his pawns over there anymore. White's last move does look dangerous but thanks to his control over the second rank, no further harm is going to be done. In other words, White has all the time in the world to outplay his opponent statically on the queenside (by snatching one pawn after the other) and Black's options of generating dynamic counterplay prove to be insufficient despite the momentary activity of his rook on d2.

No wonder Kjartansson did not go for the text though. 30. Ra1 is a type of a move that every sane, positionally inclined player rejects for starters as one that "asks for trouble." This is not an approach that I can universally recommend to anyone willing to improve at chess, as this way you would miss out on plenty of perfectly viable opportunities in your games. Being reckless and not paying attention to the possibilities of the opponent at all does not come into consideration either - the road to chess hell is paved with bodies of those who played like this. Because of this we have no other choice but to learn to strike a fine balance between attacking and defensive play, especially when facing obstacles on our way to convert an advantage.

At this point Moranda continues the conversation with suggestions on how a skilled coach could provide additional examples to develop this ability to find a middle way. He also provides an example of just how winning this position is for White provided he finds 30.Ra1!

**30.Ra1! Rd2+ 31.Kc1 Bf6 32.Ra7 Bh4 33.Rxc7+ Kf8 34.Rf1 Rf2 35.Rxf2 Bxf2**

Just when it seemed Black was finally getting his pawns on the e3 pawn, White consolidates effectively with...

**36.Nd7+ Kg8 37.Nf6+ Kg7 38.Ng4.**



Not only putting an end to Black's dreams of restoring the material balance but also adding even more Black pawns (e5 or h6) to his stack.

The game actually continued:

### 30.Rd3 Bf8.

30...Bf6 31.Ra1 Bg5 32.Ra7 Rxd3 33.Bxd3 Be8! and if 34.Rxc7? then 34...Kd6! is given as a major improvement by Moranda.

31.Ra1 Kf6 32.Ra7 Rxd3 33.Nxd3 Bd6 34.Bc6 Be8 35.Bxe8 Rxe8 36.Ra5 Kf5 37.Nf2 Rb8 38.Kd3 Be7 39.Ke2 h5 40.Kf3 Bd6 41.Ne4 Ke6 42.Ra6 Rf8+ 43.Ke2 Rb8 44.c4 bxc4 45.bxc4 Kf5 46.Kf3 h4 47.Nxd6+ cxd6 48.Rxd6 Rc8 49.e4+ Kg5 50.Rd5 Rxc4 51.Rxe5+ Kf6 52.Ra5 Rc3+ 53.Kf4 Rg3 54.e5+ Ke7 55.Ra7+ Ke6 56.Ra6+ Ke7 57.Ra2 Ke6 58.Ke4 Ke7 59.Rb2 Ke6 60.Rc2 Ke7 61.Rb2 Ke6 62.Rd2 Rg5 63.Rd6+ Ke7 64.Kf3 Rf5+ 65.Kg4 Rf2 66.Rxg6 Rxg2+ 67.Kf5 Rxg6 68.Kxg6 Ke6 69.Kg5 Kxe5 70.Kxh4 Kf6 71.Kg3 Kg5  $\frac{1}{2}$ – $\frac{1}{2}$

*Supreme Chess Understanding: Statics and Dynamics* is highly recommended for ambitious players rated 2000 and higher.

## Richard Hack

### Tales from the Chess Café

#### The Post-Midsummer Day Festival

Big-time chess, baby. All play has meaning, as the historian says during the quotation at the end of this. On June 12th we learned that Stephen Curry and his entourage had visited Mechanics' Institute Chess Club earlier that day. I wish I had seen Number 30 for the Warriors listening to part of Alex Robin's lecture and sitting with Paul Whitehead. I see now that Curry was born on March 14, the same day as Albert Einstein, and that he wears 30 like his father and teacher, Dell Curry, who played 16 years in the NBA and shot 40% from beyond the arc.

At the Café we went over Aaron's game. Then a puzzle from Ray where Black's ....Rd3 simplifies to a winning endgame. We saw his game with McCutcheon as White, Ray's first game after coming to Cal in '82.

Josiah Stearman recently lost to Hans Niemann. There was a GothamChess piece on Hans, said one member, adding, "Entertainer Levy Rozman covers games by lower-rated players, too."

"He's the most successful streamer."

"Nakamura."

"No, Levy has a bigger subscriber base."

We worked through five puzzles, then watched an opening where Black moved the king bishop to d6, in front of the d7 pawn. "We've seen a lot of these in the last five years."

The Cairns Cup was held again in St. Louis from June 3rd to 13th. The 9-round event that invites top international women players was decided after eight rounds, so we had that news at our Monday meeting. IM Anna Zatonskih, the lowest-rated player in the tournament and one of two IMs against 7 grandmasters, won first prize going away, as she scored four wins and four draws to be the only undefeated player.

Their site said, "Day 8 was the most intense day in the... 3rd edition of the Cairns Cup. Anna Zatonskih had the chance to draw the game by three-fold, but chose to continue her play without risk and it certainly paid off. Going into a knight versus bishop endgame, Anna was able to trade off to a winning king and pawn endgame that brought her not only the full point, but also a GM-norm. Zatonskih secured the first place win with one round left, an impressive result considering she won three games with the Black pieces during the tournament."

(<https://www.uschesschamps.com/2023-Cairns-Cup/recap>)

There was also some discussion of Dolly (Dorothy O.) Teasley, an 82-year-old WIM. It sounded like she was being nominated for membership in the New York Hall of Fame, but I couldn't find that online. I played some of her games at ChessGames.com, and found these comments:

August 13-12 Premium Member GrahamClayton: "Newspaper journalist by profession, who wrote for the *Evening Independent* in St. Petersburg in the 1960's."

Strongest Force: "The Dolly I knew was a bank president or something close to it. She was like a big sister. We always played blitz and when she became annoyed she would start giving me advice on how I should improve my life." :)

March 13-23 Caissanist: "Teasley was probably the third-best American woman in the late seventies and early eighties. From an article about the 1981 US Women's Championship: < Teasley has played in two previous women's Zonals and, in 1978, served as alternate on the Women's Olympiad team in Buenos Aires, scoring 7½-2½ to become the team's high scorer. Teasley is a high-ranking New York executive. In fact, her position as assistant vice president of Manufacturers Hanover Trust would have preempted participation in the Interzonals had she placed 2nd. While Teasley rarely enters tournaments, she frequently plays speed chess in Washington Square. She credits her imaginative style and tactical proficiency to the pastime and often admits to 'coffeehouse' tendencies. Alexander Alekhine is one of her favorite players, and she enjoys playing through his game collections.>"

Alexey was named to the Nebraska Chess Hall of Honor. She mentioned that John Watson and Michael Brooks are from Nebraska, among many others. "I would win almost every under-13 tournament."

There was discussion of being hassled. How female players were once 5% of the U.S. total and are now up to 12%, mostly girls. "In the New York Scholastic," Sophia said, "we're up to almost 38%." But the percentage of adult women is still low. "At first it's OK homework; later the kids drop out of chess."

"Women show up in force at our Chess Socials," noted Paul.

"We're doing problems at chess camp today. We make them work in little groups so there's dialogue, and they have to write out their answers."

At the June 26th gathering, Juliana of BernalChess mentioned her new online rating milestone. It occurred in a game where she felt sorry for her opponent because he didn't resign but played out the last three moves, a forced mate. Juliana: "I used to be mad when they resigned."

"You played a beautiful game," said Paul, "so let's play out the mate, too. That's not usual."

We looked at the next game sent in. "I won it in the endgame," said Merlin. "This is the one I was talking about." At the top of the meeting he had responded to a question, "I was trying to play a French, and there were forks, and I guess I got lucky."

Along the way Paul considerably pointed out better moves and said, "Sometimes a little tightening up in the opening allows your game to flourish."

George sent in another Cow Opening. "It has the same moves with Black or White."

Paul: "It was invented by Anna Cramling. By the way, George Kane had the idea of starting out the game with black's pawn on a6. And 1.a3 also confers a slight edge if White continues to play correctly." He showed an example of it being used by White on the 3rd move. "The Hippo was played twice by Spassky against Petrosian in their first match. We don't have time to study all these openings people use, so one that fits many games is useful, but we never want it to get stale."

George: "I think Anna's using it to get subscribers to her YouTube channel."

Now we have 6.h4, h5.



Paul: "White is testing Black's knights on g6 and b6." He suggests 13...f5, but Black keeps holding back. At 25. Kf1, he remarks, "This isn't an easy position for either side." R+N vs. R+B. ....f6: "This is a canny move . . . The relative king positions are the telling thing here. And I went over it as comprehensively as I could before turning the engine on." Which pretty much confirmed what was being said.

A real highlight that came near the end was Quinn's collection of pictures from the Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania in Vilnius, where three travelers played chess on an outdoor board with semi-lifesize pieces.

The following short selection is from Dutch historian Johan Huizinga's book, *Homo Ludens: A Study of the Play Element in Culture*, the title being partly a response to the fashion of referring to homo sapiens as homo faber. The quotation's parts come from the first 11 pages of the book:

"Play is older than culture . . . [and] human civilization has added no essential feature to the general idea of play. . . .

"In play there is something 'at play' which transcends the immediate needs of life and imparts meaning to the action. . . .

"[T]he fun of playing resists all analysis, all logical interpretation. . . . No other modern language known to me has the exact equivalent of the English 'fun.' It is precisely this fun-element that characterizes the essence of play.

"We find play present everywhere as a well-defined quality of action which is different from 'ordinary' life. . . .

"The great archetypal activities of human society are all permeated with play from the start. . . . It lies outside the antithesis of wisdom and folly. It is voluntary and free; it creates order. . . . Play casts a spell over us. It is invested with the noblest qualities we are capable of perceiving in things: rhythm and harmony. Play is tense and seeks a solution."

(Below is the aforementioned game featuring the Cow Opening. For more information about the Chess Café, and to join in our weekly conversation, go [here](#).)

Cow Opening

**fitimdurmishi1975** (1531) - **nomad16** (1628)

Online Game 2023

**1.e4 e6 2.Nf3 d6 3.a3 Ne7 4.d4 Nd7 5.Bd3 Ng6 6.Nc3 Nb6 7.O-O Be7 8.Be3 O-O 9.h3 e5 10.d5 c6 11.Rc1 cxd5 12. Nxd5 Nxd5 13. exd5 Bd7 14. c4 Qa5 15.Qb3 Ba4 16.Qc3 Qxc3 17.Rxc3 a5 18.b3 Bd7 19.a4 Nf4 20.Bxf4 exf4 21.Re1 Rfe8 22.Bc2 Bf6 23.Rd3 Rxe1+ 24.Nxe1 Re8 25.Kf1 Bf5 26.Rf3 Bxc2 27.Nxc2 g5 28.Rd3 b6 29.Nd4 Bxd4 30.Rxd4 Kg7 31.h4 f6 32.g3 fxg3 33.fxc3 Re3 34.Kf2 Rxb3 35.Re4 Rb4 36.Re6 gxh4 37. gxh4 Rxc4 38.Rxd6 Rxh4 39.Rxb6 Rxa4 40.Rb5 Kg6 41.d6 Rd4 42.Rxa5 Rxd6 43.Kg3 Rd3+ 44.Kf4 h5 45.Ra2 Rd4+ 46.Kg3 Kg5 47.Rg2 Rg4+ 48.Kf3 Rxg2 49.Kxg2 h4 50.Kh3 f5 51.Kh2 Kg4 52.Kg2 h3+ 53.Kh2 f4 54.Kg1 Kg3 55.Kh1 f3 56.Kg1 f2+ 57.Kf1 h2 0-1.**

## A New Puzzle in the Library

Every week or so 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 *Botvinnik on the Endgame* (1985), by Mikhail Botvinnik. Steven notes that "Sometimes even rook endings may be won." **1.Rf6!** sets up the well-nigh impossible to meet threat of 2.Rd6 and 3.Rd8. Black cannot resist: **1...g3 2.Rd6 g2 3.Rd8+ Rxd8 4.exd8(Q)#**. Or **1...Re8 2.Rd6 Rxe7 3.Rd8+ Re8 4.Rxe8#**.

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## 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](mailto:arobins@milibrary.org). [Employment Opportunities | Mechanics' Institute \(milibrary.org\)](https://milibrary.org/employment-opportunities)



## Tony's Teasers



1. O. Wurzburg, 1896.  
White mates in 3 moves.



2. S. Loyd, 1890.  
White mates in 3 moves.



## Tournaments, Classes, and Events

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. **O. Wurzburg**, 1896. **1.Ne2!** Threatens 2.Qxg1#. **1...Bh2** (1...Bf2 2.Qf1+! Kxf1 3.Bh3# is also very pretty) **2.Qh1+!** **3.Bf3#**. However, **1...Be3+ 2.Kxe3 Na6 3.Qg3#** is rather prosaic.
2. **S. Loyd**, 1890. **1.Qe4!!** A spectacular move, threatening 2.Qxd3#. **1...dxe4** (If 1...Bxe4 2.Bxe2+ Bd3 3.Bxd3#. Or 1...Rxe4 2.Bg6! Zugzwang. 2...Rxd4 3.Na5#.) **2.Bf7! g6 3.Bxe6#**.

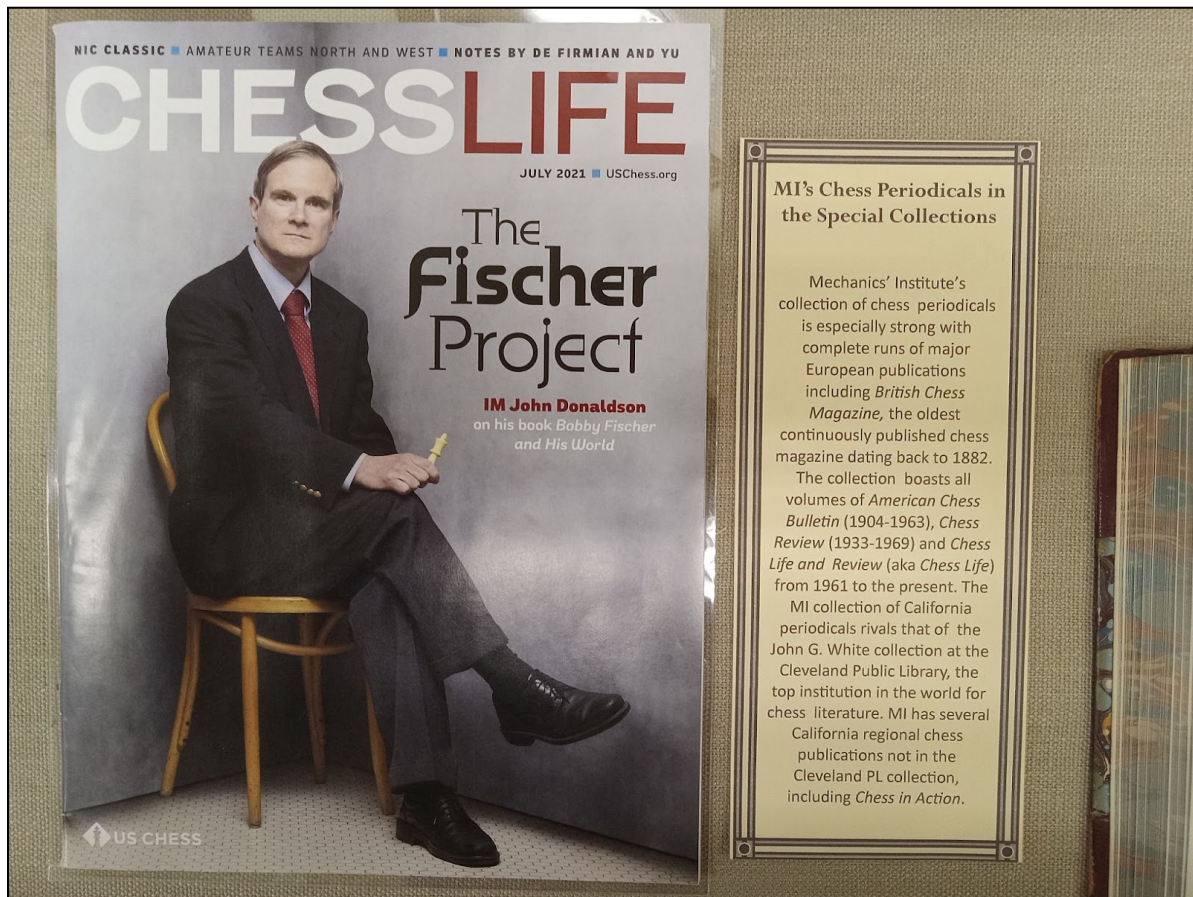
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## Contact Us

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](mailto:chessroom@milibrary.org)

With more than 3,000 books and periodicals, 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.

Time Control: G/120;d5

**6:30pm**

**Tuesdays,**

**July 11 to August 22.**

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

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](http://milibrary.org/chess)

Questions? Email [chessroom@milibrary.org](mailto: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\***

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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!

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## Find Out More and Register at:

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## Summer Camps

July 10-14 (Grades K-5)

July 17-21 (Grades 6-12)

July 24-28 (All Ages)

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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

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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](mailto:chessroom@milibrary.org)

