

Chess Room Newsletter

Issue #1040 | August 12, 2023 | Gens Una Sumus!



10-year old **Laurie Qiu**, winner of the u1900 section in the 2023 National Open, on her way to defeating NM **Brad Diller** in round one of the WIM Ruth Haring Memorial Tuesday Night Marathon.

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Ensuring Safe Play

Mechanics' Institute's mission is to create opportunities for people to enhance their lives. We value the rich diversity of our community and have adopted the following rules of conduct to provide for members who wish to use the Institute's services and facilities, whether in person or online, without unnecessary and inappropriate interruptions or disturbances, to promote service of members' interests by the Institute's staff, to ensure the safety of members and staff, and to maintain the security of Mechanics' Institute property.

Those are the opening lines of Mechanics' Institute's code of conduct. These words are the foundation for us to ensure a safe, accessible, and welcoming environment. An environment of safe play.

Chess - like many industries and areas of interest - is experiencing deep reflection and action towards safe play, addressing treatment of community members and in particular the treatment of and impact on women.

There are articles to read and opinions to consider, so I encourage folks to check out recent developments in the world of chess. More than that: talk to people you don't usually hear from and ask how to help. What have they experienced? How can I make our chess room safer? How can I step in when needed? What am I not aware of? Simply put: How can I make things better?

We here at Mechanics' Institute are working hard and on many levels to make things better in our chess room. We address inappropriate behavior as soon as it happens or when we're made aware. We discuss and review our code of conduct frequently and before every tournament. We establish expectations and consequences to maintain a safe space.

Is it perfect? No. Are we constantly improving? Yes.

We often discuss and are working on our understanding of intention, perception, and impact. My intention may have been one thing. Someone else's perception may be different. But it's the impact that matters. How our words, actions, or inactions impact others is vital to recognize and acknowledge.

We adapt and grow and change for the betterment of our community.

Everyday I see our community growing and connecting here at Mechanics' Institute, and it's thrilling to see our group "regulars" expand. I often post up in the chess room for periods of time. It's for a variety of reasons. It's to help out, certainly. I can greet visitors and new members, of course. I can pair folks up looking for casual games who might be unsure who to ask, sure.

It's also to be a visual presence for others. I am here. Women are here.

Read Mechanics' Institute's code of conduct [here](#).

- **Alyssa Stone**, Mechanics' Institute Senior Director of Programs and Community Engagement.

Recent Tournaments at Mechanics' Institute

On July 8, Mechanics' Institute hosted our monthly double-header of **Scholastic Swiss** in the morning, **Quads** in the afternoon.

The Quads had a great turnout of 70 players competing in 17 sections, with **Tony Kukavica** (2151) and **Abhishek Handigol** (2100) tying for 1st in the top Quad with 2 points each.

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

The July Scholastic Swiss saw 29 players competing in two sections.

Kepler McTiernan (1078) scored a perfect 4-0 to take clear 1st place in the 500+ section, a full point ahead of **Abhijoy Mukherjee** (1005), **Dylan Wan** (727), and **Arfan Pasha** (540). Fifth place with 2 points went to **Viyaan Khurana** (981).

Enzo Steiger (unr.) also scored a perfect 4-0 to take clear 1st in the u500 section. Tying for 2nd through 5th places with 3 points apiece were **Aiden Liu** (475), **Anders Soli** (450), **Janavi Kumar** (unr.), and **Arshan Afshar** (unr.).

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

A very respectable 41 players showed up for the new **Full Day Quads** on July 22, despite the tournament being organized with very short notice. The time control of G/60+5 allowed for a more leisurely pace than the usual half-day G/30;d5.

The top Quad was won jointly between **Ivan Zhou** (1936) and **George Sanguinetti** (1900). Both players scored 2.5 points.

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

The Full Day Quads were directed by National Arbiter **Scott Mason**.

We had 82 participants competing in four sections turn out for the 22nd **Vladimir Paffnutieff Memorial** on July 29, named after one of Northern California's top players from the 1930's to the 1960's.

Rithwik Narendra (1997) won the 2000+ section with an undefeated 3.5-.5 score, and **Abishek**

Handigol (2087) was clear 2nd with 3 points. Third place was split between **Sasha Kagle** (1939), **Ranen Lardent** (1925), and **Daniel Videna** (1913), all with 3 points.

The 1600-1999 section saw a three-way tie for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places between **Michael Molodyk** (1999), **Achintya Rai** (1745), and **Kanwar Sethi** (1636). All scored 3.5 points.

Shiv Sohal (1285) scored a perfect 4-0 and won the 1200-1599 section outright. Tying for 2nd and 3rd places with 3 points each were **Louka Waharte** (1473), **Matthew Huber** (1272), and **Keyan Raahemifar** (1063).

Ben Hung (843) also scored a perfect 4-0 to take clear first in the u1200 section. **Jaeden Gunawan** (unr.) was right behind in 2nd place with 3.5 points. Tying for third with 3 points apiece were **Wythe Wang** (841) and **Kurtis Evan David** (unr.).

Complete results for the 22nd Pafnutieff Memorial can be found [here](#).

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

The **WIM Ruth Haring Memorial Tuesday Night Marathon** kicked off on July 11 and runs until August 22. This seven-round FIDE-rated flagship event has been running continuously in different formats since 1972, making it the longest running weekly tournament held in the U.S. The current TNM has 107 participants competing in four sections, and is co-directed by National Arbiter **Scott Mason** and International Arbiter **Judit Sztaray**.

WIM Ruth Haring (1955-2018) represented the United States five times in the Chess Olympics and was a frequent contestant in the U.S. Women's Championship during the 1970's and 80's. Her many contributions to chess included a service of four years as President of the United States Chess Federation.

On July 31 we hosted a special edition of the Chess Cafe where Ruth's son Theo showed some of Ruth's games and talked about her life in chess (see below). The WIM Ruth Haring Memorial TNM is the first tournament the Mechanics' Institute has named after a woman - more to come!

IM Elliott Winslow

A selection of annotated games from rounds one through five of the WIM Ruth Haring 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](#).

☐ **Qiu,Laurie** **C01**
☒ **Diller,Bradley R** **1984**
 Ruth Haring mem TNM: 2000+ (1.1)
[Diller,Brad/Winslow,Elliott] **2220**

Not vying for first because of a couple rounds missed, but creating a sensation nonetheless, is Laurie Qiu. She beat master Brad Diller (returning to over-the-board tournament chess after decades away) in the first round, in a mostly mature positional win. Oh, she's ten years old. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Nf3 Bd6 5.c3 Ne7 6.Bd3 0-0 7.0-0 Bf5 8.Re1**

[8.Bxf5 Nxf5 9.Qb3 b6]
8...Nbc6 9.a4
[9.Bxf5 Nxf5 10.Qb3 Na5]
9...Qd7 10.Na3 a6 11.c4 Bxd3
[11...Bb4 was better giving me a slight edge. I played the capture quickly because I thought the knight was better than the bishop in the position.]

12.Qxd3 Ng6 13.Bd2
[13.cxd5 Nb4 14.Qb3 Nxd5 15.Nc4 b6]

13...dxc4 14.Nxc4 Rfe8 15.Nxd6 Qxd6 16.Qc4 h6
[16...Rad8 17.Bg5]

17.d5 Nce7
[17...Nce5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.Qd4]
18.Bb4 Qxd5 19.Qxc7 Rac8 20.Qd6 Qxd6 21.Bxd6 Nf5 22.Bb4
[22.Ba3 Rxe1+ 23.Rxe1]

22...Nf4 23.Rad1 Rxe1+ 24.Bxe1 Rc2? This was an an instinctual move that I played without calculation. I saw this move in my earlier analysis and should have saw the straightforward rejoinder here that leads to an advantage for White. **25.Rd8+ Kh7 26.Rd7 Rxb2 27.Rxf7 Ne2+ 28.Kf1 Ned4**

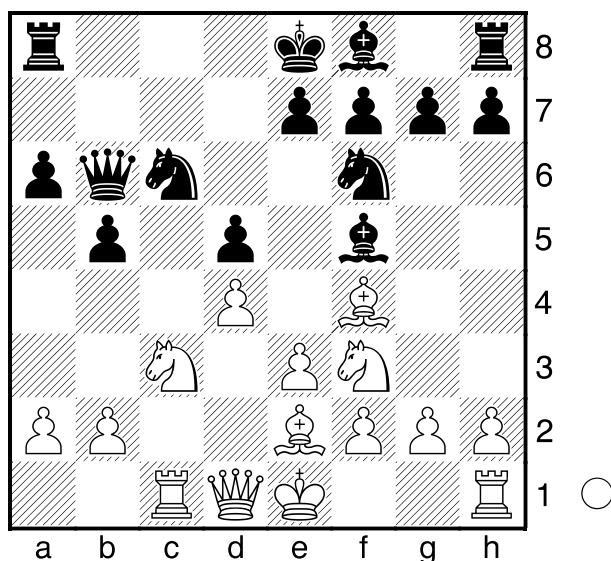
[28...Nd6 29.Re7 Nf4 30.Rxg7+ Kxg7 31.Bc3+ Kh7 32.Bxb2

White is better and a pawn up]
29.Nxd4 Nxd4 30.Rd7 Ne6 31.Re7 Nd4
[31...Nf4 32.Rxg7+ Kxg7 33.Bc3+ Kg6 34.Bxb2]
32.Bc3 Rb1+ 33.Re1 Rxe1+ 34.Kxe1 Ne6 35.a5! This fixes the pawn structure and renders my extra queenside pawn useless. A remarkable move by a 10 year old. She saw this move after 23. **Bc3. 35...Kg6 36.Ke2 Kf5 37.Ke3 g5 38.f3 Nf4??** This was a mistake if not blunder that rapidly led to a lost endgame. Not to make excuses, I was running out of gas and did not eat dinner or bring a snack.
[38...h5 holds the position.]
39.g4+ Ke6 40.Ke4 h5 41.gxh5 Nxh5 42.Be5 Nf6+ 43.Bxf6 Kxf6 44.h3 Ke6 45.f4 gxf4 46.Kxf4 1-0

☐ **Dasika,Archit** **D13**
☒ **Kotbagi,Mihir A** **2204**
 Ruth Haring mem TNM: 2000+ (1.2)
[Winslow,Elliott] **1959**

Archit Dasika would be in clear first with his characteristic quiet, "two results only" openings, sound positional play, and well-prepared attacks -- but for a rare blunder in Round 3 against Rishabh Gokhale (who was 3-1 but then left the tournament). Here's a typical example.
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Bf4 Nc6 6.e3 a6 7.Nf3 Bf5 8.Be2 b5 9.Rc1 Qb6

(Diagram)



Slav, French, Petroff -- one problem Black has in these openings is White going for symmetry plus the move. Here at least Black has found some "imbalance" (have you Reassessed your Chess lately?), but it might be unwarranted? **10.Ne5+-** Stockfish is blunt: "(+2.58)" Black has forgotten a basic or two, like development of the kingside, castling? **10...Rc8 11.0-0! h6?!**

[11...e6?! The paradox: Black has his bishop outside of the pawn chain, but it can't get back in! 12.Nxb5! axb5 13.Qb3 simply wins the piece back (or worse).]

[11...Qb7 (guarding c8 again) 12.Nxc6 Rxc6 13.Qb3 Rb6 (ugh) 14.Be5!+- Between a2-a4 and just Nxb5 Black is caught. e6 15.Nxb5 axb5 16.Rc7]

12.Qb3! Best by a lot according to Stockfish **12...Na5** Out of the frying pan? **13.Qd1?!** Did he expect Black to return to c6?

[13.Nxd5! smashes through: Nxb3 (13...Rxc1 14.Nxf6+ Qxf6 15.Bxb5+ axb5 16.Qxb5+ Rc6 White is momentarily down a rook and a knight! 17.d5 but totally winning.)

14.Rxc8+ Bxc8 15.Nxb6 Bb7 16.axb3+- It's not "just a pawn (and doubled at that)": Black's king is pure liability.]

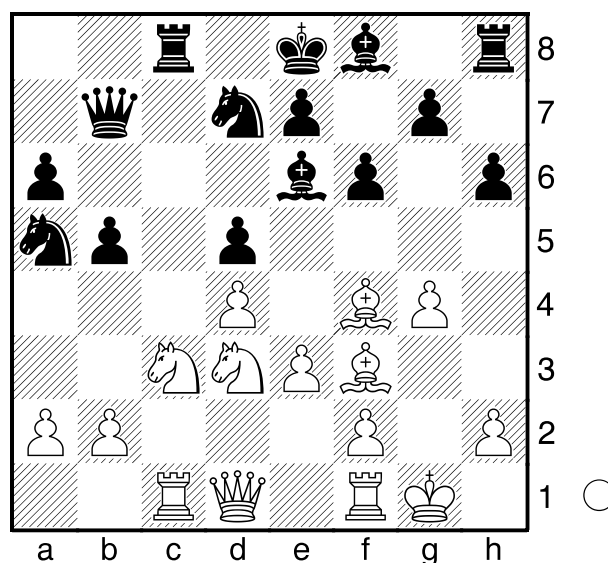
13...Qb7?!

[13...g5 14.Bg3 Bg7± Black might actually castle, with the worst of it, but the game goes on...]

14.g4! Suddenly Black's game is critical.

14...Be6 15.Nd3 Nd7 16.Bf3!

New problems loom. **16...f6**



17.Nb4

[17.e4! dxe4 18.Bxe4 Qa7 19.Bg6+ is disaster: Bf7 20.Nxb5! Too many big things are hanging (rook, queen, king).]

17...Nb6 18.e4 Still within the expiration date (but better fresh, i.e. last move!).

18...Bd7 Giving up (but no better)

[Well maybe 18...h5!? 19.gxh5 Bh3!? 20.exd5! Bxf1 21.Kxf1]

19.exd5 Qa7 20.Re1 Kf7 21.Ne4

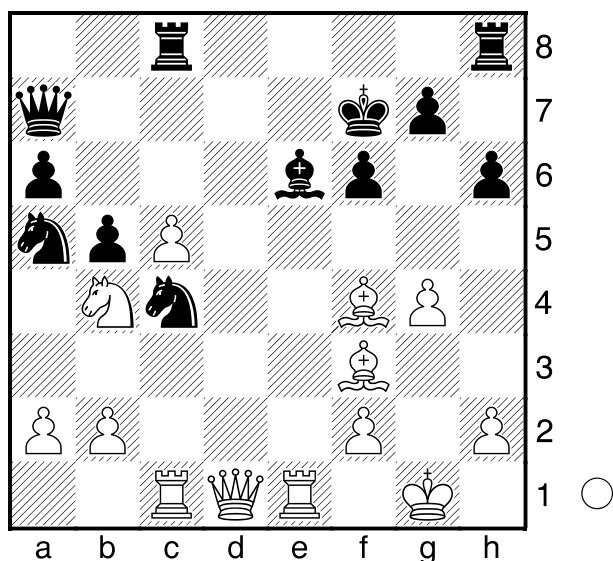
[21.Qe2!]

21...e5!? 22.dxe6+ Bxe6 23.Nc5

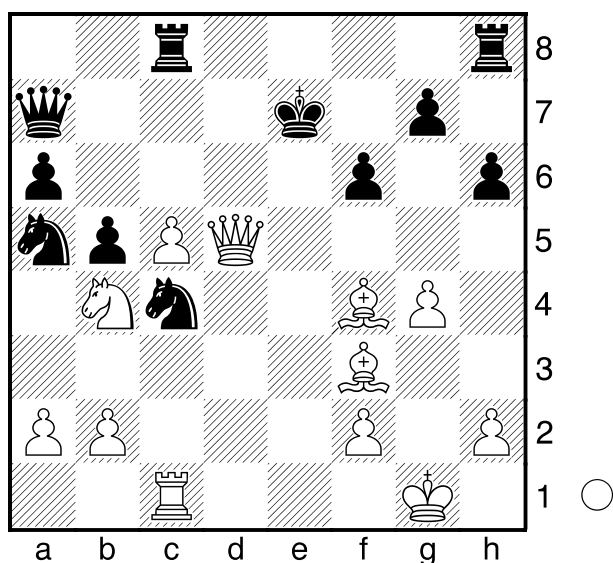
[23.d5!?]

23...Bxc5 24.dxc5 Nbc4

(Diagram)



25.Rxe6 Kxe6 26.Qd5+ Ke7



27.Bd6+

[27.Re1+! Kf8 28.Bd6+ Nxd6
29.Qxd6+ Kg8 30.Re7 wins the
queen *and* mate follows shortly
after.]

27...Nxd6 28.Qxd6+

[28.Re1+! Kd8 29.Qxd6+ Qd7
30.Qb6+ is more certain]

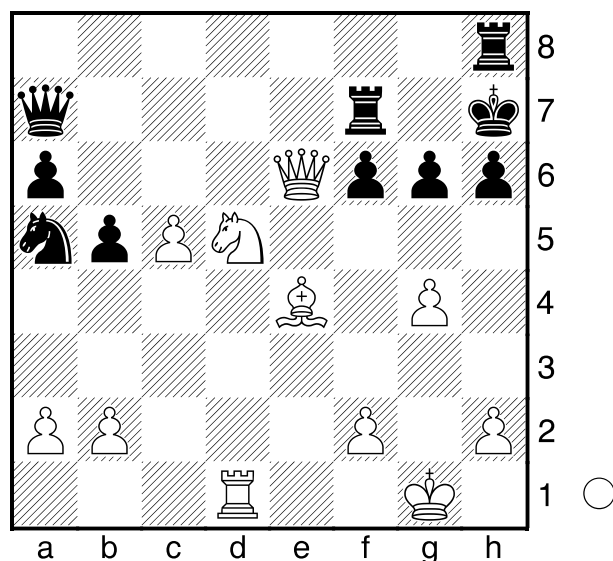
28...Kf7 29.Bd5+ Kg6 30.Qe6! Kh7

31.Be4+ g6 32.Rd1

[32.Nd5 Rhf8 33.Ne7]

32...Rc7 33.Nd5 Rf7

(Diagram)



34.Nxf6+ Kg7

[34...Rxf6 35.Rd7+ picks off the
queen and then the knight to boot.]

35.Nd7

[35.Nh5+! gxh5 36.Qg6+ Kf8
37.Rd8+ Ke7 38.Qd6#]

35...Rh7 36.Qxg6+ Kh8 37.Nf6 Qb8

38.Nxh7

1-0

□ Shrauger,Alex Hay

■ Parsons,Stephen

Ruth Haring mem TNM: 2000+ (1.8)

[Winslow,Elliott]

E08

1996

1879

For a change, let's highlight a few
players. Alex Shrauger (the "Hay" is
"Hayden," but the chess fed cuts names
off arbitrarily...), has made some
changes in his chess routine, playing a
lot further than just the Berkeley Friday
Night marathons (he was at the World
Open!), taking lessons from Gadir
Guseinov, and exhibiting even more
confidence than usual. He started out
strongly outplaying Parsons: 1.d4 Nf6
2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 Be7 5.Nf3 0-0
6.0-0 Nbd7 7.Qc2 a6 8.Nbd2 Rb8

9.e4 dxe4 10.Nxe4 Nxe4 11.Qxe4 b5
 12.c5 Bb7 13.c6 Nf6 14.Qc2 Ba8
 15.Bg5 h6 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Ne5 Bxe5
 18.dxe5 Qd4 19.Rfe1 Qc4 20.Rac1
 Qxc2 21.Rxc2 Rfd8 22.f4 Rd4
 23.Ree2 Rb6 24.b3 a5 25.Kf2 g6
 26.Ke3 Rd1 27.Red2 Rxd2 28.Kxd2
 Kg7 29.Ke3 b4 30.Kd4 g5 31.Kc5
 gxf4 32.gxf4 Kg6 33.Be4+ f5 34.Rg2+
 Kf7 35.Bf3 Ra6 36.Rd2 Ra7 37.Rd7+
 Kf8 38.Kb5 h5 39.Rh7 Kg8 40.Rxh5
 Kg7 41.Rg5+ Kh6 42.h4
1-0

□ **Wong,Russell**

■ **Shrauger,Alex Hay**

Ruth Haring mem TNM: 2000+ (2.2)

[Winslow,Elliott]

In Round 2 Russell Wong tripped
 Shrauger up in the opening, and Alex
 never righted himself after: **1.e4 c5**

2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e6

5.Nb5 d6 6.c4 Nf6 7.N1c3 Be7

[7...a6 (50 times as popular!) 8.Na3
 (8.Nd4!?) 8...Be7 9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0
 has "hedgehog" written all over it.]

8.Bf4

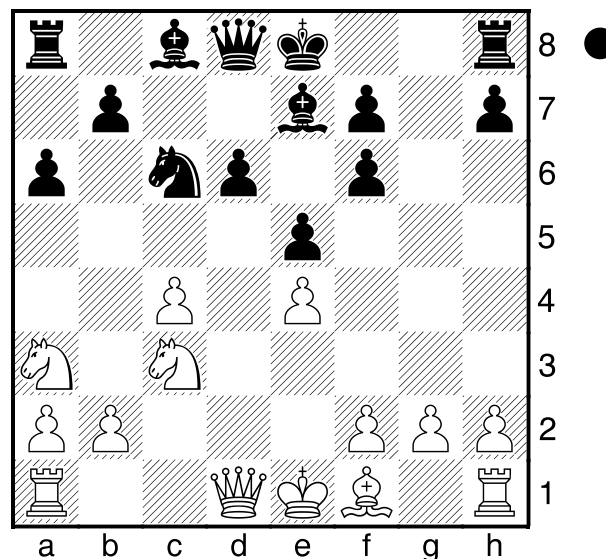
[8.Be2 does the best, although it give
 Black a chance to return to the
 above.]

8...e5 9.Bg5 a6?!

[9...Be6!? 10.Bxf6 gxf6!]

10.Bxf6! gxf6 11.Na3

(Diagram)



B44

2200

1996

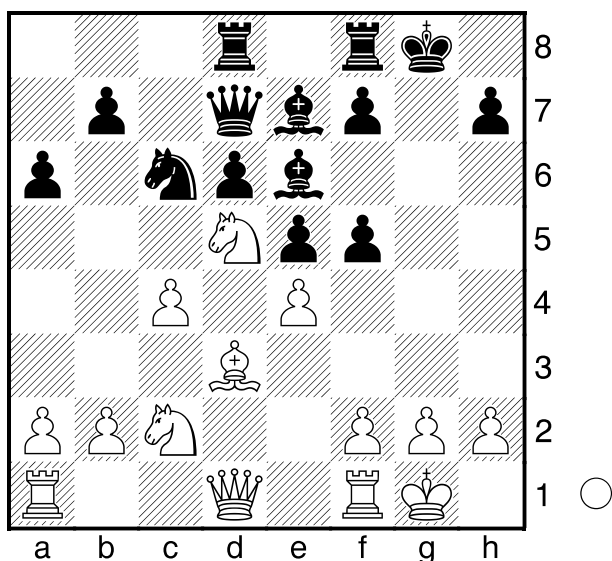
White has done well here, despite
 bypassing control of d4 (no c2-c3).

11...0-0 12.Bd3 Be6N

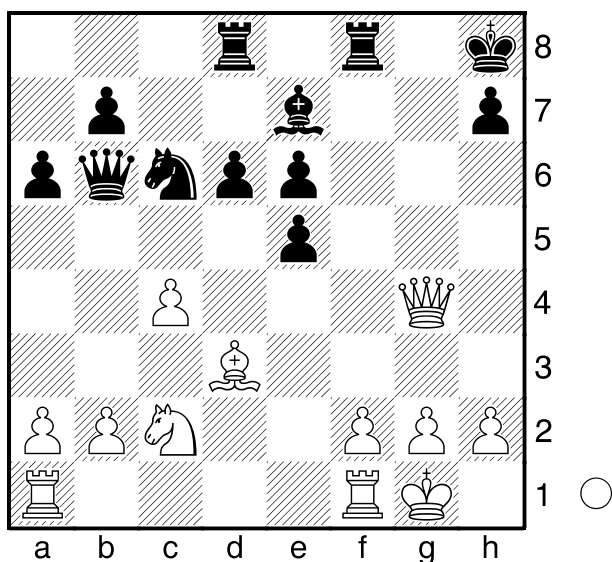
[12...Kh8 13.Nc2 Rg8 14.Ne3 Qf8
 15.Ncd5 Bd8 16.0-0 Qg7 17.Qd2
 Ne7 18.Nxe7 Bxe7 19.Kh1 Bd8
 20.f4 Be6 21.f5 Bd7 22.Rf3 Bc6
 23.Nd5 Qg5 24.Qc2 Rc8 25.Rg3
 Qh4 26.Rh3 Qg5 27.Qf2 Bxd5
 28.Rg3 Qh6 29.Rxg8+ Kxg8
 30.exd5 e4 31.Bf1 e3 32.Qf3 Bb6
 33.b4 Qh4 34.Rd1 Qf2 35.Qxf2 exf2
 36.g3 Re8 37.Kg2 Re5 38.a4 Kf8
 39.a5 Ba7 40.Rb1 Bd4 41.g4 h5
 42.gxh5 Rxf5 43.h6 Rg5+ 44.Kf3
 Rh5 45.Rc1 Kg8 46.h3 Kh7 47.Rb1
 ½-½ Brobakken,G (2250)-Lilleeng,A
 (2103) NOR-ch email ICCF email
 2005]

13.0-0 Qd7 14.Nd5 Rad8 15.Nc2 f5?

(Diagram)



16.Nb6!+- Qc7 17.exf5 Qxb6 18.Qg4+ Kh8 19.fxe6 fxe6?!



20.Qh5! That's it. Black's counterplay never matters. **20...Rf5 21.Bxf5 exf5 22.Qxf5 Rf8 23.Qd3 Qd8 24.Rad1 Qe8 25.Rde1 Rf4 26.Re3 Qg8 27.b3 Nd8 28.Nb4 Bg5 29.Rg3 Nf7 30.Nd5 Rd4 31.Qf5 Qg6 32.Qc8+ Kg7 33.Ne7 Bxe7 34.Rxg6+ hxg6 35.Qxb7 Bg5 36.Qxa6 e4 37.Qb7 1-0**

□ Handigol, Abhishek

■ Kagle, Sasha

Ruth Haring mem TNM: 2000+ (3.2)

[Winslow, Elliott]

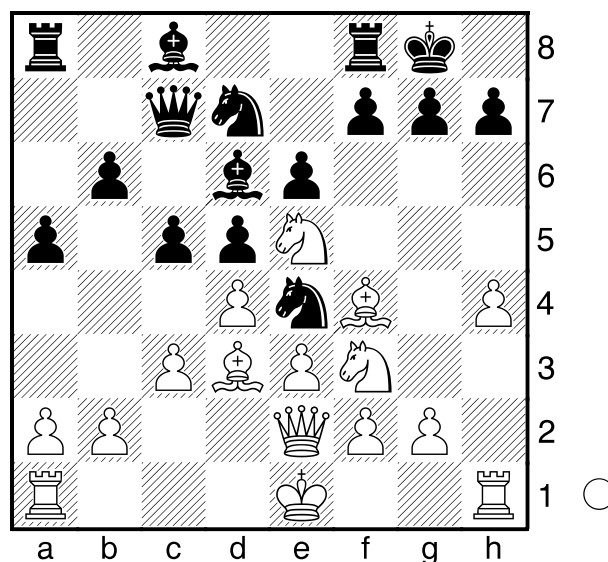
D02

2073

1939

Tied for first-second is Abishek Handigol, and that is after just taking a half-point bye in Round 5. He's been playing in the TNMs now for over ten years, expert strength; this time he seems to be rising. Here after a deceptive London opening he trips up Sasha Kagle in a scramble of a rook ending. Rook and seven pawns each: a special case worthy of someone like Karsten Mueller discussing it in some column or book. **1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 d5 3.e3 e6 4.Nf3 Bd6 5.Ne5 0-0 6.Nd2 c5 7.c3 Nc6**

[Here's the requisite high-level game of late: **7...Qc7 8.Bd3 b6 9.Qe2 a5 10.h4 Nbd7 11.Ndf3 Ne4**



12.Ng5! Nxe5 (12...Bxe5! 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Bc2 f6 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Bxe4 Bb7 17.Bxe5 fxe5 18.Bxb7 Qxb7 19.e4=) 13.dxe5 Bxe5 14.Nxe4 (14.Qh5!? h6 15.Nxe6 Bxe6 16.Qxe5= (0.17/22)) 14...Bxf4?? (14...dxe4 15.Bxe4 Ra7±) 15.Ng5 h6 16.exf4+- Qxf4 (16...hxg5

17.Bh7+!) 17.Nf3 c4 18.Bc2 e5
 19.Qe3 Qxe3+ 20.fxe3 f6 21.0-0-0
 Bb7 22.Bf5 Rfd8 23.g4 Kf7 24.Rhf1
 b5 25.Nxe5+ 1-0 Bluebaum,M (2669)-
 Keymer,V (2700) ChessKid Cup Div 3
 L Chess.com INT rapid 2023 (2.2)]

8.Bd3 Qc7 9.Ndf3 Ne4 10.h4

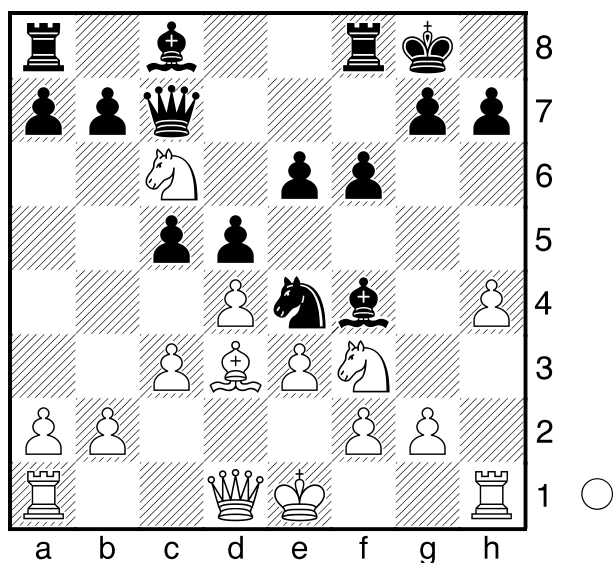
Perhaps Abishek has *seen* this
 Bluebaum game? :-)

[10.0-0±]

10...f6

[10...cxd4! 11.cxd4 (11.exd4? f6
 12.Nxc6 Bxf4 13.Nb4 a5 14.Nc2
 Qb6 15.Qb1 e5-+) 11...Nb4̄]

11.Nxc6 Bxf4



12.exf4?!N

[Predecessor: 12.Ne7+ Qxe7 13.exf4
 cxd4 14.Bxe4 dxe4 15.Nxd4 e5̄
 16.fxe5 fxe5 17.Ne2 Bd7 (17...e3!)
 18.Qd5+ Kh8 19.Qxe4̄ Bc6 20.Qg4
 Rad8 21.0-0 Rd2 22.b3 Qc5 23.b4
 Qd5 ½-½ Janaszak,D (2334)-
 Buchenau,F (2269) Titled Tuesday
 intern op 19th Apr Late Chess.com
 INT blitz 2022 (10)]

**12...bxc6 13.Qc1 cxd4 14.cxd4 Qa5+
 15.Nd2 Nxd2**

[15...f5!̄ /=]

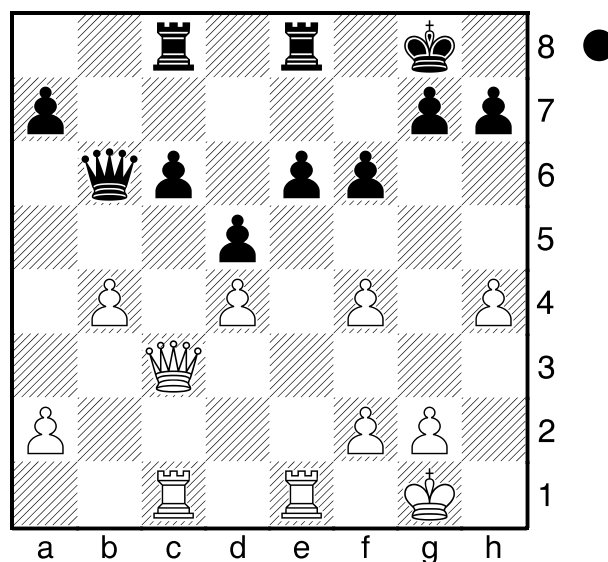
16.Qxd2 Qb6?!

[16...Qxd2+=]

**17.0-0± Ba6 18.Bxa6 Qxa6 19.Rfe1
 Rfe8 20.Qc3** Both sides have pawn
 weaknesses; Black's are more
 accessible. **20...Qb6**

[20...Qc4! A surprising trade, but
 Black should (maybe) hold the rook(s)
 ending. 21.Qxc4 dxc4 22.Rac1
 Rab8 23.Re2 Rb4]

21.Rac1 Rac8 22.b4



Kf7?! 23.Qc5?

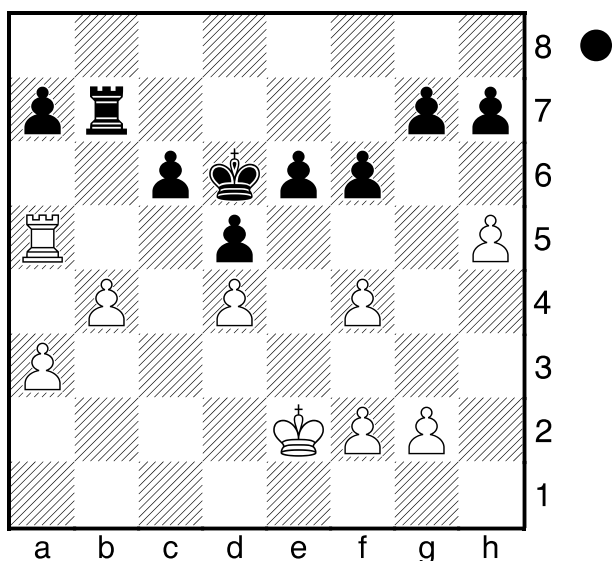
[23.a3!+-]

23...Qxc5= 24.Rxc5 Ke7

[24...a5!? 25.bxa5 (25.Rxa5 Ra8
 26.Rxa8 There doesn't seem to be
 any advantage elsewhere, either.
 Rxa8 27.Re2 Ra4 28.Rb2 h5=)
 25...Ke7 26.a6 Kd6±]

**25.Rec1 Kd7 26.R1c3 Rc7 27.h5 Rb8
 28.a3 Rb5 29.Kf1 Rxc5 30.Rxc5 Kd6
 31.Ke2 Rb7 32.Ra5**

(Diagram)



e5?! 33.fxe5+

[33.Ke3]

[33.Ra6]

33...fxe5 34.dxe5+ Kxe5= 35.Ke3 Kd6?!

[35...g5!]

36.Ra6!± Re7+ 37.Kd4 Re4+ 38.Kd3 Rh4 39.b5!?

[39.Rxa7 Rxh5 40.Rxg7±]

39...Rxh5?

[39...Kc5 40.bxc6 Kd6 41.Rxa7 Kxc6 42.Rxg7 Rxh5 43.a4±]

40.Rxc6++- Ke5 41.Rc7 Rg5 42.g3
[42.Rxa7 Rxg2 43.b6 Kd6 44.a4 Rxf2 45.a5!]

42...Rg4 43.Rxa7 Kd6 44.a4 Kc5
45.Kc3 h5 46.Rc7+ Kb6 47.Rc6+ Kb7
48.Kb3 g5 49.a5 h4 50.a6+ Kb8
51.b6 Rc4 52.a7+ Ka8 53.Rh6 Rc8
54.gxh4 gxh4 55.Rxh4 Kb7 56.Rh6
d4 57.Kb4 Ka6 58.Rc6 Ra8 59.Rd6
Rc8 60.f4 d3 61.Rxd3 Kxb6 62.Ra3
Ra8 63.Kc4 Kc6 64.Ra6+ Kd7
65.Kd5
1-0

□ **Shrauger,Alex Hay**

■ **Zhou,Ivan**

D78

1996

1848

Ruth Haring mem TNM: 2000+ (3.6)

[Winslow,Elliott]

But while Russell lost his mojo, drawing twice and losing to Dasika, Shrauger totally rebounded, with three straight wins: 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 c6 5.Bg2 d5 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nc3 dxc4 8.e4 b5 9.Qe2 b4 10.Na4 Ba6 11.Rd1 Nbd7 12.a3 Bb5 13.axb4 a5 14.Nc3 axb4 15.Rxa8 Qxa8 16.Nxb5 cxb5 17.e5 Nd5 18.e6 N7b6 19.exf7+ Kh8 20.Ng5 h6 21.Ne6 Rxf7 22.Qg4 Qa4 23.Bf4 h5 24.Qe2 c3 25.Be5 cxb2 26.Bxg7+ Kg8 27.Re1 Qa1 28.Qf1 Qa2 29.Qxb5 Rxg7 30.Qe8+ Kh7 31.Qf8
1-0

□ **Ahearn,Matthew**

■ **Persaud,Atma**

C36

1066

0

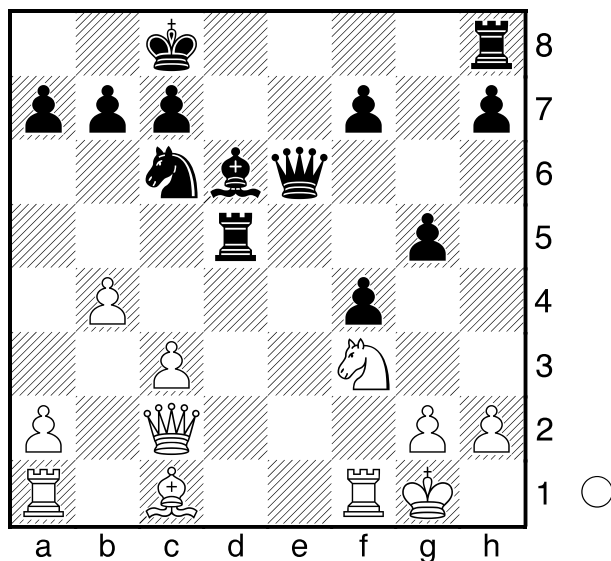
Ruth Haring mem TNM: u1200 (3.38)
[Winslow,Elliott]

Matthew Ahearn looked to be running away with the under 1200 section with four straight wins, but a half point bye in Round 5, and also one in the last round (last round bye requests can't be retracted) might break that stride, with Romeo Nehme and Jack Conklin half a point behind. Here Ahearn looks in some trouble until a flurry of blows leaves him winning. **1.e4 e5 2.f4 d5** The Falkbeer Counter Gambit **3.exd5 exf4!?** "Declined." This has the computer's stamp of approval and removal, whereas

[3...e4 was the honorable play of romantic times.]

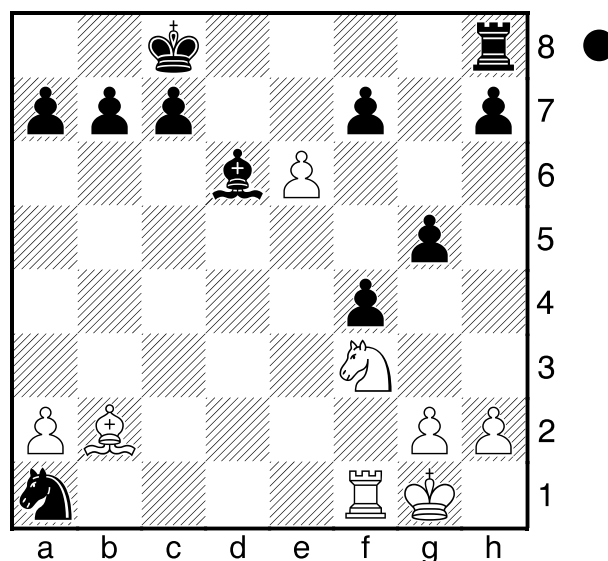
4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bc4?!

[5.c4 Oh, just get greedy.]
5...Nxd5 6.Bxd5?! Qxd5 7.Nc3 Qf5
8.0-0?
 [8.d4]
8...Nc6 9.d4 Be6 10.d5 0-0-0+
 Black has the jump on White. **11.Qe2**
Bxd5 12.Nxd5 Rxd5 13.c3 Bd6 14.b4
Qe6
 [14...Qd3!]
15.Qc2 g5



A gambit gone bad. **16.c4 Nxb4??**
 [Just 16...Rf5 keeps his head. 17.b5
 Bc5+ 18.Kh1 Nb4 (or 18...Nd4-+)
 19.Qb3 Rd8 when Black's knight is
 not trapped at all.]
17.cxd5 Nxc2 18.dxe6 Nxa1 19.Bb2±

(Diagram)

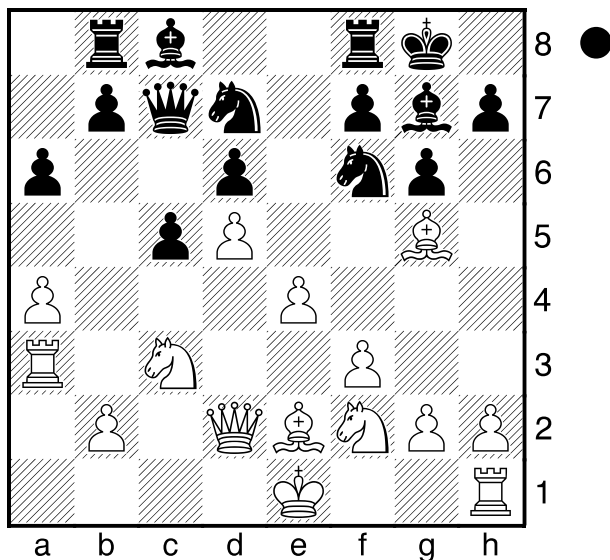


And: White is on top! **19...fxe6?**
 [19...Rf8 20.Nxg5! fxe6! (20...Nc2
 21.Nxh7!) 21.Rxa1 Rf5! 22.Nxe6
 Kd7 23.Nd4 Rd5 24.Nf3±]
20.Bxh8+- Woops! 20...Bc5+ 21.Bd4
Bxd4+ 22.Nxd4 e5 23.Rxa1 exd4
24.Rd1 c5 25.a4 Kc7 26.Kf2 Kd6
27.Kf3 Kd5 28.Ke2 c4 29.Kd2 b5
30.axb5 Kc5 31.Kc2 d3+ 32.Kc3
Kxb5 33.Re1 g4 34.Re5+ Ka4
35.Kxc4 d2 36.Rd5 h5 37.Rxd2 h4
38.Rd4 h3 39.gxh3 f3 40.hxg4 f2
41.Rf4 a5 42.Rxf2 Ka3 43.Rf3+ Ka2
44.Kb5
1-0

□ Winslow,Elliott **A65**
 ■ Shrauger,Alex Hay **2182**
 Ruth Haring mem TNM: 2000+ (4.3) **1996**
[Winslow,Elliott]

This one was maybe a little less convincing: White came out of the opening with a clear plus, but at some point lost purpose. Declining a draw was a sort of fatal, the rest was downhill (excuse my profuse annotations!): **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3**

0-0 6.Bg5 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Qd2 exd5
9.cxd5 Nbd7 10.Nh3 a6 11.a4 Rb8
12.Nf2 Qa5 13.Ra3 Qc7 14.Be2±



c4?! 15.a5?

[15.0-0±]

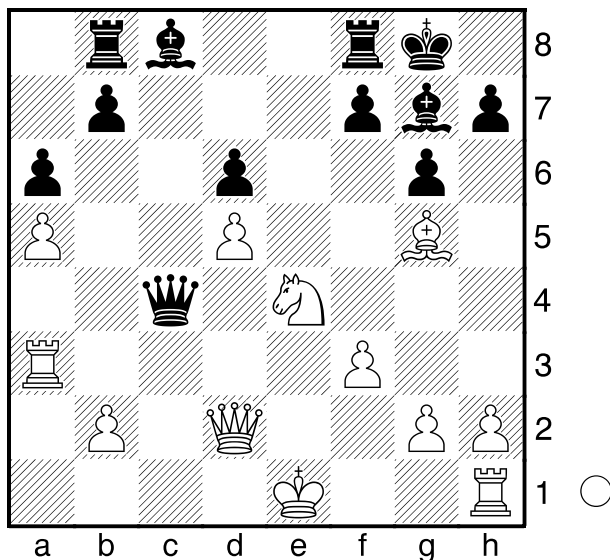
15...Nc5

[15...b5 16.axb6 Nxb6 17.Bh6±
(17.0-0±) 17...Bxh6! 18.Qxh6 Qe7
19.0-0 Nfd7 20.Ncd1]

16.Be3?

[16.Bxc4!

A) 16...Ncxe4?? 17.Nfxe4 Nxe4
18.Nxe4 Qxc4



A1) 19.Nxd6!

A1a) 19...Qc7 20.Bf4 Bd7
21.0-0! (21.Ne4 Qc4
22.Bxb8 Rxb8 23.Rc3!+-)
21...Qc5+ 22.Kh1 Qd4
23.Qxd4 (23.Rd3 Qxb2
24.Qxb2 Bxb2 25.Rb1+-)
23...Bxd4 24.Rb3+-;

A1b) 19...Qc5

A1b1) 20.Ne4 Qb5

21.Nf6+ Bxf6 (21...Kh8
22.h4 h5 23.d6) 22.Bxf6
Re8+ 23.Kf2 Qc5+
24.Kg3+-;

A1b2) 20.Be7;

A2) 19.Bf4±;

A3) 19.Nf6+! Kh8 20.h4! h5!
21.g4!+-;

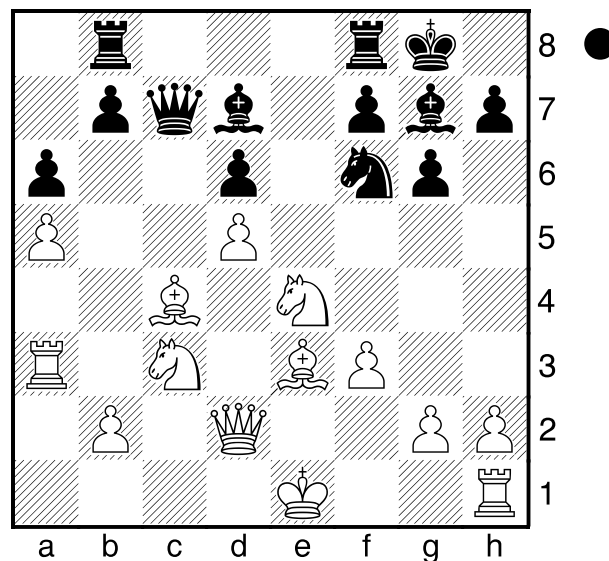
B) 16...b6! 17.axb6 Qxb6 18.b3
Nfd7 19.0-0 Ne5 20.Na4 Nxa4
21.Rxa4 f5±]

16...Bd7?

[16...Nb3 17.Qc2 Nxa5±]

17.Bxc4 Ncxe4 18.Nfxe4

[18.Ncxe4 Qxc4 19.Nxd6 Qxd5
20.Rd3 Qa2 21.0-0±]



18...Nxe4??

[18...Qxc4 19.Nxd6 Qb4 20.Nde4
Nxe4 21.Nxe4 Qxb2 22.Qxb2 Bxb2
23.Ra2 Be5 24.f4±]

19.Nxe4 Qxc4 20.Kf2?

[20.b3!+-]

20...Be5 21.Rc1 Qb5 22.f4 f5!?

23.fxe5

[23.Nc5! Bxb2 24.Rb1 Bxa3

25.Rxb5 Bxb5 26.Ne6±]

23...fxe4+ 24.Kg3! dxe5?!

[24...Rf5! 25.e6

A) 25...Rxd5? 26.exd7 Rxd2

27.Rc8+

A1) 27...Kg7 28.d8Q Rxc8

29.Qe7+! Kg8 (29...Kh8

30.Bxd2) 30.Qe6+ Kg7

31.Bxd2;

A2) 27...Kf7 28.d8Q Rxc8

29.Qxc8 Rxg2+ 30.Kxg2 Qxb2+

31.Bf2 Qxa3 32.Qxb7+ Kg8

33.Qxa6 Qf3+ 34.Kg1+-;

B) 25...Bxe6! 26.dxe6 Qe5+

27.Bf4 Rg5+ 28.Kf2 Rf8 29.g3

Rxf4+ 30.gxf4 e3+ 31.Qxe3

Qxb2+ 32.Kf1!± (and on and on)]

25.Bh6?! Misplacing the bishop, pushing the rook to a better square, weakening b6 -- although it does open up some possibilities for the rook on a3.

[25.Rc7! Rf7 26.h3 Rd8 27.Rac3

Qf1 28.Kh2 Bc6! 29.Rxf7 Kxf7

30.Rc1 Qf5 31.Qb4 Rxd5 32.Rc2

Rd3 33.Rf2 Rxe3± I *saw* craziness

like this but couldn't believe it. Not

that how it went was any better!]

25...Rf7

[25...Rf6! and ...Rd6]

26.h3

[26.Re3!? b6 (26...Bf5 27.d6 Rd8

28.Bg5) 27.Rxe4 bxa5 28.Rxe5

Qb3+ 29.Re3 Qb4 30.Qxb4 axb4

31.Rc5!? Stockfish makes it +0.55

after Rf5 It's a totally arbitrary mess of an ending.]

26...Rd8 27.Kh2? Around here my ability to find good moves shut down.

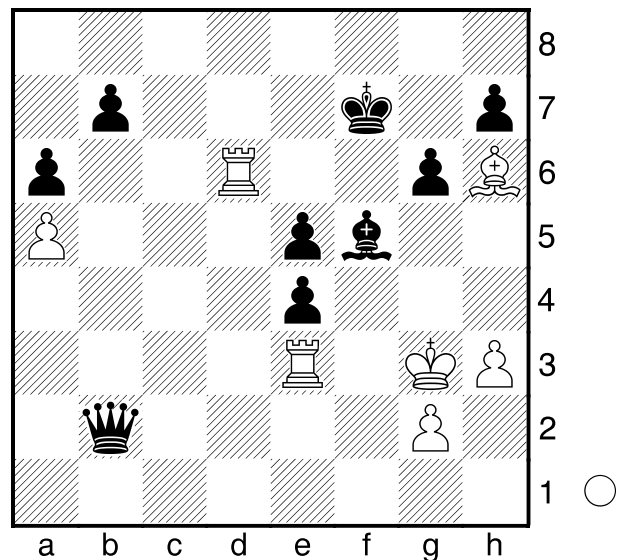
[27.Qg5 Re8 and I might as well go back, 28.Qd2]

[27.Rac3! Bf5 (27...Be6?? 28.dxe6;

27...Bc6?? 28.Rc5) 28.d6 Rfd7

29.Rd1 Rxd6 30.Qxd6 Rxd6

31.Rxd6 Qxb2 32.Re3 Kf7!



33.Rb6! I couldn't imagine these positions working out, but Stockfish has White clearly better (+1.16/25)]

27...Bc6 28.d6 Rf5 and after I had thought for a few minutes, Shrauger offered a draw (!).

[28...Qd5!?]

29.b4 He didn't win the pawn last move, maybe he won't this one? So I played on.

29...Qd5! Oh well. SF makes it "0.00".

30.Qxd5+ Bxd5 31.Rd1? Lame.

[31.Rc7! was the way forward, wherever it led. Rxd6 32.Rg7+ Kh8

33.Rc3

A) 33...Bc6 34.Re7 Kg8 35.b5

axb5 36.a6!± I certainly hadn't

seen *this* idea. bxa6 37.Rg7+

Kh8 38.Rc7 Be8!? (38...Kg8

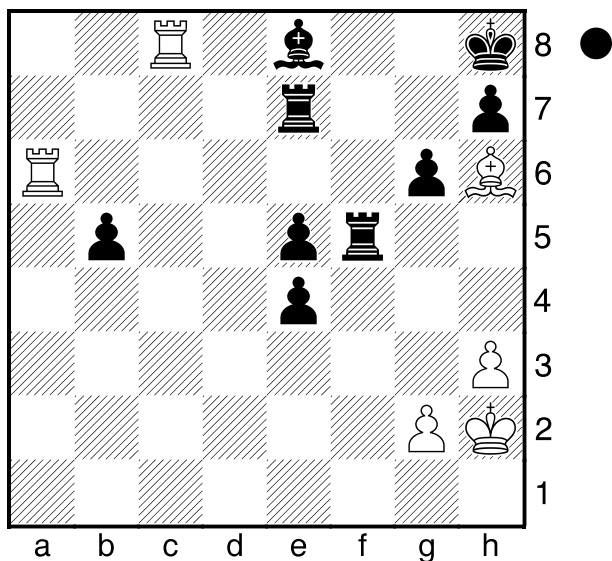
39.R3xc6 Rxc6 40.Rxc6 e3!

41.Bxe3 a5)

A1) 39.Rc8! Re6 40.R3c6 Re7

41.Rxa6

(Diagram)



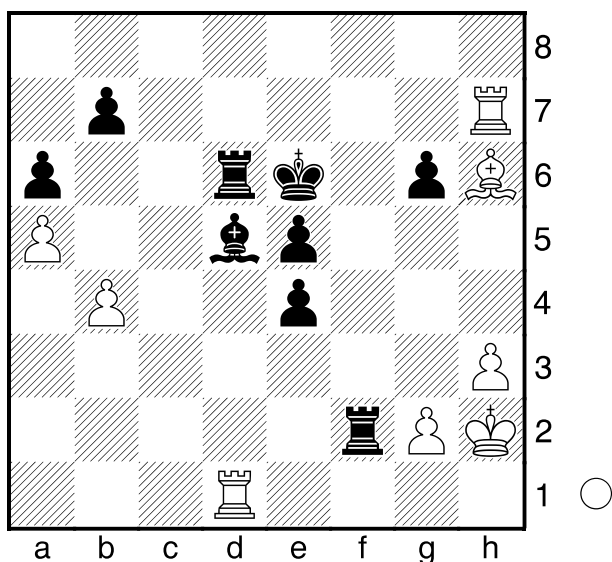
Kg8 42.g4 Rf2+ 43.Kg1! Rf3
(43...Rf8!?±);

A2) 39.Re7 Rd8 40.Rcc7 Rf7!±
It's a lot of pawns, although the
trapped king counts for
something.;

B) 33...Rc6! 34.Rxc6 Bxc6
(34...bxc6 35.Ra7±) 35.b5! Rh5!
36.bxc6 bxc6= after rook to a7 or
c7, or just 37.Kg3.]

31...Rxd6

[31...Bc6! 32.h4 Rf6± (32...Kf7±)]
32.Rc3 Kf7 33.Rc7+ Ke6 34.Rxh7
Rf2=



Black has some insignificant "(-0.21/24)"
(Stockfish 16), but it's certainly
uncomfortable to see danger on g2.

35.h4??

[It's no surprise I failed to see 35.Rg7!
Kf6 (35...e3 36.Rxg6+ Kf5 37.Rxd6
Rxg2+ 38.Kh1 Bf3=) 36.Rg8! Bxg8
37.Rxd6+ Be6 38.Rd2=]

35...e3+ 36.Rxd5 Only try, but "keeping
the game going" isn't a game plan.

36...Rxd5 37.Bxe3 Re2 38.Bg5 Rd7
39.Rh6 Kf5 40.Rh8 Re4?! Gives up a
chunk of advantage, but not enough to
toss the win.

[40...Rd3]

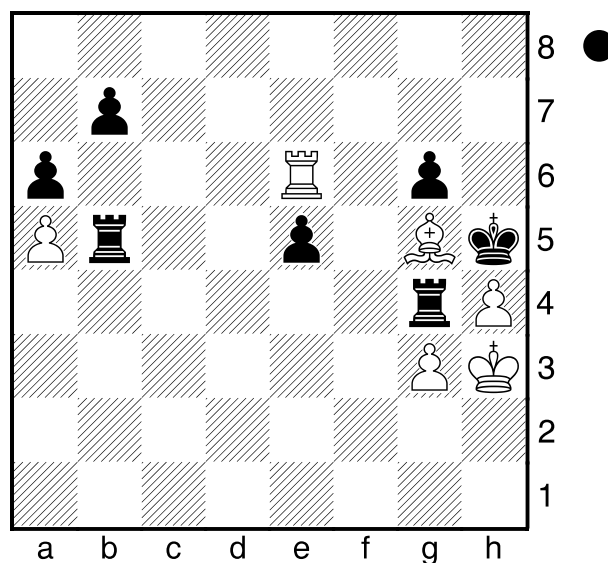
41.Rf8+ Kg4 42.Rf6 Kh5 43.Rb6
Rc4? Now it's getting closer!

[43...Re1]

44.Re6?

[44.b5! axb5 45.Rxb5 Re4!±
/-+ (borderline acc. to SF) with a hard-
to-believe line: 46.Rb6 Kg4 47.Re6
Rg7 He *will* get his king over to help
the e-pawn.]

44...Rd5 45.Rb6 Rb5 46.Re6 Rcx b4
47.Kh3 Rg4 48.g3



Rxg5 There was never going to be any
checkmate with Re8-h8. **49.hxg5 Kxg5**
50.Re7 Kf6 51.Rc7 e4 52.Kg4 Re5
53.Rd7 Ke6 54.Rd8 Rxa5 55.Kf4 Ra4

56.g4 and a few more moves...
0-1

□ **Anderson, Michael**

■ **Qiu, Laurie**

Ruth Haring mem TNM: 2000+ (4.7)

[Winslow, Elliott]

C47

1900

1984

A couple rounds missed and then this game. Only after subjecting it to engine analysis do flaws show up in her play, but it was very impressive at the time! Anderson deserves some "credit" for flaunting common sense leaving his king in the center, allowing Laurie to crash through in style! **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Nxc6 bxc6** [5...Qf6!? is the main move these days.]

6.Bd3!

[6.Bc4 Qh4 7.Qe2 Nf6]

6...d6 GM Shaw in his 1.e4 repertoire book runs through the myriad alternatives.

[6...Ne7]

[6...Qh4!?]

[A student of mine mentioned 6...d5!? but 7.0-0 Nf6 8.exd5 cxd5 9.Re1+± with Qe2 and Bb5+, it's a nuisance.]

7.Nc3

[7.0-0 has been way most popular (and is all Shaw mentions -- typical repertoire book!)]

[7.Qe2!?]

[7.Nd2!?]

[7.Qf3!?]

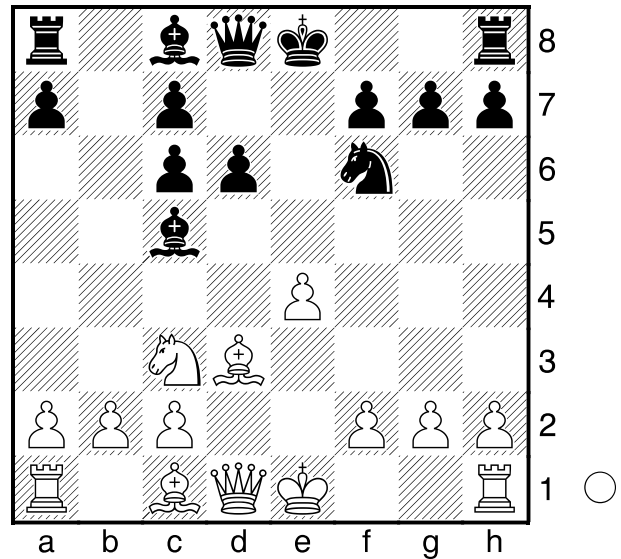
[7.h3?!]

7...Nf6

[7...Qh4]

[7...Ne7]

(Diagram)



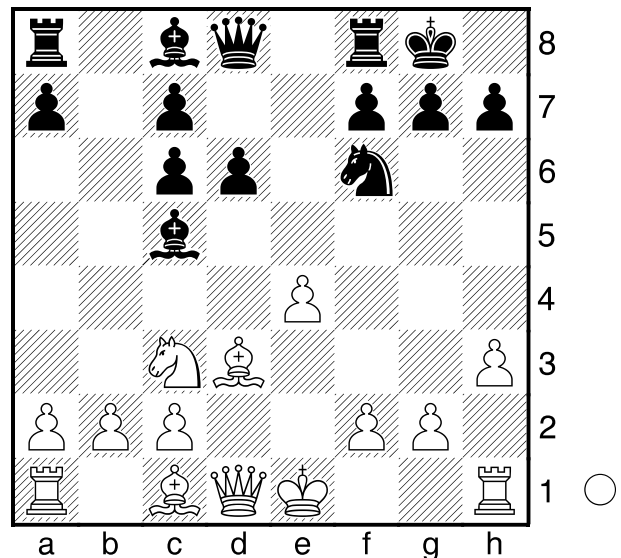
8.h3?!

[8.0-0]

[8.Na4!]

[8.Bg5]

8...0-0

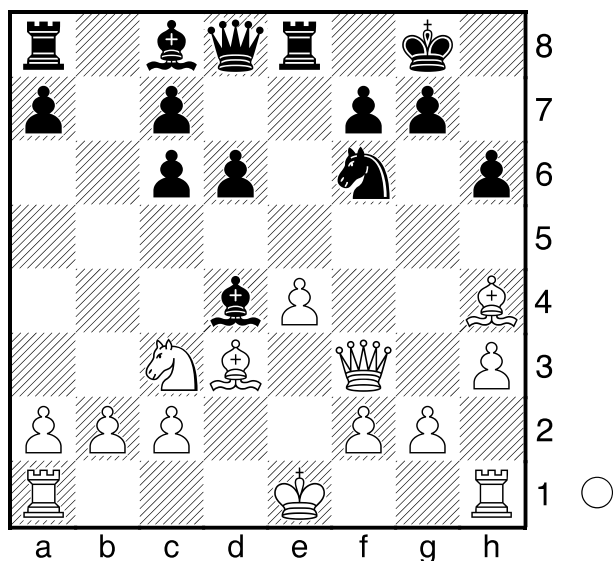


9.Bg5?!N A somewhat arbitrary novelty, when White's little advantage has completely evaporated.

[9.0-0 Re8 10.Na4 Bb6 11.Qf3 Nd7 12.Nxb6 axb6 13.Qg3 Nc5 14.b4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 Rxe4 16.Bb2 f6 17.a3 Qe7 18.f3 Re6 19.Rfe1 Bd7 20.Rxe6 Bxe6 21.Re1 Re8 22.Re4 Qf7 23.h4 h5 24.a4 Ra8 25.a5]

bxa5 26.bxa5 Rxa5 27.Qe1 Rb5
 28.Rxe6 Rxb2 29.Qe4 f5 30.Re8+
 Kh7 31.Qxc6 Rxc2 32.Qa8 Kg6
 33.Re1 Kh7 34.Re8 Kg6 35.Re1
 Rc5 36.Qd8 Re5 37.Rc1 Re7
 38.Qa8 Qf6 39.Qa4 f4 40.Qc2+ Kh6
 41.Qf2 c5 42.Rd1 c4 43.Qc2 d5
 44.Qf2 c3 45.Rxd5 c2 46.g4 c1Q+
 47.Kh2 hxg4 48.fxg4 Kh7 49.g5
 Qfb2 50.g6+ Kxg6 0-1 Jones,G
 (2679)-Naroditsky,D (2621) PRO
 League Stage Chess.com INT rapid
 2020 (7)]

9...h6 10.Bh4 Re8 11.Qf3?! Bd4



12.g4? A sort of delusional optimism.
 Castling one way or another comprises
 the two best moves, on principle and
 specifically.

[12.0-0-0!?]

[12.0-0!?]

12...d5!? Certainly a clear plus, but it's
 interesting that the computer prefers first

[12...Rb8!]

[and second 12...g5! 13.Bg3
 and then d5!]

13.0-0-0?

[13.Bxf6! Bxf6 14.0-0! Rb8 15.exd5
 Rxb2 16.Ne4 Black is certainly
 better, but the game isn't over.]

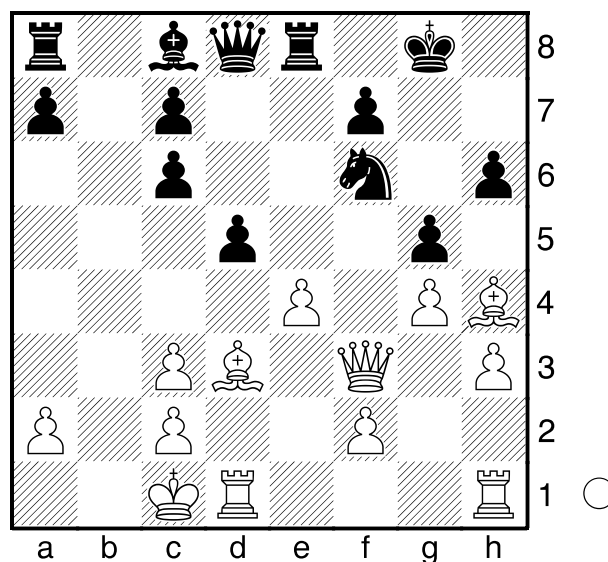
13...Bxc3?

[13...g5!

A) 14.Bg3 Bxc3 15.exd5 cxd5!
 (15...Be5 16.dxc6 Qe7 17.Bxe5
 Qxe5 18.Rhe1 Qxe1-+) 16.bxc3
 Qe7-+;

B) 14.e5!? Bxe5 15.Bg3 Bxc3
 16.bxc3 Qe7 17.Rde1! is, well, still
 lost.]

14.bxc3 g5



15.Bg3??

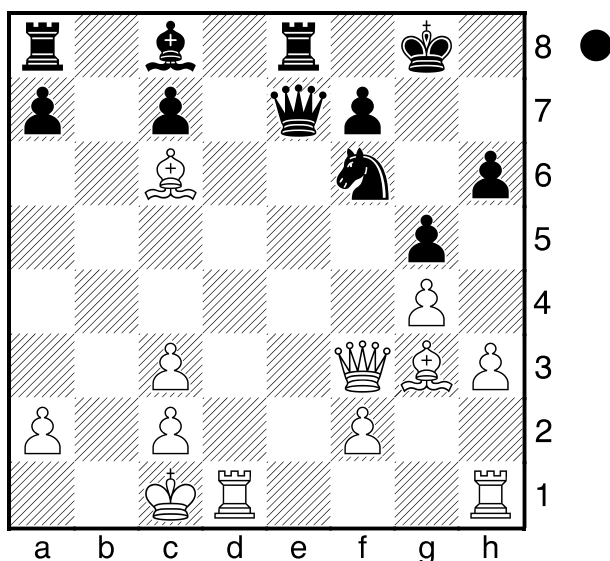
[15.e5! is surprisingly only a slight
 advantage for Black after Nd7
 (15...Rxe5 16.Bg3=) 16.Bg3 Nxe5
 17.Bxe5 Rxe5 when after 18.Qg3
 Qf6 19.h4 White *finally* gets his
 kingside play going... Qf4+! or not.
 20.Qxf4 gxf4]

15...dxe4-+ 16.Bxe4 Qe7!

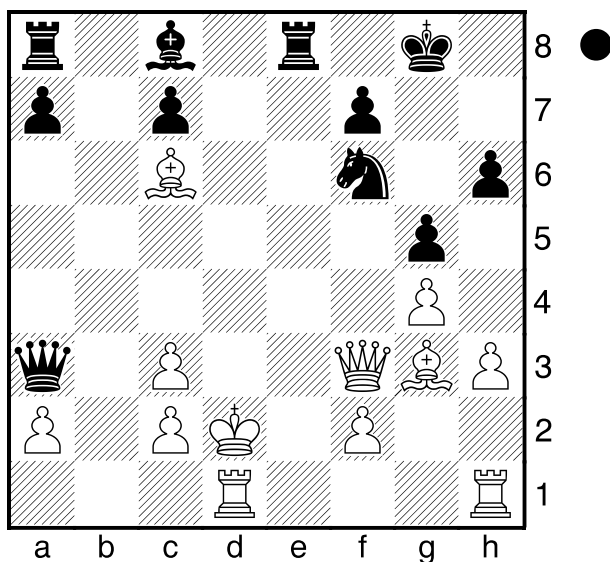
Double attack. **17.Bxc6?!**

[17.Bd3 Qa3+ 18.Kd2 Nd5 19.Bh7+
 Kg7! 20.Rhe1 Ba6-+]

(Diagram)



17...Qa3+ 18.Kd2
[18.Kb1 Rb8+]



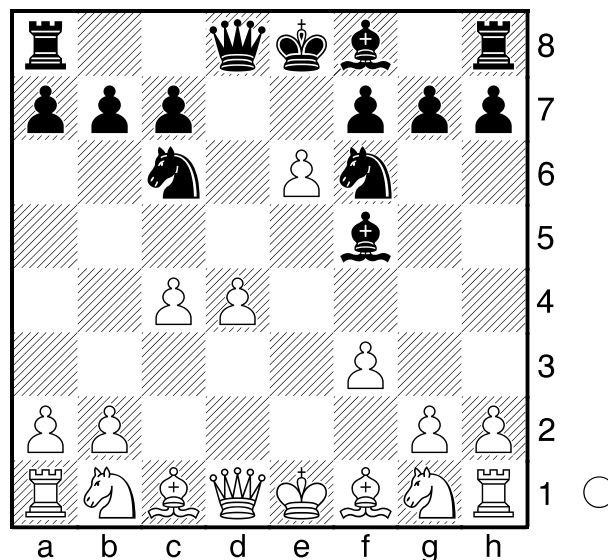
18...Bxg4!
0-1

Wong, Wilson **B01**
1794
 Kingma, Karl **1794**
 Ruth Haring mem TNM: 1600-1999 (4.10)
[Wong, Wilson/(ecw)]

In the 1600-1999 section there are *four* people tied for 1st. Here is one impressive attack with a flash finish by Karl Kingma when Wilson Wong and he were the only perfect scores after three rounds. Credit to Wilson for annotating this loss: **1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.d4 Bg4 4.f3 Bf5 5.c4**

[5.Bb5+ I should have looked to trade pieces since I was a pawn up; this would have given me good chances of surviving. Nbd7 6.c4 e6 7.dxe6 Bxe6 8.d5 Bf5]

5...e6 6.dxe6 Nc6



7.exf7+?!

[7.Be3 I Black has 3 developed pieces to my 0. I didn't imagine my opponent could keep my king in the center the way he later would with a rook sacrifice.]

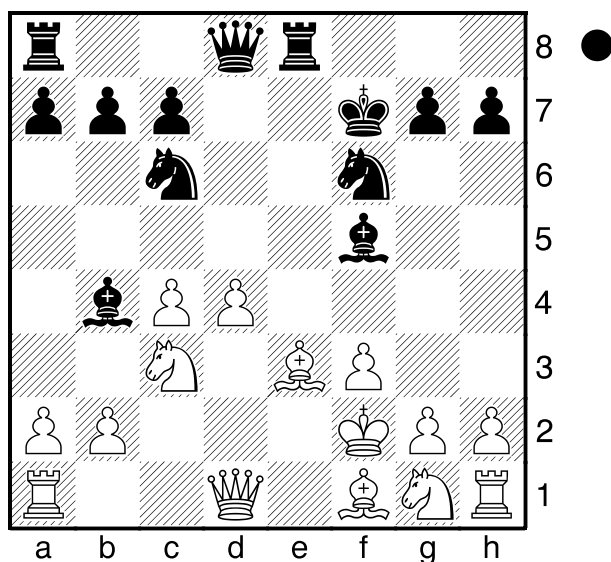
7...Kxf7 8.Be3?

[8.Ne2 Nb4 -0.31 9.Ng3 0.00 Nc2+ 10.Kf2 Nxd4 0.00 11.Be3 Nc2 12.Qxd8 Rxd8 13.Nxf5 Nxa1

The game could have continued like this and I would be worse but it's playable. My pieces are still underdeveloped here.]

8...Bb4+! 9.Nc3 Re8! 10.Kf2?

[10.Qd2 Nxd4 11.0-0-0 was a better continuation but probably losing: c5! (-1.64)]



10...Rxe3!! (ecw to the end): The only move, but winning. **11.Kxe3 Bc2!!** Not the only move, but definitely the best. **12.Qd2**

[12.Qxc2 Qxd4+ 13.Ke2 Re8+ (Better even than 13...Bxc3 14.bxc3 Re8+ which is very much winning as well.) 14.Ne4 Nxe4 15.fxe4 Rxe4+ 16.Qxe4 Qxe4+ 17.Kf2 Bc5+ 18.Kg3 Nd4 mate soon.]

12...Ng4+!! And again: the only move to put the point away. **13.fxg4 Qg5+! 14.Kf3 Qxd2 15.Nge2 Re8 0-1**

□ **Hao,Max**

■ **Shrauger,Alex Hay**

Ruth Haring mem TNM: 2000+ (5.1)

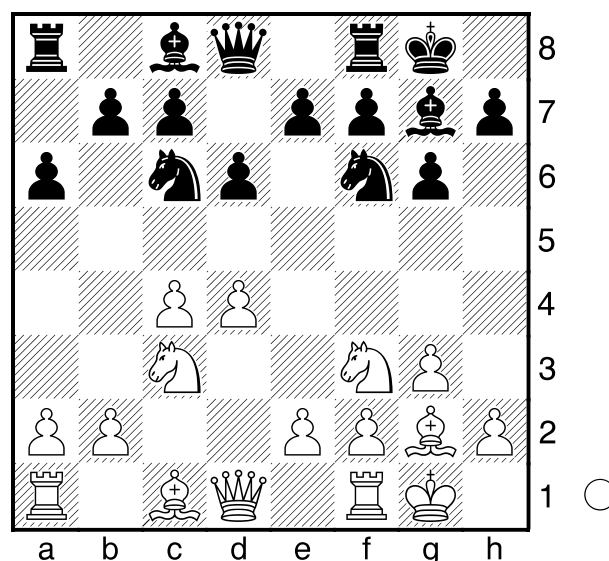
[Winslow,Elliott]

E63

2054

1996

In Round 5 Shrauger pulled up to a tie for 1st-2nd with Handishek who drew, by catching Max Hao unsure of how to handle the Panno King's Indian: **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.Nc3 d6 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.0-0 a6**



8.e4 Black doesn't mind this at all. The two main lines are

[8.d5 Na5 9.Nd2]

[and things involving 8.h3 Rb8 9.Be3 (9.e4)]

[while Avrukh has promoted moves like 8.Qd3]

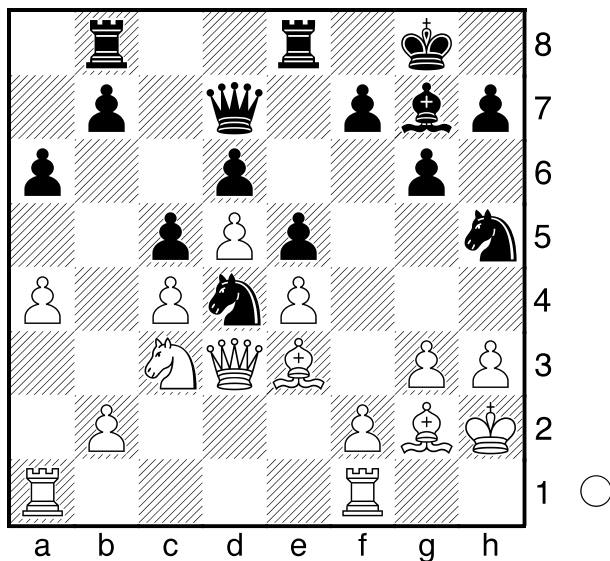
[and 8.b3]

8...Bg4 9.Be3 Re8

[Here's your high-rated reference:

9...Nd7 10.Qd2 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 e5 12.d5 Nd4 13.Bg2 c5 14.dxc6 bxc6 15.Ne2 c5 16.Nc3 Nb6 17.b3 Ra7 18.Nd5 Nxd5 19.cxd5 a5 20.Rac1 Qd7 21.Rc4 Rb8 22.Bxd4 exd4 23.Re1 a4 24.b4 cxb4 25.Rxb4 Rxb4 26.Qxb4 Qc7 27.Bf1 Bf6 28.Bd3 Kg7 29.Rb1 a3 30.Kg2 Qc3

31.Qxc3 dxc3 32.Kf3 Bd4
 ½-½ Nyzhnyk,I (2638)-Le,Q (2715)
 Saint Louis Spring-A 2019 (8)]
10.h3 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 e5 12.d5 Nd4
13.Bg2 c5 14.Qd3 Qd7 15.a4 Rab8
16.Kh2 Nh5



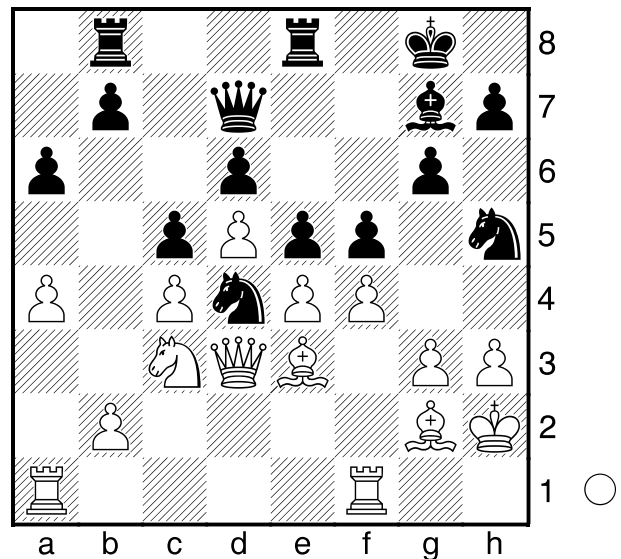
White's difficulties objectively start only after this next move: **17.f4?N**

[Predecessor: 17.a5 b5? 18.axb6?
 (18.cxb5! axb5 19.b4!±) 18...Rxb6
 19.Ra2 Reb8 20.Rfa1 Nb3 21.Rf1
 f5 22.Bf3 Nf6 23.Bg2 Nd4 24.Bc1
 Nh5 25.Bf3 Nf6 26.Bg2 Rf8 27.Bd2
 f4 28.Rfa1 Qc8 29.Ra3 fxc3+
 30.fxc3 Nh5 31.Nd1 Qb7 32.Ba5
 Rb3 33.Bc3 Rxa3 34.Rxa3 Bh6
 35.Bd2 Bg7 36.Bc3 h6 37.Be1 g5
 38.Qd2 Qc8 39.Qa5 Qd7 40.Qa4
 Qe7 41.Nf2 Rb8 42.Nd3 g4 43.hxg4
 Nf6 44.Qd1 Qd7 45.Rxa6 Nxc4+
 46.Kg1 Ne3 0-1 Tugstumur,Y (2087)-
 Ritviz,P (2260) World ol U16
 Ulaanbaatar 2015 (9.4)]

17...f5!?

[17...exf4! is very strong: 18.gxf4
 (18.Bxf4 b5) 18...Qe7]

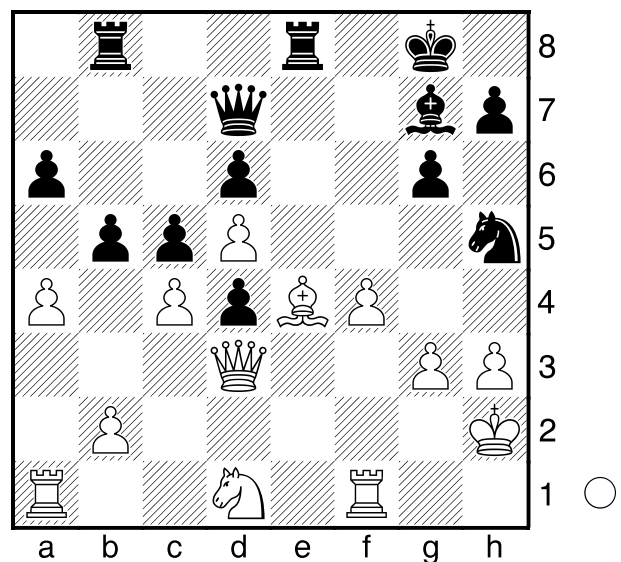
(Diagram)



18.Bxd4 exd4! 19.Nd1 fxe4

[19...b5!]

20.Bxe4 b5



21.axb5 axb5 22.b3 bxc4 23.bxc4
Nf6! 24.Bg2

[24.Bf3!]

24...Qb7

[24...Qf5!]

25.Ra3 Qb4 26.f5?! g5

[26...Nd7!-+]

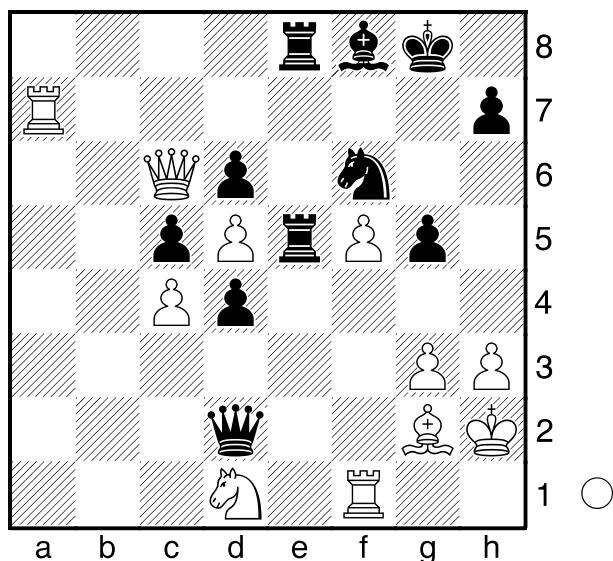
27.Rf2 Qe1 28.Ra7?! Re3

[28...h5!-+]

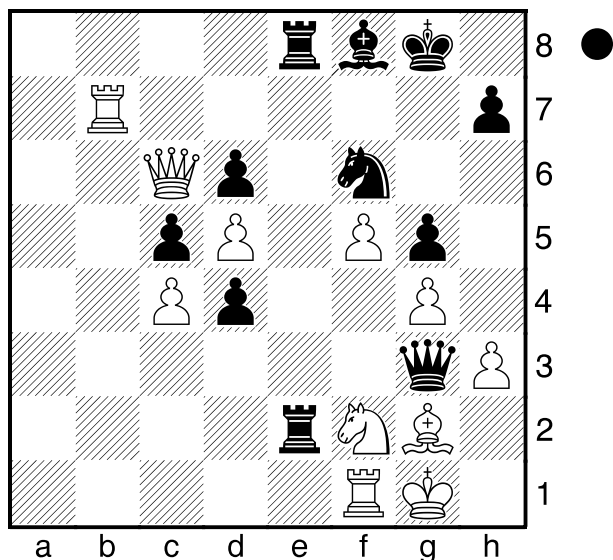
29.Qc2?

[29.Nxe3! Qxf2 30.Nd1 Qe1

31.Bf3? but precarious!]
29...Re5
 [29...d3!]
30.Qa4 Rbe8 31.Rf1 Qd2 32.Qc6 Bf8



33.Nf2 Re2 34.Kg1 Qe3 35.g4 Qg3 36.Rb7



Rxf2! 37.Rxf2 Re1+ 38.Rf1 Re2 0-1

□ **Qiu,Laurie** **B56**
 ■ **Walder,Michael** **1984**
2017
 Ruth Haring mem TNM: 2000+ (5.5)
[Winslow,Elliott]

Even this silly mini has a sort of entertainment to it. Mike knows his openings very well -- but when you slip up to a little tactic, and after those previous two demonstrations (which he was well aware of!), there was nothing left to do but save ink: **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Be3?! The main lines are:**

[the Rauzer, 6.Bg5]

[and the Sozin 6.Bc4]

[If you want to try to get into an English Attack sort of thing, the move order is 6.f3]

6...Ng4! the "correct" response, after which Black has scored very well!

7.Qd2?!

[The big line is 7.Bb5 Nxe3 8.fxe3 Bd7 9.0-0 e6 10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.e5!? Be7!]

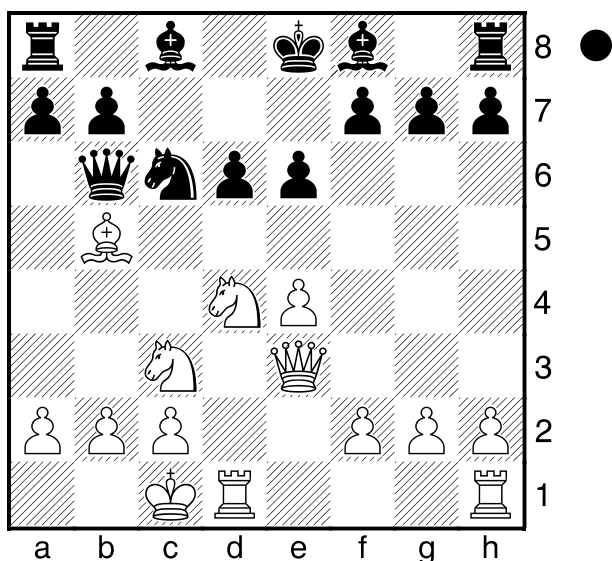
7...Nxe3 8.Qxe3 Qb6 Not bad, but no need; just get the dark square bishop going with a pawn move and get castled:

[8...e6]

[8...g6]

9.0-0-0 e6 10.Bb5

(Diagram)



There **is** a threat here... **10...Be7??**
 [10...Bd7 11.Rhe1 Black's done okay here, but it's better development vs. two bishops, often a dynamic balance.]

11.Nxc6 So she's won all three games she played, averaging 25 moves per game, against a master an expert and an A player. The pairing program approximation has her picking up 70(!) rating points, putting her at 2055. And there are two more rounds to come.

1-0

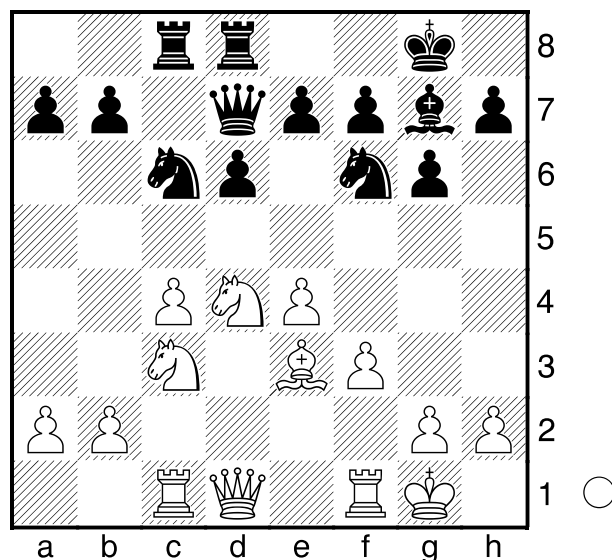
□ **Kingma, Karl** **B52**
 ■ **Sanguinetti, George** **1794**
 Ruth Haring mem TNM: 1600-1999 (5.8)
[Winslow, Elliott] **1900**

This game was a tough one for Kingma. He blundered just out of the opening, but defended well, Sanguinetti gave him chances and missed late middlegame opportunities. Then just as it was looking fine -- White walked into mate! **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4.Bxd7+ Qxd7 5.c4 Nc6 6.d4 cxd4 7.Nxd4 g6 8.Be3 Bg7 9.0-0 Nf6 10.f3 0-0 11.Nc3 Rac8**

12.Rc1

[The "Novelty Annotation" button in Chessbase brings up this quite typical game: 12.b3 a6 13.Qd3 (okay now that c4 is secured) Qd8 14.Rac1 Qa5 15.Rfd1 Rfe8 16.Nxc6 Rxc6 17.Bd4 Rec8 18.a4 e6 19.Kh1 Nd7 20.Bxg7 Kxg7 White has a usual slight plus in an Accelerated Fianchetto middlegame. More board, Black's breaks avoided for now, but Black has his one real weakness (d6) secured and there's no particular play against his king. 21.Rb1 Qe5 22.Qe3 Qc5 23.Qd2 Kg8 24.Ne2 Qe5 25.Nd4 Rc5 26.Nc2 R5c6 27.f4 Qh5 28.e5 Nc5 29.Nd4 R6c7 30.exd6 Rd7 31.Ne2 Rc6 32.Ng3 Qh4 33.Qe3 a5 34.f5 exf5 35.Rd5 Ne6 36.Rbd1 f4 37.Qe4 Qd8 38.Ne2 Rcx d6 39.Rxd6 Rxd6 40.Rxd6 Qxd6 41.Qxb7 Qd2 ½-½ Vokhidov, S (2566)-Idani, P (2647) Tashkent President op 2nd 2022 (9)]

12...Rfd8

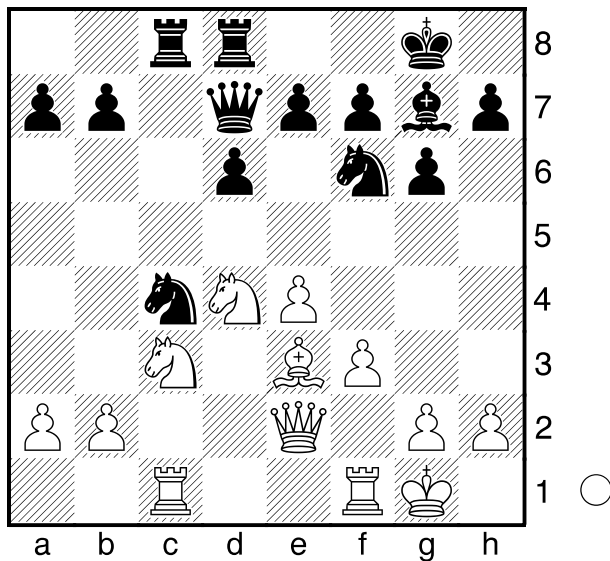


13.Qd3?N Is the difference between the best and the rest of us gaps in thinking like this? More their frequency (Carlsen is no stranger to slip-ups like this!). White just loses the c4-pawn; that's not

supposed to happen!

[Predecessor: 13.b3 e6 14.Nxc6±
 bxc6 15.Re1 d5?! 16.e5 Ne8
 17.Bg5 f6 18.exf6 Nxf6 19.Qe2 Re8
 20.Na4?! h6 21.Bxf6 Bxf6= 22.Rcd1
 e5 23.cxd5 cxd5 24.Qd3 d4
 25.Qxg6+ Bg7 26.Nb2 Re6 27.Qe4
 Rc3 28.Nc4 h5 29.Qf5 Qf7 30.Qe4
 Qd7 31.Re2 a6 32.f4 Qf7 33.fxe5
 Bh6 34.Qxd4 1-0 Nasuta,G (2500)-
 Manukyan,A (2140) Titled Tuesday
 intern op 12th Jul Late Chess.com INT
 blitz 2022 (9)]

13...Ne5 George jumps at the
 opportunity. **14.Qe2 Nxc4**

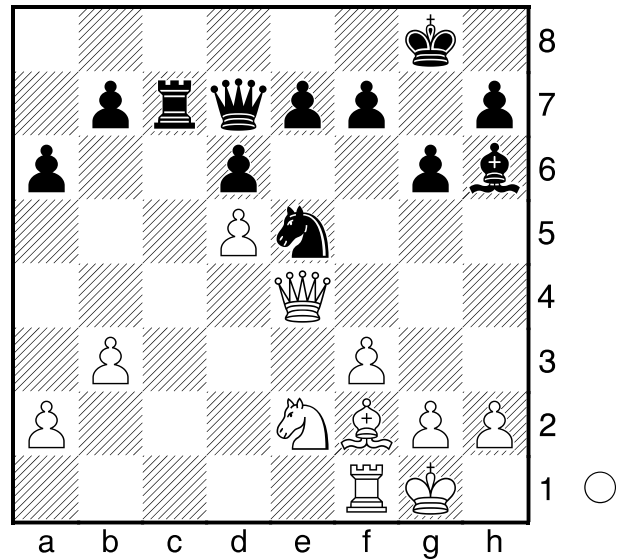


Sometimes White gets dangerous play
 for the pawn -- but not here. **15.Bf2**
Bh6! 16.Rc2 a6 17.Nd5?!

[17.Nb1!?]

17...Nxd5 18.exd5 Ne5+ 19.b3 Rxc2
20.Qxc2 Rc8 21.Qe4 Rc3 22.Ne2
Rc7

(Diagram)



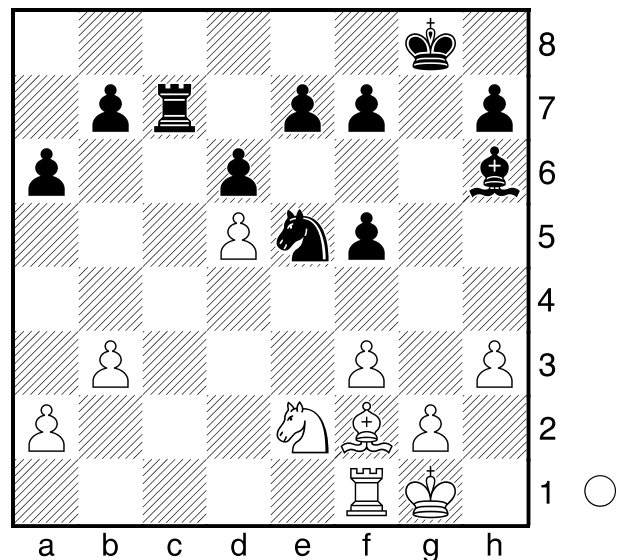
23.h3?

[23.a4]

23...Qf5?!

[23...Qb5! Trading queens on d3 with
 a knight recapture is just a whole lot
 better than on f5 taking back with the
 g-pawn.]

24.Qxf5 gxf5

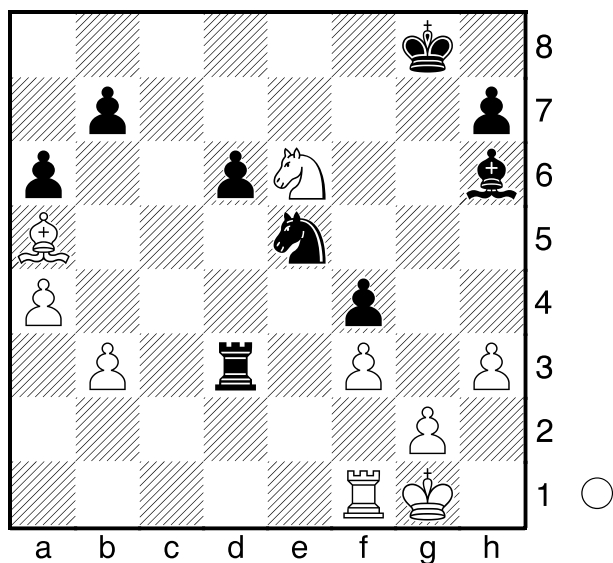


25.Nd4 f4 26.Nf5 Bf8 Black is still
 winning, but less so (that's what we get
 for looking at the numbers!) **27.Bb6 Rc2**
 [27...Rc8]

28.a4?

[28.Bd8! Ng6 29.Re1! Rxa2

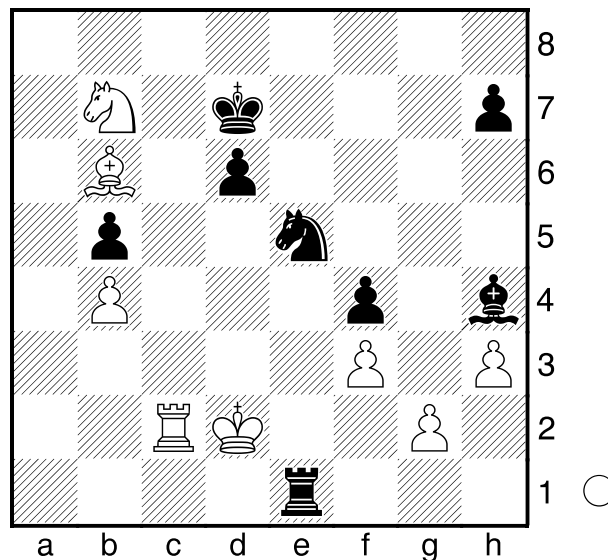
30.Nxe7+ Bxe7 31.Bxe7 Ra5
 32.Bxd6 Rxd5 favors Black but there
 are problems on the path.]
28...e6? endangering the win.
 [28...Rd2 29.Rc1 Rxd5-+
 does rather get there first.]
29.dxe6 fxe6 30.Nd4 Rc3
 [30...Rb2!]
31.Ba5! Rd3 32.Nxe6 Bh6
 [32...Rxb3 is a bit of something.]



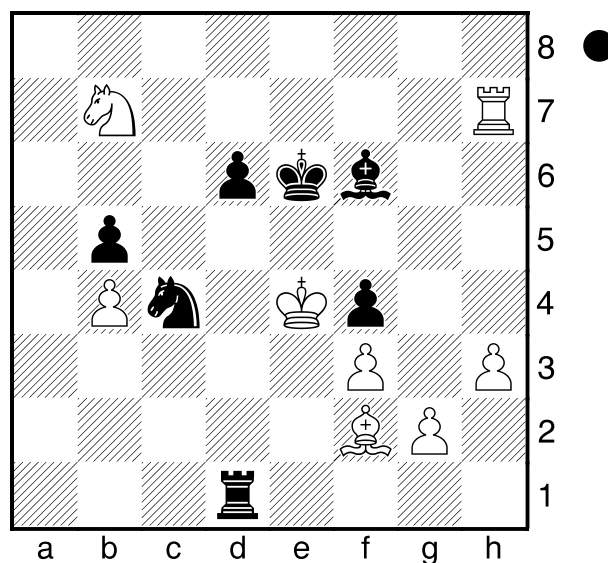
and now there's no advantage at all.

33.Bc7
 [33.Rb1]
33...b5 34.axb5 axb5 35.Ra1
 [35.Re1 Kf7 36.Nd8+! Kf6 37.Re4
 Kf5 38.Nb7=]
35...Kf7 36.Nd8+ Kf6 37.Ra6 Bf8
 [37...Ke7! ≠]
38.Nb7 Nf7 39.b4?
 [39.Nc5=]
39...Ke7 White has gotten himself
 tangled up **40.Rc6?! Kd7-+ 41.Rc2**
Be7?!
 [41...Bg7! something is going to c3
 with a win, depending on White's
 move.]
42.Bb6 Bh4
 [42...Bf6!]
43.Kf1 Rd1+ 44.Ke2 Re1+! 45.Kd2

Ne5
 [45...Rb1!-+]

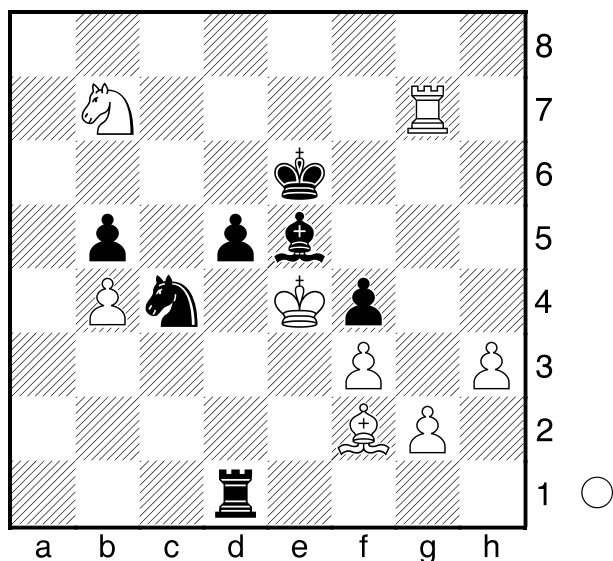


46.Rc7+
 [46.Bd8!? Bf2 47.Bb6!?]
46...Ke6 47.Rxh7?!
 [47.Na5]
47...Nc4+ 48.Kd3 Bf6
 Some gymnastics and Black is winning
 again. **49.Bf2 Rd1+ 50.Ke4**



Be5?? Only two moves win here:
 [50...Bg5!-+]
 [50...Rd2!-+]
51.Rg7??

[51.Rh6+ Kf7 52.Nd8+ Kg7 53.Rh4 Kf6 54.Rh6+=]
 [51.Nd8+ Kf6 52.Rh6+ Kg7 (52...Ke7?? 53.Bh4+ Kd7 54.Rh7+-) 53.Rh4 Rd2 54.Rg4+= White covers g2 and skates.]
51...d5#



0-1

C54
 1285
 1140
 Ruth Haring mem TNM: 1200-1599 (5.23)
[Winslow,Elliott]

There are three players tied at 4-1 in the 1200-1599 section. Aradhana Arivoli is taking a bye for Round 6 so we can't see her battling then (leaving Sheng Jian and Sam Calvert to strive for clear first); so let's see her grind down Shiv Sohal in the ending: **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.e5 d5 7.Be2 Ne4 8.cxd4 Bb6 9.Nc3 Nxc3 10.bxc3 Bf5 11.Ba3 Ne7 12.Bd3 Bg4 13.h3 Bh5 14.Bxe7 Qxe7 15.a4 Ba5 16.Qc2 Bg6 17.Rb1 Rb8 18.Bb5+ Kf8 19.Bd3 Bxd3 20.Qxd3 Qa3 21.0-0 Qxc3 22.Qxc3 Bxc3 23.Rfc1**

Ba5 24.Rb5 Bb6 25.Rxd5
 [25.a5 c6]
25...Ke7 26.Rb5 c6 27.Rb3 Rhd8 28.Rcb1 Rd7 29.Rb4 Rbd8 30.a5 Bxa5 31.Rxb7 Bb6 32.Rxd7+ Rxd7 33.Rc1 Rc7 34.Kf1 a5 35.Rb1 Rb7 36.Nd2 Kd7 37.Nc4 Kc7 38.Nd6 Ra7 39.Nxf7 Bxd4 40.Rd1 c5 41.e6 Kc6 42.Nd8+ Kd6 43.Rd2 a4 44.Ra2 a3 45.e7 Kd7 46.e8Q+
 [46.Nc6 Ra4]
46...Kxe8 47.Nc6 Ra4 48.Nxd4 cxd4 49.Ke2 Kd7 50.Kd3 Kd6 51.Kc2 Kd5 52.f3 h6 53.g4 g5 54.Kd3 Kc5 55.Kc2 Kc4 56.Ra1 a2 57.Kb2 d3 58.Rc1+ Kb4 59.Ra1
 [59.Rd1 a1Q+ 60.Rxa1 Rxa1 61.Kxa1 d2]
59...Kc4 60.Rc1+ Kd4 61.Ra1 Ke3 62.Kc1 d2+ 63.Kd1
 [63.Kc2 Ke2]
63...Rc4 64.h4 Rc1+ 65.Rxc1 dxc1Q+ 66.Kxc1 a1Q+
0-1

The Chess Club, Past and Present



Photo by Richard Shorman.

WGM **Alla Kushnir** (1941–2013) was the second-strongest female chess player in the world from the mid-1960s to the early 1970s, losing three matches (1965, 1969 and 1972) for the Women's World Chess Championship to **Nona Gaprindashvili**—the last by only a single game. Kushnir won the Women's Championship of the Soviet Union in 1970 and represented the USSR in two Women's Chess Olympiads, winning team and individual gold in 1969 and 1972. She immigrated to Israel in 1973 and led her new homeland to victory in the 1976 Women's Chess Olympiad.

Kushnir was driven to San Francisco after Lone Pine by Mechanics' Institute trustees **Bob Burger** and **Guthrie McClain** and gave a simul at the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club in late April, 1975 (above).



We have great turnouts of 30+ folks at our [Chess Socials](#). See you next month!



Mechanics' Institute Chess Coordinator FM Paul Whitehead gave a simul to both Mechanics' Institute Summer Camp participants and the visiting Sanger Chess Team on July 11.

Pan - Pacific Blitz Championship

Mechanics' Institute Chess Club
San Francisco, CA. March 15, 1991

Section A

| | WBCA | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | Total | New WBCA |
|-----------------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-------|----------|
| 1 Browne, W. | 2694 | ... | 0.5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 14.5 | 2694 |
| 2 Lobo, R. | 2316 | 0.5 | ... | 1 | 0 | 0.5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 14 | |
| 3 Strugatsky | 2501 | 0 | 0 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12.5 | |
| 4 Robles, H. | 2340 | 1 | 1 | 0 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 2355 |
| 5 Eade, J.V. | 2253 | 0 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 | ... | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11.5 | 2295 |
| 6 Pope, J. | 2300 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 2309 |
| 7 Margulis, I. | 2253 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 2260 |
| 8 Busquets, L. | 2343 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | ... | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 2308 |
| 9 Jelinek, J. | 2267 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | ... | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 9.5 | 2255 |
| 10 Rejto, P. | 2233 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | ... | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 2225 |
| 11 Drewes, D. | 2035 | 0 | 0 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 2116 |
| 12 Stevens, T. | 2019 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ... | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 2078 |
| 13 Ronecker, C. | 2060 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.5 | 0 | ... | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 2093 |
| 14 Waide, J. | 2150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | ... | 0.5 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5.5 | 2097 |
| 15 Bogas, E. | 2126 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.5 | ... | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1 | 1 | 4.5 | 2060 |
| 16 Catig, R.E. | 1994 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4.5 | 1989 |
| 17 Wilson, S. | 1703 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.5 | 0 | ... | 1 | 1 | 2.5 | 1748 |
| 18 Fend, J.R. | 1843 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ... | 0 | 0 | 1768 |

Section B

| | WBCA | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | Total | New WBCA |
|--------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-------|----------|
| 1 Tal, M. | 2667 | ... | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15.5 | 2667 |
| 2 Whitehead, P. | 2416 | 0 | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 2449 |
| 3 Adianto, U. | 2570 | 0 | 0 | ... | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 14.5 | 2566 |
| 4 Kotlyar, G. | 2462 | 1 | 1 | 0 | ... | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13.5 | 2462 |
| 5 Balinas Jr., R. | 2321 | 0 | 0 | 0.5 | 1 | ... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11.5 | 2323 |
| 6 Frankle, J. | 2360 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | ... | 1 | 0.5 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11.5 | 2346 |
| 7 Tracy, J. | 2217 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11.5 | 2262 |
| 8 Webber, B. | 2163 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 | 0 | ... | 1 | 0.5 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9.5 | 2182 |
| 9 Dorsch, T. | 2300 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | ... | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8.5 | 2238 |
| 10 Clark, D. | 1982 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.5 | 1 | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8.5 | 2069 |
| 11 Rosenberg, E. | 1991 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 | |
| 12 Falconer, N.E. | 2091 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 2073 |
| 13 Creed, J. | 2100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6.5 | 2071 |
| 14 Christopher, R. | 2007 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 2001 |
| 15 Caruso, A. | 1627 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3.5 | |
| 16 Newey, R. | 1680 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2.5 | 1698 |
| 17 Sheridan, J. | 1900 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1787 |
| 18 Kastor, M.S. | 1700 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ... | 0 | 0 | 1632 |

Final

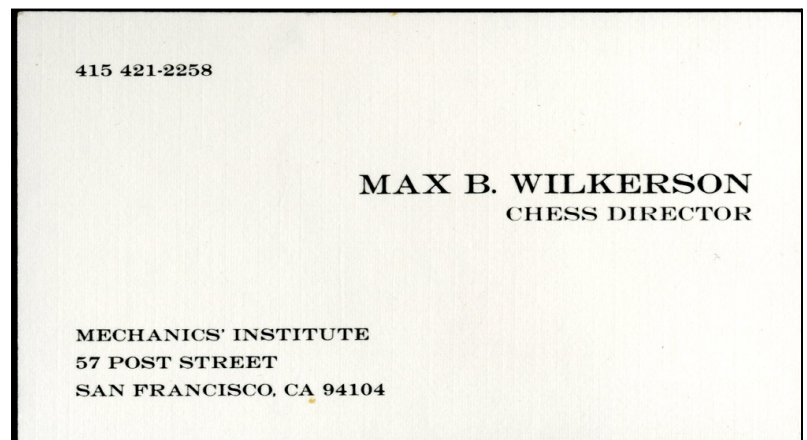
| | WBCA | | | | | | New WBCA |
|-----------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------------|
| | Rating | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Total | Rating |
| 1 Browne, W. | 2694 | ... | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 2703 |
| 2 Tal, M. | 2667 | 1 | ... | 1.5 | 2 | 4.5 | 2672 |
| 3 Whitehead, P. | 2449 | 0 | 0.5 | ... | 1 | 1.5 | 2441 |
| 4 Lobo, R. | 2390 | 0 | 0 | 1 | ... | 1 | |

Crosstable of the Pan-Pacific Blitz Championship held on March 15, 1991, directly following the [Pan Pacific GM Tournament](#). **Mikhail Tal** "played for the gallery" in his final game against **Walter Browne** and lost, finishing in 2nd place. This was arguably the strongest blitz tournament held at the Mechanics' Institute until the advent of the **Ray Schutt** Memorial Blitz Tournaments in the mid 2000's.



Round three of the WIM Ruth Haring Memorial TNM, with 107 participants.

Max Wilkerson (1925-2009).
Chess Room Director from 1980 to 1996.



IM John Donaldson (1958-).
Chess Room Director from 1998 to 2018.

(Images courtesy:
<http://www.chessdryad.com/>)

Joseph Anthony (Rugsy) Ruggiero (1946-2023)

My dear friend Rugsy passed away on June 27, 2023. A former housemate, and the husband of another lifelong friend, Pam Ruggiero, Rugsy was a regular at the Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco coffee shops, and other Bay Area locales where chess was played in the 70's, 80's, and 90's.

I first met Rugsy at the 1978 U.S. Open in Phoenix, where we stayed up all night smoking cigarettes, drinking coffee, and talking up a storm with GM Anatoly Lein - I don't think the three of us slept the entire event. Rugsy visited me when I lived in Virginia, driving down from Indianapolis, and I dare say risked his life by getting in the car while I gave my daughter Romily a driving lesson.

Truth to tell, there are so many stories and memories I have of this wonderful man I don't know where to start or end. I can only say that I already miss him greatly - the world is a smaller place without him.

Rugsy worked as a sheetmetal worker and salesman. He was a freedom fighter, and worked for Martin Luther King in 1965. He fought for civil and voting rights his entire life.

Rugsy is survived by his wife of 38 years, Pamela Ford Ruggerio, daughter Juliana Maria Hendren-Ruggerio, son Andres Arturo Ruggerio, brothers Ronald Ruggiero and Steven Ruggerio, grandchildren Lyliana Maria Hendren, Andres Aquilina Ruggiero, Eli Aquilina Ruggiero, and Italo Aquilina Ruggerio, plus a large extended family.

Rest in peace my friend.

- Paul Whitehead.



Pam and Rugsy when they first met, 1979.

Anthony P. Corrales (1969-2023)

Anthony Corrales, a key figure in the development of scholastic chess in the Bay Area and trainer of several top junior players, died this past July in San Francisco. He was 54 years old.

Born in Los Angeles, Anthony grew up in Orange County and attended Bosco Technical High School in Rosemead. There he was a member of the baseball team and began what would be a lifelong love of chess. During his formative years, Anthony was a regular at LaBate's Chess Centre, but unlike most players gravitated towards teaching early on.

When the Mechanics' Institute decided to host a Saturday class for kids and begin a scholastic outreach program in the early 2000s Anthony was a natural choice to head the program. Friendly and outgoing, he was able to relate to people of all ages and backgrounds which made him a successful teacher in a number of schools throughout the Bay Area, but it was as a private coach that he really made his mark.

Normally, one expects a coach to be stronger than the players they train and typically that is the case, but there are exceptions (Alexander Koblenz the trainer of Mikhail Tal and Viktor Kortchnoy who coached many top Ukrainian grandmasters, are two famous examples) and Anthony was one of them. What he lacked in rating he more than made up for in his enthusiasm for the game and ability to inspire students to study on their own. The latter gift is perhaps the most important quality a chess teacher can develop in a player and the number of young masters and experts he produced is a testament to Anthony's success in this regard. His high point as a coach was helping Greg Young, seeded 7th out of 10 players in the 2011 U.S. Junior Closed, win the event by two points.

Anthony will be missed.

- John Donaldson



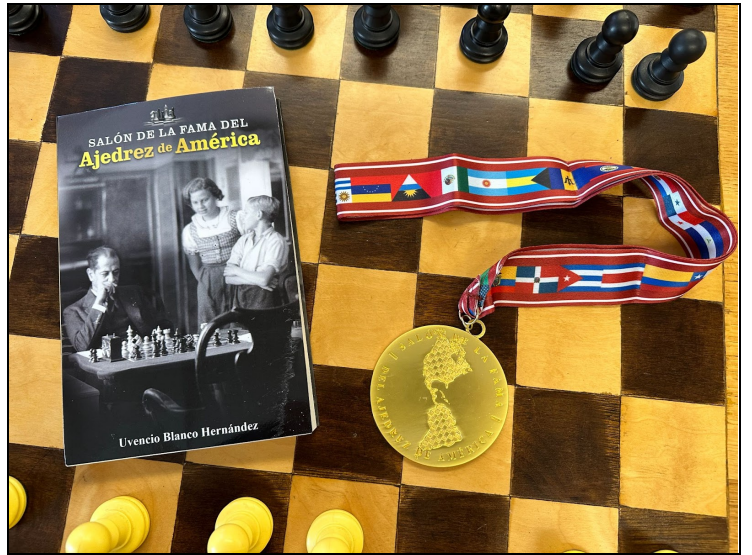
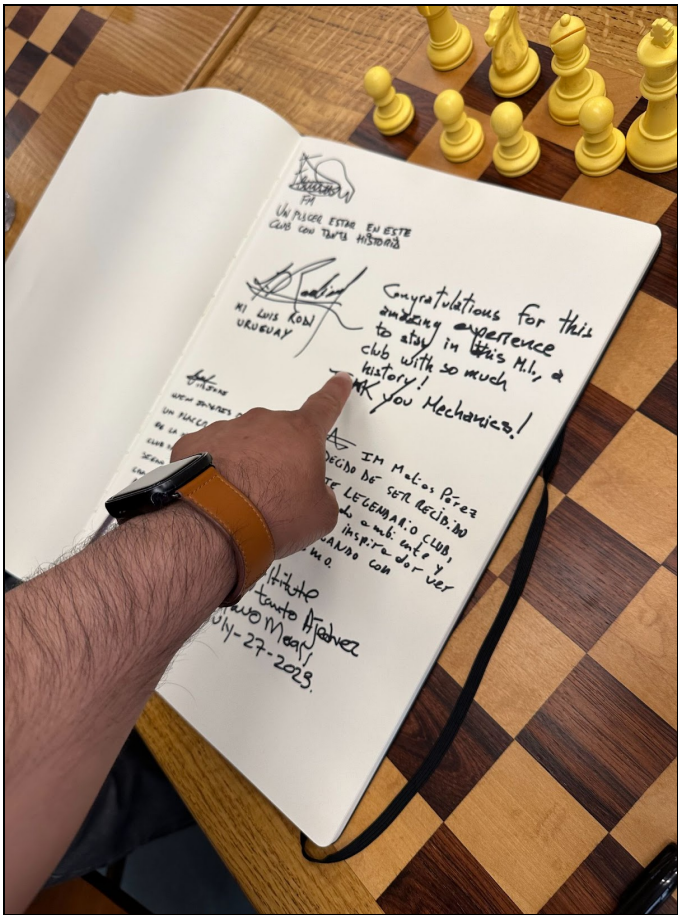
Anthony teaching at
the Mechanics'
Institute.

Mechanics' Institute awarded "Best Chess Club" by the Salon de la Fama del Ajedrez de América

On July 27, we were honored to be awarded the "Best Chess Club" by the [Salon de la Fama del Ajedrez de America](#) (American Chess Hall of Fame), headquartered in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. A contingent of South American (and one European) players who had just competed in a [1000GM Chess Charity](#) tournament in San Jose visited the club to present the award, sign our guest book, and play some chess with our Summer Camp students.



Standing, left to right: FM **Gustavo Maass Garza** (Mexico), WIM **Ingres P. Rivera** (Chile), FM **Fernando Sanchez Aller** (Spain), **Juan Rodolfo Cendejas** (1000GM organizer), IM **Luis Robi** (Uruguay), **Alyssa Stone** (Mechanics' Institute Senior Director of Programs and Community Engagement), IM **Matias Perez Gormaz** (Chile), **Alex Robins** (Chess Program Manager), FM **Paul Whitehead** (Chess Coordinator).



The Chess Scuttlebutt

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

Summer fun in Oregon with [squirt guns](#) and chess.

Local star GM Christopher Yoo [wins](#) the USCF award for Young Player of the Year.

GM Hans Niemann tops the 2023 [Samford Awards](#).

[Fritz](#) wins the 2023 World Chess Software Championship.

It seems chess (and crossword puzzles) can ward off [dementia](#).

Chess streamer Agdamator lands in hot water for [promoting](#) the notorious son of IM Emory Tate.

Continuing his dominance over famous sports figures, 12-year old Master Tani Adewumi [crushes](#) tennis superstar Roger Federer giving rook-odds.

It's Kids vs. the Cops in this weekly chess [brawl](#) held in Virginia Beach...

...while the same [face-off](#) also occurs in Evanston, Illinois.

Outdoor chess is [returning](#) to San Francisco.

The Wholistic (sic) Wellness Chess Club [meets](#) at the Safety Harbor Public Library in Florida.

A [touching](#) prose/poem about chess from Teton Valley, Idaho.

An ad for Subway with ex-World Champion GM Vishy Anand is now a viral [meme](#).

Carlsen and other top GM's [sign](#) a letter in support of GM Vassily Ivanchuks' participation in the FIDE World Cup.

A [shout-out](#) to women referees in boxing, softball, and chess.

In [St. Louis](#): GM Abhimanyu Mishra wins the U.S. Junior Championship, FM Alice Lee wins the U.S. Girls Championship, and GM Melikset Khachaiyan wins the U.S. Senior Championship.

Armenian-born GM Levon Aronian does [not feel safe](#) playing in the World Cup, currently taking place in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The Mechanics' Institute and our Scholastic Chess Program gets a [shout-out](#) on local TV.

GM Hikaru Nakamura [marries](#) WGM Atousa Pourkashian.

Carlsen's coach [weighs in](#) on artificial intelligence, intuition, and chess.

Want to use cryptocurrency to bet on chess? Look [here](#).

FIDE has a Chess for Refugees program that looks to [participate](#) in the 2024 Olympiad.

And FIDE's ["Girls Club Chess for Protection"](#) program is growing.

Chess and tennis: Novak Djokovic [inspires](#) GM Gukesh D.

IM Sara Khadem is [granted](#) Spanish nationality after getting in trouble with Iranian authorities for removing her scarf during the 2022 World Rapid and Blitz Championships.

Are you into economics and [Game Theory](#)? Then use Zermelo's, Nash Equilibrium and Prisoner's Dilemma to win at chess.

Indian Grandmasters Koneru Humpy and Harika Dronavalli on how to [raise up](#) women's chess.

A [shout-out](#) for the greatest woman chess player ever, the incomparable Judit Polgar.

[Here](#) is a review of the best traveling chess sets.

And [here](#) is a review of the most expensive chess sets ever made.

Los Altos has a new and [successful](#) monthly chess meetup.

Russia's chess brain-drain continues, as GM Vladimir Fedoseev now [plays](#) for Slovenia.

Can you guess how old the [youngest](#) FIDE rated player is?

Chess gets a huge boost in England, and Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is [challenged](#) by former British Girl's Champion Rachel Reeves, the shadow chancellor.

Arnold Schwarzenegger likes to play chess with his pet donkey, [Lulu](#).

Legendary physicist [Richard Feynman](#) talks about chess and Nature.

Mechanics' Institute Chess Coordinator FM Paul Whitehead gets an [Honorable Mention](#) from the Chess Journalists of America for "[Chess at the Top](#)."

An open letter [denouncing](#) sexism and violence in the chess world is signed by more than 100 women (and counting) in the chess community, and the list is still growing.

In a bombshell [blog post](#), Lichess breaks from the USCF and the Saint Louis Chess Club over the issue of violence and harassment of women in the chess world.

Grandmasters Andrew Tang and Alexey Sorokin [tie](#) for 1st in the 2023 U.S. Open.

With over 4 billion views on YouTube in 2023, chess content "[explodes](#)."

GM Aleksander Matanovic, co-founder of the Chess Informant, has [passed](#) away.

GM Wesley So would rather be with his [cats](#) than play in the 2023 World Cup.

Finally, GM Ju Wenjun [wins](#) the Women's World Championship

Recent Games

A selection of games from around the world that have caught our attention, including all of the games from the Women's World Championship Match between Ju Wenjun and Lei Tingjie.

D03

2725

2769

Black is destroyed after he greedily grabs a pawn on the queenside. 1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bg5 Ne4 4.Bh4 c5 5.e3 Nc6 6.Nbd2 Bg4 7.Be2 Nxd2 8.Qxd2 cxd4 9.exd4 Qb6 10.0-0 e6 11.c3 Be7 12.Bxe7 Nxe7 13.Ne5 Bxe2 14.Qxe2 Qc7 15.Rae1 0-0 16.h4 Ng6 17.Nf3 Qc4 18.Qc2



C55

2725

2742

A swashbuckling attacking game in the style of Paul Morphy. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bc4 Nxe4 5.0-0 Nxc3 6.dxc3 h6 7.Qd5 Qf6 8.Re1 d6 9.Bb5 Bd7 10.Nd4 Nd8 11.f4 c6

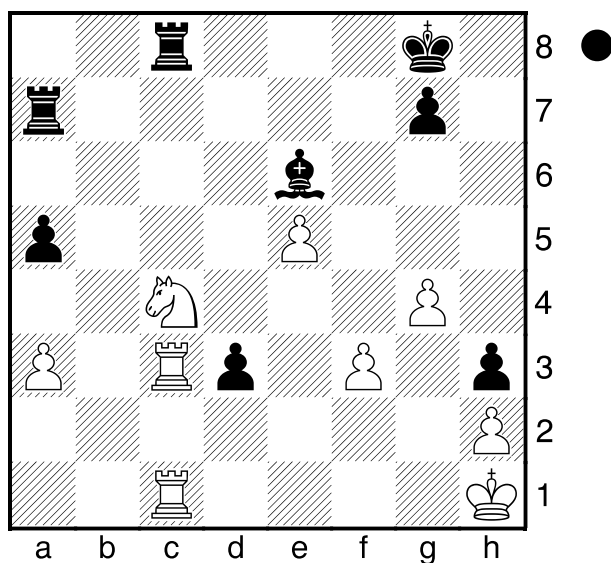
D40

2864

2916

Aimchess-Rapid-Div-I-2023 (4) 14.07.23

Black's h-pawn push on moves 15, 16, and 17 reaps a major dividend on move 48. 1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.e3 c5 5.d4 a6 6.cxd5 exd5 7.g3 c4 8.Bg2 Bb4 9.0-0 0-0 10.Ne5 Re8 11.Bd2 Nc6 12.a3 Ba5 13.b4 cxb3 14.Nxc6 bxc6 15.Qxb3 h5 16.Qc2 h4 17.Rfc1 h3 18.Bh1 Bg4 19.Nb1 Bb6 20.Bb4 Ne4 21.Bxe4 Rxe4 22.Nd2 Re6 23.Qd3 Qf6 24.Qf1 Ree8 25.Rab1 Reb8 26.Bc5 Ba5 27.Bb4 Bc7 28.Bc3 a5 29.f3 Bf5 30.e4 Be6 31.e5 Qe7 32.Ra1 c5 33.Qf2 c4 34.g4 f6 35.Kh1 fxe5 36.dxe5 Bb6 37.Bd4 Bxd4 38.Qxd4 Qa7 39.Qxa7 Rxa7 40.Rc2 d4 41.Nxc4 Rc8 42.Rac1 d3 43.Rc3

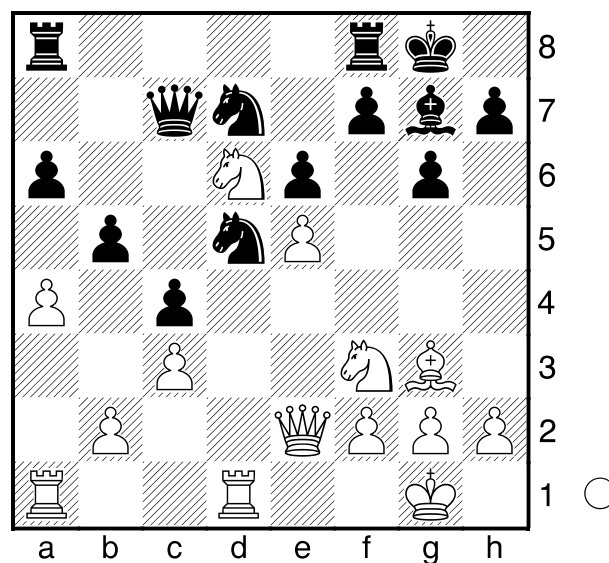


Rxc4 44.Rxc4 Bxc4 45.Rxc4 d2
46.Rd4 Rc7 47.Rxd2 Rc1+ 48.Rd1
Rxd1#
0-1



The Hippopotamus gets stuck in the mud. 1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Bc4 Bg7 4.Nf3 a6 5.a4 b6 6.0-0 e6 7.Qe2 Bb7 8.Nbd2 Ne7 9.c3 0-0 10.Rd1 c5 11.dxc5 dxc5 12.e5 Qc7 13.Ne4 Nd7 14.Bf4 Bd5 15.Bxd5 Nxd5 16.Bg3 c4 17.Nd6 b5

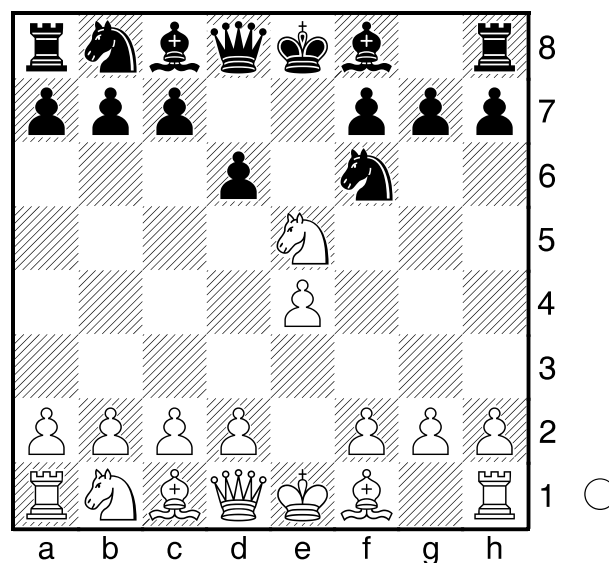
(Diagram)



18.Rxd5! exd5 19.e6 Nf6 20.e7 Qd7
21.exf8Q+ Bxf8 22.Qe5
1-0

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| | | C42 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Gabuzyan,Hovhannes | 2579 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Suleymanli,Aydin | 2586 |
| Aimchess-Rapid-Div-III 2023 (51.1) | | |

White's 4th move is perfectly suited for Rapid and Blitz time controls. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6

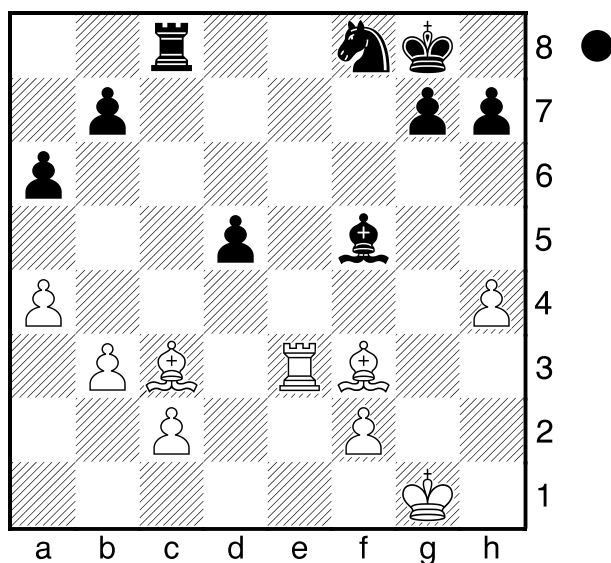


4.Nxf7!? Kxf7 5.d4 c6 6.Nc3 Be6

7.Bd3 Be7 8.f4 Bg4 9.Qd2 Rf8 10.h3
Bc8 11.Qe2 g6 12.g4 Qb6 13.f5 Qxd4
14.Bh6 Nbd7 15.0-0-0 Ne5 16.Rhf1
Ke8 17.Bxf8 Bxf8 18.fxg6 Nxg6 19.e5
Nf4 20.Qe1 Qxe5 21.Qh4 Be7
22.Rde1 Qd4 23.Qh6 N6d5 24.Nxd5
Nxd5 25.c4 Qxd3 26.cxd5 Kd8 27.Qg7
Be6 28.dxe6
1-0

 **Lei Tingjie** **2554**
 **Ju Wenjun** **2566**
 WWCCM 2023 Shanghai (1.1) 05.07.2023

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0
Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1
Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1
Re8 11.Nc3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Bxd4
13.Bd3 Bxc3 14.Qxc3 Ne8 15.b3 d5
16.Bf4 Be6 17.Re1 Qd7 18.a4 Nd6
19.Re3 Ne4 20.Qxc7 Qxc7 21.Bxc7
Nc5 22.Bf1 Rc8 23.Be5 Nd7 24.Bd3
Nc5 25.Be2 Nd7 26.Bc3 a6 27.h4 Nf8
28.g4 f5 29.gxf5 Bxf5 30.Bf3

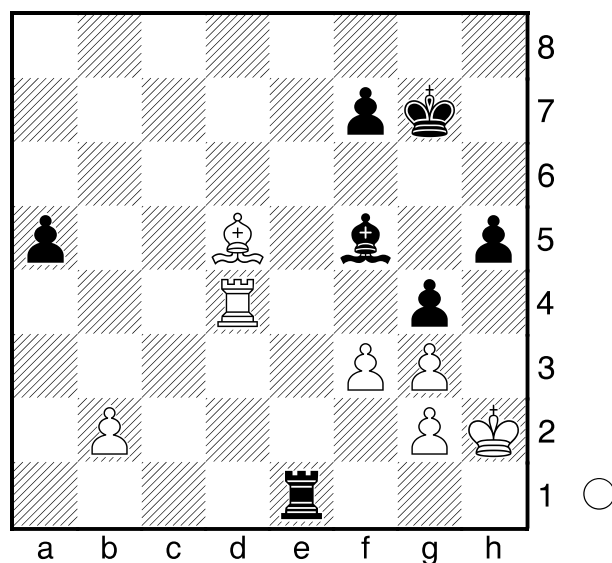


Be4 31.Bxe4 dxe4 32.Bb4 Re8
33.Bxf8 Kxf8 34.Kf1 Kf7 35.Ke2 Kf6
36.Rg3 b5 37.axb5 axb5 38.Rg5 Rc8
39.Kd2 Rd8+ 40.Ke3 Rc8 41.Rxb5

Rxc2 42.b4 Rc3+ 43.Kxe4 Rc4+
44.Kf3 Rxh4 45.Rb6+ Kg5 46.Rb7 g6
47.b5 Rb4 48.Rxh7 Rxb5 49.Kg3
Rb3+ 50.f3 Kf6
1/2-1/2

 **Ju Wenjun** **2566**
 **Lei Tingjie** **2554**
 WWCCM 2023 Shanghai (2.1) 06.07.2023

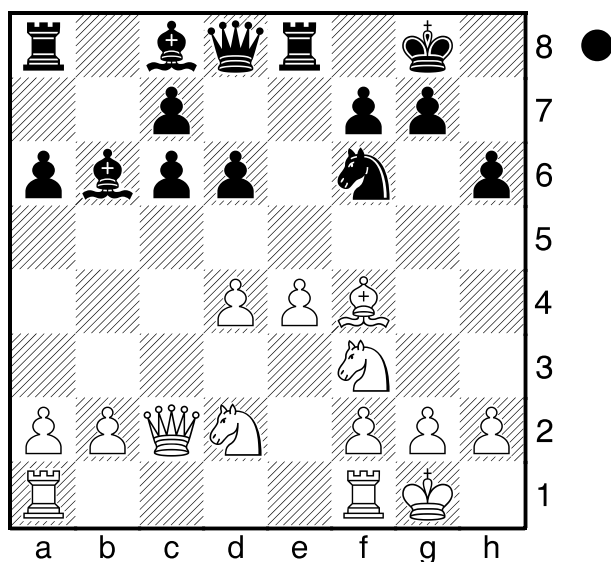
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 c5
5.e3 Nc6 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Bb5 cxd4
8.exd4 Bd6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Bg5 Bg4
11.Be2 Be6 12.Re1 h6 13.Bh4 Rc8
14.a3 Re8 15.Bb5 a6 16.Ba4 b5
17.Bc2 g5 18.Bg3 Bxg3 19.hxg3 Qb6
20.Qd2 Bg4 21.Rxe8+ Rxe8 22.Rd1
Kf8 23.Qd3 b4 24.Na4 Qb5 25.axb4
Qxd3 26.Rxd3 Nxb4 27.Rd2 Nd7
28.Bb3 Bf5 29.Nc3 g4 30.Ne5 Nxe5
31.dxe5 Rxe5 32.Nxd5 Nxd5 33.Bxd5
Re1+ 34.Kh2 a5 35.f3 h5 36.Rd4 Kg7
37.Ra4 Re5 38.Rd4 Re1 39.Ra4 Re5
40.Rd4 Re1



1/2-1/2

Lei Tingjie
 Ju Wenjun
C65
2554
2566
 WWCCM 2023 Shanghai (3.1) 08.07.2023

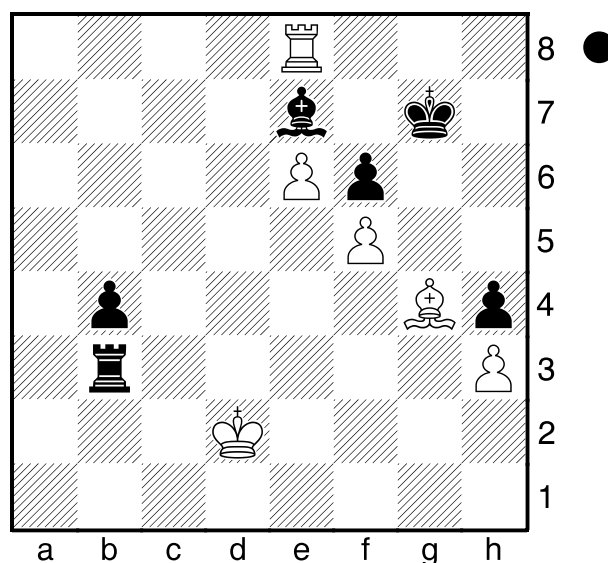
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3
 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.Bg5 d6 7.Nbd2 a6
 8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.d4 exd4 10.cxd4 Bb6
 11.0-0 h6 12.Bf4 Re8 13.Qc2



Nxe4 14.Nxe4 Bf5 15.Rfe1 d5 16.Ne5
 Bxe4 17.Qc3 Qf6 18.Bg3 Re6 19.Kh1
 a5 20.f3 Bf5 21.a4 h5 22.Bf2 Rae8
 23.Rf1 c5 24.dxc5 Qxe5 25.Qxe5
 Rxe5 26.cxb6 cxb6 27.Bxb6 Re2
 28.Bxa5 Rxb2 29.Bc3 Rc2 30.Rfc1
 Ree2 31.a5 Bd3 32.Rxc2 Rxc2
 33.Bd4 Ba6 34.Kg1 f6 35.Rb1 Ra2
 36.Ra1 Rd2 37.Bc3 Rc2 38.Bd4 Kf7
 39.h4 Rc4 40.Rd1 Ke6 41.Kf2 Ra4
 42.Ke3 Ra2 43.g3 Ra3+ 44.Kf2 Kd6
 45.Rb1 Kd7 46.Rb8 Ra2+ 47.Ke3
 Ra3+ 48.Kf2 Ra2+ 49.Ke3 Ra3+
 1/2-1/2

Ju Wenjun
 Lei Tingjie
D24
2566
2554
 WWCCM 2023 Shanghai (4.1) 09.07.2023

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3
 dxc4 5.e4 b5 6.e5 Nd5 7.Nxb5 Nb6
 8.Be2 Nc6 9.0-0 Be7 10.Be3 0-0
 11.Nc3 Rb8 12.b3 cxb3 13.axb3 Bb7
 14.Qb1 Nb4 15.Ne4 h6 16.Rxa7 N6d5
 17.Bd2 Nc6 18.Ra1 Ndb4 19.Be3 Nd5
 20.Bc1 Ra8 21.Rd1 Rxa1 22.Qxa1
 Ncb4 23.Nc5 Bc6 24.Bd2 Qb8 25.Qa5
 Rd8 26.Rc1 Qb6 27.Qxb6 cxb6
 28.Na6 Bb7 29.Nc7 g5 30.h3 Nf4
 31.Bxf4 gxf4 32.Nb5 Bc6 33.Kf1 Kf8
 34.Rd1 Ra8 35.Nc3 Na2 36.Nxa2
 Rxa2 37.Ne1 Rb2 38.Nd3 Rxb3
 39.Nxf4 Ba3 40.d5 exd5 41.Nxd5 Bc5
 42.Nf6 Rb2 43.f4 Rb4 44.g3 Rb3
 45.Nd7+ Bxd7 46.Rxd7 Rxb3 47.Bg4
 Re3 48.Kg2 Be7 49.Rb7 f6 50.e6 h5
 51.Bf5 h4 52.Bg4 Rg3+ 53.Kf2 Bc5+
 54.Kf1 Be7 55.Ke2 Rb3 56.f5 b5
 57.Kd2 b4 58.Rb8+ Kg7 59.Re8 Bd6
 60.Rd8 Be7 61.Re8 Bd6 62.Rd8 Be7
 63.Re8

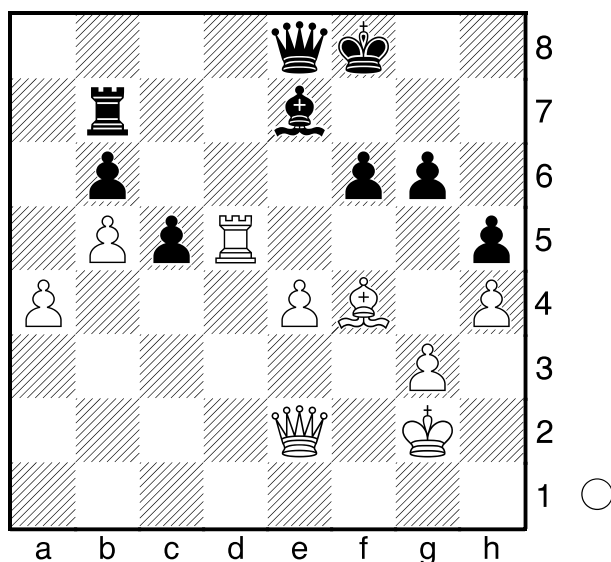


1/2-1/2

Lei Tingjie

Ju Wenjun
C54
2554
2566
 WWCCM 2023 Shanghai (5.1) 11.07.2023

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3
 Bc5 5.0-0 d6 6.c3 a5 7.Bb3 0-0
 8.Re1 Ba7 9.h3 Be6 10.Bc2 h6 11.d4
 exd4 12.Nxd4 Bd7 13.Be3 Ne5
 14.Nd2 c5 15.N4f3 Bc6 16.Nxe5 dxe5
 17.a4 Qe7 18.Qe2 Rfd8 19.Red1 Bb8
 20.Qc4 b6 21.b4 axb4 22.cxb4 Bd6
 23.b5 Bd7 24.Qc3 Be6 25.Nc4 Bxc4
 26.Qxc4 Ne8 27.Bb3 Nc7 28.Qc2 Ne6
 29.Bd5 Rab8 30.Bxe6 Qxe6 31.Rd5
 Be7 32.Rad1 Rxd5 33.Rxd5 Ra8
 34.Bd2 Kf8 35.Bc3 f6 36.Qb3 Qc8
 37.Qc4 Qe8 38.g3 Qc8 39.Kg2 Qe8
 40.h4 h5 41.Bd2 Rb8 42.f4 exf4
 43.Bxf4 Rb7 44.Qe2 g6

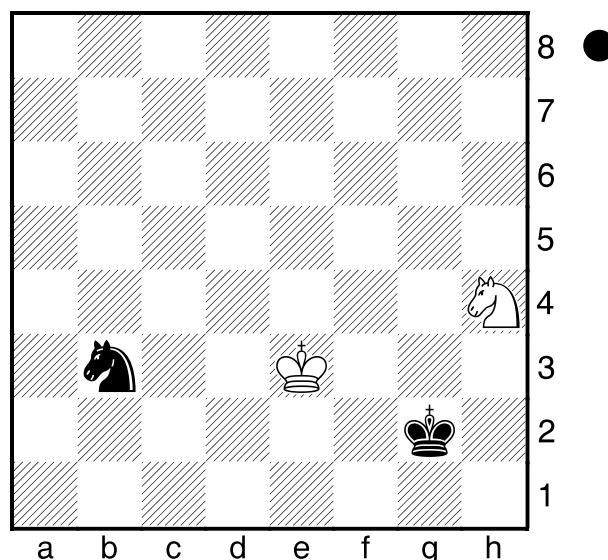


45.e5 Qa8 46.Qf3 f5 47.Rd7 Ra7
 48.Qxa8+ Rxa8 49.e6 Rxa4 50.Rb7
 Ra8 51.Rxb6 c4 52.Rc6 Bd8 53.b6
 Ra2+ 54.Kf3 Rb2 55.Rc8 Rb3+
 56.Ke2 Rxb6 57.Rxd8+ Ke7 58.Rc8
 Rxe6+ 59.Kd2 Re4 60.Kc3 Kf7
 61.Rxc4 Re8 62.Rc7+ Kf6 63.Bg5+
 Ke5 64.Re7+ Rxe7 65.Bxe7
1-0

Ju Wenjun

Lei Tingjie
D32
2566
2554
 WWCCM 2023 Shanghai (6.1) 12.07.2023

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.cxd5 exd5 4.Nc3
 c5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.dxc5 d4 7.Na4 Bxc5
 8.Nxc5 Qa5+ 9.Bd2 Qxc5 10.e3 dxe3
 11.Bxe3 Qb4+ 12.Qd2 Qxd2+ 13.Bxd2
 Nge7 14.Bc4 0-0 15.0-0-0 a6 16.b3
 Bf5 17.Kb2 b5 18.Be2 Rfd8 19.Rhe1
 Rac8 20.Bg5 f6 21.Rxd8+ Rxd8
 22.Bd2 Bd3 23.Bd1 Kf7 24.h4 h5
 25.a3 g6 26.Be3 Be4 27.Bb6 Rd7
 28.Rxe4 Rxd1 29.Bc5 Rd5 30.Bxe7
 Nxe7 31.a4 Nc6 32.axb5 axb5 33.Kc2
 g5 34.hxg5 fxg5 35.Nd2 Re5 36.Rxe5
 Nxe5 37.Ne4 Kg6 38.Kd2 Nc6 39.Ke3
 h4 40.f3 Na5 41.Nc3 b4 42.Nd5 Nxb3
 43.Nxb4 g4 44.fxg4 Kg5 45.Nd3 Kxg4
 46.Ne5+ Kg3 47.Ng6 Kxg2 48.Nxh4+



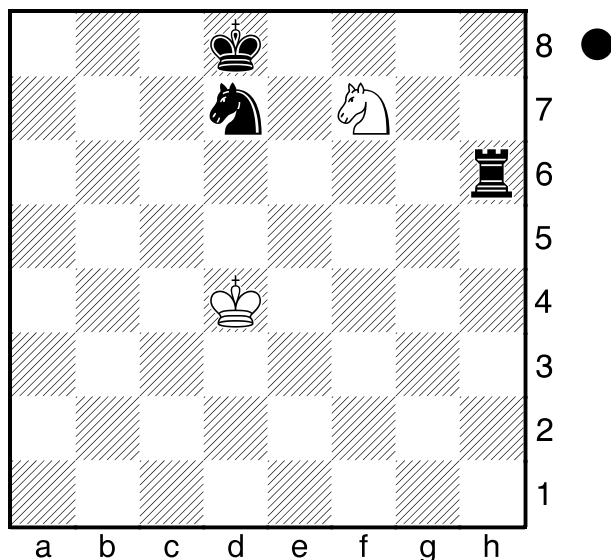
1/2-1/2

□ Lei Tingjie
■ Ju Wenjun

B19
2554
2564

WWCCM 2023 Shanghai/Chongqing (7.1)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4
Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.Nf3 e6
8.Ne5 Bh7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Nd7
11.Qe2 Ngf6 12.0-0 Be7 13.Rd1 0-0
14.c4 Qa5 15.Bf4 Rad8 16.Rd3 Nxe5
17.dxe5 Nh7 18.Ne4 Rxd3 19.Qxd3
Bxh4 20.Nd6 Qb6 21.Qe2 Rd8 22.Be3
Qc7 23.Qh5 Bg5 24.f4 g6 25.Qf3 Be7
26.c5 b6 27.b4 bxc5 28.bxc5 Rb8
29.g4 Qa5 30.Rf1 Qc3 31.Ne4 Qd3
32.Kg2 Rb2+ 33.Bf2 Qd5 34.Rd1
Qxa2 35.f5 exf5 36.gxf5 gxf5 37.Qxf5
Qe6 38.Qxe6 fxe6 39.Rd7 Bh4 40.Kf1
Bxf2 41.Nxf2 a5 42.Ra7 Rb5 43.Nd3
Ng5 44.Ra6 Kf7 45.Rxc6 Rb3 46.Ke2
a4 47.Ra6 a3 48.Nf4 Rc3 49.c6 Ke7
50.Kd2 Rc4 51.Nd3 Kf7 52.Rxa3 Rxc6
53.Nf4 Rc4 54.Ra7+ Kf8 55.Nh5 Nf3+
56.Ke3 Nxe5 57.Nf4 Rc6 58.Ke4 Nc4
59.Ng6+ Ke8 60.Kd4 Nb6 61.Re7+
Kd8 62.Rh7 Nd7 63.Rxh6 e5+
64.Nxe5 Rxh6 65.Nf7+



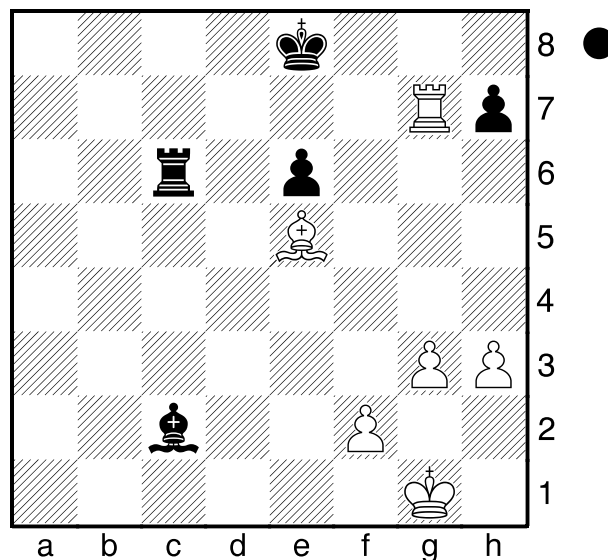
1/2-1/2

□ Ju Wenjun
■ Lei Tingjie

A06
2564
2554

WWCCM 2023 Chongqing (8.1) 16.07.23

1.Nf3 d5 2.e3 c5 3.b3 Nc6 4.Bb2 a6
5.g3 Qc7 6.d4 cxd4 7.exd4 Bg4
8.Bg2 e6 9.0-0 Nf6 10.Nbd2 Bd6
11.c4 0-0 12.a3 a5 13.h3 Bh5 14.Qe2
Rfd8 15.Rac1 dxc4 16.bxc4 Be7
17.Qe3 Rac8 18.Rfe1 Bg6 19.Qb3
Qb8 20.c5 Nd5 21.Nc4 a4 22.Qxa4
b5 23.cxb6 Nxb6 24.Nxb6 Qxb6
25.Ba1 Qa5 26.Qxa5 Nxa5 27.Rxc8
Rxc8 28.d5 Nb3 29.dxe6 fxe6 30.Be5
Bxa3 31.Re3 Bc2 32.Nd4 Nxd4
33.Rxa3 Nc6 34.Bxc6 Rxc6 35.Ra8+
Kf7 36.Ra7+ Ke8 37.Rxg7

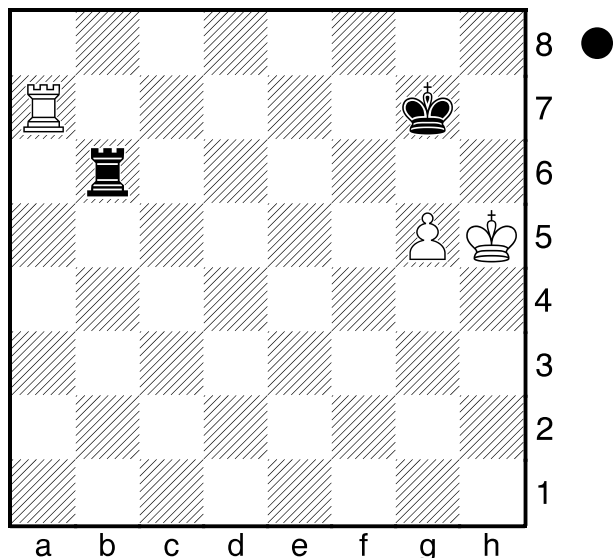


Kf8 38.g4 Rc5 39.Bf6 Be4 40.Kh2
Rb5 41.Re7 Rb6 42.h4 Rb3 43.Rxe6
Bf3 44.g5 Bg4 45.Re7 Bf5 46.Kg2
Bh3+ 47.Kg1 Bf5 48.h5 Rh3 49.h6
Rd3 50.Kh2 Rh3+ 51.Kg2 Rd3 52.f3
Rd7 53.Re5 Bc2 54.f4 Rd5 55.Re7
Bf5 56.Kf2 Rd2+ 57.Ke3 Rd6 58.Rc7
Rd3+ 59.Ke2 Rd5 60.Bc3 Ke8 61.Kf2
Kf8 62.Bb4+ Ke8 63.Re7+ Kd8 64.Rf7
Ke8 65.Rf8+ Kd7 66.Bc3 Bg6 67.Rg8
Rd6 68.Be5 Rd2+ 69.Kf3 Rd3+

70.Kg4 Rd1 71.Rxg6 hxg6 72.h7
1-0

Lei Tingjie B45 2554
Ju Wenjun 2564
WWCCM 2023 Chongqing (9.1) 18.07.23

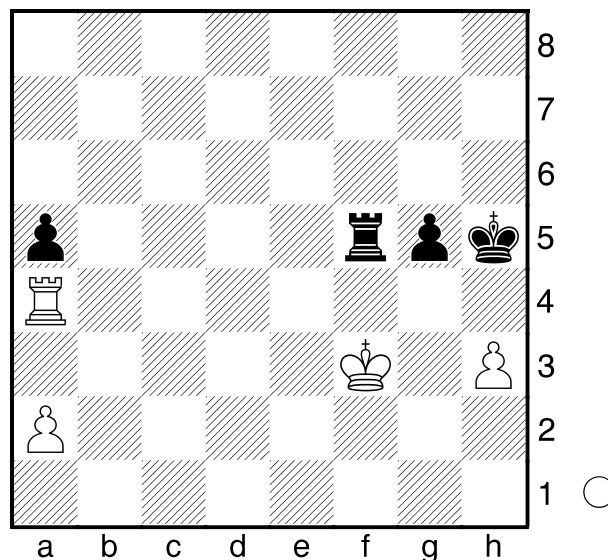
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.e5 Nd5
8.Ne4 Bb7 9.Be2 c5 10.a3 Rc8 11.c4
Ne3 12.Bxe3 Bxe4 13.0-0 Be7 14.Bf3
Bxf3 15.Qxf3 0-0 16.Rad1 f6 17.Qg3
fxe5 18.Qxe5 Bf6 19.Qd6 Bxb2
20.Bxc5 Rf7 21.Rb1 Be5 22.Qxe5 Rf5
23.Qd6 Rfxc5 24.Rb7 R5c7 25.Rfb1
Rxc4 26.g3 R4c7 27.Kg2 a5 28.a4 h6
29.h4 Kh8 30.R1b2 Kh7 31.h5 Kh8
32.R2b5 Rxb7 33.Rxb7 Qf6 34.Rxd7
Rf8 35.f4 Rc8 36.Qd4 Qxd4 37.Rxd4
Kg8 38.Re4 Rc2+ 39.Kf3 Ra2 40.Kg4
Ra3 41.Rxe6 Rxa4 42.Kf5 Kh7
43.Ra6 Ra1 44.Ra7 a4 45.Ra8 a3
46.g4 Ra2 47.g5 hxg5 48.fxg5 g6+
49.hxg6+ Kg7 50.Ra7+ Kg8 51.g7
Rb2 52.Kg6 Rb6+ 53.Kh5 a2 54.Rxa2
Kxg7 55.Ra7+ Kg8 56.Ra8+ Kg7
57.Ra7+ Kg8 58.Ra8+ Kg7 59.Ra7+



1/2-1/2

Ju, Wenjun A13 2564
Lei, Tingjie 2554
WCh Women 2023 (10) 19.07.2023

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.e3 d5 4.b3 c5
5.Bb2 Nc6 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Be2 a6 8.d4
cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bb4+ 10.Bc3 Bd6 11.Nd2
0-0 12.0-0 Re8 13.Bb2 Bd7 14.N2f3
Ne4 15.Nd2 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Re6 17.f4
Bc5 18.Nxe4 Bxd4 19.Qxd4 Rxe4
20.Qxd5 Rxe3 21.Bc4 Re7 22.Qxb7
Bb5 23.Qd5 Rd7 24.Qe5 Qb6+
25.Kh1 Bxc4 26.bxc4 Qc6 27.Rfe1 h6
28.Rac1 Rad8 29.h3 Rd2 30.Re2
Rd1+ 31.Rxd1 Rxd1+ 32.Kh2 Qxc4
33.Qe8+ Kh7 34.Qe4+ Qxe4 35.Rxe4
Rd5 36.Ra4 a5 37.Kg3 g5 38.fxg5
hxg5 39.Kf3 Kg6 40.Ke4 Rb5 41.g4
f5+ 42.gxf5+ Rxf5 43.Ke3 Kh5 44.Ke2
Re5+ 45.Kf3 Rf5+ 46.Ke3 Re5+
47.Kf3 Rf5+



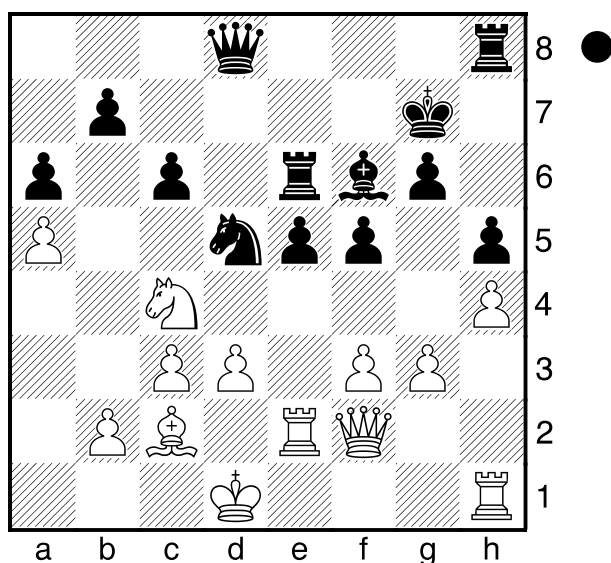
1/2-1/2

Lei Tingjie

Ju Wenjun
 WWCCM 2023 Chongqing (11.1) 21.07.23

C55
2554
2564

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3
 Be7 5.Nc3 d6 6.a4 0-0 7.Bg5 Be6
 8.Bxf6 Bxf6 9.Nd5 Bxd5 10.Bxd5 Nb4
 11.Bb3 d5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.0-0 c6
 14.Re1 Re8 15.Qd2 Re7 16.Re4 Qd6
 17.Rae1 Rae8 18.h4 h5 19.g3 g6
 20.Qe2 a6 21.a5 Qd7 22.Nd2 Bg7
 23.Qf3 f5 24.R4e2 Kh8 25.c3 Qd8
 26.Nc4 Kh7 27.Bc2 Qc7 28.Qg2 Nf6
 29.f3 Nd5 30.Qf2 Bf6 31.Kg2 Qd8
 32.Rh1 Re6 33.Kf1 Kg7 34.Ke1 Rh8
 35.Kd1



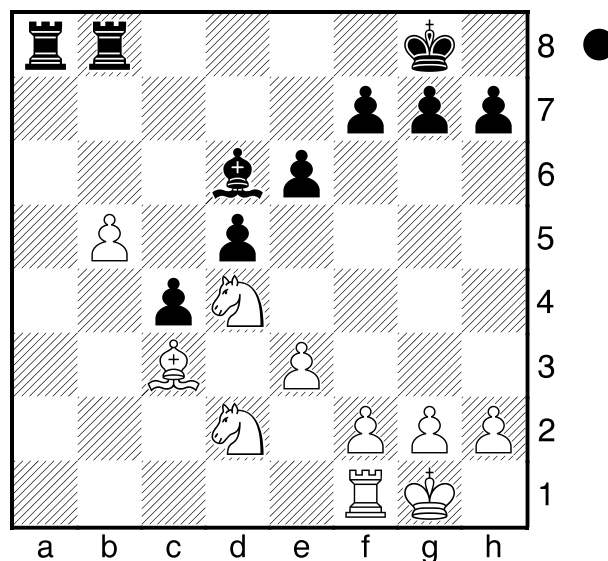
e4 36.fxe4 fxe4 37.Kc1 e3 38.Nxe3
 Rhe8 39.Rhe1 Nxe3 40.Rxe3 Rxe3
 41.Rxe3 Rxe3 42.Qxe3 Qxa5 43.d4
 Qd5 44.Qd3 Qh1+ 45.Kd2 Qg2+
 46.Kd1 Qg1+ 47.Ke2 Qg2+ 48.Kd1
 Qg1+
 1/2-1/2

Ju Wenjun

Lei Tingjie
 WWCCM 2023 Chongqing (12.1) 22.7.23

D04
2564
2554

The final and decisive game of the 2023
 Women's World Championship. 1.d4 d5
 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 c5 4.dxc5 e6 5.b4 a5
 6.c3 axb4 7.cxb4 b6 8.Bb5+ Bd7
 9.Bxd7+ Nbx d7 10.a4 bxc5 11.b5 Qc7
 12.Bb2 Bd6 13.0-0 0-0 14.Nbd2 Rfc8
 15.Qc2 c4 16.Bc3 Nc5 17.a5 Nb3
 18.Bxf6 Nxa1 19.Bxa1 Qxa5 20.Qc3
 Qxc3 21.Bxc3 Rcb8 22.Nd4

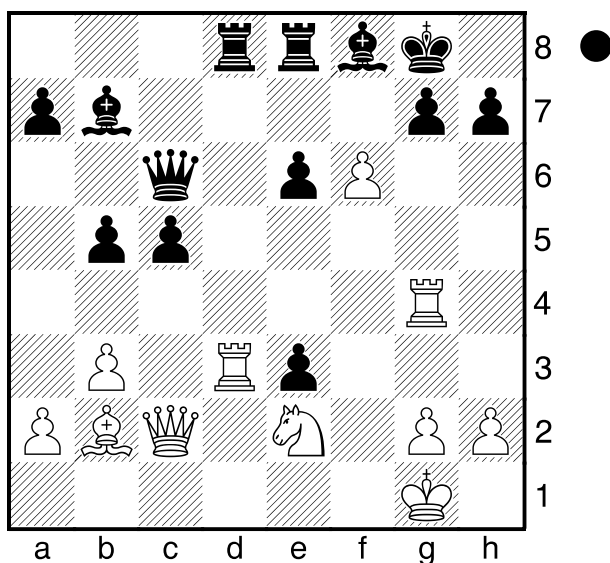


e5? 23.Nf5 Bf8 24.Bxe5 Rxb5 25.g4
 g6 26.Nd4 Rb2 27.Nb1 Bg7 28.Bxg7
 Kxg7 29.Nc3 Ra5 30.Rd1 Rb6
 31.Nde2 Rb3 32.Kg2 h6 33.Kf3 f6
 34.Rc1 Kf7 35.Nf4 d4 36.exd4 g5
 37.Nfe2 f5 38.gxf5 Rxf5+ 39.Ke3 g4
 40.Nf4 Rb8 41.d5 Rf6 42.Rc2 Ra8
 43.Nb5 Rb6 44.Nd4 Ra3+ 45.Ke4 c3
 46.Nfe2 Rb2 47.Kd3 Rb1 48.Nxc3
 Rh1 49.f3 gxf3 50.Nxf3 Rf1 51.Nd4
 Ke7 52.Kc4 Rf4 53.Rb2 Rh4 54.Rb7+
 Kf6 55.Rb2 Ra8 56.Kc5 Rh3 57.Ncb5
 Re3 58.d6 Ke5 59.Nc6+ Ke4 60.d7
 Rd3 61.Nd6+ Kf4 62.Rb8
 1-0

Yakubboev, Nodirbek **D31**

Sanal, Vahap **2640**
2585
 Turkish Is Bank Superleague 2023 (6.25)

A terrific counter-attacking effort from black. 1.c4 c6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 d5 4.e3 e6 5.b3 Nbd7 6.Bb2 Bd6 7.Bd3 b6 8.Nge2 Bb7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Ng3 Re8 11.e4 dxc4 12.Bxc4 b5 13.Bd3 e5 14.Nce2 exd4 15.f4 Ng4 16.Nf5 Ne3 17.Nxe3 dxe3 18.Qc2 Nc5 19.Rad1 Bf8 20.e5 Nxd3 21.Rxd3 Qb6 22.f5 Rad8 23.e6 c5 24.Rf4 Qc6 25.Rg4 fxe6 26.f6



h5! 27.Rg3 Qe4 28.f7+ Kxf7 29.Qc3 e5 30.Rdxe3 Qb1+ 31.Kf2 Rd6 32.Rg5 Rf6+ 33.Kg3 Qf1
0-1

Sankalp Gupta **B48**

Korobov, Anton **2497**
2667
 Turkish Is Bank Superleague 2023 (5.25)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Qf3 Ne5 8.Qg3 b5 9.0-0-0 Nf6 10.f4 Neg4 11.Bd2 Qa7 12.e5 Qxd4 13.exf6 Nxf6

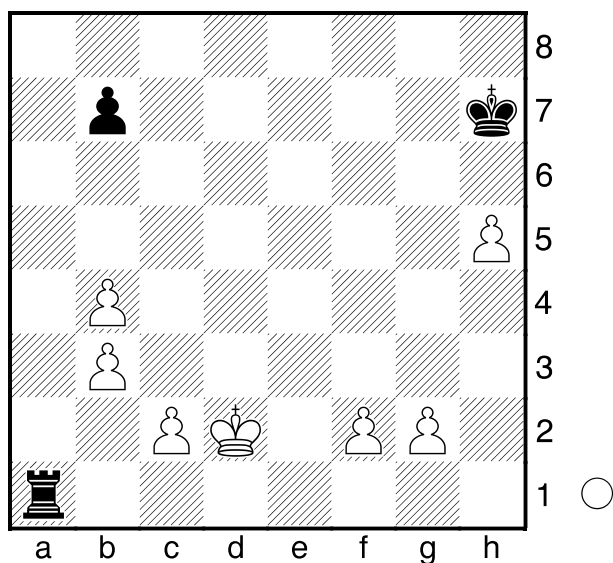
14.Be3 Qb4 15.Be2 Bb7 16.f5 Rc8 17.fxe6 dxe6 18.Bd4 Qa5 19.a3 b4 20.axb4 Qa1+ 21.Nb1 Nd5 22.Bc5 Bxc5 23.bxc5 0-0 24.Qb3 Nf4 25.Bf1 Bd5 26.Qe3 Ba2 27.Qa3 Rfd8 28.Bd3 Nxd3+ 29.cxd3 Rxc5+ 30.Kd2 Rb5 31.b4 Qd4 32.Nc3 Rxb4
0-1

Erigaisi Arjun **B94**

Navara, David **2710**
2689
 56th Biel GMT Classical 2023 (2.2)

A remarkable position arises after black's 45th move. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 Nbd7 7.Bc4 Qb6 8.Bb3 e6 9.Bxf6 Nxf6 10.Qd2 Nd7 11.0-0-0 Nc5 12.Rhe1 g6 13.e5 Nxb3+ 14.axb3 d5 15.Qf4 Be7 16.h4 h6 17.Kb1 Bd7 18.h5 g5 19.Qf3 a5 20.Qd3 Bc5 21.Nxd5 exd5 22.e6 Bxe6 23.Nxe6 fxe6 24.Qxd5 Kf7 25.Qd7+ Be7 26.Rd3 Rh7 27.Rf3+ Kg8 28.Rxe6 Rd8 29.Qxe7 Rxe7 30.Rxb6 Rd1+ 31.Ka2 Ree1 32.b4 a4 33.b3 Ra1+ 34.Kb2 a3+ 35.Kc3 Re7 36.Rg6+ Kh7 37.Rff6 Rc7+ 38.Kd2 a2 39.Rxh6+ Kg8 40.Rhg6+ Rg7 41.Rxg7+ Kxg7 42.Rg6+ Kh7 43.Rxg5 Rb1 44.Ra5 a1Q 45.Rxa1 Rxa1

(Diagram)

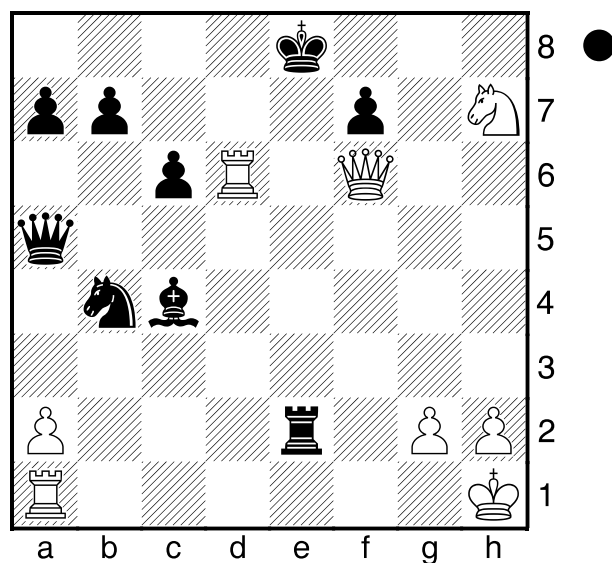


46.c4 Kh6 47.Ke3 Kxh5 48.Kd4 Kg6
49.b5 Rb1 50.Kc5 Rxb3 51.Kb6 Rc3
52.Kxb7 Kf7 53.b6 Ke6 54.Kc7 Rxc4+
55.Kd8 Rb4 56.Kc7 Rc4+ 57.Kd8
Rd4+ 58.Kc7 Rc4+ 59.Kb7 Ke7
1/2-1/2

□ **Root,Douglas** **E94 2469**
 ■ **Plugy,Maxim** **2524**
 USA-ch Seniors 2023 (7.4) 22.07.2023

A brilliant sustained attack is capped off by a hilarious looking knight move at the very end. 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 0-0 5.e4 d6 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 exd4 8.Nxd4 Re8 9.f3 c6 10.Nc2 Na6 11.Kh1 Be6 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bh4 Qb6 14.f4 Rad8 15.Qc1 Qa5 16.f5 gxf5 17.exf5 Bc8 18.Bxf6 Bxf6 19.Qxh6 Bg7 20.Qh5 Re5 21.Nd4 Rde8 22.Rf4 Qd8 23.Nf3 Rxe2 24.Nxe2 Rxe2 25.f6 Bxf6 26.Ng5 Be6 27.Qh7+ Kf8 28.Qh6+ Ke8 29.Rxf6 Bxc4 30.Rxd6 Qa5 31.Qh8+ Ke7 32.Qf6+ Ke8 33.Qh8+ Ke7 34.Qf6+ Ke8 35.b4 Nxb4 36.Nh7!

(Diagram)

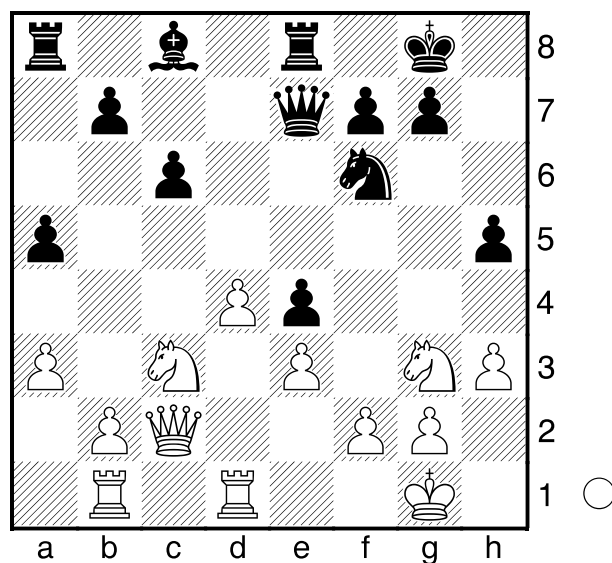
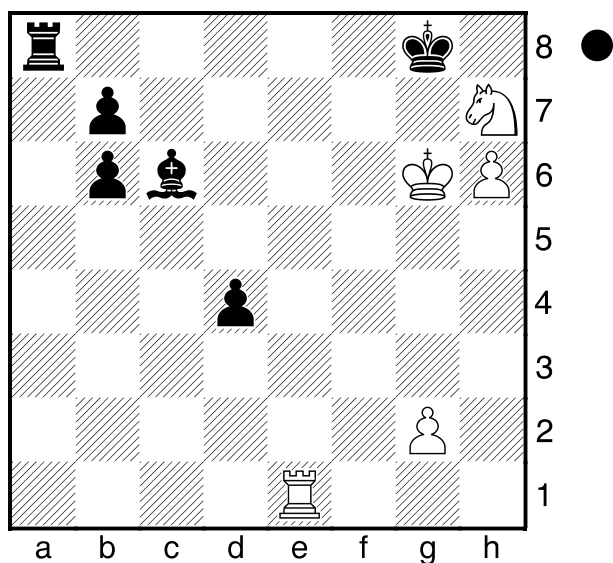


1-0

□ **Khachiyan,Melikset** **D05 2403**
 ■ **Plugy,Maxim** **2524**
 USA-ch Seniors 2023 (5.5) 19.07.2023

The 2023 U.S. Senior Champion walks his king up the board for victory. 1.Nf3 c5 2.c3 d5 3.d4 e6 4.e3 Nc6 5.Nbd2 Nf6 6.Bd3 Bd6 7.0-0 0-0 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.e4 Re8 10.e5 Ng4 11.Nb3 Bb6 12.Bxh7+ Kxh7 13.Ng5+ Kg8 14.Qxg4 Nxe5 15.Qh4 Qf6 16.Bf4 Qh6 17.Qxh6 gxh6 18.Bxe5 hxg5 19.Bf6 g4 20.Rae1 Kh7 21.Bd4 Bd7 22.f3 e5 23.Bxb6 axb6 24.fxg4 Kg6 25.g5 Rxa2 26.Rf6+ Kg7 27.Nc1 Rxb2 28.Nd3 Rb3 29.Nxe5 Re7 30.h4 Rxc3 31.h5 Be8 32.h6+ Kh7 33.Kf2 Rc2+ 34.Kg3 Kg8 35.Rff1 Rc8 36.Ng4 Rxe1 37.Rxe1 Bc6 38.Nf6+ Kf8 39.Kf4 Ra8 40.Nh7+ Kg8 41.Nf6+ Kf8 42.Kf5 d4 43.Nh7+ Kg8 44.g6 fxg6+ 45.Kxg6

(Diagram)



Kh8 46.Nf6 Ba4 47.Re7 Bc2+ 48.Kg5
b5 49.Rxb7 Rd8 50.g4 b4 51.Kh5 Rf8
52.g5 Bd1+ 53.Kh4 Bc2 54.Rxb4 Rd8
55.Rb7 Bg6 56.Rg7 d3 57.Rxg6 d2
58.Rg7 Rd4+ 59.Kh3 Rd3+ 60.Kh2
1-0

18.d5! h4 19.d6 Qd8 20.Ngxe4 Nxe4
21.Nxe4 Bf5 22.f3 Qg5 23.Qc5 Qg6
24.d7 Red8 25.Rd6 f6 26.Qc4+ Kh8
27.Rbd1 Bxh3 28.R1d2 Bf5 29.Nf2
Qg3 30.R6d4 g5 31.Qf7 h3 32.Qxf6+
Kg8 33.Nxh3 Bxh3 34.Qg6+ Kf8
35.Rd6 Rxd7 36.Rxd7 Bxd7 37.Qh6+
Kg8 38.Rxd7
1-0

Lee,Alice **D31**
Atwell,Rose **2393**
 USA-ch Girls 2023 (3.5) **2171**
 17.07.2023

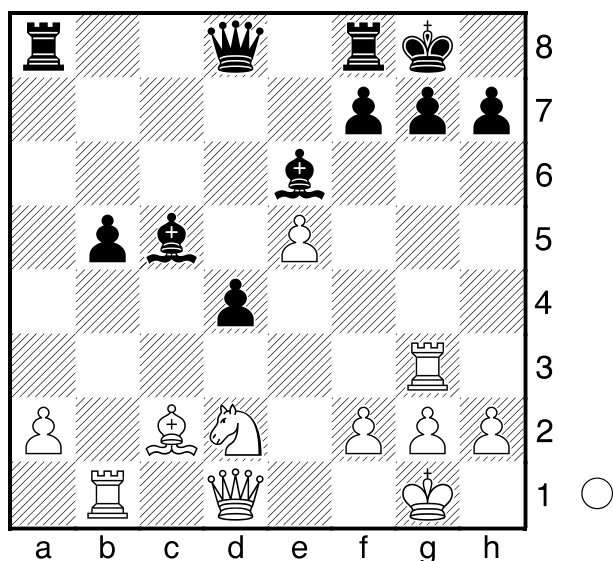
Gurel,Ediz **C83**
Ivic,Velimir **2500**
 FIDE World Cup 2023 (1) **2590**
 30.07.2023

With 18.d5! the 2023 U.S. Girls
Champion and newly-minted
International Master sets in motion a
series of sharp blows and counter-
punches to bring home the point. 1.d4
d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Be7 4.cxd5 exd5
5.Bf4 c6 6.e3 Bd6 7.Bxd6 Qxd6
8.Bd3 Nf6 9.Qc2 0-0 10.Nge2 Re8
11.h3 a5 12.0-0 Nbd7 13.Rab1 Qe7
14.a3 Ne4 15.Bxe4 dxe4 16.Ng3 Nf6
17.Rfd1 h5

A pretty attacking game from the
youngest participant in the 2023 World
Cup. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6
4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Nxe4 6.d4 Be7 7.Re1
b5 8.Bb3 d5 9.dxe5 Be6 10.c3 0-0
11.Nbd2 Nc5 12.Nd4 Nxd4 13.cxd4
Nd3 14.Re3 Nxc1 15.Rxc1 a5
16.Rec3 a4 17.Bc2 a3 18.bxa3 Bxa3
19.Rb1 c5 20.dxc5 d4 21.Rg3 Bxc5

(Diagram)

(Diagram)

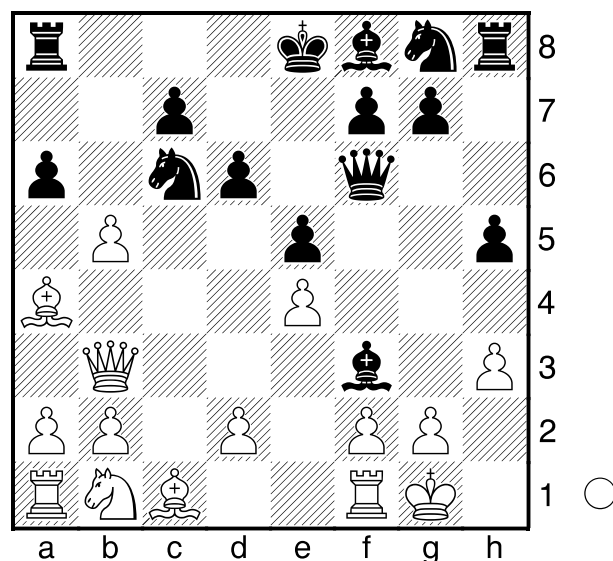


22.Bxh7+! Kxh7 23.Qh5+ Kg8 24.Qh6
g6 25.Ne4 Be7 26.Rf3 Bf5 27.Rxf5
Ra6 28.Rf3
1-0

C72
2377
 Melia, Salome
 Librelato, Kathie Goulart
 FIDE Women's World Cup (3.11) **2182**
 1.8.23

Black gave into temptation on her 8th
move, when castling was indicated. 1.e4
e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6
5.0-0 Bg4 6.h3 h5 7.c4 Qf6 8.Qb3
b5? 9.cxb5 Bxf3

(Diagram)

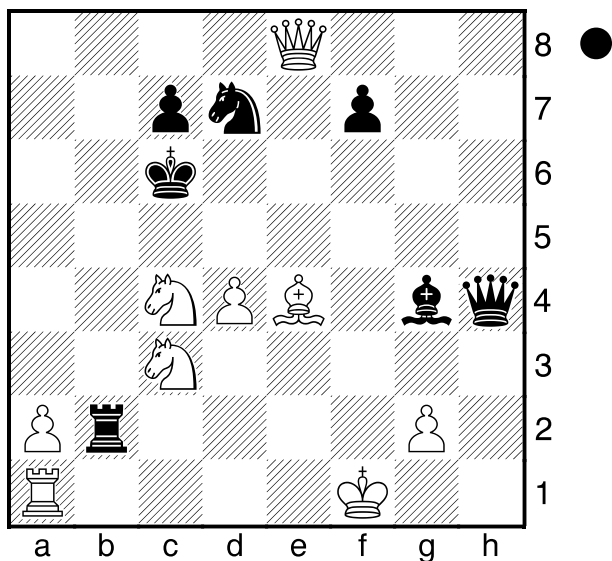


10.b6! Bxe4 11.f3 d5 12.fxe4 Bc5+
13.d4 Bxd4+ 14.Be3 Bxe3+ 15.Qxe3
Qd6 16.exd5 Qxd5 17.Nc3 Qe6
18.Bb3 Qh6 19.Bxf7+ Kd8 20.bxc7+
Kc8 21.Qc5 Nge7 22.Nd5 a5
23.Nxe7+ Nxe7 24.Qxe7 Ra7 25.Be6+
1-0

D31
2595
 Smirin, Ilia
 Avila Pavas, Santiago
 FIDE World Cup 2023 (1.2) **2499**

In a game of attack and counter-attack
white gets the last word. 1.c4 e6 2.Nc3
d5 3.d4 a6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bf4 Nf6
6.e3 Bd6 7.Bg5 Be6 8.Bd3 Nbd7 9.f4
h6 10.Bh4 g5 11.fxg5 hxg5 12.Bxg5
Rxh2 13.Rxh2 Bxh2 14.Nge2 Bd6
15.Nf4 Bg4 16.Qb3 Be7 17.Qxb7 Rb8
18.Qxa6 Ne4 19.Bxe4 Bxg5 20.Nfxd5
Rxb2 21.Kf1 Bxe3 22.Nxe3 Qh4
23.Qc8+ Ke7 24.Ncd5+ Ke6 25.Qe8+
Kd6 26.Nc4+ Kc6 27.Nc3#

(Diagram)



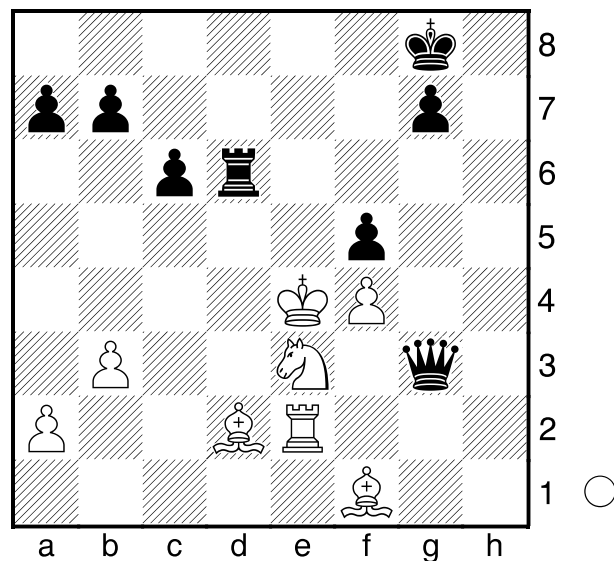
1-0

Lagarde,Maxime **C60**
2599

Pragganandhaa R **2690**
 FIDE World Cup 2023 (2.1) 02.08.2023

Black keeps white off-balance throughout in a brilliant effort by the young Indian star. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nge7 4.Nc3 Ng6 5.d4 Nxd4 6.Nxd4 exd4 7.Qxd4 c6 8.Be2 Qb6 9.Qd3 Be7 10.f4 0-0 11.h4 d5 12.h5 dxe4 13.Qg3 Nh4 14.Rxh4 Qg1+ 15.Bf1 e3 16.Nd1 Re8 17.Ke2 Be6 18.b3 Rad8 19.Nxe3 Bf6 20.Rb1 Bf5 21.Qf2 Bxh4 22.Qxh4 Bxc2 23.Qxd8 Rxd8 24.Nxc2 Qc5 25.Ne3 Re8 26.Kf3 Qd4 27.Ke2 Qc5 28.Kf3 Qxh5+ 29.g4 Qh1+ 30.Kg3 Re6 31.Bd2 h5 32.gxh5 Qxh5 33.Re1 Rg6+ 34.Kf2 Qh4+ 35.Kf3 Qg3+ 36.Ke4 Rd6 37.Re2 f5+

(Diagram)

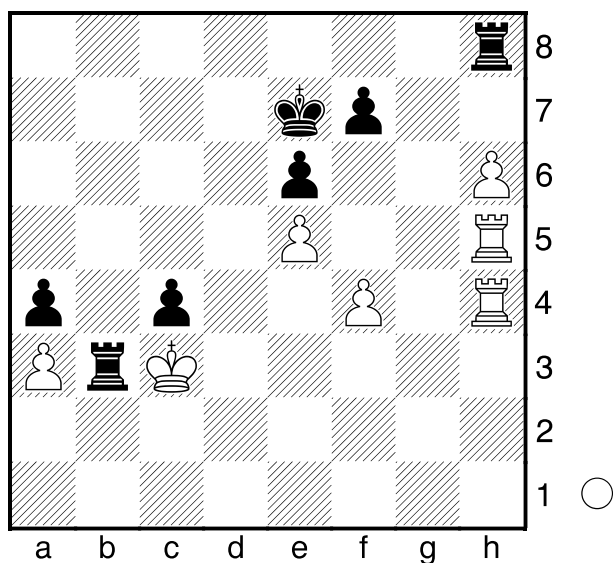


0-1

Shankland,Sam **A47**
2711

Schitco,Ivan **2507**
 FIDE World Cup 2023 (2.1) 02.08.2023

White blunders into a forced mate, and the American star is eliminated from the 2023 World Cup. 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bf4 b6 4.e3 Bb7 5.Bd3 Be7 6.h3 c5 7.0-0 0-0 8.c3 d6 9.Re1 Nc6 10.Qe2 Re8 11.Nbd2 Bf8 12.Rad1 cxd4 13.exd4 Ne7 14.Bh2 Ng6 15.Ne4 Bxe4 16.Bxe4 Nxe4 17.Qxe4 d5 18.Qg4 Bd6 19.h4 Bxh2+ 20.Kxh2 Qf6 21.h5 Qf4+ 22.Qxf4 Nxf4 23.g4 h6 24.Kg3 g5 25.hxg6 Nxg6 26.Rh1 Kg7 27.Rh5 Rh8 28.Rdh1 Rag8 29.Ne1 Nf8 30.Nd3 Nd7 31.f3 Rc8 32.R5h2 a6 33.Kf4 a5 34.Ke3 b5 35.Kd2 Rb8 36.b3 Rbc8 37.Nf4 Nf6 38.Kd3 Rb8 39.Kc2 Rbc8 40.Kb2 Rb8 41.Nd3 Nd7 42.Rh4 Rbc8 43.R4h2 Rce8 44.Rh5 Nf6 45.R5h4 Nd7 46.f4 Reg8 47.a3 Rc8 48.Ne5 Nxe5 49.dxe5 a4 50.Rh5 Rcg8 51.R1h4 Kf8 52.bxa4 bxa4 53.c4 dxc4 54.Kc3 Ke7 55.g5 Rb8 56.gxh6 Rb3+

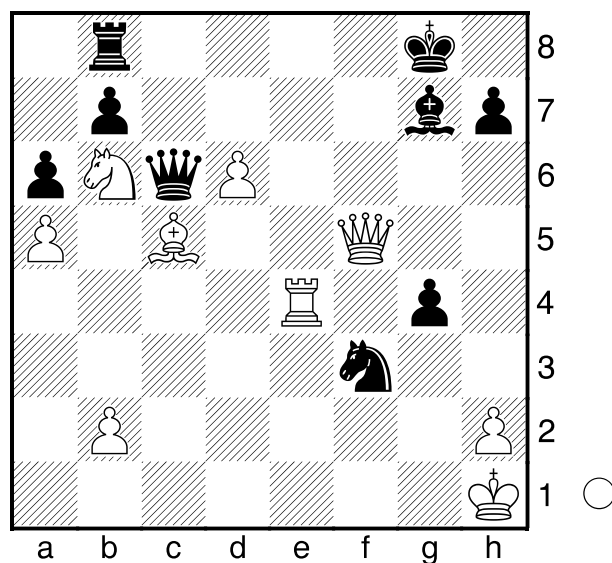


57.Kxc4?? Rc8+ 58.Kd4 Rbc3
0-1

B33
2726
Supi,Luis Paulo **2582**
FIDE World Cup 2023 (2.1) 02.08.2023

The Chinese superstar winds up the game in brilliant fashion. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Nd5 Nxd5 8.exd5 Nb8 9.a4 Be7 10.Be2 0-0 11.Bd2 Nd7 12.a5 f5 13.0-0 a6 14.Na3 e4 15.Nc4 Ne5 16.Nb6 Rb8 17.f4 exf3 18.Bxf3 Bf6 19.Bb4 g5 20.c4 Bg7 21.Qd2 f4 22.Be4 Bf5 23.Rae1 Bxe4 24.Rxe4 f3 25.c5 fxe4 26.Qxe4 Rxf1+ 27.Qxf1 dxc5 28.Bxc5 g4 29.Qf5 Nf3+ 30.Kh1 Qc7 31.d6 Qc6

(Diagram)

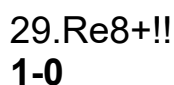


32.Nc8! Rxc8 33.d7 Rf8 34.Qxf8+ Bxf8 35.d8Q Qxc5 36.Rxg4+ Kf7 37.Rf4+ Kg8 38.Rxf3
1-0

A40
2835
Pantsulaia,Levan **2564**
FIDE World Cup 2023 (2.2) 02.08.2023

A spectacular finish forces mate. 1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 Bg7 4.d5 d6 5.e4 e6 6.h3 Ne7 7.Nc3 h6 8.dxe6 Bxe6 9.Bf4 Nbc6 10.Qxd6 Qa5 11.Qd2 Nb4 12.a3 g5 13.Bh2 Rd8 14.Qc1 Nd3+ 15.Bxd3 Rxd3 16.0-0 Bxc4 17.Nd5 Bxd5 18.exd5 Rxd5 19.Re1 Qd8 20.Qc4 Kf8 21.Ne5 Nc6 22.Rad1 Nd4 23.Kh1 b5 24.Qd3 h5 25.Nc6 Qb6 26.Ne7 Rd8 27.Nf5 Qg6 28.Bc7 Rd7

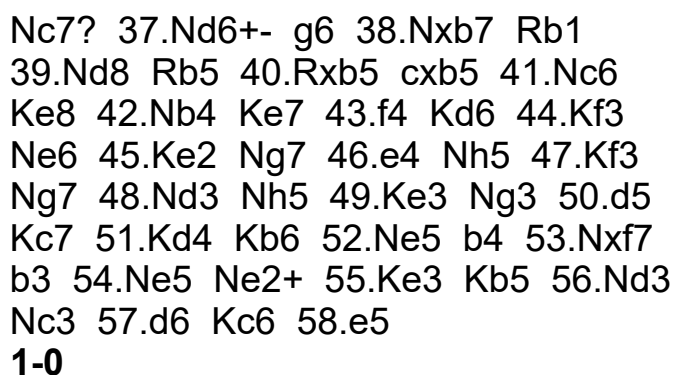
(Diagram)



Keymer,Vincent **2690**

Carlsen,Magnus **2835**
 FIDE World Cup 2023 (4.1) 09.08.2023

(Diagram)



IM John Donaldson

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Sherlock Holmes and the Mysteries of the Chess World by Lenny Cavallaro (2023, 256 pages, \$24.95)

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The late Georgian Grandmaster Bukhuti Gurgienidze (1933-2008) was a strong player who competed in nine Soviet Championships and trained a number of top female players (Nona Gaprindashvili, Maya Chiburdanidze, Nana Ioseliani, and Nana Alexandria), but he is best remembered for his contributions to opening theory. Among the lines that bear his name are: **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 g6 4.0-0 Bg7 5.Re1 e5 6.b4; 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 g6 5 c4 Nf6 6 Nc3 d6 7 Be2 Nxd4 8 Qxd4 Bg7; 1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 b5!?** and most famously the ... **c6-d5** system of the Modern Defence (**1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 c6 4.f4 d5 5.e5 h5**) first seen at the highest levels in Fischer-Petrosian, Belgrade 1970.

The latter defense is the subject of former Candidate Jaan Ehlovest's recent opening monograph. Among the important discoveries to be found in this book are that after **1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 c6 4.Nf3 d5 5.h3** Black should play **5...Nf6** and not setups based on ...**Nh6** with ...**f7-f6**. The Estonian Grandmaster believes Black is fine in the play after **5...Nf6 6.Bd3 dxe4 7.Nxe4 Nxe4 8.Bxe4 0-0 9.0-0 Nd7** followed by ...**c5**.

Ehlovest not only examines the original Gurgienidze system (**1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 c6 4.f4 d5 5.e5 h5**) but also the modern treatment with **5...Nh6**. This is a complicated line, full of fight, that four-time US Champion Alex Shabalov (who wrote the foreword for this book) has used with success. Interestingly, depending on White's development scheme, Black sometimes prefers to play with ...**d6** and ...**e5** rather than ...**c6** and ...**d5**.

This book offers a complete Black repertoire including **1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.e4 e5** against **1.d4**, but note the author's coverage here is not as detailed – this is primarily a book providing a fighting line against **1.e4** which is very much geared to practical play.

The Scotch Game: A White Repertoire by Alexei Bezgodov and Vladimir Barsky is likely the most detailed treatment of this solid and ancient opening line that Garry Kasparov resurrected. All lines of the Scotch are covered, even ones not likely to occur in master practice (**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4**

4.Nxd4 Nxd4 5.Qxd4 Qf6). As the authors explain, “This book’s main purpose is to be read by people who play chess for fun, rather than for chess professionals.” Club level players (roughly 1400 to 2200) will appreciate this user-friendly approach. Note the Scotch Four Knights (**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.d4**) is not covered in this book.

Sherlock Holmes and the Mysteries of the Chess World by Lenny Cavallaro will not improve your chess but if you like chess and solving mysteries then this series of short stories will be your cup of tea.

The publisher’s blurb does a fine job of describing an original work without precedence in the chess world:

Did Alekhine really succumb to a piece of meat that was stuck in his throat? And Paul Morphy passed after a walk on a hot New Orleans afternoon? What if the great Sherlock Holmes – and his successors – applied ironclad logic to these and other instances of Caissa’s conundrums? Might we be closer to sorting out the truth?

You are invited to join Holmes, Watson, and their descendants as they focus their investigative skills on seven decidedly curious cases from the chess world. Premature deaths. Strange games and match results. And more...

Mechanics’ Institute Receives #startsmall Support

We are proud to announce support in the amount of \$50,000 for our Scholastic Chess Program for girls' and young women's chess, by #startsmall, Jack Dorsey's philanthropic initiative. This grant will help provide new classes, camps, and opportunities for girls and women, enhance our professional development, and broaden our pool of chess coaches-- all with the aim toward gender equity and access for all youth players in the sport. <https://www.milibrary.org/chess/scholastic-chess>



Mechanics’ Institute Chess Coach **Marcie Yang** teaches students during Summer Camp.

Richard Hack

Tales from the Chess Café

Sharing Knowledge

The phrase Each One Teach One is an African proverb that originated in the United States during slavery when Africans were denied education. When someone learned how to read and write, it became their responsibility to teach someone else. The idea is to spread knowledge for the betterment of your community (Wikipedia). It has various roots and sources, including the above. I first saw it on a T-shirt worn by a musician in a documentary about community service during the summer in New York City.

Each One Teach One is visible downtown in a mural painted on the plywood covering the front of the old Spring Valley Water Company at 425 Mason, a few doors north of Geary St. The building served as the headquarters of the San Francisco Water Department from 1930 to 2003. I sometimes went there to pay my water bill in person. It was designed by Willis Polk and constructed in 1922. It was placed on the market in June 2007 with a list price of \$5,600,000 and apparently is still available.

We share a lot of knowledge at the Mechanics' Institute. The summer has been full of chess camps and classes in addition to tournaments, including a G/60 July Quads instead of the usual G/30. Most of our Chess Cafes have had at least one and a half times the usual number of guests.

On July 17, we watched a game by Merlin Mackley from an online tourney where every game had the same first four moves in the Semi-Slav Defense, and were reminded that Jay Whitehead went to L.A. in the '70s to work with Michael Walder on the same Moscow Semi-Slav, where White plays Bg5, which takes Black's knight on f6, and leaves the dark-square QB shut in by his own pawns. However, the light-square B is without a White counterpart and can develop on the long diagonal h8-a1.

"The first thing you think of is to attack such cramping moves," said Paul. "The openings are a mixture of memorizing and principles. If you want to play a certain opening, play out 1,000-10,000 previous games with it to build muscle memory. But memorizing theory..." he said, trailing off, and in agreement Alexey Root shook her head at that endless and sometimes fruitless task. "Some Sicilians have lots of great lines," said Mike Walder. "Some have only a few lines that you can learn and then play by general principles." Paul soon added, "You can play the first four moves of the King's Indian Attack against most anything, to get you set for a real chess game... Think outside the box and consider every move... Play the moves you know you're going to play. That's why we say knights before bishops. Bishops may have 3 or 4 squares to go to, so wait a bit before moving them. After two unprovoked trades: build up the position before trading your Nf3, e5 pawn, or Nd7. Not all trades are equal." Mike, quoting a GM: "You have to have a good reason to make a trade." Paul: "You have to achieve something, and with some bite."

Grandmaster Michael Rohde moves into the camera eye and says hello. Sophia, a café regular, notes that it must be years since he and Paul have seen each other. Michael says hello and praises Paul's teaching. Says it's harder to teach adults than kids. Merlin: "Adults have consistency." Sophia: "Kids

are more resilient and flexible and keep coming back for more. I'm on my way to another U.S. Chess meeting. Later I'm going to the U.S. Open in Grand Rapids." Long Michigan's second city, yet still just under 200,000 population, less than an hour from Lake Michigan beaches, and still known for its furniture industry. She recommends the Scotch Game to a player who is daunted by all the theory in the Italian and the Ruy Lopez. "Hans Niemann won a big prize, but only part of it. They keep giving it to the same people."

Paul on Zane Chu's game: "Only two serious mistakes in a carefully played game where neither player did much to rock the boat." Then Tom's game at Lichess AI Level 1. He's playing two-hour games against a machine, and asked, "What do you think of playing computers instead of people?" Paul: "Think about shortening the time control and playing people. It can be difficult to transition from playing machines." Another observer says, "That's chess bots for you," after Paul showed how the program is playing poorly on purpose: "The machine is committing suicide."

On July 24, we watched one of Merlin's games where he played 3....Qf6 in a Scotch. Paul said, "Always play the most flexible or most obvious move first.... Black has missed two chances to win a pawn against you.... 22. f4 would have made a 5-link pawn chain." After we reject a set-up of one pair of rooks on e7-f7 and the other on e8-f8, Paul mused, "Black can actually defend all his pawns. It's sad." Mike: "Black is up two pieces on the queenside.... This is a race." Paul: "Very, very muddy." And he noted good-humoredly that Mike was seeing all the mistakes I'm making." After White leaves his pawn en-prise at h7 on move 45, he notes somberly, "Chess is like that. Very funny." Mike adds, "Chess is a continuum. We say somebody is a good player, but not as good as the best in the world. Your average club player is very good." We then look at a tough problem that is compared to Ray's puzzle that nobody could solve. Paul asks for somebody to suggest a move. "How about offer a draw?" jokes Mike. Paul later on: "This problem is killing me." Mike: "It's a nice one." Paul: "We've tried eight first moves, and no one can demonstrate a win." In chat, Sophia sends everyone a message from the Blitz Society in the 6th Arrondissement of Paris. Later Paul notes that guests today also hail from London, St. Louis, New York, and Norway, and I also think about the vehicles west of here on Highway 1.

We watch Doug Root play Maxim Dlugy in the current U.S. Senior Championship. His f5 pawn advance on move 16, engaging with Black's e6 and g6 pawns, provokes an exchange that opens up the kingside castled position to a strong attack, especially when White's Qc1 sweeps up the h6 pawn. When White's Pf5 advances to f6 nine moves later, the Bg7 is forced to take it and block his own pawn at f7 which is preventing second-rank defense by the Black queen or rook. White's N goes to g5, threatening mate with Qh7 and Qf7; it can't be taken or mate in 5 follows. Some moves later White has queen on f6 in front of that Black pawn still on f7, held by the king at e8. White's rook controls the open d-file from d6, though the Black Qh5 eyes d8. White moves Nh7 at move 36, and Black resigns, unable to prevent Qh8 check (for the third time), and after the king moves to e7, mate with Qf8.

Paul noted the recent passing of a Bay Area chess player, a native of Boston (and graduate of Boston Latin, Springfield College, and S.F. State University), Joseph Antonio "Rugsy" Ruggiero, whose second marriage was to Pam Ford, another local player. Elliott and Paul went to Antioch on July 15 to pay their respects.

Our current Tuesday Night Marathon tournament (July 11-August 22) is named for WIM Ruth Haring, and on July 31 our meeting honored her, featuring a presentation by her son Theo Biyiasis, who brought lots of photos and games to show us. He is also the son of Peter Biyiasis, who was British Columbia chess champion four times and twice champion of all Canada. I looked up Theo's rating and found it at 1955 in one place and 2155 in another. Paul showed photos first. "This is how I remember Ruth, in the late '70s at Paul Masson in Saratoga and Lone Pine." Alexey Root told us how she knew her at the U.S. Women's in 1981 and Vancouver the same year, won by Pia Cramling. "Ruth played me at both of those. She was better than I. I looked up to her. Beautiful, glam, well-spoken.... I do remember some opponents who were distracting, but she was well-mannered. Rachel Crotto beat her in a game I used for my book."

In chat, Alexey posted this from her book *U.S. Women's Chess Champions, 1937-2020* (McFarland, 2022): "While Ruth Inez Orton was the name on the handwritten score sheet, Orton later went by her maiden last name of Haring. She competed in six U.S. Women's Championships, with three second-place finishes. After 23 years of managing projects for IBM, Lockheed, TRW, and eBay, Haring served as US Chess President from 2011 to 2016. The annual WIM Ruth Haring National Tournament of Girls State Champions is in memory of Haring, who died in 2018."

Theo was asked, "Did she teach you?" He replied, "She did. I played both of them. As a GM, my dad was more gentle. She beat me ruthlessly. She would always set out to crush me. I swindled her a couple of times." He showed a bad mistake he made that caused her to demand, "How can you not know your king and pawn endings?" He says he got even with her later. The sixth game he showed was a Haring win. "This guy was so upset, he took forever to resign." Paul: "Are a lot of men bad sports?" I believe Alexey noted that it has improved; also that: "The tournament circuit has a lot of kids. Once when I came to the board, a 7-year-old boy said, 'You can't be my opponent.'"

Both Ruth and Theo's dad played Fischer while living at Jimmy Buff's apartment here on Third Avenue. Bobby was visiting for a while and looked through a box of her score sheets and pointed out some possible improvements in her play. Theo: "The feedback there was world-class." Paul: "Fischer's memory was phenomenal. He remembered every game he ever played, even in simuls." With 4:47 left, Theo still had three more games. There was a tournament in Greece she won in 1980 and annotated for a newspaper. He showed us a large framed clipping of her article, and we watched the game Miolski-Haring, published in the December 1981 *Chess Life and Review*, under the headline "In the Arena," which, Elliott noted, was written by Ruth. Paul: "I like the way chess.com keeps giving question marks to good moves." During some analysis, Elliott commented in his inimitable way, "You are squareless." When the game was out of reach, her opponent suggested they split the point. Someone said, "Bad etiquette to ask for a draw when you're losing."

Her favorite book was the two-volume *My Best Games* by Alekhine. We watched a contest between Ruth and Alexey from 40 years ago. When Alexey as Black pushed a pawn to b4, Ruth played f4, and eventually opened up the kingside and won.

Theo played the last game he was able to get in and ended with a good story. I believe he actually called it an "antidote," which could be a hybrid or just a felicitous slip of the tongue. In later years she

entered a tournament in which she was not a high seed. Someone close to her said, “You’re probably going to win a few, but lose a lot more.” To which Ruth replied, “I win, I lose - I have fun either way.”

Editor’s note:

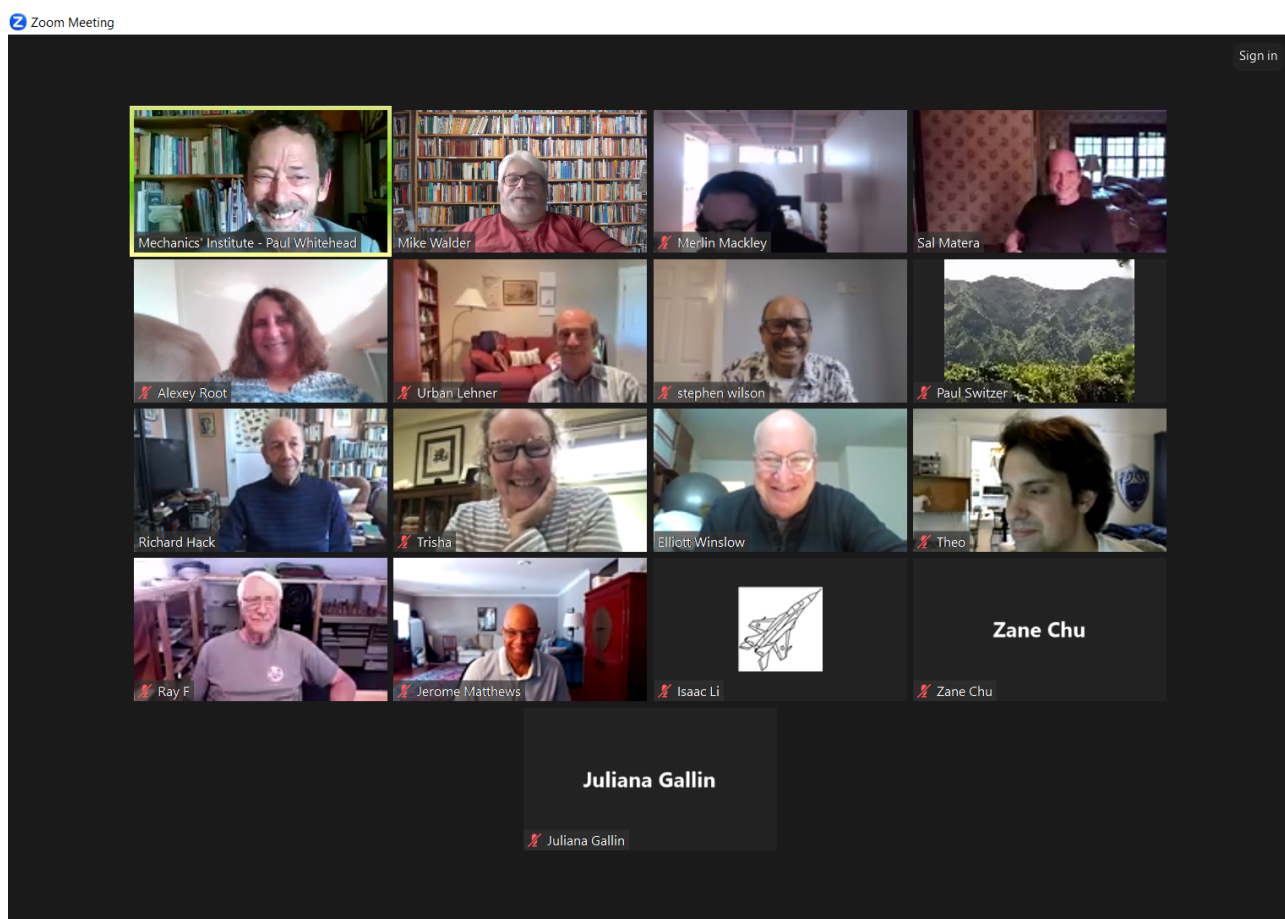
The Chess Cafe meets online (Zoom) and was started during the Pandemic. The topic is chess and the chess-playing community, with people of all ages and skills participating. The Chess Cafe is free and open to all. You can join the conversation by registering [here](#).

I would like to share some recent comments we’ve received:

“Hi Paul, This is Zane's mom - I just wanted to let you know that Zane is really enjoying The Chess Cafe with all the 'older people'. He likes to hear the game reviews and chess chat from the scope of people he would not otherwise encounter. Many thanks for hosting it. Valerie.”

And:

“Hi Paul, Really enjoyed yesterday’s cafe. Seeing you analyze three games for players at widely different levels—and meet them right where they needed to be met, without condescension—was really instructive. How exciting to see someone teaching chess well! Best, Chris.”



The Chess Cafe on July 31, 2023.

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.



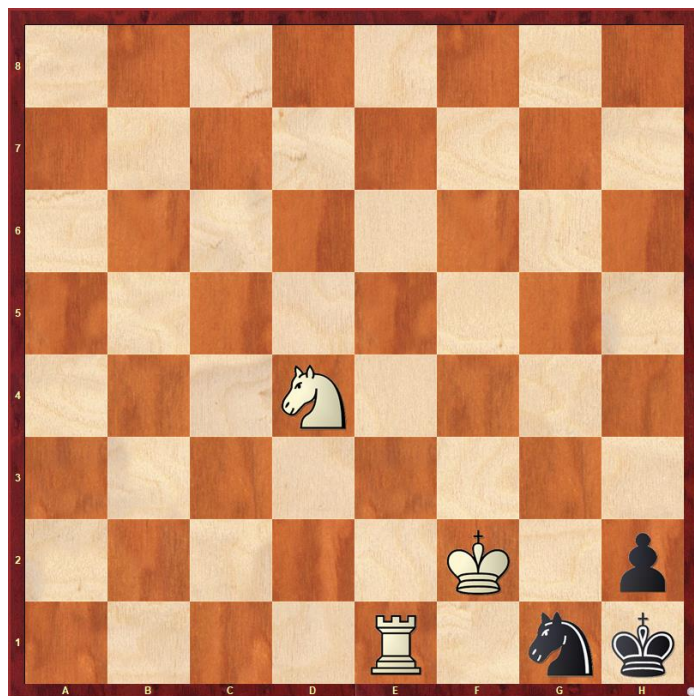
From *Play Winning Chess* (2003), by Yasser Seirawan.

Anon. vs Goetz, Strassburg 1880. Steven says this is an excellent example of under-promotion, and we couldn't agree more: **1...gxh1=N** is mate!

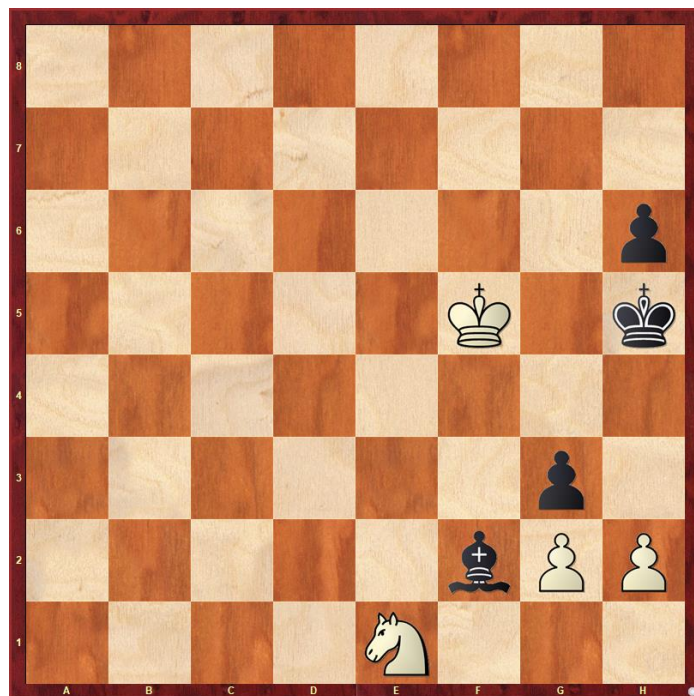
Seeking Scholastic Chess Coaches

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

Tony's Teasers



1. **S. Loyd, 1888.**
White mates in 3 moves.



2. **S. Loyd, 1859.**
White mates in 6 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

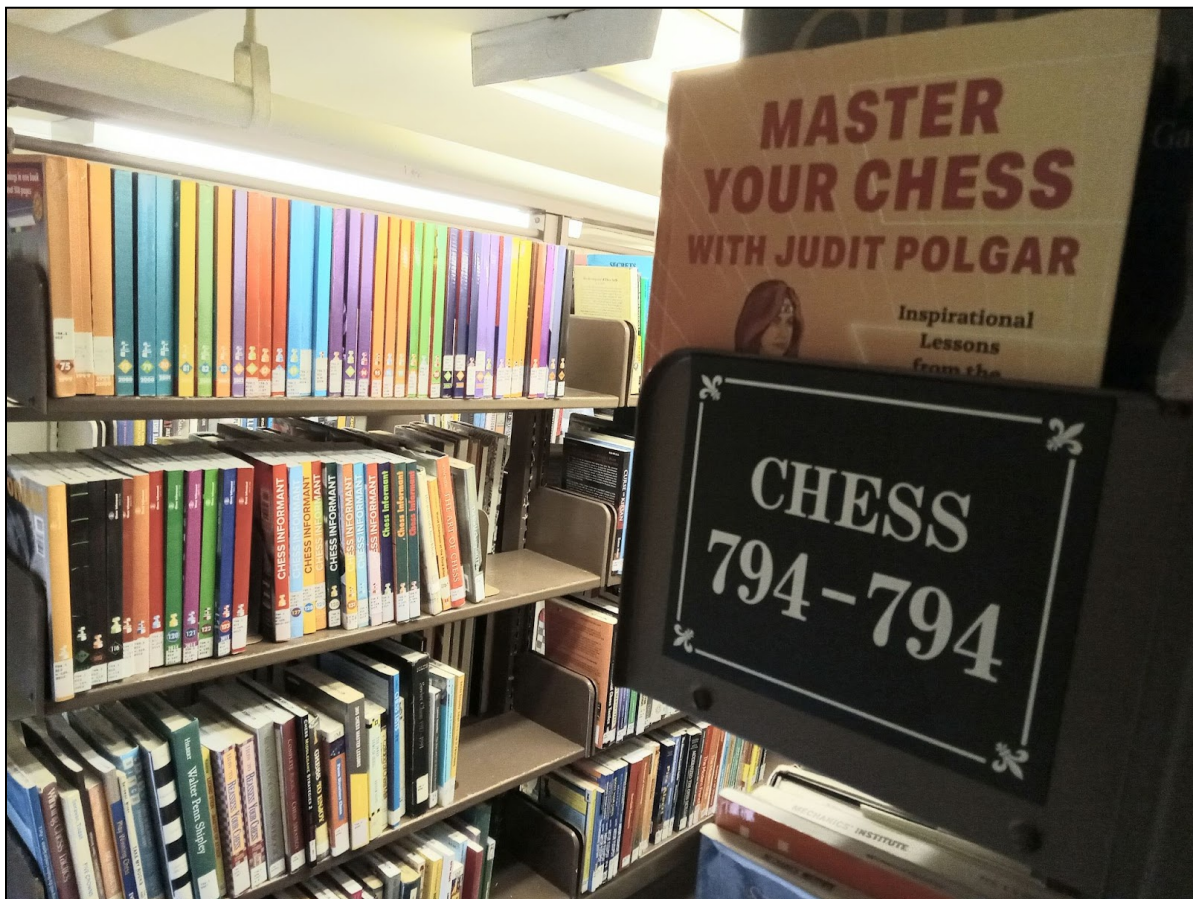
1. **S. Loyd**, 1888. **1.Re2! Nxe2** (1...Nf3 2.Kxf3 Kg1 3.Re1#. Or 1...Nh3+ 2.Kg3 Ng1 - otherwise 3.Re1# - 3.Rxh2#) **2.Nf5!** and **3.Ng3#**.
 2. **S. Loyd**, 1859. **1.Nf3 Be1** (1...gxh2 2.g4#. Any other bishop move allows 2.hxg3 and 3.g4#) **2.Nxe1 Kh4** (2...gxh3 3.Nf3 h1=Q 4.g4#) **3.h3! Kh5** (3...h5 4.Nf3#) **4.Nd3! Kh4 5.Nf4! h5 6.Ng6#**.
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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

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>

2023 Sizzling Summer Blitz!

USCF & FIDE rated 3+2



**Dont let your time
run out!**

**- Tuesday -
August 29, 2023
7:00pm - 9:00pm**

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

**Entry Fee:
\$20 for Members
\$30 for Non-Members**

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

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

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

1st Place: \$200

2nd Place: \$125

3rd Place: \$90

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

Register at milibrary.org/chess

Questions? Email to chessroom@milibrary.org

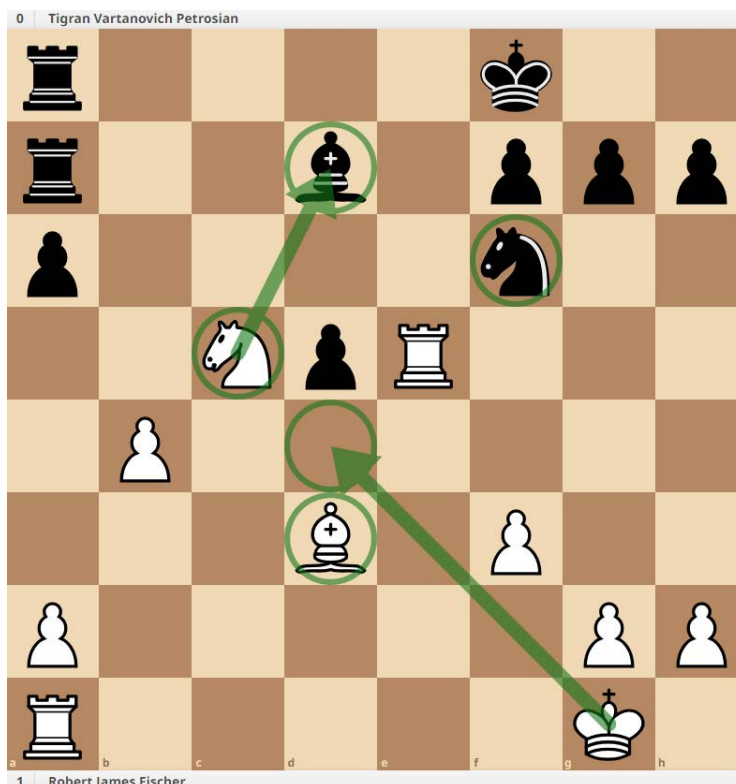


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Ideal for TNM and club players who want to improve their game and perhaps get a few plans in place for their next match. Students will be expected to send .pgns or bring in scoresheets to the class for analysis.

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