

# TEXAS KNIGHTS

The Official Publication of the Texas Chess Association

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Volume 38, Number 6

P.O. Box 501 Helotes, Texas 78023

July-August 1997



**Miles Ardaman wins his fifth Texas Championship**

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# TEXAS CHESS ASSOCIATION

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**President:** Selby Anderson, P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023-0501; (210) 695-2324; txchess@connecti.com  
**Vice President:** Larry Young, 28 Deerfield, Huntsville, TX 77340-9701; (409) 291-2540; LarryYou@swweb.net  
**Secretary:** Forrest Z. Marler, 2109 Ave. T, Huntsville, TX 77340-4930; (409) 291-7625; fmarler@swweb.net  
**Treasurer:** Greg Wren, P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023-0501; (210) 695-2324; txchess@connecti.com  
**Scholastic Chess:** Jim Liptrap, 16303 Krayola Lane, Spring, TX 77379; (281) 251-2659  
**Texas Knights editor:** Selby Anderson. **Webmaster:** Greg Wren. **Historian:** J.C. Thompson, 301 Stewart Court, Billings, MT 59105. **Postal Chess:** Steve Lynn, 3503 Aspen Leaf, Round Rock, TX 78681; txnite@earthlink.net

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Contributors this issue: Miles Ardaman, Susan Breeding, Eugene Curtin, Jim Gallagher, J.P. Hyltin, Mark Kislingbury, Forrest Marler, B.L. Patteson, Alexey Root, Michael Simpson, Greg Wren.

Send submissions (paper or computer disk) with your phone number to P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023-0501; or e-mail to [txchess@connecti.com](mailto:txchess@connecti.com). Fax available (voice call first). Deadline next issue: August 15.

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Corrections last issue: see page 33

# Test Your Tactics!

Positions from recent events. Solutions: p. 32



1. White to move

Haldun - Shivaji, Texas Ch. 1997



2. White to move

L. Young - McClure, Texas Am. 1997



3. White to move

A. Smith-Dejmek, Texas Ch. 1997



4. White to move

Vergara-Dimazana, Texas Ch. 1997



5. White to move

Sutherland-Patton, Texas Ch. 1997



6. White to move

Patty-Wright, Texas Senior 1997



7. Black to move

Gordon-Vasquez, Texas Amateur 1997



8. White to move

Gelman-Curtin, Texas Ch. 1997



9. White to move

Hyltin-McClary, Texas Ch. 1997

# Ardaman wins his fifth Texas Championship

On Memorial Day weekend in San Antonio, Miles Ardaman of Houston won his fifth Texas Championship title. The 33 year-old psychiatry resident defeated defending co-champion Igor Shtern of Dallas in the last round to finish with the only 5-1 score. The other defending co-champion, Omer Haldun Unalmis of Austin, was knocked out of contention by the current Texas Senior Champion, John Patty of San Antonio. Patty and Shtern shared second place with 4.5. Michael Gelman, a recent Russian immigrant now living in Houston, tied for expert money with Andrew Bar-Jona of Waco, Jim Rohrbaugh of San Antonio and Abdelnour Ahmed-Zaid of Houston, each with 4-2 scores.

In the Amateur division (Class A and under), Jason Howell of Waco and James Wharton of Commerce finished in a tie with 5.5 each. There was a four-way tie in Class B at 4.5 among San Antonio area players Tancredo Pastores, Jesse Vasquez, Rodrigo De Los Reyes and young Houston player Ade Kujimiyo. The clear winner in Class C was Benjamin Taylor of Arlington (4.5). Close behind at 4.0 to share the second Class C prize were Charles Casey of Austin and Leica Tilton, who at age 14 is the top female player in San Antonio. Two other local players, Andres Hernandez and José Narvaez, tied with Robert James of Corpus Christi in Class D/under with 3.5 scores.

On Sunday evening Gary Gaiffe directed the fifth annual Texas Bughouse Championship. A Dallas team, "The Undefeated" (Al Sprague and Thomas Ruppert), won first outright. Every year since the bughouse event began, at least one of these two players has been on a winning team! See page 30 for a full report.

Greg Wren directed for the San Antonio Chess Club, with assistance from Gary Gaiffe and William Tompkins. A combined field of 151 players competed at the Menger Hotel, next to the Alamo in downtown San Antonio. The historic (some say haunted) hotel will also be the site of the Southwest Open on Labor Day weekend.

## PRIZE WINNERS

**CHAMPIONSHIP:** 1st: Miles Ardaman, 5. 2nd-3rd: Igor Shtern, John Patty, 4.5. 1st+2nd Expert: Andrew Bar-Jona, Jim Rohrbaugh, Abdelnour Ahmed-Zaid, Michael Gelman, 4.

**AMATEUR:** 1st-2nd: Jason Howell, James Wharton, 5.5. 1st-2nd B: Tancredo Pastores, Jesse Vasquez, Rodrigo De Los Reyes, Ade Kujimiyo, 4.5. 1st-2nd C: Charles Casey, Leica Tilton, 4. 1st-2nd D/under: Andres Hernandez, Robert W. James, José Narvaez, 3.5.

## Round 1

All games are in board order.

Notes by FM Miles Ardaman

*Reversed Réti A46*

Larry Moss 2199

Miles Ardaman 2430

*Texas Ch. 1997 (1)*

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.c3 b6 4. Bg5

*ECO gives 4.dxc5 bxc5 5.e4 Bb7 6.e5 Nd5 7.Bd3 Qc7 8.Na3 g6 9.0-0 Bg7 10.Bg5 Nc6 11.Be4 Nb6 12.Re1 0-0 13.Bxc6 (13.Qd2 Rfe8 Δ Rad8, d6 ∞ Gipslis) Qxc6 14.Bxe7 Rfe8 ∞/= Knezevic-Gipslis, Moscow 1991. While ECO is silent about the text, it clearly leads to well-known Réti positions with colors reversed. 5...Bb7 5.Nbd2 d6 6.e3 (6. Bxf6!?) Nbd7 7.Be2 g6 8.0-0 Bg7 9.b4*

9.a4 a6 10.Qb3 Qc7 11.h3 Bc6 12.Rfc1 0-0 13.Qd1 e5 14.Qf1 = is like Bilek-Geller (Sousse izt 1967) except that colors are reversed.

9...0-0 10.Qb3 Qc7

White has not gained anything from the opening, and after his next move the initiative passes to Black.

11.Rab1?!

11.Qb2!? intending Rc1 if the c-file opens.

11...cxd4! 12.cxd4?!

Better is 12.Nxd4 Rac8 13.c4, at least avoiding a disadvantage.

12...Rfc8

Black has the edge in view of his temporary possession of the c-file and opportunities to invade on c3.

13.Bc4?!

13.Qb2?! Qc3 =+; 13.Rfc1? Qxc1+ 14.Rxc1 Rxc1+ -/+; 13.Qa3 Qc3 14.Rb3 Qc6 15.b5 Qd5 16.Rc1

Rxc1+ 17.Qxc1 Rc8 18.Rc3? Rxc3 19.Qc3 Qxa2 20.Qc7 Bxf3 +.

13...d5

13...e6 14.Rbc1 d5 15.Bxd5 Qxc1 16.Bxb7! ±.

14.Bd3 e6

14...Qc3! was more accurate so as to prevent Qa3.

15.Rb2?!

15.Qa3 a5 16.Rfc1 Qd6 17. Rxc8+ Rxc8 18.Bf4 Qe7 19.Qb2 =+.

15...Qc3 16.Nb1 Qxb3

Black will soon develop very strong pressure which White's uncoordinated forces will be poorly equipped to blunt.

17.Rxb3 Ne4 18.Bf4 Bf8 19.Ne1 (19.Nfd2) g3!

Guaranteeing the bishop pair.

20.Bg3 a5 21.a3 (21.b5!?) axb4 22. axb4 Ra2 23.f3 Nxg3 24.hxg3 Bd6 25.f4 g4 26.Rf2 Raa8 (...Ra1 27.

Nc2) 27.Rc2 Nf6 28.Nc3 Ne4 29. Nxe4 (29.Nb5 Be7) dxe4 30.Rxc8+ Rxc8 31.Bb5 h5 32.Kf2 Rc1 33. Rb2 h4 34.gxh4 g3+ 35.Ke2 Bd5

The passive white rook and knight along with weak pawns at g2 and b4 give Black's rook and bishops plenty to target as compensation for the pawn minus.

36.Kd2 Ra1 37.Be2 Kg7 38.h5 f6 39.Bg4 Ra2!

This tactic was available for the last two moves.

40.Rxa2 Bxb4+ 41.Kc2 Bxa2 42. Kb2 Bc4

42...Bxe1 43.Kxa2 f5 was at first sight attractive, but I found the variations tedious: 44.d5!? (probably best - 44.Be2 Kh6 45.Bc4 Kxh5 46. Bxe6 Kg6 47.d5 Kf6 -+) fxg4 45. dxe6 Kf6 46.f5 Bb4 47.h6 Be7 48. Kb3 and I don't see a win for Black! 43.Nc2 Bd6

The bishops continue to be very powerful here.

44.Kc3 (44.f5 e5) b5 45.Bd1

White can only wait. Now the bishops find their counterparts' home bases with crippling effect.

45...Bf1! 46.Ne1 Ba3 47.Bb3 Bc1! 48.Be6 b4+!



0-1

49.Kxb4 Bd2+ 50.Kc5 Bxe1 51. Bh3 Bd2 52.Kd5 Bd3 53.Bf5 Bxe3 54.Bxe4 Be2 -+.

### Queen's Indian E12

Igor Shtern 2411

Matt Campbell 2179

Texas Ch. 1997 (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.Nc3 Bb7 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 Be7 7.Qc2 d5 8.cxd5 exd5 9.e3 0-0 10.Bd3 Nbd7 11.0-0 Ne4 12.Nxd5 Bxh4 13.Bxe4 f5 14.Nf6+ Bxf6 15.Bxb7 Rb8 16. Qxf5 Be7 17.Qd5+ Kh8 18.Bc6 Nf6 19.Qxd8 Rbxd8 20.Ne5 Kh7 21.Rac1 Bd6 22.Nf3 g6 23.g3 Ng8 24.Kg2 Ne7 25.Nd2 Nxc6 26. Rxc6 g5 27. Ne4 1-0

### Sicilian Najdorf B91

Thomas Patton 2159

Omer Haldun Unalmis 2378

Texas Ch. 1997 (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.g3 b5 7.Bg2 Bb7 8.0-0 e6 9.Qe2 Qc7 10.Re1 Nbd7 11.Bd2 Be7 12.a4 bxa4 13. Nxa4 0-0 14.c4 Rfe8 15.b3 Bf8 16. Bc3 Ne5 17.f4 Ng6 18.h4 e5



19.Nc2 exf4 20.Bxf6 fxg3!

On 20...gxf6 21.gxf4!, both the f4 and h4 pawns are taboo.

21.Qg4 h5! 22.Qxg3 gxf6 23.Nd4 Qa5 24.c5 dxc5 25.Nf5 Rad8 26. Nb2 Qd2 27.Nc4 Qf4 28.Rf1 Qxg3 29.Nxg3 Nxh4 30.Nxh5 Bg7 31. Rf4 Ng6 32.Nxg7 Kxg7 33.Rg4 Rd4 34.Rf1 Be4 35.Nd6 Rxd6 36. Bxe4 Rd4 37.Rff4 f5 0-1

### Budapest Defense A52

Eugene Curtin 2368

Abdelnur Ahmed-Zaid 2146

Texas Ch. 1997 (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ng4 4. Bf4 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bb4+ 6.Nbd2 Qe7 7.e3 Nge5 8.Be2

8.Nxe5 Nxe5 9.Be2 is the usual move order. The text transposes but adds a move for each side.

8...Nxf3+ 9.Bxf3 0-0 10.0-0 Ne5 11.Be2 d6 12.Nb3 b6 13.a3 Bc5 14.Nxc5 bxc5 15.b4 cxb4

15...Nd7 16.Bg4 a5 17.Bxd7 Bxd7 18.bxc5 dxc5 19.Qd5 Ra6 20. Qe5 += Karpov-Short, Linares m/1 1992 (by transposition).

16.axb4 Bb7 17.Qd4 Nc6 18.Qc3 Nd8 19.Bg3 Ne6 20.f3 f5 21.Bf2 c5 22.b5 a6 23.Bd3 Qg5 24.Kh1 Rf6 25.bxa6 Bxa6 26.Rfb1 Rg6 27. Bf1 Qd8 28.Bg3 Ng5 29.Bd3 Qc8 30. Rb6 Rf6 31.Bh4 Rg6 32.Qb2 Nxf3 33.Raxa6

33.gxf3? Bb7! was Black's only hope.

33...Rxa6 34.Rb8 Ra1+ 35.Bb1 1-0

## Round 2

Notes by FM Miles Ardaman

### QP Opening D02

Miles Ardaman 2430

Jim Gallagher 2261

Texas Ch. 1997 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.b3 d5 4.Bb2 Bg7 5.Nbd2 0-0 6.g3 Ne4! 7.Bg2 c5 8.0-0 Nc6 9.e3 Bg4 10.h3 Nxd2 11.Qxd2 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 cxd4 13. exd4 = Qb6

Black has played well and neutralized any significant opening edge. The text is active, but unnecessarily complicated. (13...e6!?)

14.Bxd5 Rad8 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.c3

16.Qe3 Bxd4 (16...e5 was Jim's recommendation, but 17.dxe5 Qxe3 18.fxe3 Rd2 [18...Rfe8 19.Rad1

Rxd1 20.Rxd1 Bxe5 21.Bxe5 Rxe5  
22.Kf2 ± 19.Rf2 Rfd8 20.Bd4 +-)  
17.Bxd4 Rxd4 18.Qxe7 Rd2 =/∞.  
16...e5 17.Rfd1 exd4 18.cxd4 Rd5  
19.Rac1

Better is 19.Qe3 Rfd8 20.Rdc1  
Bxd4 21.Bxd4 Rxd4 22.Rc3 ± given  
the better pawn structure. [22...  
Rd1 + 23.Rxd1 Rxd1 + 24.Kg2 Qxe3  
25.Rxe3 Rd2 26.a4 Rb2 = Gallag-  
her; 22...Qa6!? 23.Qf3 R4d5 =.]  
19...Rfd8 20.Qe2 Qb7 21.Re1

I was very tired and so offered a  
draw. My fatigue was manifest by  
consuming much time on the clock,  
re-analyzing or re-checking rather  
simple variations. Larry had taken  
it out of me in the first round!

**Draw**

*Sicilian Najdorf B87*

Omer Haldun Unalmis 2378  
Mikhail Langer 2203

*Texas Ch. 1997 (2)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.  
Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.  
Bb3 b5 8.0-0 Be7 9.Qf3 Qb6 10.  
Be3 Qb7 11.Bg5 0-0 12.Rfe1 Nbd7  
13.Rad1 Nc5 14.e5 dxe5 15.Nc6  
e4 16.Nxe4 Nfxe4 17.Nxe7+ Kh8



18.Qx7 Bd7 19.Qh5 Be8 20.Qh4  
Nxc5 21.Qxc5 Nxb3 22.axb3 Bf7  
23.Re3 h6 24.Rh3 Kh7 25.Rg3 Rg8  
26.Qc5 Rad8 27.Re1 Rge8 28.Nc6  
Rc8 29.Qe5 Bg6 30.Nd4 Qd5  
31.c3 Rc5 32.Rge3 Qxe5 33.Rxe5  
Rxe5 34.Rxe5 Bf7 35.b4 Kg6 36.f4

Kf6 37.h4 Rc8 38.Kf2 Rc7 39.Ke3  
Rc8 40.g4 Rc7 41.g5+ hxg5 42.  
hxg5+ Ke7 43.Nxe6 Bxe6 44.f5  
Rc6 45.Rxe6+ Rxe6 46.fxe6 Kxe6  
47.Ke4 g6 48.b3 Kd6 49.c4 1-0

*QGD Slav D10*

Michael Gelman 2097

Drew Sarkisian 2268

*Texas Ch. 1997 (2)*

1.d4 c6 2.c4 d5 3.Nc3 e5 4.e3 e4 5.  
Qb3 Nf6 6.Bd2 dxc4 7.Bxc4 Qe7  
8.a4 a5 9.Nge2 Bf5 10.d5 Qc7 11.  
Rc1 Bd6 12.Nd4 Bg6 13.dxc6  
bxc6 14.Nxc6 Bb4 15.Nxb4 axb4  
16.Nd5 1-0

I had a horrible start (0.5/2) and  
withdrew, since my last round  
bye shut me out of any money. First  
I drew Mike Simpson, who then  
lost three games in a row and with-  
drew to join me in the cellar! At  
least the person who defeated me,  
Jim Rohrbaugh, won expert money.

*English Opening A34*

Jim Rohrbaugh 2162

Selby Anderson 2295

*Texas Ch. 1997 (2)*

1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 d5 4.cxd5  
Nxd5 5.e4 Nb4 6.Bc4

At the Fiesta Open he played 6.  
Bb5+.

6...Nd3+ 7.Ke2 Nf4+ 8.Kf1 Ne6

Six of Black's first eight moves  
have been with this knight! Yet this  
is now the main line, not the one  
with 6...Be6.

9.b4! g6!?

This gave Rohrbaugh his first  
pause of the opening, so he must  
have expected 9...cxb4 10.Ne2 when  
White's strong center will compen-  
sate for the pawn.

10.Bb2! N

Black had a good game after 10.  
bxc5 Bg7 11.Bxe6 Bxe6 12.d4 Nc6  
13.Be3 Qa5! Δ 0-0-0 in Ftacnik-  
Pinter, Prague 1985. I think White  
conceded too much to achieve d2-d4,

and that this line is ripe for inno-  
vation.

10...Bg7 11.bxc5 Nc6

Continuing to target d4. Self-  
defeating is 11...Nxc5?! 12.d4.

12.d4!



A critical position for this line.  
12...Ncx4?!

This has to be the wrong way.  
Better is 12...Nexd4 13.Ne2 (or 13.  
Nb5) ...e5 with ...Bg4 available.

13.Nb5 Nxb5

Or 13...Nxf3 14.Qxd8+ Kxd8  
15.Rd1+ Nfd4 16.Nxd4 Nxd4 17.  
Bxd4 Bxd4 18.Rxd4+ Ke8 19.Ke2  
±.

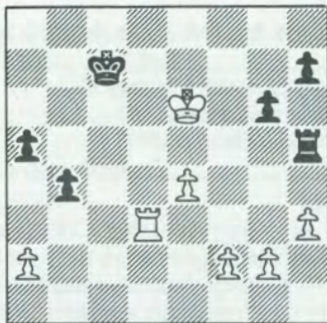
14.Bxb5+ Bd7 15.Bxd7+ Qxd7 16.  
Qxd7+ Kxd7 17.Bxg7 Nxg7 18.  
Ke2 Rhc8

Gallagher suggested 18...Rhd8.  
19.Rhd1+ Ke8 20.Rab1 Rc7 21.  
Nd4! Ne6??

The losing move. Better is 21...  
Rd8, or 21...f6 Δ Kf7, Ne6. The K+P  
element predominates in what fol-  
lows. As long as White keeps rooks  
on long enough to liquidate a Black  
queenside passer, his king will pre-  
vail on the kingside.

22.Nxe6 fxe6 23.Ke3 Rd8 24.  
Rxd8+ Kxd8 25.Kd4 Kc8 26.Rb2  
Kd7 27.Rb3 e5+ 28.Kd5 e6+  
29.Kxe5 Rxc5+ 30.Kf6 b5 31.Rh3  
Rh5 32.Rd3+

Darn, he didn't bite. Rohrbaugh  
finishes in masterly fashion.  
32...Kc7 33.h3 a5 34.Kxe6 b4



35.Rd5 a4 36.e5 Kc6 37.Rd2 Kc5  
38.f3 b3 39.axb3 axb3 40.Re2 Kc4  
41.Kd6 Kd3 42.Re4 Kc3 43.Re3+  
Kc4 44.Re4+ Kc3 45.e6 b2 46.Re1  
Ra5 47.Rb1 Ra1 48.Rxb2 Kxb2 49.  
e7 Ra8 50.Kd7 Kc2 51.e8(Q) Rxe8  
52.Kxe8 Kd3 53.Kf7 Ke3 54.Kg7  
Kf2 55.Kxh7 Kxg2 56.Kxg6 1-0

Notes by B.L. Patteson

*Caro-Kann B10*

Abdelnour Ahmed-Zaid 2146  
B.L. Patteson 2101

*Texas Ch. 1997 (2)*

1.e4 c6 2.d3 e5 3.g3 d5 4.Nd2 Nf6  
5.Ngf3 Bd6 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 dxe4

ECO quotes Ljubojevic-Karpov,  
Buenos Aires 1980: 7...Re8 8.Re1  
Nbd7 9.c3 dxe4 10.dxe4 Qc7=,  
8.dxe4 Qe7

Karpov made f8 available for the  
awkward Bd6. I have not solved that  
problem, and the bishop looks silly.  
9.c3 (9.Nc4!?) b6 10.Qc2 Ba6 11.  
Re1 Nbd7 12.Nb3 Rfe8 13.h3  
Rad8 14.Be3 Nc5 15.Nxc5 Bxc5  
16.Bxc5 Qxc5

The bishop problem has been  
solved, and Black stands well.  
17.b4 [17.Rad1 =] Qe7 18.Red1 c5  
19.a3 g6 20.Nd2?

As happens so often in chess, a  
draw offer is answered with a weak  
move.

20...Bd3 21.Qa2 Rd7 22.Re1 Ba6  
23.Bf1 Bxf1 24.Nxf1 Red8 25. Kg2

Rd3 26.Rac1 Qb7 27.Qe2 c4 28.  
Rc2 Qd7



29.Kh2 b5

Better was 29...Qa4! winning a  
pawn quickly.

30.Rcc1 Qb7 31.Rc2 Qa6 32.Ra1  
Qc6 33.Nd2 Nd7 34.Nf3 f6 (34...  
f5!?) 35.Ne1 Rd6 36.Ng2 Nb6 37.  
f3 Na4 38.Ne3?

In a difficult position, White  
blunders.

38...Nxc3 39.Qe1 Na4 40.Nd5  
Kg7 41.f4 Nb6 42.fxe5 fxe5 43.Qe3  
Nxd5 44.exd5 Rxd5 45.Rf1

White decides to remain two  
pawns down to try and generate  
some counterplay by exposing my  
king.

45...R8d7 46.Rcf2 Qd6 47.h4 Rd2  
48.h5 Rxf2+ 49.Rxf2 h6 50.hxg6  
Kxg6 51.Qe4+ Kg7 52.Qg4+ Kh7  
53.Qf5+ Kh8 54.Qh5 Qe6 55.Qf3  
Rd8 56.Qe3 a6 57.Qe4 c3?!

I just ran out of patience in the  
cat-and-mouse consolidation phase.  
I am now willing to enter a Q+P  
ending only one pawn ahead – and  
that probably is not enough to win.  
58.Qh4?

He must try 58.Qe3.

58...Rd2?

After four hours this type of  
error is typical. Correct was the  
*zwischenzug* 58...Rd4 driving his  
queen off of d8.

59.Rxd2 cxd2 60.Qd8+ Kg7 61.  
Qxd2

How would you like to have  
this ending as midnight approaches?  
61...Qc6 62.Qe2 Qe6 63.Qe4 Kf6  
64.Qh7 Qa2+ 65.Kh3 Qd2 66.Qh8+  
Ke6 67.Qc8+?

Big mistake. 67.Qg8+ draws, as  
my king cannot cross the d-file.

67...Qd7! 68.Qxa6+ Kd5+ 69.Kh2  
Qc6

Now I have serious winning  
chances based on my king entering  
his position. He must worry about  
three different plans: I may eat his  
queenside pawns with my king, or I  
may escort my passer, and last but  
not least I may build a mating net  
around his king. The position still  
may not be winning, but in practice  
all this was just too much.

70.Qa7 Ke4 71.Qf2 Qc4 72.Qg2+  
Ke3 73.Qg1+ Ke2 74.Qg2+ Ke1  
75.Qb7 e4 76.Qb6 Qe2+ 77.Kh3 h5  
78.Qc5 e3 79.Qc3+ Kf2 80. Qe5  
Kg1 0-1

**Round 3**

*QGD Semi-Slav D46*

Igor Shtern 2411  
Noureddine Ziane 2309

*Texas Ch. 1997 (3)*

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3  
e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 Be7 7.0-0 0-0  
8.b3 b6 9.Bb2 Bb7 10.Qe2 c5 11.  
Rfd1 cxd4 12.exd4 dxc4 13.bxc4  
Rc8 14.Ne5 Qc7 15.f4 Rfe8 16.a4  
a6 17.Rac1 Nf8 18.Ne4 Ng6 19.  
Rf1 Nxe4 20.Bxe4 Bxe4 21.Qxe4



f5 22.Qe3 Nxe5 23.fxe5 h6 24.Qb3 Bg5 25.Rc2 Red8 26.c5 Rd5 27.c6! Rcd8 28.Ba3 Kh7 29.Bd6 R8xd6 30.exd6 Rxd6 31.Re1 Rxc6 32.Rxc6 Qxc6 33.Qxe6 Qc2

A curious move, since on 33... Qxa4 the capture 34.Qxf5+? Kh8! is without venom. White should instead play 34.Qxb6 as in the game. 34.Qxb6 Bd2 35.Qb1 Be3+ 36.Kh1 Qxb1 37.Rxb1 Bxd4 38.Rd1 Bc3 39.g3 a5 40.Rd6 Bb4 41.Rb6 Bd2 42. Kg2 h5 43.Kf3 g6 44.Rb7+ Kh6 45. Rd7 Bb4 46.Kf4 Bc3 47.Rd6 Be1 48.Rd3 Bb4 49.Rd4 and 1-0

Notes by FM Eugene Curtin

*QGD Slav D13*

Eugene Curtin 2368

Omer Haldun Unalmis 2378

*Texas Ch. 1997 (3)*

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.Bf4 Nc6 7.e3 e6 8.Bd3 Be7 9.Ne5 0-0 10.0-0 Bd7 11.Rc1 Rc8 12.Bb1 b5 13.Qd3 g6

13...b4?! 14 Bg5 g6 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Nxd7 Qxd7 17.Na4 ±. 14.Bg5(?) (14.Bh6) Nxe5 15.dxe5 Ng4 16.Bxe7 Qxe7 17.f4?

White maybe should try 17.Qd4 Rc4 18.Qa7. [18...Rfc8! 19.Qxa6 b4 20.Ne2 Qh4! 21.h3 Rxc1 22.Nxc1 Nxf2; or 19.h3 Nxe5 20.Qxa6 Qb4.]



Only now while waiting for Omer to move did I notice that 17...

b4 18.Ne2 Bb5 19.Qd2 Qa7 20.Rf3 Bxe2 wins for Black. I missed 19... Qa7 in my previous calculations.

I was thinking about answering 19... Qa7 with 20.Nd4 to play for a kingside attack at the cost of an exchange. [20.Nd4 Bxf1 21.Rxf1 Rc4!] 17...Qc5?

This appears to seize the initiative; however, Black will not be able to make use of the c-file or the weakness of e3, and White will untangle with a clear positional advantage. [I think it's ± at best.]

18.Rf3 b4 19.Ne2 Qb6 20.Qd2 Rxc1+ 21.Nxc1 h5 22.h3 Nh6 23. Nb3 Rc8 24.Rf1 Bb5 25.Rc1 Rc4 26.Nd4 a5 27.b3 Rc5 28.Kf2 Kg7 29.Kf3 Bd7 30.g4 hxg4 31.hxg4 Rxc1 32.Qxc1 Ng8 33.f5!? exf5 34. gxf5 gxf5

34...Qb8!? 35.f6+ Kh7 36.Qh1+ Nh6, or 35.e6 fxe6 36.fxe6 Be8.

35.Bxf5 Qd8 36.Qg1+ Kf8 37. Bxd7 Qxd7 38.Qg4 Qxg4+ 39. Kxg4 Ne7 40.Kg5 Ke8 41.Kf6 Ng8 42.Kf5 Kd7 43.Kg5 Kc7 44. Ne2 Kd7 45.Nf4 Kc6 46.Kf5



46...Nh6+! 47.Kf6 Ng4+ 48.Kxf7 Nxe5+ 49.Ke6 Nd7 50.Nxd5 Nc5+ 51.Ke5 Nd3+ 52.Kd4 Nc1 53.e4 Nxa2 54.Kc4 Nc1 55.Nf4 Kd6 56.Nd3 Nxd3 57.Kxd3 Ke5 58.Kc4 Kxe4 59.Kb5 Kd4 60. Kxa5 Kc5 61.Ka4 Kc6 62.Kxb4 Kb6 63.Kc4 Kc6 Draw

Notes by FM Miles Ardaman

*French Winawer C15*

Miles Ardaman 2430

Michael Gelman 2097

*Texas Ch. 1997 (3)*

1.e4

My first meeting with our newest immigrant from the former Soviet Union. Mikahil, I had heard, was undefeated and 'undrawn' since his arrival about six months ago except for one draw against Big-hamian at the Houston Chess Club. 1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4. Nge2

This is a nice and simple way for White to maintain an edge without giving Black sharp counterplay as in many lines of the Winawer. [Miles scored a notable success with this line against Bradford in the 1990 state championship.]

4...dxe4 5.a3 Be7 6.Nxe4 Nf6 7.N2g3 0-0 8.Be2 Nbd7 9.0-0 Nxe4 10.Nxe4 Nf6 11.Bf3 Nxe4 12.Bxe4

The simplification might suggest an early peace treaty, but Black will be discomfited over his light-squared bishop.

12...Bf6 13.c3 Qe7 14.Re1 Rd8 15.Qf3 c6

With straightforward moves White has forced the first concession. The aforementioned prelate will suffer an enduring mobility disability.

16.Bf4 g6 17.Bc7!

A finesse to drive the rook to a less fortunate square. (17...Qxc7 18. Qxf6 Re8 19.Re3 Qe7 20.Qf4 [20. Qe5!]? e5?! 21.dxe5 Qxe5 22.Qh4 Qg7 23.Bxg6!! [23.Rae1 Be6 24.f4 +=] Rxe3 24.Qd8+ Qf8 25.Bxh7+ Kxg7 26.Qxf8+ Kxf8 27.fxe3 +=.) 17...Rd7 18.Be5 Bg7

Better is 18...Bxe5 19.dxe5 Rd8 saving a tempo over the game (but not 19...Rd2?! 20.Rad1 Rxb2? 21. Qf6! Qxf6 22.exf6 +-).



19.Qg3 Rd8 20.h4 Bxe5 (20... Bd7!?) 21.dxe5 Bd7

21...Rd2 22.Rad1 Rxb2 23.Qg5 Qxg5 24.hxg5 was still very dangerous given the likely invasion of the white rooks.

22.Rad1

22.Qf4!? Be8 23.Re3

a) 23...Rd2? 24.h5 Qf8 25.Rh3 Rxb2 26.hxg6 fxg6 (26...hxg6? 27. Bxg6! fxg6 28.Rh8+!) 27.Qxf8+ Kxf8 28.Rxh7 Rd8 =;

b) 23...Qf8 24.h5 Qg7 covers all the bases and readies the doubling of the rooks.

22...Be8 23.Rd6!

Transformation of one advantage to another is a basic strategy. Here White offers to convert an advantage of time, mobility and access to a vulnerable spot in Black's camp (d6) into a potentially protected far-advanced passed pawn. Simultaneously this avoids exchanging both pairs of rooks, important in stretching Black's defenses.

23...Rd7

23...Rxd6 24.exd6 Qf6 25.f4 Bd7 26.Qf2 b6 27.g3 Re8 28.Bg2 Kg7 29. Qe3± when White, while watching over e5, will try to slowly expand the queenside.

24.c4 f5!?

Double-edged: although the bishop is made more mobile, e6 becomes weak and the king exposed.

25.Bc2 c5!

Black must not allow White to play c4-c5 without a fight.

26.b4!

And here the fight begins.

26...Rc7 27.Qf4 Kg7 28.Re3

Mikhail suggested 28.b5 so as to lock in Black's pieces. I decided against this, however, in order to maintain pressure against c5 while building up an attack on the king. Extending my opponent's idea, he proposed to bring the bishop from c2 to f3, but again, it seems better to attempt activating it along the a2-g8 diagonal.

28...cxb4 29.axb4 a5 30.c5! axb4 31.Bb3!

According to plan, but the pawn sacrifice(s) can limit variations where White wants to simplify.

31...Ra1+ 32.Kh2 Bf7

32...Rxc5 no doubt was rejected given the highly dangerous exposure after 33.Rxe6 with attack.

33.h5!

The bishop is the thing!



33...Ra5

I) 33...gxh5 34.Rg3+ Kh8 35. Qh6 Bg8 36.Qxh5 Ra8 37.Qh6 leads to a favorable strengthening of White's pieces.

II) On 33...g5 I had seen 34.h6+! Kg6 (34...Kxh6 35.Qxf5 +-; better is 34...Kf8 as in the game) 35.Qxf5+!! Kxf5 36.Bc2+ Kg4 37. Rd4+ Kh5 38.Rh3 mate.

III) 33...Rxc5 34.Red3 . . .

a) 34...Rcc1 35.Rd7 Rh1+ 36.Kg3 Qe8 (36...g5 37.Qxf5! +-) 37.Qxg5 +-;

b) 34...g5 35.Qxb4 Rc7 . . .

b1) 36.Qb6 g4 37.h6+ Kxh6 38. Bxe6 Qh4+ 39.Rh3 g3+!! 40.fxg3 Qxh3+ 41. gxh3 (41.Kxh3 Rh1#) Ra2+ mates.

b2) 36.g4!? Rcc1 (36...fxg4 37. Qxg4 Rcc1 38.Bd1 Δ Rd7, f4) 37. h6+ Kf8 (37...Kxh6 38.Rxe6+!) 38. Bd1 with the attack.

34.Rh3

Better is 34.h6+, switching to the d-file immediately: 34...Kf8 35.

Red3 Rac5 (35...Rxc5 36.Rd7 +-) 36.Rd8+ (36.Bxe6!?! is an idea of Fritz 4: 36...Bxe6 37.Rd8+ Kf7 38. Rh8 g5 39.Rxh7+ Kg6 40.Rxe7 gxf4 41.Rxe6+±) Be8 37.R3d6 . . .

a) 37...R7c6 38.R6d7 Qxd7 39. Rxd7 Bxd7 40.Qg5 Be8 41.Qf6+ Bf7 42.Qg7+ Ke7 43.f4!

a1) 43...Rc8 44.Qf6+ (44.Qxh7 Rg8! -) Ke8 45.Bxe6 +-;

a2) 43...Rc3 44.Qxh7 Rxb3 45. Qg7 +-;

b) 37...R5c6 38.Bxe6 Rxd6 39. Rxd6 Rc6 40.Qxb4 returns the material but doesn't stave off the attack.

34...g5 35.h6+ Kf8

If 35...Kg6 36.Qg4! mates in one.

36.Qxb4 Raxc5

36...Rxc5 37.Rhd3 Rxe5 38. Rd8+ Be8 39.Qd2 Qf6 40.Rb8 ∞.

37.Rhd3!

Coordination is key.

37...g4

37...Rxe5 38.Rd8+ Be8 39.Qd4 Qf6 40.Ba4 Re7 41.Re3! +-.

38.g3

38.Rd8+ Be8 39.Ba4 b5 (39... Qh4+ 40.Kg1) 40.Bxb5 Rxb5 41. Rxe8+ Kxe8 42.Qxb5+±.

38...b5 39.Rd8+ Be8 40.R3d6 Rxe5 41.Qd4



A classic example of compensation: White's forces are drawn tightly together to form a powerful fighting unit, while Black has two pawns to keep him happy. His

men, however, are tied down and lack cohesion. And finally, his king is still in grave danger.

**41...Qf6 (forced) 42.Kg2!**

Reminding Black that White has no need to hurry – a bad sign for the second player. (42.Qxe5? Qxe5 43. Rxe6 Qxe6 44.Bxe6 Ke7 +.)

**42...Re7 43.R6d7! +- f4**

Forced. 43...Kf7 44.Rxe7+ Kxe7 45.Qd6+ Kf7 46.Qc7+ Qe7 (46...Kf8 47.Qd7 Qf7 48.Rxe8+ Qxe8 49.Qg7 mate) 47.Qxe5 Qxd8 48.Qg7 mate.

**44.gxf4?**

After 44.Rxe7 f3+ 45.Kf1 Kxe7 46.Qd6+ Kf7 47.Qc7+ Kg6 48.Bc2+ (48.Rxe8 Re4 49.Ra8 +-) Kh5 49. Rxe8 I was afraid of counterplay, but 49...Re2 50.Ra8 +- leaves Black still under fire.

**44...Rf5 45.Rxe7 Kxe7 46.Qd6+ Kf7 47.Rc8 Rxf4 48.Bxe6+**

48.Qc7+! Kf8 49.Qg7+ Qxg7 50. hxg7+ Kxg7 51.Rxe8 h5 (51...Re4 52.Re7+ Kf6 53.Rxh7 +-) 52.Re7+ Kf6 53.Rxe6+ Kg5 54.Rb6 b4 55. Rb5+ Kg6 (55...Kh4? 56.Bc2 +-) 56. Bc2+ Kh6 57.Rb6+ Kg5 58.Rg6+ Kh4 59.Ba4 Rc4 60.Re6 with excellent winning chances.

**48...Kg6 49.Qd3+ Kh6 50.Qe3 Qd4!**

50...Bf7 51.Bxf7 Qxf7 52.Kg3 + **51.Qxd4 Rxd4 52.Rxe8 Re4! 53. Bd7?!**

53.f3 gxf3+ 54.Kxf3 Re1 55.Kf4 b4 56.Kf5 at least would have offered a chance to enter a R+B vs. R ending – not an easy task to draw, even for GM's.

**53...Rxe8 54.Bxe8 b4 55.Ba4 Kg5 56.f3**

A balmy end to a stormy game.

**Draw**

Gallagher and Dejmek are two of the state's leading practitioners of the Dragon (both sides), as well as the Modern Benoni. In this game they produced one of the best fighting draws the event has seen.

Notes by NM Jim Gallagher

*Sicilian Dragon B78*

Jim Gallagher 2261

Mark Dejmek 2202

*Texas Ch. 1997 (3)*

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3**

With two *real* Dragon experts going at it, we see the proper move order – not the blunderous 7.Qd2? (allowing 7...Ng4!) of the 13th game of the recent Anand-Kasparov world championship match.

**7...0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.Bc4**

I have never, not for even one second been convinced that the currently popular 9.0-0-0 (which is actually a 1950s retro line!) is a more severe test of this defense than the text move.

**9...Bd7 10.h4 h5**

So it seems that I am the sole purveyor of the disreputable but Jurassic 10...Qa5.

**11.0-0-0 Ne5**

This move order is no *faux pas* since it amounts to nothing more than a simple transposition.

**12.Bb3 Rc8 13.Bg5 Rc5 14.g4 hxg4 15.f4**

While I readily agree that 15.h5 is vicious and toothy, I don't believe that the text is quite the lemon that Geller, Sapi, Schneider, Goldman and Schiller have all reported it to be. Certainly you don't expect me to play main line!

**15...Nc4 16.Qd3**

Of course not 16.Qe2?! of West-erinen-Mestel fame; you must attack g6 and stay on the d-file! The Sapi and Schneider book gets the nod over ECO on this line, for sure. [The game cited, from Esjberg 1979, continued 16.Qe2 b5 17.e5?! dxe5 18.Ndxb5 Nxb2! 19.Kxb2 (19. fxe5 Nxd1) Qa5 20.Rxd7 Nxd7 21. Bxe7 Rxc3! -/+.]

**16...b5 17.e5!?**

For my money, the only try. Why anyone would allow 17.h5 Rxc5! is beyond my comprehension. Now Sapi and Schneider go silent on this position, and I have to refer to the obscure *Dragon Yugoslav Attack* by Schiller and Goldman. **17...dxe5 18.Ndxb5**



**18...Nxb2**

It is because of this inevitable sac that I do not like the recommended 13.Kb1 of ECO B78, col. 17-18. If the king is going to b2 anyway, why waste time with Kb1?

**19.Kxb2 Qa5**

19...e4! is theory, but apparently Dejmek sniffed out my intended improvement: 20.Qd2 e3 21.Qxe3 (21. Qd3?! e2 22.Rd2 Qa8 23.Re1 Bxb5 24. Qxg6 Bc4 25.Bxc4 Rxc4 26.Qd3 Ne4 + was Cordes-Jakobsen, Esjberg 1985) 21...Rxb5 22.Kb1∞ Qa5 23.Nxb5 Bxb5 24.h5 Nxb5 (24... gxf3 25.Bxf6 Bxf6 26.Rxh5 ∞) 25. f5 Qa3 26.Qc1 Qxc1+ 27.Bxc1 Ng3 28.fxg6 Nxb1 29.gxf7+ Rxf7 30. Rxb1 +=.

**20.fxe5**

20.Bxf6 Bxb5 21.Qxg6 Qxc3+ +.

**20...Bxb5 21.Nxb5 Ne4 22. Nd4!?**

22.Qxe4 Rxe5 23.Qa4! Rxb5+ [23... Re4+ 24.Nd4] 24.Kc1 was found by ChessMachine. [A fantasy line is 24...Rxc5 25.hxg5 Qxg5+ 26. Kb1 Qe5 27.Bxf7+ Kxf7 28.Qc4+ e6 29.Rhf1+ Bf6 30.Rd7+ Kg8 31.

c3 Rb8+ 32.Kc2 Bg7 33.Rh1 Qf5+  
 34. Qd3 Qf2+ 35.Qd2 Qf5+ =.]  
 22...Nf2 23.Qxg6 Nxd1+  
 23...Nxb1  
 a) 24.Bh6 Qc3+ 25. Kb1 (25.Kc1  
 Qa1+ 26.Kd2 Qxd4+ 27.Kc1 Qxe5)  
 Qxb3+ 26.Nxb3 fxg6 27.Nxc5  
 Bxb6 28.Rxh1 Be3 29.Ne4 Rf4 -/+;  
 b) 24.Bxe7 Nf2 25.Bxf8 Qc3+  
 26.Kb1 Qxb3+ 27.Nxb3 fxg6 28.  
 Rd8! +-.  
 24.Rxd1 Qc3+ 25.Kb1 Rxe5 26.  
 Qc6



26...Qb4  
 26...Qa5 27.Bd2 Qa3 28.Qg2 +;  
 26...Rc5 27.Qe4 Rd8 28.Bxf7+  
 Kxf7 (28...Kh8 29.Qxg4) 29. Qxe7+  
 Kg6 (29...Kg8 30.Qxd8+) 30.Qe4+  
 Kf7 31.Qe6+ Kf8 32.Rf1+.  
 27.c3 Qa5 28.Rf1 Rc5 29.Qg6  
 Qxc3 30.Rxf7  
 30.Bxf7+ Rxf7 31.Qxf7+ Kh8  
 32. Qe8+ Kh7 33.Qh5+ Kg8  
 34.Qe8+ =  
 30...Qe1+ 31.Kb2 Qc3+ Draw

*QGD Tarrasch D34*

Eric Dimazana 2291  
 Jim Rohrbaugh 2162

*Texas Ch. 1997 (3)*

1.Nf3 e6 2.d4 d5 3.c4 c5 4.cxd5  
 exd5 5.g3 Nc6 6.Bg2 Nf6 7.0-0  
 Be7 8.Nc3 0-0 9.Bg5 Be6 10.Bxf6  
 Bxf6 11.dxc5 Bxc3 12.bxc3 Qa5  
 13.Qd3 Qxc5 14.Rfb1 Rab8 (b6!?)  
 15.Ng5 g6 16.Rb5 Qe7 17.h4 a6 18.  
 Rb6 Qc5 19.Rab1 Bf5 20.e4



20...dxe4 21.Bxe4 Ne5?!

Black should release his QR  
 from guard duty: 21...Rbd8 22.Qc2  
 Bc8 23.Bxc6 bxc6 24.Ne4 Qc4 =.  
 22.Qd4! Qxd4?

Relatively best is 22...Rfc8, but  
 it's not enough for equality: 23.  
 Bxf5 gxf5 24.Qxc5 Rxc5 25.Rxa6  
 Rxc3 26.Rf6! Δ Rxf5 ±.  
 23.cxd4 Nf3+

Not an oversight, but a realiza-  
 tion that after 23...Bxe4 24.Nxe4,  
 when the Ne5 moves White wins  
 the exchange with Nf6+ and Nd7.  
 24.Bxf3 Bxb1 25.Rxb1 b5 26.Bc6  
 Rfd8 27.d5 b4 28.Ne4 a5 29.Kf1  
 Kf8 30.Nc5 1-0

Notes by Michael Simpson

*Vienna Game C29*

Michael Simpson 2119

Leon Poliakoff 2019

*Texas Ch. 1997 (3)*

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.f4 d5 4.fxe5  
 Nxe4 5.d3 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Be7

A more aggressive attempt at  
 refutation is 6...d4, but there is  
 nothing terrible about the text.  
 7.Nf3 0-0 8.Be2 Bh4+ 9.g3 Be7 10.  
 0-0 Bh3 11.Rf2 f6 12.exf6 Bxf6 13.  
 d4

This position demonstrates why  
 the Vienna game was more popular  
 during the last century than this  
 one. Black has the initiative and at  
 least equality, and White must re-  
 sort to tricks to counter his oppo-

nent's superiority in the center. It's  
 remarkable how the absence of a  
 pawn on b2 weakens White's center  
 so substantially.

13...Nd7

13...c5 was more to the point,  
 but keeping this knight out of c4  
 was also worrisome

14.Be3 Qe7 15.Qd2 Rae8 16.Bf4

White manages to complete his  
 development, but the center still  
 feels like jello to me.

16...c6 17.Re1 Qa3 18.Bd3 Rxe1+  
 19.Qxe1 Bd8?

This may be the start of where  
 Black loses track of the middle  
 game; the counterplay that White  
 will obtain on the a3-f8 diagonal is  
 not worth the the a-pawn, at least  
 according to Chess Genius. [19...  
 Qxa2 20.Bd6 Rc8 21.Ne5 Qa5 -/+.]  
 20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Rxf2 22.  
 Kxf2 Qf8+ 23.Kg1 h6 24.Bc1 Nf6  
 25.c4

Now White is back in the game.  
 25...Ne4 26.cxd5 cxd5 27.c4 Ng5  
 28.Bxg5 hxg5 29.cxd5 Qf7 30.Qe5  
 Kf8 31.Qd6+

I made this move fully expect-  
 ing Leon to resign, since both 31...  
 Ke8 32.Bg6 and 31...Kg8 32.Qb8+  
 Qf8 33.Bh7+ win the queen; of  
 course, the latter line doesn't even  
 do that. I had forgotten Leon could  
 simply move his queen.

Proper here was 31.Qxg5.

31...Qe7 32.Qxe7??

Stunned by not winning instan-  
 tly, I transformed a won ending into  
 a bad but probably drawn one.  
 [32.Qe5 ±.]

32...Kxe7 33.Kf2 Kd6 34.Be4?

This is probably bad enough to  
 lose. I had already realized that I  
 could not hold onto d5, and that  
 Be4 would hinder Black, not stop  
 him. Gelman pointed out that after  
 34.Bc4 the bishop helps to hold the  
 queenside majority at bay and is  
 probably sufficient to draw.

34...Bd7 35.Kf3 b5 36.h4 gxh4 37.  
 gxh4 b4 (Yeah, yeah.) 38.Kf4 a5 39.

Kg5 Be8 40.Kf4 Bf7 41.Ke3 Bxd5  
42.Bb1 a4 43.Kf4 Bxa2 44.Bxa2  
b3 0-1

## Round 4

### Sicilian B31

Omer Haldun Unalmis 2378

Igor Shtern 2411

### Texas Ch. 1997 (4)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.0-0  
Bg7 5.c3 Nf6 6.e5 Nd5 7.d4 cxd4  
8.cxd4 0-0 9.Nc3 Nc7 10.Ba4 d6  
11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.h3 Bb7 13.Be3  
Ne6 14.exd6 Qxd6 15.Qb3 Rab8  
16.Rfd1 Ba8 17.Qc2 f5 18.Ne2 f4  
19.Bd2 Kh8 20.Bc3 Qd5 21.b4  
Ng5 22.Nxg5 Qxg5



23.f3 Bb7

Not 23...c5? 24.dxc5 Bxf3?? 25.  
Bxg7+ Kxg7 26.Qc3+ and Qxf3 +-.  
24.Kh1 Ba6 25.a3 Bc4 26.Bb2 Bd5  
27.Nc3 Rbc8 28.Rac1 Be6 29.Ne4

Draw

### Nimzo-Indian E30

Michael Gelman 2097

Eugene Curtin 2368

### Texas Ch. 1997 (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bg5  
c5 5.d5 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 d6 7.f3!?

ECO gives only 7.e3 and 7.dxe6.  
After the text I think 7...h6 is best,  
to gain a tempo on the Bh4 when  
Black plays ...Ng6 later on. Also,  
White would have less control over  
f4 than in the game.

7...e5(?) 8.e4 Nbd7 9.Bd3 Nf8 10.  
Ne2 Ng6 11.Qd2 h6 12.Be3 Qe7

Another loss of tempo, but 12...  
Nh5 13.g4! is not very fruitful.  
13.h4! Nh5 14.g3 Qf6 15.Rf1 Rf8  
16.Kd1 Kd8 17.Kc2 Kc7 18.g4  
Nhf4 19.h5



19...Nxe2 20.g5!

This little *zwischenzug* wrecks  
Black's hopes of maintaining the  
blockade at f4. Now 20...hxg5??  
21.Bxg5 gets the queen trapped.

20...Qe7 21.Bxe2 Nf4 22.Bxf4 exf4  
23.gxh6 g5 24.hxg6 fxc6 25.Rh1  
Bd7 26.Rag1 Rf6 27.Rg5 Rh8 28.  
Bd3 Qf8 29.Qh2 Rh7 30.Qh4 Qe8  
31.Rgg1 Qe5 32.Rg5 Qe8 33.Kd2  
Kb6 34.Qe1 Qf8 35.Qh4

There is no hurry to play e4-e5.

35...Qe8 36.Rh2 Kc7 37.Qe1 Kb6?

Wandering into a trap.

38.e5! dxe5 39.Rxg6! 1-0

Notes by FM Miles Ardaman

### Pirc Defense B07

Mark Dejmek 2202

Miles Ardaman 2430

### Texas Ch. 1997 (4)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 c6

Trying out a relatively new system.

4.f4 Qa5 5.e5 Ne4 6.Qf3 Nxc3 7.  
Bd2

Mark as usual selects a sharp  
continuation.

7...Na6!

I believe this is a novelty. The  
knight has options of going to b4 or  
c7.

8.Bxc3 Qb6 9.f5 Nb4!

It proves uncomfortable to meet  
this simple attack.

10.Bd3

10.0-0-0? Nxa2+; 10.Qf2 dxe5  
11.Bxb4 Qxb4+ 12.c3 Qa5.

10...e6 11.g4!? dxe5 12.dxe5 h5!

This should smash White's ag-  
gressive formation.

13.gxh5 Nxd3+?!

13...exf5! 14.Bxf5 [14.Ne2 g6]  
Bxf5 15.Qxf5 Qe3+ 16.Ne2 Rxb5  
17.Qxb5 Nxc2+ 18.Kf1 Nxa1 -+.

14.Qxd3 exf5 15.Ne2 Rxb5?

Black should have satisfied him-  
self with 15...Be6 16.0-0-0 Rd8 17.  
Qxd8+ Qxd8 18.Rxd8+ Kxd8 19.  
Nf4 Bc5 =+.

16.0-0 Rh4

16...Be6?? 17.Nf4 Rh6 18.Nxe6  
+.

17.Nd4! Re4

I now spent considerable time  
trying to extricate myself from my  
mess. 17...Qa6 18.Nb5!! +-; 17...Qd8!  
18.Qg3 Rg4 19.Nxc6!! Qg5+ 20.Bd2  
is the reason I rejected this line, but  
20...Qg6! is winning since there's no  
mate on d8. (20... Rxg3 21.Bxg5 +  
was all I saw.)

18.Rhe1! Rxe1 19.Rxe1 Qa6!?

19...Be6 was another way to wig-  
gle: 20.Nxf5 Qf2 21.Nd6+ Bd6 22.  
exd6 0-0-0 =+.

20.Qxa6!?! bxa6 21.Nxc6?!

Better is 21.e6! activating the  
troops: 21...c5 22.Nf5 g6 (22...fxe6  
23.Nxg7+) 23.exf7+ Kxf7 24.Nh4  
Bh3 25.Nf3 ±.

21...Bb7 22.Nd4 Be4 23.e6 Bd6  
24.h3 Rd8 (24...g6!?) 25.Nb3 fxe6  
26.Bxg7 a5 27.Bc3 a4 28.Nd4  
(28.Nd2 Bf4) Kf7 29.Rg1 Bf4+ 30.  
Kb1 e5 31.Nb5 Kf6 32.Na3

Better is 32.h4 Δ Be1.

32...Rh8 33.b3 Rxb3 -+ 34.Kb2  
axb3 35.axb3 Rh1 (35...Rh2!?) 36.  
Rxb1 Bxb1 37.Nc4 Bd5 (37...Ke6)

38.Nd6 Ke6 (38...Bc6) 39.Nb5 Be3? (39...Bc6 +) 40.Bb4?

40.Nc7+ Kd6 41.Ne8+ Kd7 42.Ng7 f4 43.Bxe5 f3 44.Nf5 was the best chance.

40...Bc6 41.Nc7+ Kf6 42.c4 f4 43.Kc2 e4 44.Bd6 f3 45.Kd1 Bd4 46.b4 e3 47.b5 e2+ 48.Kd2 Bc3+ 0-1

*French Advance C02*

Noureddine Ziane 2309

John Patty 2201

*Texas Ch. 1997 (4)*

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bd7 6.Be2 f6 7.Bf4?

7.0-0 fxe5 8.Nxe5 Nxe5 9.dxe5 Qc7 10.Bf4 (10.c4!?) Ne7 11.Re1 0-0-0 12.Bd3 Be8 13.Nd2 Bg6 = Jamieson-Tal, corr. 1977.

7...cxd4 8.cxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2



9...g5! 10. Be3 g4 11.exf6

11.Nh4 fxe5 ...

a) 12.dxe5 d4 13. Bf4 Bb4 +;

b) 12.Bxg4 Bb4 13.Nc3 exd4 +;

c) 12.0-0 exd4 13.Bg5 e5 avoids the loss of a piece, but the two pawn deficit will tell.

11...gxf3 12.f7+ Kxf7 13.Bxf3 Nf6 14.0-0 Bg7 15.Nc3 Rhf8 16.g4 Kg8

Now that Black has castled by hand, the game is effectively over.

17.g5 Ne8 18.Be2 Nd6 19.Rac1 Nf5 20.Kh1 Ncxd4 21.Bg4 Qd6 22.Rg1 Nxe3 23.fxe3 Nf3 24.Bxf3 Rxf3 25.Ne4 Qf8 26.Nf6+ Bxf6 27.gxf6+ Kh8 28.Rcf1 Qxf6 29.Rxf3 Qxf3+ 30.Rg2 Qf1+ 31.Rg1 Qf3+

32.Rg2 Rf8 33.h4 e5 34.Qc3 d4 35.Qc5 dxe3 36.Qxe5+ Qf6 37.Qxe3 Bc6 0-1

*Caro-Kann B12*

Shivkumar Shivaji 2049

Drew Sarkisian 2286

*Texas Ch. 1997 (4)*

1.e4 c6 2.d4 Na6 3.Nf3 g6 4.Bg5 f6 5.Be3 Nc7 6.Nc3 Nh6 7.Qd2 Nf7 8.Bd3 d6 9.0-0-0 Bg7 10.Nh4 e5 11.dxe5 dxe5 12.Nf3 Be6 13.Qe2 Qe7 14.h4 0-0 15.h5 g5 16.Nh2 Nh6 17.g3 Kh8 18.f4 exf4 19.gxf4 gxf4 20.Bxf4 Nf7 21.Nf3 Bh6 22.Qe3 Bg5 23.Nxg5 fxe5 24.Qd4+ Kg8 25.h6 Nh8 26.Bd6 Qd7 27.Qg7+ Qxg7 28.hxg7 1-0

*Sicilian Dragon B72*

William Barefield 2108

José Luis Silva 2232

*Texas Ch. 1997 (4)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.f3 Be6 10.0-0 Ne5 11.Nxe6 fxe6 12.f4 Neg4 13.Bd4 e5 14.fxe5 Bh6?

14...dxe5 15.Be3 Nxe3 16.Qxe3 Qd4 =.



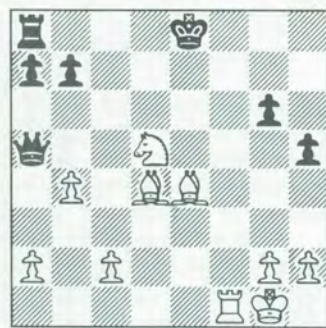
15.exf6!! Bxd2 16.fxe7!

16.Bc4+ e6 17.Be6+ Kh8 18.Bg4 h5 19.Be6 ∞.

16...Be3+

16...Rxf1+ 17.Rxf1 Qc7 18.Nd5! Qxc2 19.Bxg4 h5 20.Bc7+-.

17.Bxe3 Qxe7 18.Bxg4 d5 19.Bd4 h5 (19...dxe4 20.Nxd5 +-) 20.Bf3 Qb4 21.Rad1 dxe4 22.Nxe4 Rf5 23.Nf6+ Kf8 24.Nd5 Qa5 25.Be4 Rxf1+ 26.Rxf1+ Ke8 27.b4!



1-0

White's pieces are having too much fun! A very pretty finish by the college student from Lubbock.

## Round 5

*QGD Exchange D36*

Igor Shtern 2411

Michael Gelman 2097

*Texas Ch. 1997 (5)*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 c6 6.Qc2 Be7 7.e3 Nbd7 8.Bd3 Nf8 9.Nge2 Ne6 10.Bh4 g6 11.0-0 0-0 12.f3 c5 13.dxc5 Nxc5 14.Rad1 Be6 15.Bc4 Ncd7 16.Bb3 Qb6 17.Bf2 Qc6 18.Nd4 Qd6 19.e4 Nb6



20.Rfe1 Qd8 21.Nxe6 fxe6 22. exd5 exd5 23.Bxb6 Qxb6+ 24.Kh1 Bd8 25.Nxd5 Nxd5 26.Bxd5+ Kh8 27.Re6 Qc7 28.Qxc7 Bxc7 29. Re7 Bb6 30.Bxb7 Rad8 31.Rdd7 Rxd7 32.Rxd7 Rd8 33.Rxd8+ Bxd8



34.g3 g5 35.Kg2 Kg7 36.f4 gxf4 37.gxf4 a5 38.Kf3 Bf6 39.b3 Bb2 40.Ke4 Kf6 41.Bc8 Bc1 42.h3 Bd2 43.Bg4 h6 44.f5 Bc1 45.Be2 Bb2 46.h4 Bc1 47.Bb5 Bb2 48.Bc6 Bc1 49.Be8 Ke7 50.Bg6 Bb2 51.Kd5 h5 52.Bxb5 Bf6 53.Kc5 Bxb4 54.b4 axb4 55.Kxb4 Kd6 56.Kb5 Bf6 57. a4 Bd4 58.a5 Kd5 59.a6 1-0

Notes by FM Miles Ardaman

*English A25*

Miles Ardaman 2430  
Art Garey 2222

*Texas Ch. 1997 (5)*

1.g3 e5 2.d3 d6 3.Bg2 f5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Rb1 Be6 7.Nd5 Qd7 8.b4 Nd8 9.b5 Be7 10.e3 0-0 11. Ne2 c6 (11...Rb8) 12.bc6 bxc6 13. Nxe7+ Qxe7 14.Ba3 Rc8 15.0-0 c5 16.Qa4± Qd7 17.Qa6 g5?!

Although Black probably has been wondering when his chance would come, this was not the time. Better was 17...Ne8.

18.f4

The bishop pair will begin to enjoy position after this opening of the position.

18...gxf4 19.gxf4 Ng4 20.Bc1 e4

Black did not want to wait to be pushed back with h2-h3, but the c4 pawn will still be inaccessible due to the loose rook on c8 – e.g., 21. dxe4 Qf7 22.exf5 Bxc4 23.Qxc8.

21.dxe4 Rc6 22.Qa4 Rb6

An endgame is suicide, but perhaps Black felt he wasn't going to live through the middlegame.

23.Qxd7 Bxd7 24.Rxb6 axb6 25. exf5 Bxf5 26.Nc3 Nf6 (26...Bd3 27. Bd5+) 27.Rd1 Nf7 28.e4 Bg4

28...Be6 29.Nd5 Bxd5 30.exd5 (30.cxd5?! Re8 +=) Re8 31.Bf3 ±.

29.Rd3 Re8 30.Nd5 Nxd5 31.cxd5

Not only does Black have to deal with the bishop pair and White's extra pawn, but also with how to activate his knight.

31...Kf8 32.Kf2 b5 33.a3 c4 34. Re3 Bh5 35.Bd2 Nh6 36.h3

36.Rh3 Ng4+ 37.Kg3 Nf6 38. Bc3 Nxe4+ 39.Bxe4 Rxe4 40.Rxh5 Re3+ was to be avoided.

36...Ke7 37.Rg3 Rg8 38.Rxg8 Nxd5 39.e5 1-0

The next game may be the first instance of a reigning Texas champion losing to the senior champion. After his recent comeback, no one should pity Patty.

*QGD Slav Exchange D13*

John Patty 2201  
Omer Haldun Unalmis 2378

*Texas Ch. 1997 (5)*

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 a6 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.Bf4 Nc6 7.e3 e6 8.Bd3 Be7 9.h3 0-0 10.0-0 b5 11.a3 Na5 12.Ne5 Bb7 13.Qe2 Rc8 14. Bg5 Ne4 15.Bxe7 Qxe7 16.Qc2 f5 17.Rfc1 Nxc3 18. bxc3 Rc7 19.Qb2 Nc4 20.Bxc4 dxc4 21.Qb4 Qg5 22. g3 Qd8 23.a4 g5 24.Re1

White prepares to answer 24... Qd5 25.f3 g4 with 26.e4, canceling out the diagonal danger.

24...bxa4 25.Rxa4 Qe8 26.Ra5 Rg7 27.Qxc4 Rf6 28.Rb1 Rh6



29.Rc5!

White readies a counterpunch.

29...Rxh3 30.Rxb7! Rh1+ 31.Kxh1 Qh5+ 32.Kg2 Rxb7 33. Qxe6+ Kg7 34. Rc8 h6 35.Qg8+ Kf6 1-0

The finish would be 36.Rc6+ Ke7 37. Re6 mate.

A sideline dash to escape perpetual check has an unexpected consequence:

A. Smith (2136) - Dejmek (2202)



44.Qe5+ Kg8 45.Qb8+ Kg7 46. Qe5+ Kf8 47.Qh8+ Ke7 48.Qf6+ Ke8 49.Qe5+ Kd7 50.Qd5+ Kc7 51.Qe5+

Avoiding the pitfall 51.Qxf7+? Qd7+ 52.Qxd7+ Kxd7 53.Kc4 Ke6 54.Kb5 h5 +.

51...Kb6 52.Qb8+ Kc5 53.Qe5+ Kb4?? 54.Qd4+ Kb3 55.Qxa4 Kxa4 56. Kc4 1-0

Oops! It's zugzwang.

**P**awn power in action:

Vergara (2118) - Bar-Jona (2186)



34...b5 35.Bb3 a5 36.a3 b4 37.axb4  
axb4 38.Bc4 Ba4 39.Ba2 Bc2 40.  
Bc4 b3 41.Kd2 f4 42.Kc3 f3 43.  
Nd4 Bd1 44.Nxb3 e3 45.Nc1 Ke4  
46.Bd3+ Kxd5 47.Ba6 f2 48.Bf1  
Ke4 49.Ne2

White has blockaded heroically. Now he threatens to expel Black's king with Bg2+, e.g. 49...e5?? 50. Bg2+ Kf5 51.Kd3 +-. 49...Kf3!

Going for the kingside pawns guarantees at least a draw.

50.Nd4+ Kg4 51.Kd3 e5 52. Nc6! 52.Ne2?? loses to 52...Kf3! 53. Nc3 e4+ 54.Nxe4 e2 +. 52...e2! 53.Bxe2+ Kh3



54.Nxe5??

A long, arduous defense takes its toll. White draws with 54.Ke3! Bxe2 55.Kxf2 (55.Kxe2?? Kg2) ...

a) 55...Bh5 56.Nxe5 Kxh2 57.g4 Be8 58.Kf3 Kh3 59.Ke4! Ba4 60.Kf5 =;

b) 55...e4 56.Kxe2 Kxh2 57.Kf2 e3+ 58.Kxe3 Kxg3 59.Ne5 (or 59. Nd4 =) h5 60.Nf7 g4 61.Nh6 Kh3 62.Kf2 = (but not 62.Nf5?? g3 -+). 54...Bxe2+ 55.Kxe2 Kg2 0-1

## Round 6

Notes by FM Miles Ardaman

*Pirc Defense B07*

Miles Ardaman 2430

Igor Shtern 2411

*Texas Ch. 1997 (6)*

1.g3 Nf6 2.Bg2 g6 3.d4 d6 4.e4 Bg7 5.Nc3 0-0 6.Nge2 e5 7.h3 c6 8.a4

Igor did not know that I had played this system frequently. 8...Be6 9.0-0 Qd7 10.g4

10.Kh2 d5 would be similar to the game, but White would not control f5, which the e6 bishop could then use.

10...d5 11.exd5 Nxd5 12.Ne4! Na6 13.dxe5± Bxe5 14.Nd4 Rad8 15.Bh6 Rfe8

15...Bg7? 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17. Nxe6+ fxe6 18.Qd4+ and Qxa7 ±. 16.c3 Qe7 (16...Qc7!?) 17.Qf3 (17. Rel!?) Nc5 18.Nxe6 Nxe6 19.Rfe1 Bg7

*In the post mortem 19...Bf4 was discussed: 20.Bxf4 Ndx4 21.Bf1, when 21...f5?! proved too rambunctious: 22.gxf5 gxf5 23.Ng3 Qg5 24. Rad1 Rxd1 25.Rxd1 h5 26.Kh2 h4 27.Ne2 Re7 28.Nxf4 Nxf4 29.Bc4+ and 30.Rg1 ±. But if Black maintains the status quo (21...b6 22.Bc4 Kh8) he seems to be all right.*

*ChessMachine suggests 19... Qh4! (it only looks dangerous for the queen) 20.Bd2 Ndf4 21.Bf1 ...*

a) 21...Ng5 22.Nxg5 Rxd2 23. Nxf7 Kxf7 24.Rxe5 Rxf2 25.Qxf2 Qxf2+ 26.Kxf2 Rxe5 =;

b) 21...Rxd2 22.Nxd2 Ng5 23. Qg3! Ngxh3+ 24.Bxh3 Nxh3+ 25. Kg2 Bxg3 26.Rxe8+ Kg7 27.fxg3 Qxg4 28.Re4 Qf5 29.Rf1 Qd5 30. Re7 Qxd2+ 31.Kxh3 Qh6+ =. 20.Bd2

With Igor some 20 minutes shorter on the clock, it seemed prudent to avoid trades when possible. But also positionally, retaining the bishop is important to be able to battle for control over f4.

20...Qc7 21.Rad1 Ndf4 22.Bf1

A temporary retreat. The bishop will have its chances later (e.g., h3 or c4).

22...Kh8 23.h4 Rf8 24.g5

Playing to fix a hopping spot on f6.

24...Nd5

With no more targets, the knight only feels threatened on f4.

25.Bc1±



25...Ne7

Attempting to try his luck on f5. (25...Qa5 26.b3 Nxc3? 27.Bd2 Nd4 28.Qxc3 Ne2+ 29.Bxe2 Bxc3 30.Bxc3+.)

26.Rxd8 Qxd8 27.Rd1

27.b3!? Nf5 28.h5 Qa5 29.Bh3 ±.

27...Qa5

27...Qc7 28.b3 Nf5 (28...Nd5 29. Ba3 Rd8 30.c4 ±) Ndf4 31.Bd6) 29.h5 ±.

**28.Bh3**

28.b3!? Qf5 29.Qxf5 Nxf5 30.  
Rd7 ±.

**28...Qxa4 29.Rd7 Nf5**

29...Nd5!? 30.Rxb7 Qa1 31.Qd1  
Nef4 32.Bf1 ±.

**30.Bxf5 gxf5 31.Qxf5 Qa1 32. Rd1 Qb1 33.Qf3**

33.Ng3 assures an endgame edge,  
but I did not want to depend on this  
in a must-win situation.

33...Qc2 34.Re1 (34.Kh1!?) f5 (34...  
f6 35.Qf5 ±) 35.Ng3 Nc5

**36.Bf4**

Going for checkmate. (36.Qd1 ±.)

**36...Qxb2**

36...Nd3 37.Re7 Nxf4 38.Qxf4  
Qxb2 39.Rxg7! Kxg7 40.Qe5+ Kg8  
41.Nh5 +- [or 40...Kf7 41.Nxf5 +-].

Best is 36...Ne4 37.Nxe4 fxe4  
38.Qxe4 Qxb2 39.Rb1 Qxc3 40.  
Rxb7 ±.

**37.Be5**

37.Bd6! Qxc3 38.Qxc3 Bxc3 39.  
Bxf8 Bxe1 40.Bxc5 +-.

**37...Bxe5 38.Rxe5 Qb1+! 39. Kh2**

39.Nf1 Qd3 40.Qh5 Qd6 41.g6  
Qxg6+ 42.Qxg6 hxg6 43.Rxc5 ±.

**39...Nd7??**

39...Qd3! (Fritz!) 40.Qh5 f4  
(40...Qd6 41.g6) 41.Ne4!! Nxe4 42.  
Qh6 Qd6 43.g6 Nf6 44.g7+ Kg8 45.  
gxf8(Q)+ Qxf8 46.Qxf4 ±.

**40.Re7 +- Nb6 41.Qf4 1-0**

41...Nd5 42.Qe5+ Nf6 was the  
only way to delay mate.

**QGD Slav D30**

Eugene Curtin 2368

John Patty 2201

*Texas Ch. 1997 (6)*

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c6 4.Qc2  
Nf6 5.g3 Bd6 6.Nbd2 Nbd7 7.Bg2  
0-0 8.0-0 Qe7 9.e4 Nxe4 10.Nxe4  
dxe4 11.Qxe4 Nf6 12.Qe2 Bd7 13.  
Ne5 Rfd8 14.Be3 Be8 15.Rfd1  
Rac8 16.Rac1 c5 17.b3 cxd4 18.  
Bxd4 b6 19.Qe3 Ba3 20.Rc2 Nd5  
21.Qe2 Nb4 22.Rcd2 f6 23.Ng4  
Nc6 24.Bc3 Rxd2 25.Rxd2 Rd8  
26.Rxd8 Nxd8 27.Qd2 Qd6 28.  
Qxd6 Bxd6 Draw

**English Opening A31**

Eric Dimazana 2291

Michael Gelman 2097

*Texas Ch. 1997 (6)*

1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.d4  
cxd4 5.Nxd4 Qb6 6.e3 g6 7.Be2  
Bg7 8.0-0 0-0 9.b3 d5 10.cxd5  
Nxd4 11.exd4 Qa5 12.Bd2 Nxd5  
13.Rc1 Nxc3 14.Bxc3 Qb6 15.d5  
Rd8 16.Qd2 Bxc3 17.Rxc3 Bf5 18.  
Rc4 Rac8 19.Rfc1 Rxc4 20.Rxc4  
Qd6 21.Bf3 Rc8 22.Rxc8+ Bxc8  
23.Qc3 Bd7 24.b4 b6 25.h4 h5 26.  
g3 e5 27.dxe6 Bxe6 28.a3 Draw

**Ruy Lopez C63**

Omer Haldun Unalmis 2378

Shivkumar Shivaji 2049

*Texas Ch. 1997 (6)*

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 f5 4.d3  
fxe4 5.dxe4 Nf6 6.0-0 Bc5 7.Nc3  
d6 8.Bg5 0-0 9.Nd5 Be6 10.Bc4  
Bxd5 11.Bxd5+ Kh8 12.Bxc6 bxc6  
13.Qd3 Qe8 14.Be3 Bb6 15.c4  
Bxe3 16.Qxe3 c5 17.Nd2 Nd7 18.  
g3 Nb8 19.f4 exf4 20.gxf4 Nc6 21.  
Rf2 Rb8 22.b3 Nd4 23.Raf1 a5 24.  
Rg2 a4 25.Kh1 Rf7 26.Rfg1 Ne6  
27.Rg4 Qe7 28.Nf3 axb3 29.axb3  
Nd4 30.Nd2 Ra8 31.Qh3 Ra2??  
(31...Ne2 32.Rf1 Ra2 33.Qe3 h5 34.  
Rg2 Nxf4 35.Rxf4 Ra1+ 36.Nf1  
Rxf1+ -/+ ) 32.Rxg7 1-0

**Budapest Defense A52**

Art Garey 2222

Abdelnour Ahmed-Zaid 2146

*Texas Ch. 1997 (6)*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ng4 4.Nf3  
Bc5 5.e3 Nc6 6.a3 a5 7.b3 0-0 8.  
Bb2 Re8 9.Bd3 Ngxe5 10.Bc2 d6  
11.Nbd2 Bg4 12.Ne4 Bb6 13.h3  
Bxf3 14.gxf3 f5 15.f4 fxe4 16.fxe5  
Nxe5 17.Bxe4 Qh4 18.Bd5+ Kh8  
19.Ke2 c6 20.Bg2 Rf8 21.Qe1 a4  
22.Bxe5 dxe5 23.f3 Qg5 24.Kf2  
axb3 25.h4 Qf6 26.Qc3 e4 27.Qxf6  
Rxf6 28.Rhb1 exf3 29.Bf1 Rd8 30.  
Rxb3 Rd2+ 31.Kg3 Bc7+ 32.Kg4  
g6 33.Rxb7 Rf7 34.Rxc7 Rxc7 35.  
Kxf3 Rf7+ 36.Kg3 Rff2 37.a4 Ra2  
38.Rxa2 Rxa2 39.Bg2 Rxa4 40.  
Bxc6 Rxc4 41.Bd5 Rc3 42.Kf4  
Kg7 43.h5 Kf6 44.hxg6 hxg6 45.e4  
g5+ 46.Kg4 Re3 47.Bb7 Re1 48.  
Kf3 Ke5 49.Kg3 Rg1+ 50.Kf2 Rb1  
51.Bc6 Kf4 52.e5 Rb2+ 53.Kg1  
Kxe5 0-1

**English Opening A38**

Andrew Bar-Jona 2186

Andrew Smith 2136

*Texas Ch. 1997 (6)*

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.c4  
c5 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.d3 d6 7.0-0 0-0 8.  
Rb1 h6 9.a3 a5 10.Bd2 e5 11.Ne1  
Nh5 12.Nd5 f5 13.f4 Kh7 14.Nc2  
Ra7 15.b4 axb4 16.axb4 b6 17.Be3  
Nd4 18.Nxd4 cxd4 19.Bd2 Be6  
20.Ra1 Rff7 21.Qb3 Nf6 22.Nxf6+  
Bxf6 23.b5 Rxa1 24.Rxa1 e4 25.  
dxe4 Rc7 26.Rc1 Qc8 27.exf5 gxf5  
28.Bc6 Rxc6 29.bxc6 Qxc6 30.Qd3  
Kg7 31.e3 Bc8 32.exd4 Ba6 33.d5  
Qa4 34.Bc3 b5 35.Bxf6+ Kxf6 36.  
Qc3+ Kg6 37.Ra1 1-0 [time]

**Nimzo-Indian E47**

J.P. Hylltin 2097

Louis McClary 2117

*Texas Ch. 1997 (6)*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3  
0-0 5.Bd3 d6 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.0-0  
Bxc3 8.bxc3 e5 9.Qc2 Re8 10.Ng5



**h6 11. Ne4 Nxe4 12.Bxe4 Na5 13. Bd3 c5 14. f3 b6 15.Bh7+ Kh8 16. Be4 Rb8 17.Bd5 Qe7 18.f4 e4 19.f5 Ba6 20.Rf4 Nxc4**



**21.f6 gxf6 22.Rxe4 Qf8 23.Rh4 Nxe3 24.Qf2 Nf5 25.Bxb6!**

Of course not 25.Qf5?? Re1+ 26. Kf2 Rf1+. But 25.Re4!?! is good for a won ending: 25...Bc8 26.g4 Ne7 27.Qxf6+ Qg7 28.Qxh6+ Qxh6 29. Bxh6 f5 30.Ree1 Bd7 31.Bf7 ±.

**25...Nxb6 26.Qxf6+ Kh7 27.Bxf7?!**

Right idea, wrong execution. Most accurate is 27.Qf5+! Kg7 28. Qg5+ Kh7 and now 29.Bxf7! answering 29...Bd3? with 30.Bg8+! +-. Black transposes to the game with 29...Qg7 30.Qf5+ Kh8 31.Qf4 Kh7 32.Bxe8 Rxe8 33.Rxh6+ +-.

**27...Qg7?**

J.P. remarked that his opponent kept finding hidden resources, but here McClary missed one: 27...Bd3! 28.Qg5! Qg7 (28...Re7?? 29.Bg8+!) 29.Qd2 c4 30.Bxe8 Rxe8 31.Re1 Rxe1 32. Qxe1 Qg5 33.Rh3 +=.

**28.Qf5+ Kh8 29.Qf4 Kh7 30.Bxe8 Rxe8 31.Rxh6+ Kg8 (31...Qxh6 32. Qf7+) 32.Qxd6 Kf7 33.Qd5+ Kf8 34.Qf5+ 1-0**

### MOVING?

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## AMATEUR GAMES

*Giucco Piano C50*

**Robert G. Wright 1778**

**Richard Lopez 1494**

*Texas Amateur 1997 (2)*

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4. Bc4**

The Scotch Gambit, often a bridge to lines beginning 3.Bc4.

**5...Bc5 5.0-0(?) d6!**

Much stronger than 5...Nf6 6.e5, transposing to a Max Lange Attack. The text shows why White should play 5.c3. (See Grubbs-Gallagher in Jim "Bob" 's column, page 22.)

**6.c3 Bg4**



This is a musty old line from the Giucco Piano (3.Bc4 Bc5 4.0-0 d6 5.c3 Bg4 6.d4 exd4). Now the best White has is 7.Qb3 Bxf3 (7...Qd7 8.Bxf7+ Qxf7 9.Qxb7 Kd7 10.Qxa8 Bxf3 11.gxf3 dxc3 12.Nxc3 Qxf3 =) 8. Bxf7+ Kf8 9.gxf3 Nf6 10.Bf4 dxc3 11. bxc3 Na5 12.Qe6 Qe7 "=" (Pachman, Keres), although I think Black's pawns are much better.

Pickard's new edition of Adolf Anderssen's games gives 7.Qb3 a "?" – but what is better? Not . . .

**7.b4?! Bb6 8.Qb3 Qe7 9.Ng5 Ne5 10.cxd4 Bxd4 11.Nc3 h6! 12.Nd5 Qd7 13.Bb5 c6 0-1**

*QGD D55*

**Larry Young 1981**

**Carl McClure 1630**

*Texas Amateur 1997 (3)*

**1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e3 a6 6.Nf3 0-0 7.Rc1 h6 8.Bf4 Bd6 9.Bxd6 Qxd6 10.c5 Qd8 11.Bd3 b5 12.0-0 Re8 13.Ne5 Nfd7 14.f4 Nf8 15.Qh5 Re7 16.Rf3 f6 17.Rcf1 f5 18.Rg3 Kh7 19.Ng4 Qe8 20.Qxh6+! gxh6 21.Nf6+**

A nice textbook-style combo.

**21...Kh8 22.Rg8 mate 1-0**

*Sicilian Hedgehog B41*

**Jason Howell 1949**

**Bruce Lewkowski 1805**

*Texas Amateur 1997 (4)*

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 d6 5.c4 Nf6 6.Nc3 e6 7.Be2 a6 8.0-0 Bd7 9.Kh1 Be7 10.f4 Qc7 11.Nf3 h6 12.h3 Nh5 13.Qe1 Nb4 14.Nd4 Nf6 15.a3 Nc6 16.Nf3 Na5 17.Nd2 Nc6 18.Qf2 b6 19.b4 Rb8 20.Nb3 Na7 21.Be3 Bc6 22.Nd2 Qb7 23.Bf3 Nc8 24.b5 axb5 25. cxb5 Bd7 26.Rfc1 d5 27.e5 Nh7 28.Ra2 0-0 29.Nb3 Bd8 30.Rd2 Ne7 31.Nd4 Re8 32.Nce2 Rf8 33. Rdc2 f6**



**34.Nc6 Ra8 35.Nxd8 Rfxd8 36. Bxb6 Rdc8 37.Rc7 Rxc7 38.Rxc7 1-0**

A positional *tour de force* by Howell.

### Sicilian Sozin B88

Martin Gordon 1926

Jesse Vasquez 1745

*Texas Amateur 1997 (5)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7. Be3 Be7 8.Bb3 Bd7 9.0-0 Nc6 10. f4 0-0 11.Qf3 e5!?

11...Qc7 12.Rad1 b5 13.a3 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Bc6 = (ECO). The text is usually a no-no in a Sozin, as it activates White's b3 bishop. 12.Nf5 Bxf5 13.exf5 Nd4!



This involves a pawn sacrifice in return for domination of the e-file.

14.Bxd4 exd4 15.Ne2 Qb6 16.Qd3

The queen also comes under fire after 16.Kh1 d5 17.Rad1 Bc5 18. Bxd5? Rae8! 19.Bb3 Re3 20.Qf2 Ne4 21.Qe1 Re8 +.

16...d5 17.Nxd4 Bc5 18.c3 Rfe8 19.h3 Re4 20.Rad1(!?)

This gives Black *carte blanche* on the e-file. Safer is 19.Rae1 Re4 20.Rxe4 dxe4 21.Qc4 Qc7, but Black still has counterplay.

20...Rae8 21.Kh2?

Presenting a target. The game is still tense after 21.Rd2 Re3 22.Qc2 Ne4 23.Rd3 Ng3 24.Rxe3 Rxe3 25. Rd1 Ne2+ 26.Kh1 Nxf4 27.Qc1 Re4 28.Bc2 Ne2 ∞.

21...Qd6 22.g3 Re3 23.Qb1 Bxd4 24.Rxd4 Ng4+! 25.hxg4

25.Kg2 Re2+ 26.Kg1 R8e3 27. Rd3 Rxc3+! 28.Rxc3 Qc5+ leads to

...Rh2 mate.

25...Re2+ (or 25...Qh6+) 26.Kg1 Qh6 27.Rf2 Rxf2 28.Kxf2 Qh2+ 29. Kf1 Re2 30. Bxd5 Qf2 mate 0-1

### Ruy Lopez C63

Ronnie Rubit 1809

James Wharton 1935

*Texas Amateur 1997 (5)*

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 d6 4.Bb5 f5 5.d3 Nf6 6.Bg5 Be7 7.0-0 h6 8.Bxf6 Bxf6 9.Nd5 0-0 10.Bc4 Kh8 11.Qd2 fxe4 12.dxe4 Bg4 13.Be2 Qd7 14.c3 Ne7 15.Nxe7 (15.Nxf6! =) Bxe7 16.Ne1 Be6 17.Nd3 Bg5 18.Qc2 Qf7 19.c4 Qg6 20.Ne1?

Ugly is 20.f3 with weak dark squares, but White should have used his chance to trade off Black's KB.

20...Rf4 21.Bf3 Raf8 22.Qe2 Be7 23.Kh1 Qf6 24.Rc1 g5!



Preparing to batter down the gate, to the dismay of White's awkwardly huddled pieces.

25.Nd3?

The concedes decisive material, but the better 25.h3 may also lose against best play: 25...h5! 26.Bxh5 Rxf2 27.Rxf2 Qxf2 28.Nd3 Qh4! followed by ...Kg7 and ...Rh8 with a powerful attack; or 28.Qxf2 Rxf2 29.Nxd3 Rd2 -/+.

25...g4 26.Nxf4 gxf3 27.gxf3 Qxf4 28.Rg1 Qxf3+ 29.Qxf3 Rxf3 30. Rg6 Rf6 31.Rxf6 Bxf6 and 0-1

### King's Gambit C30

Ed Erwin 1900

John M. Baker 1716

*Texas Amateur 1997 (5)*

1.e4 e5 2.f4 d6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7 6.d3 c6 7.0-0 0-0 8.f5 b5 9.Bb3 Nc5 10.h3 Nxb3 11. axb3 h5 12.Be3 Qc7 13.Qe2 d5 14. Bd2 dxe4 15.dxe4 a6 16.Nd1 Bb7 17.Nf2 c5 18.c4 b4 19.g4 hxg4 20. hxg4 Rfe8 21.g5 Nh5 22.Kh2 Nf4 23.Bxf4 exf4 24.Rg1 Kf8 25.Rg4 Bd6 26.f6 gxf6 27.gxf6 Re6 28. Rag1 Rxf6 29.Nh3 Rh6



30.Qe1 Qd7 31.Rh4 Rxb4 32.Qxb4 Qe6 33.Nhg5 Qe7 34.Qh8 mate 1-0

### Nimzo-Indian E30

Leica Tilton 1468

Thomas E. Brown 1709

*Texas Amateur 1997 (5)*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bg5 c5 5.Qa4 Nc6 6.dxc5 Bxc5 7.e4? (7.e3) Bxf2+ 8.Kxf2 Ng4+ 9.Ke1 Qxg5 10. Qd1 Qe3+ 11.Qe2 Nd4?!

This turns out to be a waste of time. Better is 11...0-0! Δ ...f5 -/+.

12.Qxe3 Nxe3 13.Rc1 a6 14.Nf3 Nxf3+ 15.gxf3 Nxf1 16.Rxf1 d6 17.Rd1 Ke7 18.Rf2 Rd8 19.Rfd2 b6 20.e5 Bb7 21.exd6+ Kd7 22. Kf2 Rac8 23.Na4 Rc6 24.b4 b5 25.Nc5+ Rxc5 26.bxc5 bxc4 27. Rc1 Bd5 28.Ke3 Rb8 29.Kd4 Kc6 30.Rcc2 f6 31.Rb2 e5+ 32.Kc3

Rd8 33.Kb4 Rb8+ 34.Kc3 Rd8 35. Kb4 c3 36.Kxc3 Kxc5 37.Rb1 Bf3 38.d7 f5 39.Rc1 Bd5 40.Kb2+ Kd6 41.Rcd1 Rb8+ 42.Kc3 Kxd7 43. Rxd5+ Ke6 44.Rd6+ Kf7 45.Rd7+ Kf8 46.Rd8+ Rxd8 47.Rxd8+ Ke7 48.Rd1 Ke6



49.Re1 f4 50.Kd3 Kf5 51.Ke2 e4 52.h4 g6 53.Rc1 Kg4 54.h5 Kxh5 55. Rc4 Kg4 56.Rxe4 g5 57.Kf2 h5 58.Re6 h4 59.Rxa6 Kh5 60.Rf6 h3 61.a4 h2 62.Kg2 Kg4 63.Kxh2 Kf3 64.a5 Kf2 65.a6 Ke3 66.a7 f3 67. a8(Q) g4 68.Qd5 Kf2 69.Qd2+ Kf1 70.Kh1 1-0

Next Leica won against another 1700+ opponent, and her endgame technique again paid off.

*Sicilian Sozin B89*

James Wharton 1935

David Peters 1964

*Texas Amateur 1997 (6)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bc4 e6 7. Be3 Be7 8.Qe2 a6 9.0-0-0 0-0 10. Nxc6?!

This is certainly not thematic in the Velimirovic attack, but it does get out of the books. Typical moves would be 10.Bb3 and 10.Rhg1 Δ g4. 10...bxc6 11.e5 Nd5 12.exd6 Nxc3 13.bxc3 Bxd6 14.Bc5 Bf4+?

Black doesn't get enough for the exchange. Better is 14...Qg5+ 15.Be3 Ba3+ 16.Kb1 Qa5 +=.

15.Kb1 Rb8+ 16.Bb3 Qa5 17.Bxf8 Kxf8 18.Qd3 Be5 19.Qd8+ Qxd8 20.Rxd8+ Ke7 21.Rd3 c5 22.Kc1 Bb7 23.f3 Bc6 24.Bc4 a5 25.Kd2 Rb2 26.g3 Ba4 27.Rc1 Bf6 28.Bb3 Bc6 29.Re1 a4 30.Kc1 a3 31.f4 Bb5 32.c4 Bc6 33.Re2 g6 34.Red2 e5 35.Rd6 Bf3 36.Rd7+ Kf8 37. R2d6 Bg7 38.Ra6 Ke8 39.Raa7 e4 40.Rxf7 Bc3 41.Ba4+ 1-0

The last game in play was a study in how *not* to play the ending. Joseph Aronovich was in the running for the Class B prize, and he made it past time control with every reason to expect a share:

Aronovich (1640) - Rubit (1809)



How can White not win this? He is two pawns up, has better piece placement and his king is in no danger. Well, just wait and see . . . 42.f4?

First, open lines around your king and don't push the passer!

42.b5! Re6 (what else?) 43.Qa1 Kh7 44.Qa5 Qb7 45.Rc5! intending Qc7 would be a credible start. 42...f6 43.fxe5 fxe5 44.Qb3 Qf7 45. Qc4 Kh7 46.Qa2?

Next, adopt a passive stance when it is not necessary.

46.Rd6! thwarts Black's designs on the f-file without conceding anything: 46... Qa7 47.b5! Rf8 48.b6 and Black can't get access anywhere!

46...Rf8 47.Qe2 Qc7 48.Rc5 Qd6 49.Rd5 Qc7 50.Be1 Bf6 51.Qe3 Bg5 52.Qe2 Be7 53.Qb2 Bd6 54. Bf2 Qe7 55.Rxd6?!

Then play a simplifying combination that strips away some more shelter from your king.

55...Rxf2+! 56.Kxf2?!

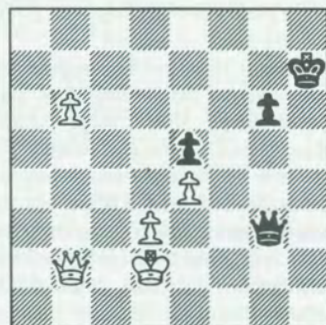
And make sure your opponent has access to your king. On 56.Qxf2! Qxd6 57.Qf7+ Kh8 58.Qc4, Black does not have a point of entry.

56...Qxd6 57.Ke2!

On 57.Qc3 Qe6! it will be hard to avoid a perpetual: 58. Qc7+ Kh8 59.Kg2 Qa2+ 60.Kf3 Qa1!

57...Qe6 58.g4 h5! 59.b5 hxg4 60. hxg4 Qxg4+ 61.Kd2 Qg3 62.b6??

Finally, ignore a perpetual when your opponent sets one up. 62.Kc3! Qg1 63.Kc4! should *still* win, even though it will take some care.



62...Qf2+ 63.Kc1 Qe3+ 64.Kc2 Qf2+ 65.Kb1 Qe1+ 66.Kc2

Or 66.Ka2 Qa5+ 67.Qa3 Qd2+ 68. Kb1 Qe1+ 69.Qc1 Qb4+ 70.Qb2 Qe1+ =. Heroic play by Rubit.

66...Qf2+ Draw

*Ruy Lopez C70*

Mario Chavez 1691

Enrique Rios 1344

*Texas Amateur 1997 (6)*

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 b5 5.Bb3 Bc5 6.c3 Nf6 7.0-0 d6 8.h3 h6

(Continued on page 25)

# Patty wins Texas Senior Championship

by TCA Secretary Forrest Marler

The Huntsville Chess Club played host to the 1997 Texas Senior Championship held at the Sam Houston Inn. The tournament was held in conjunction with the General Sam Houston Folklife Festival in Huntsville. The Folklife Festival is an annual event held on the grounds of Sam Houston's Steamboat House adjacent to the campus of Sam Houston State University. There were 19 participants in this year's event, which included several first-time players. NM John Patty of San Antonio won with a score of 4-0.

In round one, things went pretty much as expected, although perhaps not as easily as some had hoped. Patty was paired against William Stewart of Kirbyville. John had a miscue early in the game and had to struggle for the win. Bill Jones of Houston had his hands full with Frank Roberts of Kingwood, and it was nip and tuck for the entire game. Robert McGregor of Bryan/Houston lost to Carl McClure in a Sicilian. I had hoped that with names like McGregor and McClure they might play a Scotch Game or Gambit, but I suppose that was too much to ask for.

Round two had Jones playing another hard fought game against Duane Solley of San Antonio. The start of round three saw Patty, Jones, McClure, Dwight Skinner of Denton, and Robert Kiesewetter of Ingleside all with 2-0 scores, and I began to wonder about the possibility of a first place tie with a 4-0 score. Patty beat Kiesewetter, Skinner lost to Jones, and McClure drew John Campbell. John is the chess club president in Arlington, Virginia, and decided to include this tournament in his vacation plans.

Round four placed Patty against Jones in a winner-take-all situation. When the dust cleared five and a half hours later, Patty ended up as the exhausted winner.

Carl McClure (1630) arguably had the best showing, as he had a performance rating of 1949 thanks to a few upset results. With all four rounds considered, Jones probably had the meanest set of opponents. He did not have a single "easy" round. I think that the others wanted to make sure that the youngest player knew what he was getting into.

Forrest Marler directed.

Prize winners: 1st: John Patty, 4. 2nd: Bill Jones, Robert McGregor, Robert Wright, 3. U1700: William Stewart, Carl McClure, 2.5.



Forrest Marler presents trophy to John Patty

## *QP Opening D02*

Gary Carlson 1667  
John Campbell 1894

### *Texas Senior 1997 (1)*

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.c3 e6 4.Bf4 d5  
5.e3 Nbd7 6.Nbd2 Be7 7.Bd3 0-0  
8.Ne5 Nxe5 9.Bxe5 Bd6 10.Nf3  
Ne4 11.0-0 f6 12.Bxd6 Qxd6 13.  
Nd2 f5 14.f3 Nf6 15.a3 Bd7 16. b4  
cxd4 17.cxd4 Rac8 18.Qe2 Rc3  
19.Rfc1 Rfc8 20.Rxc3 Rxc3 21.  
Nb1?? Rc1+ 22.Kf2 Qxh2 23.e4  
Qg1+ 24.Kg3 Nh5+ 0-1

## *Benko Gambit A57*

Duane Solley 1655  
William T. Jones 1974

### *Texas Senior 1997 (2)*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6  
5.Bg5 axb5 6.Bxf6 exf6 7.e4 Qb6 8.  
Nf3 c4 9.Be2 Bc5 10.0-0 0-0 11.  
Nc3 Re8 12.Qc2 d6 13.a3 Bd7 14.  
Na2 Na6 15.Rac1 Rac8 16.Qb1 g6  
17.Rce1 f5 18.exf5 Bxf5 19.Qc1  
Bd4 20.Nxd4 Qxd4 21.Rd1 Qc5  
22.Bf3 Be4 23.Qc3 Bxf3 24.Qxf3  
Re5 25.Rfe1 Ree8 26.Rxe5 Rxe5  
27.Kf1 Rf5 28.Qe2 Rxd5 29.Qe8+

Kg7 30.Rxd5 Qxd5 31.Nc3 Qd3+  
32.Ke1 b4 33.axb4 Nxb4 34.Qe2  
Qxe2+ 35.Kxe2 Nd3 36.Nd1 Kf6  
37.g3 Ke5 38.Ke3 d5 39.f4+ Kd6  
40.Kd4 Nc1 41.Nf2 f5 42.Nh3  
Nb3+ 43.Kc3 Kc5 44.Ng5 d4+ 45.  
Kc2 Kb4 46.Nf3 d3+ 47.Kd1 c3  
48.bxc3+ Kxc3 49.h3 Nc5 50.g4  
Ne4 51.gxf5 gxf5 52.h4 Nf2+ 53.  
Kc1 Nh3 54.Ng5 d2+ 55.Kd1  
Nf2+ 56.Ke2 d1=Q+ 57.Kxf2 Qg4  
58.Ne6 Kd2 59.Kf1 Qe2+ 60.Kg1  
Qxe6 61.h5 Ke3 62.Kg2 Qg8+ 63.  
Kh3 Kf3 64.Kh2 Qg2+ 0-1

Are you ready for the Immortal Repetition Game? The players seem intent on setting a record for the most repetitions ever made without anyone claiming a draw.

*Modern Defense B07*

Bert Dennison 1856  
Carl McClure 1630

*Texas Senior 1997 (2)*

1.Nc3 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 a6 5.Bd3 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Ne2 h6 8.c3 Nbd7 9.Ng3 b5 10.Ne1 c5 11. f4 Bb7 12.e5 Ne8 13.Qg4 dxe5 14. fxe5 Bg5 15.Nf3 Bxf3 16.Rxf3 Bxc1 17.Rxc1 Qg5 18.Qxg5 hxg5 19.Ne4 f6 20.exf6 gxf6 21.dxc5 Ne5 22.Rg3 g4 23.Bc2 f5



Starting from the diagram, you may notice just a few repetitions. Now if 24.Nf2 f4 Black wins the exchange, but White's three extra pawns make up the difference: 25. Rxc3+ Nxc3 26.Nxc3 +.

24.Re3?! Nc4 25.Rg3 Ne5  
There is nothing to fear from taking the piece: 25...fxe4 26.Rxc4+ Ng7 27.b3 Ne3 28.Rxe4 Nxc2 =+.

26.Re3 Nc4 27.Rg3 Ne5 28.Re3 Nc4 29.Rg3 Ne5 30.Re3 Nc4 31. Rg3 Ne5 32.Re3 Nc4 33.Rg3 Ne5 34.Re3 Nc4 35.Rg3 Ne5 36.Re3 Nc4 37.Re2

By my count, Black has had ten chances to call a draw by threefold repetition (five times in two different positions), and White has had

nine. Now White breaks the pattern and goes on to lose. Amazing.

37...fxe4 38.Rxe4 Nxb2 39.Rxc4+ Ng7 40.Bb3 Rf6 41.Re1 Kf7 42. Re2 Nd3 43.c6 Nc5 44.Bc2 Rc8 45.Re3 Rxc6 46.Reg3 Nf5 47. Rh3 Rh6 48. Rf3 Rf6 49.Rg4 Nd7 50.Bb3 Ke7 51.a4 Nd6 52.Rxf6 Nxf6 53.axb5 axb5 54.h3 Nde4 55.g4 Rxc3 56. Rxc3 Nxc3 57.Kf2 Nfe4+ 58.Ke3 e5 59.Bc2 Nf6 60.Bf5 Ned5+ 61.Kd3 Kd6 62.g5 Nh5 63.h4 Nhf4+ 64.Kc2 Kc5 65.Be4 Ne2 66.Kd2 Kd4 67.Bd3 Ndc3 68.Bg6 Nf4 69.Bf5 Ne4+ 70.Kc2 Nd3 71.Bg4 ... and 0-1

*French Advance C02*

William T. Jones 1974  
Dwight Skinner 1784

*Texas Senior 1997 (3)*

1.e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Qb6 6.Be2 cxd4 7.cxd4 Bd7 8.Nc3 Rc8 9.0-0 Nge7 10.Na4 Qc7 11.Nc5 (11.a3) Nf5 12.Nxd7 Qxd7 13.Bb5 Be7 14.a3 a6 15.Ba4 b5 16. Bc2? Ncx4! 17.Nxd4 Nxd4 18. Bd3 Nc6 19.Bf4 0-0 20.Qh5 g6 21. Qg4 Rc7 22.Rfe1 Rfc8 23.h4 Bf8 23...h5! 24.Qg3 Kg7 -/+.

24.h5 Nd4 25.Rad1 Nc2? 26.Re2 Nd4 27.Re3

White says "Thanks!" for the free tempo to lift his rook. 27...Rc1 28.Rh3 Rxd1+ 29.Qxd1 Nf5 30.Qg4 Bg7 31.Bxf5 exf5 32. Qh4 Bh8 33.hxg6 fxc6 34.e6 Qg7



35.Be5!! Rc1+ 36.Kh2 Qxe5+ 37. f4 Qg7?

37...Qc7? 38.e7 Kf7 39.Qxh7+ Bg7 40.Qg8+! Kxg8 41.e8(Q)+ Bf8 42.Qxg6+ Qg7 43.Qe6+ Qf7 44. Rh8+ +-;

37...Qf6! 38.Qxh7+ Kf8 39.e7+ Ke8 40.Qg8+ Kxe7 41.Rh7+ Kd6 42.Qb8+ Kc5 (42...Ke6?? 43.Qb6+!) 43.Qc8+ Kb6 44.Qxc1 ±. 38.Qd8+ Qf8 39.e7 1-0

*Sicilian B27*

Carl McClure 1630  
John Campbell 1894

*Texas Senior 1997 (3)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d5 3.exd5 Nf6 4.c4 e6 5.dxe6 Bxe6 6.b3 Nc6 7.Bb2 Be7 8.Be2 0-0 9.0-0 Bg4 10.h3 Bf5 11.d4 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13. Bxd4 Qd7 14.Be3 Rfd8 15.Qxd7 Rxd7 16.Nd2 Rad8 17.Nf3 b6 18. Rad1 Ne4 19.Rxd7 Bxd7 20.Rd1 Nc3 21.Rd2 Draw

*Dutch Defense A80*

Robert Kiesewetter 1772  
Robert McGregor 1870

*Texas Senior 1997 (4)*

1.d4 f5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 e6 4.Bd3 Be7 5.Nbd2 0-0 6.0-0 b6 7.e4 fxe4 8.Nxe4 Bb7 9.Re1 Qe8 10. h3 Qh5 11.Ng3 Qe8 12.c3 a5 13.Qc2 Bxf3 14.gxf3 Bd6 15.Kg2 Qf7 16.Ne4 Qh5 17.Ng5 Nc6 18.f4 Ne7 19.Be2 Qh6 20.Rh1 Ned5 21.Bf3 c6 22. Be3 Bxf4 23. Bxf4 Nxf4+ 24. Kg3 Qxg5+ 25.Bg4 h5 26.f3 hxg4 27. hxg4 N4d5 28.Rae1 Qf4+ 29.Kg2 0-1

*QGD Slav D10*

John Patty 2201  
William T. Jones 1974

*Texas Senior 1997 (4)*

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 e6 4.Bf4 Nf6 5.e3 Bd6 6.Bg3 Qe7 7.Nf3 b6 8.Qc2 Bb7 9.Rc1 Nbd7 10.Be2 0-0 11.cxd5 cxd5 12.Bxd6 Qxd6 13. 0-0 Rac8 14. Qa4 a6 15.b4 b5 16. Qb3 Nb6 17.a4 Rxc3 18.Rxc3

Nxa4 19.Rc2 Nb6 20. Ne5 Nc4 21. Nd3 Nd7 22.Nc5 Nxc5 23.dxc5 Qc6 24.f3 f5 25.Bxc4 bxc4 26. Qc3 Rf6 27.Qe5 Rg6 28.Rd2 h6 29.h3 Kh7 30.Kh2 Qb5 31.Ra1 Qc6 32. Rb2 Qd7 33.Ra5 Rf6 34.b5 axb5 35.Raxb5 Bc6 36.Rb6 f4 37.exf4 d4 38.Rxc6 Qxc6 39.Qxd4 Qd5 40. Rd2 Rf5 41.Qc3 Qxc5 42.Rd7 e5 43.fxe5 Qxe5+ 44.Qxe5 Rxe5 45. Rf7 Re2 46.Rxc4 Kg6

This type of endgame should be an easy draw.

47.Rg4+ Kf6 48.h4 g6 49.Kg3 Kf5 50.Rf4+ Ke5 51. Ra4 Kf5 52.Ra5+ Kf6 53.h5



53...gxh5

53...g5? allows the forcing line 54.Ra7! (Δ Rh7) Re6 55.Kg4! Ke5 56.Rg7! Re8 57.Rg6 Rh8 58.g3 followed by f4, with a winning advantage for White in the relative positions of both kings and rooks. 54.Rxh5 Kg6 55.Ra5 Re6 56. Kg4 Rd6 57.f4 Rf6??

The losing move. Black keeps the draw in hand with 57...Kf6 58.Kh5 Rd2! or 58.f5 Rb6 59.Kh5 Rb2!, in both cases answering g2-g4?? with ...Rh2 mate.

58.f5+ Kg7 59.Ra7+ Kg8 60.g3 Rc6 61.Kh5 Rf6 62.g4 Kh8 63. Re7 1-0

There is no defense against Re6.

Texas Residents:  
Your 1997 TCA Ballot is enclosed.

## That's Bad Chess

by NM Jim "Bob" Gallagher

Since nearly everyone saves their best games for submission to *TK*, I thought I might fulfill the need to critique some really *bad* chess.

Unfortunately for me, everyone and their local A player have already annotated Deep Blue II vs. Kasparov, Game 6. Clearly this, along with the sixth game of the previous match, deserves strong consideration for worst game of the year honors. In lieu of any backlog, I humbly submit one of my own efforts.

Future candidates should send in games that have horribly misplayed opening variations, followed by generally clueless middlegames, and are capped with at least half a dozen endgame mistakes.

*Two Knights Defense C55*  
Steven Grubbs 2010  
Jim Gallagher 2261

*Texas Ch. 1997 (4)*

1.e4 e5

Having just completed a knock-down drag-out Yugoslav Dragon with Dejmek, I was in no mood for another. Gee, I wonder if the two-time Texas high school champ knows anything about double king pawn openings? TBC award for terrible opening choice.

2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4 Bc5 5.c3 Nf6 6.0-0

*By way of a Scotch Gambit we have a Two Knights Defense (3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d4 exd4 5.0-0 Bc5 6.c3!? [Estrin]). It can also be reached from a Giuoco Piano: 3...Bc5 4.0-0 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.0-0!*

6...Nxe4 7.cxd4 Bb4?

Of course 7...d5 and Black suffers his way to equality. Originally I thought that the text move loses instantly to 8.Qb3 with the dual threat of 9.Bxf7+ and 9.d5, but

Selby Anderson came up with 8... Qe7! and Black barely survives.

8.a3 Be7?

Ahhh, inconsistency – a TBC must! [8...d5! -/+]

9.d5 Nb8

Don't look for this line in the next *Informant*, folks. [9...Na5? 10. Bd3 Nc5 11.Bc2 Nc4 12.Qd4 ±.]

10.Re1 f5?

Whoa . . . who is this fish? Undevelop, then weaken your kingside!

11.d6!

This good move almost disqualifies Steven for inclusion in the hall of shame, but he makes up for it later.

11...cxd6

11...Bxd6 12.Nc3 ±; 11...Nxd6? 12.Bg5 Ne4 13.Qd5 Rf8 14.Nc3 Nxc3 15.bxc3 Nc6 16. Nd4 +.

12.Nc3 Nxc3 13.bxc3 Qc7 14. Qd5?

Whoops. 14.Rxe7+ Kxe7 15. Bg5+ Kf8 16.Qd5 and Black must give up his queen to stop mate.

14...Nc6 15.Bg5 Kd8 16.Rxe7

Black is getting too many second chances: 16.Qf7 Bxg5 17.Qxg7 Qa5 18.Qxh8+ Kc7 19.Nxg5 is clean and simple. [Or 16...Re8 17.Qxg7 +-.]

16...Nxe7 17.Re1 Qc5 18. Rxe7!

Again, 18.Bxe7+ Kc7 19.Rd1 leaves Black without a prayer.

18...h6??

Just when Black has a legitimate cheapo in the works, he cannot calculate himself out of a paper bag! 18...Qxd5 at least allows White the opportunity to go wrong with 19. Bxd5? h6 20.Rxg7+ hxg5 21.Rxg5 and Black has a chance, albeit a slim one. 19.Rxg7+! Kc7 20.Bxd5 avoids the pitfall.

In the current position, I had calculated 19.Rxd7+ Kxd7 20.Qf7+ Kc6 21.Be3 Be6! 22.Qxe6 Rae8 with one more slim chance. Not once did I consider the obvious . . .

19.Re8+ Kc7 20.Bd8+ 1-0

TBC: That's bad chess.

## How to teach your daughter to play chess

by WIM Alexey Root

Many times people have asked us, "How do we get our daughter interested in chess?" My husband IM Doug Root and I can answer from our own experiences. So, as you read this article, take what advice seems useful for you and your family and leave the rest.

As with most sports and hobbies, start chess instruction when your daughter is young. Here are Doug Root's "top ten tips" for teaching our four-year-old Clarissa chess:

1. Play chess on the computer to force her to make legal moves.
2. Play checkers to help her develop strategy.
3. Read story books about chess to spark her imagination (e.g. Dan the Pawn).
4. Let her practice setting up a real chessboard on her own.
5. Let her win all the time.
6. Let her capture a piece that she asks to.
7. Let her queen pawns when she wants to.
8. Help her with her moves sometimes.
9. Let her sit on my lap while she plays.
10. Teach her the magical move of castling.

What has been the result of Doug's "top ten tips"? Clarissa can set up the pieces, alternate moves with an opponent, and makes legal moves on her own a lot of the time.

Chess has also become part of her way of seeing the world. For example, she helped me fold laundry yesterday. She put the washcloths corner to corner, and said, "The washcloths are lined up like bishops." If she is hopping around "like a knight," she'll chant, "Two steps forward, one to the side."

Chess is a special, loving time for Clarissa and her dad (see tip #9.) This should give hope to all the dads reading this article: like other shared activities, chess can be a way to bond with your daughter.

It is important to Clarissa that Mom likes chess, too. Clarissa says, "When I grow up I want to be a mommy and play chess. Just like you, Mom." Clarissa wants to share her chess knowledge with me, "Look, Mom, Dad and I are playing chess on the computer. Want to see?"

The above type of scenario, where Clarissa learns something from Doug and then shows it to me, Mom, is especially fun for Clarissa. Even four-year-olds like to



Alexey and Clarissa

teach their parents, so whatever Doug teaches Clarissa about chess ends up getting "taught" to me by Clarissa.

How do you encourage an older daughter's interest in chess? When children get older, they often want to test their skills against peers and other adults. Chess clubs and competitions become part of a girl's chess growth. Of course, parental influence is still important.

### Alexey's story

My father taught me chess, and let me win until I was nine years old. Then, my Mom recounts, I told him I wanted him to "play for real." He "played for real," and I defeated him. At that point, he had seen an article in the paper about NM Loren Schmidt and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Pan-Am chess team victory. Because of that article, he signed me up for lessons with Loren and I started attending Lincoln Chess Club.

My first memory of Lincoln Chess Club was walking in and seeing C player Gary Marks teaching youngsters Angel and Rodney Niedfeld the two-rook mate. I walked over to the board and played the mating combination. Gary immediately sparkled with interest, making me feel like I must be a special chessplayer indeed to have solved the problem so quickly. I soon relied on

him and other chess club members for encouragement. Gary held many tournaments for children, and soon I was collecting wins and trophies. I was hooked.

As I got older (teen years), it became more important for me to have female chess players for support as male chess players often did not know how to encourage a teenage girl chess player. I was encouraged by meeting and competing against other girls and women at Harold Winston's Midwest Women's Opens. I was inspired by reading about (and finally meeting) U.S. Women's Chess Champion Diane Savereide. Not only were her accomplishments something to be admired, but she politely showed an interest in my chess ability and socialized with me.

Alexey's top ten list for an older girl:

1. Let her win, until she asks you to play for real.
2. Set her up to play people (and computer programs) she can defeat "for real."
2. Find a supportive chess club. (See story about Gary Marks, above.)
3. Have her play in scholastic/junior chess events.
4. Continue to show an interest in chess. (My Dad read *Chess Life*, and discussed the articles with me.)
5. Continue to play chess with your daughter, when she wants to. (My Dad kept playing me until I got tired of defeating him).
6. Display her trophies.
7. Be proud of her accomplishments.
8. Help her meet and socialize with other chess playing girls and women. (USCF has allocated \$100 annually for regional women's competitions. There are no rating fees for state women's championships. Help start women's tournaments in your area!)
9. Have the media (school paper is fine!) feature her interest in chess.
10. Have her meet the female stars of chess – play in their simuls, run their demo board displays, take lessons from them, or watch their games at major opens.

As chair of the USCF Women's committee, I am interested in your ideas of how to encourage girls and women to play chess. Let the editor of this magazine know your ideas, and also share them with me at 408 Foxwood Circle, Denton, TX 76207. My e-mail address is ddr0003@jove.acs.unt.edu. I wish you success in teaching your daughter chess. Enjoy! ♠

*If you have a question or article that you feel is appropriate for Coaches' Corner, please send it to Forrest Marler, 2109 Ave T, Huntsville, TX 77340, or e-mail to fmarler@myriad.net.*



**Emily Breeding**, age six, is the youngest of our four children – all chess players. She has been at my side as I have taught dozens of children how to play chess. But not until January did the game seem to really click in her head. She decided to play in the regional and state tournaments in preparation for nationals; she had a predictably weak performance.

Emily went into the Super Nationals unrated. There were 74 participants in the Kindergarten section. Her first opponent was the number three-ranked player, Jack Regenhogen from St. Louis (rated 1075), who ended up with the only perfect score. Emily lost, but was undaunted. She went on to finish with four wins, one draw and two losses, tying for 14th place and earning the 16th place trophy on tiebreaks.

The other Texas kindergartner participating at nationals was Joshua Davis from Houston, who finished 19th in the section with four points. Go, Texas!!

*Susan Breeding coaches the Shepard Elementary Chess Club in Plano, north of Dallas.*



Susan Breeding also submitted the following game played by her eleven year-old son David at the Super Nationals, held April 25-27 in Knoxville, Tennessee. The event drew over 4,300 kids to the site of the 1982 World's Fair. David and his brother Stephen, 15, were both primary champions in Kentucky.

*Sicilian Defense B50*

**David Breeding 1125**  
**Spencer Cleveland 1308**

*1997 Super Nationals K-5 (5)*

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4. Bc4**

This is often seen a move earlier, when it is followed up with d3 and c3 to control the d4 square. This quiet approach to fighting the Sicilian, resembling a Giuoco Piano, has recently caught on among GM's.

**4...Nc6 (4...Bg4!?) 5.d3 g6 6.0-0 Bg7 7.h3 0-0 8.Bg5 Bd7 9.Nd5 Ne8?!**

Too passive. Better is 9...e6 offering some exchanges to shake off the pressure, or 9...Nxd5 10.exd5!?

**Ne5 11.Nxe5 Bxe5 12.c3 b5 13.Bb3 b4! with counterplay.**

**10.Qd2!**  
Temporarily offering a pawn. Also good was 10.c3.

**10...Bxb2**

Less risky is 10...Nc7.

**11.Rab1 Bf6**

It is not easy for Black to part with his dark square bishop in this way, but after 11...Bg7 12.Rxb7 he does not have a good move.

**12.Nxf6+ Nxf6 13.Qf4!?**

White threatens to win a pawn with Bxf6 and Qxd6, while bringing his big guns to bear on Black's king. Another approach is 13.Bh6 Re8 14.Ng5 e6 15.f4, but then 15...d5! gives Black counterplay.

White could lock in a modest but lasting edge with 13.Bxf6 exf6 14.Rxb7, since 14...Na5? runs into 15.Rxd7! Qxd7 16.Qxa5 ±. I think this would have been the best way

for White to play, but I can hardly blame a young player who goes for mate in such a position!

**13...Nh5! 14.Qh4 Rb8 15.Bd5?!**

This wastes a move, but even after the more energetic 15.Bh6 Re8 (15...Ng7? 16.Ng5! +-) 16.g4 Nf6! Black covers h7 and White's attack seems to have stalled out.

**15...Re8 16.g4 Ng7 17.Be3 e6 18. Ng5 h5 19.gxh5 Nxb5 20.Bb3 Ne5?!**

This time it is Black who wastes a tempo. Better is 20...Kg7 to play to the open file with ...Rh8, or 20...Na5 to trade off the b3 bishop (which will soon make trouble!)

**21.f4 Nc6 22.c4!**

Preparing Bd1 to go after the h5 knight. Now Black has to play 22...Kg7! with ...Rh8 at the ready.

**22...Nd4? 23.Bd1! Nf6?**

Forced is 23...f6!, forcing White to find 24.Bxh5! ffxg5 25.fxg5 gxh5 26.Qxh5 Qe7 (or 26...Rf8 27.g6 Qe7, transposing) 27.g6 Rf8 28.Bh6 Rxf1+ 29.Rxf1 Be8 (or else White plays Rf7) 30.Rf8+ Qxf8 31.Bxf8 Bxg6 (31...Kxf8 32.Qh8+ Ke7 33.g7 +-) 32.Qxg6+ Kxf8 33.h4! and the passer clinches it.

**24.Bxd4 cxd4 25.e5! dxe5**

At least 25...Bc6 26.exf6 Qxf6 doesn't get mated, although the loss of the piece should eventually decide.

**26.fxe5 Nh5 27.Bxh5 gxh5 28. Qxh5 Qe7**

Black can stretch the game by only one move with 28...Qxg5 29.Qxg5+ Kf8, because White has 30.Rxf7+! Kxf7 31.Rf1 mate.

**29.Qh7+ Kf8 30.Qh8 mate 1-0**

**Texas Amateur games**

(continued from page 19)

8...Qe7 9.d4 Bb6 is more solid.  
**9.d4 exd4 10.cxd4 Bb4 11.a3 Ba5 12. Nc3 Bxc3 13.bxc3 0-0 14.Re1 Re8 15.Bc2 Bb7 16.Bf4 d5 17.e5**

**Nd7 18.Qd3 Nf8 19.Nh2 Bc8 20. Qg3 g5 21.h4 Ne6 22.hxg5 hxg5 23. Bd2 Kh8**

If Black keeps his king on the g-file, 24.f4 or 24.Nf3 is strong. 23...Kf8 is best answered with 24.Ng4 Δ Nf6.

**24.Qh3+?!**

It is better to leave Black's king in the corner and bring up the reserves: 24.Ng4! Δ Nf6, Bxg5.

A prejudice in favor of checks may have led White astray. Showboating with the queen, a frequent amateur mistake, leads to difficult situations if the attack stalls out.

**24...Kg8?!**

This allows 25.Qh6! pinning in the black king, as Gallagher noted. The correct move therefore is 24...Kg7! (Δ ...Rh8) when White has nothing better than 25.Qh7+ transposing to the game. This proves that White should have played Ng4-f6 without delay.

**25.Qh7+?? Kf8 26.Ng4 Ke7 27. Nh6 Rf8 28.Bg6 Qe8 29.Re3**

Hendrick suggested 29.Be4! to open up the game, with 29...dxe4 30.d5 being the main idea. (29...Qd7!?)  
**29...Nf4 30.Bb1 Rh8 31.Nf5+ Kd7 32.Qg7 Ne6 33.Qf6 Na5 34.Ba2 Nc4 35.Bxc4 bxc4 36.Rb1 Rg8 37. Nh6 Rg6 38.Qxf7+ Qxf7 39.Nf7 Ke7 40.Rf3 g4 41.Nh8 gxf3 42. Nxb6+ Kf7 43.Nh4**

Only by a miracle has White escaped having his queen, and later this knight, trapped. All that tactical Houdini work is spoiled by bad endgame play.

**43...fxg2 44.Kxg2 c5 (44.f4 Ng7) 45.Nf3**

Why allow Black a protected passer at c4? Sure the knight gets active after 45.dxc5 Nxc5, but there are worse things in the world.

**45...cxd4 46.cxd4**

46.Nxd4 Nxd4 47.cxd4 would be an easy draw.

(Continued on page 34)

# Deep Blue wins, but what does it mean?

J.P. Hyltin

Are you feeling a little cramped now?

According to many people, the world just got a little smaller. Enthusiasm is running very high, because man has made a machine that can beat the most machine-like man in the game of chess. And it all happened, ironically enough, on Ludek Pachman's birthday. Now that we understand chess that well, the world seems so much smaller, or so the argument goes.

Pardon me, but I'm a little skeptical. No, I don't buy into the conspiracy theories running amuck about Gary Kasparov throwing his match, or that there was some kind of "fix" or "cheating" involved. I am skeptical about what has really been accomplished.

Long ago I learned in an undergraduate Artificial Intelligence (AI) class that chess was interesting to AI academia because it was a good test of the state of the art of AI, and it provided a good way to test the performance of various algorithms in a practical situation.

The problem is that it appears Deep Blue may have more in common with a big Oracle database than it does with an algorithm incorporating artificial intelligence. Actually, very little is really known about the specific programming of Deep Blue, because its programmers, C.J. Tan and Feng Hsu, have not yet released their promised report. Some details have leaked out though, because of the marketing process. What is known is that they have advocated an approach that de-emphasizes intelligence. In a chessplaying algorithm, the critical step is referred to as `eval()`, or the evaluation function. The purpose of `eval()` is to assign heuristics, or numerical evaluations, that are used to compare positions that can result from the choice of moves. Deep Blue evaluates positions very fast, but it does so at the expense of the depth of positional understanding represented in those evaluations.

So, without getting into the details, there is a relatively small amount of intelligence in Deep Blue, at least in comparison to most good chess playing programs. The Deep Blue approach to chess is "speed at all costs." The Deep Blue team designed the evaluation process to work as fast as possible so that Deep Blue can search as many positions as possible. One way they sped up the computer was to press much of the logic into custom chips. Part of the thinking here is that the silicon-based intelligence not found in the evaluation algorithm is derived on the fly from the results of the

deep search. It has been presumed that they sacrificed smarter evaluation algorithm concepts for speed, and no one from the Deep Blue team is disputing that assumption. This is where the danger lies.

In the process of choosing a move, Deep Blue will compare positions that can result from one move against the positions that can result from another move. While all those positions occur seven or eight moves from the current position, if the intelligence used to evaluate those positions is even a little superficial, then it will not make as good a positional judgment as Garry Kasparov. Or Susan Polgar. Or even Joel Benjamin. And that fact cannot be denied.

I can back up my skepticism about Deep Blue with one other indisputable fact. Chess belongs to a class of problems computer scientists call "intractable." Roughly explained, this means that as you linearly increase the number of moves you want the program to search ahead, the number of positions it must search increases exponentially. Consider that according to the IBM press notes the Deep Blue team doubled the search speed of the '96 version of Deep Blue. In 1996 it could evaluate 100 million positions every second, and the 1997 version could evaluate 200 million positions per second. But that does not mean they doubled the search depth from twelve ply (i.e., six moves) to 24. In fact, Deeper Blue (as the 1997 version is sometimes called) only searches two to three ply deeper as a result of the increase. Doubling the search speed again might not add even one single move more.

It is also important to understand how they doubled the search speed. Deep Blue has several computers handling various tasks for it. All of these computers have been upgraded to be much faster. There are twice as many "chess chips," the (now) 512 microprocessors that can be thought of as processing positions in the native language of chess. Memory has been expanded everywhere. My point here is that they have done much more than doubling the clock speed of the processors. They have increased the resources quite a bit, too, spending quite a bit of money in the process. At some point it will be impractical to increase resources enough to attain that the next level of search depth to increase the strength of the computer. I question whether or not the Deep Blue team will be able to improve their system's play much more.

But why would they need to improve the program? By now I can hear the cries of "But Deep Blue won! Isn't that the bottom line?" Not exactly. Few chess players will argue that Garry Kasparov brought his best game to the match, or even that he played well. He had a clearly better position in Games 3, 4, and 5. Kas-

parov resigned in Game 2 when he was on the brink of saving a draw after playing an opening known to be inferior. Game 6 was, well . . . I can't explain that one, can you? How often do grandmasters confuse the order of opening moves and fall into schoolboy traps? Some have argued that Garry's eighth move was book, and that theory indicates Black's position is sound. I haven't seen many recent grandmaster games in that line, and it is certainly not the kind of position you want to play against a computer. Game 6 proved that human beings make mistakes in mechanical mundane processes, and computers rarely do so. Anyone who thinks Deep Blue proved it is as good as Garry Kasparov should note the bottom line in the difference in the score of this year's match and last year's match. Last year the score was 4-2 in Garry's favor, while Deep Blue's 3.5-2.5 victory in this year's match implies a difference of 1.5 points. But it should be noted this difference in score resulted from the Game 2 resignation in a drawn position and the Game 6 opening accident. This year's Deep Blue was good enough to get a position that Garry thought he was losing, though, while Garry was never in trouble in the first match after the first game. I consider this to have been a lucky happenstance, but I have to admit luck like that happens to good players against lesser competition all the time.

In the last two games of the 1996 match Kasparov made it all look easy. He did so by pointing out that this computer did not have a quality possessed by chess grandmasters described quite eloquently by Kotov in his *Play/Think Like a Grandmaster* books when he said that chess mastery is "knowing what to do when there's nothing to be done." Garry did not just win the 1996 match; he refuted the entire Deep Blue approach to chess in those last two games, and to some extent in Game 2 of that match. This is scientifically valid - theoretically, a computer with little chess knowledge in its algorithms should not be able to judge well between "equal-ish" positions. And that theory was validated by the 1996 experiment.

That is also why Kasparov was able to gain advantages so easily in games 1, 3, and 5 by playing offbeat openings. Garry forced the computer to play purely on positional concepts, because a deep search algorithm is almost completely useless in the openings unless the program can accurately judge all those positions. This causes me to question whether this year's program is really that much different than last year's.

This year's program is not really stupid in the Artificial Intelligence sense. It does have some very narrow criteria for when it will selectively extend its search of a particular line. I also know from some of Joel Ben-

jamin's comments that they worked very hard on this program's ability to determine the value of the bishops and knights relative to any given position. Other comments told the story of correcting Deep Blue's mis-evaluation of pins in the center of the board that plagued it in the previous match, and Game 1 of this year's match is definite evidence of that correction, despite Deep Blue's loss in that game.

So, what has been proven? It may not have quite been proven *per se*, but it appears that the art of AI is not as advanced as we think. This program still outperforms every other chess playing computer program in the world by a great deal. Computer intelligence has been beaten by an exhaustive search to a depth of 15 ply, so intelligence isn't doing us much good, right? While this realization saddens me, I am consoled knowing that a tremendous amount of money and human capital has been spent on the Deep Blue effort. I would like to see a similar amount of effort expended on an algorithm that emphasizes intelligence.

One of the most intelligent programs is called Crafty. It was written by Dr. Robert Hyatt, professor of Computer and Information Sciences at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and I think he has some relationship with the Deep Blue team. He and others have put a considerable amount of effort into Crafty on a strictly volunteer basis, and as the source code can be had for free, many others have extended it. Crafty searches only about 80 thousand positions per second, compared to Deep Blue's 200 million positions per second. Yet because Crafty uses intelligence to pare down its search tree, it consistently sees ten ply ahead, and it can see further because it selectively extends the search. Now that we know that the deep exhaustive search technique can only be made good enough to provide a good match for the best human player(s), I would like to know if pressing Crafty-like intelligence into silicon chips would make a great chess player.

Several have suggested this, but Robert Hyatt has stated (in a usenet contribution to the news group [rec.games.chess.computer](mailto:rec.games.chess.computer)) that it would not do any better than Deep Blue. I think his reasoning is that while this deeper search would improve Crafty, it wouldn't search nearly as deep as Deep Blue and whatever benefits the added speed would give the program would be balanced against that lack of search depth. He knows both programs well enough that I can't dispute that assessment, but I still want to see a more "intelligent" approach. One other drawback is that it may be much harder to press that much logic into silicon chips.

Finally, I would like to point out several things I noticed about this year's match. First, Game 5 was the

only "open" middle game position. Pawns were locked up in the center of the board early in the other games. I notice this because I think the best position to have against Deep Blue is one with an open center. My reasoning is that when positions are closed, the rooks, bishops and queens do not have as much scope, and Deep Blue does not have as many "equal-ish" positions to choose between in its 15 ply search. Testing my theory, I went back to the 1996 match. In the 1996 match, Game 2 was open in the sense that the middle game play occurred all on the queenside, and that side of the board was quite open. Game 3 was semi-open. Game 4 was an open position, and Deep Blue showed its amazing resourcefulness to hold a draw. Game 5 was open, and in Game 6 Garry had a tremendous amount of activity and was able to cramp up Black's position nicely. I would like to see someone employ this strategy against the current Deep Blue, but I must admit that it may not be a good idea to give the master calculation monster's pieces so much scope. I have posed this approach to several good chess players and chess programmers, and they seem to all be skeptical, but intrigued.

There was another thing I noticed about this year's match. I watched the match on the Internet Chess Club, and saw the commentary from people operating various computers. I noticed was that in this year's match, Fritz 4 seemed to predict Deep Blue's move quite often in the critical positions. Fritz 4 is a Windows program that retails for less than \$300. Presumably the operator of that program commenting on the match was running on a computer not unlike the typical home Pentium I am using to write this article.

Internet coverage of this match was excellent. Numerous servers carried the games live with commentary from title players. At one point on the Internet Chess Club, my screen was continuously scrolling when it was set to read only the commentary of titled players (IMs, GMs and FMs). Also, vendors of chess magazines, books, equipment, and products on the World Wide Web carried some excellent analysis updated nightly. Obviously they wanted to pull you in and advertise their products. Whatever their motives, I really appreciated those efforts, and coverage of chess events is becoming very entertaining. ♣

*J.P. Hyllin is a Senior Programmer for the Windows environment with Marotz, Inc. His resumé includes the practical application of expert systems to custom computer-based training and job performance enhancement applications. E-mail: jhyllin@txdirect.net. Web site: www.rdttech.com/jphyllin/ He welcomes debate on the subject of this article.*

## *Beyond the Deep Blue match*

After the match, Deep Blue team leader C.J. Tan struck a conciliatory tone: "Now that the rematch is over, where do we go from here? Well, we will continue our partnership with Garry, but perhaps on a less competitive level. We will be working with Garry in the development of his newly launched web site, Club Kasparov, where he will share his chess brilliance with the world, and especially students all over the world."

Kasparov was not mollified: "I was a bit surprised to hear from C.J. that now they would like to cooperate on a less competitive level. The cooperation just stopped!" What a sport. He also refused to acknowledge his own team after the match.

In a series of post-match interviews, Kasparov asked for a rematch with Deep Blue before the year is over – this time with his PCA world championship title on the line. He wants the match to be over ten games in length, and played on alternate days.

FIDE president Kirsan Iljumzhinov has backed away from his controversial suggestion that he might give Deep Blue a wild card entry to the FIDE Knockout Championships in December. Whether due to protests from grandmasters such as Joel Lautier, or because he is now working with the International Olympic Committee, Iljumzhinov said in a June 4 press conference that the world championship is for humans.

One human who won't be involved is Anatoly Karpov. For the first time in FIDE history, the world champion has been required to play in a qualifying tournament – and Karpov has refused to cooperate.

The official stenographer for the Deep Blue match was Mark Kisingbury of Houston. An expert chess player, he is a top court reporter, ranked fifth nationally and twice winner of the Texas championship for speed. He offers the following comments on the match:

"Kasparov said both in the post-match interview, and in his *Time* magazine article, that he felt his 'anti-computer' strategy that he used in the match was bad, and that he was unlucky that he won the first game because it made him think the strategy was good, when it was not.

"I disagree that it was bad, based on the following:

"Only two games in the match were 'book': Games 2 and Game 6. Kasparov lost both. Of the four non-book games in the match, Kasparov scored a respectable 2.5-1.5, without a loss! How can he say his anti-computer openings didn't work?"

# LETTERS

## Jim "Bob" backlash

I would like to respond to Jim "Bob" Gallagher's book review article concerning me as an author. My books are not computer-generated from any database. I have a chess library of over 2,000 volumes and do go through most of my books and magazines looking for chess games under 25 moves. I also have a million game database in ChessBase and ChessAssistant format. I type up my manuscript using WordPerfect after playing over thousands of games and selecting 500 short games that represent a variety of chess play. I edit each and every game and add light notes to a large percentage of the games. I don't add a lot of annotation so that I can keep my book to about 100 pages and about a penny a game. These are not "published anywhere for any reason" games. Besides, the editor of each chess magazine or book made the first decision to publish the game. I simply collected the game, and if I liked it, added it to my collection and added light notes if appropriate. His opinion is that my books are "unedited trash." Well, I do edit them and he may think it is trash, but my books always seem to be on the best seller list. Perhaps if I catered to masters like Gallagher I might sell 10 or 20 books instead of thousands with reprints and in over a dozen countries. I take about a year to put one of my books together. I can't seem to find his example of a neophyte dropping two pieces for no discernible reason in the first eleven moves from any of my over 10,000 games and over 2,500 pages from my 24 books on chess. Of course there is no Therkau-Rerzog variation. And some of the top players in

the world have lost in 20 moves. And I will be adding another player, world champion Garry Kasparov, in my next edition of the Caro Kann as he lost in 19 moves to Deep Blue. Has Jim "Bob" Gallagher never lost a game in less than 25 or 20 moves? Perhaps they should be published so I can add them to my collection in the future.

Bill Wall  
San Antonio

*You're right, there is no Therkau-Rerzog variation. Jim "Bob" spelled it correctly: Therkatz-Herzog. It's in The Oxford Companion to Chess.*

*A player named Bogus (game #2 in your 500 Caro-Kann Miniatures) put his queen en prise in a postal game. True, that's not two pieces.*

*Skill in harnessing computers can be taken as lack of skill in doing things the old-fashioned way - like analysis. Jim "Bob" often asks me, "Did the Tin Box find that move?" (Often it did.) At other times I have had to "convince" it of my intuitions, especially if there is a sacrifice involved.*

*Obviously a hand calculator is a lot more powerful in the hands of an engineer than in the hands of an average person. That is how I see the use of computers in chess, whether as databases or move-crunchers: I see it as a creative collaboration that advances the chess art.*

It is a shame that a National Chess Master rated 2250 cannot write a reasonable, objective review of a chess book without resorting to name-calling and erroneous statements - not to mention the fact that the article was so full of grammar errors as to make it almost unreadable.

NM Jim "Bob" Gallagher's review of *Alekhine's Block* was appalling. First, why does our esteemed chessmaster and self-proclaimed best chess teacher in San

Antonio stoop so low as to attack Expert Bill Wall's books?

I have several of Wall's books, and I can attest that they are not "look what my computer can do" chess books. Every game which appears in those books is selected for its instructional purposes. 500 games is tiny compared to the number of games which exist in any particular opening, e.g. the French or Italian games. Wall selects games, based on his judgment as a player and author, to provide instruction to those whom NM Gallagher contemptuously calls "neophytes." That NM Gallagher calls Wall's books "game[s] published anywhere for any discernible reason intending [sic: including] unedited trash where some neophyte drops two pieces for no discernible reason" is an insult of the lowest kind. I would like to caution Mr. Gallagher that any player below 2200 will likely take that as an insult also. Has Mr. Gallagher ever dropped a piece before? Has he ever lost game?

Mr. Gallagher's comment that "13 of these [games] are against simul fodder" is absolutely ridiculous. I've given simul before, to as many as 22 people, and it doesn't matter one whit if they're all Class E or masters. A simul is hard to do, and those who can give them and give them well deserve a pat on the back, not a subtle insult as Mr. Gallagher would have us believe.

Mr. Jim "Bob" Gallagher clearly needs to step down from his self-made pedestal and return to practical, real chess.

Thomas Katsampes  
San Antonio

*I did not detect any grammatical errors. Also, it matters to me whether my simul opponents are masters or Class E! Finally, Jim continues to play "real" chess - look elsewhere in the last issue and in this one.*

# Three-way tie for second in fifth Texas Bughouse Championship

Dallas team takes first (yawn)

by Michael Simpson

The Portly Austinites (Drew Sarkisian and Michael Simpson), 007 (Igor Shtern and Steven Grubbs), and Trip the Knight Fantastic (Andrew Smith, David John) split the coveted second prize at the fifth annual Texas Bughouse Championship, held in conjunction with the Texas Chess Championship that apparently also took place at the Menger Hotel on Memorial Day Weekend.

First prize was awarded to The Undefeated (Tom Ruppert, Al Sprague), whose team name was as accurate as it was pretentious. Chicanery, deception, and failure to publicize the event in *TK* [due to late planning by the author] did not prevent the Dallas team from depriving Sarkisian and Simpson of their birthright to the title yet again. Ruppert placed a late night call to Simpson's home to discern the location and time of the event.

Late plans to hold the tournament on Saturday fell through, and the towering Dallas bugsters awaited their prey on Sunday evening. To make the tournament more interesting, the Menger hotel turned off all air conditioning to the room shortly before the tournament so that sweaty palms would make coordination between pieces and clocks more challenging.

The second place teams each had two losses. Besides the perfunctory loss to The Undefeated, the Portly Austinites were shocked in the first round by Trip the Knight Fantastic. Smith and John coordinated nicely and recovered from a bad position in which Sarkisian panicked, as usual (both of the Portly Austinites' losses, and several subsequent skittles defeats, could justifiably be blamed on Sarkisian's special brand of ineptness obscuring Simpson's brilliant combinative skills). The Portly Austinites were also much worse

against 007, when Grubbs, in a dominating position, failed to keep Simpson in check for one move allowing a parachute knight check that turned out to be mate. This may have kept 007 from obtaining clear second; they handily defeated Trip the Knight Fantastic to create the logjam in second place. Each of the lucky also-rans took home \$4 in prize money; The Undefeated, the only team not participating in the chess tournament, split a first prize of \$45, ample reward for driving five hours each way to and from Dallas.

First place under 4000 went to Pawn Fiction with three points, comprised of promising New Braunfels junior John Hendrick and TCA vice-president Larry Young. The Best Team name prize inexplicably was unawarded by TD Gary Gaiffe, who disappeared from the hall after the money had been handed out, apparently thinking his duties had been discharged. In Gaiffe's absence, Simpson declared his team the victor, followed closely by Pawn Fiction.

Besides Grubbs, John and Hendrick, Enrique Rios (Half-a-Necio y Uno Barracho) was another promising junior who played in the championship with his partner Ray Aguilar. They finished with two points; rounding out the field were The Lewkowskis (Bruce and Alex Lewkowski) with 2 points and The Bugmasters (Ben Taylor and Richard Lopez) and No Doubt (originally Ira Schachar and Jonathan Walsh, later Martin Gordon and Jack Fox), tied for eighth place with one and a half points (together having reached the second draw in Texas Bughouse Championship history). The debut of Jack Fox in the tournament made many of the victories all the sweeter.

Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
1. The Undefeated (Al Sprague, Tom Ruppert)	▲	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
2. 007 (Igor Shtern, Steven Grubbs)*	0	▲	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
3. Portly Austinites (Drew Sarkisian, Michael Simpson)	0	1	▲	0	1	1	1	1	1	6
4. Trip the Knight Fantastic (Andy Smith, David John)	0	0	1	▲	1	1	1	1	1	6
5. Pawn Fiction (John Hendrick, Larry Young)	0	0	0	0	▲	1	0	1	1	3
6. Half-a Necio y Uno Barracho (Enrique Rios, Ray Aguilar)	0	0	0	0	0	▲	0	1	1	2
7. The Lewkowskis (Bruce and Alex Lewkowski)	0	0	0	0	1	1	▲	0	0	2
8. The Bugmasters (Ben Taylor, Richard Lopez)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	▲	.5	1.5
9. No Doubt (I. Schachar, J. Walsh; J. Fox, M. Gordon)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	.5	▲	1.5

\* Winners on alphabetical tiebreaks – numbers go first. Michael suggested basing tiebreaks on the combined gross weight of the players, which would have tipped the scales in favor of Portly Austinites.

# Tournament Crosstables

## Texas State Championship

San Antonio, May 24-26

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	total
1 Miles Ardaman	2430	+30	=24	=10	+25	+15	+2	5.0
2 Igor Shtern	2411	+33	+14	+13	=4	+10	-1	4.5
3 John Patty	2201	=20	+19	=15	+13	+4	=5	4.5
4 Haldun Unalmis	2378	+26	+16	=5	=2	-3	+12	4.0
5 Eugene Curtin	2368	+9	+7	=4	-10	+21	=3	4.0
6 Eric Dimazana	2291	-27	+20	+8	+26	=12	=10	4.0
7 Andr. Bar-Jona	2186	+21	-5	-22	+16	+27	+17	4.0
8 Jim Rohrbaugh	2162	H	+35	-6	+19	=11	+21	4.0
9 A. Ahmed-Zaid	2146	-5	-18	+31	+30	+23	+15	4.0
10 Michael Gelman	2097	+29	+22	=1	+5	-2	=6	4.0
11 Wm. Barefield	2108	=23	-15	+20	+29	=8	=18	3.5
12 S. Shivaji	2049	=15	=23	+16	+22	=6	-4	3.5
13 N. Ziane	2309	+17	+27	-2	-3	+26	U	3.0
14 Don Sutherland	2258	+18	-2	-27	=28	=20	+26	3.0
15 Art Garey	2222	=12	+11	=3	+27	-1	-9	3.0
16 Mikhail Langer	2203	+28	-4	-12	-7	+33	+27	3.0
17 Andy Smith	2136	-13	+33	H	=18	+25	-7	3.0
18 B.L. Pateson	2101	-14	+9	=29	=17	=28	=11	3.0
19 L. Poliakoff	2019	=25	-3	+36	-8	H	+28	3.0
20 John Hendrick	2018	=3	-6	-11	+36	=14	+33	3.0
21 Steven Grubbs	2010	-7	B	+30	+24	-5	-8	3.0
22 Drew Sarkisian	2268	+34	-10	+7	-12	U	U	2.0
23 Mike Calogridis	2261	=11	=12	-26	+33	-9	U	2.0
24 Jim Gallagher	2261	+31	=1	=25	-21	U	U	2.0
25 Mark Dejmeck	2202	=19	+36	=24	-1	-17	U	2.0
26 Thomas Patton	2159	-4	+28	+23	-6	-13	-14	2.0
27 Mitch Vergara	2118	+6	-13	+14	-15	-7	-16	2.0
28 David C. John	2027	-16	-26	B	=14	=18	-19	2.0
29 José Luis Silva	2232	-10	+34	=18	-11	U	U	1.5
30 Larry Moss	2199	-1	+31	-21	-9	=34	U	1.5
31 Lorenzo Gaskill	2107	-24	-30	-9	=34	=32	H	1.5
32 J.P. Hytlin	2103	U	U	U	U	=31	+34	1.5
33 Matt Campbell	2179	-2	-17	X	=23	-16	-20	1.0
34 Lewis McClary	2117	-22	-29	F	=31	=30	-32	1.0
35 Selby Anderson	2295	=36	-8	U	U	U	U	0.5
36 Mike Simpson	2119	=35	-25	-19	-20	U	U	0.5

## Texas Amateur Championship

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	total
1 Jason Howell	1949	+58	=43	+71	+28	+29	+9	5.5
2 James Wharton	1935	+77	=22	+78	+45	+19	+10	5.5
3 Mark McCue	1840	+65	=30	+67	=17	+31	+18	5.0
4 Ed Erwin	1900	H	=17	+70	+33	+48	+8	5.0
5 Rodney Thomas	1830	+110	=66	H	+93	+17	+24	5.0
6 Steven D. Young	1892	=49	X	+22	=21	+44	=11	4.5
7 Mark Dixon	1879	+27	+33	-11	+30	+21	=12	4.5
8 D. Nightingale	1836	+51	+57	+48	+11	=9	-4	4.5
9 G. De La Rosa	1837	+90	+20	+83	+34	=8	-1	4.5
10 David Peters	1964	+55	+36	=45	+53	+18	-2	4.5
11 T. Pastores	1778	+37	+59	+7	-8	+47	=6	4.5
12 Jesse Vasquez	1745	-46	+111	+49	+79	+54	=7	4.5
13 John W. Ade	1965	-68	+84	+55	+14	+71	+32	4.5
14 R. De Los Reyes	1672	+101	+54	=28	+13	H	+29	4.5
15 Ben Taylor	1568	+86	-28	+91	=32	+45	+34	4.5
16 Ade Kujimiyo	1601	H	F	+89	+61	+69	+28	4.5
17 Alex Relyea	1642	+75	=4	X	=3	-5	+46	4.0
18 Matt Bradford	1729	+111	+87	+35	+42	-10	-3	4.0
19 Ronnie Rubit	1809	+81	+31	+85	=29	-2	=20	4.0
20 J. Aronovich	1640	+99	-9	+73	=25	+35	=19	4.0
21 Brad Anderson	1709	+96	+46	=53	=6	-7	+47	4.0
22 Russell J. Smith	1688	+100	=2	-6	=46	+72	+51	4.0
23 Paul Muljadi	1813	-50	+52	+62	+26	-24	+56	4.0

24 Charles Casey	1575	+106	-34	+82	+83	+23	-5	4.0
25 Wm. P. Gibson	1800	=73	=49	+59	=20	=56	+58	4.0
26 Duane Solley	1655	+108	-35	+74	-23	+81	+52	4.0
27 Leica Tilton	1468	-7	+102	-69	+88	+83	+48	4.0
28 Br. Lewkowski	1805	+64	+15	=14	-1	+66	-16	3.5
29 David Gonzales	1917	+72	+44	+32	=19	-1	-14	3.5
30 Brian Oakley	1660	+82	=3	=43	-7	+50	=37	3.5
31 Aaron Fox	1579	X	-19	+97	+39	-3	=41	3.5
32 Rosendo Leal	1799	+38	+68	=29	=15	+75	-13	3.5
33 Frank Roberts	1670	+88	-7	+51	-4	+74	=38	3.5
34 Ira Horvitz	1806	+113	+24	+47	-9	H	-15	3.5
35 Joe Gilbert	1864	+80	+26	-18	=57	-20	+71	3.5
36 Bruce Eberhard	1708	+76	-10	+80	=56	-42	+72	3.5
37 A. Hernandez	1285	-11	+112	=75	+49	+68	=30	3.5
38 Robert James	1286	-32	-94	+102	+62	+79	=33	3.5
39 Raymond Smith	1826	=67	=60	+87	-31	H	+66	3.5
40 Louis Rimpel	1700	H	+95	F	-66	+67	+70	3.5
41 José Narvaez	unr.	-66	+81	F	+110	+87	=31	3.5
42 Larry J. Young	1981	+79	H	+66	-18	+36	U	3.5
43 Lloyd Uhler	1700	+107	=1	=30	-47	+80	H	3.5
44 Wm. N. Stewart	1670	+102	-29	+90	+94	-6	H	3.5
45 Tomas Suchy	1803	+84	+56	=10	-2	-15	=60	3.0
46 Pierce Tilton	1269	+12	-21	=60	=22	+77	-17	3.0
47 Richard Lopez	1494	+94	+69	-34	+43	-11	-21	3.0
48 John M. Baker	1716	+104	+50	-8	+68	-4	-27	3.0
49 A. Lewkowski	1473	=6	=25	-12	-37	+98	+84	3.0
50 Enrique Rios	1344	+23	-48	-57	+63	-30	+115	3.0
51 James Fleener	1383	-8	+63	-33	+91	+85	-22	3.0
52 Robert Liva	1274	-69	-23	+101	+59	+55	-26	3.0
53 Hector Lazcano	1811	+74	+93	=21	-10	=57	U	3.0
54 Martin Gordon	1926	+62	-14	+58	+85	-12	U	3.0
55 Patrick Lee	1550	-10	+76	-13	+67	-52	+95	3.0
56 Ira Schachar	1565	+105	-45	+99	=36	=25	-23	3.0
57 Freddy Jones	1651	+97	-8	+50	=35	=53	U	3.0
58 Warren Vosper	1537	-1	+92	-54	+84	+97	-25	3.0
59 Michael LaBelle	1472	+112	-11	-25	-52	+101	+92	3.0
60 Calvin Jones	1593	H	=39	=46	-71	+76	+45	3.0
61 L. Tipperreiter	1713	=89	-67	+95	-16	=65	+73	3.0
62 Jonathan Walsh	1481	-54	+101	-23	-38	+103	+81	3.0
63 Andrew Martin	unr.	-93	-51	+96	-50	+104	+90	3.0
64 Leigh Emrich	1319	-28	+86	-93	-77	+105	+80	3.0
65 Wallace Short	1414	-3	-82	+100	=99	=61	+86	3.0
66 Carl McClure	1630	+41	=5	-42	+40	-28	-39	2.5
67 Troy Lambert	1349	=39	+61	-3	-55	-40	+99	2.5
68 Ray Aguilar	1556	+13	-32	+105	-48	-37	=74	2.5
69 Robert Wright	1778	+52	+47	+27	=75	-16	U	2.5
70 Frederick Speck	1500	-109	+98	-4	=73	+99	-40	2.5
71 Joaquin Fox	1700	H	+103	-1	+60	-13	-35	2.5
72 Tom Katsampes	1476	-29	+100	+103	+78	-22	-36	2.5
73 John H. Graw	1311	=25	H	-20	=70	+78	-61	2.5
74 John DeMott	1342	=53	+106	-26	+82	-33	=68	2.5
75 Doyle Lobaugh	1600	-17	+104	+37	=69	-32	U	2.5
76 Arthur Hanna	1095	-36	=55	=86	+100	-60	+104	2.5
77 Jason Kindred	1532	-2	+107	-94	+64	=46	H	2.5
78 Jonas Moen	1691	=103	+89	-2	-72	-73	+91	2.5
79 G. Castleberry	1562	-42	+96	X	-12	-38	U	2.0
80 Johnny Heickman	1458	-35	+88	-36	+92	+43	-64	2.0
81 George C. John	1339	-19	-41	+107	+105	-26	-62	2.0
82 Chris Tilotta	845	+30	+65	-24	-74	-92	+103	2.0
83 Thomas E. Brown	1709	+92	+91	-9	-24	-27	U	2.0
84 Kevin Rector	1318	+45	-13	+98	-58	+108	-49	2.0
85 Mark Brill	1689	+98	+109	-19	-54	-51	U	2.0
86 Issiac Jones	unr.	-15	-64	=76	=89	+110	-65	2.0
87 Morris Samelson	1473	+116	-18	-39	+104	-41	U	2.0
88 Barbara Ade	877	-33	-80	X	-27	-95	+107	2.0
89 Jay Patteson	1145	=61	-78	-16	=86	-91	+101	2.0
90 Mark Grunberg	1402	-9	+108	-44	-97	+102	-63	2.0
91 H.W. Sampson	714	B	-83	-15	-51	+89	-78	2.0
92 Martha Ade	1098	-83	-58	-106	-80	+82	-59	2.0
93 Blair Burleson	1633	+63	+53	+64	-5	U	U	2.0
94 Robert Chalker	1927	+47	+38	+77	-44	U	U	2.0
95 Forrest Marler	1340	H	-40	-61	=103	+88	-55	2.0

## Denton CC debuts with quads

The Denton Chess Club held its first USCF rated event June 14th. Players from Denton, Plano, and Fort Worth competed in two quads. Club vice-president Bill Trowbridge directed the event, held at Rama's Cappuccino Courtyard and Coffee, near Denton's courthouse square.

Durrell Jones (1853) was the surprise winner of the top quad. He drew Alexey Root (2102), and defeated Steve Alden (2000) and Ken Dowlen (1910). Root finished second, defeating Alden and drawing Dowlen and Jones. Alden defeated Dowlen.

Quad two saw a tie between Tony Sims (1837) and Dwight Skinner (1802). After drawing each other, they each defeated Dave Zachary (1184) and John Baxter. Zachary scored against the unrated Baxter.

—Alexey Root

96	Elvis Vest	1100	-21	-79	-63	-101	+100	+102	2.0
97	Katie Stone	747	-57	B	-31	+90	-58	U	2.0
98	Lynden Fraser	1050	-85	-70	-84	+106	-49	+108	2.0
99	Frank Lawrence	unr.	-20	+110	-56	=65	-70	-67	1.5
100	John M. Ade	932	-22	=72	-65	-76	-96	+110	1.5
101	David Parr	893	-14	-62	-52	+96	-59	-89	1.0
102	Gene Deal	879	-44	-27	-38	+107	-90	-96	1.0
103	James Nielsen	1063	=78	-71	-72	=95	-62	-82	1.0
104	James Owsley	1186	-48	-75	+108	-87	-63	-76	1.0
105	Craig Raborn	unr.	-56	X	-68	-81	-64	U	1.0
106	James Kersbergen	unr.	-24	-74	-92	-98	-107	B	1.0
107	Frank M. Lopez	1080	-43	-77	-81	-102	+106	-88	1.0
108	Richard Lancaster	798	-26	-90	-104	B	-84	-98	1.0
109	Donald Coburn	1929	+70	-85	U	U	U	U	1.0
110	John Fine	1365	-5	-99	H	-41	-86	-100	0.5
111	Chad Gallun	1218	-18	-12	F	U	U	U	0.0
112	Charles Roach	1887	-59	-37	U	U	U	U	0.0
113	Anthony Colyer	1331	-34	F	U	U	U	U	0.0
114	Vinod Dasyam	unr.	F	U	U	U	U	U	0.0
115	Mario Chavez	1691	U	U	U	U	U	-50	0.0
116	Aaron Golden	1890	-87	U	U	U	U	U	0.0

B=bye H=1/2 pt. bye U=unplayed X=forfeit win F=forfeit loss  
r/e = re-entered Players in each point group are listed by tiebreaks.

### Solutions

- 1.Rxg7 1-0 (1...Rxc6 2.Qc8+ forcing mate.)
- The game ended 1.Qxh6+ gxh6 2.Nf6+ Kh8 3.Rg8 mate. Or 1...Kg8 2.Nf6+ Kf7 3.Qxg7 mate.
- 1.Qd4+ (also Qe4+ or Qf4+) Kb3 2.Qxa4+ Kxa4 4.Kc4 (zugzwang) 1-0.
- 1.Qd6 1-0 (not 1.Qa7? 1...Qe5.)
- 1.Nc6 R8d7 (1...Rxc6 2.Bxd5+) 2.Rxd5 Rxd5 3.Bxd5+ 1-0 (3...Rxd5 4.Ne7+).
- 1.Nf5 (a) 1...gxf5 2.Qg5 Nxh5 3.Rxh5 and 4.Qxg7 mate. (b) 1...Bh8 2.Bxf8 Kxf8 3.Qh6+ Kg8 4.Ne7 mate. (c) The game ended 1...Bxh6 2.Qxh6 gxf5 3.Qg5+ Kh8 4.Qxf6+ 1-0 (4...Kg8 5.h6 and 6.Qg7 mate).
- 1...Ng4+ 2.hxg4 (2.Kg2 Re2+ 3.Kg1 R8e3 4.Rd3 Rxg3+ 5.Rxg3 Qc5+ 6.Kh1 Rh2 mate) Re2+ (or 2...Qh6+ first) 3.Kg1 Qh6 4.Rf2 Rxf2 5.Kxf2 Qh2+ 6.Kf1 Re2 7.Bxd5 Qf2 mate 0-1
- 1.e5 dxe5 2.Rxg6 1-0 (2...Bxg6 3.Qb1+, etc.) Half credit for 2.Bxg6 Qg8, which is not as clear.
- In the game White played 1.Bxf7, when 1...Bd3 (instead of 1...Qg7) would have held out. Best is 1.Qf5+ Kg7 (1...Kh8 2.Qg5 Kh7 transposes) 2.Qg5+ Kh7 3.Bxf7 Qg7 (3...Bd3 4.Bg8+ +-) 4.Qf5+ Kh8 5.Qf4 Kh7 6.Bxe8 Rxe8 7.Rxh6+ +- (7...Qxh6 8.Qf7+).

### Back cover solution

- 1.Nc3+ Kc5 (1...Ka5 2.Ra1+ Kb4 3.Nd5+) 2.Rh5! Qf1 (other moves allow a fork or discovered check which wins the queen) 3.Rh4 Qf7+ 4.Nd7+! +-.

**Texas Postal Championship:** Send \$10 entry to Steve Lynn, 3503 Aspen Leaf, Round Rock, TX 78681

### The Chess Tactics Workbook

by Al Woolum (third edition)

Soft cover, 111 pages, Al Woolum, 1997. \$12.00

7505 Terry Ct., N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

(817) 656-3841; woolumal@flash.net

Reviewed by NM Selby Anderson

This is the first chess book I have seen that is made to order for the average classroom. While the *Comprehensive Chess Course* by Alburton and Pelts comes across as overwritten and clunky (it's actually a teacher's guide), Woolum's *Workbook* is model of clarity that compares well with an elementary math workbook. Even if the teacher is a novice at chess, this book will welcome rather than intimidate.

The introduction is simple enough for primary grades without insulting older students – elementary but not cutesy. Woolum sticks to the essentials needed to play the game and find simple checkmates. The bulk of the work is 128 exercises with six positions each, all graduated in level of difficulty. Openings, strategy and endgames are not in the scope of this book, so you may want to use a supplementary overview text.

In a book so self-explanatory, one item escapes me: a series of exercises is titled "Italian Tactics." (No, they're not Giuoco Piano positions.)

The author brings a wealth of classroom experience in teaching the game, and has served on the USCF scholastic committee. His book has been recommended by USCF in its *Guide to Scholastic Chess*.

**For quantity orders:** Ten or more copies are sold at \$6.00 each, twenty or more at \$5.50 each. Freight is free in the continental U.S. through Sept. 30, 1997. Please provide tax-free number if purchasing for school district or other non-profit agency.



## DRIVE-IN BOOK REVIEW

by NM Jim "Bob" Gallagher

### My Love Affair with Tchigorin

by IM Anthony Santasiere

Chess Digest, \$16.50

Hello again friends and neighbors, and thanks for the positive feedback from my initial *Drive-In Book Review* in the previous issue of our favorite state rag, *TK!* Of course, not all of the comments were complimentary; some owners of fast computers with large databases seemed miffed when I flippantly implied that they need more qualifications in order to become legitimate chess authors, but such is life.

As I hope most of you have already guessed, this column is a spoof of a certain alternate newspaper columnist who hails from Georgia and has his own late night TV show on TNT. But that's it, I'm giving no more hints about whom I might be parodying. Figure it out for yourself! Oh, all right: Check the middle "name" at the top of the page. (*Insert disclaimer here.*) Now, on to today's topic.

In a category replete with insipid appellations, our current entry wins, *hands down*, the Drive-In Review award for the Most Ridiculous Chess Book Title Ever. Fortunately, the book does not live up to the promise of its title. Let's hope the *Searching for Bobby Fischer* people never get their paws on this one – you won't know whether to look for it in a card catalogue or a blue movie store. Unfortunately from the humor standpoint, the front cover is where the majority of the criticism ends.

Eminently qualified homeboy, Tony Santasiere, deftly tours with both grace and understanding the life and career of the "father of Russian chess," Mikhail Tchigorin. The book details an even 100 of Tchigorin's best efforts, including eleven of his 22 match games versus Tarrasch and five world championship encounters against Steinitz. Also included are the famous games with Davidov at St. Petersburg 1874, and Lasker and Pillsbury at the same venue in 1895, plus two more with Charousek in Budapest 1896. The list of opponents found in this book reads like a *Who's Who* of the time: Alapin, Albin, Blackburn, Bird, Burn, Caro, Delmar, Gunsburg, Janowski, Maroczy, Marshall, Mason, Mieses, Rubinstein, Schlechter, Znosko-Borovsky, Teichman. And by the way Ken, Elaine, John and Sid, couldn't one of you have compiled an index of opponents for poor ol' Jim "Bob"?

Furthermore and most importantly, each game is acutely annotated by Santasiere (all vowels pronounced

except the last one) without the usual hero-worship slant: "Instead of taking the sacrificed g-pawn (no doubt risky), he imprisons his lovely Bishop, and yields a center square to the enemy – that's bad chess." Let's hope the art of annotating great chess games doesn't follow Tony to his grave.

Congratulations, Ken, on another solid effort in your long and storied publishing career. (What a *lucky* inheritance, huh?) 125 pages, opening index, mucho diagrams, smallish print, a wee tad pricey (aren't they all?), a full 3 pawns. Jim "Bob" says check it out. (Tell me if it's mailed in a plain brown wrapper.) ♠

See Jim "Bob"'s new feature "*That's Bad Chess*", p. 22.

### Corrections to the May-June issue

1. The back cover mate in eight problem is incorrectly attributed to Morphy. The composer was E.B. Cook, and his problem first appeared in *The New York Albion* in 1852. (See David Lawson's book *Paul Morphy*, p. 327.)
2. Under "Regional Champions" (page 11), the first place elementary team for Region III should be Shepard Elementary, not Valley Ranch.
3. In "Drive-In Book Review" (page 33), paragraph two, sentence two should read "I might as well pan everybody while I'm at it!" (not "everybody else").
4. It was correctly reported (page 8) that Alamo Day School won a Middle School trophy (20th) with a two-person team. Luis Salinas points out that another team of two (Spense) tied with them and lost on tiebreaks, and that another two-player team finished ahead of both: St Mark's (Jonathan Walsh and Matthew Bradford), in 18th place on tiebreaks or equal 17th.

### Advance motions for fall business meeting

1. (Anderson): Article IX, Section 1.F (Texas Postal Championship). Remove the following sentence: *Entries shall be restricted to Texas residents.*
  - 1.b. Add the following sentence to the same section: *TCA membership shall be required for Texas residents, who must keep membership current throughout any Texas Postal event.*
2. (Anderson) Article IX, Section 1.E (Texas Scholastic Championship): Insert "(unless their schools use other groupings)" after "... High School 9-12."
3. (Salinas): When TCA gets a USCF membership list from USCF, TCA shall request the list on disk with an industry standard database format. Furthermore, TCA will make this list available to all TCA affiliates who request this list.
4. (Wren): Article IX, Section 3.B. Change advance period for submission of tournament bids on Major Events from three years to two.

## A Statement by the TCA President

We have come a long way in the last year. The TCA web page established by George John continues to improve under Greg Wren's stewardship. The growth of junior chess has been reflected in greater participation from our regional directors, and the fact that coaches now have a regular forum in TK. We need to explore ways to bring in more schools and localities that have missed out on the scholastic chess boom.

Financially, we have doubled our interest by moving funds from savings into a CD. Our treasurer plans to move the checking account at Nations Bank (no interest and a monthly service charge of \$5.00) into an interest-bearing savings account with checking privileges at USAA Federal Savings Bank.

Please take the time to complete your ballot. There are now 21 write-in slots for USCF Voting Members.

- Selby Anderson

## TCA tournament bids update

The TCA board has awarded the bid for the 2000 Texas Scholastic Championship to the North Side Chess Club of Fort Worth (Manuel Espino, organizer). With at least 20 team and 25 individual trophies per section, and entry fee at \$19.00, the bid was in these respects almost identical to the one from Southwest Chess Promotions in Dallas (Brad Bradford and Luis Salinas). The deciding factor was the fact that Fort Worth has not yet been host to this tournament.

We are still waiting for bids on the two other Major Events for the year 2000: the Texas State and Amateur Championship and the Southwest Open.

## 1998 Bids received

### Texas Open

San Antonio 1997

San Antonio. Dec. 26-27, 1998. 5-SS. \$\$(\$1,000 b/50) EF:\$30/\$40, jr. \$15/\$20. San Antonio Chess Club, P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023. (210) 695-2324.

### Texas Senior Championship

Huntsville 1997

Huntsville. April 1998. 4-SS. \$\$(\$310 b/25): 100-75-50, U1700 60-25. EF: \$20/\$25. Huntsville Chess Club, 2109 Ave T, Huntsville, TX 77340. (409) 291-7625.

### Texas Rapid Championship

San Antonio 1997

San Antonio. April 1998. 5-SS, G/29 (Quick rated), one day. \$\$(\$600 b/35): \$200 1st; U2200 \$100, U2000 \$90, U1800 \$80, U1600 \$70, U1400/Unr. \$60. EF: \$25 advance, \$30 at site. Sponsor: San Antonio Chess Club, P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023. (210) 695-2324.

We have received no bids for the 1998 Texas Team and Armed Forces championships.

# San Antonio City Championship

5 round Swiss - Round 1 G/90, then 30/90, SD/1

**July 26-27 Methodist Hospital**

North Tower, 5th floor conference room  
7700 Floyd Curl Drive; (210) 692-4546

**Prizes: \$600 b/40, 6/class, 2/3 gtd.**

**\$150 first, \$100 second**

**U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600 each \$75; U1400 \$50**

**Entry fees:** \$20 if received by 7/24, \$25 at site  
Junior (18/under) entry \$10 by 7/24, \$15/site  
(trophy prize only, counts as 1/2 toward "based on")

**Registration:** 8:30 - 9:15 a.m.

**Rounds:** 9:30 - 1 - 5:30 Sat.; 10 - 3 Sun.

Half pt. bye any one round with notice before Rd. 1.

*Send entries to:*

**San Antonio Chess Club**

**P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023**

(210) 695-2324; <http://www.connecti.com/~txchess/>

## Texas Amateur games

(continued from page 25)

**46...Ra7 47.Rb8 Bd7 48.Ba5 Bb5 49.Bb4 Nf4+ 50. Kh2 Nd3 51.Nd2?**

After this White stands worse. The best try is 51. Rf8+ Kg7 52.Ng5! Nxb4 53.Ne6+ Kh7 54.axb4 c4 55. Rf3! and White has no trouble stopping the c-pawn.

**51...Nxb4 52.axb4 Rc7! 53.Rh8 Kg7 54.Rh3 Ba4!**

To take b3 away from the knight when Black pushes his c-pawn.

**55.Rc3**

It is a bad sign when you have to blackade with a rook. Unfortunately, the desirable 55.Nb1 Rb7 56. Nc3 Bc6 drops the b4 pawn, and 55.Ra3? c3! loses the house.

**55....Bd1 56.f4 Be2 57.Kg3 Rb7 58.Kf2 Bd3 59.Ra3 Rxb4 60.Ke3 Bf5 61.Rxa6 c3 + 62.Ra7+ Kf8 63.Ra8+**

Checks only make things worse, but at any rate 63.Nf3 c2 64.Rc7 fails to 64...Rb1 65.Kd2 Rd1+ +.

**63...Ke7 64.Ra7+ Kd8 65.Ra8+ Kc7 66.Nf3 c2 67. Kd2 Rb1 68.Ra7+ Kb6**

**0-1**

*Texas residents: Your 1997 TCA Ballot is enclosed.*

*The San Antonio Chess Club presents the*

# 63rd SOUTHWEST OPEN

**AUG. 30 – SEPT. 1**

**6 Round Swiss: 40/2, 20/1, SD/30**

*At the historic*

**Menger Hotel  
204 Alamo Plaza  
San Antonio, Texas 78205**

Next door to the Alamo. Special room rates: \$79 single/double.

Reservations: 1-800-345-9285 or (210) 223-4361. Mention chess tournament, reserve by July 29.

**\$5,500 b/175 entries • 2/3 of all prizes guaranteed!**

<b>Open Section (open to all)</b>				<b>Reserve Section (open to U1800)</b>			
		<b>Expert</b>	<b>A</b>		<b>C</b>	<b>D/under</b>	<b>Unr.</b>
<b>First:</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$400</b>	<b>\$400</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<b>Second:</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Third:</b>	<b>\$250</b>			<b>\$100</b>			

Unrated players in reserve may win unrated prizes only. No computers, no smoking, wheelchair access.

**Entry Fees:** \$45 if postmarked by Aug. 23, \$55 later.

**Junior entry:** \$22.50 in advance, \$27.50 after 8/23. Must be 18 or under and play in Reserve section. A junior entry counts as one-half of an adult entry towards "based on" prizes.

USCF & TCA membership required, other states accepted. Checks payable to "SACC".

**Registration:** 8:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday, August 30

Half point bye available any one round with notice before Round 1.

**Rounds:** Sat. 11:30 - 6, Sun. 11:30 - 6, Mon. 9 - 3:30

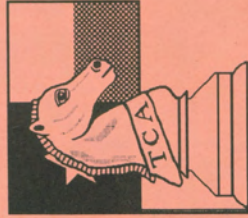
**TCA membership meeting:** Sunday 9 a.m.

*Send entries to:*

**San Antonio Chess Club  
P.O. Box 501  
Helotes, TX 78023**

**Info:** <http://www.connecti.com/~txchess/> • (210) 695-2324

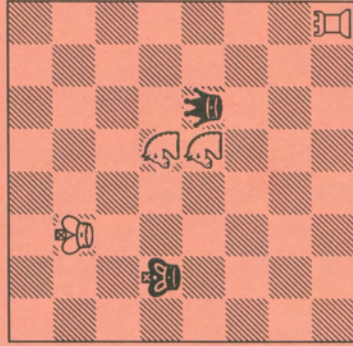
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See inside front cover for  
TCA membership information.

Henri Rinck, *La Nau* 1929



**White to move and win**  
Solution: page 32

