

TEXAS KNIGHTS

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UT-Dallas places second at Pan Am Intercollegiate Team

Texas Grade Championships

First ever – 241 compete

UTD's board one, Nouredine Ziane

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Congratulations to David John for making the 1998 Pressman All-America Team!

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Cover photo by Jeremy Woodhouse, UT Dallas Publications.

Test Your Tactics!

Solutions: page 29



1. Black to move

Lopez-Luna, Texas Grade 9 Chp.



2. White to move

Anderson-Kunadze, SACS Quick 12/97



3. Black to move

Anderson-Gallagher, SACS 12/97



4. White to move

Luberti-Drake, Dallas Open 1997



5. Black to move

Ozden-Shtern, Dallas Open 1997



6. White to move

Weinberg-Bonrud, Dallas Open 1997



7. Black to move

Gaiha-Grubbs, Dallas Open 1997



8. White to move

Miller-Castleberry, SACS 12/97



9. Black to move

Gallagher-Bruce Lewkowski, TGO '97

Texas Grade and Collegiate Championships

A total of 241 players competed in 13 sections for the first ever Texas Grade and Collegiate Championships, held Nov. 21-23 at the Harvey Hotel in Addison.

The event filled a void in Texas junior chess, as grade prizes have not been awarded at the state level since 1993. Even then, grade prizes were the leftovers after the top individual trophies were awarded. This was the first contest held in Texas specifically to determine the top players in each grade. The fact that these games were played between peers made for some especially exciting and well-fought games.

The chief tournament director and computer operator was Luis Salinas. Brad Bradford was the chief assistant. George John was the section chief for grades 6-12 as well as the collegiate section. Robert Weinberg was the section chief for the K-5 sections. Also assisting on the TD staff were Manuel Espino and Shawn Walsh. James Kerr directed the bughouse tournament, and Brad Bradford directed the parent-child tournament.

The event was organized by SouthWest Chess Enterprises, a Dallas-based group which is planning to hold the 1999 Southwest Open in Houston.

The Collegiate section ended in a three-way tie with Andy Zamora, Steven Grubbs and Joe Drake. This was the smallest section, with four players and six rounds. Salinas reported that the tiebreaks were very obscure, and he considers the top three to be co-champions.

Here is a brief summary of the grade results. In the two grades where players tied for first, they are considered co-champions. Kindergarten and first grade were merged into one section.

At least two players were required to constitute a team, with a maximum of three per team.

Grade Team Winners

12	LBJ High School 'A'	Austin	13 pts.
11	Bellaire High School	Houston	14
10	Bellaire High School	Houston	14
9	Bellaire High School	Houston	11
8	Wilson Middle School	Plano	3.5
7	J.P. Elder Middle School	Fort Worth	8
6	J.P. Elder Middle School	Fort Worth	12
5	W.J. Turner Elementary	Fort Worth	11.5
4	Kramer Elementary	Dallas	7
3	Ridglea Hills	Fort Worth	8
2	Bethany Elementary	Plano	6.5
K/1	Bethany Elementary	Plano	6

Grade 12: Top-ranked John Hendrick of New Braunfels High School, rated 300 points ahead of the pack at 1995, won with 6-0. Matthew Burns (1322) of Austin was second with 5. Five players tied for third with 4 points, with trophies going to the first three: Steve Hoberman, Matt Newton, Michael Devin, Alex Courtade and Robert Morton. There were 21 players.

LBJ High School of Austin won first place with its 'A' team (Matthew Burns, Steve Hoberman and Matt Newton). The organizers allowed LBJ's A/B team split because there were more trophies than teams.

The second place team out of the four competing was Stafford High School, near Houston.

Grade 11: Patrick Bloom (1644) topped a 28-player field. His Bellaire teammate Ramsey Ashour (1226) took clear second with 5, and Jonathan Cearley (1701) was third with 4.5. Four players tied with 4: Alex Salas, Michael Berman, Chuck Tsen and Roy Gonzales. The third Bellaire teammate was Lily Hsieh (3.5).

Bellaire's first place result (14/18) was three points ahead of the next team, North Side in Fort Worth (11 points). A close third out of the six teams represented was Peace Academy (10.5), also of Fort Worth.

Grade 10: The winner with 6-0 was David John of Bellaire High School. His 2140 rating – the highest of any section in this event – has earned him a place on the 1998 Pressman All-America Team. Second and third place respectively went to James Murphy (1420) and Zachary Rodriguez (1431), each scoring 4.5. Four players were tied at 4 – in tiebreak order, Ted Seilheimer and Daniel Robbins (both of Bellaire High School), Aaron May and Adrian Bustmante. There were 26 players.

TEXAS GRADE CHAMPIONS

12	John Hendrick	New Braunfels	6 points
11	Patrick Bloom	Houston	5.5
10	David John	Houston	6
9	Justin Shih	Houston	5.5
8	Aaron Willard	Wichita Falls	5
	Tyler Herschapp	Austin	5
7	Kelvin Shih	Houston	5
	Chris Arnold	Fort Worth	5
6	Jeffrey Cornell	Plano	5.5
5	Arminio Serrano	Fort Worth	5.5
4	Bradley Sawyer	Spring	6
3	Johnny Fox	Houston	6
2	Sarkis Agaian	San Antonio	6
1	Emily Breeding	Plano	4
K	Michelle Leon	Houston	6

THREE WINNING BELLAIRE TEAMS!



Photos by Daniel Sneed

Grade 11: Patrick Bloom, Ramsey Ashour, Lily Hsieh



Grade 10: David John, Daniel Robbins, Ted Seilheimer



Grade 9: Matt Willis, Yining Ni, Ajit Vyas

The 10th grade Bellaire team matched its 11th grade counterpart's score of 14. Their winning percentage of 77.8% was the highest of any teams in the event. Take a bow, coach George John!

Second place out of the five teams was won by Klein High School, also near Houston.

Grade 9: Top-rated Justin Shih (1870) of Clear Lake High School in Houston won with 5.5, drawing Matt Willis in round 3. Richard Lopez of San Antonio was clear second with 5, and Matt Willis was third with 4.5. The 4 point crowd (seven players!) in tiebreak order was Jonathan Walsh, Salvador Luna, Angelo Cuestas, Morgan Williams, Matt Bradford, Sergio Molina and Michael Sneed. With 32 players, this was the largest section, and it produced many high-quality games.

In team competition, the Bellaire juggernaut rolled on, squeaking past Fort Worth's North Side (10.5) by half a point. Top Bellaire scorers were Matt Willis, Yining Ni and Ajit Vyas. Dunbar High School of Forth Worth was third out of the six teams with 8.5 points.

Grade 8: With twelve players competing, Aaron Willard (1027) of Wichita Falls won first on tiebreaks over Tyler Herschap (1584) of Austin, each scoring 5-1. Tied for third with 4-2 (in tiebreak order) were Andrew Koller, Jason Kindred and Timothy Mash.

Team winner by default was the only school with more than one player: Wilson Middle School of Plano, with unrateds Jeremy Bass and Greg Shanbrook.

Grade 7: Kelvin Shih (1413) of Houston's Space Academy won first on tiebreaks over Chris Arnold of Morning Middle School in Fort Worth, each with undefeated 5-1 scores. Alexander Martin won clear third with 4.5. Tied at 4 were Chun Chong, Pierce Tilton and Aaron Brogley. There were twenty players.

The top team out of the four competing was J.P. Elder Middle School of Fort Worth, with top scorers Dominique Cardenas, José Raga and Rosario Molina.

Grade 6: Jeffrey Cornell (1091) of Plano topped a 24-player field with 5.5. Theunis Jansen Van Rensburg (1444) of Irving was clear second with 5, and Kevin Sun of Plano was third with 4.5.

The 4 point group included the winning J.P. Elder team: Javier Cal, Ray Sanchez and Jesus Arrendondo. Also with 4 were Jeff McDowell and Roy Allen. The second place team out of five competing was Wilson.

Grade 5: Arminio Serrano (1091) of Fort Worth led his W.J. Turner team to victory 5.5 points. Second went to Chris Hobart of Spring, and third was Daniel Nelson of Dallas. There were 22 players.

Besides Serrano, the W.J. Turner team (11.5 points) included Alberto Rodriguez and Sergio Cepeda. Tied for second place team with 8 were Bethany Elementary

of Plano (2nd on tiebreaks) and Kramer Elementary of Dallas. There were five teams competing.

Grade 4: Top-rated Bradley Sawyer (1280) of Krahn Elementary in Spring finished with a perfect 6-0 score. In clear second place with 5 was Christopher Lowson of Houston. Four players were tied for third with 4 points; in tiebreak order, they were Daniel Weatherall, Cameron Spencer, Chao Chen and Gabriel Arrendondo.

With four teams competing, the winner was Kramer of Dallas (Daniel Weatherall and David Gilberg).

Grade 3: Johnny Fox (975) of Houston's Village School aced it with 6-0. Paul Montemayor of Wichita Falls was second with 5, and Bryant Ching of Spring was third with 4. There were twelve players.

The top team out of three competing was Ridglea Hills of Fort Worth (8/18) with Mitchell Jennings, Eric Hendrickson and Ben Searway.

Grade 2: Sarkis Agaian (1030) of Monroe May Elementary in San Antonio topped a 15-player field with 6-0. Philip Sneed of Fort Worth was second with 5

points. Tied at 4 (in tiebreak order) were Ryan Dixon, Evan Cornish and Kenshiro Okuda.

With two teams competing, the winner was Behany Elementary of Plano (Kenshiro Okuda and Todd Applebaum) with 6.5 points.

Grade K-1: This was the only case where sections were combined into one tournament. The winner overall with 6-0 was Michelle Leon of the Village School in Houston (1st Kindergarten trophy). Emily Breeding of Bethany Elementary in Plano won the top 1st Grade trophy with 4 points; she was also on the winning team along with Bobby Oestreich. Jack Searway of Fort Worth was third with 3. There were six players in all.

Side events: The bughouse event was won by Hardcore (Matthew Bradford and Ira Schachar) on tiebreaks over Kornholio (Leica and Pierce Tilton).

The winners of the parent-child tournament were Keith and Erik Hayward of Dallas. Coming in second were Steve and Chris Hobart of Spring, and in third place were Robert and Marc Weinberg of Dallas.

SELECTED GAMES

Sicilian Defense B21

Justin Shih 1870

Angelo Cuestas 1383

Texas Grade 9 (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 Nf6 4.Be2 Nc6 5.d4!?

Offering a very dangerous pawn sacrifice.

5...cxd4 6.cxd4 Nxe4 7.d5 Qa5+

Forced.

8.Nc3 Nxc3

ECO gives 8...Ne5 9.Nxe5 dxe5 10.0-0 Nxc3 11.bxc3 e6 12.Bf3 exd5 13.Bxd5 Bc5 14.Re1 0-0 15.Rxe5 Be6! = (Palatnik).

9.bxc3 Ne5 10.Nxe5 Qxc3+

Safer is 10...dxe5 11.0-0 e6 transposing to the line above.

11.Bd2 Qxe5 12.0-0 g6

After this White wins by force. Better is 12...Bd7 or 12...Qxd5, but Black will find it hard to develop his kingside.

13.Bb5+ Kd8

13...Bd7 14.Bxd7+ Kxd7 15. Qa4+ Kd8 16.Ba5+ b6 17.Bxb6+ +-.

14.Rc1 Qh5

Black can only delay defeat with 14...Qf5 15.Ba5+ b6 16.Qd4 e5 17. dxe6 Rg8 (17...Qe5 18.e7+! +-) 18. exf7 Qxf7 19.Bxb6+! +-.

15.Qc2 Qxh2+ 16.Kxh2 Bd7 17. Qc7+ Ke8 18.Bxd7 mate 1-0

If Jonathan Walsh has been under-represented in these pages, it is because his victories tend to be long wars of attrition. This wild game is a striking exception to the pattern.

Giuoco Piano C54

Matt Willis 1547

Jonathan Walsh 1723

Texas Grade 9 (5)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.e5 d5! 7.exf6?!

This is like a Max Lange Attack where White has played 4.c3 instead of 4.0-0 – a poor trade in development when playing a slash-and-burn opening.

More compatible with the idea of 4.c3 is to complete the building of the center: 7.Bb5 Ne4 8.cxd4 Bb6

9.Be3 0-0 10.Qc2 Ne7 11.Nc3 Nxc3 12.bxc3 Bf5 13.Bd3 =.

7...dxc4 8.cxd4

Bisguier gives 8.fxf7 Rg8 9.Bg5 f6 10.Qe2+ Qe7 11.Bxf6 Qxe2+ 12. Kxe2 d3+ 13.Kd1 Bg4 -/+ (ECO).

8...Nxd4!?

Sharpest, seeking to attack along the g-file. Black can get a lasting edge at no risk with 8...Bb4+ followed by ...Qxf6 and ...0-0.

9.fxf7 Rg8 10.0-0 Be6

More accurate is 10...Qf6! forcing 11.Nxd4 Bxd4 12.Nc3 Be6 13. Be3 0-0-0, and Black is better.

11.Re1

White should challenge the intruder with 11.Be3! Nxf3+ 12. Qxf3 Bxe3 13.fxe3 Qg5! 14.Rd1! (not 14.Qxb7?? Bd5 -+) and the game is unclear.

11...Qd6

Again, 11...Qf6! is sharper. Now Nc3-e4 gives White the edge.

12.Nc3 0-0-0 13.Ne4 Nxf3+ 14. Qxf3 Qe5!?

15.Bg5 Rd3!

Bold play! Black is pushing the envelope to maintain his chances.

16.Qh5

Simpler is 16.Nxc5 Qxc5 17.Qf6 clamping down on any counterplay. Now Black is back in business.

16...Rxb7 17.Qh4 Qd5

Creating an "optical" pin on the knight: 18.Nxc5 Rxb7 19.Ne4 Rg4 20.Qxh7 f5 (looks crushing, but...) 21.Ng3 f4 22.Ne4 Bf5 23.Qe7, or 22...f3 23.Ng3, with no clear win.

18.Bf6 Rg4

Less forcing but perhaps better is 18...Rg6. Then 19.Qxh7 loses the queen - not to 19...Rh3 20.Bh4, but to 19...Bxf2+!! 20.Kxf2 Qf5+! (a move not available to Black in the game) 21.Kg1 Rxb7. Better than 19.Qxh7? is 19.g3 Bd4 20.Bxd4 Qxd4, but then White is looking at the loss of his b2 pawn and a push by Black's c4 pawn.

19.Qxh7



19...Bxf2+!! 20.Kxf2

Worse is 21.Kg1 Rdxg2+ 22.Kh1 Bf5 +; or 21.Kf3 Kd7!! when White has no good answer to the threat of 22...Bf5, as 22.Qh8 Qf5+ 23.Ke3 Qf4 is mate.

20...Rxd2+ 21.Nxd2 Rxb7

Black overreaches; the best he has is to force a perpetual check with 21...Qxd2+ 22.Re2 and . . . (a) 22...Rxb7 23.Kxg2 Qxe2+ 24.Kg1 Qe3+ 25.Kg2 Bd5+ 26.Kf1 Qf3+ =; or (b) 22...Rf4+ 23.Kg3 Rg4+ 24.Kf2 Rf4+ and White should take a draw, as on 25.Kg1? Qxe2 he faces threats such as ...Qf2+ and ...Bd5.

22.Kf1 b6

White's threat of Qh8-d8 is the grinch that spoils this combination, or Black would have played Qxd2. Black has gambled on being able to start up his attack even after a lull in the fighting.

23.Ne4 Rg6 24.Nf2?

The gamble pays off! White has a win after 24.Rad1 Qf5+ 25.Nf2. 24...Qg2+ 25.Ke2 Bg4+ 26.Ke3 Qf3+ 27.Kd4 Qxf2+ 28.Re3

A better try is 28.Kc4, when 28...Qxg6 should suffice. Fritz 5 gives the surprising 28...Rxf6! 29.Qg8+ Kb7 30.Qxg4 Qc2+ 31.Kd4 c5+, and Black's queen and rook carry out a forced mate.

28...Qd2+

Also winning is 28...Qxf6+ 29.Kc4 Qf4+ 30.Kd3 Bf5+, etc.

29.Ke4 Qc2+ 30.Kd4 c5+ 31.Kd5 Be6+ 32.Rxe6 fxe6+ 33.Kd6 Qd3+ 34.Ke7

Or 34.Ke6 Rxf6+ and ...Qxh7 +. 34...Qd7+ 35.Kf8 Qxh7 0-1

Giuoco Piano C54

Jonathan Walsh 1723

Justin Shih 1870

Texas Grade 9 (6)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.b4!

The modern treatment of this ancient opening. On 5.d3, Black sometimes plays 5...a6(!) just to be able to retreat his bishop to a7.

5...Bb6 6.d3 d6 7.Be3

The theoretical line is 7.a4 a6 8.Nbd2 0-0 9.0-0 Ne7 10.Bb3 Ng6 11.Nc4 Ba7 12.Be3, when Black has been able to hold his own after both 12...Be6 and 12...Bxe3 13.fxe3.

7...h6 8.Qb3 Qe7 9.Nbd2 Nd8 10.Qc2 Bxe3 11.fxe3 Be6 12.h3 h5 13.Bxe6 Nxe6 14.Nf1

On 14.0-0, Black could press for an attack with 14...g5! Both players are being very ambitious, so this *giuoco* is shaping up to be anything but *piano*!

14...h4 15.g4 hxg3 16.Nxg3 g6 17.0-0-0 a5 18.Qa4+ c6 19.b5 Nc5 20.Qc2 Ncd7 21.bxc6 bxc6 22.c4 Rb8 23.Qa4 Rc8



24.Kd2

White wisely spurns the a-pawn, as after 24.Qxa5 0-0 Black's rook activity on the a- and b-files would be troublesome. But White's king should have sought the security of the corner at a1, as now the center gets blown open.

24...Nc5 25.Qc2 d5 26.exd5 cxd5 27.Ke2 0-0

Also good is 28...e4(!), but "no worry, no hurry." Now the only way for White to stay in the game much longer is 28.e4.

28.h4 e4 29.dxe4 Nxe4 30.Nxe4 Nxe4 31.Rdgl Rxc4 32.Qb2 Qc7 33.Qe5 Rc2+ 0-1

Ruy Lopez Marshall C89

Matt Willis 1547

Justin Shih 1870

Texas Grade 9 (3)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.c3 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.Rxe5 c6 12.d4 Bd6 13.Re1 Qh4 14.h3?

This is a "book trap," but unless you have a monograph on the Marshall you're on your own; ECO and MCO are silent. Barden's *The Ruy Lopez* says only "14. P-KR3? is bad because of 14...BxP!"

14...Bxh3! 15.Bxd5 Bg4!?

15...cxd5 16.gxh3 Qxh3 . . . (a) 17.Be3 Bh2+ 18.Kh1 f5 -+; (b) 17.f4 Qg3+ 18.Kh1 Rae8 19.Rf1 Re6 20.Qh5 Re1! 21.Nd2 Bxf4 +.

16.Bf3

16.f3 Bg3! is good for Black, e.g. 17.Re3 Qh2+ 18.Kf1 Bh3!

16...Qh2+ 17.Kf1 Rae8 18.Be3 f5 19.Bxg4 f4 20.Bf3 g5!? 21.Ke2?

On 21.Na3, not 21...g4? 22.Bxc6! fxe3 23.Qxg4+ Kh8 24.f3 +-, but 21...fxe3 22.Rxe3 Rxe3 23.fxe3 g4 and Black is better (Shih).
21...fxe3 22.fxe3

**22...Rxf3! 23.Kd2**

23.Kxf3 loses to 23...Qg3+ 24.Ke2 Qxe3+ 25.Kf1 Rf8+, etc.

23...Rf2+ 24.Re2 Qxg2 25.Rxf2 Qxf2+ 26.Qe2 Qxe2+ 27.Kxe2 Bf4 28.Kf2 Bxe3+ 29.Kg2 Bc1 30.a4 Bxb2 31.Ra2 Bc1 32.axb5 axb5 33.Rf2 Bf4 34.Nd2 Bxd2 35.Rxd2 Re3 36.Rc2 Rd3 37.Kf2 b4 38.cxb4 Rxd4 and . . . **Draw**

What?! Black is ahead by two connected passers. I asked Shih how this was possible, and he replied:

"I had about four minutes left when [with] Black pawns on h3 and g3, Black king on h4, Black rook on c2, White rook on a8, White king on h1 . . . something like that . . . he played 1.Rh8+ Kg5?? (with four minutes left, too!) 2.Rxh3 and then the game was drawn."

*Closed Sicilian B24***Ted Seilheimer 1424****Eric Wiggins 1610***Texas Grade 10 (2)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.0-0 Nf6 7.Re1 0-0 8.d3 Bg4 9.Be3 Qd7 10.Qd2 a6 11.Bh6 b5 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.e5 Ne8 14.Nd5 Rb8 15.exd6 Nxd6 16.Nf4 Bxf3 17.Bxf3 Nd4 18.Bg2 Rfc8 19.c3 N4f5 20.Qe2 h5 21.Bh3 e6 22.g4 hxg4 23.Bxg4 Rh8 24.Bxf5 Nxf5 25.Qg4 Rh4 26.Qg5

**26...e5! 27.Rxe5**

On 27.Ng2, Black has a pleasant choice between 27...f6 28.Qd2 Rh3 and 27...Rh5 28.Qd2 Rbh8.

27...Nd4!

White has no good way to meet both threats, ...Nf3+ and ...Rg4+.

28.cxd4 Rg4+ 29.Kf1 Rxc5 30.Rxc5 Qxd4 31.Rxc6+! Kh7 32.Rg4 Re8?

Black must get his queen off the hot square when 32...Qxb2 33.Re1 Rg8 34.Rh4+ Kg7 35.Rg4+ Kf8, and his material advantage decides.

33.Rh4+**Draw!**

I did a double take at the result, guessing that Black may have just been short on the clock. But no! Black's king cannot walk away without allowing a knight check, e.g. 33...Kg8 34.Rg4+ Kf8? 35.Ne6+, leading to a better R+P ending for White!

*Closed Sicilian B24***Ira Schachar 1552****David John 2140***Texas Grade 10 (4)*

1.e4 c5 2.Ne2 Nc6 3.Nbc3 g6 4.g3 Bg7 5.Bg2 e6 6.f4 Nge7 7.0-0 d6 8.d3 Rb8 9.a4 a6 10.Be3 Nd4 11.Qd2 b5 12.axb5 axb5 13.Rab1 (13.Nd1 Δ c3) b4 14.Nd1 Qa5 15.Bxd4 (15.Nf2) cxd4 16.Nf2 Bd7 17.g4 f5 18.g5 0-0 19.h4 e5 20.Nh3 fxe4 21.dxe4 Qc5 22.Kh1 Rbc8 23.Rbc1 d5 24.Ng3 Bxh3 25.Bxh3

**25...exf4! 26.Bxc8 Qxc8 27.Kg2**

If 27.Ne2 Qh3+ 28.Kg1 f3, there is no good reply (29.Nf4 Rxf4).

27...fxg3 28.Rxf8+ Qxf8 29.Rf1 Qc8 30.Qf4 Qxc2+ 31.Kxg3 Kh8 32.exd5 Qb3+ 33.Rf3 Qxd5 34.Qb8+ Ng8 35.Qxb4 Be5+ 36.Kf2 Qe4 37.Rf8 Qxh4+ 38.Ke2 d3+ 0-1

*Sicilian B38***David John 2140****James Murphy 1420***Texas Grade 10 (5)*

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Nxd4 g6 5.c4 Bg7 6.Be3 d6 7.Nc3 Nf6 8.Be2 0-0 9.0-0 Bd7 10.Rc1 a6 11.f3 Rc8 12.Qd2 Ne5 (12...Nxd4) 13.b3 Nc6 14.Rfd1 Ne8 15.Bf1 Nc7 16.Qf2 Ne6 17.Nde2 f5 18.exf5 Rxf5 19.g4!? Rf7 20.Qg3 Qf8 21.f4 Nc7 22.c5 Be6 23.cxd6 exd6 24.Ne4 Nd5



25.Ng5 Rf6?

25...Nxe3 (a) 26.Nxe6 Nxf1! 27. Kxf1 Qe7 28.Ng7 Kg7 =; (b) 26. Qxe3 Bxg4 27.Nxf7 Kxf7 28.h3 ±. 26.Nxe6 Rxe6 27.Rxd5 Nb4 28. Rxc8 Qxc8 29.Rd2 Nc2 30.Bf2 b5 31.Bg2 Kh8 32.Bd5 Rxe2 33.Rxe2 Nd4 34.Bxd4 and ... 1-0

QGD Slav D16

Steve Hoberman 1685

John Hendrick 1995

Texas Grade 12 (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.c4 c6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 e6!?

This is a rarely seen alternative to the standard 5...Bf5.

6.e4 Bb4 7.Qc2

Compare with 7.e5 Nd5 8.Bd2 Bxc3 9.bxc3 b5 10.Ng5 f6 11.exf6 Nxf6 12.Be2 a6 13.Bf3 ± Alekine-Bogolyubov, match 1929.

7...b5 8.Bd2 Bb7 9.e5 Bxc3 10. bxc3 Nd5 11.g3 Nd7 12.Ng5 N7b6 13.Ne4 0-0 14.Nd6 Qd7 15.a5 Nc8 16.Ne4 a6 17.Bg2 f5 18.Nc5 Qf7 19.f4 Ra7 20.0-0 Nce7 21.Rfe1 Rd8 22.Bc1 Ng6 23.Ba3 Nf8 24. Re2 Bc8 25.Qd2 Kh8 26.h3 h6 27. Bb2 Nh7 28.Rf2 Rg8 29.Kh2 g5 30.fxg5 hxg5 31.g4 f4 32.Ne4 Bd7 33.Nd6 Qg7 34.Raf1 Be8 35.Bxd5 cxd5 36.Bc1 Bg6 37.Qb2 Bd3 38. Re1 Nf8 39.Qd2 Ng6 40.Ba3 Qh6 41.Rh1 Rh7 42.Kg2 Nh4+ 43.Kg1 Be4 44.Nxe4 dxe4 45.Qe2 e3 46. Rf1 Qg6 47.Bc1 Qe4 48.Rh2 Rc8 49.Ba3?? f3



Black's pawns make a strong impression (like a Mack truck on . . . well, you get the idea.)

50.Qe1 f2+ 51.Rhxf2 exf2+ 52. Qxf2 Ng6 53.Qf6+ Rg7 and . . . 0-1



Daniel Sneed

Jeffrey Cornell (G6)



Richard Driggers

Brad Sawyer (G4)



Daniel Sneed



Daniel Sneed



Daniel Sneed



Richard Driggers

Left to right: John Hendrick (G12), Aaron Willard (G8), Kelvin Shih (G7), Sarkis Agaian (G2)

What to do with grade 6?

by Forrest Marler

Recently I opened a can of e-mail worms dealing with a subject I'm sure many people thought had been put to rest: Just where do sixth graders belong in a scholastic tournament – in the Elementary or Middle School section? From the response I've received, it is very clear that the discussion is far from over. Anyone who has coached a sixth grade team or has organized and/or directed a large scholastic event knows the situation.

First, let me lay down some of the background for this. The popular notion of elementary schools is that they are grades K-5, with a smattering of K-6 schools, primarily in more rural regions. Middle schools are grades 6-8. While this is true for a large majority of schools, there are increasingly more schools appearing on the chess horizon that do not fit this mold. We are seeing more grade 5-6 intermediate schools that are a hybrid of elementary and middle schools. I have asked several principals of these schools in several districts whether they are elementary or middle schools. They pretty much all responded the same: for most areas they are considered elementary, but a few events/sports require that they either be split or be middle school.

Many of you may be old enough to remember desegregation. Many of the school districts across the country had to be creative with their available schools to follow the law. One of the many methods districts came up with was this: rather than having neighborhood schools, they had one school each for grades 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, and 9-12. Huntsville, where I live, was actually the last district in Texas to continue this method (up until the late 1980's when they went with the K-5 elementary neighborhood schools). Now, due to school overcrowding and difficulty in obtaining funds for new schools, we see some districts returning to a modified form of this method. Huntsville currently has five K-4 schools, a 5-6 intermediate, a 7-8 middle school, and a 9-12 high school.

Many other districts are using similar grade schemes, and some are using vastly different schemes. For example, I received a note about a sixth grade player who wanted to play in a scholastic tournament.

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.

When I asked if he went to a K-6 elementary or a 6-8 middle school, I was told he went to a 4-7 school. The player decided not to play so the question of where to place him became moot. But suppose this (or some other) school, which currently has no chess program, decides in the future to enter a team in a tournament. Where does the team play? No one would want to force fourth graders to play in middle school, and no one would stand for seventh graders in elementary.

The obvious decision is to split the team into two teams: a 4-5 elementary team and a 6-7 middle school team. This is probably the most logical choice and creates the least problems. It is not without problems, however. The coach may have strong fifth and sixth graders and therefore want his sixth graders to play in the elementary section, thereby increasing his chances of winning a team trophy. The very next year the coach would have strong sixth and seventh graders, and therefore would want his sixth graders playing in the middle school section. He would be having his cake and eating it for two years. He would have some basis for this, since sixth graders play in both sections. But the difference here is that none of the other schools have a choice of sections where their teams play. So we make him have two teams as stated earlier. So what else can happen? Both of his teams could win. XYZ School wins both the Elementary and Middle School team trophies.

As Selby Anderson said, "We can't create a new rule for every kind of school that comes before us, nor do we want to." This is the apex of where I am leading. If we try to have a rule for every type of school grade scheme that could come up we will be spending the next several years trying to iron out each new wrinkle. I plan to propose an amendment to the Bylaws at the Texas Scholastic Championship in Austin, based on the rules in the Bylaws for private and home schoolers suggested by Selby Anderson, which should take care of any future situations.

One comment that was made in the discussion was that the current rules "seem to have been designed to be fair to teams – trying not to split them up unnecessarily. What about being fair to the individual kids, and giving them a chance to be more competitive?" I believe that there is a lot of truth to the idea of team fairness. Many schools do help support the chess teams by various methods. Some allow teachers and students to have an excused absence or two for traveling out of town on a "school function," arranging for bus transportation, or even buying chess equipment. Usually what these schools want to see for their support are trophies for their trophy cases – some visible sign of an effort not

(Continued on page 28)

UTD going for Pan Am gold

Katie Stone



The University of Texas at Dallas has high hopes for this year's Pan American Intercollegiate Team Championship, which will be held Dec. 26-29 in Bowling Green, Kentucky. The UTD team's expectations have been raised by the addition of three new players, coupled with the loss of the top player for last year's championship team from the University of Maryland at Baltimore County (UMBC).

In 1996 UTD began offering chess scholarships on a five-year experimental basis. The success of the program, instituted by English professor and former USCF president Dr. Tim Redman, will be measured by its ability to attract strong players from around the country. The first master, arriving in August 1996, was Noureddine Ziane, who had been attending Shimer College in Illinois on a chess scholarship. A native of Morocco, he has been chosen to play for his country in the 1998 Olympiad. With Ziane as captain and board one for UTD's inaugural team, they traveled to Baltimore, Maryland to compete in their first-ever Pan Am Championship. Placing ninth overall exceeded their expectations, and motivated the team as well as the UTD administration to acquire more master-level players.

The first step in improving the team was accomplished when a 17-year old high school student from St. Louis, Missouri named Shivkumar Shivaji graduated early and arrived at UTD in January 1997. Due to his rating of 2144, Shivaji had already attained the board two spot without ever having played a game at UTD. His arrival was unannounced and unexpected, but as his rating topped every other UTD player's rating except Ziane's, he was very welcome. Shivaji had competed in the high school division at the 1996 Pan Am and had heard about UTD's talent search, so he decided to apply.

The Fall 1997 semester marked the arrival of two more master-level players, Jim Dean and Jason Doss. Best friends from Indiana, they came to the team as the result of a long and arduous process of recruitment. The two were recommended by Ziane to Dr. Redman. Working in conjunction with UTD's undergraduate dean Dennis Kratz, Redman worked very hard in making the transition of Doss and Dean from Indiana a smooth one.

"The arrival of these two players has nicely complemented our program, and I'm hoping that with the

strength of this year's team we will place in the top five at the 1997 Pan Am," said Redman.

This year's Pan Am looks very promising for the team, not only because of the newly acquired talent, but because UMBC has lost their top player. IM Valery Atlas, FIDE rated ~2500, left the team just as quickly as he joined. Last year he and his brother Dmitry arrived in the U.S. two days before the start of the 1996 Pan Am. This year Valery and Dmitry have left UMBC and apparently will not be playing in the 1997 Pan Am. UMBC's board one player is now William Morrison (USCF 2414), who was beaten last year by UTD's board two player Marvin Huckaby. This year Huckaby is playing as second alternate, number six in the lineup. *[The first alternate is Taras Odushkan.]*

Although UTD could possibly be seeded higher in the tournament than UMBC, there are other teams to worry about as well. The Pan Am is a tournament that extends its welcome to teams around the world, and often several countries are represented. Last year a four-way tie for second included the University of Toronto and Catholic University of Peru.

Many times a school will have an average team with an incredible player on board one. Although Harvard did not finish among the top five last year, their first board Jacob Chudnovsky (USCF 2419) is definitely a force. Therefore it is very important for every game to be taken with the utmost seriousness by the entire team. Preparing for the tournament is imperative.

Many people at UTD, including UTD president Dr. Jennifer Franklin, are very interested in the chess team. This past year got much attention for the chess program due to the determination UTD has had in building the team's strength. The program is under scrutiny by other schools and USCF because of the emerging interest in collegiate chess. UTD is somewhat of a pioneer in this respect because of the energy and funding that has been invested in its chess program during the past two years. The acquisition of three master players in the past year has proven UTD's commitment to chess, and the recruiting process which will begin in January 1998 will no doubt result in a similar outcome.

Katie Stone is president of the UTD Chess Program.

FLASH! *The UT-Dallas team placed clear second at the Pan Am with 5-1, losing only to the winning team from the Borough of Manhattan Community College (6 points). In third place was last year's champion, the University of Maryland at Baltimore County 'A' team (4.5). Tied for 4th-5th were the University of Illinois and the University of Pennsylvania (4). A complete report with games will appear in the next issue.*

Luberti wins Dallas Open

Fifty-seven players turned out for the Dallas Open, held October 11-12 at the Dallas Chess Club. The winner with 5-0 was a master on vacation from the Netherlands, W. Luberti (first name unknown.) His highest rated victims were Steven Grubbs (2066) and Jim Dean (2277)

In second place with 4.5 was Jason Doss (2321), whose result won him the title of Dallas Chess Club champion. A native of Denton who grew up in Indiana, last fall he started attending the University of Texas at Dallas on a chess scholarship. He is on UTD's team in the Pan Am Intercollegiate along with another recent recruit from Indiana, James H. Dean. Dean, who attended the same middle school in Indianapolis as Doss, finished this event with 3.5.

Tied at 4-1 were top-rated Igor Shtern (2429), Joe Drake (1929) and Samuel Irby (1815). In round 3 Shtern lost a tough game to reigning high school champion Steven Grubbs, a little over a year after his loss to Grubbs in the Southwest Open. (Player chemistry?)

Luis Salinas directed.

Modern Benoni A70

Igor Shtern 2429
Eric Wiggins 1610

Dallas Open 1997 (1)

1.d4 c5 2.d5 e6 3.c4 exd5 4.cxd5 d6 5.Nc3 g6 6.e4 Bg7 7.Nf3 Nf6 8.h3 0-0 9.Bf4!?

A switch for Shtern, who has done well with 9.Bd3 lately.

9...Re8

My only game reference goes 9...a6 10.a4 Re8 11.Bd3 Nxe4 12.Bxe4 f5 13.0-0 fxe4 14.Nd2 Be5 15.Bxe5 Rxe5 16.Ndxe4 Bf5 17.Re1 Qe7 18.f4 Rxe4 19.Nxe4 Nd7 20.Ng5 1-0 Bartsch-Sabel, Wiesbaden 1994.

10.Bd3 Nxe4 11.Nxe4

11.Bxe4 similar to the above game seems better.

11...f5 12.Bc2 fxe4 13.Ng5 Bxb2 14.0-0 Be5

14...Qf6! forces queens off, with a winning game after 15.g3 Bxa1 16.Qxa1 Qxa1 17.Rxa1 Bf5 18.Bxd6 Na6.

15.Be3 Bxa1 16.Qxa1 Bf5 17. g4



17...Bd7

I could find no refutation to 17...h6!?, just a lot of complications that tend to favor Black:

(a) 18.Ne6 Bxe6 19.dxe6 Rxe6! 20.Bb3 d5 21.Rd1 Rd6 22.Bxc5 (22.Bxh6 Qe7 23.Bxd5 Kh7+ 24.Bg8+ Kxh6! 25.Qh8+ Kg5 -) 22...Rd7 23.Rxd5 Rxd5 24.Qe5 Nc6 25.Bxd5+ Kh7 26.Qxe4 Qd7 -/+;

(b) 18.gxf5 hxg5 19.f6 (19.fxg6 Qd7! x h3) 19...Re5 20.Bxc5! Qf6 (20...Rxd5 21.Bb3 dxc5 22.Rd1 +-) 21.Bd4 Nd7 -/+.

18.Nxe4 Rf8?

PRIZEWINNERS

1st: W. Luberti, 5. 2nd: Jason Doss, 4.5. 1st Class A: Joe Drake, Samuel Irby, 3.5. 1st Class B: Neal Bonrud, B.G. Dennison, 3.5. 1st Class C: Duane Sasso, Charles E. Woods, Michael Harvey, 3. 1st Class D/under: Tim Owens, 3.

Relatively best is to return the exchange: 18...Rxe4 19.Bxe4 Qh4 20.Bg2 Na6 21.Bf4 Qe7, and White has some comp for the pawn. 19.Bg5 Qc8?!

19...Qc7 20.Bh6 Bb5 (20...Rf7 21.Nf6+ Kh8 22.Ne8+) 21.Bxf8 Kxf8 22.Qh8+ Ke7 23.Qf6+ Kd7 24.a4!! +- with forced mate on ...Bxf1. 20.Bh6 1-0

Gruenfeld Defense D85

Wellington Lee 1808

Igor Shtern 2429

Dallas Open 1997 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Bc4 Nc6 9.Ne2 e5

Shtern has played this offbeat treatment before with less than convincing results.

10.d5 Na5 11.Bd3 b6 12.0-0 c5 13.c4 Nb7 14.a4 f5 15.f3 a5 16.Rb1 Nd6 17.Qb3 Rb8 18.Bxc5



18...Ba6 19.Bxb6 Qg5 20.f4

20.exf5! Nc8 and ... (a) 20...gxf5 21.f4 ±; (b) 20...Nxf5 21.Rf2 ±; (c) 20...Nc8 21.f4! exf4 22.c5 ±.

20...exf4 21.Qc2?

21.exf5 Nxf5 22.Rxf4 Nh4! 23.Rxf8+ Bxf8 24.Be4 Bc5+ 25.Bxc5 Rxb3 26.Rxb3 Bxc4 27.Rb8+ Kg7 28.Rb7+, and Black should allow the perpetual (28...Kf6 29.Nf4! ±).

21...fxe4 22.Bxe4 Nxc4 23.Rb3
Nxb6 24.Rfb1 f3 25.Rxb6 Rxb6
26.Rxb6 Qe3+ 27.Kh1 fxe2 28.h3
e1(Q)+ 29.Kh2 0-1

Sicilian Counterattack B40

Jason Doss 2321

Samuel Irby 1815

Dallas Open 1997 (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 e6 4.d4
cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bb4 6.e5 Qc7?! 7.
exf6 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 Qxc3+ 9.Qd2
Qxa1



10.fgx7?!

The book bust to 6...Qc7 (actual-ly, it was 6...Qa5 in ECO) is 10.c3! (Δ Nb3, Bd3) 10...Qb1 11.Bd3 Qb6 12.Ba3 gxf6 13.Nb5 +- Oskam-Mühling, Netherlands 1933. The threat of Qh6 has added force with Black's king rook still at h8.

10...Rg8 11.c3 Qb1 12.Bd3 Qb6 13.Qh6 Qc5 14.Qxh7 Qe5+ 15.Kd1 Qxg7 16.Nb5 Qxh7 17.Bxh7 Rg7 18.Bc2 b6

I can't explain Black's reluctance to hold onto his winnings with 18...Na6 or 18...Kd8.

19.Nc7+ Kd8 20.Nxa8 Bb7 21.Rg1 Bxa8 22.g3 Bd5 23.Bb3 Bf3+ 24.Kc2 Nc6 25.h4 Na5 26.Bf4 Nxb3 27.axb3

With even material, opposite color bishops and a 500 point rating difference, we may judge that a long struggle lies ahead.

27...Kc8 28.Kd3 d5 29.Ke3 Be4 30. f3 Bc2 31.b4 f6 32.g4 e5 33.Bh2 Rh7 34.h5 Kd7 35.Ra1 Ke6 36. Re1 Rc7 37.Kd2 Bh7 38.g5 d4

Setting the trap 39.cxd4? Rc2+ and ...Rxh2. One doesn't expect a master to oblige, so Black must have willingly traded his piece for two pawns.

Best seems 38...fxg5 39.Rxe5+ Kf6 40.Rxd5 Re7 41.Bg1 Rf7! keeping the deficit to one pawn. 39.g6 dxc3+ 40.Kc2 Kf5 41.gxh7 Rxh7 42.Kxc3 Rxh5 43.Bg3 Rg5 44.Rg1 Rg7 45.b5 Rd7 46.Rb1 Rg7 47.Bh2 Rh7 48.Rb2 Rd7 49.Rd2 Rc7+ 50.Kb4 Rh7 51.Kc4 Rc7+ 52.Kd3 Rc5 53.Rb2 Rc1 54.Bg3 Rd1+ 55.Ke2 Rd4 56.Bh2 Rd7 57. Bg1 e4 58.fxe4+ Kxe4 59.Rb4+ Kf5 60.Ke3 Rh7 61.Bf2 Re7+ 62. Kf3 Re5 63.Bg3 Rd5 64.Rb3 Rd4 65.Bb8 Ra4 66.Bc7



66...a6

How does White make progress if Black just shuffles his king?

67.Bxb6 axb5 68.Rxb5+ Ke6 69. Bd8 f5 70.Bg5 Rc4 71.Rb6+ Ke5 72.Bf6+ Kd5 73.Bb2 Rc2 74.Rb5+ Kc4 75.Rb8 Kd5 76.Bh8 Ke6 77. Rb6+ Kd7

The same fate awaits the f-pawn after 77...Kd5 78.Rf6 Rc3+ 79.Ke2 Rc2+ (79...Ke4 80.Re6+ Kd5 81. Re5+) 80.Ke3 Rc3+ 81.Kf4. 78.Be5 Rc6 79.Rb4 Ke6 80.Kf4 Ra6 81.Bd4 Rc6 82.Rb5 Rc4 83.

Re5+ Kd6 84.Ke3 f4+ 85.Ke4 f3 86.Rf5 Ra4 87.Rxf3 Ke6 88.Rf6+ Ke7 89.Rb6 Ra5 90.Be5 Kd7 91. Kf5 Rd5 92.Rb7+ Ke8?

Now White has a theoretical win for sure. Better is 92...Kc6. 93.Ke6



93...Rxe5??

And Black resigned.

Here is a more satisfying win, given by Doss: 93...Rd1 94.Rg7 Rf1 95.Bg3 Rf3 96.Bd6 Re3+ 97.Be5 Rf3 98.Re7+ Kf8 [98...Kd8 99. Rb7] 99.Rb7 Kg8 100. Rg7+ Kf8 101.Rg4 Ke8 102.Bf4!, and at last there is no way to stop mate.

Philidor analyzed this position 250 years ago! (See Fine's *Basic Chess Endings* #523.) As a practical matter, I note that the time control was 30/90, SD/30. I do not envy the player who has to find Philidor's win under such conditions! 1-0

An even more improbable end-game conversion was seen in this round, with even material, opposite color bishops and *no* rooks.

Dutch Defense A80

Michael J. Swift 1707

W. Luberti 2200

Dallas Open 1997 (2)

1.d4 f5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bg5 h6 4.Bxf6 exf6 5.e3 g6 6.c4 d6 7.Nc3 c6 8. Bd3 Kf7 9.Qb3 Kg7 10.0-0 Na6 11.

Rfe1 Qb6 12.Qxb6 axb6 13.h3 Nb4
14.Bb1 Be6 15.a3 Bxc4 16.Bxf5
Nd5 17.Nxd5 Bxd5 18.Bd3 Bxf3
19.gxf3 Be7



Yawn! Again, a 500 point difference says the game must go on. And based on the outcome, one might say justifiably so.

20.e4 Ra4 21.d5 Rc8 22.dxc6 bxc6
23.Bc2 Ra7 24.Re3 b5 25.Rd1 c5
26.Rb3 Rb7 27.Rd5 Kf7 28.Kf1
Ke6 29.f4 g5 30.f5+ Kd7 31.Ke2
Kc6 32.a4 Ra8 33. axb5+ Rxb5 34.
Rxb5 Kxb5 35.Kd2 Ra1 36.Rd3 c4
37.Ra3 Rxa3 38.bxa3 Kc5



39.Kc3?!

39.Kc3 (a) 39...Bd8 40.Bd1 Ba5
41.f3 Bc3 42.Bc2 Bd4 43.Kd2 Bb2
44.a4 Kb4 45.Bd1 c3 46.Kd3 =; (b)
39...d5 40.exd5 Kxd5 41.a4 Bc5+
42.Ke2 Kd4 43.Kd2 Bb4+ 44.Kd1 =.
39...Bd8 40.f3?

There is still time for 40.Kd2! =.

40...Ba5+ 41.Kb2 Kd4 42.h4?

Even without this gratuitous bit of help, Black is winning handily with a kingside invasion.

42...gxh4 43.f4 h3 44.Bd1 Kxe4
0-1

Owen's Defense A40

John Hendrick 1995

William Stewart 1703

Dallas Open 1997 (2)

1.d4 e6 2.c4 b6 3.e4 Bb7 4.Nc3
Bb4 5.Bd3 Qh4 6.Nf3

Unclear is 6.Qe2 f5 7.Nf3 Qg4
8.h3 Qxg2 9.Rh2 Qg6 10.exf5 Qh5
11.Ng5 Qxe2+ 12.Kxe2 exf5 13.
Bxf5 Nf6 14.Bf4 0-0 15.Bxc7.

6...Qg4 7.Qe2 f5 8.d5 fxe4 9.Bxe4
Nf6 10.Bd3 0-0 11.h3! Bxc3+ 12.
bxc3 Qh5 (12...Qxg2?? 13.Rh2 +-)
13.g4! Nxg4 14.Ng5 Nf6 15.Bxh7+
Kh8 16.Qxh5 Nxh5 17.Bg6 Nf6 18.
Ba3 Rc8 19.0-0-0



19...e5

19...exd5 leads to a blowout
after 20.Rd4! d6 (19...Ne4 21.Nf7+
Kg8 22.cxd5 +-) 21.Rh4+ Kg8 22.
Bf7+ Kf8 23.Rh8+ Ke7 24.Re1+
Ne4 25.Rxc8 Bxc8 26.Bxd5 +.

20.Nf7+ Kg8 21.Nxe5 d6 22.Nf7?!

This loses momentum. Perhaps
Hendrick didn't notice that after
22.Bf7+ Kf8 Black's d6 pawn is
pinned, so that 23.Be6 Rd8 24.Ng6+
Ke8 25.Rhe1 is winning. And after
22...Kh7, 23.Rd4! is strong: 23...g5
24.Nf3 ±, or 23...g6 24.Bxg6+! Kg7

25.Bf5 dxe5 26.Rg1+ Kf7 27.Be6+
Ke8 28.Rh4 +.

22...Nbd7 23.f4 Nf8 24.f5 Re8

Now that Black's pieces are
working, he has slight pull based on
his better pawns.

25.Rhe1 (25.Nxd6!?) Ba6 26.c5
Nxc6 27.fxc6 Rxe1 28.Rxe1 bxc5
29.Kd2 Bc4 30.Re7 Nxd5 31.Re4



31...Bxa2??

Stewart misses 31...Nb6! defend-
ing the bishop and preparing to
meet 32.Rh4 with ...Bxf7. On 32.
Re7 Rc8, Black will safely pick up
the a2 pawn with a winning game.

32.Rh4 Kf8 33.Rh8+ Ke7 34.Rxa8
... and White won without too
much difficulty. 1-0

Torre Attack D03

Igor Shtern 2429

Steven Grubbs 2066

Dallas Open 1997 (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 d5 3.e3 Bf5 4.Nf3
Nbd7 5.c4 e6 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Nc3
c6 8.Bd3 Bxd3 9.Qxd3 Be7 10.0-0
0-0 11.h3 Re8 12.Rab1 Ne4 13.Bf4
Nxc3 14.bxc3!?

Shifting to a kingside attacking
setup. White could also stick with
the minority attack: 14.Qxc3 Nf6
15.Nd2 Bd6 16.Bxd6 Qxd6 17.b4.

14...b5 15.Nd2 Nb6 16.Rbe1 Bd6
17.Bxd6 Qxd6 18.e4 Rad8 19.f4
dxe4 20.Nxe4 Qa3 21.Ng5 g6 22.
Ne4 Nd5 23.f5 b4 24. fxc6 hxc6



25.Qc4?

After this Black takes control of the game and never lets go. Best is 25.Qf3! and (a) 25...f5? 26.Qg3! Re6 (26...fxe4 27.Qxg6+ Kh8 28.Rf7 +-) 27.Rxf5 bxc3 28.Nf6+! +-; (b) 25...Rf8 26.c4 Qxf3 27.Rxf3 Nb6 28.c5 Nd5 29.Nd6 f5 =.

25...bxc3 26.Qxc6 Qb4 27.Nf6+ Nxf6 28.Qxf6 Qc4 29.h4 Qd5 30.Rxe8+ Rxe8 31.Qf2 Rb8! 32.Kh2 Rb2 33.Qf3 Qxf3 34.Rxf3 c2 35.Rc3 Rxa2 36.Rc7 a5 37.d5 Kf8 38.d6 Ke8 39.Kh3 Rb2 40.g4 a4 41.h5 gxh5 42.gxh5 a3 43.h6 Rb3+ 44.Kg4 a2 45.Re7+ Kd8 46.Re1 Kd7

Faster is 46...Rb1, but I figure this was a SD/30 time scramble. 47.h7 Rb8 48.Kg5 Kxd6 49.Kf6 Kd5 50.Kxf7 Kc4 51.Ra1 Kb3 52.Re1 Rh8 0-1

Bogo-Indian E11

William Arvola 1961

Jason Doss 2321

Dallas Open 1997 (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Qe7 5.Bg2 Nc6 6.a3 Bxd2+ 7.Qxd2 0-0 8.Nc3 a5 9.Nf3 d6 10.0-0 e5 11.d5 Nb8 12.e4 (12.b4) Nbd7 (12...a4 13.Qc2 Bd7 14.Nb5 Na6 = Doss) 13.b4 b6 14.Qc2 Bb7 15.Nd2 Ra6 16.Nb3 axb4 17.axb4 Rfa8 18.Nb5 c5 19.dxc6 Bxc6 20.Rxa6 Rxa6 21.Nc3 Ra7 22.Rd1 Ne8 23.Qd2 Ndf6 24.Qe3 Qc7 25.h3 Ra3 26.Nd5 Bxd5 27.cxd5 Qc2 28.Rd3 h5 29.Rc3 Qb1+ 30.Kh2 b5 31.Nd2

Rxc3 32.Nxb1 Rxe3 33.fxe3 Nc7 34.Nc3 Kf8 35.Bf1 Ke7 36.Kg2 g5 37.Bd3 g4 38.h4 Kd8 39.Kf2 Draw

French Defense C11

W. Luberti 2200

Joe Drake 1929

Dallas Open 1997 (3)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bd3 c5 5.dxc5 Bxc5 6.e5 Nfd7 7.Nf3 Nc6 8.Bf4

By transposition we have a form of the Steinitz Attack normally reached by 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nf3 c5 6.dxc5 Nc6 7.Bf4 Bc5 8.Bd3.

8...Qb6 (8...f6 =) 9.0-0 Qxb2!?

This is a yank on the tiger's tail, but is there a refutation? ECO gives only 9...Be7 10.Re1 a6 11.a3 h6 12.h4 Nc5 13.b4 Nxd3 14.Qxd3 +=. 10.Nb5! Kd8!

10...0-0? invites a variant of the "whoopie" attack (Bxh7+) which makes use of the semi-trapped Black queen. After 10...0-0 11.Bxh7+! Kxh7 12.Ng5+ we have: (a) 12...Kg8 13.Qd3! f5 (13...g6 14.Qh3 +-) 14.Rfb1 Nde5 15.Qh3 +-; (b) 12...Kg6 13.Qd3+ f5 14.Rfb1 Ndx5 15.Qe2 Nf3+ (forced) 16.Nxf3 Qf6 17.Nc7 Rb8 18.Na6! +-.



11...Qb4 12.g3!?

White didn't want to let the queen escape with 12.Bd2 Qg4, but stronger is 12.c4! to open the d-file.

Fears of having a loose piece caught on the fourth rank are not justified, as the queen can be driven off: 12...dxc4 13.Bxc4 a6 14.Rab1 Qa4 15.Nc3 Qa5 16.Ne4 ±.

12...a6 13.Rab1 Qa4 14.Nd6 Bxd6 15.exd6 e5!

On the plausible 15...h6, White opens new lines with 16.c4! After the text, taking the e-pawn would lose a piece to the pin on the e-file. 16.Ng5!? f6??

This loses to a forced mate. Best is 16...Rf8, when 17.Nxh7 exf4 18.Nxf8 Nxf8 19.Rfe1 Ne6 20.Qh5 Qa3! is a tough nut for White to crack, e.g. 21.Qxd5 Kd7! Δ...Qxd6, or 21.Qxf7 Qxd6 22.Bf5 Ncd4.

17.Ne6+! Ke8 18.Qh5+ g6 19.Qxg6+ 1-0

Sicilian B45

Jim Dean 2277

John Hendrick 1995

Dallas Open 1997 (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bf4 e5 8.Nd5!?



Usual is 8.Bg5 with a standard Sveshnikov. Black's move order was supposed to avoid this move (i.e., in the move order 2...Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Nd5!?), but somebody discovered that it's playable anyway.

8...Nxd5 9.exd5 exf4 10.dxc6 bxc6 11.Qf3 Bd7?

The main line is 11...d5 12.0-0-0!

(a) 12...cxb5? 13.Bxb5+ Kc7 14. Rxd5 Qc7 15.Re1+ Kf6 16.Rde5 +-.

(b) 12...Be7 13.Qc3 0-0 14.Qxc6 Be6 15.Nd4 Rc8 16.Qa4 Bc5 17.Be2 Bd7 18.Qb3 Qc7 19.c3 Rfd8 = Somlai-Rovid, Hungary ch 1994;

(c) 12...a6 13.Nd4 Bd7 14.Qxf4 Be7 15.h4 0-0 16.Nf5 Bxf5 17.Qxf5 Bf6 18.h5 Rb8 19.c3 g6 = Ivanisevic-Stankovic, Yugoslavia ch 1995. 12.Qe4+ Be7 13.Nxd6+ Kf8 14. 0-0-0!

14.Qxf4 Be6 15.0-0-0?? Bg5 +.

14...Qc7 15.Nc4

And here, 15.Qxf4 Be6 Δ ...Rd8 is an awkward self-pin.

15...Be6 16.Qe5 Qxe5 17.Nxe5 Bf6

17...c5 18.Bc4! Bf6 19.Nd7+ is too strong for White.

18.Nxc6 Rc8 19.Bb5 g5 20.Rd6!

White maintains his c6 outpost long enough to consolidate before Black can get pressure on the c-file. Moving the knight would allow ...Bxa2! with impunity.

20...Rc7 21.Rhd1 Kg7 22.b3 Rhc8 23.c4 g4 24.Nd4 Rc5!



Black fights back as best as he can, with the idea of ...Rh5. Now White might have played 25.Nxe6+ fxe6 26.Bd7, but for a fit of anti-chromatoepiscophobia.

25.Bd7 Bxd7 26.Rxd7 Ra5 27.a4 Re8 28.Kc2 Rh5 29.h3 gxh3 30. gxh3 Bxd4 31.R1xd4 Re2+ 32.Rd2

Rxd2+ 33.Rxd2 Rxh3 34.c5 a5 35. Kb2 Rh6



36.b4 axb4 37.Kb3 Re6 38.Rc2 Rc6 39.Kxb4 Kf6 40.Kb5 Rc8 41. c6 h5 42.c7 h4 43.Kc6 h3 44.Kd7 h2 45.Rc1 1-0

Sicilian Richter B67

David Phillips 2082

Jim Dean 2277

Dallas Open 1997 (4)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 e6 7. Qd2 a6 8.0-0-0 Bd7 9.Be2 b5 10. Nxc6 Bxc6 11.Bf3 b4 12.Ne2 Qa5 13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.Kb1 Rb8 15.Nd4 Bd7 16.Rhe1 Be7 17.Nb3 Qe5 18. Qd4 Qb5 19.Be2 Qb6 20.f4 Rg8 21. g3 Kd8 22.e5 fxe5 23.fxe5 Qxd4 24.Nxd4 Kc7 25.exd6+ Bxd6 26. Bxa6 Rg5 27.Bc4 Rc5 28.Bb3 e5 29.Nf3 Bg4 30.Rd3 Re8 31.Rde3 f5 32.Ng5 Kb6 33.Rd3 Bb8 34.h3 e4



35.hxg4 Bxg3 36.Nxe4 f4 37.Re2 Rce5 and ... Draw

Benoni E91

Steven Grubbs 2066

W. Luberti 2200

Dallas Open 1997 (4)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.c4 c5 4.d5 d6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.Be2 0-0 8. Nd2 Bxe2 9.Qxe2 e6 10.dxe6 fxe6 11.0-0 Nc6 12.Nf3 Nh5 13.Bg5 Qd7 14.Qd3 Ne5 15.Nxe5 Bxe5 16.Rab1 Qg7 17.Ne2 h6 18.Bd2 g5 19.Bc3 Kh7 20.Rbd1 Rad8 21.Qh3 Bxc3 22.Qxc3 Nf4 23.Qxg7+ Kxg7 24.Nc3 a6 25.Rd2 Kf7 26.Rfd1 Ke7 27.Kf1 Ng6 28.b3 Ne5



29.Kg1 h5 30.Re1 g4 31.Re3 Rb8 32.a4 Rf7 33.h4 Rbf8 34.Kf1 Rf4 35.g3 Rf3 36.Rde2 Nd3 37.Rxf3 Rxf3 38.Na2 Kf6 39.Kg2 Ke5 40. Kf1 Nb4 41.Nc1 Rc3 42.Re1 Nd3 43.Nxd3+ Rxd3 44.Rb1 a5 45.Ke2 Kxe4 46.Rb2 Kd4 47.Rc2 0-1

Nimzo-Indian E48

Jason Doss 2321

Robert Weinberg 2150

Dallas Open 1997 (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Bd3 d5 6.Nge2 0-0 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.0-0 cxd4 9.exd4 b6 10.Bc2 Ba6 11.Nxd5 exd5 12.a3 Bd6 13. Re1 Nc6 14.Be3 Rc8 15.Nc3 Na5 16.Qg4 Bb8 17.Bh6 Qf6 18.Bg5 Qd6?



19.Qh3 f5 20.Be7 Qd7 21.Bxf8
Rxf8 22.Bd1 Nc4 23.Bf3 Bb7 24.
Re2 g5 25.Qh6 Rf7 26.Rae1 1-0

QGD Semi-Tarrash D41

John Hendrick 1995

Jonathan Walsh 1723

Dallas Open 1997 (4)

1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5
Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 c5 7.Nf3
cxd4 8.cxd4 Nc6 9.Bd3 Be7 10.
0-0 0-0 11.Bb2 Kh8 12.Rc1 f5 13.
Qe2 a6 14.Rfd1 Nb4 15.Bb1 Bg5
16.Rc4 Nc6 17.Nxg5 Qxg5 18.d5
exd5 19.exd5 Na5 20.Rc7 1-0
20...Rg8 21.Rxg7! +-.

Closed Sicilian B24

W. Luberti 2000

Jim Dean 2277

Dallas Open 1997 (5)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2
Bg7 5.a3 d6 6.Rb1 Nf6 7.Nge2 0-0
8.d3 Rb8 9.b4 b6 10.b5 Nd4 11.
Nxd4 cxd4 12.Na2 Bb7 13.Nb4
Nd7 14.0-0 Nc5 15.Ra1 Qd7 16.a4
Rfc8 17.Bd2 Rc7 18.f4 Ra8 19.f5
a6 20.bxa6 Nxa6 21.fxg6 hxg6 22.
Nd5 Bxd5 23.exd5 Nc5 24.a5
Rca7 25.Qe1 Be5 26.Bb4 Nb7 27.
Qf2 Qe8 28.h4 bxa5 29.Ba3 Kg7
30.g4 f6 31.c3 g5 32.cxd4 Bf4 33.
Be4 Qc8 34.Qe2 Qc3 35.Kg2 Qxd4
36.Bb2 Qe3 37.Qxe3 Bxe3 38.Rf5
Kf7 39.Rf3 Bf4 40.hxg5 Bxg5 41.
Rh3 Rg8 42.Bf5 Nd8 43.Bd4 Ra6
44.Ra4 Bd2 45.Kf3 Bb4 46.Rh2
Ke8 47.Rb2 Bc5 48.Bc3 Rh8 49.

Kg2 Rb6 50.Re2 Rh6 51.Rae4 Rb7
52.Bxa5 Nf7



53.d4 Bb4??

Black is under pressure, but 53...
Ba7 54.Rc2 Ng5 55.Be6!? Kf8! 56.
Rf8+ Kg7 appears to hold.
54.Rb2 Ng5 55.Re3 Bxa5 56.Rxb7
Bd8 57.Bd7+ and ... 1-0

King's Indian E97

Jason Doss 2321

David Phillips 2082

Dallas Open 1997 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4
d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.
d5 Ne7 9.b4 Nh5 10.Ne1!? N

The main lines of the Bayonet
Attack (9.b4) these days are 10.Re1
and 10.c5. The other knight retreat
(10.Nd2) was tried in the '70s, but
it never made much impact.

10...Nf4 11.Nd3 Nxe2+ 12.Qxe2
f5 13. f3 f4

And so we have the old Mar del
Plata position with White's KB off
the board – a "bad" bishop to be
sure, but one which slowed g4-g4.
14.c5 g5 15.Bd2 h5 16.Rfc1 Ng6
17.Be1 Rf7 18.Bf2 Bf8 19.cxd6
cxd6 20.Kf1

Is this really necessary? I would
have expected 20.a4 g4 21.a5 g3!?
(or else 22.Nb5 is strong) 22.hxg3
fxg3 23.Bxg3 Bh6 24.Rc2 h4 and
25...h3 with the usual King's Indian
excitement for both sides, and no
clear outcome.

20...g4 21.Ke1 Bh6 22. Kd2 h4 23.
Bg1



23...Bd7

23...h3! looks like demolition
derby, dissolving the pawn chain
while White's king is in the line of
fire (24.fxg4?? f3+). The game
might continue 24.gxh3 gxh3 25.
Qxf3 Nh4 and (a) 26.Qf1 f3+ 27.
Be3 Bxe3+ 28.Kxe3 Qg5+ 29.Kf2
Qd2+ 30.Kg1 Rg7+ 31.Kh1 Rg2 -+;
(b) 26.Qh5 Rh7, and 27...f3+ is a
real threat.

24.Kc2 g3?

Sometimes this lockup is good –
when White's king is in the corner
and a bishop sac at h3 looms, or
perhaps a knight sac at g2. None of
that applies here; instead, the text
only makes White's king feel safer
than ever in the center. It also
means the game will be decided on
the queenside, which is virtually
the same as giving White the game.

25.h3 Qe8 26.Nb2 Bg5 27.a4 Bd8
28.Nc4 Bc7 29.b5 Rf6 30.Rcb1
Ne7 31.Kd3 Nc8 32.a5 b6 33.Qa2
Qd8 34.Qa3 Be8 35.Qb4 Kf7 36.
axb6 Bxb6 37.Bxb6 Nxb6 38.Ra6
Kg6 39.Rba1 Nxc4 40.Qxc4 Rf7
41.Qb4 Rd7 42.Rc6 Kf6 43.Raa6
Ke7 44.Qa3 Qb8 45.b6 Qb7 46.
bxa7 Rxa7 47.Rxd6 Rxa6 48.
Rxa6+ Kf7 49.Re6 Qc7 50.Qa6
Qc5 51.Rh6 Qe3+ 52.Kc2 Qf2+ 53.
Kb3 1-0

Turkey Grange Open

Eric Dimazana was the clear winner with 4-0 at the third Turkey Grange Open, held Nov. 8-9 at the Leon Valley Grange Hall in San Antonio.

The silence of the playing hall was disturbed in round one when Gallagher's chair collapsed beneath him with a crash. His composure was apparently disturbed too, as he failed to convert a large advantage against John Hendrick and had to settle for a draw. The curse of the chair carried over into the next round, when he had an overwhelming position and more time on the clock against Bruce Lewkowski (rated 1762, some 500 points lower.) But when he tried to "blitz" his opponent, he got upended by a nice combination.

The top-heavy rating distribution in the Open section had masters playing each other in round two. John

Patty fell to my Nimzo-Indian after he got short of time in a tense struggle. The next morning I got a wonderful position against Dimazana's King's Indian, and this time I got into time pressure and found a prize turkey (31.Bc4??).

Several players came down from Austin, and the top two - Sarkisian and Stouffer - collided in round two in one of the best fighting games of the tournament. They ended up tying for second with Rohrbaugh and myself.

In the Reserve section (U1700), Gerald Castleberry and Duane Solley tied for first, drawing each other in the last round. An anonymously donated prize for the top woman player was won by Leica Tilton.

John Ade directed a combined field of 44 players for the San Antonio Chess Club.

Old Indian A55

Selby Anderson 2288

Josh Newsham 2038

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nc3 Nbd7 4.e4 e5 5.Nf3 Be7 6.Be2 0-0 7.0-0 c6 8. Re1 Re8 9.Bf1 Qc7 10.h3 Nf8 11. d5 Bd7 12.Bd2 Rec8 13.b4 Ne8 14.Qb3 c5 15.a4 b6 16.a5 f5 17. exf5 Bxf5 18.Ng5 Bxg5 19.Bxg5 Ng6 20.Nb5 Qd7? 21.axb6 axb6 22.bxc5 bxc5 23.g4 Rxa1 24.Rxa1 Bxg4 25.hxg4 Qxg4+ 26.Qg3 Qxg3+ 27.fxg3 Nh8 28.Bh3 Rb8 29.Be6+ Kf8 30.Ra7 1-0

QGD Tarrasch D34

John Hendrick 1995

Jim Gallagher 2273

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (1)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.g3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0-0 cxd4 9.Nxd4 0-0 10.b3 Bg4 11.h3 Be6 12.Bb2 Qd7 13.Kh2 Rac8 14.Rc1 Nxd4 15.Qxd4 Bc5 16.Qa4 Qe7 17.Qh4?!

This gives Black the initiative on the dark squares. Better is 17.e3 followed by Rfd1.

17...Ba3 18.Bxa3 Qxa3 19.Qd4 Rc5 20.Rc2 b6 21.Nb1 Qa6 22.

PRIZEWINNERS

OPEN: 1st: Eric Dimazana, 3.5. 2nd: Jim Rohrbaugh, Bill Stouffer, Selby Anderson, Drew Sarkisian, 3. U2100 + U1900: John Hendrick, David Gonzales, Joshua Newsham, Jesse Vasquez, Bruce Lewkowski, Charles Butler, 2.

RESERVE: 1st-2nd: Gerald Castleberry, Duane Solley, 3.5. U1500: Ray Aguilar, 2.5. U1300: Phillip Chambers, Barbie Ade, James Nielsen, 2. 1st woman: Leica Tilton, 3.

Rxc5 bxc5 23.Qxc5 Qxa2 24.Qe3 Re8 25.Qd3 Rc8 26.Nd2 h6 27.e3 Rc2 28.Rd1 a5 29.Kg1 g6 30.Qd4 Qb2 31.Qxb2 Rxb2 32.Kf1 Ne4 33. Nxe4 dxe4 34.g4 Bxb3?

34...f5! wins the pawn clear, since 35.Ra1 Rxb3 36.Rxa5 lets Black trap the bishop with 36... Rb1+ 37.Ke2 Rg1.

35.Rd8+ Kg7 36.Bxe4 a4 37.Bd5 Bxd5

Gallagher considered winning the exchange for a pawn with 37... Rd2 38. Bxb3 Rxd8 39.Bxa4, but he considered it to be drawn. Later NM Don Sutherland showed him a win based on 39...g5! and invading from the rear with an exchange sac.

38.Rxd5 a3 39.Ra5 a2 40.Kg2 Kf6 41.Kg3 Ke6 42.f4 Kd6 43.Kf3 Kc6 44. Ke4 Kb6 45.Ra8 Kc5 46.Ke5 Rb6

One last hope: 47.Rxa2?? Re6 mate.

47.Ke4

Draw

Dimazana had trouble making headway with David Gonzales' solid style - I was reminded of their drawn game in the 1997 club championship. Gonzales had if anything the slightly better position when he lost on time.

QGD Orthodox D56

Eric Dimazana 2259

David Gonzales 1901

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (1)

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Bg5 0-0 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 dxc4(?)

Black is mixing ideas. Normal is 7... b6 (Tartakover) or 7...Ne4 (Lasker). The text is usually played after White has moved his KB, in order to save a tempo.

8.Bxc4 c6 9.0-0 Nbd7 10.Rc1 Nd5

Capablanca's maneuver is best when played without interpolating ...h6, so that the dark square bishops get traded.

11.Bg3 Nxc3 12.bxc3 Nf6 13.Bd3

I prefer 13.h3 to preserve the dark square bishop. Now Dimazana applies a kingside blitz, but runs up against very stubborn defense by Gonzales.

13...Nh5 14.e4 Nxc3 15.fxc3 c5 16.e5 Bd7 17.Bb1 Bg5 18.Qd3 g6 19.Rcd1 cxd4 20.cxd4 a6 21.Rf2 Bb5 22.Qb3 Qd7 23.Re1 Rac8 24. h4 Be7 25.h5 Kg7 26.Re4 Rc1+ 27.Kh2 Bc6 28.Rg4 Bxf3 29.Rxf3 Qb5! 30.hxc6 Qxb3 31.gxf7+ Bg5 32.Rxb3 Rxf7 33.Bd3 Rd1 34.Re4 b5 35.a3 Rc7 36.Be2 Re1 37.Bf3 Rf1 38.Bh5 Rcc1 39.Kh3 Rh1+ 40. Kg4 Rc2 41.Be8 1-0 (time)



Saved by the flag? 41...Rxc2 looks a draw at least: (a) 42.Bd7 Rh4+ 43.Kf3 Rxc3+ 44.Kxc3 Rxe4 45.Bxe6 Rxd4 and the e5 pawn will fall to ...Bf4 or ...Re4; (b) 42.Kf3 Rhg1 43.Kg4 Rh1 =.

A real system man, Dan Schenkel played 1.g4 or 1...g5 at every opportunity, only modifying it with 1...h6 first against McCue's 1.Nf3. Here he manages to befuddle Huddleston:

Basman Defense B00

Doug Huddleston 2137

Dan Schenkel 1640

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (1)

1.e4 g5 2.d4 h6 3.c4 c5 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.Be3 Qa5 6.Nge2 Nf6 7.Ng3 d6

8.Be2 Nc6 9.d5 Ne5 10.0-0 g4 11. Qc2 h5 12.a3 h4 13.Nf5 Bxf5 14. exf5 g3 15.b4 gxh2+ 16.Kh1 Qc7 17.Nb5 Qc8 18. bxc5 a6 19.Nc3 h3 20.g3 dc5 21.Rad1 Neg4 22.Ne4 Nxe3 23.fxe3 Nxe4 24.Qxe4 Qd7 25.f6 Bh6 26.Bg4 Qd6 27.Rb1 Rb8 28.Rb6 Qd8



29.d6?!

This closes off the e-file. I couldn't leave this position alone, so I sicked the "tin box" on it. Chess Machine found 29.Bh5! and ...

(a) 29...0-0 30.Bd1! Δ 31.Bc2; (b) 29...Qc7 30.fxe7! Qxb6 31. Rxf7! +-; (c) 29...Rf8 30.fxe7 Qxe7 31.Re6 +-.

29...e6 30.d7+ Kf8 31.Rxb7 Rxb7 32. Qxb7 Kg8 33.Qc8 Kh7 34.Qxc5 Qxd7 35.Bf3 Qd3 36.Rd1 Qg6 37. Qd4 Draw

The co-winner of the Reserve, Castleberry had his closest brush with defeat in round one. My young student Sarkis (age 7) was taking him apart, but made a slip at a critical moment.

Queen's Gambit D27

Gerald Castleberry 1500

Sarkis Agaian 1030

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (1)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 c5!? 5.Be4 a6 6.a4 Nc6 7.0-0 e6 8. Nc3 Be7 9.Qe2 0-0 10.Rd1 Qc7 11. b3

After some peculiar twists in move order, a theoretical position has been reached.

11...Nb4!? 12.Bb2 Bd6 13.g3?

If a kingside pawn is to be moved, it should be 13.h3. Sarkis moves in to fill the void on the long diagonal.

13...b6! 14.Rd2 Bb7 15.Na2 Nxa2 16.Rxa2 Qc6! 17.d5 exd5



18.Bxf6 gxf6??

A lapse in attention costs the game. 18...dxc4 19.Ba1 cxb3 20. Rab2 Be7 is a convincing crush.

19.Bxd5 Qc7 20.Bxb7 Qxb7 21. Rxd6

... and White won easily, 1-0

Nimzo-Indian Saemisch E24

John Patty 2218

Selby Anderson 2288

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3 Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 Ne4

A line made famous when Tal used it against Botvinnik in their 1960 match.

6.e3 0-0 7.Bd3 f5 8.Ne2 b6 9.0-0 Bb7

9...Nc6 10.a4 Ba6 11.c5 Bxd3 12. Qxd3 bxc5 13.f3 Nf6 14.Ba3 d6 15.dxc5 += Dolmatov-Rashovsky, USSR 1986.

10.f3 Nd6 11.c5!?

11.a4 Nc6 12.Ba3 Na5 13.c5 Ndc4 ∞ makes for interesting com-

plications where Black is holding his own.

11...bxc5 12.dxc5 Nf7 13.Rb1 Qc8

A mistake is 13...Ba6? 14.Rxb8.

14.e4 fxe4 15.fxe4 Nc6 16.Bf4 Nfe5



17.Bb5

I had expected 17.Nd4 with the position dynamically balanced. Then I saw that 17...Ba6? fell into the trap 18.Bxe5 Nxe5? 19.Rxf8+ Kxf8 20.Qf1+ +-, or 18...Bxd3 19.Nxc6!, but 19...Rxf1+ 20.Qxf1 Bxf1 21.Ne7+ Kf7 22.Nxc8 Ba6 regaining the piece looks tenable.

Simplifying doesn't solve Black's problems: 17...Nxd3 18.Qxd3 Nxd4 19.Qxd4 (19.cxd4? Ba6), because Be5 will menace the dark squares near my king.

Probably best is 17...Ng6, shooting away the f4 bishop as in the game.

17...Ng6 18.Bg3 Rxf1+ 19.Qxf1 Nce5 20.Nd4 a6

The e-pawn was poisoned because of Re1 winning a piece. With the text I hope for 21.Ba4 Bxe4 22.Re1 Bd3! bailing out the bishop. 21.Bd3 a5 22.Nb5 Ba6 23.c4 Qb7!

Not such a deep move – the hurdle is to consider it at all. Then it is clear that the knight discoveries are no good, and Black is ready with ...Qc6 or ...Qa7 picking up the c5 pawn. Black also prepares ...Rf8, mobilizing his last piece.

24.Qd1 Rf8 25.Bf1?

The position is still unclear after 25.Bc2, since 25...Nxc4 26.Nxc7! is messy, and White answers 25...Qc6 with 26.Qd4.

25...Qxe4 26.Nxc7 Bxc4 27.Bxc4 Nxc4 28.Rc1 Ne3 29.Qe2 Nf4 30.Bxf4 Qxf4 31.Rc3??

31.Nb5? Ng4! +; 31.Qf3? Qd4! +; 31.g3! Qxc7 32.Qxe3 Qc6 -/+.
31...Qf1+ 0-1

Diemar Gambit D00

Andy Smith 2143

Eric Dimazna 2259

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e4 Nxe4 4.Nxe4 dxe4 5.Bc4 Bf5 6.c3 e6 7.f3 c6 8.Qe2 Nd7 9.Bf4 Nf6 10.Be5 Bd6 11.0-0-0 Qc7 12.Bxf6 exf3 13.Nxf3 Bf4+! 14.Nd2 gxf6 15.Rhf1 0-0-0 16.g3 Bg5 17.g4 Bg6 18.Qf2 f5 19.h4? Bxd2+ 20.Rxd2 fxc4 21.Qf6 Rhg8 22.a4 Rde8 23.Re2 Kb8 24.Rfe1 h5 25.b4 a5 26.Re5 axb4 27.cxb4 Qb6 28.Qf4 Qxb4 29.Rc5+ (29.Rb5+ e5) 29...Kc8 30.Re3 Rd8 31.Rxe6 Qc3+ 0-1

Gruenfeld Defense D94

Drew Sarkisian 2250

Bill Stouffer 2183

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 d5 5.e3 0-0 6.b4 a5 7.b5 dxc4 8.Bxc4 c5 9.Qb3 Nbd7 10.Ng5 Qe8 11.Ba3 b6 12.0-0 h6 13.Nh3 e5 14.Rfe1 Qd8 15.Rad1 Qc7 16.f3 Bb7 17.Rc1 exd4 18.exd4 Ne8 19.Ne2 Nd6 20.Nhf4 a4 21.Qd3 Nxc4 22.Rxc4 Rfd8 23.Qc2 g5 24.Nh5 Bd5 25.Nxg7!?

Not 25.Rxa4?? Rxa4 25.Qxa4 Ra8 -. Sarkisian could retreat the attacked rook, but the appeal of an exchange sac to move in on the long a1-h8 diagonal cannot be denied.

25...Kxg7 26.dxc5 Bxc4 27.Qxc4 Ne5

Better is 27...Nxc5, e.g. 28.Bb2+ f6 29.Nd4 Qf7 30.Re7 Qxe7 31.

Nf5+ Kf8 32.Nxe7 Kxe7 33.Ba3 Rac8 34.Qe4+ Kf7 35.Bxc5 Rxc5 36.Qb7+ Kg6 37.Qe4+ (37.Qxb6 Rdd5) =.

28.Qe4 Nd3 29.Ng3 Re8

On 29...Nxe1 White only draws:

30.Nh5+ Kg8! 31.Nf6+ Kg7 =.

30.Nh5+ Kh8 31.Qd4+ Ne5



32.cxb6 Qc4 33.Qa1

33.Bb2! (a) 33...Qxd4? 34.Bxd4 f6 35.Nxf6 Nxf3+ 36.gxf3 Rxe1+ 37.Kf2 Rd1 38.b7 Rb8 39.Nd7+ Rxd4 40.Nxb8 +-. (b) 33...f6 34.Qxc4 Nxc4 35.Bxf6+ Kg8 36.Rxe8+ Rxe8 37.Bd4 +/=∞.

33...Qxb5 34.Bb2 f6 35.Nxf6 Nxf3+ 36.gxf3 Rxe1+ 37.Qxe1 Qxb2 38.Qe6 Qc1+ 39.Kg2 Qd2+ 40.Kh3 Qf4 41.Qc6 Qf5+ 42.Ng4 Rf8 43.Qc3+

43.Kg2! h5 44.Ne3 Qf6 45.Qxf6+ Rxf6 46.Nc4 Rf8 =.

43...Kh7 44.b7 h5 45.Qc7+ Rf7

If 46.b8(Q), Black mates in two. 0-1

English Opening A36

Jim Gallagher 2273

Bruce Lewkowski 1762

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (2)

1.c4 c5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 Nf6 6.Nge2 0-0 7.d3 d6 8.0-0 e5

This is not the best when Black has a knight at f6, as White finds f4-f5 too easy to execute. A wide array of recommended book moves in-

cludes Ne8, a6, Bd7, Rb8, Re8 and Bg4.

9.Bg5 Ne7 10.Qd2 Be6 11.h3 Qd7 12.Kh2 Rab8 13.f4 Ne8 14.f5! ±

Gotcha! Now White dominates d5 and has a kingside pawn storm hanging over Black's head.

14...gxf5 15.Bxe7 Qxe7 16.exf5 Bd7 17.Nd5 Qd8 18.Nec3 f6 19.g4 Bc6 20. Be4 Nc7 21.Rg1 h6 22.h4 Kf7 23.Rg3

This is about what you expect to see when a master plays his favorite system against a Class B player. Black looks ready to fold in ten moves or so.

23...b5 24.Rag1?!

A surprising choice. Black is threatening to loosen White's hold on d5 by kicking the c3 knight with b5-b4. By now exchanging pieces, White can retain a good knight at d5 vs. a bad bishop at g7, thus: 24.Nxc7 Qxc7 25.Bd5+! Bxd5 26.Nxd5, and White can take his sweet time with the breakthrough g4-g5.

24...b4 25.Nd1 Bxd5 26.Bxd5 Nxd5 27.cxd5 Qe7 28.Nf2 Qb7 29.Ne4 Qxd5 30.g5 hxg5 31.hxg5 Rh8+ 32.Kg2 Rh4 33.Qe3 Rbh8



34.Kf1?

A feature of Gallagher's style is the preemptive defense: you take away your opponent's threat and ask, "Okay, what are you going to do now?" The problem here is that Black can shift to the f-file.

There is a win for White, and it's not easy. After 34.gxf6 . . .

(a) 34...Bxf6 35.Qf3 Rh2+ 36.Kf1;

(b) 34...Rh2+ 35.Kf1 Bh6 36.Qf3 Ke8 37.Nxd6!+ Qxd6 38.Qa8+ Kf7 39.Rxg7+! Bxg7 40.Rxg7+ Kf6 41. Rg6+ Kf7 (41...Kxf5 42.Qe4 mate!) 42.Qxa7+ Qe7 43.Rg7+ Kxg7 44. Qxe7+ Kg8 (44... Kh6 45.Qf6+ Kh7 46.Qg6 mate) 45.f6 and White's king can find shelter, while Black's cannot.

34...Rf4+ 35.Rf3 Rhh4 36.gxf6 Bxf6 37.Rgg3 Rxe4!

Bravo, Bruce!

38.dxe4 Qd1+ 39.Kf2

No better is 39.Qe1 Rh1+ or 39.Kg2 Qh1+ 40.Kf2 Rh2+.

39...Rh2+ (40.Rg2 Qc2+ +) 1-0

A nice comeback for Lewkowski, who kept a cool head under fire.

Caro-Kann B14

Charles Butler 1771

Mark McCue 1812

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (2)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.c5 Nc6 7.Nf3 Be7 8.Bf4 0-0 9.a3 a5 10.Na4 Nd7 11. Bb5 f6 12.0-0 g5 13.Bg3 g4 14.Ne1 f5 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.Nd3 Bg5 17. Nf4 Nf6 18.Nb6 Ra7 19.f3 gxf3 20. gxf3 Rg7 21.Kh1 Re8 22.Re1 h5 23.Nd3 h4 24.Bd6 Nd7 25.Na8 Bh6 26.Rg1 Qf6 27.Nc7 Rd8 28. Qa4



28...Be3 29.Be5 Nxe5 30.dxe5 Qe7 31. Rxg7+ Qxg7 32.Qxc6 h3 33.Nf4! Bxf4 34.Rg1 d4

34...Bg5 35.Nxe6 Bxe6 36. Qxe6+ Kh8 37.Qxf5 Rg8 38.f4 +.

35.Rxg7+ Kxg7 36.Nxe6+ Bxe6 37.Qxe6 Be3

37...Bg5 38.f4! Bh4 39.Qf5 +. 38.Qe7+ 1-0

Jesse Vasquez 1798

F. Alexander Relyea 1711

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (2)



32...Rc2+ 33.Kg3 Rxa2 34.Rxd5 Kf7

This was a good time for 34...a5. 35.Rd7+ Kg6 36.h4 h5 37.Kf4 Ra4

Black loses time chasing the b-pawn. Better is 37...Rh2 38.Rxa7 Rxh4+ 39. Ke5 Rh1!

38.b5 Ra5 39.Rd5 Kh7 40.Ke5 a6 41. bxa6 Rxa6 42.Rd6 Ra5+ 43.d5 Ra4 44. Rxb6 Rxh4 45.g6+ Kh6 46.d6 Rh1 47. d7 Re1+ 48.Kd6 h4 49.Rb5 h3 50. d8(Q) Rd1+ 51.Rd5 1-0

King's Indian E94

Selby Anderson 2288

Eric Dimazana 2259

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Be3

I had correctly guessed Eric would play 7...Ndb7, as after 7...

Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 the Bayonet 9.b4 has been working out well for me. Unfortunately, among the many replies to 8.Be3 I did not study the one he played! So I wasted time "re-inventing the wheel."

8...h6 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Nd2

Theory recommends 10.Qc1 Ng4 11. Bd2 h5 12.Rd1.

10...Nh7 11.c5 Ng5 12.Nb3!?

This is awkward when White has not yet played b2-b4, as it ties down pieces to the defense of c5. The best that can be said is that it speeds up White's mobilization. Now Eric misses the best reply (12...Ne6!) and lets me drop into d6. 12...c6 13.Qd2 Qe7 14.Rad1 Re8 15. Bc4 Kh7 16.Qd6 Bf8

16...Ne6 avoids what follows. 17.Qxe7 Rxe7 18.f4! exf4 19.Bxf4 Kg7!

On 19...Nxe4 20.Nxe4 Rxe4 21.Bxf7 Black can win the c5 pawn, but then my rook invades the back row: 21...Nxc5 22.Rd8 Be7 23. Bg8+, and if 23...Kg7 then 24.Be5+! Rxe5 25.Rf7+ Kh8 26.Rh7 mate! 20.Bd6 Re8 21.h4 Ne6 22.e5 Bxd6 23.exd6 f5?

23...Ne5! 24.Be2 Bd7 keeps White's edge to a manageable level. 24.Rfe1 Nf6 25.Rd2 Bd7 26.Rde2 Nf4 27.Re7+ Kh8 28.Bf7

There is no hurry with this, especially as it leaves d3 open to Black's knight. Better is 28.g3 or 28.Nd4. 28...Rxe7 29.Rxe7 Rd8 30.Nd4 Ng8



31.Bc4??

Time pressure, of course. I took just long enough to get the move order mixed up and play what I had in mind after 31.Re3 Kg7.

31...Nxe7 32.dxe7 Re8 33.g3 Nh5 34.Bf7 Rxe7 35.Bxg6 Nxb3 0-1

QGD Tarrasch D32

Bill Stouffer 2183

Jim Rohrbaugh 2228

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (3)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 c5 3.e3 Nc6 4.c4 e6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Be2 a6 7.a4 Bd6 8.0-0 0-0 9.h3 b6 10.b3 Ra7 11.Bb2 Rd7 12.cxd5 exd5 13.Bd3 Bb7 14.Rc1 Re8 15.Bb1 Bf8 16.Ne2 Ne4 17. Bc3 Nxc3 18.Rxc3 g6 19.Rc2 Nb4 20.Rd2 Bg7 21.Nf4 c4 22.bxc4 dxc4 23.Rb2 Qe7 24.Qd2 a5 25. Rc1 Rc8 26.Ne1 Qg5 27.Rxb4 axb4 28.Qxb4 Bxd4 29.Rxc4 Bc5 30.Qb2 Rd1 31.Rc1 Rxc1 32.Qxc1 Bd6 33.Qd2 Bxf4 34.exf4 Qd5 35. Qe3 Kf8 36.f3 Qc5 37.Qxc5 Rxc5 38.Kf2 Rc4 39.Bc2 Bc6 40.Bb3 Rb4 0-1

Nimzovich Attack A06

Stephen Tidwell 2100

John Hendrick 1995

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (3)

1.Nf3 d5 2.b3 Bf5 3.Bb2 e6 4.e3 Nf6 5.c4 Be7 6.Nc3 Nbd7 7.d4 0-0 8.Be2 c6 9.Nh4 Bg4 10.Bxg4 Nxb3 11.Ng6 hxg6 12.Qxg4 dxc4 13. bxc4 c5 14.d5 Nf6 15.Qf3 exd5 16. cxd5 b5



17.e4 b4 18.Ne2 c4 19.0-0 c3 20.Bc1 Nd7 21.Bf4 Bf6 22.Bd6 Ne5 23.Bxe5 Bxe5 24.Qd3 Qb6 25.Kh1 g5 26.Rab1 Rab8 27.g3 g4 28.h4 Rfc8 29.Qc2 Rc4 30.Rbe1 a5 31.Nc1 Re8 32.Nd3 Rd4 33.Re2 Draw

QGD Tarrasch D30

Eric Dimazana 2259

Jim Rohrbaugh 2228

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (4)

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 c5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.0-0 Nf6 6.cxd5 exd5 7.d4 Ne4!?

On 7...Be7, White has various alternatives to the main line 8.Nc3, such as 8.Be3 and Joe Bradford's favorite 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.a3 0-0 10.b4. 8.Nc3 Be6



9.Nxe4 dxe4 10.Ng5 Qxd4 11. Nxe6 fxe6 12.Qb3 Qd5 13.Qa4 Qd4 14.Qc2 Nb4 15.Qxe4 Qxe4 16. Bxe4 0-0-0 Draw

White could play for a win at no risk with 17.a3 Nd5 18.Bg5, but a draw was all Eric needed for first.

Diemar Gambit D00

Andy Smith 2143

Selby Anderson 2288

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e4 dxe4 4.f3 exf3 5.Nxf3 Bg4 6.Bc4

More dangerous is 6.h3, played by local Diemar maven Al Fulton.

e6 7.0-0 c6 8.Ne2 Nbd7 9.c3 Bd6
10. Bf4 Qc7 11.Qd2 0-0 12.Bd3 e5
13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.
Nd4 Rae8 16.Rf2 Bxf4 17.Rxf4
Qe5 18.h3 Bd7 19.Rf3

White has found a way to avoid
the worst (...Qe3+). The pure heavy
piece ending is not as easy to win.
19...c5 20.Nf5 Bxf5 21.Bxf5 Ne4
22.Bxe4 Qxe4 23.Rd1 Re7 24.Rd3
h6 25.Rd7 Rfe8 26.Qf2 b6 27.Qg3
Qa4! 28.Qd6!



28...Rxd7 29.Qxd7 Re1+ 30.Kf2!

We had both overlooked this,
but clearly the alternatives lose:
30.Rxe1 Qxd7 or 30.Kh2 Qf4+ 31.
g3 Qf2 mate.

Now 30...Qxd1? allows a perpe-
tual check: 31.Qc8+ Kh7 32.Qf5+.

30...Qxd7 31.Rxd7 Rb1 32.Rd2
Kf8 33.Re2? f6?

We both underestimate the im-
portance of Black's getting his rook
back into play with ...Rd1. Briefly,
that is.

34.Rd2! Ke7 35.Re2+ Kf7 36.Rd2
f5 37.b3 Ke6 38.c4 g5 39.Re2+ Kf6
40.g3?

In the post mortem I was having
fits trying to prove a win after 40.
Rd2.

40...Rd1 41.Kg2 Rd3 42.Kf2 f4 43.
gxf4 gxf4 44.Re8

44.Re4 Rxh3! 45.Rxf4+ Ke5 46.
Rf7 Rh2+ 47.Ke3 Rxa2 +.

44...Rxh3 45.Rf8+ Ke5 0-1

Pirc Defense B07

Charles Butler 1771

Doug Huddleston 2137

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (4)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Be3
Bg7 5.Qd2 c6 6.Bh6 Bxh6 7.Qxh6
Qb6 8.0-0-0 Nbd7 9.Be2 Qc7 10.g4
b5 11.g5 b4 12.gxf6 bxc3 13.Qg7
cxb2+ 14.Kb1 Rf8 15.fxe7 Kxe7
16.e5 dxe5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Nxf3
Nxf3 19.Bxf3 Be6 20.Rhe1 Qa5



21.Rxe6+ Kxe6 22.Bg4+ f5 23.Be2
Qb4 24.c3 Qe4+ 25.Bd3 Rfd8
26.Bxe4 Rxd1+ 27.Kxb2 fxe4 28.
Qb7 Rad8 29.Qxc6+ Kf5 30.Qc5+
R1d5 31.Qxa7 Rb5+ Draw

Butler, who tied for the U1900
prize with 2-2, moved to San An-
tonio from Greenville in April.
Huddleston has just gotten back
into tournaments this year and is
still shaking off the rust.

Patrick MacKay of Laredo
writes: "I found myself in a
very bad position [. . .] therefore I
found a fancy way to drive away the
black queen, then decoying it into
another column where it was not
such an immediate threat to my
king. The position still looked very
bad for me. [. . .] It was here that I
saw a beautiful combination which
started with a knight sacrifice and
ended with a queen sacrifice which
wins the game."

QP Opening D02

Patrick MacKay 1489

Martha Ade 1108

Turkey Grange Open 1997 (4)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.e3 Nf6 4.Bd3
g6 5.Nbd2 Bf5!

Black doesn't mind the doubled
pawns after Bxf5 because that gives
her a strong grip on the e4 square.

6.Bxf5 gxf5 7.b3 Bg7 8.Bb2 Qd7
9.Qe2 Nb4 10.Qd1 Ne4 11.Nxe4
fxe4 12.Nd2 0-0-0 13.a3 Nc6 14.
Qh5 Rdf8 15.0-0-0 f5 16.Rhg1 Na5
(16...e6 17.g4) 17.f3 Qc6 18.Rdf1
e6 19.Kb1 Qb5 20.Rf2 Kb8 21.h3
c5 22.fxe4 dxe4 23.Qg5 Rf7 24.
Qf4+ Ka8 25.a4 Qb6 26.dxc5 Qxc5
27.Bxg7 Rxg7 28.Qh6 Rc7 29.
Nxe4!? fxe4 30.Qxe6 Qxe3 31.Qe5



At a stroke White has attacked
all of Black's loose pieces, and he
threatens mate in two.

31...Rhc8?

MacKay: "Better is 31...Rcc8
and Black wins!" [Then on 32.Rgf1
threatening Qxh8, Black has 32...
Nc6 saving both the knight and the
back row. Another winning move is
31...Qc3, defeating every piece
that White has just attacked.]

32.Qc7! a6?

32...Rb8 33.Rgf1 +/-.

33.Qxc8+ Ka7 34.Rgf1 Nc6 35.Rf7
Qb6 36.Rxh7 e3 37.Rff7 1-0

LETTERS

ACE honcho hits the trail

Hello ALL,

I want to take this opportunity to let all of you know that I will be accepting a position with Ernst & Young LLP in New Jersey. I will be leaving the Austin area in the first week in December.

I want you all know how grateful I am and how fortunate I feel to have known you, enjoyed chess with you and worked with you over the past few years. It was not an easy decision to make considering all the friends and family I'll be leaving behind. But, you know I will keep in touch through the Net. I'll send you my new E-Mail address as soon as I know it.

I have heard some rumors that there might be some chess activity outside of Texas, maybe even some in NYC or Philly. ;-)

Joe Bradford suggested that in the future some of our TX players can form a team to play in the U.S. Team Championship in NY. I think it's a great idea. . . you know there will always be room at our 'castle' for chess friends and guests.

Caissa smiles on us . . .

William Tompkins
Austin

William Tompkins of the ACE Chess Club in Austin was the leading organizer and director for TCA tournaments in the 1980's and early 90's. More than any other one person, he was responsible for turning the Texas Junior Championship (now the Texas Scholastic Championships) into a major tournament with team participation growing from year to year. He also authored the rotation system in use for major TCA events.

-SKA

(1) *J' accuse!*

Your annotations to the John-Dimizana game in the last issue of *TK* referred to 8...d6 as "criminal."

J' accuse! Just as felonious is your suggestion, after 1.e4 b6 2.d4 Bb7 3.Bd3 e6 4.Nc3, of 4...f5?? This gets soundly hammered by the simple 5.exf5 and (1) 5...Bxg2? 6.Qh5+ g6 (or 6...Ke7 Qg5+ +-, among others) 7.fxg6 Nf6 [for 7...Bg7 see below] 8.g7+ Nxh5 9.gxh8(Q) Bxh1 10.Qxh7, when Black is challenged to save both his king and his queen; (2) 5...Qf6!? 6. Ne4! gives back the pawn but gives White a comfortable lead in development, e.g. 6...Qxd4 7.Qh5+ Kd8 8.Nf3 Qb4+ 9.Bd2 Qe7 (to prevent Qf7) 10.fxe6 dxe6 (10...Qxe6 11. Ng5 +-) 11. 0-0-0 +/- . Someone call the chess cops!

Michael Simpson
Austin

On further investigation we determined that 7...Bg7 is not much better, as 8.gxh7+ Kf8 9.hxg8(Q)+ Kxg8 10.Qg4 Bxh1 11.Bg5 is overwhelming: (a) 11...Qe8 12.Qg3! (12.Nh3 Qh5; 12.Bf6 Qf7) 12...Qh5 13.h4 Nc6 14.Qxc7 Nxd4 15.Qxd7 Qg4 16. Nce2 Nxe2 17.Nxe2 Bxb2 18.Rb1 Bg7 19.Rb5! Bf3 20.Rf5!! +-; (b) 11...Qf8 12.0-0-0 Qxf2 (12...Nc6 13.Ne4 Bxe4 14.Bxe4 ±) 13.Ne4 Qg2 14.Ng3 Qxh2 15.Nf3 Bxf3 16.Qxf3 Nc6 17.Rh1 ±/+.

(2) *Draw etiquette*

The September-October issue of *TK* has a short article on when it is appropriate to offer a draw to your opponent. Jim Gallagher has noted three times when draw offers are inappropriate; including (1) after every move and (3) a low ranking player in a superior position against a much stronger opponent.

With due respect to Jim, however (and Duane Solley, the author

of the article), I disagree with him as to whether it is inappropriate to offer a draw (2) when your position is "clearly worse" than your opponent's. Perhaps our disagreement stems from the phrase "clearly worse"; between scholastic players, perhaps a rook advantage may not be decisive, while against senior masters, a pawn deficit can justify immediate capitulation. I have received draw offers from Mick Bighamian, Bill Reuter, Larry Moss, Mike Calogridis, and Zack Coombes in positions in which each of them were clearly worse. I do not think that any of them are unethical. (Well, Zack Coombes *maybe* – then again, he offered a draw down a queen, one move before mate.)

However, we should not overlook the strategic effect of a well-calculated draw offer – a tactical device, if you will. I believe a very appropriate use of the draw offer is in a position in which your opponent, while having a better position, has managed to lose the thread of the game so that your position, while still worse, has improved because of his errors.

A master of this technique in Austin is Michael Calogridis. I believe a strategic draw offer helped him win this game, from the 1994 Austin Invitational.

Four Knights Game C48
Michael Simpson
Michael Calogridis
ACE Invitational 1994

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4. Bb5 Bc5 (4...Bb4; 4...Nd4; but Alan Lavery notes the irony that 4...Bc5 has such a bad reputation in the Four Knights when it is a popular reply to the Ruy Lopez.) 5.0-0 0-0 6.Nxe5 Nd4?! (6...Re8) 7.Be2 d6 8.Nf3 Nxe2+ 9.Qxe2 Bg4 10.h3 Bh5 11.d3 Re8 12.Be3 (12.Na4!? –

Calogridis) 12...Bb4 13.Bd4!
 (Planning 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Nd5)
 13...c6 14.a3 Bxc3 15.Bxc3 d5 16.
 g4?! (16. e5! planning 17.d4; 16...d4
 17.Bxd4 Bxf3 18.Qxf3 Qxd4 19.
 exf3; I overlooked that the pin on
 the e-pawn would be broken after
 18. Qxf3) 16...dxe4 17.gxh5 exf3
 18.Qxf3 Qd5 19.Qxd5 Nxd5 20.
 Bd2 Re2 21.Rad1 h6! 22.Rfe1
 Rae8 23.Kf1



23...Rxe1+

Here Calogridis offered a draw. White is still better – in fact, he is winning – but I’ve already blown a lot of the advantage; will I regroup and find the thread? I decided to bet half a point that I could; crossing the line in the sand that Calogridis had drawn, I played on!

24.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 25.Kxe1 Nf6 26. Ke2 Nxe5 27.Kf3?

27.Be3! planning Kd2+; after this, it's hard for White to win.

27...f5 28.Be3 a6 29.a4 Kf7 30.c4 g5 31.b4 Ke6 32.Bc5? Nf4 (32... Kf3) 33.Bf8?! h5 34.Bh6 Nxe3 35. Kg3 g4 36.Be3 Ng1 37.Kh4 Nf3+ 38.Kxe5 Ne5 39.b5 Nxd3 40.bxa6 bxa6 41.a5 Ne5 0-1

The next time I played Calogridis he offered a draw, which I declined, and he won that game as well. Is it any wonder in the 1996 state championship that I split the point with him after 19 moves when I was clearly better? His draw offer from

two years earlier was still haunting me!

I believe a draw offer in circumstances such as this game is no less ethical than choosing sharp, offbeat lines instead of the best move in a tournament when playing for a draw is undesirable. As Lasker has noted, chess is a battle between human beings, and the best players seek out practical advantages as well as good moves. And, of course, when you offer a draw, you face the risk of it being accepted!

msimpson@eden.com

Denton Chess Club news

Sixteen players participated in the Denton Chess Club's first quad tournament, held Nov. 9. There was a four-way tie for first in the top section, with Alexey Root, (2097), William Arvola (1961), Jose Trevino (1845) and Thomas Nichols (2007) each scoring 1.5-1.5.

Dutch Stonewall A90

William Arvola 1960

Alexey Root 2097

Denton Quads 11/97

1.d4 f5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.g3 e6 4.Bg2 d5 5.0-0 Bd6 6.c4 c6 7.Nc3 Qe7 8. Qc2 0-0 9.Bd2 b6 10.Ne5 Bb7 11. Rac1 Nbd7 12.cxd5 cxd5 13.Nd3 Rac8 14.Bf4 Ne4 15.Bxd6 Qxd6 16.f3 Nxc3 17.bxc3 e5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 Qxe5 20.Qd3 f4 21. gxf4 Rxf4 22.e3



One challenge of the G/30 time control is calculating tactical variations accurately in the small amount of time one has. Here I rejected 22...Rfc4 23.f4 Rxc3 (23... Qe6) 24.Rxc3 Rxc3 25.Bxd5+ Qxd5 26.Qxc3 because I did not “see” 26...Qg2 mate. I saw only that I would be down an exchange after White's 26.Qc3. I calculated one half-move too short!

As it turns out, though, 22... Rfc4 does not win a pawn because of 23.f4 Rxc3 24.Qd2 Qxe3+ 25. Qxe3 Rxe3 26.Bxd5+ and White wins at least an exchange. So, I made the correct decision – not to “win” a pawn on c3 – for the wrong reason.

22...Rf6 23.f4 Qd6?

Allows c4. Better is 23...Qe6 24.Rfd1 Qg4 25.Kh1 Rc5

24.c4 Rg6 25.cxd5 Rf8

25...Rxc1 26.Rxc1 Bxd5? 27. Rc8+ Kf7 28.Qf5+ Ke7 29.Qf8+ Kd7 (29...Ke6 30.Re8+ Kd7 31. Rd8+) 30.Qe8 mate.

26.Kh1 Rff6 27.Qd2 Rg4 28.e4 Rxf4 29.Rxf4 Rxf4

I did not record the moves after this point. (Under G/30 rules one can stop keeping score when either oneself or one's opponent has less than five minutes.) At the conclusion of the game at about move 35, my opponent had five minutes left, and I had one minute left. I had regained my pawn, so material was equal. Nonetheless, White maintained an advantage. Probably not wanting to try winning a complicated position in a time scramble, my opponent accepted my draw offer.

– WIM Alexey Root

Texas Postal Champion

Jimmy Irvin won the 1996 Texas Postal Championship. A complete report will appear in the next issue.

Turkey Grange Open

San Antonio, November 8-9

Open

name	rating	1	2	3	4	total
1 Eric Dimazana	2259	+8	+6	+4	=2	3.5
2 James Rohrbaugh	2228	+10	=14	+3	=1	3.0
3 William Stouffer	2183	+12	+5	-2	+9	3.0
4 Selby Anderson	2288	+9	+16	-1	+6	3.0
5 Drew Sarkisian	2250	+17	-3	+11	+7	3.0
6 Andrew I. Smith	2143	+15	-1	+10	-4	2.0
7 John Hendrick	1995	=21	+13	=14	-5	2.0
8 David F. Gonzales	1901	-1	+19	=16	=11	2.0
9 Joshua Newsham	2038	-4	+20	+18	-3	2.0
10 Jesse Vasquez	1798	-2	+15	-6	+18	2.0
11 Bruce Lewkowski	1762	H	+21	-5	=8	2.0
12 Charles T. Butler	1771	-3	+17	H	=13	2.0
13 James Huddleston	2137	=20	-7	+17	=12	2.0
14 Stephen Tidwell	2100	+18	=2	=7	U	2.0
15 F. Alexander Relyea	1711	-6	-10	+20	=19	1.5
16 John Patty	2218	+19	-4	=8	U	1.5
17 Mark McCue	1812	-5	-12	-13	+20	1.0
18 William Henderson	1609	-14	B	-9	-10	1.0
19 Lance Gill	1776	-16	-8	H	=15	1.0
20 Daniel Schenkel	1640	=13	-9	-15	-17	0.5
21 James J. Gallagher	2273	=7	-11	U	U	0.5

Reserve

name	rating	1	2	3	4	total
1 Gerald Castleberry	1500	+23	+22	+3	=2	3.5
2 Duane E. Solley	1596	+19	+18	+9	=1	3.5
3 Alex Kunadze	1600	+17	+11	-1	+10	3.0
4 José Narvaez	1635	+16	=8	=10	+9	3.0
5 Enrique Rios	1684	-18	+19	+11	+7	3.0
6 Leica Tilton	1576	-9	+13	+18	+14	3.0
7 Richard C. Lopez	1552	+21	=10	+8	-5	2.5
8 Ray Aguilar	1491	+20	=4	-7	+12	2.5
9 Phillip Chambers	1226	+6	+15	-2	-4	2.0
10 Alexander Lewkowski	1400	+14	=7	=4	-3	2.0
11 Patrick MacKay	1489	+12	-3	-5	+21	4.5
12 Barbara Ade	923	-11	B	+15	-8	2.0
13 James Nielsen	1079	-15	-6	B	X	2.0
14 Freddy R. Jones	1636	-10	+21	+20	-6	2.0
15 Charles Cunningham	1502	+13	-9	-12	+17	2.0
16 Wallace B. Short	1361	-4	-20	+23	+22	2.0
17 James Fleener	1347	-3	=23	+22	-15	1.5
18 Andrés Hernandez	1424	+5	-2	-6	F	1.0
19 Adam Alonzo	1231	-2	-5	-21	+20	1.0
20 John M. Ade	1014	-8	+16	-14	-19	1.0
21 Martha Ade	1108	-7	-14	+19	-11	1.0
22 David Parr	920	B	-1	-17	-16	1.0
23 Sarkis Agaian	1030	-1	=17	-16	U	0.5

Hector Martinez Extravaganza

El Paso, August 8-9

Open Section

name	rating	1	2	3	4	total
1 Adrian Rios	2345	+15	+13	+3	+5	4.0
2 Charles Tingle	2021	-10	+11	+14	+9	3.0
3 Ray Fourczan	1998	+14	+10	-1	+7	3.0
4 Nayeli Lopez	1838	=11	-6	+12	+14	2.5
5 Vanessa Lopez	1823	=12	+7	+6	-1	2.5
6 Luis Raul Orozco	unr.	H	+4	-5	+10	2.5
7 Paul Harris	1724	+9	-5	+13	-3	2.0
8 Carlos Leos	1444	-13	-9	+11	+15	2.0
9 Bob Banta	1896	-7	+8	=10	-2	1.5
10 Steve Tashiro	1749	+2	-3	=9	-6	1.5
11 John Berba	1672	=4	-2	-8	B	1.5

12 Joe Estrada	1507	=5	B	-4	U	1.5
13 Ademil Solidum	1814	+8	-1	-7	U	1.0
14 Hector Martinez	1749	-3	+15	-2	-4	1.0
15 Erick Santschi	995	-1	-14	+16	-8	1.0
16 N. Scarborough	unr.	U	U	-15	U	0.0

Reserve Section

name	rating	1	2	3	4	total
1 Javier Lom	1420	+24	=2	+3	+6	3.5
2 Elizabeth Espinoza	unr.	+10	=1	+7	+8	3.5
3 Rodolfo Cossio	1248	+25	+15	-1	+14	3.0
4 Daniel Rubio	1102	+14	-6	+24	+10	3.0
5 Guillermo Pallares	995	+18	+23	-6	+9	3.0
6 John Scarborough	unr.	+8	+4	+5	-1	3.0
7 Greg Vera	1214	=16	+9	-2	+19	2.5
8 Richard Cummings	1358	-6	+21	+12	-2	2.0
9 Joe Johns	1200	+13	-7	+15	-5	2.0
10 W.T. Whitaker	1000	-2	+22	+13	-4	2.0
11 David Avila	921	-23	+16	-19	+21	2.0
12 Geovanni Molina	855	-15	+26	-8	X	2.0
13 Eduardo Gomez	unr.	-9	+18	-10	+16	2.0
14 M.H. French	unr.	-4	+25	+21	-3	2.0
15 P. Abigail Juarez	unr.	+12	-3	-9	+18	2.0
16 Adrian Fierro	unr.	=7	-11	+25	-13	1.5
17 Ed Haas	1532	U	+24	U	U	1.0
18 Alex Porras	1168	-5	-13	+22	-15	1.0
19 Luke Van Cleve	1133	U	F	+11	-7	1.0
20 Eric Santschi	995	+22	U	U	U	1.0
21 Brandon Baffert	646	+26	-8	-14	-11	1.0
22 Daniel Metrikin	unr.	-20	-10	-18	+24	1.0
23 Nestor Diaz	unr.	+11	-5	U	U	1.0
24 Peter Bright	787	-1	-17	-4	-22	0.0
25 Jan Cannon	unr.	-3	-14	-16	F	0.0
26 David Rojas	unr.	-21	-12	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.

Oops! This report from NM Adrian Rios was received in September but did not make it into the last issue. We apologize to our west Texas friends for the delay.

This marked the 20th year that Dr. Hector Martinez has held the event. The tournament features a barbecue party for all players after the last round. There is a trophy (kept at Dr. Martinez's) with a plate bearing the names of the players that have won the tournament. The tournament directors were David Meier and Bob Banta.

Rios-Fourczan, Rd. 3 [B99]: 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cx4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.Be2 b5 11.Bxf6 Bxf6? 12.Bxb5! Bxd4 13. Bxd7+ Bxd7 14.Rxd4 Bc6 15.Rhd1 Rd8 16.Qd3 Ke7 17. f5 a5 18.fxex6 fxe6 19.Qg3 Rhf8 20.e5 d5 21.Qxg7+ Rf7 22.Qg5+ Ke8 23.Ne4 Ba4 24.b3 1-0

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

Back cover solution: 1.Ne3! (1...Kd6 2.Nc4#; 1...Kd4 2.Bxf6#; 1...Bc2/b1 2.Nc4#; 1...B-other 2.Rxe4#; 1...Nd6 2.Rxc5#; 1...N-other 2.Bc7#.) Composer David W. Lynn is from San Jose, CA and now resides in San Antonio.

Tournament Calendar

A note about regional scholastics: USCF membership is required. No out-of-region students are accepted unless they have no regional (i.e., Regions I or IV). Students must play in their own sections. The normal grade groupings are Primary K-3, Elementary K-5, Middle School 6-8 and High School 9-12. Exception is made for students in public schools with other grade groupings, such as G6 in elementary, G5 in middle school, or G9 in junior high (may play in MS). All scholastic tournaments are no smoking, no computer.

Jan. 24-25. Texas Team Championship. See ad, p. 30.

Feb. 7. Region III Scholastic. 6-SS, Rds. 1-4 G/30, Rds. 5-6 G/45. St. Mark's School of Texas, 10600 Preston Rd., Dallas. 4 sections: Primary K-3, Elementary K-5, Middle School 6-8, High School 9-12; exception for public schools with other groupings. All: Trophies to top 5 indiv. and teams. EF: \$10 if rec'd by 1/30, \$15 later. TCA memb. required, \$7.50 or \$1 (tmt.) Reg. (8-8:45 a.m. Rds. 9:15 & a.s.a.p. Ent: St. Mark's CC, 10600 Preston Rd., Dallas, TX 75230. Info: bradb4@iadfw.net

Feb. 7. Region V Scholastic. 6-SS, G/30. Bammel Middle School, 1500 Southridge Rd., Houston; (281) 586-2600. 4 sections: Primary K-3, Elem. K-5, Middle School 6-8, High School 9-12; exception for public schools with other groupings. Trophies each section to top 10 indiv., top 3 teams. EF: \$10 if rec'd by 1/31, \$15 later. Reg. 7-8:45 a.m. On-site reg. gets zero pt. bye in rd. 1. Rds. 9-10-11-1-2-3, noon lunch break, awards at 4. Ent: BMS Chess Club, 1500 Southridge Rd., Houston, TX 77090. Info: (281) 586-2600, e-mail rdljal@lcc.net.

Feb. 7. Region VI Scholastic. 5-SS, G/30. Tafolla Middle School, 1303 W. Durango, San Antonio; (210) 227-3383. 4 sections: Primary K-3, Elem. K-5, Middle School 6-8, High School 9-12; exception for public schools with other groupings. All: Trophies 1st-10th individual, 1st-2nd team. EF: \$8 postmarked by Jan. 31, \$15 later. Reg. 8:30-9:15 a.m., Rds. TBA, over by 5 p.m. Ent: SACC, P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023. Info: Selby Anderson, (210) 695-2324.

Feb. 14. Region VII Scholastic. 6-SS, G/30. Calallen High School, Wildcat Dr. at FM 624, Corpus Christi. 4 sections: Primary K-3, Elem. K-5, Middle School 6-8, High School 9-12; exception for public schools with other groupings. EF: \$10 if rec'd by 2/13, \$15 at site. EFs for new/renewing members goes to USCF for dues. TCA dues req. (\$1). Reg. 8-10 a.m., Rds. 10 & a.s.a.p. Trophies and medals, all sections. Ent: Homer Fernan-

dez, 2805 Topeka, Corpus Christi, TX 78404. Info: 512-882-4786 (evenings); jamesgang@interconnect.net

Feb. 21. Region II MS-HS. 6-SS, Rds. 1-4, G/30; Rds. 5-6, G/45. Primera Baptist Church, 2nd floor, 1519 Circle Park Blvd., Fort Worth. 2 sections: Middle School 6-8 (includes G5 or G9 in some public schools); High School 9-12. EF (includes \$1 TCA fee): \$11 if rec'd by 2/19; \$16 at site (may require 1st rd. 1/2 pt. bye). Reg: 8-9 a.m. Rds. 9:30 a.m. & a.s.a.p. w/1 hr. lunch break. Prizes: Trophies to top 10 indiv. and top 5 teams in each section. Ent: North Side Chess Assn., P.O. Box 4603, Fort Worth, TX 76164. Info: M. Espino, (817) 926-4556, or biggswe@aol.com. No wheelchair access.

Feb. 28. Region II Primary-Elementary. 6-SS, G/30. Primera Baptist Church, 2nd floor, 1519 Circle Park Blvd., Fort Worth. 2 Sections: Primary K-3, Elem. K-5 (includes G6 in some public schools). EF (includes \$1 TCA fee): \$11 if rec'd by 2/26; \$16 at site (may require 1st rd. 1/2 pt. bye). Reg: 8-9 a.m., Rds. 9:30 a.m. & a.s.a.p. w/1 hr. lunch break. Prizes: Trophies to top 10 indiv. and top 5 teams in each section. Ent: North Side Chess Assn., P.O. Box 4603, Fort Worth, TX 76164. Info: M. Espino, (817) 926-4556. No wheelchair access.

March 13-15: Texas Scholastic Championships. See back cover ad.

March 29: Texas A&M Spring Open. 3-SS, 30/60, SD/30. 110 Koldus Bldg., Texas A&M University, College Station. \$\$/entries. EF: \$20, TCA memb. required. Reg. 10-10:30 a.m., Rds. 10:30-1:30-4:30. Ent: Dusan Djuric, 1018 Holt St., College Station, TX 77840; (409) 696-5504. NS. NC. W.

April 5. Region X Women's Championship. 4-SS, G/30. Denton Civic Center, 321 E. McKinney, Denton. EF: \$15/advance, \$20/site, or \$5 if joining or renewing USCF. \$\$(\$350 gtd.): \$120-70, U1600 \$60, U1300 \$50. Consolation prizes. Reg. 9-9:45, Rds. 10-11:15-3-4:15. Ent: Bill Trowbridge, 1811 Maple #15, Denton, TX 76201. WIM Alexey Root simul 12:30 p.m., EF \$10, \$5 if entered in women's tournament; prizes (\$40-30-20) to those who defeat Root in simul. Free grade K-8 tournament, same reg. and rd. times as women's. Info: Alexey Root, 408 Foxwood Circle, Denton, TX 76207, ddr0003@jove.acs.unt.edu, 940-484-2265. NS, NC, W.

April 18-19. Texas Senior Championship. Huntsville.

April 25. Texas Action Championship. San Antonio.

May 23-25. Texas State and Amateur Championship. New Braunfels.

Wake-up call at move three

Center Counter Defense - Portuguese Variation

by NM Selby Anderson

Soft cover, 95 pp., Pickard & Son, 1997, \$14.95

P.O. Box 2320, Wylie, TX 75098-2320

reviewed by Robert Chalker

Yesteryear you could return from a heavy lunch between rounds, turn on the snooze control, play 1.e4, set auto-pilot to long, and feel confident that you could play your favorite line against the Sicilian, French or Caro-Kann, then wake up around move fifteen and start playing chess. But that was then and this is now.

For countless decades players with Black were taught that they must first achieve equality, and only then play for a win. Over the years this led to long lines, well into double digits, becoming standard.

Nowadays things have changed. However sound that old advice may have been, today's young tigers are playing for a win from the get-go. White's wake-up call can come as early as move three! The subject of NM Selby Anderson's excellent new book, *Center Counter Defense - Portuguese Variation*, lends itself to this new philosophy. First, because it is new. The Portuguese (1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.d4 Bg4) was born only a decade or so ago. New sub-variations are no doubt being cooked up as we speak. And second, the Portuguese is suited because it happens at move three.

Anderson assigns a separate chapter to each of White's major responses. Chapter One deals with 4.Be2, which allows early trading. Anderson suggests a clever *zwischenzug* which allows White to play Be2 more advantageously. If ever the Portuguese is put to rest (perish the thought), I feel it will be due to something found after 4.f3, the subject of Chapter Two. Here is the red meat of the Portuguese. Anderson calls it a move with attitude, and he devotes 24 well-filled pages to it. Chapter Three deals with the "classically correct" 4.Nf3, while Chapter Four deals with 4.Bb5+, the move that caused me last year to give up on the Portuguese. Thanks to Anderson's analytical insights, that abeyance is only temporary. In fact, this whole book is packed and jammed full of fresh analysis. But what if White does not oblige with 3.d4, allowing the Portuguese? Those other third moves that have independent significance are found in Chapter Five. No lengthy rewrites of well-known long lines here. But of special interest to fans of the Portuguese you will find, well-covered, the dreaded Icelandic Gambit.

At the end of the book, following a handy variations index, is a complete bibliography of the entire Center Counter Defense. With over 200 sub-variations to contend with, getting through it all could be quite a chore. Easing the task for the reader is the use of super bold-faced type for the main text, and the use of 102 diagrams.

One reason we buy chess books is to benefit from the author's studied opinions. Here is what makes Anderson's work a real *tour de force*. Of those 200 sub-variations mentioned above - some from games played, others from analysis - each and every one is followed by Anderson's opinion of the position. Some opinions are given with diacritical marks, others are stated.

By the way, this is not coffeehouse stuff. Some 213 games are cited throughout the book. Big names on the Black side include Hodgson, Spraggett, Shirov, Hebden and even Capablanca by transposition. Three-time Russian champion Svidler as White fell into a trap at move eight and lost (see Chapter One.) Other big name Whites include deFirmian, Waitzkin, Shaked, Topalov, Polgar, Fedorowicz and Z. Polgar.

Who would benefit by this book? First, let me say that this is definitely not one of those "Winning with the . . ." books. Anderson is totally objective, giving the good, the bad and the indifferent moves for both sides. He is especially good at showing those plausible moves that lead to nowhere, or even to disaster. If you play 1.e4, I don't know where else you could turn for better help. The new ECO-B offers only one line in the Portuguese, and it is mis-evaluated. Anderson guides you off that primrose path and offers you many ways to try for an advantage. If you are one of those young tigers playing from the get-go for a win at all cost, this book could become your *vade mecum*. Or if, like me, you are an old dog trying to learn new tricks, this book could add spice to your life.

Coaches' Corner (continued from page 10)

wasted. As to whether or not it takes away the competitiveness of individuals, I don't think it does. In the players' minds, most are thinking about the first place individual trophy. The team trophy is important but secondary. Schools think the opposite way: individual trophies are important, but not as much as the team trophies. For individual fairness and competitiveness, the Grade Championship held last November in Dallas cannot be beat. There is no question about the section or who makes up the teams.

The next Coaches' Corner will have a forum on issues surrounding home school support organizations.

Scholastic reports – Luis Salinas

Dallas/Fort Worth Scholastics

The Dallas/Fort Worth fall scholastic championships were held at the Dallas Chess Club on successive Saturdays in October and November.

Elementary (Oct. 8): Theunis C. Jansen Van Rensburg led the 44-player field with a 6-0 score. Tied for second with 5-1 were Jeffrey Cornell, Kevin Betz and Travis Betz. The top team was Wilson Middle School of Plano with 19 out of 24. Tied for second with 15 were Kramer Elementary of Dallas and Bethany Elementary of Plano. Matthew Bradford was the chief TD. Assistants were Luis Salinas, Brad Bradford, Susan Breeding, and Robert Weinberg.

Middle School (Oct. 15): John Sneed won with 5-0, and Aaron Willard took clear second with 4.5. Tied for third with 4 were Jason Kindred, Ian Stephens, Chris Arnold, Bobby Tobar and Jesus Arrendondo. The top team was J.P. Elder of Fort Worth, with 14 out of 20. Second was Wilson Middle School of Plano (11), and third was Kirby Junior High of Wichita Falls (8.5). There were 40 players. Matthew Bradford was chief TD, with Susan Breeding, Robert Weinberg, Brad Bradford and Luis Salinas as assistants.

High School (Nov. 1): Matthew Bradford of St Mark's School in Dallas came in first with 5-0, and Jonathan Cearley of Peace Academy took second with 4.5. Ten (!) players tied for third with 4: John Sneed, Luz Ramirez, Salvador Luna, Osvaldo Ramirez, Angelo Cuestas, Jonathan Walsh, Carlos Ortiz, Yang Yu, Roy Gonzalez and Jason Kindred. North Side High School was the top team with 15 out of 20. Peace Academy (14.5) was second, and R.L. Turner (13) was third. There were 72 players representing 21 area schools. Directing the event were Luis Salinas, Brad Bradford, Robert Weinberg, and Joseph Ackers.

Fort Worth Scholastics

The North Side Chess Club held the Fort Worth Elementary and Primary Scholastic Chess Championships Nov. 8. Luis Salinas directed a total field of 78 players. The assistant TD's and organizers were Wilford Biggs and Manuel Espino. The North Side Chess Club rents space, and is the newest full-time club in the DFW area.

Winning the Elementary with 4.5 out of 5 were two J.P. Elder students, Alfonso Mena (first on tiebreaks) and Bobby Tobar. Six players were tied with 4-1: T.C. Jansen Van Rensburg, Nathan Sharpe, Jeff McDowell, Anh Nguen, Devon Parkhurst and Luis Calderon. There were 45 players.

The winner out of 13 teams was J.P. Elder (15.5), ahead of Ridglea Hills (13.5) and W.J. Turner (11.5).

In the Primary, two W.J. Turner students tied for first with perfect scores: Erick Cordova and Gerardo Aguirre, both with 5. Tied at 4-1 were two more Turner students, Eduardo Aguirre and Luis Hernandez, along with Ryan Dixon, Eric Oeur, and Morgan Hill.

Turner was the top primary team, with 18/20. Of the five teams, three were tied with 12.5: North Richland Hills, Ridglea Hills and Geroge C. Clarke.

Scholastic Chess Set Program

In the last four months TCA has provided 379 tournament quality chess sets and roll-up vinyl boards for \$4 (half our cost) to school chess clubs. Unfortunately, we have now spent all the funds allocated (\$1,430) and we must put the program on hold until more funds are forthcoming, either by donation or from next year's SASP (state affiliate support program) funding from USCF. Our thanks to Al Woolum, the TCA Scholastic Director, who shipped all the sets!

– Greg Wren

Solutions

- 1...Nxe4 wins a piece, since 2.Bxd8 Bxf2 is mate. No credit for 1...Bxf2+? 2.Nxf2 or the game continuation 1...Qa5+ 2.Ned2, with an unclear position.
2. White wins the exchange with 1.Ngf7+, but did you see how to win the queen? After 1.Qe5 Black resigned.
3. 1...Re1+ 2.Rf1 R4e2 3.Qxd5 (or 3.Qxe2 Rxe2 →) 3...Bh2+ 4.Kh1 Rxf1 mate.
4. 1.Ne6+ Ke8 2.Qh5+ g6 3.Qxg6+ 1-0 (3...hxg6 3.Bxg6 mate.) Also good was 3.Bxg6+.
5. The game ended abruptly with 1...Nd4 (threatening ...Ne2) 2.Nxd4 f3 and White resigned, as ...Qf4 mate is on the way. No better is 2.Bf1 Rxc1 3.Nxg1 f3, etc.
6. 1.Rxf7+ Kxf7 (1...Kg8 2.Qe5) 2.Rd7+ forces mate: (a) 2...Kf8 3.Qe7+ and Qg7 mate; (b) 1...Kg8 2.Qd5+ Kh8 3.Qe5+ and Qg7 mate; (c) 2...Kf6 3.Qe7+ Kf5 4.Rd5+ and Black resigned, as 5.Kf4 6.Qe5 is mate.
7. 1...Nh5 2.Qg4 (2.Qxh5 Qxg2 mate) 2...f5 3.Nxe5 fxg4 4.Nxc6 Rxd1+ 5.Rxd1 Rxc6 6.Bxg4 Nf6, and White is out a piece for two pawns. After 7.Bxf6, the simplest way to consolidate would have been 7...Bxf6 8.Rd7 Rc1+ 9.Kh2 Rc7! Δ 10.Rxc7 Be6+ and ...Bxc7.
8. 1.e6 . . . (a) 1...Qd8 2.Qc6+ ++; (b) 1...fxe6 2.Ne5 Qd8 3.Rxb7 Bxb7 4.Qb5+ ++; (c) 1...Qxe6 2.Re1 +-, or the game continuation 2.Rxb7 Bxb7 3.Qb5+ Bc6 4.Ra8+ Kd7 5.Ra7+ Kc8 6.Qa6+ Kd8 7.Qb6+ Ke8 8.Qb8+ 1-0.
9. 1...Rxe4 2.dxe4 Qd1+ (a) 3.Qe1 Rh1+ 4.Rg1 Rxg1+ ++; (b) 3.Kg2 Qh1+ 4.Kf2 Rh2+ and mate next; (c) The game ended 3.Kf2 Rh2+ 1-0 (4.Rg2 Qc2+ ++).

Texas Team Championship

January 24 - 25

San Antonio

Methodist Hospital, 7700 Floyd Curl Dr., North tower
5th floor conference room. South Texas Medical Center, 1 mile north of N Loop 410
Exit north on Fredricksburg Rd., turn left on Louis Pasteur, right on Floyd Curl. Parking validated. 692-4546.

Prizes: \$1,000 (based on 12 teams)

Overall

U1900

1st: \$450 + trophy

1st: \$200 + trophy

2nd: \$250

2nd \$100

Open to four-player teams, U2200 average. Ratings based on December 1997 annual list.
One alternate permitted – must be the lowest rated.

Entry: \$100 per team if rec'd by 1/22, \$125 at site
TCA membership required (\$10 adult, \$7.50 junior under 19)

Registration: 11 a.m. - noon

Rounds: 12:30 - 6, 9:30 - 3

Time controls: 30/90, SD/1

Entries payable to "SACC". Send to:

San Antonio Chess Club

P.O. Box 501

Helotes, TX 78023

Information: (210) 695-2324. e-mail: txchess@connecti.com

SACC web site: <http://www.connecti.com/~txchess/>

Hotels nearby at IH 10-North and Wurzbach Rd. Motel 6: (210) 593-0013

No smoking. No computers. Wheelchair access.



1998 Texas State Scholastic Chess Championships Austin, Texas
DoubleTree Hotel
 6505 IH35 North (IH35 at Hwy.290/2222)

March 13-15, 1998

Hotel rooms: Flat rate of \$75 if reserved by February 14. Call DoubleTree at 512-454-3737.

Team and Individual Trophies. Medals to all players with a positive score who do not receive a trophy.
Bughouse Tourney (Reg. Fri. night, 6:30-7 p.m.), Simul, Blitz Tourney, Analysis, & Book Dealer

On-site late registration Fri. 5-9 p.m., Sat. 8-9 a.m. (Sat. reg. may require 1/2 pt. bye for first round.)
Coaches' Mtg. 8 a.m. Sat., Main Tournament first round, all sections, 10 a.m. Sat.

Name _____ USCF No. _____
 Address _____ USCF Exp. Date _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ USCF Rating _____
 Phone No. (____) _____ Birthdate (MO/DAY/YR) _____
 Email address, if any _____ Player's Grade _____
 Full Name of School _____ Check one: Male Female
 Coach's Name _____ Coach's Phone No. (____) _____

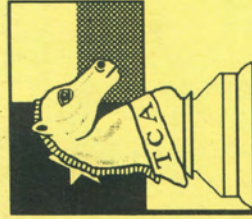
Section (Section assignments will follow Texas Chess Association rules about age, grade, and school type.)

(Number rounds and time controls subject to change.)

- High School (9-12), 7-SS, G/60 Sat.—G/75 Sun.
 Middle School (6-8/9) (9th graders only if enrolled in public middle/junior high school), 8-SS, G/45-60
 Elementary (K-5/6) (6th graders only if enrolled in a public elementary school), 9-SS, G/30-45
 Primary (K-3) (all Primary games played on Saturday), 6-SS, G/30
 Primary (K-3) on Saturday, then reentry into Elementary Section on Sunday
 (Primary results will **not** be transferred into the Elementary Section. Reentry fee: \$10)

Bye
 Rounds? _____
 (1st bye is 1/2 pt.,
 additional @ 0
 pts.) For 1/2 pt.
 bye, you must
 request bye
 before the end of
 registration.

FEES ENCLOSED	Amt. Paid
Registration: In Advance: if postmarked by Feb. 27, 1998-----\$21	
OR on-site registration----- \$35	
Reentry Fee: for Primary Section players to also play in the Elementary Section on Sun.-----\$10	
USCF Membership (current membership is REQUIRED):	
Scholastic Membership or Renewal (under age 15, receives <i>School Mates</i>)-----\$12	
OR Youth Membership or Renewal (under age 20, receives <i>Chess Life</i>)-----\$17	
Texas Chess Association (TCA) Membership:	
Discounted Annual Junior membership (receives <i>Texas Knights</i>)-----\$6.50	
OR Complimentary one-tournament TCA membership (no <i>Texas Knights</i>)-----FREE	0.00
Chess Sets with Commemorative Boards -----(# _____ @ \$11 each)	
(Make checks payable to "A.C.E.") TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED	

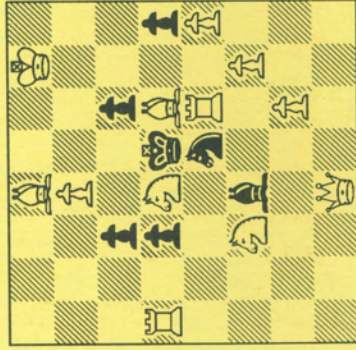


Texas Chess Association
P.O. Box 501
Helotes, TX 78023-0501

See inside front cover for
TCA membership information.

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David P. Lynn, 1993



Mate in two
Solution: page 26



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