

TEXAS KNIGHTS

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College players dominate field at 73rd Southwest Open

L to R: FM John Bartholemew, IM Salvijus Bercys, IM Davorin Kuljasevic, WIM Luciana Morales

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Game annotations if not attributed are a collaboration of NM Selby Anderson and Fritz 5.32.

Send submissions by e-mail to schachlied@yahoo.com, or mail to P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023 (include phone).

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Cover photo (and others in the Southwest Open article): Ed Guetzow

Editor's note: We regret the somewhat limited selection of SWO games. Duplicate scoresheets were in short supply, and the MonRoi devices (on loan for testing) were not divvied out selectively to the top players. Round 7 is a total loss.

A Message from the President

As always, the annual TCA business meeting was held during the Southwest Open, which this year was held in Brownsville. Among the matters voted on by the members present, we are trying something new with regard to Texas chess tournaments. Starting now, the TCA regional directors will be responsible for posting tournaments either on the TCA websites or the TCA discussion groups. This will add some more publicity to Texas OTB chess, and (perhaps more importantly) allow the regions to coordinate with each other on the scheduling of major events. Case in point: for the first time in more than a decade, Austin will be hosting a weekend tournament that should have a statewide draw – the Ken Smith Memorial, to be held the Saturday and Sunday after Thanksgiving. As an Austin resident, I am of course excited at the opportunity to play in a statewide event without leaving town (even if the first round is two days after I get back from Turkey), but it's the same weekend as the Jim Gallagher Memorial, being held in San Antonio less than a hundred miles away. I hope that both these tournaments are able to draw a crowd large enough to make them a success, but what I really hope is that we can avoid, or at least temper, such conflicts in the future. I'm pleased to announce that Eugene Kohnitz feels the same way, and that he's volunteered to act as the TCA Clearinghouse. Between Gene and the Regional Directors, we should be more efficient at announcing and coordinating Texas tournaments.

On the subject of Austin, look for the 2008 Texas State Championship to return to the capital next year.

Because of the increased importance of regional directors, I'm more frustrated than ever about some of our regional vacancies. I'm not sure when TCA last had a regional director for Region IV (including El Paso), but it hasn't been since I was invited. If you are from this region and are interested in serving as regional director, or know someone who is, please write to me at msimpson@gmail.com. I want to make sure that part of the state is well-represented on the Board.

In about three weeks, if all goes as planned, I'll be in Antalya, Turkey attending the World Youth Chess Championship trying to begin the process of drumming up support for holding this event in Texas in 2010. As the date approaches, I'm consumed by how much I need to

know about this event that I don't know, and don't even know I don't know. It's also dawning on me that holding the WYC in the western hemisphere will create a once-in-a-lifetime event for many children in Europe and other parts of the world. When I get back, I hope to meet with anyone interested about just how detailed our plan for the tournament needs to be. Send me an e-mail if you'd like to know more, or discuss more, about the WYC.

And that's it for now. By the time you read this, we should know the results of the U.S. Class Championships, just held in Houston. This is a good time to be a chess player in Texas.

Michael M. Simpson
TCA President

TCA Treasurer's Report

Prepared by Barbara Swafford, Oct. 14, 2007

Sept. 1, 2007 checking account balance	\$1,088.23
Income	
SW Open fee and memberships - Sept 2007	\$437.00
September memberships	217.50
October memberships (so far)	<u>10.00</u>
Total	\$664.50
Expenses	
2007 SW Open Prize Fund	1,200.00
Dachey Lin - 2007 World Youth attendee	600.00
Warren Harper - 2007 World Youth attendee	600.00
Warren Harper - 2007 Denker Invitational	1,000.00
Warren Harper Denker fund from Dale Coleman	<u>500.00</u>
Total	\$3,900.00
WF checking account balance	\$1,247.73
BOA checking account balance	\$13,598.18
Savings account balance	\$5,916.82
Certificate of deposit (8 mo. @ 5%)	\$25,000.00

English repeats Texas girls' HS title

The seventh annual Texas Girls' Championships were held Oct. 6-7 in Corpus Christi. A total of 84 players competed, down sharply from last year's 150 in Brownsville (known for its large scholastic base).

Repeating as the Texas high school girls' champion was Rheanna English of San Antonio. Tied for second with 4.0 were Gayatri Vempati, Angel Bohannon, Charlina Hung, Julia Jones and Patricia Garza. English also won the blitz event with a 5-0 score.

Serena Zadoo won the Middle School championship with 6.0, with Kristin Ramos in clear second with 5.0.

(Continued on page 19)

Alejandro wins 2007 US Class!

By NTD Franc Guadalupe

Players from 12 states, Washington D.C., and Canada gathered at the beautiful facilities of the Doubletree Hotel-Houston Airport to participate in the 2007 US Class Championships. When the last king was tipped, 19-year old GM Alejandro Ramirez, a senior at University of Texas at Dallas, became the upper Class Champion. His only blemish in the event was a third-round draw with Denker Champion Warren Harper. Taking nothing away from Warren's efforts, Alejandro called that game a complete disaster and stated he did not know what was going on with his position, so he offered a draw that Warren gladly accepted. It appears that Warren held a positional advantage in the game but when a GM offers a draw to a master, it is very hard to decline! The fast-improving Warren, who has been playing chess for just a little bit over three years, had another great tournament. In addition to his draw with Alejandro, he beat IM Daniel Fernandez to finish in second place. He lost his chance for a first place tie when he allowed a draw to the lowest rated player in the division, Shawn Noland, 2087, in the last round. Shawn also had a great tournament and finished in a tie for third with Daniel.

The games were highly contested in all the divisions. None of the Class winners finished with a perfect score, but all the divisions had a clear winner, all with 4.5 points.

Artur Safin from Texas won the Expert division while Andy Lin from Arizona won the Class A. Bradley

Anderson from The Woodlands near Houston won the Class B title. Two players from Kentucky claimed national titles in the next two classes - Ricky Durbin in the Class C and John Sefton in the D. Sefton's performance resulted in a whopping 178-point rating improvement!

Missouri's Peter Harris was a double winner as he conquered the Class E players while also competing in the K-12 division of the Scholastic side event! Both Matthew Resh from Texas and Peter tied for first in the K-12 but the tiebreaks went Matthew's way. The K-8 winner, with a perfect 4-0 record, was Vinayak Shukla from Texas. Also with perfect records, Arjun Reddy and Turner Corbett, both from Texas, finished tied for first in the K-5 section, with Arjun taking the first place trophy on tiebreaks. In the K-2, also with a perfect record, Texas' Christopher Cardenas finished first.

Through the generosity of Saitek over a dozen prizes were awarded. The oldest-competitor prize went to 88-year old Sandford Peek while six-year old Christalia Cardenas won the prize as the youngest player in the main event. William Doobenen from Canada traveled the farthest, over 2,200 miles to Houston, and was awarded a Saitek clock.

A total of 163 players participated in the Class Championships, and 112 students joined us for the scholastic event. Mrs. Jean Troendle, President of USCF Affiliate Cajun Chess and this writer organized the event. Our Assistant Director was Korye Kormick.

Sicilian Sveshnikov B33

Francisco Guadalupe II 2228
Alejandro Ramirez 2590

US Class Championships (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.

Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Nd5 Be7 10. Bxf6 Bxf6 11.c3 0-0 12.Nc2 Bg5 13.a4 bxa4 14.Rxa4 a5 15.Bc4 Bb8 16.b3 Kh8 17.Nce3 Be6 18.h4 Bxe3 19.Nxe3 Ne7 20.0-0 Bd7 21.Ra2 Bc6 22.Rd2 Bxe4 23.Rxd6 Qe8 24. Ra6 Ng6 25.h5 Nf4 26.f3 Rd8 27. Rd6 Qe7 28.Rxd8 Rxd8 29.Qe1 Bd3 30.Bxd3 Nxd3 31.Qe2 Nf4 32. Qf2 Qg5 33.Qa2



33...Nxb2 34.Ng4 Ne3 35.Qxa5 Nxb2 36.fxb2 Qxb2+ 37.Kh1 Qxb2+ 38.Kg1 Qg4+ 39.Kh1 Qe4+ 40.Kg1 Rd2 0-1

Notes by GM Alejandro Ramirez

English Opening A30

Alejandro Ramirez 2590
Daniel Fernandez 2468

US Class Championships (2)

1.c4

Dan uses the Slav as his main defense against 1.d4. I didn't feel like breaking through such a solid opening and was hoping to lure him into some Nimzo type position without d4.

1...Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 c5

3...Bb4 was more or less what I expected; after 4.Qc2 0-0 5.g4!? the game is rather interesting.

4.g3 b6 5.Bg2 Bb7 6.0-0 Be7 7. Re1!

This is a move that I remember Kramnik played sometime in 1995. All I remember is he played this

move, and won somehow. Maybe I should study a bit more.

7...0-0 8.e4 d6 9.d4 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Qc8!?

Okay, maybe I lied. I know the main line goes with Qc7, Nbd7 and a6, after which Black plays h5 at some point to prevent white from expanding on the kingside too much. This line actually has tremendous amount of theory and is rather complex, since most of White's attempts to gain something tangible involve f4 and g4, which is of course risky, where a well timed d5 can make the entire White position crumble. [10... Qc7 11.Ndb5!?!]

11.Be3 Nc6

I know in some Hedgehog lines this move is bad, but I can't say why in this position specifically. The idea of exchanging these knights is interesting but maybe not great, since after the disappearance of said knights a6 is unplayable and the weakness of d6 begins to be felt, something that Black rarely worries about. 11...Qxc4? is of course unplayable. 12.e5±; 11...Nbd7 12.Rc1∞ is more usual.

12.Rc1

The pawn will fall one day if I never protect it.

12...Nxd4 13.Bxd4

13.Qxd4 Ng4= Creates some uncomfortable threats on the h8-a1 diagonal.

13...Nd7

It turns out that a substitute is needed on d7, so Dan brings back the other one. This also takes some of the sting out of any kingside advance. On the other hand, the d5 breakthrough is now a distant dream.

14.Qe2 Rd8 15.b3 Bc6?!

This move is begging for an eventual Nd5 without bringing him anything tangible in return. I'm not sure about this move.

16.Red1

16.Nd5!?! was tempting, but I just didn't see anything after the sensible 16...Bf8. I guess I can play Red1 or f4, but I just don't see what my knight is doing on d5. What did master Nimzovich say – "The threat is stronger than the execution"? Maybe I still remember a thing or two about chess.

16...Bf8 17.Be3!

I like this move. It threatens nothing; it just slightly improves the position, creating possibilities like Bg5, Bf4 and liberating the d4 square for a possible knight hop. That and d6 are now directly attacked – simple chess.

17...a5!?

This is interesting. Black is sick of waiting and tries to force White's hand. Of course around here the idea of Nb5 forcing the trade and gaining access to c6 become very tempting, but timing is pretty important. 17...Ne5 is the other way of playing, after Nb5 White is better, no doubt about it.

18.a3!

This move is rather fearless. White realizes that the immediate control over c5 is worth much more than illusory pressure over the b4 pawn and the overall Black control over the open file. Wait ... that's fearless? What happened to fearless referring to crazy piece sacrifices and naked kings? I need to play more Sicilians in the upcoming tournaments. My original idea was 18.Nb5 Nc5 19.Bf4 but after 19...Qb7! It's hard to see a good way to keep even an edge.

18...Qb8

18...Qb7 19.b4 axb4 20.axb4 embarrasses the bishop on c6.

19.Nb5 Nc5 20.b4!

Oh I can still calculate four or five moves ahead...

20...axb4 21.axb4 Nd7



After 21...Nxe4 there are two good ways to continue with White; the key is avoiding Bxe4. 22.Bg5! (22.Bxe4? Bxe4 23.Bg5 since after 23...Qb7! Only Black can be better; 22.Nd4 is also good, for a slight edge.) 22...Nxg5 23.Bxc6± It turns out Mr. N on g5 is trapped after h4, thus Black must concede an Exchange. However he does get some compensation after 23...Qc8! 24.Bg2! f5 25.Bxa8 (25.Nd4!?!± Is actually interesting and probably better, attacking the weak pawn structure and not worrying about material for the moment.) 25...Qxa8 26.Qe3 Nf3+ 27.Kg2!± And Black doesn't have any decent checks.

22.Qd2?!

Ugh, this move wasn't great. Probably the best way to keep up the pressure is 22.Ra1 Rxa1 23.Rxa1±.

22...Bxb5?!

Giving White all the initiative again. [22...Ne5! 23.Qd4 (23.Qc3?) 23...Ra4!]= At first I thought this was slightly better for white. Seeing it with a cool head I think White still has an edge after the cool Qc3 but definitely some of it has evaporated. 24.Bf4? Rxb4 25.Bxe5 Bxb5±. 23.cxb5 Ra4 24.Bf4!

At this point I had calculated the following sequence that ended the game. Black is in trouble, deep trouble, since he cannot utilize his knight in any good way.

24...Qa8 25.Qc2!

Here! The point is that Ne5 is still prevented.

25...Rxb4 26.Bxd6 Bxd6 27.Rxd6

White's pressure over the d file, on the b6 pawn and Black's lack of coordination force him to give up the defense on b6, after which white is simply a clear pawn up.

27...Nc5?

27...Ne5 28.Rxd8+! Is probably even better (28.Rxb6± is also possible) 28...Qxd8 29.Rd1! (29.Qd2? Tempting but insufficient after 29...Qf8?) 29...Qb8 Forced 30.f4 Ng6 31.Qc6 And Black's position is in ruins.

28.e5 Qb8 29.Rxd8+ Qxd8 30.Ra1

Black's lack of coordination allows the simple combination of Ra1 and Bg2 to win a queen due to the back rank mating threats. 1-0

Benko Gambit A57

Warren Harper 2301

Alejandro Ramirez 2590

US Class Championships (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.f3 e6 6.dxe6 fxe6 7.e4 d5 8.e5 Nfd7 9.f4 axb5 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qg4 Be7 12.Nf3 Qb6 13.h4 Nc6 14.Nc3 Nb4 15.Kd1 c4 16.h5 g5 17.fxg5 Bb7 18.a3 d4 19.Ne4 d3 20.Nf6+ Kd8 21.Nd4 Bxf6 22.exf6 Bd5

**Draw!**

I'd like to have seen the post mortem! The GM is understandable

respectful of White's kingside pawns and faces an uphill battle for a while. Fritz claims an edge to White for most of this thread, but it ends in equality: 23.Bd2 Na6 24.Nf3 Nac5 25.Qd4 Qb7 26.Qe3 Ne4 27.Bb4 Ng3 28.Rg1 Nxb5 29.Be7+ Ke8 30.Nd4 Qb6! 31.g4 Nf4 32.Qxf4 e5 33.Nxb5! Qxb5 34.Qd2=.

Nimzo-Indian E43

Alejandro Ramirez 2590

Shawn Nolan 2087

US Class Championships (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6 5.Nf3 Bb7 6.Bd3 Ne4 7.0-0 Bxc3 8.bxc3 f5 9.Nd2 0-0 10.Bxe4 fxe4 11.Qg4 Qe7 12.a4 d6 13.Nxe4 Ba6 14.a5 Nd7 15.Nd2 c5 16.Rd1 Qf7 17.Qg3 e5 18.dxc5 Nxc5 19.Ba3 Bxc4 20.Bxc5 bxc5 21.Ne4 d5 22.Nd6 Qe6 23.Nxc4 dxc4 24.Rab1 Rad8 25.Rxd8 Rxd8 26.h3 Rd7 27.Rb8+ Kf7 28.Rb7 Rxb7 29.Qf3+ Kg6 30.Qxb7 a6 31.Qe4+ Kh6 32.f4 1-0

Nimzovich Defense B00

Daniel Fernandez 2468

Warren Harper 2301

US Class Championships (4)

1.Nf3 Nc6 2.e4 Nf6 3.Nc3
White has better results with 3.e5 - 75.5% in NIC Base compared with 22.7% for 3.Nc3. One of the games cited with 3.e5 Ng4 was Jacobs-Pickard, Dallas Pinfork 1996: 4.d4 d6 5.h3 Nh6 6.Bxb6 gxh6 7.e6!? (7.Bb5) 7...fxe6 8.Bb5 Bg7 9.Qe2 a6 10.Bxc6+ bxc6 11.0-0=.

3...d5 4. exd5 Nxd5 5.g3
5.Bc4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 e6 7.d4 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Qe2 b6 10.Qe4 Bb7 11.Bd3 g6 = Carlsson-Furhoff, Stockholm 2007.

5...Bg4 6.Bg2 e6 7.h3 Bh5 8.0-0 Be7 9.d3
9.d4 Nb6 10.Ne2 0-0 11.c3 Nd5 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 = Houska-Wisniewski, Ger. Bundesliga 2004.

9...0-0 10.Ne2 e5 11.Nc3 Nxc3 12.bxc3 f5 13.Qe1 Bf6 14.Rb1 Rb8 15.Nd2 Qd7 16.Rb5 Bf7 17.Ba3 Rfe8 18.Qb1 b6 19.Rd1 Rbd8 20.Nf1 a6 21. Rb2 Bd5 22.Bxd5+ Qxd5 23.Ne3 Qf3 24.Rf1 Qh5 25. Kg2 e4 26.Qd1 Qg6 27.d4 Ne5 28. f4 exf3+ 29.Rxf3 Nxf3 30. Qxf3 f4 31.Ng4 fxg3 0-1

Notes by GM Alejandro Ramirez

English Opening A21

Alejandro Ramirez 2590

Mark Dejmek 2166

US Class Championships (5)

1.Nf3 f5 2.d3 d6 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 e5 5.0-0 Be7 6.b4 0-0 7.c4 Qe8 8.Nc3 Nc6 9.Ba3

9.b5 Nd8 10.Bd2 Qh5 11.Nd5 Nxd5 12.cxd5 Nf7 13.Rc1 Bd8 14.a4±.

9...Nd8

9...Qh5!? 10.b5 Nd4 (10...Nd8?

11.Nxe5 f4 12.d4!±) 11.Nxd4 (11.e3

Nxf3+ 12.Bxf3 Ng4 13.h4 Bxh4

14.gxh4 Qxh4 15.Bxg4 fxg4 16.Ne4

Rf3=) 11...exd4 12.Nd5 Nxd5

13.Bxd5+□ Kh8 14.Bf3±.

10.Rc1 Nf7 11.Qd2!? Kh8

11...f4 12.gxf4 exf4 (12...Nh5

13.Nd5±) 13.Qxf4 Nh5 14.Qe3±;

11...Nh6 12.Nd5±.

12.e4 fxe4 13.dxe4 Bg4! 14.h3?!

[14.Qd3±] 14...Be6= 15.Qe2 Nh6

16.Nd5 Bd8 17.Nd2? [17.b5!] 17...

Qg6 18.b5 Nf7 19.Ne3? [19.c5] 19...

Ng5 20.h4 Nf7 21.Nf5? [21.c5] 21...

b6 22.Bb2 a6 23.bxa6 Rxa6 24.a3

Ra7 25.Qd3 Nd7 26.Nb3 Bf6 27.

Ne3 Nd8 28.Nd5 Nc6 29.Kh2

29.Nxc7 Rxc7 30.Qxd6 Bd8.

29...Qe8 30.Nxf6 Nxf6 31.f4 Qe7

32.f5 Bg8 33.Bf3 Nd7 34.Qe3 Rfa8

35.Kh3 Na5 36.Nd2 Nc5 37.g4

Nab7 38.Rc2 Na4 39.Bc1 Nbc5 40.

g5 Nd7 41.Bg4 Nac5 42.h5 b5 43.

cxb5 Nb6 44.Be2 Ra4 45.Bb2 Nb7

46.Kh2 R4a7 47.Rfc1 Rc8 48.Nf3

Raa8 49.h6 Qf7 50.Nxe5 Qe8 1-0

Minutes of the TCA Business Meeting

held Sept. 2, 2007 in Brownsville

Attendees: Michael Simpson (President), Clemente Rendon (Vice-President), Barb Swafford (Treasurer), Drew Sarkisian (Secretary), Selby Anderson (*Texas Knights* Editor) Luis Salinas, Bob James, J.P. Hyltin, Jim Stallings, Rade Milovanovic, Tony Meza, Russell Harwood, Victor J. Flores, Edward Guetzow, Lakshmana Viswanath, R. Lynne Leone, Robert Sturgeon, Martin Gordon, Jack Garcia.

At 8:30 a.m. Michael Simpson introduced of the TCA officers and the Editor of *Texas Knights*.

The reading of the previous meeting's minutes was waived. A reading of the Treasurer's report by Barb Swafford, summarizing the details, was accepted.

President's Report

Michael Simpson stated that he wanted to see more activity on the TCA web groups, and is encouraging folks to use the groups more often. TCA also need more content providers for the web site; feel free to email content to Peter Kappler (or Drew Sarkisian or Michael Simpson). Discussion ensued concerning getting more tournament information on the web site, etc., including sending out information to folks on how to update certain regions on the site (specifically regional directors).

Simpson discussed how the 2007 World Youth Championships are being held in Turkey. He is very interested in getting this tournament held in Texas in 2010...bids must be submitted from the USCF to FIDE by June 30 2008. The Board has provided Simpson with a stipend to send him to Turkey to have time with FIDE and USCF officials and find out what it takes to run this event. Simpson is soliciting folks to help in this endeavor; this is a huge undertaking. Please contact Michael Simpson if you are interested in helping with this undertaking.

Old business

Concerning section rules for the Texas Scholastics: There has been a debate going on for over a year now concerning how to section the Texas Scholastics. There are now two remaining proposed ways for running the sections: the current (referred to as "Status Quo"), and a different system referred to as "Modified AI."

"Modified AI", proposes preK-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Open (a large K-12 section as a catch-all).

"Status Quo": K-3, K-5/6 (depending on school type), 6-8 (rarely 9), 9-12.

Vish made a proposal to allow organizer to choose one OR the other system, with the choice of system given

along with a tournament bid. Discussion of both systems ensued. M. Simpson brought to a vote to make "Modified AI" the REQUIRED system for Texas Scholastics: no votes for, majority against. A motion, seconded on the floor, is to require an organizer to supply a K-6 section for "Status Quo". Vote: 5 for, 4 against. Quorum: 15 people (not including the Chair), motion fails.

Vote on whether organizers MAY CHOOSE between "Modified AI" or "Status Quo": 3 for, 10 against.

Election results

(Ballot-counting committee: Selby Anderson, Lorraine Widener, J.P. Hyltin):

President: M. Simpson 34 votes, (write-ins receiving 1 vote each: S. Anderson, V. Bailey, F. Marler, L. Salinas).

Vice-President: (all write-ins) C. Rendon 14 votes, Tom Crane 13, L. Salinas 2, 1 each for S. Anderson, M. Langer, V. Flores, A. Morshedi, S. Polgar, R. Sturgeon, R. Vote(sp). Note that due to the closeness of the result, it was recounted to confirm the result.

Secretary: D. Sarkisian 39 votes.

Treasurer: B. Swafford 43 votes.

Report of the ballot counting committee accepted.

Advance motions:(posted in full detail in the July-Aug issue of *Texas Knights*):

Five (5) motions by Luis Salinas:

1. Move that the Dallas Chess Club be awarded \$1,000 to run the Texas Masters tournament.

Minor amount of discussion: one (non-present) member's opinion was against this motion, but no specific reasons offered. Motion carries unanimously, with 1 abstention.

2. Move that until TCA or USCF establishes a training program, that the World Youth Qualifiers from Texas have their entry fees reimbursed by TCA for the following tournaments: Texas Masters, Texas State and Amateur, and Southwest Open. Luis noted that the money should come from the proceeds of the Texas Scholastic, and not the general TCA fund.11 for, 2 against; passed.

3. Bylaws change. Move that until TCA or USCF establishes a training program, that the World Youth qualifiers from Texas have the right to play in the Championship section of the Texas State and Amateur. Motion withdrawn by L. Salinas.

L. Salinas moved to table the following until next year. Passes by majority vote. (Please refer to the July-Aug issue of *Texas Knights* for the full text of the bylaw and proposed changes).

4. Bylaws change, Article VI, Section 2, C 1.

5. Bylaws change, Article VI, Section 1, D 1.

Two (2) motions by Michael Simpson:

1. I move that the Region Map of the TCA website be altered or replaced to accurately reflect the newly created region IX.

2. That the list of counties in Region IX and other affected counties be verified, and correct if necessary, to accurately reflect the counties in each region after the creation of Region IX, pursuant to the intent of the movant who proposed creating Region IX. Brenda Hardesty has already provided a corrected list. Both motions voted on together, passed by acclamation.

Nine (9) advance motions from TCA Bylaws Committee (Bob James, chair): Please refer to the July-Aug 2007 issue of *Texas Knights* for the full text of each bylaw and the proposed change(s).

1. Bylaws change, Article V Officers, Section 4 Term. Rationale: provide a way to remove a Board member who is not fulfilling his responsibilities. Voting deferred; apparently never picked up again during meeting.

2. Bylaws change, various sections. Purpose: add the Webmaster to the TCA Board of Directors. 6 for, 5 opposed; motion fails (requires 2/3 vote).

3. Amend Article VII, Section 4, Bylaws Committee. Rationale: There is no specific reason to have the Immediate Past President as the Chair of the Bylaws Committee; changing this would give the President more flexibility if there are reasons why the Immediate Past President cannot serve in that capacity.

5 for, 3 opposed; motion fails (requires 2/3 vote). (The original motions skipped 4 as well)

5. Move the following sections from Article III Section 1 (Voting Membership Categories) to Article II Section 2 (Non-Voting Membership Categories). Rationale: This addresses concerns raised at the Spring Business Meeting regarding the voting age of members (sixteen years old). An amendment (seconded) the proposal to change to language to read "twelve years old" from "sixteen". In favor 4, 9 opposed, amendment to the amendment fails. 7 for, 4 opposed; fails (requires 2/3 vote). (A motion made to reopen vote on motion 3. Vote was reopened. 8 for, 5 opposed, motion fails again.)

6. Amend Article IX Tournaments Section C (This amendment worked to codify a Luis Salinas motion which was withdrawn earlier in the meeting.) Skipped.

7. Amend Article IX, Section 3 Paragraph E. Rationale: This prevents an issue of a bid not being

reasonably comparable from being considered. 10 for, 0 opposed; passed.

8. Replace Article IV: Board of Directors, Section 5, Powers and Duties. Rationale: This is the Gaiffe Amendment referred to the Bylaws Committee from last year's Fall meeting. We are report it out as originally proposed. Currently, there are no spending limitations placed upon the Board. This proposal will cap annual Board spending to 30% of the current bank account funds without membership approval.

Discussion during the meeting brought about the following friendly amendments:

Change "Unanimous of voting Board members" to "unanimous of those voting". "Unanimous" changed to "3/4" of those voting. 12 for, 1 abstention, 0 opposed; passes as amended.

9. Advance motion: that the Bylaws Committee be tasked with looking into rewriting the Bylaws and adding a Constitution. Rationale: Many people have commented on problems with the Bylaws. This gives the membership a chance to express their opinion on whether or not we need a complete rewrite of the Bylaws, and an Constitution for the reorganization.

Visual majority vote; passes.

Tournament Bids - Two (2) bids for the 2009 Texas Scholastic Championships; one from San Benito ISD, other from L. Salinas. L. Salinas withdrew bid since he felt it was San Benito's turn (rotation). Bid awarded to San Benito (McAllen).

Motion: If you have 20 pre-registered players, TCA will give some stipend (limit to each region, perhaps \$500), perhaps over 500 miles.

After discussion, motion withdrawn.

Luis has bid for the 2008 and 2009 Southwestern Open. There is discussion concerning bid timing.

No bid received for the 2008 Texas State and Amateur. Chairman refers Referring this and Luis' bid for the 2009 Southwest Open to the Board.

Motion: to have TCA grant a stipend of \$2,000 to the organizers of the 2009 Texas Scholastics to promote the event.

A amendment to have the \$2,000 paid back to TCA if the tournament makes money. Passes by visual majority.

A motion to amend the amendment to make the amount paid back 1/2 reimbursed. Not seconded.

Friendly amendment: subject to retaining our 501-3c status. 10 for, 3 opposed; passes.

Meeting was adjourned. Meeting time: two hours, 25 minutes.

73rd Southwest Open

Small field, big ratings

by Selby Anderson

For the first time ever, the Southwest Open was held in Brownsville, numerically one of the strongholds of Texas chess. However, our southernmost city, like Amarillo or El Paso, poses a travel challenge even to central Texas players. From San Antonio it's a five-hour ride, and we're in South Texas!

So it was not a big surprise when only 43 played in the Open, and 33 in the Reserve. What was surprising was the scholastic draw of just 41 players, in a region that got subdivided because of huge scholastic programs. Having a tournament so early in the school year was apparently a logistical hurdle for coaches.

What saved the prestige of the event was the fact that our two strongest college chess programs, from the UT branches in Dallas and Brownsville, sent players in force, accounting for five of the seven IMs (six if you count the UTD coach).

The fact that the Reserve cutoff had been moved up to 2000 made this as attractive to Experts as a state championship. And the top prizes were guaranteed by TCA, which kicked in \$1,200.

In the end, five players tied for first, four of them college students. In terms of the Dallas-Brownsville rivalry it was a draw, with UTD's IM Salvijus Bercys and NM Tautvydas Vedrickas tying UTB's IM Axel Bachmann and IM Daniel Fernandez. IM Alfonso Almeida Saenz of Mexico was the lone non-student. Each scored 5.5/7 and won \$330.

Top Expert (\$300) was Anton Solovyov of Houston. He led the tournament after his fourth round upset of top-rated Axel Bachmann

(2556), and a fifth round draw with Kuljasevic put him in the catbird seat. However, a dispiriting loss to Almeida on a time pressure error was followed by a loss to Bercys, for a final score of 4.5 tying with the likes of Bartholemew, Milovanovic, Harper and WFM Bayraa Zorigt. That was still a point ahead of the six-way tie for second expert: Bill Wheeler, Luciana Morales, Jeffrey De Jesus, Arturo Gracia, Jesse Lozano and Angel Escareno all scored 3.5 points and won \$35.

In the Reserve, Victor A. Flores won first (\$600) with a 6-1 score. Leo Bonnell won second (\$300) with 5.5. Gustavo Falcon won 1st Class C (\$200) with 5 points, tying with the top Class D Simon Vasquez (\$200). Tied for 2nd Class C were Perry Johnson and Dlury Garg (4.5, \$25). Top Class B was Wallace Brady with 4 (\$200). Mario Sahagun won 1st Unrated with 3.5 (\$50). Henry Velasquez won 2nd Class B (\$50) with 3.5, tying with four players who shared 2nd Class D: Domingo Santoyo, Medardo Porras III, Kenneth Muir and Victor Bailey.

In the Scholastic Championship, Saucedo Boys had the top team. The best individual score was posted by Kristin Ramos with 5-0. Tied at 4-1 were Dhurv Garg, Philip Martinez and Selene Lopez. Jorge Hernandez with the Scholastic U750 with 5-0.

Edward Guetzow directed and organized, with help from Victor F. Flores, Luis Salinas, Tony Meza, and Coach Dan DeLeon and family.

I rode down from San Antonio with J.P. Hyltin. We both picked up some rating points before falling to the wayside in the money race and going home after Rd. 6.

In Rd. 1, we were paired with the young Hung brothers. I won in nine moves with Black against Daniel: 1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd6 4.d4 Nf6 5.g3 Bg4 6.Qd3 Nc6 7.d5 Nb4 8.Qb5+ c6 9.dxc6 Nxc2# 0-1.

J.P. took a bit longer, 14 with White.

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

Nimzo-Indian E50

J.P. Hyltin 2064

Jeffrey Hung 1744

Southwest Open 2007 (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd3 c5 6.Nf3 d6 7.0-0 Bxc3 8.bxc3 b6

8...Nc6 is more normal.

9.e4 Qc7

9...Bb7 10.e5 dxe5 11.dxe5 Ne4 12.Qc2 f5 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Ng5+; 9...h6 is plausible.; 9...Nbd7 10.e5 dxe5 11.dxe5 Ne8 12.Bxh7+ Kxh7 13.Ng5+ Kg8 14.Qh5 Nef6 15.exf6 Nxf6 may favor Black.

10.e5 dxe5 11.dxe5 Nfd7



12.Bxh7+

Played after a 20 minute think. There are a couple of games in ChessBase with this same position, and White won all of them.

12...Kxh7 13.Ng5+ Kg8

This walks into the mate. I had spent time on 13...Kg6; this is a good position for learning to play this type of attack. 14.Qd3+ (14.f4 crossed my mind Fritz says it wins.) 14...f5 15.exf6+ (15.Nxe6 Qxe5 16.Nxf8+ Nxf8 was not enough.) 15...Kxf6 and White has a crusher here in 16.Re1 (not 16.Qf3+ Ke7 17.Qxa8 Nc6 with a queen trap). 14.Qh5

Black resigned. Mate follows on 14...Rd8 15.Qxf7+ Kh8 16.Qh5+ Kg8 17.Qh7+ Kf8 18.Qh8+ Ke7 19.Qxg7+ Ke8 20.Qf7#. 1-0



IM Axel Bachmann

Sicilian B42

Ali Morshedi 2324

Axel Bachmann 2569

Southwest Open 2007 (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Bc5 6.Nb3 Be7 7.Nc3 Nc6 8.0-0 Nf6 9.f4 d5 10.e5 Nd7 11.Be3 g6 12.Qf3 b6 13.Nd4 Bb7 14.Qh3 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 Bc5 16.Ne2 Qe7 17.c3 Rc8 18.Rac1 0-0 19.Rf3

This is so Morshedi. I see him in the mold of Nick deFirmian: a manic attacker who (hopefully) matures into a more flexible style. 19...f6



20.Rg3 fxe5 21.Bxg6 hxg6 22.Rxg6+ Kf7 23.Qh6 exd4 24.Rg7+ Ke8 25.Rxe7+ Kxe7 26.Kh1 dxc3 27.bxc3 Rf6 28.Qg5 Kd6 29.Ng3 Rcf8 30.f5 e5 31.Rf1 Kc7 32.Nh5 R6f7 33.Ng7 Rf6 34.Re1 Kb8 35.h4 Ka7 36.Kh2 e4 37.g4 Ne5 38.Rf1 Nf3+ 39.Rxf3 exf3 40.Nh5 f2 41.Kg2 Re6 0-1

Ruy Lopez C96

Selby Anderson 2200

J.P. Hylltin 2064

Southwest Open 2007 (2)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 0-0 9.h3 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.d4 Nd7 (Keres) 12.Nbd2 exd4!?

This is of more recent coinage, and can lead to the Benoni pawn structure seen in the Flohr-Zaitsev 10...Re8 a la Karpov. 13.cxd4 Nc6 14.Nf1

14.d5 Nce5 15.a4 b4 16.a5 Nxf3+ 17.Qxf3 Bf6 18.Qb3 Ne5 19.f4 Ng6 20.Nf3 ∞ (Nunn). 14...cxd4

14...Bf6 15.Be3 Bb7 (15...Qb6) 16.Qd2± (16.Ng3 Rc8 17.Rc1 Re8). 15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.Qxd4 Qb6

Better is 16...Ne5 17.Rd1 Bb7 18.Ng3 Bf6 19.Qxd6 Qc8 20.Qd2 Rd8 21.Qe2 Qc4 Spraggett-Romanishin, Wijk aan Zee 1985. 17.Be3 Qc6?

17...Qxd4 18.Bxd4± 18.Bb3

18.Rac1! Bf6 19.e5! dxe5 (19...Nxe5 20.Bxh7+ Kxh7 21.Rxc6 Nf3+ 22.gxf3 Bxd4 23.Bxd4+-; 19...Bxe5 20.Bxh7+ Kxh7 21.Qh4+-) 20.Qd3 e4 21.Qxe4 Qxe4 22.Bxe4 Rb8 23.Ba7+-.

18...Nf6

18...Bf6 19.Bd5! Qc7 20.Qd2 Bb7 21.Rac1 Qb8 22.b3±.

19.Rac1 Qb7 20.Bf4± Rd8 21.Ne3



21...Qa7?!

After this White almost surely has a technical win. On 21...Be6 best is 22.Nd5! with a dominating position. I probably would have played 22.Bxe6?! fxe6 23.e5, when Black's piece activity (e.g., open d-file) after 23...exe5 24. Qxe5 Qe4! makes up for the weaker pawns.

22.Qxa7 Rxa7 23.Nd5 Nxd5 24.Bxd5 Bf6 25.Re2 Be6 26.Rc6 Bd7 27.Rxd6 Rc8 28.Rb6

Also winning is 28.e5! Be7 29.e6!! (computers find the dardest things!) Be8 30.Rb6 Kf8 31.Rb8+-.

28...Be6?? Less drastic is 28...Be8 29.Be3 Bd8 30.Rd6 Be7 31.Re6! (cute!) Rac7 32.Rxa6+-.

29.Rxe6 1-0

Giuoco Piano C54

Axel Bachmann 2569

Salvijus Bercys 2488

Southwest Open 2007 (3)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.Nbd2 0-0 7.h3 a6

8.Bb3 Be6 9.Nf1 Bxb3 10.axb3 d5
11.Qe2 Nh5 12.b4 Ba7 Draw

For Rd. 3 I was paired up against IM Almeida, and had the Black side in a difficult Bogo-Indian where he won a pawn but had to weather some attacking chances. He missed a win or two, and shortly before time control gave me a winning endgame.

Bogo-Indian E11

Alfonso Almeida 2491
Selby Anderson 2200

Southwest Open 2007 (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 Bb4+ 4.
Nbd2 0-0 5.a3 Bxd2+ 6.Qxd2 Ne4
7.Qf4 f5 8.h4 d6 9.Ng5 Nc6 10.
Nxe4 fxe4?!

As planned, but better than the pawn sac is 10...Nxd4! 11.Qd2 Nb3 12.Qd1 Nxa1 13.Nc3∞.

11.Qxe4 Qf6 12.Be3 e5 13.dxe5
13.Rd1 exd4 14.Bxd4 Qf7 15.
Qd3 Ne5 16.Qg3 Nxc4 17.c4 Be6=
13...Nxe5 14.f3 Bf5 15.Qd4 c5

15...Qe6 16.b3 Rae8 17.Bg1
Nd3+ 18.Kd1 c5 19.Qd5 ±
16.Qc3 Qe6 17.0-0 b5!?

Trying to hurry the attack before White consolidates his center.

18.cxb5 Qa2 19.Bg5 Be6



20.e4

A likely win is 20.Rxd6! and ... (a) 20...Nf7 21.Rxe6! Qxe6 22.e4+ with a dominating position for the bishops and extra pawns; (b) 20...

Bb3 21.Qxe5 Rae8 22.Be7 Qa1+
22.Kd2 Rf7 23.Qxc5 Qxb2+ 24.Ke1
Rfxe7 25.Rd2+ and White consolidates his extra pawns.

20...Bb3 21.Be2

Now 21.Rxd6 permits a draw with 21...Qa1+ 22.Kd2 Qd1+ 23.Ke3 Rxf3+, etc.

21.Bd3 Bxd1 22.Rxd1 Nxd3+
23.Qxd3 Rae8 24.Qxd6±.
21...Rfe8 22.Rhe1 d5 23.exd5 h6
24.Be3?

24.Bf4! Ng6 25.Bd3 Bxd1 26.
Be3 Ne5 27.Rxd1 Nxd3+ 28.Rxd3±
24...Rad8!-+ 25.Bd3 Bxd1

25...Nxd3+!? 26.Rxd3 c4 27.
Kd2!! cxd3 28.Bxh6 gxh6 29.Qf6=
26.Rxd1 Rxd5 27.Be2 Rxd1+ 28.
Bxd1 c4 29.Bd4 Nd3+ 30.Kd2 Rd8
31.Bb3??

31.Kc2? Nf4 32.g3 Nd5 33.Qe1
c3 34.Bxc3 Nxc3 35.Qxc3 Qe6 36.
Qb4 Kh8-+; 31.Ke3! Nxb2 32.Bc2
Re8+ 33.Kf4 Nd3+ 34.Bxd3 cxd3
35.Qxd3 Rd8∞



31...Qxb2+ 32.Qxb2 Nxb2 33.Ba2
33.Kc3 Rxd4! 34.Kxd4 cxb3 35.
Kc3 Nc4 36.Kxb3 Ne3 37.a4 Kf7
38.a5 Ke6 39.a6 Nd5 40.Kc4 Kd6
41.g4 g5 42.hxg5 hxg5-+
33...Rxd4+ 34.Kc3 Rd3+ 35.Kxb2
Rd2+ 36.Kb1 Rxd2 37.Bxc4+ Kf8
38.a4 Ke7 39.a5 Kd6 40.Bd3 Rh2
41.Be4 Kc7 42.Kc1 Ra2 43.b6+
axb6 44.axb6+ Kxb6 45.h5 Kc5 46.
Bg6 Rf2 0-1

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

King's Gambit Declined C30

Arturo Gracia 2008

J.P. Hyltin 2064

Southwest Open 2007 (3)

1.e4 e5 2.f4 Bc5 3.Nf3 d6 4.Bc4
Nc6 5.d3 Nf6 6.Nc3 a6

Motivated by the need to preserve the Bc4 to prevent castling. 6...Bg4 is another move.

7.Na4 Ba7 8.Bd5

White's last two moves were inaccurate.

8...Nxd5 9.exd5 Nd4 10.Nxd4

I saw 10.fxe5 Nxf3+ (∞10...Bg4) 11.Qxf3 Qh4+ although I further understood there's a lot more to it. 12.Qg3 Qxa4 (12...Qxg3+ was my bail out plan, and I liked that position.) 13.Qxg7 This was as far as I looked, and decided it was trouble.

10...Bxd4

I briefly considered 10...exd4 and understood the plight of his Na4, but didn't like my Ba7. Fritz points out 11.Qe2+ Qe7 12.Qxe7+ Kxe7 13.b3 b5 14.Nb2 Bb7-+.

11.Qf3 0-0 12.Be3 Qe8-+ 13.fxe5
Bxe3 14.Qxe3 Qxa4 15.0-0

I did not think long here, thinking the next is forced.

15...dxe5 16.Qxe5 Qd7

Better alternatives are 16...Bg4 17.Rf4 Qd7; and 16...Qxc2, but I wanted to play this a little safer than that. 16...Bd7 seems to be the best move. 17.b3 (17.Qxc7 Qd4+ 18.Kh1 Qxd5 19.c4 Qc6; 17.Rf4 Qxc2 18.Raf1 Qxd3) 17...Qa5 18.c4 Rae8-+.

17.Rae1 Qd6

17...c6 18.d6 was all I saw, and figured the rook would get to e7 before I got developed.

18.Qxd6 cxd6 19.Re7 Rb8

Played after a long think. My advantage is slipping away.

20.c4 b5 21.b3

21.c5 dxc5 22.d6 Rb7 23.Rfe1
Rd7-+.

21...Rb7 22.Rxb7 Bxb7 23.Re1 Bc8
24.Re7 Rd8 25.Kf2 Bd7

Now I was sure it was over.

26.Ke3 Kf8

26...Re8 was simpler.

27.Re4 Re8 28.Kd4 f5

I wanted to take the rooks off, but not with the undoubling of the d-pawns. I saw what was coming and decided I didn't have to, but I thought the rook trade was winning anyway: 28...Rxe4+ 29.dxe4 f6-+.

29.Rf4 Re2 30.c5 Ke7 31.Rf3 Rxe2

32.Re3+ Kd8 33.cxd6

33.c6 Bc8 34.Rh3 h6 35.a4 bxa4 36.bxa4 Rg4+ 37.Kc3 Rxa4 38.Rg3 Rg4-+.

33...f4 34.Rf3 g5 35.h4 Bg4 36.Rf1 Be2 37.Rc1 f3 38.Ke3 g4 39.Rc7 Bd1 40.Rxh7 Re2+ 41.Kd4 f2 0-1

Notes by Anton Solovoyov

Irregular KP C20

Axel Bachmann 2556

Anton Solovoyov 2131

Southwest Open 2007 (4)

1.e4 e5 2.Ne2

2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 is better; this way White takes control of the d5 square earlier. Also there is still an option of developing the knight to f3, which is preferable to e2 in some variations.

2...Nf6 3.Nbc3 Nc6

Continuing development. Also possible is the immediate 3...d5.

4.g3 d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.Bg2 Be6

Black has solved his opening problems. This system of development is probably the best response to fianchetto in open games. It is similar to the Sicilian Dragon with reversed colors, however with an open e-file instead of c-file. It will be very difficult for White to create an attack on the queenside. The position of the knight on e2 instead of f3 makes it impossible to create any pressure on the e5-pawn in the near future.

7.d3

A very modest move. Better is 7.0-0 Qd7 and now if White wants easy equality then 8.d4=.

8.Re1 avoids the exchange of light-squared bishops but allows 8...0-0-0 and White can no longer play d2-d4.

7...Qd7 8.h3?!

A complete waste of time Either 8.Be3! or even 8.f4! was better

8...0-0-0

Black has an advantage due to superiority in the center.

9.a3

White wants to complicate the game.

9...Bc5?!

Giving White the gift of a tempo since Nc3-e4 is a part of his plan The best move obviously was just developing with 9...Be7 10.Ne4 (10. b4 f5! 11.b5 Nd4; 10.0-0 Bxh3) 10...f5 11.Ng5 Bxg5 12.Bxg5 Rde8 13.Bd2 (13.0-0? f4! 14.gxf4 h6-+) 13...f4!? 14.Nc3 Nxc3 15.Bxc3 (or 15.bxc3 Bd5) 15...Bd5; 9...f6 was also better than Bc5.

10.Ne4

Black was hoping for 10.b4? Bxf2+ 11.Kxf2 Nxc3 12.Nxc3 Qd4+ 13.Be3 Qxc3.

10...Be7 11.b4

11.Ng5 Bxg5 12.Bxg5 f6 13. Bd2 is similar to the sideline on move 8.

11...h6

Not the best move - Black wants to prevent Ng5, but it was not that dangerous. Better is 11...f5.

12.Rb1 Nd4 13.c4 Nf6

Easier is 13...Nxe2 14.Qxe2 (not as good is 14.cxd5?! because of 14...Nxc1 15.dxe6 Nxd3+) 14...Nf6 15. Nc5 Bxc5 16.bxc5 c6 17.0-0! Rhe8! (not 17...Bxh3 18.Bxh3 Qxh3 19.Qxe5 Rxd3 20.Bf4!; or 17...Qxd3 18.Qb2).

14.Nc5 [14.Nxf6 Bxf6] 14...Bxc5 15.bxc5 e4!

Attack and defense at the same time! 15...c6? would allow a dangerous attack after 16.Qa4.

16.Nxd4

16.dxe4?? Nf3+.

16...Qxd4 17.Qb3

White has obtained some counterplay

17...Qxd3?!

Prevents White from castling but creates unnecessary complications, that are not that favourable for Black. Better and simpler was 17...b6 18.0-0 Qxd3.

18.Qxb7+ Kd7

Now the Black king is also in danger!



19.Bf1

Here White had a spectacular move: 19.Bxh6!! Bg4! a) 19...gxh6? 20.Rd1+- winning the queen; b) 19...Ke7? 20.Bxg7 Bxc4 21.Qxc7+ Rd7 (21...Ke8 22.Qe5+) 22.Qe5+ and White checkmates first; 20.hxg4 Rb8 21.c6+ Ke6 22.Rd1 Rxb7 23. Rxd3 Rb1+ 24.Rd1 Rxd1+ 25.Kxd1. Black has good chances for a draw in this endgame, but likely not more, for example 25...Rhx6 26.g5 Rxh1+ 27.Bxh1 Ng4 28.Ke2 Kf5.

19...Qf3 20.Rg1

20.Be3? Qxh1 21.c6+ Ke8 22. Qxc7 Bxh3-+ (22...Bxc4? 23.Qe5+ Kf8 (23...Be6? 24.c7 Rc8 25.Rb8+-) 24.Qc5+ Kg8 25.Qxc4).

20...Bxc4 21.Be3?

A mistake that finally loses the game It was necessary to take with 21.Bxc4 to exchange the bishop on f1, put the king in relative safety and connect the rooks: 21...Qc3+ 22.Kf1! (22.Bd2? Qxc4?) 22...Qxc4+ 23.Kg2. White has very good compensation, and black has to play carefully not to end up in a worse position, e.g. 23...Rb8? 24.Rd1+ Ke6 25.Qxc7 Rxb1 26.g4!+-.

21...Bxf1 22.Rxf1 Rb8!

Black correctly evaluates that in this position the queen will be stronger than two rooks.

23.c6+ Ke6 24.Qxb8 Rxb8 25.Rxb8 Nd5 26.Rb3 f5 27.Kd2 f4?!

This is too hasty Much better was to attack with a phalanx of pawns: 27...g5 28.Rfb1 Nxe3 29.fxe3 (29.Rxe3 Qxf2+?) 29...Qxg3#. **28.gxf4 Nxf4 29.Re1 Nd3**



30.Rg1?!

White had an interesting way to play for a draw by making a fortress: 30.Rxd3! exd3 31.Bxh6+! breaking the last pair of Black's connected pawns 31...Kd6 32.Be3 Kxc6 33.Bxa7. Black wins the pawn at h3, but White wins d3 and stops Black's passed c-pawn with a likely draw. **30...g5 31.Rb8 Qf5?!**

Black should just gobble up white pawns with 31...Qxh3, not worrying about 32.Rh8 (32.Bxa7 Qh2) because of 32...Nxf2! 33.Bxf2



Anton Solovoyov

(33.Rxg5 Ng4!) 33...Qd3+ 34.Ke1 Qc3+.

32.Rh8 Qf6 33.Re8+ Kf7?

A blunder that loses the e4-pawn Better was 33...Kd5 protecting the e4-pawn. The king would be perfectly safe in the center because the powerful knight on d3 controls all the surrounding critical squares: c1, c5, e5 etc. On the other hand when, the king closer to the edge of the board will be in more danger of checkmate or perpetual check by the rooks.

34.Rxe4 Nxf2 35.Rd4

35.Rf1? Nxe4+ 36.Ke1 Qxf1+ 37.Kxf1 a6-+.

35...Nxb3

Black has a large material advantage, but his knight is terribly positioned on h3.

36.Rc1 Kg6 37.Rd7?!

Trying to win a pawn, White disrupts the coordination of his own pieces Even though White's position is still lost 37.Rcc4 would give Black more problems, because it is very hard to free the knight on h3: 37...h5 38.Ra4 Qxc6 39.Rxa7 g4 40.Rda4!

37...Qb2+ 38.Kd3 Qxa3+ 39.Kd4 Qb2+ 40.Rc3 Nf4 41.Bxf4 gxf4 42.Kc4 a5 43.Rdd3 Qb4+ 44.Kd5 Kf5

In this endgame White's king centralization is not a good thing!
45.Rc5?

White resigned, not waiting for Qe4# [45.Rc4 Qd6#; 45.Ra3 Qd6+ 46.Kc4 Qxc6+-]. **0-1**

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

King's Indian E63

J.P. Hyltin 2064

Ali Morshedi 2300

Southwest Open 2007 (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.Nf3 d6 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Nc3 a6 8.Re1 Re8 9.Rb1 Rb8 10.d5

Karpov has played 10.b4 here.

10...Na5 11.Nd2 c5 12.b3 b5 13.Qc2

I have been in this position a few times, but with our rooks on f1 and f8. The difference could have been important. Computers are not useful in such positions.

13...h5

13...e6 seems the way to take advantage of the rook placement.

14.Bb2 h4 15.Nce4

This looks odd, but it is thematic.

15...hxg3 16.Nxf6+

I chose this because I knew Ali would have to make several decisions.

16...exf6

The drawback of this move is that my bishop at b2 can be used against his knight at a5

17.hxg3 Bf5 18.Be4 [18.e4± Fritz]

18...Rxe4

Because of Ali's reputation, I knew this was coming. [18...Bxe4! 19.Nxe4 bxc4 20.bxc4 Nxc4 21.Qxc4 Rb4 22.Nxf6+ Bxf6 23.Bxf6 Rxc4 24.Bxd8 Rxd8= Fritz]

19.Nxe4 Qe7 20.f3 bxc4 21.bxc4 Rb4?

21...Bxe4 22.fxe4 Rb4 23.Bc3
Rxb1 24.Rxb1 Nxc4 25.Qd3+-



22.Bc3 Rxc4 23.Rb8+
23...Qd3 Bxe4 24.fxe4 Rxe4 25.
Rb8+ Kh7 26.Kf2+- Fritz.
23...Kh7 24.Qd2
Fritz likes 24.Kf2.

24...Bxe4
24...Rxe4! is a better try. White
is ahead after 25.fxe4 Nc4 26. Qf4,
but again 25.Kf2! is most incisive.

25.Kf2 g5 26.fxe4[?]
I intended 26.Bxa5 but suddenly
decided I couldn't see a problem
with the text. [26.Bxa5 Rc2 27.Qe3
f5 28.Rh1+ Kg6 29.Bd8+-]
26...Qxe4 27.Rc1

This was getting complicated..
Now I saw 27.Bxa5 f5 and wondered
how I would survive (28.Qxg5?
Bd4+). [Fritz gives 29.e3 Rc2+ 30.
Re2 Rxe2+ 31.Kxe2 Qg2+ 32.Kd3
Qe4+ 33.Kd2 Qg2+ 34.Kc1 Qh1+=]
27...Qf5+ 28.Kg2 Qe4+ 29.Kh2
Qg6?

29...Qf5 30.Qd3 Qxd3 31.exd3
Ra4 concerned me. 32.Rc2 f5 33.
Bxg7 Kxg7 34.Rcb2 c4 rescues the
knight. Better is 29...Ra4 30.Bxa5
Rxa5 31.Qxa5 Qxe2+=
30.Bxa5 Qh5+ 31.Kg1 Rg4 32.
Qd3+ f5 33.Kg2

33.Qxf5+ Kh6 34.Kg2 Rxc3+
35.Kxg3 Be5+ was more than I
wanted to calculate, but White sur-
vives: 36.Kf2 (36.Qxe5 Qh4+ 37.
Kg2 dxe5 38.Rh8+ would have been

easy.) 36...Qh4+ 37.Ke3 Qd4+ 38.
Kf3 +-.

33...Rxc3+
It's amazing how much trouble I
have when I'm up two rooks.

34.Qxg3
34.Kxg3 Be5+ 35.Kf2 Qh4+ =.
34...Qxe2+ 35.Kh1 Be5 36. Qh3+
Kg6 37.Rg8+ Bg7
37...Kf6 38.Bd8#

38.Rg1 Qe4+ 39.Kh2 g4 40.Bc3 f6
41.Qg2 Qe3 42.Bd2 Qe5+ 43.Kh1
Kf7 44.Rb8 Qd4 45.Rf1

The focus on f4 ends the game.
45...g3 46.Qxg3
There might have followed 46...
Qxd5+ 47.Qf3 Qxd2 48.Qb7+ Kg6
49.Rg1+ (SKA). 1-0

Notes by Anton Solovoy

Gruenfeld Defense B87
Anton Solovoy 2131
Davorin Kuljasevic 2491
Southwest Open 2007 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5
Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bc4
c5 8.Ne2 0-0 9.Be3 [9.0-0] 9...Nc6
10.Rc1!? [The main line is 10.0-0]
10...cxd4 11.cxd4 Qa5+ 12.Bd2

This move is a novelty, and even
though not the best one, after black's
inaccuracy white obtained an advan-
tage. More common in this position
is 12.Kf1 with the idea h2-h4-h5 and
an attack on the kingside.

12...Qa3?!
Here the queen will be mis-
placed. Possibly my opponent did
not expect the move Bd2. The result-
ing position after Qa3 is similar to
the variation where white sacrifices
the a2 pawn, except here Black did
not win a pawn. Better is 12...Qh5.
13.Rc3 Qd6 14.e5!?

White blocks the g7 bishop at
the cost of giving up the d5-square.
However it will not be easy for black
to use it.

14...Qd8 15.Be3±

Comparing this position to the
position after White's 11th move,
white got two free moves: Rc1-c3
and e4-e5.

15...Bf5 16.0-0 Na5

16...Nb4 trying to put the knight
on d5 17.Nf4!± preventing Nb4-d5
(also possible is 17.Qd2 Nd5 18.
Bxd5 Qxd5 19.Nf4 Qd7 20.Rfc1±)
17...Be4 18.Qd2 Nd5 19.Bxd5 Bxd5
20.Nxd5 Qxd5 21.Rfc1± White con-
trols the c-file, black controls the d5
square, but can not put any pressure
on the d4-pawn since it's securely
protected by white's "bad" bishop
(which is better than black's nomi-
nally "good" bishop!) Overall, I
think, White has some advantage.

17.Qd2!?

White finishes developing and
seeks to create play on the c-file.

17...Qd7 18.Rfc1 Rfd8

Better is 18...Nxc4 19.Rxc4
Rac8 and White can play for d4-d5:
20.Rxc8 Rxc8 21.Rxc8+ Qxc8 22.f4.
19.f4

Protecting the center (Bxe5 was
a threat), and preparing d4-d5.

19...Be4?



20.Bxf7+!?

A combination based on two
unprotected pieces (Na5, Be4) that
wins a pawn, but gives Black coun-
terplay. White had an interesting
idea without winning a pawn: 20.
Bd3! Bxd3 21.Rxd3!, using the bad
position of Black's knight on a5 to

seize the control of the c-file: 21...b6 (21...Nc6 22.d5) 22.Rdc3 Rac8 23. Qc2 Rxc3 24.Qxc3±. White has a small, stable advantage and Black has no counterplay.

20...Kxf7 21.Rc7 Qb5!

21...Qg4 22.Ng3 Bc6 23.Qxa5 h5±; 21...Qa4 22.Nc3 Nc4 23.Qe2±. 22.R7c5 Qd3! 23.Rxa5 b6

The white rook is in danger!

24.Ra4 a5±

White has won a pawn, but his pieces are uncoordinated; Black has compensation

25.Kf2 Qxd2?

Better is 25...b5! 26.Rxa5 Rxa5! this is the critical move (26...Qxd2?! 27.Bxd2 Rxa5 28.Bxa5 Ra8 29.Nc3! Bxg2 (29...Rxa5 30.Nxe4 Rxa2+ 31.Kf3±) 30.Kxg2 Rxa5 31.Rb1 Ra3 32.Rb3± in both cases White would an advantage in the endgame because of the passive black bishop) 27.Qxa5 Ra8 28.Qd2 Qxd2 29.Bxd2 Rxa2± and very active Black's pieces should guarantee him at least a draw. 26.Bxd2 Bd3 27.Ra3

White gives back the pawn and keeps a good position

27...Bxe2 28.Kxe2 Rxd4



29.Rb1?

Trying to win an insignificant pawn, White gives up the c-file and allows Black's rooks to become active. Better is 29.Rc6 b5 (29...Rb8 30. Be3) 30.Ke3±. 29...Rc8!

A very good move: now both black rooks come into play, and the b6 pawn does not matter. White has lost virtually all his advantage.

30.Ke3

30.Be3 Rb4 31.Rxb4 axb4 32. Ra6 Rc2+ (32...b5) 33.Kf3=.

30...Rcd8 31.Bc3 Rd3+ 32.Ke2 g5! 33.Rxb6 gxf4 34.e6+ Kg6 35.Bb4 Rxa3 36.Bxa3 Bf6 37.Rb5 Rc8 38.Bc5 Rc6 39.Rxa5 Bc3 40.Rb5 Rxe6+ 41.Kf3 Re1 42.Rb3 Ba5 43.Kxf4 e5+ 44.Kf3 e4+ 45.Kf2 Rc1! 46.Bd4 Rc2+ 47.Ke3 Rxd2 48.Kxe4 Rxa2= Draw

King's Indian E90

James Rohrbauh 2200

Axel Bachmann 2569

Southwest Open 2007 (5)

1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3 g6 4.e3 Bg7 5.d4 Nf6 6.d5 Nb8 7.e4 d6 8.h3 0-0 9.Bd3 e5 10.0-0 Nh5 11.Re1 a6 12.Rb1 h6 13.b4 b6 14.bxc5 bxc5 15.Re2 Nf4 16.Reb2 Nxd3 17.Qxd3 Nd7 18.Bd2 f5 19.Be1 Nf6 20.Nd2 Nh5 21.Rb6 Nf4 22.Qf1 Ra7 23. Kh2 Raf7 24.g3 Nh5 25.R1b2 Nf6 26.Qg2 f4 27.R6b3 g5 28.Na4 g4 29.h4 Bd7 30.Nb6 Be8 31.a4 Rb7 32.a5 Bg6 33.Qh1 f3 34.Qf1 Nxe4 35.Nxe4 Bxe4 36.Na4 Rxb3 37. Rxb3 Bc2 0-1

King's Indian E62

Daniel Fernandez 2455

Salvijus Bercys 2488

Southwest Open 2007 (5)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.d4 0-0 5.Bg2 d6 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Nc3 Bf5 8.b3 [8.Nh4 Bc8 9.e4 (9.f4 Nd7 10.e3 Nb6 11.b3 f5 12.Bb2 e6=) 9...c5=] 8...Ne4 9.Bb2 Nxc3 10.Bxc3 Be4 11.Rc1 d5 12.e3 e6 13.Qe2 a5 14.Rfd1 a4 15.b4 dxc4 16.Qxc4 Qd5 17.Qe2 Rfd8 18.Ne1 Bxg2 19.Nxg2 Na7 20.Nf4 Qb5 21. Nd3 c6 22.Bb2 Qa6 23.a3 Nc8 24.Qc2 Nd6 25.Nc5 Draw

French Defense C17

Selby Anderson 2208

Warren Harper 2296

Southwest Open 2007 (5)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.Bd2 Ne7 6.Nb5 Bxd2+ 7.Qxd2 0-0 8.f4 Nbc6 9.dxc5 f6 10.Nf3 fxe5 11.fxe5 Ng6 12.Qe3 b6 13. Nbd4 Ngxe5 14.Nxc6 Nxc6 15.0-0 bxc5 16.Qxc5 Qb6 17.Qxb6 axb6 18.a3 [18.Bb5 Bd7 (18...Na7 19.Bd3 Nc6 20.a3 e5) 19.a3 Ne5 20.Bxd7 Nxd7 21.Rhe1 Rf6=] 18...Ra5 19. Re1 Re8 20.Ne5 Nxe5 21.Rxe5 Rf8 22.Bd3 Rf2 23.Rg1 Ra4 24.Kd1 Rg4 25.Re2 Rxe2 26.Bxe2 Rh4 27. h3 e5 28.Rf1 Be6 29.c3 d4 30.Kd2 Draw



Tautvydas Vedrickas

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

Catalan E02

Tautvydas Vedrickas 2285

J.P. Hyltin 2064

Southwest Open 2007 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 Be7 5.g3 dxc4 6.Qa4+ Bd7 7.Qxc4 Bc6

Not a well known position in the Catalan, but worth trying.

8.Bg2 Nbd7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Rd1 Qc8

10...Ne4 11.Ne5; normal is 10...Nb6 11.Qd3 Na4 (or 11...Bb4). 11.Qd3 Bxf3?

11...Nb6 12.e4± with a permanent cramp; 11...Rd8! 12.Qc2 b5=. 12.Qxf3 c6 13.e4 e5 14.d5 cxd5 15.exd5 Ne8

This is what I was counting on with my 11th move. Better is 15...Bd6 where 16.Nb5 (16.Be3± maintains an edge.) 16...Qb8 17.Nxd6 Qxd6 doesn't amount to anything. 16.d6 Nxd6 17.Nd5

The point I missed.

17...Bd8 18.Bh3 f5

18...Qc6 19.Be3 e4 20.Qe2 Ne5 21.Rac1± would still have been difficult for everyone except Fritz. 21...Qb5 22.Qxb5 Nxb5 23.a4 Nd6 24.Bc5 Ndc4 25.Bxf8 Kxf8 26.Rc2 +1.31.

19.Ne3 Qc5



20.b4

He reached for 20.Rd5 but here I have 20...Qc6 21.Qd1 Rf6 and I'm starting to make threats. [20.Nxf5!? Nxf5 21.Bxf5 Nf6 22.Qxb7 Bb6 23.Be3+- 1.41 - Fritz.]

20...Qc3 21.Qd5+ Nf7 22.Bd2 Qd4

Since I was in trouble, I decided to mix it up some. The only other choice 22...Qc6 23.Qxc6 bxc6 24.Bxf5 Nf6 25.Rac1 is more survivable than I thought at the time.

23.Qxd4 exd4 24.Nxf5 Nde5

I thought 24...Bf6 25.Nxg7 was hopeless.

25.Nxd4 Bb6 26.Ne6 Rfe8 27.Nc5 Bxc5 28.bxc5

Here I hoped to make something of a weak c pawn, but my knights can find outposts, and his Bishops have a great future on this open board.

28...Nf3+ 29.Kg2 Nxd2 30.Rxd2 Re5

30...Re7 31.Rb1 Nd8 hangs in, but I'm not defensive minded.

31.Rb1 Rd8 32.Rc2

Reality sets in. He'll get a rook to the seventh, and the c-pawn is hard to stop. 1-0

Center Counter B01

Erick Vallarino 1909

John Bartholemew 2488

Southwest Open 2007 (5)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.d4 c6 6.Ne5 Bf5 7.g3 e6 8.Bg2 Nbd7 9.Nxd7 Nxd7 10.g4 Bg6 11.h4 h6 12.Bf4 Bb4 13.Rh3 h5 14.a3 Bxc3+ 15.Rxc3 hxg4 16.Qxg4 Qh5 17.Qg3 Qxh4 18.Qe3 Qg4 19.Bg3 Nf6



20.Rxc6? Be4!

0-1

Notes by Anton Solovyov

Dutch Defense A84

Alfonso Almeida 2491

Anton Solovyov 2131

Southwest Open 2007 (6)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c6 4.e3 f5

The Slav Defense becomes a Dutch Stonewall.

5.Ne5!? Nf6 6.Bd3 [6.Be2!?] 6...Bd6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc3 Nbd7 9.f4!?

White has created an interesting structure, "a double stonewall".

9...Ne4 10.Nxe4 fxe4 11.Be2

White would have saved a tempo by playing Be2 at move 6.

11...Nf6?

It was necessary to exchange White's active knight on e5: Black's knight on f6 will have no good squares, and he can not give up his dark square bishop for the knight because the dark squares will be very weak. Better was 11...Nxe5 12.fxe5 (12.dxe5 Bc5 13.cxd5 cxd5=) 12...Rxf1+ 13.Qxf1 Be7=. White is a little more active due to his space advantage on the queenside: he can play c4-c5, and then advance b2-b4, a2-a4 and b4-b5. However, after the almost inevitable exchange of rooks on f-file White will have very few chances of winning.

12.Bd2±

Because of Black's inaccuracy, White has achieved an advantage out of the opening. Now begins a maneuvering phase where White tries to develop an initiative, and Black tries to finish development and equalize.

12...Qe7

Less good is 12...Bd7 13.Qb3 Rb8 14.Bb4, as the exchange of dark square bishops is more useful for White because of the pawn structure. 13.Qe1 Bd7 14.a4?!

White still stands better but does not do anything to improve his position. This move unnecessarily weakens the queenside. But what is its goal, to prepare b2-b4 and c4-c5? More consistent would be 14.Qg3 if White wants to play on the kingside, for example 14...Be8 15.Qh3 preventing Bh5 and attacking the e6-pawn. It is very hard for Black to do anything active here. In the mean-

time White can slowly improve his position and have some initiative on the kingside, for example move both rooks to f-file, put bishop on c3 to reinforce the center and maybe then start advancing kingside pawns.

14...Be8 15.Kh1?!

Again a not the most active move that allows black to start fighting for initiative. White is planning to do something on g-file. Better was 15.Qh4 or even 15.b4.

15...Bh5 16.g4

It turns out White does not want to exchange the light-square bishops. Or maybe he was intending to play g2-g4 all along?

16...Be8 17.Rg1

White is planning to advance on the kingside, but allows Black to undermine White's center.



17...Nd7 18.Rg3?!

White should have considered 18.g5 which prevents g7-g5, but leads to equality. Also possible was more brave 18.h4!? g6 and then h7-h5, g4-g5 and the position would be closed and equal.

18...g5!

Beginning to dismantle White's center. Black dares to counterstrike on the kingside, where White was preparing an attack! The move g2-g4 left the f4 pawn without natural pawn support by g2-g3

19.Rg2 gxf4 20.exf4 c5!

A hit from the other side! Black is exchanging his wing pawns for white's center pawns and white's center completely falls apart.

21.dxc5 Nxc5+

At last the knight found an active square.

22.Be3 Nb3 23.Rd1 d4 24.Rxd4

This exchange sacrifice is forced (24.Bxd4? Nxd4 25.Rxd4 Rxf4 and the knight on e5 has nowhere to go!)

24...Nxd4

24...Bxe5 25.fxe5 Nxd4 26.Bxd4 Bxa4+

25.Bxd4 Rxf4 Black has a big advantage. **26.g5 e3! 27.Bc3 Qc7?!**

It was absolutely necessary to exchange last White's rook with 27...Rf2! After that white's attack would be extinguished and the position would become almost technically winning for Black.

28.g6!

A very good practical chance for White. Black walks right into it.



28...Bxe5?

Black is too greedy, and on top of that miscalculates, which gives away the last thread of advantage but surprisingly does not lose by force. Here the computer suggests a very counterintuitive move, going into discovered check: 28...hxg6!! 29.Nxg6 (29.Nf3 Qf7 30.Ng5 Qf5+) 29...Rf2!! with the following variations a) 30.Rxf2 exf2 31.Qxf2 Bxg6 +; b) 30.Ne7+ Kf8!+-; (c) 30.Nh4+



IM Alfonso Almeida

Rxg2+. Worse was 28...h5 29.Nf7∞. **29.gxh7+ Kxh7??**

A time trouble blunder that leads to a forced mate. Black could save the situation by the only move 29...Kf7!, suggested by the chess program Rybka. A move like this or 28...hxg6 would be extremely hard to find and calculate for a human player, especially with only a few minutes left on the clock.

Here Rybka gives a long forced variation that ends in a very unclear position with four White pawns against Black's bishop and pawn, with queens still on the board. 29.Kf7 30.Bh5+ Ke7 31.Bxe5 (31.Qxe3 Rf1+) 31...Qxe5 32.Qb4+ Kd8 33.Qxb7 Rf1+ 34.Rg1 Rxcg1+ 35.Kxg1 Qxh5 36.Qxa8+ Ke7 37.Qxa7+ Bd7 38.Qxe3 Qg6+ 39.Kf1 Qxh7∞;

In case of 29...Kh8?? 30.Qg3!! Rf1+ 31.Bxf1, the pin on the long diagonal a1-h8 protects the queen and White checkmates.

30.Bd3+ Kh8 [30...Kh6 31.Qxe3+]
31.Qxe3 Rf1+ 32.Bxf1 Bxc3 33.Qh6+ 1-0

Queen's Indian E15

Salvijos Bercys 2488

Tautvydas Vedrickas 2285

Southwest Open 2007 (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.g3 Ba6

5.b3 d5 6.Bg2 Bb4+ 7.Bd2 Be7 8. cxd5 exd5 9.Ne5 0-0 10.Nc3 Bb7 11.0-0 Nbd7 12.Bf4 c6 13.Nd3 Re8 14.b4 Bf8 15.Bg5 h6 16.Bxf6 Nxf6 17.Rc1 Bd6

17...Ne4 (Bercys) 18.Nxe4 dxe4 19.Ne5 c5 20.bxc5 bxc5 21.e3=♞. If anything, Black is slightly better.

18.b5 Qe7 19.bxc6 Bxc6 20.Qb3 Rad8 21.e3 Bb7 22.Nb5 Bb8 23. Nb4 h5 24.Nc6 Bxc6 25.Rxc6 h4 26.Nc3 hxxg3 27.hxxg3 Ne4 28.Nxe4

Bercys: "This was a 'bad' move in the computer's mind, and it said that 28.Nxd5 miraculously held after 28... Qg5 29.Nc7! and apparently Black had no attack."

28...dxe4 29.Qb5 g6 30.Rfc1 Draw

Sicilian B52

Selby Anderson 2200

Daniel Fernandez 2455

Southwest Open 2007 (6)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4. Bxd7+ Qxd7 5.0-0 Nf6 6.d3 g6 7.Ng5!

This has been played against 6...e6, where it has more of a point. I have been successful in ICC games with this because of people who weaken g6 with ...h6.

7...Bg7 8.f4 Nc6 9.Nc3 h6

I was feeling better now.

10.Nf3 0-0-0! 11.Ne2 g5

So here was his point! Now it's time to batten down the hatches.

12.fxxg5 hxxg5 13.Nxxg5 Ne5 14.Ng3 Nfg4 15.h3 f6 16.Nf3 Nxf3+ 17. Qxf3 Ne5 18.Qe2 Rdg8 19.Bf4 Bh6 20.Bxe5 dxe5 21.Nf5 Bf4 22.Rf3 Rg6 23.Kh1 e6 24.Ne3 Qg7 25.Rg1 Rh5 26.Nf1 Qh6 27.Qf2 b6

Having weathered the storm, I considered whether to "do nothing" and challenge Black to find a plan, or to start a counterattack.

28.a3! Qf8

28...Bc1?? 29.Ng3 +-

29.Ng3 Rh7 30.Ne2 Bg5 31.c3 Rh4 32.Ng3 Rgh6 33.Nf1 c4 34.Qe2

cxd3 35.Qxd3 Qc5

35...Kb8 36.Ng3 Bf4 37.Rd1 Rh8 38.Qd7 Qe8 39.Qd6+ Kb7 40. c4 Rg8 41.Ne2 Qg6 42.Qe7+ Ka6 43.Rgl±

36.Qa6+ Kb8 37.Rd3 Qc7

37...Qc8! 38.Qxc8+ Kxc8 39. Nd2 f5 40.Re1±



38.Qb5 [38.Qa4!]

I'm down to my last couple of minutes in 40/2, SD/1, and I feel (correctly) that I'm winning. I play to threaten both Rd7 and Qe7+.

A good alternative is to get the rooks going first: 38.Nh2! Rh8 39. Rgd1 R4h7 40.Qa4 Qc8 41.Ng4+- 38...Rh7 39.Qe8+

39.Ng3 Rh8 40.Rgd1 Qc8 40.a4!

is also winning, says Fritz.

39...Kb7 40.Nh2?

I chicken out on opening lines with Qxe6, and choose the wrong way to activate my knight. 40.Qxe6! Rxe4 41.Ng3 Re3 42.Rxe3 Bxe3 43. Rd1 Qc8 44.Qc8+ Kxc8 45.Ne4 Bg5 46.Kh2 or 45...Rd7 46.Rf1.

40...Re7 41.Qa4 Qc6 42.Qxc6+ Kxc6 43.Re1

43.g4! Bf4 44.Kg2 f5 45.exf5 exf5 46.Nf3 Rh8 47.gxf5!±

43...Bf4 44.Nf3? Rhh7 45.Ng1

I freak out over ...f5, but 45. Kgl is playable.

45...Rd7 46.Red1??

46.Rxd7 Rxd7 47.g4±

46...Rxd3 47.Rxd3



47...Bc1

Ouch! This was always the down side of playing for the attack with 28.a3 and 31.c3.

48.b3 Bxa3 49.g4 a5 50.Kg2 b5 51.Ne2 a4 52.bxa4 bxa4 53.Rd2 Kb5 54.Ra2

I saw the writing on the wall and resigned, as Black's passed a-pawn and active king will soon cost me a piece. 0-1

Notes by J.P. Hylltin

Dutch Defense A90

J.P. Hylltin 2064

Bill Wheeler 2038

Southwest Open 2007 (6)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.Nf3 f5

Besides the transpositional 4... Nf6, the trendy choices have been 4...a6 and 4...dxc4. The text is not an easy line to research. - SKA

5.b3 Nf6 6.g3 Bd6 7.Bg2 Nbd7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Ne1 b6 10.Nd3 Bb7 11.Bf4 Qe7 12.f3?

There are plenty of reasonable moves: 12.cxd5, 12.Rc1 or 12.Bg5.

12...dxc4 13.bxc4 e5 14.Be3

I started to take a lot of time. I looked at but rejected 14.c5 bxc5 15. Qb3+ Kh8 16.Qxb7 (Better is 16. dxe5 Nxe5 17.Nxe5 Bxe5 18.Bxe5 Qxe5=) 16...exf4+.

14...exd4 15.Bxd4 c5 16.Bf2 Ne5 17.Qa4

Preventing Ba6.

17...Ng6 18.Nb5

I struggle for moves here, so all I can do is hope to get 2 Bs.

18...Bb8 19.e3

Preventing f4.

19...Ne5

The weakness of f3 surprised me.

20.Nxe5 Bxe5 21.Rad1 a6 22.Na3 Rad8 23.Qb3

23.Qc2 might have saved a move.

23...Bc7 24.Nb1 g5 25.Qc2

Fritz demonstrates lines approaching equality with 25.Nc3 because 25...g4 26.Nd5 Nxd5 27.cxd5 discourages 27...gxf3 28.d6+ with complications favoring White.

25...Qe6 26.Nd2 g4 27.e4

I didn't have anything else.

27...gxf3?!

I thought 27...f4 was good, and if 28.fxf4 Nxf4.

28.exf5 Qe2 29.Rfe1 Qd3 30.Qxd3 Rxd3 31.Bf1 Rd7

31...Ra3 32.Re3 Rxa2 33.Nxf3 Ng4+.

32.Nb1 Rfd8 33.Nc3 Rxd1 34.Rxd1 Rxd1 35.Nxd1

An immensely complicated ending has arisen, where control of key squares and long sequences of piece redeployments are common themes.

35...Be5 36.Bd3 Kf7 37.h3 h5 38.Kf1?!

38.Ne3 Bd4 concerned me. I figured out if I trade his White squared bishop off, I would have chances to steal a queenside pawn. I wasn't sure about trading my knight, which helped me create dynamics.

38...Be4

Just what I wanted. Then I realized I was dropping a pawn, so I had to start examining those dynamics.

39.Bxe4 Nxe4 40.Ne3 Nxf3+

If he had realized where this was heading, he could have bailed out here with several other moves. Fortunately, this is the last move of time

control. [40...Bd4; 40...Kf6 41.Nd5+ Kxf5 42.Nxb6 Bd4+]

41.Bxg3 Bxg3 42.Nd5 b5 43.cxb5 axb5 44.Nc3

And here's what I found. He now thought 46 minutes in this problem-like ending. Now the real fun begins.

**44...h4**

44...b4 45.Ne4 h4 (45...c4 has some points but falls short. 46.Nxg3 b3 (46...c3 47.Kel) 47.axb3 cxb3 48.Ne4) 46.Nxc5 Kf6 47.Nd3= winning either the b-pawn or the f pawn. Black can't win with a dark-squared bishop and the h-pawn, so I need only sac the knight for the last pawn.

44...Kf6 also looks crazy but still falls short. After 45.Ne4+ ... (a) 45... Kxf5 46. Nxg3+ Ke5 47.Nxh5 c4 48.Ng3 and my king will catch the c-pawn, while the h-pawn threat distracts; (b) 45... Ke5 46.Nxg3 h4 47. Ne4 (47.Kf2 hxg3+ 48.Kxg3 c4 49.Kxf3=) 47...c4 48.Nd2 Kxf5 49. Nxf3 Ke4 50.Ke2+.

45.Nxb5 Kf6 46.a4 Kxf5

46...c4 47.a5 Kxf5 48.a6 Bb8 49.a7 Bxa7 50.Nxa7 c3 51.Nb5 c2 52.Nd4+=.

47.Na3

47.a5 Bb8 48.a6 c4 I saw this far and did not think I could play 49.a7 (49.Kf2 almost blows it. 49...Kf4 50. Nc3 (a draw is available with 50.a7 Bxa7+ 51.Nxa7 c3 52.Nc6 c2 53. Nb4 c1Q 54.Nd3+) 50...Ba7+ 51. Kf1 Kg3 52.Nb5 Bb8+) 49...Bxa7

50.Nxa7 c3 51.Nb5 c2 52.Nd4+ I missed this point, and that drove me to the text. Fortunately he had no time to figure out any kind of punishment.

47...Ke4 48.a5 Bc7

48...Kd3 49.a6 Bb8 50.Kf2 Ke4 51.Nb5 c4 52.Nd6+ (52.a7 Bxa7+ 53.Nxa7 c3 54.Nb5 c2 55.Nc3+ Kf4 56.Na2=) 52...Kf4 53.Nxc4 Ba7+ 54.Kf1 Kg3 55.Ne5 f2 56.Nc6 Bb6 57.a7 Bxa7 58.Nxa7 Kxh3 59.Kxf2=

49.a6 Bb8 50.Nb5 c4 51.Nd6+ Kd3

Black was low on time and missed a chance to complicate. 51... Kf4 52.Nxc4 Kg3 makes it easy for White to go astray: (a) 53.Nd2? Ba7 54.Nc4 Kxh3 55.Ne5 Kg3+; or 54. Ne4+ Kxh3 55.Nf2+ Kg3 56.Ne4+ Kf4 57.Nf2 Bb6 58.Nh1 h3 59.Nf2 Bxf2 60.Kxf2 h2 61.a7 h1Q 62.a8Q Qg2+ 63.Ke1 Qe2#; (b) 53.Na5 Kxh3 54.Nc6 Kg3 55.Nxb8 h3+; (c) 53.Ne5! Ba7 54.Nc6 Bb6 (54... Kxh3? 55.Nxa7 Kg3 56.Nc8 h3 57.Nd6 heading for e4+ and f2 blocking the h-pawn. 57...Kf4 58. Ne4! Kxe4 59.a7+ queening with check.) 55.a7 Bxa7 56.Nxa7 Kxh3 57.Kf2 Kg4 58.Nc6 h3 59.Ne5+ Kf4 60.Nxf3=.

52.Nxc4 Kxc4 53.Kf2 Kb5 Draw**Texas Girls (cont'd from p. 3)**

Joanna Slusarewicz won the Elementary title with 5, ahead of Georgia Olvera and Abigail Glatman who tied for second with 4.5. Brianna Guillen won the Primary championship with 6.0. Kennedy Quintanilla was clear second with 5. Amanda Gonzalez and Rorye Jones tied for the K-1 championship with 5.0.

Ping-Jung Tintera was the chief TD, assisted by Eddie Rios, Sr., who organized the event for the Kingsville Chess Club. Section chiefs were Astrid Santoyo, Daphne Wang, Robert B. Jones, Criselda DeLeon and Russell Shelton.

Bradford's travels: Isle of Man International

Joe Bradford continued his overseas adventures after Gibraltar, playing in the 16th Monarch Assurance Isle of Man International, held Sept. 22-30. He finished with 4½ out of 9, defeating two GMs (Svetushkin and Hebden) and finishing in a tie for 16th, a half-point out of the prize money.

Six players tied for first with 6½ points to win £1484: Mateusz Bartel (Poland), Zahar Efimenko (Ukraine), Vitali Golod (Israel), Mikhail Kobalia (Russia), Michael Roiz (Israel), Yuri Yakovitch (Russia).

Bradford had a slow start, with a loss followed by two draws. In Rd. 1 he was paired with GM Yuri Yakovich, trainer to GM Alexandra Kosteniuk. Joe defended a wild-looking sideline in the Meran Defense, but a mental error on move 15 rather than the choice of opening seems to blame for the lopsided outcome.

QGD Meran D27

Yuri Yakovich 2597

Joe Bradford 2406

Isle of Man 2007 (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 d5 4.Nc3 c6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5 8.Bd3 b4

The Lundin variation, introduced in the 1930s.

9.Ne4 Bb7

The super-solid 9...Be7 continues to score respectably at the upper levels. Also playable is 9...Nxe4 10.Bxe4 Bb7 with similar play.

The text, playing for the open g-file, seems to be the black sheep of this line despite the best efforts of its top exponent, GM Andrei Kharlov.

10.Nxf6+ gxf6 11.e4 Bd6 12.0-0 h5

A young Nikolay Minev played 12...Rg8 against Botvinnik in the

1954 Amsterdam Olympiad. He lost, though not spectacularly.

13.Be3 c5 14.Bb5



14...Ke7 15.Bxd7 Qxd7?

After this Black is not seriously in the game.

Fritz claims Black is equal after 15...cxd4: (a) 16.Bxd4 Qxd7 17.Bxf6+ Kxf6 18.e5+ Ke7=; (b) 16.Bxe6 dxe3 17.Bd5 Ba6! 18.fxc3! Bxf1 19.Bxa8 Qxa8=. That Black could tolerate the vanishing of his e6 pawn is not intuitively obvious.

16.dxc5 Bc7 17.Qc2 Qc6 18.Nd2 Rhg8 19.f3 Rg7 20.Nb3 e5 21.a3 bxa3 22.Rxa3 a5 23.Nd2 Rag8 24.Rf2 h4 25.Nc4 Ba6 26.Nd6!

Yakovich finishes with dash.

26...Bxd6 27.cxd6+ Kd7 28.Rc3 Qb5 29.Rc7+ Ke6 30.Re7+ Kxd6 31.Qc7# 1-0

Bradford got on a winning streak in Rds. 4-6, defeating two experts and then a grandmaster:

QGD Meran D27

Joe Bradford 2406

Dmitri Svetushkin 2618

Isle of Man 2007 (6)

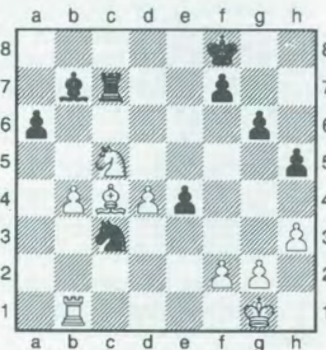
1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 a6 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5 8.Bd3 c5 9.0-0 Bb7 10.Qe2 Nbd7 11.Rd1 Qb8 12.h3 Bd6 13.b3 0-0 14.Bb2 Re8 15.Rac1 e5 16.dxc5 Nxc5 17.Bc2 e4 18.Ne1 Bh2+ 19.Kh1 Be5 20.b4 Ncd7 21.Bb3 Nb6

22.Nc2 Rd8 23.a4 bxa4 24.Rxd8+ Qxd8 25.Nxa4 Bxb2 26.Nxb2 Qc7 27.Qd2 Rc8 28.Na4 Nbd7 29.Rd1 h5 30.Qd6 Qxd6 31.Rxd6 Rc7 32.Kg1 Kf8 33.Rd1 g6 34.Rb1



34...Ne8 [34...Bd5=] 35.Nd4 Nd6 36.Bd1 Nb5 37.Be2 Nxd4 38.exd4 Nf6 [38...Rc2 39.Rb2 =] 39.Nc5 Nd5 40.Bc4 Nc3??

The last move of time control, and a small comedy of errors begins. Equal is 40...Ke7 41.Bxd5 Bxd5 42.Ra1 Bc4 43.Re1 Kd6 44.Rxe4 Kd5 45.f3 Rc6 46.g4 hxg4 47.hxg4 Rb6 48.Kf2 Rxb4 49.Ke3.



41.Ra1??

A clear win of the Exchange is 41.Rc1 Nd5 42.Bxd5 Bxd5 43.Ne6+. 41...Bc8? [41...Ke7±] 42.Ra3? [42.Rc1!+-] 42...Nb1 43.Re3 Nd2 44.Ba2

Black will have to give up his e-pawn to spring his knight out of jail

44...Bf5 45.Re2 e3 46.Rxe3 Ra7 47.f3 Ra8 48.Re2 Nb1 49.Bxb1 Bxb1 50.g4! hxg4 51.hxg4

The passed d-pawn is a monster with the bishop cut off from f5.

g5 52. Kf2 Kg7 53.d5 Rd8 54.Rd2 Rd6 55.Ke3 f6 56.Kd4 Rb6 57.Kc4 Rd6 58.Ne4 Rd8 59.Kc5 Bc2 60. Kb6 Ba4 61.Nc5!

Black's bishop has gone through a lot to cover d7, and then this move smacks it right down.

61...Rb8+ 62.Kc7 Rxb4 63.Nxa4 Rxa4 64.d6 Rc4+ 65.Kb7 1-0

Just as he stuck his head up among the contenders, Bradford left himself open to a crisp opening tactic in the kind of French Defense position he could usually play blindfolded.

French Winawer C18

Alexander Areshchenko 2656
Joe Bradford 2406

Isle of Man 2007 (7)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 cxd4 9.cxd4 Ne7 10.c3 b6 11.Ne2 Kf7 12.Nf4 Ba6?? 1-0



See if you can figure out why Black resigned (answer: page 23).

Torre Attack A46

Mark Hebden 2540
Joe Bradford 2406

Isle of Man 2007 (9)

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c3

Did Hebden know that Igor Shtern once used this move order to get a last round draw with Bradford? 3...b6 4.Bg5 Bb7 5.Nbd2 Be7 6.h4 d6 7.h5 Nbd7 8.e3 c5 9.Bf4 Qc7 10. Bd3 cxd4 11.cxd4 Rc8 12.Bg3 h6 13.Nh4 Qc6 14.e4 d5 15.e5 Ne4



If there is an overarching theme to this game, it is that centralization rules. White has gone on a tangent with his "creative" flank play.

16.Bf4 Bg5 17.g3 b5 18.Nb3 Qb6 19.Qe2 b4 20.Qe3 Ba6! 21.Bxg5

White can't win a pawn with 21. Bxe4 dxe4 22.Qxe4?? Bb7, or with 22.Bxg5 hxg5 23.Qxg5 Qb5 24.Qd2 Rxf5 and Black has the upper hand. 21...hxg5 22.Nf3 Bxd3 23.Qxd3 g4 24.Nfd2



24...f5?

24...Nxe5! Δ 25.dxe5? Nxf2 26. Qf1 Nxh1 27.Qxh1 Qe3+ 28.Kd1 Qxe5 with a crushing position. On

the better 25.Qxe3 Nxd2 26.Nxd2 Nc4 27.Nxc4 dxc4 28.Qe5 Qc6! (or Rh7) with ...c3 to follow, the tactics all swing Black's way.

24...25.exf6 Ndxg6 26.Nxe4 Nxe4 27.Nd2 Qc6 28.Rd1 0-0 29.0-0 Qc2 30.Nxe4 dxe4 31.Qa6 Rf6 32. d5?

A fateful decision of the "What was I thinking?" variety. White has an endgame edge after 32.Rde1 Rcf8 33.Qe2 Qxe2 34.Rxe2 Rc8 35.Rfe1 Rf5 36.Rxe4 Rc2 37.R1e2, although Black may draw with accurate play. 32...exd5 33.Qxa7 Rf3 34.Qd4 Rf5 35.Qxb4



35...Rxf2!?

35...e3! 36.Qxg4 Rxf2 37.Qe6+ Kh8 38.Qxd5 Rcf8 +. 36.Rxf2 Qxd1+ 37.Rf1 Qd3 38.Qd6 Re8 39.Qf4 Qd4+ 40.Rf2 Qe5 41. Qxg4 e3 42.Re2 Re6!

By patient, creeping maneuvers Black demonstrates he's still on top. 43.h6 Rxh6 44.Qc8+ Kh7 45.Qc2+ g6 46.Kg2 d4 47.Qc6 Rh5

Combining attack with defense. 48.Re1 Qa5

48...d3! trades the d-pawn for a tactical win: 49.Qd7+ Kh6 50.Qxd3 Qxb2+ (a) 51.Qe2 Qb7+ (this also refutes 51.Re2) 52.Qf3 Rh2+ +; (b) 51.Kf3 Rf5+ 52.Kxe3 Qf2+ +;

49.Re2 Qd8

Again, strong is 49...d3 because of 50.Qd7+ Kh6 51.Qxd3 Qa8+ with (Continued on page 23)

San Antonio Fall Open

FM Dennis Rylander takes first

Dennis Rylander topped the Fall Open with 3.5 out of 4, winning clear first prize of \$160. Although he took a Rd. 3 bye, no one could catch him as draws predominated that round. Tied for 2nd+U2200 with 3.0 were J.P. Hyltin and Mark McCue, who each won \$70. Avinash Thangirala, Andrew Nathanael Lozano and Steven Chen tied for the U2000 prize, \$20 each. In the Reserve, Juan Carrizales was clear winner with 4-0 (\$80). In second with 3 were Mike LaBelle, Raul Flores, Evan Xiang and Daniel Lozano, splitting 2nd + U1600 prizes for \$30 each. Adam English won U1400 with 2.5 (\$40). Lloyd Lyssyj won U1200 with 2.0 (\$40). Martin Gordon directed the 40-player event, held Sept. 22-23 at the Texas Neurosciences Institute in San Antonio. The prizes were paid at 80% of advertised (b/40 full entries) because of the junior and senior discounted entries.

Dutch Leningrad A89

Nathanael Lozano 1805
Dennis Rylander 2354

Fall Open (1)

1.c4 f5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.g3 d6 4.d4 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nc3 Nc6 8.d5 Ne5 9.Nxe5 dxe5 10.c5 e6 11.dxe6 Qe7 12.Nd5 Nxd5 13.Bxd5 c6 14.Bc4 Bxe6 15.Bxe6+ Qxe6 16.Qd6 Qxd6 17.cxd6 Rad8 18.Rd1 Rd7 19.Be3 b6 20.a4 f4 21.gxf4 exf4 22.Bd4 Rfd8 23.Bxg7 Kxg7 24.b4 Rxd6 25.Rxd6 Rxd6 26.Rc1 Kf6 27.Kg2 g5 28.Rc4 Kf5 29.e4+ Ke5 30.Kf3 h5 31.h3 Rd3+ 32.Kg2 Rd6 33.f3 Rd2+ 34.Kg1 Kd6 35.Kh1 c5 36.bxc5+ bxc5 37.Kg1 Rd4 38.Rxd4+ cxd4 39.Kf2 Ke5 40.Ke2 g4 41.fxg4 hxg4 42.h4 Kxe4 43.Kf2 f3 44.Ke1 g3 45.Kd2 g2 46.h5 g1Q
0-1

QGD Exchange D36

John Patty 2200
Steven Chen 1796

Fall Open (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 Be7 6.Qc2 c6 7.e3 Nbd7 8.Bd3 0-0 9.Nge2 Re8 10. 0-0 Nf8 11.f3 h6 12.Bh4 c5 13. Qd2 cxd4 14.Nxd4 Bc5 15.Kh1 Bxd4 16.exd4 Ne6 17.Bb5 Rf8 18. Rad1 g5 19.Bf2 a6 20.Bd3 Nh5 21. Bc2 Nhg7 22.Bb3 Nc7 23.Bg3 Nge8 24.f4 f5 25.fxg5 hxg5 26.Be5 Be6 27.Rde1 f4 28.Qe2 Bf7 29. Qg4 Kh7



30.Qh3+ Kg6 31.Bc2# 1-0

Catalan Opening E05

Ellen Xiang 1776
J.P. Hyltin 2082

Fall Open (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Nf3 Be7 5.Bg2 dxc4 6.Qa4+ Bd7 7.Qxc4 Bc6 8.0-0 0-0 9.Bg5 b5 10.Qd3 a6 11.a3 Nbd7 12.Nc3 Bb7 13.Rac1 c5 14.Rfd1 Qb6 15.dxc5 Bxc5 16. e3 h6 17.Bxf6 Nxf6 18.Qe2 Rfd8 19. b4 Bd6 20.e4 e5 21.Nd2 Rac8 22. Nb3 Rc7 23.Nc5 Bc8 24.Nd5 Nxd5 25.Rxd5 Bb7 26.Rd2 Rdc8 27.Bh3 Bxc5 28.Bxc8 Bxf2+ 29. Kg2 Rxc1 30.Bxb7 Rg1+ 31.Kh3 Be1 32.Rd1

Qxb7 33.Rxe1 Qc8+! 34.g4 Qc3+ 35.Qe3 Qxe1 36. Qc5 Rg3+ 37.Kh4 g5+ 38.Kh5 Rh3# 0-1

QGD Slav D43

Dennis Rylander 2354
Martin Gordon 1909

Fall Open (2)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Qc2 a6 8. cxd5 cxd5 9.Bd3 b5 10.0-0 0-0 11.Ne5 Bb7 12.Nxd7 Qxd7 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Bxh7+ Kh8 15.Bd3 Rac8 16.Qe2 g6 17.a4 b4 18.Nb1 a5 19. Nd2 e5 20.Nb3 exd4 21.exd4 Qd8 22.Bb5 Kg7 23.h3 Rh8 24.Rad1 Rh4 25.f4 Bc6 26.Rf2 Qb6 27.Bxc6 Rxc6 28.Qb5 Qxb5 29.axb5 Rb6 30.Nxa5 Rxb5 31.Nb3 Rb7 32.Ra1 Re7 33.Ra4 Re1+ 34.Kh2 Rd1 35. Rxb4 1-0

Catalan Opening E09

Mark McCue 1932
John Patty 2200

Fall Open (2)

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.g3 c6 5.Qc2 Nbd7 6.Bg2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nbd2 b6 9.Re1 Bb7 10.e4 Rc8 11.e5 Ne8 12.b3 Nc7 13.Bb2 c5 14. Qd1 Nb8 15.Rc1 Qd7 16.dxc5 bxc5 17.Qe2 Rfd8 18.Rcd1 Qe8 19.h4 h6 20.Nh2 Nc6 21.f4 Nd4 22.Bxd4 cxd4 23.cxd5 Nxd5 24. Bxd5 Bxd5 25.Ndf3 Rc3 26.Rd3 Bc5 27.Red1 Bb7 28.Kg2 Rxd3 29.Qxd3 Qc6 30.Kh3 Ba6 31.Qd2 Bb6 32.Ne1 Qe4 33.Nd3 Qf5+ 34.g4 Qe4 35. Ne1 d3 36.Nf1 h5 37.gxh5 Qf5+ 38. Kg3 Qxh5 39.Nf3 Qg6+ 40.Kh3 Qf5+ 41.Kg3 Bb7 42.N1h2 Qe4 43. Qe1 Qd5 44.Rc1 Draw

Queen's Gambit D29

J.P. Hyltin 2082
Avinash Thangirala 1822

Fall Open (2)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 e6
5.Bxc4 c5 6.Nc3 a6 7.0-0 b5 8.Bb3
Bb7 9.Qe2 Nbd7 10.Rd1 Qc7 11.
Bd2 Be7 12.Rac1 0-0 13. Bc2 Rfd8
14.e4 cxd4 15.Nxd4 Qb6 16.Be3
Bc5 17.a3 Ne5 18.b4 Bxd4 19.Nd5
Bxe3 20.Nxb6 Bxb6 21.h3 Draw

King's Indian E61

John Patty 2200
Derek Chang 1831

Fall Open (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
5.Be2 0-0 6.Nf3 e5 7.Be3 Nc6 8.d5
Ne7 9.Nd2 c5 10.g4 Ne8 11.f3 f5
12.g5 f4 13.Bf2 Bh3 14.Bf1 Qc8
15.Qe2 h5 16.gxh6 Bxh6 17.Rg1
Kh7 18.0-0-0 a6 19.Kb1 Bd7 20.
Bh4 Nf6 21.Qg2 Qe8 22.Ka1 b5 23.
Bg5 Bxg5 24.Qxg5 b4 25.Ne2 a5
26.Bh3 a4 27.a3 Rb8 28.Nc1 Kg7
29.Bxd7 Qxd7 30.Nd3 Rh8 31.Qg2
Draw

QGD Tartakover D58

Mark McCue 1932
J.P. Hyltin 2082

Fall Open (3)

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3
Be7 5.Bg5 0-0 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 b6
8.Bxf6 Bxf6 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Rc1
Be6 11.Bd3 c5 12.0-0 a6 13.Bb1
Nc6 14.Ne2 c4 15.b3 b5 16.bxc4
bxc4 17.Nc3 Be7 18.e4 g6 19.exd5
Bxd5 20.Nxd5 Qxd5 21.Qe2 Draw

Sicilian Smith-Morra B21

Avinash Thangirala 1822
Martin Gordon 1909

Fall Open (3)

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3
d6 5.Bc4 e6 6.Nf3 a6 7.Qe2 Be7
8.0-0 Nf6 9.Rd1 Qc7 10.Bf4 0-0
11.e5 Ne8 12.Rac1 Nc6 13.Bd3 d5
14.b4

A thematic thrust in the Smith-Morra Gambit. Now 14...Bxb4? loses to the well-known "whoopee" attack with 15.Bxh7+!, etc.

14...f5 15.exf6! Qxf4 16.fxe7 Nxe7



17.Nxd5!! exd5

17...Nxd5 18.Rxc8! Nec7 (18...
Rxc8 19.Qxe6+--+) 19.Rxa8 Rxa8
20.g3±.
18.Qxe7 Bg4 19.Qh4 Nf6 [19...h5]
20.h3 h5 21.hxg4 hxg4 22.Ng5
Rfc8 23.Bh7+ Nxh7 24.Qxh7+ Kf8
25.Ne6+ Kf7 26.Nxf4 Rc6 27.Qf5+
Rf6 28.Qd7+ Kg8 29.Rc7 Kf8 30.
Qxg7+ Ke8 31.Qe7# 1-0

Queen's Gambit D20

Dennis Rylander 2354
Avinash Thangirala 1822

Fall Open (4)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 Nf6 4.Nc3 e5
5.d5 c6 6.Nf3 Bb4 7.Bxc4 0-0 8.0-0
Bxc3 9.bxc3 Nxe4 10.Ba3 Re8 11.
Qb3 b5 12.Be2 Bg4 13.Rad1 Ng5
14.dxc6 Qf6 15.Rd6 Re6 16.Nxg5
Qxg5 17.Bxg4 Rxd6 18.Bxd6 Qxg4
19.Qxb5 Qc8 20.c7 Nd7 21.Rb1
Nf6 22.Qc6 Ne8 23.Qxa8 Qxa8 24.
Rb8 f6 25.Rxa8 Kf7 26. c8Q Nxd6
27.Rxa7+ Kg6 28.Qg4+ 1-0

King's Indian E67

J.P. Hyltin 2082
Derek Chang 1831

Fall Open (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Nf3 d6
5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0 Nbd7 7.Nc3 Rb8
8.Rb1 c5 9.d5 a6 10.b3 b5 11.Qc2
Ne8 12.Nd2 Qa5 13.Nd1 Ne5 14.
h3 Nc7 15.f4 Nd7 16.Bb2 Ne8 17.e4
Qc7 18.Bxg7 Nxg7 19.Nf2 a5 20.
Rfe1 Ba6 21.Bf1 e6 22.cxb5 Bxb5

23.Bxb5 Rxb5 24.Qd3 Rfb8 25.Nc4
e5 26.fxe5 Nxe5 27.Nxe5 dxe5 28.
Rec1 Qd6 29.Rc4 Nh5 30.Rbc1
Rc8 31.Kh2 Rb7 32.Qc3 Rbc7 33.
Nd3 Qf6 34.Rc2

34.Qxe5 Qf3 would muddy the waters a bit.

34...Qf3 35.Nxe5 Qf6 36.Nc6 Qd6
37.Rxc5 f6 38.Ne7+ Kf7 39.Nxc8
Rxc8 40.Rxc8 1-0

Gruenfeld Defense D94

Ellen Xiang 1776
Mark McCue 1932

Fall Open (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3
Bg7 5.e3 0-0 6.b4 c6 7.b5 a6 8.
bxc6 Nxc6 9.Ba3 Qa5 10.Qb3 dxc4
11.Bxc4 b5 12.Bxf7+ Rxf7 13.Ng5
e6 14.Nxf7 Kxf7 15.Bb2 b4 16.Ne2
Qd5 17.Qxd5 exd5 18.0-0 Rb8 19.
Rac1 Bd7 20.Rc2 Bh6 21.Rfc1 Rb6
22.a3 a5 23.axb4 axb4 24.Ra1 Ke7
25.h3 Ne4 26. Ra8 Be8 27.Nc1 Nd6
28.Nb3 Nc4 29.Nc5 Bg7 30.Ra1
Bd7 0-1

Isle of Man (cont'd from p. 21)

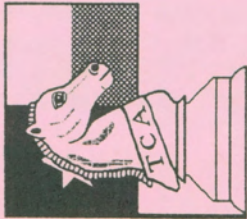
forced mate. Bradford's motto here seems to be "no worry, no hurry", as he slowly consolidates and lets the pawns carry the day.

50.Qb7+ Kg8 51.Kg1 Qd5 52.
Qb8+ Kg7 53.Qc7+ Kf6 54.Rg2
Re5 55.g4 Re7 56.g5+ Kf7 57.Qf4+
Kg8 58.Qb8+ Kg7 59.Qb6 Qe5 60.
Kf1 d3 61.Ke1 Rc7 0-1

Answer: Bradford resigned without waiting for 13.Qxg7+! Kxg7 14. Nxe6+ Kf7 15.Nxc7, winning two pawns plus the Exchange.

Instead of 12...Ba6?!, equal was 12...Qc6 13.h4 Ba6 14.Bxa6 Nxa6. Trivia: The Isle of Man, located in the Irish Sea, is a Crown dependency but not a part of the UK or the EU.

Solution (back cover): 1.Qb4 (1...e4 2.Qc5#; 1...c5 2.Qb7#; 1...c6 2. Qc4#; 1...Kc6 2.Qb5#).

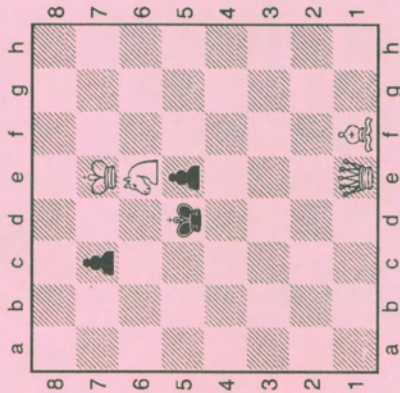


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Nikolai Bantush
StrangeGems, 2000



White to move, mate in two

Solution: p. 23

