

TEXAS KNIGHTS

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A Message from the President

Fellow Texas Chess Players,

It is truly amazing that 2008 is almost at a close. I hope that it has been a very rewarding year for everyone. As the year draws to a close, it is wise to reflect on the opportunities that we have for the coming year. Traditionally, individuals make resolutions that they want to accomplish for the New Year. In that spirit, I want to make our organizational objectives a wish list for the following year.

One of the greatest challenges that our organization faces is where its time and energy should be devoted. It is far too easy for the mission to be clouded in times of prosperity.

Very simply put: "We are corrupted by prosperity. – Publius Cornelius Tacitus

The most pragmatic approach is to clearly define what the objectives for the year are. It is crucial that everyone in the organization understands what we want to achieve so that we can work towards a common purpose.

The three objectives that I have mapped out with the board are:

1. Create a list of all TCA tournaments: which will include awarded/ un-awarded bids, the date bids are due and the status of bids. This list will be regularly published in *Texas Knights* and the Web site <http://www.texaschess.org>

2. Standardize operating procedures: Currently as an organization we are very reactive. The way that most problems are fixed is we wait for someone to e-mail the board, deliberate, and then present a resolution. Unfortunately, we fail to take preventive action.

To resolve this, we want to set criteria for different items. One of the most pressing ones is tournaments which TCA awards funds to. We need to establish consistent award amounts and criteria/deadlines for applying for those awards.

Similarly we current have several procedures which need to be improved for the efficiency of our operation.

3. Improve membership count: We are not giving enough members a bang for their buck. We have tournaments that attract more than 1,000 participants, yet our TCA membership remains under 300. I feel that we should do a better job recruiting while re-examining the services that our organization offers. By the end of Sep-

tember 2009, our collective goal should be to improve the membership count by at least 25%.

With these items alone, the board has its work cut out for it. However, the challenge should not solely rely on the top of the organization; rather it should have the buy-in from all members of the organization.

How can you help? Here are some ideas that will help us to achieve our objectives.

- 1) Bid on a TCA tournament. We will make the process simpler and more transparent for organizers to bid on, but we need for you to make the bid
- 2) Encourage TCA membership at your tournaments; always have forms handy
- 3) Ask a friend to join TCA
- 4) Contribute to *Texas Knights*. The editor is constantly looking for statewide or local stories. If there is a chess personality in your area that you want to write about, please do so.
- 5) Give us feedback. Let us know what we can do as an organization for you. My e-mail address is crendon44@hotmail.com.

"A good companion shortens the longest road."

– Turkish Proverb

Take up the challenge and help us to end this year the right way.

Cordially,
Clemente Rendon
TCA President

Texas Girls' Championship

The Texas Girls' Championship was held Oct. 25 as a one-day game/30 tournament in Kingsville. Despite the format change, the turnout of 80 was on a par with last year (84, also in Kingsville). Brownsville had the top turnout of 193 in 2005, while Corpus Christi was getting just over 100.

There were five divisions. In 1-K (6 players) Sarah Lee Sang won with 3-0.

In 2-P (19 players) there was a four-way with Amarie Walleth, Sadia Qureshi, Alexis Marquez and Priya Trakru all scoring 4-1.

In 3-E (18 players) the winner was Evan Xiang with 5-0. Victoria Mortera was second with 4-1.

In 4-M (22 players) the winner was Ellen Xiang, also with 5-0. Tied for second with 4-1 were Kristin Ramos and Tabitha Lee Sang.

(Continued on page 5)

Test Your Tactics!

Combinations from recent events. Solutions: page 9



1. White to move
Zivanic-Georges, SWO '08



2. White to move
Bercys-Rakic, UTD-U. Belgrade '08



3. White to move
Stopa-Ramirez, SWO '08



4. Black to move
Kappler-Carlin, SWO '08



5. Black to move
Stanley-Anderson, Octoberfest '08



6. White to move
Yang-English, Tx. Polgar Qualifier '08



7. Black to move
Kramnik-Anand, WC m/3 2008



8. Black to move
Kramnik-Anand, WC m/5 2008



9. White to move
Ray Robson-Brian Wall, Fla. Chp. 2008

FM Darwin Yang wins bronze in World Youth U12

Darwin Yang of Dallas scored 8/11 to win the third place bronze medal in the under-twelve division of the World Youth Championships, held Oct.20-31 in Vung Tau, Vietnam. He had led the event after six rounds.

Of the 28 players from the US, the only other medallist was Samuel Shankland of California, who tied for first in under-18 and won bronze on the tiebreak. His result gained him the title of International Master.

Two other Texas representatives performed notably: Jonathan Chiang (fifth in under-8) and his older sister Sarah Chaing, 13th in under-12 girls.

The US contingent won three team medals.

India had the powerhouse team, helped by proximity and perhaps given a boost by Anand's parallel triumph taking place in Germany. They won eight individual plus eleven team medals.

QGD Semi-Slav D45

Darwin Yang 2182

Pin-Hung Chen 1700

World Youth U12 (1)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Qc2 Be7 7.g4 h6 8.Rg1 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Nd5 10.e4 Nxc3 11.bxc3 g5 12.Bb2 Rg8 [12...Qa5?!] 13.O-O-O b5 14.Bb3 Bb7



15.d5 exd5 16.exd5 Qc7 17.Qf5 Rf8 18.Rge1 Kd8 19.Rxe7 1-0

Giucco Piano C77

Darwin Yang 2182

Das Sayantan 2112

World Youth U12 (5)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.d3 b5 6.Bb3 Bc5 7.O-O O-O 8.c3 d6 9.Nbd2 Bb6 10.Re1 Bb7 11.Nf1 Ne7 12.Ng3 Ng6 13.Nf5 d5?

Black tries to make a Marshall-type gambit, but this backfires.

14.exd5 Nxd5 15.Nxe5 Bxf2+?! 16.Kxf2 Qf6 17.Bxd5

Playable is 17.Qh5 directly, e.g. 17...Nge7 18.g4 g6 19.Nd7! and White keeps the extra piece.

17...Bxd5 18.Qh5 Be6 19.g4 Nxe5 20.Rxe5 g6 21.Qg5

Or 21.Qh6 Qxe5 22.Bf4 Qf6 23.Bg5 Qe5 24.e4, catching the queen.

21...Qxg5 22.Bxg5 gxf5

22...Bxf5! 23.Bh6 (23.gxf5 f6) Bxg4 24.Bxf8± with a technical grind ahead.

23.Bh6 Rfe8 24.gxf5 Bd7 25.Rg1+ Kh8 26.Bg7+ Kg8 27.Rc5 h5 28.f6 Bg4



29.Rxg4

1-0

In the final round, Shankland outplayed Le Quiang Liem (2583) in the ending (see diagram next column). Black's has just played 42...Rb8-e8, a mistake which Shankland exploits fully. Best was 42...Rh8, probably drawing with best play.



43.c5! dxc5 44.d6 e5 45.b6 h3 46.d7 Rd8 47.b7 h2 48.Re1 Kf5 49.Rb1 Rb8 50.Rd1 Rd8 51.Kc3 Rxd7 52.Rf1+ 1-0

Texas Girls, cont'd from p. 3

In 5-H (16 players) the Polgar champion Courtney Jamison won with 4.5 (drawing Angel Bohannon). Tied for second were Julia Jones and Rheanna English with 4-1.

Eddie Rios directed for the Kingsville Chess Club.

Regrettably, no scholarship was awarded as in past years. James Stallings, director of the UT Dallas Chess Program, explained that their sponsorship was pulled because the change of tournament format had not been made explicit when the bid was submitted to TCA.

To avoid similar surprises in the future, Stallings has provided TCA with a contract form setting out conditions for the award of UTD scholarships. These include providing a link to the UTD website three months in advance of a tournament, and mentioning UTD in advertisements (including TLAs) and articles about the event. Any major change in format (such as number of days or time control) after the signing of a bid may be grounds for withdrawal of the scholarship award.

Dallas Stomps Belgrade in Intercollegiate Match

By Jenni Huffenberger
UTD press release

UT Dallas chess players stomped the competition Friday when they triumphed over the international powerhouse team from the University of Belgrade during the third annual Trans-Atlantic Cup competition.

UT Dallas competitors made their moves from laptop computers connected to the Internet.

It was the team's second consecutive win in the competition. The final score was 12.5-3.5, with 11 wins, two losses and three draws.

On paper, this year's contest looked very promising," noted Jim Stallings, director of the UT Dallas chess program. "At 2360, our team's average chess rating is higher than it's ever been, and Belgrade's rating is down, below 2300. But that was all on paper, and each individual game still had to be played."

During the match – which consisted of 16 individual games played simultaneously – UT Dallas competitors made their moves from laptop computers connected to the Internet. A large video screen helped spectators follow some of the action from select games.

The Comet cheerleaders – along with notable figures from the chess world and Texas House Rep. Jerry Madden, who made the ceremonial first move – got the match off to a rousing start in the School of Management's Davidson Auditorium.

As was the case in the 2006 and 2007 matches, UTD built up an early lead with four consecutive wins followed by two draws. The score stood at 5-1.

At that point we weren't totally confident of a win since the same thing happened in 2006, and we went on to lose," Stallings said. "And yet, the wins kept coming in

The last game to report was on Board 1, where our team captain, GM Alejandro Ramirez, won with the black pieces."

When all the clicks had stopped, Ramirez held the Trans-Atlantic Cup high in the air as the UT Dallas chess team was proclaimed the winner.

The University of Belgrade is Europe's best college chess team, and UT Dallas is the top-ranked U.S. team.

QGD Slav D11

IM Milos Pavlovic
GM Alejandro Ramirez

Transatlantic Cup 2008

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 Bg4 5.h3 Bxf3 6.Qxf3 e6 7.Nc3 Nbd7 8.Bd3 Bb4

An older line is 8...Bd6. Maybe Ramirez encourages the queenside pawn advance to discourage White's idea of g4-g5 and 0-0-0.

9.Bd2 O-O 10.a3 Ba5 11.b4 Bc7 12.cxd5 cxd5 13.O-O

This was played in Bercys-Ramirez, SW Open Rd. 3, when 13...Re8 14.e4 e5 15.Bg5 was equal. Ramirez tries a different tack, and in this game succeeds in dominating the center.

13...Rc8 14.a4 Bb8 15.a5 Re8 16.e4 e5 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.exd5 exd4



19.Bb5 Ne5 20.Qe4?

20.Qb3 with an equal endgame after 20...Nc4!? 21.Bxc4 Qc7 22.f4, or 20...Qc7 21.f4 Nc4, transposing. 20...Nc6 21.Qf3 Qd6 22.g3 Ne5 23.Qg2

Clearly something is not right. Black soon dominates the board.

Red8 24.Rac1 a6 25.Ba4 Nc4 26.Bg5 f6 27.Bf4 Qxb4 28.Bc2 Bxf4 29.gxf4 Nd6 30.Kh1 f5 31.Qg5 g6 32.Rce1 Nf7 33.Qf6 Rxc2 34.Re7 Rf8 35.Rg1 Qd6 36.Re6 Qxd5+ 0-1

Queen's Indian E15

IM Salvijus Bercys 2428
Marija Rakic 2282

Transatlantic Cup 2008

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.b3 b5 6.cxb5 Bxb5 7.Nc3 Bb4 8.Bd2 Bc6 9.Bg2 a5 10.0-0 0-0 11.Qc2 Qc8 12.Rac1 Qa6 13.Bg5 Bxc3 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.Qxc3 d5 16.Rfe1 Rc8 17.Nd2 Bb7 18.e4 Qd6 19.exd5 Bxd5 20.Nc4 Qc6 21.Bxd5 exd5 22.Ne3 Qd7 23.Qc5 Rd8 24.Nxd5 Qd6 25.Ne7+ Kh8 26.Qh5 Nd7 27.Re4 Re8 28.Nf5 Qd5 29.Rxe8+ Rxe8



30.Qg4 Rg8 31.Qxg8+ 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E38

IM Davorin Kuljasevic 2521
IM Nikola Nestorovic 2393

Transatlantic Cup 2008

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2

c5 5.dxc5 Qc7 6.Nf3 Bxc5 7.g3 a6
8.Bf4 d6 9.Bg2 Nc6 10.O-O h6
11.Rad1 e5 12.Bc1 Be6 13.Nd5
Bxd5 14.cxd5 Ne7 15.e4 Qb6 16.a3
Qa7 17.Bh3 b5 18.Nh4 g5 19.Nf5
g4 20.Bg2 Nxf5 21.exf5 Ke7 22.
Kh1 Rac8 23.Qe2 Rcg8 24.h4 gxh3
25.Bxh3 h5 26.Kg2 Qa8 27.b4 Bb6
28.Bb2



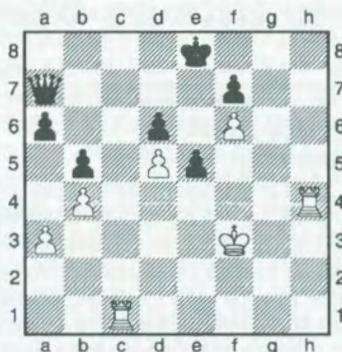
28...Kf8

The poison on the d-pawn is clear after 28...Nxd5 29.Kh2 Bc7 30.Qc2! (29.Bg2? h4! 30.g4 Nf4+) 30.Qc2! h4 31.g4 Kf8 32.Bg2+-. 29.Qf3 Rg7 30.Rh1 h4



31.g4 Rhg8 32.Bc1 Nxc4 33.Bxc4 Rxc4+ 34. Kh3 Qc8

Fritz goes from +2 for Black to equal after 34...Bd4 35.Bh6+ Ke8 36.Rhe1 Kd8 37.Re1 Qa7 38.Rc2 Qd7 39.Qxc4 Rxc4 40.Kxc4 f6=. 35.Bh6+ Ke8 36.Rc1 Qd7 37.Qxc4 Rxc4 38. Kxc4 Bxf2 39.Bg5 Kf8 40.Bxh4 Bxh4 41.Rxh4 Qa7 42.f6 Ke8 43.Kf3



44...Qb7??

Better is 43...Kd7 44.Rh7 (44.Rc6? Qg1?) 44...Qd4= with a likely perpetual check one way or another. 44.Rc6+- Kd7 45.Rh7 e4+ 46.Kxe4 Qb8 47.Rxf7+ Ke8 48.Rh7 1-0

Sicilian Najdorf B90

Milos Nikolic 2299

Wang Puchen 2450

Transatlantic Cup 2008

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.f3 Be7 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0 Nbd7 11.g4 b5 12.g5 b4 13.Ne2 Ne8



This position has come up a lot in recent years. NICBase has White winning at 92% (six wins and one draw) after 14.f4.

14.h4 a5 15.Kb1 a4 16.Nbc1 b3 17.cxb3 axb3 18.a3 d5!? [18...Nc7 19.Nc3 f5=] 19.exd5 Bf5+ 20.Nd3 20.Ka1 Bc2+- 20...Nd6 21.Qe1

Better is 21.Ng3! Nc4 22.Qc1 Nxe3 23.Qxe3 Bg6 24.Bh3± 21...Nc4 22.Nec1

22.Ng3 Rxa3!! 23.bxa3 Nxa3+ 24.Kb2 Nc4+ 25.Kb1 Qa8 26.Qf2 Na3+ 27.Kb2 Nb5!+- 22...Qb8 23.Bh3



23...Bxa3 24.bxa3

24.Bxf5 Bxb2 25.Nxb2 Na3+ 24...Bxh3 25.Rxh3 Nxa3+ 26.Kb2 Nc4+ 27.Kc3

If 27.Kb1 Ra1+! promotes the pawn: 28.Kxa1 b2+ 29.Kb1 Na3+ 30.Ka2 b1Q+ and mate in a few. 27...Rc8, White resigns.



The emperor has no clothes! A grim Fritz continuation is 28.Bc5 Nxc5 29.Nxc5 Rxc5 30.Nd3 Rc8 31. Nb4 Ne3+ 32.Nc6 Qb6! Δ ...Nxd5+.

0-1

Anand retains world title by 6½-4½ over Kramnik

GM Viswanathan Anand of India successfully defended his title in a rematch with Vladimir Kramnik of Russia, played Oct. 14-29 in Bonn, Germany. Anand had racked up 6-3 in the best of twelve match and needed only to draw one of the three remaining games, which he did in Game 11. Kramnik's win to delay elimination in Game 10 was his first and only one of the match.

As agreed before the match, the players equally split the prize fund of 1.5 million euros.

QGD Slav D14

Vladimir Kramnik
Viswanathan Anand

World Championship 2008 (1)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 cxd5 5.Bf4 Nc6 6.e3 Bf5 7.Nf3 e6 8.Qb3 Bb4 9.Bb5 O-O 10.Bxc6 Bxc3+ 11.Qxc3 Rc8 12. Ne5 Ng4 13.Nxg4 Bxg4 14.Qb4 Rxc6 15. Qxb7 Qc8 16.Qxc8 Rfxc8 17.O-O a5 18.f3 Bf5 19.Rfe1 Bg6 20.b3 f6 21.e4 dxe4 22.fxe4 Rd8 23.Rad1 Rc2 24.e5 fxe5 25.Bxe5 Rxa2 26. Ra1 Rxa1 27.Rxa1 Rd5 28.Rc1 Rd7 29.Rc5 Ra7 30.Rc7 Rxc7 31. Bxc7 Bc2 32.Bxa5 Bxb3 ½-½

Nimzo-Indian E25

Viswanathan Anand
Vladimir Kramnik

World Championship 2008 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.dxc5 f5 9.Qc2 Nd7 10.e4 fxe4 11.fxe4 N5f6 12.c6 bxc6 13.Nf3 Qa5 14.Bd2 Ba6 15.c4 Qc5 16.Bd3 Ng4 17.Bb4 Qe3+ 18.Qe2 O-O-O 19.Qxe3 Nxe3 20.Kf2 Ng4+ 21.Kg3 Ndf6 22.Bb1 h5 23.h3 h4+ 24.Nxh4 Ne5 25.Nf3 Nh5+ 26.Kf2 Nxf3 27.Kxf3 e5 28.Rc1 Nf4 29.Ra2 Nd3 30.Rc3 Nf4 31.Bc2 Ne6 32.Kg3 Rd4 ½-½

QGD Meran D49

Vladimir Kramnik
Viswanathan Anand

World Championship 2008 (3)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5 8. Bd3 a6 9.e4 c5 10.e5 cxd4 11.Nxb5 axb5 12.exf6 gxf6 13.O-O Qb6 14. Qe2 Bb7 15.Bxb5 Bd6 16.Rd1 Rg8 17.g3 Rg4 18.Bf4 Bxf4 19.Nxd4 h5



20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.Rxd7 Kf8 22.Qd3 Rg7 23.Rxg7 Kxg7 24.gxf4 Rd8 25.Qe2 Kh6 26.Kf1 Rg8 27.a4 Bg2+ 28.Ke1 Bh3 29.Ra3 Rg1+ 30. Kd2 Qd4+ 31.Kc2 Bg4 32.f3 Bf5+ 33.Bd3 Bh3 34.a5 Rg2 35.a6 Rxe2+ 36.Bxe2 Bf5+ 37.Kb3 Qe3+ 38.Ka2 Qxe2 39.a7 Qc4+ 40.Ka1 Qf1+ 41. Ka2 Bb1+ 0-1

QGD D37

Viswanathan Anand
Vladimir Kramnik

World Championship 2008 (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Bf4 O-O 6.e3 Nbd7 7.a3 c5 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Nxd5 exd5 10.dxc5 Nxc5 11.Be5 Bf5 12.Be2 Bf6 13. Bxf6 Qxf6 14.Nd4 Ne6 15.Nxf5 Qxf5 16.O-O Rfd8 17.Bg4 Qe5 18. Qb3 Nc5 19.Qb5 b6 20.Rfd1 Rd6 21.Rd4 a6 22.Qb4 h5 23.Bh3 Rad8 24.g3 g5 25.Rad1 g4 26.Bg2 Ne6 27.R4d3 d4 28.exd4 Rxd4 29.Rxd4 Rxd4 ½-½

QGD Meran D49

Vladimir Kramnik
Viswanathan Anand

World Championship 2008 (5)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5 8.Bd3 a6 9.e4 c5 10.e5 cxd4 11. Nxb5 axb5 12.exf6 gxf6 13.O-O Qb6 14.Qe2 Bb7 15.Bxb5 Rg8 16. Bf4 Bd6 17.Bg3 f5 18.Rfe1 f4 19.Bh4 Be7 20.a4 Bxh4 21.Nxh4 Ke7 22.Ra3 Rac8 23.Rxc8 Rxc8 24.Ra1 Qc5 25.Qg4 Qe5 26.Nf3 Qf6 27.Re1 Rc5 28.b4 Rc3 29. Nxd4 Qxd4 30.Rd1 Nf6 31.Rxd4 Nxg4 32.Rd7+ Kf6 33.Rxb7 Rc1+ 34.Bf1 Ne3 35.fxe3 fxe3 0-1

Nimzo-Indian E34

Viswanathan Anand
Vladimir Kramnik

World Championship 2008 (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 d5 5.cxd5 Qxd5 6.Nf3 Qf5 7.Qb3 Nc6 8.Bd2 O-O 9.h3 b6 10.g4 Qa5 11.Rc1 Bb7 12.a3 Bxc3 13.Bxc3 Qd5 14.Qxd5 Nxd5 15.Bd2 Nf6 16.Rg1 Rac8 17.Bg2 Ne7 18.Bb4



18...c5?! ["Karpov frowned." Better is 18... Rfe8] 19.dxc5 Rfd8 20.Ne5 Bxg2 21.Rxg2 bxc5 22.Rxc5 Ne4 23.Rxc8 Rxc8 24.Nd3 Nd5 25.Bd2 Rc2 26.Bc1 f5 27.Kd1 Rc8 28.f3 Nd6 29.Ke1 a5 30.e3 e5 31.gxf5 e4 32.fxe4 Nxe4 33.Bd2 a4 34.Nf2!

Nd6 35.Rg4 Nc4 36.e4 Nf6 37.Rg3
Nxb2 38.e5 Nd5 39.f6 Kf7 40.Ne4
Nc4 41.fxg7 [41.Rxg7+! Kc6 42.
Ng5+ Kxe5 43.f7 and 44. Rg8+]
41...Kg8 42.Rd3 Ndb6 43.Bh6
Nxe5 44.Nf6+ Kf7 45.Rc3 Rxc3
46.g8=Q+ Kxf6 47.Bg7+ 1-0

QGD Slav D19

Viswanathan Anand

Vladimir Kramnik

World Championship 2008 (7)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3
dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4
8.O-O Nbd7 9.Qe2 Bg6 10.e4 O-O
11.Bd3 Bh5 12.e5 Nd5 13.Nxd5
cxd5 14.Qe3 Re8 15.Ne1 Bg6 16.
Bxg6 hxg6 17.Nd3 Qb6 18.Nxb4
Qxb4 19.b3 Rac8 20. Ba3 Qc3 21.
Rac1 Qxe3 22.fxex3 f6 23.Bd6 g5
24.h3 Kf7 25.Kf2 Kg6 26.Ke2 fx5
27.dxe5 b6 28.b4 Rc4 29.Rxc4
dxc4 30.Rc1 Rc8 31.g4 a5 32.b5 c3
33.Rc2 Kf7 34.Kd3 Nc5+ 35.Bxc5
Rxc5 36.Rxc3 Rxc3+ ½-½

QGD Vienna D39

Vladimir Kramnik

Viswanathan Anand

World Championship 2008 (8)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3
dxc4 5.e4 Bb4 6.Bg5 c5 7.Bxc4
cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qa5 9.Bb5+ Bd7
10.Bxf6 Bxb5 11.Ndxb5 gxf6 12.
O-O Nc6 13.a3 Bxc3 14.Nxc3 Rg8
15.f4 Rd8 16.Qe1 Qb6+ 17.Rf2
Rd3 18.Qe2 Qd4 19.Re1 a6 20.Kh1
Kf8 21.Ref1 Rg6 22.g3 Kg7 23.Rd1
Rxd1+ 24.Nxd1 Kh8 25.Nc3 Rg8
26.Kg2 Rd8 27.Qh5 Kg7 28.Qg4+
Kh8 29.Qh5 Kg7 30.Qg4+ Kh8
31.Qh4 Kg7 32.e5 f5 33.Qf6+ Kg8
34.Qg5+ Kh8 35.Qf6+ Kg8 36.Re2
Qc4 37.Qg5+ Kh8 38.Qf6+ Kg8
39.Qg5+ Kh8 ½-½

QGD Semi-Slav D43

Viswanathan Anand

Vladimir Kramnik

World Championship 2008 (9)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 c6
5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 dxc4 7.e4 g5 8.Bg3
b5 9.Be2 Bb7 10.Qc2 Nbd7 11.Rd1
Bb4 12.Ne5 Qe7 13.0-0 Nxe5 14.
Bxe5 0-0 15.Bxf6 Qxf6 16.f4 Qg7
17.e5 c5 18.Nxb5 cxd4 19.Qxc4 a5
20.Kh1 Rac8 21.Qxd4 gxf4 22.Bf3
Ba6 23. a4 Rc5 24.Qxf4 Rxe5 25.b3
Bxb5 26.axb5 Rxb5 27.Be4 Bc3
28.Bc2 Be5 29.Qf2 Bb8 30.Qf3 Rc5
31. Bd3 Rc3 32.g3 Kh8 33.Qb7 f5
34.Qb6 Qe5 35.Qb7 Qc7 36.Qxc7
Bxc7 37.Be4 Re8 38.Rd7 a4 39.
Rxc7 axb3 40.Rf2 Rb8 41.Rb2 h5
42.Kg2 h4 43.Rc6 hxg3 44.hxg3
Rg8 45.Rxe6 Rxc4 ½-½

Nimzo-Indian E20

Vladimir Kramnik

Viswanathan Anand

World Championship 2008 (10)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nf3
c5 5.g3 cxd4 6.Nxd4 O-O 7.Bg2 d5
8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Qb3 Qa5 10.Bd2
Nc6 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.O-O Bxc3 13.
bxc3 Ba6 14.Rfd1 Qc5 15.e4 Bc4
16.Qa4 Nb6 17.Qb4 Qh5



18.Re1

18.Be3 Rfc8 19.Bf4 c5 20.Qb2
Be2 = Bacrot-Karlsen, Bel 2008.
18...c5 19.Qa5 Rfc8 20.Be3 Be2
21. Bf4 e5 22.Be3 Bg4 23.Qa6! f6
24.a4 Qf7 25.Bf1 Be6 26.Rab1 c4?
26...Rab8! so as to deny the 7th
rank after 27.a5 Na4, but 28.Rec1!
keeps an advantage for White.
27. a5+- Na4 28.Rb7 Qe8



29.Qd6! 1-0
29...Bf7 30.Qb4 Rcb8 (30...a6
31.Ral) 31.a6 Nb6 32.Bxb6+-

Sicilian Najdorf B96

Viswanathan Anand

Vladimir Kramnik

World Championship 2008 (11)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qc7
8.Bxf6 gxf6 9.f5 Qc5 10.Qd3 Nc6
11.Nb3 Qe5 12.O-O-O exf5 13.Qe3
Bg7 14.Rd5 Qe7 15.Qg3 Rg8 16.
Qf4 fxe4 17.Nxe4 f5 18.Nxd6+ Kf8
19.Nxc8 Rxc8 20.Kb1 Qe1+ 21.Nc1
Ne7 22.Qd2 Qxd2 23.Rxd2 Bh6
24.Rf2 Be3 ½-½

Test Your Tacies (p. 4):

- 1.Nc5! 1-0 (1...Qxa4 2.Bxb7#).
- 1.Qg4 Rg8 2.Qxg8+! 1-0 (if 2...Kxg8 then 3.Ne7+ and 4.Nxd5).
- 1.Rf4! 1-0 (1...exf4 2.Qe8+).
- 1...Qa5! 0-1 (2.Bxf6 Qxa2 and mate next).
- 1...Ne3+ 2.Bxe3 Qf3+ 0-1 (3. Kgl Qf1# is next). Or 2. Kgl Qg6+ 3.Bg3 Rf1#.
- White missed mate in three with 1.Rd8+ Kh7 2.Ng5+! hxg5 3.Rh3#.
- The champ missed 1...Bxd3+ 2. Rxd3 (2.Qxd3 Rg2+ 3.Kc1 Qxb2+) 2...Qc4+ 3.Kd2 Qc1#.
- The abrupt finish was 1...Ne3! 2.fxex3 fxe3 0-1. If 2.h4 Rxf1+ 3.Kh2 Ng4+ 4.Kh3 Nxf2+ 5.Kh2 Rh1#.
- 1.Nd5+ exd5 2.Qh6+ Kf7 3.Qxb6 and Black soon resigned.

Malazarte wins Octoberfest

Ernesto Malazarte won the Octoberfest tournament (San Antonio, Oct. 4-5) with 4.5 out of 5, defeating Selby Anderson and Don Flournoy, only drawing Hyltin. Don Flournoy (2106), a club regular in the 80s now playing his first tournament in years, was nicked in the first round by Seth Davis (1517) but was playing on top board by the last round. Tied for second plus U2200 prizes were Andrew Nathanael Lozano and Martin Gordon, both with 4. The U2000 prize was won by Zhaosu Ye with 3. The U1800 prize was split by Daniel Lozano, John Niven, Alfredo Garcia and Richard Gabriel, all with 2.5. Also with 2.5 were the U1600 winners James Thames, Seth Davis and Raymond Grillo. David Pacheco with 2 was top U1400. Martin Gordon directed a small field (just 26 players) at TNL. Prizes were paid at 55% of the advertised prizes, which were based on 40 full entries.

Smith-Morra Gambit B21

Seth Davis 1517
Don Flournoy 2108

Octoberfest (1)

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 e6 5.Nf3 a6 6.Bc4 Bc5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Qe2 Nge7 9.Rd1 b5 10.Bb3 Qb6 11.Bf4 0-0 12.Bd6 Na5 13.e5 Nxb3 14.axb3 f5 [14...Bxd6 15.Rxd6 Qb8?] 15.Nxb5 Bb7 16.Bxc5 Qxc5 17.Nbd4 Rac8 18.h3 Nd5 19.Rdc1 Qe7 [19...Qxc1+] 20.Qd2 h6 21.Rxc8 [21.Rc4=] Rxc8 22.Rc1 Rxc1+ 23.Qxc1 Qb4 [23...g5] 24.Qc4 Kf7 25.Nc2 Qb6 26.Ncd4 g6 27.Qa4 Ke7 28.Qa3+ Qb4 [28...Ke8] 29.Nc2 Qxa3 30.bxa3 Nf4 31.Ncd4 d6 32.exd6+ Kxd6 33.Ne1 e5 34.Ndf3 Bd5 35.b4 Bc4 36.Kh2 Kd5? [36...g5] 37.g3 Ne2 38.Nh4 Nc3 39.Nxg6 Kd4? 40.Nf3+ +- and White won. 1-0

Caro-Kann Defense B12

Selby Anderson 2200
Nathanael Lozano 1942

Octoberfest (2)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 c5 6.0-0 Nc6 7.c3 Nge7 8.a3 cxd4 9.cxd4 Nc8 10.b3 Be7 11.Bb2 0-0 12.Nbd2 Nb6 13.b4 Rc8 14.Rc1 Qd7 15.Nb3 Rc7 15...Na4 16.Ba1 a6= (Fritz). 16.Nc5 Qc8 17.Qb3 Nd7 Fritz likes 17...Qa8!? Δ...Rfc8. 18.Qe3 Nxc5 19.dxc5 a5

A less forcing line with ...a6 or ...Rd8 leaves the onus on White to come up with a plan.

20.b5 Nb8 21.Bd4



21...Qe8

I was expecting 21...Nd7 22.b6 Rxc5 23.Bxc5 Bxc5 when 24.Nd4! ΔNxf5 is interesting. Fritz gives 24...Bg6 25.Bb5 Nxb6 26.Qc3 Bxd4 27.Qxd4 Qd8 28.Rfe1± 22.Qd2 f6 23.Qxa5 Bd8 24.Qd2 g5 25.exf6 Bxf6 26.Bxf6 Rxf6 27.Ne5

There was nothing to fear from 27.Qxg Rg6 28.Qe3 Rcg7 29.Nh4, but the text is certainly annoying. On 27...h6 White can keep the heat on with 28.f4 gxf4 29.Qxf4, with play on both sides of the board.

27...Rg7 28.c6 bxc6 29.bxc6 Qc8 30.c7 Rxc7 31.Qxg5+ Rg6 32.Nxg6 Bxg6 33.Bg4 Kf7 34.Qf4+ 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E44

J.P. Hyltin 2031
Zhaosu Ye 1722

Octoberfest (2)

1.d4 e6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6 5.Nge2 Bb7 6.a3 Be7

In Rd. 5 I played 6... Bxc3+.

7.d5 exd5

Better is 7...0-0 8.e4 d6 9.g3 c6. 8.cxd5 0-0 9.g3 Re8 10.Bg2 d6 11.0-0 Nfd7 12.b4 Bf6 13.Nd4 Ne5 14.f4 c5?

After this Black is never let back in the game. Better is 14...Ng6 15.Qd3 a5 16.Bb2 Na6, although White is favored in the complications: 17.Ne4! axb4 18.axb4 Nxb4 19.Nxf6+ Qxf6 20.Qb5! Na6 21.Ne6±. 15.fxe5 cxd4 16.exf6 dxc3 17.fxg7 Qg5 18.e4 Qxg7 19.Bf4 Nd7 20.Bxd6 Ba6 21.Rf2 Bc4 22.Rc1 Rac8 23.Bh3 Nf6 24.Bxc8 Nxe4 25.Rf4 Nxc3 26.Rg4 Ne2+ 27.Qxe2 Rxe2 28.Rxg7+ Kxg7 29.Rxc3 Bxd5 30.Ba6 Re6 31.Bb8 b5 32.Bc8 Rg6+ 33.Rg3 Kf8 34.Rxg6 hxg6 35.Bxa7 Bc6 36.Bg4 f5 37.Be2 Ke7 38.Kf2 Ke6 39.h4 Ke5 40.Bb6 Kf4 41.Bc7+ 1-0

French Defense C00

Martin Gordon 1887
Seth Davis 1517

Octoberfest (2)

1.e4 e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Nc3 c5 4.g3 Nf6 5.e5 Nfd7 6.d4 cxd4 7.Qxd4 Nc6 8.Qa4 Qc7 9.Bf4 Bb4 10.0-0-0 a6

10...Bxc3 11.bxc3 Nc5 12.Qa3 Ne4 13.Be3 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Qxe5 15.Bd4 Qf5 16.f4 f6+

11.Nxd5 exd5 12.e6 Qb6

12...Qxf4+ 13.gxf4 Nc5 14.exf7+ Kf8 15.Qxb4 Nxb4 16.a3 Nc6+

13.exd7+ Bxd7 14.Qb3

14.Rxd5 Qxf2 15.Ne5 Qe1+ 16.Rd1 Nxe5 17.Rxe1 Bxa4 18.Rxe5± 14...Qxf2



14...Qxf2

14...Be6 15.Ng5 Bc5 16.Qxb6 Bxc6 17.Nxe6 fxe6 18.Bh3±

15.Qxd5 Be6 16.Qe4 0-0 17.Ng5 g6 18.Nxe6 Rfe8 19.Bc4 Nd8

19...fxe6 20.Bxe6+ Kg7 21. Rhf1 Qc5 22.Rd7+ with a massive onslaught: 22...Re7 23.Be3 Qe5 24. Bd4!+, or 23...Qa5 24.Rff7+.

20.Qd4!

White extricates the knight. 1-0

English Opening A13

Gregg Stanley 2068

Selby Anderson 2200

Octoberfest (3)

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 Bb4 3.g3 Nf6 4.a3 Bxc3 5.bxc3 d6 6.Bg2 c5 7.d3 e5 8.f4 Nc6 9.fxe5 dxe5 10.Nh3 Ng4 11.Ng5 Qe7 12.0-0 0-0 13.Ne4 f5 14.Bg5 Qc7 15.Nf2

15.Nxc5 f4 16.Bd5+ Kh8 17. Qb3 Ne3 18.Rf3 Na5 19.Qb4 Bg4 20.Rxe3 fxe3 21.Bxe3 Rae8= 15...f4 16.Ngx4 Bxg4 17.gxf4 17.h3 Be6 18.g4 Qd7± 17...h6 18.Bh4 exf4 19.Bf2 Rae8 20.Ra2 Ne5 21.Bd5+ Be6 22.e4 Kh8

22...fxe3 23.Bxe3 Rxf1+ 24. Qxf1 Bxd5 25.cxd5 Qd6 26.c4 Nxc4 27.dxc4 Rxe3+- 23.Bxe6 Rxe6 24.Kh1 Rg6 [24...g5] 25.Be3 Rgf6 26.Bf2 Rd6 27.d4 Nxc4 28.Qg4 Qf7 29.Qe2?

Setting up a cheapo (30.d5 threatens both the knight and Bxc5) at the cost of giving up a huge

tempo, for a pawn wedge that is the basis for the final assault.

29...f3 30.Qc2 Rg6 31.Rg1 Rg2



32.Rxg2 fxc2+ 33.Kxg2??

Overlooking a forced mate. On the forced 33.Kg1 cxd4 34.cxd4 Ne3 35.Qe2 Ng4 36.h3, I hope I would I have found the crusher 36...Qb3!!, the main point being 37.hxg4 Qh3 and mate next, so that White has to cede the Exchange with 37. Qxg4 Qxa2 38.Qxg2 Qxa3+-.

33...Ne3+

All roads now lead to mate in 2.

34.Bxe3 Qf3+

0-1

Scotch Gambit C56

Ernesto Malazarte 2140

J.P. Hylltin 2031

Octoberfest (3)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.0-0 Nxe4 6.Re1 d5 7.Bxd5 Qxd5 8.Nc3 Qd8 9.Nxe4 Be7 10. Bg5 0-0 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.Nxd4

ECO says the position is equal. 12...Nxd4 13.Qxd4 Bf5 14.Ng3 Qd7 15.Qc5

White gains nothing from 15. Qxd7 Bxd7 16.Re7 Rad8 17.Rd1 Bb5=.

15...Be6 16.Rad1 Qc8 17.Qc3 f6 18.Rd3 c6 19.Rde3 Bd5 20.Re7 Kh8 21.h3 b5 22.Nh5 Qf5?

22...Rf7 23.a3±

23.Nxg7 Qg6 24.g4 Rg8 25.Nh5 Raf8 26.Kh2?

26.Nf4 Qf5 27.Nxd5 cxd5 28. Rxa7+-



26...Qxh5 27.gxh5 Rg2+ 28.Kh1 Rg3+ 29.f3 Bxf3+ 30.Qxf3 Rxf3 31. Kg2 Rf5= 32.Rxa7 Rg8+ 33.Kh1 Rxb5 34.Kh2 Rf5 35.Re2 b4 36.a4 bxa3 37.bxa3 h6 38.a4 Rg7 39. Ra8+ Kh7 40.a5 Rf3 41.a6 Ra3 42. Rf8 Rxa6 43.Rxf6 Ra5 44.Rxc6 Rf5 45.c4 Rf3 46.c5 Rc3 47.Rd2 Rg5 48.Rd7+ Rg7 49.Rxg7+ Kxg7 50.Rc7+ Kf6 51.h4 Kg6 52.Kg2 Kh5 53.Rc6 Kxh4 54.Rxh6+ Kg5 55.Rc6 Kf5 56.Rh6 Ke5 ½-½

Sicilian Sveshnikov B33

Selby Anderson 2200

Ernesto Malazarte 2040

Octoberfest (4)

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 Bg5 12.Nc2 Be6?! [Rb8] 13.a4 bxa4 14.Rxa4 Bxd5 15.exd5 Nb8 16.Bb5+ Nd7 17.Rxa6 Rxa6 18.Bxa6 Qb6 19.Nb4 Nc5 20.Be2 0-0 21.0-0 f5 22.Qc2 e4



23.Kh1 Ra8 24.f4 Bf6 25.g4 g6 26. gxf5 gxf5 27.Rg1+ Kh8 28.Bf1 Ra1 29.Qg2 Qd8 30.Qh3 Qd7 31.Nc2 Rb1 32.Ne3 Nd3 33.Qg3 Qc8 34. Nxf5??

"When the win is in sight, sit on your hands." – Siegbert Tarrasch

An easy win is 34.Bxd3 Rxl+ 35.Qxg1 exd3 36.Qd1 Qb7 37.Qd2 Qb3 38.Kg2 Kg8 39.Kf3 Kf8 40.h3 h5 41.Qxd3 Qxb2 42.c4+.

34...Rxf1 35.Rxf1 Qxf5 36.c4 Bd4 37.Ra1 Qg6 38.Ra8+ Kg7 39.Re8 Kf7! 40.Qxg6+ hxg6 41.Re6 e3 0-1

Benko Gambit A57

J.P. Hyltin 2031

Martin Gordon 1887

Octoberfest (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 Qa5+ 5.Bd2 Qxb5 6.Nc3 Qb7 7.e4 g6 8.Be2 d6 9.Nf3 Bg7 10.0-0 0-0 11.Qc1 Nfd7 12.Bh6 Qb6 13.Bxg7 Kxg7 14.Nd2 Ba6 15.a4 Bxe2 16. Nxe2 a5 17.Ra3 Qd8 18.Nc4 Nf6 19.Rh3 h5 20.Ng3 Ra6 21.Nxh5+ gxh5 22.Qg5+ Kh7 23.Rxh5+ Nxh5 24.Qxh5+ Kg7 ½-½

QP Game A45

Ernesto Malazarte 2140

Don Flournoy 2108

Octoberfest (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nd2 c5 3.dxc5 Qa5 4. Ngf3 Nc6 5.c3 Qxc5 6.Nb3 Qh5 7.Qd3 d5 [7...g6!?] 8.Bg5 Ng4!

The d-pawn is taboo because of the lateral pin: 9.Qxd5? h6.

9.e4 dxe4 10. Qxe4 h6 11.Bb5!?



Although this gets rewarded, a more solid approach is 11.Bh4 Bf5 12.Qa4 Bd7 13.0-0-0 with an edge. 11...Qg6?

After this Black's pawns are compromised far beyond whatever comp the bishop pair offers. Better is 11...Bd7 when 12.Rd1!? hxg5 13. Rxd7 is answered by 13...Nf6! with a plus for Black. On 12.Nc5 Nf6! 13. Bxf6 Qxc5 14.Bxc6 Bxc6 15.Qe5! and White is lucky to get out with near equality.

12.Qxg6 fxe6 13.Bxc6+ bxc6 14. Bf4 g5 15.Bg3 e6 16.0-0-0 Nf6 17. Ne5 Bd7 18.Rhe1 Bc8 19.Nxc6 Kf7 20.Ne5+ Kg8 21.Ng6 Rh7 22.Rd8 Kf7 23. Ne5+ Kg8 24.Nc5 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E45

J.P. Hyltin 2031

Selby Anderson 2200

Octoberfest (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6 5.Nge2 Ba6 6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.Nxc3 d5 8.b3 0-0 9.Be2 Nc6 10.Bd2

10.a4 dxc4 11.bxc4 Qd7 12.Nb5 Rfd8 13.Bb2 Na5 14.Qc2 c6 15.Na3 Qe7 16.0-0 Rac8 17.Rfd1± ECO

10...Ne7 11.Rc1 dxc4 12.bxc4 Bb7 13.0-0 c5 14.dxc5 bxc5 15.Qb3 Rb8 16.Qa2 Nf5 17.Rfd1 Qe7 18. Rb1 Ne4 19.Be1 Nxc3 20.Bxc3 Qg5 21.g3 Be4 22.Bd3 Bf3 23.Be2 Qh5 24.Bxf3 Qxf3 25.Qd2 h5

25...Rxb1 26.Rxb1 Qe4 27.Rc1= 26.Rxb8 Rxb8 27.Re1

27.Be5 Rf8 28.Qd3 Qg4 =

27...h4 28.Qe2 Qxe2 29.Rxe2



29...Rb3?!

29...hxg3 30.hxg3 Nd6±
30.Bb2 h3 31.Rc2 Nd6 32.Kf1 Nxc4 [a5!] 33.Rxc4 Rxb2 34.Rxc5 Rb1+ 35.Ke2 Rh1 36.Kf3 Rxh2 37. g4 Rg2 38.Rh5 Rg1 39. Rxh3 Ra1 40. Rh5 Rxa3 41.Rb5 Kh7

Better but not conclusive is 41...a6 42.Rb7 Rc3 43.Ra7 Rc6.

42.Kg3 Kg6 43.Rb7 f6 44.Re7 e5 45.Kf3 a5 46.Ra7 Ra4 47.Kg3 Ra3 48.Kf3 Kh6 49.Kg3 g6 50.Ra6 Kg5 51.Ra7 Ra4 52.f4+ exf4+ 53.exf4+ Kh6 54.Ra6 Kg7 ½-½

Dutch Defense A85

Gregg Stanley 2068

Nathanael Lozano 1942

Octoberfest (5)

1.c4 f5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.d4 g6 4.f3 Bg7 4...c5 5.d5 Bg7 6.Nh3 0-0 7.e3 e5 8.Be2 d6 = ECO.

5.e4 d6 6.exf5 gxf5 7.Be3 c6 8.Nh3 Na6 9.Be2 Bd7 10.d5 c5 11.Nf4 Nc7 12.Qc2 a6 13.Bd3 Qc8 14.0-0 b5 15.Rab1 0-0 16.Rfe1 bxc4 17. Bxc4 Bb5 18.b3 Nd7 19.Nh5 Bh8 20.Bg5 Bd4+ 21.Kh1



21...Qe8 22.Bxe7?!

22.Ng3 Ne6 23.f4 Ng6 24.Nce2 ± targeting d4 and f5.

22...Qxh5 23.Bxd6 Rfc8 24.Bxc7? [24. Re7] Bxc4 25.bxc4 Rxc7 26. Re7 Be5 → 27.g4 Qh3 28.Qe2 Kf8 29. Rxe5 Nxe5 30.Qxe5 Qxf3+ 31. Kg1 Qxg4+ 32.Kf2 Qd4+ 33.Qxd4 cxd4 34.Ne2 Rxc4 35.Rd1 Rc2 36. Kf3 Rxa2 37.Rxd4 Rb8 38.Ng3 Rxh2 0-1

IM Bryan Smith tops Okie Masters

IM Bryan Smith of Philadelphia won the Okie Masters, held Labor Day weekend in Tulsa, OK. He scored an impressive 6.5 out of 7 in the round robin, drawing only WIM Bayaraa Zorigt, a UTD student from Mongolia. She finished in a tie for second at 4-3 that also included Conrad Holt and UT student Alex Chua.

Besides the eight-player Okie Masters, there was another eight-player Challengers round robin (rated 2145-2216), won by Nelson Lopez and Mihail Bantic with 4.5.

The Okie Open with 52 players ended in a four-way tie, with James Long, Tim Steiner, George Trammell and Charles Johnson all scoring 5.5 in the seven-round event.

Kudos to organizer Frank Berry for copying us the database for this event, which had several Texas players, and also to the annotators.

French Tarrasch C06

Bayaaraa Zorigt 2200

Chaltanya Vaidya 2200

Okie Masters 2008 (1)

[Zorigt] 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Nf3 Bd6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Bf4 Bxf4 13.Nxf4 Ne4 14.Qc1

My coach/boyfriend (FM Ceqmed Batchuluun - 2346) taught me this variation.

14...Ng5 15.Nxg5 Qxg5 16.Ne2 Qh4

I did not expect this move. The usual variation continues 16...Qf6 17.Qe3 a6 18.Rac1 Bd7 19.a3 Qe7 20.Rcd1

A bad move, losing a tempo. Better is 20.Rc5!

20...Qd6 21.Qh3 g6 22.Qg3

I thought if I exchanged my queen it should be a better position

for me, because of the e6 weak pawn. But this move was not good.

22...Qe7 23.Bb1 Qg7 24.Qe3 Rae8 25.Rfe1 [25.f4!] 25...Na5 26.Bd3 b5 27.b3 Qe7 28.Qg3 Rf6 29.Qc7 Qd8 30.Qxd8 Rxd8

I feel a little more relaxed now.

31.Bc2 Rc8 32.Rd2 g5 33.Nc1 Be8 34.Na2 Bg6 35.Bxg6 Rxg6 36.Re3 Kf7 37.h3 Rgg8 38.Nb4 Rc1+ 39.Kh2 Rgc8 40.Rde2 R8c6? 41.Nxc6 [41.Nd3] 41...Rxc6 42.Kg3 Nb7 43.Kg4 Kf6 44.Re5 h6 45.Kh5 Nd8 46.h4 Rc1 47.R5e3 Rh1 48.g3 Rd1 49.Kxh6 gxh4 50.Rf3+ Ke7 51.gxh4 Rxd4 52.Kh5 Nf7 53.Rg3 Rf4 54.Rg7 Rf5+ 55.Kg4 Kf6 56.Rh7 Ne5+ 57.Kg3 Nf7 58.h5 d4 59.f4 d3 60.Rd2 Rd5 61.Kf3 Nd6 62.Rh6+ Kf7 63.Rh7+ Kf6 64.Rd7



Now I'm happy with my position.

64...e5 65.fxe5+ Kxe5 66.h6 Ke6 67.h7 Rh5 68.Ra7 [68.Kg4!] 68...Nf5 69.Rxd3 Ke5 70.Kg2 Nh4+ 71.Kf2 Nf5 72.Rd8 1-0

Sicilian Dragon B78

Movses Movsisyan 2265

Mayaraa Zorigt 2200

Okie Masters 2008 (2)

[Zorigt] 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4

Actually I prepared for 3.Bb5+, because he played it against me last

year. But I was happy to play a Dragon.

3...cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.h4 h5 11.0-0-0 Rc8 12.Bb3 Ne5 13.Kb1 Nc4 14.Bxc4 Rxc4 15.Nb3 Qb8

I have not played this variation for a long time. But I remember analyzing this position with my friends.

16.Bg5 Be6 17.Rdg1

I wasn't impressed with this move

17...b5 18.g4 b4 19.Nd5

I was expecting 19.Ne2 so that he can defend his c2 pawn with N(b3)-d4.

19...Bxd5 20.exd5 Rfc8 21.Na1 hxg4 22.h5 Nxh5 23.Bh6 Bc3 24.Qd3 Be5 25.Rxh5?!

I thought that this slows down his attack.

25...gxh5 26.Qf5 Qb6 27.Rh1 Qd4 28.Bc1 Bg7

Well I was happy with my position but I still had to be wary of his ability to attack.

29.Qxh5 gxf3 [29...g3] 30.Qxf3 Qe4 31.Qd1 Rd4 32.Qf1 Rxd5 33.Rg1 Qe5 34.Qh3 Rdc5 35.Qb3 Kf8 36.Rf1 f5 37.Qxb4



37...Qe2

37...Rb5! 38.Qa3 Rc4 39.Nb3 Qe2+

38.Qf4 Qe5 39.Qg5 e6 40.Rd1 a5
41.Qg2 a4 42.c3 a3 43.Nb3 Rc4
44.Nd4 axb2 45.Bxb2 Rxc3 46.
Bxc3 Rxc3 47.Qa8+ Kf7 48.Qa7+
Kf6 49.Rg1 Rg3 50.Rc1 Qe4+ 51.
Rc2 Rg1+ 52.Kb2 Kg6 53.Rd2 Rg4
54.Qd7 Bxd4+ 0-1

Modern Defense B06

Alex Chua 2262
Bryan Smith 2394

Okie Masters 2008 (2)

[Anderson] 1.Nf3 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.e4
c5 4.d5 Nf6!?

White could still make a Schmid
Benoni with 5.Nc3, but prefers to
take up the challenge.

5.e5 Ng4 6.Qe2 0-0 7.h3 Nh6 8.Nc3
Nf5 9.Bf4 d6 10.0-0 Nd7 11.exd6
exd6 12.g4 Nd4 13.Nxd4 cxd4
14.Nb5 d3 15.Qxd3 a6

Inviting 16.Nxd6 Qf6! hitting f4
and b2.

16.Nd4 Nc5 17.Qd2 Qb6



18.Nb3

Fritz likes White after 18.f3 Na4
19.b3 Nc5 20.h4 despite the coun-
terplay with 20...a5 - so I fed it
along: 21.Nb5 a4 22.b4 (+) Nb3+!
23.cxb3axb3 24.a3 Bd7 25.Be3 Qa6
and behold, Fritz had done a 180°
flip in its evaluation, now a "→".

18...a5 19.Nd4 Bd7 20.Bg2 Rfc8
21.Be3 Na4 22.b3

22.c3 Qb4! (Δ..Nxc3) 23.a3□
Qc4 24.Kb1 b5 25.Rc1 Nc5 26.Qd1
Rab8 27.Nc6 Bxc6 28.dxc6 Ne4
29.Re1 d5 30.Ba7 Ra8 31.Bd4±

22...Nc3 23.Nc6 Qc7 24.Ne7+ Kf8
25.Nxc8



25...Nxd1??

25...Nxa2+ 26.Kb1 Nc3+ 27.Kc1
Rxc8

26.Kb1??

26.Nb6 Nxe3 27.Nxa8 Qd8 28.
Qxe3 Qxa8 29.Re1+-

26...Nc3+ 27.Kc1 a4 28.Nb6 axb3
29.Nxa8 Qa5 30.Qd3 Ne2+!? [30...

bxa2!-+] White resigns

31.Kd1 bxc2+ 32.Kxe2 Bb5 33.
Nb6 Bxd3+ 34.Kxd3 Qxa2 35.Be4

Qb3+ 36.Ke2 Bb2+- 0-1

Queen's Indian E12

Nicholas Schoonmaker 2222
Bayaraa Zorigt 2200

Okie Masters 2008 (3)

[Zorigt] 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6
4.a3 Bb7 5.Nc3 Be7?! 6.d5

I seem to remember that 5.... Be7
was an opening mistake.

6...d6 7.e4 e5 8.Bd3 0-0 9.h3 Nbd7

Black does not have an active
position and is waiting further de-
velopments.

10.b4 a5 11.Be3 Re8 12.0-0 Bf8
13.Nd2 g6 14.bxa5

Maybe White had better moves
than this one.

14...Rxa5 15.Nb3 Ra8 16.a4 Nc5
17.a5 Nxd3 18.Qxd3 bxa5 19.Nxa5

Ba6 20.Nc6 Qd7 21.Rfb1 Nh5 22.
Na7 Bc8 23.c5 dxc5 24.Qc4 Nf4 25.

Bxc5



25...Bd6

25...Nxc2! How did I miss this
good move? 26.Kxg2 Qxh3+ 27.Kg1
Bg4 ↑ (with the attack)

26.Bxd6 cxd6 27.Qc6 Qxc6
28.Nxc6

I considered offering a draw. I
felt like White was winning with 28.
dxc6

28...Ba6 29.Rb6 Bd3 30.Ra7 Kg7
30...Rxa7! 31.Nxa7 Ra8 32.Rb7

31.Nb5 Ne2+ 32.Kh2 Bxb5 33.
Rxb5 Nc3 34.Rb4 Rxa7 35.Nxa7

Ra8 36.Nc6 Ra4 37.Rxa4 Nxa4
38.Na5

Yep! Now it's a draw.

38...Nc3 39.f3 Kg8 40.Nc4 ½-½

Sicilian B86

Movses Movsisyan 2268
Nicholas Schoonmaker 2242

Okie Masters 2008 (4)

[Schoonmaker] Movses and I had an
even score in tournament play prior
to this game, with him winning our
first encounter (at the 2005 Texas-
Oklahoma Red River Shoot-out
match), and me winning our most
recent (at the 2008 Texas State
Championship). I was hoping to pull
ahead this game.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6

I decided to play the more 'solid'
Scheveningen this game. In our first
encounter, which Movses cleanly
won, I had played the Kalashnikov
variation 2...Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
e5.

3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6
6.Bc4 Be7 7.0-0 8.Bb3 Na6

This avoid some of the sharper theory associated with the other more standard knight moves.

9.f4 Nc5 10.e5

This seems a little premature. I believe that White should have simply continued to develop his pieces.

10...dxe5 11.fxe5 Nxb3 12.axb3 Bc5 13.Be3 Nd5=

I was quiet satisfied with my position at this point.

14.Bf2

I took my first long think after this move. I was quite attracted to some fantasy variations beginning with 14...Nf4. I won't give specific analysis here, but one basic idea involves a double capture on d4 followed by this knight jumping to the e2 square, forking the white king and the remaining white piece on d4 (if the other knight is not defending this square from c3). The other key idea is to follow-up with ...Qg5, with interesting threats (including checkmate on g2).

14...Nxc3

But the problem is that White can avoid these tactics and simply obtain the more comfortable game with 15.Nf3 or 15.Qg4. Per the discussion above, a sample trap for White is 14...Nf4 15.Qd2? Qg5± with powerful threats that cannot be satisfactorily met.

15.bxc3 Qd5?!

But I faltered slightly with this move. I was too attracted to a big attack down the a8-h1 diagonal to the white King (with the subsequent ...b7-b6 and ...Bb7). This queen move loses time to the inevitable c3-c4 to follow. Better was simply 15...Qc7=.

16.Qe2 b6?

I was too fixated on my plan. Fritz suggests 16...f6 instead, eliminating White's spearhead pawn on e5, with only a slight disadvantage to Black. I tend to agree.

17.c4± Qd7 18.Rad1 Bb7 19.Qg4 Qc7 20.Rfe1

I was happy to see this move, as Movses removed this piece from the dangerous open f-file.

20...Bxd4

But now I erred again, being fearful that White's knight could become a very strong piece. I should have kept the two bishops and played to open the a-file with 20...a5.

21.Bxd4 a5 22.Be3 f5

This provides some necessary breathing space around my king.

23.Qg3 a4 24.Rd6 f4!



This diverts White's attack from my weak b-pawn and opens up the f-file, allowing my rook to potentially penetrate to his King.

25.Bxf4 axb3 26.cxb3 Ra2 27.Rd2?

Now I get the upper hand. 27.Bd2 was necessary, which maintains an edge for White.

27...Qc5+ 28.Be3

Everything else loses quickly.

28...Rxd2 29.Bxc5 bxc5 30.Qg4

White has to play very actively. Otherwise, I will soon be able to get doubled rooks on the seventh rank, obtaining a winning position.

30...Rxc2+ 31.Qxc2 Bxc2 32.Kxc2 Rf5 33.b4 cxb4 34.Rb1 Rxe5 35.Rxb4 Kf7

35...Re2+ appears stronger, in which case this rook can quickly move behind White's c-pawn before it has a chance to advance. I would

have maintained better winning chances than in the actual game.

36.Rb7+ Kf6 37.Rc7 h5 38.c5 g5 39.c6 Rc5 40.Rc8 Ke5 41.c7 Kd6

This is premature. The position might be drawn in any event, but White would have more chances to go wrong if I had played moves that didn't leave any material hanging. For example I could have played 41...h4 (or perhaps 41...g4 with a similar idea), so that once my king eventually does move to d6, all my kingside pawns are protected.

42.Rh8 Kxc7 43.Rxh5 Kd6 44.Kf3 Ke7 45.Kg4 Kf6 46.Rh6+ Kf7 47.Kh5 Rf5 48.Kg4 Re5 49.Kh5 Rf5 ½-½

Exchange French C01

Alex Chua 2260

Thomas Gossell 2250

Okie Masters 2008 (4)

[Gossell] This was my first tournament since the 2007 NAO, and the 1 year break was the longest of my career. After losing my first two games, I managed to finish with a decent result despite being somewhat rusty, which shows in this game. I played well to reach a winning position but lost the thread around move 30 and couldn't convert the winning endgame.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e5 3.e3

Going for the French exchange. I don't think either of us really knew any theory in this line, but Black's quick development was the key here. 3...exd4 4.exd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Be3 Bb4 7.a3?

Amounts to a waste of a move. Once White develops his kingside and castles, black will probably play Bxc3 anyway. The University of Texas-Austin player said afterward that having the white pieces gave him a false sense of security here.

7...Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 0-0 9.Nf3 Bg4

It's hard for White to come up with a good plan here. The h3+g4

idea allows him to develop at the cost of long-term king safety.

10.h3 Bh5 11.g4 Bg6 12.Nd2 Re8 13.g5 Nh5 14.Qg4 f5! 15.gxf6 Nxf6 16.Qg5 Kh8 17.h4 Qd7 18.h5 Be4 19.Rg1 h6 20.Qh4 dxc4 21.Bxc4

White actually threatens Bxh6 here.

21...Qf5 22.Bf7 Re7 23.Bg6 Qd5 24.Bxe4

24.0-0 might be possible here.

24...Nxe4 25.Nxe4 Rxe4 26.Qg3 Re7 27.Qh4

I got the feeling here that I was one tactical shot away from a win, but couldn't quite find it. Instead I made a string of imprecise moves.

27...Rae8

27...Qc4 keeps the king in the center.

28.Kf1 Rf8 29.Rg3 Rf5 30.Rc1



30...Rxb5?

Two better alternatives: (a) 30...Rxe3! 31.Rxe3 Rxb5 32.Qg4 Rh1+ 33.Ke2 Rxc1 34.Qg6 Qb5+ 35.Kf3 Nxd4+ 36.cxd4 Qc6+ 37.Qxc6 Rxc6+; (b) 30...b5!, which prevents c4, prepares Na5-c4, and leaves White without any play.

31.c4!

Now Black has several ways to exchange queens. After using up most of my remaining time, I pick the worst way to do so.

31...Qh1+?

31...Qxc4+ 32.Rxc4 Rxb4 was the best way to enter the endgame. White now has a weak d-pawn which also makes Black's knight

superior to White's bishop. In the game, White had the superior minor piece, which gave drawing chances. 32.Qxh1 Rxb1+ 33.Kg2 Rxc1 34.Bxc1 Nxd4 35.Rd3 c5 36.Bf4 b6 37.a4 Re1?

The winning plan was to activate the king, then get the kingside pawns moving.

38.a5 Ne6?

But this lets the win vanish completely.

39.Be3 Nd4 40.axb6 axb6 41.Bxd4 cxd4 42.Rxd4 Re6 43.Rd5 Rc6 44.Rb5 Kh7 45.Kg3 Kg6 46.f4 Kf6 47.Kg4 g6 48.Kg3 Ke6 49.Kg4 Kf6 50.Kg3 g5 51.fxg5+ hxg5 52.Kf3 Kg6 53.Kg3 Kh6 54.Rd5 Rxc4 55.Rd6+ Kh5 56.Rxb6 Rc3+ 57.Kg2 Kh4 58.Rb2 g4 59.Ra2 ½-½

KI Attack A07

Bayaraa Zorigt 2200

Bryan Smith 2394

Okie Masters 2008 (4)

[Tom Braunlich] 1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 c6 4.d4 Bg4 5.Nbd2 e6 6.c4 Nbd7 7.0-0 Be7 8.b3 0-0 9.Bb2 Qa5 10.a3 dxc4 11.bxc4 c5 12.d5!? exd5 13.cxd5 Nxd5 14.Nb3 Qb6! [14...Qb5 15.Qxd5 Be6 16.Nbd4!] 15. Qxd5 Be6 16.Qd2 Qxb3 17. Rab1 Qd5 18.Qe3 Qh5 [18... Rad8!?] 19.Ne5 Nxe5 20.Bxe5= Rae8 21.Rxb7 Bc8 22.Rxa7 Bf6 23.f4 Bxe5 24.Qxc5! [24.fxc5 Rxe5?] 24...Qxe2 25.fxe5 Rxe5



26.Qxf8+ Kxf8 27.Rxf7+ Kg8

27...Ke8 28.Bc6+ Bd7 29. Raxd7! (29.Bxd7+ Kxf7 30.Bg4+ Re7-) 29...Qe1+= 28.Rxg7+ Kh8 29.Rxb7+ Kg8 30. Rhg7+ Kh8 31.Rh7+ Kg8 32. Rhg7+ ½-½

Sicilian Paulsen B46

Bryan Smith 2394

Nicholas Schoolmaker 2242

Okie Masters 2008 (5)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 a6 3.Nf3 e6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.Bd3 d5 8.0-0 Nf6 9.Re1 d4 10.Na4 e5 11. b3 Bd6 12.Bg5 0-0 13.f4 h6 14.Bh4 g5 15.fxg5 Nh7 16.Rf1 hxg5 17.Bg3 Kg7 18.Bc4 f6 19.Rf2 Ra7 20.Qe2 a5 21.Raf1 Qe8 22.Nb2 Ba3 23. Nd3 a4 24.b4 Re7 25.Qd2 Qd8 26. h4 g4



27.Nxe5 Bxb4

27...fxe5 28.Rxf8 Nxf8 29. Qg5+ Ng6 30.Bxe5+ Rxe5 31.Rf7+; 28.Qxb4 fxe5 29.Rxf8 Nxf8 30. Bxe5+ Rxe5 31.Rf7+ Kg6 32.Rxf8 Re8 33.Bf7+ 1-0

Larsen's Opening A01

Alex Chua 2259

Movses Movsisyan 2265

Okie Masters 2008 (5)

[Chua] This was an important game for me, since I needed to win after my slow start.

1.b3

I wanted to play something different. This is the Larsen Nimzovich opening.

1...e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.c4

After this move, I intended to play a hedgehog system. I thought that I had played a little too loosely and decided to tighten up my playing style. Thus, the hedgehog which is generally a slow, maneuvering system seemed perfect.

3...Nf6 4.e3 d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.a3

This is basically a reversed open Sicilian which I figured would be good for me since I normally play this system as Black.

6...Bd6 7.d3 0-0 8.Nf3 f5

This move is very aggressive. Because of this move, I delay castling so that an attack on the kingside would not be effective.

9.Nbd2 f4?!

Too early! An attack must be prepared first.

10.e4 Nb6

This is very similar to a Sveshnikov Sicilian now. Here the main thing is to control the d4 square. Whoever does a better job of that will usually get some advantage.

11.b4 a6 12.Rc1 Qf6 13.Nb3!?

Controlling d4.

13...a5?!

Again, premature. Black should first develop more of his pieces. This move reminded me very much of a line I play as Black. I was able to use this information to play the next part of the game essentially from memory.

14.b5! Na7 15.d4!



This move defends the b5 pawn and unleashes all of my pieces.

15...exd4 16.Nbxd4 a4 17.Qc2!?

When you have a temporary advantage, it is very important to strike while the iron is hot. This move threatens Nf5 with a discovered attack on the queen. But, perhaps Qd2 was more exact.

17...Qe7 18.Bd3 Bxa3 19.Bxa3 Qxa3 20.0-0 Bd7 21.e5

Black's eighth move (8...f5) comes back to haunt him. By moving his f pawn, he now has trouble defending his king.

21...h6 22.Nh4?!

I don't think this was the best way to proceed, but I was trying to use the g6 square for instance after Bh7 check.

22...Be8 23.Qe2! Qe7

I was slightly worried about 23...Rd8 but I was fairly certain I would at least have a powerful attack. 24.Qe4 Rxd4 25.Qh7+ Kf7 26.e6+ Kxe6 27.Rfe1+ Kd6 (27...Kd7 28.Qxg7+ Rf7) 28.Qxg7+.

24.Nhf5 Rxf5 25.Nxf5 Qg5 26.Rxc7 Bd7 27.h4!

At this point, I had calculated out the win

27...Qd8 28.Qg4 g5 29.Qh5 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E21

Conrad Holt 2219

Bayana Zorigt 2200

Okie Masters 2008 (5)

[Zorigt] 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.Qb3 Bxc3+

5...c5 6.Bg5 Bb7 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.Qxc3 h6 9.Bh4 d6

6.Qxc3 Ne4 7.Qc2 Bb7 8.Bf4 f5 9.h3 d6 10.g4!?

I was totally surprised by this move. I thought it should be good for Black somehow, but I could not figure out how to take advantage.

10...Qf6 11.g5 Qe7 12.Bg2 Nd7 13.Nd2 Nec5 14.Rg1 Bxg2 15.Rxg2 Nb7 16.Bh2 Rf8?!

Bad plan. [I should have castled king-side. \triangleleft 16...0-0]

17.f4 0-0-0 18.Qa4 a5?

This is bad too. I seem to forget

that a pawn is the only piece that I cannot move back once I push it forward! (\triangleleft 18...Kb8)

19.0-0-0 e5 20.c5! \uparrow bxc5 21.dxe5 dxe5 22.Nc4



22...e4?

I think both 22...exf4 and 22...Nb6 give me an advantage.

23.Qc6 Qf7 [23...Kb8] 24.b3 Kb8

Why I played this move, I have no idea. The purpose of my move 23...Qf7 was to *now* play 24...Qg6! (24...Nb8?? 25.Nb6#) 25.Qb5 (25.Qxg6 hxg6) 25...Nb6.

25.Rgg1 Qg6 26.Qe5 Nb6 27.Ne5 Rxd1+ 28.Rxd1 Qe8 29.Nc6+ Kc8 30.Na7+ Kb8 31.Nc6+ Kc8 32.Bg1 Qh5 33.Qa6 Qxh3 34.Na7+ Kb8 35.Nc6+ Kc8 36.Kc2 Nd7

36...e3 37.Qa7 Nd6 (37...Nd7 38.Qb8+ Nxb8 39.Na7#) 38.Qb8+ Kd7 39.Ne5++

37.Qa8+ [37...Nb8 38.Qxb8#] 1-0

I thought I made way too many mistakes in this game.

Sicilian B51

Movses Movsisyan 2265

Bryan Smith 2394

Okie Masters 2008 (6)

[Tom Braunlich] 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.0-0 Ngf6 5.Re1 a6 6.Bf1 b6 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4 Bb7 9.Nc3 e6 10.Bg5 Be7 11.Rad1 Qc7 12.Bh4 0-0 13.Bg3 e5 14.Qc4 Nc5 15.Bh4 b5 16.Qb4 a5 17.Qxb5 Ba6 18.Bxf6 Bxb5 19.Nd5 Qb8 20.Bxe7 Bxf1 21.Kxf1 Qxb2 22.Bxd6 Rfd8 23.Bxe5 [23.Bxc5 Qb5+ 24.Re2

Qxc5 23...Qxa2 24.Kg1 Nxe4 25. Ne7+ Kf8 26.Ra1 Qxc2 27.Nf5 f6 28.Bd4 Nd2 29.N3h4 Nb3 30.Rad1 g6 31.Ne3 Qe4 32.Bxf6 Rxd1 33. Rxd1 a4 34.Nf3 a3 35.Ng5 Qb7 36.Ng4 a2 37.Ne6+ Ke8 38.Be5 a1Q 39.Nf6+ Ke7 0-1

Nimzovich Defense B00

Bayaraa Zorigt 2200

Thomas Gossell 2250

Okie Masters 2008 (6)

[Zorigt] 1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 f5!?

Thomas certainly surprised me with this move!

3.exf5 d5 4.d4

An important alternative is 4. Bb5 Bxf5 5.Ne5, putting the heat on c6 before Black can connect knights. After 5...a6 6.Bxc6+ bxc6 7.Qf3!? e6 8.d3 c5 (Qf6) 9.Qh5+ g6 10.Qe2 h5 11.Nbd2 Bh6 12.Ndf3 gave White a nice grip on the center in Dudek-Gross, Germany (ch) 2000 - SKA.

4...Bxf5 5.Bb5 e6 6.Ne5 Nge7

NICBase has two games from this position, with Black drawing after both 7.0-0 and 7.Nd2.

7.Bg5 Qd6 8.0-0 a6 9.Nxc6 axb5 10.Ne5 Ng6 11.Re1 Nxe5 12.Rxe5 Qc6 13.Qe1 Kf7 14.Nd2 Bd6 15.Re2 Qxc2 16.Ne4 Qc6 17.Rc1 Qd7 18.Nxd6+ Qxd6

Pretty much a draw from here.

19.Qd2 c6 20.a3 Rhf8 21.Rce1 Kg8 22.f3 Rae8 23.Bf4 Qd7 24.Be5 Bg6 25.Qb4 Ra8 26.Qd2 Rfe8 27.h4 Qe7 ½-½

Benko Gambit A57

Conrad Holt 2219

Bryan Smith 2394

Okie Masters 2008 (7)

[Smith] 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5

I offered a draw here, deciding that it was best not to waste energy since I had already secured clear first. Surprisingly, my opponent declined! In retrospect, I am glad he did. [Holt's dad said he turned it down because "he came to play"... - Jim Berry in OCQ.]

4.Nf3 Bb7 5.Nfd2

This was the first time I played the Benko in a tournament game. My theoretical knowledge ended here. I guess a game that doesn't matter is a good time to try out a new opening!

5...e6 6.e4 bxc4 7.dxe6 fxe6 8.e5 Nd5 9.Nxc4 Qh4!

According to Fedorowicz, this move was recommended by Sisniega (a Mexican GM), as I found out after the game. It is important for Black to take control of kingside squares.

10.Nba3 Be7 11.Be2 0-0 12.0-0 Nc6

I had been calculating an interesting variation here, 12...Bg5 (attempting to get a knight on f4) 13.g3 Qh3 14.Bg4 (Not 14.Bxg5 Qg2+!) 14...Nf4! 15.Ne3! Qh6 16.gxf4 Bxf4 17.h3 Bxe5, when Black perhaps has compensation, but the moves 13.Na5 or 13.Nd6 looked annoying.

13.g3

White succeeds in forcing the exchange of queens, otherwise Black will develop a strong attack.

13...Qd4 14.Nc2

If 14.Nb5 then 14...Qxd1 15. Rxd1 Ba6 with pressure.

14...Qxd1 15.Rxd1



15...Rac8!

This "mysterious rook move" was very important. As will be seen, the rook plays an important role on c8. Not the immediate 15...Nd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 because of 17.Na5.

16.Bf1 Nd4!

Black sacrifices a pawn to activate the bishops and open the c-file.

17.Nxd4 cxd4 18.Na5

If 18.Rxd4 then best seems to be 18...Bc5 (I was also looking at 18...Rxf2?! but it seems to be insufficient.) 19.Rd2 Rxf2! 20.Rxf2 Rf8 21.Be3 (21.Ne3 Nxe3 22.Rxf8+ Kxf8 and despite White's extra Exchange he is helpless, since 23.Bxe3 Bxe3# is mate.) 21...Nxe3 and White can just save himself with 22.b4!, but Black's powerful bishops give him the advantage.

18...Ba8 19.Nb3 Bd8!

I did not care about the d4 pawn, black will get wonderful compensation whenever it is captured.

20.Ba6

If 20.Nxd4 Bc7 is the safest, although 20...Bb6 was also possible. Now if 21.f4 Bb6 White can hardly move any pieces, so he should instead give back the pawn, but after ...Bxe5 Black has a pleasant advantage.; My opponent thought 20.Bb5 was an improvement, but after the simple 20...Rf7 it is not clear what he has gained.

20...Rc2 21.Rd2 Nb4 22.Bb5 Bb6

Black's attack now develops rapidly.

23.f4



The opening of the diagonals to White's king is obviously hopeless, but nothing else saved White: 23.Bxd7 d3 24.Bxe6+ Kh8 and f2 cannot be defended.; 23.a3 d3 24. axb4 Rxd2 25.Bxd2 Rxf2 and the

deadly discovered check in unavoidable, since if 26.Nc5 then 26...Rxd2 and the white position collapses.

23...g5! 24.Rxc2

After any move White faces unstoppable threats. E.g. 24.a3 d3+ 25.Kf1 gxf4 26.g4 (26.axb4 fvg3+ 27.Ke1 Bf2+) 26...Rxd2 27.Bxd2 Nc2 followed by ...Ne3+; Or 24.Bxd7 d3+ 25.Kf1 gxf4 26.Bxe6+ Kg7 27.g4 Bf3! and after ...Be2+ and ...f3 the pawn will queen.

24...Nxc2 25.Rb1 Ne3 26.Bxd7 gxf4 27.gxf4

27.Bxe6+ Kg7 28.g4 f3 wins easily.

27...Rxf4 28.Bxe6+ Kg7

The choice of this square turned out to be important when the king took part in the attack! Black is of course winning after 28...Kh8 anyway, though.

29.h3

29...Rf1 mate was threatened, and if 29.Bxe3 dxe3, 20...e2+ is unstoppable.

29...d3

Now the main threat is 30...Ng4+ or 30...Nf1+ followed by mate. The black bishops are all-powerful.

30.Bxe3 Bxe3+ 31.Kh2 Rf2+ 32.Kg3 Rg2+ 33.Kh4



33...Kh6

I couldn't keep from smiling, the game – and the tournament – ends with a king move, completing the mating net. 34...Bg5 mate is unavoidable.

0-1

Gruenfeld Defense D93

Chaltanya Vaidya 2200

Movses Mossisyan 2265

Okie Masters 2008 (7)

[Vaidya] After a stunning (!) tournament I was ready to go for last place. Offering a draw would have of course spoiled my chances and hence I had to play on. Also my opponent was late so after staring at an empty table for a few minutes, I finally got a set and clock then setup the pieces and started his clock and left. Then I came running back since a casual look at the pairings had revealed I was actually White and I had started my own time! So this time I quickly moved d4 and prayed that this game would be painless.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bf4 0-0 6.e3

Aha! I forgot to play Rc1 so now I am on my own.

6...c5 7.dxc5 Be6 8.Nd4 Nc6 9.Nxe6 fxe6 10.Be2

Probably a new move. Having played annoying chess for a while, I decided to play like I was 9 years old and castle at the first opportunity in order to avoid getting mated in the center.

10...Qa5 11.0-0 Qxc5 12.cxd5 Nxd5

The double bishops are always welcome.

13.Nxd5 exd5

Black seems a little "hanging" with his loose pawn on d5 and backward development... so I thought to myself that I might not lose this game! How cool is that ?!

14.Rc1

Rook to the open file as I was taught.

14...Qa5 15.Qb3 e5 16.Bg3

At this point I actually saw the sequence that happened in the game and I realized the Bishop was at least as good on g3 as on g5.

16...Rf7 17.Rfd1 Rd8 (=)

About here my opponent offered a draw. I declined since I could not see how he could immediately checkmate me.

18.Bg4 Rd6 19.e4!±

An obvious move but its always a pleasure for a d4 player to play e4 somewhere in the game. Now I am winning if I could just play decent chess so that makes the outcome still in doubt.

19...d4

19...Nd4 20.Rxd4 is the point of 16.Bg3.

20.Be6 Rxe6 21.Qxe6

My opponent decided to test if I could win this and I give him full marks for his decision.

21...Bh6 22.Qe8+ Rf8 23.Qe6+ Rf7 24.Rc4 d3

24...Qxa2 25.Rxc6 is a trap a nine-year-old would set.

25.Qd5 Qb6 26.Qxd3 with a sigh of relief. 26...Qxb2 27.Qd5



You kids out there ...the queen in the center rocks!

27...Qe2 28.Rc3 Bf4

Otherwise I go Rf3.

29.Bxf4 exf4 30.f3 Kg7 31.Qd2 Qb5 32.Rb3 Qg5?

A mistake but Black is lost now even with me playing White. I am just going to triple on the d-file and invade on d7 or d8. Pretty straightforward stuff

33.Qb2+ Kh6 34.Rxb7 Qc5+ 35.Kh1 Rxb7 36.Qxb7 Ne5 37.Qd5 Qc2 38.Qd2 and with that I could not achieve last place.

1-0

Courtney Jamison wins Polgar National

by Adam Young
Lubbock Avalanche-Journal

Courtney Jamison started playing chess at age 6 after her mom suggested the game as a way to keep an eye on her and her two brothers.

"(My brothers) stopped when they were in the sixth grade and I just kind of kept going because it was something I really did well at," Jamison said.

Now, the 16-year-old from Dallas is the champion of the fifth annual Susan Polgar National Invitational for Girls, the most prestigious all-girls national chess championship in the United States and hosted by the Susan Polgar Institute for Chess Excellence at Texas Tech.

"I'm not athletically inclined - I can't get sports scholarships - and I'm academically OK," said Jamison, who also has competed in Pan-American Chess Festival in Argentina. "But with chess, it's something that if you put enough work and just

a little bit of talent, then you can do really well."

Winners of the six-day tournament, held Jul. 27-Aug. 1 at the Frazier Alumni Pavilion on the Tech campus, were announced at the event's Friday closing ceremony.

Fifty-two girls age 19 and younger representing the highest-rated chess players in their home states competed for approximately \$150,000 in scholarships and prizes at the tournament.

Paul Truong, spokesman for SPICE, said Polgar, a four-time women's world chess champion, hosts the tournament for girls because people in the past didn't believe girls could or should play chess.

"Susan has proven time and time again for the last three decades that that's not true," Truong said. "Girls can play chess, they can be smart and they can have fun at the same time."

Ashley Carter of Michigan and Linda Diaz of New York tied for second and third place and split \$550 in prizes as well as each receiving a \$1,000 scholarship to Tech.

Diaz also received a \$500 award for being the top player younger than 14.

Carter, who plans to attend Tech in January, also will receive in-state tuition as part of her scholarship.

"I also think it's a great opportunity for girls to get a chance to play against other girls, because normally, they don't get to," Carter said. Nisha Deolalikar from California won a four-year academic scholarship to Tech for being the highest finishing player who has not finished high school.

All players received free accommodations in Tech's Stangel Residence Hall as well as meals.

Tech will host the Polgar tournament for the next 10 years.



L-R: Susan Polgar, Ashley Carter, Rebekah Liu, Courtney Jamison, Amanda Gass (Miss Lubbock), Linda Dia

The Polgar Experience

Rheanna English

The 2008 Susan Polgar National Invitational for Girls was truly a unique experience of chess tournaments. Besides our objectives on the chess board, we had another objective in mind, and that was to make friends. The tournament was so fun because of the week we had to spend together. My friends were my opponents, and my opponents became my friends.

Upon arrival, I was taken back by the welcoming and accommodating atmosphere of both Lubbock and Texas Tech. I was greeted by Grandmaster Susan Polgar at the check-in table and I met several new girls from all around the country that I would later be emailing after the tournament ended. Susan showed me the beautiful campus and all of the great accommodations that come with being a participant, like three free meals a day at the campus cafeteria and access to the athletic center.

I became friends with girls from all around the country: Pennsylvania, Kansas, New Mexico, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, South Carolina, and many more. I hung out with some other Texas representatives as well. Every day after our game we would go play cards or dodge ball or go rock climbing.

The closing ceremony wrapped up the week-long pioneering event in scholastic chess. The winner was a fellow Texan (of course, we rule!) Courtney Jamison, who fought through the field of the toughest girls in the country to take home the win. We were all kind of sad to see this week end, because we were having such a great time. I exchanged e-mail and phone numbers with about everyone I could find and then hugged them all good-bye. I can't wait until next year to see them all again.

I scored 3.5/6 in the tournament. My favorite game was the one below, because it was the most exciting to play. It involved a lot of pure calculation on the part of me and my opponent. I made a few mistakes at critical points, which cost me the game.

Notes by Rheanna English

Sicilian Closed B24

Michelle Chen (MA) 1805

Rheanna English (TX) 1766

SPNI 2008

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 e6 4.Bg2 d6
5.Nge2 g6 6.d3 Bg7 7.Be3 Nge7
8.Qd2 0-0 9.Bh6 d5 10.Bxg7 Kxg7
11.h4 h5 12.0-0-0 b5

12...d4 13.Nb5 (13.Na4 Qd6
14.g4 b5) 13...e5 14.Bh3 a6 15.Na3=
says Fritz.

13.g4 d4 14.Nb1 Nb4



15.Rdg1 Qa5

15...Nxa2+ 16.Kd1 hxg4 17.e5
Rb8 18.Qf4 Rh8 19.h5 Rxh5 20.
Rxh5 gxh5 21.Qg5+ Kf8 22.Qxh5
Ke8= is an alternative that Fritz
came up with.

16.Qg5 Nxa2+ 17.Kd1

*At this point there's nothing
better than what Rheanna played. -
SKA*

17...Qb4?

A blunder. I thought it would be
enough to attack the king but it is
not.

18.Nf4

18.Qxe7 Qxb2 19.Qxc5 Qxb1+
20.Kd2 Qb4+ 21.Qxb4 Nxb4 22.e5±
Fritz

18...Rh8

Better is 18...e5 with the idea of
opening up the light squared bishop,
which is vital if I am going to catch
the escaping king. 19.Qxe5+ (△ 19.
Nxb5+! Kh7 20.Nf6+ Kg7 21.
Qxe5+- Fritz - SKA) 19...Kg8 20.
Qxe7 Qxb2 21.Kd2 c4 22.dxc4 bxc4
23.Nd5 Ba6=;

18... Qxb2 19.Nxb5+ Kh7 20.
Nf6+= Fritz

19.Qxe7 Qxb2 20.Kd2 c4 21.gxh5



My attack is just a step too slow.
21...c3+

Or 21...Nb4 22.Rc1 c3+ 23.Ke2
Nxc2 24.Kf3+- (Fritz).

22.Ke2 Qxc2+ 23.Kf3+- Kg8 24.
hxxg6 Kg7 25.Qxf7+ Kh6 26.g7

1-0

A fun game, I thought. My opponent
played with great precision and was
able to outrace me with her kingside
attack that included the working
roles of nearly all of her pieces. ♠

Chess teachers wanted in Dallas
area starting January, 1400+ USCF.
Min. pay \$40/hr. Contact: Richard
Hornor, info@activityprograms.org,
phone 312-731-7672.

Solution (back cover problem):
1.Ng4 (threat: 2.Nf6#): 1...c4 2.
Qe5#; 1...e3 2.Qxd3#; 1...Be6+
2.Qxe6#.

California Dreamin' in Texas

By NTD Franc Guadalupe

"All the leaves are brown, and the sky is gray..."

Okay, perhaps the students who gathered at the Fort Brown Memorial Center in Brownsville for the 2008 National Youth Action do not recognize the lyrics of the Mamas and the Papas song, but many of the coaches and parents do. It being November, we did have (some) brown leaves in Southern Texas as well as gray skies. But what made this a California Dreamin' event was the way the students from that state performed. The state of Texas accounted for 446 of the 456 participants in this event, but all three California entries took home first place in their respective categories!

In the K-12 Division, Ted Belanoff, a Senior at Woodside High School, allowed a fourth-round draw to Christopher Pena, a Senior at Hanna High School in Brownsville, while winning his other eight games and easily capturing the High School Division.

Scotch Gambit C44

Daniel Hung 1834
Ted Belanoff 1831

National Youth Action 2008

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4 Bb4+ 5.c3 dxc3 6.bxc3

A famous brevity Morphy-Sharpautje (New Orleans, 1849) went 6.0-0 cxb2 7.Bxb2 Bf8 8.e5 d6 9.Re1 dxe5 10.Nxe5 Qxd1 11.Bxf7+ Kc7 12.Ng6+ Kxf7 13.Nxh8 mate! 6...Ba5

6...Bc5? 7.Bxf7+ Kxf7 8.Qd5+. 7.Qb3 Qe7 8.O-O Bb6 9.Ba3 d6 10.e5 Na5 11.Qb4 Nxc4 12.Qxc4 Be6 13.Qd3 Bc5 14.exd6 Bxd6 15.Bxd6 Qxd6 16.Qb5+ Qc6 17.

Qxc6+ bxc6 18.Ne5 Ne7 19.Nd2 O-O-O 20.Ne4 Rd5 21.f4 f6 ...and Black won the ending. 0-1

Two seventh-graders, Jeffrey Hung and Ian Santos, both from Vela Middle School in Brownsville, tied for first in the K-9 Division, both finishing with eight points.

Scotch Game C44

Jeffrey Hung 1822
Kristin Ramos 1464

National Youth Action 2008

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 d5? 4.dxe5 ECO gives 4.Nxe5 Nxe5 5.dxc5 dxe4 6.Qxd8+ Kxd8 7.Nc3±. 4...dxe4 5.Qxd8+ Kxd8 6.Ng5 Nxe5 7.Bf4 h6 8.Nxe4 Nc6

8...Ng6! is a huge tempo, and should equalize: 9.Be3 (9.Bg3?? f5) 9...f5 10.Nc5 f4 11.Bd4 Nf6. 9.Nbc3 g5 10.O-O-O+ Bd7 11.Be3 f5 12.Nc5 Bxc5 13.Bxc5 b6



14.Ba3

14.Bb5! Nb8□ 15.Bd5 Rh7 16. Bc4 Ne7 17.Rhe1+-.

14...a6 15.b3 Nf6 16.h3 Re8 17. Bb2 f4 18.Bc4 b5 19.Bd5 Kc8 20. Bf3 Ra7 21.Kb1 Ne5 22.Nd5!

And White converted the two bishop advantage. 1-0

Our only expert in the field was Michael William Brown, a sixth-grader at Portola Hills Elementary School in Trabuco Canyon, California, and, as expected, he was the class of the K-6 Division, winning it by point and a half, with a perfect 9-0! Although this score suggests he had an easy time, he did have some very competitive games.

Two Knights Defense C55

Fernando Mendez 1806
Michael Brown 2007

National Youth Action 2008

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.e5 d5 6.Bb5 Ne4 7.Nxd4 Bd7 8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.O-O Bc5 10.Be3 Qb8 11.Qc1 Bb6 12.Nb3 Bxe3 13.Qxe3 Qb6 14.Qd4

A better chance of advantage comes from 14.Re1 0-0 15.f3.

14...Rb8 15.Qxb6 cxb6 16.Nc3?! (16.f3) Nxc3 17.bxc3 c5 18.Rad1 Be6 19.f4 Bf5 20.Rxd5 Bxc2 21. Rd2 Bf5 22.h3 h5 23.Nc1 Ke7 24.Rfd1 and ... 0-1

The K-3 Division was won by another Californian, Winston Ching-Tze Zeng, a second-grader at Turtle Rock Elementary in Irvine, CA.

Michael William Brown also won the K-12 Blitz Championship. In the K-6 Blitz, we had a tie between Edgar Santoyo of Americo Paredes Elementary in Brownsville and Georgia Olvera from Bishop Garriga Middle in Corpus Christi.

The exciting Bughouse competition was dominated by brothers Daniel and Jeffery Hung who finished with a perfect score.

All four team champions were from Brownsville: Hanna HS in the K-12, Vela MS in the K-9 and K-6, and Americo Paredes Elementary in

(Continued next page)

Giant chess set unveiled at Little Flower Church

A landmark church in the mostly Hispanic west side of San Antonio, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Little Flower has added a giant chess set to its garden. The unveiling was held Sept. 20, with a dedication by Fr. Luis Gerardo Belmonte and Fr. Jenaro de la Cruz (pictured).

An ice cream social followed, courtesy of Dreyer's Ice Cream. The treats were donated as an award for an essay by church volunteers on neighborhood development.

The chess set was made possible by donations from Little Flower Catholic School, City Councilman Justin Rodriguez (District 7), and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Allen.

For several years, chess has been an activity at the church's annual "El Dia de los Niños" (Children's Day), held during Fiesta in April.



IM Kuderinov wins Houston Open

The Houston Open was held Oct. 10-19, with 94 players in six sections. IM Kirill Kuderinov from Kazakhstan (2489) won a small but strong Open with a perfect 5-0. Five players tied for second with 3.5: in tiebreak order, NM Alex Chua, experts Brad Sawyer, Artur Safin, Jose Gonzalez and Bob Shao.

IM Daniel Fernandez of UT-Brownsville had the only 3, losing to Kuderinov and drawing Chua and Sawyer. To show the depth of field, players such as Chris Land and Mark Dejmek finished with 2, playing all their games. Tied with 2.5 were Jeffrey De Jesus, Cristian Carvajal, Jason Altshuler and Frank Brack. There were 20 in the Open.

Matthew Michaelides and Alex Liu tied for first in the U2000. In U1800 Stephen Rugh won ahead of

Sam Yang. In U1600 Gary Joe was clear first ahead of Robert Schultz, Sunay Nanavati and Grant Sheng. Sudvedh Shrikanth won the U1300 with 5-0.

Franc Guadalupe directed for Cajun Chess, with Jean Troendle assisting.

National Youth Action, continued

the K-3. Vela Middle School also won the K-12 Blitz Team Championship while Americo Paredes Elementary won the K-6 Blitz.

Our thanks to the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College, for sponsoring this event. Special thanks to Mr. Russell Harwood, UTB/TSC Chess Program Director and his chess team members for their volunteer work. UTB/TSC is one of several universities that offer full chess scholarships.

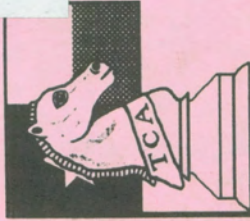
Complete results are posted at <http://www.bisd.us/daas/chess/>.

COMING EVENT

Jan. 31-Feb. 1. Texas Team Championship. 4-SS, 30/90. SD/60, John Hornbeak Bldg. 3rd floor, 4450 Medical Dr., San Antonio, TX. Open to four-player teams avg. U2200 based on Dec. 2008 rating list. One alternate allowed, must be lowest rated. EF: \$100/team if rec'd by 1/29, \$125 site. TCA required (\$10 reg., \$7.50 jr. U19, \$1 jr. tmt.), o.s.a. \$\$ (\$1,000 b/12 teams): \$450+T, \$250, U1900 team \$200+T, \$100. Reg. 11 a.m.-noon, Rds. 12:30-6, 9:30-3. Ent: SACC, POB 501, Helotes, TX 78023; Info: Selby Anderson, 210-695-2324 schachlied@yahoo.com. NS. NC. W.



Helotes, TX 78023-0501

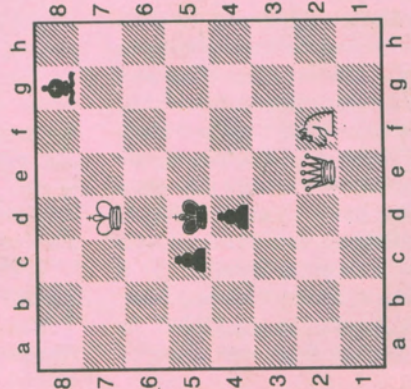


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Robert Lincoln
StrateGems, 2001



White to move, mate in two
Solution: p. 21