

TEXAS KNIGHTS

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UTD Invitational – games galore!



GM Alejandro Ramirez in a light moment with WIM Bayaraa Zorigt

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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).

Deadline next issue: Feb. 15. All contents of *Texas Knights* © 2009 by the Texas Chess Association, Inc. No part may be reproduced in any way without express consent of the editor. Ad rates: \$50/page, \$35/half, \$20/quarter, \$1/line.

Correction last issue: see page 27. Congratulations to Courtney Jamison on winning a UTD scholarship!

Cover photo by Alexey Root. As she explains in her *Chess Life Online* report, "At the opening ceremony for the UTD GM Invitational, I suggested that WFM Bayarara Zorig rub GM Alejandro Ramirez's head for good luck."

A Message from the President

Fellow Texas Chess Players,

It's hard to believe that 2008 has come and gone. Thank you to all the officers, volunteers, tournament directors and leaders who helped to make this a fantastic year.

Below are paradoxical commandments that are credited to Mother Theresa of Calcutta. Hopefully it will help inspire you to always give your best in everything you do in life.

- People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.
- If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.
- If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies. Succeed anyway.
- If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway.
- What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway.
- If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway.
- The good you do today will often be forgotten. Do good anyway.
- Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.

Best wishes for a prosperous year.

Clemente Rendon
TCA President

TCA Treasurer's Report

Prepared by Barbara Swafford for December 15, 2008

September 1, 2008 checking account balance \$417.81

Income	
2008 SW Open memberships	\$ 533.50
September memberships	95.00
October memberships	170.50
November memberships	25.00
December memberships (so far)	25.00
2008 Region 2 Scholastic tournament	147.00
Texas Grade Tournament - November 2008	539.50
Total	\$ 1,535.50

Expenses	
SW Open reimbursement - WY attendees	\$ 460.00
Courtney Jamison - International Youth Camp	250.00
TCA Affiliate membership with USCF (2 years)	80.00
Texas Knight - Sept-Oct 2008	1,027.00
Texas Knight - Nov-Dec 2008	<u>943.00</u>
Total	\$ 2,760.00

December 15, 2008

WF checking account balance	\$ 1,064.56
BOA checking account balance	\$ 1,412.72
savings account balance	\$ 13,003.43
cd July 2007 - July 2009	\$ 26,189.37

Ken Smith Memorial results

The eighth annual Ken Smith Memorial drew 72 players to the DFW Marriott last Thanksgiving weekend.

Ben Wheeler was chief TD for Southwest Chess, with help from Luis Salinas and Dan DeLeon.

OPEN 1st: Gergely Antal 2468 4.5; **2nd+U2400:** Alex Chua, 4, Mohammad Salman 4; **1st U2200:** Akshay Malhotra 3.5; **3rd + 2nd U2200:** Michael Langer, Evan Michaelides, Jarod Pamatmat, Grant Powell, Caroline Zhu, 3.

U2000 1st: Leo Bonnell, 4; **2nd-3rd:** Steven D. Young, Noel Pautsky, 3.5; **U1900:** Mack Williams, Danny Chen, Seth Thompson, 3

U1800 1st-3rd+U1700: Jeffrey Xiong, David Olivas, Alfredo Garcia, Eric Chen, Andy Wang, 3.5.

U1600 1st: Paul Huspeni 4; **2nd:** Eric Zhang, 3; **3rd + U1500:** Edward Yu, Parker McWatters, 2.5.

U1400 1st: Stephan Gray, 4; **2nd:** Carleton Furbush, 3.5; **3rd+U1300:** Paul Renfro, Georgia Olvera, 2.5.

U1200 1st: Vy Nguyen 4.5; **2nd:** William Liu 4; **3rd:** Steve Thompson, 3.0; **U1100:** Ramiro Garza, Christopher & Christian Cardenas, 2; **U900:** Christalia Cardenas, 1.5.

World Youth Championships: Three Texans win third!



Tommy He, Jonathan Chiang and Raymond Sun

In covering Darwin Yang's bronze-winning performance at the World Youth Championships (Vietnam, Oct. 20-31) last issue, we omitted to report that three players from Texas (Jonathan Chiang, Raymond Sun and Tommy He) won the **third place team trophy** in the Under-8 division. As reported, Jonathan Chiang had the best individual result of the three, earning a fifth place trophy.

These three, along with Dachey Lin, were selected by USCF in November for the 2009 All-America Team. There are just five team members in the eight and under category, and four are from Texas! (Raymond Sun has since moved to China, according to Frank He.)

Other Texans on the All-America team are Salvijus Bercys (age 18; I know USCF says he's a New York resident, but we'll forgive that!), Warren Harper (age 16), Jason Altschuler (age 12) and Darwin Yang (age 11).

Of the five 8/under All-America Team members, four are from Texas!

Texas Grade and Collegiate Championships

The 12th Annual Texas Grade and Collegiate Championships were held Nov. 22-23 at the Hilton Americas in Houston. Total attendance was right at 500, down slightly from last year. Here are the winners, co-champions if tied:

- K Jacob Buergler
- 1 Alfonso Salais
- 2 Ruifeng Li
- 3 Alex Liu
- 4 Evan Xiang
- 5 Akshay Malhotra
Austin Jiang
- 6 Jarod Pamatmat
- 7 Jeffrey Hung
- 8 Kevin Chandra
- 9 Bob Shao
Joseph Wong
- 10 Jeff Feng
- 11 William C. Ong
George Fan
Arindam Raina
Christian Saco
- 12 Karthik Ramachandran
Glenn Baumann
- C Alex Chua

Robert Clarke and Neph Diaz won the bughouse event. The parent-child tournament was won by Evan and Matthew Michaelides.

Kart Ramachandran was awarded a UTD scholarship. Senior co-winner Glenn Baumann, who had already been accepted to UTD, did not win a scholarship.

Barb Swafford reports there were five sets of twins at the tournament – two sets each in 5th grade and 7th grade, and another in 1st grade!

Next year Dallas Chess Club is again organizing the event at a site still to be determined. The big news is that 12th grade will change time controls, from G/45 and G/60 to a time control like the collegiate section, which is G/90 with 30-second increments. UTD no longer wants to give the scholarship to tournaments with such short time controls.

Barb Swafford organized the event for the Dallas Chess Club. Franc Guadalupe was the chief TD.

Pan-Am Intercollegiate: UT Dallas "B" wins on tiebreaks over UMBC

The "B" team from the University of Texas at Dallas tied for first with University of Maryland-Baltimore County in the Pan-American Intercollegiate Championships, held Dec. 27-30 in Dallas. Both teams scored 5-1, with UTD taking the first place trophy on tiebreaks.

UT Dallas-B (2510)	Rating	Score/Rds.
1. IM Jacek Stopa	2536	3.5 / 6
2. IM Drasko Boskovic	2502	3.0 / 5
3. IM John Bartholemew	2507	4.0 / 6
4. IM Salvijus Bercys	2493	5.5 / 6
Francisco Guadalupe	2254	1.0 / 1

UMBC (2596)	Rating	Score/Rds.
1. GM Leonid Kritz	2664	3.5 / 4
2. GM Sergey Erenburg	2634	4.4 / 6
3. GM Timur Gareev	2631	5.0 / 6
4. WGM Savina Foisor	2453	2.0 / 4
Aaron Kahn	2296	1.0 / 2
Zoltan Revesz	2162	1.5 / 2

The two teams had four wins and two drawn matches, In Round 2 the Miami-Dade Collge A-team (2262) pulled an upset and tied UMBC. In Round 4 UTD-B was paired against their sister A-team (Alejandro Ramirez, Davorin Kuljasevic, Wang Puchen and Marko Zivanic), and the result was draws of 8-13 moves right down the line.

On the last day in Round 5, UMBC took down its main rival UTD-A, while UTD-B defeated the much lower-rated Harvard (2272).

In the final round UMBC had to go up against its second 2500+ team of the day. UTD-B was in trouble after Stopa lost to GM Kritz on top board. With draws on middle boards, it was up to Salvijus Bercys to save the match for UTD by defeating WGM Savina Foisor. His 5.5 score won Bercys the prize for Board 4.

Coming in third place with 4-2 was the University of Texas at Brownsville (IM Daniel Fernandez, Nadya Ortiz, Brad Sawyer, WIM Luciana Borales and Arturo Gracia) on tiebreaks over UTD-A. Stanford came in fifth.

Luis Salinas directed for Southwest Chess.

Board Prizes

1.	Gergely Antal	2505 Tx Tech	5.0
	IM Zhe Quan	2515 NYU	5.0
2.	Pavel Kamyshev	2039 Yale	4.5
3.	Brad Sawyer	2167 UTB-A	5.0
	Vaishna Aradhyula	2207 Stanford	5.0
	Timur Gareev	2631 UMBC	5.0
	Andrew Solomon	1837 Northwestern	5.0
	Lawrence Moy	948 Yale-B	5.0
4.	IM Salvijus Bercys	2510 UTD-B	5.5
Alt.	Igor Schneider	2439 UTD-A	3.0

Alekhine's Defense B03

Jacek Stopa 2536

Daniel Fernandez 2390

Pan-Am Intercollegiate 2008 (2)

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.c4 Nb6 4.d4 d6 5.f4 dxe5 6.fxe5 Nc6 7.Be3 Bf5 8.Nc3 e6 9.Nf3 Bg4 10.Be2 Qd7 11.0-0 Be7 12.Qd2 0-0-0 13.Rad1 Kb8 [13...f6] 14.Ng5 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Bxg5 16.Bxg5 Rde8 [16...Nxd4 17.Qd3±] 17.b3 Rhf8 18.Qh5 h6 19.Be3 Nc8 20.Rf4 [20.Ne4] 20...Rd8 21.Rdf1 N8e7 22.Ne2 Ng6 23.R4f2 Nb4 24.Nc3 Nc6 25.Rd2 Qe7 26.Ne4 Qh4 27.Qf3 Qe7 28.g3 Qb4 29.Rfd1 Nge7 30.Bf2 b6 31.Rd3 Rd7 32.Nc3 Rfd8 33.Nb5 Qa5 34.a3 Rf8 35.Qg4 Rg8 36.Qe4 Qa6 37.R1d2 Rf8 38.Re2 Nd8 39.a4 Qb7 40.Qg4 Rg8 41.Nc3 Ndc6



42.d5 Nb4 43.Rdd2 Rgd8 44.Qxg7 exd5 45.Qxf7 Nec6 46.Qf5 d4 47.e6 Re7 48.Nd5 Nxd5 49.cxd5 Nb4 50.Rxd4 Nxd5 51.Qe5 Ka8 52.Be3 c6 53.Bxh6 Rde8 54.Rg4 Nc7 55.Qd6 Rxe6 56.Rxe6 Rxe6?? [56...Nxe6±] Black resigns.

1-0
There might follow 57.Rg8+ Re8 58.Rxe8+ Nxe8 59.Qe6! Nc7

60.Qg8+, reaching an easily won king and pawn ending.

Sicilian B35

Igor Schneider 2439

Eric Dong 2200

Pan-Am Intercollegiate 2008 (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bc4 0-0 8.Bb3 a5 9.f3 d5 10.Bxd5 Nxd5 11.exd5 Nb4 12.Nde2 e6 13.0-0 Nxd5 14.Nxd5 exd5 15.Bd4 Bh6 16.Kh1 Re8 17.Nc3 Bf5 18.f4 Be4 19.Rf2 Qh4 20.Qf1 Rac8 21.Rd1 b5 22.Be5 f6 23.Bd4 Re6 24.Nxe4 dxe4 25.Be3 Qh5 26.Rfd2 Rec6 27.Rd5 Qg4 28.Rd8+ Bf8 29.Qxb5 Rxc2 30.Qb3+ Kg7??

30...R8c4 31.Rg1 Kg7 32.Qb7+ Rc7 33.Qxe4±
31.R1d7+ Kh6
31...Kh8 32.Qxc2!+-



32.f5+ g5

Black resigned, seeing the forced mate: 33.Rxh7+ Kxh7 34.Qf7+ Kh8 35.Qxf8+ Kh7 36.Rd7# (36. Qh8#).

1-0

Bobo-Indian E11

Tautvydas Vedrickas 2268

Timur Gareev 2631

Pan-Am Intercollegiate 2008 (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4. Nbd2 d6 5.e3 0-0 6.Bd3 e5 7.0-0 Bxd2 8.Nxd2 Qe7 9.a3 Bg4 10.Qc2 [10.f3; 10.Qb3] 10...exd4 11.exd4



11...Be2 12.Bxe2 Qxe2 13.Qb3 Nc6 14.d5 Nd4 15.Qxb7

15.Qc3 Qe5 16.Kh1 Ng4 17.f4 Qe3 18.Nf3 Qxc3 a6

15...Qd3 16.Qxc7 Ne2+ 17.Kh1 Nxc1 18.Raxc1 Qxd2 19.b4 Ne4 20. f3 Nf2+ 21.Kg1 Nd3, White resigns

22.Rb1 Nf4 [22...Qe3+ 23.Kh1 Nf2+ 24.Rxf2 Qxf2 25.Qxd6 Qc2] 23.Rf2 Qd4 24.Rbf1 Nd3 25.Qxd6 Nxf2 26.Rxf2 Rfe8 27.g3 Qxc4 0-1

Sicilian Rossolimo B52

Drasko Boskovic 2502

Sebastian Predescu 2313

Pan-Am Intercollegiate 2008 (5)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4. Bxd7+ Qxd7 5.0-0 Nf6 6.Re1 Nc6 7.c3 e6 8.d4 cxd4 9.cxd4 d5 10.e5 Ne4 11.Nbd2 Nxd2 12.Bxd2 Be7 13.Rc1 0-0 14.Rc3 Bb4??



15.Rxc6 Bxd2 16.Rd6 Qxd6 17. exd6 Bxe1 18.Qxe1 Rac8 19.h4 Rcd8 20.Qb4 f6 21.Qxb7 Rf7 22. Qa6 Rfd7 23.b4 Kf7 24.a4 Rb8 25.a5 Rdb7 26.Qc6 a6 27.d7 Ke7 28.Qc8 1-0

Reti Opening A15

Timur Gareev 2631

Wang Puchen 2531

Pan-Am Intercollegiate 2008 (5)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c6 3.e3 d5 4.Nc3 e6 5.Qc2 Nbd7 6.b3 b6 7.Be2 Bb7 8.0-0 Be7 9.Bb2 0-0 10.Rac1 Rc8 11.Qb1 Re8 12.Rfd1 Bf8 13.d4 Bb6 14.Nd2 Qe7 15.Bf3 a6 16.e4 dxe4 17.Nxe4 Nxe4 18.Qxe4 Rcd8 19. Qc2 a5 20.g3 Bb4 21.c5 bxc5 22. Nc4 cxd4 23.a3 Bc3 24.Bxc3 dxc3 25.Nxa5 Ne5 26.Be4 Ba8 27.Qxc3 f6 28.Rxd8 Rxd8 29.Nc4 Nf7 30. Qa5 Ng5 31.Bg2 e5 32.Re1 Ne6 33.f4 Nd4 34.fxe5 fxe5 35.b4 Nb5 36.a4 Nc3 37.Nxe5 Rf8 38.Nf3 Qf6 39.Qe5 Nxa4 40.Qxf6 gxf6 41.Ra1 Nb2 42.Nd4 Rb8 43.b5 1-0

King's Indian E61

Daniel Fernandez 2390

Keaton Kiewra 2416

Pan-Am Intercollegiate 2008 (5)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 0-0 5.Bg5 c5 6.d5 h6 7.Bh4 g5 8.Bg3 Nh5 9.Qc2 d6 10.e3 Nd7 11.Be2 Ndf6 12.Nd2 a6 13.a4 e6 14.0-0 b6

14...Nxc3 15.hxg3 (15.fxg3!? exd5 16.cxd5 Re8) 15...exd5 16.cxd5 b6 17.Nc4 Rb8 18.e4 Re8 19.Ne3 Qe7 20.Bd3 Nh5 15.dxe6 fxe6 16.Nde4 Nxc3 17. hxg3 Ra7 18.Rad1 Rd7 19.Rd2 Qe7

19...Bb7 20.Nxf6+ Qxf6 21.Qb3 Qd8 22.Bg4 Rf6=] 20.Rfd1 Rfd8

20...Nxe4 21.Nxe4 Rfd8=

21.Qb3 Nxe4 22.Nxe4 b5

22...Bb7 23.Nc3±

23.axb5 axb5 24.Qxb5 Be5 25.f4 Bg7 26.Bf3 Bf8 27.Qb6 Bb7 28.Nc3 Rb8



29.Bc6! Rc7?

29...Rdd8 30.Bxb7 Rxb7 31.Qc6 Rb4 32.Qe4 Qf6 33.Qd3±

30.Rxd6 Qf7 31.Bd7 Bxd6 32.Qxd6

Kiewra may have overlooked that he would have to return the Exchange.

32...Rxd7 33.Qxb8+ Kh7 34.Qe5 Rxd1+ 35.Nxd1 Qh5 36.Qc7+ Kg6 37.f5+ Kxf5 38.Nf2 1-0

Caro-Kann B10

Jacek Stopa 2536

Leonid Kritz 2664

Pan-Am Intercollegiate 2008 (6)

1.e4 c6 2.d3 d5 3.Nd2 g6 4.g3 Bg7
5.Bg2 e5 6.Ne2 Ne7 7.O-O O-O
8.c3 f5 9.Qb3 Kh8 10.f4 Nd7 11.
fxe5 dxe4 12.dxe4 Nxe5 13.exf5
Nxf5 14.Ne4 Qb6+ 15.Qxb6 axb6
16.Nf4 Bd7 17.a4 Nc4 18.b3 Nce3
19.Bxe3 Nxe3 20.Rf3 Nxc2 21.
Kxg2 Bg4 22.Re3 b5 23.Nd3 Bh6
24.Ree1 Bf3+ 25.Kg1 Bg7 26.Ndc5
Rae8 27.Ng5 Bxc3 28.Rxe8 Rxe8
29.Rc1 Bd2 30.Nf7+ Kg7 31.Nd6
Re2 0-1

IM Salvijus Bercys saved the day for UTD on fourth board, defeating WGM Sabina Foisior and winning the top prize for fourth board to boot.

King's Indian E67

Sabina Foisior 2453

Salvijus Bercys 2493

Pan-Am Intercollegiate 2008 (6)

1.d4 d6 2.c4 e5 3.Nf3 Nd7 4.Nc3 c6
5.g3 Ngf6 6.Bg2 g6 7.O-O Bg7 8.
Qc2 O-O 9.Rd1 Qe7 10.b3 h6 11.
dxe5 dxe5 12.e4 Re8 13.a4 a5 14.
Ba3 Nc5 15.h3 Bf8 16.Ne1 Qc7 17.
Nd3 Nxd3 18.Bxf8 Kxf8 19.Qxd3
Qe7 20.Qe3 Kg7 21.c5 Be6 22.Ne2
Red8 23.Rxd8 Rxd8 24.Qc3 Qc7
25.Kh2 Kh7 26.Rf1 Nh5 27.Ng1 f6
28.Nf3 Ng7 29.Rb1 Rd7 30.b4
axb4 31.Qxb4 Qd8 32.a5 Bf7 33.
Qc3 Ne6 34.Rb6 Qe7 35.a6 bxa6
36.Rxc6 Re7 37.Rxa6 Nxc5 38.Ra1
Nb3 39.Qb2 Nxa1 40.Qxa1 Qc5 41.
Qb2 Kg7 42.Qd2 Ra7 43.Nh4 Ra2
44.Qd1 Qxf2 45.Qc1 Re2 46.Qg1
Qxg1+ 47.Kxg1 Be8 48.Bf3 Rb2
49. Ng2 Bc6 50.Ne3 Rb4 51.Nd5
Bxd5 52.exd5 Rd4 53.Kf2 Kf7 54.
Ke3 Ke7 55.g4 f5 0-1

US Chess League:

Dallas Destiny captures '08 title

by Jonathan Hilton

US Chess Online, 12-7-2008

On Saturday night, Dec. 6, after six exhausting hours of play, the Dallas Destiny became the first-ever repeat champions of the U.S. Chess League. The Dallas Destiny and the Boston Blitz went 2.0-2.0 in the traditional four-board matchup followed by a strenuous marathon blitz tiebreak that delighted spectators and fans of both sides.

The tiebreak, whose bottom-up elimination-styled format allowed it to run for nearly two hours, finally ended when Dallas second-board IM Davorin Kuljasevic defeated Boston's first board, GM Larry Christiansen, with the Black pieces around 9 p.m. Eastern time. In the minutes that followed, the Internet Chess Club looked akin to how I'd imagine an Internet forum on New Year's Eve at midnight. League fans from around the country burst into an instant messaging free-for-all, showering the ICC with laud and congratulations for Dallas.

Some weeks ago, at the start of the playoff season, the Dallas Destiny seemed to many an unlikely bet to capture the championship. With a 6.5-3.5 record in the regular season and a mere 53% win rate—they were third out of the four teams in the Western Division that qualified for the playoffs. Their opponents in the play-off, the Boston Blitz, had been third in the Eastern Division with only a 6.0-4.0 record. Yet these two teams strung together match victories when they counted the most, thus thumbing their noses at those fans and pundits who had already counted them out. Throughout the

entire season both teams had confidence in their ability to succeed. I remember seeing a comment made by the head coach at the University of Texas at Dallas, IM Rade Milovanovic, after someone predicted another team would win the League this year. "The defending champions are always the favorite," he cautioned. Meanwhile, the Boston Blitz weren't afraid to publicize the match beforehand on Facebook. They listed it as an upcoming "Sporting Event" and sent invitations to chess players across the Internet—including myself—to attend.

The showdown began at 3 p.m. Eastern, an hour earlier than Texas time. Within the first hour of play, it looked as if the Dallas Destiny were headed for a Dallas Disaster.

Top board IM Marko Zivanic was getting "blitzed" in a thunderous attack by GM Larry Christiansen, and FM Igor Schneider was getting both squished and squashed by Boston's NM Marc Esserman. By late afternoon, it became apparent that neither player's position had long to live.

Sicilian Taimanov B48

Larry Christiansen 2680

Marko Zivanic 2465

USCL finals 2008

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.f4 b5
8.Bd3 Nxd4 9.Bxd4 Qxf4 10.Rf1
Qc7 11.Qh5 Nf6 12.Bxf6 gxf6 13.
Rxf6 d6 14.O-O-O Bg7 15.Bxb5+
Kf8 16.Rf3 Qe7 17.Rxd6 Bf6 18.
Rxf6 Qxf6 19.Nd5 Qg6 20.Rd8+
Kg7 21.Qe5+ f6 22.Qc7+ Bd7 23.
Rxd7+ Kh6 24.Qf4+ Qg5 25.Bc6
Rac8 26.Rd6 Rhd8 27.Qxg5+ Kxg5
28.Rxe6 Rf8 29.Kd2 f5 30.Ke3 fxe4
31.Kxe4 Rf2 32.Ne3 Rcf8 33.Re5+
Kg6 34.Kd4 1-0

If this bashing on Board 1 wasn't bad enough, here is how Esserman finished off Schneider on Board 3:

QGD D31

Marc Esserman 2422
Igor Schneider 2397

USCL finals 2008

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.e4 Bb4
5.e5 Ne7 6.Nf3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 c5 8.a3
Ba5 9.O-O cxd4 10.Nb5 O-O 11.
Nbx4 Nbc6 12.Nxc6 Nxc6 13.Qe2
Nd4 14.Nxd4 Qxd4 15.Rd1 Qh4
16.g3 Qe7 17.h4 Bd7 18.Bg5 Qe8
19.Bf6 gxf6 20.exf6 Kh8 21.Bd3
Rg8 22.Bxh7 Bd8 23.Bxg8 Bxf6
24.Qd3 Qxg8 25.Qxd7 Bxb2 26.
Rab1 Bxa3 27.Rb5 Qg4 28.Rd4
Qg6 29.Rg5 Qh7 30.Qd8+ Rxd8
31.Rxd8+ Qg8 32.Rdxg8+ Kh7 33.
R5g7+ Kh6 34.Rxf7 1-0

Thus Boston had prevailed in both its White games. If they could hold a draw on just one of the remaining two boards, the title would be theirs. By the time Boston had secured victory on both Board 1 and Board 3, however, it had begun to look as if that much-needed draw would not come from their fourth board game. WFM Bayaraa Zorigt of Dallas, who had defeated Boston's Ilya Krasik earlier in the season, was about to put an end to an incredible string of five consecutive wins. Zorigt, who had beaten four masters the previous week in the UTD Invitational, developed her pieces to good squares and took advantage of weak squares Black was saddled with in the opening. By move 33, Black was staring at a mate in seven, which he played out only partway.

King's Indian E94

Bayaraa Zorigt 2203
Ilya Krasik 2196

USCL finals 2008

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
5.Nf3 O-O 6.Be2 e5 7.O-O exd4
8.Nxd4 Re8 9.f3 c6 10.Kh1 Nbd7
11.Bg5 h6 12.Bh4 Qb6 13.Nb3 Qc7
14.Qd2 g5 15.Bg3 Ne5 16.f4 gxf4
17.Bxf4 Kh7 18.Rad1 Be6 19.c5

Bxb3 20.cxd6 Qb6 21.axb3 Qxb3
22.Bxe5 Rxe5 23.Qf4 Ng8 24.Qxf7
Qxf7 25.Rxf7 b5 26.Rc7 b4 27.Na2
c5 28.Rf1 Kg6 29.Nc1 Rd8 30.Nd3
Rxe4 31.Nf4+ Rxf4 32.Rxf4 Bxb2
33.Bd3+ Kg5 34.Rf5+ Kg4 35.h3+
Kg3 36.Rf3+ Kh4 37.g3+ 1-0

This shifted the entire weight of the League championship onto IM Davorin Kuljasevic of Dallas and nearly 2600-rated Sammour-Hasbun of Boston.

Kuljasevic, playing White in this Board 2 matchup, had pressure on Black's queenside. He was also gaining a large time advantage on the clock. Could USCL hero Sammour-Hasbun hold the draw and save the day? After a valiant struggle to defend his queenside, Sammour-Hasbun finally cracked under pressure and allowed Kuljasevic to mop up all his queenside pawns:

Notes by Jonathan Hilton

QGD Semi-Slav D45

Davorin Kuljasevic 2528
Jorge Sammour-Hasbun 2576

USCL finals 2008

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e3 e6
5.Nf3 Nbd7 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.g4
A popular line these days.
7...Nxc4 8.Rg1 Nh6!?

A rare move, but Sammour-Hasbun has a particular follow-up in mind.

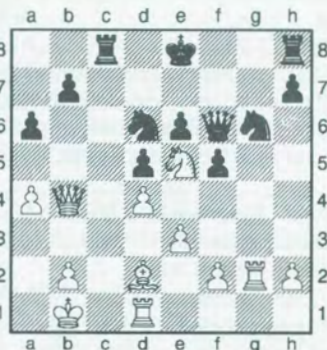
9.Bd2 f5!?

As far as I know, this is a novelty. The idea is to stop White from playing e3-e4 and to gain control over the e4 square. Previously, Black had tried posting his knight on f5 to defend the g7 pawn, something which didn't work out well for Black in Shirov-Dreev, 1993: 9...Nf5 10.e4 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Be7 12.0-0 Nf6 13.Bd3 g6 14.Bc3 0-0 15.h4 Qc7 16.Ne5 when White had a lot of pressure for his sacrificed material,

making the position rather unclear. Shirov, however, thrived in the complications and won.

10.Rxg7 Qf6 11.Rg2 Nf7 12.0-0-0 Nf8 13.Bd3 Ng6 14.cxd5!

This move shows the problem with Black's development scheme. White has regained his pawn and gained a lead in development; now he is able to open the c-file, and Black's rooks are not yet connected. 14...cxd5 15.Nb5 Bd7 16.Nxd6+ Nxd6 17.Kb1 Rc8 18.Qb3 a6 19.Ne5 Bb5 20.Bxb5+ Nxb5 21.a4 Nd6 22.Qb4



White has further developed his initiative over the past several moves. Black has defended well, particularly by exchanging off the light-squared bishops, leaving White with only one member of the bishop duo. White is penetrating on the queenside, however, and by this point Sammour-Hasbun was close to time-trouble.

22...Ne4?

22...Nxe5 23.dxe5 Qxe5 24.Bc3 Rxc3 25.bxc3, when White is better, may have been forced.

23.Qxb7

From here on out, the White is clearly winning. Black manages to castle, but he is too late.

23...0-0 24.f3 Nd6 25.Qxa6 Nc4 26.Nxc4 Rxc4 27.Rc1 Rxc1+ 28.Bxc1 f4 29.exf4 Qxd4 30.Qxe6+ Rh8 31.Rd2 Qxa4 32.b3! (Diagram)

Black must lose his queen after 32...Qxb3+ 33.Bb2+ d4 34.Qxb3.



Black resigns

1-0

This could only mean one thing: the match would move to the blitz play-off extravaganza! In this wild blitz circus, the match is decided by a process of elimination. First, the fourth boards play; the loser is eliminated, or a draw eliminates both players. In this case, WFM Bayaraa Zorigt repeated her victory over Ilya Krasik. This meant she went on to face Boston's third board, NM Marc Esserman, who has a reputation as a strong blitz player. Much to the excitement of those watching on the Internet Chess Club, Zorigt gained a sizable advantage in the opening (see diagrammed position below).



Position after 17...hxg4

As pointed out by the spectators, the in-between move 18.f4! (instead of 18.Rxh8+) would have secured White's positional dominance.

The moment of truth, however, came on move 23, when both sides were beginning to get dangerously low on time. Black's 23...b5 led to a position in which White could have dealt Black a tactical blow:



Position after 23...b5

Now 24.Nb6!! Nxb6 25.Rd8 Kh7 26.Qxf7+ Qg7 27.Qxf3 would have left Black helpless. After missing this golden opportunity, Zorigt was slowly outplayed as both players survived off their five-second increments.

The blitz fest continued as Esserman went on to face Dallas's third board, FM Igor Schneider, whom he defeated. This gave the advantage to Boston. It also meant, however, that blitz invincible IM Davorin Kuljasevic got to step up to the plate.

Kuljasevic destroyed Esserman's Dutch Defense and then defeated Sammour-Hasbun from the Black side of the Exchange Slav. This meant Boston's last card had to be played: the king of clubs, GM Larry Christiansen. Christiansen, who can give masters five minutes to one minute time-odds in blitz-and cream club players at rook or even queen odds, is an Internet Chess Club blitz legend.

But Kuljasevic was on a roll, although he did fail to press what looked like a positional advantage with White in his first game. Draws don't eliminate either team's Board 1

player, who must be defeated in combat, so they played again with colors reversed. Kuljasevic counter-struck with vengeance in their second game, in which he had the Black pieces.

Although at some point along the way Christiansen had an undeniable advantage, Dallas Destiny's second board fought to keep both tactics and hope alive, eventually finding a perpetual check.

Then the unimaginable happened: Christiansen's king waddled into checkmate!



Position after 30...Qe3+

White is fine after 31.Kg2 Qd2+ 32.Kg1 Qe3+, draw. If 31...Qe2+ instead, White can step back to h1 with confidence, since Black's queen has taken its eye off the c1 square.

Instead, however, White played 31.Kh1??, and after 31...Rc1+ 32.Bf1 Qf3+ 33.Kg1 Qxf1#, White was in checkmate. Here is the game:

English Opening A29

Larry Christiansen 2680

Davorin Kuljasevic 2528

USCL finals 2008

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.g3 Bc5 5.Bg2 O-O 6.O-O d6 7.a3 a6 8.e3 Ba7 9.b3 Bf5 10.d4 exd4 11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.exd4 c6 13.d5 Qd7 14.Bb2 Rfe8 15.Qd2 c5 16.Rae1 b5 17.Nd1 bxc4 18.bxc4 Bb6 19.Bxf6

(Continue on page 27)

UTD team gets solid workout at 7th GM Invitational



GMs Julio Bacerra and Babakuli Annakov

The four visiting grandmasters at the seventh annual UT Dallas GM Invitational Tournament (Nov. 26-30) put up concrete resistance at every turn and gave the UT Dallas Chess Team members plenty of practice.

"They proved worthy of their invitations, GM titles and high ratings," said Jim Stallings, director of the UT Dallas chess program. "We fully expected that, however. In chess, the rating system is statistically very accurate."

Several UT Dallas team members increased their chess ratings, but none were able to score enough wins to achieve a norm for a new title as the top-seeded visitors prevailed to win in each section.

Visiting grandmasters for the tournament included Babakuli Annakov of Dallas, Texas; Julio Becerra from Florida; Sergey Kudrin from Connecticut; and Jesse Kraai from New Mexico.

"It is all right," said chess coach IM Rade Milovanovic. "Now the team will be ready to defend

itself as the current two-time champions of the Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Championship."

"They can go take their exams knowing that they will be in good shape for the big tournament," Milovanovic said.

This year a new section was added for players seeking IM norms. There were twenty participants, almost twice last year's field of twelve players.

At the opening ceremony for the UTD GM Invitational, Alexey Root suggested that WFM Bayaraa Zorigt rub GM Alejandro Ramirez's head for good luck (see cover photo). Alejandro and Bayaraa agreed that it couldn't hurt. In round six, the mutual luck was on as Alejandro won against IM Sal Bercys, while Bayaraa defeated NM Taut Vedrickas.

The last game to finish in the IM-norm section was GM Jesse Kraai's 111-move win over WFM Bayaraa Zorigt. After second-place finisher GM Babakuli Annakov and FM Igor Shneider drew in 15 minutes, Jesse only needed a draw to clinch first. However, as Jesse put it, "I came to play chess." A full time chess player, Jesse recently moved to Berkeley, California to live in the GM House (see next page.)

GRANDMASTER INVITATIONAL

	Player	Rating	Score
1.	GM Julio Becerra	2644	6.5
2.	GM Alejandro Ramirez	2592	6.0
3.	IM Jacek Stopa	2522	5.0
4.	IM Davorin Kuljasevic	2537	5.0
5.	GM Sergey Kudrin	2592	5.0
6.	IM Puchen Wang	2531	4.5
7.	IM Marko Zivanic	2518	4.0
8.	IM John Bartholomew	2510	3.5
9.	IM Salvijus Bercys	2502	3.0
10.	IM Drasko Boskovic	2502	2.5

INTERNATIONAL MASTER INVITATIONAL

	Player	Rating	Score
1.	GM Jesse Kraai	2573	7.0
2.	GM Babakuli Annakov	2490	6.0
3.	FM Igor Schneider	2426	5.5
4.	Chaitanya N. Vaidya	2343	5.5
5.	WFM Bayaraa Zorigt	2244	5.0
6.	Mihail Bantic	2234	4.5
7.	FM Keaton Kiewra	2347	4.5
8.	Tautvydas Vedrickas	2289	3.5
9.	Nelson Lopez	2214	2.0
10.	Francisco Guadalupe	2254	1.5

Ruy Lopez C92

Igor Schneider 2397
Mihail Bantic 2195

UTD Invitational 2008 (1)

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 Re8 10.d4 Bf8 11.
Nbd2 Na5 12.Bc2 c5 13.Nf1 exd4
14.cxd4 cxd4 15.Nxd4 d5 16.e5
Ne4 17.Bf4 Nc4 18.Ng3 Qh4 19.
Bxe4 dxe4 20.Rxe4 Nxb2 21.Qe2
Nc4 22.Nh5 Qe7 23.Bg3 f5 24.Rf4
Qxe5 25.Qf3 Ra7 26.Rd1



26...Nd2 27.Qd3 Qe1+ 28.Rxe1
Rxe1+ 29.Kh2 Nf1+ 30.Kg1 Nxc3+
31.Kh2 Nxc5 32.Qb3+ Rf7 33.Rh4
Bd6+ 34.g3 Bb7 35.Nf3 Re2 36.
Kg1 Nf6 37.Rd4 Ne4 38.Ne5 Re1+
39.Kh2 Ng5 40.Rd1 Rxe5 0-1

QGD Slav D11

Salvijos Bercys 2428
Marko Zivanic 2465

UTD Invitational 2008 (1)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 Bg4
5.Nc3 e6 6.h3 Bxf3 7.Qxf3 Bb4
8.Qd1 Nbd7 9.Qb3 a5 10.a3 Bxc3+
11.bxc3 b6 12.a4 0-0 13.Bd3 Qc7
14.0-0 Rfc8 15.Ba3 c5 16.Rfc1
Rab8 17.Qd1 h6 18.Bb2 Qd8 19.
cxd5 Nxd5 20.e4 N5f6 21.f4 Nf8
22.Qf3 Qd7 23.Rd1 Qc7 24.e5 Nd5
25.c4 Nb4 26.d5 exd5 27.cxd5 e4
28.Bf5 c3 29.Ba3 c2 30.Rd2 Qc3
31.Qxc3 Rxc3 32.Bb2 Rc4 33.g3 h5
34.h4 b5 35.axb5 Rxb5 36.d6 Nc6
37.Ba3 Nd4 38.Rxd4 Rxd4 39.Bxc2
Rd2 40.Ba4 Rbd5 41.Bc1 R2d3 42.

Kf2 Ne6 43.Be3 Rc3 44.Rd1 Rxd1
45.Bxd1



45...Kf8

45...Nc5 46.Bxh5 a4 47.Bf3 Kf8
48.Bd4 Rc2+ 49.Ke3 a3 50.Bd5 Ne6
51.Bxe6 fxe6 52.f5 exf5 53.Bb6 Rc8
54.d7 Ra8 55.d8Q+ Rxd8 56.Bc5+
Kf7

46.f5?

46.Bb6 Nc5 47.Bxa5 Ra3 48.
Bb6 Ne4+ 49.Ke1 Ke8 50.g4 hxg4
51.Bxg4 f5 52.Bh5+ (52.Bxf5 Ra1+
53.Ke2 Ng3+) 52...Kd7 53.Bg6±
46...Nc5 47.Bd4

47.Ke2 Ne4 48.g4 Ng3+ (48...
hxg4 49.Ba4 Nc5 50.d7 Rxe3+ 51.
Kxe3 Ke7 52.h5+) 49.Kd2 Ne4+=
47...Ne4+ 48.Ke2 Nxc3+ 49.Kd2
Ne4+ 50.Ke2 f6 51.e6?

51.Bb6 Ng3+ 52.Kd2 Ne4+=
51...Rc4+ 52.Kd3 Nxd6 53.Bb3
Rxd4+ 54.Kxd4 Nxf5+ 55.Kd5 Ke7
0-1

Sicilian B80

Jacek Stopa 2461
Drasko Boskovic 2452

UTD Invitational 2008 (1)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Nc3 Bd7 6.f3 Nc6 7.Be3 e6
8.Qd2 a6 9.0-0-0 Be7 10.g4 Nxd4
11.Bxd4 e5 12.Be3 Be6 13.g5 Nd7
14.h4 b5 15.Nd5 Bxd5 16.Qxd5 0-0
17.Kb1 Nb6 18.Qd2 Qc7 19.h5 Nc4
20.Bxc4 Qxc4 21.Qg2 Qe6 22.Rd3
Rac8 23.Qh2 Rc4 24.Rd2 Rcc8 25.
Rg2 a5 26.Rhg1 a4 27.g6 Bf6 28.
gxh7+ Kxh7 29.Bg5 Rg8 30.a3 d5

31.exd5 Qf5 32.Bxf6 Qxf6 33.Rg6
Qf5 34.Qg2 fxg6 35.hxg6+ Kh6



36.Qh2+! (36...Qh5 37.Qd2+ and
the ...Qf4 defense is gone) 1-0

"Therein lies a story," the saying goes. Alexey Root's passing reference to the GM House in her Chess Life Online article piqued my curiosity, and a Web search came up with this entertaining piece:

GM House, or

"Real World: Chess House"

by Vinay Bhat December 4, 2008

Besides NY, and to some extent, Philadelphia and Los Angeles, there isn't generally a concentration of chess talent in one [US] city. Even in those big cities, the talent tends to spread out across the city. But now the west coast will put El Cerrito, a town of about 30,000, on the map. El Cerrito was already home to GM Josh Friedel (who moved to California from New Hampshire) and with a few recent additions, the city is one of the strongest west of the Mississippi.

Pulling a page out of the Chinese playbook, a bunch of US chess players will live under the same roof! Full-time chessplayers tend to be a little eccentric (I'm certainly no exception), so the cast of characters makes this an easy target for a reality TV show. [Continued next page.]

GM Jesse Kraai, formerly of New Mexico, moved here in November. I finally moved in this week. The two of us, along with two others (David Petty, who teaches chess at the Berkeley Chess School, and Andrew Leong, who is a graduate student in the comparative literature department at UC Berkeley), are living in a 5-bedroom house. There is an attached 1-bedroom apartment to the back of the house (sort of like an in-laws quarter), where IMs David Pruess and Irina Krush will stay. With GM Friedel only two blocks away, we have 5 of the top 50 active US players all living next to each other. The average FIDE rating of our study group will be 2474 FIDE, with 3 GMs and 2 IMs (each having 2 GM norms).

The cast of chess characters:

(1) GM Jesse Kraai: He of the Berkeley Chess "Fight Club" fame in 2006. Former philosophy teacher. Slowly realizing that the words of men cannot contain The Shaba's meaning.

(2) GM Josh Friedel: The panda. Samford Fellow from 2007. wonders daily now whether he has to get fumigated to rid himself of The Curse.

(3) IM Irina Krush: Samford Fellow from 2008. She of the "Krushing Attack" video series fame. And maybe for the 2008 US Women's Championship Armageddon final controversy.

(4) IM David Pruess: Samford Fellow from 2006. The chief designer behind the Berkeley Chess "Fight Club" series of tournaments.

(5) Little ol' me.

This should be fun.

[From Vinay's blog, *An Unemployed Fellow*, <http://vbhat.wordpress.com>.]

English Opening A35

Alejandro Ramirez 2533

Wang Puchen 2450

UTD Invitational 2008 (1)

1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 g6 4.e3 Nf6 5.d4 cxd4 6.exd4 d5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Qb3 Nxc3 9.Bc4 Nd5 10. Bxd5 e6 11.Bxc6+ bxc6 12.0-0 Qd5 13.Qc3 Ba6 14.Re1 Bg7

14...Rb8 15.Bf4 Bb4 16.Qc2 Rb6 17.Re5 Qc4=

15.Qa3± Bb7 16.Bf4 Bf8 17.Qc3 Bg7 18.Qb4 Qb5 19.Qa3 a5 20.Bd6 Rd8 21.Rac1 Bc8 22.Ne5 Bb7 23.Bc5 Bxe5 24.Rxe5 Rd7 25.Qf3

25.Be7 Qb6 26.Bf6 Rf8 27.Rxa5 with d5! to follow.

25...Qxb2 26.Rce1 f5 27.Rxe6+ Kd8 28.R6e2

28.d5 cxd5 29.Qf4! Kc8 30.Bb6 Rhd8 31.Rc1++

28...Qb5 29.a4 Qa6 30.Qf4 Kc8 31.Re8+ Rxe8 32.Rxe8+ Rd8 33. Rxd8+ Kxd8 34.Qd6+ Kc8 35. Qf8+ Kc7?

35...Kd7 36.h3 Qd3 37.d5 Qxd5 38.Qe7+ Kc8 39.Bd6+

36.Bd6+, Black resigned

If 36...Kb6 [36... Kd7 37.Qe7+ Kc8 38.Qc7#] 37.Qd8+ Ka7 38. Qb8+ Kb6 39.Bc5#. 1-0

QGD Exchange D31

Tautvydas Vedrickas 2268

Igor Schneider 2397

UTD Invitational 2008 (2)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.cxd5 exd5 4.Nc3 c6 5.Nf3 [5.Bf4] 5...Bd6 6.Qc2 Ne7 7.e3 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.h3 h6 10.Ne5 Bxe5 11.dxe5 c5 12.f4 Nbc6 13.Qe2 Be6 14.0-0 a6 15.Rd1 b5 16.b3 Qb6 17.Kh2 Rad8 18.g4 d4 19.gxf5 19.exd4 Nxd4 20.Qg2 Qc6 21.

Qxc6 Nexc6 22.gxf5 Bxf5 23.Bxf5 Rxf5 24.Kg2 g5±

19...Nxf5 20.Ne4 dxe3

20...Nb4 21.exd4 Nxd4 22.Qg2 Nxd3 23.Rxd3 Bd5±

21.Bxe3 Ncd4 22.Bxd4 Rxd4 23. Rac1



23...c4! 24.bxc4 bxc4 25.Bxc4 Bxc4 26.Rxc4 Rxd1 27.Qxd1 Ne3 28.Qd4 Nxc4 29.Qxc4+ Kh8 30.e6 Qb8

30...Qe3 31.e7 Rb8 32.Qc2 Qxf4+ 33.Ng3 Qd6+

31.e7 Qxf4+ 32.Kg2 Re8 33.Qe6 Qh4 34.Nd6 Rxe7 35.Qc8+ Kh7 36.Qxa6 Re3 0-1

Bishop's Gambit C33

Nelson Lopez 2173

Francisco Guadalupe 2237

UTD Invitational 2008 (2)

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Bc4 Qh4+ 4.Kf1 d6 5.Nf3 Qh6 6.d4 g5 7.h4 Be7 8.g3 Bg4 9.Kg2



9...gxh4 10.Bxf4 h3+ 11.Kh2 Qg6 12.Rf1 Nf6 13.Nc3 Nxe4 14.Nxe4 Qxe4 15.Qd2 Bxf3

15...Qg6 16.Ng5 Rf8 17.Rae1 Nc6 18.Bd3 f5 19.Ne6 Kd7 20.d5± 16.Rae1 Qf5 17.Rxf3 Nc6 18.d5 Kd7 19.dxc6+ bxc6 20.Rxe7+ 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E39

Chaltanya Vaidya 2170

Bayaraa Zorigt 2203

UTD Invitational 2008 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 c5 5.dxc5 0-0 6.a3 Bxc5 7.Nf3 b6 8.Bf4 Bb7 9.e4 Nc6 10.b4 Be7 11.Rd1 Nh5 12.Bc1 f5 13.exf5 exf5 14.Bd3 Bf6 15.Nd5 Ne7 16.0-0 Nxd5 17.cxd5 g6 18.Bh6 Bg7 19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.Ne5 Nf4 21.Bb5 Qg5 22.f3 Nxd5 23.f4 Qf6 24.Qb3 d6 25.Rxd5 Bxd5 26.Qxd5 dxe5 27.fxe5 Qe7 28.e6 Rad8 29.Qe5+ Kg8 30.Bc4 Rc8 31.Bb3 Rfd8 32.Bd5 Qd6?? [32...Rd6-+] 33.e7+ Qxd5 34.e8Q+!

A wicked deflection! Many players have a blind spot for this.
34...Rxe8 35. Qxd5+ 1-0

Ruy Lopez C76

Wang Puchen 2450

Jacek Stopa 2461

UTD Invitational 2008 (2)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.c3 Bd7 6.0-0 g6 7.d4 Bg7 8.Bg5 f6 9.Be3 Nge7 10.Nbd2 Qc8 11.Bb3 Nd8 12.Rc1 Ne6 13.d5 Nd8 14.c4 b6 15.a3 a5 16.Ba4 Bxa4 17.Qxa4+ Qd7 18.Qxd7+ Kxd7 19.b4 axb4 20.axb4 f5 21.c5 bxc5 22.bxc5 fxe4 23.Nxe4 Nxd5 24.cxd6 cxd6 25.Rfd1 Ra5 26.Bc5 Bh6 27.Rb1 Ke6 28.Bxd6 Nc6



28...Bg7 offers better resistance.
29.Nc5+! Rxc5

29...Kxd6 30.Nb7+ Ke6 31.Nxa5 Nxa5 32.Rb5+
30.Bxc5 Rb8 31.Rxb8 Nxb8 32.Re1 Nd7 33.Ba3 Kf5 34.Bb2 Bg7 35.g3 g5 36.Kg2 Bf6 37.Nd2 h5 38.Ne4 Be7 39.Nd2 Bf6 40.Nc4 Nb4 41.Rd1 Nb8 42.Rd6 N8c6 43.Ne3+ Kg6 44.Bc3 Kf7 45.h3 Be7 46.Rh6 Bf6 47.Rh7+ Kg6 48.Rb7 Nd3 49.Rb6 Ne7 50.Rd6 1-0

Sicilian Najdorf B96

Keaton Kiewra 2380

Tautvydas Vedrickas 2268

UTD Invitational 2008 (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Nbd7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 b5 10.Bd3 Bb7 11.Rhe1 Qb6

A major crossroads in the Main Line Najdorf; besides the text, Black has played 11...Be7, 11...b4, 11...h6, 11...Nc5 and 11...0-0-0.
12.Nd5

12.Bf1 Be7 13.Qh3 Rc8 14.e5 dxe5 15.fxe5 Nd5 16.Ne4 Bxg5+ 17.Nxg5 h6 18.Ngxe6 fxe6 19.Nxe6 g6 20.Bd3 Nc5? (20...Rg8) 21.Bxg6+ Ke7 (Robson-Sjugirov, ICC Corus Qualifier 2008) 22.Nf4 Rcd8 23.Qh4+ Kf8 24.Nxd5 Bxd5 25.e6+-



12...Qxd4

12...exd5 13.Nc6! Bxc6 14.exd5+ Be7 15.dxc6 Nc5 16.Bxf6 gxf6 17.Bf5 Qc7 18.b4 Ne6 19.Qh5 Ng7 20.Bd7+ Kf8 21.Qh6 d5 22.Rxe7 Kxe7 23.Re1+ Kf8 24.Qxf6 Kg8 25.Re7 Rf8 26.Be6+- Chibur-danidze-Dvoris, Tallin 1980.

13.Nc7+

13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.Bxb5 Qc5

(a) 15.Nxf6+ .Kd8 16.Nxd7 Qxb5 17.Nxf8 Rxf8 18.Qa3 Re8 (18...Ke7? 19.Rxd6 Kf6 20.Qc3+- Manik-Vuljagic, Stara Pazova 2008) 19.Qxd6+ Ke8 20.Re3 Qc6= Romeaux-Guilleaux, Paris 2008.

(b) 15.b4!? Qxb5 (15...Qa7 16.Bxd7+ Kxd7 17.Nxf6+ Kd8 18.Qh5 Bc6 19.Nxh7 f6 20.Qa5+ Qc7? (20...Ke7±) 21.Nxf8± Leconte-Sanchez, Colomiers 2008) 16.Nc7+ Ke7 17.Nxb5 axb5 18.Qd3 Ra6 19.Qxb5 Rb6 20.Qd3 Bh6 21.g3± Vorobiov-Jakasguab, Gyumri 2008.
13...Kd8 14.Nxa8 Bxa8 15.Bxb5 Qb6 16.Bc4 Be7 17.Bh4 Nc5 (17...Qb4!±) 18.Bf2 Qc6 (18...Bb7±) 19.e5 Nfe4 20.exd6 Bf6 21.Bd4 Kd7 22.f5 Qa4 23.fxe6+ fxe6 24.Bxf6 gxf6 25.Qg4 Ng5 26.Qd4 Nge4



27.Bxe6+ Kxe6 28.Qxc5 Qxa2 29.Rxe4+ Bxe4 30.Rd4

Or 30.Qb4 f5 31.d7 Qa1+ 32.Kd2 Qa2 33.Ke3 Bd5 34.c4+-.

30...f5

30...Bxg2 31.Qb6! Bd5 32.d7+ Ke7 (32...Kxd7 33.c4) 33.Qc5+ Ke6 34.Qc8 Qa1+ 35.Kd2 Qa5+ 36.b4 Qd8 37.Qxa6+-.

31.d7 Qa1+

31...Bd5 32.b3+-

32.Kd2 Qf1 33.Rd6+ Kf7 34.d8N+ Rxd8

34...Kg8 35.Ne6 Qxg2+ 36.Kc1 Qh1+ 37.Rd1+-

35.Qc7+

1-0

French Defense C06

Igor Schneider 2397

Chaltanya Vaidya 2170

UTD Invitational 2008 (3)

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.Nxf4 Nxd4 10.Qh5+ Ke7 11.Ng6+ hxg6 12.exf6+ Nxf6 13.Qxh8 Kf7 14.0-0 e5 15.Nb3



15...Nxb3

15...Nf5 16.Bg5 Be6 (a) (16... Qb6 17.Rac1 a5 18.Kh1 a4 19.Nd2 Bd7 20.Nf3 Re8 21.Be3 d4 22.Bc4+ Ke7 23.Bg5 e4 24.Ne5 Kd8 25.Nxd7 Kxd7 26.Bf7 1-0 Black-Anderson, UK corr. 1988; (b) 17.Rac1 Qb6 18.Nc5 e4 19.Nxe6 Kxe6 20.Bb1 Rd8 21.Qh3 Kf7 22.Kh1 Re8 23.g4 Nd6 24.f3= Lau-Bischoff, W. Ger. 1984.

16.axb3 Bf5 17.Bxf5 gxf5 18.Bg5

18.Qh3 Qd7 19.Be3 d4 20.Bd2 Ne4= Scuderi-Savage, corr 1999.

18...Qb6!?N

18...Bc5 19.Qh3 Qd7 20.b4!? (20.Bxf6 Kxf6 21.Rac1=) 20...Bb6 (20...Bxb4 21.Bxf6 gxf6 22.Rfd1 Ke6=) 21.Bxf6 Kxf6 22.Ra3 g6 23.Qh4+ Ke6 (Kengis-Moskalenko, Sverdlovsk 1984) 24.Qg5=.

19.Qh3 g6??

19...Ke6!? 20.Bxf6 gxf6= 20.Bxf6 Kxf6 21.Qh8+ 1-0

QGD Slav D47

Marko Zivanic 2465

John Bartholemew 2453

UTD Invitational 2008 (3)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3

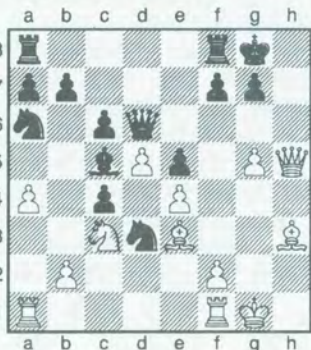
dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.Nh4!? Bg4 7.h3 Bh5 8.g4 Bg6 9.Bg2

9.g5 Nd5 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.e4 Nb4 12.Be3 e5 13.Bxc4 exd4 14.Qb3 Qc7 15.Bxd4 N8a6 16.Bxa6 Nxa6 17.0-0-0 Nc5 18.Qc2 Ne6= Ponomarev-Grischuk, Calvia 2004. 9...e6 10.g5 Nd5 11.e4 Nb4 12.0-0 e5

12...Be7 13.f4 0-0 14.Kh1 c5 15.d5 exd5 16.f5 d4 17.fxg6 hxg6 18.e5 N8c6 19.Ne4 Nxe5 20.Bf4 Ivanisevic-Kulaots, Crete EU tt 2007 20...Ned3+

13.d5 Be5 14.Qg4 0-0 15.Nxg6 hxg6 16.h4 Nd3 17.Be3 Na6

17...Bd4! 18.Rab1 Qd6 19.Bh3 Na6 20.h5 gxh5 21.Qxh5 Nc7 22.Kg2 cxd5 23.Rh1 Qg6= 18.h5 gxh5 19.Qxh5 Qd6 20.Bh3



20...g6?

20...Nc7! (not 20...Qg6?? 21.Qxg6 fxg6 22.Be6+!) prepares to shut down White's attack with 21...Qg6, and if White declines to trade queens, a later ...f6.

21.Qh4 Rae8 22.Kg2 f5 23.Rh1 Bxe3 24.fxe3 Rf7?

24...Re7 25.exf5 Qb4 (25...gxf5 26.Bxf5) 26.f6 Qxb2+ 27.Kf3+- 25.Bxf5 Kf8 26.Be6 Rf2+ 27.Kg3 Nac5 28.Raf1 Rxf1 29.Rxf1+ Ke7 30.Rf6 1-0

QGD Semi-Slav D30

Salvijus Bercys 2428

Wang Puchen 2450

UTD Invitational 2008 (3)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 e6

5.Bd3 Nbd7 6.Nbd2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.e4 dxe4 9.Nxe4 b6 10.Nc3 Bb7 11.Bf4 Re8 12.Re1 Nf8 13.h3 Ng6 14.Bh2 Bd6 15.Ne5 Qc7 16.Qe2 Rad8 17.Rac1 Qc8 18.Red1 c5 19.Ne4 Nxe4 20.Bxe4 Bxe4 21.Qxe4 Qc7 22.Nf3 Bxh2+ 23.Nxh2 Qf4 24.Qxf4 Nxf4 25.Kf1 Rxd4 26.Nf3 Rdd8 27.Ne5 f6 28.Nc6 Rd3 29.g3 Rxd1+ 1/2-1/2

Four Knights Game C48

Jacek Stopa 2461

Julio Becerra 2602

UTD Invitational 2008 (3)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bb5 Nd4 5.0-0 Bc5 6.Ba4 0-0 7.d3 d6 8.h3 c6 9.Nxd4 Bxd4 10.Ne2 Bb6 11.Ng3 Be6

11...Ne8 12.Bb3 Nc7 13.Be3 Ne6 14.c3 g6 15.Bxe6 Bxe6 16.d4 d5= Botvinnik-Fine, AVRO 1938.

12.Qf3 Nd7 13.Bb3 a5 14.Be3 a4 15.Bxe6 fxe6 16.Qg4 Qe7 17.a3 Rf7 18.Bxb6 Nxb6 19.f4 exf4 20.Rxf4 Rxf4 21.Qxf4 Nd7 22.Rf1 Ra5 23.c3 Ne5 24.Qe3 h6 25.d4 Ng6 26.Rf2 Rh5 27.Kh2 Kh7 28.Qd3 Qg5 29.Qf3 Qe7 30.Qe2 Rg5 31.Qf1 Kg8 32.Qc4 d5 33.Qd3 Qc7 34.e5 c5 35.Ne2

35.Qb5 Qc6 36.Qa5 cxd4 37.cxd4 Qc4 38.Qc3±

35...Qb6 36.Qc2 Qc6 37.Qd3 Qb6 -38.Qc2 Qc6 39.Ng3

39.Qd3 and Black may claim a draw because Qb6 is the third time. 39...b5 40.Qd3 cxd4 41.cxd4 Qc1 42.Qxb5?



Either 42.Qc3 or 42.Qf3! was to be preferred.

42...Qe3 43.Rf3 Qxd4 44.Qe8+ Kh7 45.Qxe6 Rxe5 46.Qd7

46.Nf5 Qxb2 47.Qf7 Re2 48. Rg3 Qf6

46...Nh4 47.Rf7

47.Nf5 Nxf5 48.Rxf5 Qxb2

47...Re1 White resigns.

48.Nf1 Re2 Δ...Rvg2+; 48. Qa7 Nf3+! 49.gxf3 Qd2+ etc. 0-1

Gruenfeld Defense D85

Alejandro Ramirez 2533

Sergay Kudrin 2553

UTD Invitational 2008 (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Be3 c5 8.Qd2 Qa5 9.Rc1 0-0 10.d5! f5 11.Ne2N

11.Nf3 fxe4 12.Ng5 Bf5 13.Be2 h6 14.g4 hxg5 15.gxf5 gxf5 16.Bxg5 Kh7 17.Rg1 Nd7 18.Qf4+ Graf-Stangl, Bundesliga 2002

11...Na6 12.Nf4 g5 13.Nh5 f4 14. Nxc3 Kxc3 15.h4 Qc7 16.Bd4+ cxd4 17.Qxd4+ Kg8



18.d6!?

18.hxg5 e5 19.dxe6 Bxe6 20.g6 Rad8 21.gxh7+ Qxh7 22.Rxh7 Rxd4 23.cxd4 Kxh7 24.d5 Bc8=

18...Qc5 19.Bc4+ e6 20.hxg5 Qxd4 21.cxd4 Bd7= 22.Kd2 Rac8 23.Rh6 Rfe8 24.e5 b5 25.Bd3 Rxc1 26. Kxc1 Nb4 27.Bb1 Nc6 28.Rxh7 Rd8 29.Be4 Nxd4 30.Re7 a5 31. Kd2 b4 32.Kd3 b3 33.axb3 Nxb3 34.Kc3 a4 35.Bh7+ Kh8 36.Bc2 Na5 37.Rh7+ Kg8 38.g6 Rc8+

39.Kb4 Nc6+ 40.Kxa4 Nxe5+ 41. Kb3 Ba4+ 42.Kxa4 Rxc2 43.Re7 Rd2 44.Rxe6 Nc4 45.Re4 Nxd6 46. Rxf4 Kg7 47.Kb4 Kxg6



48.Kc3 Rd5 49.g3 Kg5 50.Rh4 Nf5 51.Re4 Rd1 52.Kc2 Rd8 53.Kc3 Rd7 54.Rf4 Rd6 55.Re4 Kf6 56. Ra4 Rd8 57.Ra6+ Kg5 58.Ra4 Nh6 59.Rd4 Ra8 60.Kd3 Ra2 61.Rf4 Ng4 62.f3 Nh6 63.Rc4 Nf5 64.Rc2 Ra3+ 65.Rc3 Ra5 66.Rc4 Kf6 67. g4 Nd6 68.Rd4 Ke5 69.f4+ Ke6 70.Ke3 Ra3+ 71.Kf2 Ne8 72.Re4+ Kf7 73.Re3 Ra4 74.Kf3 Nf6 75. Rd3 Rb4 76.g5 Ng8 77.Rd6 Ne7 78.Kg4 Ng6 79.Kg3 Kg7 80.Rd7+ Kf8 81.Rd6 Kg7 82.Rd7+ Kg8 83. f5 Ne5 84.Rd5 Re4 85.Ra5 Nc6 86.Ra6 Rc4 87.Rb6 Kf8 88.Rb7 Ne7 89.Rb8+ Nc8 90.Kf3 Ke7 ½-½

Queen's Indian E15

Tautvydas Vedrickas 2268

Jesse Kraai 2502

UTD Invitational 2008 (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.Qc2 c5 6.d5 exd5 7.cxd5 g6 8.Nc3 Bg7 9.Bg2 0-0 10.0-0 d6 11.Rd1!?

This rook almost certainly belongs on e1.

A model of White's play is 11.Re1 b5 12.a3 Nbd7 13.e4 Ng4 14.h3 Nge5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.f4 Nd7 17.Be3 Rc8 18.Kh2 h5 19.e5! dxe5 20.f5 Qb6 21.Qf2 (Miroshinchenko-Safarli, Moscow open 2008) 21...Rfd8 22.Ne4 Nf6 23.Rac1. 11...Nbd7 12.Bf4 Qe7 13.e4 Ng4 14.Bg5 f6 15.Bf4 Nde5 16.Ne1 g5

17.Bc1 Rae8 18.Rb1 f5 19.h3 Nh6 20.b4

Maybe it's best not to let Black put a pawn wedge at f4. However, after 20.exf5 Nxf5 21.Qa4 Bc8 22. Ne4 h6 23.Nc2 a6 Black gets his queenside pawns rolling, with superior mobility on both wings.



20...f4 21.bxc5

21.gxf4 gxf4 22.bxc5 bxc5 23.f3 Qh4 24.Qa4 Bc8 25.Ne2 Bxh3 26. Bxh3 Qxh3 27.Rb3 Bhg4! 28.fxg4 Qxg4+ 29.Kf2 f3 30.Ng3 Qh3+ with a winning attack.

21...bxc5 22.Qa4 Bc8 23.Nb5 a6 24.Na3 fxg3 25.fxg3 g4 0-1

What an alarming rout! White's resignation is a little extreme but understandable, given his steady downhill slide over the past 15 moves. Certainly 26.h4 Nf3+ is not appealing, and also after 26.hxg4 Nhxg4 Black's pieces storm into the kingside:

(a) 27.Nd3 Nf3+ 28.Bxf3 (28. Kh1 Qe5!! -+) 28...Rxf3 29.Kg2 Bd4! 30.Re1 (30.Kxf3 Qxe4#) 30... Rxd3+;

(b) 27.Bf4 Ng6 28.Bc1 Nf2 29. Rd2 Nxe4 30.Bxe4 Qxe4 31.Qxe4 Rxe4 32.Nec2 Be5, and Black soon wins a second pawn at g3.

Sicilian Scheveningen B83

Igor Schneider 2397

Keaton Kiewra 2380

UTD Invitational 2008 (4)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 e6 6.Be2 Be7 7.Be3

Nc6 8.0-0 0-0 9.f4 e5 10.fxe5 Nxe5
11.Kh1 Be6 12.Qe1 a6 13.Qg3 b5
[13...Rc8] 14.Bh6 Ne8 15.Bf4 Bh4
16.Qe3 Nc4 17.Bxc4 Bxc4 18.Rfd1
Qb6 19.Rd2 Bf6 20.Rad1 Be5 21.
Qg3?!

White secures a modest endgame
edge with 21.Bxe5 dxe5 22.Nf5.
21...b4 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.exd5



Black has a great opportunity to
fortress with 23...f6! 24.Ne6 Rf7.
White can make no headway and his
pawns are vulnerable. Instead, Black
runs out of patience with his back-
ward knight and plays ...
23...Nf6?

A bid for activity which simply
loses an important pawn.
24.Bxe5 dxe5 25.Nf5 Nh5 26.Qxe5
Qf6 27.Ne7+ Kh8 28.Qxf6 Nxf6
29.d6 Nd7 30.Rd4 a5 31.Rc4 Ne5
32.Rc7 f6 33.d7 Rad8 34.Rd5 g6
35. Kg1 Kg7 36. Rxa5 Rf7 37.Nd5
Rxd7 38.Rxd7 Rxd7 39.Nxb4 Nc4
40.Rd5 Rb7 41.b3 Rxb4 42.Rd4

1-0

QGD D53

Mihail Bantic 2195
Francisco Guadalupe 2237

UTD Invitational 2008 (4)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5
Be7 5.e3 0-0 6.Bd3!?

An unusual move here where
cxd5 has not been played. One good
response is 6...dxc4 7.Bxc4 c5 8.
dxc5 Qa5, with easy play for Black.
6...b6?? 7.Bxf6 Bxf6 8.cxd5 exd5
9.Qh5 g6 10.Qxd5

Another reminder to examine the
unfamiliar with a fine toothed comb!
10...Bd7 11.Qxa8 Bc6 12.Qxa7
Bxg2 13.Be4 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E32

Babakuli Annakov 2455

Bayaraa Zorigt 2203

UTD Invitational 2008 (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2
0-0 5.Nf3 b6 6.e4 d5 7.e5 Ne4
8.Bd3 Bb7 9.0-0 Bxc3 10.bxc3 h6
11.cxd5 exd5 12.c4 Na6 13.Rb1 c5
14.cxd5 Qxd5



15.Bc4! Qd7 16.Bxa6 Bxa6 17.
Qxe4 Bxf1 18.Kxf1 cxd4 19.Nxd4
Qa4 20.Be3 Qxa2 21.Nf5 Kh8 22.
Rd1 Rac8 23.Nd6 Rc7 24.g3 Rb8
25.Kg2 a6 26.Qd4 Qe6 27.Ra1 a5
28.Rb1

White has been very effective in
denying counterplay.

28...Rd7 29.Rb5 f6 30.Bf4 g5
31.Be3 Kg8 32.Qe4! fxe5 33.Nf5

Very nice! There is no good
defense against Rxe5.

34...Rc8? 1-0

Black resigned without waiting
for 34.Rxb6 followed by Nxh6+ and
the collapse of the king's defenses.

A better defense was 34...Kf8
35.Rxe5 Qg6, when 36.Bc1! b5 37.
Re6 Re8 38.Ba3+ b4 39.Bxb4!+-
would have been a nice finish.

Center Counter B01

Sergey Kudrin 2553

Jacek Stopa 2461

UTD Invitational 2008 (4)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd6
4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 c6

Of all the alternatives to 4...a6,
this is likely the best.

6.Ne5 Nbd7

Michael Melts in his book on the
3...Qd6 line warmly recommends
this move over 6...Bf5 and 6...Be6.
7.f4!?N

Melts finds that there is no danger
for Black in 7.Bf4 Nxe5 8.Bxe5
Qb4 9.a3 Qb6 10.Be2 Bf5 11.0-0
e6= or 7.Nc4 Qc7 8.Qf3 Nb6 9.Bf4
Qd8 10.Be5 Be6 11.Ne3 Nbd5=
7...Nb6 8.g4 Nbd5



9.g5?!

Kudrin overpresses and loses the
thread. About equal is 9.Bg2.

9...Nxc3 10.bxc3 Qd5 11.Rg1 Nd7
12.Ng4 g6 13.c4 Qa5+ 14.Bd2 Qc7
15.c3 Bg7 16.Qe2 Nb6 17.c5 Bxg4
18.Qxg4 Nd5 19.Bg2 e6 20.h4 h5
21.Qf3 0-0 22.Qe4 Ne7 23.Kd1
Rfd8 24.Kc2 Nf5



White is positionally busted.

25.Be1 Rd7 26.Bf2 Ne7 27.Rgb1 b6
28.Rb3 bxc5 29.dxc5 Rad8 30.Be1
Qa5 31.Qb4 Qa6 32.Qe4 Rd5 33.
Qe3 Nf5 34.Qf2 Rxc5 35.Kb2 Qa5
36.Rc1 Rc4 37.Bf1 Ra4 38.Kb1
Qd5 39.Kb2

39.Bg2 Qc4 40.Bh1 Ra5 41.Rb4
Rb5 (41...Qd3+ 42.Ka1 Nd4 43.Rb2
Qc4+) 42.Rxb5 Qxb5+ 43.Qb2
Qc4+



39...Nd4 40.Rd1 Rxa2+ 0-1

Ruy Lopez C75

Julio Cecerra 2602

Salvijus Bercys 2428

UTD Invitational 2008 (4)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4
d6 5.0-0 Bd7 6.d4 Nge7 7.c3 Ng6
8.Be3 Be7 9.Nbd2 h6

9...0-0 10.a3 Kh8 11.Re1 exd4
12.cxd4 f5 13.exf5 Bxf5 14.Rc1 d5
15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.Rxc6 Bd6 Bole-
slavsky-Tarasov, USSR 1957

10.Rc1

10.Re1 Bg5 11.Nf1 Nh4 12.
Nng5 hxg5 (Kuzmin-Ivkov, Potoroz
1979) 13.Bxc6 bxc6 14.dxc5±

10...Bg5 11.d5 Nb8 12.c4 0-0

12...Bxe3! 13.fxe3 c5 14.a3
(14.dxc6 Nxc6=) 14...0-0 15.b4
cxb4 16.Bxd7 Nxd7 17.axb4 a5
13.Nxg5 hxg5 14.c5 Nf4 15.Bxd7
Nxd7 16.c6 bxc6 17.Rxc6

White has a substantial advan-
tage.

17...f5 18.exf5 Nf6 19.Bxf4 gxf4
20.Nf3 Qd7 21.Qc2 Qf7



22.Rxc7 Qh5

22...Qxd5 23.Ng5 Qxa2 24.Ne6
Ne8 25.Rd7 Rf7 26.Qc6! (seeking a
way into f8) 26...Rb8 27.Rxf7 Kxf7
28.Qd7+ Kf6 29.h4! with such dire
threats as Ng5-e4 and g4-g5..

23.Nd2 Ng4 24.h3 Nh6 25.Rc1
Nxf5 26.Qd1

Also possible is 26.Nf3 Rae8 27.
Qe4, but a queen blockade is not to
everyone's liking. The rooks and the
2:1 queenside majority guarantee a
White advantage in this line.

26...Qh6 27.Qg4 Nd4 28.Nb3 Nf5

28...Nxb3 29.axb3 f3 30.R1c6
Rf6

29.Nd2 Nd4 30.R1c4 Rf6 31.Qd7

There is some danger Black will
achieve his dreamed-of counterplay
on the kingside: 31.Ne4 Rg6 32.Qd7
Rf8 33.Kh2 Kh7 34.Qe7 f3! 35.g3
Rf4! And White's in trouble.

31...Qg6

31...f3 32.g3 is no help.

32.Ne4 Kh8??

32...Rff8 33.Qe7! (the d6 pawn
is poisoned) Δ 33...Rae8 34.Qg5+-.

33.Nxf6 1-0

QGD Slav D15

Wang Puchen 2450

Davorin Kuljasevic 2521

UTD Invitational 2008 (4)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6
5.c5 Bf5 6.Bf4 Nbd7 7.e3 e6 8.Be2
Be7 9.Nd2 Bg6 10.b4 Qe8 11.a4 b6
12.a5 b5 13.Nf3 h6 14.h3 0-0 15.0-0
Re8 16.Rc1 Ne4 17.Nxe4 ½-½

QGD Slav D16

Marko Zivanic 2465

Wang Puchen 2450

UTD Invitational 2008 (5)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3
dxc4 5.a4 Na6 6.e3 Bg4 7.Bxc4 e6
8.h3 Bh5 9.0-0 Nb4 10.Qe2 Be7
11.Rd1 0-0 12.e4

12.g4 Bg6 13.e4 Nd7 (a) 14.Ne5
Nxe5 15.dxe5 Qa5 16.f4 Rad8 17.
Be3 h6 18.Kg2 Bh7 19.Rxd8 Rxd8
20.Rd1 a6= Kramnik-Short, Monaco
rapid 1996; (b) 14.Bf4 Kh8 15.Bg3
Re8 16.Kh2 Qa5 17.Rd2 Bf6 18.
Rad1 h6 19.h4 a6 20.Kg2 Nd5=
Inarkiev-Hamdouchi, France tt 2008
12...Bxf3 13.gxf3!?

13.Qxf3 Nc2 14.Rb1 Nxd4 15.
Qf4 c5 16.Be3 Nd7 17.Qg3 Bh4
18.Qd6 Qe7 19.Qxe7 Bxe7 20.Bxd4
cxd4 21.Rxd4 Ne5 ♯ Fortos-
Plachetka, Nice Olympiad 1974

13...Qa5 14.f4 Rad8 15.Be3 Rfe8
16.Kh1 g6 17.Rg1



17...Qh5 18.Qf1!?

White gets tangled up trying to
maintain hopes of a kingside attack.
[18.Qxh5 Nhx5 19.Rac1=]

18...Nc2 19.Rd1 Bb4 20.Be2 Qa5
21.Rg5 Qb6 22.Qg2 Bxc3 23.bxc3
Nxe3 24.fxe3 Qb2 25.Bd3 Qxc3
26.h4 Qb3 27.Rd2 Qa3 28.h5 Qc1+
29.Kh2 Qe1 30.Re2 Qh4+ 31.Kg1
Nhx5 32.Rf2 c5 33.Be2 Nf6 34.
Rxc5 Re8 35.Rg5 Rc1+ 36.Bf1
Rec8 37.Rb5 Ng4 38.Re2 R8c3
39.Rxb7 Nxe3 0-1

Gruenfeld Defense D70

Salvijus Bercys 2428

Sergey Kudrinn 2553

UTD Invitational 2008 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 d5 4.cxd5
Nxd5 5.e4 Nb6 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.Be3 0-0
8.Qd2 Nc6 9.0-0 f5 10.e5 Nb4
11.f4 Be6 12.a3 Na2+ 13.Nxa2
Bxa2 14.Ne2 e6 15.Qc2 Bc4 16.Nc3
Bxf1 17.Rhxfl c6 18.Kb1 Rf7 19.
h3 Nd5 20.Nxd5 Qxd5 21.Rd2 Bf8
22.Rc1 Rd8 23.Qc4 Rfd7 24.Qxd5
Rxd5 25.Rcd1 Be7 26.Kc2 R8d7
27.Rd3 Kf7 28.R1d2 Bh4 29.Rd1
h6 30.Rc3 g5 31.Rc5 Kg6 32.Rxd5
Rxd5 33.fxg5 hxg5 34.Bg1 f4 35.
Kd3 Kf5 36.Rd2 Be1 37.Re2 Ba5
38.Rc2 Bb6 39.Kc4 g4 40.hxg4+
Kxg4 41.Rc3 Bd8 42.Rf3 Bg5 ½-½

Alekhine's Defense B03

Jacek Stopa 2461

Alejandro Ramirez 2533

UTD Invitational 2008 (5)

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.c4 Nb6 4.d4 d6
5.f4 dxe5 6.fxe5 Nc6 7.Be3 Bf5
8.Nc3 e6 9.Nf3 Bg4 10.Be2 Qd7
11.0-0 Bxf3

11...0-0 12.c5 Nd5 13.Nxd5
Qxd5 14.b4!? Qe4 15.Qb3 Nxd4 16.
Nxd4 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rd3± Mina-
sian-Donchenko, 1988.

12.Rxf3 0-0-0 13.Rf4 f6

13...g6 14.Bf2 h5 15.c5 Bh6
16.Rf3 Nd5 17.Bb5±

14.exf6 gxf6 15.c5 Nd5 16.Nxd5
Qxd5 17.Bf3 Qd7 18.Bf2 Bh6



19.Rxf6 Bg7 20.Rxe6 Nxd4 21.Re4
Nxf3+?

21...Kb8 22.Rf4 c6±

22.Qxf3± Rhf8

Black may have intended 22...
Bxb2 but then noticed 23.Rb4!+-.
23.Qe2 Qd5 24.Re1 Kb8 25.b4 a6
26.Bg3 Bc3 27.Rc1 Bd2 28.Rcc4
Bg5

28...Qd3 29.Qxd3 Rxd3 30.Bf2
Ra3 31.Rc2±

29.h4 Bf6 30.Kh2 Rg8 31.Rg4 h5
32.Rxg8 Rxg8 33.Re4 Qf7 34.Qf3
Qg7 35.a4 Bd4 36.Bf4 Bf6 37.g3
Qd7 38.Qxh5 Rh8 39.Qf3 Qxa4
40.Qe2 Qd7 41.Re6 Qf7 42.Re4
Qg6 43.Be5 Rg8 44.Qf3 Bd8 45.
Rf4 Qe8 46.Rf5 Be7 47.Rf7 Bd8
48.Qf4 Ka8 49.Qf5 Ka7 50.Bd4

50.Bxc7! Bxc7 51.Rxc7 Rf8 52.
Qd5 53.Qe4+-

50...Kb8 51.Qf4 Ka8 52.Bf2 Kb8
53. Rf5 Ka8 54.Qd4 c6

Exposing b7 is dangerous, of
course. The consequences of 54...
Kb8 55.c6 Qxc6! are not exactly cut
and dried. 56.Qa7+ Kc8 57.Qa8+
Kd7 58.Rf4 Re8 59.Rd4+ Kc7 60.
Qc8 Qe6 61.Qxb7± (Fritz).

55.Qf4 Ka7 56. Rf7 Qe2 57.Qf3
Qe6 58.Qf5 Qc4?? [58...Qxf5]
59.Qh7 1-0

Sicilian Scheveningen B85

Francisco Guadalupe 2237

Tautvydas Vedrickas 2268

UTD Invitational 2008 (5)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e6 7.Be3 Be7
8.0-0 0-0 9.a4 Qc7 10.f4 Nc6 11.
Nb3 d5 12.e5 Nd7 13.a5 b6 14.axb6
Nxb6 15.Na4 Nxa4 16.Rxa4 f6 17.
exf6 Bxf6 18.c3 Rb8 19.Bxa6 Bxa6
20.Rxa6 Rb5 21.Nc5

21.Re1 Rfb8 22.Nc5 Rxb2 23.
Bcl±

21...Nb8 22.Rxe6

22.Nxe6 Qe7 (22...Qc8 23.Rd6)
23.Qd3! Nxa6 24.Nxf8 Kxf8 25.
Qxb5 Qxe3+ obtains the same net
balance as the game, but with a set
of rooks off the board.

22...Rxc5 23.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 24.Kh1
Rd8 25.Rfe1 Qb5 26.Qh5 g6 27.
Qg4 Rf8



Now a good consolidating move
would be 28.Qe2. Instead, White
speculates on the kingside.

28.h4!? Na6?

28...Qxb2! 29.h5 Qc2 30.Re8
Qf5=

29.Rd6 Nc5 30.h5

30.Rxd5 Qc4 31.Red1 Ne4 32.
Kh2 Nf2 33.Qe6+ Kh8 34.Qd6 Bg7
35.Re1 Ne4 36.b3!±

30...Nd3

30...Qxb2 31.Rxf6! (31.hxg6
Qxc3±) 31...Rxf6 32.Qc8+ Rf8 33.
Qxc5 Qd2 34.Rf1 gxh5 35.f5±

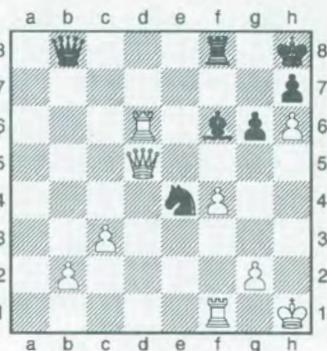
31.Qe6+ Kh8 32.h6

32.Rxd5 Nf2+ 33.Kg1 Qxb2 34.
Qd6+-.

32...Qb8 33.Rf1?

33.Qd7! (Δ Rxf6) 33...Qd8 34.
Qc6 Qc8 35.Rxf6 Nxe1 36.Qd6! +-
with forced mate on the way.

33...Nc5± 34.Qxd5 Ne4



35.Rxf6 Nxf6 36.Qg5?!

36.Qe5 is better, but Black can achieve the needed blockade: 36... Kg8 (36...Qxb2?? 37.Qe7+–) 37.b4 Nh5 38.Re1 Ng3+ 39.Kg1 Nf5 40.Qe6+ Kh8 41.Qe5+ Qxe5 42.fxe5 Kg8 43.b5 Rc8 44.b6 Kf7 45.g4 Nxb6=.

36...Qxb2 37.Rf3 Qb1+ 38.Kh2 Qf5 39.Qxf5 gxf5 40.Kh3 Ng4 41.Kh4 Nxb6 42.Rd3 Rf7 43.Rd5 Kg7 44.c4 Rf6 45.c5 Nf7 46.g4 ffg4 47.Kxg4 Nh6+ 48.Kg5 Rg6+ 49.Kh5 Nf7 50.Rd7 Rc6 51.Rd5 Kf6 52.Kg4 Nh6+ 53.Kf3 Nf5 54.Re5 Ra6 55.Kg4 Ng7 56.Rd5 h5+ 57.Kh4 Ra4 58.Kg3 Nf5+ 59.Kf3 Ra3+ 60.Kf2 Rc3 61.Re5 h4 62.Kg2 Ne3+ 63.Kh3 Nc4+ 0–1

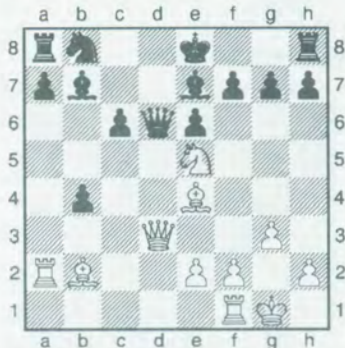
Catalan Opening D30

Jesse Kraai 2502

Igor Schneider 2397

UTD Invitational 2008 (5)

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 c6 3.c4 e6 4.g3 dxc4 5.Bg2 b5 6.0–0 Nf6 7.Ne5 Bb7 8.b3 cxb3 9.Nc3 b4 10.Ne4 Nxe4 11.Bxe4 bxa2 12.Qc2 Be7 13.Rxa2 Qxd4 14.Bb2 Qc5 15.Qd3 Qd6



16.Qc2 Qc5 17.Qb1 Bf6 18.Nd3 Qe7 19.Bxf6 gxf6 20.Nxb4 f5 21.Bh1 c5 22.Nd3 Bxh1 23.Kxh1 0–0 24.Rg1 Nd7 25.g4 ffg4 26.Rxg4+ Kh8 27.Qa1+ f6 28.Rxa7 Rxa7 29.Qxa7 Rg8 30.Rxg8+ Kxg8 31.Nxc5+ Qxc5 ½–½

Giuoco Piano C54

Bayaraa Zorigt 2203

Mihail Bantic 2195

UTD Invitational 2008 (5)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 d6 6.Nbd2 0–0 7.0–0 Be6 8.Re1 a5 9.h3 h6 10.Bb5 Bb6 11.Nf1 Ne7 12.d4 Ng6 13.Ng3 c6 14.Bd3 Re8 15.Be3 Qc7 16.Qd2 Kh7 17.Nf5 Bxf5 18.exf5 e4 19.fxxg6+ fxxg6 20.Nh4 g5 21.Nf5 exd3 22.Qxd3 g6 23.Ng3 d5 24.Bd2 Qd6 25.Rxe8 Rxe8 26.Re1 Rxe1+ 27.Bxe1 Be7 28.Qe3 Kg7 29.f3 Kf7 30.Nf1 Qf4 31.Bd2 Qf5 32.Qe1 Qd3 33.Be3 Nh5 34.h4 Nf4 35.hxg5 hxg5 36.Bxf4 Bxf4 37.g3 Bd6 38.Qf2 b5 39.Kg2 b4 40.cxb4 axb4 41.Qd2 Qb1 42.b3 g4 43.fxxg4 Qe4+ 44.Kh3 Qf3 45.Qg2 Qf6 46.Qg1 Qf3 47.Qg2 Qc3 [47...Qf6=] 48.Qf2+ Kg7 49.Nc3 c5 50.Nxd5 Qxd4 51.Qxd4+ cxd4



52.Kg2 Kf7 53.Kf3 Ke6 54.Nf4+ Kf6 55.g5+ Kxg5 56.Ne6+ Kf5 57.Nxd4+ Ke5 58.Nc2 Be7 59.Ke3 g5 60.Kd3 Bc5 61.Ne3 Bd4 62.Nc2 Bf2 63.Nxb4 Bxg3 64.Nc6+ Kd6 65.Nd4 Bf2 66.b4 g4 67.Nf5+ Ke5 68.Ne3 Kf4 69.Nxg4 Kxg4 70.Ke4 Kg5 71.Ke5 Bg3+ 72.Ke6 Kf4 73.Kd5 Kf5 74.a4 Kf6 75.a5 Ke7 76.a6 Bb8 77.Kc6 Ba7 78.Kb7 1–0

Sicilian Defense B30

Nelson Lopez 2173

Babakuli Annakov 2455

UTD Invitational 2008 (5)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Qb6 4.Nc3 e6 5.0–0 a6 6.Bxc6 Qxc6 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4 f6 9.Be3 b5 10.Rfe1 Bb7 11.Rad1 e5 12.Qd3 Ne7

12...Bb4 13.Bd2 Ne7 14.a3 Bxc3 15.Bxc3 Ng6 16.Qd2 Rc8= 13.Bc5 Ng6 14.Bxf8 Rxf8 15.Rd2 Ne7

15...Nf4 16.Qd6 Rc8= 16.Red1 Rd8 17.Qe3 d6 18.Ne1 Qc7 19.Nd3 Qc4?

19...f5?! 20.exf5 Nxf5 21.Qh3±; 19...Kf7! 20.Nb4 f5=



20.Nc5! Bc8 21.b3 Qb4 22.Rxd6 Rxd6 23.Rxd6 Kf7 24.Nb1

24.a4! f5 (24...bxa4 25.N3xa4) 25.Nd5 Qa3 26.h3 Nxd5 27.Rxd5 bxa4 28.bxa4 Qxe3 29.fxe3 Re8 30.exf5 Bxf5 31.e4 Bc8 32.Kf2+ 24...Qa5 25.a3 Rd8 26.Rxd8 Qxd8 27.Qd3 Qxd3 28.cxd3?!

28.Nxd3 Nc6 29.c3 Kc7 30.Nd2 a5 31.f3 Kd6 32.Kf2± 28...Nc6 29.b4 Ke7 30.Nc3 Kd6 31.Kf1 Nd4 32.Nd5 a5 33.Nb6 axb4 34.axb4 Bg4 35.f3 Bh5 36.Nd5 Bf7 37.Nb7+ Kd7 38.Nc5+ Kd6 39.Nb7+ Kd7 40.Nc5+ ½–½

French Defense C08

Keaton Kiewra 2380

Chaltanya Vaidya 2170

UTD Invitational 2008 (5)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Ngf3 Nf6 6.Bb5+ Bd7 7.Qe2+ Be7 8.dxc5 0–0 9.0–0 Re8 10.Bxd7 Nbx7 11.Nb3 Nxc5 12.Be3 Nxb3 13.axb3 Bc5 14.Qd3 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Qb6 16.Qd4 Qc6 17.

c3 a6 18.Nd2 Re6 19.Rf3 Rae8
 20.Raf1 Qd6 21.Rg3 Qe7 22.Rff3
 g6 23.Rh3 h5 24.Rf4 Nh7 25.Rhf3
 f5 26.Rg3 Qf7 27.Qxd5 Rf6 28.Rd4
 Qxd5 29.Rxd5 Re7 30.Nc4 h4
 31.Rh3 Re4 32.Rd4 Ng5 33.Rxh4
 Rxh4 34.Rxh4 Ne4 35.Rf4 b5 36.
 Ne5 Re6 37.Nd3 Nd2 38.Nc5 Rxe3
 39.Rd4 Re2 40.Rd6 Kf7 41.h4 Ne4
 42.Nxe4 fxe4 43.Rxa6 Rxb2 44.b4
 e3 45.Kf1 Rf2+ 46.Ke1 Rxe2 47.
 Rb6 Rc2 48.Rc6 Kg7 49.Rc5 Kf6
 50.Rxb5 Rxc3 51.Ke2 ½-½

Alexey Root, who took the cover photo of Bayaraa Zorigt rubbing Alejandro Ramirez's head for good luck in Round 6, took notes at their post-mortem discussions.

Notes by WIM Alexey Root

Sicilian Paulsen B43

Alejandro Ramirez 2533
 Salvijus Bercys 2428

UTD Invitational 2008 (6)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 a6 4.d4 cxd4
 5.Nxd4 Qc7 6.Be2 Nf6 7.0-0

Alejandro asked if he was playing the opening correctly. Sal answered that the game so far was exactly following "A World Open game where I got killed as Black." 7...Bb4 8.Qd3 Nc6 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.f4 d5 11.e5 Nd7 12.Kh1 0-0

Sal thought he might have played 12...a5 with the idea of Ba6. 13.Qh3 f5 14.g4 Rb8

In addition to Alejandro and Sal, Taut Vedrickas, Francisco Guadalupe, and Bayaraa Zorigt were watching the post mortem. No one liked 14...Bxc3 15.bxc3 or 14...Nc5 15.Be3. Sal said he had played 14...Rb8 because he didn't know what to do, and "I played a move that attacked something eventually." 15.gxf5 exf5 16.Be3 Nb6

If instead 16...Bc5? 17.e6 Bxe3 18.exd7 Qxd7 19.Qxe3 d4 20.Qe5 winning for White. Alejandro said,

"I don't remember seeing this but I figured there had to be something."

[Fritz likes Black after 16... Nxe5! 17.fxe5 f4 18.e6 fxe3 19.Qxe3 Be7 - SKA.]

17.Rad1 Nc4

According to the post mortem crowd, if instead 17...Bxc3 18.bxc3 c5 (with the idea of Nc4) 19.Bf3 Bb7 20.Qg2.

18.Na4 Be7 19.b3 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 a5

Sal considered instead 20...Be6 21.Bxa6, sacrificing a pawn for activity. He thought for 25 minutes before rejecting 20...Be6. Alejandro commented, "Sal is the kind of player that thinks 25 minutes and then plays 20...a5. I tried to use the Dvoretzky method (prophylactic thinking) to figure out the point of a5, but I think it was to defend a pawn."



21.c4 Be6 22.cxd5 Bxd5+ 23.Bf3 Bxf3+ 24.Qxf3 Rfd8 25.Nb2 g6 26. Nc4 Rxd1 27.Rxd1 Rd8 28.Kg2 Rxd1 29.Qxd1 Qa7

The alternative of 29...Qd8 instead of ...Qa7 was discussed.

30.a4 Kf7 31.Qd2 Bb4 32.Qd8 Qe7 33.Qh8

Alejandro played this move quickly, which Sal commended as the best winning try.

33...Qh4 34.h3 Qh5 35.Qf6+ Kg8 36.Qd8+

"After this move, I was pretty sure I was winning, and that I could hold back his counterplay and prevent a perpetual."

36...Kg7 37.Qd3 Qh4 38.Qd4 Qe1 39.e6+ Kg8 40.Qe5 Qh4?

40...Qc3 (also to c1, b1 or d1) 41.e7 Qc2+ and White must allow a perpetual, or fight with N vs. 3P after 42.Kf3 Qxb3+ 43.Ne3 Bxe7 44.Qxe7 Qxa4= - SKA.

41.Nxa5 Bxa5??

After 41...Qd8 42.Nc4 Qd3 43. e7 Qc2+ 44.Kf1 Qd3+ 45.Kf2 Qc2+ 46.Kg3 Qxb3+ 47.Ne3 Bxe7, White has many a mile left to prove the win of N vs. 2P - SKA.

42.e7

1-0

Notes by WIM Alexey Root

Queen's Indian E15

Tautvydas Vedrickas 2268

Bayaraa Zorigt 2203

UTD Invitational 2008 (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.Qc2 Bb7 6.Bg2 c5

Bayaraa said, "This is the first time that I played this opening, but I prepared by looking at some games. Taut had two games similar to this line."

7.d5 exd5 8.cxd5 Nxd5

Bayaraa: "White gives up a pawn but has a lot of compensation." 9.0-0 Be7 10.Rd1 Nc6



11.a3

Bayaraa: "I had prepared for 11.Qe5 Nf6, where the game is equal." [11.Qa4 is an alternative.]

11...Nf6

Bayaraa: "Better was 11...Nc7 directly."

12.e4 0-0 13.Nc3

13.e5 Ne8 14.Nc3 Nc7 15.Be3 Ne6 16.Rd2 Qc8 17.Rad1 Rd8 18.h4 Bf8 19.h5 h6 20.Qa4 a6 21.Nd5 Ncd4 22.Nxd4 cxd4 23.Bxd4 b5 24.Qb3 Bc5 25.Rc2 Bxd5 26.Qxd5 d6 27.exd6+- Wang Puchen-B. Szabo, Zalakarosi 2008.

13...Ne8 14.Bh3 d6 15.Bf4 Nc7 16.Rd2 Ne6 17.Bxe6 fxe6 18.Qb3

Taut said, "I'm already pretty much losing." Both players felt 18... Qc8 was the best way to defend the e6 pawn.

18...Qc8 19.Nb5 Na5 20.Qc2

Taut: "If I played 20.Qa2, I thought she would play 20...c4."

20...e5+- 21.Bg5 Bxg5

21...Rxf3 22.Bxe7 Qe8 23.Qd1 Rb3 24.Nc7 Qc6 25.Nd5 Qd7

22.Nxg5 Qg4

Taut said Bayaraa's 22...Qg4 was a good move.

23.b4

Taut considered 23.h4 h6 24.f3 Qxg3+ 25.Rg2 Qxh4 26.Ne6 Rf7 27.Nxd6 Qf6.

23...Qxg5 24.Nxd6

Not 24. bxa5 because of Bxe4, where the R on d2 is vulnerable.

24...Nc6 25.Nxb7 Nd4!

25...Qe7 26.Nd6 Nd4 27.Qa2+ Kh8 28.Nf5 Nxf5 29.exf5 cxb4

26.Qc4+

26.Qa2+ Kh8 27.Rd3 Qe7+-

26...Kh8 27.Rd3

27.Rb2 Qe7 28.Nxc5 Rac8+-

27...Qe7 28.Qd5 Rab8 29.bxc5

Taut looked at the long variation 29...Qxb7 30.Qxe5 Nf3+ 31.Rxf3 Rxf3 32.c6 Qc8 33.Rd1 Rf7 34.Rd7 Rxd7 35.cxd7 Qd8 and decided it didn't work for White. Bararaa's 29...Rxb7 is also winning for Black. 29... Rxb7 30.c6 Rc7 0-1

Ruy Lopez C82

Igor Shneider 2397

Francisco Guadalupe 2237

UTD Invitational 2008 (6)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Nxe4 6.d4 b5 7.Bb3 d5

8.dxe5 Be6 9.Nbd2 Nc5 10.c3 Be7 11.Bc2 Bg4 12.Re1 Qd7 13.Nf1 Rd8 14.h3 Bh5 15.b4 Ne6 16.a4 d4 17.axb5 axb5 18.Be4 Bg6 19.Bxc6 Qxc6 20.cxd4 Bxb4 21.Bd2 Be7 22.Qb3 0-0 23.Be3 Be4 24.N1d2 Bd5 25.Qb2



25...f5 26.exf6 Bxf6 27.Ra5 Rb8 28.Rb1 b4 29.Rc1 Qb7 30.Ne1 c5 31.Nef3 Qb6 32.Rca1 cxd4 33.Bg5 Nxg5 34.Rxd5 Nxf3+ 35.Nxf3 d3 36.Nd4 Rfd8 37.Qb3 Kh8 38.Ne6 Rxd5 39.Qxd5 Bxa1 40.Ng5

A parting "joke". Black does not have to be too picky about the reply, and he responds in good humor.

40...Qg6!? 41.Nf7+ Qxf7 42.Qxf7 Rd8 43.Qb3 d2 44.Qd1 Bc3 45.f4 Ra8 46.Kf2 h6 47.f5 Ra5 48.g4 Ra1 49.Qe2 Re1 0-1

French Defense C05

Keaton Kiewra 2380

Jesse Kraai 2502

UTD Invitational 2008 (6)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.c3 c5 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.Ngf3 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.0-0 Bd6 11.b3 0-0 12.Bb2 Bd7 13.Ne5 Nb4 14.Bb1 Bb5 15.Re1 Qb6 16.Ndf3 Rae8 17.a3 Nc6 18.Ng5 Bxe5 19.dxe5 Ne4 20.Nxe4 dxe4 21.Qd2 Rd8 22.Qe3 Qxe3 23.fxe3 Bd3 24.Ba2 Kf7 25.Rac1 a5 26.b4 axb4 27.axb4 Rc8 28.Bb3 Rfd8 29.Rf1+ Bxf1 30.Rxf1+ Ke8 31.Bxe6 Rc7 32.b5 Re7 33.bxc6 Rxe6 34.cxb7 Rb8 35.Bd4 Rxb7 36.Rf4 Rf7 37.Rxe4 Rc6 38.h3 Ke7 39.Rg4 Ke8

40.Kh2 Rc2 41.h4 g6 42.Kh3 Rf5 43.Kh2 Re2 44.Kh3 Kf7 45.Kh2 Ke6 46.Kh3 Re1 47.Kh2 Re2 48.Kh3 Kd5 49.Kh2 Ke6 1/2-1/2

French Defense C07

Sergey Kudrin 2553

Davorin Kuljasevic 2521

UTD Invitational 2008 (6)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.Ngf3 cxd4 6.Bc4 Qd6 7.0-0 Nf6 8.Nb3 Nc6 9.Nbxd4 Nxd4 10.Nxd4 a6 11.Bb3 Bd7 12.c3 Qc7 13.Qf3 Bd6 14.h3 0-0-0 15.Bg5 Be5 16.Rad1 h6 17.Be3 g5 18.Qe2 Bh2+ 19.Kh1 Bf4 20.Bxf4 gxf4 21.Rfe1 Rhg8 22.Qc4 Rg7 23.Qxc7+ Kxc7 24.Bc4 Bc6 25.Nxc6 Rxd1 26.Rxd1 Kxc6 27.Rd4 e5 28.Rd1 Ne8 29.Kg1 Nd6 30.Bd5+ Kc7 31.Kf1 f5 32.a4 Rd7 33.Be6 Re7 34.Bb3 b5 35.Ke2 e4 36.axb5 axb5 37.Ra1 Kb6 38.Ra8



38...e3 39.Rh8 exf2+ 40.Kxf2 Ne4+ 41.Kg1 Ng3

The alternative is 41...Rd7 42.Rxh6+ Kc7 43.Rh4! Nc3 44.Kf2 Ne4+ 45.Kf3 Nd2+ 46.Kxf4 Nxb3 47.Kxf5 Nc5, probably drawn but a headache for the second player. 42.Rxh6+ Kc5 43.Re6 Rd7 44.Re5+ Kc6 45.Re1?

45.Kf2! retains winning chances: 45...Rd2+ 46.Kf3 Rxb2 47.Bd1 Rd2 48.Kxf4 Rxd1 49.Kxg3±. 45...Rd2 46.Bd1 Rxb2 47.h4 Rd2 48.Bf3+ Kc5 49.Rd1 Rxd1+ 50.Bxd1 Kd6 51.Bc2 Ne2+ 52.Kf2 Nxc3 53.Bxf5 Ke5 54.Bc2 Ne4+

55.Kf3 Nd2+ 56.Kg4 b4 57.h5 b3
58.Bd3 Kf6 59.Kxf4 b2 60.g4 b1Q
61.g5+ Kf7 62.Bxb1 Nxb1 63.Kf5
Nc3 64.h6 Nd5 65.g6+ Kg8 ½-½

Notes by WIM Alexey Root

Sicilian Paulsen B48

Julio Becerra 2602

Marko Zivanc 2465

UTD Invitational 2008 (7)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Bd3 Nf6
8.0-0 h5 9.h3 Bd6 10.Nxc6 dxc6
11.f4 e5 12.f5 b5 13.a4 Rb8 14.
axb5 axb5

Marko said, "14...cxb5 may be better."

15.Ra7 Rb7? [15...Qd8 16.Qf3±]
16.Rxb7 Qxb7 [16...Bxb7 17.
Bxb5±] 17.Bxb5 Ke7 18.Bd3
[18.Ba4 Qxb2 19.Qd3 Bd7 20. Rb1
Qa3 21.Rb7±]

18...Qxb2 19.Na4 Qa3 20.Nb6 Bc5
21.Qc1 Qa5

Julio said, "21...Bxc3+ 22.Qxc3
Ba6 23.Qf3 would be a better choice
for Black"

22.Nc4 Qa7 23.Bxc5+ Qxc5+ 24.
Qe3 Qxe3+ 25.Nxe3 Nd7 26.Ra1
Nc5

Here Julio thought Marko should
play 26...Bb7. [26...Bb7 27.Ra7
Rb8 28.Nc4 g5=]

27.Ra5 Nxd3 28.cxd3



28...f6

If 28...Rd8 Julio was considering
29.Ra3 g6 30.fxg6 fxg6 31.Nc4.
29.Ra7+

Julio was proud of his maneuver
Ra7, Rb7, with the idea of Nb6.

29...Bd7 30.Rb7 Rd8 31.Kf2 Kf8
32.Nc4 Be8 33.Ke3 Bf7 34.Nb6 Be8
35.g4 hxg4 36.hxg4 Kg8 37.g5



The threat is g6 with zugzwang.
37...fxg5 38.Nc4 Rd7 39.Rb8 Re7
40.Nd6 Kf8 41.Kf3 1-0

QGD Meran D47

Babakul Annakov 2455

Mihail Bantic 2195

UTD Invitational 2008 (7)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6
5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5
8.Bb3 a6 9.0-0 Bb7 10.e4 b4 11.e5
bxc3 12.exf6 cxb2 13.fxg7



13...bxc1Q?

(a) 13...bxa1Q? 14.gxh8Q Qb1
Qc3 15.Bg5+-, (b) K safety requires
13...Bxg7! 14.Bxb2 c5 15.Rb1 Be4
16.dxc5! Bxb2! 17.Rxb2 Nxc5=.
14.gxh8Q+- Qh6 15.Qc1 (15.Qb1)
Qh5 16.Qf4 Qb6 17.Qg8 Qf5 18.
Qgg5 (18.Qxf5!) Qxf4 19.Qxf4 Be7

20.Rfe1 Nf6 21.Ne5 Qc7 22. Qg3
Bf8 23.Qf3 Be7 24.Rac1 c5 25.Qg3
0-0-0 26.Nxf7 Rg8 27. Bxe6+ Kb8
28.Qxc7+ Kxc7 29.Bh3 Nd5 1-0

Catalan Opening E05

Jesse Kraai 2502

Chaltanya Vaidya 2170

UTD Invitational 2008 (7)

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.g3 Be7
5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0 dxc4 7.Qc2 a6 8.a4
c5 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Nbd2 Ne6 11.
Nxc4 Nb4 12.Qb3 e5 13.Be3 Qe7
14.Bxc5 Qxc5 15.Nxe5 Be6 16.
Qc3 Rac8 17.Qxc5 Rxc5 18.Rfc1
Rfc8 19.Rxc5 Rxc5 20.Rd1 h6
21.h3 Kf8 22.Nd3 Nxd3 23.Rxd3
Rc1+ 24.Kh2 Rb1 25.Rd2 Ne4 26.
Rc2 Nxf2 27.a5 Nd1 28.Nd4 Rxb2
29.Rxb2 Nxb2 30.Bxb7 Bc4 31.Kg2
N4 32.Kf3 Nc5 33.Bc6 g6 34.e4
Ke7 35.Ke3 Kd6 36.Ba8 Nd7 37.
Kd2 Ne5 38.Ke3 Nd7 39.Kd2 Nc5
40.Ke3 ½-½

Gruenfeld Defense D91

Marko Zivanc 2465

Sergey Kudrin 2553

UTD Invitational 2008 (7)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3
Bg7 5.Bg5 Ne4 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.
Nxd5 e6 8.Qd2 exd5 9.Qe3+ Kf8
10.Qf4 Bf6 11.h4 h6 12.Nf3 Be6 13.
e3 c6 14.Bd3 Nd7 15.0-0-0 Qb8
[16.Qxb8=] 16.Ne2 Qxf4 17.Nxf4
Bg4 18.Be2 Be7 19.Ne1 Nf6 20.
Nd3 Bd6 21.Bxg4 Nxd4 22.Rd2
Kg7 23.g3 Rae8 24.Kd1 Nf6 25.
Ke2



Kudrin now presses his small advantage in instructive fashion.

25...g5 26.Ng2 Ne4 27.Rdd1 b6 28.Nc1 Re6 29.a3 Rf6 30.Rdf1?

30.Nd3 c5 31.hxg5 hxg5 32.Rxh8 Kxh8 33.dxc5 bxc5

30...Rxf2+! 31.Rxf2 Nxc3+ 32.Kf3 Nxb1 33.Rc2 Ng3!

Possible is 33...Rc8 34.Ne2 f5! (Δ 35...g4#!) 35.Ne1 gxh4 36.Ng2 Bg3, but Kudrin's way is more convincing.

34.Rxc6 Ne4 35.Nd3 Re8 36.hxg5 hxg5 37.Nge1 Re6 38.Nc2 Rf6+

Again with that pesky rook post!
39.Ke2 g4 40.Nce1 Rh6 41.Ng2 Rh2 42.Nde1 Bg3 43.Rc2 Kf6 44.b4 Kg5 45.a4 Bxe1 46.Kxe1 g3 47.Kf1 Kg4 48.Kg1



48...Kf3 49.b5 f6!? [49...Nf2+]
50.Rb2 Ng5 0-1

QGD Cambridge Springs D52

Davorin Kuljasevic 2521

Alejandro Ramirez 2533

UTD Invitational 2008 (7)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 Nbd7 6.e3 Qa5 7.Nd2 Bb4 8.Qc2 0-0 9.Be2 dxc4 10.Bxf6 Nxf6 11.Nxc4 Qc7 12.0-0 b6 13.Rac1 Bb7 14.a3 Bxc3 15.Qxc3 c5 16.Nd2 Rfc8 17.b4 Qe7 18.dxc5 bxc5 19.b5 Nd5 20.Qa5 Nb6 21.Rc2 Qg5 22.Bf3 Bxf3 23.Nxf3 Qd5 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

Bogo-Indian E11

Salvijus Bercys 2428

Jacek Stopa 2461

UTD Invitational 2008 (7)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 c5 5.Bxb4 cxb4 6.g3 0-0 7.Bg2 d6 8.0-0 Nc6 9.a3 Re8 10.axb4 Nxb4 11.Na3 Bd7 12.Qb3 a5 13.Ne1 Rb8 14.Nd3 Nxd3 15.Qxd3 Qb6 16.Rfb1 e5 17.c5 Qd8 18.dxe5 dxe5 19.Nc4 e4 20.Qc2 Qc7 21.Rxa5 b5 22.cxb6 Rxb6 23.Qc3 Rc6 24.b3 h6 25.e3 Be6 26.Bf1 Rb8 27.Rba1 Qd8 28.Qc2 Rbc8 29.Qa2 Nh7 30.h4 g5 31.Qb1 gxh4 32.Qxe4 Ng5 33.Qf4 Bxc4 34.bxc4 Rxc4 35.Qf5 Rb4 36.gxh4 Rxh4 37.Bg2 Rhc4 38.Bd5 Rcl+ 39.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 40.Kg2 Kg7 41.Qe5+ Qf6 42.Qg3 Ra1 43.Rxa1 Qxa1 44.f4 Qd1 45.Be4 Qe2+ 46.Kg1 Qd1+ 47.Kh2 Qh5+ 48.Kg1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

Center Counter B01

Igor Schneider 2397

Nelson Lopez 2173

UTD Invitational 2008 (8)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd6 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 a6 6.Be4 b5 7.Bb3 Bb7 8.0-0 e6 9.Qe2 Nbd7 10.Bg5 Be7

10...c5! 11.dxc5 Qxc5=

11.Rad1 0-0 12.d5 e5 13.Rfe1 b4 14.Ne4 Nxe4 15.Bxe7 Qxe7 16.Qxe4 Qd6 17.Ba4 f5 18.Qh4 e4 19.Ng5

19.Bxd7 Qxd7 20.Ng5 h6 21.Ne6 Rf7=

19...Nf6 20.Ne6 Rf7 21.Bb3 g6 22.c4 bxc3 23.bxc3 a5 24.c4 a4 25.Bc2 Qb4 26.Ng5

26.Nxc7! Rxc7 27.Qxf6 Qxc4 28.d6 Rd7 29.Rd2 Re8 (29...Qxa2 30.Qd4 Qf7 31.Bxa4 Rdd8 32.Rc1 h6 33.Rdc2 Bd5 34.Rc7 Rxa4 35.Qxa4 Qf6 36.Rd7 Rb8 37.Qa7 Qb2 38.Qc5 Bf7 39.Rxf7 Kxf7 40.Qc7+ Kg8 41.d7+-) 30.Qd4? Qxd4 31.Rxd4 Bc6 32.Rxa4 Rxd6 33.Ra7 Red8 34.a4 R8d7 35.Rxd7 Rxd7 36.a5 Kf8=

26...Rg7 27.Rc1 Qxc4 28.d6 Qxa2 29.dxc7 Rc8 30.Bb1 Qb3?

30...Qb2 31.Rc2 Qb6 32.Ba2+ Bd5+-

31.Nxe4 Nxe4?

31...fxe4 32.Qxf6 Rf7 33.Qd8+ Rf8 34.Qd2+-

32.Qd8+ Kf7 33.Bxe4 [33.Bd3!+-] 33...fxe4 34.Red1 [34.Rb1+-] 34...g5 [34...Qb6] 35.Rd7+ Kg6 36.Rd6+ Kh5 37.h3 Rg6 38.Qe7 [38.Rc5+-] 38...Qg8 39.Rd7 a3 [39...Kh6] 40.Qxa3 g4?

40...Bc6 41.Re7 Bd5 42.Rc5 Be6 43.f4+-

41.Rc5+ Rg5 42.hxg4+ Kg6 43.Rxg5+

43.Qa6+! or 43.Ra'c6+! mates.

43...Kxg5 44.Qc5+ Kxg4 45.Qe5 1-0

Sicilian Dragon B78

Keaton Kiewra 2380

Bayaraa Zorigt 2203

UTD Invitational 2008 (8)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 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.Bh6 Rxc3 14.Bxg7 Rxc2+ 15.Kxc2 Kxg7 16.Kb1 b5 17.g4 hxg4 18.h5 Rh8 19.hxg6 fxg6 20.f4 Nc4 21.Qe2 Rxh1 22.Rxh1 e5 23.fxe5 dxe5 24.Nxb5 Bc6



25.Rd1?

25.Ka1! +-

25...Bxe4+?

25...Bxb5! 26.Rxd8 Na3+ 27.bxa3 Bxe2 28.Bd1 Bf3 29.Kc1 Bxe4 30.Kd2 g3 31.Ke1 Nh5!+-

26.Kc1+- Bf3 27.Qxc4 Bxd1 28.Bxd1 g3 29.Bf3 e4 30.Nd4 Qa5 31.

Bg2 Qe1+ 32.Kc2 Qf2+ 33.Kb3 Qxg2



34.Qc7??

34.Ne6+ Kh6 (34...Kh8 35.Qc8+ Kh7 (35...Ng8 36.Qc3+) 36.Qc7+ Kh6 37.Qg7+ Kh5 38.Nf4+) 35.Qc1+! Kh7 36.Qc7+ Kh6 37.Qg7+ Kh5 38.Nf4+ +

34...Kh6 35.Qf4+ Kg7 36.Ne6+ Kf7 37.Ng5+ Kg7 38.Qc7+ Kh6 39.Nf7+ Kh5 40.Qe5+ Kg4 41.Qe6+ Kh5 42.Qe5+ Kg4 43.Qe6+ 1/2-1/2

Catalan Opening E00

Jesse Kraai 2502

Francisco Guadalupe 2237

UTD Invitational 2008 (8)

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.g3 c6 5.Bg2 dxc4 6.0-0 b5 7.Ne5 Bb7 8.a4 Qb6 9.Nc3 Bb4 10.Ne4 Nbd7 11.Be3 Nxe4 12.Nxd7 Qc7 13.Ne5 Nd6 14.b3 f6 15.Nf3 a6 16.Bf4 c3 17.Ne1 Qe7 18.Nc2 Nf7 19.axb5 axb5 20.Rxa8+ Bxa8 21.Qa1 0-0



22.Rc1 Rd8 23.Be3 e5 24.dxe5

Nxe5 25.Nxb4 Qxb4 26.Rxc3 Qd6 27.Rc1 Bb7 28.Bf4 g5

28...Ra8 29.Qc3 b4 30.Qc2±

29.Bxe5 Qxe5

29...fxe5 30.Qc3 b4 31.Qc4+ Kg7 32.h4 h6 33.hxg5 hxg5 34.Qe4 Qe7 35.Bf3 Rd4 36.Qf5 Rd6 37.Be4 Kg8 38.Ra1 Qg7 39.Bd3+-

30.Qxe5 fxe5 31.Bxc6 Bxc6 32.Rxc6± Rd1+ 33.Kg2 Rb1 34.Rc5 Rxb3 35.Rxe5 h6 36.Kh3 Rb4 37.e4 Rb2 38.f4 gxf4 39.gxf4 b4 40.Rb5 b3 41.Kg4 h5+ 42.Kxh5 Rxh2+ 43.Kg6 Rg2+ 44.Kf6 b2 45.e5 Kh7 46.f5 1-0

QGD Cambridge Springs D52

Chaltanya Vaidya 2170

Mihail Bantic 2195

UTD Invitational 2008 (8)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 Nbd7 6.e3 Qa5 7.Nd2 Bb4 8.Qc2 0-0 9.Bh4 c5 10.dxc5 dxc4 11.c6 Ne5 12.Nxc4 Nxc4 13.Bxc4 Nd5 14.0-0 bxc6 15.Ne4 f5 16.a3 fxe4 17.axb4 Qxb4 18.b3 Nb6 19.Qxe4 Nxc4 20.bxc4 Qc5 21.Rfd1 e5 22.Bg3 Re8 23.Ra4 g6 24.Rda1 Rb8

24...Bf5 25.Qh4 Bd3 26.Ra5 Qxc4 27.Qxc4 Bxc4=, says Fritz.

25.h3 Bf5 26.Qf3 Rb7 27.e4 Be6 28.Qc3 Qd4

28...Bf7 29.Qa3 Qxa3 30.R1xa3±

29.Bxe5 Qxe4 30.f3 Rb1+?

30...Qf5 31.Rxa7 Bc8±



31.Kh2!+- Rxa1 32.Qxa1

More incisive is 32.fxe4! Rxa4 33.Bh8 Re7 34.Qf6 Rf7 35.Qxe6+- 32...Qf5 33.Rxa7 Bd7

Stiffer resistance is offered by 33...Bf7 34.Bd6 h6 35.c5 g5, when the bishop is well covered. However, Black has his eye on h3 ...

34.Bh8 Re7 35.Bf6 Re2?

Preparing a desperation attack that only greases the skids. Best was 35...Rf7 with a long fight ahead.

36.Kh1 Qe6 37.Qd4!

The bishop on d7 is frozen on pawn of Rg7+ and forced mate, so Black has nothing but to let 'er rip. 37...Rxxg2 38.Kxxg2 Qxxh3+ 39.Kf2 Qh2+ 40.Ke1 Qg3+ 41.Kd2 Qg2+ 42.Kc3 Qxf3+ 43.Kb4 c5+ 44.Kxc5 Qc6+ 45.Kb4 Kf7 46.Rxd7+ 1-0

King's Indian E97

John Bartholwmew 2453

Salvijus Bercys 2428

UTD Invitational 2008 (8)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.d4 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.b4 Nh5 10.a4 f5 11.Ng5 Nf4 12.Bxf4 exf4 13.Rc1 Kh8 14.Ne6 Bxe6 15.dxe6 Rf6 16.Bf3 c6 17.exf5 Nxf5 18.b5 Rxe6 19.bxc6 bxc6 20.Bxc6 Rb8 21.Bd5 Re7 22.Ne4 Qd7 23.Ng5 Nd4 24.Rb1 Rf8 25.Rb7 Qe8 26.Rxe7 Qxe7 27.Nf3 1/2-1/2

Sicilian Sveshnikov B33

Jacek Stopa 2461

Davorin Kuljasevic 2521

UTD Invitational 2008 (8)

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.c4 b4 12.Nc2 a5 13.Qf3 Be7 14.a3 bxa3 15.Qxa3 Rb8 16.Bd3 0-0 17.0-0 Be6 18.Rfd1 Bg5 19.Bf1 f5 20.exf5 Bxf5 21.Nce3 Bg6 22.Bd3 Bh5 23.Rf1 Kh8 24.Qa4 Be8 25.Qa3 Rb7 26.c5 Qb8 27.Bc4 dxc5 28.Qxc5 Bd7 29.b3 Nd4 30.Ra3 Nb5 31.Rxa5 Rc8 32.Qb4 Nd4 33.Qe1 Nxb3 34.Ra3 Nc5 35.Qd1 Qd6 36.Qh5 Qh6 37.

Qxh6 Bxh6 38.Ne7 Rf8 39.Ra5 Rc7
40.N7d5 Rcc8 41.Nb6 Rc6 42.Rxc5
Rxb6 43.Rxe5 Rb2 44.Nd5 Rc2 45.
Ne3 Rc3 46.Be2 Bxe3 47.Rxe3
Rxe3 48.fxe3 Rxf1+ 49.Kxf1 g5 50.
Kf2 Kg7 51.Kg3 Kf6 52.Bg4 Bc6
53.Bh3 h5 54.Bc8 Ke5 55.Ba6 Ke4
56.Kf2 h4 57.Be2 Ke5 58.Bf3 Bc7
59.h3 Bb5 60.Ke1 Kd6 61.Kd2 Kc5
62.Be2 Bc6 63.Bf1 Be4 ½-½

Caro-Kann B10

Alejandro Ramirez 2533

Marko Zivanic 2465

UTD Invitational 2008 (8)

1.c4 c6 2.e4 d5 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.exd5
Nf6 5.Nc3 Nxd5 6.Nf3 e6 7.d4 Nc6
8.Bb5 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Re1 Bf6
11.Ne4 Nce7 12.Qe2 Nf5 13.Rd1 h6
14.Ng3 Nng3 15.hxg3 Qb6 16.g4 a6
16...g5 17.Bd3 Bg7 18.Ne5 Rd8
19.Qf3 Qc7
17.Bd3 Nb4 18.Bb1 Rd8 19.Qe4



Kf8 20.g5 hxg5 21.Bxg5 Bd7

21...Bxg5 22.Nxg5 Nc6 23.Qf3
f6 24.Nh7+ Ke7 25.Qg3 Rg8 26.d5
exd5 27.Nxf6 Kxf6 28.Qd6+ (28.
Qg6+=) 28...Be6 29.Rd3+-
22.Qh7 Nd5

22...Bxg5 23.Nxg5 Ba4 24.Qh5
Be8 25.Qh8+ Ke7 26.Qxg7±
23.Be4 Be8 24.Qh8+ Ke7 25.Qxg7
Bxg5 26.Nxg5 Qd6

26...Nf4 27.Bf3 (27.Nh7 Ne2+
28.Kh1 Bb5 29.Qf6+ Kd6 30.Ng5
Rh8+ 31.Nh3+-) 27...Rac8 28.Nh7
Nd5 29.Bxd5 Rxd5 30.Qf8+ Kd8
31.Nf6+-
27.Re1 Nf4 28.d5 e5

28...Nh5 29.Qh6 Nf4 30.dxe6+-
29.Bf5 1-0

Sicilian Defense B35

Sergey Kudrin 2553

Drasko Boskovic 2452

UTD Invitational 2008 (8)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.
Nxd4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.
Bc4 0-0 8.Bb3 Qa5 9.0-0 d6 10.h3
Bd7 11.Re1 Qh5 [11...Rfe8] 12.Nf3
Na5 13.Bd4 Nc6
13...Bc6! 14.Nd5 Bxd5 15.exd5
Nxb3 16.axb3 Rfe8 17.c4 a6 18.
Re2±
14.Be3 Na5 15.Bg5! Bc6
15...Nxb3 16.axb3 h6 (16...Bxh3
17.gxh3 Qxh3 18.Nh2±) 17.Bxf6
Bxf6 18.e5±



16.Ne2!+- Bxe4

16...Nxb3 17.Ng3 (17.axb3 Nxe4
18.Nf4 Nxf2 19.Nxh5 Nxd1 20.Nxg7
Nxb2 21.Bh6+-) 17...Qxg5 18.Nxg5
Nxa1 19.Qxa1±
17.Ng3 Bxf3 18.Qc1 Nxb3 19.axb3
Qxg5 20.Qxg5 h6 21.Qc1 1-0

Ruy Lopez C91

Julio Becerra 2602

Wang Puchen 2450

UTD Invitational 2008 (8)

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.d4 Bg4 10.d5 Nb8

The stats on this are not encouraging for Black, who has a 24.4% winning percentage. He fares much better in the line with 10...Na5.

11.h3 Bh5 12.Nbd2

White's score from this position in NIC Base is 6-0, no draws!

12...c6 13.dxc6 Nxc6 14.Nf1 Bg6
14...Re8 15.Ng3 Bg6 16.Nh4
Na5 17.Bc2 Nd7 18.Nhf5 Nb6 19.a4
Bf8 20.h4± Adla-Wisniacki, Buenos
Aires 1992.
15.Ng3 Na5 16.Bc2 Nc4 17.Nh4
Rc8 18.a4 Qc7 19.axb5 axb5 20.
Nhf5 d5 21.b3 Nd6 22.exd5 Nxf5
23.Bxf5 Rcd8 24.Qf3 Nxd5 25.Bb2
Nf4 26.Rad1 f6 27. Bc1 Bf7 28.
Bxf4 exf4 29.Ne2 Rxd1 30.Rxd1
Qe5 31.Nd4 Bc5 32.Qd3 g6 33.Bd7
b4 34.cxb4 Bxb4 35.Nc6 Qc5 36.
Qe4 Bc3 37.b4 Qb6 38. Qxf4 Be5
39.Qh6, Black resigns!?



Wang may have reacted to the idea 39...Ra8 40.Bc8! (Δ 41.Qf8#), forcing Black to cede the Exchange, although 40...Rxc8 41.Nxc8 Qxb4 could be a long grind.

A different idea after 39...Ra8 is 40.b5! Qc7 41.Nxe5 Qxe5 42.b6 Ra1 43.Qd2 Rxd1+ 44. Qxd1 Bd5 45.Bc8 Qe4 46.f3, and Black must lose his bishop. 1-0

GM Julio Becerra won the GM-norm section with 6.5/9. Alexey Root asked Julio if he had anything he wanted to say to *Chess Life Online* readers, and he replied: "Good luck to Dallas Destiny against Boston Blitz in the USCL finals [See p. 7.] I'm a Yankee baseball fan, so I don't like Boston winning anything."

A marathon results when Kraai takes on the daunting task of converting a difficult R vs. B+P ending against WIM Bayaraa Zorigt.

French Defense C06

Bayaraa Zorigt 2203

Jesse Kraai 2502

UTD Invitational 2008 (9)

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 10.0-0 Bd6 11.Nf3 Qc7 12.Bg5 0-0 13.Bh4 Bd7 14.Bg3 Be8 15.Rc1 Bh5 16.Ne5 Bxe2 17.Bxe2 Bxe5 18.Bxe5 Qb6 19.b3 Rf7 20.f4 Raf8 21.Qd3 Nd7 22.Rxc6 Qxc6 23.g3 Nxe5 24.dxe5 Rd8 25.Bg4 d4 26.Rd1 Rc7 27.f5 exf5 28.Bxf5 g6 29.Bg4 Qc3 30.Qe4 d3 31.Be6+ Kg7 32.Bc4 Qd4+ 33.Qxd4 Rxd4 34.Kf2 Re7 35.e6 b5 36.Bxb5 Rxe6 37.Rxd3 Rxd3 38.Bxd3



38...Kf6 39.h4 Ke5 40.Bc4 Rd6 41.Ke3 Rd1 42.Bg8 h6 43.Bf7 g5 44.hxg5 hxg5 45.Bc4 Ra1 46.a4 g4 47.Be2 Kf5 48.Bd3+ Kg5 49.Bc4 a5 50.Bd3 Rg1 51.Kf2 Rc1 52.Be4 Rc3 53.Bd5 Kf6 54.Bc4 Kf5 55.Kg2 Rc2+ 56.Kf1 Rb2 57.Bd3+ Ke5 58.Bc4 Ke4 59.Be2 Kf5 60.Bc4 Kg5 61.Bd5 Rc2 62.Bc4 Rd2 63.Be6 Rd4 64.Kf2 Kf6 65.Ke3 Ke5 66.Bc4 Re4+ 67.Kf2 Kd4 68.Bf7 Kc3 69.Bg8 Kd2 70.Bc4 Re5 71.Bb5 Re7 72.Ba6 Rf7+ 73.Kg2 Ke3 74.Bc8 Rf2+ 75.Kg1 Kf3 76.Bxg4+ Kxg3 77.Bh5



77...Rh2 78.Bg6 Rh6 79.Bf7 Rd6 80.Bh5 Rd2 81.Kf1 Rb2 82.Ke1 Rxb3 83.Kd2 Kf4 84.Bg6 Ke5 85.Kc2 Ra3 86.Be8 Kd4 87.Bb5 Kc5 88.Bd7 Kb4 89.Bb5 Rc3+ 90.Kb2 Rc5 91.Be8 Re5 92.Bb5 Rc5 93.Be8 Rc7 94.Bb5



94...Rc8 95.Bd7 Rd8 96.Bb5 Rd2+ 97.Kc1 Kc3 98.Bc6 Rd4 99.Bb5 Rd6 100.Be2 Rg6 101.Kb1 Kb3 102.Bd1+ Ka3 103.Kc1 Rd6 104.Bc2 Kb4 105.Kb2 Rd2 106.Kb1 Kc3 107.Be4 Rb2+ 108.Ka1 Kb3 109.Bd5+ Ka3 110.Bb3 Rd2 0-1

Although Bayaraa lost her last round, her 5/9 was above the WIM-norm requirement. But there was a problem with the composition of the IM-norm section.

UTD Chess Program Director Jim Stallings explained, "Bayaraa had enough points for a WIM norm. But due to a last-minute player substitution (which filled the requirement for

enough players from other federations but not the requirement for titled players), a norm was not achieved."

There were not any norms in the GM-norm section either, though IM Jacek Stopa came close. Jacek needed a last round win over IM Marko Zivanic in the following game for a GM norm.

Dzindzi-Indian A40

Marko Zivanic 2465

Jacek Stopa 2461

UTD Invitational 2008 (9)

1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 f5 6.h4 Nf6 7.h5 Rg8 8.hxg6 hxg6 9.Qa4 Qc7 10.g3 Ne4 11.Bf4 Qb6 12.Rc1 g5 13.Be3 Qf6 14.Bg2 f4 15.Bxe4 fxe3 16.fxe3 Qe5 17.Qc2 g4 18.Kd2 d6 19.Rf1 Nd7 20.Bh7 Rg5 21.Rf4 Nf6 22.Bg6+ Kd8 23.Rh8+ Kc7 24.Rf8 b5 25.Bd3 a6 26.Qb3 Rb8



27.Qa3 Kb6 28.cxb5 a5 29.Ra4 Nxd5 30.e4 Nc7 31.Rxa5 c4 32.Bxc4 Qxe4 33.Bd3 Qb7 34.Qb4 Qd5 35.Ra4 Nxb5 36.Qa5+ Kc6 37.c4 Qe5 38.cxb5+ 1-0

Thanks to Alexey Root's personal touch in the US Chess Online report, and also for the photos. --SKA.

Crosstables: next page

Wall Chart - GM Invitational

#	Player	Country	Elo	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
1.	GM Julio Bacerra	USA	2644	=9	=8	+7	+6	=5	+4	=3	+2	=10	6.5
2.	IM Wang Puchen	NZL	2450	-8	+7	=6	=5	+4	=3	=10	-1	=9	4.5
3.	IM Drasko Boscovic	SRB	2452	-7	=6	-5	=4	=10	=2	=1	-9	-8	2.5
4.	IM Marko Zivanic	SRB	2465	+6	=5	+10	=3	-2	-1	-9	-8	+7	4.0
5.	IM Davorin Kuljasevic	CRO	2521	=10	=4	+3	=2	=1	=9	=8	=7	=6	5.0
6.	IM Salvijus Bercys	USA	2428	-4	=3	=2	-1	=9	-8	=7	=10	=5	3.0
7.	IM Jacek Stopa	POL	2461	+3	-2	-1	+9	+8	+10	=6	=5	-4	5.0
8.	GM Alejandro Ramirez	CRC	2533	+2	=2	=9	=10	-7	+6	=5	+4	+3	6.0
9.	GM Sergey Kudrin	USA	2553	=1	=10	=8	-7	=6	=5	+4	+3	=2	5.0
10.	IM John Bartholomew	USA	2453	=5	=9	-4	=8	=3	-7	=2	=6	=1	3.5

Wall Chart - IM Invitational

#	Player	Country	Elo	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
1.	Tautvydas Vedrickas	LTU	2268	=10	-2	-3	-4	+5	-6	+7	=9	=9	3.5
2.	FM Igor Schneider	USA	2397	-9	+1	+10	+3	=4	-5	=6	+7	=8	5.5
3.	FM Keaton Kiewra	USA	2380	=8	-9	+1	-2	=10	=4	+5	=6	=7	4.5
4.	GM Jesse Kraai	USA	2502	+7	=8	+9	+1	=2	=3	=10	+5	+6	7.0
5.	Francisco Guadalupe	USA	2237	-6	-7	-8	-9	-1	+2	-3	-4	=10	1.5
6.	WFM Bayaraa Zorigt	MGL	2203	+5	-10	+7	-8	+9	+1	=2	=3	-4	5.0
7.	Nelson Lopez	USA	2173	-4	+5	-6	-10	=8	-9	-1	-2	=3	2.0
8.	GM Babakuli Annakov	USA	2455	=3	=4	+5	+6	=7	=10	+9	=1	=2	6.0
9.	Mihail Bantic	SRB	2195	+2	+3	-4	+5	-6	+7	-8	-10	=1	4.5
10.	Chaltanya Vaidya	IND	2170	=1	+6	-2	+7	=3	=8	=4	+9	=5	5.5

USCL: Destiny repeats (from p. 9)

gxf6 20.Ne3 Bg6 21.f4 f5 22.Bh3
Re4 23.Rb1 Bd8 24.Qd3 Rd4 25.
Qc2 Qe7 26.Rb3 Ba5 27.Nxf5 Bxf5
28.Qxf5 Rxc4 29.Rfb1 Re8 30.Rb8
Qe3+ 31.Kh1 Rc1+ 32.Bf1 Qf3+
33.Kg1 Qxf1# 0-1

It's been a long road for the Dallas Destiny to become the first-ever repeat U.S. Chess League Champions. They lived the entire regular season out of the limelight, only to burst once again onto the stage for the Semifinals and, tonight, the Finals. The Dallas Destiny isn't in the U.S. Chess League for glory alone, however; its real staying power comes from the friendships of the team members themselves. "Our team members are a close-knit bunch and ultimately I think this is what carried us through the playoffs and final against Boston," said team

captain IM John Bartholomew, who has sought all season to just step back and allow his teammates to perform. Bartholomew continued, "I would point especially to the performances of Bayaraa Zorigt and Davorin Kuljasevic, who were simply phenomenal this season." With an encouraging coach like Bartholomew, one can only think that the future destiny of Dallas will continue to burn brightly.

Correction to last issue

In the Nov.-Dec. 2008 *TK* issue we reported that no scholarship was awarded by UTD at the **Texas Girls' Championship**. In fact, Courtney Jamison was awarded the Distinction Scholarship by Luis Salinas, who flew down for the occasion. Nevertheless, the scholarship is off the table for future events until a change to slower time controls is instituted.

New SACC web address

Our club website went down a week before Christmas, but it is back up at

<http://home.roadrunner.com/~sachess>

Thanks to the efforts of webmaster Greg Wren; also Steve Dampier, who has great patience on the phone with customer service personnel!

People looking for teams can be added to (or choose from) the online roster at the SACC website under Future Events. E-mail your contact info to our webmaster, Greg Wren, at gwren@satx.rr.com.

Our site went down when our Internet service provider made a sweeping change requiring older users (6+ years in our case) would have to "migrate" their websites.

Although we finally succeeded in this, we noted a lack of advance notice or plans for customer service given the inevitable questions.

Rylander wins Fall Open

The Fall Open (San Antonio, Nov. 15-16) drew just 25 players despite having a *Chess Life* ad, hardly an improvement over Octoberfest. The recession, not just gas prices, seems to be driving this trend.

Dennis Rylander won the ten-player Open section with 3.5 out of 4 (\$125), taking a last round bye and winning three games. Ernesto Malazarte and Alok Kumar (1887) split second and U2100 prizes with 3 (\$62.50 each). Richard Gabriel won the U1900 prize of \$50 with 1(!)

Paul Franke won the Reserve (U1800) section with 3.5 (\$75), ahead of Alfredo Garcia and Raymond Grillo, who shared second and U1700 with 3 (\$50 each). Mike LaBelle and Titus Shanks tied for U1500 with 2.5 (\$18.75 each). The lone unrated player was Christopher Clark (\$37.50).

Selby Anderson directed, with assistance from Martin Gordon. The new playing site at the Hornbeak Building next to TNI was adequate, except that the thin room partition did not permit the adjoining classroom to be much of a skittles area.

Dutch Leningrad A89

Mitch Vergara 2024

Dennis Rylander 2370

Fall Open (1)

1.d4 f5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 d6 4.Nf3 g6 5.g3 Bg7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 Nc6 8. Rb1

The main book moves are 8.d5, 8.b3 and 8.Qc2.

8...e5 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Qxd8 Rxd8 11.Rd1 Rxd1+ 12.Nxd1 e4 13.Ne1 Be6 14.b3 Rd8 15.Ne3 Nb4 16.Bb2 a5 17.a3 Nc6 18.N1c2 Kf7 19.Kf1 Bh6 20.Bc3 g5 21.Bh3 Kg6 22.Ke1 g4 23.Bf1 f4 24.Ng2 e3 25.Nh4+ Kf7 26.Bg2 exf2+ 27.Kxf2 f3 28. exf3 Rd3 29.Bxf6 Rd2+ 30.Kg1

Kxf6 31.Ne1 Be3+ 32.Kh1 h5 33.f4 a4 34.Bd5 Rxd5 35.cxd5 Bxd5+ 36. Nhg2 axb3 37.Rxb3 Bxb3 38. Nxe3 Nd4 39.Nd3 b6 40.Nb4 Ke6 41.h3



41...c5 42.Nd3 Nf5?

This leads to a standoff, while 42...gxh3 43.Kh2 Nc2! is winning in this study-like variation: 44.Nc1 (worse is 44.Nxc2 Bxc2 45.N~ Bf5) 44...Nxe3 45.Nxb3 c4 46.Nd4+ (46.Nc1 b5 47.Kxh3 Nc2) 46...Kd5 47.Ne2 Ke4 48.Kxh3 Kd3 49.Nc1+ Kd2 50.Na2 c3 51.Kh4 c2 52.Kxh5 Nd5 53.f5 Nc3 54.f6 Nxa2 55.f7 c1Q 56.f8Q Qc5+ 57.Qxc5 bxc5+.

(What, you missed that?) 43.Nxf5 Kxf5 44.hxg4+ hxg4 45. Kg2 c4 46.Nc1 Ke4 47.Kf2 Ba4 48.Ke2 Bd7 49.Na2 Bf5 50.Nc3+ Kd4 51.Kd2 Bd3 52.Nd1 Bf1 53. Nc3 Bd3 54.Nd1 Bf5 55.Nc3 Bd7

White lost on time, which in the current position is the only way Vergara could have lost. 0-1

Sicilian Defense B44

Selby Anderson 2200

Alok Kumar 1887

Fall Open (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nb5 Nf6 6.N1c3 Qa5

6...Bb4 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.Nxc3 d5 is the standard Four Knights Sicilian, while 6...d6 7.Bf5 e5 transposes to a Sveshnikov.

7.Bd2 Bb4 8.a3 Bxc3 9.Bxc3 Qb6 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Qd6 Kd8 12.Qf4 Ke7 13.0-0 e5?

This accentuates Black's already glaring weaknesses. Fritz gives 13... Qc5 or 13...Rg8, with ideas of ...Ne5, ...b6, ...a5 and ...Ba6.

14.Qd2 Nd4

There's nothing better.

15.Nxd4 exd4 16.Qxd4 Qxd4 17. Rxd4 d6 18.Bc4 Be6 19.Rhd1 Rad8 20.Bd5 Rd7 21.Rb4 b6 22.Rc4 Rg8 23.g3 Rg4 24.f3 Rg5 25.Rc8 f5 26. exf5 Rxf5 27.Bc6 a5 [27...Rd8 28. Rc7+] 28.Bxd7 Kxd7 29.Rc3 b5 30. Rcd3 d5 31.f4 Kd6 32.Rd4 Rh5 33. R1d2 Bg4 34.f5! Bf3 35.Rf4 Bh1 36.Rdf2 f6 37.g4 Rh3



38.g5 ffg5 39.Rg4 h6 40.Rg3 Rgx3 41.hxg3 g4 42.Rf4 Ke7 43.Rxg4 h5 44.Rh4 Bf3 45.f6+ Kf7 46.Rf4 Be4 47.c3 Bg6 48.Kd2 Ke6 49.Ke3 Bf7 50.Kd4 Kd6 51.Rf5 Kc6 52.Re5 Kd6 53.b4

To be pedantic, 53.b3 is a better way to force zugzwang, but Alok lets me do it anyway.

53...axb4 54.axb4 Kc6 55.Re7 1-0

Caro-Kann Defense B17

Don Flournoy 2108

Zhaosu Ye 1695

Fall Open (1)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7 5.Be4 Ndf6 6.Ng5 Nd5 7.N1f3

Bg4?? 8.Nxf7 Kxf7 9.Ne5+ Ke8 10. Qxg4 Ngf6 11.Qe6 Qc8 12.Qf7+ Kd8 13.0-0 Rg8 14.Bg5 g6 15. Bxd5 Qf5 16.Bxf6 exf6 17.Be6 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E38

Dennis Rylander 2370
Don Flournoy 2108

Fall Open (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 c5 5.dxc5 Nc6 6.Nf3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qxc5 8.e3 d5 9.cxd5

ECO gives 9.a3 Bxc3 10.Qxc3 0-0 11.b4 Qe7 12.b5±. 9...exd5 10.Rc1 0-0 11.a3 Bxc3 12. Bxc3 Ne4 13.Bd3 Re8 14.0-0 Bg4 15.Nd4 Ne5 [15...Bd7] 16.Nb3

16.f3! Nxc3 17.fxg4+- 16...Qb6 17.Bxe5 Rxe5 18.Nd4 Qh6 19.Qc7 Rae8 20.Bb5 R5e7 21. Bxe8 Rxc7 22.Rxc7 Nxf2 [22... Nd6] 23.Bxf7+ Kh8 24.Re7 g6 25. Rxf2 Qh4 26.Re5 Kg7 27.Bxd5 Bd7 28.g3 Qg4 29.Bf3 Qh3 30. Re7+ Kh6 31.Re4 g5 32.Re7 1-0

Sicilian Paulsen B41

Ernesto Malazarte 2122
Selby Anderson 2200

Fall Open (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bc4 Qc7 6.Bb3 Nf6 7.Nc3 Bb4 8.Qd3



8...Nc6

I considered 8...Nxe4! but reacted to the ghost of an attack on my dark squares. Fritz gives 9.Qxe4 Bxc3+ 10.bxc3!?? (10.Kf1?) 10...

Qxc3+ 11.Ke2 Qxa1 12.Rd1 Qc3 13. Ba3 Qa5 14.Bd6 Nc6+- 9.Bd2 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 Bc5 11.Qd3 Ng4 12.Nd1 Bd6 13.h3 Ne5 14.Qe2 Ng6 15.0-0 b6 16.Nc3 Bb7 17.Be3 0-0 18.Rad1 Bc6??

18...Bh2+ 19.Kh1 Be5= 19.Qd2??

19.Bxb6 Qxb6 20.Rxd6±



19...Bh2+ 20.Kh1 Bf4?!

This trades down when the pawn structure favors White, while giving away dark squares such as d6.

Much better is 20...Be5=.

21.Bxf4 Qxf4 22.Qxf4 Nxf4 23.Kh2 f5 24.g3 Ng6 25.exf5 Rxf5 26.f4 Rc8 27.Ne2



27...Bb5?

Better is 27...Nf8! protecting the d7 pawn against Nd4 and Nxc6. Then 28.Nd4 Rc5 is equal.

28.Nd4 Bxf1 29.Nxf5 Bb5 30.Nd6

See the note to 20...Bf4.

30...Rc7 31.f5 Ne5 32.Nxb5 axb5 33.fxe6 dxe6 34.Rd6 Rc6 35.Bxe6+

Kf8 36.Rxc6 Nxc6 37.c3 Ke7 38. Bf5 h6 39.Be4 Ne5 40.b3 Kd6 41. Kg2 Kc5 42.a3 Kd6 43.Kf2 Nd7 44.Ke3 Nc5 45.Bc2 Ke5 46.b4 Nb7 47.Bd3 Nd6 48.h4 Nf5+?

There's more play in 48...g5 49. hxg5 hxg5 50.Kf3 Ke6 51.Kg4 Kf6, but White has several ways to win. One is 52.Kh5 Nf5 53.g4 Nd6 54. Bf1 Ne4 55.Bxb5 Nxc3 56.a4+- 49.Bxf5 Kxf5 50.Kd4 Kg4 51.c4 bxc4 52.Kxc4 g5 53.hxg5 hxg5 54. a4 Kxg3 55.a5 bxa5 56.bxa5 Kf2 57.a6 g4 58.a7 g3 59.a8Q g2

I play on a bit "for the kids" - it's a good lesson position. 60.Qa7+ Kf1 61.Qf7+ Ke2 62.Qe6+ Kf1 63.Qf5+ Ke2 64.Qe4+ Kf2 65 Qf4+ Ke2 66. Qg3 Kf1 67.Qf3+ 1-0

Owen's Defense C00

Ernesto Malazarte 2122
Dennis Rylander 2370

Fall Open (3)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 b6 3.Bd3 Bb7 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Qe2 d5 6.Nbd2 Be7 7.c3 c5 8.Ne5 [8.exc5] 8...cxd4 9.cxd4 dxe4 10.Bb5+ Kf8 11.Qe3 Na6 12. a3 Nc7 13.Bc6 Ncd5 14.Qg3 Bxc6 15.Nxc6 Qe8 16.Nxe7 Nxe7 17.0-0 Rd8 18.Nb3 h6 19.Bd2 Kg8 20. Rac1 Nf5 21.Qe5 Qa4 22.Qc7 Kh7 23.Qc4 b5 24.Qxa4 bxa4 25.Nc5 Nxd4 26.Rfe1 Nf3+ 27.gxf3 Rxd2 28.Nxa4 exf3 29.Re3?



A tactical oversight is better is 29.Rc3 g5 30.Rxf3 Kg6 31.b4 Nd5 32.Nc5 Nf4 33.h4 Rhd8 34.hxg5

hxg5 35.Rfe3 Ra2 36.a4 Rdd2 37.
Rf3 Kf5+.
29...Rc8 30.Rce1 Rc4 31.Nc3 Rxb2
32.Rxf3 Rb3 33.Ree3 Ng4 34.Nd1
Nxe3 35.Nxe3 Rc7 0-1

Modern Defense A42

Selby Anderson 2200
Gregg Stanley 2068

Fall Open (3)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.c4 Nc6 4.Be3 e5
5.Ne2 d6 6.Nbc3 exd4 7.Nxd4 Nge7
8.Be2 0-0 9.0-0 f5 10.exf5 Bxf5
11.Nxc6 Nxc6 12.Qd2 Qf6 13.Rad1
Be6 14.Nd5 Qf7 15.f4 a6 16.Bf3
Rab8 17.Rc1 Kh8 18.b3 Rfe8
19.Rfe1 Nd8 20.Ba7 Rc8 21.Bd4
Bxd4+ 22.Qxd4+ Qg7 23.Rcd1
Nf7??

23...Nc6 24.Qxg7+±



24.Nf6 Re7 25.Nd5?

Having ten minutes to Gregg's five before the 30-move time control, I used five looking at 25.Bxb7 c5 and never snapped to 26.Qa1!+-.
25...Ree8 26.Nf6 Re7 27.Bd5??
Nd8 28.Bf3 Nc6 29.Bxc6 bxc6 30.
Nd5 Ree8 31.Nf6 ½-½

Sicilian Dragon B35

Alok Kumar 1887
Don Flournoy 2108

Fall Open (4)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.
Nxd4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.
Bc4 0-0 8.f3 a6

A better way to take advantage of White's move order is 8...Qb6.

There is nothing wrong with 8...d6 9.Qd2 if Black likes the main lines.
9.Qd2 b5 10.Bb3 Bb7

This eccentric bishop development does not work out well.

11.h4 Qc7 12.0-0-0 Ne5 13.h5 Rfc8?

13...Nxb5 14.g4 Nf6 15.Bh6 b4 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Qh6+ Kg8 and now best is 18.Nce2±. On the other hand, 18.Rxb5?! gxf5 19.Rh1 Nxf3! works out in Black's favor: 20.Nxf3 bxc3 21.Qxh5 Bxe4+-.

14.hxg6 hxg6 15.Bh6 Bh8



16.Bf8!?

16.Nf5! gxf5 17.Qg5+ Ng6 (17... Kh7 18.Bf8+) 18.Qxg6+ and mate next.

16...Rxf8?

16...Nh5 17.Bxe7±

17.Rxb8+!

After grinding away for a minute, Fritz changes its evaluation from + to mate in eight with this move!

17...Kxh8 18.Qh6+ Kg8 19.Rh1

19.Nf5! gxf5 20.Rh1 and all Black has are spite moves to delay checkmate.

19...Nh5 20.Rxb8 gxf5 21.Nf5 Nd3+

Forced but still losing.

22.cxd3 Qe5 23.Qg5+ Kh7 24.Qxh5+ Kg8 25.Nh6+ Kg7 26.Qxe5+ Kxh6 27.Qh2+ Kg7 28.Qg3+ Kh7 29.Qh4+ Kg7 30.Qg5+ Kh7 31.Ne2

There is nothing wrong with picking off pawns either.

31...Rac8+ 32.Kd2 e6 33.Nf4 Rg8 34.Qh4+ Kg7 35.Nh5+ Kf8 36.g4 a5 37.Nf6 Rg6 38.Nxd7+ Kg7 39.Ne5 Rh6

Likewise bad is 39...Rh8 40.Qe7.

40.Qg5+ Kh7 41.Nxf7 Rh2+ 42.Ke3 Rcl 43.Bxe6 1-0

Ruy Lopez Archangel C78

James Thames 1511
Alfredo Garcia 1742

Fall Open (4)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Bc5 7.d3 d6 8.h3 h6 9.c3 0-0 10.Qe2 Be6 11.Bc2 d5 12.Nbd2 d4 13.Nb3 Bxb3 14.Bxb3 b4 15.c4 Bd6 16.Bd2 Ne7 17.Nh4 c5 18.Ba4 Rc8 19.f4 Ng6 20.Nxg6 fxe6 21.fxe5 Bxe5 22.Bf4 Qd6 23.Bxe5 Qxe5 24.Rf3 Nh5



Now 25.Raf1 is equal, as after 25...Nf4 26.Qf2 g5 White disrupts things with 27.Bd7! and 28.g3! Thames wanted to get the bishop to d5, but ceding the file is too costly. 25.Rxf8+ Rxf8 26.Bc6 Qg3 27.Bd5+ Kh7 28.Rf1 Nf4 29.Qg4 Qxg4 30.hxg4 and White resigned, as 30...Ne2+ wins his rook. 0-1

Solution (back cover): 1.Rf3 (1... Nf2+ 2.Rxf2#; 1...Nf6 2.Rf5#; 1... Nxc5 2.Rf6#; 1...d3 2.Rxd3#).

Texas Scholastic & Collegiate Championships

March 20-22

McAllen, Texas

McAllen Convention Center, W. Expressway 83 @ S. Ware Rd.

All K-12 divisions have seven rounds (no elimination) and require Texas residency.

Ratings from February USCF supplement will be used.

TCA guidelines for section assignment: see www.2009texaschesstourney.com

K-1 All players receive participation medal.
Rds. 1-4 G/30, Rds. 5-7 G/45

PRIMARY K-3 2 sections:
JV U700 Rds. 1-4 G/30, Rds. 5-7 G/45
Championship Rds. 1-4 G/30, Rds. 5-7 G/45

ELEMENTARY 3 sections:
Novice U500 Rds. 1-4 G/30, Rds. 5-7 G/45
JV U800 Rds. 1-4 G/40, Rds. 5-7 G/55
Championship Rds. 1-4 G/45, Rds. 5-7 G/60

MIDDLE SCHOOL 3 sections:
Novice U600 Rds. 1-4 G/40, Rds. 5-7 G/55
JV U900 Rds. 1-4 G/50, Rds. 5-7 G/65
Championship Rds. 1-4 G/60, Rds. 5-7 G/75

HIGH SCHOOL 2 sections:
JV U1000 Rds. 1-4 G/50, Rds. 5-7 G/6
Championship Rds. 1-4 G/60, Rds. 5-7 G/75
4-year UT Dallas scholarship to winner

COLLEGIATE 5 rounds, G/90 + 30 second increments. FIDE rated, USCF rules.

Trophies in each section to top 15 teams and top 20 players; medals 21st-30th

San Benito Consolidated Independent School District scholarships
\$1,500 scholarship to top female and male players in HS Championship and Collegiate

Side events: Each has 2 sections, K-6 and K-12.

Friday night **Blitz:** 8 p.m., entry \$15

Saturday night **Bughouse:** 8:35 p.m., entry \$20/team

Entry fees: \$37 by Mar. 13, \$59 later

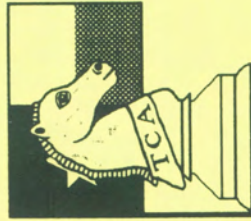
Online registration, hotel & flight info at www.2009texaschesstourney.com

On-site registration: Friday evening 7-9 p.m.; Saturday morning 7-7:45 a.m.

Contact: info@2009texaschesstourney.com

Lali Betancourt, 956-893-0399; fax 956-361-6505

TCA meeting Saturday evening TBA, check texaschess.org for update.

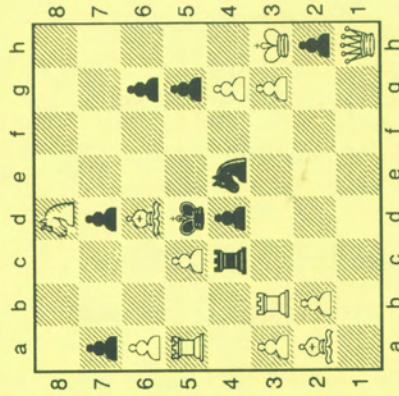


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See inside front cover for
 TCA membership information.

Bernard Delobel
StrateGems, 2003



White to move, mate in two
 Solution: p. 30

