

TEXAS KNIGHTS

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July-August 2009



Texas State Championship:

IM Daniel Fernandez
wins in San Antonio

Amateur champ: **Paul Haney**

President's column and treasurer's report.....	4
Tactics Quiz – Positions from the state championship.....	3
Texas State and Amateur Championships – Amateur games p. 23	5
My experience at the 2008 Denker tournament – Stanley Yang	18
Hyltin wins Texas Action (G/30) Championship.....	21
San Antonio City Championship – Anderson's 9th city title, Stanley's 2nd.....	26
My week at International Chess Camp – Courtney Jamison.....	29
Langer upends Yermo in 16 moves!	30

Your TCA Ballot is enclosed

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

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

Dear Texas Chess Players,

I am honored to have once again been nominated to serve as TCA president.

My belief is that the best thing for TCA is stability and focus. On a national level, the USCF is currently mired in lawsuits and a battle to determine control of the organization; in the end things might change for the best, but that change will undoubtedly come at a high cost.

During this presidential term, I have consulted the board with standard decisions and left it to a majority to decide. There have yet to be any major issues that have divided the board. We have an excellent group of dedicated individuals who are committed to acting fairly, are respectful of each other, and are working together to advance chess within Texas. For their support, wisdom and guidance I will be eternally grateful.

My focus for the coming year is to keep the momentum we have built going. There are a handful of new organizers bidding on events. We have made efforts to simplify the bidding cycle/ explanations. We will be having a huge Southwest Open this year (75th anniversary) with attractive prize funds. Large tournaments are currently being bid on rotated across the state. UT-Brownsville will be hosting the intercollegiate Pan-American tournament this year.

Of course the credit to this entirely goes to our members, volunteers, and tournament directors who are actively working to promote chess. My sincerest hope is to learn the best I can from our members and that at the end of the day everyone in the organization will say we have done it ourselves.

Cordially,
Clemente Rendon
TCA President

TCA Treasurer's Report Prepared by Barbara Swafford for June 15, 2009

Income

2008 SW Open memberships	\$533.50
September memberships	95.00
October memberships	170.50
November memberships	25.00
December memberships	40.00
January memberships	75.00
February memberships	105.00
March memberships	367.50
April memberships	40.00
May memberships	117.50
June memberships (so far)	27.50
Texas Grade Tournament - November 2008	539.50
Texas Masters memberships	25.00
Texas Teams memberships	377.00
Texas Action memberships	132.50
Texas State and Amateur memberships	386.00
2008 Region 2 Scholastic tournament	147.00
2009 Region 2 Scholastic tournament	146.00
2009 Region 3 Scholastic tournament	147.00
2009 Region 5 Scholastic tournament	247.00
2009 Region 7 Scholastic tournament	72.00
2009 Region 8 Scholastic tournament	1,231.00
Total	\$ 5,046.00

Expenses

SW Open reimbursement - WY attendees	\$460.00
Courtney Jamison - International Youth Camp	250.00
Rheanna English - 2008 Polgar Invitational	1,000.00
Sylvia Yang - 2008 Polgar Invitational	1,000.00
Stanley Yang - 2008 Denker Invitational	1,000.00
TCA Affiliate membership with USCF (2 years)	80.00
<i>Texas Knights</i> - Sept-Oct 2008	1,027.00
<i>Texas Knights</i> - Nov-Dec 2008	943.00
<i>Texas Knights</i> - Jan-Feb 2009	1,028.00
<i>Texas Knights</i> - March-April 2009	964.00
<i>Texas Knights</i> - May-June 2009	937.83
Texas Masters reimbursement - WY attendees	625.00
Texas State/Am. reimbursement - WY attendees	223.00
Texas Masters Chess Tournament	1,000.00
Chess In Education Workshop - March	975.00
Clemente Rendon - Final Four expense - April	326.90
2008 World Youth Attendees	600.00
Total	\$ 12,439.73
WF checking account balance 6/15/09	\$ 1,536.19
BOA checking account balance 6/15/09	\$ 1,287.72
Savings account balance 6/15/09	\$ 5,517.71
CD, July 2007 - July 2009	\$ 26,371.41

Test Your Tactics!

Problems 1-7 are from the 2009 Texas championship. Solutions: p. 19



1. White to move
Anderson-Mallela, Rd. 5



2. White to move
Green-Marcott, Rd. 2



3. White to move
J. Lozano-Chen, Rd. 5



4. White to move
Marcott-Fernandez, Rd. 1



5. Black to move
Fernandez-Balkum, Rd. 2



6. Black to move
Nonchiev-Green, Rd. 6



7. White to move
J. Lozano-Obregon, Rd. 7



8. Black to move
Anderson-Kumar, Texas Action 2009



9. Black to move
Vergara-Niven, MHCC Jan. 2009

IM Daniel Fernandez wins Texas state championship

Dallas Chess Club organizers Luis Salinas and Barb Swafford brought the Texas State/Amateur championships to San Antonio last Memorial weekend (May 22-25). The Mariott River Walk was a superb venue near Rivercenter Mall and the Alamo.

Attendance was down slightly from last year, with 22 players in the Championship and 91 in Amateur.

National TD Franc Guadalupe and his assistant Lori Balkum did a fine job. The Dallas Chess Club provided MonRoi notation devices and increment clocks for the Championship, and chess sets for all.

Top-rated IM Daniel Fernandez, a UT-Brownsville student from Peru, won clear first with 6-1, with draws in the first and last rounds.

Paul Haney of Corpus Christi won the Amateur outright with 6.5.

PRIZE WINNERS

Championship: 1st: Daniel Fernandez, 6; 2nd: Ernesto Malazarte, 5; 3rd: Matthew Michaelides, Juan Luis Obregon, Jesse Lozano, Mitchell Vergara, 4; *U2400:* Austen Green, 4.5; *1st Expert:* Kalin Nonchiev, 5.5; *2nd Expert:* Abhishek Mallela, 4.5;

Amateur: 1st: Paul Haney, 6.5; 2nd-3rd: Seth Thompson, Naveen Balakrishnan, Bradley Anderson, Glenn Baumann, Virgil Aluyen, 5.5; *1st Class B:* Clayton Swafford, 4.5; *2nd B:* James Ukoli, 4.5; *3rd B:* Victoria Zhang, Luis Rimpel, Eric Chen, Kevin Lu, Chris Fuqua, 4.0; *1st-2nd Class C:* Charles C. Allen, Sam Capocyan, 4.5; *3rd C:* Suchinder Kalyan, 4; *1st U1400:* Vishal Marocha, 5; *2nd U1400:* Ken Muir, 4; *3rd U1400:* Darrell Cook, 3.5; *U1200:* Andrew Xiang, 4; *U1000:* Mike Detcheverry, 3. *Unrated:* Stephen Lerch, 3.5.

Amateur games: page 23

KID 4 Pawns E77

Don Marcott 2087
Daniel Fernandez 2406

Texas Championship 2009 (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 d6 6.f4 0-0 7.Nf3 e6 8.Be2 a6!?

This is a dangerous line, and Black doesn't have many good options. The main move is 8...exd5, and if Marcott pursues the blitz with 9.e5! (for 9.cxd5 Bg4 see *Schoolmaker-Fernandez, Rd. 5*) then simplest is 9...Ne4! 10.cxd5 Nxc3 11.bxc3 Nd7 12.e6 fxe6 13.dxe6 Nb6 14.0-0 Bxe6±.

9.0-0 exd5 10.e5 dxe5

Fritz likes Black after 10...Nfd7, e.g. 11.Qxd5 dxe5 12.fxe5 Nxe5!± or 11.cxd5 dxe5±.

11.fxe5 Ng4 12.Bg5 Qa5

12...Qb6 13.Nxd5 Qxb2 14.Rb1 Qxa2 15.Ra1 is a draw by repetition.



13.Nxd5 Nc6?

(a) 13...Nxe5? 14.Ne7+ Kh8 15.Nxe5 Bxe5 16.Qd6!! Bg7 (16...Bxd6 17.Bxf6#) 17.Bf6 (ΔNxc6+) 17...Nd7 18.Bxg7+ Kxg7 19.Nxc8+; (b) 13...Be6! 14.Nd2 Bxd5□ 15.Nb3 Qc7 16.Qxd5 Nxe5 17.Qxc5 Nbc6=. 14.Qc1?

14.Nd2! creates the double threat of 14.Bxg4 and 14.Nb3 Qa4 15.Nb6 forking queen and rook. Black's best (or least evil) is the desperado 14 ...

Nxh2 15.Nb3 Qa4 16.Kxh2 Bxe5+ 17.Bf4+-.

14...Ngxe5 15.Nxe5 Bxe5 16.Bf6!

Practically forcing a draw.

16...Bxf6 17.Nxf6+ Kg7 18.Nh5+ gxh5 19.Qg5+ Kh8 20.Qf6+ Kg8

½-½

Queen's Indian E18

Kalin Nonchiev 2197
Matthew Michaelides 2063

Texas Championship 2009 (1)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 b6 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.0-0 Be7 6.Nc3 0-0 7.d4 d5 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Nh4 Qd7 10.Qd3 Ne4 11.Nxe4 Bxh4 12.gxh4 dxe4 13.Qg3 Na6 14.Rd1 Rae8 15.Bh6 f5 16.Rac1 Re6 17.Bf4 Rg6 18.Qb3+ Bd5 19.Qa3



19...Qb5

19...e3 20.f3□ b5 21.Qxe3 Bxa2 22.h5 Re6 23.Qf2 Bc4 24.e3 Nb4 25.h6 gxh6 26.Qh4 Qd8± 20.Re1 Nb4 21.Rxc7 Bc4 22.h5 Rg4 23.h6!

23.Be5 a6 (23...Nd5 24.Rxa7 Re8 25.Qd6+-) 24.f3 Rg5 25.h4+- 23...a5

23...Nc2 24.Qxa7 Rxc2+ 25.Kxg2 Nxe1+ 26.Kf1 Bf7 27.hxg7 Kxg7 28.Bd6+-

24.Rxg7+ Rxc7 25.hxg7 Kxg7 26.Qg3+ Kf7 27.Qh4 Qc6 28.Qxh7+ Ke8 29.b3 Be6 30.Qg6+ Ke7 31.Rc1 Nc2 32.Qg7+ Rf7 33.Qe5 Kd7

34.Rxc2 Qxc2 35.Qd6+ Ke8 36. Qxe6+ Kf8 37.Bh6+ 1-0

QGD Anti-Meran D44

J.P. Hyltin 2045

Austen Green 2210

Texas Championship 2009 (1)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bg5 dxc4 6.e4 b5 7.e5 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Nxg5 hxg5 10.Bxg5 Nbd7 11. exf6 Bb7 12.g3 c5 13.d5 Nxf6!?

This provocative move isn't in the older books, which give pride of place to 13...Qb6 and 13...Bh6.

After 13...Nxf6 a model line is Kasparov-Ivanchuk (Linares 1994): 14.Bg2 Bh6 15.Bxf6 Qxf6 16.0-0 0-0 17.Nxb5exd5 18.Nxa7+ Kb8 19. Nb5 Bg7 20.a4 Qh6 21.h4 Bf6 22. Qe1! Δ Qa5+-.

14.Nxb5 Qa5+ 15.Qd2 Qxd2+ 16. Bxd2 Nxd5?!

The counterintuitive 16...Bxd5! makes White fix the pawns: 17.Nc7+ Kd7 18.Nxd5 exd5=.

17.f3! White has secured a modest edge with a minimum of risk.

17...a6 18.Na3 Nb4 19.Bxc4?!

A serious bid for advantage is 19.Be2! Nd3+ 20.Kf1 Bd5 21.Bc3±.



19...Bxf3 20.0-0 Bb7= 21.Bc3 Rh7 22.Bb3 0-0-0 23.Rad1 Nd5 24.Bc2 f5 25.Nc4 Nxc3 26.bxc3 Kc7 27. Rxd8 Kxd8 28.Na5 Ba8 29.Bd1?

White starts to lose the thread. Δ29.Rb1 Kc7 30.Re1 Kd7 31.Nc4=; 30...Rh6?! 31.Bxf5! exf5 32.Re8±.

29...Bg7± 30.Bf3 Bxc3 31.Bxa8 Bxa5 32.Rc1 Rc7 33.Rc4 Bb4 34. Kf2 Rd7 35.Rc2 Ke7 36.h4 Kf6 37.Ke2 e5 38.Bc6 Rd6 39.Bf3 e4 40.Bg2 Ke5 41.Bf1



41...a5

41...Rd3 42.Kf2 Rf3+ 43.Kf2 f4 44.gxf4 Rxf4 45.h5 Rf5 46.Be2 Kd4 with excellent winning prospects.

42.Ke3 Rd1 43.Be2 Rd7

"Boo!" and he runs. Is there any down side to 43...Rh1? The coming rook trade doesn't help Black's winning chances either.

44.Kf2 Rd2 45.Rxd2 Bxd2 46.Bb5 Kd4 47.Ke2 Bh6 48.Bd7 f4 49.gxf4 Bxf4 50.Bb5 Kc3 51.Bc6 Kd4 52.Bb5 c4 53.Bc6 Bh6 54.Be8 Kc3 55.Bf7 a4 56.Bd5 e3 57.Be6 Kb4 58. Bf7 c3 59.Bg6 Ka3 60.Bc2

It was exciting for a while, but the draw is now in hand.

60...Kxa2 61.Bxa4 Kb2 62.Kd3 Kc1 63.Bb3 Bf4 64.Ba4 ½-½

Pirc Defense B07

Don Flournoy 2079

Larry Moss 2200

Texas Championship 2009 (1)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Be2 c6 5.Be3 b5 6.a3 Nbd7 7.g4 a6 8.g5 Ng8 9.f4 Qc7 10.Nf3 Bg7 11.Qd2 e6

11...h6 12.0-0-0 hxg5 13.Nxg5 a5=

12.h4 Ne7 13.0-0-0 Bb7 14.h5 0-0 15.h6 Bf8 16.Rh3 d5 17.Ne5 Nxe5 18.dxe5??

Δ18.fxe5 dxe4 19.Nxe4 Nf5 20. Qc3 Be7 21.Bf3 c5 (21...b4 22.axb4 Qb6 23.Nc5 Nxe3 24.Qxe3 Qxb4 25.Rhh1±) 22.Nxc5 Bxf3 23.Rxf3 Bxc5 24.dxc5 Rxd1+ 25.Kxd1± 18...d4 19.Bxd4 c5 20.Nd5

White "doubles down" for spite. 20...Nxd5 21.exd5 Rxd5 22.Rc3 Rxd4 23.Qxd4 cxd4 24.Rxc7+ Kxc7 25.Rxd4 Bc5 26.Rd3 Rd8 27. Rc3 Kb6 28.b4 Bd4 29.Rd3 Be4 30.Rh3 Bf5 31.Rg3 Bf2 32.Rc3 Be1 33.Rc5 Be4 34.a4 Bxb4 0-1

Modern Defense A42

Jose Gonzalez 2127

Nicholas Schoonmaker 2235

Texas Championship 2009 (1)

1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.e4 e5 5.d5 f5 6.exf5 gxf5 7.Qh5+ Kf8 8. Bg5 Nf6 9.Qd1 Qe8 10.Be2 Qg6 11.h4 h6 12.Bd2 Qxg2 13.Bf3 Qg6 14.h5 Qf7 15.Be2 Na6 16.Nf3 Nnh5 17.Nxe5 dxe5 18.Bxh5 Qe7 19.Qe2 Nb4 20.0-0-0 e4 21.Rdg1 Nd3+?!

21...Bxc3 22.Bxc3 Nxa2+ 23. Kb1 Nxc3+ 24.bxc3 a5+- 22.Kb1 Bd7

22...Qb4!? 23.Nd1! Qxc4 24. Rxg7! Kxg7 25.Bc3+ Kf8 26.Ne3± 23.f3 b5 24.fxe4 bxc4 25.Rxg7 Qxg7 26.Nd1 Rb8 27.Bc3 Qg5 28. Nf2 Rg8 29.Nxd3 cxd3 30.Qxd3



30...f4

30...Qf4! 31.Rf1 Rg3! 32. Rxf4 (32.Bd2 Bb5) 32...Rxd3 33.Kc2 Rg3 34.exf5 Rg5 35.Bg6 Rb5± 31.Qd4± Bg4 32.Qxa7 Qd8 33. Bxg4 Rxg4 34.Rxh6 Rb6 35. Qa3+

Rd6 36.e5 Rg1+ 37.Kc2 Rg2+ 38. Kb3 Kg7 39.exd6+ Kxh6 40.dxc7 Qxd5+ 41.Kb4 Qd6+ 42.Kb3 ½-½

Midway into round 2 Saturday there was some unscheduled excitement, when a ceiling tile soaked in rain runoff crashed in pieces next to Julie O'Neil's board in the Amateur. *The same thing happened to her in the 1990 National Open in Las Vegas!*

Queen's Indian E17

Daniel Fernandez 2406

Alexander Balkum 2128

Texas Championship 2009 (2)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 b6 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.0-0 c5 6.Nc3 Be7 7.Re1 d5 8.cxd5 exd5 9.d4 0-0 10.Ne5 Nc6 11.Be3 Re8 12.Nxc6 Bxc6 13.Bg5 c4 14.b3 b5 15.bxc4 bxc4 16.Qc2 h6 17.Bf4 Bb4 18.a3 Bd6 19.Bxd6 Qxd6 20.Reb1 Rab8 21.Ra2 Bd7 22.h3 g6 23.g4 h5 24.Rxb8 Rxb8



Black has an appreciable pull.

25.gxh5 Bf5 26.Qd2 Nxh5 27.Bxd5 Nf4 28.Bf3 Nxh3+ 29.Kg2 Qf6 30. Kg3 Qd6+ 31.Kg2 Nf4+ 32.Kh1 Kg7 33.e4 Rh8+ 34.Kg1 Nh3+ 35. Kg2 Nf4+ 36.Kf1

On 36.Kg1 hoping for a draw with 36...Nh3+, Black redoubles the attack: 36...Nd3 Δ37.exf5 Qh2+ 38. Kf1 Nf4!, which mates or wins the queen if 37.e5 Qxd4→ Black has an overwhelming position. 36...Bh3+ 37.Kg1 Qf6 38.Ne2 Nxe2+ 39.Bxe2



39...Qh4!?

39...Bg2!! 40.Kxg2 Qh4 41.Bh5 Rxh5 42.f3 Qh1++

40.Bf3 Bg4 41.Qf4 Bxf3 42.Qxf3 Qg5+ 43.Kf1 Rh4?

43...Qc1+ 44.Ke2 Rh1 45.Qg3 Qf1+ 46.Kd2 (46.Ke3 Rh3→) 46... Qe1+ 47.Kc2 Qc1#

44.Rc2 Qb5 45.Re2 Qb1+?!

45...c3 46.Qxc3 Qb1+ 47.Re1 Rh1+ 48.Ke2 Qxe4+ 49.Qe3 Qc2+ 50.Qd2 Qc4+ 51.Kf3 Rxe1 52.Qxe1 Qxd4+

46.Re1 Qb5 47.e5 Rxd4 48.Qf6+ Kg8 49.e6 c3+ 50.Kg2 Qd5+ 51. Kg3 Rd3+ 52.f3 Qd6+ 53.Kh3 Qf8 54.e7 Qc8+??

54...Qe8 55.Rh1 c2 56.Kg3 Qb8+=

55.Kg3+- Qb8+ 56.Qe5 Qe8 57. Rh1 f6 58.Qxf6 Qb8+ 59.Kg4 Qc8+ 60.Kg5 Rd5+ 61.Kh6 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E32

Vincent Zhang 2010

Selby Anderson 2216

Texas Championship 2009 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0-0 5.e3 b6 6.Bd3 c5 7.Nge2 Bb7 8.0-0 Nc6 9.a3 cxd4 10.exd4 Be7 11.Bf4 d6 12.Rfd1 Rc8 13.b4 Nb8 14.Rac1 a6 15.Qb1 Nbd7 16.f3 Re8 17.Ne4 Nxe4 18.fxe4 e5 19.Be3 Bg5 20.Bxg5 Qxg5 21.d5 f5! [21...Nf6 22.Rf1=] 22.Ng3 f4 23.Nf5 Qf6 24. Qb2 g6 25.Nh6+ Kg7 26.Ng4 Qg5 27.Qe2 Rf8 28.Qf3 Rc7 29.Be2 Bc8 30.Qd3 h5 31.Nf2 Nf6 32.h3 Rh8 33.Bf3 Ng4?! [33...Bd7 34.Rc3

Rhc8 35.Rdc1 a5] 34.c5 bxc5 35. bxc5 Nxf2 36.Kxf2 Rxc5 37.Rxc5 dxc5 38.d6 [38. Qc3±] 38...Rd8 39. Qd5 c4

39...Bd7 40.Qxc5 Bb5 41.Kg1± 40.Qxc4 Bxh3 41.gxh3 Qg3+ 42. Ke2 Qh2+ 43.Kf1 Qxh3+ 44.Bg2 Qg4 45.Rd3

45.Qd3! g5 46.Qd5 (46.Qf3 Qxf3+ 47.Bxf3 g4 48.Be2 a5 49.d7 Kf6 50.Bb5±) 46...Kf6 47.d7 f3 48. Bh1 Qg3 49.Qc6+ Ke7 50.Qc5+ Kf7 51.Qc4+ Ke7 52.Qb4+ Kf6 53.Rd6+ Kg7 54.Qb6 Qh3+ 55.Ke1 f2+ 56. Qxf2 Qc3+ 57.Kf1 Qc1+ 58.Kg2+-



45...Rc8 46.Qxc8!

There's nothing better, else the king is caught in a mating web.

46...Qxc8 47.d7

Black could hunker down with 47...Qd8 and hope pawn power wins on the kingside. But maybe not: 48.Bf3 Kf6 49.Kg2 Kg5 50.Rd5 Kh4 51.Be2 a5 52.Bb6 g5 53.Rxe5∞.

47...Qd1+

I'd better make this perpetual stick! I was astonished to find out my opponent was just age twelve.

48.Ke2 Qc2+ 49.Rd2 Qc4+ 50.Kf2 Qc5+ 51.Kf1 Qc1+ 52.Ke2 Qc4+ 53.Kd1 Qb3+ 54.Kc1 Qc3+ 55.Kd1 Qb3+ 56.Ke1 Qe3+ 57.Kd1 ½-½

Pirc Defense B08

Austen Green 2210

Don Marcott 2087

Texas Championship 2009 (2)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.h3 a6 6.a4 b6 7.Bc4 e6 8.Qe2

0-0 9.e5?! Nfd7 10.Bg5 Qe8 11.Bf4 d5 12.Bd3 c5

Black has every reason to be pleased with the opening outcome. 13.Qe3 Nc6 14.0-0 cxd4 15.Nxd4 Nxe5 16.Bh6 Nxd3 17.Bxg7 Kxg7 18.Qxd3 Nc5 19. Qg3 Bd7 20.Rfe1 Qb8 21.Qe3 Qc7 22.h4 h5 23.Nde2 Qd8 24.Qg3 Qf6 25.b4 Ne4 26. Nxe4 dxe4 27.Nf4 Qe5 28.Ra3 Rac8 29.Rae3 Rc4 30.f3 Bc6 31.c3 Rc8 32.fxe4 Bxa4 33.Rf1 Kh6



34.Nxh5!? Qxh5?
Better is 34...Qxg3! 35.Nxg3 Rxc3, with a winning endgame.
35.Qf4+ Kh7 36.Qxf7+ Kh8??
36...Kh6□ 37.Qf4+ Kh7 38. Qf7+ Kh6=
37.Qf6+ Kh7 38.Qe7+! Kh8
38...Kh6 39.Rf7 Rh8 40. Qf6+
39.Ref3 Rg8
39...Qh6 40.Rf8+--
40.Rf8 Rc8
40...Qh6 41.Rxg8+ Kxg8 42. Qxe6+ Kh8 43.Qxc4+
41.R1f7! (Δ 42.Qf6#) 1-0

Ruy Loepz C96

Mark Dejmek 2158
J.P. Hylltin 2045

Texas Championship 2009 (2)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.c3 d6 9.h3 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.d4 exd4 12.cxd4 Nd7 13.Bf4 Nc6 14. Nc3 Nb6 15.dxc5 dxc5 16.Qe2 Nd4 17.Nxd4 cxd4 18.Rad1 Ra7 19.e5 f5 20.Bb3+ Kh8 21.Rd3 Bc5 22. Qh5 Qe8 23.Qxe8 ½-½

Alekhine's Defense B02

Nicholas Schoonmaker 2235
Juan Obregon 2036

Texas Championship 2009 (3)

1.e4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.exd5 Nxd5 4. Bc4 Nb6 5.Bb3 e5!?

An interesting attempt to spice up a "blah" variation (5...Nc6=).

6.d3 Nc6 7.Nf3
Fritz likes 7.Qh5 e6 8.Bg5 Qc7 9.Nge2 Nd4 10.Bf4±

7...Bf5 8.0-0 e6 9.h3 Be7 10.Bf4 a6 11.Re1 0-0 12.a4 Bf6 13.Qd2 Nd5 14.Nxd5 exd5 15.c3 d4 16.Rad1 Qb6 [16...b5=] 17.Bd5 Rad8 18.c4 Nb4 19. Be4 Bg6 20.Ne5 Bxe5 21.Bxe5 Rfe8 22.Qf4? [22.Bxg6=] 22...Rc8

22...Re7 (Δ ...f6) 23.Qg3 f5 24. Bf3 Qa5±.
23.Bxg6 Qxg6 24.Re4? [24.Qf3=] Rc6??

24...f6 25.Bd6 Nxd3!±
25.Bxd4! f6 26.Bc3 a5 27.Bxb4 axb4 28.b3 Qf7 29.d4 Rxe4 30. Qxe4 cxd4 31.Qxd4 h6 32.Qe4 f5 33.Rd8+ Kh7 34.Qd5 Qf6 35.Rd7 35.Qg8+ Kg6 36.Rd3+.

Time pressure errors mar the finish, to put it mildly.

35...b6 36.Qd4 Qg6 37.Qe5 Qg5 38.h4 Qg4 39.g3 Rf6?? 40.Rd4??

Yes, I double checked both scoresheets. [40.Qxf6 +]
40...Qf3 41.Qd5? [41.Qe3±] 41... Qxb3= 42.Rf4 Qc2 43.Rd4 ½-½

Sicilian Sveshnikov B33

Selby Anderson 2216
Mitchell Vergara 2027

Texas Championship 2009 (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Nd5 Be7 10. Bxf6 Bxf6 11.c3 Bg5 12.Nc2 0-0 13.a4 bxa4 14.Rxa4 a5 15.Bc4 Rb8 16.b3 Kh8 17.Nce3 g6 18.Qf3 f5 19.0-0 Bh6 20.exf5 gxf5 21.Qh5 Qg5 22.Qxg5 Bxg5 23.f4 Bh6 24.g3 Bg7 ½-½

QGD Semi-Slav D45

Abhishek Mallela 2091
Austen Green 2210

Texas Championship 2009 (3)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c6 4.e3 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nbd7 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.g4 dxc4 8.Bxc4 e5 9.g5 Nd5 10.Bd2 exd4 11.Qe4+ Ne7 12.Qxd4 Nf5 13.Qe4+ Ne7 14.Qd4 Nf5 15.Qe4+ Ne7 16. Qd4 ½-½

Dutch Leningrad A86

J.P. Hylltin 2045
Larry Moss 2200

Texas Championship 2009 (3)

1.d4 f5 2.c4 Nf6 3.g3 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.Bg2 d6 6.d5 0-0 7.Nh3 c6 8.Nf4 e5 9.dxe6 Qe7 10.h4 Bxe6 11.Nxe6 Qxe6 12.Bf4 Qxc4 13.Qxd6 Na6 14.0-0 Rad8 15.Qa3 Rd7 16.Rfd1 Rfd8 17.Rxd7 Rxd7 18.Qb3 Qf7 19.Qxf7+ Kxf7 20.Rd1 ½-½

Modern Benoni A70

Don Marcott 2087
Mark Dejmek 2158

Texas Championship 2009 (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Bf4 a6 8.e4!?

More conservative is 8.a4 Bg7 9.h3 0-0 10.h3.

8...b5 9.Qe2 Be7
~ A trap is 9...Bg7? 10.Bxd6! Qxd6 11.e5 Qe7 12.d6 Qe6 13.Ng5 Qg4 14.f3! Qxg5 15.exf6+ Kf8 16. Qe7+ Kg8 17.Qe8+ Bf8 18.Qxc8+.
10.0-0-0

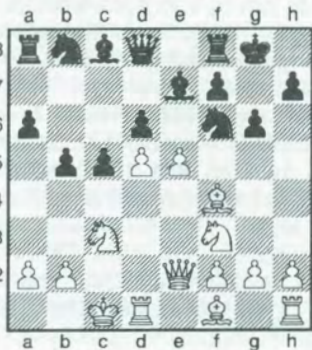
A more forceful move order is 10.e5 dxe5 11.Bxe5 Nbd7 12.0-0-0 Nxd7 13.Nxe5 Qd6= (NCO).

White could still opt for a more "normal" position with 10.Qc2 with Be2 and 0-0 to follow.

10...0-0 11.e5!?! [11.h3]

This wild line was played in Alburto-D. Gurevich, 1986 US Championship. White scored a lucky win after 11...Ng4 12.Ne4 dxe5 13. Nxe5 Nxe5 14.Bxe5 Nd7 15.Bf4 Re8 16. Qc2 Nf6 17.d6 Nxe4 18.Qxe4 Bg5

19.Qxe8+!? Qxe8 20.Bxg5 Qe5 21. h4 Bg4 22.f3 f6 23. Bh6 Bd7 24.Bd3 Re8 25.Be4 Bf5?? (25...Qg3?) 26. Rhe1+- Kf7 27.d7 Bxe4 28.Rxe4 Qxe4 29.fxe4 Rd8 30. e5 1-0.



11...Nh5!? 12.exd6 Bxd6 13.Bxd6 Qxd6 14.Ne4 Qf4+ 15.Qe3

15.Nfd2 Re8 16.g3 Qe5 17.Nc3 Qxe2 18.Bxe2 Nf6 19.Bf3 Bg4= 15...Qxe3+ 16.fxe3 Bf5 17.Bd3

Fritz likes 17.Nd6 at first, but it loses time as White has to extract the knight via the horrible a5 square. 17...Nd7

17...c4 presents itself as an option, but it's not going away; also, there's no need to invite Nd4.

18.Nf2 Bxd3 19. Rxd3 Rfe8 20.g3? 20.Re1 f5 (20...c4 21.Rd4) 21. g4 fxg4 22.Nxg4 Nhf6= 20...Ne5?

20...c4! 21.Rc3 Nb6 22.Rd1 f5+ 21.Nxe5 Rxe5 22.e4 Rd8 23.Rc3? 23.Rhd1 c4 24.Rd4= 23...c4 24.b3 cxb3 25.axb3 f5 26.g4 Nf6

26...Nf4! 27.Re1 fxe4 28.Nxe4 Nxd5+ 27.gxf5 gxf5 28.Rc6?

28.Rg1+ Kf7 29.Rg5 Nxe4 30. Nxe4 Rxe4 31.Rxf5+ Kg6+ 28...Nxe4 29.Nxe4 fxe4 30.Rg1+ Kf8 31.Rf6+ Ke7 32.Rxa6 e3 33. Re6+

33.Rh6 Rxd5 34.Rxh7+ Kd6 35.h4 e2 36.Re1 Rc8+ 37.Kb2 Rd2+ 38.Ka3 Rf8+- 33...Rxe6 34.dxe6 Rd6 [34...Rd3] 35.Re1 Rxe6 36.Kc2 Kd6 37.Kc3

e2 38.Kb4 Kc6 39.Ka5 Kc5 40.h4 h5 41.b4+ Kc4 42.Rc1+ Kd4 43. Rf1!? (A cute stalemate try!)



42...exf1R! 0-1

Sicilian Paulsen B42
Ernesto Malazarte 2154
Vincent Zhang 2010

Texas Championship 2009 (3)
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Nf6 6.0-0 Qc7 7.Be3 Be7 8.c4 d6 9.Nc3 0-0 10.Rc1 Nbd7 11.f4 b6 12.Qe2 Bb7 13.Bf2 Rfd8 14.Rfe1 Nf8 15.f5 N6d7 16.Nf3 Ne5 17.Na4 Nxd3 18.Qxd3 Nd7 19.fxe6 fxe6 20.b4 e5 21.Qe3 Rab8 22. Nxb6 Nf6 23.Nd5 Qd7 24.Qb3 Bxd5 25.cxd5 a5 26.a3 Ng4 27.h3 Nxf2 28.Kxf2 axb4 29.axb4 Qa7+ 30.Kg3 Rf8 31.Rc4? [31.Kh2±]



31...Bh4+! 32.Kh2? 32.Nxh4 Qf2+ 33.Kh2 Qxe1 34. Nf5 g6! 35.Ne7+ (35.Nxd6 Rf1+-) 35...Kg7 36.Qg3+ 32...Bxe1 33.Nxe1 Rfc8

33...Rf1! 34.Nf3 Rf8 35.Rc3 Qf7 36.Ng1 Qf4+ 37.Rg3 Ra8+- 34.Rc6 Rxc6?

34...Qd4 35.Qc2 Rf8+ 35.dxc6+ Qf7 36.Qc3 Qf4+ 37.Kg1 Qxe4 38.b5 Rxb5?? 38...Rc8 39.Qb3+ Kh8 40.Nf3 Rf8 41.c7 Qb7 42.b6 h6 43.Nh4 Kh7 44.Qd3+ e4 45.Qxd6+- 39.c7+- Rc5 40.c8Q+ Rxc8 41. Qxc8+ Kf7 42.Qd7+ Kg6 43. Qxd6+ Kf7 44.Nf3 Qb1+ 45.Kh2 Qf5 46.Nxe5+ Ke8 47.Nc6 Qd7 48.Qb8+ 1-0

Catalan Opening E03
Daniel Fernandez 2406
Kalin Nonchiev 2197

Texas Championship 2009 (4)
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.d4 Nbd7 5.Bg2 dxc4 6.Qa4 a6 7.Qxc4 c5

The more modern treatment is 7...b5 8.Qc6 Rb8 9.Bf4 Nd5=, 8.Qc2 Qb6!?

This proves awkward despite the aggressive stance against f2. Tried and true is 8...b5 9.Ne5 Nd5 10. Bxd5 exd5 11.Nxd7 Bxd7 12.dxc5 Qa5+13.Qc3 Qxc3+ 14.Nxc3 Bxc5, regaining the pawn with equality in Andersson-Portisch, Malta Ol. 1980. 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.0-0



10...Ng4 11.e3 Nde5 [11...0-0 12.Nc3±] 12.Nxe5 Nxe5 13.Nc3 Be7 14.e4 Bd7 15.Be3 Qc7 16.Rac1 Rc8 17.Qe2 Qc4 18. Qh5!± 18.f4 Qxe2 19.Nxe2 Nc4 20.Bd4 0-0 21.b3±

18...Nd3 19.Rc2 b5

19...Ba4 20.Rd2 Rd8 21.Bb6±
20.Rd1 g6 21.Qh6 Bf8 22.Qh4 Be7
23.Bg5



23...Bxg5 24. Qxg5 Qd4

24...0-0 25.Bf1 Qc5 26.Qh6
Ne5 27.Nd5+
25.Rcd2 Qe5 26.Qxe5 Nxe5 27.f4
b4 28.Ne2 Ba4 29.b3 Nc4 30.Rc1
Ke7 31.bxc4 Rc5 32.Nd4 Rhc8 33.
Bf1 e5 34.Nb3 R5c6 35.Kf2 exf4
36.gxf4 Rf6 37. Ke3 g5 38.fxg5 Rg6
39.Rd5 Rcg8 40.h4 h6 41.Nd4 Bd7
42.Nf5+ Bxf5 43.exf5 Rd6 44.f6+
Kd7 45.Rxd6+ Kxd6 46.c5+ Kc7
47.Kf4 hxg5+ 48. hxg5 a5 49.Bc4
Rf8 50.Kf5 Kc6 51.Bxf7 1-0

King's Indian Saemisch E81

George Qi 2033

Nicholas Schoonmaker 2235

Texas Championship 2009 (4)

1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.e4 Nf6
5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 c5 7.Nge2 Nc6
8.Qd2 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Bxd4
Be6 11.Be2 Qa5 12.0-0 Rfc8 13.b3
a6 14.Rfd1 Rab8 15.Ba7 Nd7 16.
Rac1 Ra8 17.Bd4 Bxd4+ 18.Qxd4
Qc5 19.Qxc5 Rxc5 20.Nd5 Bxd5
21.Rxd5 Rac8 22.Rcd1 Rxd5 23.
Rxd5 Kg7 24.Kf2 Rc5 25.Rd2 f5
26.exf5 gxf5 27.Rd4
27.b4 Rc7 28.f4±
27...Ne5 28.a4

Fixing pawns on light squares is
no way to play against the knight.
[28.f4 Nc6 29.Rd2±]
28...a5 29.f4 Ng6 30.Bh5 Nf8 31.
Rd3 Kf6 32.Be2

32.Ke3 Ne6 33.g4 h6 34.h4 fxg4
35.Bxg4 Ng7 36.Ke4 Nf5=
32...Ne6 33.Ke3 Rc6 34.Bd1 Nc5
35.Rc3 e5 36.Bc2 [36.g3=] 36...Ne6



37.fxe5+

37.g3 exf4+ 38.gxf4 d5 39.Kf3
dxc4 40.bxc4 Rd6±;
37.Kd2! Δ 37... Nxf4? (37...Rc7
38.g3 Rg7±) 38. Rf3!±
37...dxe5 38.g3 Nc5 39.Ke2 e4
40.Ke3 Ke5 41.Bd1 Rd6 42.Be2
Rh6 43.h4 Rg6 44.Kd2 Rb6 45.Bd1
Rd6+ 46.Ke2 f4 47.Bc2??
47.gxf4+ Kxf4 48.Bc2 Kg4±
47...Kd4 0-1

Sicilian Paulsen B41

Austen Green 2210

Jesse Lozano 2041

Texas Championship 2009 (4)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
a6 5.Bd3 Qc7 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Nxc6
bxc6 8.Qe2 d5 9.c4 dxe4 10.Bxe4
Nf6 11.Bf4 Bd6 12.Bxd6 Qxd6 13.
Nc3 0-0 14.Rad1 Qc7 15.Bc2 e5
16.Rfe1 Bg4 17.f3 Bh5 18.c5 Rfe8
19.Qc4 Rab8 20.Rd6 a5 21.b3 Nd7
22.Red1 Rb4 23.Qd3 Nf8 24.a3
Rbb8 25.Ne4 Bg6 26.Qc3 f6 27.
Bd3 Kh8 28.Bc4 f5 29.Ng5 Qe7
30.Ne6 Nxe6 31.Bxe6 e4 32.fxe4
fxe4 33.Bd7 Rf8 34.Bxc6 Qf7
35.Qe1 Qxb3 36.Bd5 Qxa3 37.
Rxb3 Qxc5+ 38.Kh1 Rf5 39.Rc6
Qxd5 40.Rxd5 Rxd5 41.h3 Re5
42.Rc3 h6 43.Re3 Rb4 44.Qc3 Rg5
45.Kh2 Kh7 46.Qc2 Re5 47.Qc7
Rg5 48.h4 Rf5 49.Rg3 1-0

QGD Semi-Slav D43

Steven Chen 2002

Ernesto Malazarte 2154

Texas Championship 2009 (4)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 e6
5.Bg5 h6 6.Bxf6 Qxf6 7.e3 Nd7
8.Rc1 g6 9.Be2 Bg7 10.0-0 0-0
11.Nd2 dxc4 12.Nxc4 Qe7 13.f4
[13.Qc2; 13.Qb3] 13...c5 14.d5

Insipid is 14.dxc5 Nxc5 15.Qd6
Qxd6 16.Nxd6 Rd8 17.Rfd1 Bd7
18.Bf3 Bc6 19.Bxc6 bxc6 20.b4 Na6
21.a3 Nc7=

14...Nb6

14...exd5 15.Nxd5 Qd8 16.Bf3
Rb8 17.Qc2 b6 18.Rfd1 Bb7 19.
Rd2±



15.d6 Qd8 16.Ne5

White starts to lose a promising
thread. [16.Qd2 Nxc4 17.Bxc4±]

16...Nd7 17.Nc4

17.Nxd7 Bxd7 18.Bf3 Qb6 19.
Qd2 Rad8 20.Rfd1 e5! =
17...Nb6 18.Ne5 Nd7 19.Nc4 a6
20.Bf3?!

20.a4 b6 (20...Rb8 21.a5±)
21.Bf3 Rb8=
20...Rb8 21.Qc2 b5± 22.Nd2 Qb6
23.Nce4

23.Rfd1 Qxd6 24.Nce4 Qb6 25.
Nxc5 Nxc5 26.Qxc5 Bxb2±
23...c4 24.Rfe1 f5 25.Nf2 Qxd6 26.
Rcd1 Qb6 27.e4 Bd4 28.Re2 Nc5
29.Kf1 Bxf2 30.Rxf2 Nd3 31.Re2
Nxf4 32.Rf2 Nd3 33.Re2 Bb7 34.b3
Qd4 35.exf5 Rxf5 36.bxc4 Rbf8 37.
Nb3 Rxf3+ 38.gxf3 Rxf3+ 39.Kg2
Qg4+ 0-1

Catalan Opening E09

Juan Obregon 2036
Abhishek Mallela 2091

Texas Championship 2009 (4)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 Be7 4.Bg2
d5 5.d4 0-0 6.0-0 c6 7.Nbd2 Nbd7
8.Qc2 b6 9.e4 Ba6 10.Re1 Rc8
11.Ne5 c5 12.exd5 exd5 13.cxd5
Nxe5 14.dxe5 Nxd5 15.a3 Nc7 16.
Be4 g6 17.Nf3 Qe8?? 18.Bh6 Ne6
19.Rad1!?

The Exchange in hand is worth
checkmate in the bush.

19...Ng7 20.h4 Bb5 21.Qc3 Bc6
22.Bc2 Rd8 23.e6 f6 24.Ng5 Rxd1
25.Rxd1 Qa8 26.h5?! [26.Re1 Re8
27.Bxg7 Kxg7 28.h5±] 26...Rd8



27.Rxd8+

White may indeed have mate in
the bush: 27.Bxg7! Kxg7 28.h6+
Kg8 29.Rd7!! Bxd7 (29...Rxd7 30.
exd7 Bd5 31.Bb3 b5 32.Qe1!+) 30.
exd7 Rxd7 31.Bb3+ Kh8 32.Nf7+
Kg8 33. Ne5+--.

27...Qxd8 28.hxg6 hxg6

White's Bc2 is frozen to the de-
fense of d1, lest Qd1+ force mate.

29.f3 Qd4+ 30.Qxd4 cxd4 31.Nh3
g5 32.f4 Nxe6 33.Bb3 Kh7 34.Bxe6
Kxh6 35.Nf2 Bd6 36.Ng4+ Kg7
37.fxg5 fxg5 38.Kf2 Be4 39.b4 Bc2
40.Nh2 Kf6 41.Bg8 d3 42.Nf3 a5
43.Bh7 axb4 44.axb4 Bxb4 45.g4
Bc5+ 46.Kg3 b5 47.Nd2 Ke5 48.
Nf3+ Kf6 49.Nd2 Be3 50.Ne4+ Ke5
51.Nc3 b4 52.Nb5 b3 53.Kf3 Bc1
54.Nc3 b2 0-1

Dutch Defense A81

Matthew Michaelides 2063
Vincent Zhang 2010

Texas Championship 2009 (4)

1.d4 f5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 d6 4.c4 g6
5.Nh3 Bg7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Qb3 c6 8.d5
Qe8 9.Rd1 Na6 10.Be3 h6 11.Nc3
g5

□11...cxd5 12.cxd5 (12.Nxd5
Ne4 13.Nhf4 Kh7=) 12...g5 13.f3
b6=



12.c5! cxd5 13.Nxd5 Nxd5 14.
Qxd5+ Kh8

14...Rf7 15.cxd6 exd6 16.Qxd6
Be6 17.Rd2 Rd7 18.Qa3 Rc8 19.
Bxb7 Rxb7 20.Qxa6±

15.cxd6 exd6 16.Qxd6 Qh5
16...Rf6 17.Qd8±

17.Bd4+- f4
17...Kh7 18.Bxg7 Kxg7 19.e3+-
Δ 19...f4? 20.Qe5+.

18.Qxf8+ 1-0

English Opening A18

Gregg Stanley 2060
Alexander Balkum 2128

Texas Championship 2009 (4)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 d5 4.e5 d4
5.exf6 dxc3 6.fxg7 cxd2+ 7.Bxd2
Bxg7 8.Qb3 Nc6 9.Nf3 a5 10.Rd1
Qe7 11.g3

□11.Be2 e5 12.Be3 0-0 13.0-0±
11...e5 12.Bg2

12.Qb5 0-0 13.Bg2 e4 14.Ng5
h6 15.Be3 hxg5 16.Be5 Qf6 17.Bxf8
Bxf8±

12...e4 13.Bg5 [13.Nh4 Nd4+-] 13...

f6 14.Nd4 fxg5 15.Nxc6 bxc6 16.
0-0 0-0 17.Rfe1 Bf5 18.Rd2 Rab8
19.Qa4 Qb4 0-1

Modern Benoni A68

Nicholas Schoonmaker 2235
Daniel Fernandez 2406

Texas Championship 2009 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7
5.e4 d6

Fernandez must have a reason
for this move order [5...e6].

6.f4 0-0 7.Nf3 e6 8.Be2 exd5 9.
cxd5 Bg4 10.0-0 Nbd7 11.Re1

11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Re8 13.a4
a6 14.Qc2 c4 15.Be3 Rc8 16.Rae1
Nf8 17.Qf2 N6d7=

11...Re8

11...a6 12.e5 dxe5 13. fxe5 Nh5
14.Bg5 f6 15.Bh4 Nf4 16. e6 g5
17.Bg3 Ne5 18.Bxf4 gxf4 19. Nxe5
Bxe2 20.Rxe2 fxe5 21.d6+-

12.h3 Bxf3 13.Bxf3 Qa5!?

13...a6 14.a4 Rb8 15.a5 h5 16.
Be3 Nh7 17.Kh1 Qh4 18.Rf1 f5 19.
Bf2 Qxf4 20.exf5 Qxf5 21.Bg3 Ne5
22.Bg4 Nxg4! 23.Rxf5 Ne3±



14.a4

14.Be3 b5 15.a3 Nb6 16.e5 Nc4
17.exf6 Nxe3 18.Rxe3 Rxe3 19.fxg7
Rae8 20.f5 gxf5 (20...Qd8 21.Qd2
Qh4 22.Nxb5± Vaiser-Kruger, San
Bernardino 1990) 21.Qd2 b4 22.Ne2
c4 23.Ng3 c3 24.bxc3 bxc3 25.Qc2
Qb6 26.Kh2 Qb2 27.Ra2± Vaiser-
Yrhola, Helsinki 1991

14...c4 15.Be3

15.Qe2 Rac8 16.Be3 Nc5 17.
Qxc4 Nxe4 18.Qb5 Qxb5 19.axb5

Nxc3 20.bxc3 Nxd5 21.Bxd5 Bxc3
22.Kf2 Bxa1 23.Rxa1 Rc2+ 24.Kf3
Rc3

15...Nc5 16.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 17.Kh1
Qf2 18.Qe2 [18.Rb1] 18...Qh4
19.e5 [19.Qxc4 Qxf4] 19...Qxf4
20.e6 Re7 21.Rf1 Qh4 22.Rae1
22.exf7+ Kxf7 (22...Rxf7 23.Qe6
Re8 24.Qxd6 Nd7 25.Qh2 Be5
26.Qg1 Ref8 27.Bg4=) 23.Qf2 Qxf2
24.Rxf2 Ke8 25.Raf1 Rd8 26.Be2
Ne4 27.Nxe4 Rxe4 28.Bg4 Re7

22...a6 23.Kh2
23.Qe3 Bh6 24.Qf2 Qxf2 25.
Rxf2 Kg7

23...Rae8 24.g3 Qd4 25.Rd1 Qc5
26.Qf2 Qb4 27.Rde1 Kh8 28.g4 h6
29.Re2?

29.exf7 Rxf7 30.Rxe8+ Nxe8
31.Qc2 Kh7

29...fxe6 30.dxe6 Rxe6 31.Rxe6
Rxe6 32.Bd5 Nxd5 33.Nxd5 Qxb2

0-1

Sicilian B40

Ernesto Malazarte 2154

Austen Green 2210

Texas Championship 2009 (5)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Bd3

Morphy played this to avoid the
Sicilian Counterattack (5.Nc3 Bb4),
but it has no bite.

5...Nc6 6.Be3

ECO dismisses this with a "?!".
6.Nxc6 bxc6= is the main line.

6...d5 7.Nc3

7.Nd2 e5 8.Nxc6 bxc6 9.0-0 Be7
10.h3 0-0 Faibishovic-Gendler,
USSR 1971.

7...Bb4 8.exd5 Nxd5 9.Nxc6 bxc6
10.Bd2 Nxc3 11.bxc3 Bd6 12.Qf3
Qc7 13.h3 Rb8 14.0-0-0 15.Rfe1
c5 16.Qh5 g6 17.Qh6 c4 18.Bf1
Bb7 19.Qh4 Bd5 20.Bh6 Rfe8
21.Qf6 Bf8 22.Bf4 Qd8 23.Qd4
Rc8 24.Be5

24.Qxa7 Bc5 25.Qa4 Qf6 26.
Bg3 Ra8 27.Qb5 Rec8 28.Qb2 Rc6=
24...Bc5 25.Qf4 Be7

25...f6! 26.Qxf6 Qxf6 27.Bxf6
Bxf2+ 28.Kxf2 Rf8 29.Ke3 Rxf6

26.Qd4 Bc5 27.Qf4 Be7 ½-½

Sicilian Najdorf B96

Selby Anderson 2216

Abhishek Mallela 2091

Texas Championship 2009 (5)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3
cxd4 5.Nxd4 a6 6.Be4

I played this on a hunch which
proved right. Abhishek told me after
the game that the Fischer-Sozin was
the line he felt least prepared for.

6...e6 7.Bb3 b5 8.Bg5 Nbd7 9.f4

I am playing a mix of Sozin and
Main Line ideas here. Now ECO
gives 9...Bb7 10.a3 Qb6 11.f5 e5
12.Nde2 Nxe4 with unclear comp.

9...Nc5 10.e5 h6 11.exf6 hxg5
12.fxg5 gxf6 13.0-0 Bb7 14.g6!
Nxb3 15.axb3 Qb6 16.gxf7+ Kxf7
17.Qg4 f5

17...Re8 18.Kh1 d5 19.Nf3 Ke7
(19...Qd6 20.Rae1 Ke7 21.Nh4 Kd8
22.Rxf6 Rh6 23.Rxh6 Bxh6 24.
Qd4) 20.Nh4 Kd8 21.Ng6 f5 22.
Qg5+ Be7 23.Nxe7 Rxe7 24.Qf6
Rh5 25.Ne2 Qd6 26.Nf4 Rhh7 27.
Rae1 Kd7 28.c3 a5

18.Kh1 Ke7

18...Be7 19.Nxf5 exf5 20.Rxf5+
Ke8 21.Re1 Qd8 22.Qg6+ Kd7
23.Qe6++

19.Qg5+ Kd7 20.Nxe6 Be7 21.Qxf5



21...Rxb2+! 22.Kxh2 Rh8+ 23.g3
Qe3+ 24.Rf3 Bh4+?

24...Bxf3 (a) 25.Ng5+ Kc7 26.
gxf3 Qd2 27.f4 Qh2+ 28.Kf3 Bxg5
29.Nxb5+ Kb6 30.Qxg5 Rh3+ 31.
Ke4 Qxc2+ 32.Kd5=; (b) 25.gxf3!

Rg8+ 26.Ng7+ Kd8 27.Qg4 Qh6
28.Nf5 Rxg4+ 29.fxg4±
25.Kg4 Bxf3+ 26.gxf3 Qxe6 27.
Qxe6+ Kxe6 28.Rxa6 Be7 29.Nxb5
Rg8+ 30.Kf4 Rg2 31.Nd4+ Kd5
32.c3 Kc5

Now, rather than chase the king
out of his cage with 33.Ra5+? ...

33.Rc6+ Kd5 34.Rb6! 1-0
It's mate in the middle.

French Defense C00

Larry Moss 2200

Kalin Nonchiev 2197

Texas Championship 2009 (5)

1.e4 e6 2.Qe2 c5 3.f4 Nc6 4.Nf3 g6
5.g3 Bg7 6.c3 Nge7 7.Bg2 0-0 8.0-0
d5 9.d3 d4 10.c4

Bertter is 10.e5 b6 11.Ng5 Ba6
12.c4 Qd7 13.Ne4=.

10...f6 11.Na3 a6 12.Bd2 Rb8 13.h3
Qd6 14.h4 e5 15.fxe5 fxe5 16.Nh2
Be6 17.b3 Qd7 18.h5 Nb4 19.Bf3
Rf7 20.Bg5 Rb8 21.h6 Bf6 22.Bc1

22.Bxf6 Rxf6 23.Bg4 g5 24.Bh5
Nec6 25.Qd2 Rxh6 26.Rxf8+ Kxf8
27.Rf1+ Kg8 28.g4 Qe7

22...Nec6 23.Nc2 Nxc2 24.Qxc2
Qe7 25.Qd2 Qd7 26.a3 Be7 27.Rb1
a5 28.Qe2 Bh3 29.Bg2 Rxf1+ 30.

Bxf1 Bxf1 31.Nxf1 Qh3 32.Qg2
Qg4 33.Bd2 Qf3 34.Qxf3 Rxf3
35.Kg2 Rxd3 36.Kf2 a4 37.bxa4

Rxa3 38.Rxb7 Rxa4 39.Rc7 Ra6
40.Nh2 Kf7 41.Nf3 Ke6 42.Ng5+
Kd6 43.Rb7 Ra2 44.Nf3 Rc2 0-1

Sicilian Dragon B78

Mark Dejmek 2158

George Qi 2033

Texas Championship 2009 (5)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.d4
cxd4 5.Nxd4 g6 6.Be3 Nf6 7.f3 Bg7
8.Qd2 0-0 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.h4 Rc8
11.Bb3 h5 12.0-0-0 Ne5 13.Bg5
Rc5 14.Kb1 b5 15.g4 hxg4 16.h5
Nxb5 17.Nd5 Rxd5

17...Re8 18.Rxh5 gxh5 19.Qh2
Rxd5 20.Bxd5 Qb6 21.Qxh5± NCO
18.Bxd5 Nc4

18...gxf3?! 19.Nf5!+-
19.Qe1

◻19.Qg2 gxf3 20.Qxf3±
 19...gxf3 20.Rxh5 gxh5 21.Qh4
 Qa5
 21...f2 22.Bxe7 Ne3 23.Rh1
 Qe8±
 22.Qxh5!?
 22.Bxe7 Qb4 23.Bxc4 bxc4
 24.Bxf8 c3 25.Nb3±
 22...Qb4 23.Nb3 e6



24.Bf6?!

The game takes a tragic turn.
 Winning is the intermezzo 24.Bxc4!
 bxc4, then 25.Bf6! Bxf6 26.Rg1+
 Bg7 27.Qg5+, or 24...f5 25.Bh6
 bxc4 26.Qg5 Rf7 27. Qd8+ Rf8
 28.Qxd7 Bxh6 29.Qxe6+ +-
 24...Bxf6 25.Rg1+ Bg7 26.Qg5??
 26.Rxg7+ Kxg7 27.Qg5+=
 26...Nd2+ 27.Kc1 Nxb3+

The checks run out, but now
 there's a connective move ...
 28.Bxb3 Qd4! 29.c3 Qe5 0-1

Old Indian A55

Matthew Michaelides 2063

Mitchell Vergara 2027

Texas Championship 2009 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nf3 Nbd7 4.g3
 e5 5.Bg2 Be7 6.0-0 c6 7.Nc3 0-0
 8.e4 Qc7 9.h3 h6

9...a6 10.Be3 b5 11.cxb5 axb5
 12.Qc2 Qb8 13.a3 Bb7 14.Rfd1 Rc8
 15.Qb3 exd4 16.Nxd4± Osnos-
 Espig, Zinnowitz 1971

10.Be3 Nh7 11.b3 f5 12.dxe5 Nxe5
 13.Nxe5 dxe5 14.exf5 Bxf5 15.Qe2
 Rf7 16.Kh2 Raf8 17.Rad1 Bg5
 18.Bc5 Be7 19.Bxe7 Rxe7 20.Ne4
 Bxe4 21.Bxe4 Ng5 22.h4 Nxe4 23.

Qxe4 Ref7 24.Rd2 Qe7 25.Re2 Qc5
 26.Kg2 Qd4 27.Kg1 Rf3 28.Qxe5
 Qxe5 29.Rxe5 Rd8 30.Re2 Rfd3
 31.Rfe1 R8d7 32.Kg2 Kf7 33.f3 c5
 34.Kf2 b6 35.Re3 Rd2+ 36.R1e2
 Rd1 37.Re4 R1d4 38.Rxd4 Rxd4
 39.Ke3 Rd6 40.f4 h5 41.Rd2 Rg6
 42.Kf3 Ke7 43.Rd5 Rh6 44.Ke4 g6
 45.Ke5 Rh8 46.Rd6 Rg8 47.Rc6
 Kd7 48.Re6 Rg7 49.Kf6 Rg8
 50.Kf7 1-0

Catalan Opening E05

Juan Obregon 2036

J.P. Hyltin 2045

Texas Championship 2009 (5)

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 e6 3.c4 Nf6 4.g3 Be7
 5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0 dxc4 7.Qc2 a6 8.a4
 Bd7 9.Ne5 Bc6 10.Nxc6 Nxc6 11.e3
 Nd5 12.Qxc4 Na5 13.Qd3 c5 14.
 Bd2 cxd4 15.Bxa5 Qxa5 16.exd4
 Rac8± 17.Nd2 Nb4

17...Qb4! 18.Nb3 Qc4 19.Qf3
 Bf6 20.Rfc1 Qb4±
 18.Nb3! Nxd3

18...Qh5 19.Qe4 Qd5 20.Qe3
 Qd7±

19.Nxa5 b6 20.Nc6= Bf6 21.b4 Rc7
 22.b5 a5 23.Rab1 Rfc8 24.Rfd1
 Nb4 25.d5 exd5 26.Bxd5 Nxc6?

26...Nxd5 27.Rxd5 Re8=
 27.bxc6! Rb8 28.Rd3 Be7 29.Rb5
 Bc5 30.Bf3 Kf8 31.Rb1 g6 32.Rbd1
 Re8 33.Kg2 h5 34.h3 Kg7 35.g4
 hxg4 36.hxg4 Ree7 37.Rd8 Kf6
 38.Kg3 Kg5 39.Bd5 Kf6 40.Rd3
 Kg7 41.Rf3 Kh6 42.Kf4 Kg7 43.g5
 Re2 44.Rd7 Re7 45.Rd8 Re2
 46.Kg4 Re5 [46...Rd2=] 47.Rf6



47...Rxg5+!? 48.Kxg5 Be7 49.Rb8
 49.Rdd6 Rc8 50.Be4 Rd8 51.c7
 Rc8 52.Bxg6 Rxc7 53.Bf5=
 49...Bxf6+ 50.Kf4 Bd4 51.Rb7 Bc5



52.Ke4 Rxb7??

The "always trade rooks" rule to
 draw opposite color bishop endings
 has its exceptions, like every rule of
 thumb. [52...Bd6 53.Rxb6 Re7+=]
 53.cxb7 Bd6 54.Bc4 f5+ 55.Kd5
 Bb8 56.Ke6 1-0

Scotch Game C47

Jesse Lozano 2041

Steven Chen 2002

Texas Championship 2009 (5)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.
 Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Bb4 6.Nxc6 bxc6
 7.Bd3 Qe7!?

Standard is 7...d5 or ...0-0.
 8.0-0 0-0 9.Bg5 Re8 10.f4?!
 [10.Qf3±] 10...Bxc3 11.bxc3 Qc5+
 12.Kh1 Nxe4 13.Qf3 d5 14.Bh4
 Bf5 15. Rad1 h6 16.g4 Bd7 17.g5
 Qd6 18. Rg1 Bf5 19.Rg2



19...hxg5

Better than opening the g-file is 19...Rab8 20.Rdg1 h5! 21.Qxh5 Qxf4 22.Rf1 Bg6!+.

20.Bxg5 Nxc5?

20...Rab8 still favors Black: 21.Rdg1 g6, and the blockade on the f-pawn is pure gold.

21.Rxg5 Be4 22.Bxe4 dxe4 23.Qg4 Qf6 24.Rg1 g6 25.f5 Qxc3?

Best was 25...Re5 26. Qh5 Kf8 27.fxg6 Rxg5 28.Rxg5 Qf1+ 29.Rg1 Qf3+ 30.Qxf3 exf3 31.gxf7 Kxf7 32.Rf1± with some pull for White in a drawish endgame.



26.Rxg6+ fxg6 27.Qxg6+ Kf8 28.Qg8+ Ke7 29.Qe6+ Kd8 30.Rd1+ Qd3 31.Qf6+ 1-0

King's Indian E70

Alexander Balkum 2128

Jose Gonzalez 2127

Texas Championship 2009 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 0-0 5.Be2 c6 6.Bg5 d6 7.Qd2 Na6 8.f3 d5? [8...c5] 9.cxd5 cxd5 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.Nxd5 Bg7 12.Bxa6 bxa6 13.Ne2 e6 14.Ndc3 Qb6 15.0-0 Rd8 16.Rfd1 Rb8 17.b3 a5 18.Rac1 Ba6 19.Kh1 Bf8 20.Na4 Qb4 21.Nec3 Rbc8 22.Qe3 Bg7 23.e5 Bb7 24.Nc5 Ba8 25.h3 Qa3 26.Nb5 Qb4 27.a4 Bd5 28.Nxa7 Rb8 29.Nb5 Rbc8 30.Qc3 Bh6 31.Qxb4 axb4 32.Ra1 Be3 33.Rd3 Bxd4 34.Rxd4 Rxc5 35.Rxb4 Rdc8 36.Nd6 Rd8 37.Ra2 Rc1+ 38.Kh2 Re1 39.Ne4 Re3 40.Rb2 Kg7 41.Kg3 h5 42.Kf2 Rd3 43.Ke2 Bxe4 44.Rxe4

Rd1 45.b4 Ra1 46.b5 Rdd1 47.b6 Rd8 48.b7 Rb8 49.Rc4 Rd1 1-0

I had my turn at top board, and was in the game longer than I realized.

Catalan Opening E08

Daniel Fernandez 2406

Selby Anderson 2216

Texas Championship 2009 (6)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.d4 c6 5.Qc2 Nbd7 6.Bg2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bf4 9.Bd2 f5 10.b4 Bf6?!

There is time to bring the KN back into the game: 10...Nhf6 11.Rd1 Ne4 12.Be1 Bf6 13.a4 Qe8 14.a5∞ Maslov-Klovans, USSR 1970. Even better is 10...Nb6 11.c5 Nc4 12.a4 Nf6 13.Bf4 Bd7 14.Nbd2 Nxd2 15.Bxd2 Ne4= O'Kelly-Bisguier, Caracas 1970.

11.b5 g5 12.bxc6 bxc6 13.Bc3 Ba6 14.Nbd2

I was expecting 14.Na3, along with Nfd2 to keep the pawn at c4.

14...Nb6 15.cxd5 cxd5 16.Nb3 Nd7 17.Bb4 Rc8 18.Qb2 Rf7

An easier deployment is 18...Re8 19.Rfc1 Qb6 20.Bc3 g4 21.Ne1 Bc4=. The danger to the back row later becomes evident.

19.Rac1 g4 20.Rxc8 Qxc8 21.Ne5 Nxe5 22.dxe5 Bg5 23.Nd4 Ng7 24.Rd1 Bc4 25.e3



25...Qa6

I considered winning a pawn with 25...Qb8, but worried about White's comp after 26.Qa3 Qxe5 27.Bd6. Fritz says no problem: 27...

Qf6 28.Rb1 h5 29.f4 (29.Nc6 Rb7! 30.Rc1 Ne8 31.Be5 Qf7) 29...gxh3 30.Nxf3 Rd7 31.Bf4 Bxf4 32.exf4 Qe7 33.Rb8+ Kh7 34.Qxe7 Rxe7. 26.a3 Rb7

Better timing would be 26...Bd8! 27.Bd6 Qa4 28.Rb1 Bb6 keeping out White's heavy pieces.

27.Qc3 Bd8 28.Bf1 Qa4 29.Rc1 Bxf1 30.Qc8 Qd7 31.Kxf1 Kf7 32.Qa8 Rc7

32...Kg6 33.Rc8 Be7 34.Bxe7 Qxe7 35.Rf8 h6 36.Ne2+ 33.Rxc7 Qxc7 34.Nc6 Bg5



35.Qf8+!??

I was concerned about the pro-saic win with 35.Qxa7, but Fernandez was playing against my time deficit. An endgame would mean lots of 30 second increments!

Fritz finds a win both flashy and sound: 35.h4! gxh3 36.f4 Bh6 37.Qf8+ Kg6 38.g4!! (to plug up the escape) 38...fxg4 39.Ne7+ Kh5 40.Qf7+, followed by Ng6+ and Qxc7. 35...Kg6 36.Ne7+ Kh6??

Wonder of wonders, simply 36...Bxe7! and I'm home free: 37.Qxe7 (37.Bxe7? Qxe5 38.Bc5 Qc7) 37...Qxe7 38.Bxe7=.

37.Qf7 Bxe7

Sure, now I take it! White was threatening 38.Ng8#

38.Bxe7 Qc4+ 39.Kg1 1-0

There is nothing to be done about 40.Qf6+, e.g. 39...Nh5 40.Bf8+ Kg5 41.Qg8+, etc. That makes me 0-2 against Fernandez, and not for lack of good positions!

QGD Semi-Slav D30

Kalin Nonchlev 2197
Austen Green 2210

Texas Championship 2009 (6)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c6 3.d4 d5 4.e3 e6
5.b3 Bd6 6.Bb2 Nbd7 7.Bd3 0-0
8.0-0 Ne4 9.Nbd2 f5 10.Qc2 Qf6
11.a4 Rf7 12.Rfe1 g5 13.Nf1 g4
14.N3d2 Qh4 15.Re2 Rf6

15...e5 16.Ba3 Bxa3 17.Rxa3±
16.f4 Rh6 17.Bxe4 fxe4 18.Ba3 Bc7
19.g3 Qh5 20.b4 Nf8 21.b5 Qe8
22.Nb3 a6 23.bxc6 bxc6 24.a5 Nd7
25.Qc3 Rb8 26.Rb2 Qd8 [26...Rf6]
27.Bb4 Rg6 28.Nbd2 h5 29.Qa3
Kf7 30. Rc2 h4 31.Bd6 hxg3
32.hxg3 Rh6?

32...Bxd6 33.Qxd6 e5 34.Qa3
exf4 35.cxd5 cxd5 36.exf4 Qh8±
33.cxd5 exd5 34.Rxc6 Bxd6 35.
Rxd6 Qf8 36.Rxh6 Qxh6 37.Rc1
Bb7 38.Rc7 Bc6?

38...Ke8 39.Nb3 Bc6 40.Qc1
Bb5 41.Nc5±



39.Qc5?!

39.Qc3! Bb5 40.Rxd7+ Bxd7 41.
Qc7 Rb5 42.Qxd7+ Kf8 43.Qxg4+;
or 39.Qc1! etc.

39...Rc8 40.Qa7

40.Rxd7+!? Bxd7 41.Qxd5+
Qe6 42.Qxe6+ Kxe6 43.Nxe4 Rc1
44.Nc5+ Ke7 45.Nxd7 Kxd7 46.Kf2
Rc2+ 47.Ke1 Ra2 48.e4±

40...Rxc7 41.Qxc7 Bb5 42.f5!?

42.Qb7 Ke6 43.Qa8 (43.f5+?!
Kd6±) 43...Qh5 44.Qd8 Kf7 45.Qh4
Qxh4 46.gxh4±

42...Qh5 43.Qf4 Nf6

43...Be2 44.Nh2 Ke7 45.Nxe4±
44.Qe5 Bd7 45.Qd6 Qxf5 46.Qxa6
Nh7 47.Qe2 Ng5 48.a6 Nh3+ 49.
Kg2?

49.Kh1! Nf2+ 50.Kg2 Nd3 51.a7
Bc6 52.Nh2±

49...Bb5! 50.Qe1

50.Qxb5?? Qf2+ 51.Kh1 Qg1#
50...Bxa6± 51.Nh2 Kg6 52.Nb1?
52.Nb3! Kh5 53.Nd2± Bc4
54.Nb3



52...Kh5?

52...Qf3+!! 53.Nxf3 exf3+ 54.
Kh2 f2—+. If the knight had gone to

b3 White would now have 55.Qb1+!
53.Nd2 Qf8? [53...Bd3±] 54.Nxg4!?

54.Nxe4! dxe4 55.Qa5+ Ng5
56.Qxa6±

54...Kxg4 55.Qd1+ Kg5?

55...Kf5! 56.Kxh3 Qh6+ 57.Kg2

Qxe3 58.Qh5+=
56.Kxh3 Bc8+ 57.Kg2 Bg4 58.Qf1±
Qb4??

58...Qxf1+ 59.Kxf1±
59.Qf4+ Kh5 60.Qf7+ Kh6 61.
Qf6+ Kh5 62.Qh4+ Kg6 63.Qxg4+
Kf6 64.Qe2 Kg5 65.Nf1 Qa3 66.
Nh2 Kf6 67.Qf2+ Ke7 68.Ng4 Qd3
69.Ne5 1-0

Pirc Defense B06

Ernesto Malazarte 2154

Nicholas Schoonmaker 2235

Texas Championship 2009 (6)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 a6
5.f4 b5 6.Nf3 Nd7 7.e5 c5

Better is 7...Bb7, which takes
away the follow-up of Qf3 in the
gambit White now plays.

8.e6! fxe6 9.Ng5 Bxd4

9...Ndf6 10.dxc5 b4 11.Qf3±
10.Nxe6 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 Qa5 12.
Bd2 Nf8

12...Ndf6 13.c4 b4 14.Qf3 Rb8
15.f5 with an attack for the pawn.
13.c4 b4 14.Nxf8 Kxf8 15.Bd3 Nh6
16.0-0 Kg7 17.Bc1 Rf8

Fritz gives 17...Rg8 18.Bb2+
Kf8 19.f5 gxf5 20.Qh5 Rg6 21.Bc1
Nf7 22.Bxf5 Rf6 23.Qxh7 Qd8 24.
Bg6 Rxf1+ 25.Kxf1 Be6 26.Bh6+
Ke8 27.Kg1+.

18.Bb2+ Kg8



19.Bxg6! Bf5 [19...hxg6 20.Qd5+]
20.Bxf5 Rxf5 21.g4 Rf7 22.Qd5
Qd8 23.Qg5+ 1-0

Modern Benoni A61

Abhishek Mallela 2091

Jesse Lozano 2041

Texas Championship 2009 (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5
5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Nd2 Nbd7
8.Nc4 Nb6 9.Ne3 Bg7 10.g3 0-0
11.Bg2 Re8 12.0-0 a6 13.a4 Qc7
14.a5 Nbd7 15.Nc4 Ne5 16.Nb6
Rb8 17.Bd2 Nfd7 18.Nca4 Nxb6
19.Nxb6 Bd7 20.Rc1 Bb5 21.Re1
Qe7 22.h3 h5 23.b4 cxb4 24.Bxb4
Rbd8 25.Qc2 h4 26.g4 Nd7 27.Qc7
Qg5 28.e3 Nxb6 29.axb6 Rd7
30.Qc2 Qd8 31.Ba5 Rde7 32.Bf3
Rf8 33.Be2 Bxe2 34.Qxe2 f5
35.Rc7 Rff7 36.Rec1 Bf8 37.Qd3
Qe8 38.Bd2 Qa4 39.Qc4 Qa3
40.Bb4 Qb2 41.Rc2 Qb1+ 42.Rc1
Qb2 43.Rxe7 Bxe7 44.Rc2 Qb1+
45.Rc1 Qb2 46.Qc3 Qe2 47.Re1



Draw agreed!?

47...Qf3! 48.e4 Qxc3 49. Bxc3
fxg4 50.hxg4 Rf3 51.Bd4 Bg5 52.
Kf1 [52.e5 Rf4+] 52...Rd3 53.Bb2
Rb3 54.Bd4 Bd8+ ½-½

Nimzo-Indian E42

George Qi 2033

Matthew Michaelides 2063

Texas Championship 2009 (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6
5.Nge2 c5 6.a3 cxd4 7.exd4 Be7
8.d5 d6 9.g3 e5 10.Bg2 0-0 11.0-0
Nbd7 12.f4 Re8 13.f5 e4 14.Bxe4
Ba6 15.b3 b5 16.cxb5 Bxb5 17.
Nxb5 Qb6+ 18.Nbd4 Nxe4 19.Bb2
Bg5 20.Nf4 Ne5 21.Kg2? [21.
Rc1±] 21...Nc4 22.Bc1



22...Ncd2!± 23.Bxd2 Qxd4 24.Bb4
Qb2+ 25.Kg1 Bf6 26.Qf3? [26.Rc1]
26... Qxa1? [26...a5!+] 27.Rxa1
Bxa1 28.Qd3 [28. Ne6!? a5!] 28...
a5 29. Bd2 Bb2 30.a4 Nc5 31.Qf3
Reb8 32.Nh5 Kh8 33.Bf4 Rxb3
34.Qg4 Rb4 35.f6 g6 36.Qg5 Rg8

37.Bxd6 gxf5 38.Qh6 Bd4+ 39.Kf1
Rb1+ 40.Kg2 Nd7 41.Qxh5 Rb2+
42.Kh3 Nxf6 43.Qxf7 Ng4 44.
Qxg8+ Kxg8 45.Kxg4 Rxh2 46.Bc7
Kf7 47.Bxa5 Ra2 0-1

Dutch Leningrad A85

Mitch Vergara 2027

Larry Moss 2200

Texas Championship 2009 (6)

1.d4 d6 2.Nf3 f5 3.c4 Nf6 4.Nc3 g6
5.g3 Bg7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.d5 a5 8.0-0
Na6 9.Nd4 Qe8 10.h3 Bd7 11.Kh2
c6 12.e3 h6 13.Bd2 e5 14.dxe6
Bxe6 15.Qe2 Nc5 16.Rfd1 Bf7 17.
Rac1 a4 18.Be1 Qe7 19.Rc2 Rfe8?
[19...Nfe4=]



20.Nxc6 bxc6 21.Bxc6 Qc7?

21...Rac8 22.Bxe8 Bxe8 23.Nb5
Nce4 24.Bb4±
22.Bxa8 Rxa8 23.Nb5 1-0

QGD Meran D49

Daniel Fernandez 2406

Ernesto Malazarte 2154

Texas Championship 2009 (7)

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.e3 e6
5.Nc3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5
8.Bd3 a6 9.e4 c5 10.e5 cxd4
11.Nxb5 ½-½

French Defense C11

Selby Anderson 2216

Kalin Nonchiev 2197

Texas Championship 2009 (7)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5
Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6
8.Qd2 b5 9.a3?! 0-1

9.dxc5 (a) 9...Nxc5 10.Bd3 Bb7
11.Qf2 Nxd3+ 12.cxd3 Be7 13.0-0
0-0 14.Nd4 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 f5
16.exf6 Bxf6 17.Rae1± Gheorghiu-
Belkadi, Skopje 1972; (b) 9...Bxc5
10.Bxc5 Nxc5 11.Qf2 Qb6 12.Bd3
b4 13.Ne2 a5 14.0-0 Ba6= NCO.
9...Bb7 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Bxc5 Nxc5
12.Bd3 Qb6 13.b4 Nxd3+ 14.cxd3
Nd4 15.Qf2 Nxf3+ 16.gxf3 d4 17.
Ne4 0-0 18.Rc1

18.Nf6+ "almost" works: 18...
gxf6 19.Rg1+ Kh8 20.Qh4 Qd8+.
18...Bxe4 19.fxe4 f6 20.exf6 Rxf6



21.0-0?

21.Rc5 Raf8 22.Qxd4 Rxf4 23.
Rg1 R4f7=

21...Raf8 22.Qh4?

22.Rc5! Qb8 23.f5 exf5 24.exf5
Qd6 25.Qf4 Qd7 26.Qe5 g6 27.Rd5
Qc6 28.Rxd4 gxf5 29.Qd5+=
22...Qd6 23.f5 exf5 24.exf5 Rxf5
25.Rxf5 Rxf5 26.Rc8+ Kf7 27.
Qe4??

27.Qxh7 Rg5+ 28.Kh1 (28.
Kf2?? Qf4+ mates) 28...Qd5+
29.Qe4 Qxe4+ 30.dxe4 Rg4 31.Rc6
Rxe4 32.Rxa6 Re6 33.Ra7+ Re7±
27...Qg6+ 28.Qg2 Rg5 0-1

Sicilian Paulsen B42

Austen Green 2210

Matthew Michaelides 2063

Texas Championship 2009 (7)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
a6 5.Bd3 Nf6 6.0-0 Qc7 7.Qe2 d6
8.c4 Be7 9.Nc3 Nbd7 10.f4 b6
11.Nf3 Bb7 12.e5 dxe5 13.fxe5 Ng4

14.Bf4 Rc8 15.Rae1 h5 16.Kh1 g5
17.Nxg5 Bxg5 18.Bxg5 Qxe5 19.
Bf4 Qxe2 20.Rxe2 0-0

20...Rg8 21.Be4 Bxe4 22.Nxe4
Rc6 23.Rd1 Ngf6 24.Nd6+ Ke7
25.Nf5+±
21.h3 Ngf6 22.Bg5 Kg7 23.Ref2
Ng8 24.Bf4 f6 25.b3 Nc5 26.Bb1
Rf8 27.Rd2 Rxd2 28.Bxd2 Rd8
29.Rd1 Kf7 30.b4 Nd7 31.Be3 Ke7
32.Bg6 Rc8

32...h4 33.Na4 Ne5 34.Rxd8
Kxd8 35.Bxb6+±
33.Na4 Rxc4

33...b5 34.Nc5 Nxc5 35.Bxc5+
Rxc5 36.bxc5 bxc4 37.Rc1+
34.Rxd7+ Kxd7 1-0

Alekhine's Defense B02

Jesse Lozano 2041

Juan Obregon 2036

Texas Championship 2009 (7)

1.e4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e5 Ne4 4.Qf3
f5 5.exf6 Nxf6 6.d4 Bg4 7.Qg3 Qd7
8.h3 Bh5 9.Be3 a6 10.Nf3 Bxf3
11.Qxf3 Nc6 12.0-0-0 0-0 13.g4
e6 14.g5 Ne8 15.h4 Bb4 16.Ne2
Nd6 17.Nf4 Rdf8 18.Qg4 Nf5
19.Bh3 Bd6 20.c3 Kb8 21.Kb1 Na5
22.Bc1 g6 23.Rhe1 Re8 24.h5 Rhg8
25.Re2 Nc6 26.Rde1 Nd8 27.Bg2
c6 28.Nd3 Nf7 29.f4 Re7 30.Rh1
gxh5 31.Rxh5 h6 32.Bh3?!

Better is 32.Re1± taking a knight
fork at g3 out of the equation.



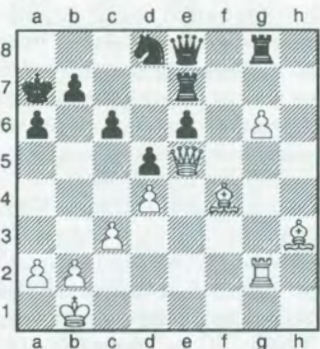
32...hxg5 33.fxg5?

33.Ne5 Bxe5 34.fxe5 N7h6 35.
Qg1 g4 36.Bxh6 Nxh6 37.Rg2=
33...Ng3 34.g6 Nd8?!

34...Nxe2 35.gxf7 (35.Qxe2
Rxx6+) 35...Rxxg4 36.f8Q+ Rc8+
35.Rg2

35.Rh6 Nxe2 36.Qxe2 Reg7±
35...Nxxh5 36.Qxxh5 Qe8
36...Reg7 37.Bh6 Rh8 38.Qg5
Rgg8 39.Qe3 Ka8±
37.Ne5 Bxe5

37...Rh8 38.Bh6 Reh7 39.Ng4
Rxxh6 40.Nxxh6 Bf4 41.Rg5±
38.Qxe5+ Ka7 39.Bf4!



39...Rxxg6 40.Qb8+ Kb6 41.Bd6
Rxxg2

41...Rd7 42.Bc5+ Kb5 43.c4+!
(a) 43...dxc4 44.Qa7 followed by
Qb6 forcing mate; (b) 43...Kxc4 44.
b3+ Kd3 (44...Kb5 45.Qa7) 45.Qf4
Rxxg2 46.Qf3+ Kd2 47.Bb4#.
42.Bxxg2 Qg6+ 43.Ka1 Qxxg2 44.
Qxd8+ Kb5 45.a4+ Kxa4



46.Qxe7??

White misses 46.Qb6! Qf1+ 47.
Ka2 Qc4+ 48.b3+ and mate in two.
46...Qf1+ 47.Ka2 Qc4+ 48.Kb1
Qf1+ 49.Ka2 Qc4+ ½-½

Catalan Opening E00

Abhishek Mallela 2091

Alexander Balkum 2128

Texas Championship 2009 (7)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2
Qe7 5.Bg2 Nc6 6.d5 Nb8 7.Qb3
Na6 8.Nc3 0-0 9.a3 Bxc3 10.Bxc3
Nc5 11.Qc2 a5 12.Rc1 a4 13.e3 e5
14.Ne2 d6 15.0-0 Bg4

15...Nfd7 16.e4 (16.f4 f5 17.
Rce1 e4) 16...f5 17.exf5 Nb6 18.g4
Nb3 19.Rcd1 Qg5 20.h3 Nxc4
21.Qd3 b5=

16.Rce1 Rfe8 [16...e4!?] 17.e4 c6
18.h3 Bd7 19.g4 b5 20.Ng3 Rec8

20...bxc4 21.g5 Nxd5 22.exd5
cxd5 23.Bxd5 Bxh3 24.g6 hxg6 25.
Qxxg6 Rab8 26.Nf5 Bxf5 27.Qxf5±
21.f4 g6

21...bxc4 22.fxe5 dxe5 23.Bb4
cxd5 24.exd5 Qd6 25.Nf5±
22.fxe5 dxe5



23.Qf2

23.Bb4! cxd5 24.exd5 Ra6 25.
Qf2 bxc4 26.d6! Qxd6 27.Bb7+
23...Nxxg4 24.hxxg4 Nd3 25.Qf3
Nxe1 26.Bxe1 Be8 27.dxc6 bxc4
28.Bb4 Qe6 29.Ne2 Bxc6 30.Nc3
Re8 31.Bh3 g5 32.Nd5 Bxd5 33.
exd5 Qd7 34.Qf6 Qxd5

34...Qd8 35.Qxf7+ Kh8 36.Kh2
Rb8 37.Rf5+
35.Qxxg5+ Kh8 36.Qf6+ Kg8
37.Rf5 Qd1+

37...h6 38.Qxxh6 Qd1+ 39.Kh2
Qc2+ 40.Bg2+
38.Kh2 Qe2+ 39.Bg2 Qd1 1-0

Denker Tournament of High School Champions, 2008

by Stanley Yang

The Denker Tournament of High School Champions has perennially been one of the most prestigious events of the year. This year, thanks to my performance at the Texas High School Championship, I was fortunate enough to be invited to a competition between some of the best high school chess players in the nation. Five months stretched between the news of my invite and the competition itself, and these months were some of the most anxious times of my life. This competition not only brought the best of each state into one place, it also collected some of the most entertaining and original people chess has to offer.

The Denker Tournament of 2008 would be hosted by the state of Texas. I had the honor of being the representative from the host state, and with this came great responsibility. I would be the target to beat, seeing as the champion from last year, Warren Harper, also came from this state, and I felt a large burden being his successor. I had a wonderful tournament experience, and the conjunction of the Denker Tournament of Champions with the U.S. Open allowed for a meeting between not only the best high school chess players around the nation, but also with the best United States players in the country also. I saw many old faces and made many new friends, with chess as the key to bringing everyone together.

My actual tournament performance was mediocre at best. I started out strong, but an early draw with the other representative from Texas, Courtney Jamison, set me off in the back of the pack. With 2.5/3.0, I was in good position to place high in the tournament, had I won my crucial game against Daniel Yeager, one of

the three eventual champions. After that loss, I was fighting a long, uphill battle for even second place, as the most I could get was 4.5/6.0 points for the tournament. However, this fifth round game with Illinois representative Ilan Meerovich gave me an opportunity for a strong finish. In the last round I couldn't pull off a win with White against one of the strong masters from New Jersey, Victor Shen, and ended with a piece of the seven way tie for seventh place. My final score of four out of six was satisfactory for me, seeing as I was not one of the highest rated players in the tournament. This event would be one of my most memorable tournaments, where I had the chance to be classified as one of the elite scholastic chess players nationwide.

Below is an annotated fifth round game of my 2008 Denker Tournament of Champions. This game put me in position to take a piece of second place, and I think it shows a high level of planning and execution.

QGD Semi-Slav D31

Ilan Meerovich 2131

Stanley Yang 2207

Denker Tournament 2008 (5)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.Nf3 dxc4

This is the Semi-Slav Defense against the Queen's Gambit.

5.e4 b5 6.Be2 Bb7 7.0-0

White sacrifices a pawn in order to achieve an advantage in development and central domination. He focuses his efforts upon breaking open the center and controlling the dark squares, where black has a blatant weakness.

7...Nf6 8.e5 Nd5 9.Ne4 Be7 10.Bg5 0-0 11.Bxe7 Qxe7

I think at this point White has achieved a sizable advantage, more than enough to compensate for his

lost pawn. He has successfully removed the dark squared bishop, effectively crippling the dark squares of black. However, he is still down a pawn, and he needs to proceed with caution to consolidate his advantage.



12.a4 a6 13.Qc2 h6 14.b3 cxb3 15.Qxb3

White has proceeded with the wrong idea, allowing black to achieve a little more control over the situation through the nice post on f4. **15...Nf4 16.Bd1 Nd7 17.Bc2?**

Definitely the crucial error of the game. Instead of restraining the ...c5 break White blocks off the c-file, where the main action is bound to proceed. He also leaves himself open to combinations beginning with ...Ne2, further highlighting the potential of the post on f4.

17...c5!



18.axb5 cxd4

Through this, Black is able to exchange his weak pawn structure for the fortified center of white's. After all the trades, black's extra pawn will eventually show in the endgame. If 19.bxa6, 19...Bxa6 followed by 20...d3 will cripple white's light squares.

19.Nxd4 Nxe5 20.g3

The strength of the knight on f4 begins to show. White feels intimidated by the potential of this powerful horse, and he unnecessarily weakens the pawn structure in front of his king in order to remove the beast. However, the light square weaknesses created will begin to show later.

20...Nh3+ 21.Kg2 Ng5 22.f3 axb5 23.Rxa8 Rxa8 24.Nxg5 Qxg5

Black has activated all of his pieces to their fullest potential, with intimidating positions on the white king. The light squares created by 20. g3 forces more pawn movements, creating more holes on squares such as e3. Black should be able to break through, with an extra pawn as insurance.



25.Qxb5 Bd5 26.Qb4 Ng4
27.Ra1 Rc8 28.Bb3



28...Qe3

With this, black begins to slowly enclose the weakened white king.

29.Bxd5?

An error that loses the game immediately, though after 29. Ra2 black's eventual victory is not in doubt.

29...Qf2+ 30.Kh3 Ne3!

The finishing touch. 31. f4 is met by exd5 and an unstoppable 32...Qg2.

31.Ra2 Qf1+ 32.Kh4 g5+ 0-1

This was a very simple gamble from Black, where he takes a risk in taking an early game pawn in hopes of bearing out the attack and surviving to the endgame, where his pawn will give him a favorable advantage. White messes up his middle game plan and allows Black to break free of the dark square bind, removing any compensation white had for the pawn. Slowly, Black forced more weaknesses, eventually breaking through with his optimally placed pieces and the exposed nature of the White king. I felt this was one of the most satisfying games of the tournament.

A Statement by the TCA Secretary

We have had a very good year for Texas Chess, and the future could not be brighter. We continue to grow, and more and more educators recognize the benefits of chess as part of a well-rounded education. While our scholastic events grow, I would like for us to grow our non-scholastic events, with a goal of making sure that we host every year the state events that have fallen off the calendar. By working together, we can bring back many of our former members, and push past the 8,000 U.S. Chess Federation member level.

I would also like to see us more active at the National level, both in tournament participation and in governance. I would also like to ensure that our State Delegates intend to attend at least one of the Delegate Meetings they are elected for. Finding funding for this would be a priority, and I think that we need to take the lead so that other states can follow us in this area.

— Rob Sturgeon

Test Your Tacics (p. 4):

- 1.Rc6+ Kd5 2.Rb6 with the unstoppable threat Rb5#.
- 1.R1f7! 1-0. There is no good defense against 2.Qf6#.
- 1.Rxg6+ fxg6 2.Qxg6+ Kf8 3.Qg8+ Ke7 4.Qe6+ (4.Rg7+?? Kd8 →) 4...Kd8 5.Rd1+ Qd3 6.Qf6+! 1-0.
- Marcott missed 1.Nd2! with threats of 2.Bxg4 and 2.Nb3 followed by Nb6: 1...Nxb2 2.Nb3 Qa4 3.Kxh2 Bxe5+ 4.Bf4+, or 1... Ngxe5 2.Nb3 Qa4 3.Nb6+.
- Balkum missed 1...Qc1+ 2.Ke2 (2.Kg2 Qh1+) 2...Rh1 (Δ Re1#), when White has no good defense. 3.Qg3 Qf1+ 4.Kd2 (4.Ke3 Rh3) 4... Qe1+ 5.Kc2 Qc1#.
- Green missed 1... Qf3+!! 3.Nxf3 exf3+ 3.Kh2 f2 4.Qd1 f1Q 5.Qxg4+ Ng5+.
- 1.Qb6 Qf1+ 2.Ka2 Qc4+ 3.b3+ forces mate. Instead, the game went 1.Qxe7?? Qf1+ with a draw.
- One last "unsung melody": Kumar missed 1... Bh6+ 2.Kb1 Rxa2! 3.Bxa2 Qa5 4.c3 Qxa2+ 5.Kc2 Rc8 (or 5...bxc3!), forcing mate or large material gain.
- 1...Qc6 is a winning fork, eyeing mate at g2 and the loose knight.

Hyltin wins Texas Action title



J.P. Hyltin emerged clear winner of the Texas Action (G/30) Championship, held May 2 in San Antonio. He scored 4.5 out of five, ending with a courtesy draw in a won position against Selby Anderson after Gregg Stanley had taken a draw on board 2.

Martin Gordon directed a field of 24 players for the San Antonio Chess Club.

PRIZE WINNERS

1st: J.P. Hyltin, 4.5 (\$200). 2nd + U2100: Selby Anderson, Gregg Stanley, 4 (\$9167). U1900: Jesse Buentello, 3.5 (\$83.33). U1700: Andrew Istafanous, 3 (\$66.67). U1500: Titus Shanks, James Nielsen, Jeff Brandt, 1.5 (\$16.66).

Sicilian Dragon B78

Selby Anderson 2216
Alok Kumar 1919

Texas Action Championship (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 Bd7 9.Bc4 0-0 10.0-0 Rb8?!

Not a book move – usual are 10...Rc8 and 10...Qa5.

Similar ideas to the text are seen in Stein's variation 10...Qb8?!

11.Bb3 b5 12.Nxc6 Bxc6 13.Bxa7 b4 14.Nd5!?

14.Bxb8! bxc3 15.Qxc3 Qd7 16. Qb4 Bb7 17.Ba7 Bxe4 18.fxe4+-
14...Bxd5 15.exd5 Rb5 16.Rhe1 Qc7 17.Qe2 Ra5 18.Bf2 Rfa8 19. Qxe7?? [19.Rd4 or 19.f4±]



19...Nd7??

Black is winning with 19...Bh6+ 20.Kb1 Rxa2! 21.Bxa2 Qa5+-
20.Bd4+- Bf8 21.Qh4 Nc5 22.Qf6 Nxb3+ 23.axb3 Bh6+ 24.f4 Bxf4+ 25.Qxf4 Rc8 26.Qe4 Raa8 27.c4 bxc3 28.Bxc3 Qd8 29.Qd4 Qg5+ 30.Kb1 f6 31.Qxf6 1-0

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

Zaire Defense A40

J.P. Hyltin 2045
Titus Shanks 1444

Texas Action Championship (2)

1.d4 Nc6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nb8 4. Nc3 Ng8 5.g3 d6 6.Bg2 h5 7.e4 e5 8.dxe5 Nc6 9.Bg5 f6

On 9...Be7 I intended 10.exd6 Bxg5 11.Nd5.

10.exf6 gxf6 11.Be3 Nh6 12.Nd5

12.h3 would have been better, restricting all counterplay.

12...Ng4 13.Bf4 Bh6 14.Qc2 Bxf4 15.Nxf4 Nce5 16.h3 Nxf3+ 17.Bxf3 Ne5 18.Bxh5+ Ke7 19.Be2

Not best. I was way too eager to consolidate my position with the extra material.

19...c6 20.c5

Another bigger mistake. I was focused on the last one.

20...Qa5+ 21.Kf1 dxc5 22.Kg2 b6 23.h4

Heading for a combination.

23...Ba6 24.Bxa6 Qxa6 25.h5 Rag8 26.a3 c4 27.Rad1 b5 28.Ng6+

This was what I was aiming for.

28...Nxb6 29.hxg6 Rxh1 30.Rxh1 Rxb6 31.Rh7+ Ke6 32.f4 Rg8 33. Qc3

33.f5+ Ke5 34.Qc3+ Kxe4 35. Qf3+ Ke5 36.Qf4+ Kd5 37.Rd7+ Kc5 38.Qd4#
33...c5 34.f5+ 1-0

Nimzovich Defense B00

Martin Gordon 1885
Charles Davis 1618

Texas Action Championship (2)

1.e4 b6 2.e5 Bb7 3.Nf3 e6 4.Bd3 Be7 5.Qe2 c5 6.Nc3 d5 7.exd6 Bxd6 8.Ne4 Be7 9.Bb5+ Bc6 10.0-0 Nf6 11.Re1 0-0 12.Nc3 Bxb5 13. Qxb5 a6 14.Qe2 Nc6 15.d3 Nd4 16.Nxd4 Qxd4 17.Be3 Qg4 18.f3 Qg6 19.Ne4 Nxe4 20.dxe4 Rfd8 21.Rad1 b5 22.Rxd8+ Rxd8 23.a4 c4 24.axb5 axb5 25.Ra1 Qf6 26. Ra5 Qxb2 27.Ra7 Bf8 28.Kf2 c3 29.Kg3 g6 30.f4 h5 31.f5 Bd6+ 32. Kh4 Qb1 33.fxe6 fxe6 34.Kg5 Qb4 35.Qf3 Rf8 36.Qh3 Qxe4 0-1

English Opening A13

Gregg Stanley 2060
Selby Anderson 2216

Texas Action Championship (3)

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 Bb4 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 c5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.a3 Ba5 7.0-0 0-0 8.d3 Bxc3 9.bxc3 d6 10.Nh4 Ne8 11.f4 f5 12.Rb1 Qc7 13.Bd2 Rb8 14.e4 Nf6 15.exf5 exf5 16.Re1 Bd7 17.Bd5+ Kh8 18.Qf3 Rbe8 19.Qg2 g6 20.Qh3 Kg7 21.Qg2 b6 22.h3 Ne7 23.Bf3 Qc8 24.Re2 Neg8 25. Rbe1 Nh6 26.Bb7 Qd8 27.Nf3

Rxe2 28.Rxe2 Re8 29.Ng5 Nf7 30.
Rxe8 Qxe8 31.Kf2 h6 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

Scotch Gambit C56

Ernesto Malazaré 2154

J.P. Hyltin 2045

Texas Action Championship (3)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4
Nf6 5.0-0 Nxe4 6.Re1 d5 7.Bxd5
Qxd5 8.Nc3 Qh5

In my previous encounter with Ernesto, I played the weaker Qd8.

9.Nxe4 Be6 10.Bg5 Bd6 11.Nxd6+
cxd6 12.Bf4 Qd5 13.c4 Qc5

I was suspicious of taking the c-pawn and leaving my king in the center, but apparently no one else who was in this position found this troubling.

14.Ng5 0-0 15.Rxe6 fxe6 16.Nxe6
Qf5 17.Nxf8 Rxf8 18.Bg3 d3

I was not acquainted with this position, but this seemed familiar, and I decided I had to be aggressive.

19.Qf3

19.Qd2 Nd4 20.Rd1 Ne2+ 21.
Kf1 Nxc3+ 22.hxc3 d5=

19...Qxf3 20.gxf3



20...Re8

The f3 pawn is meaningless. The activity of the rook is much more important.

21.Rd1 Re2 22.b3 Rxa2 23.Rxd3
Rb2 24.Bxd6 Na5 25.Be5?

25.Bc5 sets up a volley of checks that cannot be avoided: 25...Rxb3 26.Rd8+! (26.Rxb3 Nxb3 27.Bxa7

Nd2) 26...Kf7 27.Rd7+ Ke6 28.
Rd6+ Kf5 29.Rd5+, because if 29...
Kf4?? 30.Kg2+- with a mating net.

25...Rxb3 26.Rd8+ Kf7 27.f4

27.Rd7+?? Ke6+-

27...Nxc4= 28.Bb8

On 28.Rd7+ Ke6 29.Rxg7 Nxe5 30.fxc5 a5 I had a feeling this was winning, but I wasn't sure until the post mortem. 31.f4 a4 32.Rg2 a3 is quite clear.

28...a5 29.f5 a4

The rest of the moves were not recorded, but I am certain up to move 35.

30.Rd4 b5

Avoiding a trick: 30...a3? 31.
Rxc4 a2 32.Be5=.

31.Rd7+ Kf6 32.Ra7 a3 33.f4 Rb2

34.Bc7 b4 35.Bd8+ Kxf5 0-1

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

Modern Benoni A65

J.P. Hyltin 2045

Jesse Lozano 2041

Texas Action Championship (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5
5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.Bd3 Bg7
8.Nge2 0-0 9.0-0

Jesse and I have played this a couple of times before, and I never came close to playing it right.

9...a6 10.a4 Re8 11.Bg5

This is one of the moves I never played when I should. Here I played it and shouldn't.

11...Nbd7 12.f4 Qc7



Black missed the opportunity for 12...c4 13.Bxc4 Qb6+ 14.Kh1 Ng4, but he's still in good shape with the move played.

13.Kh1 c4 14.Bc2 Nc5 15.Ng3 h6
16.Bh4 Rb8 17.Qd2

Played after a long think. I zoned out here because I've been looking at games in the Benoni where White plays e5 and f5 sacrifices, and I was trying to figure out if there's any way to make this work.

17...b5 18.axb5 axb5 19.Rae1 b4
20.Nd1

Because Black's Nc5 seemed well placed, I was looking for an opportunity to eliminate it. But I had no confidence in 20.Na4 Ncd7 and the Na4 is trapped.

20...Nfd7

White appears to have a difficult position, but now a thematic strike provides counterplay.



21.e5 dxe5 22.f5 g5

22...Qd6 was probably the best chance. [Fritz: 22...g5+ (-1.41)]

23.Nh5 gxh4

23...c3!? 24.bxc3 b3 25.Nxg7
Kxg7 26.Bxg5+-

24.Nxg7 Kxg7 25.f6+! Nxf6 26.
Rxf6! Kxf6

26...Rh8 27.Rc6 Qe7 28.d6+-
27.d6! [Δ 28.Qxh5#] Kg7 28.dxc7
Rb7 29.Qd6 Ne6 30.Qxe5+ Kg8
31.Qf6 Nxc7 32.Rxe8+ Nxe8 33.
Qd8 Bd7 34. Ne3 Kf8 35.Nd5 Be6
36.Nf4 Bd7 37.Qxh4 Rb6 38.Nd5
Rd6 39. Qe7+ Kg7 40.Nc7 Rf6

41.Nxe8+ Bxe8 42.h4 Rf1+ 43.Kh2 Bc6 1-0

Ruy Lopez Berlin C67

Selby Anderson 2216
Ernesto Malazarte 2154

Texas Action Championship (4)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 h6 10.g4?!

This takes preparation; better is 10.h3.

10...Ne7 11.h3 Ke8

11...h5 12.Ng5 Ke8 13.f3 Ng6
12.Kg2 b6 13.Re1 Ng6 14.Kg3 h5
15.Ne4 h4+ 16.Kh2 Be7



17.Nf6+ Kf8

Opening the center with the king there is not a serious option.

18.Nh5 c5 19.Bg5 Bb7 20.Bxe7+ Nxe7 21.Ng5 g6 22.Nf6 Nd5?

Despite appearances, 22...Kg7 is almost equal: 23.Rad1 Rad8 24.Nd7 Bd5! 25.e6 fxe6 26.Nxe6+ Bxe6 27.Rxe6 Kf7 28.Re2 with the marginal advantage of the kingside majority but certainly no blowout.

23.Rad1 Nxf6 [23...c6 24.c4+] 24.exf6+ Re8 25.Rxe8+ Kxe8 26.Re1+ Kd7 [26... Kf8 27.Re7+] 27.Re7+ Kc6 28.Nxf7 Kb5?? 29.Nxh8 1-0

Solution (back cover problem):

1.Ne8! Kg8 (1...Kxe8 2.Kf6 Kf8 3.Rd8#) 2.Rh1 Kf8 3.Rh8#.

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

Ruy Lopez Anti-Marshall C88

Selby Anderson 2216

J.P. Hyltin 2045

Texas Action Championship (5)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.a4 Bb7 9.d3 d6 10.Nc3

I wasn't familiar with this, but I had some general ideas.

10...b4 11.Ne2 Na5 12.Ba2 Rb8

This seemed right, creating some threats that keep White from having a completely free hand on the queenside.

13.Ng3 Bc8 14.Nd2 Re8 15.Nc4 c6

Here I wanted to have some opportunity to hit the center.

16.Nxa5 Qxa5 17.f4?

A horrible lapse. If I had seen the reply I would have played 17.h3= SKA.

17...Ng4!



18.h3?

The best try was 18.fxe5 dxe5 19.Nf1 Bc5+ 20.Ne3 holding Black to a modest edge - SKA.

18...Qb6+ 19.d4 Bb4

Black is winning here, and I had a significant time edge. But, I knew in these circumstances Selby would take the draw and that was good enough for first place.

After 19...Bh4 Selby and I were both thinking the only way to continue was 20.Qf3 Qxd4+ 21.Kh1 but 21...Qf2 is still winning. ½-½

Anderson wins SA club championship

After missing the first round, Selby Anderson won his next three games to win the San Antonio Chess Club championship. J.P. Hyltin was in position to tie, but had to cancel on the last day due to illness. Anderson missed the first round after being assaulted in a parking lot the night before near a karaoke club.

Three players tied for second with 3-1: Ernesto Malazarte, Gregg Stanley and Martin Gordon.

Robert Barber, Jim Gallagher's anchorman in several Texas Team events in the 1990s, returned to active play and delivered an upset to Stanley.

Martin Gordon directed a field of 22 players at Lions Field.

King's Indian E70

Selby Anderson 2216

Ernesto Malazarte 2145

SACC Championship 2009 (4)

1.c4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.e4 d6 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Nge2

The is known as the Hungarian Attack, after GM Lazlo Szabo.

5...0-0 6.Ng3 e5 7.d5 c6 8.Be2 cxd5 9.cxd5 Nbd7 10.h4!?

ECO gives 10.Be3 a6 11.0-0 b5 12.b4 Nb6 13.a4.

10...h5 11.Bg5 a6 12.a4 b6 13.Qd2 Kh7 14.Ra3 Bb7



15.Bxh5!

This is an idea I got browsing the chess section at Half Price Books!

15...gxh5 16.Nxh5 Rh8 17.Rh3

Here is a rare position in which this rook development so favored by beginners is actually correct.

17...Kxg8 18.Nxg7 Kxg7 19.Rg3 Kf8

19...Rh5 20.Qe2 Rh7 21.Qf3 Kf8

22.Qf5 Rh5 23.Rf3 Δ g2-g4±

20.Rf3 Ke8

20...Rc8 21.Qe2 Rg8 22.Rf5 Rg6

23.h5 Rxg5 24.Rxg5 Rxc3 25. bxc3

Nxe4 26.Rg4 f5 27.Qf3 Ndf6 28.

Rh4!± (not 28.Qxf5? Bc8±).

21.Qe2 Rc8?

Overlooking the threat, or he would have played 21...Rg8 when the battle is not decided: 22.Rf5 Kf8 23.Qf3 Rg6 24.Be3 Rc8 25.h5 Rg4 -

26.Bh6+ Ke7 27.Bg5 Rxg5∞.

22.Rxf6 Nxf6 23.Qf3 Rg8 24.Bxf6

Qd7 25.h5

What an annoying fellow!



25...Qg4 26.Qxg4 Rxg4 27.h6 Kd7 28.h7 Rxg2 29.h8Q Rxh8 30. Bxh8 Ke7

Regaining the piece, but White gets two pawns and keeps attacking. 31.Rb3 Bc8 32.Rxb6 Rg8 33.Bxe5 dxe5 34.Ke2 Rg1 35.d6+ Kd8 36. Nd5 Rg6 37.Ne7 Re6 38.Nxc8!

Simplest, forcing the K+P.

38...Kxc8 39.d7+ Kxd7 40. Rxe6 Kxe6 41.b4 f5 42.exf5+ Kxf5 43.Ke3 1-0

Four days later, the 5.Nge2 line had a less fortunate outing at the Texas Amateur (see next game).



Top of the seventh: Paul Haney and Leo Bonnell (after 11.Be3)

Texas Amateur games

Here are the last round games from the top five boards. From the top:

King's Indian E70

Leo Bonnell 1905

Paul Haney 1994

Texas Amateur 2009 (7)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nge2 0-0 6.Ng3 e5 7.d5 Nbd7 8.Be2 Ne8!?

8...a6 9.h4 h5 10.Bg5 Qe8 11. Qd2 Nh7 12.Bh6 Ndf6 13.Bxg7 Kxg7 14.0-0 Bd7 15.Rhg1 b5= Udovic-Gligoric, 1966.

9.h4 a5 10.Bg5

10.h5! Nc5 11.Be3 g5 12.h6 Bh8 13.Rb1 a4 14.Bg4± 10...f6 11.Be3 Nc5 12.Qd2 f5 13. Bg5?

13.Bxc5 dxc5 14.exf5 gxf5 15. Qg5!? Nd6 16.Nh5 Qxg5 17.hxg5± 13...Qd7 14.exf5

14.h5 f4 15.hxg6 fxg3 16.gxh7+ Kh8 17.fxg3 Nf6 18.Bxf6 Bxf6 19.Qh6 Qg7±

14...gxf5 15.Bh6?

15.Be3 b6 (15...Na6!? 16.f4) 16.Nh5 f4 17.Bxc5 bxc5 18.Ne4±



15...f4± 16.Bxg7 Qxg7 17.Nf1 Qxg2 18.Rh2 Qg6 19.Bf3 Qd3 20.Rg2+ Kh8 21.Be2 Qh3 22.Rh2 Qf5 23.f3 Bd7 24.0-0 Nf6 25.Bd3 Nxd3+ 26.Qxd3 Qxd3 27.Rxd3 Rg8 28. Rd1 Rg6 29.Nd2 Rag8 30.Nde4 Nxe4 31.Nxe4 Bf5 32.Re1 Bxe4 33. Rxe4 Rg1+ 34.Kd2 Rf1 35.Rh3 Rg2+ 0-1

King's Indian Averbach E75

William Molina 1993

Seth Thompson 1993

Texas Amateur 2009 (7)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 0-0 5.Be2 d6 6.Bg5 c5 7.d5 e6 8. Bd3 exd5 9.exd5 Re8+ 10.Nge2 a6

11.a4 Nbd7 12.f4 Qa5 13.0-0 Ng4
14.f5 Ne3 15.Bxe3 Rxe3 16.fxg6
hxg6 17.Qd2 Re7 18.Qg5 Qd8
19.Rxf7?!



A chess romantic looks at the beautiful and says, "It must be true!" Not in this case! [19.Rae1=]

19...Kxf7 20.Qxg6+ Kg8 21.Qh7+ Kf8 22.Rf1+ Rf7 23.Rxf7+ Kxf7 24.Bg6+ Kf8 25.Nf4 Nf6 26.Qh4 Qe7 27.Be4 Ke8 28.Ng6 Qf7 29. Bd3 Ng4 30.Qe1+ Kd8 31.Ne4 Qxg6 32.Qa5+ Ke8 33.Qc7 Be5 0-1

QP Zuckertort D05

Brad Anderson 1875
Sarah Chiang 1950

Texas Amateur 2009 (7)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 e6 3.e3 Nf6 4.Bd3 Be7 5.Nbd2 0-0 6.b3 c5 7.Bb2 Nc6 8.a3 b6 9.0-0 Bb7 10.Ne5 Nxe5?!

Better is 10...a6 (Nimzovich) or 10...Qe7 (Rubinstein).

11. dxe5 Ne4 12.Nxe4 dxe4 13.Be2 Bg5 14.c4 Qe7 15.Qc2 f5 16.exf6 gxf6 17.Qc3 e5 18.f4 exf4 19.exf4 Bh6 20.Qh3 Bg7 21.f5 Rad8 22. Rad1 Rxd1 23.Rxd1 Rd8 24. Rxd8+ Qxd8 25.Qg3 Kf8 26.Qf4 Ke7 27.Bc3 Kd7 28.Bd1 Qf8 29. Bc2 Qe7 30.Qe3 Ke8 31.Kf2 Kf7 32.g3 Kg8 33.Qf4 Kh8 34.g4!?

More forcing but 'edgy' is 34. Qb8+! Bf8 35.Qxa7 e3+ 36.Ke1+- 34...a6?

34...Bc6 35.Qb8+ Be8 36.Ke2± 35.Qb8+ Bf8 36.g5 Kg8 37.gxf6 Qd7 38.Qf4 Qc6 39.Qg5+ Kf7 40. Qh5+, Black resigns 1-0

QGD Slav Exchange D13

Glenn Baumann 1866
Alok Kumar 1919

Texas Amateur 2009 (7)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.cxd5 cxd5 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bf4 a6 7.e3 Bg4 8.Qb3 Bxf3 9.gxf3 Qd7 10.Na4 e5 11.dxe5 Bb4+ 12.Nc3 Nh5 13.Bg3 0-0 14.0-0 Rac8 15.Qxd5 Qxd5 16.Nxd5 Nxc3 17.hxg3 Nxe5+ 18. Kb1 Rcd8 19.Be2 Bc5 20.b4 Bd6 21.f4 Nc6 22.a3 b5 23.e4 f6 24.Ne3 Rfe8 25.Nf5 Bb8 26.Rxd8 Rxd8 27.Rc1 Na7 28.Ne7+ Kf7 29.Nd5 Rd6 30.Bd1 Nc6 31.Bb3 Ke8 32. Rd1 Kd8 33.Kb2 Ba7 34.Rd2 Bd4+ 35.Kc2 Ba7 36.Kc3 Kd7 37. a4 h6 38.axb5 axb5 39.Bd1 Kd8 40.Be2

40.Bf3 Ne7 41.e5 Nxd5+ 42. Bxd5 Rd7 43.f3 Ke7 44.e6± 40...Bxf2 41.Bxb5 Be1 42.Bxc6 Rxc6+ 43.Kd3 Bxd2 44.Kxd2 Rc4 45.Kd3 Rc1 46.Ke3 h5 47.e5 fxe5 48.fxe5



48...Rf1?

48...g5! might not win, but it has the best winning chances: 49.Ke4 Rc4+ 50.Kf3 Rd4 51.Nf6 Rxb4 52. Nxb5 Ke7 53. Ng7 g4+ 54.Ke3 Ra4 55.Kd3 Kf7 56.Nf5 Ke6 57.Ne3 Kxc5±. Black has a lot left to prove. 49.Ke4 Kd7 50.Nf4 Rh1 51.Kf5 h4 52.gxh4 Rxh4 53.b5 Rh1 54.b6 Kc6 55.e6 Kxb6 56.e7 Re1??

56...Rh8= 57.Ne6 Rf1+ 58.Kg4 1-0

Bird's Opening A03

Steve Young 1929
Naveen Balakrishnan 1885

Texas Amateur 2009 (7)

1.f4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.d3 c5 4.g3 Nc6 5.Bg2 e6 6.0-0 Bd6 7.Qe1 0-0 8.e4 dxe4 9.dxe4 e5 10.f5 b6 11.Bg5 Be7 12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.Nc3 Nd4 14.Rf2 Bb7 15.Bf1 a6 16.Nxd4 exd4 17. Nd5 Bxd5 18.exd5 Bg5 19.Re2 Be3+ 20.Rxe3 dxe3 21.Qxe3 Qxd5 22.Bg2 Qxf5 23.Bxa8 Rxa8 24.Re1 h6 25.Qe4 Qxe4 26.Rxe4 Rd8 27. Rc4 f6 28.b3 Rd4 29.Rc3 Kf7 30.a4 Rd5 31.Kg2 g5 32.g4 Kg6 33.h3 h5 34.Kf3 hxg4+ 35.hxg4 f5 36.Re3 fxg4+ 37.Kxg4 Rd4+ 38. Kg3 Kf5 39.Rf3+ Ke5 40.Rf1 Rd6 41.Kg4 b5 42.axb5 axb5 43.Rf5+ Kd4 44. c3+ Kxc3 45.Rxc5+ Kb4 46.Rxg5 Rb6 47.Kf5 Kxb3 48.Ke4 b4 49. Rg3+ Ka2 50.Rg2+ Ka3 51.Rg8 Rc6 52.Kd4 b3 53.Ra8+ Kb2 54. Rh8 Kb1 55.Kd3 b2 0-1

Earlier in the tournament Haney took the sole lead with this miniature:

KI Attack A08

Joseph Molina 1820
Paul Haney 1994

Texas Amateur 2009 (5)

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 c5 3.Bg2 Nc6 4.0-0 e5 5.d3 Nf6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.e4 dxe4 8.dxe4 Qxd1 9.Rxd1!?

Correct is 9.Nxd1 Δ Ne3-f5. Compare with the same position, colors reversed, in Khasin-Tal 1964: 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.dxe5 dxe5 9.Qxd8 Nxd8! 10.Be3 Ne6 11.Rad1 Nf4 12.Rfel Nxe2+ 13.Rxe2 b6 14.Bg5 Ba6=.

9...Bg4 10.h3?? Fritz gives 10.Be3 Nd4 11.Bxd4 cxd4 12. Nd5 Rc8±.

10...Bxf3 11.Bxf3 Nd4 12.Bg2 Nxc2 13.Nd5 Nxd5 14.exd5 Nxa1 15.d6 Bd8 0-1

Two Knights Defense C55

Paul Haney 1994

William Molina 1993

Texas Amateur 2009 (6)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.Ng5

This variation is also reached by 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d4 exd4 5.Ng5.

5...d5 6.exd5 Qe7+ 6.Kf1

7.Qe2 Nb4 8.Qxc7+ Bxe7 9.d6! with unclear complications 9...Nxc2+ 10.Kd2 Bf5 11.dxe7 Nxa1 12.Na3 Bg6 13.b3 h6 14.Nf3 Ne4+∞ (Poletaev-Rozinov, corr. 1955).



7...Ne5 8.Qxd4 Nxc4 9.Qxc4 h6

9...Qc5 has also been played, with a very good game for Black.

9...10.Nf3 Qc5 11.Qe2+

ECO gives 11.Qxc5 Bxc5 12.c4 Bf5.

11...Be7 12.Be3 Qxd5 13.Nc3 Qa5 14.Rd1 Be6 15.Nd4 0-0 16.Nxe6 fxe6 17.g4 Rae8 18.Rg1 Nd5 19.Qb5??



19...Qxb5+ Draw agreed??

[20.Nxb5 Nxe3+...] In a related story see the finish to Schoonmaker-Obregon (page 8) – again, mutual blindness to a pinned pawn! ½-½

Modern Benoni A68

Leo Bonnell 1905

Chris Dooley 1822

Texas Amateur 2009 (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.Bd3 Bg4 10.0-0 Re8 11.Qb3 b6 12.Bd2 a6 13.a4 Bxf3 14.Rxf3 Nbd7 15.Re1 Qc7 16.Bc4 Ng4 17.h3 Bd4+ 18.Kh1 Nf2+ 19.Kh2 Bxc3 20.Rxf2 Bd4 21.Rfe2 Bg7 22.Bc3 Nf6 23.Qc2 Qb7 24.Qd3 Reb8 25.Ra1



White gets the last word in the debate over b5. Very instructive!

25...Rd8 26.g3 Ra7 27.Ra2 Qb8 28.Bxa6 Rc7 29.Bb5 Re7 30.a5 bxa5 31.Bxa5 Ra7 32.b4 Rc8 33.Ba6 Re8 34.b5 Rae7 35.Ra4 Nd7 36.Rea2 Nf6 37.b6 Rxe4 38.Bb5 R8e7 39.Rxe4 Rxe4 40.Bc3 Re7 41.Ra6 Rb7 42.Bc6 1-0

Sicilian Defense B35

Zhaosu Ye 1726

Sam Capocyan 1578

Texas Amateur 2009 (6)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Be3 Nf6 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 Ne5 8.Bb3 Neg4 9.Qd2 Nxe3 10.Qxe3 0-0 11.0-0 Qc7 12.Ndb5 Qb8 13.h3 a6 14.Nd4 d6 15.Nd5

Nxd5 16.Bxd5 Qa7 17.c3 e6 18.Bb3 Re8 19.Rad1 Bd7 20.Qf4 d5!?

Enterprising play, now threatening ...e5. More solid is 20... Qc5=.

21.Qh4

Fritz likes 21.Qc7 Bxd4 22.Rxd4 Bc6 23.exd5 Rac8 24.Qg3±.

21...e5 22.Ne2

22.Nf3! ΔNg5 menacing f7/h7. Then 22...h6 23.Bxd5 or exd5! with a comfortable lead for White.

22...Bb5 23.Rfe1 d4 24.cxd4 exd4 25.Qf4 Re7 26.a4



26...d3?

A tactical overreach loses the passed pawn, Black's crown jewel in this position. Strong is 26...Bc6 27.Ng3 Rae8 with pressure.

27.Nc3 Bc6 28.Rxd3 Rae8 29.Bd5 Bxc3 30.Bxc6??

The Texas primary champ reaps a windfall – better was 30.bxc3±.

30...Bxe1 31.Bxe8 Rxe8 32.Rd7 Rf8 33.e5 Qb6 34.e6 fxe6 35.Qh6 Qxf2+ 36.Kh1 Qf1+ 37.Kh2 Qf4+ 0-1

Modern Benoni A70

William Molina 1993

Alok Kumar 1919

Texas Amateur 2009 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.h3 Bg7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.Bd3 Re8 10.0-0 c4 11.Bxc4 Nxe4 12.Nxe4 Rxe4 13.Bg5 Qa5 14.Bd3 Re8 15.Re1 Rxe1+ 16.Qxe1 Qxe1+ 17.Rxe1 Bd7 18.Bf4 Na6 19.Bxd6 Rc8 20.Re2 Rd8 21.Bxa6 bxa6 22.Bc7 1-0

San Antonio City Championship: Anderson, Stanley tie

by Selby Anderson

The San Antonio City Championship drew in 48 players this June 20-21, making quota for the \$1,000 prize fund. I won my ninth city title, winning four games with a half point bye. I tied with Gregg Stanley, who won his second city title. The trophy went to me based on one tiebreak point! (A withdrawal by one of his opponents counterbalanced my bye.)

I had taken a last round bye so I could drive early to Houston for a chess camp. The last couple of years I have had to catch a Sunday morning flight, and did not compete.

Martin Gordon directed for SACC (www.sanantoniochess.com).

PRIZE WINNERS

1st/2nd: Selby Anderson (trophy), Gregg Stanley, 4.5 pts. (\$200 each)
U2200: Ernesto Malazarte, Mitchell Vergara, 4.0 (\$60 each)
U2000: James Ukoli, 4.0 (\$120)
U1800: Zhaosu Ye, Raymond Bulacanag, Titus Shanks, 3.0 (\$40 ea.)
U1600/U1400: Serena Zadoo, Andrew Xiang, 3.0 (\$90 each)
Unrated: Ramon Umadhay (\$60)

Caro-Kann B12

Selby Anderson 2202

Ivan Wijetunge 1839

S.A. City Championship 2009 (2)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3

I knew 4.dxc5 is preferred, but was not sure of the continuation.

4...Nc6 5.Be3 Nh6 6.Nd2 Nf5 7.Ngf3 Nxe3

7...Qb6 8.Qb3 Qxb3 9.Nxb3 c4 10.Nbd2 Nxe3 11.fxe3 Bg4=.

8.fxe3 Bg4 9.h3 Bh5 10.Bd3 e6 11.0-0 Be7 12.a3 0-0

12...Qb6 Δ 13.b4? cxd4 14.cxd4 Nxe5!?

13.b4 b6 14.Qb1 Bg6 15.Bxg6 fxe6

At the time I considered this the losing move! My goal now was to reach an endgame where White can

create a passer at will (e3-e4), while Black has no such potential for his kingside. Actually, it's not so simple as Black has c-file counterplay.



16.Qd3 Qd7 17.Rad1 cxd4 18.cxd4 Rac8

Black creates counterplay with 18...b5! 19.Rc1 Rfc8 20.Nb3 a5 21.Nc5 Bxc5 22.bxc5 b4=.

19.Rc1 Rc7 20.Nb3 Rfc8 21.Qd2 Nd8 22.Rxc7 Rxc7 23.Rc1 Nf7 24.Rxc7 [24.Qd3!?] 24...Qxc7 25. Qc1 Qxc1+?

Black misses a chance: 25...Qc4! 26.Qxc4 (26.Nfd2 Qd3?) 26...dxc4 27.Nc1 a5=.

26.Nxc1 Ng5

In his blog Ivan suggests 26...a5, but 27.Nd3 leaves the salient points intact: 27...axb4 28.axb4 b5 29.Kf2 Nd7 30.Ne1Nc6 31.Nc2, with Kf3 and e3-e4 to follow as in the game.

27.Nxg5 Bxg5 28.Kf2 Kf7 29.b5 Ke8 30.Nd3 Kd7 31.Kf3 Kc7 32.e4 dxe4+ 33.Kxe4 Be7 34.a4 Kd7 35.d5 exd5+ 36.Kxd5 Bh4 37.Nb4 Bg5 38.Nc6 h6 39.Nxa7 Be7 40.Nc6 Bc5 41.a5 1-0

Franco-Indian A40

Gregg Stanley 2080

Martin Gordon

S.A. City Championship 2009 (2)

1.e4 b6 2.d4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 Bb7 5.a3 Be7 6.e4 c5 7.d5 e5 8.Bd3 g5!? [8...d6] 9.Nge2 d6 10.Bd2 h5

11.b4 h4 12.bxc5 bxc5 13. h3 Bc8 14.Rb1 Qd7 15.Rb3 Na6 16.Qb2 f6 17.Bc2 Kf7 18.Nd1 Bd8 19.Ne3 Nh6 20.Nc3 Kg6 21.Ne2 Qc7 22.Nc3 Qd7 23.Qb1 Ba5 24. Rb5 Bxc3 25.Bxc3 Nc7 26.Ra5 Ba6 27.Ba4 Qc8 28.g3!±

This opens up a second front. I try to emulate my hero Alekhine and play on both sides (GS).



28...Rb8 29.Qd1 hxg3 30.fxg3 Rb6 31.Kd2! Qb8 32.h4 Nf7 33.Qg4

33.Qf3 Qd8 34.h5+ Kg7 35.Nf5+ Kf8 36.h6±

33...Nh6 34.Qd7+- Nf7 35.h5+

I had four minutes after this move, and Black had two (GS).

35...Kg7 36.h6+

36.Nf5+ Kf8 37.Qe7+ Kg8 38.Qxf6 Rh7 39.Ne7+ Kf8 40.Nc6+-

36...Kf8 37.Qf5 and ... 1-0

Benko Declined A57

Mitchell Vergara 2028

Selby Anderson 2202

S.A. City Championship 2009 (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.d5 b5 4.c4 b4 5.b3 e6 6.dxe6 fxe6 7.Bb2 Bb7

Maybe Black should hasten his kingside development with 7...d5, and put off this move for later.

8.Nbd2 d5 9.cxd5!

In another club game Mitch played more quietly: 9.e3 Nbd7 10.Bd3 Bd6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Qc2 Qe8 and Black has good kingside chances.

9...exd5 10.e3 Nbd7 11.Bb5

This is why Black should delay his QB development.

11...Be7 12.Ne5 0-0 13.Nxd7 Nxd7 14.Bxg7! Kxg7 15.Qg4+ Kh8 16.Qxd7

It is tempting to head for an ending, but Fritz agrees with Mitch that 16.Bxd7 is tougher to meet: 16...c4 17.Be6 Bf6 18.Rd1 c3 19.Nf3 Qa5 20.0-0±

16...Qxd7 17.Bxd7 c4! 18.0-0??

Black's pawns are too fast for this. Best was 18.bxc4 dxc4 19.Nxc4 Bxg2 20.Rg1 Bd5! 21.Ne5 Bf6 22.f4 Rg8 - equal, says Fritz, but Black has winning chances based on his two bishops and the weak a2 pawn.



18...c3 19.Nf3 Rxf3! 20.gxf3 Rg8+ 21.Kh1 d4+ 22.e4 Ba6!?

I didn't want to allow a light-square blockade after 22...d3 Bb5 d2 24.Bd3, but it's an illusion: 24...Rd8 25.Bc2 Ba6-+.

23.Rg1 Be2 24.Rxg8+ Kxg8 25.Be6+ Kf8 26.Kg2 Bg5!? 27.h4 Bd2 28.Bf5 h6 29.e5 d3 0-1

Sicilian Scheveningen B84

Ernesto Malazarte 2156

Jesse Buentello 1878

S.A. City Championship 2009 (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 Bd7 7.Be2 Nc6 8.0-0 e6 9.f4 Be7 10.Bf3 Qc7 11.Qe2 0-0 12.Rad1 Rac8 13.g4 Nxd4 14.Rxd4 Bc6 15.g5 Nd7 16.Rd2 b5 17.Qf2 Nc5 18.Qg2 Qb7



19.Bxc5 dxc5 20.e5 Bxf3 21.Qxf3 Qxf3 22.Rxf3 Rfd8 23.Rfd3 c4 24.Rxd8+ Rxd8 25.Rxd8+ Bxd8 26.Ne4 Be7 27.Kf2 Kf8 28.Ke3 Ke8 29.Kd4 Bd8 30.Kc5 Kd7 31.a4 bxa4 32.Kxc4 Kc6 33.Nc5 Bb6 34.Nxa6 Bg1 35.h4 Kb6 36.Nb4 Ka5 37.h5 a3 38.bxa3 Ka4 39.Nd3 Kxa3 40. Kb5 Bd4 41.c4 f6 1-0

French Winawer C18

Jesse Lozano 2041

Andrew Nguyen 1819

S.A. City Championship 2009 (3)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 Ne7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Bd7!?

9...cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6 11.f4 is the main line French Poisoned Pawn. 10.Qd3 cxd4 11.cxd4 Ba4 12.c3 Nd7 13.h4 f6 14.f4 a6 15.Nf3 Bb5 16.Qc2 Bxf1 17.Kxf1 Re8 18.Bd2 Qc4+ 19.Kf2 Nf5



20.Rhe1 Kd8 21. Rab1 Qc6 22.Qb3 Kc7 23.Rec1 b5 24.a4 Rb8 25.axb5

Rxb5 26.Qa2 Ng3 27.Ra1 Nb6 28.Qa3 Ne4+ 29. Kg1 Qc4 30.Qe7+ Kb8 31.Re1 Nxd2 32.Nxd2 Qxc3 33.Qd6+ Kb7 34.Qe7+ Kb8 35.Qd6+

35.Qxc6! Qxd4+ (35...Rxg2+ 36.Kxg2 Qxd2+ 37.Kh1+-) 36.Kh1 Rc8 37.Qd6+ Kb7 38.Ne4 Rc6 39.Qe7+ Kb8 40.Nd6+-

35...Ka8?? [35...Kb7=] 36.Nf3??

36.Rxa6+ Kb7 37.Real forces mate; the sac 37... Rxg2+ fails with 38.Kxg2 Qxd2+ 39.Kh1 and Black has no more checks [Alok Kumar].

36...Qxf3 37.Rxa6+ Kb7 38.Ra7+ Kxa7 39.Qc7+ Ka6 40.Ra1+ Ra5 41.Rxa5+ Kxa5 42.Qc5+ Ka6 0-1

Modern Defense A42

Randall Schwarz 1900

Gregg Stanley 2080

S.A. City Championship 2009 (3)

1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.c4 Nc6 4.Be3 e5 5.dxe5 Bxe5 6.Nc3 d6 7.Nge2 Bg7 8.Nd4 Nge7 9.Be2 0-0 10.Qd2 f5 11.exf5 Bxd4 12.Bxd4 Nxf5 13.Be3 Nxe3 14.Qxe3 Re8 15.Qd2 Bg4 16.f3 Be6 17.0-0-0 Ne5 18.Ne4 Rf8 19.h4 Nxc4 20.Bxc4 Bxc4 21.h5 d5 22.hxg6 dxe4 23.gxh7+ Kh8 24.Qc3+ Qf6 25.Qxc4 exf3 26.gxf3 Qxf3 27.Qd4+ Qf6 28.Qxf6+ Rxf6 29.Rd7 Rc6+ 30.Kb1 Rf8 31.Re1 1/2-1/2

Petroff's Defense C42

Selby Anderson 2202

Ernesto Malazarte 2154

S.A. City Championship 2009 (4)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Be7 7.0-0 Nc6 8.c4 Nb4 9.Be2 0-0 10.a3 Nc6 11.cxd5 Qxd5 12.Nc3 Nxc3 13.bxc3 Bf6?! 13...Bf5 14.Bf4 Na5 15.Bxc7 b6 16.Bf4 Rac8 (NCO).

14.Rb1 Qd6

14...a6 15.Bf4 (15.Re1 b5 16.Bf4 Bf5 17.Rc1 Qd7=) 15...Qa5 16.Qb3 Bf5 17.Rbel± 15.Nd2! Re8 16.Bd3 Rb8 17.Ne4 Qd8 18.Bf4 Be7



19.d5! Na5

Not 19...Qxd5?? 20.Nf6+ Bxf6
21.Bxh7+ and 22.Qxd5+-

20.Qa4! b6 21.Bxc7 Bd7 22.Bxd8
Bxa4 23.Bc7 Rbc8 24.d6 Bd8 25.
Ba6 Ra8 26.Rfe1 [c26.f3] 26...Bc6

26...Bc2! 27.Ng3! Bxc7 28.dxc7
Bxb1 29.Rxb1 g6 30.Rd1±
27.f3 f6

27...Re5 28.c4 Nb7 29.Nf2
Rxe1+ 30.Rxe1 Nc5 31.Bxd8 Rxd8
32.Bb5 Bxb5 33.cxb5 Kf8 34.Rd1±
28.Kf2

28.Ng3! Rxe1+ 29.Rxe1 Kf8
30.Nf5+-
28...Kf8

28...f5 29.Ng3 Bh4 30.Rxe8+
Rxe8 31.Rb4 g5 32.Bb5 f4 33.d7±
29.c4 Bxc7

29...Nb7 30.Bxb7! Bxb7 31.Nc5
Rxe1 32.Kxe1 Bxc7 33.Nxb7 Bd8
34.c5±
30.dxc7 Bb7 31.Bxb7 Nxb7



32.c5! Rec8?

32...Re7 33.cxb6 axb6 34.Rec1
Rc8 35.Rxb6 Rexc7 36.Rxc7 Rxc7
37.a4±

33.cxb6 axb6 34.Rec1 Nc5?
34...Ra6 35.g4+-
35.Nxc5 bxc5 36.Rxc5 Rxa3? [36...
Ke7] 37.Rb8 Ra8 38.Rxa8 1-0

Polish Opening A00

K.J. Furlong 1712

Mitchell Vergara 2028

S.A. City Championship 2009 (4)

1.b4 e5 2.b5 d5 3.Bb2 Bd6 4.e3 Nf6
5.c4 c6 6.cxd5 cxd5 7.Nf3 Qe7
8.Be2 0-0 9.0-0 Bg4 10.d4 e4 11.
Ne5 Bxe2 12.Qxe2 Nbd7 13.Nxd7
Nxd7 14.Nc3 Qh4 15.h3 Qg5 16.
Qg4 Qxg4 17.hxg4 Nb6 18.Rac1 f5
19.g5 Be7 20.a4 Rad8 21.Rc2 Bxg5
22.Ba3 Rfe8 23.Bc5 f4 24.exf4 Bxf4
25.g3 Bg5 26.Re2 Nc8 27.a5 b6
28.axb6 axb6 29.Bb4 Bf6 30.Rd1
Ne7 31.Ra2 Nf5 32.Ne2 Ra8 33.
Rxa8 Rxa8 34.g4 Nh4 35.Nf4 Nf3+
36.Kg2 Rd8 37.Ne6 Rd7 38.Nf8
Rc7 39.Ne6 Rc4 40.Bd6 Nxd4 41.
Nxd4 Bxd4 42.Be7 Kf7 43.Bd8 h6
44.Bxb6 Bxb6 45.Rxd5 Ke6 46.Rf5
e3 47.fxe3 0-1

French Winawer C15

Alfredo Garcia 1664

Daniel Lozano 1725

S.A. City Championship 2009 (4)-

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qg4
Nf6 5.Qxg7 Rg8 6.Qh6 c5

6...Rg6 7.Qe3 c5 favors Black.

7.e5 cxd4 8.exf6

8.a3 dxc3 (8...Bf8!?) 9.axb4
cxb2 10.Bxb2 Qb6 11.0-0-0!∞ ECO

8...dxc3 9.b3 Rg6

9...Nd7 10.Qxh7 Nxf6=

10.Qxh7 Qxf6 11.Nf3 Nc6 12.h4
Qg7?!

12...e5 13.Bg5 Qf5 14.0-0-0∞

13.Qxg7 Rxg7 14.Bg5 Bc5 15.h5

Nb4 16.0-0-0 Nxa2+ 17.Kb1 Nb4

18.Bf6 Rh7 19.Ng5 Rh6 20.Bg7 f6

21.Bxh6 fxe5 22.Bxg5 e5 23.Bd3

Kf7 24.Bg6+ Kg7 25.f4 a5 26.f5 a4

27.h6+ 1-0

Notes by Alok Kumar

Petroff's Defense C42

Alok Kumar 1905

Zhaosu Ye 1746

S.A. City Championship 2009 (4)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3
Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Bd6 7.0-0 0-0

8.c4 c6 9.Nc3 Nxc3 10.bxc3 Bg4
11.cxd5 cxd5 12.Be2 Nc6 13.Qc2?!

13...Re8?!

He should have played 13... Bh5
forcing White to waste another
tempo moving the queen away from
the semi-open c-file

13...Re8?!

Black takes the bait, and it loses
immediately

14.Ng5! f5 15.Bxg4 Nxd4 16.Qd3
Be7 17.f7.cxd4 Rxc1 18.Rfxc1 Bxg5

19.Bxf5 Bxc1 20.Bxh7+ Kh8 21.
Rxc1 Qf6

21...Qh4 could be answered
with 22. Bf5 Qf4 23. Qh3+

22.Rf1 g6?? 23.Bxg6 Rg8 24.Qh3+
Kg7 25.Qh7+ Kf8 26.Bh5?!

Easier would have been 26.Rc1.

26...Rg7 27.Qh8+ Ke7 28.Qe8+
Kd6 29.Qb8+ Kc6 30.Qc8+ Kb6
31.Qc5+ Ka6 32.Be2+ 1-0

Caro-Kann B06

Jesse Lozano 2041

Gregg Stanley 2080

S.A. City Championship 2009 (5)

This was the first time I castled or
took at c4 using this system for
Black. I felt we were both in unfamil-
iar territory, and both made blun-
ders. I was playing cautiously based
on pawn structure - Gregg Stanley.

1.f4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.e4 c6 4.d4 d5

5.e5 h5 6.Bd3 Nh6 7.c4 Bg4 8.Nc3
dxc4 9.Bxc4 Bxf3 10.gxf3 [10.

Qxf3!?] 10...e6 11.Be3 Qh4+ 12.
Kd2 0-0 13.Qb3 Qe7 14.Ne4 Nf5

15.Ng5 Re8 16.Rhg1 Nd7 17.Qxb7
Rab8 18.Qxc6 Rxb2+ 19.Kd3 Rb6

20.Qa4 Rd8 21.Ne4 (Diagram)

Continued next page

My week at International Youth Chess Camp

at the Chess Olympiad in Dresden, 2008

by Courtney Jamison

I was very fortunate to be one of the Americans invited to the International Youth Camp during the 2008 Chess Olympiad in Dresden, Germany. During one week, all the invitees would explore the quaint and modern town of Dresden, discuss cultural differences, and of course watch one of the most prestigious chess tournaments in the world!

Here is an example of a routine camp day where we had the opportunity to go to one of the many free museums and exhibits in the area.

Thursday had more free time built in it, but in the morning we had the chance to visit a couple of famous museums that Dresden has to offer. As usual, the team met at the Sky Lounge for announcements and updates after breakfast. We could take a trip to the Museum of Hygiene, the Museum of Technology and Industry, and the Museum of the Royal Palace, visit the Olympiad, or wander about in the various shops around the city. I and about ten others decided for the Museum of Hygiene, (I want to study medicine) of which the boat tour guide on Sunday highly suggested. One thing that's always so weird for me is there are coat racks everywhere you go because at home they don't have them. (But maybe that's because in Texas you don't need coats!)

On the first floor of the museum was an exhibition of modern times; there were demonstrations about the weather, modern inventions, and the overall footprint that man has imprinted on this earth so far. There was even a makeshift cat cage from hurricane Katrina! One section was set up where you could use sensors to create your own weather on the main screen in one of the exhibition rooms. Some of us had trouble with

creating a virtual thunderstorm, but the whole floor was filled with information about the progression of mankind, which was very educational.

The second floor was the main attraction – the mysterious yet wonderful puzzle that is the human body. The museum had interactive stations to experience the processes and systems that the body performs everyday. There were sections on digestion, birthing, dying, the nervous system, and others.

One particular activity was a cornucopia of animal models with a computer in the middle of the setup. If you touched one of the animal models, the computer talked about where the animal was eaten and its qualities. The museum was a great way to spend a cold rainy Dresden morning; I only wished I could understand German, as many of the exhibits weren't in English!

After lunch we had more free time, so the team either went back to the Olympiad or shopping. The group I was with went to the mall near Prager Strasse, and ran into quite an interesting novelty that we probably couldn't find in the States; Sudoku problems written on toilet paper! It was such a crazy invention that we just had to have it. Later on when we met back up at the City Hall, we found out that Michael de Verdier of Sweden and Stéphane Bressac of France got first and third respectively in a blitz side event – congrats to them! At the Sky Lounge Eike picked ten teams for the mini-olympiad that the Youth Camp will participate in at the Congress Center tomorrow, so that will be a very exciting event to see all of us chess players in action! Good luck everyone!

In addition to the hygiene museum, we took a day trip to Berlin, competed in an incredibly hard scavenger hunt around the Dresden area (our team won!), and organize an International Youth Camp Blitz/Losergame/loser's Tournament.

My first time in Germany was quite an amazing trip, and I met people that I never expected to meet so soon. The members from Sweden, Austria, Serbia, Turkey, France, and Germany were friendly and eager to talk (in English) with me (which was relieving considering Spanish was the only other language I was familiar with.)

I am so grateful to have had this opportunity to experience the life of others, and I would absolutely love to see the group and the lovely city of Dresden again. ♣

Stanley-Lozano, cont'd from p. 28



21...Nc5+

21...Rb4! 22.Qa6 (22.Qa5 Nxe3
→) 22...Nc5+ 23.Nxc5 Qxc5+
22.Nxc5 Qxc5 23.Bb3 [23.Qe8+!]=]
23...Rb4! ♣ 24.Qe8+ Qf8 25.Qxf8+
Bxf8 26.Rgd1 Nxd4 27.Kc3 Rc8+!
28.Kb2 Nxf3 29.Bxa7 Nxh2 30.
Rac1 Ra8 31.Rc7 Rxf4+ 32.Rdd7
Bg7 33.Rb7 Bxe5+ 34.Kc2 Rc8+
35.Kd3 Ng4 and ... 0-1

Langer 'miniatures' GM Yermolinsky!

Michael Langer of Austin had a spectacular 300-point upset earlier this year, toppling GM Yermolinsky in 16 moves. The game, played at the OCF Stillwater Winter FIDE Open (Feb. 15-16), was featured in Lubosh Kavalek's *Washington Post* column.

The event ended in a three-way tie for first, Langer tying Conrad Holt and Richard Ding with 5.5/7.

Notes by Michael Langer

Scotch Game C45

Michael Langer 2295

Alex Yermolinsky 2598

Winter Open Stillwater (5)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Be3 Qf6 6.Nb5?!

Blumenfeld attack! The guy who invented it, defenestrated himself soon after.

Yermo: While this line is not the most popular, it poses some problems for Black.

6...Bxe3 7.fxe3 Qh4+ 8.g3 Qd8

There is a forced draw after 8...Qxe4 9.Nxc7+ Kd8 10.Nxa8 Qxh1 11.Qg4 Qg1! 12.Qxg7 Qxe3+ 13.Be2 Qg1+ 14.Bf1 Qe3+ 15.Be2.

9.Qg4 g6

I thought 9..g6 is a patzer move as it weakens dark squares terribly, but Yermo clearly prepared it. Now a forced sequence follows.

I expected 9...g5 as GM Onischuk played against me here in 2005 10.Qh5 Ne5 11.h4 d6 12.Be2 a6 13.Nd4 c5 14.Nf5 Bxf5 15.exf5 Nf6 16.Qh6 gxh4 17.Qxh4 Qe7 18.Nc3 0-0-0 19.0-0-0, 0-1 on move 56 (Langer-Onischuk, Stillwater 2005).

Yermo adds: 10.N1c3 Ne5 11.Qe2 a6 12.Nd4 d6 13.Qf2 Be6 14.Be2 Qf6 15.Nf5∞ is what Michael did in one of his games.



10.Qf4 d6 11.Bc4 Ne5 12.0-0 Bh3

12...Qe7 instead is a blunder that loses by force after 13.N1c3. I have won dozens of tournament games like this against lower-rated players. It serves as a good test of playing strength. I would estimate that it takes about a 2100 player to see that 12...Qe7 loses. Instead, 12...Qd7 was the move I expected. 12...Bh3 came as a surprise to me and was played quickly by Yermo, clearly prepared. [He gives it a "!"] 13.N1c3

I looked at 13.Bxf7+ Kd7 (13...Ke7?? 14.Qh4+) 14.Rd1 but then Black has 14...Qe7. I felt I had to maintain the initiative at all costs; otherwise White is just busted with his bad pawn structure. Of course, I also had to calculate some lines to make sure there is no easy defense for Black, after he takes the exchange.

Yermo: 13.Bxf7+ Kd7 14.N1c3 is what I expected.

13...Bxf1?!

Probably already a mistake. The GM from Sioux Falls, South Dakota suggested 13...Qd7 after the game as an improvement.

Yermo: Very unfortunate error. The better 13...Qd7 14.Bb3 (14.Nd5 0-0-0 gives Black a decisive advantage) 14...a6 15.Nd4 Bxf1 16.Rxf1 0-0-0 17.Bxf7 Nxf7 18.Qxf7 Nh6 must be good for Black.

14.Rxf1

Now it's very awkward for Black. None of the defenses seem to work. Yermo though thought he had one with ...

14...Qd7?

... but he forgot about



15.Be6!!

"I simply missed this spectacular move!" says Yermo.

15...Qc6

Here I thought for a while, because I couldn't decide between Nd5 and Nd4. Both moves win. 15...Qxe6 16.Nxc7+; 15...fxe6 16.Qf8#.

Yermo: I shouldn't have done it. The better 15...Qd8 is a sad retreat, but at least it would have forced Michael to find 16.Bxf7+ Kd7 17.Nd5 c6 18.Nxd6! Kxd6 19.Rd1+.

16.Nd4, Black resigns

Also winning is: 16.Nd5 fxe6 17.Qf8+ Kd7 18.Qg7+ Ne7 19.Qxe7+ Kc8 20.Rf8+.

After 16.Nd4 Black resigned because if 16...Qa6 17.Nd5 Kd8 18.Qg5+ f6 19.Rxf6 Ne7 20.Rf8+ Rxf8 21.Qxe7#. Or 16...Qc5 17.Bxf7+ Kd7 (17...Kd8 18.Ne6+; 17...Nxf7 18.Qxf7+ Kd8 19.Ne6+; 17...Ke7 18.Nd5+ Kd8 19.Ne6+) 18.Be6+ Ke7 19.Nd5+ Ke8 20.Qf8#.

1-0

This material appeared in the Spring issue of the Oklahoma Chess Quarterly. Thanks to Steve Young for forwarding the Washington Post column.

75th Annual Southwest Open

Sept. 4 or 5 - 7 7 Round Swiss Three sections

DFW Marriott Airport South, 4151 Centerpoint Blvd., Fort Worth, TX

Rates: \$89 (reserve by 8/14 and ask for SWO rates), 800-228-9290 or 817-358-1700

\$ 10,000 guaranteed prize fund!!

Thanks to Dallas Chess Club, Greater Fort Worth Chess Club, and Texas Chess Association

	OPEN			RESERVE (U2000/unr.)				NOVICE (U1400)		
	2300- 2399*	U2200		B	C	Unrated		U1200	U1000	
1st	\$1500	\$500	\$700	\$1000	\$600	\$600	\$200	\$600	\$400	\$300
2nd	\$800		\$300	\$500	\$300	\$300		\$300		
3rd	\$400			\$250	\$150	\$150		\$150		

Time Controls: OPEN: Rd. 1-3 G/90, 30 sec. inc., Rds. 4-7 G/120 + 30 sec.

RESERVE: 30/90, SD/1. Rd. 1 of 3-day: G/120 (deduct 5 min. for delay)

Round 1: 7:45 p.m. Friday (4-day) or 10 a.m. Saturday (3-day)

Rounds 2-7: Saturday 2:30 - 8; Sunday 12:30 - 6:15; Monday 9 - 2:45

Up to two ½ point byes available if requested before end of Rd. 2 (and before any 1 point bye is awarded). Byes for both round 6 and 7 not permitted.

Entry Fees: \$79 if received by 8/26. \$89 at site. TCA membership required, o.s.a.

Junior (U19) entry: \$68 by 8/26 \$78 later. **Re-entry \$50** (not available in Open).

Senior (65+) / handicapped / additional family member: \$48 by 8/26, \$60 later.

Entries payable to Dallas Chess Club, c/o Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036-4719.

Registration: 4-day: Fri, evening 6:15 - 7:15. 3-day: Sat. 9 - 9:30 a.m.

K-12 Scholastic Event (Sat. Sept. 5): Two Sections: Championship and U750

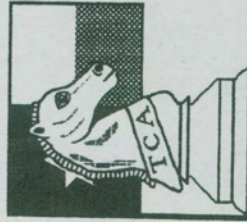
5 Round Swiss (no elimination), Rounds 1-3 G/30 and Rounds 4-5 G/45.

Registration form online: link at www.dallaschess.com, 75th Southwest Open ad.

TCA membership meeting 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 6

For more information, contact Barb Swaford at 214-632-9000; info@dallaschess.com.

* This was an error: it should be 2200-2399. The TLA may have been corrected in time, but at press date we can't confirm.

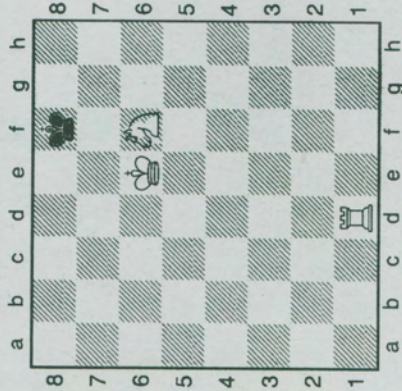


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See inside front cover for TCA membership information.

Boris Pekar
StrateGems, 2002



White to move, mate in three
Solution: p. 22

