

Atlantic Chess News Annual 2017



Welcome from your Tournament Directors: Steve Doyle (Standing), L-R Seated: Joe Ippolito, Carol Jarecki, Bernadette Doyle.

Welcome to the 47th team! By Steve Doyle

If you don't see me--look for thinner guy with the same smile. I have lost a bit of weight since last year, about 140 lbs.

This year we welcome our military academies with great enthusiasm. The men and women who serve our country should all receive our thanks!

The theme this year is classical. Take a walk back in history to the romantic era in chess when the Vienna was the rage and everyone opened up with 1.P-K4. Likewise celebrate the music of the era when Bach and Mozart filled our ears with great classics. We will look to see and hear all these things this year.

Continued On Page 2

Dylan Loeb McClain, former NY Times chess columnist gave his take on the USATE 2016, so we thought, for a change, we would see how we were presented to the chess world at large. It is reprinted with his permission. Actual results are on page 28 If you would like to see photos from the tournament (you might be in one!) go to the original article at <https://worldchess.com/2016/02/17/a-huge-team-championship-with-little-at-stake/>

A Huge Team Championship With Little at Stake By Dylan L. McClain

The yearly amateur team championships are far and away the most popular tournaments in the United States, attracting grandmasters and amateurs alike, though the prizes are meager.

What is it about the United States amateur team championships? Every year hundreds of four-person teams around the country are

formed to compete in tournaments over the President's Day weekend. At stake? Prizes of chess clocks. Clearly, there is more to the tournaments than that. And there is. The tournaments are popular because they give people a chance to reunite and catch-up with old friends and indulge in their passion for the game. It is also not just amateurs. While the average rating of the teams must be lower than 2200, the level of a master, there are many top-level players, and even grandmasters, who compete.

The oldest and biggest of the amateur team championships is the Amateur Team East, which is often billed as the World Amateur Team Championship. It has been played every year since 1970. This year was the 46th edition and there were 277 teams, or about 1,200 players (some teams have alternates), which was less than the record of 294 teams in 2012. There were 13 grandmasters and more than 100 players with FIDE ratings over 2200.

Though the tournament is friendly and convivial, it is also hard-fought and tough. Some strong players struggled to reach even 50 percent scores.

The winning team, on tie-breaks, with 5.5 out of 6 was Summer Chess Academy for Talented Youth I. It drew its last match against a team called Komodo Dragons, led by grandmaster Larry Kaufman (one of the developers of the chess software, Komodo, hence the team name). The following game was the most interesting of the match. It was won by Karl Dehmelt, Board 2
Continued On Page 3

(Doyle Continued From Page 1)

Our booksellers are back with the latest books and equipment as well as some old classics.

The name contest and gimmicks always prove popular. Let's see how many Trump variations we will have this year....

Lastly, thank you all for playing, and for being a part of team 2017! Each year I look forward to seeing you all-- just like a child waiting for Santa. I remember past years, think about our departed friends and welcome seeing you! Stop by say hello, but most of all enjoy the classics and take 30 minutes for you this weekend to transport yourself to a different time and just listen. It's all good!

Steve



Atlantic Chess News

Founded: 1973

Glenn Petersen

Pete Tamburro

This Annual Sponsored By

New Jersey State Chess Federation

United States Chess Federation

Goodbye!

By Pete Tamburro

Since 1973, when Glenn Petersen, dropped in for a visit with an idea for a chess publication, my participation as an editor and/or contributor has gone on, albeit in cycles of such minor disturbances as marriage, family, cancer and now other responsibilities in chess and being a daycare grandfather. Having reached my biblical three score and ten, I am not only grateful for having made it this far, but still have enough common sense to turn the duties of editor over to Rob Bernard, who will be a wonderful successor in a long line of ACN editors. I also wish to give my sincere grateful thanks to Aaron Kiedes, whose work as technical editor makes the very publication of the annual possible.

This is our fourth annual for the USATE/WATC. Our goal has been to provide a printed souvenir of America's premier amateur event. We still have more players than the other three events combined. It has also been an attempt to get into print much of New Jersey's rich chess history that goes back to the 1800s. In this issue, John Hilbert, the distinguished chess historian shares the role one of our two "chess" governors played in the Garden State. We also finally found the obituary of the mysterious John Brunnemer in a 1949 Chess Review. We have some GM annotated games from the NJ Open and some games from the Futurity tournament held at IM Dean Ippolito's chess emporium.

There are quite a few games from last year's team tournament, as many annotated as I could do without going mad. You all have lousy handwriting and rarely leave

email addresses that are readable so we can check with you. Be more careful for Rob's sake! We also hope you will enjoy the "Where's Waldo" approach in our photo section provided by the indispensable Mike Somers. See if you show up!

I would be remiss if I did not encourage you to take a look at and buy the new American Chess Magazine on sale here. It's a great chess magazine, and I'm proud to have helped with it. If you have a great story to tell or idea for an article for this new magazine, by all means get in touch with me at ptamburro@aol.com as we are looking for more than grandmaster writers.

Good luck in the tournament. Steve's comments on the first page are always to the point, and thanks so much for all of you contributing to the success of this tournament and this annual.

--Pete Tamburro



US CHESS
FEDERATION

Welcome to ACN

by Robert N. Bernard

We here at the New Jersey State Chess Federation sincerely welcome you to the US Amateur Team East Championship, and to the great state of New Jersey! Great state, you say... yes! I remember the days back in the 1980s, when I would travel to chess tournaments in New York City from my home in the Finger Lakes of New York, and pass through the swamps, pollution, and smells of New Jersey. But after living here for over a decade, I can confidently say that New Jersey has great variety of arts, entertainment, natural beauty, educational institutions, and chess!

2017 marks the final year that Pete Tamburro is editing this publication, the Atlantic Chess News. I speak for the entire chess community in New Jersey in thanking Pete for his years of service. When I take over the editorship next year, I envision the Atlantic Chess News as being a comprehensive view of the New Jersey chess scene, from the local clubs to the scholastic championships to the big state and national tournaments. We will have a selection of games, puzzles, and results, and we hope that you will find something in next year's issue that will keep you entertained as you play in the Team or another other tournament here.

I hope you enjoy Pete's last issue of the Atlantic Chess News, and I am always open to feedback or suggestions you may have; please email NewJerseyStateChessFederation@gmail.com with your comments.

Also, please follow us on Twitter and like us on Facebook
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/njscf>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/njscf>

NJ State Chess Federation

(McClain Continued from Page 1)

of Komodo Dragons it was not enough to bring the team the championship.

[Event "Amateur Team East "]

[Site "Parsippany, N.J."]

[Date "2016.2.15"]

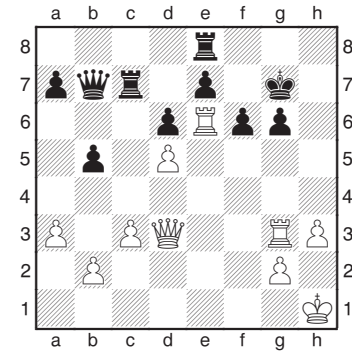
[Round "6"]

[White "K. Dehmelt"]

[Black "Henry Qi"]

[Result "1-0"]

1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 { The Pirc Defense, which can lead to a cramped position for Black. } **4. f4 Bg7** { One of the most aggressive systems against the Pirc. } **5. Nf3 c5 6. dxc5 Qa5 7. Bd3** { 7. cd6 Ne4 is good for Black. } **7... Qxc5 8. Qe2 Bg4 9. Be3 Qa5 10. O-O O-O 11. a3 Nc6 12. h3 Bxf3 13. Qxf3 Nd7 14. Bd2 Qd8 15. Kh1 Rc8 16. Rab1 Nb6 17. Rfe1 Na5 18. Nd5 Nac4 19. Bxc4 Nxc4 20. Bc3 Bxc3 21. Qxc3 Nb6 22. Qd3 Nxd5 23. exd5** { With all the minor pieces off the board, it would seem that Black should be okay, despite being a little cramped. } **23... Re8 24. f5 Qd7 25. Rf1 Qa4 26. c3 Qc4 27. Qf3** { Obviously, White has no interest in trading queens, when any possible attack against Black would not amount to much. } **27... Rf8 28. Rbd1 Qb5 29. Rf2 Qd7** { Black is drifting, while White is organizing his pieces to attack Black along the f file. } **30. Qg4 Rc7 31. Rdf1 b5 32. Rf4 Kg7 33. Re4 f6** { The threat was 34. Re7 Qe7 35. f6, but Black's move critically weakens the g6 pawn. } **34. Qe2 Re8 35. Re6** { Black is in deep trouble. } **35... Rcc8 36. Rf4 Qb7 37. fxf6 hxf6 38. Qd3 Rc4 39. Rf3 Rc7 40. Rg3 g5**



41. Rxf5+ { After 41... fg5, 42. Qg6, Black will soon be mated. } 1-0

John W. Brunnemer, NJ Champion, 1921-1932

We finally found a story on the mysterious John Brunnemer that we mentioned in listing past NJ champions in a prior Atlantic Chess News annual. Unfortunately, it was his obituary in Chess Review, January, 1949. We quote from the article and give examples of his play:

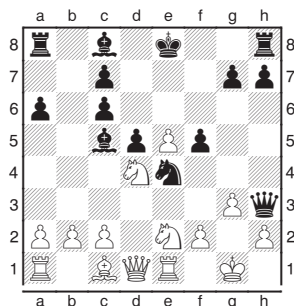
"One of our outstanding postalites, John W. Brunnemer of South Nyack, New York, died December 24, 1948.

Born in Brooklyn, 1895, and a rabid Dodger rooter all his life, he had played for the old Brooklyn Chess Club in its heyday, won the American Correspondence Championship in 1919, and, in New Jersey, was President of the North Jersey Chess League—held the state championship there from 1921 to 1932, five years without loss of a game. In Postal Chess, he scored notably, was currently eighth in the 1944 Postal Chess Championship and had a Postal Master rating of 1526.

Brunnemer favored the classical style in chess, with 1.P-K4 [1.e4] and an open game. He was well versed in the latest theory of opening play, performed brilliantly both with and against 1.P-K4, in forthright fashion, rare in these days of hypermodern chess.”

He once beat Capablanca in a casual game. It was a drawn position when the Cuban genius overlooked Brunnemer's reply:
Capablanca, Jose Raul - Brunnemer, John W [D63] New York casual New York, 26.10.1916
 1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 Nbd7 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 0-0 7.Rc1 c5 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Bxe7 Nxe7 10.Bd3 h6 11.0-0 cxd4 12.Nxd4 a6 13.Bb1 Nf6 14.Qc2 Ng6 15.Rfd1 Qe7 16.Na4 Bd7 17.Nb6 Rad8 18.Qc5 Bc6 19.Qxe7 Nxe7 20.Nxc6 Nxc6 21.Kf1 Rxd1+ 22.Rxd1 Rd8 23.Rxd8+ Nxd8 24.Ke2 Kf8 25.Kd3 Ke7 26.Kd4 Kd6 27.Nc4+ Kc7 28.Be4 Nxe4 29.Kxe4 Nc6 30.Ne5?? f5+ 0-1

His aggressive style, even in postal chess, is evident in this brilliant game: **A.W. Marschner-J.W. Brunnemer, c.1945**
 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 d6 6.Bxc6+ bxc6 7.d4 Nxe4 8.Re1 f5 9.dxe5 d5 10.Nd4 Qh4 11.g3 Qh3 12.Nc3 [12.Nxc6 Bc5] 12...Bc5 13.Nce2 [



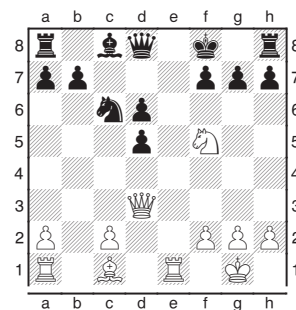
13...g5!! 14.f3 f4 15.Nxf4 gxf4 16.Bxf4 0-0! 17.c3 Rxf4! 18.gxf4 Kh8! 19.Kh1 [19.Rxe4 dxe4 20.Qf1

Bxd4+ 21.cxd4 Qh4; 19.fxe4 Bg4 20.Qd2 Rg8 21.Kh1 Bf3+ 22.Nxf3 Qxf3+ 23.Qg2 Qxg2#] 19...Nf2+ 0-1.

The following blazing attack's 14th and 15th moves must have leapt off the postal cards when they arrived at their destination.

J.W. Brunnemer-W.H. Failing, c. 1940:

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Be2 Bb4 7.0-0 Bxc3 8.bxc3 Nxe4 9.Bf3 Nxc3 10.Qd3 Nd5 11.Bxd5 exd5 12.Re1+ Kf8 13.Nf5 d6



14.Nxg7!! Ne5 [14...Kxg7 15.Qg3+] 15.Nh5!! Be6 [15...Nxd3 16.Bh6+ Kg8 17.Re8+ Qxe8 18.Nf6#] 16.Rxe5! dxe5 17.Ba3+ Ke8 18.Qb5+ [1-0.]



A Little Fella Story by his Proud Coach

By Proud Coach Vitaly Tsetylin

Introduced to chess by his older brother Maddox, Hudson Chen has been playing chess for about a year. When Maddox started having private chess lessons with me at home, Hudson would join in occasionally. But as a busy six year old, he was active in several activities, such as travel soccer, hip hop dance, swim, ice skating and piano, on top of school work, so he hadn't really devoted much time to chess.

During the course of the last year, Hudson, along with his brother, began participating in a number of scholastic tournaments in New York City. And when Maddox competed in last year's World Amateur Team East, Hudson wanted to participate this year as Board #4 for the team, which was called "The Board Awakens".

Hudson gave it his best but being 602 rated and pitted against much higher rated and experienced older players, it was difficult for a kid to pull away with a win. He lost the first three rounds. In Round 4, Hudson did score one point on a no show, but this did not satisfy him or me. Huddie needed a real win.

In the last round Hudson was matched with a kid, a marked change from all his previous opponents. Finally he was playing someone closer to his own age. The boy had a rating of 1462 which was 858 points higher than Hudson's rating but that did not deter Hudson's goal for one REAL win in the tournament.

After getting a pep talk from me, Hudson buckled down and came out fighting from the start in a 19th century attacking style just like in the good old days, when romantic chess was in fashion. Ultimately, Hudson pulled out a win in thirty one moves with a checkmate by the queen! His first ever team championship, first ever big win and first time ever outplaying someone so much higher rated! Hudson was overjoyed and pumped in his victory!

As his coach, I hope that Hudson will have the opportunity to play chess against the "big boys" in the future and that this is only the first of many upset wins in his chess career. I fervently hope that he continues to enjoy this beautiful game just as he does today. Chess has proven itself to be a challenging sport which has exploded onto the world stage and never has been so popular!

Congratulations on your first team tournament and your first upset prize performance Hudson! I look forward to seeing your chess game flourish and what heights you will achieve!

Hudson Chen—Shah Ohm US Amateur Team East, 2016

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 exd5 4. Qe2+ Be7 5. Nc3 c6 6. Be3 Nf6 7. O-O-O Bg4 8. Nf3 b5 9. h3 Bf5 10. Ne5 a5 11. Bg5 O-O 12. g4 Bg6 13. Nxb6 fxb6 14. Qe6+ Kh8 15. f4 Re8 16. Qe3 Nxb6 17. hxb6 Bxb6 18. Qg3 Qc7 19. Qd3 Bxf4+ 20. Kb1 Re3 21. Qxb6 h6 22. Bd3 Kg8 23. Qh7+ Kf8 24. g5 Bxb6 25. Rdf1+ Bf6 26. Qh8+ Ke7 27. Nd1 Re6 28. Re1 Qd6 29. Bf5 Rxe1 30. Rxe1+ Kf7 31. Qe8#

Some USATE Games

(40) Clark, Geoff - Garrett, Damon [A40] World Amateur Team Ch (3), 15.02.2016 **1.d4 g6 2.h4 h6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Bd2 Nd7 6.Bc3 e6 7.d5 [7.h5!] 7...e5 8.Nbd2 a5 9.Bb5 Ne7 10.Qe2 c6 11.dxc6 bxc6 12.Bc4 Nb6 13.Rd1 Qc7 14.a3 Bd7 15.Bb3 Qc8 16.Nc4 Nxc4 17.Bxc4 Qc7 18.Qd2 Nc8 19.Nxe5 dxe5 [19...Bxe5!] 20.Bxf7+ Ke7 21.Bxg6 h5 22.Qe3 Qb6 23.Qg5+ Bf6 24.Rxd7+! Kxd7 25.Qxf6 Ne7 26.Bf5+ Nxf5 27.Qxf5+ Kd8 28.0-0 [28.Bxe5!] 28...Re8 29.Rd1+ Kc7 30.Qd7+ [30.Rd7+ Kc8 31.Re7+ Kb8 32.Bxe5+ Qc7 33.Rxc7 Ra7 34.Rc8+ Kb7 35.Qd7+ Kb6 36.Qxc6#] **1-0****

(42) Karell, Leif - Guevara, Rob [C06] World Amateur Team Ch (3), 15.02.2016 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 b6 6.Ne2 c5 7.c3 Ba6 8.Nf3 [8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Nf3] 8...Bxd3 9.Qxd3 Nc6 10.0-0 Rc8 11.Ng5?! [11.Ne1 Be7 12.Qg3] 11...Be7 12.f4 g6? 13.Qh3 cxd4 14.cxd4 Bf8 15.f5 gxf5 [15...exf5 16.e6 fxe6 17.Nxe6] 16.Nxe6! Qe7 17.Nxf8 [17.Bg5! Qxe6 18.Nf4] 17...Nxf8 18.Be3 Ne6 19.Qxf5 Rc7 20.Rad1 Qf8 21.Nc3 Ne7 22.Qf3 Rg8 23.Nxd5 Nxd5 24.Qxd5 Rc2 25.Rd2 Rxd2 26.Bxd2 Qe7 27.Qc6+ Kf8 28.Bh6+ Ng7 29.e6! **1-0****

(43) Chazukow, Michael - Marcus, Neil [B06]

World Amateur Team Ch (3), 13.02.2016 **1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nf3 d6 4.Bc4 e6 5.0-0 Ne7 6.Nc3 0-0 7.Be3 Nbc6 8.a3 d5 9.exd5 [9.Ba2] 9...Nxd5 [9...exd5] 10.Nxd5 exd5 11.Ba2 [11.Bd3] 11...Ne7 12.c3 c6 13.h3 Nf5 14.Bf4 h6 15.Re1 Kh7 16.Qd2 Nd6 17.Rad1 Be6 18.Qe2 Re8 19.Ne5 f6 20.Ng4 Qd7 21.Qf3 h5 22.Ne3 [22.Nxf6+ Bxf6 23.Bxd6] 22...Re7 23.Bb1 Bf7 [23...Ne4] 24.Qxh5+ Kg8 25.Bxg6 Bxg6 26.Qxg6 Rae8 27.Kf1 Re4 28.Bxd6 Qxd6 29.Nf5 Qd7 30.Rxe4 Rxe4 31.Re1 Rxe1+ 32.Kxe1 Kf8 33.Qxg7+ Qxg7 34.Nxg7 Kxg7 35.Ke2 b6 36.Kf3 a5 37.Kf4 Kg6 38.g4 a4 39.h4 c5 40.h5+ Kf7 41.Kf5 cxd4 42.cxd4 b5 43.f4 **1-0****

John W. Griggs: When Chess touched Politics

John William Griggs will never be known for his chess. He likely would have laughed heartily had he heard someone suggest the notion. Yet a chess connection there is. Born of a well-to-do farmer on Ridge Road near Newton, New Jersey, on July 10, 1849, Griggs was too young to fight in the Civil War, although not too young to appreciate the nation-shaking upheaval war brought. Schooled initially at the Newton Collegiate Institute, in Newton, New Jersey, at age fifteen, in 1864, Griggs matriculated at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania, an all male liberal arts college founded in 1826. Although liberal arts remained its focus, Lafayette added more practically-minded courses while Griggs attended. In 1866, studies in mining, chemistry and engineering were introduced. Rather practically-minded himself, Griggs graduated in 1868 and returned to Newton, where he served a three-year apprenticeship as a law clerk with Robert Hamilton (1809-1878) until May 1871.

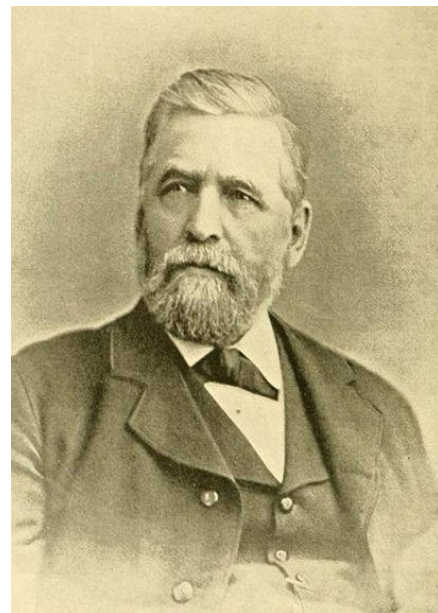


Robert Hamilton, Griggs's First Legal Mentor

Hamilton, a Sussex County prosecutor and bank president, as well as a New Jersey Democratic politician in an era when Democrats ruled the state, would be elected the following year to the United States House of Representatives. Whatever Griggs learned of law from Hamilton, he didn't learn his politics. The younger man would link his career with New Jersey's Republicans.

Griggs received his law license in November 1871, spent three years working to be admitted as a counselor, solo practiced two years, and then opened a law office with the wonderfully named Socrates Tuttle (1819 – 1885), who had a few years before served as the mayor of Patterson, New Jersey. A Republican, Tuttle may have been Griggs's initial entry into that party's inner circle, although from what is known about Griggs, the force of his personality, the clarity of his logic, and the eloquence of his tongue, combined with a gift for piercing through complexity and setting forth the heart of any matter, would have recommended the young man to his elders regardless. Known as well for his warmth and understanding, his sense of humor, as well as for his keen intellect and eloquence, Griggs would find abundant use for his many admirable characteristics.

Shortly after opening his practice with Tuttle, Griggs entered the frothing caldron of New Jersey politics. Despite the state-wide domination by Democrats, Griggs mainly through force of character achieved victory as a candidate from the first assembly district of



Socrates Tuttle, Griggs's First Law Partner

Passaic County, garnering 51.9 percent of the vote, and finding himself, at age twenty-six, New Jersey's youngest state assemblyman. Reelected the following year, he lost his third annual contest in 1877, a year when Democratic strength again flexed its muscle. For the next five years, Griggs spent his time cultivating his law practice while also serving in local political offices in Patterson and Passaic County. Elected a state senator in 1882, Griggs served in that capacity for six years, becoming senate president in 1886. By 1892, even though he had never held public office outside the state, his legal acumen had become so well known that President Benjamin Harrison had Griggs's name on a short list of candidates for nomination to the Supreme Court. Not receiving the nomination, Griggs continued expanding his law practice.

During his political ascendancy Griggs had not neglected his personal life. On October 7, 1874, he married Carolyn Webster Brandt, and with her between 1876 and 1882 had five children. Unfortu-

nately, Carolyn Griggs developed poor health, and died January 21, 1891. The widower remarried April 15, 1893, to thirty-three year old Laura Elizabeth Price.

Temporarily out of the political arena, Griggs found himself with more free time. Now in his early forties, established as a powerful legal force in the state and known in political circles throughout Northern New Jersey and New York, Griggs spent some of his time on more relaxing activities. He enjoyed hunting as well as fishing. And he played chess.

Organized state chess was just developing in New Jersey in the 1880s, and had less than a ten year history when Griggs played. The New Jersey Chess Association, the brainchild of the Elizabeth Chess Club twenty miles south of Paterson, set about organizing the state players in February 1885, when it hosted William Steinitz who gave a thirty board simultaneous exhibition. Seventy-five New Jersey chess players assembled that day, and the following year, on Washington's Birthday, February 22, 1886, at the rooms of the Elizabeth Chess Club, the Association was formally founded. Annual tournaments were conducted for many years thereafter, and among the players of note who contested in the New Jersey events were August Vorrath and Nathaniel Hymes, as well as the latter's brother, Cornelius, and their much younger brother, Edward, eventually the strongest of the brothers by far.

No one knows when Griggs learned the game, but learn the game he did. By May 1894 he was on the Paterson Chess Club's team, which on the night of May 11, 1894,

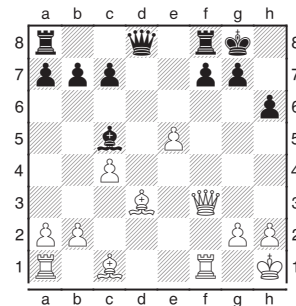
hosted the Young Men's Christian Association Chess and Checker Club of Brooklyn, New York, for the first round of a two round team match. Originally scheduled for twelve boards, the Brooklyn contingent found themselves one man short, and Paterson graciously agreed to conduct the match on eleven boards instead of claiming a forfeit. A "large and comfortable room" at the Patterson YMCA was obtained, and the players, arranged in order of strength, commenced their games at 8:00. The men played without time limit.

As minor as the match might have been, not every name was, or would be, a nonentity in the annals of chess history. Brooklyn's board three was manned by Walter Frère, son of Thomas Frère, long associated with Brooklyn chess as well as with Steinitz and the national scene. And down on board five sat a young man by the name of Hermann Helms, who had been editing the chess column in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle only since October of the previous year. Helms, of course, would go on to write for the Eagle almost continuously until that paper folded in 1954, and would co-found the American Chess Bulletin in 1904 with Hartwig Cassel. He published his Bulletin until the month he died, January 1963.

It was in the pages of the May 12, 1894, Eagle that a detailed account of the YMCA's match with Paterson appeared. Brooklyn won the first round 5-3, with 3 draws. And among the games played was the following one, the third to finish, which featured the Eagle's chess editor and "Lawyer Griggs." The notes are by the author, with the help of Fritz13.

Hermann Helms – John W. Griggs [C31] Brooklyn YMCA – Paterson Club Team Match, Bd.5 May 11, 1894

1.e4 e5 2.f4 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.Nc3 Qd8 After only four moves Griggs found himself in hot water. One would think a politician might have better appreciation of time's value. **5.fxe5** And now the politician is left without a center. Never a good position for someone seeking to remain in office. **5...Be6 6.Nf3 Ne7 7.d4 Nd5 8.Bd3 8.Ne4 Nc6 9.c4 Ndb4 10.d5** might have been more disheartening for his opponent, but Helms's move is good enough. **8...h6 9.0-0 Nd7** Worse and worse. Griggs blocks his own defense of d5. Imagine a politician who fails to secure his own base! **10.Nxd5 Bxd5 11.c4 Bxf3 12.Qxf3** Facing mate on the move as well as a classically ideal center, Griggs sacs a piece for a little time and space. **12...Nxe5 13.dxe5 Bc5+ 14.Kh1 0-0** Black has given up a piece to finally get his King into what he might have thought was a safe position.



Position after 14.0-0

15.Bxh6 A nice flash, but even more effective would have been the quieter **15.Qg3**, highlighting Black's predicament. If **15...Kh8** then **16.Bxh6** when **16...gxh6** is met with the stopper **17.Rf6**. Of course, Helms's move is more than sufficient. **15...Qh4 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Qf5 Be3 18.Rf3 Qg5 19.Rg3**

Helms, in his abundance of choices, seems to have overlooked mate on the move. **19...Qxg3 20.Qh7** mate 1-0

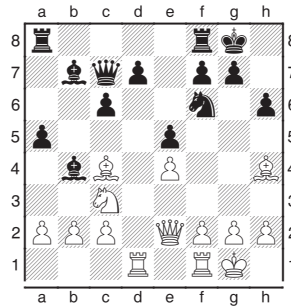
Brooklyn Daily Eagle, May 12, 1894

Two weeks later, on May 25, ten members of the Paterson Chess Club made the trip to Brooklyn. This time, the Paterson contingent managed only two wins and two draws, giving the Brooklyn YMCA the full match win, 13½ - 7½. And once again, according to the Eagle for the following day, Griggs lost his game to Helms. Griggs's thoughts may well have been distracted by family matters. His second wife, Laura, gave birth to their first child, Griggs's sixth, a girl, less than a week later, on May 31.

The two clubs planned another match for the following season, and they were true to their word. On November 30, 1894, the Brooklyn YMCA sent ten men over to Paterson, where they beat the home club by a score of 6-2, with 2 draws. Griggs played on board four. His nemesis from the previous match, Helms, advanced to board three. But Griggs fared no better than before, and this time found himself once again on the losing end of a Brooklyn player's combination. Helms noted the game was in fact the first to finish, and considered it "the best game of the evening," although Griggs likely would have disagreed.

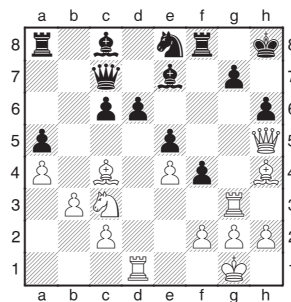
P.D. Quick – John W. Griggs [B32]
Brooklyn YMCA – Patterson
Club Team Match, Bd.4
November 30, 1894
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nxc6 bxc6 This time,
at least, Griggs played to retain
NJ State Chess Federation

his center. **6.Bc4 Nf6 7.Nc3 Bb4**
8.Qe2 Bb7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Bg5 h6
11.Bh4 a5 12.Rad1 Qc7 This loses,
although Griggs's opponent misses
the opportunity.



Position after 12...Qc7

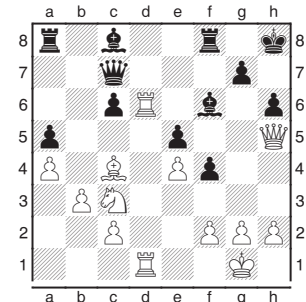
13.Rd3 **13. Bxf6!** and Black can resign, as giving up the knight for nothing appears Black's best course of action. If, however, **13...gxf6**, then White wins on the kingside, as Black has no time to arrange a defense. For instance, **14.Qg4+ Kh7 15.Rd3 Rg8 16.Qf5+ Kg7 17.Rg3+ Kf8 18.Rxg8+ Kxg8 19.Qg6+ Kh8 20.Bxf7** and mates the next move. **13...Kh8 Bxf6** is still available. **14.Rfd1 Bc8** Further blocking coordination of his pieces. Now **Bxf6** is back in play, although White, having overlooked it twice before, goes for the hat trick: **15.a3 Be7 16.a4 d6 17.b3 Ne8 18.Qh5 f5 19.Rg3 f4** See note after Black's twelfth move.



Position after 19...f4

20.Rgd3 20.Rg6 Kh7 21.Bf7! Rxf7
(**21...Bxh4 22.Rxh6+ gxh6 23.Qg6+ Kh8 24.Qxh6#**; **21...Bg5 22.Bxe8 Rxe8 23.Rdxd6 22.Rxh6+ gxh6**

23.Qxf7+ Ng7 24.Qxe7 wins. **20...Nf6 21.Bxf6** Finally! But this should only result in even play. Griggs overlooks his weak d6 pawn, which never did make it to d5. **21...Bxf6? 22.Rxd6**



Position after 22.Rxd6

22...Ra7?? Perhaps flustered by dropping the pawn on his last move, Griggs immediately throws away the game. **23.Rxf6 Rxf6 24.Qe8+ Kh7 24...Rf8 25.Qxf8+ Kh7 26.Rd6 Qxd6 27.Qxd6** isn't an alternative, except for a computer. **25.Bg8+ Kh8 26.Bf7+ Kh7 27.Qg8** mate 1-0
Brooklyn Daily Eagle, December 1, 1894

Griggs was accustomed to seeing his name in the newspapers, but one doubts he ever saw himself again on the losing side of two mating finishes, at least in print. The second half of the match, played in Brooklyn on the night of January 17, 1895, saw only a skeletal contingent of seven Paterson players arrive, claiming their ranks had been decimated "owing to the grip's ravages." Among the victims apparently was Griggs, who did not appear for his club's loss, 4-2, with 1 draw. The result was duly reported, along with two game scores, in the next day's Eagle.

Having failed at playing for his club, Griggs appears to have switched to what he knew best: organizational politics. On February 22, 1895, Griggs was elected president of the New Jersey Chess Association. Much later that year, the Eagle for November 7, 1895, mentioned in passing that Griggs was now President of the Paterson Chess Club. One tends to doubt his elevation, however, was the election then most on his mind.

On November 5, 1895, two days before the Eagle mentioned he was president of his local chess club, John W. Griggs was elected Governor of New Jersey. The Brooklyn paper published a line drawing of the governor elect in its November 10, 1895 issue:



JOHN W. GRIGGS,
Republican Governor-elect of New Jersey

Griggs had done the near impossible: after thirty years of Democratic control, Griggs and the Republicans had unseated the party from office, gaining a small plurality of nearly 27,000, with 52.5 percent of the vote. While the Democrats undoubtedly thought Griggs's election a small aberration, and that they would return to control of New Jersey's highest office with the next

election, it would be another fifteen years and require the candidacy of a Princeton University president, Woodrow Wilson, to remove the state's highest office from Republican hands. What Griggs had clearly been unable to do at the chessboard, he did with finesse at the election tables.

Thirty years is a long time to wait for a victory parade, and New Jersey's Republican's made the most of it. The scene on January 21, 1896, is set admirably by William E. Sackett in his *Modern Battles of Trenton*, Vol. II, "From Werts to Wilson" (Neale Publishing Co.: New York, 1914), p.42. Sackett referred to Griggs's inauguration in the following terms: "The advent of this remarkable man to the State House was the signal for an outpouring of party enthusiasm that quite out-matched anything the State had seen. ... Trenton was overrun by marching clubs and resonant with fife and drum all the day in January, 1896, set for his inauguration. ... Every road in the State led to Trenton, when that day arrived. The facilities of the railroads were taxed to their capacity to carry the jubilee crush. Camden, Newark, Paterson, Elizabeth, New Brunswick, Jersey City, sent companies of marchers, and they rolled into town with gay banners fluttering over their heads and bands in endless succession, setting the stroke for their feet in catchy ragtime jingles." The crowd marched to Taylor's Opera House in Trenton, where the place was packed, with thousands left crushing at the door, spilling out into the streets. Griggs "entertained the multitude with a breezy inaugural."

A month later, on February 22, 1896, Governor Griggs opened the

Eleventh State Championship of the New Jersey Chess Association in his home city of Paterson. He served on the local committee preparing the event, and as Association President had been active in publicizing it. Earlier, in a circular addressed to chess players, he had written with more enthusiasm than accuracy that

It is a fact recognized throughout the world that the game of chess has for three thousand years (and nobody knows how much longer), been the greatest, most fascinating and, at the same time, the most beneficial of all intellectual pastimes. Every chess player will testify to the beneficial effects manifested in the increased acuteness of his reasoning and logic, which are derived from the complex combinations which arise upon the chess board. The world has scarcely ever held a great genius who was not an enthusiastic devotee of the game. Napoleon, Gustavus Adolphus, Bismarck, Franklin and a list of others who are known to history have found in it their chief amusement.
New Jersey Chess Association: History, Meetings and Tournaments, By Duncan S. Walker (Hoboken, N.J., 1908), pp.16-17

At the opening of the meeting, Governor Griggs gave "a brief and pertinent address." He donated a gold medal to the organization. And more than that: Griggs played in one of the two Open tournaments. For the past few years, the state championship had been limited to a field of sixteen, but in association with this premier event, one or more open sections were conducted. Griggs apparently had time for only two games, and left after that. Perhaps, good politician that he was, having won two games

in the Open Tournament A event, he elected to leave undefeated, forfeiting his last two games. His choice might have been a wise one in any case, as one of his forfeited games was against F.A. Voss, winner of the minor tournament. The curious result was that a recently elected state governor appeared in a tournament crosstable:

Griggs's political career, apparently reaching its apex in his election as governor, actually reached higher and, but for two unexpected blows, might have gone higher still. His political mentor, friend and fellow Paterson, New Jersey resident, Garret A. Hobart (1844-1899), like Griggs himself a corporate lawyer, had come to national prominence in masterminding Griggs's elec-

with the President was considered great, and no more so than in filling positions of power and influence in McKinley's Administration.

Griggs served only two years of his three year term as New Jersey's Governor. On January 25, 1898, he signed into law a new Act that avoided a State constitutional dilemma by determining the order for succession on vacancy of the governor's office. A few days later, on February 1, 1898, while New Jersey's Republican senate president was sworn in as acting governor until that fall's election, Griggs, thanks in large measure to Hobart, was sworn in as Attorney General of the United States.

A few weeks later, on February 19, 1898, what was described as a "love feast dinner" was held at the Waldorf-Astoria for Griggs, attended by a few of his close political friends: Hobart, the Vice President of the United States, United States Senator from New Jersey, William J. Swell, and numerous Griggs appointees while Governor. They came together for a convivial dinner, to wish him well, and to present him with a solid silver, twenty-six piece dinner service, each piece of which, according to the next day's New York Times, "was covered with a silk American flag, attached with silken cords of Jersey yellow to a rope of pink roses, connected with another yellow cord" which Samuel H. Grey, New Jersey Attorney General, sitting immediately to Griggs's right at the huge, round table in the East Room of the Waldorf-Astoria, pulled upon at the proper moment, displaying the finery to the political elite. As if this were not enough, each guest received a souvenir of the dinner, a "handsome vellum

	1896. OPEN TOURNAMENT, A. 1896.													
	Alpers.....	Beyer.....	Craig, J.....	Craig, R. L....	Crane.....	Griggs.....	Horster.....	Jaffe.....	Kempf.....	Lillie.....	Schafer.....	Schleckser.....	Schulhoff.....	Voss.....
Lost.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Won.....	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
White.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Weiss.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Voss.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schulhoff.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schleckser.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schafer.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lillie.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kempf.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jaffe.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Horster.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Griggs.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crane.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Craig, R. L....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Craig, J.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beyer.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alpers.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Voss, F. A.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jaffe, C.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Craig, R. L.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lillie, C. A.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kempf, L. A.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Griggs, J. W.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Horster, O.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Crane, F. W. C.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
White, J. H.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Schafer.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Schulhoff, L.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Alpers, W. C.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Schleckser, H.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Weiss, E. R.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Beyer, M.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Craig, J.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

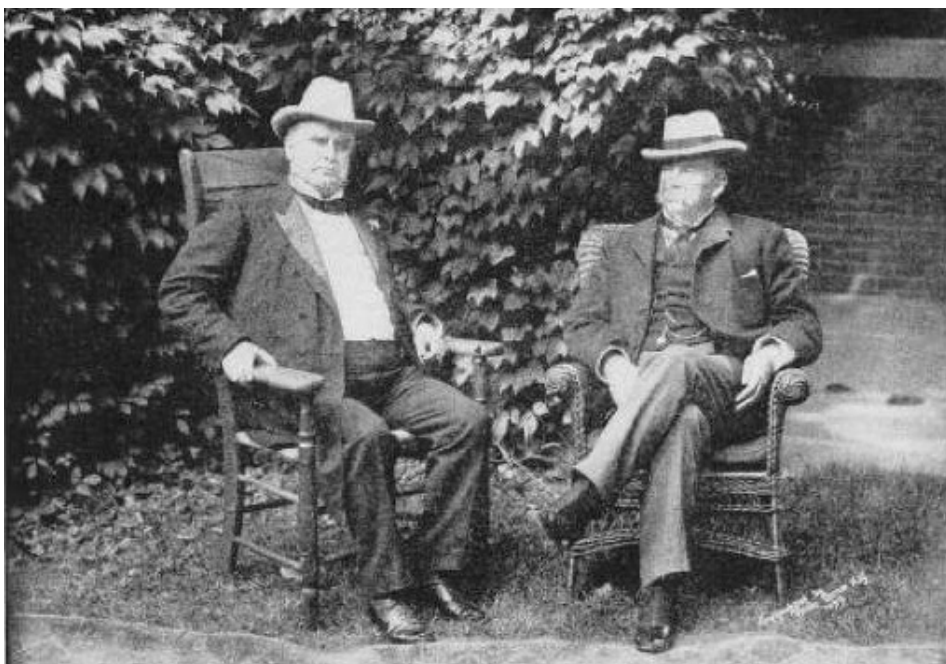
*Governor Griggs left after winning first two rounds.
Many of the last games from Weiss down were not played.

New Jersey Chess Association: History, Meetings and Tournaments, By Duncan S. Walker (Hoboken, N.J., 1908), p.37

Chess readers might find it interesting to note in the table above the presence of a future American player of some stature: Charles Jaffe, then about seventeen (his exact age is unclear) and apparently recently arrived in the United States, who placed second. Play took place at Turn Hall, Paterson, New Jersey, and at least one newspaper report, the New York Herald for February 24, 1896, headlined its small article on the event with "Governor Griggs Plays Fine Chess."

tion. Well known in Republican circles, and considered a sure bet to pull in Eastern votes for an Ohio Governor's bid for the Presidency, Hobart became William McKinley's running mate at the Republican convention at St. Louis in June 1896. The two along with big business defeated Democratic party candidate William Jennings Bryan, whose meager \$300,000 war chest could not compete with the Republican's astronomical, for the times, \$7,000,000.

Hobart's strong personality quickly led him to become a close friend and advisor to McKinley, and in this role he is remembered today as one of the strongest vice presidents in the nation's history. His influence



President William McKinley (left) with his Vice President, Garret Hobart, at Hobart's summer home in 1899

book, with a fine lithograph portrait of Attorney General Griggs on the second leaf, and containing the menu, the names of those present, and a space for autographs. On the last page were the arms of the State of New Jersey.”

Griggs fit in well with the McKinley-Hobart combination, and where his influence and ambition might have led him had fate not cut his highest political connection short is unknown. But by late 1898, Hobart, only in his mid-fifties, had become seriously ill with a heart condition. In September 1899, after vacationing with McKinley, Hobart returned to Paterson, where he died of heart failure November 21. Griggs stayed on as Attorney General, but it was “the Hero of San Juan Hill,” New York Governor Theodore Roosevelt, and not Griggs, who became McKinley’s vice president in 1900. Had Hobart lived to finish his term with McKinley, he might well have convinced the President to replace him with Griggs as his vice presidential run-

ning mate, leaving Roosevelt to fill another position in McKinley’s new cabinet.

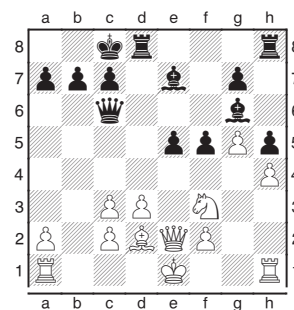
Long after Griggs became a major public figure, his earlier chess antagonist and conqueror, Helms, published another of his games. He introduced it as follows, sadly neglecting to say exactly when, where or under what circumstances it was played. The game in fact only saw publication (or perhaps republication) because of Griggs’s opponent’s recent achievements:

“Now that J.H. Stapfer, the New Jersey champion, has risen to national fame by virtue of his fine showing in the last American tournament, a game he played some time ago against John W. Griggs, former Governor of New Jersey and later Attorney General of the United States, becomes doubly interesting. Before attaining political prominence, Mr. Griggs was president of the Patterson Chess Club, and in his day was rated a very strong player. The fact that he was able to

defeat Stapfer, who has always been able to hold his own in the best company of experts in this vicinity, bears out this statement. In the game in question Mr. Griggs avoided a King’s side attack by castling on the opposite wing. In due course he obtained dominating control of the board with his pieces, and, driving his advantage home with telling force, he anon gained access to the white king and compelled his resignation. The score:”

John Homer Stapfer - Griggs [C24]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.Nc3 Nxc3 7.bxc3 Bg4 8.h3 Bh5 9.g4 Bg6 10.h4 h5 11.g5 Be7 12.Qe2 Qd6 13.Bb5 0-0-0 14.Bxc6 Qxc6 15.Bd2 f5



Position after 15...f5

16.Rg1 Missing his chance to occupy, and control, e5: 16.0-0 e4 17.Ne5 Qe6 18.Bf4 Bd6 19.d4 when White’s prospects look much better than they do in the remainder of the game. **16...Bd6 17.Kd1 e4 18.Nd4 Qd5 19.dxe4 fxe4 20.Ke1 c6 21.Be3 c5 22.Nb3 Bf5 23.Nd2 Be5 24.c4 Qc6 25.Rb1 Bg4 26.Rxg4 hxg4 27.Qxg4+ Kb8 28.Nxe4 Bd4 29.Qg3+ Ka8 30.Nd2 Bc3 31.Ke2 Bxd2 32.Bxd2 Rhe8+ 33.Be3 Qa4 34.Rb3 Qxc4+ 35.Kf3 Rf8+ 36.Kg2 Qe4+ 37.Kh2 Rf3 38.Qc7 Qxh4+ 39.Kg1 Rd1+ 0-1** Brooklyn Daily Eagle, April 3, 1913

Stapfer (or how he later became known, Staffer), according to an April 1946 Chess Review write-up, was a native of Griggs's home, Paterson, New Jersey, although twenty-three years the younger man. Stapfer won the New Jersey championship four times, in 1895, the year Griggs was elected president of the New Jersey Chess Association, and in 1898, 1904 and 1912. His 1912 title earned him an invitation to New York 1913, where Capablanca won by half a point over Marshall and Stapfer tied for a respectable fifth-sixth with Oscar Chajes. This was the conclusion of Stapfer's serious chess play. He came to Chess Review's notice because thirty years after his New York appearance, he entered the magazine's 1943 Victory Correspondence Tournament, where despite his half-a-lifetime's abstinence from serious chess Stapfer won the three round event, 18-0. Stapfer then returned to chess and non-chess obscurity alike. No one knows when he died.

That was not the case, however, with Griggs. For him, the rest was history. Or at least recorded in its pages. McKinley and Roosevelt won a victory over an aging William Jennings Bryan on November 6, 1900. Exactly ten months later, on September 6, 1901, McKinley was shot by Leon Czolgosz while attending a reception at Buffalo's Pan-American Exhibition, and died eight days later. Roosevelt, only forty-two at the time, was sworn in as President of the United States. He formally asked McKinley's cabinet to stay on, but it was too much. Griggs resigned as Attorney General and returned to Paterson. Not long after, he accepted appointment to the Permanent Court of

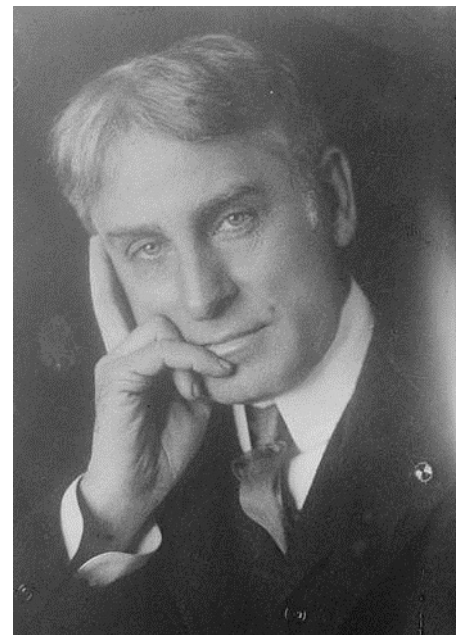
Arbitration at The Hague, and served in that capacity from 1901 through 1908. He returned to live in Paterson, although he practiced law in New York City, serving as a corporate director on many boards, including those of New York Telephone, Bethlehem Steel, and the Marconi Wireless Company. On November 28, 1927, Griggs died, leaving an estate of over a million dollars to his widow and seven children. Like his friend, Hobart, Griggs was buried in Paterson's Cedar Lawn Cemetery.

Had fate woven a slightly different pattern, Griggs, rather than Teddy Roosevelt, on McKinley's assassination might have quietly stepped into the Presidency of the United States.

Not bad for a mid-board, club player.

A Note on Sources

Information on John W. Griggs is widely scattered, but an excellent starting point is *The Governors of New Jersey, 1664 – 1974: Biographical Essays*, edited by Paul A. Stellhorn and Michael J. Birkner (Essay on Griggs by Don C. Skemer, pp.161-164) (New Jersey Historical Commission 1982), as well as *Modern Battles of Trenton*, Vol.



John Williams Griggs
July 10, 1849 – November 28, 1927

II, *From Werts to Wilson*, by William E. Sackett (Neale Publishing: New York, 1914). Details of Griggs's political career, as well as those of his mentors and friends, can also be found in the pages of numerous newspapers online, including the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, New York Times, and New York Herald. Quite useful in the absence of access to more specific New Jersey chess sources was New Jersey Chess Association: History, Meetings and Tournaments, By Duncan S. Walker (Hoboken, N.J., 1908). Photographs and illustrations used here are, to the author's best knowledge, in the public domain.

Information about Lafayette College can be found at <http://www.lafayette.edu/> accessed January 15, 2012.

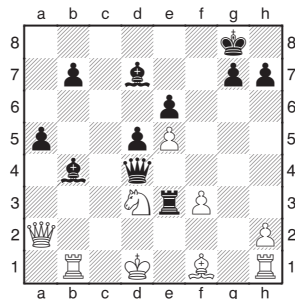
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Games From USATE 2016

(1) Volkov, Dmitry (2390) -
Hargrove, James (2034) [C02]

World Amateur Team Ch (1), 13.02.2016
[Pete Tamburro]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3
Bd7 6.a3 Rc8 7.b4 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.Bb2
Qb6 10.Nc3 fxe5 11.Na4 Qd8 12.dxe5
Nxb4 13.axb4 Bxb4+ 14.Ke2 Rc4 15.Bd4
Ne7 16.Qb3 0-0 17.Be3 Nf5 18.Nb2 Re4
19.Kd1 Nxe3+ 20.fxe3 Qb6 21.Rb1 Rxe3
22.Nd3 a5 23.Qa2 Rxf3 24.gxf3 Qd4
Diagram

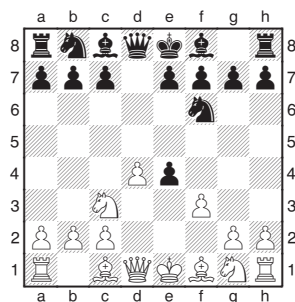


[24...Rxf3] 25.Rb3? [25.Rxb4! axb4
26.Qa8+ Kf7 27.Qxb7 Rxd3+ 28.Bxd3
Qxd3+=] 25...Re1+ 26.Kc2 Ra1 [26...
Qc4+ 27.Kb2 Rd1-+] 27.Qb2 Qc4+
28.Rc3 Ba4+ 29.Kd2 Bxc3+ 30.Qxc3
Rd1+ 0-1

(2) Zilbermintz, Lev (2101) -
Tseytlin, Vitaly (2103) [D00]

World Amateur Team Ch (2), 13.02.2016
[Pete Tamburro]

1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 Diagram



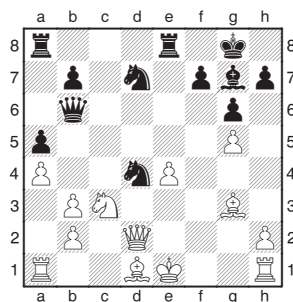
4...e3 5.Bxe3 c6 6.Qd2 Bf5 7.g4 Bg6
8.Nge2 Nbd7 9.h4 h6 10.Nf4 Bh7 11.g5
e5 12.dxe5 Nd5 13.Ncxd5 Nxe5 14.0-0-0
cxd5 15.Bb5+ Nd7 16.Qxd5 1-0

(3) Balakrishnan, Praveen (2407) -
Fishbein, Matthew (2170) [B72]

World Amateur Team Ch (2), 13.02.2016
[Pete Tamburro]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.Be2 0-0 8.f4 Nc6
9.Nb3 Be6 10.g4 Na5 11.Bd4 Bc4 12.Bf3

e5 [12...Nc6] 13.fxe5 dxe5 14.Bxe5 Nc6
15.Bd6 [15.Qxd8] 15...Re8 16.g5 Nd7
17.Qd2 a5 18.a4 Bxb3 19.cxb3 Nd4
20.Bd1 Qb6 21.Bg3 Diagram



21...Nc5 22.Bf2 Nxe4 23.Nxe4 Rxe4+
24.Kf1 Qa6+ 25.Kg2 Qc6 26.Kg1 Rae8
27.Rc1 Qd5 28.Rc2 Qf5 29.Rc4 Rd8
30.Qc1 Rg4+ 31.Bxg4 Qxg4+ 32.Bg3 Qf3
0-1

(4) Sprechman, Hal (1617) -
Christiansen, N. (1874) [B23]

[Pete Tamburro]

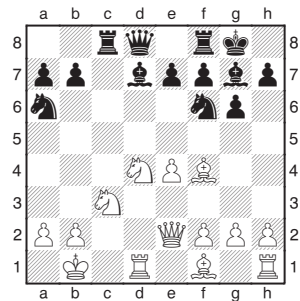
World Amateur Team Ch (3), 14.02.2016

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 g6 3.f4 Bg7 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Bb5
Nd4 6.0-0 Nxb5 7.Nxb5 a6 8.Nc3 b5 9.d4
cxd4 10.Nxd4 Bb7 11.a3 e6 12.Be3 Ne7
13.Qd3 0-0 14.f5 Nc6 [14...gxf5 15.exf5
Be5] 15.Nxc6 Bxc6 16.Bc5 Re8 17.fxg6
hxxg6 18.Bd6 Bxc3 19.Qxc3 Bxe4 20.Rf4
Rc8 21.Qe3 Rc6 [21...Bxc2 22.Be5 Bf5 23.g4
Qg5] 22.Be5 [22.Qxe4 Qb6+=] 22...d5
23.Qh3 Qb6+ 24.Kh1 Kf8 25.Bf6 Bxxg2+
26.Kxxg2 Rxc2+ 27.Kh1 Rec8 28.Qh8# 1-0

(5) Drillich, Brad (1809) -
Glassman, Jeremy (2209) [D97]

World Amateur Team Ch (4), 14.02.2016
[Pete Tamburro]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.d4 Bg7 5.Bf4
0-0 6.Qb3?! [6.Rc1; 6.e3] 6...dxc4 7.Qxc4
Na6 8.e4 c5!? [8...c6 is more solid. c5 is a
lot more fun.] 9.0-0-0?! [Putting your king
on a soon to be open file is risky. Critical
alternatives leading to mind-boggling
complications and sub-variations would
come from these alternatives: 9.Rd1 ; 9.d5;
9.e5 What all this means is that Black's
choice of c5 was an excellent way to play
for a win. Offering your opponent lots
of choices gives him more opportunities
to make wrong ones!] 9...cxd4 10.Nxd4
Bd7 11.Kb1 [White senses the danger, but
should have played 11.Nb3 Rc8 12.Qd4 to
have some pressure along the d-file.] 11...
Rc8 12.Qe2 Diagram



12...Rxc3! Delightful! You don't see this
happen very often in a Gruenfeld Defense.

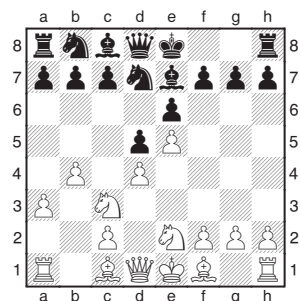
13.bxc3 Nxe4! Obviously immune from
capture. Or is it? 14.Qc2 [Oddly enough,
White's best shot to survive was to take
the knight: 14.Qxe4 Bf5 15.Nxf5 Qxd1+
16.Bc1 gxf5 17.Qd3 Qa4 and Black is
clearly winning, but at least there's some
fight left.] 14...Qb6+ 15.Ka1 Nxc3 All
roads lead to Rome. 16.Qxc3 Rc8 17.Qb2
Nb4 18.Be3 Rc2 19.Bc4 Rxb2 20.Kxb2
Nc6+ 21.Kc3 Qb4+ 0-1

(6) Ng, Andrew (2335) - Dygert, Stephen
(2163) [C15]

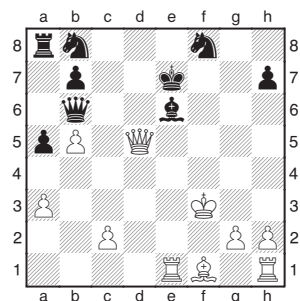
World Amateur Team Ch Parsippany, NJ
(1), 13.02.2016

[Pete Tamburro]

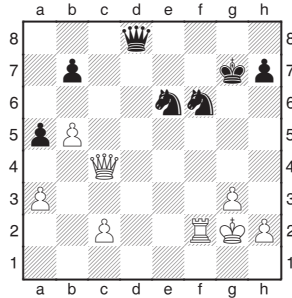
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Nf6 5.e5
Nfd7 6.a3 Be7 7.b4 Diagram



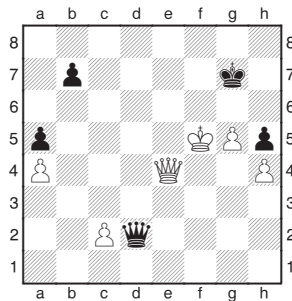
7...a5 8.b5 c5 9.Be3 Qc7 10.Nf4 cxd4
11.Bxd4 Bc5 12.Ncxd5 exd5 13.Nxd5
Qd8 14.e6 fxe6 15.Bxxg7 exd5 16.Qh5+
Ke7 17.Qxd5 Bxf2+ 18.Kxf2 Qb6+
19.Kf3 Rf8+ 20.Bxf8+ Nxf8 21.Re1+ Be6
Diagram



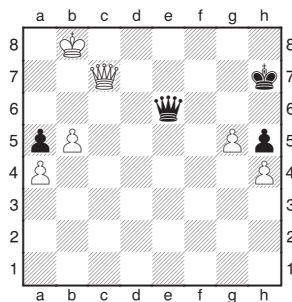
22.Qg5+ Kf7 23.Bc4 Nbd7 24.Rhf1 Nf6
25.Qf4 Bxc4 26.Qxc4+ Ne6 27.g3 Rd8
28.Re2 Rd6 29.Kg2 Kg7 30.Qh4 Qd8
31.Ref2 Rd2 32.Qc4 Rxf2+ 33.Rxf2
Diagram



33...Qd6 34.Re2 Ng5 35.b6 Qxb6 36.Re7+
Kg6 37.Qd3+ Kh6 38.h4 Qc6+ 39.Kg1
Nge4 40.Qe3+ Kg6 41.g4 h5 42.g5 Qc8
43.Rxe4 Nxe4 44.Qxe4+ Kg7 45.a4 Qd7
46.Kg2 Qd2+ 47.Kg3 Qc3+ 48.Kf4 Qd2+
49.Kf5 Diagram



49...Qf2+ 50.Ke6 Qb6+ 51.Kd7 Qa7
52.Qe5+ Kg8 53.Qe6+ Kg7 54.Qh6+
Kg8 55.Qg6+ Kf8 56.Qd6+ Kg8 57.Kc8
b6 58.Qd5+ Kh8 59.c4 Qa6+ 60.Kb8
b5 61.Qd8+ Kh7 62.cxb5 Qe6 63.Qc7+
Diagram

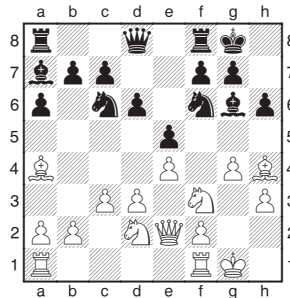


1-0

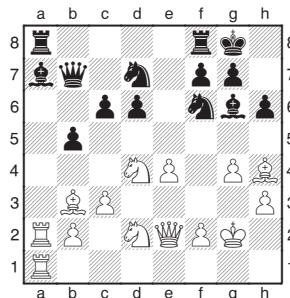
(7) Yudasin, Leonid (2618) -
Korning, Peter (2201) [C54]
World Amateur Team Ch (5), 15.02.2016
[Pete Tamburro]
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 It's
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always interesting to see which titled
players play 4.d3 or 4.d4 or, even more
interesting--4.Ng5. 4...Bc5 5.c3 d6 6.Bb3
a6 Your annotator had a flashback at this
point--going back 43 years! L. Dubeck-P.
Tamburro, South Jersey Open, 1973: 1.e4
e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.d3 d6 5.Nf3 a6!
6.Bg5 h6, and, although slightly different
the idea was so similar. After 47 moves of
struggle, we agreed to a draw in mutual
time trouble. Time trouble seems to follow
this opening as you will see. 7.0-0 0-0
8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 Ba7 10.Nbd2 Be6 11.Ba4
Bg4 12.h3 Bh5 [More circumspect was 12...
Bd7] 13.g4 Bg6 14.Qe2 Diagram

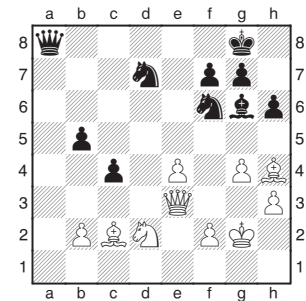


In the aforementioned game, Dubeck
went with queenside expansion starting
with b4, then a4, thus the bishop would
not block the b-pawn when retreating.
Different styles... 14...b5! 15.Bb3 Nb8
Another playable choice was 15...Na5,
giving it that slow Anderssen/Steinitz Ruy
Lopez look. 16.a4 c6 Thus far, this has
been a well-contested game with many
possibilities left unchosen. Another White
choice would be 17.d4. 17.axb5 axb5
18.Ra2 An idea you not infrequently see
played by GMs in the Ruy Lopez. 18...
Nbd7 19.Rfa1 Qc7 20.Kg2 Qb7 21.d4
exd4 22.Nxd4! Diagram

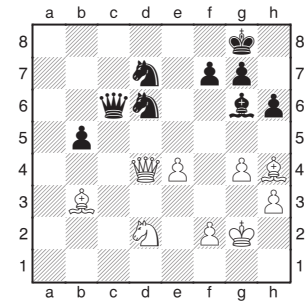


[Favorable to White would be: 22.cxd4
Rfe8 23.e5 c5] 22...Bxd4! No two-bishops
worry wart is Black! He knows he's
equalized. 23.Rxa8 Rxa8 24.Rxa8+ Qxa8
25.cxd4 c5!! Any other move would have
given White a decent advantage. [25...Qe6
26.f3 h5 27.Bg3 hxg4 28.hxg4 Qe7 29.Bd1
Nf8 30.Nb3] 26.dxc5 dxc5 27.Bc2 c4

28.Qe3 Diagram



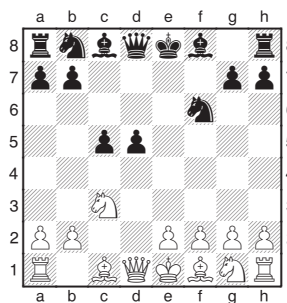
[One might have expected 28.f4 to mix
things up.] 28...Qc6?! [To be considered
was 28...Qa1 29.Qc3 Qe1 30.Bxf6 Nxf6
31.Qd4 Qc1 32.Bb1 Nh7] 29.Qd4?!
[Testing Black's defensive resources would
have been 29.f4 Qc5 30.Qxc5 Nxc5 31.f5
Bh7 32.Bf2 We get the impression that
the clock has become a third player in
this game.] 29...Ne8 30.b3 [30.Bg3] 30...
cxb3? [30...Nc5 31.bxc4 Ne6 32.Qe3 bxc4]
31.Bxb3 Nd6 Diagram



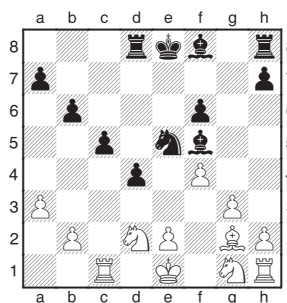
32.f3! White has stopped the counterattack
on e4, has kept the two bishops and he's not
letting the b-pawn go anywhere. Black's
bishop is without scope. White now has
a decided edge. 32...Qc5 33.Bf2 Qxd4
34.Bxd4 Kf8 35.e5 Or Bc3 and Bb4. 35...
Ne8 36.f4 The killer f4 move. It has been
looming the entire game, but this moment
is particularly deadly. 36...Bd3 37.Kf3 b4
38.Ke3 Bb5 39.f5 Bc6 40.Ne4 and White,
on the brink of an easy win, falls one move
short and forfeits on time. Nevertheless,
Black's play against the titled player was
exemplary for most of the game and gave
his opponent apparently too much to think
about! 0-1 0-1

(8) Walthall, Ned (1362) -
Tannenbaum, Jeffrey (1972) [A60]
World Amateur Team Ch (5), 15.02.2016
[Pete Tamburro]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e5 Don't see this
Old Benoni setup much anymore. 4.dxe6
[4.Nc3 d6 And the reason why is: 5.e4] 4...

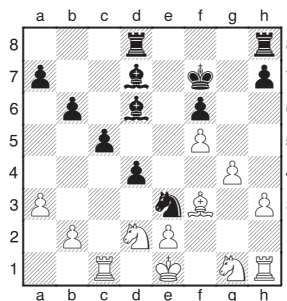
fxe6 Since White has been kind enough to help Black in his quest for the freeing move d5, Black has equalized already. **5.Nc3 d5 6.cxd5 exd5** Diagram



7.Bg5 [Most entertaining (for Black) would have been: 7.e4 d4 8.Nd5 Nxd5 9.Bb5+ Nd7 10.Qh5+ Ke7 11.Bc4 (11.Qxd5 Qa5+) 11... N7f6] **7...d4 8.Ne4 Qa5+** [Many moves are fine here. White is pretty much lost in this position. Sad. 8...Nc6 ; 8...Bf5; 8...Be7] **9.Qd2 Qxd2+ 10.Nxd2 Nc6 11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.Rc1 Bf5 13.a3 b6 14.g3 Ne5 15.Bg2 Rd8 16.f4??**



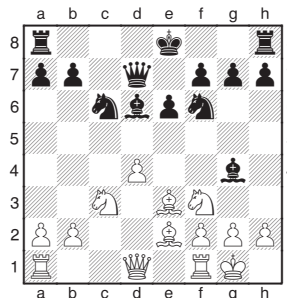
It's a wonder the black hole on e3 didn't immediately swallow up White's pieces. **16...Ng4** Naturally. **17.Bc6+ Kf7 18.h3?** By all means, help the intruder through the front door. **18...Ne3 19.g4 Bd7 20.Bf3 Bd6 21.f5** Diagram



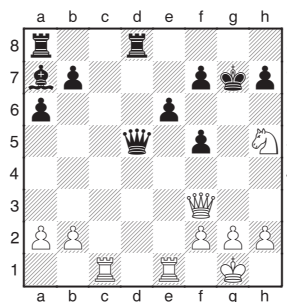
A multifunction positional move fixing the Black pawn weakness on f6 and restricting the movement of the enemy light-squared bishop. Unfortunately, there is the matter NJ State Chess Federation

of the dark-squared bishop... **21...Bg3# 0-1 (9) Lekocevic,John (1500) - Sells,Phillip (2080) [B22]** World Amateur Team Ch (3), 14.02.2016 [Pete Tamburro]

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Be2 cxd4 7.cxd4 e6 8.0-0 Nc6 9.Nc3 Qd7 10.Be3 Bd6 Diagram



11.Nb5!? The slavish desire to keep your bishop can get you in difficulties at times. Simply castling and blockading the d-pawn was in order. [One might expect a c3 player to go with 11.h3 Bf5 12.Ne5 (or 12.g4)] **11... Bb8 12.Nc3** [It is a little thing, but 12.h3 doesn't hurt and often helps in these lines. The decision Black makes from three move choices (taking, Bf5 and Bh5) can often seriously affect the game.] **12...0-0 13.Qd2 Rd8** Black is doing well here as White's d-pawn has no advance, but White doesn't have much to worry about either. **14.Rfd1 a6 15.Bg5?** Ignoring the threat on d4.14. h3 was still the best bet. **15...Bxf3 16.Bxf3 Nxd4?** [Black misses a neat little finesse to enhance the capture on d4: 16...Qc7 17.g3 Nxd4] **17.Qe3 Ba7?** [17...Nxf3+ 18.Qxf3 Qe7 would do nicely.] **18.Bxf6 gxf6 19.Ne4** [19.Qh6 was required because of Black's next move. Mover order is important!] **19... Kg7 20.Qf4 Qe7 21.Ng3 Nxf3+ 22.Qxf3 f5 [22...Kh8] 23.Re1 Qc5 24.Rac1 Qd5 25.Nh5+** Diagram



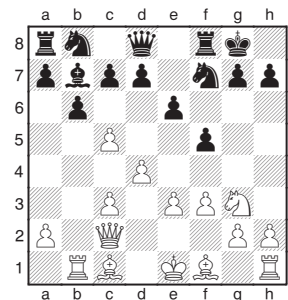
You have to give White credit for plugging away in a once lost position. Because Black, no doubt considering it a won game (it

was), loses his sense of danger, White can draw.. .OR... **25...Kh8 26.Qe2** [Objectively best was the following sequence where Black would retain an edge, but White could possibly draw, but we've run out of "objectivelys." **26.Qxd5 Rxd5 27.Rc7 Rd2 28.Rxf7 Kg8 29.Rg7+ Kf8 30.Rf1 Rxb2 31.Rxh7 Rd8] 26...Rg8 27.g3 Bd4 28.Rcd1** Because White kept trying, Black kept thinking. The players kept very little in the way of the score at this point. Black lost on time. **1-0**

(10) Grotnes,Nils (2195) - Rabin,Evan (2246) [E44]

World Amateur Team Ch (5), 15.02.2016 [Pete Tamburro]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6 5.Nge2 Ne4!? There are other choices, but none says quite so clearly that Black is being aggressive. **6.Qc2 Bb7 7.f3 Bxc3+** [Perhaps he didn't like 7...Nxc3 8.Nxc3 c5 9.Bd3 Nc6 10.d5 exd5 11.cxd5 Bxc3+ 12.Qxc3 Nb4 13.e4 Nxd3+ 14.Qxd3] **8.bxc3 Nd6 9.Ng3 f5** We now have an odd form of a Dutch Defense look with the Nd6 rather awkwardly placed and White soon ready to play the thematic e4. **10.Rb1 0-0 11.c5** Best way to liquidate doubled pawns. **11... Nf7** Diagram



12.Ba3! Adding insult to injury on the queenside and kingside. The rook moving off the rook-lifting f-file is not a good sign for a Dutch. Where the heck did that knight come from and what's it doing on f7? **12... Re8 13.Bd3 Qg5** Black is not going down without a fight. **14.Kf2 Qh4 15.Rhe1 Ng5 16.Kg1 Nc6** [Black no doubt looked at 16... Bxf3 17.gxf3 Nxf3+ 18.Kh1 Nxe1 19.Rxe1 Nc6 but found it depressing. What happens is worse, but sometimes players have to go where a surprise might save them rather than just die a slow, boring death the other way.] **17.f4 Nf7 18.Qf2** [The thematic choice was 18.e4 fxe4 19.Bxe4] **18...Nh6 [18...g5 19.d5!] 19.h3 Rf8** [A better stab was 19...Ne7 20.c4 (20.cxb6 axb6) 20...Bc6] **20.cxb6 Rf6** Sheer desperation. The game is

over. 21.bxc7 Rg6 22.Ne4 Qxf2+ 23.Nxf2 Na5 24.Rxb7 Nxb7 25.Rb1 1-0

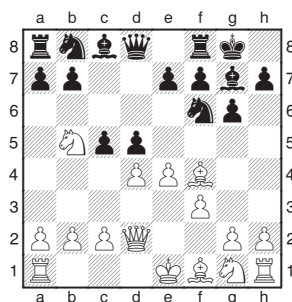
(11) Ardito, Andrew (2214) -

Glassman, Jeremy (2209) [D00]

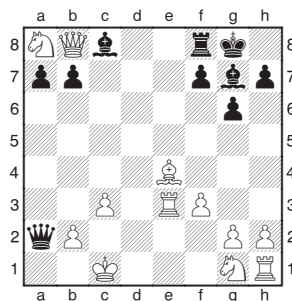
World Amateur Team Ch (6), 15.02.2016

[Pete Tamburro]

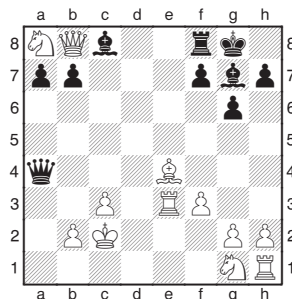
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bf4 g6 4.f3 Bg7 5.e4 0-0! Yes, he could take, but this is an in-your-face "I'm castled and you're not." move. 6.Qd2 [The pawn push is not dangerous: 6.e5 Nfd7! 7.Nxd5 (7.e6 fxe6 8.Qd2 e5) 7...c5 8.dxc5 Nc6] 6...c5 7.Nb5? Diagram



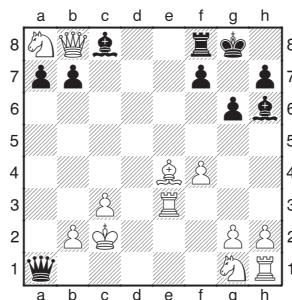
[Even after 7.dxc5 dxe4 8.Qxd8 Rxd8 9.fxe4 Be6 10.Nf3 Nc6 White is still lagging a bit behind Black in development. The opening was blowing a lot of smoke at the beginning, but there was no fire.] 7... cxd4! [The reflexive and almost routine 7...Na6 is OK, but Black's actual choice is sharp and leads to a distinct advantage for him.] 8.Nc7 e5!! Perhaps White didn't consider this, because if he did he would have played 8.Bc7 which was less bad, but still bad. 9.Nxa8 exf4 10.Qxf4 dxe4 11.0-0-0 Out of the frying pan, into the fire. 11...Nd5 There are all sorts of good moves in this series, and Black keeps picking the best one. 12.Qxb8 Qf6 Not exactly subtle, but effective nonetheless. 13.Bd3 Ne3 Disdaining the easy piece pick-up and having some fun. 14.Bxe4 d3 15.c3 None of the three ways to take it were any good. 15...Qa6 [Sometimes you just have to take the piece! Our teenager gets cute. 15...Nxd1] 16.Rxd3 [16.Bxd3 Qxa2 17.Ne2 Qa1+ 18.Kd2 Nxd1 19.Rxd1 Qxb2+ 20.Ke3 was worth a try for White as he could now hope for a blunder with 20...Re8+ or 20...Bxc3, but Black is still winning big time with 20...Qb3 or 20...Bf5.] 16...Qxa2 [Keeping the piece was a bit more efficient, but we think Black is enjoying giving away things-and he can afford to! 16...Nc4] 17.Rxe3 Diagram



17...Qa1+? [One of the important things about winning attacks is not to try to make stunning moves, rather it is to make moves that wrap up the game quickly. Otherwise, something might go wrong... 17...Bh6 was clearly indicated. Black was at this point only attacking with his queen after having been so generous in previous moves. 18.f4 Qa1+ 19.Kc2 Bg4 20.Qd6 Bxf4 21.Qd3 Bxe3 22.Nc7 Bc1 23.Nf3 Qxb2+ 24.Kd1 Bf4 brings in the rest of the team to finish off White.] 18.Kc2 Qa4+? Diagram



[Again, the Black queen needed help: 18... Bh6] 19.Kc1?? [White can now win with: 19.Kd2! Qa1 20.Ke2 Qxb2+ 21.Kf1 Be6 22.Qc7 b5 23.g3 Bc4+ 24.Re2 Bxc3 25.Qd7 Bf6 (25...Bxe2+ 26.Nxe2 a5 27.Kf2) 26.Qc6 Rd8 27.Qxc4] 19...Bh6 A scare for Black. It was a psychological moment for Black. He was being pummeled here there and everywhere, and when that happens, quite a few chess players don't think in terms of winning. They think in terms of survival. That two masters missed this shows just how much of a human struggle chess still is. 20.f4 Qa1+ 21.Kc2 Diagram



21...Bg4! Everything is clicking now. 22.Qxf8+ Kxf8 23.Bf3 Bf5+ 24.Kb3 b5 25.Kb4 Qa4+ 26.Kc5 Qc4+ It's a mate in three. 0-1

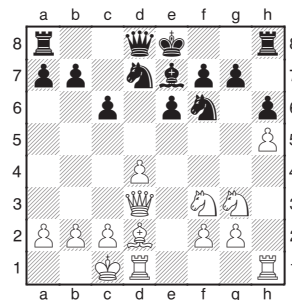
(12) Ostrovskiy, Aleksandr (2504) -

Pascetta, Daniel (2034) [B19]

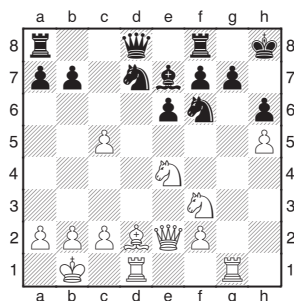
World Amateur Team Ch (4), 14.02.2016

[Aleksandr Ostrovskiy]

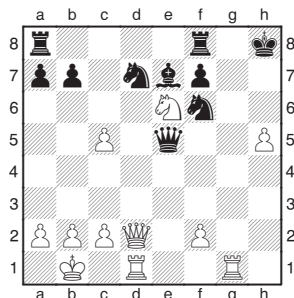
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.Nf3 Nd7 8.h5 Bh7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 e6 11.Bd2 Ngf6 12.0-0-0 Be7 Diagram



Variations with opposite side castling in the Caro-Kann have completely overshadowed the old main line with 0-0-0, and have brought more dynamic play for Black. 13.Kb1 0-0 14.Ne4 c5 The second most popular variation (and the best scoring) but also extremely dangerous. [14...Nxe4 15.Qxe4 Nf6 16.Qe2 Qd5 The main line, centralizing the queen and preparing a potential Qe4 trade] 15.g4! Third most popular move but the best scoring. This blunt approach is a typical strategy to highlight the drawbacks of the black king going short. 15...Nxe4 Otherwise g5 blows open files. In many similar positions with a g4 push Black takes the pawn and tries to weather the storm by nullifying the g-file or striking in the center/queenside. 16.Qe2 Not hurrying with Rg1 ideas, but first improving the queen by clearing the d-file for the Rd1, x-raying the Ng4, x-raying the e6 pawn (in case of f5 from Black), and also defending f2. 16...Ngf6 [16...Qb6 This continuation has been the most popular. Now the majority of games have continued with: 17.Ne5 Ndx5 18.dxe5 f5 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.Rdg1] 17.Rhg1 Kh8 18.dxc5 Diagram

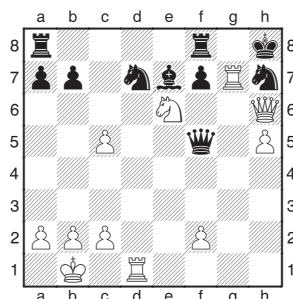


White has equalized the material and maintains great attacking chances due to the g-file **18...Qc7N** [In the only preceding game Black continued with: 18...Nxe4 19.Qxe4 Bf6 20.Bb4! Qc7 21.c6 bxc6 22.Bxf8 Rxf8± 1-0 (34) Navarrete Espi,S (2057)-Aranaz Murillo,A (2190)/ Linares 2010 (34)] **19.Bxh6!?** This move was very tempting, although the alternative below may have been better! [19.Bc3 Was a simple alternative. Black may prove to be unable to withstand White's kingside pressure: 19...Nxc5 Was my consideration during the game (19...Rad8? 20.Rxg7! Kxg7 21.Rg1+ Kh7 22.Qd3! Nxe4 (22...Kh8 23.Qe3 Kh7 24.Neg5+ hxxg5 25.Nxg5+ Kh8 26.Nxe6 Is similar to the game, but better as there is no Qe5!) 23.Qxe4+ f5 24.Rg7+ Kh8 25.Qe3+-) 20.Nxc5! (20.Nxf6 Bxf6 21.Bxf6 gxf6 Weakens Black's king, but with pieces being traded off it is not so easy to launch an attack) 20...Qxc5 21.Ne5 Black's extra pawn is immaterial here.] **19...gxh6 20.Qd2** Preferred over Qe3 to keep the Nd7 in sight **20...Kh7?** [20...Rg8! Avoids any immediate accidents 21.Qxh6+ Nh7÷; Although after 20...Ng8? The Nd7 will not be taken! 21.Rxg8+! Kxg8 22.Qxh6 Rg1 next] **21.Neg5+! hxxg5 22.Nxg5+ Kh8 23.Nxe6 Qe5!** Diagram



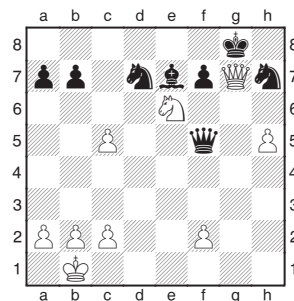
Black's only move.....which I admit embarrassingly escaped my attention when I played 19. Bxh6. I spent an hour on my next move, and the product of my calculation is displayed in the game and the supporting variations below. **24.Qh6+!**

[This was one of the first moves I checked, but it meets a nice refutation 24.Rde1? Qxe1+! (24...Qf5 is actually also possible, intending 25.Nd4 Ne4!) 25.Rxe1 fxe6 26.Qh6+ Nh7 27.Qxe6 This seemed like a good option at first as I will pick up a piece and have a material advantage due to the plethora of pawns. However after: 27...Ndf6! The Be7 is immune! The resulting material imbalance is unusual, but not in my favor] **24...Nh7 25.Rg7** [Attempting to regain material backfires after 25.Rxd7?? Bf6 Which defends the g7 square with tempo and prepares to capture the Ne6] **25...Qf5** Diagram



Unfortunately my opponent did not let me display the most impressive variation in this position [25...Ndf6 26.Ng5! (26.Rg5? I had thought this move won at first, because 26...Ng8 (But 26...Ng4! improves because the Qe5 is defended now! 27.Rxe5 Nxh6 28.Nxf8 Bxf8 Again a peculiar material imbalance but the three pieces are serious once they move out to better squares) 27.Qxh7+! Kxh7 28.Nxf8+ Bxf8 29.Rxe5 Results in a big material advantage) 26...Qf5 27.Rd5! An aesthetically pleasing move. Actually this move itself did not take me that long to discover, it was to realize the resulting position was winning for me! (27.b3 Is very cold-blooded and impressive. Despite the material advantage of two pieces, Black is helpless against the threat of Rd5! After 27...Rad8 28.Rxd8 Bxd8 29.Nxf7+ Rxf7 30.Rxf7 There is an "improved" transposition to the main line) 27...Rad8! I had foreseen this move and assumed it saved the game. It does not! 28.Rxd8 Bxd8 29.Nxf7+ Rxf7 30.Rxf7+- Black now loses a piece by force due to the dual threats of Qg7 and Rf8! 30...Qg4 31.Rf8+ Ng8 32.Rxd8 Qg1+ 33.Qc1 is a nice final point, no back rank!] **26.Rdg1!!** Although I did not get to play the impressive variation displayed in the notes above, I was able to execute this quiet killer. The idea is to sever the Qf5-h7 defense with R1g6! [I had gone into this variation intending to regain material. The final point I had to work out

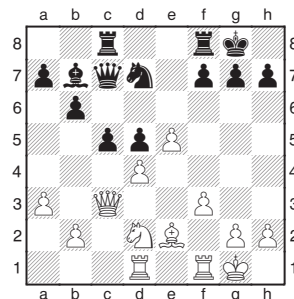
was 26.Rxd7 Rfe8 27.a3!! Simply making a luff! I am proud that the engine supports my calculations here. With no issues with back rank mates I am able to attack in peace (27.Nd4?? Bg5!) 27...fxe6 28.Rxb7!] **26...Rg8** Blundering into mate [26...Ndf6 Was most tenacious, with the key point being 27.R7g5 Qxg5 28.Nxg5! Black is completely immobilized and getting mated. There is no stopping Nxh7!; 26...fxe6 27.R1g6 Ndf6 28.Rxh7+ Nxh7 29.Qg7#; 26...-- 27.R1g6] **27.Rxg8+ Rxg8 28.Rxg8+ Kxg8 29.Qg7# 1-0** Diagram



(13) Michael Gerstein (1941) - Thomas Ericksson [E38]

World Amateur Team Ch Board 23/4 (5) [Pete Tamburro]

I think, this is one of best games I've ever played. It was especially important, as this was the last remaining game in the match, and all three other games were already drawn--Michael Gerstein. **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 c5 5.e3 b6 6.Nf3 Bb7 7.Be2 d6** [7...Be4 Here, Black should consider 8.Qb3 Nc6 9.Bd2 Na5] **8.Bd2 Nbd7** [Nimzo players usually make e4 a focal point: 8...Bxc3 9.Bxc3 Ne4] **9.a3** [And here White has to contest e4. Black got a "free" Nbd7. 9.Bd3 was more precise.] **9...Bxc3 10.Bxc3 Ne4 11.0-0 Nxc3 12.Qxc3 Nf6 13.Rad1 Qc7 14.Nd2 0-0 15.f3 Rac8** Everybody is doing their thing and both sides can be happy with equal chances. A lot can happen yet. **16.e4 d5** [Not fun is 16...cxd4 17.Qxd4 Rfd8 18.Nb1 Ba6 19.Rd2 d5 (19...Bxc4 20.Rc1) 20.cxd5 Bxe2 21.Rxe2 exd5 22.e5; Possibilities worth considering were: 16...Rfe8 ; 16...Ba6] **17.cxd5 exd5 18.e5 Nd7** Diagram

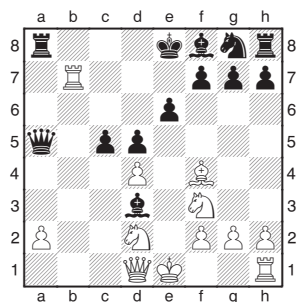


In just a few short moves, the game dynamic has changed. White space advantage and better placed pieces give him an edge. **19.Rc1 Rfe8 20.f4 c4 21.Bg4 Rcd8 22.Rce1 Bc8 23.f5** He could have played this earlier, but his preparation for the break reminds me of GM Palatnik's style: build up optimally then make the break. **23...Nf8 24.Qh3 Qd7 25.e6** Lots of ways to go in this series and this looks as good as any, plus the move has a pleasing aspect; however, appearances can be deceiving. Calculation is key here. **25...fxe6 26.f6** [Nasty was 26.Bh5 g6 (26...Re7 27.Qe3!) 27.fxg6 Nxg6 28.Bxg6 hxg6 29.Qg3] **26...Qf7** [Better was 26...gxf6 27.Rxf6 Qe7 28.Re1 e5 29.Bxc8 Rxc8 30.Qf5 but White still has an obvious advantage.] **27.Nf3?** [Necessary was 27.fxg7 Qxg7 28.Nf3 Ng6 29.Ng5] **27...gxf6 28.Bh5 Ng6 29.Ng5 Qe7** [#] [Black picks the rook square, and it matters: 29...Qg7! 30.Nxe6 Bxe6 31.Rxe6 Rxe6 32.Qxe6+ Qf7 33.Qxf6 Qxf6 34.Rxf6 Kg7 35.Rf5 White promptly points out the flaw.] **30.Bxg6 hxg6 31.Rxf6 Qxf6 32.Qh7+ Kf8 33.Rf1 Qxf1+ 34.Kxf1 Rd7 35.Qxg6 Ree7 36.Kg1 Rc7 37.h4 e5 38.h5 Rg7 39.Qf6+ Kg8 40.Qd8#** But for one little moment on move 27, White developed his attack with admirable skill. **1-0**

(14) Xue, Steven - Gerstein, Michael (1941) [B13]

World Amateur Team Ch Board 7/4 (6)
[Pete Tamburro]

Of course, it is from the last round, and everybody is tired, but it ended with nice little combination **1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 e6 5.Bf4 Nc6 6.c5** If you play the Caro-Kann, you have to know when to play c5 and when not to, and Black demonstrates why not. **6...b6 7.b4 a5** [7...Qf6 would show why you play Nf3 instead of Bf4.] **8.Bb5?** [Devastating for Black would be: 8.Qa4! Bd7 9.b5 Nce7 10.c6] **8...Bd7 9.Bxc6 Bxc6 10.bxa5** [He needed to try 10.b5 Bxb5 11.Qb3] **10...bxc5 11.Nf3 Qxa5+ 12.Nbd2 Bb5** Decisive! **13.Rb1 Bd3 14.Rb7** Diagram

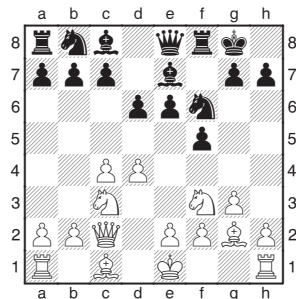


14...f6! Very nice touch! Deprives e5 access to White and allows the Black king a luft on f7. **15.Qb3 c4** White can resign here. **16.Rb8+ Rxb8 17.Qxb8+ Kf7 18.Qc7+ Qxc7 19.Bxc7 Bb4** Material is even, but Black's position is overwhelming. Makes you appreciate the two bishops. **20.Kd1 Ne7 21.Ne1 Bg6 22.Nc2 Bc3 23.Bb6 Rb8 24.Nb1 Ba5 0-1**

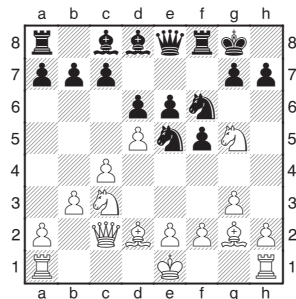
(15) Michael Gerstein (1941) - Dana Sylvander [A92]

World Amateur Team Ch Board 30/4 (1),
13.02.2016
[Pete Tamburro]

This was the first game I played over the board in 7 years. Not perfect, of course, but, I think, I completely dominated my opponent **1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 0-0 6.Nf3 d6 7.Qc2 Qe8** Diagram



PT comment: [Most Dutch players would go with: 7...Nc6 8.0-0 e5 9.d5 Nb4 10.Qb1 e4 The Qe8 idea is for later. Black can't afford to let White get e4 in with Re1 supporting it. So play in the center and timing is all important.] **8.Bd2 Nbd7 9.Ng5** [9.0-0 Qh5 10.Ng5 Nb6 11.b3 is another path--Pete Tamburro] **9...Bd8 10.d5 Ne5 11.b3** Diagram



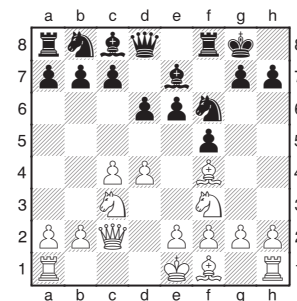
[11.Nxe6 Bxe6 12.dxe6 c6 13.b3 Qxe6 is "equal" but you have to give the edge to White with the two bishops and pressure on d5. White's minus is that his king isn't castled and his rooks need to be on the c- and d-files. Black needs to do the same

with his rooks. (PT)] **11...Nf7?** [Much better chances to hang in there were with: 11...exd5 12.cxd5 h6 13.Ne6 Bxe6 14.dxe6 Qxe6 15.Bxb7 Rb8 16.Bg2 but White still has the edge.] **12.Nxe6 Bxe6 13.dxe6 Qxe6 14.Bxb7 Rb8 15.Bg2 Nd7 16.0-0 Bf6 17.Rae1 Nc5 18.Nd5 Rbc8 19.Nxf6+ Qxf6 20.b4 Ne6 21.Bc3 Qg6 22.f4 Nh6 23.e4 Rce8 24.e5 Nd8 25.Bd5+ Kh8 26.exd6 Qxd6 27.Qb2 Qg6 28.Rxe8 Rxe8 29.Be5 c6 30.Bf3 Ng4 31.Re1 Nxe5 32.Rxe5 Rxe5 33.Qxe5 h6 34.Qd4 Qe8 35.Kg2 Qe7 36.a3 Kh7 37.Qd3 g6 38.Kf2 h5 39.h4 Kh6 40.Qd4 Kh7 41.c5 Kg8 42.a4 Qe8 43.Qd6 Kf7 44.b5 cxb5 45.Bd5+ Ne6 46.axb5 Qe7 47.Qxe6+ Qxe6 48.Bxe6+ Kxe6 49.b6 axb6 50.cxb6 Kd6 51.Ke3 Kc6 52.Kd4 Kxb6 53.Ke5 Kc6 54.Kf6 Kd6 55.Kxg6 1-0**

(16) Nyberg, Paul - Chipkin, Leonard [A85]

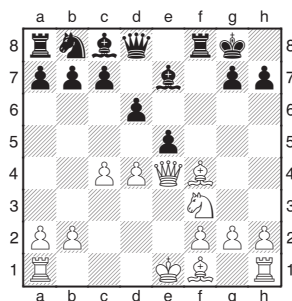
World Amateur Team Ch (3), 17.02.2016
[Pete Tamburro]

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 d6 5.Bf4 This Bf4 idea seems to be picking up some fans; however, the classical fianchetto with Re1 and e4 is still the critical line, although GM Simon Williams has written a fine book for Black on the subject. The Dutch is an excellent tournament weapon at amateur levels. Hey Botvinnik and Bronstein both played it in world championship matches. **5...Be7 6.Qc2 0-0** Diagram



7.e4? [Quite unwarranted because it is too early. A very Dutch-like struggle would emerge from: 7.e3 Nc6 8.a3 Nh5 9.Bg3 g5 10.Bd3 g4 11.Nd2 where White will castle queenside and consider moves like e4 and d5.] **7...fxe4 8.Nxe4 Nxe4 9.Qxe4 e5**

Diagram



19...Be5 Brutal. Anybody got a white flag handy? **20.Qxb8 Qxb8 21.f3 Nb4 22.Bxb4 Qxb4 23.Ne2 Qa3+ 24.Kd2 Rd8+ 25.Ke1 Qb4+ 0-1**

(17) Lekocevic, John (1500) - Mendez, George (1918) [B22]

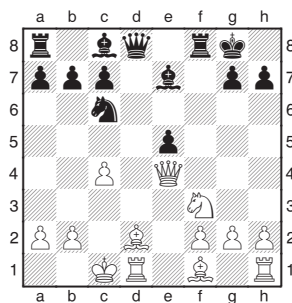
World Amateur East 2016 (5), 15.02.2016

[Pete Tamburro]

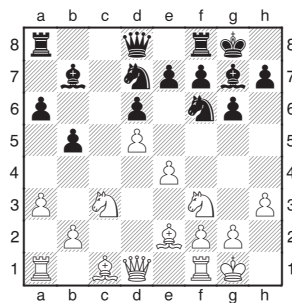
1.e4 c5 2.c3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.cxd4 Bg7

Diagram

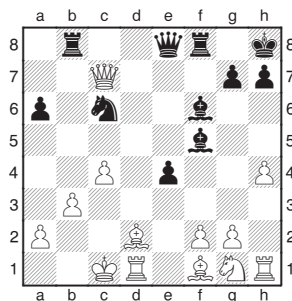
[From toying around with chess engines in my own Dutch preparations I have run across this counter-intuitive move which is quite effective. There is also the dxc4 idea in the Stonewall which computers in various positions recommend. We humans are force to look at these positions in new ways. What Black chooses is interesting. 9...d5! 10.Qe3 Bb4+] **10.dxe5 dxe5 11.Bd2** [11. Rd1 Nd7 12.Bd3 Nf6 13.Qxe5 Bd6 14.Qd4 Bxf4 15.Qxf4 Qe7+ 16.Qe5 White could try to pick up some tempi here, although the game would still be equal: 16...Qb4+] **11... Nc6 12.0-0-0** Diagram



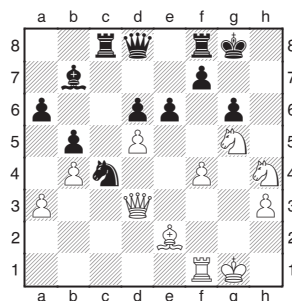
[Most Black players respond with 4...d5 5.e5 Nh6 6.Nc3 Nc6] **5.Nf3?! Not bad, but not accurate. 5.Nc3** should be played to deter 5...d5. Neither side seems to be aware of this important concept. **5...d6 6.Be2 Nf6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.0-0 a6 9.h3!** A useful prophylactic move. The Black bishop is limited in its choice of squares. **9...b5 10.a3?** [White needs recognize an opportunity because of Black's concessions in the center. 10.e5 Ne8 (10...dxe5 11.dxe5 Qxd1 12.Rxd1 Nfd7 13.Nd5) 11.a4 b4 12.Nd5] **10...Bb7 11.d5 Nbd7** Diagram



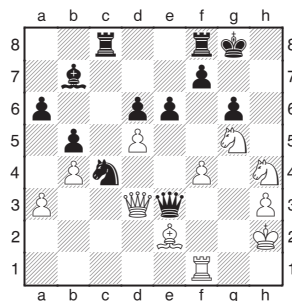
If White castles queenside in the Dutch, this usually means the opening has gone terribly wrong, as is the case here. Black puts his finger on one of the problems. **12... Bf5 13.Qd5+ Kh8 14.h4** [Imperative was 14.Qxd8 although Black is still clerly better because of his more active pieces.] **14...Qe8 15.Qb5** Grasping at straws. There's no real threat to b7. Black would love the access for the Ra8 to b8. **15...e4 16.Ng1 a6 17.Qxb7 Rb8** Yup. **18.Qxc7 Bf6** Double Yup. **19.b3** Diagram



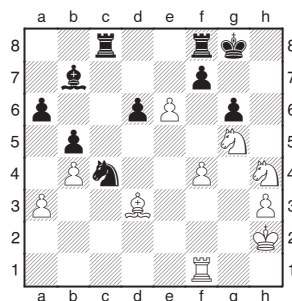
12.b4?? [12.Be3 Rc8 13.Rc1 Nb6 14.Nd2 e6 15.dxe6 fxe6 -JL] **12...Nxe4 13.Nxe4 Bxa1 14.Bh6 Bg7 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.Qd4+ Kg8 17.Neg5** [17.Qd2 Nf6 18.Nxf6+ exf6 -JL] **17...h6 18.Ne4 Rc8 19.Qd2 Kh7 20.g4 Ne5 21.Nh4 e6 22.g5 hxg5 23.Nxg5+ Kg8 24.f4 Nc4 25.Qd3** Diagram



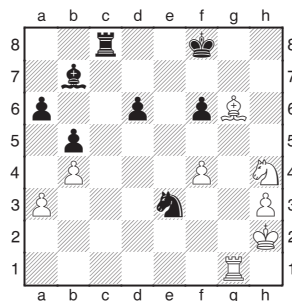
You have to give White credit for continuing to attack in a lost position. Black is clearly winning, but the White gathering on the kingside cannot be ignored. **25...Qb6+ 26.Kh2 Qe3** Diagram



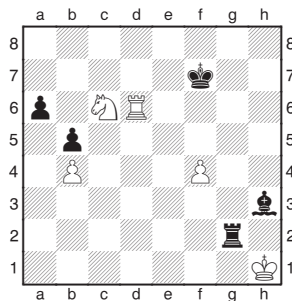
[The desire to exchange queens is understandable and OK but the knight move is better because it shores up the kingside. **26...Ne3!**] **27.dxe6! Qxd3 28.Bxd3** Diagram



28...f6? [Maintaining the advantage was the surprising **28...fxe6!! 29.Nxg6 Rfe8 30.Rg1 Rc7** and Black plays successful defense.] **29.Nf7** Now, it's getting interesting! **29... Ne3?** [29...Bd5] **30.Rg1 Rxf7 31.exf7+ Kxf7 32.Bxg6+ Kf8** Diagram



White has equalized. What else can happen? **33.Bh7** [Better was 33.Re1 as potentially cutting the king off from the e-file is important.] **33...Rc3 34.Rg8+** and a draw would be the logical result. Now Black gets a chance to get his advantage back. [Another piece brought in would make the rook intrusion more powerful and and exchange of knights increases the scope of the bishop. **34.Nf5 Nxf5 35.Bxf5 Rxa3 36.Rd1 Ke7 37.h4 Bf3 38.Re1+ Kf7 39.Rc1 Rb3 40.Rc7+=**] **34...Kf7 35.Rg6 Rxa3?!** [35...Be4 36.f5 d5 37.Bg8+ Ke7 38.Be6 Rxa3 and Black wins.] **36.Bg8+ Kf8 37.Be6 f5?** [37...Bd5!] **38.Rg8+ [38.Nxf5!] 38...Ke7 39.Bxf5 Ra2+ [39...Nxf5 40.Nxf5+ Ke6 41.Nh6 Be4 42.h4 Rf3 43.f5+ Bxf5 44.Nxf5 Rxf5 45.Kg3 with a tough rook and pawn ending.] 40.Kg1 Nxf5 41.Nxf5+ Kf7 42.Rd8 Bd5 43.Rxd6 Be6 44.Nd4 Bxh3 45.Nc6 Rg2+ 46.Kh1** Diagram

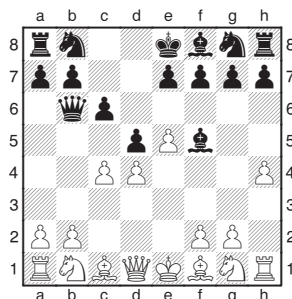


46...Rg6?? Turning a draw into a loss. Every chess player knows the fatigue factor that causes this type of blunder. We've all been there. A very tension-filled game. White never gave up against a much higher rated player. **47.Ne5+ 1-0**

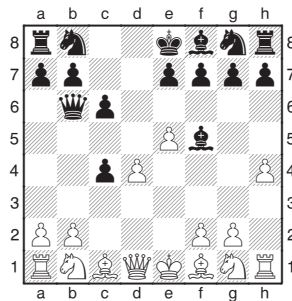
(18) Bevington, Thomas (1897) - Grotnes, Nils (1630) [B12]

World Amateur Team Ch (4), 14.02.2016
[Pete Tamburro]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.h4 Very popular as one of the advance lines. See the Atlantic Chess News Annual 2016 for some impressive games by GM Molner. **4...Qb6** [Always considered practically required is **4...h6**] **5.c4** Diagram



You have to wonder why White would play in the center when Black has two pieces developed and White has none. Simply **Nf3** or **Be2** was in order. **5...dxc4** Diagram

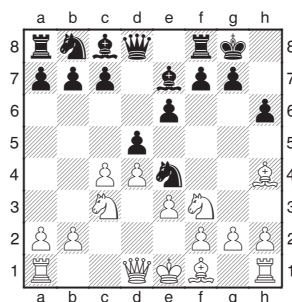


6.Bxc4?? A blunder worthy of a book of Chess Traps, Pitfalls and Swindles. White gives a plucky effort after this, but he's just down a piece. No further comment is needed. **6...Bxb1 7.Bxf7+ Kxf7 8.Rxb1 e6 9.Nh3 Qa5+ 10.Kf1 Qxa2 11.Ng5+ Ke7 12.b3 Nh6 13.Rh3 Kd7 14.Bd2 Qa6+ 15.Kg1 Qb5 16.Qc2 Qd5 17.Nxh7 Nf5 18.Nxf8+ Rxf8 19.Bb4 Rf7 20.g4 Na6 21.Ba3 Nxd4 22.Qg6 Nf3+ 23.Rxf3 Qxf3 24.Rb2 Nc7 25.Rd2+ Nd5 26.Bc5 Kc7 27.Qxe6 b6 28.Rd3 Qg2+ 29.Kxg2 Nf4+ 0-1**

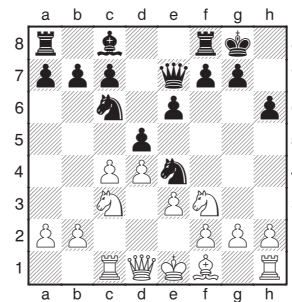
(19) Nakada, Akira (2156) - Massey, Scott (2200) [D56]

World Amateur Team Ch (5), 15.02.2016
[Pete Tamburro]

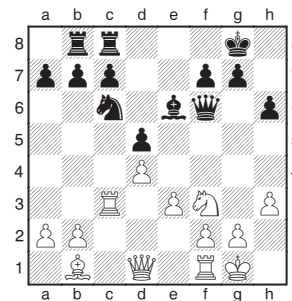
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e3 h6 6.Bh4 0-0 7.Nf3 Ne4 Diagram



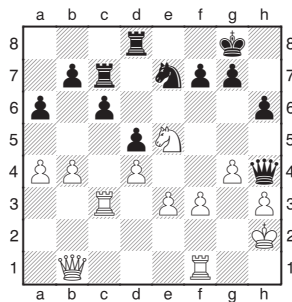
Lasker's Defense. You actually have to know how to play positional chess on either side of this system. An excellent choice by the veteran master. A lot of people avoid this with the QGD Exchange Variation. **8.Bxe7 Qxe7 9.Rc1 Nc6!?** Diagram



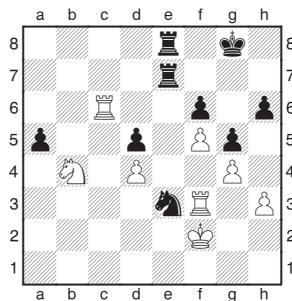
I hadn't seen this knight move in this position. It's only been played a few times by international players. An attempt to put White into unknown territory? White responds properly with the pawn exchange. The semi-open file has to matter. Black's other choice was the pawn to c6. Perhaps he wanted to avoid the minority attack. **10.cxd5 Nxc3 11.Rxc3 exd5 12.h3?!** Sharper were moves like **Qb3** or **Bb5** to initiate pressure on the queenside. **12...Be6?!** Returning the favor. **Bf5** seems a better diagonal with a built-in retreat at h7. **13.Bd3 Rfc8 14.Bb1** Not a particularly subtle threat. **14...Qf6 15.0-0 Rab8** Diagram



16.Ne1 [16.Qd3 g6 has no real follow-up, so White embarks on a three move knight gallop to post the piece more favorably, but since you can play **Ne5** from f3, perhaps a couple of other preparatory moves to bother the knight on c6 would have been more efficient.] **16...Ne7 17.Nd3 c6 18.b4 a6** Speaking of knight maneuvers, **Nf5-d6-c4** was a possibility to deal with the minority attack. CJS Purdy used to recommend the idea via **Nb6**. **19.Ne5 Rc7 20.f3 Qh4 21.Kh2?** [21.Qe1 and Black will be playing a lot of defense in an endgame without winning prospects.] **21...Rd8?!** [21...Nf5 22.Qe1 Qxe1 23.Rxe1 Nd6 and Black has gained valuable tempi, enough to completely equalize the game. Now White has g4 to consider.] **22.a4** [More precise was an immediate **22.g4** to avoid Black's **Bf5**. **22.g4**] **22...Bf5 23.g4 Bxb1 24.Qxb1** Diagram

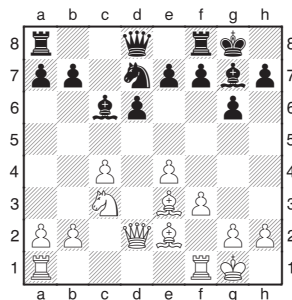


24...Qf6! Finding good retreat moves is a special chess talent. 25.Rc2 Qd6 This works quite well. Another thought is that Nc8-b6 idea, play f6 and then Nc4. 26.f4 f6 27.Nd3 Re8! This is that positional playing ability we talked about earlier. White has lost the initiative and Black is targeting weaknesses in the White camp. 28.Kg2 Ng6 My last beating of a dead horse to c8. 29.Qe1 Rce7 30.Rf3 Nh8 Shades of Nimzovich!! 31.Nf2 Ng6 32.Nd3 Nh8 33.Nf2 The players take a clock breather. 33...g5!? [A good, if not better, choice was 33...a5 34.bxa5 (34.b5 cxb5 35.axb5 with a supported passer.) 34...Ng6 35.Nd3 Qa3] 34.f5 Virtually forced. 34...Nf7 35.Nd3 b6? 36.a5! Alertly pointing out the difficulty with b6 as a move. 36...bxa5 37.bxa5 Qa3 38.Qd2? [38.Qc3 was crying out to be played. The minority attack backward c6-pawn with no queens on the board is a matter of technique.] 38...Nd6! The cavalry to the rescue in this Wild West game. 39.Qc3 Qxc3 40.Rxc3 Nc4 Not only protecting the c6 pawn, but preventing White from playing Rb3 because of the fork and putting pressure on e3. One heck of a horse! 41.Nb4 Nxa5 42.Rc5 Nc4 43.Rxc6 Nxe3+ 44.Kf2 a5 Diagram



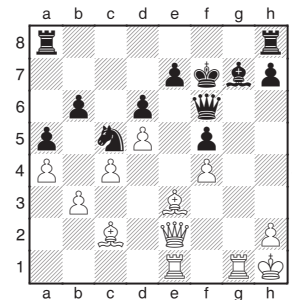
45.Nd3?? [Missing the saving move to split the point: 45.Rxe3 Rxe3 46.Nxd5 Re2+ 47.Kf3 Kg7 48.Rxf6 a4 49.Rg6+ Kf7] 45...Nc4 46.Rxf6 Nd2 47.Ne5 Nxf3 48.Kxf3 Rb7 49.Ra6 Rb3+ 50.Ke2 Rb2+ 51.Ke3 Reb8 52.f6 R8b3+ 0-1

(20) Holmes,Adam (2036) - Franco,Jose (2163) [B36]
World Amateur Team Ch Parsippany, NJ (2), 13.02.2016
[Pete Tamburro]
1.Nf3 c5 2.e4 g6 3.d4 [3.c3 Bg7 4.d4 cxd4 5.cxd4 d5 6.e5 doesn't seem to concern Hyper-accelerated Dragon players.] 3...cxd4 4.Nxd4 [4.Qxd4 Nf6 5.e5 Nc6 doesn't seem to concern Hyper-accelerated Dragon players.] 4...Nc6 5.c4 Geza Maroczy would be pleased to know people are still following his "bind." 5...Nf6 6.Nc3 d6 7.Be2 Nxd4 8.Qxd4 Bg7 9.Be3 0-0 10.Qd2 Bd7 11.0-0 We are in a not often traveled position, but both sides seem pleased with their set-ups. 11.f3 is also an alternative. 11...Bc6 12.f3 Nd7 Diagram



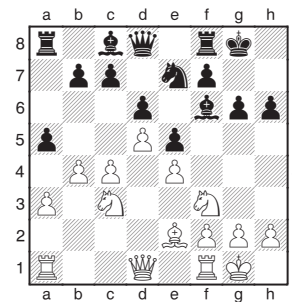
13.Nd5 [Certainly under consideration was 13.b4 but White sticks the knight at d5 because Black can't chase it with e6 (creating a weakness at d6) or effectively counter it with Nb6 or lose time with Nf6. He can leave it there, which is unappetizing to many players or he can give up his bishop in exchange. The key element of the knight move is that it offers Black choices, and it takes time to think about them and perhaps not make the best move.] 13...Bxd5 14.exd5?! [14.cxd5 seems better as White would get to control the c-file first. White's bishops rake the queenside, so Black's queen rook can't really challenge without making precautions first, thus losing the race to the White rooks.] 14...a5 15.Rab1 Nc5 16.b3 Qc7 17.a4?! [Why not the routine 17.a3 Rfc8 18.b4 Nd7 19.Rfc1?] 17...b6 Since White's only option is now the kingside, getting the queen rook over to e8 seems better planning. 18.Bd1 [18.f4 would have forced Black to make some immediate decisions.] 18...Qd7 19.Bc2 A rook on e8 would be helpful right now. 19...Rfc8 20.f4 f5 Sure...allowing f5 stinks, but since Black has his army camped on the queenside and the king with only his spiritual advisor on g7, White can afford to send the infantry with g4 and breaking

through anyhow. 21.Rbe1 Qe8 The king's wife returns from shopping, but the credit card bill is too high and the bill collectors are at the castle gate. 22.g4 Qf7 23.gxf5 gxf5 24.Kh1 There are other ways into the Black castle than f5. 24...Qf6 25.Rg1 Kf7 26.Qe2 [Quite effective would be 26.Rg5] 26...Rh8 Diagram



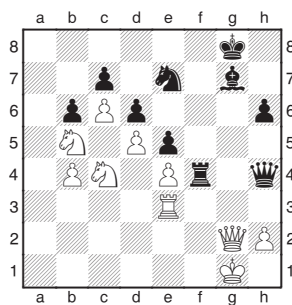
27.Bd4! This is fun, too. 27...Qxd4 28.Qxe7+ Kg8 29.Rxg7+ Qxg7 30.Rg1 Qxg1+ 31.Kxg1 Rf8 Normally, two rooks can give the queen a run for her money, but here the epaulette rooks are useless. 32.Qxd6 Ne4 33.Bxe4 fxe4 34.Qe6+ Kg7 35.Qxe4 Rf6 36.d6 Kh6 37.Kf2 Rhf8 38.Qe3 Rxf4+ 39.Kg3 Kg6 40.d7 R4f5 41.Qxb6+ 1-0

(21) Holmes,Adam (2036) - Saczi,Bilgen (2074) [E97]
World Amateur Team ch Parsippany, NJ (6), 15.02.2016
[Pete Tamburro]
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.Bg5 h6 10.Bxf6 [An interesting line is: 10.Be3 Ng4 11.Bd2 f5 12.h3 Nf6 13.exf5 gxf5 14.Nh4 c6] 10...Bxf6 11.b4 This queenside expansion has little preparation, so it should not work. 11...a5 12.a3 Diagram



12...Bg7! Time to get f5 in gear--typical King's Indian idea. 13.Nd2 Typical White idea: prepare f3. 13...f5 14.f3 b6?! KI theory suggests c6. You attack the tip of the spear at d5 and land a blow at the center with fxe4. What b6 accomplishes is unclear.

15.Rc1 [Murky stuff comes from 15.c5 bxc5 16.bxc5 dxc5 17.Rc1 c6 18.Nb3 (18. Nc4 cxd5 19.exd5! Kh7=) 18...a4 19.Nxc5 Qd6 20.N5xa4 cxd5 21.Nb5 Qd8 22.exd5 Nxd5 23.Bc4 Be6] **15...Bd7 16.c5 Qb8?!** [Better was 16...axb4 17.axb4 bxc5 18.bxc5 dxc5 with positions similar to those noted above.] **17.c6** [Worth looking at was 17.cxd6 cxd6 18.Bb5 axb4 19.axb4 Qa7 20.Nc4 fxe4 21.Bxd7 Qxd7 22.Nxe4] **17... Be8 18.Nc4 axb4 19.axb4 g5 20.Nb5! Bg6 21.Bd3! Qc8 22.Ra1** [A very nice finish would have been: 22.exf5 Nxf5 23.Bxf5 Bxf5 24.Nbxd6 cxd6 25.Nxd6 Qd8 26.Nxf5 Rxf5 27.d6] **22...Rxa1 23.Qxa1 fxe4 24.Bxe4 Rf4 25.Re1?!** [Safe was 25.Nd2] **25...g4!** Very Kings Indian-like. **26.Qa2 gxf3 27.gxf3** [Necessary was 27.Bxf3] **27... Bxe4 28.fxe4 Qg4+ [28...Qh3] 29.Qg2 Qh4 30.Re3** Diagram



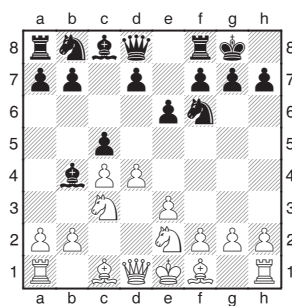
30...Rg4?? [An unfortunate blunder. This clever move draws: 30...Nf5!= For example: 31.exf5 Rxc4 32.h3 Rc1+ 33.Kh2 Qf4+ 34.Rg3 h5 35.Qf3 Rc2+ 36.Kh1] **31.Rg3 Rxc3 32.hxc3 Qg5 33.Nxc7 Qc1+ 34.Qf1 Qc3 35.Kh2 Qxb4 36.Na6 Qb5 37.Qf7+ Kh7 38.Nc7 Qxc4 39.Ne8 Qe2+ 40.Kh3 Nf5 41.Nf6+ 1-0**

(22) Jacobson,Brandon (2352) - Holmes,Adam (2036) [E42]

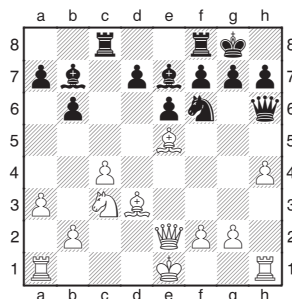
World Amateur Team Ch Parsippany, NJ (1), 13.02.2016

[Pete Tamburro]

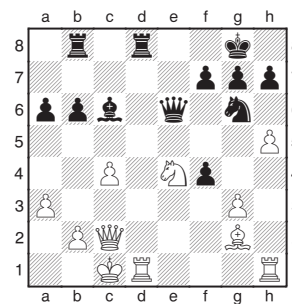
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Nge2 c5 Diagram



A move usually indicative of someone looking for a fight. The calm 5...d5 is fine. That Black chooses this line shows he is not afraid of an opponent 300 rating points above him. Bravo! **6.a3 cxd4** GM Bent Larsen used to play a very similar idea in the Nimzo just to give his opponent something to think about. Here, Black's opponent doesn't make the right choice. **7.exd4 [7.axb4 dxc3 8.Nxc3 d5 9.b3 is better than what he gets in the game.] 7...Be7 8.Nf4 b6 9.Qf3?!** The old saying "If A, then B" seems appropriate here. Why not 9.d5 here? **9... Nc6! 10.Be3 Bb7 11.Bd3 Rc8 12.h4** White doesn't want to play nice and castle. There now arises a great deal of hostility on the board. **12...Qc7!** Black's opening play has been exemplary. **13.Qe2 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Qxf4 15.Be5 Qh6** Diagram



With his two bishops, rook supported pawn and queen looking at the Black king, does White have compensation for the lost pawn? Black's response is a resounding "no!" **16.f3 d6 17.Bd4 Nh5 18.Qf2 Nf4 19.Bf1** A demoralizing state of affairs for White. Black counters and wins. **19...Bf6 20.Nb5 a6 21.Nxd6** Gets the pawn back, but it doesn't really matter. **21...Rfd8?!** [This does the job, but very impressive would have been: 21...Bxd4 22.Qxd4 e5 23.Qxe5 Rc5 24.Qd4 and now 24...Rd8] **22.Bxf6 Qxf6 23.0-0-0** White is fighting back and is, ironically, a pawn up, but his king position is not secure. What was decisive before is now up for grabs if Black doesn't find the right moves. **23...Rb8 24.g3 Ng6 25.Bg2 Bc6 26.f4 e5** [Move order strikes again: 26...Bxg2 27.Qxg2 e5] **27.Ne4?** [27. Bxc6 Rxd6 28.Bd5] **27...Qe6! 28.Qc2 exf4 29.h5** Diagram



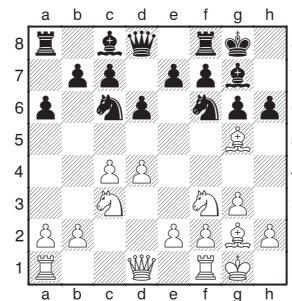
29...f3! Black is back on track again and all his pistons are firing. **30.Bxf3 Ne5 31.Be2 Qh6+** We used to call these "airplane checks." **32.Kb1 Qe3 33.Rh4 Rxd1+ 34.Bxd1 Rd8 35.Ka1 Qe1 36.Nc3 Bf3 37.Qf5 Bxd1 38.Ka2 Nc6 39.Nd5 Na5** That's enough. An exceptionally hard fought game by both players and a fine upset for Adam Holmes. **0-1**

(23) Concepcion,Danilo (2000) - Burtneis,Norman (1848) [E63]

World Amateur Team Ch, 15.02.2016

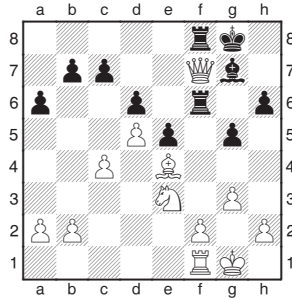
[Pete Tamburro]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.d4 d6 5.g3 0-0 6.Bg2 Nc6 7.Bg5 a6 8.0-0 h6 Diagram

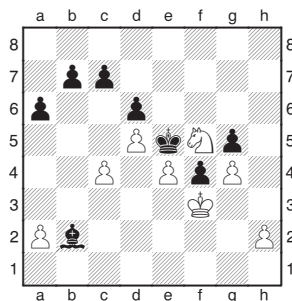


9.Bd2 [Three other alternatives are better because d4 needs to be defended when Black plays his next move. 9.Bf4 ; 9.Be3; 9.Bc1] **9...e5! 10.d5 [10.dxe5 dxe5 Worth a shot was 11.Qc1] 10...Ne7 [10...Nd4! 11.Nxd4 exd4 12.Ne4 Nd7] 11.e4 Nh5 12.Ne1 Bd7 13.Nd3 f5** Both sides seem to have reached a position they want, but both misunderstand the requirements of the position. 14.c5 is thematic here. [Black needed to put a cork in that idea with 13... c5] **14.exf5 Bxf5** [Hard to figure is 14... Nxf5 15.g4 Nh4 16.gxh5 Nxg2 17.Kxg2 Qh4 18.f3 Bh3+ 19.Kh1 Bxf1 20.Qxf1 g5 21.Ne4 Qxh5] **15.Ne1 [15.Ne4 Nf6 16.Nxf6+ Rxf6 17.Qe2 g5 18.Bc3 Rf7 and Black is fine.] 15...Qd7 16.Bf3** [More in keeping with the Ne1 move was 16.f3 Bh3 17.Qe2 Bxg2 18.Nxg2 Rf7 19.Ne3] **16...Nf6 17.Qe2 Bh3 18.Ng2 [18.Bg2] 18...Nf5** This gives Black a distinct advantage. The awkwardly placed

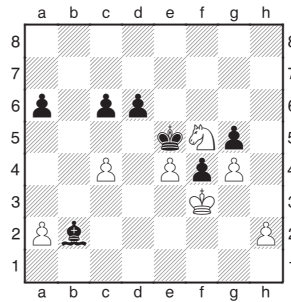
Bf3 will cost time. **19.Be3 Rae8 20.Ne4** Forced. **20...Nxe3 21.Nxe3** [A mystifying series of events. White needed to play 21.fxe3] **21...g5** [And Black needed to play 21...Bxf1] **22.Nxf6+ Rxf6 23.Be4 Ref8** Take the bloody rook! **24.Qh5** [24.Bg2] **24...Bxf1** Finally! **25.Rxf1 Qf7 26.Qxf7+?** Diagram



26...R6xf7! [26...R8xf7 27.Ng4] **27.g4** At this point, Black has to take a deep breath and actually look at the position. Much of what went before was typical King's Indian stuff. Now, however, Black has won the exchange. What to do? His next move is a disaster because White will allow no breathrough on the kingside. THUS, Black should head over to the queenside to create activity there. The more the position opens up there, the more significant Black's advantage becomes. **27...Rf4** [27...a5 28.f3 a4 29.Kg2 Rb8 30.Rc1 b6 31.Bf5 Rff8 32.Nd1 h5 33.h3 hxg4 34.hxg4 e4] **28.f3 Rxe4?** Totally unnecessary. **29.fxe4 Rf4 30.Rxf4 exf4 31.Nf5!** [31.Nd1? Bd4+ 32.Kf1 Kg7 33.b3 Kf6 34.Ke2 Ke5 35.Kf3 a5-+] **31...Bxb2 32.Nxh6+ Kg7 33.Nf5+ Kf6 34.Kf2 Ke5 35.Kf3** Diagram



35...c6? [Necessary was 35...Kf6 36.h4 Be5 37.h5 Bb2 38.a4 Be5 and Black holds.] **36.dxc6 bxc6** Diagram

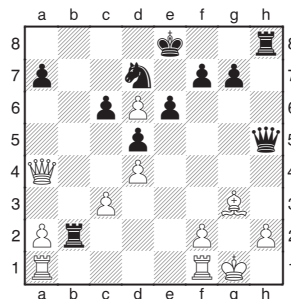


37.h4! gxh4 38.Nxh4 Bc1 [This game is over 38...Kf6 39.Ng2 a5 40.Nxf4 a4 41.Nd3 Bc3 42.Ke3] **39.Nf5 d5 40.exd5 cxd5 41.c5! Ke6 42.c6 Bb2 43.Kxf4 Kf6 44.g5+ Ke6 1-0**

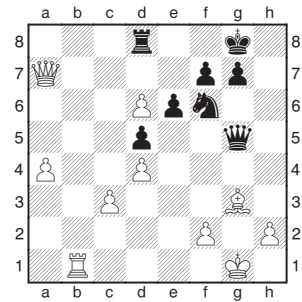
(24) Robert Glassman (2029) - Paul Song (2038) [B12]

USATE 2016 Parsippany, NJ, 15.02.2016
[Paul Song]

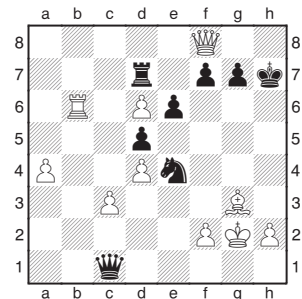
This last round game was a bit sloppy, but after suffering for a while in a cramped position I got a chance to attack and the position turned quickly into a decisive mating net. **1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 Ne7 6.0-0 Bg6 7.Nbd2 Nf5 8.Nb3 Nd7 9.g4 Nh4 10.Nxh4 Qxh4 11.Bf4 h5 12.Bg3 Qh3 13.Na5 Bb4 14.Nxb7 Rb8 15.c3 Be7?** [15...Rxb7 16.cxb4 Rxb4 is playable] **16.gxh5 Bxh5 17.Nd6+ Bxd6 18.exd6 Rxb2 19.Bxh5 Qxh5 20.Qa4** Diagram



This move turned out to be stronger than I had anticipated. I had expected to have compensation for the Pawn when I played 15 Be7, but there wasn't enough. **20...0-0 21.Qxc6 Rd8** [21...Nf6 22.Qc7 Ne4 23.Rfb1 should win easily for White] **22.Rab1 Rb6** [22...Rxa2 23.Qc7 Qg5 24.Rb7 is hopelessly cramped] **23.Qc7 Qg5 24.a4 Rbb8 25.Rxb8 Nxb8 26.Rb1 Nd7 27.Qxa7 Nf6** Diagram



28.Qe7? [28.Rb8 wins as Black's counterattack is too slow 28...Qc1+ (28...Ne4 29.Rxd8+ Qxd8 30.Qe7 Qxe7 31.dxe7 Nf6 32.a5+- the B stops ...Nc7; 28...Rxb8 29.Qxb8+ Kh7 30.Qb1+ g6 31.a5 Qd2 32.a6 Ne4 33.a7 Nxc3 34.Qa1 Ne2+ 35.Kf1+- Qd3 36.Kg2 Qe4+ 37.f3+-) 29.Kg2 Rxb8 30.Qxb8+ Kh7 31.Qb4 Ne4 32.d7 Nd2 33.Qb5+- Qc2 34.Qe2] At this point in the game, I had been expecting to lose ever since White had played 20 Qa4. From here on, however, White's Queen became passively deployed and I began to think about winning **28...Rd7 29.Rb8+ Kh7 30.Qf8 Ne4 31.Rb6??** [31.Qh8+ Kg6 32.Qh4 Qxh4 33.Bxh4 Nxc3 was what I had expected and would have resulted in a playable position with realistic winning chances for Black. Also 31 Rb1 Nxd6 would have been playable with chances for both sides] I felt confident that an invasion to f1 with the Q and N would win. The mating threats force the win of material with many variations leading to mate. After this point White's Q and R became passively deployed and never moved again. **31...Qc1+ 32.Kg2** Diagram



32...Nd2!-+ This was my favorite move of the game. I played this move quickly knowing that it had to be the best move. White has almost no counterplay (33 Be5 is easy to handle) and any Pawn move leads to mate in 1 or 2 moves **33.Kh3** [33.h4 Qf1+ 34.Kh2 Nf3#; 33.Bf4 Qf1+ 34.Kg3 Ne4+ 35.Kg4 f5+ 36.Kh4 Qxf2+ 37.Bg3 a) 37.Kh5 g6#; b) 37.Kh3 Qf3+ 38.Bg3 (38.Kh4 Qg4#) 38...Ng5+ 39.Kh4 Qg4#; 37...g5+ 38.Kh5 (38.Kh3 Qf1#) 38...Qf3#; 33.Be5 Qf1+

34.Kg3 Qg1+ 35.Kh3 a) 35.Kf4 Qxf2+ 36.Kg5 (36.Kg4 f5+ 37.Kh3 (37.Kh5 Qf3+ and mate on g4; 37.Kg5 Ne4+ 38.Kh5 g6#) 37...Qf3+ 38.Bg3 (38.Kh4 Qg4#) 38...Ne4 and mate is unavoidable (...Ng5 or ...Nf2 is the threat) 39.Kh4 Qg4#) 36...Ne4+ 37.Kg4 Qf5+ 38.Kh4 g5+ 39.Kh5 Qh3#; b) 35.Kh4 Nf3+ 36.Kh3 f5 37.Bg3 (37.Rb1 Qg4#) 37...Qf1#; 35...f5 36.f3 Nxf3 37.Bg3 (otherwise ...Qg4#) 37...Qf1#; 33.Bh4 Qf1+ 34.Kg3 Qg1+ 35.Kf4 Qxh2+ 36.Bg3 (36.Ke3 Nc4+ 37.Ke2 Qxh4+) 36...Qh6+ 37.Kg4 f5+ 38.Qxf5+ exf5+--+ 33...Qf1+ 34.Kh4 [34.Kg4 f5+ 35.Kf4 (35.Kh4 Nf3+ 36.Kh5 Qh3+ 37.Bh4 Qg4#; 35.Kg5 Qe2 36.h3 Qf3 37.Kh4 Ne4 38.Bf4 (otherwise ...g5#) 38...Qxf4+ 39.Kh5 g6#; 35.Kh5 Qh3+ 36.Bh4 Qg4#; 35.Qxf5+ exf5+--+ 35...Qe2 36.h3 (36.Rb8 Qe4+ 37.Kg5 Qg4#; 36.Bh4 Qf3+ and mate next move) 36...Qf3+ 37.Kg5 (37.Ke5 Qe4#) 37...Ne4+ 38.Kh4 g5#] 34...f5 35.Kg5 Qe2 36.h3 [36.Kf4 Qe4+ 37.Kg5 Qg4#; 36.Rb8 Qg4#] 36...Qf3 threatening ...Ne4 37.Bf4 [37.Rb8 Ne4+ 38.Kh4 g5#] 37...Ne4+ White resigns 0-1

Some DOCA Futurity Games!

(1) Molner,Mackenzie - Taborsky [B48]NJ Futurity 2016, 18.01.2016
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Qd2 Nf6 8.0-0 Be7 9.f3 h5 10.Kb1 b5 11.Nxc6 Qxc6 12.e5 b4 13.exf6 bxc3 14.fxc7 Rg8 15.Qd3 Rb8 16.b3 Bf6 17.Qh7 Rxg7 18.Qh8+ Ke7 19.Bh6 1-0

(2) Burke,J. - Gelashvili,T. [B06] NJ Futurity 2016, 18.01.2016
1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Be3 a6 5.h4 h5 6.Qd2 Nd7 7.0-0-0 b5 8.f3 Bb7 9.Nh3 Rc8 10.Ng5 c5 11.dxc5 Nxc5 12.Bd4 Nf6 13.Kb1 Ncd7 14.a3 Qc7 15.g4 hxg4 16.fxc4 Ne5 17.Be2 Qa5 18.h5 gxh5 19.gxh5 Bh6 20.Bxe5 dxe5 21.Bg4 Rc4 22.Bd7+ Kf8 23.Rhg1 Rd4! 24.Qg2 Rxd1+ 25.Nxd1 Qb6 26.Bh3 Ke8 27.Qg3 Rg8 28.Qxe5 Bc8 [28...Qd6!]29. Qc3 Bxh3 30.Nxh3 Rxg1 31.Nxg1 Nxe4 32.Qc8+ Qd8 33.Qc6+ Qd7 34.Qa8+ Qd8 35.Qc6+ ½-½

CHESS AROUND NEW JERSEY

By Rob Bernard

The Garden State has a vibrant and active chess scene in every corner of the state. We highlight some of the clubs and tournaments that took place in 2016, including a report on our state championship, the New Jersey Open which took place in September in Morristown (contributed by Al Lawrence), a long expose on the Toms River Chess Club (contributed by Stephen Shoshin), and highlights of several other clubs in the state.

The tournament with the largest prize fund in the USA, the Millionaire Open was held in Atlantic City in October. To promote the event, the New Jersey State Chess Federation offered chess clubs free entries to the tournament for amateur players -- the club merely had to hold a tournament and determine the winners. In all, eight clubs participated and eight players had the chance to attend the Millionaire Open for free.

New Jersey Open

The New Jersey Open took place over Labor Day Weekend in Morristown, New Jersey. Four grandmasters tied for first place, Alex Stripunsky, Alex Fishbein, Joel Benjamin, and Sergey Kudrin -- Stripunsky was declared the state champion on tiebreak. IM Yaacov Norowitz, GM Mackenzie Molner, NM Runya Xu, and Expert Sandi Hutama tied for 5th-8th. Hutama earned Top Expert. Thoshan Omprakash won the Class A prize with 3½. The 79-player open section was a tough crowd.

Katherine Qi, pre-ranked seventh and 150 rating points under number-one Serge Adelson, took clear first in the 60-player Under-2000 section with 5½ points, drawing Adelson in the final round. Adelson, Taran Idnani, Jason Lu, and George Chachkes tied for 2nd-5th, a full point behind Qi. Chachkes won Best Class B. Lisa Jin took Best Class C with 3½

Alexander Vekker, entering with a rating of 1457, topped 30 players in the Under-1600 section with 5½-½. Pranav Shah was second. Theodore Covey, Alexander Hu, and John Gonzalez tied for 3rd-5th with 4½. Jaron Bernard won Class D with 4 points.

Sudyut Sinha took Class E with 2½. Ellexis Cook scored 2 points to win the Class F prize.

On Saturday 78 juniors competed in a scholastic event in separate rooms at the Hyatt. Charles Lin won the Under-1200 section. Dhriti Iyer won the Under-900 prize, and Sofia Macaspac won the Under-600 section. Any of the participants could then enter the two-day schedule of the main event. New Jersey stalwart Aaron Kiedes directed the junior event, with help from Jim Mullanaphy.

Toms River Chess Club

The Toms River Chess Club has a long and rich history in the world of chess. Founded in 1964, it is the oldest continuously existing chess club in New Jersey.

In recent years, interest in chess in the United States has experienced a renaissance. Fabiano Caruana changed allegiance to the US from Italy, major press covered the World Chess Championship which took place in New York City for the first time since 1995, the US team won the Gold Medal at the Open Olympiad in Baku, Azerbaijan which hadn't been repeated post 1976, the recent major, wide release of the films Pawn Sacrifice and Queen of Katwe, the plethora of chess videos and instruction on the internet and, to a more humble extent, our club, reflected this increase in public awareness.

Although over the years the TRCC has waxed and waned in membership and events, it has now cycled to the positive and resurgence is obvious. Three years ago on Halloween, only one person showed up to a meeting. By the end of 2016, over 65 members were on the roster with an average weekly attendance of 25. Numerically, 1321 players, both members and guests, attended our 51 weekly meetings! A sign-up sheet beckons all comers. (Meetings are held on Thursday evenings from 6:00 PM to 10:30 PM at Town Hall, 33 Washington Street, Toms River.)

The year began with new triple weighted sets and boards for the club, the first ones in 30 years! The treasury was healthy enough to afford it. The membership approved wholeheartedly;

an agreeable way to start 2016!

In February, two teams went to the USATE representing the club, "Rook Shields" and "TR Zugzwang". The teams were resplendent in matching polo shirts embroidered with the TRCC logo. Some wore the matching baseball style caps. Some members of the club played for other, already established teams. Overall, club teams finished with 20 wins, 25 losses and 3 draws. Exceptional games were analyzed on the demo board at subsequent meetings.

Members of the TRCC participated in many other major tournaments over the year, including the Liberty Bell Open, the Philadelphia Open, the World Open, the Eastern Congress and innumerable academic contests as well, earning accolades and finishing with distinction. Among the notables were Isaiah Totaro and Dylan Clark, who both finished first in their sections in respective events, returning with trophies and big smiles! And although some members threatened to give up chess after disappointing results, none have done so as yet. Whew! Once chess gets you in its clutches, it is hard to escape.

In May, the TRCC again participated in the annual Toms River Founder's Day/Food Fest celebration. A gazebo, tables, chairs and chess sets were arranged, the club banner was unfurled and 27 members took on hundreds of passers-by, introducing many to the intricacies of chess for the first time. New memberships resulted along with much fun and good food.

Consultation games were held. These are chess games on the demo board between two teams. Captains are chosen, selecting interested players one by one. The game is timed and has proven to be popular, exciting and fun as inevitably, the opposing team can overhear plans which each team makes! These games usually coincide with pizza night at the club, making it a favored event.

Our first rated tournament in years was held in September to award a free entry to the Millionaire Chess Tournament 3 in Atlantic City. This entry was given to the club by the New

Jersey State Chess Federation. Its president, Hal Sprechman, was the TD. Angel and Krista Camilo, arranged for it to be played at Ocean County College. Eighteen entrants vied for the prize, won by 10-year-old Pardhav Chakka. A number of members also competed in the MCT3, which unfortunately, seems to be the last one for organizers GM Maurice Ashley and Amy Lee.

The club held blitz tournaments, chess puzzle study, including "Mitrofanov's Deflection", brought in by Jim Carter, a lecture on IM Ziyatdinov's book GM RAM: Essential Grandmaster Chess Knowledge by Brian Meinders, a celebration of member Paul Howe's book The Howe System 1.e4 2.Ne2 3.Ng3 with a forward by IM Yaacov Norowitz, members visiting and reporting on trips to the Venice Chess Club, the Zurich Chess Club, the Marshall Chess Club and the simul by World Champion GM Magnus Carlsen at the Liberty Science Center were just some of the weekly activities taking place at the club.

An outstanding lecture was delivered by member and Life Master Eugene Salomon, ICCM Wayne Conover and former NJ State Champion Steve Pozarek on the Leningrad Dutch. Eugene, who once played Alexander Alekhine in Spain, co-authored a book with Wayne and Steve: 40 Years of Friendship – 100 Games of Chess. The Dutch was a favorite of Wayne and Eugene, who studied it for years and imparted their favored ideas to the TRCC. Steve was a font of historical chess knowledge and captivated the audience.

A special ceremony was held in December to honor the most improved club members with trophies and prizes donated by an exceptional member, Bob Whiteside, who devised and carried through the plan. Ten prizes were awarded to players with ratings improved, with a grand total of 3,090 rating points!

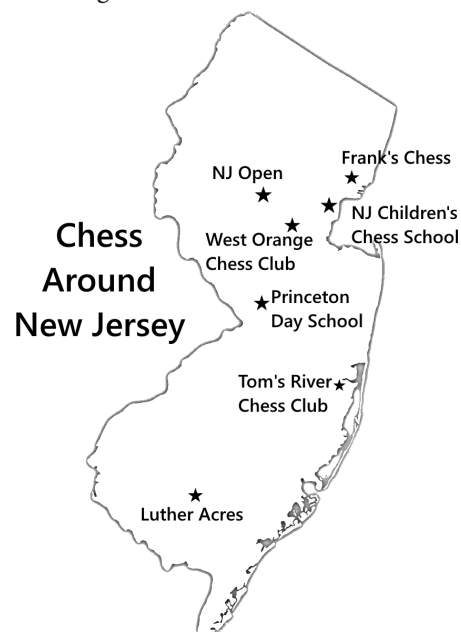
The last event, and a huge success, was a Christmas/Holiday Party. The TRCC is a very social club and this was a very social occasion; cupcakes with black and white icing and individual dark and white chocolate chess

pieces formed a chessboard from Joan Totaro, many other confections, pizza soda and coffee provided refreshment while an auction/raffle was held to bid on chess sets, chess related games and chess books which had been donated to the club primarily by the late Jerry Simkin's widow, Marsha. Also sets from Kevin Wagner, Mike Symczak and, appropriately, Tom Czech. Donations throughout the year show the dedication and generosity of our confreres. Each member received a TRCC emblazoned coffee mug from an anonymous benefactor as a present! But there was, also, as always, plenty of chess.

Our revamped web site and the weekly newsletter written by the president, recently supplemented with photos, and sent to all members and interested parties who have requested it have advanced interest. Contact shoshin0407@yahoo.com. But the overall best element contributing to the growth of the club has been the enthusiasm, commitment and ardor by all members and officers.

Luther Acres Chess

Luther Acres Chess Club, in Vineland, holds a monthly one-day Swiss tournament. In addition, they have added chess boxing -- a sport in which players alternate one round of boxing, with four minutes of chess, to the roster of events. More information is available on their website: <http://www.lutheracreschess.org/>



U.S. Amateur Team East

Champions 1971 – Present

1971 Franklin Mercantile CC Mike Shahade, Arnold Chertkov, Myron Zelitch, Eugene Seligson

1972 Penn State CC Donald Byrne, Dan

Heisman, Steve Wexlar, Bill Beckman, Jim Joachin

1973 The Independents Edgar T. McCormick, Edward Allen, Steve Pozarek, Charles Adkins

1974 Temple University Mike Pastor, Bruce Rind, Harvey Bradlow, Joseph Schwing

1975 GSCA Four Ken Regan, John Fedorowicz, Edward Babinski Jr., Tyler Cowen

1976 GSCA Four Ken Regan, John Fedorowicz, Tyler Cowen, Michael Wilder

1977 Mahko Ornst Damian Dottin, Sunil Weeramantry, Jasper Chin, Doug Brown

1978 Westfield Winners Stephen Stoyko,

Stephen Pozarek, Saul Wanetick, John McCarthy

1979 Mahko Ornst Doug Brown, Timothy Lee, David Gertler, Harold Bogner

1980 Heraldica Imports Roman Dzindzichashvili, Jose Cuchi, Jose Saenz, Ignatio Yepes

1981 The Materialists Eugene Meyer, Robin Spital, Gordon Zalar, Peter McClusky

1982 Metalhead 'N' Mutants Tony Renna, Jonathan Schroer, Andrew Metrick, John Kennedy

1983 The Costigan Team Thomas Costigan, William Costigan, Andrew Costigan, Richard Costigan

1984 Collins' Kids Vasily Stuart Rachels, John Litvinchuk, David Peters, Marcos

Robert

1985 We Don't Have One George Krauss,

Robert Miller, David Gertler, Sam Waldner

1986 Ace Reporter Tisdall Michael Rohde, Mark Ginsburg, Leonid

Bass, Julia Sarwer

1987 Walk Your Dog Michael Feinstein,

William Mason, Robin Cunningham, David Greenstein

1988 Bergen County Chess Council Aviv

Friedman, Jose Lahoz, Lee Rutowski, Jonathan Beeson

1989 Rube V. Rubenchik, R. Shocron, D.

Rubinsky, R. Rubenchik

1990 Walk Your Dog 3 Michael Feinstein, William Mason, Seth Rothman, Paul Gordon

1991 Collins' Kids Graduates John Litvinchuk, Sal Matera, William Lombardy, Joe Ippolito

1992 Made in the USA David Arnett, Josh Waitzkin, Eliot Lum, Dan Benjamin

1993 Bonin the USA Jay Bonin, Mark Ritter, Harold Stenzel, Dan O'Hanlon

1994 Jimi Hendrix Exp Ilya Gurevich,

Mark Ginsburg, Victor Frias, Chris Kendrex, Steven Kendrex

1995 Brooklyn College "A" Genady Sagalchik, Alex Kalikshteyn, Yuri Alpshun, Joe Valentin

1996 Westfield CC Robin Cunningham,

Todd Lunna, Jason Cohen, Jerry Berkowitz, Yaacov Norowitz

1997 Kgovsky's Killers Igor Schliperman,

Mark Kurtzman, Stan Kotlyar, Nathan

Shnaidman

1998 WWW.ChessSuperstore Anatoly

Karpov, Ron Henley, Irina Krush, Albert

Pinnella Light Blue Dyllan McClain, Nathan Resika, Brian Hulse, Alan Price

1999 Clinton-Insufficient Lusing Chances Jim West, Mike Shapiro, Alan Kantor, David Sichel, Mel Rappaport

2000 Total Brutality Philip Songe, Savdin Robovic, Igor Schliperman,

Mark Kurtzman

2001 Zen and the Art of Bisguier Ron

Burnett, Art Bisguier, Sergio Almeida, Noach Belcher

2002 Weera Family Hikaru Nakamura,

Sunil Weeramantry, Asuka Nakamura, Michael Ellenbogen

2003 UTD Orange Andrei Zaremba, Dennis Rylander, Ali Morsaedi, Clem Rendon

2004 Dean Ippolito LLC (Stanislav Kriventso, Den Ippolito, Mike Bernshteyn, Scott Lalli)

2005 My 60 Memorable Chess Rants (Eli

Vavsha, Samson Benen, Joshua Bromberg, Evan Rosenberg)

2006 My G8 Predecessors (Charles Riotdan, Alex Cherniak, Lawyer Times, Charlie Mays)

2007 Beavis and Buttvinnik (James Critelli, Evan Turtel, Nick Panico III, Evan Rabin, Alan Kantor)

2008 GGGg (Zvia Izoria, Eugen Perelshteyn, Roman Dzindzichashvili, Stephen Fanning)

2009 The Palin Gambit (Paul McIntyre, Brian Hulse, Libardo Rueda, Alan Price)

2010 Cambridge Springers (Joe Fang, Bill Kelleher, Vesna Dimtrijevic, Leonard Morrissey, Anatoly Levin)

2011 West Orange Krush (Jose Fernandez, Peter Radmosky, Vistor Rosas, Mike Zlotnikov)

2012 Forking with Tebow's Knights Never Leads to Mate (Robert Hess, Peter Hess, Shawn Windell, Zachary Weiner)

2013 Princeton University (Michael Lee, Andrew Ng, Dylan Mooching Xue, Leo Kang)

2014 Princeton University (Michael Lee, Andrew Ng, Jason Altschuler, Derek Johnson)

2015 Virginia Assassins (James Schuyler, Andrew Samuelson, Daniel Miller, and Lucas Knoll)

2016 Summer Chess Academy Youth 1 (Ethan Li, Henry Qi, Warren Wang, Wesley Wang)

The Dean of Chess Academy Report and Futurity Report

The Dean of Chess Academy began its 8th year in Branchburg with many special events. With generous sponsorship from the NJSCF, we were able to provide the host site for the first NJ Futurity in many years. We also held two charity events for two staples of NJ chess for decades. In addition, we ran nearly 50 other scholastic events and hosted the Dean of Chess Academy Knights for the Garden State Chess League.

January 2016 started off well with a very strong NJ Futurity. The event was won by New Jersey's John Michael Burke with a 6-3 score, netting him a final IM norm and narrowly missing a GM norm. I did manage to play one good, instructive game against IM Arthur Shen. Burke's game is below in the tournament report.

Shen,A - Ippolito,D [C54]

NJ Futurity (3), 10.01.2016

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.d3 Nf6 5.0-0 a6 6.c3 Ba7 7.Re1 d6 8.Bb3 0-0 9.Nbd2 [9.h3 is more common and safer, since it eliminates the choice in the game.] **9...Ng4 10.Re2 Kh8 11.Nf1** [11.h3 is a better idea and we will see why in a few moves.] **11...f5 12.exf5 Bxf5 13.Ng3** [13.h3 is much better. White is waiting too long to kick the knight out of g4.] **13...Bd7 14.h3?** [14.Bg5 was necessary, keeping the relative balance.] **14...Rxf3 15.gxf3 Nxf2!** [15.Qh4 was also strong as played in a previous game but the engines like 15...Nxf2 even more]. **16.Rxf2 Qh4** There is no defense. **17.Ne4 Bxf2+ 18.Nxf2 Qg3+ 19.Kf1 20.Qe2 Rxf3 21.Qe1 e4! 22.dxe4 Ne5 23.Ke2 Rxf2+ 0-1** since 24.Qxf2 Qd3+ 25.Ke1 Nf3+ will force White to give up the queen.

The 3rd annual Steve Ferrero memorial was held in April. Steve Ferrero was one of our original club members and one of the most active players in NJ for decades. He passed away suddenly in 2013. The event was won by Karl

Dehmelt with a score of 4-0, ahead of 6 other masters.

'Our first annual Richard Napoli Memorial was also held in 2016, in honor of our former chess teacher Richard Napoli who passed away in December 2015. The Open event was won by Boris Privman. The top prize in the U1600 section was free entry into the Millionaire Chess 3, sponsored by the NJSCF. After the winner Michael Pierce could not attend, that prize went to Boyang Zhao, who scored 3.5/7.0 in Atlantic City.

Finally, our 11th annual scholastic Grand Prix season finished with Jacob Lubin as the individual winner and Village Elementary as the top school team.

We look forward to seeing many of you again this year at our tournaments, or league Wednesday and Friday night League Nights! The New Jersey Futurity

In January 2016, the New Jersey State Chess Federation sponsored a "futurity" tournament, held at the Dean of Chess Academy. More popular many years ago than today, a futurity tournament features up-and-coming players testing their skills against seasoned internationally-titled players. The ten player, round robin tournament, held over two weekends, featured three grandmasters -- Tamaz Gelashvili, Mackenzie Molner, and Leonid Yudasin -- and many of the New Jersey's brightest hopes for chess future. With a 40/90, SD/30 plus 30 second increment time control and two games per day, the schedule made for some long games, but gave all the younger participants valuable experience in their inevitable international tournament careers.

The winner was 14 year old International Master John Michael Burke, with a score of 6.0 out of 9, winning four and losing only one to GM Yudasin. He cleaned up on the lower half of the field, which assured

him a victory. Second place was a four-way tie with 5 points between the three grandmasters, and young Praveen Balikrishnan, who notably went undefeated.

Here is Burke's game against International Master (and Futurity location host) Dean Ippolito. John's tactical dissection of Dean's position was perhaps not the best hothouse gift for the generally congenial and gracious Dean! (Annotations by John Michael Burke)

New Jersey Futurity - Round 4

January 2016

White: Dean Ippolito

Black: John Michael Burke

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nf3 Bg7 4. g3 c5 5. Bg2 cxd4 6. Nxd4 d5 An interesting idea, since usually people are playing 6...0-0 7.Nc3 which avoids this move. **7. Qa4+** A strange move. **7... Bd7 8. Qa3 Nc6 9. Nxc6 Bxc6 10. cxd5 Bxd5 11. Bxd5 Qxd5 12. O-O O-O 13. Nc3** Note that 13. Qxe7 would lead to 13... Rfe8 14. Qa3 Qh5 **13... Qe6 14. Rd1** Perhaps 14. Qb3 as he might want to take the opportunity to bail out. **14... Ng4 15. Qb3 Qf5 16. f3** Had he played 16. Rf1 then the non-natural move 16... Bxc3! is quite good. **17. Qxc3 Rac8 16... Qc5+ 17. e3 Ne5 18. Qxb7 Rad8 19. Rd5 Qc4 20. Rxd8 Rxd8 21. Kg2 Nxf3 22. Qxe7** If instead, 22. Qxf3 Bxc3 23. Qf1 (23. bxc3 Qxc3 24. Rb1) 23... Qe4+ 24. Qf3 Qc2+ 25. Qf2 Bd2 then White is completely tied down. **22... Ne1+ 23. Kf2 Rc8?** This gives away most of the advantage. I was focused on preventing Qe4, but I missed a win. The win is 23... Qd3 24. Kxe1 Bxc3+ 25. bxc3 Qxc3+ 26. Kf2 Qc2+ 27. Kf3 Qd1+ 28. Kf2 (28. Kf4 Qf1+) 28. Kg2 Qe2+ 29. Kh3 Rd5) 28... Rc8) **24. Qe4??** Dean blunders with almost no time left. Better was 24. Bd2 Nd3+ 25. Kg1 Ne5 26. Qb7 Rd8 27. Rf1 Bh6 **24... Qxe4 25. Nxe4 Nd3+ 26. Ke2 Rxc1 27. Rxc1 Nxc1+ 28. Kd2 Nxa2 0-1**

#	Player	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
1	John Burke	x	=	=	1	=	0	=	1	1	1	6.0
2	Praveen Balakrishnan	=	x	=	=	=	=	=	1	=	=	5.0
3	Tamaz Gelashvili	=	=	x	0	=	=	1	=	1	=	5.0
4	Kassa Korley	0	=	1	x	=	=	=	=	=	1	5.0
5	Mackenzie Molner	=	=	=	=	x	=	0	=	1	1	5.0
6	Leonid Yudasin	1	=	=	=	=	x	=	=	0	1	5.0
7	Akshat Chandra	=	=	0	=	1	=	x	0	=	1	4.5
8	Dean Ippolito	0	0	=	=	=	=	1	x	1	=	4.5
9	Arthur Shen	0	=	0	=	0	1	=	0	x	0	2.5
10	Rostislav Taborsky	0	=	=	0	0	0	0	=	1	x	2.5

2016 World Amateur Team Prizes: Top 5

1st Place	Summer Chess Academy for Talented Youth 1
2nd Place	Komodo Dragons
3rd Place	ChessNYC All Stars
4th Place	Wei Yi Played Gave
5th Place	Princeton A

Top Rating Prizes

U2100	New Kids on the Clock
U2000	Cornell B
U1900	MD Sweet 16
U1800	Our Chess Rust - Your Lockjaw
U1700	Ewing C
U1600	VW Blocks EPA Checks
U1500	The Board Awakens
U1400	Reluctant Mates
U1300	CKQ Fischer's Army
U1200	Chessaholics 4
U1000	g1 is My Safe Space

Category Prizes

College	Princeton B
High School	Millburn Dragons
Middle School	The Sixers (Masterman)
Elementary School	N(Knight)est
	Knights from Nes
Scholastic 1	Knight b4 Valentine's Day
Scholastic 2	This Name is Alekhine's Think
Mixed Doubles	CKQ Lethal Weapons
Seniors	West Orange Krush
Military	No Pawn Left Behind
Company	Knights Who Say Nih
Future	CKQ FOUR AMIGOS
Parent/ Child	Queen's Flying
Knights	

States

CT	Trump Maneuver
DE	The Brandywine Knights
MD	MD Sweet 16
MA	f3 + g4 Rhe Right Wing Agenda
NJ	Lets Make America Mate Again
NY	Academy for Talented Youth 1
PA	Designated Drinkers
VA	Virginia Assassins

Best Name Hillary's Email No Open Files

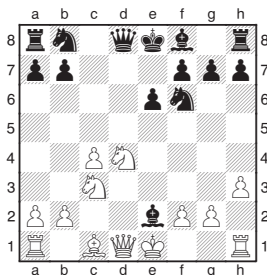
Best Gimmick The Knock Out Knights

Three Games Annotated by Three Grandmasters—From the NJ Open

(1) **Stripunsky,A -**

Subramanian,Arun [B22] NJ Open, 05.09.2016 (*Stripunsky*)

A typical last round fight with a lot of ups and downs. Both players were tired, but played resourcefully. **1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Be2 e6 7.h3 Bh5 8.c4!?** [Unlike in the other Alapin lines where White has the isolated d-pawn, a strategical idea here is different - by trading his d-pawn for the Black's c-pawn, White is getting the Queenside majority and intending to realize it in endgame.] **8...Qd8** [Alternatives are 8...Qd7 and 8...Qd6] **9.Nc3 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Bxe2** [Diagram

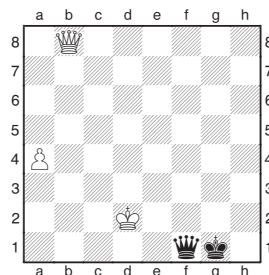


11.Qa4+! [That's the point] **11...Qd7** [11...Nbd7 is also possible, though White gets a comfortable edge **12.Ndxe2 Be7 13.Bg5 0-0 14.Rd1 Qe8 15.0-0 h6 16.Bf4 Qc8 17.b3 e5 18.Be3 Re8 19.Ng3 Nc5 20.Bxc5 Qxc5 21.Nd5 Nxd5 22.Rxd5 Qa3 23.Qxa3 Bxa3 24.Re1 f6 25.Red1 Re7 26.Nf5± and White went on to win. Stripunsky,A-Molner,M/Manhattan Open 2015/]** **12.Kxe2** [After Queens are off the board, the King is happy to be in the center] **12...Bc5 13.Rd1 Qxa4** [I personally would keep the Bishop **13...0-0 14.Qxd7 Nbx7 15.b3 Rfd8²]** **14.Nxa4 Bxd4 15.Rxd4 Nc6 16.Rd1 Ke7 17.Be3** [An engine likes **17.b3 Rhd8 18.Ba3+ Ke8 19.Bb2** but I think the Bishop should attack the opponent's Queenside] **17...b6 18.Nc3 Rhd8 19.b3 Rxd1 20.Rxd1 Rd8 21.Rxd8 Kxd8 22.c5** [White needs to organize a pass pawn in order to tie down Black's forces, then the time will come to switch an attention to the other side.] **22...bxc5 23.Bxc5 a6 24.Kd3 Kc7 25.a3 Nd7 26.Be3 f5 27.b4 Nde5+ 28.Kc2**

Nc4 29.Bc1 Nd6 [Better was **29...Nb6** and in order to make a progress, White would have to regroup] **30.Na4 Nb7 31.Be3 e5 32.Kc3 Ne7 33.Kc4 Nd6+ 34.Kb3 f4 35.Bc5± e4 36.Bxd6+ Kxd6 37.Nc5 Kd5!** [Giving up the Queenside and looking for an active counterplay on the opposite part of the board] **38.Nxa6 g5 39.b5 h5 40.b6 Nc6 41.Kc3** [Transformation to pawn endgame doesn't work here **41.Nb4+?? Nxb4 42.Kxb4 Kc6 43.Kc3 h4! 44.Kd4 g4 45.hxg4 f3 46.gxf3 h3** and Black is breaking through; **41.b7 Na5+**] **41...Na5!** [An only move keeping Black in the game] [**41...g4? 42.b7 f3 43.gxf3 gxh3 44.Nb4+ Kc5 45.Nxc6 h2 46.Nd4 h1Q 47.Nb3+ Kc6 48.b8Q+-**] **42.Nc7+ Ke5 43.f3?!** [I wasn't thrilled calculating the various breaks and made this move for prophylactic reasons. Turned out that Black's task of getting counterplay is easier now.] [Better was **43.Nb5 g4 44.hxg4 f3 (44...hxg4 45.Nd4) 45.gxf3 h4 46.Nd4 h3 47.Ne2 h2 48.f4+ Kd5 49.Ng3** and the Knight is successfully handling the Kingside events] **43...g4!** [**43...h4**] **44.fxg4 hxg4 45.hxg4 f3 46.gxf3 exf3 47.Kd3 Kf4 48.Ne6+ Kxg4 49.Nd4** [Or **49.Nc5 Nb7 50.Ne4 Kf5 51.Nf2 Ke6 52.Kc4 Kd7 53.Kb5 Nd6+ 54.Ka6 Kc8** and Black is OK] **49...f2** [again the best defense] [**49...Kg3? 50.Nxf3 Kxf3 51.a4+- Kf4 52.Kd4 Kf5 53.Kc5 Ke6 54.Kb5 Nb7 55.Kc6 Na5+ 56.Kc7 wins**] **50.Ke2 Kg3** [**50...Kf4 51.Kxf2 Ke4 52.Nb3 Nb7 53.a4 Kd5 54.a5 Kc6**] **51.Nf5+ Kg2 52.Ne3+ Kg1 53.Kd3 Nb7! 54.Ke2** [White needs to redeploy his knight to d2] [**54.a4 Nd6 55.a5 Nf5 56.b7 Nxe3 57.b8Q f1Q+ 58.Kxe3** is just a draw **58...Qe1+ 59.Kf3 Qc3+ 60.Kg4 Qxa5=**] **54...Na5 55.Nf1 Kg2 56.a4** [An immediate transposition to a Queen endgame was more accurate **56.Nd2 Nb3 57.b7 Nxd2 58.Kxd2 f1Q 59.b8Q** with good winning chances] **56...Kg1 57.Nd2 Nc4 58.b7 Nxd2 59.Kxd2 f1Q 60.b8Q** [Diagram]

Position looks drawing, but from practical point of view, Black task is difficult. With his King behind a pawn, the Queen exchange is not an option. White will always try to find a shelter

for his King on a same/neighboring rank/file/diagonal where the Black's King is. The best position for White's Queen is the middle of the board.]

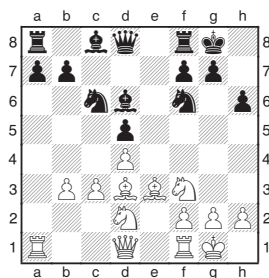


60...Qf2+ 61.Kc3 Qe1+ 62.Kb2 Qd2+ 63.Ka3 Qc3+ 64.Qb3 Qa1+ 65.Kb4 Qd4+ 66.Qc4 Qb6+ 67.Ka3 Qa5 68.Qc1+ Kf2 69.Qb2+ Kg3 70.Qb3+ Kg2 71.Qb4 Qf5 72.Qd4 Qf3+ 73.Ka2 Qf7+ 74.Kb2 Qb7+ 75.Ka1 Kh3 76.a5 Kg3 77.Ka2 Qc6 78.Ka3 Kh3 79.Kb4 [I don't remember the rest of the game. White managed to make a decisive progress and win in a mutual timepressure] 1-0

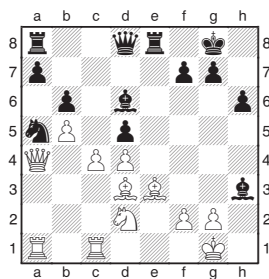
(1) Xu,Runya (2225) -

Fishbein,Alexander (2528) [B22] NJ Open (4), 04.09.2016

1.e4 c5 2.c3 e6 [With this reply against the 2.c3 Sicilian, Black is prepared to accept a Tarrasch French structure, or an Advanced French, but an independent position is also possible, as in fact happened in this game.] 3.d4 d5 [4.e5 would now lead to an advanced French which I am prepared to play against since I have myself played it with White.] 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Be3 [6.Bb5 can transpose to a Tarrasch French where Black has an isolated pawn, but the move c3 is typically not played so quickly in that opening.] 6...c4 7.b3 cxb3 8.axb3 Nf6 9.Bd3 Bd6 10.0-0 0-0 [Often White advances with c4 here, but Runya has a different plan in mind.] 11.Nbd2 h6 [Diagram] White's position should probably be slightly preferred, but we have an unusual pawn structure where anything can happen and there are no clear guideposts, so I am happy here.]

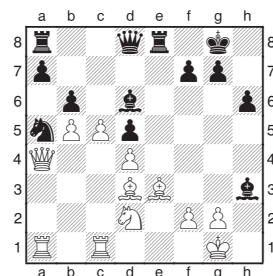


12.h3 Re8 13.b4 [The idea is to advance the b-pawn where it might hold Black's two pawns on the queenside and then push in the center. I decided to fight for the c4 square rather than try to form a passed pawn with 13...a5.] 13...Be6 14.b5 Na5 15.Qa4 b6 16.Rfc1 [White's plan is clear. He wants to capture the c-file and play c4. A neutralization of this plan would require exchanging pieces, and I felt that White would then not risk losing. I thought for a long time here and found a variation with a piece sacrifice or even a Rook sacrifice. It looked very tempting, and I tried to calculate it to the end.] 16...Ne4 17.c4 [This was predictable, and my combination was ready to go.] [17.Nxe4?? loses to 17...dxe4 18.Bxe4 Bb3 trapping the Queen] 17...Nxd2 18.Nxd2 Bxh3!? [Diagram]



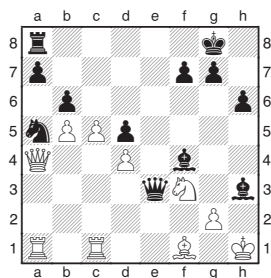
I had spent almost 45 minutes trying to calculate this combination, but could not see it to the end. Still, I played it, for several reasons: (1) It was just too tempting and might make the game interesting; (2) Chess is not a mathematical problem but a contest between two people; (3) If I spend 45 minutes thinking about it and then don't play it, it makes me look like an idiot, and (4) I couldn't see anything else that gave me more than equality.]

[18...f5! However, if I had taken a fresh look at this position, maybe I would have this alternative, and then I would have certainly played it. 19.c5 f4 20.cxd6 fxe3 21.fxe3 Qg5 22.Nf1 Bxh3 23.Ra2 With a still very complicated position but Black seems to have somewhat better chances. He may emerge a pawn up but White has some compensation as Black's knight is out of play.] 19.c5? [Diagram]

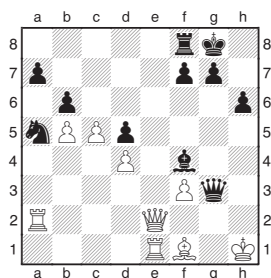


White immediately errs, accepting a position where Black has two pawns for the exchange and attacking chances. He should have accepted the piece sacrifice, when there are many interesting variations:] [19.gxh3 Qh4 (19...Rxe3 I also looked at sacrificing a whole Rook to bring the White King out, but it looks like it falls short 20.fxe3 Qg5+ 21.Kf2 Re8 22.Nf1 Qh4+ 23.Ke2 Qxh3 24.Kd2 The White King has escaped) 20.Bf1! Now I thought that the Rook sacrifice works because I get a piece back and get plenty of compensation, but the computer finds a good defensive plan for White (20.Nf1 After this I thought that at worst Black has a draw (and that is correct), but I also saw a winning try (which misses): 20...Qxh3 (20...dxc4? 21.Bxc4 Nxc4 22.Rxc4! Re6 Back on move 16 I had seen this variation and thought Black wins here, but White has a defense along the fourth rank (not easy to see from far away) 23.d5! Rg6+ 24.Rg4) 21.c5 Qg4+ 22.Kh1 Qh3+=) 20...Rxe3 21.fxe3 Qg3+ 22.Bg2 Qxe3+ 23.Kh1 Qxd2 24.c5 Bc7 25.Qd1! Qf4 Diagram[#] 26.Qg1! Although the game is still alive, it looks like Black's compensation is insufficient and my combination therefore was objectively incorrect. But it would have been hard to calculate all of this, so really it is a question of acceptable risk. I think

that's the type of decision-making question that makes chess interesting, and at the very least, this game adds one more example to this topic.] **19...Rxe3!** [I had considered 19.c5 and seen that now this move works] **20.fxe3 Qg5 21.Bf1 Qxe3+ 22.Kh1 Bf4?** [Another interesting mistake. Black continues to look for an attack, but it was actually time to consolidate. After my move, White can equalize.] [22...Be6! 23.cxd6 Qxd2 Black is looking to capture the d6 pawn and have three pawns for the exchange at that point.] **23.Nf3?** [Diagram]

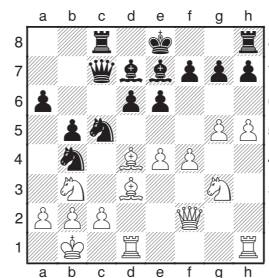


The final mistake, after which Black concludes the game convincingly. White had a precise defense here which would have been hard to find over the board.] [23.Ra3! Qxd2 24.Rd1 Qf2 (24...Bxg2+ 25.Bxg2 Qe2 26.Rf1! g5 27.Qd1! Qe6 28.Re1) 25.Rxh3 Re8 26.Rf3! Qh4+ 27.Rh3 Qf2=] **23...Bg4!** Now there is no hope for White. Black has a preponderance of force on the Kingside and has enough material compensation for the exchange as well.] **24.Re1 Qf2 25.Qd1 Qg3 26.Ra2** [Black's last three moves were the best moves but they were not hard to find. Now Black has a number of ways to win, and I chose the safest method.] **26...Rf8** [In order to be able to move the Knight without worrying about white's pawns.] **27.Qe2** [Now Black has an efficient finish] **27...Bxf3 28.gxf3** [Diagram]



28...Qh4+! 29.Kg1 Nc4 30.Re1 Be3+ 31.Kg2 Qg5+ [In time pressure, White goes to the wrong square] **32.Kh3** ads to a forced mate.][32.Kh2 would not have held out much longer: 32...Qh4+ 33.Kg2 Bxd4 With the deadly threat of 34...Ne3+ (among others)] **32...Bf4 33.Qf2 Qh5+0-1**

[S. Kudrin-J. Fedorowicz, NJ Open, 2016, Morristown (notes by Kudrin): My game with Fedorowicz was my most important.] **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Qb6 5.Nb3 Nf6 6.Nc3 e6 7.Qe2** [Looks strange but very popular. White is castling long.] **7...d6 8.Be3 Qc7 9.g4 a6 10.g5 Nd7 11.f4 b5 12.Qf2** [Stopping Nb6 and Nc5 for now.] **12...Be7 13.0-0-0 Rb8 14.Kb1 Nb6 15.Bd3 Na4 16.Ne2 Bd7 17.h4 Rc8 18.h5 Nb4 19.Ng3 Nc5 20.Bd4** [lack has a typical problem--what to do with the king. His attack on the queenside is not strong enough.]



B20...e5? [The losing move.] **21.Nxc5 dxc5 22.Bxe5 Qa5 23.a3 Nc6 24.Bxg7 Rg8 25.h6 c4 26.Be2 c3** [Black has to try to create play, but if White is careful, White should be able to handle it. Look at the rook on g8.] **27.Bxc3 b4 28.Bd2 Qc7 29.axb4 Nxb4 30.Bc3 Be6 31.Nf5** [Finally, White can make an attacking move.] **31...Qa5 32.Ng7+ Rxb7 33.hxg7** [Black Resigns. Black could try] **33...Rxc3 34.g8Q+ Bf8 35.Rd8+ Qxd8 36.bxc3** [Black just does not have enough pieces to attack.]

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