

TEXAS KNIGHTS

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September-October 2010

GM RAMIREZ WINS US OPEN!

28 lines

Chief TD Franc Guadalupe awards trophy to Alejandro Ramirez

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Texas Chess Association is a 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit corporation dedicated to promoting chess in Texas.

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

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

Deadline next issue: Oct. 15. All contents of *Texas Knights* © 2010 by the Texas Chess Association, Inc. No part may be reproduced in any way without express consent of the editor. Ad rates: \$50/page, \$35/half, \$20/quarter, \$1/line.

Solution (back cover problem) 1.Qb4 (not 1.Qd4? Bc2. Now if 1...Ba2 2.Qxc3#, 1...B-other 2.Qa3#; 1...c2 2.Qb2#)

Cover photo courtesy of Monroi.com

A word from the editor

What a year this has been for Texas chess players! In March, for the first time in Final Four of College Chess, three of the four teams were from Texas. Although UMBC won, the host team of UT-Brownsville had its best result with second place. Then in June their top board, GM Timur Gareev, won the National Open in Las Vegas outright – the first player in 21 years to do so without tying!

In July, Houston hosted a record-setting U.S. Junior Open. The winner of the main event was a UT-Austin student, Deepyaman Datta from Dallas.

Then in August a recent UTD graduate, GM Alejandro Ramirez, won the U.S. Open – outright!

That same weekend brought the news that Tommy He of Houston won gold in the under-10 division of the Pan-Am Youth Championships in Brazil. Congrats to all out Texas chess stars!

TCA Treasurer's Report

Prepared by Barbara Swafford for Apr. 15, 2010

Income	
2009 SW Open memberships	\$533.50
2010 Texas Team memberships	245.00
2010 Texas Masters memberships	95.00
2009 Texas State Girls tournament	50.00
2009 Texas State Grade tournament	471.00
2010 Texas State Scholastic tournament	2,098.00
2010 Texas Action memberships	106.00
2010 Texas State and Amateur memberships	358.50
August memberships	10.00
September memberships	85.00
October memberships	105.00
November memberships	90.00
December memberships	92.50
January memberships	80.00
February memberships	157.50
March memberships	172.50
April memberships	70.00
May memberships	120.00
June memberships	35.00
July memberships	365.00
August memberships (so far)	20.00
Region II Scholastic tournament	64.00
Region III Scholastic tournament	139.00
Region V Scholastic tournament	177.00
2009 Region VI Scholastic tournament	282.00
2010 Region VI Scholastic tournament	237.00

Looking ahead, the U.S. Class Chess Championships return to Houston, Oct. 1-3. This time the event will be at a very convenient location, the Hilton Houston Hobby Airport Hotel, with free parking; free shuttle service from Hobby airport; \$89 room rate! This event awards national class titles, with winners to be listed in the *Chess Life* year-book. This year's event promises to be the strongest yet! So far, the field includes U.S. Open Champion GM Alejandro Ramirez, GM Timur Gareev, GM Axel Bachmann, GM Ioan Chirila, IM Marko Zivanic, IM Puchen Wang, IM Salvijus Bercys, IM Julio Sadorra, and IM Daniel Fernandez. In addition, it is very likely that we will get two more GMs in attendance (to be confirmed soon)! Of course, this event is for players of all skills and ages. It has a division for previously unrated players as well as a scholastic side event. For more information, please visit the tournament Web page, www.uschess.org/tournaments/2010/class/ . - SKA

Region VII Scholastic plus \$10 donation	300.00
Region VIII Scholastic tournament	1,200.00
Region VII Girls Scholastic tournament	18.00
Interest Income from CD	<u>198.90</u>
Total	\$7,975.40

Expenses	
SW Open Prize Fund to guarantee \$10,000	\$ 2,500.00
SW Open registration, WY attendees	400.00
Texas Masters registration, WY attendees	670.00
Texas Amateur Registration - WY attendees	283.00
2010 SW Open Tournament Fund	3,000.00
<i>Texas Knights</i> - Sept-Oct 2009	896.50
<i>Texas Knights</i> - Nov-Dec 2009	892.00
<i>Texas Knights</i> - Jan-Feb 2010	895.21
<i>Texas Knights</i> - March-April 2010	916.50
<i>Texas Knights</i> - May-June 2010	1,219.60
<i>Texas Knights</i> - July-August 2010	1,042.75
2008 World Youth Attendees	3,000.00
2009 World Youth Attendees	1,200.00
William Ong - 2009 Denker representative	1,000.00
2009 Texas State Girl's Tournament	500.00
2010 Texas Master's Tournament	1,100.00
2010 Texas State GM Appearance Fee	300.00
Kings of Brownsville Project	1,000.00
Robert Sturgeon Funeral flowers	<u>102.82</u>
Total	\$20,918.38

August 15, 2010	
WF checking account balance	\$2,224.83
BOA checking account balance	\$16,277.20

GM Ramirez coasts to victory at the US Open

By Randy Hough

As the 111th Annual U.S. Open ended at the Hyatt Regency in Irvine, California, GM Alejandro Ramirez maintained his lead and took the championship with a score of 8-1, earning a cash bonus for his clear win. Although the top two boards ended in draws, both were fighting games that would have pleased the late Jerry Hanken, the indefatigable chess promoter after whom this Open was named.

Alejandro classifies his draw with Julio Sadorra, a Filipino IM who attends University of Texas at Dallas, as "topsy-turvy," and thought he was winning at one point.

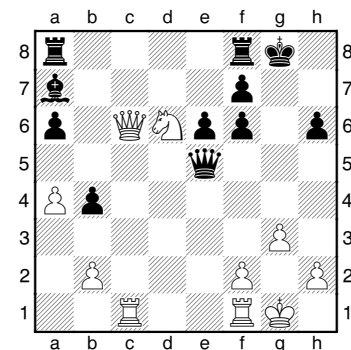
Catalan Opening E04

Alejandro Ramirez 2647

Julio Sadorra 2451

US Open 2010 (9)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 dxc4 5.Bg2 b5 6.O-O Bb7 7.a4 a6 8.Nc3 b4 9.Nb1 Bd5 10.Bg5 c5 11.dxc5 Nbd7 12.Nbd2 h6 13.e4 Bb7 14.Bxf6 Nxf6 15.e5 Nd5 16.Nxc4 Bxc5 17.Nfd2 O-O 18.Ne4 Ba7 19.Ncd6 Bc6 20.Qc2 Ne7 21.Rac1 Qa5 22.Nf6+! gxf6 23.Bxc6 Nxc6 24.Qxc6 Qxe5



25.Nxf7! Kxf7 26.Qd7+ Kg6 27.Rc7 f5 28.Qh7+ Kh5 29.Rxa7 Rxa7 30.Qxa7 a5 31.Qe7 Qf6 32.Qc5

Re8 33.Qb5 Qd8 34.Re1 Kg6 35.Re5 Kf6 36.Qxa5 Qd4 37.Rb5 Qxb2 38.Rxb4 Qc1+ 39.Kg2 Qc6+ 40.Kh3 Qf3 41.Rf4 Qh1 42.Qb5 Rd8 43.Qe2 Qd1 44. Qxd1 Rxd1 45.Rh4 Kg6 46.Rb4 Ra1 47.Rb6 Rxa4 48.Rxe6+ Kg7 49.Kg2 Rb4 50.Rd6 Ra4 51.h4 h5 52.Kf3 Re4 53.Ra6 Rb4 54.Ke3 Re4+ 55.Kf3 Rb4 56.Re6 Ra4 57.Ke3 1/2-1/2

An examination of the other top game influenced him to acquiesce in the draw. (He believes his wins over Khachiyan, Round 6, and Shabalov, Round 8, are also worthy of study!)

QGD Slav D10

Alexander Shabbalov 2654

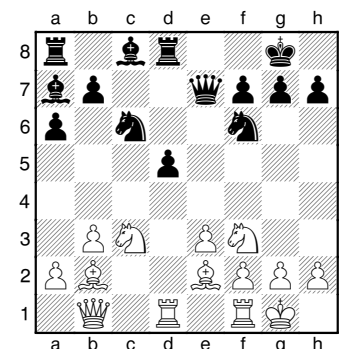
Alejandro Ramirez 2647

US Open 2010 (8)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e3 a6 5.Qc2 e6 6.b3 c5

A shift in plans, to take advantage of White's queen placement.

7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.Nf3 0-0 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Be2 Nc6 11.0-0 Qe7 12.Bb2 Rd8 13.Rad1 Ba7 14.Qb1



14...Bg4

14...Bxe3! (Fritz) 15.fxe3 Qxe3+ 16.Kh1 d4 17.Rd3 (17.Bc4!? dxc3 18.Rxd8+ Nxd8 19.Re1 Qh6 20.Bxc3 Be6) 17...Qe7 18.Na4 Bf5 (18...Qxe2? 19.Re1 Qf2 20.Rd2+) 19.Qe1 Bxd3 20.Bxd3 Qe3

15.Rfe1 Bh5 16.Nh4! Bxe2

16...Bg4!? 17.Nf5 Bxf5 18.Qxf5 d4=

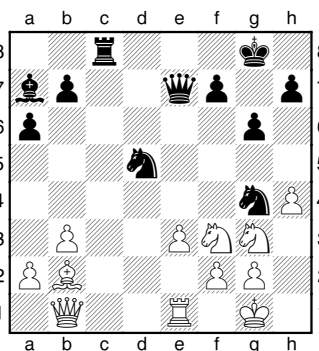
17.Nf5! Qe6 18.Nxe2 Ne7 19.Ned4 Qd7 20.Ng3 Rac8 21.Nf3 Qc6 22.Ba3

22.Rc1 Qd6 23.Nf5 Qe6 24.Nxe7+ Qxe7 25.Qf5 Rxc1 26.Rxc1 Ne4 27.Bd4±

22...Qe6 23.Ng5 Qe5 24.h4 g6 25.Bb2 d4 26.Nf3

Or 26.Bxd4 Bxd4 27.exd4 Qc7 28.Qd3±

26...Qc7 27.Nxd4 Ned5 28.Nf3 Ng4 29.Rc1 Qe7 30.Rxc8 Rxc8



31.Qd3?

Shabba's flair for complications does not serve him well in this game, where a boring policy of exchanges would have likely brought home a win. 31.Rc1 Re8 Re8 (31...Rxc1+ 32.Qxc1 Ngxe3? 33.Qc8+ +-) 32.Bd4! Bxd4 33.exd4±.

31...Nb4! 32.Qe4

32.Qe2 Nxf2 33.Qxf2 (33.Kxf2 Rc2) 33...Nd3 34.Nf5 Qe4 35.Nh6+ Kf8 36.Ng5 Nxf2 37.Nxe4 Nxe4

32...Qxe4 33.Nxe4 Nd3 34.Nh2? Nxe4 35.Nf6+ Kg7! 0-1

Sicilian Scheveningen B85

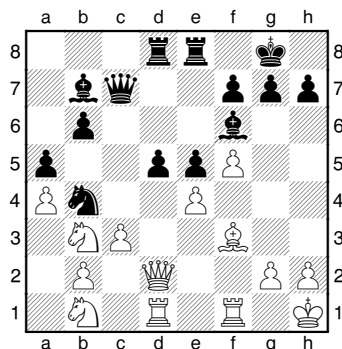
Melikset Khachiyan 2577

Alejandro Ramirez 2647

US Open 2010 (6)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Nc3 a6 4.d4 cxd4

5.Nxd4 Qc7 6.Be2 Nf6 7.O-O d6
8.a4 Nc6 9.Nb3 b6 10.f4 Be7 11.Bf3
Bb7 12.Be3 O-O 13.Qe2 Nd7 14.
Rad1 Rfe8 15.Kh1 Bf8 16.Bf2 Nb4
17.Bg3 e5 18.f5 Nf6 19.Bh4 Be7 20.
Qd2 Rad8 21.Bxf6 Bxf6 22.Nb1 a5
23.c3 d5!



24.Qe3 d4 25.Qf2 Na2 26.cxd4
exd4 27.Nxd4 Qc5 28.e5 Bxf3 29.
Qxf3 Bxe5 30.Nb5 Rxd1 31.Rxd1
Bxb2 32.Nd2 Nc3 33.Nxc3 Qxc3
34.Qxc3 Bxc3 35.Nc4 Bd4 36.g3
Bc5 37.Rd7 h5 38.Nd6 Re1+ 39.
Kg2 Re2+ 40.Kh1 Rd2 41.Rd8+
Kh7 42.Nxf7 Rxd8 43.Nxd8 b5 44.
axb5 a4 45.Nc6 a3 46.Na5 a2
47.Nb3 Kh6 48.h4 g6 49.fxc6 Kxg6
50.Kg2 Kf5 51.Kf3 Ke5 52.Ke2
Kd5 53.Kd3 Bd4 54.Kc2 Be5 55.b6
Kc6 56.Na1 Bxa1 57.Kb3 Kxb6
58.Kxa2 Be5 59.Kb3 Kc5 60.Kc2
Kd4 61.Kd2 Ke4 62.Ke2 Bd4 0-1

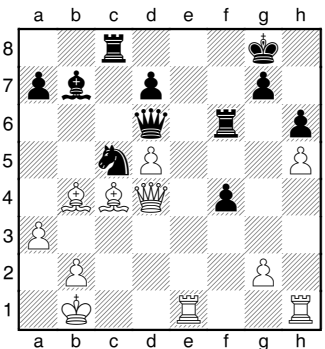
GM Varuzhan Akobian remained a half-point behind (having earlier drawn GM Timur Gareev) by drawing with young FM Daniel Naroditsky. He feels he missed a win -- 33.Nf5 instead of 33.Rxg7 as he played -- but praises Daniel for his defensive resilience.

King's Indian E61
Varuzhan Akobian 2698
Daniel Naroditsky 2449
US Open 2010 (9)
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3
O-O 5.Bg5 d6 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 c5
8.d5 Qb6 9.Rb1 e5 10.Nd2 Nh7

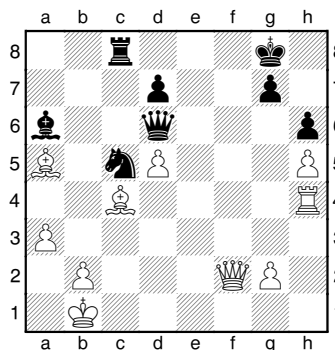
11.g4 f5 12.gxf5 Bxf5 13.e4 Bd7
14.Rg1 g5 15.Bg3 Nf6 16.Be2 Bh3
17.Bf1 Bd7 18.Be2 Bh3 19.Nf1 Qa5
20.Qd2 a6 21.Ne3 Nbd7 22.Bf1
Bxf1 23.Kxf1 b5 24.Qd3 Nb6 25.b3
bxc4 26.bxc4 Na4 27.Nxa4 Qxa4
28.Nf5 Rab8 29.Kg2 Qxa2 30.Nxd6
Rxb1 31.Rxb1 h5 32.Rb7 h4 33.
Rxg7+ Kxg7 34.Bxe5 Kg8 35.Qe3
Nh7 36.h3 g4 37.Nf5 Rxf5 38.exf5
Qxc4 39.d6 Qd5+ 40.Kh2 g3+ 41.
Kg1 Qd1+ 42.Kg2 gxf2 43.Kxf2
Qc2+ 44.Kg1 Qxf5 45.Qb3+ Qf7
46.Qd1 Qg6+ 47.Kh2 Qe6 48.d7
Qxe5+ 49.Kh1 Qe4+ 50.Kh2 Qe5+
51.Kh1 1/2-1/2

Joining Akobian and Naroditsky in second place with 7½ points was veteran GM Alexander Shabalov. His game against FM John Bryant was highly tactical; Alex freely admits he wasn't always sure who was better, but he eventually pulled in the point.

Owen Defense A40
John Bryant 2475
Alexander Shabalov 2654
US Open 2010 (9)
1.c4 b6 2.d4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb7 4.e4 Bb4
5.Qc2 Ne7 6.Bd3 f5 7.f3 O-O 8.
Nge2 fxe4 9.fxe4?! e5 10.a3 Bxc3+
11.Qxc3 Ng6 12.d5 c6 13.h4 h6
14.h5 Nf4 15.Nxf4 exf4 16.Bd2
cxd5 17.exd5 Qe7+ 18.Kd1 Na6
19.Kc2 Rac8 20.Rae1 Qd6 21.Kb1
b5 22.Qd4 bxc4 23.Bc3 Rf6 24.
Bxc4 Nc5 25.Bb4



25...a5 26.Bxa5 f3! 27.Rh4 f2 28.
Rf1 Ba6 29.Rxf2 Rxf2 30.Qxf2



30...Nd3 31.Qc2 Ne5 32.b3 Bxc4
33.bxc4 Qxa3 34.Bc3 Rb8+ 35.Bb2
Nd3 0-1

Ramirez, a graduate of the University of Texas at Dallas, has applied for permanent residency and may change his federation, but for now he continues to represent Costa Rica.

The 2011 U.S. Championship in Saint Louis goes to the highest scoring eligible player, but Akobian is a near lock to get in on rating, and Shabalov is also likely to make the rating cut. That leaves Naroditsky as a possible qualifier from this tournament.

A large "committee" landed another half-point behind, at 7-2. This included GMs Timur Garayev, Melik Khachiyani, Mark Paragua, Dmitry Gurevich, and Larry Kaufman; IMs Andranik Matikozyan, Enrico Sevillano, Salvijus Bercys, Michael Mulyar, Max Cornejo, and Mark Ginsburg; FMs Matthew Beelby, Jouaquin Banawa, and Jim Dean; and NMs Ankit Gupta, Giovanni Carretto, and Bryan Williams Paulsen. The latter six tied for Under 2400 honors. The top Expert, Vanessa West, also scored 7.

Five players tied for second Expert: Kevin Mo, Artur Safin, Jeff Phillips, Michael Bowersock, and Marian Nick Nita.

(Continued on page 21)

Datta Wins Record Smashing U.S. Junior Open

By Franc Guadalupe

The 2010 U.S. Junior Open held in Houston (July 23-25) was a record-smashing event, and NM Deepyaman Datta, a student at University of Texas at Austin, was the biggest winner. The event was held in the beautiful facilities of the Hilton Houston Hobby Airport, and drew 243 players from ten states. The 2006 Junior Open held in Dallas had the previous record with 215 players. This year's event had four sections: U-21, U-15, U-11 and U-8. Four masters and fourteen experts competed in the top division. In addition to the main event, there were Blitz, Bughouse, and Parents/Friends side events.

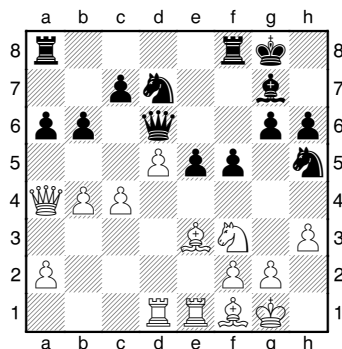
In the last round, Deepyaman defeated 14-year old expert Christopher Heung from Florida to secure clear first with 5.5/6 for the title, winner's plaque, and the \$500 prize.

King's Indian E90

Deepyaman Datta 2226
Christopher Heung 2168

US Junior Open 2010 (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 O-O 6.h3 Na6 7.Bg5 Qe8 8.Be2 e5 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.O-O Be6 11.Be3 Qe7 12.Nd5 Bxd5 13.exd5 Nh5 14.Qb3 b6 15.Rfe1 h6 16.Bf1 Qd6 17.Qb5 Nb8 18.Rad1 a6 19. Qa4 Nd7 20.b4 f5



21.c5 bxc5 22. bxc5 Nxc5 23.Bxc5 Qxc5 24.Nxe5 Qd6 25.Nc6 Kh7 26.Re6 Qc5 27.Re7 Nf6 28.Qb4 Qc2 29.Rd2 Qc1 30.Nd4 Nxd5 31. Rxc7+ Kxc7 32.Ne6+ Kf7 33.Qd4 Kxe6 34.Qxd5+ Kf6 35.Qd4+ Kf7 36.Rd1 Qxd1 37.Qxd1 Rfd8 38. Qc1 Rd7 39. Qxh6 Rd6 40.Bc4+ Kf6 41.Qh4+ Ke5 42.Qe7+ Kd4 43. Qxc7 Rad8 44.Bxa6 Ke4 45.Bb7+ Kf4 46.g3+ Kg5 47.Qe7+ Kh6 48. Qh4+ Kg7 49.Qe7+ Kh6 50.Qe3+ Kg7 51.Bf3 Rd2 52.a4 R8d7 53.a5 Kh7 54.a6 Ra2 55.Bb7 Rd1+ 56. Kg2 Rdd2 57.a7 1-0

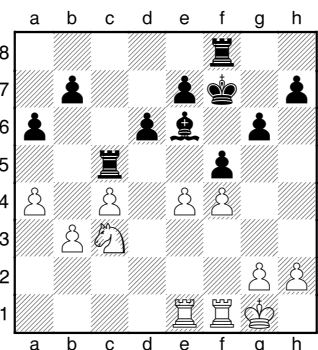
On Board Two, Florida turned the tables on Texas as 14-year old Robert Perez from Miami defeated NM William Ong – good for clear second with 5/6 along with the second place plaque and the \$250 prize.

Sicilian B38

Robert M. Perez 2182
William Ong 2202

US Junior Open 2010 (6)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Bg7 5.c4 Nc6 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nc3 d6 8.Be2 O-O 9.O-O a6 10.Qd2 Ng4 11.Bxg4 Bxg4 12.Rac1 Be6 13.b3 Qa5 14.f4 Bxd4 15.Bxd4 f5 16.Qe3 Nxd4 17.Qxd4 Rac8 18.Rce1 Qc5 19.Qxc5 Rxc5 20.a4 Kf7



21.Re3 Re8 22.Rd1 h6 23.Rd2 Rc6 24.Ne2 fxe4 25.Nd4 Rc5 26.Rxe4

Deepyaman Datta

Bd7 27.Kf2 e5 28.Nf3 Bf5 29.Re1e4 30.Nd4 d5 31.Nxf5 gxf5 32.Rxd5 Rxd5 33.cxd5 Rc8 34.Kc3 Kf6 35.Kd4 Rc2 36.Re3 b6?

After putting up a vigorous fight Black makes the losing move. The idea was surely to keep the king out of c5, but in doing so Black creates a new target for the white rook.

Equal is 36...Rxc7 37.Rh3 Rd2+ 38.Kc5 (38.Kc3 Rxd5=) 38...Kg6 39.d6 a5=.

37.Rh3 Rd2+ 38.Kc3 Rxd5 39. Rxh6+ Kf7 40.Rxb6 Rd3+ 41.Kc2 a5 1-0

Datta will not be able to get the spot in the 2011 U.S. Junior Closed since he will not be under the age of 20 as of the age cut-off date for that event, so it will likely drop down to our young second place finisher (to be confirmed).

In the U-15, Co-Champions Jason Altschuler and Steven Chen, both from Texas, won their last games to finish in a tie for first place, with Jason winning the first place trophy on tiebreaks. Their meeting on Round Five resulted in a draw. In the U-11, Kesav Vishwanadha, rated 1904, was clear first with 5.5/6.

In the U-8 Division, top seed Emily Nguyen from Austin, rated 1476, had the only perfect score of the event, 6/6, winning the Championship by a full point.

Trompovsky A45

Emily Nguyen 1478
Jesus Guillen 900

US Junior Open U8 (5)

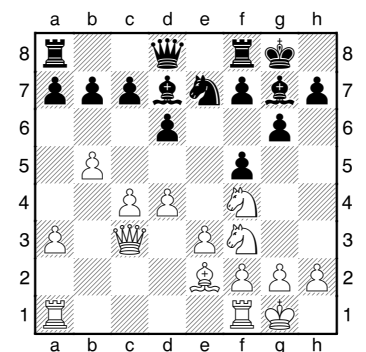
1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 g6 3.Bxf6

I don't think White gets enough for the bishop pair. [3.Nf3; 3.Nd2]

3...exf6 4.e3 d6 5.Nf3 Bg4

Better is 5...Bg7 6.c4 0-0 7.Bd3 Re8 8.Nc3 f5 9.0-0 Nd7 10.b4 Nf6 11.Qc2 b6.

6.Be2 Bd7 7.c4 Bg7 8.Nc3 f5 9.Qb3 Qc8 10.a3 0-0 11.0-0 Nc6 12.Nd5 Na5 13.Qc3 Nc6 14.b4 Qd8 15.b5 Ne7 16.Nf4



16...c5 17.bxc6 bxc6 18.c5 dxc5 [18...d5] 19.Qxc5± Nd5 20.Nxd5 cxd5 21.Qxd5 Be6 22.Qc5 [22...Qxd8] 22...Qc8 23.Qa5 Qd8 24.Qd2 Qb6 25.Rfb1 Qd8 26.Rd1 Bb3 27.Rdc1 Rc8 28.Qb4 Rxc1+ 29.Rxc1 Be6 30.Qa4 Qb8 31.h3 Bb3 32.Qc6 Be6 33.Qa4 Bb3 34.Qa5

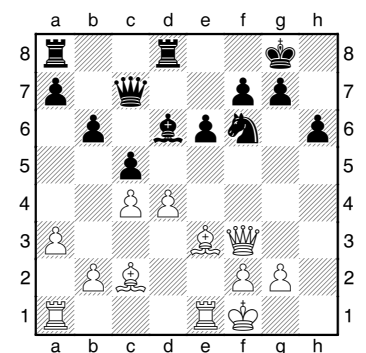
Be6 35.Qd2 Rd8 36.Ng5 Bd7? [136...Bd5] 37.Bc4+- Kh8 38.Nxf7+ Kg8 39.Nxd8+ Kh8 40.Nf7+ Kg8 41.Ng5+ [41.Ne5+!] 41...Kh8 42.Qc2 Qe8 43.Nf7+ Kg8 44.Nd6+ Kf8 45.Nxe8 Bxe8 46.Ba2 Bf7 47.Qc8+ Ke7 48.Rc7+ Kd6 49.Qd8# 1-0

QGD Semi-Slav D45

Emily Nguyen 1478
Warren Palang 1422

US Junior Open U8 (6)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 e6 4.Nf3 Nd7 5.e3 Ngf6 6.Bd3 Bd6 7.Bd2 b6 8.0-0 0-0 9.e4 dxe4 10.Nxe4 Nxe4 11.Bxe4 Bb7 12.Be3 Nf6 13.Bc2 Qc7 14.Qd3 h6 15.Rfe1 Rfd8 16.a3 c5 17.Qe2 Bxf3 18.Qxf3 Bxh2+ 19.Kf1 Bd6



20.Bxh6 cxd4 21.Bg5 Qxc4+ 22.Bd3 Qc7?

22...Qd5 23.Qxd5 exd5±

23.Bxf6 gxf6 24.Qxf6 Qe7 25.Qxd4 25.Qh6! f6 26.Re4+-

25...Qg5 26.Qe4± Qg7 27.b4 Rab8 28.Rac1 Qh6 29.g3 Qh3+ 30.Kg1?

30.Ke2 Qh5+ 31.Kd2 Qh6+ 32.Re3±

30...Bxg3! 31.fxg3 Qxg3+ 32.Kh1 Rxd3??

32...Qh3+ 33.Kg1 Rxd3+-

33.Rg1+- Qxg1+ 34.Rxg1+ Kf8 35.Qxd3 Ke7 36.Qh3 f5 37.Rg7+ Kd6 38.Qg3+ Kd5 39.Rd7+ Kc6 40.Qd6+ Kb5 41.Qxb8 1-0

Team trophies were awarded to both school and club teams. Westwood High School, from Austin, won the overall team championship in both the U-21 and U-15 Divisions, while the Houston Chess Club won the club titles in both divisions as well. In the U-11, the Houston Chess Club won the overall title and the first place trophy among clubs while Canyon Vista Middle School won first place among schools. The Austin Kids' Chess Club won the overall title in the U-8 Division, and T.H.Rogers from Houston won the school title.

The always exciting blitz event had two divisions. Bryce Tiglon, bested the other 30 participants in the U-11 Division to take the first place trophy back to Washington State. Robert Perez and Austin's Matthew Liu tied for first among the 18 participants in the Blitz U-21, with Robert, from Miami, winning the first place trophy on tiebreaks.

The exciting and always loud Bughouse competition had 13 teams. After three double rounds, the teams of Matthew Liu/Jonathan Chiang and Seth Thompson / Andrew Widener were tied with 6.0 points. Matthew and Jonathan won the play-off, 2-0, to take the first place trophies. Yiqun Xie won first place in the Parents and Friends event.

See rated results on the USCF MSA and check out the TCA website, www.texaschess.org, for complete results and winners.

Franc Guadalupe organized the event and was the Chief TD. He was assisted by Floor Chief Victor Flores and Binny Nanavati. Luis Salinas transmitted the games on the Monroi website and assisted on the floor as well.

Tommy He wins the gold in Under-10 at Pan-Am Youth

Bxc3+ 8.Nxc3 d5 9.exd5 exd5 10. Bd3 O-O 11.O-O h6 12.Kh1 Ne5 13.Be2 Bg4 14.f3 Bf5 15.f4 Nc6

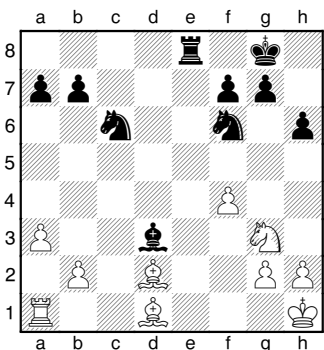
The point of 12.Kh1 is to take away Qb6+. Now 15...Ng4? loses the knight to 16.h3.

16.Bf3 d4 17.Ne2 d3

Black understandably wants to get rid of the isolani, but 17...Ng4! (Fritz) has some nice points. 18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.Nxd4 c5! 20.h3 cxd4 21.hxg4 Qh5+ 22.Kg1 Qxg4. Or 18.Ng3 Qh4! 19.Bxg4 Bxg4=.

18.cxd3 Qxd3 19.Ng3 Qxd1 20. Bxd1 Bd3 21.Re1 Rfe8 22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.Bd2

White has winning hopes based on the bishop pair. Black should be looking at how he will respond to moves such as Bf3 and Bc3.



23...Nd5?!

This demonstration leads to a tangle of pieces that White exploits.

Better is 23...Rd8, and only after 24.Bc3 does Black play ...Nd5; or if 24.Bf3 Nd4!

24.Bf3 Nb6 25.h3 Nc4 26.Bc3 N6a5 27.Rd1

White prepares to invade the seventh rank and win a pawn.

27...Bc2 28.Rd7 Ba4 29.Rc7 Bc6 30.Bxc6 Nxc6 31.Rxb7 Re7 32.Rb5 Nb6 33.Nf5 Re6 34.Nxg7 Re3 35. Nf5 Re6 36.Rc5 Na4 37.Rxc6 Rxc6 38.Ne7+ Kf8 39.Nxc6 a6 40.Nb8 Nc5 41.Bb4 1-0

Sicilian Dragon B78

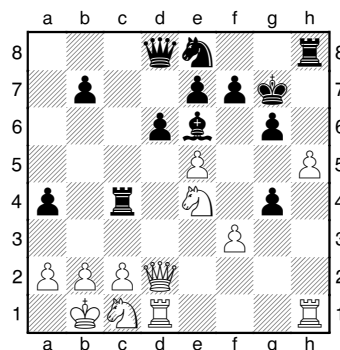
Jonathan Chiang 1682

Santiago Quinonez 1956

Pan-Am Youth 2010

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bc4 O-O 8.Bb3 d6 9.f3 Bd7 10.Qd2 Ne5 11.h4 h5 12.O-O-O Re8 13.Kb1 Nc4 14.Bxc4 Rxc4 15.Nb3 a5 16.e5 Ne8 17.Bh6 a4 18.Nc1 Be6

Better is 18...Bxh6 19.Qxh6 a3! **19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.g4 Rh8 21.Ne4 hxg4 22.h5!**



22...Nc7

If Black bites with 22...gxh5 then 23.Qg5+ Kf8 24.Rxh5 Rg8 25.Qh6+ Ng7 26.Rg5! with ideas of Rh1 and Qxg7+! forcing mate.

23.hxg6 fxg6 24.exd6 exd6 25.Nxd6 Rxh1 26.Rxh1 Rc6 1-0

In the final position, White can win the black queen with Nf5+.

Queen's Indian E12

Evan Xiang (unrated)

Geraldine Bracho (unrated)

Pan-Am Youth 2010

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 g6 3.Nf3 b6 4.e3 Bg7 5.Be2 Bb7 6.O-O O-O 7.c4 d6 8.h3 Nbd7 9.Nc3 Re8 10.Rc1 e5 11.Bh2 exd4 12.exd4 Ne4 13.Re1 Ndf6 14.Bd3 Nxc3 15.bxc3 Bh6 16.Rb1 Ne4 17.Qc2 Nf6 18.d5 Nd7

(Continued on page 21)

By Elizabeth Vicary

Results are in at the 2010 Pan American Youth Championship in Bento Gonçalves, Brazil (Aug. 1-8) Tommy He earned the Open Under 10 gold medal with 7.5/9 while Jonathan Chiang earned a bronze in the same section with 7/9. Evan Xiang tied for first with 8/9 in the Girls Under 12, taking silver on tiebreaks.

The experience should be very valuable for those who are participating in the World Youth, coming up in Halkidiki, Greece from October 19-31. Coach FM Aviv Friedman said the team had a lot of fun, "It is Brazil after all!" Friedman, and IM Armen Ambartsoumian, who also coached the team, are both FIDE Senior trainers. [Note: FIDE ratings appear in the game headers below.]

Sicilian Four Knights B45

Tommy He 1822

Marcelo Gomez Harika 1605

Pan-Am Youth 2010

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Ndb5 Bb4 7.a3

Langer, Ahn tie at Summer Open

Out-of-towners came away with most of the prizes at the Summer Open, held July 17-18 in San Antonio. Austinites Michael Langer and Ju Ahn tied for first with 3.5/4. Don Flournoy was the only local with an Open prize, sharing first U2100 with Andrew Widener and Derek Chang at 3.0.

The winner in the Reserve was nine-year-old Anthony Nguyen, who beat the venerable John Niven in the last round. Locals did somewhat better in this section: Daniel Lozano got a share of second, and Charles Davis, Dan Castillo and Michael Lange also won prizes.

J.P. Hyltin directed a combined field of 49 players for the San Antonio Chess Club. Selby Anderson assisted.

PRIZE WINNERS

Open: *1st+2nd:* Michael Langer, Ju Ahn, 3.5, \$200; *U2100:* Derek Chang, Andrew Widener, Don Flournoy, 3.0, \$33; *U1900:* Dhurv Garg, 2.5, \$100.

Reserve: *1st:* Anthony Nguyen, 3.5, \$150; *2nd:* Allen Eckert, Andrew Wang, Daniel Lozano, 3.0, \$33; *U1700:* David Hseih, Charles Davis, 3.0, \$50; *U1500:* Dan Castillo, Emily Nguyen, Khoa Minh Nguyen, Alan Hale, 2.0, \$18.75; *U1300:* Michael Lange, Andrew Montez, Sai Yeluru, 2.0, \$25.

Sicilian Najdorf B90

Alok Kumar 1930

Michael Langer 2302

Summer Open 2010 (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.f3 Be6 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0 b5 11.a3 Nbd7 12.Qf2 Rb8 13.g4 Bxg4 14.fxg4 Nxg4 15.Qg3 Nxe3 16.Rg1 Bg5 17.Rd3

17.Qxg5 Qxg5 18.Rxg5 Nxd1 19.Kxd1= 17...Bh6!

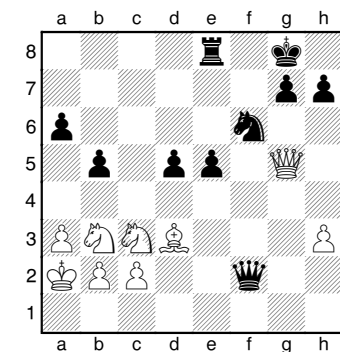
17...Nxf1+ 18.Qxg5 Qxg5+ 19.Rxg5 b4 20.axb4 Rxb4 21.Rg1 Nxb2 22.Rh3=;

17...Ng4+ 18.Kb1 Ndf6 19.h3 b4 20.axb4 Rxb4 21.hxg4 Nxe4 22.Nxe4 Rxe4 23.Bg2 Rb4=.

18.Rxe3 f5 19.exf5 Rxf5 20.Kb1 Rg5 21.Qf2 Rxg1 22.Qxg1 Bxe3 23.Qxe3 Qb6 24.Qg5

24.Qd3 Nf6 25.Nd5 Nxd5 26.Qxd5+ Kh8=

24...Nf6 25.Bd3 Qf2 26.h3 Re8 27.Ka2 d5



28.Nxd5!

According to Fritz, this “desperation” shot is the best option.

28...Nxd5 29.Bxh7+ Kf8=

29...Kxh7? 30.Qh5+—

30.Bg6 Re7 31.Qh5?

The best chance is 31.Qg4! (Δ Qc8+) 31...Rc7 32.Qe6 Ne7 (32...Nf6? 33.Qd6+ Re7 34.Nc5+) 33.Qxe5 Rc8 34.Bd3 and Black has an edge, but a lot left to prove

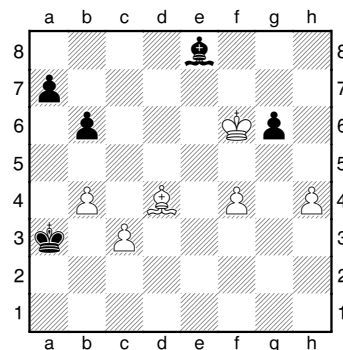
31...Nf6! 32.Qh8+ Ng8 33.Qh5 Qf1 34.Bd3 Qf7 35.Bg6 Qe6 36. Be4 Nf6 37.Qf3 Qf7 38.Bf5 e4 39.Qe2 e3 40.Kb1 Qd5 41.Bc8 Qc4 0-1

An instructive endgame plays out:

Matthew Liu 2125

Andy Nguyen 1876

Summer Open 2010 (1)



White could try to force matters with 1.f5, but Black has sufficient queenside play that he can sac the bishop and hold a draw.

1.Be5 Kb3??

1...a5 2.bxa5 bxa5 3.Ke7 Bb5 4.f5 gxf5 5.h5 f4! and Black holds.

2.b5 Kc4

Or 2...Ka4 3.c4 Δ Ke7+—.

3.Ke7! Bxb5 4.f5!+— gxf5 5.h5 1-0

If only Black had an extra move – or could disappear his f-pawn! The light square blockage bites.

Also losing was 4...Kb3 5.fxg6 a5 6.g7 Bc4 7.Kf8 a4 8.g8Q Bxg8 9.Kxg8 a3 (9...Kc4 10.Bd6 b5 11.h5+—) 10.c4 Kxc4 11.h5 b5 12. h6 b4 13.h7 b3 14.h8Q+—.

French Tarrasch C06

Michael Langer 2302

Matthew Liu 2125

Summer Open 2010 (2)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 Qb6 8.Nf3 cxd4 9.cxd4 f6 10.exf6 Nxf6 11.0-0 Bd6 12.Bf4 [12.Nc3] 12...Bxf4 13. Nxf4 Qxb2!? [13...0-0=] 14.Re1 0-0 15.Ng5?

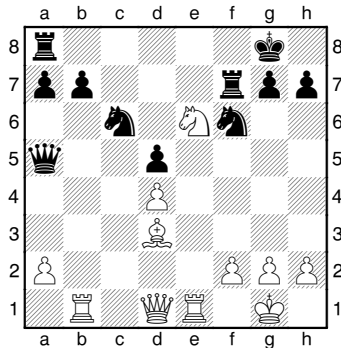
15.Nxe6 Bxe6 16.Rxe6±

15...Qb6?

15...Nxd4 16.Rb1 Qc3 17.Ngxe6 Nxe6 18.Nxe6 Bxe6 19.Rxe6 Rfe8=

16.Nfxe6

16.Qc2! Ne4 (16...g6 17.Bxg6;
16...Kh8 17.Rab1 Qa5 18.Bxh7 Ne7
19.Qd3+-) 17.Bxe4 Rxf4 18.Bxd5!
g6 19.Nxe6+-
16...Bxe6 17.Nxe6 Rf7 18.Rb1± Qa5



19.Ng5 Rff8?

19...Rc7 20.a4! (20.Bf5 Qxa2 21.
Be6+ Kh8 22.Nf7+ Kg8 23.Nd8+
Kh8 24.Nxb7=) 20...Nxd4 21.Nxh7
Nxh7 22.Bxh7+ Kxh7 23.Qxd4 Kg8
24.Rbd1 Rd8 25.Re5 Rc4 26.Qd3±
20.Rxb7± Rab8 21.Rb1 h6 22.Ne6
Rxb1 23.Bxb1 Rb8 24.Re3 Rb2
25.h3 Qd2 26.Qxd2 Rxd2 27.Kh2
Kf7 28.Rc3! Na5

28...Nxd4 29.Nxd4 Rxd4 30.Rc7+
Ke6 31.Rxa7±

29.Nf4 Rxd4?

29...Nc4 30.Nxd5 Rxd4 31.Ne3
Nxe3 32.Rxe3±

30.Rc7+ Kg8 31.Ne6+- Rb4 32. Bg6!
Rb8 33.Rxg7+ Kh8 34.Rxa7 Nc6
35.Rf7 Ne4 36.Bxe4 dxe4 37.Rf8+
Rxf8 38.Nxf8 Kg7 39.Nd7 Kg6
40.g4 Nd4 41.Nc5 1-0

Torre Attack A48

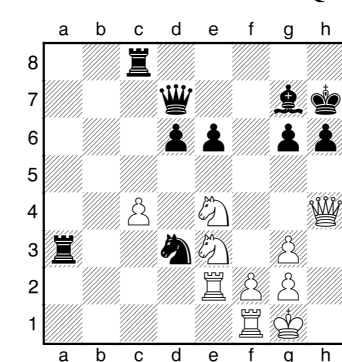
Mitchell Vergara 2061

Titus Shanks 1865

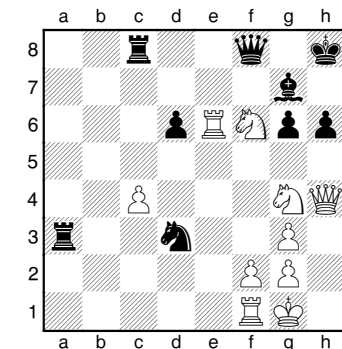
Summer Open 2010 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bg5 Bg7 4.e3 c5
5.Nbd2 cxd4 6.exd4 0-0 7.Bd3 Nc6
8.c3 d6 9.0-0 a6 10.Re1 h6 11.Bh4
Nh5 12.Bg3 Nxg3 13.hxg3 e6 14.Qc2
b5 15.a3 Bb7 16.Rac1 Qd7 17.Nf1
Ne7 18.Ne3 Rac8 19.Qe2 Bc6 20.
Nc2 a5 21.Be4 Bxe4 22.Qxe4 Nd5
23.Ne3 Nb6 24.Qb1 Rc7 25.Re2
Rfc8 26.Rce1 Nc4 27.Nd1 Rb7 28.

Qd3 b4 29.axb4 axb4 30.Nh4 bxc3
31.bxc3 Kh7 32.Nf3 Rb3 33.Qc2
Ra3 34.Qe4 Nb6 35. Nd2 Nd5 36.c4
Nb6 37.Ne3 Na4 38.Nd1 Qa7 39.d5
Nc5 40.Qh4 Nd3 41.dxe6 fxe6 42.
Rf1 Ne5 43. Ne3 Nd3 44.Ne4 Qd7



45.Ng4 Qd8 46.Nef6+ Kh8 47.
Rxe6+- Qf8



48.Ne3?

White misses a pearl of a sac:
48.Nxh6!! Bxh6 49.Re7! and Black
must play 49...Qg7 to stop mate.

48...Nc5+- 49.Nd7 41 seconds left
49...Nxd7 50.Rxg6 Ne5 51.Re6 Ra4
52.Qh5 Ten seconds left 52...Nxc4
53.Nf5 Ra5 54.g4 Re5 55.Rxe5 Nxe5
56.Nh4 Qf7 57.Qxf7 Nxf7 58.Re1 5
seconds left 58...Ne5 59.f3 Nd3
60.Re6 Rc1+ 61.Kh2 Be5+ 62.g3
Rc2+ 63.Kg1 Bd4+ 64.Kh1 Nf2+
65.Kg2 Nxg4+ 66. Kh3 Nf2+ 67.Kg2
Kh7 68.Re7+ Kg8 69.Nf5 Bf6 70.
Nxh6+ Kh8 71. Rf7 Be5 72.f4 Ng4+
73.Kf3 Nxh6 74.Rd7 (White forfeits
on time.) 0-1

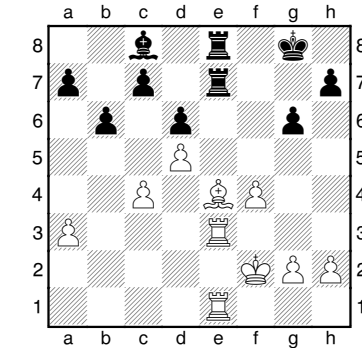
Nimzo-Indian E32

Austin Jiang 1958

Selby Anderson 2202

Summer Open 2010 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0-
0 5.e3 b6 6.Bd3 Bb7 7.e4 Nc6 8.Nf3
e5 9.d5 Nd4 10.Nxd4 exd4 11.a3
Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 dxc3 13.0-0 Qe8 14.
Bg5 Ng4 15.Qxc3 Qe5 16.Qxe5
Nxe5 17.Be2 d6 18.Bf4 Rfe8 19.
Bxe5 Rxe5 20.Bd3 f6 21.f4 Re7 22.
Rfe1 Rae8 23.Re3 f5 24.Rae1 fxe4
25.Bxe4 g6 26.Kf2 Bc8?? [26...Kf7=]



27.Bxg6! Rxe3 28.Bxe8 Rxa3 29.
Re7 Kf8 30.Rxc7 Kxe8 [30...Bg4]
31.Rxc8+ Kf7 32.Rc6 Rc3 33. Rxd6
Rxc4 34.Rd7+ Kg6 35.Rxa7 Rg4
36.Rb7 Rxd5 37.Rxb6+ Kg7 38.g4
Rd3 39.Re6 h5 40.g5 Rh3 41.Kg2
Rh4 42.Rf6 Rg4+ 43.Kh3 Kg8
44.Rh6 Rxf4 45.Rxh5 Kg7 46.Rh6
Ra4 47.Kg3 1-0

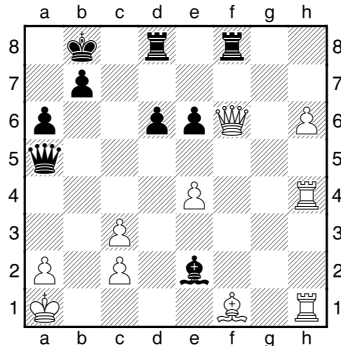
Sicilian Najdorf B98

Ernesto Malazarte

Michael Langer

Summer Open 2010 (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7
8.Qe2 h6 9.Bxf6 Bxf6 10.0-0 Qc7
11.g4 g5 12.f5 Bd7 13.Bg2 Be5 14.h4
gxh4 15.Rxh4 Nc6 16.fxe6 fxe6 17.
Nxc6 Qxc6 18.g5 0-0-0 19.gxh6
Qc5 20.Kb1 Bxc3 21.bxc3 Bb5
22.Qd2 Bc4 23.Qd4 Qb5+ 24.Kc1
Qg5+ 25. Kb2 Be2 26.Rdh1 Kb8
27.Qg7 Qb5+ 28. Ka1 Rhg8 29.Qf6
Qa5 30. Bf1 Rgf8



31.Qxf8??

A different kind of wrong-rook error – White holds the draw with 31.Qxd8+ because it's check: 31... Rxd8 32.Bxe2 Qxc3+ 33.Kb1=.

31...Qxc3+ 32.Kb1 Qe1+ 33.Kb2 Rxf8 34.Bxe2 Qxe2 35.h7 Qb5+ 36.Kc3 Rf3+ 37.Kd2 Rf2+ 38.Kc1 Rf1+ 39.Kd2 Qg5+ 40.Kc3 Qe3+ 41.Kc4 b5+ 42.Kb4 Qd4+ 43.Ka5 Ka7 0-1

QGD Tarrasch D32

James Rohrbaugh 2200
Austin Jiang 1958

Summer Open 2010 (3)

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 c5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.e3 Nf6 7.Be2 Bf5 8.0-0 Bd6 [□8...a6] 9.Nb5 c4?! 9...Be7 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.a3 0-0= 10.b3 exb3 11.Nxd6+ Qxd6 12.Qxb3± Qb4 13.Ba3 Qxb3 14.axb3 Bc2 14...Ne4 15.Rfc1± 15.Rfc1 Bxb3 16.Rab1 Ba4 17.Rxb7+- Nd7 18.Bb5 Bxb5 19.Rxb5 Rc8 20.Rxd5 f6 21.Nd2 Ne7 22.Rxc8+ Nxc8 23.Nc4 Kd8 24.Ra5 Kc7 25.Kf1 Ncb6 25...Ndb6 26.Rc5+ Kb7 27.Na5+ Ka6 28.Nb3+- 26.Rxa7+ Kb8 27.Nxb6 Kxa7 28.Nxd7 Rd8 29.Bc5+ Ka6 30.Nb6 Kb5 31.Ke2 f5 32.Kd3 g5 33.h3 h5 34.f3 Rh8 35.e4 fxe4+ 36.fxe4 g4 37.hg4 hxg4 38.Ke3 Rh2 39.g3 Rh8 40.Kf4 Rg8 41.Nd5 Rg6 42.e5 1-0

Scotch Game C45

Michael Langer 2302
James Rohrbaugh 2200

Summer Open 2010 (4)

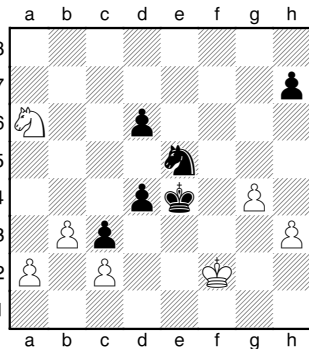
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.e5 Qe7 7.Qe2 Nd5 8.c4 Nb6 9.Nc3 Qe6 10.Qe4 g6 11.Bd3 Bg7 12.f4 Ba6 13.b3 0-0 14.Bb2 d5 15.cxd5 cxd5 16.Qe2 Bxd3 17.Qxd3 c5 18.0-0 f6 19.Rfe1 1/2-1/2

Nimzovich Defense B00

Ju Hyung Ahn 2042
Ernesto Malazarte 2129

Summer Open 2010 (4)

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e5 Ng4 4.d4 d6 5.h3 Nh6 6.Nc3 Bf5 7.Bb5 a6 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.0-0 Bg6 10.e6 fxe6 11.Ng5 Qd7 12.Re1 Bf7 13.Nxf7 Nxf7 14.Qg4 e5 15.Qh4 exd4 16.Qxd4 e5 17.f4 Be7 18.fxe5 Nxe5 19.Bf4 Ng6 20.Qxg7 0-0-0 21.Bg3± Rdg8 22.Qf7 [22.Qd4] 22...d5 23.Qe6 Qxe6 24.Rxe6 Kd7 25.Re2 Bc5+ 26.Kh1 Rg7 27.Rd1 Bd6 28.Bxd6 cxd6 29.Rf1 Rhg8 30.Ref2 Ne5 31.b3 Re8 32.Ne2 c5 33.Nf4 Kc6 34.Re1 34.Nh5 Rge7 35.Nf6 Rb8 36.g4± 34...Rf8 35.Ref1 d4 36.g4 Rgf7 37.Kg2 c4 38.Ne6 Rxf2+ 39.Rxf2 Rxf2+ 40.Kxf2 Kd5 41.Nc7+ Ke4 42.Nxa6 c3

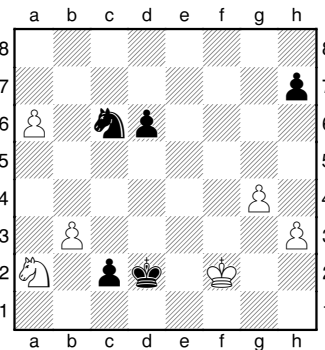


43.Nb4

43.Ke1 d3 44.Kd1 d2 45.a4 Ng6 46.Nc7 d5 47.Ne6 Nh4 48.Ke2 Ng2 49.Nc5+ Kd4 50.Nd3 Ne3 51.Nf2

Nxc2-+;

43.Ke2 d3+ 44.cxd3+ Nxd3 45.Kd1 d5 46.Nb8 d4 47.Nd7 Nb4 48.a3 d3!! 49.axb4 Ke3 50.Nc5 c2+ 51.Kc1 d2+ 52.Kxc2 Ke2-+ 43...d3 44.a4 dxc2 45.Nxc2 Kd3 46.Nb4+ Kd2 47.Na2 Nc6 48.a5 c2 49.a6



49...c1Q??

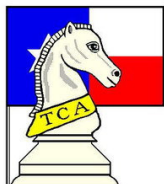
49...Nb4! 50.a7 Nxa2 51.a8Q Nc3!+- 50.Nxc1 Kxc1 51.b4 Na7 52.Ke3 Kc2 53.Kd4 Kb3 54.Kd5 Nb5 55.g5 Kxb4 56.h4+- Nc7+ 57.Kxd6 Nxa6 58.Ke7 Nc5 59.Kf7 Nd7 60.Kg7 Ne5 61.Kxh7 Nf3 62.g6 1-0

Sicilian Dragon B56

Andrew Widener 2043
Matthew Liu 2125

Summer Open 2010 (4)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.f3 a6 7.Be3 g6 8.Qd2 Bg7 9.0-0-0 Bd7 10.g4 b5 11.g5 Nh5 12.Nxc6 Bxc6 13.Ne2 0-0 14.Ng3 a5 15.Nxh5 gxh5 16.Bd4 b4 17.Bxg7 Kxg7 18.f4 Qc7 19.Bd3 Rfb8 20.Kb1 a4 21.b3 axb3 22.cxb3 Ra3 23.Rc1 Rba8 24.Rc2 Qa5 25.Rb2 Bb5 26.Bxb5 Qxb5 27.Rc1 Qa5 28.Rc4 Qb6 29.Qxb4 Qg1+ 30.Rc1 Qe3 31.Qc3+ Qxc3 32.Rxc3 h6 33.gxh6+ Kxh6 34.Rc7 R8a7 35.Rxa7 Rxa7 36.Rg2 h4 37.h3 f5 38.exf5 d5 39.a4 d4 40.Rd2 Rc7 41.Rc2 Rd7 42.Rc6+ Kg7 43.Kc2 d3+ 44.Kd2 Rb7 45.Rc3 Kf6 46.Rxd3 Kxf5 47.Ke3 Rb4 48.Rd5+ 1-0



TEXAS GIRLS SCHOLASTIC CHESS TOURNAMENT

October 1-3, 2010 Corpus Christi

Hosted by
Central Catholic Elementary Chess Team
Sanctioned by Texas Chess Association
Under U.S. Chess Federation rules and rating system

What: 5 round Swiss Style Tournament in 5 sections: K-1, Primary (K to 3), Elementary (K to 5/6), Middle School (6 to 8/9), High School (9 to 12).

Round 1: Saturday 9 a.m. Game/30, **Round 2** 10:30 Game/30, **Round 3** 12:00 Game/45

Round 4: Sunday 9 a.m. (Game/45), **Round 5** 11:30 (Game/60) followed by awards.

Who: Only Texas female residents or students enrolled in secondary or primary schools (including home schools) in Texas. Per (TCA bylaws art.IX,Sec.1,R)

Additional: A Parent/ Daughter Team Tournament will be held **Friday Night Oct. 1st** at 6 p.m. 4 round Game/30 SS, Team Trophies to the top three teams, Medals to the next 3 teams.

All Girls Blitz Tournament will be held on **Saturday Night Oct. 2nd** beginning at 6pm (5) rounds Game/5 Trophies to the top 3 finishers and medals to the next 3.

Where: Central Catholic Elementary (Cafeteria) 1218 Comanche—Corpus Christi, TX. 78401

When: On-Site registration Friday, Oct. 1st, 2010 from 6:00 pm to 8pm.
(Onsite Registration Saturday Morning \$21 and ½ point bye 1st round)

Entries: \$16 Fee-- Must be post-marked no later than Sept. 29th, 2010, or received before Oct. 1st, 2010 in order to be eligible for the \$16 fee. Entries without payment will not be considered officially registered. For school groups contact: Cris Deleon (361) 883-3873 or e-mail coachcris@yahoo.com. e-mail entries will be accepted but not Official until payment has been received.

Requested Byes: One, ½ pt bye available if requested before round 2. Byes are irrevocable. All additional byes 0 points.

Refunds and Cancellations: No later than Thursday, October 30th, 2010. No substitutions allowed.

Equipment: bring your own clock if you have one—notation pads and pencils will not be provided

Prizes: Scholastic K thru 12 awards as follows: 1st thru 6th Trophies, Medals to next 10. Team Trophies to Top 3 Teams (a team score considers the top four scorers but can consist of two or more players). Texas Tech University will award a scholarship to the top High School player.

September supplement will be used—no changes to ratings will be done—ratings for pairings will be taken from USCF supplements for September.

Hotel Accommodations : Airport Holiday Inn ,(361) 289-5100, 5549 Leopard St. Corpus Christi, Tx. 78408 Shuttle service from airport, Pick-up and deliver to Tournament available upon Request.
Bayfront Inn Hotel, (361) 883-7271, 601 N. Shoreline Blvd., Corpus Christi, Tx. 78401. Pick-up and deliver to Tournament available upon request.
Omni Bayfront Hotel, (361) 880-6738, 900 N. Shoreline Blvd. Corpus Christi,Tx. 78401. Airport Shuttle service available, pick-up and deliver to tournament available

Make checks payable to:
Central Catholic Elementary
Mail registration with payment to:
Central Catholic Elem.
1218 Comanche St.
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

For questions, call Cris Deleon at (361) 883-3873 after 6pm - cell phone (361) 633-1572 or email:coachcris@yahoo.com

TEXAS GIRLS SCHOLASTIC CHESS TOURNAMENT ENTRY FORM

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY SO WE CAN PROCESS ENTRY CORRECTLY.

USCF Membership Status (Please circle one): Current Need to Renew Not a Member –need to join

USCF Number: _____ Rating: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ MI: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____ Birth date: _____

Section (circle one): K-1 , Primary , Elementary , Middle School , High School Collegiate

Phone Number: (_____) _____ E-mail address: _____

Requested Bye Rounds, if any: _____ (½ pt for first bye requested, 0 pt for subsequent byes)

ADA accommodations requested:
(Please allow 48 notice to prepare for any accommodations)

Amount enclosed: Entry fee: Total: _____

Note: No entry will be processed without the funds included. Unless otherwise instructed.

Friday Night Parent/Daughter (\$ 5.00 per Team) or Saturday Night Blitz Championships (\$5.00 per player)

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY SO WE CAN PROCESS ENTRY CORRECTLY.

Daughter/ Last Name: _____ First: _____

Parent / Last Name: _____ First: _____

Section (circle one or both): Friday Night Parent/ Daughter or Saturday Night Blitz Championships
(Girls Only)

Phone Number: (_____) _____ E-mail address: _____

ADA accommodations requested:
(Please allow 48hours to prepare for any accommodations)

Amount enclosed: Entry fee Total: _____

Note: No entry will be processed without the funds included. Unless otherwise instructed.

US Chess School comes to Dallas

By Elizabeth Vicary

If you were going to teach chess to the top ten-year-olds in the country for one week, where would you start? What would you cover? Would you run a boot camp of calculation exercises? Make them learn all the technical endgames they would never study on their own? Trace the development of chess through the games of the world champions? And how do you get ten 10-year-olds to concentrate for nine hours at a time? For me, as a chess teacher, these are interesting hypotheticals to speculate on, but for Greg Shahade, who organizes the US Chess Schools, they are questions he has to find new answers for all the time.

The latest US Chess School, a free five day training camp for the nation's top young players, organized three times each year by IM Greg Shahade, took place July 7-12 in Dallas. Each camp brings 8-12 students together with two of the best teachers in the country for five nine-hour days of serious (but fun) hard work.

The most recent group was the youngest ever, with an average age of only 10.4. Greg's answer to the second question (how to keep nine hours of rigorous chess fun and engaging) was to break up the study time as much as possible: to include frequent but brief doses of blitz, bughouse, problem solving, sports, and stories; to team-teach; to make everything into mini-competitions,

both individual and team; and to take most of the chess material covered in the camp directly relevant from the participants' own games.

Most people agree that looking at your own games is the single most important way to improve, but how to do that in group lessons with students you don't know? At US Chess Schools 8 and 9 last summer, participants spent the afternoon of the first day playing training games; these games provided rich material for the group to analyze in the following days. But teachable moments are always a little hit or miss, and Greg's sense that these games weren't always exactly what he wanted led him to look for more efficient ways to use students' games to create the camps' curriculum.

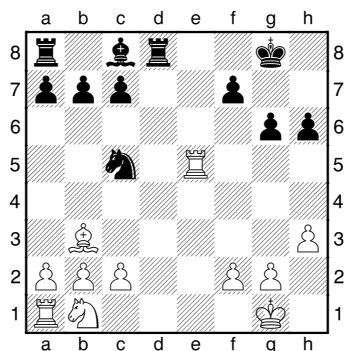
What he has come to do is nothing short of amazing to me. Before camp starts, students are required to email all their recent slow-time-control games to Greg. He spends days combing through them, collecting instructive moments to group into lessons. For the Dallas camp, he received and analyzed 203 games. To keep the selection of positions "human," Greg does most of the analysis without an engine. (This has the interesting side benefit of encouraging the kids to question his answers, because they know it's possible he missed something and they are encouraged to challenge him.)

These moments then are grouped by theme (e.g. finding opponents' resources, saving worse positions, knight maneuvers), and made into competitions. Students work individually, getting points out of ten for the completeness of their written ideas and variations, but the competition is team-based, to build camaraderie and ensure that even the lower scoring students are motivated to try their hardest.

Lessons: IM Gregory Shahade

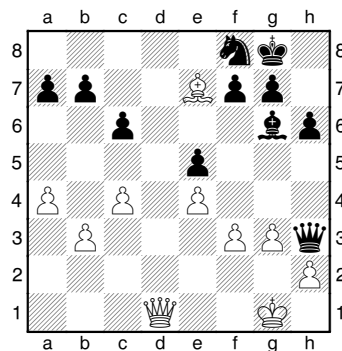
Here is a selection of positions on "finding your opponents' resources". (Solutions: p. 20.)

1. Akshay Malhotra-Dachey Lin



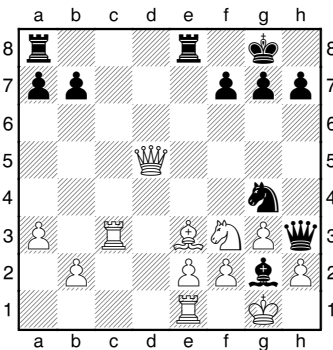
Black to Move

2. Iyer1783 - Karamsetty



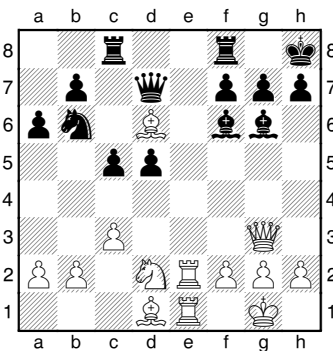
Which move is better, 27.Bxf8 or 27. Qd8?

3. Sakurmi, Eric - Xiong, Jeffery



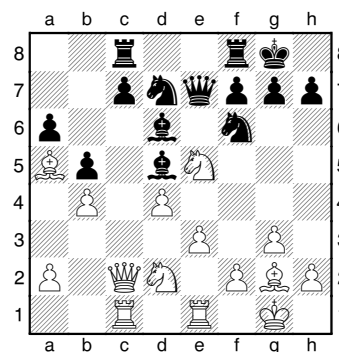
Black to move

4. Pennock1690 - Karamsetty



What should Black do about the attack on the rook?

5. Adarsh Jayakumar - Sarah Chiang



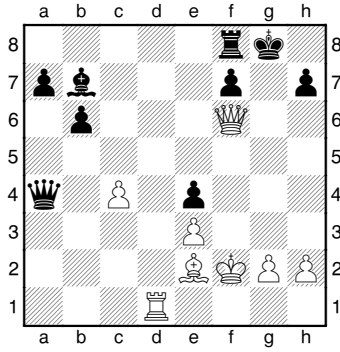
Choose between 17...Nxe5, 17... Bxe5, and 17...Bxg2

FM Aviv Friedman debuted as a USCS instructor for this camp. He's an excellent, very engaging, easy-to-listen to teacher.

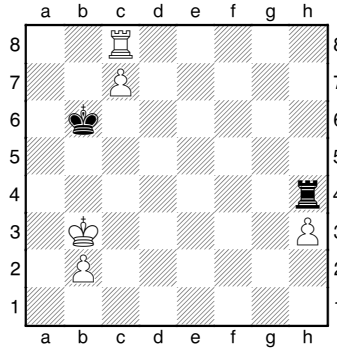
Over the course of the week, I came to really appreciate one particular quality in Aviv as a teacher that I know I sometimes lack, and I think is easy to forget about: the importance of treating every student and every comment with intellectual respect. Students' answers given during the week-long camp ranged from moments of absolute brilliance to total eight-year-old silliness, but Aviv has a special way of responding to everyone with equanimity, focusing on the correct part of the answer, rather than the mistakes. Usually at these camps, there are one or two kids who are relatively quiet, sometimes just because of their personality, sometimes because the material is hard for them, but that wasn't the case in Dallas, and I give Aviv all of the credit for that. He has a talent for imparting self-confidence.

Aviv also has a treasure trove of prepared material. We all loved his whimsical warm-up positions.

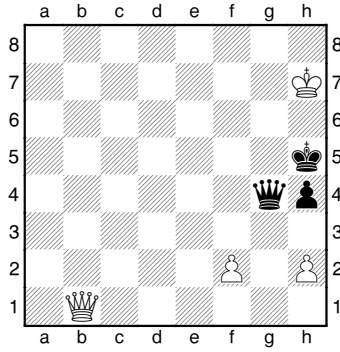
6. White to move



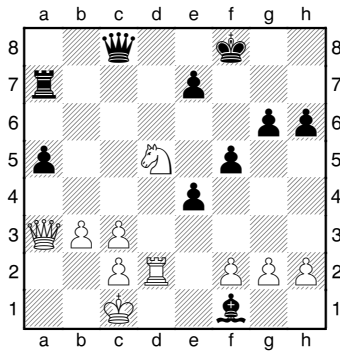
9. White to move



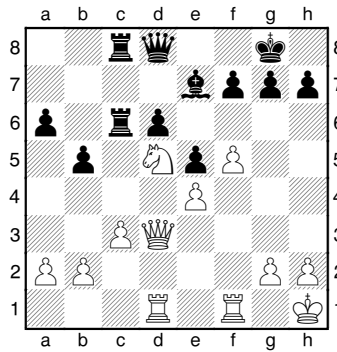
12. White to move



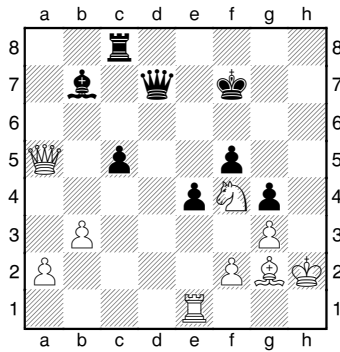
7. White to move



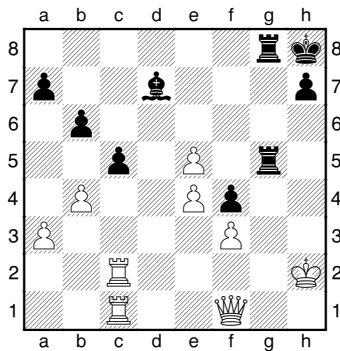
10. White to move



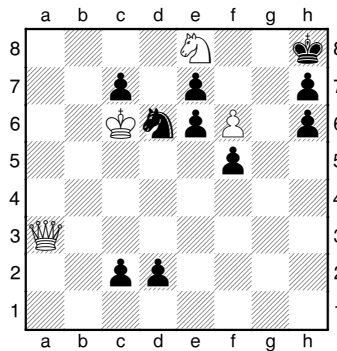
13. Black to move



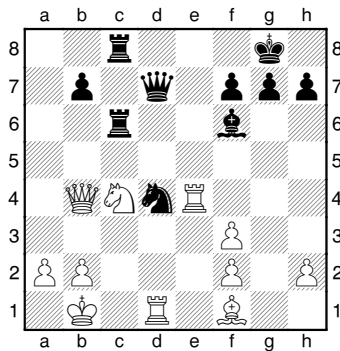
8. White to move



11. White to Move

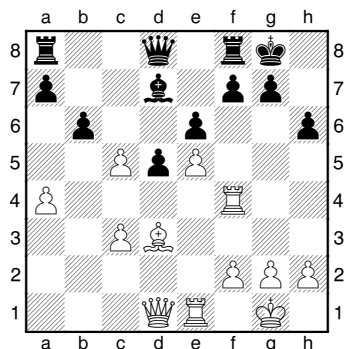


14. White to move



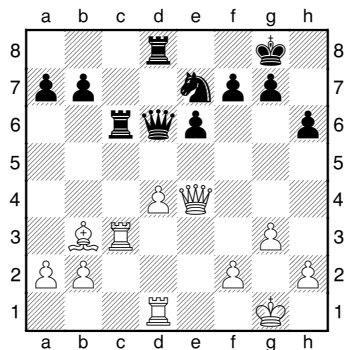
(Solutions: p. 20)

15. White to move



Aviv also has many great classic games that illustrate typical methods of dealing with types of positions. We studied two positions involving isolated queen pawns -- how to play with and against them.

Kortchnoi, V - Karpov, A
World Championship match, 1981



Black to Move

Students were first asked to write down an evaluation of the position, choosing from the 7 notations, +-, +/-, +/-, =, -/=-, -/+ or -+ (white is winning, white is better, white is slightly better, equal, black is slightly better, etc.) and explain why. (put this as a caption for diagram outside answer) (inside answer: Black is better here because white has an isolated pawn, most of the minor pieces have been traded, and the square in front of the pawn (d5) is well controlled by black. Black's

strategy here is to increase pressure on the d4 pawn, keeping control over the d5 square, and either to win it by attacking it more times than it can be defended, to use the pin on the d file to play e5, and/or to create a second weakness, in order to stretch white's defenses. As we looked over this game fragment, students were asked to guess most of black's moves.

21...Rb6!

Black is preparing to triple on the d file with ...Qd7 and ..Rd6, but the immediate 21... Qd7 allows 22. Ba4.

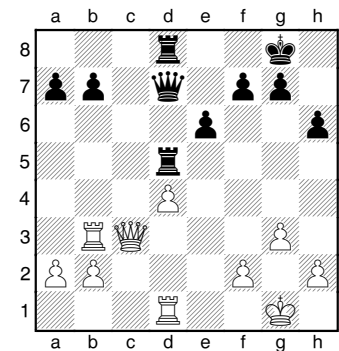
22.Qe1 Qd7 23.Rcd3 Rd6 24.Qe4 Qc6 25.Qf4

25.Qxc6 White cannot get rid of the isolated pawn for tactical reasons: 25...Nxc6 26.d5 Nb4

25...Nd5 26.Qd2 Qb6 27.Bxd5?! [27.a3] 27...Rxd5 28.Rb3 Qc6

Re 28...Qxd4?, it would be crazy to trade the healthy b7 pawn for the weak d4 pawn.

29.Qc3 Qd7



Black is now threatening ...e5, so White stops it with

30.f4

By threatening ...e5, Black has forced White to open up his second rank and weaken his.

30...b6

30...Rxd4 31.Qxd4 Qxd4+ 32.Rxd4 Rxd4 33.Rxb7

31.Rb4 b5! 32.a4

32.Kg2 If white does nothing, black is preparing to win the pawn with 32...a5 33.Rb3 b4 34.Qc4 Rxd4

32...bxa4 33.Qa3 a5

This forces white to misplace his rook

34.Rxa4 Qb5

Threatens to invade with ...Qe2

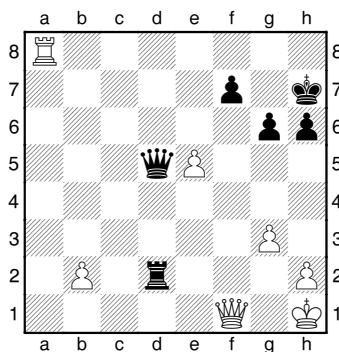
35.Rd2 e5! 36.fxe5 Rxe5

Threat: Re1+ and Qf1#

37.Qa1 Qe8! 38.dxe5 Rxd2 39.Rxa5 Qc6 40.Ra8+ Kh7 41.Qb1+ g6 42.Qf1 Qc5+

Hoping for 42...Qxa8 43.Qxf7+=

43.Kh1 Qd5+ [Δ 44.Kg1 Rd1]



0-1

This was a great illustration of how to play against an isolated pawn:

- Black tied white's pieces down by attacking the d5 pawn,
- He made sure to keep tight control over d5, preventing white from advancing the pawn with tactical tricks,
- Korchnoi played carefully, taking time to make sure none of his pawns were hanging (30...b6)
- He tripled on the d file and threatened e5, which forced white to open up his king (f4) to stop this.
- Black pressured white's queenside pawns and opened up a second front there, in order to misplace white's pieces,
- Korchnoi then took advantage of the off-sides nature of white's pieces to switch back and create a winning attack against the white king. (the principle of two weaknesses!)

Next we looked at an example of playing with the isolated pawn:

QGD D42

Lajos Portisch 2635
Anatoly Karpov 2705

Milan 1975

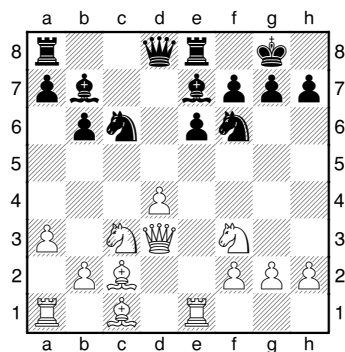
1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.d4 Bb4 4.e3 c5
5.Bd3 0-0 6.Nf3 d5 7.0-0 cxd4
8.exd4 dxc4 9.Bxc4 b6 10.Re1 Bb7
11.Bd3 Nc6 12.a3 Be7 13.Bc2

13...Bg5 Rc8 14.Bc2 Re8 15.Qd3
g6

13...Re8

13...Ba6!?

14.Qd3



A quick back story about this position: it can also arise from the mainline (6... e6, 12...Nf6) Panov attack, but with white up a tempo (black's rook is usually still on e8). I had taught this game in one of my own classes at IS 318 one week on a Wednesday, and on the Saturday 4 days later had taken some of my students to the Marshall for a G/60 tournament. In the first round, my student Randy was paired up to an 1880, got the exact position we had looked at in class, but had not recognized it, played 15.Bg5 before d5, and went on to lose. Two rounds later, James Black, who was now watching Aviv show this game, was paired with the same person. We went over the trick quickly, his opponent played right into it, and James won easily. As Aviv got to this position, I looked over at James and we both started to laugh.

14...Rc8??

Black had to play 14...g6 here.

15.d5! exd5

Black pretty much has to take the pawn: 15...Nxd5 16.Qxh7+ Kf8 17.Qh8#; 15...Na5 16.Bg5 Rxc3 17.Qxc3 Qxd5

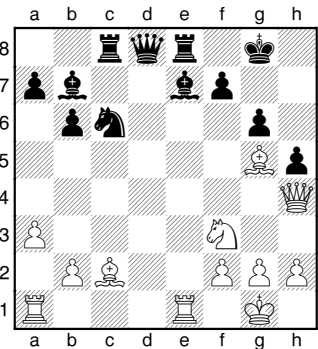
16.Bg5!

Threatening to take on f6 and then h7

16...Ne4

16...g6? 17.Rxe7! Qxe7
(17...Nxe7 18.Bxf6) 18.Nxd5+-

17.Nxe4 dxe4 18.Qxe4 g6 19.Qh4
h5



19...Bxg5? just trades off a defender and brings the white knight into the attack.

20.Rad1?

This move looks good, including the last piece in the attack, but Bb3 is more forceful. 20.Bb3! Qc7 (20... Bxg5 21.Nxg5 Rc7 22.Qf4) 21.Qe4 (Δ Qxg6+) 21...Kg7 22.Bxf7! Kxf7 23. Bh6 (Δ Qe6#, Qc4+) 23...Bf8 (23...Nd4 24.Qxd4 Bf8 25.Rxe8 Rxe8 26.Qh8 Bxh6 27.Ng5+; 23...Qd6 24.Qc4+ Kf6 25.Ng5 Nd8 26.Qh4 Kf5 27.Ne4) 24.Ng5+ Kg8 25.Qxg6+ and mate in two.

20...Qc7 21.Bxg6

Portisch thought that this sacrifice will win, but he missed....

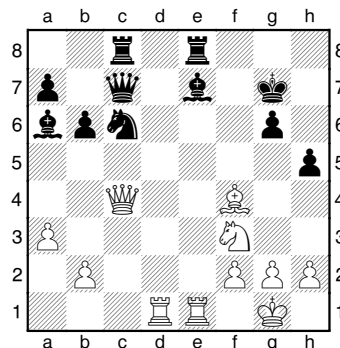
21...fxg6 22.Qc4+

22.Re6 Rcd8!

22...Kg7 23.Bf4 Ba6!

A surprise for Portisch; not 23...b5? 24.Qc3+-

(Diagram next column)



24.Qc3+ Bf6 25.Bxc7 Bxc3 26.Rxe8
Rxe8 27.bxc3 Be2! 28.Re1 Rc8!
29.Rxe2 Rxc7 30.Re6 Nd8 31.Re3
Kf6 32.Kf1 Ne6

The white queenside pawns are too weak to win the game.

33.g3 g5 34.h3 Nc5 35.Nd2 Rd7
36.Ke2 Rd5 37.c4 Rd4 38.Re8 h4
39.Rf8+ Ke7 40.Rh8 hxg3 41.fxg3

1/2-1/2

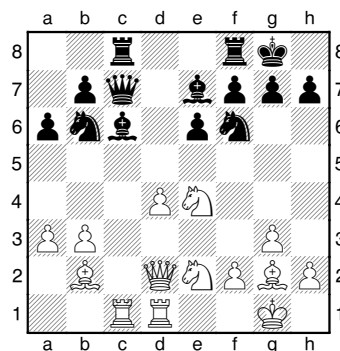
A model game for playing with an isolated pawn. Notice how white:

- Attacked the king
- Used the tactical motif d4-d5
- Switched the light squared bishop back and forth between its two useful diagonals, b1-h7 and a2-g8.
- Used all his pieces in the attack

Later that day, we saw this position from Mika's game

Ainsworth - Brattain [E42]

New York International, 13.05.2010



18...Nxe4!

White has an isolated pawn, so Black wants to exchange minor pieces.

19.Bxe4 Qd7 20.Qc2 Bxe4

Black continues exchanging...

21.Qxe4 Nd5

... and blockades the pawn.

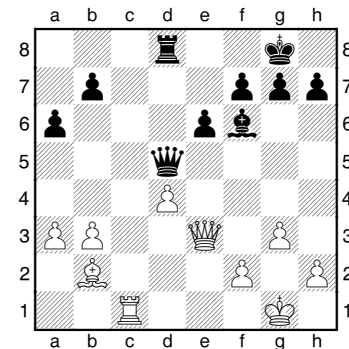
22.Nf4 Nxf4

Maybe even stronger is 22... Rxc1 23.Rxc1 Bg5

23.Qxf4 Qd5

A great outpost for the queen. Notice how it pressures b3, a potential second weakness.

24.Qe3 Bf6 25.Rxc8 Rxc8 26.Rc1 Rd8!



I like the move Rd8 quite a bit. In general you want to use major pieces to attack isolated pawns and trade minor pieces. This is quite similar to Karpov's ...Rb6 move against Korchnoi. Admittedly if you run Rybka, it believes that trading rooks is superior, but I think that from a practical standpoint Mika's decision was a good one and showed solid understanding.

27.f4

27.Rc5 is better

27...h6

playing carefully

28.Rd1 Rc8 29.Rd2 b5

Just as in the Korchnoi game, we see black tying white's pieces down to the d pawn, and then probing for more weaknesses by expanding on the queenside and threatening ...e5

30.h3 Rd8 31.Rd1 a5 32.Rd2 e5!

33.fxe5

33.Kh2 exd4 34.Qd3 Re8

33...Bg5!

Winning the exchange.

34.Qd3 Bxd2 35.Qxd2 Qxe5

36.Kh2 Qe4 37.Qxa5 Qc2+ 38.Kg1

Qb1+ 39.Kg2 Qxb2+ 40.Kf3

Qxb3+ 41.Kf2 Qb2+ 42.Ke3

Qxd4+ 0-1

I want to mention how enormously impressed I was by Mika Brattain. Most kids start their thinking process with a move that jumps out at them; they see a specific idea and turn on their internal engines. Mika's responses in class often started with a general observation about the position. They would sound like this: "If you are thinking in terms of a queenside attack, maybe Rfb1" or "Black has an extra kingside pawn, so he ought to start advancing them."

The final lesson of the day was always "something light" from Aviv. Everyone's favorite was the alien story

Aviv's Alien Story

This is a story about an alien who came to earth and met a chess master. The alien was very curious about earth and earth people, so he asked the master many questions about everything. The chess master was in a big hurry to get to his job. He didn't want to stop and talk to the alien, but he was a very polite guy and so he slowed down to help him. The master answered question after question, until finally the alien asked,

"What do you do in your free time?"

Okay, the master wasn't crazy about answering, but you know, he's a very polite person, so he decided to say,

"Well, I am playing a certain game."

"What is the name of the game, sir?"

"It is called chess."

"Chess? On my planet we have no such game. Can you please tell me what is it?"

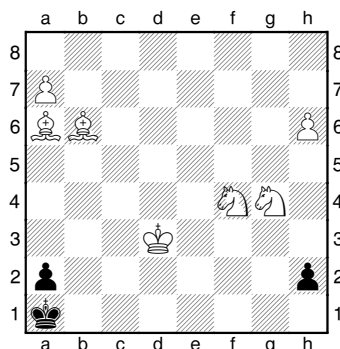
The master says to himself, *oh my God, can you imagine what it is to explain to someone who has never heard about chess, what chess is?* But again, the perfect host that he was, he started explaining that this is a board game, and he started telling the alien about the rules, the value of the pieces, how the pieces move, the chess board and the squares. The alien was fascinated like you couldn't believe. Never before had the master seen someone so enthusiastic about chess.

Eventually the alien said,

"You know what? I think I got it. I think I understand all the rules of the game. I think I understand all the value of the pieces. I'd like to play you a game."

The master rolled his eyes twice, because that's about the last thing he wanted to do. He thought by then he would have gotten rid of the unwelcome visitor. But again he is very polite; he is very nice; and he said, "Alright, I'll play you a game." Fine. So they play a game. It took a while, but after about an hour, an hour and a half, they reach this position.

The master is White, and the unwelcome visitor, the alien, has the black pieces. So White's going up the board; Black goes down.



As you can guess, in this position the master is winning easily. He's up a

million pieces, and there's no really hope. As a matter of fact, the master looked at the position very carefully, and he all of a sudden got really pleased with himself. Because you know, there are a lot of moves that win here, maybe you can make a queen, maybe you can take the pawn on h2, all kinds of things. But he played the move Kc2 and he was extremely pleased with himself, because he realized that after the only move, which is promoting this pawn, he's going to play Bd4, checkmate.

Here the alien sank into a very long pause and the master was waiting and waiting and fidgeting, and he stood up, and was pacing, then eventually he got so impatient and he said,

"C'mon, you have only one legal move. It doesn't matter what move you make. It really is irrelevant. One is no better than another."

So the alien eventually, after some thought, said,

"Okay, I know what I want to do. h1 = King!"

The master said,

"No! What are you talking about? You can't do that!"

"Well, didn't you tell me that if I get my pawn to the 8th rank, I get any piece I want?"

"Yes, but not a king."

"Well, you didn't tell me that. You told me I could get any piece I want, and I want a king!"

The master knew that arguing about it was going to kill two more hours and he said to himself ok, I'm winning so much, it doesn't really matter. Let's just play on.

But then he had a brief dilemma. Because if he's going to go Bd4 checkmate, he's going to stalemate this king on h1, and how in the world is he going to explain about stalemate? What to do? After about forty minutes of thinking, he decided that he had a beautiful idea. He

played a8, and made another black king! He promoted to a black king. Now we have three black kings!

Of course, the alien had nothing to say, because in the spirit of making a new king, you can make another king: no one can complain. And now, of course, here the alien had a very easy decision: this king on a1 can't move, this king on h1 can't move, so he went Kb8. The master went h7, and again, the alien has only one legal move, he went Ka8, and the master went **h8=Q, checkmate, checkmate, checkmate!**


Every camp includes a blitz tournament, and this one was won by Justus Williams with 8.5/10, followed by James Black (7.5/10), with Jonathan Chiang and Jeffrey Xiong tied for third (6.5). I was proud to come fifth, and especially happy to be outplayed by both of my students, James and Justus.

The US Chess School would not be possible without the generous sponsorship of Dr. Jim Roberts, in conjunction with the AF4C. Thanks also to our hosts, the Dallas Chess Club, especially Luis Salinas. For more information about the US Chess School, including how to be invited, see uschessschool.com.

The U.S. regularly boasts some of the top young talents in the world, yet somewhere along the way most of them either drop out of chess or fail to improve. Much of this lack of improvement can be attributed to the lack of support, training and guidance these young chess players are given. The US Chess School is hoping to change that, with a high level of chess training programs devoted to developing the strongest young players in the country.

Eight to twelve young players will receive five days of free training per session with one of the top grandmasters in the country. The only major expense the students will

need to pay is the airfare and possibly lodging depending on the location. The training however is completely free of charge. The goals of this program are as follows:

1. Train our young players to their fullest potential
2. Create strong bonds of friendship between the top young American players
3. Provide the players with a mentor whom they can turn to for advice at any time
4. Instill the kind of work ethic that is necessary to becoming a top player.
5. Cultivate as many new American GM's as possible
6. Help to develop talent to lead our future Olympiad Teams 

Solutions

1. 16...Nxb3 Most people looked first at Rd1+, pinning White's undefended knight, and then taking on b3, but it's correct to make this move first, not allowing White's idea of Re8+. 16...Rd1+? 17.Kh2 Nxb3 18.Re8+.

2. 27.Bxf8 (27.Qd8? allows 27...Bh5 and Black is winning.)

3. 21...Nxb2?? (This move looks great, but overlooks a trick. Several other moves are okay: 21...Rad8 22.Qxb7 h6; 21...Bxf3 22.Qxf3 Qxh2+ 23.Kf1 Nxe3+ 24.Rxe3 Rxe3 25.fxe3 Rd8 Black is just better.; 21...Re5 22.Qxb7 Rae8 23.Rc8; 21...Red8 22.Qxb7 Rab8 23.Qe4) 22.Qxf7+! Kxf7 23.Ng5+ Kg8 24.Nxb3 Bxb3 25.Kxh2.

4. 21...Rfd8 This is bad because of Bc7, winning material [21...Rfe8! A lot of students rejected this move because it gives back the c5 pawn, but black has back rank threats that allow him to stay up a pawn 22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.Rxe8+ Qxe8 24.Bxc5 Nc4 25.Nf1 Nxb2; 21...Bh4?! Black is up a pawn and

this seems to offer to repeat. 22.Qf4 (22.Qe5 Bf6 23.Qg3 Rfe8 24.Rxe8+ Rxe8 25.Rxe8+ Qxe8 26.Bxc5 Nc4 27.Be3 Nxb2) 22...Bg5.

5. 17...Nxe5? This move loses material because of 18.dxe5 Bxe5 19.f4 Bd6 (19...Bxg2 20.fxe5 hits f6) 20.e4 with e5 coming. 17...Bxg2 is probably best: 18.Nxd7 Nxd7 19.Kxg2 Bxb4 20.Bxb4 Qxb4; also okay is 17...Bxe5 18.dxe5 Nxe5 19.f4 Nc4 20.Bxd5 Nxa5 21.Bxf7+ Qxf7 22.bxa5 c5 Black has plenty of comp.

6. 1.Qg5+ Kh8 2. Qe7 Rb8 3.Qe5+.

7. 1.c4 Black's bishop is trapped! Bxg2 2.Nf4 Bf3 3.Rd8+ Qxd8 4. Ne6+ Ke8 5.Nxd8 Kxd8 6.Qc5

8. 1.e6 Bxe6 (1...Rh5+ 2.Qh3 Rxh3 3.Kxh3 Bxe6+ 4.Kh2) 2.Rxc5 bxc5 3.Rxc5.

9. 1.Rd8 Rxh3+ (1...Kxc7 2.Rd3) 2.Rd3 Rxd3+ 3.Kc2 Rd6 (3...Rd5 4.c8Q Rc5+ 5.Qxc5+ Kxc5 6. Kc3+) 4.c8N+ (4.c8Q Rc6+ 5. Qxc6+ Kxc6) 4...Kc7 5.Nxd6 Kxd6 6.Kb3 Kc5 7.Ka4+

10. 21.Ra1! (21.f6 looks tempting, but a2-a4 opens up a whole new area of the board White can play on.) Black's queenside becomes a second weakness: 21...f6 22.a4 Rb8?? 23.Nxe7+ Qxe7 24.Qd5+

11. 1.Qg3 threatening Qg7# 1...Nxe8 2.Qg7+ Nxg7 3.f7 c1Q+ 4.Kd7 d1Q+ 5.Kc8

12. 1.Qb5+ Qg5 2.Qe2+ Qg4 3.Qe5+ Qg5 4.Qe6! Qg2 5.Qf5+ Qg5 6.Qf3+ Qg4 7.Qf7+ Kg5 8.f4+ Qxf4 9.Qg6#

13. 1...Rh8+ 2.Kg1 Ra8 Δ 3.Qb6 Ra6. (Why not 1...Ra8? – Ed.)

14. 1.Nb6 Ne2 2.Qf8+!

15. 1.Rf6 gxf6 2.Qg4+ [2.Qh5 f5] 2...Kh8 3.Qf4 The queen could go to h4, h5, or f5, but it will become clear why f4 is the best square 3...Kg7 4.Re3 f5 [4...Rh8 5.exf6+ Kf8 (5... Qxf6 6.Rg3+) 6.Qd6+ Ke8 7.Rxe6+ Bxe6 (7...fxe6 8.Bg6#) 8.Bb5+ Bd7 9.c6] 5.Rg3+ Kh7 6.Rh3.

US Open (cont'd from p. 5)

In Class A, John Harwell, Steven Cooklev, Christopher Pascal, Roland Feng and Kesav Viswanadha scored 6-3 to split that class prize.

Top B players Solomon Ruddell and Daniel Shaw scored 5.5. Five-pointers Agata Bykovtsev, Vic Alfaro, Carlen Melville, and Edward Dennis Collins, at 5-4, split the rest of the money. Class C honors went to Anthony Mack, Kevin Qian, and Bryan Huang, with 4.5. Poker star Allen Cunningham was in a group of nine with 4 points for the remaining money, despite having to fold his hand in each of the last three rounds.

Top E player, Ryan Perkovich actually outscored the D players, garnering four points (both classes offered the same prizes). Kyle Perkovich, John Yu, Danial Asaria, Alonzo Sanchez, Harini Balakrishnan, took D honors with 3.5. Rounding out the top winners, Trevor Stearman and Alvin Cao tied for second E at 3.5, and Erwin Urrutia was best Unrated with 4.

The Open drew 474 players, of whom five were re-entries, two were house players, and eight were GMs who played free per USCF policy. Over 92% of the projected \$50,000 prize fund was paid out. (Winners of the two special prizes in memory of Jerry Hanken, donated by Neil Bershad, will be announced August 18.)

The Open was a great chess experience for serious players as always, with plenty of side events. Organizer Pat Knight Smith and Chief TD Franc Guadalupe and his staff working hard to ensure optimal conditions for the players. But please let this writer (a player – I won't be discussing my result in this tournament – and sometime TD and organizer) mention one annoyance that was insufficiently discouraged – forfeits. Short of a cell phone with an annoying ringtone going off during time pressure, few things are more

disturbing (to me, anyway) than seeing someone sit for an hour waiting for an opponent who didn't have the courtesy to tell the TDs he was withdrawing. It happened on 12 of the 194 boards in the last round – over 6%! (None of the 12 victims were re-paired.) Let's all be considerate of others and respect the game!

I hope to see many of our readers at the 112th Annual U.S. Open, July 30-Aug. 7 next year at the Hyatt Regency in Orlando, Florida, even closer to Disney World than the Irvine Hyatt is to Disneyland!

Pan-Am Youth (cont'd from p 8)

19.Rxe8+ Qxe8 20.Re1 Qf8 21.Qe2 Nc5 22.Bc2 Bg7 23.Nd4 Bf6 24.Nb5 Bd8 25.Qe3 a6 26.Nd4 Bf6 27.Nb3 Na4 28.Nd4 Nc5 29.Bf4 Bg7 30.Nf3 Nd7 31.Qe7 Qxe7 32.Rxe7 Rd8 33.Ng5 h6 34.Nxf7 Rf8 35.Bxg6 Ne5 36.Nxe5 dxe5 37.Bxe5 Bxe5 38.Rxe5 Kg7 39.Bh5 Kf6 40.Re6+ 1-0

Results of the US participants:

Open Under 10

Tommy He 7.5/9, GOLD on tiebreak
Jonathan Chiang 7/9 - clear bronze
Vignesh Panchanatham-6.5/9

Girls Under 10

Hannah Liu - 5/9

Open Under 12

Justus Williams - 5.5/9

Girls Under 12

Evan Xiang - 8/9, tied for first, SILVER on tiebreak

Open Under 14

John Hughes, Sarah Chiang, 5.5/9

Girls Under 14

Ellen Xiang-6.5/9

Open Under 16

Adarsh Jayakumar =3rd-6th, 4th on tiebreaks, 6.5/9

Stuart Finney, 5.5/9

Christopher Hueng, 5/9

Girls Under 18

Dai Yang- 5.5/9



Ivanov wins US Senior, Kaufman advances to World Senior

by IM Larry Kaufman

The US Senior Open (Aug. 23-28, Boca Raton, FL) finished much as expected, with top rated GM Alexander Ivanov taking first and the US Championship slot with 5.5 out of 6. Ivanov finished the tournament off with a win over IM Emory Tate.

Caro-Kann B12

Alexander Ivanov 2602
Emory Tate 2387

US Senior 2010 (6)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Na6 4.Nc3 Nc7 5.Bd3 b6 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.h3 Bh5 8.g4 Bg6 9.Ne2 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 e6 11.Nf4 Qd7 12.0-0 g6 13.b3 Ne7 14.Be3 Bg7 15.Qd2 Rd8 16.Nd3 h6 17.a4 a5?!

17...Na6 18.a5 b5 19.c3 h5=
18.c3 Na6 19.b4 Qc7 20.Rfb1 h5 21.Kg2 axb4 22.cxb4 Nb8 23.Bg5 Nd7 24.Rc1 Rc8 25.Rc2 Qa7

25...hxg4 26.hxg4 Ng8 27.a5±
26.Qc1 c5 27.bxc5 bxc5 28.Bxe7 Kxe7 29.dxc5 Qc7 30.Qf4 f6 31. Re1 f5 32.c6 Nb6

32...hxg4 33.Qb4+ Kd8 34.hxg4 Nf8 35.Nd4+
33.Qg5+ Kf7 34.Nf4 Rh6 35.gxh5 gxh5 36.Kh1 Rch8 37.Rb1 Rb8 38. Rg1 Rg8 39.Nxh5 Kf8 40.h4 Rxh5 41.Qxh5 Bxe5 42.Rxg8+ Kxg8 43. Qg6+, Black resigns 1-0
43...Bg7 44.Ng5 Qe7 45.c7 Nc8 46.Rc6+—

Second rated GM Sergey Kudrin took second with 5, and the third rated player (myself) took fourth on tiebreak at 4.5 plus the US spot in the World Senior (age 60+) in Italy.

Third place with 5 out of 6 was taken by FM Luis Barredo of Cuba, who defeated the higher-rated FM LaRota in the last round. Consequently a playoff game between Kudrin and Barredo was played to decide who qualifies for the US

Championship in case Ivanov gets in by rating. Kudrin got 30 minutes and White, Barredo 20 minutes and Black plus draw odds. Kudrin won, and only afterwards was it realized that the game was pointless, as Barredo being Cuban is ineligible for the US Championship anyway!

As for myself, I played carefully to hold the draw in the last round against Kudrin to get the World Senior slot as best scorer over 60.

Gruenfeld Defense D83

Lawrence Kaufman 2463
Sergey Kudrin 2579

US Senior 2010 (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 O-O 6.Rc1 Be6 7.Qb3 b6 8.Nf3 c5 9.Rd1 dxc4 10.Bxc4 Bxc4 11.Qxc4 cxd4 12.Rxd4 Qc8 13.O-O Nc6 14.Rd2 Qb7 15.Qe2 Rac8 16. Rfd1 Rfd8 17.Rxd8+ Nxd8 18.h3 Ne6 19.Be5 Ne4 20.Bxg7 Kxg7 21. Nxe4 Qxe4 22.b3 Rc2 23.Rd2 Rc1+ 24.Rd1 Qc2 25.Qxc2 Rxc2 26.Rd2 Rc1+ 27.Kh2 Ne5 28.Nd4 Ne4 29. Rb2 Kf6 30.f3 Ne5 31.Rd2 a5 32. Kg3 a4 33.Ne2 Ra1 34.b4 Na6 35. Nc3 a3 36.Nd5+ Kg7 37.Nxb6 Nxb4 38.Nc4 1/2- 1/2

However Leonid Bondar, rated only 2006 and 70 years old, came out of nowhere to win his last three games and reach a tie with me at 4.5 for the spot. So we also had to have a playoff game. The two players submitted sealed bids for Black, with the lower bid winning. I bid 20 minutes (White gets 30), which also was the winning bid in the Kudrin game. Bondar really wanted the draw odds, as he bid a ridiculous FIVE minutes! Even allowing for the five second delay, this was quite silly and I won easily. So it looks like I'll be back for my third consecutive World Senior with

(most) expenses paid. It's in northern Italy starting late in October.

The other 4.5 scorer was IM Joseph Bradford, who told me that he held a 2500+ rating for over 20 years but is now in the low 2400s.

French Defense C03

Alexander Ivanov 2602
Joseph Bradford 2414

US Senior 2010 (4)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 a6 4.Bd3 c5 5.dxc5 Nf6 6.exd5 Qxd5 7.Ngf3 Bxc5 8.Qe2 Nbd7 9.a3 Bd6 10.c4 Qh5 11.Ne4 Nxe4 12.Bxe4 Ne5 13.Bd2 f5 14.Bc2 Bd7 15.0-0-0 Nxf3 16.gxf3 0-0-0 17.Ba5 Bc7?!

After this White gets a grip on the dark squares and never lets go. Correct is 17...Bf4+ 18.Kb1 Rde8 19.Rxd7!? Kxd7 20.Ba4+ Kc8 21. Bxe8 Rxe8 22.Rd1 Qf7=.

18.Bxc7 Qh6+ 19.f4 Kxc7 20.Qe5+ Kc8 21.Rd6± Qf6 22.Rhd1 Qxe5 23.fxe5 g5 24.b4 Kc7 25.a4 Bc8 26. b5 Rxd6 27.exd6+ Kd8 28.c5 Bd7 29.Bd3 axb5 30.axb5 Kc8 31.Re1 Kb8 32.Kd2 Rc8 33.Re5 h5 34.Ke3 h4 35.Kd4 g4 36.Bc4 Re8 37.Ke3 f4+ 38.Kxf4 Rf8+ 39.Kxg4 Rxf2 40.h3 Rc2 41.Bxe6 Bxb5 42. Kxh4 Rd2 43.Rd5 Rc2 44.d7 1-0

As for the other IMs, Emory Tate finished out of the money with 4 points, having lost to the two top GMs. He blamed his losses on the fast time control and on a bedbug infestation at his hotel (not the Marriott!). IM John Watson withdrew after four rounds citing eye trouble.

As for the age bracket prizes, Ivanov gets 50-54, Bradford 55-59, I get 60-64, Denis Strenzwilk got 65-69, Bondar got 70-74, and the amazing Dan Mayers won the 75 and up category at age 87!

The tournament was well-run by Jon Haskel.

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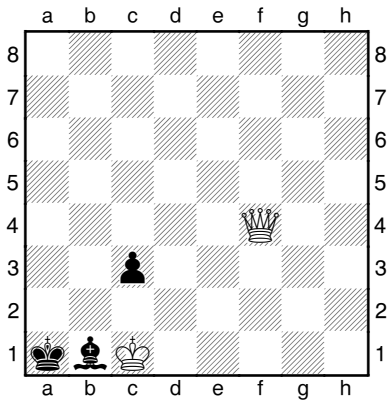
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Oleg Paradzinskiy
StrateGems, 2003



White to move, mate in two
Solution: p. 2

