

# New Zealand Chess

Magazine of the New Zealand Chess Federation (Inc)

October 2018

Volume 45 Number 4

Tarrasch Chess GUI V3.10c - Position before 1.e4
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Hague, Ben-Sebenik, Matej
New Tab 10 book moves

Sebenik, Matej

Hague, Ben

1.e4 I was quite pleased to finally get a chance to play White after a run of five Blacks. That wasn't a deliberate play, just a combination of unfortunate pairings and other players having to take days off due to illness. 1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nf7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 a6 I always get confused by the move orders in the Classical French, Black can play a6, 0-0, Qa5, b5 and either Be7 or Bxc5 in almost any order. I decided not to try to work out the most precise move orders and just develop. 9.dxc5 Nxc5 10.O-O Qa5 11.Kb1 b5 12.Bd3 Bb7 Diagram # 13.f5 Now I'm developed? I felt I needed to do something and this is the most thematic way to play. 13...Rd8?

(13...Nd3 is the safest move, but White will be a little bit better. Presumably he wanted to keep some more tension in the position and try to out-play me. 14.Qxd3 (14.cxd3 exf5 15.Nxd5 Nb4 16.Nxb4 Bxb4 =) 14...Rc8 15.Bd4 +=) (13...exf5 14.Bxf5 and the d pawn can't be defended)

14.f6?

(14.Bxc5 I had looked at this idea, but got my move orders wrong. For some reason I'd only looked at taking on e6 first, which allows Nxe6 and the idea of reversing the move order to eliminate that possibility escaped me. 14...Bxc5 15.fxe6 (15.Qg5 +- g6 16.Qf6 is possibly even better) 15...fxe6 16.Ng5 Kd7 17.Nf7 +/-)

14...gxf6 += 15.exf6 This is still a pretty good position though. The pawn on f6 is a real irritant for Black. 15...Bf8 (15...Bd6 16.Rhe1 Nxd3 17.Qxd3 +=)

16.Rhe1

(16.Qf2 The computer thinks this is better, but I wanted to get my last piece out, and having the rook on the same file as the Black king can't be bad. 16...b4 17.Ne2 +/-)

16...Ne4? Diagram #

(16...b4 should have been played first, when I have a nice attack, but there's plenty of play left. 17.Ne2 Ne4 +/- 18.Qc1 Nxf6 19.Bg5 Be7 20.Ned4)

17.Bxe4 +-

(17.Nxe4 I was trying to make this work for a while, and once I realised I couldn't I started looking for other ideas. I thought the piece sac' looked too good to be true and didn't really believe it, but I couldn't see a refutation so decided to go for it. 17...dxe4 18.Qx5 Nxe5 19.Bb6 Rxd3 20.Bxa5 Rxd1 += 21.Rd1 Bd5)

17...dxe4 18.Qf2 exf3

( he has to take the piece 18...b4 19.Nxe4 b3 20.aib3 Nb4 +- 21.Nc3)

19.Bb6 Rxd1 = 20.Rxd1 Qb4 21.Qxf3 I'd got this far when analysing earlier, and I couldn't see a comfortable way to stop Qxc6 and Rd8#

(21.Qg3 This would've been a very computery move to play, but the threat of Qb8+ and

Start Engine Analysis

Kibitzing by Stockfish 8 64 [running]

0.16 (depth 37) 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.Ngf3 Nf6 5.exd5 exd5 6.Bb5+ Bd7 7.Bxd7+ Nbx7 8.O-O Be7 9.dxc5 Nxc5 10.Nb3 Nc4 11.Nf4 O-O 12.Nf5 Re8 13.Nxe7+ Qxe7 14.Bf4 Rac8 15.Re1

0.09 (depth 37) 1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 Nc6 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.Nf3 O-O 6.O-O Bxc3 7.bxc3 d6 8.d3 Re8 9.Nd2 Rb8 10.e4 b6 11.Bb2 h6 12.f4 exf4 13.gxf4 Na5 14.Qf3 Bd7 15.f5

0.08 (depth 37) 1.Nf3 e6 2.e4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Bd3 Bd6 6.O-O O-O 7.Re1 h6 8.h3 Nc6 9.a3 Re8 10.Rxe8+ Qxe8 11.Nc3 a6 12.Be3 Bd7 13.Nh4 Qe6 14.Nf5 Re8 15.Nxd6

0.05 (depth 36) 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nf3 O-O 5.Bf4 d5 6.e3 c5 7.Bd3 cxd4 8.exd4 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Nd5 10.Bd2 Nc6 11.O-O Be7 12.Bb3 Nf6 13.Bf4 Bc6 14.Re1 Rd8 15.Be3

Stop
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Game 43 of 62
Db: Peter Stuart NZ Database 2018.tdb

**Still the most difficult position of all**

**Official publication of the New Zealand Chess Federation (Inc), Published quarterly; January, April, July, October**

**Editorial**

Editor: Bill Forster.

Columnists: Scott Wastney, Herman van Riemsdijk, Linden Lyons.

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**On the Cover:** This is a bookend to, and an echo of, the February 1976 cover, an issue you can now enjoy online at the NZCF website. It reflects the way technology has changed our game as well, and has some subtle and not so subtle Kiwi references for good measure.

## ***Final Issue***

For years I've been pleading for submissions, and a lack of such submissions has been one of the factors in shuttering the magazine. So it is rather ironic perhaps that this final issue has attracted a veritable mini-flood.

Fitting things together to make a coherent and complete magazine is always a challenge, but this time I have been completely defeated. My solution (if you can really call it that) has been to extend this issue of the magazine beyond its 40 physical pages. The electronic form of the magazine, freely available on the NZCF website (with an ever growing collection of back issues), extends on to over 60 pages. Almost all the articles in this issue are spread over the two sections. I hope this is not too disruptive, and my apologies to those authors who don't get a large allocation of physical paper.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with the magazine in recent years. Firstly my predecessor Alan Aldridge. Al, I think in extending the life of the magazine by eleven years, we "did our bit". Thanks to the three columnists, who have all contributed outstanding original work that deserves a larger stage than *NZ Chess* offers. Thanks to Ian Sellen who loves the magazine but never gets to enjoy it properly because he's already proofread it. Thanks to Lin Jackson for uncomplainingly handling the (normally :-)) thankless task of subs and mailout. Thanks to all the other contributors, especially Mike Steadman who is one top player in New Zealand who seems to understand how easy and satisfying it is to analyse a chess game for an audience these days! Thanks to the NZCF councillors for their support.

The magazine has been an important part of my life for many years, I am going to miss it.

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# ***New Zealand at the Batumi Olympiad***

*By the Team Captains*

## ***The Open Team***

*by GM Dejan Bojkov*

**Round 1** NZ (ranked 77th out of 185) 3.5 - 0.5 Seychelles (ranked 170)

IM Dive, Russell John (2297) - Pillay, Harish (1250) 1-0

Stratonowitsch, Andre (2138) - FM Hague, Ben (2405)  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

FM Kulashko, Alexei (2349) - Pillay, Ragul (1353) 1-0

CM Hoareau, Benjamin (1820) - IM Ker, Anthony F (2315) 0-1

The first round opponent was an easy one - Seychelles. I wanted to give a chance to the rookie in the team to play and start with a win. However Daniel arrived late the day before the Olympiad and did not feel well. We decided that he should rest and stay at the hotel.

As for the match, it went very smoothly and we quickly got it under control. Russell, Alexei and Anthony won their

games convincingly. Ben equalised as black and pushed for a win for a while, but his opponent Stratonowitsch defended well and saved the half point. A curious detail, Stratonowitsch ended the tournament undefeated and scored an impressive 9.5/11.

## **Round 2** NZ 1.0 - 3.0 Algeria (57)

Dive - GM Bellahcene, Bilel (2501) 0-1

GM Rizouk, Aimen (2445) - Hague  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

Kulashko - IM Arab, Adlane (2482)  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

IM Belouadah, Saad (2413) - FM Gong, Daniel Hanwen (2276) 1-0

The first serious test was against the team from Algeria.

Daniel was ready to play and I decided to rest Anthony. Thus we would not have to mess up the colours on most of the boards.

The team was very motivated from the start and in fact everyone wanted to play.

Once the team was finalised it turned out however that we would be repeating

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colours. It is very unusual to repeat colours so early in an event, and I did not expect it. Nevertheless, I decided to keep the same composition, as those who had been told that they would be playing were already determined to do so. In fact they were preparing themselves during the evening.

We had to hold two GMs on the top boards and try to get the maximum from the lower two where we were facing two IMs.

Russell got a good position from the opening, but a very inaccurate exchange of his knight completely ruined it. His pieces were lacking space and were stepping on each other's toes. Moreover, his opponent got a pair of strong passed pawns which he easily converted. An alarming sign was that our top player got into time trouble very early, just as in the previous Olympiad.

We did not know yet, but apparently he was already suffering from stomach problems. Many people got sick during the event from various food problems, and some even had stays in hospital (none of the NZ players were hospitalised I should add).

On board two Ben equalised easily. He also forced his opponent into time-trouble and pushed him to the ropes. But the experienced GM Rizouk defended well and deserved to halve the point.

Alexei on board three got some advantage from the opening, but rushed to push his queenside pawns. This led to some problems for him which he tried to solve with a creative queen sacrifice. Most likely it was not sufficient, but now it was his opponent's turn to be inaccurate and it all

ended in a draw. Unfortunately, by the time that this game ended the outcome of the match was clear.

Daniel had blundered badly in time-trouble and had to resign a game which he had under control right from the start.

In the morning he came well-armed with a plan and showed me the line which he intended to play in order to get his opponent out of prep. It all went very smoothly and Black (Daniel) equalised easily and got the initiative. He was also ahead on the clock and I was hoping he could make up for Russell's loss. Alas, he started hesitating, lost loads of time, and in the mutual time scramble was the first one to blink.

As with many Kiwis, time-management remains an important drawback, even with the young players. In this case however we had a different situation - the shock of the new and unfamiliar. Daniel's first game at the Olympiad was above all a psychological challenge. Had he been able to play the first game (and won it) things might have been different.

We had a similar team meeting as two years ago, where I reminded the players how important it is to play on equal terms with the GMs. The hesitancy, and double and triple checking of lines led to time trouble. All these are signs of fear which the opponents can easily sense and use. Especially if they are experienced GMs.

Russell felt miserable after the game, went to bed and crashed immediately. It was evident that we would not be able to use

him in our next match.

Anthony came with his chess set and we checked over the games. Everyone learned something, the mood was lifted. We were ready for the next match.

### **Round 3 NZ 3.0 - 1.0 Wales (114)**

FM Strugnell, Carl (2327) - Hague 0-1

Kulashko - Blackburn, Jonathan L B (2185)  
½-½

Bullen, Alex (2098) - Ker ½-½

Gong - Rayner, Francis (2083) 1-0

We had another tough opponent in round three, but this time beatable. Wales is usually quite a strong team, but at this Olympiad they came without some of their best players. We did not underestimate them however and had a good morning of prep.

Russell was suffering with a bad case of upset stomach and we could not count on him. This meant that Ben had to play his third game in a row as Black. Nevertheless he quickly solved his opening problems and got a somewhat better position once his opponent Strugnell had traded a queenside pawn for a central one on e4. We guessed well about their openings and Alexei came out clearly better from it. Anthony was also a bit better as Black and Daniel had an excellent position against the Alekhine's Defence.

I went to see what was happening in the main hall and a few minutes later the Welsh coach came up happy with the games and said that we were losing. Indeed, both Ben and Daniel had blundered a pawn, and even though on the other two boards we were

still a bit better it was obvious that Wales was in control.

But Ben showed nerves of steel, first swindled the opponent to get rid of some of his active pieces, then activated his own pieces tremendously. Strugnell got into time pressure, blundered and resigned. This was the turning point of the match. Daniel won his pawn back with interest and despite some hesitation managed to score his first Olympiad win!

I advised Anthony to offer a draw (neither side really had any chances there) and the match was wrapped up. The only slight disappointment was that Alexei could not convert his extra pawns.

### **Round 4 NZ 2.0 - 2.0 Costa Rica (68)**

IM Valdes, Romero Leonardo (2398) - Hague 1-0

Kulashko - GM Gonzalez, Acosta Bernal (2452) ½-½

FM Jimenez, Garcia Emmanuel (2290) - Ker ½-½

Gong - FM Chinchilla, Miranda Eugenio (2206) 1-0

Costa Rica is a team which we should be able to beat. However poor Russell was still suffering.

And Ben probably remembered the saying: "When it rains it pours" as we were repeating the colours and this meant a fourth black for him.

The match started extremely well for us.

Daniel showed superb preparation and gave

his opponent no chance at all. Once the initial tension of the Olympiad was past and with the white pieces, he had a chance to demonstrate what he is capable of. A very convincing win, in about 25 moves. On top of that, he still had about an hour on the clock when the game finished, whereas his opponent resigned with just seconds remaining.

Alas, we could not capitalise on this advantage as just like the previous game Ben blundered a pawn in one move. The curious thing is that he used the same move Qd8-d7? This time he lost an important central pawn and there was no way back.

In the meantime Alexei was suffering against the GM Gonzalez Acosta, whereas Anthony was slowly outplaying Jimenez Garcia as Black. Right after the time-trouble however Jimenez found a good defence and saved half the point.

But Alexei was already improving his pieces to the maximum. He even rejected a draw at the end and tried a bit for a win, but the opponent was careful enough and the points were split evenly.

### Round 5 NZ 1.0 - 3.0 Ireland (66)

Dive - GM Baburin, Alexander (2452) 0-1  
IM Astaneh, Lopez Alex (2433) - Hague  
½-½

Ker - FM O'Donnell, Conor (2360) ½-½  
IM Fitzsimons, David (2316) - Gong 1-0

After the tough defence of the previous day Alexei took a break. Fatigue was not the only problem - he was also suffering from a cold.

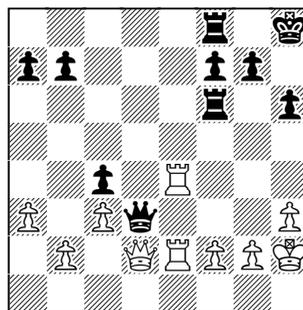
Russell was back into the game for the important match against Ireland. He did not fully recover (only at 80 % in his own words), but the game would reveal there were still issues with his health.

We considered their team beatable. On paper they were stronger, but anything is possible in a match. The plan was that Russell would hold Irish top board GM Baburin and we would fight on the remaining boards.

We held well on all the boards until the fourth hour. The curious thing was that this time we had the initiative and it was the Irish players who were pressured by the clock.

But once again it was our team that crumbled. First Russell who defended very well and completely equalised the position blundered horribly in Baburin's time pressure and lost.

Then Daniel blundered in an in-between move and dropped a pawn in a rook endgame. His position was still defensible, but then he allowed white to achieve a winning set-up that determined the game.



Daniel went for the forcing line: **29...Rd8 30.Qxd3 exd3 31.Rd2 Rxf2 32.Rxf2 d2** But from afar missed: **33.Rf1!** He was hoping for 33.Rxd2 Rxd2 34.b4 Ra2 35.Re7 Rxa3 36.Rxb7 Rxc3 37.Rxa7 Rb3 38.Rxf7 Rxb4 with complete pawn annihilation and draw. **33...d1Q 34.Rxd1 Rxd1 35.Re7 b5 36.Rxa7 Rb1 37.b4 Rb3 38.Rxf7 Rxc3 39.Rf3 Rc2 40.h4 g6 41.Kg3 h5 42.Kh2 Kg7 43.Rd3 Rc4 44.Rd5! Rc3 45.Rxb5 Rxa3 46.Rc5 Rb3 47.b5 Kf6 48.Rg5! Rb4 49.g3 Rb2+ 50.Kg1 Re2 51.Kf1 Re4 52.Kf2 Kg7 53.Kf3 Re1 54.Kf4 Kf6 55.Rc5 Re2 56.Rc6+ Kg7 57.b6 Rb2 58.Ke5 Rb3 59.Kd6 Rxc3 60.b7 1-0**

By that time Anthony had already drawn his game. He did not get much out of the opening and at the moment in which he claimed the three-fold repetition he was somewhat worse.

Ben had a very good position, despite the fifth (!) black he had to defend. In his opponent's time trouble however he traded queens incorrectly, and lost a pawn. His position was suspect to say the least but he managed to save it by activating all his pieces.

The first and only free day was due after the round, but none of the players bothered to visit the Bermuda Party. They were all very professional!

### Round 6 NZ 1.5 - 2.5 Slovenia (26)

GM Borisek, Jure (2578) - Dive 1-0

Hague - GM Sebenik, Matej (2570) 1-0

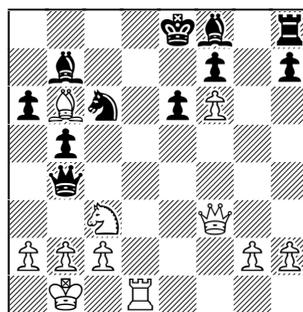
GM Skoberne, Jure (2565) - Kulashko 1-0

Ker - IM Markoja, Boris (2456) ½-½

Just like at the previous Olympiad the pairing system was playing tricks on us. After a loss against a strong team, we got an even stronger one. Slovenia has always been one of the contenders for the top 20, and this time was no exception.

I decided to rest Daniel who had less experience in such matches.

And we almost made it. Ben was so grateful for his first white that he simply destroyed his GM opponent. Sebenik has been a staple in the Slovenian team and currently is the only chess professional that Slovenia has. But Ben left him no chance at all. Brilliant win, with a piece sacrifice and mating attack! (Ben's annotations for this game follow this article).



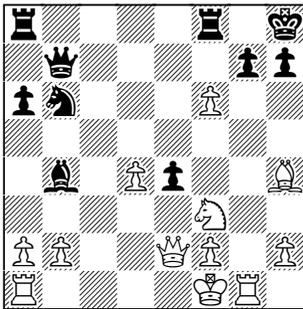
(After 21. Qxf3, the picturesque position where Black has no way out despite the extra piece)

Russell was holding his own on board one. He got a somewhat worse position from the opening (Petroff Defence) but defended well and around move thirty equalised completely. Alas, just as in the previous game against Baburin, he relaxed too early and missed an in-between move which

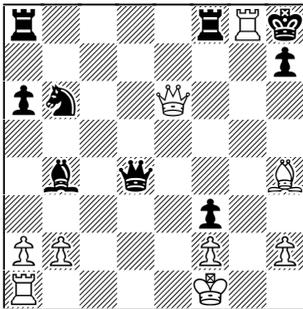
destroyed his position.

In the meantime Anthony tried to press on board four, but his opponent defended well and the point was split.

Everything was decided in the game Skoberne-Kulashko. Alexei showed no fear against the GM, sacrificed a pawn for Black and took over the initiative. Both sides went all in in the time trouble. Objectively we were better and when Skoberne allowed a tactical strike it all seemed winning for us:



**26...exf3** But it turned out that this was a trap **27.fxg7+ Qxg7 28.Qe6 Qxd4 29.Rg8+**



**29...Rxf6 30.Bf6+ Qxf6 31.Qxf6+**

And despite desperate defence afterwards, Alexei could not save the game. Skoberne was Slovenia's top scorer with 8/11.

Despite the loss I felt very satisfied with the way that the team played, as well as with their attitude towards the match. At the previous Olympiad similar matches were almost lost before they had even started with the pessimistic attitude in the evening when the pairings were posted. Previously everyone from the Kiwis was in time trouble early into the game and the opponents were just capitalising on our mistakes.

But not anymore. The guys believed in themselves and controlled the match. They dared to sacrifice pawns, and even pieces. And held the initiative through the major part of the match!

**Round 7 NZ 1.0 - 3.0 Panama (89)**  
Dive - FM Sanchez, Alvarez Roberto Carlos (2391) 0-1  
IM Baules, Jorge (2358) - Kulashko 1-0  
Ker - Ramos, Efen Andres (2244) 1-0  
FM Tapia, Alexei (2193) - Gong 1-0

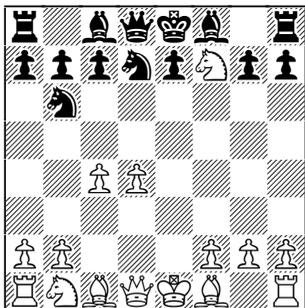
Ben finally got his first rest after the brilliancy. He badly needed it and I also needed to rest one of the top players to even the colours.

We got the reasonably strong team of Panama. As good as the previous match was, so this one turned out badly in equal measure ...

We came as favorites, but had to leave as

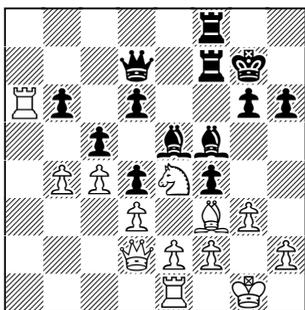
underdogs. It all started very badly with Alexei allowing a typical trick in the Alekhine:

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.c4 Nb6 5.Nf3 dxc5 6.Nxe5 N8d7 7.Nxf7



7...Kxf7 8.c5 and White has a huge advantage. They kept on playing until move forty but the result was always clear.

Another disappointment came on board one. Russell had a tough match against a former Cuban player. Uncharacteristically for him, he was way ahead on the clock (about an hour versus 12 minutes for his opponent) when the following position occurred:



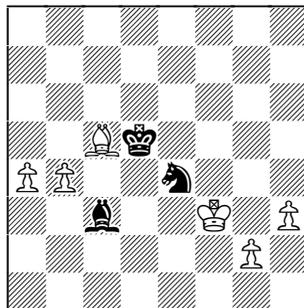
Black has just dropped his bishop back

from h3 to f5. He is giving a pawn while retreating an attacking piece. White should be wary! But Russell is careless- 26.Rxb6?? Bxe4 27.Bxe4 fxf3 28.fxf3 Bxf3! Only here he started to think, but it was too late. 29.Bg2 29.hxg3 Qh3 30.Bg2 Qxg3 31.Kh1 Rf2 29...Bxe1 30.Qxe1 Qe6 31.bxc5 Qe3+ 32.Kh1 dxc5 33.h4 h5 34.Rc6 Rf2 35.Qg1 Qg3 36.Rxg6+ Qxg6 0-1

It was definitely a pity that an experienced player like Russell was tricked like this.

It did not get any better when Daniel blundered the exchange and the game horribly in one move. At the moment this happened he was up a pawn and had every chance of winning the game and levelling the match.

The only ray of light came from Anthony who convincingly won his second game:



51.h4 Be1 52.h5 Bd2 53.Be7 Nc3 54.a5 Ke6 55.Bc5 Kd5 56.Be3 Be1 57.h6 Ne4 58.a6 1-0

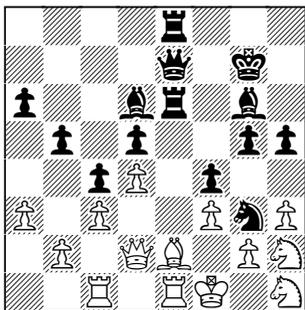
Round 8 NZ 4.0 - 0.0 Bermuda (146)

Gontcharov, Serguei (1875) - Dive 0-1

Hague - CM Lill, Sami (1844) 1-0  
Dacres, Don (1780) - Kulashko 0-1  
Gong - Cabral, Daniel (1618) 1-0

After the tough matches - Bermuda. Players joked that we will finally have the party.

We did. Ben was convincing as White. So was Alexei as Black:



**44.Nxg3 fxf3 45.Ng4 hxg4 46.fxf4 Bf4  
47.Rc2 Bxd2 48.Rxd2 Qf7+ 0-1**

Daniel finally faced someone who knew what to do against the London. But the tough defence took its toll. His opponent got short on time and Daniel managed to trick him. The only one to suffer a bit was Russell. After three losses he needed his confidence back and he got it with this win.

### **Round 9 NZ 4.0 - 0.0 Trinidad and Tobago (104)**

FM Johnson, Joshua (2261) - Dive 0-1  
Hague - FM Cupid, Kevin (2124) 1-0  
FM Harper, Ryan (2226) - Ker 0-1  
Gong - FM Winter, Atwell Adrian (2221) 1-0

Trinidad and Tobago was described as a

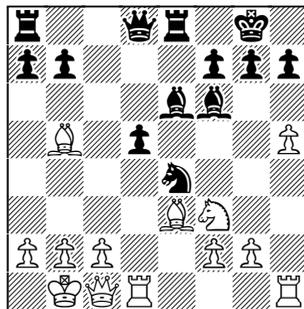
banana skin by Hilton before our match. It turns out that we have some history against this team, and not a pleasant one. Plus they had the legendary Zoltan Ribli to help them.

But we had Ben back, plus Daniel, both as White.

Daniel went for his bread-and-butter London which once again scored a spectacular win. We had a look at Ribli's games and predicted what might possibly happen. The Hungarian GM was complaining to me during the game that he told his player not to grab the pawn on c5, but at that point it was already bad. A quick and convincing win for our young player.

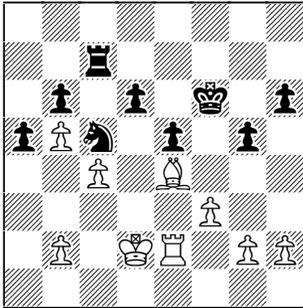
Ben also got the better position out of the Caro-Kann and after careful play, where he needed to constantly watch out for his opponent's tricks, he managed to convert.

Russell figured out that his opponent wanted to repeat the line that the Slovenian GM had played against him and switched to a line that he had played before in Wellington. The result - his most convincing win after:



## 17...Qa5!

On board three Anthony played a trademark game. He first equalised, then slowly outplayed his opponent strategically and finished the game with excellent play in the endgame. He was now on +3, undefeated.



42...Nb3+ 43.Kc3 Nd4 44.Re1 Nxb5+  
45.Kd3 Nd4 46.g3 Ne6 47.Bd5 Nc5+  
48.Kd2 Na4 49.Rb1 Nc5 50.Rh1 Na6  
51.h4 Nb4 52.hxg5+ Kxg5 53.Be6 Nc6  
54.f4+ Kg6 55.Bd5 Nd4 56.Kd3 Nb3  
57.fxe5 dxe5 58.Ke4 Re7 59.Ke3 Nc5  
60.Rb1 a4 61.Be4+ Kg5 62.Rd1 Rd7  
63.Bd5 Rd6 64.Rh1 e4 65.Re1 Kg4  
66.Rh1 Rf6 67.Kd4 Kxg3 68.Ke5 Rf8  
69.Rxh6 Re8+ 70.Kd4 e3 71.Rg6+ Kf4  
72.Rf6+ Kg5 73.Rf1 e2 74.Re1 Kg4  
75.Kc3 Kg3 76.Kd2 Kf2 77.Bf7 Rd8+  
78.Bd5 Nb3+ 0-1

A wipeout!

## Round 10 NZ 0.0 - 4.0 Indonesia (69)

Hague - FM Priasmoro, Novendra (2498) 0-1

IM Cuhendi, Sean Winshand (2441) - Kulashko 1-0

Ker - FM Setyaki, Azarya Jodi (2316) 0-1

## FM Andyka, Pitra (2274) - Gong 1-0

After two convincing wins we expected a strong opponent. But we got almost the strongest possible - Indonesia. The most important question was whether Ben should play or not. He was the only player to have a chance for a norm and the whole team was willing to help him. Some of the players suggested that he rest and try to win as White in the last round against a weaker opponent. Unfortunately there were too many ifs and buts with this approach. First of all we might win against Indonesia and instead of a weaker opponent get a much stronger one. The second, and the more important argument was that we could lose and get a team which had very lower rated, or even unrated players. Haiti for instance had the same number of points as us but almost all their players were unrated. That meant that Ben might not even get a chance to play for the norm in such a scenario. My advice was that he should try this round, and he was also thinking the same way.

We rested Russell and gave Ben the white pieces. He was as usual well prepared and got a comfortable position against his opponent's Accelerated Dragon. The critical moment of the game arose after a two-fold repetition. Black was wondering if he should repeat for the third time. After some thought he decided to play on which was a risky decision. Alas, Ben did not go for the most principled continuation. He could have just grabbed the central pawn, but he got scared of his opponent's initiative. The analysis showed there was nothing to worry about, but Ben wanted to force matters. He did but overlooked an important move at the end of the line which

lost a pawn for him, as well as the game.

Daniel reached a position with a very unpleasant, centralised knight for his opponent. He needed to prepare the exchange sacrifice in order to hold. But he wanted to play actively and made a couple of moves which weakened his position. A sudden retreat by the same knight won the exchange for his opponent and it was essentially over.

Anthony fought well as usual, got some advantage and was creative. But in time-trouble he miscalculated and lost material.

Alexei held the draw till the very end when a last-minute blunder let the opponent's pawn become a queen.

### **Round 11 NZ 3.0 - 1.0 Angola (98)**

Dive - CM Miguel, Sergio (2285) 1-0

IM Soares, Erikson Roberto Mauricio (2283) - Hague  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

Ker - IM Silva, David (2223)  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

IM Oliveira, Luciano (2216) - Gong 0-1

Angola for the last round. Alexei wanted to rest as he had an early flight to catch and wanted to pack his bags.

They are young, unpredictable and at this Olympiad they had almost beaten Brazil. Herman warned us that they often play in Brazil (the Portuguese language connection) with good results.

Daniel won his first game at the Olympiad as Black. His preparation was again at an excellent level and once he won a pawn, he played very well. He calculated everything accurately when finishing it off and just as

in the previous rounds was the first one to score.

In the meantime Anthony did not get anything from the opening and took the practical decision to force a draw.

Ben tried his best as Black. He equalised, pressed and offered a draw only after all the options were exhausted.

Russell quickly got the game under control and demolished the opponent. He won a pawn early, plus the bishop pair. Most importantly - he managed to keep the black king in the center and this soon paid dividends. A very convincing victory.

The match was over before the time control.

**Final place 87th, Match points 5.5 from 11, Game points 24/44**

*See page 56 in the online version only for the conclusion of this article*

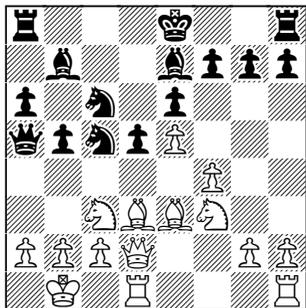
### **Hague, Ben (2405) - Sebenik, Matej (2570) [C11]**

Olympiad Batumi (6.42), 30.09.2018

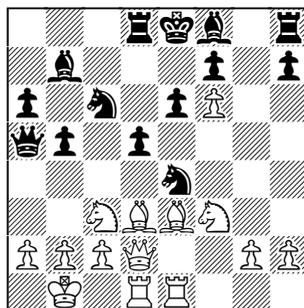
*Annotated by Ben Hague*

**1.e4** I was quite pleased to finally get a chance to play White after a run of five Blacks. That wasn't a deliberate ploy, just a combination of unfortunate pairings and other players having to take days off due to illness. **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 a6** I always get confused by the move orders in the Classical French, Black can play a6, 0-

0, Qa5, b5 and either Be7 or Bxc5 in almost any order. I decided not to try to work out the most precise move orders and just develop. **9.dxc5 Nxc5 10.0-0-0 Qa5 11.Kb1 b5 12.Bd3 Bb7**

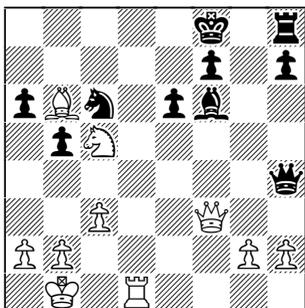


**13.f5** Now I'm developed I felt I needed to do something and this is the most thematic way to play. **13...Rd8?** 13...Nxd3 is the safest move, but White will be a little bit better. Presumably he wanted to keep some more tension in the position and try to out-play me. 14.Qxd3 (14.cxd3 exf5 15.Nxd5 Nb4 16.Nxb4 Bxb4=) 14...Rc8 15.Bd4<sup>2</sup>; 13...exf5 14.Bxf5 and the d pawn can't be defended **14.f6?** 14.Bxc5 I had looked at this idea, but got my move orders wrong. For some reason I'd only looked at taking on e6 first, which allows Nxe6 and the idea of reversing the move order to eliminate that possibility escaped me. 14...Bxc5 15.fxe6 (15.Qg5+- g6 16.Qf6 is possibly even better) 15...fxe6 16.Ng5 Kd7 17.Nf7± **14...gxf6? 15.exf6** This is still a pretty good position though. The pawn on f6 is a real irritant for Black. **15...Bf8** 15...Bd6 16.Rhe1 Nxd3 17.Qxd3<sup>2</sup> **16.Rhe1** 16.Qf2 The computer thinks this is better, but I wanted to get my last piece out, and having the rook on the same file as the Black king can't be bad. 16...b4 17.Ne2± **16...Ne4??**



16...b4 should have been played first, when I have a nice attack, but there's plenty of play left. 17.Ne2 Ne4± 18.Qc1 Nxf6 19.Bg5 Be7 20.Ned4 **17.Bxe4+** 17.Nxe4 I was trying to make this work for a while, and once I realised I couldn't I started looking for other ideas. I thought the piece sac' looked too good to be true and didn't really believe it, but I couldn't see a refutation so decided to go for it. 17...dxe4 18.Qxa5 Nxa5 19.Bb6 Rxd3 20.Bxa5 Rxd1+ 21.Rxd1 Bd5 **17...dxe4 18.Qf2 exf3** he has to take the piece 18...b4 19.Nxe4 b3 20.axb3 Nb4+- 21.Nc3 **19.Bb6 Rxd1+ 20.Rxd1 Qb4 21.Qxf3** (See diagram in main Olympiad article). I'd got this far when analysing earlier, and I couldn't see a comfortable way to stop Qxc6 and Rd8# 21.Qg3 This would've been a very computery move to play, but the threat of Qb8+ and Rd8# basically just wins on the spot. **21...Bd6 22.Ne4 Be5 22...Nd4** is the only other move, but it loses quite simply. 23.Nxd6+ (23.Rxd4?! Qe1+ 24.Qd1 Qxd1+ 25.Rxd1 Bxe4 26.Rxd6 0-0±) 23...Qxd6 24.Qxb7+- **23.c3 Qa4 24.Nd6+ Kf8** 24...Bxd6 runs into 25.Rxd6 Kf8 26.Qxc6 Bxc6 27.Rd8+ Be8 28.Bc5+ Kg8 29.Rxe8# **25.Nxb7 Bxf6 25...Qf4 26.Bc5+ Kg8 27.Qxc6 Qxf6 28.Nd6+- 26.Nc5 26.b3**

Qh4 27.Qxc6 also wins, but I wanted to keep my pieces active **26...Qh4**



**27.Nd7+** 27.Qxc6 is an extra piece, but my pieces are a bit awkwardly placed. I wanted active pieces as well as the material. **27...Kg7 28.Nxf6** and I end up with an extra piece in all variations. **28.Nxf6 Qxf6 (28...Ne5 29.Nh5+ Kg6 30.Qg3+) 29.Qxc6+- 1-0**

## The Women's Team

by IM Herman van Riemsdijk

New Zealand brought a very young team to Batumi. All of the five participants played in a very intense way. Highly concentrated, all of our players only left the chessboard when totally necessary.

**Round 1 NZ** (ranked 78th out of 151) 0.0 - 4.0 India (ranked 5th)

CM Milligan, Helen (1942) - GM Koneru, Humpy (2557) 0-1

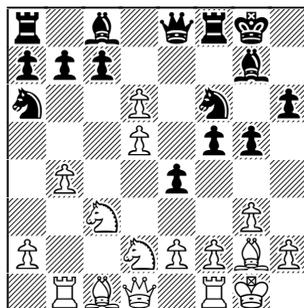
IM Tania, Sachdev (2400) - WCM Punsulan, Vyanla M 1-0

WFM Zhang, Jasmine Haomo (1899) - IM Karavade, Eesha (2374) 0-1

IM Padmini, Rout (2338) - WCM Qin, Nicole Shu Yu (1790) 1-0

We started with an expected big loss against India, the number 5 seeded team. It was a pity however that Vyanla didn't score after an excellent game against the strong Sachdev. First she made a clear demonstration of her aggressive style with a long manoeuvre introduced by 12...e4 and 13...Ng4! achieving a much superior position. Then she simplified too fast and got into a totally even endgame. I was suffering because she was still taking high risks to play for a win. At the end her inexperience and lack of endgame knowledge was the reason for her loss but her fighting spirit to play so hard for a win even against a much superior player is to be praised.

## Sachdev - Punsalan



**13...Ng4!?** **14.h3 Nxf2!** **15.Rxf2 Bxc3 16.Nf1?!** **16.dxc7 Nxc7** leads to a complicated game but with chances for both sides (See the online only section, page 59 for complete games)

**Round 2 NZ** 4.0 - 0.0 Lesotho (128)

WFM Lieketseng, Ngatane (1518) - Punsulan 0-1

Zhang - Malehloa, Likhomo (1174) 1-0

Malillo, Phera (1350) - Qin, Nicole 0-1  
WCM Qin, Joy - McPherson, Naleli (1267)  
1-0

This was the other side of the coin. A much weaker team but our clean sweep was not without suffering. Vyanla didn't see a clever defence of her opponent and was briefly in trouble but came back soon after that to the right track. Nicole missed a clear win and after suffering a little bit to convert her position.

**Round 3 NZ 0.5 - 3.5 Moldova (46)**  
WIM Baciú, Diana (2266) - Milligan 1-0  
Zhang - WFM Hincu, Olga (2124) 0-1  
IM Petrenko, Svetlana (2156) - Qin, Nicole  
1-0

Qin, Joy - WGM Partac, Elena (2051) ½-½

We had a big loss, still part of the well-known yo-yo effect in Swiss team tournaments. We missed good chances however. Helen achieved a good position after the opening but then missed the best continuation. Jasmine also had a slightly better position after the opening but made a bad move followed by a blunder in time trouble. Joy achieved a winning position against experienced Elena Partac but after wasn't able to break through and accepted what would be our only draw.

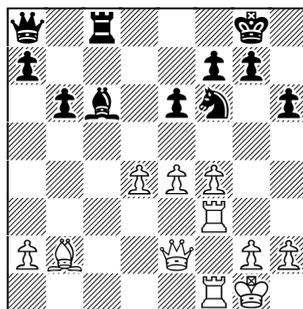
**Round 4 NZ 3.5 - 0.5 Netherlands Antilles (111)**

Milligan - WFM Mena, Ailen Oriana (1884) ½-½

Sanchez, Mariana (1505) - Punsulan 0-1  
Qin, Nicole - Marcos, Taqesyah (1583) 1-0  
WCM Salim-Moussa, Seydi (1601) - Qin, Joy 0-1

Unfortunately Helen didn't manage to win a superior position against a player who she had faced in an earlier Olympiad. Vyanla, Nicole and Joy had quite easy games.

### Nicole Qin - Marcos



25.d5 exd5 26.Bxf6 gxf6 27.Rg3+ Kh7  
28.Qh5 Qb7 29.Qf5+ 1-0

**Round 5 NZ 0.5 - 3.5 Turkmenistan (54)**

WFM Hallaeva, Bahar (2098) - Milligan 1-0

Punsulan - WFM Ovezdurdyeva, Jemal (2075) 0-1

WCM Shohradowa, Lala (1950) - Zhang ½-½

Qin, Joy - Yalkanova, Merjen (1909) 0-1

This was the last of the yo-yo effect matches. It was a bad match for NZ and we were even lucky that Jasmine was able to struggle very hard and save a bad position after the opening.

**Round 6 NZ 3.0 - 1.0 Venezuela (55)**

Milligan - IM Sanchez Castillo, Sarai Carolina (2137) ½-½

WFM Hernandez Bonilla, Amelia (2044) - Punsulan 0-1  
 Zhang - WIM Rovira Contreras, Tairu Manuela (2033) 1-0  
 WFM Patino Garcia, Corals (2023) - Qin, Joy  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

After losing badly against Turkmenistan we were disappointed to face another strong team in which all boards were over 100 Elo points higher than ours but everything went smoothly. Helen got a superior opening but missed a good variation and then was worse. With an interesting piece sacrifice she put pressure on her strong opponent and with very dynamic play got a threefold repetition. A demonstration that the arbiter's level at the Olympiad was sometimes very low was the fact that the match arbiter didn't know the threefold repetition rule well. Vyanla had a very nice attacking game with Black against a player who had quit chess for over 20 years. After missing a very good winning chance, Vyanla had to 'win again' in a superior but drawish rook endgame. Jasmine got a nice grip with White against a King's Indian Defence and never let it go. A very nice win! Our victory could have been even more convincing if Joy after playing a very good game hadn't missed so many winning opportunities. She got nervous and in some time trouble and the win slipped away through her fingers. This was for sure our best match in the tournament.

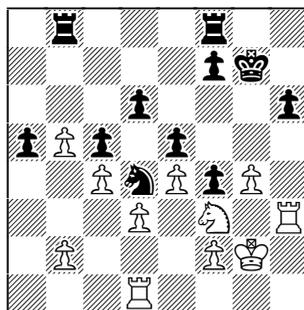
### Round 7 NZ 2.5 - 1.5 Iraq (95)

Nabaa, Sami Abbas Al-Attraqchi (1831) - Punsulan 0-1  
 Zhang - WFM A-Ali, Sali Abbas Abdulzahra (1848) 0-1

WCM Al-Fayyadh, Yamama Asif Abdula (1604) - Qin, Nicole  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$   
 Qin, Joy - Al-Fayyadh, Zainab Asif Abdulah (1705) 1-0

We had our second match win in a row. Vyanla beat her opponent in a nice attacking game and finishing with good technique. Jasmine again played the London System that in my opinion doesn't fit her aggressive style and failed to break through on the King side and eventually lost on the Queen side. Nicole had a much superior position but then blundered a two pieces against rook exchange. After she fought back very hard and at some moment I thought she would even win but a draw was the final outcome. Joy won with White a hard fight in the Spanish Opening and succeeded at the end to double her rooks on the h-file with a mate pattern.

### Joy Qin - Al-Fayyadh



**38...Nxb5?** White has a big advantage but this is despair **39.cxb5 Rxb5 40.Ra1 Ra8 41.Nh4 Rxb2 42.Nf5+ Kg6 43.Rxh6+ Kg5 44.Rah1 Kxg4 45.R1h4+ Kg5 46.Kf3 1-0**

## Round 8 NZ 0.5 - 3.5 Jordan (85)

Punsulan - Raya, Alnaimat (1676)  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$   
Razan, Alshaeby (1712) - Zhang 1-0  
Qin, Nicole - WFM Alattar, Ghayda M. (1926) 0-1  
WFM Boshra, Alshaeby (1979) - Qin, Joy 1-0

After sunshine comes rain or is the expression the other way around? This match was an absolute disaster. Vyanla overextended her opening and probably was lost at some stage. She was able to hold the draw however. Jasmine had one good chance for some advantage in the opening but after playing passively got into trouble and lost. Nicole had a reasonable opening but then blundered a piece and Joy had good chances in the middle game but eventually erred in a difficult struggle.

## Round 9 NZ 1.5 - 2.5 Montenegro(70)

WIM Milovic, Aleksandra (2176) - Milligan 1-0  
Punsulan - WIM Stojanovic, Marija R (2113)  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$   
Koljevic, Nikolina (1898) - Zhang  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$   
Qin, Joy - Radosevic, Nevena (1600)  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

After the rain the sun didn't come back. Our match against Montenegro was the closest average rating to us amongst the higher seeded teams we played. We (well, I) had an expectation for a good result but things didn't go that well. After a Torre Attack, Helen transposed to a slightly inferior Sicilian Defence. Her opponent played dynamically but our first board saw ghosts and didn't find the 24th move equaliser. Vyanla played a strange variation and was slightly worse but she managed to

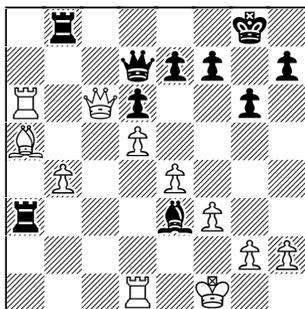
get good counterplay and her opponent went for a repetition. Jasmine got an advantage with Black but failed to see a simplification to a much better endgame. Joy missed a very interesting chance to sacrifice a knight on move 17. Only a very difficult to find counter sacrifice would keep balance for her opponent. After that she was worse with a bad bishop against a good knight but her opponent wasn't that confident and went for a repetition.

## Round 10 NZ 2.5 - 1.5 Nicaragua (101)

Milligan - WIM Granados, Diaz Maria Esther (1817) 1-0  
Leon Sandoval, Johan (1708) - Punsulan 0-1  
Qin, Nicole - Narvaez Talavera, Joanic Ellen (1670) 0-1  
Alvarez Gutierrez, Patricia (1623) - Qin, Joy  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

Helen played her best game in the tournament and won convincingly against an O'Kelly/Maroczy Sicilian. Vyanla was playing with Black for the WFM title. Demonstrating no nerves at all, taking risks and after a mistake from her opponent, she just executed the position and obtained a well-deserved title. Nicole blundered on move 10 losing an important pawn and never recovered. Joy had a better opening but made a blunder in time trouble and was lucky that her opponent went for a repetition instead of a very easy simplification to an endgame with a pawn up.

## Milligan - Granados Diaz



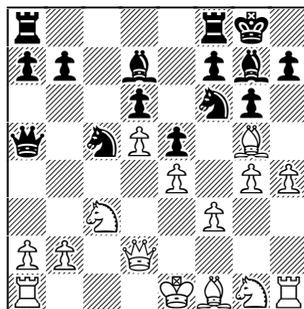
32...Rb7? 33.Ra8+ Kg7 34.Rd8 1-0

### Round 11 NZ 1.5 - 2.5 Sweden (59)

Milligan - WIM Agrest, Inna (2283) ½-½  
Bengtsson, Jessica (1986) - Punsulan 1-0  
Zhang - Blazekovic, Nina (1819) 1-0  
Zaritovskaja, Margarita (1731) - Qin, Nicole 1-0

Playing a much higher seeded team was of course not our dream. A win in the last round would place our team in the first 65, ahead of our initial 78th seeding. Helen finished in a very good way. Despite a 300 point Elo deficit she came out of the opening with a huge advantage but then didn't have the confidence to play for a win and allowed a repetition. Vyanla, perhaps because the tension of getting the title was behind her, played her worst game of the tournament and got a lost position very quickly. Jasmine played a very aggressive line and was very daring when she sacrificed big material on move 13. Her opponent hesitated, didn't accept the challenge and came under a strong attack, succumbing later on. Nicole made a very big positional mistake on move 7 and never came back.

## Zhang - Blazekovic



13.h5?! probably too daring 13...Nb3 14.Qh2 Rfc8 Playing very aggressively has some points. Your opponent may see too much. Black had to go for 14...Nxa1 ; or 14...h6 15.hxg6 hxg6 16.Rd1 Nd4 17.Qh4 Ne8 18.Bh6 f6? probably the decisive mistake 19.Bxg7 Nxb7 20.Qh7+ Kf7 21.Rh6 Rh8 22.Qxg6+ Kg8 23.Rxh8+ Kxh8 24.Rd2 Kg8 25.Rh2 Rf8 26.Rh7 Rf7 27.g5 fxg5 28.Qh6 Re7 29.Rh8+ Kf7 30.Qxg5 Qc5 31.Rh6 Nc2+ 32.Kd2 Qf2+ 33.Be2 Ba4 34.Nxa4 Qe1+ 35.Kxc2 Rc7+ 36.Nc3 b5 37.Qf6+ 1-0

**Final place** 94th, Match points 5 from 11, Game points 20/44

### ***The Schlechter Variation*** *by IM Scott Wastney*

#### ***Discovery***

This article aims to give the reader a general overview of the Schlechter variation against the French Defence. I first became aware of the variation while skimming through an old book at the

Wellington Chess Club. I think it was a survey of the year 1910, or thereabouts. There was a game with Carl Schlechter playing White which started 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3!? I wondered if this was a serious move? And wouldn't it be nice to get French players out of book so early? Up until then I had only played the Tarrasch variation (3.Nd2) in which Black trots out his endless lines of theory.

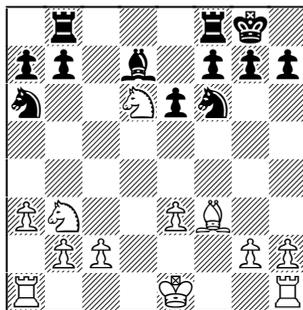
## A Pleasant Endgame (Queenless middlegame)

My first game using this new idea was sometime in October 2011, round 1 of the Julian Mazur at the Wellington Chess Club. The game quickly saw the Queens exchanged.

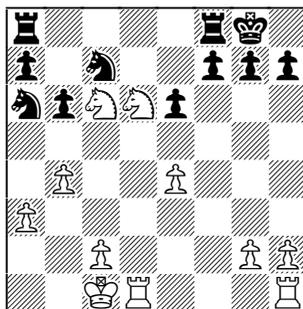
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5 6.Ne2 cxd4 7.Qxd4 Qxd4 8.Nxd4.

This endgame is comfortable for White due to the Bishop on f3 making the development of Black's queenside more difficult. As usual, in the French Defence the c8 Bishop is his problem piece. As someone who doesn't play the French myself, my favourite quote about the opening is "Playing the French is the sign of a troubled childhood". No idea where the quote originates. Here is a nice example of Black struggling to get developed in this endgame (or rather Queenless middlegame). Rather than present my game, here is a more interesting game by a stronger player.

**Golubka,P (2484) - Musial,Tomasz (2029) [C00]**  
 Krakow Rapid Championship Krakow POL (1.2), 16.06.2018  
 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5 6.Ne2 cxd4 7.Qxd4 Qxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Nb5 Na6 10.Nd2 10.a3! 10...0-0 10...Nb4! 11.a3 Rb8 12.Nb3 Bb6 13.Be3 Bxe3 14.fx3 Bd7 15.Nd6



15...Bc6 16.0-0-0 Bd5 17.Na5 b6 18.Bxd5 Nxd5 19.Nc6 It is really interesting how the two White knights are paralysing Black's pieces. 19...Ra8 20.e4 Ndc7 21.b4



21...Nb8 Struggling for room Black allows a pretty checkmate 22.Ne7+ Kh8 23.Nxf7+ 1-0

## An improved version of the Tarrasch

Many of my opponents play 3...Nf6.

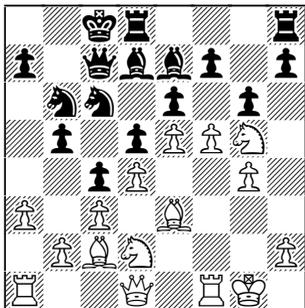
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7  
5.Nf3 c5 6.c3

But this seems to be just a better version of the Tarrasch variation for White because he hasn't committed to Nd2. Compare the line to 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3

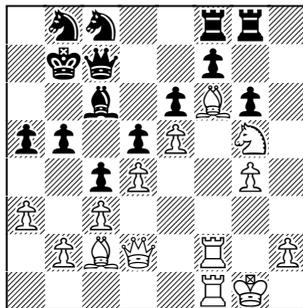
Grandmaster's Angel Arribas and Pepe Cuenca recommend 5.f4 here (I've played both 5.Nf3 and 5.f4 myself). Here is a game from the recent Olympiad following the Spanish grandmaster's recommendation.

### Cruz,Cr (2571) - Ottawa,Y (2161)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 Nf6 4.e5 Also an option is 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 going into the exchange French, and just maybe you've tricked him out of the Bd6-Ne7-Bf5 set up. 4...Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Be7 8.0-0 g6 9.Be3 c4 10.Bc2 b5 11.g4 Nb6 12.a3 Qc7 13.Nbd2 Bd7 14.f5! 0-0-0 15.Ng5



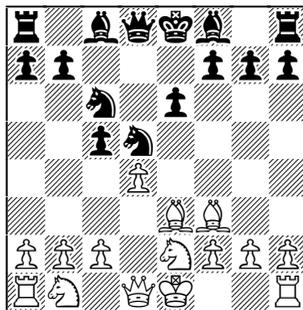
White is already clearly better. 15...Rdf8 16.fxg6 Bxg5 17.Bxg5 hxg6 18.Bf6 Rhg8 19.Nf3 Kb7 20.Ng5 a5 21.Qd2 Nc8 22.Rf2 Nb8 23.Raf1 Bc6



24.Nh7 Re8 25.Qh6 Nd7 26.Bh4 g5 27.Bxg5 Kb6 28.Rxf7 Na7 29.Nf6 Rh8 30.Nxe8 1-0

### The Trap (that maybe isn't?)

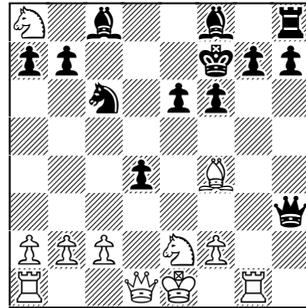
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5 6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 Nd5



I first reached this position against Krstev in the 2012 MIT Rapid. I castled, he exchanged the Knight for Bishop and I came out of the opening slightly worse. Afterwards I learned it is better to play 8.Bxd5! Qxd5 9.Nbc3! Qxg2 10.Rg1 Qxh2

11.Bf4 followed by 12.Nb5 with a strong attack.

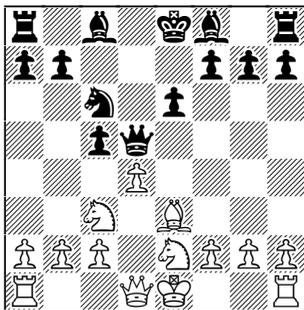
So why the “that maybe isn’t” in the title? Recently grandmaster Jan Gustafsson in his opening clinic (Number 22 Part 5, September 2018) on chess24 commented that he didn’t think the 3.Bd3 line was very dangerous and even in the trap that White hopes to get Black to fall into, Black is still ok.



## Vachier Lagrave, M (2793) - Van der Lende, I (2332) [C00]

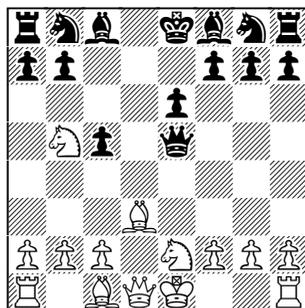
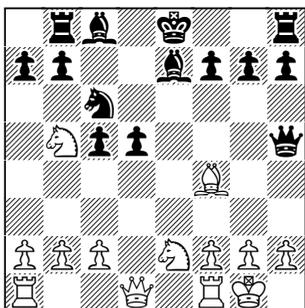
PRO League Group Stage chess.com  
Internet (8), 28.02.2018

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5 6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 Nd5 It's not a good idea to go for the b2 pawn with 7...Qb6?! 8.Nbc3 Qxb2? 9.Rb1 Qa3 10.0-0 Qa5 11.dxc5 and White has a clear advantage. Note that 11...Bxc5?? is not possible 12.Rb5 8.Bxd5 Qxd5 9.Nbc3



9...Qh5? Trying to dodge the trap. The trap is meant to be 9...Qxg2 10.Rg1 Qxh2 11.Bf4 Qh3 12.Nb5 No-one has played the strongest move against me 12...f6! 13.Nc7+ Kf7 14.Nxa8 cxd4

and even though a Rook down Black gets enough play according to Gustafsson. Looking at my old notes I have the same line (engine use is a great equaliser in opening preparation): My notes from around 2016: 11...Qh3 12.Nb5 f6! anything else is simply horrible for Black 13.Nc7+ Kf7 14.Nxa8 cxd4 Black has compensation for the rook sacrifice, but his position is very difficult to play. The most straight forward line 15.Nxd4 Bb4+! 16.c3 Bxc3+ 17.bxc3 Qxc3+ 18.Kf1 Nxd4 19.Rg3 Qc4+ 20.Rd3 e5 21.Rc1 Qd5! 22.Qh5+ g6 23.Rc7+ Bd7 24.Qh3 Ke7 25.Be3 Rxa8 26.Bxd4 exd4 27.Qxh7+ Kd8 28.Rxd7+ Qxd7 29.Qh8+ Kc7 30.Qxa8 Qb5 31.Ke2 and Black has perpetual check. White has other options to explore here, but this would be an impractical variation for Black to play without excellent preparation with the aim of walking a fine line to get a draw. 10.Nb5 Rb8 11.0-0 Be7 12.d5 exd5 13.Bf4



13...0-0 14.Bxb8 Nxb8 15.Nf4 Qxd1  
 16.Raxd1 d4 17.Rfe1 Bd8 18.Nd6 Bg4  
 19.f3 Bc7 20.Nxb7 Bxf3 21.gxf3 Bxf4  
 22.Nxc5 Be3+ 23.Kg2 Rc8 24.c3 Nc6  
 25.Nb3 f5 26.Nxd4 Nxd4 27.Rxe3 1-0

### ***The Trap (that really is!)***

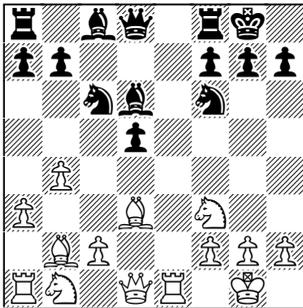
From one of my club games played in 2014

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5 Qxd5  
 5.Nc3 Qxd4? Even worse is 5...Qxg2??  
 6.Be4! and the Queen is trapped.; The best  
 move is 5...Qd8 Here I will give one short  
 game for inspiration 6.Bf4 Nf6 7.dxc5  
 Bxc5 8.Qf3 0-0 9.0-0 Qa5 10.Nge2 Bd7  
 11.Rhg1 Bc6 12.Qh3 Nbd7 13.g4 e5 14.g5  
 exf4 15.gxf6 Nxf6 16.Rxg7+ Kxg7  
 17.Rg1+ Kh8 18.Qh6 1-0 Onischuk,V  
 (2601)-Vusatiuk,V (2344) Lutsk UKR  
 2017. **6.Nb5 Qe5+** If 6...Qd8 7.Bf4 Na6  
 8.Qe2± I once had a win against an IM  
 playing internet blitz that went 8...Nf6 9.0-  
 0-0 Nd5?? 10.Be4! and Black loses a piece  
 because of the threats of either c4 or Bxd5.  
**7.Ne2**

Threatening Bf4. And g5 won't help as I'll  
 play f4! **7...Na6 8.Bf4 Qf6** Also 8...Qxb2?  
 has happened my internet Blitz games, but  
 loses to 9.Rb1 Qf6 (9...Qxa2 10.Nec3 Qa5  
 11.Ral Qd8 12.Rxa6 bxa6 13.Nc7+)  
 10.Nd6+ Bxd6 11.Bb5+ Bd7 12.Bxd7+  
 Kxd7 13.Qxd6+ Ke8 14.Rxb7 **9.Nd6+**  
**Ke7??** 9...Bxd6 10.Bxd6± **10.Bb5!** simply  
 threatening Nxc8 followed by Qd7 mate  
**10...e5 11.Nxc8+ 1-0**

Alternatively Black can play **1.e4 e6 2.d4**  
**d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5 exd5** claiming that  
 they are reaching a position that could be  
 reached in the exchange variation of the  
 French. This was Tony Dowden's approach  
 against me in the NZ Championship 2016.  
 While it is true, to reach the exact position  
 from the exchange variation requires both  
 sides to play minor lines so in practice the  
 position is quite specific to the 3.Bd3  
 variation. White plays **5.Nf3** waiting for  
 Black to move his f8 Bishop before taking  
 on c5 giving a favourable isolated Queen's  
 pawn position For example **5...Nc6** Black  
 usually avoids the IQP position with 5...c4  
 6.Be2 Nf6 7.0-0 Bd6 8.b3 cxb3 9.axb3 0-0  
 10.c4 Nc6 11.Nc3 which is a common  
 position to reach from this opening. **6.0-0**  
**Nf6 7.Re1+ Be7 8.dxc5 0-0 9.a3 Bxc5**

10.b4 Bd6 11.Bb2



and White is slightly better in Wastney,S (2345) - Dowden,A (2088) 123rd ch-NZL Open 2016 Auckland NZL (7.10), 08.01.2016

### ***The Mainline Battle against the Aussie FMs***

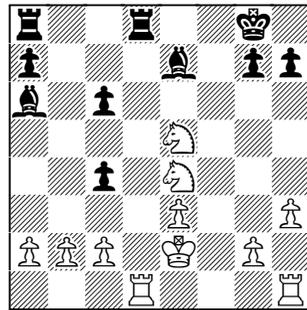
I consider the mainline to be 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 it is logical to exploit Bd3 by gaining a tempo with an attack on the Bishop 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5 6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5. We have already looked at the 7th move alternative 7...Nd5. I also put a lot of time into studying the line with 7...e5!? which leads to tricky positions. White's development is a little awkward but long term hopes to exploit Black's queenside pawns. In practice I found this position difficult to play as white in blitz games, but here is an example by a stronger player than me.

### **Fedorchuk,S (2624) - Repka,C (2473) [C01]**

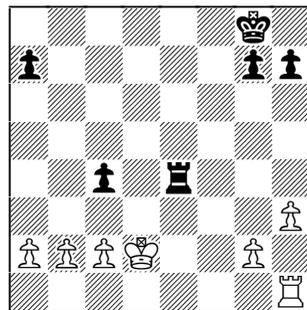
25th TCh-CRO Div 1a 2016 Sibenik CRO (2.5), 09.10.2016

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6

5.Bf3 c5 6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 e5 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.dxe5 Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1 Ng4 11.Nd2 Be7 12.h3 Nxe3+ 13.fxe3 0-0 14.Nf4 Rd8 15.Ke2 f6 16.Rad1 fxe5 17.Nd3 e4 18.Nxe4 c4 19.Ne5 Ba6



20.Nxc6 Re8 21.Nxe7+ Rxe7 22.Nc3 Rae8 23.e4 Bb7 24.Rd4 Bxe4 25.Rxe4 Rxe4+ 26.Nxe4 Rxe4+ 27.Kd2



27...Rf4 28.Re1 Kf7 29.Re3 Rf2+ 30.Re2 Rf6 31.Kc3 Rf4 32.a4 h5 33.a5 Rf5 34.Kb4 a6 35.Kxc4 Rxa5 36.Kd4 Ra1 37.c4 a5 38.c5 a4 39.c6 a3 40.bxa3 Rxa3 41.c7 1-0

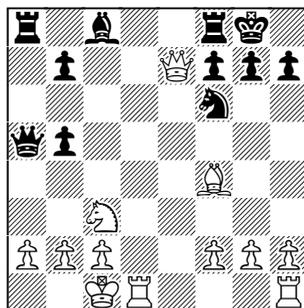
Now onto the mainline with 7...cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5

## Wastney,Scott (2340) -

### Zelesco,Karl (2306) [C01]

George Trundle Masters Auckland (2),  
27.09.2015

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5 6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5 9.Nc3** Another option is 9.0-0 which was used successfully by Maxim Vachier Lagrave against Wesley So in the Norway Blitz 2017. **9...Be7** It's considered a mistake to play 9...Bb4 10.Ndb5! **10.Qe2** 10.Ndb5!? is recommended by GM Angel Arribas and GM Pepe Cuenca. **10...0-0** In my preparation I had looked at the following game 10...Nxf3+ 11.Qxf3 0-0 12.0-0-0 Bd7 13.g4 Qa5 14.g5 Nd5 15.Nf5 Nxc3 16.Nxe7+ Kh8 17.Bd2 Nxa2+ 18.Kb1 Qd8 19.Bf4 Qxe7 20.Bd6 Qe8 21.Rhe1 Rg8 22.Rd4 Bc6 23.Qh5 f6 24.g6 h6 25.Bf4 e5 26.Bxh6 Bf3 27.Bxg7+ Kxg7 28.Qh7+ Kf8 29.Rd7 Qxd7 30.Qxd7 Rxg6 31.Qf5 1-0 Onischuk,V (2618)-Harika,D (2509) Abu Dhabi 2015 **11.0-0-0 Qc7 12.Ndb5 Qa5 13.Bf4 Nxf3 14.Qxf3**



**17...b4??** Losing on the spot. Better is 17...Re8 when Black is slighter better. **18.Bc7! b6 19.Rd8 Nd7 20.Bd6 Bb7 21.Bxb4 Qf5 22.Rxd7 Rfe8 23.Qd6 Bxg2 24.Rg1 Qxf2 25.Qd4 Qf5 26.Rd5 Qxd5 1-0**

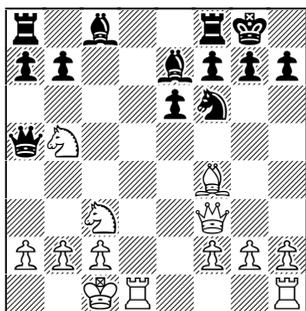
One year later...

## Wastney,Scott (2370) -

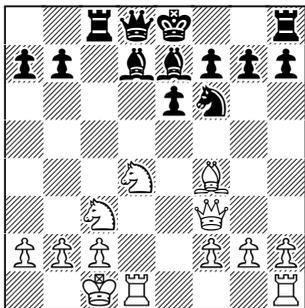
### Wallis,Christopher (2351) [C01]

George Trundle Masters Auckland (9),  
17.07.2016

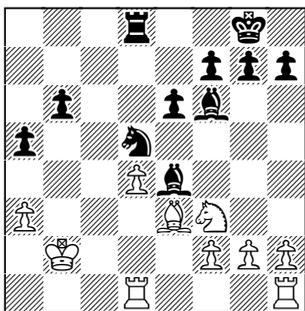
**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5 6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5 9.Nc3 Be7 10.Qe2 Bd7** This was Chris's pregame preparation. It was a bit ridiculous of me to play the exact 10 moves from my game from last year. **11.0-0-0 11.Bxb7** is critical and of course Chris had studied this deeply with a computer engine. **11...Rc8 12.Bf4** Chris told me after the game that the computer hadn't given Bf4 as one of the main choices. **12...Nxf3 13.Qxf3**



White is slightly better, but now follow a couple of mutual mistakes. **14...e5? 15.Qe2?** 15.Bxe5! Bg4 16.Qxb7 Bxd1 17.Qxe7 and White as a decisive advantage according to the engine. **15...a6 16.Qxe5 axb5 17.Qxe7**



**13...Rxc3** And in all his prepared lines this exchange sacrifice was a common theme.  
**14.bxc3** The price I have to pay for the exchange is the damaged pawn structure. Not **14.Qxc3?? Nd5 15.Qf3 Nxf4 16.Qxf4 Bg5** pinning the Queen. **14...Nd5 15.Bd2 Qb6 16.Nb3 Qa6 17.Kb1 0-0 18.c4 Qxc4 19.Qd3 Qxd3 20.cxd3 Bb5 21.d4 b6 22.Kb2 a5 23.a3 Bf6 24.Be3 Rd8 25.Nd2 Bd3 26.Nf3 Be4**



After suffering in a clearly worse position for a long time, it now seems I am ok, but I quickly go wrong. **27.Bg5? Bxg5 28.Nxg5 Bxg2 29.Rhe1 29.Rhg1** When playing **27.Bg5** I completely overlooked that here **29...Nf4!** is winning **29...Nf4 30.Ne4??** And now the fight is over. Better was **30.Re3** though Black is better. **30...Bf3**

With the idea of **30...Bf3 31.Rd2 Ng2** winning material **0-1**

## What else can you play?

I'm at the 2016 Olympiad and preparing for my opponent from El Salvador. Our team's method was for each player to have half an hour with our coach, grandmaster Dejan Bojkov, to discuss our preparation the morning before the game. I had discovered from the database that my opponent had previously played the French, but over the last few years had switched completely to the Sicilian. Naturally my preparation had focused on what to play against his Sicilian. After discussing the intended Sicilian lines with Dejan, we had a brief discussion on the French. To the best of my memory it went something like this...Dejan: "What do you plan to play against the French?" Me: "The 3.Bd3 line". Dejan: "What else can you play?" Me: "I used to play the Tarrasch" Dejan: "Play that then".

It turned out my opponent did indeed play the French and I quickly played **3.Nd2** before I could talk myself out of it. My opponent slumped in his chair and stared at one of his team mates, then turned to his team mate on the other side and stared at him as well. It couldn't be more obvious he was annoyed. Did his team mates convince him to play the French with the promise I would play **3.Bd3**? After a while he refocussed on the board and the game continued and I eventually won the game. While I can advocate **3.Bd3** as a good opening – there is nothing like being practical for getting results.

## Summary

Perhaps Dejan's advice had more to do with recent games of mine being readily available in databases to my opponents rather than a condemnation of 3.Bd3. It served me well for a while until I fell into the trap of becoming too predictable and walking into Chris Wallis's preparation in the 2016 Trundle Master's wasn't the brightest thing to do. Overall my results were very good with the opening.

A decent number of GMs have played the variation, including Magnus Carlsen and Vladimir Kramnik (admittedly in blitz). Then there is a core trio of 2600+ GM's: S.Fedorchuk, V.Onischuk and P.Ponkratov who play it often. The variation also scores just as well as the mainlines Nc3 and Nd2 and better than e5 or exd5.

I hope this article has provided a broad overview for any prospective new students of the opening. For those who wish to take this further I can recommend a video series (in Spanish) and e-book (in English) by the Spanish grandmaster's Angel Arribas and Pepe Cuenca published on the Chess24.com in 2016.

### **The Blackmar-Diemer Gambit**

*by Nigel Cooper*

**Acknowledgement:** The following notes under History and Variations include much material from Wikipedia's article on the BDG. It draws mainly from Christoph Scheerer's 2011 book, *The Blackmar-*

*Diemer Gambit: A modern guide to a fascinating chess opening.*

## History

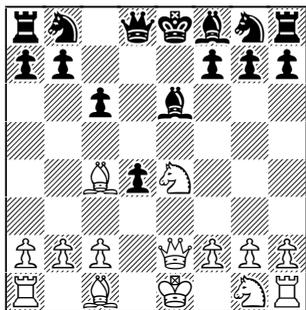
Blackmar was a US chess player in the 19th century who used 1.d4 d5 2.e4 regularly. If Black plays dxe4 Blackmar played 3.f3 offering a gambit pawn. This proved to be unsound, as Black immediately seizes the initiative with 3...e5! In the 20th century a German, Emil Diemer played this opening but used 3.Nc3 first. Then if either Nf6 or Bf5 to protect the black pawn on e4, he played 4.f3. This proved to be a better opening. After many years of analysis, Diemer wrote a book on the opening in the late 1950s, titled *Vom Ersten Zug An Auf Matt!* (Toward Mate From The First Move!). So the Blackmar Diemer gambit (BDG) was born. It has a fanatical following, with a regular blog on the opening written by Guido de Bouver of Belgium <http://blackmardiemergambit.blogspot.com>. He is one of many authors who have published books on the BDG.

Emil Diemer had a brilliant attacking style. Several books have been published on his games. Here are some of his smashing victories.

**Deimer – Toth 1948: 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Qxf3 Qxd4 6.Be3 Qb4 6...Qg4 is better 7.0–0–0 Bg4? This is the Halosar trap, discussed later 8.Nb5 Na6 9.Qxb7 Rb8 10.Qxb8+ Nxb8 11.Nxc7# 1–0**

In 1979 against an unnamed player, he won even quicker:

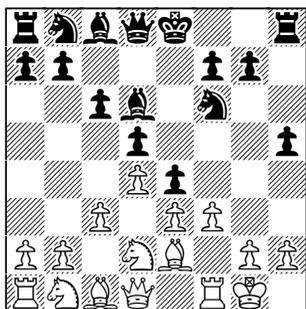
**Diemer – NN: 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nxe4 exd4 5.Bb5+ c6 6.Bc4 Be6 7.Qe2**



**7...Bxc4?? 8.Nf6# 1-0**

And just for fun to see how he played as black, here is a win in 13 moves, having sacrificed three pieces:

**NN – Diemer: 1.d4 e5 2.Nf3 e4 3.Nfd2 d5 4.c3 Bd6 5.e3 Nf6 6.Be2 c6 7.0-0 h5 8.f3**



**8...Bxh2+ 9.Kxh2 Ng4+ 10.fxg4 hxg4+ 11.Kg1 Rh1+ 12.Kxh1 Qh4+ 13.Kg1 g3 0-1**

An American player, Bill Wall, was an enthusiastic believer in the gambit. He wrote a book in 1999 called “500

Blackmar-Diemer Gambit Miniatures”, more than enough material for a whole issue of NZ Chess, let alone this article. It can be downloaded free for a month on google. Enough to keep you amused until Christmas. (I didn’t say which Christmas!)

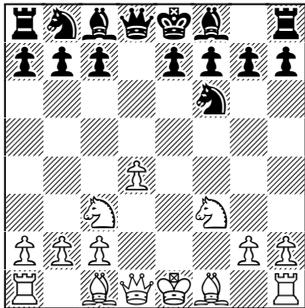
### **William Lynn’s BDG experience**

A keen Kiwi player who has used this opening through most of his 64 years of playing chess is William Lynn of Hamilton. He has an impressive record. Some highlights are North Island Champion 1970, South Island Champion 1974, South Pacific Master Gold Medal 2000 and 2002, NZ Seniors Champion 2005, 2008 and 2010, NZ Veterans Champion 2017, and he has been a Reserve for two NZ Olympic teams 1970 and 1972. For the past 13 years he has been a World Chess Federation FIDE Instructor, passing on the benefit off his experience to many school children and adults.

“The BDG is an opening for attacking players,” William says. “From over 50 years of tournament play, and studying several books... (I find it) a fascinating chess opening. The end result of all games depends on the knowledge of each player.” That, of course, could be said about any opening. But if you specialise in one or two, you are more likely to be better prepared than your opponent. Further, if the opening is not used (much) by titled players, it is more likely to trip up your club opponent, who rarely comes across it. I shall include several of William’s games to demonstrate some of the variations of the BDG.

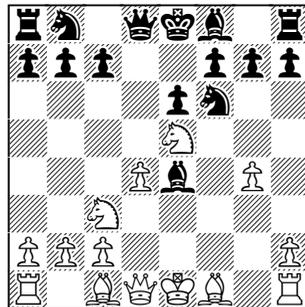
## Variations

After playing the opening moves **1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Nxf3**



there are at several moves possible for Black. There is no definitive 'best' move here, and therefore that makes it all the more difficult for both sides to play the opening, as there are several alternatives at almost every move. The opening suits players who can think quickly over the board, like attacking, taking risks, and who desire short games, either winning or losing quickly!

**Gunderam Defence: 5...Bf5** The main response for White is **6.Ne5** intending to attack the Black bishop with an advance of the kingside pawns and weaken Black's kingside pawn structure with **Ne5xBg6**. Black can respond with **6...e6** when after **7.g4 Be4 Diagram** (**7...Bg6** is more common and leads to quieter play, White's best response is probably **8.Bg2 c6 9.h4** with a sustained kingside initiative in return for the pawn)

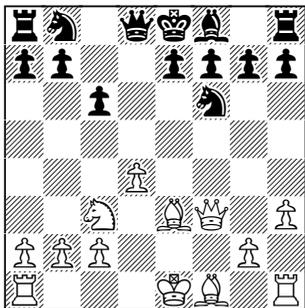


leads to tremendous complications, e.g. **8.Nxe4 Nxe4 9.Qf3 Qxd4 10.Qxf7+ Kd8 11.Qf4**

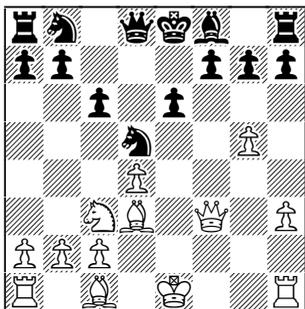
An alternative response to the Gunderam defence is **6.Bd3** when play usually goes **6...Bxd3 7.Qxd3 c6 8.0-0 e6** with about equal chances.

**Teichmann Defence: 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Nxf3 5...Bg4** By pinning the knight on f3, Black intends to swap it off and undermine White's central control. White's best response is to attack the bishop immediately with **6.h3** when play often continues **6...Bxf3** (If Black retreats the bishop with **6...Bh5 7.g4 Bg6 8.Ne5** a line which often transposes to the Gunderam Defence line **5...Bf5 6.Ne5 e6 7.g4 Bg6** after a subsequent **h3-h4**, as White's extra tempo with **h3** is not particularly useful.) **7.Qxf3 c6** (but not **7...Nc6**, when **8.Bb5** is good for White). In this position, White can defend the attacked d-pawn with **8.Qf2** (the **Ciesielski Variation**), but this allows Black an easy game by preparing **...e7-e5**, e.g. after **8...Nbd7 9.Bd3 e5** .

Alternatively **8.Be3**



is the **Classical Variation**, where White aims for a slow buildup to a kingside offensive.; White's other main alternative is **8.g4!**? the **Seidel-Hall Attack**, where White is happy to sacrifice the d-pawn in order to gain an increased initiative on the kingside, e.g. after **8...Qxd4** (Black can decline the pawn, e.g. after **8...e6** **9.g5** **Nd5** **10.Bd3**

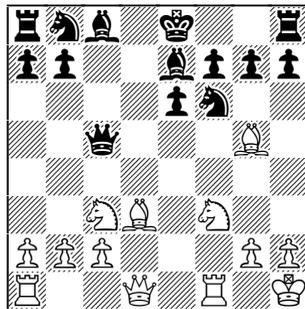


leading to sharp play) **9.Be3** **Qe5** **10.0-0-0** **e6** **11.g5**

*See games Lynn-Power and Lynn-Duneas on page 63 and 64 respectively within the online only section.*

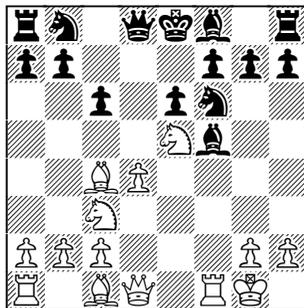
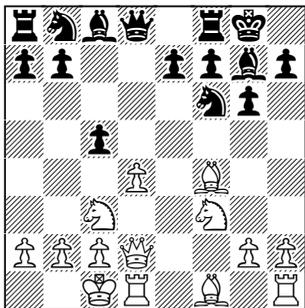
**Euwe Defence: 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Nxf3 e6** The **5...e6** line

aims to reach a French Defence type position, but with Black having an extra pawn. Play usually continues **6.Bg5** **Be7** when White's most popular option is **7.Bd3** Black can attack the centre immediately with **7...c5!**? here. Play can continue **8.dxc5** **Qa5** **9.0-0** **Qxc5+** **10.Kh1**



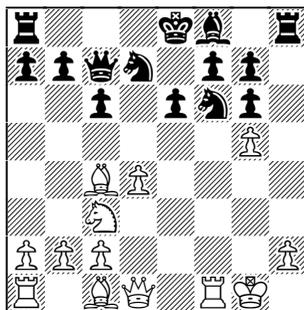
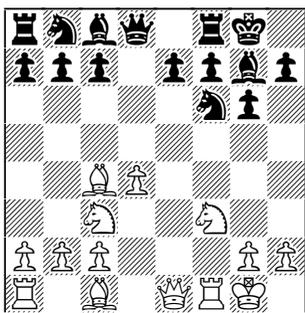
White has to play accurately to prove compensation for the pawn. Alternatively, on move 6, White can play **Bd3**, **Be3**, **Bb5+** or **a3**. Each off these leads to numerous possibilities

**Bogoljubov Defence: 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Nxf3 g6** By fianchettoing the king's bishop Black aims to gain increased pressure against the d4-pawn following a subsequent **...c5**. White's most common response is the **Studier Attack, 6.Bc4** (An alternative approach is to castle queenside, play **Bh6** and then launch the h-pawn against the Black kingside. The best way to carry out this approach is via **6.Bf4** e.g. **6...Bg7** **7.Qd2** **0-0** **8.0-0-0** **c5**



Now 9.d5 a6 10.d6! gives White good chances.) **6...Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Qc1**

when Sheerer says Black should avoid **8...Bxc2?!** and instead play **8...Bg6!** when White ends up with very little to show for the lost pawn. For example, attempting a quick attack by **9.g4** can get White in trouble. E.g. **9...Nbd7 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.g5 Qc7!**



intending **Qh4, Bh6** and piling pressure on the kingside, sacrificing pawns at **d4** and **c2** if appropriate. See William Lynn's third game below. However, after **8...Nc6 9.Qh4 Bg4!** it is doubtful if White obtains enough compensation for the pawn against accurate play.

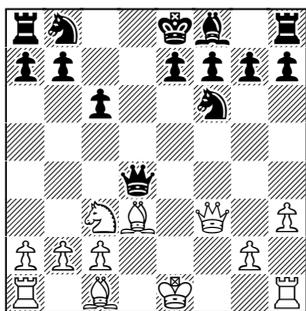
*See game Lynn-Marsick on page 65 within the online only section.*

**Ziegler Defence: 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Nxf3 c6** Most modern authors recommend this as Black's best answer to the BDG. The old main line runs **6.Bc4 Bf5 7.0-0 e6 8.Ne5**

**12.Bf4 Bd6 13.gxf6 Bxf4 14.fxg7 Be3+** and White resigned in Porrasmaa (2070) vs. Lobzhanidze (2428). Porrasmaa, incidentally, beat former world champion Anatoly Karpov in 2013 with the BDG. It was a handicap game, with Karpov having 4 minutes and Porrasmaa 16 minutes. The BDG has taken down some highly ranked players! **9.Nxf7!** However, IM Kevin Denny gives **8...Bxc2** an exclamation mark because now after **9...Kxf7** neither **10.Qxc2**

nor 10.Qg4 lead to advantage for White. My own analysis is that Black is also OK after **9...Bxd1 10.Nxd8 Kxd8 11.Rxd1 Kd7** and Black holds on to the extra pawn and slowly develops. This line is likely to lead to a draw. (Ed: In this line though it seems though that White can play 12.Re1 and win the pawn back immediately with some advantage).

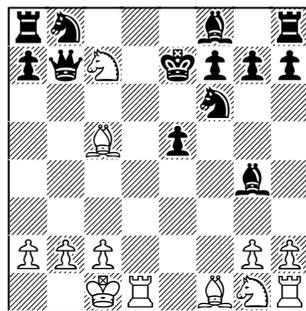
Of course there are other options available to counter the Ziegler Defence: **1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Nxf3 c6 6.Bc4** An important alternative is 6.Bd3, usually intending to sacrifice a second pawn after **6...Bg4 7.h3 Bxf3 8.Qxf3 Qxd4**



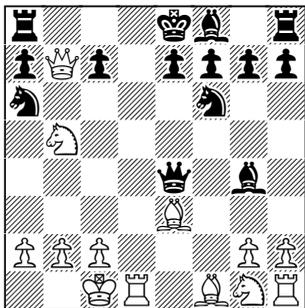
leading to sharp complications. Although Black can transpose back to the Classical Variation of the Teichmann Defence with **8...e6**, since White's only good response is **9.Be3** Black can prevent this **6.Bd3** possibility by using O'Kelly's move-order **4...c6**, this is covered later. **6...Bf5 7.0-0** White also has the dangerous, though probably objectively insufficient, second pawn sacrifice **7.g4** analysed extensively by Stefan Bucker; Instead of **7.0-0** Lev Gutman proposed the alternative **7.Bg5 e6 8.Nh4!? Bg6 9.Nxg6 hxg6 10.Qd3** intending to castle queenside and tie Black

down to the f7-pawn, promising long-term positional compensation for the pawn. **7...e6** Earlier we looked at **8.Ne5**. Another attacking move for White is **8.Ng5** the **Alchemy Variation**, where Black has to be careful not to fall for various sacrifices on e6 and f7, but White probably does not get enough compensation for the pawn after **8...Bg6 9.Ne2 Bd6**

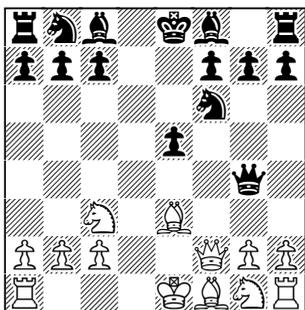
**Ryder Gambit: 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Qxf3** White can offer a second pawn with **5.Qxf3**, but he might have problems proving enough compensation for the sacrificed pawns after **5...Qxd4 6.Be3 Qg4** The Halosar Trap (named after Hermann Halosar) is **6...Qb4 7.0-0-0 Bg4?** If White moves the queen to 'save' it, he loses. But **8.Nb5!** threatening mate with **9.Nxc7#**. The line continues **8...Na6** The Black queen cannot capture the knight because **8...Qxb5 9.Bxb5+** is check, gaining time for the White queen to escape the threat from the bishop; Amusing was the miniature B Bart vs Jennen 1948 **8...e5 9.Nxc7+ Ke7 10.Qxb7 Qxb7 11.Bc5#**



**9.Qxb7 Qe4**



10.Qxa6 Qxe3+ Worse is (10...Bxd1 11.Kxd1 Rd8+ 12.Bd2 and White is winning, for example 12...Ng4 13.Nxc7+ Kd7 14.Qxa7) 11.Kb1 Qc5 12.Nf3 7.Qf2 e5



Black can also decline the pawn with 5...c6 or 5...e6, holding the position.

There are other Black options at move 4

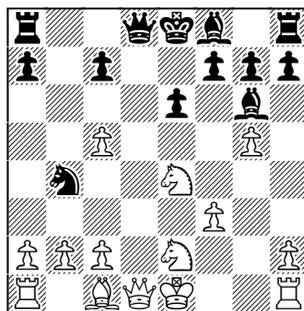
**O'Kelly Defence: 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 c6** This is a way to transpose to the Ziegler Defence without allowing the 6.Bd3 option **5.Bc4** Other bishop moves allow Black to achieve superior versions of standard BDG variations (5.Nxe4 is a transposition into a harmless sideline in the Fantasy Variation of the Caro-Kann 1.e4 c6

2.d4 d5 3.f3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxe4 5.Nxe4; 5.fxe4 e5! is good for Black) **5...exf3** (5...b5!? 6.Bb3 e6 has independent significance, see Short-Bareev) **6.Nxf3 Bf5** is a transposition into the main line of the Ziegler Defence

The only game I could find by a GM playing the BDG used this line. Nigel Short has beaten 12 world chess champions, but could not beat Evgeny Bareev.

See game Short-Bareev on page 65 within the online only section.

**Vienna Defence: 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 Bf5** This is considered by some to refute the BDG. White can play for compensation for a pawn with **5.fxe4** (Alternatively 5.g4 aims to regain the pawn in most cases, e.g. after 5...Bg6 6.g5 [6.h4!? is a gambit option, which leads to sharp play and approximately equal chances.] 6...Nd5 7.Nxe4 Nc6 8.Bb5 e6 9.Bxc6+ bxc6 10.Ne2 c5 11.dxc5 Nb4



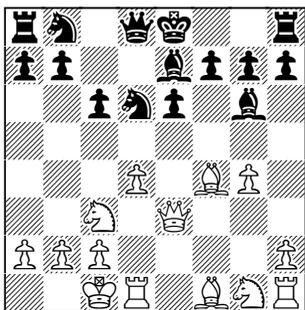
when in a reversal of roles, White has an extra pawn but Black has a superior pawn structure plus the initiative.) **5...Nxe4 6.Qf3** when both 6...Nxc3 and 6...Nd6 lead to complicated positions in which Black often tries to return a pawn on b7 in order to

catch up on development, and in some cases secure a positional advantage. White often does best to continue with a gambit policy and simply continue developing. The main line runs **6...Nd6 7.Bf4 e6 8.0-0-0** Here **8...c6 9.g4 Bg6 10.Qe3 Be7** when Black is solid, but White retains enough compensation for the pawn as we see in the next game.

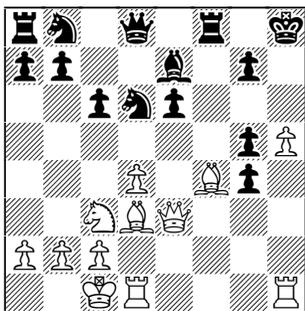
### Lynn, William - Sutton, Richard

New Zealand Championship 1971

**1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 Bf5 5.fxe4 Nxe4 6.Qf3 Nd6 7.Bf4 e6 8.0-0-0 c6 9.g4 Bg6 10.Qe3 Be7**



**11.Nf3 0-0 12.Ne5 Kh8? 12...Nd7 13.h4** Offering a second pawn. **13...h5 14.Nxg6+ fxg6 15.Bd3 hxg4 16.h5 g5**



**17.h6!** White offers a bishop to remove Black's pawn protection from his king. **17...Nf5 18.hxg7+ Kxg7 19.Qxe6** Richard Sutton was NZ Champion in 1963, 1971 and 1972. William notes that despite this sole loss, Richard successfully defended his NZ Championship in this tournament. The game appeared in several magazines in NZ at that time including one with approving annotations by Ortvin Sarapu. The game later appeared in several books on the BDG. "A well prepared line in that I used only one minute on the clock up to move 11 but several more minutes after that..." If **19.Qxe6 Rf6 20.Be5**; If **19.Qxe6 Qd7 20.Be5+**; If **19.Qxe6 gxf4 20.Bxf5**; Or if **19.Qxe6 Nd7 20.Bxf5 1-0**

### Alternative third moves:

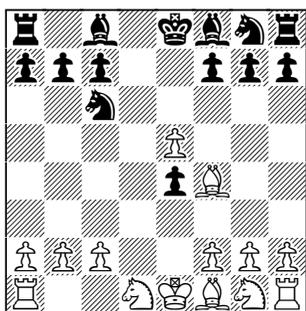
**Langeheinicke Defence: 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 e3** This is sometimes used by strong players to avoid complications, but it is one of Black's weaker options against the BDG as returning the pawn in this way does not significantly slow down White's initiative, and thus Black struggles to fully equalise in this line. In most lines White must seek to place a knight on f4 (taking the sting out of ...Nd5) in order to secure an advantage.

**Lemberger Counter-Gambit: 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 e5** This is an important alternative, where Black counterattacks against the d4-pawn instead of defending the attacked e4-pawn.

**Ed:** I am reminded of John Cox's humorous comments in his book *Dealing with d4 Deviations*. "For some reason the BDG attracts the most fanatical followers

of any opening, bar none. If you've ever felt that wounded tigresses can be a little overprotective of their cubs, hop over to one of the numerous BDG websites and venture the view that you've always wondered whether perhaps the gambit is unsound and that maybe the Catalan is a better bet for long-term pressure." I must give Nigel credit for being pretty even-handed and not making unrealistic claims about the objective merit of the opening! Incidentally this variation is Cox's recommendation for defusing the BDG. He introduces his argument as follows "This goes by the marvellous name of the Lemberger Counter-Gambit (although in fact Black isn't gambitting anything)." Cox also observes that the BDG abounds as no other opening in exotic and obscure names for its variations, something that readers of this article have probably noticed as well!

**4.Nxe4** Is one way of keeping a lively and complicated position (Unconvincing is 4.Qh5 Nc6!; Similarly 4.Nge2 Nc6!; It's possible to accept a drawish endgame with 4.dxe5 Qxd1+ 5.Kxd1 or 5.Nxd1 Nc6 6.Bf4



5...Nc6 6.Nxe4 Nxe5 with equality and few winning chances for either side.; For 4.Be3 see next game) **4...Qxd4 5.Bd3** or 5.Qe2

with complications and some compensation for the pawn in either case, but it is unclear if it is enough.

*See game Lynn-Wong on page 66 within the online only section.*

The natural looking **3...Bf5** is well met by 4.f3, and if 4...exf3 then 5.Qxf3 attacking the bishop. See how William deals with this:

*See game Lynn-Hunt on page 66 within the online only section.*

Sometimes your opponent will avoid the BDG and turn it into a French defence by 1... e6, or Caro-Kann by 1... c6. But William was well prepared for that in the following game. (**Ed:** These options must be a real buzzkill for BDG fanatics. Perhaps I could recommend Scott Wastney's 3. Bd3 article in this very issue as a way to often get a lively open game with attacking chances, against the French option at least).

*See game Lynn-Waayman on page 67 within the online only section.*

## Conclusion

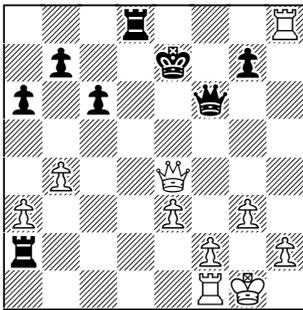
The BDG is "coffee house chess" according to Michael Steadman, and the fact that I could not find a single game played by two titled players lends support this assessment. However, there are so many rich possibilities, plus the surprise factor, that makes it well worth trying.

## Tournament Roundup

by Bill Forster

The crosstables for the tournaments discussed, more details and games are in the online only section, on page 46.

Evan Capel and Mike Steadman edged out Ben Hague to win the 45<sup>th</sup> North Shore Open, now the *Peter Stuart Memorial*.



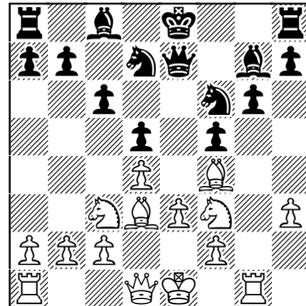
This was the intriguing final position in the important final round game Capel-Browne. Black is two pawns down and his exposed king is under fire, but why resign now? Perhaps the reasoning is that **36...Kd7** is forced to avoid losing one rook or the other immediately but then the second White rook joins the attack with check, surely that's fatal? Actually it would have been fatal, *for White* and Black missed the opportunity to set a fabulous trap. White has various ways to continue and win on material with careful play, but the obvious move **37.Rd1+??** loses instantaneously. **37...Kc7** and remarkably White suddenly faces multiple threats and has no useful check. In a way the d8 rook, apparently overwhelmed by a double attack from White's rooks is in fact forking those rooks!

Mike Steadman and Stephen Lukey were dominant winners of the *North Island* and *South Island Championships* in Palmerston North and Christchurch respectively. Mike achieved a picket fence and a 2.5 point winning margin, Stephen conceded a couple of draws and won by 1.5 points.

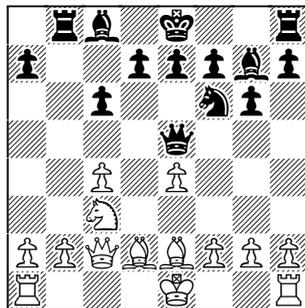
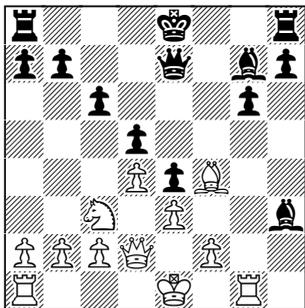
### McNabb, Matthew (2068) - Steadman, Mike (2240)

*Annotated by Mike Steadman*

**1.Nf3 e6 2.d4 f5 3.h3** A tricky line, I have learned not to be greedy and take the pawn... **3...g6 4.g4 Bg7 5.Nc3 d5 6.Bf4 c6 7.e3 Qe7** We were both on our own here, but this is kind of a weird Stonewall, so I was pretty OK with it. **8.Bd3 Nd7 9.gxf5 exf5 10.Rg1 Ngf6**



I thought Black was fine here. I was more concerned with variations where White played g5 and stopped the Nf6 moves... **11.Ne5 Ne4 12.Bxe4?** **12.Nf3 Ndf6 13.Qc1 Be6 14.Ne2 0-0 15.c3** White is only a little worse as the White squared Bishop is stuck behind the pawns... **12...fxe4** Any French player knows that as soon as the White squared Bishop gets room, Black is better, here he owns the White squares... **13.Nxd7 Bxd7 14.Qd2 Bxh3**



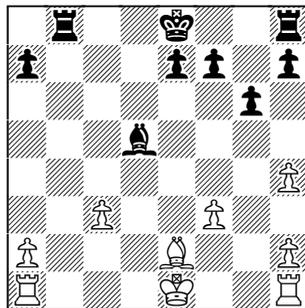
I just thought Black was winning, put the Bishop on f3 and push the h pawn to Queen... 15.0-0-0 Bf5 16.f3 Desperation 16...exf3 17.e4 Bxe4 18.Nxe4 dxe4 19.Qh2 0-0-0 20.d5 White could calmly resign. 20...Rxd5 21.Rxd5 cxd5 22.Rd1 Rd8 23.Qf2 b6 24.Qf1 Kb7 25.Qb5 e3 26.Rxd5 e2 27.Rxd8 Qxd8. 0-1

11...d5 Castling first is safer but this is more fun! 12.cxd5 cxd5 13.Nxd5? 13.Qc1! very unnatural, but surprisingly strong! So a computer suggestion! The moves that follow ultimately lead to White being slightly better off in a very complicated position. Analysing the twists and turns in advance is basically impossible for most humans. 13...Nxe4 14.Bf4 Qf5 15.Nxe4 Bxb2 this is as far as I got with my analysis, I thought White was dead ... I was wrong ... 16.Qc7 Bxa1 17.Qxb8 0-0 18.Ng3 Bc3+ 19.Kf1 Qf6 13...Nxd5 14.exd5 Bf5 14...Qxb2 is clearer and White is struggling 15.Qc6+ Bd7 16.Bc3 Qe4 17.f3 Qe3 18.Bd2 18.Qc4 gives Black the pleasant choice between Bb5 and Rc8 with a dominating game in both cases 18...Qd4 19.Bc3 Qh4+ 20.g3 Bxc6 21.gxh4 Bxc3+ 22.bxc3 Bxd5

## Masters (2320) - Lukey (1946)

*Annotated by Stephen Lukey*

1.d4 Nf6 The hardest move of the game! I didn't realise round 3 started at 9. 30am as opposed to 10am. When reality dawned it was a quick dash to the venue with some creative interpretations of the road rules. Made the move with less than a minute to go before forfeit! 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 c5 To win as Black you need to sharpen things up and give your opponent lots of decisions to make hence the invitation to a benoni. 5.Bg5 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Nc6 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.e4 Qa5 White's play looks suspicious so it's worth thinking about how to exploit it rather than routinely developing. Qa5 fits the bill with ideas of Rb8, sacs on b2, and Qe5. 9.Bd2 9.Qd2 Rb8 10.Rc1 Rxb2 11.Qxb2 shows the sort of tactics Black is aiming for 11...Qxg5 9...Rb8 10.Qc2 Qe5 ! 11.Be2



A simple glance at the position shows Black is well on top with White's scattered

pawns making a particularly unaesthetic impression. From this point on however Andrew plays very well and I play averagely (continued on page 46)

## Problem Kingdom

by Linden Lyons

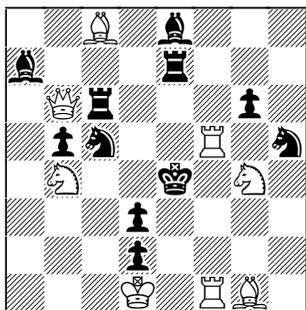
- Comments to:  
[problem.kingdom@gmail.com](mailto:problem.kingdom@gmail.com)

### Problem 112

Herbert Ahues

4<sup>th</sup> Honourable Mention

*Die Schwalbe* 2017



#2

**Black correction** is the theme of **Problem 112**. After the key, **1 Na2!** (threat 2 Nc3), a random move by the c5-knight like 1 ... Na6 opens up the c-file for the c6-rook. The error is that the queen takes over from the g1-bishop the guard of d5, enabling 2 Nf2. Since the c8-bishop becomes the sole guard of f5 after this mating move, Black can correct his error by cutting off the line of this bishop: 1 ... Ne6 or 1 ... Nd7. Yet these moves **interfere** with the e7-rook and the e8-bishop respectively, so in the former there is 2 Re5 and in the latter there is 2 Qxc6 (for which reason the try 1 Nd5? [thr. 2 Nc3] fails to work). There is also the

byplay variation 1 ... b4 2 Qxb4.

**Problem 113** demonstrates a **Novotny**. A white piece moves to a square (f4 here) where it can be captured by one of two black pieces (here, the h4-rook and the e3-bishop). Whichever piece captures, the other is interfered with. The try 1 f4? threatens 2 Qg5 and 2 Qe4, and each Novotny capture can only defeat one threat: 1 ... Rxf4 2 Qg5 and 1 ... Bxf4 2 Qe4. The refutation to the try is 1 ... Bxc5!, for the pinned e2-pawn cannot play 2 e4.

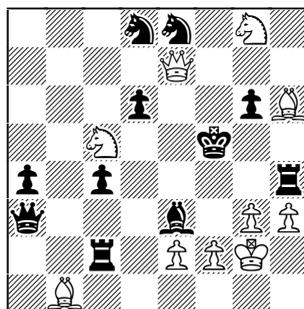
The key is **1 Bf4!** (thr. 2 Qg5/Qe4). This time, the Novotny captures thwart both threats, as the white queen becomes responsible for guarding g5. However, new mates take their place: 1 ... Rxf4 2 Nh6 and 1 ... Bxf4 2 e4. Meanwhile, 1 ... Bxc5 also leads to 2 e4, for the pawn is no longer pinned. The remaining variations that deal with both threats are 1 ... Qxc5 2 Bxc2, 1 ... dxc5 2 Qe5, 1 ... Ne6 2 Qxe6, and 1 ... Nf6 2 Qxf6. Finally, only one threat is thwarted in 1 ... Qd3 2 Qg5 and 1 ... Rh5 2 Qe4. It is noteworthy that the white queen delivers mate on five different squares.

### Problem 113

Rainer Paslack & Hubert Gockel

4<sup>th</sup> Prize

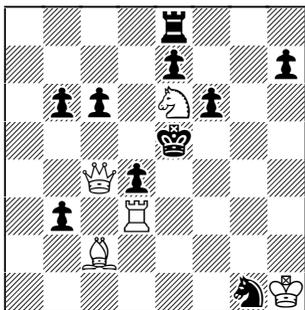
*Die Schwalbe* 2017



#2

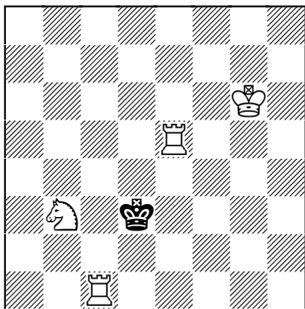
### Problem 114

Leonid Makaronez (Israel)  
Original



#3

There are a number of **battery** effects in **Problem 114**. Set: 1 ... f5 2 Qxd4+ Kxe6 3 Bxb3. The **square vacation** key, 1 Nxd4!, threatens 2 Qe6+ Kf4 3 Qf5. If 1 ... Kf4, the knight-queen battery comes into effect with 2 Nf3+ Kg3 3 Qh4 (or the rook-bishop battery fires in 2 ... Kf5 3 Rd6). If 1 ... Kd6, the knight-rook battery fires, 2 Nb5+ Ke5, followed by the rook-bishop battery, 3 Re3. If 1 ... e6, there is 2 Nxc6+ Kf5, and then the rook-bishop battery fires once more with 3 Rg3.



#4 (Problem 115)

### Problem 115

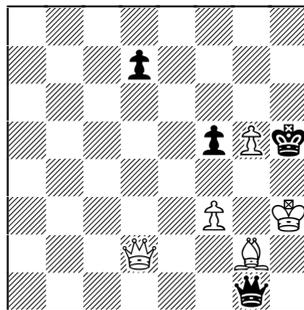
Alberto Armeni (Italy)  
Original

In **Problem 115**, White must mate Black in four moves. To avoid a stalemate, White first has to grant the black king a **flight square**. Indeed, the key, 1 Ra5! (zugzwang), grants a total of three flights:

- 1 ... Ke3 2 Rc3+
  - 2 ... Ke4 3 Kf6 Kf4 4 Ra4
  - 2 ... Ke2/Kf2 3 Ra2+ K~ 4 Rc1
  - 2 ... Kf4 3 Nd2 Kg4 4 Ra4
- 1 ... Ke4 2 Rc3 Kf4 3 Nd2 Kg4 4 Ra4
- 1 ... Ke2 2 Rc3 K~ 3 Ra2+ K~ 4 Rc1

### Problem 116

Mykola Chernyavskiy (Ukraine) & Rauf Aliovsadzade (USA)  
Original



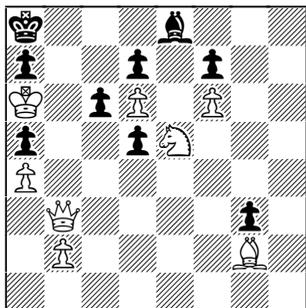
#7

The key of **Problem 116**, 1 Qd6!, threatens 2 Qh6#. Black's best defence is 1 ... Kxg5, as anything else results in mate in fewer than seven moves. After 2 f4+ Kh5, there is a threefold **crosscheck** (responding to

check with check): 3 Bf3+ Qg4+ 4 Bxg4+ fxg4+. If White carelessly plays 5 Kg3?, the result is stalemate, so 5 Kg2! g3 6 Qf6 ~ 7 Qg5.

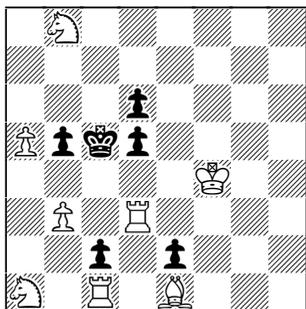
### Problem 117

Rauf Aliovsadzade  
*Problem Online 2007*  
 (version)



=2

In **Problem 117**, White's objective is to stalemate Black in two moves. There is a **half-pin** along the a8-g2 diagonal in the initial position. Set: 1 ... d4 2 Nd3 and 1 ... c5 2 Nc4. Try: 1 Nf3? (zz) with 1 ... d4 2 Nxd4 but 1 ... c5! The key is **1 Nd3!** (zz) with the variations 1 ... d4 2 Qb5 and 1 c5 2 Nxc5. Note that the queen cannot be replaced with a rook, for there would be the post-key dual 1 ... d4 2 Rb5/Rb7.



=3 (Problem 118)

### Problem 118

Rauf Aliovsadzade  
*Problem Online 2007*

The key of **Problem 118** sets up a knight-rook battery along the c-file: **1 Nxc2!** (zz). Black's defences create flight squares, and White's second moves involve **dual avoidance**: 1 ... d4 2 Nxd4+! (2 b4+? Kc4!) Kd5 3 b4 and 1 ... b4 2 Nxb4+! (2 Ne3+? Kb5! 3 Nxd5 Kxa5!) Kb5 3 Nxd5.

## Readers' Showcase

by Philip Hair

I've analysed my game against David Notley in the Oceania Zonal Championship from last year. The game, which was drawn, was awarded a special prize by Murray Chandler for the Best Fighting Game. Both kings were in danger; throughout the game both players continually avoided simplification, even when that would have been the advisable option. *Continued on Page 44 (online)*

## Introduction to the Berlin Defence

by Daniel Han

I first learned the Berlin defence in 2008. I was a junior engineer. For work reasons, I had to live in a holiday park cabin for two months. I became bored and bought a copy of Kramnik's DVD "My path to the top". To an amateur chess player like myself, it was an eye-opener to hear Kramnik talking about his world championship matches, opening preparation, and of course the Berlin defence! *Continued online*



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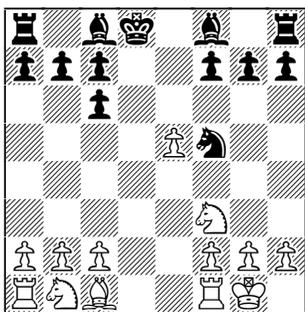
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The Berlin defence has a reputation for solidity and drawishness and is sometimes called "the Berlin Wall". In 2000, Vladimir Kramnik used the line as a drawing weapon against Garry Kasparov in Classical World Chess Championship 2000.

The starting moves are **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4** (White's other moves such as 5.Re1, 5.Bxc6 and 5.Qe2 are harmless, and Black can neutralise them easily without much difficulty) **Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8**



When I saw this position the first time, I thought that White must be close to winning because Black has violated all the classical chess laws that I knew of: White has castled and is ahead in development, and has a pawn majority on the king side. Black's king is stuck in the centre with still many pieces left on the board. But chess can be deceptive sometimes, and the general chess principles have to give way to concrete play.

Black's main advantage is that he has the bishop pair. With the queens off the board, it is not too dangerous for his king hanging around in the centre. Black's main objectives are to find a way to bring his

rooks into the game (via d8, e8, h5, a5) and delay white's e6 breakthrough for as long as possible.

Black has two ways to hide the king. Either b7 (via c8) or e8. The b7 plan was played in the 1st and 3rd games of the Kasparov - Kramnik match. The e8 idea appeared played in the 9th and 13th games of the match. Depending on what White does, Black normally places the c8 bishop either on c6 or e6, the knight on either c6, g6 or f5.

Although there are no sharp lines in the opening, both players have to be very careful with the move orders, a slight inaccuracy from White can lose his chance to fight for an opening advantage. Black always need to watch out for white's f4-f5-e6 pawn breakthrough.

I very much enjoyed playing the Berlin because it offers original and interesting positions to play with.

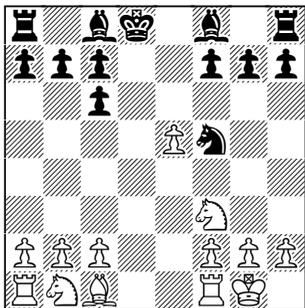
It should be mentioned that white's most popular move to avoid the Berlin is 4. d3. Anyone wanting to play the Berlin as Black must be prepared to play this sideline.

Two of my games against strong opposition follow.

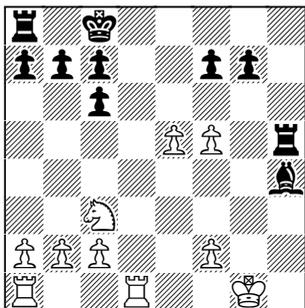
### **Steadman, Mike - Han, Daniel** **[C67]**

Waikato Open, 2008

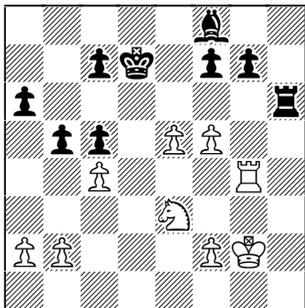
**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8**



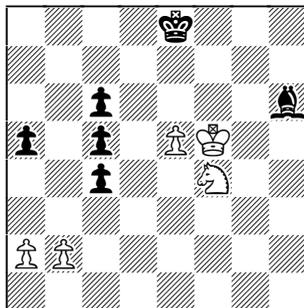
9.Nc3 h6 10.Bf4 Be6 11.h3 Be7 12.g4 Nh4  
13.Nd4 Bd7 14.Rfd1 Kc8 15.Bg3 h5 16.Bxh4  
Bxh4 17.Nf5 hxg4 18.hxg4 Bxf5 19.gxf5 Rh5



20.Rd4 Be7 21.Rf4 Kd7 22.Rd1+ Ke8 23.Ne4  
Rd8 24.Rxd8+ Kxd8 25.Ng3 Rh6 26.Kg2 c5  
27.Ra4 a6 28.Rg4 Bf8 29.Nf1 b5 30.c4 Kd7  
31.Ne3



31...g6 32.fxg6 Rxxg6 33.Rxxg6 fxg6 34.f4  
Ke6 35.Kf3 g5 36.Ke4 gxf4 37.Nd5 f3  
38.Nf4+ Kd7 39.Kxf3 bxc4 40.Ke4 c6  
41.Kf5 Bh6 42.Ne2 Ke7 43.Ke4 Ke6  
44.Nf4+ Ke7 45.Kf5 a5 46.Ng6+ Ke8  
47.Nf4

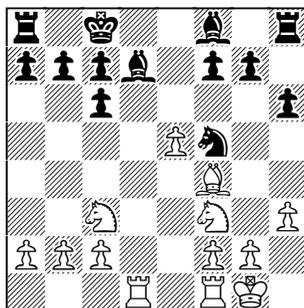


½-½

**Smith, Robert W (2357) -  
Han, Daniel (2233) [C67]**

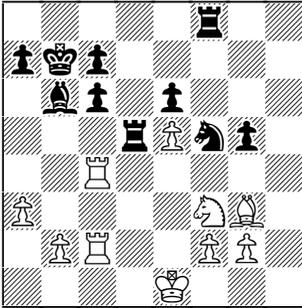
Waitakere Trust Open-A Waitakere (5.2),  
07.06.2010

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4  
5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5  
8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Bd7 10.Bf4 h6  
11.Rad1 Kc8 12.h3

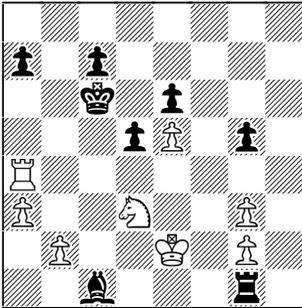


12...Ne7 13.Rd2 Be6 14.Nd4 Nd5 15.Nxe6  
fxe6 16.Ne2 b5 17.Bg3 Bc5 18.Rc1 Kb7

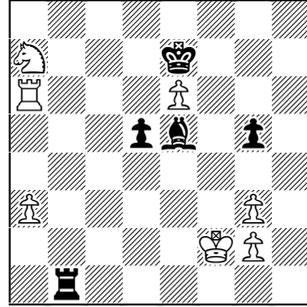
19.c4 bxc4 20.Rxc4 Bb6 21.Rdc2 g5 22.a3  
 Ne7 23.Kf1 Rad8 24.Ke1 Rhf8 25.h4 Rd7  
 26.hxg5 hxg5 27.Ng1 Nf5 28.Nf3 Rd5



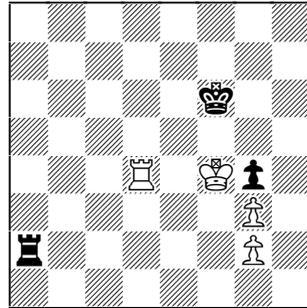
29.Rg4 Rg8 30.Rd2 Nxc3 31.Rxd5 cxd5  
 32.fxc3 Be3 33.Ke2 Bc1 34.Kd1 Be3  
 35.Ke2 Bc1 36.Ne1 Rh8 37.Nd3 Rh1  
 38.Rb4+ Kc6 39.Ra4 Rg1



40.Ra6+ Kd7 41.Nc5+ Kd8 42.Kf2 Rd1  
 43.Nxe6+ Ke7 44.Nxc7 Bxb2 45.e6 Be5  
 46.Nb5 Rb1 47.Nxa7



47...Bd4+ 48.Kf3 Bxa7 49.Rxa7+ Kxe6  
 50.a4 Rb4 51.a5 Ra4 52.a6 g4+ 53.Ke3  
 Ke5 54.Re7+ Kf6 55.Rh7 Kg6 56.Ra7  
 Kf6 57.Ra8 Ke5 58.Re8+ Kf6 59.Rh8  
 Ke5 60.Re8+ Kf6 61.Rh8 Ke5 62.Rh5+  
 Kf6 63.Rxd5 Rxa6 64.Ke4 Ra4+ 65.Rd4  
 Ra2 66.Kf4



66...Rxc2 67.Rd6+ Kg7 68.Kxc4 Rg1  
 69.Kf4 Rg2 70.g4 Ra2 71.Re6 Ra4+  
 72.Kf5 Ra5+ 73.Kf4 Rb5 74.Kg3 Kf7  
 75.Ra6 Kg7 76.Kh4 Rc5 77.g5 Rc1  
 78.Ra7+ Kg6 79.Ra6+ Kg7 80.Kh5 Rh1+  
 1/2-1/2

## Readers' Showcase

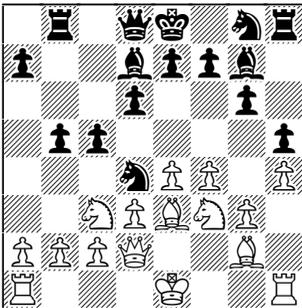
continued from page 39

Here is the game, with Fritz-assisted analysis.

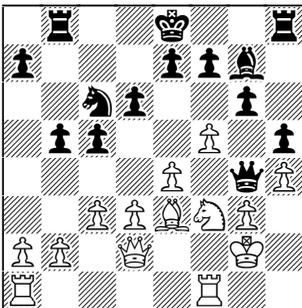
### Hair, Philip - Notley, David [B26]

Oceania Zonal Auckland (7), 18.01.2017

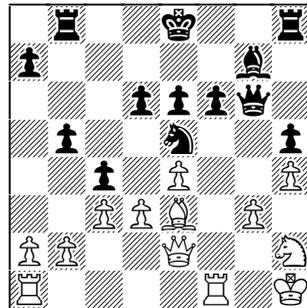
1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3  
d6 6.Be3 Rb8 7.Qd2 b5 8.h4 h5 9.f4 Bd7  
10.Nf3 Nd4



11.Nh2 White wants to drive the d4 knight away without exchanging pieces. 11...Nh6 12.0-0 Qe8 13.Nd1 Bh3 14.c3 Bxg2 15.Kxg2 Nc6 16.Nf2 Qd7 17.Nf3 Ng4 18.Nxg4 Qxg4 Fritz thinks 18...hxg4 is slightly better, when White will play 19.Ng1 intending Ne2. 19.f5!?

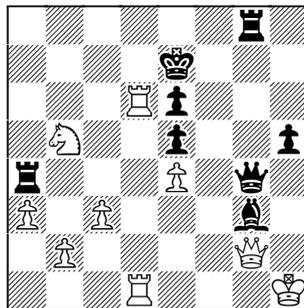


This could be risky, but is a thematic Closed Sicilian-type move. Fritz prefers the central break 19.d4. 19...gxf5 20.Nh2 It's rare to see a White knight on h2 even once in a game, let alone twice. 20...Qg6 21.Rxf5?! 21.exf5 was better, e.g. 21...Qf6 22.Bg5 Qe5 23.f6 Qd5+ 24.Kg1 exf6 25.Bxf6 Bxf6 26.Rxf6 Rg8 27.Qg2 Qxg2+ 28.Kxg2 Ke7 29.Raf1 Rbf8 30.R6f5 Rh8 31.Nf3 when White may have a slight edge. 21...f6 21...e6 looks better for Black after 22.Rg5 Qh7 or 22.Rf2 Ne5. 22.Kh1 Ne5 22...e6 is also good 23.Qe2 The tactical 23.Bf4 is risky, e.g. 23...e6 24.Bxe5 exf5 25.Bxd6 Rd8 26.exf5 Qxf5 27.Qe3+ Kf7 28.Qe7+ Kg6 29.Bxc5 Rhe8 30.Qxa7 Rd7 with advantage to Black. 23...e6 24.Rff1 24.Rf2 may be slightly better. 24...c4!

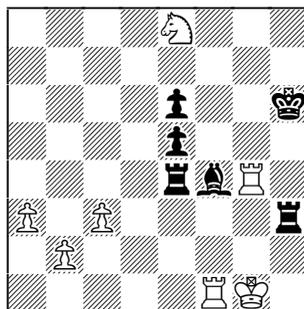


Undermining White's centre. Fritz considers that Black has a definite advantage here. 25.Bxa7 cxd3 26.Qg2 Rc8 26...Rd8 immediately may be better, as Black later plays this anyway. 27.Bd4 Rg8 28.Rad1 Rd8 29.Rfe1 Fritz prefers 29.Bxe5 dxe5 30.Qf3 d2 31.Rf2 Bh6 32.Qxf6 Qxe4+ 33.Rf3 Qg6 34.Qxe5 Rd5 when the position is unclear and possibly about equal, although the d2 pawn is a problem for White. 29...Bh6 30.Be3 Bf8?!

30...Bxe3 31.Rxe3 Rd7 is in Black's favour; White can't play Nf3 because the g-pawn is then en prise. White has to sit tight and defend, e.g. 32.b3 Rc7 33.Qd2 **31.Bf4 Be7 32.Nf3 Ra8 33.a3 Ra4 34.Nd4 Kd7?!** This leads to an advantage for White. According to Fritz, 34...Qg4 is at least equal for Black, e.g. 35.Qf1 Ra5 36.Nb3 Ra7 37.Bxe5 fxe5 38.Rxd3 Rf8 39.Qe2 Qh3+ 40.Kg1 Bd8 41.Re3 Rg8 42.Qh2 Qxh4 43.Qxh4 Bxh4 44.Kh2 **35.Nxb5 Qg4** 35...Ra5 was better: 36.a4 Rxa4 37.Bxe5 fxe5 38.Rxd3 Qg4 39.Red1 Ra6 but the advantage is still with White. **36.Bxe5 fxe5 37.Rxd3 Bxh4** Fritz prefers 37...Rb8 38.b3 Ra6 39.c4 Bxh4 40.Qe2 Be7 41.Qxg4 hxg4 42.a4 but this still greatly favours White. **38.Rxd6+?** White gives away his advantage. Much stronger was 38.Nxd6! Ke7 39.Rf1 Bf6 40.Qf2 Rg6 41.Kh2 Kf8 42.Rf3 Qg5 43.Rxf6+ Rxf6 44.Qxf6+ Qxf6 45.Rxf6+ Ke7 46.Rf2 Kxd6 47.Re2 and White is two pawns up in the endgame and Black's pawns are weak. **38...Ke7** Fritz suggests 38...Kc8 as a safer destination for the king, with the further analysis 39.Re3 Bxg3 40.Qxg3 Qxg3 41.Rxg3 Rxg3 42.Rxe6 Rg5 43.b3 Ra5 44.c4 Kd7 45.Rd6+ Ke7 46.Rd5 Ra8 47.c5 Rag8 **39.Red1** Another possibility is 39.Rb6 e.g. 39...Bxg3 40.Rb7+ Ke8 41.Rb8+ Ke7 42.Rxg8 Qxg8 43.Qg1 Qg5 44.Qc5+ Kf7 45.Nd6+ Kg6 46.Re2 Qg4 47.Qe3 but this could be promising for Black after 47...h4 **39...Bxg3**



Black misses the surprising resource 39...Rd4! when White's best option is 40.R1xd4 with the further likely play 40...exd4 41.Rxd4 e5 42.Rd3 Bxg3 43.Nd6 Qh4+ 44.Kg1 Bh2+ 45.Kf1 Qf4+ 46.Qf2 Rg1+ 47.Ke2 Qg4+ 48.Qf3 Rg2+ 49.Ke1 Bg3+ 50.Kf1 Rf2+ 51.Qxf2 Bxf2 52.Kxf2 Qf4+ 53.Ke2 Qh2+ 54.Kd1 Qxb2 55.c4 and the endgame is difficult to assess but may favour Black. **40.Rd7+ Kf6 41.Rf1+ Bf4 42.Qxg4 hxg4 43.Nd6 Rh8+ 44.Kg1 Rh3** 44...g3 may be better. **45.Ne8+ Kg5 46.Rg7+ Kh6** 46...Kh4 is drawn with best play: 47.Nf6 Be3+ 48.Kg2 Rg3+ 49.Kh2 Rh3+ 50.Kg2 **47.Rxg4 Rxe4**

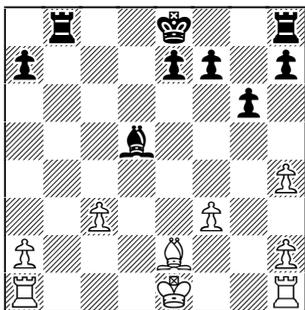


**48.Nf6** 48.Rg8 is stronger: 48...Rd3 49.Nf6 Re2 50.Rg2 Rxg2+ 51.Kxg2 Kg6 52.Ne4 Kf5 53.Re1 with the better endgame for

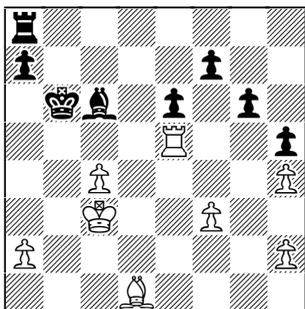
White. **48...Re2 49.Ng8+** White decides to force a draw by repetition of position, because the Black forces are gathering around his king. **49...Kh7 50.Nf6+ Kh6 51.Ng8+ ½-½**

**Tournament Roundup**  
*continued from page 37*

*Masters-Lukey after 22...Bxd5*



**23.c4 Bc6 24.Rg1 h5?** I wanted to stop Andrew from exchanging off his weakling on h4 but I lose time. e5, among others, was far better. **25.Rg5! Rd8 26.Rd1 Rxd1+ 27.Bxd1 Kd7 28.Ra5 Ra8 29.Kd2 Kc7 30.Kc3 Kb6 31.Re5 e6**



**32.Bc2??** Andrew blunders horribly to rob

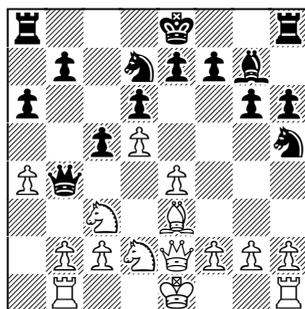
him of the fruits of his excellent defence. Black was still slightly better but the lack of entry squares means it's unclear exactly how, or if, White's sickly pawns can be exploited. **32...Bxf3 33.Bxg6 fxe6 34.Rxe6+ Bc6 0-1**

Mike has contributed several more annotated games, including this one from the New Zealand Seniors Champs, also held during the Palmerston North chess festival.

**Winfield, Alan (1693) -  
 Steadman, Mike (2240) [A45]**

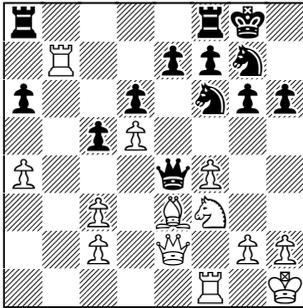
NZ Senior Champs Palmerston North (6),  
 04.10.2018

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 g6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 Bg7 5.e4 a6 6.a4 d6 7.Nf3** I actually think that all Black's opening issues disappear in these type of positions as soon as he can swap a minor piece, therefore h3 is in order. **7...Qb6** I felt that this move points out the issue with an early Bf4 and b4 is a great spot for the Queen. **8.Rb1 Bg4 9.Be2 Qb4 10.Nd2 Bxe2 11.Qxe2 Nh5 12.Bg5 h6 13.Be3 Nd7**



Black is better here, the machine does not think so, but his game is easier to play. **14.0-0 0-0 15.f4 Bd4 16.Kh1 Ng7**

17.Nf3? 17.Bf2 Rab8 18.Qd3 Bxf2  
 19.Rxf2 Qd4 20.Qxd4 cxd4 21.Ne2 Nc5  
 22.Nxd4 Nxa4 17...Bxc3 18.bxc3 Qxe4  
 19.Rxb7 Nf6



Material is equal, but Black is in control now. 20.Nd2 Qxc2 21.c4 Nf5 22.Re1 Rab8 23.Rxb8 Rxb8 24.Qd1?? A blunder in a lost position, just drops the Bishop on e3. Black is easily winning. 0-1

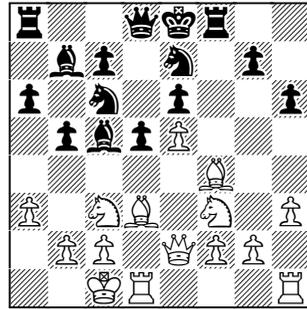
**Lovejoy,David (1903) - Steadman,Mike (2240) [C10]**

North Island Champs Palmerston North (4), 09.10.2018

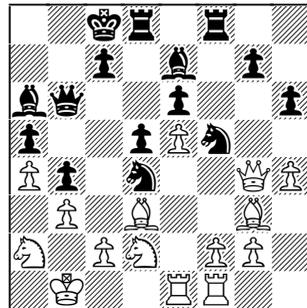
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nc6 This is a side line, nothing too testing, but good against a senior that may not have been keeping his openings up to date... 4.e5 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.e5 Ne4 6.Bd3 Bb4 7.Bd2 (7.0-0 Nxc3 8.bxc3 Bxc3 9.Rb1 h6 10.Ba3 a5 11.Rb3 Bb4 12.Bc1 The gambit approach if you want to spice things up ...) 7...Bxc3 8.bxc3 b6 9.0-0 Bb7 10.Re1 Nxd2 11.Nxd2 The position is even. This is the more common way to play. 4...f6 5.Nf3 5.f4 fxe5 6.fxe5? Qh4+ 7.g3 Qxd4 Lots of people fall for this in 3 minute chess :-)

5...fxe5 6.dxe5 Bc5 6...Nh6 7.Bd3 Nf7 8.Qe2 Bd7 7.Bd3 Nge7!? 8.Bf4 8.Na4 Bb6 9.c3 0-0 10.0-0 White must be slightly better, Nge7 was

too early. 8...h6 Everyone knows I love to throw the g pawn forward ... 9.h3 a6 After this I just felt Black had the easier game and I would slowly get an advantage... 10.a3 b5 11.Qe2 Bb7 12.0-0-0 Rf8



13.Bh2 13.Be3 Bxe3+ 14.fxe3 Qd7 15.Rhf1 0-0-0 16.h4 This is better, the Bishop on h2 has no life. 13...Qd7 14.Rhf1 0-0-0 15.a4? Can't be good, sends the Knight to a lifeless square. 15...b4 16.Na2 Nb8 17.b3 Qc6 18.Kb1 Qb6 19.Bg3 Nbc6 20.Nd2 Nd4 21.Qg4 Nef5 22.Re1 a5 23.Rce1 Be7 24.h4 Ba6!



This is the key, this is the only White piece better than Black's and holds down the c2 square, Black is making headway now ... 25.Nc1 Bxd3 26.Nxd3 Qc6 27.Qd1 Bxh4 28.Bh2 Be7 29.Nf4 Bc5 29...Nh4 30.g3

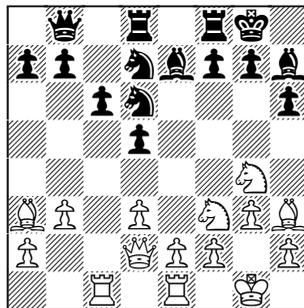
## 2018 North Island Championship

1	FM Steadman, Michael	2240	8.0	+W19	+B11	+W4	+B10	+W2	+B5	+W3	+B7
2	Sole, Michael	1720	5.5	+W20	+B21	=B10	+W8	-B1	+W12	=B9	=W3
3	CM James, Jack	2045	5.0	+W18	=B14		+W13	+B8	+W9	-B1	=B2
4	Winter, Ryan	1728	5.0	+B15	+W16	-B1	-B5	+W7	=W6	+B8	=W9
5	McNabb, Matthew	2068	5.0	-B16	+W15	+B22	+W4	=B9	-W1	=B6	+W11
6	Ha, Timothy	1682	5.0	-W17	+B23	=W21	+B14	=W10	=B4	=W5	+B12
7	Yu, Jeffrey	1430	4.5	-W9	=B20	+W17	+B21	-B4	+W13	+B10	-W1
8	He, Caleb	1710	4.5	+W22	+B9	=W14	-B2	-W3	+B21	-W4	+B17
9	Wells, Clinton	1933	4.5	+B7	-W8	+B16	+W12	=W5	-B3	=W2	=B4
10	Lovejoy, David	1903	4.5	+W23	+B17	=W2	-W1	=B6	=B14	-W7	+W15
11	Stewart, James	1713	4.0	+B13	-W1	-B12	-W15	+B16	+W19	+W14	-B5
12	He, Paul	1329	4.0	-W14	+B18	+W11	-B9	+W22	-B2	+B16	-W6
13	Ning, Isabelle	1360	4.0	-W11	=B19	+W20	-B3	+W17	-B7	+W22	=B14
14	Heppenstall, Lara	1707	4.0	+B12	=W3	=B8	-W6	+B15	=W10	-B11	=W13
15	Chen, Matthew	1371	3.5	-W4	-B5	+W23	+B11	-W14	=B17	+W21	-B10
16	Scott, David	1548	3.5	+W5	-B4	-W9	+B22	-W11	+B20	-W12	=B18
17	Zhang, Kendrick	1252	3.0	+B6	-W10	-B7	=W18	-B13	=W15	+B19	-W8
18	Murdoch, Stephen	1478	3.0	-B3	-W12	+W19	=B17	-W21	-B22	+B20	=W16
19	Ashe, Michael	1623	3.0	-B1	=W13	-B18	=W20	+BYE	-B11	-W17	+B21
20	Steadman, Mathew	1366	3.0	-B2	=W7	-B13	=B19	+BYE	-W16	-W18	+B22
21	Xu, Hannah	1082	2.5	+BYE	-W2	=B6	-W7	+B18	-W8	-B15	-W19
22	Zhang, Boyuan	1360	2.0	-B8	+BYE	-W5	-W16	-B12	+W18	-B13	-W20
23	Burt, James (W)	1395	1.0	-B10	-W6	-B15	+BYE	-BYE			
24	Weng, Winston (W)	1636	0.0	-BYE							

## 2018 South Island Championship

1	FM Lukey, Stephen	2320	7.0	+B13	=W11	+B9	+W2	=B4	+W3	+W8	+B5
2	Cummings, Nick	2096	5.5	+W14	+B9	=W3	-B1	+W12	=B7	=W4	+B8
3	Wells, Clinton	1926	5.5	+B16	+W6	=B2	=BYE	+W8	-B1	+W10	=B4
4	CM Rains, Edward	2132	5.0	+B18	+W7	=B5	+W16	=W1	-B8	=B2	=W3
5	Weegeenaar, David	2067	5.0	+B20	+W21	=W4	-B8	+W10	=B9	+W7	-W1
6	Gold, Hamish	1929	5.0	=W22	-B3	+W18	-B12	+W15	=B17	+W11	+B9
7	Roura, Federico	1890	5.0	+W17	-B4	+W15	=B10	+W11	=W2	-B5	+B14
8	McNabb, Matthew	2223	4.5	+W10	=BYE	+B11	+W5	-B3	+W4	-B1	-W2
9	Masters, Andrew	1946	4.5	+B19	-W2	-W1	+B22	+B16	=W5	+B14	-W6
10	Sarfis, Edward	1747	4.5	-B8	+W19	+B21	=W7	-B5	+W12	-B3	+W17
11	Jellyman, Riley	2014	4.0	+W15	=B1	-W8	=B19	-B7	+W16	-B6	+W18
12	Bongalon, Ray	1868	4.0	=BYE		+W17	+W6	-B2	-B10	+W13	=W15
13	Barraza Perez, J	1815	3.5	-W1	+B22	-W16	=B15	-W17	+B21	-B12	+W19
14	Cooper, Nigel	1673	3.5	-B2	=BYE	=W22	=B17	+W19	+B20	-W9	-W7
15	Murdoch, Stephen	1601	3.5	-B11	+W18	-B7	=W13	-B6	+W22	=W17	=B12
16	Lukey, Bryce	1535	3.5	-W3	+BYE	+B13	-B4	-W9	-B11	=W19	+B21
17	WCM Lourenco, Eva	1487	3.5	-B7	+W20	-B12	=W14	+B13	=W6	=B15	-B10
18	Black, Ross	1730	3.0	-W4	-B15	-B6	+W21	=W22	=B19	+W20	-B11
19	Clarkson, Robert	1577	2.5	-W9	-B10	+B20	=W11	-B14	=W18	=B16	-B13
20	McClintock, N	1603	2.5	-W5	-B17	-W19	+BYE	+B21	-W14	-B18	=B22
21	Stevenson, Michael	1465	2.0	+BYE	-B5	-W10	-B18	-W20	-W13	+B22	-W16
22	WCM Braganza, Nadia	1542	2.0	=B6	-W13	=B14	-W9	=B18	-B15	-W21	=W20

Bg5 31.Re3 Nhf5 32.Rd3 Bxf4 33.gxf4  
 The Bishop on h2 is not a pretty sight.  
**30.Ng6 Rf7 31.g4 Ne7 32.Nxe7+ Bxe7**  
**33.f4 Bh4 34.Re3 Qb6 35.Rh3 Be7**  
**36.Bg1 Be5 37.Rd3 Nc6 38.Bh2 Bd4**  
**39.Nf3 Be3?** 39...Bc3 40.Bg3 Kb7 41.Bf2  
 Qa6 42.Nd4 Nxd4 43.Bxd4 Bxd4 44.Rxd4  
 c5 45.Rd3 c4 **40.f5 d4 41.Nh4 41.fxe6 Re7**  
 42.Nh4 Rxe6 43.Nf5 **41...Ne7 42.f6 Nd5**  
**43.Ng6 c5 44.Qe2 Kb7 45.Qg2 Qc6**  
**46.fxg7 Rxd7** White resigned. (Ed: Black  
 threatens Nc3+ and Qxg2 as well as the  
 Knight on g6. White could try Nh4 but  
 everything is hanging by a thread and more  
 material will inevitably drop off). **0-1**

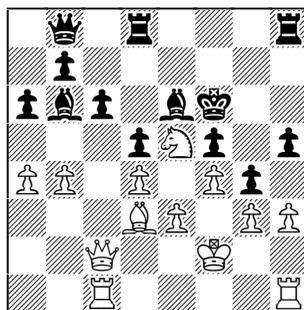


**Steadman, Mike (2240) -  
 James, Jack (2045) [A15]**

North Island Champs Palmerston North (7),  
 11.10.2018

I knew Jack plays a Slav against pretty  
 much anything that is not e4, so decided a  
 slow positional type line was the key. **1.e4**  
**Nf6 2.g3 c6=** Jack offered a draw, I  
 cheekily declined explaining I thought  
 White was already better and tending to  
 winning :-), Russell would agree with  
 me ... **3.Bg2 d5 4.Nf3 Bf5 5.b3 e6 6.Bb2**  
**Nbd7 7.0-0 Be7 8.d3 h6** Moves must have  
 been obvious, seems I had stumbled down  
 the most popular path in this b3 type stuff. I  
 thought I would win from here, looked like  
 a position Jack would hate... **9.Nc3 0-0**  
**10.Re1 Bh7 11.Qd2 Qc7 12.Rac1 Rad8**  
**13.cxd5 exd5 14.Bh3 Qb8 15.Nd1** I just  
 felt White was better, even a mini plan of  
 putting the knight on f5 is better than  
 Blacks which seems to have to active plan.  
**15...Ne8 16.Ne3 Bf6 17.Ba3 Nd6 18.Ng4**  
**Be7**

**19.Bb2 19.Nxh6+ gxh6 20.Qxh6 f5 21.Bb2**  
 Nf6 I could not see any further than this  
 when looking at this line. The computer  
 loves it. **22.Qg5+ Kh8 23.e4 dxe4 24.dxe4**  
 fxe4 **25.Qh6 Rf7 26.Ng5 Rdf8 27.Rcd1**  
 White is just owning Black everywhere.  
 Instead the move played just keeps a simple  
 plus. **19...f5 20.Nge5 Nxe5 21.Nxe5 g5**  
**22.f4 g4 23.Bg2 h5 24.Qc3 Bf6 25.a4 Nf7**  
**26.d4 Nd6 27.Ba3 Rfe8** Black needed to  
 seal the Kingside by h4 and h3 and then he  
 can hope to hold on on the Queenside.  
**28.Bxd6 Rxd6 29.b4 Bd8 30.Qb3 Kg7**  
**31.e3 Bg8 32.Bf1 a6 33.Bd3 Be6 34.Qc2**  
**Kf6 35.Kf2 Bb6 36.Rh1** From move 27  
 Black had chances to play the h4 plan, now  
 it is too late and White gets a second point  
 of entry. **36...Rdd8 37.h3 Rh8**



38.Bxa6 38.Rh2 gxf3 39.Rxf3 Rh6  
 40.Rch1 Rdh8 41.Qd1 Qe8 42.Bxf5 Bxf5  
 43.g4 This combination is what I missed.  
 38...bxa6 39.Nxc6? Couple of moves too  
 early ... 39.hxg4 hxg4 40.a5 Bc7 41.Nxc6  
 Rxh1 42.Rxh1 Qc8 43.Nxd8 Bxd8 44.Qxc8  
 Bxc8 45.Rh6+ Ke7 46.b5 axb5 47.a6 Kd7  
 48.Rh7+ Be7 49.a7 Bb7 50.Ke2 39...Qb7  
 40.Nxd8 Bxd8 41.Qb3 Be7 42.b5 axb5  
 43.axb5 Rc8? 43...Kf7 Just sitting and  
 waiting is the key, once the Rook is  
 swapped White invades down the h file at  
 some stage. Now White is breaking  
 through. 44.Rxc8 Bxc8 45.hxg4 hxg4  
 46.Ra1 Qd7 47.b6 Bb7 48.Ke2 Qc6  
 49.Kd2 Bd8 50.Rb1 Qe6 51.Qa3 Qe7  
 52.Qxe7+ Kxe7 53.Rh1 Ke6 54.Rh7 Be7  
 55.Kc3 Bc6 56.Rh6+ Kd7 57.Kb3 Bd8  
 58.Kb4 Be7+ 59.Ka5 Bb7 60.Kb5 Bc8  
 61.Rh7 Bb7 62.Rh8 Bd6 63.Rg8 Be7  
 64.Rb8 Bc6+ 65.Ka6 Bd8 66.Ka7 Bb5  
 67.Rxd8+ Kxd8 68.b7 Black Resigns. 1-0

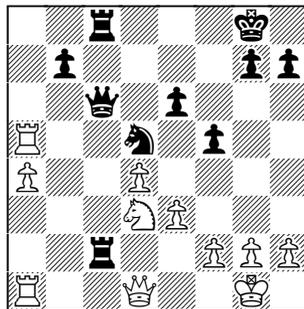
Here are some more games from the Peter  
 Stuart Memorial, with light notes by the  
 editor. Note that the crosstable on page 52  
 shows the important game Steadman-  
 Browne from round 4 was a win by default  
 for Steadman. Unfortunately Jeremy was  
 more than 30 minutes late and so was  
 disqualified. The players played a game  
 anyway and (perhaps just as well) the game  
 played also ended in a win for Mike.

**Capel,Evan T (2135) -  
 Steadman,Michael V R (2233)  
 [A85]**

Peter Stuart Memorial Open Auckland  
 NZL (3), 25.08.2018

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 f5 3.c4 Nf6 4.a3 d5 5.e3 c6  
 6.Nc3 Bd6 7.b4 0-0 8.Be2 Qe7 9.0-0 a5  
 10.b5 Ne4 11.Qb3 Nxc3 12.Qxc3 dxc4

13.Bxc4 cxb5 14.Bxb5 Bd7 15.Bxd7 Nxd7  
 16.a4 Nf6 17.Ba3 Rfc8 18.Bxd6 Qxd6  
 19.Qb3 Nd5 20.Ne5 Qb4 21.Qa2 Rc3  
 22.Rfb1 Rac8 23.Nd3 Qd6 24.Qe2 Qa6  
 25.Rb5 Rc2 26.Qd1 Qc6 27.Rxa5



27...Nxe3!! 28.d5 Qc3? This looks  
 crushing but... 28...Nxd5 Black is a safe  
 pawn up, all his pieces are better, he should  
 win 29.Qe1! White wriggles free with this  
 resource 29...Qxd3 30.Qxe3 Qxe3 31.fxe3  
 exd5 ½-½

**Browne,Jeremy A (2086) -  
 Garbett,Paul A (2213) [E46]**

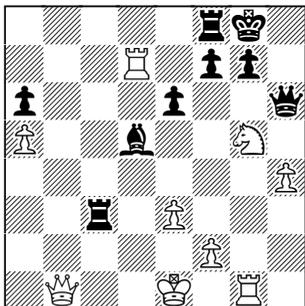
Peter Stuart Memorial Open Auckland  
 NZL (3), 25.08.2018

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0  
 5.Bd3 d5 6.Bd2 c5 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.Nf3 Nc6  
 9.a3 Be7 10.h4 dxc4 11.Bxc4 a6 12.Qc2  
 b5 13.Bd3 Bb7 14.Ne4 Rc8 15.Nxf6+  
 Bxf6 16.Bxh7+ Kh8 17.Bc3 b4 18.Rd1  
 Bxc3+ 19.bxc3 Qf6 20.Rd7 Na5 21.axb4  
 Rxc3 22.Qd1 Kxh7 23.Ng5+ Kg8 24.bxa5  
 Bxg2 25.Rg1 Bd5 26.Qb1 Qh6

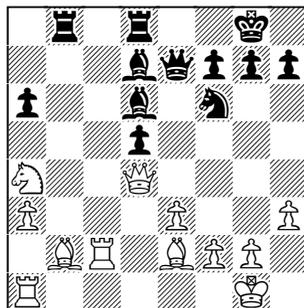
**Krstev, Antonio (1986) -  
Morrell, Gordon (2080) [D40]**

Peter Stuart Memorial Open Auckland  
NZL (3), 25.08.2018

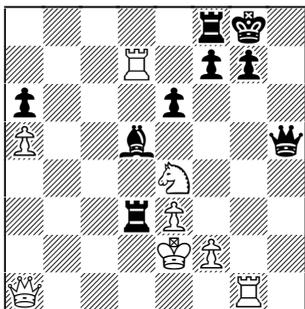
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.e3 c5 5.dxc5  
Bxc5 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Nf3 0-0 8.Be2 Nc6  
9.a3 Re8 10.0-0 a6 11.b4 Bd6 12.Bb2 Bg4  
13.h3 Be6 14.Nd4 Qe7 15.b5 Ne5 16.Nf3  
Red8 17.Nxe5 Bxe5 18.bxa6 bxa6 19.Na4  
Bd6 20.Qd4 Bd7 21.Rfc1 Rab8 22.Rc2



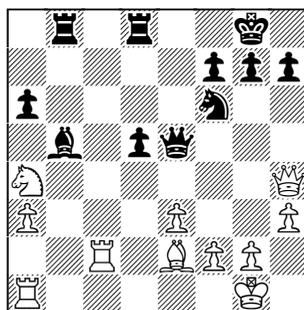
Black is winning. However, despite a very loose structure, White's active pieces give him practical chances. **27.Kd2!?** Activating another piece?! **27...Rb3 28.Qa1 Qxh4?** **28...Rfb8!** committing all of Black's pieces to the (counter?) attack **29.Ne4!** Turning the tables **29...Rd3+!** **30.Ke2!** **30.Kxd3 Bxe4+** **31.Ke2 Qh5+** **32.Ke1 g6** and Black is fine (at least) **30...Qh5+**



**22...Bb5?** **22...Bxa4!** wins a piece **23.Qxa4 Rxb2 24.Rxb2 Qe5 23.Qh4? Be5?** The same combo was on **24.Bxe5?** My apologies to the players for all the question marks, it's easy with a computer. Now Black is winning again, he has two threats **24...Qxe5**



**31.f3!** **31.Kxd3 Bxe4+** **32.Kxe4 Qf5+** **33.Kd4 e5+** and Black wins **31...Qh2+** Now Black gets to chase the king around a little, but that's all **32.Kxd3 Be4+** **33.Kxc4 Qe2+** **34.Kd4 e5+** **35.Kxe5 Re8+** **36.Kd4 Qxf3 37.Kc5 Qf5+** **38.Rd5 Qc8+** **39.Kd4 Qc6 40.Nc5 Qh6 41.e4 Qd2+** **42.Nd3 Rb8 43.Qe1 Qa2 44.Qg3 Qa4+** **45.Ke3 1-0**



**25.Ra1** White takes care of the obvious

## 2018 Peter Stuart Memorial A Grade

1		Capel, Evan	2135	MAS	4.5	+W20	+B23	=W2	+B4	+W8
2	FM	Steadman, Michael	2233	AC	4.5	+B31	+W13	=B1	+BYE	+W11
3	FM	Hague, Ben	2404	HP	4.0	=W14	=B16	+W20	+B5	+W9
4		Hart, Ralph	2176	NS	3.5	+W7	+B18	=BYE	-W1	+B17
5		Morrell, Gordon	2080	AC	3.5	=B28	+W26	+B6	-W3	+B13
6		Krstev, Antonio	1986	NS	3.5	=B26	+W24	-W5	+B19	+W15
7	CM	Lim, Benjamin	1901	HP	3.5	-B4	+B29	=W16	+W10	+B22
8		Browne, Jeremy	2086		3.0	+W19	+B25	+W15	-BYE	-B1
9	CM	Duneas, John	2020	AC	3.0	+W27	=BYE	=B10	+W14	-B3
10	FM	McLaren, Leonard	2218	HP	3.0	+W17	=B22	=W9	-B7	+W24
11	CM	Ang, Alphaeus	2151	AC	3.0	-B13	+B32	+W18	+W22	-B2
12		Mistry, Prashant	1929	NS	3.0	=W32	-B14	+W28	=B16	+W23
13		Wright, Caleb	1878	MM	2.5	+W11	-B2	=W23	+B27	-W5
14	WCM	Punsalan, Vyanla	1914		2.5	=B3	+W12	=BYE	-B9	=W16
15	IM	Garbett, Paul A	2213	NS	2.5	=B24	+W28	-B8	+W26	-B6
16	CM	Nagorski, Alex	1819	AC	2.5	=BYE	=W3	=B7	=W12	=B14
17	WFM	Zhang, Jasmine	1907	HP	2.5	-B10	+W21	=B27	+W25	-W4
18		Aguilar, Juni	1842	NS	2.5	+W29	-W4	-B11	=B21	+W27
19		Hair, Philip	1829	NS	2.5	-B8	+W31	=BYE	-W6	+B25
20	CM	Meng, Richard	1843	NS	2.5	-B1	+W30	-B3	=W29	+B26
21		Liu, Xinyang	1694	AC	2.5	-W22	-B17	+BYE	=W18	+B28
22		Runcan, Daniel-Ioan	1943	AC	2.0	+B21	=W10	=BYE	-B11	-W7
23	WCM	Qin, Nicole Shu Yu	1696	AC	2.0	+B30	-W1	=B13	=W24	-B12
24		Johns, Daniel P	1903	NS	2.0	=W15	-B6	+W32	=B23	-B10
25		Jin, Owen	1608	AC	1.5	+BYE	-W8	=BYE	-B17	-W19
26		Morris, Byron	1697	AUS	1.5	=W6	-B5	+W31	-B15	-W20
27		Ha, Timothy	1707	AC	1.5	-B9	+BYE	=W17	-W13	-B18
28		Post, Martin J	1814		1.5	=W5	-B15	-B12	+W30	-W21
29		Thornton, Giovanni	2131	NS	1.5	-B18	-W7	=BYE	=B20	=B32
30		Isaac, Ceferino	1965	NS	1.5	-W23	-B20	=BYE	-B28	+W31
31		Vickers, Josia	1908	MM	1.0	-W2	-B19	-B26	+W32	-B30
32		Weng, Winston	1621	AC	1.0	=B12	-W11	-B24	-B31	=W29

one 25...g5!! Winning a piece 26.Qh6  
 Bxa4 27.Rc7 Ne8 28.Bd3 Qg7 29.Qxg7+  
 Kxg7 30.R7c5 Bb5 31.Bxb5 Rxb5  
 32.Rxb5 axb5 33.Rc5 Nf6 34.Rxb5 Ra8  
 35.Rb3 h5 36.f3 Ra4 37.Kf2 Rc4 38.Rb2  
 Kf8 39.Ke2 Ra4 40.Rb3 Ke7 41.Kd2 Nd7  
 42.g4 hxg4 43.hxg4 Ne5 44.Ke2 Nc4 45.f4  
 Rxa3 46.Rxa3 Nxa3 47.Kd3 Kd6 48.Kd4  
 Nb5+ 49.Kd3 f6 50.Ke2 Kc5 51.Kd3 Nd6  
 52.Ke2 Kc4 0-1

### Hague, Ben (2404) - Meng, Richard (1843) [B42]

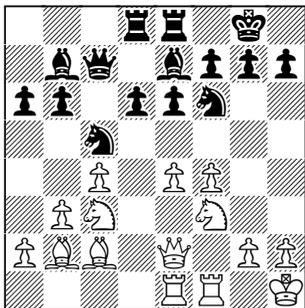
Peter Stuart Memorial Open Auckland  
 NZL (3), 25.08.2018

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.c4  
 Nf6 6.Nc3 Qc7 7.Bd3 Be7 8.Qe2 d6 9.0-0  
 0-0 10.Kh1 b6 11.f4 Nbd7 12.b3 Bb7  
 13.Bb2 Nc5 14.Bc2 Rad8 15.Rae1 Rfe8  
 16.Nf3

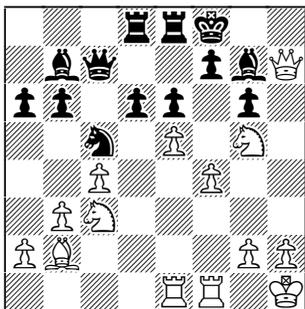
## 41<sup>st</sup> Trusts Open A Grade

*This crosstable was promised in the July issue, apologies for not finding room for it in the paper part of the magazine*

1	IM	Ker, Anthony F	2471	WE	5.0	+B22	-W2	+B14	+W31	+B9	+W6
2	FM	Steadman, Michael V	2272	AC	4.5	+W36	+B1	+W8	=B3	=W5	=W4
3	FM	Smith, Robert W	2318	MC	4.5	+B37	+W16	+B12	=W2	-B4	+W13
4	FM	Hague, Ben	2495	AC	4.5	+W20	=B6	+W17	=B7	+W3	=B2
5	FM	Kulashko, Alexei	2433	AC	4.5	+B31	=W11	+B10	=W9	=B2	+W12
6	FM	Gong, Daniel Hanwen	2291	HP	4.0	+B24	=W4	+B15	=W13	+W8	-B1
7	FM	McLaren, Leonard J	2321	HP	4.0	=W23	+B34	+B11	=W4	=B12	=B10
8	IM	Garbett, Paul A	2335	NS	4.0	+B27	+W19	-B2	+W22	-B6	+W16
9		Capel, Evan T	2317	MAS	4.0	=W21	+B32	+W18	=B5	-W1	+B20
10		Fulo, Nunilon III	2141	MM	4.0	=W25	+B29	-W5	+B28	+B15	=W7
11	CM	Fan, Allen Chi Zhou	2207	AC	4.0	+B30	=B5	-W7	=W21	+B31	+W19
12		Hart, Ralph	2269	NS	3.5	+B33	+W13	-W3	+B26	=W7	-B5
13	IM	Dive, Russell J	2453	WE	3.5	+W26	-B12	+W35	=B6	+W17	-B3
14		Goh, Ethan	1840	SGP	3.5	=W32	+B23	-W1	=B20	+W26	=B17
15	CM	Ang, Alphaeus Wei Er	2356	WT	3.0	+W28	=B18	-W6	+B23	-W10	=W21
16		Wright, Caleb	1937	MM	3.0	+BYE	-B3	=W20	=B18	+W22	-B8
17		Thornton, Giovanni A	2263	NS	3.0	=W29	+B21	-B4	+W27	-B13	=W14
18	CM	Duneas, John	2146	AC	3.0	+B39	=W15	-B9	=W16	=B21	=W23
19	CM	Lim, Benjamin U	2091	HP	3.0	+W35	-B8	-W26	+B38	+W24	-B11
20	CM	Milligan, Helen	2065	NS	3.0	-B4	+W24	=B16	=W14	+B33	-W9
21		Goh, Sean Christian	2001	SGP	3.0	=B9	-W17	+W32	=B11	=W18	=B15
22		Goodhue, Nathan	2056	AC	3.0	-W1	+B25	+W38	-B8	-B16	+W33
23		Prabhu Kiran, P	2026	IND	3.0	=B7	-W14	+B30	-W15	+W28	=B18
24	WFM	Zhang, Jasmine	1991	AC	3.0	-W6	-B20	+W36	+B35	-B19	+W32
25		Shen, Terry	1879	HP	3.0	=B10	-W22	-B27	+W37	=B34	+W31
26		Lee, Edward	2053	WE	2.5	-B13	+W33	+B19	-W12	-B14	=W27
27		Runcan, Daniel-Ioan	2036	AC	2.5	-W8	=B39	+W25	-B17	=W32	=B26
28	CM	Forster, William	2045	WE	2.5	-B15	=W30	+B29	-W10	-B23	+W35
29		Mistry, Prashant	1944	NS	2.5	=B17	-W10	-W28	-B32	+W38	+B36
30		Chung, Francisco	1944	AUS	2.5	-W11	=B28	-W23	-B36	+B37	+W34
31	CM	Marko, Helmut S	2046	MM	2.0	-W5	+B36	+W34	-B1	-W11	-B25
32	CM	Bennett, Hilton P	2117	HA	2.0	=B14	-W9	-B21	+W29	=B27	-B24
33	CM	Nagorski, Alex	1974	AC	2.0	-W12	-B26	+BYE	+B34	-W20	-B22
34	FM	Gibbons, Robert E	2070	PT	1.5	+B38	-W7	-B31	-W33	=W25	-B30
35	WCM	Qin, Nicole Shu Yu	1822	AC	1.5	-B19	+W37	-B13	-W24	=W36	-B28
36	WFM	Chibnall, Alana	1981	AUS	1.5	-B2	-W31	-B24	+W30	=B35	-W29
37		Goormachtigh, Lauren	2007	BEL	1.5	-W3	-B35	=W39	-B25	-W30	+B38
38		Zajkowski, Richard	1809	NS	1.0	-W34	+BYE	-B22	-W19	-B29	-W37
39		Hair, Philip I (W)	1894	NS	1.0	-W18	=W27	=B37			
40	CM	Dordevic, Ivan (W)	2201	AC	0.0	-BYE					



Black's position looks neat and compact, but White has massive firepower massed behind the pawn phalanx. The computer wants to play Nc5-d7-f8 presumably because there's some truth to the old saying that there's never a mate with a knight on f8 16...Bf8 Plausible but fatal as it turns out. 17.e5! Ng4 18.Bxh7+ Kxh7 19.Ng5+ Kg8 20.Qxg4 g6 21.Qh3 Bg7 22.Qh7+ Kf8



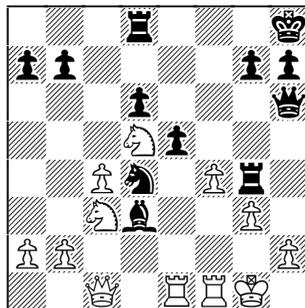
23.Nd5! Shock and awe 23...Qc6 24.exd6 e5 25.fxe5 1-0

### Morrell, Gordon (2080) - Hague, Ben (2404) [B32]

Peter Stuart Memorial Open Auckland NZL (4), 26.08.2018

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nb5 d6 6.c4 Be7 7.N5c3 Nf6 8.Bd3 Nd7

9.Nd5 Nc5 10.0-0 0-0 11.Nbc3 Bg5 12.Kh1 Bxc1 13.Rxc1 f5 14.exf5 Nxd3 15.Qxd3 Bxf5 16.Ne4 Qh4 17.f3 Nd4 18.Rce1 Kh8 19.Qd1 Rad8 20.Kg1 Be6 21.Nec3 Rf5 22.Re4 Qh6 23.Qc1 Rg5 24.f4 Rg4 25.g3 Bf5 26.Ree1 Bd3

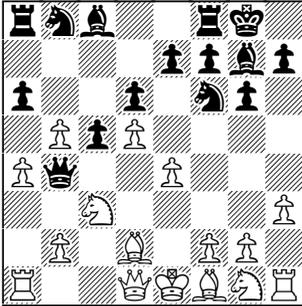


27.Ne3? Losing touch with f4 27.Rf2 holds 27...Rg6 28.Rf2 exf4 0-1

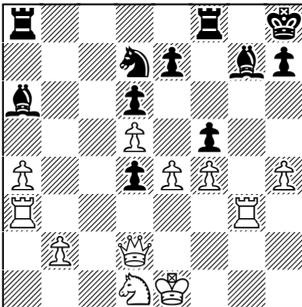
### Stedman, Michael V R (2233) - Ang, Alphaeus Wei Ern (2151) [E71]

Peter Stuart Memorial Open Auckland NZL (5), 26.08.2018

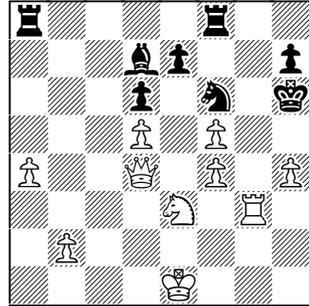
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.h3 0-0 6.Bg5 c5 7.d5 b5 An interesting kind of Benko(ish) approach. The database stats don't look very encouraging though 8.exb5 a6 9.a4 Qa5 10.Bd2 Qb4



This has all been played before, but clearly Black is playing with fire with his Queen in danger of running out of squares **11.Qc2 axb5 12.Bxb5 Ba6 13.f3 Nh5?** The engine suggests 13...c4 making c5 available **14.Nd1 Qd4 15.Bc3 Bxb5 16.Bxd4 cxd4** Sometimes two pieces against a queen can be annoying for the queen, but not here **17.g4 Nf4 18.Ra3 Ba6 19.h4 Nd7 20.Qd2 Be5 21.Nh3 Nxb3 22.Rxb3 f5 23.gxf5 gxf5 24.f4 Bg7 25.Rhg3 Kh8**



**26.Rxg7 Kxg7 27.Qxd4+ Kh6 28.Rg3 Nf6 29.Ne3 Bc8 30.exf5 Bd7**



It's now mate in four **31.Rg5! Rxa4 32.Qxf6+ Rxf6 33.Ng4# 1-0**

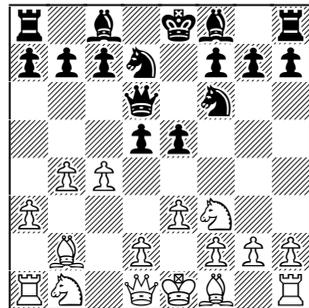
**Capel, Evan T (2135) -**

**Browne, Jeremy A (2086) [A00]**

Peter Stuart Memorial Open Auckland

NZL (5), 26.08.2018

**1.b4 e5 2.a3 d5 3.Bb2 Qd6 4.Nf3 Nd7 5.e3 Ngf6 6.c4**

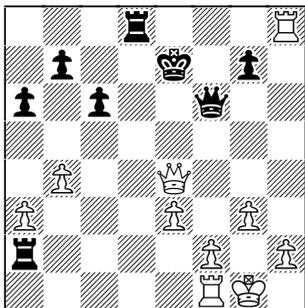


**6...dxc4? Creating problems on f7 7.Bxc4 Be7 8.Qb3 e4 9.Ng5 Ne5 10.Nxf7 Nxf7 11.Bxf7+ White banks the material, and continues to consolidate and enjoy a good position. It's apparently a routine win, but the final position has an intriguing twist 11...Kf8 12.Bc4 Bf5 13.Nc3 c6 14.Qc2 Rd8 15.Ne2 Nd5 16.Ng3 Qg6 17.Nxf5 Qxf5 18.d3 exd3 19.Bxd3 Qg5 20.0-0 h5**

21.Bd4 a6 22.Bc5 h4 23.Bxe7+ Nxe7  
 24.Be4 Rh6 25.Rfd1 Nd5 26.Rd4 h3  
 27.g3 Rhd6 28.Bxd5 Rxd5 29.Rh4 Qg6  
 30.Qe2 Qe6 31.Qf1 Rd2 32.Qxh3 Qe5  
 33.Rf1 Ra2 34.Rh8+ Ke7 35.Qh4+ Qf6  
 36.Qe4+

**Olympiad Report - Open**  
*continued from page 12*

**Conclusion**



Black resigned in this position, please refer to the discussion on page 35. 1–0

Finally a rather unique feature of the Peter Stuart Memorial tournament should be duly noted here. A “Flukey 1.c4 Upset Prize” was awarded to Winston Weng for his draw against Gino Thornton. This prize was donated by Stephen Lukey in appreciation of years of friendship and encouragement from Peter. The prize was awarded to the A-Grade player who achieved the largest ratings upset (draws count with a halved rating difference) in a White game starting with 1.c4 (Peter's favourite move by a very wide margin).

The team finished close to its original starting position. We scored 11 points out of 22 possible (fifty percent). We improved on the result from the last Olympiad.

As at the last Olympiad I had the feeling that we did not use all our potential and that we could do better. I had a good feeling that we could win the last-but-one match against Indonesia and fight for a result better than 50 %.

We started strongly and finished strongly. But the middlegame was not good.

I hope that we can start winning the close matches, those against teams like Costa Rica, Panama and Ireland. Why not win matches against Algeria and Slovenia in the future too?

In this regard I think we are making steady steps forward. The players started trusting themselves. They are no longer the timid team I had seen in Baku. They feel they can win those matches.

One major difference in this regard is that we were rarely in time trouble. We fought on equal teams. We often even pressurized the opponents on the clock. True, we are still not quite good in converting this advantage but we are steadily moving in the right direction.

The team atmosphere was excellent and I am very grateful to all the players for the way that they were supporting each other. I would say that it was even better than the previous Olympiad, as much as this was possible. Anthony came with the excellent idea of reviewing the games after the matches on his chessboard. This definitely added to the spirit of the team and boosted the input from every player.

All players won at least one game, which is very good.

Russell had a tough time on board one. The plan was to hold the fort as much as he could against the strong players. Alas, this plan did not work at all, which is obvious when we look at his result - 4 wins and 4 losses, no draws at all. The mistakes that he was making were obviously of a psychological nature, rather than anything else. We can blame the stomach upsets that he was suffering from for some of the poor results. But to me it is clear that he has difficulties in maintaining the pressure against the top guns. He feels way more comfortable against weaker players where he is the real Russell and can win confidently.

Overall his result is very good. But in hindsight the plan to place him on board one was a mistake.

Ben was once again a key member of the team. One of those players you wish you have in a team. Rock solid, calm, ready to play for the team in any situation. He played almost all the games. Scored most points for the team - 6/10. He had the terribly bad luck to play all his first five

games as Black, but never complained. Got very, very close to the IM title and only a tiny little bit prevented him from achieving it.

However, he took it as a man and fought the next day again, for a win. Always very well prepared, always with a plan, it is pure pleasure to work with him. I have no doubt that he will reach the desired title very soon. And if he starts thinking big he definitely has a chance of obtaining the GM title.

Alexei had a tough Olympiad this time. He was the only player to finish on a minus score. The result however does not represent the true value of his play. He was the usual fighter. Just like at the previous Olympiad he prepared himself at his friend's place on the way to Batumi. The cold that he got in the middle of the event was probably the main reason why he under-performed. In some games he missed big opportunities at the final moment.

He is the only player who I do not worry about whenever he gets into the endgame.

His main weakness remains the opening, which he is trying to compensate for with a good middlegame and excellent endgame technique.

Anthony was a great addition to the team. Very serious about the game, hard-working, especially at the board. He scored 5.5/9, an even better percentage than Ben. A player in the true sense of the word. Anytime he would enter my room for preparation he would bring his pen and notebook.

His main problem is the lack of deep opening knowledge, but this was not that obvious here. He was extremely helpful for the team and the first thing he would ask whenever he had a rest day was: "Can I help anyone with anything?"

He was generous enough to share his knowledge with the rookie in the team and would often be seen giving a great piece of advice to Daniel.

Daniel was an excellent addition to the team. The first three rounds were a shock for him. He ended in serious time-trouble in two games which cost him the point in the first one and almost another point in the second game. Once he realized that there was nothing to be afraid of he showed his strength.

The best thing about Daniel was his preparation. Whenever we had our morning meetings he would always come with a plan. He would show me the line that he would like to play, explain why and if needed we would change something. If there was no need to change anything I would just add to his material.

Daniel was also open for suggestions and flexible about what to do. He was willing to learn. Speaking of which, there are areas where he needs to improve a lot - middlegame technique, positional understanding, and of course the endgame. But as long as he keeps working and is serious about his chess I do not see anything to stop him from becoming one of New Zealand's best players.

As I expected the introduction of a young

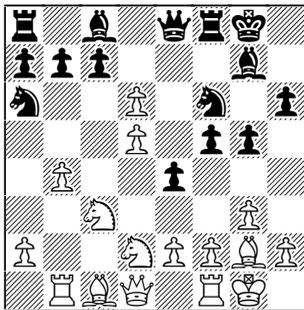
player strengthened the team. The mixture of young and experienced players is a good thing. The youngsters are able to extract the best from the more experienced players, in a way challenge them but also charge them with their optimism. Whereas the experienced players can show them the way and make their journey to mastery much shorter, and way more effective.

I am thankful to all the players for the efforts that they put into the games and in the pre-match preparation. I am thankful to every person who made this Olympiad possible and who contributed to the wonderful atmosphere. It has been a great pleasure working with the team.

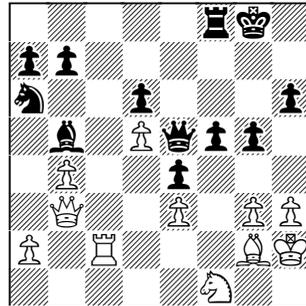
It is time to start the preparation for the next one!

**Olympiad Women - Games**  
from page 14

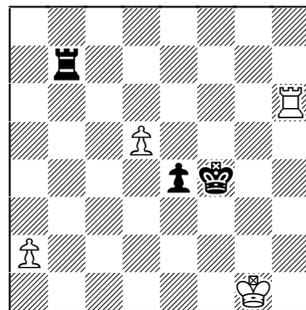
**Sachdev, Tania (2400) - Punsalan, Vyanla M (1932) [A87]**  
43rd Olympiad Batumi 2018 Women  
Batumi (1.2), 24.09.2018  
1.d4 f5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.c4 Bg7 5.Nf3  
d6 6.Nc3 0-0 7.Rb1 Qe8 8.0-0 e5 9.d5 h6  
10.b4 Na6 11.Nd2 g5 12.c5 e4 13.cxd6



13...Ng4!? 14.h3 Nxf2! 15.Rxf2 Bxc3  
16.Nf1?! 16.dxc7 Nxc7 leads to a  
complicated game but with chances for  
both sides 16...cxd6 17.Bb2 Bxb2 18.Rxb2  
Qe5 19.Qb3 Bd7 20.Rc2 Rac8 21.e3 Rxc2  
22.Rxc2 Bb5 23.Kh2



23...Bxf1 The bishop is much better than  
the Knight. Better was 23...Bd3 or; 23...h5  
24.Bxf1 f4 25.exf4 gxf4 26.Bxa6 bxa6  
27.gxf4 Qxf4+ 28.Qg3+ Qxg3+ 29.Kxg3  
Kg7 30.Rc7+ Kf6 31.Kf4 Re8 32.Ke3  
Ke5 33.Rxa7 Rg8 34.Rxa6 Rg3+ 35.Kf2  
Rxh3 36.b5 Rc3 37.b6 Kf4 38.b7 Rc2+  
39.Kg1 Rb2 40.Rxd6 Rxb7 41.Rxh6



41...Ke3 41...Ke5 42.d6 Rd7 is of course  
the easiest way to draw 42.d6 Kd2 43.Rh5  
Rd7 44.Rd5+ Ke2 45.Kg2 e3 46.Kg3 Ke1  
47.Kf3 e2 48.Ke3 Kf1 49.Rf5+ Ke1  
50.Rh5 Kd1? 50...Kf1 51.Rf5+ Ke1  
52.Rf2 Rxd6 53.Rxe2+ Kd1 54.Rh2 Ra6  
55.Kd3 Ra3+ 56.Kc4 Ra8 57.Rb2 Kc1  
58.Rh2 Rc8+ with an easy draw (But not  
58...Kb1 59.a4 Rxa4+ 60.Kb3+-) 51.Rd5+  
Ke1 52.Rd2 Kf1 53.Rxe2 Rxd6 54.Rh2

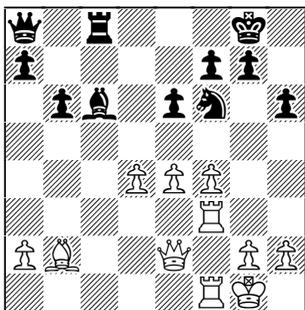
Ra6 55.Kd3 Ke1 56.Kc4 Kd1 57.Kb5  
Ra3 58.Kb4 Ra8 59.a4 Rb8+ 60.Kc5 Ra8  
61.Ra2 Kc1 62.a5 Kb1 63.Ra4 Kb2 64.a6  
Kb3 65.Ra1 Rh8 66.a7 Rh5+ 67.Kd6 1-0

from page 15

**Qin, Nicole Shu Yu (1790) -  
Marcos, Taqesyah (1583) [E34]**

43rd Olympiad Batumi 2018 Women  
Batumi (4.3), 27.09.2018

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 d5 5.e3  
0-0 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.Nf3 b6 8.0-0 Bxc3  
9.bxc3 dxc4 10.Bxc4 Bb7 11.Bd3 h6 12.e4  
Na5 13.Ba3 Re8 14.Ne5 Rc8 15.Rad1 c6  
16.Qe2 Qc7 17.f4 c5 18.Rf3 cxd4 19.cxd4  
Nc6 20.Nxc6 Bxc6 21.Rdf1 Qd7 22.Bb2  
Qb7? 23.Ba6 Qa8 24.Bxc8 Rxc8



25.d5 exd5 26.Bxf6 gxf6 27.Rg3+ Kh7  
28.Qh5 Qb7 29.Qf5+ 1-0

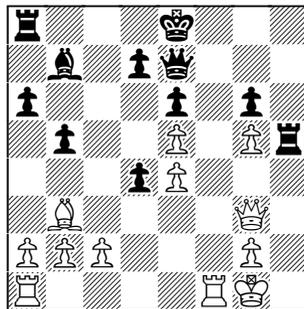
from page 16

**Hernandez Bonilla, Amelia (2044)  
- Punsalan, Vyanla M (1932) [B23]**

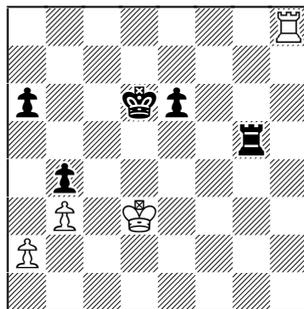
43rd Olympiad Batumi 2018 Women  
Batumi (6.2), 30.09.2018

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7  
5.Bb5 Nd4 6.0-0 e6 7.d3 f5 8.Kh1 Nf6

9.e5 Ng4 10.h3 h5 11.Kg1 a6 12.Bc4 b5  
13.Bb3 Bb7 14.Ng5 Bh6 15.hxg4 hxg4  
16.Be3 Bxg5 17.fxg5 g3 18.Ne4 fxe4  
19.Qg4 Qe7 19...Nf5 was clearly better  
20.Bxd4 cxd4 21.dxe4 Rh5 22.Qxg3



22...Rxg5 This pawn is not so important.  
Better is 22...0-0-0 23.Qd3 Rxe5 24.Qxd4  
Qc5 25.Qxc5 Rxc5 26.Rae1 Re5 27.Rf4  
g5 28.Rg4 Ke7 29.c3 Rf8 30.Bc2 d5  
31.Re2 Rf4 32.Rxf4 gxf4 33.Rf2 dxe4  
34.Rxf4 e3 35.Kf1 Bd5 36.b3 e2+ 37.Ke1  
Bxg2 38.Rf2 Bf1 39.Bd3 Re3 40.Bxe2  
Bxe2 41.Rxe2 Rxc3 42.Kd2 Rc5 43.Rh2  
Kd6 44.Rh8 b4 45.Kd3 Rg5



46.Rh2 46.Rb8 Rb5 47.Rd8+ Ke5 48.Rh8  
Rd5+ 49.Ke3 keeping the rook active is  
better 46...Kd5 47.Ke3 Rg1 48.Rd2+ Ke5  
49.Rh2 Rg3+ 50.Kd2 Kd5 51.Kc2 e5

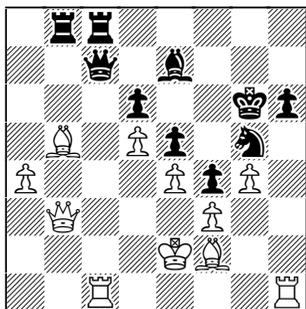
52.Rd2+ Ke4 53.Re2+ Kd4 54.Rd2+ Ke3  
 55.Rd3+ Kf4 56.Rd6 a5 57.Rf6+ Ke4  
 58.Ra6 Rg2+ 59.Kb1 Kd3 60.Rxa5 e4  
 61.Rd5+ Ke2 62.Rd4 e3 63.Rxb4 Ke1  
 63...Kd3 64.Rb8 e2 and the king is already  
 nearby by the pawns 64.a4 e2 65.Re4 Kf1  
 66.b4 e1Q+ 67.Rxe1+ Kxe1 68.b5 Kd2  
 69.b6 Rg4 70.a5 Ra4 71.b7 Rb4+ 72.Ka2  
 Rxb7 73.Ka3 Kc3 74.Ka4 Kc4 0-1

from page 16

**Zhang, Jasmine Haomo (1899) -  
 Rovira Contreras, Tairu Manuela  
 (2033) [E71]**

43rd Olympiad Batumi 2018 Women  
 Batumi (6.3), 30.09.2018

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.h3  
 0-0 6.Bg5 h6 7.Be3 e5 8.d5 Ne8 9.Qd2  
 Kh7 10.g4 a6 11.f3 c5 12.h4 Bd7 13.a3 b5  
 14.cxb5 axb5 15.Nxb5 Na6 16.Rb1 f5  
 17.h5! f4 18.hxg6+ Kxg6 19.Bf2 Bf6  
 20.Kd1 Rh8 21.Bc4 Nac7 22.Nxc7 Qxc7  
 23.Ne2 Bg5 24.Nc3 Nf6 25.Bh4 Qc8  
 26.Kc2 Qb7 27.Qe2 Rab8 28.Kd3 Qa7  
 29.Qc2 Qa5 30.Rbg1 Nh7 31.Be1 Qb6  
 32.b3 Be7 33.Rg2 Ng5 34.Ke2 Bc8 35.a4  
 Ba6 36.Nb5 Bxb5 37.Bxb5 c4 38.Bf2  
 cxb3 39.Qxb3 Qc7 40.Rgg1 Rhc8 41.Rc1



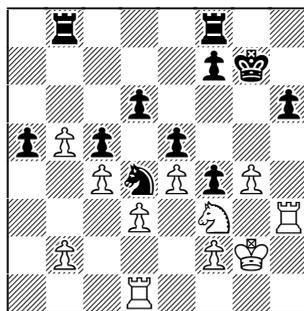
41...Qd8 41...Qxc1 42.Rxc1 Rxc1 43.a5  
 Ra1 44.Bb6 is probably winning for White  
 but offers more resistance 42.Qa3 Nf7  
 43.Qb4 Ra8 44.Bc6 Rcb8 45.Qc3 Ra6  
 46.Rb1 Qc8 47.Qd3 Rxb1 48.Rxb1 Nd8  
 49.Bb5 Ra8 50.Qd2 Rb8 51.Rc1 Qb7  
 52.Qa5 Ra8 53.Qc7 Rb8 54.Ba7 Nc6  
 55.Qxb7 Rxb7 56.dxc6 1-0

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**Qin, Joy Shu Yan (1727) - Al-  
 Fayyadh, Zainab Asif Abdulah  
 (1705) [C77]**

43rd Olympiad Batumi 2018 Women  
 Batumi (7.4), 01.10.2018

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6  
 5.d3 b5 6.Bb3 d6 7.c3 Na5 8.Bc2 c5 9.0-0  
 g6 10.Re1 Bg7 11.Nbd2 0-0 12.Nf1 Nc6  
 13.Be3 Rb8 14.Qd2 b4 15.Rab1 Be6  
 16.c4 a5 17.Ba4 Na7 18.Bh6 Nh5 19.h3  
 Qc8 20.Bxg7 Kxg7 21.Kh2 h6 22.Ne3 Nf4  
 23.Ng1 Bd7 24.Bxd7 Qxd7 25.g3 Ne6  
 26.a3 Nc6 27.Nd5 Ncd4 28.axb4 Ng5  
 29.Re3 Qxh3+ 30.Nxh3 Ngf3+ 31.Kg2  
 Nxd2 32.Rd1 N2b3 33.b5 g5 34.g4 Ne6  
 35.Ng1 Nf4+ 36.Nxf4 gxf4 37.Rh3 Nd4  
 38.Nf3



38...Nxb5? White has a big advantage but

this is despair 39.cxb5 Rxb5 40.Ra1 Ra8  
41.Nh4 Rxb2 42.Nf5+ Kg6 43.Rxb6+  
Kg5 44.Rah1 Kxg4 45.R1h4+ Kg5 46.Kf3  
1-0

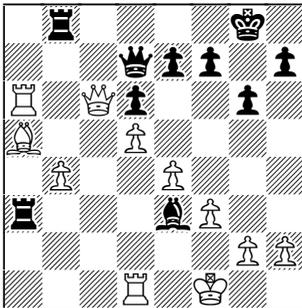
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**Milligan,Helen (1942) - Granados  
Diaz,Maria Esther (1817) [B28]**

43rd Olympiad Batumi 2018 Women  
Batumi (10.1), 04.10.2018

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 a6 3.c4 g6 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.d4  
cxd4 6.Nxd4 Bg7 7.Be3 d6 8.Be2 Nf6 9.0-  
0 0-0 10.Qd2 Bd7 11.f3 Nxd4 12.Bxd4  
Bc6 13.Rfd1 Re8 14.Rac1 Qa5 15.Be3  
Nd7 16.a3 Qd8 17.b4 b6 18.Qe1 a5  
19.Qf2 axb4 20.axb4 Ra3 21.Nd5 Bxd5  
22.cxd5 Qb8 23.Bb5 Rd8 24.Bxd7 Rxd7  
25.Bxb6 25...Rc6 25...Bh6 26.Rc6 Rb7  
27.Kf1 Qa8 28.Ba5 Be3 29.Qc2 29.Qb2!?  
Rxa5 30.Qc3 Rc5 31.bxc5 Bxc5 32.g3 also  
with a big advantage 29...Rb8 30.Qc4 Qa7  
31.Ra6 Qd7 32.Qc6

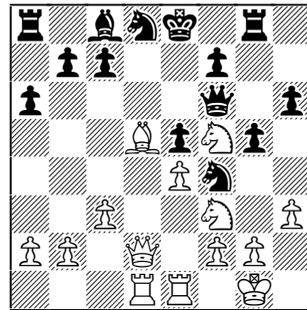


32...Rb7? 33.Ra8+ Kg7 34.Rd8 1-0

**Milligan,Helen (1942) -  
Agrest,Inna (2283) [C50]**

43rd Olympiad Batumi 2018 Women  
Batumi (11.1), 05.10.2018

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5  
5.c3 a6 6.Bb3 Ba7 7.Nbd2 d6 8.Nf1 h6  
9.Ng3 Qe7 10.Qe2 g6 11.h3 Nd7 12.0-0  
Nc5 13.Bd5 Ne6 14.Re1 Ncd8 15.Be3 Nf4  
16.Qd2 g5?! playing for a win with Black  
can be very complicated... 17.d4 Rg8  
18.dxe5 dxe5 19.Bxa7 Rxa7 20.Nf5 Qf6  
21.Rad1 Ra8



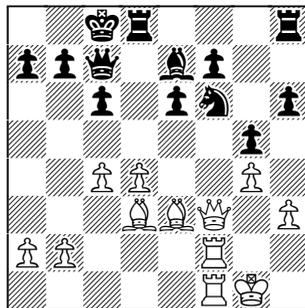
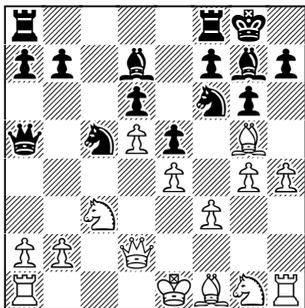
22.Bb3 White is much better and could go  
on with by example 22.Qe3 22...Nc6  
23.Bd5 Nd8 24.Bb3 Nc6 25.Bd5 1/2-1/2

from page 18

**Zhang,Jasmine Haomo (1899) -  
Blazekovic,Nina (1819) [E71]**

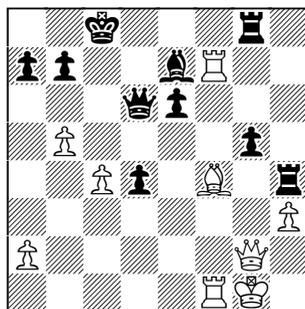
43rd Olympiad Batumi 2018 Women  
Batumi (11.3), 05.10.2018

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.h3  
0-0 6.Bg5 Na6 7.Qd2 e5 8.d5 c6 9.g4  
cxd5 10.cxd5 Nc5 11.f3 Bd7 12.h4 Qa5



13.h5?! probably too daring 13...Nb3  
 14.Qh2 Rfc8 Playing very aggressively has some points. Your opponent may see too much. Black had to go for 14...Nxa1 ; or 14...h6 15.hxg6 hxg6 16.Rd1 Nd4 17.Qh4 Ne8 18.Bh6 f6? probably the decisive mistake 19.Bxg7 Nxg7 20.Qh7+ Kf7 21.Rh6 Rh8 22.Qxg6+ Kg8 23.Rxh8+ Kxh8 24.Rd2 Kg8 25.Rh2 Rf8 26.Rh7 Rf7 27.g5 fxg5 28.Qh6 Re7 29.Rh8+ Kf7 30.Qxg5 Qc5 31.Rh6 Nc2+ 32.Kd2 Qf2+ 33.Be2 Ba4 34.Nxa4 Qe1+ 35.Kxc2 Rc7+ 36.Nc3 b5 37.Qf6+ 1-0

16...Rdg8 Either 16...c5 or ...h5 give Black an edge. The move played is about equal.  
 17.Qg2 Qd8 18.b4 h5 19.b5 c5 20.Be4 Nxe4 21.Qxe4 hxg4 Black is on +1, but White keeps attacking. 22.Rxf7 Qd6 23.Qxg4 Rh4 24.Qg2 cxd4 25.Bf4



**Blackmar Diemer Games**  
*from page 29*

**Lynn, William (2015) -**  
**Power, Wayne (1988) [D00]**  
 New Zealand Championship North Shore (3), 29.12.1976  
 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxex4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3  
 5.Nxf3 Bg4 6.h3 Bxf3 7.Qxf3 c6 8.Be3 e6  
 The Classical Variation of the Teichmann Defence. 9.Bd3 Be7 10.0-0 Nbd7 11.g4 h6  
 12.Ne4 g5 13.Rf2 Qc7 14.Raf1 0-0-0  
 15.Nxf6 Nxf6 16.c4

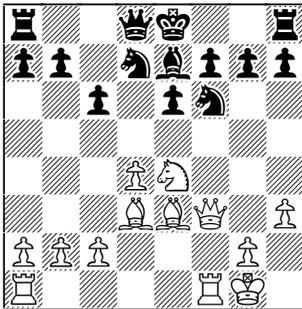
25...e5 25...Qa3 better 26.Bg3 Rhh8  
 26...Rh6 retains the initiative. 27.R1f5 d3  
 28.Qd2 g4 29.h4 Bxh4? 29...Rf8 leads to two rooks vs queen endgame, which Black should not lose. 30.Bxe5 Qc5+ 31.Kf1 31.Kg2 leads to a forced win more quickly.  
 31...Be7 32.Bxh8 Qd6 33.Be5 Qa3  
 34.Rxe7 Qxe7 35.Qxd3 1-0

from page 29

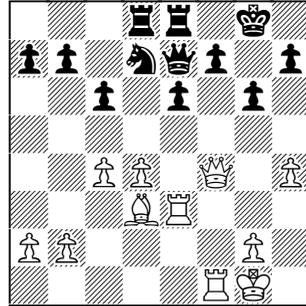
**Lynn, William (1882) -  
Duneas, John (2226) [D00]**

Waikato Open-A Hamilton (2.7),  
04.08.2012

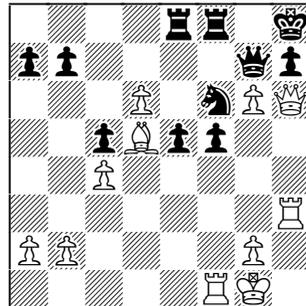
**1.e4 Nf6** The Alekhine Defence. **2.Nc3 d5**  
**3.d4** The BDG can be transposed from  
White opening with e4 and Black  
responding with the Scandinavian Defence  
d5. If you don't like playing against the  
Scandinavian Defence you can now play d4  
and you will have a BDG, probably  
annoying your opponent, who may not  
have replied 1...d5 to 1.d4. **3...dxe4 4.f3**  
**exf3 5.Nxf3 Bg4 6.h3 Bxf3 7.Qxf3 c6**  
**8.Be3 e6 9.Bd3 Nbd7 10.0-0 Be7 11.Ne4**



**11...0-0 12.c4 Nxe4 13.Qxe4 g6 14.Bh6**  
**Re8 15.Rae1 Bg5 16.Bxg5 Qxg5 17.h4**  
**Qe7 18.Qf4 Rad8 19.Re3**



It's a good thing players don't have  
computer evaluations of their positions.  
Up to this point, Black has a +1 advantage.  
But he starts to lose it now with. **19...c5 20.d5**  
**e5 21.Qg3 Nf8?** 21...Kg7 keeps Black in  
the lead, but now White takes over the  
initiative. **22.h5 Qd6 23.Be4 Nd7 24.Ref3**  
**Rf8 25.Qg5 Rde8 26.Rh3 Qe7 27.Qh6 f5**  
**28.d6 Qg7 29.Bd5+ Kh8 30.hxg6 Nf6?**



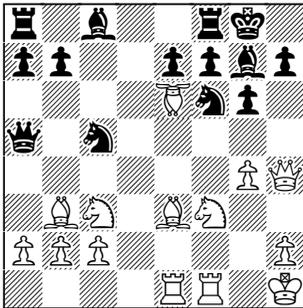
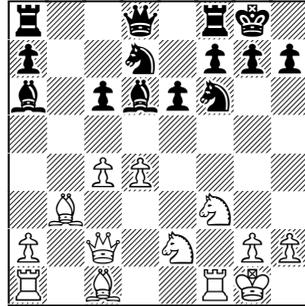
After this blunder, White could win swiftly  
with Qg5! However he doesn't see it.  
**31.Rxf5 Qxh6 32.Rxh6 Kg7 33.gxh7**  
**Kxh6 34.h8Q+ Rxh8 35.Rxf6+ Kg5**  
**36.Rf7 b6 37.Rxa7 Rh6 38.Re7 Rhh8**  
**39.Bc6 Rd8 40.Rxe5+ Kf4 41.Re4+ Kg5**  
**42.d7 Kf5 43.a3 Rxd7 44.g4+ Kg5**  
**45.Bxd7 Rd8 46.Re5+ Kf4 47.Rd5 1-0**

from page 30

**Lynn, William – Marsick, Bruce**

NZ Correspondence Championship 1972

1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3  
5.Nxf3 g6 Bogoljubov Defence 6.Bc4 Bg7  
7. 0-0 0-0 8.Qe1 Studier Attack 8...c5  
9.dxc5 Qc7 10.Be3 Nbd7 11.Qh4 Nxc5  
12.Rae1 Ne6 13.Bb3 Qa5 14.g4 Blow the  
trumpets, here he comes! 14...Nc5



15.Ng5 h5 16.Bxf7+ Rxf7 17.Nxf7 Nxf6  
18.Qxe7 Nxe3 19.Qe8+ Kh7 20.Ng5+  
Kh6 21.Qxe3 b6 22.Rf7 Nb7 23.Ne6+ g5  
24.Nxg7 Qc5 25.Qxc5 Nxc5 26.Ne8 Bg4  
27.Rf6+ Kh7 28.Re7+ Kg8 29.Rg7+ Kh8  
30.Rh6# 1-0 This won a Best Game prize.

from page 32

**Short, Nigel D (2683) -  
Bareev, Evgeny (2709) [B15]**

Sarajevo Bosnia 30th Sarajevo (3),  
19.05.2000

1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 dxe4 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.f3  
The O'Kelly variation of the BDG by  
transposition. 5...b5!? 6.Bb3 e6 7.fxe4 b4  
8.Nce2 Nxe4 9.Nf3 Ba6 10.0-0 Bd6 11.c4  
bxc3 12.bxc3 Nd7 13.Qc2 Nef6 14.c4 0-0

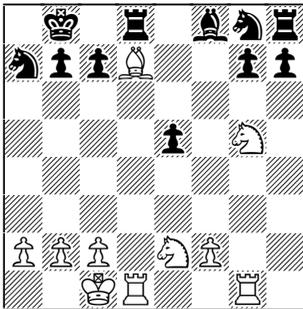
Black is a safe pawn up. White finds it hard  
to get adequate compensation. 15.c5 Bc7  
16.Bg5 h6 17.Bh4 Qc8 18.Rfe1 Bxe2  
19.Rxe2 Nd5 20.Rf1 Qa6 Stockfish gives  
this as = 21.Re4 Rae8 22.Rfe1 N7f6  
23.Bxf6 Nxf6 24.Rh4 Qa5 25.Re2 Re7  
26.g3 Rb8 27.Kg2 Rbe8 28.Qd3 Nd5  
29.Ne5 Qc3 30.Qxc3 Nxc3 31.Rd2 Bxe5  
32.dxe5 Nd5 33.Ra4 Rb8 34.Ra5 Kf8  
35.Kf3 Reb7 36.h4 Ke7 37.Rd4 f6  
38.exf6+ gxf6 39.Rda4 Nc3 40.Ra3 Nb5  
41.R3a4 Rd7 42.Bc4 Nc3 43.Ra3 Nb1  
44.R3a4 Nd2+ White is struggling badly  
from here on. 45.Ke3 Rg8 46.Be2 Rxf3+  
47.Kf2 Rc3 48.Rxa7 Ne4+ 49.Kg2 Nxc5  
50.Rxd7+ Kxd7 51.Ra7+ Kd6 52.a4 Rc2  
53.Kf1 Ke5 54.a5 Kf4 55.Rg7 Ne4 56.Bd3  
Ra2 57.a6 Nd2+ 58.Kf2 Nf3+ 59.Be2 Nd4  
60.Rg4+ Ke5 0-1

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### William Lynn - Rong Wang [D00]

NZ Rapid Championship 2001, 2001

1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 e5 4.Be3  
Avoiding the exchange of queens 4...exd4  
5.Bxd4 Nc6 6.Bb5 Qg5 7.Nge2 Qxg2  
8.Rg1 Qxh2 9.Qd2 Bd7 10.0-0-0 0-0-0  
11.Nxe4 f6? This weak move shifted the  
initiative to White. Better was Nge7.  
12.Bxa7 Nxa7 13.Bxd7+ Kb8 14.Qa5 Qe5  
15.Qxe5 fxe5 16.Ng5



16...Nf6? This blunder loses the exchange.  
Bd6 holds the position. 17.Nf7 Rxd7  
18.Rxd7 Nxd7 19.Nxh8 and White went  
on to win in 42 moves. Bravo William! 1-0

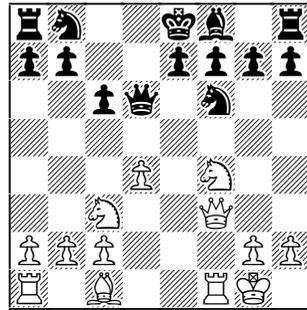
from page 34

### Lynn, William (1879) - Hunt, Simon [D00]

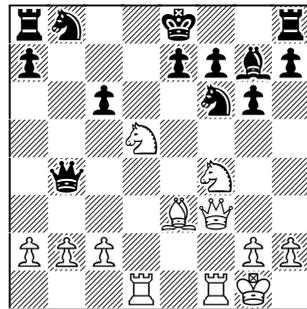
Hamilton CC Chp Hamilton, 1992

The natural-looking 3...Bf5 is well met by  
4.f3, and if 4...exf3 then 5.Qxf3 attacking  
the bishop. See how William deals with  
this: 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Bf5 There is  
no name for this variation as this is  
considered an inferior move. 4.f3 exf3  
Black may be better off transposing to the

Vienna Defence with 4...Nf6 5.Qxf3 Qc8  
6.Bc4 Be6 7.Bxe6 Qxe6+ 8.Nge2 c6 9.0-0-0  
Nf6 10.Nf4 Qd6



11.d5 This opens lines for White's pieces.  
11...g6 12.Be3 Bg7 13.dxc6 bxc6 14.Rad1  
Qb4 15.Ncd5



15...exd5? 15...Qb7 is about equal.  
16.Nxd5 Qa5 17.Bb6! The winning move.  
17...Qxa2 18.Nc7+ Kf8 19.Rd8+ Ne8  
20.Rxe8# 1-0

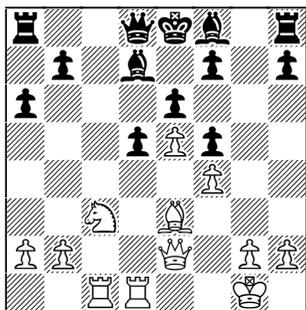
from page 34

Lynn, William - Waayman, Roel

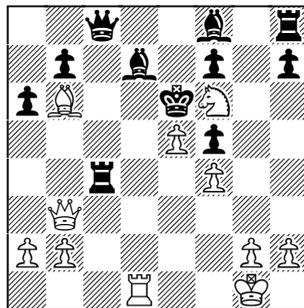
[C02]

North Island Championship Rotorua (4),  
20.05.1970

1.d4 d5 2.e4 e6 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3  
Qb6 6.Bd3 cxd4 7.cxd4 Bd7 8.0-0 Nxd4  
9.Nxd4 Qxd4 10.Nc3 a6 11.Qe2 Ne7  
12.Rd1 Qb6 13.Be3 Qd8 13...Qc7 is better  
14.f4 g6 14...Rc8 is better 15.Rac1 Nf5?  
Stockfish still gives Black 0.4 lead after  
Bg7. 16.Bxf5 gxf5



17.Rxd5 William notes, "The rook sacrifice (Stockfish +0.5) was only decided after looking at Nxd5 (+2.2) first, but I could not find a suitable followup. Rxd5 was based on superior development and an intuitive assessment of the attacking possibilities, and I wanted to prevent Black from castling, so that mating ideas could develop." 17...exd5 18.Nxd5 Rc8? Stockfish gives Be7 or Bg7 as = 19.Nf6+ Ke7 20.Rd1 Rc7 21.Qd2 Qc8 22.Bb6 Rc6 23.Qb4+ Ke6 24.Qb3+ Rc4



25.Nxd7 Ke7 26.Qa3+ White mates in 6 or fewer moves whatever Black plays. William was given the nick-name "Wild Bill" for a few years after this game. 1-0