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Ben Hague wins the Trusts Open in Style

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On the Cover: Ben Hague swept all before him at this year's Trusts Open

Photo Credit: Viv Smith

A Cornucopia

This issue features a wealth of quality content. The Trusts Open is New Zealand's largest weekend tournament and Bob Smith's report includes game annotations by impressive tournament winner Ben Hague. There's more top quality analysis from Scott Wastney and Roger Chapman takes us deep into another superb correspondence game from the past..

But wait there's more! I am very proud of our top notch columnists and Herman van Riemsdijk and Linden Lyons are both on top form. Look out for the second part of Herman's comprehensive survey of an important basic endgame next time.

Regular contributors Ross Jackson and Russell Hosking bring a lighter touch to round out this quarter's issue.

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The 39th Trusts Open (or Hurricane Hague)

By FM Bob Smith

Question: What do Kiwi FM Ben Hague and World Champion Magnus Carlsen have in common?

There may be many things – especially a love of chess – but at this year’s Trusts Open in Auckland it was stratospheric performance ratings.

Hague (or “Hurricane”, as he’s now known) stormed through a strong field with six straight wins, recording an astonishing, Carlsen-like performance of 2955.

That was over 600 higher than the next best rating performance, by co-New Zealand Champion Alexei Kulashko, who tied for third.

The carnage unfolded like this:

Round One - Black against Hilton Bennett’s quiet fianchetto. Ben traps Hilton’s adventurous queen to win in 31 moves (how to score brownie points with your Olympiad Team Manager).

Round Two – White in an open Sicilian. Daniel Gong misses a tactic on move 18 and could have resigned with a clear conscience soon after (but struggled on to move 48).

Round Three – Matthew McNabb tries the super-solid 1 Nf3, 2 e3, 3 d4 and at one stage looks suspiciously like he could be drawing. But Ben waves his wand in a rook

and pawn endgame and – hey presto – it’s a win in 57 moves.

Round Four – Surely Kulashko will slow the Hurricane down? No chance. A flurry of tactics on the white side of a Centre-Counter and suddenly all Ben’s pieces are in the right places, forcing major material losses. A win in 55.

Round Five – Black against Leonard McLaren’s c3 Sicilian. Hague sacs a pawn for pressure, later regains it and wins the ending. 0-1 in 42.

Round Six – New Zealand number two Russell Dive is the last line of defence. As Black Russell provokes the same piece sacrifice that Kasparov tempted Deep Blue to play in their famous match – and suffers the same fate as the former World Champion. Ben unleashes a string of tactics to take the game into a winning ending. 1-0 in 51.

Hague’s achievement in this tournament was simply astounding. The field featured two IMs and four FMs, ten players rated above NZCF 2200 and six former or current New Zealand Champions. Ben became only the second player to win all six games at the Trusts Open (after GM Gawain Jones in 2009), and added \$150 to his prize-money, taking his total winnings for the weekend to \$850.

In the scramble for the minor placings, FM

Mark Noble edged ahead of the rest to finish clear second on 4.5/6, one and a half points behind the winner. Mark took home \$500 for his efforts. His loss to Kulashko in round three proved to be well-timed, as his toughest opponent after that was John Duneas in the final round. Mark scored some pretty wins, with his victory over Daniel Runcan sharing the best game prize (judged by GM Murray Chandler).

The other best game winner was Russell Dive, for his win over Gino Thornton. Dive lost only his crucial final round game against Hague, and shared third place with five others – Kulashko, Leonard McLaren, Bob Smith, John Duneas and Matthew McNabb.

Kulashko also lost only to the tournament winner, but dropped draws to Dive and Smith.

McLaren lost to Hague, but drew with Dive and Paul Garbett.

Smith started well with 3/3, but then went wrong in a drawn ending against McLaren and finished with two draws against Duneas and Kulashko.

Duneas earned his placing by drawing with Smith and Noble after a round two loss to Kulashko.

The final third place-getter, Matthew McNabb, scored an upset win over Garbett in round two, but then fell victim to the Hague Hurricane and had an unexpected setback against Jack James. A strong finish propelled him into the prizes.

The B Tournament was won by Don Eade, who collected \$350 and thus justified refusing an offer of promotion to the A Tournament. Don started with an upset loss to Hananke Calitz, but then won his remaining five games – some of them somewhat hair-raising!

Second equal on 4.5 were top seed Clinton Wells, who also started with a loss, and Charles Dion, who suffered his only defeat to Wells in round four.

Both the C and Junior tournaments were victories for girlpower.

Olivia Dong scored 5.5/6 in taking out the C .Tournament, closely followed on 5 by Raymon Hill.

Saasha Ghadiala also dropped just a draw in the junior event, with Eric Liang second on 5.

Apart from Hague's remarkable result, the other notable aspect of this year's Trusts Open was the bounce-back in numbers.

After last year's dismal turnout of only 70, the organising club Waitakere was relieved to get 101 official entries this year.

On the day 97 actually turned up to West Auckland's Te Pai Centre, with late withdrawals for various reasons (an urgent plumbing job, school studies, an injury to a spouse) and one no-show.

The Trusts Open was again generously supported by The Trusts Community Foundation. Community Foundation member Warren Flaunty opened the event,

Trusts Open A Grade 2016

1	FM Hague, Ben	2428	NZL	6.0	+B17	+W16	+B8	+W4	+B5	+W3
2	FM Noble, Mark F	2307	NZL	4.5	+B20	+W14	-B4	+W15	+B13	=W7
3	IM Dive, Russell J	2452	NZL	4.0	+B12	+W9	=B5	+W16	=B4	-B1
4	FM Kulashko, Alexei	2429	NZL	4.0	+W22	+B7	+W2	-B1	=W3	=B6
5	NM McLaren, Leonard J	2330	NZL	4.0	+W19	+B13	=W3	+B6	-W1	=B10
6	FM Smith, Robert W	2337	NZL	4.0	+B11	+W15	+B23	-W5	=B7	=W4
7	Duneas, John	2220	NZL	4.0	+B29	-W4	+B11	+W23	=W6	=B2
8	McNabb, Matthew D	2187	NZL	4.0	+B24	+W10	-W1	-B13	+W14	+B15
9	Thornton, Giovanni A	2235	NZL	3.5	+W18	-B3	+W17	=B14	-W10	+W13
10	IM Garbett, Paul A	2346	NZL	3.5	+W27	-B8	-W13	+B19	+B9	=W5
11	Macdonald, Paul	2040	NZL	3.5	-W6	+B30	-W7	=B18	+W27	+B21
12	CM Forster, William	2075	NZL	3.5	-W3	-B18	+W28	=B26	+W22	+B20
13	James, Jack	2097	NZL	3.0	+B25	-W5	+B10	+W8	-W2	-B9
14	Li, William Xiang We	2149	NZL	3.0	+W26	-B2	+W18	=W9	-B8	=B17
15	CM Vincenti, David	2180	MLT	3.0	+W30	-B6	+W20	-B2	+W24	-W8
16	CM Gong, Daniel Hanwen	2218	NZL	3.0	+W28	-B1	+W19	-B3	=W17	=B18
17	CM Bennett, Hilton P	2052	NZL	3.0	-W1	+B28	-B9	+W24	=B16	=W14
18	CM Marko, Helmut S	1993	PNG	3.0	-B9	+W12	-B14	=W11	+B25	=W16
19	Lim, Benjamin U	2037	NZL	3.0	-B5	+W25	-B16	-W10	+B29	+W23
20	Runcan, Daniel I	2004	ROU	2.5	-W2	+B26	-B15	=W21	+B23	-W12
21	WFM Timergazi, Layla	2152	NZL	2.5	-B23	+W29	-B24	=B20	+W26	-W11
22	Goodhue, Nathan	2074	NZL	2.5	-B4	-W23	+B30	=W25	-B12	+B24
23	Ha, Huy Minh	1850	VIE	2.0	+W21	+B22	-W6	-B7	-W20	-B19
24	Sarmiento, Noel	1922	NZL	2.0	-W8	+B27	+W21	-B17	-B15	-W22
25	WCM Zhang, Jasmine Haomo	1859	NZL	2.0	-W13	-B19	+W27	=B22	-W18	=B26
26	Shen, Terry	1813	NZL	2.0	-B14	-W20	+B29	=W12	-B21	=W25
27	Fan, Allen Chi Zhou	2047	NZL	2.0	-B10	-W24	-B25	+W30	-B11	+W28
28	Wright, Caleb	1982	NZL	1.0	-B16	-W17	-B12	=W29	=B30	-B27
29	Lyall, Simon	1988	NZL	1.0	-W7	-B21	-W26	=B28	-W19	=W30
30	Gilmour, Mark	1850	NZL	1.0	-B15	-W11	-W22	-B27	=W28	=B29

making the symbolic first move on board one. He was impressed by the turnout and enthusiastic about next year's 40th edition.

The tournament was also supported by the Charnwood Trust and the West Auckland Trust Services, which donated a dozen bottles of wine. They raised \$155 towards costs, from three silent auctions.

As the chief organiser, I was delighted with most aspects of this year's tournament, especially the support from players. But probably not quite as delighted as Ben Hague, who said at the prize-giving that the Trusts Open is his favourite event. No

wonder! Surprisingly Hague did not enter any of his wins for the best game prize. Perhaps he felt he'd won enough already.

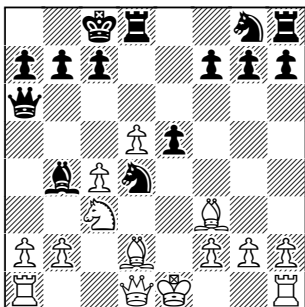
Hague, Ben - Kulashko, Aleksei **[B01]**

Trusts Open-A (4), 05.06.2016

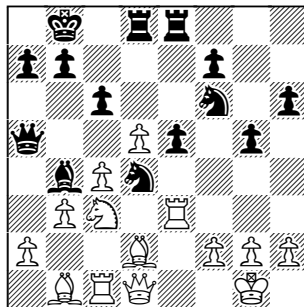
Notes by Ben Hague

This was played in round 4. I'd made it to 3/3 reasonably straightforwardly, with only the game against Matthew McNabb involving a bit of luck, which meant that a win here would give me an excellent

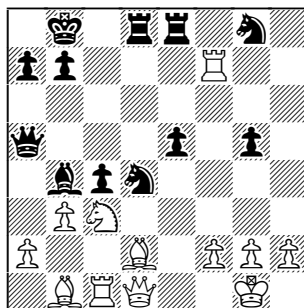
chance of one of the prizes, while a loss would leave me struggling for a minor place. **1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nf3 Bg4 4.Be2 Nc6 5.d4 0-0-0 6.Be3 e5 7.c4 Qa5+ 8.Bd2 Bb4 9.d5 Bxf3 10.Bxf3 Nd4 11.Nc3 Qa6** ☉



Hopefully Scott won't mind me pinching his idea of using the zugzwang symbol for the first moment when I have to think, rather than remember. **12.b3** (12.Be2 This is the other move here, and may be more precise as after b3 it's hard to get in a3. Probably doesn't make a lot of difference though.) **12...Qa5 13.Rc1 Nf6 14.0-0 Kb8 15.Re1** (I've completed development, and now need to find a plan. 15.a3!? Qxa3 16.Nb5 Nxb5 17.Ra1 was rejected because of 17...Qxa1 18.Qxa1 Bxd2 19.cxb5 e4 20.Be2 Rxd5 when the queen is struggling to find targets, while black has a few ways to improve his position. It may be objectively best though, as it's still roughly equal. I can't move most of my pieces because of Nxf3+ and I have to recapture with the g-pawn, so I decided to re-route the bishop.; 15.Be1 Rhe8 16.Qd3 is the computer's suggestion, but it looks artificial.) **15...Rhe8 16.Be4 h6 17.Bb1 g5 18.Re3 c6!** ☉

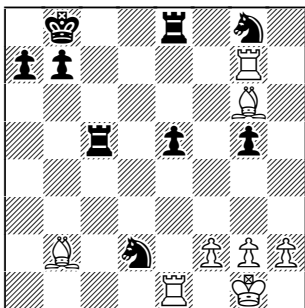


Around here it's getting quite uncomfortable for white. My center is disintegrating so I need to get some counterplay. **19.Rh3** (19.dxc6 Nxc6 20.Qe1 is just a safe edge for black.) **19...cxd5 20.Rxh6 Ng8** (20...Ne4! This looks risky, and does let me free my position, but the computer likes it and it does seem to work, e.g. 21.Nxe4 (or 21.Bxe4 dxe4 22.Qe1 f5³) 21...dxe4 22.Bxb4 Qxb4 23.Bxc4 Nf5 24.Bxf5 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 ♯) **21.Rh7?!** (21.Rh3 is the defensive alternative but then white is clearly worse, if not by much. I wanted to keep attacking, as I hadn't seen the refutation.) **21...dxc4 22.Rxf7**

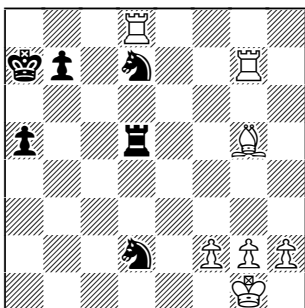


22...Bxc3? (22...Re7! Wins, but the reason why is quite well hidden. 23.Rxe7 Nxe7 24.bxc4 Nb5!! This is the star move.

25.Nxb5 Bxd2 26.Rc2 a6 27.Na3 Bb4 and black wins a piece. Not really surprised that neither of us saw all this.) 23.Bxc3 Qd5 24.Rg7 cxb3 25.axb3 Nxb3?! (25...Nf6 26.Bxd4 exd4 27.Bd3 keeps the game roughly level. Black grabs a pawn, but the bishops are very strong here.) 26.Qxd5 Rxd5 27.Re1 Rc5 28.Bb2 Nd2 29.Bg6



Now the bishops can do their thing, and the knights are almost helpless. 29...Rec8 30.Bf5 Re8 31.Bd7 Rd8 32.Bxe5+ Ka8 33.Bd6 Rd5 34.Bc7 Now black loses material 34...Nf6 (34...Rf8 35.Rf7!) 35.Bxd8 Nxd7 36.Bxg5 a5 37.Re8+ Ka7 38.Rd8



I thought this was game over, but he finds a way to stagger on. 38...Rb5 39.h4 Rb1+ 40.Kh2 Nf1+ 41.Kh3 Nc5 42.Rd5 Kb6

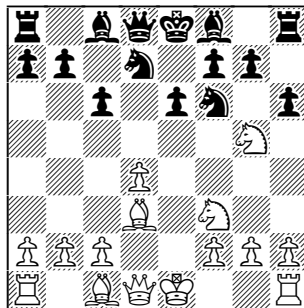
(42...Ne4 I thought this might have been worth a try to see if I was still alert, but 43.Rxa5+ (43.Be3+? Nxe3 44.fxe3 Rh1+ 45.Kg4 Nf6+; 43.Re5?? Nxf2#) 43...Kb6 44.Ra2 is fairly obvious) 43.Rg6+ Kb5 44.Be7 b6 45.Bxc5 bxc5 46.Rgg5 Rc1 47.h5 a4 48.h6 Nd2 49.Rxd2 (49.Rxc5+ Rxc5 50.Rxc5+ Kxc5 51.h7 a3 52.h8Q is objectively better, but it had been a long game and I didn't want to have to think any more.) 49...Rh1+ 50.Kg3 Rxh6 51.Rb2+ Kc4 52.Rc2+ Kb3 53.Rgxc5 a3 54.f4 a2 55.Rxa2 The rook and pawn ending with black's king cut off on the wrong side of the board is as easy as it gets. Not all rook and pawn endings are drawn! 1-0

Hague, Ben - Dive, Russell John [B17]

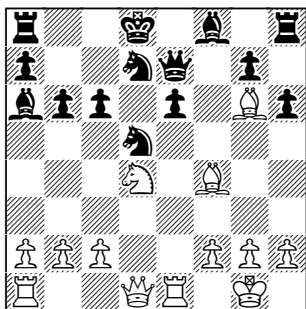
Trusts Open-A (6), 06.06.2016

Notes by Ben Hague

Before this last round game I was the clear leader on 5/5 and Mark Noble and Russell Dive were a point behind. All three of us were due to play white, and Russell was the one unlucky enough to get four blacks. 1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7 5.Ng5 Ngf6 6.Bd3 e6 7.N1f3 h6

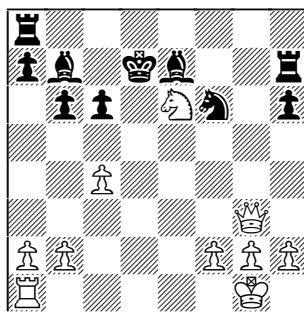


This is a line that's been generally considered bad since Kasparov lost to Deep Blue in the last game of their match in 1996. Russell said he tried it because he didn't want to be stuck trying to win a typical slightly worse Caro-Kann position. He certainly achieved his goal of avoiding a drawish position, but I'd be surprised if he was willing to repeat this line. **8.Nxe6 Qe7** (8...fxe6 9.Bg6+ Ke7 10.0-0 There are some strong players who've been trying to make this work, but to me it seems like black is walking a tight-rop, and unsurprisingly he generally falls off.) **9.0-0** **9.0-0 fxe6 10.Bg6+ Kd8 11.Bf4 b6** (The Kasparov v Deep Blue game went 11...b5 12.a4 Bb7 13.Re1 Nd5 14.Bg3 Kc8 15.axb5 cxb5 16.Qd3 Bc6 17.Bf5 exf5 18.Rxe7 Bxe7 19.c4 1-0 (19) Comp Deep Blue-Kasparov,G (2785) New York 1997) **12.Re1 Ba6 13.d5! Nxd5 14.Nd4**

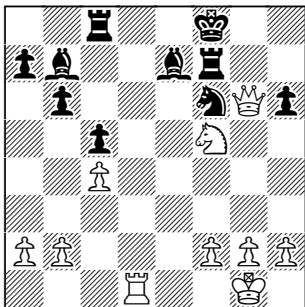


14...Bb7!? (14...Nxf4 15.Nxc6+ Kc7 16.Nxe7 Bxe7 17.Be4± This is the bailout option. White's comfortably better, but Black has reasonable chances of hanging on for a draw. However, once you start rolling the dice you might as well keep rolling them.) **15.Rxe6±** (There are an awful lot of crazy tactics in this game, but what impressed me the most was often the

computer would play a seemingly quiet move which was better than the forcing moves I was considering. This is a case in point that while my move was perfectly good, this was better 15.Nxe6+ Kc8 because of 16.c4 Nxf4 17.Nxf4 and black has to give the queen up under much less favourable circumstances, e.g. 17...Qf6 18.Re8+ Kc7 19.Ne6+ Qxe6 20.Rxe6+-) **15...Nxf4 16.Rxe7 Bxe7 17.Bf5 Nd5** (17...Rf8!?) **18.Bxd7 Kxd7 19.Qg4+ Kc7 20.Ne6+ Kc8 21.c4 Nf6 22.Qxg7 Rh7 23.Qg3 Kd7**



So far both players have handled the complications OK, but now I started to lose the thread. **24.Qe5?!** (24.Qc7+ Kxe6 25.Re1+ Kf5 26.Qg3! was the quiet move I'd missed. The threat of Re5# forces the knight to move and then Qd3+ picks up the rook.) **24...Rc8 25.Rd1+ Ke8 26.Qf5 c5 27.Qg6+ Rf7 28.Ng7+?!** (28.Qxh6 Looked like a pointless pawn capture to me, but after 28...Bf8 (else Ng7+) 29.Qh8 Bc6 30.Re1 Blacks position is oddly helpless, e.g. 30...Kd7 31.Qh3 Kd6 32.Qd3+ Ke7 33.Ng5+ -) **28...Kf8 29.Nf5**



(29.Nc6+ This is an immediate draw, and that would have been enough to win the tournament but it seemed a shame to give up on such an interesting position, especially when I saw the tactics around Rd7.) **29...Ng8 30.Rd7 Be4 31.Rxe7 Rxe7** (31...Nxe7 lets me win some material back after 32.Qxh6+ Kg8 33.Nd6 Rc6 (33...Rd8

34.Qe6) 34.Qd2 Bb1 35.Nxf7 Kxf7 which feels like it should be better for white, and much easier to play practically as black will have try to co-ordinate his forces while avoiding tricks, while white can just push pawns.) **32.Qxg8+** A fun move to play, the knight is bouncing around happily, munching pieces as it goes. **32...Kxg8 33.Nxe7+ Kf7 34.Nxc8 Ke6 35.Nxa7 Bd3 36.b3** (36.Nc8 Bxc4 37.b3 is a nice little zwischenzug 37...Bd3 38.Nxb6 is a much easier win.) **36...Bb1 37.Nc8 Bxa2 38.Nxb6 Bxb3 39.Kf1 Kd6**

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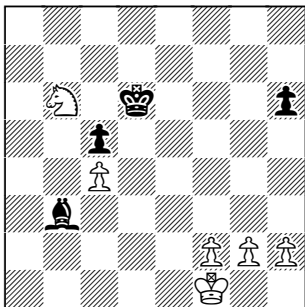
Brian and Colleen Foster would like to retire after over 30 years of running the above business.

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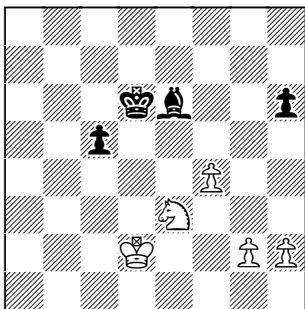
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It was only here that I realised that I'd embarrassingly miscalculated and my king wasn't on e2, but f1 so that I wasn't going to be able to meet Kc7(6) with Kc3. This meant a certain amount of re-evaluation had to be done. **40.Ke1 Kc6 41.Nd5 Bxc4 42.Ne3 Be6 43.Kd2?!** (43.g4 Kd6 44.f4 blocking the king was better. I wanted to avoid any other nasty surprises by getting the c-pawn under secure control, but this does give him a chance.) **43...Kd6 44.f4**



44...Ke7? (44...h5! This is the difference, it's much harder to push the kingside now. E.g. 45.Kd3 Ba2 46.g3 Bb1+ 47.Kd2 Be4 48.h3 Bf3 49.g4 hxg4 50.hxg4 Ke6 51.g5 Bc6 52.Kc3 Bb5 and I don't see how to make further progress.) **45.g4 Kf6 46.Kd3 h5** (46...Bxg4 47.Nxg4+ Kf5 48.Nxh6+

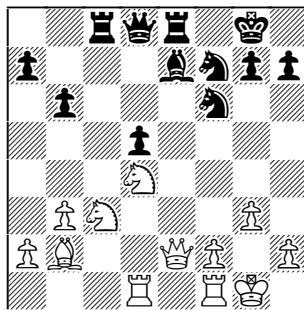
Kxf4 49.Kc4 Kg5 50.Nf7+ Kh4 51.Ne5 Kh3 52.Nf3 Kg4 53.h4+-) **47.g5+ Kg6 48.h4 c4+ 49.Kd4** (49.Nxc4 Kf5=) **49...Bg8 50.f5+ Kg7 51.Nxc4 1-0**

*Other Games selected by
Bob Smith and lightly
annotated by Bill Forster*

Dive, Russell - Thornton, Gino

Trusts Open Waitakere (2), 04.06.2016

1.Nf3 e6 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 d5 4.0-0 Be7 5.c4 0-0 6.d4 c6 7.b3 Nbd7 8.Bb2 b6 9.Qc2 Bb7 10.Nc3 Rc8 11.e4 c5 12.e5 Ng4 13.cxd5 cxd4 14.Nxd4 Bxd5 15.Bxd5 exd5 16.e6 Ndf6 17.Qe2 Nh6 18.Rad1 Re8 19.exf7+ Nxf7



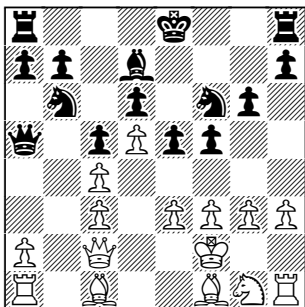
20.Ne6 Qd7 21.Nxg7! Qh3 (21...Kxg7 22.Nxd5 leaves Black helpless) **22.Nxe8 Rxe8 23.Nxd5 Nh5 1-0**

Duneas, John - Kulashko, Alexei

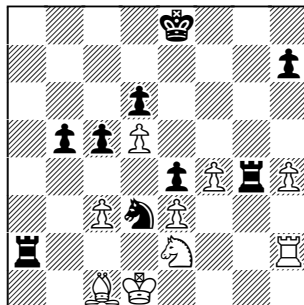
Trusts Open Waitakere (2), 04.06.2016

1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 f5 This is the so call Dzindzi-Indian, which can be a lot of fun, and certainly was on this occasion **6.Qc2 Nf6 7.g3 d6 8.Bg2 Qa5 9.f3? Nbd7 10.e3 Nb6**

11.Bf1 e5 12.h3 Bd7 13.Kf2



A rather comical position, Black's offbeat opening has been a huge success. 13...e4 14.f4 Ba4 15.Qb2 Qa6 16.Qe2 Bb3

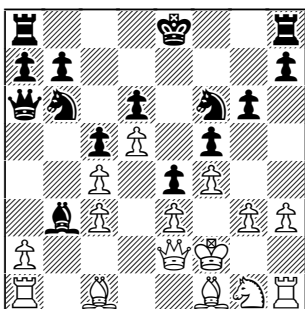


35...Nxc1 36.Kxc1 Rg1+ 37.Nxg1 Rxh2
Winning the doomed g1 Knight will complete the rout 0-1

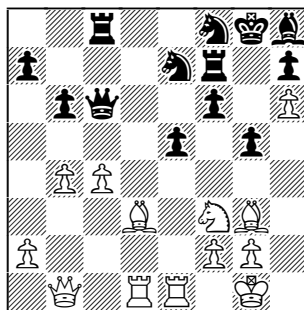
McNabb,Matthew - Garbett,Paul

Trusts Open Waitakere (2), 04.06.2016

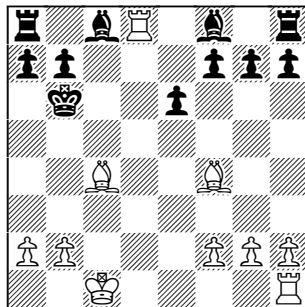
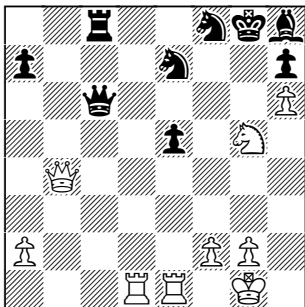
1.Nf3 c5 2.c3 Nf6 3.d4 b6 4.Bg5 Ne4
5.Bf4 Bb7 6.e3 g6 7.dxc5 Nxc5 8.Be5 f6
9.Bg3 Bg7 10.Nbd2 0-0 11.Qc2 e5 12.h4
d5 13.h5 g5 14.h6 Bh8 15.b4 Ne6 16.e4
Rf7 17.exd5 Bxd5 18.Bd3 Nc6 19.Rd1
Rc8 20.Qb1 Ne7 21.c4 Bxf3 22.Nxf3 Qe8
23.0-0 Qc6 24.Rfe1 Nf8



And now the game is effectively over
17.axb3 Qxa1 18.Qc2 a5 19.Ne2 a4
20.Bg2 axb3 21.Qxb3 Nfd7 22.Rd1 Qa4
23.Qxa4 Rxa4 24.g4 Nxc4 25.gxf5 gxf5
26.h4 Nf6 27.Bh3 Rg8 28.Bxf5 Ng4+
29.Bxg4 Rxg4 30.Rh1 Ra1 31.Rh3 b5
32.Ke1 Nb2 33.Kd2 Nd3 34.Rh2 Ra2+
35.Kd1



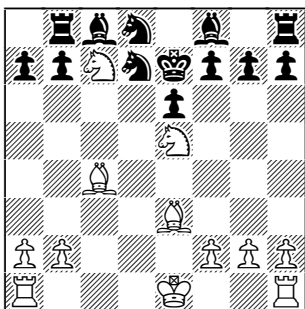
25.c5! bxc5 26.Bc4 cxb4 (26...Ne6?
27.Qb3) 27.Bxf7+ Kxf7 28.Bxe5 fxe5
29.Nxg5+ Kg8 30.Qxb4



30...Nfg6? 31.Qb3+ Qc4 32.Rd8+ Nf8
33.Rxc8 Qxb3 34.Rxf8+ Kxf8 35.axb3
Nf5 36.Ra1 Nxb6 37.Rxa7 Nf5 1-0

Noble, Mark - Li, William

Trusts Open Waitakere (2), 04.06.2016
1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 Nc6
5.Bc4 Nf6 6.Nf3 d6 7.e5! dxe5? 8.Qxd8+
Nxd8 9.Nb5 Rb8 10.Nxe5 e6 11.Nc7+
Ke7 12.Be3 Nd7

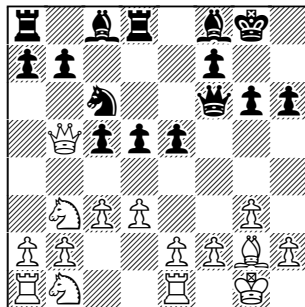
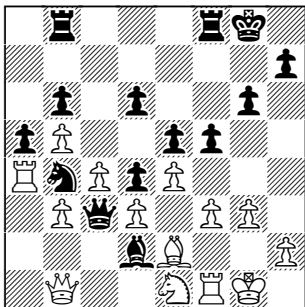


13.Nxd7 Kxd7? 14.0-0-0! Kxc7 15.Bf4+
Kb6 16.Rxd8 Ra8

White has a small development advantage :) 17.Bd6 The practical and pragmatic option (The computer wants White to delay cashing in with 17.Rhd1! emphasising Black's embarrassment) 17...Bxd6 18.Rxh8 h6 19.Rd1 Kc7 20.Kb1 b6 21.Rc1 Bf4 22.Rc2 Bb7 23.Bd5+ Kd6 24.Rxa8 Bxd5 25.Rxa7 Two Bishops are nice but not really a match for two Rooks 25...Be4 26.Rxf7 g5 27.g3 Bd2 28.b3 1-0

Ha, Huy Minh - Smith, Robert

Trusts Open Waitakere (3), 05.06.2016
1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.0-0 e6 6.e4 Nge7 7.d3 0-0 8.Nc3 d6 9.a3 Rb8 10.Be3 Nd4 11.Bxd4 cxd4 12.Nb5 Nc6 13.a4 e5 14.Ne1 a6 15.Na3 Bd7 16.b3 Qa5 17.Nac2 Qc3 18.Qb1 a5 19.Na3 Nb4 20.Nb5 Bxb5 21.axb5 b6 22.Ra4 Bh6 23.Bf3 f5 24.Be2 Bd2 25.f3



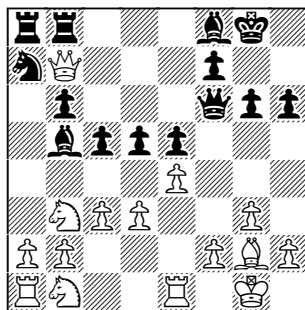
White's queenside has been colonised by that most annoying invasive pest species - the lesser black squared termite. Unfortunately such an infestation is normally fatal to the unfortunate host - and so it proves to be here **25...fxe4 26.dxe4 Qe3+ 27.Rf2 Bxe1 28.Qxe1 Nd3 29.Qf1 Nxf2 30.Qxf2 Qxb3 31.Ra1 d3 32.Bd1 Qxc4 33.Rb1 Kg7 34.Bb3 Qc5 35.Bd5 Rxf3 36.Qxc5 dxc5 0-1**

13...a5!! An ugly looking move, but concealing much evil intent. White is already in a lot of trouble. **14.e4?** This doesn't address the issues White faces (14.c4! creating an eventual retreat path for the White queen on the a5 to e1 diagonal is in fact the only way to keep the game going) **14...Na7** Now there is no escape **15.Qxa5 b6 16.Qa4 Bd7 17.Qa6 Bb5 18.Qb7 Rdb8**

Bennett,Hilton - Hague,Ben

Trusts Open Waitakere (1), 04.06.2016

1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 g6 4.d3 Bg7 5.0-0 Nf6 6.c3 0-0 7.Re1 d5 8.Qa4 e5 Already it seems that the players have swapped colours and White is the one playing a rather unpromising hippo setup **9.Bg5 h6 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Nfd2 Rd8 12.Nb3 Bf8 13.Qb5**

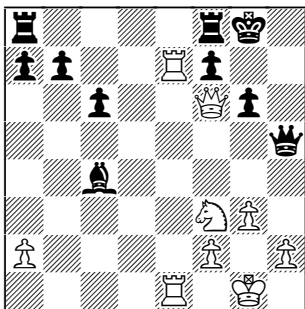


19.Qxa8 (If **19.Qxd5 Bc6 20.Qc4 b5** wonderful play by White) **19...Rxa8 20.exd5 Bxd3 21.N1d2 Nb5 22.Ne4 Bxe4 23.Bxe4 c4 24.Nd2 Bc5 25.Rf1 Nd6 26.Bg2 Qf5 27.a3 Qc2 28.Nf3 Qxb2 29.Nxe5 Qxc3 30.Nc6 Rxa3 31.Rae1 Ra2 0-1**

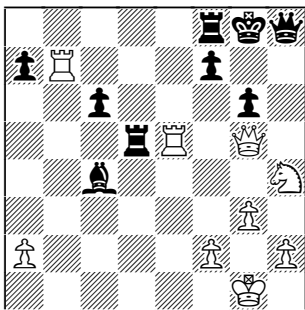
Runcan, Daniel - Noble, Mark

Trusts Open Waitakere (1), 04.06.2016

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.Bb5+ Nbd7 4.d4
Nxd5 5.Nf3 c6 6.Be2 Qc7 7.0-0 e6 8.c4
Nf4 9.Nc3 Be7 10.Re1 0-0 11.Bf1 Ng6
12.Qc2 e5 13.Bd3 exd4 14.Bxg6 hxg6
15.Rxe7 dxc3 16.Bg5 Qa5 17.Rae1 Nf6
18.Bxf6 gxf6 19.Nh4 Qg5 20.g3 cxb2
21.Qxb2 Be6 22.Nf3 (For what it's worth
the computer assesses 22.R1xe6! fxe6
23.Qxb7 Qh6 24.Qxc6 as a completely
winning bind) 22...Qh5 23.Qxf6 Bxc4



24.R1e5? Missing a relatively simple winning tactic (24.R1e4! threatening both the bishop and R-h4-h8 is an instant winner) 24...Qh8 Black is now more than okay 25.Qg5 Rad8 26.Nh4 Rd6 27.Rxb7 Rd5

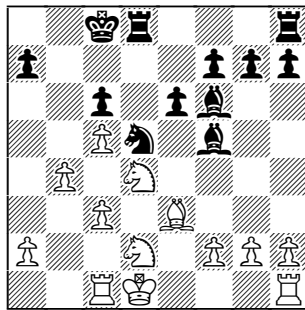


28.Nxg6?! This looks promising but unfortunately for White it's flawed 28...Rd1+ 29.Kg2 Bf1+ 30.Kf3 fxc6+ Now this capture comes with check and it's all over 31.Ke3 Qxe5+ 32.Qxe5 Re1+ (It might have been worth playing on for a move to make sure that after 32...Re1+ 33.Kd4 Black plays 33...Rd8+ first which is a lot better than taking the queen right away) 0-1

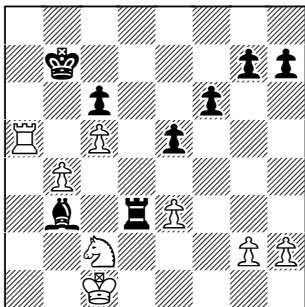
McLaren, Leonard - Hague, Ben

Trusts Open Waitakere (5), 06.06.2016

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 d5 4.exd5 Qxd5
5.d4 Bf5 6.Be3 e6 7.dxc5 This seems an
unwise pawn grab, Black gets a lot of comp
7...Qxd1+ 8.Kxd1 0-0-0+ 9.Nbd2 Nf6
10.b4 Nd5 11.Rc1 Be7 12.Bb5 Bf6
13.Bxc6 bxc6 14.Nd4



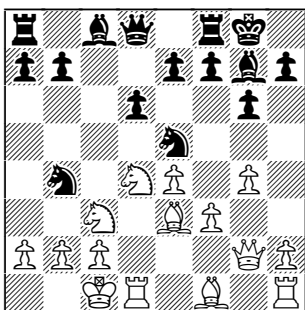
Black recovers the pawn and retains the initiative to the end of the game 14...Nxc3+ 15.Rxc3 Bxd4 16.Ra3 Bxe3 17.fxe3 Rd3 18.Rxd3 Bxd3 19.Kc1 Kc7 20.Nf3 Rb8 21.a3 a5 22.Rd1 Bg6 23.Rd4 axb4 24.axb4 f6 25.Kb2 e5 26.Rh4 Rd8 27.Rc4 Bf7 28.Rc1 Rb8 29.Kc3 Ra8 30.Ne1 Ra3+ 31.Kd2 Rb3 32.Ra1 Kb7 33.Ra4 Bc4 34.Nc2 Rd3+ 35.Kc1 Bb3 36.Ra5



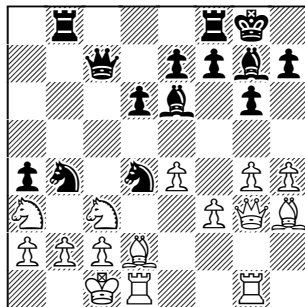
36...Bxc2 Swapping into a winning rook and pawn ending 37.Kxc2 Rxe3 38.b5 cxb5 39.Kd2 Rb3 40.Kc2 Rb4 41.c6+ Kxc6 42.Ra7 Rg4 0-1

James, Jack - Noble, Mark

Trusts Open Waitakere (5), 06.06.2016
 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.f3 g6 7.Be3 Bg7 8.Qd2 0-0
 9.0-0-0 Nd7 10.g4 Nde5 11.Qg2 Nb4



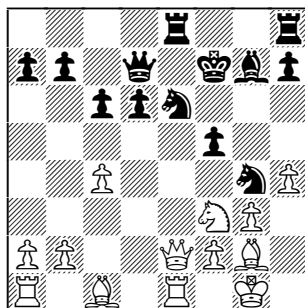
12.Bd2? White's problems start with this timid and passive move, in a race situation where time is of the essence 12...Nec6 13.Ndb5 a5 14.h4 a4 15.Na3 b5 16.Naxb5 Nd4 17.Na3 Be6 18.Qg3 Rb8 19.Rg1 Qc7 20.Bh3



Black's attack has been overwhelming for a while now, and the finish is absolutely brutal 20...Ne2+ 21.Nxe2 Qxc2+ A quicker and more elegant mate is available but who doesn't love a queen sac? (21...Nd3+ 22.Kb1 Rxb2+ 23.Ka1 Rxa2+ 24.Kb1 Ra1#) 22.Nxc2 Nd3+ 23.Kb1 Rxb2+ 24.Ka1 Rxa2+ 25.Kb1 Rb8+ 26.Nb4 Rb2+ 27.Ka1 Nxb4 28.Bxb4 R8xb4 0-1

Thornton, Gino - Garbett, Paul

Trusts Open Waitakere (5), 06.06.2016
 1.d4 f5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nh3 c6 5.c4 d6 6.d5 Bg7 7.Nf4 e5 8.dxe6 Na6 9.h4 Ng4 10.0-0 Nc5 11.e4 Bxe6 12.Nxe6 Nxe6 13.exf5 gxf5 14.Qe2 Qd7 15.Re1 Kf7 16.Nd2 Rae8 17.Nf3

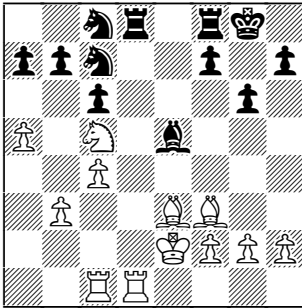


17...Nd4! Leading to a complete take over

18.Qd1 Rxe1+ 19.Nxe1 Qe6 20.Nd3 Re8
21.Be3 Nxe3 22.Qh5+ Qg6 23.Qxg6+
hgx6 24.fxe3 Rxe3 0-1

Kulashko, Alexei - Noble, Mark

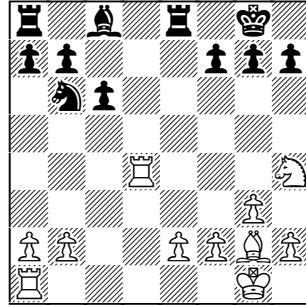
Trusts Open Waitakere (3), 05.06.2016
1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nxd5 4.d4 Bf5
5.Nh4 Qd7 6.Nxf5 Qxf5 7.Bd3 Qe6+
8.Be2 Qf6 9.Bf3 Qe6+ 10.Qe2 Qxe2+
11.Kxe2 c6 12.c4 Nb6 13.b3 g6 14.Be3
Bg7 15.Nc3 Na6 16.Rac1 Rd8 17.Rhd1
Nc7 18.a4 0-0 19.a5 Nc8 20.Na4 e5
21.dxe5 Bxe5 22.Nc5



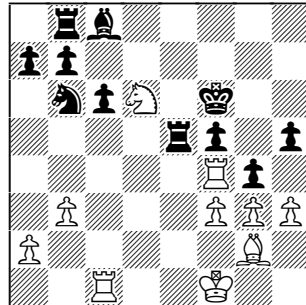
White has all the trumps and will soon win material 22...Nd6 23.Nd3 Bf6 24.Bxa7 Ne6 25.Kf1 Ra8 26.Bc5 Rfd8 27.Bb6 Re8 28.Nc5 Nxc5 29.Bxc5 Nf5 30.b4 Red8 31.Bb6 Rxd1+ 32.Rxd1 Bc3 33.b5 Ne7 34.Rd7 Nf5 35.bxc6 Re8 36.Rd8 Rxd8 37.Bxd8 bxc6 38.Bxc6 1-0

Garbett, Paul - James, Jack

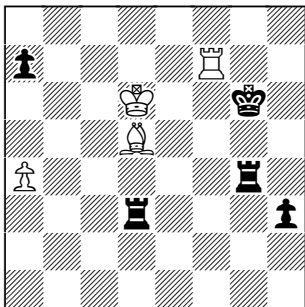
Trusts Open Waitakere (3), 05.06.2016
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c6 3.d4 d5 4.Qb3 e6 5.g3
Bd6 6.Bg2 Nbd7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc3 Re8
9.Rd1 Qe7 10.Nh4 dxc4 11.Qxc4 Nb6
12.Qd3 e5 13.Bg5 exd4 14.Bxf6 Qxf6
15.Ne4 Qe7 16.Nxd6 Qxd6 17.Qxd4
Qxd4 18.Rxd4



18...g5! 19.Nf3 g4 20.Nd2 Rxe2 21.Kf1
Re7 22.Ne4 Kg7 23.b3 f5 24.Nd6 Rb8
25.Rc1 Kf6 26.Rf4 Re5 27.h3 h5 28.f3?



28...Nd5! 29.fxg4 (White has to give the exchange or face a nasty preponderance of force around his king, eg 29.Ra4 Ne3+ 30.Kf2 Nxc2 31.Kxc2 Be6 32.hxg4 hxg4 33.Rh1 Re2+ 34.Kf1 gxf3) 29...Nxf4 30.gxf4 Ra5 31.g5+ Ke7 32.Nxc8+ Rxc8 33.a4 h4 34.Re1+ Kf7 35.Bf3 Rc7 36.Bh5+ Kg7 37.Re6 Rd5 38.Rg6+ Kh8 39.Be2 b5 40.Bf3 Rd4 41.Bxc6 bxa4 42.bxa4 Rxf4+ 43.Ke2 Rc4 44.Bb5 Rc2+ 45.Ke3 Re7+ 46.Kd3 Rh2 47.Rh6+ Rh7 48.Rf6 Rxh3+ 49.Kd4 Rg3 50.g6 Re7 51.Rxf5 Rxc6 52.Bc4 Rg4+ 53.Kd5 h3 54.Kd6 Re3 55.Rf8+ Kh7 56.Rf7+ Kg6 57.Bd5 Rd3

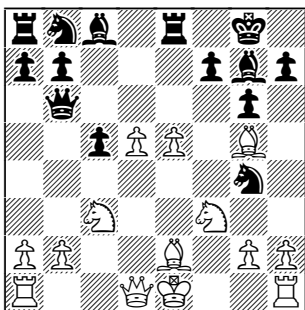


Jack kept his nerve well and scored a nice scalp **0-1**

MacDonald, Paul - Smith, Robert

Trusts Open Waitakere (1), 04.06.2016

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f4 0-0 6.Nf3 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Be2 exd5 9.cxd5 Re8 10.e5 dxe5 11.fxe5 Ng4 12.Bg5 Qb6



It looks as if White's centre is collapsing and the computer claims a big Black advantage. However this position has been reached hundreds of times, with a more than respectable 55% plus score for White. A key point is that O-O is possible now and indeed is almost invariably played. **13.Qd2?!** (After 13.0-0! White doesn't need to worry about 13...c4+ 14.Kh1 Nf2+ because after 15.Rxf2! Qxf2 16.Ne4 Qb6

17.Nd6 White's compensation is more than enough. This has happened a few times usually with grisly results for Black.) **13...Nxe5 14.0-0-0?!** Better to play with a safe king on the other side of the board I think. Bob quickly opens up the shaky queenside protection **14...Nbd7 15.d6 Qa5 16.Nd5 Qxa2 17.Nc7 Nxf3 18.Bxf3 Qa1+ 19.Kc2 Qxb2+ 20.Kd3 Qb3+ 0-1**

Upper Hutt Rapid

Anton Reid reports a most welcome recovery in numbers for another one of New Zealand's long standing chess institutions. He was thrilled to get 51 players, last year the number was 32 and even then the organisers were delighted. Things are looking up!

For the record, there were 12 in A, 10 in B, 14 in C and 15 in Juniors. The B grade was won by Vyania Punsalan. She was the only player from Auckland.

We have two games, just like last year one of them is annotated by repeating tournament winner Scott Wastney.

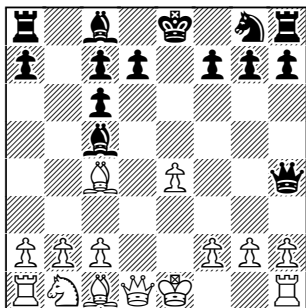
Noble, Mark - Wastney, Scott [C45]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 After the game Mark called this a mouse slip. Usually in over-the-board games Mark plays Philidor's Defence or reverse Philidor (so here I expected 3.d3) but I am guessing he plays a wider variety of openings in correspondence chess. **3...exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Nxc6 bxc6** This move has some

Upper Hutt Rapid 2016 A Grade

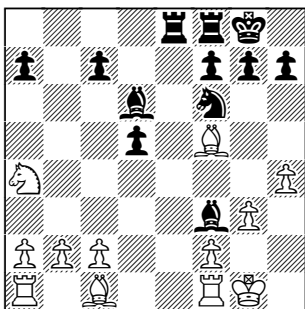
1	Wastney, Scott	2339	5	11:W	10:W	2:D	6:W	3:W	4:D
2	Ker, Anthony	2387	4.5	8:W	7:D	1:D	4:W	6:W	3:D
3	Noble, Mark	2318	3.5	4:W	6:D	7:D	10:W	1:L	2:D
4	Jackson, L Ross	1949	3.5	3:L	5:W	11:W	2:L	12:W	1:D
5	Knowles, Jeremy	2035	3.5	6:L	4:L	12:W	7:D	9:W	10:W
6	Dive, Russell	2417	3	5:W	3:D	9:W	1:L	2:L	7:D
7	James, Jack	2080	3	12:W	2:D	3:D	5:D	8:L	6:D
8	Burns, Chris	2022	3	2:L	12:W	10:L	9:L	7:W	11:W
9	Nijman, Brian	2126	3	10:L	11:W	6:L	8:W	5:L	12:W
10	Barraza-Perez, Jesus (Jesse)	1900	2	9:W	1:L	8:W	3:L	11:L	5:L
11	Sellen, Ian	1991	2	1:L	9:L	4:L	12:W	10:W	8:L
12	Winfield, Alan	1825	0	7:L	8:L	5:L	11:L	4:L	9:L

history for me. Last year I had been saving it up for an important game to play against Anthony Ker because I noticed that in three games Anthony had played 6.Bc4?! and won quickly with White. But 6.Bc4 is dubious because of 6...Qh5!, a move that none of Anthony's opponent's played. Eventually I had my chance at the 2015 Wellington Club championship, but then Anthony played the stronger move 6.Bd3. **6.Bc4?!** But at last my preparation will be useful, if only I can remember any of it! **6...Qh4!**

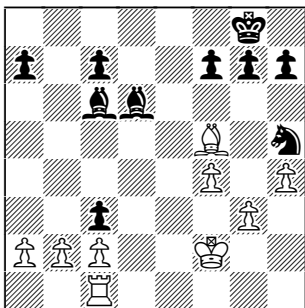


At first sight it looks like a childish attempt at scholar's mate. But it defends against White's immediate threat (which was Bxf7 followed by Qh5+). Also the equally

childish reponse 7.Qf3 can be effectively met with 7...d5! due to the pin against the e-pawn. **7.0-0 Nf6 8.g3 Qh3 9.Qf3** In time to meet Ng4 with Qg2 **9...0-0 10.Nc3 d5 11.exd5 Bg4 12.Qg2 Qh5 13.h4 Bf3 14.Qh3 cxd5 15.Bd3** I remembered this as a position from my preparation. My first inclination was to play Ng4 stopping Qf4 exchanging Queens, but after some playing around with the computer engine I settled on the move Rae8. **15...Rae8** You may wonder why I bring the a-Rook and not the f-Rook to the e-file? A similar position occurs in the Marshall Attack where the general advice is to double Rooks on the e-file, but first use the a-rook to keep open ideas of a f7-f5-f4 push. **16.Na4 16.Qf5 Qxf5 17.Bxf5 Nh5** works out well for Black. And that was about all I remember from my preparation from more than 6 months ago. In my last annotated game for NZ Chess I introduced my use of the zugzwang symbol, which I use just for my own game notes to signify when my opening preparation finishes (and usually where my bad moves begin). But if I was to use it here, then this is the spot. **16...Bd6 17.Qf5 Qxf5 18.Bxf5**



18...Be2! Exploiting the loose knight on a4 to punish White's lack of development. **19.Re1 Bb5 20.Rxe8 Rxe8 21.Nc3 Re1+ 22.Kg2** Black has a decisive advantage here. The computer demonstrates that **22...Bf1+** is the strongest move here, but I found the line I played more direct and easier to calculate. **22...Bc6 23.f3 Nh5** Good enough, but again the computer's second choice - it prefers **23...d4 24.f4** I had calculated **24.g4 Nf4+ 25.Kf2 Rh1** and evaluated this position as winning for Black. **24...d4+ 25.Kf2 Rxc1 26.Rxc1 dxc3**

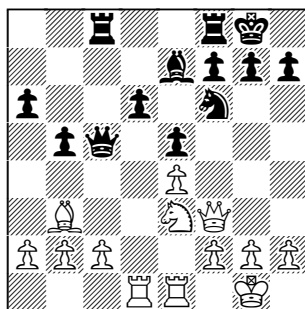


The g3 pawn is also going to drop because of Bc5+. Mark gives up even more pawns, I guess in the hope for some activity. **27.b4 Bxb4 28.Rb1 Bc5+ 29.Ke1 g6 30.Bd3**

Nxg3 31.f5 Nxf5 32.Bxf5 gxf5 33.Rb3 Bb6 The rest of the game wasn't recorded but Black's material advantage wins quite simply. There was only one further amusing moment in the game. At one point I moved and pressed the clock next to me. But it was the wrong clock! Russell looked at me angrily for interfering with his game while Mark claimed illegal move. I'm not sure if Mark was serious or just joking (I can never tell), but I apologised and pushed the correct clock and we continued. **0-1**

Knowles,Jeremy - Nijman,Brian [B28]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 a6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Bc4 Bb4 This move is a normal part of this system, but it seems to be an inaccuracy in this specific case **8.0-0 0-0 9.Nd5 Be7 10.Be3 d6 11.Nb6** (11.Bb6 looks better, now Black equalises) **11...Rb8 12.Nxc8 Rxc8 13.Nd2 Qc7** (13...d5!) **14.Qf3 Nd8 15.Bb3 Ne6 16.Rad1 Qc6 17.Rfe1 Nc5 18.Bxc5 Qxc5 19.Nc4 b5 20.Ne3**



20...Rfd8? (20...g6! is prudent) **21.Nf5 Bf8 22.Nh6+ gxh6 23.Qxf6 Rd7 24.Re3** And Black must give up the Queen to avoid mate **1-0**

Book Review

by Ross Jackson

Chess For Life

by Matthew Sadler and Natasha Regan, Gambit Books. 2016

Matthew Sadler and Natasha Regan's book *Chess For Life* is unlike any other chess book I have read. It addresses the subject of how to retain, and indeed seek to improve, one's chess strength throughout life, accepting the inevitable diminution of ability to calculate. Sadler and Regan have produced an insightful analysis of the way chess players of different styles adapted to age and the advancement of theory. From this, and candid interviews of several, they unveil a tour de force of ideas to consider applying to one's own game. This is not a book for the ageing - it is rather a testament to the value of experience with lessons for players of all ages

The book is structured to examine a number of "role models". They are as varied a group as chess players are. Some are active, some retired, one returning to focus on chess after work retirement, two are historic, some famous, some not so. They have widely differing chess styles and tactical/strategic/positional strengths. But there are lessons to be learnt from all. The role models are Pia Cramling (former Womens World no.1), John Nunn, José Raúl Capablanca, Judit Polgár, Terry

Chapman (who focused on chess after work retirement to become an FM at age 57), Jon Speelman, Tony Miles, Sergei Tiviakov, Ingrid Lauterbach (WIM), Nigel Short, Nona Gaprindashvili (former Womens World Champion), Yasser Seirawan and Keith Arkell.

In the Chapter on Pia Cramling the authors consider how move orders define opening options in the Closed Openings. Cramling used this throughout her career, to adapt, to recycle lines and to mix things up with quieter lines. John Nunn, by contrast, had a tactical style when young and he acknowledged the difficult question of the degree to which one should try to change one's style with diminution of tactical accuracy. Capablanca had a tactical flare combined with a smooth positional style. But Sadler detected extra strengths in his game as prominent in his later years. This included the ability to fight out of a desperate defence against better booked-up young opponents. Judit Polgár's early style was characterised by initiative and attack. However she said her chess strength really progressed when she broadened her approach. Terry Chapman applied his entrepreneurial work skills to chess training. One novel idea he experimented with was to adjust his seating position at different points of the game. This was a mental signal to help gear his concentration for the critical points of a game.

Tony Miles went through three key periods in his career where he put in effort to add a new opening to his Black Repertoire. Miles was a master of playing the man at chess. For example he would only play 1...e6 against 1d4 if he felt there was little likelihood from an opponent's repertoire of

him having to deal with 2 e4. Miles was prepared to introduce the occasional opening bomb, not because it was objectively good, but because it tested well prepared opponents. Some of us recall him uncoring as a one-off 1..a6 to unsettle and defeat Anatoly Karpov. At the time the then World Champion was at the height of his pythonesque powers with all the opening preparation of the Soviet Union behind him.

Tiviakov is renowned for his expertise within a very narrow opening repertoire. Sadler pointed out that variation in his openings does exist but is subtle and introduced in the later opening. He is a master of nuance in eking out advantage from familiar but dull positions. Smyslov too would meet 1 e4 with the Closed Ruy Lopez but introduce later variability - at move 9. Keith Arkell's style is ideal for a lengthy career. He specialises in being able to relentlessly nurse a small edge. Yasser Seirawan is a strategic player. Seirawan's advice was to never spend more than 20 minutes on a move and not to overthink. Noteworthy is that Magnus Calsen includes blitz in his training. This is not to improve his speed or calculation (the latter is impossible at that speed) but rather to train his chess instinct.

Chess For Life is enriched with insightful interviews of the living role models. For some it shows the graph of their rating strength across the years, and the themes are exemplified with many well analysed games. The book culminates with a conclusional summary of ideas, index of themes, players' games and openings index. There are really so many gems of

knowledge that I find it difficult to think of enough superlatives to praise the authors. One of the most inspiring quotations mentioned that should encourage everyone to work on ones chess throughout life, is that from Tal, who in his later years said that he would have slaughtered a younger Tal!

Remembering Roger Court

by Russell Hosking

I first met Roger Court when I was a cadet reporter on New Plymouth's then evening newspaper, the Taranaki Herald and he joined the staff. This would have been about 1955 and Roger would have been about 19, a year older than me. I remember lending him Alekhine's "My Best Games of Chess, 1924-1937" which I had been given as a prize for schoolboy chess a few years before.

Once Roger aroused the ire of the hospital board because of something he did as a reporter - it seems that he had copied a notice from the notice board at the Nurses Home (these days it was quite likely be a matter involving leaked emails). I was given the job of reporting the board meeting at which the subject was expected to be discussed and I knew that I had to provide a full report of the discussion. I was under intense pressure when I returned to the office and was typing up my report from my notes with even the editor checking on my progress - each typed page I completed was quickly taken away. Here is one of Roger's games from the 1958

Two Big Tournaments Scheduled for January.

Congress and the Zonal are scheduled at adjacent times in January 2017. This is a rare opportunity to binge on top quality chess here in New Zealand. Start planning now and secure your place at both tournaments.

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www.newzealandchess.co.nz

124th New Zealand Congress 1-11 January. The NZ Open Championship runs from 1-9 January. One game per day. Time control 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with the addition of 30 seconds per move starting from move one. Top New Zealand player(s) will be crowned 2017 New Zealand Champion(s), and will have name(s) engraved on Silver Rook. Additional tournaments include a 9 round Open Rapid Championship on 10-11 January, a Blitz Championship and a 6 round Junior Open held on the mornings of the 4-9 January (so that Junior Open players can play in the NZ Open as well). A NZ Poison Pawn Grand Prix event. Onsite accommodation available at the venue, CQ Hotel, Cuba Street, Wellington.

Oceania Zonal Chess Championships 14-20 January. 9 Rounds in 7 days. Open to Oceania zone players only. Time control 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with the addition of 30 seconds per move starting from move one. Open and Women's 9 round Swiss tournaments. A NZ Poison Pawn Grand Prix event. Onsite accommodation available at the venue, Waipuna Hotel and Conference Centre, Mt Wellington, Auckland.

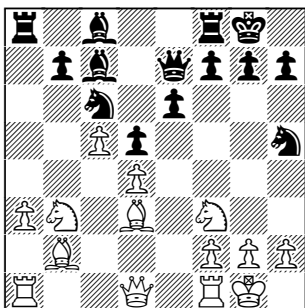
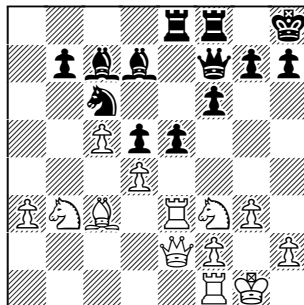
North Island Championship in New Plymouth. His opponent was a well-known Te Awamutu player and the opening was Santasiere's Folly. The game was included with Roger's notes in the front issue of Ted Frost's "Chess News" which came out that year.

**Reindler, Dr William -
Court, Roger A [A05]**

North Island Chp New Plymouth, Round 2,
12.05.1958

Notes by Roger Court

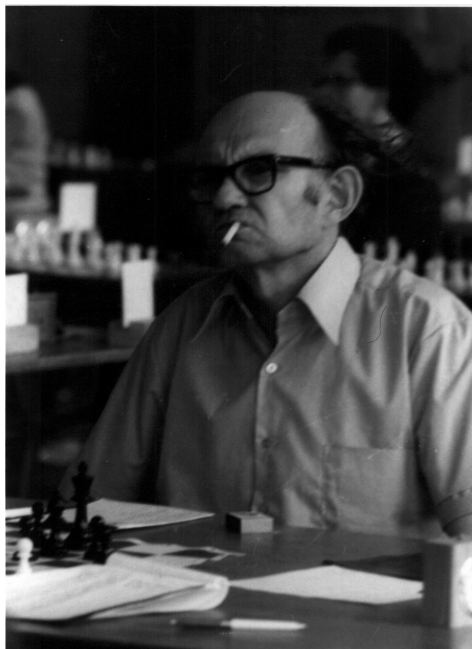
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.b4 d5 Planning to take advantage of the 'b' pawn. A Kings Indian Defence is also good 3.Bb2 e6 4.a3 a5 5.bxa5 Rxa5? Faulty exposure leading to difficulty as the opening progresses (5...Nc6 followed by 6.-- Nxa5 would be excellent) 6.e3 Bd6 7.c4 0-0 8.d4 c5 9.Nbd2 cxd4 10.exd4 Nc6 11.Bd3 White has the better position 11...Qe7 12.Nb3 Ra8 13.c5 Bc7 14.0-0 Nh5



But for this continuation Black's game would be positively inferior 15.Ne5? Better would be (15.Re1 Nf4 16.Bc2 or 15.Qc2 f5) 15...Nf4 16.g3 Weakening, therefore Qf3 is preferable (16.Bc2 allows 16...Nxe5 17.dxe5 Qg5; Ed: The computer is unimpressed by 16.Qf3 due to the line 16...f6 17.Qxf4 fxe5 18.Qd2 e4) 16...Nxd3 17.Qxd3 f6 18.Nf3 Qf7 Black now has the advantage with two bishops and the potential expansion e5, White must keep his f2 guarded 19.Rae1 Bd7 20.Re3 Rae8 21.Bc3 Kh8 22.Qe2 Triggers Black's Hydrogen bomb (22.Kg2 would hold it for another move (Ed: again I will reluctantly note that modern technology indicates that Kg2 would be even more encouraging to 22...e5) 22...e5

23.dxe5 fxe5 24.Nxe5 Nxe5 25.Bxe5 Bxe5 26.Rxe5 Rxe5 27.Qxe5 Bh3 28.f4 Re8 29.Qb2 Bxf1 30.Kxf1 Qh5 31.Nd4 Qh3+ The dust has cleared but the radioactivity takes a long time to finish the job. Black mistook this move for a conclusive one. (31...Qd1+ 32.Kg2 h5 would save a lot of trouble) 32.Qg2 Qxg2+ 33.Kxg2 Re3 34.Nb5 Kg8 35.a4 Re2+ 36.Kf3 Rxf2 37.Nd6 Rb2 38.a5 Rb3+ 39.Kf2 Kf8 The King must free the rook 40.g4 g6 41.g5 Ke7 42.Ke2 Kd7 43.Kd2 Kc6 44.f5 gxf5 45.Kc2 Rf3 46.Kb2 f4 0-1

When I was living in Wellington in the 1960s, I once went with Roger on his motorbike to the botanical gardens where we played chess on a pocket set. At the time I was renting a bed-sitting room from a Mr Frankel (from Cracow in Poland) who was the uncle of the well-known Wellington player Zygmunt Frankel.



The formidable Ziggy Frankel, once the editor of this magazine. Ed: Being able to frighten small children with nothing more than a (perpetual) glare should be one of the Editor's job requirements Photo courtesy of Pat Cunningham.

Roger was the winner of the 1964 New Zealand Championship in Auckland with 9.5 points ahead of Ortvín Sarapu on 9 points and Rodney Phillips on 8.5. Roger won his game against Ortvín - the game lasted more than ten hours. Roger died in 1967 at the age of 32 from asthma and a heart attack after playing lightning chess in the Auckland chess centre.

More Correspondence Memories

by Roger Chapman

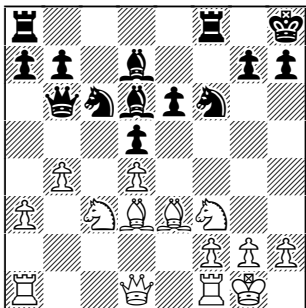
Walter Muir was a strong correspondence IM, and was regarded by many as the founding father of American correspondence chess and the single most influential figure in its development. His career in correspondence chess spanned around 70 years, and he was still playing until shortly before his death in 1999 at the age of 94. At the time of this game he was 80 years old and still a formidable opponent. The game itself is not, alas, a masterpiece, but it has moments of interest, sprinkled here and there with mistakes. It was lucky for me that Walter made the last one. Even when this game was played, in the days before strong chess software, in correspondence chess it was still in theory possible to analyse everything in advance (though in 1985 this was regarded as cheating). But in the real world, people still had to eat, sleep and go to work, so there were times when I did not foresee early enough what my opponent would play. What a difficult game chess is.

Muir, Walter - Chapman, Roger [C06]

Anglo-Pacific Invitational CC
Correspondence, 1985

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.0-0 Bd6 11.Nf3 Qb6 A system leading to complex positions, in which both sides try to gain the initiative. I played it as Black three times in this

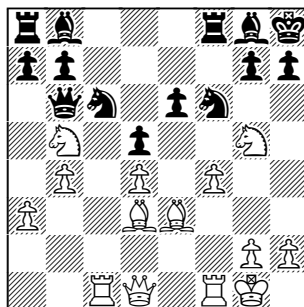
tournament. The main alternative is 11...Qc7. **12.Nc3** My other two opponents chose 12. Nf4 and 12. Bf4, in each case offering a sacrifice of the b2 pawn. Muir himself won a brevity with 12. Nc3. **12...0-0** **13.Be3** Strengthening the defence of the d4 pawn and setting up a masked attack on the Black queen, so creating the possibility of a later Ne5 while discouraging Black from freeing his position with ...e5. White hopes to use his greater command of space to set up a dark-square bind and keep Black permanently cramped. He has no need to worry about the b2 pawn - it's far too hot to take. **13...Bd7** **14.a3** **Kh8** There are several possibilities here. 14...Rae8, preparing a later ...e5 has been played many times, and the immediate 14...Be8 was played twice in the tournament. 14...Kh8 looks like merely a waiting move, but has the additional point that a future capture of the d4 pawn can no longer be met with a bishop check on h7. **15.b4**



Writing in the tournament book, CC IM Erik Osbun suggested that this might be a new move, but in fact it had been played several times before. It has the obvious merit of gaining space while relieving White of any worry about a capture on b2. White might also have considered 15. h3,

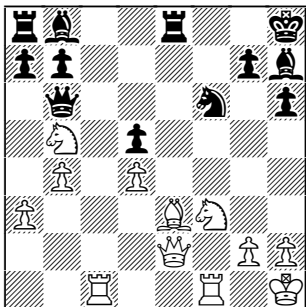
15. Re1, 15. Na4 or 15. Nb5. (Ree-van der Wiel Hilversum 1985 continued 15.Re1 Be8 16.Ng5 Bh5 17.Qb1 Nxd4 18.h3 e5 19.Bxh7 e4 20.Qa2? Nxb7 21.Nxb7 Rf5 22.Ng5 Bb8 23.Rac1 Rxb7 24.Bxg5 and 0-1 in 46) **15...Be8** Black aims for ...Bh5, which would give him reasonable play, and in some variations enable him to snatch the d4 pawn. This move had been tried in the 1985 Dutch championship by Hans Ree against John van der Wiel in a similar position (White having played Re1 rather than b4). That game continuation (see above) gave Black had plenty of play. But there are manifold choices here, including 15...a6, 15...Rae8, 15...Rac8, 15...Ne7 and 15...Ng4, all of which have been played. **16.Ng5** A multi-purpose move. White has hopes of an attack against Black's king, avoids the ... Bh5 pin, and takes aim at the e6 pawn at the very moment that Black's bishop has relinquished its protection. **16...Bf7?** Black chickens out. Osbun commented that this move looked tame, and it is. As in the similar position from the van der Wiel-Ree game, I should have embraced the complications arising from (16...Bh5 but I suspected that Muir knew that game and had prepared an antidote. After 17.Qb1 Nxd4 18.h3 e5 19.Bxh7 e4 Osbun suggested that, rather than van der Wiel's 20 Qa2, White should play 20.Bf5 But instead of Osbun's 20...Be5, Black now has 20...Bb8 after which 21.Ne6 can be answered by 21...Qd6 and the mate threat enables Black to avoid loss of material and emerge with a good position. The variations are complex but seem OK for Black.) **17.f4** I'm not sure now whether this is the strongest move here, though it looked scary at the time. White's best plan seems to be to increase the pressure on h7 and

17.Nxf7+ Rxf7 18.Qf3 followed by Qh3 would have kept his advantage intact. The move chosen appears to rule out ...e5 for good and also prevents Black tactics based on Bxh2+, but the removal of the e3 bishop's protection creates fresh tactical chances for Black. Even so, White still has the advantage. **17...Bg8** Apart from preserving the bishop, h7 needs additional protection. Now that the h2-b8 diagonal is blocked, 17...Bh5 looks less good, as the Houdini-style escapes which could have helped Black after 16...Bh5 are no longer available. **18.Nb5?!** These were, of course, the days when we still used postcards and stamps for correspondence chess, and the interval between moves in international games could be weeks. I can recall my feeling of relief when I arrived home after work one day to find Walter's card with this move - I had been expecting 18.Na4 after which the best line seems to be 18...Qc7 19.Qf3 Rae8 20.Qh3 when Black, though not without counterchances, has difficult problems to solve. Now, by omitting to drive the queen off the g1-a7 diagonal, White gives Black cause for cautious optimism. **18...Bb8** The development of the bishops on b8 and g8 creates an optically unusual position. Given the opportunity, Black intends to play ...a6 and ...Ba7, increasing the pressure on d4, though whether there is time for this is another matter... **19.Rc1?**



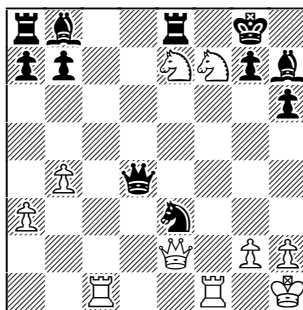
It's not clear what White's plan was here, but perhaps he just overlooked Black's next move. (19.Qf3 was a possibility, but it's probably then safe for Black to play 19...a6 20.Nc3 Nxd4 21.Qh3 Ba7 when White seems to have no way of taking advantage of the pin. The best choice was probably to admit the error on the last move by 19. Nc3, since it's not clear that Black can do better than repeating the position with 19...Bd6, giving White another bite at the Na4 cherry. Now Black grabs the chance to free his position, and suddenly it's White who has problems.) **19...e5!** (Ed: The exclamation is courtesy of Stockfish 7, rather than our too modest author) **20.fxe5** This leads to further complications which are ultimately better for Black, but it's not clear that there is a better choice. For example, after 20. Nc3, Black has a choice between 20 ...e4, ...exd4 or ...exf4, with the last being perhaps the best. **20...Nxe5 21.Kh1** Of course, 21. dxe5 just loses a pawn after 21...Qxe3+ 22. Kh1. But (21.Rc5 was possible; though after 21...Nxd3 22.Qxd3 h6 23.Nf3 a6 24.Nc3 Bh7 Black's bishops come to life and White is forced to defend.) **21...Nxd3** It was a toss-up whether to play this or the possibly stronger (21...Nc4 22.Bxc4 dxc4 23.Nc3 when play might go

23...a5 24.Nge4 axb4 25.axb4 Bc7 and Black is about to resurrect his bishops with the preferable position; On the other hand 21...Neg4?? meets the crushing 22.Qxg4! and if 22...Nxg4 23.Rxf8 g6 24.Rcc8 Kg7 25.Rxg8+ and Black gets mated or suffers ruinous loss of material.) **22.Qxd3 h6 23.Nf3 Bh7** As White has to keep the Nb5 protected, the reply is forced. **24.Qe2 Re8**

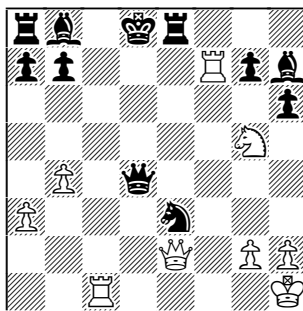


With the unsubtle threats of 25...Rxe3 26. Qxe3 Qxb5 and 25...Ng4 winning a piece. **25.Nc3** (25.Ne5 Bxe5 26.dxe5 Rxe5 27.Bxb6 Rxe2 28.Nxa7 would have kept White's problems to a minimum, though in most lines Black finishes with an extra pawn.) **25...Ng4 26.Ne5?** White initiates a forcing line which leads to self-destruction. There was no need for desperation: after 26.Nxd5! Qe6 27.Ne5 Nxe5 the zwischenzug 28.Nf4 allows him to stay in the game. A sample line is 28...Qf7 29.dxe5 Bxe5 30.Qf2 g5 31.Ne2 Qxf2 32.Bxf2 when White does not have an easy task defending against the Black bishops, but material is even and it is by no means clear that Black can win. Even the passive 26. Nd1, though probably losing eventually, is better than the text. Now it's all downhill, though for the next eight or ten moves things look pretty hairy for Black.

26...Nxe3 27.Nxd5 (27.Qxe3 loses material after 27...Bxe5 28.Nxd5 Qb5) **27...Qxd4 28.Nf7+ Kg8 29.Ne7+**

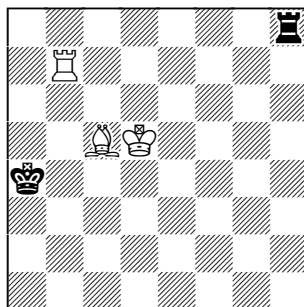


Black's next move looks dangerous but the nasty-looking discovered check proves to be harmless. (29.Nxe3 would be met by 29...Bd3 (and not 29...Rxe3?? 30.Rc8+)) **29...Kf8** (Not 29...Rxe7 30.Rc8+) **30.Ng5+ Kxe7** Forced: (30...Nxf1 31.Rxf1+ followed by 32. Ne6+ would be curtains for Black, so he must take a deep breath and expose his king even more.) **31.Rf7+ Kd8**



32.Qb5 There is no time for 32.Nxh7 in view of 32...Qd6 33.g3 Qd5+ 34.Rf3 Bd6 35.Rc3 Ng4 when the attack is over and Black remains a piece up, while the h7 knight is trapped. **32...Bc2!** White threatened 33. Rc8+ Kxc8 34. Qxe8+ Qd8

35. Qe6+ and mate. (32...Qg4 would have won too, but this move, blocking the c-file and avoiding the h7 capture, wins more quickly.) **33.Rf8** The excitement isn't over yet. White still has a few tries left, and Black has to be careful. This threatens a fork on e6. **33...Qd7 34.Nf7+ Ke7 35.Qc5+ Bd6 36.Rxe8+** (36.Nxd6 loses after 36...Kxf8 37.Nxe8+ Qe7! 38.Nxg7 Qxc5 39.Ne6+ Kf7 40.Nxc5 b6 and White is simply a piece down.) **36...Kxf7 37.Qh5+ Bg6** With both queen and rook under attack, White has finally run out of ammunition. **38.Qxg6+ Kxg6 39.Rxa8 Qg4** Now mate is unavoidable after 39...Qg4 40.g3 Qf3+ or; 39...Qg4 40.Rg1 Qh4 so... **0-1**



Caruana, Fabiano - Svidler, Peter
FIDE Candidates – Round 13
Moscow 2016, March 27th
Position after 102...Ka4?

Endgame Column
by IM Herman van Riemsdijk

**Rook and Bishop
 versus Rook**
Part 1 of 2

You are about to be the next challenger for the World Championship. After playing a very tough tournament, your opponent defends resourcefully in the penultimate game and manages to reach a theoretical endgame on move 66 which is a draw. You know this very well because less than a year before you managed to hold it as the weaker side quite easily against multiple world junior champion Mamedyarov. You also know however that you have to play on.

This is the position 35 moves into the 50 available. Your opponent has been successfully using the ‘second rank’ defence in two corners of the board. Then there is a slight modification in the position and after move 102...Ka4 a bell should be ringing. Will you be able to win the game before the deadline on move 116 ?

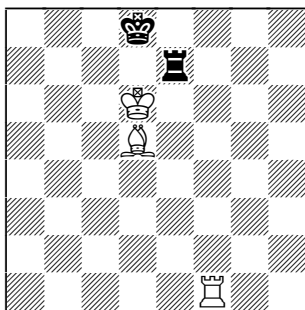
Of course I don't know what was passing through Fabiano's mind but it would be very interesting to hear from him about it.

White's last move was losing. The game continued with **103.Kc4 Rh4+ 104.Bd4 Rh5 105.Bf2?!** This doesn't throw away the win but Tablebase shows us that the shortest way (with best play by both sides) is 105.Rb2 Rh3 106.Bf2 Rf3 107.Bc5 Rf4+ 108.Bd4 Rf3 109.Rb4+ Ka3 110.Rb6 Ka2 111.Rb2+ Ka3 112.Re2 Rf4 113.Re1 and Black is forced to sacrifice his rook three moves before the limit! **105...Rg5 106.Rh7** Here Tablebase jumps from (mate in) 19 to

22 so there is already no room for a win with the best defence. **106...Rg4+** (Back to 20) **107.Bd4 Rg5 108.Rh8 Rb5 109.Ra8+ Ra5 110.Rb8 Rh5 111.Bf6?** And now it's not a win anymore. **111...Ka5 112.Bc3+ Ka6 113.Bd4 Rh6 114.Be3 Re6 115.Rb3 Rc6+ 116.Kd5** and Black reached the 50 moves rule limit, ½–½.

Why is it that in this ending there are so many mistakes made even by strong grandmasters? First of all because some of the positions are really difficult and require more than 50 moves to win in some positions. But the main reason is the lack of knowledge as so many times occurs in the 'simple' endgames.

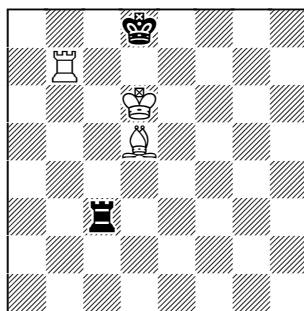
The big majority of the games in which the Rook and Bishop against Rook arise are drawn, but it is essential to know the winning ones. The most frequent and important case is the so called Philidor's Position. Yes him again!



Philidor's Position
1749(?)
White to play and win

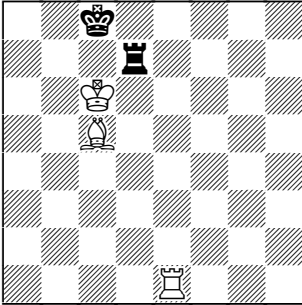
The **Encyclopaedia of Chess Endings** (Sahovski Informator) shows the year

1749; the **Batsford Chess Endings** (Speelman, Tisdall and Wade), 1747 and **Fundamental Chess Endings** (Müller and Lamprecht), 1792. Fine, in **Basic Chess Endings**, omits a date. **1.Rf8+ Re8 2.Rf7 Re2** The second rank is better for the defence. If **2...Re1**, White goes directly to the winning plan as we will see. **3.Rh7** A waiting move. **3...Re1** Now the best. If **3...Re3 4.Rd7+ Ke8 5.Rb7 Kf8 6.Rf7+ Ke8 7.Rf4** (Threatening **8.Bc6+**) **7...Rd3 8.Rg4** and the **f3** square lacks to the black rook. **4.Rb7! Rc1** Or **4...Kc8 5.Ra7 Rb1 6.Rf7 Kb8 7.Rf8+ Ka7 8.Ra8+ Kb6 9.Rb8+ 5.Bb3 Rc3 6.Be6 Rd3+ 7.Bd5 Rc3**



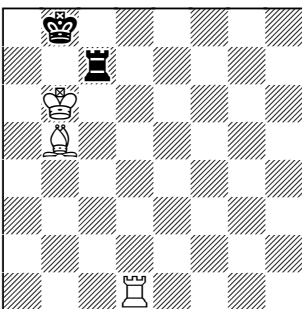
White to play and win

This is a position to be remembered. The following check is very important: **8.Rd7+! Kc8 9.Rf7 Kb8 10.Rb7+ Kc8 11.Rb4! Rd3** Or **11...Kd8 12.Bc4!**, the point of **11.Rb4**. If **11...Kc8 12.Be6+**, **12.Ra4** and to avoid immediate mate, Black has to sac the Rook.



Lolli – 1763
White to play and win

This position, by Giambattista Lolli, is similar to the Philidor's one and applies on the **c** and **f** files. **1.Re8+ Rd8 2.Re7 Rd2** Or **2...Rg8 3.Ra7 Kb8 4.Rb7+ Ka8 5.Bd6 Rc8+ 6.Bc7 Rg8 7.Rb1 Rg6+ 8.Bd6 Rg7 9.Re1 Rb7 10.Re8+ Ka7 11.Bc5+ 3.Rf7 Rd8** 3...Rd1 goes like in Philidor: **4.Ra7 Rb1 5.Ba3!** but slightly easier **4.Be7 Rg8** 4...Re8 5.Bd6 and 6.Rh7 **5.Rh7** But not 5.Bd6 Kd8! with a draw **5...Kb8 6.Bd6+ Kc8 7.Rb5** and mate in the next move.

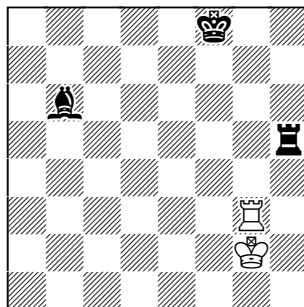


Reuben Fine – Basic Chess Endings
Draw, no matter who plays

In **Basic Chess Endings** (David Mac Kay Company, Philadelphia 1941) Fine shows us that on the **b** and **g** file it is a draw although the defence is far from trivial. The main reason is that the Rook cannot be transferred from one side to the other as necessary in the Philidor's and Lolli's position, but the variations can be extremely complicated and unintelligible for us simple humans. The analysis is mainly from Tablebase: **1.Rd8+ Rc8 2.Rd7 Rc2** But not **2...Rg8 3.Bc6** and it's over! **3.Rf7 Rc3 4.Ba4 Rc1 4...Rc4?? 5.Bc6 Rb4+ 6.Bb5** etc. **5.Bc6 Rb1+ 6.Kc5 Rb2!** 6...Rb3 loses and White mates in 51 according Tablebase. Just take a look how difficult this is: **7.Bd5 Rg3 8.Rb7+ Kc8 9.Re7** (only move) **9...Rg5 10.Kd6** (only move) **10...Rg6+ 11.Be6+** (only move) **11...Kb8 12.Kc6** (only move) **12...Rg2 13.Rb7+ Ka8 14.Rh7 Rg6 15.Re7 Rg2 16.Bf5 Rf2 17.Re5 Rf3 18.Be6** (only move) **18...Rf1** (Or **18...Rc3+ 19.Kb6 Rc2 20.Bb3 Rc8 21.Ra5+ Kb8 22.Bd5**) **19.Ra5+ Kb8 20.Bd5 Rg1 21.Rb5+** (only move) **21...Ka7 22.Rb7+ Ka8 23.Rh7 Rg6+ 24.Kc7+** (only move) **24...Ka7 25.Bc4** (only move) **25...Rg5 26.Kc6+** Kb8 **27.Rh8+ Ka7 28.Bd5 Rg1 29.Rh7+ Kb8** (Or **29...Ka6 30.Kc5 Rg5 31.Rh1 Ka7 32.Rh8**) **30.Be4 Rc1+ 31.Kd6** (only move) **31...Rc7 32.Rh3 Rc8 33.Ra3** (only move) **33...Rd8+ 34.Kc6 Rd2 35.Rb3+ Kc8 36.Bd5** (only move) **36...Kd8 37.Kd6 Rc2 38.Rg3 Re2 39.Rg7** and we are back to Philidor **7.Bd5 Rh2 8.Kd6 Rh6+ 9.Kc5 Rg6 10.Bc6 Kc8 11.Kb6 Rd6 12.Kc5 Rd2 Rd2** 12...Rd1 loses in 50 moves: **13.Bd5** (only move) **13...Rg1** (**13...Rb1? 14.Kd6 Kb8 15.Rf8+**) **14.Re7 Rg5 15.Kd6** (only move) **15...Rg6+ 16.Be6+** (only move) **16...Kb8 17.Kc6** (only move) **17...Rg2**

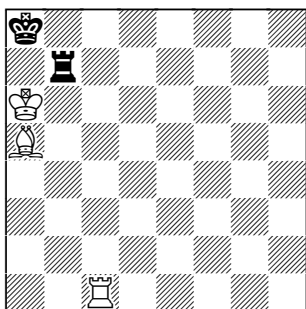
18.Rb7+ Ka8 19.Rh7 Rg6 20.Re7 Rg2
 21.Bf5 Rf2 22.Re5 Rf3 23.Be6 (only
 move) 23...Rf1 24.Ra5+ Kb8 25.Bd5 Rg1
 26.Rb5+ (only move) 26...Ka7 27.Rb7+
 Ka8 28.Rh7 Rg6+ 29.Kc7+ (only move)
 29...Ka7 30.Bc4 (only move) 30...Rg5
 31.Kc6+ Kb8 32.Rh8+ Ka7 33.Bd5 Rg1
 34.Rh7+ Kb8 35.Be4 Rc1+ 36.Kd6 (only
 move) 36...Rc7 37.Rh1 Rc8 38.Ra1 (only
 move) 38...Rd8+ 39.Kc6 (only move)
 39...Rd2 40.Rb1+ Kc8 41.Bd5 (only
 move) 41...Kd8 42.Kd6 Rc2 43.Rh1 Re2
 44.Rh7 Re1 and we arrived at Philidor
13.Rg7 Kd8 14.Bd5 Rf2 15.Kd6 Ke8
16.Re7+ Kf8 16...Kd8? goes to Philidor:
 17.Ra7 Rc2 18.Rf7 Re2 19.Rg7 Re1
 20.Rb7 **17.Rd7 Ke8** and no progress is
 made. Welcome to 'easy endings'. In a
 matter of fact it is one of the most difficult
 I've ever seen!

Rb1 2.Re6 Rb2 3.Rh6 Rb1 4.Bb6 Ra1+
5.Kb5 Kb7 6.Rh7+ Kc8 7.Kc6 Rc1+
8.Bc5 and we have reached Lolli **8...Rd1**
9.Ra7 Rb1 10.Ba3.



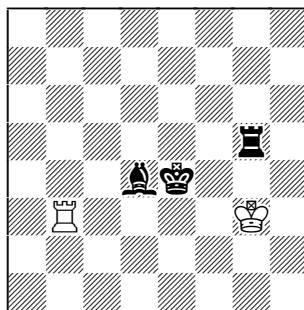
Wempe, Joost - Georgiev, Vladimir
Corus Group C
Wijk aan Zee 2005
Position after 70...Rxb5

71.Rf3+ Ke7 72.Rb3 Bc5 73.Rc3 Ke6
 74.Rd3 Ke5 75.Rb3 Ke4 76.Rc3 Bd4
 77.Rb3 Ra5 78.Kg3 Rg5+ Black is trying
 to bring the White King to the corner and
 we have reached the first tricky position:



Von der Lasa
1843
White to play and win

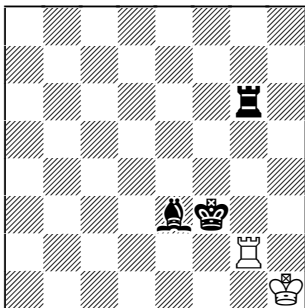
You would think that if the b and g files are
 a draw, then there are more reasons for this
 to happen in the a and h files but no! He
 was probably not the first one to prove it
 but look at his simple explanation how to
 transpose to the Lolli's Position. **1.Re1**



Position after 78...Rg5+

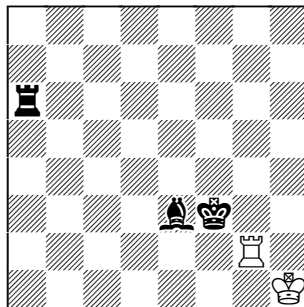
79.Kh2? Correct was 79.Kh4 Rg8 and now

the so called Cochrane defence with 80.Rg4 (pinning the bishop) is one of the ways to keep the balance. **79...Be3 80.Kh1 Kf3 81.Rb2 Bf2 82.Rb3+ Be3 83.Rb2 Rg6 84.Rg2** Stalemate is a constant feature also in the Rook and Bishop against Rook endings.



Position after 84.Rg2

84...Ra6? This throws away the win. The difficult win comes with 84...Rh6+ 85.Rh2 Rf6 86.Rh3+ Kf2 87.Rh2+ Kf1 88.Rh3 Rf5 89.Rh2 Bd4 90.Rh3 Bc3 91.Rh2 Rd5 92.Rc2 Be1 reaching the Von der Lasa Position 93.Rg2 Rf5 94.Rb2 Bf2 95.Rb1+ Ke2 96.Rb3 Be3 97.Kg2 Rg5+ 98.Kh3 Kf3 Philidor 99.Rb4 Rg8 100.Ra4 Rg1 101.Ra2 Bc1 102.Rc2 Bf4 103.Rc3+ Be3 104.Rc2 Rg3+ 105.Kh2 Rg6 106.Kh1 Rd6 107.Ra2 Rd1+ 108.Kh2 Bf4+

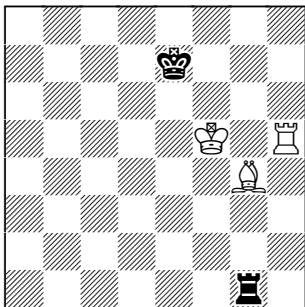


Position after 84...Ra6?

85.Rb2??? Here the quite simple 85.Rg3+! is enough for a draw. There could follow 85...Kf2 86.Rg2+ Kf1 87.Rg1+ (This check would not be possible if Black had played 84...Rh6+) 87...Kf2 88.Rg2+ Kf3 89.Rg3+ Ke4 and now the only way to secure a draw is bringing the King out of the corner with 90.Kg2 **85...Ra1+ 86.Kh2 Bf4+ 87.Kh3 Rh1+ 88.Rh2 Rxb2++**, 0-1.

The Drawing Methods: Second Rank and Cochrane

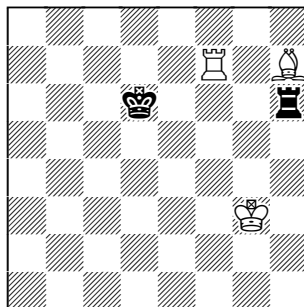
There are two important drawing patterns to understand. First an example of the so called '**second rank defence**' from my own practice. I have played the Rook and Bishop against Rook at least six times in my quite long chess career. Coincidentally I always played it with the Bishop and never had the unpleasant task of defending it. The result is quite good, four wins and two draws, but the points came much more because of bad play from my opponents than due to my own skills.



**Van Riemsdijk, Herman -
Obon, Sergi**
Barberà del Vallès, 2011
Position after **69.Bxg4**

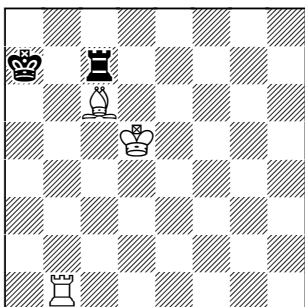
69...Kd6 70.Bf3 Re1 71.Rh6+ Kc7 72.Be4 Rf1+ 73.Ke5 Rf7 74.Rc6+ Kd7 You put both defending pieces on the **second rank** (the 2nd or 7th ranks horizontally or on the **b** and **g** files vertically). and the attacker is unable to make progress. 75.Rc1 Re7+ 76.Kd5 Rf7 77.Ra1 Re7 78.Bf5+ Kc7 79.Be6 Re8 80.Rc1+ Kb6 81.Kd6 Rb8 The defender has moved from the 7th rank to the **b** file. 82.Bd7 Rb7 83.Bc8 Rb8 84.Rc5 Ka7 85.Bd7 Kb7 86.Rb5+ Ka7 87.Ra5+ Kb6 88.Ra1 Rb7 89.Bc6 Rb8 90.Rh1 Rd8+ 91.Bd7 Rb8 92.Rh5 Rb7 93.Rg5 Rb8 94.Rg4 Rb7 95.Rg8 Ka5 There are other drawing possibilities but this one is based on an important stalemate model. 96.Kc5 Rb5+ Or 96...Rb6 97.Rg1 Rb5+, 97.Kd6 Rb6+ 98.Bc6 Kb4 99.Kd5 Kc3 100.Rg3+ Kd2 101.Kc5 Rb2 Now we are to the 2nd rank! 102.Bb5 Ke1 103.Rf3 Kd2 104.Bc4 Kc1 105.Kd4 Kd2 106.Bb3 Ke2 107.Rh3 Kd2 108.Rh2+ Kc1 109.Rh1+ Kd2 110.Rh3 Kc1 111.Bc4 Kd2 112.Rg3 Rc2 113.Bd3 Rb2 114.Rh3 Rb4+

115.Bc4 Rb2 116.Rd3+ Kc2 117.Bd5 Rb4+ 118.Ke3 Rh4 119.Be6 Kb2 120.Bf5, ½–½. We finally reached the 50 moves rule.



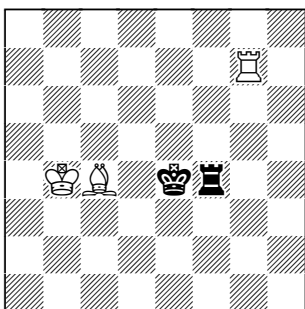
Bologan, Viktor - Rublevsky, Sergei
8th Karpov Tournament –
Poikovsky, 2007
Position after **76.Bxh7**

This example shows us how alert we have to be: 76...Re6 77.Kf4 Re7 78.Rf6+ Re6 79.Rf8 Re1 80.Rd8+ Ke7 81.Ra8 Kf6 82.Bd3 Rd1 83.Ra6+ Ke7 84.Ke4 Re1+ 85.Kf5 Kd7 86.Be4 Rd1 87.Ke5 Ke7 87... Re1, pinning the bishop is the so called Cochrane method. 88.Ra7+ Rd7 89.Ra1 Rc7 90.Rh1 Rc5+ 91.Bd5 Rc7 92.Rh6 Kd7 93.Rd6+ Ke7 94.Bc6 Kf8 95.Bd5 Ke7 96.Ra6 Kd7 97.Rg6 Kd8 98.Be6 Ke7 99.Rg1 Rc5+ 100.Bd5 Rc7 101.Ra1 Kd7 102.Ra5 Ke7 103.Be6 Kd8 (103...Rb7 is a much smoother defence) 104.Kf6 Rc6 105.Ra7 Rd6 106.Ke5 Rc6 107.Kf6 Rd6 108.Rb7 Rc6 109.Rh7 Rd6 110.Ke5 Rc6 111.Rd7+ Kc8 112.Kd5 Rc7 113.Rd6+ Kb7 114.Rd8 Kb6 115.Bd7 Ka7 (115... Rb7 or 115...Ka5 bring fewer problems) 116.Bc6 Kb6 117.Rb8+ Ka7 118.Rb1



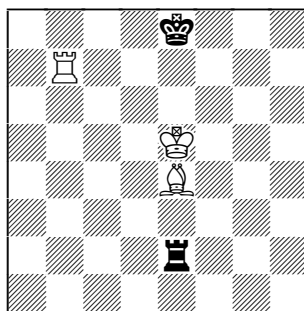
Position after 118.Rb1

118...Re7? Because of inaccurate play now only 118...Rg7 or 118...Rh7 are sufficient for a draw and even after both of them followed by 119.Kc7 the only way to make this draw is bringing the rook immediately to the 3rd rank, what is not so obvious at all. Now a quite simple manoeuvre wins. **119.Kc5 Re5+** Or 119...Re3 120.Ra1+ Kb8 121.Kd6 and Black lacks the 6th rank check. **120.Bd5 Rh5 121.Rb7+ Ka6 122.Rg7 Re5 123.Rg1 Ka7 124.Rg8, 1-0.**



Quinteros, Miguel Angel -
Timman, Jan
Hoogovens - Wijk aan Zee, 1974
Position after 58...Kxe4

59.Rg3 Kd4 60.Rd3+ Ke4 61.Kc3 Ke5
62.Rg3 Rh4 63.Bd3 Kf4 64.Rg8 Ke5
65.Re8+ Kd5 66.Rf8 Ke5 67.Rf5+ Ke6
68.Ra5 Kf6 69.Kd2 Rh3 70.Ke2 Rg3
71.Be4 Rg5 72.Ra6+ Ke5 73.Ke3 Rg3+
74.Bf3 Rg5 75.Ra5+ Kf6 76.Ra4 Ke5
77.Re4+ Kd6 78.Ra4 Ke5 79.Bg4 Kd6
80.Kf4 Rb5 81.Bf3 Re5 82.Ra6+ Ke7
83.Ke4 Rb5 84.Bg4 Rb4+ 85.Kf5 Rb5+
86.Kg6 Re5 87.Bf5 Re1 88.Kg5 Re2
89.Rb6 Re1 90.Kf4 Re2 91.Be4 Re1
92.Ke5 Re2 93.Rb7+ Ke8



Position after 93...Ke8
Cochrane Method

I remember Timman popularizing the 'second rank defence' in an article for Dutch chess magazine *Schaakbulletin* but here he uses the 'Cochrane Method', pinning the bishop. **94.Kd5 Kf8 95.Ke5 Ke8 96.Ra7 Re1** One of the few things the defender cannot do is moving the King in direction of the Rook: 96...Kd8 97.Kd6! and we fall into a Philidor. 96...Kf8 is ok because of course 97.Kf8 fails to 97...Rxe4. **97.Kd5 Kf8 98.Rh7 Re2 99.Bf5 99.Ke5** would be a nice trick because 99...Re1? fails to 100.Kf6 Ke8 101.Bf5 Kd8 102.Rd7+ Ke8 103.Rd6 Rf1 (103...Kf8 104.Rd8+ Re8 105.Rd7 Re2 106.Rc7 Re1

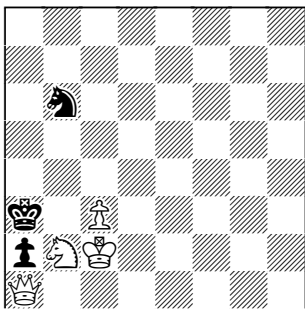
Problem Kingdom

by Linden Lyons

- Submissions and comments to: problem.kingdom@gmail.com
- Twitter: @ProblemKingdom
- Judge for 2016-2017: TBA

Problem 52

Mykola Chernyavsky (Ukraine)
Original



#2

(b) Nb6>d7

There are two parts in **Problem 52**: (a) solve the diagram, a twomover, then (b) move the black knight to d7 for a new twomover.

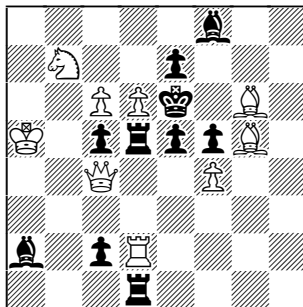
- (a) Tries: 1 Qc1? (zugzwang) Na4 2 Nc4, but 1 ... N~!; 1 Qf1? (threat 2 Qf8 [A]) Nd7 2 Qa6 [B], but 1 ... Nc4! Key: **1 Qg1!** (threat 2 Qc5 [C]) Nd7 2 Qa7 [D], 1 ... Na4 2 Nc4, 1 ... a1N+ 2 Qxa1.
- (b) Tries: 1 Qd1? (zugzwang) Nb6 2 Qd6, but 1 ... Nc5!; 1 Qf1? (threat 2 Qa6 [B]) Nb6 2 Qf8 [A], but 1 ... Nc5! Key: **1 Qg1!** (threat 2 Qa7 [D]) Nb6 2 Qc5 [C], 1 ... a1N+ 2 Qxa1.

This problem demonstrates the **pseudo le Grand theme**, a reciprocal change between

threat and mate. The effect is doubled here. Moves [A] and [B] swap roles as threat and mate, and so do [C] and [D].

Problem 53

Petro Novitsky (Ukraine)
Original

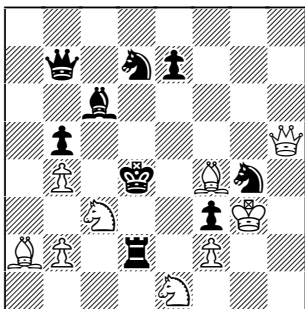


#2

Problem 53 features some marvellous effects along the d-file, the fifth rank, and the a2-e6 diagonal. Set: 1 ... Bb1 2 Qxd5 [A]; 1 ... exd6 2 Nd8 [B]; 1 ... exf4 [a] 2 Re2. Try: 1 Qxc5 (threat 2 Nd8 [B]) Rxc5+ 2 Nxc5; 1 ... Rxd6 [b] 2 Qxe5 [C]; but 1 ... exf4! [a]. Key: **1 Qe4!** (threat 2 Qxf5) R5~ 2 Qxe5 [C]; c4+ 2 Qxd5 [A]; 1 ... fxe4 2 f5.

Problem 54

Petro Novitsky (Ukraine)
Original

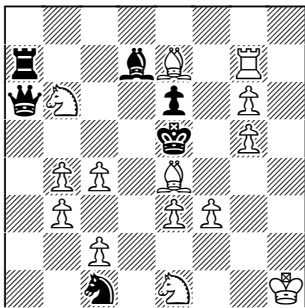


#3

In **Problem 54**, White sacrifices the queen three times. Each results in a **self-block**, i.e. Black blocks what would otherwise be an escape square for his king: **1 Qf5!** (threat **2 Qd3+ Rxd3 3 Nc2**) **Nxf2 2 Be3+ Kxe3 3 Qf4**; **1 ... Be4 2 Qxe4+ Qxe4 3 Nxb5**; **1 ... Ne5 2 Qxe5+ Nxe5 3 Be3**.

Problem 55

Valerio Agostini (Italy) & Alberto Armeni (Italy)
Original

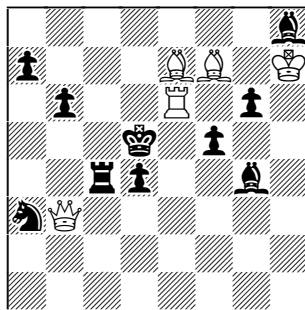


#3

There is a remarkable variety of play in **Problem 55**. White threatens mate with the f3-pawn, so Black must either pin this pawn or guard its destination square: **1 Bd3!** (threat **2 f4#**) **Bc6 2 Bf6+ Kd6 3 c5**; **1 ... Qxc4 2 Nxc4+ Kd5 3 Be4**; **1 ... Qb7 2 Nxd7+ Qxd7 3 f4**; **1 ... Nxd3 2 Nxd3+ Kf5 3 e4**; **1 ... Ne2 2 f4+ Nxf4 3 Nf3**.

Problem 56

Leonid Makaronez (Israel)
Original



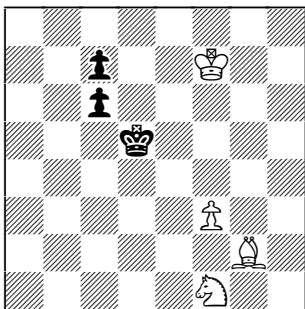
#3

There are a number of **battery** attacks in **Problem 56**, whereby the white rook opens up a line of attack by a white bishop against the black king: **1 Qd3!** (threat **2 Rxc6+ Ke5 3 Bd6**) **Nb5 2 Qxc4+ Kxc4 3 Re3**; **1 ... Rc6 2 Rd6+ Kc5 3 Rd5**; **1 ... Bf6 2 Rxb6+ Ke5 3 Bd6**.

Problem 57

Rauf Aliovsadzade (USA)

Original



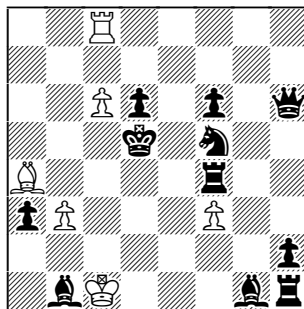
H#3

(b) Kd5>e5

Problem 58

Rauf Aliovsadzade (USA)

Original



H#3

2 solutions

Problem 57 has two parts: (a) helpmate in three moves from the diagram, then (b) helpmate in three moves with the black king starting on e5. Remember that in a helpmate Black moves first and helps White to deliver mate.

(a) 1 c5 Ng3 (1 ... Ne3+?) 2 c4 Nf5 3 c5 f4

(b) 1 Kf4 Ne3 (1 ... Ng3?) 2 Kg3 Kg6 3 Kh4 Nf5

This problem features **dual avoidance** (only one of two plausible moves works) and **reciprocation** of the moves 1 ... Ne3 and 1 ... Ng3.

In addition to **dual avoidance** on White's second move, **Problem 58** showcases a **Grimshaw** on d4. Many chess problems contain a Grimshaw, which involves two pieces interfering with one another on the same square. Here, the f4-rook interferes with the g1-bishop in the first solution, and the opposite occurs in the second.

(a) 1 Rd4+ Kxb1 2 Qe3 Ra8! (2 ... Rb8? 3 Qe6 Rb5+? 4 Kxc6) 3 Qe6 Ra5 (4 Bc5+?)

(b) 1 Bd4+ Kd2 2 Re1 b4! (2 ... Bb5? 3 Re5 Bc4+? 4 Kc5) 3 Re5 Bb3 (4 Rc4?)

Go Ahead, Make My Day!

Concerned that your favourite tournament wasn't covered? Unhappy that your painful loss is here but that brilliant win is missing? Take the initiative and write it up yourself! Nothing makes the Editor happier than an unsolicited submission. Especially fresh, interesting content from fresh new writers.

Thanks to Roger Chapman, Russell Hosking and Ross Jackson for their unsolicited submissions this issue.

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